Running for a cause
First 'D67 Dash' draws about 165, raises $4,500 for school district.

Mohammed Rahman, left, of Morton Grove, and his wife, Kausar Rahman, participate in the first "D67 Dash" at Frank Hren Discovery Park in Morton Grove on Aug. 28.

Back to school, back to you
Columnist Beth Engelman offers suggestions for moms to kick up their own routines with the kids out of the house. Inside

New spin on classic show
"Funny Girl" comes to the stage at Skokie Theatre. Page 19

Art regulation a cash grab
Columnist Randy Blaser rails against the Cook County Board getting into the business of taxing some types of art and not others. Page 17

So far, so good
Notre Dame defeats Thornton for season-opening win. Page 35
SHOUT OUT

Angela Ingersoll, actress and singer

Skokie resident Angela Ingersoll is currently playing Hedy LaRue in the Marriott Theatre Lincolnshire's production of "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." Ingersoll bills herself as an entertainer, actress, singer and comedian.

Q: What do you like about being an entertainer?
A: I enjoy doing plays and musicals as a member of Actors Equity Association. I also love to do concert work. Occasionally, I get on-screen gigs as well. When I'm not performing, my husband Michael and I produce a concert series called Artists Lounge Live.

Q: Where did you grow up?
A: I grew up in Indianapolis not far from the famous racetrack. I always wanted to escape. I don't think that's a comment on Indy, it was just my nature.

Q: How long have you lived in Skokie?
A: My husband and I just celebrated our first anniversary as happy first-time home owners in Skokie. We love it.

Q: Pets?
A: I am very much a cat person.

We have three cats, all rescues adopted from shelters along our travels.

Q: What book are you currently reading, and what book would you like to read next?
A: I love biographies. I have an Eartha Kitt and a Barbara Streisand currently reading, and what book would you like to read next?

Q: What are you currently working on?
A: I produce a concert series called Artists Lounge Live.

Q: What movie would you recommend?
A: I like the classics. "His Girl Friday" with Rosalind Russell and Cary Grant is always a winner.

Q: What is your favorite charity?
A: Animal shelters are close to my heart, like The Anti-Cruelty Society and Felines and Canines. I'm also an avid fan and supporter of public television.

Q: What is your favorite quote?
A: You're enough as you are right now.

Q: What song best sums up Skokie for you?
A: Glenn Miller's "Elmer's Tune" describes an ambient little world where all sorts of folks enjoy the same simple melody.

—Pioneer Press staff report
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D67 Dash supports District 67 students

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC
Pioneer Press

Approximately 165 people participated in the first D67 Dash, a 5K event for runners and walkers hosted Aug. 28 by the Golf School District 67 Foundation at Hren Discovery Park in Morton Grove.

"I like helping our school because it will give the school more money to buy equipment to help make our school better," said Molly Mehr, 10, a 5th-grader at Golf Middle School.

Shortly before the 5K began around 9 a.m. behind Golf Middle School in Morton Grove, the Sunday weather reached the middle-70s with humidity for the runners and walkers.

Approximately 20 volunteers assisted participants throughout the event. The event was dependent on volunteers to make it a success, said District 67 Superintendent Beth Flores, who lives in nearby Lincolnwood.

"It really takes a village," Flores said. "We had a lot of great volunteers who made this happen."

Volunteers Jen Mehr, of Niles, and Noel Sucherman, of Morton Grove, helped map out the 5K course before the event started. Mehr is a parent in the district, and Sucherman works as a teacher assistant at Hynes Elementary in Morton Grove.

"We walked it to make sure the distance was safe and scenic," Mehr said.

The amount raised during the event was estimated at $4,500, ending just shy of the $5,000 fundraising goal. All proceeds benefit District 67 students, said foundation president Caitlin Reichert.

Funds will be used for teachers' wish-list items, such as technological equipment, library books and faculty foundation grants, organizers said.

Inflatables and activity tables also were included for participants after the 5K course.

"This was a huge success," said Reichert, a 2009 Niles North High School graduate. "We started (planning) last May, and this is a huge way to help students' overall well-being."

Karie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Niles receives $1,000 for community garden project

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

Niles recently received a $1,000 donation for the construction of the village's first-ever community garden.

Village officials posed during their board meeting Aug. 23 with a giant $1,000 check delivered on behalf of Presence Resurrection Medical Center in Chicago by Bob Dahl, regional president and CEO of the organization.

The village received an $8,000 grant for the project from ComEd and Openlands — a conservation organization focused on the Chicago region — earlier this summer. As a condition of the grant, the village needed to raise an additional $5,000.

Assistant Village Manager Hadley Skeffington-Vos has said the village would cover whatever money isn't generated via donations.

At the Aug. 23 meeting, Skeffington-Vos announced an expansion of the garden, currently under construction at 7087 N. Franks Ave., just south of the Niles Public Services building and on top of the remains of a former playground at Jozwik Park.

Skeffington-Vos said the garden now will include several additional rental plots, now totaling 28, in addition to an inter-generational garden that will be made accessible to individuals with disabilities.

All produce grown in the inter-generational garden will be donated to the Niles Food Pantry, she said.

The construction project is led by Eagle Scout Troop 175, she said. The village also hosted two volunteer days following last week's meeting in which residents were asked to help by constructing wood frames for garden beds, installing dirt in-fill and preparing the site for the installation of a fence.

Presence Resurrection Medical Center regional president and CEO, Bob Dahl, presents Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo with a $1,000 check for the construction of a community garden at a village board meeting Aug. 23.

The garden beds will be open to renters in January of next year.

Village board members also addressed other items during their meeting Aug. 23.

New interim finance director

Trustees officially welcomed Harry Sakai as the village's new interim finance director.

Former director Scot Neukirch left his post with the village earlier this month to serve as finance director for the Niles Park District.

Village board members approved an employee leasing agreement with GovTemps USA, a public sector staffing firm that helps government agencies fill positions on a temporary basis.

Village Manager Steve Vinezeano said Sakai, who came out of retirement to fill the Niles post in the short term, will be paid for his work through the staffing firm.

Sales tax incentive with Golf Mill Ford

Board members voted 5-0 to approve a sales tax incentive agreement with Niles auto-dealer Golf Mill Ford.

The business intends to invest roughly $1.7 million into their property, 9401 Milwaukee Ave., to expand their service department, according to village documents. The economic incentive agreement stipulates that the village and the auto-dealer will split all sales tax collected over a baseline amount.

As part of the agreement, the dealership also will need to remain in Niles, trustees said.

"We not only have to encourage people to open up businesses, but we have to try to retain the businesses that are good to us and I see this as more of a partnership with Golf Mill Ford because they accepted the fact they will be marketing Niles on all their ads," said trustee Dean Strzelecki.

Trustee Denise McCreery said the dealership has proved to be an "excellent neighbor" in the village. She said the incentive agreement "only strengthens us."

"Having successful businesses in our community is the best way to continue to provide excellent service to our residents," McCreery said.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelancer reporter for Pioneer Press.
Officials seeking feedback during Fly Quiet test

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

Niles area residents can voice their concerns or tips about jet noise coming from O'Hare International Airport while aviation officials continue their six-month Fly Quiet test to try to distribute airplane noise more evenly across the northwest suburbs.

Aaron Frame, deputy commissioner of noise abatement and environment for the Chicago Department of Aviation, said during a Niles Village Board meeting Aug. 23 that the test, which began July 6, will run through December and rotate the use of runways for departures and landings between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.

Frame said the purpose of the test is "to balance overnight noise" in communities surrounding O'Hare. For example, the 12-week rotation plan will depend upon the feedback received from residents during the test period, he said. The plan, however, will only be used until the diagonal runway, known as 14R/32L, is decommissioned in 2018.

"This is a test intended to try real-life scenarios about what would happen if we tried to balance the noise instead of concentrate it, which was the philosophy from 1997 to the present," Frame said.

In addition to community feedback, Frame said, Chicago officials will use data gathered from 33 permanent noise monitors surrounding O'Hare to measure the effectiveness of the new nighttime Fly Quiet plan.

Frame said the plan will be used as long as weather and wind conditions allow it to be implemented. Depending on residents' vantage point, they might be bothered more by take-offs or landings.

"We can't sit on our decks and talk to each other," she said, referring to the noise.

The village meetings Aug. 23 was relatively calm in comparison.

Niles resident Carol Mangold said that in addition to nighttime noise, residents have also experienced increased jet noise during daytime hours.

"We can't sit on our decks and talk to each other," said Mangold, referring to the noise.

Mangold asked whether the department would also study airline noise during the day.

Frame said daytime flights were studied in 2005 and that the results of that study are available publicly.

"We are not currently doing any additional studies for daytime flights," he said.

Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo said the city should be striving for fairness, but without it there has to be penalties.

He asked specifically whether any agencies could be fined if a pilot flies below a certain altitude, creating more of a disturbance for residents.

Joseph Annunzio, a former village attorney for Niles and vice chairman of the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission, said federal law does not allow municipalities to collect penalties from airlines or aviation agencies.

Annunzio added pilots can "get in trouble" for not following orders issued by air traffic controllers.

"Why do we think air traffic controllers care? What do they care about?" Mangold asked.

"It's been relatively peaceful," LaMantia said.

"There's been nothing that has risen to the level of requiring police attention." The Muslim Education Center in Morton Grove was in the national spotlight four years ago, when a neighbor fired a rifle at the building during a Ramadan prayer session.

"It's been relatively peaceful," LaMantia said.

"There's been nothing that has risen to the level of requiring police attention." The Muslim Education Center in Morton Grove was in the national spotlight four years ago, when a neighbor fired a rifle at the building during a Ramadan prayer session.

David Conrad, of Morton Grove, pleaded guilty in 2014 to charges he fired a high-velocity air对着the mosque. He was sentenced to 30 months of probation and ordered to pay court fines, according to reports from the Chicago Tribune.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Construction starts on mosque, education center in Lincolnwood

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

Construction recently started on what's planned to be the first mosque in Lincolnwood, according to leaders of Muslim organization Sacred Learning NFP, a nonprofit group building the facility at 3900 W. Devon Ave.

The new mosque and religious education center will host prayer and educational services to accommodate at least 400 followers, according to project plans the Lincolnwood Village Board approved last year.

The Islamic center would host five daily prayer sessions a day, beginning at dawn and ending 90 minutes after sunset, site plans show. The building will also have a worship space with room for 113 prayer mats that would double as a classroom, as well as office space and a lecture area.

Two years ago, Sacred Learning purchased the former site where Myron & Phil's steak house operated for decades until 2013, when a kitchen fire led to the owner's decision to close down and open a new restaurant in Niles.

Construction on the mosque started in early August. Sacred Learning remains on schedule to open the 16,000-square-foot mosque next summer, said Executive Vice President Sayeed Shariff.

"We're super excited that construction is starting, especially since it's been a long time coming after going through all of the zoning approvals," Shariff said. "We're excited to become a part of the fabric of Lincolnwood."

The property had most of the proper zoning to house a religious center when it was purchased, according to village Trustee Ron Cope.

The temporary easement agreement requires Shariff to restore the property, which backs up to an area where a bike path is being built, to its original condition at the end of the work period by restoring the topsoil, and removing any construction debris and equipment.

The closest mosque to Lincolnwood is the Muslim Education Center in Morton Grove. Shariff said the Lincolnwood facility would serve 800 Muslim families.

Despite anti-Muslim sentiment that can happen in some areas of the country, residents in Lincolnwood haven't voiced noticeable opposition to Sacred Learning's plans to build the mosque.

Village board members didn't object to the initial proposal. Trustee Ron Cope did question Shariff last year about the types of religious activities that would be held in the building and how the mosque would affect traffic in the neighborhood.

"No one from the public showed up to discuss the Fly Quiet test.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Spike in Lincolnwood crime prompts public safety alert

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

An uptick in crime reported in Lincolnwood and other nearby communities during the summer months prompted Lincolnwood police to issue a public safety alert and remind residents to be aware of their surroundings.

From the beginning of June through mid-August, police reported four armed robberies, three stolen vehicles and at least eight car break-ins. Six of those car break-ins took place during the Fourth of July weekend, according to police.

"Unfortunately, people get complacent about their safety mainly because the neighborhoods feel safe," said Deputy Chief John Walsh. "We're working to identify the problem and come up with solutions but at the same time, the public should be educated about what's happening and take steps to protect their property.

A four-day stretch in mid-August saw three armed robberies that followed the July 29 robbery of the Baladi Jewehy store. Two unknown men brandishing a gun made off with $100,000 in gold from the store on the 4300 block of Touhy Avenue, police said.

Other recent robberies have targeted people.

On August 10, a person walking on the 3600 block of West North Shore Avenue at approximately 11 a.m. was robbed by a person described as a white male holding a handgun. The man took the victim's cell phone and several duffel bags filled with clothing and fled, police said.

Two days later, a group of nine black men described to police as wearing dark clothing surrounded a woman as she sat in her vehicle on the 7200 block of North East Prairie Road at approximately 1:15 a.m. One of the men grabbed the cell phone from the driver, who then sped away, according to police Lt. Randy Rathanell.

A third person was targeted in an armed robbery Aug. 1 near the intersection of Estes and Tripp avenues. A group of five black males approached a pedestrian walking in the area around 12:30 a.m., according to the Lincolnwood department. One of the offenders pulled out a handgun and demanded the victim's phone, police said.

Lincolnwood Police are investigating the possibility that the crimes are connected, according to Walsh, who said police have not made any arrests in connection to the incidents.

"There's a similarity in the vehicles and the offenders that have been described by witnesses, so that would suggest a pattern," Walsh said. Last November, a man was robbed at gunpoint after he parked his car in the parking lot of Lincolnwood Town Center and walked toward the mall, according to a report from police.

Police said criminals tend to target people who aren't paying attention. The department reminded residents in a crime safety alert issued recently to be aware of their surroundings and avoid distractions, such as listening to loud music and texting on phones while out in public.

Police said residents should exercise extra caution during the late evening hours, and not to hesitate to call the police or 9-1-1 about suspicious activity. Anonymous tips can be left at (847) 673-2167.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

ETHS sub faces child porn charge

BY BOB SEIDENBERG
Pioneer Press

A Chicago man faces a child pornography charge following an investigation launched earlier this year when an Evanston Township High School student found an unattended cell-phone at the school, police said Aug. 23.

Ronald Hornish, 60, of the 6500 block of North Greenview Avenue in Chicago, was charged with felony possession of child pornography, the Cook County state's attorney's office said.

In the Skokie Municipal District Courthouse Aug. 19, Hornish was ordered held on $200,000 bail, a state's attorney's office representative said.

He is next scheduled to appear in court Sept. 13 at the Skokie courthouse, 5600 Old Orchard Road.

School authorities told police that Hornish was in his first day working as a substitute teacher at the high school March 4 of this year when he left his cell phone unattended, said Evanston Police Commander Joseph Dugan, the department's spokesperson.

The cellphone was found by a student who looked through it to help locate its owner, Dugan said. He said later the student discovered images of possible sexual content involving young people, the student notified school authorities, who in turn notified police.

Evanston Township High School officials declined to comment on the case.

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

FORGERY
- Eric Lowery, 27, of the 1100 block of Theresa Circle in Palos Heights, was charged Aug. 22 with felony forgery. Police said Lowery was apprehended after he attempted to buy liquor from a store on the 8700 block of Dempster Street with a counterfeit $100 bill. He also had an arrest warrant out of Boone County, police said. He was given a Sept. 16 court date.

RETAIL THEFT
- Brian Walker, 49, of the 2000 block of West Touhy Avenue in Chicago, was charged Aug. 22 with felony retail theft after police said he stole $504 worth of men's cologne from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center two days earlier. He was given a Sept. 6 court date.
- Ken Lee-Moody, 28, of the 4300 block of West Augusta Boulevard in Chicago, was charged Aug. 24 with retail theft after he allegedly stole $24.99 worth of clothing from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center. He was given a Sept. 6 court date.

DUI
- Henry Yates, 45, of the 9000 block of Holly Lane in unincorporated Maine Township, was charged Aug. 24 with driving under the influence, unlawful possession of a controlled substance and unlawful possession of marijuana after police reportedly found him slumped over the steering wheel of his car, which was parked with the engine running in a lot on the 7500 block of Harlem Avenue. Fulara has been given a Sept. 16 court date.

