Preserving history

Historic designation requested for Leaning Tower of Niles. Page 4

The Leaning Tower of Niles.

WHAT TO DO

‘Larger-than-life characters’


SPORTS

‘It’s something I’ve dreamed about’

Veteran MLB pitcher and Niles West grad George Kontos signs with Cubs. Page 21

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Mallory Berk, middle school teacher

Mallory Berk is a seventh-grade teacher at Lincoln Hall Middle School in Lincolnwood. She talks about her involvement in a group called STAR, the most rewarding part of being a teacher and her all-time favorite book.

Q: How long have you been a teacher at Lincoln Hall?
A: This is my fifth year at Lincoln Hall.

Q: How long have you been involved with Students Taking Active Responsibility, and what do you like best about it?
A: I have been involved with STAR for three years. STAR provides students with wonderful opportunities to give back to their community and those in need. What is unique about this club is that all students are welcome and can pick and choose what activities they attend. It gives sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students a way to interact with one another and show empathy through action.

Q: What is the best winter activity that you couldn't do if you lived in a warm-weather city?
A: Snowboarding! I purchased all my own gear a few years ago so I could be more consistent with practice.

Q: What's the biggest challenge you face as a teacher?
A: As a teacher, my main goal is to get my students ready for high school and beyond. It is truly special when students come back to visit and talk about their success since they left Lincoln Hall.

Q: Is there a book you would recommend?
A: My all-time favorite book is “The Giver” by Lois Lowry. Seeing how this utopian society is far from perfect and begins to fall apart is fascinating and engaging. I have read it multiple times and still find hidden meanings every time I read it.

Q: What's the most rewarding part about being a teacher?
A: As a teacher, my main goal is to get my students ready for high school and beyond. It is truly special when students come back to visit and talk about their success since they left Lincoln Hall.

Mallory Berk is a seventh-grade teacher at Lincoln Hall Middle School in Lincolnwood.
State board to hear historic designation request for Leaning Tower of Niles

By Jennifer Johnson
Pioneer Press

Is the Leaning Tower of Niles on its way to becoming a nationally recognized historic building?

The Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council, a board that recommends buildings for the National Register of Historic Places, is scheduled to consider an application from the village of Niles during a meeting set for Feb. 22 at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield.

"It's really about preserving that building, protecting it from being redeveloped or torn down," said the village's Kathy Thake, who prepared the application for the half-size replica of the Leaning Tower of Pisa. "That's really why you'd seek that kind of status. And it's part of a long-term vision of having that building as the focal point of our community."

The Leaning Tower, which is perhaps the village of Niles' most recognizable building, sits in the middle of what village officials refer to as the "Touhy Triangle," an area that is proposed for redevelopment with open space, an entertainment venue, restaurants, retail and multi-family housing, according to the village.

If the state's advisory council makes a recommendation to put the building on the National Register, it will be sent to the National Park Service for final consideration, Thake said.

The National Register of Historic Places is an official listing of buildings, sites and objects that are "significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture," the National Park Service's website says. Buildings on the register can qualify for federal preservation grants.

According to the village, construction of the 94-foot-tall Leaning Tower of Niles was completed along Touhy Avenue in 1934. It was built by businessman Robert Ilg to house water tanks and pumps for outdoor swimming pools that were constructed for employees of Ilg's company, the 1974 book "The History of Niles, Illinois" said.

According to the village's application for historic designation, it is the architecture style, known as mimetic because it imitates a known building, that makes it appropriate for the National Register.

The tower is also home to three bronze church bells that date from 17th and 18th Century Italy and are believed to be among the oldest bells in the United States, according to Chicago Bell Advocates, which studied the bells and compiled a report for the village in 2017.

Though major repairs were made to the tower in the 1990s and a new plaza was added, the exterior of the structure still looks much like it did in 1934, the village's application says.

"None of the changes altered the tower's original appearance," it states. "The structure continues to be recognized as a replica of the Leaning Tower of Pisa and is structurally sound due to the original techniques used in its construction."

In recent years, additional work has taken place on the tower as village officials look at opening it up to the public. The village leased the tower from the YMCA and was responsible for its maintenance for many years until it acquired the structure in July 2017, the village said.

The most recent project approved for the tower involves replacement of the existing railings on exterior steps that lead from the ground to the bell tower. The Village Board in January voted to spend $288,980 to replace the railings, which will be taller and have smaller spaces between them for safety, said Fred Braun, director of public works for the village of Niles.

Braun said the new railings will look "fairly similar" to the ones currently on the structure, but will comply to current building codes. Work is anticipated to take about six months, he said.

Last year, the tower's five bronze bells were removed and shipped to a Virginia-based foundry for restoration, and in 2016, the village spent about $550,000 on concrete restoration to stabilize the Leaning Tower, Braun said.

"Chunks of concrete were falling off the tower, and it was creating a safety hazard," he said.

There are rooms inside the tower, but there are no plans to renovate them at this time, Thake said.

When the Leaning Tower might be opened to the public has not yet been determined, Braun and Thake said.

"The goal is really to have it open as soon as possible, but making sure everything is safe and done properly," Braun said. "We don't want to rush."

If the tower is named to the National Register of Historic Places, a plaque noting this status will be placed outside the building, Thake said.

The National Parks Service will make the final decision on landmark status for the Leaning Tower of Niles.

ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2015

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Juan Hernandez, of Niles-based Victoria Banquets and Catering, serves diners at the Taste of Morton Grove fundraiser in 2017 at The White Eagle in Niles.

‘IT’S A BIG PARTY’

Taste of Morton Grove promises food, raffle, music and more

BY MEGANN HORSTEAD
Pioneer Press

The Morton Grove Foundation invites the community to revel in the spirit of giving during its 31st annual Taste of Morton Grove. It is set for March 7, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at White Eagle Banquets and Restaurant, 6845 Milwaukee Ave. in Niles.

The fundraiser treats attendees to taste samplings by dozens of area restaurants, music and silent auctions. New to the event is a Queen of Hearts raffle drawing, as well as several new participating restaurants.

Tickets are $35 in advance or $40 at the door. For information, visit mortongrovefoundation.org.

Terry Liston, event chairwoman for Taste of Morton Grove, said the fundraiser aims to please.

“It’s a big party,” she said.

“There’s a lot of activity going on. Even though we’ve got a master of ceremonies making presentations, people are talking at their tables, bidding on silent auction prizes, or they’re in line to eat the wonderful food.”

Liston gave thanks to area restaurants for demonstrating interest in participating. Among the featured restaurants are Psistaria Greek Taverna, Point Tavern, Mesa Urbana, Shake Shack and Eli’s Cheesecake.

“These are the stars of the event,” she said. “The restaurants donate tastings, or samplings. It’s not a whole meal, but they give you a small portion of one of their featured items.”

The fundraiser typically generates between $40,000 and $60,000 in proceeds every year, organizers said.

“It’s a tribute to the success of the volunteers of the Morton Grove Foundation and the Taste of Morton Grove Committee,” Liston said. “Since we’ve been keeping record, we have given away over $800,000 to local charities and civic organizations. We are all volunteers. We have very little overhead. Everything we raise, we put right back into the community. We’re all very proud of that.”

This year’s beneficiaries include the Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation, Morton Grove Days Commission, Morton Grove Historical Society, Niles Township Food Pantry Foundation and more.

Liston said it’s wonderful seeing the way the fundraiser brings the community together.

“Everybody gets together for a common cause, which is helping big and small organizations that provide direct benefit to people in Morton Grove and the surrounding communities,” she said.

Liston said people tend to enjoy what Taste of Morton Grove aims to offer.

“It is well-attended,” Liston said, adding that Morton Grove “at its core, is a community where neighbors care about neighbors.”

Megann Horstead is a freelance reporter.
‘It’s a time to get dressed up, get fancy’

Lincolnwood Daddy Daughter Dance creates memories

**By Karie Angell Luc**

Pioneer Press

It was a milestone memory maker for some young ladies, who at age 14, attended their last Daddy Daughter Dance with their father on Feb. 1.

It was also a first for many families to experience the Village of Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Department tradition.

The Daddy Daughter Dance, for girls aged 5 to 14, was held this year in Skokie in the penthouse ballroom of the DoubleTree by Hilton Chicago-North Shore Conference Center.

"This is her first year. She's super, super excited," Lincolnwood resident Timothy Goll said of Samantha Goll, 5, a kindergartner.

"We've been looking forward to this for a long time; it's a special night."

"It's a time to get dressed up, get fancy. It's a lot of fun," Goll added.

The setting, the Monaco Room, features walls of windows overlooking views of the North Shore.

"The kids watch so many movies about princesses, and this is her night to be a princess, putting on fancy dresses, getting her hair done," Goll said. "So it's a real special moment."

Derek Roberts of Skokie escorted his daughters, Isis Roberts, 4, and Phoebe Roberts, a kindergartner. As they waited for their turn in the photo booth, he said he was, "just hanging out with two beautiful little girls and enjoying life."

Her favorite part of the evening was the, "candy buffet," Phoebe said, with a smile. The candy buffet featured scoopable sweets such as candy-coated chocolate balls and Valentine's Day red jelly beans. Lollipops were also seen rounding out goody bags.

More than 130 people attended the event, which included amenities such as a red carpet arrival, the illuminated candy buffet table, salad, dinner, dessert, crafts, a photo booth and disc jockey-guided dancing plus games, said Katie Lazzarescu, recreation supervisor for Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation.

"The whole point is just to have a really special night for the girls and for the dads," Lazzarescu said.

Traditional dances and contemporary line dances had the dance floor filled to capacity.

"I think a date night for dads and daughters is so cool, to make them feel like VIPs for the night," Lazzarescu said.

Malissa Rimdzius-Marsh, superintendent of parks and recreation for the Village of Lincolnwood, acknowledged that the three-hour event can be emotional for families.

"For some of them (teens), this is their final year with us, which is really incredible," Rimdzius-Marsh said.

Dads were seen twirling their daughters on the dance floor.

"The next dance that they're dancing at could be their wedding day, which is really special," Rimdzius-Marsh said.

Leila Pekovic, 14, a Niles West High School freshman, among other participants at the Daddy Daughter Dance, a Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Department annual event, held this year in Skokie.

"I'm so happy that you're growing up," he said. "But I'm so sad that you're growing up too fast."

Leila Meseljevic, 11, a sixth-grader from Lincolnwood, described her father Sam Meseljevic in a whisper, for her dad to find out later about as a surprise.

"He's really funny and could lift my spirits right away," she said. "I love him."

Katie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Morton Grove takes step toward creating alternative water options

BY DANIEL I. DORFMAN
Pioneer Press

The Morton Grove Village Board has decided to spend a little more than $87,000 in the first step toward creating alternative water options for residents and businesses in case of an emergency.

At their Jan. 28 meeting, trustees voted unanimously to spend $87,621 to enter into an agreement with Chicago-based Ciorba Group, funding an emergency water supply improvement project.

Specifically, Ciorba will be tasked to evaluate the result of an emergency connection and how it can work best for both the village and the Northwest Water Commission, which supplies water to Arlington Heights, Palatine, Buffalo Grove and Wheeling, according to Village Administrator Ralph Czerwinski.

Upon completion of the evaluation, and if found to be beneficial for both the village and the NWC, Ciorba would proceed for a design for an emergency interconnection system, Czerwinski said in an interview.

“We just continually try and look at how we can engineer appropriate redundancies to cover each other," Czerwinski noted at the meeting. “These connections are continually being evaluated, and best practices are being looked at.”

Czerwinski said at the meeting a study had been commissioned in 2005 for a connection between the two agencies, but it failed to materialize and stopped at the evaluation phase. However, he added the current leadership of NWC and Morton Grove officials agreed that it would be a reciprocal arrangement that would work well for both sides.

“[It’s] good government to do these kinds of things, and we think this could be 60 to 70 percent of the village’s total water supply in an emergency situation," he said.

Czerwinski added the village has other redundancy arrangements in place with separate communities.

Trustee John Thill asked if there would be a fee from Commonwealth Edison because of easement fees.

“There should be no impact on that regard,” Czerwinski said. “The connection that we get involved with the Northwest Water Commission is already in our public right of way on National Avenue.”

Last year, the village entered into a new pact to purchase water from Evanston in cooperation with Niles, but this arrangement with the NWC would not have any impact on the relationship with Niles, according to Czerwinski.

Daniel I. Dorfman is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press

Man shot to death was ‘hanging out’ with friend prior to homicide: police

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

A man found dead in Morton Grove last month was not alone at the time he was shot and killed, police say.

Anthony Del Barrio, 30, of Chicago, was with another man when he was shot overnight between Jan. 19 and Jan. 20 at the corner of Oleander Avenue and Greenwood Street, said Morton Grove Police Cmdr. Paul Yaras.

Yaras described the man as a friend of Del Barrio’s, but said he has not given police a complete account of what exactly happened the night Del Barrio was shot. Both men were “hanging out” outside a vehicle when it is believed the shooting occurred, Yaras said.

Investigators have also not yet determined if Del Barrio or his friend had been the intended target of the shooting, Yaras said.

“We are trying to find out what the motivation was,” he said. “We do know [Del Barrio] was getting away from the area when he was shot.”

Del Barrio’s frozen body was found between two houses near the corner of Oleander and Greenwood by a resident shortly before 9:30 am. Jan. 20.

The Cook County Medical Examiner’s Office determined he had died of a gunshot wound and classified his death as a homicide.

Police interviewed residents in the area, but none reported hearing a gunshot, Yaras said. Only one shot is believed to have been fired, he said.

A pickup truck belonging to Del Barrio was found a block and a half away from where his body was discovered, the police commander said.

Police are currently waiting to receive phone records and social media history, Yaras said.

Anyone with information on Del Barrio or his death is asked to contact the Morton Grove Police Department at 847-470-5200.

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

DRUGS

- Nickola A. Daidone-Pavlovich, 19, of the 4800 block of Rhiannon Court, Palatine, was charged with delivery of marijuana, possession of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana greater than 100 grams and possession of drug paraphernalia during a police investigation of a parking lot on the 8800 block of West Golf Road on Jan. 25, police said. According to police, Daidone-Pavlovich was found in possession of a quarter-pound of suspected marijuana, a small bag of suspected cocaine, and THC oil cartridges. Court information was not provided.

THEFT

- Omar Khan, 29, of the 7800 block of Niles Center Road, Skokie, was taken into custody on a theft warrant on Jan. 23, police said. According to police, Khan, who was terminated from his job, told his employer he was unable to cash his final check and accepted a cash payment instead. The employer later learned the check had actually been cashed. Court information was not provided.

- Anthony M. Nugent, 43, of the 8100 block of North Merrill Avenue, Niles, was taken into custody on a theft warrant on Jan. 23, police said. According to police, Nugent was identified as the man who allegedly grabbed $750 in cash from the Golf Mill Shopping Center Service Counter and ran off with it on Jan. 5. Court information was not provided.

- Eric B. Gustafson, 21, of the 9600 block of Lawler Avenue, Skokie, was charged with attempted theft by deception on Jan. 29, police said. According to police, he was accused of placing an online order for Wing Stop, 8484 W. Golf Road, using a stolen credit card. He was also ticketed for possession of marijuana, police said. He was given a Feb. 6 court date.

BATTERY

- Zulima M. Martinez, 26, of the 2700 block of Westwood Drive, Waukegan, was charged with domestic battery on Jan. 24 in connection with an alleged incident that occurred Nov. 12 at Candela Bar and Grill, 8526 W. Golf Road, police said. According to police, Martinez was accused of slapping a man in the face. She was given a Feb. 24 court date.

- Maria G. Lopez-Galeana, 36, of the 2600 block of Harvey Avenue, Berwyn, was charged with domestic battery on Jan. 26 following an alleged altercation in the parking lot of CVS, 7139 N. Milwaukee Ave., police said. She was given a March 12 court date.

DUI

- Kristopher L. Ahrens, 33, of the 8300 block of Mango Avenue, Morton Grove, was charged with driving under the influence Jan. 29 after police said his car struck a snowbank near Oakton Street and Waukegan Road at 8 p.m. He has a March 5 court date.

SPEEDING

- Jennifer Pius, 56, of the 6500 block of Albert Street, Morton Grove, was charged with excessive speeding on Jan. 24, police said. According to police, she was going 76 mph in a 35 mph zone on Dempster Street at 7 p.m. She was given a March 8 court date.

BURGLARY

- Jewelry was reported stolen during the burglary of a home on the 8200 block of Oconto Avenue on Jan. 23, police said. A resident reported returning home to find numerous doors open.

THEFT

- A woman reported her wallet was stolen from her purse while she was shopping at Jewel, 5667 W. Touhy Ave., on the afternoon of Jan. 29. A wallet was also reported stolen from another shopper's bag on Jan. 27, police said.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

- Front door glass was discovered shattered at T-Mobile, 5710 W. Touhy Ave., when police responded to a burglar alarm around 1:50 a.m. Jan. 28. Nothing was reported stolen.

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March 7 - 17
Tennessee William’s Pulitzer Prize winning play examines the life of a fading Southern belle, Blanche Dubois, who is forced by declining circumstances to move out of her family mansion into a small apartment with her pregnant sister and her blue-collar husband, Stanley.

April 4 - 14
Three cancer patients confront questions that are too large to answer in the 1977 Pulitzer Prize for drama winner. Speaking bluntly, laughing at dark humor, reminiscing about better times, and showing concern for the future of loved ones, these characters confront the expiration date that we all face eventually without melodrama or romanticism.

May 4 - 5 Staged Reading
You think your boss is tough? Here is David Mamet at his Pulitzer Prize winning best, writing about small-time, cutthroat real estate salesmen in their tight-fisted scramble for survival and a share of the American dream.

Six Piano Ensemble
Saturday, April 27, 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 28, 3 p.m.
Founded and conducted by Glenna Sprague, professor of music, the Six Piano Ensemble as delighted sold-out audiences throughout the world, including a performance at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. The group performs classical, ragtime, and popular music as well as symphonic repertoire. A reception follows the concerts.
'Neighbors are the ones to help each other'

Morton Grove family reaches out during cold snap

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

A Morton Grove family is using the week’s subzero temperatures not as an excuse to stay inside, but as a reason to venture out and connect with their neighbors.

Sabeel Ahmed and his wife, Asma Naheed, spent late Tuesday afternoon delivering copies of a hand-written letter to 40 homes in their neighborhood. The letters offered the family’s help in picking up groceries or medications during the cold snap, or clearing away snow.

“As temperatures dip way below zero, neighbors are the ones to help each other,” the letters said.

The family of five also invited their neighbors to stop by their home “for hot tea and samosas,” and daughter Zainab created a video of the outreach campaign, which was shared on YouTube.

“It was just a neighborhood initiative to motivate the neighbors so more of them can hopefully connect with each other and get a sense of community,” Ahmed explained.

The initiative is also a way to show others the positive aspects of the family’s Muslim faith, Ahmed acknowledged.

“Helping neighbors is a big part of the faith,” he said. “But there is also fear about Islam and Muslims. We don’t want people to judge Islam or any other faith just based on the news.... There are so many commonalities we have as humans, as Americans and as people of faith.”

Ahmed’s work life mirrors his neighborhood outreach. He is executive director of GainPeace, an Oakbrook Terrace-based organization aimed at educating the public about Islam and inviting people to call or email representatives with questions they have about the faith.

“Even though this was a personal initiative to help neighbors, it is connected to the bigger work I do, which is to dispel misconceptions people have about Islam and Muslims,” Ahmed said.

Neighbor Maureen Hartnett said she found the Ahmeds’ gesture “heartwarming” and reflective of an earlier era in her own life.

