The bottom line
Maine East High School presents musical ‘Newsies’ Page 4

Jacob Carrion, center, of Niles plays Jack Kelly in Maine East High School’s production of “Newsies,” which opens Feb. 22.

1941, from the stage
Porchlight Music Theatre will take audiences on a musical journey to the past when they present “New Faces Sing Broadway 1941” on Feb. 26 at SPACE in Evanston. Page B13

‘A special moment’
Lake Forest Academy alum Ryan Clamage is finishing his college basketball career in style. Page 22

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Michael Bender, focused on protecting kids

Longtime Lincolnwood resident Michael Bender is a partner in the Chicago-based law firm of Caesar & Bender LLP, which concentrates on family law. For several years, he was a Cook County judge who presided over 40,000 domestic relations cases.

He formerly served as president of the Skokie Park District. He was an assistant corporation counsel for the Village of Skokie and is a founding executive board member of the Illinois Holocaust Museum. He has written a book called, “Protecting Children: Bettering the World One Child at a Time.”

Q: Why did you decide to write this book?
A: I presided in a courtroom that was all about children, and I learned a lot of skills about protecting children as there were about 40,000 children that I was responsible for. I learned a lot of techniques and gained a great deal of knowledge on how to make sure children going through a divorce or a custody situation were kept safe. I am not claiming I’m the smartest person in the world, but when you see something about protecting children as there were about 4,000,000 children that I was responsible for, I learned a lot of skills about how to deal with those situations and even the best of parents.

Q: What do you hope people learn from it?
A: It is not just geared for the attorneys who represent the children or the judges who are new to the area of law, but it is also for parents. I’ve been getting calls from parents who are thanking me and they understand now the process they are in. It takes the anxiety out of it. These people are able to function better when they are in court, and that is going to help the children.

Q: What was a frustration you saw as to how an attorney was handling a case?
A: What is always important to remember for every attorney is that the judge is a person who is looking to do what is right for the children involved. Their job – no matter who they represent – is to get the accurate information to the judge so the judge can process information and do what is right for the child. If somebody were to embellish, invent or not tell the court something, then it hinders the judge from doing what is right.

Q: What can parents do to minimize the impact of a divorce on children?
A: They have to not involve the children in the process and encourage the child’s ability to love both parents. Parents have to not involve the children in the process and encourage the child’s ability to love both parents. They have to not involve the children in the process and encourage the child’s ability to love both parents. Parents have to not involve the children in the process and encourage the child’s ability to love both parents.

Q: Was there something you always tried to remember when presiding over a divorce case?
A: Every time I walked into the courtroom, I realized no one was there to see me. They were there for justice. I made sure no matter which attorney was in front of me, I would focus on what is just and what are the laws of State of Illinois and the United States Constitution.

—Daniel I. Dorfman, Pioneer Press
Maine East brings musical ‘Newsies’ to stage

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

A late 19th Century protest against big New York City newspaper publishers is making headlines again with Maine East High School’s winter musical.

“Newsies,” the musical based on the 1899 New York newsboys strike, debuts on the Park Ridge high school’s stage Feb. 22 at 7:30 p.m., with additional performances set for Feb. 23, March 1 and March 2 at 7:30 p.m., and a Feb. 28 performance at 4 p.m.

“It’s a show where you have to be a triple threat — you have to be a good actor, singer and dancer,” said director Karen Hall. “What these kids have done in the last eight weeks to get good at each of these things is just phenomenal.”

Hall said she jumped at the chance for Maine East to stage “Newsies” the very day the rights were released to high schools.

“I think it’s such a great show for kids,” she said. “It’s based on a true story of the newsboys strike of 1899, and it really shows the power of kids — that they should have a voice and if they demand a voice, they should be heard.”

This message isn’t lost on the production’s actors, either. For senior Jasmine Moraga, who plays reporter Katherine Plumber, “Newsies” encourages people to “stand up for what you believe in,” much like the struggling young newspaper sellers did.

“Their idea to form a union and strike for what they want, I think, is a very powerful message,” said Moraga, of Des Plaines.

Senior Jacob Carrion, of Niles, agreed.

“At its core, it’s not about just kids, but anyone in general who is standing up to something that they feel isn’t right,” he said of the musical.

Moraga added that the story is timely as it relates to many professions in today’s world as well.

Unlike previous Maine East productions that used physical backdrops to set the scene, “Newsies” will feature animated projections on stage.

“Every time we change locations, a new projection goes up to let the audience know where you are,” Hall said.

Stage manager Trish Hermis, a senior from Des Plaines, oversees the technical elements of the show.

“We’re constantly on our toes, trying to time the projections with not only the actors, but with the music as well,” she said.

“Newsies” also includes the acting debut of social science teacher Gary Zielinski as Teddy Roosevelt.

[Karen Hall] said she wanted someone from the social science department to represent Teddy Roosevelt, and she thought I was the person to do it,” Zielinski said. “I would have never had the nerve to appear on stage while I was a student here, so I jumped at the opportunity.”

A 1984 graduate of Maine East, Zielinski called the experience of acting in a musical “a bit daunting,” but enjoyable.

“It’s a universe I haven’t been exposed to. But it’s a lot of fun,” he said.

Tickets for “Newsies,” which features a cast of 50 students and a crew of dozens more, can be purchased at maineeastseatyourselfbiz.

Maine East High School is located at 2601 W. Dempster St. in Park Ridge.

Ryan Vu plays the part of Race in Maine East High School’s production of “Newsies,” which opens Feb. 22.
Lincolnwood Citizens Police Academy starts in April

Staff report

The Lincolnwood Police Department has planned a nine-week citizen police academy, which is set to start in April.

The event, which is offered at no cost, aims to provide "a mini experience of how police officers are taught, what they experience and how they should respond when performing their duties with their public," according to the police department.

The academy takes place from 7 to 9 p.m. each Wednesday at the police department. It starts on April 3. Participants must be at least 18 years old, and class size is limited to no more than 25 students, according to police.

For information, contact Lt. Raypole at traypole@lwd.org or call 847-673-2167.

Investigations continue into Niles pedestrian fatalities: Police

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

Reports are still being compiled on two fatal crashes that took the lives of pedestrians in Niles over the past few months, police said.

Niles Police Cmdr. Robert Tornabene said no charges or citations have yet been issued in connection with the deaths, as the department is awaiting the completion of the investigations, which are being conducted by the Major Crash Assistance Team of the North Regional Major Crimes Task Force (NORTAF).

"My guess is we won't see anything back from the one that happened in December until some time next month," Tornabene said.

On Dec. 27, Michael Potwora, 72, of Niles, died after he was struck by a vehicle while crossing Greenwood Avenue at Betty Terrace shortly before 6:30 p.m., police said. Initially, police said the incident was being investigated as a hit-and-run, based on statements made to officers, but police later reported that the driver responsible had remained at the scene.

The second pedestrian fatality in Niles occurred Jan. 22 at Dempster Street and Western Avenue near Advocate Lutheran General Hospital.

Michael Horcher, 78, was killed when he was struck by a westbound car while walking north across Dempster, police said. A witness reported seeing the man walk directly in front of the car, according to police.

Once the MCAT investigations are complete, reports will be sent to the Cook County State's Attorney's Office for review, Tornabene said.
COLD BREWS

Craft beer, music and pizza bring people together in Morton Grove

By Karie Angell Luc
Pioneer Press

About 100 people gathered for some cold beer, music and pizza on Feb. 16 at the fourth annual Cold Brews craft beer event in Morton Grove.

Presented by the Morton Grove Park District, the Feb. 16 event featured 14 craft beer providers, along with a pizzeria, at the Village of Morton Grove American Legion Memorial Civic Center.

"It brings the community together," said Mary Mucci, recreation supervisor with the Morton Grove Park District. "There are a lot of beer lovers in Morton Grove."

Varieties of beverages included pale ales to cider.

"Who doesn't like cold beer?" said Dave Callaway of Lombard, a performer with the classic pop rock band, Frank & Dave. "Doesn't matter how cold it is outside, you gotta like cold beer."

Ticket holders, who paid a $35 (21 and over) entry fee, could make snack necklaces with pretzels and nosh on other nibblers such as rolled sandwiches and deli tray fare.

An imperial specialty IPA beer with oat malt called Spirit of Revolt by Revolution Brewing assists a cause to support women and their children who are impacted by domestic abuse, said Steven Sepulveda, brand activation assistant of Revolution Brewing of Logan Square.

"Craft beer, right now, seems to be definitely popping off and definitely coming up big," he said. "For 2019, people are expecting a lot of new things to be coming down the pipe this year. It's an exciting time."

Howard Cohan of Lincolnwood, who served an Italian hard soda containing premium vodka, said "local is better."

"It's good to support other businesses, or they go out of business," Cohan added.

"We like to support local causes," added Ben Rosen of Rogers Park, who attended the event with Ashleigh Rosen and their child, Elliana Rosen, 16 months.

Bob Kruchten of Mount Prospect, originally from Morton Grove, said the later afternoon gathering was welcome during a frozen February.

"It's a great thing in the middle of winter," Kruchten said. "I'm just amazed at the whole craft beer culture. I think all of these people are entrepreneurs, and we should support them."

Sam and Lindsay Thatcher of Morton Grove just moved to the village.

About the event, "we're liking it," Sam Thatcher said. "I like IPAs the most, probably. I like the different flavors."

Lindsay Thatcher said she also prefers the IPA variety.

Katie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

From left are Dave Callaway of Lombard and Frank Merkendorfer of Warrenville, performing at the Cold Brews craft beer event on Feb. 16 at the Village of Morton Grove American Legion Memorial Civic Center.
Lincolnwood police seeking to ‘meet the community’ at Coffee with a Cop event

BY MEGANN HORSTEAD
Pioneer Press

Officials with the Lincolnwood Police Department want the community to come together for its inaugural Coffee with a Cop event.

On the morning of Feb. 21, from 8 to 10 a.m., Lincolnwood Police will host an informal gathering over coffee with community members at Starbucks, 4368 W. Touhy Ave.

“We felt it was a good way to meet the community,” Lincolnwood Chief of Police Jay Parrott said. “The location is a good location where some people could walk, if they live close by. There’s a parking lot that accommodates patrons, if they want to stop by. We’re also hoping to catch some of the commuters, leaving for work or heading to work.”

The event is not only open to residents, but also those who commute in and around the village of Lincolnwood.

“It’s really a casual engagement,” Parrott said. “We get to meet them. People can come up and ask anything they want, or if they want to get to know the officers, to get to know a little bit about the officers—that’s what it’s for.”

At Starbucks, the chief, deputy chief and others on staff will be on hand. Parrott said it makes sense on many levels for Lincolnwood Police to host Coffee with a Cop, adding that many police departments across the nation host events of this type.

“This is obviously a very popular event nationwide,” Parrott said. “It’s grown legs to improve community policing within jurisdictions.”

Parrott said he envisions the gathering drawing in parents who are dropping off their children at school or those stopping in for coffee before heading to work.

