Raise the roof

Cops on rooftops at local doughnut shops for Special Olympics fundraiser. Page 8

Morton Grove Police Chief Michael Simo and Commander Paul Yaras are pictured May 19 on the rooftop of Dunkin' Donuts at 5843 Dempster St, in Morton Grove, as part of the "Cop on a Rooftop" fundraiser for Special Olympics Illinois.

LIVING

Don't get hooked by phishing scams

Help Squad's Cathy Cunningham talks with a tech expert about how to avoid email attacks designed to steal your credit information. Inside

Opinion

Big donations mean more political ads

As millions of dollars are pumped into Illinois' gubernatorial race, Paul Sassone asks: Do we pay more attention to paid political propaganda than weigh the issues ourselves? Page 14

Endurance test

Area boys tennis players compete at three-day state tournament. Inside
SHOUT OUT

Wendy Carmichael, block partier

Wendy Carmichael and her husband, Ray, recently accepted a village of Skokie “Block Party of the Year” award for last summer’s block party in the 4900 block of Drake Avenue. Their block party, which incorporated a patriotic and political theme because of the election year, was one of 59 in Skokie last summer and one of 15 nominated, village officials said. It was the second such award for the block.

After 23 years living in Skokie, the Carmichaels said they are moving to Michigan to be closer to family. Wendy Carmichael recently answered questions from the Skokie Review.

Q: What did you do for a living?
A: Right now, the book I need to finish is “Me, Myself and Bob” by Phil Vischer. He is the creator of “Vege Tales.” One of the books I want to read next is “The Wright Brothers” by David McCullough. I like biographies.

Q: As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?
A: It wasn’t until 9th grade when I went into pathologı and think before that, I wanted the typical things — to be a teacher or a nurse.

Q: A movie you’d recommend?
A: One of my old standbys — we watch it at Christmas — is “The Muppet Christmas Carol.” It combines two things for me. I love animation and the Muppets, and I love the story of Charles Dickens — how a miser can change and have a soft heart.

Q: Do you have children?
A: We have three children. They’re 28, 25 and 22.

Q: Favorite local restaurant?
A: I loved Pita Inn. We always went there.

Q: What is an interesting factoid about yourself?
A: When I was a little girl, I had my picture taken with Richard Nixon. Before he became president, we just happened to be outside the Capitol building and he was coming out to be picked up. There was no crowd around. I was probably 10 so I had my picture taken with Tricky Dick.
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Police ticket hundreds in crackdown

Area departments issue nearly 300 to distracted drivers

BY LIBBY ELLIOTT
Pioneer Press

The nearly 300 distracted driving tickets area police officers collectively issued recently could mean thousands of dollars in revenue for municipalities, but officials say, also demonstrates how common it is for motorists to drive while using devices.

In May, police officials began releasing results from Distracted Driver Awareness Week enforcement, giving a count of how many people were ticketed during the April 24 through April 28 initiative for such no-no’s as texting and driving, operating a vehicle while using a cellphone and other outlawed distractions.

Police departments from Niles, Skokie, Evanston, Lincolnwood and Morton Grove were among the scores of law enforcement agencies statewide that participated in the effort.

“Ever looking to raise public awareness of distracted driving in the same way we address drunk driving, speed safety and seat belt use,” said Park Ridge Deputy Police Chief Lou Jourgen, who chairs the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police’s Traffic Safety Committee.

“One week is not going to solve this problem, but it engages both police officers and members of the public who may not know the finer details of distracted driving laws,” he said.

Of the five nearby reporting police departments, Niles police issued the highest number of citations, with 155 police pullovers resulting in 130 written citations issued — each with a $100 fine — and 25 verbal warnings issued without a fine.

Sgt. Ronald Brandt, commander of the Niles Police Department Traffic Unit, praised the enforcement effort, but expressed doubt about his department’s ability to sustain that level of intensity on a regular basis.

“Doing a blitz is great, but we could never hold up that kind of dedication year-round,” Brandt said.

Niles police Cmdr. Robert Tornabene explained that the verbal warnings don’t go undocumented. He said those are logged by police and “if they are stopped again, they get cited.”

In neighboring Skokie, police officers pulled over 72 drivers for distracted driving, but only issued 21 written citations. Fifty-one motorists got off with a verbal warning, according to citation records.

Skokie Deputy Chief Brian Baker said his department has given distracted driving “a good level of importance” among patrolling officers.

“Our officers see the effects of distracted driving every day out on the streets in the form of accidents and fatalities,” Baker said. “In the past, our biggest concern was speed, which is equally dangerous.”

Under the guidelines of the five-day effort, Jogmen said, participating police departments across Illinois were asked to voluntarily assign a discretionary number of patrol officers to enforce the distracted driving law passed in 2014. The legislation prohibits the use of “hand-held cell phones, texting or using other electronic communications while operating a motor vehicle,” according to information on the Illinois secretary of state’s website.

Devices include hand-held wireless telephones, handheld digital assistants and laptop computers, according to police.

The three-year-old law prohibits listening and talking on an electronic device; text messaging; sending, reading or listening to an electronic message; and browsing the internet, officials said.

Evanston police reported issuing 54 written citations and 12 verbal warnings to drivers over the five days. Police Cmdr. Joe Dugan confirmed that about six officers were assigned to patrolling for distracted driving violations.

All five of the law enforcement agencies did not provide the names of people ticketed for distracted driving because it is more an ordinance violation or petty offense. The scofflaws are fined, but not arrested and charged with a crime, officials said.

But in announcing the North Shore city’s participation in the enforcement effort, Evanston officials noted National Highway Traffic Safety Administration statistics about incidents involving distracted motorists.

According to NHTSA, Evanston officials quoted, in 2015 there were 3,477 people killed and nearly 400,000 injured in car accidents involving distracted drivers.

Further, 10 percent of fatal crashes, 15 percent where someone was injured and 14 percent of police-reported crashes were said to be caused by distracted driving.

“A driver using a cell phone while waiting at a traffic light or stop sign is also in violation of the law,” Dugan said.

In Lincolnwood, the smallest of the five area towns, police issued a total of 18 written citations and 35 warnings, devoting a total of five officer hours to the Distracted Driving Week initiative.

“I know that several years ago, when this was a new law, officers issued a lot of warnings,” said Sgt. Laura Namovicz, head of the Lincolnwood Police Department’s Traffic Unit. “We’re at a point now where it’s taken very seriously. Cellphones contribute to a lot of accidents.”

Morton Grove police Cmdr. Ed Panko confirmed that 39 officer hours were dedicated to the initiative, resulting in 27 written citations and 16 verbal warnings.

Panko said his department has seen a significant rise in serious car accidents caused by distracted driving.

“We’re seeing more rear-end collisions at speed... not just low-speed fender bends,” Panko said. “It’s because people are texting and don’t realize the car in front has stopped.”

Panko said drivers using cellphones as navigational tools are also in violation of statewide distracted driving laws.

“A phone in a hand is just as dangerous as texting,” Panko said. “Unless a device is permanently affixed to a car, it’s considered distracted driving.”

Jogmen said that 75 percent of all participating law enforcement agencies have reported their distracted driving tallies to the IACP, with the remaining 25 percent expected by the end of May. Jogmen said the association will recognize the top five to 10 performing agencies with a certificate or plaque.

The Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police launched the traffic safety initiative this year — for the first time — in partnership with the Automobile Association of America, the Illinois State Police and more than 200 state and local agencies, officials said.

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White said he supports the effort.

“I do believe that with public education and vigilant law enforcement efforts, we can work to reduce the number of traffic crashes and fatalities caused by distracted driving.” White said.

Libby Elliott is a freelancer.
Police: Chicago man charged in suspected home burglary ring

Staff report

A Chicago man already in jail for multiple other crimes has been charged with residential burglary stemming from a rash incident in Lincolnwood two months ago, Lincolnwood police announced in a news release.

Vinny Miller, 24, of the 5700 block of Lawrence Avenue in Chicago, is being held in Cook County Jail on several charges, most recently after Lincolnwood police said Miller was identified as one of the men involved in a Feb. 23 residential burglary in the north suburb.

His bond was set at $250,000 for the May 16 charges, officials said.

Police said in that February incident, which took place at a residence in the 6400 block of North Kilbourn Avenue, at least two men rang the bell and announced they were with the village water department.

They told the homeowner, who lives there with an elderly relative, they needed to enter the home to check the water, according to the news release Lincolnwood police issued May 17.

The homeowner then let the men in and one of them led the homeowner into the kitchen, police said.

But two other men also entered the home, which the homeowner wasn't initially aware of, according to the release. The homeowner then went on to find three men in the foyer of the home, police said.

Police said the homeowner confronted all of the men and they exited the home, running eastbound where they jumped a fence, got into a vehicle and left the scene going south on North Kilbourn Avenue toward West Devon Avenue.

Nothing was reported missing from the home, according to the release, but the homeowner was able to identify the vehicle the men were allegedly riding in as the same one that had pulled into the driveway of the residence two days before, police said.

Lincolnwood police said that as a result of the Feb. 23 burglary, detectives looked at other incidents reported out of other nearby towns and discovered a "similar burglary pattern affecting Lincolnwood and surrounding jurisdictions," the release states.

Miller has been jailed since March and was in custody when the Lincolnwood charges were announced, according to Cook County Sheriff's office spokeswoman Sophia Ansari.

Miller is facing other residential burglary and theft charges, as well as bond and probation violations related to theft charges — all outside of Lincolnwood, she said.

The Chicago man is due back in court June 2.

Lincolnwood police investigate reports of 11 vehicle burglaries in one night

BY BRIAN L. COX
Pioneer Press

Lincolnwood police are advising residents to keep their vehicles locked and to be on the lookout for suspicious activity following a recent rash of burglaries in the north suburb.

"Vehicle burglaries and thefts are crimes of opportunity that can be deterred and prevented through reasonable measures," police said in a news release.

"Typically, unlocked parked vehicles are targeted," police said.

According to the May 17 release, police said they are investigating 11 burglaries from motor vehicles that occurred overnight between May 12 and 13.

In each of the incidents, police said, the burglaries involved parked, unlocked automobiles on residential driveways on the west end of town.

Police said in the release that the crimes took place in: the 6700 block of North Kolmar Avenue, the 4500 block of West Northshore Avenue, the 4400 block of West Lunt Avenue, the 6000 block of North Kenilworth Avenue, the 6400 and 6500 blocks of North Kilbourn Avenue, and the 7000 block of North Tripp Avenue.

The offenders searched all 11 vehicles, but items were reported missing from only five vehicles, including a flashlight, a plastic change holder, credit cards, a driver's license and approximately $25 in cash, according to the release.

None of the vehicles was damaged, police said.

No arrests or suspects have been announced in association with any of the vehicle burglaries.

"Never leave personal or valuable items in plain view," police said in the release, "All valuables should be secured in your residence or trunk overnight. Keep car doors locked with the windows rolled up when parked overnight, even on your own driveway. Residents should ensure that their keys are secure."

Brian L. Cox is a freelancer.
Morton Grove trustees approve resolution

Village takes pro-immigration action

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

The Morton Grove Village Board unanimously approved a pro-immigrant resolution May 22 less than a month after residents voiced diverse opinions over whether trustees should take such action.

Trustee Connie Travis introduced the resolution, stating that it "formalizes" already existing practices surrounding residents' immigration status in the village.

"This resolution will ensure all interested persons that our police department will continue following all existing policies on the enforcement of federal immigration laws," she said.

The resolution is intended to confirm the village's "culture of openness," she said, adding that it is not intended to "designate Morton Grove as a sanctuary city or to provide refuge for anyone who has committed any crime."

For many municipalities, the issue of adopting new or reaffirming existing so-called sanctuary legislation emerged in the wake of President Donald Trump's executive orders on immigration earlier this year, which have been legally challenged.

Trump has threatened to deny federal funding to communities that assert sanctuary city status.

Nearby Evanston already had "welcoming city" legislation and aldermen there recently voted to reaffirm it. The Skokie Village Board approved a similar ordinance.

A group of Morton Grove residents asked the village board to adopt legislation, but others expressed concern that it would put important federal funding at risk and send the wrong message.

Trustee Bill Greer said May 22 the resolution outlines what Morton Grove has already been doing.

"I feel there is no loser, there is no winner," he said. "We've always been doing this. The police are not going to do anything different than what they've ever done because of this resolution. It's just verifying what we have in place in the village of Morton Grove."

The resolution formalizes certain prohibitions for police, including stopping anyone to check his or her immigration status; questioning a person in custody about immigration status unless required by federal law; and arresting someone for immigration status violations such as someone who entered the country legally but stayed too long.

Under the resolution, police officers are prohibited from holding anyone on a federal civil immigration "detainer" from the Immigration and Customs Enforcement, unless it is accompanied by a valid arrest warrant or the person has been charged with a federal crime.

Village officials said these have been long-standing practices in Morton Grove.

"The Morton Grove Police Department understands people who are new to this country are often uncomfortable dealing with the police as victims or witnesses and is therefore very proactive in community policing and outreach to facilitate trust between local law enforcement and new immigrants," the resolution reads.

But the resolution is also clear that it does not direct anyone acting on behalf of the village to disobey any lawful order or state or federal law.

It notes that the U.S. Department of Justice recently issued a statement that local jurisdictions applying for Justice Department grants are required to certify they follow federal laws requiring local authorities to share information regarding any person's immigrant status with certain federal agencies.

"It is the intent of the village board to comply with all federal laws, and allow the village to remain eligible to apply for and receive federal funding," the resolution states.

Those in attendance at the Village Board meeting, many of whom spoke at the April 24 town hall meeting on this subject, praised and thanked the village board for passing the resolution.

Morton Grove resident Jon Lahn of Americans in Solidarity - Chicago supported Morton Grove taking action early on.

"Overall, I think we did go through a tough process," he said. "We had a lot of people speaking at board meetings. We had a town hall meeting. Certainly there was a lot of energy and angst that might have been associated with that process."

Resident Mary Elsen thanks the village board and the mayor for supporting a resolution that makes Morton Grove "kind of a more welcoming community."

Unlike at the town hall meeting, no one spoke out against the resolution at the Village Board meeting.

Ted Smuckler, justice team organizer for Open Communities, read a letter from that organization's executive director David Luna. Open Communities aims to educate, advocate and organize to promote just and inclusive communities in north suburban Chicago, according to its mission.

"Since 39 percent of Morton Grove residents are foreign-born, and 51 percent speak a language other than English at home, this goes a long way towards easing the fear of cooperating with the police among immigrants," the letter reads.

The audience May 22 broke into applause when the board approved the resolution.

"As usual, Morton Grove rallied to the occasion," said Mayor Dan DiMaria. "I know a lot of people were getting impatient with us on this. We have a very, very responsible role here as a village board. We have to listen. There's a lot of people."

He said the resolution confirms what the sign behind his seat on the Village Board dais says: "Morton Grove: Incredibly Close Amazingly Open."
Cops on rooftops at local doughnut shops

Police raising money for Special Olympics Illinois

Staff Report

Local police departments raised thousands of dollars for Special Olympics Illinois, hanging out last week May 19 on the rooftop of a national chain doughnut shop.

Officers from the Niles, Morton Grove and Lincolnwood police departments spent hours on the roof of local Dunkin' Donuts restaurants as part of the fundraiser effort. It was the second event so far this year that police announced participating in to raise money for Special Olympics Illinois. In February, some officers and other village officials took the "polar plunge" into Lake Michigan in Evanston.

Niles police officials said that from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 19, staff and volunteers were at all four Dunkin' Donuts locations in the village, collecting donations in the drive-thru lanes and at nearby intersections while officers looked down from the rooftop.

The Niles Police Department raised $6,862.

In neighboring Morton Grove, police were at Dunkin' Donuts on Dempster Street.

Officer Adam Tabor, community liaison for the Morton Grove Police Department, pointed out that it was a "chilly 41" degrees as Chief Michael Simo and Commander Paul Yaras stood on the rooftop.

The police department raised $1,235 during the nine-hour event, according to Tabor.

"Special Olympics is a great cause that the Morton Grove Police Department has supported over the years. We became police officers to help people and are honored to raise money to help Special Olympic Olympians," said Tabor.

Donors were given such things as special mugs and T-shirts, as well as coupons for free doughnuts and coffee, and more.

Lincolnwood police participated in rooftop fundraiser May 19 for the 15th consecutive year, officials said. Officers were at the Dunkin' Donuts at 3946 W. Devon in the village.

Like other police departments did, Lincolnwood officers gave away promotional items to donors.

The Special Olympics Illinois is a non-profit organization that offers sports events and competitions for thousands of individuals — from youths to adults — who have intellectual disabilities, according to the Special Olympics Illinois website.

Proceeds from fundraiser events like Cop on the Rooftop are used to help plan, train, and provide other support to participants who may compete in the statewide Special Olympics, according to SOI officials.

Other fundraisers are planned in the coming months, officials say, including the June 4 Law Enforcement Torch Run, followed by the Plane Pull. Local area law enforcement agents are expected to participate in those events as well, officials said.

