Library dance party

Morton Grove Children's event aims to teach and entertain. Page 4

A librarian leads a facial gesture interpretation activity at the Family Dance Party on April 25 at the Morton Grove Public Library.

WHAT TO DO
Off to the races

Dixie Crush to headline Arlington International Racecourse's Derby Day bash, which features racing, mint juleps, big hats and more. Page B13

SPORTS

Making a big league comeback

New Trier grad Charlie Tilson eyes return to majors with White Sox. Page 21

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JANE'S HALLMARK
SHOUT OUT

Lydia Cruz, Maine South High School artist

Maine South High School senior Lydia Cruz of Park Ridge has seen her artwork get some high-profile attention this year.

The aspiring artist created a poster that is currently on display at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum in Springfield, and another one of her designs was submitted to decorate an egg used in the recent White House Easter Egg Roll, said Illinois State Board of Education Spokeswoman Jackie Matthews.

Cruz's computer-designed poster, depicting Lincoln, a child and symbols of music, dance, drama and visual arts, will remain on display at the Lincoln Museum for the next year, Matthews said.

Q: How did you come to submit a design for the White House Egg Roll?
A: Before the egg, I had submitted a poster for the Illinois State Board of Education's 2019 Arts Education Week contest and it got first place. They knew me personally now and they told me about the egg roll. They asked me to do the design and when I found out they selected me, I was honored and shocked at the same time.

Q: How was your poster chosen to hang at the Lincoln Presidential Museum?
A: This was a competition I found online and I thought I could do it for fun. One night, I visualized it. After I printed it out, I sent it to the address they gave out. Then I waited and waited. I thought maybe I would get second or third place. One night when I was working on school work, I got an email from the Illinois State Board of Education saying I won first place (in my grade category). That was shocking to me, and it made me happy that they liked my art.

Q: What kind of art do you generally do?
A: I do computer art, but also traditional: Pencil, charcoal and painting. I love every art that I can do.

Q: Do you have a favorite artist?
A: There's the American artist J.C. Leyendecker. I also get inspired by animation, like Walt Disney and Dreamworks.

Q: When did you first discover a love of art?
A: I always did art as a kid, but when I started taking it seriously, I was a junior in high school. (Before that) I thought that art was just going to be a hobby, something for my down time. But then I realized I could make it serious and inspire people with my art. I thought, “This would be a good idea for a profession and for my future.”

Q: What kind of career are you considering?
A: I'm considering working with animation and illustration. I just hope, once I start polishing my skill, I can work for companies like Walt Disney and Pixar. One day, I hope to open my own studio and make my own projects.

— Jennifer Johnson, Pioneer Press
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Dance party aims to teach and entertain

Morton Grove Public Library hosted event for children that will continue monthly

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC
Pioneer Press

Family Dance Party was launched April 25 as a new offering by the Morton Grove Public Library. The inaugural program filled the library’s activity room with children, parents, grandparents and caregivers.

“The intent is to run it every month in the fourth or fifth week when we don’t have story time,” said Courtney Schroeder, head of Youth Services for the Morton Grove Public Library. “But that all changes in June and July when we enter the Summer Reading Program and the program lineup changes.”

The next 45-minute Family Dance Party is May 30 at 10 a.m. Family Dance Party will then start again in the fall after the Summer Reading Program ends, she said.

“The goal of all of our early literacy programming (birth to pre-kindergarten) is to not only offer the opportunity for kids to gain early literacy skills, but also to give caregivers the confidence and the tools they need to succeed in helping their kids gain these skills,” Schroeder said.

The Morton Grove Public Library utilizes the Every Child Ready to Read model from the American Library Association and the Association for Library Service to Children, which uses the five key practices of Read, Write, Sing, Talk and Play to develop early literacy skills in young children, Schroeder said.

“Caregivers are the number one teacher, so we want them to know how to incorporate the five practices into their day organically,” Schroeder said.

Family Dance Party includes storytime and dance movement. Youngsters were invited to use egg-shaped shakers, tambourines and colorful scarves.

The session ended with a hand-held bubble machine. Kiddies were seen reaching high, trying to pop the bubbles with delight.

“It is, of course, a lot of fun, but music is a great way to teach kids phonemic awareness as lyrics introduce new words and slow down speech so that each syllable of a word is heard (and) sung with a different note,” Schroeder said.

Leading that Thursday’s session was Sarah Mitchell-Mace, youth services librarian.

“We always hope that, above everything, the kids have fun, that they’re learning, even if they don’t realize it, and that they love coming to the library,” Mitchell-Mace said.

Vincent Giovannone of Skokie attended with his daughter Leela Giovannone, 2.

“I like reading,” Leela said, as she cuddled with her father. Her father takes Leela to area libraries to experience interactive programming such as Family Dance Party.

“I’m doing it mainly just because she’s not in preschool yet, but she needs to interact with other kids her age, so it’s pretty much just socialization,” Vincent Giovannone said.

Misse Kaat of Morton Grove, a mother of four, brought her two youngest children, Amethyst, 3, and Gregory, 22 months, to Family Dance Party.

“It’s super cute, it was adorable,” the children’s mother said.

Amethyst Kaat, 3, of Morton Grove, dances with a scarf at the Family Dance Party on April 25 at the Morton Grove Public Library.
East Leyden admin named new principal of Niles West High School

BY PHIL ROCKROHR
Pioneer Press

An assistant principal credited with increasing Advanced Placement participation at East Leyden High School has been named the new principal of Niles West High School in Skokie.

The Board of Education of Niles Township High Schools District 219 voted unanimously on April 22 to tap Karen Ritter, assistant principal for teaching and learning at East Leyden in Franklin Park, to replace current principal Jason Ness, who resigned in January.

Ritter, who has served in her current position since 2012, will take over on July 1.

"I'm excited," she said. "I know the reputation of Niles West. I know they are focused on equity. That is a passion of mine, so I think it will be a great fit."

In his announcement of the board's decision, District 219 Superintendent Steven Isoye cited Ritter's record of increasing enrollment and maintaining performance levels in AP programs as an assistant principal.

"In that role she leads the school's Equity Team, which has nearly eliminated opportunity and achievement gaps in the Advanced Placement program and has more than doubled AP program participation in four years while maintaining the AP success rate," Isoye said.

Ritter said her team was able to expand the AP program's success by looking beyond teacher recommendations, grades and test scores, which are the traditional means for recommending students for AP classes.

"We looked at perseverance and grit through student surveys," she said. "We were able to find more kids who had similar qualities as AP students but who were missed through traditional processes."

Through the surveys, East Leyden staff were able to use data to measure student characteristics that identified those not typically targeted for AP classes, Ritter said.

"We looked at many data points, multiple measures," she said. "That included GPA and test scores, but they were not the only factors. We talked to kids, asked if they wanted to take an AP class. Many were very flattered to be asked and rose to the challenge. We looked behind traditional barriers and tried to eliminate those barriers for kids."

In a statement sent by email to students, staff and parents, Ness said he stepped down as principal for personal reasons.

"After much reflection, I have decided for personal reasons that at the end of this 2018-19 school year I intend to return to the role of school psychologist in D219," he wrote. "This will allow me to continue to serve the students and families of our district."

Ritter said she was delighted to accept her new position, but sorry to leave East Leyden.

"I will miss the students and staff members here, but hopefully keep the connections," she said.

Before working at East Leyden, Ritter served as assistant principal for instruction at Mather High School in Chicago for five years, taught French at Taft High School in Chicago for 11 years and participated in the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program, where she taught English to French-speaking high school students in Dakar, Senegal, Isoye said.

Phil Rockrohr is a freelance reporter.
Trio of new trustees take seats

Officers chosen for Oakton Community College board

BY PIONEER PRESS

The new Oakton Community College Board of Trustees was seated Tuesday April 23, with new leaders selected and incoming members sworn in after being elected earlier this month.

The new members were seated on the board in a meeting separate from the regular one.

Benjamin Salzberg, of Northbrook, was elected board chairman, Martha Burns, of Evanston, now serves as vice chairwoman and Paul Kotowski, of Niles, is the board secretary, according to an Oakton news release announcing the new board.

Newly elected trustees Gail Bush, Marie Lynn Toussaint and Wendy Yanow each started their inaugural six-year term on Tuesday. They emerged from a field of 13 candidates in the April 2 election where three seats on the board were on the ballot.

Adisa Ozegovic, of Skokie, was chosen to be the student trustee and will serve for the next year, the release states.

Salzberg succeeds Des Plaines resident Joan DiLeonardi, who did not seek a fourth term on the board after 18 years of service.

Elected to the board in 2015, Salzberg served as vice chair in 2018-2019 and secretary the year before. His professional expertise involves increasing the efficiency of company operations to achieve increased economic gains. Presently, he is the senior partner of Process Through Design, a company that works to improve the overall efficiencies of businesses, according to the release.

Salzberg earned an associate degree in engineering from the Oakton, his bachelor’s degree in engineering from the University of Illinois, an MBA from Illinois Institute of Technology and a master’s degree in education from National Louis University. He is a state-certified teacher and is licensed by the Illinois State Board of Education, the release states.
D64 forms committee to address overcrowding

By Heather Cherone
Pioneer Press

A committee of eight parents and teachers has been charged with crafting a solution to overcrowding at Washington Elementary School.

Based on enrollment projections, Washington Elementary in Park Ridge could grow by two-and-a-half classrooms for the 2019-20 academic year, which the school does not have enough space to accommodate, officials said.

Kindergarten, first grade and fourth grade may need to add classrooms, according to a report prepared for the board. An additional morning kindergarten classroom can be created by moving classes for third-, fourth- and fifth-grade students doing advanced work to the afternoon, according to the report.

Parents Michael Underwood, Holly Schneider and Heidi Auriemma will serve on the committee with teachers Katie Weis, Alaina Knapp, Kerry Downes, Diane Kucharski and Caitlin Cooney.

The committee will be led by Superintendent Laurie Heinz, who will be joined by Chief School Business Official Luann Kolstad, Student Services Director Lea Anne Frost, Director of Facility Management Ron DeGeorge as well as Washington Principal Stephanie Daly and Assistant Principal Janet Van Arsdale.

Architects and incoming Superintendent Eric Olson have also been invited to participate in the committee.

Board members Tom Sotos and Rick Biagi will also serve on the committee, which is set to meet April 29 and May 13. Recommendations are set to be presented to the board at its next regular meeting set for 7 p.m. May 20 at Emerson Middle School, 8101 N. Cumberland Ave.