“I thought, ‘Wow, this is kind of old-fashioned, how we used to be,’” she said. “I grew up in the city, and that’s how my block was — everybody knew they could stop at the door. [Seeing the letter] made me feel good that my family lives in a community where everybody is still like that.”

The letter was also reassuring, Hartnett said.

“I like to know people are around and that people care,” she said.

Alexander Slagg, of Morton Grove, didn’t receive the Ahmeds’ letter at his home, but he did learn about it Wednesday at work.

“It was kind of cool to see that kind of outreach going on in our community,” he said. “Morton Grove is a pretty diverse area and because of that diversity, it’s difficult to create a sense of community. A lot of times people are involved in their own little bubbles. It was refreshing that someone was doing outreach without an agenda and reaching out to neighbors. It helps people feel connected to where they live.”

Ahmed said he hopes the simple letters and offers of help will inspire others to do the same, even beyond his Morton Grove neighborhood.

“At the end of the day, we are all Americans, we are all humans, so let’s look out for other people too,” he said.

As of Wednesday afternoon, no one had taken the Ahmeds up on their offer to pick up groceries or shovel snow, but Ahmed said he was ready if they do.

“It took two days off work,” he said. “If anybody needs help, I’m available.”

SABEEL AHMED PHOTOS

Carbon monoxide from running car sends elderly woman, son to hospital

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

An elderly woman and her adult son were hospitalized during last week’s subzero temperatures after their Niles home filled with high levels of carbon monoxide from a running car, the village’s fire chief said.

Paramedics responding to a call of an unresponsive person on the 8900 block of Heathwood Circle on the afternoon of Jan. 31 recorded elevated levels of carbon monoxide on their portable monitors when they entered the home, said Niles Fire Chief Marty Feld.

A woman, believed to be in her early 90s, was unconscious when paramedics arrived and her son, in his 50s, was feeling ill as well. Both were taken to a hospital, but their conditions were not known this week.

A car was discovered running inside the residents’ attached garage, which was closed, the fire chief said. It is believed the car had been running for approximately eight hours, Feld added.

Carbon monoxide was also detected inside a townhouse unit connected to the affected residence, he said.

“It did penetrate the neighboring unit, but it was not dangerous levels of carbon monoxide,” Feld said.

Feld cautioned residents against leaving their cars running in enclosed garages. If cars need to be warmed up on cold days, they should be left outside, he said.

During and immediately following last week’s cold snap, when temperatures plunged well below zero, the Niles Fire Department responded to nearly a dozen calls of broken water pipes and several instances of residents with heating issues, Feld said.

Some of the heating problems included a furnace pilot light that needed re-lighting, or condensation in a vent leading to the outside of the home, he said.

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Temperatures swing wildly, and we find ourselves complaining about cold that hurts our face, snow that makes us slide all around the streets, makeup days for school, warming temps that cause ice to thaw and refreeze, dogs with muddy paws, and on and on and on.

You go online to check airfares for a spring break getaway to a warm climate, and then slink away from the keyboard after you see fares in the $700 or $800 round-trip range.

It’s the time of year when we tend to be cranky and impatient. I’m not speaking for all of us, of course, just a lot of us, based on what I observe on a daily basis. Last week, I found myself shaking my fist and worse (sorry, Mom) at cars who tailed me or drove too fast for icy conditions.

I also found myself giving the stink eye to people who cut me off in line at the gas station or at the grocery store checkout lane. I’m sure I ticked someone else off during the course of my own day, for one reason or another.

Even in bleak times, though, there’s a bright side.

I read about one of them last week in a social media page for local moms. A mom shared the story about how she stuck up for a supermarket clerk who was being berated by several customers for things beyond her control.

She thanked the clerk for coming in and working hard on a cold, snowy day when many other people took off and had time to, you know, go to the grocery store and yell at the person waiting on them.

That story was heartening enough, but so were the many comments from readers who expressed empathy and similar views on not being jerks to our fellow humans who are just trying to do their job.

Another case in point along those lines: the many people who canceled their mail or offered hot chocolate or coffee to mail carriers who had to trudge out in cold and snow.

Even as we dealt with record-smashing cold weather and brought our cars to body shops to repair damage from teenage drivers (or was that just me?!), there is some proverbial light at the end of winter’s tunnel. Have you noticed the sunset is later now? If you’re walking through the drug store, crabby that you have to get yet another box of Kleenex or cough drops to combat the winter colds and coughs in your house, you might also get a little lift from seeing some spring merchandise on the shelves.

I don’t want to buy a chocolate bunny or a patio candle right now, but I’m not that unhappy that it’s there, because it’s a retail harbinger.

Okay, maybe I’ll take that chocolate bunny after all. I just saw the forecast for next week.

Lynn Petrak is a freelance columnist

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Morton Grove is lucky – not all neighbors are willing to help

Your story, “Morton Grove family delivers handwritten letters offering neighbors help during cold snap,” was heartwarming. Morton Grove is lucky.

I live in Massachusetts but have an elderly disabled friend who lives in Park Ridge. She was a doctor but an accident no longer enabled her to work, and she only has Social Security now.

She has tried everywhere to get someone to shovel a short walk so she can walk her little dog. Her neighbors don’t help; the senior center said they have no one. She called Boy Scouts, the high school, her church.

Nobody cares.

Maybe people of other faiths are more “Christian.” Her car heat doesn’t work, or her defrosters, and she can’t afford the cost of repair. She has no family, and her friends have passed away. She is trying to stop the drafts by taping plastic bags to her windows and has her space heaters and oven providing warmth.

Why doesn’t a wealthy community like Park Ridge care? Where I live, she would get help. From what I heard from her, I would never want to grow old in the Chicago area.

I hope YOU care and will print this. Thank you.

Nancy Roney, Salem, Mass.
Starbucks’ Howard Schultz for president? 2020 is going to be crazy.

Randy Blaser

The presidential race of 2020 may be the most fascinating of our lifetimes, and by 2020, I will have lived a fairly long time. Born when everyone liked Ike, I can only remember as far back as Kennedy. As a former editor used to say, those were great times to grow up in America — if you were a white guy.

So the general idea is to make these times in America go great again, to borrow liberally from a phrase that drives my liberal friends nuts, but this time make it great for everyone.

Two years into the Donald Trump presidency and it's pretty clear he isn't competent enough to really MAGA. Surprise, surprise. A hedonist with no political experience is clearly incompetent at leading the greatest nation on Earth.

Trump's very presence is anathema to Democrats, so making a deal with the supposed top artist of the deal would be like making a deal with the devil. When one looks at the policies put forth by the Democrats' more liberal candidates for president for 2020, they've already done that.

That is why I find the notion of the Starbucks guy as an independent candidate for president so incredibly intriguing. He's a moderate who can't join the Jacobins in his party. I believe it will make 2020 one of the most fascinating campaigns for president we've ever seen.

Despite the endless analysis of their humilitating loss in 2016, Democrats have come to the wrong conclusion. To quote their standard-bearer that year, they believe half the country are deplorable haters that should not be allowed to exist, or at least not wear a MAGA hat in public.

Hillary Clinton has been wrong her entire political career — wrong on her husband's incessant womanizing, wrong on White-water, wrong on healthcare care in the 1990s, wrong on how she compared to Obama, and on and on until her losing campaign for president in 2016. That time she wrongly took Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania for granted.

I find the idea that Trump won because he appealed to the worst racist instincts of declining white Americans unconvincing. A country does not go from electing the first African-American president twice to electing a racist, not even America.

Here's why Trump won: Because he's not Them. By Them, I mean the political ruling class. Americans by 2016 were tired of continual dickering and backbiting on every major issue from jobs and the economy to immigration and court appointments. These issues were debated by a ruling class where the only thing won is political advantage.

Just hanging on from week to week while their kids go into massive debt by the age of 22 to fund the dream of college only to graduate with a useless degree is a nightmare, not the American dream. And so is the generational poverty, single-parent families, substandard schools and violence that plague too many neighborhoods.

So along comes Howard Schultz. We'll learn more about him as time goes on, but it seems he's serious. Rejecting the party apparatchiks is a good start. Like Trump, he's not Them and that's a quick route to election. Just ask Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

But unlike Trump, he's not a hedonist who has some thoughts but isn't too good with simple declarative sentences.

Democrats are going nuts over the prospect of Schultz running because they see him as their Ross Perot, who, pulled votes from George H.W. Bush in 1992. They think he'll take votes from whichever radical they settle on.

But I don't see it that way. His appeal will not be to the true believers who want free college, confiscation of wealth, free healthcare, tuition and abortion.

No, I think Schultz's appeal will be that he's not Them. He will pull votes from those who went for Trump, not the shambles that is the Republican Party or the coming commissariat that are the Democrats.

The real question is: can an independent candidacy win?

In the final analysis, the complexity of the U.S. presidential election makes an independent bid nearly impossible, which means a Schultz presidential run will probably elect a Democrat.

That's if that candidate can hold on to their automatic voting base while insulting Catholics, police, the military, white people and Native Americans, specifically by pretending to be one.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist.
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Beware of Dirty John

I have to say, my jaw was on the ground almost the entire time I was watching "Dirty John," the recent Bravo TV drama series about a beautiful, successful, wealthy woman who falls for a charming and seemingly perfect man, who in reality is a manipulative con artist.

What's even more shocking about the series, which earned its lead actor, Connie Britton, a Golden Globe nomination, is that "Dirty John" was a real guy! The show is based on the true story of Debra Newell and her husband, John Meehan, who in 2016 was killed by Newell's daughter in self-defense.

There really are people who, in relationships, are capable of theft, forgery, manipulation, violence and gaslighting — a form of emotional abuse that causes a victim to question their own feelings and sanity.

Watching the show, I was thinking, "How could this woman be so stupid?" But we shouldn't judge. Gaslighting is more common than you think.

Debra Alper, a Chicago-based relationship therapist, estimates that in her 19 years in practice, 20 percent of her patients have been involved with a gaslighter.

"Gaslighting is emotional abuse in which relentlessly and systematically your partner begins to take away your self-esteem and your sense of self, meaning what you know to be right and true. Everything gets confusing and blurry," Alper said. "The ultimate goal when someone is gaslighting you is for you to end up dependent, emotionally isolated from others and attached to the gaslighter."

According to Alper, gaslighting is a form of narcissism, and it comes from someone who feels powerless; gaslighters get a sense of control from attaching themselves to accomplished, confident women and attempting to tear them down.

Alper said successful women are perfect targets for gaslighters because they oftentimes put personal relationships on hold while building their careers.

"The price they paid for their ambition makes them more susceptible to wanting to believe in the happily ever after," she said. "They are lonely and they want to be loved, and this guy is a master at giving you love." Alper said anyone who has ever dated a gaslighter will say the first date was the best they have ever had.

"You will feel like the sun is shining on you when you are with him. He's charming. He's interested in you and he pulls you in quickly. Early on, he wants to monopolize your time," she said. "Until that first fight..."

"The first fight will make you see through the facade. 'What happened? Who is this person? You might think,' said Alper. "You desperately want the man you thought he was to come back — that perfect, charming, wonderful guy, but you just saw this mean, ugly man come out. When you try to talk to him about it, he takes no responsibility. He counts on the fact that he already has you pulled in and he offers you the opportunity to continue the relationship because he's forgiving."

Alper said gaslighters don't apologize or take ownership of what they did. Instead, they turn it around and tell their partner "I'm willing to forgive you for overreacting." She said this is the start of a pattern that never changes. It actually escalates and gets worse with every fight.

So, how do you spot a gaslighter? Here are five signs:

1. You catch him in lies frequently. The lies start off little. For example, a waiter might tell someone he is a bartender. You start to see a pattern of small lies that get bigger and bigger. The purpose of these lies is to create an unsteady balance in you. Reality becomes blurred.

2. The relationship is moving fast. Really fast. If you find that the two of you are falling hard and fast, remember, if it's good and healthy, the relationship shouldn't be all-encompassing. You should still be going to work, seeing your family and friends, working out, and not getting lost in the bubble he wants to create for you.

3. You sense you are being bullied. Beware of an environment where it's not safe for you to ask questions. Hearing these things are red flags: "Why are you so insecure?" "Do you really want to ruin a good thing by getting into a fight over nothing?" "You're overreacting!"

4. Your family and friends don't like him. Trust the people who love you most and only want you to be happy. If everyone is telling you the same thing, it's time to run.

5. He is telling you and others you are crazy. You know intellectually that you aren't crazy, but you kind of feel crazy because he's creating crazy in your world. You are just trying to make sense of things. When people first meet and they are falling in love, it's easy to overlook faults and even red flags because they are so engrossed in the newness of the relationship and that beautiful sense of feeling connected and adored. But be careful. Love can sometimes feel blurry, and compromising your values, morals, truths and loved ones to avoid being alone again can turn out really dirty.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.
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The judgment amount was $306,673.62.

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The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, mortgage fees, and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act.

The judgment amount was $191,619.33.

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**Quote-Acrostic**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clues</th>
<th>Words</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Low-tech</td>
<td>9 49 129 26 38 140 118 159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Canal, Field or Mike</td>
<td>132 35 161 104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Feeling</td>
<td>141 164 100 25 101 4 56 78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Religious sect committed to nonviolence</td>
<td>39 5 73 95 11 145 87 128 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Opening</td>
<td>40 32 135 33 115 157 53</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. Without rival: 2 wds.</td>
<td>41 8 57 22 130 94 108 84 154 72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Czar of opera</td>
<td>137 65 122 80 18 148 169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Universal displeasure sound: 2 wds.</td>
<td>118 168 19 2 139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Nietzsche's Superman</td>
<td>83 110 42 150 74 99 136 62 171 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Hebrew without land</td>
<td>126 102 70 143 20 89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Rhyme Time**

*By Charles Preston*

**Across**
1. It may be lurid
5. Squealer's tune
9. Between O and Mio
13. J.D. Salinger character
14. Trick's alternative
16. Stem
17. Oliver's movie mate
18. Marble
19. Bowling alley
20. Rapseed product
21. Seismologist?
23. Charged
25. Early bird, e.g.
26. Anouk
28. Tight dress
31. Boa
32. Pierre's girl
33. Erwin, of films
36. Saint's headpiece
37. Self-styled expert
39. Figure heads, for short
40. Photog. term
41. Sly trick
42. Make happy
43. Beating
45. Soap Box Derby entrant
46. Consumed

**Down**
1. Pedro's coin
2. Italian sparkling place
3. Tiny shopping center?
4. In perfect shape
5. Gawk
6. Church music makers
7. Straight
8. Take
9. Small amount
10. Emulate Cicero
11. Solitary animal
12. Handled jug
13. Topography
15. B-G connection
16. Liturgy
24. Island in the Baltic
26. Netman Arthur
27. Yes, ...
29. Asylum
30. Sandy's uncle
33. Armstrong's first step?
34. London gallery
35. Computer buff
37. College exam
38. Clay, now
39. Decked
41. Nicetate
42. Ashtabula's lake
43. Zenith
44. Spat
46. Ankle binder
47. Charge
49. Ray
50. Fr. holy women
51. Mother's brothers, in Valencia
52. Price or value
54. On the Aegean
55. Misplaced
58. Apple seed

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

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Last week's crosswords
"PREPOSITIONAL"

SLOOM TETRA AJAR SACs
POSE SHELTER COC IDOLS
AFTER HAVEN THROUGHPUT
STATE LAWS RENE SmeerY
CAN BEADS HEAR
NANTUCKET MUTTS ND'S state TREES
ONEAL BYSTANDER NIGERIAN
IVAN RYOL RAIK IDLE
SILK ROOSTER MEATS TERRA
IBET PLANS CRAG
WAGONS BOOST ASH UOG
EATS ERE LEAD SUIT
PRE FORGIVING LENTO
ID TO AGENDA UDDER
DINERO BOER MAGNOLIA
ABOVE BOARD UPPING
DENT SLAY CASES RON

Last week's Quote-Acrostic
P.G. WODEHOUSE: A GOLF SPORT: Golf
is the infallible test. The man who can
go into a patch of rough alone, with the
knowledge that only God is watching
him, and play the ball where it lies, is the
man who will serve you faithfully.

Last week's Sudoku

Last week's Jumble

This week's Jumble

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Depression-era story comes to stage

Partners in crime sing show tunes at Skokie Theatre

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

In the depths of the Depression, a young couple finds a chilling way to support themselves in “Bonnie and Clyde: The Musical.” The show, which earned a Tony Award nomination in 2012 for Best Original Score, and Drama Desk Award nominations for Outstanding Music, Outstanding Lyrics and Outstanding Musical, runs Feb. 8-24 at the Skokie Theatre.

Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays and 1:30 p.m. Feb. 13.

The story of true-life thieves and murderers Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow might seem like an unusual topic for a musical, but director Stephen M. Genovese thinks it’s a tale worth telling musically.

“I think any larger-than-life characters are ripe for musicalization,” he explained. “These were clearly people on the wrong side of the law but they were human beings. However misguided their actions are, they still had families and those families were affected.”

The director indicated he has been interested in this show for a while.

“Certainly, from a musical standpoint I think it has some great, powerful music and is really a showcase for the talent involved,” he said. The score blends blues, gospel and rockabilly sounds.

Claire Latourette was attracted to the role of Bonnie because, “There aren’t a lot of strong female leads in the musical theater canon. She is this wonderfully strong, intelligent, stubborn, ambitious person from the ’30s. They’re not dumbing her down in any way. She wants what she wants.”

Although Clyde is her love interest, the roles are equally balanced, Latourette indicated. “They’re a team and she’s just as important as he is,” the actor said.

Exhibiting Bonnie’s strength isn’t difficult for Latourette but she said that she has been sure to “show that she’s a strong woman throughout the show but in the lens of the 1930s, not 2019.”

Nate Hall, who plays Clyde, noted that he is familiar with the story of Bonnie and Clyde because his mother’s family is from the West Dallas area. In fact, legend has it that Clyde once asked Hall’s great, great-grandfather for directions.

Through working on the show, Hall learned that the pair weren’t initially killers. “In the very beginning, they were doing a lot more kidnapping and dropping people off outside of the city limits,” he said.

He also discovered how destitute Clyde’s family was due to the Great Depression. “Moving into a tent was a huge deal for his family,” Hall noted. The other surprising fact he learned was that, despite their crime spree, both Bonnie and Clyde were devoted to their families.

Surprisingly enough, Clyde is charismatic, Hall indicated. “But he makes these ridiculous jokes.”

Hall said Clyde always had to have things his way until he connected with Bonnie. With her, “He can be himself for a second and not have a plan,” the actor said.

Genovese, Latourette and Hall have all done meticulous research for their roles. The director read “Fugitives,” which was written by the mothers of Bonnie and Clyde. Latourette watched documentaries and PBS specials about the two of them “to try to get myself in their world more.”

“It is an amazing love story,” Hall said, “and kind of a tragic one. They’re definitely victims of their time.”

Genovese concluded that he hopes the show “sparks a bit of interest in finding out more about the entire history of that time period.”

Myrna Petlicki is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
**WHAT TO DO COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**Thursday, Feb. 7**

**Bern Wirtz Center:** explore the constraints of social construct and art. Henderson's exhibit "Social Regard" will be on display through Feb. 13. "Social Regard" is comprised of two series of works. 10 a.m. daily, Dittmar Memorial Gallery, Northwestern University, 199 Campus Drive, Evanston, free, 847-491-2348.

