BBQ backs troops
Niles car dealership participates in area fundraiser. Page 6

Patriot riders Jeff and Eve Clauss, of Chicago, have a bite to eat at the Golf Mill Ford barbecue for the troops in Niles on July 15. A number of Chicago area car dealerships took part in the effort to benefit military personnel.

Step right up
Carnivals, rodeos, eating contests and more part of county fair fun. Page 19

Healthier, tastier food from farmers markets
There is nothing better than biting into a fresh, juicy tomato on a summer day, writes Randy Blaser, who swears by the benefits of locally grown fruits and vegetables. Page 15

A whistle while you work
The IHSA is attempting to recruit, retain more prep officials. Page 42

Perfect macarons are no pipe dream
Jacqueline E. Mejia, an Aurora-based baker, spent years mastering her craft. As she launches a new business, Mejia shares her insights on the French confections, along with family recipes for cheesecake and banana split cupcakes. Inside
J.P. Watkins, National Louis alum

Sokie resident J.P. Watkins is a 1999 alum of National Louis University's Path to Academics, Community, and Employment (P.A.C.E.) Program. He recently was honored with a Reach Award, which celebrates notable alumni making a significant impact in their fields and the communities in which they live. The P.A.C.E. program is a three-year, post-secondary certificate program designed to meet the transitional needs for young adults with multiple intellectual, learning, and developmental disabilities, according to National Louis University officials.

Q: What kind of work do you do?
A: I work at CJE SeniorLife's Adult Day Services, a day care center for the elderly in Evanston. We focus on keeping the elderly in the community as long as possible by providing activities, a safe place and a respite for the family. No matter their age, the elderly are valuable members of the community. I'm very proud of my job.

Q: Where did you grow up?
A: I lived in Edgebrook until age 7, and then moved to Glenview.

Q: Pets?
A: Charlie, my rescue dog, recently passed away.

Q: First job?
A: I stuffed envelopes for my dad's business, Insight Financial, a leasing company.

Q: As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?
A: I wanted to work with the elderly. I lost my grandparents when I was young, so I always gravitated to other people's grandparents. I always wanted to be in that world.

Q: A movie you'd recommend?
A: Two of my favorite movies are "Wonder Woman" and "Big Trouble in Little China."

Q: Do you have children?
A: No, but I have 10 nieces and nephews and a wonderful partner, Michael.

Q: Favorite charity?
A: The Boys and Girls Club and Planned Parenthood.

Q: Words of wisdom?
A: Don't ever give up. You don't know what the road is going to bring you, but you need to travel the road to know.

Q: What song best sums up Sokie for you?
A: "The Music Never Stopped" by the Grateful Dead.

Q: What is an interesting factoid about yourself?
A: I participated in the P.A.C.E. program. I have dyslexia, and the program helped me to learn to live on my own, pay my bills, the proper way to talk with people in the work setting, how to live with others and enjoy life. I'm also an artist.

J.P. Watkins

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Taste of Park Ridge

www.tasteofparkridge.com

ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE TASTE COMMITTEE AND VOLUNTEER STAFF,
THANK YOU TO THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND ATTENDANCE.

Dean T. Patras, the Man Behind the Magic of the Taste of Park Ridge

The Taste of Park Ridge Committee would like to thank everyone who joined us last week at our festive celebration! We deeply appreciate the efforts of City staff, including Fire, Library, Police, and Public Works personnel. And we certainly won't forget the Park District. We are also indebted to WGN television, who gave us a "Friday to Remember" with last week's Taste of Park Ridge Block Party. A huge thank you is in order also, to our wonderful sponsors, entertainers, volunteers, and vendors, without whom we could never stage a Taste. But I felt it appropriate to share last year's message to everyone, after the heartfelt loss of my dear friend and co-founder of the Taste of Park Ridge, Dean T. Patras.

Dean T. Patras was not only the unsung hero of the Taste of Park Ridge. He was undoubtedly one of the most dedicated volunteers in Park Ridge history. Many people were not aware of that, because Dean never boasted about anything. He simply wanted to help. That is what a genuine volunteer does. To paraphrase Dean's son Dean J., Dean was not the person to whom one would hand the microphone, but he was the one with which Dean became involved, were the results of having been asked by his friends for help. Dean was the first person invited to join the original Taste committee in 2005 (he had already helped to launch the Taste of Uptown in 1998, then the Taste of Park Ridge in 2000). His "help" was also requested when the Holiday Lights committee was formed in 2009. Prior to that, Dean was instrumental in creating an enormously successful soccer league in Park Ridge.

The Taste of Park Ridge is a celebration of all that is positive in our wonderful community. Dean always stayed true to the committee's initial vision: that of presenting a professional, first class family-oriented festival where attendees could enjoy a wide variety of food offerings, top notch free entertainment, and most importantly, the camaraderie of each other.

We have been privileged to work alongside a significant number of impressive individuals throughout the Taste's history, including committee members, City, Chamber, and Park District personnel, suppliers, food vendors, and volunteers. But of one thing I am certain. There would have never been a Taste of Park Ridge were it not for the incomparable Dean T. Patras.

Dave Iglow
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‘We feel like his voice is heard’

Murder charge filed in 2014 death of SIU student, 19

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER
Pioneer Press

Pravin Varughese's family visits his grave in Niles every day, but Friday's pilgrimage was different.

"Yesterday, I was hoping to tell him good news," his mother, Lovely Varughese, said Friday. "Today, I have good news.

More than three years after the 19-year-old Morton Grove man disappeared while attending Southern Illinois University - only to be found dead in a wooded area near campus a few days later — authorities announced an indictment of first-degree murder in connection with Varughese's death.

Authorities identified the man charged as Gage Bethune, 22, of Eldorado, a town about 50 miles east of Carbondale in southern Illinois.

The indictment itself is sealed, and online records don't detail the allegations, but Bethune turned himself in Thursday and bail was set at $1 million. He was released on bond around noon Friday, according to officials with the Jackson County Jail.

Sgt. Amber Ronkerto of the Carbondale Police Department said the investigation "is ongoing" and her colleagues are collaborating with the Illinois state's attorney's appellate prosecutor's office, which filed the indictment.

SIU officials on Friday declined to comment on the indictment but expressed support for Varughese's family.

"We cannot speak to the external investigation or its outcome, but Pravin and the Varughese family remain in our thoughts," said university spokeswoman Rae Goldsmith.

Bethune's father, Don Bethune, on Friday said the family plans to fight the charges. They have retained former Jackson County State's Attorney Michael Wepsiec in Murphysboro to represent Bethune.

Don Bethune said he posted bond Friday morning for his son, whom he described as a working man and father of a 3-year-old daughter with his girlfriend of 10 years.

"That's what you do in life," especially for family, Don Bethune said about paying bond. "Go to work and take care of what you can."

Wepsiec said that "once we try this case in the court of law, not the court of public opinion or the court of Facebook," the public might see a different side of his client than what has recently been portrayed.

The Jackson County sheriff's office deferred comment to the state's attorney's office. And David Robinson, deputy director of the 4th District at the Illinois state's attorney's appellate prosecutor's office in Springfield, referred questions to a news release issued by his office Friday morning.

The grand jury indictment, however, was the culmination of a yearslong crusade by Varughese's family and other supporters who were unwilling to accept an initial finding that Varughese died of hypothermia on a cold winter night after having attended a party near campus.

Carbondale police said Varughese's body was found on the eastern side of town in a woody area on Feb. 13, 2014, five days after he was reported missing.

Police had said Varughese ran into the wooded area after getting into a dispute with a "recent acquaintance." Authorities did not publicly explain what the dispute might have entailed, other than to say that Varughese got out of the vehicle on his own and that his body showed no clear signs of trauma.

Carbondale police Chief Jody O'Guinn - who was later fired under circumstances officials described as being unrelated to the Varughese case - told reporters at a news conference the day Varughese was found that he likely had trouble getting out of the woods because of the "difficult terrain and low temperatures."

But a police report by an Illinois State Police officer on the night Varughese died detailed mysterious circumstances around the former track and cross-country runner's disappearance.

In the report, the trooper describes pulling over to help a driver on Illinois Highway 13 around 12:30 a.m. Feb. 13 near where Varughese's body would eventually be found.

The driver, who had a red spot on his cheek, according to the trooper's report, told a story of seeing a man on the side of the road and offering him a ride. The driver said the man attacked him and ran off into the woods, according to the report.

The report said the driver left after declining help from the trooper, who scanned the woods and then left the scene.

Varughese's family, meanwhile, had been saying there were even more signs that something went
SIU student beaten, robbed before his death, indictment charges

Staff report

More than three years after the mysterious death of a Morton Grove man away at Southern Illinois University, details have emerged in what prosecutors say happened that cold February night in downstate Illinois.

An indictment issued last week in Jackson County said that 19-year-old Pravin Varughese died of hypothermia after being beaten and robbed.

Gage Bethune, 22, has been charged with two counts of first-degree murder in Varughese's death. Bethune is a resident of Eldorado, about 50 miles east of Carbondale in southern Illinois.

SIU-Carbondale officials said Bethune is not, and has never been, a student there.

Varughese's eventual death from hypothermia, the indictment charges, was a "natural and foreseeable consequence" of the beating and robbery.

Indicting documents said that Bethune admitted to authorities that he inflicted "multiple punches to the head and face, rendering (Varughese) 'dead weight.'"

After Varughese's death, his family and friends fought for more investigation, refusing to accept the explanation that he simply wandered off into the woods and died. Varughese's family commissioned a private autopsy that found signs of blunt force trauma, and they said social media posts and phone calls he made that night indicated he might have been attacked or in a fight.

A special prosecutor was eventually assigned to the case, and Lovely Varughese, Pravin Varughese's mother, credited that move with the recent developments.

According to the indictment, Varughese's injuries included "forehead contusions/implications and injuries to the nose consistent with blunt force trauma."

"It was a day we had waited for so long," Varughese's mother said last week of charges being filed in her son's death. "We feel like his voice is heard and he's happy today."

Bethune, who was released on bond July 14, could not be reached for comment. But his father, Don, told Pioneer Press last week that his son will fight the charges and that they have retained a lawyer for his defense. He described his son as a hardworking father.

Varughese was a former track and cross-country runner attending school at SIU that February in 2014, when he attended a party near campus.

Later that night, a state trooper reported seeing a man with a red mark on his cheek stopped by the side of the road near where Varughese's body would be found. The man told the trooper a story of offering someone a ride, only to be attacked when he asked for gas money, the report said.

The trooper scanned the area, he said, and then left. Varughese was found dead in a nearby wooded area five days later.

If convicted of both counts, Bethune faces a potential sentence of 20-60 years in prison, according to the indictment.

Bethune was scheduled to appear in court July 18, said Deputy Craig Harju, with the Jackson County Sheriff's Office.

Student, from Page 4

Away that night.

His sister told the Tribune in 2014 that phone records showed her brother called a friend at 12:30 a.m., about 90 minutes after he reportedly left the party, and it sounded as though her brother might have been running or arguing with someone.

Also, a Twitter account for Pravin Varughese showed a post at 11:17 p.m. the night of his death that read: "Bloody knuckles ... guess I was in a fight.

His family commissioned a private autopsy that determined he had died of blunt-force trauma.

Eventually a special prosecutor was brought in, whom Lovely Varughese credits with the case's latest developments.

"We did not stop the noise," she said of her efforts to push for further investigation into her son's death.

The crusade resonated with many people; a memorial service held on the anniversary of Varughese's death drew hundreds of people.

Lovely Varughese said there was "screaming and crying" at her home when the special prosecutor called Thursday with the news.

"I don't know how to explain it," she said. "It was a day we had waited for so long. ... We feel like his voice is heard and he's happy today."

Now, she said, she's content to let the legal process move forward.

"To me, our part is done. Whatever happens now, we leave it up to the law," she said. "(The suspect) needs to take responsibility." Bethune is scheduled to appear in court Tuesday, said Deputy Craig Harju, with the Jackson County sheriff's office.

The Associated Press contributed.

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Niles dealership hosts BBQ for troops

Coordinated fundraiser benefits local military

Staff report

Plumes of smoke billowed from barbecue grills at a number of car dealerships across suburban Chicago on July 15 as they participated in a coordinated fundraiser event benefiting local military personnel.

Golf Mill Ford in Niles was among the dealerships that participated in the "Barbecue for the Troops" program sponsored by the Chicago Automobile Trade Association and the USO of Illinois. Though the July 15 event was the fifth consecutive one, according to organizers, it was the first time Golf Mill Ford participated.

"It's such a great cause. We want to make sure we're involved in the community and charitable as well," said Adrienne Salazar, the dealership's spokeswoman for the event. "We prepared food for 600 people and we went through all of the food."

For part of the day, dealership personnel - including volunteers - manned grills and served up hot dogs and burgers. Some people took time to sit underneath a pitched tent where tables were set up to eat onsite.

"One hundred percent of the proceeds raised will support troops deployed and at home, military families, wounded, ill and injured troops as well as families of the fallen," according to the USO Illinois website.

The nonprofit organization provides recreational, educational and cultural programs and services to military personnel and their families. Over 300,000 active duty, guard and reserve troops statewide are aided by the USO, the website states.

CATA officials report that over 100 dealerships participated in this year's event. Further, since Barbecue for the Troops started in 2013, over half of a million dollars has been raised, according to CATA.

Organizers from CATA, which also hosts the annual Chicago Auto Show, said the fundraiser started as a "grassroots effort" but has grown to a more widespread doing that continues to grow.

"We've been blown away with the success of the program, and each year outpaces the previous with more funds raised, increased dealership participation and heightened awareness for the USO of Illinois and local military," CATA Chairman John Hennessy said in a news release before the event. "The amount of energy and resources that local dealerships pour into their barbecue fundraisers is unparalleled. Despite the fact that these dealerships represent different brands, they all come together in support of this great cause."

Golf Mill Ford also welcomed a local radio station that broadcasted live from the dealership grounds.

"The USO Barbecue for the Troops initiative has raised more than $420,000 to support local troops and their families. Chicagoland dealerships have helped make a difference in the lives of our service members and their families," USO of Illinois President and CEO Alison Ruble said in the release.

Wally Masud of Niles, tends the grill for Golf Mill Ford's barbecue for the troops in Niles July 15.
The All Saints Shrine at St. Martha Catholic Church in Morton Grove contains relics of more than 1,500 different saints. One such relic is the right femur of Anthony of Lerins. The church was burglarized on May 25, and though no relics were taken, two medals are missing, and church staff are hoping the items can be recovered.

Local church wants stolen religious medals returned

For some, ‘they mean nothing,’ for others ‘a fortune’

BY BRWIN L. COX
Pioneer Press

Morton Grove police are seeking the public’s help in solving a theft in which a man and a woman were caught on security camera stealing two 300-year-old religious medals from the All Saints Shrine at St. Martha Catholic Church.

Although the theft occurred May 25, church officials only recently noticed that the medals were missing, said the Rev. Dennis O’Neill.

He said that is when he quickly discovered footage of the May 25 theft and the thieves in action.

“Please give the medals back,” the faith leader implored.

The medals date back to 1682 and were given by the Archbishop of Mexico City to people who made donations for the building of the original basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, O’Neill said.

He said that although the medals only cost the church a few hundred dollars each to purchase, their value is not measured in money alone.

“For some people, they mean nothing. For others, they mean a fortune,” he said. “We can’t insure anything here. It’s a real problem.”

He also said he hopes the medals are returned to the church.

Brian L. Cox is a freelancer.
POLICE REPORT

The following items were taken from the Niles Police Department reports. An arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt. Only a court of law can make that determination.

TRESPASS
Matthew Cameron, 33, of the 7100 block of Main Street, Niles, was charged with criminal trespass on July 3 after police said he entered a house in the 7500 block of Keeney Street without permission. Cameron is scheduled to appear in court July 24.

THEFT
Frank Davis, 25, of the 2700 block of Harrison Street, Chicago, was charged with retail theft on July 2 after police said he stole two bottles of alcohol, valued at $57, from a store in the 7300 block of Melvina Avenue. Davis is scheduled to appear in court Aug. 2.

BATTERY
Kate Borri, 26, of the 600 block of West Schubert, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence on July 3 after police said she was stopped in the 7200 block of Milwaukee Avenue for driving with a flat tire, police said. Borri is scheduled to appear in court July 27.

PUBLIC INTOXICATION
Ten unlocked cars were reported burglarized July 3 while parked in the 7200 block of Dobson Street, the 7700 block of Oconto Avenue, the 8500 block of Olean Avenue and the 8400 block of Oak Avenue, police said. A purse was reported stolen from a car parked in the 8900 block of Milwaukee Avenue July 7. Police said the car had been forcibly entered.

THEFT
A wallet was reported stolen July 6 from a facility in the 8200 block of West Golf Road.

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Silverstein defends vote on state budget

Democrat says he didn't have any other choice

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

When state Sen. Ira Silverstein voted to increase the state income tax, a nod that helped pave the way for the first Illinois budget in two years, he said he believed he had no other choice.

"We had to come up with a plan before the state would go into meltdown," Silverstein told about three dozen of his constituents at a July 12 town hall meeting in Skokie.

The Democrat's 8th District covers parts of Chicago as well as Skokie, Morton Grove, Lincolnwood, Niles and Glenview.

Silverstein said there had to be a way to close the gap between expenses and revenues if a balanced budget was to move forward — although not everyone in the audience agreed that the approved budget is balanced.

Some said that because state borrowing is factored into the budget the budget should not be considered balanced.

"This was extremely difficult for me," he said about voting for a state income tax increase. It was the second time he faced such a vote, he said, and the first time was years ago when he voted against the increase.

His previous vote on a state income tax increase was part of a plan that did not include budget cuts the way this one did, according to Silverstein.

He said the budget plan that became law after legislators overrode Gov. Bruce Rauner's veto includes new revenue of $36.4 billion, but also more than $2.9 billion in cuts.