This year's Special Olympics tournament is scheduled to take place in June in Bloomington.
POLICE BLOTTER

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

BATTERY
- Kenny Arnao, 21, of the 100 block of North Park, Waukegan, and Sunair Zabab, 21, of the 8900 block of Skokie Boulevard, Skokie, were each charged with battery and criminal damage to property May 13, police said. Arnao and Zabab are each scheduled to appear in court June 23.

RETAIL THEFT
- Jose Garcia, 38, of the 4100 block of Williams Road, Glenview, was charged with retail theft May 14 after police said he stole two pairs of shoes, valued at $270, from a store in the 8300 block of Milwaukee Avenue.

DUI
- Steven Koukios, 58, of the 6700 block of Olmsted Avenue, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence and driving on a suspended license following a traffic stop May 18 in the 8100 block of Milwaukee Avenue. Koukios is scheduled to appear in court June 20.
- Herbert W. Gonzalez, 34, of the 600 block of Laramie, Glenview, was charged with driving under the influence May 19 following a traffic stop at Milwaukee and Newark avenues. Gonzalez is scheduled to appear in court July 5.

DISTURBANCE
- Police responded to a business in the 8700 block of Milwaukee Avenue around 4 a.m., May 13 for a report of men pushing each other in the parking lot. The men left before officers arrived, police said.

BURGLARY TO VEHICLE
- A wallet was reported stolen May 16 from a car parked in the 8500 block of Golf Road, police said.

PROPERTY DAMAGE
- A BB gun was reportedly shot at the window of a car parked in the 8700 block of Stolting Road May 11.
- A rock was thrown at a car parked in the 9700 block of Fox Glen Drive overnight between May 17 and 18, police said.

‘Wednesdays on the Green’ free entertainment ready to get underway

By Mike Isaacs
Pioneer Press

When the band Z28 rocks away June 7 in the heart of downtown Skokie, summer will unofficially begin for many.

Wednesdays on the Green, the free entertainment series now in its seventh year, has become “a summer tradition” in the village, according to organizer and committee chairman Scott Holtz.

It is not uncommon to find hundreds of people rocking the night away on a summer Wednesday at Village Green between Skokie Village Hall and the Skokie Public Library in the 5100 block of Oakton Street.

“It has exceeded my expectations,” Holtz said of the program.

From June 7 to Aug. 23 at 7 p.m. every Wednesday, a new act takes the stage while an audience with members of all ages spreads out. More often than not, there is impromptu dancing in front of the library before the night is over, if past years are any indication.

Wednesdays on the Green began with free car shows before it expanded and took on its present-day form, Holtz said.

An independent study on revitalizing downtown Skokie had recommended free entertainment to draw people to downtown, he said. He said he was inspired by two factors when he came forward with the idea.

An independent study on revitalizing downtown Skokie had recommended free entertainment to draw people to downtown, he said.

Also, the Skokie Chamber of Commerce had been running a deficit and needed a new revenue source, he said.

As the program’s popularity grew over the years, Wednesdays on the Green became more successful in attracting sponsors, officials said.

Holtz, who also heads the Skokie Chamber of Commerce’s Downtown Skokie Alliance, said Wednesdays on the Green has become the chamber’s biggest fundraiser of the year.

Last year, he said, the weekly events raised $20,000 for the chamber.

While some new music will be introduced this year, the basics of the program remain the same, Holtz said.

“We really hit a formula with what kind of music and what kind of schedule we offer,” he said. “This year is really a repeat of the kind of music and events we’ve had in the past.”

The program is sponsored by the Skokie Park District, the Skokie Public Library, the Skokie Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Skokie Alliance as well as the village.

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Principal: Graduation speaker ‘wise choice’

Student from Korea to give address at Niles West High School graduation

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER
Pioneer Press

Niles West senior Jacqueline Baik gets nervous talking in front of people.

She's not a singer or a drama student. She runs track and plays the flute in the marching band.

But members of the high school staff and the rest of her graduating senior class were so moved by her life story of immigration and acceptance that they elected her to speak at the 2017 commencement exercises this weekend.

"I get really scared with talking and speaking in public," she said.

She explained that her mother saw the school email about tryouts for commencement speaker and encouraged Baik to go for it.

The 18-year-old said she remembers telling her mom, "I'll try out, but don't expect anything."

Niles West did away with class rankings about five years ago, said Principal Jason Ness. While administrators consider the decision a success because it tempered competition among students and improved their college acceptance rate — among other benefits — it left a void where valedictorians previously spoke during graduation ceremonies.

So staff devised an "American Idol"-like competition, Ness said, by which students audition in front of faculty to deliver the headlining speech. Finalists compete before their peers.

"We talk a lot about student voice," Ness said. "This gives an opportunity for the students to choose. It's their graduation."

For Baik, her story is one about finding acceptance at Niles West as a first-generation Korean-American whose mother raised her alone.

Baik was born in the United States, she said, after her mom immigrated here from Korea to attend Ohio State University. But Baik said she returned to Korea to live with her grandparents after her parents divorced when she was a few years old.

Then she came back to the U.S. to live with her mom and start kindergarten, she said, but spoke little English when she started school in this country.

"I used to go to a school in Evanston, and I was the only Asian," Baik said.

Kids would make fun of her traditional Korean meals, and "they egged my mom's car," she said.

She was at that school from kindergarten through 2nd grade, Baik said.

"When I came here, no one gave me weird looks when I had different lunches," Baik said of her current school. "Instead of opposition, I was faced with curiosity."

The competition to be commencement speaker first requires students to give a 90-second preview of their proposed speech before a select group of faculty members, Ness said.

This year 19, students auditioned and four were selected as finalists, he said.

Seniors then attended a homeroom assembly at which the four remaining competitors delivered a two-minute version of the speech. Afterward, the students cast ballots online for who they wanted to deliver a four- to five-minute speech at graduation.

Ness said for a student body that prides itself on diversity, Baik's tale resonated.

"Your personal story is a powerful one," he told her. "It was just you and your mom. It's not like you have this huge support system."

"People responded to that: 'Hey, I wasn't as isolated as I thought,'" Ness said. "You felt part of something."

Baik plans to attend Washington University in St. Louis in the fall, studying the humanities as part of her pre-law curriculum.

"I'm very nervous. I'm excited and nervous," Baik said about delivering the speech.

She's still adding to her speech and has been practicing it in front of her mom, who she said is her "best friend."

"They're going to love you," Ness said. "Your voice well-represents the class of 2017. They made a wise choice."

Niles West High School senior Jacqueline Balk was selected to be the Class of 2017 graduation speaker. She said she found acceptance at the school.

Illinois Holocaust Museum wins national award

Staff report

The Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Skokie has been named one of 10 recipients of the 2017 National Medal for Museum and Library Service, according to the organization that distributes the award.

The award was announced May 15, in a joint news release between the museum and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The accolade is regarded as "the nation's highest honor given to museums and libraries for service to the community," according to the release.

"It is a privilege to be a National Medal recipient for our global leadership and innovation," said Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center CEO Susan Abrams.

"This award not only recognizes our past impact on the community," she said, "but also our groundbreaking Take a Stand Center." Abrams said the Take a Stand Center, scheduled to open in October, uses interactive holo-active holographic technology to enable visitors to have lifelike conversations with recorded survivors for generations to come.

"(It) will equip our visitors with tools to take action on social justice and civic issues important to them," according to Institute of Museum and Library Services officials.

The award is scheduled to be formally presented to the winners at a ceremony in Washington D.C. this summer. Abrams and a community member will attend the ceremony, officials said.

U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Illinois, called the honor "well-deserved." The museum, he said, plays a vital role in educating new generations of Americans about the Holocaust and the importance of guarding against the resurgence of anti-Semitism and hate across the globe.

"I thank its curators, directors and staff for their dedication to ensuring we remember and learn from the past," Durbin said.

U.S. Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-Illinois, also released a statement congratulating the museum.

"The work the museum does to ensure we never forget the horrors of the Holocaust is essential," Duckworth said. "Educating the world about the past is the most important way we can prevent genocide and other atrocities from happening in the future."

U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky, D-Illinois, whose 9th District is home to the museum, praised the Holocaust museum's exhibits for preserving information that younger generations could learn from.

"The museum's message against hatred and anti-Semitism is more important today than ever," Schakowsky said. "It challenges us to stand up to hate and division in our world today."

The Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center becomes the second Skokie institution to win the distinguished award. The Skokie Public Library garnered an award in 2008.
Go time for Joker, new Six Flags ride

BY EMILY COLEMAN
News-Sun

The new ride at Six Flags Great America is like being a kid and doing somersaults — but on a roller coaster...

That was Jeff Peters’ impression.

The Salem, Wis., resident, who is also a regional representative for American Coaster Enthusiasts, was one of the first to ride The Joker free-fly roller coaster, featuring the iconic comic villain and situated next to Batman: The Ride, at the Gurnee theme park on Thursday.

Riders, suspended in seats that run alongside the track, are hoisted straight up 12 stories before flipping, as they run along two bumpy hills and then through two 90-degree drops that give the sensation of free-falling.

“It tricks you with, ‘Oh, OK, it’s going to be a regular ride,’ but then the seats start flipping over and going around,” said Zinya Ross, an Aurora resident who got a chance to preview the ride through Special Olympics.

“I watched a little video of what it’s (before going), and it was terrifying. But it’s more fearful and scary when you actually go on it.”

The limited access to The Joker, which was also available to Great America visitors who purchased the First to Ride program Thursday, will be expanded to season pass holders Friday before opening to the general public Saturday.

“If you love to flip over and just scream all the time, then go ahead (and try it),” Ross said.

Six Flags’ strategists have something new at every park every year, said Hank Salemi, Great America’s park president — from new shows and family rides to thrill rides like The Joker.

The actual coaster was conceived before the Joker theme, Salemi said.

“We talk to our guests a lot in terms of what they want to see, what they want to experience and what they want to ride,” he said. “We have 14 other coasters in the park that all have unique experiences, whether it’s drops or flips or speed, and we don’t have this type of ride in the park.”

Peters said he thought the new ride was a “great fit” for the park too, tapping into something the other coasters don’t have.

“This one is kind of cutting-edge,” he said. “It’s got some of the newest technology that there is out there — the magnets that they’re using that actually flip you around on the ride.”

The coaster also brings a lot of flexibility, which can mean a different ride for users each time, Peters said. One side of the ride is more intense than the other, Peters added. The size of the other passengers can make a difference in how quickly or far the seats will flip. And the magnets that cause the flipping can be moved to different points on the coaster.

“It’s never going to be the same ride,” he said. “It’s the same track, the same paint, same cars and everything else, but where you’re sitting, who you’re sitting with, where those plates are located throughout the ride makes all the difference in the world to what kind of ride you get.”

This ride had already rolled out at parks in San Antonio, Texas, and Upper Marlboro, Md., so they had a good sense that it worked for what Great America was looking for and what its customers wanted, Salemi said.

Once the ride was picked, the company looked at where the ride fit and how it worked, and with its location next to Batman, The Joker theme made sense, he added.

The Six Flags parent company will continue to invest in Great America with new rides, new restaurants and other new amenities, Salemi said, adding that the park uses a lot of local contractors, which is a boon to the Lake County and northern Illinois economies.

Great America is also set to stay open later this year, running two extra weekends after Fright Fest ends in October, he said.

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Riders enjoy Six Flags Great America's new roller coaster, The Joker, located next to Batman: The Ride, in Gurnee.
New bike racks at Uptown Park Ridge train station head to council for approval

Aldermen poised to approve $11,000 expenditure June 5

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

The Park Ridge Bike Task Force's desire to see new bike racks installed near the Uptown train station has received tentative support from the City Council.

The council during a May 22 Committee of the Whole meeting reached a consensus to spend $11,310 for the purchase and installation of five new racks near the Metra station, located at 100 S. Summit Ave. The measure is expected to go before the City Council for formal approval on June 5.

Joe DeYoung, a member of the Bike Task Force, said the racks will be installed on the Summit Avenue and Main Street sides of the station, replacing racks that he called "pretty broken down and inadequate" and adding more places for riders to store their bikes.

The capacity will increase from 38 bikes to 58 bikes, DeYoung said.

Jim O'Donnell, Bike Task Force chairman, said one of the group's aims is to bring more bike parking options to the community. When surveying the existing racks at the Uptown station, the task force found the racks at more than 90 percent capacity, O'Donnell said, adding that the demand for bike parking could increase if new bike paths — particularly those leading to Uptown — are established in the city.

Revisions to the 2005 Park Ridge bike route plan are currently being explored by an outside firm the city hired in February.

Fifth Ward Ald. Charles Melidosian asked if the Bike Task Force had given any consideration to adding security near the train station racks to prevent theft of bicycles.

"We haven't taken on cameras yet," DeYoung acknowledged. "The racks that we have purchased are pretty much the system standard for public racks. They are made in such a way you can't just cut them with a pipe cutter."

DeYoung stressed that the new racks will not cause the city to lose any parking spaces for cars and will allow for additional bike storage at the train station.

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Belated bar mitzvah, tinged with memory

Holocaust survivor plans to celebrate Jewish ceremony — 76 years late

BY RON GROSSMAN
Chicago Tribune

Harold Katz didn't require a crash course in Hebrew before his May 29 bar mitzvah in Wilmette. He started preparing 76 years ago, and his skills never got rusty.

Katz, 89, who lives in a North Side retirement home, was to have celebrated the occasion in Czechoslovakia back in 1941. But that plan — like so many others — was upended by the Holocaust. The Nazis ultimately murdered his father, mother, three brothers and four sisters.

Now his belated bar mitzvah, the Jewish ceremony that marks the transition to manhood, takes place under the shadow of a theological puzzle.

"Why did God let this happen?" he asked me. "For all these years, I've been asking that. I will never understand."

One brother survived the Holocaust. Katz's own survival came through a chain of happenstance just short of miraculous.

If a single link had broken, he wouldn't have been spending Memorial Day reading from a Torah scroll he commissioned and in a synagogue — Chabad of Wilmette — built of imported Jerusalem stone that he donated.

The distinctive, whitish stone is freighted with meaning for Katz. Virtually every building in Jerusalem is clad in it. When the sun hits the right angle, the city seems to shimmer, like the storybook city of Oz.

Amid the horrors of the Holocaust, Katz desperately wanted to take refuge in Jerusalem, but the Germans were determined that he wouldn't escape, and the

British were determined that he wouldn't reach Jerusalem, which they then ruled.

At the time Katz's bar mitzvah was originally scheduled, his hometown of Tarn, Czechoslovakia, was occupied by Hungarian troops allied with Hitler. They were determined to be rid of the Jewish townspeople.

"They went up and down the streets, ordering the Jews to get dressed quickly and come to the synagogue," Katz said.

"I remember it as if it was yesterday," he said. "The trucks coming down the street. How we were loaded up."

They were taken to a larger city and, eventually, across the border to Poland. There they were ordered out of the trucks and left beside the road without food, water or shelter.

"We ate out of garbage cans," Katz said.

His father had a sister living in Poland, and Katz's family moved in with her. Then his father thought they had a better chance of surviving back in Czechoslovakia. He took the family across the border to Chust, as they feared being recognized in their hometown.

From that point, his family's saga has to be told as separate chapters.

A Hungarian woman offered to smuggle Harold Katz into Budapest, where he was going to join her husband. Katz's father didn't object. Perhaps he thought it increased the odds that someone would live to tell the story? So the woman hid Katz under a wagonload of lumber and got him to Hungary.

The rest of the family remained in Chust. In 1944, as they were sent to Auschwitz, where more than a million Jews were killed.

"I think: Why didn't I save them?" Katz said.

His daughter, Lila Katz, said it's futile to try to reassure her father: "I tell him: You were a boy, barely 13. What could you do?"

In Hungary, Katz made contact with an underground Zionist group that provided him with false identity papers. He wore a cross-and-a-red-and-white armband, posing as a member of the Hungarian army's youth group.

"Three times I was caught," Katz said. "And three times I got away."

In one jail, he said, he bribed a guard with a wristwatch not to cut his hair off; a bald head was a telltale sign of an escaped prisoner. Another time, after being put to work unloading supply wagons, he took off running.

But he couldn't escape Nazi-occupied Europe. In 1944, he was on a list of people awaiting passage to Palestine, but the boat sailed before his number came up. As the war was drawing to a close, he was hiding in an abandoned building in Budapest. So, too, he said, was a deserter from the German army, who bragged about killing Jews and Russians.

Liberated by a Russian detachment, Katz told the Jewish commander about the German in the building. He said the Russian soldiers dragged the German out and blindfolded him. The commander handed Katz a pistol.

"I shot him in the back," Katz said.

"Did that dissapate his anger? No, he replied. To this day, he feels it.

Katz, then 17, assumed the rest of his family was dead until a survivor of Auschwitz said Katz's oldest brother was alive. Harold and Maurie Katz found each other, then joined the myriad displaced persons wandering Europe after World War II.

When one fellow traveler said he was going to New York, Harold Katz recalled that his mother had relatives in the United States. So he gave the fellow an ad to place in the Forvertz, a Yiddish newspaper published in New York.