The Cherry Orchard at Northwestern's Wirtz Center: Anton Chekhov's endeavoring and everlasting tragicomedy — in which a family's cross-generational dispute about the future of their beloved estate creates a clash between socialism and capitalism, legacy and reality. This version of the Russian playwright's "The Cherry Orchard" is based on a literal translation by Allison Horsely and adapted by Stephen Karam. Directed by MFA directing candidate Hassan Al Rawas, the production runs from Feb. 1 to 10. 7:30 p.m. daily, Josephine Louis Theatre, Northwestern University, 20 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, $6-$25, 847-491-7282.

**Caravans of Gold at Northwestern Block Museum:** The Block Museum of Art at Northwestern University's "Caravans of Gold, Fragments in Time: Art, Culture and Exchange Across Medieval Saharan Africa" is the first major exhibition to highlight West Africa's global reach in the medieval period of the 8th to 16th centuries. This exhibit runs through July 21. 10 a.m. daily, Northwestern University - Block Museum of Art, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, free, 847-491-4000.

**Advance Registration for Home-school Week:** Homeschool Week 2019 is March 4-8 at The Grove. This is your opportunity to register in advance to experience the full week of hands-on historical and environmental programs at The Grove dedicated exclusively to Homeschool students in grades K-8. For more information and to register, contact Judy, 224-521-2105. Late registrants may be accepted based on availability. Payment in full is required at time of registration (children 4 and under are free), and refunds will only be given in the event of a program cancellation by The Grove. 8 a.m. daily, The Grove, 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, ranging from $15-$20 per adult-child team, 847-299-6096.

**It's Not Just Calories In or Calories Out:** There's more to weight management than calories. The numbers listed on the label tell just part of the story. Find out about how we burn calories differently and the inaccuracy of calorie counting. Anna Harris, Precision Nutrition Certified Nutrition Coach and YMCA Personal Trainer, shares helpful insights and guides you through strategies that can work for you. Free and open to the public with pre-registration required by calling or visiting the website, 11 a.m. Thursday, North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road, Northbrook, free, 847-372-7250.

**Jewish Learning Institute Class - Northbrook Law Office:** Rabbi Meir Moscowitz of Lubavitch Chabad of Northbrook offers Crime and Consequence, a new six-session course by the Jewish Learning Institute exploring 3000 years of Jewish perspective on conviction, sentencing and criminal rehabilitation. Especially timely with the prison reform debates. Register at the website or call. Noon Thursday, 10 a.m. Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, David Kaufman & Associates Law Office, 555 Sokie Blvd., Northbrook, $100 plus $100 for CLE credits, 847-564-8770.

**Watch Videos Online:** Take a tour of the multitude of services for watching television and movies through computers and mobile devices, such as Netflix and Amazon, as well as streaming devices like Apple TV, Hulu and Roku. You may even decide to "cut the cable cord." 1 p.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $19 member; $25 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

**Tai Chi:** Wear loose clothing to practice the ancient, healing art of Tai Chi. Increase your understanding of the mind-body connection, breathing techniques, flexibility and all other healthy benefits of Tai Chi. 9 a.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $75 member; $89 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

**Shakespeare and the 21st Century:** What does Shakespeare say about refugees, sexual assault and secretive leadership? Although written over 400 years ago, Shakespeare's plays "Sir Thomas More," "Cymbeline" and "Richard III," not only have much to say about challenges that we have faced in the past, but they also offer a way to think about them in the present and into the future. 1 p.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $12 member; $17 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

**Stretch and Breathe for Better Health:** This gentle exercise class is designed to teach the benefits of stretching and deep breathing. Regular stretching has benefits that range from increasing flexibility to helping relieve arthritis pain, while deep breathing helps to relax the body and lower stress levels. 11:30 a.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $59 member; $69 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

**Friday, Feb. 8**

**The Wolves at Wirtz Center's MFA Lab Series:** This play is about The Wolves, a girls' indoor soccer team, who practice drills as they prepare for a succession of games. Each team member struggles to negotiate her individuality while being a part of a group. 8 p.m. Friday, Hal and Martha Hyer-Wallis Theater, Northwestern University, 1949 Campus Drive, Evanston, $6-$10, 847-491-7282.

**Friday Night Meltdowns:** Join in this awesome skate and dance party! A DJ plays today's hits and disco lighting shines on the ice throughout the night. Bring your own skates or rent a pair for the evening. Admission: you may use your season skating pass, or $8 per person. For more information, visit the website or call. 8:15 p.m. Friday, Glenview Ice Center, 851 Landwehr Road, Glenview, $8 admittance; $4 rental skates, 847-724-2800.

**Drop-Ins Chess:** Through grade 8: Volunteer chess instructor Steve Leven teaches fundamentals and strategy. Just drop in. 7 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

**Princess Ball:** A night to remember for you and your little princess, ages 4-12. The royal ball will include music, dancing and refreshments. Registration is required for each participant. For more information and to register, visit the website or call. 6:30 p.m. Friday, Park Center Lakeview Room, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, $40 per resident, $50 per nonresident, 847-724-5670.

**Bestie Bash:** Join Lincolnwood Town Center for Valentine's Day fun with magnet crafts, and face painting. Also, a make-your-own sundae bar and a selfie station. 5 p.m. Friday, Lincolnwood Town Center, 3333 W. Touhy, Lincolnwood, free.

**Louis Armstrong:** From Jazz Master to Musical Icon: Born into the depths of poverty, Louis Armstrong grew into a musical icon. However he performed, from playing his trumpet to singing, his personality was as compelling as his artistry. Susan Benjamin details significant moments in his personal life complemented by examples of his musical mastery. 1 p.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $12 member; $17 nonmember, 947-784-0030.

**Burnham & Bennett:** Authors of the 1909 Plan of Chicago: Daniel Burnham often receives the credit, but it was Edward Bennett who executed the final designs for Grant Park, the Michigan Avenue Bridge, Navy Pier and other elements of the Plan of Chicago that became essential to what we think of as today's Chicago. 10 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $24 member; $34 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

**A Year With Frog and Toad Kids:** The Minis Division of the Wilmette Children's Theatre leaps into February with their production of A Year With Frog and Toad Kids. The 35-minute performances are performed by first- through fourth-grade actors. 7 p.m. Friday and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Wilmette Children's Theatre, 3000 Glenview Road, Wilmette, $10 for everyone 3 and up, 847-285-9686.

**Saturday, Feb. 9**

**1920s Murder Mystery - Party at the Speakeasy:** TopAct Events presents this unforgettable murder mystery dinner party at Bourbon 'N Brass, an exquisite 1920's style speakeasy and showroom hidden behind a bookcase. The evening is improv-inspired, where guests get to play the role of a suspect, detective or witness while mixing and mingling with others. Each ticket includes: reception-style buffet dinner from Rock 'N Ravioli's Italian restaurant, raffle prize giveaways and photos. Guests are sent their assigned character sketch along with an invitation, instructions, summary and secret password for entry into the Speakeasy. 6 p.m. Saturday, Bourbon 'N Brass Speakeasy, 1012 Church St., Evanston, $62 plus fees, 630-326-8750.

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Polish Splendor with Chicago a cappella: In this concert, years in the making, the rich variety of music from Poland, old and new is explored. Their singers bring to life traditional folk songs and compelling new works by Polish composers — including many in their North American debut. 8 p.m. Saturday, Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $35 general admission, 773-281-7820.

Brazilian Jazz with Luciano Antonio: Studio5 presents Brazilian Jazz from guitarist and vocalist Luciano Antonio. The quartet, led by Antonio, features Luiz Ewering on drums, Jack Zora on bass and Adrian Ruiz on piano. This performance will be recorded live for Chicago Jazz Live on WDCB FM Radio. Cash bar, light snack and free street parking available. Doors open for cocktails and socializing at 7:30 p.m. For more information, e-mail Steve Rashid at steve@studio5dance, call or visit the website. 8 p.m. Saturday, Studio5, 1934 Dempster St., Evanston, $20 general admission, $22 cabaret seating, 847-328-6683.

Mitchell Museum New Acquisitions Tour: Check out the new artwork added to the permanent exhibit and new acquisitions cases with the Mitchell Museum Collections Manager Joseph Gacki-Stewart. You'll learn unique insights on new pieces, including this colorful painting by John Nieto. Free with museum admission. 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, free with admission, 847-475-1030.

Eve's Love Conquers All events: Have fun guessing the number of pearls in the jar during our contest to win an Eve “wine angels” necklace of Rhodonte. Also, enjoy wine, small bites and sweets, until your heart's content, as you shop for a gift for your love one. Noon Saturday, Eve J. Alfille Gallery and Studio, 623 Grove St., Evanston, free, 847-869-7920.

White Like Her: Family's Story of Race & Racial Passing: Local author Gall Lukasik, Ph.D. shares her personal and genealogical journey to uncover her mother's racial heritage and how tracing her family back to 18th-century Louisiana led her to a deeper understanding of race and racial identity. This is presented in partnership with the North Suburban Genealogical Society. Register at glenviewpav.org, 847-729-7500 ext. 7700 or visit Reference Services. 1 p.m. Saturday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Super Saturday Total-T Magic
Wednesday, Feb. 13

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: Dr. Norman E. Segal, MD discusses everything you would like to know about ADHD and his own lived experience with the disorder. This free community education forum is offered by NAMI Cook County North Suburban and Mental Health America for parents, adults, children and mental health providers. CEUs are available for social workers and counselors for $15, cash or check payable to MHA–North Shore. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines, free, 847-827-5551.

Intermediate Google Photos: A Gmail account is required to attend this new class. Learn more about the easy, yet powerful editing tools available with this service. The class size is limited. Register at glenviewwp.org, call 847-729-7500 ext. 7700 or visit Reference Services. 2 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Romance Readers Valentine’s Tea: Talk about your favorite romance books and authors over a cup of tea. Feel free to bring the romance book you are reading or a recent favorite to share with the group. Registration is required; registrants do not need a Lincolnwood Library card to attend. Please visit their website, call or stop by to register. 1 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

Wednesday Family Storytime: While you attend the KonMari 101 event, send your 3 to 6 year olds to Storytime with Miss Dannie. Children ages 3 to 6, must have a caregiver in the building; if younger, the caregiver must be in the room. Visit our website, call or stop by to register. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

KonMari 101: Tidy Your Home, Change Your Life: A certified KonMari tidying consultant shares organization tips that focus on what you keep (does it “spark joy?”), rather than what you discard. Learn about the Japanese decluttering method made popular by the bestseller, The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up. This workshop will include demos and giveaways. Registration is required; registrants do not need a Lincolnwood Library card to attend. Please visit their website, call or stop by to register. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

Photo and Media Club: This is for 9th graders and up; younger photographers must be accompanied by a caregiver. If you are having trouble making your camera do what you want it to, or are curious about how to get your photography to the next level — come drop-in, with no registration required. DSLR cameras are available to use, or you can bring your own. 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

Planning when Living with a Chronic Medical Condition: Elder Law Attorney, Matt Margolis, discusses the importance of planning ahead when you have a chronic medical condition. Topics will include Power of Attorney documents, difference between revocable and irrevocable trusts and reasons why a will isn’t enough. Free and open to the public with pre-registration required by calling or visiting nsymca.org. 11:15 a.m. Wednesday, North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road, Northbrook, free, 847-272-7250.

A Taste of Honey: The 1961 film re-counts the volatile emotions of its central character, Jo, a 17-year-old teenaged schoolgirl. She lives next stop down from Manchester on the Manchester Ship Canal with her alcoholic mother, Helen, who relies on the kindness of strangers. She soon abandons her daughter for a man and the teen is left to fend for herself and her growing family. 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6030.

The Presidency of Harry Truman: Come to learn about Harry Truman. 10 a.m. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6030.
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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  630-557-1000  public-record.com
Women step up to end war in Maine South’s ‘Lysistrata’

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

In its original form, the ancient Greek comedy “Lysistrata” is “fairly naughty,” admits Maine South High School drama teacher Lauri McCleneghan.

“If you see a college version of the play, it’s really mature,” she said.

But while the “edited” production that is headed to the Park Ridge school’s stage this week is more appropriate for teenage actors, audiences shouldn’t expect it to lose the message or the feel of the classic battle of the sexes tale, McCleneghan said.

“The intent and the innuendo is still there,” she said.

Last performed on the Maine South stage in 2009, “Lysistrata,” written by playwright Aristophanes in 411 B.C., returns for a three-day run Feb. 7-9. It tells the story of a woman from Athens, Lysistrata, who persuades her fellow women to withhold sex from their soldier husbands in an effort to end the Peloponnesian War and force the men to reach a peace treaty.

It will be McCleneghan’s final play as director before her retirement at the end of the school year.

“It’s just one of my favorites and it’s my last one, so I wanted to revisit it again,” she explained of her reason for choosing “Lysistrata” this year.

With its message of worldly conflict and women stepping up and taking on positions of power, it also seemed especially timely, McCleneghan added.

“All those women, from all those different city states, cooperate and get together to get something done,” she said.


Student directors are Jon Luke Lassa and Lena Pontikes; technical director is Pat Sanchez; assistant technical director is Jen Beck; and stage manager is Theodore Bateman. The play also features original music by students Paige Keller and Allison Paxhia.

Costumes were created by students under the supervision of Janet Hoeg, Ann Swindell and Kim Gorski.

Performances of “Lysistrata” will take place at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 7-9, in the Maine South auditorium, 1111 S. Dee Road. Tickets are $7 and can be purchased at the door on each night of the play.

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Twitter @Jen_Tribune

Maine South High School senior Annie Papciak plays Koryphaios of Old Women in the school’s production of “Lysistrata,” which opens Feb. 7.
Police release image of car involved in fatal hit-run

Victim's family boosts reward

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Morton Grove police have released a surveillance camera image of a car believed to have fatally struck an 86-year-old man and fled the scene last month, while family members have increased a reward for information leading to the identification of the person responsible.

The blurry, black-and-white image, shared by police on Feb. 1, shows a light-colored, four-door, older model sedan that was captured traveling south on the 8900 block of Shermer Road following the Jan. 4 fatal crash at Shermer and Greenwood Street, said Morton Grove Police Cmdr. Leonid Belogur, 86, of the 9000 block of Waukegan Road, Morton Grove, was killed while crossing Shermer in a marked crosswalk at Greenwood, a residential street just north of Dempster, around 5:02 p.m. Jan. 4, police said. The car that struck Belogur allegedly fled the scene southbound, but left windshield glass behind, Yaras said.

Police are hoping the image can be enhanced so the features of the car can be seen more clearly, the police commander said.

"We were handing out flyers and talking to neighbors, seeing if anyone recognizes the car," he added.

Leonid Belogur, 86, of the 9000 block of Waukegan Road, Morton Grove, was killed while crossing Shermer in a marked crosswalk at Greenwood, a residential street just north of Dempster, around 5:02 p.m. Jan. 4, police said. The car that struck Belogur allegedly fled the scene southbound, but left windshield glass behind, Yaras said.

Authorities and the victim's family are urging the driver to turn himself or herself in to police.

"The person who did it, they know they did wrong. They know they hit somebody," Yaras said. "With all the evidence of this, there's no way they wouldn't know they killed somebody. They need to come forward and talk to us about this."

Police did follow up on a tip from an area body shop after a damaged car was dropped off for repairs, but the type of damage noted on this vehicle did not match up to the car investigators are looking for, Yaras said.

Within days of his death, Belogur's family put up a $10,000 reward for information leading to the identification of the driver. That amount has since been increased to $20,000, police said.

"We put up the reward to hopefully motivate somebody to come forward," said Yelena Cohen, Belogur's daughter. "When you look at the location and the time it happened, it's a relatively busy area. It wasn't like it was the middle of the night. I feel like somebody knows something. We just need closure one way or another."

Cohen described her father as a funny, generous and kind man who "didn't live the traditional lifestyle of an 86-year-old." The father of three and grandfather of seven was active and enjoyed walking, running, playing tennis and looking after his grandchildren, she said.

Just four days before his death, on New Year's Eve, he and his girlfriend attended a gathering at a friend’s home and didn’t return until 3 a.m., Cohen said, joking that she herself was in bed by 11.

"He wasn't one to be sitting on the couch," she said.

Belogur frequently took walks in the neighborhood, Cohen said, so being out, even in January, was not unusual for him. But spending time at the accident site – which is located just a few blocks west from Belogur's home – has Cohen believing something needs to be done to make it safer, she said.

"We were out there the night the police were handing out flyers (a week after the crash)," Cohen said. "I recall crossing the same street with a friend of mine and almost getting hit by a car as well."

Cohen said she understands what happened to her father was an accident, but she cannot understand why, a month later, the driver has not yet come forward.

"Just give us this closure," she said. "At least have the respect or common courtesy to give us closure."

Anyone with information is asked to call the Morton Grove Police Department at 847-470-5200 or the Cook County Crime Stoppers at 1-800-535-STOP. Callers to the Crime Stoppers line can remain anonymous.
Library offers job fair geared toward teens, young adults

BY MEGANN HORSTEAD
Pioneer Press

A young adult job fair offered by the Niles-Maine District Library will feature 11 area businesses. The Feb. 16 event takes place from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the library at no cost and is open to drop-ins.

"They can get face time with people who are hiring or really interested in hiring," said Donna Block, teen services librarian. "For the employers, it's good for them. It gives them a huge pool of applicants to go through. They can talk to people.

The job fair targets anyone ages 15-24. For information, visit nileslibrary.org.

Megann Horstead is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Emerson Dance Club puts on a show at District 64 school board meeting

BY HEATHER CHERONE
Pioneer Press

The monthly meetings of the Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 Board of Education are usually staid affairs, featuring debates about important issues.

But someone arriving a few minutes late to Monday night's District 64 meeting could have mistaken it for a teen dance club, with pop songs taking the place of the usual PowerPoint presentations.

"They all really came together for the love of dance," said Helene Zukas, an English language teacher at Lincoln and Emerson middle schools and the sponsor of the Emerson Dance Club, which in-cludes about a dozen students in both the general education program and the special education program.

"We have a real range, and that makes it special," Zukas added. "We are very inclusive."

The board meeting featured the first-ever performance by the dance troupe, which choreographed dances to family-friendly versions of "Tik Tok" by Kesha and "Havana" by Camila Cabelo.

Delia Garcia said her favorite part of the weekly practices, which started in November, included choosing the music.

"We wanted something a little hip-hop, but mostly pop," Garcia said. "I liked how we all worked together and it came together."

In recent weeks, District 64 has began showcasing teams and groups from all eight of its schools at the start of each board meeting.

Heather Cherone is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

The Emerson Dance Club celebrates their performance at the District 64 Board for Education meeting.
More seats, more options
America's best-selling segment gets larger with new SUVs, crossovers

BY ROBERT DUFFER
Chicago Tribune

First, it was the minivan. Then the crossover. Now the three-row crossover is America's family hauler of choice. No news there. But what is noteworthy is that this three-row segment, which also includes full-size SUVs such as the Lincoln Navigator and Chevy Suburban, accounted for nearly 1 in every 4 new vehicle purchases in 2018. And it's only getting larger for 2020. Take that, minivan.

"It's an expanding segment that is highly profitable," said Jeremy Acevedo, manager of industry analysis at Edmunds.com. "They've gotten massive buy-ins from automakers." Hyundai, Kia, Lincoln, Cadillac and BMW all are rolling out new three-rows for 2020. Ford and Toyota are redesigning the Explorer and Highlander, respectively. There are so many crossovers it almost feels as if automakers are throwing noodles at the wall to see what sticks.

"Except the whole wall is the target, and you can't miss," Acevedo said, half-joking.