“Hopefully, we can accommodate everybody,” he said. “I’m hoping it flows where we can engage in conversation for whether it’s 5 or 10 minutes, with anybody who wants to talk.”

The plan, Parrott said, is to host future gatherings at other coffee shops in and around town.

“It gives everybody an opportunity to go,” he said.

For information, visit www.lincolnwoodil.org.

Megann Horstead is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Woman tells police she was pursued by driver with gun through Park Ridge and Niles

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

A woman told police she was pursued by a man with a gun through Park Ridge and Niles following a driving dispute earlier this month, Niles police reported.

The woman told police she was driving home from work after 5 p.m. Feb. 7 when she was cut off by a silver pickup truck on eastbound Oakton Street approaching Prospect Avenue.

According to police, the woman admitted she “flipped off” the driver of the pickup when she changed lanes and passed him while still eastbound on Oakton. When the pickup truck caught up to the woman’s car, she said she saw the driver pull out a black handgun and point it at her before pointing it at his mouth, police said.

Both cars headed to a parking lot at the southeast corner of the Oakton Street and Milwaukee Avenue where, the woman told police, the driver got out of his truck and began walking toward her vehicle, holding the gun at his side. The woman told police that the man got back into his truck and drove away south on Milwaukee after hearing the sound of police sirens.

Niles Police Cmdr. Robert Tornabene said the woman who reported the alleged incident is 25 years old. As of Feb. 18, police had not identified a suspect, he said.

The man was described as approximately 40 years old, 5 feet, 10 inches to 5 feet, 11 inches tall, wearing a dark colored T-shirt, police said. His vehicle was described as a 2010 Ford pickup truck.

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NEWS

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

Niles

DISORDERLY CONDUCT
A 64-year-old Glenview man was ticketed for disorderly conduct on Feb. 7 after he was accused of harassing employees and using "inappropriate language" among diners who were eating breakfast at Omega, 9100 W. Golf Road, police said. The man was told not to return to the restaurant, according to police.

A 27-year-old man from Evanston was ticketed for disorderly conduct and public intoxication on Feb. 10 after he was accused of drinking beer inside CVS, 9640 N. Milwaukee Ave., and displaying "aggressive behavior," police said. He was taken to a hospital, according to police.

BEHAVIOR
An 18-year-old man from Chicago, North Omaha Avenue, Chicago, was charged with battery on Feb. 11 after police received a call complaining about a man "punching a man several times in the face." He was released and has a scheduled court date.

THEFT
Two video game systems, valued at $799, were reported stolen Feb. 7 from Target, 6150 W. Touhy Ave. According to police, a man placed the game systems on a counter as though he was going to pay for them, but a second person walked behind the cashier and grabbed them and both men left the store.

A woman told police her computer tablet, floor mats and a dashboard religious object were stolen Feb. 12 from her car while it was parked in a lot on the 9000 block of Milwaukee Avenue. Police said the suspect, who ran away, is known to the man.

Two men became involved in a physical altercation at Xsport, 9210 N. Milwaukee Avenue, on the night of Feb. 12. Police said the suspect told police he hit the other man in self-defense. No charges were immediately filed.

Lincolnwood

BURGLARY FROM MOTOR VEHICLE
A blind spot-detection device and rear cross traffic alert was reported stolen Feb. 12 from a car parked on the 3900 block of Estes Avenue, police said. The estimated value of the missing part was $350.

RETAIL THEFT
Edward H. Strong, 30, of the 2500 block of Sagamore Circle, Aurora was charged with retail theft Feb. 10 after he was seen trying to leave a department store on the 3300 block of Touhy Avenue with merchandise with a total value of $124, police said. He was released and has a scheduled administrative hearing date of March 6.

POSSESSION OF CANNABIS
Antonio C. Yorke, 19, of the 8200 block of Hamlin Avenue, Skokie was charged Feb. 14 with possession of cannabis and speeding after he was stopped on the 3800 block of Touhy Avenue, police said. He was released and has a scheduled court date of Feb. 26.
Niles-Maine library set for Oscar Night Party

BY MEGANN HORSTEAD
Pioneer Press

The Niles-Maine District Library invites the public to get a bit of the red carpet treatment when it hosts its annual Oscar Night Party – Go Oscar Wild.

Festivities will take place Feb. 24, from 7 to 11 p.m. at the Niles-Maine District Library. "We hope that attendees are able to engage with other film fans while watching the Oscar telecast," said Cecilia Cygnar, adult services librarian for the Niles-Maine District Library. "Instead of watching the Oscars at home, we hope we're giving people an opportunity to mingle, discuss, and share their feelings about the show, as well as about the nominated movies."

On top of showing the telecast on a large screen, the library will provide attendees with snacks, soft drinks and coffee to enjoy. "We encourage attendees to dress up, so they are camera-ready as they walk our red carpet," Cygnar said. Cygnar said those on staff at the library are excited to host the Oscar Night Party. "We are all very excited about being there," she said. "As host, I'm always anxious to see if anyone will dress up or if anyone's favorite film will win. I love movies and thoroughly enjoy sharing that love with everyone."

The library's community rooms will be decked out with Oscar posters and banners.

"It's always a vibrant, fun-filled event," Cygnar said. "There is chatter going on during the commercials, and that's exactly what we want. We want people to have the best time possible."

Cygnar said she hopes the event casts a wide net. "It seems there are movie fans out there of all ages," she said.

Cygnar said people have already started to sign up, indicating their intent to attend the Oscar Night Party.

"I would love it if we do get a full house of 70 movie lovers," she said. "That would ensure a fun night."

The library encourages anyone interested in dropping in to register in advance, officials said. Those on hand for the Oscar Night Party will have the opportunity to try their hand at winning prizes.

The library has a "Pick the Winner" contest, which ends at 5 p.m. on Oscar Night and allows people to win based on their guesses in the Top 8 categories.

The 2017 Niles-Maine District Library Oscar Night Party drew a crowd.

Those prizes are Portillo's and AMC Theaters gift cards. For information, visit nileslibrary.org.

Megann Horstead is a freelance reporter.

Niles students get new opportunities at Oakton Community College

BY PHIL ROCKROHR
Pioneer Press

Niles Township High Schools District 219 has expanded a program allowing students to earn college credits through Oakton Community College.

A new three-year agreement includes a welding class and opens the door for a nursing assistant's course, said Sandra Arreguin, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction. The board of education voted unanimously Feb. 12 to enter into the memo of understanding that offers students high school and college credits for the same courses.

"The new part of the story is that we're working with Oakton to enrich and expand the number of offerings," said Jim Szczepaniak, director of community relations and strategic partnerships. "Now that we're working within the career pathways framework, we're putting an increased emphasis on programs like this."

Introduction to welding, which began this year, required District 219 to buy welding equipment and build welding spaces for Niles North and Niles West high schools, Arreguin said. "Students are learning how to weld," she said. "They have the tools in their hands. The idea is that the program is aligned to career pathways. They will have certification once they finish the courses at Oakton, and the courses transfer here. They start here and finish at Oakton, and they're prepared to be welders when they're finished."

The welding course was launched because of feedback from businesses, Szczepaniak said. "There is a real shortage at hospitals in the area," he said. "They're really eager for qualified employees, and our students are interested in getting certified and getting out and getting gainfully employed. It's a huge advantage."

Approval of the nursing assistant's course, which is popular course with students, was expressed by the local community, Szczepaniak said. "There is a real shortage of nurses," she said. "For example, we had to build a welding space that is aligned with Oakton's expectations. It's even more so with nursing. We have to have hospital beds, supplies. "We have to make sure all the materials, curriculum and personnel are in place to accomplish it."

About 300 students at each school are taking a dual-credit course this year, Arreguin said. The most popular course with 236 students is health careers, which is required of all college students going into medical fields. It's known as medical terminology at Oakton.

About 250 students are taking engineering-related classes, she said.

"We have to make sure we're offering the full experience for students," she said. "For example, we had to build a welding space that is aligned with Oakton's expectations. It's even more so with nursing. We have to have hospital beds, supplies. "We have to make sure all the materials, curriculum and personnel are in place to accomplish it."

District 219 and Oakton also offer dual-credit courses in early childhood, health careers, computer-integrated manufacturing, civil engineering and architecture, human growth and childhood development, and digital electronics, Arreguin said.

"We're in conversation about offering more courses similar to welding, which will lead to certification for students," she said. "We're exploring basic nurse assistant's training. We're considering offering introduction courses with us so it takes less time to get them certified."

The nursing idea also was generated by a need expressed by the local community, Szczepaniak said. "There is a real shortage at hospitals in the area," he said. "They're really eager for qualified employees, and our students are interested in getting certified and getting out and getting gainfully employed. It's a huge advantage."

Approval of the nursing course is still about a year away, Arreguin said.

Phil Rockrohr is a freelance reporter.
Legislators tout efforts to help those facing mental health issues

By Genevieve Bookwalter
Pioneer Press

Citing a new Democratic governor and a new Democratic majority in the U.S. House of Representatives, elected officials around Skokie, Evanston and the near north suburbs say they're optimistic that treatment and access will improve for those who need mental health care.

The comments came at an annual town hall meeting Feb. 15 hosted by Turning Point Behavioral Health Care Center, a nonprofit, outpatient mental health care center in Skokie that serves children, adults and families. The meeting was held at Skokie Public Library.

"There will be no more votes to end the Affordable Care Act. This is a good thing," said Rep. Jan Schakowsky, D-Evanston.

In addition, Schakowsky said, the 21st Century Cures Act, passed Dec. 31, 2016, promised $1 billion to help fight opioid addiction in the United States. "We are going to ramp up" attention on mental health, Schakowsky said.

Schakowsky was one of a handful of panelists who spoke at the town hall. The focus of the meeting was to discuss the impact of the current political and economic climate on residents' access to mental health services.

State Sen. Laura Fine touted the state's recent decision to allow opioid patients to instead be prescribed medical marijuana to treat pain. Fine's 9th District includes Wilmette, Winnetka, Evanston Glenview, and parts of Morton Grove, Skokie, Niles and Lincolnwood.

Jane Grubser, who oversees all jail programming for the Cook County Department of Corrections, said she too is seeing increased demand for mental health services in Cook County's inmate population. Of the more than 5,700 people in custody, the percentage of those with mental health issues has stayed the same or grown. She expects that trend to continue.

While no one had specific answers to meet the growing need for providers, Schakowsky said federal legislation introduced Jan. 30 should help ease the demand.

Schakowsky co-sponsored the Medicare Mental Health Access Act, which she said would define psychologists as physicians and thus allow them to see Medicare patients independently and without the physician oversight, as is now required. If passed, the bill would help "make sure a whole range of providers are reimbursed for what they do," Schakowsky said.

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Legislators representing the near north suburbs talk about how political and economic factors impact local mental health services during a Feb. 15 forum at Skokie Public Library.
I remember when my parents would pore over old yearbooks and photos, and spin records on our living room turntable that reminded them of high school, college or their early married years.

