

NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

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nilesheraldspectator.com

Getting ready for school

Area students pack school supplies for homeless youth. Page 4



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

Evan Friedman, left, and Luke Van Den Eeden, both Maine South High School students, look for customers who might donate school supplies for a drive at the Office Depot in Niles.

GO



ALL SEASONS ORCHARD

Pick a peck

Apple-picking season is nearing at area orchards. Page 20

SPORTS



DARRELL GOEMAAT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

'Tis the season

Conference realignment, concerns for player safety highlight start of high school football. Page 42

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SHOUT OUT

Joel Rubin, Turning Point member

Joel Rubin, a Skokie resident, has been appointed to the board of directors at Turning Point Behavioral Health Care Center. He, along with other new members Scott Holtz and Randall Roberts, will serve a three-year term. According to its website, Turning Point is an outpatient mental health center that was established in 1969.

Q: What brought you to the organization?

A: The important work that Turning Point has been doing for close to five decades. I was honored to be asked by Brian Clarke, vice president and secretary of Turning Point's Board of Directors and one of my longest and closest friends.

Q: What is the most exciting part of being in the organization?

A: To be part of providing a vital need in our community and developing policies and strategies in a very challenging funding environment.

Q: What is the biggest challenge the organization is facing?

A: The fiscal uncertainty in the state of Illinois and how to contin-



JOHNNY KNIGHT PHOTO

Joel Rubin

ue to provide exemplary behavioral health care to those in need in Skokie and other residents throughout Metropolitan Chicago.

Q: How long have you lived in Skokie?

A: My wife and I have lived in Skokie since 1988. Our children all grew up in Skokie.

Q: What experiences can you bring while participating on the board?

A: I have served as executive

director of the National Association of Social Workers Illinois for the past 17 years, the largest professional organization of social workers in the state of Illinois. ... Social workers are the largest provider of mental health services in the country. I am very familiar with their challenges and their significant work serving those with mental illness.

Q: What are your goals that you would like to accomplish with this organization?

A: I look forward to sharing my knowledge with working with volunteer leadership to help support and strengthen Turning Point.

Q: Can you share any advice for people who want to be leaders in their communities, school or in business organizations?

A: Find and make the time to give back. I am big proponent of Harvard sociologist and writer Robert Putnam, who stresses the importance of community and civic engagement and its important role in American democracy.

— Karen Medina, Pioneer Press

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Getting ready to go back to school

Area students pack supplies for homeless kids

By **KARIE ANGELL LUC**
Pioneer Press

Matt Skierkiewicz realizes the possibilities anyone, including students, can do with a pencil.

"From drawing out a new idea to drafting a product concept, even going as far as writing the Declaration of Independence," said Skierkiewicz, a store manager at the Office Depot in Niles. "There's absolutely unlimited potential."

Members of The Student Alliance for Homeless Youth (SAHY) were out in Niles on Aug. 21 at the Office Depot, 8331 W. Golf Road, collecting pencils and other school supplies for a back-to-school drive. Business donors included Office Depot, which provided space for drive and offered gift cards.

SAHY is a non-profit meant to encourage area students from New Trier High School, Maine South High School, North Shore Country Day and others to assist homeless youth. The students were collecting supplies in Niles to benefit kids served by Madonna House and Chicago HOPES for Kids, both located in Chicago.

Madonna House will receive 35 backpacks filled with school supplies. School supplies will also be used for tutoring at Chicago HOPES for Kids for children residing in shelters.

"Chicago HOPES for Kids is most appreciative of the Student Alliance for Homeless Youth for providing school supplies for our children and youth experiencing homelessness," said Executive Director Patricia Rivera. "With this support, our students will be better able



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Matt Skierkiewicz, left, store manager of the Office Depot in Niles; Evan Friedman, 16, a Maine South High School junior from Park Ridge; and Friedman's mother Heather Friedman, of Park Ridge, a parent volunteer, greet peers Aug. 21 before the Student Alliance for Homeless Youth School Supplies Drive.



Matt Skierkiewicz, right, leads a group high-five.

to focus on the academic challenges of the upcoming school year."

SAHY is putting together 50 total backpacks, including the 35 going to Madonna House, along with 88 more backpacks donated by Berman Auto Group in Chicago.

"Chicago HOPES for Kids is helping SAHY distribute nearly 100 of these backpacks to kids at their

shelters," said Andrew Mose, a board member who assists the SAHY at Maine South High School in Park Ridge.

SAHY also will collect school supplies from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 27 at the Office Depot in Evanston, 2722 Green Bay Road.

Karie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



Heather Friedman of Park Ridge consults with Megan Streightiff, left, Ally Kowalski, Luke Van Den Eeden and Evan Friedman, all of Park Ridge, during a school supplies collection in Niles.

Lincolnwood kicked off Diversity Month Aug. 15

BY NATALIE HAYES

Pioneer Press

A long planned cultural dance party to celebrate the diverse makeup of Lincolnwood residents went off without a hitch the night of Aug. 15 despite rain showers that bogged down the Chicago area as the event began.

Although community leaders who attended the event admitted the turnout of about 75 people who showed up to Proesel Park's picnic shelter for the 6:30 p.m. show could have been better, the event accomplished its goal of bringing people together in a show of support for their neighbors' heritages.

Dance groups representing different nationalities including Russian, Ukrainian, Serbian, Macedonian, and Indian took center stage as onlookers soaked in the music and learned about the origins of the different types of dance.

The Chicago Cossacks, the Dukati and Biseri Folklore Ensemble, and the Natraj Dance Academy performed before offering free teaching lessons for the public.

Lincolnwood historically has used August to mark its annual Diversity Month by displaying flags along Lincoln Avenue that represent about 60 different countries representing Lincolnwood residents' nationalities.

Village leaders still are deciding whether to continue the display after the tradition was discontinued this year. Two years ago, the flags came under scrutiny when tensions in the Middle East divided the community, with some residents gathering at a public meeting at village hall to decry the Palestinian flag's presence among the other countries represented in the display.

The flags have not returned since summer 2014, and community leaders



STEVE LASKER PHOTO

Dancers from the Chicago Cossacks, the Dukati and Biseri Folklore Ensemble, and the Natraj Dance Academy performed and offered free lessons to about 75 people who attended a Diversity Month event at Proesel Park Aug. 15

have since been searching to form new traditions.

Since the flag display came to an end, both the Human Relations Commission, a volunteer-based group of residents appointed to oversee diversity-related activities, and a citizens group known as the Multicultural Task Force have been working separately to plan public activities to bring Lincolnwood together in the name of acceptance, according to Beryl Herman, chair of the task force.

"The theory is that if you get to know people who are different from you, then you won't be afraid," Herman said. "But you have to get to know each other's cultures before you get to know them. That kind of opportunity doesn't usually come along unless you have something planned to bring them together."

Herman said the task force was planning to follow-up with the Human Relations Commission's cultural dance event by hosting "Coffee with the Clerics" on Sept. 19 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Lincolnwood Community Center, 6900 N. Lincoln Ave.

Priests from three different parishes will provide an overview of their church's different faiths and a ques-

tion-and-answer session will follow.

"We're all just trying to get the community to appreciate our diversity and have people get along," Herman said. "Coffee with the Clerics will hopefully be the first event of many more, but right now our biggest challenge will be getting people to attend."

The Lincolnwood Village Board earlier this year directed the Human Relations Commission to build a program to address differences among the community, but Lincolnwood Mayor Jerry Turry said commissioners voted against a proposition to work together with the Multicultural Task Force to plan new events.

Calling the inability to work together "troubling," Turry said he was surprised that the choice to work together was taken to a vote.

"I have tried to allow them both to settle in and perhaps they still might show an interest in working together," Turry said. "In the end, I think our children are getting mixed messages from the adults."

Human Relations chair Rebecca Kohn declined a request for comment.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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D64 lunchroom supervisors get raise

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Lunchroom supervisors at Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 elementary schools will be getting pay raises this new school year, while the cost of many middle school lunch items also goes up.

The Board of Education on Aug. 8 approved a proposal from Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Joel Martin to set higher starting wages for elementary lunchroom supervisors, head supervisors and assistants. The board also voted to extend its contract with middle school food service provider Arbor Management for the 2016-17 school year and raise a la carte food prices slightly at Emerson and Lincoln middle schools.

Under the new lunchroom wages approved by the board, the starting hourly pay for lunchroom supervisors at all five elementary schools will increase from \$12 per hour to \$14 per hour. Starting pay for the head lunchroom supervisor will increase 38 percent — from \$13 per hour to \$18 per hour — and starting pay for the assistant head lunchroom

supervisor will increase from \$13 per hour to \$16.

The board also approved an hourly increase of 2 percent for returning employees who already earn above the new hourly rates.

Lunch supervisors work 55-minute lunch periods each day and also set up and remove tables in the school gyms, said District 64 Chief School Business Official Luann Kolstad.

Martin said the earlier starting wages were put in place in 2013, but were too low to attract workers who were willing to stay on. The wages were also “substantially low” compared with other suburban school districts in the area, he said. One district pays supervisors \$28 per hour, Martin said.

“Since (2013), we’ve experienced considerable difficulty in keeping lunchroom supervisors,” Martin said. “We’ve had a number of occasions where they work for a very short period of time and say, ‘Listen, you’re not paying me enough. I’m leaving.’”

Martin added that departing lunchroom supervisors consistently cited pay as a reason for quitting.

Superintendent Laurie

Heinz described Franklin School as being understaffed for the entire 2015-16 school year, and Carpenter School Principal Brett Balduf told the board that his school should have had 15 total lunch supervisors, but had only nine. Balduf indicated that responsibilities of lunchroom supervisors also include bullying prevention and making sure children are playing safely on the playground after lunch.

In a memo to the board, Martin wrote that it is believed the pay increases “will help increase the pool of qualified supervisors, and make the head/assistant head positions more attractive and commensurate with their responsibilities ensuring the safety and well-being of our elementary students.”

Martin said the district tries to have one lunchroom supervisor for every 30 students in a school.

“I could probably count on one hand, maybe two, the number of total days at all five buildings last year that we were fully staffed,” Martin said.

Kolstad said the wage increases will result in an added annual expense to the district of about \$29,000. A total of \$162,400 is included

“We’ve had a number of occasions where they work for a very short period of time and say, ‘Listen, you’re not paying me enough. I’m leaving.’”

— Joel Martin, assistant superintendent for human resources

in the proposed 2016-17 budget for elementary lunchroom supervisor salaries, she said.

In addition to the wage increases, the board on Aug. 8 agreed to continue a contract with middle school food service provider Arbor Management and increase the cost of a number of individual food items.

In her memo to the board, Kolstad described the recommended food cost increases as “modest,” explaining that the prices had not gone up in “a number of years.”

A comparison of last year’s prices to the new costs approved by the board show the price of a cheeseburger, for example, will increase from \$2.15 to \$2.50; a cheese pizza will increase from \$2.30 to \$2.50; and snacks like Pop Tarts, chips, brownies and others will see a 5-cent increase.

Rotating “food bars,” which include sandwiches,

Mexican dishes, Asian dishes and pasta, will increase by 15 cents. The cost of milk and other beverages will stay the same.

Kolstad said the cost of the 2016-17 contract with Arbor is \$581,907, but projections from the company show the district receiving \$677,685 in revenue through food sales for an annual earning of \$95,778.

The contract was last put out to bid in 2009, Kolstad said. The district will embark on a new bidding process next year when it seeks to expand the hot lunch program to the five elementary schools for the 2017-18 school year, she said. Currently, hot lunch is only provided in elementary schools through individual parent-teacher organizations.

The school board also approved an increase in how much the district will contribute for free lunches, which are given to students

who qualify based on financial needs. The value of the meal provided will increase from \$2.70 to \$2.95, according to the district.

Last year, the district had 219 students receiving free lunch, Kolstad said. The district “basically covers the cost of the lunches,” with a reimbursement from the state of Illinois totaling just \$497 last year, she said.

District 64 is required to serve free lunches to students identified through an Illinois State Board of Education application process, who receive food assistance from the state or who are homeless or foster children, Kolstad’s memo to the board said.

District 64 does participate in a federal free milk program and was reimbursed \$32,378 from the federal government during the previous school year, Kolstad added.

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Niles Public Library District hires firm to guide planning

BY LEE GAINES
Pioneer Press

The Niles Public Library District will spend \$25,000 on consulting services to help with its strategic planning process.

Library district board members voted unanimously at their Aug. 17 meeting to hire Indiana-based Kimberly Bolan and Associates to help the library gather input across all of the district’s demographic groups, consolidate the data and steer officials through the planning process, said Susan Lempke,

executive director of the Niles Public Library.

Although all library trustees opted to hire the firm, which specializes in consulting services for public, school and academic libraries, Lempke said some board members were “a little reluctant to spend that money, but they definitely wanted to get the (the strategic planning process) rolling.”

Niles library officials last approved a long-term strategic plan in 2011.

Lempke said she is confident the firm will be able to solicit information from constituents that library of-

ficials would otherwise have a difficult time reaching.

The firm is headed by Kimberly Bolan Cullin, a librarian and author, and Rob Cullin, who specializes in marketing, data and demographic analysis, and founded a company that provides calendar management software to libraries across the country, Canada and Australia, according to the consulting firm’s website.

Lempke said the firm will conduct focus groups with different segments of the district’s population, breaking them into groups like

“singles and starters” and “golden-year guardians.” She said the firm will take a closer look at library users to get a more “nuanced” sense of their interest in and their needs from the public library.

“You have to know who your population is and if you’re developing focus groups, you want to talk to people who represent different parts of the community,” Lempke said. “You want to make sure you talk to your business community, your education community, anybody that forms a significant number of peo-

ple who are using the library.”

She said the company will host 10 to 12 focus groups and a six-hour retreat with staff, elected officials and other community members.

Several pairs of outside eyes will help officials figure out what areas of the community could be better served by the library, Lempke said.

“I’ve worked at this library for almost 19 years — I’m almost too familiar,” Lempke said. “I have set ideas of who lives here and what they want, and we need an outside perspective

to help us see things we wouldn’t see for ourselves.”

The themes that rise to the top in the data-gathering process will ultimately guide the library over the course of the next several years. Lempke said officials have various ideas for the library, but it’s best for the people who rely on it to influence the library’s future.

“We know people have a lot of needs, but we need to hear more about what those are,” she said.

Lee Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



DAVID TROTMAN-WILKINS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Carolyn Christiensen, left, 74 of Lake Zurich is grateful for the assistance from Steve Anichini, co-owner and manager of the Culver's Restaurant in Lake Zurich, in this file photo.

Lincolnwood reverses ban on Touhy Ave. drive-thrus

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

Fast food drive-thrus could open along a section of Touhy Avenue following a months-long debate that pitted residents from a condo building against some Lincolnwood Village Board members, who recently backed a measure to ease restrictions on businesses with drive-thru lanes.

An informal proposal to build a Culver's restaurant near Lincoln and Touhy earlier this year sparked a debate that ended Aug. 16, when the Lincolnwood Village Board decided on a 4-3 vote to lift a longtime prohibition on fast food restaurants with drive-thru lanes along Touhy's commercial corridor.

The decision means restaurant operators, dry cleaners, banks and pharmacies — businesses that commonly have drive-thru access — will be able to apply for a special-use permit through the village.

While a Culver's operator, who has proposed a 4,000-square-foot location for the 4400 block of Touhy Avenue, has yet to file a permit application to open on the site, the lift of the

drive-thru ban paves the way for Culver's and other businesses to open in the area, Village Attorney Steven Elrod said.

"If and when an application for a Culver's or any other drive-thru is submitted to the village, it will have to go through the special-use process," Elrod said. "That includes public notice of a public hearing before the Plan Commission and a recommendation to the Village Board."

Two other sites along Touhy Avenue are also being eyed by developers for potential drive-thrus, according to Trustee Jesal Patel.

Residents of Barclay Place, a condo building adjacent to the parcel of land on the southeast corner of West Touhy and North Kilbourn avenues, where Culver's would open, came out in throngs to oppose the proposal at the July 19 Village Board meeting.

Residents' claims that the area should be preserved for residential use were later rejected by both the Plan Commission and later the Lincolnwood Village Board. None of those residents turned out for the Aug. 16 meeting, where trustees approved a final

ordinance to lift the ban.

"Anyone who buys a residential unit adjacent to a commercially zoned property should understand the property will not always remain as it was when the resident purchased the unit," said Jim Persino, chairman of the Economic Development Commission, who spoke at the board meeting. "As a village, we must look at these concepts with the greater good of the community in mind, and not just the impact on the adjacent residential (properties)."

Trustee Larry Elster, who voted against the measure Aug. 16, explained the ban on drive-thrus initially was put into place more than a decade ago to prevent excess traffic congestion along what is considered as one of the busiest intersections in Lincolnwood.

"I think it's premature to put this into an ordinance when nothing has really changed since we drafted the first ordinance," Elster said. "When we voted on this 10 years ago we said this is such a congested area that it's not appropriate (for a drive-thru)."

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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POLICE REPORT

The following items were taken from Niles Police Department reports. An arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt.

BATTERY

■ Robert D. Hegbloom, 55, of no known address, was charged Aug. 11 with felony aggravated battery to a police officer. According to police, officers were called at 10:30 p.m. to the 7900 block of Octavia Avenue, where they found a man, identified as Hegbloom, "laying on the grass with his pants down, performing a sex act." When an officer approached Hegbloom, he reportedly pulled his pants up and began walking away, but was ordered to stop. Police said Hegbloom threatened the officer and punched him in the shoulder as he was placed under arrest. After he allegedly lunged at the officer a second time, the officer used a Taser device on Hegbloom and he was transported to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, police said. He was given an Aug. 29 court date.

■ Ronald Buczkowski, 55, of the 7800 block of Nordica Avenue,

was charged Aug. 6 with domestic battery and assault. The following day, police arrested Buczkowski again after he allegedly entered his apartment despite a court order that he have no contact with a family member who lives there for at least 72 hours following his first arrest.

FORGERY

■ Andria Eddings, 24, of West 105th Place, Chicago, was charged Aug. 11 with felony forgery after she allegedly attempted to buy merchandise from a store on the 5700 block of Touhy Avenue using a counterfeit \$100 bill, police said.

THEFT

■ Tanya Williams-Kinard, 56, of Glenview, was charged Aug. 9 with retail theft after she allegedly stole \$36.50 worth of makeup from a store on the 8500 block of Golf Road. She was given an Aug. 29 court date.

DUI

■ Nenab Givargis, 20, of Kostner Avenue, Chicago, was charged Aug. 7 with driving under the

influence following a crash at Milwaukee and Oriole avenues at 2:30 a.m. A Sept. 20 court date was assigned, police said.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

■ Someone broke a window at Nelson School, 8901 N. Ozanam Ave., overnight Aug. 7-8.

BURGLARY TO VEHICLE

■ Tools valued at \$1,640 were reported stolen Aug. 6 from a truck parked on the 8600 block of Dempster Street.

■ A woman walked into a store on the 9000 block of Greenwood Avenue and stole two bottles of wine and a box of diapers Aug. 7, police said.

■ Police said spare tires were stolen from two minivans parked on the 7000 block of Greenleaf Street Aug. 6 or 7.

THEFT

■ A van was reported stolen Aug. 9 from a vehicle rental company on the 7600 block of Milwaukee Avenue.

■ A car was reported stolen Aug. 11 from an auto dealership on the 9400 block of Milwaukee Avenue.

Fundraiser scam targets Morton Grove businesses

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

The Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce and Industry is warning its members of a scam targeting local businesses.

A chamber member reported being contacted by a company offering them a chance to support a Golf School District 67 fundraiser, as well as promoting their business on a T-shirt that the school would either sell or give away, chamber representatives wrote recently in its newsletter.

The business reported being asked to contribute \$450 to the fundraiser, according to the newsletter. When contacted by MGCCI Director Mark Matz, officials at the local school said they didn't know of any such fundraiser being planned, Matz wrote in an email.

When asked about the issue Aug. 17, Morton Grove Police Cmdr. Paul Yaras told Pioneer

Press he hadn't yet heard of the scam.

"Nobody told us about that one," he said. "I haven't seen anything like that in years."

Yaras advised businesses and residents to do their due diligence when contacted by unsolicited companies asking for money.

"If they're suspicious, reach out to the local organization and find out if they are indeed raising money," he said.

Red flags of a possible scam include door-to-door or telephone solicitors who cannot provide any details about the organization or cause the money is going to.

Yaras said MGCCI did the right thing by contacting the District 67 school named by the company trying to collect money from chamber businesses.

"That is the best way to catch a scam," he said.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter.

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What you need to know for the weekend's Backlot Bash festival in Skokie

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

For three days starting early in the evening on Aug. 26, downtown Skokie will become home to the village's largest annual street festival.

The 2016 Backlot Bash will feature music — lots of music — carnival rides, food of all kinds, classic movies, family entertainment, a car show, a foot race, a pancake breakfast, the Skokie Farmers Market and more.

Here is what you need to know about the three days of fun and games sponsored by the Skokie Park District, the village of Skokie and the Skokie Chamber of Commerce:

■ The Backlot Bash runs from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday; 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday; and noon to 8 p.m. Sunday.

■ Oakton Street will be closed between Lincoln and Laramie avenues from 10 a.m. Friday through 2 a.m. Monday.

■ The Backlot Bash will be held in a closed-off, two-block portion of Oakton Street, between Lincoln and Laramie avenues next to Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton St.

■ Most parking lots within two blocks of the Backlot Bash will be closed in order to host event attractions.

■ No event in Skokie includes more music than the Backlot Bash. Among the Main Stage headlines are Blue Oyster Cult at 8:30 p.m. Friday; Living Colour, which performs metal, blues and funk at 8:30 p.m. Saturday; the Royal Outsiders rock group at 5 p.m. Sunday; and Tributosaurus, which will transform itself into The Police at 6:30 p.m. Sunday.

■ Carnival hours are 6 to 10



SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT

Skokie's Backlot Bash says "sayonara" to summer with three days of music, fun and games starting Aug. 26.

p.m. Friday; noon to 10 p.m. Saturday; and noon to 8 p.m. Sunday.

Special wristbands allowing for unlimited rides are \$50 in advance and \$60 at the event. Daily unlimited rides from noon to 4 p.m. either Saturday or Sunday are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the event.

■ Skokie's Backlot Dash 5K and Kids Run will be held in and around the grounds of Skokie's Backlot Bash on Saturday and will include a half-mile kids run as well as the featured race.

Race day registration is from 6 to 7:30 a.m.; the one-half-mile race for kids begins at 8 a.m.; and the 5K race begins at 8:30 a.m. An awards ceremony will follow the 5K race.

■ Free movies and music are scheduled at the Skokie Theatre and the Skokie Public Library.

Funny silent film clips will show from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday at the Skokie Theatre; "The Peanuts Movie" will show at 4 p.m. Saturday at the Skokie Theatre; "The Thin Man" will show from noon to 1:30 p.m. Sunday at the Skokie Public Library; "King

Kong" will show at 1:45 p.m. Sunday at the Skokie Public Library; Live Americana Music and Sing-A-Long with 3-4 the Road + Friends will be staged at 3 and 4:30 p.m. Sunday at the Skokie Theatre.

■ Other Bash highlights include Bingo Bash from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, 2 to 10 p.m. Saturday and 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday; a beer and food tent; a community resource fair from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday; and a classic auto show from 1 to 6 p.m. Saturday and 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday.

The Backlot Bash will also feature a Rotary Club of Skokie Valley pancake breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m. Sunday for \$6; the Farmers Market from 7:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Sunday; family friendly acts at the Skokie Public Library Saturday and Sunday afternoons; and the Skokie Heritage Museum and Skokie's Historic Log Cabin.

For more information about the weekend festival, access backlotbash.com.

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LISA HANLEY PHOTO

Lisa and Pat Hanley at the Les Turner ALS Foundation Walk for Life in 2012.

Team helps woman raise funds to fight ALS

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

September will mark Lisa Hanley's fifth year walking in the Les Turner ALS Foundation Walk for Life fundraiser and the third since her husband, Pat, passed away from the disease.

The annual event is a reminder of what Hanley has lost because of ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. On the other hand, she said "it is also a reminder of how people can come together for a really good cause."

This year's walk will take place Sept. 18 at Soldier Field and will follow a two-mile route along Chicago's lakefront. More than 7,000 people are expected to participate, and the fundraiser is considered one of the largest ALS gatherings nationwide, according to a press release from the Skokie-based Les Turner ALS Foundation — an organization that funds research, clinical care and support services for people with ALS in the Chicago region.

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, is a neuro-

muscular disease of the nervous system that weakens muscles and, over time, prevents a person from walking, speaking, eating and eventually breathing, though their cognitive abilities generally remain intact.

The ALS Walk for Life has generated \$11 million toward research, patient care and education about the disease over the course of 14 years.

Hanley is the captain of the fundraising team dubbed "Pat's Warriors," named after her late husband. She said the team has raised more than \$50,000 since she began participating in the event in 2012.

Pat Hanley, who worked for a decade as corporation counsel for the village of Skokie, was diagnosed with ALS in March 2012 and died in November 2013 at age 58.

Hanley said she and her husband were introduced to the Les Turner Foundation following his diagnosis. It was a scary and uncertain time for the couple, but Hanley said the foundation provided them with a thorough understanding of the disease,

support and a community familiar with what they were going through.

Like the ALS ice bucket challenge — a viral internet campaign that raised millions for the ALS Association — the Walk for Life event is both a means to generate funds with the hope of eradicating the disease and also a tool to bring awareness to the plight of those affected, Hanley said.

"I do think awareness is a huge part of being able to find a cure," she said.

The Pat's Warriors team numbered roughly 70 people during its first year participating in the event, Hanley said. In recent years, that number has dropped to about 35, but friends and family who might not make it out to the event have still generously donated to the cause, she said.

To learn more about the ALS Walk for Life event and to register to participate, visit: www.ALSwalkforlife.org.

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

Morton Grove drops voter-approved electricity program

Increasing costs drives village back to ComEd

BY LEE GAINES
Pioneer Press

Morton Grove is pulling the plug on its electricity aggregation program next month.

The move means the village, which started an electricity aggregation program after voters approved a referendum in 2012, now will switch back to ComEd for certain electricity service after cutting ties with the company and switching to an aggregate supplier for its program.

Illinois law allows municipalities to negotiate for the purchase of electricity for its residents and small businesses via an aggrega-

tion program.

Before the local referendum that established the program was approved, ComEd electricity rates were significantly higher than what the village could get for residents via aggregation, said village administrator Ralph Czerwinski.

After the village instituted its aggregation program, residents and other eligible subscribers saw a combined savings of over \$1.8 million a year, which translates to nearly \$250 a household in Morton Grove, he said.

Now, however, the rates offered by ComEd "are the same or less than what we can buy from aggregation companies," Czerwinski said.

"There is no reason to continue this," he said. "We are opting to make a smart move for our residents to

not use aggregation because the rate was found to be higher."

The most recent ComEd rates are cheaper per kilowatt hour than what the village can get on the aggregate market, Czerwinski said.

Residents affected by the switch should receive a notice this month from ComEd informing them that their service will be switched to the state's largest electricity supplier in September. No action is required on the part of the residents, Czerwinski said.

The Village of Lincolnwood made a similar switch two years ago, according to a press release from the municipality. According to the release, Lincolnwood was one of the first Chicago area suburbs to institute an aggregation program in 2010 and were

able to achieve a savings of 30 percent over the rates offered by ComEd.

In September 2014, Lincolnwood officials also switched back to ComEd because the company provided the lowest rate offered, according to the release.

It's likely Niles also could follow suit and switch back to ComEd, once the village's contract with IDT Energy runs out at the end of May 2017, said village manager Steve Vinezeano.

Niles voters approved a referendum allowing the village to solicit bids from electricity suppliers on behalf of residents and small business in April 2013.

The village inked a two-year contract with IDT Energy in April 2015. The company offered a fixed-rate lower than what

ComEd was charging at the time, according to village documents.

"We don't plan on renewing it because there's no more value left in it," Vinezeano said of the village's aggregation program.

He said the village will switch back to ComEd next June "unless something happens between then and now" that would make the aggregate alternative a more financially appealing choice. He said the village will embark on a campaign to make residents aware of the change when it happens.

Residents can opt of the program any time and switch back to ComEd or another supplier with no penalties, Vinezeano said.

Residents always have the option to select a supplier of their choice, but

Vinezeano said they should be aware of "shady" companies who may encourage them to sign on to long-term contracts for their electricity supply. He said some of these solicitors will offer contracts containing baked in fees, variable rates and penalties.

A Morton Grove press release also warns residents to "beware of door-to-door solicitors, or direct calls or direct mail pieces regarding electric supply."

Morton Grove residents with questions about the suspension of the aggregate program are encouraged to call the municipality's electric aggregate consultant, Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative, at 1-800-727-3820.

Lee Gaines is a freelancer reporter for Pioneer Press.

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NBA star, sweets great visitors at open house

BY BOB SEIDENBERG
Pioneer Press

Alliyah Rumbolt-Lemond was nervous about approaching NBA player Mason Plumlee as he signed autographs at an open house for the city's Gibbs-Morrison Cultural Center on Aug. 18.

"I was very nervous. He was very tall," she said of the 6-11 Portland Trailblazers forward.

But as an aspiring sports journalist, the 16-year-old hoped to meet an NBA player sometime.

"It's nice to get it out of the way," she said.

Plumlee, free samples of pie from First Slice Pie Cafe, music and food on the grill were some of the features of the event for the city-owned building, whose slow rise into existence has been no slam dunk.

