

NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

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Dancing, food and fun

M-NASR ends summer with an outdoor party in Morton Grove. Page 4



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

James Underwood, of Skokie, at Harrer Park in Morton Grove during the end-of-summer party for M-NASR participants, caregivers and families.

LIVING

Going for gold in your relationship

Columnist Jackie Pilossoph compares the challenges faced by Olympic athletes with those faced by everyday couples. **Inside**



MARTIN BUREAU/GETTY-AFP

GO



DAVID MARKOWSKI PHOTO

Two fun fests

Edison Park Fest, I Gotta Guy Sausage Festival continue summer fun. Page 19

OPINION

Return of the 'spousemercial'

Columnist Paul Sassone takes issue with one particular type of political commercial, those that feature candidates' spouses. Page 17

SPORTS



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Serve and receive

High school, club volleyball seasons often work in tandem. Page 35



NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

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Vol. 68, No. 29

SHOUT OUT

Diana Schmidt, junior high teacher

Teacher Diana Schmidt is beginning her 15th year at Old Orchard Junior High School in Skokie. She recently published a book inspired by her grandmother's fight against Alzheimer's disease. Through "Remember For Me" (www.openbks.com/library/moderns/remember-for-me/about-book.html), she said she is hoping to raise awareness and funds.

Q: Where did you grow up?

A: Lake Forest, and I have been working in Skokie since I was 21.

Q: Pets?

A: I am a huge lover of dogs, but work too far from home to have one. So, we have fish. Lots of fish — guppies that continue to keep the tank full. And recently we added a couple of snails into the mix.

Q: What book are you currently reading, and what book would you like to read next?

A: I am a Kristen Ashley fan and am currently getting my mindless story consumption from her. I am also reading "The Collapse of Parenting" by Leonard Sax.

Q: First job?

A: My first job was working in my dad's grocery store, which was



DIANA SCHMIDT PHOTO

Diana Schmidt

in Skokie — Happy Food — when I was a teenager. He'll tell you that I refused to answer phones, stressed when customers came near and didn't leave the office much. He'd be right.

Q: As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?

A: I wanted to be a teacher from an early age. But, there was a time marine biology interested me until a jellyfish stung me on the lips, and I removed myself from the water

expeditiously and pretty much refused to go back.

Q: Do you have children?

A: I have two infinitely entertaining and thoughtful children. Logan is 7, and Cora is almost 6.

Q: Favorite charity?

A: Because of my novel and grandmother, the Alzheimer's Association is currently my favorite charity. However, I had the greatest experience years ago raising money with students and helping refugees move into apartments in this area through Exodus World Service.

Q: Words of wisdom?

A: Not sure it is wisdom or a necessity, but find what makes you happy and fight for it. Then help others find their happy, too.

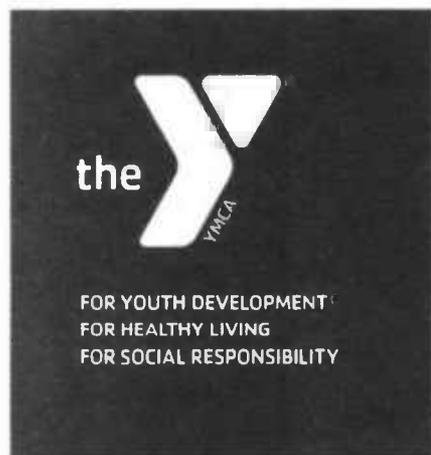
Q: What song best sums up Skokie for you?

A: "What a Wonderful World" because this town encompasses a microcosm of diversity and respect.

Q: Favorite local restaurant?

A: My favorite restaurant here is probably Taboun Grill.

—Pioneer Press staff report



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Ending summer in style

Association for the developmentally disabled throws outdoor party in Morton Grove

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC
Pioneer Press

Music coming from a disc jockey reverberated throughout Harrer Park pavilion in Morton Grove on Aug. 11, where an estimated 400 people registered for the Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation's end-of-summer party.

Free to participants, caregivers and families, M-NASR hosted the summer event for the 15th year. The theme this year was "M-NASR at the Movies" and participants were given a purple shirt with the party theme on it.

An extension of seven area park districts in Morton Grove, Skokie, Niles, Des Plaines, Lincolnwood, Park Ridge and Golf-Maine, the Morton Grove-based agency provides therapeutic recreation programs for children and adults with physical and developmental disabilities.

"The services that we provide are crucial to our residents with special needs," M-NASR Executive Director Suzanne Bear said. "It provides an opportunity for socialization, recreation and for their overall well-being."

The summer party at Harrer Park pavilion included a buffet, crafts, a dunk dunk, dancing and more.

"I love rock 'n' roll," said Katie Miller, an M-NASR participant from Skokie who swayed to the music.

What did Cindy Wroblewski of Park Ridge, also an M-NASR participant, like about the event?

"Dancing, of course," Wroblewski said.

Bear said the annual party could not happen without support from The Liponi Foundation for Special Recreation, an organization formed in 1990 that helps provide the association with financial resources.

"You can't put a dollar amount on the enjoyment people get out of it," M-NASR spokeswoman Barbara Saunders said, describing the nearly three-hour event.

Karie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Andrew Tawse, second from left, of Park Ridge, receives a buffet meal at Harrer Park in Morton Grove during the end-of-summer party for M-NASR participants, caregivers and families.



Joshua Leipsiger, of Skokie, dances at Harrer Park.



Katie Miller, of Skokie, dances in her wheelchair at Harrer Park in Morton Grove during the end-of-summer party.



Mika Wilson, of Skokie, dances at the event.

Oak Park teacher appointed to vacant library board seat

BY LEE GAINES
Pioneer Press

Niles library officials recently appointed a 36-year-old elementary school teacher to a vacant seat on the library district board.

Rob Breit, a teacher at Oak Park School District 97, was selected by the board following closed session interviews with all five candidates who applied to fill the seat left by former library trustee Danette Matyas. Matyas, a Niles village trustee, left the library board suddenly in late April, citing a heavy workload as an elected village official.

Susan Lempke, director of the Niles Public Library District, said Breit's appointment was approved unanimously at the board's last meeting on July 20.

"As an educator, parent, and homeowner in Niles, I have an inherent interest in our public library. I also have a passion for serving the community in a positive and engaging manner," Breit wrote in his application letter for the trustee position. "As a trustee, I can fulfill this civic obligation, while offering a unique perspective as an elementary educator."

He will serve the remainder of Matyas' term through spring 2017. Breit, who grew



NILES PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
Rob Breit

up in Skokie and has lived in Niles for the past three years, will need to run for re-election next April to keep his seat on the board.

He wrote in an email that he applied for the open seat because he's a "big fan" of the Niles Public Library District and would like to see the library "continue to serve the community at a high level."

Breit emphasized his interest in making sure the library continues to be staffed by qualified employees, and provide community members and students with access to "top notch" resources.

"I have been an educator for the past 13 years, with the last six as an elementary teacher in grades two and

four," Breit wrote in his application. "As a teacher, I see the value of a good library, as a place to read for pleasure, read for information, connect to the internet, attend a meaningful program or make a connection with another community member."

Breit takes a seat on the board in the middle of the library's long-term strategic planning process. He will join soon after the board voted to overhaul its retirement offerings and join the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund.

Board President Linda Ryan said she's excited to once again have a full board of trustees and believes Breit will bring a "fresh perspective as a new member."

Lempke previously said she'd like to see more diversity on the library board. At 36, Breit will be one of the younger trustees on the board.

Lempke wrote in an email that the newly appointed member "seems very familiar with the library."

"It sounded like some of his educational experience will give him a great perspective," Lempke said.

Lee Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Firefighters battle construction site fire

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

A fire broke out Aug. 11 at the site of a Niles Park District-owned facility currently under construction, according to the village's police and fire officials.

Niles Fire District Chief Orlando Diaz said the blaze broke out around 3:45 p.m. at 7847 N. Caldwell Ave. Fire personnel from both Niles and Morton Grove departments worked to put out the fire, he said.

"We had 20 working firefighters who contained the fire," Diaz said.

He said there no injuries and the fire caused minimal damage to the facility, primarily because construction crews were working on demolishing the building. The village's park district recently purchased the building for roughly \$650,000. Niles Park District executive director Joe LoVerde previously told Pioneer Press that the majority of the building will be

torn down to make way for a new \$11 million athletic facility.

Diaz said officials are investigating the cause of the fire.

Niles Police Sgt. Robert Tornabene said traffic on Caldwell Avenue between Howard Street and Oakton Street was closed while firefighters battled the blaze. Diaz said the road has since reopened to traffic.

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

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EDUCATION

Teachers exchange ideas in Caribbean

By **TODD SHIELDS**
Pioneer Press

A group of 10 teachers from Barrington School District 220 spent a week this summer in the Dominican Republic not for a vacation, but to work and learn alongside fellow educators from underprivileged schools in the Caribbean nation.

The Barrington teachers spent time in the city of Santa Domingo and traveled to four villages on the east and west coasts of the country, the teachers said. In workshops and presentations, the Barrington teachers exchanged ideas on student engagement and learned about school systems different from theirs.

For Sharon Kranz, an instructional coach at Roslyn and Grove elementary schools, her group decided they would not bring "an attitude that we know it all" when meeting with teachers from the Dominican Republic, she said.



CAROLYN MUIR PHOTO

Barrington D220 teacher Nancy Kontney, seated on right, meets with school teachers in the Dominican Republic.

"The whole goal of this trip was building relationships with teachers in schools down there," she said.

A newly founded group, INGAGE, organized and arranged the trip for the 10 District 220 teachers.

A social studies teacher and service learning coordinator from 2001 to 2013 at New Trier High School in Winnetka, Carolyn Muir started INGAGE in January

as a resource to send employees from different industries on learning missions abroad.

At New Trier, she worked with students and staff on raising funds to build schools in Angola, Haiti and India. Muir often traveled to visit those schools — an experience that inspired her to create INGAGE, she said.

"The main mission of INGAGE is to develop

teams that build collaborative relationships with international partners and empower communities to effect positive change," Muir, an Arlington Heights resident, said. "The goal of these team experiences is to build friendships, share resources and ideas and increase cultural understanding."

To prepare for their own trip, the Barrington teachers, Kranz said, read the book "Teaching with Poverty in Mind: What Being Poor Does to Kids' Brains and What Schools Can Do About It," by educator and international author Eric Jensen.

The book deals with how teachers can increase a student's interest in learning when they come from an impoverished background. During the trip, the Barrington teachers stressed the importance of students interacting with one another, instead of teachers solely interacting with whole classrooms, Kranz said.

"This was a big change for these teachers in the Dominican Republic, but they were willing to try," she said. "We also did not want to diminish their work."

The Dominican teachers practiced reading aloud to each other and then paired off — as young students do — to ask and answer questions from their partners, Kranz said. They answered questions that focused on identifying important elements on a page and the type of information they can learn from a picture inside a book, she said.

A second-grade teacher at Grove School, Nancy Kontney's most worthwhile experience was creating relationships with teachers in a foreign country.

"We went to a different school every day, and did workshops on what worked for us and what worked for them," she said. "It was a real collaboration."

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Dist. 219 increases sub pay

By **BRIAN COX**
Pioneer Press

The Niles Township School District 219 board will provide a pay increase for substitute teachers.

During its Aug. 9 meeting, the board voted unanimously to increase the pay for substitutes from \$110 a day to \$120 a day, effective immediately.

"They do a hard job," said Edmund Murphy, District 219 assistant superintendent for human resources. He said the district had not increased its substitute teacher pay rate in eight years.

He said the pay increase is essential because District 219 competes against other school districts for substitutes in a limited pool of teachers, including District 202 in Evanston, which, he said, pays \$135. He said District 219 substitutes regularly cover six periods, and some cover seven.

"The substitutes have been saying 'I can make more in another district,'" Murphy said.

He said teachers hoping to substitute in District 219 must register online. That is followed by a screening process and training, he said, and demand for substitute teachers is greatest on Fridays. Information on the number of substitutes used in the district per year was not available.

"We have to get subs to cover for teacher meetings as well," Murphy said. "There's lot of different instances when we have to get subs."

Brian Cox is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

More Dist. 219 students taking AP courses

By **BRIAN COX**
Pioneer Press

An increasing number of students at Niles North and Niles West high schools are taking advanced placement courses to prepare themselves for college, but School District 219 still has work to do to get more juniors and sophomores involved, officials said.

"The last few years, we have significantly increased our numbers of students taking AP courses as well as AP exams," Anne Roloff, District 219 assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, told



Roloff

the Niles Township School District 219 board during its Aug. 9 meeting.

"The exciting piece of this is that our scores have either remained about the same or have increased," she said. "It's a real testament to our staff, the hard-working teachers that we have."

According to the district, AP courses are college-level courses taught in high school, which follow a rigorous curriculum.

Roloff said that approximately 26 percent of the district's students take an AP exam, an increase from 14 percent in 2011-12. She

also said the "AP world history course" is of special note. She explained that that course is offered to freshmen, and she said that of the 96 freshmen enrolled in the course, 93 took the AP exam and 88 percent received a passing grade.

Of all AP exams taken in the district in 2016, 82 percent of students received a passing score, which is well above the national rate of 57 percent and the state rate of 66 percent, Roloff said.

"We're just really pleased with what we're seeing," she said.

All students in the district are strongly encouraged to take AP courses because students who are exposed to AP curriculum

are more likely to be college-ready and perform higher on the ACT, SAT and other testing, district officials said. They also said the district's enrollments in AP courses has increased significantly over the past several years, while scores have remained high.

"We know they will be successful in college if they are successful on AP course work," Roloff said. "Most colleges and universities accept some form of AP course work as some form of credit."

Board member Linda Lampert said she has been talking to parents who said that if the district is encouraging every student to take at least one AP course, the district should consider

paying the \$92 students are charged for the exam.

"I thought that was very interesting," Lampert said. "It is something I think we need to start discussing."

Roloff also said the district has work to do because only about one-quarter of the student population takes AP courses or exams. She said that seniors tend to take the AP courses and exams and that the district must look at ways to get juniors and sophomores at the two high schools more involved.

"That number in my mind is too low," she said. "I'd like to see that number closer to 40 or 50 percent."

Brian Cox is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Community takes part in 'Back the Blue' campaign

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

A new wave of anti-police sentiment that swept the Chicago area in recent weeks has prompted some in Norridge to show support for police officers by tying blue ribbons on hundreds of trees as part of a campaign supporters hope will catch on in other communities.

Volunteers running the project have so far tied ribbons to more than 300 trees along public rights of way, while village officials are handing out colored outdoor light bulbs to residents who want to light up their porches in blue.

The campaign, known as "Back the Blue," started with Norridge resident Frank Avino, a police commissioner for the Norridge Police Department whose sister is a Chicago police officer. Avino said he started challenging his Facebook friends to display blue ribbons in their yards after he noticed a high school friend who lives in a small Florida town was doing the same thing.

Tensions have been high since a video was released Aug. 5 detailing the fatal shooting of 18-year-old Paul O'Neal by Chicago police. Police have said O'Neal was being pursued as he fled from officers in a vehicle police said was reported stolen. The incident has sparked protests, and there have been reports of threats of violence against police.

"We're fortunate to not have the same troubles as other cities, but I think it's important for everyone to show support of the law and for those who enforce it," he said. "It's not a shot at any group who feels unjustly targeted by police, but we can't just sit here in this day and age and watch these things happen without letting those who are in charge know we support them."



NATALIE HAYES/PIONEER PRESS

Blue ribbons hang on trees in the 4400 and 4500 blocks of North Osage Avenue in Norridge as part of the "Back the Blue" campaign launched recently to show support for police.

When Avino approached the village with his plans to display the ribbons in public areas, village officials embraced the idea and decided to contribute to the campaign by purchasing 1,000 blue light bulbs, Trustee Don Gelsomino said. About 700 blue lights have been handed out since the campaign began during the second week of August, Gelsomino said, adding that the village plans to stock up on more to meet the demand.

A few days after nailing a sign into his yard in the 4500 block of North Osage Avenue that says "Police Lives Matter," Norridge resident Mike Caravia said he's fed up with watching police in general take the brunt of the actions of a few officers.

"There's no respect out there from the younger generation, where it seems like everyone thinks the police are bad all of a sudden," Caravia said. "There are hundreds of arrests that go well, but you never hear about those."

The community's sup-

port of the campaign has driven Avino's mother to grab a pair of scissors and work diligently to cut up plastic blue tablecloths used to make ribbons.

"We go to the dollar store and find tablecloths that we cut up into big sections," he said. "If someone calls us and says they want one put up on their tree, then we go out and do it."

Avino said he's been paying the cost for the ribbons, and the village bought the light bulbs. Residents can pick up a light bulb at Village Hall, 4000 N. Olcott Ave., during business hours.

Caravia said he doesn't have a tree in his front yard, so he decided to weave his ribbon along his porch railing.

"People seem happy about the campaign. I haven't heard anything negative about it," he said. "The point is to show that every life matters, whether you're black, white, green, blue or yellow."

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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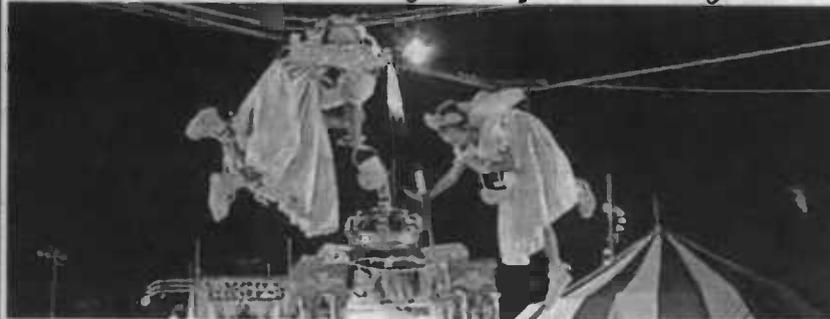
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POLICE REPORT

The following items were taken from local department reports and press releases. An arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt.

Niles

THEFT

■ Mamoun Bouzar, 21, of the 8600 block of Gregory Lane in Des Plaines, was charged July 29 with theft on the 8500 block of Golf Road, where police said he stole \$598 worth of merchandise. A court date was scheduled for Aug. 22.

■ Sangitaben M. Patel, 41, of the 4800 block of Hamlin Avenue in Chicago, was charged Aug. 4 with retail theft at Golf Mill Mall. A court date was scheduled for Aug. 31.

■ Wheels were removed from a vehicle parked on the sales lot of a dealership on the 5700 block of Touhy Avenue Aug. 1, police said. The loss was estimated at \$4,390, police said.

BATTERY

■ Margaret M. Walsh, 53, of the 6300 block of West Touhy Avenue in Niles, was charged Aug. 3 with aggravated battery. Walsh's roommate called police to report that Walsh allegedly stole his prescription medication. Police said she was intoxicated when they arrived. A court date was scheduled for Aug. 22.

■ Javed K. Noor, 36, of the 8100 block of Dempster Street in Niles, was charged Aug. 4 with domestic battery. Noor allegedly hit a female acquaintance in the face and fled from his home, police said. He is scheduled to appear in court Aug. 26.

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY

■ Police said two unknown men tried Aug. 3 to burglarize a home on the 6900 block of West Keeney Street in Niles. A couple who lives in the home allowed a man, who said he worked for a

tree company, into their backyard. Another man entered the home while the couple was outside talking with the first man, police said. After they left, the couple realized their jewelry boxes had been rummaged through. Nothing was reported missing.

DUI

■ Hector Diaz-Soliz, 28, of the 2000 block of West Darrow Avenue in Evanston, was charged Aug. 1 with driving under the influence of alcohol and leaving the scene of an accident on the 8300 block of Golf Road. Police located him at his residence, and he allegedly failed sobriety tests, police said. Diaz-Soliz also was cited for driving without a license. A court date was scheduled for Aug. 31, police said.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

■ Someone smashed the passenger side window of a vehicle parked in the

XSport Fitness parking lot on the 9200 block of Milwaukee Avenue on Aug. 1, police said. Nothing was reported missing from the vehicle.

Skokie

ROBBERY

■ A teenager, 14, was charged with armed robbery Aug. 3 in the 9300 block of Kolmar Avenue.

BATTERY

■ Uriel Kao Scott, 42, of the 800 block of West Buena, Chicago, was charged with battery July 29 in the 3500 block of Touhy Avenue.

■ Staci L. Felder, 31, of the 1900 block of Emerson Street, Evanston, was charged with battery July 30 in the 8300 block of Christiana Avenue.

HOME INVASION

■ Dracy D. Clayborn, 23, of no known address, was charged with home inva-

sion Aug. 1 in the 8500 block of Lawndale Avenue. Police said Clayborn entered his ex-girlfriend's home without her permission and began fighting with another person inside.

DUI

■ Tabitha L. Doty, 31, of the 2500 block of South Whipple Street, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol Aug. 2 in the 9600 block of Crawford Avenue.

■ Ogbemi B. Amudoaghan, 37, of the 1700 block of Lyons Street, Evanston, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol and illegal transportation of alcohol July 30 in the 8600 block of McCormick Boulevard.

■ Maksim Lushchan, 31, of the 3500 block of Church Street, Skokie, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol Aug. 7 in the 8300 block of McCormick Boulevard.

DRUGS

■ Tai Anthony Amedee-Jones, 32, of the 8000 block of Keeler Avenue, Skokie, was charged with possession of drug equipment Aug. 3 in the 5000 block of Greenwood Street.

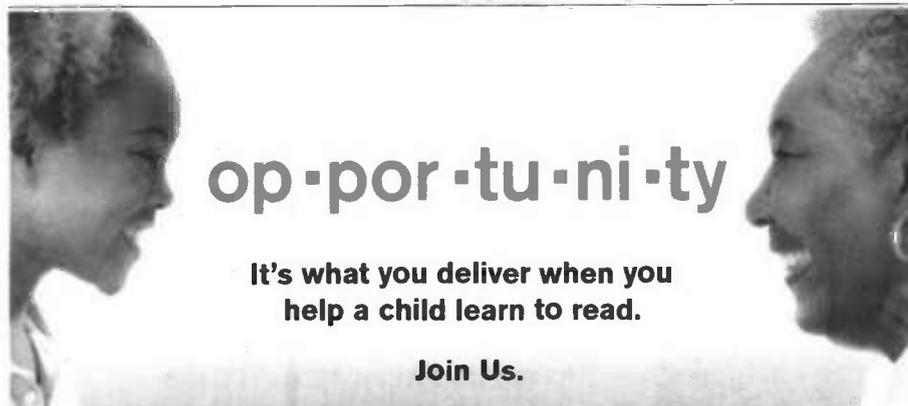
■ Walter Sanchez, 24, of the 4000 block of South Maplewood Avenue, Chicago, was charged with possession of marijuana July 27 in the 9100 block of Laramie Avenue.

THEFT

■ Uranbileg Bergen, 57, of the 300 block of Park Avenue, Glencoe, was charged with retail theft Aug. 2 in the 9400 block of Skokie Boulevard.

■ Brianna M. Cotton, 19, of the 2200 block of West Jackson, Chicago, was charged with retail theft Aug. 3 in the 4800 block of Golf Road.

■ A Chicago teenager, 16, was charged with retail theft Aug. 3 in the 9500 block of Skokie Boulevard.



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'It's so heartbreaking': CHD affects thousands

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

When she heard about the sudden death of a 7-year-old Park Ridge girl, Melanie Toth said she immediately feared the child's demise was the result of an undiagnosed congenital heart defect.

Toth founded the Chicago chapter of the national nonprofit Mended Little Hearts — an organization that provides resources and support to families dealing with congenital heart disease — a half-decade ago.

"When we heard that little girl passed away, I think everyone in our organization said, 'I hope it's not an undiagnosed congenital heart defect,'" she said, referring to the death of Kate Babich.

Kate, a student at Field School in Park Ridge, was at a summer cheerleading camp for kids in grades 2-5 at the Maine South High School field house June 27 when she suddenly collapsed. After efforts were made to revive her, she was

later pronounced dead at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital. The Cook County Medical Examiner's Office recently ruled her death the result of a congenital heart defect called Ebstein's anomaly.

"Every time we hear about athletes and kids passing away, it seems to be from an undiagnosed congenital heart defect. Our group is so passionate about it because we are all parents or patients with CHD," Toth said.

Congenital heart defects — also known as congenital heart disease — are the most common birth defects. They affect about 1 percent of all live births, according to Dr. Andrew Van Bergen, a pediatric cardiologist at Advocate Children's Heart Institute.

"That means 40,000 babies each year in the U.S. more or less have congenital heart disease," Van Bergen said. CHD covers a broad spectrum of heart defects, he said.

Van Bergen recommends all children and adolescents

with zero risk factors for CHD participate in a pre-sports physical that includes an electrocardiogram, which is a test that detects problems in the heart's electrical activity. Children with risk factors for CHD — which include a family history of sudden cardiac death, chest pain, fainting and heart murmurs — should see a pediatric cardiologist before participating in any kind of sports activity, he said.

Van Bergen said a screen probably could have detected Kate's heart defect.

A screen "throws a big wide net in the population and hopefully captures more than it needs to," he said. "I would rather over detect it and have them evaluated than miss anyone."

Roughly a quarter of CHD cases are critical and require a series of surgeries in the first year of life and are usually diagnosed in utero or shortly after birth, Van Bergen said. Not all children with CHD will be diagnosed in the early years

of their lives, and some abnormalities evolve over time, he said.

Ebstein's anomaly — which means the heart's tricuspid valve doesn't work properly — might not be detected at birth, and the manifestation of the defect is "highly variable," Van Bergen said. Toth said her son, Luke, was diagnosed with CHD at her 20-week ultrasound. He had his first open surgery at a week old and his second at nine months, she said.

The disease is a lifelong condition, and though Luke — who is now 7 years old — is not currently taking medication and is able to participate in sports, he'll need to regularly see a cardiologist and undergo heart-related screenings for the rest of his life, Toth said.

"Every kid is different — it's not a cookie-cutter thing," she said.

Sudden cardiac death in children is relatively rare, according to Van Bergen. Twenty-five percent of children who pass away because of sudden heart fail-



JENNIFER BABICH

Kate Babich, a 7-year-old Park Ridge girl, died after collapsing at a cheerleader camp. The Cook County Medical Examiner's Office recently ruled her death the result of a congenital heart defect called Ebstein's anomaly.

ure do so during sports activities, he said. CHD will also increase a child's risk for sudden cardiac death, Van Bergen added.