My mom loved the Four Freshman, for example, and I thought it was cute, in that way teenagers see an antiquated quaintness in their parents and proffer an indulging grin, like they would to a baby or a puppy.

Increasingly, that's been happening in my house. My frozen-in-the-wind Aquanet hair and purple eyeshade from senior prom has become charming, in the way that my grandmother's flapper dress and hat may have seemed to my mom, while she was sporting saddle shoes, a cardigan set with pearls and a pencil skirt.

I'm turning 50 in a couple of weeks, you see, and I am increasingly reminded that I am rushing up on the age when it isn't as much retro as it is vintage. There aren't too many disco nights or '80s nights at hipster bars anymore — it's all about the 90s and early 2000s. Wait, so “The Office” and “Friends” to teens today are what “I Love Lucy” and “Gilligan's Island” were to me?

Yep, that happens. Before you know it, you're scrolling farther down those birth years when filling out an online form or scheduling medical tests that you thought you could shove off a few more years but know you have to set up now.

On that note, I highly recommend a heart scan! Five minutes, a clean result and only a warning to avoid alcohol and carbs. Sure, I'll get right on that with my 50th birthday dinners coming up.

This is about as lame as it sounds, but I don't think 50 today is what it was in the past. Jennifer Aniston just turned 50, and she doesn't look, dress or act like what you might have thought 50 looked like when you were a kid. Same with Jennifer Lopez, who is close to my age and can rock a stage and V-neck gown like someone half her age.

Granted, those ladies have stylists and trainers. Like many suburban moms, I'm just happy I make it to Ulta and Oak Brook Center once in a while. Does running late into your kid's athletic game count as exercise? Because it totally should.

And age is all relative. My sister — one of my favorite relatives, by the way — just turned 60. She doesn't look or act anything approaching near-retirement and we're planning a weekend of celebratory debauchery to mark our mutual milestones. (At least debauchery defined by a visit to a lakeside town with cute boutiques and locally made beer and wine.)

And my dad? Well, he's 86 and still has a lot of brown hair on his head, not to mention a good golf game and the ability to drive down to Florida in winter, so it's another reminder that age is just a number.

Speaking of numbers, I think I'm going to bring up my playlist and turn up "I Can't Drive 55."
A childhood influenced by Motown, Ed Sullivan

Black History Month is a time to remember all the great men and women who fought for equal rights and the meaningful actions and protests of the civil rights movement.

It’s also a chance to reflect on the great historical events that contributed so much to advance the cause of equality for black Americans in this country.

As I look back on my own childhood, there are two icons of the 1960s that I think deserve recognition for the ways in which they moved the ball forward on the issue of equality. Together, they helped change the culture.

Those two icons are “The Ed Sullivan Show,” which was broadcast every Sunday night from 1948 to 1971, and Motown, the Detroit-based hit record company.

“The Ed Sullivan Show” was an hour-long variety show, the type of programming you don’t see on TV anymore.

The show featured comedians, dancers, singers, musical acts, circus acts, scenes from Broadway hits and opera. There was something for everyone. And its star, Ed Sullivan, did little more than introduce the acts. Or, so we thought.

Like everyone in America at the time, my family watched the show together, huddled around a little black-and-white TV screen every Sunday night. We saw those historic broadcasts you’ve heard about in real time. We saw Elvis swivel his hips and the Beatles, all as a family.

But there was something else we saw on Ed Sullivan as a family. It was something rarely seen on American television in those days. Ed regularly featured and promoted black artists, performers and celebrities on his hit show.

Black performers were rarely seen on television, even into the 1970s. Bill Cosby was the first regular black character on a weekly show in 1966 on “I Spy.” The sitcom “Julia,” featuring the first African-American lead character, didn’t appear on TV until 1968.

Before that, the only place black performers were seen on TV regularly was Ed Sullivan. Among his favorite performers in the early days were the great stars Ella Fitzgerald, Sammy Davis Jr., Pearl Bailey and Nat King Cole, who shook hands with Ed, causing an uproar at the time.

Later Ed regularly featured the super groups of the 1960s and 1970s like Smokey Robinson and the Miracles, the Four Tops, the Temptations, Diana Ross and the Supremes, and the Jackson 5.

That leads us directly to Motown. Berry Gordy’s record company in Detroit was a pop hit factory. The artists he recorded and promoted became national stars and their songs were played on every radio station and home turntable in the nation. Many of the stars also appeared on Ed’s show regularly.

Suddenly, young white people weren’t just cheering the Beatles, the Rolling Stones and the Beach Boys. They were also buying hit records on the Motown label, which recorded hit after hit in the 1960s and 1970s, nearly 200 chart-toppers.

We had a Friday night ritual at our home. My mom would come home, we’d get a pizza and then listen to the new 45s she bought at the neighborhood record shop. Her favorite was Diana Ross and the Supremes, and whenever they were on Ed Sullivan, we all had to watch the show and keep quiet.

She would have loved the recent Jennifer Lopez tribute to Motown on the Grammy Awards. The music was the breakthrough the country was waiting for. The whole point of Motown and “The Ed Sullivan Show” was to make money.

But the result of how they did it, putting black performers up front for everyone in America to see, created the soundtrack of a generation and changed America the culture.

As Smokey Robinson said after the Grammy’s in support of J-Lo, “Motown was music for everybody. Everybody.”

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist.
ADVICE

New novel sends powerful message to divorced people

"The death of a dream" might be the hardest part about going through a divorce, according to Beth Bear Shields.

"When my boys were 1 and 3, I was walking on the beach, and I saw a couple walking with a toddler on the husband's shoulders and I thought to myself, 'This is something I will never have.' I was right," said Shields, a North Shore-based mom, who went through a divorce in 2003.

But the now 50-year-old former preschool teacher said she learned a valuable lesson through her divorce and being a single mom: You can still have a beautiful life.

"Instead, I have memories of the three of us playing in the sand together, and I wouldn't trade those for anything," she said.

Shields, who is now remarried, took divorce experiences like these, along with the stories of other divorced women, and turned them into her recently published novel, "Seamless."

The story of a young mom starting her life again after divorce, Shields said "Seamless" was written both to entertain and inspire readers.

"It's not all true, but it's based on me -- a character who doesn't like change, is afraid to stick up for herself and because she's little, she wears a platform in her shoe," said Shields, who is 4 feet, 10 inches tall (and proud of it). "When she gets separated, she has to put her big girl shoes on, step up and move forward."

Shields, a University of Kansas graduate who also holds a master's degree in human services and counseling, said during her divorce, finances were a huge source of stress. With two toddlers, she had to go back to work, cut back on expenses, and move into a much smaller home.

Another fear she had was for her kids, specifically the effects the divorce might have on them. Additionally, Shields said she worried that because she was the only one of her friends to get divorced, she didn't know what people were going to think of her.

"I would go to the grocery store, and I felt like I was on display," Shields said. "I was afraid I was going to be labeled or misunderstood."

What helped her get through the tough times? Definitely her family and friends, but Shields also said that as time went by, she found inner strength she didn't know she had.

"I'm 4-foot-10, and people might look at me and think because I'm physically little, I can't handle things, but I'm pretty tough," she said. "Things happen. Broken pipes, asbestos, a broken furnace, and I wanted my kids to see that I was strong and that they didn't need to be afraid. That I would take care of them and handle things."

Just like Becca, the main character in "Seamless," Shields said she learned the importance of being comfortable in your own shoes, in other words being your authentic self.

"Breaking out of a box isn't easy. It's safe and comfortable in there, and you can stay inside and choose not to invite others in. I think that's how I felt initially," Shields said. "But then you try something new, and whether it's a victory or not there's this kind of rush. It made me remember that there was a time that I took chances and put myself out there."

When asked why she chose the title, "Seamless" for the novel, Shields said she thought of it one day while driving past a home she had always admired. The home happened to be under construction.

"I was thinking, 'I wonder if they will be able to put it all back so it looks the same,'" she said. "Then I thought, 'I wonder if someday people will look at me and think that the pieces were put back together and that it turned out looking seamless.' Yes, there was a crack, and it may always be there, but as time goes by that mark fades."

As "Seamless" is released this month, Shields is celebrating her hard work and achievement. But there's something else that calls for a celebration. Shields recently finished treatment for breast cancer, and doctors have told her she has a great prognosis. Diagnosed last August, she described her illness as "just another challenge."

"I used to think everyone else's lives were so much easier, but they're not. Everyone has challenges," she said.

"When I was going through treatment, just as I did in my divorce, I got out of bed every morning, put my feet on the floor and said 'I can do this today.'"

"Seamless" is available on Amazon.com.

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

Pursuant to the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 17, 2018, 10:00 AM on March 20, 2019, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60606, the Sheriff of Cook County, Illinois, and the Unit of the Foreclosure Sale, will at 10:30 AM on March 22, 2019, at 1326 PLOWE AVENUE, APT. E06, EVANSTON, IL 60201, sell public auction, to the highest bidder, set forth below, the following described real estate:

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special property taxes, taxes levied against any improvements thereon, any assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is further subject to confirmation by the court.

The sale is subject to the disclosures in the Notice of Sale, the affidavits filed with the court in the foreclosure action, and the judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the real estate pursuant to the judgment, and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS CONDITION." The sale is set forth below, the following described real estate:

Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The real estate is within the boundaries of the area in which the United States is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of the property.

$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee at the sale for any judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the real estate without rights in and to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special property taxes, taxes levied against any improvements thereon, any assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is further subject to confirmation by the court.

The sale is set forth below, the following described real estate:

Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special property taxes, taxes levied against any improvements thereon, any assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is further subject to confirmation by the court.

The sale is set forth below, the following described real estate:

Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you
FICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC 175 N. Franklin Street, Suite 201 CHICAGO,
at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation con-
part o a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the
closure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and
purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid,
course to Plaintiff and in "AS IS
is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special
or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be
amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds/

NOTICE OF SALE
Plaintiff, -v - UNKNOWN HEIRS OF DAVID B. VOLLMER A/K/A DAVID
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The Village of Norridge, Illinois 60706

Common address: 4526 Harlem Avenue, Norridge, IL

1620941074 BY AND BETWEEN HAMHIC LLC, VILLAGE OF NORRIDGE AND AGATITE PARTNERS, LLC OVER THE COMMON AREAS AS MORE PARTICULARLY
BY THE AMENDED AND RESTATED DECLARATION OF EASEMENTS AGREEMENT DATED JULY 22, 2016 AND RECORDED JULY 27, 2016 AS DOCUMENT NO

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PERPETUAL EASEMENTS FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS, DRAINAGE, UTILITIES, AND PARKING FOR THE BENEFIT OF PARCEL 1 AS CREATED BY THE

The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities in the bidding. The Board
The pamphlet for Ordinance No. 1945-19, including the ordinance and a cover sheet thereof, was prepared, and a copy of such ordinance
was posted in the Village Hall, commencing February 11, 2019 and continuing for at least 10 days thereafter. Copies of the ordinance were also

To be published: February 21, 2019; February 28, and March 7, 2019

The Village of Norridge, Illinois 60706

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To be published: February 21, 2019; February 28, and March 7, 2019

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To be published: February 21, 2019; February 28, and March 7, 2019

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LEGAL NOTICES

Assumed Name
Cook County - Assumed Name

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the Act in relation to the use of the conduct of transfer of a business, that a certificate of
was filed on August 31, 2018 with the Village of Norridge, Illinois. Pursuant to the Act, the name shall be used for the purpose of the
The use of the name shall be used for the purpose of the business for a period of one year from the date of the filing of the certificate.

