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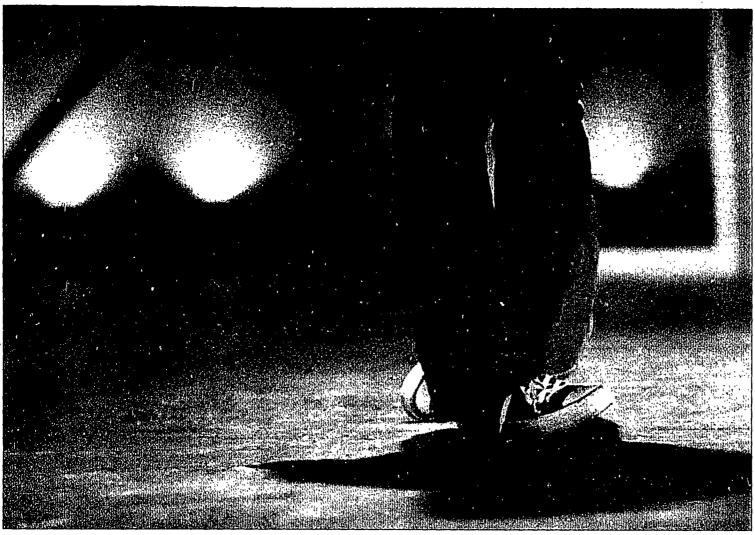
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Entertaining Ideas looks at pop culture, arts

SPORTS

Heard in the Halls athletic blog

HERALD-SPECTATOR



FEET LOOSE

Maine East students are rehearsing for their upcoming production of "Footloose." PAGE 5

PHOTO BY SUZANNE TENNANT/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

THIS WEEK

DIVERSIONS



GUTS AND GLORY

"Watchmen" is featured in this week's Film Clips.

PAGE B2

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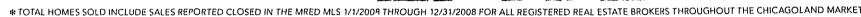
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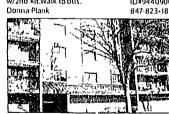
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News

Three of 5 mayoral hopefuls | Biederman gets commit to March 12 debate

tbertuca@pioneerlocal.com

Three candidates so far have agreed to participate in a March 12 Niles mayoral debate hosted by Pioneer Press and the League of Women Voters.

Acting Mayor Robert Callero, Trustee Kim Biederman and political newcomer Krysztof "Chris" Hanusiak have all made verbal commitments to appear

The debate will be from 7-8:30 p.m. that Thursday at Niles Park District's Oasis Waterpark clubhouse, 7877 N. Milwaukee Ave. A Comcast broadcast of the event is pending.

Biederman was an early advocate for candidate debates.

"Given that this is the first open election for mayor in almost 50 years, I really appreciate the Niles Herald-Spectator for hosting this debate," she said. "It's important to give voters a chance to hear directly from candidates. I called for public debates because we need to do more to make village

By JENNIFER JOHNSON

iiohnson@pioneerlocal.com

Democratic Organization

alleged that township em-

ployees were pressured

into collecting signatures

for Republican candidates

seeking election to the

Maine Township Board.

The organization,

which is backing a slate of

Democratic candidates for



Kim Sychowski Biederman

government, more open and honest.

"I look forward to talk ing about my plans to open up the process to include more input from residents and offer accessible, honest leadership."

Callero, who was cool to the idea of debates several months ago, has since changed his mind. He said he now looks forward to telling Niles residents about his efforts to get federal stimulus money for infrastructure projects and to reform village ethics policy.

"I welcome the chance to be there and to talk to the residents," he said.

the Town Board, said 29

tions for incumbents or

Maine Township De-

mocratic Committeeman

Laura Murphy said there

was no evidence the em-

ployees circulated the pe-

titions during their regu-

Employees also have

the right to support the

new candidates.

lar work hours.

employees were identified as having circulated peti-

Hanusiak, a political

Maine Dems: Township workers helped GOP

Robert Callero

newcomer who has promised a three-way race with Callero and Biederman, is hankering to introduce himself to residents.

"Debates allow candidates to discus issues that are important to communities and its citizens," he said. "History has shown that debates also allow candidates to demonstrate their understanding of the problems or lack of understanding, which is more important to the voters.

"Finally, debating allows the voters to really see candidates in the 'real,' not hiding behind concocted statements."

Two other mayoral candidates, Luigi Nitti and

township's elected officials

she said, but questioned.

