Candidates debate
Cook County Board opponents share views at forum. Page 6

Chris Hanusiak, Republican nominee for the 13th Cook County Board District, and Democratic incumbent Larry Suffredin participate in an Oct. 20 forum in Wilmette.

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Dennis Burg, violinist, lifelong music enthusiast

Violinist Dennis Burg has performed with the Highland Park Strings since the late 1980s. The Skokie resident will perform at the opening concert of the group's 40th season Oct. 21 at Highland Park High School. Burg began playing the clarinet as a child then switched to violin.

Q: Did you always want to be a musician?
A: We had a tradition in our house where kids were forced to play musical instruments whether we wanted to or not. We had some professional musicians in the family who encouraged everybody, although my parents didn't play any instruments.

Q: Why did you switch from clarinet to violin?
A: I really hated the sound of the clarinet. Back then, you were playing a metal student clarinet. Even if you weren't a lousy student, there was no way that it was going to sound like real music.

Q: What do you like best about being a Skokie resident?
A: We live in a neighborhood where we know our neighbors. Everybody's friendly. The village provides great services.

Q: What's your favorite local restaurant?
A: We keep kosher so it limits us. My favorite go-to restaurant would be Taboun

Q: What do you do to relax?
A: Listen to music but playing more than anything else.

Q: What book are you currently reading?
A: Most recently, I read a really unique novel called "The Music Shop" by Rachel Joyce. It came with a Spotify playlist. Also, "Children of Nazis" by Tania Crasianski. It was very educational. I'm a child of survivors.

Q: What was your favorite vacation?
A: We've been to Israel a couple of times and one of the trips was my overall favorite. We went with the Highland Park Strings and did three performances around the country. After that, we stayed for a family wedding.

Q: What's the best advice you've been given.
A: Work hard, treat people with respect, and try and maintain a positive attitude.

Q: What is your most prized possession?
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PARK VIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT!!
Commissioner candidates debate in Wilmette

Spending, assessor’s office among topics under discussion

By Rick Kambic
Pioneer Press

Candidates for the Cook County Board’s 13th and 14th districts shared their views on government responsibilities and spending, among other topics, during an Oct. 20 forum in Wilmette.

Larry Suffredin, the District 13 incumbent Democrat from Evanston first took office in 2003. He is being challenged by former Niles village trustee Chris Hanusiak, who owns a cabinetry business.

The 13th District includes parts of Chicago as well as Evanston, Skokie, Lincolnwood, Glenview, Wilmette, Glencoe, Niles, Kenilworth, Northfield and Winnetka.

Republican Gregg Goslin of Glenview has been the District 14 commissioner since 1998 and is facing Democrat Scott Britton, who is a current Glenview village trustee and insurance litigator.

The 14th district includes parts of Barrington, Inverness, Palatine, Rolling Meadows, Arlington Heights, Wheeling, Northbrook, Northfield and Glenview.

**District 13**

After the forum moderator challenged the candidates on Cook County’s assessment process, both Suffredin and Hanusiak called for a change at the assessor’s office.

Suffredin said all homeowners need to appeal their valuations twice per year to hold the system accountable, otherwise the burden just shifts to other owners. He said he has hosted approximately 150 seminars on how to file appeals and he plans to continue that effort.

Hanusiak said he would rather abolish the assessor’s office and privatize the whole system with CPA professionals. He said the real policy and political issues relating to property taxes are with the municipalities that control the levies, not the office that’s tasked with mathematically determining the collection.

When asked about pensions, Hanusiak said a new arrangement needs to be negotiated for future hires and said the county in recent years should have devoted more money toward current pensions to avoid “large back end” payments but instead chose to add more spending.

Suffredin said the county has “never taken a pension holiday” and yet it’s still struggling. He said he’s most worried about the Forest Preserve District, which is a non-home rule entity and is therefore limited in its taxing powers.

Following a question about employee service standards and potential cost savings, Hanusiak referenced a Tribune article that detailed Cook County’s $165 million in lost revenue because of hospital paperwork error. He also claimed there are employees who don’t show up to work and have friends swipe attendance key cards for them.

Suffredin said the Cook County budget increases are from new other revenue and not new taxes, and he said all changes to complex health care issues take time to perfect.

On the topic of mental health medical services, Suffredin said Illinois used to have hospitals for those programs but slowly over time closed them and pushed the burden onto local government. He said inmates in the jail get exceptional mental health benefits but there’s little or nothing outside of the jail for them to continue their treatment.

Hanusiak agreed that state and federal funding is needed to help disadvantaged people before they become a threat to themselves and others. He said incarcerated people trying to get well while worried about threats from other inmates is counterproductive.

**District 14**

When asked about pensions, Goslin said Cook County has made all the mandated payments and he’s committed to continuing that effort. Britton, however, said he’s learned from his time on the Glenview Village Board that it’s important to invest large sums early to better capitalize on investments and to avoid plans with late ballooning payments.

Citing several staff reductions under County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, Britton said he doesn’t think the organization is overstaffed, though he agreed better management practices and spending policies would be beneficial.

Goslin also praised Preckwinkle, saying the county is more professionally run now under her leadership than when he joined the board in 1998. He said more professional development among employees will improve efficiency.

Regarding Cook County’s minimum wage ordinance, which raised the hourly wage to $11 as of July 1 and gradually increase to up to $13 an hour by 2020, Britton said he was disappointed that his hometown of Glenview opted out. He said it’s a “moral issue” he hopes to work on if elected.

Goslin, however, said the edges of the district are split between other counties and juggling multiple rules is burdensome to landlords seeking tenants and local economic development employees. He said minimum wage is an issue better suited for the state to handle on a larger scale.

Both candidates agreed that county health services are important programs.

Goslin said “we’re a compassionate society” and he supports the county’s hospital and clinic system. Britton said “health care is a right” and he thinks a single payer system is necessary.
Countywide referendums on midterm election ballot deal with minimum wage, firearm dealers

Guaranteed sick leave also up for vote Nov. 6

By Genevieve Bookwalter

Staff report

Voters will be asked to respond to three countywide referendums on the midterm election ballot next month, including ones that touch on minimum wage and controls for gun dealers.

Early voting started Oct. 22 in Cook County, and Nov. 6 is Election Day nationwide.

One referendum asks if Cook County voters want to see the minimum wage increased to $13 per hour for all workers, and the second asks if those workers should receive guaranteed sick time.

"Shall the minimum wage in your municipality match the $13 per hour, Cook County minimum wage law for adults over the age of 18 by July 1, 2020, and be indexed to the consumer price index after that?" the referendum reads.

"Shall your municipality match the Cook County earned sick time law which allows for workers to earn up to 40 hours (5 days) of sick time a year to take care of their own health or a family member's health?" reads another referendum.

Those initiatives refer to the Cook County minimum wage and sick leave ordinance, which took effect in Evanston last year. However, many municipalities opted to not go along with the county increase, thus keeping the minimum wage in their town at the statewide rate of $8.25 per hour.

For towns like Evanston and Skokie that did go along with the county last year, as of July 2018 the minimum wage increased to $10 and will increase each year until it is $13 hourly in 2020.

Cook County Commissioner Larry Suffredin, D-13th District, who sponsored the referendums and is also seeking re-election in November, said he expects voters to support them, and, thus, encourage the municipalities that are not on board with the minimum wage increase to opt in.

"I'm optimistic that these two ordinances will pass with significant percentages," said Suffredin.

Another Suffredin-sponsored referendum on the ballot asks county voters about tightening rules for gun sellers.

"Should the State of Illinois strengthen penalties for the illegal trafficking of firearms and require all gun dealers to be certified by the State?" the ballot measure reads.

The commissioner said he hopes responses to this referendum will push Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner to ultimately approve a bill in the legislature seeking to tighten rules for gun dealers in Illinois.

Rauner is seeking re-election in November, running against Democratic candidate J.B. Pritzker.

"My belief is the vast majority of people in Cook County will say 'when that bill does get to your desk, don't veto it. Sign it for our protection,'" Suffredin said.
State legislators make case for marijuana

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Sponsors of a bill that would make recreational marijuana legal in Illinois for adults over age 21 are planning to reintroduce a revised draft of the proposed law when the General Assembly's next regular session begins in January, two legislators told a group of citizens gathered in Des Plaines on Wednesday.

Before a crowd of about 60 adults and Maine West High School students, State Sen. Heather Steans and State Rep. Kelly Cassidy, both Democrats from Chicago, spoke about the proposed Cannabis Regulation and Taxation Act during an Oct. 17 town hall-style meeting at the Prairie Lakes Community Center Theater.

"Prohibition just plain doesn't work," Steans said.

Included in the new bill that will be presented during the next legislative session is a proposal to allow Illinois residents to purchase and possess up to 28 grams of marijuana from a designated dispensary and cultivate up to five of their own marijuana plants per household, the legislators said.

The bill, as proposed, would give municipalities the option of restricting or prohibiting recreational marijuana use, Cassidy said. Employers would also be able to prohibit usage under the proposal, as would landlords, Cassidy said.

"Nothing about what we're doing will change their ability to maintain a drug-free workplace," she said.

In addition, the bill would allow for "a lot of local control" over where a dispensary or cultivation center is allowed to open, Steans said. Legalization, she added, would also ensure a "safe product."

"The guy on my corner doesn't card, he doesn't label his product, it's not in a childproof container," Cassidy said. "Bringing this out of the street and into a regulated market will make all of us safer."

The legislators said the taxation of recreational marijuana is projected to generate a minimum of $350 million per year. The revenue, according to the proposed bill, would be used to "support law enforcement and pay for public education programs, substance abuse treatment, and programs to repair harms to communities adversely affected by the war on drugs," Steans and Cassidy said.

Specifying on the types of programs that would be funded were not shared.

"We have to have a lot more studies done before we can let it go out to the public," said Teri Collins, executive director of the Maine Community Youth Association Foundation, which works to prevent drug and alcohol use among teens in Maine Township.