PHONE SCAM
- Police said a resident who was not provided with the 9000 block of Meade Avenue, Morton Grove, was charged Aug. 24 with retail theft after he allegedly stole $24.99 worth of clothing from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center. He was given a Sept. 6 court date.

THEFT
- Piotr Fulara, age not provided, of the 9000 block of Meade Avenue, Morton Grove, was charged with driving under the influence, unlawful possession of a controlled substance and unlawful possession of marijuana after police reportedly found him slumped over the steering wheel of his car, which was parked with the engine running in a lot on the 7500 block of Harlem Avenue. Fulara has been given a Sept. 16 court date.

UNDERAGE DRINKING
- Three 15-year-old boys were cited for underage drinking Aug. 20 after police responded to a complaint of teens drinking at St. Adalbert Cemetery, 6800 N. Milwaukee Avenue.

Wearing a seat belt and make sure all passengers are safely buckled up.

The Skokie Police Department's law enforcement crackdown is funded by federal traffic safety funds through the Illinois Department of Transportation's Division of Transportation Safety, police said. It runs concurrently with a media campaign that reminds motorists, "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over," they said.

Police increasing patrols against impaired driving

Staff Report

Skokie police announced they will be beefing up patrols and cracking down on impaired drivers the weekend after Labor Day.

According to Skokie police, several driving under the influence safety checkpoints and "saturation patrols" will occur in the late night and early morning hours the weekend of Sept. 9 to 11.

Police said checkpoints will be set up from 11:15 p.m. to 3:15 a.m. Sept. 9 and 10 at 8700 Skokie Blvd., and from 11:15 p.m. to 3:15 a.m. Sept. 10 and 11 at 8700 McCormick Blvd.

Police also released the following recommendations for late-night weekend driving:
- Plan ahead by designating a sober driver before going out.
- Give that person the keys to the vehicle.
- For those impaired, call a taxi, use mass transit or call a sober friend or family member.
- Promptly report impaired drivers seen on the roadways to law enforcement.
- Wear a seat belt and make sure all passengers are safely buckled up.

The Skokie Police Department's law enforcement crackdown is funded by federal traffic safety funds through the Illinois Department of Transportation's Division of Transportation Safety, police said. It runs concurrently with a media campaign that reminds motorists, "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over," they said.
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Making Lincolnwood more accessible

Officials moving forward with projects for bikers, walkers

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

As part of a larger goal to make the village more accessible for walkers and bikers, Lincolnwood officials are moving forward with longtime plans to stripe bicycle lanes on two major roadways.

The Lincolnwood Public Works Department said it plans to start construction next year on designated bike-only lanes near Pratt Avenue east to McCormick Boulevard and another shared lane along Lincoln Avenue for both motorists and cyclists, according to the village.

The Illinois Department of Transportation has approved the plans, which show the Lincoln Avenue bike lanes being marked by bicycle symbols to guide cyclists toward the safest place to ride on the roadway and reminders for drivers to share the road, according to public works officials.

“The project includes restriping Lincoln Avenue to provide a wider outside lane to accommodate a shared vehicle/bike lane,” said Andrew Letson, assistant to the public works director. “The restriping will not result in the loss of any parking.”

The scope of the work, which is expected to begin next year, also calls for pedestrian-activated push button signals at Devon and Pratt avenues, as well as Lincoln and Pratt avenues, that will activate flashing warning signs to notify walkers and bikers when it’s safe to cross the intersections.

The bike lanes and traffic signal upgrades are part of a larger plan to promote alternative transportation options in the village. Two bike paths already are under construction.

Known as the Valley Line Trail, the first of the two paths will connect cyclists traveling between Chicago and Skokie. The second path— the Union Pacific Bicycle Path—will connect the east side of Lincolnwood from Devon to Touhy avenues.

Letson said the Valley Line Trail is expected to be open by September, while the Union Pacific path could be ready for use by November.

An Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program grant awarded to the village six years ago covers $171,000 (80 percent) of the total project costs for the bike lane striping and pedestrian walk signals.

The village is responsible for the remaining 20 percent, or roughly $34,270.

“Due to these delays, the project agreement date needs to be amended in order to extend funding for the project,” according to a memo from public works.

The Lincolnwood Village Board this month agreed to extend the local agency agreement between IDOT and the village that governs the grant funding.

IDOT rejected other ideas for bike lanes the village wanted to build along East Prairie Avenue and west of where the Union Pacific path will meet Pratt. The state agency determined those streets weren’t wide enough, the village said.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Lincolnwood wraps up design of $4.5 million bike overpass

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

The Lincolnwood Village Board recently approved several finishing touches to a $4.5 million bridge that will connect the almost-finished Valley Line Trail bike path between the north and south sides of Touhy Avenue.

Trustees on Aug. 16 finalized the design of the steel bridge, unanimously accepting a July recommendation from the Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Board to add 24-inch “Village of Lincolnwood” lettering and a village logo visible to motorists traveling east and west along Touhy.

Scheduled to open in spring 2018, the overpass will connect the one-mile stretch of bike trail joining Lincolnwood to Chicago and Skokie. The bridge has been envisioned by Lincolnwood officials as the centerpiece of the bike path, which will lead from the Chicago-Lincolnwood border at Devon Avenue to the Lincolnwood-Skokie border at Lincoln and Jarvis avenues.

The 12-foot-wide asphalt Valley Line bike path is under construction on land that was once occupied by railroad tracks, according to the village, which is leasing the parcel from Commonwealth Edison. The $1 million path is expected to be open in September, according to Andrew Letson, assistant to the public works director.

Another $950,000 path, known as the Union Pacific Bicycle Path Project, is under construction on the east side of the village and is expected to open in November.

The final spoke in the overall bike path plan is the 10-foot-tall steel bridge, which has been in the works since 2011 when Lincolnwood was awarded a state grant for $14 million to cover 80 percent of the project costs.

But by the time engineers began designing the bridge in 2013, estimated construction costs jumped to $37 million, prompting the village to seek additional funding from the same type of state program — the Congestion and Air Quality grant.

The request was approved, bringing the state's coverage of the bridge project to nearly $36 million. The village was responsible for the remaining $939,000, according to the Lincolnwood Public Works Department.

The final designs that Village Board members approved show reddish-colored steel bars stretching across Touhy and connecting to tan-colored brick pillars on either side of the street. White-colored LED lighting illuminates the pillars from the ground up, with landscaping surrounding both ends of the bridge.

Lincolnwood Mayor Jerry Turry stressed the importance of the visibility of the "Village of Lincolnwood" lettering that will span the length of the bridge. Touhy Avenue is one of the village's busiest thoroughfares with around 40,000 vehicles passing by each day, according to the village.

Board members chose 24-inch letters, instead of 18-inch versions presented by bridge engineers Stanley Consultants.

"I made a mistake a long time ago when I was a trustee and had to choose the street signs," Turry said. "They looked fine (when they were approved) but we found out we couldn't see them in the dark. I'm not going through that again."

In the past, the proposal for the overpass bridge was met with opposition by some residents from nearby condo building Barclay Place. Condo residents there cited concerns with privacy, safety, construction noise and aesthetics during a series of public hearings since 2014.

Opposition to the bridge seems to have dwindled since. No one from the public spoke on the matter at the Aug. 16 Village Board meeting.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Nurses recommended for all District 64 schools

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

When a student in Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 falls ill and is sent to the school's health office, chances are, he or she won't find an actual nurse there.

That's the word from District 64 Director of Student Services Jane Boyd, who on Aug. 22 shared a recommendation with the Board of Education to staff each of the district's eight schools with a certified nurse - either a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse.

"Most of our schools, most of the time do not have nurses working in them," Boyd said, adding that this can have an impact on emergency situations and injury triage.

She explained that each school is currently staffed by "health assistants," aides who are not nurses and cannot administer medication to children, though they do have training in first aid. These assistants, she said, often need to contact a certified nurse if there is an emergency at a school.

One full-time registered nurse is currently shared by all eight District 64 schools and travels among the buildings to give students their medication.

One full-time registered nurse is currently shared by all eight schools and travels among the buildings to give students their medication, Boyd said. The district also has two other registered nurses who are also trained as educators. They too, administer medication to students, she said, but they also "provide consultation and support for teachers" and are involved in providing special education services, according to a memo to the school board.

Data shared with the school board indicate that, on average, District 64's three nurses are called to each school about daily for "urgent medical needs." The data further show that, in the spring of 2016, there were 205 students across the district with asthma inhalers and "as needed" medications; 164 students with Epi-Pens, which are used to reduce an allergic reaction; 42 students who take medication regularly, and 16 students with diabetes who made "multiple health office visits" each day.

The recommendation presented to the board calls for District 64 to retain the two certified school nurses who are also educators, move the traveling registered nurse to one of the schools and add seven more nurses, one for each school building. In addition, individual nurses should be hired to work directly with students who have "complex medical needs," the proposal says.

The position of health assistant would be eliminated, though aides who currently work in these positions could be moved to other teaching assistant roles in the district, Boyd said.

No cost estimates for the proposed health staffing changes were shared with the board.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median pay for registered nurses in 2015 was $67,490 per year and the median pay for licensed practical nurses was $43,170 per year.

Though recommended for the 2017-18 school year, the new staffing might not be implemented all at once, Boyd told the board.

"I don't know if the rollover will happen all at once," she said.

No action was taken by board members on Aug. 22, as district administrators were asked to bring back additional information.

Board President Anthony Borrelli questioned whether the district needed to have the two nurse/educators.

"Truly, we have to look at the various needs of the individual buildings and what the answers to those are in the most economical manner," Borrelli said.

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Shelley Steinman had been thinking about the Zipper for at least the last month, she said, and now the day was here.

She peered up at the lit-up ride, which was hurtling a small group of teenagers though the air before returning them to the grounds of the Backlot Bash in an exhilarated state.

"This is my favorite ride," she said while waiting in line. "It's the first one I ride every year."

She has been coming to the Backlot Bash in downtown Skokie for several years, she said. It's now tradition for her and her friends, who live in Chicago.

"Have to come to the Backlot Bash," she said. So apparently do many others. Many thousands, in fact, came to downtown Skokie over last weekend's three days of carnival rides, games, food and, of course, music. Music in the day. Music at night. Music for three straight days and nights.

"We're here for our 10th year," Park Board Commissioner Mike Reid told a large crowd awaiting Blue Oyster Cult on opening night Aug. 26. "I can't believe it's been this long. Every year, it seems to get a little bit better."

Organizers did not have attendance figures for the Bash's three days, but some said they thought this year's festival might have set a record.

The weather for the three days was mostly cooperative— not too hot, with most of the weekend rain falling outside the key Backlot Bash hours. Opening night on Aug. 26 was ideal—warm enough to wander the grounds without a jacket but mild enough so that building up an uncomfortable sweat was never an issue.

Reid explained to the crowd that the Backlot Bash name is a tribute to downtown Skokie's use as a set for classic silent movies many years ago.

"Essany Studios, before there was a Hollywood, filmed Charlie Chaplin shorts over here plus a few westerns that got filmed over by Oakton and Lincoln," he said. "This weekend, more than 100 years later, we offer you a whole weekend of wonderful and diverse events."

The Backlot Bash's three days featured a classic car show, bingo, a sanctioned foot race, the Skokie Farmers Market, classic movie entertainment at the Skokie Theatre, live entertainment at the Skokie Public Library, a pancake breakfast and more.

Eighteen live bands played over the three days, Reid said.

"Do we have enough time all weekend to do this stuff?" Reid asked after listing for the crowd what was on tap for the next two days and nights.

Hosts of the Backlot Bash were the Skokie Park District, the Village of Skokie, the Independent Merchants of Downtown Skokie, Niles Township High School District 219, the Skokie Chamber of Commerce and the Skokie Public Library.

Waiting for Blue Oyster Cult to perform Aug. 26, Jimmy Nelson of Chicago said he was planning on bringing his 1979 Pontiac Trans Am to the classic auto show the next day.

"I go to a lot of car shows, but I come here to see bands, too," he said. "I've been coming here five years to bring my car and to listen to music."

Nelson said he was planning to be back the next night to see headliner Living Colour perform.

"I'm a car guy and a musician, so this is perfect," he said. "When you're this close to a good band, it's great. Nice night on top of it, too. What more could you ask for?"

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Eighteen bands performed live music during the three-day Backlot Bash in downtown Skokie. This year marked the event's 10th anniversary. Organizers believe this year's festival may have set an attendance record.

Skokie's 10th annual Backlot Bash offered carnival ride for everyone's speed.

Some area dads took their little ones on the carousel at the Backlot Bash in Skokie.
Plan Commission votes against church’s plan to move

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

The Calvary Redemption Center church on Skokie Boulevard wants to move across the street to occupy part of a building on property it would purchase, according to a church-filed petition with the village.

But in a mixed vote, the Skokie Plan Commission on Aug. 18 recommended against a necessary special-use permit for the project, thereby following the negative recommendation of village staff.

Skokie Plan Commission Chairman Paul Luke noted that the village more than two years ago lifted a ban on religious assembly in the area so that Calvary Redemption Center could move to 8201 Skokie Blvd. The temporary ban was instituted, he said, because the village wanted to see more retail in the area.

"It just disturbs me that this may not fit in our scheme of things basically," Luke said about the new Calvary Redemption Center proposal.

The Rev. Ebenezer Dei, who leads the church, said he lives in Skokie and has seen the proposed building at 8256 Skokie Blvd, vacant for a long time. The church purchased the property contingent on getting approval from the Skokie Village Board to move there, he said.

"I just want you to consider that out of that building, we're going to strengthen families," Dei told the Plan Commission. "We're going to reach out to young people. I know our community will change and be better."

For village staff, however, the vacant building across the street from the church's current home is better suited for retail use. One reason the building remained vacant for 10 years or more, said Community Development Director Peter Peyer, is because bankruptcy and foreclosure issues were associated with it.

"The property is finally back on the market again," Peyer said. "We're very pleased that it is. It was in holding for such a long period. Even though the price was dropping, it's not just the purchase price of the property. It's the ability to develop it that's important."

The Village Board earlier this year approved a series of relaxed zoning restrictions for Skokie Boulevard in the hope of igniting development. Peyer acknowledged that until recently, mixed use and residential developments, as well as commercial developers, were reluctant to invest in the area.

"I think things are starting to turn around, and those possibilities are there again," he said.

The Calvary Redemption Center currently rents its space at 8201 Skokie Blvd., officials said. That rented space would continue to be used by the church for meetings, offices and administrative space even if the church moves across the street, they said.

"The congregation has been good neighbors to the area around the 8201 building since 2013 when they moved in across the street," the church said in its submission to the village.

Church leaders said part of the new building would be rented out for retail use. Dei said he has been in contact with Starbucks and a Christian bookstore about becoming tenants.

"The church activities will take place on Sundays and evenings, when most other properties are closed for business," the church said. "All activities of the church are relatively quiet and will take place within the building without negative impact on the neighborhood. Care will be taken to reduce the sound from inside the building."

The proposed new church home would contain a 152-seat sanctuary with additional seating on the altar, in an audio booth, and in a media recording studio, according to the church.

The two retail spaces would occupy 1,500 and 2,000 square feet, it said, and are compliant with village retail street regulations in dimension. Shared bathroom spaces would be used for the whole building, accessible from the church reception area, according to the church.

The proposed project calls for 20 vehicle parking spaces outside and landscaping added along the Skokie Boulevard sidewalk. An indoor garage would hold an additional 12 cars along with six valet cars parked in the aisle, according to the church proposal.

"Certainly, there is nothing wrong with churches," Peyer said. "We're very supportive of religious uses. I don't remember the last time we've ever recommended denial. It's a situation of location rather than use."

The Skokie Village Board will have final say at an upcoming meeting.

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Metra plans to add free Wi-Fi to 50 more cars

By Mary Wisniewski
Chicago Tribune

Metra plans to expand the number of rail cars with free cellular Wi-Fi hot spots by 50 cars to a total of 62, officials said August 24.

At the commuter rail service’s monthly board meeting, CEO Don Orseno said the decision to expand Wi-Fi was based on positive customer response to the current program. The start-up cost will be $100,000 and the annual cost about $186,000.

Metra is looking for partners to help offset the costs, Orseno said. The hot spots will work for checking email and internet browsing, but not for more elaborate functions such as streaming video. In 2013, Metra looked into offering more extensive service for all cars, but found the $72 million upfront cost too steep.