When crossovers became the dominant choice for Americans in 2016, it was fueled by huge growth in small crossovers, which now claim 22.4 percent market share, up 2 percent from 2017, according to data from Edmunds.com. Yet it is the family haulers — midsize crossovers and full-size SUVs, accounting for 24.2 percent of the market — that are hauling in big profits for automakers. (We're using the term crossover interchangeably with SUV, even though crossover is more accurate, despite marketing to the contrary. Only truck-based vehicles are SUVs.)

"SUVs come with a higher price tag, and buyers aren't as price-conscious as the compact crossover segment," Acevedo said. "These are priced well over industry average.

The average transaction price for the segment is $43,313, which is over $7,000 more than the average car price ($35,972), and over $12,000 more than the average cost of the small crossover ($30,844).

But it was the compact crossovers that kindled the craze in the first place, and that is driving buyers into the next model up. Together, the crossover segment is expected to be 50 percent of all new vehicle sales in 2019.

"The same shoppers are growing in income or life stages to dictate that jump to the next size," Acevedo said. "There are also more compelling offerings as automakers cover all their bases for that loyalty play, like Subaru.

Subaru's enviable growth has come on the back of its small crossovers Crosstrek, Outback and Forester. Since the cramped Tribeca was discontinued after 2014, Subaru didn't have a proper three-row to keep customers in love with the brand. Until the luxury-leaning 2019 Subaru Ascent. Such was also the case with Volkswagen, which launched the excellent 2018 Atlas. Both models benefited from the faults of their predecessors and learned from the competition, earning best-of accolades from most outlets, including this one. More importantly, those models attracted shoppers from other brands. This is a lesson Lincoln and Cadillac might be learning too late.

"Domestic automakers got caught flat-footed," Acevedo added. "Europeans have trotted out a ton of SUVs, and Lincoln and Cadillac had been pioneers in the segment, so they're finally coming into the game."

Here's what they're bringing:

2020 Lincoln Aviator
Following the path of the flagship full-size Navigator, which was redesigned for 2018 and quickly became the best full-size SUV on the market, the all-new Aviator will come in six- or seven-seat configurations. Based on the Chicago-built Ford Explorer, this luxury liner with available AWD is powered by a familiar 3.0-liter turbocharged V-6 engine, and a 12 percent increase to 5,600 pounds in the 365-horsepower twin-turbo V-6.

A four-door coupe with rear-wheel drive, it has a 39.7-inch touch screen should allow entrants to spring delivery date.

2019 BMW X7
Anyone who has been crammed into the third row of the X5 can finally emerge and try a proper three-row Bimmer. Available in six- or seven-seat configurations, the largest BMW activity vehicle (crossover) is powered by either a 355-horsepower 3.0-liter turbo inline-six-cylinder (xDrive40i) or a new 456-horsepower 4.4-liter twin-turbo V-8 engine (xDrive50i), good enough to hit 60 mph in 5.2 seconds, according to BMW. Eight-speed automatic on both engines.

All-wheel drive, air suspension, 21-inch wheels and giant kidney grille come standard. $73,900 to $92,600, arrival March 2019.

2020 Kia Telluride
The largest Kia ever outsizes the Sorento for three-row supremacy. While both offer eight-seat configurations, Telluride is longer with more interior room. The rugged design, with boxy ends, a steep square face and plenty of cladding reminds us of the Mitsubishi Montero for a new age; that should set it apart from the more minivan-ish Sorento. It's powered by a 291-horsepower 3.8-liter V-6 engine and eight-speed automatic with available all-wheel drive. Price announced closer to May delivery date.

2020 Hyundai Palisade
Palisade will replace the Santa Fe XL as the Korean brand's three-row crossover, and since it's longer with a longer wheelbase, the interior should be able to compete with the more American-sized midsize crossovers. Eight passengers fit with a second-row bench seat standard, though captain's chairs are available. Powertrain is the same as Telluride, but Palisade is not as rugged-looking. Price announced closer to summer delivery.

2020 Ford Explorer redesign
The best-selling three-row crossover, built in Chicago, has more power, more space and better technology, and returns to its roots with rear-wheel-drive architecture. It also advances into the future with the 318-horsepower Explorer Hybrid. Ford says engine improvements and rear-wheel drive basis will improve towing capability from 5,000 pounds to 5,300 pounds. Sorento for the 300-horsepower 2.3-liter turbocombocharged four-cylinder engine, and a 12 percent increase to 5,600 pounds in the 365-horsepower twin-turbo V-6.

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2020 Toyota Highlander redesign
Last redesigned for 2014, the three-row hauler is expected to be redesigned for 2020. All we have so far are internet spy shots with some ridiculous camo flaps.
DEATH NOTICES

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

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Death Notices

**Ewing, Harry G. "Mick"**

Born in Aurora, Illinois to Clarence Jephthah Ewing and Florence Sweeley Ewing. Mick was a graduate of Aurora West High School. While a student at West High School, Mick played football, basketball, and ran on the track team. Captained the football team in his senior year and was also the senior class president. Mick Ewing was a WWII Veteran, Sergeant US Marines. Served in the Central Pacific Theater, and was a survivor of the Battle of the Midway. Mick attended the University of Illinois and participated in Freshman Football in the Fall of 1940. Returned from Marine Service in WWII to complete his college education at Illinois Wesleyan University. Mick played football and was the captain of the team in 1947. He played basketball and also was on the baseball team. Mick married Carmen Barnes, and they were together until her passing last Palm Sunday. A marriage of 74 years which produced 4 children. Survived by son David and daughter Kathy of Sacramento, California, proceeded in death by daughter Cynthia and son James. Will be greatly missed by grandson, Robert Gage Ewing, and daughter by marriage, Karen Stift. Mick's career was in secondary education that began at Riverside-Brookfield. He taught history, sociology, and economics. He was the football coach, sophomore baseball coach, JV basketball coach, and at one time he served as assistant track coach. Before leaving Riverside-Brookfield, he served as head of the Physical Education Department. Mick went on to teach and coach at Hall High School of Spring Valley, Wauconda HS, Bremen Township HS, and Niles East HS of Skokie. Mick served at five different colleges and universities, Northwestern Univ in Evanston, Lake Forest College, Concordia University of Oak Park, North Park College of Chicago, and was the head football coach of the University of Chicago for 8 years. In 1994 he was selected to the High School Sports Hall of Fame and in 1996 was selected to admission to the Illinois Football Coaches Assoc Hall of Fame. He was a member of the Theta Chi College Fraternity, American Legion Post 320 of Skokie, and the Disabled Veterans of America and was a participant of the Retired Teachers of Illinois and the "Ye Old Timers" group of former coaches and officials. Mick's coaching methods reflected his training as a combat marine. Mick's was a life well lived. He believed that love never ends and that as he entered the gates of heaven, he was reunited with Carmen, Jimmy, and Cindy. And the angels sing!!

Memorial Gathering, Saturday, February 9, 2019, from 1 to 4 p.m., at HABEN Funeral Home & Crematory, 8057 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Info: 847.673.6111 or www.habenfuneral.com to sign guestbook.

Death Notices

**McMeen, Dolores V.**

Dolores V. (Wagner) McMeen, 91, of Peru, IL and formerly of Neponset and Park Ridge, IL passed away peacefully Thursday, January 24, 2019 at her home. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 AM Monday, February 4, 2019 at St. Valentine's Church, Peru with Rev. Gregory Jarzombek, OSB, officiating. Burial will be held in Floral Hill Cemetery, Neponset at 2:00 PM. Visitation will be from 9-10:30 AM Monday at the church. Arrangements are entrusted to the Mueller Funeral Home, Peru. The online guestbook may be viewed and remembrances shared at www.MuellerFH.com.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

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SPORTS

WRESTLING NOTES

Maine South, Evanston dominate at Maine East Regional

BY STEVE REAVEN
Pioneer Press

One rule has always trumped all others in the Salinas household: no wrestling at home.

That wise piece of parental oversight forced Rafael Salinas and his younger brother Ricardo to hone their craft in the gym from an early age. Now, they're standouts for an Evanston program led by their father, Rudy Salinas.

The Salinas brothers both won titles at the Class 3A Maine East Regional on Saturday, Rafael Salinas, a senior, won at 170 pounds, and Ricardo Salinas, a sophomore, prevailed at 160.

"My brother and I like to roughhouse," Rafael Salinas said, as he thanked his father for getting them into the sport.

"When he put us in wrestling, it gave us an outlet for our energy without destroying the house."

The Wildkits will send eight wrestlers into next week's sectional at Conant. Six of those wrestlers finished first or second at Maine East.

Rafael Salinas is now a three-time regional champion and said winning a title alongside his brother made it especially satisfying.

"I love having my brother with me," Rafael Salinas said. "I love seeing him progress. He gives me a measuring stick. As he gets better, I have to get better too, because I'm not going to let him catch up to me."

Evanston's other champion was senior Ramin Abraham at 220. He was fifth at state a year ago in the same class. He'll take his 45-0 record into the Conant Sectional.

"When I have a good week of practice, I trust myself and know that I can dominate," he said.

Hawks soaring: Maine South ran away with the team title with 218 points, easily outpacing Taft (161) and Evanston (153).

The Hawks flexed their muscle with a meet-high 12 sectional qualifiers and with nine wrestlers in the finals.

But only two of those nine finalists won their championship match, so plenty of Hawks will be especially hungry at Conant.

"Guys that lost today in the finals and even guys that didn't advance will put in their time so everyone's better off next week," said senior Jon Halvorsen, who ran his record to 31-1 on the year en route to winning the 182-pound title.

The other Maine South winner was 195-pound senior Jimmy Bartell, who is 13-0 after missing part of the season while recovering from a variety of football ailments.

Halvorsen, who was third in the state at 182 last season, said he likes how well he's performing two weeks ahead of the state meet.

Maine South coach Kevin Hansen said Halvorsen's coachable nature has opened new ways for him to attack opponents.

"Everything's there for me: conditioning, offense, defense," Halvorsen said. "I've put everything I can into the sport, whether it's eating right, training as hard as I can. All I think about is how I can get better."

Dons dominate in 2A: Notre Dame had little trouble claiming the Class 2A Ridgewood Regional title on Saturday.

The Dons tallied 287 points, well ahead of second-place Fenton (183). Notre Dame will send 13 wrestlers to the Class 2A Antioch Sectional.

Of those 13 sectional qualifiers, 10 won regional championships. The Dons had especially high-profile victories at the lightest and heaviest weight classes.

Meanwhile, senior Gabe Fitzpatrick took care of business at 258 pounds. Fitzpatrick, the seventh-ranked 2A wrestler in his weight class, also recorded an early pin in the regional final.

Home champion: Maine East's Angel Villegas was downright dominant on his home mat in securing his first regional title.

The junior 145-pounder pinned all three of his opponents to improve his record to 36-3.

Villegas only began wrestling his freshman year, but his combination of athleticism and work ethic make him a talented wrestler.

"I pushed the pace and got all of my shots in," Villegas said. "I've learned that besides the physical part, wrestling is a mindset game. There's a different level of wrestler at sectionals, but I'm confident that I'll be ready."

Moving on: Like the host Blue Demons, Niles North and Niles West also advanced two wrestlers each to the Conant Sectional.

For the Vikings, senior Zyia Biram (285) and junior Bilal Vasty (152) both won third-place matches to keep their seasons alive.

"This is my life and everything I've been training for," Vasty said. "This is exactly where I hoped I would be, and I feel like I'm wrestling at my best."

Steve Reaven is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer_Press
Niles West grad Kontos gets to work after signing minor-league deal with Chicago Cubs

BY GEORGE CASTLE
Pioneer Press

The ink hardly dry on his new contract, George Kontos quickly jetted out of the polar vortex to warmer temperatures in Arizona. His childhood dream had become his full-time job. On Jan. 25, the Chicago Cubs announced that they had signed Kontos to a minor-league deal.

"I was a Cubs fan since I was 5," said Kontos, a longtime Lincolnwood resident. "I was a Cubs fan since I was 5," said Kontos, a longtime Lincolnwood resident. Kontos played all of his amateur baseball in Illinois. He was a star pitcher at Niles West, then stayed local to play college ball at Northwestern.

He had to put his cheering preferences aside when the New York Yankees selected him in the fifth round of the 2006 MLB amateur draft. He made his major-league debut with the Yankees in 2011 and also has pitched for San Francisco, Pittsburgh and Cleveland. He pitched against the Cubs in the 2016 National League Division Series.

Now, though, Kontos can be a Cubs fan again. Armed with a minor-league deal and an invitation to spring training in Mesa, Ariz., he opted to get to camp early to make the best impression on manager Joe Maddon and his Cubs bosses.

At 33, Kontos faces some tough odds to break camp with the Cubs. The bullpen is loaded with veteran right-handers who were on the roster all of last season. Plus, star righty Yu Darvish is expected to return to the starting rotation.

Kontos, though, is motivated to make the roster.

"When the opportunity came about, it was the right fit and I was able to move forward," Kontos said. "It's something I've dreamed about since I was a kid. There were a few teams we were talking to, but the thought of playing in Chicago gave me a little bit extra drive."

Kontos said he is not at all daunted by the spring-training competition against veterans on major-league contracts. He'll tout his bullpen resume against anyone's.

"The way I have always looked at it, if you pitch well and do your job, good things happen," Kontos said. "I've pitched all over the bullpen for close to 400 games. I've pitched for competitive teams, and I offer a different look. I pitch in the lower 90s and sink it and cut it. I can go multiple innings." Kontos also has proven to be effective against left-handed hitters, and Giants manager Bruce Bochy sometimes used him in that role. That's another benefit he could bring to the Cubs.

Kontos pitched in many pressure situations and became a World Series champion with the Giants in 2012. He also endured several trips to and from Triple-A while in the Giants organization.

Last year proved to be challenging in another way as he pitched for three major-league teams.

"It was a little hiccup last year," Kontos said. "Being with three teams was definitely frustrating, but it's often what you have to endure during course of a career. You get called up and go back down. Few guys have fairy-tale careers. But I'm happy it's over."

"If you look at numbers, I've been pretty consistent in the 91-92 (mph) range. I dealt with mechanical issues for my struggles last year. My stuff feels as good as it's ever been."

Kontos' parents, Nick and Theodora Kontos, still reside in their longtime Lincolnwood home. Kontos lives downtown and worked out in the offseason with other pro players at UIC.

George's brother Chris has his own connection to the Cubs and their complicated history. Chris Kontos once played for the Renegades, a travel team coached by Steve Bartman.

George Castle is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer_Press

George Kontos, seen here pitching for San Francisco against the Cubs during the 2016 National League Division Series, will have a chance to make the Cubs' roster this spring.

Niles West graduate George Kontos (left) honored his freshman baseball coach Chris Schwarz at the 3rd Annual Coaching Corps Game Changer Awards on Jan. 27, 2017, in San Francisco.
York grad Cal Widener sets goals with Belmont

BY BOB NARANG
Pioneer Press

It didn’t take long for Cal Widener to make an impact for the Belmont men’s track team this season.

The York graduate had a memorable showing at the Thundering Herd Invitational hosted by Marshall on Jan. 25-26. The sophomore placed first in the shot put (15.35 meters) and established a personal record with a toss of 16.50 for second place in the weight throw.

Widener said his work in the offseason has helped him get off to a fast start during the indoor track and field season.

“Hard work and dedication, plus constantly working on my craft and putting 100 percent effort into getting better,” he said.

A three-sport athlete at York, Widener finished in eighth place at the indoor Ohio Valley Conference Championships with a toss of 15.59 in the shot put last season. He placed seventh in the discus (44.68) at the OVC outdoor championships last spring.

“My goals for this season are to throw 17 meters in shot put, which I know is possible, and score big points for my team at indoor and outdoor conference,” Widener said.

Widener also played football and baseball at York. His next event is the Samford Open in Birmingham, Ala., beginning Friday.

New school, same game: Red-shirt senior guard Matt Mooney is having a breakout season at Texas Tech.

Notre Dame graduate Matt Mooney has been a regular starter at Texas Tech after transferring from South Dakota.

Mooney picked Texas Tech over Northwestern and Creighton. He was eligible immediately because he was a graduate transfer. Mooney played his freshman season for Air Force.

The 6-foot-3 Mooney joined a Red Raiders team that lost five seniors, including star guards Keenan Evans and Zhaire Smith. He started all 68 games for South Dakota the past two seasons.

This year, Mooney has been a fixture in the starting lineup and helped the Red Raiders (17-5) win 12 of their 13 nonconference games. He is averaging 10.7 points and 3.4 rebounds and made 20 3-pointers in the team’s first 22 games.

He scored 22 points at Texas on Jan. 12 and tallied 18 points on 7-for-12 shooting in an 84-65 win against TCU on Jan. 28.

Moving forward: Indiana sophomore forward Justin Smith has been a consistent contributor this season.

The Stevenson graduate has started all 21 games this season and is averaging 26 minutes per game while shooting a robust 53.6 percent from the floor.

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

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Check back next week to see who our panel of suburban sports editors chose as your winners for our February Athlete of the Month challenge! The winners will be announced on our Twitter page, so make sure you follow us at @ChiTribAOTM or you can go to chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes for more results.
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Skating stars
Sweetheart Open draws competitors to IceLand. Page 4

Kasey Flynn, skating for IceLand Ice Arena in Niles, competes in the Sweetheart Open on Feb. 10 in Niles. The event featured several categories of competition including team events.

Make yourself at home
A band with a storied history will feel right at home on the stage of the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie on Feb. 23 during "An Evening with Leftover Salmon." Page B12

Sophomore steps up
Evanston grad Leighah-Amori Wool is becoming a bigger contributor for Western Michigan women's basketball. Page 22

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Steve Salski, Lincoln Hall teacher

Steve Salski is a seventh-grade teacher at Lincoln Hall Middle School in Lincolnwood. He talks about how he switched from a career as a financial analyst to become a teacher.

Q: How long have you been a teacher at Lincoln Hall?
A: I have been a teacher at Lincoln Hall since 1998. This is my 21st year. Before Lincoln Hall, I taught fifth grade at Clearmont School in Elk Grove Village for four years.

Q: What made you decide to switch to teaching, and do you ever miss being a financial analyst?
A: I had always wanted to be a teacher since I was a kid. I decided to pursue finance because at one point I wanted to own my own corporation, and I knew having a background in finance would help with that. I accepted a promotion and moved to Houston and realized being a financial analyst was not right for me. It was a very intense atmosphere. I miss the people that I worked with, especially in Chicago. I moved back to Chicago to pursue teaching and do something that I would love. I wanted to be a teacher because I wanted to be there for students. When I was in middle school, I was bullied in and out of school. Unfortunately, no one was there for me. It changed my life forever. I wanted to go into education to let students know there are educators that are there for them.

Q: Where do you play beach volleyball? How serious is a player are you?
A: I play beach volleyball typically on Saturdays at the beaches in Chicago. I organize the group, and we have been playing for about 10 years.

Q: What did it mean for you to win a Golden Apple Award?
A: Winning the Golden Apple Award honestly is like winning an Oscar for acting. That was why Mike Koldyke started the group, and we have been established it in 1986. It was and is very humbling because people don't realize that a teacher and person.

Q: What's the most rewarding part about being a teacher?
A: Without any doubt the most rewarding part... is having former students stay in touch with me. It is such an honor and humbling when I receive a text, email from Facebook message, or email from former students telling me about something in their life. I don't think they understand what it means to have them stay in contact. I love to hear about their current lives and them reminisce about things we did in class. The past couple of years for our Supreme Court cases, I asked former alumni from this district and my other district to come be justices. Last year, we had over 30 alumni jump at the chance. These are students that are on break from high school and college and others that took time off of work to come. Two of the former students from Elk Grove district came all the way from Wisconsin and Michigan just to help. Honestly, these former and even the current students truly make me a better teacher and person.
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Skating stars: The 39th Sweetheart Open draws competitors to IceLand in Niles

By Gianna Annunzio
Pioneer Press

Skaters took to the ice over the weekend during the 39th annual Sweetheart Open Ice Sports Industry team competition at IceLand in Niles.