Rep: 18/21, 2/1, 3/8, 2019; 16-136022

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B6 Judicial Sales - Real Estate

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION Plaintiff,

v. 


Case No. 18 CH 15149

Pursuant to a Judgment made and entered by said Court in the above entitled cause on April 1, 2019, Thomas J. Dart, Sheriff of Cook County, Illinois, will on March 19, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 60 of the lower level of the Village Hall, 4526 Harlem Avenue, Chicago Heights, Illinois, 60411, for the purpose of the following described premises:
LOT 15 IN BLOCK 1 IN WEST 16TH STREET ADJACENT TO THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 19 TOWNSHIP 30 NORTH RANGE 14, EAST IF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

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### FIRST-NAME BASIS:
From a best-selling book

**BY FRED PISCOP | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN**

(Stanword.com)

**Across**

1. Sound boosters
2. "Dose" people
3. Bodybuilder's muscle
4. Legendary
5. Sooty spot
6. Natural deicer
7. Munich automaker
8. Admired ones
9. Andrews Oscar role
10. Neptune's domain
11. One of the Friends
12. Admired ones
13. Milan automaker
14. Natural deicer
15. Sooty spot
16. Legendary
17. Bodybuilder's muscle
18. "Dose" people
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**Down**

1. Up to the task
2. Injure severely
3. Toll road
4. Goblets, for instance
5. David's launcher
6. Revolver innovator
7. One of the Friends
8. Verbal like equipment
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Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

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Quote-Acrostic

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

**Clues**

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**V. Upgrade to market**

| 29             | 169                       | 150                     | 130                          | 22              | 122                           | 137                             |                 |               |               | 56             |

By Charles Preston

**Pigskin Parade**

**Across**

1. Theater org.
5. Mrs., in Montreux
8. Cruces
11. Chateau on the Loire
12. NC Cape
13. Big name in New Haven
14. Coquettes
15. Meet event
16. High, musically
17. Quarterback
19. generis
20. Possess
21. Pungent bulb
22. Sea bird
24. Meander
26. Fannyman Johnson
27. Lessens
29. Customs payment
30. Kiwi's cousin
31. Dolt
32. Quarterback
37. Figs.
38. Seventeenth letter
39. Bagold
41. Long, long tales
44. Poet Hughes, et al.

45. Asian starch
46. Claire or Balin
47. Grapes, e.g.
49. Number in a brace
50. Part of RSVP
51. Quarterback
55. Summer, in Antibes
56. Northern capital
57. Where odas are
58. Japanese epic film
59. Prayer ending
60. Sixth US president
61. "I wandered lonely ___ cloud!"
62. Call for help
63. Bye-bye

**Down**

1. Estrange
2. Standard
3. Longtime leader, in Belgrade
4. Bus. abbreviation
5. Malicious one
6. Portuguese territory
7. Poet's preposition
8. Charters
9. Glamor
10. Some strikes
11. Tire trauma
12. Quarterback
14. Wonder of Norway
18. "___ a lady of her fortune."
22. Legendary Loch
25. Hollywood's Loy
28. Phoenix source
31. Summer coolers
33. Sub___
34. Video companion
35. Detested one
36. Indian dwellings
40. Condemns
41. Canaanite commander
42. West Side Story girl, et al.
43. Lead's principal ore
44. Designations
48. Helen Gurley Brown's mag.
52. Mountain pass
53. London drama sch.
54. Smell___
56. Western union: abbr.
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If you live in Niles Township and have a child in grades K-4 who is home-schooled or attend a private school and you are interested in participating in the 2019 Niles Township Community Connection program, please contact Interactive Community Development Department, 7272 Skokie Blvd., Suite #100, Northbrook, IL 60062. Phone: 847-933-8447. Fax: 847-933-8445. Email: info@interactiv Village of Lincolnwood
Public Meeting Notice
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held at the Village Hall, 2650 Lincolnwood Parkway, Lincolnwood, Illinois, on Tuesday, December 11, 2018, at 7:00 PM
Public Hearing
THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF LINCOLNWOOD, ILLINOIS, WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE VESTIGE MUSEUM PROPOSED UNIVERSITY PARK PROJECT
This is an attempt to collect a overdue mortgage payment and associated costs, including attorney fees, from the following account:

2/21/19 6146808

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WHAT TO DO

A musical journey to the year 1941

Feb. 26 event features songs from shows with interesting histories

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Porchlight Music Theatre will take audiences on a musical journey to the past when they present “New Faces Sing Broadway 1941” on Feb. 26 at SPACE in Evanston. The show will be reprised on Feb. 27 at the Arts Club of Chicago.

“It’s an interesting year,” said Director Johanna McKenzie Miller, “because it’s a time in our history on the precipice of world war. It’s a time on Broadway where there’s a lot of really fun shows and distractions happening.”

She noted that there were some remnants of vaudeville and burlesque during that period, as well as a number of musical revues.

“Broadway was kind of figuring out what it was going to be,” McKenzie Miller said. “So, it’s exciting to dive into that time period and see these shows — some that are kind of juke box musicals, but there’s also this new use of music in storytelling.”

McKenzie Miller reported that she worked closely with the show’s Music Director David Fiorello and Porchlight’s Artistic Director Michael Weber to select the songs for the show.

The director was surprised to discover, “There are some familiar tunes from totally obscure shows, and a bunch of shows that were made into movies as well.”

Some songs were selected because they were from shows that had an interesting history, like one that was Carol Channing’s Broadway debut.

Matt Crowle will serve as host and provide commentary on the shows and on the state of Broadway in 1941.

Cast member Marvin J. Malone II likes the “New Faces” concept because, “They take some of the newest and hardest working talents in the city and say, ‘Hey, let’s showcase you.’”

Each singer is given songs that highlight their type and voice, Malone said.

“That’s really cool because a lot of times in shows, even though we’re showing what we can do, we’re not necessarily given a chance to show who we are,” Malone said.

The performer is enjoying learning how Broadway shows differed in 1941 as compared to the present day. “They did not do a lot of vocal acrobatics,” Malone said. “They just delivered the story and delivered the song. It was very honest. I think that Broadway is getting back to that now.”

At press time, Malone hadn’t been told which numbers he will perform but he noted, “Some of the suggestions are pretty exciting.”

“‘There’s definitely more than I thought happened in 1941,” said cast member Ann Delaney. She is soloing on “My Ship,” from “Lady in the Dark,” a show that Delaney described as “very weird.”

“It’s about a woman who is an editor-in-chief of a fashion magazine, which I thought was interesting with it being set in 1941,” the performer related. “She is going through psychoanalysis because she feels very unfeminine and can’t find love. It was not something I thought was talked about in 1941.”

Delaney will also participate in several group numbers, including “Louisiana Purchase” from the Irving Berlin show of the same name, and the finale, “Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered” from “Pal Joey.”

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

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

**Thursday, Feb. 21**

**Gun Violence and Youth Activism with David Hogg:** David Hogg is an American author and student who survived the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting on Feb. 14, 2018 and afterward became a gun control advocate and an activist against gun violence. He is one of twenty founding members of Never Again MSD. Hogg joins a panel discussion with local Chicagoland students to discuss gun violence and the role of youth activism to end this epidemic. The panel will be moderated by Nina Vinik, Director, Gun Violence Prevention and Justice Reform Program at The Joyce Foundation. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Beth Emet Synagogue, 1224 Dempster St., Evanston, free, 847-869-4230.

**Céline Browning's - War Games at Dittmar Gallery:** Céline Browning’s “War Games” series investigates the line between safety and peril present within toy weapons, combining the world of children’s play with violence from the outside world. “War Games” will be on display from Feb. 20 to March 25 at Northwestern University’s Dittmar Memorial Gallery, located at Norris University Center. The opening reception is 5 to 7 p.m., on Feb. 22. 10 a.m. daily, Dittmar Memorial Gallery, Northwestern University, 1999 Campus Drive, Evanston, free, 847-491-2348.

**A Conversation with Newcity's Brian and Jan Hieggelke:** For the February Speaker Series, the MS in Leadership for Creative Enterprises program welcomes Brian and Jan Hieggelke, Founders of Newcity and the Chicago Film Project. This event is free and open to the public. 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Frances Searle Building, on Northwestern University Evanston Campus, 2240 Campus Dr., Evanston, free.

**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.

**Alzheimer’s Support Group:** We’ll share successful care-giving approaches and discuss what works, what doesn’t and how you can care for yourself and your loved one. Debra Feldman, LCSW, MSW, CMC, owner and geriatric care manager of DDF Management, will speak on this topic. 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Belmont Village of Glenview, 2200 Golf Road, Glenview, free, 847-657-7100.

**Senior Coffee Hour: Music and the Brain:** Music enhances memory and can enrich one's life during daily stresses and challenges. Coffee at 9:30 a.m., and the program starts at 10 a.m. Registration is required; registrants do not need a Lincolnwood Library card to attend. Please visit their website, call or stop by to register. 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

**Jewish Learning Institute Class - Northbrook Law Office:** Rabbi Meir Moscowitz of Lubavitch Chadab 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 Kaufman & Associates Law Office, 555 Skokie Blvd., Northbrook, $100 plus $100 for CLE credits, 847-564-8770.

**Preston Sturges: The Greatest Filmmaker You Never Heard:** In a span of seven years, Preston Sturges had a run of making some of the greatest American movies of all time. Challenge yourself to become enthralled with the filmmaker whose name you may not know but whose movies are unforgettable. 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.

**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.

**Apple iPhone and iPad Basics:** Looking to get comfortable using your iPhone and iPad? Learn the basics of navigation, customization and app usage with an aim toward increasing overall familiarity and comfort with your device. 1 p.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $19 member, $25 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

**Friday, Feb. 22**

**Into the Woods, Jr.:** Into the Woods, Jr. is a delightful adaptation of Sondheim's Tony Award-winning musical, featuring characters from multiple fairy tales, all together in an epic quest through the woods. Cinderella, Little Red, Jack and his beanstalk, Rapunzel, Royal Princes, a Baker and his Wife, and a Witch ... and many more! This is suitable for all ages. 7 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, Prairie Lakes Theatre, 515 E. Thacker St., Des Plaines, $12-$15, 847-516-2298.