“This is kind of a stop gap,” Orseno told the board. He said the test showed the technology can meet the needs of most customers while still being affordable. The program expansion will be completed by the end of October, spokesman Michael Gillis said. To get Wi-Fi on specially marked cars, riders can select “Metra Wi-Fi Onboard” from the list of options on their electronic devices.

Chairman Martin Oberman noted at the meeting that many riders can already get email and internet on their devices without the need for onboard Wi-Fi. Regarding the need for more advanced service, Oberman said he guessed just a “small number” of riders would want to watch a movie on the way to work.

Board member Ken Kocher, of Crystal Lake, said he gets more questions from riders about Wi-Fi than anything else. But a July report by TransitCenter, a New York City-based policy and advocacy group, found that transit riders surveyed nationwide listed service frequency and travel as the most important factors driving satisfaction with transit, while power outlets and Wi-Fi were the least important improvements.

Metra also reported that ridership in the first half of the year over the past two years had been up by 3.3 percent during peak travel and “peak direction” times, when people are going to work downtown in the mornings and leaving for home at night. Lynnette Ciavarella, senior division director of strategic capital planning, said this could be due to an improvement in the economy. Indeed, employment in the region went up over the period. However, the agency, however, saw a dip in ridership for non-peak times, such as Saturdays and midday, which may be because of at least in part, due to lower gas prices, which make people choose a car for non-work travel instead of the train, Ciavarella said.

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Elmhurst family, legislators mark passage of Annie’s Law

BY GRAYDON MEGAN
Pioneer Press

A year after 13-year old Annie LeGere of Elmhurst died of injuries from anaphylactic shock due to a previously unsuspected allergic reaction, her family, friends and officials gathered Aug. 27 at her school to celebrate passage of a state law aimed at preventing similar deaths.

The event at Sandburg Middle School, which also included a tree dedication, marked the recent passage of Annie’s Law, legislation promoted by Annie’s parents, Shelly and John LeGere and their Annie LeGere Foundation. It allows police officers to be trained and equipped with injectors of epinephrine, a drug that can reverse the effects of anaphylactic shock brought on by an allergic reaction.

The legislation was sponsored in the Illinois General Assembly by state Sen. Chris Nybo, an Elmhurst Republican, and Rep. Michelle Mussman, a Schaumburg Democrat.

In severe cases of anaphylaxis, a person’s blood pressure may drop and his or her breathing may be compromised. Quick treatment with the drug epinephrine can reverse many of the effects of a severe allergic reaction. Epinephrine is available in auto-injectors, the best known brand of which is the EpiPen.

In that year-ago incident, Annie LeGere began to experience breathing difficulties while at a sleep-over with friends. LeGere was transported to a hospital, but injuries from the anaphylactic shock eventually led to her death.

The new law allows state police and other law enforcement agencies to conduct training programs for officers on recognizing and responding to anaphylaxis, including administration of an epinephrine auto-injector. The law also enables the Illinois State Police or a local governmental agency to authorize officers to carry and administer epinephrine auto-injectors, which dispense a measured dose of epinephrine, once they have completed the required training.

“We're taking a noteworthy step forward,” Nybo said, as he and Mussman gave Shelly LeGere a signed copy of the legislation. “Shelly LeGere and her family and foundation did a remarkable job.”

Elmhurst Mayor Steve Morley thanked LeGere and her family for their efforts on behalf of all those who may be helped by the legislation and the quick availability and application of the drug.

Shelly LeGere spoke of the pain of losing her daughter, but said, “The lives this may save makes it more tolerable.”

But LeGere and others Aug. 27 acknowledged that the price of the drug may make it unaffordable for some of those who need it. Recent reports have shown what she could to help people who need the drug.

Graydon Megan is a freelance reporter.

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Officials uncertain about car dealership

BY NATALEE HAYES
Pioneer Press

After at least five potential deals to sell the former Kow Kow restaurant property at Cicero and Pratt avenues in Lincolnwood have fallen through, the family that owns the property says they are talking with a car dealership about the property.

Wendy Ling, whose family retired and closed Kow Kow in May 2015, recently asked Lincolnwood officials to weigh in on whether it would consider allowing Grossinger Auto Group, which already operates two other auto sales lots in the village on Lincoln Avenue and McCormick Boulevard.

Since the Kow Kow restaurant closed following almost 30 years of business at the southeast corner of its busy intersection, the family has been unable to find a buyer wanting to open a new restaurant, the family has said.

"There's still hope it could be reused as a restaurant," Ling said. "But I'm hesitant to talk about anything until it's final because we're on deal number five, six or seven by now and nothing has worked out."

If the site is sold to the dealership, the shuttered restaurant would be razed, according to Ling who, during the Aug. 16 committee of the whole meeting, told village trustees she was in discussions to sell the property to the auto group.

"We'd prefer if a restaurant would come in because it would be great for the neighborhood, but the desirability and the reality of having a restaurant there is diminishing because of all the development going into Touhy," Ling said. "I've gone to every restaurant operator I know of and said, 'I have a lot for you,' and they all say they're not interested."

At least two residential developers have shown interest in the site in the past, according to Ling's attorney Craig Krandel, who said five potential deals have fallen through since the site was put on the market.

"We're looking forward to getting it out of Wendy's family's name," Krandel said. "Having it used profitably is good for everyone."

Real estate developer Gary Levitas, of Northfield Group, presented plans in 2015 for a 24-unit condo building that would have been built on the Kow Kow restaurant site. But the proposal never gained momentum with village officials, who have focused on redeveloping vacant properties for commercial uses that will bring in tax revenue.

Auto dealerships are one of the largest generators of sales and property tax in the village, according to Trustee Jesal Patel, who said multiple restaurants have shown interest in the village's higher-traffic arterial roadways, particularly along Touhy Avenue.

"There's a lot of interest in Touhy, and there aren't enough sites to satisfy the demand," he said.

Opening a new dealership to add to the three that already exist in Lincolnwood wouldn't sit well with Trustee Jennifer Spino.

"I respect the tax dollars it brings in, but I think the residents of Lincolnwood probably could benefit more from some other type of use," Spino said.

Natalie Hayes is a freelancer.

Music Box restaurant coming to Niles despite concerns

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

A new restaurant and cocktail lounge received a green light from Niles officials despite complaints from owners of a neighboring hotel concerned about past experiences with rowdy behavior at the site.

Niles trustees voted 5-0 at their Aug. 23 meeting to grant a special use permit for a full-service restaurant and cocktail lounge, to be called the Music Box, at 6871 Milwaukee Ave. The site was formerly home to Capone's Hideout and the Village Cafe and Pub.

Addressing trustees, Lucian Janikowski, owner of the adjacent 20-room Village Motel, recounted how numerous disruptions caused by the prior businesses over the past 14 years damaged his business. Patrons at Capone's and Village Cafe were "drinking, screaming, running from lot to lot... urinating and having sex" on his property, he said.

Janikowski's daughter, Ursula, told trustees that she and her father are particularly concerned about the new business' plans for an outdoor patio.

"Having a building that is not soundproof and that patio outdoors really creates a lot of noise," she said.

As part of the special use permit, village officials stipulated that a manager at the bar and restaurant is required to ensure that patrons leave the facility quietly and that the outdoor patio be closed to customers by midnight.

Won Sun Kim, an attorney for Music Box, told trustees that the establishment will cater to an older crowd, specifically individuals in their 50s and 60s.

According to village documents, Music Box will offer "high quality music" performed by guest DJs, "light appetizers," catering for large gatherings, free dance classes and movie projections on Sundays. The bar and tavern will stay open until midnight Sunday through Thursday, 3 a.m. on Friday and until 4 a.m. on Saturday.

Kim said the company's liquor license requires managers and owners to ensure customers are not over served and that employees will take care to prevent patrons from bothering the neighbors on their way out of the establishment.

Niles resident Julie Andelin urged the board to vote in favor of the restaurant and bar.

"I miss having a place where I can go and not be around 20 year olds, and listen to live music and eat and see friends," she said. "I think it's a place that's missing in Niles."

Trustee Dean Strzelecki, a former Niles police chief, voted to issue the permit to the new business, but he said the village should pay close attention to the establishment.

"I'm going to charge staff with the obligation to keep an eye on this and make sure these issues are not bothering the other businesses," he said. "We don't want one business to cause a problem for the others."

Addressing a different business proposal during their meeting Aug. 23, trustees denied, 4-1, a special use permit for a proposed car wash on a vacant site at 9201 Milwaukee Ave.

Several neighbors who own property abutting the site of the proposed business said the facility would increase light pollution, noise and traffic and further exacerbate existing flooding issues by contributing to water run-off.

Trustee Denise McCrery said she believed the car wash did not meet the village's requirements for a special use permit and is "completely contrary to our town plan and no sales tax will be generated" from the proposed business.

Trustee George Alpogianis also voiced several concerns about the proposed car wash.

Although the vacant site isn't "pretty or sexy," he said, the ground currently absorbs rainfall, and the amount of impermeable concrete that will be installed to make way for the car wash business "scares me a little bit."

Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo emphasized how the proposed business would not worsen flooding in that neighborhood. He said a future planned stormwater project is intended to relieve flooding in the area.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelancer reporter for Pioneer Press.
Americans with disabilities a not so small minority

It came as a big surprise. Though it shouldn’t have.

More than one in five U.S. adults lived with a disability in 2010, according to a 2012 U.S. Census Bureau report. That’s more than 56 million Americans — about 19 percent of the population.

A disability, as defined by the Americans With Disabilities Act (1990) is a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

And if you don’t have an impairment now, you might have one sometime in your life.

Mine came after more than 60 years of pretty good health. It came — my back, surgery, therapy. Now, I use a walker to get around.

And it all was a surprise, at how the world changes when seen through the eyes of person with a disability. And the view is different, depending on the disability.

Something new must be factored into each decision you make. Where do I go to eat? Only restaurants that have a parking lot and with a bathroom that isn’t up or down stairs.

Those front steps that used to welcome me home now are a pain-inducing obstacle to be overcome in order to reach home.

Someplace I want to go? How far is the walk? People with disabilities adjust. You used to do things one way, now you do them in a different way. Of course, people born with a disability do things the way they always did them.

But those with a disability also try to make changes in the world around them. The biggest advance was the Americans with Disabilities Act, passed in 1990, that outlawed discrimination against people with disabilities. And governments, businesses and individuals always are coming up with ways to adapt the environment to the needs of people with disabilities.

There is a group for the hearing impaired called the Def Poets Society.

The New York Times is beginning a series on people with disabilities.

And there is even a National Disability Voter Registration Week. It was July 11-15 this year.

These items showed up in the news just within the last few weeks.

Turns out that people with disabilities are a sizable minority group in the U.S. You’ll be hearing more from them.

From us.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Cook County Board’s cash grab — governance or performance art?

The great writer Oscar Wilde said in his preface to “The Picture of Dorian Gray” that “All art is quite useless.”

Of course this is very disconcerting to the artist, who strives all night long to create what others might consider art.

Wilde argues it is fine to create something useful as long as it is not admired as art. The only reason for creating something useless is to admire it a great deal. Therefore, all art is quite useless. It is to be admired, but not useful.

Here’s where the Cook County Board comes in, as I’ve read recently in a report in the Chicago Reader. For them, some art is quite useful indeed. And they are trying to determine the difference between useful art, let’s call it the art of the people, and fine art, the art of the privileged.

For what purpose would Cook County be interested in what kind of art is useless and what kind of art is useful? So they could tax it, of course. Let me explain.

Cook County currently imposes a 3 percent amusement tax on tickets people purchase to do fun stuff in Cook County, like go to a Cubs game. However, it exempts what it calls “fine art” from this type of tax.

What’s the heck is “fine art,” you might ask? The high intellects that run the county explain fine art as live theater, music, opera, drama, comedy, ballet, modern or traditional dance, and book or poetry readings. In other words, as Wilde opines, fine art to Cook County officials is the type of art that serves no purpose other than to be admired. Therefore, there is no tax to be collected.

Other art is not so fine, and therefore it has some purpose, such as entertaining the plebian masses. That type of art should get the tax.

And what type of cultural events are those? How about rap, rock `n roll, country and electronic music? That’s right, even though it is art, it is not fine art, the county automatons are arguing.

Why is this important? I think for several reasons. First, the owners of the venues where rap, rock, country and electronic music is performed are going to have to cough up some cash as the county is seeking years of back taxes, it could put some small venues out of business. Second, it treats us renais-

Which brings us back to Oscar Wilde.

In his novel, “The Picture of Dorian Gray,” Wilde paints the portrait of our main character living the high life, enjoying all sorts of debauchery. Yet Dorian Gray never ages. However, his portrait does.

How fitting a symbol for the type of government we have. Officials go on and on, living the high life, playing the part of the high and mighty, making their money. Yet, their fiefdoms are decaying right before our eyes, from the violence plaguing Chicago to blighted housing, underperforming schools and a state that can’t pay its bills or even pass a budget.

They are quite useless, which I guess makes their performance as public officials high art. You got to admire the chutzpah.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.
Warning signs to squeeze in more summer

Have you seen the candy corn at the grocery store yet? Spotted a fall wreath on a doorstep? Saw a ghost and pumpkin outside a shop on a busy local roadway? Yes, me too. And it made me rush out and have a spontaneous alfresco meal on a patio outside Q-BBQ in downtown La Grange. I was almost frantic when they complained that there may be bees circling our food: “Who cares about yellow jackets when we can eat OUTSIDE while it’s still NICE?”

This is what you do this time of year, savor every last bit of the warm days and beautiful nights. Chicagoans know this, because we see the early warning signs of the season, the sight of gloves, hats and antifreeze. So while you can still wear white pants and shoes before Labor Day, here are some suggestions for soaking up summer time before it retreats like the sunlight does a little bit earlier every day.

Lynn Pettrak

The worst sign of all is the sight of gloves, hats and antifreeze.

Drive in: This is on my own bucket list for summer. There may not be any drive-in movie theaters in the La Grange area, but you can drive to the Cascade Drive-in in West Chicago. Locally, you can spread a blanket at a movie in the park.

Drive by: The weather is still temperate enough to check out some local car shows or cruise nights, such as the Riverside Car Show Sept 25 in Riverside’s Centennial Plaza and Guthrie Park.

Reap the bounty: Most Farmers Markets are open through the end of September or beginning of October, so get some of the region’s freshest produce while you still can.

Plant some bounty for later: It’s not too late to enjoy your own garden. You can plant late-season vegetables such as lettuce, kale, arugula and radishes, among others. Ask an expert at your local garden center what, how and where to plant seeds or plants.

Finally, to ease the transition, there’s a great way to bridge warm weather and fall traditions: tailgating.

Estate sale season can heat up as weather cools down

Felicia Dechter
Heart of the Home

Summer may be winding down, but the estate sale season is still hot. In fact, some professionals say winter can be their busiest time, especially with older adults who decide to move when the weather makes it more difficult to care for a large home.

“Many adult children visit parents over the holidays and find that it may be time for mom and dad to move to a safer place that offers more support for their mental or medical needs,” said Meredith Morris, an Oak Park resident and owner of Caring Transitions-Chicago Western Suburbs, which helps take the stress out of moving, downsizing and emptying a home.

We caught up with Morris to find out a bit more about holding a successful estate sale. Here is an abbreviated version of what she had to say.

1. How does an estate sale differ from a garage sale?

Estate sales aim to liquidate a full home’s worth of items. The items typically still have value in the marketplace and can be cherished by new owners for aesthetic, monetary or sentimental reasons. Garage sales are for unwanted, less valuable goods — items that families have outgrown or no longer use.

2. How can an estate liquidation help to empty one’s house?

People hold estate sales to help rid a home of its contents when they are downsizing or when a family member has passed away. Ideally, this process will help prepare the home for market and also yield revenue. Proceeds from sales can offset other moving costs when an older adult relocates to a senior living community, or proceeds can be distributed to heirs.

When run professionally, an estate sale will pair items with people who understand their value and who will collect, enjoy and resell them. Professionals can also help identify items of real value to an estate that may have been long forgotten in basements, attics or garages. Because a great deal of time and labor goes into sorting, pricing, advertising, staffing and running a sale, an estate sale is the best option for a consumer who has a lot of valuable items to sell.

3. How does one find the right estate sale professional?

There are more than 14,000 estate sale companies in the country. To get the full value from a sale and avoid being caught in scams, consumers should look for professional organizations they can trust with access to their home and assets, and that will do their best to provide a return on the sale items.

The estate sale industry is completely unregulated and, unfortunately, some companies use unethical pricing and resale practices to take advantage of the consumer.