Toth said schools and other youth organizations should institute more testing procedures with the aim of catching children who might carry undiagnosed heart defects before they participate in sports programs. She said most programs require only a gen-

eral physical.

"It's so heartbreaking. How many kids have to lose their lives before someone wakes up and says we need to do something about this?" Toth said.

The Babich family did not respond to attempts to reach them for this story.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press. Jennifer Johnson contributed to this report.

Construction underway on new senior living home

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

Construction has begun on a senior living home in Lincolnwood that will provide care for varying needs, including a special unit for dementia patients.

Plans for the facility, previously approved by the village board, show 380 units ranging from studios to two bedrooms, along with an in-house station for emergency medical technicians. The center, which has been described by its developers as "upscale," will serve assisted living needs and

memory care patients with medical care.

Entertainment also is expected to be a main attraction of the facility, which is expected to include a bistro, an indoor pool, patios, a theater and game rooms, according to plans submitted to the village.

The July groundbreaking of the facility follows Lincolnwood board members' approval last year of zoning relief for the 13-acre site at 3400 W. Pratt Avenue, an area of town zoned for industrial business use.

Dallas-based senior living facility developer South Bay

Partners, the company developing the property, also endured a months-long process to get permission to use building materials that fall short of the village's fire code.

The company, which is currently building four other similar senior homes in Texas, bought the lot for roughly \$6 million from Oak Brook-based CenterPoint Properties, according to Steven Kohn, senior vice president of commercial real estate brokerage firm Colliers International.

Kohn, who brokered the sale, said the property had

been on the market for 15 years following the eventual relocation of technology services company Bell and Howell, which moved its headquarters to North Carolina after operating in Lincolnwood for several decades.

"The site was on the market for a long time because the village was very specific of what they wanted there," Kohn said. "It's filling a very important need for the community because memory loss is an unbelievably trying experience for people (with family members) who have these issues."

Adam Arnold, a representative of South Bay Partners, described the so-far unnamed senior housing facility as a "very vibrant place to live," and told the village board last year that the concept of the development is focused on dining and wellness.

Plans for the building show enough housing for 500 residents, including at least 250 independent living units, 90 assisted-living spaces and 44 memory-care units.

South Bay Partners is a full-service real estate development company that spe-

cializes solely on senior housing, according to the company's web site.

The company operates senior living facilities in several states, including Park at Golf Mill in Niles, Park at Vernon Hills and eight others in Illinois, according to information from its web-site. Construction on the Lincolnwood facility is expected to be completed by the spring of 2018, according to Arnold. An official groundbreaking ceremony is planned for Sept. 13, he said.

Natalie Hayes is a freelancer.

Buffalo Grove stabbing suspect is awaiting trial in cop-knifing

BY GEORGE HOUDE AND
RONNIE WACHTER
News-Sun

The man accused of breaking into a Buffalo Grove home and stabbing multiple people and a dog is a convicted felon awaiting trial in Wisconsin on charges that he slashed a police officer in the face, according to authorities and court records.

Jacob William Beeman, 29, who lives with his grandparents in the tiny central Wisconsin town of Arkdale, was taken into custody Aug. 10 at a gas station in Wheeling, where he was found with blood on his neck, arms and clothes and was carrying black gloves, two bandannas and a bloody hunting knife in his boot, authorities said.

Beeman appeared in Cook County court Aug. 12 in shackles, jeans and a

"Remember 9/11" T-shirt and was given a \$2 million cash bond. Authorities said he kicked in an air conditioner and then the front door to gain entrance to the house on St. Mary's Parkway just after midnight Aug. 10, stabbing three people multiple times each and a dog and then fleeing when one of the victims fired a semi-automatic weapon at him. Earlier reports said there were four people stabbed in the house. Authorities only referenced three stabbing victims during the Aug. 12 court hearing in Rolling Meadows — a 46-year-old man, his 19-year-old son and 16-year-old girl — but said two other people were present in the home during the attack.

"But for the fact that the victim obtained the gun, this

could have been a triple homicide," Cook County Assistant State's Attorney Maria McCarthy said. "Firing that shot is the only thing that made that defendant leave that house."

According to the criminal complaint against Beeman read in court, he and another man were seen lurking outside the home just before Beeman leaned into a bedroom



Beeman

window — startling the two younger victims, who were playing video games — before entering through the front door.

Beeman then stabbed the dog, a German shepherd named Piston, and tussled with the older man, stabbing him, while the man's son tried to stop the attack with an air gun, but it failed to fire,

the complaint said. Beeman then followed the son back into a bedroom, where he stabbed the son and the girl, officials said. The two other people present had locked themselves in another bedroom and fled through the window.

The older male victim was stabbed in the chest, arms, legs and hands, officials said. He remained hospitalized in serious condition Aug. 11 but was expected to recover.

The dog is also expected to survive.

His son was stabbed in the arm, severing a tendon and exposing a bone; he was treated and released. The girl suffered a severed tendon in her hand; she was also released from the hospital but has undergone surgery since for her wounds, officials said in court.

After fleeing the home, Beeman walked to another

house a few blocks away, asked the resident for a ride and was driven to the home of a friend, authorities said. But the friend's uncle saw Beeman behind the house and called police, prompting Beeman to flee to the gas station, where he asked for a ride to Milwaukee and to use the phone, according to officials' account. The gas station attendant called police, they said.

Authorities said Beeman told police that he targeted the house because he was told by another man that there were drugs, money and weapons there, but that he "was in a rage and didn't remember stabbing anyone." Authorities believe a second man was present outside but did not enter the house. Authorities said no drugs were found in the home.

In Adams County, Wis., where Beeman lives, he is awaiting trial on multiple

charges, including battery to a police officer, after he was accused in April 2015 of slashing an officer's face with a knife while police served a search warrant related to an earlier report that Beeman had placed a knife on a woman's throat, according to court records and authorities.

Beeman was imprisoned in 2008 on convictions including reckless endangerment, criminal damage to property, obstructing a police officer and bail jumping, according to court records. In court Friday, officials said Beeman was released from prison in 2010, but his court supervision was twice revoked and he returned to prison two more times, being released again in May.

George Houde is a freelance reporter.

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Backlot Bash takes sting out of the end of summer

Blue Oyster Cult, Living Colour and Tributosaurus to headline festival

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

If there is anything that takes a little of the sting out of the approaching end of summer — when schools throughout Skokie call students back in session — it's the popular Backlot Bash.

The Skokie Park District's three-day weekend festival, which fills the downtown Skokie area near Village Hall with carnival rides, music, games and more, could not come at a better time as far as many are concerned.

Park District officials have called the festival a "last hurrah" for families before fall sets in and the calendar heads toward colder days and more serious endeavors.

Although the turnout is always dependent on the weather, Park District officials acknowledge, the Backlot Bash is undoubtedly the most heavily attended event the Park District and other village agencies operate, they say.

"As much as any of our events, this one appeals to a wide range of ages and backgrounds," Skokie Park District Executive Director John Ohrlund said. "It sounds cliched, but it's true: It has a little something for everybody."

A little something for everybody seems to add up to a lot for everyone.

The Backlot Bash, which runs from Aug. 26 to 28, includes popular and diverse live music, three days of a variety of carnival rides, the Backlot Dash 5K run, classic films shown at the Skokie Theatre and the Skokie Public Library, bingo, a



ROBERT BAHNER PHOTO

Blue Oyster Cult is among the bands ready to perform live at Skokie's annual Backlot Bash, scheduled for Aug. 26 to 28 in downtown Skokie.

pancake breakfast, a classic car show, family entertainment at the library, the Skokie Farmers Market on Sunday morning and more.

Like Ohrlund, Skokie Park District Superintendent of Recreation and Facilities Michelle Tuft said the festival's strong appeal is based on having so many activities for people to enjoy.

"There is a carnival for kids, music and a beer tent for adults, vendors selling a lot of different foods and a lot more," she said. "It's hard not to find something to like."

More than any other event in Skokie, music stands at the center of this village-wide extravaganza. From the beginning of the festival Friday night to the end of the festival early

Sunday evening, live music is always in the air.

Since 2007, when the Backlot Bash kicked off in downtown Skokie, organizers say, the festival has staged eclectic rock, blues and R&B music, including the Presidents of the United States of America, Lonnie Brooks, The Fixx, The English Beat, The Romantics, Cracker, Fastball, Spin Doctors and Smoking Popes.

Headliners this year include Blue Oyster Cult on Aug. 26, Living Colour on Aug. 27 and Tributosaurus transforming into the Police on Aug. 28.

The Skokie Review will have more details on the music offerings and other Backlot Bash events closer to the opening of the festival.

While the Park District

manages and develops the Backlot Bash every year, the event is possible because of multi-agency cooperation and coordination, organizers say. The village, the library, the Skokie Chamber of Commerce and others contribute to its success, they say.

Business sponsors this year include North Shore Community Bank, Joseph Mullarkey Distributors Inc. (Miller), Renewal by Andersen (window replacement), the Illinois Science + Technology Park, Bath Planet, Bath Fitter, Window Works, Lyft, Sports Clips Haircuts and State Farm.

For more information on the Backlot Bash, see www.backlotbash.com.

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Skokie intersections to receive traffic signs

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

More than two dozen intersections without control signs or lights in Skokie will receive new traffic signs to improve safety and prevent driver confusion, under action recently taken by the Skokie Village Board.

Skokie Engineering Director Erik Cook said the village is often asked to investigate intersections perceived by the public to be problematic.

"These intersections typically do not have the volume of traffic or accident history to warrant the upgrade requested," Cook said. "However, since many drivers are unfamiliar with the rules of the road as one approaches an uncontrolled intersection, there is a value in assigning the right of way with a traffic control sign."

Almost all of the signs recommended by the Engineering Department and signed off on by the Skokie Village Board are for yield signs.

"Generally, we like to use the least restrictive sign first," Cook told the Village Board.

The Skokie Engineering Department, Cook said, makes sure that recommended signs for uncontrolled intersections meet guidelines established by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

"Staff has concerns about installing restrictive controls that do not meet (these) guidelines," he said. "Stop signs are frequently violated if unwarranted. Some drivers become careless about stopping at them, and this can be especially dangerous for pedestrians and bicyclists who may have a false sense of safety."

Cook said the Engineering Department takes into account crash history, the street network system,

sight distance and more when determining whether an intersection should have a sign.

In general, Cook said, the recommendations for signs are for uncontrolled intersections where there have never been signs.

"A lot of people don't know the right-of-way rules," he said. "I think a lot of the surrounding communities generally have signs. When they get to Skokie, there's 26 intersections that don't have these. I think this will make it a little safer."

Yield signs were approved for intersections on Birchwood Avenue at Kolmar, Kilbourn, Lowell, Kildare, Tripp, Keeler and Kedvale avenues.

Yield signs were also approved on Brummel Avenue at Keeler, Kenneth, Kilbourn, Kolmar and Kenton avenues; on Laverne Avenue at Fitch, Lunt and Morse avenues; on Conrad Street at Long Avenue; on Suffield Court at Kildare Avenue; on Greenwood Street at Laverne; and on Lyons Street at Latrobe Avenue.

Yield signs were approved on Foster Street at Kostner and Kildare avenues; on Payne Street at Kildare and Tripp avenues; and on Lyons at Ewing Avenue, Forestview Road and Lincolnwood Drive.

The approved recommendations also included installing a stop sign on Birchwood at Keystone Avenue "due to the number of angle crashes," Cook said.

One existing yield sign at Crain Street and Keystone will be upgraded to a two-way stop sign, and a stop sign at a "T" intersection with a marked crosswalk on Lawndale Avenue at Drake Street will receive a southbound stop sign, under the approved recommendations.

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Parents of slain soldier to speak at Rosemont meeting

BY MARWA ELTAGOURI
Chicago Tribune

Pakistani immigrants Khizr and Ghazala Khan, whose son died fighting in Iraq, will be featured speakers at the largest assembly of Muslims in the U.S. and Canada over Labor Day weekend.

The Khans, who at last month's Democratic National Convention introduced the nation to their son, U.S. Army Capt. Humayun Khan, will be featured at this year's 53rd annual Islamic Society of North America convention, which is anticipated to have about 15,000 interfaith attendees. The event will take place Sept. 2-5 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont.

The Khans are expected to speak the evening of Sept. 3 and address a crowd of 10,000 people, organizers



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Speakers from the Islamic Society of North America, including Hind Makki, conventions program committee head, from left, Azhar Azeez, president, Hazem Bata, secretary general, and Tabassum Haleem, Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago representative, appear before the media Aug. 8.

said. In an emotional appearance at the DNC, Khizr Khan criticized Republican presidential nominee Don-

ald Trump's proposal to temporarily ban the entry of foreign Muslims into the U.S., and accused Trump of

making no sacrifices for his country. Trump challenged that assertion and also implied Ghazala Khan's religion prevented her from speaking at the convention.

Trump's repeated affronts to the military have stirred outrage among voters, and Republican lawmakers and veteran groups have been quick to denounce Trump's comments.

While the Islamic Society of North America is a religious nonprofit that does not endorse political parties or candidates, hundreds of thousands of Muslims have been inspired by the words and courage of the Khans, said Azhar Azeez, the organization's president.

"I told (Ghazala Khan) that her seven-minute silence at the DNC stage has given a voice to millions of voiceless women around the world," Azeez said, referring to his personal in-

vitiation to the Khans to speak at next month's convention.

The convention this year will focus on navigating a tense and anti-Islamic political atmosphere; organizers said this election year has had unprecedented "toxicity and rhetoric."

"Things that would only be said behind closed doors in prior elections are now being said out in the open," said Hazem Bata, the organization's secretary general. "(Muslims) realize now that political activism is no longer an option, because the only way to counter the type of rhetoric that is being said, the types of laws and ideas that are being put forth, is to become more politically engaged."

Programming will feature roundtable discussions catered to the challenges Muslims may face, such as

what they should do if they're escorted off a plane or if their child is called a terrorist by bullying classmates, organizers said.

A long list of the convention's speakers includes former Wheaton College professor Larycia Hawkins, who sparked controversy last year at the evangelical Illinois school for saying Muslims and Christians worship the same God, organizers said. Other programming includes a bazaar with hundreds of vendors, an entrepreneurial showcase, an art exhibition, a film festival, a basketball tournament and a fashion show, organizers said.

People of all faiths are encouraged to attend, and the organization is extending free registration to Syrian refugees.

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NEWS



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Car man Emeterio Reyes in May replaces a window in a Metra train car at the 49th Street yard along the Rock Island District Line where cars are rehabbed to extend their use.

Slower commute? Metra puts the brakes on new rail car plan

BY MARY WISNIEWSKI
 Chicago Tribune

Metra has suspended its search for a vendor to build 367 new rail cars because of a state shortfall in capital money.

The state of Illinois has put on hold more than \$300 million in funding previously budgeted in the commuter rail agency's capital program, plus the state still has no new capital plan that would spell out how much money the agency would get in the coming years, Metra officials said. Metra will now examine whether it can find cheaper ways to modernize its fleet, including acquiring and rehabilitating cars from other commuter railroads.

"We had planned on the money, we had budgeted it, and we've had to put it on hold," Metra Chairman Martin Oberman said in a phone interview.

Metra had made modernizing its rolling stock a top priority, since some of its rail cars are around 60 years old.

Metra officials have said they need \$11.7 billion in

capital funding over the next 10 years. The board has made two programs top priorities — positive train control, a federally mandated computerized system to prevent train collisions, and new or rehabbed rolling stock. The total cost of the Metra purchase of 367 new rail cars would have been about \$1.2 billion, or \$3.3 million per car.

Without reliable rolling stock, delays will increase on a system that carries 300,000 riders per day. Metra CEO Don Orseno said in a phone interview that the older cars do not pose a safety issue but are more susceptible to breakdowns.

"It's just like your own vehicle. If you've got a vehicle that's 25 years old, and you use it every day, it's going to be a lot more likely to break down than a new vehicle," Orseno said.

He said new or rehabbed rail cars also include amenities like new air conditioning systems, better lighting and outlets for charging electrical devices.

Metra said it should be able to acquire some new cars sooner than expected,

and at a bargain. Metra's peer railroad, Virginia Railway Express, has an option to buy 21 rail cars from the Japanese manufacturer Nippon Sharyo at about \$2.5 million per car.

Because the Virginia railroad uses the same type of rail cars as Metra, the agency has reached out to VRE about acquiring this option, since VRE might not need the new cars, Metra said.

Each VRE car would be about \$800,000 lower than the anticipated cost of a new Metra car under a new purchase contract, in part because the Virginia contract is older, Orseno said. This would mean a savings of about \$17 million, with delivery of the first set of new cars in early 2018.

Metra is also looking into whether it can acquire and rehabilitate a number of later-model cars from other commuter railroads that might not need them. In addition, Metra wants to upgrade its facility that rehabilitates older rail cars so it can handle more cars a year.

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Melinda Gates talks giving back at South Barrington church

By TODD SHIELDS
Pioneer Press

Microsoft founder Bill Gates never expected to earn billions.

But in his business, reliable, concrete information, such as customer surveys, was invaluable when he made sound decisions, his wife, Melinda Gates, told more than 7,300 people Aug. 11 inside Willow Creek Community Church, a megachurch based in South Barrington.

"In business, you have data," she said.

When the couple decided to start the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 2000, they used the same formula — hard data — to help countries in need of quality health care and education, she said.

"The data will allow us to move forward with getting

vaccines and mosquito nets," she said, adding how the foundation dispatches health care teams around the world using weekly data that tracks certain polio outbreaks.

In her address at Willow Creek Community Church, Gates explained her motivations with the foundation and how the couple has sustained it throughout the years.

She was one of several speakers at Willow Creek Community Church Leadership Summit, a live, two-day event that also was telecast to 135,000 people in North America, according to church representatives.

Another summit speaker Aug. 11 was Alan Mulally, president and CEO of The Ford Motor Company from 2006 to 2014 and named one of the world's "most influential people" by

TIME Magazine, according to the church

Bill Hybels, founder and senior pastor of Willow Creek, led the presentation with Gates, sitting with her on stage and asking her questions about the non-profit's work in global health care and her inspirations.

Gates was educated in Catholic schools in Dallas, where nuns taught students the value of silence and reflection on religion, she explained.

"I try to take silence every morning," she said, explaining how she does spiritual readings. "It's fundamental and everyday, but incredibly important when I'm traveling."

Hybels noted how the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is one of the largest private foundations in the world.

And it needs to be a large organization, Gates said.

"We want to do incredibly well," she said. "It's a gift."

Sonia Alexander, dean at Meca Elementary Christian School in suburban Bellwood, sat in an upper-floor auditorium room watching and listening to Gates and Hybels.

She came away impressed with the the international philanthropist.

"To see a woman of that prestige so giving of herself, time, finances and influence to reach families around the world," she said.

Algonquin resident Brett Ratajszak said Gates' "humility was transparent."

"She takes what God gave her and shares it with the world," he said.

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BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Melinda Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, talks with Willow Creek Senior Pastor Bill Hybels (back to camera) during the Global Leadership Summit at the Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington.



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BUSINESS

Great America touts inspections in light of recent accidents

BY MEGAN JONES
News-Sun

Following three major amusement-ride accidents over a four-day span, an official at Six Flags Great America addressed safety regulations on Aug. 11, stating the Gurnee theme park's rides are checked every morning.

On Aug. 7, a 10-year-old boy died on a waterslide in Kansas City at Schlitterbahn Waterpark. The ride is the world's tallest water slide and is closed for the remainder of the season.

Three girls were injured Aug. 8 after falling out of a Ferris wheel in Tennessee at a county fair, and a boy was airlifted to a hospital in Pittsburgh Aug. 11 after falling from a roller coaster at

an amusement park.

At Six Flags Great America, each ride goes through a full inspection process during the park's offseason, Director of Park Operations Dameon Nelson said. Ride tracks, trains and the ride system are checked daily before the park opens by maintenance technicians and operations staff. Each ride is put through a series of sessions to simulate different aspects of the ride, according to the park's website.

A 2013 study by the Nationwide Children's Hospital states that 92,885 children under 18 were treated in the U.S. for amusement ride injuries from 1990 to 2010. The study states an average of 4,423 are treated per year and 70 percent of

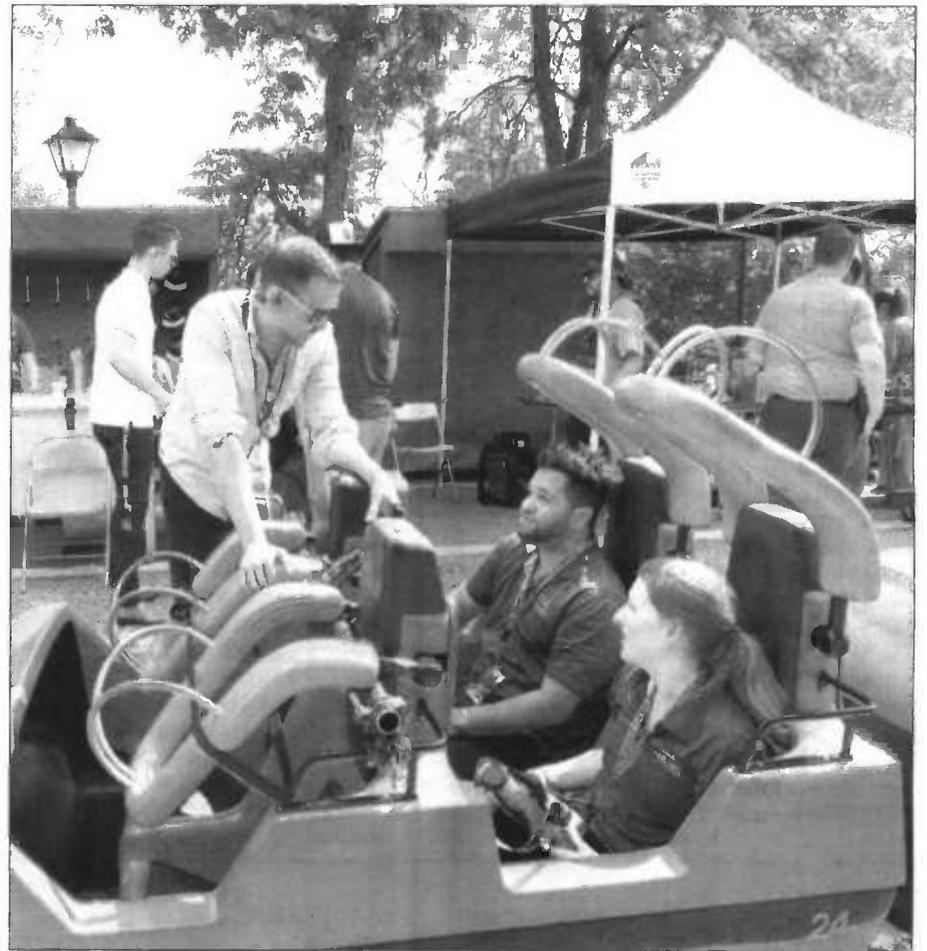
the injuries are during the summer.

The study states that head and neck injuries are the most common — 28 percent of injuries — followed by those involving the arms, face and legs.

The data was collected from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, which is responsible for overseeing temporary parks, such as a county fair. Fixed-site facilities are overseen by state and local agencies. In Illinois, the state's Department of Labor inspects all rides, and no rides can operate until they are insured and meet safety standards.

Associated Press contributed.

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MARK KODIAK UKENA/NEWS-SUN

Six Flags Great America employees prepare the Demon roller coaster for its new "Rage of the Gargoyles" virtual reality feature on Aug. 11.

Safety groups, grieving mom call for stricter furniture safety

BY KATE THAYER
Chicago Tribune

Consumer safety advocates are calling for stricter and enforceable standards for furniture after a report shows current criteria do not keep children safe from dresser tip overs.

The 21-page report released Aug. 9 by nonprofit safety groups Kids in Danger and Shane's Foundation — named for a Barrington Hills boy who died in 2011 after a dresser-tipping accident — details the findings after tests on 19 different dressers.

Nine of the 19 passed performance tests based on current safety standards developed by ASTM International, but just two passed more rigorous tests devel-

oped by Kids in Danger, which Executive Director Nancy Cowles says are more representative of real-life situations. Of the 19 tested, four have been recalled since the groups began work on their report about a year ago.

ASTM has developed voluntary industry standards for dressers and chests for children, but there is non-compliance across the industry and the standards are too lax, Cowles said during a news conference Tuesday in Northbrook to reveal the report, which was funded by a federal grant. And though children continue to be injured and killed from tipped dressers, the standards and testing have remain unchanged and voluntary, un-

like standards for cribs or other baby products, she said.

"You would think there'd be a mandated standard," said Lisa Siefert, who started Shane's Foundation after she found her 2-year-old son Shane under his dresser after a nap. She called the report "a significant step proving the current safety standard is inadequate. It indicates the dire need for change. Our babies can be safe."

Besides the safety tests, the groups also analyzed data from incidents reported between Jan. 1, 2010, and Oct. 14, 2015, to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System. The find-

ings showed 2-year-olds are the most likely to be involved in a tip-over accident, especially fatal ones, and 77 percent of reported tip overs involve children between 2 and 5.

"Years of ... voluntary industry standards resulted in no significant improvements," Cowles said. "The data still shows injuries and deaths. Our organizations will provide the necessary impetus to design, test and sell safer furniture."

The report calls on the ASTM to develop stricter standards, and for the Consumer Product Safety Commission to make them mandatory. Cowles and others also said product testing should evolve to simulate

more real-life scenarios, including using carpet, commonly found in children's bedrooms.

The groups also promoted the Consumer Product Safety Commission's #AnchorIt campaign, which urges parents to attach furniture and TVs to the wall with widely sold safety kits.

In addition to using industry standards to test furniture, the stricter Kids in Danger criteria tested dressers when they were full of clothes, placed on carpeting or had TVs on top of them, as well as other variations of weight and drawer placement. Children being killed or injured by flat-screen TVs also has emerged as a bigger safety risk since flat-screen TVs, which are easier to tip

over, replaced older, bulkier sets.

However, in the testing, the groups also found that TVs do not make the dressers fall. Dressers are not more likely to tip if they have a television on top, Cowles said.