"One of our biggest concerns is that, just like we re-created 'big tobacco,' we will create 'big marijuana,'" Collins continued. "If we allow for-profit businesses to market and sell marijuana, it will lead businesses to market aggressively to heavy pot users who may have a drug problem. This is similar to what has happened in the alcohol and tobacco industries, where companies make much of their profits from users with serious addiction issues."

Cassidy replied that "big marijuana" already exists.

"They are here, and they are called cartels and street gangs," she said.

Both Steans and Cassidy disagreed that legalization will increase marijuana usage among teens.

Margaret Polovchak, a former director of MCYAF who now works for Omni Youth Services, disputed that making marijuana legally available would not increase use among adolescents. Teens are already indicating that they are getting their hands on marijuana through the state's legal medicinal route, she said.

"To think we are not increasing access to our young people is a mistake," Polovchak said. "It absolutely is impacting and making marijuana readily available."

Steans argued that Illinois will have a "stronger regulatory structure in place" than other states do.

"But we share the goal that we do not want to make it easier, but actually harder for teens to access canna-

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POLICE REPORT

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

BATTERY
- Joseph J. DiMaggio, 37, of the 7100 block of Olcott Avenue, Chicago, was charged with domesic battery Oct. 14 in connection with an alleged incident that occurred in a parking lot in the 7400 block of North Milwaukee Avenue. DiMaggio is scheduled to appear in court Nov. 4.

WEAPONS
- Martin G. Crespo, 22, of the 4800 block of Avers, Chicago, was charged with unlawful use of a weapon and ticketed for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia on Oct. 17 following a traffic stop in the 7900 block of North Milwaukee Avenue. According to police, during a search of Crespo's vehicle, a gun with a loaded magazine, 6 grams of suspected marijuana, a grinder and scale were found. Crespo is scheduled to appear in court Nov. 30.

THEFT
- Jose E. Benavides, 39, of the 1300 block of Prospect Avenue, Des Plaines, was charged with retail theft on Oct. 15 after he was accused of stealing a $149 battery kit from a display at a store in the 8600 block of West Dempster Street. Benavides was scheduled to appear in court Oct. 18.

OBSTRUCTION
- Ossama E. El Hannouny, 24, of the 7900 block of West Touhy Avenue, was ticketed for public intoxication Oct. 15 after police said he appeared “lethargic and confused.” Police said El Hannouny gave the officer a false name and date of birth and refused to comply with the officer's orders that he exit his car. Hannouny is scheduled to appear in court Nov. 5.

DUI
- Brandon A. Duran, 28, of the 900 block of West Sunnyside Avenue, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence on Oct. 13. According to police, an SUV belonging to Duran was found on top of a small fence and wood display in the 9100 block of North Milwaukee Avenue. Duran is scheduled to appear in court Nov. 5.
- James R. Lopez, 20, of the 5000 block of North Odell, was charged with driving under the influence on Oct. 15 after his car allegedly struck a house in the 8600 block of West Normal Avenue. Witnesses reportedly told police that Lopez's car swerved off the road to avoid hitting them. Lopez was scheduled to appear in court Nov. 21.
- Alexander Umana, 46, of the 6100 block of North Northwest Highway, was charged with aggravated driving under the influence Oct. 16 in connection with a crash in which he allegedly struck a house in the 8100 block of Harlem Avenue.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY
- A 26-year-old St. Charles woman was ticketed for allegedly leaving two young children unattended inside a parked vehicle while she shopped in the 5600 block of West Touhy Avenue Oct. 15.
- A 36-year-old Chicago woman was ticketed on Oct. 16 after police said she left two children unattended inside a parked vehicle while she took four other children inside a store in the 6100 block of West Touhy Avenue.

PUBLIC INTOXICATION
- A 54-year-old Des Plaines man was ticketed for public intoxication Oct. 13 after police responded to a store in the 8700 block of West Dempster Street for a report of a person who fell off a bench in front of the store. He was taken to the hospital, police said.
- A 23-year-old woman from Hawthorn Woods was ticketed for public intoxication after she was reportedly found face-down on the floor next to a toilet in the locker room of a business in the 9000 block of Civic Center Drive Oct. 14. Police said the woman admitted to drinking earlier at an unknown location.
- A 56-year-old Palatine man was ticketed for disorderly conduct and public intoxication on Oct. 16 after the owners of a vehicle parked in a lot in the 8700 block of Dempster Street reported he had urinated on their vehicle.
- A 51-year-old man from Glenview was ticketed for public intoxication on Oct. 16 after he reportedly fell asleep on a mattress that was on display at a retailer in the 200 block of Golf Mill Center.

THEFT
- An unknown man allegedly became upset Oct. 12 when he was told he could not return a phone charger at a gas station in the 8100 block of West Oakton Street and proceeded to throw the charger on the counter and steal “two or three new ones.”
- A 2011 Dodge Challenger was reported stolen from the driveway of a home in the 6900 block of West Fargo Avenue Oct. 15.
- An unknown woman allegedly stole six boxes of Nexium from a store in the 9000 block of North Greenwood Avenue Oct. 17.
- A woman reported that her credit card was used to make $121 in purchases at an unknown location after she left it behind at a store in the 7200 block of West Dempster Street on Oct. 17.

PROPERTY DAMAGE
- Tires were slashed on a vehicle parked in a lot in the 9000 block of North Cumberland Avenue between Oct. 16 and Oct. 17.
- A woman told police that someone punctured a hole in the passenger side front and rear tires of her vehicle while the vehicle was parked in the 9000 block of North Milwaukee Avenue overnight between Oct. 16 and Oct. 17.
Three referendum proposals slated for Nov. 6 ballot in Niles

Staff report

Niles voters who go to the polls Nov. 6 can weigh in on three referendum proposals, two of them advisory questions initiated by the village and one by residents, officials said.

The village of Niles and the Niles Historical Society are asking whether the village should modernize the Niles Historical Society and Cultural Center at 8970 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Niles Executive Assistant and Deputy Village Clerk Kathryn Angell said the referendum question doesn't include a specific cost for the work - only if it is a worthwhile project for the village to pursue. More details would come later.

"The village would like to professionally evaluate the Niles Historical Society and Cultural Center for the best use of the building in order to tell a positive story and its history to enhance the experience of visitors," referendum information recently released by the village states.

Niles officials say the museum is one of the largest in the northeast area and is part of the Northeast Illinois Association of Museums.

Formerly used as the Cook County Sheriff's Station from 1923 until 1984, it remains one of the oldest municipal structures in Niles and a local landmark, officials said.

In 2008 and 2009, the building was significantly upgraded and renovated.

A second village-initiated advisory referendum question asks whether the village's community development department should continue to work with local school districts to enhance school ratings.

The village and school districts have engaged in intergovernmental agreements over development projects in the past.

"Home sale values are directly correlated to many factors with school districts being one of those factors," officials said in recently released election information.

"In an effort to increase home sales and values, the village wants to continue intergovernmental relationships with our school districts to support their good works and enhance ratings and public perception. By working with our school districts, we hope to make Niles an even more desirable destination for young families."

Angell said the village originally had a third advisory referendum slated for Nov. 6 about creating a multi-purpose community center in Niles.

Under state law, however, each municipality is limited to three referenda per election, she said, so the board rescinded this one after learning of the resident-initiated referendum.

More than 1,000 Niles citizens signed petitions supporting a referendum question about the procedure for getting referenda on local ballots in Niles.

The question poses whether restrictions should be in place when the village board initiates more than one referendum during an election. Additional referenda could not be initiated or submitted by the village board more than 190 days prior to the election, should this measure gain support.

If the proposal is approved, the law would take effect March 1, 2019.
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‘It wasn’t very comfortable’

Gurnee embalmer among survivors of Great America’s 30-Hour Coffin Challenge

BY YADIRA SANCHEZ OLSON
News-Sun

The first thing Wayne Allison did when he got home Oct. 21 was soak his sore body in a hot bath for a long time.

The 51-year-old from Gurnee was exhausted, he said, after spending the weekend inside a wooden box taking on and beating Six Flags Great America’s 30-Hour Coffin Challenge, which began at 1 p.m. Oct. 20 and ended at 7 p.m. on Oct. 21.

“I only got one hour of sleep out of the 30,” Allison said.

One of six contenders chosen out of more than 3,000 applicants to lie still as if they were dead, Allison remained within the confines of the Fright Fest-themed park throughout the night, with only short hourly bathroom breaks out of the coffin and six 15-minute meal intervals taken while sitting up, but remaining inside the wooden box.

The other five contestants in the quest triumphed, too, including a 70-year-old grandmother from Franklin Park who is a member of a “Hardcore Hearse Club” and a paranormal investigator from Milwaukee.

Allison is a funeral director and embalmer at the Warren Cemetery and Funeral Home in Gurnee and the only contestant from Lake County. He lives on the cemetery grounds and is plenty familiar with coffins, he said, but this was the first time the 6-foot-tall man spent time inside one.

“It wasn’t very comfortable,” Allison said.

The wooden boxes measured 7 feet long and were 24 inches wide, with a few inches more on top, said Tess Claussen, communications manager at Great America.

“I had no room to turn or move,” Allison said. “Some of the others were smaller and they could turn over a little, but for me there was just one position.”

Contestants were allowed one non-electronic item, and Allison chose a word-finding book that proved to be unhelpful as he put it aside after only a few minutes, he said.

Throughout the challenge, the coffin’s top half was left open, and the six were exposed to the distracting sounds of roller coasters whizzing by and screams from guests, and also the elements.

Snow, rain and then frost were some of the natural tortures that took place during those confining 30 hours inside the sarcophagus. Allison said his face ended up burned a bit from Sunday morning’s sun.

And nature wasn’t the only one working against the six contestants.

Throughout the night, Claussen said the ghouls and lost souls who roam Fright Fest during the day and haunt after hours following orders from Nox, the festival’s Demon Overlord, were in charge of trying to scare the six out of their wooden beds.

“We did want to make it difficult,” Claussen said.

Banging on the coffins, making chainsaw-like noises and taunting the three men and three women was all part of the plan to scare the contestants right out of their prizes — including $300, two 2019 Gold-level season passes to Great America, two line-skipping passes to haunted houses at this year’s Fright Fest and, last but not least, the coffin that served as their home over the weekend.