"how many of them feel

intimidated to do that?"

into doing anything,"

"No one was forced

replied Township Supervi-

sor Carol Teschky, who is

seeking re-election and

leading the Republican

to circulate petitions

asked to do that for us.

"I think it's because

slate. "Those that wanted



Krzysztof "Chris" Hanusiak

Carol Harczak, have vet to respond to debate invitations. But Nitti has said he is not interested in participating in any debate because he is worried about negative campaign tactics.

Harczak's husband died last month and she has been unable to commit to an appearance.

The debate format will allow opening and closing statements by candidates, questions for all candidates from Herald-Spectator staff and screened questions from the audi-

This free debate is open to the public, and particularly Niles resi-

elected officials who are in

there at this time and do

Teschky said employ-

ees who volunteered to

circulate petitions did so

on their own time, and she

considers the accusations

by the Democrats to be a

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

not want to see any

changes."

"non-issue."

big name backer in Schakowsky Congresswoman calls candidate fierce leader' for ethics reform

By TONY BERTUCA tbertuca@pioneerlocal.com

The mayoral campaign of Niles Trustee Kim Biederman received a boost Monday when she announced a high-profile endorsement from U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky, D-Ill.

Schakowsky represents Illinois' 9th Congressional District, which includes all

"As a national leader on issues important to Niles families, like health care and supporting President Obama's agenda, it's an honor to earn the endorsement Congresswoman Schakowsky," Bie derman said. "Together; we share a common goal of serving our community with honesty, integrity and openness.

"I look forward to working together on behalf of the residents of

Elected to her fifth term in 2008, Schakowsky serves in the House De-

"Kim has been a strong advocate for residents and a fierce leader for greater ethical standards. I hope you will join me in supporting Kim Sychowski Biederman for Mayor of Niles."

of Niles.

"Kim has been an active partner with me over the years to improve the quality of life for Niles families," Schakowsky said in a statement released to the public. "As a village trustee, Kim has been a strong advocate for residents and a fierce leader for greater ethical stan-

"I hope you will join me in supporting Kim Sychowski Biederman for Mayor of Niles."

Biederman praised Schakowsky as an advocate for universal health care and women's issues, and sought to bond herself to President Barack Obama and the priorities of his administration.

mocratic leadership as chief deputy whip and is a member of the Energy and Commerce Commit-

Biederman's opponents include Acting Niles Mayor Robert Callero, Krysztof "Chris" Hanusiak, Luigi Nitti and Carol Harczak. Callero has been endorsed, by former Mayor Nicholas Blase.

"The congresswoman and I have a lot in common," Biederman said. "I think her endorsement shows that Niles is moving forward and that she thinks I will be best per son to advocate for results for Niles"

The election is April 7.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

bairdwarner.com



By TONY BERTUCA tbertuca@pioneerlocal.com

An assistant principal at Maine East High School, who was removed from his duties after he was charged with a misdemeanor for public indecency in December, has been allowed to return to work.

Maine Township High School District 207 offi-

cials reassigned Maine East Assistant Principal Michael Pressler to work from home, and later to a district administration building, after he was arrested Dec. 29 for allegedly engaging in a sex act with a man named Darren Stephens in a Chicago park.

Pressler appeared in misdemeanor court Feb. 6 and was granted a contin-

"On the basis of the current status of the case ... administrators have now assigned Mr. Pressler to Maine East."

Superintendent Joel Morris

uance until May 6, according to Cook County State's Attorney's Office.

He was reassigned to his duties at Maine East

continue to monitor and review the situation as the case moves through the courts, on the basis of the "After the incident in current status of the case question, Mr. Pressler iniand based upon a review tially was administratively with legal counsel, adminreassigned to work from istrators have now ashome and later to work at signed Mr. Pressler to the district administrative Maine East."

Pressler enjoyed a

offices," district Superin-

tendent Joel Morris wrote

"While the administration

in an official statement.

and Board of Education

great deal of support from the Maine East community after his arrest, as fellow teachers, former students and parents of former students rushed to his defense.