"That's what we often hear in the furniture meetings, that who really needs to address this issue is the television makers," Cowles said. "However, it is the dresser that is tipping."

Most serious injuries and deaths do involve a TV, Cowles added, but often it's the dresser that's the culprit, being the object that tips over.

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Olympic Games lead to many questions



RANDY BLASER

Like most Americans, I've been watching the Olympics this past week, and I've got questions, lots of questions.

One of the first questions I have is: Where is everyone?

Every time I turn on the TV to watch the Olympics, I notice something missing — fans.

It seems the Olympic pavilions set up for fans of amateur sports to witness the great Olympic moments have a lot of empty seats. That means tickets aren't being sold or there are a lot of no-shows. Perhaps people are waiting in lines.

I've been seeing snippets of news stories that all three of those things are factors. If that's the case, why Rio? But more on location later.

So far, I've watched diving, swimming and gymnastics, and it seems a lot of seats are empty. I did



MATT DUNHAM/AP

The water of the diving pool appears a murky green, in stark contrast to the pool's previous day's color and also that of the clear blue water in the second pool for water polo at the venue as divers train in the Marlia Lenk Aquatic Center at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on Aug. 9.

notice some NBA players enjoying the swimming meets. I suppose Rio de Janeiro is one place where an NBA superstar can go out in public without being recognized.

Speaking of swimming, I have questions about swimsuits worn by the athletes. Why do the divers wear the skimpy Speedo suits, the suits I grew up with (see Mark Spitz), but

the swimmers wear half-body suits like something out of the 1920s? I realize it has something to do with aerodynamics and speed in the water, but I would think the divers would opt for the half-length suits. Considering the force with which the divers enter the water, I personally would feel a lot more secure with the longer suits.

Then there is beach

volleyball. The participants go nowhere near the water, but the women athletes are wearing bikinis. Why is that? I would think they would feel more comfortable with a pair of shorts and a T-shirt. When I fall on hot sand, it hurts.

How did the women's gymnastics team get so good? There was a time the height of optimism was for an American to place in the

competition. This year's amazing women's team looks capable of winning all the medals there are to be had.

When will events scheduled for the open sewer that is Guanabarra Bay be held?

Sailing isn't usually a highly watched event for the Olympics, but I'm betting a lot of people would want to see sailboat races through garbage and human waste. You get wet sailing. There's a lot of splashing. And while it is exciting to be in the boat, I'm pretty excited to see sports played out in a trashed environment. It would certainly bring back memories.

How does a pool turn green overnight?

In the first week of events, the diving pool turned green. How does that happen at this level? I could understand it if it was my neighbor's pool, but at the Olympics?

Do the Olympics actually make money for its hosts? I got to thinking about this question when seeing so many empty seats at Olympic venues. If no one comes, won't the host city lose money? Is it a blessing

that Chicago lost out on hosting this year's Summer Games?

Apparently, it is because the Olympics don't make money. Hosting an Olympics is a money loser for cities that take a stab at it.

So the natural question that follows is why not designate a city as the permanent home of the games? Could the Olympics be profitable if the best venues were created for all time in one place, say Athens? Why recreate the wheel every four years?

If Athens is a natural choice for the Summer Games, where could the permanent home for the Winter Olympics be? How about Calgary, Lake Placid, Grenoble or Geneva?

It seems like a good idea to me.

So there you have it. One week in and I have a lot of questions. I suppose I'll have more questions next week when the track and field events begin. For instance, why is there a triple jump? A double jump isn't enough? A quadruple jump is too much?

I just don't know.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

The dreaded political 'spousemercial' has returned



PAUL SASSONE

Between now and Election Day, we will be flooded with political commercials. Some will praise candidates, others will vilify.

I was hoping one particular form of political

commercial would not appear this election cycle.

But that was a vain hope. The other day I saw my first "spousemercial."

A spousemercial is one in which a candidate's spouse — usually the wife of a male candidate — smiles, perhaps sips coffee, and tells us her spouse is a good husband and father and, therefore, should be elected.

Why we should vote for someone because he is nice to his family always has

eluded me. History is full of bad people whose family liked them. I understand Mrs. Caligula thought Mr. Caligula was a swell fellow.

The spouse usually adds that in addition to being a good family man, her spouse/candidate disagrees with, and stands up to, leaders of both parties.

Though again I confess the advantage of this claim eludes me. If a candidate doesn't support Republican or Democrat policies or issues, just what does he

or she believe?

At least when a candidate has a party label attached, we have some idea of what we are getting. Who knows what a so-called independent candidate believes, what policies he or she will support?

Despite these drawbacks, spousemercials often seem to work. Probably they work because the spouse is more attractive and pleasant than the actual candidate.

Perhaps the most promi-

nent example is Illinois' last gubernatorial election.

Local TV was awash with commercials for Bruce Rauner. Most of the commercials starred his wife, Diana Rauner, who was pretty and pleasant.

Well, I guess it worked. Bruce Rauner was elected governor.

And Mrs. Rauner has not been seen since.

Oh, she'll probably return when the governor seeks re-election.

But I think spouses who

make spousemercials should be required to stick around after the election and explain and defend their spouse's performance in office.

And we voters should realize that spousemercials are the ultimate in conflict of interest.

Spouses have everything to gain by their candidate winning.

But, do we?

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Lake house mementos out of place in La Grange



LYNN PETRAK
Home on LaGrange

The yellow lawn chair doesn't look right in my backyard.

It's not because it's a 1970s yellow and actually dates to the 1970s. That chair really belongs on a dock in Michigan. If I had my way, my late mom would be sitting in that chair again in her terry cloth cover-up. I wouldn't even care if she was smoking a Lark, as she usually did in that chair when I was growing up.

The lawn chair is one of several things I've brought back to my house in La Grange from our family's cottage in Michigan. The "For Sale" sign that went up last summer has been replaced by something even worse — a sign with the words "Under Contract."

The closing date for the cottage that my parents built in the early 1970s is Sept. 16, which means that I'm going through more items to bring back to my house as mementos. As with the chair, though, it's not the same to drink out of the smiley face juice glasses at home, compared to sitting on the cottage deck drinking Tang and watching boats motor out of the bayou for the morning.

I'm spending one last week here with my family this month before my dad officially signs the papers and closes the door for the last time. I'm trying hard not to be morose, so I don't make this vacation all about my sorrow and nostalgia at saying goodbye to the last vestige of my childhood, where I can



LYNN PETRAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Columnist Lynn Petrak is keeping the yellow lawn chair from her father's lake house, but knows it won't be the same in her La Grange backyard.

wake up in the same room that I did when I was a toddler. Who can say that at my age and in this era?

But as much as I'm trying to not mope around, it's not really working. "You're sad again, aren't you?" my daughter says, watching me sigh as I look around the boathouse.

Yes, baby, I'm sad again. I'm sad because someone who walks into the boathouse and sees life jackets with blue stains doesn't know that those stains got there from dribbles off a blue moon ice cream cone at the place where we filled up the boat with gas, grabbed some night crawlers and ordered some scoops to go.

The buyers won't know that the pink shovel and pail with the daisy on it helped fuel my imagination along the water's edge, or that the rusting can of Beer Nuts that

holds a bunch of lures dates to the Nixon administration.

I count my blessings that I've been able to spend 45 summers on Indian Pete Bayou on Hamlin Lake, and that my own kids have savored every summer of their life at the cottage, too.

Come late September — already a bittersweet time of year as daylight gently fades and the scent of autumn hangs in the air — I'll sit in the yellow folding chair and think about Mom calling to me that I'm swimming too far out, about wrapping night crawlers around rusty hooks, about gazing at glints of sunlight on the water at dinner time.

The actual view on that lawn chair from now on may be my suburban yard, but the view in my mind's eye will never change. And what a view it is.



BRANDON CHEW/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Police and protesters converge during a march against police brutality Aug. 7 in Chicago.

Thinking about police officers and crying mothers



PAT LENHOFF

The incongruity of the issue is striking.

On an early August evening, communities across our region celebrated the annual National Night Out event. With police departments interacting, communicating and engaging in playful behavior with community members, it was a welcome and heart-warming exhibition of how important it is to foster positive relationships between the police and the public they are commissioned to serve and protect.

On the other side are the troubling images that just won't quit, like the recent Chicago police body camera video that shows officers shooting multiple rounds at a stolen car driven by a young black man, who was arrested while wounded and later died.

I remember watching the news as the family's attorney strongly stated that

the sentence for stealing a car is most certainly not the death penalty. Who could disagree with that?

It's in those troublesome shades of gray where we seem to be hitting the wall as we try to respect police and also respect individual rights, even the rights of those who have broken the law. Admittedly, it would appear safe to say that in many suburban towns, there is a good rapport between our law enforcement and citizens.

In contrast, the relationship is much more troubled and volatile in some of the toughest neighborhoods in Chicago and certain suburbs.

Race and ethnicity is without doubt a contributing factor in both those equations.

Is it simply a conflict of white versus black? Police versus angry citizens who rally shouts of brutality and prejudice? A city problem versus a suburban one?

There is probably a little truth to all of those influencing factors, but even with that limited answer to the problem, we still can't get to where we need to be on this issue. Because in all

likelihood, the agent for change lies much deeper and is tied to economic opportunity, the quality of schools and programs that encourage and inspire success and hopefulness rather than a foreboding outlook that hints at a short life.

I'm so tired of watching the news at night and seeing another mother in tears because her child has been shot, victim of a stray bullet or bad shot. I'm as emotional watching video of police officers shooting round after round at a speeding car driving away from them as I am watching the murdered police officers' funerals in Dallas.

I love the comfort and safety of my suburban neighborhood, but I mourn for all those mothers and families who simply want the same. Days and weeks and months go by and things just keep getting worse.

We all need to put our thinking caps on, people ... even those of us who aren't in the midst of the trouble.

Pat Lenhoff is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

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Savor the final weeks of the season

Edison Park, I Gotta Guy fests keep the summer vibes going

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Summer may be slipping away but there are still fun-filled events on the horizon — at least two of which benefit good causes.

You can join the festivities at Edison Park Fest, Aug. 19-21, with proceeds supporting neighborhood programs, or sample some links at I Gotta Guy Sausage Festival in Rosemont Aug. 25, which benefits the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

The Edison Park Fest has been a fixture since 1972, when it began as a sidewalk sale on Northwest Highway. It has come a long way since then, expanding into a major event, produced by the Edison Park Chamber of Commerce, which draws nearly 20,000 people each year.

The music is almost nonstop at Edison Park Fest. Friday's lineup features Half Full (5:30 p.m.) and Jake Dodds (8 p.m.). Saturday, you can hear The Fortunate Sons (noon), Royal Outsiders (2 p.m.), Bad Medicine (4 p.m.), The Personnel (6 p.m.) and Mallrats (8 p.m.). Sunday's performers are Generation (noon), The Student Body (2 p.m.), Gina Glocksen Band (4 p.m.), Who's Who (6 p.m.) and Hairbangers Ball (8 p.m.).

Youngsters won't be neglected because eight acts will appear on a Family Stage. Saturday kids can enjoy Chung's Tae Kwon Do (noon), The MYX Jugglers (1 p.m.), Animal Quest Entertainment (2 p.m.) and Jeff Wagg's College of Curiosity (3 p.m.). Sunday's featured acts are Jim Nesci's Cold Blooded Creatures (noon), Storyteller Sandi Sylvester (1 p.m.), The Comedy and Magic of Jeff Bibik (2 p.m.) and Circus Boy Bobby Hunt (3 p.m.).

Children's activities include inflatables, obstacle courses and bounce houses.

There will also be a large number of food vendors, a craft fair, bingo, a business expo and more.

"We're really excited to have Hairbangers Ball this year on Sunday night," said Melissa McIntyre, executive director of the Edison Park Chamber of Commerce. She is also pleased that they have added some new food vendors this year.

Another highlight is the Jim DelMedico Fest Parade, which kicks off at 11 a.m. from Evinger Elementary School, 7350 W. Pratt Ave.

"He was a former president of our chamber," McIntyre said. "He was also involved



CYSTIC FIBROSIS FOUNDATION

The I Gotta Guy Sausage Festival fundraiser in the parking lot of Gene and Georgetti in Rosemont will offer food vendors, drinks and music by R-Gang.

Edison Park Fest

When: 5-10:30 p.m., Aug. 19;

9 a.m.-10:30 p.m., Aug. 20;

10 a.m.-10 p.m., Aug. 21

Where: Metra Station and Monument Park, Chicago's Edison Park neighborhood

Tickets: \$5 suggested donation

Information: www.edisonparkfest.org

heavily with Taft High School and every organization that you can imagine in the 41st ward."

DelMedico organized the parade for decades before his death in 2011. "The year we renamed it, his family was our grand marshal," McIntyre said.

Last year, the fest raised around \$32,000. McIntyre reported that proceeds of the event are used for the daily operations of the chamber, beautification projects and free community events. "We do a Santa Express in December where we have Santa

I Gotta Guy Sausage Festival

When: 6-10 p.m., Aug. 25

Where: Gene and Georgetti, 9421 W. Higgins Road, Rosemont

Tickets: \$125 (\$84 tax-deductible)

Information: 312-236-4491, Ext. 114;

www.igottaguy.eventscff.org

and face painters and sleigh rides," she said. They also show a movie in the park during the summer, as well as host a movie night in October where children wear their Halloween costumes.

Admission is a \$5 suggested donation.

I Gotta Guy Sausage Festival is held in the parking lot of Gene and Georgetti in Rosemont.

"Guy Niedorkorn and his daughter Kim have a family-run sausage truck and they wanted to put a charity event together a little over eight years ago," related Sarah

Evans, development director of the Greater Illinois Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. "They wanted to offer the I Gotta Guy sausages at their event. We took it over eight years ago. This is the first year we're opening it up to additional vendors."

The Niedorkorns only make mild and hot Italian sausages. This year, there will also be German and Polish sausages, as well as Chicago-style hotdogs at the event. "It's turning into an actual festival of multiple vendors," Evans said. Gene and Georgetti will serve food from their bar menu. Craft beers will also be available.

Entertainment will be provided by the R-Gang band. "It's Motown music," Evans said. "We had them last year and everybody loved them. It's a really upbeat, lively experience."

Generally the event draws around 400 people; they're hoping to reach 450 or more this year. Admission is \$125, \$84 of which is tax-deductible.

"The money will go directly toward foundation research and care center use," Evans said.

EVENT

Brookfield Zoo's Brew Zoo offers up 80 beer samples

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Pioneer Press

It'll be lions and tigers and craft beers, oh my, when the fifth annual Zoo Brew sets up its tents Aug. 26 and 27 at Brookfield Zoo.

Well, the lions and tigers won't be inside the tents, you'll be glad to hear, but there will be a handful of select "animal ambassadors" in the VIP tent — with the big cats still out in their areas nearby as the event gets underway. And there will be some 80 beers to sample from roughly 30 breweries at the adults-only event, plus cover bands providing music for dancing both nights.

"Tasting events like this have become increasingly popular as craft beer grows in popularity and we realized five years ago that the zoo would be a great place to have one," said Elizabeth Sterchele of Brookfield's special events department. "We've got a great space for it in the East Mall and we've got a really big tent. Not to mention everything else the zoo has to offer."

Admission to the zoo is included in the price of Zoo Brew, so ticket holders could conceivably spend all day wandering the exhibits before the VIP tent opens at 4 p.m. and the main tent opens at 5.

"It's a pretty laid-back event," Sterchele said. "At the beginning, people tend to concentrate on sampling the beers. Once the music gets going, though, there's a good amount of people dancing in front of the stage and having fun."

Last year, that meant 1,000 people per night in the main tent (the maximum number allowed) both nights. And quite a



JIM SCHULZ/CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

More than 30 breweries are participating in Brookfield Zoo's annual Zoo Brew Aug. 26 and 27

Zoo Brew

When: 4 p.m. (for VIP ticketholders) and 5-9 p.m. Aug. 26-27

Where: East Mall of Brookfield Zoo, 8400 W. 31st St., Brookfield

Admission: \$45; \$75 for VIP tickets (members pay \$10 less) — with a \$10 surcharge for purchases at the zoo the day of the event. The zoo also offers a \$25 designated driver admission.

Contact: 708-688-8000; www.brookfieldzoo.org

few in the VIP tent as well, close to sell-out capacity, in fact, keeping in mind animal the animal ambassadors including a tamanbua (a sort of ant-eater) and a little-known species of cat called a serval. The Friday night VIP tent is already sold out and sales for Saturday's VIP tent and regular admission are already outpacing last year, said Sterchele.

This year, Zoo Brew will feature the U.F.C. (Ultimate Freaking Cover) Band Friday night and No Alternative Saturday night, both playing hits from the '70s to today. As

for the VIP animal ambassadors, it will all depend on which species happen to be feeling sociable that day.

Additional extras for the event include a food-pairing table for VIPs and a commemorative glass and a silent auction for everyone.

Enticing as many people as possible to visit the zoo is the point of events such as Zoo Brew, Sterchele said. She also noted that special events take place throughout the year, from the Summer Nights concert series to the 5K Zoo Run Run in September, Boo at the Zoo at Halloween, Holiday Magic in December and the February Freeze: a dog-sledding demonstration.

"We try to appeal to as many people as possible and bring them into the zoo," Sterchele said.

Even the Zoo Brew, however, is meant to appeal to as broad a demographic as possible.

"It's not targeted to any one age group," she said. "Attendance has always been across-the-board in terms of age, from people celebrating their 21st birthday that night to people in their 70s."

MUSIC

'Something About Oscar'

Morris Gearing performs show honoring mentor Oscar Brown Jr.

BY DOROTHY ANDRIES
Pioneer Press

Morris Gearing has been a fan of Chicago's own singer-songwriter Oscar Brown Jr. ever since he saw the talented jazz man appear as the opening act for poet Maya Angelou. It was 1985 and Gearing, then a recent theatre major graduate from Morehouse College, came to Chicago to her Angelou speak at Malcolm X College.

"I had collected books of her poetry and I wanted her to autograph them," said Gearing, who grew up in Gary, Ind. "Oscar came on first and he just blew me away. Afterward I went up and asked him if I could study with him." The performer handed the young man his card and said "call me."

Gearing didn't hesitate and began studying with Brown in his Hyde Park studio two nights a week. "I was preparing to audition for the Yale School of Drama for my master's degree," Gearing recalled. "I didn't get in, but to make me feel better Oscar took me to New York in the summer of 1997"

The experience expanded his world view exponentially. "I met so many top people — Tony Bennett, James Earl Jones," he said. "I sat at the side of the stage and wished I could do a show like Oscar was doing"

Time went by. Gearing studied dance at the Alvin Ailey School and in 2005 the multi-talented Brown died. But Gearing still remembered his New York dreams. "Be careful what



RAVINIA FESTIVAL

Singer Morris Gearing performs the songs of his friend and mentor, the late Oscar Brown Jr. at Ravinia Aug. 29.

'Something About Oscar'

What: Morris Gearing's salute to Oscar Brown Jr.

When: 6 p.m. Aug. 29

Where: Bennett Gordon Hall, Ravinia Festival, Highland Park

Tickets: \$10

Contact: 847-266-5100; www.ravinia.org

you wish for," he cautioned, only half kidding. "I spoke of my wish to do a show of Oscar's work to a wonderful woman Pam Crutchfield and she gifted me with

money to write and produce a show."

That show is Gearing's tribute, titled "Something About Oscar," which this year celebrates what would be Brown's 90th birthday. It will be performed

in the 450-seat Bennett Gordon Hall at Ravinia on Aug. 29. "Our first performance was March 6, 2009 in the Harold Washington Library. It had 11 songs," Gearing said.

Gearing's much expanded Ravinia show includes such songs as "The Snake," "Forty Acres and a

Mule," "Brother Where Are You," "Brown Baby and "The Tree and Me."

Oscar Brown Jr. was born on the South Side of Chicago and graduated from Englewood High School. After some college, he served in the United States Army. It was at that point he began to compose songs, and by the time of his death at age 78, he recorded more than a dozen albums and was credited with writing more than 1,000 songs.

Brown's instrument was his voice and he traversed numerous genres, including jazz, pop and rock, R&B, comedy and spoken word. "People don't know this, but Oscar's combination of poetry and jazz was a precursor to spoken word and rap," Gearing said, referring to the Broadway blockbuster "Hamilton" as the full blossoming of the genre.

"Because Oscar wrote in so many styles, my one-man show is different every time it is presented," Gearing said.

When asked whether he ever managed to have Angelou autograph those poetry books, Gearing said, "No, I didn't, and do you know that to this day, I have never been able to even find those books."



Brown Jr.

Section 2

Living

Thursday, August 18, 2016



Love essentially:
Going for gold in
your relationship

Page 11



Sarah Velasco and 15-month-old daughter, Amelia, from left, meet with Jane Schlosser and 13-month-old twins Henry and George, and Almee Webster and 14-month-old son, Henri.

ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The bonds of parenthood

Play groups provide opportunities for new moms and dads to get together, share with others Page 14

SUBURBAN COOKS

Gardener offers tips for using herbs

By Judy Buchenot
Naperville Sun

Kausi Chandran has always been involved with baking cakes and making creative crafts during her spare time from her career as an accountant.

"I make everything with all natural ingredients — no additives," the Naperville resident said. She decided to retire from full-time work and pursue her interest in baking and making crafts as a business.

"I quickly found out that starting a business in Illinois is not easy. There are so many rules and restrictions, especially related to food," she said. "And there are so many people with food allergies that you have to be so careful."

After exploring several options, Chandran decided to focus on teaching others how to do the things she enjoys doing. She has led some classes at area libraries and a few other local businesses and is starting her own business, Kaycee Creations. Her goal is to show others how rewarding it is to make everything from a gingerbread house to potpourri.

Chandran has a healthy herb garden and is surprised that more people don't dry herbs that grow so bountifully in gardens this time of year. "Why do people go buy dry herbs?" she wonders. "Who knows how long those herbs have been sitting in those jars or where they came from? Drying herbs is so simple."

She recommends cutting herbs regularly and drying them. "If the plants begin to flower, they go to seed and become stringy." When there are no flowers on the herb plant, the herb spends all its energy producing leaves that are strong, healthy and flavorful. If flowers do appear, cut them off as soon as possible for the best results, she said.

Kausi's Culinary Cue

The best time to harvest herbs is in the morning after the dew has dried off the leaves or late in the evening. Use scissors to cut them to avoid damaging the plant.

After cutting several stems of an herb, she suggests fastening together the stems with string or a rubber band and connecting them to a hanger. The herbs should then be placed in a cool dry place to dry. She uses a hall closet in her house to hang the herbs until they are dry. Once dried, she crumbles the leaves and stores the dried herbs in plastic bags or glass jars.

Chandran also uses the herbs to make sugar scrubs.

"A few years ago I went to a spa with a friend and had an allergic reaction afterwards to the scrubs they used. I decided to try making my own. It was really very easy." She carefully selected her ingredients like organic cane sugar and organic extra virgin olive oil, which she found in health food stores. Since she grows lavender in her back yard, she dried the lavender buds to use in her sugar scrub but notes that the dried flowers are sold in health food stores as well.

Making her own flavored oils is another way that Chandran uses herbs. For example, to make basil-flavored oil, she first picks fresh basil leaves from her herb garden.

"I wipe off any dirt and then let them dry. It is important to allow them to dry completely because you don't want any water on them," she said. She places the dry leaves in warmed olive oil and allows it to steep. "The oil will slowly change color to a golden



JUDY BUCHENOT/NAPERVILLE SUN

Kausi Chandran grows herbs in her Naperville home garden, which she then dries to use in cooking and crafts.

green," she explained.

After about a week, she strains the oil and places it in the refrigerator to use in making dressings for salad or pasta or in marinades. "I use the oil with some red pepper flakes and garlic to make a great marinade for chicken," she said. "You can use other herbs to flavor oil like basil, rosemary or sage. Or you can use a mix of herbs too."

Chandran also makes her own potpourri. The

potpourri needs essential oils, which can be purchased at health food stores. "I bring in my roses and just put the petals in a bowl to dry. Some rose varieties are more fragrant than others so I use those roses for potpourri." The best thing about making your own potpourri is that you can pick your own scent and adjust the intensity by adding more or less essential oil.

Chandran bakes and

decorates cakes and hopes to be teaching classes in several area locations in the coming months.

"It's not about making money. I plan to donate any money I make to charity. It is more about showing others how to do things on their own."

She shares a couple of her simple recipes using herbs for others to try.

Judy Buchenot is a freelancer.

Sugar scrub

- 1 tablespoon organic white cane sugar
- 1 tablespoon organic cold pressed extra virgin olive oil
- 3-4 drops of 100 percent pure rose or lavender essential oil
- 1 teaspoon dried lavender flower buds

1. Mix the above ingredients in a small glass jar and let it sit for a couple of days before using it. Excellent for use on face and nails. Moisten face and hands with warm water. Rub in a small amount of the scrub and rinse with warm water and pat dry.

Basil-infused oil

- 1 cup fresh basil
- 3 cups olive oil
- 2-3 cloves, peeled and crushed garlic (optional)

1. Wash and dry the basil leaves thoroughly. There should be no moisture left in them since oil and water do not mix. Sterilize a bottle or a mason jar and make sure it is dry. Gently bruise the basil leaves and cover and fill a third of the bottle along with crushed garlic if you choose to include it.

2. Warm the oil but do not let it boil. Add the warm oil to the basil leaves and garlic and cover it tight. Keep it in a cool place for about a week. Strain the oil and refrigerate it. It can be used as a dipping sauce or drizzle it over a salad or pasta. The oil will keep approximately for two weeks in the refrigerator.

Clafoutis: French dessert shows off seasonal stone fruits

By Veronica Hinke
Pioneer Press

Chefs everywhere are showing off the season's best stone fruits in the simple, classic French dessert clafoutis (pronounced: kla-FOO-tea). Some describe it as a cross between a pancake and a flan with fruit baked inside. It's a no-fuss recipe of eggs, sugar, flour, milk and fruit.

"The riper the fruit, the better," Chef Jean-Marc Loustaunau said.

Loustaunau was raised and learned to cook in the southwest of France in Orthez, which is near where clafoutis originated. "Since childhood, clafoutis made with cherries or apricots have always been my favorites," he said.

These days, clafoutis is one of the many of his boyhood traditions he shares with his guests at Cafe Pyrenees in Libertyville. He and his wife Mari and their family have run Cafe Pyrenees since 1990.