One of the options the committee will consider will be installing modular buildings to add classroom space, an option that is complicated by requirements imposed by the city of Park Ridge, Kolstad told the board.

In other action, the board unanimously approved a proposal to spend $110,000 on a new middle school social studies curriculum that is inquiry based, said Lori Hinton Lopez, the assistant superintendent for student learning.

Heather Cherone is a freelance reporter.
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The following items were taken from local police reports. An arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt.

Niles

THEFT
■ Adrienne Westenberger, 24, of the 4400 block of St. Louis, Chicago, was charged with retail theft on April 23. According to police, Westenberger was accused of stealing 73 items, valued at $389, from Jewel-Osco, 8730 W. Dempster St. She also had an arrest warrant out of Chicago. She was given a May 28 court date.
■ Jansen L. Teague Jr., 28, of the 9200 block of Aspen Drive, unincorporated Maine Township, was taken into custody on a Niles retail theft warrant on April 22. He was given a May 28 court date.

DUI
■ Jansen L. Teague Jr., 28, of the 1200 block of Rushmore Drive, DeKalb, was charged with driving under the influence on April 22. Teague was taken into custody at Greenwood Avenue and Dempster Street and was given a June 7 court date.

WARRANT
■ Timothy V. Fish, 32, of the 9200 block of Aspen Drive, unincorporated Maine Township, was taken into custody on a Niles retail theft warrant on April 22. He was given a May 28 court date.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT
■ A 59-year-old Wilmette man was ticketed for disorderly conduct on April 22 following an alleged incident at Dunkin' Donuts, 7039 W. Dempster St. According to police, a woman reported that the man walked up to her daughter and nephew and "made a motion with his hands as if he were going to put his hands around the children's necks." The woman reportedly stepped in front of the man to prevent him from making contact with the children. The man was taken to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, police said.

HARASSMENT
■ A 40-year-old Park Ridge man was ticketed for harassment by electronic means on April 22 after police said he was accused of sending a woman more than 100 unwanted text messages, in addition to making phone calls from blocked numbers.

PUBLIC INTOXICATION
■ A 50-year-old Park Ridge man was ticketed for public intoxication on April 24 during an investigation of the theft of alcohol from Jewel-Osco, 8730 W. Dempster St. He was taken to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, according to police.
■ An employee at Ross, 5750 W. Touhy Ave., told police a man called the store's corporate headquarters, complained about the service he received, and threatened that she would "get what she deserves" on April 23. The calls were made the same day that a customer reportedly became angry with the employee inside the store because she would not allow him to return merchandise that was missing price tags.

THEFT
■ A man left Fresh Farms, 5740 W. Touhy Ave., with $98 in change he was mistakenly given on April 22.
■ "Numerous" packages of raw steak and ribs were reported stolen from Jewel-Osco, 8730 W. Dempster St., on April 24.
■ An unknown man was seen on video surveillance placing three pairs of socks down his pants and exiting Kohl's, Golf Mill, without paying for them on April 25.
■ An unknown man attempted to open a new phone account at Verizon, 9635 N. Milwaukee Ave., using another person's identity on April 25. The man reportedly left the store and got into a gray car driven by another man before police officers arrived.

BURGLARY
■ A home on the 7100 block of West Lee Street was reported burglarized on April 24 after a postal worker discovered the front door damaged.

BURGLARY TO VEHICLE
■ The driver's side window of a car was smashed and a backpack containing a computer, school books, gift cards, headphones, medication and about $68 in cash was stolen on the afternoon of April 24 outside Taqueria Los Comales, 9055 N. Milwaukee Ave.
■ A stroller valued at $900 and five Easter baskets containing candy and toys were reported stolen April 25 from a car parked in a lot on the 5700 block of Touhy Avenue.

PROPERTY DAMAGE
■ The owner of a motorcycle told police that someone placed a large, green, plastic board on top of his bike, causing multiple scratches, while it was parked at Heritage Wine Cellars, 6600 W. Howard St., on April 24.

Morton Grove

DISORDERLY CONDUCT
■ Nicholas Mazur, 34, of the 7000 block of Franks Avenue, Niles, was charged with disorderly conduct on April 23 after police said he falsely reported a fire inside a bar. According to police, Mazur called 911 to report the fire at All Inn Bar, 5705 W. Dempster St., because he wanted to retrieve some personal property that was inside the bar, which was closed. He was given a May 31 court date. Mazur was also arrested by Morton Grove police on April 10 in an unrelated incident.
Niles mayor pens letter to Pritzker

Przybylo seeks help with improving road, pedestrian safety following fatalities

By Jennifer Johnson

Niles mayor Andrew Przybylo said he is calling on Gov. J.B. Pritzker for help in improving local pedestrian and road safety following a string of recent fatalities in the north suburb.

Przybylo told the Village Board last week that he would be sending a letter to the governor and four local state legislators seeking "assistance through the Illinois Department of Transportation to develop solutions for the issues of pedestrian safety along regional arterial roadways" that run through Niles, but are under state jurisdiction.

Przybylo suggested that if the state passes a capital bill this year, he would like to see funding used to help the village.

"There's a part of me that says this letter's going to get lost in the shuffle," Przybylo said during the April 23 board meeting. "But if God is looking down on Niles and at the accidents and the occurrences of injury and fatality, and shows any mercy and justice on this town, then the governor will pick this up. And hopefully in the next capital bill we will see some money so we can light our streets, create little safety islands in the middle of the street like they are doing in Chicago on Milwaukee Avenue, and a lot of other things that can help people crossing the streets."

The state roadways that run through Niles include Golf Road, Milwaukee Avenue, Dempster Street, Harlem Avenue and Touhy Avenue.

Since December, four pedestrians have died after being struck by vehicles in the village. Only one of the pedestrians was in a marked crosswalk. One of the fatalities involved an individual who was walking in the street in an area of Golf Road that does not have sidewalks.

Our village finds itself at a critical moment where lives are being lost and solutions are seemingly out of our hands due to financial, logistical and jurisdictional constraints," Przybylo wrote in his letter to the governor.

On Tuesday, he said he had already sent the letter, but had not yet received a response.

Village Manager Steve Vinezeano indicated that each year, the village provides state legislators a list of potential improvements on state property around Niles.

"It's everything from sidewalks to pedestrian crossings, to better lighting," he said. "If they in fact do end up having a capital bill and figure out how to fund it, they could help us with that funding."

The village also continues to seek funding for the construction of sidewalks along Golf Road through the Regional Transportation Authority and Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, Vinezeano said. Recently, the village obtained federal funding for a "road diet" on Howard Street to reduce the number of vehicular lanes and widen bike lanes.

At the same time, the police department has been trying to educate pedestrians about taking precautions when crossing busy streets and warning those caught jaywalking.

Since 2014, there have been 10 pedestrian fatalities involving vehicles along the village's regional roads, Vinezeano said.

Przybylo suggested the state perform a "safety audit" or analysis of pedestrian-involved crashes and determine how they can be "stopped or mitigated."

"We make no assumptions that the state is going to help in this problem," he acknowledged. "Our village staff is looking at ways we can do something, but the jury is still out on that because these projects are very expensive. Even if we provide the solution and the recourse, there's no guarantee the controlling entity [DOT] would let us modify the roadways. So that's a big 'if.' "

johnson@chicagotribune.com
Twitter: @Jen_Tribune
Gas station clerk hit with cash register

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

A man attempted to rob a Morton Grove gas station April 27, but left empty-handed after encountering resistance from a store clerk, police said.

The attempted robbery occurred around 9:07 p.m. at the Marathon gas station at Oakton Street and Austin Avenue, said Morton Grove police Cmdr. Paul Yaras.

The clerk, a 40-year-old man, reported that a man between 50 and 60 years old, wearing a White Sox jacket, entered the station holding a “large knife” and demanded money from the cash register, Yaras said.

“He tried to grab money from the register and tried to take the register, but the clerk fought back and wouldn’t let him take it,” Yaras said.

At one point, the suspect picked up the cash register and struck the clerk with it, the police commander said. The suspect left the store without taking anything and was last seen getting into a light-colored van that was parked on Austin Avenue, Yaras said.

The store clerk sustained a minor injury and was treated at the scene by paramedics, police said.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Morton Grove police at 847-663-3830.

Lincolnwood library director resigns

Su Reynders, the Lincolnwood Public Library District’s executive director, has resigned from her position, library officials have announced.

Effective May 17, Reynders will leave to become the Mount Prospect Public Library’s executive director, the Lincolnwood library announced in a release to the media.

“The Lincolnwood Public Library District is thriving and vital to our community, due much in part to Su’s leadership,” the release quoted library board of trustees President Kendra Beard as saying. “The board thanks Su for her exceptional service and wishes her the best with new endeavors.”

According to the release, Reynders was hired in 2012.

“I am sad to leave the wonderful community, library trustees and our outstanding library staff,” the release quotes Reynders as saying. “We have accomplished much to be proud of in the past seven years, and I am confident that the library will continue to thrive under new leadership.”

Jenn Hunt, head of information services, has been appointed acting director until a permanent replacement is identified, according to the release, sometime that should take place within the next three to four months.

The release said a consultant would undertake the search for the next library director.

Niles gas station robbed by masked man

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

A masked gunman robbed a Niles gas station of an undisclosed amount of cash Monday night, police said.

The robbery was reported at the Marathon gas station at Dempster Street and Harlem Avenue.

According to police, a store employee reported that a man wearing a black stocking cap and black face mask entered the station at around 8:40 p.m., pointed a handgun and demanded money from the cash register.

The robber put the money into a bag and ran away from the gas station, police said.

It was not immediately known how much money was taken, Niles police said.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Niles Police Department Detective Bureau at 847-588-6570.

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Lessons from the past can help rebuild Notre Dame after the fire

PAT LENHOFF

I assumed I misunderstood the Boss when he said Notre Dame was on fire. But Notre Dame — the achingly beautiful, inspirational, soul-touching architectural anchor of the equally beautiful, inspirational city of Paris — was, indeed, engulfed in flames. A tower tumbled, smoke billowed and a gaping hole that had been the roof were all revealed once the fire was extinguished.

Our first trip to Paris came in 2005 as we were new empty nesters who were free to travel without limitations (except for the annual Chicago Bears schedule — to be accurate). That trip, our first to Europe, included London and then Paris. Both left imprints on our hearts.