Claussen said the six will also get a chance to take part in the Uprising Parade on either Oct. 26, 27 or 28, when the theme park switches from spooky fun to terrifying entertainment.

“They’ll ride on the trolley with the characters,” Claussen said.

Allison was chosen out of thousands of entries based on an essay explaining why he wanted to participate in the challenge.

“I work in a cemetery, I live in a cemetery and I got married in a funeral home. You guess you could say the coffin challenge was on my bucket list,” Allison said.

Allison’s wife, Gail, said he’s not crazy. That’s just the way he is.

And though Allison is happy to cross off that feat on his bucket list, he wouldn’t do it again, he said.

“It was worth it but now I’ve done it,” Allison said.

The 30-Hour Coffin Challenge was hosted at other Great America theme parks across the country.

Claussen said due to the event’s success, it is likely to be back in for Fright Fest 2019.

Yadira Sanchez Olson is a freelance reporter for the News-Sun.
Some people want you to think we’re in a Constitutional crisis. We’re not.

Randy Blaser

There is a growing movement coming from certain circles within the Democratic Party that our federal union is broken and needs to be blown to bits in order to be fixed.

What is the evidence of the nation’s brokenness? These advocates for constitutional reform point to two main issues: The election of Donald Trump to the presidency in 2016, and the Senate’s approval of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court just a few weeks ago.

Because of those two events, some scholars and journalists in the Big Blue states think it is time to break up the Union.

This isn’t the first time we’ve heard this solution, although the rationale was different back then. Since the founding of the Republic, slave owners and their allies wanted to nullify federal laws and break up the Union.

That effort failed in the mid-19th century — thanks to a long and bloody civil war. It should fail again. But let’s take a look at today’s rationale for wrecking the Union.

The first issue — raised by the election of Donald Trump — calls for the elimination of the Electoral College. Why? It’s not democratic.

Despite losing the popular vote by almost 3 million, Trump won the presidency by winning the Electoral College. Therefore, it is undemocratic, some say. Besides, they also claim, it is racist, developed in a time long gone to protect slavery and the power of the slave states.

Such an argument smacks of being a sore loser. We’ve operated with an Electoral College since the dawn of the Constitution. Candidates for president ever since then know the rules of the race and understand they must win a majority vote from the states, not the people.

Why? The purpose of the Electoral College is to give power to the states. Just as the House has the power of the purse, so the Senate has its own powers.

One of the main rationales for tearing the Constitution in vogue today is that the document was created by privileged white men to preserve slavery. Therefore, it is invalid.

It is true that parts of the Constitution enshrine slavery — by counting slaves a three-fifths of a person for the purpose of apportionment of representatives in the House to stop them from enacting a law that could not escape to the free states.

But the claim that the Constitution enshrines slavery, was written by the slave powers and existed to preserve slavery is a lie refuted by history.

It forgets that men who opposed slavery also authored the Constitution. Compromises were made to preserve a nation, not slavery. Imagine the world today if they failed and let the slave states go their separate way from the beginning? Slavery might still exist. Maybe the Nazis win because there is no United States, but instead is a racist confederacy created to create an alliance.

It also forgets that from day one, slavery was put on a path of limitation and elimination by the abolitionists. Congress could prohibit the slave trade by 1808, per the Constitution, and did so effective Jan. 1, 1808.

It also forgets that the first public act allowing expansion of the United States, the Northwest Ordinance, outlawed slavery in those territories.

And such a view forgets that the slave powers tried to destroy the union and its Constitution in order to preserve slavery, and the war fought to stop them. But that terrible institution 76 years ago now claim was written to preserve the power of the slave states.

If the purpose of the Constitution was truly to expand and preserve slavery and white power, it failed spectacularly.

No, the Constitution allowed for the exact opposite of what its critics claim.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist.

Before its fall from grace, Sears offered a pathway to the American Dream

By Karen Ann Cullotta
Pioneer Press

When my late grandmother bought her first home in the early 1970s, she paid cash for the tidy, red brick bungalow with the life savings that she had earned working as a packer in the catalog department at the headquarters of Sears, Roebuck and Co. on Chicago’s West Side.

Her husband, my late grandfather, was a musician who taught accordion lessons and held factory jobs, but my grandmother’s steady work as a packer at the stately Sears building on Homan and Arthington was their Italian immigrant family’s financial bedrock for more than three decades.

Sears also was a pipeline to the middle class in my husband’s family. His father, a World War II veteran, worked as an appliance salesman at the company’s stores for more than 40 years, earning enough income to come to a suburban ranch home and send his three children to college.

But my family’s history with the storied retailer is whistling a sad tune in my ear these days after the parent company, Sears Holdings Corp., filed for bankruptcy protection earlier this week and announced the closure of another 142 stores belonging to a company that has withered to a husk of its former self.

Back in the day, the arrival of the Sears Wish Book catalog exactall filled me with wonder and yearning for the latest toys, and it offered a glimpse of the excitement that awaited me in the years to come, when I’d finally be old enough to wear the hipster outfits featured in the so-called Lemon Frog Shop.

The knowledge that my own grandmother was a Sears catalog order packer, and in my innocence, the purveyor of those coveted goods — the Perma Prest polyester jumpers, the Toughskin jeans — was nothing short of magical.
Best-selling author Jamie Beck writes romances about people dealing with real issues

There's a reason why romance novels are a billion-dollar industry. It's because diving into a Nora Roberts, Nicholas Sparks, or Jennifer Cruise novel, perhaps with a glass of wine, allows you to run away to a distant place without your boss, your sink full of dishes or your carpool. For an hour or two, you get to live a sexy, tumultuous love story that always ends perfectly.

But move over Danielle Steele. Make room for Jamie Beck, a national bestselling author whose romance novels provide an ingredient that's unique to the industry: real-life problems and inspiring characters who overcome them. Referring to her brand as "smart fiction with heart," Beck is the author of 12 novels, including her newest book, "The Memory of You," which comes out at the end of this month.

"In a typical romance novel, the hero and heroine are on the same page together in about 85 percent of the page count," said the Connecticut-based author and mom of two teenagers, whose books regularly appear on the Amazon bestseller list. "My stories are still love stories, but there are bigger subplots, and the characters are facing other issues, many of them very challenging."

"The Memory of You" is the first book in a new series Beck plans to write. It's the story of a woman who, following a brutal assault, moves back to her hometown, starts a business and reunites with her high school sweetheart. "There's a great single dad hero in this book, who's a straight shooter, a good guy with good values, and who is inspiring," she said.

Beck, who worked as a real estate attorney for a decade prior to becoming an author, said her love of creative writing began in high school. "I used to watch 'Guiding Light' after school. I loved soap operas and movies and TV romance dramas, and I would always say I wanted to write stories like these," she said.

With writing idols that include Kristin Hannah, Jodi Picoult and Jojo Moyes, Beck said she wrote her first manuscript, without any specific writing instruction or training. She then began joining writing groups and going to workshops. In 2013, she got an agent, and two years later, her first book, "Worth the Wait," was published by Montlake Publishing, an imprint of Amazon. "No publishers were interested in 'Worth the Wait,' but I kept insisting that readers wanted something more than lust and sex and an unbelievable factor," Beck said. "This was about real people with real problems — infertility, alcoholism, real things that people are dealing with, and I felt like that would be appealing to readers."

Beck, who now teaches writing workshops all over the world, said that her books all boil down to a message. "Life is hard. We're all facing something, and there's so much stress and bad news," Beck said. "I create these worlds where you know that good is going to triumph over evil. I'm fascinated with people who have made big mistakes or who have had really bad things happen to them and they come back strong from it. They heal, they evolve, they recover, and they take you to your own personal happy ending."

Beck, who has been married for 19 years, said she hopes her stories will also inspire people when it comes to love. "When the heart is broken, it's hard to trust again," she said. "But if you want love, you have to be willing to put yourself out there again and risk rejection again. That's not easy, but the human spirit is so resilient. That's what these books are about. I'm like a cheerleader saying, 'You can do it too!'"

In today's world where yoga, meditation and mindfulness are buzz words, Beck's novels are yet another great way to help cope with the obstacles we all face, to help us realize we are not alone, and to dig deep into our inner strength. In other words, Beck is essentially sprinkling some self-help and a means to empowerment over a juicy, dramatic love story. "The Memory of You" is set to be released on Oct. 30, and is available on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other new online retailers.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist for Chicago Tribune Media Group. She is also the creator of her divorce support website, Divorced Girl Smiling. Pilossoph lives in Chicago with her two children.

Amid high fees and record profits, banks are desperate for 'much-needed regulatory relief'

Editor's note: Do you feel ripped off? Are you the victim of fraudulent or deceptive business practices? Let Help Squad lend a hand. Send your letters, complaints, injustices and story ideas to HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com. The column will be on hiatus for the rest of 2018, but will return after the first of the year. Until then, Pioneer Press will feature a syndicated column about consumer issues.

By David Lazarus

Los Angeles Times

The American Bankers Association has been running TV commercials patting various lawmakers on the back for supporting "much-needed regulatory relief to help banks better serve their customers and communities."

What's striking, though, is how the banking industry has been busily spinning a myth about being crippled by overregulation, and how banks are yearning to breathe free of rules that prevent them from funding small businesses and investing in local communities.

A report this month from Bankrate.com highlights the deceptive nature of the industry's violin playing:

Banks are now charging a record $4.68 on average for each out-of-network ATM transaction, up 36 percent over the last decade.

The Los Angeles average fee is $4.44. The highest ATM fee nationwide is Detroit's $5.28.

The average overdraft fee is $33.23, down a smidge from a year earlier, but 54 percent higher than two decades ago.

The Federal Reserve may be raising interest rates, but the average interest-bearing checking account pays out a mere 0.07 percent annually.

Only 8 percent of interest checking accounts require no monthly service fee or minimum balance. The most common such service fee is $25 a month.

All that nickel-and-dimeing adds up. In fact, banks have never made more money.

Ever.

