Never forgotten
Notre Dame students remember war dead with flag ceremony. Page 4

Notre Dame College Prep students planted 3,518 flags in the front lawn of the all-male Catholic high school on Dempster Street in Niles on June 26. The installation honors members of the coalition forces who lost their lives in the war in Afghanistan.

Spark a celebration
Where to watch Fourth of July fireworks, parades and more. Page 20

A celebration of life
Skokie's Jason Barishman competes at the Transplant Games of America. Page 36

LIVING
Is old-fashioned courtship ‘just too good to be true’?
Dating has changed completely since the time of Frankie Valli, writes relationship columnist Jackie Filosso. Gone are the days of lengthy phone calls and goodnight kisses. Inside
Imagine the possibilities in your own backyard. Get your free backyard planning guide at YARDCOMETRUE.COM

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SHOUT OUT

Meet Stephen Kanne, local writer

Stephen Kanne grew up in Glencoe and went to Harvard before enlisting in the U.S. Army, where he served as a military journalist. After leaving the Army, Kanne became a lawyer, working mostly in Los Angeles, and later became a writer. His second book, "The Lynching Waltz," was just published; according to a statement from his publicist, the book is a work of historical fiction that was "inspired by a racist incident from the author's youth."

Q: What made you want to become a writer after all those years as a lawyer?
A: I think it was my experience in the Army as a military journalist. I loved being a journalist, but I thought it would be more practical to become a lawyer. You do a lot of writing as a lawyer, but it is not writing that people enjoy reading.

Q: Why did you decide to dedicate the book to Eleanor Roosevelt?
A: I read a lot about Eleanor Roosevelt and what she did over the years, and that moved me that I felt I had to dedicate the book to her.

Q: What do you hope children take out of this book?
A: I think it is a book for high school students and university students, and also for parents to read and talk to their children about. What I hope they all take from this book is how divisive, destructive, and evil racism is...

—Daniel I. Dorfman, Pioneer Press

Shout Out is a weekly feature.
Notre Dame students honor war dead

Plant flags for soldiers killed in war in Afghanistan

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

Students at Notre Dame College Prep worked in tandem for roughly an hour June 26 planting a total of 3,518 flags into the front lawn of their high school, each one carefully laid out and each one representing a life lost in the war in Afghanistan.

For the ninth year in a row, students at the all-male Catholic school in Niles returned to school the weekend before Independence Day to participate in the flag installation.

At a time when many are organizing their Fourth of July barbecues and figuring out the best place to catch their local fireworks display, the installation serves as a stark reminder of the thousands of military personnel who lost their lives in the country's military conflicts.

"To see the number of flags - it's like a shrine for a couple of weeks," said NDCP geometry teacher, John Bachta. He said the annual tradition began in 2007 when a former priest at the school suggested the high school lawn be used for a display, Bachta said, and it was agreed upon that he should organize a flag installation. The process has been perfected over the years to yield a geometrically precise arrangement.

Bachta said. Before the roughly 60 students arrived June 26, Bachta said he and his wife spent about two hours the day before laying out the first row of 42 flags. The students who participated in the installation - all sophomores, juniors and seniors who play on NDCP's various athletic teams - moved from one section of the lawn bordered by trees, the school's principal, Dan Tully, and another faculty member installed several rows of flags in a star formation. This year's installation honors members of the coalition forces who perished in the war in Afghanistan.

The entire installation will remain up until after the Fourth of July.

Luke Polakow, a 17-year-old student at NDCP and a member of the school's football team, said he's participated in the tradition for the past couple of years and believes it's an important demonstration of respect and care to veterans, current servicemen and women and to the community at large.

"We like to show what it really stands for and give recognition for the important things," he said, referring to the upcoming holiday.

In a pep talk before the installation, Bachta said that although the threat of terrorism persists, he believes those who have lost their lives in the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts have not done so in vain.

"I like to think the people out there serving us are making a big difference in safety," he told the students.

He also reminded those present that they might find themselves in the midst of a battlefield in the not so distant future.

Tully said of this past year's senior class - which numbered 208 - three students planned to enlist in the armed forces.

Though he's not a veteran himself, Bachta said many of his family members have served in the military. He said the installation is a way of doing his part to serve the individuals who work in service of the country.

Tully said he hears from community members every year that they appreciate the installation. As the students were planting the flags, several motorists passing by on Dempster Street honked their car horns in support of the memorial.

"It's a way to give back to the community and for us to remember all the things the veterans, servicemen and women have done for us," Tully said. "It's simple but important to us."

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Former physician pleads not guilty to stealing equipment

Court appearance in Skokie set for August 12

BY BRIAN L. COX
Pioneer Press

A physician at NorthShore Hospital has pleaded not guilty to felony charges he stole nearly $200,000 worth of equipment from two of the medical group's north suburban facilities.

Vinay Rawlani, 34, of the 1200 block of South Prairie Avenue in Chicago was charged in May with multiple counts of felony theft for allegedly stealing an ultrasound machine, two ultrasound probes, a video printer, a video storage device and infusion and compression pumps, an automated external defibrillator, a suction machine and a bladder scanner, among other items, from medical facilities in Evanston and Skokie between Jan. 23 and April 22, authorities said.

Rawlani is now enrolled in a Cook County mental health court program where he is receiving treatment for undisclosed problems, officials said. He was arrested after staff at the hospital noticed the items missing which prompted security personnel to review surveillance footage and identify Rawlani as the individual allegedly responsible for the thefts.

During a brief hearing at the Skokie courthouse on June 24, Rawlani pleaded not guilty to all charges. The doctor, who is free on bond, enrolled in the Cook County mental health court program in the weeks following his arrest.

Founded in 2004, The Cook County mental health court is designed to get professional help for people charged with felony crimes and those on probation who have chronic mental health conditions, most of whom also have co-occurring substance dependencies, according to the Cook County website.

"It can change your life or the way your life is going," Cook County Judge Lauren Gottainer Eedin said to Rawlani on June 24.

Officials said that Rawlani has returned some of the medical equipment to the hospitals.

In addition to working for NorthShore, Rawlani was serving as chief resident at the McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University's plastic surgery program for 2015-16, before the center placed him on administrative leave pending an internal review, according to Northwestern University. Prosecutors said Rawlani admitted to "accidentally" taking some equipment from the Evanston and Skokie hospitals while traveling between them. While equipment was found in Rawlani's home, prosecutors said they have no evidence that Rawlani was storing the equipment for private use. Rawlani is scheduled for an August 12 hearing at the Skokie courthouse.

Brian L. Cox is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
The annual Niles Fourth of July parade will kick off Monday morning with a slew of musical acts and appearances by local business and political leaders.

The parade will begin at 9 a.m. Monday at Notre Dame College Prep, 7655 W. Dempster St., and will proceed south on North Ozark Avenue to West Main Street, east on Main to North Harlem Avenue, south on Harlem toward West Monroe Street and then west on Monroe toward Grennan Heights Park.

Parade coordinator Cathy Spadoni said this year's procession will feature nine musical acts, including five marching bands. Minnesota's Cotter High School Marching Band, a decorated musical ensemble, will appear in this year's parade along with the Maria SS Laurentia of Alhavila Milicia in Chicago, and the Medinah Shriners will roll by on segways, in addition to a few new businesses, she said.

Spadoni said 28 businesses stepped up this year to sponsor the parade.

Parking along the parade route is banned through 2 p.m. July 4. Parking will also be banned on West Crane Street from North Ozark to North Ozanum Avenues, on Ozanum from West Greenleaf Street to Dempster Street, on Keeney and Kedzie streets from North Odell to North Ocolt Avenues and on Odell, North Oketo Avenue, North Osceloa Avenue and Ocolt from Keeney to Kedzie, according to the village's website.

Post-parade entertainment at Grennan Heights Park is scheduled for 10 a.m. through 2 p.m. The event will include musical performances by the R-Gang Band, a children's water play area, inflatable attractions, model cars, petting zoo animals, pony rides and face painting, Spadoni said.

She said the parade and following activity is sure to draw many Niles residents and notable personalities.

"The people in the crowd know who is in the parade and it's always fun to see someone you know walk by," Spadoni said.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
New Niles North official talks achievement

Incoming principal also stresses diversity, equity

BY BRIAN L. COX
Pioneer Press

Niles North High School's incoming principal, James B. Edwards, said he plans on "moving the needle forward on student achievement and equity" when he officially takes over as principal at the school on July 1.

"My background has always been in diverse places," said Edwards, who is leaving his job as principal of South Elgin High School to take over the reins at Niles North.

"My personal philosophy on education has been to really try to extract the best out of every kid no matter what tools they come in with," he said in an interview on June 23. "It's our job as administrators, teachers and staff to really focus on moving that kid forward academically and socially and emotionally." During its July 21 meeting, the Niles Township High School District 219 Board of Education appointed Edwards as Niles North principal effective July 1, the district said in a release.

Edwards has served as principal of South Elgin High School for the past three years and replaces outgoing Niles North principal Ryan McCague who left the school at the end of the school year to become the superintendent of McHenry School District 156, officials said.

"James comes to us with great school principal experience and will be able to immediately work well with the Niles North community," said District 219 Superintendent Steven Isoye in a written statement. "He is student-focused and understands the importance of student voice. I look forward to working with him in the years to come."

Edwards was assistant principal for curriculum for three years at Elmwood Park High School and prior to that served as an assistant principal at Morton West High School for a year and as dean of students for two years, said officials.

They also said that at Noble Street Charter School in Chicago he was a summer school principal, college counselor and as English and social science teacher and taught social science for six years at Wells High School in Chicago and was also a mock trial coordinator.

"What I saw [in District 219] is a district, and a school in particular with a really vibrant school culture, that I thought was a mirror of what we have here in South Elgin," Edwards said. "I saw numerous clubs, activities. There was something for all kids beyond the regular school day."

Hiring Edwards was one of the first big in-house decisions the board since Steven Isoye became District 219's superintendent in May after the then-superintendent, Nanciann Gatta, and assistant superintendent of operations John Heintz, resigned late last year following a lengthy internal investigation into administrative spending habits and perks.

"The top priority is to get to know the staff, get to know what their strengths are what areas they feel needs improvement within the school itself," Edwards said.

State budget woes derail bike path plans

June 30 deadline set for shutting down projects

BY NATHALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

Two bike paths that were scheduled for construction this year in Lincolnwood have been put on hold due to the state's ongoing budget impasse, which has prompted the Illinois Department of Transportation to begin shutting down construction projects throughout the state starting June 30.

It's been less than a month since contractors started preparing land along a utility corridor the village is leasing from ComEd to build the first of the two bike paths—the Valley Line Trail. Village officials said construction has been halted and the path won't open on as planned on July 12 because of the budget standstill.

Public Works director Ashley Engelmann said the state had not directly notified the village of its plans to halt the bike path construction.

"We heard about it through our village engineer, but haven't had any direct communication with the state," Engelmann said. Lincolnwood had been counting on about $1.6 million in state funding from two Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality grants to fund 80 percent of the combined $1.9 million in total construction costs for both paths, according to the village.

IDOT notified contractors of the shutdown earlier this week before issuing a statement Wednesday saying $2 billion in construction and engineering projects across the state would be stalled until a resolution moves forward in Springfield.

"We have started to inform our industry partners that all of our projects in both construction and engineering phases will be shutting down starting June 30 due to the majority party in the legislature's lack of will to pass a balanced budget," IDOT spokeswoman Gianna Urgo said in an email. "The conversation about how individual projects will wind down is continuing."

If no budget or stopgap spending bill is in place by July 1st, projects will cease, IDOT said.

"The stopgap proposal is a fiscally responsible solution proposed by the Republican leaders that can be voted on today," Urgo said. "There will be no interruption in our projects and programs if the General Assembly returns to Springfield and passes the (measure)."

Plans for the Valley Line Trail have been in the works for several years. The 12-foot wide, mile-long path was supposed to connect Lincolnwood's borders with Skokie at Jarvis Avenue and Chicago at Devon Avenue.

A month-long construction period scheduled for the second trail, known as the Union Pacific Bicycle Path, was planned to start this fall. Plans for the path called for the trail to run along the east side of Lincolnwood along the former Union Pacific Railroad Corridor between Devon and Touhy avenues.

IDOT had contracted with Chicagoland Paving Contractors for the Valley Line Trail, but it was unclear whether a construction company had been selected for the Union Pacific Bicycle Path, according to the village.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to jump into that district. I think I have a lot of the qualities that are compatible with the principal they had there already. I can only build on what's been built before."

The board on July 21 also appointed, Laura Bolech, as the new assistant principal of student services at Niles North, officials said.

Before coming to District 219, Bolech worked as district special education program facilitator for 11 years at Park Ridge-Niles School District 64.

Kathryn Geist was appointed assistant director of special education at Niles North, officials said, adding that she comes from J. Sterling Morton High School District 201 in Berwyn, where she served as special education coordinator for three years.

Brian L. Cox is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Local mosquitoes test positive for West Nile

Traps in Evanston, other places have shown results

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

Mosquitoes infected with West Nile virus have landed in Evanston, Skokie, Kenilworth and Glenview, officials say. Batches of mosquitoes collected June 22 in traps set in the communities by the North Shore Mosquito Abatement District tested positive for the disease, according to a press release issued by the city of Evanston. Mosquitoes infected with the virus have also been caught in NSMAD traps in Skokie, Kenilworth and Glenview.

The virus has been a part of public health discussions since it first arrived in the United States in New York in 2001, said Evanston's assistant director of health and human services, Carl Caneva. In a typical year, he said, NSMAD traps mosquitoes that test positive for the virus around the end of June, birds carrying the virus are usually found later in the season, while human infections are reported usually toward the end of summer.

"All residents in Illinois are at risk of contracting West Nile virus from mosquito bites," said Skokie's director of health, Catherine Counard, in an email. "West Nile Virus infection can lead to serious health effects."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 70 to 80 percent of humans infected with the virus do not develop any symptoms. Those who do experience symptoms ranging from fever to headaches, body aches, joint pains, diarrhea, vomiting and rash, according to the CDC's website, and fewer than one percent of people who contract the virus will develop inflammation of the brain or surrounding tissue.

Caneva said individuals age 50 and older and those with chronic health issues are at the greatest risk of serious complications from West Nile virus, including paralysis and death.

"It's important that people are vigilant in protecting themselves and making sure they are not producing mosquitoes on their property, limiting stagnant water, not leaving dog bowls with water out, or allowing water to pond on their property," he said.

"If it can hold water, "mosquitoes can breed in it," Counard wrote.

Both Counard and Caneva recommend residents stay indoors during peak biting times -- the hours of dawn and dusk -- wear loose fitting long-sleeved shirts and pants and use insect repellent while outside.

Caneva said NSMAD injects larvicide into storm sewers to prevent mosquitoes from maturing in those areas. When high percentages of trapped mosquitoes test positive for the virus, the district will also spray in areas where adult mosquito populations congregate.

The level of West Nile virus generally depends on the weather, he said. "It can be very misleading because a lot of people think if we have flooding and lots of rain we'll have a big West Nile virus problem," Caneva said. He said it doesn't take much water for mosquitoes to breed and it's high temperatures that accelerates the time it takes for the insects to transition from the larva to adult life stage.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has predicted a hotter than normal summer for most of the country. The first human case of West Nile virus in "west-central Illinois" this year was discovered in late May when a teenager exhibited symptoms of the virus, according to the state's Department of Public Health.

Caneva said the incident is atypical given that human cases are generally reported later in the season. "That is not indicative that this is going to be a bad summer or a summer with a lot of issues, but that is a little bit concerning because there is a schedule of how things happen," he said.

Residents are encouraged to contact NSMAD to report stagnant water in roadside ditches, flooded yards or other locations that may breed mosquitoes via email at nsmad@nsmad.com or call 847-446-9434.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
POUCE REPORT

Stachon, 22, of Niles, was found to be in possession of one gram of marijuana, which he was using. According to police, Stachon was ticketed for possession of one gram of marijuana, which he was using. Stachon was ticketed for possession of one gram of marijuana, which he was using. A 53-year-old Niles woman told police June 15 that someone used her credit card number to make an $800 purchase at a store inside Golf Mill Mall in the 200 block of Golf Road.