"Ich sich mein fuer und tante," the ad began. "I'm looking for my uncle and aunt."

Wonder of wonders, an aunt and uncle in Chicago happened to read the Forvertz the day the ad ran. They sent Harold and Maurie a telegram, followed by a food package, then airline tickets.

The brothers lived with their newfound relatives in New York, Harold Katz recalled. "I think: 'Why didn't I happen?'" Katz asked me. "For all these years, I've been asking that. I will never understand."

Members of the underground who gave him forged papers. The fellow survivor who carried his ad to the Forvertz. The aunt and uncle who brought him to America.

"They're always with me," he said. "In dreams, I see them."

In recent years, Katz's wife and brother died, which got him thinking about how he'd like to be remembered. Not just by a memorial plaque or a beautiful scroll, but a more personal memory. He wanted it to be a story his grandchildren would want to tell their children:

Grandpa Katz, full of years, stepped up to the readers' platform in synagogue on Memorial Day. He touched the Torah scroll with the corner of his prayer shawl and kissed it, as is customary.

Then reading a passage, he honored the ancient injunction to pass on the Lord's commandments, as the Bible says: "And ye shall teach them to your children, talking of them when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou walkest by the way."

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Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle is adamant that the county's soda tax will go into effect in July, which will be on obvious boon to surrounding counties.

The move will boost the tax on beverages with either natural or artificial sweeteners by a penny an ounce. That means the price of a 2-liter bottle of Coke or Pepsi on sale at Jewel in Northbrook will jump to $1.66. Over in Deerfield, it will still be 99 cents.

Of course, soda tax is a mismeasure, because it will also apply to sports drinks, lemonade and iced tea. Preckwinkle gave county residents her assurance of the coming fleecing on a local radio show last week.

No word yet on whether you might have to pony up a tax if you get a coffee at Starbucks and then add two or three packets of sugar to it. That's probably coming, as soon as some genius at the county figures out if more cash is generated ed on per packet tax, or on the size of the coffee.

The objective, according to proponents, is to raise millions in new revenue and stabilize the county's spending for three years. The county mainly spends money on health care, employees and the court and jail systems.

Of course, those costs will continue to skyrocket as in addition to the poor and indigent who urgently need care, there is the daily toll of gunshot victims. And of course the court and jails are ever burgeoning.

So there is never enough money. And to find new sources for government to spend, one has to be innovative.

If you are a do-gooder who knows what's best for everyone, it's easy to figure out what to tax. Bad stuff that is not good for you.

But they are not really taxing the bad stuff. They are taxing the person who consumes the bad stuff.

Since over-consumption of sugar can have ill health effects on most people, sodas and other sweetened drinks, which usually contain lots of sugar, are great targets.

And politicians, if they are so inclined, can beat their chests and say how they look out for the health of all the people.

They can say: Go ahead, you can drink soda, or other unhealthy beverages. After all, it's your choice. But if you do, you are going to pay. Dummy.

It's not just soda and the 2-liter bottle of pop. There's the drink order at the fast food restaurant, that have combination meals. Some will be taxed, if you get a soda. Others won't, if you get an unsweetened iced tea. Not sure on the milkshake, though.

How about mom who signed up to bring snacks for the Little League team and is eyeing a case of fruit juice? Let them drink water, is what Preckwinkle would say I guess.

This is a regressive tax that's applied because of someone's perceived bad behavior. The politicians figure people will pay it because they are addicted to the sugar or the flavor or the sweeteners, just like smokers who are willing to pay the taxes on cigarettes.

And I suppose that's true. But if this food item is so bad for you that politicians feel justified in applying draconian taxes on it, why is it allowed? Why does the food industry continue to get a pass on producing food that makes people sick? Shouldn't they just outlaw drinks with too much sugar?

And a lot of other foods have added sugars that are unhealthy. Corn syrup is in just about everything. Why don't they go after that?

No, government says it is safe to eat and drink these foods. But Preckwinkle and her ilk say it's so bad for people, you have to pay extra for it to pay the treatment the people who get sick from it.

Why this paradox?

Because, if soda and other unhealthy foods were outlawed, the source of revenue would no longer exist. And your money is what the politicians really want, not a healthier you.

Government will never go after the producers of food that makes the people sick because they have lobbyists and they fund campaigns.

So, as per usual, you, Joe Sixpack, the poor schmuck, in this case, the soda drinker, will foot the bill for their constant need of government to spend money.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist.

**Soda tax another way to take your money**

**OPINION**

**Big donations mean more commercials for politicians seeking office**

**Donations.**

Gov. Bruce Rauner donated $50 million to his election campaign.

Illinois' richest man, Ken Griffin, donated $20 million to Rauner's war chest.

Democratic gubernatorial hopeful J. B. Pritzker donated $7.2 million to his own campaign.

The man in the red hoodie received a donation of two dollars and some change.

He was standing outside the drug store greeting shoppers as they entered and exited, asking if they needed help with their package.

I was waiting in the car for my wife to finish shopping. In the half-hour I was there most shoppers said hello and hurried past.

One woman gave the man in the red hoodie what he wanted. She pressed two singles and some change into his hand and wished him a good day.

I don't know how he will spend that donation — our self-serving, self-soothing stereotype predicts he will buy cigarettes and cheap liquor. But, maybe he will buy food and shelter for his family. Who can say?

I think I can say what Rauner and Pritzker will spend their donations on. They will buy television commercials.

I'd say they are wasting money worse than the man in the red hoodie ever could.

Ken Griffin, the founder and CEO of Citadel, pictured in November 2014, Griffin contributed $20 million recently to Gov. Bruce Rauner's re-election campaign. The donation is believed to be the largest contribution ever given to a campaign by a noncandidate in the state.

Except for one thing: TV commercials work.

All of us know that political commercials are dreadfully one-sided. Their purpose is to sell, not inform. As such, they are misleading, incomplete and often downright false.

We know this. Nevertheless, if seems the candidate with the most television commercials usually wins.

I don't think winning and the number of TV commercials is mere coincidence.

The almost inescapable conclusion is that we vote for the candidate who comes most readily to mind. And that would be the candidate we see most often in commercials.

Is that how cynical and lazy we have become as voters?

Do we pay more attention to paid political propaganda than weigh the issues ourselves?

Maybe so.

Then I understand why candidates spend their donations the way they do.

What I don't understand is us.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist.
White lies and happy endings

I told them she flew away.

My boys found her on the side of the road on a walk. She was still moving, but unable to fly or walk. They insisted we help her, so I scooped her up with a piece of cardboard and we wheeled her home in the bottom of the stroller.

Conveniently, we happened to have a spare bird’s nest (fallen from a neighbor’s tree) in our backyard. Excited to give their new friend a home, the boys placed her in the nest and my younger son brought out a little bowl of water and trying to get the bird to eat and drink. The bird hobbled into the bird feeder (an empty milk carton) and lied down, but didn’t do much else.

Then we took a break. My little guy went down for a nap. The 5-year-old accompanied my husband to the store. I went inside to procrastinate putting away laundry.

An hour later, I checked on the bird. She was lifeless. I texted my husband: “I think it died. :(

“Don’t touch it. Put it in a plastic bag and throw it out.”

“I will,” I responded.

But not yet. I would wait for my boys to return and share the sad news, I decided.

My husband came in the door first and saw the bird, still in its resting place. “You didn’t get rid of it.”

“No, not yet. I’m going to show the boys first.”

“Why? Just tell them it flew away. Let them think their good deed paid off and they saved the bird. Give them a happy ending.”

“No! I’m not lying to them! I’m telling them it died,” I said. I don’t like lying to my kids, and I especially don’t like sugar-coating the realities of life.

I went upstairs to check on my little guy. Still asleep. Five-year-old was playing in the yard.

And then it hit me — the reason my husband wanted a happy ending. His father is dying. It’s a matter of weeks, maybe days now. The doctors have told us there’s nothing else they can do for him.

Soon, we are going to have to say some very hard goodbyes. Soon, we are going to do a lot of explaining. Soon, there will be a time to talk about life and death and what’s not fair and what we can’t control. Soon, we will all mourn. This doesn’t matter. It’s a bird.

Under normal circumstances, this bird would have taught my kids that not everything in life has a happy ending. We’d have had a proper bird burial in the backyard, talked about how we did our best but sometimes it’s not up to us. We would have answered the “why’s” about what happens now, and what made the bird die. But not today. Their grandpa’s impending passing won’t be my kids’ first encounter with the death of a loved one. They already know death far too well. My uncle died earlier this year, and my grandpa passed away back in December. In his tiny 5-year-old lifespan, my older son has also experienced the death of his godfather (my late brother-in-law) and two additional great-grandparents. Our family has been through all of the grieving, the questions, the rituals of closure. They’ll be there again soon. There’s no need to mourn a bird.

I came back downstairs. “Babe,” I said to my husband “You can get a plastic bag.” Sometimes you just need a happy ending.

Note: Romuald Radziszewski, the author’s father-in-law, passed away on May 17, 2017.

Nicole Radziszewski is a freelance columnist. She lives in River Forest and is a certified personal trainer and mother of two. Check Nicole out on Facebook at Facebook.com/mamasgot-tamove.
The decline of Sears packs an emotional punch

PAT LENHOFF

I have trouble reading stories about the demise of Sears, Roebuck and Co. On the one hand, no doubt it's fascinating reading about how a behemoth in the retail industry is in the midst of a massive crash and burn. On the other, it really does reinforce the notion that nothing (and no one) is meant to last forever.

Lesson learned: don't get too comfy, or too full of yourself, because things can and will change.

A recent Tribune article featured the illustrious history of Sears, complete with photos of the mammoth warehouse facility on South Homan in Chicago, a place many Lenhoff family members called their workplace.

As a kid, most Saturdays found our family traipsing through the local Sears store, whether we were shopping for appliances, lawn goods or shoes. If we were good, the trip always included a stop at the candy counter, where the attendant would weigh out a small portion of your chosen confection and take your nickel or dime. That was incentive enough to promote good behavior for my brother and me.

In later days as the Boss and I began our own family, we each had a turn at being Sears-related employees, complete with stock shares and employee discounts. The cycle continued as we became parents. We took our own children to the Vernon Hills Sears store on Saturdays. We would shop in the garden section (yes, they did have living plants), for clothing, or refrigerators. They too got the candy counter bribe for good behavior, except their chocolate selections usually cost a quarter, not the nickel or dime of my youth.

It was in the children's section of Sears that my mischievous son caught me off guard as I shuttled around four children under the age of four. He hid in one of those circular metal clothing racks, and after maternal threats he sprang forth, knocking one arm of the rack squarely in the middle of my back. As I squirmed and assessed how to get out of that mess without hurting the children or losing any others, I swore my Sears shopping experience was over.

But of course it wasn't, and those kinds of moments are memories not only of how important Sears was to generations of our family, but also globally. As every September approached, I eagerly watched the mailbox for the vaunted Sears Christmas catalog, which my kids marked up with their holiday gift choices while I devoured every page for the festive holiday decor.

We were no different than most other families of the time, buying enticing things long-distance rather than in a bricks-and-mortar store.

Problem is, companies like Amazon took that model and went one better. The Sears catalog has been confined to history, in spite of the surge in ordering merchandise in much the same way, and another legend seems ready to bite the dust.

Change may be good, as the saying goes, but it's also quite bittersweet.

Pat Lenhoff is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press and can be reached at viewfromvh@yahoo.com.
A guide to outdoor concerts

BY DEBORAH HOPPE

The hills (and the village greens and the main streets and the parks) are alive this summer with the sounds of music for all ages and in all genres.

Keep this guide to outdoor concerts in your area so you don't miss a note.

Des Plaines


Morton Grove


Niles

Concerts in the Park, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Fridays, July 7-Aug. 11, at Oak Park, Lee and Ottawa. Free. Food will be available for purchase from Howard Street Inn. No dogs or alcoholic beverages allowed in the park. Concerts are weather permitting.

Park Ridge


Eagle's tribute band Heartache Tonight performs in Rosemont July 4.

SOUNDS OF SUMMER

A guide to outdoor concerts

Lincolnwood


Norridge

Island in the City Festival, June 6-9, Norridge Community Park, 4631 N. Overhill. Free admission. Hours are 5-10 p.m. Thursday, 5-11 p.m. Friday, 1-10 p.m. Saturday and 1-11 p.m. Sunday. The event features live entertainment, food vendors and carnival rides. Music lineup: July 6: 7th Heaven (7:30-9:30 p.m.). July 7: Stacy Mitchhart (6-7:30 p.m.); Infinity (8-10:30 p.m.). July 8: Hinge (3-4:30 p.m.), Big Sugar Country (5-6:30 p.m.), Who's Next, (6:30-8 p.m.). Eliminator (8:30-10:30 p.m.). July 9: Country Sunday — Whiskey's Gone Band (Zac Brown Tribute Band, 3-4:15 p.m.), Hannah Anderson (4:30-5:45 p.m.), August Ray (6-7:15 p.m.), Mantz Brothers (7-8:30 p.m.). Go to www.islandinthecity.com.

Park Ridge


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Concerts, from Page 17

p.m. at MB Financial Park, 5501 Park Place. Beverage tents from venues will be available. No outside food or coolers. June 30: Ides of March featuring Jimmy Piterik/Shadows of Knight.


Skokie

Wednesdays on the Green Concerts, 7 p.m.
June 7 to Aug. 23 on the Village Green, located between the Skokie Public Library, 5125 Oakton Street and Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton St. June 7: Z28. June 14: Spoken Four ('50s to today's Top 40) with dance instruction from Kaleidoscope Dance.

June 28: The Empty Pockets with Kaleidoscope Dance.

July 5: Ides of March featuring Jimmy Piterik/Shadows of Knight.


Skokie's Backlot Bash returns Aug. 25-27. Music headliners include Flock of Seagulls and Soul Asylum.

Skokie's Backlot Bash, Aug. 25-27, in a closed-off, two-block portion of Oakton Street, between Lincoln and Laramie avenues. Hours: Friday 6-10 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m.-10 p.m., Sunday noon-8 p.m. Features live music, a large carnival midway, classic movies at the Skokie Theatre, kids' activities, a classic car show, bingo, a beer tent, farmers market, food and more. Main stage music lineup: Aug. 25: The Alarm, (6:45 p.m.); Devil in a Woodpile, (8 p.m.); A Flock of Seagulls, (8:45 p.m.) Aug. 26: Frisbie, (7 p.m.); Soul Asylum, (8:30 p.m.) Aug. 27: Louis Zageras & Rollover, (5 p.m.); Tributosaurus becomes R.E.M., (6:30 p.m.) Admission is free. Go to www.backlotbash.com.
Spotlight: News about local people in the arts

By Myrna Petlicki
Pioneer Press

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


Key player: EunAe Lee, a doctoral candidate at Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music, was selected as one of only 30 pianists worldwide to participate in the 15th Van Cliburn Competition in Fort Worth, Texas, May 26-June 10. The final round of the competition will be screened live on June 10 at Center 12 Evanston/CineArts 6.

Designing woman: Northbrook native Marley Isaacson was honored with the Provost's Award for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity from Indiana University. Isaacson, who received her degree from Indiana's School of Art and Design on May 6, was previously a winner of the YMA Fashion Scholarship Fund's Geoffrey Beene Case Study Competition for her re-

search on sustainable initiatives in the fashion industry. Next stop for the talented graduate is New York City where she has been hired for a full-time designing job at Macy's.

Kicking and screaming: That's how a guy with superpowers, who wants to lead a normal life, is dragged into a battle with a supervillain in "The Incredible Hank," set in the mythical city of Sandicago. Hinsdale native Alex B. Reynolds, managing director of New Millennium Theatre Company, penned and is directing "The Incredible Hank" for his company.

Other winners included: Photography Portrait: Deanna Nino (East Leyden, Second Place, "Jimse"); Photography Cityscape: Gregory Rivera (Ridgewood, First Place, "Urban Gallery") and Andrea Ledesma (East Leyden, Third Place, "Chicago River"); Photography Montage: Aleksandra Merchut (East Leyden, First Place, "Galaxy Church").

Additional winners were: Illustrator: Ethan Haussmann (Oak Park and River Forest, First Place, "Lil Uzi Vert"), Diana Hrushka (Ridgewood, Second Place, "Edible Alphabet") and Hanna Argo (East Leyden, Third Place, "Lisa").

Also honored were: PhotoShop: Sebastian Hernandez (East Leyden, First Place, "Pacific"), Chris Corr (East Leyden, Second Place, "Onofrion") and Bryan Cholko (East Leyden, Third Place, "Gangster's Paradise"); Graphic Design: Peter Griffin (Oak Park and River Forest, First Place, "School of Rock - Frank Zappa"), Eddy Reyes (East Leyden, Second Place, "Overwatch Zarya Infographic") and Michael Herrera (West Leyden, Third Place, "Hero Project").