After posting a record $56 billion in profit in the first quarter, banks stuffed their pockets even more in the second quarter with a new profit record of $60.2 billion, marking a 25 percent increase from a year before, according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

A big chunk of that was thanks to President Trump's tax cuts. The FDIC estimates that banks were $13 billion richer in the first half of the year because they had to share less with Uncle Sam.

"It's simply not credible that banks are crippled by regulation and need regulatory relief," said Sally Greenberg, executive director of the National Consumers League. "They are making money hand over fist on fees of all sorts - ATMs, overdrafts, minimum balances."

She called bank regulation "absolutely critical to ensuring that the banking sector doesn't take risks with other people's money, something this industry has consistently demonstrated with the regulations are loosened."

Jeff Sigmund, a spokesperson for the American Bankers Association, said the industry's call for regulatory relief isn't about making banks happy - it's about making America happy.

"Bipartisan regulatory reform enhances banks' ability to serve creditworthy borrowers and meet the needs of their communities, as well as the broader economy, without compromising safety and soundness," he said.

The Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief and Consumer Protection Act that banks are so enamored of represents the first meaningful tweaking of Dodd-Frank, which was signed into law in 2010 after financial firms' reckless behavior helped usher in the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression.

Critics said Dodd-Frank, which was aimed primarily at big banks, created an unfairly rigid regulatory burden on smaller institutions. The new law, signed by Trump in May, remedies this by raising the financial threshold for many of Dodd-Frank's rules to apply.

However, it also leaves consumers with fewer safeguards, such as preemptions of tougher state rules in some cases and limiting consumers' right to sue.

Consumer advocates say the bill was a first step toward rolling back all Dodd-Frank reforms.

That would suggest a belief on banks' part that they've earned back our trust. But once again, the numbers say otherwise.

Ridout said the combination of high fees and low interest for savings and checking accounts are a double whammy for customers.

"It's a kind of two-handed pickpocketing," he said. "They're paying nothing for use of people's money while at the same time running up their fee income."

David Lazarus, a Los Angeles Times columnist, writes on consumer issues. He can be reached at david.lazarus@latimes.com.
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If you are the mortgagor (homeowner), you have the right to redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605-18.5(g-1).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR/OWNERS, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF CONFIRMATION BY THE COURT. If you fail to pay the fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605-18.5(g-1), and if this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605-18.5(g-1).

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver’s license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact plaintiff’s attorney, JENNIFER L. LEVY, at (708) 961-8980.

The property will not be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify 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 estate after confirmation of the sale.

The judgment amount was $191,511.90.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR/OWNERS, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF CONFIRMATION BY THE COURT. If you fail to pay the fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605-18.5(g-1), and if this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605-18.5(g-1).

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MAKE THE CALL:
As an ump would

By Fred Piscop | Edited by Stanley Newman

For interactive puzzles and games go to chicagotribune.com/games
Quote-Acrostic

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

**Clues**

**Words**

A. Scattered
   167  93  79  61  125  159  8  24

B. Quite lively: mus.
   140  41  128  59  25  100  157  88  114  145

C. Wilma — Olymics star
   5  29  124  121  50  146  86

D. Dessert with zing: 2 wds.
   170  52  18  104  151  85  135

E. James Gang member
   139  83  164  20  99  116  46

F. Low-profile behavior: 2 wds.
   98  71  43  141  111  62  37  126

G. Kick into higher gear
   131  106  69  166  96  38  64

H. Notable: hyph.
   70  42  149  32  89  56  107

I. Home of the Purple Aces
   161  92  127  72  51  142  153  40  9  17

J. Magna Carta signing site
   158  39  103  123  86  84  134  22  4

K. Trade
   53  78  15  148  162  97  30  120

L. Dump
   110  48  154  80  163  63  21

M. Formal beach attire?: 2 wds.
   102  67  147  12  122  33  55

N. Kingdom surrounded by a republic?
   129  14  144  28  155  115  77

O. — out
   3  117  130  82  13

P. Adolf's Austrian annexation
   11  75  1  31  44  152  90  119  160

Q. Vibes
   27  86  47  10  136  143  113  94  36

R. Discard: 2 wds.
   137  101  54  87  108  2  65

S. Joyous expression
   112  76  26  156  45  138

T. Is silent, in music
   109  23  58  168  91

U. First Saudi king
   118  6  150  35  74  49  16

V. Kim Jong Un's capital
   34  105  7  57  95

W. Genesis says he lived 912 years
   60  169  73  133

Street Smart

**BY CHARLES PRESTON**

**Across**

1. Panamas
2. Wield a needle
3. Italian speciality
4. The Waste Land poet
5. Allen or Gershwin
6. Steel girders
7. Prague center
8. Baseball Hall of Famer
9. Be a litigant
10. LA footballer
11. Tokyo shopping district
12. Adorable
13. Fine violins
14. Annapolis grad
15. Queen of Olympus
16. Human visceral organ: prefix
17. Service club member
18. French sculptor
19. Math subj.
20. Clay now
21. Congratulatory cries
22. West London area
23. Footballer
24. Baseball Hall of Famer
25. Umpire's call
27. Fibrous knot
28. Panamas
29. Steel girders
30. Prague center
31. Annapolis grad
32. Queen of Olympus
33. Italian speciality
34. Allen or Gershwin
35. The Waste Land poet
36. Panamas
37. Service club member
38. French sculptor
40. Clay now
41. Congratulatory cries
42. West London area

**Down**

1. Cut
2. Away from the wind
3. New York musicians' hangout
5. Like some partners
6. Epochs
7. Exist
8. Resentment
9. Border on
10. Bering, e.g.
11. Gob
12. Soul: Fr.
13. Topography
14. Glacial direction
15. Cold weather warmups
16. Ancient Mexicans
17. Descend
18. Paris thoroughfare
19. Relating to the heart chamber
20. With malice
21. Resident of southwestern France
22. Pierce
23. Remnant
24. Of vocal accompaniments
25. Literary pseudonym
26. Late-night flights
27. Nautical direction
28. Yule song
29. Legendary tenor
30. Species
31. Laborer, of yore
32. Commotion
33. Caen's river
34. Roman calendar word
35. Health center
36. Samovar
37. Denial word
38. Belfry resident
39. Victory sign
40. Clay, now
41. Edible grain
42. Congratulatory cries
43. West London area

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Last week's crosswords

"SEE IT"

RAITTY CEST LOWE ACTED
ASSAY RICA ANNA WORMS
CHECK DIGIT CASUAL SUIT
EVE TEETH SCHICK SET
BATH POI NAVY
RICH CHERRY PIT ACOT
ASTAGO NO TOLL ONE
SMALLS UNITE A PATAS
UNCLEAN MEWS ADLE
MAA CLEANER P CEL
ANTI THE IGUANA
OREM DEMO LUSH EVE
FEUDAL FRANCE STIFED
OCEAN LIP ENDING
RATIONAL ACTIV
ORCA NAR SCENE
ALD UPDATE TAIGONE
COMMUNITY CHICKEN
OZONE LAME FIRE ADAPT
TENET AGES ODES SENSE

"What a Character!"

BALE GIBES LASS
ERIC ELITE ERIE
DASHIELL KHAMMETT
EMPORIUM OASES
ANS NAVY
BOWING PUUL SAM
ORAL WOMAN TRA
EARL DERRIGERS
RITE ODETS NEAT
SES MISS MOURS
MITT TOM
CHAIN SERENADE
RAYMOND CHANDLER
ALEE ALOES ABEL
MESS BITES KAME

"For Starters"

BOOGO LARP UP PLAY SHO
US DANCE STABBIT LA
THAT LAZY A ROLL TIMELINE
POLARION SAD AS RANKLE
AND MENDI LATE
SUNIAA CHANCE TO
APEX INSPIRE CAFE LA
OPEN MBAS ONE LIGHT
RISE OECEACHOR WAPPERS
ROD R THE HANSEY PANI
ATION BIG STARD
SWIM M UNPOT OW IS
ONAN EAST AC T GOD
TE ADIAL TOP CLIC
GIE DERMACRA EN
ALO HDER HUG (BOB
ADVANTAGE DOG CAM
EAP S BE OF SIA AT

Last week's Quote-Acrostic

(Michael) STARR: ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK: Doomsday prepper proteges' survival lesson number one is apply 'moral flexibility' aggressively in time of crisis. Need a bike? Steal one. Use bear mace to repel rightful owners and competitive survivalists.

Last week's Sudoku

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This week's Jumble

GATHER MISUSE SPRUCE
AFFORD SYSTEM GOSSIP

Humpty Dumpty's departure from the wall was a —

DISASTROUS
"EGG-SIT"

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  - 1900-1979. DEAD OR ALIVE!
  - 920-371-0494

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YOUR PERFECT HIRE IS WAITING

Have some spooky Halloween fun locally

BY ANNIE ALLEMAN
Pioneer Press

Halloween stations with prizes, the Traveling World of Reptiles, and an outdoor enchanted playground. Tickets are $10 for residents, $15 for nonresidents children, and $5 for adults. Call 630-920-1969 or go to www.facebook.com/events/934577543419280/.

Elmhurst

Boo-tiful Saturday: Downtown Elmhurst hosts a free family fun Halloween celebration from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 27. The fun starts with a free showing of "Hotel Transylvania 3" at 9:30 a.m. at the York Theatre, 150 N. York St. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. there will be trick-or-treating at participating merchants for kids 12 and younger. Bring your own treat bag. Then there will be a DJ and dancing in the plaza, plus kids arts and crafts. Call 630-993-1600 or go to www.elmhurstcitycentre.com.

Evanston

Spooktacular Fright Night: The haunted house event will be open from 7 to 9 p.m. Oct. 26 at the Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center, 1655 Foster St. There will be arts and crafts, face painting and food. Tickets are free. Call 847-448-4311 or go to www.cityofevanston.org.