"I couldn't let the state go down the drain," he said. "We had to have a budget. We had been struggling for two years. Something had to be done and the legislature had to take control."

Silverstein has been holding summer town hall meetings for nearly 20 years following legislative sessions, he said.

He recaps activity that took place in Springfield and hears from constituents in gatherings he holds in Skokie, Morton Grove, and two in Chicago.

He called this legislative session "the most (he's) ever seen," in large part because of contentiousness over developing a new budget and huge egos that "got bigger by the day" in getting something done, he said.

The income tax increase approved by the legislature and backed by Silverstein included a permanent hike expected to raise $5 billion in new revenue. According to state budget information, individuals' rates will increase to 4.95 percent from 3.75 percent and corporate tax rates to 7 percent from 5.25 percent.

Silverstein said the state was staring at unprecedented financial disaster had a budget not been passed, including a drop in the state's credit rating, necessary programs having to be closed and significant financial hardship for schools and social service agencies, which already have absorbed hits because of the Springfield crisis.

The format of Silverstein's town hall meetings allow for audience members to engage in informal conversation with the state senator and to ask questions. Although many applauded Silverstein for holding such an open forum, they also voiced criticism about the state going without a budget for so long.

There was also discussion at the forum about pension reform, which Silverstein said continues to be a serious challenge the state needs to address because of years of under-funding.

Some audience members told Silverstein that people are fleeing the state now because of the severe problems in Springfield, but Silverstein took an optimistic outlook on the future and said businesses were still coming to Illinois.

"We're trying to turn things around," he said.

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Chicago Botanic Garden reopens after flooding

Lake County storms led to 2-day closure

By Daniel I. Dorfman
Pioneer Press

The Chicago Botanic Garden reopened this weekend after being closed due to the effects of storms that pummeled Lake County last week, according to garden officials.

Spokeswoman Julie McCaffrey said the botanic garden reopened partially on July 15 and was back to normal hours July 16 and 17.

According to the garden's website, camps and classes were canceled on July 13 and 14, and The Cactus and Succulent Society of Greater Chicago Show and Sale also was canceled for the weekend.

Garden Vice President Harriet Resnick said the decision was made late night on July 12 to shut down the 385-acre complex due to flooding in the internal roads.

"Many of the roadways have water that is too deep to pass through in a vehicle," Resnick said at the time. "Many of the lower-level gardens, including the Malott Japanese Garden, are underwater."

McCaffrey added that 3.66 inches of rain came down at the garden. Resnick said excess river water from the north caused the floods.

"It was all coming from what happened the night before in Lake County," Resnick said last week.

Officials said the botanic garden drew more than 1,000,000 people in 2016.

Resnick believed this was the first time since 2013 that the garden had been closed due to flooding.

As for the village itself, Glencoe's Public Works Director David Mau reported last week that the village had three localized power outages on July 12, with one leading to disruptions for 100 properties in the western part of the village. Mau said power was restored at 10 p.m. July 12. Mau said the village received approximately three inches of rain over a six-hour period starting late night on July 11 and said that flooding occurred in several parts of the village.

Non-emergency telephone lines were disrupted at the village hall on the day following the storm, according to village spokeswoman Megan Hoffman, but the problem was resolved by the morning of July 13.

Daniel I. Dorfman is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Four D64 students honored as ‘ethical leaders’

Board applauds recent graduates

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

Four Park Ridge-Niles District 64 middle school students were honored at a recent Board of Education meeting for being “exemplary ethical leaders.”

Each year, the district recognizes four students as recipients of the Judith Snow Ethical Leadership Award. District 64 Superintendent Laurie Heinz said during a June 26 board meeting. According to the district’s website, the award is named after a quarter-century resident of Park Ridge and a member of the League of Women Voters.

This year’s winners included four eighth-grade graduates: Jessica Beck and Rachel Bull from Emerson Middle School, and Danielle Ammentorp and Jonathan Spychalski from Lincoln Middle School.

Students submitted applications for the award, and the winners were chosen by members of the District 64 Elementary Learning Foundation, a nonprofit organization that fundraises for the district.

Integrity, selflessness, dependability, caring and fairness are the five characteristics that distinguish the winners, according to the district’s website.

Heinz read short descriptions of each student’s ethical qualities and leadership activities to board officials and an audience that included members of Snow’s family. Each student selected for the award demonstrated leadership and compassion both in school and outside of it in various extracurricular activities, according to the summaries read by Heinz.

Beck, a Girl Scout leader and middle school leader and a volleyball and softball player, “leads by doing things for others out of the goodness of her heart,” Heinz said.

“Her integrity is evident in how she works hard at school and also how she strives to be kind to others,” she said.

Heinz said Bull, a basketball, volleyball and soccer player, volunteers for TOP Soccer, a program that provides soccer training to children with disabilities.

A member of Lincoln’s symphonic and jazz bands and a dedicated alto sax player, Ammentorp volunteers for Phil’s Friends, a foundation that delivers care packages to cancer patients and their families, Heinz said.

“This demonstrates her compassion for helping others and her true leadership skills,” she said.

A quartermaster for his Boy Scout troop, Spychalski teaches younger scouts how to earn badges and assist senior patrol leaders with weekly meetings, Heinz said. She said Boy Scout values are similar to the qualities and skills possessed by an ethical leader. Spychalski “leads by being dependable,” Heinz said.

Heinz offered congratulations to the winners, who attended the June 26 meeting, and told them she was proud of their accomplishments.

The four also received handshakes and congratulations from board officials.

Board President Anthony Borrelli said he hoped their record of ethical leadership would serve as an inspiration to other students.

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

Study to address proposed development’s fiscal effect

D64 worried that Mr. K site plan could bring big cost

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 officials are looking for data on how a proposed development in Park Ridge will affect the district’s bottom line and its enrollment numbers.

District 64 officials commissioned Evanston-based Teska Associates Inc. for an $8,000 study to analyze the financial impact of both a residential and a commercially oriented development on the site of the Mr. K Garden and Material Center at 1440 W. Higgins Road.

Members of the Park Ridge Planning and Zoning Commission are reviewing a concept plan for 31 townhouse units on the site. The development will need City Council approval to rezone the parcel from commercial to residential.

A memo from district administrators to the board made note of an array of development activities in the city, but the document placed special emphasis on the Mr. K site because city officials were actively considering a zoning change that would, if approved, alter the amount of property tax revenue the district receives from the parcel and potentially increase the number of students enrolled in district schools.

District 64 Superintendent Laurie Heinz said in an interview last week that she’s noticed infill development popping up across the city.

“They are largely town homes and condominiums, and we never quite know how many kids each unit will generate,” she said.

“Coupled with that fact that some of our facilities are almost reaching capacity, we thought it was time to commission a study for data and planning purposes.”

The study will be presented both to school board and City Council members, Heinz said.

Park Ridge Mayor Marty Maloney said he’s pleased the district is moving forward with a fiscal impact study.

“Anecdotally, we hear schools are overcrowded, and I don’t disagree with that, but in order to have a serious discussion about future development in Park Ridge, we need some data,” Maloney said in an interview this week.

Luann Kolstad, chief school business official for District 64, said in an interview last week that the district receives less revenue from residential property than commercial property. Residential property in Cook County is assessed at 10 percent of market value, while commercial is assessed at 25 percent. Additionally, she said, if families with school-aged children move into the townhouse developments, the amount of money the home would generate in tax dollars will not cover the cost to educate a new student in the district.

Heinz said the results of the study will help district officials and administrators make a decision to come out in support of or against the zoning change requested by the developer.

The study will also help administrators determine whether a district boundary study, an initiative that’s planned for sometime between now and 2020, should happen sooner rather than later, she said. The boundary study will look at whether changing school boundaries will help even out the student population and ease the burden on schools that are crowded, Heinz said.

During a June 26 Board of Education meeting, district officials also mentioned the possibility of lobbying the City Council to assess an impact fee on developers. An impact fee is imposed upon a developer to help pay for the cost of providing public services.

“We need to take pressure off taxpayers, and one of the ways to ease that pressure on the taxpayer is an impact fee,” board member Larry Ryles said during the June 26 meeting. “When I started asking questions a year ago, I was thoroughly surprised Park Ridge did not participate in an impact fee.”

While he supports Ryle’s fight for an impact fee, board member Tom Sotos said during the meeting that “it’s not going to solve our problems.”

“If we assess an impact fee on the 31 units considered for the Mr. K site, that impact fee won’t be enough to help us potentially work around our particular problem if all 31 units end up having children in them,” he said.

Kolstad agreed with that assessment during an interview last week. She said the district might recommend the board ask the city to implement such a fee, but even with one in place, the amount of revenue realized would be relatively small in comparison to the cost of educating a new student.

Maloney said he doesn’t believe an impact fee would significantly ease the district’s cost burden. But, he added, “that being said, I’m open to having conversations about them and we haven’t had those conversations yet.”

Maloney said the impact study won’t stop development from occurring, but it will aid in the conversation around adding new development and increasing density in the city.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Glenview police reward good deeds with treats

By Alexandra Kukulka
Pioneer Press

Glenview and eight other communities are participating for the first time in a campaign rewarding people who do good deeds with coupons for McDonald's ice cream.

People seen doing things such as wearing a bike helmet, obeying traffic laws and helping another person in Glenview, Buffalo Grove, Lincolnshire, Mount Prospect, Niles, Prospect Heights, Schaumburg, Wheeling and Yorkville, could receive a coupon for a free McDonald's ice cream cone from police officers, said Patricia Kemp, a McDonald's spokeswoman.

"In speaking with public information officers in these communities, we thought it was a great opportunity to reward the community for doing the right thing during the summer months," she said.

Kemp said she suggested the idea in May to local police departments based on the success of similar programs across the country. Nine communities decided to participate, and the local McDonald's owners agreed to give 2,000 coupons to the participating police departments, she said.

Each police department was given 220 coupons, Kemp said. In Glenview, 160 coupons were handed out to each patrol shift, and 60 coupons were distributed to the rest of the department, said Glenview Police Department spokesman Sgt. Jim Foley.

"We're happy to partner with (McDonald's)," Foley said. "People should be recognized for the good that they do."

The coupons can only be redeemed at the participating McDonald's in the nine communities, Kemp said, adding that the program began June 21.

Chris Prucnal, the owner of two Glenview McDonald's restaurants, said that the first weekend the program started more than 100 coupons were redeemed in Glenview. Prucnal said that it is important for businesses to participate in community programs.

"What I really like about this is we can use our restaurants to help the police and the community build a relationship," Prucnal said. "I'm glad we get an opportunity to bridge that gap."

The program will continue until all of the coupons are handed out, Kemp said, adding that she hopes the program continues in the future.

"We want to keep (the program) growing and add more police departments to it," she said.

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**OPINION**

**Nothing beats fresh foods in summer**

Randy Blaser

Every Sunday in the summer on the way home from a weekend on the Chain O'Lakes, we would stop at a roadside farm stand to pick up fresh fruits and vegetables.

There is nothing better than biting into a fresh juicy tomato on a summer day or a tasting a fresh ear of corn hot off the grill and slathered with butter and a dash of salt at a backyard barbecue. The explosion of taste in fresh fruits and vegetables can seem out of reach when you are stuck at home.

But the simple fact is that fresh produce and flowers, the best way to support local farming and the best way to interact with good, old-fashioned neighbors.

The best roadside farm stand was a place called Ethel's on Route 12 around Lake Cook Road, long gone now. It had everything and everything in abundance. Corn, tomatoes, onions, radishes, lettuce, broccoli, cauliflower, the entire garden. And fresh fruit galore from strawberries to peaches to plums and apricots. Oh, I so loved apricots, but haven't had a good one in ages.

The best way to shop for your summer bounty of fruits and vegetables, the best way to support local farming and the best way to interact with good, old-fashioned neighbors.

The roadside farm stands are long gone for the most part. Although on the way home from Boy Scout camp I always looked forward to bringing home two bags of tomatoes, red and white, from the roadside stand.

Today we have farmers markets, and if your town doesn't have one, you should really encourage officials to get one.

Farmers markets today are like a little community fair, where neighbors come out and meet each other and enjoy the sunshine, the fresh produce and flowers, and each other.

It's the best way to shop for your summer bounty of fruits and vegetables, the best way to support local farming and the best way to interact with good, old-fashioned neighbors.

The Illinois legislature has passed a law allowing AT&T to eliminate landline phones.

Again, we are being forced to pay more (for cellphones and fees) so that someone - AT&T in this case - can make more money.

We can struggle along with bad TV service. But, how do we get along if we can't afford some kind of phone?

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist.

**Technological progress comes with a cost**

Paul Sassone

I am living backwards.

On June 13, 2009, I was transported back to the 1950s. That was the day all analog TV service was converted to digital.

It was the dawn of a wonderful new day in TV watching - better picture, better sound, more channels.

All done for your benefit and my benefit.

Of course there also was money to be made.

The conversion not only freed up parts of the broadcast spectrum for public safety communications, part was auctioned off to companies to provide advanced wireless services, such as wireless broadband.

To enter this TV nirvana, we either had to subscribe to some form of pay TV or buy a box that converted analog to digital. The government paid for a portion of the initial converter box cost.

The best way to go was with pay TV. But more than a few people could not afford to. They had to make do with a converter box. I say "make do" because converter box TV watching is primitive and often doesn't work.

Remember that old "Honeymooners" episode where Ralph and Ed buy a TV set together? They have to keep moving the rabbit ears antenna around to get a picture. Ralph, of course, falls down the stairs while trying to move the antenna to get a picture.

Today, converter box people are living in the 1980s. Unlike Ralph Kramden, I haven't fallen down stairs trying to get a picture. But, I never can get channel 2 (CBS), occasionally I can see channel 5 (NBC) and channel 9 (WGN).

The only stations I receive almost all the time are channel 7 (ABC) and channel 11 (WTTW).

Oh yes, I do receive a bunch of foreign language channels - Spanish mostly.

Had I known this, I would have taken Spanish in school instead of German. I bring all this up because the government has made another decision that is going to mess me up.

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We can struggle along with bad TV service. But, how do we get along if we can't afford some kind of phone?

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist.
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The Main Quadrangle at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign pictured on March 20.

PAT LENHOFF

Once the Fourth of July ends, sales fliers immediately turn toward the back-to-school season. In every store, the summer section is moved to clearance as pens, notebooks and dorm supplies take over seemingly overnight.

Talk about a cold water wake-up call. We barely finish celebrating summer's biggest holiday, and then there's back-to-school signs in your face, taunting you about the end of summer.

As is true of life in general, things change over the generations -- including academia. Although elementary and high school students still have supply lists that require the basics like file folders and paper, students now are often seen with individual Chromebooks or other personal technology devices. Those tools have become an important part of the educational process.

It's probably not outrageous to speculate that someday the entire learning experience will be done electronically.

But to me, nothing has changed as much as the college experience, which seems to be moving closer toward that marker already. While many college students are still shopping for dorm accessories and spending hot weekends moving into campus living quarters, there are increasingly larger factions that not only stay home but never have to leave to perform their college studies. A computer screen is the new college campus for those students.

We've heard commercials for University of Phoenix, probably the most well-known example of an institution offering an exclusively online degree curriculum. Although they have actual locations nationwide and a main campus in the Phoenix area, they are not the traditional central quadrangle with departmental buildings and dorm.

It seems to be the beginning of a completely different approach to college life. According to an Associated Press article, there are increasingly diverse opportunities for college study that emphasize focusing on "critical thinking" rather than "regurgitating information." There are also one-year, non-degree programs focusing on data analytics and business intelligence. With countless traditional students burdened by massive financial debt from rising tuition and associated living costs, this option can be attractive.

The article continues with conjecture by some experts that there are employers who agree that traditional university settings and educational experiences might not have as much relevance for today's world. They reference companies such as Google, which dropped college education from its hiring requirements, as has the British office of Ernst & Young.

What I like about those actions is that I think there are many ways to be a smart, effective and hard worker. A college education is just one of the ways to facilitate that.

What I don't like about it is that nothing compares with a crisp autumn day on a beautiful campus, and the feeling of freedom and purpose that many students feel once mom and dad have gone home and classes have begun. It's a learning experience like any other, and it might teach students just as much about life as the classroom itself. I hope that never changes.

Pat Lenhoff is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

viewfromvho@yahoo.com
Hinsdale artist's message colorful, vibrant, patriotic

I saw a number of attractive yard signs sprouting up around the Fourth of July and could tell immediately that the artist was Hinsdale's own Maureen Claffy. She has an unmistakably exuberant style whether she is painting flowers in a vase, abstract shapes and circles or a series of valentine-shaped hearts in red, white and blue marching across a canvas.

The yard signs read "Love One Another" and "Love Lives Here." They were patriotic and optimistic. In small letters there was a website: love livesusa.org.

I called Maureen, but was a little late in talking to her because the yard signs were only part of the campaign. The artwork was displayed on digital billboards in Chicago for several days around the Fourth of July. Two were in Wilmette, one in Lincoln Park, and one on Interstate 294.

They flashed: "One Nation," "Love One Another" and "Love Lives In America." These boards carried red, white and blue messages of patriotism, love, hope and unity.

I do not know Maureen well at all but her art work has always attracted me. I particularly like the sign "Love One Another," not just because of the written message.

The picture is of a large heart and inside the Valentine something is bursting out, fragmenting but fitting nicely within the space, each little piece irregular, asymmetrical but self-contained and contributing

to the beauty of the whole despite an apparent lack of order. It seems such an appropriate metaphor for our country.

In the one called "One Nation" we have a graphic of the continental United States painted in red and blue and white swirls curling around each other, creating waves and motion. As she was painting these images, Claffy said she found the red and the blue kept and swirling and staying together. She was unable to separate them, though she also did not physically mix them together to create purple either. The red and blue can't be separated.