While visiting Notre Dame and exploring everything there, we lit a candle for my Catholic parents and soaked up the glorious architecture and history. Later, on a dinner cruise, we viewed the cathedral from a different perspective. Oh, seeing those flying buttresses and the lacy detail on the tower from the Seine was breathtaking.

That’s why people worldwide, not just the French, were heartbroken watching the flames consume such a treasure. Rebuilding will happen — of course. But it will take time and money.

The issue already is a source of controversy on several fronts, including design ideas and apportionment of the donated funds, as low-income families demonstrate, emphasizing the disparity between massive financial commitments to rebuild versus limited support for their struggles.

But something else weighed heavily on my mind as people discussed their own versions of Notre Dame’s perils, and other churches that had suffered fire damage and, yet, reinvented themselves.

You see, during our visit that summer, a rainy day found us ditching Versailles in favor of something unplanned and indoors. We ended up at the Museum of Jewish Art and History in the Marais district of Paris. It was full of interesting ancient artifacts, stories and displays.

Having just toured Notre Dame, and as an ex-Catholic girl who has yet to find a cathedral that doesn’t inspire, I posed a challenging question to the Boss about where all the elaborate synagogues were? We Catholics cherished and revered our places of worship. Why hadn’t the Jews done the same, I asked.

My answer came as we rounded a turn in the museum, running smack-dab into a display of architectural mock-ups of centuries old, long gone synagogues. They were all wood with basic carpentry — no towers or buttresses, no stained glass or soaring ceilings.

Why? Because the only structure Jews were allowed to construct was that model.

They were often burned down, either because of arson or the flammability of wood in an accidental fire. None were universally mourned, and none were rebuilt with widespread promises of money and support. That answer summarily silenced me as to why we toured so many magnificent cathedrals but had difficulty finding even one comparable synagogue for a religion almost 6,000 years old.

As we watch Notre Dame’s rebuild with hopeful eyes, lessons from the past subtly remind us there are often more elements to a story than we realize.

Pat Lenhoff is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press. viewfromvh@yahoo.com
Removing an Oak Park school’s mural doesn’t change history — that’s a lesson worth learning

RANDY BLASER

One of the most frightening works of fiction I’ve ever come across is George Orwell’s “1984.” It scared me so much, that for a time I actually feared the arrival of that consequential year.

But 1984 came and went, I got married, and that was about it.

But I still worried about many of the predictions in Orwell’s book about the future totalitarian state.

One of the more fearful issues was the idea the state would routinely rid itself of history, facts or people that it found inconvenient or deemed no longer useful or relevant.

Such inconvenient data would simply be flushed away.

I still find the idea of revisionist history to be particularly repugnant. We would rue the day our nation ever gave in to the idea that some history and some facts are just too inconvenient or embarrassing to be remembered.

So, naturally, when I learned that the school community at Julian Middle School in Oak Park recently decided to rid itself of an old WPA mural, my first thought was, “Here we go, Orwell was right.”

The work in question was created in 1937 through the Works Progress Administration and is titled “Child and Sports — Winter.” It depicts a rather idyllic scene of children and parents skating on a frozen pond and romping in the snow. All the children and parents in the scene are white.

The concern about the mural is that the people in it no longer depict the diversity of life in Oak Park.

“The students and parents who approached the administration felt that the mural did not reflect or represent the diversity of our student body, school or community,” the school’s principal wrote to parents. “As a district, we are working diligently to achieve equity and promote a greater sense of inclusion and belonging in all of our schools.”

The mural has been at Julian since the construction of the school in 2002. Before that, it was housed at the former Lowell School.

The mural is now in a climate-controlled storage area, whatever that is. That’s too bad.

Oak Park in 1937 was largely an all-white community. The Great Migration of African-Americans from the South to the northern cities was still in its early stages at that time.

From 1915 to 1939, an estimated 1.2 million black Americans moved North. But from 1940 to 1960, 3.3 million blacks moved to the cities and points west.

The beautiful thing about Oak Park is that by the 1960s, the village took a step few other communities in the Chicago area dared to take. Oak Park passed its Fair Housing ordinance in 1968 because it wanted to be an integrated community.

That’s one of the many great things that attracted us to move to Oak Park as newlyweds in 1984.

We were proud of Oak Park’s storied past, and were even more proud to be part of its future and what life can be in an America committed to really living together.

But I am not committed to memory holes or selective history. It pains me that the Julian community would prefer to pack this bit of history away rather than acknowledge it and use it to teach some lessons. The mural could be used to show what Oak Park once was and then to create something new that shows what Oak Park and America became.

In other words, when it comes to education and facts and history and knowledge and diversity, I’m a rather greedy sort. I want it all, even if some of it is a bit embarrassing.

I understand others feel differently. But I still believe that banning art and speech never really works.

Still, we really should move on to remove what, unfortunately, is a far more accurate picture of the lingering racism that exists in this country.

I’m talking about the achievement gap between black and white students that still exits, after all these decades, and I find myself writing about again and again and again and again.

Unfortunately, that issue just won’t go quietly into cold storage, like so many embarrassing artifacts of the way life used to be in America.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist.
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**ADVICE**

Your body is amazing. Start treating it that way!

Take three words out of your vocabulary when you look at your body in the mirror:

I. Look.
Fat.

Whether size 2 or 22, and whether they're 25 or 55, many women (and men!) have a tendency to focus on what they don't like about themselves physically and what they wish they could change — whether it's their weight, saggy skin, a muffin top or wrinkles, to name just a few.

We waste time keeping up with unrealistic expectations of perfection instead of doing what we should be doing: appreciating our bodies for all the wonderful things it does to keep us alive, healthy and active.

Dr. Sue Pilossoph (who also happens to be my sister) is a Florida-based emergency physician with a focus on integrative medicine — care that implements the use of herbs, food and lifestyle changes to help with healing and maintaining good health.

"The most beautiful women you see are the ones who radiate self-confidence from the inside, no matter what their physical appearance might look like," said Pilossoph, a physician of 30 years who also is certified through The Institute for Functional Medicine. "They are paying attention to how they look and they put effort into it, but that's not the only thing that defines them."

I asked my sister what we can do to love our bodies more. Her answer: show your body you love it. Here are her suggestions for doing just that:

- **Listen to it.** Sometimes we don't even know when we're hungry anymore. We have been conditioned that because it's noon, it's time to eat lunch. Instead of following rules, recognize what your body needs and when. This applies to food, sleep, water, rest, exercise, quiet time and things you enjoy. If that means you want a piece of cake, then have it!
- **Move it.** Not everyone loves to exercise, but your body deserves it. If you aren't a fan of working out at a gym, find a form of exercise that you enjoy doing, and pick one that's good for your mind and your body. Take tennis lessons. Learn how to ballroom dance. I just met a woman who enjoys sheepherding and gets her exercise that way.
- **Decide you like it.** Find gratitude for your body. Focus on the parts you really like. When you find yourself thinking something negative about your body, write down three positives instead.

- **Liberate it.** Stop punishing yourself. Stop feeling guilty for eating food. If you're at a party and you want some chocolate-covered strawberries, have them. Savor food you like. Eat slowly. And when you're finished, be happy you enjoyed it instead of feeling remorse or shame.
- **Appreciate it.** Do you realize how many parts of your body are functioning perfectly and working to help you at any one time? Have gratitude for that and think about it the next time you get on the scale. Also, don't feel the need to cut yourself down when you get a compliment. If your friend tells you you're pretty, you can just say thank you.
- **Dress it.** Clothing size doesn't matter. What matters is being comfortable and feeling confident and attractive in what you're wearing. As one of our parent's friends used to say, "Smile and buy a different size."
- **Feed it.** The best evidence from longevity research favors a Mediterranean diet, which includes lots of salads, greens, multicolored vegetables, lean proteins, beans, olive oil, olives, avocados and berries.
- **Hydrate it.** Drink plenty of water. Make sure the water is clean, preferably filtered. Avoid plastic bottles as much as possible. Try to replace other beverages with water or herbal tea.
- **Supplement it.** Vitamins, minerals and herbal supplements can be helpful with chronic conditions. They can also help you feel your best by improving sleep, creating more energy and stabilizing mood swings.
- **Walk it.** Pick a destination that's close to where you live or work, somewhere you think is pretty and peaceful. Walk there twice a day. Also, there's no better way to spend some time than walking a dog. If you don't own one, offer to walk your neighbor's.
- **Socialize it.** Surround yourself with people who make you feel good about yourself, who are interesting, and who keep you laughing and enjoying life. Minimize time with negative or toxic people and energy-zappers.

Follow some of these tips and maybe you'll find that you love yourself, and your body, more and more.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist for Chicago Tribune Media Group, and is also the creator of her divorce support website, Divorced Girl Smiling.
The Village of Skokie - For Full-Time College Students. The Village of Skokie is now accepting applications for Seasonal Employment. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and must be enrolled as a full-time college student for the Fall 2019 semester. Positions are available in Community Development, Finance, Fire and Public Works. Most positions involve manual labor, however there are a few positions that involve mostly clerical duties. Seasonal Applications are available at the Personnel Office, Village Hall, (5127 Oakton Street) or on the Employment Opportunities page of the Village's website (www.skokie.org). Please send completed application, with proof of college enrollment, to the Personnel Office either by email to human.resources@skokie.org, in person, or by mail to the address listed above. All applicants are required to undergo a drug screening prior to employment.

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FOUND - US Currency in the 800 dock of Davis St., Elgin. Contact the Elgin Police Department Property Bureau at 847-742-5029. We will have to provide amount and location of lost. Ref. Case number 19-00318.

Personals & Prayers

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- Multi-Estates Auction

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interest community, the purchaser of the property at the foreclosure
sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by
The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 170-1 et seq., "Treasures,
" as well as any representation as to the condition of the property.