Loustaunau explained that fruits with stones work best for making clafoutis because they don't release much water when baking and they add texture to the dessert. Melons and other watery fruits would not work as well.

A dusting of powdered sugar is a popular way to top a clafoutis, but even better, Loustaunau makes his own ice cream from scratch, and his lemon verbena ice cream is a pleasant, citrusy surprise to his cherry clafoutis.

Clafoutis is typically baked in a traditional French tart shell, or a thinly rolled pie crust is also an option. Loustaunau uses the dough for his sable cookies.

Lately Loustaunau has been making plenty of clafoutis with cherries, (with the pits still inside). "There's bonus flavor in those babies," said Mindy Gohr, pastry chef and co-owner of Bittersweet Pastry Shop and Cafe in Chicago. At Bittersweet, she makes a blueberry clafoutis about the size of a cupcake.

Clafoutis can be made in individual sizes in a muffin or cup-

Cherry Clafoutis

Pie crust dough or sable cookie dough
5 egg yolks
1/2 cup sugar
1/4 cup flour
2 cups whole milk
3 cups sweet black cherries, pitted
Powdered sugar (optional), to taste

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Roll out a favorite dough (could be tart shell dough; Loustaunau uses sable cookie dough) and place in tart pan or individual molds or pans. Combine egg yolks and sugar. Mix in flour and then add in cold milk and mix thoroughly. Strain mixture.

2. Line tart shell with cherries. Pour the liquid batter over the cherries. Bake in pre-heated oven for 40-45 minutes. Clafoutis should be puffed and light brown. Cool slightly and serve warm sprinkled with powdered sugar.

— Adapted from Chef Jean-Marc Loustaunau, Cafe Pyrenees

cake pan, but a pie plate, tart shell or even a quiche dish is the conventional method. The latest trend is to bake clafoutis in a cast iron skillet, which some think bakes more evenly.

Craig Harzewski uses a cast iron skillet to make clafoutis at home. At Brindille in Chicago, where Harzewski is pastry chef, he makes an almond clafoutis with sweet cherries or blueberries. He tops it off with creme Chantilly.

Harzewski first learned about clafoutis while working in Francois Payard's patisserie on Manhattan's Upper East Side. He made them there in tart shells with cherries.

Cherries are still Harzewski's



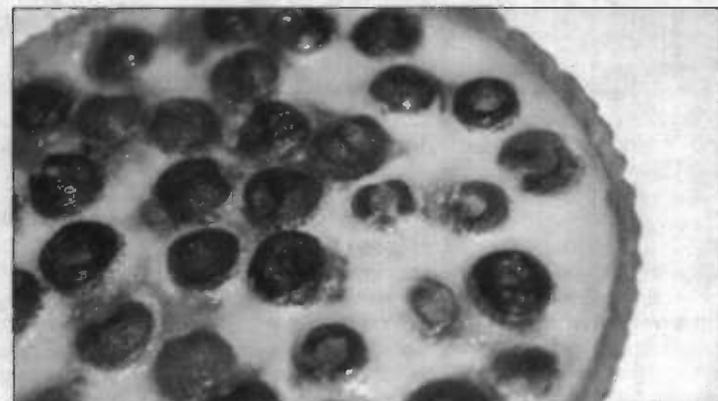
VERONICA HINKE/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Chef Jean-Marc Loustaunau, right, tops a piece of his cherry clafoutis with his homemade ice cream at his family restaurant, Cafe Pyrenees in Libertyville, that he runs with his wife, Mari.

first pick for clafoutis, but he has also made them with blueberries, huckleberries, apples, pears, plums, apricots and more.

He blends the batter with an immersion blender just before pouring it into the baking dish. "This will yield a lighter, airier clafoutis in the end," he said.

NAHA and Brindille Executive Chef and Co-owner Carrie Nahabedian shares her recipe for a clafoutis with an unlikely ingredient, corn, on the Green City Market website. For the recipe for Nahabedian's Sweet Cherry and Roasted Summer Corn Clafoutis, go to bit.ly/2aWGyyu.



Plump cherries inside Chef Jean-Marc Loustaunau's clafoutis at his restaurant, Cafe Pyrenees in Libertyville.

PETS/ANIMALS

MY PET WORLD

A look at the dry food versus canned food debate

By Marc Morrone

Tribune Content Agency

Q: A recent column of yours said canned cat food is preferable to dry cat food. My vet asks what I feed my cats at each visit but has never said to switch to canned cat food even when one of them had "issues" with vomiting. He recommended several things to try until finally, I found a dry food for sensitive stomachs that has helped. What are the pros and cons of dry versus canned cat food?

— Sue Shimeck, Savage, MN

A: Well like most things in life this answer is not quite that cut and dry. Neither dry food nor canned food can be considered "better" than the other; both have all the nutrition a domestic cat needs.

However, I do not feed my cats dry food and it's only because of two observations I have noticed when I did feed my cats just dry food. Some cats I have kept on a dry food diet seemed to just eat most of it without chewing it. Then, many times, they would vomit the un-chewed pieces up in the middle of the night. At first I just thought they were hair balls, but when I actually broke the wads open I discovered that it was made up of undigested kibble. I tried giving those cats a smaller sized kibble but they still did not chew it and the problem persisted.

Then, when I put the cats on a

diet of just canned food the vomiting stopped and never happened again. Obviously those cats just had issues chewing while other cats I had did fine on the kibble.

Another observation I noticed with cats on canned food was that their stool was much smaller. It seems that cats can digest all the ingredients in a can of cat food, while dry kibble has some ingredients added to maintain the integrity of the kibble that are not easily digested.

So, my conclusion, based on these personal observations, is that a canned food diet is better for us humans. I do not think that any scientific studies have been done to prove that it is better for the cats though.

This all happened to me three decades ago and all my cats from then on have only eaten canned food. Two other observations since then have been that my cats on canned food do not shed very much and they are always the perfect weight. However, I cannot offer any theories on why this is so.

Q: I just bought a house in the suburbs and I have taken up bird watching. One of my great pleasures for the last three months was listening to the birds singing in the early morning. However the last couple of weeks I have noticed that the morning is silent — no bird song at all and I wondered what happened?

— Greg Sanders, Chicago, IL



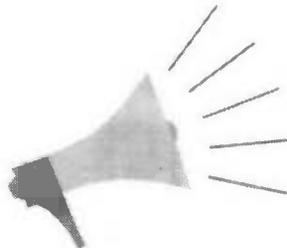
MICHAEL TERCHA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Some cats do better with dry food and some do better with canned food. Both types of food, however, have all the nutrition that cats need.

A: Do not worry, no ecological disaster here, it is just now mid-August and the baby birds have grown up and left the nest. Breeding season is now over and the parent birds are resting and molting — losing their old feathers and re-growing new ones — to get ready for either winter or migration.

Since there is no longer a need to attract a mate or protect a territory then they do not have to waste precious resources singing. Late summer and fall is the time of the insects, in the same manner that you were able to listen to the birds singing in the morning, you can now listen to the insects singing in the evening.

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 petxperts2@aol.com; please include your name, city and state.



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Cable customer wonders why he can't get Comcast

Dear Help Squad,
I just moved from the suburbs to a downtown Chicago condo. There are only four owners in our association. I reached out to Comcast after being told by other owners that AT&T U-verse is the only service option for our building. Comcast told me our building is designated in their system as unserviceable.

Isn't there a city ordinance that requires cable companies operating in Chicago to service every dwelling within the areas they've contracted with the city to serve?

I've been working through this with a contractor from Comcast's engineering and serviceability office. She mentioned my condo might be in a territory that is "owned" by AT&T. I hadn't realized this was even a possibility. Have the cable and phone companies just divided up the city into little fiefdoms? Within their fiefdoms, can they decide not to provide service to somebody if they don't want to? I'm aware that in some cases it's costly to wire a building for cable, but do they at least have to offer a construction fee to the customer, or can they just declare a building un-

serviceable?
I tried to find the answers in the municipal code but had no luck. Seems like you are now an expert on cable challenges, so hope you can help.

Ken, Chicago

As Ken's dilemma seemed very location-specific, I first contacted the office of Ken's alderman, Sophia King (4th Ward). One of her staff members referred me to the Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP).

There, I reached Mika Stambaugh, BACP Director of Public Information, who told me: "[City of Chicago-franchised] cable television providers are not required by law to provide service to every household or building, but we certainly encourage them to do so."

She also informed me that, "The City of Chicago has a Cable Unit that is devoted to ensuring cable television companies operating in the city follow the law and fran-



CATHY CUNNINGHAM
Help Squad

chise agreements that allow them to operate here."

As part of this explanation, she noted that AT&T doesn't have an agreement with Chicago. As a result, it is regulated by the state of Illinois.

"For this instance specifically, the City has reached

out to Comcast to investigate the complaint," Stambaugh said. "Comcast has already deployed a team of technicians to conduct a preliminary site survey at the address to determine if they are able to offer service."

The next day, this was confirmed by Ken, who told me, "Robert, the contracted surveyor for Comcast, came out this morning. Seems like we will get a win on this one soon, pending a green light from Comcast."

Ken relayed Robert's explanation of the situation: "When Comcast's construction group has to be involved in getting service active, it's because they need to dig things up and build out infrastructure, which is

where things can get so costly it's not worth Comcast's time. In my case, it sounds like no construction is required."

Stambaugh then closed the loop: "BACP has been in daily contact with Comcast about this matter ... After conducting a full site survey, Comcast has verified that Comcast's 'plant' (i.e., network infrastructure) is available at [Ken's] building and the building is serviceable."

Said Ken: "Thanks again for your help on this! People say 'I couldn't have done it without you' flippantly but in this case, I believe it may be literally true, although I did not try my tactic of emailing every executive in the company ..."

For those having difficulties with their cable service or provider, Stambaugh recommends filing a complaint online at www.cityofchicago.org.

Need help?

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

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

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Second Base	Jul. 8	Right Field	Aug. 12
Third Base	Jul. 15	Catcher	Aug. 19
Short Stop	Jul. 22	Pitcher(s)	Aug. 26
Left Field	Jul. 29	Manager	Sept. 2



No matter who you vote for, we have your bases covered.

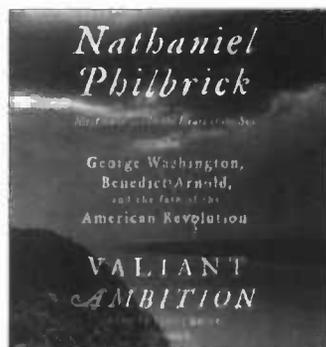


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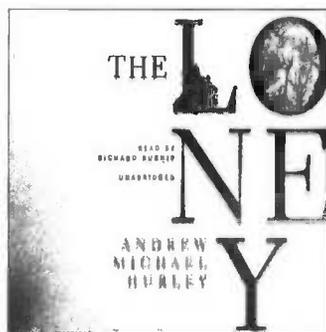


Valiant Ambition

By Nathaniel Philbrick, narrated by Scott Brick, 13:19, Penguin Audio

Scott Brick must be doing something right. He's voiced more than 600 audiobooks — titles as disparate as Michael Pollan's "The Botany of Desire" and Michael Crichton's "Jurassic Park." He's the go-to narrator for mysteries and thrillers, with more than 300 titles to his credit, and he's the winner of several awards for his work, including two narrator of the year citations from Publishers Weekly. There are audiobook listeners who will only listen to books Brick narrates. What is it about this plain vanilla voice that makes Brick such a popular choice? My guess: He never overpowers the author with his interpretation. In Nathaniel Philbrick's "Valiant Ambition," his steady clarity and light touch are tailored to the material. Philbrick, the author of several histories, including the National Book Award winner "In the Heart of the Sea," shows how a combination

of circumstances and character turned a once-dashing hero of the Revolutionary War, Benedict Arnold, into a traitor. Although the stories of Arnold and George Washington aren't as interwoven as the book's subtitle suggests, both confront the slights and mismanagement of the Continental Congress, albeit on far different scales. For Washington, the price of politics is an army neglected and near starvation. For Arnold, it is the loss of a military commission due to political favoritism and the financial toll of his service. Arnold, described by Philbrick as both tactless and bullheaded, accumulates grudges and debt as the war winds on, leading to the failed plot to turn the fortress at West Point over to the British.



The Loney

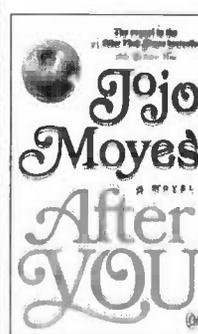
By Andrew Michael Hurley, narrated by Richard Burnip, 11:15, Blackstone Audio

Narrator Richard Burnip likes to pause. He likes to pause between sentences. He likes to pause between phrases. If the length of his pauses were cut by half, he might have shaved an hour from the narration of this engrossing, moody debut novel by Andrew Michael Hurley. This is not to say that Burnip, the voice on more than 70 audiobooks, is unskilled. In fact, his characterizations of a small group of Catholic pilgrims visiting a desolate bit of English coastline are sharp: the tightly wound and controlling mother; the Irish priest who repeatedly fails to meet her expectations; the teenager who tells the story. The life of the narrator is entwined in the care of his older, disabled brother, Hanny. Hanny cannot speak, and his mother

has designed this pilgrimage for him. She is determined he will drink the healing waters at a nearby shrine and be cured. Hurley has done something magical here. Although this story winds around a core of the supernatural, always at the forefront are the struggles of the characters within: an old priest's unraveling, a mother's willful blindness, a brother's protectiveness, and most unusually, a landscape, *The Loney*. This "wild and useless length of English coastline" is so lovingly and clearly evoked, it becomes a character as important as any of the pilgrims, a major player in the drama with lifelong consequences.

CHICAGOLAND BEST-SELLERS

1. "The Girl on the Train: A Novel" by Paula Hawkins (Riverhead, \$16).
2. "After You: A Novel" by Jojo Moyes (Penguin, \$16).
3. "The Girls: A Novel" by Emma Cline (Random House, \$27).
4. "The Sympathizer: A Novel" by Viet Thanh Nguyen (Grove, \$16).
5. "The Underground Railroad (Oprah's Book Club): A Novel" by Colson Whitehead (Doubleday, \$26.95).



Participating bookstores: Barbara's Bookstores (Chicago), The Book Cellar (Chicago), Seminary Co-op Bookstore and 57th Street Books (Chicago), Anderson's Bookshop (Naperville), The Book Stall at Chestnut Court (Winnetka), Women & Children First Bookstore (Chicago), The Book Table (Oak Park), The Bookstore (Glen Ellyn), The Book Bin (Northbrook), Lake Forest Book Store (Lake Forest).

NEW IN PAPERBACK



Still Mine By Amy Stuart, Simon & Schuster, 320 pages, \$24.99

Clare raises suspicions when she arrives in Blackmore, an isolated mining town, and starts asking about Shayna Fowles, a local girl who went missing. Her presence feels like a threat to the people close to Shayna: Jared, her ex-husband; Charlie, the town's drug dealer; Derek, her family doctor; and even to her parents. But in order to solve the puzzle of Shayna's disappearance, Clare — who has a secret connection to the girl — must face her own demons.



The Fly Trap By Fredrik Sjöberg, translated by Thomas Teal, Vintage, 288 pages, \$17

Sjöberg's memoir documents his obsession with collecting the hoverflies from the remote Swedish island where he lived and worked as an entomologist. Drawing on a variety of sources such as D. H. Lawrence and the naturalist Rene Edmond Malaise, Sjöberg looks at what fuels a collector's curiosity and offers nuggets of the history of entomology.



Results May Vary By Bethany Chase, Ballantine, 352 pages, \$17

Art curator Caroline Hammond is shocked to find out that her husband is having an affair with a man. The emotional punch sends her into a spiral of questions about the true nature of their relationship, but also about her future. Caroline must decide whether to move past the betrayal and rebuild their life as a couple or embark on a journey of self-discovery, peppered with family dramas and romantic surprises.



The End of Tsarist Russia By Dominic Lieven, Penguin, 448 pages, \$18

Relying on his exhaustive work in seven Russian archives, Lieven, a distinguished Russian historian, brings a fresh take on the origins of World War I and the Russian Revolution, revealing how entwined the two of them are. Lieven also explains why Russia entered World War I and how modern issues such as the struggle for Ukraine are rooted in the events of 1914.



The Courtship of Eva Eldridge By Diane Simmons, University Of Iowa, 272 pages, \$19.95

Drawing on an impressive collection of 800 letters and papers, Simmons tells the story of Eva Eldridge, a woman whose husband Vick took off soon after their honeymoon in the '50s. The humiliation was only made worse by post-World War II society's pressure to marry. Convinced that her newly minted husband is struggling with post-traumatic stress, Eva decides to track him down. She soon discovers that her hero is a serial bigamist and her name was added to a long list of abandoned wives.

—Andreea Ciulac



puzzle island

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8/14

Verbal VIPs: On a first-name basis

BY MARK MCCLAIN | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN
(stanxwords.com)

Across

- 1 Past the deadline
- 5 Remarked
- 9 Haul to the garage
- 14 Amused look
- 19 Object of worship
- 20 Nestlé subsidiary
- 21 Autobahn autos
- 22 Sponsorship
- 23 *Shark Tank* mogul
- 25 *Anchorman* star
- 27 Go (for)
- 28 Broke bread
- 29 Remain undecided
- 30 Crafter's knife brand
- 31 Not as lenient
- 33 Supermarket area
- 34 Told, as a yarn
- 36 One-piece suit
- 38 Mentioned
- 40 HS student's exam
- 44 Early MTV regular
- 47 Actress who became a princess
- 49 The Terminator, for one
- 50 Bear: Sp.
- 51 South African golf pro
- 52 Cruise ship medium
- 53 Tilts a bit
- 54 Time Warner station
- 55 Bibliography abbr.
- 57 Look through casually
- 58 River through Bern
- 59 Gather dust
- 61 \$\$\$ for the future
- 62 Real estate ad abbr.
- 63 007 before Daniel Craig
- 66 Nectar collector

- 69 Charitable donation
- 70 Repurpose
- 71 Coffee server
- 72 Tears to shreds
- 75 Ridge over the eyes
- 77 Program file-name ending
- 78 Kuwaiti currency
- 80 Tea from India
- 81 Small ensemble
- 82 With 60 Down, New Deal-era style
- 83 Handle, as chores
- 84 Milk actor
- 87 Author of the upcoming "Z" *Is for Zero*
- 89 Part of ABM
- 90 Stroll
- 91 On, as a horse
- 92 Iowa State city
- 93 Play in the shallows
- 95 Bitterly harsh
- 99 Place for a book title
- 102 About 77% of Russia
- 103 Young fellow
- 104 Hubbub
- 105 *Walker, Texas Ranger* star
- 108 *The Princess Bride* director
- 111 Yellowish brown
- 112 Star in Orion
- 113 Land on the Caspian
- 114 Electronic examination
- 115 Hue
- 116 Campfire treat
- 117 Pleads
- 118 Worthy of worship

Down

- 1 Some motorcade vehicles
- 2 Cope with change
- 3 Rich cake
- 4 Yellowstone grazer
- 5 Pan-frying
- 6 It's north of Montana
- 7 Brewpub designation
- 8 Slip into
- 9 Something on a rod or rack
- 10 Stating one's views
- 11 Do some construction work
- 12 Not up to par
- 13 Bad check ltrs.
- 14 Wrapper brand
- 15 Chicago exchange, for short
- 16 "_ that a lot"
- 17 *Stitch's* movie pal
- 18 New arrivals' subj.
- 24 Some food processors
- 26 Radiate
- 29 San _ Bay, CA
- 32 Apply, as sunscreen
- 33 Extreme
- 34 Not worth talking about
- 35 Pushup beneficiaries
- 37 Penitent person
- 39 Field of expertise
- 40 Rio Grande feeder
- 41 Profusion
- 42 "What a shame"
- 43 Newcastle's river
- 44 Tech training ctr.
- 45 Per annum
- 46 Skiers' transports
- 48 Sacred text
- 54 Alliances

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

- 55 Pipe type
- 56 Gull cousin
- 57 Annoying youngster
- 59 Far from al dente
- 60 See 82 Across
- 61 Regarding
- 63 Completely, so to speak
- 64 Cause to become a cliché
- 65 Large chamber group
- 66 Cake-pan brand
- 67 Poetic muse
- 68 Ill-fated energy company
- 69 Big Tokyo-based brewer
- 72 Royal of India
- 73 Airs now
- 74 [Look over here!]
- 75 Daffodils, e.g.
- 76 Render turbulent
- 78 Skilled shot
- 79 Determine by logic
- 81 Fuller claim to fame
- 82 Carne _ (Latin American entrée)
- 83 Minutemen's hats
- 85 Japanese soup
- 86 Having more info
- 88 Miscellany
- 92 Tibia terminus
- 94 Supermarket area
- 96 Place for *dinero*
- 97 Utopian
- 98 Unfunny due to 64 Down
- 99 Erstwhile ruler of 113 Across
- 100 Feline predator
- 101 On the rocks
- 102 Oscar film of 2012
- 105 Alternative to fl. oz.
- 106 Dr. show settings
- 107 Crater's edge
- 108 Poke fun at
- 109 What may hold gold
- 110 Ending for elf

Stop, Thief!

BY GARRY MORSE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

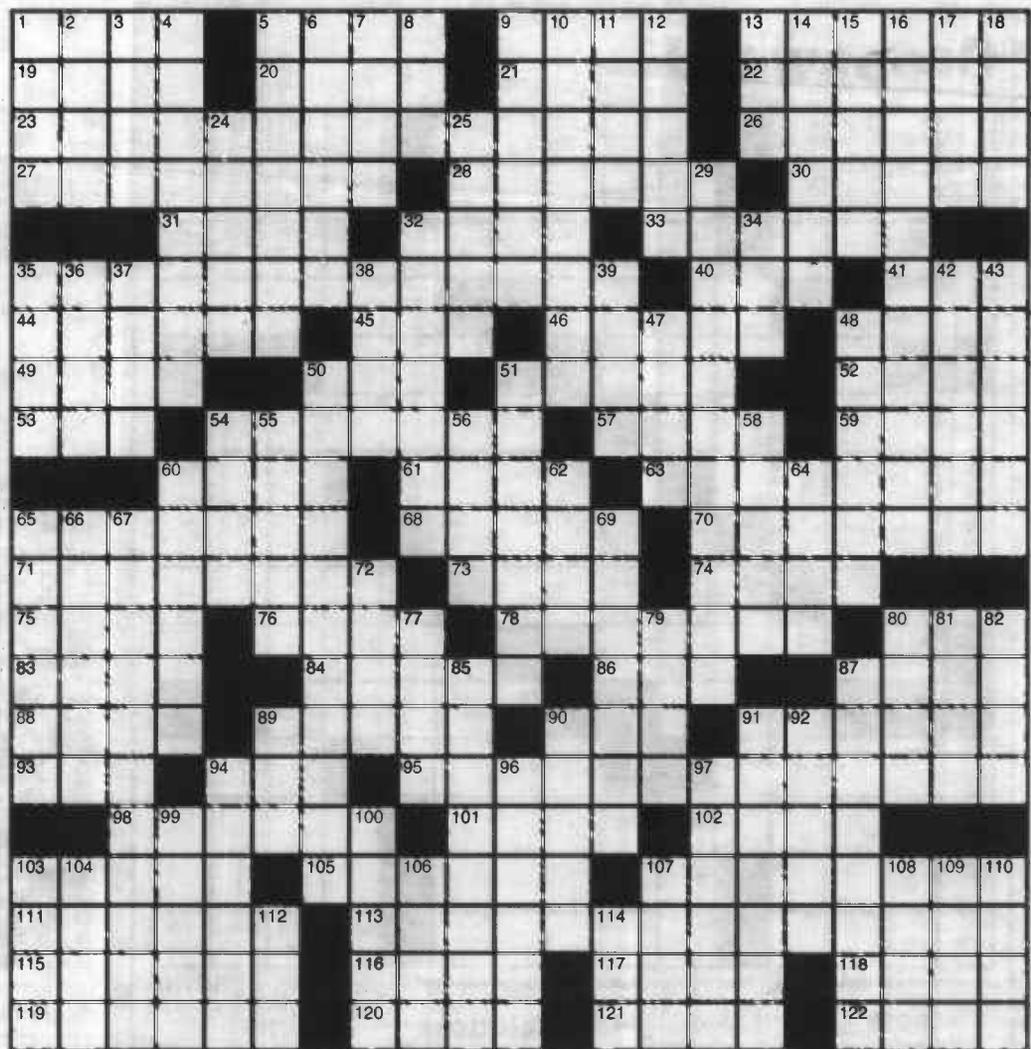
- 1 Carrier with only kosher meals
5 Vamoosed
9 Classic name in shoes
13 Place of worship
19 Default consequence
20 Have standing
21 "Gotcha"
22 Oscar nominee in four different decades
23 The liquor store thief
26 Present for Garfield?
27 With great skill
28 They may be run off
30 Reduces to small pieces
31 Browser's destination
32 Farm house
33 Bit of clothing
35 The restaurant thief
40 Surg. areas
41 Diminish
44 Rolled down the runway
45 Means of access
46 Horror film sounds
48 One looked up to
49 Mt. Hood's state
50 Creator of one who pondered "Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore"
51 Secret supply
52 "Even ___ speak ..."
53 Really poor
54 Enter with rage
57 "The Ballad of John and ___"
59 Hand on deck
60 "SNL" parody
61 Player's fixed contribution
63 Fire sign?
65 Element #33
68 Some selective socializers
70 Lawmaking bodies
71 Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium city
73 Trade
74 Unlikely
75 All in
76 Rivulets seen after swirling, to a wine taster
78 Exam in which letters are read

- 80 Rockies hrs.
83 Casual pace
84 Discourage
86 Trig. ratio
87 Copacetic
88 Signed, say
89 Maker of 28-Across
90 RSVP part
91 "I was evidently mistaken"
93 Goal for a H.S. dropout
94 Coll. conferral
95 The gym thief
98 Priests, e.g.
101 Pinot
102 Unfavorable aspects
103 Debussy's "___ de Lune"
105 Great Plains language family
107 Got rid of
111 Stereotypical long beard grower
113 The art thief
115 Salad veggie
116 Quito's land: Abbr.
117 Reason for an admonition
118 Mother of Charlie Woods
119 Nail or tack
120 Court period: Abbr.
121 Growl
122 Overrule

Down

- 1 Kathryn of HBO's "Oz"
2 16th-century pope
3 Each
4 Gets routed
5 Bit one's nails, perhaps
6 Served, as soup
7 Online handicraft market
8 Bank acct. starter
9 Color from the French for "chestnut"
10 Michigan native
11 Bubbly region
12 Aroma detectors
13 Atlanta-based health agcy.
14 Game with tricks
15 Playful
16 The condiment thief
17 Cleveland's lake
18 Trims, as branches
24 Five Nations unit
25 Screen array
29 The chocolate thief

- 32 Movie houses
34 Org. with complex forms
35 Classic Pontiacs
36 ___ avis
37 Cut
38 A-line designer
39 Suggestive
42 Pee-wee Herman accessory
43 Substitutes for bad words
47 Restaurant with a smile in its logo
48 Start of a Seuss classic
50 The poultry thief
51 Toronto skyline landmark
54 Well-thought-out
55 Woven fabric
56 Stopping points
58 First-year law students
60 ___ bliss
62 Auction site
64 Heal, as broken bones
65 Not digital
66 Bridge violation
67 The casino thief
69 Genus subdivision
72 Eisner's Disney successor
77 Small-runway mil. craft
79 Gave it away
80 Adding and subtracting
81 "SNL" staple
82 Hardy's "Pure Woman"
85 Meager
87 Cut in tricky patterns
89 Millennial's parent, briefly
90 Perform horribly
91 Bring on the market
92 ___ Olay
94 Originate (from)
96 Brawl
97 "Little Women" co-star of Kirsten, Claire and Trini
99 Allowable extreme
100 "Holy cow!"
103 Restaurant opener
104 Actress Olin
106 At a former time
107 Japanese noodle
108 Give sparingly
109 Yeats' home
110 Big Apple fashion initials
112 Common base
114 Course with vocab.