"We are one nation," she said, no matter whether you are red or blue. The tone and tenor of last year's presidential election inspired Claffy and these images, which are all part of her "America the Beautiful" series. She said she found the election's language uncivil, unsafe and sometimes offensive.

She was part of the Women's March that took place after the presidential inauguration this year, and afterward she said she felt "that there was all this energy and what are we going to do with it?" She expressed her concern and her energy in the way that she knows how: through painting.

She came up with a few images and worked with graphic designer Christian Fleming. He is the one who took the idea of the United States' shape as the outline for one of the billboards. He took the work and used photo shop and came up with the fonts, designs for the words and written elements.

Claffy collaborated with other village women, specifically Nancy Pollak, Ramsey Ellis and Mandy Roudebush. She was struck by the boldness of that statement and also by the rightness of it.

"The message has to be love all the way," she said. She would like to see us all love one another and insists on love and respect in the way that we treat one another despite differences.

Claffy went even further. She thought about what her country means to her. She remembers our nation's Bicentennial in 1976, a time "I fell in love with my nation."

Even then she realized we are to live in such an amazing place, and as she grew up, she learned how amazing it was that this group of men, our Founding Fathers, put together a document that is inclusive, life affirming and that seeks to make our lives better.

Claffy and her group hope to raise enough money to buy digital billboard space from one end of the United States to another for Labor Day weekend. I find the beauty, joy, obvious love and even the irregularities of her images very positive and inspiring.

For more information about Claffy and her artwork, go to maureen claffy.squarespace.com and view the American The Beautiful Series. For more information about the Love One Another campaign, go to www.lovelivesusa.org.
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Fair season brings old-fashioned fun

BY ANNIE ALLEMAN
Pioneer Press

There really isn't anything quite like the county fair. There's usually a carnival, a pretty big musical headliner, 4-H kids showing off the culmination of their year of hard work, fried foods you normally wouldn't eat and lots of great entertainment.

Here's your guide to some of the county fairs in Northern Illinois.

Kane County Fair
When: July 20-23
Where: Kane County Fairgrounds, 2525 S. Randall Road, St. Charles
Hours: 3-11 p.m. Thursday, noon-midnight Friday and Saturday; noon-10 p.m. Sunday
Cost: $3 Thursday; $10 Friday-Sunday; children under 3 free.
Information: 630-584-6926; www.kane-county-fair.org

Highlights: Parade and Championship barrel racing July 21-22 ($14/$7 for kids), Barrell Racers Tour July 22 ($10); Smash 'em Bash 'em Demolition Derby 2 and 7 p.m. July 23.

DuPage County Fair
When: July 26-30
Where: DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 Manchester Road, Wheaton
Hours: 8 a.m.-11 p.m. daily
Cost: $10; $5 seniors 62 and older; $4 children ages 3-12; children 2 and under and military with ID free.
Information: 630-668-6636; www.dupagecountyfair.org

Mainstage: Rachel Plattin July 28, David Nail July 29 ($20, includes fair admission); Rodeo at noon and 4 p.m. July 29; demolition derby 1 and 6 p.m. July 30 ($15, includes fair admission).

Highlights: Parade and opening ceremony at 4:30 p.m. July 26. Three stages with live music, karaoke contest, pie eating contest, Dog adoption area, antique tractor parade, bags tournament, classic car show, camel and pony rides.

Lake County Fair
When: July 26-30
Where: Lake County Fairgrounds, 1060 E. Peterson Road, Grayslake
Hours: 10 a.m.-11 p.m. July 26-27; 10 a.m.-12 a.m. July 28-29; and 10 a.m.-7 p.m. July 30
Cost: $10; $5 for seniors 65 and older and children ages 6 through 12. Children under 5 free.

Highlights: Parade and Pig Racing, a carnival, bingo and antique tractor parade July 28-29.

McHenry County Fair
When: Aug. 1-6
Where: 11900 Country Club Road, Woodstock
Hours: 4-10 p.m. Aug. 1-10 a.m.-10 p.m. Aug. 2-6
Cost: $8; $5 for kids 6-12; seniors over 60 and veterans with ID. Kids 5 and under free.
Information: 815-338-5315; www.mchenrycountyfair.org

Mainstage: Woody James Sept. 6 (free). Old Dominion headlines Sept. 8 ($25). In-field track attractions include harness racing Sept. 6, tractor pulls at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 7 and 12:30 and 6:30 p.m. Sept. 9 ($20/$5 child). The demolition derby is at 1 and 3:30 p.m. Sept. 10 ($15/$5 child).

Highlights: Horse shows, culinary competitions, Carnival and the Lumberjack Show.

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The Park Ridge Chorale will perform songs of peace in a July 29 concert.

**MUSIC**

**Chorale concert invites the audience to ‘imagine peace’**

**BY Sheryl DeVore**

Pioneer Press

The audience at the summer Park Ridge Chorale concert July 29 might get the opportunity to sing. “All we are saying is give peace a chance” along with the choir.

The iconic words written by John Lennon fit right in with the concert’s theme, “Imagine Peace.”

Choir director Ed Zelnis said he and choir members have discussed how over the years the chorale has had successful concerts singing pieces written about various wars.

Someone suggested the chorale should do a concert highlighting peace. “I thought that was a fabulous idea,” Zelnis said, adding it’s a perfect theme for “today’s troubled world.”

So the group, led by Zelnis since 1998, is giving peace a chance.

Zelnis said he chose pieces that had a high-energy level and could involve audience participation.

The opener is “Song of Peace,” from the opera “Finlandia” written by Jean Sibelius in 1899.

“This particular arrangement has an African world music feel to it, like pounding drum beats,” Zelnis said. “It should be very exciting.”

The choir will sing in both English and Zulu for the piece. “We like to foray into various languages,” Zelnis said.

“Delving into the era of my youth and many of the people in the chorale, I found ‘Peace Train’ by Cat Stevens, and we’re doing a John Lennon medley, which includes ‘Give Peace a Chance’ and ‘Imagine.’”

And because love and peace go together, he said, the chorale will also sing “Love Train,” from the Motown era.

One piece the choir is especially enjoying is “The Epitaph,” based on a text possibly written by Native Americans, he said.

“It’s about the eternity of spirit,” he said.

One of the choir members brought the piece to Zelnis. “It’s something I hadn’t heard. It’s really, really beautiful. The chorus is really taken by it,” he said.

Zelnis said he’s worked with the Park Ridge Chorale for nearly two decades because “they are a very vibrant group. They have wonderful energy. And they’re a good fit for me because ever since the beginning of my career, I’ve always been involved in all sorts of music, and the choir likes to doing a wide variety of music.”

Indeed, Zelnis once served as Eartha Kitt’s musical director, sang with Music of the Baroque for more than 20 years, has conducted productions at the Goodman and Steppenwolf Theaters and at Evanston’s Light Opera Works, and has sung in the choruses of Lyric Opera and Grant Park Symphony.

The Park Ridge Chorale, with about 45 members, was formed in 1984, and performs three concerts annually.

**When:** 7 p.m. July 29

**Where:** St. Luke’s Lutheran Church, 205 N. Prospect, Park Ridge

**Tickets:** $14-$16 online; $16-$18 at the door; free for ages 18 and younger

**Information:** 224-585-3403; www.parkridgechorale.com
Making the presentation of Chicago Tribune Athlete of the Year sponsored by Country Financial are (from left to right) Bruce Dold, publisher and editor-in-chief Chicago Tribune; Matt Bute, former vice president sales Chicago Tribune Media Group and vice president/general manager for cars.com; Annika Wagner from Maine South; Trevor Esparvnik from Lowell High School; Matthew Krames from Stevenson High School; Spencer Walker from Lyons Township High School; Georgette Topalis from Buffalo Grove High School; Cathy Uhlir from Trinity High School; Penelope Tir from New Trier High School; Fanette Singer, senior vice president marketing at Country Financial; Jim Rotche, general manager Chicago Tribune Media Group; and Robin Munoz, project coordinator Chicago Tribune Media Group. Not pictured are Athlete of the Year winners Ryan Iaciancio from Providence High School and Ivory Kelly Martin from Oswego East High School.

The winners of the Chicago Tribune Athlete of the Year, sponsored by Country Financial, were honored recently at the annual Printers Row Lit Fest in Chicago. The Athletes of the Year winners were selected in online voting by Chicago Tribune Media Group readers after having previously been selected as Athletes of the Month to qualify for the Athlete of the Year balloting from their respective geographical region.

Each athlete will receive a $500 scholarship from Country Financial. The winning athletes also had an exclusive meet and greet at the Lit Fest with retired basketball player Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, author of "Coach Wooden and Me."

**The 2017 Athletes of the Year are:**
- Matthew Krames from Stevenson High School (Lake Shore)
- Carly Uhlir from Trinity High School (Near West)
- Penelope Tir from New Trier High School (North Shore)
- Georgette Topalis from Buffalo Grove High School (Northwest)
- Trevor Esparvnik from Lowell High School (Post-Tribune)
- Ryan Iaciancio from Providence High School (South)
- Spencer Walker from Lyons Township High School (The Doings)
- Ivory Kelly Martin from Oswego East High School (West)
- Annika Wagner from Maine South (Central)

For official Chicago Tribune Athlete of the Month and Athlete of the Year rules and voting information, visit chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes.
New world: And baby makes 4

Advocates say acknowledging a third parent reflects the modern realities of some families.
Aurora woman opens dream sweet shop

By Judy Buchenot
The Beacon-News

While most children were watching Big Bird, Jacqueline E. Mejia spent her childhood watching “Dessert Circus,” the public television series by chef Jacques Torres.

“I was fascinated by how he mixed art and chocolate together. He made such beautiful things out of chocolate,” said Mejia, 28. She moved to Aurora as a teen from Chicago and went through high school still holding onto the idea of making spectacular sweets like chef Torres.

Her dream is about to come true when she opens Atrevete Confections in mid-August in Naperville.

Mejia’s journey to her own shop has taken several years. Although chef Torres made his creations look effortless, Mejia knew there was much more than what she saw on the television show.

She started her pastry training at the French Pastry School of Kennedy King College at City Colleges of Chicago.

“It was a six-month program that covered everything about French pastry,” she said. “There were different instructors for each area like chocolate creations, sugar candy, tarts. Many of the chefs had won awards in their fields. I was really nervous about going there at first. Everyone was really great. I really learned a lot.”

She said the most challenging area to master was ice cream. “There is a lot of science to ice cream if you want to make the really good stuff!”

But Mejia knew there was more she needed to learn. As she contemplated her next move, she was influenced by her boyfriend, a Chicago college student about to return to his home in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

“I found out that Chris Hamner was accepting interns at his shop in Sioux Falls,” she says referring to the chef who won the “Top Chef: Just Desserts” competition, season 2, the Bravo network show that pitted pastry chefs against each other in numerous contests. “I started there as an intern and worked my way up to being his assistant pastry chef.”

After four years of learning all she could about the pastry business, Mejia wanted to return to Aurora to be closer to family. She and her boyfriend moved back to Aurora in January.

Her plan was to start by selling pastries at area farmers markets. She signed up for farmers markets in Aurora and Oswego. She called her business Atrevete Confections.

“Atrevete is a Spanish word meaning ‘to be bold or daring.’ That is what I want to do — bold and daring things.” Her slogan for the company is “sweet has never been so daring.”

After a few weeks at the markets, she was presented with an offer to open a shop at Sage Culinary Studio, at 2764 Aurora Ave., Suite 104, in Naperville, a professional kitchen she has been renting to make her pastries.

“I decided I need to take advantage of the opportunity,” she says, living up to her claim of being bold and daring. The shop is slated to open mid-August.

One of Mejia’s specialties are macarons. “There is really not an easy way to learn how to make macarons,” she said. The recipe may have the measurements and instructions, but she said many skills have to be mastered by seeing it done and then doing it yourself.

“The recipe can say ‘beat until light and fluffy’ but you have to know what ‘light and fluffy’ looks and feels like. If you don’t have the batter just right, it won’t work. Once you have the cookie mastered, then you have to make the filling.

“So many bakers just use buttercream but the filling should be more. I usually use a mix of ganache with jams. And I don’t use jams that are too sweet. The cookie is already sweet. What I try to add is flavor. I use jams that have a strong fruit flavor and less sugar. It is all about the filling.”

She makes classic flavors like pistachio and caramel but also seasonal flavors like strawberries and cream and raspberry lemonade.

Mejia’s favorite item to make is croissants. “Croissants take a lot of practice. The secret is to keep everything chilled. It really helps to see someone else make them. I like to make different flavors.”

She was recently selling raspberry pistachio, red velvet, dark chocolate cherry and classic chocolate croissants at the markets. She plans to carry an everchanging assortment at her shop when it opens. True to her original muse, Jacques Torres, Mejia also works with chocolate. “You really need a temperature-controlled room to work with chocolate,” she said. “And it is important to temper the chocolate just right.” She makes a variety of truffles and other chocolate creations.

Although not everyone can make French pastries at first, Mejia says beginners can successfully tackle many delicious desserts.

She shares her grandmother’s simple yet delicious cheesecake recipe and a great summer cupcake that mimics a banana split. For Atrevete Confections, go to www.atreveteconfections.com.

Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer for The Beacon-News.

Banana Split Cupcakes

Makes 12 cupcakes.

BATTER

- 1 1/4 cups flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 2 eggs
- 2 large bananas

FILLING

- 1/4 cups cubed fresh strawberries
- 1 cup pineapple tidbits, drained
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 1/2 tablespoons cornstarch

FROSTING

- 1 1/4 cups whipping cream
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 3 tablespoons marshmallow fluff

1. Whisk together flour, baking powder and baking soda in a bowl and set aside. Beat butter and sugar with a mixer until light and fluffy. Add vanilla, sour cream and eggs and mix well, being sure to scrape sides of the bowl. Stir in flour mixture, just until combined. Scrape sides of bowl. Mash bananas in a small bowl. Mix bananas into batter until well combined. Place liners into a cupcake pan. Divide batter between 12 cupcake liners. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes. Toothpick inserted into a cupcake should come out clean. Allow cupcakes to cool.

2. To make the filling, place strawberries, pineapple, sugar and cornstarch in a saucepan. Bring to a boil while stirring. When mixture comes to a boil, continue to boil two minutes. Remove from heat. Allow to cool. Refrigerate until ready to use. Can be made a day ahead of time and stored in refrigerator. To make frosting, place all ingredients in a bowl and whip on high speed until medium stiff peaks form.

3. To assemble cupcakes, cut a small core out of the middle of the cupcake. Fill with strawberry pineapple mixture. Pipe frosting onto the cupcake. For an extra touch, drizzle chocolate ganache or chocolate syrup over the frosting, put on some colored sprinkles and add a cherry. Refrigerate cupcakes until ready to serve.
Make the most of summer

Fresh seasonal produce a hit on the grill or in simple salads

By Veronica Hinke
Pioneer Press

"Because we can!" That's Chef Beth Partridge's answer to why we should make the most of the best produce of summer. Partridge is chef-partner at Autre Monde Cafe & Spirits in Berwyn, and she has plenty of ideas for putting summer on a plate.

"The sheer selection of produce we have available via farmers markets and specialty grocers in Chicago at the height of summer offers such variety to both professional and home chefs to expand their cooking options," she said. "You can be pretty effortlessly as healthy or decadent as you want. It's all there!"

From salad dressings to chimichurri sauces to fabulous melon salads, chefs everywhere are maximizing this limited time of year with their personal favorites. And they have simple steps you can take at home.

Chef Jaime Laurita's favorite seasonal ingredient right now is "watermelon, always," he said. "I love grilling it!" Fresh watermelon is like a blank canvas to Laurita as he tries pairing it with all sorts of different herbs from his garden. "Grilled chives and rosemary," Laurita said, "they just speak to each other." He makes a bed of fresh herbs on the grill, underneath what's cooking, to infuse a smoky herb flavoring to it all. And he also loves experimenting with different smoked salts on watermelon.

At House 406 in Northbrook, proprietor Jen Eisen is celebrating fresh arugula. A little raspberry vinaigrette brings together a nice salad of the hearty leaves with burrata (fresh mozzarella and cream). The little salads are a simple yet refreshing, tasty toast to summer.

Autre Monde, Partridge is putting lovely freshly grown lettuce leaves and pretty sweet violets and other edible flowers to work in stunning and delicious, classic salads. Her favorite this time of year is Salade Gourmande, which is your basic chef's salad. She follows the standard construction, which showcases meats (usually duck) that are cured, poached or confit (a preservation technique involving salting and cooking meat). At Autre Monde, meats are prepared these ways, in-house.

In Partridge's Salade Gourmande, the meats are on a bed of fresh, crispy seasonal greens and tossed in a tangy vinaigrette dressing. "The flavors are a perfect melding of the richness of the meats," she said. The rich, fatty duck meat is balanced by the crispy farm greens.

Autre Monde is sourcing red and green oak leaf lettuces, red and green bibb lettuces and gem lettuces from Nichols Farm in Marengo. This time of year, there are plenty to pick from.

Partridge's vinaigrette is a bright, homemade dressing made with Champagne vinegar and lavender honey in extra virgin olive oil with some salt and pepper. A freshly chopped shallot adds another pop of flavor.

"Two or three tiny, bright, colorful sweet violets on top bring the salad together. You can use any edible flowers, but Partridge said violets add some pepperness. "This is the kind of salad that is fun to pull together when the farm season is at its height," she said.

Partridge calls the recipe "deceptive simplicity. When people order it, they are thrilled with the experience of what actually happens on the plate."

Earlier this season, Sarah Grueneberg, chef at Monteverde in Chicago, won the James Beard Foundation award for Best Chef: Great Lakes. But what she's excited about is all of the cilantro growing in abundance. "Cilantro is a great low-cost herb that anyone can use to add a fresh zip to a dish," she said. "Most chefs can use it more because of the accessible price point unlike some other herbs. It's also used in so many cultures, like Thai, Vietnamese, Mexican and others."