Downtown Evanston Halloween Party and Parade: Celebrate Halloween in downtown Evanston from noon to 5 p.m. Oct. 27 at Evanston Plaza, 1968 Dempster St. Bring your kids in costume to trick or treat at downtown businesses from noon to 3 p.m. From 3 to 5 p.m. there will be a Halloween party at the Holiday Inn Chicago North-Evanston, 1501 Sherman Ave., with Halloween-themed activities, music, and a special candy bar for kids and a special cash bar for adults. Tickets are free. Call 847-866-6319 or go to www.facebook.com/events/38193048919424/.

Spooktacular Concert: With Halloween as the inspiration, the Music Institute of Chicago's faculty perform themed music at 3 p.m. Oct. 28 at Nichols Concert Hall, 180 E. Buffalo Grove Rd.

Burl Ridge

All Hallows' Eve: Kids 18 months to 11 years old can trick or treat in a non-scary Halloween environment from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Oct. 31 at the Burr Ridge Community Center, 15W400 Harvestor Drive. Events include a cookie walk, crafts, snacks, magician, face painting, and costumes. There will be prizes for best costume or a face painted with spider or pumpkin. Tickets are $5 in advance, $6 at the door. Call 630-558-3800 or go to www.bgparks.org/event/fall/trick-or-treat.aspx.

Buffalo Grove

Trick-or-Treat Trail: Friendly characters will line the path to hand out candy and small prizes to children ages 1-12 years old from noon to 1:30 p.m. Oct. 28 at the Community Arts Center, 225 McHenry Road. Children will also have the opportunity to get their faces painted, take pictures with the characters and play carnival games and more. This event is a no-scare zone and parents must accompany children. Tickets are free. Call 847-850-2100 or go to www.bgparks.org/event/fall/trick-or-treat.aspx.

Arlington Heights

Trunk or Treat: The Arlington Heights Park District invites families to trunk or treat from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Oct. 26 at the Public Works garage, 222 N. Ridge Ave. Trick or treat from car to car inside the Public Works building. Businesses and organizations will decorate their vehicles and provide Halloween handouts and treat bags. Come in costume; parents must accompany their children. In addition to trunk-or-treating, there will be games, inflatables, a mad science demonstration, arts and crafts, and refreshments. Tickets are $10. Call 847-577-3046 or go to www.ahpd.org/events/trunk-or-treat.

Glencoe

Night of 1,000 Jack-o'-Lanterns: This event features more than 1,000 professionally hand-carved pumpkins lighting up the night along festive pathways from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Oct. 24-28 at Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road. Tickets are $13-$18. Parking is $25 on weekdays, $30 on weekends. This event has timed tickets; the latest ticket sold is for 9:30 p.m. and last entry is at 10 p.m. Call 847-835-5440 or go to www.chicagobotanic.org.

Halloween Walk: Kids can go on a trick-or-treat parade from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Oct. 27. Lineup is at 9:30 a.m. at the Cossitt School playground, 115 W. Cossitt Ave. When the walk ends, the Greater La Grange YMCA will provide crafts and activities for kids on the lawn near the fountain at Village Hall at noon. Tickets are free. Call 708-522-6476 or go to lgba.chambermaster.com/events/details/2018-halloween-walk-2523.

Libertyville

“Dracula,” the original Orson Welles radio play: Improv Playhouse Theater will stage the original 1938 radio adaptation of Orson Welles reading Bram Stoker’s “Dracula” at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 27 at 735 N. Milwaukee Ave. The hour-long radio adaptation first aired on July 11, 1938. Several local actors will star in this production. Everyone who comes in costume gets a prize. This is a family-friendly show. Tickets are $5-$15. Call 847-968-4529 or go to www.improvplayhouse.com.

Halloween Fest: Kids 10 and under can enjoy an evening of fun from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 30 at the Libertyville Sports Complex, 1950 U.S. 45. Activities include inflatables, a train ride, a spider mountain, costumed characters, a DJ and other Halloween fun. Tickets are $7 in advance, $10 at the door. Parents and grandparents are free. Call 847-918-7275 or go to www.libertyville sportscomplex.com/223/Halloween-Fest-2018.

Mundelein

Halloween Boo Bash: Children ages 3-11 and their parents can enjoy a Halloween-themed event from 3 to 6 p.m. Oct. 27 at the Mundelein Community Center, 1401 N. Midlothian Road. Candy and treats are provided by local businesses. Other activities include tractor-pulled wagon rides, games and prizes, storytelling and visits by familiar costumed characters. This event is held rain or shine. No registration is required and costumes are encouraged. Food is available for purchase. Tickets are free. Call 847-949-3283 or go to www.mundelein.org/our-community/event/halloween-boo-bash.

Western Springs

Halloween Bash: The Western Springs Recreation Department is throwing a Halloween bash from 2 to 5 p.m. Oct. 27 at Spring Rock Park, 4400 Central Ave. The event will feature a corn maze, hayrides, scarecrow building contest, costume parade and contest, Halloween games, inflatables, laser tag, music, a business expo and food for purchase. The movie "Coco" will be shown at 7 p.m. at the Rec Department, 1500 Walker St. Call 708-246-4225 or go to www.wsparks.org.

Winnetka

Dave Rudolf’s Halloween Spooktacular: Families can experience Halloween hijinks from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Oct. 26 at the Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave. Dave will entertain with fun songs and stories. Kids should wear their costumes. Tickets are $10 in advance, $15 at the door. Call 847-446-0537 or go to www.winnetkacommunity house.org/event/dave-rudolfs-halloween-spooktacular/.

Annie Alleman is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
WHAT TO DO

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Thursday, Oct. 25

Up is Down: Chicago-area advertising firm Goldsholl Design Associates, headed by husband and wife Morton and Millie Goldsholl, introduced the principles of Bauhaus design to the American public through their innovative campaigns for corporations like 7UP, Motorola and Kimberly Clark. The Block Museum will reexamine the innovative work of the firm and its national impact from the mid-1950s through the 1970s with the exhibition "Up is Down: Mid-Century Experiments in Advertising and Film at the Goldsholl Studio." 10 a.m. daily, Northwestern University - Block Museum of Art, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, free, 847-491-4000.

Break A Rule: Ed Paschke's Art and Teaching: Ed Paschke (1939-2004) was a bold innovator who mentored students at over two and a half decades at Northwestern University to think outside the box. This exhibition considers his teaching alongside his art. 10 a.m. daily, Northwestern University - Block Museum of Art, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, free.

Paul Chan: Happiness finally after 35,000 years...: Paul Chan (b. Hong Kong 1973) is an American artist, activist, writer and publisher. His work is always been hostile to one another. An unexpected event brings them together and they discover they have more in common than they thought. (NoveList Plus). 10 a.m. Thursday and 7 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

Power Edge Employment Workshop: Employment coaches from Illinois Worknet discuss resumes, cover letters, online job applications and interviewing to help attendees on their job search. For more information about Illinois Worknet, call 847-448-8647 or go to www.IllinoisWorknet.com. 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

Lot14 Community Auction: This auction features 300 items never offered here before and lowered or eliminated reserves on about 100 items previously offered. Join for a dynamic live auction in Niles, to benefit Maine Community Youth Assistance Foundation and get good deals while helping great causes. 5 a.m. Thursday, Lot 14 Auctions, 7900 N. Milwaukee Ave. #2, Niles, free, 847-625-0555.

Free Walk-In Medicare Reviews: When it comes to Medicare, one size definitely does not fit all. Now's the time to explore your choices so you can enroll in a plan with confidence. Experts Lisa Ung and Le-Anh Blanchard answer questions regarding your individual Medicare choices one-on-one. For more information, contact Karen Brownlee, kbrownlee@symca.org, 9 a.m. Thursday, North Suburban YWCA, 2705 Techny Road, Northbrook, free, 847-272-7250.

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's Where Art Meets Fashion. The three winning students, Alexia Roach, Nick Mashe and Shaly Guo, entered a university-wide competition and were selected to exhibit their artwork as part of THE COLLECTION's rotating exhibition series. 10 a.m. daily, Fashion Outlets of Chicago, 5250 Fashion Outlets Way, Rosemont, free, 847-957-4600.

SBAC & MB Financial Bank Small Business Conference: We all know about the challenges small businesses face in Illinois, but this event will provide an opportunity to see the positive forces at work to stimulate economic growth and innovation in our state. Join us for a no-fee conversation with Mark Peterson, the CEO of Intersect Illinois, the lead economic development office for the state. This event will also feature the Venture Pitch Session, highlighting three companies in growth mode, who will compete for $4000 in cash and prizes. Learn about top up-and-coming companies in Chicagoland and hear from our expert panel of judges — and perhaps learn some tips for your own business. 8 a.m. Thursday, Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel, 5300 North River Road, Rosemont, $30 for SBAC members/$40 for non-SBAC members, 847-544-5300.

Hofbräuhaus Chicago Oktoberfest 2018: Hofbräuhaus Chicago Oktoberfest back to the Chicago area with its sixth annual Oktoberfest celebration. Guests can enjoy a plethora of festivities including authentic nightly Bavarian entertainment, freshly brewed "Oktoberfestbier" inspired by the original Hofbräuhaus in Munich, daily food specials served by Dirndl-clad waitresses and celebrity keg tapping ceremonies. 11 a.m. daily, Hofbräuhaus Chicago, 5500 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-671-2739.

Nature Warblers: Children ages 2-4 learn about animals and the outdoors through music, movement and motion. Craft a musical instrument each week and learn how to keep a beat. Expect to spend half of class time outdoors. An adult must accompany each child. Visit the website or call to sign up. 2 p.m. Thursday, Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, $10 Skokie resident, $15 nonresident, 847-677-7001.

Evening of Unity with State Senator Julie Morrison: State Senator Julie Morrison explores the challenges faced by immigrant children in the U.S. today and how, together, we can help them. The Rev. Dr. Norval Brown, Senior Pastor, Christ United Methodist Church, Deerfield, moderates with a panel drawn from the fields of education, law and social services. 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800.

Kiss My Lips - Campaign at Gordon Salon: In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month this October, Gordon Salon in Lakeshore East, Glenview, Highland Park and Wilmette run a "Kiss My Lips" campaign. For a $1 entry fee, guests can try a new fall or winter Aveda lip color. Participants are then invited to kiss and sign an entry slip to be entered to win $25 worth of Aveda makeup from Gordon Salon. For every entry, the salon donates 100 percent of the proceeds to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. 10 a.m. daily, Gordon Salon, 2323 Lake Ave., Wilmette, $1.