Last week's answers appear on the next page

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Jumble

Unscramble the six Jumbles, one letter per square, to form six words. Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by this cartoon.



PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW



This week's answers appear on the next page

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2016 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

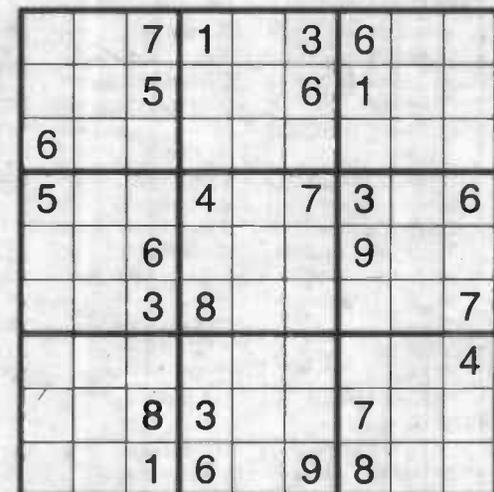


Sudoku

8/14

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders contains every digit 1 to 9.

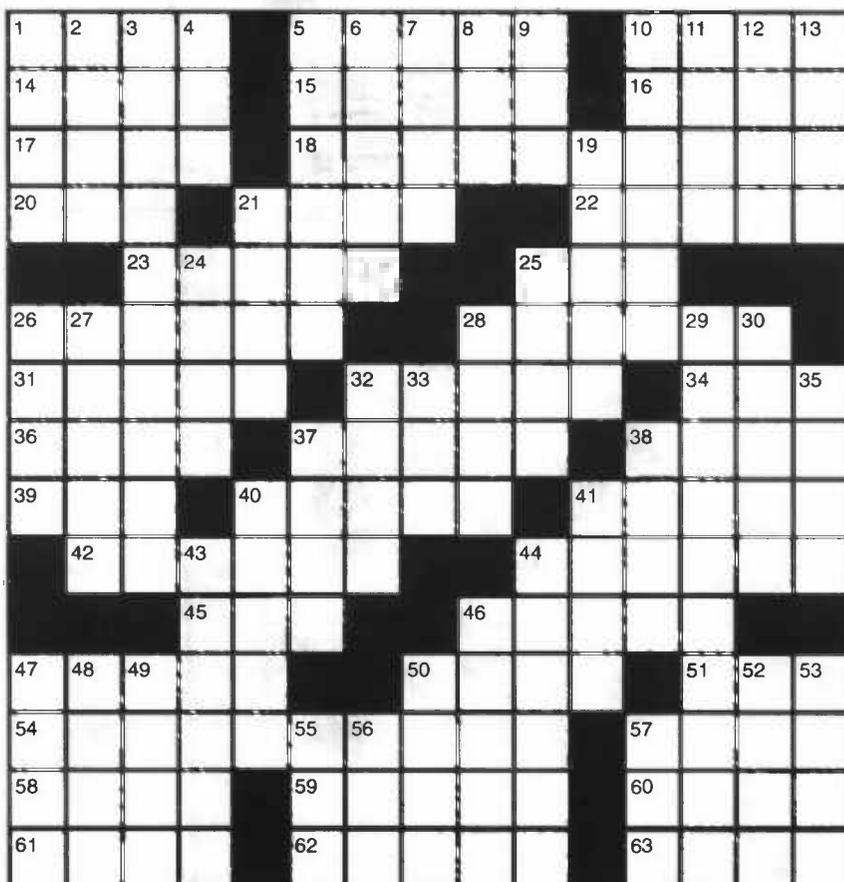
Level: **1 2 3 4**



Last week's answers appear on the next page

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Crossword



By Jacqueline E. Mathews. © 2016 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

8/17/16

ACROSS

- 1 Throw
5 Relative by marriage
10 Unsmiling; gloomy
14 "___ bigger and better things!"
15 Lasso's end
16 Houston university
17 Plant with fronds
18 Most populous California city
20 Utilize
21 TV's "___ and the Fatman"
22 City in England
23 Lunchtimes
25 Womanizer
26 Exhaled in relief
28 Deep valley
31 Up to the time that
32 Wide
34 Dad
36 Reverberate
37 Grieve
38 ___ on; incite
39 Daniel ___ Kim
40 Stove
41 Make amends.
42 Take a nap
44 Elegant
45 Actor's signal

- 46 Isle of ___; resort near Naples
47 Valuable thing
50 Fireplace stack
51 ___ T; perfectly
54 Stamp ___; philatelist's array
57 Kennedy or Rogers
58 Threesome
59 Supermarket walkway
60 Sore as a ___
61 Aug.'s follower
62 Ross or Palmer
63 Crawling bugs

DOWN

- 1 Bean curd
2 Dollar bills
3 Reinforce
4 Family member
5 Away from the coast
6 Wall recesses
7 Misplace
8 Happy ___ clam
9 Actress
Ming-Na ___
10 Covetous
11 Make angry
12 Applied frosting
13 ___ hall; GIs' dining room
19 Pituitary or thyroid

Solutions



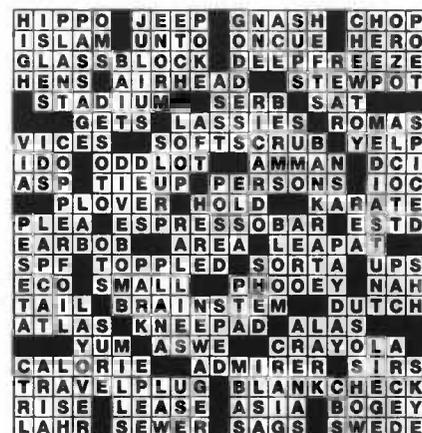
- 21 Biblical book
24 Canton's state
25 James or Scott
26 Took to court
27 Early Peruvians
28 Apple's center
29 Defiance
30 Parts of speech
32 Fibula or femur
33 Floor covering
35 ___ on; victimize
37 Labyrinth
38 Member of a constellation
40 Line of travel
41 European mountains
42 Spotted wildcat
43 "___ & Lacey"
44 Puts in the fridge for a bit
47 Plays a role
48 Feeling put out
49 Undergarment
50 Shopping aid
52 Leave out
53 Has a bug
55 Taxi
56 Neckwear item
57 Advanced deg.



puzzle island solutions

Last week's crosswords

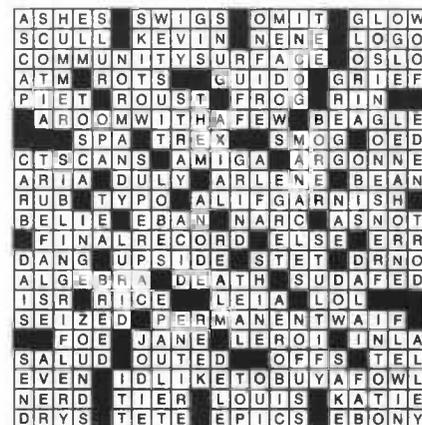
"Not So Fast"



"Colorful Diet"



"A Fee For Victory"



Last week's Quote-Acrossic

(John) GRAY: (A Guide To) ROMANCE AND PASSION: A woman commonly misunderstands and assumes that a man is superficial if he is attracted to the physical. She does not realize that he too wants to get to know her, but the place he starts is the body.

Last week's Sudoku

2	8	7	9	6	1	4	5	3
4	5	6	7	8	3	2	9	1
1	9	3	5	2	4	7	6	8
7	2	8	3	5	9	6	1	4
9	4	5	1	7	6	8	3	2
3	6	1	8	4	2	9	7	5
8	1	9	4	3	7	5	2	6
5	7	2	6	1	8	3	4	9
6	3	4	2	9	5	1	8	7

This week's Jumble

RELENT FORGOT KARATE
CUCKOO HIPPIE DISOWN

When she and her father flew the kite she'd built by hand, he said —

KEEP UP THE
GOOD WORK

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When in a relationship, think like an Olympic champion

"I think that everything is possible as long as you put your mind to it and you put the work and time into it." That is a quote by Michael Phelps, the most decorated Olympian of all time.



JACKIE PILOSSOPH
Love Essentially

Phelps is just one of the countless Olympic athletes inspiring us from Rio, not just with amazing talent, but because of something that is equally if not more important in winning than skill alone: mental strength.

What does this all have to do with a column about love and relationships? A lot.

I sat down with Christie Southern, mental strength performance coach and the founder of Winnetka-based sports performance consulting company HeadCoach, to talk about some of the mental obstacles athletes face and how to overcome them. While Southern is not a relationship expert, we both agreed that mental performance coaching can be directly applied to romantic relationships.

"When I work with an athlete, the key mental coaching areas we work on depend on the things that are holding him or her back," said Southern, who has spent 30 years training athletes and who as a teenager was a nationally ranked figure skater. "What do they need to overcome that will help them gain the most confidence and set them up to perform their best?"

Here are seven obstacles Southern said can hold athletes back, along with my advice on applying them to romantic relationships:

1. Fear of failure

Southern explained that athletes often have anxiety, worrying about losing or not performing their best. I think this translates to romantic relationships in that couples often worry about disappointing each other. The best way to overcome this? Talk openly and constructively to your spouse about how you feel, so they can give you honest feedback.

2. Dwelling on mistakes

Everyone messes up, even Olympians. Southern explained that an obstacle athletes sometimes face is being unable to put mistakes behind them and move on. One mistake can affect an athlete's performance for a whole game if he or she lets it. The same goes for relationships. Everyone messes up at times. The key to a happy relationship is being able to apologize, being able to forgive, and both partners being able to move on.

3. Jealousy/comparing yourself to others

Athletes often become intimidated by their competitors and feel inferior, having a negative affect on self-confidence and therefore performance. In relationships, stop

comparing yourselves to other couples. Focus on appreciating what you have and making it even better.

4. Negative self-talk

According to Southern, scientists who study the brain now have evidence that what you say to yourself has a direct impact on performance. For example, if a golfer says to themselves, "I can't miss this shot," the brain hears that, translates it to the negative, and they miss the shot. So stay positive. Say, "I will make this shot." In relationships: "I am going to treat my wife with more respect from now on." Or "I will tell my husband how much I appreciate him when he gets home."

5. Aiming for perfection

Southern says reaching for perfection is a confidence killer. Having achievable, manageable goals grows confidence. Unreasonably high expectations in your relationship can only cause disappointment.

6. The inability to be a team

Southern quoted beach volleyball gold medalist, Kerri Walsh Jennings referring her former Olympic partner, Misty May. "I firmly believe that when you have a foundation of respect, love of what you're doing, and a shared vision, so much is possible." A foundation of respect and a shared vision — two key components of a happy romantic relationship.

7. Forgetting why you are here

"In the end, it's all about fun, enjoyment and being in the moment," said Southern. "Don't worry about the outcome, but rather enjoy the process." For relationships, that means focusing not on where the relationship is going, but rather enjoying the good that is here now.

Winning seems like everything in the Olympics, but I think true winners are those who give it their all, go above and beyond what they thought they could do, and cherish every minute of their sport. If you treat your relationship that way, then you have won your own gold medal.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.

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PRE

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HYATT

THE LANDHAM

PRE

PRE

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MEXICO

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GIBSONS

Chicago Tribune

HEALTH

Follow these tips to avoid flare-ups of COPD



DR. ANTHONY KOMAROFF
Ask Doctor K

Dear Doctor K: I have COPD. What can I do to avoid symptom flare-ups?

Dear Reader: Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, or COPD, is a long-term condition that makes breathing difficult. Breathing is a lot easier if you take your medicine and do any other therapy as directed.

Several types of medicines reduce the risk of flare-ups. Inhaled corticosteroids that reduce inflammation in the breathing tubes are one kind. Long-acting bronchodilators (BRONK-o-DIAL-ators) that keep the breathing tubes wide are another kind. A third kind are long-acting anticholinergics (AN-tie-KOLE-in-ER-jicks), which also keep the breathing tubes wide.

Other types of medicines are used to treat flare-ups. These include bronchodilator and anticholinergic drugs that act rapidly and do not last as long as the drugs used to reduce the risk of flare-ups.

Besides using the medicines as prescribed, there are other important things you can do to avoid symptom flare-ups:

Prevent respiratory infections. Sudden worsening of COPD often is triggered by a respiratory infection. Any respiratory infection — even a common cold — can cause a flare-up. Do whatever you can to avoid catching whatever is going around. That includes:



MANDEL NGAN/GETTY-AFP

Washing your hands can help prevent respiratory infections, which can cause flare-ups of COPD symptoms.

- **Washing your hands** frequently with soap and water or alcohol-based instant hand sanitizers.
- **Staying away from people** who have colds or other respiratory infections.
- **Getting a flu shot** every year.
- **Getting vaccinated** against pneumonia as needed.

You may also benefit from an antiviral medication, such as oseltamivir (Tamiflu), for reducing your risk of getting influenza during flu season.

There is one flu medicine that you should not use, however: zanamivir (Relenza), an inhaled powder antiviral. The powder can irritate the lungs of a person with COPD.

Exercise regularly. Aerobic exercise, which increases heart rate and breathing rate, is the most beneficial. Examples include walking and swimming. If you want something less aerobically challenging, try yoga or tai chi. Aim for at least 20 minutes of exercise per day on most days.

Practice pursed-lip breathing. This technique will help you pace yourself through physical activities. Before you start

moving, inhale through your nose so deeply that your abdomen expands. Then, as you begin to move, exhale through your mouth with your lips pursed to slow down the airflow. Your exhalation should last twice as long as your inhalation. You will feel pressure in your windpipe and chest as you slowly breathe out. When you finish exhaling, rest for a moment, then inhale and start the process again.

Avoid lung irritants. An important way to control your symptoms and prevent flare-ups is to keep your airways from becoming irritated. Many things can affect the airways, including exhaust fumes from your stove, smoke from your fireplace, dry air, and molds and mildew. If you have allergies, try to avoid exposure to whatever causes them.

If you follow these tips, I think you'll find that you have fewer episodes of severe difficulty in breathing.

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.

PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

Could drugs for insomnia contribute to dementia?

By Joe Graedon and Teresa Graedon
King Features Syndicate

Q: I have had a great deal of trouble sleeping since my husband passed away. For many years I have taken Tylenol PM or Advil PM along with alprazolam.

I have read that alprazolam can contribute to dementia, so I am trying to get off it. What about PM pills? Could they also contribute to dementia?

A: Alprazolam (Xanax) is approved for treating anxiety and panic, not insomnia. This drug is a benzodiazepine, in the same class as diazepam (Valium) and lorazepam (Ativan). Some studies have shown a connection between long-term use of benzodiazepines and the later development of dementia (Expert Opinion on Drug Safety, May 2015).

Stopping alprazolam suddenly could lead to worse insomnia or other withdrawal symptoms.

The PM part of your nighttime pain reliever is diphenhydramine. This antihistamine has strong anticholinergic activity. Drugs in this class also have been linked to an increased risk for dementia (JAMA Internal Medicine, March 2015).

Q: At my recent physical, my doctor gave me the results of my bloodwork. My testosterone was low, and he recommended Testosterone shots.

I had been experiencing some erectile dysfunction and lethargy, but attributed that to my age. The shots have helped me, but I wonder about adverse effects. Are there any?

A: Testosterone, either as an injection or topical gel, is



LEIGH SCHINDLER/GETTY

Insomnia-fighting drugs can have unwanted side effects.

controversial. The Food and Drug Administration cautions doctors not to prescribe this male hormone to healthy men with "low T" linked to aging. The agency states that testosterone is only for men with hypogonadism and warns about an increased risk of heart attacks and strokes.

A study in the New England Journal of Medicine (Feb. 18, 2016) contradicts the FDA's stance. It demonstrated that men with low testosterone experienced improved sexual function and mood after using a testosterone gel, with no increased risk of cardiovascular complications. An analysis of available data also found no link to heart attacks and strokes (Expert Opinion on Drug Safety, October 2014).

Q: I received an unsolicited newsletter that gave a list of harmful ingredients in medications. On the list was xylitol.

I've been using Xlear spray two times per day for allergies and chewing Trident gum daily for some years. Both Xlear spray and Trident contain xylitol. Please tell me

what the xylitol is doing to me.

A: Xylitol is a sugar substitute originally derived from xylose in birch bark. Raspberries and mushrooms, as well as other fruits and vegetables, contain small amounts of xylitol. The xylitol used in products like chewing gum, lozenges, toothpaste and sugar-free candy is primarily made by processing corn cobs.

Like sorbitol and maltitol, which also are used as sugar substitutes, xylitol can cause bloating, flatulence and diarrhea if it is consumed in large quantities.

There is some evidence to suggest that chewing gum with xylitol reduces ear infections in children. It also may discourage cavities (Archives of Oral Biology online, June 6, 2016).

The big problem with xylitol comes with any canine companions. Xylitol is quite toxic to dogs and must be kept away from them.

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Send questions to them via www.peoplespharmacy.com.

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The bonds of parenthood

By Emily Perschbacher
Chicago Tribune

Kelly Ali, of Chicago, recently hosted a weekend barbecue at her home. The turnout was great: 37 guests. And she'd met them all in the past few months.

Since Ali decided to stay home with her 10-month-old son, Max, she has joined several play groups and has met new friends at the gym, grocery store and Target.

"I have way more friends now than I ever did before I had a baby," Ali said. "When I first moved here, I only knew my husband. I would go to yoga and try to meet people, but no one talks to anyone unless they showed up with that person."

There is something about having a baby that breaks down social barriers. Strangers smile or wave at babies in strollers; some stop to offer congratulations or meet the little one. And new parents seek guidance and camaraderie from others in the same life stage, either by asking people in the baby aisle what they think about a certain product, by joining play groups or both.

Ali, who has a naturally outgoing personality, started joining play groups with other children her son's age because she was looking for ways to socialize with people who knew what she was going through with a new baby.

"Having a child is a life-altering experience," said Princeton, N.J.-based psychologist Eileen Kennedy-Moore. "It can bring up a lot of feelings. It can bring up exhaustion. It can bring up uncertainty because everything is new. It's very helpful to be talking to someone who is going through the same thing."

Play groups take on many different forms. In general, there is a regular meeting for a group of children and their parents or caregivers to allow for socialization and play. But unless your friends happen to have children around the same age, finding a play group often means meeting new people. This can add a level of fear or anxiety to an already emotionally charged time.

"I would tell myself I really

Play groups provide opportunities for new moms and dads to get together, share with others in similar circumstances



ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Sarah Velasco, walks her 15-month-old daughter Amella Velasco, through the water sprinklers at Margaret Donahue Park, during an afternoon gathering with other new moms.

should join a play group, and then I wouldn't do it," said Amanda Delgado, of Chicago. "I have a different situation. I'm older, and I chose to be a single mom. So there's a fear there. Am I going to have something in common with these people?"

Kennedy-Moore said that in any play group, all parents have one big thing in common: their kids.

"There are so many things that are fascinating to new parents," she said. "Is your child sleeping through the night? What are they eating? It's a shared experience."

Delgado said what pushed her out of her own comfort zone was thinking about the advantages for her 9-month-old daughter, Charlotte.

"Since it's just the two of us, I've joined different groups so she'll have some social interaction

with other kids," she said.

Babies are interested in other children at a very young age, even under age 1, Kennedy-Moore said.

"I don't think we'd call it friendship. It's more like exploring the world," she said. Kennedy-Moore has written several parenting and child development books, including "What About Me? 12 Ways to Get Your Parents' Attention (Without Hitting Your Sister)."

Most of the play groups Ali and Delgado have attended have been organized through the Neighborhood Parents Network. The Chicago-based nonprofit "connects a diverse community of families with resources they need to navigate parenting in the city," according to its website. Neighborhood Parents Network offers new-mom play groups for babies in three age ranges: 2-5 months,

6-12 months and 12-18 months. Despite the name, new dads are also welcome.

"It's a unique and easy way to meet other moms in an intimate setting," said Amy Johnson, the network's director of volunteers.

"You're not just meeting new people and getting out of the house, but you're also getting support," she added. "You're sharing your experience and finding ways to connect."

Johnson said some new-mom groups have formed lifelong friendships and are still meeting 10 years later.

"As a staff member of NPN, it's wonderful to feel you're a small part of establishing friendship and support for new moms," she said.

Other resources to find a play group include Moms Club, Meetup.com and Facebook. Music or fitness classes are also good places

for new parents to connect. Try a local yoga studio, Gymboree location or music school.

As with most aspects of parenting, finding the right fit can take some trial and error.

Delgado said she first joined a music play group but didn't really connect with the other parents.

"I didn't feel guilty if (Charlotte) was napping and we couldn't go," she said.

Ali said she's encountered about 50 women at various play groups but has just recently settled into a routine with five or six.

"I decided that, as a woman in my 30s, I wasn't going to try to morph into someone else to fit in with certain women in a group. There are all sorts of moms. And I don't have to find best friends in every single group I'm in," she said.

Ali's grounded and open-minded approach has served her and Max well and continues to allow her to make friends in unexpected places.

"If I'm looking at the same baby product as someone at the grocery store, I'll ask them about it," Ali said. "Motherhood tends to make everyone more approachable."

Similarly, new parents are often approached by strangers wanting to meet or talk to the baby. This experience, like play groups, is welcomed by some and uncomfortable for others.

"For a new mom, it is strange to have strangers involved with something so personal as your baby," Kennedy-Moore said.

"I think there's a desire to connect with something wonderful," she added. "Plus, babies are so darn cute."

That desire to connect is key during early parenting and beyond. Whether you join a play group or call your own parents, everyone needs support.

"A happy mom is what's good for a baby," Kennedy-Moore said. "Don't feel like you have to go to a play group with many other moms. You can meet with one or two. The social support is really what's essential."

Emily Perschbacher is a freelancer.



MEGAN CHAFFIN PHOTOS



Traditional-style home in Winnetka: \$1.295M

ADDRESS: 196 Scott Ave. in Winnetka

ASKING PRICE: \$1,295,000

Listed on June 9, 2016

Classic architectural details include tall ceilings, millwork and hardwood floors. First-floor rooms open to one another and feature vistas out every window. Outdoor living in expansive covered porch and deck surrounded by perennial gardens. Master suite includes dressing room, walk-in closet and en-suite bath. Second floor offers grandly-scaled bedrooms and office. Tree-top third floor with double bedrooms and a full bath.

Agent: Paige Dooley of The Hudson Company, 847-609-0963

At press time, this home was still for sale.

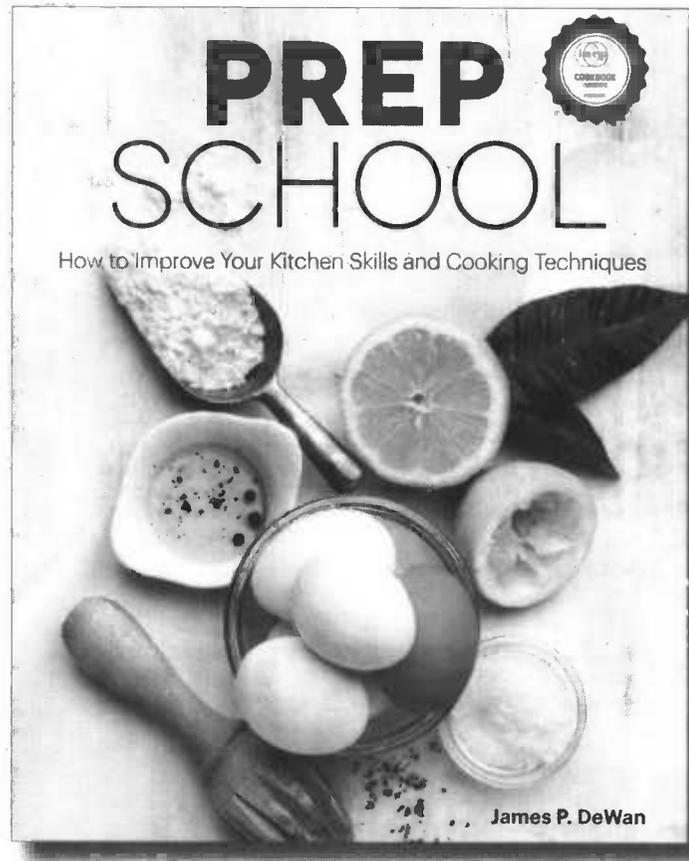


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Chicago Tribune



3-4 THE ROAD + FRIENDS

3-4 the Road + Friends will lead a sing-along of favorite songs at the Skokie Theatre on Aug. 28 during the Backlot Bash.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Get vocal at Skokie's Backlot Bash sing-along

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Kids can practice their reading skills while exercising their voices at a sing-along with 3-4 the Road + Friends. The Americana music group will lead 45-minute song-filled sessions at 3 and 4:30 p.m. Aug. 28 at the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., as part of Skokie's Backlot Bash. Cabaret favorite Carla Gordon is the special guest.