Grueneberg is using fresh, seasonal cilantro to make a delicious chimichurri-like sauce to dress up pork. "One of the dishes I'm super excited about right now is a dish we make with pork," she said. "We get in a whole Mangalitsa pig from 1936 Meadowbrook Farm (Benton Harbor, Mich.), and we make pork skewers form the loin," she said. "Part of the dish is this delicious herb oil, similar to a chimichurri."

Grueneberg takes cilantro stems and leaves, chops them fine and blends with olive oil, parsley and chives. You can make this at home, adding ingredients to desired consistency and flavor.

And to stretch seasonal produce
Grueneberg reminded us: Don't forget the stems. They are full of flavor and packed with nutrition. "Mince them finely and use them for the flavor," she said. Pretty sweet violets add pops of color to Chef Beth Partridge's Salade Gourmande at Autre Monde Cafe & Spirits in Berwyn.

**Salade Gourmande**

(Classic Chef's Salad)

Serves 4

- 12-15 crisp lettuce leaves
- ⅛ pound duck rillettes
- ⅛ pound duck prosciutto
- ⅛ pound duck confit
- 12 fresh seasonal berries
- 12 fresh sweet violets or other edible flowers

1. Toss lettuce leaves lightly in vinaigrette dressing and arrange on four plates. Top each plate with ⅛ of each type of duck meats. Add a few fresh berries on top of each salad. Finish with 2 to 3 sweet violets or other edible flowers.

**VINAIGRETTE**

- ¼ cup Champagne vinegar
- 1 cup high quality extra virgin olive oil
- 1 shallot, freshly chopped
- ½ teaspoon lavender honey
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Whisk all ingredients together in small, non-reactive bowl, toss lightly to just coat the lettuce leaves.

— Beth Partridge, Autre Monde Café & Spirits

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How to help a shy dog gain confidence in you

By Cathy M. Rosenthal
Tribune Content Agency

Q: My adult daughter and her family have a female lab mix named Scooby. Despite my seeing her three to four times a year (they live in Atlanta), she is always afraid of me and will sometimes bark and growl at me. Eventually she calms down and I can pet her. Even though she jumps on our bed and seems glad to see us, she avoids me later. She also gets very upset with my other son-in-law and never calmed down enough for him to pet her.
Is there anything that I can do to make her less apprehensive? I’ve tried treats, but have a hard time getting her to come over to take them. — James Cohen, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

A: What a great guy you are to seek advice about bonding with your granddog Scooby.

Some dogs may not have been properly socialized as a puppy or, like people, may be shyer than other dogs and more stressed by social situations. Scooby needs some confidence-building. There are ways to help her become a more confident dog all year-long, but I am going to focus on what you can do when you visit.

Scooby needs to know good things happen whenever you arrive. Bring her a treat, toy or chew you know she will enjoy. Make sure you are the one to give it to her and only give it to her in a quiet place. Put it on the ground, and then step back so she can check it out on her own.

Next, ask your daughter and her family if you can take over Scooby’s care while you are there, like feeding her, taking her for her walks, and playing with her, if she will let you. Pets bond with their caretakers, so these activities can help build trust and show her you are part of the family.

You also should spend quiet time together, which helps Scooby associate calmness when you are around. Get up in the morning, while everyone is still sleeping, and spend time with her, either watching TV or sitting out in the backyard. Rather than face her, sit sideways to her, like two people watching a baseball game, and wait for her to come to you. This body language is less intimidating and makes it easier for shy dogs to approach.

Speak softly to her and give her a few tasty treats. Your extended arm might scare her, so toss some strong-smelling treats on the ground a few feet away from you, eventually tossing them closer to you as she gets more comfortable with your new friendship.

Just be present with her and don’t force anything to happen. Don’t make sudden movements or use loud, booming voices that could startle her. Do these things on every visit, and eventually Scooby will be relaxed and happy to see her grandpa from Fort Lauderdale.

Q: I was very interested in your answer to Michelle from Naugatuck, Conn., about painting the house with birds in the home. I took my birds to my daughter’s house to avoid fumes from roof coating. It was so stressful for them. I will never do it again. But my house needs painting. If there is a 100 percent safe paint product, I would love to know what it is. — Michelle, Oro Valley, Ariz.

A: Sadly, there is no 100 percent safe paint product for birds. The low Volatile Organic Compounds and no VOC paints mentioned in the previous column are your best options. If you can’t take your bird someplace else while you paint, then use only these paints and move your bird to a room in the home not being painted that day. Close the door, close the air vent, and open a window in that room to keep fresh air circulating for your bird. Move your bird back into the painted room only after the paint thoroughly dries.

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.
La-Z-Boy owner wants warranty explanation

I purchased a recliner from the La-Z-Boy store in Monmouth Junction, N.J., on July 31, 2013. When it was delivered in September, there was a problem with the way the fabric was put on the back of the chair so I called and complained. It was picked up and delivered again in October, but they sent me the exact same chair with the exact same problems. The chair also did not recline properly and kept making a loud thump when pulled up (which never went away). It was picked up again and returned. But then I had to schedule service on the mechanism. A technician came on Nov. 29, 2013, to repair the problem.

I am now having a problem again. When I recline the chair, it does not stay in position. So I had to call La-Z-Boy's Comfort Care department and they told me the parts and mechanism have a lifetime warranty that covers parts for a longer period than labor. To confirm, I emailed Amy Hellebuyck, La-Z-Boy residential manager for brand content and public relations. She responded that yes, the cost of labor had expired from Liz's warranty and that was why she incurred a $116.49 charge. Hellebuyck explained the warranty specific to Liz's recliner:

"La-Z-Boy offers a lifetime warranty against manufacturing defects on the parts of the frame, mechanism and springs, for as long as the original purchaser owns the product and can supply their proof of purchase. Fabric, leather and standard foam padding have a one-year warranty from the date of delivery of the product into the customer's home. Labor to repair or replace any parts is covered for one year from the date of delivery."

She offered to refund Liz her $116.49 fee because "customer service is very important to La-Z-Boy." Liz responded, "Thank you so much for your help.

It is nice to know there are people out there that still care.”

As a result of Liz's inquiry, I decided to contact an expert on warranties: Anthony Giorgianni, Consumer Reports finance editor. Giorgianni was a font of warranty information. Below are some of his best points:

- Per the Federal Trade Commission, all retailers must make warranties available to consumers prior to a product's purchase. Request it if you don't see it.
- About every product purchase comes with an implied warranty — or warranty of merchantability — which means a product will do what a reasonable person would expect it to. This warranty is typically in effect for four years, and exists unless legally excluded. Several states, including Illinois, allow such exclusions, meaning a product can be labeled and sold "as is."
- An express warranty is one that is clearly stated orally or in writing (hence, it is expressed) and guarantees a level of quality and reliability that ensures a product will be fixed or replaced by the manufacturer for no additional charge.
- Many manufacturers will make good on an express warranty even if it has expired. But Giorgianni advises: "Don't go in with guns blazing. Tell the manufacturer how much you love the product and how disappointed you are that it didn't last.”
- Conduct an internet search of your issue to see if there has been a recall on the product. If a recall exists, your repair/replacement will be free.
- If your internet search results in lots of product complaints similar to yours, document them for use in building a stronger case with the manufacturer.

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

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist.
Favorite books of 2017 — so far

From heart-pounding horror to true-life tragedy, writer offers his picks for first half of the year

By John Warner
Chicago Tribune

American publishing, like Hollywood, tends to hold its prestige releases for the fall. In the summer we get superhero movies and beach reads, but potential prizewinners will make their way into the world in September and beyond.

Fall will see new books from Jesmyn Ward, Jennifer Egan, Jeffrey Eugenides and Nicole Krauss. Best-selling literary fiction writers Celeste Ng and Tom Perrotta have new books on the horizon. And for those on the more populist end of things, Andy Weir will be releasing his follow-up to “The Martian.”

But as I look back on my reading from the first half of the year, I can see that every week is a good week for new books, unlike Hollywood.

The 2017 Midyear Biblioracle Book Awards

Book I Most Want Mayor Rahm Emanuel to Read
Based on his threadbare proposal to require proof of a “future plan” for graduating high school students, the mayor needs to read Tressie McMillan Cotton’s “Lower Ed: The Troubling Rise of For-Profit Colleges in the New Economy,” which chronicles what happens when we require additional credentials without care or planning. Placing the responsibility on students means more money going to shady operators with little learning or economic advancement to show for it.

Book I Read Through Parted Fingers
I love legitimately scary books because they’re so rare. Dan Chaon’s “Ill Will” is a deliciously unsettling experience exploring the unreliability of memory and the capacity of anyone to do evil. Runner-up: “Broken River” by J. Robert Lennon is a tense little psychological thriller where the threat of bad stuff happening looms over every moment.

A True Story You’ll Hardly Believe
“Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI” by David Grann. At one point, thanks to oil wealth, the Osage people were among the richest Americans, which made them targets for exploitation and murder. It took the FBI in the earliest days of J. Edgar Hoover to solve the killings. Amazing history revealed.

Book That’s Worth Crossing International Borders
“Fugue States” by Pasha Malla. As of yet, this has only been published in Canada, which seems silly because it’s a wonderfully wry and twisty story that’s a buddy comedy with Pynchonian DNA. The eventual American publisher can feel free to put that blurb on the back of the book.

Book That Delivered an Emotional Blow, Even Though I Was Totally Prepared for It
There’s something about Elizabeth Strout’s books that makes me feel pain on behalf of her characters, so I knew that “Anything Is Possible” might throw me for an emotional loop. It succeeded — and then some.

Book Seemingly Written Just for Me
“The Show That Never Ends: The Rise and Fall of Prog Rock” by David Weigel. If the names King Crimson, Gentle Giant, Genesis, Yes and ELP conjure sounds inside your head, this book is for you. If not, that’s OK; those of us on the inside of the pleasure that is progressive rock will continue to lord our superiority over others.

How many will wind up on my year-end list? All of them, if there’s any justice, but there is neither justice nor room to talk about all worthy books.

John Warner is a freelance writer and the author of “Tough Day for the Army.”

Twitter @biblioracle

Book recommendations from the Biblioracle

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

1. “Sweetbitter” by Stephanie Danler
3. “The End of the Affair” by Graham Greene
4. “Beautiful Ruins” by Jess Walter
5. “Prince Charles: The Passions and Paradoxes of an Improbable Life” by Sally Bedell Smith

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Get a reading from the Biblioracle!

Send a list of the last five books you’ve read to books@chicagotribune.com. Write “Biblioracle” in the subject line.
NURSERY NEWS:
Page one headlines

BY GREG JOHNSON | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN
(stanxwords.com)

Across
1 Not of the clergy
5 Gear teeth
9 Sweat spot
15 Flapjack chain
19 Taj Mahal city
20 Excellent, strongly
21 Take too far
22 Takeout order
23 WOOL SHORTAGE
25 “SHEAR” NONSENSE
26 Auction, exclamation
27 Agree to take part
28 solemn vow
29 Golfer’s count
31 Space shot finale
33 Agassi of tennis
35 Declare untrue
36 MLB number
38 Poetic (tusk
39 Neptune’s domain
40 EEK! FARM
41 Skirt edges
42 Statement in logic
43 Drive forward
44 Jungle Book snake
45 Opinion piece
46 Golfer Mickelson
47 Sushi selection
48 Two-band, as radios
49 “Farewell, François”
50 USN bigwig
51 Emulate
52 Bike sale grp
53 CASTLE HASSLE
55 Radios, as soundwaves
56 Singer Abdul
57 sesame Street
59 Nova airer
60 Opposite of ultrasound
61 Rock plateau
62 Lake near Reno
64 Timeline slice
65 Actress Hedy
67 Stoical
70 Sculpting medium
71 “SANDMAN” TALK OF TOWN
72 Aladdin prince
73 Brewpub letters
74 Inc’s cousin
75 German Elizabeth
76 Electronic read
77 Russian drink
78 Garlicky mayonnaise
79 Rodeo composer
80 100% behind
81 Munici Mrs.
82 Wagering spots: Abbr.
83 Sunbeams
84 Arid
85 “Poison” plant
86 Fails to be
87 — Ball (arcade game)
88 GOP elephant creator
89 Itinerary abbr.
90 Sealy alternative
91 “Modern” prefix
92 Poetic planet
93 Shortage
94 Unseat
95 Arizona city
96 Insurer with a
97 Gains altitude
99 Family nickname
100 Ore ending
101 Genesis twin
102 Destroyer letters
103 LOVE LETTER
104 Pass by
105 Bout ender
106 HMO participants
108 Tampa neighbor
109 Cartoon frame
110 River formation
111 Bills for drinks
112 Academic period
113 Mid-March day
114 List of the best
115 Friendly touch
116 Wear a hat
117 Conceal
118 Anti-leather
119 Academic period
120 Gets it wrong
121 Operatic excerpt
122 Crisp snack
123 Amenable
124 ANCIENT
125 Driller’s deg.
126 Lively energy
127 100% behind
128 Wagering spots: Abbr.
129 Driller’s deg.

Down
1 Toil away
2 Open-mouthed
3 Hopping mad
4 Cruise quarters
5 Tax prep pro
6 Cry of delight
7 Charity event
8 Datum
9 NASA affirmative
10 Camper’s, for short
11 Verbal shrug
12 Post-opposite
13 Mid-March day
14 List of the best
15 My treat
16 Ensnare
17 Stare at
18 Pea holders
19 Initial chip
20 On the level
21 Take too far
22 Takeout order
23 WOOL SHORTAGE
24 Initial chip
25 Blacken on grill
26 Pull from behind
27 Opposite of ultra-
28 Pull from behind
29 Russian drink
30 Maraschino
31 Space shot finale
32 Somewhat
33 Agassi of tennis
34 Cozy place
35 Declare untrue
36 MLB number
37 Little toymaker
38 Poetic planet
39 Neptune’s domain
40 On the level
41 Skirt edges
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125 Driller’s deg.

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Last week’s answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island © 2017 Creators Syndicate. All rights reserved.
Quote-Acrostic

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clues</th>
<th>Words</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Transitory.</td>
<td>hyph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Space mission's dangerous part</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Peace of mind</td>
<td>166 61 14 107 50 121 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Northwestern Americans: 2 wds.</td>
<td>86 12 110 104 26 37 154 94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Nepal's capital city</td>
<td>19 155 34 62 109 8 140 51 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Civil War battle site, 1862</td>
<td>46 143 7 156 113 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Noted ecologist</td>
<td>98 68 1 77 127 54 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Pig out</td>
<td>119 162 33 40 152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Blanche's comics husband: 3 wds.</td>
<td>95 82 102 146 159 43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

J. Acid type | 23 3 103 165 87 |
K. Dusty Hoffman role | 79 161 58 105 129 |
L. It rows through Umbria | 142 158 11 63 27 |
M. Recreational Caribbean Isle | 136 151 84 4 124 160 65 |
N. Gorby's late beloved | 75 100 20 126 44 |
O. Parroting | 92 49 120 70 80 114 39 164 18 |
P. Biblical judge and prophet | 60 10 30 115 72 96 148 |
Q. Simply accept it. 2 wds. | 22 139 29 101 42 116 89 132 74 |
R. Bar legally | 36 135 69 150 55 |
S. Transition | 128 47 78 117 9 71 |
T. Jackie Roberson's equivalent in AL | 108 90 157 31 |
U. Pooped | 137 21 6 48 153 81 111 66 |
V. Informal plea: 2 wds. | 67 57 41 133 17 163 147 |

Unpatriotic

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across
1  River's motion
2  Malice
3  Sharpen
4  Horse's gait
5  At this time
6  Went horseback
7  Elliptical
8  'Marry secretly
9  Seaweed
10  In confusion and haste
11  Little garden dweller
12  Former What's My Line? moderator
13  Very old
14  Speaker's platform
15  Carpenter's tool
16  Traitor
17  Desert dweller
18  Having debts
19  Thomas Edison
20  Vend
21  Copy exactly
22  Bearlike animal
23  Audibly
24  Son of Montague
25  Fry in fat
26  Each
27  Passageway
28  Hinder
29  Young human
30  Flower of the amaryllis family
31  Region
32  Meat-vegetable dish
33  Color permanently
34  Shaded walk
35  Spread for bread
36  Affirm
37  Mountain lake
38  Nightly TV event
39  Wise
40  Water pipe
41  Wander widely
42  Stupid person
43  Carpenter's tool
44  Wise
45  Sharp side of a knife
46  Little saline droplet
47  Very old
48  Much admired
49  Person
50  Descent dweller
51  Son of Montague
52  Passageway
53  Hinder
54  Young human
55  Region
56  Meat-vegetable dish
57  Color permanently
58  Shaded walk
59  Spread for bread
60  Affirm
61  Mountain lake
62  Take a prize

Down
1  Bad play
2  Tender feeling
3  Iridescent gem
4  Accomplished nicely
5  Hard and metallic
6  One who wants a cracker
7  Much admired person
8  Faucet
9  Objects offensive to the sight
10  Phantom
11  Grasp and keep
12  Sharp side of a knife
13  Little saline droplet
14  Very old
15  Person
16  Descent dweller
17  Son of Montague
18  Passageway
19  Hinder
20  Young human
21  Region
22  Meat-vegetable dish
23  Color permanently
24  Shaded walk
25  Spread for bread
26  Affirm
27  Mountain lake
28  Take a prize
How kids’ sports can cause marital strife

"It's out of control." "It's ridiculous." "Sports isn't everything." It's just a game." "My husband is so tough on him and sometimes it's just too much for me."

These are the words of a few different moms I spoke with on the subject of their kids playing competitive sports. Then I interviewed their husbands.

"She just doesn't realize, kids only get one chance and if they miss too many games or practices, it can hurt them." "My wife gives them a pass and makes excuses." She wants them to have fun and doesn't see it as serious involvement.