**Northwestern Wirtz Center’s Guys and Dolls:** These performances take place from Feb. 15 to March 3 on the Evanston campus of the Northwestern University. “Guys and Dolls” is based on Damon Runyon’s colorful story of characters in the New York underworld. The Wirtz Center production’s modern twist acknowledges the non-binary gender and sexual identity of its characters that exist both today and were twisted acknowledges the non-binary gender and sexual identity of its characters that exist both today and were.

**MGPL After Dark Movie: Widow and Oscar prediction wrap:** Join in for movie night at MGPL, where you can enjoy complimentary popcorn and refreshments while you watch a great movie on the big screen. The cast includes: Viola Davis and Michelle Rodriguez, and the story is set in contemporary Chicago, amid a time of turmoil, with four women with nothing in common except a debt left behind by their dead husbands’ criminal activities, take fate into their own hands. This is your last chance to fill out an Oscar prediction ballot for a chance to win a Blu-ray player. No tickets or registration required. 6:30 p.m. Friday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

**Saturday, Feb. 23**

**Noam Pickeiny and Stuart Duncan:** 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Evanston Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $25-$45, 847-492-8860.

**Paula Froehle, Deborah Hirshfeld and Laurie LeBreton:** This exhibition showcases three artists, Paula Froehle, Deborah Hirshfeld and Laurie LeBreton, using fiber materials and sculptural elements to create a cohesive display exploring gender roles, healing and identity. The opening reception is March 1 from 5-8 p.m., which is free and open to the public. The gallery hours are: 9 a.m.—9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.—5 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m.—4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. First and second floor gallery spaces are.

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WHAT TO DO COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Calendar, from Page 14

handicapped accessible. 9 a.m. daily, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300.

Lapis Trio in concert: Innovative composer/guitarist Casey Nielsen successfully straddles both the classical and jazz worlds. With his Lapis Trio he has created a new recording, "The Travelers," which embraces multiple genres and possesses a quasi-narrative structure. This concert will be recorded live for Chicago Jazz Live on WDCB FM Radio. 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, Studio 5, 1934 Dempster St., Evanston, $20 general seating, $25 cabaret seating, 847-328-6683.

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 challenges courses and present opportunities to delve deep into a single topic. Courses are on Saturday at Northwestern University, Evanston; FXW, Chicago; NCC, Naperville; and Quest Academy, Palatine from January 19-March 9. Sundays in Evanston only. Financial aid is available. 9 a.m. Saturday, Northwestern University Technological Institute, 2145 Sheridan Road, Evanston, $430 for eight week session. Financial aid available.

Mario Michael Jackson Don't Stop Till You Get Enough: This is a Michael Jackson variety show featuring Michael and Janet Jackson music and other artists, and tells a dance story of the King of Pop, Michael Jackson. 6 p.m. Saturday, Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave., Evanston, $10, 224-305-3328.

SAT Practice Test: Grades 9-12: C2 Education proctors a full-length, timed SAT practice test. Register online, call 847-729-7200 or visit Reader Services. Noon Saturday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Service Buddies: Project Help Our Furry Friends: Fifth- through eighth-graders assist first- through fourth-graders, with a service project to create blankets and toys for cats and dogs waiting for their forever families at Heartland Animal Shelter. Register at glenviewpl.org/register, 847-729-7500, ext. 7900 or visit Youth Services. 10 a.m. Saturday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Pinkalicious The Musical: Think pink! Based on the popular book series, Pinkalicious The Musical features a fun-loving tale of what happens when a girl's passion for pink goes too far. Performances run 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturdays, Jan. 19-Feb. 23. Tickets are $12 and can be purchased at nparks.org. 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, Northbrook Theatre, 3323 Walters Ave., Northbrook, $12, 847-291-2995.

Shabbat Yoga: Experience Shabbat Yoga, a gentle, relaxing yoga session inspired by Shabbat as a rest day, open to all levels. We will bring together Jewish spiritual heritage and the healing practice of yoga. 11 a.m. Saturday, Congregation Beth Shalom, 3433 Walters Ave., Northbrook, free, 847-498-4100.

21 Days to St. Patrick's Day: Get into the St. Patty's spirit (a little early)! Join us for a night of fun, live music and drinks to benefit ChildServ, featuring a performance by The Chancey Brothers! Includes appetizers and open bar from 7 to 9 p.m. Tickets are $50 per person and can be purchased by visiting www.childserv.org/event or at the door. 7 p.m. Saturday, The Harp and Fiddle, 110 Main St., Park Ridge, $50.

Wild Things: Join up to 3000 fellow attendees for exhibits, performances and poster sessions. 9 a.m. Saturday, Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 9291 Bryn Mawr Ave., Rosemont, $10, 847-692-2220.

AACC 36th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration: This 2019 Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC) Lunar New Year Gala is hosted this year by The Filippino American Community, with Aurora Abella-Austrico serving as Chair. The Asian American Coalition of Chicago represents Asian American communities from the Filippino, Korean, Chinese, Bangladeshi, Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese, Indian, Indonesian, Japanese, Laotian, Malaysian, Nepalese, Sri Lankan, Thai and Vietnamese communities. For more info, visit the website. 5 p.m. Saturday, Hyatt Regency O'Hare, 9300 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Rosemont, $95, 847-858-1274.

Skoiky Synagogue - Fun Class in Yiddish Phrases: A class in "Yiddish - Proverbs, Idioms and Curses to Tackle Life," highlighted by a slide presentation and translations, will be presented. "We are delighted that Alan Todres will be with us to teach the intricacies of 'Yiddish,'" says Esther Javetz, chair of the Adult Education Committee, which is sponsoring the program. 6 p.m. Sunday, Temple Beth-El, 3610 Dundee Road, Northbrook, free, 312-666-0100.

Sunday, Feb. 24

Imagine U: When She Had Wings: A fiercely determined young girl and aspiring pilot named B. has decided that she must realize her destiny to fly before turning 10. In a makeshift airplane built in her backyard treehouse, she conquers the thrilling and legendary victories of her hero, Amelia Earhart. 2 p.m. Sunday, Hal and Martha Hyer-Wallis Theater, Northwestern University, 1949 Campus Drive, Evanston, $6-$12, 847-491-7282.

Weekly Irish Music Session - John Williams: Join in every Sunday for a feast of Irish music led by world-renowned master of many a musical instrument, John Williams, and joined by his many talented musical friends. Eat, drink and enjoy live music at your local pub in lovely downtown Evanston. 3 p.m. Sunday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679.

The Wife: After nearly forty years of marriage, a wife questions her life choices as she travels to Stockholm with her husband where he is slated to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature. Feel free to just drop in for this screening. 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois: "Write It! Tips for Saving and Sharing Family History in Written Form" will be family historian Martin Fischer's presentation topic at 2 p.m. at the Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois meeting at Temple Beth-Eli. Registration, networking and the JGSI genealogy help desk and research library will open at 12:30 p.m. For more information, see https://jgsi.org/event-3151691 or phone.12:30 p.m. Sunday, Temple Beth-Eli, 3610 Dundee Road, Northbrook, free, 312-666-0100.

Angst movie screening and discussion: Kenilworth Union Church hosts “Angst” along with follow-up discussions, for teens and for adults. The screenings are free and open to the public, but space is limited and registration is required. 7 p.m. Sunday, Kenilworth Union Church, 211 Kenilworth Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-261-4272.

Monday, Feb. 25

Elise Davis: 8 p.m. Monday, Evanston Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $10-$18, 847-492-8860.

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous: This is for those who are having trouble controlling the way they eat. You are not alone. Today, there is a solution. Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a free Twelve Step recovery program for anyone suffering from food obsession, overeating, under-eating or bulimia. The following meeting is held in Evanston every week: Mondays from 6:45 p.m.-8:15 p.m. in room 1711 of the Evanston Hospital. 6:45 p.m. Monday, Evanston Hospital, 2650 Ridge Ave., Evanston, free.

Alliance Francaise du North Shore Apéro Conversation: Join in for relaxed French conversation, facilitated by native or fluent speakers. Listening in French is encouraged; all levels are welcome. Pour yourself a glass of wine, tap a beer or choose a fresh-brewed coffee. A large array of cheeses, cold cuts, prepared meals, salads, baked goods, etc., is available for purchase. For more information: Meetup.com/afnorthshore and AFNorthshore.org. 7 p.m. Monday, Café at Heinen's Grocery Store, 1020 Waukegan Road, Glenview, free, 847-858-1274.

hoopla, kanopy, MyMediaMail & RBdigital Individual Appt.: Meet with trained library staff for a 45-minute, one-on-one session and learn how to download eBooks, audiobooks, magazines, movies, TV shows or music to your mobile device. Visit or call the Reader Services Desk for questions, to register and for appointment locations. A Glenview Library card is required, 10 a.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Online Brain Games: Your brain needs to work out too! Learn the top brain exercise programs and apps and how to get started. Built-in tests will chart your progressions and successes. Get started improving the many functions of your brain, including your memory. 1 p.m. Monday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $19.

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Tuesday, Feb. 26

**Porchlight Music Theatre - New Faces Sing Broadway 1941:** This production is hosted by Matt Crowle, directed by Johanna McKenzie Miller and music directed by David Fiorello; New Faces Sings Broadway makes its Evanston debut at SPACE, on Tuesday, Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m. and returns to The Arts Club of Chicago, 201 E. Ontario Street, Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m. Single tickets at The Arts Club include a pre-performance cocktail hour starting at 6:30 p.m. and are $55 each. Single tickets or series subscription are available at PorchlightMusicTheatre.org or by calling the Porchlight Music Theatre box office, 773-777-9884. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Evanston Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $35 at SPACE, 847-492-8860.

**Smile & Rhyme at Heinen’s for ages 2+ with adult:** Join us for stories, rhymes and songs in the Café, then stay for a snack and to chat. Just drop in. 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Heinen’s Grocery Store, 1020 Waukegan Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-1525.

**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.

**CJE SeniorLife Counseling:** 30-minute appointments are available from 9:30 a.m. to noon. CJE SeniorLife Resource Specialists provide counseling to adults ages 60 and over, their families and caregivers on topics such as selecting appropriate retirement benefits, picking the right health insurance and Medicare programs, determining housing needs and identifying supportive resources. For more information and to make an appointment, call Kathy Gaeding at CJE SeniorLife. 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 773-508-1054.

**Responding to Domestic Violence and Homelessness:** Temple Beth Israel presents Homelessness Panel Discussion.” Representatives from WINGS (Women in Need Growing Stronger) and Connections for the Homeless will talk about these issues and a Q&A will follow. This event is free and open to the community. Donations of Jewel and CVS gift cards, toothpaste, deodorant, Q-tips and baby wipes are encouraged. Call TBI or visit the website for more information. 5 p.m. Tuesday, Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-0951.