The city bought the shuttered building, which formerly housed the Boocoo cafe, across from Evanston Township High School, in January 2015, renaming it after two African-American businessmen who once operated businesses on the block.

Aldermen opted to open a cultural center at the 1823 Church St. site rather than trying to market it for retail, the preference of at least one city council member, Ald. Ann Rainey.

But Ald. Delores Holmes, in whose Fifth Ward the site is located, argued the city couldn't afford to let the corner stand empty, and that a thriving cultural center might attract private interest.

For now, the city is opening it as a cultural center, leasing space to First Slice Pie Café. Under the public-private partnership, First Slice operates a restaurant six days a week, Monday through Saturday, using Boocoo's former kitchen facilities.

Having a private partner like First Slice "is really important," City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz said at the



Workers grill food during the Evanston Cultural Center opening Aug. 18.

KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

"I think having something like this is always good for the community — to have somewhere they (youngsters) can have fun and be supervised would be great."

— Mason Plumlee, NBA player

Open House, because of the activity the cafe will create.

"So while the city will have staff at (the cultural center), it won't be at the same level as at Crown or Fleetwood" community centers, he said.

Officials stressed the cultural center isn't competing with those facilities, especially Fleetwood-Jourdain, located a few blocks away.

At Gibbs-Morrison, said

Lawrence Hemingway, the city's director of parks, recreation and community services, "we're really going to focus on arts and cultural types of programs, where Fleetwood is more of a traditional community center, with programs such as basketball and arts and crafts."

"For example, we're going to have some open mic nights. We're going to give

artists the opportunity to put their art on display. We're going to have after school programs, partnering with ETHS (Evanston Township High School) in this facility," he said.

Hemingway thinks a key to the center succeeding is First Slice Pie, "which I think will be a great draw. The cafe made Food & Wine's list of America's Best Apple Pies, but they have a

lot more than pies — so you can come here, grab lunch, sit down in a beautiful space."

The center will also have staff familiar with the surrounding community. Maurice Wilkerson, who grew up in the neighborhood, has been tapped for the facility coordinator position at the center.

Wilkerson, who says he was an at-risk youngster, said community institutions such as Fleetwood Jourdain, the McGaw YMCA, and Family Focus "were my homes" growing up.

"I went to those places to get away from many of the things that could kind of take me in the wrong direc-

tion," he said.

The renovated space also received a thumbs up from Plumlee, who appeared at the open house at the request of Jermy McCray, a youth and young adult outreach worker for the city. Maurice Wilkerson also reached out, McCray said.

Gibbs-Morrison left the former Duke University star impressed.

"I think having something like this is always good for the community — to have somewhere they (youngsters) can have fun and be supervised would be great," he said.

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Metra, railroads warned: Don't delay on new safety system

By MARY WISNIEWSKI
Chicago Tribune

The federal government on Aug. 17 warned the nation's railroads, including Chicago's Metra, not to wait until the last minute to install a new high-tech safety system that can prevent crashes and save lives.

The Federal Railroad Administration also urged Congress to provide more funding to help commuter railroads implement the program, known as Positive Train Control. The technology uses GPS, radios, computers and antennas to slow or stop speeding trains, prevent collisions and override human errors.

"Positive Train Control should be installed as quickly as possible," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx, in a statement provided by the FRA. "This is lifesaving technolo-

gy available now, and railroads should continue to aggressively work to beat the deadlines Congress has put in place."

Congress last year extended the deadline for all railroads to meet the requirements for Positive Train Control from December 2015 until December 2018, after railroads complained they would shut down if not given more time. A railroad can get up to a two-year extension under certain conditions.

Last week's status update — the first since the deadline was extended — outlined the progress made by railroads on PTC. Of the 38 safety plans the FRA expects to receive, it has so far gotten 7. Another 13 railroads plan to submit a PTC safety plan this year, but most submissions are not expected until 2018.

Metra has said that given

its capital budget constraints, it has made PTC and improving its rolling stock its top priorities. Metra has said it will have PTC completed by 2019; the railroad expects to be able to meet milestones required for a deadline extension. It will cost the agency about \$400 million.

So far, Metra has spent \$95 million and has \$282 million under contract, according to officials. The agency plans to have PTC on the BNSF line installed next year. PTC on the Union Pacific North, West and Northwest lines and the Rock Island lines should be installed in 2018, while PTC should be ready on remaining lines in 2019.

"As the FRA indicated, funding these massive systems is a major challenge, especially with very limited resources, so we are pleased to be on track with our plan

and moving forward," Metra CEO Don Orseno is quoted as saying in an emailed statement.

The technology is intended to prevent crashes like the Amtrak derailment in May 2015 that killed eight people in Philadelphia. A preliminary BNSF investigation of a freight crash in Texas in June that killed three crew members found that it might have been prevented by PTC.

Federal safety officials said PTC would have prevented a 2005 Metra derailment on the South Side that killed two people.

PTC legislation is an unfunded mandate. American Public Transportation Association CEO Richard White said in a statement that as of April 2015, commuter rail systems had spent \$950 million, but it is "conservatively estimated" that they'll need about \$3.5 billion to

finish PTC installation.

Freight railroads say they have already spent more than \$6.5 billion on PTC, and expect final costs to be more than \$10.5 billion by the time the PTC is fully operational, said Ed Greenberg, spokesman for the Association of American Railroads.

"The PTC technology being installed is revolutionary and is a full-time focus of the nation's freight railroads, which continue to work all out on PTC testing and installation and to move this complex safety system from concept to nationwide reality across the country as quickly as possible, without sacrificing safety," Greenberg said.

Metra, New Jersey Transit Rail and Metro-North Railroad in New York, all big urban commuter railroads, are at about the same place in PTC implementation —

they have no fully equipped locomotives and no track segments ready.

Metra said in a statement that it has made progress not included in the report — noting that 26 percent of rail cars and locomotives that need to be PTC equipped have been partly equipped with onboard computers and PTC radios, and Metra now has 38 percent of the PTC radio towers it needs, up from 16 percent in June.

Amtrak has about 67 percent of its route covered by PTC, according to the FRA, including the route from New York City to Washington, D.C., and part of the route from Chicago to Detroit.

FRA said it has approved more than \$650 million in grants to passenger railroads for PTC since 2008.

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NEWS

Rauner turning to a private foundation for state fairgrounds

BY MONIQUE GARCIA
Chicago Tribune

SPRINGFIELD — Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner is again turning to the private sector as he tries to reshape state government amid resistance from Democrats who control the legislature, this time announcing a private foundation aimed at raising money to fix up the crumbling Illinois State Fairgrounds.

Wearing a plaid shirt, jeans and boots, Rauner on August 16 unveiled the new not-for-profit shortly after handing out awards honoring the state's agriculture industry, from wine production to farms that have been in business for more than 150 years.

As Rauner was speaking, power was out in a different section of the fairgrounds, leaving some vendors unable to serve food or sell trinkets — an unwelcome hiccup following days of heavy rains that caused major flooding and canceled some events, including concerts by Pat Benatar and Melissa Etheridge.

The move comes after Rauner spent the last year pushing a bill to create a similar foundation, to no avail. The governor accused Democrats of playing political games by holding up the legislation, saying Illinois is losing money from agriculture interests that are instead donating to similar foundations in other states.

Democratic House Speaker Michael Madigan has long raised concerns about various efforts to privatize government operations, and has formed a committee to look into a private corporation Rauner founded to handle the state's business recruitment efforts. Critics argue the groups could push projects that undermine public sector unions, which Rauner repeatedly has sought to weaken, arguing that curbing collective bargaining

agreements could cut costs on businesses and taxpayers.

"This is all to the benefit of the people of Illinois," Rauner said. "I think political games have been played with this. This is not a partisan bill. This is all upside. This benefits farmers and taxpayers. There's no losers in this."

Details about the Illinois Fairgrounds Foundation were few on August 16, beyond the large-scale goal of raising enough money to cover an estimated \$180 million to repair dilapidated barns, aging sewer and electrical systems and deteriorating roadways.

Several board members have been appointed, but the group has yet to secure any pledged donors — beyond a promise by Rauner that he and wife Diana Rauner plan to kick in an unspecified sum. Diana Rauner also is spearheading private fundraising to revitalize the dilapidated governor's mansion and has said she's secured \$4.5 million in pledges so far, including \$1 million from herself and the governor.

As it stands, everything is on the table, including the possibility of selling naming rights to buildings, said board member John Slayton. His day job is as a U.S. Bank vice president in Springfield, but he's better known as the longtime auction manager for the Governor's Sale of Champions, where prize-winning rabbits, goats and steer are sold to the highest bidders to raise money for Illinois 4-H and Future Farmers of America.

Slayton said the board likely would set priorities based on a list of repairs developed by the Capital Development Board, which manages state property. But he noted it would take time to raise funds and make fixes to the fairground, which spans 360 acres and includes more than 170 buildings. The foundation also will

benefit the DuQuoin State Fairgrounds in far southern Illinois, where a second state fair takes place each year.

"I would say you will probably see some minor changes before next year's fair," Slayton said. "It's going to take a while."

The poor condition of the fairgrounds has come under acute focus this year after record-breaking rains dropped more than 5 inches of water on the fair's first full day August 12. Concerts were canceled, buildings were flooded and dozens of campers parked on the grounds took on as much as 5 feet of water.

The rain returned August 15, leading the truck and tractor pulls to be canceled and forcing grandstand performers to be moved from the big stage to a smaller, covered pavilion. The main public parking area remained closed August 16 because it was waterlogged, with birds hunting in puddles taking the place of the usual rows and rows of vehicles.

Meanwhile, power was out on the southern section of the fairgrounds for most of the day August 16, once again cutting into the bottom line for vendors. Fair spokeswoman Rebecca Clark said the cause of the outage had yet to be identified by late afternoon, but officials had set up a refrigerated truck to help vendors keep food from spoiling in the heat. Health inspectors also were on the scene.

"These are beautiful buildings, some of them are 80, 100 years old," Rauner said. "Beautiful red brick, nice stalls. But the roofs leak, the walls are cracked. We've always got to be concerned about safety, but when you get this much rain, and cracks and potholes and ravines form, there's a lot of work to be done. We need to get the process going to make it nice."

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New restaurant is 'one big cozy room'

State & Main opens in Glen Town Center

BY JACKIE PILOSSOPH
Pioneer Press

"Down to earth and down the street." That's the slogan Derek Doke made up years ago to describe his restaurant chain, State & Main, which opened in The Glen Town Center a few weeks ago.

"It's approachable from an environment point of view, as well as from a price point perspective," said Canadian-based Doke, who is the founder of Franworks, a restaurant group of 4,000 employees and 99 restaurants in Canada and the U.S., including 23 State & Main locations.

"It's a mix of a restaurant and a bar in one big, cozy room that offers casual din-

ing with both comfort food and foods from different countries that people appreciate."

State & Main, which is the restaurant's first U.S. location, took the space on the corner of Tower Drive and Navy Boulevard that once housed Ann Taylor Loft before sitting empty for several years.

With decor that Franworks' area manager, Craig Winning, described as "new urban loft living," State & Main offers an exposed pipe ceiling, dark wood floors, dark furniture, exposed brick and white subway tile on its walls, and elegant Edison bulb lighting. The restaurant is 5,500 square feet and seats 172 and 25 at its bar. There is also outside seating for 72.

"This is a place that has something for everybody," said Winning, who has been with Franworks for

five years and oversees all of its U.S. venues, including Chicago's Elephant & Castle. "We offer a high quality product and care and attention to everything, including the food, the atmosphere and the service."

"It is beautiful in there. It's got a rustic look and the lighting is really pretty, but it also offers TVs so you can watch sports," said Maria Gall of Glenview. "The food had a good taste. It was fresh and it was well seasoned."

Winning, who described the menu as "an eclectic mix of American fare," said popular menu items include steak and salmon bites; traditional poutine, which is crisp French fries topped with ellsworth cheese curds and brown gravy; the Hollywood bowl, a 490-calorie dish that consists of quinoa, mixed greens, poached salmon,

avocado, chickpeas and other vegetables; the grilled cheeseburger; and the tri-tip sandwich.

"The focus is on comfort and on giving adults a nice place to hang out and enjoy a really good meal," Doke said. "It's 'come as you are.' That's really what we are."

When asked why he chose The Glen as State & Main's first U.S. location, Doke said it was the obvious choice for many factors.

"When I walked in I could visualize it," said Doke, who started Franworks in 2000 after working for another Canadian restaurant group for six years. "It's right on the corner and has really good exposure. It has a great outdoor area, and it's in a marketplace of different eating options. We enjoy being in that cluster."

"It's just very appealing," Gall said. "There are differ-



JACKIE PILOSSOPH/PIONEER PRESS

"We offer a high-quality product and care and attention to everything, including the atmosphere and the service," said area manager Craig Winning, right, with the restaurant's general manager, Caesar Douglas.

ent-size tables, so you can go there with a big group or a small group, for a girl's night, for a drink with your husband, or with your family. It just had a homey

feeling to it. It's elegant yet comfortable."

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Kanye West's Pablo: Crowds, curiosity

BY CHRISTOPHER BORRELLI
Chicago Tribune

Summer, as Kanye would put it, was fadin'. Northbrook, on the northern edge of the Chicago suburbs, was dead and heavy, the August air wet. Chicagoland sweat. And yet inside Northbrook Court, established in 1976, the kind of shopping mall you have in your head when someone mentions a shopping mall, the air was crisp and the lighting was placid. A young man walked past wearing a long-sleeve shirt that read "Perfect" across the back. It cost him \$95 at the Kanye West pop-up shop. Then four students from Loyola University walked by, carrying Kanye bags of Kanye merchandise, totaling \$490.

They had been in the mall for three hours Aug. 19, waiting in line for most of that time, to get inside the Kanye store called Pablo. One of them mentioned that he would be returning the next day.

The Kanye West pop-up shop was built to vanish from Northbrook after 72 hours, Aug. 19 to 21. It occupied the former Abercrombie Kids spot, next to Janie and Jack, the children's clothing store chain, with its fashion lines named Jetsetter Prep and Pumpkin Festival. Behind the counter in the otherwise empty Janie and Jack shop was Lory Duberstein, of Northbrook. "A Kanye's store?" she asked a visitor as she regarded the crush of customers next door. "You're kidding? That's what that is? I can't believe it!" She read a Kanye store clothing menu. "No! What? Expensive! After what he did to Taylor Swift! I have no use for Kanye. But he is talented, and he's cute. I'm just more of a Bob Hope person."

Francisco Garcia and Tony Esposito, both of Logan Square, couldn't believe it, either.

Esposito said: "I'm surprised I'm standing in a suburban mall right now. I hate the mall."

The store had a featureless white slate of a facade. A doorman stood outside the threshold, holding a stack of clothing menus, to be handed to each new customer, who would then note the quantity and size of each item they wanted to buy. Hip-hop pounded inside, the sound reaching as far as the Sunglass Hut across the way. A pair of friends deliberated whether to stand in line. "It's surprising this is in Northbrook," said Jake Philip, of Glenview. It was what many in line were saying. "The funny thing is, the people who would really want this stuff, they don't live in Northbrook," he said.

Let's go inside.

Inside the Kanye West store, you were greeted with little. A wall read "Chicago," in Nemek Gothic font, the kind you used to see in old restaurants that thought they were fancy. Nail holes still visible from the

Abercrombie Kids days. Two speakers, playing Kanye's latest album, "The Life of Pablo," on a loop. The style was Heaven Chic. White walls, two mirrors, five racks of clothing. Only five racks. Not six. Not four. A sign read: "Do not remove the items from the racks." Also: "No Refunds." Also: "All Sales Final."

What was for sale?

Twelve items of clothing. Hoodies (\$105), hats (\$45), military jackets (\$325), black satin jackets (\$250). On the left side, clothes were white; on the right side, black. Coats had "Pablo" cascading down the backs in gold script. Shirts read (in Nemek Gothic): "I Feel Like Pablo." Hoodies read: "Any rumor you ever hear about me is true n' legendary." Kids stood in clusters with their order forms, deliberating over how many and what, circling items. A woman in yoga pants walked through and exhaled and left in tears.

A surgical technologist grabbed the satin jacket, said, "Kanye for president" to this reporter and headed for a register. A teenager in a shirt that read "Staff" deliberated on a satin jacket but, recognizing he just couldn't pull off something so hip, settled for a hoodie.

"Sir, you can't take that off the rack," an employee told a startled man in his 30s.

Kanye opened 21 temporary stores all across the world over the weekend. The Northbrook store had about 32 employees, all wearing black. The store was run by the Mosaic marketing firm. There were five registers, aka iPads. A guy in a stocking cap leaned into an employee standing next to the coats and asked: "You get free (expletive)?"

"Nope," she said.

Curiously, not to be outdone, Frank Ocean opened a pop-up store in Evanston on Aug. 20. The line stretched for blocks.

Tami White, 58, of Chicago, left with a satin jacket. Her adult children watched her try it on and shook their heads and smiled. "She does stuff like this," her daughter said. "I'm not reselling this," White said, ignoring them. "I'm wearing this." She was referring to many of the Kanye customers, who said they were buying Kanye clothes to resell online. For instance, Sam Katz-Berger, of Buffalo Grove, a self-described artist, musician and fashion stylist. A clerk handed him a military coat.

He tried it on, took it off, tried it on, scrunched up his face with indecision. This went on for the length of maybe four Kanye songs. Eventually, he decided to get it. He spent more than \$600 that day. But he also planned to resell some of his purchases: "I have to. I need the money."



CHRISTOPHER BORRELLI/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Merchandise carried Nemek Gothic font and big price tags.

Olympic Games filled with inspiring stories



RANDY BLASER

In my last column, I addressed some of the unusual issues and questions surrounding the Rio Summer Olympic Games.

After two weeks of competition, it is clear the United States is the top of the heap of this gathering of world class athletes, nearly lapping its closest competitor – China – in the medal count.

As it has been in many recent Olympics, the American women have been a thrill a minute and a joy to watch on nearly every level. What we've seen over the course of the Olympics has been great and inspiring in many ways.

The star of the games by far is the young gymnast Simone Biles, taking home four gold medals and a bronze. She is hands down the greatest athlete in the world with her tumbling, twisting and turning. Never before has one athlete

dominated so many different individual events.

Her personal story is also uplifting. By now everyone knows the endless hours of practice and competition it takes for an individual to become a world-class athlete. Only with the love and support of family can any individual hope to achieve such greatness.

Adopted by her grandparents, Biles had that love and support. Let there be no doubt, she is an unusually gifted athlete, but she honed her skills to become the best through hard work. It's a gold medal performance, a gold medal family and gold medal story.

One of the other women to shine in this Olympics is swimmer Katie Ledecky, winning four gold medals and one silver. She set a world record in the 800-meter freestyle, distancing the half-mile jaunt in just over eight minutes. Some of us can't even walk the distance that fast.

She's been described as the female Michael Phelps and many women rightly balk at the comparison. Phelps, of course, made



CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY

U.S. gymnast Simone Biles performs on the balance beam Aug. 17 during the Gymnastics Rio Gala on Day 12 of the 2016 Rio Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro.

history at Rio, but Ledecky is in a class by herself. There really is no comparison to what she accomplished as an athlete. In a way, she's an oxymoron — a fast distance swimmer.

Yet there were some

disappointing stories to come out of the great performances. One disappointment was the reaction by some, especially on social media, to Gabby Douglas, the 2012 Olympic all-around champion in wom-

en's gymnastics. She has been criticized for being unpatriotic and for not being adequately overjoyed for teammate Biles taking away her crown.

One of the basic problems with social media is that nothing ever gets ignored. And this criticism of Douglas is something that should be ignored.

What evidence is there Douglas is not adequately patriotic?

She was the only team member not to place her hand over her heart during the gold medal ceremonial playing of the National Anthem. Her hands rested calmly at her side.

Last I checked, hand placement during the "Star-Spangled Banner" is not spelled out in the patriot handbook. If one looks to hockey games for the measure of patriotism, one should hold a beer in one hand and begin cheering and screaming wildly halfway through the song to truly be considered an American, at least in Chicago anyway.

I recall the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City, and if you're not raising a clenched

ed fist salute during the National Anthem, you're OK by me.

The other criticism, that she was not properly overjoyed at Biles becoming Olympic champ, a title Douglas held in 2012, is cast from a rather high horse. Put yourself in her place. A world-class athlete comes to the games to win. Douglas was the best. At that moment of Biles victory, she no longer was.

No matter how you cut it, that's tough. It's rather unfair to judge someone by their immediate reaction to such a moment. Only one person among us could even dream of attaining such a height. Yet so many others are quick to divine what a proper reaction would be?

Cut this woman some slack.

For the most part, the competition has brought out the best in the athletes. They make the difficult look so easy. And to paraphrase Tom Hanks in "A League of Their Own," that's what makes it great.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Term limits no easy fix for what ails Illinois



PAUL SASSONE

There are some things you can tell just by looking at a proposed piece of legislation.

Who will benefit from the legislation?

Is the author a Republican or Democrat?

What you can't deduce from the content of a piece of legislation is how long the bill's author has served in the legislature.

That's because there is

no necessary connection between the quality of a legislator's performance and how long he or she has served in office.

Whether a legislator is doing a good job for the people of Illinois depends on the legislator's intelligence, work ethic and commitment to serving the public's good. None of these qualities depend on the amount of time he or she has been in office.

There are some elected officials for whom one term is too much. And there are others who do their job so well you never want them to leave office.

Yet, once again, Gov.

Bruce Rauner is dragging out his tired campaign to require term limits for elected officials. He would limit lawmakers to 10 years in office and statewide elected officials to eight years.

To this end, Rauner has created a front group called Turnaround Illinois, which is spending big money on advertising trying to rile up Illinoisans to pressure legislators to vote on term limits.

Term limits would give the people of Illinois more control over our broken political system, Gov. Rauner said at a recent press conference.

And he ought to know

about broken political systems.

Under his leadership, social services have been gutted, infrastructure work has languished and education seems to be funded from day to day. There isn't even a budget for the state.

And Gov. Rauner is a first-time elected official. No one can say he has been in office too long.

Supporting term limits is a way to boost a politician's popularity. Since voters have a low opinion of elected officials, anyone who bolsters that opinion gains credence.

And, we should not forget that many of Rauner's



SETH PERLMAN/AP

Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner speaks to farmers and local residents about the need for term limits and redistricting reform July 26 while visiting the Garry Niemeyer corn and soybean farm in Auburn.

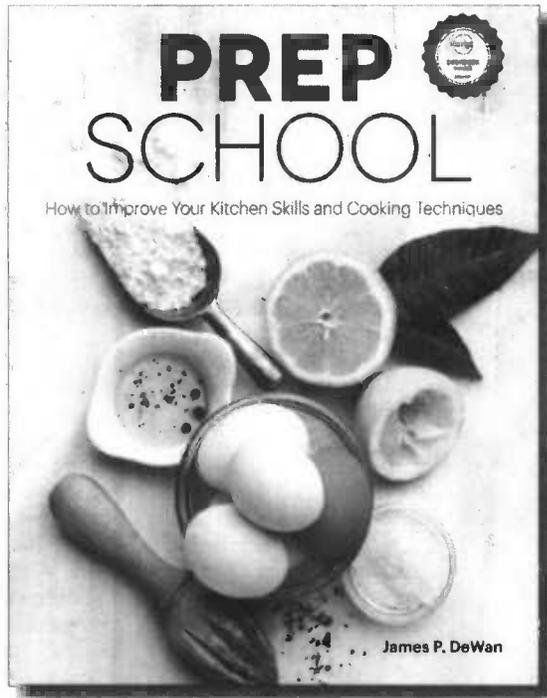
opponents in the Democrat-controlled legislature have been in office several terms.

What a coincidence.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN

Chicago doctor praises Illinois lawmakers for bipartisan effort

BY LOUIS PHILLIPSON
 University of Chicago

As a physician for almost 30 years, I believe ensuring patients receive the best and most effective treatment for their condition and situation should be the objective of our health care system. Health insurers too often require a patient to first try and fail on certain drugs, almost always older and less costly, before providing coverage for other medications – a process known to the insurers as “step therapy.” The Illinois Managed Care Act-Step Therapy (HB3549) passed through both chambers of the Illinois General Assembly this session and was recently signed into law by Gov. Bruce Rauner. This action will help mitigate this process for thousands of patients across Illinois by increasing access to the most effective treatments and curbing the process of step therapy.

Step therapy basically requires the patient to try and fail on Drug A, then try and fail on Drug B before the insurer will cover other similar medications – regardless of what the patient and physician, informed by the medical literature and recommendations of professional societies, have decided will work best for that individual. Serving as the director of the Kovler Diabetes Center at the University of Chicago, and member of the Chicago American Diabetes Association’s (ADAs) Community Leadership Board, I have worked with many patients who have had to endure this process as part of the treatment program mandated by their insurance providers. As a physician, it is extremely frustrating when a decision I’ve made after personal consultation with the patient and care-



CALLY ECKLES PHOTO

Dr. Louis Phillipson

ful consideration of his or her individual needs and medication history is second-guessed by a non-expert at the health insurance company based on financial considerations alone. It’s not a question of what medication is best for the patient’s situation; it’s a question of what’s cheapest for the insurer – at the moment. Improved outcomes, improved tolerability and decreased side effects do not seem to be part of the calculation.

My staff and I spend far too much time jumping through baseless hoops, trying to get prescriptions approved; it takes us away from actually caring for patients. It’s also frustrating to watch patients suffer needlessly as one medication after another fails them. Patient safety is being compromised in the name of cost containment. Insurers are increasingly using step therapy in an attempt to control costs, but this process subverts the physician’s judgment and discretion, ultimately placing patients at risk. Insurers must partner with medical providers to provide cost-effective care, not set up barriers and road blocks without oversight.

The American Diabetes Association strongly supported HB3549, which passed the General Assembly with unanimous bipartisan support, as it will improve transparency and implement procedures for health plan development of medication step therapy requirements. It will also create a streamlined process for requesting and granting exceptions to those requirements, and takes a thoughtful approach to regulating step therapy protocols to ensure they are clinically sound; the exceptions process is consumer-friendly, which helps ensure a patient-centered approach to treating individuals with diabetes.

I thank our representatives in Springfield and the governor for their support of this legislation that gives patients better standing when step therapy requirements are imposed.

Dr. Louis Phillipson is an endocrinologist and the director of the Kovler Diabetes Center at the University of Chicago. He is also president of the American Diabetes Association’s Chicago Community Leadership Board.

Put joy in your agenda



NICOLE RADZISZEWSKI
Mama's Gotta Move

For most of my adult life, I've had a movement agenda. In college, I ran to stay thin and ward off the freshman 15. After graduation, I continued running to prove that I could be fast. Then I got injured and switched to strength training — first to fix myself, and then to get stronger and gain definition.

None of these are bad reasons to move. They all served a purpose for me and led me to where I am today. The issue isn't how I moved; it's how I didn't move.

I look back at my years spent training for races and targeting muscle groups, and I see missed opportunities — times when my one-track movement mind caused me to miss the big picture. In short, I missed out on fun.

It hit me last weekend when I took my boys to my aunt's lake house in Wisconsin. On Sunday morning, my aunt said to me, "We've got a house full of adults. Feel free to go for a run and we can watch the kids."

Sounds like a great idea, right? Get in my miles, make up for the previous night's birthday cake and tire out my legs so I wouldn't feel bad about sitting two and a half hours on the car ride home. A couple of years ago, I totally would have been all over it.

But I could run anytime. It seemed like a waste to do the same out-and-back run along the lake that I'd done every summer for the past 10 years. I was in a different environment, with different things to explore. And I wanted my kids to explore them, too.

"Thanks," I told my aunt. "But I think I'll take the boys exploring on the Cam-



NICOLE RADZISZEWSKI/PIONEER PRESS

Remember having fun with a hula hoop? Nicole Radziszewski is recapturing childhood joy in her movement agenda.

Rock trail."

The Cam-Rock trailhead was just outside of town and was an attraction for hikers, mountain bikers and trail runners. I'd been coming to my aunt's house for years and I'd never actually hiked it. Why? Because hiking wasn't in my movement agenda. It wasn't going to make me stronger or faster, it wasn't the most efficient way to burn calories, it really didn't serve a purpose in my training goals.

It had never occurred to me that maybe hiking the trail would be FUN.

I look back to when I was a kid and movement was joy in and of itself — not a means to an end: Look, a ball! Let's kick it. A tree? Climb it! A big grassy field? Perfect for running through. A hula hoop, a jump rope, monkey bars, puddles, a chalk-drawn set of squares on the sidewalk — you name it — it was a reason to move. Maybe you can remember those days, too.

So what happened?

Fear of getting fat, concern about what other people think, obsession with meeting a goal, an urge to go to extremes to make up for an otherwise sedentary lifestyle, turning exercise into punishment for eating "bad" things, emphasis on efficiency and productivity with no room for play, and general adulting tendencies.

Goodbye, hula hoop.

I've missed out on too many juicy life experiences

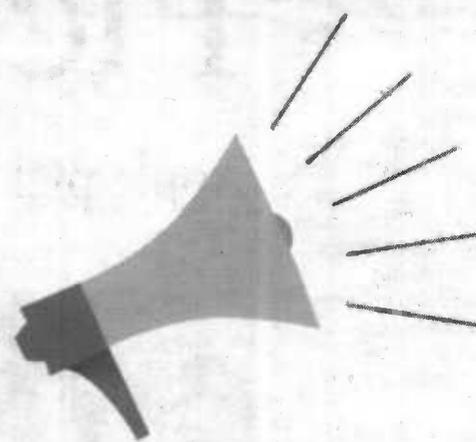
thanks to stupid movement agendas. Not any more.