A 46-year-old Park Ridge woman told police June 13 that someone used her credit card number to make an $800 purchase at a store inside Golf Mill Mall in the 200 block of Golf Road.

A 51-year-old Niles man who lives in the 7500 block of Main Street told police June 14 that two unauthorized bank withdrawals for $103.00 and $500.00 were made on his checking account at an ATM located in Chicago.

Compiled by Lee V. Gaines, a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Cops: Man dies after causing 5-vehicle crash

BY RICHARD RAY
Pioneer Press

A man is dead after he was driving at a high rate of speed while suffering "some type of medical distress," police said, before causing a multi-vehicle accident in Niles on June 24.

John Grygorcewicz, 55, of Niles, was pronounced dead at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge at 3:05 p.m. following the accident, Niles police said in a news release. According to police, the black 2011 Chevrolet Tahoe Grygorcewicz was driving jumped the curb in the 7200 block of Dempster Avenue about 2:12 p.m. The Tahoe then rear-ended an eastbound semitrailer and crashed into a minivan slowing down to stop at a red light at Harlem Avenue. The minivan then "pushed for-ward causing a chain reaction accident," and struck a Mazda four-door and a Toyota SUV, police said.

Niles Fire Department personnel arrived on the scene shortly after and removed Grygorcewicz from the Tahoe and took him to the hospital where he later died, police said. The drivers of the other vehicles did not report any injuries, police said.

"Due to the nature of the crash, the NORTAF Major Crash Assistance Team was called in to assist with the accident investigation," Niles police Sgt. Robert Tornabene said in the release.

Eastbound Dempster Avenue was closed for several hours after the accident.

The accident remains under investigation.

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Luxury theaters to open in Skokie next year

Showplaces to offer food, alcohol in ‘trendy ambience’

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneeer Press

Silver screens will return to Westfield Old Orchard in fall, 2017 with new theaters boasting distinct luxury features, the shopping center announced in a press release.

Some delectable offerings from one of Chicago’s most successful restaurant operators, Lettuce Entertain You, are also part of the plan, officials said.

The regional shopping center announced the information last week, saying in a statement that the theaters will be under the ownership of CMX, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cinemex, which it says is the seventh largest cinema chain worldwide. Officials said CMX will be “piloting” the two premium movie theater concepts in Skokie.

Old Orchard officials called features in one theater “an ultra-luxurious concept” with CMX Dine-in, offering guests “a relaxing and refreshing experience in a trendy ambience,” in its press release. The theater will feature “a carefully curated menu with handcrafted cocktails delivered to the fully reclining plush seats,” the release reads.

There will be six screens.

The second theater at Westfield will have seven viewing rooms and will host the company’s “Gourmet Market” concession concept with “grab and go items,” in addition to a bar and luxury recliners, according to Old Orchard.

Shopping center officials say that CMX has a partnership with Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises, which owns popular restaurants in the Chicago area and beyond.

“This collaboration is a game changer as it brings together the finest luxury theater environment with one of the world’s foremost restaurant operators,” Old Orchard officials said in the release.

Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises founder and Chairman Richard Melmen said his company will be focusing on the in-theater dining experience and “a market concept for quicker service” at these theaters.

On its website, CMX says its goal from the start was to establish “the pinnacle of the VIP Cinema Dining experience.”

Skokie’s Village Board recently voted in favor of an additional type of liquor license, which allowed movie theaters to sell alcohol.

“The economic landscape for restaurants and entertainment venues has evolved over the last several years,” Corporation Counsel Michael Lorge said at the time. “In order to respond to these evolving business trends, the village needs to expand its marketplace concept for quicker service.”

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At about 7:15 a.m. when he crossed the intersection of Austin Avenue and Park Ridge, Yaras said he did not know the extent of the man’s injuries but said he was conscious following the crash.

Yaras said the 75-year-old man’s vehicle was hit in the rear quarter panel, spun around, struck a curb and rolled over onto the driver’s side. He said the village’s fire department was called in to extract the driver from the car.

The injured driver was transported by a Chevrolet Trailblazer driven by a 30-year-old Morton Grove resident traveling north on Austin Avenue, he said.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

A 75-year-old man driving a Mercury Mountaineer was injured in a crash at the intersection of Austin and Capulina Avenues on June 23. 

A two-vehicle crash on June 23 in Morton Grove sent a 75-year-old man to the hospital, according to the village’s police department.

The Morton Grove resident was traveling eastbound in a Mercury Mountaineer on Capulina Avenue at about 7:15 a.m. when he stopped at the intersection of Austin Avenue and proceeded to pull forward into the roadway, said Morton Grove Police Cmdr. Paul Yaras.

The SUV was subsequently struck by a Chevrolet Trailblazer driven by a 30-year-old Morton Grove resident traveling north on Austin Avenue, he said.

Yaras said the 75-year-old vehicle was hit in the rear quarter panel, spun around, struck a curb and rolled over onto the driver’s side. He said the village’s fire department was called in to extract the driver from the car.

The 75-year-old man was transported to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Yaras said. He did not know the extent of the man’s injuries but said he was conscious following the crash.

Yaras said the 30-year-old motorist was not injured in the crash.

The injured driver was cited for failure to yield at the intersection, he said.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Lincolnwood man credited with saving runner's life

Responders: Victim had suffered from cardiac arrest

**BY NATALIE HAYES**
Pioneer Press

The afternoon of May 13 started out as an ordinary day for 59-year-old Chicago resident John Torres as he pulled his car up to Lincolnwood's Proesel Park for another one of his regular five-mile runs.

But just as the 59-year-old stepped onto the walking path behind the Lincolnwood Community Center, he suffered a massive heart attack and collapsed. Torres blacked out immediately, and the rest of the day's events would later be retold to him by the group of people who saved his life. Lincolnwood resident Paul Grant was out for a stroll in the park that morning when he spotted Torres lying on the ground. He flagged down Lincolnwood police Officer Andrew Bialek. The park's location is next door to the police and fire department.

Bialek, still a rookie police officer since joining the department less than a year ago, saw that Torres wasn't breathing and his face had turned blue, according to a report from the fire department. He began CPR on Torres before he was joined by paramedics.

Emergency responders rushed over quickly and determined Torres was in cardiac arrest. They used a defibrillator in an effort to get his heart beating again, the report says, and Torres was taken to St. Francis Hospital where he later recovered.

"Three of the most important factors in a successful resuscitation effort are early notification of the public to the emergency, immediate CPR and rapid defibrillation," Fire Chief Mike Hansen said. "We had all three of these going for us."

Grant, 85, was credited with helping to save Torres' life during the Lincolnwood Village Board meeting on June 21, where he received the Citizens' Life Saving Award. Grant was recognized along with a team of three police officers and six firefighters who responded to Grant's medical emergency that day.

Six weeks after the medical emergency, Torres was reunited with the people who helped save his life as a roomful of people packed into Village Hall looked on. "I'd been running (in Proesel Park) for 10 years and I never knew what a big part it would play in my life," Torres said. "Lincolnwood has a very special place in my heart—literally."

Torres said he has no plans to let his heart attack slow him down. He's training for this November's Turkey Trot 5K race, an annual Thanksgiving-themed run/walk that attracts thousands of participants and spectators to Proesel Park every year.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Officials ponder McDonald's relocation

Oak Brook campus offers opportunities

BY CHUCK FIELDMAN
Pioneer Press

Oak Brook officials are hoping new businesses that will open in the village after McDonald's sells its property will bring more sales tax revenue.

Village officials, while not happy the fast-food giant is moving its corporate presence to Chicago after being based in Oak Brook since 1971, are definitely looking to the future.

"We view this as a new opportunity to bring even more business to Oak Brook, specifically something that will help contribute to our sales tax revenue," Village Manager Rick Ginex said.

McDonald's owns about 150 acres on five different sites in Oak Brook and has said it plans to hire a real estate broker to sell its property. Oak Brook officials are hoping to have conversations with McDonald's representatives about that.

"Right now may not be the appropriate time, but we hope within the next two months to meet with them to see what their plans may be, if they are willing to discuss them," Ginex said.

Steve Lombardo III, an owner of Gibsons Bar & Steakhouse, which opened in 2010 at 2105 Spring Road and leases the property from McDonald's, said he would be interested in buying that property.

"We're always interested in purchasing, if possible," he said.

Oak Brook officials believe the McDonald's U.S. headquarters building along 22nd Street, immediately north of Interstate 88 and just east of Oakbrook Center, offers great opportunities for mixed-use including more retail.

"We don't know if another large retailer would be interested as a stand-alone without any residential component, but the site is large enough and there is always the possibility of vacating McDonald's Drive to make that happen," Ginex said.

McDonald's Drive runs north from 22nd along the eastern edge of the McDonald's corporate building.

Karen Bushy, who was village president from 1991 to 2003 and still lives in Oak Brook, agreed the U.S. headquarters building property offers a great opportunity for a mixed-use development that includes retail.

However, she is very hopeful that the landscape of the McDonald's campus property is not changed.

That property is home to Hamburger University and other corporate offices. It is located on a wooded site off Jorie Boulevard, north of 31st Street, across from Oak Brook Park District fields, adjacent to Butler National Golf Course, and very close to the village's municipal offices, and police and fire departments.

"I would hope for another large corporation or entity - it could be a major university - someone that understands the history and the effort Oak Brook went to preserve what's there," Bushy said.

Ginex said the property around Hamburger University has a special zoning designation called OR3.

"That's the only parcel in the village that has that zoning, which was set up specifically to accommodate office and hotel uses, including restaurants, as part of a unified development plan that was specifically approved for McDonald's," he said. "The Village Board would have to look at any uses that the new owners would bring forward, specifically on the property, and just east of Oakbrook Park District fields, adjacent to Butler National Golf Course, and very close to the effort Oak Brook went to preserve what's there."
Firm announces Panera plans for shopping center

Third franchise in Niles is scheduled for Golf Mill

BY LEE V. GAINES

A new Panera Bread is headed to Niles' Golf Mill Shopping Center, according to a press release issued by a real estate investment firm.

Sterling Organization, which is based in Palm Beach, Fla., announced on June 27 that it had signed a lease agreement with the fast casual chain known for its bread bowls, pastries, soups and sandwiches.

According to the release, Panera Bread will construct a new, roughly 4,400-square-foot building with an outdoor dining area and drive-thru lane near the shopping center's entrance on Milwaukee Avenue. The new branch will mark the third Panera Bread location in the village.

The Golf Mill Shopping Center encompasses 80 acres of land and is bordered by Milwaukee to the east, Golf Road to the north, North Greenwood Avenue to the west and West Church Street to the south.

The mall includes a movie theater and various retail chain stores including JCPenny and Target.

Construction on the new Panera Bread is expected to be complete and the restaurant open for business by the end of this year, according to the release.

Sterling purchased roughly 900,000 square feet of the shopping center two years ago. Principal and COO for the firm, Greg Moross, said in a statement that his company plans to "announce additional nationally recognized, popular brand name stores and restaurants at the shopping center in the coming months."

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
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Sparklers are not toys, health officials warn

2,000-degree heat can cause serious injuries

By Nicholas Wooten
Chicago Tribune

They might shine brightly and mesmerize, but the hand-held fireworks known as sparklers are not toys to hand off to the little ones—or to anyone.

According to the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshall's Division of Fire Prevention, sparklers accounted for more than 12 percent (20 out of 165) of fireworks injuries from June 23 to July 20, 2015.

From June 20 to July 20, 2014, sparklers accounted for an estimated 19 percent of the 7,000 fireworks-related injuries treated in U.S. hospital emergency rooms. For children under 5, sparklers accounted for 61 percent of the total estimated injuries, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

MaryLynn Jacobs, a certified hand therapist and vice president of operations at ATI Physical Therapy, said people aren't aware of the dangers of sparklers, which burn at around 2,000 degrees, hot enough to melt some metals.

"I just don't think there's a lot of public education around that," she said. "I just can't get over how hot sparklers can get ... and how dangerous that is. It's just crazy."

The Pyrotechnic Use Act bans the sale, possession and use of consumer fireworks such as bottle rockets and Roman candles in Illinois, but it allows for items like sparklers to be sold. But residents often cross borders into Indiana or Wisconsin to get a fireworks fix.

Billie Turner, manager at Dynamite Fireworks in Hammond, says about 20 percent of the store's customers are from the Chicago area, and sparklers are among the most popular items.

"We go through at least 20 cases a year, and cases are very big. We sell (about) 10,000 sparklers a year," Turner said.

She advises those who buy sparklers to opt for a wood core over metal. "If it's metal, it gets hotter," she says. "The wood are always better because ... there's a plastic covering on the end."

Jacobs recommends against having fireworks at home for safety reasons.

"Being a mother of three children, I would just ask (people) please to watch from afar. Let's go to a fireworks display. Let's not do it in our backyard," she said. "My husband is a head and neck surgeon and sees ... a wide range of people with ear and facial burns from little kids showing the sparklers to their friend, and the kids lose their balance."

Jacobs says large bubble wands and pinwheels (not the fireworks kind) are good substitutes for children. But if parents insist on sparklers, Jacobs recommends that they supervise their children and have them wear eye protection and gloves made of leather or lined with Kevlar. Setting rules for the use of sparklers is also important, Jacobs said.

"Don't have them play kung fu (with the sparkler) or point it at each other," she said.
Arlington Heights teen appears on ‘The Tonight Show’ with Jimmy Fallon

Jack Aiello gained attention for viral graduation speech

BY KAREN ANN CULLOTTA
Pioneer Press

An Arlington Heights teen enjoyed a night in the spotlight June 22 when he appeared on “The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon.”

Though severe weather back home prevented the show from airing as scheduled on WMAQ-Ch. 5, Jack Aiello starred in a brief sketch with Jimmy Fallon and sat on the “Tonight Show” couch for an interview.

Reprising his impersonations of the 2016 presidential candidates from a wickedly funny eighth-grade graduation speech he recently delivered at Thomas Middle School, the sketch featured Aiello and Fallon identically dressed as presumptive GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump, wearing matching suits and sporting Trump’s trademark coiffure.

Introducing Aiello to the audience as his “clone” and vice presidential running-mate, “Little Donald,” Fallon and the Arlington Heights teen proceeded to make “prank phone calls” to Democratic candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders and presumptive Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton, resurrecting the spot-on impersonations that led to the teen’s graduation speech going viral, and garnering nearly 2.3 million views on YouTube.

Even before Aiello’s appearance this week on “The Tonight Show,” the video of his graduation speech had already garnered a shout out from former Republican candidate Sen. Ted Cruz, who tweeted “OK, this kid is funny! Nicely done, and congrats on graduating!”

The full show can be seen at NBC.com.

Are you opinionated?

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chicagonow.com/pitch
Huge crowd attends Taste of Skokie Valley

Popular fundraiser helps many causes in its eighth year

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

The pickiest and most finicky eater found a welcome - albeit packed - home this month during the annual Taste of Skokie Valley.

The fundraiser, held June 16 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, brought a huge crowd to its expansive lobby, where approximately 20 food vendors were set up and ready to serve.

That number has meaning to Skokie Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Howard Meyer because it's a couple more than last year. Taste of Skokie Valley is forever trying to top itself - whether that means by having more vendors or by adding some new ones, he said.

In the case of Taste of Skokie Valley 2016, both were true.

If Mexican food was your craving, El Fuego Mexican Cuisine was there. So was McCormick & Schmick's for seafood samples and Father & Son Italian Kitchen for pasta and pizza and Jameson's Charhouse for the red meat lover and many other options.

Taste of Skokie Valley has become an annual staple, this having been the eighth one.

Proceeds from Taste of Skokie Valley are divided between the chamber's educational foundation and the Rotary Club of Skokie Valley.

According to the chamber, causes that benefit from the funds include The Ark, The Golf-Maine Park District, Metropolitan Family Services, the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, Oakton Volunteers in Teaching Adults at Oakton Community College, Orchard Village, Illinois.

Live music was part of the eighth annual Taste of Skokie Valley at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts.

SHORE Community Services, Inc., the Skokie Chamber, Sommer Foundation, St. Brebeuf Youth Ministry, Turning Point Behavioral Health Care and USO of Illinois.