The property will NOT be open for inspection prior to the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no
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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION - FIFTH BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, as successor to FIFTH THIRD BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, as successor to FIFTH THIRD MORTGAGE BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION as mortgagee and The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/100(2)(A) as successor to AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK & TRUST COMPANY, NOT PERSONALLY LIABLE AS TRUSTEE FOR THE AWARD OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above-mentioned cause in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, on February 5, 2019, pursuant to the order of the court, the real estate described below, being part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and other taxes against said real estate and is offered for sale without any right to rescission or renewal of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court, and the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will not be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representations as to the condition of the property. The property is administratively determined to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

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ALMOST DONE:
With 97 Across the key clue

BY S.N. | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN
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Across
1 Lowers a lawn
5 Purchase for a nursery
9 Absorb a 68 Down
14 Incandescent alternatives: Abbr.
18 Sore spot
19 Cook-off preparation
20 Fruit pulp
21 Commend loudly
22 Line—yeto
23 Sports shrines
24 Marines’ battle cry
27 Boardroom VIPs
30 Shore toy
32 Shore scrounger
34 Morning’s end
35 Thinker’s thought
36 Thinker’s thought
37 One on parole
38 Homes made of wood
39 It’s south of Fort Worth
40 Stone of La La Land
41 "Common Sense" pamphleteer
42 Early
43 Firefighter’s implement
44 Spiny houseplant
45 Chess player’s declaration
46 Arabian royal title
47 Initial lessons
48 Device above a dash
49 Soph-to-be
50 Javelin, e.g.
51 Portion out
52 About .035 ounces
53 It’s a Wonderful Life director
54 It’s a Wonderful Life director
55 Nautical “Halt!”
57 Person learning lines
58 McEntire of music
59 Shaped like an eggplant
60 Land parcel
61 Yertle the Turtle author
62 Totaled
63 Successful NABAs
64 Despicable Me daughter
65 Sign-lettering aid
66 Enrages
67 Skyscraper
68 Monetary setback
69 Expressed that you’re impressed
70 Longtime
71 Olympian warmonger
72 Camera lens setting
73 Person from Belgrade
74 Game of Thrones topers
75 Rope securer
76 Editor’s mark
77 Orient (towards)
78 Flock noises
79 _corn (telecom)
80 More skittish
81 String of music
82 Portion out
83 Star Trek
84 Land on Lake Victoria
85 Goes last
86 Despicable Me
87 Mineral in geodes
88 Still in contention
89 Path
90 Activated, as a fuse
91 Orbital periods
92 Vocal quality
93 Forest creature
94 Onetime tyrant of 84 Down
95 Sponsored by
96 Continual
97 Hint to the other nine longest answers have in common
98 "Smart" guy
99 Yalie

Down
1 Harms severely
2 In base 8
3 Start of a conformist maxim
4 Curved roof of some churches
5 Blackens on a grill
6 Enrages
7 Not oneself today
8 Wilhelm’s chancellor
9 Exertion
10 Woodard of films
11 Bags in a caddy
12 Doctrine
13 Nonspeaking role in Jewels
14 Carefully selected
15 Clearly explained
16 Palermo’s euro predecessor
17 Schedule opening
18 Device at a dairy
19 Maritime cry
20 Boardroom VIPs
21 Sho’toy
22 Hungarian wines
23 Shore scrounger
24 Device above a dash
25 Mediterranean
26 Without assistance
27 Without assistance
28 Choral leader
29 Poor report card
30 Shore scrounger
31 College admission criterion
32 Without assistance
33 Choral leader
34 Without assistance
35 Poor report card
36 Thinker’s thought
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88 "Smart" guy
89 Yalie
90 Activated, as a fuse
91 Orbital periods
92 Vocal quality
93 Forest creature
94 Onetime tyrant of 84 Down
95 Sponsored by
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

A. Concert of Europe architect
B. Optimistic
C. Twice a day occurrences: 2 wds.
D. Expressions in abbreviations
E. Deere city
F. Barracks bedtime: 2 wds.
G. Artemis temple site
H. Lock architect
I. The Five composers member

Words

A. 97 7 76 132 105 164 44 23 152 139
B. 95 155 122 147 80
C. 33 16 116 137 100 127 70 66 149 45
D. 3 19 154 39 29 90 148
E. 32 86 117 129 160 49 1 75 138
F. 162 95 153 15 37 96 54
G. 5 42 16 57
H. 38 123 91 84 146 22 120 133 72 64

J. Rudeness and impertinence, e.g.
K. 'Unanswered Prayers' album, 2 wds.
L. Molar material
M. Your everyday burg
N. 'Graduate' director
O. Speed
P. Razor slaver style
Q. Judge jobs, often
R. Black gold: 2 wds.
S. End points
T. Horse play
U. Fertile Asian area: 2 wds.

43 Antonym of 25 Across

Give and Take

BY CHARLES PRESTON

ACROSS
1 Having potential
5 English river
10 Seek the heights
14 Overcharge
15 Helicopter component
16 In addition
17 Antonym of 53 Across
20 Longing
21 American newspaper publisher
22 Not finished
23 Crafts for couples
24 Middle East prince
25 Tempestuous
28 Antonym of 41 Across
32 Tapestry
33 Supple
34 Gratuity
35 Dun
36 Carnival attractions
37 Sutherland, e.g.
38 WWII zone
39 Hinder
40 Days or bar
41 Criticizes
43 Antonym of 25 Across
44 Ancient Hebrew measure

45 Narrow opening
46 Scanty
49 Breadth
50 By way of
53 Greed, sometimes
56 Grimace
57 Draw out
58 Auricular
59 Sorrowful exclamation
60 Navigational system
61 Balderdash

DOWN
1 Sore
2 In the dumps
3 Sketch
4 Gov agency
5 Requiring skill
6 Zuckerman Trilogy author, and family
7 Greek letters
8 Correlative of neither
9 Successes
10 Justice O'Connor
11 Mixture
12 Org.
13 European capital
18 Standards
19 Flighty
23 Asian sea
24 More appropriate
25 Cavalry weapon
26 Banal
27 Ship's deck
28 Assistants
29 Serving a purpose
30 Couch
31 Sleuthing Sam
32 Unit of measure
33 Antonym of 9 Down
37 Pointed missile
39 Japanese news agency
40 Paris waterway
42 Gallery bad guys
43 Fawn
45 Star in Virgo
46 I Remember ___: Irene Dunne film
47 Env. concern
48 Blue-green
49 Confound
50 Presidential power
51 Egyptian goddess
52 Polish-born American novelist
54 Wedding response
55 San Francisco hill
**Ooh, I Get It!**

BY JEFFREY WECHSLER

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

**Across**

1 Some old Eur. republics
5 Brownstone-front hangout
10 Homer's "rosy-fingered" time
14 One looking badly?
19 Astute
20 Aquatic predators
21 "Nasty" Nastase of tennis
22 Good, to Giovanni
23 "... la Douce"
24 Grinch victim in the Wasatch Range?
27 High point
28 College domain
29 Large wardrobe
30 College dorm figs.
31 Legal memo phrase
32 Pro Football Hall of Famer Merlin ...  
35 Modigliani subject
36 Set (on)
37 Bills corporate bigwigs?
41 Warning about overexuberance
43 Chris of "American Pie" films
44 Urn turner, perhaps
45 Puff's ailment?
50 Real-estate holding account
54 D.C. VIPs
55 -B hygiene brand
56 Nickname for a seafaring Smurf?
57 "— Locka, Fla.
58 ... "la Douce"
59 Shoulders, e.g.
60 Cal. locale of the National Walk of Fame
61 18-Down?
62 Basic electrical component
63 "Trainwreck" director Judd
64 Puff's ailment?
65 Actresses Delta
66 Delay, with "off"
67 "Ghosts" playwright
68 Runs in the wash
69 Beetle relatives
70 ... "la Douce"
71 Like perjured testimony
72 NW Penn. airport
73 Hockey legend
74 Columbus campus: Abbr.
75 Ended, with "for"
76 Endearing quality
77 Choose
78 Impose
79 "God _ refuge and strength": Psalm
84 Bering, e.g.
86 Sailing competition
87 Braying beast
88 Arp's art
89 Expiate, with "for"
90 Rank of Brit. TV sleuth Morse
91 "Nearly nude" singer
92 Coat of arms element
93 Exceptional wind?
94 Pasty food
95 "God ... on the mountaintop"
96 Dawn goddess
97 Ready to play again
98 Soft drink
99 "Over the rainbow"
100 Interviewee's opening line
101 Orbiter for 15 years
102 "There you _!"
103 Prepare for bodybuilding photos
104 Egyptian deity
105 Charlotte sch.
106 Takes, as a bus
108 Friend of Eeyore
110 Bygone depilatory brand
111 18-Down?
112 "... la Douce"
113 "— Locka, Fla.
114 Tedious situation

**Down**

1 "Let's not do that"
2 Sister of Venus
3 Say casually
4 Whence some garters?
5 Hot under the collar
6 Walked over
7 Like Hogwart's lore
8 Sturdy tree
9 101 class involving Freud: Abbr.
10 Chanel competitor
11 Many college donors
12 Succeed despite obstacles
13 Coll. students' access codes
14 Tony's cousin
15 Staple ...
16 Inexpensive, as housing
17 Improve
18 Wake-up call provider
22 "... la Douce"
23 "There you _!"
24 "... la Douce"
25 Minister's house
26 "... la Douce"
27 "... la Douce"
28 "... la Douce"
29 "... la Douce"
30 "... la Douce"
31 "... la Douce"
32 "... la Douce"
33 "... la Douce"
34 "... la Douce"
35 "... la Douce"
36 On the other hand
37 "... la Douce"
38 _ Paulo
39 Pass over
40 Mild angst
41 Warning about overexuberance
42 Bit of trickery
43 Chris of "American Pie" films
44 Urn turner, perhaps
45 Puff's ailment?
46 Rest
47 "Trainwreck" director Judd
48 Back again
49 Foundation of a civil society
50 Real-estate holding account
51 Stress-relief tool
52 "... la Douce"
53 Actress Issa
54 D.C. VIPs
55 Like perjured testimony
56 Play lists
57 Airport near D.C.
58 Alit
59 Whole effort
60 Cal. locale of the National Walk of Fame
61 18-Down?
62 Basic electrical component
63 "Trainwreck" director Judd
64 Puff's ailment?
65 Actresses Delta
66 Delay, with "off"
67 "Ghosts" playwright
68 Runs in the wash
69 Beetle relatives
70 ... "la Douce"
71 Like perjured testimony
72 NW Penn. airport
73 Hockey legend
74 Columbus campus: Abbr.
75 Ended, with "for"
76 Endearing quality
77 Choose
78 Impose
79 "God _ refuge and strength": Psalm
84 Bering, e.g.
86 Sailing competition
87 Braying beast
88 Arp's art
89 Expiate, with "for"
90 Rank of Brit. TV sleuth Morse
91 "Nearly nude" singer
92 Coat of arms element
93 Exceptional wind?
94 Pasty food
95 "God ... on the mountaintop"
96 Dawn goddess
97 Ready to play again
98 Soft drink
99 "Over the rainbow"
100 Interviewee's opening line
101 Orbiter for 15 years
102 "There you _!"
103 Prepare for bodybuilding photos
104 Egyptian deity
105 Charlotte sch.
106 Takes, as a bus
108 Friend of Eeyore
110 Bygone depilatory brand
111 18-Down?
112 "... la Douce"
113 "— Locka, Fla.
114 Tedious situation

**Jumble**

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

```
HORDSU
FLITIE
PRMYUG
ASYARL
TECOIP
DANECN
```

**Sudoku**

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

```
1 2 3 | 4 5 6 | 7 8 9
-------------------
4 5 6 | 1 2 3 | 7 8 9
-------------------
7 8 9 | 4 5 6 | 1 2 3
```

**Last week's answers appear on the next page**

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO SELL CERTAIN REAL ESTATE PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the Village Council of the Village of Pleasant Hill, Illinois, on May 19, 2019, has elected to designate a real estate property, located at 1200 N. Main St., Pleasant Hill, Illinois, as a subject property for the purpose of disposing of the same by sale at a public auction. The said property is subject to the provisions of the Illinois Real Estate/Landlord-Tenant Act.