Consumers should look for estate sale companies that are fully insured for liability and worker’s comp and who also pay their employees a good wage — and do not pay them from their own pocket.

4. What is the most unusual, unique and/or beautiful item that you’ve ever come across?

My taste runs toward the unusual. I like encountering Victorian mourning hair, vintage toys and art. One of the most fun pieces we sold was a very large Art Deco/Nippon vase with a desert oasis camel scene.

5. How do you put a price tag on other people’s belongings?

Caring Transitions prices estate sale items according to their market value. It is often difficult for customers to understand that their very expensive dining room table may no longer be in vogue, but they may have a vintage toy, kitchen gadget, clock, or coins worth quite a bit. The items clients may think have value are often not those that sell the best.

Felicia Dechter is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.
MadKap puts new spin on 'Funny Girl'

Award-winning director excited to bring classic show to new audience

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

The Skokie Theatre stage may be compact but director Stephen M. Genovese promises that MadKap Productions' "Funny Girl" will still be spectacular.

"We're jewel-boxing it," Genovese said of the Isobel Lennart (book), Bob Merrill (lyrics) and Jule Styne (music) show. "We're taking what is oftentimes considered a huge production with 30 or 40 people and we're bringing it down to a small intimate cast. What's great about it is everybody gets to shine."

Two staircases added to the stage will provide levels and allow space for showgirls to promenade. A live orchestra will be placed above and behind the stage. Projections will establish locations.

Genovese, a Joseph Jefferson Award-winning director, declared that he loves the musical theater classics.

"For me, 'Funny Girl' is a perfect classic. People know it but they don't know the show as well as they do the movie," he said. "This is great to expand people's view of the music and just how funny the girl is."

That girl is Fanny Brice, an awkward Jewish girl who was determined to be a star and achieved her goal, performing in the Ziegfeld Follies, on Broadway and in movies. Her signature songs were "My Man" and "Second Hand Rose."

Sally Staats, who stars as Fanny, won't be influenced by Barbra Streisand's film portrayal.

"I've never actually seen 'Funny Girl,' the movie," Staats said. "Hers is an interpretation of Fanny Brice and mine will also be an interpretation."

Her goal is to present as accurate as possible a portrayal of the show's subject. "The real Fanny Brice, who we're striving to emulate in this version, is very strong-willed. She definitely believes in herself, but I also think that there's a little bit of insecurity there because she had to go up against so many obstacles in her life," Staats said. "She's incredibly talented. Above all, she was a force to be reckoned with."

Staats, a Milwaukee native and musical theater graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, only moved to Chicago a little over a year ago, but she has already performed in the Chicago Musical Theatre Festival and with Black Ensemble Theater and Metropolis Performing Arts Centre.

Staats also had great success as she pursued her singular goal of becoming a star. Then she met Nick Arnstein and her life changed.

"She still wants the stardom, fame, notoriety, but she also wants to have love," Staats said.

"I love playing Nick," declared actor Rob Ibanez, a Columbia College acting gradu-
CONCERT

Performers remember 9/11 moments through song

By Myrna Petlicki
Pioneer Press

It has been 15 years since the horrific terrorist attack that toppled New York’s Twin Towers, killing thousands of people and challenging our country’s sense of security. Cabaret artist and songwriter Carla Gordon created a show called “Eleven” to commemorate that tragic event and celebrate the resiliency of the American people.

She will be joined by three fellow performers to present “Eleven” on Sept. 11 at St. Martha Parish and the Shrine of All Saints in Morton Grove.

Gordon first presented that program on the 10th anniversary of the 2001 attacks at the Illinois Holocaust Museum in Skokie.

“September 11 is, for our generation, the ultimate journey from dark to light,” Gordon said. “It was the darkest time for most of us. It was here. It was chaos. And yet, we’re OK. America is still America. That to me is real celebration.” Nevertheless, Gordon added, “We need not to forget what happened.”

Each member of the cast will share their memories of what they were doing on that fateful day and singing songs that have meaning for them. For Gordon, who admitted she seldom cries, it was her tearful reaction upon seeing the members of Congress singing “God Bless America” on the Capitol steps on television that reinforced her belief in the transformative power of music.

Among the songs Gordon will sing in “Eleven” is “The Voice in Your Heart,” a song for which she wrote both words and music. It reflects Gordon’s conviction that, “We still are who we are. We still have our ethos and our character.”

Gordon will also sing a song about undocumented workers whose relatives were afraid to post pictures of their lost loved ones, fearing they would be deported.

Composer Wayne Richards, who also performed in the 2011 version of the show, said it’s important to commemorate Sept. 11 because, “You only learn for the future from history. If you don’t keep those memories alive, people have a tendency to alter them. The history from 9/11 is still growing because there are quite a few people that are getting ill from that. This historical event has far-reaching ramifications.”

Another returning cast member is music director Beckie Menzie. She feels it’s important to continue commemorating that date because, “It keeps all the good stuff and bad stuff that happened in our minds.” Menzie defined the good stuff as the fact that “people pulled together and they took care of each other. That was a more empathetic time because we weren’t fighting each other. We had a common enemy.”

Menzie will sing a number that she co-wrote with Gordon, “The Music Gets Me Through.” “This song was first written in response to the shocking death of Earl, my late husband, and my best friend before that and what was going on with my mother,” Menzie explained. She told Gordon the role music played in helping her survive this traumatic period and Gordon turned those feelings into a song.

That song is equally relevant to Sept. 11. Menzie recalled performing at a piano bar that night in 2001. “The music got the people in that room through a few hours of them being shell-shocked and fearful,” she said.

Robert Sims will also share a story and perform songs that reflect his feelings about the events of that day.

Gordon stressed that the show “is not about being sad. It’s about being delighted that America came out of this.”

‘Eleven’
Where: St. Martha Church and the Shrine of All Saints, 8523 Georgia Ave., Morton Grove
Tickets: Free; donations to a New York City-based Sept. 11 charity will be collected.
Information: stmarthachurch@yahoo.com

SPOTLIGHT

A look at locals in the arts

By Myrna Petlicki
Pioneer Press

Here’s a look at the latest news about suburban authors, actors, artists, musicians and more.

Vocal variety: The voices blend beautifully but oh, those mischievous puppets! The four Skokie residents who comprise Listen Up! A Cappella perform a wonderful version of “Jungle,” originally performed by Israeli pop artist Eyal Golan, on their new music video. Freddie Feldman, Shanya Elliott, Eli Nathan Taylor and Steve Singer are joined by four puppets (designed by The Puppet Mechanics) that look exactly like each of them in the hilarious new release filmed by Chicago cinematographer Atara Wolf. Check it out at https://youtu.be/EdHvJB1QNO4.

Get him to the church on time: Northbrook native Rory Zacher will spend a lot of time in church the next few months. He plays Dominick Fabrizzi in “Tony ‘n Tina’s Wedding.” The popular interactive hit, which played in Chicago for 16 years, will be set in an actual church for the first time. The mock wedding ceremony will be held at Chicago’s Resurrection Church, followed by a meal and reception at Vinnie Black’s Coliseum, better known as Chicago Theater Works. Performances are Sept. 22-Dec. 30. For tickets, visit tonylov-estina.com.

Boys will be boys: Two very different brothers wage a battle in their mother’s house while she is on vacation in Shattered Globe Theatre’s production of Sam Shepard’s “True West,” Sept. 8-Oct. 22, at Theater Wit. That’s a challenge for Shattered Globe founding ensemble member and Evanston native Rebecca Jordan who plays Mom. Jordan earned Jeff awards for the company’s productions of “A Streetcar Named Desire” and “Frozen Assets,” and has also performed at Goodman Theatre, among others. For tickets to “True West,” visit www.theaterwit.org.

The role Fitz: Fitzwilliam Darcy is the character played by Oak Park resident Desmond Gray in the Chicago premiere of Jaclyn Backhaus’ “You on the Moors Now” by The Hypocrites. Gray has performed with Steppenwolf Theatre, Goodman Theatre, TimeLine Theatre and others, and has several television credits. “Moors” combines mythology and 19th century literary heroines with comical results. For tickets, visit www.the-hypocrites.com.

Festival finds: Stroll the Lakeview area from Belmont Avenue to Hawthorne Street Sept. 10-11, and you will see works by over 150 artists in the 12th Annual Lakeview East Festival of the Arts. Among those exhibitors will be Barrington native and Park Ridge resident Christine Bartling, Barrington resident Anita Peters, Deerfield resident Sherr Berman and Elmwood Park native Dick Dahlstrom. Also exhibiting are Justin Miller, a La Grange native; Peter Jablowok, a La Grange native and Evanston resident; and Wilmette resident Diana Gonzalez. Visit www.lakevieweastfestivalofthearts.com

Carla Gordon has created a show, “Eleven,” to celebrate America persevering through the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Four Skokie residents make up Listen Up! a cappella.
Mommy on a shoestring: Use your adult time to try some new activities when the kids go back to school

After the nest empties

Couples readjust to life with no children at home by reacquainting with spouse, pursuing own interests
Try adding a theme to your dinner party

By Judy Buchenot
Naperville Sun

Anne Henriksen enjoys entertaining guests and recently opened her Naperville home to the monthly Saturday evening potluck for the Naperville Newcomers and Neighbors Club.

"People sometimes think that you have to have a huge home in order to host a party, but that is not the case. You can have a wonderful party in any home," she said.

Henriksen has found that people enjoy a buffet-style meal with casual seating around the home. "People really like to move around and talk rather than just sit at one place for the whole meal," said Henriksen, 67, an avid gardener who set up spaces outside on her deck and gazebo for people to sit and enjoy their meal among her colorful flower beds.

Henriksen also has found that guests love to have a theme for a party. She prepares the main dish and beverage and asks her guests to bring side dishes and desserts that fit the theme. For her recent gathering, Henriksen chose a French theme. She prepared roast Provencal chicken and asked her guests to bring other French-inspired dishes. Dressing up was optional—and there were a few berets worn by guests. "I just thought France went well with the flowers," she said, gesturing toward her yard in full bloom.

The guests enjoyed the challenge of preparing a themed dish. Angeline Finnigan brought two trays of canapés. "I just played around with things from my organic garden," Finnigan said. She started with a toasted bread base and added colorful toppings. For example, she made pesto using kale and walnuts instead of traditional pine nuts and basil. She spread it on the bread, added kalamata olives and topped it with Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese. For another canapé, she caramelized onions and sautéed eggplant. She then spread her French bread base with cream cheese and topped it with the onion and eggplant. Another mix on her canapé tray was a chunk of watermelon drizzled with balsamic vinegar and topped with a caper.

Greg Gambla thought the French theme was ideal since it allowed him to bring one of his go-to dishes he makes for parties. "My cousin, Peggy Elam, taught me how to make this quiche about 40 years ago, and I have made it ever since. It is really a crustless quiche—it has Swiss cheese instead of a crust. It is a very easy recipe and you can change it to make the ingredients to whatever you want. As long as you have eggs, meat and vegetables, you are good to go with this recipe. I make it a lot for our family."

In addition to her chicken dish, Henriksen put together a French-style roasted beet salad using her garden beets. To prepare the beets, she trimmed off the stems and roots and then peeled the beets. She cut them into 1-inch pieces and tossed them in olive oil. She then spread the beet pieces in a pan, sprinkled them with salt and pepper and covered them with foil. She roasted the beets at 375 degrees for about 20 minutes and then uncovered them to roast another 10 minutes until tender. The beets were then cooled before being tossed with arugula, baby lettuce, vinaigrette and blue cheese. Other dishes included crepes, au gratin potatoes and a fruit galette.

"One of the guests volunteered to bring French pastries. Her husband had friends in Paris and so he asked them what pastries are most popular. It turns out that there is such a middle Eastern influence in France these days that baklava is a big seller, so they are bringing baklava," Henriksen said. "Ethnic themes work very well for Naperville parties, according to Henriksen.

Anne Henriksen gets ready to carve one of the four herbed chickens she made for her French-themed party as part of the Naperville Newcomers and Neighbors Club.

Anne's Culinary Cue

When entertaining, chop, bake, arrange and prepare as many dishes as possible a day in advance. Many dishes are even tastier when reheated. Advance preparation makes it easier to deal with last-minute problems like rain showing up for your outdoor party.

Naperville Newcomers and Neighbors Club Annual Kick-off Welcome Coffee

When: 10 a.m.-noon Sept. 12
Where: Naperville Municipal Center, 400 South Eagle St., lower level
Contact: napervillenewcomersandneighborsclub.com

"So many people have lived in homes all over the world before coming to Naperville," she said. "And a lot of people travel frequently. Recipes are freely shared during the potlucks. Henriksen shares her simple recipe for Roast Provencal chicken, which is featured in the pie recipe for Roast Provencal chicken.

Roast Provencal chicken

2 cloves of garlic, chopped
\( \frac{1}{4} \) cup herbs de Provence*
\( \frac{1}{4} \) cup olive oil
1 tablespoon Kosher salt
\( \frac{1}{2} \) teaspoon pepper
1 4-pound roasting chicken

1. Mix garlic, herbs, oil, salt and pepper in a small bowl until blended. Rub the mixture over the chicken, being sure to cover both the inside and the outside of the chicken. Place on a wire roasting rack in a roasting pan. Bake at 475 degrees for about 25 minutes or until the chicken skin begins to brown. Reduce the oven temperature to 350 degrees and continue roasting for about 30 minutes.

2. Remove from oven, cover with foil and allow to rest for about 10 minutes before carving. Serve with lemon wedges as a garnish.

*Herbs de Provence is a mix of herbs grown in the Provence region of France and usually includes savory, marjoram, rosemary, thyme, oregano and possibly other herbs. It can be purchased at most grocery stores.

Ham, asparagus and cherry tomato crustless quiche

Jarsberg Swiss cheese
diced ham
tablespoons cooking oil
garlic, chopped
Ham, asparagus and cherry tomatoes
salt and pepper to taste
\( \frac{1}{2} \) teaspoon nutmeg
12 eggs

1. Grate enough Jarlsberg Swiss cheese to form a one-inch thick layer in the bottom of a nine-inch square or round baking dish. Sprinkle diced ham over the cheese to form a second layer. Heat oil in a frying pan and lightly sauté asparagus tips until tender. Sprinkle asparagus over ham to form a thin layer. Slice grape tomatoes and make a fourth layer. Season with salt and pepper to taste and add nutmeg. Beat eggs in a bowl until combined. Pour over the layers.

2. Bake at 375 degrees until the middle rises and looks set, about 30 to 45 minutes. The edges of the quiche should also brown slightly. Serve warm or cold.
Back to school, back to you
Use your adult time to try some new activities

Detox, re-energize and repair
“Although jumping in a tank that registers minus 244 degrees sounds crazy, it actually left me feeling incredibly relaxed and refreshed,” says Wilmette resident Cheryl Leahy.

Leahy recently tried full body cryotherapy at Elite Wellness in Highland Park.

The idea behind cryotherapy (which consists of going into an ice cold chamber for 2 to 3 minutes) is help your body naturally filter out toxins while reducing inflammatory properties in your blood. It’s almost like putting a giant ice pack on your entire body.

Cryo can be used to help reduce sore muscles and inflammation and may help increase energy levels and strengthen the immune system.

Cryotherapy may also help speed up post-surgery recovery.

Deerfield mom Lauren Baker consulted with Elite Wellness prior to having hip labral tear surgery. Her health coach, Chris Brady, helped her create a schedule that combined cryotherapy with infrared detox sauna sessions that yielded positive results and a quicker recovery.

For more information about Elite Wellness, cryotherapy and the center’s many other treatments and services see elitestw.com.

Get trapped in a room with a zombie
Zombies are not just for Halloween. In fact, "Trapped in a Room with a Zombie," has been a huge hit all summer and now it's your turn to have some fun. The “experience” is part mystery dinner theater and part interactive game where you and your group of "brains" work together to solve puzzles that will ultimately help you escape the room before it's too late.

There are "shows" throughout the week, at varying times, which makes it the perfect activity for couples, friends and family. For more see roonescapeadventures.com/chicago.

Sweat it out
When I asked Facebook friends to share what they were most looking forward to doing once their kids were back in school, "getting back to a workout routine” was an overwhelming favorite.

According to fitness guru Julie Hafner, owner of Studio Spin in Northfield, discovering new and exciting workout routines is now easier than ever. "These days the big trend is efficiency," says Hafner. "Even with our kids back in school, few people have a ton of time to spend at the gym. Everyone is looking for a workout that allows them to torch calories while strengthening and toning the body at the same time."