The event also featured a raffle and prizes including $1,000 for first place, an entertainment package for second place and a $250 shopping spree at Westfield Old Orchard for third place.

misaa@pioneerlocal.com Twitter: @SKReview_Mike
Debates over Constitution miss the mark

RANDY BLASER

"Is it the Fourth?"
Those are considered to be the last words of Thomas Jefferson, founder of the University of Virginia, third president of the United States, and author of the Declaration of Independence, before he died on July 4, 1826.

His earlier words had made that question so important, so essential and that date so important to all Americans since the Continental Congress adopted and signed the document 240 years ago this July 4.

Why is it so important to remember, especially today as we weigh our future as a nation?

In the early days of the Republic, the Declaration of Independence was considered the founding document, surpassing even the Constitution.

Lincoln considered it so, which is perhaps why he was willing to run roughshod over the Constitution in order to save the Union. As he so famously answered his critics, was he to lose the nation to save the Union? The answer was self-evident during that national crisis.

So the Declaration was the driving document. It still should be.

Today we seem to worship the Constitution, which is really just a guide, a set of the rules and regulations of how we govern ourselves, and how the government relates to the people and vice versa.

The Declaration is the why, or as today's motivational speakers would all say, the Declaration is our Big Why.

And what is that national Big Why exactly?

We turn to Jefferson, who tells us all men (of course we know that pronoun refers to all people) are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights. Among those rights are the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

That's it. That's our Big Why.

We have the right to life. We have the right to freedom as individuals and as a people.

And we have the right to the pursuit of happiness.

Sometimes I think that is the wrong debate. As great as the Constitution is, it is and should be subordinate to the Declaration.

The Constitution is the how. But the Declaration is the Big Why.

Before you go out to the picnic, the barbecue and the fireworks, read it again and rededicte yourself to the principle, as Lincoln said at Gettysburg, that all are created equal.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Reports of the death of books are exaggerated

PAUL SASSONE

I've always thought of reading as an activity for all seasons.

But, for a lot of people, reading has become paired with summer — relaxing on the beach, a frosty drink in one hand, a good book in the other.

This contradicts the dire prophecies we hear about the demise of reading for pleasure and enlightenment. Indeed, the death of reading has been greatly exaggerated.

Bookstore sales rose 2.5 percent last year to $11.7 billion from $10.89 billion in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. This is the first time bookstore sales have grown since 2000.

And bookstores themselves seem to be making a comeback. The American Booksellers Association reports that in 2015, there were 1,712 independent bookstores in the U.S., up from 1,410 in 2010.

And it is actual books people seem to be buying. In 2015, paperback sales were up 12.4 percent, while the sale of e-books dropped by 12.3 percent, according to the Association of American Publishers.

The latest technological innovation in how and what we read is geared toward the actual production of hold-in-your-hand books, not in electronic images.

There already are bookstores that sell actual books, but have no books on the premises.

Customers walk in, select the book they want to buy and wait a few minutes while a paperback copy of that book is printed right there.

All of this is courtesy of the Espresso Book Machine, manufactured by On Demand Books, a U.S. firm.

The machine is called Espresso because it can print a book in about the time it takes to sip a cup of coffee.

On Demand Books has access to 7 million books and can print a paperback copy in about five minutes at a cost of about a penny a page.

There are other on-demand book printers that can be ordered online and shipped for next-day delivery.

Yup, it's a brave new world out there for book readers.

So many ways to access the pleasure, the wisdom, the joy of reading.

Go ahead, take a book to the beach.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.
MAMA'S GOTTA MOVE

Put on your big-girl pants: Lessons from potty training

Nicole Radziszewski

Put on your big-girl pants: Lessons from potty training

Do not punish! Stick to natural consequences. Punishing kids for not going in the potty is one of the biggest ways to set them back, make them resent you and make your life hell. Guess what? It's not an effective strategy for you, either. When my older son kept going in his pants, yet we knew what he was capable of, we had to act like we didn't care. Oh, you pooped yourself again? No big deal. Natural consequences. We'll just spray you off with a hose and put some new underwear on you. Oh, you missed going to the gym for four days in a row? Natural consequences: The next time you do get in there for a workout, it's going to feel tough and you'll wish you hadn't waited so long.

Know when to fold 'em. While my older son was potty training, an automatic flusher in a public bathroom freaked him out so much that he shut down and refused to use any toilet. We literally had to stop potty training completely and restart after a month-long break. Have a life incident that totally zaps your interest in working out? Injury? Emotional setback? It's OK to step back and take a break.

Remember that progress is nonlinear. I recorded potty training stats for my little guy this time around:

Day 1: Potty, 2, Undies, 5
Day 2: Potty, 5, Undies, 1
Day 3: 4:3, Day 4: 5:3, Day 5: 9:3, and so on.

Sometimes we forget progress includes lots of ups and downs along the way. We all get there someday - and even when we do, we'll still have some setbacks. And that's OK!

Nicole Radziszewski is a freelance columnist. Check Nicole out on Facebook at Facebook.com/mamas-gottamove.

In pursuit of ‘Hamilton’ tickets, are we tuning out bad news?

Eric Scott

The Facebook posts started rolling in. One said, "I waited online for an hour before getting kicked out of the system."

Others wrote along the lines of, "I don't care how long this takes, I am determined!" Another went like, "Finally got two for February!"

This all started making sense once I figured out my Facebook friends’ goal was to buy tickets to the Chicago-bound hit Broadway musical "Hamilton" and had nothing to do with the national organ donation registry.

What's really alarming is the amount of cash people are willing to pay for the hottest show on stage. Seeing ticket prices hover around the $1,000 mark made me think of something I heard on the radio that's the polar opposite of Hamilton-mania.

"I'm usually in my car at 6:30 p.m., listening to "Marketplace" on NPR. During its June 20 show, the program featured a gripping report about the desperate economic situation in Venezuela. In one of my "car park moments," I was waiting until the story ended, I listened to a correspondent describe how falling oil prices are destroying the country's economy and how it's now common to see thousands of people in the nation's capital of Caracas line up outside stores to try desperately to get food and basic necessities.

In comparing these two disparate scenarios, I wasn't thinking that "Hamilton" fanatics should be sending their ticket money to help families in Venezuela. Instead, I wondered whether the frenzy around "Hamilton" and other positive pursuits are more related to the seemingly growing parallel tracks of tuning out bad news in the world while wanting to be connected to a winner?

When the daily headlines constantly feature mass shootings, videos showing confrontations involving police, political candidates attacking each other, legislators who can't agree on anything and what seems like the 9/00ths story about cities raising taxes while cutting services because they're going broke, it's easy to see why Americans want to keep the real world more than an arm's length away from their personal spaces.

The emphasis on extreme positions and lack of compromise on just about every issue also may be pushing people to tune out the dreaminess and focus more on the fun stuff. Tweener options and common ground are few and far between the growing, canyon-sized gap between "love it or hate it." Doesn't it seem like more things are labeled a battle rather than a discussion? So, what does all this have to do with Hamilton-palooza?

Well, would people be willing to pony up $800 for a middle-row theater seat at a multi-Tony-Award-winning show if everything else they're receiving through media channels didn't seem like a big bowl of bad? Are people willing to pay more for something good and fun just to escape the merri-go-round of conflict - delivered daily on any device with a screen.

I'm sure someone already is looking into whether there's been an uptick in movie and concert ticket sales. That also might support this tune-out-the-bad-stuff theory. Certainly, the ability to spend more on fun pursuits doesn't provide a license to ignore the real issues of the world.

But if people with good intentions and solid opinions feel like they're powerless to discuss issues of the day because it seems like no one is listening and nothing will ever budge, is that reason enough to tune out the world and find other pursuits, including those that may test your credit card limits?

Eric Scott is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Some of us escape unscathed with merely a few pairs of stained underwear. Others credit the potty training experience for their husband's vasectomy. And yet, we all survive. Like many other forms of adversity, potty training is one of those character-building "what doesn't kill you makes you stronger" opportunities. And once you reach the potty of gold at the end of the rainbow, you may actually find you've learned a thing or two. (You also have my permission to think potty training was absolute hell with no silver lining or life lessons whatsoever.) As I write this, we are nearing the end of potty training our 2-year-old son, which was admittedly easier than training his older brother, but exhausting nonetheless. Being that I can't help but relate everything to working out (and that it is sort of the theme of this column), I've decided to share some of my favorite fitness takeaways. Of course, everyone's child is different and responds differently to potty training. This is just my personal experience and not meant to tell you the right or wrong way to train your kid.

Take "ready" with a grain of salt. How many of us have said about potty training, "I'm waiting for when he's ready?" And then we just kept putting it off, because he was never really as "ready" as we'd anticipated. Have you ever declared, "I will start working out when I'm ready?" Guess what? You may never feel ready. Don't wait for some magic sign to get started. Your body is capable of more than realize, but you have to start somewhere.

It's the moment when you realize that he's the one. I\'m waiting for when he's ready? And then we just put it off, because he was never really as "ready" as we\'d anticipated. Have you ever declared, "I will start working out when I'm ready?" Guess what? You may never feel ready. Don't wait for some magic sign to get started. Your body is capable of more than realize, but you have to start somewhere.

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Spark a celebration

Where to watch Fourth of July fireworks

BY DEBORAH HOPPE
Pioneer Press

Looking to celebrate the Fourth of July? Here's a guide to area fireworks, parades and more.

Arlington Heights
Fireworks: dusk, July 3.

Fireworks: 9:30 p.m. July 3. The event includes a parade (1 p.m.), including live music (5-9:30 p.m.), including live music, a children's water play area, games and pony rides, with fireworks at Maine West High School. Tune your radio to 90.5 FM.

Des Plaines
Fireworks: 9:30 p.m. July 4.
Butera Foods Parking Lot, 4761 Nagle Ave., Des Plaines. Gates open at 1 p.m., racing starts at 3 p.m. The day will include live music entertainment and family activities.

Evanston
Fireworks: 9:15 p.m., July 4.
The all-day celebration begins at 9 a.m. at eight playground sites throughout the city providing games and activities, followed by a Fun Run along Central Street (11:30 a.m.). The parade down Central Street kicks off at 2 p.m. At 7:30 p.m., the Palatine Concert Band performs at Dawes Park, Sheridan Road at Church Street, featuring the Palatine Concert Band; grand fireworks display at dusk, launched from Clark Street Beach. Tune your radio to 90.5 FM.

Glenview
Fireworks: 9 p.m., July 4.
A parade kicks off at 11:15 a.m. on Harlem Avenue and Glenview Road. Children are invited to step off the parade by bringing their decorated bike to Harlem Avenue, just north of the Glenview Public Library by 10:30 a.m. The 100-piece North Shore Concert Band performs a patriotic concert at 7 p.m. Fireworks show at dusk will be synchronized to patriotic music. Live music will follow the fireworks.

Harwood Heights
Fireworks: Dusk, July 3.
Ridgemoor Country Club, 6601 W. Gunnison St., Chicago
Non-members can view the display from Butera Foods Parking Lot, 4761 Nagle Ave., Harwood Heights, and the surrounding area.

Morton Grove
Fireworks: Dusk, July 4
American Legion Memorial Civic Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Free. www.mortongrovedays.org/events.
Morton Grove Days takes place July 1-4 and includes carnival rides, games, a beer garden, live entertainment, food, children's activities and a Fourth of July Parade (2:30 p.m. July 3) in addition to fireworks.

Niles
No fireworks.
Parade will begin at 9 a.m. at Notre Dame College Prep, 7655 W. Dempster St, Niles, and proceed to Grennan Heights Park. Post-Parade entertainment (10 a.m.-2 p.m.), including live music, a children's water play area, games and pony rides, will take place in Grennan Heights Park, 8255 N. Oketo Ave.

Norridge
Fireworks: Dusk, July 3
Ridgemoor Country Club, 6601 W. Gunnison St., Chicago.
Non-members can watch the display from Butera Foods Parking Lot, 4761 Nagle Ave., Harwood Heights, and the surrounding area.

Park Ridge
Fireworks: dusk, July 3.
In addition to fireworks, the event, running 6-10:30 p.m., includes DJ & Children's Entertainment (6:30-8 p.m.), live music starting at 8 p.m. Bring a picnic (no alcoholic beverages or grills allowed) and relax before the fireworks begin. Reserved parking is available at the school for $16 for residents, $28 for nonresidents.

Skokie
Fireworks: dusk, July 4 (rain date July 5).
Niles West High School, 5701 W. Oakton St., 847-674-1500. www.skokieparks.org-special-events
Skokie's Fourth of July parade kicks off at noon July 4 in downtown Skokie and features marching bands, tumblers, live animals, drill teams, clowns and vintage automobiles. At 5 p.m. the festivities move to Niles West High School and features food, drinks and live bands until dusk when the fireworks begin.

Wilmette
Fireworks: 9:30 p.m. July 3.
In addition to fireworks, the celebrations will include carnival games, food and live music from 4:30-9 as well as post-fireworks music.
Perceptions of Asian dads

Randall Park, of 'Fresh Off the Boat,' others talk about growing up with their Asian dads
Here are some salad ideas that 'beet' all

By Judy Buchenot
News-Sun

When it comes to deciding which vegetable to serve for a meal, many people often limit themselves to the familiar trinity of corn, carrots or green beans.

But there are many other wonderful options popping up in area farmers markets that are worth a taste. In July, locally grown beets will start to be available.

Jennifer Miller, 40, of Sandhill Family Farms in Grayslake, said some of her customers are reluctant to try beets. "It's often a love/hate relationship — people either love beets or hate them," she said. "I think those that hate them have only had beets that have been boiled. I help them to move beyond boiling and only try red beets."

Although beets can be boiled with the skins on until tender, Miller's favorite way to prepare beets is to oven roast them. "Roasting really intensifies the beet-y flavor," she said. To roast beets, Miller first cuts off the greens and rubs the unpeeled beets with olive oil. Then she wraps the beets in foil and bakes them at 400 degrees until tender.

The amount of time varies with the size of the beet, but the average time is about 45 minutes. "Then you unwrap the beets, slip off the skins and serve them hot or let them cool to serve cold."

Since she often uses beets in different ways, she roasts several beets at once. Then she eats some hot for a meal and cools the rest for salads and other dishes.

People who don't think they like beets might try golden beets instead of red beets. "Golden beets are milder in flavor and are a lot less messy to prepare. Red beets do make things red," she said. The golden beets can be used in place of red beets in any recipe. Mixing red and golden beets, especially in salads, is a way to add brilliant color to a dish.

Many people mistakenly view the greens attached to the beet as waste, but Miller said they are edible. The beet greens actually have a higher iron content than spinach and have more nutritional value than the beet root.

"The beet greens have to be used within a week of picking while the beets can be stored for a month or longer," said Miller. One of her favorite beet recipes is sliced beets on wilted beet greens topped with crumbled goat cheese.

For the freshest beets, visit a farm stand. Miller and her husband, Jeff, have been farming their 40-acre farm in Grayslake for 10 years. They have partnered with a farm family in Wisconsin to provide a greater variety of produce for their Community Supported Agriculture share customers. Sandhill Family Farms offer fruit, dairy, meat, eggs and vegetable options.

"Everything is grown sustainably, responsibly and without pesticides," said Miller.

Sandhill Farm also has a weekly stand at the Oak Park Farmers Market. For more information, go to sandhillfamilyfarms.com.

Miller encourages others to give beets a try this summer season. She offers her favorite recipes for a beet salad and pickled beets but reminds everyone that roasted beets drizzled with a little olive oil and sprinkled with salt are simply delicious.

Judy Buchenot is a freelancer.

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**Simple Pickled Beets with Dill**

Makes four servings.

- 5-6 beets, about three inches in diameter
- 1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 tablespoons of fresh dill, chopped

1. Cut off the greens off beets and reserve for another dish. Wash beets but do not peel. Place in a bowl and toss with enough dressing to coat.

2. Rinse beets under cold running water to cool them. Slip off the skins and slice into rounds or quarters. Set aside.

3. In bowl, combine vinegar, sugar, olive oil, salt, pepper and dill. Add sliced beets and toss to coat. Allow to marinate at room temperature for at least 30 minutes before serving. Refrigerate leftovers.
Perceptions of Asian dads

By Joanne YJ Kim
Tribune Newspapers

Haenah Hwang cuddled her 4-month-old son, Evan, as her husband, Mike, a 37-year-old Taiwanese-American, shared stories about his father.