The event features several categories of competition, among them an event called Ensemble on the Spot. Teams of skaters pick a random box provided by IceLand staff. Inside the box, there is a CD and props to accompany it.

"[After picking a box] they all run off and create a program together in about 30 minutes," said Amy Forbes, IceLand's Skating Director. "So whatever they're given, they can use for their number. They use the props. They've traded clothes in the locker room, just crazy little things."

Forbes said each team is given a private locker room to choreograph the piece in, along with a CD player to hear the song as needed.

"[When they come back] they get to practice on the ice a little bit, and then they each go one at a time competing," she said. "It's kind of become our little cup event, I guess you could say."

This unique "competition within a competition" has been an IceLand staple for five years and counting.

"I kind of made it up based on the things our skaters really like," Forbes said. "Our skaters really love it, and they just have fun working together trying to create these programs. It's sort of become their own fun little playful rivalry."

The Ensemble winners, a team named "The Elements," was headed by Julia Sudie, a competitor who also doubles as an IceLand staff member.

"I honestly just love the team aspect of it," Sudie said. "It's like getting a group of friends together and just having fun. That's the biggest thing."

Sudie said coming up with a program in 30 minutes can be a challenge at times, especially upon first hearing a song paired with props.

"But after a while, especially when you have more people on your team, the ideas start to flow," she said. "Then, eventually, it becomes a fun thing where we're all spitting out ideas and adding stuff in."

The Blade Sisters took second place in the Ensemble. Caroline Keeley, a member of the Blade Sisters, also competed in the ISI competition with three other team members. They took first in the ISI competition.

"Since we're all really good friends, we just have a lot of fun," Keeley said. "My favorite part is making up the programs with your friends."

According to Forbes, some skaters have taken their Ensemble program, reworked it, and used it as an actual program for future competitions.

"So you can kind of see the wheels turning in their heads," Forbes said. "They love it, and they love that they get to be on their own without the coaches telling them what to do."

The Ensemble competition also allows skaters the opportunity to work together to solve a problem on their own, and be creative.

"We find that in all our lessons and during our ice show rehearsals, the skaters have really picked up on the concept of being able to listen to the music, break down the musical changes, understand how to count music, and understand different choreography concepts," Forbes said.

The Sweetheart competition directly followed Ensemble on the Spot, showcasing more than 130 competitors in total over the course of the weekend. They're open to every age, level, and ability. IceLand's youngest competitor was 4. The oldest: 73.

"The kids [perform] individually, couples, and team events," Forbes said. "We have kids that come from several different ice areas and compete here, not just the Niles skaters. Most of them do multiple events."

More experienced skaters often take the lead during these competitions, mentoring the younger performers.

"They have the most amount of knowledge at that point, and the most experience," Forbes said. "But the fact that those older kids can take the lead and get this whole program organized is a good sign of who might be a good staff member, and who's going to be really good in the ice show. Those kinds of things tell us a lot about the skater."

As for the future, some Niles skaters will compete at the ISI conference championships, which will be held in Wilmette this year, and the ISI world competition, held in St. Louis.

"Our staff has been around for so long, many of us competed in the same competition as children," Forbes said. "I grew up skating here, and my two very first skating students are also on the staff now, and we all have children of their own. So we all tend to stick around IceLand for quite a while."

Gianna Annunzio is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Niles Township Food Pantry launches ‘wish list’ to target specific items each month

By Megann Horstead
Pioneer Press

The Food Pantry Foundation has launched a new campaign designed to meet specific needs in support of the Niles Township Food Pantry. The initiative is called “Fill the Pantry,” officials said.

A monthly wish list, created by the Food Pantry Foundation, is comprised not only of food, but also toiletries that officials will seek to increase during a particular month. The list includes:

- **February**: Peanut butter and jelly
- **March**: Rice and pasta
- **April**: Salt and pepper
- **May**: Oils, including olive
- **June**: Boxed cereals
- **July**: School supplies
- **August**: Back-to-school snacks
- **September**: Juice
- **October**: Toilet paper and diapers
- **November**: Soaps, including dish, laundry, body, shampoo and conditioners
- **December**: Tuna, salmon, chicken and chili

Dave Silbar, who manages public relations for the Food Pantry Foundation, said the time is now for the food pantry to make its pitch to the community for support.

“We’re always at some levels in need because we have a steady flow of people,” he said, adding that “focusing on some specific items” might be easier for some.

“Everyone is used to collecting cans,” he said. “So, we thought maybe if we did peanut butter and jelly one month, salt and pepper another month, or toiletries … we thought by being a little specific, they might give.”

The Food Pantry Foundation won’t discontinue efforts to promote needs for other items.

“We thought that by being specific in this way, we might encourage people to support our cause,” he said.

Officials said they encourage residents, schools, governments, businesses and clubs to donate items that are in critical need, and added monetary donations are welcome as well.

The Niles Township Food Pantry helps provide for 1,800 people per month, officials said.

“We’re here for the community,” he said.

Last year, the food pantry underwent a renovation, Silbar said, adding, “we made it more or less of a serve-yourself.”

“We serve with a lot more dignity,” he said. “People have shopping carts.”

The Niles Township Food Pantry receives shipments with food daily, and emergency deliveries are fulfilled three times per week, officials said. Silbar said the work of volunteers is greatly valued, and the food pantry is open to getting additional help.

“It’s a great volunteer opportunity, especially for teenagers,” he said. “Some don’t even know there is a hunger issue.”

The Niles Township Food Pantry is at 8841 Lockwood Ave. in Skokie and is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m., with extended hours on Tuesdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Megann Horstead is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Lincolnwood approves redevelopment agreement for former Purple Hotel site

BY STEVE SCHERING
Pioneer Press

The Lincolnwood Village Board unanimously approved several measures aimed at securing a large redevelopment project for the former Purple Hotel site at the corner of Touhy and Lincoln avenues.

Village President Barry Bass called the Feb. 5 vote a “monumental” and “historic” time for Lincolnwood, a vote that could lead to construction of new residential, retail, commercial and hotel uses at the parcel.

"After approximately 14 years of a vacant, blighted site, we have a quality developer in Tucker Development," Bass said. "I've never seen such professionalism conveyed in my entire life. It's a team effort, and now we look forward to the even harder work of collaboration to get things done and started and moving forward."

The agreement with Tucker Development outlines several economic incentives for what is known as the District 1860 development at the 8.47-acre property on the northwest corner of Lincoln and Touhy avenues.

According to the proposal, Tucker is planning to construct a new hotel building at the northern end of the property, a mixed-use building at the southeast corner of the parcel, a retail and commercial building in the southwest portion of the property and off-street parking and common open spaces within the site.

The agreement states the mixed-use building shall consist of between 40,000 and 65,000 square feet of retail/commercial space, while the residential use within the mixed-use building shall contain between 280 and 300 luxury residential dwelling units. The deal states "in no event shall more than 94 dwelling units be two-bedroom units, nor more than 17 dwelling units be three-bedroom units."

As part of the agreement, the retail and commercial building shall consist of between 20,000 and 30,000 square feet of retail/commercial space.

The agreement limits the hotel building on the property to a maximum height of seven stories and no more than 220 rooms. Per the agreement, the developer shall lease or operate not less than 20,000 square feet on the property for use as "full-service restaurants."

Richard Tucker, CEO of Tucker Development, said he was "excited" to have his architects begin final design work. The required zoning submittals are due to be provided to the village before Nov. 20.

"For a project of this magnitude to have begun literally this past May and be here, subject to final approval, it's monumental," Tucker said. "We've talked about this site over the last 10 years. This is the first time we were encouraged to say it can be something different. That it can have residential and that 'edgy' feel, not just the same-old, same-old development. We are looking forward to our next steps."

Tucker Development first submitted an application June 28 to redevelop the property that was once home to the Hyatt House Hotel, known more famously as the Purple Hotel because of the building's color. The hotel had been abandoned for years before it was torn down in 2013.

In addition to approving the redevelopment contract, trustees unanimously approved ordinance changes that terminated an existing tax increment financing district at the site, while also establishing a new TIF district for the area. Due to a significant decline in the equalized assessed valuation in the TIF, the previous Lincoln-Touhy TIF district generated no revenues and a zero balance from 2011 to 2018, officials said.

The new North Lincoln TIF increased the size of the existing TIF district by expanding slightly to the west and north, officials said.

Due to the proposed development now including a residential component, the village approved a new intergovernmental agreement with Lincolnwood School District 74 and Niles Township High School District 219 to provide a funding mechanism for each school district that outlined reimbursement costs associated with educating any school-age children residing within the TIF district.

"We worked hard to work out an agreement that is fair to the school districts that has a substantial guarantee and requirement on the developer, and puts the village in third position as a backstop using a portion of the hotel tax the village would receive, in the unlikely event there are more school-age children than predicted in this development," village attorney Steven Elrod said.

Lincolnwood Trustee Jesal Patel praised the village and both school districts in reaching the compromise that allowed a residential component to be built on the property.

"Having shown an acceptance for residential use at a site where it had never been considered, at least formally by the board, and showing the ability for the school districts to work with the village board to result in an amicable agreement, I think, really encouraged the developer to come forward," Patel said. "Most of our work is now done, and most of the hard work is with Tucker Development getting it done. I just want to wish you the best of luck, and I think all of Lincolnwood is behind you."
Second claim of election fraud made in Niles Village Board race

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Allegations of election fraud have surfaced for a second time in the race for seats on the Niles Village Board, with former allies squaring off on opposite sides.

Niles resident Jason Trunco alleges that when he signed a petition to get three candidates from the Niles Neighbors Party on the April 2 election ballot, it was not Mayor Andrew Przybylo who came to the door asking him to sign it.

But it is Przybylo’s name that appears at the bottom of the petition sheet as the circulator, according to a copy that was provided by the opposition Voice of Niles Party.

The party says this constitutes election fraud — and is asking the Cook County State's Attorney's Office to investigate, said Dean Strzelecki, who is running with incumbent trustee Denise McCreery and newcomer Craig Niedermaier on the Voice of Niles Party slate.

“I would like some kind of ruling on the fraud allegation,” Strzelecki said. “Whatever needs to be done should be done by law.”

Trunco said it was a Niles Public Works employee — not Przybylo — who was circulating petitions for signatures when he signed a sheet for the Niles Neighbors Party slate in December. Trunco declined to name the employee, but said he knows both the employee and Przybylo.

“In my opinion, the mayor used his power to get someone who worked for him in the village of Niles to get signatures and instead of having him sign it, (the mayor) signed his own name to it,” Trunco said.

Przybylo denied that any fraud took place.

“I never signed a petition sheet I did not circulate,” he said.

When asked if he circulated the petition that Trunco signed, Przybylo said he “could have” and acknowledged he did walk through Trunco's neighborhood collecting signatures for the Neighbors Party candidates. Others also circulated petitions, he said.

Przybylo acknowledged he is supporting the party’s candidates Apostolos “Paul” Drakontaidis, Melic R. Bookstein, and Israel “Izzy” Pacheco for the Village Board. He suggested that Trunco is alleging election fraud due to a past disagreement the two had when Przybylo was trying to form a local organization similar to Chicago’s Friends of the Parks.

“This is Chicago-style dirty politics, that’s what this is,” Przybylo said. “I was born and raised in Chicago; my father was precinct captain. I saw what goes on there.”

Bookstein and Pacheco said they had not seen anything in writing that detailed Trunco’s allegation.

“I doubt that there's any kind of fraud,” Pacheco said. “I've seen nothing of the sort. Nobody has shown me proof that there is.”

“I'm confident there's no fraud that is going on,” Bookstein said.

Trunco ran unsuccessfully for the Niles Park Board in 2015 and serves on the village’s Economic Development and Neighborhood Renewal Commission.

Trunco said he signed the Neighbors Party petition because he knows Drakontaidis, but has since shifted his support.

“He has been telling everyone that he definitely supports Niles Forward Party slate, and I signed his petition,” Trunco said.

Przybylo acknowledged he is supporting Rabbi Dr. Ephraim Drakontaidis, Melic R. Bookstein, and Israel “Izzy” Pacheco for the Village Board. He suggested that Trunco is alleging election fraud due to a past disagreement the two had when Przybylo was trying to form a local organization similar to Chicago's Friends of the Parks.

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**POLICE REPORT**

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

**Niles**

**BURGLARY**
- Gary G. Butler, 37, of Waynesboro, Tenn., was charged with burglary on Feb. 5 in connection with an incident reported on Jan. 15. According to police, Butler is accused of stealing four batteries from the rear of the T-Mobile base station at 6871 W. Touhy Ave., the T-Mobile base station at 8671 N. Milwaukee Ave., and the T-Mobile base station at 7247 Wauegan Road, for a complaint of a man becoming violent after drinking too much alcohol.

**THEFT**
- Joel A. Reyes, 19, of the 1200 block of Carol Street, Park Ridge, was charged with theft, identity theft and unlawful possession of credit cards on Feb. 5 after he allegedly used a woman's credit cards to make various purchases without her permission, police said. According to police, the woman's wallet had been left behind inside a Lyft vehicle. Court information was not included.
- A woman reported $300 in cash and two credit cards were stolen from her purse at Tony's Finer Foods, 8900 N. Greenwood Ave., on Feb. 2.
- A man left his cellphone behind after he allegedly stole a pair of headphones from Target, Golf Mill, on Feb. 5, police said.
- A man fled T-Mobile, 5710 W. Touhy Ave., with an unpaid iPhone XS Max after he asked to look at the phone on Feb. 5, police said. He was last seen getting into a silver Kia sedan, according to police.

**DUI**
- Ryan Joseph Rosetti, 27, of the 100 block of North Merrill Street, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence on Feb. 4 after police said he was identified as the customer who threw a milkshake at a drive-thru employee at Dunkin' Donuts, 7039 W. Dempster St., on the night of Jan. 17.

**DISORDERLY CONDUCT**
- A 25-year-old Wauegan man was ticketed for the cost of police services on the morning of Feb. 3 after officers were called to Holiday Inn Express and Suites, 7247 Wauegan Road, for a complaint of a man becoming violent after drinking too much alcohol.

**PUBLIC INTOXICATION**
- A 32-year-old Niles man was ticketed for public intoxication on Feb. 3 after he was reportedly found sleeping on a stool at Portillo's, 8832 W. Dempster St., at 7:15 p.m. He was taken to a hospital, police said.

**BATTERY**
- A man told police he was talking to friends at Here's Cheers, 8006 W. Oakton St., around 3 a.m. Feb. 4, when someone walked into the bar and punched him in the face several times "without reason." The man said he had participated in prior conversations with the suspect.

**BURGLARY**
- The office and garage at Grendel's Rapid Oil Change, 8657 N. Milwaukee Ave., were ransacked during a burglary reported on the morning of Feb. 1, police said. Nothing was initially reported stolen or damaged, according to police.

**Morton Grove**

**ROBBERY**
- A man wearing a black mask and holding a knife robbed the Marathon gas station at Oakton Street and Austin Avenue on the evening of Feb. 5, police said. According to police, the man grabbed cash from the cash register and fled west toward Lehigh Avenue.

**DRUGS**
- Marten G. Koril, 29, of the 5700 block of North Artesian Avenue, Chicago, was charged with possession of a controlled substance on Feb. 4, police said. Court information was not provided.

**DUI**
- Netzale Matias, 31, of the 4010 block of North Monticello Avenue, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence on Feb. 3 following a traffic stop on the 5600 block of Dempster Street, police said. He was given a March 8 court date.

- Michael J. Behof, 55, of the 1300 block of North Sherwood, Glenview, was charged with driving under the influence on Feb. 6 after police said he was asleep inside his car on the 5900 block of Dempster Street. He was given a March 5 court date.
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Market fresh

Indoor Winter Farmers Market draws hundreds

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC
Pioneer Press

The experience of food, face painting, music and more brought an estimated 500 patrons to the Morton Grove Indoor Winter Farmers Market on Feb. 9.

The market took place at the Village of Morton Grove American Legion Memorial Civic Center.

Products offered at the market originate within a 150-mile radius from Morton Grove, said Lorri Fishman of Morton Grove, one of the farmers market's volunteer co-managers.

"I love it; I love that it's local," said patron Terri Reed of Morton Grove. "I'm handicapped, and I can't travel far by myself so this is wonderful."

"It's healthy eating," said parent and market patron Claudia Popielarczyk of Morton Grove.

For a decade, the Morton Grove Farmers' Market has provided a venue for customers to obtain locally grown produce or artisan products. The next market of the indoor season is May 11, in time for Mother's Day. The market outdoor season is June 8 through Oct. 19.

For information, visit mgfarmers-market.org.

"I love coming here because it's just nice to see neighbors and friends and talk to the vendors to get to know what their product is all about," said Susan Werth, a Morton Grove resident since 2004 and one of the farmers market's co-managers. "I do like chatting with the vendors and finding out what ingredients there are in their products, where they grow and how they grow. Sometimes, they give advice."

Vendor Susan Wright, one of the owners of certified organic Wright Way Farm of Beloit, Wis., sells cold box produce to patron Terri Reed of Morton Grove.

Bruch said, "It's nice to have a market in the winter time."

More than 20 vendors participated. Fishman added that more volunteers are needed to help further market fellowship.

"I think everyone who's part of the farmers market and comes to the farmers market has this heart, this sense of wanting to give back, to share," Fishman said.

Clara Talkowsky of Morton Grove was a volunteer who offered face painting.

"Volunteering — being with people, being with kids — makes me feel good," Talkowsky said.

Skokie resident Ruben Zapata performed on guitar and trumpet. Zapata wore a red, white and blue patriotic long tie because his next performance after the market was at an Evanston funeral of a Purple Heart recipient and World War II veteran.

Zapata was scheduled to perform taps at the military funeral on behalf of Bugles Across America, an organization that serves America's veterans.

"I love my country," Zapata said.

Karie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Vendor and baker Terri Bruch, far left, of Skokie talks to patrons near Bruch's cookie table in the main hall at the Morton Grove Indoor Winter Farmers Market on Feb. 9.
During cold, bleak days of winter, Valentine’s Day always shines a light on love

PAT LENHOFF

Every year, as we hit this mid-February period, we feel beaten down and depressed by winter’s icy grip. That’s never more true than this year, as we’ve endured a wildly inconsistent winter that has gone from big November snowfalls to a green Christmas, as well as a record-setting polar vortex in January and a rainy 50-plus degree day in early February. What a roller coaster.

That’s why Valentine’s Day couldn’t come at a more perfect time when we’ve just about given up hope for seeing light at the end of the wintry tunnel. There’s something so positive, so uplifting about the celebration of love that we share on this day, as if the holiday was geared toward reassuring us that good things lie ahead. And they do.

But we still have some winter to get through, and a day devoted to exchanging expressions of love is an excellent diversion.

Consider all the trappings of Valentine’s Day — vibrant red or pink hearts on greeting cards, lush sweet-smelling roses of every hue spilling delicious scents into the atmosphere, and the rich taste of a good chocolate on the palate. All of these things bring joy to the senses that, otherwise, have been under assault during this brutal season.

We’ve discussed here before that a Valentine’s Day twist often takes place when becoming a grandparent. Suddenly, your attention in the greeting card department is commanded first by the cute kids’ valentines and, only after all the grandchildren are accounted for, do you proceed to the romantic love section.