The Village Council will consider the sale of the subject property at its regular meeting on the last Tuesday in May of each year, at which time it will determine whether to proceed with the sale or to reaffirm its intention to designate the property for sale.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of Fairview School District No. 71, located at 1235 Cedar St., Evanston, Illinois, will hold a public hearing on the proposal to sell bonds provided for by the Act of September 4, 1929, for the purpose of providing for the purpose of providing for educational purposes. The public hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, in the Board Room of the Fairview School District Building, 1235 Cedar St., Evanston, Illinois.

Selling the property will not be detrimental to the public interest.

The Classifieds are available for ad placement. If you would like to place your classified ad online, visit tribune.com.

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DO YOU HAVE A BUSINESS OR A SERVICE YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE?

Contact Dale, Assistant Classified Editor, at 847-673-6263 or dale@tribune.com.

Selling the property will not be detrimental to the public interest.
NOTICE OF INTENTION OF COMPOSTATION DISTRICT NUMBER 65, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, TO ISSUE $5,000,000 WORKING CASH FUND BONDS

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Consolidated School District Number 65, Cook County, Illinois, at a meeting held this 22nd day of April, 2019, has determined that it is expedient and necessary in the interest of the students, the community, and the property owners of the District to proceed with the preparation and filing of an application and plans for the issuance of $5,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds, and further declared that it is expedient and necessary for the said District to proceed with the preparation and filing of an application and plans for the issuance of said bonds for the purpose of increasing the Working Cash Fund of the District, and for an additional sum to be determined by the Board of Directors of the District in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois School Code, in order to meet the necessary expenses of the District during the period of Animal inspection and approval of the Working Cash Fund of the District, and to aid in the construction, maintenance, and operation of the schools and other buildings of the District.

In accordance with the requirements of Section 4.4 of the School Code of the State of Illinois, as amended, a referendum should be held prior to the issuance of said bonds. The referendum shall be held on the 17th day of May, 2019, at 7:00 P.M., at the Village Hall, 500 East Lake Avenue, Glenview, Illinois, in accordance with Section 7-51-13.3 of the Illinois School Code.

The property involved is commonly known as 2131 McArthur Road and is legally described as:

LOT 8 IN BLOCK 17 IN GLENVIEW PARK MANOR, A SUBDIVISION IN THE SOUTHEAST QUADRANT OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

The petitioners, John Kossler, requests a Variation from the Glenview Municipal Code to allow the construction of a building addition to the existing single-family residence located at 2131 McArthur Road, as allowed and required by said ordinance.

All persons interested shall attend and will be given an opportunity to be heard. For additional information regarding this case, please contact Tony Repp, Senior Planner, at (847) 904-4309.

Zoning Board of Appeals
Alfred A. Greco, Chairman
Tony Repp, Senior Planner
Publication Date: May 2, 2019
05/02/2019 6263857

APARTMENT FOR RENT
The search begins here! Many apartment and home hunters check the Classifieds before looking for a new place to live. Advertise your rental units with us to get a jump on the competition! Call 844-399-0537 or visit placedn.tribunenow.com.

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Your Stuff!
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NEW AD PLACEMENT
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BUILDING ADDITIONS TO EXISTING SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE
The petitioners, John Kossler, requests a Variation from the Glenview Municipal Code to allow the construction of a building addition to the existing single-family residence located at 2131 McArthur Road, as allowed and required by said ordinance.

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Zoning Board of Appeals
Alfred A. Greco, Chairman
Tony Repp, Senior Planner
Publication Date: May 2, 2019
05/02/2019 6263857

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals to consider a petition requesting a Variation of the Glenview Municipal Code to allow the construction of a building addition to the existing single-family residence located at 2131 McArthur Road, as allowed and required by said ordinance.

All persons interested shall attend and will be given an opportunity to be heard. For additional information regarding this case, please contact Tony Repp, Senior Planner, at (847) 904-4309.

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NEW AD PLACEMENT
The Classifieds are available for ad placement 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year for your convenience! Visit placedn.tribunenow.com.
Program showcases skating talent

Oakton Ice Show marks 50th year of performances

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Over 250 skaters, age 4 to adults, will be skating to the theme "And the Winner Is" at the Park District of Park Ridge's 50th annual Oakton Ice Show from May 3-5 at the Oakton Ice Arena.

Performances are 7 p.m. Friday, 1:30 and 7 p.m. Saturday, and 1:30 p.m. Sunday.

"It's an awards show," said Skating Director David Santee of Park Ridge, who is a two-time Olympian. "Emmys, Oscars, anything that has won an award musically is in the show."

That includes songs from "Gone with the Wind," "Flashdance," "Phantom of the Opera," and "Top Gun," as well as such numbers as "I Will Survive," "Johnny B. Goode" and many more selections.

The show is open to "anybody that's in our learn to skate or competitive program," Santee said. "It's an opportunity for our skaters to perform in front of their family and friends and whoever wants to come see it."

"It's usually a highlight for the skaters. It's the end of the competitive season for competitors. It's a nice shift. For the young ones, it's a chance to get some experience in front of spotlights and performing for people. Everybody looks forward to it."

Performers will include award-winning skater Ryan Bradley of Des Plaines.

"I was on the national podium four times," Bradley said. "I medaled twice in Senior Grand Prixes, which is the biggest international competition outside of the World Championship. And I was the U.S. champion in 2011."

Bradley works as a coach at the Oakton Ice Arena. He relocated to this area and joined the staff because "David Santee has been a role model of mine since I was a child, and we became friends as grownups," he said. "My mom's from Chicago, I always wanted to live here since I was a little kid."

Bradley choreographed a couple of the numbers, will be doing many of the announcements, and will also skate in the show.

"I have two different numbers," Bradley said. "One is a Motown medley and there's a piece that they brought to me from 'The Greatest Showman.'"

Chicagoan Ania Biernat has been skating at the Oakton Ice Arena for 14 years, since she was 10. She has performed in 10 Oakton Ice Shows, only stopping when she was away at college. "Once I graduated, I started again in 2017," she said.

Biernat said she enjoys performing in those shows because "I'm a somewhat shy person so it's a way for me to express myself. I kind of show off without any pressure."

Biernat is performing in a group number and doing a lot of choreography, but she also has a solo. "I'm skating to 'Dream Productions' from 'Inside Out,'" Biernat said. "It's instrumental, no lyrics, but it's a fun little piece."

Fifteen-year-old Faith Olczak of River Grove has been skating for eight years. She will perform in several group numbers and will skate a solo to a song called "Faith" by Stevie Wonder and Ariana Grande. She has performed in four or five of the Oakton Ice Shows, and said, "They're really fun. They should be great fun for audiences, too."

Myrna Petlicki is a freelancer.

50th Annual Oakton Ice Show

When: May 3-5
Where: Oakton Ice Rink, 2800 W. Oakton St., Park Ridge
Tickets: $8-$15
Information: 847-692-3359; www.prparks.org
I314 WHAT TO DO

Thursday

The Barn Steakhouse Nightly Specials: This cozy and chic modern restaurant offers New American fare and craft cocktails, tucked away in a rustic, restored stable in Evanston. Amy Morton, owner and founder of The Barn Steakhouse and Found Kitchen, has created a meat-centric eatery, delivering only the finest quality ingredients, meats and Heritage Angus Beef. Open Monday through Thursday 5 p.m. - 10 p.m., Friday through Saturday 5 p.m. - 11 p.m. and Sunday 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. Visit The Barn Steakhouse’s website to see the menu, and nightly specials, and follow the restaurant on Facebook and Instagram. 5 p.m. Thursday, The Barn, 1016 Church St., Evanston, see the menu, 847-866-8041.

Swantiques Pop-Up Opening Night: Evanston’s own Lora Swanson has meticulously curated a delightful collection of antique, vintage, and mid-century modern furniture, lighting, art, rugs, and interesting and unusual accessories. Swantiques features a collaboration with fellow Evanston-based, woman-owned Cultivate Urban Rainforest & Gallery. Celebrating its opening night on Friday, April 26th from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m., this coincides with the Central Street Business Association’s April In Paris spring event. 11 a.m. Monday through Sunday, Swantiques, 2016 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-951-8263.

Northwestern Wirtz Center’s Mary Stuart: Northwestern University’s Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts 2018-19 Mainstage season concludes with Schiller’s “Mary Stuart.” Blending poetry and prose, Peter Oswald’s adaption originally premiered at London’s Donmar Warehouse in 2005. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Ethel M. Barber Theatre, 30 Arts Circle Dr., Evanston, $6-$25, 847-491-7282.

Caravans of Gold at Northwestern Block Museum: The Block Museum of Art at Northwestern University’s “Caravans of Gold, Fragments in Time: Art, Culture and Exchange Across Medieval Saharan Africa” is the first major exhibition to highlight West Africa’s global reach in the medieval period of the 8th to 16th centuries. This exhibit debuts Jan. 26 and runs through July 21, 2019. 10 a.m. Thursday, Northwestern University - Block Museum of Art, 40 Arts Circle Dr., Evanston, free, 847-491-4000.