"He showed me his love by making sure that I did the best I could in everything," he said.

The Hwangs were reflecting on their first-generation immigrant Asian-American fathers while looking forward to celebrating their first Father's Day as new parents.

"I have a different type of father's experience," said Haenah Hwang, a 32-year-old Korean-American.

She recalls her father as a family man who spent a lot of time playing with her growing up. But she said she felt a weight of responsibility early on, having to translate English to Korean for her parents.

"I had a little bit of resentment. My dad felt more like a friend to me, almost," she said, adding this made her question her parents' love for her at times.

The portrayal of Asian-American dads and masculinity has a long history in the U.S.

"For Asian fathers, when their main concern was on survival, fitting into the new culture and bringing bread on the table, what America considers 'male' was not their priority," said Dr. Josephine Kim, a professor at Harvard's Graduate School of Education who specializes in child development and immigrant issues.

The Asian cultural definition of masculinity relies heavily on scholarship and not showing weakness, she said, which translates into men showing less emotion.

She added that the difference in values often led second-generation Asian-American children to misunderstand their fathers as unloving and uncaring, seen through the lens of their Americanized cultural perspective.

Perry Li, a second-generation Chinese-American born in Chicago, said he resented his father most of his life until recently because he rarely showed him affection.

"It's going to be hard," said Li, 29, about treating his dad to a Father's Day dinner. He said he has told his father directly that he loves him only twice. He plans on telling him again at dinner.

Li has been trying lately to be more understanding of the struggles and stress his father went through to provide for the family over the years, he said.

Korean-American actor Randall Park also can relate. Park, who plays Louis Huang, an Asian immigrant father on the ABC sitcom "Fresh Off the Boat," said his father operated a photography store in Santa Monica, Calif., where Park observed firsthand "all the struggles that he went through to keep that business afloat."

Park said he finds similarities between his character on the show, which, in its second season, is the longest-running Asian-American sitcom, and how he and his father were in real life.

"At times, (my father) does walk that line of being the classic bumbling sitcom dad. But there is always that undercurrent of struggle and sacrifice, which is something I see in my own father and, in some ways, myself," said Park.

Despite the hardships Asian immigrant fathers faced, they were considered not "manly" enough throughout history.

"There is a long history of ways in which Asian-American males were deprived of masculinity in American society," said Dr. Mark Chiang, the interim director of the Asian-American Studies Program at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He said the histories of Asian countries bring different experiences to the table.

When Asians started immigrating to the U.S. in the 19th century, Asian men were mainly engaged in manual labor. Toward the end of the 19th century, when the U.S. economy grew rapidly then collapsed, Asian-American men became unemployed and wound up as scapegoats and targets.

Often, Asian-American men had no options but to engage in laundry work and cooking to provide for their families.

"The issue of masculinity comes in here. Laundry work and cooking are seen as women's work. So the Asian men became feminized because of the labor they were pushed to perform," said Chiang.

Influenced by media portrayals, stereotypes and the model-minority myth, Asian-American males continue to face difficulties in how their masculinity is perceived in American culture today.

The recent #StarringJohnCho movement is not only a push for diversity in Hollywood, but also the Asian-American community's attempt to reclaim the portrayals of Asian-American masculinity in the media.

Park said he has always been conscious of the way Hollywood portrays Asian men.

"I do understand the importance for us to have more images of 'masculine' Asian males to balance out all the Long Duk Dong's of our time. Asian kids are still getting bullied, and I'm sure the lack of strong media images plays a part in that. But for me, personally, what's more important than masculinity is that we, as men, just feel good about who we are and to do our best to represent that unapologetically," said Park.

"I don't want Evan to grow up feeling different in any way. At the same time, I want him to grow up knowing his heritage as half-Korean and half-Taiwanese," said Haenah Hwang. She said she is concerned but positive that Evan will overcome the skewed influence of Asian stereotypes in the media.

She said her husband, Mike, will be a good role model and father, and help their son distinguish what is right and wrong in portrayals of Asian masculinity.

"I want him to be compassionate — quick to listen and slow to speak. I want him to love the diversity of the city and the country that we live in," said Mike Hwang. He hopes to demonstrate the "quiet strength" that comes from leading by example and sacrifice that his father showed him.

Park expressed gratitude toward his father and said he hopes he can be like him in some ways.

"My dad is a great man — one of my true heroes in life," said Park. "There were times when I hated having a dad that was so different from all the white dads I saw on TV. But now, I think it's the coolest thing ever."
We have two rescues, one separated for some time. Do their mothers after being their siblings or, for that matter, their mothers after being separated for some time? Do they recognize their mother? Does the mother recognize the grown puppies as her own?

A: That is a question I have long wondered about, however, to the best of my knowledge, there are no scientific studies done on whether an animal can recognize a blood relative — all information is only anecdotal.

Everyone has stories about this. I once had a wolf that only liked me and was afraid of all other men. However, one day, when she saw my father for the first time she responded to him as if he were me — was it his mannerisms that matched mine or did she know that we shared the same DNA?

Such a situation is not scientific and so we cannot answer a question based on this or any other experience.

I have watched many animal siblings reunite after a period of time and they do not seem to regard each other any different than they would if they met another animal from down the block.

Animals also have very good memories for remembering individuals, so if two puppies became good friends when they were together in a litter, then they would most likely always remember each other as good friends. Their ability to recognize each other as blood relatives remains unproven.

What you are doing is just fine and you can stop worrying.

Q: Do adult dogs recognize their siblings or, for that matter, their mothers after being separated for some time? Do they recognize their mother? Does the mother recognize the grown puppies as her own?

A: That is a question I have long wondered about, however, to the best of my knowledge, there are no scientific studies done on whether an animal can recognize a blood relative — all information is only anecdotal.

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Q: My Cockapoo is really the smartest dog I have ever had. My husband is a biology teacher and says that she is not actually thinking at all and what she does is only to please us or to please herself. However, when I see her studying a situation it really seems as if she is thinking about it. I wondered what you thought.

A: This is a loaded question that has no answer; everyone has a different opinion on it and there are no scientific studies performed to support both sides.

As a general rule, animals react to situations rather than think about them cognitively. But I would have to agree with you. I am sure they do not think as we do, but there is clearly something going on in their heads.

The best example I can give was when I was breeding a type of fish called a betta. The male builds a nest of bubbles and cares for the eggs and babies. If one should fall out of the floating nest, he carefully picks it up in his mouth and replaces it back in.

This one fish I had was tending to his babies and I dropped a few frozen blood worms in the bowl for him to eat. Just as he turned to follow one of the worms a baby fell out of the nest and he picked it up in his mouth, then turned to eat the bloodworm. I figured the baby in his mouth would get swallowed with the worm.

However, he stopped dead in his tracks for at least a half a minute just staring at the worm. Then he spat out the baby, ate the worm and then picked up the baby and returned it to the nest. If that is not thinking, then I do not know what else is and this is from a fish one-inch long.

Marc Morrone has kept almost every kind of animal as a pet for the last half-century and he is happy to share his knowledge with others. Although he cannot answer every question, he will publish many of those that have a general interest. You can contact him at pets@pet.com; please include your name, city and state.
Dear Help Squad,

Who is responsible for repainting a bathroom ceiling that was damaged by roof repairs ordered by the condo association? Our condo town home complex is undergoing major repairs for which we have had a special assessment. The roofer hired by the association did some repair work on the roofs. After a major rain, we saw some large water stains in our second-floor guest bathroom.

We notified the management company and the association. The roofer came out and reportedly fixed the problem on the roof. He admitted that one of his workers caused the leak, which he fixed.

In the past, when leaks have happened in this complex, the board has taken the position that it will apply a stain blocker to the discolored area, but will not repaint the ceiling. The difference here is that there is a direct cause for the leak, i.e. the repair that took place within the past few months.

It seems the roofer should be responsible for repainting the bathroom ceiling. [As recommended in your April 27 column], we have looked at the declarations and rules and regulations but don't seem to be able to find any language in them that would assign responsibility.

Jim, Park Ridge

As this request for help was a direct result of my column “Who’s responsible when town home roof leaks and owner’s unit is damaged?”, I went directly to my legal expert for that column, attorney Mark Rosenbaum of Fischel & Kahn, Ltd. Though Rosenbaum is restricted to providing specific legal advice only to those who have hired him as counsel, he was able to offer Jim the following guidance via a written statement (which he qualified “is not intended as specific legal advice to any person”):

It is an oddity of both the Illinois Condominium Property Act and most condo declarations (and bylaws) that little or nothing is stated directly about the liability of the association for damages. I have not seen Jim’s condo instruments, and can only respond in a general way.

The roof of a condo building is usually a common element. The association is usually responsible for the maintenance of the common elements.

The party responsible for maintaining a building (or some part of one) is usually, under general principles of law, responsible for the damages caused to third parties by the failure of that building or part.

In this case, the damages appear to be to the bathroom ceiling through the finish coat of paint. Typically, the common elements are defined as including, among other things, the walls of each unit, up through the primer coat of paint. It is usually the duty of the unit owner to maintain everything “inside” the primer coat (like finish paint or wallpaper).

Some attorneys are of the opinion that even if the failure of a common element causes damage, the association’s only obligation is to repair the damage up through the common elements for which the association is responsible (in this case, the primer coat of paint). Other attorneys, of whom I am one, believe that the association is responsible for all the damages caused by the failure of a common element, whatever those are. So the association (which hired the roofer) would have to place the ceiling back into the same condition it was when the leak occurred, finish coat of paint and all.

But (and this is a very important “but”) the association’s condominium instruments could have provisions that result in a different outcome. In addition, the association’s liability insurance and even the unit owner’s own insurance could affect the final outcome.

With this information in hand, Jim attended his next condo board meeting and presented his case. Two days later, he was contacted by a painter from the building’s management company, and the following week his ceiling was painted.

Need help?
Send your questions, complaints, injustices and column ideas to HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com.

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.
**ROUNDUP | SELF-HELP**

**Eat Pray Love Made Me Do It**
With an introduction by Elizabeth Gilbert, Riverhead, 240 pages, $16.

It's been 10 years since author Elizabeth Gilbert struck out on a journey through Italy, India and Indonesia. When her spiritual memoir, "Eat Pray Love," first hit the shelves, her story of personal transformation through yoga and meditation (along with some delicious pizza and pep talks from a Balinese medicine man) was a novel idea to mainstream readers. Now books on yoga, meditation, Eastern philosophy and enlightenment are ubiquitous.

This book is a collection of nearly 50 essays by people who, inspired by Gilbert's book, made big life changes. One thing becomes obvious as you read the stories: Not everyone can write like Gilbert. The essays—really thank-you letters from fans of the original book—are by average people. Gilbert's introduction is the most compelling story in the book, but it's amazing to see how universal our issues are as well as how unique the situations and results. The personal stories of transformation vary, from surviving a divorce, addiction, late-stage Lyme disease to giving up a law practice, but all of them have the common theme of searching for a fulfilling life. Some essayists traveled to the Galapagos Islands, India or Bali. Others stayed rooted, but blossomed by shedding weight, quitting a job or pursuing a love of singing. One of the pearls of wisdom: Got a problem? Write it down. Turned out well for Gilbert.

**The Path**

Of course, finding happiness, peace, love—whatever you prefer to call it—is an ancient pursuit. Two thousand years ago, Chinese philosophers contemplated these same issues. “The Path: What Chinese Philosophers Can Teach Us About the Good Life” offers a contrarian view to pop psychology. “The cult of positive thinking assures us that whatever difficult circumstances we find ourselves in, it will all work out,” Puett says. The danger in believing that, he asserts, is that it makes us passive. Puett is a professor of Chinese history at Harvard University. He has the distinction of teaching “Classical Chinese Ethical and Political Theory,” the third most popular class at Harvard after basics such as economics.

The good news is that you don’t have to travel to China, or the hallowed halls of Harvard, to learn from these philosophers. Muddling through the mundane realities of life is where most change happens—and it happens incrementally. How you’re living in your daily life is much more important than asking abstract questions such as “what is the meaning of life?” Rituals, recognizing patterns of behavior and laying the groundwork for growth are just some of the ways the Path cultivates a meaningful life. The teachings in “The Path” offer ways to work with what you have. Instead of feeling stifled, he says, this philosophy can unlock a world of possibilities.

**NEW IN PAPERBACK**

**Becoming Nicole**
By Amy Ellis Nutt, Random House, 297 pages, $16.

“Becoming Nicole” examines how Wayne and Kelly Maines adjusted to one of their twin sons becoming transgender. Adopted as infants, Jonas and Wyatt showed differences by the time they were toddlers, when Wyatt insisted he was a girl. Nutt explores how the family confronted their own prejudices and the prejudices of their town to improve the life of their daughter as she transitioned.

**Dancing With the Devil in the City of God**
By Juliana Barbassa, Touchstone, 328 pages, $16.

Barbassa investigates the problems Rio de Janeiro continues to face as it prepared for the 2014 World Cup and the upcoming Summer Olympics.

**First to Fly**
By Charles Bracelen Flood, Grove, 266 pages, $16.

Flood details the American volunteers who flew fighter planes for the Lafayette Escadrille during World War I. The only all-American squadron in the French air force, the Lafayette Escadrille was formed in 1916 and took part in reconnaissance missions, the Battle of Verdun and more.

**All vs. Inoki**
By Josh Gross, BenBella, 301 pages, $16.95.

Gross explores the 1976 fight between Muhammad Ali and Antonio Inoki and the backstage maneuvering done by both parties to establish rules for the fight intended to be a “boxing vs. wrestling” match. A 15-round draw, the fight was maligned at the time but has since been seen as having a large influence on modern sports entertainment.

**Let Me Explain You: A Novel**
By Annie Liontas, Scriber, 351 pages, $17.

Believing he has just 10 days left to live, Greek immigrant Stavros Mavrakis sends a scathing email to his ex-wife and three adult daughters about how each can improve her life. His family and friends dismiss his behavior as humorous at best and a glib attention grab at worst—until Stavros disappears.

—Jeremy Mikula
Moo's Clues: From "Got Milk?" ads

Across
1 Get moving
6 Eastern European
10 Specter
15 Up to it
19 It Wasn't All Velvet autobiographer
20 Bagel shapes
21 Bike spokes, e.g.
22 Colorado resort
25 "Your bones may be in jeopardy" "Hamlet" (2002)
27 Took pleasure in
28 Canvas quarters
30 Sticky situation
31 Louis-Dreyfus sitcom
32 Some sodas
33 In charge
34 Fully
37 Was willing to
38 Garfield, for one
42 Kind folks
43 "Great serve, Mom" (2002)
45 Ruckus
46 Actor Diggs
47 Intuitive feeling
48 Hand-lotion additive
49 Picnic side dish
50 Hawks or Falcons, on scoreboards
51 "Have a cow, man" (1996)
52 Some "filthy" money
55 Suit fabric
56 Scientist Dame Jane
58 Starts to sag
59 Begrudged
60 Oscar actress Zellweger
61 Long skirts
62 Move like a water moccasin
63 Become proficient in
65 Western capital
66 Pay heed
69 The Princess Bride star
70 "Now serving" (2003)
73 Weepy rock genre
74 Black to Balzac
75 "...against... of troubles": Hamlet (2002)
76 Get moving
77 "...B'rith
78 Cell-phone range, for short
79 "It's the greatest" (2002)
83 Some imported cameras
84 Overfilled
86 With speed
87 Not very well
88 Some bout enders
89 Major outcry
90 Churchill, partywise
91 Had a tiff
92 On the way out
93 Spread throughout
99 "Fattening? Oh grow up" (1995)
101 "We're such good friends" (1995, with her sitcom pal)
102 Some imported cameras
103 Gallic girlfriend
104 Women with nieces
105 Aupsieces
106 "Filthy" money
107 Scoundrels
108 Copier contract, perhaps
109 Potion portion
110 Altar locations

Down
1 Ruckus
2 Sheltered harbor
3 Vocalized
4 Far-from-fussy eater
5 China services
6 Throat-culture finding
7 Piercing
8 Administrative branch
9 Upscale excursion
10 Alhambra's city
11 Stops marching
12 Poetic tributes
13 Geese complement in a carol
14 Chickadee cousin
15 Ill-disposed
16 French sponge cake
17 Shout of denial
18 "Benevolent" brothers
24 Van Gogh's brother
26 Winemaker Carlo
29 Cosmos competitor
31 inflatable device
32 Encryptions
33 Subatomic particle
34 Loss prevention device
35 "Awesome!"
37 Hoop group
38 Saintly circles
39 "I'm not one to miss a day" (1998)
40 Aphorism
41 Dragged from the rear
43 Path to the cashier
44 What Boyle's Law applies to
47 More loathsome
49 Break up
51 Swim-meet assignments
52 Original pizza place
53 Get-acquainted party
54 Top-drawer
55 Untrustworthy one
57 Dissuade
59 Standing tall
61 Respectful address
62 Cook-off creation
63 Cafeteria lists
64 Word of greeting or farewell
65 #1 in PGA Tour career wins
66 #1 in PGA Tour career wins
67 Some cybermessages
68 Piercing
69 Grill residue
71 Arizona pro, for short
77 Cell-phone feature
78 Aihambra's city
79 Check writer, in legalese
80 French modern artist
81 Near as
82 Held as an enticement
83 Chemistry datum
84 Cell-phone feature
85 App source
86 Some bout enders
87 Legislative excess
88 Some bout enders
89 Database operations
90 Mock
91 A bit open
92 Città circostante il Vaticano
93 Manner of walking
94 Actress Rowlands
95 Trident-shaped letters
96 Story lines
97 Ripped up
98 Fleecy females
100 Look, in brand names
101 "It's my turn!"

Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island. © 2016 Creators Syndicate. All rights reserved.
Quote-Acrostic

1. Define clues, writing in Words column over numbered dashes.
2. Transfer letters to numbered squares in diagram.
3. When pattern is completed, quotation can be read left to right. The first letters of the filled-in words reading down form an acrostic yielding the speaker's name and the topic of the quotation.

Clues Words

A. Calmed 62 112 25 129 1 58 40 78
B. Warm up again 4 8 1 149 140 105 132
C. Ornamental evergreen 53 79 34 71 131
D. Turn aside: 2 wds.
E. Elevator route 118 114 162 138 156 176 139 16 90 46
F. Become excited: 2 wds.
G. Sharpens
H. Makes weaker: 2 wds.
I. Cold-blooded vertebrate 116 146 41 32 89 14 75 94 99
J. Resistant to brightness 29 5 152 72 120 122 54 130 160

Across
1. Craft
2. Copter part
3. Kill
4. With the bow: mus.
5. Sky blue
6. Beverage
7. Vigorous synonym of 56
8. Tiverton's river
9. Where Duluth is: abbr.
10. Tiverton's river
11. Where Malmö is: abbr.
12. Lumps
13. Comply
14. Inexperienced one
15. African antelope
16. Übermarch
17. Yard chore
18. Fresh air
19. Detour
20. Fresh air
21. Symbol of power
22. Alfonso XIII
23.某种联盟
24. Certain siblings
25. Rebuff
26. African antelope
27. Overmuch
28. Overmuch
29. Yard chore
30. Fresh air
31. Preposition
32. World-weary
33. Used the teeth
34. Fresh air
35. Used the teeth
36. Symbol of power
37. Certain siblings
38. Overmuch
39. Overmuch
40. Yard chore
41. Certain siblings
42. World-weary
43. Used the teeth
44. Certain siblings
45. Rebuff
46. Used the teeth
47. Certain siblings
48. Symbol of power
49. Certain siblings
50. Certain siblings
51. Certain siblings
52. Certain siblings
53. Certain siblings
54. Certain siblings
55. Certain siblings
56. Certain siblings
57. Certain siblings
58. Certain siblings
59. Certain siblings

K. Mother of Perseus
L. Extending beyond record
M. Announce
N. Deference
O. Lower
P. Tantalize
Q. Headliner: 2 wds.
R. Abjure
S. Intangible
T. Cotton fabric
U. Forceful

Alternatives

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across
1. Inexperienced one
2. African antelope
3. Throb
4. Overmuch
5. Yard chore
6. Fresh air
7. Detour
8. Symbol of power
9. Alfonso XIII
10. Predicament
11. Be ominously near
12. Drooping
13. Chatters incessantly
14. Muscat and
15. Lunar feature
16. Beverage
17. Sky blue
18. With the bow: mus.
19. Inexperienced one
20. Vigorous synonym of 56
21. Where Duluth is: abbr.
22. Termisus facilities
23. Native of Odense
24. Rebuff
25. Como or Garda: It.
26. Cause to soar, as a ball
27. Walk
28. Game bird
29. _ over: delivers
30. Etyonym
31. Switch over
32. Showers
33. Palm leaves: var.
34. Exclamation of triumph
35. Sinister synonym of 56
36. Sinister synonym of 56
37. __ account!
38. Scope
39. Poetic units
40. Cue feature
41. Tolerate
42. Sicilian scenery
43. Calculates
44. Used the teeth
45. Searches
46. Calculate
47. Layers
48. Baseball stratagem
49. Creator of Daisy Miller
50. Got down
51. Skill
52. No matter what
53. English monk
54. Dream: Fr.
55. Card
56. No matter what
57. Longing
58. Chemical prefix
59. Brace

Down
1. Lunar feature
2. Famous couturier
3. Import
4. Como or Garda: It.
5. Cause to soar, as a ball
6. Walk
7. Game bird
8. _ over: delivers
9. Etyonym
10. Switch over
11. Showers
12. Palm leaves: var.
13. Exclamation of triumph
14. Sinister synonym of 56
15. Sinister synonym of 56
16. __ account!
17. Scope
18. Poetic units
19. Used the teeth
20. Calculate
21. Layers
22. Baseball stratagem
23. Creator of Daisy Miller
24. Got down
25. Skill
26. No matter what
27. English monk
29. Card
30. No matter what
31. Longing
32. Chemical prefix
33. Brace

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I recently went to see Frankie Valli at Ravinia. As the 82-year-old who stole the heart of every woman back in the day belted out well-loved songs like, “Sherry” (1962), “Can't Take My Eyes Off You” (1967) and “My Eyes Adored You” (1975), it brought me back in time, and for some reason got me thinking about how different the dynamics of dating were back then.

Back in the days when Valli was singing his songs, dating seemed simple. Men and women met through friends, school, church, the community or family. They arranged dates either in person or on their home phones. The guy went to the girl’s house, picked her up, opened the car door for her, took her to a restaurant and at the end of the night gave her a peck on the cheek and asked to see her again. During this era, men seemed to have so much respect for the women they “courted,” and in return, women expected to be treated a certain way that I think fails to exist in today’s dating world.

It’s really sad, but what I’m wondering is how society allowed this gradual but complete change in the effort men make for the women they date, along with the standards women are willing to accept? In other words, how did we get from a sweet good night peck on a first date to swiping on Tinder, hooking up and then saying “Buh-bye, see you around?”

I want to clarify that I’m not speaking about all men and women. There are still some old souls out there (including my boyfriend) whose thinking is similar to those during the glory days. But I think for the most part, dating in 2016 is a nightmare for several reasons.

First, no one calls anymore. Conversations and plans are made via text, Facebook or Instagram. Although a time saver, it’s impersonal and there is no spontaneity. People have as long as they need to respond to a text and to think of a funny, witty answer to a question. That to me really isn’t how you uncover someone’s authenticity.

Next, I have heard many stories from men and women about how sex is just expected — even on a first date. When the heck did that happen? I know we live in an immediate response-driven society. But does that mean we can’t let a relationship breathe and enjoy getting to know someone before we take off our clothes?

Furthermore, people don’t seem to date exclusively anymore. It seems perfectly acceptable to go out with (and have sex with) multiple people. Call me judgmental, but that just doesn’t cut it for me. Besides feeling kind of gross, multiple sexual partners leaves people feeling empty.

I’m not saying true love doesn’t exist any longer, or that men and women don’t experience romance. I just want to know when such mediocre dating behavior became acceptable, when men decided they didn’t have to try so hard and women lowered the bar. What happened to that man who was supposed to sweep a woman off her feet, treat her like a princess and give her the fairy tale? What happened to the woman who felt worthy of being with someone who made her feel treasured? Did self-esteem become obsolete like Valli’s 45s?

I understand times have changed, and that women are more independent and self-confident. I also realize strong, self-sufficient women can be intimidating to men, and that maybe men are just trying to do what they think a woman wants.

What does a woman want? No matter how independent she is, and no matter how much she will say “I don’t need anyone,” a woman still wants to feel cherished. She wants the security of monogamy. She wants to take her on dates, open car doors, leave her with a kiss good night and then say (in the words of Frankie Valli), “You’re just to good to be true, can’t take my eyes off of you,” not “This was fun. Let’s hook up again sometime.”

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.
Weight training and aerobic exercise reduce diabetes risk

by Joe Graedon and Teresa Graedon

Any home remedy used for lice will need to be repeated within a week, since these approaches do not kill the eggs. It is important to destroy the lice that hatch out before they can start to lay eggs.

Mayonnaise, Cetaphil cleanser and Listerine are among the options readers have used to kill head lice.

Mayonnaise, Cetaphil cleanser and Listerine are among the options readers have used to kill head lice.

DR. ANTHONY KOMAROFF
Ask Doctor K

Dear Doctor K: I have a family history of diabetes, and I'd like to do what I can to reduce my risk. My doctor says aerobic exercise will help, but I prefer weight training. Could that help too?

Dear Reader: Exercise, particularly aerobic exercise, helps to reduce the risk of Type 2 diabetes, which is by far the more common type of diabetes. So I assume that's the type that runs in your family.

Of course, not everyone can do aerobic activity. Others, like yourself, may simply prefer weight training. According to a study from Harvard and the University of Southern Denmark, weight training can also cut diabetes risk.

Your body relies on a basic fuel called glucose, which comes from the starches and sugars you eat. A hormone called insulin delivers the glucose from your blood to the cells of your body. But if you don't produce enough insulin, or if your cells ignore the insulin, you may develop Type 2 diabetes.

The biggest risk factor for Type 2 diabetes is being overweight. Aerobic activity burns large amounts of energy, which helps achieve weight loss and lower diabetes risk. Indeed, in the study I mentioned, men who did 150 minutes a week of aerobic exercise - brisk walking, jogging, swimming or tennis, for example - reduced their diabetes risk by 52 percent. This result was in line with past studies.

But this study also found that men who did 150 minutes of weight training per week saw a 54 percent risk reduction. That was true regardless of whether they performed aerobic exercise. Why might weight training reduce diabetes risk? Your muscles use glucose. By creating more muscle that needs more glucose when you exercise, you reduce glucose levels remaining in the blood.

I do both aerobic exercise and weight training. What did the study find about people like me? Such people had a 59 percent reduction in diabetes risk.

Aerobic exercise has benefits beyond reducing diabetes risk. It also lowers the risk for many other diseases, including heart disease. And it is associated with a longer lifespan.

So, I recommend adding some aerobic exercise to your routine. You can keep the focus on weight training, but add some aerobics.

Like you, many people have a family history of diabetes.

That means your risk is higher than it is for the average person. The good news is that you can greatly reduce your risk of getting diabetes. Being able to reduce your risk of any major disease by 50 to 60 percent is remarkable. In fact, there is no medicine yet invented that can reduce your risk for Type 2 diabetes as much as the combination of aerobic exercise and weight training.

Dr. Komaroff is a physician and professor at Harvard Medical School. To send questions, go to AskDoctorK.com, or write: Ask Doctor K, 10 Shattuck St., Second Floor, Boston, MA 02115.
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Magnolias the empress of blooming trees

By Nina A. Koziol
Tribune Newspapers

Every garden needs a showpiece — and for many of us, a magnolia tree is it. Come spring, magnolia trees are the prom dresses of the garden. Their magnificent showy flowers blanket the branches long before their leaves unfurl. Although some homeowners are likely familiar with the delicate white-flowered star magnolia and the pale pink saucer magnolia, there are many more from which to choose, including those with yellow, purple, red and bicolorated flowers. Some are found in the tropics while others are winter-hardy as far north as Minnesota. You’ll find 146 top choices in Andrew Bunting’s new book, “The Plant Lover’s Guide to Magnolias” (Timber Press, 224 pages, $24.95). The book explores magnolias that range in size from large shrubs to towering trees. Besides showcasing these delightful denizens of spring, Bunting suggests how to use some of them in small gardens and tight spaces, as well as companion plants to pair them with. He details what temperature zones in which they’ll grow and flower and the type of soil, sunlight and care they need to thrive year after year. He also explains how to grow more magnolias from seeds and stem cuttings in case you get hooked.

Bunting grew up in Manhattan, Ill., where an old majestic saucer magnolia created a canopy of bloom outside his bedroom window. It provided the opportunity to study the plant up close. For 26 years, he worked at the Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College in Swarthmore, Penn. It was there that his passion for magnolias blossomed. As curator, he helped build the arboretum’s magnolia collection from about 50 to 200 different cultivars. He also serves on the board of directors of Magnolia Society International. Yes, you could call him a magnolia addict.

We spoke with Bunting in his office at the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Ill., where he is assistant director. The following is an edited transcription of our conversation.

Why did you choose magnolias, instead of, say, crab apples?
The size and abundance of magnolia flowers make them one of the most stunning groups of trees in the spring. I like the flowers — they cover the stems before the tree leaves out and they’re entirely covered in flowers. The crab apple is a true small-flowering tree while saucer magnolias are majestic and stately. And crab apples flower as they are leafing out so the leaves sometimes hide the flowers. There is no flowering tree that’s superior, as long as the flowers don’t get frosted. Ounce for ounce, there’s no better flowering plant in the world. (Yes, he’s passionate.)

Why don’t we see more magnolias in home gardens?
Most homeowners haven’t been exposed to the breadth of magnolias that can be grown here in the Chicago area. Roy Klehm at Song Sparrow Nursery (www.songsparrow.com) in Wisconsin grows quite a few different ones. (The book also includes a list of sources for magnolias as well as where to view them in public gardens.)

Spring weather is often iffy in the Midwest. Sometimes the magnolias are in flower when we get a freeze and then they’re toast.

Yes, they’re challenged a bit in Chicago. It’s colder here, and that has a level of stress on magnolias. The hardiness varies, but a friend in North Dakota grows them there. Sometimes it’s a matter of planting them in the wrong place or using the wrong plant. Many are hardy to about zone 4 with a likely chance of having some flowers. Over half the magnolias are tropical species — 34 are native to Colombia, South America, six are endemic species in

Cuba. A colleague in Estonia grows them, and one of the biggest areas for growing magnolias is in Sweden. Parts of coastal Sweden are warmer than Chicago.

Should we worry about disease resistance?
Our soils are heavy, and the high pH (alkalinity) has an impact. And, because they’re stressed, they can get magnolia scale. They need a relatively well-drained soil as well.

What are some of your favorites?
Well, for those that are hardy in Chicago, I’d say “Butterflies” for its yellow flowers. There’s “Alexandrina,” a saucer magnolia. “Centennial” is a floweriferous star. One of the most popular on the planet is “Leonard Messel” — it’s such a great plant. I’d say “Coral Lake” is in my top 10, period. And, “Lois,” for its golden-yellow flowers.

How about fragrance?
Several are fragrant. One of my favorites that’s fragrant is “Judy Zuk.” She was the former president of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. The tree and flowers are upright, and the flowers smell like Fruit Loops cereal — tropical and fruity.

Nina Koziol is a freelance writer.
DREAM HOME

Tudor-style Winnetka mansion: $3.875M

ADDRESS: 870 Private Rd. in Winnetka
ASKING PRICE: $3,875,000
Listed on May 9, 2016
This 2004-built stone home has 6 bedrooms and 6.3 baths. Other features include a kitchen/family room spanning the back of the house, fully finished basement with 2016 media room, wine room with bar and exercise room. Bluestone patio is surrounded by landscaped yard and award-winning pool. Situated near Winnetka town, train, schools and shops.
Agent: Paige Dooley of The Hudson Company, 847-609-0963

At press time, this home was still for sale:

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In case of rain, fireworks will be held July 5 at Niles West High School.
Blankets and lawn chairs welcome. Sparklers, alcoholic beverages and dogs are not permitted.