Wednesday, Feb. 27

**Parent Effectiveness Training or P.E.T.:** Come learn the powerful, time-tested, proven skills from Parent Effectiveness Training. Class meets every Wednesday evening from 6:30-9 p.m., ending March 13. Tuition for one person from each family is $200; each additional person from the same family is only $100. If you have attended class before, tuition is free, but please pay the $30 cost of the new PET Workbook. Contact Margaret Pasquesi at margaretpasquesi.com or Liz Swider at e-swider@comcast.net. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Our Lady of Perpetual Help - OLPH, Parish Center in Hickey Hall, 1772 Glenview Road 2nd Floor, Glenview, tuition $200 one family member; $100 each additional family member, 847-729-1525.

**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.

**Life’s Origins and Evol. of Jewish Life Cycle Ceremonies:** Why are glasses broken at Jewish weddings? This question and many more about Jewish Life Cycle celebrations, rituals and customs will be explored and answered. 10 a.m. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $20 member, $30 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

**Park Ridge Fly Tying Club Meetings:** This dedicated group of fly fisherman and fly tiers, provide a social gathering place for individuals who were interested in fly tying, fly fishing and sharing their knowledge and experiences. Meetings are held on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. from the end of Sept. through May. For more information visit their website, email info@chicagoflyfishers.org or join at a meeting. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Park Ridge Community Church, 100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-3164.

Have an event to submit? Go to ChicagoTribune.com/
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Four principals will be leaving Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 at the end of the school year — two of them joining departing superintendent Laurie Heinz in Palatine-based Community Consolidated School District 15.

In emails to parents of Washington and Franklin School students, Heinz on Feb. 13 announced that Washington School Principal Stephanie Daly has accepted the position of principal at Virginia Lake Elementary School in Palatine, while Franklin School Principal Claire Kowalczyk has been named District 15's deputy superintendent of schools.

Both will begin their new positions July 1, said Morgan Delack, spokeswoman for District 15.

Daly was hired as principal of Washington School in June 2014. This school year, Washington was a recipient of a 2018 National Blue Ribbon Schools award from the U.S. Department of Education.

Daly was previously assistant principal of Carpenter and Franklin Schools.

Kowalczyk joined Franklin School in 2016 after serving as principal of schools in North Shore School District 112 and Prospect Heights School District 23.

In their new positions, Daly and Kowalczyk will continue to work under Heinz, who has been named superintendent of District 15, effective July 1. The District 15 Board of Education approved Heinz's hiring in December.

A message left for Daly was not immediately returned. Kowalczyk in an email said only that Heinz's announcement to parents and a press release issued by District 15 "captured my excitement about this new opportunity."

The announcement of the principals' impending departures came a little more than a week after the District 64 Board of Education approved a personnel report that included the June 30 resignations of District 64's middle school principals: Anthony Murray of Lincoln Middle School and James Morrison of Emerson Middle School.

Morrison, who has been Emerson's principal since 2011, was hired in January as the new principal of South Middle School in Arlington Heights School District 25. He will begin on July 1, said District 25 spokesman Adam Harris.

Murray has been principal of Lincoln since 2012. It is unclear if he is leaving the district for a new position elsewhere.

Messages left for Murray and Morrison were also not returned Feb. 14.

District 64 School Board Vice President Rick Biagi said it is "not uncommon" for employees to follow the person who hired them to a new position, but he did say he had concerns about four principals leaving the school district at the same time and suggested there could potentially be additional departures.

"It will be interesting to see how the board decides to go with this, if they want to get more involved in [the hiring of the new principals] and if we even can legally," he said.

Heinz, as superintendent, is tasked with hiring school principals, though the board does vote to accept the hiring. In past years, committees that have included residents and parents have been involved in the process as well.

Joel Martin, District 64's assistant superintendent for human resources, said the procedure that has been followed for the last five years has involved screening of applicants by central office administrators, followed by in-person interviews with teams of school and central office administrators.

Top candidates are then interviewed before a committee that typically includes a school board member, administrators, and staff and parents of the school with the principal vacancy, Martin said.

With Heinz scheduled to leave the district on June 30 after five years with District 64, Biagi said he would like to see the next District 64 superintendent — whomever that may be — have some "input" into the selection of the new principals. But there is a time crunch, Biagi acknowledged, and it is unclear when a new superintendent might be selected.

The board has hired a consultant to lead the search for superintendent candidates.

The principals who are leaving District 64 are expected to see increases in their annual base salaries as they begin their new positions.

Delack said Daly will receive a base salary of $131,200 and Kowalczyk's base salary will be $165,000. Morrison's base pay will be $148,920, Harris said.

According to the 2018 Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits Report released by District 64, Daly's base salary is $116,806, Kowalczyk's is $137,000 and Morrison's is $139,985.

Four District 64 principals to resign at end of school year

Notre Dame College Prep names first semester honor roll students

Staff report

Notre Dame College Prep in Niles recently announced the names of students who were named to the school's honor roll for the first semester of the 2018-19 school year.

Three designations were given to students based on their letter grades and grade point average: Summa cum laude for GPAs of 3.80 or better, magna cum laude for GPAs of 3.5 to 3.79, and cum laude, for GPAs of 3.2 to 3.49.

Honor roll students from Niles were Vincenzo Gentili, Michael Luise, Jr., Roman Rajski, Nathaniel Caamano, Alexander Kierna, Vartkes Minatiskan, Christian Pachristodoulou and Spencer Rajski, summa cum laude; Michael Citrano, Jacob Kanarowski, Joseph Waltz, Andres Abdala, Patrick Citrano and Michael Ziemba, magna cum laude; and Kenneth Halsell and Christopher Tran, cum laude.

Honor roll students from Park Ridge were Joseph Hinds, Jr., Jackson Kelly, Michael Parisi, Patrick Shaughnessy, Michael Christie, Michael Lazicki, Joseph O'Regan, Paul DiFranco, Jonathan Kalm, Franco LaCorte, Joseph Nowak, Timothy O'Regan, Trent Valente, James Grant, Luke Heidersbach, Aidan Maher, Max McGovern, David Ross and Varun Sriman, summa cum laude; Patrick Reinhofer, Michael Dompke, Antonino LaCorte and Tyler Harmon, magna cum laude; and Michael Pictarcs, Michael Wasyliw, Nathaniel Dompke, Jacob Stefanowicz and SamWright, cum laude.

Honor roll students from Morton Grove were Dominic Deano, Craig Kutschke, Thanh Nguyen, Matthew Tan, Jonathan Abon, Ryan Nicolay and Nicholas Swellem, summa cum laude; Brandon Valdez, magna cum laude; and Julian Schurr and Simon Baethke, cum laude.

Honor roll students from Lincolnwood were Kenneth Such, summa cum laude, and Glen O'Brien, cum laude.
D207 School Board approves $3.47 million in construction

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Roof and gutter replacements, running track improvements and building repairs are among $3.47 million in construction projects approved for Maine Township High School District 207 schools by the board of education this month.

Contracts for the work at Maine South, Maine East and Maine West High Schools were voted on by the board Feb. 4. The projects are in addition to the estimated $240.7 million in renovations planned for the schools following a successful bond referendum in November, board members were told.

The projects approved this month include the following:
- Roof replacement on Maine South's A Wing, at a cost of $810,000.
- Roof replacement on the spectator gym at Maine West at a cost of $445,500.
- Gutter replacement at Maine East at a cost of $1 million. According to a memo from District 207 Director of Facilities David Ulm, the gutters on the original school building, built in 1929, have leaks that are "beyond our ability to keep up with." The project is expected to take place over two phases in summer 2019 and summer 2020.
- Outdoor track replacement at Maine West and resurfacing of Maine South's outdoor track at a combined cost of $505,915. Initially, it was believed that Maine South's track would require only repainting, but core samples showed the surface was "experiencing wear that indicated we might see significant damage over the next couple years," Ulm reported.
- The second phase of Maine East's chilled water piping project at a cost of $334,800.
- Concrete repairs at Maine East and Maine South at a combined cost of $233,900.
- Replacement of doors and wall repair near the CTE wing at Maine East at a cost of $98,189.
- Skylight repair at Frost Academy for $38,750.

Bids were sought for each of the projects, according to the district.

Board member Jin Lee said he hoped that none of the work being approved would be "duplicated" when the renovations approved by voters begin.

Mary Kalou, assistant superintendent for business, said it would not be.

"If we do it now, it's not going to be redone," she said. "None of these areas are items we will be addressing in the next three- and-a-half years through the referendum projects."

Mary Kalou, assistant superintendent for business, said it would not be.

"If we do it now, it's not going to be redone," she said. "None of these areas are items we will be addressing in the next three- and-a-half years through the referendum projects."

"If we do it now, it's not going to be redone," she said. "None of these areas are items we will be addressing in the next three- and-a-half years through the referendum projects."
Men attempted to scam elderly man out of $5,200 to repair car scratches: Police

**By Jennifer Johnson**

Morton Grove police say two men attempted to scam an elderly resident out of more than $5,000 by pretending to repair scratches to his car.

Beatele Miller, 50, of the 1700 block of Algonquin Road, Mount Prospect, and Walter M. Reed, 32, of the 1600 block of Oakton Street, Des Plaines, were each charged by police with attempted theft by deception in connection with the alleged incident that began in a Niles parking lot on Feb. 11, police said.

According to police, an 89-year-old Morton Grove man reported he was exiting his Chevy Malibu near the Jewel at Village Crossing in Niles when he was approached by a man who claimed to have previously serviced the car at a suburban dealership. The man, whom police have identified as Miller, reportedly offered to repair some damage to the vehicle and the elderly driver agreed, police said.

According to police reports, the damage to the car-involved scratches to the body.

Miller reportedly told the man to move his car to the nearby parking garage next to the AMC Village Crossing theater and he did so, police said. In the garage, the man told police that Miller sat in the car with him while a second man, identified by police as Reed, began rubbing something on the car.

According to police, when the man asked Miller how much the repair would cost, Miller told him it would cost $9,000 if he took his car to the dealership, but he was willing to charge the man $5,200.

Police said the man agreed to the cost and drove to a Morton Grove bank where he attempted to withdraw $5,400 in cash. There, a suspicious bank teller contacted police.

A blue Kia Sorento occupied by Miller and Reed, as well as a third man who is known to Morton Grove police, was stopped by patrol officers near the bank and the men were taken into custody, police said. A bucket, rags and containers consisting of a yellow substance were found in the car's trunk, according to police.

Reed, the driver of the car, had a license that expired in 2016, police said.

During questioning by officers, Reed reportedly said he was the one who was attempting to remove the scratches from the man's car, but, according to police, he admitted he "had never done this kind of work before and didn't know what he was doing." Reed stated that the man was charged "about $50 to $60" for the repairs, and Miller did not make any statements, police said.

Morton Grove Police Cmdr. Paul Yaras said the work the man claimed to have performed was not a repair at all, and that even if they were removing scratches from the car, the work would not cost the large amount the victim said he was told to pay.

"They were not doing any proper or reasonable work as would be acceptable by a reputable body shop," Yaras said. "No body shop would charge $5,200 for that type of work. It's not reasonable.