Conquering the Americas: Collision and Convergence: The societies of the Americas emerge out of the collision, convergence, and complex mixture of Native Americans, Europeans, and Africans. Beginning with the conquests of the sixteenth century, and the major features are complete and in place by about 1700. This collision and convergence provide all the American colonies (Spanish, Portuguese, English, French and Dutch) with some unity and common patterns of historical developments, as well as enormous diversity in regions from Canada to Argentina. This exploration covers both dimensions of the early history of the Americas. 10 a.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Rd., Northfield, $49 member, $65 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

BookBites: Reading Social: “The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper” by Phaedra Patrick. Visit facebook.com/nilsglenviewbookbites for details. This is co-sponsored by the Niles-Maine District Library. 7 p.m. Thursday, Hackney’s on Lake, 1514 E. Lake Ave., Glencoe, free, 847-729-7500.

EXCEL 2013 Intermediate: Do more with your spreadsheets. Learn several intermediate skills including tables and charts, conditional formatting, and absolute/relative cell references. Basic EXCEL skills are required. Please register online, call 847-729-7500 ext. 7700, or visit Reference Services. Participants must be 18 years or older. Classes in the Tech Lab, unless otherwise noted. 7 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd., Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Storywalk: Children and animals watch the world transform from the dark of winter to the brightness of spring in “When Spring Comes” by Kevin Henkes. Just drop in. 9 a.m. every day. Friday, Lake Bluff Public Library, 4006 Lake Ave., Lake Bluff, Chicago, free, 847-250-7100.

Friday

Maine Township Agency Day: The day features Trauma Informed Care: A Conversation, a workshop presented by Paul Skiba, a clinical psychologist with 34 years of experience. Skiba addresses the new definition of trauma and how trauma shows up at school, the workplace, in professional and personal relationships, and in self-care. Network and exchange information about services in the Maine Township community. Bring brochures, flyers, and business cards to display on information tables. To register and pay online, go to the website by the deadline of April 28. For more information, call Kristina Christie at 847-297-2510 ext. 241.8:30 a.m. Friday, Manzo Banquet and Restaurant, 1517 S. Elmhurst Rd., Des Plaines, $25 per person; advanced registration required, 847-297-2510.

9 to 5 The Musical: Pushed to the boiling point, three female coworkers navigating the corporate world of the late 1970s concoct a plan to get even with the sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot they call their boss. In a hilarious turn of events, Violet, Judy and Doreen live out their wildest fantasies — giving their boss the boot. Based on the seminal 1980 hit movie starring Dolly Parton, Jane Fonda, and Lily Tomlin. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Prairie Lakes Theatre, 515 E. Thacker St., Des Plaines, $16 – $30, 847-604-0275.

Anna Nalick: 8 p.m. Friday, Evanston Space, 1245 Chicago Ave, Evanston, $20 – $35, 847-492-8860.

"Get Out Alive" at Northwestern: “Get Out Alive” is a new musical event by independent artist Nikki Lynette. Collaborating with Northwestern music theater professor and director Roger Ellis, AMTP will work to develop this edgy one-woman musical into a multi-media theatrical event using storytelling, song, movement, visual media and a live DJ. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Musseetser-Struble Theater at Northwestern University, 1949 Campus Dr., Evanston, free.

Ticketed: Friday Fun for Ages 3-5 with Adult: Finish the week with stories and hands-on fun with the Youth Services Librarians. Tickets are given out 20 minutes prior to the program. Preference is given to Glenview Public Library cardholders. 10:30 a.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd., Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Drop-In Chess: Through Grade 8: Learn fundamentals and strategy with volunteer chess instructor Steve Leven- son. Just drop in. 7 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd., Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

Art Deco Architecture in Chicago: Streamlined Design: Modernism came to Chicago architecture in the 1920s, spurred in no small part by the controversy surrounding the competition to design Tribune Tower. Along with the innovations of zoning and reinforced concrete, these buildings were filled with furnishings and designed objects in dramatic new forms. 10 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Rd., Northfield, $24 member; $34 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

Foreign Policy Roundtable: Gary Midkiff leads this monthly discussion group exploring foreign policy issues of the day. Prior to each class session, attendees receive an agenda and reading list to prepare for that meeting. During the class, Gary discusses the issues and encourages participants to compare and contrast their views and opinions. 9:30 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Rd.

Turn to Calendar, Page 15
Saturday

Evanston Dance Ensemble - Annual Auditions: The Evanston Dance Ensemble holds auditions for dancers who will be in grades 7-12 for the 2019-20 season. Auditions for dancers going into high school: 2:45-5 p.m. on May 4; For dancers in 7th or 8th grade next year: 2:45-5 p.m. on May 5. To register for auditions, contact Company Manager, Paula Sjogerman by calling or eoe@dancecentre Evanston.com. 2:45 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dance Center Evanston, 1934 Dempster St., Evanston, free, 847-328-6683.

Contemporary Finds Main Show Opening Night: More than 20 local artists debut their work. Stop in for a meet and greet with the artists, and enjoy fresh art, food and music. This event is free, but there is a $10 suggested donation. 5 p.m. Saturday, Ice House Gallery and Art Space, 609 South Blvd, Evanston, free, 847-232-7092.

Eve Alfille Feathers Opening: Eve J. Alfille announces the opening of her new Feathers series, a collection of earrings, necklaces and rings. Join in from 1 to 7 p.m. for champagne, snacks and frivolity. This event features a raffle for two beautiful original necklaces from her new series. Eve, an artist, archeologist and gem expert, has been designing one-of-a-kind jewelry pieces for close to 40 years. 1 p.m. Saturday, Eve J. Alfille Gallery and Studio, 623 Grove St., Evanston, free, 847-869-7920.

Annual Dahlias Plant Sale: Central States Dahlia Society holds its annual dahlia plant sale. Buy high-quality plants at reasonable prices. Meet experienced growers who can answer all your questions. 10 a.m. Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Rd., Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440.

Minding the Gap: In this award-winning documentary (not rated) from Kartemquin Films, three young men bond together to escape volatile families in their Rust-Belt hometown. As they face adult responsibilities, unexpected revelations threaten their decade-long friendship. Enjoy the film and stay for a special post-screening discussion with Chicago-based Director, Bing Liu. Just drop in. 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Glencoe Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd., free, 847-729-7700.

Free Comic Book Day: Stop by Youth Services to pick up a free comic book while supplies last. This is courtesy of Pastimes Comics & Games in Niles. 9 a.m. Saturday, Glencoe Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd., Glencoe, free, 847-729-7700.

Graphic Novel Book Club for Grades 3-5: If you love graphic novels, come talk about this quarter's title, CatStrap-nut by Mission Moon by Drew Brockington. Register at the Youth Services Desk and pick up your free copy. Open to GPL cardholders and students attending Glenview Schools. In-person registration required to receive the book. Please register online, call 847-729-7700 ext. 7900, or visit Youth Services. 2 p.m. Saturday, Glencoe Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd., Glencoe, free, 847-729-7700.

SUNDAY

Found Kitchen and Social House Brunch with the Beatles: Found Kitchen and Social House may have jumped into a new decade, but they're taking it back each Sunday for Brunch with the Beatles. Between 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. come to dine on Chef Bradford Phillips' new brunch menu, boasting sweet and savory breakfast items like doughnuts, stuffed French toast and smoked salmon toast, and sip on house made juices, kombucha and coffee as 1960s classics play on the restaurant's turntable. For more information, visit Found Kitchen's website and follow the restaurant on Facebook and Instagram. 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, see menu, 847-868-8945.

Annual Dahlia Plant Sale: Central States Dahlia Society holds its annual dahlia plant sale. Buy high-quality plants at reasonable prices. Meet experienced growers who can answer all your questions. 10 a.m. Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Rd., Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440.

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Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous: This is for those who have trouble controlling the way they eat. You are not alone. Today, there is a solution. Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a free 12-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 2-11 of the Evanston Hospital, 7045 N.8.p.m. Monday, Evanston Hospital, 2650 Ridge Ave., Evanston, free.

Page Turners: Just drop in, for "The Muralist" by Barbara A. Shapiro. 1 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd., Glenview, free, 847-729-7700.

hoopla, MyMediaMail & Zinio Individual Appointments: 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, register, and for appointment locations. Glenview Library card required. 10 a.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd., Glenview, free, 847-729-7700.

Tuesday

Spark Park for Grades 1-3: Young and curious minds needed for hands-on exploration of STEAM topics. Please register online, call 847-729-7700 ext. 7900, or visit Youth Services. 4:15 p.m. Tuesday, Glencoe Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd., Glenview, free, 847-729-7700.

Census Records: Find your ancestors in census records with these tips and tricks. Please register online, call 847-729-7700 ext. 7700, or visit Reference Services. Registration and a Glenview Library card are required. Participants must be 18 years or older. Classes in the Tech Lab, unless otherwise noted. 10

Turn to , Page 16
Exploring Evanston Challenges and Possibilities: The Rotary Club of Evanston is considering possibilities for focusing its community service and funding efforts in Evanston. Three potential areas are education gaps, hunger and aging. This panel discussion, to be held at 6 p.m. Wednesdays, from mid-September through May. An experienced moderator does demonstrations of fly tying, with members tying the same pattern using tools and materials provided by the club. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Park Ridge Community Church, 100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-3164.

Career Counseling Appointments: A very limited number of 30-minute appointments are available from 9 to 11 a.m. Consult with a career expert for resume help, LinkedIn profile review, and job search strategies for any stage of your career. No online registration. Call 847-729-7500 ext. 7700 or visit Reference Services. 9 a.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd., Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

The Breakfast Club: Rise and shine and start your day off right with networking and breakfast. This is hosted by Park Ridge Chamber Ambassador Dave Donovan. Register at the event website or call the Park Ridge Chamber office. Enjoy breakfast at Lola's Diner and bring your business cards for networking. 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, Lola's Diner, 920 Busse Highway, Park Ridge, $11 members; $15 prospective members, 847-825-3121.

Wednesday

Exploring Evanston Challenges and Possibilities: The Rotary Club of Evanston is considering possibilities for focusing its community service and funding efforts in Evanston. Three potential areas are education gaps, hunger and aging. This panel discussion, to be held at 6-7:30 p.m. brings together community leaders and members of the broader community for exploration of related challenges and possibilities, including Candance Chow, District 65 School Board Member, who speaks about the education opportunity gap; Ike Ogbo, Interim Director for City of Evanston Interim Health and Human Services who speaks about food security; and Audrey Thompson, the City of Evanston Long-term Care Ombudsman who speaks about aging in Evanston. 6 p.m. Wednesday, One Rotary Center, 1560 Sherman Ave., Evanston, free, 847-370-9968.