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—Chicago Sun-Times

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Wilhelm will demonstrate his BMX skills June 4 at the Skokie Public Library.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

X Games star Matt Wilhelm performs at Skokie library

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Expect to see amazing stunts when three-time X Games medalist and two-time U.S. National BMX champ Matt Wilhelm performs at the drop-in Summer Reading Kickoff, 12:30-1:15 p.m. June 4 at Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St.

“I do BMX Flatland — it’s tricks set on the ground,” Wilhelm said. “It’s similar to break dancing on a bike.”

In addition to sharing his performing talents, Wilhelm will share an important message about perseverance. He will tell the audience about coming in last his first year at the X Games. “It motivated me to work harder and I eventually became a national champion,” he explained.

Wilhelm said he will be “encouraging kids to find their talent and work hard — and they can be an ‘overnight success.’”

He may have seemed like an “overnight success” to audiences who saw Wilhelm in the semifinals of “America’s Got Talent” but it took him ten years of hard work to get there.

For details, call 847-677-7774 or see www.skokie library.info.

Boo who?

Over at Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., the Great Boodini Magic Show is featured at the BIG Fun Summer Reading Challenge Kickoff, 2 or 3:30 p.m. June 3. Boodini combines comedy, magic, juggling and more. Pick up free tickets in the Commons area 30 minutes before either show. There will be face painting in KidSpace from 2-4 p.m. for the first 60 kids.

For details call 847-663-1234 or see www.niles library.org.

Take a dip

You and your kids will search below the surface at Pond Dippers, 6-7 p.m. June 7 at Wildwood Nature Center, 529 Forestview Ave., Park Ridge. You will use nets to dip and scoop critters to learn about pond life. The cost is $12 per family. Registration is required.

For details, call 847-692-3570 or see www.prparks.org.

Sounds of summer

The Wind Gypsys kicks off Lincolnwood’s Summer Concert Series June 8 in Proesel Park, 7055 Kostner Ave. The concert of classic rock and blues is from 7-8:30 p.m. There will be an inflatable activity for kids and free face painting from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

For details, call 847-677-9740 or see www.lincoln woodil.org.
Can a stale marriage be saved?

Couples get bored, need to reconnect

Page 14
Healthy cooking is all about balance

Focusing on proper serving size is key

By Judy Buchenot
The Beacon-News

Not everybody knows how to cook, but Montgomery resident Kelly Doyle is confident that everyone can learn.

"There was a time when I didn't like to cook. I didn't like touching raw meat or anything like that. I pretty much just bought ready-made things and threw them in the oven," she said. "When I first got married, I told my sister that I wanted to make a really nice meal for my husband. She gave me a recipe.

"It was the worst meal ever. Nowhere in the recipe did it say that I needed to thaw the chicken. Nowhere in the recipe did it say that the potatoes needed to be those little small red round potatoes," she said.

After a few disasters, Doyle was almost ready to give up. "But I knew that eating processed food wasn't good for us. I wanted to do the clean eating thing."

So about one year ago, the 37-year-old decided it was time for a change. But she had no idea where to begin to improve her eating habits. She finally turned to an online program that provided her a clever method of meal preparation.

Doyle was provided with six different colored containers of varying sizes. She also was given a list of foods that should be used to fill the containers.

The green container, one of the larger sizes, was to be filled with spinach, string beans, sliced carrots, mushrooms and other fresh produce.

The similarly sized purple container was to be filled with apples, tangerines, raspberries, blueberries or salsa.

Each day, the program directed Doyle to use a combination of containers to make her meals. She might be instructed to use three green, two red, one blue and two orange, for example.

Doyle was challenged to find recipes using these ingredients, which led her to try some simple, yet delicious dishes. The containers could be consumed in any order at any time of the day.

"When I stick to the container count, I have more energy and I feel better," she said. She has found cooking with whole ingredients to be amazingly simple. When at a loss for ideas, "I can always put everything in a protein shake. Even though there is spinach and vegetables in the mix, it is really pretty good."

After using the containers for several months, Doyle began to look at food differently.

"The biggest lesson was learning what a true serving size is," she said. Each container is sized to be a single serving, so she began to see what a portion should be.

"Now I can visualize what I should eat," she said.

When she makes a pita for lunch, she includes tomato, cucumber and lettuce with only about 3 ounces of chicken. She has conscientiously added more fruits and vegetables to her diet after realizing the health benefits. She has been able to share her cleaner, healthier eating habits with her husband and 6-year-old son. Her son is not a fan of vegetables, but she has found ways to sneak them into his food.

One of her favorite vegetable-filled recipes is mini-chicken meatloaves. Her son enjoys the bite-sized meal and is not aware that each mini-meatloaf has carrots and mushrooms inside.

Another favorite is her quick and easy spinach, garlic and Parmesan chicken. She shares both recipes for others to try for a healthy change.

Judy Buchenot is a freelancer.

Kelly's Culinary Cue
Add ½ teaspoon baking soda to the water when hard boiling eggs, and they will peel more easily.

Spinach, garlic and Parmesan chicken

1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
6 cloves garlic, minced
½ cup sliced mushrooms
1 pound boneless, skinless chicken
½ teaspoon salt
½ cup Parmesan cheese
2-3 cups spinach
1. Heat oil in pan. Add garlic and mushrooms and cook for two minutes. Cut chicken into bite-sized pieces and add to pan. Add salt.
2. Cook until chicken is no longer pink in the middle. Stir to coat chicken with oil and garlic. Add Parmesan cheese. Stir to mix. Add spinach and cook until wilted. Dish is ready to serve alone or over pasta.

Mini-chicken meatloaves

1 pound ground chicken
½ cup grated carrots
½ cup chopped mushrooms
¼ cup chopped fresh parsley
½ cup dried breadcrumbs
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
¼ cup ketchup
1 egg, lightly beaten
1. Combine chicken, carrots, mushrooms, parsley and breadcrumbs in a large bowl. Add Worcestershire sauce, ketchup and egg. Mix to combine.
2. Coat a 12 count muffin tin with non-stick spray. Divide meat mixture evenly among the 12 muffin cups. Bake 25 minutes at 400 degrees.
Batter up for some crafty fun

Kid-friendly projects show off your love for baseball season

Score a homerun with these kid-friendly craft projects that celebrate America's pastime.

Home plate door sign
Welcome guests “home” with this sign that also pays tribute to your favorite sport. It comes courtesy of Jennifer Aliwood, founder of the website themagicbrushinc.com.

You need:
- Rubber home plate, available at sporting good stores or online retailers
- Light wood stain or glaze (optional)
- Sponge, for applying the stain
- Thick black Sharpie
- “Baseball-Stitching” packing tape, available at office supply stores and Amazon
- “There’s No Place Like Home” pre-printed sticker, available at craft stores such as Michael’s or Hobby Lobby
- Hole punch
- Rope or strong twine

Directions:
- “Age” the plate by adding a thin layer of wood stain or gel with your sponge. Although this step is optional, it does create a more authentic look and is not complicated. See themagicbrushinc.com/baseballvideo for a quick video on how to create the perfect look. Allow stain to dry overnight.
- Use a thick black Sharpie to create a 1-inch border around the plate. Aliwood recommends using a sharpie, rather than acrylic paint, which is likely to peal.
- Add baseball-stitching packing tape and the “No Place Like Home” sticker as your finishing touches. Note: Both the sticker and the packing tape should be easy to find and relatively inexpensive, but you can also use red and black Sharpies to draw the stitching and write the motto as well.
- To hang your plate: Punch two holes with a heavy-duty hole punch and hang with rope or twine. When it comes to punching the holes, follow Aliwood’s advice, “when the holes are too far apart, it bends the base when you hang it; so my advice is to put the holes even closer than I did (pictured), that way the base will have less tendency to roll and will lay flat against your door.” You can also glue a paint stick to the back of the base to help it lay flat against your door.

Cubs uniform Mason jar
This is a fan favorite and will have your resident fans singing “Go, Cubs Go!”
Thank you to Linda Braden of masonjarcraftslove.com for sharing this creative idea.

You need:
- Mason jar
- White acrylic paint with chalk finish
- Foam brush
- 80 grit sandpaper (optional)
- Blue paint pen
- Small clear buttons
- Cubs logo sticker

Directions:
- Use a glue gun or strong adhesive to glue small buttons to the front of the “jersey” and finally, add the Cubs logo sticker.
- The jar is now perfect for holding peanuts, loose change or Mom’s secret chocolate stash (or maybe that’s just me). If desired, you can add a small cap made with blue cardstock. Braden recommends visiting childmadetutorials.blogspot.com/2010/06/paper-baseball-caps.html where you can find a step-by-step tutorial on making the perfect paper cap.

You need:
- Bulletin board
- 2-3 feet of artificial turf, available at Home Depot, Lowe’s and other places that sell carpeting
- White paint pen
- Spray mount

Directions:
- Although most of us have seen thousands of baseball diamonds, Anderson recommends “googling” pictures to refresh your memory. Use a pencil to sketch out the baseball field on the bulletin board.
- Cut turf to create your infield and outfield. To get the curved infield, Anderson suggests pinning a piece of string in the middle of the turf and then tying the other end of the string to a pen. Now, you can draw the perfect curve from one side to the other without fail.
- Use the infield remnants to create your outfield. Glue everything down with spray mount and set aside to dry overnight.
- Once dry, use a ruler and white paint pen to draw in the details of diamond such as bases, batter box and baselines, etc.

You can stay on top of the game by posting your messages, reminders and memorabilia on this ballfield bulletin board.
To drive or fly pets on a long-distance move

By Cathy M. Rosenthal
Tribune Content Agency

Q: I was reading your column regarding preparing a pup for long-distance car rides, and I have a similar question regarding cats. We may be relocating to Florida from New York, and my wife is extremely hesitant to give our cats (two to three) to anyone like an airline or service that would relocate the cats for us. In my opinion, the airline Tribune Content Agency

To drive or fly pets on a long-distance move regardless of the distance. I think better off in cars than planes, and pets with health issues are own peace of mind.

I have moved a lot with my dogs and cats. I have put them on planes from Boston to Denver and Denver to Washington, D.C. I have driven them from South Carolina to Indiana and from Virginia to Texas. In every instance, I made the travel choice based on the age, health and temperament of my pets at the time. I sort of prefer driving my pets though, for my own peace of mind.

I don't know the age and health of your cats, but I think older pets and pets with health issues are better off in cars than planes, regardless of the distance. I think

Whether it's best to have your pet fly or drive with you for a long-distance trip depends on the age and health of the pet, as well as their comfort level with traveling.

Some pets are less stressed when they can stay with their families.

So, consider your pets' age and health and their tolerance for travel. If you don't know how they would do in a car, put them in airline carriers and take them on a two-hour car trip. If they settle down during that time, they are probably OK to travel in a car. If they are still restless, putting them on a plane might be easier for them.

Keep in mind, airlines will not accept pets if the temperatures at the departure and arrival locations are above 84 degrees on the travel day, so this may not be an option if you are moving during the summer.

Today, small dogs and cats can fly in the main cabin with you; one cat per ticketed passenger, if their kennel fits under the seat. Your wife could enlist friends or family to fly with her and escort your cats to Florida. If your wife wants to drive with you, you might consider pet airline services where pets fly in the main cabin and not in a pressurized cargo hold.

Pets often are less stressed if their families are less stressed, so consider what's best for your pets but also what's going to give you and your wife the most peace of mind.

A: I understand your wife's hesitancy. It's never easy handing over your pets to someone else and trusting them to provide the same level of care.

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Q: I have a problem with our cat who is roughly 18 years old. She started howling at night to see if this stops her howling.

If she is healthy, however, she could be missing your daughter since the howling is occurring in her room. Give your cat more attention during the day and keep your daughter's room closed at night to see if this stops her howling.

Cathy M. Rosenthal is a longtime animal advocate, author, columnist and pet expert who has more than 25 years in the animal welfare field. Send your pet questions, stories and tips to cathy@petpundit.com. Please include your name, city and state. You can follow her @cathymrosenthal.
Avoid getting hooked by phishing emails

Dear Help Squad:

I am receiving numerous emails from both Stripe and Squarespace concerning "my accounts." I do not have accounts with either entity. I have attempted to contact both of them and have been unsuccessful.

Have you ever heard of either of these companies? Any assistance would be most appreciated.

Nancy, Aurora

Stripe is an online and mobile app payment system and Squarespace is a website builder and domain registrar that allows individuals to create, maintain and host their own websites.

The emails Nancy received were from neither of these companies.

All the communications she received looked convincing. "Stripe" and "Squarespace" were in the "From" lines, and the emails said things like, "Somebody just attempted to log into your account. Click the link below to verify and secure your account," and "You received a payment of $3579. In order to verify your account, please complete the Global Payment Service questionnaire."

I spoke with Peter Cassidy, secretary general of the Anti-Phishing Working Group, who said, "Any email that contains a suggestion of great urgency or entertainment value should be viewed with suspicion – especially if it includes a link or an attachment."

Per Cassidy and the Squarespace and Stripe customer support sites, below are some easy ways to verify if you have received a phishing email:

- Check the originating email address, not just the sender name. Don't be fooled by an address that appears at first glance to be legit. One clever ploy is to use an email address that includes a minor typo, such as customersupport@squarespace.com.
- The same advice goes for embedded URLs. To identify the actual web address associated with a link, hover your cursor over the link, or click the drop-down arrow that appears as you hover. Be wary of "typos" here as well.
- If you should wind up at a questionable website, check the Extended Validation Certificate. You can do this by clicking on the green lock to the left of the URL at the top of the page. According to Cassidy, "If the certificate doesn't display, or you get a warning message that the address of the website does not match the certificate, do not continue."
- Legitimate companies will never ask you to provide sensitive information – such as your bank account, username, password, social security number or credit card number – via email.
- If you receive a suspicious email:
  - Do not click the links, images or attachments.
  - Do not reply.
  - Forward the email to the company being spoofed.
  - Report the message to your email provider.
  - When in doubt, throw it out.

Cassidy said one of the reasons phishing has become so pervasive is because phishers have begun attacking cloud-based user back-up services. This means when an individual backs up his or her computer to the cloud, unencrypted files such as Excel spreadsheets and Word documents become vulnerable to hacking. Unprotected clear text files such as these can contain usernames, passwords and other personal data that people have saved on their computers. Cassidy and APWG strongly recommend against this method of keeping track of passwords, etc.

He then provided one final warning: "The overwhelming majority of free mobile apps – calendars, timers, weather apps, etc. – report data that can include personal information back to third parties. To ensure you're downloading authentic, safe apps, check them against the members listed on APWG's website."

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

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist.
Amazon's third-party bookseller policy raises important questions

By John Warner
Chicago Tribune

By and large, I believe that Amazon has been a good thing for the world of books. Certainly, as a reader, Amazon has allowed me access to hard-to-find or out-of-print books I thought might be lost forever.

But because of its size and influence, Amazon also has the potential to do real harm to the world of books. I previously warned against patronizing its bricks-and-mortar stores over local independents. Thankfully, early reviews indicate that Amazon's stores are a pale imitation of a dedicated bookseller.

Now there is a new threat, one that you may not even notice, but one that has the potential to do damage to publishers and authors. In select cases, Amazon is allowing third-party sellers to "win" the buy button on new books. Previously, the buy button defaulted to the publisher. This new change potentially opens the door to bait-and-switch sales. It's possible that for some titles, used books could be substituted for new copies.

From the customer's point of view, nothing will be amiss. A copy that looks new will arrive in the time window they've come to expect from Amazon. But if this is, in reality, a book that has already been recorded as a purchase, the publisher and author will receive no compensation for that sale, just as with any used book.

Amazon has long sold used books alongside new ones, and the uncompensated nature of a used-book sale is an inevitable feature of the way books are bought and sold. By specifically driving customers to sellers who are selling used copies as if they are new, however, Amazon has the potential to deprive publishers and authors of the expected revenue from their core products: new books.

As a reader, you might be asking why you should care. A book is a book, and as long as you get to read the book, everything's kosher. Amazon isn't doing anything illegal or underhanded. Let the market speak.

Fair enough, but let me also point to the limits of thinking about these situations purely as "market" terms and instead ask that we consider not just the market of the book world but also its "ecosystem."

In an ideal ecosystem, the various participants exist in a kind of balance. There are hierarchies: predators at the top, prey below. But if the predators get out of hand and consume all the prey, the predators also die off.

Publishing is an ecosystem, with the different components requiring a certain amount of balance and cooperation to keep the whole functioning. Writers write, publishers publish, stores sell, with each sale of a new book dropping a share of the proceeds into everyone's individual bucket.

(If it should surprise no one that writers have the smallest bucket.)

While it is nice to think of writing as a noble calling and books as indispensable cultural artifacts, all of that activity ends if writers and publishers can't eke out at least enough money to sustain the industry. This has gotten harder and harder to do over time thanks to a whole host of factors, and this policy change has the potential to pose yet another challenge.

Maybe my worries are for naught. But if you are confronted with a third-party buy button, understand the consequences before clicking it.

Amazon is challenging independent booksellers with its own stores.

JASON REDMOND/GETTY-AFP

Book recommendations from the Biblioracle

John Warner tells you what to read next based on the last five books you've read.