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NOON • Lincoln & Niles Center
North to Oakton, east to Oakton Park

Floats, bands and fun!

www.skokie4th.org
'My Son the Waiter' tells of a late bloomer's rise

By Myrna Petlicki
Pioneer Press

Brad Zimmerman is a self-described late bloomer. "I didn't start writing until I was 33. I didn't start doing funny stuff until my 40s, when I took a comedy class," he said.

But look at him now. Zimmerman will perform his one-person show, "My Son the Waiter: A Jewish Tragedy," for a four-week run, July 7-31, at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie.

"My Son the Waiter" is basically a journey of struggle," he said.

Zimmerman, who had previously concentrated on acting, took that comedy class in 1992. "The combination of acting and stand-up gave me a kind of unique perspective on how to perform," he said. "My delivery was informed by the acting so there was an authenticity to what I was doing. I wasn't just telling jokes. I was telling stories. And I got good enough after six years to start working with some very well-known people."

He became the opening act for such stars as Joan Rivers (for six years), George Carlin, Brad Garrett, Dennis Miller and Julio Iglesias.

Creating a one-person show was the next logical step for him.

"I don't do clubs so I started writing a play chronicling a guy who has been in the waiting business for a long time," Zimmerman explained. That certainly describes Zimmerman, who served diners at New York restaurants for 29 years.

He performed in plays while he attended Rollins College in Florida, but admitted that he didn't have "a love affair with acting - not the way I loved playing basketball," Zimmerman said. "But if I was going to make a career, it certainly beat sitting behind a desk or working for my father selling furniture."

Zimmerman admitted that his many years hesitating to fully commit to an acting career was based in part on his fear of failure. During those nearly three decades as a waiter, Zimmerman kept studying his craft but didn't audition.

He did manage to do a couple of one-person shows but he didn't quit working as a waiter until 2007.

Zimmerman began writing "My Son the Waiter" in 2005. In 2013, he booked a run at Stage Door Theatre in Florida. Producers Dana Matthew and Philip Roy flew down to see the show and loved it. "They bought the touring rights to the show and that changed my life," Zimmerman said.

A 15-month-off-Broadway run at New York's Triad Theatre followed. After the North Shore Center run, Zimmerman will take his show to New York, New Jersey, Minnesota and Florida.

"So many people don't do what they should be doing because they can't break through that resistance," he said. "I was lucky enough that I did."

Zimmerman has no regrets about his late success in show business. "As much as you love being an early bloomer, it's worked out in a way that's very gratifying. The play itself is a chronicle of the whole journey."

"My Son the Waiter" has been filmed and filmed in the Netherlands; it's been translated into Dutch. "I didn't expect it to go as far as it did," Zimmerman said. "But if I had to do it over again, I would."
Just like last year, carnival rides will be part of the fun at the Island in the City Festival, held July 7-10 in Norridge.

**FAMILY FRIENDLY**

**Music, carnival fun at Island in the City Festival**

**BY MYRNA PETLICKI**
Pioneer Press

Your family can enjoy a getaway without going far from home at the 11th annual Island in the City Festival, July 7-10 at Overhill Avenue between Wilson and Lawrence in Norridge.

“It’s a family friendly event that really brings the community together as they enjoy carnival rides, games, a business expo, great entertainment and a diverse selection of food vendors,” said Monica Slonski, administrative services manager for the Norridge Park District, which sponsors the event.

That huge array of food choices includes chicken tenders, baked clams, deep fried Oreos and almost everything else you can imagine.

The festival runs from 5-10 p.m. Thursday; 5-11 p.m. Friday; 1-11 p.m. Saturday and 1-10 p.m. Sunday. The prices for daily wristbands at the carnival hadn’t been set at press time although a 4-Day Mega-Pass is available online for $60.

There’s nonstop live entertainment for free throughout the festival with Sunday dedicated to country music.

For details, call 708-457-1244 or go to www.islandinthecity.com.

**Out of this world**

“Space Pirates!” will invade the Devonshire Cultural Center, 4400 Greenwood St., Skokie, at 2 p.m. July 6. The new children’s musical is presented by Summer On Broadway Jr. Tickets are $3.

For details, call 847-674-1500, ext. 2400 or go to www.skokieparks.org/devonshire-playhouse.

**Free day of play**

Follow the Village of Niles’ Fourth of July parade from Notre Dame College Prep, 7655 W. Dempster St, at 9 a.m., to Gurnee Heights, 8255 Oketo, for a Post-Parade Celebration, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. The free event, presented by the Niles Park District, will include a children’s water play area, games, inflatables, pony rides, face-painting and more. R-Gang will perform from 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

For details, call 847-967-6633 or go to www.niles-parks.org.

**Marching orders**

Skokie resident Karen Jordan, news anchor at WLS Channel 7, will be one of the grand marshalls of the Skokie Fourth of July Parade which begins at noon at Oakton Community College, 701 N. Lincoln Ave. and heads to Oakton Park, 4701 Oakton St. The celebration continues with family festivities at Niles West High School, 5071 Oakton St. starting at 5 p.m. Live music begins at 6 p.m. and the evening ends with a fireworks display.

For details, call 847-933-8210 or go to www.skokie4th.org.

**Another great date**

Kenneth Park, 7255 Kenneth is the setting for the next Lincolnwood Community Park Play Date, 1-2 p.m. July 7. There will be active games, outdoor crafts and more at this free drop-in event.

For details, call 847-677-9740 or go to www.lincolnwoodil.org.
‘Night of Dreams Gala’ raises $500,000 for Have Dreams

Event: ‘Night of Dreams Gala’
Benefiting: Have Dreams, which serves children, teens and young adults with autism in the greater Chicago area
Honors: Michelle and Robert Smigel, creators of the Night of Too Many Stars biennial benefit for autism on Comedy Central, received the 2016 Dream Maker Award
Co-chairs: Joyce and Anthony Flakus of Lincolnwood and Diane and William Johnson of Northfield
Location: Radisson Blu Aqua, Chicago
Attended: 390
Date: April 30
Raised: $500,000
Website: havedreams.org
## REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

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This list is not intended to be a complete record of all real estate transactions. Data compiled by Record Information Services. 830-557-1000 | public-record.com
REAL ESTATE HOMES IN YOUR AREA

DES PLAINES
Three-bedroom, two-bath brick ranch home built in 1956. Landscaped lot over a half acre in size. Fireplace is surrounded with built-in shelves and cabinets. Sliding glass doors, and 2.5-car garage. Near parks, Metra and expressway.
Address: 1033 Apple Creek Lane
Price: $415,000
Schools: Maine East High School
Taxes: $11,306
Agent: Caroline Starr, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

VERNON HILLS
Address: 212 S. Stone Fence Road
Price: $589,900
Schools: Adlai E. Stevenson High School
Taxes: $13,570
Agent: Nano Engdahl, Baird & Warner Libertyville

WHEELING
Address: 1045 Honeysuckle Drive
Price: $399,000
Schools: Wheeling High School
Taxes: $8,313
Agent: Ed Bohrer, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage The Groves

GLENCOE
Four-bedroom, 2.5-bath American style brick home with garage built in 1914 on wooded lot. Mostly carpeted, library with hardwood floors. Sold as-is. Near country club, train and downtown.
Address: 533 Lincoln Ave.
Price: $1,095,000
Schools: New Trier Township High School Northfield
Taxes: $22,719.59
Agent: Margaret Goss, Baird & Warner Winnetka

Listings from Homefinder.com

Area Houses of Worship
Call 312.283.7023 to place your ad

Christian Church
St. Luke's Christian Community Church
9233 Shermer Rd., Morton Grove
Sunday Worship & Sunday School - 10 AM
http://www.stlukesetc.org
Rev. Elizabeth Jones

Jewish
Devar Emet Messianic Synagogue
7800 Killette Ave, Skokie 847-674-9136
www.deveremet.org
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Thursday, June 30

**The Cordovas**: 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $15-$25, 847-492-8860

**Society Artwork in Residence Program**: The Evanston Art Center launches an inaugural "artwork-in-residence" program, inviting six artists to "move in" to the second floor of the center's project space for 4-week residencies. From June 2016 to March 2017, the Art Center proudly hosts artists: Adriana Kuri Alamillo, Judith Brotman, Joseph Cruz, David Giordano, Kirsten Leenaars and Pedro Valez. Each of the artists chosen by curator Jessica Cochran addresses the residency theme during their stay. 9 a.m. All week, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300

**Contemporary Native Women Opening Doors to Change**: Join the Mitchell Museum for the opening of its latest exhibit, "Contemporary Native Women Opening Doors to Change." Welcoming reception at 1 p.m., curator led tour at 2 p.m. and a panel discussion from 3-4:30 p.m. 1 p.m. All week, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, $3 kids, $5 adults and Tribal members free, 847-475-1030

**Connecting Cultures: 40 Years at the Mitchell Museum**: The latest exhibit unveiled is: "Connecting Cultures: 40 Years at the Mitchell Museum." The exhibit celebrates four decades of thought-provoking exhibits, lectures, and performances through photographs and memorabilia. There is also a dazzling display of 45 objects donated by key collectors and Native American artists who have presented at the museum. 10 a.m. All week, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, $3 children, seniors; $5 adults; Tribal Members Free, 847-475-1030

**Light Opera Works Youth Company Presents "My Fair Lady"**: Light Opera Works Youth Company Presents "My Fair Lady" featuring top teens from select area high schools. 7:30 p.m. Cahn Auditorium, 600 Emerson St., Evanston, free, 847-920-5360

**Evanston Legend: The Art of Peggy Lipschutz**: The City of Evanston sponsors a month long show of the paintings and drawings of Peggy Lipschutz with an Opening Reception between 2-5 p.m. on Oct. 4, with musicians including Rebecca Armstrong, Peggy Browning, Mark Dvorak, Maura Lally and Kristin Lem. 10 a.m. Novy's Cultural Art Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, free, 773-816-4716

**Summer Camp at the Actors Gymnasium**: Begin your day with a rigorous warm-up, followed by training and workshops in classical and modern dance, acrobats and aerial arts, physical theatre and drama, and dance. Students learn juggling, tumbling, static trapeze, Spanish web, tightwire, stilts and more. 9 a.m. All week, Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, $1180 (per session), $2,275 (both Sessions), 847-328-2795

**Company**: 7:30 p.m. June 30 and July 1, 3 p.m. July 2, Writers Theatre, 325 Tudor Court, Glencoe, $35-$80, 847-242-6000

**Summer History Tours at The Grove**: Take a tour of the historic buildings with costumed interpreters who show guests what pioneer life was like in Northern Illinois over 150 years ago. The tours are free and include demonstrations plus fun activities for kids. 11 a.m. The Grove, 1411 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, free, 847-299-6096

**Drop-In Movie Night "The Sandlot"**: Bring a beach towel or blanket and enjoy the classic 1993 baseball film. 7 p.m. All week, Farmers' Market, Northfield Rd., Northfield, free, 847-675-2627

**Wonder Ground Open Lab**: Look, touch, ticker and play with an intriguing array of science-oriented curiosities in this new space designed especially for kids. Activities are repeated each week from Tuesday to Thursday. The Wonder Ground is a STEAM playground for kids. 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Clarence Darrow An American Original**: The most famous lawyer since Lincoln, Clarence Darrow took on the biggest cases, the hardest causes and the most difficult clients. Relive his successes, failures and controversies in this brand-new presentation. 1 p.m. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Rd., Northfield, $13 nonmember, 847-764-6030

**Wiggle While You Walk on the Library Lawn**: From now through August, you are invited to take a StoryWalk featuring the book "Wiggle" by Doreen Cronin. This energetic book about an animated dog who wiggles in a variety of funny situations is worth imitating. 9 a.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

**Karaoke Thursdays**: Enjoy some great pizza and sing a tune or two. 7 p.m. All week, Perry's Pizza and Ribs, 711 Devon Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-4422

**Rockin' in the Park 2016**: This concert series features the music of classic rock bands. The weekly concerts occur every Thursday from June 2 to Sept. 1 with food and beverage tents on the park's great lawn and a musical fireworks display after every show. 7 p.m. MB Financial Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-549-5554

**Food Drive in Skokie**: Requesting donations of canned goods and dry food products to fill the shelves of the Niles Township Food Pantry. These foods to be given to the hungry in the community. For further information, visit skokiefoodpantry.org. 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-549-5554

**Wilmette Public Library Fiber Group at Panera**: Join us as we knit, crochet, needlepoint or any type of fiber art. We share ideas, have knit-alongs, group projects and occasional lessons. New members are welcome. 10 a.m. Panera Bread, 1199 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-859-6356

**Where Is Arcanage Scavenger Hunt**: Arcanage Wilmette, the Village of Wilmette's namesake, will be hiding around Wilmette this summer. Learn a bit of local history as you and your family join this village-wide scavenger hunt to find her. Details about the scavenger hunt and winner prizes can be found at willmettehistory.org/events or call the museum. 1 p.m. All week, Wilmette Historical Museum, 669 Ridge Road, Wilmette, free, 847-855-7666

**Free Walking Clinic**: Learn to get the most benefit out of walking as exercise in Gillson Park. A certified, personal trainer teaches the class, which includes a warm-up, stretching, inclines, steps, balance and coordination. 5:30 p.m. June 30 and July 4, Gillson Park, Lake Ave & Michigan Ave, Wilmette, free, 847-251-6834

**MIT102**: A low-impact, high-intensity cardio and strength fitness class. Go to www.mit102fit.com for more information and to register. The first class is free, but please register three hours before the class. 5 a.m. All week, Hit 180 Fitness, 193 Northfield Rd, Winnetka, First class free, 224-216-1086

**An Evening with the Chicago Quarterly Review**: Join editors and recent contributors of the Evanston-based Chicago Quarterly Review at The Book Stall. The Chicago Quarterly Review is a nonprofit, independent literary journal. 6:30 p.m. The Book Stall at Chestnut Court, 811 Elm St., Winnetka, free, 847-446-8880

Friday, July 1

**Des Plaines Farmers' Market**: City of Des Plaines Farmers' Market is every Friday, open until 7 p.m. on Ellwood Street starting at Lee Street. Available are fresh produce, olive oil, bird houses and birdseed, food storage containers, green products and more. 3 p.m. Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellwood St., Des Plaines, free, 847-827-5551

**John Pattucelli Electric Guitar Quartet**: 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $20-$840, 847-492-8860

**The Ben Hecht Show**: 8 p.m. July 1, 5

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p.m. and 8 p.m. July 2, 2 p.m. July 3, Piven Theatre Workshop, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, $30-$35, 847-657-1506

Chicago Botanic Garden Art Festival: The festival opens at 4 p.m. July 1 with a special Chicago Botanic Garden Members Preview Party, and is then open to the public July 2 and 3. The preview party is exclusive for members of the Chicago Botanic Garden. 4 p.m. July 1, 10 a.m. July 2 and July 4. Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-926-4300

Parkinson Wellness Recovery Brain-Body Training: Brain-Body Training/PWR is Parkinson-specific exercise, scientifically designed to target symptoms of PD. It includes boxing training for endurance, agility and stability. The instructor is Drew Summers, an exercise physiologist. 10 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, $10-$15, 847-502-0630

"Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat": Glenview Theatre Guild presents its summer 2016 production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat". 7:30 p.m. July 1 and July 2, 2 p.m. July 3, Glenbrook North High School, 4000 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, $20 in advance, $22 at the door. For groups, call 847-299-5124, 847-604-3411

Curin' Park Ridge: These car shows take place on the First Fridays of June, July, August and September. This is fun for the whole family, with live entertainment, food, beer/wine, bounce house and of course, cars. 6 p.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3121

 Duplicate Bridge: The senior center offers a friendly bridge game every Friday morning. 9 a.m. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-5127

Cinco de Mayo: Join the fun of Cinco de Mayo on July 2 with free food, beer/wine, bounce house and of course, cars. 6 p.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3121

Dahm Suzanne: The Park Ridge Garden Club and the City of Park Ridge are co-sponsoring a Beautification Awards Program for all residents. The awards program gives recognition to those residents who are winning their landscapes the most attractive in our city. 9 a.m. Park Ridge City Hall, 505 Butler Place, Park Ridge. free, 847-825-0993