As a parent who has sat in the bleachers for many years watching my kids play competitive sports, I didn't really have to do these interviews to corroborate my belief that countless couples just can't see the fun of the game, building confidence and being open-minded to the other's opinion, and, like Southern suggested, coming to agreements on how to approach the kids' sports.

Two big sources of conflict in a marriage are money and kids, and that includes the kids' athletics. So, like any other disagreement, the key to staying happy together is talking about it, understanding and being open-minded to the other's opinion, and, like Southern suggested, coming to agreements on how to approach the kids' sports.

Not only will this show your athlete that Mom and Dad truly care, but it will send the message that the two of you are on the same team.

Jackie Pilosoff is a freelance columnist.
Tips on avoiding ticks during your next hike

By Dr. Eve Glazier and Dr. Elizabeth Ko
Ask The Doctors

Dear Doctor: I’ve been reading a lot of warnings about the recent wet weather causing an abundance of ticks and their potential to cause disease. I knew about Lyme disease, but now Powassan virus? What’s that? And just how dangerous are ticks?

Dear Reader: Ticks are external parasites that, because they feed on blood, are quite efficient at transmitting disease. In each of the three life stages that a tick goes through after hatching, it needs blood to survive. Depending on the species, ticks will feed on mammals (that’s us), birds, reptiles and amphibians.

A variety of ticks throughout the United States can transmit more than a dozen dangerous and sometimes deadly diseases. These include Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, tularemia, and Colorado tick fever, to name a few of the most commonly known. The tick picks up a disease while feeding on an infected host, and then can transmit it through its saliva during future feedings.

One of the lesser-known diseases is Powassan virus, a flu-like illness that can cause inflammation in the brain. It is spread by several types of ticks found in the northeastern states and in the Great Lakes region. The disease is fatal in up to 15 percent of individuals who show symptoms. About half of those who survive face ongoing neurological difficulties.

Powassan virus was once rare, with about two reported cases per year between 1950 and the early 2000s. That number has risen to 75 reported cases in the last decade, or close to eight per year. Some experts think this may be due to increased awareness in diagnosing the disease.

However, Lyme disease, with close to 30,000 confirmed cases each year, remains the most common tick-borne illness in the U.S. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the total may actually be as high as 300,000 infected individuals per year, when unconfirmed cases are factored in.

While there are some species of ticks that don’t carry disease, without specialized knowledge it’s almost impossible to tell them apart from those that do. As a result, the best advice is to protect yourself, your family and your pets against all tick bites.

Ticks prefer areas that are moist and humid, and concentrate in wooded and grassy areas. They can’t jump or fly, so they perch at the tips of grasses and shrubs, where they can easily attach to a host as it brushes by.

To avoid tick bites:

- When in grassy or brushy areas, wear long sleeves, long pants and close-toed shoes. Tuck pants into socks. Light-colored clothing makes spotting ticks easier.
- Insect repellents that contain 20 percent DEET may be helpful. Some experts say picaridin is even better. Reapply according to manufacturer instructions.
- Treat clothing, boots and tents with products containing 0.5 percent permethrin, which stays effective through several washings. Pre-treated clothing and gear is also available and may offer longer protection.
- After spending time outdoors, be sure to do a tick check. Visually scan all areas of your body, including your scalp and hair.

Dr. Eve Glazier, MBA, is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Dr. Elizabeth Ko is an internist and primary care physician at UCLA Health.

Send your questions to askthedoct ors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o Media Relations, UCLA Health, 924 Westwood Blvd., Suite 350, Los Angeles, CA, 90095. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Ask The Doctors

Does grapefruit make blood pressure plummet?

By Joe Graedon and Teresa Graedon
King Features Syndicate

Q: I take nifedipine for high blood pressure. Lately the medicine wasn’t controlling my blood pressure, so my doctor added lisinopril. That brought the blood pressure down, but it made me cough.

When I went back to my doctor, she dropped the lisinopril and increased the dose of nifedipine. My BP was in the 150/90 range, still on the high side.

My medicine bottle says to “avoid grapefruit,” but the past few weeks I gave in to temptation and bought several. I continued my medication and ate a grapefruit every day. My blood pressure readings have been great: 115/67, 126/72, 114/68!

When I ran out of grapefruit, I was shocked to see the readings climb again. So now I need to go get more grapefruit.

A: Dozens of medications are affected by grapefruit. They include some cholesterol-lowering drugs (atorvastatin, lovastatin, simvastatin), heart-rhythm medications (amiodarone, dronedarone) and blood-pressure pills (felodipine, nifedipine).

Grapefruit juice can raise blood levels and magnify the effects of the medicine. That means grapefruit also might increase the risk of adverse reactions.

Grapefruit all by itself can lower blood pressure (Critical Reviews in Food Science and Nutrition, Feb. 11, 2017). You shouldn’t count on it as a substitute for your medication, however. You have seen how grapefruit increases the effectiveness of your nifedipine. Side effects such as headache, dizziness, flushing and fluid retention may be more troublesome. Please discuss your grapefruit tactic with your doctor.

Q: I have been taking zolpidem (the generic version of Ambien) for several years. I’ve had horrible heartburn for the past three months and was put on Nexium. I experimented three nights ago and just took myself off the zolpidem.

During that time, I hadn’t had any heartburn at all. Now have I had to take Nexium. I feel much better in the morning without the hangover from this sleeping med.

A: Many people don’t realize that zolpidem can cause digestive distress for some patients. “Dyspepsia,” an old-fashioned term for indigestion, is listed as a frequent side effect. It may include nausea or vomiting as well as heartburn.

Q: I have been searching online for legitimate Canadian pharmacies. They all require a prescription. My doctor says it is illegal for her to write a prescription for a Canadian pharmacy.

What can I do?

A: Canadian pharmacies will accept standard prescriptions from U.S. doctors. Your physician does not need to do anything special to help you fill your prescription in Canada.

Savings on some prescription medicines can be substantial. One reader wrote: “When I buy my Xarelto from a Canadian pharmacy, I get 84 pills for $200. The first time I got this prescription, I went to my local pharmacy and found out the price was $555 for 30 pills. No way can I afford that!”

You are wise to be cautious about which online pharmacy you use. Some unscrupulous websites trade on the good reputation Canadian drugstores have earned. Make sure it is a legitimate Canadian pharmacy before you send or fax your U.S. prescription. We tell you how in our Guide to Saving Money on Medicines. This online resource is sold at www.peoplespharmacy.com.

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Send questions to them via www.peoplespharmacy.com.
Sixteen-year-old Madison's family clustered for a photo in a California courtroom, commemorating the day it finally became official that she has three parents.

The adults she calls Mom, Dad and Mama were all there for her birth, after the women decided to have a child together and approached a male friend. They share time with Madison and input on raising her. Their Christmas Day traditions involve all of them.

But legally, Victoria Bianchi became her daughter's parent only this fall, joining a small but growing number of Americans who have persuad ed courts and legislatures to give legal recognition to what's sometimes called "tri-parenting."

"I just felt like I've been holding my breath for the last 16 years," Bianchi says. "She's already been my daughter. She's finally, legally mine."

Bianchi made use of a 2013 California law declaring that a child can have more than two parents. A similar law took effect in Maine last year. Courts in at least 10 other states, including New York just this winter, have designated third parents in recent years, even as some courts and experts have raised qualms that more parents means more potential conflict.

American courts have for decades granted some rights to grandparents, stepparents and others in children's lives, but parents have uniquely broad rights and responsibilities.

Advocates say acknowledging a third parent — whether on a birth certificate, by adoption or in a custody or child support ruling — reflects the modern realities of some families: gay couples who set out to have a child with a friend of the opposite gender, men seeking to retain paternal roles after DNA shows someone else is a biological father, and other situations.

The landscape is only getting more complex. For instance, new techniques designed to avoid some rare diseases now allow for a child to be born with a small amount of DNA from a third person.

Without legal rights, some parents and kids face being cut off from each other, says Cathy Sakimura, of the San Francisco-based National Center for Lesbian Rights, which helped draft California's law.

But some courts have rejected extending the bounds of parenthood. A 2014 Wyoming Supreme Court decision wondered about parents multiplying as a mom or dad had new relationships.

While there's little if any research directly on tri-parenting, experts are divided on how it may affect children.

Anita Jones-Thomass, a University of Indianapolis professor who heads the American Psychological Association's child-and-family section, sees potential pluses. "That extra sense of social support has really been found to be beneficial for children," she says.

But W. Bradford Wilcox, a University of Virginia sociologist, points to research — not on tri-parenting specifically — showing that children in stable, two-parent families do better on average educationally, emotionally and otherwise than kids who aren't.

"This is going to be a family form where children are exposed to more complexity and more instability," he says.

When a quip about having a baby together turned into a serious discussion, Kitty Stillufsen, her longtime friend Darren Greenblatt and his now-husband, Sam Hunt, didn't foresee how complex tri-parenting would get.

The girl was born in 2009, with Greenblatt's and Stillufsen's genes and Hunt's last name. They spent part of the infant's early months together in Stillufsen's New Jersey home. Later, the Manhattan-based men rented a house in Stillufsen's seaside hometown in summers, her busy season managing her family's restaurant. She and the pre-schooler spent winters in Costa Rica.

"We're a family. We're the real thing," Stillufsen told Marie Claire magazine in 2011.

By 2013, Stillufsen was planning to marry a boyfriend in California and enroll the girl in school there. The men objected and sued for custody.

Finding that Hunt was a "psychological parent," a New Jersey judge awarded custody in 2015 to all three adults and mixed Stillufsen's planned move. All now live in New Jersey.

"I could not do that, sign away the rights to my daughter," he says.

Tri-parenting hasn't been uncomplicated for Victoria Bianchi, former partner Kimberli Bonner and friend Mark Shumway. When Bonner gave birth to Madison in 2000, the law allowed only two legal parents, so Bianchi couldn't adopt unless one of the others gave up parental status. Shumway knew it was important to Bianchi.

"I could not do that, sign away the rights to my daughter," he says.

Bianchi was heartbroken and stung by the limitations of not being a legal mom. The insurance estimator cried after trying to register the girl for kindergarten and being told: "Oh, you're not a parent?"

"Tri-parenting is still not the most important thing for us," says Bianchi. "But it was a great lesson. We had to start from the beginning."

Bonner was a 24-year-old single mom of a 4-year-old girl during her relationship with Bianchi. "We were naive," says Greenblatt, a fashion entrepreneur and bakery co-founder. "Our example should be a cautionary tale."

"But then again, we have this beautiful, smart, funny, amazing kid," he says.

Tri-parenting hasn't been uncomplicated for Victoria Bianchi, former partner Kimberli Bonner and friend Mark Shumway. When Bonner gave birth to Madison in 2000, the law allowed only two legal parents, so Bianchi couldn't adopt unless one of the others gave up parental status. Shumway knew it was important to Bianchi.

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Still, the three adults collaborated: "Madison was the most important thing to all of us, so we just wanted, whatever the differences, to work through it," says Bonner, a tech company claims adjuster.

Shumway, a real estate agent, appreciates their threeparent family so much he hopes to form another with his husband and a woman.

Madison Bonner-Bianchi says her relationship with her parents resembles anyone else's — "I just happen to have three of them."

Now 17 and busy with school, sports and friends, she allows it sometimes takes effort to round up opinions from three parents.

"But the big picture is: You just have more people there to support you and be there for you and love you no matter what," she says.

"Honestly, I look up to all of them," she says. "I honestly, I look up to all of them."

And so, one October day, she and her family assembled in a Bay Area court for Bianchi to adopt her as a third parent.

"Do you understand what this means?" Bianchi recalls the judge asking.

Without any doubt, she said yes.

David Cray contributed to this report.
EMPLEO

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FULL TIME

ELL Math/Science High School Teacher
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4063019
West Chicago, IL 844-383-4316

PART-TIME DRIVER AND MONITORS NEEDED:
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Driver candidates must be at least 21 years of age
Positions available at St. Charles and Carol Stream locations. Paid training to obtain CDL. Sign on bonus $1,000.00. Safety and Retention bonuses. 7 paid holidays - health ins, life ins, 401K available.
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To Place An Ad Call:
866-399-0537

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To Place An Ad Online go to:

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NOTE- Pursuant to the Fair O'bt Collection Practices Act you are advised that Plaintiffs attorney - is or may be acting on behalf of a debt collector or a debt collection agency and is or may be attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

5052287
7/6/2017, 7/13/2017, 7/20/2017, 7/27/2017 5052287

You have the right to remain in possession for 30 days after entry of an order granting possession. You must also pay the costs of the foreclosure sale and all outstanding assessments and taxes. If you are the mortgagor (homeowner), you have the right to remain in possession for 30 days after entry of an order granting possession. You must also pay the costs of the foreclosure sale and all outstanding assessments and taxes.

The property will not be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are advised to check the court file for all information.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real property. The property will not be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are advised to check the court file for all information.

The property will not be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are advised to check the court file for all information.

The property will not be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are advised to check the court file for all information.

The property will not be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are advised to check the court file for all information.
TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assess-
ments levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any re-
strictions as to quality or quantity of site and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a condominium, the purchaser of the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any restrictions as to quality or quantity of site and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency for admission into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identifi-
cation for admission into our building is required to verify all information presented to the court.

If the property is a condominium unit which is part of a condominium, the purchaser of the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any restrictions as to quality or quantity of site and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition.

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Credit Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is entitled to a debt collector's ability to 
terminate a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

7/6/2017, 7/13/2017, 7/20/2017, 7/27/2017
Bids shall be submitted at the time and place noted above. All bids must be accompanied by a 10% bid bond. No bids shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty days after the scheduled time for opening of bids.

The said project will be let to the lowest responsible bidder submitting the lowest bid. All work shall be performed in accordance with the specifications of the Glencoe Park District. The Glencoe Park District reserves the right to reject all or any part of the bids.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of the Glencoe Park District, Cook County, Illinois, for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2018 the following sums, or so much thereof as by law may be appropriated, shall be used for the following purposes:

1. $1,000,000 for the purchase of water main repair equipment.
2. $500,000 for the purchase of water meter maintenance equipment.
3. $200,000 for the purchase of water pump replacement equipment.
4. $150,000 for the purchase of water treatment equipment.
5. $100,000 for the purchase of water line extension equipment.

All bids shall be accompanied by a 10% bid bond that meets the requirements of local, state and federal laws. The said Park District reserves the right to reject all or any part of the bids.

The Village of Glenview reserves the right to reject all or any part of the bids.

The Board of the Glencoe Park District has cancelled the regular board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 25, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. due to a holiday. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 1, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.

The Board hereby gives notice that the Board of the Glencoe Park District will hold a meeting on July 12, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of considering the proposed budget of the Glencoe Park District for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2018.

The Board of the Glencoe Park District has received a number of bids for the purchase of water main repair equipment, water meter maintenance equipment, water pump replacement equipment, water treatment equipment, and water line extension equipment. The Board hereby gives notice that the Board of the Glencoe Park District will consider the bids at its next regular meeting on August 1, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.
APARTMENT FOR RENT

The search begins.

Gourmet kitchen and home theater check the boxes for your new place to live.

Advertise your rental unit with us to get a jump on the competition! Call 866-999-0837 or visit placebom.

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PUBLIC HEARINGS

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE - Lock Up Storage

401 W. 103rd St. Chicago, IL 60643

Notices of public sale will be held on the highest bidder. Bids must be received prior to each sale. For further information, call 773-282-1500.

Date: 7/20/2017

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Trustees of the Glenview Park District, 1919 W. Lake Street, Glenview, Illinois 60025 on Monday, August 21, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of considering matters relating to the sale of the following:

510 N. Glenview Road

1,500 square feet

Adjourned to the next meeting.

Approved by all members present.

Date: 7/20/2017

Larry W. Wilkins
Mayor

PUBLIC HEARINGS

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Glenview Park District

1919 W. Lake Street

Glenview, Illinois 60025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

This Ordinance may be cited as Village Ordinance Number 1022.

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 80-14 LINCOLN AVENUE, SIOUX CITY, IOWA, FOR REDEVELOPMENT OR OTHER MUNICIPAL PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Village of Sioux City, Iowa has declared a public purpose for the acquisition of the real estate described above; and

WHEREAS, the development of the real estate described above is necessary and is a valid public purpose; The Village of Sioux City, Iowa has declared a public purpose for the purchase of the real estate and the purchase will be paid from funds outside of the downtown district.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Sioux City, Iowa that the said Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication.

Approved by me this day of July, 2017.

Ronald A. Greco, Mayor
Annika set four school records (200-yard freestyle, 200 individual medley, 500 free and 100 breaststroke) and won conference and sectional titles in the 200 IM. Annika finished fourth in the 200 IM and the 500 free at the state meet. “Annika is not only an extremely talented swimmer, but is also one of the most focused athletes and hardest workers that I have ever coached,” said Hawks coach Don Kura.
BY BRUCE INGRAM
Pioneer Press

Thanks to his mom, teenager Elvis Presley tribute artist Hugo Colin already knew a lot of Elvis songs when he was asked to make his debut in his kindergarten talent show. "Since he learned how to speak, he was always singing Elvis songs," said Paula Colin, a longtime Elvis fan who recalls exposing Hugo to Elvis music and movies more or less in the cradle. "He was doing Elvis at 3 years old."

And we're not talking about just any old Elvis music here. We're talking about his mother's favorites and her son's as well — Presley's classic 1950s Sun Records and RCA recordings. The songs Colin will sing in a one-hour set July 27 at the Eisenhower Public Library in Harwood Heights.

He'll perform the big hits from that era like "All Shook Up," "That's All Right, Mama," "Heartbreak Hotel," "Hound Dog," and "Jailhouse Rock," as well as lesser-known B-sides such as the ballad "I was the One." Colin personally favors Elvis' ballads and Gospel numbers, such as "Peace in the Valley" and "Take My Hand, Precious Lord."

"People forget about Elvis in the '50s," said Colin. "He really became iconic in the '70s. But I like his music from the '50s because it was the beginning of everything — for him and for rock 'n' roll."