Here's my new agenda: Movement that brings me joy.

It's only within the past year or so that I've started to make this change. I credit my kids for leading me here. Instead of seeking time away from them so I could move on my own, I started looking for ways to move with them. I started playing again. I watched them squeal with joy when jumping from a ledge or catching a ball and tried to put myself in their place. I stopped racing (and competing) through life and started slowing down to appreciate its juicy opportunities. I fell in love with movement again.

So the boys and I hiked the Cam-Rock trail. We stopped to look for frogs in a yucky swamp, carried some branches just for fun, and raced each other over a footbridge. We were surprised to find a playground at the end of our route and stopped to climb the monkey bars. We sped back home because the mosquitoes were hungry and so were we. Then, as all good stories end, we ate ice cream.

Nicole Radziszewski is a freelance columnist. She lives in River Forest and is a certified personal trainer and mother of two. Check Nicole out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mamagottamove.



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Apples. Is there anything they can't be used for? Apple pie, apple butter, apple doughnuts, apple juice, apple sauce, chicken and apples, caramel apples and apple crisp.

Now that our mouths are all watering, let's think about apple picking.

Very soon many apple orchards across Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin, will open for apple-picking season. From Gala to Honeycrisp to Granny Smith, most orchards offer several varieties of apples, all perfect for snacking and baking.

Additionally, several of these orchards have extra activities like corn mazes and petting zoos, as well as gift shops with treats like apple cider and apple doughnuts.

Before you go, call ahead or check the orchard's website or social media for updates on crop supply and any rules.

All Seasons Orchard: 14510 Illinois Route 176, Woodstock. 815-338-5637; Allseasonsorchar.com. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and Labor Day from Sept. 3 to Oct. 30. Early in the season, varieties like Liberty, Gala and McIntosh will be ready for picking. Sept. 17 is when the Honeycrisp festival begin. There are several activities in the barnyard, including a corn maze, bounce houses, and a petting zoo. Stop in the bakery and stock up on apple cider doughnuts, apple pie and hand-dipped caramel apples. Admission and pricing hasn't been determined yet, but will be posted online. Visa, MasterCard and Discover cards accepted. No pets.

Apple Holler: 5006 S. Sylvania Ave., Sturtevant, Wis. 262-884-7100; AppleHoller.com. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, through early November. More than 70 varieties of apples are available.

Apples on Oak: 16146 W. Oak Ave., Joliet. 815-726-0386; Applesonoak.com. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday through early October. This small orchard has several varieties of apples. According to the website, it has stopped spraying any herbicide or fungicide, switching to holistic sprays. Admission is free. Apples are sold by the bag size: half-peck, one- and two-peck for \$10, \$18 and \$32 respectively. Go to the website for varieties and picking times. Visa, MasterCard and Discover cards accepted.

Garden Patch Farms and Orchard: 14154 W. 159th St., Homer Glen. 708-301-7720; pickthefarm.com. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, with apple picking beginning in early September. There is a \$5 field charge anyone who enters the field; visitors using a credit card pay \$6 per person to enter the fields. Apples cost \$2 per pound; \$3 for Honeycrisp. All major credit cards accepted.

Harvest Time Orchards, 36116 128th St., Twin Lakes, Wis. 262-877-4831; MyHarvestTime.com. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5

Pick a peck

Apple picking season about to take off

BY ANNIE ALLEMAN | Pioneer Press



ALL SEASONS ORCHARD

A family picks apples at All Seasons Orchard in Woodstock. The orchard opens for apple picking this year on Labor Day.

p.m. Saturdays and Sundays only. Open Aug. 27 through October for apple picking. The orchard includes a doughnut shop, barn and country smoke house, brat shop, overlook deck and cider barn.

Heinz Orchard: 1050 Crest Road, Green Oaks. 847-770-3449; Heinzorchard.com. This family-run orchard is set to open Sept. 9, with hours from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. McIntosh apples will be available to pick. There's no parking or admission fee and apples are sold by the half-peck (about six pounds) and full peck. Cash only.

Homestead Orchard: 11802 Charles Road, Woodstock. 815-338-7443; Homesteadorchard.net. Apple picking has begun and late August varieties include McIntosh and Gala, with Jonathans following in mid-September. See the website for approximate ripening dates for all 23 varieties of apples at this orchard, which is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12 to 5 p.m. Sunday through Oct. 23. The cost of all apples will be \$18 per peck (12 pounds). Free admission and free parking; cash or check only. No dogs.

Honey Hill Orchard: 11747 Waterman Road, Waterman. 815-264-3337; honeyhillorchard.com. This orchard has 2,100 apple trees, with an additional 500 trees at a second farm location. Picking will be available from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday in late August. The hours are 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily starting in early September through Oct. 31. There is also a petting zoo and straw pyramid and bakery. No dogs, smoking or food allowed. Free admission, cash only for you-pick, credit cards and local checks accepted in the bakery and Feeding Trough cafe.

Jonamac Orchard: 19412 Shabbona Road, Malta. 815-825-2158. Jonamacorchard.com. The orchard opened Aug. 24, but you-pick begins Labor Day weekend, along with most of the fall-themed activities. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily during the picking season. The orchard offers 32 apple varieties. Farm activities include a corn maze, a barnyard, petting zoo, apple train and apple launcher. There is no admission charge to get on the farm, but there is a charge for activities. Apple picking is charged by the bag. Cash, check, Visa and MasterCard accepted. No pets; strollers and wagons are OK.

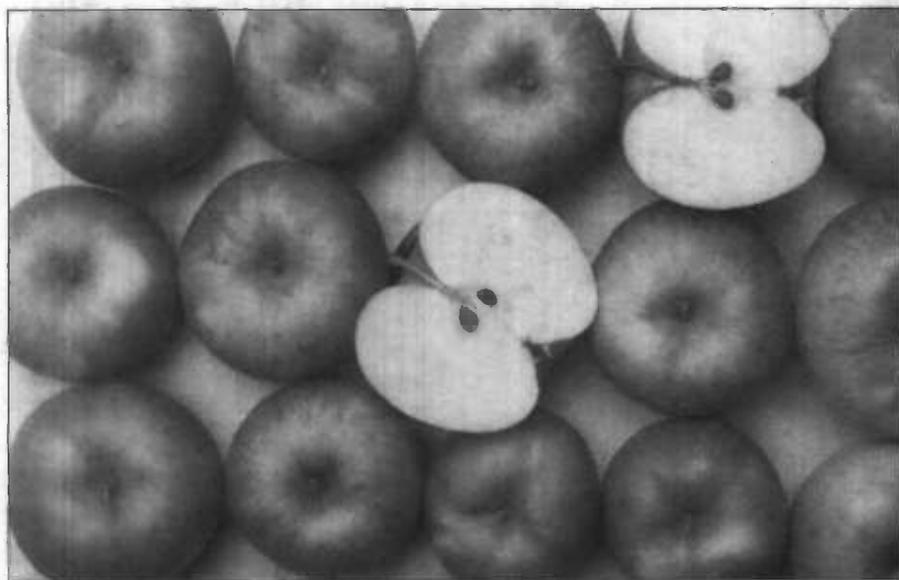
Knutson's Country Harvest: 13550 Townhouse Road, Newark. 815-695-5905; Knutsonsharvest.com. Apple picking runs through late October. Hours are from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday; and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission to pick costs \$1 for people ages 5 and over. Apples are priced per pound. Cash, debit cards, Visa/MasterCard accepted.

Kuipers Family Farm: 1N318 Watson Road, Maple Park. 815-827-5200; Kuipersfamilyfarm.com. The orchard is open for pick-your-own apples from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. through October or while supplies last. No picking on Labor Day or Columbus Day. Admission costs \$10 per person for you-pick and includes a hayride and quarter-peck bag of apples. The farm has two gift shops and a bakery. Cash and credit cards accepted.

Lang's Orchard: 17411 Secor Road, Woodstock. 815-568-7547; Langsorchar.com. The you-pick season opens Sept. 10. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday through Wednesday. See the website for ripening dates. Honeycrisps and Snow-sweet cost \$12 per half-peck and are sold pre-picked only. All other varieties will be available for you-pick at \$15 per peck and \$60 per bushel. There is an additional \$2 off on apple purchases on weekdays. Credit cards, checks and cash accepted.

Meadowmoor Orchard: 1517 N. Route 47, Woodstock. 815-687-8208; Meadowmoororchard.com. This orchard opens up on Labor Day for you-pick. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission and parking is free; you

Turn to **Orchards, Page 21**



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Many apple orchards will be open for the picking season starting Labor Day weekend.

Orchards, from Page 20

only pay for what you pick. Apples cost \$1.50 per pound; Honeycrisps cost \$2.50 per pound. No pets allowed. Cash or check only.

Prairie Sky Orchard: 4914 N. Union Road, Union. 815-923-4834; Prairieskyorchard.com. This orchard is aiming for a Sept. 3 opening. The hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Check the website for exact opening dates and prices on apples. On weekends, the orchard has a kiosk with hot dogs and warm apple pie. It also has Asian pears, pumpkin and squash available in late September, and a country store with homemade goodies. Cash, check, Discover, Visa and MasterCard accepted.

Royal Oak Farm Orchard: 15908 Hebron Road, Harvard. 815-648-4141. The large, you-pick orchard is open through Nov. 19. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday to Oct. 31. Then, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday Nov. 1-19. Back again for guests to enjoy is the Amaze 'N Apples maze: a 4-acre maze that is shaped like an apple and created out of apple trees. It costs \$6 to go through. There is also fresh cider, a corn



ROYAL OAK FARM ORCHARD

The 4-acre, apple-shaped maze at Royal Oak Farm Orchard in Harvard.

maze, playground, train rides, carousel, country market, pre-picked produce and a petting zoo. Apples cost \$6 for a quarter-peck for children age 6-16 and seniors 65 and over, and \$12 for a half-peck or \$21 for a peck for adults. There's no admission fee, but every person going to pick over the age of 5 must have a bag. The park area, playground and petting zoo are all free. Free parking. Cash, check, Visa, MasterCard and Discover accepted.

Woodstock Country Orchard: 17015 Garden Valley Road, Woodstock. 815-923-4359. Several varieties of apples will be available for you-pick beginning Sept. 9. Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekends. The orchard offers Jonamac, Gala and Honeycrisps for you-pick; call or check the website for pricing. It also has homegrown garlic, raspberries and apple cider for sale. Cash or check only, no credit cards. No dogs.



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EXHIBIT

New Skokie art gallery's first show features playful pop art

BY MYRNA PETLICKI

Pioneer Press

There's a new art gallery in Skokie and it's opening with a show that's sure to arouse interest and stir imaginations.

"Sweet Spoils," the initial exhibition at Miishkooki Art Space, features works by 16 acclaimed and rising artists — 11 international and five local. The pieces, in a variety of mediums, are filled with social commentary.

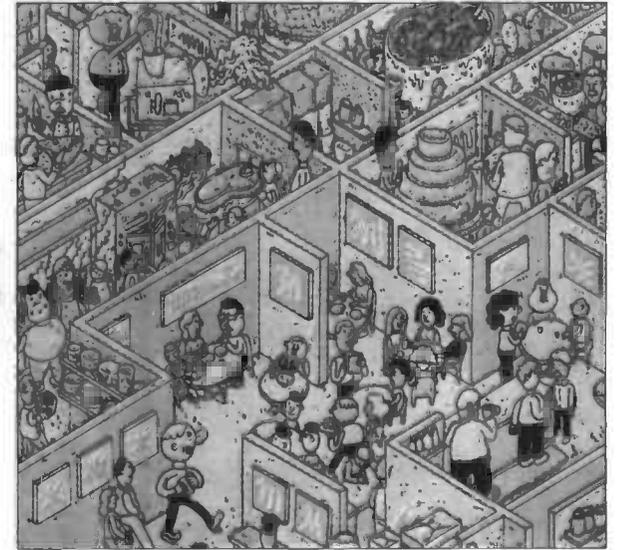
Gallery owner John Maloof, who co-curated the exhibit with Rich Szczepanski, noted, "There's a lot of demented things going on in a lot of the pieces. There's an element of surreal work, there's an element of pop art and there's an element of playful illustrations and comic-style work. It's a fun assortment of art."

Maloof noted that it's sometimes difficult to get artists to participate in a gallery's first show but it was easier once internationally-acclaimed artist Joan Cornella agreed to show work.

Buildings are prominent in the work of Chicago-based artist and illustrator Nate Otto who frequently creates dense cityscape illustrations on panels. His intricate murals decorate the walls of the headquarters of Nike, Basecamp (artist in residence 2013-16) and Facebook (artist in residence March 2016).

Otto will have a half-dozen new pieces in the show, all created on panels. "They're cityscapes but I'm building the cities out of pieces of cut paper," the artist said. "I'm also incorporating faces. There's two things I'm known for — buildings and faces. In these pieces I'm trying to merge the two. I'm excited about showing them."

"Life is Beautiful" in the



DAVID ALVARADO PHOTO

The work of David Alvarado, a cartoonist and illustrator, is included in the exhibit "Sweet Spoils" at the new Miishkooki Art Space in Skokie.

'Sweet Spoils' exhibit

When: Aug. 26-Oct. 1; Opening reception 7-10 p.m., Aug. 26

Where: Miishkooki Art Space, 4517 Oakton, Skokie
Information: (872) 333-2230; www.miishkooki.com

world of David Alvarado. That's the title of the series Alvarado has been creating for a year for newcity.com. The cartoons are subtitled "Teen Dreams."

In addition to being a cartoonist, Alvarado is an illustrator whose work is packed with people and creatures, most often in vivid colors. He described his style as "very graphic — a lot of black colors, a lot of bold lines. It borders between the real world — buildings and elements that we can all recognize — and fantasy."

Alvarado's pieces in the show include some fantasy elements. He is also including a couple of pieces that he did for newspapers.

"I chose those pieces

because they're not strictly editorial," he said. "They're really playful and fun."

Gallery owner Maloof is a photographer, filmmaker and painter. The 35-year-old Skokie resident is best known as the chief curator of the work of the late outsider photographer Vivian Maier and director of the Oscar- and Emmy-nominated film, "Finding Vivian Maier."

Maloof opened the gallery because, "I wanted a space to make my own art and I thought it would be a great place to start showing work that I like," he said.

The expansive Skokie storefront has a large main space in front as well as a space in back that Maloof anticipates using as overflow for art shows as well as for studios. "I want to have artists make work here," he said.

Maloof chose the unusual name for the gallery because that's what the native tribe that initially lived in what is now Skokie called the area. "It means swamp," he said. Also, he admitted, "I liked the way it sounded."



PARK RIDGE PARK DISTRICT

Families will enjoy fishing and a campfire and sleeping outside during a Backyard Campout, Sept. 9-10 at Wildwood Nature Center in Park Ridge.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Enjoy nature after dark at Park Ridge campout

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Spend a night next to nature and near home at a Backyard Campout, 5 p.m. Sept. 9 through 10 a.m. Sept. 10 at Wildwood Nature Center, 529 Forestview Ave., Park Ridge.

After families set up their campsites, the fun begins. "We have the fishing poles and the nets out so they can fish in the pond while we get the campfire started," said Supervisor Jenny Clauson. "Then we have a campfire dinner. Usually it's hot dogs and hamburgers for the kids and we do some more fancy things for the grown ups so we have options like apricot-glazed pork chops."

After dessert — think s'mores — a family-friendly movie is shown.

"In the morning, the kids usually go fishing and the adults get the coffee brewing," Clauson said. The event ends with a campfire breakfast.

The resident cost is \$10 for ages 2-10; \$14 for ages 11 and older; nonresidents pay \$16 and \$20. Registration is

required.

For details, call 847-692-3570 or go to www.prpark-s.org.

How does he do it?

A magician who teaches the tricks of the trade at over 135 suburban park districts will dazzle the audience during Magic of Gary Kantor, 2-2:45 p.m. Aug. 28 in Petty Auditorium at Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. The event is part of Skokie's annual Backlot Bash.

For details, call 847-673-7774 or go to www.skokie.library.info.

Readers rewards

The ballots have been counted for kids' favorite Hero and Place in books and the winners will be announced during the Summer Reading Triathlon Closing Ceremony, 11 a.m. Aug. 27 at Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. There will also be activities and rewards for kids who participated in the reading program.

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

Hop aboard

...the Old Orchard Choo Choo Train for a spin around the shopping center, Skokie Blvd. and Old Orchard Road, Skokie. Pick it up at the train station near PlaySpace, noon-8 p.m. Mondays-Fridays; 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturdays; and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sundays, through October. The cost is \$4.

For details, call 847-673-6800 or go to www.westfield.com/oldorchard.

Go for a spin

Great exercise and beautiful sights await at Bike the Garden, 7:30-9:30 a.m. Aug. 28 at Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Register at 7 a.m. for this free event. Participants are eligible to win a bike. Following the ride, there will be a celebration at the McDonald Woods Pavilion.

For details, call 847-835-5440 or go to www.chicagobotanic.org.

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BLOODSHOT

NOW-SEPTEMBER 10

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OF THE OFF-
BROADWAY HIT

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— Time Out New York

ROSE

The Kennedy's story as told by the woman who lived it all, Rose Kennedy

NOW-SEPTEMBER 25

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greenhousetheater.org

Avenues to Independence scores \$160K

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Gorman Golf and Tennis Classic
Benefiting: Avenues to Inde-
pendence and its programs that
serve adults with developmental
disabilities
Location: Park Ridge Country
Club, Park Ridge
Date: July 18
Attended: 240
Raised: \$160,000
Website: avenuestoindependence.org



Clockwise, from left: Ryan McCarthy of Park Ridge, Cliff Panczyk of Naperville, and Zach, Cathy, and Jim McCarthy of Park Ridge



Mark Dow, left, and Jerry Feldman, both of Park Ridge



JOHN J. BEUSSE, LAURA LOCKWOOD/AVENUES TO INDEPENDENCE PHOTOS

Dick Spatafora, from left, Sam Abezetian, Tom and Ray Emerick, and their caddy Nick, all of Park Ridge



Denean Faraci, from left, Holly Barrett, Carolyn Wine and Kelly Bosker, all from Park Ridge



Steve Wilson congratulates Mary Dow, Dream Cruise winner. Both live in Park Ridge.



Sue Feldman, left, and Lorie Bartel, both of Park Ridge



Dirk Ahlbeck, from left, Glen Amundsen, Matt Coyne and Eric Johnson, all of Park Ridge



Brian Murphy of Melrose Park, from left, Glen Amundsen and Bill Rogers of Park Ridge



Sara McKittrick, left, and Beth DiMeo, both of Park Ridge

Share your event

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

Living

Thursday, August 25, 2016



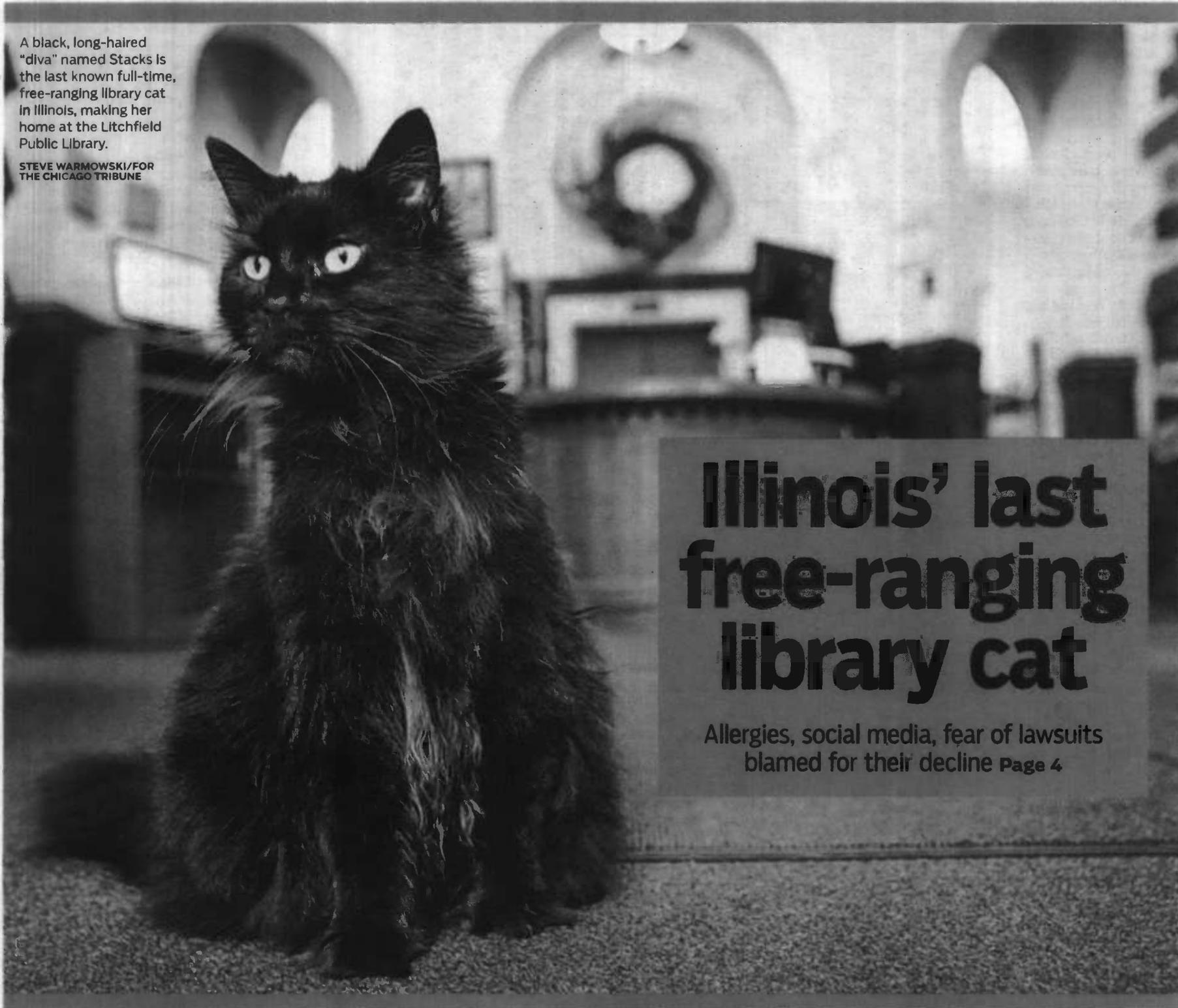
**Mel's kitchen:
Packet meals
a camping
cookout treat**

Page 3

2

A black, long-haired "diva" named Stacks is the last known full-time, free-ranging library cat in Illinois, making her home at the Litchfield Public Library.

STEVE WARMOWSKI/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE



Illinois' last free-ranging library cat

Allergies, social media, fear of lawsuits
blamed for their decline Page 4

Hospice, college team up to teach cooking

By Judy Buchenot
Naperville Sun

Losing a spouse requires going through many life changes. Heather Nickrand, Bereavement Coordinator with Alexian Brothers Hospice, helps people make adjustments after a loss but realized there was one concern that was not being met. She found that many people wanted information on cooking for one and so she began to search for an instructor willing to take on the challenge. Laura Lerdal, Culinary Market Supervisor and Lab Coordinator at College of DuPage, answered the call for this specialized program.

"It's tricky cooking just for yourself," Villa Park resident Lerdal said. She teamed up with David Kramer, Associate Professor of Culinary Arts at College of DuPage, to offer sessions in cooking techniques for one. These free culinary grief therapy sessions are offered at College of DuPage in partnership with Alexian Brothers Hospice.

"The approach is very different than a regular cooking class," said Kramer, of Wheaton. "When you had a spouse who did all the cooking and shopping, it can be overwhelming to have to do it yourself. Some members of the class didn't even know how to do simple things like peel an onion."

"Some questions are just hard to ask because they are so basic," Lerdal said. "We had a grilling class and several ladies attended because the husbands they lost had done all of the grilling. Some hadn't used the grill in two years because they weren't sure what to do. We give them a place where they felt comfortable to ask basic questions like 'how do you clean a grill?'"

"Sometimes it's just learning about ingredients," added Lerdal. "Just buying the things needed to make a dish can be confusing. A



LAURA LERDAL/COLLEGE OF DUPAGE

Fish and vegetables grilled in a foil packet is a quick and easy meal for one.

Laura's Culinary Cue

If you're going to scale down a recipe, use a recipe for two or four and cut it back. Cutting back a recipe for eight or 10 doesn't work as well. Scaling back aromatic ingredients like spices is the most challenging and often requires more frequent tasting than usual to get the correct amount.

recipe may call for an onion but there are many different types of onions at the store so how does a beginning cook know which onion to use?"

Scaling back portions is a big challenge. "I have women tell me they would really like to cook a roast but they don't want to eat it for weeks. Shopping can be challenging at first until they realize that you can ask the butcher to sell you one pork chop or ask to have things repackaged in smaller quantities."

One of the most popular classes offered so far was the class on how to cook once and make several different meals. "We had 70 people at that class," Lerdal said.

But the class is about more than kitchen skills. "We take a holistic approach," said Lerdal. "We

understand that the participants are getting over a loss."

She noted that the aroma of a dish once made by a spouse can trigger strong memories. Recalling meals together can be an emotional experience, and talking about these feelings is part of the class experience.

Upcoming culinary grief therapy sessions include a class on men's skills on Sept. 1 and a holiday meal planning on Nov. 16. The Dec. 10 session will be a holiday cookie exchange.

For more information on the sessions, call 630-233-5119 or email heather.nickrand@alexian.net.

Summer Fish & Vegetable Packets

- 1 tilapia fillet
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sliced vegetables (zucchini, asparagus, onion, green beans, yellow squash, etc.)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup quartered grape tomatoes
- 1 tablespoon pitted and coarsely chopped Kalamata olives or capers
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh oregano
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- Squeeze of lemon juice
- Salt and pepper to taste

1. Preheat grill to medium. Place vegetables, tomatoes, olive and herbs in a bowl. Add olive oil, lemon juice, salt and pepper and toss to evenly coat. To make packets, lay two sheets of foil (about 18 inches long) on top of each other and liberally brush with oil or cooking spray to prevent sticking.

2. Divide tilapia in half. Place one portion in the center of the foil, sprinkle with salt and pepper and top with half of the vegetable mix. Bring the ends of the foil together, making sure to leave some room for the steam to gather. Fold the foil over and seal edges tightly to ensure the steam does not escape during cooking. Repeat for the remaining packet. Place the packets on the grill and cook about 5 minutes, until the fish begins to flake and the vegetables are beginning to soften. Open the packets and allow steam to escape before removing contents and placing on a serving plate.

3. Packets can also be baked instead of grilled. To bake, preheat oven to 400 degrees. Assemble packets as indicated above and bake them directly on an oven rack until the fish begins to flake and the vegetables are beginning to soften, about 20 minutes. This recipe is very versatile. Use whatever vegetables you like or have left over, any herbs that you prefer, the fish of your choice and seasoning to taste. The only caution is to make sure that the vegetables are cut the same size to ensure even cooking. Serves one or two.

Grilled Peaches with Cinnamon Sugar Butter & Ice Cream

- 1 ripe peach, halved and pitted
- Canola oil
- Vanilla ice cream
- Crushed amaretti cookies for garnish

1. Heat grill to high and oil grates. Brush cut side of peaches with oil and place flat side down on the grill until peach begins to soften and is just cooked through. Top each half with a scoop of ice cream and amaretti crumbs and serve. Makes one large or two small servings.



MELISSA ELSMO/PIONEER PRESS

Foil packet meals like this shrimp and sausage recipe make perfect camping cookout meals.

Perfect foil: Packet meals a camping cookout treat



MELISSA ELSMO
Out of Mel's Kitchen

Every year I spend Labor Day weekend camping with a bevy of close family friends. We dust off our tent, pack a cooler and head to Governor Dodge State Park in Wisconsin where we hike in the woods, hide from the rain and spend hours lounging by the lake. The trip is fun and relaxing, but over the years I've come to understand careful planning is the key to a successful group campout.

Our annual "Klasy Kamping" adventure combines five families for a total of 21 hungry campers huddled around a blazing fire every night. Serving meals fit for a crowd in the forest does present its fair share of challenges, but we have more than 10 years of experience pulling group meals together, and we've become pretty savvy when it comes to campfire cook-

ing.

Our crew makes an excellent version of Walking Frito Pie, an epic breakfast burrito buffet and a mind-blowing gourmet s'mores bar. Our meals are festive and flavorful all weekend long.

Preparing dinner on the evening of our arrival is always the most challenging. After a long car trip in holiday weekend traffic, everyone is edgy and hungry when we finally roll up to our campsites. A few years ago we abandoned our group meal on night one in favor of allowing each family to do their own thing for dinner.

Some families grab a quick meal on the road while others grill up steaks and fresh veggies, but I always like to whip up some campfire packets to get the weekend started. I assemble them at home before we leave and transport the savory meals in a well-iced cooler. We allow a roaring fire to burn down while we pitch our tent and set up our campsite, and by the time we're done, a lovely bed of embers is ready to cook our dinner.

We've enjoyed packets filled

with chicken, stuffing and broccoli, and I've even made a simple fajita mix to serve with soft tortillas. Foil wrapped meals cooked over coals is an easy cooking method that yields excellent results if you respect the varied cooking times of different ingredients. For instance, many campfire packets call for raw potatoes and veggies, but I've never had good luck getting hard vegetables to cook evenly in foil.

My favorite campout trick involves par-cooking hard veggies like carrots, celery and potatoes in advance of wrapping them in foil. Pairing cooked veggies with quick cooking proteins ensures your campfire meal will be flavorful and evenly cooked.