Frank DiFranco, a Park Ridge-based attorney representing Miller, denied that a crime occurred and said the man "rubbed out a scratch on the car" for a much lower fee than the owner of the car alleged. Miller, he said, was not even involved in the work.

"They told him it was $52, not $5,200," DiFranco said. "I don't know where they came up with $5,200."

Yaras said a liquid was rubbed on the car and while it appeared to cover up the scratches, once the car was washed, the scratches would reappear.

Though a third man was questioned by police, the Cook County State's Attorney's Office denied charges against him because he reportedly did not interact with the victim, Yaras said.

According to Morton Grove police, Miller has a criminal history that includes charges of larceny and burglary, while Reed has a criminal history that includes charges of fraud and burglary.

Attempts to locate an attorney for Reed were unsuccessful.

Cook County Sheriff's Department spokeswoman Sophia Ansari said both Miller and Reed have been released on bond. Miller is on electronic monitoring as a condition of his bond, but Reed is not, she said.

Yaras advised members of the public not to accept offers of work from someone they do not know.

"Use reputable companies and never pay cash to somebody at some outside location to do the work," Yaras said, adding that estimates should be obtained before any work is done and receipts should be requested as well.

District 219 officials look to continue ‘flat’ spending

**By Phil Rockrohr**

Niles Township High Schools District 219 officials say they have met a mandate from the Board of Education to cut expenses over the last four years.

In all operating funds, the district reduced spending from $118.9 million in 2015 to $115.2 million in 2018, said Eric Trimberger, assistant superintendent for business.

"The administration, under (Superintendent) Dr. (Steven) Isoye, has followed the board's directive to cut spending," he said.

Trimberger presented a report on district spending during a Feb. 12 meeting of the board. The district will now begin preparing the 2020 fiscal year budget.

Board member Brian Novak asked Trimberger to explain how he defines "flat" spending, a term Trimberger used to describe district spending in a variety of areas.

"Salaries are generally determined by contract in negotiations with unions," Trimberger said. Benefits, such as health insurance, are determined through the district's contract with its insurance cooperative, he said.

"The other things we try to keep flat to the greatest extent possible," Trimberger said. "That's mostly purchases and supplies. But there are contracts, as far as those purchase sources, that will have inflationary increases built into them." For example, the district's transportation, custodial and security contracts all contain increases based on inflation, he said. The food service contract will go out for bids this year, Trimberger said.

"As we meet with directors over the last several years, they've had to justify any kind of budget increase they ask for," he said. "I, in turn, have to be able to justify that to the superintendent and ultimately the school board."

Novak asked if the administration takes any actions to make sure budgets are equitable to each department in order to make sure each is getting its fair share of funding.

"A flat budget is not necessarily the same thing as a fair budget. Maybe that idea could be reflected in the next budget process," he said. "I applaud the work that's been done over the past several years. That's to your credit, Eric. But I do realize there are some inequities that need to be evaluated and addressed."

Board Vice President Joseph Novik said District 219 recently received a perfect score of 4.0 on the Illinois State Board of Education's financial profile for the first time since the ISBE adopted that metric in 2003.

Phil Rockrohr is a freelance reporter.

Morton Grove honors family

**By Daniel I. Dorfman**

A Morton Grove family who offered assistance to their neighbors during the depths of the late January polar vortex received recognition for their efforts at the Feb. 11 village board meeting.

"We had an amazing, amazing example of what Morton Grove is all about," Mayor Dan DiMaria said at the meeting. "It shows us there is good news in this world."

As the temperatures plunged well below zero at the end of last month, Saheel Ahmed and his wife, Asma Naheed, sent out approximately 40 letters to their neighbors offering to pick up groceries or medicine, or shovel snow. The family also invited neighbors to come over for some hot tea.

After the meeting, Ahmed said the family assisted three separate people who contacted them after seeing initial news reports of the offer.

The family brought groceries to a woman in Park Ridge, he said. In Morton Grove, Ahmed said the family helped a retired teacher by shoveling snow and also a third person in the town.

"We would do it again," he said. "Being a neighbor, there is no expiration date on that. Anytime anyone, for any reason, needs help, please give us a call."

For their efforts, the family, which includes three children, received a thermometer, a coffee cup, a pen and a button emblazoned with the Morton Grove logo from village officials, who lauded their generosity.

"This gesture exemplifies what makes Morton Grove, Morton Grove," Di Maria said. "Your family's actions demonstrate what Morton Grove is all about."

Ahmed told the trustees of his objective, hoping others follow their lead.

“Our inspiration was that more people should do something like this so it can have a ripple effect,” he said.

In praising the family, Morton Grove Trustee John Thill recalled a speech he made to Morton Grove’s Muslim Education Center.

“I don’t want to hear about your community, and I don’t want to hear about my community,” Thill remembered of what he said. “I want to hear about our community, and you exemplify that.”

Daniel I. Dorfman is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Tarpey works behind the scenes to help Evanston become CSL South champs

BY Mark Perlman
Pioneer Press

Going from the football field to the basketball court has been quite a turnaround for Evanston senior Ben Tarpey.

In the fall, Tarpey amassed a school-record 2,027 yards passing and helped lead the Wildkits to their first seven-win season since 2003.

But when basketball season began, Tarpey went from being the starting quarterback to a player on the bench. Evanston boys basketball coach Mike Ellis said Tarpey still fills a vital role, just as he did in the fall.

"Ben is a natural-born leader," Ellis said. "I don't know if I've seen a better player as to knowing what the team needs.

"Just because he's not on the floor, it doesn't mean he's not affecting the game. In practice, he plays four different positions for us. In timeouts, he's always coaching." Tarpey's encouragement helped propel the Wildkits to a 61-49 victory Friday night at New Trier, as Evanston clinched the Central Suburban South championship.

Tarpey's role was talking with his teammates during breaks in the action.

"My part is to do whatever I can to benefit the team. That's first," Tarpey said. "I don't care if I ever play. It's all about the team winning. It's been a ton of fun."

That's first," Tarpey said. "I don't care if I ever play. It's all about the team winning. It's been a ton of fun."

Tarpey's contributions and leadership have been quite a turnaround for Julia Martinez.

"He's such a valuable role player," Schoenecker said. "As unselfish as she is on the court, she's like that with her time off the floor. All she cares about is her teammates being involved and us winning the game. And if you have a senior that isn't worried about stats and just wants to win, that's an amazing thing."

The Ramblers lost in the regional final her freshman year, lost in the sectional semifinal when she was a sophomore and fell in the sectional final last season. Before the Irving Park resident heads off to play college basketball at Saint Louis, she wants a sectional title.

"It being my senior year, I want to take that next step," Martinez said. "Winning a sectional would be such an incredible accomplishment. In volleyball, we won a sectional, and it was like, 'Wow, this is fun.' I'd never won a sectional before. Unfortunately, it wasn't for basketball, but it was still so exciting."

"Winning two sections in one year, wow. That would be so great."
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Evanson's Ramin Abraham completes improbable run to 220-pound title

By Bob Narang

CHAMPAIGN - Evanston senior Ramin Abraham defied the odds and fulfilled his goal. Three years ago, Abraham was an aspiring soccer standout. He grew up playing soccer in his native Syria and continued to play when his family moved to Lebanon.

But Abraham was convinced to pick up another sport during his freshman year at Evanston: wrestling.

On Saturday, Abraham capped a stunning journey from novice to state champion. Abraham defeated Lake Park's Demarco Lee 4-3 in the Class 3A 220-pound final at the State Farm Center.

"I told myself I didn't come this far to lose," he said. "I wrestled my hardest, and my coaches had a plan. I did it and came out with a good result. I just kept pushing him, not letting him go. I wrestled the whole six minutes. We had a plan and executed it."

Abraham, a three-time state qualifier, never let his newness to the sport stop him from pursuing a state title. He is also a goalie and credited his soccer background for helping him with his footwork in wrestling.

Abraham (52-0) already set the program record for most wins in a season. He wore an Evanston soccer T-shirt underneath his black hoodie on the medal platform and pointed to some of his teammates in the stands.

"It's crazy that I won state," he said. "I got the record at school for a single-season (win) record, but that's not what I wanted. I wanted to come out on top."

Halvorsen takes 2nd:

Maine South's Jon Halvorsen (37-2) missed earning a state title after getting pinned by Glenbard North's Abe Assad in the Class 3A 182-pound final. Assad, an Iowa recruit, claimed his second straight state title. Halvorsen, though, put himself in elite company by becoming only the second Maine South wrestler to reach a state final. The last Hawk to do that was Tom Neuses, who won a state title in 1968 and placed second in 1969.

"Congrats to Abe," said Halvorsen, a senior. "He worked hard, just as hard as I do, and he deserves it.

"Now, I have to start working again. It's something I didn't think about. All I thought about was winning this tournament."

At 220 pounds, senior Sean Kelly notched a fifth-place medal for the Hawks. Kelly (41-7) said he was happy to end his career with a medal.

"This was so much fun," said Kelly, who is also a University of Chicago recruit, "I've used to get down. I couldn't ask for anything more. I was grateful to be going to state, and placing at state is a huge step.

"I started visualizing beating guys and getting on the podium."}

Spartan on the podium:

Glenbrook North senior Trent Williams, a University of Chicago recruit, placed sixth at 220 pounds. Williams (40-7) dropped a 4-2 decision to Kelly in his last match at state. Abraham, Kelly and Williams combined to give the Central Suburban League three of the six medalsists in the 220-pound weight class.

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Vernon Hills grad Andre Szmyt completes ‘wild ride’ from walk-on kicker to unanimous All-American

By Bob Narang
Pioneer Press

Andre Szmyt's improbable rise to notoriety started on a whim.

Less than three years ago, Szmyt was a standout soccer player at Vernon Hills. He had never played football, but on a Sunday during the summer of 2016, some of his friends convinced him to attempt some field goals.

“All my buddies in high school played football and were all at the field one day,” Szmyt said. “I had a strong leg because of soccer. I wound up hitting 50-yard field goals. One of my buddies took a video and sent it to the (football) coach.”

Szmyt went on to join the football team and performed well enough that he was granted a walk-on spot for Syracuse in 2017. This fall, he was an unknown redshirt freshman kicker competing for the starting job.

In December, Szmyt won the Lou Groza Award as the nation’s best kicker and became the ninth unanimous All-American in Syracuse football history.

During his fairy-tale season, Szmyt made 30 of 34 field-goal attempts and earned a full scholarship along the way. He tallied 151 points and even bumped elbows with Heisman Trophy winner Kyler Murray and Alabama quarterback Tua Tagovailoa at the College Football Awards show in Atlanta.

“It's been a crazy journey and wild ride,” Szmyt said. “It's been pretty incredible. It's insane just how the season started to how it ended, and wrapping my mind around this season and then winning the Lou Groza. It's incredible, and

“I wanted to see how he would handle pressure.”

— Bill Bellecomo, Vernon Hills football coach

I'm super grateful. And it all started with a cell-phone video three years ago.