Does it mean you love your significant other less than the grandkids? Certainly not, but it does reinforce that a holiday about love is meant to include all kinds of love, and it should be shared and celebrated by everyone — not just between those who have a life partner.

And when have we needed an outpouring of love more than right now? I saw a comment online recently, observing how people these days seem to develop righteous indignation over everything and turn societal interaction into a continuing stream of heated exchanges and bad attitudes that are hard to shake.

Love definitely does not rule the day in the normal course of events. But on Valentine’s Day, it does.

It’s arguably the one holiday that is all about, and only about, love — whether it’s love of your partner, your parents, your kids, your grandkids, your country or even yourself. Sure, the cards and the flowers and the chocolates and, maybe, some shiny bling are all nice accoutrements that we (I) might jokingly drop hints about.

But the bottom line is that as long as there is love in a person’s life, they are well blessed. After all, Bon Jovi said as much when singing about Tommy and Gina. And I always believe what John Bon Jovi says.

Happy Valentine’s Day!

Pat Lenhoff is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.
Ralph Northam, racism and the discussions we are afraid to have

The word racist gets bandied about these days with such speed and frequency that it is in danger of losing its meaning. It is a high order abstraction. In other words, it means as many different things as there are people who speak or hear the word.

When someone says the word “chair,” it is pretty clear they are talking about. When someone says that guy is a “racist,” they might be referring to a 16-year-old wearing a “Make America Great Again” hat or a guy donning the robes of the Ku Klux Klan. That’s a pretty wide spread.

As a white guy, I know a lot of white people. Just about all of them, including me at times, say or do things that are if not plain racist, then insensitive or clueless. If you grew up as a white person in America, you probably have said or done stuff that we know now is pretty bad.

Hostile, insensitive or clueless, those things should be called out, not let to sit and fester. The action or the word should be called out as a racist thing. Deep down, most people don’t want to be racists or thought of as racist, even when they have wrong-headed ideas that turn out to be, well, racist.

But when you label the person as a racist, that’s a completely different thing. Now, I’m not talking about people who habitually repeat the same nonsense over and over again, but people who try not to offend, but sometimes do.

Labeling someone as a racist, rather than the word or deed, can be like taking a nuclear bomb to the national conversation we say we want to have about race. Detonate it, and the discussion is over. No one wins a nuclear war.

What’s the half-life of a racist act or comment? Apparently 35 years, as Virginia Governor Ralph Northam found out when the world learned about his medical school yearbook page from 1984.

It contains a picture of someone in blackface and someone dressed in the robes of the Ku Klux Klan. He was 24 years old at this time.

It is the perfect example of what I’m talking about. If Northam wore the blackface or the KKK robes, (he said it’s not him in the picture) he did a racist thing 35 years ago. He may not be a racist today, however. Some say his record on race issues is exemplary.

Yet there’s really no other way to describe someone who wore blackface as late as 1984. It was pretty clear by then that blackface is overtly racist.

And wearing the robes of the KKK, the most racist garb in America, is probably as overtly racist as you can be.

One act attempts to ridicule and humiliate blacks. The other threatens to kill them.

I suppose it is possible that Northam was and still is clueless, just as many white people are today about the thoughtless things they say and do. But KKK garb and blackface is a pretty big clue.

During his press conference to apologize for the photo, Northam offered that he once wore blackface for a Michael Jackson dance contest. When asked if he could still moonwalk, he looked as if he might try to demonstrate the move right there before his wife stopped him.

Northam should have said something like, “I did something very stupid and very wrong 35 years ago. At the time, I didn’t realize how awful and hurtful it was, but I do now. I am embarrassed by those actions, I regret them and I sincerely apologize for them. Since then, I’ve worked hard to be a better person and I hope you can judge me by those actions over a lifetime and not this one horrible action.”

But he didn’t. So for him, the discussion is over.

But for the rest of us, we need to talk.
Every year on Feb. 14, millions of men and women look at their spouse in a loving, fun, or cute way and ask, “Will you be my valentine?” The question can have lots of different interpretations, which include “Will you take me out for dinner?” “Will you buy me flowers?” “Will you have sex with me?” or “Will you continue to love and be faithful to me?”

Regardless of what specifically a person is seeking by asking a spouse if he or she will be their valentine, there is something really, really significant and healthy going on here. The person is actually asking their spouse for something. In other words, they are communicating their needs.

Think about it. This is therapy 101, and I can say that with authority based on my past experience in marriage therapy. Let me explain.

When a relationship is new, couples are usually blissful and everything seems perfect. But as time goes by, and the relationship settles into a long-term commitment or marriage and then the couple has kids, the potential for a communication breakdown arises. Couples can fall into an unhealthy pattern of not expressing their needs by asking for what they want, and instead assuming the spouse knows. And, when a person doesn’t feel that his or her needs are being met by the spouse, that’s when resentment starts to build and fester.

For example, let’s say a woman is a stay-at-home mom with two toddlers and a baby. Not an easy gig! Her husband goes to work on the 7 a.m. train and gets home at 6:30 p.m. every worknight. That’s not exactly a piece of cake either.

An example of unhealthy communication would be when the husband walks in the door and his wife says, “I’m exhausted. Here, your turn!” and walks upstairs, leaving him with the kids. A better way to handle the situation would be when the husband walks in the door, the wife could say this: “Hey honey, did you have a good day? I’m exhausted. Would you mind giving the kids baths? I’ll get your dinner ready and we can eat together after.”

She is asking for his help instead of assuming he won’t do it and resenting him for it.

You would be really surprised at what you can get if you just ask. Last week, I was in Macy’s buying some skin care products and as I was paying, I asked the salesperson, “Do you have any free gifts?” She replied, “Let me check.” She then went to a cabinet and pulled out a very large jar of my favorite body lotion. “How about this?” she asked.

I was thrilled! I would have gotten nothing had I not asked.

If you want to get a baby sitter once a week and go on a date with your husband, ask him. If you want your wife to initiate sex, ask her. If you don’t feel like you are getting the love and affection you want, ask for it. You would be really surprised at how many “Sure, no problem!” answers you will get. Or, you will get a “no,” which isn’t the worst thing in the world because it will hopefully lead to the reason why, and some open communication about an issue going on in your relationship.

What isn’t healthy is when two people stop talking, stop asking for things, and instead hold all of their resentment, anger, hostility, frustration and disappointment inside.

I’m not saying all you have to do is ask for things and your relationship will be perfect. But, the benefit of asking for something is that you will get some kind of answer — whether it’s the answer you want or not.

So, this Valentine’s Day, why not ask “Will you be my valentine?” and then ask him or her for something specific you want and see what happens. Make sure to ask in a kind way — without defensiveness or bitterness or judgment.

You’ll either be pleasantly surprised by the answer, or if you don’t get the answer you want, let your spouse know that you’d like to talk about it in a productive, kind and loving way. What you might find is, the gift of communication is a lot more meaningful than roses, chocolates, balloons or an overpriced dinner at a trendy restaurant.

Happy Valentine’s Day, everyone! John, will you be my valentine?

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist for Chicago Tribune Media Group.
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COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCER DIVISION
U.S. BANKRUPTCY TRUST, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR LEFTY MASTER PARTICIPATION
TRUST,

- v. -

UNKNOW HER AND DEVISES OF ALICE FELS AKAL, ALICE F. LELS, DEDICATED, UNKNOW CLAIMANTS AND LEMHELDERS AGAINST THE

END

\(^{17'}\) FOR THAT PURPOSE.

\(^{236'}\) SALE

\(^{521'}\) THE REAL ESTATE IS IMPROVED WITH A WHITE BRICK, TWO STORY TOWNHOUSE

\(^{264'}\) JEFFREY L. TURNEY, DECEASED, RIDGE VIEW TOWER CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIA-

\(^{290'}\) TRUST

\(^{781'}\) JUDICIAL SALES - REAL

\(^{130'}\) 17 CH 11536

\(^{117'}\) 147 BIRCH STREET WINNETKA, I1 60093

\(^{92'}\) 1/31/2019, 2/7/2019, 2/14/2019 6107144

\(^{160'}\) 2/14/2019 1/24/2019 6124802

\(^{31'}\) 2/24/2019 2/21/2019 11/24831

\(^{122'}\) 2/21/2019 2/7/2019 2/14/2019 6124831

\(^{140'}\) 2/21/2019 2/7/2019 2/27/2019

\(^{228'}\) 2/14/2019 1/24/2019 4107535

\(^{331'}\) JUDICIAL SALES - REAL

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\(^{332'}\) JUDICIAL SALES - REAL

\(^{333'}\) JUDICIAL SALES - REAL

\(^{334'}\) JUDICIAL SALES - REAL

\(^{335'}\) JUDICIAL SALES - REAL
Quote-Acrostic

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clues</th>
<th>Words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. 123rd Japanese emperor</td>
<td>118 98 58 11 36 4 131 141 111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. In prison: 3 wds.</td>
<td>140 115 155 124 96 16 26 105 2 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Deals with: 2 wds.</td>
<td>3 57 24 138 40 12 107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Detests</td>
<td>38 137 95 59 127 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Careless, derelict</td>
<td>82 15 103 39 144 158 125 71 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Recover from: 2 wds.</td>
<td>83 108 134 148 14 65 120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Feature</td>
<td>110 77 119 28 51 135 69 88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. --- Selassie</td>
<td>149 34 66 22 93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. One who sees</td>
<td>78 9 29 47 176 87 62 18 109 123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. A semiconductor</td>
<td>128 150 101 72 54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. Hopeless</td>
<td>147 84 113 53 46 161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. Dissolute</td>
<td>81 151 37 154 112 52 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Fresh energy: 2 wds.</td>
<td>67 13 143 49 130 121 44 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. Profits</td>
<td>132 89 61 35 76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O. Wrong or incorrect: 3 wds.</td>
<td>156 100 17 73 92 129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. Unneeded person: 2 wds.</td>
<td>64 50 86 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q. Sense of fulfillment</td>
<td>159 122 94 48 102 63 153 159 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. L.A. punk band</td>
<td>136 126 8 97 160 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. Person's likeness or image</td>
<td>19 43 114 104 68 142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T. Kim Basinger's ex</td>
<td>70 146 31 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U. Judge</td>
<td>55 42 157 75 90 106 25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

By Erv Kaczmarek.
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.
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Namely

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across
1 USNA alum
4 Put aboard
9 Gush
14 Brogan end
15 LOUISE
16 1945 Conference site
17 BEETHOVEN
19 Expanse
20 Rose's swain
21 Most recent
23 Reduces drastically
25 Spread to dry
30 Short-tempered
31 Theatrical event
33 “The Man”
36 BOVARY
37 BACH
42 Old Greek coin
43 ABC, 1-2, 3, etc.
44 Eternal
46 Shock
51 Tatler innovator
52 Footloose Fred
54 LANSBURY
57 SWENSON
58 Musical collection

Down
1 Finally!
2 Kind of concerto
3 In ___ res
4 Burmese native
5 Point of view
6 Pons and Callas
7 US unit, in Paris
8 CLARK
9 Hi-_-
10 Mitt
11 Escamillon pleaser
12 Western Athletic Conf. member
13 Honi's dance
14 Greeley's way to go
15 Inscibed pillars
16 Sabbath song
17 Regimen
18 MOORE
19 BORODIN
20 GORBACHEV
21 Exeat
22 MILLER
23 Sidles
24 Aeolian deposit
25 Short turns?
26 CLARK
27 Hi-fl-
28 BOMBECK
29 MARTIN
30 Craft landings
31 Nobelist II.
32 Out of sight
33 Where some roosters face?
34 Smidgens
35 Short news staple
36 Shea plate
37 Nautical position
38 Pre-coll. exam
39 Andean beasts
40 Crick
41 Ode-master of yore
42 Silvery
43 Gets word
44 Coeur d’-
45 Altos, tenors, sopranos, etc.
46 Wilde's prison
47 LINCOLN
48 You ___ Love: Kern
49 Terhune dog
50 Tom Hanks film
51 Apply
52 Old-time farm worker
53 254-288

Last week’s answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island © 2019 Creators News Service.
Not Again
EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across
1 Pen pals?
5 Complexity enhancement
10 Email subject abbr.
13 Get to smile
18 From square one
19 Steam up
21 John, to Paul, George and Ringo
22 John, Paul, George and Ringo
23 Chef’s directives involving sieves?
26 Travis of country
27 Tennis’ Goolagong
28 Kia HQ city
29 Widen
30 Old pool people
34 One splitting firewood?
36 Violin stroke
39 Big chamber group
41 Candidate’s aim
42 Yearbook sect.
43 Chance for Obi-Wan to play?
47 Quaint oath
49 Bar quaff, briefly
50 YOLO, in ancient Rome
52 Actress Staunton of Harry Potter movies
56 Lemony, say
59 PC bailout key
60 113-Down’s last words
62 Placed
63 Take in or let out
64 Broadway’s Hagen
65 Hirsute Himalayan humanoid of myth
68 Crossed (out)
69 Therapist’s technique using poetry?
76 Compress, as a file
79 Resist
80 Pop duo & Him
81 Signs of shock
85 Currier’s partner
87 Andrea — ill-fated ship
90 City, informally
92 Magoo’s malady
93 Cooperstown charter member
95 Abash
98 Prov. at one end of the Ambassador Bridge
99 Dental image
101 Social event for British tavern keepers?
104 Latin art
107 Triangle product
109 Tot’s rebuttal

Down
1 Project for Poiret
2 Airig
3 Student of Seneca
4 TV dinner brand
5 “Xena” actress O’Connor
6 Hush-hush maritime org.
7 Java holder
8 Witty bit
9 Sensitive issues for directors
10 —- de-lis
11 Wells title foes
12 Bobs and buns
13 Bloody Civil War battle site
14 Actress Maples
15 Inuit boats
16 Volleyball position
17 Fragrant compounds
20 Put up
24 Bisected
25 Rooster’s last word?
26 Involve with reluctantly, as a tough situation
27 Bene
28 Yellowish tone
29 Answers the call
30 Pollen carrier
31 One who has class?
32 Benjamin of “Law & Order”
33 Kicks out
34 Govt. org. with a Media Bureau
35 Calendario square
36 Erie Canal city
37 Who has class?
38 Peewee state
39 “Endless” problem
40 “Out”
41 One who has class?
42 Govt. org. with a Media Bureau
43 Calendario square
44 Kicks out
45 Pollen carrier
46 Erie Canal city
47 “Out”
48 Best Director
49 Guillermon—Toro

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

Last week’s answers appear on the next page

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

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

This week’s answers appear on the next page

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...a miner, Baffling questions, Personal writings, Arial & Times, Crumbly cheese, Does an usher's, Feel the loss of, Wheel center, Saves, Zsa Zsa & Eva, Very late bedtime, Damp, Family card game, Vesuvius' output, Walked, Steed, Unsteadily, Family card game, Behold, Revolutionary, rider Paul, Damp, Very late bedtime, Zsa Zsa & Eva, _Rico, Wed secretly, Saves, Wheel center, Feel the loss of, Does an usher's, job, Crumbly cheese, pants; Jean-Claude Killy's, _attire, Ariel & Times, New Roman, Female animals, Personal writings, _ing questions, _a miner, forty-niner, and, daughte, Clementine...
Feel right at home with Leftover Salmon

Jamgrass band's tour celebrates book publication

By Myrna Petlicki
Pioneer Press

A band with a storied history will feel right at home on the stage of the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie on Feb. 23 during "An Evening with Leftover Salmon."

That's because the band will be surrounded by the trappings of home for that stop on the "Stories from the Living Room Show" tour.

The tour is in celebration of the publication of the book "Leftover Salmon: Thirty Years of Festival!" by Tim Newby, which is due out this month.

During the living room tour, founding band member Drew Emmitt said, "We sit down and play acoustically and we set up the stage to look like a living room, with paintings and a fireplace, a grand piano and lamps." The group will perform favorites from the band's history, as well as new songs from their latest album "Something Higher," which was released in 2018.

Leftover Salmon's style is known as jamgrass, a form this bluegrass band created that has them performing everything from Cajun to country to jazz in their unique style.

Leftover Salmon has evolved through the years, Emmitt indicated. "We've become more of a rock band than a bluegrass-Cajun band, although we still have those influences," he said.

There is nothing stale about Leftover Salmon. Banjo player Andy Thorn joined the band in 2011. "I grew up seeing the band out in North Carolina," Thorn said. "They used to play in my hometown, Chapel Hill. I always loved the band so it's really cool to be in it."

For Thorn, one of the highlights of being a Leftover Salmon member was playing last year for the International Bluegrass Music Association in Raleigh, N.C.

Drummer Alwyn Robinson, who joined the group in 2013, said he didn't know anything about Leftover Salmon until he was asked to audition for them. "It was a great opportunity to expand my musical horizons," he said.

Robinson said, "The freedom of expression that I'm granted playing with these gentlemen. There's no restriction as to how I can express myself musically within the context of their music that they have been performing and touring with for years before I joined."

The six-person band also includes co-founder and guitarist Vince Herman, bassist Greg Garrison and keyboardist Erik Deutsch. Emmitt's main instrument is mandolin.

Emmitt admitted that he never envisioned the band would still be performing 30 years after it was founded. "We started it just for a fun band and to have something to do other than play bluegrass festivals in the summertime," he said. "I think we were all surprised that it took off. We happened upon something that just clicked."

Myrna Petlicki is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
WHAT TO DO COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, Feb. 14

Caravans of Gold at Northwestern
Block Museum: The Block Museum of Art at Northwestern University's "Caravans of Gold, Fragments in Time: Art, Culture and Exchange Across Medieval Saharan Africa" is the first major exhibition to highlight West Africa's global reach in the medieval period of the 8th to 16th centuries. This exhibit runs through July 21. 10 a.m. daily, Northwestern University - Block Museum of Art, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, free, 847-491-4000.

Orchids After Hours: View 10,000 orchids in bloom while sipping on tropical-inspired drinks. Lights fare is available for purchase. 4 p.m. Thursday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, $10-$12, $8-$10 (seniors); free (2 and under), 847-835-5440.

Advance Registration for Home-School Week: HomeSchool Week 2019 is March 4-8 at The Grove. This is your opportunity to register in advance to experience the full week of hands-on historical and environmental programs at The Grove dedicated exclusively to Homeschool students in grades K-8. For more information and to register, contact Judy at 224-521-2105. Late registrants may be accepted based on availability. Payment in full is required at time of registration (children 4 and under are free), and refunds will only be given in the event of a program cancellation by The Grove. 8 a.m. daily, The Grove, 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glencoe, ranging from $15-$20 per adult/child team, 847-299-6096.

Alliance Française du North Shore Ciné Club: They screen a French film and deep breathing. Regular stretch- and body connection, breathing techniques, traditional yoga poses and simple meditation techniques as well as participate in games, partner poses, stories and creative expression. 4 p.m. Thursday, Prairie View Community Center, 6834 Dempster St., Morton Grove, $48 resident; $60 nonresident, 847-965-1200.

Retirement Planning and Wealth Preservation: Gain insights, ideas and information to make informative decisions on your personal path to and through retirement. What do you want to do when you retire? When do you want to retire? Financial educators Wei Zhang and Le Anh Blanchard of the Heartland Institute of Financial Education help you think through the planning process. Free and open to the public with pre-registration required by calling or visiting NSYMCA.org. 11:15 a.m. Thursday, North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road, Northbrook, free, 847-272-7250.