Friday Funnies: Comedy Series: Hosted by media veteran and author Jenniffer Weigel, features several comedians. 8 p.m. Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, $15; 2 for $25, 847-251-7424

The Birth and Restoration of a Nation: The real men and women who came to the New World to get rich soon discovered that the only riches were in the land that quickly grew cotton and tobacco. 1 p.m. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $10 member; $13 non-member, 847-784-6030

Foreign Policy and American Politics: Art Cyr explores how the process of electing our president has changed dramatically over the past 50 years and how it has affected the foreign policy dimensions of our politics. 10 a.m. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $19 NSSC member; $25 non-member, 847-784-6030

Share The Warmth: Join a group of warm, friendly, supportive women (men welcome) to prepare one-of-a-kind fleece blankets for chemo patients. Add a crocheted edge to fleece and send free blankets to new adult chemotherapy patients. Donations are welcome to this 501(c) 3 non-profit organization. 9 a.m. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-293-6755

Duplicate Bridge: The senior center offers a friendly bridge game every Friday morning. 9 a.m. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-5127

In Full Swing Jazz Orchestra brings glorious music. 7:30 p.m. Northbrook Public Library 1201 Cedar St., Northbrook, free, 847-448-8045

Evantown Farmers Market: Shop for fresh produce, meat, cheese, baked goods, flowers and more from 51 vendors. Please note: Dogs are not allowed at the market (service animals excepted). LIN KC cards are accepted. 7:30 a.m. Oak Avenue and University Place, Evanston, free, 847-784-6030

Evantown Farmers Market: Shop for fresh produce, meat, cheese, baked goods, flowers and more from 51 vendors. Please note: Dogs are not allowed at the market (service animals excepted). LIN KC cards are accepted. 7:30 a.m. Oak Avenue and University Place, Evanston, free, 847-784-6030

Ots Taylor Band: With Dave Herrero. 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $20-$35, 847-492-8860

Overeaters Anonymous: Overeaters Anonymous meets Saturdays. Newcomer meeting on the last Saturday of the month. No dues, fees or weight-loss programs. For information, call Hannah. 9 a.m. St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 2120 Lincoln St., Evanston, free, 773-996-0609

Signature Entertainment Presents: LOL Saturday: Adult Comedy every Saturday night hosted by Comedy legends Tony Sullfield and Mark Simmons. National Headliners with movie and television credits on stage. 9 p.m. Chicago's Home of Chicken & Waffles, 2424 W. Dempster St., Evanston, $15 adult advance; $20 at the door, 847-521-6434

"Animal Arts and Seasonal Stories": Animal Arts & Seasonal Stories is recommended for children ages 5 and up, but there is no minimum age requirement. Activities are offered at varying levels of difficulty and interest to engage the entire family. An adult must accompany participants. 10:30 a.m. July 2 and July 3, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, $3 kids, $5 adults, 847-475-0300

"Animal Arts and Seasonal Stories": Animal Arts & Seasonal Stories is recommended for children ages 5 and up, but there is no minimum age requirement. Activities are offered at varying levels of difficulty and interest to engage the entire family. An adult must accompany participants. 10:30 a.m. July 2 and July 3, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, $3 kids, $5 adults, 847-475-0300

Park Ridge Farmers Market: Enjoy a casual morning shopping for vegetables and fruits, plants, flowers, cheeses, pastries, coffee and gourmet items. Cooking demonstrations are given by local chefs. 7:30 a.m. Northfield Farmers Market, 6 Happ Road, Winnetka, free, 847-446-4461

Sunday, July 3

"A Midsummer Night's Dream": This July, Muse of Fire Theatre Company presents a wild riot of whimsy with "A Midsummer Night's Dream" under the summer sun. Bring a blanket, stretch out in the shade, and join the ensemble in a twisted tale of lamenting lovers, and the true meaning of "natural language" technology software will respond as if Pichons were in the room. 10:30 a.m. Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800

Northfield Farmers Market: Enjoy a casual morning shopping for vegetables and fruits, plants, flowers, cheeses, pastries, coffee and gourmet items. Cooking demonstrations are given by local chefs. 7:30 a.m. Northfield Farmers Market, 6 Happ Road, Winnetka, free, 847-446-4461

John Williams' Sunday music session: 3 p.m. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

Glenview Concert Band at the Glenview Community Church: As part of its 75th anniversary celebration, the church hosts the band, directed by Greg Wojciech, on the church's south lawn. The concert features patriotic songs, show tunes, and musical standards. In case of inclement weather the concert will be canceled. 2 p.m. Glenview Community Church, 1000 Elm St., Glenview, free, 847-774-2210

Skokie Farmers Market: Farmers and vendors from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin sell fresh-picked vegetables, fruits and flowers, baked goods, coffee, sauces and spices. 7:30 a.m. Skokie Village Hall, Turn to Calendar, Next Page
**Monday, July 4**

**Fourth of July in Bensenville:** Enjoy games, events, music and food from local vendors, as well as an Independence Day Parade at this annual community festival. Noon, Redmond Park, 735 E. Jefferson St., Bensenville, free, 630-766-8888

**Fourth of July Fireworks in Evanston:** Enjoy a fireworks display on the beach, which can be viewed from anywhere along the shore, including a fun run at 12:30 p.m., parade at 2 p.m. and music at Dawes Park at 7:30 p.m. 8 p.m. Clark Street Beach, 1811 Sheridan Road, Evanston, free

**Book Babies:** Songs, games, story time and free play for babies ages 2 and younger with a caregiver. 10:15 a.m. Evanston Public Library - North Branch, 2026 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-418-8600

**Live Bluegrass, Roots and Folk:** Every Monday in the pub, The Mudlarks perform. 8 p.m. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

**Fourth of July Fireworks in Glencoe:** Enjoy the annual fireworks show and arrive early for live musical performance at 6 p.m. Lakefront Park, 647 Longwood Avenue, Glencoe, free

**Glenview 4th of July Celebration:** Twilight Fireworks: At beautiful Gallery Park, behind Park Center, the show begins with a patriotic concert by the Lakeshore Orchestra. The fireworks show will be synchronized to patriotic music. 7 p.m. Gallery Park, 2001 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-774-5870

**Yarn Gang:** Kids in grades one and up are invited to try their hand at knitting, crocheting or other yarn crafts. 4 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**MGPL Kids: Monday Morning Playgroups:** Drop-in playtime for preschoolers with a parent or caregiver to introduce young children to the library in a low-key, unstructured session. Call 847-929-5102 or go to www.mgpL.org for more information. 10 a.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Knitting Roundtable:** Come work through knitting projects and socialize with fellow knitters. Expert knitters can show you how to solve knitting challenges. Call 847-929-5101 or go to www.mgpL.org for more information. 2 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Money Matters Discussion:** The group meets on the first Monday of each month. 10 a.m. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-3597

**Skokie 4th of July Parade:** Grand Marshals are ABC's Karen Jordan and NBC's Christian Farro. Enjoy the Great Lakes Naval Marching Band, Jessie White Tumblers and many more. Noon, Oakton Community College. Free, 847-635-1600

**Exploring Grief:** 7 p.m. Kenilworth Union Church, 211 Kenilworth Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-251-4272

**Tuesday, July 5**

**Lucky Chops:** 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $15-$25, 847-492-8850

**Rotary Club of Evanston Lighthouse:** This community leadership group boasts 80 members and meets every Tuesday, 7:15 a.m. Hilton Garden Inn Chicago North Shore/Evanston, 1818 Maple Ave., Evanston, free

**Let's Talk @ Lunch:** At this drop-in program, participants can talk through the issue of racism, and practice honest conversation skills by looking at our own experiences in light of what we're learning about how racism affects us all. 1:30 p.m. YoFresh Yogurt Cafe, 635 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-864-8445

**Tuesday Morning Music:** Garden visitors can enjoy free hour-long meditative musical performances on Tuesday mornings in the McGinley Pavilion overlooking Evening Island. After the concert, visitors can board a 25-minute narrated tour on the Bright Encounters boat, a close-up view of the gardens on the main island, or the Grand Tres Tour, an overview of the Garden's history and highlights. 10 a.m. Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

**Adult Literacy Classes:** A unique opportunity for native and non-native English speakers to improve their reading and writing skills. A small, friendly group led by a teacher and volunteer tutors meets twice weekly, 9:15 a.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Tuesdays Night at the Movies:** The film "Mustang" is rated PG-13. This story is about five Turkish orphan girls who are seen innocently playing with boys on a beach. Their scandalized conservative guardians confine them while forced marriages are arranged. 7 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Summer Storytime in Madeleine’s Garden:** For ages birth to five with a caregiver. Bring a blanket and enjoy 30 minutes of stories and outdoor activities. 10 a.m. Proesel Park, 7055 Kostner Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Storytime at the Pool:** Enjoy a brief, poolside story with a librarian during the summer. 7 p.m. Kenilworth Aquatic Center, 7055 N. Kostner Ave., Chicago, free, 702-847-6030

**MGPL Kids: Listen Up!** Drop-in story and play time for preschoolers with a parent or caregiver. Call 847-929-5102 or go to www.mgpL.org/kids for more information. 4:45 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Summer Kids Club:** Golf Mill Shopping Center Kids Club returns every Tuesday this summer. The mall has a full schedule of fun, educational and interactive activities planned for children ages 12 and under. 11 a.m. Golf Mill Shopping Center, 239 Golf Mill Center, Niles, free, 847-699-1070

**Mozart's Requiem:** Niles Metro Chorus performs Mozart's Requiem this spring. New singers are welcome, and for more information, please call. Rehearsals are weekly, every Tuesday, 7 p.m. St. John Brebeuf Parish Church, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles, free, 702-806-8421

**Games Outside the Box Drop-In All Ages:** Calling all gamers, techies, engineers, builders, strategists, creators, geeks and out-of-the-box thinkers. Each week a different game, program, hardware or toy is featured. Stop by and let's see what you can do. 2:30 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Keep Calm and Yarn On:** Knitters, weavers, crocheters and fiber artists, stop by our new weekly meetup. You can share what you know, learn something new, or just work on your own project. 2 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Understanding the Islamic World:** Over four weeks, Jim Kenney explores questions, which are critical for a real understanding of the Islamic world. He will compare and contrast western views of religion, the state, and pluralism with those that characterize Muslim culture. 1 p.m. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $40 NSSC members; $52 non-members, 847-784-6030

**S.T.A.R. Movie Critics Club:** Join this movie critics club as they watch and discuss "Prescription Thugs." A documentary uses his own family’s experiences as a springboard to explore the ethical issues surrounding the FDA and pharmaceutical industry. Please register in advance by contacting the Centennial Activity Center. 1 p.m. Park Ridge Park District- Centennial Activity Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free to members; $2 guest, 847-692-3597

**Country in the Park 2016:** This concert series features some of Nashville’s most popular emerging country music artists. “Country in the Park” concerts occur every Tuesday throughout the summer. 7 p.m. MB Financial Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-349-5556

**Wednesday, July 6**

**Music in the Park and French Market:** This family summer concert series has something to offer all musical tastes. Favorite Bensenville restaurants sell dinner and dessert items, for dinner in the park prior to the concert. Early in the evening, there are free games, giveaways, photo-booths and a caricature artist. 5:30 p.m. Downtown Bensenville, 12 S. Center St., Bensenville, free, 630-766-8200

**Bensenville Farmers Market:** Stop by and let’s see what you can do. For more information, please call. Rehearsals are weekly, every Tuesday, 7 p.m. St. John Brebeuf Parish Church, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles, free, 702-806-8421

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**Keep Calm and Yarn On:** Knitters, weavers, crocheters and fiber artists, stop by our new weekly meetup. You can share what you know, learn something new, or just work on your own project. 2 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**The Eagle Rock Gospel Singers:** With Kevin Andrew Prchal. 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $10-$18, 847-492-8860

**Live Music Wednesdays with the Josh Rzepek Trio:** Hear the music of Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk and other classics of the era played by the Josh Rzepka Bebop trio. Reservations can be made online or by calling. 6:30 p.m. Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-868-8945
Calendar

Preschool Story Time: Stories and songs for children ages 3-5 and a caregiver. 10:30 a.m. Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston, free, 847-448-8610

Open Mic Night in Evanston: Hosted by Daniel Fiddler. 9 p.m. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, no cover, 847-864-1679

Concerts In the Park: Bring your dinner, folding chairs and lawn blankets and enjoy these shows guaranteed to please young and old alike! The Jackman Park Gazebo is located at Lehigh Ave. and Prairie St. 7 p.m. Jackman Park, Evanston, free, 847-448-8610

Cutting Board: Personalize a cutting board outside the east wing of the Glenview Senior Center to walk together through and around the Gallery Park. 6:30 p.m. Glenview Senior Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-646-5670

Summer Walking: Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m., meet at the park bench outside the east wing of the Glenview Senior Center to walk together through and around the Gallery Park. 6:30 p.m. Glenview Senior Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-646-4300

Laser Cutting Project Engraved Cutting Board: Personalize a cutting board by engraving it with the Laser Cutter. 7 p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Garden Fun Wednesday: Join in the Youth Services department for a gardening-themed art or science project on Wednesday mornings after Storytime in June and July. 11 a.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Free Film "Captain America The Winter Soldier": The movie has Steve Rogers, aka Captain America, (Chris Evans) who struggles to embrace his role in the modern world. He teams up with fellow Avengers and S.H.I.E.L.D. agents, Black Widow (Scarlett Johansson) and the Falcon (Anthony Mackie), to battle a new threat from history: an assassin known as the Winter Soldier (Sebastian Stan). 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Northbrook Farmers Market: Shop for farm fresh fruits, vegetables, baked goods and more at this not-for-profit community farmers market. The market is open rain or shine, except in the event of severe weather. 7 a.m. Cherry Lane and Meadow Road, Cherry Lane and Meadow Road, Northbrook, free

Bartholdi and His Lady of Copper: The Statue of Liberty is the world's most recognizable monument, a symbol of liberty, freedom and America throughout the world. Artist Frederic Auguste Bartholdi wanted to provide a work that would express his love for the idea of liberty. The statue has been standing at the entrance to New York harbor for more than 128 years. 10 a.m. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $10 NSSC member; $13 non-member, 847-784-6030

Knitting Studio and Workshop: Each Wednesday afternoon, certified knitting instructor Mary Stackmann provides personalized instruction, answers any questions about knitting, and perhaps gets you started on a new project. Bring your supplies or project in progress. 1:30 p.m. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6060

Bridge Class Beginning Bridge: This series of lessons is for those who have never played bridge or haven't done so for a very long time and have forgotten how to bid and play. 12:30 p.m. Park Ridge Park District- Centennial Activity Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, $75 member; $79 guest, 847-692-3597

S.T.A.R. Ice Cream Social: Enjoy a do-it-yourself Ice Cream Bar with all of the fixings as "Seniors Together At Recreation" listen to the sounds of Peg and Ray - the "Silverliners." Please register in advance by contacting the Centennial Activity Center. 1 p.m. Wednesday, Park Ridge Park District- Centennial Activity Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, $6 member; $8 guest, 847-692-3597

Canasta Lessons at Mallinckrodt Center In July: Four-week group lessons begin July 6. 10 a.m. Mallinckrodt Center, 1041 Ridge Road, Wilmette, $40 members, $50 nonmembers, 847-265-9623

Senior High Youth Group: For all youth grades 9 to 12 to enjoy fun and friendship while engaging in meaningful discussions and service learning opportunities. The evening starts with a tasty dinner, sometimes chicken, sometimes pasta or pizza. 6:45 p.m. First Congregational Church of Wilmette, 1125 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-251-6660

Have an event to submit? Go to chicagotribune.com/calendar

TASTE OF PARK RIDGE
JULY 14, 15, 16
www.tasteofparkridge.com

The Taste of Park Ridge has always been a community event. It was established to benefit this community by its own members, working tirelessly for its ultimate success. Since the inception of the Taste, in 2000, sponsorship has served as the linchpin of this joyful celebration. Sponsorship symbolizes the symbiotic relationship of all of the Taste components - cooperation is required on all fronts for the fest to flourish, as it continues to each year.