This year I am offering my family an easy version of surf and turf. Tender shrimp and smoky sausage sit atop a bed of rosemary-roasted potatoes, fresh corn, crunchy celery and savory garlic. This quick cooking packet is ready to eat in just over 10 minutes and with minimal mess. Make your Labor Day campout as delicious and relaxed as possible by using this easy cooking technique.

Campfire Shrimp-Sausage Dinner Packets

If you can't find marble potatoes for this recipe, feel free to quarter and roast some A sized red potatoes. You can even cook and refrigerate the potatoes and celery the day before you assemble the packets. Makes 4 servings.

- 20 very small (1-inch diameter) red potatoes (these are often called marble potatoes)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 2 teaspoons chopped fresh rosemary
- Kosher salt and coarse black pepper
- 3 celery stalks, sliced into 1/2-inch pieces
- 4 (3 ounce) link smoked sausage, sliced into 4-5 pieces
- 1 cup fresh corn kernels, cut from the cob
- 20 (26/30 count) shell-on, deveined raw shrimp
- 1 1/2-2 teaspoons Old Bay seasoning or favorite seasoning blend
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter

Chopped fresh parsley, lemon wedges and crusty bread for serving

1. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Place the potatoes on a small rimmed baking sheet and drizzle with the olive oil. Roll the potatoes to coat evenly with oil and sprinkle with the rosemary. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Roast the potatoes for 25 minutes or until tender. Allow the potatoes to cool to room temp before assembling the packets.

2. While the potatoes are cooling, bring a small sauce pan of water to a boil. Add the celery and boil gently for 8 minutes or until vibrant green and just crisp-tender. Drain and allow the par-cooked celery to cool to room temperature before assembling the packets.

3. Use grilling foil or heavy duty aluminum foil to make the packets. Pull a 16-inch piece of foil from the roll. Fold the foil in half and cut to make a large heart shape. Repeat until you have 4 foil hearts. Open the hearts on a large work surface and build the packets.

4. Place 5 potatoes in the center of half of each heart. Distribute the celery, smoked sausage, corn and shrimp evenly over the potatoes. Sprinkle each packet with the Old Bay seasoning, salt, pepper and minced garlic. Top each packet with 1 Tablespoon of butter.

5. Fold the top half of the heart over the filling and seal the edges tightly starting at the pointy end; take your time to really make sure the packets are sealed — you don't want them to leak while they cook. When all the packets are sealed place them in the refrigerator until ready to pack up your cooler. Place the packets in resealable plastic bags between layers of ice in a cooler for travel.

6. To cook the packets, use the coals from a well-burning campfire. Pull some of the glowing embers from a hot fire into a pile and place the packets directly onto the coals. Allow to cook for 5 minutes on one side. Using long tongs, carefully flip the packets and cook on the second side for 6 minutes. Pull the packets from the coals and place on a metal tray or tin plate to rest for a few minutes. Packets can also be cooked on a sheet tray in a 450 degree oven for 11 minutes turning halfway through the cooking time.

To serve, slit the packets open and sprinkle with parsley and squeeze of lemon. Use your hands to peel the shrimp and the bread to sop up the juices in the bottom of the packet.

COVER STORY

Illinois' last free-ranging library cat

Allergies, social media, fear of lawsuits blamed for their decline

By Nara Schoenberg
Chicago Tribune

Even before you enter the stately limestone library with leaded glass windows and copper-colored trim, you see signs of the local celebrity. Not at eye level; look lower, and there, hovering in the shadows behind the glass door, are two ice-green eyes, staring up at you with frank curiosity.

You may recognize those emerald orbs from the Stacks the Library Cat mugs, the T-shirts or the photos at the Litchfield, Ill., Public Library website. But if not, their owner will be happy to introduce herself, pushing her head under your hand, rubbing a silky black flank against your leg, leading you, fluffy tail trailing at half-mast, to the polished wood circulation desk where she does her best work.

Stacks, believed to be the last full-time, free-ranging library cat in Illinois, hops onto the desk, stretches out luxuriously and falls into her signature near-snooze, a restful state that invites pats from shy tweens, curious senior citizens, even a 1-year-old who proclaims ecstatically from her mother's arms, "Like cat!"



Circulation clerk Sam Dagon works while Stacks sits on the circulation desk, where she spends a lot of time.

STEVE WARMOWSKI/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

That's a popular sentiment in this town of 6,900 set amid cornfields 250 miles southwest of Chicago, but in the larger world, library cats face an uncertain future.

Their ranks are down considerably from 2010, when there were at least five library cats statewide. A Tribune search, based on an old master list and a query published in the Illinois Library Associa-

tion's electronic newsletter, turned up just two full-time feline residents: Stacks, of course, and Newby, a handsome black cat with a dash of white on his chest who resides in the staff offices of

the Nippersink Public Library in Richmond.

That's a decline of 60 percent in six years. And Lisa Rogak,

Turn to *Library cat*, Page 6

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Elmhurst Hospital wouldn't change bill

Dear Help Squad,
I have been trying to resolve a medical bill with Elmhurst Hospital since January 2015. I have my (Blue Cross Blue Shield Medicare Advantage) EOB (explanation of benefits), which states that I owe \$0, but Elmhurst Hospital says our bill is \$114 for lab fees. I have spoken to (Blue Cross Blue Shield) and they tell me, "There is nothing you can do, it was coded incorrectly." I'm getting harassed by a collection agency.

The doctor left his office at Elmhurst Hospital, so I don't know where/how to contact him to change the coding.

Sincerely,
Jo Anne, Elmhurst

My investigation into Jo Anne's issue began with Blue Cross Blue Shield, and ultimately had to go no further. (I do love when that happens!)

Upon reaching her via email, BCBS spokesperson Colleen Miller was quick to tackle the situation.

She immediately turned Jo Anne's complaint over to BCBS's customer service team, which in turn reached out to Elm-

hurst Hospital on Jo Anne's behalf.

Two days later, Miller informed me, "A member of our Medicare Advantage team ... was informed by the hospital that the family now has a zero balance."

She later explained,

"There were really two separate issues. The claim Elmhurst sent us was missing a modifier, which is information that helps us process the claim. In addition, our system processed the claim in a way that communicated to the provider it was a 'patient responsibility,' rather than ... 'missing or incomplete' information. As a result, Elmhurst billed the member. Our customer service team ... was able to correctly determine there was missing information on the claim. We regret the confusion and have addressed the issue on our end."

When I asked Jo Anne if the situation had been resolved to her satisfaction, she told me, "My husband got a phone call from Blue Cross Blue Shield on Monday saying



CATHY CUNNINGHAM
Help Squad

the issue with Elmhurst Hospital has been resolved and we should no longer be getting bills or statements from the collection agency. If we do, we have phone numbers and names to call.

"I never could figure out why we were billed \$114 for this lab fee when our Medicare Advantage EOB stated our balance was \$0. To make it even more difficult, I did not receive the bill from the hospital in a timely manner to know this was a problem!"

When Jo Anne's husband asked BCBS to please contact the collection agency to request that it stop sending notices, he was assured this would be done.

"Thanks for your capable assistance," said Jo Anne. "It has been 15 months since I first received a bill. Since then I have been phoning, mailing letters and faxing the hospital, doctor's office and Blue Cross Blue Shield, all with no resolution of the problem. Many, many thanks for Help Squad's intervention."

When I asked Miller if she could offer direction for those similarly caught between

a health care provider's and an insurer's conflicting classification, she offered this:

"(T)he simple answer is: Call the customer service phone number on the back of your (insurance) ID card. The majority of all issues are successfully handled at that level. If a member doesn't feel their issue is being addressed, they can ask to speak to a supervisor. (BCBS's) goal is to resolve any member's concerns or questions as promptly as possible."

My final piece of advice to Jo Anne was to check her credit at **AnnualCreditReport.com**. There, consumers can annually request a free credit report from each of the three credit agencies. Unfortunately, it is often the case that once collections has gotten involved, an unpaid bill has been reported. If this winds up being the case for Jo Anne, Help Squad will be ready to assist.

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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Illinois' last free-ranging library cat

Library cat, from Page 4

co-author of the new book "The True Tails of Baker and Taylor, The Library Cats Who Left Their Paw-prints on a Small Town ... And the World," says that other states are losing library cats as well.

"The odds are, unfortunately, against them," Rogak said. "Even (at) the library in Spencer, Iowa, where the incredibly world-famous library cat Dewey lived, the board of directors voted that no animals, aside from service animals, can be allowed in the library."

Librarians point to several factors working against the pint-size literary lions, including concerns about allergies, the digital age pressure to seem "modern" and "relevant," a highly litigious society and social media, which can amplify the concerns of a small but passionate anti-cat contingent.

"There are some people who just don't like cats," said Anne Newman, library director at Illinois' Paxton Carnegie Library, where Max, a former shelter cat, presided from 2002 until his death in 2011.

"It's like there are some people who don't like clowns. They don't want cats near them, and to those of us who do like cats — or clowns — it doesn't make sense. There were people in the community who were terribly unhappy that we got a cat, and, boy, did they let us know. It was a struggle, and I'm too old to go through that struggle again."

The post of library cat is often traced to ancient Egypt, where cats protected precious papyrus scrolls from the ravages of hungry rodents.

Library cats in Illinois carry on that proud tradition, but a good library cat is more than just a mouse hunter. She's an ice breaker



PATTI ELSTNER PHOTO

Newby, the library cat at Nippersink Public Library in Richmond. His name is short for Newbery, as in the Newbery Medal for children's literature, and his hobbies include sitting on the fax machine and playing fetch. "He is very fond of the UPS guy, who always stops to rub his ears," says library director Cynthia Cole.

who brings people in and makes them feel at home.

You can see that dynamic at work in Litchfield, where the 112-year-old classical-revival-style library is a meeting place for young and old, complete with a coffee station and candy for sale at the circulation desk.

When an elderly person's spouse dies, he or she may come into the library every day just to touch base, says library director Sara Zumwalt. On a recent Wednesday afternoon, a young man was overheard at the circulation desk introducing a pair of distressing topics: a pet's death and the perils of an emergency escape from New York. Each time, assistant librarian Karen Butts listened attentively and then turned the con-

versation in a more upbeat direction.

Stacks, too, does her part: modeling full-body relaxation from her perch on the circulation desk, sitting on laps, accepting the attentions of the lonely and the petless.

"People come in and say, 'Where's the cat?'" said Zumwalt.

Among the Illinois library cats that have left their posts in recent years: Paige, Turner and Mr. E, popular figures at the Round Lake Area Public Library until concerns about staff members' allergies led to their early retirement in 2009, according to library director Jim DiDonato. Emma, of the Harvard Diggins Library in Harvard, retired in

2010. Olivia and Cricket of the Bunker Hill Library died in about 2009. Newby's sister Callie died of kidney disease last year.

Cats still apply for what they appear to view as a plum position. Jasper, a tabby who lives next door to the Galva Public Library, escorts patrons into the library, where staff, in turn, escort him back outside, said library director Melody Heck. Olive, a calico with a big personality, strolled into the Jacksonville Public Library in fall 2015 and made it clear she wanted to stay, even waltzing into the children's librarian's office, as if to say, "I'm ready for my interview."

She didn't get the job, but she did find a home with Linda Kimber, the mother



LINDA KIMBER PHOTO

Olive walked into the Jacksonville Public Library in Illinois in fall 2015, but instead was adopted by a staffer's mother.



ANNE NEWMAN PHOTO

Max filled the post of library cat at the Paxton Carnegie Library in Illinois until his death in 2011.

of assistant library director Hillary Peppers.

Stacks' route to the library was a literary one. Seven years ago, some library board members who had read the best-seller "Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World" said they wished Litchfield could do something like that. "We can," Zumwalt said. She went to a local shelter and selected a friendly, laid-back 1-year-old who'd been found in a February ice storm.

"We've really never had anybody totally freak out about her," Zumwalt said. "We've had a couple of people say, 'I'm allergic,' (and) I'll put her away. And we did check with the vet before we got her because

allergies are serious, and he said with the size of our building — as long as you don't pick her up or sit in her spot — if we keep the library clean, then we really shouldn't have any problems."

Once, a man doing a presentation at the library expressed an intense fear of cats, and a very indignant Stacks was relegated to the staff bathroom.

But for the most part, the 6,800-square-foot library is her castle.

"She has a throne," Zumwalt said, referring to an ornate red stool near the circulation desk. "She's the queen, and I'm the empress, so we get along fine."

nschoenberg@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @nschoenberg



puzzle island

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8/21

Not Again: Explained at 100 Across

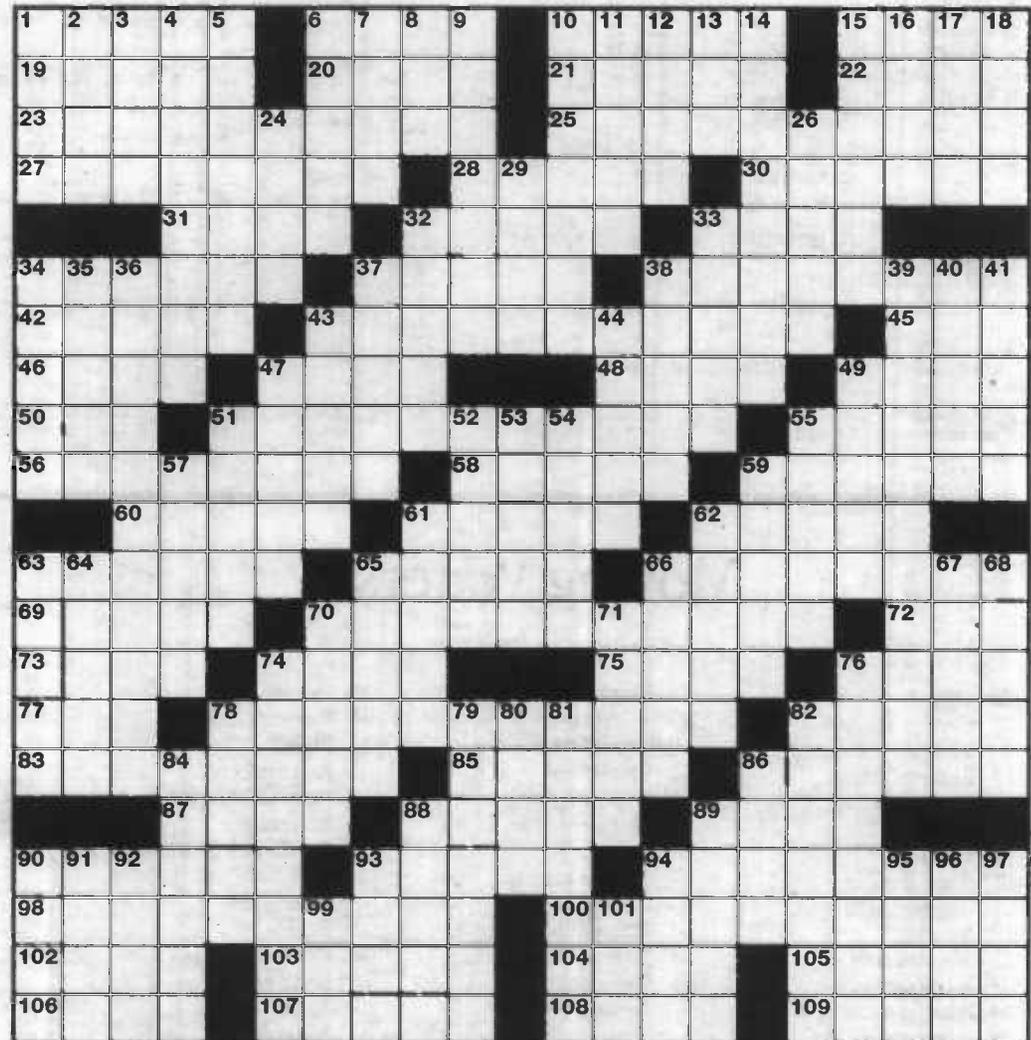
BY S.N. | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN
(stanxwords.com)

Across

- 1 Bottles-on-wall array of song
6 Individually
10 Class clown
15 The original leading man
19 Castle employee
20 Spicy cuisine
21 François' farewell
22 Asian wasteland
23 Car's torque transmitter
25 60 Across owner
27 Keeper of REM records
28 Uncompromising
30 Procedural pain
31 Savings partner
32 Savings combinations
33 Has bought
34 Corporate advancement
37 Kors competitor
38 One holding 46 Across
42 Hold in reserve
43 Predatory insects
45 Chocolate or cherry
46 Debt notes
47 Two-use
48 Sound of swine
49 Castaways' homes
50 Novelist Patchett
51 Water sport of a sort
55 Artist Matisse
56 Retail proceeds
58 Ward worker
59 Winless racehorse
60 Venerable luxury car, for short
61 IQ test developer
62 Telegraph pioneer
- 63 Artistic approaches
65 "Eureka," for California
66 Green guarder, often
69 Electrified weapon
70 Freudian study
72 Tenth-century starter
73 Surrounded by
74 Arias, for example
75 Moonwalker Cernan
76 Moonwalker Shepard
77 Checkers choice
78 *West Side Story* weapon
82 Flavor of the month
83 Property tort
85 Quite a while
86 Improvised in a band
87 Acknowledge
88 Police squad
89 Dubbed titles
90 Narrow channel
93 Burn slightly
94 '90s fad dance
98 '20s fad dance
100 What the 10 longest answers (including this one) all lack
102 Lobby for
103 Crime-story story
104 Russia's _____ Mountains
105 Musical's usual conclusion
106 Club collection
107 Societal customs
108 Fun and games
109 Naval commandos

Down

- 1 Hanes alternatives
2 Rank below marquis
3 Author Wiesel
4 Boisterous celebrants
5 Instructions starter
6 Actor Hawke
7 Ishmael's boss
8 Half-__ (latte order)
9 Top-40 tune
10 Decathlon event
11 Aromas
12 Oven for ceramics
13 Cry of fright
14 Sorority recruitment period
15 Four-time Australian Open champ
16 Follows relentlessly
17 Son of 15 Across
18 Miser's shout
24 Board under a bed
26 Harry Potter film props
29 Ruckus
32 Bell sounds
33 Circular gasket
34 Like most people
35 Sculpting medium
36 Rural region
37 Ruckuses
38 Loretta Lynn mentor
39 Storm sound
40 Far-out
41 Amber, for one
43 Bros
44 Impose (on)
47 Toys that may talk
49 Film caper



Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

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- 51 Harvest machine
52 Storage rentals
53 Total
54 Chemical coolant
55 Tess Durbeyfield creator
57 Put new bottoms on
59 Word in many Alps names
61 Antiseptic acid
62 It's west of New Brunswick
- 63 Get going
64 Not as scintillating
65 Gets mushy
66 Motorless vehicles
67 Render speechless
68 Longed (for)
70 Presence of mind
71 Ice-cream thickeners
74 Police squad
76 What some détentés have deterred
- 78 Treat too well
79 Cape Cod hub
80 Glacier remnant
81 Ready to skate
82 South American capital
84 Entangles
86 End of a Latin boast
88 Mythical weeper
89 Sister of Charlie Brown
90 Gulf War missile
- 91 Via, for short
92 Angry episode
93 Ruckus
94 PG assigner
95 "At Last" singer James
96 Moonwalker Armstrong
97 With no representations
99 Pavement caution
101 Browser bookmark

Quote-Acrossic

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

Clues Words

A. Fredericton is its capital: 2 wds.

109 167 107

76 56 161 9 146 131 42 92 17

B. Psych up

53 15 130 124 103 89 4 63

C. Aesthetic mastery

121 81 137 91 50 110 151 32

D. Meadow

68 150 101

E. Cheap

43 152 85 123 10 169

F. Angel food ingredient: 2 wds.

71 160 144 41 120 142 2 127 54

G. Magnetism

60 156 128 84

H. Unenlightened one

83 126 165 153 7 28 64 132 49 105

I. People of letters

154 139 122 99 19 73 25 51

J. Breathless adoration

57 75 94 31 108 22 37 155

K. America's first spy, reputedly

58 114 164 134 69 5

26 33 102 48

L. Formal charge

39 61 90 24 147 1 111 138 79

M. Strategic strait

44 8 87 104 62 115

N. Strong coffee

45 112 95 157 40 100 20 135

O. 70s-80s Congressional scandal

11 67 98 140 77 35

P. Guiding principle

55 116 30 88 72 133 163 14

Q. Brilliance

118 47 97 80 143 66 23 162

R. Awkward

141 168 96 149 12 82

S. Fluky, accidental

38 70 52 86 106 125 29 119 159

13 145 21

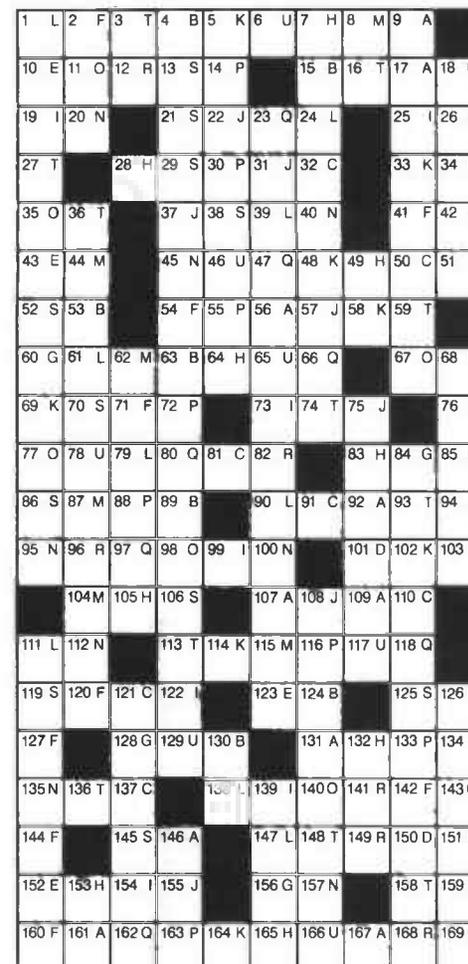
T. Alter

3 93 16 74 36 158 148 59

136 113 27

U. Life of the party

65 46 6 117 129 166 18 34 78



Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

By Jack Raymond.
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.
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Moving Waters

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across

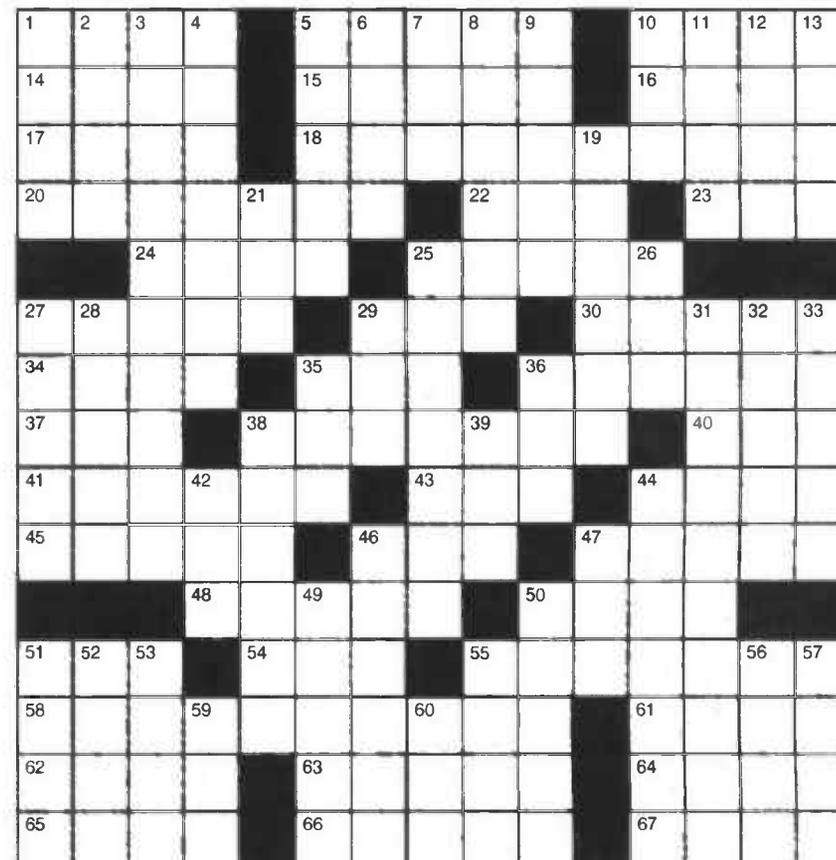
- 1 Cause of a duel
- 5 Siberian tribesman
- 10 Entertainment
- 14 Wife of Zeus
- 15 Icon
- 16 Head
- 17 Special office
- 18 Hoosier high spot
- 20 Asiatic
- 22 Mr. Wallach
- 23 Hang down
- 24 Islamic country
- 25 Supports
- 27 Holding tool
- 29 Craze
- 30 Expectations
- 34 Western city
- 35 Weapon
- 36 Follow
- 37 Printer's measures
- 38 N. African port
- 40 Head part
- 41 Kitchen utensils
- 43 Sphere
- 44 Grecian river
- 45 Slowpoke
- 46 Enemy
- 47 Mentioned

- 48 Unadorned
- 50 — Alto, CA
- 51 Greek letter
- 54 Water bird
- 55 Football play
- 58 Geographic area
- 61 Costa —
- 62 Cheese variety
- 63 Cocktail relish
- 64 Numerical prefix
- 65 Desires
- 66 Drive back
- 67 Certain votes

Down

- 1 Injection
- 2 Jacob's son
- 3 Indian Ocean arm
- 4 Capital of Sicily
- 5 Strong man
- 6 Prayer word
- 7 Salt
- 8 Were harmonious
- 9 Frontier dances
- 10 Belgian city
- 11 Pull
- 12 Man's name
- 13 Show sorrow
- 19 To this place

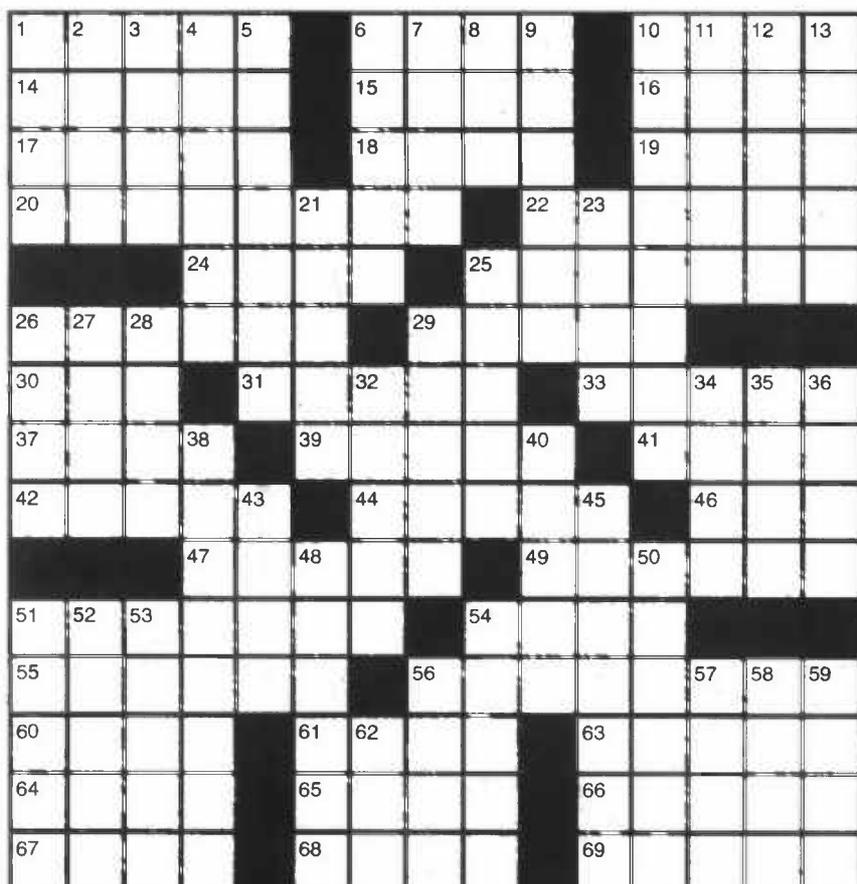
- 21 Faucet
- 25 Burma's capital
- 26 Signal
- 27 Salad green
- 28 Famous Russian
- 29 Merriment
- 31 Caribbean country
- 32 Delight
- 33 Fine fiddle
- 35 Fuel
- 36 Confederate soldier
- 38 Bank employee
- 39 Anger
- 42 Notable
- 44 Airplane part
- 46 Ending
- 47 Civet
- 49 Shaded grove
- 50 Discussion group
- 51 Quarry
- 52 — arms
- 53 Terrible Russian
- 55 Active
- 56 Deed: Fr.
- 57 Far East land
- 59 W. German river
- 60 Dinky drink



Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

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Crossword



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8/24/16

ACROSS

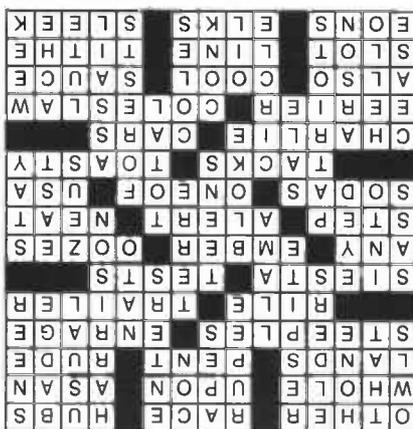
- 1 Significant ___; partner
6 TV's "The Amazing ___"
10 Wheel centers
14 Entire
15 Come ___; find
16 As comfortable ___ old shoe
17 Comes to shore
18 ___-up; confined
19 Impolite
20 Church spires
22 Infuriate
24 Provoke
25 Movie preview
26 Afternoon nap
29 Examinations
30 In ___ event; nevertheless
31 Glowing piece of coal
33 Seeps out
37 Staircase piece
39 Warn
41 ___ as a pin
42 Malt shop orders
44 ___ these days; eventually
46 UN member
47 Nails
49 Comfortably warm
51 Rose or Sheen

- 54 Taurus & Pius
55 More uncanny
56 Cabbage salad
60 In addition
61 Chilly
63 Cranberry ___; cool side dish
64 ___ machines; casino devices
65 Queue
66 Support one's church
67 Very long times
68 Forest animals
69 Smooth and shiny

DOWN

- 1 Night birds
2 "Well, don't ___ beat all!"
3 Sharpen
4 Parents and grandparents
5 Interval of relief
6 India's dollar
7 Primates
8 Swindle
9 Goes into
10 Last name for 2 U.S. presidents
11 Typical
12 Policeman's ID
13 Derisive smile
21 Andes pack animal

Solutions



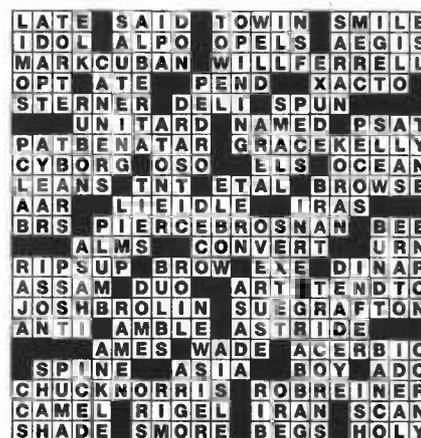
- 23 Intl. military alliance
25 ___ Haute, IN
26 Talk back
27 4 ___ 16 is 4
28 Observed
29 High schoolers
32 Fellow, in Britain
34 Greek king of the gods
35 Vane direction
36 Stick around
38 Team from New England
40 General Mills cold cereal
43 Realtor's delight
45 Wooded areas
48 Round shape
50 Attack
51 Discontinue
52 "___, Dolly!"
53 Firebug's crime
54 Nat and Natalie
56 ___ out; fall asleep
57 Early guitar
58 Nagging pain
59 Seven days
62 Pore secretion



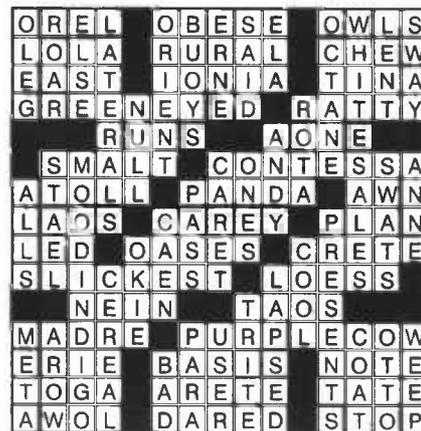
puzzle island solutions

Last week's crosswords

"Verbal VIPs"



"Seeing Colors"



"Stop, Thief!"