1. "The Lost City of Z" by David Grann
2. "The Twelve Lives of Samuel Hawley" by Hannah Tinti
3. "Middlesex" by Jeffrey Eugenides
4. "The Nix" by Nathan Heller
5. "Summer House with Swimming Pool" by Herman Koch

David T, Glenview

I hope David has not yet read "The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay" by Michael Chabon, because I think he'll enjoy the historical sweep combined with the close attention to character.

1. "Revolutionary Road" by Richard Yates
2. "The Abstinence Teacher" by Tom Perrotta
3. "Herzog" by Saul Bellow
4. "In the Lake of the Woods" by Tim O'Brien
5. "The Sportswriter" by Richard Ford

Chris P, Champaign

A bit of a focus on "troubled men" in this list. Perhaps a troubled woman, as in Evan S. Connell's "Mrs. Bridge," will be a good counterpoint.

1. "Whatever Happened to Interracial Love" by Kathleen Collins
2. "Every Tongue Got to Confess" by Zora Neale Hurston
3. "American Pastoral" by Philip Roth
4. "Middle Passage" by Charles Johnson
5. "Wise Blood" by Flannery O'Connor

Richard T, Milwaukee

It's been more than 10 years since Edward P. Jones published a book. The wait is always worth it. I'm recommending his masterpiece, "The Known World."

Get a reading from the Biblioracle!

Send your last five books to printersrow@tribune.com. Write "Biblioracle" in the subject line.
HORSE PLAYERS:
In equine films

BY FRED PISCOP | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN

Across
1 Zinc or zirconium
6 Toil, so to speak
11 Gender abbr.
15 Webmaster's creation
19 Home to many El Greco's
20 High-calorie cake
21 Edmonton's prov.
22 Revered figure
23 A Day at the Races actor
25 My Pal Trigger actor
27 River of Orléans
28 Chance to get a hit
30 Highly decorated
31 Bake-sale org.
33 Hideaway
34 Well-groomed
35 Wishes undone
36 Go far and wide
38 River of Orléans
42 Three-Pulitzer playwright
43 John Lennon
44 Go far and wide
45 Ricci of fashion
47 1950s headline nickname
48 My Friend Flicka actor
54 Certain DHL delivery
55 Pringles competitor
57 Crib cry
58 Nonconformist
59 Ticked off
61 Small liquid measures
63 Accept, as a credit card
64 Some Winter Olympians
65 Crop up
66 Helping hand
67 Reminiscent of bagpipes
68 Royal proxy
69 Loretta Lynn mentor
71 More rare, as a roast
72 Project, as charm
73 Delete data from
74 Gofer
75 Plymouth landmark
76 Prefix for center
77 Toil, so to speak
78 Zinc or zirconium
79 The Horse
80 The Horse
81 Average Joe
82 Part of LDS
83 Gold, to conquistadors
84 Links warning
85 Irish New Age actor
86 Set up for a selfie
87 November honoree
88 Homeowner's voice in Up
89 Makeup of some instance
90 Genesis antagonist
91 “That's a laugh”
92 First word in the Declaration
93 Competitor
94 Nautical hazard
95 Food plans
96 High-calorie cake
97 Michael of handbags
98 Oscar-winning singer
99 “That's a laugh”
100 Spheres of influence
101 Hello... (Japanese product line)
102 Mandolinist
103 War Horse actor
104 Mindful
105 Secretariat actor
106 Secretariat actor
107 Spheres of influence
108 Hello... (Japanese product line)
109 “That's a laugh”
110 Start to tire
111 Small cardinal
112 Homer's neighbor

Down
1 Fuel economy no.
2 Go astray
3 Confucian principle
4 Overpraise
5 Making no sense
6 In the attic, perhaps
7 All hosts of The View
8 Overlay, as a steak
9 Arbitrarily
10 Wrote with
11 “That's a laugh”
12 Much of the time
13 Farm structure
14 County fair favorite
15 Joins the team
16 Cranial flash
17 Legal wrong
18 Alternatively
19 French Revolution figure
20 Farm structure
21 Country fair favorite
22 Timeline segment
23 Joins the team
24 Stash away
25 Plymouth landmark
26 Many minerals
27 Stylist
28 Gofer
29 Cargo hold
30“That's a laugh”
31 Oktofestfestine
32 Seabiscuit actor
33 Competitor
34 Irish New Age actor
35 Competitor
36 Move effortlessly
37 What to call a clapper
38 Fuel economy no.
39 Opposite of “uplift”
40 National Velvet actor
41 Write in a diary
42 Additional stipulations
43 High-tech drone, essentially
44 What to call a clapper
45 Irish New Age actor
46 Additional stipulations
47 Wordsworth, for instance
48 Passover meal
49 Snow loudly
50 Julie Andrews title
51 Bublé or Sinatra
52 Crammed in
53 Showed a preference for
54 Engraving tools
55 Hello... (Japanese product line)
56 Port of Yemen
57 It's west of Cyprus
58 Snow loudly
59 Loretta Lynn
60 Down patron
61 Crop up
62 Forty follower
63 Derrick or crane
64 Passover meal
65 Sound loudly
66 Schedule gap
67 Start over on
68 Nautical hazard
69 Trade shows, for short
70 Hit a high point
71 Falling-out
72 Quipster
73 Fine furniture wood
74 Port of Yemen
75 It's west of Cyprus
76 Michael of handbags
77 Schedule gap
78 Snow loudly
79 Loretta Lynn
80 Schedule gap
81 Average Joe
82 Part of LDS
83 Badger cousins
84 Badger cousins
85 Rained ice
86 High-calorie cake
87 Octoberfestine
88 Port of Yemen
89 Rained ice
90 Genesis antagonist
91 Top of the head
92 Quipster
93 Makeup of some instance
94 Twain kid
95 Unfreeze
96 High-calorie cake
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99 “That's a laugh”
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103 War Horse actor
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107 Spheres of influence
108 Hello... (Japanese product line)
109 “That's a laugh”
110 Start to tire
111 Small cardinal
112 Homer's neighbor

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

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Quote-Acrostic

1. Define clues, writing in Words column over numbered dashes.
2. Transfer letters to numbered squares in diagram. 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. 'O'Hara, U.S. Treasury star
   
B. First to exceed sixty in a car
   
C. Surroundings
   
D. Agamemnon's daughter
   
E. Fabulous: 2 wds.
   
F. NL triple crown winner
   
G. Without any doubt: 3 wds.
   
H. Resolute
   
I. Hooey
   
J. Cain offspring

K. It won't go anywhere
  
L. Surplus
  
M. Expressways promote this: 2 wds.
  
N. People Magazine fodder
  
O. —— fit
  
P. Sorta, but maybe not?
  
Q. Approve
  
R. Bracing profession
  
S. 'Hallelujah, Baby!' star
  
T. Computer processing hyper-speed
  
U. Acted the intermediary
  
V. Not your everyday stuff

Across
1. Ships of old
2. Dugouts
3. Take
4. Odist, e.g.
5. Cabaret: Fr.
6. Timber wolf
7. Olive genus
8. Ishmael's mother
9. Grocery item, for short
10. Citizen of Nicosia: var.
11. Trivial
12. Flurry
13. Watchful
14. Came into
15. Poseidon, for one
16. Rise
17. Son of Aphrodite
18. Exclusively
19. Louis XIV, e.g.
20. Made fit by reworking
21. Encore!
22. Choose
23. Restrain
24. Nauseated
25. High regard

47. Occurrences
48. Small emporium
49. Tunney or Fowler
50. Money of Madrid
51. Lubricates
52. Thus: It.
53. Leg bone
54. Pavilion, e.g.
55. Car
56. In the ___ that ...
57. With the bow: mus.
58. Grain husks
59. Stupid
60. Fret

41. Turn over
42. ___ in one's bonnet
43. Scary sound
44. Sundial number
45. Set foot on
46. Took as one's own
47. Correspond
48. Moderates
49. Geologic times
50. Feature of Mongolia
51. In reserve
52. Office items
53. Staircase part
54. Throne
55. Strike out for a new home
56. Banned Bible books: abbr.
57. ——-poly
58. Remains mum
59. Turn over, as an engine
60. Loathed
61. Craft
62. Equipment
63. Know- ___: wise guy
64. Group
65. Of certain speech sounds
66. Hogan or Casey

By Robert O'Neill
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.

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

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Series prompts tough talks about suicide, depression

The first time I heard about "13 Reasons Why" was when I walked into the living room and my two teenage kids were watching episode three. At the time, I had no idea what the new Netflix drama series was about, or that it had graphic scenes about bullying, substance abuse, drunk driving, rape and suicide.

Both of my kids seemed captivated, and they looked scared and upset. After a couple minutes, I hit the exit button. I decided the three of us needed to have a talk before I committed to letting them continue watching what I learned was a controversial show.

A few days later, I received an email from my daughter's middle school principal warning us that our kids are watching "13 Reasons Why" and encouraging us to talk to them about it.

If you're not familiar, "13 Reasons Why" tells the story of 17-year-old Hannah Baker, who commits suicide and leaves behind 13 cassette tape recordings explaining the reasons why she killed herself to certain kids who were negative influences in her life or who she felt wronged her.

To learn more about the effects "13 Reasons Why" can have on kids and for tips on how to talk to them about the show, I reached out to Dori Mages, a North Shore-based licensed clinical social worker who focuses on children and teens.

Q: What is the youngest age appropriate for watching the show?

Mages: I wouldn't put an age on it, but rather I would look at the maturity level of the viewer. He or she should be mature enough to be able to see the impact of the choices that were made and be able to think about better alternatives. In other words, they should use critical thinking skills instead of just watching it out of curiosity.

Q: Who should not watch the show?

Mages: Those who have risk factors of experiencing a negative impact as a result of viewing the show. That includes kids and teens with depression, substance abuse struggles, those who are easily influenced by peers, kids who have experienced self-harm behaviors or suicidal thoughts, or kids who are victims of bullying and don't have positive coping skills.

Q: What are some things parents should look for in determining if their child is depressed or contemplating suicide?

Mages: Look for changes in the child; a change in eating habits, poor appetite, not engaging in activities they normally enjoy ... Are text messages from friends dropping off? Are their grades going down? Are they often sad, irritable, or moody? Of course, most teenagers can be moody so don't panic right away as this behavior can be normal for a teen.

Q: What are some questions about the show or conversation starters with kids that might be beneficial?

Mages: Some questions you could ask your kids are: What other options did Hannah have? What could she have done that was an alternative to suicide? What about the other kids who saw what was going on? What were their responsibilities? Dig deep. This is a good opportunity to teach kids to act on doing the right thing, no matter how difficult that might be. Also, ask your kids about what they would do if they were in Hannah's shoes: What would you do if someone posted a picture of you and made up a story? How would you handle it? What would you be thinking? Most kids won't experience all of the really bad things that happened to Hannah, but as less serious things happen, it's a good lesson in teaching them to address the issues before they get out of control, to reach out to a parent or a teacher or another adult that they trust, and to be persistent until someone hears your story.

I think producers of "13 Reasons Why" got some things right and they got some things wrong. It scares me to think that vulnerable adolescents might think it's cool to do what Hannah did and copycat her actions. On the other hand, kids might learn from the show and make better choices.

Being an adolescent isn't easy and kids sure can be mean at times. As a parent, I believe the most important thing we can do to ensure the health and safety of our children is to keep the lines of communication open at all times. Listen, actually hear them, try not to judge, and, of course, let them know every single day at least 13 reasons why we love them.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.

Travel back in time to 1930s Chicago with A Century of Progress: A Photographic Tour of the 1933-34 Chicago World's Fair. This historical collection features more than 100 rare – and in some cases, unpublished – photographs documenting the fair's construction, demolition and everything in between. Readers will glimpse the technological feats and futuristic exhibits that characterized the fair, as well as elements of lasciviousness and insensitivity that, while clearly on display during the exposition, may prove shocking to modern readers.

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Chicago Tribune
ASK THE DOCTORS

More studies are needed on the efficacy of paractin

By Dr. Robert Ashley
Ask The Doctors

Dear Doctor: I've heard that a product called paractin, a plant extract, promotes a healthy inflammatory response. Is this true? How does it work?

Dear Reader: Paractin is an extract from the herb Andrographis paniculata that has been used as a remedy for hundreds of years in China, India, Thailand and other Southeast Asian countries for multiple infectious and inflammatory diseases and to relieve various symptoms. A. paniculata's main active ingredient is andrographolide, which inhibits the activity of chemicals linked to inflammation, and which may decrease fever and dizziness by boosting the immune system.

As for its effectiveness, a 2015 review assessed six randomized controlled trials that studied the use of A. paniculata for cough. Combined, the studies compared 333 patients who took the herb to 348 who took a placebo. The studies all showed benefit in decreasing the severity of the cough, but there was significant variation as to the degree of benefit.

A 2004 review of seven double-blind studies, with a total of 896 patients, looked at the use of A. paniculata for upper respiratory infections. Participants started the herbal preparation 36 to 72 hours after the onset of symptoms. Five of the studies used a dose of 60 milligrams, one study used a 48-milligram dose, and one study compared doses of 180 milligrams and 360 milligrams. A confounding factor is that three studies used A. paniculata in combination with another herb, Eleutherococcus senticosus. Nonetheless, all the studies showed improvement of symptoms with A. paniculata, with users reporting decreased fever, runny nose, cough and sore throat. Side effects included nausea, vomiting, dizziness and drowsiness, which were reported at higher frequency in the 180- and 360-milligram dosages.

The anti-inflammatory effect of A. paniculata has also been studied against ulcerative colitis. In a 2013 study published in the American Journal of Gastroenterology, researchers randomized 224 patients with mild to moderate ulcerative colitis to 1,200 or 1,800 milligrams of A. paniculata or a placebo for eight weeks. A colonoscopy was performed prior to the trial and then after eight weeks, and symptoms such as stool frequency and blood in the stool were monitored at two, four, six and eight weeks.

After eight weeks, 45 percent of those who took 1,200 milligrams showed measurable response to the herb's efficacy, while 40 percent of those who took a placebo showed response as well. So the results weren't so great at this dose. But at 1,800 milligrams, 60 percent of patients showed some measurable response to the herb.

Further, on the follow-up colonoscopy, 33 percent of the placebo group showed mucosal healing, while 50 percent who took 1,800 milligrams of A. paniculata showed healing. While this is a good response, it is significantly inferior to the medication Mesalamine, which has mucosal healing rates of 68 to 80 percent.

Also, a rash occurred in 8 percent of patients who took this high dose of A. paniculata.

In short, much remains unknown about Andrographis paniculata. Those interested in the herb could consider it for an upper respiratory infection or for a cough, but I would hope they would do so with caution. We need more studies of the herb before I would recommend it further.

Robert Ashley, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles.

PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

OTC pain reliever overuse can cause loss of hearing

By Joe Graedon and Teresa Graedon
King Features Syndicate

Q: I have been taking arthritis-strength acetaminophen (Tylenol) for my joint pain and recently noticed that my tinnitus is more intense. Is this a possible side effect of the pain reliever?

A: Frequent use of over-the-counter pain relievers such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen can cause hearing loss (American Journal of Epidemiology, Sept. 15, 2012). One study determined that acetaminophen can damage hair cells crucial for normal hearing (Hearing Research, July 2014).

We have not found studies linking normal use of acetaminophen to ringing in the ears (tinnitus). That said, when people begin to lose their hearing, they may develop tinnitus.

Because most other OTC pain relievers also can trigger tinnitus, you may need nondrug approaches for inflammation relief. Our Guide to Alternatives for Arthritis offers several natural ways to ease joint pain. This online resource is available at www.peoplespharmacy.com.

Q: Can you shed any light on recent studies for alopecia? My 9-year-old granddaughter had a beautiful head of hair, which totally fell out four years ago.

She has seen many doctors, but nothing has helped. Is there anything that can be done for this life-altering disease? Any promising studies either here or abroad?

A: There is a new type of medication that offers some hope against alopecia areata. This is an autoimmune condition in which the immune system attacks patches of hair follicles, causing partial or complete baldness.

Dermatologists at the Cleveland Clinic have reported on a preliminary study involving a powerful drug approved for treating rheumatoid arthritis (JAMA Dermatology, online, March 29).

The drug, tofacitinib (Xeljanz), is known as a Janus kinase inhibitor. The researchers found that it helped regrow hair, though there was tremendous variability. Some people had 90 percent regrowth, while others achieved minimal improvement.

This medication carries a risk of serious infections or cancer, so it will not be used casually. The price is prohibitive, and it is unlikely insurance will cover it. The good news is that this research may open the door for developing safer treatments for alopecia areata.

Q: I ended up in the hospital "off my guard." I didn't even know what had happened until later in the week. I am on several anticholinergic medications such as...
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Can a stale marriage be saved?

Couples get bored, need to reconnect

By Danielle Braff
Chicago Tribune

If you’re in a relationship and managed to get past the seven-year itch, there’s no reason to be relieved. You still need to get through the 10-year slump and a 30-year divorce peak.