The Taste's 2016 Main Stage Sponsor once again, is the Bredemann Family of Dealerships, which has established a remarkable reputation for service and quality, celebrating over 100 years of exceeding expectations in the automotive industry.

The committee is proud to welcome four new VIP sponsors this year. First, is Formula Fitness Clubs, which will be opening its fabulous facility soon, on Touhy Avenue in Park Ridge. Host is Groot Industries, the new world class Waste Collection Service for Park Ridge. The third is the Evan and Martha Olson Family from California. Evan grew up in Park Ridge, and is passionate about his beloved hometown. He contacted TOPR, offering to contribute to an event that he loves, and knows is enjoyed by many area residents and business people. The committee also welcomes local State Farm Agent Neal Salah, who relocated his family to Park Ridge several years ago, because of his appreciation for our community.

Additional valued VIP Sponsors include The Park Ridge Herald/Advocate Newspaper, whose parent company, the Chicago Tribune, produces the annual Taste brochure, and Advocate Lutheran General and Lutheran General Children's Hospital. The committee is also grateful to BMO Harris Bank, Christopher B. Burke Engineering, the City of Park Ridge, Classic Party Rental, Cook County Commissioner Peter Sustrick, the Dolly McCarthy Show, Journal & Topics Newspapers, Maine Township, the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce, the Park Ridge Knights Football Club, the Park Ridge Park District, Park Board Commissioner and State Senatorial candidate Axl Thillens, Park Ridge Psychological Services, Parkway Bank, Physicians Immediate Care, Rainbow Hospice, State Senator Laura Murphy, W & R Event Services, and Xfinity.

The Taste Committee is forever indebted to these organizations and individuals for their kind generosity.

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MOVIES

Now playing

“Finding Dory” ★★★
PG, 1:43, animated
This satisfying follow-up to the 2003 smash “Finding Nemo” amplifies the defining characteristic — short-term memory loss — of Dory, the blue tang fish voiced with subtle warmth and unerring comic timing by Ellen DeGeneres. Dory fin-twists, gently, Marlin (Albert Brooks) and Nemo (Hayden Rolence) into aiding her in her search for the parents she only periodically recalls. The quest takes the trio to the coast of California and the Marine Life Institute. The open ocean is the reward for Dory, along with reuniting with her parents, and I felt slightly jerked around in getting to the reward part. The visual personality of the movie is fantastically vivid and bright; the story itself, less so. — Michael Phillips

“Central Intelligence” ★★
PG-13, 1:54, comedy
“Central Intelligence” is the kind of movie that sends you from the theater smiling because you’re glad it’s over. No need to bother with the paltry excuse for a plot cobbled together by the film’s four screenwriters. Let’s just say that Dwayne Johnson and Kevin Hart play high school acquaintances rejoining 20 years after graduation to cavort through a thicket of spy nonsense. National security agents appear, shots are fired and the unmatched duo is on the run. Johnson and Hart are performers of trustworthy charisma, but their personal appeal hits its limits in this film. “Central Intelligence” is a chase movie that goes nowhere, but from which there’s no escape. — Colin Covert, Star Tribune

“The Conjuring 2” ★★★
R, 2:14, horror
“The Conjuring 2” is a nerve-wracking sequel to the 2013 haunted-house thriller directed by James Wan. Paranormal investigators Lorraine and Ed Warren, played by Vera Farmiga and Patrick Wilson, travel to London at the Catholic Church’s behest to see if there’s anything to the rumor of the already-infamous Enfield poltergeist. Nothing else in “The Conjuring 2” is as terrifying as the 1977-era floral wallpaper lining the hallways of the haunted North London flat, not to mention the fearsome edge on Wilson’s sideburns. The movie’s finesse is something even non-horror fans can appreciate. — M.P.

“Now You See Me 2” ★★
PG-13, 2:09, action
“Now You See Me 2” is the narrative equivalent of a Fruit Roll-Up, designed to be forgotten in as many minutes as it took to watch. The cast remains the chief reason it squeaks by. The sequel opens with the magician-thieves known as the Four Horsemen down one horsewoman (Isla Fisher). The other three, played by Jesse Eisenberg, Woody Harrelson and Dave Franco, are hiding out. Strung together by some absurdly complex and elephantine illusions staged on a large, public scale, director Jon M. Chu’s brand of flash and digital trickery is more to my taste than the Roll-Up served up in the first “See Me.” — M.P.

“Warcraft” ★★
P-13, 2:03, fantasy
The lower your expectations are, the more fun you might have at “Warcraft.” This epic fantasy adaptation of Blizzard Entertainment’s multi-player online role-playing game is bold, unapologetic, hardcore fantasy. There are times when it feels like watching an ‘80s heavy metal album cover in cinematic form, which isn’t necessarily a bad thing. There’s an audacity in how it drops the audience into this fantasy land of orcs, wizards and mages with little to no context or explanation. If you’re open to some Insane, sometimes inane, but uncompromising fantasy, you just might enjoy yourself. — Katie Walsh
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NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR
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Surrender to wanderlust with some wheels that suit the season

By Robert Duffer

Long summer nights and bright early mornings mean our favorite season is finally here: driving season.

We buy the practical car — the crossover or midsize sedan — for its capability in satisfying 95 percent of everything we want in a car.

Now it's time to have fun and scratch that itch on twisty two-laners that run far away from construction season and stretch deep into the twilight.

No machine embraces the sun quite like the convertible, but our favorite summer cars also include road warriors that can drive through the night in refined repose, double-duty vehicles that can hit the road as capably as the trail, and sports cars that are as cool as July is hot.

If summer wanderlust overwhelms, consider renting or hitting car-sharing sites such as Turo.com, getting good and lost in one of these.

Rockaway breach

Jeep Renegade: It's cute, it's fun and the My Sky™ removable roof panels over the front and back seats so all four passengers can soak up the sun. To stray from the beaten path, the Trailhawk version is off-road capable and oh so likable.

Subaru Outback: The classic American summer road-trip family-vehicle is the wagon. The Outback prefers black cladding to wood paneling and for good reason — it enables the all-wheel-drive bestseller to hit the trail and ford the creek.

Toyota Tacoma: Midsize trucks are making big strides in the best-selling pickup truck segment, and despite the return of the Chevy Colorado and GMC Canyon, we prefer the Tacoma for its versatility, practicality and off-road capability. And the bed is great for camping or a night at the drive-in.

Good vibrations

Kia Soul: There is something inherently fun about the Soul, whether it's the boxy design that makes for great headroom and a bouncy ride-quality, or the quirky interior styling with alternating illuminated dials and an available sound system that could be the soul of any beach-side party. The top-of-the-line Exclaim trim is worth the rental upcharge, if available.

VW Beetle Dune: This spunky punchbug with wide hips and round shoulders demands to be promenaded down the sandy runways of the beach. Styled after the dune buggies of the '60s with flared fenders, a big spoiler and black cladding, Dune is much more Beetle than Buggy, so it's best suited for concrete. It's still a bucket of fun.

BMW M2: If you were to distill summer into one word, it might be "sun." The only word for the M2 is "fun." It is a pure driving experience without all the techno-gadgetry proliferating elsewhere — especially in other BMWs.

Ford Mustang: The classic in the line plug-in hybrid version to appreciate some of the self-driving and advanced safety features that will be common in more cars in the future. The ride quality is quiet and smooth, and the seating versatile enough to handle overnight road trips in style and comfort.

Road trippers

Chrysler Pacifica: Chrysler has redesigned — and redefined — the minivan with the Pacifica. You can go to town, country or wherever the road may lead with the roomiest vehicle this side of recreational. Buttons open sliding doors for easy exit, buttons fold down seats into the floor, and nearly a dozen charging options from USB ports to a 120-volt outlet keep seven passengers connected in comfort. You can sleep in it, play in it, then get to it, wherever it may be.

Volvo XC90: Volvo's revival under Chinese ownership is led by this luxurious three-row SUV. You don't need the top-of-the-line plug-in hybrid version to appreciate some of the self-driving and advanced safety features that will be common in more cars in the future. The ride quality is quiet and smooth, and the seating versatile enough to handle overnight road trips in style and comfort.

Drop it cuz it's hot

Buick Cascada: It can be dismissed as a rebadged Opel, the center stack is as congested as a Chicago interstate, and it moves about as fast as a summer festival line, but the compact Cascada looks great, has lovely interior touches and can fit four better than any other drop-top on the list.

Mini Cooper S convertible: It's cute, it's compact, it's quirky. And it's a convertible with BMW blood. It doesn't have the best ride quality and is not much different than previous iterations. But the push-of-a-button hardtop option and its distinctive styling make this worth at least a weekend getaway.

Mazda MX-5 Miata: Redesigned for 2016, the world's best-selling two-seat roadster is tighter, leaner and sportier in every way. While we wait for the MX-5 RF fastback retractable hardtop, we'll recommend a spin in a car that's been plastering sun-stroke smiles on faces for 25 years. 
Winning through pinning

Skokie man connects with donor families at Transplant Games

BY BRETT CHRISTIE
Pioneer Press

Having received his heart transplant more than 20 years ago, the feeling of athletic accomplishment never gets old for Jason Barishman.

The 43-year-old Skokie resident recently competed in his sixth Transplant Games of America, representing Team Illinois in Cleveland in bocce, cornhole, darts and Texas hold'em poker. Like in his previous five trips, he brought home a medal, this time a bronze in mixed doubles cornhole.

This year, however, had a special significance for Barishman. A skilled graphic artist, he designed the team's pin as well as a special pin to give to donor families. For an event that not only signifies new life for transplant recipients but also serves as an outlet for them to thank donor families in attendance, there was no better way, Barishman said, than to do just that by meeting and pinning them.

"The thing that keeps me going to these games is it's all about donor awareness. I guess, one of the reasons that I designed these pins was to honor donor families," Barishman said. "In my mind it was giving donor families a medal."

The pin is black and gold and is in the shape of a shield. It has two hands holding a heart and the tree of life.

Barishman needed a heart transplant because of a rare form of cardiomyopathy. Having never met or had any contact with his own donor family despite sending numerous letters over the years, it was a fulfilling and emotional moment each time he pinned someone from a donor family.

"It was an opportunity to say thank you for the gift of life," Barishman said. "It was so emotional and so awesome to just share our stories. It's a venue for us to share the word that organ donation works, and it's an outlet to prove that we can be normal people and that we can get back up from surgery and do normal things again."

Barishman had his heart transplant in 1995, and in his early years of competing Barishman put his new heart to use by competing in cycling, track and field jumping events and swimming. He's most proud of his feats in the water.

"I won a bunch of medals in swimming," he said. "And that was a really big achievement for me, because swimming is tough. For a heart recipient to do swimming, for me that was the ultimate achievement."

As can often be the case with heart transplant recipients, his body is rejecting his heart after more than 20 years. He is currently in heart and kidney failure and in the process of getting put on the donor list for both.

Having already been through the transplant process, he's optimistic. But he acknowledged his circumstances in life have changed significantly, for the better, from when he was 22. He has been married for nine years to his wife Asa Malika, and they have three kids together.

"I think I have some challenges with supporting a family now, because before it was just me," Barishman said. "I have to make sure I keep my health in good standing, and I'm optimistic I can get through it if I can find a match. So we'll just have to see how it goes."

Brett Christie is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Skokie's Jason Barishman (far right) and his partner, Gwen Westlund of Westmont, took the bronze in mixed doubles cornhole at the Transplant Games of America in Cleveland.
ALTERNATE SHOT

Qualifier at Northmoor gives local golfers a chance to play in Senior Open

BY BOB NARANG
Pioneer Press

Highland Park native Steven Jacobs became a fan of Doug Bauman’s short game on June 22.

Bauman and Jacobs were the last two standing in a playoff after tying for third at a U.S. Senior Open qualifier at Northmoor Country Club in Highland Park.

Both shot an even-par 71, and the playoff winner would serve as the first alternate at the Senior Open in August at Scioto Country Club in Columbus, Ohio.

Jacobs watched as Bauman, a Barrington resident, hit quality shots - and putts - to open the playoff.

“Doug played so well on the first two (playoff) holes,” Jacobs said.

But Jacobs sank a 12-foot putt on the third hole, whereas Bauman missed a two-foot putt to hand the first alternate position to Jacobs. Bauman earned the second alternate spot.

“Doug was in there kind of close, and he lipped out,” Jacobs said. “I was fortunate it went in.”

Kevin Marion of Highland Park lines up a putt during a Senior Open qualifier on June 22 at Northmoor Country Club in Highland Park. Marion shot an even-par 71.

Gary Sowinski (4-under 67) of San Diego and Kevin Healy (1-under 70) of Sugar Grove earned the only two qualifying spots in a field of 90 players.

The 58-year-old Jacobs had a short drive from his home to Northmoor but admitted he learned a lot of lessons on the challenges of battling the physical and mental aspects of competing in his second qualifier.

“You don’t want to be too aggressive in an 18-hole qualifier because one bad hole can hurt you,” he said. “You just need to try and stay patient and play a solid game.”

Adam Rosuk, the head pro at Northmoor, said the 27-hole golf course in the Chicago area.

“The course was a good round for me,” Sowinski said. “I stayed with my game plan and never got too excited or panicked. I wasn’t sure 4-under would get in because there are a lot of great players in the Chicago area.

“I liked the golf course. The greens were in absolutely fantastic condition. A lot of clubs in Chicago would be pretty envious of those putting surfaces.”

Most golfers in the field hailed from Illinois, though others came from New York, Tennessee, Florida and Arizona. The 63-year-old Sowinski, who lives in downtown San Diego, had the farthest commute and had a unique reason for choosing to play at Northmoor.

A PGA golf instructor in Escondido, Calif., Sowinski had planned to visit Manuel de la Torre, an old friend from Milwaukee, and then noticed the qualifier was within driving distance.

But de la Torre, a renowned golf teacher, died on April 24.

“I never changed the (qualifying) site after Manuel died,” he said. “I don’t know if Manuel had a lot to do with me staying patient or making some putts.”

Healy, a 1982 Loyola graduate, credited a strong start to his placing second. He had two birdies in the first three holes and shot par on the final five. He said his son helped him stay focused and provided some key insight.

Kevin Healy Jr. qualified for the Class 2A Freeport Sectional as a senior at Kaneland last fall.

“I was really surprised how much he (Kevin Jr.) helped me read the greens,” Healy said. “I trusted him and I feel I can read the greens a lot. I don’t think I would’ve made some of the putts or shots I did without his help.

“I’m happy for the opportunity (to play in the Senior Open), and hopefully my game is in decent form when I get out there. I don’t get to play much, even though people think I play every day (as a course pro).”

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

LOCAL GOLF

U.S. SENIOR OPEN QUALIFYING
Northmoor Country Club
Highland Park, Ill.
6,556 yards; Par 71

Qualifiers
(-1)
Kevin Healy (Sugar Grove) 70

Alternates
(E)
Steven Jacobs (Highland P.) 71
Doug Bauman (Barrington) 71

Local finishers
(E)
Kevin Marion (Highland P.) 71
Bill Sakas (Northbrook) 72
Gary Groh (Highland Park) 73
Terry Russell (Arlington H.) 73
Joel Hirsch (Wheeling) 73
Ted Pecora (Winnetka) 73
Kevin Gacek (Elmhurst) 73

T-40
Vance Antoniou (North Barrington) 74
Andy Shuman (Lake Zurich) 74
Curtis Skinner (Lake Bluff) 74
Matthew Horwitch (Northbrook) 74
Alex Moore (Winnetka) 74

T-45
Mike Rice (Inverness) 76
Timm McCarthy (Elmhurst) 76

T-49
Bradley Metzger (Pomme Park Ridge) 78
Alberto Moriondo (Barrington) 78

T-50
David Fedor (Lincolnshire) 78
Victor Tyson (Elmhurst) 78
Michael Heffner (Westchester) 78

T-54
Craig Sopko (Lake Forest) 77

T-59
Bradley Kay (Arlington H.) 75

T-62
Danny Brown (Buffalo Grove) 81
Michael Lamontagne (Barrington) 81

T-68
William Haggerty (Elmhurst) 82

T-70
William Jardine (Kildeer) 87

T-78
Michael Heffner (Westchester) 84

Twitter @bobnarang
Local golfers take aim at U.S. Senior Open qualifier in Highland Park. Inside
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