Last week's Quote-Acrostic

S(ue) GRAFTON: U IS FOR UNDERTOW:
What fascinates me about life is that now and then the past rises up to declare itself. Afterward the sequence of events seems inevitable but only because cause and effect have been aligned in advance.

Last week's Sudoku

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

This week's Jumble

TOWARD DRAFTY MEMORY
ENCORE UNSEEN UNWISE

Their home's new addition included a larger eating area. They now had —

ROOM FOR
DESSERT

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How to talk to your teen about love life

Last spring, my son's pediatrician told me that most eighth-graders are either thinking about it, or they have already experienced it: kissing and other intimate behavior, which includes sex. To say I was in shock is putting it mildly.

"There is no way," I responded.

The doctor then gave me a look that said, "Wake up and smell the coffee, Mrs. Buehler."

So now that my son is about to start high school, it really is time to accept the reality that he will undoubtedly have a love life in the not so distant future.

How should I talk to him about it? What should I do if I find out he's physically involved with someone? And worst of all, what happens if some girl breaks his kind and gentle heart?

For answers to these questions and more information on how to talk to your teen about dating, love and sex, I reached out to Blair McGuire, a clinical therapist who specializes in seeing adolescents and emerging adults at Courage To Connect Therapeutic Center in Glenview.

McGuire, who previously worked as a high school counselor, said that because they are still developing and constantly trying out new things, which include relationships, teens carry a lot of anxiety.

"I saw so much stress, with kids saying things like, 'If this person doesn't like me, I can't go on' or 'It's the end of the world.' That's pretty normal," said McGuire, a licensed clinical professional counselor who also holds a master's degree in counseling. "It's their first time experiencing relationships and what they might think is love."

Here are McGuire's seven tips for how you can help your teen when it comes to his or her love life:

1. Pay attention to what you do as a parent. If as a parent you can model a healthy relationship with your spouse, which includes good communication, good listening skills, and arguments that are productive versus those that include a lot of screaming, yelling and anger, your teen will learn from that.

2. If you don't have a healthy relationship with your spouse, that doesn't mean your child is doomed. Just make sure to have honest conversations which include saying things like, "I know you saw us arguing and what we did wasn't right." Also, offer healthy examples of how you wish you would have handled it.



JACKIE PILOSSOPH
Love Essentially

3. Don't avoid conversations about sex. It's OK to say, "This conversation makes me uncomfortable, but I love you and I want you to make healthy, safe decisions." That vulnerability actually makes talking about it more ap-

pealing to the kid.

4. Have ongoing dialogue. A one-time conversation about relationships, love and sex won't have an impact. Look for opportunities to strike up dialogue on the subjects. For example, if you are watching a movie and there is a scene that involves sex or implied sex, ask your teen what their thoughts are. You can say, "Does that seem like a healthy relationship to you?"

5. Listen versus lecturing. Kids often tell their parents about their friends' romantic relationships. Instead of lecturing or judging, give them a chance to voice their opinion and process their thoughts and feelings. Ask, "What do you think about their relationship?"

6. Schedule weekly alone time. Drop the cellphones, turn off the TV and just spend time talking, not just about school but about everything. If you continually have conversations, eventually love, dating and sex will come up, and they will open up. Also, kids tend to want to talk more at night than in the morning or after school.

7. Don't freak out if your child tells you he or she is having sex. Your reaction is important. If you explode, it can cause the teen to become angry and upset, and they might not confide in you anymore.

McGuire said she is conservative in her estimate that at least half of high school kids are having sex. She explained that when a teen first falls in love, they tend to isolate themselves from friends, and when their heart gets broken, it's important for parents not to make light of it, to help them understand that this is normal and part of life, and to help them see the positives they have in their life: their friends, family, sports, activities and school.

When it comes to your teen's love life, I think it is really important to talk about the importance of being treated with respect, making good choices in people they date, having safe sex, and listening to the gut instinct. But equally important, don't forget to share in the joy and happiness of your teen's love life. Falling in love for the first time is a really big deal and an unforgettable time in life. I'm sure you remember!

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.



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Levels of lead in drinking water may be higher than we know



DR. ANTHONY KOMAROFF
Ask Doctor K

Dear Doctor K: Like a lot of people, I was shocked by the water disaster in Flint, Michigan. I felt terrible for those people. But then I started to wonder: How safe is my drinking water? Should I be worried?

Dear Reader: The sad answer to your question is that I don't know, and neither may your local department of public health.

Until a little more than a hundred years ago, the world's lead was virtually all buried in the ground, where nature put it. Then it was extracted from the earth and added to gasoline and paint, and turned into pipes, solder for pipes and plumbing fixtures. Automobiles put lead into the air. Paint peeling from walls was tasted by toddlers and, because lead tastes sweet, was tasted again.

And lead appeared in the drinking water.

Governments (although not most citizens) have known about this problem since the turn of the 20th century. However, only in recent decades has any action been taken. Lead now is banned in gasoline and paint. The Clean Water Act of 1972 and the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 have reduced, but not eliminated, lead in U.S. drinking water.

As a result, lead in our environment has been reduced. In addition, the number of children with toxic levels of lead in their blood has dropped. That's the good news. The bad



SETH PERLMAN/AP

Lead pipes can pollute water supplies and lead to toxic levels of lead in people's blood. In many places, water isn't checked for lead often enough to know if it's dangerous.

news is that there still are half a million children in the United States with high blood levels of lead. Every one of those children is at risk for permanent brain damage.

The situation in Flint is unusual. An entirely new water supply was provided to the city. The quality of the water was not rigorously checked. When the new water was found to be leaching lead out of the pipes and into the drinking water, a protective chemical was not added. There are many credible charges, not yet tested in court, that local, state and federal government officials did not take action when the problem was brought to their attention.

Yet Flint is far from unique. Lead pollution of the water supply has been found in Newark, New Jersey; Cleveland and Sebring, Ohio; New York City; and Jackson, Mississippi. Recently, the drinking fountains in four schools in Boston were shut down because of high lead levels.

Does this mean that other cities can breathe a sigh of relief? Does it mean that the rest of Boston's

schools can rest easy? Unfortunately, too often it means that the water supply hasn't been checked thoroughly — so we simply don't know. That's because there hasn't been enough money allocated for public health.

Consider contacting your local department of public health and asking two questions.

First: What are the lead levels in my community's water, and when were they last measured? Second: What percentage of adults and children in my community have unacceptably high blood lead levels?

If the employees there say they don't know, or if they do know and you don't like the answers, I'd suggest asking your representatives in the state and federal governments what they think should be done. There are half a million children who deserve an answer.

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

Drinking tonic water may ward off mosquitoes

By Joe Graedon and Teresa Graedon
King Features Syndicate

Q: I am normally a mosquito magnet. By this time of year, I would usually have dozens of bites, and the itching would be intolerable. I would turn into a bloody mess from constant scratching.

This year, I have been drinking tonic water two or three times a day, and I haven't had a mosquito bite in weeks. As an added bonus, I haven't experienced leg cramps while cycling. In hot weather, I used to cramp up after two or three hours of hard riding.

Is there a limit on how much tonic you can drink before overdosing on quinine? I have read in your column that too much could be dangerous, but how much is too much?

A: Doctors used to prescribe quinine pills to prevent leg cramps. The standard dose was 200 to 300 mg.

The Food and Drug Administration banned quinine for this purpose but continues to allow it in tonic water. A liter normally has 83 mg of quinine. An 8-ounce glass would therefore have roughly 20 mg, about one-tenth the lowest dose doctors prescribed for leg cramps. Even three glasses daily should be OK as long as you are not sensitive to quinine.

Some susceptible people develop a dangerous blood disorder after even small doses of quinine. Symptoms of quinine toxicity include digestive upset, headache, ringing in the ears, visual disturbances, skin rash and arrhythmias.

Q: I am really upset



IMAGE SOURCE

Three daily glasses of tonic water should not pose a problem regarding quinine unless you are quinine-sensitive.

about the latest information regarding the dangers of long-term use of PPI heartburn drugs. I have been taking one for several years for reflux.

I tried going off it and had terrible, long-lasting heartburn the next day. I am going to try going off it again. Can I use something like Tums when I get that horrible heartburn, or do you have other suggestions?

A: Proton-pump inhibitors (PPIs) are popular for many digestive woes. They used to be perceived as supersafe, but over time disturbing complications have surfaced. These include kidney damage, dementia, fractures, pneumonia, diarrhea and certain nutritional deficiencies (iron, vitamin B-12 and magnesium).

As you discovered, stopping suddenly can lead to rebound heartburn that

may last for weeks. To avoid this withdrawal, you might wean yourself gradually and add antacids, deglycyrrhizated licorice, ginger and probiotics.

We are sending you our Guide to Digestive Disorders so you can learn more about the details. Anyone who would like a copy, please send \$3 in check or money order with a long (No. 10), stamped (68 cents), self-addressed envelope to: Graedons' People's Pharmacy, No. G-3, P.O. Box 52027, Durham, NC 27717-2027. It also can be downloaded for \$2 from our website: www.peoplespharmacy.com.

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

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trbcht-129712

ROUNDUP | CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Bumper crop of first-day-of-school books

By Nara Schoenberg | Chicago Tribune

In a big field, in a town full of bold colors and clean lines, a school is born.

The school has red brick walls and wide blue windows, and if you look closely, you can just barely make out a hint of a face, formed by the twin black panes in the front doors, the doorknob door handles below, and a subtle smile line swooping across the front steps. The school has a name (Frederick Douglass Elementary), a friend, named Janitor, who mops and buffs the floors, and a worry: Soon, Janitor says, the teachers will come. Soon, the school will be filled with children.

Our rectilinear hero's tale, "School's First Day of School," includes the standard first-day mishaps and misgivings, but told in the pitch-perfect voice of best-selling children's author Adam Rex and illustrated with freshness and feeling by Caldecott Honor winner Christian Robinson ("Last Stop on Market Street"). It's leading librarian Betsy Bird's top pick among a bumper crop of 2016 back-to-school books.

"It might be the best back-to-school book I've ever seen," says Bird, author of the popular children's literature blog <http://blogs.slj.com/afuse8production/> A Fuse #8 Production at the School Library Journal website and collection development manager at the Evanston Public Library. "It's really smart and beautiful."

As School's the school's story unfolds, the children arrive, excited, nervous and, in some cases, downright hostile.

"There are kids who are saying, 'I hate school,' and there's this little girl that doesn't want to go to school at all. And the school's thinking, 'I must be awful,'" Bird says. "It has a fire alarm at one point — it's super-embarrassed."

Some of Bird's other picks include:

Captain Freddy Counts Down to School by Elizabeth Shreeve, illustrated by Joey Chou A sweet and reassuring tale in which Freddy, a fan of space travel, prepares for his first day of school. "It's sort of imagining going to school as going to space, and so when his mom goes to put on his shoes, he thinks they're moon boots," says Bird. "It's looking at going to school as an adventure."

The Class by Boni Ashburn, illustrated by Kimberly Gee Twenty students get ready for their first day of kindergarten. Some are nervous. Some are grumpy. Some are happy. "It's just a really nice way of showing there's no wrong way to get ready for school," Bird says.

Frank and Lucky Get Schooled by Lynne Rae Perkins "It's a story about a boy and his dog, but it's also about what you learn at school, the different subjects," Bird says. In the case of math, we wrestle with the questions of "how much" and "how many" from the canine point of view: "Let's say a dog comes in from outside and gets one biscuit, but there are three people in the living room," the book reads. "How many more biscuits should the dog receive? a) 2 b) A lot. Probably 5. c) Maybe (infinity)" (The correct answer is c.)

Milk Goes to School by Terry Border Border takes real food items, gives them metal arms and legs, and poses them to tell the story of a self-satisfied carton of milk that rubs a waffle classmate the wrong way. "It's very cute," Bird says. "It doesn't look like any other back-to-school book that's out there."

CHICAGOLAND BEST-SELLERS

1. "The Girl on the Train: A Novel" by Paula Hawkins (Riverhead, \$16).
2. "The Underground Railroad (Oprah's Book Club): A Novel" by Colson Whitehead (Doubleday, \$26.95).
3. "A Man Called Ove: A Novel" by Fredrik Backman (Washington Square, \$16).
4. "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child — Parts I & II (Special Rehearsal Edition)" by Jack Thorne, based on a story by J.K. Rowling, John Tiffany and Thorne (Scholastic, \$29.99).
5. "Rogue Lawyer: A Novel" by John Grisham (Dell, \$17).

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



My Life on the Road By Gloria Steinem; Random House Trade Paperbacks, 352 pages, \$18 "My Life on the Road" documents Steinem's life as an activist, writer and avid traveler. Steinem talks about the wanderlust she inherited from her parents and about the chance encounters that shaped the feminist movement in the late '60s and early '70s, elaborating on key moments including her first trip as a social activist to India, her tumultuous career as a journalist, and the founding of Ms. magazine, the first mainstream publication focusing on women's issues.



M Train By Patti Smith; Vintage, 288 Pages, \$16 Smith chronicles her wanderings around the world — both real and imaginary — and her memories of life with her late husband, Fred "Sonic" Smith. Black-and-white Polaroid photos scattered throughout the book accompany Smith's stories about travels to Frida Kahlo's Casa Azul in Mexico, to the lunar landscape of Iceland and to a run-down seaside bungalow in New York's Far Rockaway.



The Vegetarian: A Novel By Han Kang, Hogarth, 208 pages, \$15 Yeong-hye and her husband's dull existence is shaken when she starts having blood-filled nightmares. In order to cleanse her mind, she quits meat cold-turkey, a decision that her family interprets as an act of rebellion. The abusive treatment Yeong-hye receives from her husband, brother-in-law and sister, including force-feeding and sexual assault, only make her more disconnected from the outside world — and herself.



Voracious: A Hungry Reader Cooks Her Way through Great Books By Cara Nicoletti, illustrated by Marion Bolognese; Back Bay Books, 304 pages, \$16.99 Nicoletti combined her love for literature with her passion for cooking and the result is a cookbook inspired by famous literary foods. The book, divided in three sections based on literary genres — childhood, adolescence and college years, and adulthood — includes recipes for the breakfast sausage in Laura Ingalls Wilder's "Little House in the Big Woods," the chocolate cupcakes with peppermint buttercream from Jonathan Franzen's "The Corrections" and the perfect soft-boiled egg in Jane Austen's "Emma."



Wasting Time on the Internet By Kenneth Goldsmith; Harper Perennial, 256 pages, \$14.99 Goldsmith, conceptual artist and poet, makes the case for "wasting" time on the Internet as a means to increase productivity and boost creativity. Goldsmith, who introduced a class at the University of Pennsylvania called "Wasting Time on the Internet," argues that watching cat videos or browsing the web for hours on end is rewiring the human brain to think differently and, contrary to popular belief, makes us more connected to each other.

—Andreea Ciulac



MEGAN CHAFFIN PHOTOS

Brick manor in Winnetka: \$1.795 million

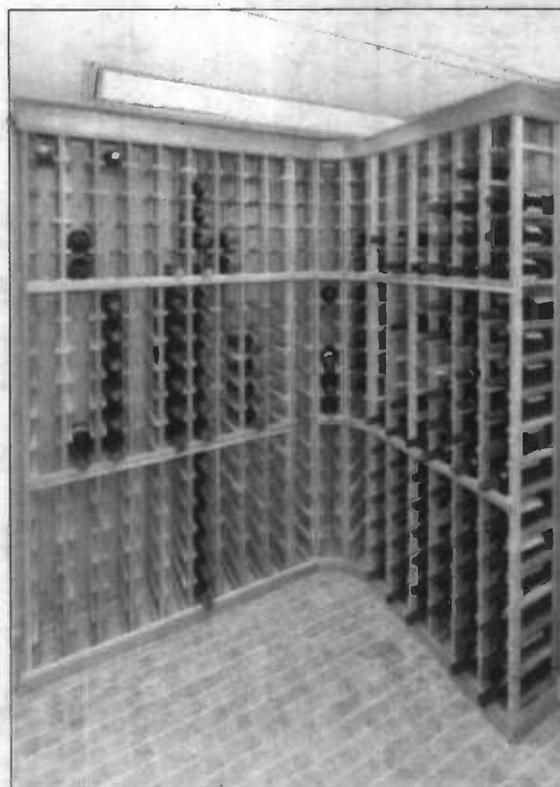
ADDRESS: 247 Chestnut St. in Winnetka

ASKING PRICE: \$1,795,000

Listed on May 9

Newly renovated six-bedroom home on double lot. Formal living and dining rooms along with a white kitchen that flows into breakfast area with panoramic views. Family room adjacent to kitchen plus media room with soaring ceilings and built-in cabinetry. Sunroom features heated floors and windows on three sides. Second floor features master suite with fireplace, his and her baths, walk-in closet and dressing room, plus 3 additional bedrooms. Lower level has rec room, game room and wine cellar. Agent: Paige Dooley of The Hudson Company, 847-609-0963

At press time, this home was still for sale.



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REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
1206 N Dale Ave, # 1E, Arlington Heights	Fabio Pompa & Milka Pompa	Buffa Trust	07-21-16	\$80,000
1355 S Old Wilke Rd, Arlington Heights	Joane Macapugay Buga Ay	Michael A Frigo	07-21-16	\$179,000
121 S Vail Ave, # 404, Arlington Heights	Mary Thune	Robert W Kailing	07-21-16	\$190,000
1936 N Silver Lake Rd, Arlington Heights	Anna Hammerman	Mark Gralewski	07-20-16	\$235,000
807 W Berkley Dr, Arlington Heights	Pavel Mishev	V Mortgage Reo 2 Lic	07-22-16	\$251,000
1618 W Oakton St, Arlington Heights	Emiliya Uriachka & Rayna Dimitrova	Patricia A Muench	07-22-16	\$270,000
1540 N Belmont Ave, Arlington Heights	Michael Brown & Janelle Brown	Curtis W Craddock	07-22-16	\$301,500
2414 N Lafayette St, Arlington Heights	Lisa Perillo	Elizabeth M Fidoruk	07-22-16	\$350,000
1614 W Johanna Ter, Arlington Heights	Jennifer A Briar	Patpaul Co	07-20-16	\$355,000
37 S Ridge Ave, Arlington Heights	Anthony G Castaldi & Maureen A Ericksen	Michael Sullivan	07-22-16	\$385,500
415 W Foxdale Ln, Arlington Heights	Kent M Shnozaki & Elko Shnozaki	Patty F Hintzman	07-21-16	\$530,000
826 N Dryden Ave, Arlington Heights	Chad Z Oconnor & Jennife K Oconnor	Drh Cambridge Homes Inc	07-21-16	\$795,000
7 Oak Creek Dr, # 3707, Buffalo Grove	Sergii Svyrnarchuk & Nadlia Svyrnarchuk	Pawl Rokoszny	07-22-16	\$83,000
1233 Ranch View Ct, # 3, Buffalo Grove	Carl E Cyerman	John Cameron Lang	07-18-16	\$185,000
860 Weldner Rd, # 205, Buffalo Grove	Boris Tyapkln & Juliya Tyapkln	Bart Radoslaw Domanski	07-20-16	\$220,000
23 Buckingham Ln, Buffalo Grove	Daniel V Shenderovich	Alexander Eygenson	07-20-16	\$235,000
17 Crestview Ter, Buffalo Grove	Heath Straight	Wra Domus Fund Lp	07-22-16	\$250,000
950 Hollystone Ln, Buffalo Grove	Sijimon Ramachandran	Matthew T Lyons	07-19-16	\$270,000
573 Beechwood Rd, Buffalo Grove	Joseph Jao & Jazmine Jao	Anthony S Boer	07-20-16	\$270,000
852 Old Checker Rd, Buffalo Grove	Peter K Lee & Kyunghee Eun	Capital One Na	07-19-16	\$287,000
391 Bentley Pl, Buffalo Grove	Subho Saha & Sanjukta Saha	Carolyn B Sacks	07-20-16	\$288,000
7 Charles Ct, Buffalo Grove	Alexander Gushik & Yekaterina Gushik	Bobby D Taylor	07-22-16	\$299,000
910 Belmar Ln, Buffalo Grove	Cezary Malko & Agnieszka Malko	Ying Li	07-20-16	\$320,000
581 Carriageway Dr, Buffalo Grove	Nathan J Smith & Jenise A Smith	Luis Cardenas	07-22-16	\$325,000
2375 Madiera Ct, Buffalo Grove	Ping Zhong & Ka Wing Wu	Ensuk Park	07-19-16	\$325,000
2489 Waterbury Ln, Buffalo Grove	Erica Dote	Edward L Levernier	07-18-16	\$335,000
851 Twisted Oak Ln, Buffalo Grove	Arturo Hernandez & Veronica Pizarro	Nancy K Miller	07-18-16	\$350,000
1141 Twisted Oak Ln, Buffalo Grove	Kwanchul Kim & Jinwon Jang	Ganga Jayaraman	07-19-16	\$364,500
734 Marseilles Cir, Buffalo Grove	Qian Wu & Yan Lu	Andrew Naryzhny	07-20-16	\$403,000
575 Coventry Ln, Buffalo Grove	Muhammed M Ali & Minhaj Musa	Shelley Sheinkop	07-18-16	\$500,000
2960 Kingston Dr, Buffalo Grove	Ying Li & Shu Cao	Max P Wiaz	07-19-16	\$560,000
1106 Old Barn Rd, Buffalo Grove	Vijayalakshmi Chitta & Sripathi Ilapakurthi	Associated Bank Na	07-20-16	\$650,000
830 Wedgewood Ct, Buffalo Grove	Elmer Yuh & Jaeha Lee	Kaplan Trust	07-19-16	\$740,000
9001 Golf Rd, # 7B, Des Plaines	Anna Shipulne & Yulia Elbo	Noel B Anderson	07-22-16	\$86,500
9472 Bay Colony Dr, # 1W, Des Plaines	Zygmunt Figol & Iwana Kay Figol	Pnc Bank Na	07-22-16	\$98,000
308 Howard Ave, Des Plaines	Brian M Stock	Howard Street Properties Inc	07-22-16	\$99,000
8884 Steven Dr, # 1A, Des Plaines	Bharat Kumar J Patel	M&s Group Inc	07-22-16	\$120,000
940 Beau Dr, # 105, Des Plaines	Bao N Le & Jomi Wong	Christopher Woznickza	07-20-16	\$125,000
711 S River Rd, # 407, Des Plaines	Thomas Walsh & Brenda Walsh	Raymond Chavez	07-20-16	\$152,500
1479 Clindy Ln, Des Plaines	Amber Stefanelli & Eric T Johnson	Gladwyn Boyce Estate	07-20-16	\$175,000
1416 S River Rd, Des Plaines	Jocelyn Contreras Chavez	Yan Cui	07-21-16	\$265,000
1081 Seymour Ave, Des Plaines	Edyta Rebowska & Bogdan Rebowska	Chicago Title Land Trust Co	07-22-16	\$275,000
286 Pinehurst Dr, Des Plaines	Michael Kopera & Veronica Kopera	Edward K Danegger	07-21-16	\$277,000
1556 Sherman Pl, Des Plaines	Angela T Batchelor	Wells Fargo Bank	07-20-16	\$277,500
1909 Rancho Ln, Des Plaines	Sajan Jacob & Lizy Phillip	Timothy Yung	07-21-16	\$283,000
1251 Evergreen Ave, Des Plaines	Brent Parsegian	Joseph E Aksamitowski	07-22-16	\$286,000
824 Mulford St, # 2E, Evanston	Beth A Salzman Levy & Dorit P Yordan Dotan	David Pointon	07-22-16	\$93,000
547 Sheridan Rd, # 2W, Evanston	Kateryna Iushchenko & Rostyslav Kravchenko	Ocwen Loan Servicing Lic	07-21-16	\$113,500
723 Reba Pl, # 3S, Evanston	Darryl Groves & Jennifer Groves	Paula Bodnar Schmitt	07-20-16	\$158,000

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
2415 Lyons St, Evanston	Muharem Garibovic & Viktoriya Garibovic	Brenda Sue De Vance Estate	07-20-16	\$180,000
2742 Bernard Pl, Evanston	Leta Gold	Us Bank Na Trustee	07-21-16	\$270,000
822 Judson Ave, # 3, Evanston	Kent R Kelley & Cristina S Kelley	Thomas M Hofstetter	07-22-16	\$280,000
1617 Mcdaniel Ave, Evanston	Carmen Carmona & Victor Rodriguez	Mark Adams	07-20-16	\$282,500
829 Mulford St, # 2, Evanston	Sidzanbnoma Kabore	John R Jacobs	07-22-16	\$285,500
801 Dewey Ave, Evanston	Niall Klyn & Liesa Klyn	Deree A Friedewald	07-20-16	\$297,500
1236 Chicago Ave, # 7085, Evanston	Jeffrey D Merrell & Jamie Merrell	Sophie Sjolholm	07-22-16	\$330,000
806 Hamlin St, Evanston	James E Sulton III & Jacquellne R Sulton	David West Allen III	07-20-16	\$460,500
609 Clinton Pl, Evanston	Yuval Salant & Michael Maimaran	Us Bank Na Trustee	07-20-16	\$712,000
324 Sherman Ave, Evanston	Erik A Jensen & Angeline M Jensen	In Site Investment Group Lic	07-21-16	\$729,000
2762 Woodbine Ave, Evanston	Sarah M Brown & Ashby W Brandt	James N Bernstein	07-21-16	\$777,000
1006 Elmwood Ave, Evanston	Jide Nzelibe & Uzoamaka Nzelibe	O Connor Trust	07-20-16	\$785,000
1301 Lincoln St, Evanston	Brian Seyfried & Sheila Seyfried	Steven G Solomon	07-20-16	\$842,000
2309 Sherman Ave, Evanston	Matthew J Marino & Jennifer Marino	Jeremy L Adelman	07-20-16	\$920,000
701 Ingleside Pl, Evanston	Robert L Mccan III & Sally M Armbruster	Melanie Wendt	07-22-16	\$1,090,000
1211 Grant St, Evanston	Tucker Partel & Tracy Long	Elisa All	07-20-16	\$1,112,500
3801 Appian Way, # 203, Glenview	Jaehyun Lee & Eun Soon Lee	Harriet A Bierman	07-22-16	\$137,000
1112 Castilian Ct, # 120, Glenview	Magdalena Gizycka	Sofia Smirnova	07-20-16	\$143,000
2525 Victor Ave, Glenview	Zina Mansoor	Anna Blaumueller Estate	07-22-16	\$275,000
3403 Fairlawn Dr, Glenview	Adriana Belan & Cristian Belan	Teodor K Armejkov	07-21-16	\$275,000
1210 Pine St, Glenview	Chin Hung Chang & Zhidong Ma	Margaret M Stuebe	07-22-16	\$385,000
939 Rolling Pass, Glenview	Marc C Lehner	Timothy W Rushmeyer	07-21-16	\$397,000
2521 Del Air Dr, Glenview	Sukhwa Lee	Dena L Sodos	07-20-16	\$420,000
403 Ferndale Rd, Glenview	Scott Reynolds & Shoshanna Reynolds	Michael Grossman	07-22-16	\$454,500
3406 Linneman St, Glenview	Alan Puric & Angela Puric	Svetiana Lerner	07-20-16	\$550,000
1511 Basswood Ct, Glenview	Jay Keeney & Shelley Keeney	John J Doyle	07-21-16	\$685,000
223 Elm St, Glenview	Murugananthan Annamalaan & Kum Hui Yi	Jacek Krosniak	07-22-16	\$832,000
2255 Chestnut Ave, Glenview	William K Choe & Elizabeth Suh	Deidra L Byrd	07-20-16	\$1,050,000
9028 Mcvicker Ave, Morton Grove	Raymond Losch	Regina Koukios	07-22-16	\$270,000
9022 Oconto Ave, Morton Grove	Mohammed M Ali	Gerhardt H Linnemann	07-21-16	\$286,000
9315 Mason Ave, Morton Grove	Rachel Lawrence & Robin Lawrence	Anna Muller	07-20-16	\$380,000
6542 Eldorado Dr, Morton Grove	Annaliza Lotvivo Kang & Daniel Kang	Gina J Spencer	07-20-16	\$455,000
5537 Lincoln Ave, Morton Grove	Christopher Tipkins & Michael Harper	Daniel Domin	07-21-16	\$559,000
6818 Beckwith Rd, Morton Grove	Mohammad Shahid	Us Bank Na Trustee	07-21-16	\$600,000
9078 W Heathwood Dr, # 2F, Niles	Mathew Scaletta	Janja W Pae	07-20-16	\$155,000
7969 N Nordica Ave, Niles	Jung Jin Ryu	Young J Chun	07-22-16	\$182,500
7408 W Oakton St, Niles	Antonio Velez & Rose M Velez	Ronald J Daugherty	07-22-16	\$252,000
8118 N Odell Ave, Niles	Frank E Bertog & Sandra Bertog	Martin Niemiakiewicz	07-20-16	\$300,000
6805 W Seward St, Niles	Victor Ramlrez	Skygordo Lic	07-20-16	\$336,000
6821 W Oakton Ct, Niles	Jose Lorenzo S Sese & Kristine Joy P Uy	Samer T Jallo	07-21-16	\$340,000
170 N Northwest Hwy, # 211, Park Ridge	Danuta Dzierzanowska	Violetta Mroz	07-20-16	\$276,000
436 S Dee Rd, Park Ridge	Violeta Stoyanova & Stoyan Stoyanova	Nicole P Anhalt	07-20-16	\$310,000
124 N Greenwood Ave, Park Ridge	Brian Kottmeyer & Rebecca Villacorta	Deborah Chessick	07-20-16	\$325,000
15 N Greenwood Ave, Park Ridge	Adam Henricks & Nicole Lee	Daniel A Godfrey	07-22-16	\$378,000
913 S Chester Ave, Park Ridge	James Freitag & Kathryn Freitag	Dmn Inc	07-21-16	\$430,000
1009 S Delphia Ave, Park Ridge	Mario Vince Ventrella & Helene Anne Demarco	Keith R Lipinski	07-22-16	\$440,000
120 Boardwalk Pl, Park Ridge	E Jane Klein	Prybylo Trust	07-20-16	\$445,000
301 S Northwest Hwy, # 6, Park Ridge	Michael R Erdenberger	Brighton Mews Venture Lic	07-20-16	\$609,000
6231 Byron St, Rosemont	Marc R Harrison	Shelly C Anderson	07-20-16	\$349,000

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



PALATINE

Five-bedroom, 4.5-bath home built in 2007. First-floor master bedroom, open floor plan, two-story fireplace, architectural ceilings and finished basement. Near parks and shopping.