Hafner believes the most effective workouts are those that combine high-intensity cardio with strength training.

"I'm partial to spin because it really is a great way to get a full-body workout in under an hour. However I also know people like to mix things up which is why I'm also a huge fan of boxing and high-intensity interval training which give you a one-two punch of cardio and strength training."

For more information about Studio Spin including their spin/yoga and spin/boxing combo classes see mybodycomplex.com.
MY PET WORLD

How to help a cat go back to using the litter box

By Marc Morrone
Tribune Content Agency

Q: I have had two female cats, sisters, for 8 years. Two weeks ago I smelled cat urine on my couch and then a day later I caught one cat in the act of urinating on the couch. I quickly scolded her and thought that was the end of it. Then I saw her doing it the next day and the day after it I saw her sister do it. A friend told me it may be that they have a urinary tract infection, but I cannot understand how this can cause them to urinate on a couch? I don't understand why when I scold them they continue to do it. What can I possibly do to stop them from doing this? I have two litter boxes for them that are changed daily and I have used up two gallons of Nature's Miracle to get rid of the smell on the cushions.

— Alexis Thorne, Chicago, IL

A: Well, this is not an easy situation to fix. Cats urinate in a litter box because in their minds there are no other options. They started doing it when they were kittens and hopefully they continue to think the litter box is the only option for their entire life.

However, if they do urinate someplace else other than the litter box through chance or a random event and that place is cleaner, more comfortable or more convenient, then the cat says to itself, "Why in the world have I been peeing in that plastic box on the floor when this place is so much nicer?"

So that answers the question of why they start to do it; it was just chance that the first one started and when the second one saw her do it then she realized it was an option as well.

The reason why a cat with a urinary tract infection will sometimes do this is because the cat is very sensitive and it hurts it to squat in a box full of rough cat litter. So the cat will seek out a place that is more comfortable. However, this is really a job for your vet to diagnose. If your cat does have a UTI, then take it to the vet ASAP because only medicine will cure that infection.

The scolding does not work because the act of urinating is just a biological function for a cat. To scold it for this is like scolding it for breathing; the cat has no idea that the couch has value and why it could possibly be wrong to urinate on it. Your cats are certainly not doing it out of spite — that is a human vice and alien to all animals that we commonly keep as pets.

You cannot fix these situations unless you understand the issue from the animal's point of view. So, assuming they do not have any physical issues with the urinary tract infections — determined by your vet — and thinking like the cat does, we can try and fix things.

Since the cats prefer to urinate on something nice and soft rather than litter, you can try to put a pad in a litterbox and put the litterbox near the couch. You then have to make the couch a not very nice place for the cats to hang out on. The best way to do this is to cover the couch with a sheet and then put strips of aluminum foil on top of the sheet. When the cats want to jump on the couch to urinate they will all be discombobulated and will likely jump on the floor.

By then, hopefully the cat will choose the litter box with the pad as a substitute. Of course nobody will want the litter box near the sheet, but if you do this enough and the cats are forced to only use the litter box for a while — how long that is I cannot say — then eventually you can remove the coverings off the couch and gradually move the litter box further away from the couch.

Everyone in the family needs some patience and understanding to fix this but most people are willing to accept the temporary inconveniences when they know the cats are not deliberately doing it to make us miserable.

Marc Morrone has kept almost every kind of animal as a pet for the last half-century and he is happy to share his knowledge with others. Although he cannot answer every question, he will publish many of those that have a general interest. You can contact him at petxperts2@aol.com; please include your name, city and state.

chicagotribune.com/pets
Visit us daily for the latest pet and animal news from the suburbs, city and beyond, plus:

- Our adoptable animals blog featuring photos and descriptions of Chicagoland pets in need of homes.
- Our suburban and city pet events calendar
- Photo galleries, videos, more
Identity stolen, $159K in unpaid loans, credit damaged

On Feb. 5, Jeff's identity was stolen — though he didn't realize it until May 18, when a collection agency taped a bright yellow notice to his front door that read “URGENT FINAL NOTICE.”

In reality, Jeff didn't fully understand what the May 18 notice meant — he assumed it was a scam — until the next day when he coincidentally heard from his mortgage broker that, “You and (your wife) have been approved for your mortgage, but I have a couple questions because you have some marks on your credit report.” Said Jeff: “I had no idea what he was talking about.” This marked the start of Jeff's monthlong saga to reclaim his identity and clear his credit.

Jeff is a CPA, a former banker and a current bank consultant from Frankfort. Thanks to his background and credentials, Jeff's great misfortune has translated into good fortune for Help Squad readers. Jeff contacted me specifically to share his ordeal and his learnings with all of you.

Following this startling conversation with his mortgage broker, Jeff requested his credit report. “There were two loans taken out in my name from a bank in Alabama and a bank in Arizona for two car purchases totaling $159,000. These two cars were purchased in a span of four days (starting Feb. 5) and no payment was made on either of them.”

He continued: “In looking through the report, there were lots of names that didn't make sense. I was noticing lots of companies I'd never dealt with (22 of them, in fact). They were all inquirers to check my credit.”

Jeff's next move was to file a police report. This was immediately followed by a call to his attorney who informed him that he had rights, and as such he should call the banks to report the car loans as fraudulent. Jeff explained: “If you report the loans are a fraud, they have to stop sending collections after you. Once you do that, they aren't allowed to continue harassing you.”

At this point, Jeff emphasized: “You soon learn everything takes a long time to get done. You need to be persistent and stay on top of things. And you need to know what you want to accomplish.”

Jeff knew he had to contact the three credit reporting agencies, Experian, Equifax and TransUnion, to place fraud alerts on his credit reports. Per the Federal Trade Commission, a consumer need only contact one of the agencies in order to inform all three.

Jeff additionally placed a credit freeze on all three of his credit files via a phone call to each agency. A credit freeze prevents potential creditors from accessing Jeff's credit without him first lifting the freeze. This severely limits the likelihood a thief can open new accounts in his name.

Jeff then took the third step of registering and paying for monthly credit monitoring through Equifax. This service allows him to check his credit with all three CRAs as often as he likes. He additionally receives email alerts when changes occur to any of his reports.

Once Jeff addressed these top-of-mind items, he knew he needed help identifying others. For this, he turned to the internet, where he found an extremely useful checklist developed by the FTC. The checklist can be found online at www.consumer.ftc.gov. He was subsequently provided a similarly useful checklist by the Alabama bank holding one of the fraudulent loans.

From these lists, Jeff gained insight into:

- How to complete and distribute an FTC identity theft affidavit
- How to request copies of documents used by the identity thief
- How to contact the IRS, and why it's necessary even if no tax fraud has occurred.

Check out next week's column to find out what Jeff learned when he followed these suggestions and began asking the police and banks questions of his own.

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

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist.

BEST PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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The Lie Tree
By Frances Hardinge, 384 pages, Harry N. Abrams, $17.95, ages 12+

In 19th-century Britain, the study of natural history was reserved for gentlemen. Unlucky enough to be born female, science-minded Faith, the heroine of this dark and captivating period novel, can't hope to follow in her naturalist father's footsteps. Yet when those footsteps lead to his suspicious death, Faith turns her “weakness” into an advantage. Underestimated by everyone, from her father's colleagues to the servants to her own mother, she embarks on an investigation that propels her into the scandal that ruined her father's reputation and entices her to adopt his morally questionable research methods.

“The Lie Tree” shares the rich, cerebral atmosphere and feminist bent of Andrea Barrett’s history-of-science-inspired fiction for adults, weaving it all together with goosamer fairy-tale thread. The book’s title refers to a plant — Faith’s father’s secret discovery — that withers in the light and feeds off of lies. Faith believes that reason and logic must hold the explanation to the Lie Tree’s puzzling attributes, since, for her, “magic” was not an answer; it was an excuse to avoid looking for one. Nonetheless, she can’t deny that when she whispers untruths into its leaves, things happen: Both the plant and Faith’s covert power start to grow.

Hardinge’s gorgeous descriptive language is charged with menace and meaning. Lying in bed one night, Faith imagines “her lie spilling silently like dark green smoke, filling the air around the house like a haze, spilling from the mouths of those who whispered and wondered and feared ... soaking like mist into waiting leaves, seeping like sap down gnarled slender stems, and forcing itself out into a small, white spearhead of a bud.” “The Lie Tree” is a murder mystery that dazzles at every level, shimmering all the more brightly the deeper down into it you go.

Outrun the Moon
By Stacey Lee, 400 pages, Putnam, $17.99, ages 12+

The year is 1906, in San Francisco, and 15-year-old Mercy Wong — her Chinese name, Wong Mei-Si, means “beautiful thought” — confesses to a priest, “Sometimes, when someone tells me I can’t do something, it makes me want to do it more.” Dialing back on the resentment, she adds, “Sometimes I don’t see it as a weakness. Sometimes I see it as one of my finer qualities.” It’s hard to argue with Mercy’s spot-on self-assessment. Her refreshingly active nature is crucial when it comes to fighting the racism and sexism that would deny her a quality education and future career. When a clever, risky plan secures her position as the first Chinese student at the esteemed St. Germaine’s School for Girls, her progress seems assured — until the Great Earthquake devastates the city and, in ways not even her fortune-teller mother could have foreseen, forever alters her path.

Lee’s second eye-opening work of historical fiction for young adults, following her expansive, culturally diverse Western “Under a Painted Sky,” offers a candid, nuanced view of race and class division, as well as a vivid portrait of life in San Francisco’s Chinatown at the turn of the 20th century. And while the story takes place in the past, its themes are in no way dated. An author’s note attests to the “wave of altruism” that brought San Franciscans together after the quake to help one another “without regard to class distinctions, race, or creed.” Lee goes on to say that the “goodwill and inclusiveness” didn’t last, but she takes heart in the fact that it existed at all, that it was possible.

CHICAGOLAND BEST-SELLERS


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

The Hours Count: A Novel
By Jillian Cantor; Riverhead, 368 pages, $16

By meshing fact with fiction, Jillian Cantor recreates the life of a woman who befriended Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, the couple convicted and executed on June 19, 1953, for conspiring to pass U.S. atomic secrets to the Soviets. In 1950, before being arrested, Ethel drops off her young sons with her neighbor and close friend, Millie Stein. Stein has a secret of her own, her relationship with Jack, a psychologist, who is trying to help her toddler, David, to speak. Stein also begins questioning her own husband’s political loyalties.

The Small Backs of Children: A Novel
By Lidia Yuknavitch; Harper Perennial, 256 pages, $14.99

The photo of a young girl running away from an explosion in her war-ravaged, Eastern European village forever changes the life of a depressed writer, the photographer’s best friend. In an attempt to help his wife get back her sanity, the writer’s husband rallied a group of artist friends — filmmaker, poet, playwright, performance artist and painter — to rescue the mysterious girl and bring her to the United States. But it becomes unclear what their real mission is and who is controlling it.

Finding Calm for the Expectant Mom: Tools for Reducing Stress, Anxiety, and Mood Swings During Your Pregnancy
By Alice D. Domar and Sheila Curry Oakes; TarcherPerigee, 288 pages, $17

Alice D. Domar, an associate clinical professor of obstetrics, and Sheila Curry Oakes, a writer specializing in women’s health and wellness, team up to debunk the myth of “glowing moms-to-be,” the idea that pregnancy is an effortless, rejuvenating journey. Domar and Oakes argue that pregnant women often undergo a stress-ridden phase and offer tools to cope, from fun quizzes to mind-body techniques to release anxiety.

The Darkest Secret: A Novel
By Alex Marwood; Penguin, 400 pages, $16

As wealthy friends and family gather to mourn Sean Jackson at his funeral, they are brought back to the fateful summer night, 12 years ago, when Jackson’s 3-year-old step daughter vanished during Jackson’s 50th birthday party at a seaside vacation home. The only witness? Her identical twin Ruby. Jackson’s death threatens to unveil the dark secrets everyone has tried so hard to hide.

Angela’s Ashes: A Memoir
By Frank McCourt; Scribner, 368 pages, $17

Frank McCourt documents his desolate childhood in the slums of Limerick, Ireland. His mother, Angela, scrambles to feed the family and the only thing his alcoholic father, Malachy, can provide is a good story, like the tale of Cuchulain, one of the greatest heroes of Irish mythology. It’s a story like this that keep McCourt going as he struggles with extreme poverty — he begs for a pig’s head for Christmas dinner and gathers coal from the roadside to light a fire. McCourt manages to find humor in the midst of this troubled existence.
For Interactive puzzles and games go to chicagotribune.com/games
Quote-Acrostic

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

Clues          Words

A. Cloth with raised stripes  51 143 162 131 80 96
B. Worsen                           14 102 119 90 27 75
C. Kid's verbal lunch?             17 46 110 81 41 18 121 149 104 136 67 31
D. Dusk to dawn                     73 160 16 150 54
E. Non-stop vehicle                 124 30 44 4 11 89 108 81 24 167 70 42
F. Set up a kettle                  8 63 3 153 88 99
G. Caribbean island group           86 113 129 7 139 155
H. Houston's go-ahead: hyp.         36 19 107
I. Boss                             34 158 82 2 108 47 25

58 147 132 123 13 66


Foot Work

BY CHARLES PRESTON

ACROSS
1 Rugged rock
5 The Time Machine author
10 Inclined plane on which ships are built
14 Air: comb. form
15 Spirit of the air
16 Kind of rubber
17 Half a Samoan port
18 British moving walk
20 Marine animal
22 Worshipful
23 Seal, et al.
25 Hire
26 Carved in relief
30 Vitamin
34 Dormouse
35 Marmal
37 Cruel metal
38 Café au
39 Burgundy and Madeira
40 Sketched
41 State: abbr.
42 Sea eagles
43 American revolutionary diplomat Silas
44 ___ Dallas

46 Tot's wheels
48 ___ Chaplin
50 Koran chapter
51 Wander off the trail
55 Borrowed money on
59 Lecture with pictures
61 Car
62 Emerald Isle
63 Paul ___, prize-winning poet of the '30s
64 Circle
65 Sorrows
66 Musical pauses
67 Greek letters

DOWN
1 Tops
2 Garner
3 Jason's ship
4 Walk
5 Broadway star Ethel
6 Goof
7 Fibber
8 Crowbar
9 Certain Yugoslavs
10 Menelaus was her king
11 Tardy
12 Press
13 Section
19 Communist idol
21 Blast
24 Finch
26 Famous island
27 Intended
28 June
29 Eats
31 Lobster roe
32 Miss Dunne
33 Later
36 Nuisances
39 Herdsman
40 Eastern state
42 Funeral oration
43 David Copperfield's wife
45 Parable of the ___ and Fishes
47 Indian coins
49 By oneself
51 Mulligan, for example
52 Threesome
53 Uncommon
54 Spurs
56 Nice night
57 Volcano
58 Follows tirelessly
60 Of last mo.

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Warm Reception

BY DON GAGLIARDO AND C.C. BURNIKEL
EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across
1. “Thunderstruck” band
5. Alberta resort town
10. Heavenly spheres
14. Caps’ partners
19. Manhattan or Queens, briefly
20. City NW of Orlando
21. Bryan’s “Breaking Bad” role
22. Formed for a specific purpose
23. Town gathering place
26. Dough
27. Bombards with bogus offers
28. One of a toon septet
29. Bathroom safety feature
31. Highways deterrent
33. Arabian Peninsula port
35. Acidity levels: Abbr.
36. Pennant trio?
37. Sherpa’s domain:
38. Ivory or Coast
40. Lions’ homes
43. “Barekla!”
45. Gardener’s purchase
49. Shtrick figures
53. Coastal fish
54. Eurasian capital
55. Fixture on many a cattle drive
57. Jet with suits?
59. Eastern way
61. Remains in the cooler
62. “You’re on!”
66. Cardinal, e.g.
67. Some NASA missions
68. Fleeces
70. Purpose of some government credits
72. Artist’s choices
73. Bamboozle
74. Teased
75. Retail focus
77. “Priest” in a Nash poem
79. Runway retiree of 03
80. Cantaloupe cousin
84. Astrological sector
86. Disc golf starting point
90. Friend of Harry
91. Guarantee
92. Place to see a facial mask
93. Hidden
95. Bummed

96. K follower
98. Acting opportunity
99. —Spiegel-German magazine
100. Attention that can help healing, briefly
103. Kettle cover
105. Titicaca, por ejemplo
107. Bacon with six degrees?
109. Source of many breaking stories
111. Italian-born three-time Oscar winner
112. Rice/Lloyd
113. Sheikh, e.g.
114. “... Fire”: Denzel
125. Visiting the Getty
126. Business bigwig
127. Workout stat
128. Santa —racetack
129. Training locale

Down
1. Basics
2. Joint venture
3. Boots brand with Bouncing Soles
4. Charge
5. ...vagel
6. Heavy metal relative
8. Pest control device
9. Confronted
10. Beat year after year after year ...
11. “Phooey”!
12. “This is disgusting!”
13. Sharpening tool
14. Many unscribed programs
15. Gas additive, perhaps
16. Incredulous response
17. Pitching legend Ryan
18. Improvises with nonsense syllables
19. Amer. currency
20. Friend of Harry
21. Place’s sights on
22. Yoga poses
23. Maker of Candy Buttons
24. “48 Hours” aimer
25. It might be recombinant

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

Sudoku

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

This week’s answers appear on the next page.