"We're going to do two sets of songs — some of the old folk songs," said Bill Lange, leader of the group. "We're not going to have material that's objectionable. It's all going to be good music for the family!"

Audience members will be given sheets with the words to the selections. That's where the kids can practice their reading.

Songs will include, "If I Had a Hammer," "When the Saints Go Marching In," "Blowing in the Wind," "This Little Light of Mine" and "Proud Mary," to name a few.

Lange said the event will be fun for families because, "It's a great program of familiar songs."

For details, go to www.backlotbash.com.

Panda-monium

Po is headed for greatness in "Kung Fu Panda 3." The Family Big-Screen Movie will be shown at 2 p.m. Aug. 27 at Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St. A snack will be served. An adult must stay with kids in second grade or lower.

For details, call 847-663-1234 or go to www.nileslibrary.org.

Fire away

You and your kids will learn how to put out a fire when the Skokie Fire Department visits the Skokie Farmers' Market, Aug. 21. Visitors will have a chance to test their water skills. Later, the Boston Mountain Boys will entertain. The market runs from 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. outside Village Hall, 5127 Oakton St.

For details, call 847-933-8257 or go to www.skokie.org.

Around the block

Team building is one of the goals of a LEGO Build Event, 4 p.m. Aug. 20 at Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. Children will use their creativity during this event for children ages 6 and older.

For details, call 847-676-2230 or go to www.barnesandnoble.com.

Take 'em to the bank

That's where your kids — from newborns to 5-year-olds — will enjoy Karen and Carl's Preschool Concert, 10-11 a.m. Aug. 20 at Liberty Bank, 6666 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood. Guitarist Karen and bassist Carl will entertain with their folk-rock style at this interactive concert.

For details, call 847-677-5277, ext. 232 or go to www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org.

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KATHRYN BRADFORD/FRIENDS OF MARLENE PHOTOS

Susan Katz of Oak Park, left, Jean Ferrone of Evanston, Nancy Hays of Old Norwood Park, event performer, Francine Pepitone of Chicago, Catherine Dunlap of Old Norwood Park

Friends of Marlene summer benefit raises \$26,600

Event: 'Summer in the City' Fundraiser
Hosted by: Friends of Marlene
Supporting: Services for oncology patients at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago
Location: London House, Chicago
Date: June 20
Attended: 134
Raised: \$26,600
Website: friendsof-marlenehp.org



From left: Stephen Falk of Hinsdale, President, Northwestern Memorial Hospital Foundation, Francine Pepitone of Chicago, Committee Chair of Friends of Marlene, Holly Gibout of Chicago, Vice President Northwestern Memorial Hospital Foundation.



From left: Susan Katz of Oak Park, Dr. Leonidas Platanius of Glencoe, Director of Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center, Catherine Dunlap of Old Norwood Park, Francine Pepitone of

HIGHWOOD CELEBRATES BLOODY MARY



Amy Mazur of Des Plaines and Adam Eggers of Norridge, representing Northbrook-based Pavillon Restaurant/Peterhof Banquet Hall, Bloody Mary Contest competitor, were on hand for the Seventh annual Bloody Mary Fest hosted by Highwood Chamber of Commerce in Highwood on July 31. The festivities featured drinks from 15 establishments competing for recognition of "Best Bloody Mary." The event raised more than \$300 for Northern Suburban Recreation Association. More at celebratehighwood.com.

LEE A. LITAS/PIONEER PRESS

WOMEN'S NETWORKING GROUP SUPPORTS BRIGHT PINK



JACKIE PILOSSOPH/PIONEER PRESS

Leanne Berry of Park Ridge, left, and Lisa Kaplin of Long Grove were among 150 guests at the Charitable Bright Pink Luncheon hosted by EPWNG, Exclusive Professional Women's Networking Group, Deerfield at Ravinia in Highland Park on July 14. The event raised more than \$20,000 to support Bright Pink, an organization that works to save women from breast and ovarian cancer through support and educational programs. More at epwng.com and brightpink.org.

Share your event

We want to publish your photos. To submit, visit community.chicagotribune.com or email sburrows@pioneerlocal.com.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
3350 N Carriageway Dr, # 202, Arlington Heights	Yully Kleban	Donna Julian	07-14-16	\$90,000
1621 N Windsor Dr, # 214, Arlington Heights	Kristina R Kittleson	Kevin P Nicolin	07-08-16	\$93,000
535 S Cleveland Ave, # 406, Arlington Heights	Milen Dimitrov	Gregory E Dreyer	07-08-16	\$105,500
1527 N Windsor Dr, # 308, Arlington Heights	Wanwan He & Xi Qin Lin	Sot2 Lic	07-11-16	\$115,000
2403 S Goebbert Rd, # F203, Arlington Heights	Gabriela Olejniczak	Wee Trust	07-14-16	\$118,000
1720 W Partridge Ln, # 1920 4, Arlington Heights	Ewa W Lis & Maciej Lis	Natalia Solov	07-14-16	\$125,000
1113 Holiday Ln, # 10, Des Plaines	Francia Panlagua & Milton Panlagua	Us Bank Trust Na Trustee	07-12-16	\$52,000
701 Elmhurst Rd, # D, Des Plaines	Manojkumar Patel & Sweta Patel	Jayawanth Bhasker	07-11-16	\$64,000
8974 N Western Ave, # 115, Des Plaines	Aneetta George	Pmt Npl Financing 2014 1	07-15-16	\$65,000
9335 Landings Ln, # 205, Des Plaines	Khundmir Syed	Caroline Aulfrere Estate	07-13-16	\$110,000
1308 Perry St, # A, Des Plaines	Michael Ronzio	Jca Fund 11 Llc	07-14-16	\$113,500
9375 Landings Ln, # 303, Des Plaines	James V Bartlett Jr & Olivia T Bartlett	Chicago Title Land Trust Co	07-13-16	\$120,000
1440 Jefferson St, # 3W, Des Plaines	Milan Zivadinovic	Jennifer R Pantoja	07-11-16	\$122,000
940 Beau Dr, # 303, Des Plaines	Maria Vasquez & Antonio Vasquez	Yvonne Wozniczka Doege	07-08-16	\$125,000
711 S River Rd, # 714, Des Plaines	David Disparte & Kathryn Disparte	Kluth Trust	07-08-16	\$145,000
1702 Mill St, # 302, Des Plaines	Alissa Lapore	Jose J De La Cruz	07-14-16	\$146,000
900 S River Rd, # 2B, Des Plaines	Anita Baran & Lukasz Baran	Kelvin Koma	07-12-16	\$154,000
9331 Landings Ln, # 205, Des Plaines	Olivia Isabel Brkljacic	Janusz Mallnowski	07-11-16	\$155,000
8662 Gregory Ln, # C, Des Plaines	Hardik Navi & Jyotika Hardik Navi	Anilkumar R Patel	07-12-16	\$155,500
1460 Wicke Ave, Des Plaines	Silvie Sabasova	Us Bank Na Trustee	07-07-16	\$157,000
711 S River Rd, # 711, Des Plaines	Joseph Stolz & Jennifer Stolz	Herman J Walter	07-15-16	\$159,000
21 S Warrington Rd, Des Plaines	Allena Mando & Sam Shabandir	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	07-14-16	\$160,000
9386 Landings Ln, # 401, Des Plaines	Lambe Bobby Papoullas & Androniki Papoullas	Anastasios Vaggelatos	07-13-16	\$161,500
186 Grove Ave, # C, Des Plaines	Anthony Lovitsch	Mary E Mchugh	07-14-16	\$163,000
1735 White St, Des Plaines	Tien Q Tat & Duyen T Ly	Haf 1735 Lic	07-14-16	\$166,000
8828 Dee Rd, Des Plaines	Funmilayo Joseph	Tomy Nella	07-14-16	\$172,000
9586 Potter Rd, Des Plaines	Sekh A Alam & Sabina Aftab	Jayabehen Soni	07-11-16	\$179,500
1678 Ash St, Des Plaines	Brian Podgorny & Kristl Podgorny	Lourdes M Zara	07-12-16	\$187,500
1166 Webster Ln, Des Plaines	Victoria Smith	Trisha Holub	07-13-16	\$194,000
1433 Perry St, # 302, Des Plaines	Wha Jung Kim & Yang Ja Kim	Antoaneta R Galabova	07-14-16	\$194,500
1766 Stockton Ave, Des Plaines	Aaron M Kipnis & Olivia Kipnis	George Rodighiero	07-13-16	\$195,000
1365 Jeannette St, Des Plaines	Juan Gomez Murillo & Elva Murillo	Vicente Marquez	07-11-16	\$200,000
9353 Dee Rd, Des Plaines	Amitkumar V Shah & Sweta K Shah	Phyllis A Grofman	07-07-16	\$200,000
1327 E Washington St, # 609, Des Plaines	Janet Zebrowski	Larolina Bocian	07-12-16	\$208,000
1152 Webster Ln, Des Plaines	Eric A Schar & Julia H Schar	Norbert J Paprocki	07-15-16	\$230,000
1730 Birch St, Des Plaines	Nicolle S Ancateu & Kosta Sunda	Helen A Lazzarotto	07-08-16	\$235,000
1788 Sycamore St, Des Plaines	Patryk Pieta	Marion Tenczar Estate	07-13-16	\$240,000
819 Graceland Ave, # 608, Des Plaines	Grant D Alexander & Megan Nuffer	Stephen M Rogers	07-07-16	\$242,000
9100 W Emerson St, Des Plaines	Khaleel Mohammed & Asra Sultana	Afzal R Siddiqui	07-08-16	\$245,000
9381 Harrison St, Des Plaines	Kyung Ae Kim	Dimitry Snezhkov	07-08-16	\$247,500
774 Hanbury Dr, Des Plaines	Wengul Xin & Jing Xu	Oliver Tso	07-14-16	\$250,000
9148 Barberry Ln, Des Plaines	Zaidan M Siddiqui	Sajl John	07-08-16	\$252,000
9349 Fern Ln, Des Plaines	Jitendra Patel & Nionica Patel	Abraham Mathai	07-07-16	\$252,500
563 N Mount Prospect Rd, Des Plaines	Jose M Graciano & Marayda C Graciano	Uranelia Kovacevic	07-08-16	\$256,000
354 Stratford Rd, Des Plaines	Raul Nasul	Johnson Trust	07-15-16	\$265,000
381 S Warrington Rd, Des Plaines	Nicholas Wayne Kaufman & Kelly Kaufman	Matthew D Yurkanin	07-11-16	\$265,000
2140 Westview Dr, Des Plaines	Shamir Bertrand	Chicago Title Land Trust Co	07-14-16	\$271,000
1012 Seymour Ave, Des Plaines	Raymond C Busk	Matthew G Spatzex	07-11-16	\$272,000
921 E Villa Dr, Des Plaines	Eileen M Noherty	Michael Franklin	07-13-16	\$274,500
431 Dover Dr, Des Plaines	John Edmund Anthony Forde & Catherine Vonesh Forde	Daniel A Magel	07-15-16	\$275,000
9044 Delphia Ave, Des Plaines	Sean Murphy & Michelle K Murphy	Arthur Kopec	07-14-16	\$280,000
364 Lawn Ln, Des Plaines	Duk Hwa Lee	Sharon Ann Snyder	07-13-16	\$282,500

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
2240 Spruce Ave, Des Plaines	Shannon Lee Mcavoy	Jimmy R Ziemann	07-15-16	\$295,500
121 Princeton St, Des Plaines	Deborah Omara	Andre Ordeanu	07-15-16	\$296,000
318 Laurel Ave, Des Plaines	Shu Hou Yeh & Kuo Ling Chung	Lina Liu	07-13-16	\$300,000
1338 S 6th Ave, Des Plaines	Raymond J Costello & Deborah J Costello	Thomas Helma	07-07-16	\$310,000
543 La Salle St, Des Plaines	Robert E Smith & Jennifer A Rice	Thomas Mazzola	07-14-16	\$343,000
1310 Middleton Ct, Des Plaines	Ronald A Pasko	Howard J Nagle	07-13-16	\$499,500
291 Stratford Rd, Des Plaines	John Poomduang & Julie Poomduang	Steven M Foresta	07-08-16	\$530,000
5506 Lincoln Ave, # 414, Morton Grove	Marius Scaunas	Diane Lynn Van Houghton	07-08-16	\$75,000
8620 Waukegan Rd, Morton Grove	Emile Khoury & Christine Bishary Khoury	Chu Orn Hays	07-07-16	\$85,000
7730 Dempster St, # 402, Morton Grove	Albert Salom	Glenn Zimmerman	07-13-16	\$117,000
7915 Linder Ave, Morton Grove	John Cornici	Samuel Cieszynski	07-11-16	\$195,000
6401 Lincoln Ave, # 506, Morton Grove	William Yu & Angela Pan Yu	Rena Laurent Hamm Jr	07-11-16	\$209,500
8833 Harlem Ave, Morton Grove	Darwin Cain & Maria Cain	Berta Scherschel Estate	07-15-16	\$237,000
8804 Oleander Ave, Morton Grove	Muhanad Mahdi & Sahar Allawi	Allne Dorante	07-15-16	\$278,000
7054 Church St, Morton Grove	Kimberly J Phillips	Rembert P Corrales	07-15-16	\$290,000
7663 Greenwood St, Morton Grove	Elvira T Burro & Rommel Burro	Helena Siota	07-11-16	\$290,000
8644 Frontage Rd, Morton Grove	Rita Shamon & Wilson Ishaq	Mohammed O Abbasi	07-14-16	\$322,500
5435 Keeney St, Morton Grove	Zeeshan Farooq	Manhal Odisho	07-11-16	\$345,000
9210 Ozark Ave, Morton Grove	Adam Wrobel & Marcin Pietrasz-kiewicz	George Yacoub	07-12-16	\$375,000
7731 Maple St, Morton Grove	George Koumbis & Theonie Koumbis	Mark N Mckelvey	07-13-16	\$395,000
7845 Lyons St, Morton Grove	Richard D Oribello & Vanessa T Ramos	Adam Investments Llc	07-12-16	\$420,000
7116 Church St, Morton Grove	Lauren J Schulman	Monica Iusco	07-08-16	\$435,000
7900 Central Ave, Morton Grove	Hieu L Tran & Michelle Tran	Vedat Duro	07-14-16	\$650,000
8801 W Golf Rd, Niles	Mehin Williams & Alice Williams	Mildred Feklman	07-12-16	\$68,500
9128 W Terrace Dr, # 2A, Niles	Marlou Gregorio	Peter Meister	07-07-16	\$125,000
9118 W Elmwood Dr, # 5C, Niles	Raymund Burgos	Kang Suk Park	07-15-16	\$147,500
8619 W Park Ln, Niles	John Puskarz	Peegan Development Inc	07-14-16	\$150,000
8615 W Park Ln, Niles	John Puskarz	J Simon Llc	07-14-16	\$150,000
8815 W Golf Rd, # 3, Niles	George Rosca	Liver Jasarevic	07-07-16	\$170,000
7120 N Milwaukee Ave, # 409, Niles	Paul Linas	Mary C Kokot Estate	07-07-16	\$200,000
8344 N New England Ave, Niles	Mariana Cebotari	Renee A Wagner	07-12-16	\$270,000
8238 N Milwaukee Ave, Niles	Christian L Kopp & Sophia Kopp	David J Disparte	07-12-16	\$282,000
7319 W Greenleaf St, Niles	Selviye Arifi	Florin D Beniuc	07-15-16	\$350,000
8236 N Neva Ave, Niles	Tom Joseph & Olga Joseph	Margaret Jenkins	07-15-16	\$360,000
1419 W Touhy Ave, # 12, Park Ridge	Huamao Chen	Pat Hallihan	07-12-16	\$128,500
1301 W Touhy Ave, # 308, Park Ridge	Marko Shvets	Kate De La Pasqua	07-15-16	\$132,000
44 Park Ln, # 125, Park Ridge	Paul Carbonaro	Linda M Harty	07-07-16	\$210,000
120 N Clifton Ave, # 6B, Park Ridge	Anna Healy & Anthony Healy	Jennifer Gora	07-13-16	\$250,000
131 Joyce Pl, Park Ridge	Skaron Kreuser	Clifford R Diehl	07-07-16	\$277,000
708 Parkwood Ave, Park Ridge	Owen A Slater & Rachel Tomlinson	Norman Grandos	07-15-16	\$285,000
44 Park Ln, Park Ridge	Domenico Defrenza	Daniela L Benigno	07-11-16	\$290,000
1300 Peterson Ave, Park Ridge	Eastman Tiu & Juliet Tiu	Domingo T Tiu	07-07-16	\$330,000
2008 Canfield Rd, Park Ridge	Zachary Fiscus & Jacqueline C Fiscus	Adam Hoge	07-15-16	\$335,000
305 S Dee Rd, Park Ridge	Benjamin G Foster & Kathleen A Foster	Kyle A Rahrig	07-12-16	\$340,000
1132 Tyrell Ave, Park Ridge	Matthew Packer & Natalie Berg	Thomas Reich	07-15-16	\$415,000
1632 Linden Ave, Park Ridge	Christlan A Zapata & Joanne Amador Zapata	Richard J Bake	07-11-16	\$485,000
170 Marguerite St, Park Ridge	Joy Maxwell	Labree Trust	07-14-16	\$506,000
299 S Northwest Hwy, Park Ridge	Robyn E Steger	Brighton Mews Venture Llc	07-13-16	\$509,500
733 S Hamlin Ave, Park Ridge	James Fusco & Melissa Fusco	James P O Mara	07-11-16	\$510,000
622 Florence Dr, Park Ridge	Nicholas P Hoeft & Pantra S Hoeft	Sean K Patel	07-15-16	\$525,000
1005 Peale Ave, Park Ridge	Alex R Nichols & Lisa F Nichols	Janice Berman	07-15-16	\$670,000
310 N Aldine Ave, Park Ridge	Maxmillian Karpiak & Leslie C Karpiak	Patricia E Wagner	07-07-16	\$705,000
515 S Fairview Ave, Park Ridge	Brian Kiernan & Susan Kiernan	John Joseph Zqne	07-11-16	\$1,100,000

This list is not intended to be a complete record of all real estate transactions.

Data compiled by Record Information Services ■ 630-557-1000 ■ public-record.com



ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

Three-bedroom, two-bath built in 1960. Gourmet kitchen and two baths remodeled, newer roof and windows, workout room, fenced in backyard with sprinkler system. Near schools, shopping and Metra.

Address: 424 S. Evanston Ave.
Price: \$450,000
Schools: Prospect High School
Taxes: \$6,682
Agent: The Stick with Steve Team, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage



PARK RIDGE

Three-bedroom, 1.5-bath ranch built in 1958. Two fireplaces, half bath in master bedroom, two-car garage, patio with wooded view. Near schools, parks, shopping and Metra.

Address: 2501 Irwin Ave.
Price: \$349,900
Schools: Maine South High School
Taxes: \$6,859.75
Agent: Tim Perry, RE/MAX Properties Northwest



LINCOLNSHIRE

Three-bedroom, 2.5-bath home in gated community built in 1994. Open floor plan, updated kitchen, new hardwood floors, newer mechanicals and landscaped yard. Near schools, parks, shopping, library and transit.

Address: 560 Rivershire Place
Price: \$510,000
Schools: Stevenson High School
Taxes: \$11,746
Agent: Kathy Yunhee Yim An, Timenet Real Estate Inc.



WINNETKA

Five-bedroom, 5.5-bath brick design home built in 1996. Open floor plan, 13 total rooms, formal stairway with chandelier, chef's kitchen, library and master bedroom suite. Near Metra, shopping, schools and lakefront.

Address: 79 Indian Hill Road
Price: \$1,885,000
Schools: New Trier Township High School Winnetka
Taxes: \$42,871
Agent: Maureen Mohling, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Winnetka

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Listings are subject to change. Please call the venue in advance.

Thursday, August 18

The Honeydogs and Dusty Heart: 7:30 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$25, 847-492-8860

Evanston Art Center Call for Artists: The arts and crafts offered at the annual Winter Expo include original works of jewelry, ceramics, fiber, metal, glass, painting, photography, mixed media and more. For more information and to submit your application, visit the event website. A \$30 non-refundable application fee entitles artists to submit a maximum of four images. All week, 12:15 p.m. Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, \$30, 847-475-5300

Society Artwork In Residence Program: The Evanston Art Center launches an inaugural artwork-in-residence program, inviting six artists to move into 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 address the residency theme Society during their stay. 9 a.m. Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300

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 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

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

The Art Of War Art exhibit: Barbara Goldsmith of Evanston has artwork that consists of a series of sculptures which are evocative of implements of war. They are called the Armor Series. It is said that art reflects the times and that war is ever thus. 10 a.m. All week, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, free, 847-859-7835

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 Lems. 10 a.m. All week, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, free, 773-816-4716

Hidden Art of Trees: Beyond The Hidden Art of Trees showcases some of the Midwest's most talented wood artisans and the materials that inspire them. The grain, the color, and even random defects in the wood motivate these artists to create some of the most stunning and unique furniture and bowls. 8 a.m. All week, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glenview, free, 847-835-5440

Summer History Tours at The Grove: The Grove is an ideal place for a day trip with the kids that's close to home this summer. 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. Aug. 18 to Aug. 20. The Grove, 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, free, 847-299-6096

European Genealogy: Discover the process for researching ancestors in European sources. Glenview Library card required. 2 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Books N' Bites: Register starting July 21, for an offsite book discussion on School-Assigned Books, (snacks provided). Meet at the Lincolnwood Library at 4 p.m., so the group can walk to Meatheads. 4 p.m. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Summer Storytime In Madeleine's Garden at Proesel Park: Bring a blanket and enjoy 30 minutes of stories and outdoor activities geared toward birth through five year olds. The children must be accompanied by a caregiver. No registration is required, but in case of rain, storytime is canceled. 10 a.m.

Aug. 18 and Aug. 20, Proesel Park, 7055 Kostner Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Hot Ticket: Eddie the Eagle: The story of Eddie Edwards, the notoriously tenacious British underdog ski jumper who charmed the world at the 1988 Winter Olympics. 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Google Apps for Work and Play: On a Mobile Device: Learn what free Google Applications do, get tips on using Google Maps, photos, hangouts and more. Registration limited to six. Prerequisite: Must be experienced and comfortable with computer, keyboard and mouse. 7 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Wonder Ground Open Lab: Look, touch, tinker, and play with an intriguing array of science-oriented curiosities in this new space designed especially for kids. A drop-in visit is meant to last about 15 minutes. Activities are repeated each week from Tuesday to Thursday. The Wonder Ground is a STEAM playground for kids. 4 p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Park Ridge Fly Tying Club Meetings: Chicago Fly Fishers Club meet at 7 p.m. Thursdays from October through May. Demonstrations of fly tying are performed by an experienced demonstrator. The members have an opportunity to tie the same pattern using tools and materials provided by the club. 7 p.m. Park Ridge Community Church, 100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-3164

Wiggle While You Walk on the Library Lawn: From now through August, you are invited to take a Story-Walk® featuring the boo "Wiggle" by Doreen Cronin. This energetic book about an animated dog who wiggles in a variety of funny situations is worth imitating. There are also interactive features added like hula hoops, maracas and a special surprise inside the library. Come follow this fun family activity for kids of all ages. 9 a.m. All week, 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. 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

cover bands. The weekly concerts occur every Thursday from June 2 through 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, 847-349-5554

2016 Wizard World Chicago: Thousands of fans are on hand to celebrate the best in pop culture: movies, comics, cosplay, video gaming, television, original art, collectibles and more. Carrie Fisher, Michael J. Fox, Sebastian Stan, David Duchovny, Gillian Anderson, Christopher Lloyd, Lea Thompson and Rosario Dawson are among the celebrities and industry professionals at the 2016 Wizard World Comic Con Chicago. 3 p.m. Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 N. River Road, Rosemont, \$40 - \$900, 310-648-8410

Skokie Photographic Society: The group meets on the third Thursday of each month. All levels of photographic skill are welcome. 7:30 p.m. Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton St., Skokie, free, 847-677-8324

Ignite A Networking Power Workshop: Ignite is the perfect power breakfast meeting for CEOs, senior marketing executives and sales leaders responsible for driving company growth. Reserve your spot today and join in an early morning meeting of educational workshopping. 7:30 a.m. Aug. 18 and Aug. 23, OneIMS, 8833 Gross Point Road, Skokie, free, 888-663-4671

Special Exhibition Three Years, Eight Months, and Twenty Days: The Cambodian Atrocities and the Search for Justice: Learn about the Cambodian genocide and the current trials to bring the perpetrators to justice, 40 years later. 10 a.m. All week, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4835

Friday, Aug. 19

Des Plaines Farmers' Market: City of Des Plaines Farmers' Market is every Friday, open until 7 p.m. on Ellinwood Street starting at Lee Street. Parking is available in the Library parking garage off Prairie Street or on Ellinwood between Pearson and River Road. 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 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines, free, 847-