Address: 1274 N. Forest Ave.
Price: \$674,900
Schools: William Fremd High School
Taxes: \$14,772
Agent: Sandie Bobus, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage



NILES

Four-bedroom, three-bath brick ranch home built in 1955. Eat-in kitchen, family room, walk-out back patio, open layout basement, concrete driveway. Near shopping, schools, expressways and public transit.

Address: 8212 N. Harlem Ave.
Price: \$339,900
Schools: Maine East High School
Taxes: \$4,797.58
Agent: Anthony Spallone, RE/MAX Masters



LIBERTYVILLE

Four-bedroom home built in 1996 with three full and two half baths. Hardwood floors, bay window in kitchen, patio, living room with fireplace, master suite, three-car garage. Near parks and Metra.

Address: 1000 Anderson Drive
Price: \$745,000
Schools: Libertyville High School
Taxes: \$16,264
Agent: Daniel Timm, CENTURY 21 Kreuser & Seiler



HIGHLAND PARK

Five-bedroom, 5.5-bath renovated home built in 1991. Newer cook's kitchen with custom cabinetry, formal dining room, rec room and master suite. In Deerfield schools area and near shopping and Metra.

Address: 1985 Hidden Ridge Lane
Price: \$1,199,000
Schools: Deerfield High School
Taxes: \$31,979.46
Agent: Martha Glass, Baird & Warner Highland Park

Listings from Homefinder.com

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

Thursday, Aug. 25

The Waco Brothers: With The Snails. 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$18-\$32, 847-492-8860

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

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

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

Jazz Meets Blues Concert III: Featuring internationally renowned jazz bassist Marlene Rosenberg and Delta bluesman David "Chainsaw" Dupont. 7 p.m. Aug. 26 and Aug. 27. Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$12, 847-866-5915

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. Proesel Park, 7055 Kostner Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

A Podcast Listening Party: If you are an avid listener of podcasts like The Moth, Serial, Fresh Air, Reply All, The New Yorker Radio Hour, or Wormwood: A Serialized Mystery, then come to discuss and hear the true stories, radio dramas and story-telling, plus receive recommendations for new podcasts to try. Feel free to bring your knitting, puzzles, or coloring books to the party. 6:30 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 book "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

Dinner at Home Cookbook Discussion: Chicago Tribune columnist Jean-Marie Brownson will discuss her IACP award-winning cookbook "Dinner at Home." Treats will also be served. 7 p.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, \$5 for non Park Ridge Library cardholders, 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

Arcade Video and Game Room Expo 2016: Join us for the inaugural Arcade, Video and Game Room Expo featuring

over 200 machines set on free play, video and coin operated machines for sale, guest speakers, vintage arcade video tournament, a bus trip to Galloping Ghost and a vendor's area where you can purchase arcade, video and coin operated machines, parts, magazines, books, DVD's and more. 10 a.m. Aug. 25 through Aug. 27. Crown Plaza O'Hare International, 5440 N. River Road, Rosemont, \$30; \$50 (2-day pass)

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

I Gotta Guy Sausage Festival: Guests sample handmade sausages from local vendors when this outdoor street fair takes over the Rosemont location of Gene & Georgetti. The Festival also features additional food vendors and craft beers from Louis Glunz, along with live music from the R-Gang Band. 6 p.m. Gene & Georgetti Rosemont, 9421 W. Higgins Road, Rosemont, \$125 per person, 847-653-3300

Shop for a Cause Benefit for North Suburban YMCA: Enjoy an evening with friends and fashion while supporting the North Suburban YMCA. Bloomingdale's Old Orchard hosts this fundraising event including a cocktail and hors d'oeuvres reception, raffle, fashion show and personal shopping experience. 10% of all pre-tax sales are donated to the North Suburban YMCA Strong Kids Foundation. For more information or to RSVP, contact Kim Nyren, knyren@nsymca.org. 6 p.m. Old Orchard Center Bloomingdales, 376 Old Orchard Shop Center N. Ring Road, Skokie, free, 847-272-7250

Manufacturing and CNC Job Fair: Symbol Training is hosting a Manufacturing and CNC Job Fair on Aug. 25, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with employers interviewing on-site. Bring resumes and dress to impress. 10 a.m. Symbol Training Institute, 8151 Ridgeway Ave, Skokie, free, 847-673-6500

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

An Evening for Mystery Lovers: A conversation between mystery authors Julia Keller (Sorrow Road) and Elsa Hart (Jade Dragon Mountain) as they discuss their own work as well as the business, and art, of writing mysteries. 6:30 p.m. The Book Stall at Chestnut Court, 811 Elm St., Winnetka, free, 847-446-8880

Friday, Aug. 26

Live at White Pines featuring Whiskey & Harmony: The Summer Concert Series at White Pines features live performances on the last Friday of every month. August 26's band features Whiskey & Harmony, one of the hottest upcoming country bands in the area. For information, call Laura Wassinger at 630-766-0304, ext.2 or go to www.whitelinesgolf.com. September 30's band: Optical Distortion. 7 p.m. White Pines Golf Club, 500 W. Jefferson St., Bensenville, free, 630-766-0304

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. 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, 847-827-5551

Raul Malo: 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$22-\$62, 847-492-8860

Temple Beth Israel Shabbat at the Park: The community is welcome to join Temple Beth Israel members and friends at a special worship experience held under shelter in Lovelace Park, in Evanston. Attendees should bring their own dinners and a dessert to share. 6:30 p.m. Lovelace Park, 2740 Gross Point Road, Evanston, free, 847-675-0951

Old School R and B Concert II: This R&B Concert II again rocks the house with your favorite tunes from the 60s, 70s and 80s. Soulful songstress Donica Lynn and her amazing band will have you dancing in the aisles. 7 p.m. Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$12-\$17, 847-866-5914

Dyson's National Dog Day at Abt with Special Guest Mann: Celebrate National Dog Day as Abt is joined by Dyson for product giveaways and demonstrations including Dyson's Animal line of vacuums that help pick up fur on furniture, and a visit noon to 3 p.m. Friday from Manny the French. 9 a.m. Aug. 26 and Aug. 27, 3 p.m. Aug. 28, Abt Electronics, 1200 Milwaukee Ave.,

Turn to Calendar, Next Page

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Calendar, from Previous Page

Glenview, free, 312-245-9805

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

MGPL After Dark: June's Got the Cash: June's Got the Cash pays tribute to the late and great Johnny Cash and June Carter Cash. 7 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Cinderella: Pack up the kids, grab a blanket, chairs, snacks and head to Harrer Park for evening of family fun. 7:30 p.m. Harrer Park and Pool, 6250 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-1200

Gentle Yoga: Due to high demand, two yoga sessions are now offered. Space in each session is limited to the first 50 people. Yoga instructor Olga Rudiak leads a series of yoga sessions for improved physical strength, relaxation and mental clarity. Exercises are done in a chair or standing not on the floor. 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

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

Saturday, Aug. 27

Artists and Authors Fair at Fischer Farm: Local artists will showcase their work that will utilize a variety of mediums, including wood, ceramic, fiber, glass, jewelry, paintings, sculpture and more. In addition to the incredible artwork available for purchase, attendees will be able to interact with the artists through demonstrations and booth chats. Food from 37 Bar & Grill and Cilantro Taco Grill, wine from Lynfred Winery, and lagers and ales from Church Street will be available to purchase. In the case of inclement weather, the rain date for this event is September 10. If you are interested in setting up a booth as an artist, artist guild or author, please contact Mary Wagner at 630-238-4930. Vendor fee for children is \$10. Fee for adult vendors: \$25 per artist, \$100 per art guild, \$15 per author. 10 a.m. Fischer Farm, 16W680

Old Grande Ave., Bensenville, free, 630-834-3152

Golf in the Dark: This fundraiser is for Des Plaines Friends of the Parks Scholarship Fund. This event includes a round of Glow Golf, dinner and beverages, raffle, silent auction and Split the Pot. 5:30 p.m. Lake Park Golf Course - Des Plaines Park District, 1015 Howard Ave., Des Plaines, \$25, 847-391-5089

Evanston Farmers Market: Shop for fresh produce, meat, cheese, baked goods, flowers and more from 51 vendors. Please note: Dogs are not allowed at the market (service animals excepted). LINK cards are accepted. 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Oak Avenue and University Place, 1090 University Place, Evanston, free, 847-448-8045

Raul Malo: 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$22-\$62, 847-492-8860

ETHS 1976 High School 40th Reunion: If you are a 1976 Evanston Township High School graduate, plan to join in this 40th reunion gala event. For more information, contact at: eths76ers@gmail.com or register for the event at the website. Pre-event registration is highly recommended. 7 p.m. Unitarian Church of Evanston, 1330 Ridge Ave., Evanston, \$125, 773-983-5595

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, Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston, free, 847-448-8600.

Overeaters Anonymous: Overeaters Anonymous meets Saturdays. New-comer 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. Awesome venue with full bar and dinner menu. 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. 27 and Aug. 28, 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

Open House at The Actors Gymnasium: If you've ever been interested in circus but haven't yet given it a try, this open house is for you. This is for all ages to come see the space, meet the teachers and get into the air - all for free. 9 a.m. Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, free, 847-328-2795

Black Tie Gala Songs From Broadway's Black Musicals: Musical Director Christy Chilles and a singing ensemble fill the theatre with some songs from Broadway's Black Musicals. The evening includes pre- and post-concert tapas appetizers, decadent desserts, fine wine, champagne and dancing to tunes spun by DJ Rob Simmons. 6 p.m. Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$50, 847-866-5914

Fall Youth Circus Auditions: Auditions for the Fall Youth Circus are Aug. 27, from noon to 6 p.m. and Aug. 31, from 5-7:30 p.m. The Actors Gymnasium Youth Circus is a performance-based training program that culminates in a fully-produced, original show. This intensive experience pairs professional artists and youth performers to create an original new show and includes high-quality training in drama, dance, aerial and circus arts. Noon, Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, free, 847-328-2795

Movies in the Parks: Inside Out: Sympathize with Riley, and all of her emotions, as she's uprooted from her Midwest life and transitions to life in San Francisco. Call (312) 742-1134 for weather-related cancellations. 8 p.m. Veterans Memorial Park, 299 Park Ave., Glencoe, free, 312-742-1134

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 go to the event website. 8 a.m. Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview, free, 847-657-1506

Picnic Supper, Barnyard Dance and

Ice Cream Social: Pack up a picnic supper and bring your family to the farm for wagon rides, live music, square dancing and all the fixings for delicious ice cream sundaes. 4 p.m. Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview, \$5 per person; children under 2 free, 847-657-1506

Parent and Child Golf Tournament: This event is open to a parent or guardian and a child of any age. 9 a.m. Glenview Prairie Club, 2800 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, \$65 per twosome, 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. 5 p.m. Aug. 27 and Aug. 28, Glenview Prairie Club, 2800 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, \$30 for up to 6 player group, 847-657-1637

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

Saturday Youth Film "Labyrinth": This week's Saturday youth film is "Labyrinth." 2 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

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

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

Story Jam An evening of live storytelling and music: Story Jam is hosted by local songwriting favorite Stephanie Rogers and features top Chicago area storytellers. Don't miss this entertaining evening of fabulous music and outrageous storytelling. Tickets are available at the box office or online at the website. 8 p.m. Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$25 advance; \$30 at door, 847-251-7424

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Northfield Farmers Market: Enjoy a casual morning shopping for vegetables and fruits, plants, flowers, cheeses, pastries, coffee and gourmet items. Cooking demonstrations are given by local chefs. Corn Fest is Aug. 20 and Harvest Fest, Sept. 24. 7:30 a.m. Northfield Farmers' Market, 6 Happ Road, Winnetka, free, 847-446-4461

Sunday, Aug. 28

Buckwheat Zydeco: 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$25-\$45, 847-492-8860

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

ACE Presentation at Botanic Gardens with Special Guests: Nationally renowned jewelry and craft artists Roberta and David Williamson share a complimentary visual presentation as a precursor to the 2016 American Craft Exposition (ACE) at the Chicago Botanic Garden. 1 p.m. Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 224-364-7270

Intro to Square Dance Party: Glenview Square Dance Club is sponsoring a free Introduction to Square Dancing. Move your body. Move your brain. No experience necessary. 6 p.m. Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-729-5805

Critic's Choice: Sea Fog: Tragedy unfolds when a ship full of illegal immigrants heading to South Korea encounters dense sea fog. 2 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois: Resources for Jewish Genealogy in Chicagoland--What's New will be the topic of a presentation by genealogist Mike Karsen at the meeting. The JGSI genealogy help desk and library will open at 12:30 p.m. 2 p.m. Temple Beth-El, 3610 Dundee Road, Northbrook, free, 312-666-0100

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

Rotary Club of Skokie Valley Pancake Breakfast: The Rotary Club of Skokie Valley is holding its Annual Pancake Breakfast, from 8-11 a.m. This

year it's part of Skokie's Backlot Bash celebration and the Rotary will be serving delicious all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, orange juice and hot coffee. Enjoy a Bloody Marys or Mimosas. 8 a.m. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie, \$6 per person, 847-673-7774

Ice Cream Social: Skokie Timber Ridge Home Owner's Association annual Ice Cream Social includes fun activities for kids and grown-ups too. Featuring Dave Herzog's Marionettes outer Space adventure, face painting, fire truck etc and ice cream. 2 p.m. Timber Ridge Park, 9040 Lawndale Ave., Skokie, \$20 annual membership fee, 847-338-9006

Monday, Aug. 29

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

The Mudflapps live every Monday: The Mudflapps sing and play their hearts out every Monday in the pub from 8 p.m. until 12 a.m. Food and drink served late. 8 p.m. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

Fall Classes at the Actors Gymnasium: Head back to a school where day-dreaming is encouraged, clowning is a subject, and your homework is to learn to fly. Classes include Circus and Aerial Arts, Parkour and are perfect for youth and adults. Registration for all fall session classes is now open and fill quickly. Go to www.actorsgymnasium.org. Financial aid and payment plans are available. Midnight, All week, Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, Varied by class, 847-328-2795.

4th Annual Chicago Lighthouse Charity Golf Tournament: Join legendary former Chicago Blackhawks players while supporting life-changing programs for people at The Chicago Lighthouse North. Each ticket includes a special short game clinic taught by coaches from the Northwestern Men's Golf program, lunch, beverages/snacks on course, cocktail reception and silent auction. 10 a.m. North Shore Country Club, 1340 Glenview Road, Glenview, \$450, 312-447-3448

hoopla, MyMediaMall and Zinio Individual Appointments: Meet with trained library staff for a 45-minute one-on-one session and learn how to download ebooks, audiobooks, magazines, movies, TV shows or music to your portable device. For questions, to

register, and for appointment locations, visit or call the Reader Services Desk at extension 7600. A Glenview Library card is required. 10 a.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Lakeside Yoga at Park Center Lakeside 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 for Adults: Ronnie Rund, an expert knitter, shows attendees how to knit or how to solve knitting challenges. Bring one's current project(s) and needles. 2 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Cinderella: Pack up the kids, grab a blanket, chairs, snacks and head to Harrer Park for evening of family fun. 7:30 p.m. Harrer Park and Pool, 6250 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-0971

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. 30

The Stray Birds: 7:30 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$25, 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

Supervision Group: Chicagoland's credentialed music therapists are in-

vited to this networking event. 6:30 p.m. Dempster Street Theatre, 2008 Dempster St., Evanston, \$5, 847-448-8337

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

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

Movies, Munchies & More: Film: "Good Night and Good Luck": Political views and good journalism collide in this fact-based drama that pays homage to one of the icons of American broadcast journalism, Edward R. Murrow. 11:30 a.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. 4 p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

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

Country in the Park 2016: This concert series features some of Nashville's most popular emerging country music artists. Country in the Park concerts occur every Tuesday throughout the summer. Guests can enjoy food and beverage tents on the park's great lawn and a musical fireworks display after select performances. 7 p.m. MB Financial Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-349-5556

LinkedIn 2: A hands-on workshop for participants with 50 percent or more profile completion that describes the

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more advanced uses including networking, researching companies and applying for jobs. To learn more about the workshops, go to the website or email andreavasseur@jvschicago.org. 1 p.m. Goldie Bachmann Luftig Building, 5150 Golf Road, Skokie, \$10-\$20, 847-745-5460

Wednesday, Aug. 31

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. Each concert night includes a Classic Car Show and a 50/50 split-the-pot raffle that benefits local charities. 5:30 p.m. Downtown Bensenville, 12 S. Center St., Bensenville, free, 630-766-8200

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

Dave McGraw and Mandy Fer: 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

Dancin' Sprouts with Wendy and DB: Wendy & DB love to get kids singing, wiggling, jumping and dancing. Their original songs encourage children to use their imaginations, teach musical basics, and show kids how to have fun with words. The concert is free, garden parking is free for members or \$25 per car. 5:30 p.m. Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, Concert is free; \$25 per parking or free mem-

ber garden parking, 847-835-5440

Ladies Classic: Swing into a little friendly competition at the Ladies Classic golf tournament, which is open to ladies of all ages. For additional information and to register, call or visit the website. 5 p.m. Glenview Prairie Club, 2800 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, \$35, 847-657-1637

Golfer Appreciation Days: Join us for special deals and events all day just for golfers. Call for more information. 9 a.m. Glenview Park Golf Club, 800 Shermer Road, Glenview, free, 847-724-0250

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 "School of Rock": The "School of Rock" 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

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. Bring your supplies or project in progress. 1:30 p.m. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6060

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

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

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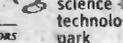
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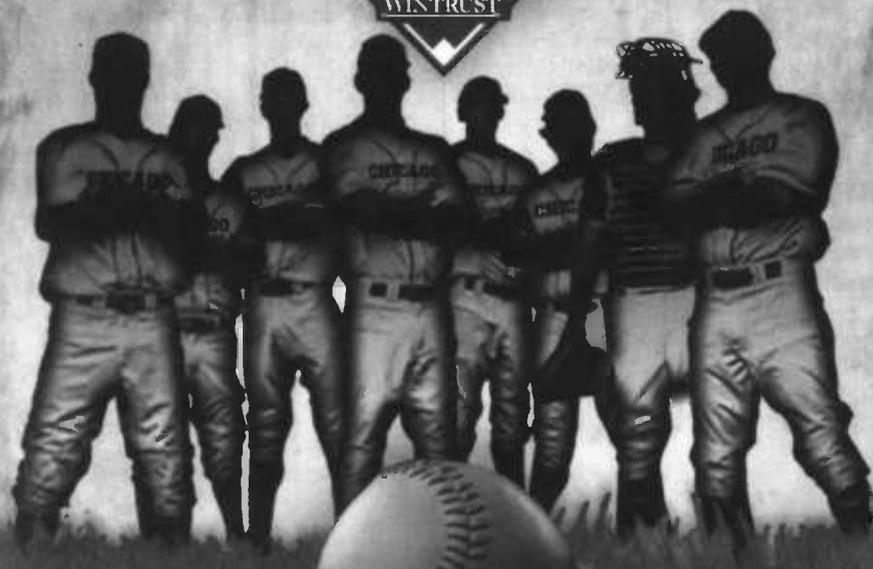
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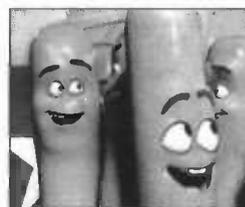
NOW PLAYING



"Suicide Squad" ★ 1/2

PG-13, 2:10, action/adventure

The new DC Comics movie "Suicide Squad" is a garish, over-stuffed, blithely sadistic corporate directive that follows the familiar "Dirty Dozen" setup: A gaggle of surly sociopaths coupled with some "metahumans" must set aside their basic natures to work together fighting a common enemy. But, folks, this is a lousy script. 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's Deadshot, the world's most lethal hit man, refers to the tornadolike doomsday machine being assembled by the evil Enchantress as "a swirling ring of trash." That's "Suicide Squad" in a nutshell. — *Michael Phillips*



"Sausage Party" ★★ 1/2

R, 1:29, animated

Insanely raunchy, and occasionally very funny, "Sausage Party" won't be for everyone. But you could say that about any film featuring a vaginal douche as a villain; a talking used condom with a tale of woe to tell; a tremendous amount of rough language and rough sex and rough existential reckonings; and a climactic orgy, the foodstuffs out of their packaging at last. The script by Seth Rogen, Evan Goldberg, Kyle Hunter and Ariel Shaffir has an inspired stupid idea and boundless nerve, as well as a legitimate interest in theological debate. Truly, it does. I swear. I laughed a lot in the first half, before the movie's repetitive jackhammer pacing began working against its better instincts. — *M.P.*



"Pete's Dragon" ★★★ 1/2

PG, 1:43, action/adventure

Wait: How did this happen? How did a remake of the 1977 Disney animation/live-action hybrid "Pete's Dragon," a pushy mediocrity from tip to tail, become the most soulful film of the summer and one of the best of the year? In terms of story, director David Lowery's version shares only two things with the '77 model. Pete's an orphan. And the title is still "Pete's Dragon," which indicates there's a dragon (beautifully, digitally realized this time, as opposed to animated). After a seriously transporting first half, the second half is more conventional in its narrative beats. Compared with the old "Pete's Dragon," this is another, higher realm of emotional engagement. — *M.P.*



"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 superassassin'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, "Jason Bourne" crackles with professionalism; at its worst, it's rehashing greatest hits (as in "assassinations") from earlier films. — *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. 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, though you're continually aware of all the pandering and shortcuts and b.s. afoot. "Bad Moms" keeps settling for less than it should, given all the talent on screen. — *M.P.*

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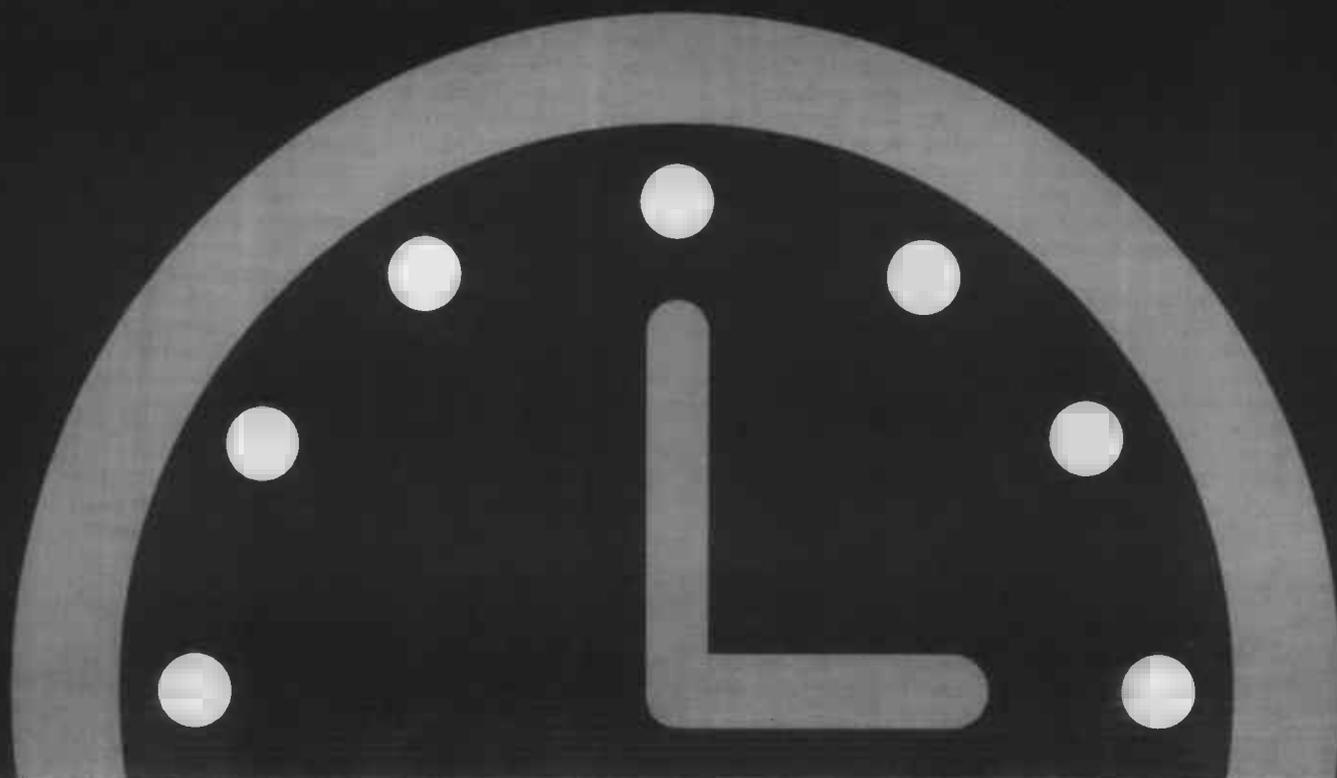
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American luxury or livery?

Cadillac XT5 and Lincoln MKX face off in crossover showdown

By **ROBERT DUFFER**
Chicago Tribune

One of the most common vehicles shuttling between downtown Chicago and its two airports is the blacked-out livery vehicle, or fancy cab. These tinted-windowed SUVs from Lincoln and Cadillac carry clients who presumably want to ride in space, anonymity and a degree of luxury.

Yet, the degrees between luxury and livery haven't been so clear for these two American brands that once defined luxury. As both Lincoln and Cadillac reintroduce redesigned midsize SUVs to market, they must transcend car-for-hire livery to airports by delivering show-off-worthy luxury to driveways.

As luxury makers introduce more entry-level products to court young buyers, and buyers turn to more and more crossovers, these compact to midsize crossovers are vital to their brands.

Of the eight new or redesigned models Cadillac is rolling out by 2020, half are crossovers.