To say that marriage is hard work is an understatement. “Marriage is messy and complicated, especially when we share space with another person, tie our finances together, negotiate sexuality and countless other decisions that daily life demands, to say nothing of adding children or stepchildren to the picture,” said Harriet Lerner, psychologist and author of “Marriage Rules.”

“It’s normal for couples to move in and out of boredom, or conflict, for that matter, at any point in a marriage.”

A 2014 Brigham Young University study that looked at marital quality for more than 2,000 women found that happiness and communication between partners decline from the beginning of a marriage and never get better. They hit rock bottom between the 10- to 15-year-mark, but if couples can make it through those years, the conflicts improve by their 35th anniversary, according to the study. Unfortunately, the marriage never gets back to the honeymoon days.

One common issue in a marriage is simply boredom, Lerner said. But when a marriage starts to become stale, the question for the couple is: Can this be fixed or is it too stale to be remedied?

At the beginning of every relationship, the couple are actively courting each other, looking their best, trying hard to impress. But after being together for many years, this courting takes second place to children or careers, said Seattle-based relationship coach Kyle Benson, of The Gottman Institute.

As long as the relationship is going well, the courting typically stops, though this doesn’t happen in a particular year, Benson said. The lack of courting is accompanied by nonchalance and criticism about your partner, it’s not a good sign.

It all leads back to an older study published in the Journal of Marriage and the Family in 1998 about newlyweds and boredom that’s still relevant today, Benson said.

John Gottman, along with three other researchers at the University of Washington in Seattle, set up a lab that looked like a bed-and-breakfast. They invited newlyweds to spend the day, so their interactions could be observed. Gottman wanted to see them make connection requests to each other. For example, if one person said, “Look at the beautiful bird outside,” he was making a request for a connection and wanted his wife to connect and look at the bird. His wife could look at the bird, or she could tell him she was busy reading her book or making lunch or doing something else.

While this might seem minor, Gottman said these small requests for connection revealed a lot about their relationship health.

Couples who divorced six years later connected only 33 percent of the time, and those who were still together after six years connected 87 percent of the time.

If a marriage appears to be doomed, there is still hope. The biggest problem is that couples start to feel less surprised by each other, paying less attention to each other as time goes on, said Anna Papa, a Texas-based certified relationship coach.

“You lose interest in your partner and feel like you know everything about him or her,” Papa said. While this is a natural progression of a relationship, it can lead to boredom, which could eventually bring about a divorce in more serious cases.

“A real problem arises when one or both people begin to catastrophize their boredom and cultivate an attitude of negativity,” Papa said.

Perhaps I married the wrong person; the love has gone out of our marriage; we have nothing in common,” Lerner said. Instead, she said, the couple need to understand that a marriage can tolerate a good amount of boredom as well as conflict when there is a solid foundation of love and respect.

Boredom can simply be a sign that couples need to reconnect and pay more attention to their relationship, Papa said.

“Our whole life is about change and learning, and so should be our marriage,” she said.

There are also science-backed ways to counteract that boredom.

While many couples go on regular date nights, they may be surprised to learn that these dates nights could be contributing to their stale marriage.

Arthur Aron, a psychology professor at Stony Brook University and author of relationship studies, said that many couples make an effort to do weekly date nights but tend to do the same dates over and over again.

Aron found that couples who go on repeat dates have less marital satisfaction than those who go on more exciting, challenging dates such as attending plays or hiking.

“When you overcome challenges with your partner by doing things that are new and exciting, it creates a new and exciting feeling in you that you equate with your partner,” Aron said. “Doing the same old, same old doesn’t do much to change anything.”

That’s why Didi and Rod Lewis, of Hinsdale, who have been married for nearly nine years, try to mix it up. Their date nights consist of everything from auto shows to casino fundraisers to sports games.

“Rob gets invited to a lot of networking events and galas, and he makes a good effort to try to include me in those things, especially where there’s some kind of experience involved,” said Didi Lewis, a mother of two and a part-time program manager for The Neighborhood Parents Network in Chicago. She and her husband, an attorney and who specializes in commercial litigation, also plan an annual vacation sans the kids, and they try not to repeat the location.

Still, for some couples, simply mixing up date nights and taking nice vacations aren’t enough.

If one partner has checked out of the relationship, he or she tends to miss about half of the positives signs to connect, Benson said.

For example, your partner may bring you tulips in an effort to reconnect. Instead of being happy to receive the flowers, you’ll be suspicious about them, Benson said.

“In our research, we found that even if the partner makes a nice gesture, you will interpret that as negative,” Benson said.

You both have to be willing to work and fight for your marriage. And fighting for it is key.

“Often, couples that are still view conflict as a bad thing — “We don’t want to fight because it will make things worse” — but I encourage the mindset that conflict is a catalyst of understanding. Change the way you work with conflict,” Benson said.

And change certainly isn’t boring.

Danielle Braff is a freelancer.
Address: 14644 Edinburgh Ct. in Homer Glen
Asking price: $1,150,000
Listed on March 15, 2017

Expansive floor plan features give bedrooms, 5.1 baths, grand foyer, regal dining room, gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances and mahogany cabinetry, great room with fireplace, exercise room, second kitchen/bar and recreation and gaming areas. Four-car garage, picturesque grounds with tranquil ponds and waterfalls, paver driveway and walkways, flowering beds and expansive deck. Minutes from shopping, dining, Metra, schools, parks and renowned golf courses.

Agent: Christine Wilczek of Realty Executives Elite, 708-420-2424

*Some VHT Studios photos are “virtually staged,” meaning they have been digitally altered to represent different furnishing or decorating options.

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‘Heroes’ gala raises $120,000K for NAMI

Event: ‘Heroes of Mental Health Gala’
Benefiting: National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Cook County North Suburban affiliate, Skokie
Honors: Heroes of Mental Health honorees for 2017: Lundbeck Pharmaceutical Services, LLC, Deerfield; Virginia and Tom Neuckranz, founders of Erika’s Lighthouse in Winnetka, Winnetka Congregational Church Women’s Society Benevolence Committee
Special guest: Author and former Olympic runner, Suzy Favor Hamilton
Location: Glen View Club, Golf
Date: April 22
Attended: 225
Raised: $120,000
Website: www.namiccns.org

PrivateBank donates to Niles Reading Program

Elda Clnaj, PrivateBank Branch Manager, from left, Susan Dove Lempke, Niles Library Director, Aimee Popova, PrivateBank Relationship Banker, show off a check for a $1,000 donation from the PrivateBank in Lincolnwood that will help support the Niles Public Library District’s Summer Reading Kickoff Event. The kickoff will start at 2 p.m. June 3 at the library, 6960 Oakton St. See www.nileslibrary.org.

‘Mario Make Me a Model’ open calls June 5-6

Mario Tricoci, center, with 2016 semifinalists, will also be on hand for ‘Mario Make Me a Model 2017’ that begins with three open calls in the Chicago area June 5-6:
First, 4 p.m. June 5, at Mario Tricoci, 900 N. Michigan Ave., Lower Level; then at noon June 6 at Mario Tricoci Oak Brook and another at 6 p.m. at Mario Tricoci Schaumburg. Up to 50 contestants will move onto the quarter finals at the Wit Hotel ROOF June 13. From this group, seven semi-finalists will be chosen for training, then that group will be narrowed to five, who will be announced July 23. The competition winner will be announced Aug. 10 at a runway fashion show at the Geraghty in Chicago. More at www.tricoci.com/m4.

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**HIGHLAND PARK**


Address: 3073 Parkside Drive
Price: $649,900
Schools: Highland Park High School
Taxes: $11,942
Agent: Jami Brenner/Baird & Warner

**BARRINGTON**

Cape Cod home built in 1920's updated for modern living. Original hardwood flooring, solid hardwood doors and fireplace surround with built-in shelving & glass paneled doors. New kitchen with stainless appliances and original, solid cabinetry bases and movable island. First-floor bathroom has been fully updated including a double bowl vanity and reglazed cast iron tub. Basement includes a rec room, gaming area, laundry room and half bath. Three-car garage.

Address: 418 Washington St.
Price: $398,900
Schools: Barrington High School
Taxes: N/A
Agent: Suzy Madding/RE/MAX Of Barrington

**WINNETKA**

Dutch colonial home has three bedrooms and two baths. Living room with fireplace, formal dining room with corner cupboards. Family accesses back porch & deep lot for possible expansion. Kitchen has eating area, pantry and possible design to access family room for an open floor plan. Flexible first-floor full bath. Second floor has three bedrooms and full bathroom. Master suite could be designed over existing family room. Arched doorways. Garage is currently used for storage.

Address: 510 Provident Ave.
Price: $547,000
Schools: New Trier High School
Taxes: $10,445
Agent: Linda Martin/Coldwell Banker

**MORTON GROVE**


Address: 8814 Parkside Ave.
Price: $549,000
Schools: Niles West High School
Taxes: $9,964
Agent: Mark Ahmad/Century 21 Affiliated

Listings from Homefinder.com

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Sealing off house may not solve problem with mice

By Jeanne Huber
The Washington Post

Q: I am having a problem with mice getting into my house. My family and I have done a thorough check of ways they might enter, and we've sealed these areas. But I still seem to get a mouse or two inside. I have had exterminators check the premises, and they want to set bait traps inside. I am looking for a preventive measure. I keep food covered and the garbage can is lined. Is there a type of company that could see where they are entering the house?

A: It's possible the mice you're still seeing are breeding somewhere in your house, having gotten in the first time through one of the gaps that you have since sealed or even through a door that was left open. Mice often try to sneak in as winter sets in — wouldn't you?

If mice are already nesting inside, sealing the exterior won't solve the problem. You need to trap indoors. But you don't need to use bait stations, which create a risk that mice will die in inaccessible places and stink up your house, in addition to being a hazard for dogs and young children. Snap traps with dabs of sweets or high-fat foods — think peanut butter or bacon — work well, too, and they don't involve poison. Mice tend to roam in a fairly compact area at night when they are searching for food. Use the droppings you see as a clue to where they might have a nest, and set the traps within 25 feet or so. Mice tend to travel along edges, so place the traps next to walls or cabinets.

As to hiring someone to find unsealed areas where mice might be getting in,

Peanut butter is an effective bait for a mousetrap.

Jeanne Huber is a freelance writer.
### Community Real Estate Transfers

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Drink up 5 experts select their favorite water glasses

**By Lindsey M. Roberts**

The Washington Post

If it’s something you’re going to look at and touch every day, you want it to be perfect. Case in point: the water glass. Yet finding one with the right weight, shape and height can be a challenge, says Peter Miller, a cookbook author and owner of a Seattle-based architectural bookstore.

“There are three main qualities for a good water glass: looks, durability and performance,” he says. “Two out of three is good. Three out of three is rare.”

To find the best, we asked five experts what they use to get their daily dose of H2O.

“Crate & Barrel’s Working Glasses are super-durable, well priced and come in a variety of sizes,” Virginia interior designer Lauren Liss says ($2-$4, www.crateandbarrel.com). “I’ve used them in vacation homes because they’re almost indestructible.” Bonus: Buy lids if you want to seal in smoothies and snacks.

What does a chef use at home? Cathal Armstrong, a best Mid-Atlantic chef nominee by the James Beard Foundation, uses Duralex’s nearly indestructible Picardie Tumblers ($27 for a set of six 11-ounce glasses, www.surlatable.com). They’re stackable, lightweight and more comfortable to hold than anything else, he says. “Just a perfectly contoured glass.”

A staple for Miller, who just released the cookbook “Five Ways to Cook Asparagus (and Other Recipes): The Art and Practice of Making Dinner,” is the Orskov Glass ($30-$56 for a set of six, www.orskovstore.com), which he sells in his Seattle bookstore. He prefers the small size, which he says is “as high as it is wide; has a modest weight; is made from laboratory glass, so it will also take hot soup or teaprogue coffee; and it is perfectly happy going in the dishwasher.”

Deb Perelman of the blog Smitten Kitchen and the book “The Smitten Kitchen Cookbook” uses Duralex’s Gigogne for wine, dessert cups and water for her toddler. She has them in multiple sizes ($22 for a set of six 750-ounce glasses, www.target.com).

“We use these basic glasses from OK, the store in Los Angeles, for every day,” says Todd Nickey, co-owner of Los Angeles design studio and boutique Nickey Keohoe. The clear glass tumblers come in three sizes ($24-$36 for a set of six, www.okthestore.com). “They’re beautiful and simple and have a modern point of view.”

Lindsey M. Roberts is a freelance writer.
Swear and Shake: With Pat McKillen. 8 p.m. Thursday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $12-$22, 847-492-8860

Introduction to Microsoft OneDrive: Registration is required for this hands-on workshop. Learn about this free online cloud storage and how to access free versions of Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Registration limited to six. The prerequisite: Must be experienced and comfortable with computer, keyboard and mouse. 7 p.m. Thursday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Morton 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. Thursday and 4 p.m. Tuesday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Rockin’ in the Park 2017: MB Financial Park at Rosemont celebrates the summer season with the return of the “Rockin’ in the Park” free weekly, summer concert series. The event features the music of classic cover bands, food and beverage tents on the park’s great lawn and a musical fireworks display after every show. MB Financial Park celebrates the Fourth of July with an added concert July 4. 7 p.m. Thursday, MB Financial Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-349-9654

Relativity”: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday, 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 4000 Sherborne St., Skokie, $12-$22, 847-673-6300

Friday, June 2

The World Premiere of Quest: Quest is an original circus-theater production loosely based on Leo Tolstoy’s short story The Three Questions. The protagonist asks three simple (but huge) questions, setting in motion a whirlwind journey to find the answers. 7:30 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Actors Gymnasium, 927

The European Refugee Crisis: Problems and Prospects: The influx of millions of refugees into various Western and Central European countries in the last two years has transformed the face of European politics. Peter Hudis examines the roots of this phenomenon, how it has altered the political situation and what prospects exist for integrating these fleeing war, oppression and poverty into European society. 1 p.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $10 member, $13 non-member, 847-784-6030

The Creation of “My Fair Lady”: Celebrate this universally beloved show, often called the greatest musical of all time, by following the long journey from its beginnings as Shaw’s 1912 play Pygmalion and then as a popular 1938 film. Learn how Lerner and Loewe managed to fashion this difficult material into such a stunning musical theatre triumph. 10 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $12 member, $15 non-member, 847-784-6030

Cruisin’ Park Ridge: Come out for Cruisin’ Park Ridge, the car shows in Park Ridge on the First Fridays of June, July, August and September. Hosted by the Park Ridge Chamber, held in the library lot, 5 p.m. Friday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3121

Skokie School District 73.5 Early Childhood Screening: Elizabeth Meyer School offers free early childhood screening for eligibility in the preschool grant program. Only residents of Skokie School District 73.5 are eligible for this program and children must be screened either age 3 or 4 by Sept. 1. An appointment is required by calling to schedule. 8 a.m. Friday, Elizabeth Meyer School, 8100 Tripp Ave., Skokie, free, 847-673-1223

First Friday Art Opening: Featured artists Janet Trierweiler and Matt Schaefer return to the gallery with their individual work. Their work will be on display June 1-30 with the opening on June 2. Schaefer paints in an abstracted and graffiti-like style. Trierweiler is an abstract expressionist. Both artists will be in attendance at the June 2 opening. Live music, beer and wine and light fare round out the evening. 5 p.m. Friday, Vivid Art Gallery, 805 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, free, 224-508-5961
and safety, reptile expert Jim Nesi leads a thrilling expedition into the world of these often-misunderstood animals. Please register at glenview.org/register or call 847-729-7500.