Sounds Goodl Choir Spring Concert: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Alice Millar Chapel, Northwestern University, 1870 Sheridan Rd., Evanston, free, 847-491-7256.

Great Books Discussion is New: Inquiring minds and passionate readers: explore works of the world's biggest thinkers and finest writers, from Plato, Aristotle, and Sophocles through Shakespeare, Dostoyevsky, and Austen, to Marx, Freud, Darwin, and more. This is moderated by Michael Bartlett, journalist/editor and Glenview resident. For more information, visit glenviewpl.org/
## COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

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Students get a look at impact of injuries

Hospital holds 20th Trauma Day

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC
Pioneer Press

More than 200 students from area high schools participated in the 20th annual Trauma Day April 26 at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge.

The event brought together students from Maine East High School, Maine South High School and Resurrection High School for an event that aims to raise awareness about the impact of serious injury among adolescents.

"This is a very valuable experience, a lot of teens will learn from it," said Sarah Hussien, 15, a Maine East High School sophomore from Des Plaines.

Kathy Tanouye, a registered nurse and the hospital's trauma services manager, launched Trauma Day two decades ago and developed the idea with colleagues. She says the longevity of the effort signals that it's working.

"We really believe in the responses that we get from the students afterwards that it does make a difference," Tanouye said.

The day included a visual presentation and activities designed to encourage students to make positive decisions and drive safely.

Teen cell phone usage and accessibility are newer challenges that didn't exist 20 years ago when Trauma Day began.

"That's different," said Melissa Damewood, Maine Township health care careers coordinator, referring to cell phones as a driving risk factor.

"I'm really impressed by our students' awareness of the ability to see their role and how they can monitor and help their friends," Damewood said. Students were shown the Flight for Life helicopter and taken upstairs to the helipad.

Interactive sessions took place at Lutheran General Hospital's Simulation Center, which opened in July 2018.

At 8,000 square feet, the center offers demonstration rooms for learners to experience medical settings such as birthing suites, intensive care units and surgical situations.

"It's just awesome," said Sue Kleckner of Park Ridge, a volunteer who escorted students on simulation tours.

Karie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter.
Morton Grove readies to discuss taxing district

BY DANIEL I. DORFMAN
Pioneer Press

As the Morton Grove village board prepares to have a special meeting on the proposed special taxing district at Sawmill Station, Village Administrator Ralph Czerwinski supplied details of the ideas to rehabilitate the intersection of Dempster and Waukegan roads at the at the April 22 village board meeting.

Czerwinski delivered a brief presentation on the current state of what is now known as the Prairie View Shopping Center at the southeast corner of the heavily-traveled area, pointing to the dilapidated conditions.

"People from other communities drive by and say, 'Thank goodness that isn't in our community,'" Czerwinski said, according to a video of the meeting.

Hoping to revitalize the area, the village has received a proposal for a "lifestyle center" the 26-acre site from Kensington Development Partners, the owners of the site with UK-based IM Properties, a commercial real estate investment firm. The ownership team envisions a site featuring 10 commercial buildings, a six-story apartment building featuring luxury residences with retail stores along with restaurants, a grocery store, a cinema and a fitness center.

The village estimates the project at being worth $135 million and says the developers are seeking financial assistance from the village supplied by property and sales taxes from the restaurants and stores.

The plan won unanimous approval from the village's commission in April. "The primary goal is to facilitate improvements that will stimulate commercial development in this area," Czerwinski said.

Czerwinski said the village has had successes with TIF districts in other areas, particularly one on Waukegan Road.

"It did re-image that corridor," he said.

But resident Mike Tracy expressed concern about the plan.

"From what I am seeing here, the village wants to dictate all development in the community," Tracy said. "It seems like we are paying people to move into our town, and I don’t think that is right."

A special village board meeting to discuss the Sawmill Station development as well as the possibility of the implementation of a TIF district has been scheduled for May 6 at the village hall.

In a TIF district, property taxes in the area are frozen at a certain amount. Anything above that level is put into a fund that can be borrowed against or used to pay for certain kinds of improvements to the area.

In other news out of the meeting, President Dan DiMaria also said Nancy Radzewich, the village's director of economic and community development, would be leaving to take a job in the city of Chicago.

Tom Friel, the assistant to the village administrator, said after the meeting there was no timetable to name a replacement for Radzewich.

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

Naperville man, 47, critically injured in motorcycle crash

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

A motorcyclist was critically injured in a collision with a vehicle Thursday night in Morton Grove at the Niles border, according to Morton Grove police.

A vehicle traveling east on Dempster Street around 7:45 p.m. was attempting to make a left turn onto Oleander Avenue, just east of Notre Dame College Prep, when it collided with the motorcycle - which was headed in the opposite direction on Dempster, police said.

The driver of the motorcycle, a 47-year-old man from Naperville, suffered serious injuries and was taken to the hospital, where he was listed in critical condition, said Morton Grove police Cmdr. Paul Yaras.

The driver of the vehicle was not injured, but she was ticketed for failing to yield, Yaras said.

The crash closed sections of Dempster Street and Oleander Avenue for several hours Thursday night while police conducted an investigation.

Jennifer Johnson is a reporter for the Pioneer Press.

Naperville

15

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New District 64 board members seated

Special education committee to be discussed

BY HEATHER CHERONE
Pioneer Press

Three new members — all women — joined the Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 Board of Education at a special meeting Monday night.

It is the first time in 12 years that the board has more than two women as members, according to district records.

Denise Pearl, Carol Sales and Rebecca Little all won election to the District 64 board. Tom Sotos, the only incumbent board member, was reelected to a second term on April 2.

Little was elected to serve a two-year, unexpired term.

Pearl, Sales, Little and Sotos were sworn in after a brief final meeting of the previous board and a reception honoring departing Board President Anthony Borrelli and board members Mark Eggemann and Robert Johnson. They did not run for new terms.

Board member Rick Biagi, who had been vice president of the board, was elected unanimously. However, the board split over the selection of vice president.

Sotos, who got the fewest number of votes of all the winning candidates on April 2, nominated himself as vice president.

Sales and Little nominated Pearl for vice president at the same time as Sotos nominated himself. Sotos said he was best qualified to serve as board vice president because he is the board’s longest serving member, rarely misses a meeting and is always willing to volunteer for additional duties.

Pearl said she would serve as an honest collaborator and would represent the change most voters supported in the election.

Miki Tesija, who helped lead a group of parents that pushed the board to change the way District 64 educates students with disabilities, urged the board to select Pearl.

“The time is right for new leadership to rebuild the trust after a tumultuous two years,” Tesija said.

Because Sotos and Pearl were nominated at the same time, Biagi flipped a coin to determine which nomination the board would vote on first.

Sotos won the coin flip. Biagi joined returning board members Larry Ryles and Fred Sanchez in voting for Sotos, who voted for himself.

Pearl voted against appointing Sotos as vice president, as did Little and Sales. Because Sotos earned four votes, Pearl’s nomination was never voted on.

After the vote, those in attendance jeered the vote, with one person calling out “surprise, surprise” in a sarcastic tone of voice.

Sales was elected board secretary unanimously, and will also serve as chairwoman of the board’s policy committee.

The board also agreed to discuss the future of the board’s special education committee at its next meeting set for May 20. The committee was formed in September to ensure changes were made to the district’s services for disabled students after pressure from parents.

In May, an audit by an outside consultant found that services offered to District 64 students enrolled in special education classes declined during the past two years.

Tesija told the committee’s current scope of work overlaps with another group — Parents and Teachers Talking Together — and is “meaningless.”

“Right now, it is a waste of my time and a waste of everyone else’s time,” Tesija said, adding that the committee should be allowed to go line-by-line through the audit and other recommendations to ensure necessary changes have been made to the district’s special education program.

Ryles said that the committee should be disbanded, but Sales said it should be allowed to keep operating, noting that parents pushed for its creation for several months before the board acted.

Heather Cherone is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

District 64 Board President Rick Biagi administers the oath of office to Tom Sotos, Denise Pearl, Carol Sales and Rebecca Little.
By ERIC D. LAWRENCE
Detroit Free Press

Toyota is almost considered shorthand for quality cars. Ford once told us in its ads that "Quality is Job 1."

And Fiat Chrysler Automobiles?

Words like "stylish," "performance," even "capable" are more likely to come to mind.

Quality might not always be easy to nail down, even though many car buyers use the term as a stand-in for "reliable" or "dependable," but it's an attribute that some companies seem better able to claim than others.

Fiat Chrysler has struggled in this department, which the company acknowledges.

"I don't think quality has ever been ... one of the things people would look at as one of Chrysler's talking points," said Bill Visnic, editorial director of the Society of Automotive Engineers. "Chrysler or FCA has always labored with the perception, at least, that it's got subpar quality."

Each year, when J.D. Power and Consumer Reports release their annual surveys and rankings, most FCA brands fall at or near the bottom, and this year has been no different.

The automaker has also been hit by a rash of recalls.

In just the past year, recalls — not counting those for air bags, an area where scores of automakers continue to deal with fallout from defective Takata products — were announced for more than 8.3 million FCA vehicles in the United States. Those recalls covered everything from steering components to floor mats.

Consumers can choose to view recalls using different lenses. Either a company is proactively working to address its problems or it's an area of concern about what a company is putting out on the road. How a carmaker responds to problems can also influence how consumers view that company.

Hyundai, for instance, ranks highly on third-party measures related to quality, but recently it has been blasted by safety advocates for what has been seen as a slow response to engine fire risks in some Hyundai and Kia vehicles.

Mark Champine knows FCA is not where it needs to be in terms of quality, but he says the company is moving in the right direction. As FCA's head of quality for North America since October, Champine says he can influence that effort, but he acknowledges the challenge.

"No, we're not moving fast enough. We need to move faster to get to ... our objective, which is to be among the best. That's our mission," Champine told the Free Press during a meeting this month at the company's U.S. headquarters in Auburn Hills, north of Detroit.

In brand rankings released by Consumer Reports in February, all but one of the FCA brands listed were near the bottom, with Fiat coming up dead last (Cadillac, GMC, Mitsubishi, Land Rover and Jaguar were also in this group). The publication noted that Chrysler, which ranked highest among FCA brands, had tied Tesla for the brands that had dropped the most from the previous year.