Colin was 8 years old when he saw Elvis tribute artist Rick Saucedo performing at a carnival and realized there were other people out there doing what he loved, on a much larger scale. Also that it was possible to perform in the style of Elvis, but still as himself, and add Elvis history and lore while introducing the songs. Now the Lane Tech sophomore is 16 and performing more than ever — even accompanying himself on acoustic guitar when there's a glitch in the karaoke music that typically backs him. After wowing the crowds in school talent shows through the eighth grade, he decided he wanted to keep on going, performing on a volunteer basis for fundraisers at churches, senior centers and the like.

The entire Colin clan, including four siblings, often helps at the shows, which are just now beginning to go pro with bookings such as the Eisenhower Library. A move that might be necessary to cover expenses, considering the performer's habit of handing out a dozen teddy bears while singing "(Let Me Be Your) Teddy Bear."

Colin will be performing a whole lotta Elvis songs at the library show (and encouraging the crowd to dance as usual), but he still won't be performing his own personal favorite, "An American Trilogy" — a matter of not quite feeling up to it.

"It's been my favorite since I was 3 years old, but I don't feel I have the maturity for it yet," he explained. "I'm not ready to perform a song that has that much emotional substance. I want to do justice to every song, so I'll wait a couple of years for that one."

Sixteen-year-old Hugo Colin of Chicago will perform hits by Elvis Presley at the Eisenhower Public Library.

Hugo Colin's Elvis Presley tribute

When: 7 p.m. July 27
Where: Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights
Admission: Free
Contact: Register at 708-897-2299 or www.eisenhowerlibrary.org
FAMILY FRIENDLY

Digging dinosaurs teach kids about past and future

BY MYRNA PETLIKCI
Pioneer Press

Kids in kindergarten through fifth grade will learn about dig operations and discoveries when Lisa Zago presents Dinosaur Hunters, 6:30-7:30 p.m. July 24 at Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St.

"Dinosaurs open up minds not just to dinosaurs but to many other sciences — chemistry, physics, math and computer science," Zago said. "Dinosaurs may help us understand their time on Earth and their extinction" which offers clues to "what lies ahead for the future of our planet."

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

Fest time in Lincolnwood

Lincolnwood Fest, July 20-23 at Proesel Park, 6900 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood. The festival includes food, live music and entertainment, including an appearance by Tributosaurus at 8 p.m. July 21, carnival rides, children's activities, classic car show, beer and wine garden, business expo, bingo and more.

Fest hours are 5-11 p.m. July 20, 5-11 p.m. July 21, 1-11 p.m. July 22, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. July 23. Special deals on ride passes. Go to www.lincolnwoodfest.com.

Jeanie B! for the family

Jeanie B! and the Jelly Beans present a lively family concert that will keep kids engaged with the music and fun at 2:30 p.m. July 23 in Prospect Park, 733 N. Prospect, Park Ridge. Go to www.prparks.org.

On the move

That's what kids will be when popular family entertainer Dave Rudolf performs a Little Bearfoot Children's Concert, 10:30 a.m. July 27 at Gallery Park Amphitheater, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview.

"It will be a totally interactive show with hula hoops limbo sticks, shakers and more," Rudolf said. "The kids are part of the show."

The drop-in event is free.
For details, call 847-724-5670 or go to www.glenviewparkdist.org.

Music and more is in store

...at the Forest Park Music Fest, 5-11 p.m. July 21, noon-11 p.m. July 22 and noon-10 p.m. July 23 on Madison St., from Circle to Des Plaines.

Two stages will be filled throughout the festival with some of Chicago's best bands. Food from the area's top restaurants will be available for purchase and there will be two beer gardens for grownups. Carnival games, rides and other activities will keep kids entertained.

Admission is $5.
For details, call 708-366-2543 or go to www.exploreforestpark.com.

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.

GET IT TODAY AT CHICAGOTRIBUNESTORE.COM/BOOKS

Chicago Tribune
Great cars, family fun at ‘Cruisin’ Park Ridge’

Event: Cruisin’ Park Ridge
Hosted by: Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce
Location: Downtown Park Ridge, Summit Avenue between Touhy and Prospect
Date: July 7
Entertainment: Cars, Rusty Nails music, a bounce house for kids
Upcoming: Two more shows, both 6-10 p.m. Aug. 4 and Sept. 1
Website: www.ParkRidgeChamber.org

Mandy Bosco of Villa Park, left, and Cindy Jarchow of Norridge were among 60 supporters at a benefit for the Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra held at Pinstripes in Oak Brook on April 8. The festivities raised $5,000 for the orchestra's concerts and programs. Go to www.elmhursthymphony.org.

ARTREACH STAGES ‘THE ADDAMS FAMILY’

ArtReach Educational Theatre with Spotlite Theatrix stages “The Addams Family – the Musical” at the Leela Arts Center, 620 Lee St., Des Plaines. Cast includes, front row: Jodle Lloyd of Itasca and Nathan King of Arlington Heights; second row: Madalyn Griseto and Megan O'Brien, both of Des Plaines; third row: Jonah Parra of Des Plaines, Lee Kaufman of Mount Prospect and Bruce Guyatt of Chicago. Performances at 7:30 p.m. July 28, 3 and 7:30 p.m., July 29, 3 p.m. July 30: Tickets $16 advance, $18 at the door. Call 630-808-5852 or go to www.artreachespotlite.com.

Share your event
We want to publish your photos. To submit, email sburrows@pioneerlocal.com.
WILMETTE

Five-bedroom, 5.5-bath home upgraded in 2016. Large kitchen with honed Carrara countertop, dual dishwashers. Large family room with fireplace, built-in desk and custom floating shelves. Master suite includes waterfall shower and heated floors. Basement recreation room with gas fireplace, heated floors, quartz counter bar, dishwasher and two beverage refrigerators. Workout room with full bath. Two floors for laundry.

Address: 1218 Isabella St.
Price: $1,899,900
Schools: New Trier Township High School
Taxes: $3,708 (2015)
Agent: Paul Gorney/Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

DEERFIELD


Address: 1528 Woodbine Court
Price: $1,679,000
Schools: Deerfield High School
Taxes: $5,108
Agent: Philip Gold/Castle Homes Realty

EVANSTON


Address: 729 Judson Ave.
Price: $1,039,000
Schools: Evanston Township High School
Taxes: $16,549
Agent: Mark Steward/Baird & Warner

LAKE BLUFF


Address: 217 E. Washington Ave.
Price: $1,249,000
Schools: Lake Forest High School
Taxes: $20,679
Agent: Brad Andersen/Griffith, Grant & Lackie

Listings from Homefinder.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
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<th>SELLER</th>
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<td>Kamila Sztyr</td>
<td>Zhebiao Yin</td>
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<td>Salama A Khan &amp; Musarrat Khan</td>
<td>Nancy M Wiesbrodt</td>
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<td>David D Janus</td>
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<td>914 W Lynnwood Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Jeffrey W Schwarz</td>
<td>Bartaslaw Trust</td>
<td>06-06-17</td>
<td>$227,500</td>
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<td>Adam Gambero</td>
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<td>Padmaraka Rambakum &amp; Samiaka Ramakum</td>
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<td>Kallush Gurgur &amp; Surpreet Janee</td>
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<td>Andrew Narynthy</td>
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<td>Victor Naamian</td>
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<td>8128 N Leslie Ln, # 1, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Bharat Navinlal Shah &amp; Bharat Shah</td>
<td>Sase Selaenina</td>
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<td>Benjamin Kammes</td>
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<td>925 Park Ln, Des Plaines</td>
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<td>Michael K Berger</td>
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<td>Max P Wizl &amp; Sara Wizl</td>
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<td>1087 Ironwood Ct, Glenview</td>
<td>Robert Daito &amp; Brenda White</td>
<td>Weekley Homes Lic</td>
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This list is not intended to be a complete record of all real estate transactions.
Data compiled by Record Information Services U 630-557-1000 public-record.com
**CLASSIC “PRAIRIE-STYLE” HOME!**

Morton Grove...Just Listed! Rare & Affordable Opportunity in Sought-After Park View School District. Unbelievably Charming early Morton Grove Style Bungalow offers exceptional space and potential with old fashion front porch, second floor dormitory bedrooms, full basement and 2 car garage. Superb “In Town” location near Library, School, Park/Pool, Forest Preserve with bike, bridle & running trails! One block to Metra Train Station & Bus. Rare “In Town” Charm, Convenience, Location and Architecture! Hurry before this one is gone!! Only ............................................. $259,900

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**FAIRVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT #72!**

Skokie...New Listing! Rare Offer in Popular Fairview School District. Solid brick 4 Bedroom-2 Bath Charming Cape Cod. Quality construction-Oak floors throughout-Living Room with dramatic Bay front-Formal Dining Room-Bonus 10'x7’ walk in closet on 2nd floor-Enclosed three season rear porch-Huge finished basement family room + laundry room + 26’ storage/mechanical/workshop area. 2 car garage. Updates include: New Central A/C-1 yr old; New roof-4 yrs old. Convenient location, near schools, parks & shopping. Best Location!!! Ask Only ............................................. $349,000

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**ONE OF OUR FINEST OFFERINGS!**

Morton Grove...Impeccable 8 room Brick Ranch located in East Morton Grove in Park View School District 70! Tastefully decorated throughout & ready to move right in. Refinished hardwood floors & freshly painted. 4 brs & 2 full baths, main floor bath has been updated with slate tile. Eat in kitchen with refinished cabinets & new counter top. Huge finished basement with recessed lighting, bedroom/office/workout room and Rec room, front load washer & dryer. Oversized 2 ½ car garage has 2nd story, equipped with gas & electric built in 2016. Huge 66 x 125’ lot.................. $374,900

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**CONVENIENT ONE-LEVEL LIVING!**

Morton Grove...Super spacious brick Ranch in convenient to everything location! Hardwood floors in 3 bedrooms and living room. Huge 20' Family room is bright & sunny faces rear yard. Cathedral ceiling & skylight. Dining room opens to family room. Eat in kitchen with breakfast bar. 3 bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms. Main floor laundry. Nice yard with patio. 2 ½ car garage is easy to access to the rear. Numerous improvements in the last 2 years. Call for appointment to view this great house! Asking price........ $349,000
Thursday, July 20

Historic Wagner Farm — Daily Farmhouse Tours: Drop in for free activities every day this summer at Historic Wagner Farm. No advance registration is required. For more information, call 847-724-5670. Learn about daily life on a 1920s farm. 10 a.m. daily, Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview, free, 847-657-1506

An Evening of Comedy, Music and Spoken Word: This is an evening with author and comedian Debbie Sue Goodman and friends. Debbie Sue is an author of the books “My Husband the Stranger,” “Still Single” and “Still Dating.” 8 p.m. Thursday, The Rock House, 1742 Glenview Road, Glenview, no cover charge, 224-616-3062

Story Walk: “Rosie Revere, Engineer”: Welcome back to the Storybook Trail in Little Bear Garden at Gallery Park. Stroll, bounce, hop, or better yet, bike along the path to read Andrea Beaty’s “Rosie Revere, Engineer,” which is filled with hilarious mixed-media illustrations. This story is a celebration of imagination, creative thinkers and the people who support them. 9 a.m. daily, Gallery Park, 2001 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

Little Bearfoot Children’s Concerts — Free: Thursday mornings in July, join in this summer entertainment series that’s just right for kids. Whimsical, interactive and delightful entertainers provide a fun filled outing for the whole family! For more information, call or visit the website for a complete list of performers. 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Glenview Park Center, Gallery Park Amphitheater, 2500 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

Annual Car Show and Concert — The StingRays: Car collectors gather together to show off their cars, while enjoying the music of the StingRays. Attendees may cast their vote for their favorite car make and model. The Car Show takes place 5:30-8 p.m., with the concert beginning at 6:30 p.m. This event is sponsored by MB Financial Bank. 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Harrer Park and Pool, 6250 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-1200

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

Sci-Fi and Fantasy Movie Discussion Group: Director Terry Gilliam constructs a fantastic account of the familiar liar Baron Munchausen in “The Adventures of Baron Munchausen.” A discussion with Aaron from Fiction and Media follows the screening of the film. 7 p.m. Thursday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, 847-272-6224

Toddler Time: This is for toddlers (ages 2-3) with a caregiver, to join in 20 minutes of stories and 25 minutes of creative play. 10 a.m. Thursday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Wee Play: This special time is for music, rhymes, giggles and books for caregiver and baby (from birth to 24 months). 10 a.m. Thursday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Insight into Chronic Pain: Increase your confidence in the management and control of pain by gaining insights on the psychological, social and components of pain in this class. There are different techniques available that educate sufferers on how to take control and alter their pain experience. 1 p.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $24 member, $29 non member, 847-784-6030

A Cultural History of China: For 5,000 years, the culture of China has developed, transformed and increased its influence on Asia, and ultimately, the world. Jim focuses on the history of political and social elites, the history of political thought, the development of complex religious and spiritual cosmology, and more. 10 a.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $45 member, $55 non-member, 847-784-6030

Jackie Robinson: This is the 70th anniversary of the integration of major league baseball. This is a look back at the life of the man behind the story. Jackie Robinson is the true hero and off the field and his story is amazing. 1 p.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $12 member, $15 non member, 847-784-6030

SAIC Art Exhibition at Fashion Outlets of Chicago: Fashion Outlets of Chicago is featuring the work of three Master of Design graduate students from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), as part of THE COLLECTION Where Art Meets Fashion. 10 a.m. daily, Fashion Outlets of Chicago, 5220 Fashion Outlets Way, Rosemont, free, 847-957-4600

Rockin’ 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. This 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, 847-349-5008

My Son the Walter: A Jewish Tragedy: Brad Zimmerman’s hit comedy “My Son the Walter: A Jewish Tragedy” is returning to Chicago for a five-week engagement. June 6 through August 13. One-part standup, one-part theatrical, this is the story of one man’s struggle to fulfill his dream and “make it” as a comedic actor in New York. 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 6 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, $46, 847-673-6300

Alliance Francaise du N Shore Cafe Conversation Soler: Relaxed French conversation, facilitated by native or fluent speakers. Listening in French is encouraged; all levels are welcome. For more information: afnorthshore.org and meetups.com/afnorthshore. 6 p.m. Thursday, Panera Bread Wilmette. 1199 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-328-9516

Free Walking Clinic: Learn to get the most benefit out of walking as exercise in Gillson Park. A certified, personal trainer teaches the class, which includes a warm-up, stretching, inclines, steps, balance and coordination. All fitness levels welcome. 5:30 p.m. Thursday and 5:30 p.m. Monday, Gillson Park, Lake Avenue and Michigan Avenue, Wilmette, free, 847-251-6834

Music on Lincoln Summer Series: Morgan Fingleton: Singer/songwriter and keyboardist Morgan Fingleton performs from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. outside Cafe Aroma. Performances are sponsored by Hoffman Commercial Real Estate in partnership with North Shore Music Institute and Mike Poupko, 4 p.m. Thursday, Cafe Aroma, 749 Elm St., Winnetka, free,

Friday, July 21

"A Mid-Summer Night’s Daydream": This is a hilarious and heartfelt new adaptation of Shakespeare’s “Midsummer Night’s Dream!” from Lookingglass Theatre Company co-founder David Catlin. Recommended for ages 10 and older, this is a new blending of music, circus and Shakespeare in a 90-minute romp. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, Ethel M. Barber Theater at Northwestern University, 30 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, $6 to $25, 847-491-7282

"The God of Isaac": Grippio Stage Company presents James Sherman’s semi-autobiographical account of a young American Jew searching for his identity. 8 p.m. Friday, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Piven Theatre Workshop, 927 Noyste St., Evanston, $39, 800-838-3006

"Arrival": Just drop in to see this PG-13 rated movie about 12 mysterious spacecraft that appear around the world. Linguistics professor Louise Banks is tasked with interpreting the language of the alien visitors. 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Designers Challenge: Rube Goldberg Machine — Grades 4-8: The Challenge is: as a team, to design and build a machine of simple materials. The Goal is to create a machine capable of placing a can in a recycling bin. It’s not quite as easy as it sounds. Please register at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling 4 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

East Wing Speaker Series: Barry Bradford on Hamilton: Master storyteller and presidential award-winning historian Barry Bradford delights the audience with a mini biography of Alexander Hamilton and his place in history. He also introduces the life and work of Lin-Manuel Miranda, the creator and star of the Broadway hit, “Hamilton.” Cameron Faith Barron entertains with songs from the play. Tickets are available at the senior desk. For more information, call 10 a.m. Friday, The East Wing Glenview Senior Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, $10, 847-724-4793

Birdles and Beers Friday Special: This is a 21 and older night of fun to 847-441-4150

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enjoy a round of golf, riding cart and a round of beers for $25 per person. For more information or to book a tee time, visit golflakeview.com or call. 4 p.m. Friday, Glenview Prairie Club, 2800 West Lake Ave, Glenview, $25, 847-657-1637.

**Friday Film - “Get Out”:** This film is rated R and is about a young black man who visits his white girlfriend’s family estate. There he learns that many of its residents, who are black, have gone missing, and he soon learns the horrible truth when a fellow black man on the estate warns him to “get out.” However, he quickly learns that this is easier said than done. 1 p.m. Friday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Gentle Yoga:** Yoga instructor Olga Rudik leads a series of yoga sessions for improved physical strength, relaxation and mental clarity. Exercises are done in a chair or standing not on the floor. 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Friday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Birth of the Hollywood Indian: Indians in Film:** Attendees discover how the representation of American Indians in film has evolved from the silent era to the present day. From short Thomas Edison clips to contemporary representations of Indians in film, learn about the “noble” versus “savage” Indian stereotypes, the cowboy and Indian conflict, and other related issues. 10 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $10 member, $13 non member, 847-784-6030

**Music on Lincoln Summer Series:**

**Forte Blues Duo:** The blues duo Chris Forte and LaShera Moore offer a free public performance from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. outside Cafe Aroma. Performances are sponsored by Hoffmann Commercial Real Estate in partnership with North Shore Music Institute and Mike Poupko. 4 p.m. Friday, Cafe Aroma, 749 Elm St, Winnetka, free, 847-441-4150

**Saturday, July 22**

**Movies in the Parks: The Magnificent Seven (2016):** Movies begin at dusk. Call 815-834-0675 for weather related cancellations. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dawes Park, 1700 Sheridan Rd, Evanston, free.