Friday, Oct. 26

"Alice in Wonderland": A Pop Musical: Lewis Carroll's unflappable young heroine takes a tumble down an enchanted rabbit hole to an off-kilter world of mock turtles, dancing flora, punctual rabbits and mad tea parties, where playing cards hold court and nothing is as it seems. This is a pop rock musical adaptation of a favorite of generations of children and adults. Visit their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/CTYNorthwestCook/, 7 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and 6 p.m. Saturday, Prairie Lakes Theatre, 515 E. Thacker St., Des Plaines, $15, 847-516-2298.

First Steps Storytime: Nurture your walking toddler's love of books and encourage them to learn numbers, colors, sounds and new words in this interactive Storytime. This program is for 1- to 2-year-olds, with a caregiver; siblings welcome. 11:30 a.m. Friday and 10 a.m. Monday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

MGFL After Dark: Movie: It: Get into the Halloween spirit and join in for a spooky movie! Watch this creepy film on the big screen: the R-rated film from 2017, "It." In the summer of 1989, a
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DIRECTED BY ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MICHAEL HALBERSTAM

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Celebrate Halloween at the YMCA: Haunted House, games, arts and crafts and the Monster Mash. 6 p.m. Friday. Leaning Tower YMCA, 6300 W. Touhy Ave., Niles, $10 per family, 847-410-5108.

Silent Film Masterpieces: More than bumbling cops and crying heroines, Silent Film is a rich world of complex human emotions presented in visually striking images. View portions of six silent film masterpieces to examine the beauty of this world without words. Films include The General, Faust, Metropolis, Phantom Carriage, The Passion of Joan of Arc and Ben Hur. 1 p.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $24 member, $34 nonmember, 847-764-6030.

Attic To Basement Clearance Sale: The Methodist Women of Park Ridge UMC offer their annual Rummage Sale, to be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be bargains galore: household goods, games, toys, tools, small appliances, furniture, jewelry and books. 9 a.m. Friday and Saturday, First United Methodist Church of Park Ridge, 418 W. Touhy Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3144.

Ghostbuster’s Ball: The Werewolves howl, and the Monsters mash! The Park Ridge Park District celebrates their howl, and the Monsters mash! The Park


Critic’s Choice: Won’t You Be My Neighbor?: This 2018 documentary paints a portrait of the life and work of children’s entertainer Fred Rogers, star of “Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood.” It is rated PG-13. For more information about this event, visit the library website or call. 2 p.m. Sunday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-869-7920.

Volunteer Center’s 10th Annual Make A Difference Day: More than 15 nonprofit organizations will be at the parking lot to collect your items and thank you. Clean out your closets, join forces with your friends and family and reuse and recycle your goods with the nonprofits. For more information, email info@volunteercenterhelps.org or visit volunteercenterhelps.org. 9 a.m. Saturday, Indian Hill Train Station Parking Lot, 111 Green Bay Road, Glencoe, free.

Shabbat Yoga: Experience Shabbat Yoga, a gentle, relaxing yoga session inspired by Shabbat as a rest day, open to all levels from 11 a.m. to noon. Open to the community at no charge - bring your own mat and dress appropriately for yoga. 11 a.m. Saturday, Congregation Beth Shalom, 3433 Walters Ave., Northbrook, free, 847-498-4100.

* Turn to Calendar, Page 16

WHAT TO DO COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Calendar, from Page 13

group of bullied kids band together to destroy a shape-shifting monster, which disguises itself as a clown and preys on the children of Derry, their small Maine town. Based on the novel by Stephen King. 6:30 p.m. Friday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

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—Around the town

“Overly compelling & fun”
—The Independent

written by Alexander Devriendt, Angelo Tijssens, and the Cast; directed by Alexander Devriendt

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Pritzker should reveal taxes, other plans for office

Pritzker is acting like Trump: he wants to conceal the details of his tax plan until after the election. Vapid assurances that it is "fair" are as meaningless as promises to make America "great." The details are what matters: rates, brackets, deductions, exemptions. There will be winners and losers. Seniors want to know whether Pritzker will preserve the retirement income exemption. Homeowners care about real estate tax deductions. Everybody wants to know about loopholes for favored interests, and whether their own taxes will be higher or lower. Pritzker has a tax plan. He just won't tell us. His excuse is as spurious and insulting as Trump's excuses for concealing his tax returns: the plan has to be secret because it is "subject to negotiation" with the legislature. But whatever Pritzker proposes will be the template for the new tax law. Even if there will be minor changes on that template, aren't voters entitled to know what Pritzker wants? Pritzker's evasiveness is symptomatic of a deeper problem. Pritzker has a resume strikingly similar to Trump and Rauner: an extraordinarily wealthy man lacking political experience who wants to start in politics by taking control of the executive branch. Like them, he has been the absolute owner of a business, unaccountable to shareholders, not needing to balance competing interests or consider others' viewpoints. With Trump and Rauner we have seen the consequences entrusting executive office to wealthy businessmen who can't compromise, who always get their way without having to listen to others. Pritzker won't be as catastrophic as Trump or Rauner. But he insults us by assuming we have no choice. He will win, but progressive voters should send a message that we cannot be taken for granted. Unless Pritzker is forthright about his positions we should protest with a write-in.

James K. Genden, Evanston

New IEPA rules needed to address water treatment, Legionnaires' disease

All around Illinois between now and Nov. 6, debates over political issues will dominate the pages of newspapers and the airwaves. Candidates will spend millions of dollars to tell us about their plans to help Illinois rebound. Water safety probably won't be high on the list of political talking points. But it should be.

As we saw with the tragic situation at the veterans home in Quincy, how we care for our drinking water sources can be a life or death situation.

Our national organization, the Alliance to Prevent Legionnaires' Disease, has advocated for years across the country for a comprehensive set of solutions to make our water cleaner and safer, and to help us better understand outbreak cases of this potentially deadly waterborne disease so we can prevent its development moving forward. In Illinois, state water safety rules have not been updated since the 1980s, and are spread out in five different areas of rules overseen by the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

For the past six years - long before the outbreak in Quincy that has dominated headlines in recent months - the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has been working with the PCB to modernize, strengthen and streamline water safety regulations.

We strongly endorse these new rules from IEPA and hope the Legislature's Joint Committee on Administrative Rules will approve them for implementation in 2019. The rules will provide new direction for operating and maintaining community water supplies, to cut costs and decrease uncertainties; new guidance for treating water, applying chemicals and operating water infrastructure; and increased chlorine treatment and more timely testing to ensure bacteria sources are being identified and eliminated as quickly as possible.

We can take an important step to improve Illinois' future in the months ahead, even if water safety never makes a debate or political TV ad.

Brad Considine, Alliance to Prevent Legionnaires' Disease
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<tr>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
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<td>Manoj Olickal</td>
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<td>Pietro Janowski</td>
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<td>9273 Bay Colony Dr, # 25, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Sarah K Martinez</td>
<td>Stoyan Pev Pordanov</td>
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<td>Njumon Kurian</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.
New report cards shift emphasis to student growth

‘Every student can and does grow’

By Karen Berkowitz
Pioneer Press

New ratings will show up on the Illinois School Report Cards set to be released Oct. 31 as the State Board of Education rolls out a new system for reporting school performance.

The state will assign each public school a rating that sums up its performance on multiple indicators. Rather than focus on the percentage of students meeting or exceeding expectations, the rating formula for K-8 schools will now emphasize students’ academic gains in relation to those of other students across the state.

Student growth counts for one-half of a school’s rating at the elementary and middle school level.

Rae Clementz, director of assessment and accountability for the State Board of Education, said educators and school leaders have been asking for an accountability system that speaks to the effectiveness of instruction.

“They want a system that measures the impact of a school on student learning no matter where a student starts,” Clementz said during a conference call with reporters Oct. 18.

The school report cards will continue to report the percentages of students meeting or exceeding expectations, or who fall into other categories.

“We still have standards that we want all students to meet, so proficiency is still included in the system. But growth, at least at the K-8 level, makes up the biggest slice of the pie,” Clementz said. “Growth is important because it does not correlate to income or other types of demographic factors. Every student can and does grow.”

For the 2018 report cards, the State Board is using the framework of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which replaced the No Child Left Behind law when Congress in late 2015 reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Every Student Succeeds establishes a 15-year timeline for achieving four academic goals.

By 2032, at least 90 percent of third grade students should be reading at or above grade level and 90 percent or more of fifth grade students should meet or exceed expectations in math. At the high school level, 90 percent or more of ninth grade students should be on track to graduate with their cohort, and 90 percent or more of students should graduate from high school ready for college and career.

Similar to No Child Left Behind, the new accountability system tracks the progress of specific groups that make up the school’s enrollment, including white, black, Hispanic and Asian students, along with low-income students; English language learners and students with disabilities.

One goal of Every Student Succeeds is that all English learners achieve proficiency in English within five years of their identification as English learners. In addition to monitoring those on their way to English proficiency, the accountability system will track students who’ve transitioned out of bilingual education as a separate student group.

Under the new Illinois reporting system, each school will land in one of four categories, ranging from exemplary to low performing based on a list of weighted measures. To receive an exemplary rating, a school must be in the top 10 percent of schools across the state, which means the top 67 schools. In addition, no student group at the school can perform below the level of the 33 schools that make up the lowest five percent of schools in the state.

A school that’s not among the top 10 percent, but has had bottom-performing student groups, will receive a commendable designation.

Schools with one or more low-performing student groups will be deemed underperforming, unless they fall within the lowest-performing category reserved for the lowest five percent of schools.

For now, one-half of each high school’s rating will be based on the school’s graduation rate.

Clementz said the addition of the PSAT exam to the high school testing program next spring will allow the state to use student growth as a factor in the future. Ninth grade students will take the PSAT 8/9 exam and 10th grade pupils will take the PSAT 10. The PSAT is aligned with the SAT exam that Illinois gives to high school juniors.