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

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

46. Luau neckwear
47. Small duck
48. Comic actress

Solutions

25. ___ into; attack
26. Not rural
27. Tranquility
28. Tendon
29. More ashen-faced
30. Reclines
31. Flu symptoms
32. Lasso loop
33. Hauled along behind
34. U.S. coin
35. U.S. coin
36. Chandelier hook's place
37. Cause of woe
38. Cereal grain
39. Subdues
40. Direct course
41. Recent arrival
42. Waterbirds
43. Self-confident
44. Recent arrival
45. Subdues
46. Luau neckwear
47. Small duck
48. Comic actress

Last week's crosswords

"Not Again"

"Moving Waters"

"Company's Coming"

Last week's Quote-Acrostic

NEAL TEMPLE: CHEAPSKATE:
Attention razor makers! Stop the silly 'arms race' with expensive spring-mounted blades and battery-powered micropulses. All men want is razors that do the job without nicking us literally or figuratively.

Last week's Sudoku

This week's Jumble

IDIOCY INCOME SPLASH NUMBER SPRAY UNPLUG
To make a Jumble play on words understandable, the creators need —
GOOD "PUNMANSHIP"
Relationship tips for empty nesters

The best word I can use to describe how I felt the first day I dropped off my daughter at preschool is "free." I felt liberated! My toddlers were in someone else's care for a whole hour and 45 minutes, leaving me the freedom to do whatever I wanted, and boy did I appreciate the time alone.

Fast forward 15 years, or so. The first time you drop your kid off at college is an entirely different story. Not that I know firsthand, but 35 years later, I can still remember the tears my mom cried on the way home from the University of Michigan, having just taken my sister there. Saying goodbye and leaving your child in a dorm room far away cannot be easy. It is a major life change that not only affects the kids, his or her siblings and each parent, but that also has a huge impact on the parent’s relationship with a child.

What happens to empty nesters, or even parents of high school kids? Do they lean on each other, enjoy the uninterrupted time together, and become even closer as a couple? That would be great. But some couples realize during this time that they are no longer connected, causing them to either continue living separate lives or make the decision to split up. According to Waxman, some couples who want a divorce think it's best to wait until the kids leave for college. However, college kids don't experience divorce any easier than younger kids.

"Going to college is such a huge transition for kids, and it's stressful enough even if their parents' relationship is solid," she said. "They want to know their home life is staying consistent. They don't want to have to worry about their mom and dad being newly separated."

The way I see it, marriage changes a lot when your kids are born, and young parents frequently wish for "me" time. So, as difficult as it is to say goodbye to the people you love with all your heart, becoming empty nesters really is an opportunity to have "me" time again. And actually, it's a chance for "us" time, too. As your child is living his or her dream, maybe when it comes to your relationship, you can, too.

Here are Waxman's relationship tips for empty nesters:

1. Prepare for college long before the kids leave. When kids start getting older and needing you less, focus on socializing more, taking trips, planning date nights, doing charity work together. Try to remember what you did before you had kids and do it. This is your chance to reconnect with old friends and hobbies.

2. Treat each other with respect. Don't underestimate the power of a kind greeting when your spouse walks in the door. When you're an empty nester, he or she is only one walking in the door on a daily basis. Take advantage of the time alone to talk, become friends and have dates, even if they are in your own home.

3. Consider therapy. Many years of not communicating wants and needs to a spouse can result in a lot of buried hurt, anger and resentment. But, there is hope of reconnecting if the two people are willing to try to work out their issues with a professional.

According to Waxman, some couples who want a divorce think it's best to wait until the kids leave for college. However, college kids don't experience divorce any easier than younger kids.

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Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.
Laser incisions allow more precise cataract surgery

Dear Doctor K: My husband had cataract surgery 10 years ago. Now it's my turn. Have there been any advances in the past decade that I should know about?

Dear Reader: A cataract is a clouding of the lens of the eye. It commonly causes poor vision and blindness among older adults. But cataracts can be surgically removed and replaced with artificial lenses. In fact, cataract surgery has become fairly routine. The vast majority of people who undergo this procedure have excellent outcomes.

I spoke to my colleague, Dr. Christian Song. He is a surgeon at Harvard-affiliated Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. He noted that advances in imaging and measuring, and of the lenses themselves, are making cataract surgery even better.

Typically, cataract surgery is an outpatient procedure. To remove the cataract, the surgeon makes a circular incision around the eye's lens. Then he or she uses ultrasound to break up and remove the cloudy lens. After that, a new lens is slipped into the eye.

Some surgeons still use a scalpel for the incision. But more and more, surgeons are using an ultra-short-pulse laser. This allows doctors to make more precise incisions than they can by hand, and softens the cataract for easier removal. The laser also helps to ensure better centering of the implanted lens. Another advance: These days, 3D imaging is used with the laser, allowing still greater precision.

Once the cataract has been removed, a device attached to a microscope measures the total refractive error of the eye. (A refractive error occurs when the shape of the eye prevents light from focusing directly on the retina. As a result, vision appears blurred.) A sophisticated new technology called “intraoperative wavefront aberrometry” allows doctors to more accurately calculate the right lens power for the eye. This has been especially helpful for people who have had previous laser vision correction, such as LASIK.

This technology has also improved the ability to reduce or eliminate the effect of astigmatism. This is an imperfection in the shape of the cornea or lens, causing images to appear distorted or blurry.

Despite these advances, cataract surgery is not without risks. Complications are rare, but they can include severe vision loss, bleeding and infection. That may sound scary, but the important thing to remember about rare complications is that they're rare. I'm not being flippant; I'm having cataract surgery in a few weeks, well aware of the possible complications. But I've balanced the benefit from the surgery against the risk — and it's an easy call for me.

Cataract surgery won't necessarily give you the vision you had when you were much younger. I'm not expecting that, and neither should you. But it is very likely to improve the vision you and I have now.

Cataract surgery today is so much more successful, and complications are so much rarer, than when I went to medical school. You and I can look forward to a very good outcome.

Dr. Komaroff is a physician and professor at Harvard Medical School. To send questions, go to AskDoctorK.com, or write: AskDoctorK, 10 Shattuck St., Second Floor, Boston, MA 02115.
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EVERY WEEK THROUGH SEPTEMBER 11TH
Vote for the players you think deserve to be
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VOTE FOR EACH POSITION STARTING:

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WINTRUST
After the nest empties

Couples readjust to life with no children at home by reacquainting with spouse, pursuing own interests

By Alison Bowen
Chicago Tribune

When her oldest daughter was leaving for college, Veronica James was too emotional to step onto the plane. “I knew I would be a basket case,” she said.

Instead, she said her goodbyes at the airport. Then, she sat in the car for two hours. “I just cried and cried and cried,” she said. “It was horrible. I just felt like my heart had been ripped out of me.”

By the time their last child headed for college, she and husband, David, had a plan — and a plane to Italy to catch.

“It was really important,” she said, “because I would’ve been a basket case had I not distracted myself.”

Finding your new normal after kids leave the nest can be exhilarating, emotional and everything in between.

After spending years focusing on children, sometimes it can feel strange to have only each other. “As they raise children, couples tend to put that relationship on the back burner,” said Dr. Terri Orbuch, a marriage therapist and author of “5 Simple Steps to Take Your Marriage From Good to Great.”

So how do a couple equip themselves for this new frontier?

First, before the nest is empty, talk about expectations. One parent might be thrilled and ready to go on a long-dreamed-of trip. Another might dread the upcoming college move.

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Caine encourages parents to ask themselves, “What went dormant in me that I now want to bring to the surface?”

Take singing lessons, join a woodworking workshop or take a shot at something you’ve never tried.

This time is a new frontier for your child, but also for you. “We have this full orchestra of different parts of ourselves,” Caine said.

For James, she realized their time raising children was “all hands on deck.”

“You kind of forget who those people were that you started out with,” she said. “By doing new things together, we were able to discover the fun-loving youngsters that met 30 years ago.”
Contemporary farmhouse in Winnetka: $2.95M

ADDRESS: 855 Gordon Terrace in Winnetka
ASKING PRICE: $2,949,000
This home is situated on a coveted wooded lot in Winnetka and designed to reflect America's growing agricultural influence. The home's interiors, porches, terraces and gardens are open and embrace a clean, minimalistic aesthetic. Rooms include a kitchen, family room, wet bar, theater and six bedrooms.
Agent: April Callahan of The Hudson Company, 847-971-7273

At press time, this home was still for sale.

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A Super Stolie concert starts Skokie's school year

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

A back-to-preschool concert at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., will feature the Super Stolie Music Show. From 10:30-11:15 a.m., Friday, Sept. 9, the popular Chicago-based children's entertainer will share her original songs in this interactive show. Selections from her latest album include the title song, "Family in Harmony," and "Chicken in the Kitchen." Registration is required.

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

Bubbles on the block

Bubbles will be flying at the Village of Niles Block Party, a first-time event, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 10.

"We are sponsoring the Bubble Show which will kick off at 11:30," said Ari-anne Carey, Youth Services supervisor at the Niles Public Library.

That show will be held in the parking lot of the Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive. If there is inclement weather, it will be moved to the Senior Center's gymnasium.

Additional activities sponsored by the library are planned for its east parking lot at 6960 Oakton St.

"We'll have a table promoting adult services. We'll have a table promoting children's services, highlighting our fall program lineup," Carey said. "We'll also be promoting teen programs for the fall."

Everyone can try the library's Plinko game. A bingo game in the parking lot is sponsored by the Senior Center but all ages are welcome to play. In addition, there will be a kids' craft project and face painting.

Preschoolers will enjoy an interactive Super Stolie concert featuring some of Stolie's greatest hits on Sept. 9 at the Skokie Public Library.

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

Cautionary tale

There are some things that aren't appropriate for show-and-tell. Kids will learn about one of them at the "If You Ever Want to Bring an Alligator to School, Don't!" Storytime, 11 a.m. Sept. 3 at Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. Kids will hear Elise Parsley's new book and do related activities.

For details, call 847-965-4220 or go to www.mgpl.org.

Do your part — encourage art

Mothers and their 2-to-5-year-olds will get creative together at a Mommy & Me Painting Party, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Fridays, Sept. 23 or Oct. 14 at Norridge Park District, 4631 N. Overhill Ave. The cost is $24 for residents, $30 for nonresidents.

For details, call 708-457-1244 or go to www.norridgepk.com.
MAINE SENIORS HELP KICK OFF SCHOOL YEAR

Dr. Scott Clay, Maine Township District 63 Superintendent, and Maine Township Supervisor Carol A. Teschky check out some of the many school supplies Maine Township's MaineStreamers seniors delivered to help the school year get underway. At the group's monthly luncheon in August, the seniors collected everything from backpacks and markers to notebooks and glue sticks. District 63 serves 3,600 students in seven schools in Des Plaines, Niles, Glenview, Park Ridge and Morton Grove. More at www.emsd63.org. For more on the seniors' activities, see www.mainetownship.com or call 847-297-2510.

FAMILIES END SUMMER WITH HINKLEY FEST FUN

Jeremy Barton, 2, of Park Ridge holds tickets ready as he waits his turn to ride the cars at the Park Ridge Hinkley Fest. Jeremy was one of many folks of all ages who enjoyed the rides, games and music Aug. 11 at Hinkley Park, 25 Busse Highway, Park Ridge. Highlights of the festivities were a performance by The Hustle, a garage band featuring Maine South students, and rock music from Otherwise Civilized, a band including Principal Brett Balduf of Carpenter School.

MUNTU DANCE AT NORTH SHORE CENTER

Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago will give an African dance and music performance 8 p.m. Sept. 10 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. "As'e, or The Power to Make Things Happen" the upcoming program, includes ancient or traditional African and modern African-influenced works. Tickets are $22-$38, and available at www.NorthShoreCenter.org, or 847-673-6300.

COMEDIAN RETURNS HOME WITH ONE-MAN SHOW

Azhar Usman, who has toured the world performing stand-up comedy and was recently hailed as "America's Funniest Muslim" by CNN, will present the world-premiere of "Ultra American: A Patriot Act" Sept. 6-25 at Silk Road Rising Theatre, 77 W. Washington St., Chicago. Usman, a former Skokie attorney and graduate from Niles West High School who now lives in Des Plaines, skewers issues of identity and race as a Muslim American Indian in this one-man show. Tickets are $25, $15 for students. Information and tickets at www.UltraAmerican.org.

Share your event

We want to publish your photos. To submit, visit community.chicagotribune.com or email sburrows@pioneerlocal.com.
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<td>07-25-16</td>
<td>$65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>909 Golf Rd, # 21, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Anshu Ante</td>
<td>Thelma Rubenstein</td>
<td>07-27-16</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1326 Weilford Ave, # 205, Des Plaines</td>
<td>George Zeev</td>
<td>Nichos J Reiner</td>
<td>07-27-16</td>
<td>$107,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>649 Murray Ln, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Zhiglewu Brzot</td>
<td>Satin Malobidin</td>
<td>07-27-16</td>
<td>$110,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1754 Howard Ave, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Margaret A Burgh</td>
<td>Charles E Davis Estate</td>
<td>07-29-16</td>
<td>$115,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>901 Golf Rd, # 9H, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Mohammad Shaile</td>
<td>Boris Kentel Estate</td>
<td>07-29-16</td>
<td>$118,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>770 Pearson St, # 512, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Greg Zielski</td>
<td>Lynn Morgan</td>
<td>07-29-16</td>
<td>$121,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911 Ashland Ave, # 304, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Mark G Kizbyewski</td>
<td>Gerald W Seelig</td>
<td>07-25-16</td>
<td>$126,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1918 Kennecott Cl, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Vasant Patel</td>
<td>Us Bank Na</td>
<td>07-27-16</td>
<td>$146,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979 Pine St, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Emanucl Hernandez &amp; Alexander Shontos</td>
<td>Leeve Trust</td>
<td>07-27-16</td>
<td>$180,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>136 Dover Dr, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Kaloos K Patel &amp; Bilaisha K Patel</td>
<td>Us Bank Na Trustee</td>
<td>07-29-16</td>
<td>$182,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>545 S Rivier Rd, # 407, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Victor G Nemes &amp; Joan Nemes</td>
<td>Vanessa Nemes</td>
<td>07-27-16</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8989 E Emerson St, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Zuhade Basta &amp; Nasaha Basta</td>
<td>Dawl J Carlin</td>
<td>07-25-16</td>
<td>$305,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>293 W Walnut Ave, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Derek Scullion</td>
<td>Fannee Mac</td>
<td>07-27-16</td>
<td>$228,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9042 Ruby Ln, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Stephen K Chenn</td>
<td>Jeffrey M Bergr</td>
<td>07-27-16</td>
<td>$232,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>665 Elizabeth Ln, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Brian J Malak &amp; My Nguyen</td>
<td>Us Bank Na Trustee</td>
<td>07-29-16</td>
<td>$235,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>330 N 4th Ave, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Anastasia Pordz</td>
<td>Halfa Fairhoury</td>
<td>07-29-16</td>
<td>$240,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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
REAL ESTATE HOMES IN YOUR AREA

NORTH BROOK

Four-bedroom, three-bath home built in 1952. Master bedroom has separate shower, breakfast bar/ nook, skylight windows, wood-burning fireplace, wood floors, and vaulted ceilings. Near schools and expressway.