Saturday, Wright-Way Rescue, 5915 and dry kitten and cat foods. 11 a.m. canned food, kitten milk replacement paper towels, unscented clumping cat amzn.to/1EW7B3w) Donation requests: ready to meet guests. Items in need have nearly 50 kittens in the nursery hundreds of cats and kittens in 2017. They forever homes. Help support their Wright-Way Rescue Kitten Shower:

Center, 3333 W. Touhy, Lincolnwood, community with the use of technology. App Competition is the place for you to innovate. This is an event that provides

10 a.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Town Make lT4Change:

1:30 p.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Town Glenview, $30 a group up to 6 players, Prairie Club, 2800 West Lake Ave., fee of just $30, cart not included. Some restrictions apply. For more information, visit the website or call 5 p.m. Saturday and 5 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Prairie Club, 2800 West Lake Ave., Glenview, $30 a group up to 6 players, 847-657-1637

MakeIT4Change: This is a competition, open to youth, ages 13 and up, and adults of all ages. The MakeIT4Change App Competition is the place for you to innovate. This is an event that provides a creative space to ignite fresh ideas about addressing the issues in your community with the use of technology. 10 a.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Town Center, 3333 W. Touhy, Lincolnwood, free, 731-602-9458

Wright-Way Rescue Kitten Shower: Join Wright-Way Rescue as they have many kittens and adult cats looking for forever homes. Help support their efforts to rescue and adopt out hundreds of cats and kittens in 2017. They have nearly 50 kittens in the nursery ready to meet guests. Items in need (Visit their Amazon Wish List: http://amzn.to/1EW7B3w) Donation requests: paper towels, unscented clumping cat litter, Royal Canin Baby Food, wet canned food, kitten milk replacement and dry kitten and cat foods. 11 a.m. Saturday, Wright-Way Rescue, 5915 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-728-5434

Louise Harrison: A Speaking Event: Registration is required and is open until Friday, June 2. Morton Grove residents have priority registration. Register by calling the Info Desk at 847-929-5101. In this interview-style event, Ms. Harrison, author of “My Kid Brother’s Band,” (a.k.a. the Beatles), goes through her brother’s, her mother’s and her own personal experience of the Beatles’ rise to fame. 2 p.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Summer Reading Kick-Off Event: Sign up for the library's annual Summer Reading program and enjoy performances, crafts, and more. Jim Kendros performs “Rare Strings and Piano Keys” for adults. Jim Gill performs a special concert for families. 11 a.m. Saturday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

GBN Bands Concert in the Park: Come to the Village Green to enjoy a concert featuring Glenbrook North’s bands and choirs. Bring your chairs or blankets and help support the Band Parents Organization by buying snacks at our concession booth. 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Village Green Park, 120 Shermer Road, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6400

Park Ridge Farmers Market: This weekly Park Ridge Farmers Market features fresh produce, bread, meat and prepared foods. The market offers SNAP/LINK Double Match this year. For each dollar deducted from your Link card at the market, you receive up to $20 in matching funds per customer per day. For example, if you deduct $20 from your Link card, you receive 40 Link tokens (20+20). 7 a.m. Saturday, Park Ridge Farmers Market, 15 S. Prairie Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-212-9994

Twenty-first Star Chapter NSDAR Genealogy Workshop: A Genealogy Workshop, sponsored by the Twenty-first Star Chapter, DAR, will be held Saturday, June 3, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in the first floor conference room of the Park Ridge Library. This is only for women interested in joining the DAR. 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-326-6946

Enrique Inglesias & Pitbull: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Road, Rosemont, $112, 847-638-8601

Nature Fun and Frolic — Saturdays: This is for age 2 with a parent for weekly classes that introduce toddlers.

to different plants, animals and natural elements, while singing songs, playing games, reading books, and exploring nature in many different ways. Class takes place primarily outdoors, weather permitting. 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, $84 Skokie resident, $105 non-resident, 847-677-7001

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

Northfield Farmers’ Market: You will find fresh-picked fruits and vegetables, beautiful blooming plants, shrubs, cut flowers, cheeses, a variety of delicious baked goods, wonderful specialty foods and unique items. 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Northfield Farmers’ Market, 6901 Choplin Lane, Winnetka, free, 847-966-4451

Sunday, June 4

Megan McDonough: Stories, Songs and the Occasional “Ah ha!" 7 p.m. Sunday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $15-$25, 847-492-8860

“On the Town”: The Northshore Concert Band concludes its 61st season with the jazz influence of Leonard Bernstein’s “On the Town,” complementing the folk tunes of H. Owen Reed’s monumental “La Fiesta Mexicana.” Don’t miss this exhilarating celebration of the human spirit. 3 p.m. Sunday, Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, $10-$20, 847-432-2263

Step It Up 5K: This is a fun-filled 5K or 1K family walk/run to benefit Hadassah Medical Organization’s Melanoma Research and Treatment. Costs: $36 adult; $18 young adults, 13-17; free, children 12 and younger. 9 a.m. Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, $0-$36, 847-205-1900

Glenview Community Church Organ Walk 6: The Simple Gifts Concert Series of the Glenview Community Church presents this Organ Walk 6 from 3-5 p.m. Attendees begin at the New Church, 74 Park Drive in Glenview at 3 p.m. to hear Dr. Kirstin Synnestvedt, transgender, “Loving”: The film “Loving,” rated PG-13, celebrates the real-life courage and commitment of an interracial couple, who married and then spent the next nine years fighting for the right to live as a family in their hometown. Just drop in: 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Public Library, 930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Get Out and Go Treasure Hunt: This treasure hunt takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Gallery Park, 2501 Chestnut Avenue and Fuller Air Station Prairie, 2400 Compass Road. Search for hidden clues while exploring the natural areas while walking or riding bicycles. Participants earn points for answering questions about discoveries along the way. Pick up your treasure map between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. 10 a.m. Sunday, Gallery Park, 2501 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

Story Walk: “Rosie Revere, Engineer” Welcome back to the Storybook Trail in Little Bear Garden at Gallery Park, 2001 Patriot Blvd. Stroll, bounce, hop or better yet, bike along the path to read Andrea Beaty’s “Rosie Revere, Engineer.” This story is a celebration of imagination, creative thinkers, and the people who support them. 9 a.m. Sunday-Wednesday, Little Bear Garden Park, Patriot Boulevard and Chestnut Avenue, Glenview, free.

New York Philharmonic: Show Boat in Concert! This performance, Lincoln Center Screening: New York Philharmonic: Show Boat in Concert, was recorded live and originally broadcast on Oct. 16, 2015 with Vanessa Williams, Julian Ovenden, Norm Lewis, Jane Alexander, Fred Willard and Lauren Worsham. 2 p.m. Sunday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6410 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4200

Susan Merdinger: Solo Recital: Susan Merdinger performs Mozart’s “Concerto No. 21” with a 19th century transcription of the orchestral part for string quintet by Ignaz Lachner, with members of the Highland Park Strings. 2 p.m. Sunday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-722-5611

Nature Warblers: This is for ages 2-4 with a parent to learn about animals and the outdoors through music, movement and motion. Craft a musical instrument each week, and learn how to keep a beat. Classes are primarily out-
### Monday, June 5

#### Blue Monday: Nick Moss and Friends
- **Time:** 8 p.m.
- **Location:** SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston
- **Details:** Featuring Greg Koch and Josh Smith. For more information: 847-492-8860

#### The Making of “Stg. Pepper”:
- **Time:** 1 p.m.
- **Location:** North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield
- **Details:** Talk about the making of the famous album. For more information: 847-784-6030

#### Baseball in the Movies
- **Time:** 10 a.m.
- **Location:** North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield
- **Details:** Watch a series of movies that feature baseball. For more information: 847-784-6030

#### Money Matters Discussion
- **Time:** 10 a.m.
- **Location:** North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield
- **Details:** A discussion on managing finances. For more information: 847-784-6030

#### Clothing and Textile Recycling at Skokie Synagogue
- **Time:** 10 a.m.
- **Location:** Skokie Synagogue, 6030 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove
- **Details:** A recycling drive for clothes and textiles. For more information: 847-677-7001

#### Grief Share Support Group
- **Time:** 10 a.m.
- **Location:** Skokie Synagogue, 6030 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove
- **Details:** A support group for those who have lost a loved one. For more information: 847-677-7001

#### Native Plants for the Four Season Garden
- **Time:** 10 a.m.
- **Location:** Skokie Synagogue, 6030 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove
- **Details:** A discussion on native plants for gardening. For more information: 847-677-7001

#### Community Matters
- **Time:** 1 p.m.
- **Location:** Skokie Synagogue, 6030 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove
- **Details:** A book talk on community matters. For more information: 847-677-7001

#### Fitwits: Keeping your wits fit requires more than just doing crossword puzzles or word searches. Most people think...
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28
they will have a laptop to demonstrate Windows 10 operating system to get assistance from a librarian. If you don't have a device but still have questions, they will have a laptop to demonstrate the features of this operating system. 2 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

ESL Conversation Group: Registration Required: All skill levels are welcome to practice speaking English in an informal and friendly group setting. Discussions focus on a variety of practical, everyday and general interest topics. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

New Game Wednesday: “Steep”: All teens ages 13-18 are welcome to come defy and master the world’s most epic mountains on skis, wingsuits, snowboards and paragliders. Patrons are invited to play on the PS4 console. Pizza is served. 4 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony: An Inside Look: Join Michael Vaughn as he takes an in-depth look this well-known and widely performed work. The landmark composition transformed the symphony and helped propel music into a new era. 10 a.m. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $10 member; $13 non-member, 847-784-6030

Knitting Studio and Workshop: Each Wednesday afternoon, Certified Knitting Instructor Mary Staackmann provides personalized instruction, answers any questions about knitting and perhaps gets you started on a new project. Bring your supplies or project in progress. Brush up on your skills, learn new techniques or just spend an afternoon knitting with others. 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6060

Playing with Paint: A Learn to Paint Workshop: Instructor Adrienne Aarson takes participants from the beginning, exploring light and dark, black and white, and color painting. Each class meeting builds upon the previous class, and in the final class, all the elements come together, and attendees create their own work of art. All supplies are provided in class, but bring an apron or smock to cover your clothes. 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6060

Cook County ICU with Cory Franklin, M.D. – Author Visit: The library welcomes Cory Franklin, M.D. to discuss his book, “Cook County ICU.” Dr. Franklin recalls a litany of unusual medical cases and unforgettable patients from his 30-year career. Books are available for purchase and signing after the discussion. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-256-5025

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

"Allen: Covenant" ★★ ½
R, 2:03, sci-fi
We're aboard the Covenant, with a new crew of mortals. The year is 2104. This is a colonist ship, only with embryos and sleep-frozen humans. The crew is headed to a faraway planet, but a mysterious radio transmission is too tantalizing to pass up. So it's off to the planet, where alien spores make their unseen way into crew members voted least likely to succeed. Ridley Scott's artful attempt to marry rousing bits from James Cameron's "Aliens" (the "fun" one) with the brooding tone favored by Scott and David Fincher ("Alien 3") has led to a product divided against itself. This is a maddeningly uneven picture. — Michael Phillips, Chicago Tribune

"Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" ★★ ½
PG-13, 2:18, action/adventure
A brash summer surprise in 2014, "Guardians of the Galaxy" had, as they said in the old days, plenty of pep and, for once, a lot of jokes! For the sequel, subtitled "Vol. 2" because sequels are sold by volume, not weight, James Gunn has returned as director and writer. Let's be honest: This one's a step down from the original. The testy banter between Peter Quill (Chris Pratt) and Gamora (Zoe Saldana) comes with a here-we-go-again quality. Also, that ending! Two guys are beating the spit out of each other for minutes on end, again. I double-dare Gunn to get the third "Galaxy" picture down to the two-hour mark, or less. Who'd complain? — M.P.

"Everything, Everything" ★★ ½
PG-13, 1:36, drama
The sickly teen romantic weepy isn't a new genre, but it's gained resurgence in the past few years with the runaway success of the likes of "The Fault in Our Stars." The fortunes of such a film rides on the plucky charm of its lead actors. Fortunately, "Everything, Everything," based on the novel by Nicola Yoon, has the radiant Amandla Stenberg at the center. Stenberg plays Maddy, an 18-year-old girl who's been confined to her hermetically sealed, sterilized home for her entire life, to Infection. But all it takes is a glimpse of the new hunk (Nick Robinson) next door to burst Maddy's carefully curated bubble. — Katie Walsh, Tribune News Service

"Snatched" ★★
R, 1:37, Comedy
An action comedy about white women beset by brown men in Latin American countries. "Snatched" is Amy Schumer's second big movie and co-stars Goldie Hawn in her first major screen role in 15 years ago. Mother. Daughter. Kidnapped by Ecuadorians while on vacation. They get stuffed in a car trunk; they harpoon a bad guy; they learn to take it easy on each other. The film, more about victimhood than women running their own show, is funny here and there, but in ways that make the bulk of the formulaic material all the more frustrating. — M.P.

"Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul" ★
PG, 1:30, comedy
This story of a family vacation gone wrong could have just been subtitled "Road Trip," but it turns out "The Long Haul" is an ironically apt descriptor for this film. Titular wimpy kid Greg (Jason Drucker) and brother Rodrick (Charlie Wright) are scheming to get to a video game convention. Their juvenile and selfish meddling takes the family trip from bad to apocalyptic. "Wimpy Kid" is a dirge of unfunny scatological material, techno-anxiety and child endangerment masquerading as familial bonding. This is one bumpy, miserable ride. — K.W.
Death Notices

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

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Death Notices

Rooney, James C.
(Jim) age 83, son of the late James and Jetta (Radebaugh) Rooney, died May 10, 2017. Survivors include his sister Patricia Trimble; wife Mary; children Jim (Sue), Brian (Karen), Dan (Sue), Kate (Ray), Trish (Steve), Matt (Janine), and Andy (Andrea); 15 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren. Services will be at 10:00 am, Aug. 5, 2017, at St. Athanasius Church, 1615 Lincoln St., Evanston, 60201. Instead of flowers donations can be made to Peace and Justice Ministry, St. Athanasius or Evanston Interfaith Action, 1004 Greenwood St., 60201.

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Chicago Tribune
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Ford shake-up: What’s next?

New CEO brought in to reinvent automaker

BY THOMAS HEATH AND JENA MCGREGOR
The Washington Post

Ford Motor Co. is transforming itself into a mobility company. Last week, Ford ousted CEO Mark Fields, who had been with the company for 28 years, and replaced him with onetime office furniture executive Jim Hackett, who had virtually no automotive experience until he joined the company last year to head its “smart mobility” initiative.

Appointing the former Steelcase CEO to run Ford indicates the 114-year-old auto giant wants to operate in more directions than just building cars. Despite surging profit, Ford’s stock price went in the wrong direction under Fields. With Silicon Valley and Wall Street darling Tesla worth more than Ford and almost as much as General Motors without making a profit, and the nascent revolution in autonomous driving, Ford had to act.

“We need speed (in) decision making,” Ford Chairman Bill Ford Jr., said in a Wall Street Journal interview. Ford, the great-grandson of company founder Henry Ford, said he expects the 62-year-old Hackett to be in the job “for a good, long time.”

Ford earned more than $25 billion in profit in the past four years, helped largely by the surging U.S. auto and truck market. But the auto icon is reeling from several challenges, including a stock price that has plummeted more than 30 percent since Fields took over three years ago from Alan Mulally, a former Boeing executive known for his open management style.

Despite its 14.6 percent share of the U.S. car and truck market in 2016, Ford’s market value of $44 billion has been surpassed by electric car upstart Tesla at $50 billion. The booming U.S. auto market is expected to slow this year.

Hackett’s job will be to reinvent Ford into a new transportation company capable of prospering in a highly competitive and fast-changing business.

Ford is facing competition not only from traditional rivals such as General Motors, Toyota and others but it’s also battling a new cadre of would-be transportation players that have Detroit on edge.

In addition to Tesla, ride-sharing companies like Uber Technologies and tech juggernauts such as Alphabet and others are venturing into the transportation domain with smart car ambitions and revolutionary ideas around fuel.

Palo Alto, Calif.-based Tesla, founded by billionaire Elon Musk, lost hundreds of millions of dollars last year, has yet to turn a profit and last year produced just 84,000 cars. But its rise has put a scare into the legacy automakers such as Ford and General Motors.

Ford is betting that Hackett is up to the job. The University of Michigan graduate is a personal friend of Bill Ford, whose family controls the auto giant through its ownership of voting shares. Unlike most auto executives, Hackett does not have a long history in the industry.

When Hackett joined Ford Smart Mobility, he had been on the Ford Motor board of directors for three years.

“Hackett, together with Bill Ford, will focus on three priorities: Sharpening operational execution, modernizing Ford’s present business and transforming the company to meet tomorrow’s challenges,” according to a news release by the company.

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When Hackett joined Ford Smart Mobility, he had been on the Ford Motor board of directors for three years.

“Yes, it’s true that Hackett and Ford are working on the future of the industry,” says Noel Tichy, a professor at the University of Michigan’s Ross School of Business who has studied CEO succession. Traditionally when it comes to succession, “these guys live in a little cocoon in the greater Detroit area,” making Mulally and Hackett more unusual picks.

As the chief executive of Steelcase, where he served for almost two decades, Hackett transformed the business culture of the office furniture company and advocated a more open-office physical space. He stepped down in 2014.

His nontraditional background includes 16 months as the interim athletic director at the University of Michigan, where he is best known for hiring Jim Harbaugh as its head football coach.

Tichy, who said he has worked with Hackett helping with leadership development and consulting for more than two decades, called Hackett a “transformational leader” who’s good at team-building and is known for having a reputation for integrity.

At Steelcase, Hackett voluntarily recalled wall panels of cubicles at the Pentagon that weren’t up to higher fire standards; last reviews said the updated walls kept the fires from spreading on the morning of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Tichy said of a story that has also been recounted in management guides.

Chris DeRose, a consultant in Ann Arbor, Mich., who has worked with Tichy and with Steelcase, said of Hackett taking the helm at Ford: “The analogous thing is he would talk about taking Steelcase out of commodity hell.”

“When you think about where the auto industry is, I think there’s a pretty clear message that here’s a guy who knows how to differentiate in a low-margin, commodity-based business.”
The 2017 Toyota Highlander in Limited trim has an updated 3.5-liter direct-injection V-6.