The MKX embodies Lincoln's "quiet luxury" approach moving forward, an antidote to the performance-minded cocktail served up by the Germans and sipped on by Cadillac. The MKX is soft and comfortable, smooth and quiet at high speeds and around town.

Cadillac is nosing into the German luxury realm, while Lincoln is going after a more modest luxury found in Asian brands.

Both expect to take a bigger slice of the premium crossover pie from the undisputed segment leader, the Lexus RX.

Looks

➔ They're both better



TOM SNITZER/PHOTOS FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The 2017 Cadillac XT5, left, and 2016 Lincoln MKX are two American midsize crossovers striving to return to the luxury class. Both seek to take market share from the Lexus RX.

looking than the RX without trying to be so painfully edgy.

Dimensions of the XT5 and MKX are nearly identical, except the MKX is an inch wider. That should translate to better legroom but it's compromised by a wide center console.

From the rearview mirror, the XT5 looks more like an SUV, with a tall grille and vertical daytime running lights. The front skid plate in the Platinum trim gives it more of an off-road look, though it shouldn't go there. It appears taller than the MKX, partly because of the roofline.

The MKX has a narrower face, with a sedan-styled nose that is curved like an Infiniti. The roofline is also more curved at the rear. I noticed passers-by looking at the MKX more. Maybe it was the anti-livery white coat.

Advantage: XT5 is more SUV, MKX is more car

Performance

While the character of each model isn't apparent from the exterior alone, the designers' intent becomes

obvious once you get behind the wheel.

The turbocharged V-6 EcoBoost engine in the Lincoln is faster, without question. There is plenty of available torque, so in highway passing maneuvers or from a dead stop, acceleration is immediate.

The EcoBoost MKX is about as good as that model is going to get. The naturally aspirated V-6 it originally had might have fit better with the overall feel of the car, but the turbo V-6 is crisp and responsive, superior to the V-6 in the XT5.

The XT5 isn't as direct, but it's no dog either. Paddle shifters override the quick shift points of the eight-speed and let the driver dig a little deeper to the redline. The XT5 handles tighter, rides a little firmer and dips in and out of corners with more agility, so when Cadillac decides to pop a turbo in there or go V-Series crazy, the body will be able to respond appropriately. It also gets 2 mpg more on average, thanks to cylinder deactivation and start-stop technology.

The MKX feels more like a midsize SUV, higher up,

more detached from the road, more body roll, despite the sporting powertrain. It's quieter, softer and cushier, which is an attractive attribute for many crossover buyers.

Overall, the XT5 has more potential for performance. It's a matter of character, the engineering ethos that permeates all the parts into a whole that is oftentimes hard to describe but simple to sense. Cadillac is luxury for drivers who like driving. The character of the MKX is flat. It's more premium than luxury, more Buick than Cadillac.

Advantage: XT5

Interior

The difference in character between the two is most apparent in the cabin.

Cadillac uses a gorgeous microsuede headliner extending down the pillars to the dash into a balanced blend of wood, chrome and leather. The control panels and dash design are shaped like the Cadillac crest, emphasizing that attention to detail that defines luxury.

The MKX features black cladding, with black leather reminiscent of Ford's top-of-the-line Titanium trim.

Advantage: XT5

Controls

Fortunately, both automakers are complementing their touch screens with hard buttons and toggles, as well as with redundant steering controls.

Cadillac's CUE has improved and MyLincoln-Touch hasn't.

Advantage: XT5

Both vehicles are necessary improvements and would make a garage and an owner happy. Our photographer, Tom Snitzer, who has an eye for these things, remarked that the MKX is not a vehicle you show off. It's more like a nice rental car or livery vehicle. It delivers on this idea of quiet or modest luxury, but fails to fully distinguish itself in this crowded class and doesn't distance itself enough from Ford. I like it better than the Lexus RX and Acura RDX.

But when people get in the XT5, they will be impressed with its distinctiveness. That should be worth the extra \$6,000.

rduffer@chicagotribune.com

2017 CADILLAC XT5 PLATINUM
luxury compact crossover

Price as tested:

\$62,850

Base price: \$38,995

Mpg: 18 mpg city, 26 mpg highway (automatic start/stop and cylinder deactivation)

Engine: 3.6-liter V-6

Transmission: eight-speed automatic with paddle shifters on AWD

Horsepower/Torque: 310/271 pound-feet

Cargo room (seats down): 63 cubic feet

Weight: 4,356 pounds

Parting shot: Luxurious interior makes up for lagging performance

2016 LINCOLN MKX RESERVE
luxury compact crossover

Price as tested:

\$56,785

Base price: \$38,260

Mpg: 17 mpg city, 24 mpg highway (EcoBoost gives it extra 1 mpg)

Engine: 2.7-liter turbo V-6 w/direct injection

Transmission: six-speed automatic on AWD

Horsepower/Torque: 335/380 pound-feet

Cargo room (seats down): 68.8 cubic feet

Weight: 4,387 pounds

Parting shot: Nice but indistinct

Deerfield team makes mark in Rio

BY STACY ST. CLAIR
Olympic Bureau

RIO DE JANEIRO —The United States rhythmic gymnastics team finished last in the Olympic qualifying round on Aug. 20, leaving its five gymnasts crying as they walked off the floor.

But those were happy tears. Really.

By their very presence here, the women — who train in Deerfield — made history as the first U.S. rhythmic gymnastics team ever to qualify for the Olympics. And after dropping three ribbons in their first routine, the women performed cleanly in their second.

For nearly three minutes during the second round, they tossed clubs and hoops in time with a bouncy samba beat that the Brazilian crowd appreciated. It went so smoothly, in fact, the judges placed the U.S. ahead of error-riddled teams from Greece and China in that phase of the competition.

It wasn't enough to pull the Americans out of last place overall, but the Games always offer more moral victories than medals.

"Once we finished with the clubs and knew we had done it cleanly, we let the emotions flow," said Natalie McGiffert, who lives in Northbrook. "We knew it was our last time together, so we just let it all out."

The group formed four years ago after the U.S. gymnastics federation sent out an email seeking elite gymnasts to try out for a new national team. After a long selection process, the five athletes — McGiffert, Monica Rokhman, Kiana Eide, Alisa Kano and Kristen Shalbybin — agreed to give up their individual rhythmic aspirations to become a team.

Still in their teens, they

relocated to the Chicago area and trained with former Belarusian national team coach Natalia Klimouk at North Shore Rhythmic Gymnastics in Deerfield. Rio was not in anyone's plans when they arrived.

A U.S. team had not competed at the Olympics since the Atlanta Games in 1996, when it received the courtesy berth given to all host nations. The U.S. had never qualified on its own merit.

"We didn't have the Olympics in mind when we first started," said Glencoe's Kano, 21, the only team member born when the U.S. last competed in a Summer Games. "We were just taking it day by day to see how it would work out."

The women toiled in obscurity for seven hours a day, six days a week, dedicating themselves to a sport few appreciate or understand. Making fun of rhythmic gymnastics has become an unofficial Olympic event in North America, with its detractors insisting that no real sport could possibly include a hula hoop or a stick with a 6-meter ribbon on the end.

Looking like a pastime enjoyed by the fairies in a "Midsummer's Night Dream" — the Italian team, which is fourth heading into the final on Aug. 21, is known internationally as "the Butterflies" — rhythmic gymnastics combines ballet and acrobatics with a bit of synchronized swimming on land. The gymnasts spin, jump and dance to music as part of a group routine that can incorporate ribbons, hoops, clubs and balls.

Rhythmic gymnastics requires as much hand-eye coordination as any sport in the Summer Games, though that can be easy to overlook when the athletes are

dressed with the bedazzled subtlety of Eastern European ice dancers. Instead, the rhythmic athletes in the U.S. stand quietly in the long shadow cast by artistic gymnasts, their federation cousins who vault, flip and appear on cereal boxes.

"We hope being here helps rhythmic gymnastics grow in the United States," said Eide, 17, of Northbrook. "We want people to see us here and think it's fun to watch."

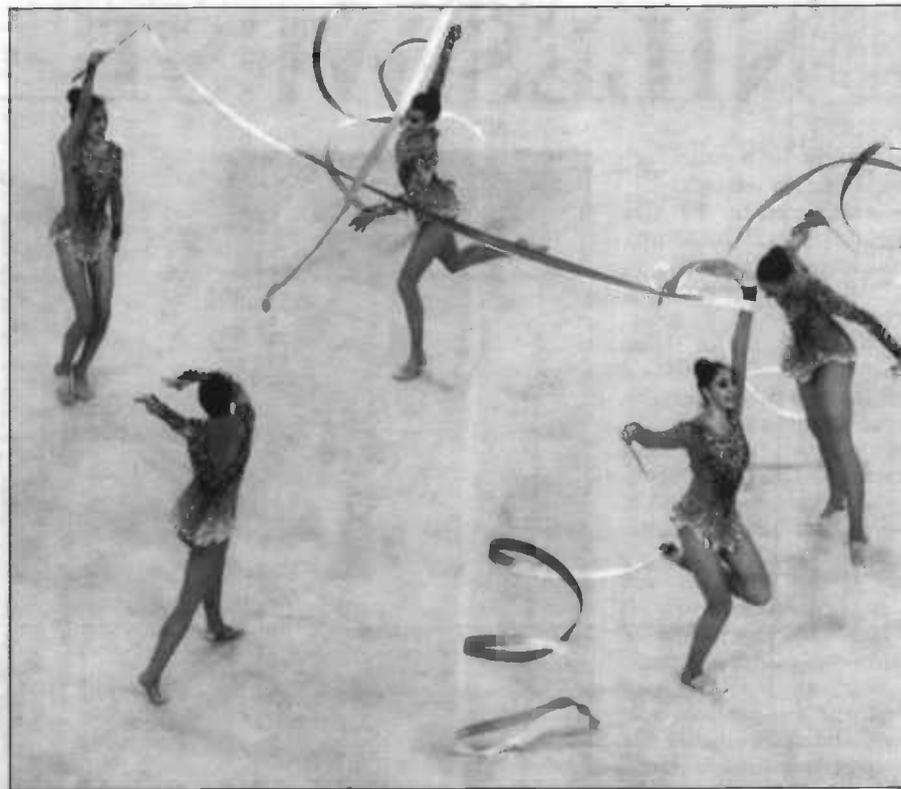
The U.S. team qualified for Rio after finishing 13th at the world championships last year, the highest placement of any group from the Americas. The team also medaled at the Pan American Games in 2015.

The women have been working on their Olympic routines since September, when they learned the apparatuses involved in these Games would be five ribbons in the first round and six clubs and two hoops in the second. They listened to the same two pieces of music over and over again for 11 months, to the point where they sometimes heard it in their dreams.

The Americans scored 30,224 points, more than 5.5 points behind the top-finishing Spanish team. It wasn't their highest score ever, but it was enough to make for a happy ending.

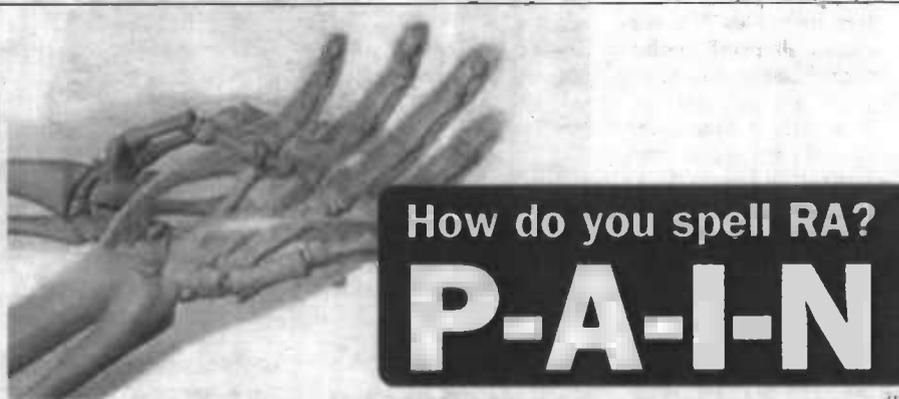
The team will disband after these Games. Most members are headed to college and ready to put their competitive careers behind them. They'll stay in touch, they say, through the group text messages they constantly exchange now.

"We weren't really thinking of scores or placements today — we just wanted to end on a good note," McGiffert said. "After four years, we're a project that's finally complete."



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The USA rhythmic gymnastics team performs the ribbon rotation Aug. 20 at the Rio Olympic Arena in Rio de Janeiro.



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NILES WEST

Coach: Scott Baum, entering eighth season.

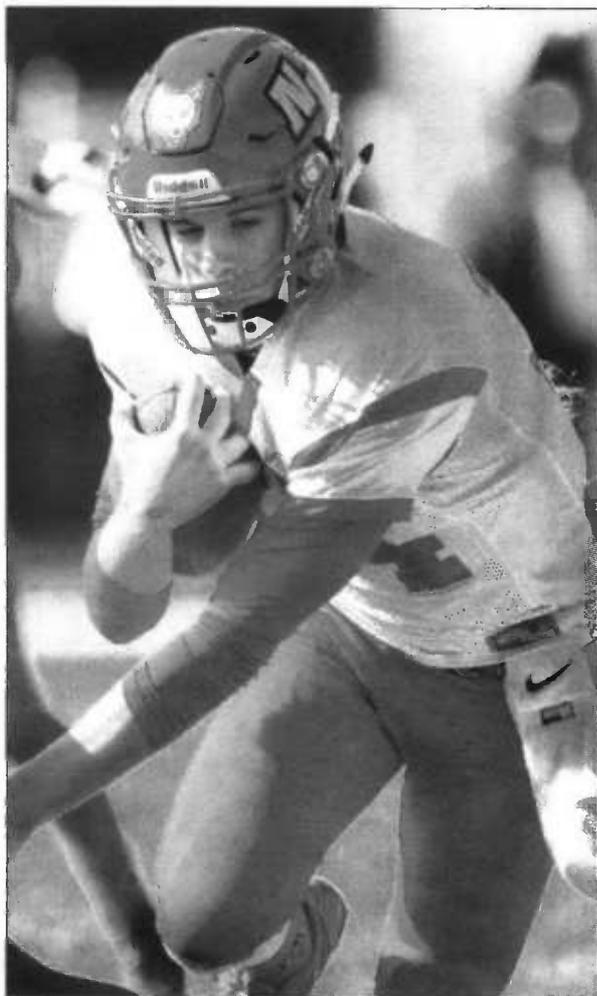
2015 record: 2-7 (1-4 Central Suburban South), did not qualify for playoffs

Offense: Johnny Pabst returns for his senior season at quarterback for Niles West. Matt Galanopoulos, a ubiquitous playmaker and four-year starter, will line up at running back and receiver for the Wolves. Senior wide receiver Matt Metz also returns to the fray, along with wide receivers Dino Perocevic and Greg Leftakes, to form what Baum believes will be a formidable spread attack. "Watching these kids play last year was fun, so a year later and all the practice and weight room offseason stuff they've done, we're looking forward to ... spreading the ball out a little bit and letting these guys get the ball in space," Baum said.

Defense: Niles West surrendered almost 40 points per game last season. Chris Erjavac returns and will play a hybrid linebacker-safety role for the Wolves. Defensive linemen Aidan Montoya and Rafael Aguayo also return. "On the defensive side, we struggled last year," Baum said. "We're not real big, we run and we just need to play a lot more physical than we did last year."

Strong side: The Wolves again open against Buffalo Grove. Last year, Niles West suffered a 45-41 defeat in the opener, which set the tone for the season. A positive start would give the team momentum entering Central Suburban South play. "Our goal is to make the state playoffs," Baum said. "We have a bunch of sophomores who played in (the playoffs) two years ago, and we're looking to get back. And if we can get there, we're going to try to win a game."

Weak side: Though the offense again figures to be strong, Niles West has plenty of question marks on defense. If the Wolves are



MARK KODIAK UKENA/LAKE COUNTY NEWS-SUN

Quarterback Johnny Pabst will lead Niles West's spread offense this season.

2016 Schedule

Aug. 26 vs. Buffalo Grove, 7:30
Sept. 2 at Lane Tech, 7:15
Sept. 9 at Schaumburg, 7:30
Sept. 16 vs. Elk Grove, 7:00
Sept. 23 vs. Glenbrook South, 7:00*
Sept. 30 at Evanston, 7:30*
Oct. 7 vs. Niles North, 7:00*
Oct. 14 at Maine South, 7:00*
Oct. 21 vs. New Trier, 7:00*
* Central Suburban South game

unable to take advantage of their nonconference schedule, a trip to the postseason will be unlikely. With Niles North moving to the South division, the rivalry game looms extra large this year. It could also determine which team makes the postseason, as it is slotted in Week 7.

Team tradition: Niles West will have a flag insert

on its helmets this season in an attempt to honor the military and servicemen. "We appreciate what people do for us for us in order for us to be able to come out here and play football," Baum said. "We give a lot of credit to our parents and school administrators, but we're kind of trying to look outside that a little bit and a lot of people go to work everyday and put their lives on the line for us, so I think that's a way to look at it and honor them."

Quote: "Any game in the CSL is a good game for us," said Baum, "because it's a great league and we have a lot of respect for every team in the league."

— Brett Christie



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Niles North's Jordan LaBelle (10) sprints around the Glenbrook North defense last season. LaBelle will pace a retooled Vikings offense in 2016.

NILES NORTH

Coach: Mike Garoppolo, entering first season.

2015 record: 7-5 (3-2 Central Suburban North), lost 28-17 to Bradley-Bourbonnais in Class 7A quarterfinals.

Offense: Niles North will have to fill the large void left behind by star running back Barrington Wade, who is now at Iowa. Senior Andrew Francis will be under center and will be protected by an offensive line returning four starters. Senior wide receiver Jordan LaBelle and junior running back Bruno Prosper-Kanam also return. "Basically, a lot of the success everyone thinks was just Barrington Wade," Francis said, "but we're returning four pretty good offensive linemen and we're looking forward to having a good, solid running game again."

Defense: The Vikings rode a stout defense to two playoff wins, their first postseason victories since 1992. They return plenty of talent on that side of the ball, including defensive linemen Dylan Ramirez

2016 schedule

Aug. 26 vs. Buffalo Grove, 7:30
Sept. 2 at Lane, 7:15
Sept. 9 at Schaumburg, 7:30
Sept. 16 vs. Elk Grove, 7
Sept. 23 vs. Glenbrook South, 7*
Sept. 30 at Evanston, 7:30*
Oct. 7 vs. Niles North, 7*
Oct. 14 at Maine South, 7*
Oct. 21 vs. New Trier, 7*
* Central Suburban South game

and Michael Pimentel and sophomore free safety Myles Davis. "The first game I got in, it was intimidating a little bit," Davis said of his breakout freshman season. "But then I took the first hit, and I got used to it"

Strong side: Niles North returns 15 starters from a year ago and has a manageable schedule before reaching conference play. If they can navigate through the first five weeks with minimal damage, the Vikings could find themselves in decent shape when the schedule picks up against Central Suburban South opponents.

Weak side: If Niles North heads into Central

Suburban South play under .500, it will be very difficult to replicate last season's success. Though players and coaches said the talent is there to build off last season, the schedule certainly is not as forgiving. "We're going to a completely different conference, and the skill level is going to be completely different," Garoppolo said.

Team tradition: In a program without much long-term success, Garoppolo said he's excited to implement some new traditions. For now, the Vikings will stick with their tradition of team pasta dinners the night before gameday.

Quote: "Now that guys have seen in the past what it takes to get to that (playoff) level, now these guys have really embraced that," Garoppolo said. "In the offseason they've really been busting their butt. They've carried it into the season, so it's been great to see."

— Brett Christie

MAINE EAST

Coach: Scott Smith, entering second season

2015 record: 0-9 (0-5 Central Suburban North), did not advance to the playoffs

Offense: Junior quarterback Jusuf Zvizdic made a great first impression last year, entering a Week 1 contest against Schurz in relief and nearly spearheading a comeback. Zvizdic held the job the rest of the year. "He's got a strong arm," Smith said. "He's a very intelligent kid. He understands the offense." Smith expects more balance from his spread-based team after passing roughly 90 percent of the time in 2015.

Defense: Formation-wise, the defense will alternate between a 4-3 and 4-2-5. Senior defensive back Sargon Odicho likes the "umbrella" the team forms with its four defensive backs. "I like how it looks because we can cover all gaps," he said. Smith said 300-pound lineman Giovanni Gonzalez is "a big presence up front and should be able to demand a double team."

Strong side: After a 0-9 season, Smith believes his team should win two or three games in 2016. The opener against Schurz might be one of the Blue Demons' best shots. Just one win would mean a lot to the program. "It'd be amazing, honestly, to pick up a win or two," Odicho said.

Weak side: The majority of Maine East's players don't stem from a football background, Smith said. "They're like sponges," Smith said. "They want to learn, just their learning curve is so much more than most kids that are playing at the varsity level." Last year, the Blue Demons started two offensive linemen who



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Sargon Odicho and Maine East are looking to snap their winless skid this season.

2016 Schedule

Aug. 27 at Schurz, 7:15
 Sept. 2 vs. Ridgewood, 7:00
 Sept. 9 at Rolling Meadows, 7:30
 Sept. 16 vs. Hoffman Estates, 7:00
 Sept. 23 vs. Maine West, 7:00*
 Sept. 30 vs. Glenbrook North, 7:00*
 Oct. 7 at Vernon Hills, 7:30*
 Oct. 14 at Highland Park, 7:00*
 Oct. 21 vs. Deerfield, 7:00*
 * Central Suburban North game

had never played football.

Team tradition: Tradition is still a work in progress in Smith's second year. Smith said he's trying to

create an ethos of hard work. "We're developing those relationships and traditions," Smith said. To keep it fun, the Blue Demons sometimes end practice with 7-on-7 play, with the winner getting ice cream. "We'll continue to do that stuff," Smith said.

Quote: "This year, we're tightening up the reins a little bit, the expectations are a little higher," Smith said.

—Jonah L. Rosenblum

"This year, we're tightening up the reins a little bit, the expectations are a little higher."

—Coach Scott Smith



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Senior Anthony Saro will anchor Notre Dame's offensive line.

NOTRE DAME

Coach: Mike Hennessey, entering 30th season

2015 record: 8-2 (6-1 East Suburban Catholic), lost 17-14 to Marist in first round of Class 8A playoffs

Offense: The Dons' attack features multiple sets within a spread offense, with four wideouts, a tight end and wing. Notre Dame scored 34.4 points per game last year and outscored its opponents by 156 points. While only senior center Anthony Saro and senior running back Eric Harper Jr. return, Hennessey said he is confident in his new offensive playmakers.

Defense: While the offense features fresh faces, the defense has familiar ones. The Dons will lean on the skill and knowledge of senior linebackers Lucas Polakow and Thomas Hackett to execute their multiple defensive looks. "They're everything you want in a student-athlete, and I've entrusted the care of the defense in them," said defensive coordinator

2016 Schedule

Aug. 27 at Thornton, 1:00
 Sept. 2 at Benet, 7:30
 Sept. 9 vs. Nazareth, 7:30*
 Sept. 16 at Joliet Catholic, 7:30*
 Sept. 23 vs. St. Patrick, 7:30*
 Sept. 30 at Carmel, 7:30*
 Oct. 7 vs. Marian Catholic, 7:30*
 Oct. 14 vs. Marian Central, 7:30*
 Oct. 21 at St. Viator, 7:30*
 * East Suburban Catholic game

Dan DeFranza. "It's their defense. They own it." While DeFranza will call the plays, he's entrusting his senior linebackers with everything else on the field.

Strong side: Notre Dame lost twice to Marist last year — the Dons' only defeats — but won't face the RedHawks this regular season. While it's difficult to predict if the Dons' offense can replicate last year's success, the pressure to do so will be eased by what should be an improved defense.

Weak side: Hennessey wants this year's team to improve their time of possession, a burden that will fall on the broad shoulders of those in the trenches.

"Our line up front needs to give us some holes to run through," he said. "We've got a good stable of running backs, but we're only going to be as good as our linemen." DeFranza echoed that thought on the defensive side of the ball, emphasizing his new-look line's need to stop the run and create a pass rush in order to find success.

Team tradition: Every Wednesday, the team finishes practice and is greeted by pasta dishes, a favorite tradition of Hackett's. After victories, the team is also rewarded with cake. The more red velvet pastries in the locker room, the deeper the team's playoff run should go.

Quote: "You talk to a lot of colleges guys and they tell you, 'You always miss being under the lights Friday nights,' and it's going to be tough knowing it's our last year." Saro said. "It's tough just talking about it, really."

—Lee Bosch

Like brother, Garoppolo seeks good first impression

BY BRETT CHRISTIE,
GARY LARSEN, HEATHER
RULE AND ELI
HERSHKOVICH
Pioneer Press

For new Niles North head coach Mike Garoppolo, growing up Garoppolo meant growing up with football.

Mike was the second of Tony and Denise Garoppolo's four sons, and is an older brother of New England Patriots quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo.

Having three brothers fostered a competitive environment, Mike Garoppolo said, and almost everything revolved around the sport of football.

"We grew up playing since we were little kids," Garoppolo said. "I didn't start playing football until fifth grade — I played soccer before that — but we were always in the back yard competing. The tradition growing up was watching football every Saturday and Sunday with the family and just envisioning yourself as a football player, then growing up and doing it. I kept that passion and now I'm carrying it into coaching."

After starring at Rolling Meadows, Mike Garoppolo went on to play linebacker at Western Illinois from 2007-11. He served the last three years at Rolling Meadows as an assistant to Mark Egofske, who resigned at the end of last season. Now, at 28, Garoppolo takes over a program fresh off its best season in more than 20 years. The energetic Garoppolo, who still has a player-like physique, isn't taking his opportunity for granted.

"I know young coaches don't usually get this opportunity, so I'm embracing it, every opportunity I can and running with it," he said. "Trying to do everything I can, so I can't look back and say I wish I would've done something. I'm spending more hours here than I am anywhere in this world right now. It's a big-time commitment and I know



Niles North, celebrating a playoff win during the 2015 season, welcomes a new coach this year.

that, but I'm excited about it. I love the sport. This is my life."

Though the context is much different, Jimmy Garoppolo is also entering a unique opportunity in his career. The fallout from the much-publicized Deflategate was a four-game suspension for Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, which means the Arlington Heights native will make his first career start Week 1 against the Arizona Cardinals.

"Obviously it's a lot of pressure now on him, but he's ready for the challenge," Mike Garoppolo said of his brother. "I've seen him prepare all offseason, and this summer he was home for a little bit. It's a cool thing seeing it, but, you know, he's got the opportunity of a lifetime right now and if he makes the most — and God help us, hopefully everything works out, he does well and continues his career on a positive note."

No matter the outcome, a

proud older brother will be roaming Niles North's sidelines this season, eager to make a good first impression while his brother attempts to do the same.

"I've seen (Jimmy) grow up and seen his work ethic and what it takes to get to the college level, and then obviously at the college level what it takes to get to the NFL level," Mike Garoppolo said. "It's been very impressive. I'm very proud of him, you know, we talk all the time and I just tell him it's a dream come true what he's doing."

Gelsomino takes over at Ridgewood

When Ridgewood opens its football season at home against Solorio, for the first time in a decade, Chris Zack won't be roaming the sideline as the Rebels' head coach.

A new era begins under first-year head coach Don

Gelsomino, who attended now-closed Holy Cross High School but grew up in Norridge.

He's happy to be back.

"It's been a good transition. I'm teaching there, too, and Ridgewood has been really great," said Gelsomino, who teaches integrated physics. "As far as the players go, they've been really receptive and open to things I'm doing. And they work really hard."

Gelsomino was the defensive coordinator at St. Patrick last season. Ridgewood went 7-3 in 2015, won a Metro Suburban East title for the first time since 1992, and qualified for the state playoffs for the first time since 2002.

Gelsomino will add some wrinkles on both sides of the ball but also wants to maintain consistency for this year's returning players.

"You want to keep doing the things that worked last year because obviously they worked for a reason," Gelsomino said. "So you incorporate that while putting your own spin on it."

Will Gelsomino feel some extra butterflies on the day of Ridgewood's home opener?

"I stopped getting nervous for games awhile ago, but coaching is weird, because I still get nervous for practice," he said. "By game day, it's in the bag for me and it's on the players' shoulders. But I think next week might be a little different. We'll see."

Cooper had the itch to get back into coaching, so last spring he inquired about assisting Kevin Darling. The head role became available a few weeks later when Darling took a new job.

"It was pretty much a no-brainer," Cooper said. "I really missed coaching. When you take a little time away from it, it just seems like there's a hole in your life."

The transition to 8-man has been challenging, Cooper said. But senior Bernie Sander regularly finds Cooper in his office drawing up plays on his notepad. "All he does is think about football," Sander said.

Cooper's assistant coaches are Jim Dueble, in his 27th year at North Shore, as well as Jason Giffen and Tim Barfield, each in their fourth year.

Schoenwetter gets his chance at Glenbrook South

After 15 years as an assistant coach at Glenbrook South, David Schoenwetter finally has an opportunity to instill his head coaching legacy.

Schoenwetter, Glenbrook South's quarterbacks coach from 2001-15, replaced Mike Noll, who resigned in January.

From 1990-93, Schoenwetter played quarterback at Glenbrook South under Bob Schoenwetter, his father. He went on to have an excellent career at Knox College and was inducted into the school's athletic hall of fame in 2009.

"(Bob Schoenwetter) realizes how hard I've worked for this," David Schoenwetter said, "and that I've stayed at Glenbrook South to do this."

Brett Christie, Gary Larsen, Heather Rule and Eli Hershkovich are freelance reporters for Pioneer Press.