Two FCA models out of six total — the Chrysler 300 and Dodge Charger — even lost their recommendations from Consumer Reports this year. The other models no longer being recommended are the Tesla Model 3, Acura RDX, BMW 5 Series and Volkswagen Tiguan.

J.D. Power's 2019 U.S. Vehicle Dependability Study, which reviews 3-year-old models, listed no FCA brands above the industry average, although it did note that Chrysler was the most improved brand and two models — the Dodge Challenger and Chrysler Town & Country — led their segments.

FCA's crosstown Detroit rivals Ford and General Motors are certainly not immune from problems. Ford and Lincoln were both below the industry average in the J.D. Power dependability study, GM dominated Consumer Reports' 2019 list of least reliable vehicles with five entries — the Cadillac CTS, CT6 and Escalade and Chevrolet Silverado 2500 HD and Buick Enclave, compared with no vehicles for Ford and only one FCA product, the Alfa Romeo Giulia.

Jake Fisher, senior director of auto testing for Consumer Reports, said quality has been a long-standing issue for FCA. He attributed some of the potential differences with other automakers to the company's focus.

Don Sherman, a Hagerty magazine contributor and longtime automotive freelance writer, noted that FCA tends to play to its strengths, an attitude reflected in its early decision to focus on SUVs and trucks over cars.

"It costs a lot of effort to score highly on Consumer Reports, particularly against the Japanese or Koreans, and they don't put the investment in to do that," Sherman said of FCA. "I think they're just focusing their resources on what works."
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BOYS GYMNASTICS NOTES

Niles West claims CSL crown behind Jamiyankhuu

BY BOB NARANG

Pioneer Press

Niles West gymnast Mu-run Jamiyankhuu had his routine down at the Central Suburban League meet April 25 in Skokie.

After leaving the medal stand, he would run to a family member and hand off his most recent medal and then return back to his teammates for his next event.

It was certainly a busy day for the talented Jamiyankhuu. He earned a third-place medal in the all-around (53.55) to lead the Wolves to the team title with a score of 159.15.

Jamiyankhuu, who has been a gymnast for more than a decade, was Niles West's top finisher. He notched first place on the parallel bars (9.60) and added a second-place medal in the floor exercise (9.40), a third-place showing in the pommel horse (8.65) and a fourth-place effort in the vault (9.20).

"I just kept my head in the game, did what I do best and supported my team," he said. "I hit pretty much on all my events, except high bar. I have to work on that more."

Niles West coach Adrian Batista praised senior Elan Atar and sophomores Jamiyankhuu and Brian Lieo for their strong performances.

"This team is getting better and better with each meet," he said. "We know how good we are. We're going to be in the mix to go for a state title again. The guys are motivated and having fun."

Wildkit's strong finish: Rafael Salinas has an extensive background in varsity sports and has learned many lessons along the way.

The Evanston senior played outside linebacker in the fall, wrestled at 170 pounds in the winter and now is attempting to end his career with a trip to the state gymnastics meet.

Through his three-sport season, Salinas said he's learned the importance of competing well to the very end.

"I'm trying to finish strong," Salinas said. "I don't want to dwindle down like a lot of seniors do. I'm trying to make sure I finish strong."

Strong is a suitable word for describing Salinas. He has a solid frame with the strength to succeed in gymnastics. He's been working on his technique and form since picking up the sport in high school.

"I like to compete in gymnastics," he said. "It gives you a chance to be yourself and finish strong in events. I love gymnastics."

Mainly I like going into the room and trying something new and being able to do it."

Salinas placed 17th in the all-around (39.95) at the CSL meet. His best finish in an event was the vault (7.10), where he placed 21st.

Evanston placed eighth out of eight teams with a score of 91.65.

"Rafael had a very good meet. He gave it his all, and everything suddenly is coming together for him."

CSL roundup: Niles North placed fifth in the eight-team meet with 132.5 points. Ryan Bekanon placed 12th in the all-around (45.30) for the Vikings. Gavin Byrd was 13th in the all-around (45.25) and ninth on the parallel bars (8.35).

Maine East took sixth as a team (109.6). Aaron Ngo paced the Blue Demons with a 14th-place finish in the all-around (39.80).

Erwin said his team's score was "the highest in seven years, at least." The Wildkits had numerous freshmen and sophomores competing in the talented field.

"The kids did really well and I was very pleased with their performances," Erwin said. "This was a big accomplishment for the program. Rafael had a very good meet. He gave it his all, and everything suddenly is coming together for him."
New Trier grad Tilson out to prove he belongs with Sox

BY GEORGE CASTLE
Pioneer Press

How did Wilmette native Charlie Tilson produce a .353 batting average, .417 on-base percentage, 18 runs and 18 RBIs in his first 21 games this season for the Charlotte Knights?

By “staying in the moment and enjoying the game,” he said last week.

Tilson, a New Trier graduate, is the leadoff hitter and starting center fielder for the Knights, the Triple-A affiliate of the Chicago White Sox. He doesn’t dare look back at the time he lost in 2016 and 2017 due to injuries, nor a seven-week stint with the White Sox in 2018 that ended with a minor-league demotion, despite a .264 average.

He won’t even permit himself to think about if, or when, the Sox might restore him to the 40-man roster amid his most productive season of professional baseball so far. He said the only thing he can do is show up and play for Charlotte while hoping the White Sox put him back on the 40-man roster and give him a chance to make his way back to Chicago.

“I had a taste of the big leagues, and I really want to really succeed at that level,” Tilson said in a recent phone interview from Charlotte. “I couldn’t have been more motivated coming into this year. There’s no other organization I’d rather play for. They definitely made a point in still believing in my abilities, and I’d make an impact at the major-league level.”

Tilson was a second-round draft pick of the St. Louis Cardinals in 2011 and decided to go pro straight out of high school. Although he played in the Cardinals’ organization, his heart remained in Chicago. He was a 12-year-old fan when the Sox won the 2005 World Series.

Tilson said he was thrilled when the Sox acquired him at the 2016 trade deadline for left-handed pitcher Zach Duke. But two innings after getting a hit in his first big-league at-bat against the Detroit Tigers on Aug. 2, 2016, Tilson tore his left hamstring while chasing after a fly ball in right-center field. Then, he suffered a stress reaction in his right foot during spring training the following year. He missed the entire season.

Now healthy, and more mature than in 2016, Tilson is ready to prove that he still belongs on a major-league roster, and he thanked Charlotte hitting coach Frank Menechino for helping him get in position to do so.

“A half year and a half, it took a little longer to get my feet out under me,” Tilson said. “I’m fortunate to be paired with a great hitting coach.

“Historically, my style is go to the opposite field or up the middle. But now, on an advantageous count, I feel I can drive the fastball to the right side and take my game to the next level.”

If he does, Tilson could be in the mix for a rebuilding Sox program with lots of moving pieces. He said he’s enjoyed being teammates with outfielder Eloy Jimenez, who is now with the Sox, and top pitching prospect Dylan Cease in Charlotte.

“He’s the most talented hitter I’ve ever played with,” Tilson said of Jimenez. “In spring training, we were in the batting cage before a game with the Cubs. It was important to Eloy against his old team. He told me he thought he could hit a home run. He did it in his first at-bat.

“Cease has really electric stuff. He has the ability to put guys away quickly. His curveball is really nasty, and you see some funny swings against him.”

Tilson and his family have moved from their longtime Wilmette home. He resides in Chicago’s Ukrainian Village in the offseason, but he said he still stays in touch with New Trier baseball coach Mike Napoleon and other friends from the area.

George Castle is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Johnson picks up the pace for Kansas women's track

BY BOB NARANG
Pioneer Press

Former Libertyville distance runner Avryl Johnson is back to full health.

The Kansas freshman has been a standout on the track this spring after sitting out the cross country season due to health concerns. But Johnson is running once again and has been posting solid times for the Jayhawks.

She posted a personal record time of 2 minutes, 11.64 seconds in the 800 meters during the indoor season and is now focusing on the 1,500 during the outdoor season.

Johnson, a four-year varsity runner at Libertyville, said she endured a difficult fall and winter. She will be a redshirt freshman in cross country next fall.

"In August, I was told I had low iron level," Johnson said. "I really just focused on getting my iron level up with treatment, which allowed me to be able to increase mileage in practice. I still got to run with the team. Around the end of September, I started doing workouts with them during the cross country season. My main priority was to get healthy before doing any races and before going into the track season."

Johnson, a four-time outdoor state qualifier in high school, said she's aiming to end her freshman year in Lawrence on a high note after enduring some hardships. She posted an 800 time of 2:13.01 at the Oral Roberts Invitational in late March.

"With this new level of training, I feel a lot stronger and faster than I ever have felt," Johnson said. "I'm grateful to have such hard-working teammates and a great, supportive coach. Health-wise, I feel healthy and am still getting my iron levels up, but there is a huge improvement in my performance and how I feel."

Wieczorek shines at Pepperdine: David Wieczorek is making waves on the West Coast.

The Loyola alumnus led the Pepperdine men's volleyball team to a three-set win against USC on April 20 to secure an automatic bid to the NCAA Championships. That win gave the Waves the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation tournament title.

Wieczorek, a redshirt senior outside hitter, amassed 883 kills in his first three seasons of action.

An American Volleyball Coaches Association Second-Team All-American last spring, the 6-foot-8 Wieczorek is putting together a memorable final season. Through April 20, he had 391 kills, 125 digs and 42 aces. For his career, he has 1,274 kills, 401 digs and 133 aces.

Wieczorek tallied 18 kills in win against Concordia (Calif.) on senior night on April 6 to help the Waves clinch the MPSF regular-season title. He became the fourth player in conference history to be named MPSF Player of the Year multiple times.

The Waves, who have won five national titles since 1978, were ranked No. 3 heading into the NCAA Quarterfinals. They have six players on their roster from the Chicago area, including Oak Park-River Forest graduate Ben Hancock. Hancock, a redshirt freshman setter, was a three-sport athlete for the Huskies.

Graham doing it all: Illinois junior Danny Graham is succeeding with the men's gymnastics team and in the classroom.

The Hinsdale Central graduate is a two-time Academic All-Big Ten selection and earned a high score of 14.300 on the rings against UIC on Jan. 12.

Graham, a 2016 Junior Olympics All-Around Champion, achieved a score of 12.850 on the parallel bars at the Windy City Invitational on Jan. 19.

The Illini placed second at the Big Ten Championships and were fifth at the NCAA Championships.

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

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Ben Hancock (15) was a standout setter at OPRF before moving on to Pepperdine.
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