**We Want To Have Fun, Too - Special Needs Social Dance:** A weekly program of social dancing geared to the Special Needs community featuring live, acoustic world music by the Evanston-based band Jutta and the Hi-Dukes. All skill levels are invited to do fun traditional dances from many cultures. This is partially supported by a grant from the Evanston Arts Council. 11 a.m. Saturday, Evanston Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Ave, Evanston, $5 admit; Aides enter free, 847-864-1022

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

**National Theatre Live: “Peter Pan”:** This production is co-produced by the National Theatre and Bristol Old Vic theatre, under the direction of Sally Cookson. When Peter Pan, leader of the Lost Boys, loses his shadow, headstrong Wendy helps him to reattach it. In return, she is invited to Neverland, where Tinker Bell the fairy, Tiger Lily and the vengeful Captain Hook await. 2 p.m. Saturday, Ethel M. Barber Theatre, 3 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, free, 847-491-7282

**Saints Peter and Paul Glenview Greek Fest:** The festival is back outside this year. Traditional Greek favorites are served. The scheduled performers are: Triple A, a rock band; Entropy, a string quartet cover band; Orpheus Dance Troupe; and Lorelei the Clown (kids’ magic show, face painting and balloon creations). DJ Spiro plays Greek music for dancing both days. 1-9 p.m. Free admission, with various pricing for food, children’s activities and valet parking. 1 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday, Saints Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 1401 Wagner Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-2235

**Glenview Farmers Market:** 8 a.m. Saturday, Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

**Free Trail Walk:** Guided trail walks are ideal for families and individuals and those who are interested in nature. For more information, call. 11 a.m. Saturday, Kent Fuller Air Station Prairie, The Tyner Center, 2400 Compass Road, Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

**Family Night Golf:** These family golf nights begin at 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Groups of up to six players can play for the flat 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

**Get Hooked Crafts: Doodles and Coloring:** They share tips on easy doodling techniques and attendees create unique designs to color. If you are not interested in doodling, coloring sheets are available to color. Registration is required and materials are provided. 10 a.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Morton Grove Farmers’ Market:** 8 a.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Farmers’ Market; 6210 Dempster St., Morton Grove, free, 847-750-6436

**Park Ridge Farmers Market:** 7 a.m. Saturday, Park Ridge Farmers Market, 15 S. Prairie Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-222-9994.

**Getting Started with Flying Drones:** Commercially licensed drone pilot Dean Pogniant discusses selecting a drone, federal and local regulations, and safety. Weather permitting, a flight demonstration takes place at the conclusion of the program. Advance registration is required by contacting the Adult Department. 1 p.m. Saturday, Skokie Public Library, 5251 Oakton St., Skokie, free, 708-562-3573

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

**Northfield Farmers’ Market:** 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Northfield Farmers’ Market, 6 Happ Road, Winnetka, free, 847-446-4451

**Music on Lincoln Summer Series:**

**Flanagan and Pierson Duo:** Jazz duo Olivia Flanagan and David Pierson perform from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. outside Good Grapes. Performances are sponsored by Hoffmann Commercial Real Estate in partnership with North Shore Music Institute and Mike Poupko. 5 p.m. Saturday, Good Grapes, 521 Chestnut Court, Winnetka, free, 847-441-4150

**Sunday, July 23**

**John Kurtz Eggs and Leggs 5K Run and Walk:** The Bensenville Park District and the Village of Bensenville have partnered with the Park Districts of Bloomingdale and Wood Dale to bring you the AMITA Health 5K Breakfast Series. The second leg of this exciting new race series takes participants through the neighborhoods surrounding Fischer Farm in their newly mapped race route and this year, the race is chip-timed. Participants receive a post-race breakfast of bacon and eggs. 8:30 a.m.

Sunday, Fischer Farm, 16W680 Old Grande Ave, Bensenville, $30, 630-766-7015

**Imagine U Drama Workshop:** Let your child experience Imagine U’s fun-filled, 45-minute workshop exploring Lookingglass Theatre Company’s brand of physical theatre and collaborative creation. The workshop is open to any child who attends, but will be most engaging for students who are between the ages of 5 and 8. 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Ethel M. Barber Theatre at Northwestern University, 30 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, Tickets are $5, 847-491-7282

**Live Jazz with Chad Willets Trio:** On Sundays they have their full brunch menu with live jazz and the Chad Willets’ Trio from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Peckish Pig, 623 Howard St, Evanston, free, 847-491-6778

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

**Glenview Concert Band:** This is Greg Wojcik’s first concert as “retired” band director of Glenbrook South High School. This features Dick Schory as a soloist on a piece he composed for his Percussion Pops and features vocalist Tim Kirby. 2 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-774-5670

**Critic’s Choice Cinema:** “Bitter Harvest**: This R-rated film is set in 1930s Ukraine. As Stalin advances the ambitions of communists in the Kremen, young artist Yuri battles to save his lover Natalka from the Holodomor, the death-by-starvation program that ultimately killed millions of Ukrainians. 2 p.m. Sunday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Accessiblity Hour for Special Needs Families:** This is an opportunity to visit the library one hour before they open. Guests can find that there is something for everyone at the library, when they browse and check out materials, take a tour and engage in sensory friendly activities. Noon Sunday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Celebrate Summer at Park Ridge Library Block Party:** This fun-for-all ages outdoor event runs from noon until 3 p.m. and includes live music [Steve Hashimoto Jazz Ensemble], food, a bounce house, bingo, games, bubbles, face painting and a Park Ridge firetruck tour. Also, have fun with the mascot, Gadget, for photo ops; and the Library

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trivia contest with prizes and much more. In case of rain, the activities will move indoors. Noon Sunday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123.

Alternative Yard Tour: Visit eight Wilmette Gardens and speak with homeowners about their efforts to create sustainable, low-maintenance yards at Go Green Wilmette’s fifth annual Alternative Yard Tour. Highlights include: bird and pollinator habitat, rain gardens, irrigation and composting techniques, vegetable gardening and Wilmette’s newest prairie preserve. 9 a.m. Sunday, Wilmette Village Center, along 12th Street and Wilmette, Central, and Greenleaf Avenues, Wilmette, free.

Down Dog & Denim: Join us every Sunday for a free hour-long Vinyasa Flow Yoga Class. Register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/down-dog-denim-tickets-31076517701. 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Down Dog & Denim, 908 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, free.

Monday, July 24

Flat Five To Benefit Piven Theatre Workshop: This is a benefit concert with The Flat Five, featuring Evanstonian Nora O’Connor. Proceeds from the concert go to benefit Piven’s outreach programming, which provides theatre classes to underserved populations to develop communication skills, empathy, and confidence, and provide a safe place to explore emotions. 7 p.m. Monday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $20-$30, 847-868-8945.

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

Alliance Francaise Apero Conversation: Take part in relaxed French conversation, facilitated by native or fluent speakers. Listening in French is encouraged and all levels are welcome. Food and beverages are available for purchase at the café at Heinen’s Grocery Store. For more information: Afnorthshore.org and meetup.com/afnorthshore. 7 p.m. Monday, Heinen’s Grocery Store, 1020 Waukegan Road, Glenview, free, 847-328-9516.

Monday Music at The Glen: Chicago-area rocker and children’s author Justin Roberts is welcomed for a solo show. Justin will be signing copies of his new book after the show. Registration at theglenatowncenter.com. 7 p.m. Monday, The Book Market at Hangar One, 2651 Navy Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-904-7304.

Knitting Roundtable for Adults: Ronnie Rund, an expert knitter, shows attendees how to knit or how to solve knitting challenges. Bring one’s current project(s) and needles. 2 p.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-905-4222.

Lego Club: For students in kindergarten through 8th grades to join in this club on the fourth Monday of each month to create masterpieces at this new Lego Club. No registration is necessary. 4:30 p.m. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234.


The Role of First Lady: How it Has Changed Over Time: Julie highlights those First Ladies who represented change in the White House and examines the impact they had on our society. This is an unique look at our own history. 1 p.m. Monday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $10 member; $13 non member, 847-784-6030.

Tuesday, July 25

CJE SeniorLife Counseling: CJE SeniorLife Resource Specialists provide counseling to adults 60 and over, their families, and caregivers. Counseling includes topics such as selecting appropriate retirement benefits, picking the right health insurance and Medicare programs, determining housing needs, and identifying supportive resources. For more information and to make an appointment, call Kathy Gaedig at CJESeniorLife, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 773-508-4054.

Exploring Virtual Reality with Google Cardboard: Registration is required to experience the immersion of virtual reality. Demonstrated are some of the most impressive (and free) apps and experiences available. Attendees bring their smartphone (and some free storage space) and they bring the cardboard. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-905-4220.

Movies, Munchies and More: “Chicago”: Rated PG-13. Two murderers find themselves on death row together and fight for the fame that will keep them from the gallows in 1920’s Chicago. The cast includes Renee Zellweger, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Richard Gere. 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-905-4220.

2017 Free Concert Series: The concerts begin at 7 p.m., while the food service is available from 6-8:30 p.m. The Good Mondays is an energetic “soul” style acoustic based rock band. The audience will hear artists such as John Mayer, Matchbox 20, Keith Urban, Johnny Cash, Green Day, and so much more. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Harrer Park and Pool, 6250 W Dempster St., Morton Grove, free, 847-905-1200.

String Theory Meetup: Knitters, weavers, crocheters and fiber artists, stop by this new, weekly meet-up. Share what you know, learn something new, or work on your own project. All ages and skill levels are welcome, but please bring your own materials. 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224.

Community Art Display Creation: Come help us create an interactive art display with Total Link 2 Community’s Karen Miller who fosters creativity for artists of all abilities. Registration required. 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224.

Maker Meetup: Are you a maker/DIYer wanting to share your project, skills, or just get some advice? Join us on the last Tuesday of every month to share your latest low- and hi-tech projects. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224.

Pajama Stories: Put on your coziest pajamas and Join at the library for a half hour of stories and fun. All ages and their families are welcome. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224.

Games Outside the Box: This is for all gamers, techies and out-of-the-box thinkers for a time to play. Each week, the library features a different game program, hard copy and mobile, stop by and let’s see what you can do. 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224.

Garden Fun: This is for all ages to join in a gardening-themed art or science project on Tuesday mornings after storytime. 11 a.m. Tuesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224.

A Cultural History of India: Over the past 5,000 years, the cultures and peoples of the Indian subcontinent have developed in fascinating and complex ways. Today, India, Pakistan and Bangladesh comprise over 20 percent of the world’s population and form one of humanity’s most dynamic and significant core groups. 1 p.m. Tuesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $45 member; $55 non-member, 847-784-6030.

Wednesday, July 26

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

Found’s Salon Series Featuring Nicholas Barron: Found Kitchen and Social House are featuring a new collective of interactive events dubbed the “Salon Series.” As a part of this series, Evanston’s own Nicholas Barron is set to perform every Wednesday night. 8 p.m. Wednesday, Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $10, 847-868-8945.

National Theatre Live: “Twelfth Night”: This Shakespeare play is about a ship that is wrecked on the rocks with twin siblings being washed ashore. The brother Sebastian is lost, but Viola, the sister is determined to survive on her own. So begins a whirlwind of mistaken identity and unrequited love. Tickets are $20 general public, $16 NU Employee or $10 full-time student (Under 30 with current ID). 7 p.m. Wednesday, Ethel M. Barber Theater at Northwestern University, 30 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, $10-$20, 847-491-7282.

Summer Cinema series at Norris: Pre-movie programming starts at 7:30 p.m. with the film beginning at dusk, all under the stars. Movies include blockbuster hits like: “Moana,” “Beauty and the Beast” and “The LEGO Batman Movie.” Films are free and open to the public. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Norris University Center, East Lawn, Norris University Center, Evanston, free.

Lunch on the Lake concert series: This concert series offers the opportunity to enjoy live music, dancing and a picnic. The concerts span a wide range of musical genres from Afro-Cuban jazz...
CALENDAR

Calendar, from Page 32 to funk and swing. Concerts are free and open to the public. Noon Wednesday, Norris University Center, East Lawn, Norris University Center, Evanston, free

Crafting the College Essay – Grades 9-12: Essays are a determining factor in college admissions. College Nannies and Tutors of Glenview presents tips and strategies for writing a winning college essay. If you have a target school in mind, you may bring in your essay to work on. Bring two pencils and a notepad and register by July 25 at glenviewpl.org/register or call. 6 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

BOOKIt Nonfiction Book Group: “Flash Boys: A Wall Street Revolt” by Michael Lewis, is about a small group of Wall Street iconoclasts who realize that the U.S. stock market has been rigged for the benefit of insiders. They band together—some of them walking away from seven-figure salaries—to investigate, expose and reform the insidious new ways that Wall Street generates profits. Attendees may just drop in. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Concerts In the Park - Jackman Park Concerts: Bring your dinner, folding chairs and lawn blankets to Jackman Park Gazebo and enjoy these shows for young and old alike. July 26: DIVA. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jackman Park, 1930 Prairie St, Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

Knitting Club: If you want to learn to knit, or you are working on a knitting or crochet project, drop in to share tips, show off your work and converse with fellow needle arts enthusiasts. Bring your own knitting supplies. 11 a.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Community Wednesdays: Join in every Wednesday for a few hours of mind, body and spirit enrichment. Three one-hour lectures/classes are hosted throughout the day, along with their fitness class offerings at the Marvin Lustbader Center. Lectures/classes run 9:30-10:30 a.m., 10:45-11:45 a.m. and noon to 1 p.m. These are free for Marvin Lustbader Center members; $10 per day non-member; $45 for five-session punch card. 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Bernard Weinger JCC, 300 Revere Drive, Northbrook, free members; $10 non members, 224-406-9257

Dick Van Dyke: A Jolly Holiday: Despite years of personal struggles, Dick Van Dyke ascended from rags to riches by virtue of charm, talent, and hard work. Susan provides insights into his personal life along with samples of his delightful on-screen and on-air presence. 1 p.m. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6060

From Impressionist to Synthetist: The Artistic Journey: Works by Post-Impressionist Paul Gauguin return to Chicago in a special exhibit planned for 2017. In this lecture, art historian Jeff Mishur discusses important works in various media and Gauguin's theories that inspired numerous other artists of the period. 10 a.m. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $12 member; $15 non member, 847-784-6030

Wine Education – Rhone, France featuring E. Guigal: This tasting class will be a special blend of our Winery Spotlight and Passport tasting. The focus is on the region of the Rhone Valley, and the winery we're "spotlighting" is E. Guigal. 6 p.m. Wednesday, WineStyles Park Ridge, 105 South Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, $20-$25, 847-518-9463

Rosemont’s Big Break Vocal Competition: Audience members who are ages 21 and older may vote to decide who wins the “Big Break” competition and the $10,000 grand prize. The nine-week competition includes weekly audience voting rounds at Joe’s Live every Wednesday at 7 p.m. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Joe’s Live Rosemont, 5441 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-261-0392

Have an event to submit? Go to www.ChicagoTribune.com/Calendar

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NOW PLAYING

“Spider-Man: Homecoming” ★★★
PG-13, 2:13, action
Tom Holland once again slips into the suit to lead his own Spidey
film, which starts with a callback to “Captain America: Civil
War” when Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr.) gave the high
schooler a chance to tag in with the Avengers. And remember
those aliens that destroyed New York in “The Avengers”? Their
exotic and powerful detritus has been scooped up by a working
class contractor, Toombs (Michael Keaton), who proves to be a
local foe for Spidey. Directed by Jon Watts, “Spider-Man: Homecoming” slots right into the
Marvel Cinematic Universe, hitting that on-brand fun, but it’s also in the vein of a John
Hughes classic. — Katie Walsh, Tribune News Service

“Despicable Me 3” ★★
PG, 1:30, animated
“Despicable Me 3” relies on audience familiarity with the char-
acters and universe, and then throws subplots on top of that.
Two new characters are introduced in this installment: Balt-
hazar Bratt, the antagonist, is a washed up child actor from the
‘80s with a mullet, a keytar, and shoulder pads. The other new
character is Dru (Steve Carell), Gru’s long-lost twin brother.
After losing their jobs, Gru (also Steve Carell) and family head to
Fredonia to meet Dru, the head of the family farming business, a front for super-villainy.
Eventually, they have to unite to fight Balthazar, who plans to destroy Hollywood with bub-
ble gum and lasers. — K.W.

“Baby Driver” ★★★
R, 1:53, drama/comedy
Each of Edgar Wright’s films is a tribute to a specific genre, and
his latest film, “Baby Driver,” which he wrote and directed, is
firmly in the zone of loving homage, this time taking on the heist
film. The trailers for “Baby Driver” almost make it look like a
spoof — teen dreamboat Ansel Elgort plays a getaway driver
called Baby, who always has to be listening to music while he
drives, due to the tinnitus from a childhood car accident. It
almost seems like a parody of “Drive, but Wright takes the concept from parody to excellence
example of the form and makes it a love note to classic rock and soul. Baby keeps multiple
iPods on deck, and the beat has to hit just right for him to tap into his driving mojo. — K.W.