Cooper pursues football passion at North Shore

It's Erik Cooper's first year as North Shore Country Day's head football coach, but he's no stranger to football or to the school.

Cooper, previously the head coach at Choate Rosemary Hall in Connecticut, is in his third year as dean of students and world history teacher.

LOYOLA LOOKS TO STAY ON TOP

BY BRETT CHRISTIE
Pioneer Press

It's Aug. 17 and the Class 8A defending state champions are in the midst of their last tough practice of the week. The sweltering session comes to a close with sprints. The intensity appears to be high — a scuffle breaks out after a turnover by the offense — but Loyola coach John Holecek says he's displeased with his team's performance on this particular day.

Such is the standard at Loyola Academy, as the Ramblers are eager to answer the question on everyone's mind: How do you follow up last year's perfect season?

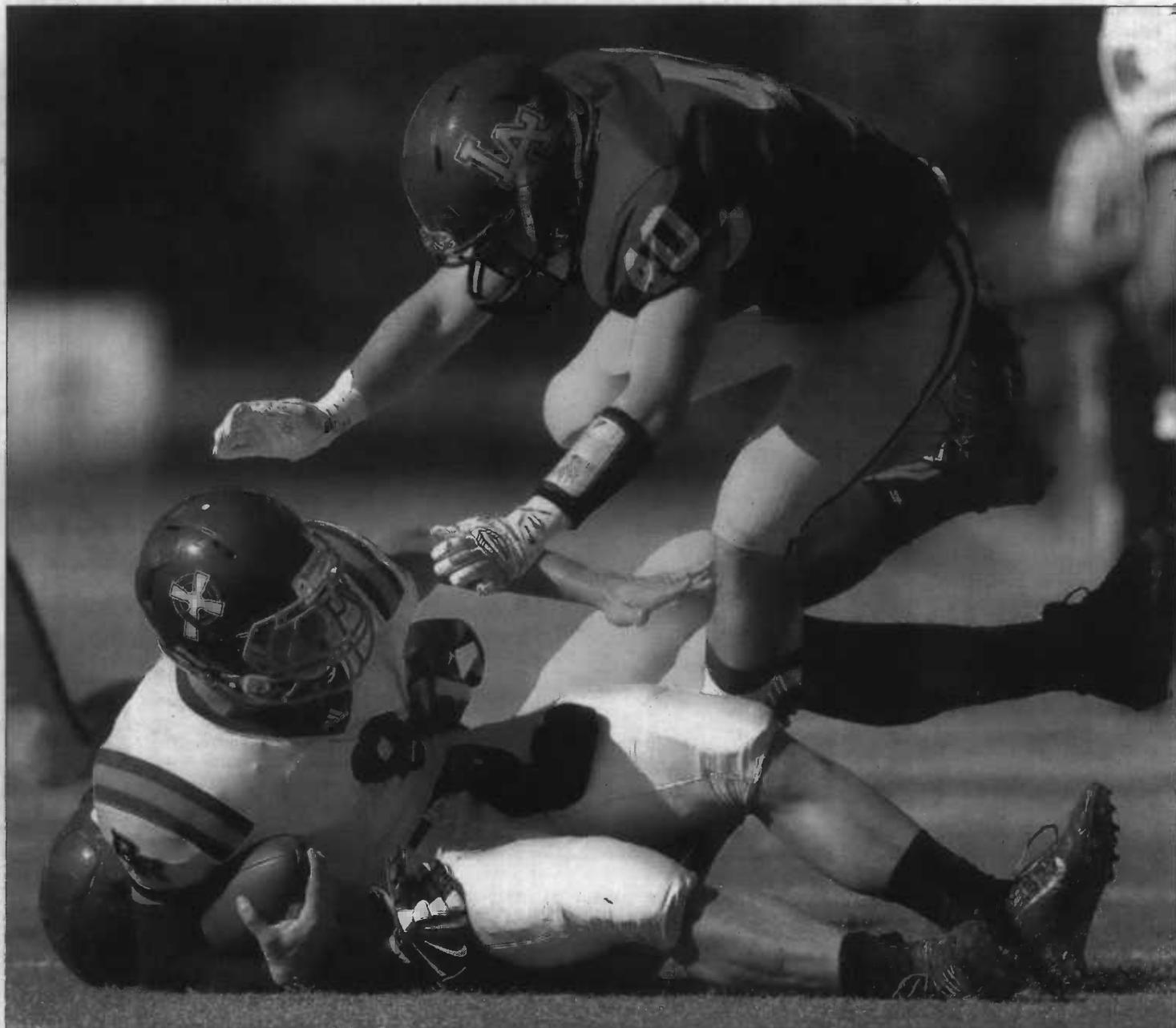
"It's very hard," Holecek says. "We're trying to replace a lot of playmakers. A ton of great kids that have gone on to college, and quite a combination of size and speed and talent that we're going to be lacking."

Loyola's title defense begins in Milwaukee, against Marquette, on Aug. 26. Awaiting the Ramblers after their opener is a home date with powerhouse Maine South, then at rival Mount Carmel in Week 3. The challenging start to the season, though undesirable to Holecek, will reveal to the coaching staff whether or not this year's squad is up to the task of repeating.

"We'll know right away," Holecek said. "If we do well in our first three and come out of that looking good, 2-1 and play well or 3-0, we'll know. But 1-2, we're going to be in trouble and 0-3, well, we're in big trouble. It's three really good teams."

Aside from the schedule, perhaps the Ramblers' biggest battle will be guarding against complacency. However, given the small number of starters returning — five plus three who were significant contributors — Holecek is hopeful that will foster a hungry and competitive environment.

"We just hope that everyone's working their hardest and not relying on a false sense of security because their predecessors were good football players," Holecek said. "We're trying to battle complacency and the boredom of hitting each other all the time and trying to stay focused and get better every day."



ANDREW A. NELLES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Linebacker Anthony Romano (above) returns for a Loyola team that won the Class 8A title last season.

Senior left guard Jack Badovinac, a stalwart on the offensive line, is one of five returners on offense. He joins senior tackle John Brekke and wide receivers Jake Marwede, a Duke recruit, David Terrell Jr. and Jack Moran. Despite having newcomers at key offensive slots — including senior quarterback Tommy Herion — Badovinac says he's confident they'll be able to put up points this season.

"I'm really excited about what we can do," Badovinac said.

"We've got some good returners, and I'm feeling strong about the quarterback position no matter who is in there. We've got a lot of depth."

Senior linebackers Anthony Romano and Graham Repp will captain the Ramblers' 3-4 defense. Both Romano and Holecek were quick to point out Mickey Kane, an outside linebacker poised to have a big season. Cornerback Ian Swenson, a Connecticut recruit, also returns. The defensive line will be completely rebuilt, and the

Ramblers will have to try and make up for the loss of stud defensive tackle Ben Leroy, now at Northern Illinois. Romano and Repp's presence in the middle of the package, however, gives them reason for defensive optimism.

"Having us back and being the anchors of the defense and being able to communicate in a leadership position," Romano said, "that's definitely a plus."

Though they enter the 2016 season with as a more accomplished program, Loyola is fo-

cused on repeating and doing so with the same discipline that got them there last year.

"We've got to treat every game the same and keep our mind on the state championship," Badovinac said. "We can't get complacent and we have to treat every team as a faceless opponent, no matter how good or bad they are."

Brett Christie is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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CONFERENCE CALLS

Schools seek competitive balance amid shifts in league membership

BY JON J. KERR
Pioneer Press

At a Central Suburban League meeting at the Glenview Park Golf Club in the fall of 2002, a representative from Waukegan stood up and made a point that reverberated throughout the room.

"He said, Just so you know, our superintendent has inquired about Waukegan joining another conference," recalled Glenbrook North athletic director John Catalano, who was then an assistant at Glenbrook South.

In the coming years, Waukegan regularly considered leaving the CSL. Waukegan was the largest school in the CSL and was thus placed with other large schools in the South division. Four of its conference rivals were located about 25 miles to the south, with football powerhouse Maine South a whopping 34 miles away. Wisconsin, by comparison, is only 12 miles to the north.

Long bus rides to conference games were draining for students and left the district with untenable transportation costs, yet the Bulldogs did not find a solution for more than a decade. That changed in August 2014, when six members of the North Suburban Conference Prairie Division announced they were leaving to form a new conference, along with Grayslake North and Grayslake Central.

"When the NSC broke up, that made (Waukegan leaving) a possibility," Catalano said.

By March 2015, Waukegan finally agreed to leave the conference it had called home since 1975 by accepting an invitation to join the North Suburban Conference beginning in the 2016-17 school year.

Conference realignment is a constant presence in college football and basketball, but the phenomenon



STEVE JOHNSTON/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Fenwick's Conner Lillig (23) is taken down by Loyola Academy's Jack Blindt (26) last season. Fenwick moved from the CCL White to the CCL Green after the Suburban Christian Conference dissolved.

also takes place at the high school level. In most cases, school administrators look at geography and the ability to compete on a level playing field when debating whether to change conferences.

Vernon Hills, for example, was the seventh member of the North Suburban Prairie but was not invited to join the breakaway Northern Lake County Conference. Three weeks after Waukegan opted to leave the CSL, Vernon Hills requested to join. When the Cougars open their football season on Aug. 26 against Grayslake Central, they will do so as the newest — and

smallest — member of the CSL North. Niles North, in turn, got bumped from the North to the South, where it will face perennial conference champion Maine South, New Trier and Evanston each year.

But first-year coach Mike Garoppolo prefers to look at the bright side.

"We play Evanston, and our kids went to junior high with a group from Evanston. And being in Skokie, there's a potential rivalry with Niles West," Garoppolo said. "Every week is a playoff game."

Vernon Hills coach Bill Bellecomo also is looking forward to his new chal-

lenge in the CSL.

"It's exciting, as it's something new rather than the same old teams," he said. "It will provide us with more playoff points."

Playoff points — or the win total of Vernon Hills' nine opponents — is the first tiebreaker for football teams that finish the regular season with five wins. Teams that win six or more games get an automatic playoff berth, and those finishing 5-4 get rewarded for playing quality opponents.

Conference realignment likely will help Vernon Hills in two ways. First, the Cougars will avoid playing

much larger North Suburban Lake schools such as Stevenson, Lake Zurich and Libertyville in conference crossover games. Second, the CSL has an agreement with the Mid-Suburban League to play two nonconference games each season, with opponents paired by enrollment. Vernon Hills will face Buffalo Grove and Wheeling this season.

"This is a good step to look at something like this instead of crossing over," Cougars athletic director Brian McDonald said. "You have to get to five wins and you are trying to find a school that is commensurate with your size. That's

something that has yet to be solved across the state."

Conference realignment extends beyond public schools. The breakup of the Suburban Christian Conference following the 2013-14 school year led schools to the Chicago Catholic League, where Fenwick hopped from the White Division to the newly-formed Green. The Friars now play Montini — winners of five state titles in seven years — each season.

"It's unfortunate that football has to drive all of these tough decisions for conferences and schools," Fenwick athletic director Scott Thies said.

One unintended consequence from the conference reshuffling: Administrators are becoming more proactive.

After the changes in 2013-14, the CCL formed a parity committee made up of conference athletic directors. Thies said the committee gathers data based on a set of criteria including enrollment, geography and record. He said the data help conference officials make objective decisions on issues like scheduling — and by doing so, help prevent future defections.

"We want to determine where each school will fit in the CCL, whether it's the Blue or the White or the Green (division)," Thies said. "Take out the personalities and subjective nature of where schools should fall and who should be playing who."

Catalano said a task force is in place in the CSL for many of the same reasons as the CCL.

"We're looking at it and trying to help solve this issue so these conferences don't break up," Catalano said. "We want to move forward, to keep things competitive and even."

Jon J. Kerr is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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PUBLIC OPINION

Football coaches differ on private schools' advantages

By **BOB NARANG**
Pioneer Press

While his team battled scorching heat and top-flight opponents at the Red Grange Classic 7-on-7 at Wheaton South earlier this summer, New Trier football coach Brian Doll noticed a recurring theme as he casually conversed with other coaches.

Time after time, Doll said, the topic turned to the private-versus-public debate, in which "private" almost always means "Catholic." Last season, Loyola (Class 8A), Montini (6A) and Nazareth (5A) won three of the four big-class state championships. Two years ago, Providence (7A), Nazareth (6A) and Springfield Sacred Heart-Griffin (5A) captured state titles.

Montini, a Lombard-based Catholic school, has won five state titles since 2009. Mount Carmel coach Frank Lenti has won a state-record 11 championships.

"I had a lot of discussions, and some coaches questioned whether (private schools) were becoming more appealing to parents because they can shop around their kids for a school that fits his needs and where he can play," Doll said.

Concerns such as these raise questions as to whether public and private schools ought to compete for the same state titles. The IHSA has introduced various measures — such as the enrollment multiplier and "success factor," which forces dominant private schools to jump up a class to compete against larger schools in the playoffs — in an attempt to keep all state championships unified. Texas and New Jersey now hold separate football championships for public and private schools, and many other states have de-

bated how best to address any perceived inequalities on the gridiron.

Some Chicagoland coaches, such as Nazareth's Tim Racki, are no strangers to the annual debate that often boils hotter when private schools dominate state-title matchups. Racki has won six state titles in his career, all at Catholic schools: four at the now-closed Addison Driscoll and two at Nazareth.

"I've been hearing the same stuff since I was at Driscoll," Racki said. "I thought it was intense back then, but maybe with the social media stuff, it seems more magnified."

Loyola coach John Holecek, a former NFL player, said he can see both sides of the debate. His program draws players from an area far exceeding any single suburban school district, but the stringent academic requirements at Loyola limit his pool of available students. Holecek said hundreds of students are denied admission annually at the Jesuit school.

"From my point of view, I can recruit, but that doesn't mean I can give them money or they can get in," Holecek said. "Don't tell me I'm in the same boat as other Catholic schools that don't have any restrictions."

Numerous coaches have noted a recent trend of private players transferring to public schools, whether because of the high cost of tuition or the tough academic load. Even Mount Carmel lost a recruit in July when Houston Griffith, a top-100 national player in the class of 2018, transferred to IMG Academy in Florida.

Holecek said he lost four players who are slated to be starters at four different public schools this season. Before winning his first state title, Holecek had lost to a public school in the

playoffs in each of the last nine seasons.

"If I had everybody that I started out with, I would feel really, really confident going into this season," Holecek said. "There are plenty of public schools that can match up, but certain Catholic schools have a little bit of history, so they can get kids."

Lyons' Kurt Weinberg is among numerous coaches who consider the current playoff system to be unbalanced. Weinberg said he annually deals with many La Grange junior high school players being courted by private schools, including nearby Nazareth.

"I'm not a big fan of private and public schools being in the same class for the playoffs," Weinberg said. "It's apples vs. oranges. There are things they are allowed to do that we can't do. I know we are a big school, but the bottom line is that when you look at the schools that have won a dozen state championships or other schools — I'm not saying they are not great coaches, but you can't tell me that they are that much better where they can win those number of state championships."

First-year Ridgewood coach Don Gelsomino is on the other end of the spectrum. After attending Holy Cross and serving as an assistant coach at Fenwick and St. Patrick, Gelsomino is trying to build a program at a public school in the Metro Suburban Conference, a rare league with public and private members. He downplayed the notion that private schools have a competitive advantage.

"I don't buy into the fact we need less classes or separation between public and private playoffs," he said. "People often look only at the top schools, notably the teams that won a state



DARRELL GOEMAAT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"Don't tell me I'm in the same boat as other Catholic schools that don't have any restrictions."

— John Holecek, pictured above, who coached Loyola to the Class 8A title last season

title, but they don't look at the middle of the road. Look at our conference. It's a perfect mix of small public and private and balances well. I don't see too much of a difference."

Guerin coach Mark Morgan is new to the program but spent time at IC Catholic, Driscoll, Niles West, Waukegan and Ridgewood in his 33 years of coaching. Morgan suggests both sides — private and public — have advantages.

"Private schools have the reputation that they can recruit and do more and get

kids from out of the district, but it still costs a lot of money to go to a private school," Morgan said. "I know the ideas of scholarships, and some of these great athletes are paying and not paying. But at private schools you have less students to usually draw from that public schools, and you have to adjust your practice schedule because some players have to work to pay for their tuition."

Many public school coaches, including Doll and Hinsdale Central's Dan Hartman, said they relish

the history and competition of battling private schools. Doll said he's trying, along with Holecek, to renew the Loyola vs. New Trier game in the near future.

"I love the challenge," Doll said. "If you are a football guy and know the history, who would not love to play a Mount Carmel, Loyola, St. Rita or Brother Rice?"

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Nazareth football coach Tim Racki said he has implemented safety techniques with his players well before they became standard practice, dating back to his successful run with Addison Driscoll.

ANTHONY SOUFFLE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

FOOTBALL AT A CROSSROADS?

Area coaches discuss injury concerns, participation numbers

Q: Generally, with specifics to come later, how do you view the risks of playing football?

St. Viator coach Dave Archibald: I look at injury statistics in gymnastics, skateboarding, skiing, sports of that nature all carry elements of risk. But when you have millions of football players in the country, I think if it's taught properly, and now with the emphasis on player safety and proper tackling, it's changing. When you watch football in the 1960s and 70s, players were taught the helmet is something you should hit with, should use as a weapon. Those days are gone, and that's a great thing.

Lake Forest Academy

coach Robin Bowkett: I'm not one of these old-school guys. You don't have to go full-live tackling always to be a great tackler. If you look at Dartmouth, outside of camp, they don't live tackle the rest of the season, and the health of their guys has gone through the roof. Adding a shielder, adding a crash pad to drills, it's huge for your program and keeps your guys healthy, and at the same time, your guys are getting the muscle memory of tackling.

Nazareth coach Tim Racki: This is my 24th year of coaching football, and my first year as a head coach was 1998. I played football my whole life, so I've seen a

BY RICH MAYOR | Pioneer Press

Player safety in football is perhaps the most prominent and important subject of discussion in youth athletics today. Coaches are expected to push kids while also keeping them safe. Parents do their own research and prohibit their kids from playing the sport if they don't like what they find. Improvements in equipment have made a difference, and schools have taken action to limit the risk of injury, but football's inherent risks remain.

Pioneer Press contributor Rich Mayor caught up with area coaches to discuss the state of high school football and player safety in suburban Chicago.

lot of coaches. And I always noted what I liked and didn't like about what those coaches did. ... We were

hitting two days per week before this (player safety) news started to come out. Kids needed rest. They

didn't need to hit every day, and even in the summer when the IHSA said you could have full pads on (during Racki's time at Addison Driscoll), we'd never have full pads. No need to put these kids through the ringer in June. Because I went through it, I knew how important it was to be healthy and fresh.

Q: How did you conclude that was the best way to go, especially back when it wasn't mandated and others didn't see it as imperative?

Racki: To me, it was about keeping players happy and wanting to play football, and getting them to buy in. I'm not going to say

I'm a doctor or anything. I read the book by John Gagliardi, the coach of St. John's (Minn.), who banned tackling. They only hit on game day. I loved that, because it kept it fun and fresh for the kids. Football was always a grind, but I always questioned it. Why does it have to be a grind? Why does it have to not be fun? My realization wasn't medical. I wanted to keep my kids having fun and buying in to the program.

Q: How much attention is being paid to these issues, among coaches?

New Trier coach Brian Doll: In my 15 years of coaching, it's always been there and always something

Turn to Football, Next Page



"When we finish a season and sit down to review, honestly now, one of the first things we talk about is injuries. ... It wasn't that way 10, 15 years ago."

— New Trier coach Brian Doll, pictured

Football,
from Previous Page

we've talked about, but since there's been more attention brought to it, we as a head-coaching fraternity discuss it a lot now, all year-round. When we finish a season and sit down to review, honestly now, one of the first things we talk about is injuries. How can we limit those? How can we keep the kids safer? It wasn't that way 10, 15 years ago. It's important for me to relay those things to my parents.

Q: On the topic of parents, how much has their role changed in their child's football participation in the past five to 10 years?

Bowkett: I know parents are doing more of their own individual research, which is good, which is great. I think the more knowledge and research, the better. I think in terms of residence, especially living up here in the North Shore, a lot of parents are worried so they want their kid to play a different sport. ... That's how people perceive (football) now.

Archibald: As far as equipment goes, comparing the helmets from 20 or 30 years ago to today, there's quite a difference: its strength, its comfort, its resistance to impact. There are a lot of good things that have happened with the helmet that make me feel

good. Technology is helping the game, and those advances make me feel a lot better, not only for my players' sake but for my own kids playing the game down the road.

Doll: It's by far the most talked-about thing at my parent meetings. Parents want to sit down with the head coach and ask, "How can you keep my son safe?" And I have to be prepared to answer that question.

Q: When asked, how do you answer that question?

Doll: I never promise parents that I can keep their son injury-free, because the reality of life is not that way. You know, hanging at the playground or driving in a car, anything, injuries can happen. But I do tell parents that practice, especially, is different now. I've changed my philosophy on how much contact we have, how we run our drills. I certainly don't run practice how I practiced at that age — you know, line up and go at it for two hours every day for three months (laughs) — and I tell parents that. I'm always trying to find the new, creative way to make them safer. We look everywhere.

Q: When parents ask that inevitable question — does the potential danger of football outweigh the benefits — how do you respond?

Doll: I've had the con-

versation with dozens of parents before. For many of them, it's yes. For many parents these days, and they're more vocal about it now than 7-8 years ago, that answer is no. Or, you'll have the parent who will see one injury — a broken arm, separated shoulder — and that's it. We get one strike and the kid is pulled out, when that rarely was the case 10-15 years ago.

Fenwick coach Gene Nudo: I certainly believe the benefits far outweigh the dangers, and this is my 37th year. People will say that's coach talk, but you know, if football was easy, everyone would play it. You never feel as good physically on Nov. 25 as you did on Aug. 8. There's no way around it. You sweat, you bleed, you get tired, you work hard. That's the beauty of the game. It teaches young men that when the world kicks you in the ass, how to dust yourself off, get up and keep working.

Archibald: I remember one of the worst hits I took in college, my vision was goofy for a brief moment. I came to the sideline and went through a protocol with the trainer, and it was fairly simple. I was fine in this particular instance. But today, that player would be given baseline testing and even if they pass it, they still get a rest time. In my understanding of the research, we're learning that



MARK KODIAK UKENA/LAKE COUNTY NEWS-SUN

Many high schools have limited full-contact drills in response to research and parental concerns about the risk of concussions and other injuries.

the brain can heal. It needs to be treated very carefully — unless someone is dealing with multiple concussions, that's a different weight — but in general, I think the helmet improving, the rules being changed, tackling being taught more effectively and rest being guaranteed really help."

Q: When you see some traditional high-school football players — guys who would've played without hesitation five to 10 years ago — doing other things because the risks outweighed the benefit, it throws up red flags. In that vein, do you see the sport as being in any long-term danger?

Bowkett: (Pauses) No... No. Because I think the

coaches and administrators are doing everything that they can to make sure that we maintain the integrity of this game, while also keeping it safe as possible. I think it's just too popular of a game, you learn way too many life lessons from the game, for it to go away.

Nudo: I've got kids, my boys played football. My youngest son is a senior in college and still playing football. I wouldn't throw them out there if I didn't believe in the quality of what the game has taught them, what the game has given them and what they've gotten out of it.

Racki: (The danger) is not that it's something I hear out loud, it's more something I sense. I see kids

that 10 years ago would've definitely come out for football. I had a dad come up to me this year and tell me he absolutely loved the program, but he hated the game. As a coach, what can you do about that?

Bowkett: Our game is certainly under attack, but it's up to (coaches) to be change agents. I think a lot of us have done a really good job of that. Everything comes in waves, like a roller coaster. Right now, (player safety) is certainly a popular and critically important issue. We're the ones who need to be agents of change.

Rich Mayor is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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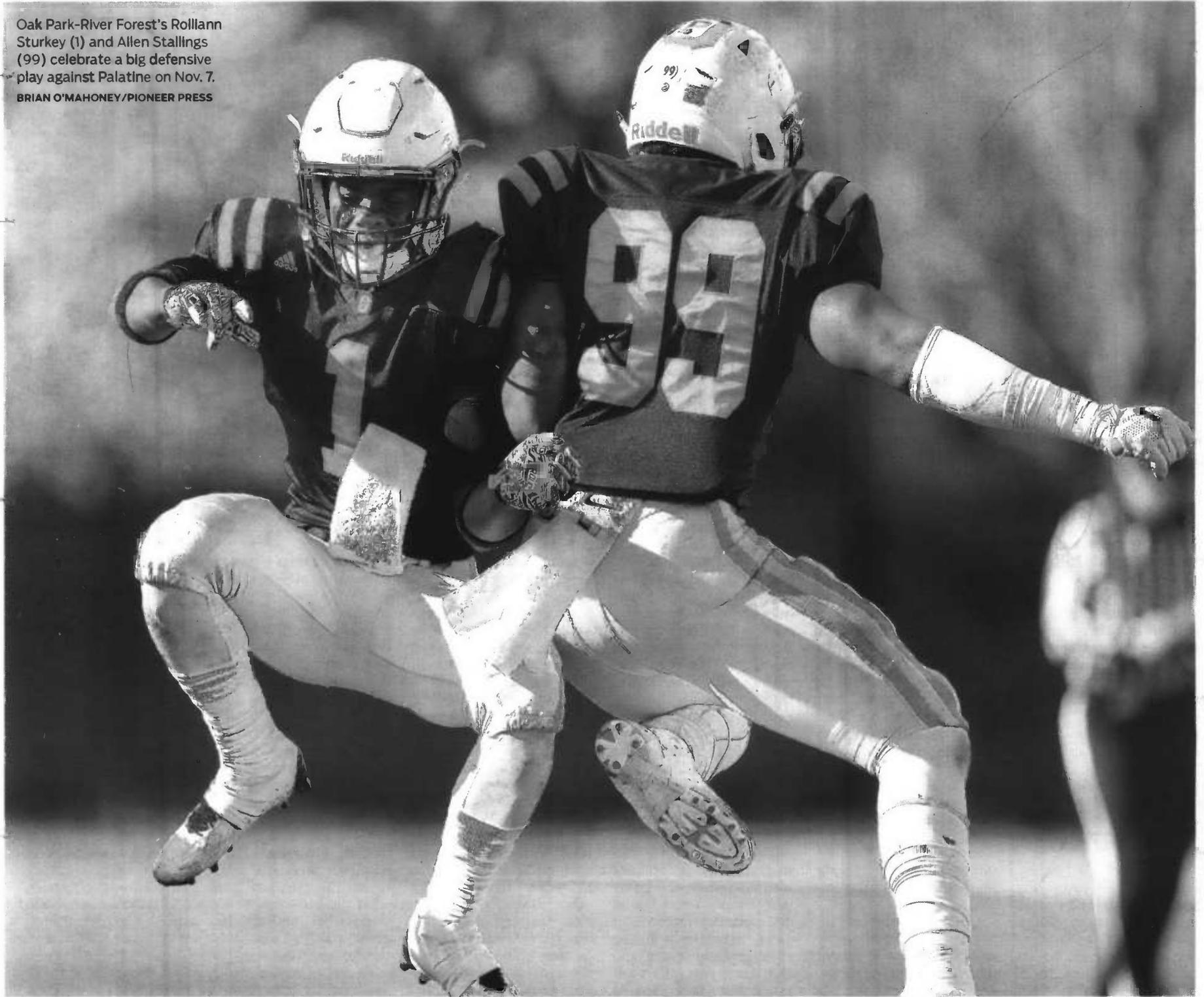


NEW SCHOOL YEAR, NEW CHALLENGE!

This year, Athlete of the Month will feature athletes from over 250 high schools in the Chicago suburbs and northwest Indiana. Our experts present the finalists, and you vote for the winners. Each Athlete of the Month will receive a commemorative plaque and be featured in print and online. Program presenter Country Financial will donate a prize of \$250 to each winner's high school every month. It all begins at noon Sept. 8, so get ready to visit chicagotribune.com/athletes to vote for your area's finalists!

Oak Park-River Forest's Rollann Sturkey (1) and Allen Stallings (99) celebrate a big defensive play against Palatine on Nov. 7.

BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS



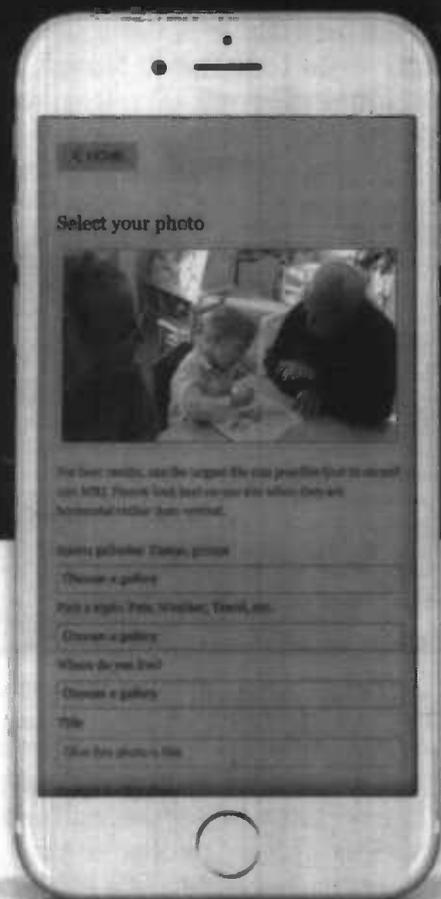
IT'S GAME TIME

Football season kicks off with Pioneer Press preview coverage. Inside

Your local church shared this photo.



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