Turn to Calendar, Next Page

AUCTIONS

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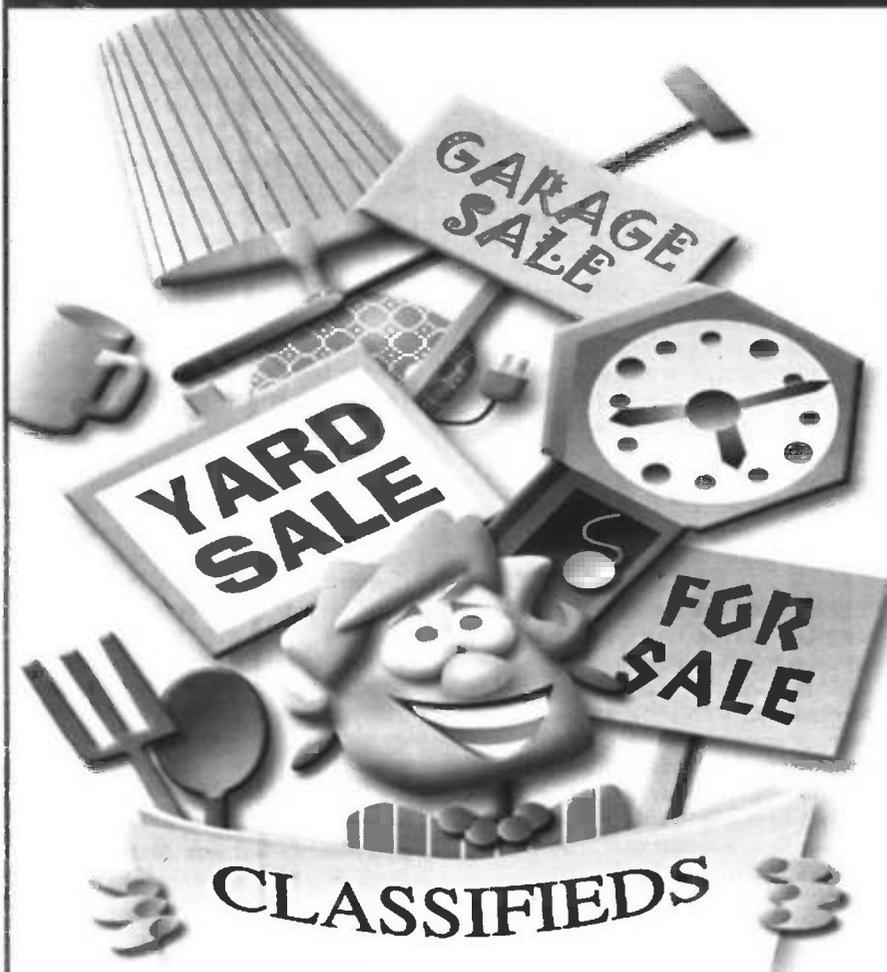
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Calendar, from Previous Page

827-5551

Kevin Griffin: 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$25-\$45, 847-492-8860

Stories in the Sun Drop-in Storytime: Bring a blanket to just drop in to join Miss Meleesa and her special guests at locations around Glenview for outdoor songs, stories and fun. Stop by or call Youth Services for storytime locations. The rain location is: Community Room West. 11 a.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

"The Lady in the Van": Just drop in to see this story about a man who forms an unexpected bond with a transient woman (Dame Maggie Smith). She is living in her van that is parked on his driveway. This film is rated PG-13. 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

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 Surinsky, an exercise physiologist. 10 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, \$10-\$15, 847-502-0630

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

"Defending The Caveman": Ben Tedder stars in the 25th Anniversary off-Broadway tour of the longest running solo show in Broadway history. This prehistoric look at the battle of the sexes is full of wonderful scenarios that celebrate the differences between men and women, making it a perfect entertainment option for couples, or girls' night out. 8 p.m. Aug. 19, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 20 and 3 p.m. Aug. 21, Skokie Theatre, 7924 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie, \$40, 847-677-7761

Niles North Theatre "Deathtrap" Presentation: The Niles North Theatre Department opens the 2016-17 season with the Director's Circle production of "Deathtrap" by Ira Levin. Tickets may be purchased by calling the Box Office. There is a free community performance held at 10 a.m. on Aug. 18. 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Aug. 18 and Aug. 19, Drama Performance Center, 9800 Lawler Ave., Skokie, \$10, 847-626-2122

Saturday, Aug. 20

Polyglots Toastmasters meeting: Polyglots is the only Toastmasters International Club in the United States that conducts its meetings in German. If you speak German or want to keep it fresh or improve it, visit this club. Go to their website at www.polyglotstoastmasters.org/ and their meetup at www.meetup.com/Polyglots-Toastmasters-German-speaking/. Please email andrew.weiler.uiuc@gmail.com for the current location, as sometimes they meet at places other than the Des Plaines Library. 9:30 a.m. Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines, free, 847-827-5551

Putt for the Pantry Mini-Golf Fundraiser: The Self-Help Closet & Pantry of Des Plaines hosts its fourth annual summer fundraiser, a miniature golf event for all ages. Noon, Mountain View Adventure Center, 515 E. Algonquin Road, Des Plaines, Varies, 847-375-1443

Evanston Farmers Market: Shop for fresh produce, meat, cheese, baked goods, flowers and more from 51 vendors. Please note: LINK cards are accepted. 7:30 a.m. Oak Avenue and University Place, 1090 University Place, Evanston, free, 847-448-8045

Jon Cleary: 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$20-\$35, 847-492-8860

FUSE: Studio: Drop in with friends to wire LEDs, compose a ringtone, build an amp, mix chemicals to make gel beads, navigate a robot obstacle course and more. For grades six to 12. mid-night Saturday, Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston, free, 847-448-8600

Overeaters Anonymous: Overeaters Anonymous meets Saturdays. Newcomer meeting on the last Saturday of the month. No dues, fees or weigh-ins. 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 Sculfield 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" are

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. Aug. 20 and Aug. 21, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, \$3 kids, \$5 adults, 847-475-1030

Spotlight Tours: The Mitchell Museum Garden: Learn how plants in the museum's garden were significant to Native people. 10:30 a.m. Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-1030

"Single Black Female": This is a two-woman show with rapid-fire comic vignettes that explore the lives of thirty-something African American middle class women in urban America. Watch as they search for love, clothes and dignity in a world that fails to recognize them among a parade of stereotypical images. 7 p.m. Aug. 20 and 3 p.m. Aug. 21, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$12-\$17, 847-866-5914

Jazz Meets Blues Concert III: Featuring internationally renowned jazz bassist Marlene Rosenberg, and Delta bluesman David "Chainsaw" Dupont. 7 p.m. Aug. 20 and 3 p.m. Aug. 21, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$12, 847-866-5915

Glenview Farmers Market at Wagner Farm: A free weekly event, this farmers market takes place rain or shine. Shop for seasonal fruits and vegetables, flowers, homemade jellies and preserves, cheese and eggs. Free parking is available. For a full list of vendors and special market events visit the event website. 8 a.m. Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview, free, 847-657-1506

Mr Dave Morning Show: Get your Saturday started with Mr. Dave's mix of classics, covers and original songs; guaranteed to get the entire family moving and shaking. 10:30 a.m. The Book Market at Hangar One, 2651 Navy Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-904-7304

Glow In The Dark Golf: Grab your clubs and a flashlight for the most fun you can legally have on a golf course after dark. This outing includes all the "neon" you'll need to navigate nine holes. Spaces fill up quickly, so advance registration is required. 8 p.m. Aug. 20 and 5 p.m. Aug. 21, Glenview Prairie Club, 2800 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, \$25 per person, 847-657-1637

Family Night Golf: After 5 p.m., groups of up to six players can play for

the flat fee of just \$30. Some restrictions apply. 8 p.m. Aug. 20 and 5 p.m. Aug. 21, Glenview Prairie Club, 2800 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, \$30 for up to 6 player group, 847-657-1637

A Preschool Concert with Karen and Carl: Infants to 5-year-olds, with a caregiver are welcome to dance and enjoy Karen and Carl's interactive music for young children and their families. 10 a.m. Liberty Bank, 6666 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Get Hooked Crafts with Basic Journal Binding: Register to learn several simple binding techniques for handmade journals. 10 a.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Roaring Fun with Renee Rosen: Join us for a presentation and a discussion with Renee Rosen, author of numerous books including "Dollface: A Novel of the Roaring Twenties," about the time when Chicago was filled with gangsters, flappers and fabulous fashion. The program is organized in association with the Morton Grove Historical Museum and will feature a collection of photos, fashion and memorabilia documenting Morton Grove through the lens of the wild 1920s. 2 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Morton Grove Farmers Market: Shop for locally produced fruits and vegetables, flowers, crafts, baked goods, pantry items, body products and more at this weekly market. Extras include live music and entertainment for kids. 8 a.m. Dempster Street and Georgiana Avenue, 6210 Dempster St., Morton Grove, free, 847-750-6436

Anime and Manga Club: Gather with fellow fans to watch and discuss anime and manga, draw fan art, make cosplay costumes. 2 p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Park Ridge Farmers Market: Shop for fresh produce, soap, olive oils, flowers, pickles, pasta baked goods and meat. The weekly market also features live music and kids activities. Help give back to the community by bringing canned goods to the market to donate to the New Hope Food Pantry. 7 a.m. Prairie Avenue and Main Street, 15 Prairie Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-309-2433

The Burke Group Community Recycle and Donation Event: TBG is partnering with the Village of Rosemont to host this event that allows area resi-

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dents and employees to get rid of unwanted items in a responsible, environmentally-friendly way. 10 a.m. The Burke Group, 9575 W. Higgins Road, Rosemont, free

Preserving Survivor Stories: Ask Holocaust Survivor Pinchas Gutter any question you would like, and natural language technology software will respond as if Pinchas were in the room. 10:30 a.m. Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800

Sunday, Aug. 21

Radney Foster: 7 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$18-\$34, 847-492-8860

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

Cavalry's Role in the 1860s: Barry Burget presents a program about the cavalry's role in the 1860s. 2 p.m. Glenview History Center Farmhouse, 1121 N. Waukegan Road, Glenview, \$5 suggested donation, 847-724-2235

jBaby Chicago Bagels in the Park (Glenview): jBaby Chicago invites you to come schmooze, eat and play in the park. jBaby Chicago helps expectant parents and families with children 0-24 months make connections, build community, and explore Jewish life through playgroups, classes and events. 10 a.m. Little Bear Garden Park, Patriot Blvd. & Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 312-357-4907

The Jazz Community Big Band in Park Ridge: Come join in Sunday worship with a Big Band. A good-will offering is taken and all are welcome. 10 a.m. Park Ridge Community Church, 100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge, freewill offering, 847-823-3164

Skokie Farmers Market: Farmers and vendors from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin sell fresh-picked vegetables, fruits and flowers along with cheese, baked goods, coffee, sauces and spices. 7:30 a.m. Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton St., Skokie, free, 847-673-0500

Monday, Aug. 22

Brother John Kattke & Barrelhouse Chuck: 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$8, 847-492-8860

Book Bables: 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, 847-448-8600

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

Lakeside Yoga at Park Center Lakeview Patio Lawn: Enjoy the tranquility of a beautiful lakeside setting for a blissful start to your week. Yoga classes are free and open to the public. Please bring your own yoga mat. 6:30 p.m. Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

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 Playgroup: Drop-in play time 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. 10:30 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. Don't forget your current knitting projects and needles! 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

Lego Club: For students in kindergarten through eighth grades to join in this club on the fourth Monday of each month to create masterpieces at this new Lego Club. No registration is necessary. 4:30 p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Small Dog Training: The four-week, Small Dogs Only Training class, begins on Aug. 8, at Dogs In the Ring, in Skokie. For more information, call or go to website. 1 p.m. Dogs in the Ring, 7243 N. Saint Louis Ave., Skokie, \$120, 847-677-0696

Tuesday, Aug. 23

Junior Brown: With Michele McGuire. 7:30 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave.,

Evanston, \$20-\$45, 847-492-8860

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

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 Tour, a close-up view of the gardens on the main island, or the Grand Tram 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

Summer Theater Live: The summer season can end with "Love is a Many Splintered Thing," four short plays performed by the talented actors from Glenview's own Oil Lamp Theater. Enjoy an intimate evening of theater at your library and the Oil Lamp's signature cookies. 7 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

CJE SeniorLife Counseling Appointments: CJE SeniorLife Resource Specialists provide counseling to adults 60 and over, their families, and caregivers. Counseling includes topics such as selecting appropriate retirement benefits, picking the right health insurance and Medicare programs, determining housing needs and identifying supportive resources. 9:30 a.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Movies, Munchies & More: Catch Me If You Can: A gifted forger and con man attempts to stay one step ahead of the lawman determined to bring him to justice. 11:30 a.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

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

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

TEDxNorthbrookLibrary The Evolu-

tion of Music: Join in watching pre-recorded Ted Talks about "The Evolution of Music" and enjoy discussion afterward. David Byrne: "How Architecture Helped Music Evolve;" Mark Ronson: "How Sampling Transformed Music." This is part of the library's Rock Music Month. 7 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Chicago YIVO - Stewart Figa: Stewart Figa is an established and in-demand performer of Yiddish and Jewish music. He performed several seasons in Yiddish theater productions in New York City where he had the rare privilege of working with some of the legendary greats of the pre-war Yiddish stage, including Leon Liebgold, Seymour Rexite, Reizel Boyzck and Max Perlman. Also featuring Ilya Levinson, Piano and Don Stille. 2 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Camera Club: The club meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month. 10 a.m. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-3597

Life Transitions Group: A support group for men and women who have been widowed for one to four years. The group is volunteer-facilitated and held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. 7 p.m. Park Ridge Nonprofit Center, 720 Garden St., Park Ridge, \$5 per session, 847-720-4170

Country in the Park Free Summer Concert Series: 7 p.m. Bub City, 5441 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 312-610-4200

TED Talks for College: Watch some of "The Top Ten TED Talks" for teens before they leave home for school. This is a great way to start preparing yourself for life away at school with helpful tips and insights into the upcoming adventure. 4 p.m. Winnetka Youth Organization, 620 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka, free, 847-446-0443

Wednesday, Aug. 24

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

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Bensenville Farmers Market: Shop for fresh produce and specialty foods from a variety of vendors. 5:30 p.m. Railroad Avenue and Center Street, Railroad Avenue between Center Street and York Road, Bensenville, free, 630-766-8200

The Slamovlan Circus of Dreams: 7:30 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$25, 847-492-8860

Live Music Wednesdays with the Josh Rzepka 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

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

Pop-Up Library at Starbucks: Lincolnwood Public Library is popping up in various places throughout the summer. Popular materials are available to

check out through the mobile circulation. 8 a.m. Starbucks Coffee, 4368 W. Touhy Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Chess Club: Whether you're a skilled player looking for a challenge or a beginner interested in learning new skills, all are welcome at this new, weekly Chess Club. Chess sets and clocks provided. 7 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Wednesday Classic Film Series "Purple Rain": "Purple Rain" is being shown as part of the Wednesday Classic Film Series. 1 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224.

Free College Search Session: Join experts Jill and Jordan Burstein from JJB Educational Consultants, to learn the imperative information needed to ensure successful transitions from high school to college. 7 p.m. Five Seasons Sports Club, 1300 Techny Road, Northbrook, free, 847-940-8090

Northbrook Farmers Market: Shop for farm fresh fruits, veggies, cheese, 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

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

Eric and Kathy's Concert for the Kids: Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter Gavin DeGraw performs selections of his hit songs live. This event is hosted by 101.9 FM THE MIX morning hosts Eric Ferguson and Kathy Hart, to raise funds benefiting Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital. 7:30 p.m. MB Financial Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 773-969-5039

Interviewing: An interactive workshop for attendees to gain the knowledge and confidence necessary to enter an interview fully prepared. To register for Career Moves workshops, go to jvschicago-syhum.formstack.com/

forms/career_identity. To learn more about the workshops, go to the event website, call or email andrealevas-seur@jvschicago.org. The Workshop Fees are: for Career Moves clients, \$10 per workshop and for non-clients, \$20 per workshop. 9:30 a.m. Goldie Bachmann Luftig Building, 5150 Golf Road, Skokie, free, 847-745-5460

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

Taste On Chestnut Offers Garden To Table Summer Cooking: This summer cooking series features three uniquely themed, hands-on cooking demonstrations on how to prepare the finest dishes using the freshest ingredients from your home garden or farmers market. 5 p.m. Taste on Chestnut, 505 Chestnut St., Winnetka, \$55, 847-441-0134

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

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Jay, Ambassador

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MOVIES

NOW PLAYING



"Suicide Squad" ★ 1/2

PG-13, 2:10, action/adventure

In the new DC Comics movie "Suicide Squad," a gaggle of surly sociopaths, coupled with some "metahumans," set aside their basic natures to work together fighting a common enemy. But this is a lousy script, blobby like the endlessly beheaded minions of the squad's chief adversary. It's not satisfying storytelling; the flashbacks roll in and out, explaining either too much or too little, and the action may be violent but it's not interesting. Will

Smith takes top billing as Deadshot, the world's most lethal hit man. Deadshot refers to the tornadolike doomsday machine being assembled, endlessly, by the evil Enchantress as "a swirling ring of trash." That's "Suicide Squad" in a nutshell. — *Michael Phillips*



"Jason Bourne" ★★★

PG-13, 2:03, action/adventure

Jason Bourne is back, after nine long years in cold franchise storage. That time gap explains why the new film "Jason Bourne" puts quotes around its conflicted super-assassin's full fake name. We know it, according to the ads. We know his name. But just in case. Matt Damon has settled nicely into this largely nonverbal role of a trained killer piecing together his past on the fly, while killing those who are trying to kill him. At its best, "Ja-

son Bourne" crackles with professionalism; at its worst, it's rehashing greatest hits (as in, "assassinations") from earlier films. If a summer picture can be both vaguely disappointing yet worth seeing in relation to its multiplex neighbors, "Jason Bourne" is that picture. — *M.P.*



"Bad Moms" ★★

R, 1:41, comedy

As surely as most mothers can't win, "Bad Moms" can't lose. Certainly it can't lose with moms who've endured, through gritted teeth, one too many R-rated guy comedies. This movie represents a vacation from mean-spirited sexism like "The Hangover." Or does it? Amy, played by Mila Kunis, runs her life as an exercise in just-in-time management. "Bad Moms" takes Amy's maelstrom of a life just seriously enough to connect with

all sorts of parents. Amy's work issues are solved in two absurd lines of dialogue. Her love life is solved by a conveniently located sensitive widower hunk (Jay Hernandez). "Bad Moms" keeps settling for less than it should, given all the talent on screen. — *M.P.*



"The Secret Life of Pets" ★★★

PG, 1:31, animated

It may not have the emotional resonance of a Pixar movie, but with its playful premise and endearing performances, "The Secret Life of Pets" is fun, family- (and animal-) friendly fare. The pets are given voice by an all-star cast that includes Louis C.K., Kevin Hart, Jenny Slate and Albert Brooks. Little terrier Max (C.K.) is the top dog in the life of his owner, Katie (Ellie Kemper), until she brings home a giant, fluffy mutt named Duke (Eric

Stonestreet). It's fun to imagine what pets get into when no one is home, and "Pets" does a great job of taking that idea to an extreme. — *Sandy Cohen, Associated Press*



"Star Trek Beyond" ★★

PG-13, 2:02, sci-fi

"Things have started to feel a little ... episodic," acknowledges James T. Kirk in his famous captain's log, three long years into a five-year gig. That line, cheeky and knowing, comes early in "Star Trek Beyond." The latest film in this franchise isn't quite up to the 2009 and 2013 movies. But it's still fun, you still care about the people and the effects manage to look a little more elegant and interesting than usual. The nemesis this time is a

lizard fellow named Krall, played by Idris Elba, which means he has the coolest voice in the universe. — *M.P.*

DEATH NOTICES

We extend our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

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Death Notices

Brown, Marilyn Nielsen

Marilyn Nielsen Brown, a resident of Orinda, Moraga and Walnut Creek for over 54 years, passed away unexpectedly on August 8, 2016, surrounded by her loved ones. She was 88 years old. Born in Chicago on February 2, 1928, to Ellen Gwendolyn Hughes and Stewart Erwin Nielsen, Marilyn graduated from Maine Township High School in Park Ridge where

she was recognized for scholarship. She went on to Colorado College and then University of Colorado at Boulder where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Education, and was a sister in the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. During this time Marilyn met her future husband, Gene Dwight Hagler, and they married in 1952. Gene's career took them coast-to-coast until they ultimately settled in Orinda in 1962. A working mother, Marilyn dedicated her career to education. She taught elementary school in both the Orinda and Lafayette school districts in many capacities: 28 years as a classroom teacher and the remainder in SIP coordination, gifted instruction, and special education. She retired in 1992.

Marilyn had always been "one" with plants and loved to spend time in the garden creating masterpieces of color and design. She was a long standing member of the Orinda Valley Garden Club, and dedicated many hours to research, discussion, and plantings in her garden. Her love included managing the altar flower arrangements in the sanctuary at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church (LOPC), where she was a member of the congregation since 1963.

Giving back to the community through volunteer work was one of Marilyn's passions. She was active in the local P.E.O. chapter and coordinated the Rossmoor library volunteers. When her children were young she taught Sunday school at the LOPC. Marilyn was preceded in death by Gene Hagler, her parents, her brother Stewart Erwin Nielsen Jr. and her daughter Deborah Lee Hagler. She is survived by her youngest brother, Michael Alan Nielsen, her two sons, Christopher Stewart Hagler (Heidi) and Richard Dwight Hagler (Vera), and her four grandchildren, Justin Robert Hagler, Natalie Gwendolyn Hagler, Hanna Ellen Hagler, and Andrew Charles Hagler.

Throughout her life, Marilyn was truly grateful for her many friends and family and reveled in her Grandma status, cherishing special moments with each of her grandchildren. She was very active and loved to play bridge, golf, bird watch, travel, and take walks around Rossmoor. Her boundless love, energy and vitality will be missed by all. The Kurth Memorial Garden, located along the length of the LOPC sanctuary, will be her final resting place.

Friends and family are invited to attend a memorial service on August 20 at 2PM at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church in Lafayette, CA. In lieu of flowers, Marilyn requested that donations be made to the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church Foundation, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette, CA 94549, or to the charity of your choice.

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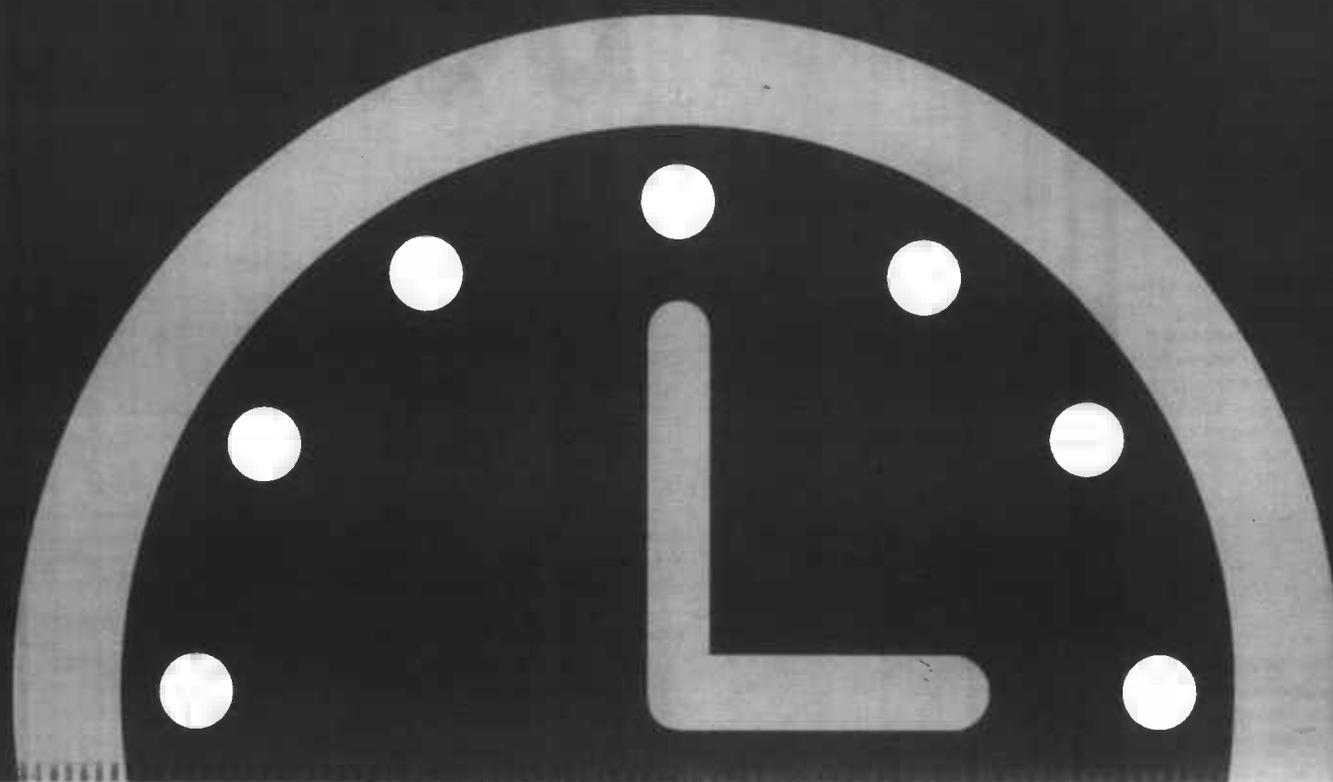
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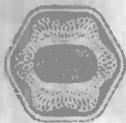
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AREA TEAMS AT A GLANCE

BY GARY LARSEN AND BRETT CHRISTIE
Pioneer Press

Niles North

Coach: Terri Vander Jeugd

2015: Lost to New Trier in a Class 4A regional semifinal

Key returners: Sr. MH Isis Evans, Jr. OH Alyssa Aragon, So. OH Veronica Walinski

Outlook: The Vikings only graduated two starters from last year's team, but one of them was Carolyn Dwyer, a key outside hitter. Vander Jeugd said she expects Walinski and Aragon to replace Dwyer. Evans, a third-year varsity player, is a mobile blocker who brings court sense and leadership to the fold, according to Vander Jeugd.

Keep an eye on: Vernon Hills moves into the Central Suburban North this year, sending the Vikings from the conference's North division to its South division. The Central Suburban South features bigger schools like New Trier and Evanston.

Vander Jeugd believes that teams from schools with large enrollments who take her Vikings lightly "are going to be surprised," she said. "We maybe have six kids that play on a club team, where all of the players at some of the CSL teams are high-level club players. But we have the mental toughness to be more than competitive. We're going to play aggressive and play in defensive mode."

Niles West

Coach: Stacy Metoyer

2015 record: 21-11 (5-2 Central Suburban South), lost in a Class 4A regional semifinal to Rolling Meadows

Key returners: Sr. S Eleni Balourdos, Sr. OH Kaila Johanson, So. OH Natalia Pehar, Jr. M Nicole Zelazko, Sr. DS Bianca Tomuta

Outlook: Niles West returns the core of last year's team. The Wolves will possess a prolific offense, according to Metoyer, with talented outside hitters in Johanson and Pehar. Metoyer said her main concern is her team's ability to serve with consistency.