**Highlander feels a little stale**

*BY ROBERT DUFFER*  
*Chicago Tribune*

My friend refers to his Toyota Highlander as a truck. He's serious about it, and he's really into it. It's his pride and joy. But I think he might be onto something. The Highlander is serious about it, too. He's serious about it, and he wants it to be trucklike.

From 270, while the new Highlander is a more efficient powertrain. The change for 2017 is a more trucklike chops. The updated rear lighting and, broader trapezoid grille, the popular three-row family hauler gets a taller, more whole. There's an identity with those vehicles.

**2017 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER LIMITED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Three-row crossover</th>
<th>Price as tested:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$43,574</td>
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<tr>
<td>Base price:</td>
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**Transmission:**  
Eight-speed automatic

**Mpg:**  
20 city, 26 highway

A: It is that time of year again, when critters try to set up housekeeping under hoods and munch on what is available. Honda claims to have a solution: rodent-resistant tape. Dealers sell this at their parts departments. You can also find it online and in some retail stores. Looking like regular electrical tape but with rodent icons on it, the tape is impregnated with capsaicin, the chemical that makes chile peppers hot. Allegedly, rodents don't care for it as much as we chile-heads. Although we have not had occasion to try it, plastic wiring loom covers may also be a deterrent. If you must replace wiring or hoses, it may be covered under auto insurance.

**Q: Our 2007 CRV A/C began blowing warm air. Our Honda dealer detected the refrigerant level to be low. A dye charge was performed, and the leak was not detected. I returned one month later when warm air blew through the A/C, and I was informed the clutch needed replacing. It was mentioned if the compressor stopped working, the labor would be 2/3 hours for that job, and it may be beneficial to replace the clutch and compressor together to save costs. The mechanic manually adjusted the clutch, and the A/C is working. He said that it may last a day, a week, or a month. Your thoughts?**

A: The clutch adjustment may be all you needed. We suggest that you keep driving the car until the air conditioner quits again, which may not happen soon. Until then, keep your money in your own pocket.

Send questions along with name and town to Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Fourth Floor, Chicago, IL 60611 or motormouth.chicagotribune.com.

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Squirrel under car hood?

Get some anti-rodent tape

ROBERT DUFFER, CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A: Have you ever heard the expression, "It's not a bug, it's a feature"? Many makes and models, including your Grand Caravan, have the remote window open feature. It is really cool on a hot summer day. Press the unlock button on your remote and then press and hold the unlock button again to open the windows. Since you watched your windows open after locking the car, there may be a problem with the key fob's unlock button. It may be sticking and could require replacement.

**Q: We have a 2011 Dodge Grand Caravan. A major concern has developed. At least four times the front windows have been found open after the car was locked. Yesterday, after using manual rear parking aid and they were on the front, the car was opened. At least four times have been found open after the car was locked.**

**A:** The disassembly of the front windows has been a matter of harassment. The tactile sense of old-school truck feel, with manual levers to move seats instead of pushing buttons, and a rotary dial for butt warmers, for instance, doesn't match the touch-screen design or dings, zings, and buzzers of the advanced tech alerts.

The display screens in both the 6.1-inch touch screen and 4.2-inch display in the instrument cluster are pixelated like an eight-bit game in a greenish blue, blinking-cursor-type style. Nothing would be wrong with this on its own, but in a pricey trim level, it should make consumers think twice. The comparatively small touch screen is flanked with buttons, but fields on the screen itself are narrow to the touch. Navigation felt more distracting than directional.

The less-refined materials give a sense of ruggedness, safety and dependability, which is backed by Toyota's reputation. Yet the disassembly of an uncertain transmission, cabin materials that are nice from a distance but not so refined under inspection and advanced safety technology that is effective amid an oldish infotainment system causes a disconnect.

The Mazda CX-9, Ford Explorer, GMC Acadia and Honda Pilot all seem fresher and more distinct, more whole. There's an identity with those vehicles.

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Rodent-resistant tape is impregnated with capsaicin, the chemical in chile peppers.
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Chicago Tribune
chicagotribune.com/suburbs
**Strong defense helps Maine East capture regional title**

**BY BRETT CHRISTIE**
Pioneer Press

Defense wasn't necessarily a strong suit of the Maine East boys volleyball team this season, coach Jon Kulesza said. You wouldn't know it based off the Blue Demons' performance in the regional final.

Fourth-seeded Maine East, on the strength of its defense, defeated fifth-seeded Evanston 25-15, 25-21 on May 24 at Evanston. "They struggled a little bit there in set number one ... (but) the times they didn't, our defense played awesome," Kulesza said.

"We got some blocks. We got some timely digs. It was good to see our guys play well and not be error-prone."

For Maine East, which suffered a season-ending 25-13, 25-18 loss to top-seeded Glenbrook North in the New Trier Sectional semifinals on Friday, the defense started with 6-foot-9 Michael Boduch and 6-8 Denis Milchev. The senior middles were a nuisance for Evanston's hitters.

The two were flanked by capable senior outside blockers Sebastian Mihulet and Abraham Manappallil. They stand 6-2 and 6-1, respectively.

"We really closed the block," said Boduch, a Niles resident. "Our middles got to the outsides and right sides to close the block and that gave our defense a lot of options where to defend. Our defense has worked hard all season and we were able to pick up the ball really well (May 24)."

When Evanston managed to hit around or through the Maine East block, the Blue Demons' back row was usually in position to clean it up. Senior libero Romil Patel, who finished with five digs, and junior libero Ali Chaus, who had six digs, were ubiquitous.

"Coach always says to us if there's ever a point where there's no block, just dig them and that's exactly what we did," said Patel, a Des Plaines resident. "If it was a roll shot, or a tip, or a hard hit, we did our best, we stayed scrappy and we left it all out there (May 24)."

Patel's brightest moment might have come on the penultimate point of the match. After Maine East pulled ahead 23-18 in the second game, Evanston reeled off three consecutive points to pull within two. Kulesza called timeout and had simple instructions for his senior setter Marcus Maramo: Get the ball to Boduch.

In order to do that, Maramo needed assistance. When the Evanston serve came over, Patel made a perfect pass to Maramo on the right side and Maramo set Boduch, who came from the back line and delivered a kill. The Blue Demons won the ensuing point and the match.

"That (point) was a big one there, obviously," said Kulesza, whose team finished the 24-8.

Brett Christie is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Lake Forest graduate Mitch Salanty, a freshman lacrosse player at Messiah College, was named an all-MAC Commonwealth honorable mention.

**COLLEGE NOTES**

**Area Illini track athletes qualify for NCAA Prelims**

**BY SAM BRIEF**
Pioneer Press

Barrington graduate Konrad Elring and Prospect graduate David Kendziera are two of 13 members of the Illinois men's track and field team headed to the NCAA West Prelims in Austin. Elring, a sophomore, ran a personal-best time of 1:49.86 in the 800 meters at the Big Ten Championships to qualify for his first prelims. Kendziera, a redshirt junior, had the seventh-best qualifying times in the 400- and 110-meter hurdles, with times of 50.13 in the Big Ten Championships and 13.60 at the Texas Relays, respectively. Kendziera was also named to the academic all-district team.

Glenbrook North graduate Valerie Bobart, a senior on the Illinois women's track and field team, qualified for the NCAA Prelims in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

**Local rowers get NCAA experience at Iowa**

Three local graduates helped the Iowa women's rowing team advance to the NCAA championships in West Windsor, N.J., over Memorial Day weekend: Hersey graduate Izzy Dolba, a junior; Hersey graduate Allison Blevins, a sophomore; and Maine South graduate Sarah Powell, a senior.

**Salanty named honorable mention**

Lake Forest graduate Mitch Salanty, a freshman on the Messiah College men's lacrosse team, was named to the all-MAC Commonwealth honorable mention team as a short stick specialist. Salanty played 14 games for the Falcons and tallied 32 ground balls and three goals, while causing seven turnovers.

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

Sam Brief is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
**BOYS TENNIS STATE TOURNAMENT NOTEBOOK**

**Dons’ Hebda gains confidence from ‘craziest match’**

**BY RICH MAYOR**

Pioneer Press

Notre Dame's Nick Hebda matched up pretty evenly with Lockport's Jack Randall at the Class AA boys tennis state tournament. From Hebda’s perspective, it’s just unfortunate they had to meet twice.

Hebda, a junior, got the best of Randall in the third round on Friday, winning 6-0, 6-4, 7-5.

After dropping the first set, he regrouped — "OK, first set is over, reset, new game, I know I’m better than this," he told himself — and rallied.

Hebda called the comeback victory "the craziest match I've ever played," and one that took almost three hours.

"That was a crazy battle again. Both matches were just crazy wars, really," Hebda said. "Even our parents were saying afterward how similar our games were, how evenly matched we were."

"It just showed again how much fun it can be," Hebda added.

"I'm ready to start practicing right now, that's the whole mentality," Hebda said. "This is over now, move on. Next tournament I'll do better. This is my first time at state, and making the final eight made it all worthwhile, really. It was a great weekend."

**Niles West**

When asked if he had any dreams of grandeur in the preseason for Shawn Sabaricos, Niles West coach Andrew Suarez delivered an answer that was strong and swift.

"No, not at all," said Suarez, laughing. "That started becoming possible toward the latter end of the season. He was able to beat people he would never have been close to being able to (beat last year)."

Sabaricos, a Skokie resident, fell in the first round of the Class AA boys tennis state tournament to Lake Forest's Will Zordani 6-0, 6-2. He recovered to knock off Rock Island's Josh Teggatz 6-2, 6-0, but was then eliminated by Wheaton Warrenville South's Phasu Sirinit 6-0, 6-0.

At the start of the season, Sabaricos played as if there was a "shot clock," Suarez said. He often tried to end the point as soon as possible. As the season wore on and his conditioning improved, Sabaricos would construct points rather than take ill-fated early shots.

"He's by far better than anyone else on the team, and you'd never know it," Suarez said. "He's on the same level. You see him playing with the JV kids, and he doesn't think he's a hair better than anybody. That's an enduring thing."

**Loyola**

Something clicked when Loyola's Nick Goschi, a senior, and Tommy Sullivan, a junior, became doubles partners at the end of the season.

Despite their limited experience playing together — a mere 11 matches entering the state tournament — Goschi and Sullivan worked well together.

The doubles pair finished third in the Class AA. Niles North Sectional on May 22, and rode that momentum into the state meet.

Goschi and Sullivan lost their first match to Naperville Central's Bill Zhang and Martin Matov 6-0, 6-1, beat Eisenhower’s David Souza and Michael Soto 6-0, 6-1 in the consolation bracket, then fell to Glenbrook North’s Van Fairbanks and Nick Chariton-Perrin 6-1, 6-3.

"It's funny, because it's not like they're even our top two players," said Elia Daoud, who has filled in for coach Tom Fitzgerald as he recovers from ankle surgery. "But they do such a good job of buying into our game plan and strategy, they're just so fearless about it. You tell them to do something they do it. No hesitation. They also build on each other's emotion and positive energy. They fire each other up."

Goschi and Sullivan finished the season with a 9-5 record.
BOYS TRACK AND FIELD STATE MEET NOTEBOOK

Maine East’s Danyal, Becoja serve as role models

BY RICH MAYOR AND DAN SHALIN
Pioneer Press

Jacob Danyal and Mustafa Becoja may have come up short at their final high school meet, but that did not diminish the journey they took to get there.

Danyal and Becoja, both seniors at Maine East, qualified for the Class 3A boys track and field state meet at Eastern Illinois. In the prelims on Friday, Danyal notched a height in the pole vault and Becoja did the same on the high jump.

Blue Demons coach Chris Peters brought sophomore Svet Milchev and freshman Josue Parra, two promising Maine East track and field athletes, to Charleston to observe their older teammates compete as an important step in their development, according to Peters.

“A big thing they saw this weekend is that they have to be ready,” Peters said of Milchev and Parra. “There’s so little room for error, and ultimately if your goal is just to qualify, they don’t make it to the finals.”

Danyal, a Morton Grove resident, cleared 9-0 his freshman year. His progress since then has allowed him to attend video, attend different camps and spend time at Maine East in the summer to improve his strength, according to Peters. Becoja, a Des Plaines resident, did similar things to improve.

Both plan to attend the College of DuPage next season to continue their track and field careers.

Danyal is in charge of one of Maine East High School’s character development programs. During the season, he, club members and Peters visited local elementary schools in an attempt to educate fourth- and fifth-graders on responsible social media use. Their program – which they call “R Code” – visited seven schools in the area.

“Danyal is simply a tremendous role model in the school and community, he’s a leader on the team, and I can’t say enough about him,” Peters said. “These guys, both of these guys, will truly be missed.”

New Trier

Junior Wei Chen and Albert Yen each earned an eighth-place finish at the Class 3A boys track and field state meet to help the Trevians finish tied for 55th with four points.

Chen finished in 50.25 seconds in the 400 finals on Saturday. He entered the state meet seeded 16th. Yen crossed the finish line in 38.800 in the 300 hurdles.

Downers North senior Joe Keys edged Yen by 0.09 seconds for seventh place.

Yen just missed qualifying for the finals in the 110 hurdles. The top nine finishers in the prelims advanced to the finals, and Yen placed 10th in 14.733.

Thornton senior Paris Elbert earned the final berth in the finals with a time of 14.71.

While he didn’t score any team points, New Trier senior Will Shoup delivered a noteworthy performance. He qualified for the finals in the discus and placed 11th with a throw of 155-8. Shoup was seeded 17th.

New Trier's Wei Chen (3823) competes in the 400-meter prelims at the Class 3A boys track and field state meet on Friday in Charleston.

Maine South

Hawks sophomore Tommy Brady finished eighth in the 3,200-meter run (9 minutes, 18.43 seconds) at the Class 3A boys track and field state meet on Saturday.

The time was a career highlight behind David Eckhart, who ran 9:06.90 and finished third at the 2011 state meet.

“Brady is certainly not a pretty runner. He’s not a prototypical, tall, fluid runner. He’s a shorter guy, but he’s a hard-working kid and just really gutty and competitive,” Maine South coach Scott Sutschek said.

“He’ll be the cornerstone for things going forward in the distance program.”

Maine South senior Reese Jordan ran a 4:19.03 and finished seventh in the 1,600, missing finals by one spot. Senior Liam Pettigrew finished fourth in the second heat of the 300 hurdles, running a 40.21.

The Hawks (2 points) tied for 66th in the state.

Niles West

The Wolves qualified a relay and seven individual entries for the Class 3A boys track and field state meet, though none made the finals.

Niles West junior Andrew Mykulyanych was one of two non-seniors to qualify as an individual for the Wolves. He ran the 200 (22.89 seconds) and 100 (10.99) on Friday.

“We really think the talent is there for (Mykulyanych) to do something big (next year),” Niles West coach Chris Vivone said.

“But he has to have a huge diet of lifting and being involved in (running) camps (in the offseason) just to really hone his technique. He has to take the next step and become kind of a track geek, and I mean that in the best way possible.”

The all-senior 4x400-meter relay team of Chris Erjavac, Nikko Dominguez, Emanuel Rivera and Frankie Santa came in sixth in their heat (3:28.16). Other highlights included Erjavac running the 110 hurdles (15.18) and the 300 hurdles (41.03), and Santa finishing in 1:59.06 in the 800.

Northridge

The Northridge 4x800-meter relay exceeded expectations in a big way and placed ninth at the Class 1A boys track and field state meet, finishing in 8 minutes, 16.98 seconds on Saturday.

The Knights entered the state meet seeded 22nd after posting a time of 8:38.03 at the Leo Sectional, but senior Peter Conroy, junior William O’Connor and O’Connor placed fifth in their heat in 8:39.53.

O’Connor finished the 1,600 in 4:55.43.

North Shore

Country Day

The Raiders had three entries in the Class 1A boys track and field state meet prelims, but none of them advanced to the finals.

Junior Bradley O’Connor came closest. Running in the third heat of the 800, O’Connor finished in 2 minutes, 15.66 seconds on May 25. He had the 14th fastest time. The top 12 finishers qualified for the finals.

The 4x800-meter relay team of senior Andrew Conlon, senior Thomas McHugh, junior William O’Connor and O’Connor placed fifth in their heat in 8:39.53.

Ridgewood

Rebels senior Alex Rice did not advance to the finals in either of his events at the Class 2A boys track and field state meet.

In the prelims on Friday, Rice jumped 19-7 ¼ in the long jump and 41-1 ¾ in the triple jump.

Loyola

Ramblers senior pole vaulter Declan Ritzenthaler cleared 14-0 at the Class 3A boys track and field state meet prelims on Friday, but he didn’t advance to the finals.

By finishing ninth, Northridge earned one team point. The Knights ended up tied for 74th in the team standings.

 Sophomore Jon Evans (shot put), senior Tyler Mongoven (300 hurdles) and the 4x400 relay didn’t advance out of the prelims.

In the 3,200, senior Sebastian Fuentes-Branas took 17th (10:19.25).

Rich Mayor and Dan Shalih are freelance reporters for Pioneer Press.
New Trier's Jake Zipoli celebrates during his fourth-round doubles match at the Class AA boys tennis state tournament on Friday.

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