At both the elementary and high school level, proficiency in English Language Arts and math each will count for 10 percent of a school’s rating. The progress of English language learners is defined as missing 10 percent or more of all school days during the prior academic year, Clementz said.

Chronic absenteeism is defined as missing 10 percent or more of all school days during the prior academic year, Clementz said. The new report card provides information about which schools and students need more resources and support to ensure educational success.

‘In addition, the new report card provides for the first time a designation that describes how each school is doing in terms of meeting the needs of all students,” he said. “These designations are based on facts and measurable data that tell a more complete story about what is happening in each of our schools.”

Kberkowitz@pioneerlocal.com
Return of bells for Niles Leaning Tower delayed

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

The return of a set of historic bells to the top of the Niles Leaning Tower will have to wait a few months.

Work to restore the five bronze bells from the 94-foot tower and create two additional bells has been delayed, meaning the installation will not occur this autumn as initially planned, said Fred Braun, director of public works for the village of Niles.

"There were some delays beyond anyone's control, and it is best not to install them during winter weather," he said.

Braun anticipated that the bells will be reinstalled in late March or early April.

The Niles Village Board in May approved a $53,414 contract with B.A. Sunderlin Bellfoundry to take on the project, which includes the repair of restoration of three bells that are dated 1623, 1735 and 1747 and appear to have been cast in Italy, according to Chicago Bell Advocates, which studied the bells and compiled a report for the village last year.

The bells were removed by B.A. Sunderlin representatives in July. The work took much of the day as the heavy bells and headstocks had to be carefully dismantled and lowered to a trailer below by a large crane.

Repairing the bells so they ring again and can be played for various functions and special occasions has been a goal of Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo.

Maine Township Board referendum seeks opinion on sweetened beverage tax

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

A question that attempts to fend off reinstatement of an unpopular Cook County tax is one of two that Maine Township voters will see on their Nov. 6 election ballot.

According to the Cook County Clerk's Office, the referendum placed on the ballot by the largely Republican Maine Township Board asks, "Should Cook County reject reinstating the sweetened beverage tax (soda tax)?"

The question is non-binding, meaning the county is not legally required to follow the outcome of the vote.

The question refers to a penny-per-ounce tax that was leveled last year on all sugary drinks sold in Cook County. It was repealed after just four months.

Though there has not been a proposal to reinstate the tax, Maine Township Supervisor Laura Morask said in August that residents of the township should have an opportunity to weigh in because "there's a chance it will loom in the future based on the deficit the county is facing."

Earlier this month, Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle presented a proposed $5.9 billion county budget that is balanced, her office said.

Maine Township is not the only township in the county that has placed a referendum on the Nov. 6 ballot asking for voters' opinions on a sweetened beverage tax. According to the Cook County Clerk's Office, similar referendums are the ballot in Elk Grove, Hanover, Lemont, Palatine, Palos, and Schaumburg townships.

The Elk Grove, Hanover, Lemont, Palatine and Schaumburg township referendums refer to an "$82 million deficit" in the county's budget for 2019, though the county is not reporting such a deficit at this time, according to Becky Schlikerman, spokeswoman for Preckwinkle's office.

"There was an $82 million deficit that was projected earlier this year," Schlikerman said. "In the budgeting process, a balanced budget has been presented and the gap has been solved, thanks to prudent fiscal management. This budget was balanced without the need for any new taxes, fees or fines."

jjohnson@chicagotribune.com
DEATH NOTICES
We extend our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

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Death Notices

JOHNSON, MAURICE BERNARD
Maurice Bernard Johnson, age 69, died peacefully on October 11, 2018, at his son's home in Washington, DC. He was born September 12, 1949 to Bernard and Ruby (Benda) Johnson in Brandon South Dakota. He has joined Barbara Jo Johnson (Park Ridge) wife of 41 years in heaven. He is survived by son Colin and spouse Christie Johnson of Washington D.C., son Brian and spouse Kassy Johnson of Garden Grove, CA, and grandsons, Clayton, 7, Connor, 4. Memorial will be private and a Celebration of Maury's Life at a later date. Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society (P.O. Box 22478 Oklahoma City, OK 73123) or Misericordia (6300 North Ridge Ave, Chicago, IL 60660)

Online condolences at www.meiselwitzfh.com
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Kellan, Edward L.
Edward L. Kellan of rural Kiel (Cedar Lake) passed away on Thursday afternoon October 18, 2018 at St. Nicholas Hospital. He was born on November 14, 1936 in Chicago, IL, son of the late Edward Van Kellan & Mary (Guinan) Kellan. Ed was a graduate of Amundsen High School, Chicago. On April 6, 1956 he was united in marriage to Virginia "Ginny" Frees in Chicago. Ginny preceded him in death on February 4, 2003. Through the course of his life, Ed was a Navy Reservist, worked at American Bakeries, was a driving instructor and sold insurance. His proudest accomplishment was his position as a firefighter paramedic in Park Ridge, IL. He helped pioneer the paramedic program at North West Community Hospital in Arlington Heights, IL and was also an instructor for the paramedic program. Ed's CB handle in the 70's was "lifesaver". His purpose in life was to help his family, friends and strangers in need. He loved gardening and sharing his flowers with the neighbors. He was truly a loving husband, father and friend. Ed and his wife Ginny had property on Cedar Lake for over 50 years. Ed built his full time home on the lake and has enjoyed the past 13 years living there. Mr. Ed will be deeply missed.
Survivors include his children; Vance Kellan of Ladysmith, Jill (Hugh) Hindes of Glenview, IL, grandchildren; Andrew Kellan, Nicholas (Shannon) Kellan, Lorna (Kellan) Smalley, Ryan (Kristina) Hindes and Aaron Hindes, great grandchildren; Hadley Smalley, Liam Johnson, Leo Kellan and Layla Kellan. Ed is further survived by his girlfriend of 8 years; Patricia Foote and a sister; Marceline McCoy. Ed was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Ginny.
Online condolences at www.meiselwitzfh.com
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Death Notices

Ryan, Ellen V.
Ellen V. Ryan (nee Renaghan), age 70, beloved wife of the late Thomas Ryan; loving mother of Michael (Jennifer), Jim (Lynn), Teresa (Jason) Fee, Becky (Dan) Sweeney, Patty (Greg) Helmstetter, Dan (Elizabeth), Catherine (Jared) Fryksdale, Veronica (Piotr) Rog, and Sean (Katrina); devoted grandmother of Phallon, Nicholas, Chandler, Charlie, Abigail, Jack, Matt, Tim, Eve, Joe, Amelia, Kaitlin, Declan, Thomas, Lillian, Melanie and Cynthia; dearest sister of Kathleen Comer and Walter Renaghan and cherished aunt of many. Visitation Wednesday 3-9 p.m. at Cooney Funeral Home 625 Busse Hwy Park Ridge. Funeral Thursday, prayers at 9:30 a.m. at the funeral home then going to St. Paul of the Cross for 10 a.m. Mass. Interment Maryhill Cemetery. Info 847-685-1002 www.cooneyfuneralhome.com
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10826 Route 71, Yorkville, IL 60560 | Saturday, October 27th, 2018 9AM Start

THERE WILL BE TWO AUCTION RINGS!

Collectibles, Industrial Equipment, Contractor Tools, Antiques, Gas Engine Collection, Air Plane Parts

Owner(s): The Estate of Frank Wilson - DeKalb, IL - Trustee Chris Manor
The Living Estate of Raymond Lett - Plano, IL

Note: Frank was an aviation mechanic for over 25 years. He collected many different tools and collectibles.
Note: Raymond Lett was the Executive Assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture, State of IL.
Ray's Father and Mother were Charles and Martha Lett. Beautiful Furnishings from the Raymond Lett home.
Many large totes full! Unopened! 2 air plane hangers full!
Estates moved to fairgrounds for convenience of sale.
Many Quality Items of Interest!

Owner: L J Dodd - Neal Dodd
Note: The Dodd Family was in the commercial construction business for 60yrs. Having retired - The Complete contents of warehouse, storage trailers and fenced in construction yard will be sold. Many great pieces of equipment and tools shop kept! 100s of tool & building supply items not listed. Quality Auction. Bring trucks and trailers to load. 1 week to pick up equipment. Skidster on site to help load. Bring Receipt!

For more information or to view more photos from this auction, please take a look on our websites.

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Ptak weathers the elements in final state meet at Maine South

BY BOB NARANG
Pioneer Press

Jennifer Ptak's return to the girls tennis state tournament didn't end in glory, but the Maine South senior still made the most of her third state appearance.

After taking last season off from playing high school tennis to focus on competing in more USTA tournaments, Ptak posted a 3-2 record at the Class 2A state meet.

Ptak won her first two state matches before falling to Glenbard West's Sienna Lopez in the third round. She defeated Libertyville's Lily VanDixhorn 6-4, 6-3 in the consolation bracket before bowing out 6-4, 6-3 in the consolation final.

"She was a great player," Maine South coach Gerald Smith said. "I definitely missed her last year."

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Girls Tennis Notes

North Shore Country Day wins another 1A title

BY JON J. KERR
Pioneer Press

When Alexandra Bergman took over the North Shore Country Day girls tennis program before the 2018 season, she was returning home.

On Oct. 21, the North Shore alumna completed a memorable homecoming season in fine fashion at Buffalo Grove.

North Shore Country Day won its second consecutive Class 1A state championship.

The Raiders accumulated 27 points, five more than runner-up Latin.

"I got goosebumps," Bergman said.

"They won it last year," she said, "but I think it just became so much more this year."

Once again, Claudia Miller was at the center of the Raiders' state success. She placed fourth in singles as a freshman, then was the runner-up on Oct. 21.

Her younger sister, freshman Vivian Miller, also had a spectacular tournament. She placed fourth in her state debut.

Seniors Alex Arenson and Caroline Lommer went 3-2 in the doubles bracket for North Shore.

It was a season of firsts for the Raiders, who had their first state finalist, their first sectional title and a first successful state-title defense.