Address: 3857 Walters Ave.
Price: $489,000
Schools: Glenbrook North High School
Taxes: $8,571
Agent: Kati Spaniak, Keller Williams Success Realty

PALATINE

Five-bedroom, 3.5-bath home built in 1980. Three fireplaces, master suite, sitting room, new windows, roof and carpeting, partially finished basement, patio and landscaped yard. Near schools, shopping and parks.

Address: 3540 Wilshire Drive
Price: $474,900
Schools: William Fremd High School
Taxes: $14,401
Agent: Beth Funk, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

MOUNT PROSPECT


Address: 600 S. Noah Terrace
Price: $349,000
Schools: Rolling Meadows High School
Taxes: $9,722.69
Agent: Waldemar Smolinski, CENTURY 21 McMullen

GLENOCE

Five-bedroom, 4.5-bath Tudor style home built in 1930. Front stone patio, arched doorways, granite counters and stainless steel kitchen appliances, landscaped property. Near Metra, beach, downtown and community center.

Address: 978 Elm Ridge Drive
Price: $865,000
Schools: New Trier High School
Taxes: $19,485.33
Agent: Allyson Hoffman, RE/MAX Villager

Listings from Homefinder.com

Upload your images. Share your stories.
nilesheritalspectator.com/community

NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR
Aerial Arts, Parkour and more and are perfect for youth and adults. Registration for all fall session classes is now open and fill quickly. Go to www.actorsgymnastics.org. Financial aid and payment plans are available. Midnight, All week, Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, Varied by class, 847-328-2795

**BookBits Reading Social:** This current selection for this monthly group is "Everything I Never Told You" by Celeste Ng. This is co-sponsored by the Niles Public Library. Go to face- book.com/niles/glenniowbookbites for details or just come by and drop in. 7 p.m. Hackney's Glenview, 1514 E. Lake Ave., Glenview, free, 847-724-7771

**Adult Literacy Classes Registration:** A unique opportunity for native and non-native English speakers to improve their reading and writing skills. A small, friendly group led by a teacher and volunteer tutors meets twice weekly. Classes are conducted by Oakton Community College in the Glenview Library's Community Room West. Call 847-635-1426 for details. 9:15 a.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Senior Classic:** Swing into a new month at the Senior Classic golf tournament. This is open to men and women ages 65 and older. The registration deadline is Aug. 30 and the fee includes prizes and a light breakfast. For additional information and to register, call or go to the website. 9 a.m. Glenview Prairie Club, 2800 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, free, 847-677-1637

**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

**Karaok:** It's Karaok Bar has karaoke every day from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. 8 p.m. Narine's Karaoke Bar, 8751 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, free, 224-534-7158

**Park Ridge Flying 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 try 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

**Book Discussion:** This group meets on the first Thursday of each month. 1 p.m. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-5127

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

**Rockin' in the Park 2016:** This is a music concert series that happens every Thursday in June. 7 p.m. Apple's Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-349-5594

**Food Drive In Skokie:** Requesting donations of canned goods and dry food products to fill the shelves of the Niles Township Food Pantry. These foods are to be given to the hungry in the community. All foods can be dropped off at Walgreens. For further information, call Rebecca Pagel, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation office at 847-675-4114. Midnight, All week, Walgreens, 3945 W. Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

**German Stammtisch:** The group meets on the first and third Thursday of each month in the community center to practice German and learn about German culture. For all experience levels, from native speakers to beginners. 10 a.m. Oakton Park Community Center, 4701 Oakton St., Skokie, free

**Friday, Sept. 2**

**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. Fridays, Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines, free, 847-827-5551

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

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

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

**Cruisin' Park Ridge:** These car shows take place on the First Fridays of June, July, August, and September. Hosted by the Park Ridge Chamber, they are held in the library lot and on Summit Ave. between Touhy and Prospect. This is fun for the whole family, with live entertainment, food, beer/wine, bounce house and, of course, cars. 6 p.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3121

**Saturday, Sept. 3**

**Polyglots Toastmasters meeting:** Polyglots is the Toastmasters International Club in the United States that conducts its meetings in German. If you speak German or want to keep it fresh or improve it, visit this club. This is no language school, but a place where you can speak and listen to German and, above all, have a good time with those at all levels and ages. Go to their website at www.polyglotstoastmasters.org and their meetup at www.meetup.com/Polyglots-Toastmasters-German-speaking/. Please email andrewwellerreiue@gmail.com for the current location, as sometimes they meet at places other than the Des Plaines Library. 9:30 a.m. Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines, free, 847-827-5551

**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. Every Saturday, Oak Avenue and University Place, 1090 University Place, Evanston, free, 847-448-8045

**FUSE: Studio:** Drop-in with friends to wire LEDs, compose a ringtone, build a robot, or improve it, visit this club. This is not a language school, but a place where you can speak and listen to German and, above all, have a good time with those at all levels and ages. Go to their website at www.polyglotstoastmasters.org and their meetup at www.meetup.com/Polyglots-Toastmasters-German-speaking/. Please email andrewwellerreiue@gmail.com for the current location, as sometimes they meet at places other than the Des Plaines Library. 9:30 a.m. Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines, free, 847-827-5551

**Amy O Woodbury's 16th Annual Front Yard Art Sale:** Artist Amy O. Woodbury's anticipated annual sale...
To Place An Ad Online go to:

placeanad.tribunesuburbs.com
Calendar, from Previous Page
features more than 50 paintings and mixed media pieces: landscapes, figuratives, abstracts, etc. Prices start at $50. All ages are welcome and there is no admission fee, and there is free street parking. 9 a.m. Sep. 3 and Sep. 4, Outside Art Gallery Colfax Street and Brown Avenue, 1931 Colfax St., Evanston, free, 847-644-8781

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

Signature Entertainment Presents: LOL Saturday: Adult Comedy every Saturday night hosted by Comedy legends Tony Scufliff and Mark Simons. National headliners with movie and television credits on stage. 9 p.m. Chicago’s Home of Chicken & Waffles, 2424 W. Dempster St., Evanston, $15 adult advance; $20 at the door, 847-521-2424 W. Dempster St., Evanston, $15 adult advance; $20 at the door, 847-521-2426

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. 10:30 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St, Evanston, $3 kids, $5 adults, 847-475-1030

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. Saturdays, Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview, free, 847-657-1506

Fall Mum Sales at Wagner Farm: Add fall color to your yard with beautiful mums and dress up your house for the season with pumpkins, cornstalks, Indian corn, gourds and more. Call for more information. 10 a.m. Sep. 3 to Sep. 10, Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview, free, 847-657-1506

“The World of Pooh”: Talented actors bring Winnie the Pooh and friends Piglet, Rabbit, Kanga, Roo and Tigger to life in this quaint musical which recreates three classic A Milne tales. 10:30 a.m. The Book Market at Hangar One, 2651 Navy Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-904-7304

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. Saturdays, Dempster Street and Georgia Avenue, 6210 Dempster St., Morton Grove, free, 847-750-6436

Park Ridge Farmers Market: Shop for fresh produce, soap, olive oils, flowers, pickles, pasta cooked 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. Saturdays, Prairie Avenue and Main Street, 15 Prairie Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-309-2433

JC Leadership Summit: JC Leadership Summit Come and join our leadership summit 3rd to connect, learn and grow with young leaders like you. You will experience some of the great leadership lessons through our awesome speakers. Hope you can make it to be a part of this life changing event and become a better leader. Go to www.mknjasyeees.com/_register-now/cly7 for tickets. Special discount code: JCDISC. 8 a.m. Double Tree Chicago North Shore Hotel, 9599 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie, $50 (with special promo code: JCDISC), 773-914-3615

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. Saturdays, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800

Sunday, Sept. 4

John Williams’ Sunday music session: 3 p.m. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-4679

PCJ’s 7th Annual Car Show and Fundraiser: This event, Cruizin for Kids, St. Jude’s Fundraiser is fun for all. It is sponsored by Potato Creek Johnny’s and the Sparks Car Club. On the schedule are: 11 a.m. bar opens with kitchen open for breakfast; 1 p.m. or sooner car show check-in; 2 p.m. outdoor grilling with brats, burgers and hot dogs served; 11 a.m. Potato Creek Johnny’s, 1850 Wilmot Road, Glenview, fees vary, 847-486-1007

Power Pairing: Join Tastemakers Christion Lampley and Dr. Shame in the Allstate Arena Skybox as they share their keys to business success. This exclusive experience includes food, wine, gift swap, a ticket to a Chicago Sky’s home game and a powerful pairing of wit and wisdom. 2 p.m. Allstate Arena, 9290 Mannheim Road, Rosemont, $65, 708-790-7411

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

Monday, Sept. 5

The Mudflaps live every Monday: The Mudflaps sing and play their hearts out every Monday in the pub from 6 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

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

Tuesday, Sept. 6

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

Let’s Talk @ Lunch: At this drop-in program, participants can talk through the issue of racism, and practice honest conversation skills by looking at our own experiences in light of what we're learning about how racism affects us all. 12:30 p.m. YoFresh Yogurt Cafe, 625 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-864-8445

Career Counseling Appointments: Counseling is available for any stage of your career, to consult with a career expert for resume help, job search strategies and more. Only four 30-minute appointments are available by calling 847-729-7500 x 7700 or visiting the Reference Services Desk. 6:30 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Wednesday, Sept. 7

Adul Literacy Classes Fall Session: A unique opportunity for native and non-native English speakers to improve their reading and writing skills. This is a small, friendly group led by a teacher and volunteer tutors that meet twice weekly. Classes are conducted by Oakton Community College in the Glenview Library’s Community Room West. Call 847-635-3426 for details. 9:15 a.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Beginning Square Dance Classes: Have fun and learn to square dance; beginner lessons are sponsored by the Glenview Square Dance Club and Glenview Park District. No experience necessary. 7:30 p.m. Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free first lesson; Registration for 9-week session $46/$54, 847-774-5670

MGPI 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

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, 6950 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

JCAST Hosts Rabbi Lauer on Sex Trafficking in Israel: Join the Jewish Coalition Against Sex Trafficking (JCAST) Chicago, as it welcomes Rabbi Levi Lauer, founding executive director of ATZUM, to speak on his group’s efforts to eradicate sex trafficking in Israel. Call or email info®jcastchicago.com. 11 a.m. Slice of Life, 4120 Dempster St., Skokie, $5 includes kosher lunch, 847-843-8899

Lehrhaus Confirmation Class: Post Bar/Bat Mitzvah teenagers are invited to participate in this program which teaches young people how to utilize Jewish resources when faced with making a decision. This is a fascinating three-year program. 7 p.m. Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, $420 for entire year plus book fees, 847-675-4141

Turn to Calendar, Next Page
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Wednesday, Sept. 7

Jared & The Mill: With Edison. 8 p.m.
SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston,
$12-$20, 847-492-8860

Live Music Wednesdays with the
Josh Rzepka Trio: Hear the music of
Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, The-
lonious 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., Evan-
ton, free, 847-868-8945

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

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

Julius Caesar: 7:30 p.m. Writers Thea-
tre, 325 Tudor Court, Glencoe, $35-$80,
847-242-6000

Learn How to Skate Intro to Devel-
opment Hockey Ist-3rd: Find out if
ice hockey is the sport for your child
without committing to a longer pro-
togram. The fee includes professionally
taught lessons and rental skates. Space
is limited and registration is required.
Register in person, by mail, via FAX or
to glenviewparks.org. 9 a.m. all week,
Glenview Ice Center, 1615 Landwehr
Road, Glenview, Call for more details,
847-724-2800

Ladies Glenview Classic Golf Tour-
nament: A two day golf tournament
open to all women with USGA indexes
of 40 or less. Event will be based on
registrants. 7:30 a.m. Glenview Park
Golf Club, 800 Shermer Road, Glen-
view, Registration $40 plus daily greens
fee, 847-724-0250

Twenty-first Star Chapter NSDAR
September 2016 Meeting: The
Twenty-first Star Chapter of the DAR
host its first meeting of the NSDAR year
2016-17, Sept. 7 at the Park Ridge Coun-
try Club, Gayla Steel, Illinois DAR Dis-
trict IV Director discusses “The Mad-
donna of the Trail.” 11:30 a.m. Park
Ridge Country Club, 636 N. Prospect
Ave., Park Ridge, $22.50, 847-328-6946

Fashion Show at Skokie Synagogue:
A Fashion Show and Luncheon is the
highlight of the fall season for the Sis-
terhood of Ezra-Habonim, the Niles
Township Jewish Congregation. The
event features the newest styles and
accessories from Fox’s Designer Fash-
ions, in Skokie. 11:30 a.m. Ezra Hab-
omin, The Niles Township Jewish Con-
gregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie,
$20 for members, $23 guests, and $25 at
door, 847-675-4141

Branding: An interactive workshop
designed to teach you how to differenti-
ate yourself from the competition, how
to discover your unique value, and how
to sell what an employer is buying. To
register for Career Moves workshops,
go to https://v2/chicago-syhum.form-
stack.com/forms/career_identity. 1 p.m.
JVS Chicago, $150 Golf Road, Skokie,
Career Moves clients: $10 per workshop
and non clients: $20 per workshop,
847-745-5460

Thursday, Sept. 8

Des Plaines Garden Club Meeting:
This garden club meets at 11 a.m., where
the business meeting starts at noon,
followed by their 1 p.m. program: Shawn
Odneal from Aquaponic Garden Shop
presents a brief introduction to the
future of global garden spaces, including
hydroponics, aquaponics and vertical
garden systems. Also, explore future and
current home indoor/outdoor garden
spaces. 11 a.m. Frisbie Senior Center, 52
E. NW Highway, Des Plaines, free, 847-
768-5944

Coffee Talk to track down history of
Mexican railroad: The public is invited
to the Coffee Talk, “The History of Mex-
ican Railroad Boxcar Communities in
Chicago and the Midwest.” Dr. Antonio
Delgado presents this program, which is
sponsored by the Illinois Humanities
Road Scholars Speakers Bureau. 1:30 p.m.,
Des Plaines History Center, 781
Pearson St., Des Plaines, $3 suggested
donation, 847-391-5399

Gabriel Kahane: 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245
Chicago Ave., Evanston, $12-$22, 847-
492-8860

Diabetes month by month: Learn
how to prevent, manage and take care of
your diabetes in order to prevent com-
lications. Every month we will have a
different topic; from weight manage-
ment, stress management to how to
read food labels. Class is bilingual (Eng-
ish and Spanish). 5 p.m. Erin Evanston/
Skokie Health Center, 1285 Hartrey
Ave., Evanston, free, 847-666-2346

Ballroom Dance Classes: Come take
part in the Ballroom Dance Classes for
Seniors at The Levy Center. The fee is
$70 for Levy members and $85 for
non-members. 2:30 p.m. Levy Senior
Center, 300 Dodge Ave., Evanston,
$70-$85, 847-448-8260

Julius Caesar: 7:30 p.m. Writers Thea-
tre, 325 Tudor Court, Glencoe, $35-$80,
847-242-6000

Meditation Healing Circle: The Wellness
Source hosts a guided Meditation
Healing Circle with Katherine Trinity, a
life-long student of mystical arts and
sciences. Call for reservations. 7:30 p.m.
The Wellness Source, 1245 Milwaukee
Ave., Glenview, $20, 224-413-3500

Thursday Morning Mrs. Schmitt
ages 2 and up with adult: Mrs.
Schmitt brings her stories and fun to the
library, so just drop in. 10:30 a.m. Glen-
view Public Library, 1930 Glenview
Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Much Ado About Mysteries: The
discussion topic is Ancient Mysteries:
Crime before 500 A.D. This group meets
quarterly and you are welcome to
drop in. 7 p.m. Glenview Public Library,
1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free,
847-729-7500

Write Right: Suggested for grades 6-8.
Drop in for an informal teen writing
hour—sit and write with your peers,
share your work, or look for feedback.
3:30 p.m. Lincolnwood Public Library,
4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free,
847-777-5277

Niles Songwriters: Local songwriters
meet on the Second Thursday of the
month at the library’s Lower Level to
discuss their craft and play their music.
Acoustic instruments are welcome. 7
p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W Oak-
ton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Park Ridge Garden Club September
Meeting: Landscape architect Laura
Christensen is featured with her talk,
“Zooing around the World”. This is for
children under age 8 (who must be
accompanied by an adult) to just drop in.
Volunteer chess instructor Steve Levenson
meets quarterly and you are welcome to
discuss their craft and play their music.
Acoustic instruments are welcome. 7
p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W Oak-
ton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Senior Housing 101: Senior Care
Types Explained: Learn the terminol-
ogy and the differences between senior
care options that are out there so you
can make the right choice for you or
your family. The Legal Assistance Foun-
dation Regional Ombudsman will dis-
cuss the levels of care for older adults
and the steps to use when looking for a
facility. 1 p.m. Glenview Public Library,
1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free,
847-729-7500