“Wonder Woman” ★★★★
PG-13, 2:21, action
Diana (Gal Gadot) trains like a fiend for the day she will confront
Ares, God of War and learn the secret of her origin story. One
day, a plane goes down near Diana’s island home carrying
American spy Steve Trevor (Chris Pine). Diana and Steve travel
to Europe, where World War I is grinding toward a conclusion.
Doctor Poison (Elena Anaya), working for the Germans, is toiling
away on a deadly nerve gas. The movie is no reinvention of a
formula; it’s simply much better than usual iteration. — Michael Phillips, Chicago Tribune

“Transformers: The Last Knight” ★
PG-13, 2:26, action
The new “Transformers” movie sits with the previous sequels, so
be warned or be encouraged, depending on your allegiance to
the earlier movies. “Deep down inside, you begin to wonder: Has
my life been wasted?” This is Academy Award-winning Anthony
Hopkins talking, as he shelves mythological exposition for the
benefit of Mark Wahlberg, the subtitle of this fifth “Transform-
ers” movie, “The Last Knight.” Wahlberg returns as the American
leader of the resistance. — M.P
**Fanning, Marjorie Louise**  
Marjorie (Marge) Louise Fanning, 88, formerly of Peoria, passed away Saturday, July 1, 2017, at Bella Terra Nursing Center in Morton Grove, Ill. Born January 30, 1929, in Canton to Ralph and Ethel Hensley, she married William Kelly Fanning Sr. April 6, 1947, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Canton. He died on August 7, 2014. She was also preceded in death by two sons, William Kelly Fanning Jr. and Eric Paul Fanning Sr. Marge is survived by two sons, Robin (Sandra) Fanning of Wilmette and Tim (Christine) Fanning of Park Ridge, daughters-in-law Betty (Kelly) and Leslie (Eric), eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren and her sister, Jean Downs, of Cuba, Ill. She graduated from Canton High School in 1946. Marge attended the Lutheran Seminary in Maywood, Ill., in preparation for the four years (1960-1964) she and her husband spent serving in India as missionaries for the Lutheran Church. Marge became a reporter for the Pekin Daily Times in 1967, Assistant Editor of Tazewell County News in 1969 and served on the first Peoria Journal Star Advisory Board in 1970. She joined the Peoria Journal Star in 1974, holding several positions before being promoted to Managing Editor in 1979. While at the Peoria Journal Star, she achieved many firsts: first woman supervisor in the newsroom, first woman at the copy desk, first woman Sunday Edition Editor and the first woman Managing Editor of a major Illinois newspaper. Marge served as President of the Illinois Associated Press Editors Association in 1990. She retired from the Peoria Journal Star in 1991. Marge was also the first woman to be named to the Morton Civil Defense Board (1969) and selected Morton Citizen of the Year (1971). She helped to organize the Morton Junior Women’s Club (1966) and served as its president (1970). Marge was President of the MortonYWCA Board (1970), as well as the Morton Community Chest Drive Chairman (1971) and Director (1972). Marge was member of the Salem Lutheran Church, Peoria, Ill., for 50 years. Visitation will be held Friday, August 11, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Salem Lutheran Church in Peoria. A memorial service will take place at Salem Lutheran Church Saturday, August 12, at 11 a.m. A luncheon will be served following the service. Memorials can be made to Salem Lutheran Church.

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TRUE TO ITS ROOTS

Camaro celebrates 50 years as Chevy's affordable sports coupe

BY CASEY WILLIAMS
Chicago Tribune

As the 50th anniversary celebration winds down for the Chevrolet Camaro, it's right back where it started: playing second wheel to Ford's Mustang in the sales charts. Yet Camaro carves a distinct place in pony car Americana both past and present, renowned for stoplight sprints, countless first dates and pacing the Indianapolis 500 nine times.

"Customers appreciate engine horsepower and better handling — and how it makes them feel inside," said Todd Christensen, Camaro marketing manager. "There's a lot of passion with Camaro owners that they bring into the Chevy brand."

Camaro was launched for model year 1967 to counter Ford's Mustang and give baby boomers something unique in Chevy showrooms.

Chevrolet already offered the Corvair, Chevelle and Corvette, but the Camaro was sportier than a Chevelle, more powerful than the Corvair and was affordable, unlike Corvette. It was quick too. Car and Driver ran a 1968 Z28 0-60 mph in 5.3 seconds, one-tenth quicker than a Mustang with the same-sized 302 cubic-inch engine.

Designers abandoned Coke-bottle styling with the second generation in 1970, conveying Camaro from the muscle car era, through disco, and into the Reagan administration. Styling initially cribbed Ferrari with large egg-crate grilles and fastback rooflines, but added plastic bumpers and a lot more weight to comply with safety regulations. By 1980, V-8-powered Camaros ran 0-60 mph in 9.5 seconds.

Times had changed, but Camaro was relatively quick and looked handsome. Unlike Mustang, which evolved from a big muscle car to the ridiculous Mustang II — the Pinto-esque Shetland of pony cars — Camaro was unswerving.

"Among classic Camaros, I have come to appreciate the second-generation cars with their Ferrari-like front ends," said Larry Edsall, author of "Camaro: A Legend Reborn." "Camaro never went through a Mustang II phase."

The smaller, sharper third-generation 1982 Camaro needed less fuel to be fun. Base models had four-cylinder engines, but the 325-horsepower IROC filled the dreams of teenagers' minds and wallets. A sleek 1993 restyle eventually begat the 325-horsepower SS. Performance was back, but sales were kneecapped by SUV popularity, sending Camaro on hiatus after 2002. Sales were about one-third of Mustang.

The restrained styling of the first generation was gone, replaced by ever-longer noses, greenhouse canopies and cheap plastic. Camaro needed to return to the style and performance that originally made it popular.

Soul-searching took eight years, but when Tom Peters' retro-modern fifth-generation debuted for 2010, sales surpassed Mustang's (81,299 vs. 73,716). Buyers drew quick connections to the first-generation models and thronged to the 5.3-liter supercharged V-8. An independent rear suspension placed ride and handling beyond Mustang's reach (temporarily).

"The fifth and sixth generations took more of their lineage from the first generation," Christensen said. "It got us into the pony car wars, set the standards. We sold high performance for those who value that, plus affordable models with smaller engines — same as today."

No automotive rivalry is more intense than Mustang vs. Camaro. While the original Mustang sold 559,451 in 1965, Camaro's first year saw just 220,906. Camaro out-sold Mustang when new models were introduced, but trailed after.

Solid rear axles diminished ride and handling on both, but Mustang's styling created a closer bond to the original. Virtually no design traits were shared between 1967 and 2002 Camaros. It was a car young people did not understand, and for which older generations felt no affection.

Camaro sales led after the 2010 overhaul, but the redesigned 2015 Mustang debuted with a standard independent rear suspension and drove like an Audi. Ford vanquished its foe in 2016. Compared with the Mustang's wide-exotic stance, Camaro's conservative restyle on Cadillac's ATS architecture did nothing to halt the sales slide.

"The worst thing Chevrolet could do is start discounting Camaros in order to bump sales numbers up," said Ed Hellwig, executive editor at Edmunds.com. "It needs to stick to its plan and drum up interest with small upgrades and special-edition models, a tactic Ford has traditionally used with Mustang."

For 2018, the ILE Track Package adds a carbon fiber wing, front dive planes and adjustable suspension. "Sales wars are nice, but at the expense of incentives, not so much," Christensen said. "The car is selling at a pretty good clip. The current sixth generation went more upscale; the base price is higher. The affordable 2.0-liter engine does well, but we lost some who bought the cheaper trim before."

"For some, there's no substitute for a Chevrolet Camaro."

"While Ford's Mustang had a big head start, the Camaro was a Chevy, and no self-respecting Chevrolet fan would ever own a Ford," Edsall said. "It went out of production for a few years, but when it came back, it established a formula for the modern muscle car."

Camaro now handle as well as they accelerate and are loaded with technology like Bose audio, wireless phone charging, Wi-Fi hotspots and Apple CarPlay/Android Auto. Drivers continue to complain about blind spots, but rear cameras and blind-spot sensors help. Available Magnetic Ride Control adjusts the suspension in real time.

"The Camaro is one of Chevrolet's longest-running and most well-known nameplates," Hellwig said. "Even if people don't buy it in big numbers, it's a stylish high-performance coupe that makes it an aspirational car — something every brand needs."

No matter what, Camaro will remain true to its mission.

"It should stand for the same thing: Beautiful styling and performance value," Christensen said. "It has to have that recipe. Tastes change, but it will remain an enthusiasts' car."

Casey Williams is a freelance writer.
Jamiyankhuu perseveres through adversity

BY HEATHER RULE
Pioneer Press

Dalai Jamiyankhuu vividly remembers the team huddle prior to the Illinois-Chicago men's gymnastics team's first competition of the 2017 season.

The freshman listened as team captains said: "You've done these routines countless times, now just show it off and have fun," Jamiyankhuu said.

"It doesn't matter what place you come in, as long as you do your job, hit that routine and own that routine," Jamiyankhuu said.

That clicked.

"I'm just going to have fun, do my best and show them that," said Jamiyankhuu, who won all-around state titles as a junior and senior at Niles West and led the Wolves to their first team state title in 2016. "I just kept that in mind."

His freshman year at UIC actually didn't start until January. He spent the fall semester at Oakton Community College to raise his grade-point average, according to Flames coach Charley Nelson, and continued to train at his club gym, Lakeshore Academy.

When Jamiyankhuu joined his Flames teammates in January, he had to hit the ground running with less than two weeks until the team's first competition.

"It was a little hard jumping in right away," Jamiyankhuu said. "It was just hopping on a speeding train and just trying to get used to everything."

Said Nelson: "For him to be able to step in and really be an integral part of our season last year was really impressive."

Jamiyankhuu, a Niles resident, competed in the still rings, vault, parallel bars and horizontal bar at the start of the season. The plan was to have him compete in the all-around, until he got injured.

"Jamiyankhuu hurt his right shoulder on the high bar midway through the season. He rehabbed and cut back on routines, focusing on vault and floor exercise, two events that didn't require as much reliance on his shoulder," Nelson said.

Jamiyankhuu is a competitor who executes his routines so well that he's in a perfect position to maintain his scores, even when the degree of difficulty increases. Jamiyankhuu makes the skills look easy, Nelson said.

"Part of that is his demeanor in competition," Nelson said. "He doesn't get rattled. He's never too high or too low."

Jamiyankhuu knows how important it is to be composed before competing. He can flip a switch when he needs to, and it's one of his strong suits, he said.

"I don't get too riled up," Jamiyankhuu said. "I keep myself in check."

Jamiyankhuu hurt his right shoulder on the high bar midway through the season. He rehabbed and cut back on routines, focusing on vault and floor exercise, two events that didn't require as much reliance on his shoulder.

"I don't get too riled up," Jamiyankhuu said. "I keep myself in check."

His goal next year is to compete in the all-around. Nelson also sees him emerging as a leader on the team.

But for now, he has to contend with a shoulder injury again. Jamiyankhuu, who is originally from Mongolia, said he hopes to continue training and represent his native country at the world championships in October.

Even with the academic and injury setbacks, his freshman year in college was still a lot of fun, he said. "Being in a school in Chicago is kind of my thing," Jamiyankhuu said. "Exactly where I want to be."

Heather Rule is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
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Shipping up to Boston: Niles North grad Nader signs with Celtics

BY RYAN NILSSON
Pioneer Press

Niles North graduate Abdel Nader signed a four-year, $6 million contract with the Boston Celtics, according to the Boston Globe. The team announced the signing on Saturday.

Drafted by the Celtics in the second round of the 2016 NBA Draft, Nader was named the D-League Rookie of the Year after playing for the Maine Red Claws during the 2016-17 season.

The Iowa State product averaged 21.3 points, 6.2 rebounds, 3.9 assists and 1.0 steals per game as a forward with the Red Claws.

Nader, who also attended Maine East, shot 44.7 percent from the field and 34.9 percent from behind the 3-point line.

Nowak bound for LSU

After originally committing to pitch at Miami, Notre Dame College Prep graduate Brandon Nowak is now headed to LSU. The Tigers were the runner-up at this year's College World Series.

Nowak said in a Twitter message that he made the switch because Miami didn't have a roster spot for him anymore and the Hurricanes "said they didn't have the (scholarship) money they promised me anymore."

The Miami athletic communications department didn't respond to an email seeking comment.

Financial aid is what swayed Nowak to pick LSU.

"They offered me a scholarship that I couldn't refuse," he said in a Twitter message.

Nowak has pitched at Oakton, a Division III junior college, the past two seasons.

The left-hander struck out 66 hitters in 55 1/3 innings (10.73 K/9) as a sophomore. He posted a 2.11 ERA while walking 17 and allowing 50 hits, which equates to a 1.21 WHIP. He was named to the All-Region 4 Team.

Rosales comes home

Following a day game against the Chicago White Sox on the South Side, Oakland Athletics shortstop Adam Rosales returned to Park Ridge to play a game with Park Ridge Baseball/Softball players on June 24.

Rosales, a Maine South graduate who played in the PRBS league growing up, stayed until after 9:30 p.m. to sign autographs and take pictures, according to an email from the league.

The event was part of Rosales' charity, Sandlot Nation, which he started last year.

"I've always wanted to give back to the game of baseball, and the sandlot games when we were kids were really important to me," Rosales was quoted as saying in a story on MLB.com. "I know how important it is to these young players to help mentor these young kids, and help them appreciate the purity of baseball."

His charity had hosted about a dozen events by early June, according to the MLB.com story.

Rosales, who debuted in the Major Leagues in 2008, had a .233 batting average and a .618 on-base plus slugging percentage in 193 at-bats this season through Sunday. He also has a .965 fielding percentage in 55 games at shortstop.
As officials leave the field, IHSA emphasizes recruitment, retention

BY STEVE REAVEN
Pioneer Press

Fans of any high school sport are used to seeing the raucous home crowds, the tension building during the final moments of a close game and the camaraderie in a pregame huddle between coaches and players.

Those facets of prep athletics aren’t going anywhere, as the number of high school athletes has doubled nationally since Title IX took effect in 1972, according to the National Federation of State High School Associations.

One essential part of the high school athletics landscape, however, is trending in the opposite direction: The number of licensed officials.

Many states — including Illinois — have seen a gradual erosion in officiating numbers. Fewer people are becoming officials for the first time, and veteran referees, judges and umpires are leaving the profession more frequently.

“The numbers have been down in Illinois, just like they’ve been nationwide,” said Sam Knox, the IHSA’s assistant executive director who oversees officials. “So Illinois is not unique, but the numbers are not good to see.”

The numbers back Knox’s concerns.

The IHSA had 13,694 licensed officials during the 2015-16 school year, but only 12,198, a loss of 1,496 officials (10.9 percent).

Though many officials are leaving high school athletics as more prep athletes are joining, there’s less clarity among administrators as to how to stop the slump.

“We’re constantly working on methods to recruit and especially retain officials, which has become more and more important,” Knox said.

Knox illustrated the IHSA’s retention problem by using basketball referees as an example.

Of the 1,045 basketball officiating licenses that weren’t renewed from 2015-16 to 2016-17, 80 percent belonged to officials who had been in the field for less than five years.

Getting officials in the door is still the first step.

One way the IHSA hopes to attract young officials is by sending each high school in the state two waivers that will cancel the $50 fee to become a licensed official in any sport. The minimum age to be an IHSA-certified official is 17.

Also on the front lines of the recruitment battle is Gary Grohovena. An IHSA official for 29 years, Grohovena also serves as the recruitment chair for the Inter-Athletic Council of Officials, an organization composed of 17 sports officials associations throughout northeastern Illinois.

One way IACO tries to attract new officials is by conducting instructional classes. The six-week basketball seminar, which began on July 11 in Elmwood Park, Libertyville and four other Chicago-area locations, is free to attend. Graduates walk away with their IHSA licenses in hand and only have to pay a half-priced fee of $25. They can begin officiating in August.

The organization also holds similar classes for basketball in the fall and baseball and softball in the winter.

Grohovena said the number of first-time baseball and softball umpires is especially low because of the start-up costs of buying equipment.

“The average age of football officials is in the mid-40s, and with softball and baseball, it’s probably higher,” said Grohovena, who has officiated multiple football state finals. “Those of us in the industry need to do as much as possible to get younger individuals into the pipeline.”

Jim Bernardi, who will celebrate his 50th year as an official during the upcoming school year, noted the need for new officials not only to enter the profession but also sign up for games. He said his declining number of umpires has not affected the quality of officiating.

Bernardi conducts officiating clinics during Stevenson’s summer basketball league. He said coaches understand that referees might not be the sharpest for freshman-level games in the summer, and sometimes he stops the action to give the new officials in-game instructions.

“The goal is to get them the confidence to go out there by themselves in the winter,” said Bernardi, who is also the IHSA’s assigner for football and basketball for the North Suburban Conference.

“Every time out, there will be mistakes, but it’s a good way to get them going.”

New Trier baseball coach Mike Napoleon has been on both ends of the officiating spectrum. In addition to baseball, he’s also coached football and was a basketball referee for more than a decade earlier in his career.

He said the declining number of umpires has not affected the quality of officiating.

New Trier baseball coach Mike Napoleon, who used to be a basketball referee, recommended officiating to any coach as a way to help understand the sport better.

“Every coach should be an official at some point. It gives you a great perspective on how the game is played.”

— New Trier baseball coach and former referee Mike Napoleon, pictured above

Jim Bernardi (right) is entering his 50th year as an official and also trains basketball referees at Stevenson’s summer league.

“New officials aren’t bat-hardened to the criticism that can come from the crowd or coaches, and if you combine that with having to wait so long to get paid, it’s hard for some to justify sticking around,” Clarke said. “Some of that could be lessened simply by treating officials with common courtesy.”

That’s a topic Hinsdale Central athletic director Dan Jones has tried to address in meetings with parents before each school year. He asks that any issues with officials be funneled to coaches or administrators.

Jones also said that the West Suburban Conference has recently begun mentoring programs involving the league’s eight officials associations.

“We’re definitely not getting as many young officials as we used to,” Jones said. “Hopefully these programs can help lead to a good experience and ensuring they have future success.”

Steve Reaven is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
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