Bergman has had quite a first season as the Raiders' coach, too.

"I keep telling the girls, 'Don't expect everything,' and 'Don't take your foot off the gas, so keep going.'" Bergman said. "But with such an important tournament, they could have waited a little longer."

North Shore Country Day's Claudia Miller hits a backhand en route to finishing second at the Class 1A state meet on Oct. 20 in Buffalo Grove.

Trevians take 4th in 2A amid poor weather

Although he was happy with his team's fourth-place finish at the Class 2A girls tennis state tournament, New Trier coach Jerry Morse-Karzen was less than pleased with how the tournament's final day ended.

IHSA officials made the difficult decision to suspend play in the consolation bracket due to adverse weather conditions. Trevians singles player Ali Benedetto and the doubles team of Macy Zaban and Ashlin Hara were among those whose matches were canceled.

"I respect (IHSA officials). The weather was horrible," Morse-Karzen said. "But with such an important tournament, they could have waited a little longer."

IHSA tennis representative Susie Knoblauch said the inclement weather left the organization with no choice.

"The IHSA Tennis State Finals is one of the largest in the nation with 128 singles and doubles players. With that in mind, our goal is to crown a champion and have a big day. If the weather cooperates," Knoblauch said in an email. "We tried our hardest to keep the back draw going but unfortunately when the conditions became unsuitable for our student-athletes, we had to cancel."

Morse-Karzen said the decision showed the IHSA placed more emphasis on individual championships than on the team trophy. The Trevians finished only five points behind champion Hinsdale Central.

"They spare no expense to finish the individual singles and doubles. They don't seem to have as much respect or emphasis on the team title," Morse-Karzen said. "I don't think that sends the right message."

Singles player Emma Bhote won one match at state, and doubles teammates Emily Dale and Lily Bhote won two.

State meet notes

Loyola sent one doubles team to the state meet: Elizabeth Witkowski and Catherine Power. The Ramsblers won one match at the Class 2A meet.

Evanston doubles partners Annie Hedges and Margot Connor went 2-2 at the state meet.

Laura Strunk represented Regina in singles at the Class 1A meet. She won two matches for the Panthers.

Jon J. Kerr is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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It'll be all hands on deck for Maine South and Notre Dame when the IHSA playoffs begin this weekend, and that includes two of the Chicago area's top players.

Maine South quarterback Bobby Inserra, who suffered a leg injury in a Week 2 win over Mount Carmel, returned to play three series in a 55-0 win over Niles West Oct. 19.

Meanwhile, senior running back/safety Ty Gavin was one of several Notre Dame regulars who missed last week's 33-17 loss to Joliet Catholic because of injury.

"Cole is giving us great minutes and has been a good leader," Dave Inserra said. "We'll do what we think is best for the team at this point. It's undecided.

"Ty goes both ways, and if we can spell him on offense, it will make a big difference," Hennessey said.

Maine South coach Dave Inserra, Bobby's father, said his son has been practicing "full-go" and is over 90 percent healthy. The Hawks (8-1) open the Class 8A playoffs Oct. 19 at home against Huntley (6-3).

Maine South has continued to play at a high level in Bobby Inserra's absence thanks to a strong showing by senior quarterback Cole Dow.

Hennessey said the team may need to limit his action on one side of the ball. That will be easier after solid play in his absence by three running backs: juniors Julian Schurr, Anthony Ranallo and senior Nathan Doherty.

"When the IHSA pairings are announced Huntley, Halvorsen said he told junior linebacker Cole Chiavarini that he was optimistic about the Hawks' chances to make a deep run in the playoffs.

"I was telling Cole: I haven't seen such a strong defense (here) since I've been to Maine South, and the offense is stepping it up," said Halvorsen, a Park Ridge resident and one of four team captains. "I kept telling Cole that I love where we are now, and we have a great chance to be state champions."

Halvorsen knows what it takes to do that. He is a three-year starter and was a key part of the 2016 team that won the Class 8A title and the 2017 squad that lost in the semifinal to eventual state champion Lincoln-Way East.

No stranger to playoff pressure

Notre Dame's offense is led by sophomore quarterback Anthony Sayles, who will be playing in his first postseason game. However, Sayles has experienced playoff pressure.

As freshman standout on the Dons basketball team last winter, Sayles turned in a 30-point performance in a regional semifinal before facing eventual Class 4A third-place finisher Evanston in the regional final.

"He has exhibited leadership and poise in the huddle and is smart beyond his years," Hennessey said about Sayles.

"He's competitive, he's a winner out there, and it doesn't make a difference what the game is," Hennessey said.

Dan Shalin is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
**COLLEGE NOTES**

**Johns Hopkins gets a boost from Maine South grad Nick Leongas**

By Bob Narang  
Pioneer Press

Former Maine South star quarterback Nick Leongas has become a regular contributor for Johns Hopkins this season. Splitting time with starter David Tummaro, Leongas has played in six games. The sophomore has completed 7 of 17 passes for 127 yards and one touchdown. He also has rushed for 83 yards and a touchdown.

The 5-foot-10, 190-pound quarterback scored on a 4-yard touchdown run in Saturday's 51-14 win against Gettysburg. The Blue Jays (6-1, 5-1 Centennial Conference) are a Division III program and have won five games in a row.

Johns Hopkins is 78-3 in its last 81 regular-season games.

Leongas, a Park Ridge native, played in five games during his freshman season. At Maine South, Leongas led the Hawks to an 11-3 record and a Class 8A state championship as a senior.

“We are fortunate to have two experienced quarterbacks that are fully capable of leading our team,” Johns Hopkins coach Jim Margraff said. “When given his opportunities, Nick has proven to be an explosive player and tremendous leader.”

Also on the team are sophomore receiver Colten Fisher (Mundelein), sophomore running back Macenlaney Kilbane (Clarendon Hills resident) and freshman defensive lineman Anthony Maraviglia (St. Viator).

**Ex-Viking Patel paces North Central cross-country**

Niles North graduate Dhruvil Patel is closing out his collegiate career in style.

The North Central College senior added two more awards following the Wisconsin-Oshkosh College Town Sports Invitational on Oct. 13.

The Skokie native won his third Division III National Athlete of the Week award, courtesy of the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. He also was named the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin Men's Athlete of the Week for the fourth time.

Patel received the two honors after placing first at the College Town Sports Invitational. His 8k time of 25 minutes, 3.5 seconds helped the Cardinals win the pre-national race with 41 points. The 2018 NCAA Division III National Championship is on Nov. 17.

Last year, Patel placed third at the national meet (24:14.15) while helping lead the Cardinals to a second straight NCAA title.

**Loyola grads meet again in the pool**

Michigan diver Chris Canning has started his sophomore season on a positive note.

The Loyola alumnus played a big part of Michigan's season-opening wins against Oakland and Miami (Ohio) on Sept. 28. Canning achieved the NCAA Zone Diving cut score on both diving boards. Canning tallied a qualifying score of 314.05 in the 1-meter diving event, then tallied a 339.10 in 3-meter diving.

Among Canning's competitors in the three-team meet was former Loyola teammate Ryan Nash, now a senior at Miami. Nash paced the RedHawks with a sixth-place finish in both diving events.

**Have a suggestion for College Notes? Email Bob Narang at bboranarang@yahoo.com.**

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL**

**Eastern Illinois legend Bob Spoo, 80, left his mark on Chicago-area football**

By Bob Narang  
Pioneer Press

During his five decades as a football coach, Bob Spoo became known as a quarterback guru. Bill O'Donnell was one of his first projects. O'Donnell was Loyola's starting quarterback in 1965 and 1966, when Spoo was the Ramblers' quarterbacks' coach. Spoo became the head coach in 1967 and amassed a 51-9-2 record in six seasons in Wilmette.

A former quarterback at Purdue, Spoo went on to mentor numerous signal-callers, including three from his alma mater who would reach the NFL: Mark Herrmann, Scott Campbell and Jim Everett.

He spent 25 seasons at Eastern Illinois, where he made the Panthers an FCS stalwart and cemented his legacy as a quarterback whisperer.

Former Dallas Cowboys star Tony Romo and current San Francisco 49ers quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo, a Rolling Meadows graduate, are among his success stories.

Spoo, a St. Rita graduate, died Monday in Rockford. He was 80.

“'There's no question he had a big impact on me and a lot of other people,' O'Donnell said. "I was always thankful I got the opportunity to play and be a quarterback for him. It was quite an experience. He was a dedicated guy and very knowledgeable. We kept a bond through all these years, from the quarterback-to-quarterback thing."

During his successful college coaching career, Spoo always remained a fan of the Ramblers. He attended last season's homecoming game against Fenwick and received a warm ovation during a brief introduction after the first quarter.

"What always struck me was that he said the most enjoyment that he had in coaching was at Loyola Academy," current Ramblers coach John Holecek said of Spoo. "He enjoyed being here immensely, and they were really successful in his time."

Spoo served as an assistant coach at Wisconsin and Purdue before spending a quarter-century in Charleston. He had a 144-131-1 mark at Eastern Illinois and led the Panthers to nine FCS playoff berths before retiring after the 2011 season.

Glenbrook South line backers coach Alan Greenberg, an assistant at Loyola, remembers his time in the office of his first projects. O'Donnell said of Spoo. "He enjoyed being here immensely, and they were really successful in his time."

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Former Loyola assistant coach Frank Amato recalled meeting Spoo for the first time in 1966. They worked together on the staff for a few seasons and remained friends for more than 40 years.

"He was a quiet and humble young man," Amato said. "He never got too excited or screamed or yelled. He was very calm and under control. He wasn't a real rah-rah type."

"Coach Spoo was a great guy to work with, an honest guy. When something had to be done, he was ready to step in and do it and get the job done."

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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This year, Athlete of the Month will feature athletes from over 250 high schools in the Chicago suburbs and Northwest Indiana. Each Athlete of the Month will receive a commemorative plaque and be featured in print and online. Program presenter Country Financial will donate a prize of $500 to each winner's high school every month. It all begins at noon Nov. 1, so get ready to visit chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes to vote for your area's finalists!
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