Saturday, Sept. 10

Portal Cello Project: 8 p.m. SPACE,
1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $17-$30,
847-492-8860

Opening of the Regenstein Learn-
ing Campus: The Chicago Botanic Gar-
den celebrates the opening of the Rege-
stein Learning Campus, a new seven-

CALENDAR
Calendar, from Previous Page

A Chicago Tribune Publication

Thursday, September 1, 2016

Calendar, from Previous Page

Acre hub for plant-based community and civic engagement, intergenerational learning, hands-on coursework and health and wellness activities. Visitors can engage in a weekend full of mini-classes showcasing what the Garden's education programs have to offer. 10 a.m. Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

"Julius Caesar": 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Writers Theatre, 325 Tudor Court, Glencoe, $35-$80, 847-242-6000

Trail Walks: Guided trail walks are ideal for families and individuals and those who are interested in nature. 2 p.m. The Grove, 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, free, 847-299-6098

PSAT or SAT Practice Test Grades 9 to 12: C2 Education facilitates practice tests for the PSAT or SAT. Gain experience with these tests, which are soon to become standard in college testing. Students may choose which test they take, but register at glenviewpLorg/register or by calling. Noon, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-299-6098

Village of Niles Block Party: Join us for a fun-filled day with games, food, unique demonstrations, a scavenger hunt, a bubble show and a 50/50 raffle to benefit Farm on Franks, the Village of Niles public gardening program. 11 a.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Second Saturday Breakfast Bingo: Kids and families are welcome to enjoy some breakfast treats as everyone plays Bingo. Enjoy a kick start to one's weekend with a morning of family fun at the library. 9:30 a.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Monthly meeting of Essential Tremor Group of Northbrook: Individual people who have been diagnosed with Essential Tremor meet monthly to discuss issues connected to Essential Tremor. 10 a.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-564-1777

Art Smart for Families: Drop-in and have some creative fun with the whole family and start your Saturday with art. This is brought to you by the NSYMCA Art Academy. 10 a.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Film Free "State of Jones": Oscar winner Matthew McConaughey stars in this epic, untold true story of defiant Southern farmer Newt Knight and his extraordinary armed rebellion against the Confederacy during the Civil War. This rated R movie is presented in DCP at the library, and it is not available on DVD until Sept. 20. 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Country Night at Kings Bowl Rosemont: Kings Bowl, an expansive bowling, dining and cocktail venue, hosts Country Night. Guests can enjoy free mechanical bull rides, country music, drinks, dancing and bowling. 8 p.m. MB Financial Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-233-0099

Chicago Women's Expo: Keynote celebrity speakers include: Brandy, Mariel Hemingway, Monica, and Caroline Manzo, plus awesome shopping, free makeovers, massages, beauty treatments, giveaways and discounts. 10 a.m. Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 9291 Bryn Mawr Avenue, Rosemont, free, 866-618-3434

Chicago Film Premiere: "Reparations": Winner of 11 film festival awards, this film is about a troubled Air Force veteran who finds clues to his lost memories in his daughter's art, while confronted by a stranger looking for answers of his own. 7 p.m. Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, $10; $8.50 seniors & students, 847-251-7424

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

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

MOVIES

NOW PLAYING

**Suicide Squad** ★★
PG-13, 2:10, action/adventure
The new DC Comics movie “Suicide Squad” is a garish, overstuffed, blithely sadistic corporate directive that follows the familiar “Dirty Dozen” set-up: 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, blobby like the endlessly beheaded minions of the squad’s chief adversary. It’s not satisfying storytelling. Will Smith takes top billing as Deadshot, the world’s most lethal hit man. Deadshot refers to the tornado-like doomsday machine being assembled, endlessly, by the evil Enchantress as “a swirling ring of trash.” That’s “Suicide Squad” in a nutshell. — Michael Phillips

**Sausage Party** ★★★
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.

**War Dogs** ★★★
R, 1:54, comedy
So this is weird: Vocally, Jonah Hill and Miles Teller sound eerily alike, even though they’re completely different physical types. If “War Dogs” were more interesting, funnier, wilder, something, anything, this wouldn’t warrant a mention. But director and co-writer Todd Phillips’ flat, enervated movie, based on a 2011 Rolling Stone story about a couple of Miami pals who stumbled into the wonderful world of international arms dealing, gives you all too much time to focus on things like the actors’ speaking voices. The movie promises rollicking bromance with a chase of moral reckoning, but “War Dogs” doesn’t have the nerve or the filmmaking acumen to challenge the audience. — M.P.

**Kubo and the Two Strings** ★★★★
PG, 1:41, animated
The adventure fantasy “Kubo and the Two Strings” is seamless stop-motion storytelling from Laika, the independent animation studio that gave us the darkly entertaining “Coraline” and “The Boxtrolls.” Yet it’s the endearing, playful, touching, cantankerous and sometimes frightening individuals who supply this spectacular story about friendship, courage and sacrifice with its life force. Set in feudal Japan, the story follows Kubo, a lonely, creative kid who sets off on hero’s journey toward distant lands. The cinematic experience carries us to a world that is harsh yet stunningly beautiful. — Colin Covert, Star Tribune

**Ben-Hur** ★★
PG-13, 2:03, action/adventure
Neither a sterling remake nor the disastrous camp hoot some were anticipating, the new “Ben-Hur” begs for unfavorable comparisons to the 1959 film with Charlton Heston, Stephen Boyd and a legendary chariot race. An untold number of digital horseshoes and digital men are slaughtered, particularly in the two massive action sequences: the sea battle, where galley slave Judah Ben-Hur secures his freedom, and the chariot race. But if you don’t mind everything wrong with this sixth screen adaptation of the 1880 Lew Wallace novel — and there’s a lot — it’s a reasonably engaging spectacle on its own terms. — M.P.
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Nikitas hopes to continue his hoops career overseas

BY SAM BRIEF
Pioneer Press

Glenbrook South graduate Jamie Nikitas, a former Lawrence University basketball player, is a member of the USA Select team, which will play around Europe in September as a showcase to European teams.

The team, made up of recent college graduates, will play in England, Ireland, Norway and possibly Greece — around 20 games in total. Other area players on the Lawrence men's basketball roster include Evan McLaughlin (Nazareth), Peter Winslow (Evanston) and George Mavrakis (Glenbrook South).

While Nikitas aspires to play overseas, Ridgewood graduate Andy Mazurczak is one step ahead. The former Wisconsin-Parkside basketball player has signed with the Greek professional team Union Kavala. Last season, Mazurczak averaged 18 points per game and was voted the Great Lakes Valley Conference (Division II) player of the year. Some of Mazurczak's college teammates included St. Joseph graduate Avery Harmon and Libertyville graduate Joe Boria.

McCoy leads the attack at Duke

Kayla McCoy, a Christian Heritage Academy graduate from Lincolnwood, has proven herself a reliable offensive player on the Duke women's soccer team.

As a freshman last season, McCoy led the Blue Devils with eight goals. As a sophomore, McCoy led the Blue Devils with eight goals. As a sophomore, McCoy led the Blue Devils with eight goals.

McCoy is a senior this year, and she will continue to be a key player for Duke. She has scored 10 goals and added 10 assists in her collegiate career.

Cobs selected to award watch list

Indiana junior wide receiver Simmie Cobs Jr., an all-stater Oak Park-River Forest, was named to the preseason Maxwell Award watch list. The annual award is given in December to nation's most outstanding college football player, regardless of position.

Cobs had 1,035 receiving yards with four touchdowns last season.

Goldstein begins in minor leagues

Highland Park graduate and former Illinois catcher Jason Goldstein, who was drafted by the Seattle Mariners in the ninth round of the MLB draft, continues to play in Seattle's minor league system. Through his first 17 games, he batted .264 with five RBIs.

Have a suggestion for the College Roundup? Email Sam Brief at briefsam@gmail.com.

Goldstein is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Diamond dominance

North Shore baseball players win gold at Maccabi Games

BY STEVE SADIN
Pioneer Press

Dominance on the baseball field gave a group of 14 Chicago-area teenagers a gold medal at the annual Maccabi Games, but they came away with more than a championship.

Comprising players from Buffalo Grove, Deerfield, Northbrook, Glencoe, Highland Park, Evanston and Chicago, the Chicago U14 baseball team went undefeated in the annual Jewish Community Center-hosted games from Aug. 7 through Aug. 12 in Stamford, Conn., outscoring their opponents 64-3.

The annual gathering of Jewish athletes is like a junior Olympics for teenagers between 13 and 16, said coach Paul Chanan of Deerfield. He said the games help build relationships between players and their peers around North America and beyond. The team consists of 13 and 14 year olds, with 12 starting high school this fall.

The players tried out for the team in February but did not practice as a unit until the travel season ended in July.

There were 1,500 participants across all sports in Stamford, and including events in St. Louis and Columbus, Ohio, that total increased to 6,000.

Rather than hotels or dormitories, the athletes stayed with host families in and around Stamford. They bowled together and watched other sports such as basketball, hockey, lacrosse, soccer, swimming and tennis.

Noah Leib of Evanston said he liked the opportunity to meet other Jewish athletes from around the world. His new friends hailed from the United States, Israel, Great Britain, Mexico and Canada.

"A kid from Great Britain had no idea what baseball was," Leib said. "I had to explain it to him." Chanan said one of his tasks was guiding the athletes toward competing with other athletes on the field while bonding off of it. He said they always demonstrated good sportsmanship while winning all but one of their games by at least 10 runs.

"We want them to balance competition with developing a sense of community," Chanan said. "We want them to have an appreciation of Jewish values."

Leib had his own definition.

"On the field, we beat them," he said. "After the game, we bond."

One example came in the championship game against Philadelphia. After defeating Philadelphia 14-0 in pool play Aug. 8, the teams met again for the gold medal Aug. 11. Chicago was leading 11-2 in the sixth inning with Brandon Frankel of Buffalo Grove on third, Danny Salsow of Highland Park on second and Sam Zacks of Glenoce on first.

Ben Kraemer of Deerfield then singled Frankel home to increase the lead to 10 and invite the mercy rule.

"It felt really good," Kraemer said of his first walk-off hit. "Everybody was congratulating me. We were pouring water on each other."

After the medal ceremony, the athletes from Chicago and Philadelphia started mingling with each other, swapping jerseys or hats to have something in common to share the memory.

"Now I'll have a (Philadelphia) hat to hang in my room with my gold medal," said Drew Ruchim of Buffalo Grove.

Though they will move into the U16 division next year, Leib and Ruchim are ready to try to win again even though they recognize the competition will be tougher.

Ruchim and Frankel also played travel ball with teammates Ethan Pestine, JT Tumpowsky and A.J. Weine on the Stevenson Patriots U14 squad.

Other team members are Matt Birtman of Deerfield, twins Matthew and Nathan Gordon of Northbrook, Leo Miller of Glenoce and Jack Turken of Chicago.

Steve Sadin is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
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Sanchez stands out in Niles West defense

BY JON J. KERR
Pioneer Press

Fans of Niles West soccer will notice a different Kevin Sanchez this season. The senior remains one of the Wolves’ most reliable defenders, but he plays his center back position has evolved.

A bruised right knee, suffered in practice, is expected to keep Harper out another week or two, according to head coach Mike Hennessey. It's another setback for a player who broke his right ankle in Week 3 of last season.

Though Harper’s absence has altered Notre Dame’s personnel groupings somewhat, it has not had a major impact on the team’s game plan. With a young quarterback (junior Tommy Drabik), physical, offensive line and depth at running back, the Wolves appear committed to the ground game this season.

Such was the case in Notre Dame’s 29-13 season-opening win at Thornton on Aug. 27 as the Wolves utilized a run-centric offense and a rotation of five different ball carriers.

According to Hennessey, the muddy conditions dictated even more of a reliance on the ground game than initially planned, while the heat made the backfield depth that much more important.

“We kept pounding the ball, ran over 40 times with five different running backs,” Hennessey said. “We used everybody in the stable and they were very productive.”

Leading the way for the Wolves were senior Michael Valdez (11 carries for 89 yards) and George (19 carries for 68 yards, 2 touchdowns). Senior Jake Sarnecki, sophomore Ty Gavin and senior Michael Shradar also carried the ball.

Valdez is a returning starter at corner and has replaced the graduated Tim Simon - now a freshman defensive back at Dayton - as the player who never seems to leave the field. In addition to playing on both sides of the ball, Valdez had two punt returns totaling 70 yards in the opener.

Valdez was always going to be counted on at running back, though he became the starter in Harper’s absence.

Preparing for his busy role, Valdez said he sought out Simon’s advice ahead of the new season.

“We texted and (Simon) told me some of the secrets, the meals he eats and what he does to energize,” Valdez said. “He told me that it’s a mental game. Once I had those words from him, I just put that in my mindset and pushed through the entire game.”

Hennessey said he was impressed by Valdez’s ability to gain extra yards after getting hit.

“Hes would run eight or nine yards and then get 13 or 14 more on the twist, the second effort and just staying low,” Hennessey said.

Valdez staying low wasn’t necessarily a choice.

“I’m short, which is kind of an advantage when it comes to staying low,” he said.

Though Valdez earned the extra yards, it was George who led the team in carries. Valdez described George as a workhorse, while Hennessey said the 5-foot-10, 180-pound George is good for tough, inside yards.

Notre Dame called upon the varsity newcomer near the goal line, as George scored on a three-yard, first-quarter touchdown then from 10 yards out in the second quarter.

George actually scored the first touchdown on his first carry of the season. Not a bad way to start a varsity career.

“(On the touchdown) I remember I was a little surprised at how open it was. The offensive line created a big hole that you could drive a truck through,” George said. “I was very happy and my teammates came in and celebrated with me, but I tried to act like I had been there before.”

Dan Shalin is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Senior LaBelle embracing leadership role for Vikings

BY JAKUB RUDNIK
Pioneer Press

Niles North must find a new offensive identity this season after the graduation of star running back Barrington Wade.

Fortunately for the Vikings, they still have a big-time playmaker to help carry the load.

Senior wide receiver Jordan LaBelle has played at the varsity level since his sophomore year, and was the Vikings' top receiver in 2015. The Vikings need his explosiveness if they are going to return to the playoffs.

On Niles North's second drive of the season, in a game against De La Salle on Aug. 26, LaBelle showed exactly what he can do.

After a De La Salle touchdown, LaBelle took the ensuing kickoff from his own five-yard line, juked out one defender, stiff-armed another to the ground and completed a 40-yard return.

Three plays later, on third-and-twelve, senior quarterback Andrew Francis hit LaBelle for 22 yards to keep the drive alive. The drive was capped when Francis found LaBelle in the back of the end zone on a 23-yard fade route.

"It was just, 'I can beat my man one-on-one,'" LaBelle said of the touchdown.

The threat of a LaBelle return gave Niles North an average starting field position of its own 39-yard line, as De La Salle squib-kicked three times and tried an onside kick on another.

"It gives us a little confidence because they're scared of our returners," Francis said. "And starting with pretty good field position at our 40, we want to keep momentum going with that."

LaBelle added three more catches and a touchdown, giving him a final line of five receptions for 123 yards and two scores. However, it wasn't enough as Niles North fell 26-15.

Between his two touchdown receptions, LaBelle went 22 minutes, 30 seconds of game time without touching the ball.

"Jordan played well for us," Niles North head coach Mike Garoppolo. "He aligned properly, gave great effort, did his job to the best of his ability. Sometimes we just didn't put him in opportunities to make plays, but next week we'll adjust to that."

In the second half, De La Salle's defense frequently used double coverage against LaBelle. When teams do that in the future, Niles North can use that to its advantage.

"I'll move around the whole offense," LaBelle said. "I'm going to get touches, it's going to open other players up too, all eyes on me. We have weapons."

In the offseason, LaBelle said he took on a more significant leadership role than he had in previous years. He's also embracing the responsibility that comes with having a defense key on him.

"Whatever happens, I put it on my back," he said Friday. "Tonight, I'll put the loss on my back. I have to do more to get the ball. I have to do more to push my team to win."

Jakub Rudnik is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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