Jewish Learning Institute Class - Northbrook Law Office: Rabbi Meir Moscowitz of Lubavitch Chabad of Northbrook offers Crime and Consequence, a new six session course by the Jewish Learning Institute exploring 3000 years of Jewish perspective on conviction, sentencing and criminal rehabilitation. Especially timely with the Prison reform debates. Register at the website or call. Noon Thursday, David Katz & Associates Law Office, 555 Skokie Blvd., Northbrook, $100 plus $100 for CLE credits, 847-564-8770.

Stretch and Breathe for Better Health: This gentle exercise class is designed to teach the benefits of stretching and deep breathing. Regular stretch-ing has benefits that range from increasing flexibility to helping relieve arthritis pain, while deep breathing helps to relax the body and lower stress levels. 11:30 a.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $59 member; $69 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

John Ford: Master of the Western: No American movie director captured the essence of the Western better than John Ford. Often featuring John Wayne, Ford saw the Western as an art form and raised it to a level that has never been equaled. He directed fascinating biographies, comedies and some unexpectedly beautiful work, as well as brilliant documentaries about WWII. There is a surprise around every corner in this unique presentation. 1 p.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $12 member; $17 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

Leonardo at 500: Commemorating his 500th Anniversary: In recognition of the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci, art historian Jeff Mishur discusses works of art attributed to this Renaissance master. The focus is on Leonardo's innovative approach to painting and how he helped establish the Italian Renaissance as a distinct period in the history of art. Works discussed include "The Last Supper" and "Mona Lisa." 10 a.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $12 member; $17 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

Tai Chi: Wear loose clothing to practice the ancient, healing art of Tai Chi. Increase your understanding of the mind-body connection, breathing techniques, flexibility and all other healthy benefits of Tai Chi. 9 a.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $75 member; $89 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

Valentine's Day at Roka Akor Old Orchard: Enjoy a special 3-course tasting menu plus dessert with an optional wine pairing. Menu items include Robata Grilled Diver Scallop with Truffle Butter and Micro Herbs, Kumamoto Oysters with Yuzu Sake, Shiso and Lime and Maine Lobster Tempura with Truffle Tentsuyu, and Pink Peppercorns. Reservations can be made on the website, 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Roka Akor Steak & Sushi, 4999 Old Orchard Road, Skokie, $98/person with $40 optional wine pairing, 847-881-3577.

February is North Shore Restaurant Month: Taking place through Thursday, Feb. 28, there are more than 90 of the North Shore's most popular restaur-ants offering a variety of specials and discounts. For a list of participating restaurants and their offers, or to print a dining certificate that can be used at all of them, visit www.NorthShoreDiningDeals.com. For more information about North Shore Restaurant Month, contact Jennifer Engel, Manager of Advertising and Membership for Chicago's North Convention and Visitors Bureau at 847-763-0011 ext. 122 or email her at jengel@cnschvb.com. Noon daily, Chicago's North Shore Convention and Visitors Bureau, 8833 Gross Point Road #307, Skokie, a variety of specials and discounts, 847-763-0011.

Friday, Feb. 15

Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegal: This four-program series, celebrating 50 years on Chicago's North Shore features masterful performances and lively commentary by Siegal including "Chopin in Paris" at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15, and "The Romantic Connection" 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 10. 7:30 p.m. Friday, Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, $10-$30, 847-491-7575.

Friday Night Meltdowns: Join in this awesome skate and dance party! A DJ plays today's hits and disco lighting shines on the ice throughout the night. Bring your own skates or rent a pair for the evening. Admission: you may use your season skating pass, or $8 per person. For more information, visit the website or call. 8:15 p.m. Friday, Glenview Ice Center, 1851 Landwehr Road, Glenview, $8 admit; $4 rental skates, 847-724-2800.

The 15th Annual Freeze Learn to Skate Competition: See the skating stars of tomorrow at this United States Figure Skating sanctioned competition, taking place at 5:9 p.m., Friday, Feb. 15 and 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 16. The Freeze is one of the largest amateur skating competitions in the north suburbs. Competition categories include: programs, compulsories, artistic, interpretative, jumps and spins, synchronized skating and more. 5 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. Saturday, Glenview Ice Center, 1851 Landwehr Road, Glenview, free admit for spectators, 847-724-2800.

A Star is Born: This 2018 film is rated R. In this new take on a tragic love story, a musician helps a young singer find fame as age and alcoholism send his own career into a downward spiral. Feel free to drop in to one of these screenings of the film. 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview
**WHAT TO DO COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**B14 Calendar, from Page 13**

Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

**Burnham & Bennett: Authors of the 1909 Plan of Chicago**: Daniel Burnham often received the credit, but it was Edward Bennett who executed the final designs for Grant Park, the Michigan Avenue Bridge, Navy Pier and other elements of The Plan of Chicago that became essential to what we think of as the 1909 Plan of Chicago: Daniel Burnham, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679.

**Saturday, Feb. 16**

**Night of Stars Dinner Dance**: The Night of Stars features a silent auction, raffle prizes and champagne reception at 5:30 p.m., followed by a four-course dinner with wine at 7 p.m. Complimentary bar service takes place from 5:30-11 p.m., and live music by SecondSpin; 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Cafe la Cave, 2777 Mannheim Road, Des Plaines, $85, 847-825-3121.

**Hygge 101 with Anne Petersen**: Rather than drudge through the winter, hygge is about celebrating coziness, warmth and family, as well as practicing mindfulness. Pronounced "hue-gah," this Danish expression is an attitude towards life that emphasizes finding joy in everyday moments. From Feb. 16 to 22, local businesses will host a range of special in-store events to promote the idea of coziness, mindfulness and overall well-being. Visit the event website for details. 4 p.m. Saturday, Bookends & Beginnings, 1712 Sherman Ave., Evanston, free.

**Enterprising Machines**: The primary focus of Jessica Gondek's work is abstract stemming from an interest in technology, geometry, machine aesthetics, architecture and nature. In Enterprising Machines, Gondek explores a dichotomous relationship between the hand and the machine that has evolved over time. There will be an opening reception on Saturday, Feb. 16 from 1 - 4 p.m., which will be free and open to the public. Evanston Art Center Gallery Hours: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Saturday; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Friday; 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday; 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; 9 a.m. daily, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300.

**C. Stowe Myers: 1906 - 1995**: C. Stowe Myers (1906 - 1995) 20th Century American, artist, industrial designer and photographer will be exhibited in the second floor gallery. The opening reception is on Feb. 16 from 1 - 4 p.m., which will be free and open to the public. Evanston Art Center Gallery Hours: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Monday - Thursday; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Friday; 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. 1 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. daily, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300.

**Kari Johnson**: Kari Johnson currently works and studies at the Chicago Industrial Arts and Design Center in Chicago. Many of the materials that he uses are sourced from society's discarded and outdated objects; saws, car and truck parts, shovels and farm equipment. Evanston Art Center Gallery Hours: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Monday - Thursday; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Friday; 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. 9 a.m. daily, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300.

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**Weekend Classes for Curious Learners Age 4-Grade 8**: Northwestern University's Center for Talent Development offers rigorous, engaging, hands-on, eight-week sessions on Saturday mornings. Courses offer a community of like-minded peers, provide challenging courses and present opportunities to delve deep into a single topic. Courses are on Saturday at Northwestern University, Evanston; FWX, Chicago; NCC, Naperville; and Quest Academy, Palatine from January 19 - March 9. Registration is required; registrants do not need a Lincolnwood Library card to attend. Please visit their website, call or stop by to register. 2 p.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library; 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

**Saturday Family Storytime with Miss Dannie**: This is for ages birth to 5 years with caregiver to join in for a fun storytime followed by coffee, juice and donuts. This is a drop-in event; with no registration required. Donuts generously provided by Schleg's Bakery. 10 a.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

**Annual Craft Beer Event - 2019 Cold Brews**: Morton Grove Park District and Joseph Mullarkey Distributors present the fourth annual Cold Brews from 3-6 p.m. Visit local breweries serving craft, seasonal and import beers, located at stations throughout the center. This year's lineup: Revolution Brewing, Sketchbook Brewing, Alchemist Brewing and Brickstone Brewing, to name a few. 3 p.m. Saturday, Morton Grove American Legion Civic Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove, $35 residents and nonresidents, 847-965-1200.

**Jodi Koplin's Jigglejam Family Concert**: Jodi Koplin's interactive family concert show engages children and families with puppy, punch, music and bubbles. For more than 25 years, Jodi's shows — praised by parents and educators — have been designed to spark imagination and promote self-esteem. Reserve a spot at the event website. 11 a.m. Saturday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224.

**Sunday, Feb. 17**

**Quartet for the End of Time - Evanston**: Hindemith and Messiaen plumb the deepest corners of human experience in two of their most powerful works. Composed during his time as a soldier in WWII, Hindemith's viola sonata blends the Romantic and Impressionist styles of Brahms and Debussy with his own adventurous harmonic language. 3 p.m. Sunday, Nichols Concert Hall, Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $10-$38, 872-395-1754.

**Some Like It Hot**: Join your Studio5 friends, grab some popcorn, order a drink and enjoy a screening of the acclaimed movie Some Like It Hot (1959), a hilarious comedy starring Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon and Marilyn Monroe about two male musicians who hide from the mob by joining an all-female band. With pre-show commentary by screenwriter Dana Olsen. 4 p.m. Sunday, Studio 5, 1934 Dempster St., Evanston, $10, 847-328-6683.

**Love, Marriage and Art: Elaine and Willem de Kooning**: Have you ever wanted to know what car de Kooning drove? How many bobcats he had? Or how he met his wife? Heck, have you ever wanted to know what his favorite color was? Well, now is your chance, as you can join a special storytime followed by coffee, juice and donuts. This is a drop-in event; with no registration required. Donuts generously provided by Schleg's Bakery. 10 a.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

**Skate with the Greats**: Join 500 hockey fans for this one-of-a-kind experience to meet hockey Hall of Famer, Cheliios and current Chicago Blackhawks, Alex DeBrincat, and hit the ice with Chicago Blackhawks legends. During the event, you will enjoy a hockey-themed silent auction and get autographs from Blackhawks legends. 2 p.m. Sunday, Parkway Bank Park, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, $25-$250, 630-354-7750.

**Monday, Feb. 18**

**Readheads Storytime at Meatheads**: Join us for a special storytime for infants to 7-year-olds at the Lincolnwood Meatheads. Drop-in event; no registration required. 2 p.m. Monday, Meatheads, 6734 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

**Love, Marriage and Art**: Elaine and Willem de Kooning. He left Holland and arrived in the United States as a penniless stow-away, with no papers and speaking no English. Nevertheless, de Kooning became a leading artist of the abstract expressionist movement. He was 34 and his young student, Elaine Fried, was 20 when they first met. They had an open marriage and affairs fueled by alcohol. But after 20 years of separation they were still married, and she returned to spend their final years together. 1 p.m. Monday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $10 member, $15 nonmember.

Turn to Calendar, Page 15
SCORE Counseling Appointments: ext. 7700 or visit Reference Services. Schedule a free, one-hour consultation.

Financial Planning Appointments: Tuesday, Feb 19, 256-6935.

Email Marketing for Small Businesses: Email is the most cost-effective, targeted, trackable and efficient way to build and maintain relationships in all types of business and organizations. Presented by Norbert Barszczewski, SCORE volunteer and President of JP NetQuest, Inc. Registration is requested. 7 p.m. Monday, Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-302-6017.

Tuesday, Feb 19

Financial Planning Appointments:
Schedule a free, one-hour consultation with a certified financial planner. No online registration, so call 847-729-7500 ext. 7700 or visit Reference Services. 9 a.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

SCORE Counseling Appointments:
SCORE Chicago provides mentoring to local small business owners and entrepreneurs during three one-hour appointments available from 5-8 p.m. Register and schedule your appointment at score.org/find-mentor. 5 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Blaze:
This 2018 film is rated R and is about the life of musician Blaze Foley, the unsung songwriting legend of the Texas outlaw music movement that spawned the likes of Merle Haggard and Willie Nelson. Feel free to just drop in to this screening. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Homework Help Center for Grades 1-8:
High school volunteers to the homework rescue. There are thirty-minute sessions for homework, reading and math skills provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Children may be grouped by subject and grade level. Just drop in. 6 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Power Employment Workshop:
This comprehensive workshop discusses setting SMART goals to keep you on track, using social media to connect with active hiring managers, getting your resume through today's Applicant Tracking Systems and learning critical interview skills. This event is offered in partnership with Illinois Worknet. Register at worknetcc.com. 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Thursday, Feb 21

Pass the Envelope, Please: A Night at the Oscars:
Just days before this year's Oscars, join movie critic Dann Gire and film historian and novelist Raymond Benson for a fun-filled, "star-studded" evening. This dynamic duo shares film clips and quips about the movies and actors, nominated this year. A great way to catch up on this year's crop of nominees. Please register online, call 847-729-7500 ext. 7600 or visit Reader Services. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

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All Things Spanish Monthly Meeting:
For February 20: Current Events! Both native and non-native Spanish speakers are invited to practice their language skills and expand their love of Spanish/Latino culture. Contact cramirez@glenviewpl.org for more information. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Rotary Club of Wilmette:
Join the Rotary of Wilmette members for lunch at netka Presbyterian Church, 1255 Willow Road, Winnetka, free, 847-302-6017.

Wednesday, Feb 20

Pass the Envelope, Please: A Night at the Oscars:
Just days before this year's Oscars, join movie critic Dann Gire and film historian and novelist Raymond Benson for a fun-filled, "star-studded" evening. This dynamic duo shares film clips and quips about the movies and actors nominated this year. A great way to catch up on this year's crop of nominees. Please register online, call 847-729-7500 ext. 7600 or visit Reader Services. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

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Rotary Club of Wilmette:
Join the Rotary of Wilmette members for lunch at netka Presbyterian Church, 1255 Willow Road, Winnetka, free, 847-302-6017.

Start your St. Patrick's Day celebration early at Symphony Center with the world's most popular Irish traditional music group, six-time Grammy® Award winners The Chieftains. Celebrating 55 years together, The Chieftains continue to reinvent themselves, infusing traditional music with a refreshingly modern sound.

March 2

TICKETS START AT $30!

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Kodo returns to Symphony Center
for a dramatic performance
full of pulsing rhythms, athletic
virtuosity and stirring passion.

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thing as perfection in music,
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any group in the world."

THE NEW YORK TIMES
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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 630-557-1000 public-record.com
Cold Brews festival to offer craft beer, cider, music and pizza in Morton Grove

BY MEGANN HORSTEAD
Pioneer Press

Craft beer, pizza and music will be in the spotlight when the Morton Grove Park District and Joseph Mullaiky Distributors team up to host the fourth annual Cold Brews festival.

The Feb. 16 event will take place from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Civic Center, 6140 Dempster St., in Morton Grove.

The event will provide an opportunity for people to sample craft, seasonal and import beers. Stations will be located throughout the Civic Center with a lineup featuring Revolution Brewing, Finch Beer Co., Brickstone Brewing, Sierra Nevada Brewing Co., New Belgium Brewing Co., Right Bee Cider, Lakefront Brewery and more.

"They'll have different varieties," said Kathy Herrmann, marketing manager for Morton Grove Park District.

Herrmann said the event strives to satisfy the taste buds of everyone in attendance.

"There's sparkling; there's ciders," she said.

Lou Malnati's will provide pizza tastings. Also, the Frank and Dave Band is expected to perform.

"They play a wide variety of originals, classic rock and current pop hits," Herrmann said.

There will be games, and sponsors have provided prizes. The event has grown over the time, and officials said last year, the event brought in an estimated 70 people.

"It's a small community craft beer event," Herrmann said. "It's local. People from all over can come in."

Admission is available for $35 in advance and the day of the event, and it includes 10 beer tasting tickets. Additional tastings can be purchased at the event.

Attendees must 21 or older to attend. For information or to purchase tickets, visit mortongroveparks.com.

Megann Horstead is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Police release video of car suspected in Morton Grove fatal hit-and-run

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Morton Grove police are sharing surveillance video of a car believed to be responsible for the fatal hit-and-run of an 86-year-old man in early January.

The black-and-white video shows a light-colored sedan passing by in the upper right corner of the screen.

Police have identified the car as the vehicle that struck Morton Grove resident Leonid Belogur on Jan. 4 and fled the scene. The collision occurred while Belogur was crossing Shermer Road at Greenwood Street, just north of Dempster Street, around 5 p.m., police said.

The surveillance video released by the department shows the car driving south from the scene of the crash, police said.

Police initially released a blurred, still image of the suspect car on Feb. 1, that generated some tips from the public, said Morton Grove Police Cmdr. Paul Yaras. While none of the tips panned out, police are continuing to work the investigation in an effort to identify the driver, he said.

Police said the car in the hit-and-run had its windshield broken in the collision and may have sustained additional damage to the hood and front end.

Belogur's family has offered a $20,000 reward for information leading to the identification of the driver, police said.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Morton Grove Police Department at 847-470-5200 or Cook County Crime Stoppers at 1-800-535-STOP.

jjohnson@chicagotribune.com

Investigation continues into missing lobster tails

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

An investigation continues into what happened to 20 missing pallets of lobster tails valued at an estimated $650,000.

Morton Grove Police Cmdr. Paul Yaras said the department is still working with the insurance investigator assigned to the case, and efforts are being made to track down the route of the truck that had been hauling the lobster when it disappeared.

On Jan. 11, police responded to a parking lot on the 6300 block of Oakton Street where a truck that had reportedly contained the lobster tails was parked and learned from an insurance company investigator of the alleged theft.

Yaras said Morton Grove police became involved in the investigation because the truck was parked within the village limits and because plastic bands, used to secure the boxes of lobster tails, were found on the ground behind the truck and inside a white Chevy Tahoe belonging to the delivery driver, police said.

If the investigation determines a crime occurred in another city or state, it will be turned over to the law enforcement authorities there, Yaras said.

According to the police report, the delivery driver arrived at a refrigerated warehouse on Chicago's South Side with just three of the 23 pallets of lobster tails he had been hauling. The delivery driver, a resident of Glenview, reportedly told warehouse representatives that he did not know what happened to the other pallets, police said.

It was also reported that the driver arrived at the warehouse one day later than expected, citing mechanical problems with his truck, police said.

jjohnson@chicagotribune.com
Lincoln Hall Middle School plans open house

An open house event, open to Lincolnwood residents, is set from 7 to 8 p.m. Feb. 21 at Lincoln Hall Middle School.

The school is at 6855 N. Crawford Ave., Lincolnwood. Those who attend are invited to tour the final product of the Lincoln Hall building plan, according to school officials. The open house will begin in the new auditorium.

For information, visit www.sd74.org.

Opera Arias for Your Love set in Niles

The Musica Lumina 2018-19 concert series continues at 3 p.m. Feb. 17 when members of Musica Lumina and friends will present Opera Arias for Your Love, according to a news release.

It takes place at St. John Brebeuf Church, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles. There is no admission charge, but a freewill offering will be taken.

Marek Rachelski, artistic director and conductor of the Niles Metropolitan Chorus and Musica Lumina Orchestra, stated that the program will include selections sung by featured soloists from past and present Musica Lumina Concerts and accompanied at the piano by Rachelski.

Rachelski also issued an open invitation for those in the community to become members of this group. Rehearsals are Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. in the St. John Brebeuf Church. For information, contact Rachelski at 702-806-8421 or email newmru@hotmail.com.

Morton Grove Citizens Police Academy

The Morton Grove Police Department has planned a citizens police academy, which is set to run from March 26 to May 28. Classes will meet from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays.

According to a news release, the police academy is “designed to give participants an understanding of the operation of the Morton Grove Police Department and a working knowledge of what law enforcement is all about.”

Classes will be limited to 20 students. There is no cost for residents to participate.