Vernon Hills football coach Bill Bellecomo said he received that video, which featured Szmyt hitting a 55-yarder. Like most high school coaches, Bellecomo was in dire need of stability in the kicking game.

“I was like, 'Get him out to the team,'” Bellecomo recalled.

Szmyt quit soccer to play football his senior year. Despite Szmyt's impressive performance in practices, Bellecomo kept his optimism guarded until the opener against Grayslake Central. Bellecomo said Szmyt booted two field goals in a 39-16 win.

“It's different when you have a rush coming at you,” Bellecomo said of kicking in a game instead of practice. “The snap has to be perfect, and the hold.”

Bellecomo said he realized Szmyt's laid-back personality — combined with his unfamiliarity with pressure-packed football situations — made him an ideal kicker. Szmyt made nine of 11 field goals and helped the Cougars place second in Class 5A in their first trip to the state finals.

“It wanted to see how he would handle pressure,” Bellecomo said. “Andre not being a football guy his whole life, he doesn't get pressure. He's real loosey-goosey.”

Szmyt admitted the whirlwind journey of the last six months has been overwhelming at times. He learned that he would be Syracuse's starting kicker one week before the opener at Western Michigan. He made at least two field goals in each of the first 10 games this season and helped the Orange (10-3) notch their first 10-win season since 2001.

Szmyt said his family also dealt with his unexpected rise to stardom. The Szmyts made numerous last-minute trips, often driving 10 hours one way to Syracuse and shifting their plans to attend his post-season award shows.

“The whole season was crazy in general,” he said. “A crazy journey from playing one season in high school, redshirting, then winning the job and going to all these awards shows and meeting great athletes like Tua and Kyler and being around famous people like Larry Fitzgerald.”

Szmyt said he understands that the next step might be more difficult. The 20-year-old is preparing to deal with the spotlight that likely will follow him after such an outstanding season.

“I still have a lot of things to work on,” he said. “I know I have to work twice as hard. I have all the confidence in the world now. I just have to continue doing well. I’m just thankful for all my friends, family and teammates for all the support.”

Especially those high school football friends who encouraged him to try out one Sunday in Vernon Hills.

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Andre Szmyt played only one season of high school football. He helped Vernon Hills reach the Class 5A state final.
LFA grad Ryan Clamage joins 1,000-point club at Rochester

By Bob Narang

Pioneer Press

Lake Forest Academy graduate Ryan Clamage made sure his senior day was special.

The Rochester senior guard scored 23 points made three 3-pointers and eclipsed 1,000 career points to lead the Yellowjackets to a 78-48 win over Washington University in St. Louis on Feb. 10.

The 6-foot-5 Clamage, who played basketball, golf and baseball for the Caxys, said his senior day was a memorable occasion for his family.

"It was a special moment," he said. "It reminded me of all the work I have put in and the memories created along the way. Whether it was early morning workouts or traveling to different cities, the experiences have been priceless.

"My sister scored 1,000 points in high school, and I had always looked up to her for that accomplishment. Being the competitive family that we are, it's a bragging right."

Clamage said he's become a calmer player on the court since his freshman year at Rochester. He picked the Division III program because he was seeking a selectivity business school with a competitive basketball program. Clamage said a Rochester assistant coach saw him play basketball during a fall-league game during his senior year at Lake Forest Academy, which started the recruiting process.

Clamage leads the Yellowjackets (19-4) in scoring (15.8 points per game) and rebounds (6.5) and has tallied 74 assists, 28 steals and 31 three-point field goals. Clamage credited hard work and Rochester coach Luke Flockerzi for his development into a key player.

"My game has evolved drastically since freshman year," he said. "Coach Flockerzi made it known that the program competes the right way and plays defense. I was a bit of a hothead in high school that liked to talk to referees. It took me out of my game and focus. I have grown into my body as well, which has helped me become stronger and more stable on defense."

"Overall, the all-around consistency of my game has helped me become the player I envisioned."

Besides Clamage, sophomore guard Kailan Lee and senior guard Michael Mangen are local players on the Rochester roster. Lee, a River Forest resident, is averaging 2.7 points per game. Mangen, a Loyola graduate from Winnetka, is averaging 4.9 points.

Mckenna aiding Dartmouth: Trinity graduate Annie McKenness has become a regular in the starting lineup for the Dartmouth women's basketball team.

The junior guard has started every contest and is averaging 12 points, 3.5 assists, 2.9 rebounds and a steal per game.

The 5-5 McKenna scored a career-high 21 points against New Hampshire on Dec. 21. The Elmwood Park native appeared in 20 games during her sophomore season and averaged 31 points in 10 minutes per game.

As a freshman, McKenna started four games. She helped Trinity finish third in Class 4A during her senior season in River Forest. She graduated as the second-leading scorer in Blaziers history.

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

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Girls basketball playoffs

Class 4A regional quarterfinals

Highland Park 63, Palatine 47
Hinsdale South 59, Proviso West 39

Jones 44, Hinsdale Central 38
Leyden 62, Lake View 13

Maine East 59, Mather 28
Mundelein 41, Lyons 40
Round Lake 46, Deerfield 33
Vernon Hills 58, Waukegan 43

Class 4A regional semifinals

Barrington 52, Larkin 48
Benet 53, Hinsdale South 32
Buffalo Grove 46, Lake Zurich 39

Evaston 85, Leyden 35
Loyola 60, Lincoln Park 18

New Trier 84, Evanston 33
Glenbrook South 60, Niles North 34

Hersey 56, Grayslake North 41
Lake Forest 59, Warren 31
Libertyville 66, Highland Park 25
Loyola 60, Lincoln Park 18

New Trier 84, Evanston 33
Glenbrook South 60, Niles North 34

McKenna taking action for Rochester against University of Chicago this season.

Boys swimming state qualifiers

Barrington: 200 MR, 200 FR, 400 FR, Kareem Bitar (100 back), Sam Burrell (100 free), Steven Fischer (50 free, 100 back), Jack Hoppe (200 free, 100 breast), Daniel Langsjo (200 IM, 500 free), Griffin O'Leary (100 fly, 100 back).

Buffalo Grove: Ben Goldberg (diving), Daniel Verdiaco (200 free, 500 free).

Carmel: Kyle Falkstrom (200 IM).

Deerfield: David Bassin (50 free), Zayne Danielwicz (diving), Lucas Hammontree (diving).

Evaston: 200 FR, 400 FR, Rafael de Gouveia (100 fly), Charles Galvin (50 free), Henry Goodman (diving), Trevor Neubeck (diving).

Fremd: 200 MR, 200 FR, 400 FR, Alex Figus (50 free), Mike Flynn (200 free, 500 free), Lian Hutchinson (200 free, 500 free), Dan Lynch (100 breast), Connor McCarthy (200 IM, 100 fly).

Glenbrook North: 200 MR, 400 FR, Ryan Cohn (diving), Zander Johnson (100 fly), Daniel Kaufman (100 breast), Ryan Purdy (200 IM, 100 back), Jake Shapiiro (200 free, 100 fly).

Glenbrook South: 200 MR, 200 FR, 400 FR, Kevin Becker (200 IM), Elliot Chen (200 free, 500 free), Matt Dale (100 back), Mike Heidavnavoy (50 free*), Max Iida (200 IM, 100 breast), Quinn Loughran (100 fly*), Sami Moussally (200 free*, 500 free*), Cameron Schulte (100 breast), Zac Spalding (50 free), Nick Tarantino (diving), Adam Zulker (100 fly, 100 back).

Hersey: Gavin Hill (50 free, 100 breast*), Nick Nocita (diving*), Noah Thomas (200 free AWD*, 50 free AWD*, 100 free AWD*, 100 breast AWD*).

Highland Central*: 200 MR*, 200 FR*, 400 FR*, Mike Schlee (diving), Tobi Obochi (50 free), Andrew Vorobov (100 fly*, 100 back*).

Hinsdale Central*: 200 MR, 200 FR, Mike Benington (200 IM, 500 free), Cullen Cochlan (50 free), Alex Dauw (200 IM), Connor Dunne (200 free), Donovan Lahmann (50 free, 100 free), Nolan Lahmann (100 fly, 100 back), Trystan Lundgren (100 breast), Eric Mitcelainla (diving).

Hinsdale South: Will Gallagher (200 free*, 500 free), Tommy Matulis (200 IM*, 100 breast).

Lake Forest: Oliver Akintade (100 breast*), Colin Kingsley (50 free*), Luke Langan (200 free*, 100 free).

Lake Zurich: Travis Hull (100 breast).

Libertyville: Isaac Paul (diving), Lawrence Wang (100 fly).

Loyola: 200 FR*, 400 FR*, Everett Andrew (200 free, 500 free*), Benjamin Dukes (500 free), Luke Maurer (200 free*, 100 free*).

 Lyons: 200 MR*, 200 FR*, 400 FR*, Bryson Breitenbucher (100 free), Jack Thorel (50 free), Michael Wallin (500 free*, 100 breast).

Maine South: 200 MR, 200 FR, 400 FR, Tommy Doubleday (200 IM, 500 free), Brendan Forrest (200 free, 500 free), Logan Nielsen (100 breast), Alex Ostrowski (100 fly), Daniel Young (200 IM).

Mundelein: 200 FR, 400 FR, Omar Fathallah (50 free*, 100 free*).

New Trier*: 200 MR*, 200 FR*, 400 FR*, Peter Ball, Percy Beaule (50 free, 100 breast), Sam Brown (100 breast), Sam Dienstag (200 free, 500 free), John Ervin (diving), Matt Gibson (100 fly, 100 back), Tophet Shepherd (200 IM*), Nick Torre (100 back).

Niles North: Vincent Pf (50 free*, 100 free*).

Niles West: Xavier Guererro (500 free).

Northridge Prep: Brendan Wagner (500 free).

OPRS*: 200 MR*, 200 FR, Brayan Graves (100 breast*), Tyler Hoyt (diving), Diego Pareja (100 fly, 100 back*), Will Raidt (200 free, 100 fly*), Frank Trione (50 free*, 100 free*).

Prospect: Jack Epperson (diving), Tim Hays (200 IM, 100 back), Kevin Soblo (100 back).

St. Viator: Michael Ruben (200 IM).

Stevenson*: 200 MR*, 200 FR*, 400 FR, AJ Carillo (200 free, 100 back), Nathan Gates (500 free), Jake Kim (100 free), Richard Lee (50 free), Ethan Ross (500 free), Max Ryazgov (200 IM), Joseph Song (200 IM, 100 breast*), Josh Song (100 fly*), Toper Stensby (50 free*, 100 free*), Jack White (diving*), Jack Zhang (100 back).

Timothy Christian: Calvin Groenewold (100 breast).

Vernon Hills: Caleb Thomas (50 free).

York: Matthew Billenstein (50 free AWD*), Simon David (diving), Jay Jensen (200 IM, 500 free*).

*Sectional champion
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