Keep an eye on: Balourdos, who is entering her third season as the team's primary setter, makes the offense go. The 5-foot-8 Balourdos will once again have plenty of options to set to, including Johanson and Pehar. Last season she had 1,528 assists, 109 digs, 66 aces and 38 blocks for the Wolves.

"She's been an all-conference performer for us and has been a key in running our offense the last three years," Metoyer said. "So we'll rely heavily on her."

Maine East

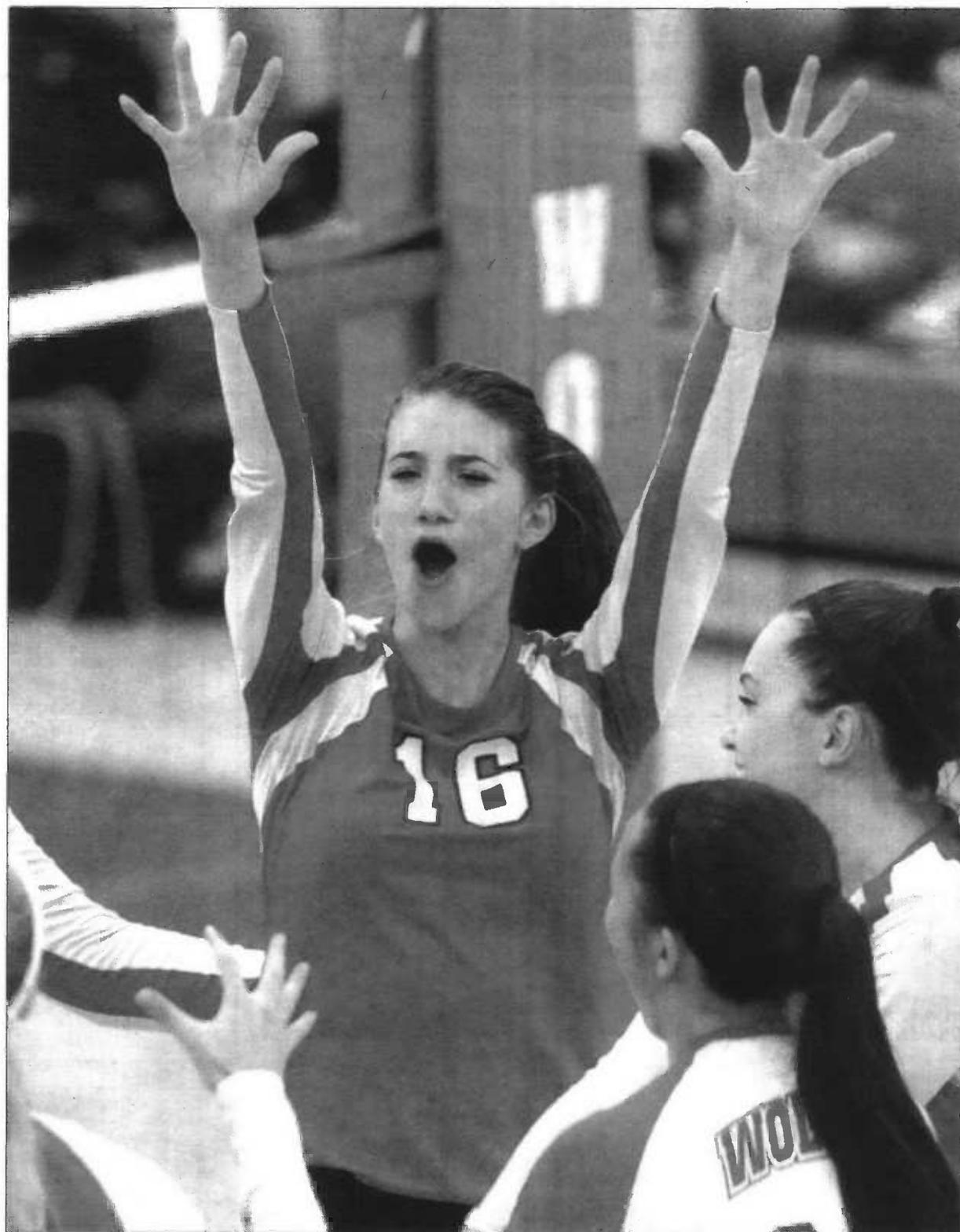
Coach: Kevin Bohn

2015 record: 13-19 (6-4 Central Suburban North), lost to Loyola in a Class 4A regional semifinal

Key returners: Jr. S Kim Sergey, Jr. S Erika Christiansen, Sr. OH Maria Skoufos

Outlook: The Blue Demons lack size and varsity experience, but Bohn said he expects their defense to keep them competitive as the offense develops. Bohn, the first-year coach, is still filling a few positions on the floor, but he praised his players for their commitment.

"The girls conditioned hard over the summer and worked on their athletic



TIM BOYLE/PIONEER PRESS

Niles West's Natalia Pehar (16) and her teammates celebrate a point during their match against Evanston on Sept. 16, 2015, in Skokie.

ability," Bohn said.

Keep an eye on: Sergey was pulled up to varsity midway through last year to fill in for Christiansen, who missed the entire season with a wrist injury. With both junior setters now in

the fold, Bohn has the luxury of using both in various ways in 2016.

"I've been with the program five or six years and they have some of the best, smoothest setter's hands I've seen," he said. "They're

all-around solid players, both have aggressive serves, and either one could potentially play setter, defense, or hitter because they're that skilled all-around. I'm looking forward to them leading the team, setting the

pace for the offense, and being go-to players on the floor."

Brett Christie and Gary Larsen are freelance reporters.

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MATCH MAKING

Club, varsity routes often work together for volleyball players

BY JON J. KERR
Pioneer Press

Each August, Jori Radtke makes a life transition.

Nine months a year, she plays for Rolling Thunder Volleyball Club in Lake Zurich. When school begins, so does her allegiance to the Stevenson Patriots, where this year, Radtke is a senior outside hitter.

Radtke gladly takes on her roles as a club and varsity athlete due to her understanding that the two worlds can coexist.

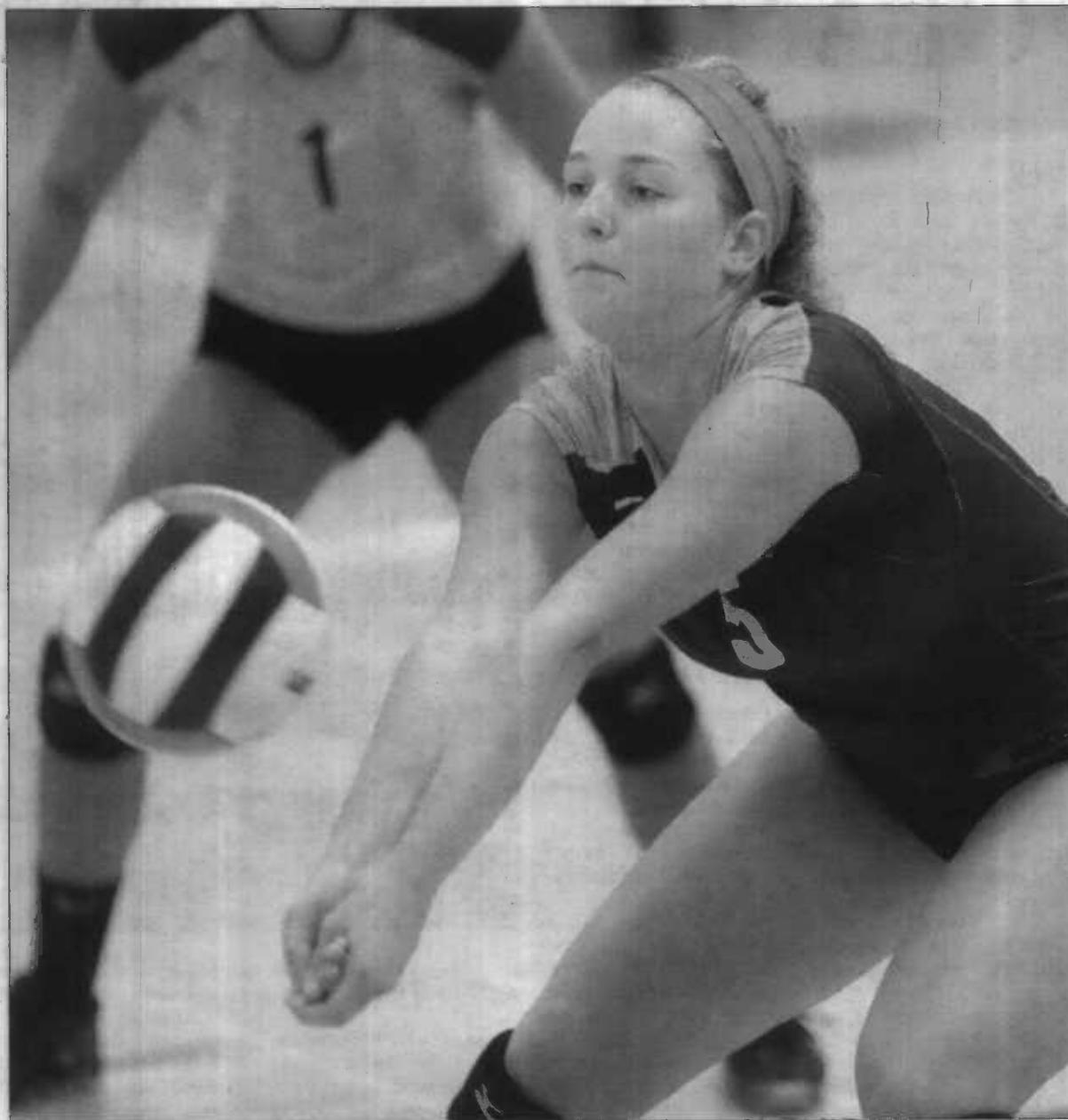
"Most of my skills for volleyball are from Rolling Thunder," Radtke said. "With high school, it's bringing it all together from club and making it work to be the best teammate I can be."

Radtke is an all-state candidate and Northern Illinois recruit. While her talent might be rare among area volleyball players, her experience participating in high school and club volleyball is not.

When volleyball season opens later this month, gymnasiums will be filled with girls who play the sport year-round. Though high school and club teams serve different purposes, coaches on both sides of the local volleyball circuit say the two can work together.

"In high school, you teach kids that have never really played. You try and instill a passion for the sport with kids who are really bright," said Ray Rugebregt, the Vernon Hills girls volleyball coach who also works at Crystal Lake-based Sky High Volleyball. "With club, there's a lot of pressure and you can coach them really hard. It's more of a business aspect at the club level, as once players get to a higher level they expect to get Division I scholarships."

Volleyball has reached a point where there are clear distinctions between the seasons of club (November through July) and high



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Stevenson's Jori Radtke plays club volleyball nine months a year but returns to the Patriots in the fall. She says the club and high school seasons serve different purposes.

school (August through late October or early November). In contrast, soccer players sometimes skip their high school seasons and stick with their club team year-round due to overlapping schedules.

While high school volleyball can be competitive, it's truly a business at the club level.

The Western Springs-

based 1st Alliance Volleyball Club has teams and programs for kids ages 5 to 18. The club offers playing options ranging from house leagues to elite-level competition. Fees range from \$500 for an individual youth camp to \$3,000 annually for elite level age group teams. Fees for the age group travel teams can be higher depending on that

season's travel schedule.

In addition, 1st Alliance has a staff dedicated to helping volleyball players with the recruiting process, including a video coordinator who helps players make a good first impression with college coaches.

"Club volleyball is an avenue to play in college," 1st Alliance club director Sue Keck said. "Our expect-

ation is that every player who comes in will play in college. We just try and help them attain their goal."

Not all volleyball players join a club with a college scholarship in mind. Some hope to acquire the skills necessary to make their high school team.

"There is a Junior Olympic level for the serious players. There are regional

teams where they play local tournaments and for kids that just want to get better," Rugebregt said.

Paul Tashima, who played on the volleyball practice teams at UCLA and UC-Santa Barbara, raised two daughters who took up the sport. When eldest daughter Taylor Tashima was old enough to play club, he coached her at the Evanston-based Wildcat Juniors. In the fall, Taylor Tashima played for New Trier and was a starter for the Trevians' 2012 Class 4A state runner-up team. In 2013, Taylor and younger sister Isabelle helped lead the Trevians back to the state tournament, where they finished third.

Paul Tashima said Taylor, now a junior at Northwestern, and Isabelle, a freshman at Harvard, excelled in the sport because of participation in both club and high school.

"It's very much a symbiotic relationship," Tashima said. "(In club) playing time isn't about being fair but who is the best player. It's about performance. In high school, it's being cognizant of different skill levels and being tolerant and supporting and patient. Those were lessons each took away."

Stevenson coach Tim Crow said Radtke is one of the best and most competitive players he's coached in 15 years at Stevenson. He knows he can be more strict with her than other players on the Patriots roster, much like a club coach might be.

But for the three months she is a Patriot, his desire for Radtke is the same as any player.

"We want them to have the best time and be part of a successful team that's not just about the wins and losses," Crow said.

Jon J. Kerr is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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AREA TEAMS AT A GLANCE

BY DAN SHALIN, LEE BOSCH AND HEATHER RULE | Pioneer Press

Niles North

Coach: Filip Cejovic
2015 record: 11-8-7 (1-2-2 Central Suburban North), lost to Leyden in a Class 3A sectional semifinal

Key returners: Sr. D Alem Zukancic, Sr. F Edwin Alfaro, Sr. M Aziz Abdul

Outlook: The Vikings return a solid senior core from a team that upset second-seeded Maine South on penalties in last year's regional final. Niles North was the 11th seed. Alfaro, who scored 4 goals last season, could be a difference maker up front. The backline will have experience.

"Defense is one of our greatest strengths," Zukancic said. "It's almost returning entirely from last year and we've melded together and are looking to limit the goals and help out our goalkeeper."

Keep an eye on: The Vikings are in their first year in the Central Suburban South, which features New Trier, Evanston, Maine South, Glenbrook South and rival Niles West and is the conference's more competitive division.

"It's probably the strongest conference in the state," said Cejovic, whose brother Milo Cejovic is the coach at Niles West. "It's our goal to elevate the program and compete with those kinds of teams on a nightly basis as far as results and the kind of soccer we play."

Niles West

Coach: Milo Cejovic
2015 record: 9-6-4 (1-1-3 Central Suburban South), lost to Niles North in a Class 3A regional semifinal

Key returners: Sr. D Kevin Sanchez, Sr. M Laith

Zaibal

Outlook: Niles West lost 11 seniors from its 2015 team to graduation — including eight who were starters — but Cejovic said he has confidence in his junior class. His concern is with leadership.

"Some of the guys need to figure out how to be leaders on the field and off the field," Cejovic said. "As far as skill, we have guys to fill those roles."

Cejovic thinks the familiarity among the players and an upgrade in technical skill has the Wolves poised to reach at least the sectional round of the playoffs.

Keep an eye on: Midfielder Daniel Radeljic, the only sophomore on varsity at the start of the season, looks to be a focal point in the middle of the Wolves' attack. Cejovic said Radeljic would have been on varsity last year, but he opted to play with an academy team instead.

"He is young, but built like a grown man," Cejovic said. "He's very composed on the ball. He knows what he wants to do and he does it. He could be a game changer."

Radeljic will share the middle of the pitch with older brother and senior Alen Radeljic.

Northridge

Coach: Paolo Rossi
2015 record: 7-10-3 (2-3-1 Independent School League), lost to Latin in a Class 1A sectional semifinal

Key returners: Sr. G Tyler Mongoven, Sr. F Bradley Simon, Jr. M Johnny Presberg

Outlook: The Knights have experience in goal, in the midfield and up front,

but they lost a lot on defense. Northridge's schedule once again includes multiple Class 2A and 3A teams. This may not lead to a great record, but it should prepare the team for the postseason.

Keep an eye on: Junior defender Carlos DeLeon is one of the few returners on the backline. He is expected to shift from outside back to central defender.

"In the summer and during our summer camps, (DeLeon) has been stepping up in terms of leadership and quality of play," Rossi said.

Notre Dame

Coach: Mike Smith
2015 record: 8-11 (3-6 East Suburban Catholic), lost to Evanston in a Class 3A regional semifinal

Key returners: Jr. F Nick Feeney, Sr. D Emmett O'Malley, So. D Andres Barron

Outlook: Notre Dame quadrupled its win total from 2014 to 2015, and the goal this year is to boost that number even higher, according to Smith. The team has more depth this year, Smith said, although that's balanced out with a lot of youth. Much of the starting lineup is expected to be made up of sophomores and juniors.

Keep an eye on: Even though he's a junior, Feeney is one of the captains on the team.

"Which doesn't really happen a lot here," Smith said. "That's a testament to what he did last season in terms of production."

Feeney led the team with eight goals and eight assists last year. He finished in second place for the confer-



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Maine East's Marek Dziergas, left, possesses the ball in front of Glenbrook South's Javier Ayala during their Class 3A regional semifinal on Oct. 20, 2015.

ence Offensive Player of the Year award in 2015. He keeps his skills up year-round, playing for Sockers FC in the offseason.

"Nick plays at a very high club level and the competition there is fierce at both practice and games," Smith said. "He brings that competitive spirit and intensity onto the field at Notre Dame."

Maine East

Coach: Jeff Bishop
2015 record: 7-13-1 (1-3-1 Central Suburban North), lost to Glenbrook South in a Class 3A regional semifinal

Key returners: Sr. M Marek Dziergas, Sr. M Danny Gamaonov, Sr. M Konrad Nawrot

Outlook: The squad is senior-heavy with lots of returning players and plenty of depth, which should be a strength for the Blue Demons, Bishop said. This is the most experienced team Bishop's had in his three years as head coach, he said. Possession will be another strength of the team, Bishop added.

Keep an eye on: Maine East will work on finishing this year, according to Bishop. If they can consistently finish off the oppor-

tunities they create, the Blue Demons hope to end the year with a winning record. Last season was the program's first losing season since 2005. Bishop is expecting senior midfielders Dziergas, Gamaonov and Nawrot to have big years.

"We have the potential, but we haven't proven ourselves to be a very goal-scoring, threatening team," Bishop said.

Lee Bosch, Dan Shalin and Heather Rule are freelance reporters for Pioneer Press.

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TACTICAL SUPPORT

Influenced by international soccer, area coaches employ wide range of formation, styles

By DAN SHALIN
Pioneer Press

Throughout the world, soccer strategy is a hot topic of conversation. There's debate about employing a 4-3-3 versus the 4-2-3-1 or the trendy 3-5-2; playing possession soccer or absorbing pressure and counterattacking; and using a true striker or a forward who drops deep into the mid-field, among other things.

As the world's game has taken hold in the United States, these same tactical discussions are increasingly occurring within the soccer community, as coaches, players and fans have become better-versed in the game's strategies.

Locally, the 4-4-2 (number of defenders-midfielders-forwards) once was the formation of choice for many high school teams. But in recent years, the 4-3-3 and the more defensive 4-2-3-1 have become increasingly popular, a change that mirrors the international game.

"Most (high school) teams will play a 4-2-3-1, which gives you more options than a 4-4-2, especially offensively. It might not sound like it, but it really does," said Stevenson boys coach Mark Schartner, who enters his 30th season at the helm and led the Patriots to a fourth-place finish in Class 3A in 2012. "The 4-2-3-1 can be changed quickly to a 4-3-3 or even a 4-2-4. Just by changing one number allows you to do something different depending on your opponent's strength or weakness."

Last season, Niles North first-year head coach Filip Cejovic lined up his Vikings in a somewhat unusual 4-2-2-2, a formation used by the AC Milan teams of the mid 2000s. The coach said he expects to see more high school teams employing a 3-5-2 this season after the formation was used effectively by the Italian national



MIKE MANTUCCA/PIONEER PRESS

Hinsdale Central boys soccer coach Michael Wiggins, center, said formations used in the professional ranks do not always translate well to high school.

team at this summer's European Championships.

Though coaches might prefer one formation over another, many stress the importance of tactical flexibility. Unlike their professional or college counterparts, high school coaches don't have the luxury of choosing a formation and then going out to sign players who fit into that system.

"You have an idea about what formation you want to go with, but it just depends on what the bus drops off," said Hinsdale Central coach Michael Wiggins, who is entering his 15th season in charge of the Red Devils and guided his team to the 2014 Class 3A state title.

However, Wiggins cautions that successful — and complex — formations from the professional game do

not always translate to high school, partially because the season lasts just three months.

"We're limited in what we can do and the amount of time we have with the players," he said.

Barrington coach Scott Steib, entering his 18th season, said he employs different formations according to his personnel in order to keep himself sharp as a coach and to give regular opponents a different look.

Steib said it's not unusual to find him and his assistants sitting at a Denny's or IHOP talking strategy. They use salt and pepper shakers and sugar packets as players in discussions about formations, positioning, shape and rotations based on the location of the ball.

"I think you have to be

careful about becoming predictable (as a team)," said Steib, who led Barrington to the Class AA state title in 2007.

Often, coaches and programs have philosophies about attacking play that go even deeper than specific formations or tactics. Perhaps they send their team out to win the battle of possession, or they believe in the importance of building attacks from the back. Some coaches are happy to see their team play long balls, counterattack and do whatever necessary to get a result.

Although it hasn't always been the case, Schartner said he preaches possession these days, even posting a 9,000-word piece on the benefits of possession soccer on the program's website.

"If you have the ball, it's a beautiful game," he said.

Steib said he once subscribed to the possession-above-all-else theory but has altered his view somewhat. Now, he prefers to see his team get forward with the ball more quickly before settling down and, if necessary, playing possession soccer in the opponent's final third.

Area coaches say the rise of soccer's popularity in this country over the last 15 years, especially its continual presence on television, has significantly enhanced their knowledge of the game and improved their players' soccer IQ, especially when it comes to tactics.

Any given weekend, players and coaches can tune in and see numerous forma-

tions and tactics being employed across the world's major leagues. While this is overwhelmingly positive, coaches do point out examples of high school teams failing to recognize their limitations and unsuccessfully employing tactics based on what they've seen work at a world super club.

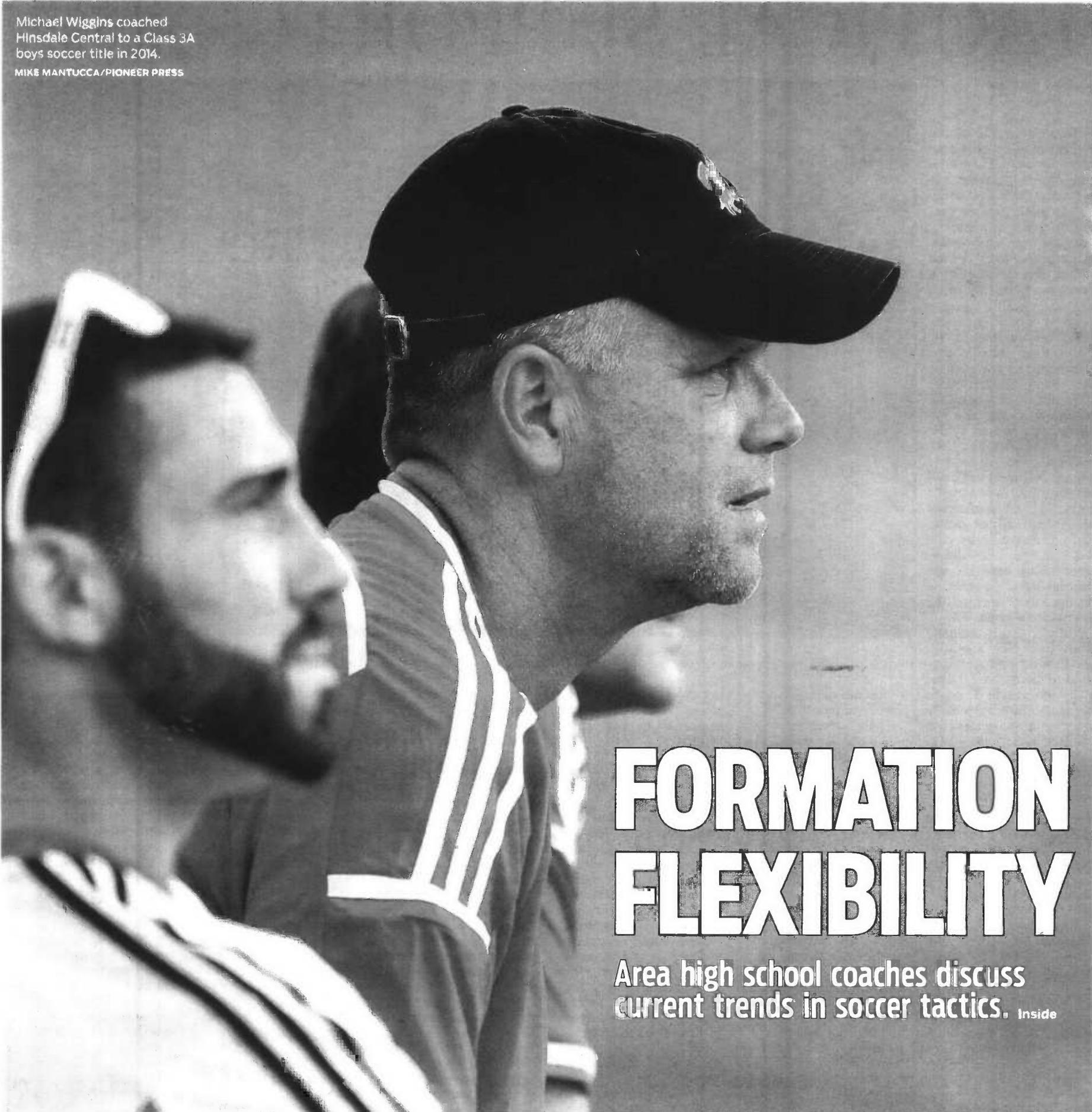
Glenbrook South coach Seong Ha said he's even heard misguided opinions about tactics from some of his soccer-obsessed players.

"The only drawback (to soccer's popularity) is that kids think they know it all," he said with a laugh. "Now, you have kids telling me we should play a certain formation because it worked on their FIFA 16 (video game)."

Dan Shalin is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Michael Wiggins coached Hinsdale Central to a Class 3A boys soccer title in 2014.

MIKE MANTUCCA/PIONEER PRESS



FORMATION FLEXIBILITY

Area high school coaches discuss current trends in soccer tactics. *Inside*

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