The release indicated that the class will cover the history of the department, the hiring process, traffic enforcement, investigations, gun and drug information, and more. It also includes an optional ride-along.

There also will be several demonstrations in which attendees can participate. There will be a graduation ceremony at the conclusion of the class.

It is open to Morton Grove residents ages 18 and older with no felony convictions. The release stated that there would be a criminal history review on each applicant before acceptance.

Applications are available at the Morton Grove Police Department, 6101 Capulina Ave., Morton Grove. They must be returned to the police department to Officer Jurasz, and they are due on March 8. For information, contact Jurasz at jjurasz@mortongroveil.org or 847-663-3804.

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**Illinois Holocaust Museum in Skokie opens exhibit on the American slave trade**

**BY STEVE SADIN**  
Pioneer Press

Most Americans learn about their country's history of slavery as students in school, but they generally do not see the actual physical artifacts that were used in the slave trade.

Those artifacts are part of "Purchased Lives: The American Slave Trade from 1808 to 1865" on display through Aug. 25 at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Skokie.

Originally created between 2013 and 2015 for The Historic New Orleans Collection, the exhibit is designed to vividly show visitors how African Americans were treated as property in the South before 1865, according to Erin Greenwald, the exhibit's curator.

"It fills a void in the general lack of knowledge of that period of American history," said Greenwald, vice president of content at Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities. "It shows how fundamental slavery was to the history and success of the United States."

The first slave ship arrived in Jamestown, Va., in 1619, about 12 years after the colony was established, according to Kelley Szany, the Holocaust museum's vice president of education and exhibitions.

Szany said the exhibition documents slave trade starting in 1808 because that is when the importation of slaves was outlawed in the United States, making it a purely domestic undertaking.

As growing tobacco in states like Virginia and Maryland became less plentiful and cotton became a bigger crop further south, Szany said slave owners in those states sold their workers to plantation owners further south.

"Families were broken up," Szany said. "Children were separated from parents, husbands from wives."

Previously displayed in Memphis and Alexandria, La., Greenwald said this is the first time the exhibit is being shown in a northern state.

Arielle Weininger, the Holocaust museum's chief curator of collections and exhibitions, said her institution is a natural location. Though its main mission deals with the Holocaust perpetrated by Nazi Germany, it goes deeper.

"We are always interested in teaching about crimes against humanity and human rights violations," Weininger said. "Slavery is part of this. When society declares one group of people is dehumanized this leads to brutality and murder."

One artifact prominently displayed in the exhibit is an iron collar with two arms reaching out from the base containing bells. The collar would be locked around the neck of a captured runaway slave. Greenwald said the collar was worn continually by the punished individual.

"It was on when they slept," Greenwald said. "It made it impossible to get comfortable."

When enslaved people ran away, Szany said seeking freedom was not the only reason. She said many times they were looking for loved ones like children, spouses or siblings.

There are several manifestations in the exhibit documenting slave auctions. One showed a man named Plat Hamilton. Hamilton's name was actually Solomon Northup, a free black man living in New York who was kidnapped by a slave trader and sold into slavery.

Northup was eventually found and freed after 12 years. His life was documented in the film "12 Years a Slave" in 2013.

Another artifact was a wood block where enslaved people would be displayed at slave auctions like the ones held at the St. Louis Hotel in New Orleans. Szany described a painting of an auction at the St. Louis.

"People dressed up for those auctions," Szany said. "It was a social occasion."

Now the Omni Royal Orleans Hotel in New Orleans' French Quarter, Szany said a marker was not created there until last year letting the public know humans were once sold where they were sleeping and dining.

Greenwald said exhibitions like this one are critical today because racism and acts of violence surrounding race still exist.

Steve Sadin is a freelance reporter.

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**Man charged with felony aggravated reckless driving in November crash**

**BY DANIEL I. DORFMAN**  
Pioneer Press

A Chicago man last week was charged with a felony count of aggravated reckless driving following a November 2018 crash in Lincolnwood that seriously injured an elderly woman, police said.

Jeremy R. Gouveia, 20, of the 1600 block of Cermak Road, Chicago, was charged Feb. 6 with aggravated reckless driving causing bodily harm, which police noted was a Class 4 felony.

On Nov. 20, police said Gouveia was driving north on Lincoln when he hit the other vehicle as the woman was trying to turn east on Arthur Avenue. Gouveia was believed to have been traveling between 96-103 mph, said police, who added that they received assistance from the Major Crash Assistance Team.

"In order to get that charge, they had to get a determination of the other driver's speed, and that takes a long time," Lincolnwood Police Lt. Dave Macaluso said.

In a brief telephone interview, Gouveia said he had no comment.

Macaluso described the injured woman as an elderly Lincolnwood resident, and he said she is now out of the hospital and believed to be in rehabilitation.

Gouveia appeared in court Feb. 7 and was released on a personal recognizance bond, according to a Cook County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Sophia Ansari. His next scheduled court date is March 8.

Daniel I. Dorfman is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
'19 Nissan Murano crossover refreshed

5-passenger ride offers something new inside and out

BY G. CHAMBERS WILLIAMS III
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Nissan's five-passenger midsize Murano crossover returns for 2019 with a "freshened" exterior design and some new premium interior features, along with additional safety and driver-assistance technologies.

Styling tweaks include a new, bolder V-motion grille; restyled LED headlights (now standard) and LED taillights; and new 18- and 20-inch wheel designs. But the changes are not dramatic, so it's still clearly identifiable as a Murano—continuing the unique, edgy styling that has always set this vehicle apart from its competitors.

The 2019 Murano comes in four trim levels, starting with the base front-wheel-drive S ($31,270 plus $1,045 destination), followed by the front-drive SV ($34,440), our tester for this report; SL ($39,230); and Platinum ($43,530). All-wheel drive is standard for the SV, SL and Platinum models and can be added to the SL with the technology package ($1,970).

New exterior colors for 2019 are Sunset Drift Chromaflair, Mocha Almond Pearl and Deep Blue Pearl.

The Platinum model's premium interior comes with new semi-aniline leather with diamond-quilted inserts and contrasting microsplitting trim for the seats, door armrests and center console lid.

New interior trim schemes include dark wood-tone (Platinum), light wood-tone (SV, SL) and metallic (S, SV, SL). Included on all models are the new rear door alert and the Intelligent Driver Alertness system, which monitors the driver for signs of drowsiness and inattention.

Optional are the new Intelligent Around View Monitor and an 11-speaker Bose premium audio system, both of which come in the SV premium package ($3,500), which was included on our tester. We also had 20-inch aluminum-alloy wheels. Optional are new 20-inch satin-black alloy wheels ($1,730).

The SV premium package also included a power panoramic moon roof, intelligent cruise control, front and rear parking sensors, LED fog lights and heated front seats.

All models come with Zero Gravity front and outboard rear seats, NissanConnect with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, an 8-inch color touch screen. SL and Platinum models add NissanConnect with Navigation, which now features door-to-door navigation with 3D building graphics and satellite images, online point of interest search and traffic information.

Available is Nissan Safety Shield 360, which includes driver assistance, crash avoidance and pedestrian detection systems. It's part of the Nissan Intelligent Mobility technology. Other features include automatic emergency braking with pedestrian detection, blind spot warning, rear cross-traffic alert, lane departure warning, high beam assist and rear automatic braking. These are standard on the Platinum model and can be added to the SL with the technology package ($1,970).

Among new standard safety features are second-row side air bags and a front passenger knee air bag. Also available are intelligent lane intervention and traffic sign recognition.

As before, the Murano seats up to five people. There is 32.1 cubic feet of cargo space behind the rear seat (31.1 with the panoramic moon roof), or 67 cubic feet (65 with the moon roof) with the rear seatback folded down.

All models continue to be powered by a normally aspirated 3.5-liter V-6 engine with 260 horsepower and 240 foot-pounds of torque. It's connected to a continuously variable automatic transmission.

EPA ratings are 20 mpg city/28 highway/23 combined (front- or all-wheel drive).

The third-generation Murano's heavily sculpted look brought lots of creases and folds, eliminating the smoother lines of the previous model. One of the coolest features is the panoramic moon roof, which gives the Murano a convertible feel.

Murano's interior was designed to give occupants the feel of an upscale social lounge, Nissan says. To help with that, our SV model came with comfortable brown leather seats, with buckets up front and a three-person bench in the rear.

Our rear seat had a pull-down center armrest that also had dual cup holders, and, at the front, a gadget cubby for smartphones and such. At the rear of the front console, in easy reach of the rear passengers, there was a USB port, along with dual vents for heating and air conditioning.

There also are map pockets in the backs of the two front seats, and door pockets in all four doors with a small bottle holder in each.

The NASA-inspired zero-gravity seats for the driver/front passenger and rear outboard passengers help keep occupants comfortable on long drives, just as they were designed to do for astronauts on long spaceflights. The rear seats have a three-cushion design, a first for a Nissan vehicle.

Knee room is a bit limited in the rear seat, though, especially when the front seats are set to accommodate larger people.

Our SV came with a navigation system combined with the Bose audio system (including two subwoofers), and AM/FM/HD/satellite radio.

NissanConnect with mobile apps was standard, along with Bluetooth phone connectivity and audio streaming. The nav system can be operated by voice commands.

We had heated front seats with eight-way power adjustment on the driver's side, and four-way on the passenger's side. The steering wheel and shifter were leather-wrapped. Remote entry with push-button start was included, along with dual-zone automatic climate control, a 7-inch in-dash DriveAssist display above the steering column, and a driver's side memory system for outside mirrors and seat position.

Three 12-volt outlets are provided along with the two USB ports, which can be used for charging of smartphones and tablets.

Outside, our Arctic Blue Metallic-painted Murano had fog lights, silver-painted roof rails, a power tailgate, heated outside mirrors, and rear tinted privacy glass.

There was more than ample power from the V-6 engine, and the standard traction control helped keep the car going smoothly.
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OPRF sends 9 to state, including 5 sectional champs

BY STEVE REAVEN
Pioneer Press

Winning a state championship is a rare feat for any wrestler. Defending that title is an even loftier achievement.

But that's what Oak Park-River Forest junior Jake Rundell is aiming for at the upcoming Class 3A state meet in Champaign.

The junior 113-pounder won his second straight sectional crown Saturday afternoon at Conant by pinning DeKalb's Tommy Currnan. Rather than celebrating, Rundell retreated to an adjoining workout room for the Huskies' traditional post-tournament conditioning regimen.

"It's that extra 1 percent, trying to get 1 percent better every day," said Rundell, who won the 106-pound title last season.

Rundell (38-2) hasn't treated this season any differently, despite having a target on his back.

"Winning again would mean I'm doing things the right way," he said. "I'm completely 'in' any more." He's approached this season any differently, despite having a target on his back.

"I'm completely 'in' any more." He's approached this season any differently, despite having a target on his back.

"Ever since the final, I've been hoping this is my year to get that title," Bolivar said. "I'm completely 'in' this year: eating right, sleeping right, making sure I'm in the right mindset.

Besides Rundell and Bolivar, Joshua Ogunnanya (126), Joe Chapman (152) and Ashford Hollis (285) were also sectional winners.

The Huskies also will send Nico Bolivar (120), Torry Early (138), Danny Lingen (170) and Daemyen Middlebrooks (182) to state.

Halvorsen's heroics: Maine South 182-pound senior Jon Halvorsen took home his team's lone sectional win in dramatic fashion. He earned a last-second 2-1 victory over Glenbard North's previously unbeaten Abe Assad in the final.

The win came courtesy of a two-point single-leg takedown.

"I could tell he was tired, and I worked way too hard to lose this match," Halvorsen said.

He viewed the win as a good tuneup for next weekend's main event, where he'll try to improve upon his third-place finish last season at the same weight class.

"I feel awesome," he said. "It's my whole life, working for moments like this."

The Hawks will send four other wrestlers to the state meet, and all of them had to claw their way into the consolation finals to advance. Jim Nuzzo (152), Jim Bartell (195) and Sean Kelly (220) all played football with Halvorsen. Noah Beltran (113) also advanced.

Evanston's triple play: After securing his second sectional title, 220-pound senior Ramin Abraham is prepared to end his career in style next weekend.

He's approached this season with a commitment to fine-tuning his game rather than thinking about his opponent.

"I can't wait to get down there. I'm so ready," said Abraham, who was fifth at state at 220 in 2018. "Only me can beat me. As long as I'm in control, I'm fine."

The Wildkits had two other state qualifiers, both from the same household. Sophomore Ricardo Salinas (160) and his older brother, senior Rafael Salinas (170), both placed third at Conant.

"I'm ecstatic that my brother made it with me. It's going to be a lot of fun going downstate now," Rafael Salinas said. "I wrestled smart and kept my mind straight and worked hard for this."

Ultimate achievement: York senior Antonio Gutierrez had to work overtime — and then some — to secure his first trip downstate.

He eked out a 2-1 win in an ultimate tiebreaker against Addison Trail's Brian Reyes in his 145-pound state-qualifying match and went on to finish fourth.

The two conference rivals have wrestled several times over the years, with Reyes typically coming out on top, including a win in last week's regional final — also in an ultimate tiebreaker.

"I owe him a lot," Gutierrez said of Reyes. "He's been a big motivation for me to keep working, and he's shown me how much I had to push myself."

An Eagle's dream: Also making it through to state was Leyden senior heavyweight Fernando Corona. He won his qualifying match in triple overtime against DeKalb's George Colbert.

The triumph was particularly special for Corona, who wasn't able to wrestle last season due to a blood clot in his leg.

"I had such high hopes last year, so I wanted to make sure this year I achieved my dream," he said.

Steve Reaven is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer_Press
Kwiecinski’s 24 points help Loyola hold off St. Ignatius

BY MIKE CLARK
Chicago Tribune

When Loyola’s Bennett Kwiecinski dunked against St. Ignatius on Feb. 8, it wasn’t a surprise. Kwiecinski is 6-foot-8, after all.

But the rest of the rangy junior’s skill set might catch some people off guard.

Kwiecinski showed off a nice shooting touch, the ability to get to the foul line and the desire to work on defense.

He finished with 24 points on 8-for-11 shooting from the floor and 8-for-10 from the line to go with seven rebounds and two steals.

That helped the Ramblers hold off a late St. Ignatius rally and win 56-46 in the first high school game at Welsh-Ryan Arena since the Northwestern facility's renovation.

Nikko Landon added 16 points for Loyola (18-9, 8-5 Catholic Blue), which retained the schools’ traveling trophy, the Jesuit Cup.

Christian Davis scored 16 and A.J. Redd had 10 points off the bench for St. Ignatius (11-14, 2-10).

Kwiecinski has had his moments this season, according to Ramblers coach Tom Livatino. But his role grew after Connor Barrett, the team’s leading scorer, went out with an injury five games ago.

“When we beat Marian Catholic, he was dominant,” Livatino said of Kwiecinski. “When we beat Covington Catholic down in Florida, he was dominant.

“For us to play well, he has to be pretty dominant, so his motor has always got to be running. When it is, he’s really good.”

Kwiecinski doesn’t see himself as the centerpiece of Loyola’s offense, though.

“We’ve just been focusing on getting the ball around more and playing less through one player,” he said. “Because Connor was the guy we would go to for shots.”

Loyola opened the game with a 9-0 run and pushed the lead to 27-10 at halftime. The Ramblers led by as many as 18 midway through the third quarter before the Wolfpack regrouped.

“They came out and pressured really hard,” Kwiecinski said. “Their zone was hard to get passes inside with; they were fronting the post.”

St. Ignatius slowly chipped away and got as close as 52-45 with 51 seconds left. But Kwiecinski helped close it out with three free throws in the final 35 seconds.

Loyola is comfortable playing at a deliberate pace. But the larger college venue did lead to some tweaks to the game plan.

“I love the court,” Kwiecinski said. “We were focusing on getting out and running. Our coach was telling us to get the ball ahead. We needed to get up the floor and look for more fast-break points because of the size of the floor.”

Livatino would like to play at the new Welsh-Ryan again sooner rather than later.

“They did an amazing job,” he said. “It’s a great facility. Everything is a good seat. It’s not too big, it gets loud. I would hope that sometime soon they’re able to host a supersectional.”

Loyola’s Bennett Kwiecinski shoots against St. Ignatius’ Kolby Gilles on Feb. 8 at Welsh-Ryan Arena.
Congratulations to our winner!

Xander Guerrero, Niles West senior

Xander Guerrero, a senior swimmer for Niles West, delivered four first-place finishes at the Niles West Invite. He won in the 200 freestyle, 500 free, 200 free relay and 400 free relay. He also earned two third-place finishes at the Spartan Sprint Classic. “Xander is the hardest-working swimmer I have ever had,” Niles West coach Don Vander Jeugdt said. “He gives 100 percent at every practice and encourages his teammates at every practice and meet.”

Leighah-Amori Wool steps up for Western Michigan

By Bob Narang
Pioneer Press

After a solid freshman season, Western Michigan sophomore forward Leighah-Amori Wool has become even more of a contributor for the Broncos’ women’s basketball team.

The Evanston alumna played in 19 games last season and averaged 2.9 points, 1.6 rebounds and 0.7 assists per game. She set a season-high of 11 points against Goshen College.

But this season, after adding some strength, the 6-foot Wool has been a regular starter for the Broncos. She has started 15 of the 17 games she has played and ranks second on the team in scoring at 10.2 points and third in rebounding (5.0). She scored 15 points on 5-for-14 shooting in 39 minutes against Miami (Ohio) on Feb. 2 — four points shy of her career-best of 19 points set against New Mexico State on Nov. 11.

Stevenson graduate Kiana Cencula is a freshman guard for the Broncos. The 5-9 Cencula has played in one game this season: a 75-51 victory against Saginaw Valley State on Dec. 31.

Geary, Spiwak aid Friars: Freshman forward Alyssa Geary has played in all 24 games this season for the Providence women’s basketball team.

The Nazareth alumna is averaging 3.5 points and 3.1 rebounds per game. The 6-4 Geary, an Elmhurst native, helped lead the Roadrunners to a Class 3A second-place trophy last season — the best finish in program history.

She scored a career-best 13 points at Boston College on Nov. 27. Geary has been solid on the boards and defense as well. She has recorded at least five rebounds seven times, and was the team’s top rebounder in two of those contests.

A solid 3-point shooter in high school, Geary has made 15 of her 35 3-pointers this season.

Sophomore guard Kyra Spiwak, an Arlington Heights native, has also played in all 24 games. She started five games as a freshman and has already played in 50 college basketball games. The Rolling Meadows graduate scored a career-high 11 points against Xavier on Jan. 20 and grabbed nine rebounds at DePaul on Dec. 31.

Gritt still grinding: Former Hersey guard Claire Gritt hasn’t missed a beat in college.

Gritt, a sophomore guard at Denver, has started 51 of a possible 53 games since she entered college. During her freshman year, Gritt started 28 of 30 games and averaged 10.3 points, 3.0 rebounds and 1.5 assists. She made 36 3-pointers and shot 41 percent from the field to be named the Summit League Freshman of the Year.

This season, after taking on a bigger role, the 5-10 Gritt has started all 23 games for the Pioneers. She’s averaging 10.7 points, 4.4 rebounds and 2.0 assists.

The Arlington Heights native scored a career-high 21 points against Liberty last season, and she grabbed a career-high nine rebounds against Missouri-Kansas City as a freshman.

Have a suggestion for College Notes? Email Bob Narang at bobnarang@yahoo.com.
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36 MONTH LEASE

** $0 Due at Signing. Lease price based on 10,500 miles per year plus tax, title, license & $179.81 Doc. Fee. No Security Deposit.

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