It was falsely reported that Stephens, who is also charged in the incident, was a member of the Blue Man Group performance troupe. Stephens' court date is April 6.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

The Kohl Children's Museum of Greater Chicago Board of Governors Presents



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Habitat Park has been generously underwritten by the Diana M. and Bruce V. Rauner Family. The Outdoor Sculpture Garden has been given by the Shaw Family in memory of Charles H. Shaw. Additional support provided by the Public Museum Capital Grants Program, Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Illinois State Museum; the Institute of Museum and Library Services; the Souder Family Foundation; Anonymous; Tom and Louise Flickinger & the Edward E. and Marie L. Matthews Foundation; and the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation

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SUZANNE TENNANT/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Maine East High School students, including Lakshmi Gil (center) dance to "I Need a Hero" during rehearsal Friday for their upcoming production of "Footloose."

Maine East turns loose production of 'Footloose'

Theatergoers who enjoy the combination of dancing with rock 'n' roll are in for generous stage servings of both as Maine East High School students present the musical, "Footloose," Friday and Saturday, and March 12, 13 and 14. Dancing, long a focus

A Pioneer Press Publication

of Maine East's Fine Arts Department, boogies to the forefront of the story about a transplanted teenager who tries to break through a ban on dancing in the small town to which his family has moved.

"There are a lot of great songs in this that people don't necessarily associate with this show," said Edward J. Eubank, chairman of East's Fine Arts Department and both producer and orchestra director for the presentation.

The music's beat and the cast's high energy level, Eubank said, is all but guaranteed to enliven the audience.

"If you're not tapping your toes within 10 minutes of the show's opening, something's wrong with you," Eubank said.

Karen D. Hall directs; Patrick S. Barnett serves as vocal director.

All shows will be in the Maine East auditorium. Regular performances

will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Saturday, and March 13 and 14. The March 12 performance is a seniorcitizen matinee beginning at 4 p.m.

Maine East High School is at 2601 W. Dempster St., Park



Alyssa Paguirigan and Erikka Mae Magpayo rehearse Friday for Maine East High School's upcoming production of "Footioose."

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Demographics of homeless can provide clues for effective aid

tshields@pioneerlocal.com

Documenting how many homeless live in the suburbs is important, but knowing their backgrounds enable agencies to address specific prob-

When the Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County conducts its biannual homeless count, volunteers also record race or ethnicity, veteran status, physical/mental illness. substance abuse and date of birth.

Jessica Aleksy, count coordinator for Alliance to End Homelessness, said the U.S. Department of Urban Housing and Development collected data to determine funding for 40 housing programs in suburban Chicago.

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"The numbers and types of people in each group, such as veterans, could increase or decrease funding. The surveys also show us if needs are being met or unmet," she said. "If we're not helping enough people, then we need to address it with new. funding or new programs."

Alliance to End Homelessness evaluates applications from the 40

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Patty Pater and Tracy Banks, volunteers for Alliance to End Homelessness, study a map before departing the PADS shelter in Palatine during the organization's Cook County biannual count of 마음 병원을 신

agencies before submitting them to HUD, which distributes \$7 million a year to suburban homeless programs.

On Jan. 22 the alliance sent out 164 volunteers to survey the homeless in north, west and south suburbs in unsheltered places, such as milling about train stations and living in cardboard

Until Feb. 5 "service site" counting was to be used at food pantries, churches and hospitals for more complete data.

Before the count. agencies train volunteers on approaching the homeless who may be mentally ill, abuse drugs

or resent being surveyed. Volunteers are told to

comply with refused interviews, said Chris Colangelo, an outreach specialist for Public Action to Deliver Shelter, Palatine.

Volunteers also are trained to recognize specific characteristics; for example, thought disorders that could generate hallucinations or poor hygiene, communication skills and coordination.

"Remember, you're going into their homes, so be respectful. Do the delicate dance of engagement. ... They may not want to do this and appear violent. If so, end the interview and take off," he told a roomful of volunteers at PADS.

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Trustees study 2-phase, \$200K plan to spruce up village

A Pioneer Press Publication

tbertuca@pioneerlocal.com

The Niles Village Board met Feb. 24 to discuss a landscape-beautification plan but acknowledged that current economic conditions could preclude action in the near future.

The plan was presented by John Ryan, president of Ives/Ryan Group, a landscape-architecture firm based in Naperville.

Phase 1 of the project was proposed for this year the east and west sides of

and would entail landscape upgrades at the viltotal cost, including addilage's main administration tional maintenance, was building, at 1000 Civic estimated at \$128,898. Center Drive, as well as Ryan suggested various the fitness center and five

"plant materials," which he said would not only beautify the surrounding area but are drought-resistant. He criticized the village's existing landscape system because many plants had been overpruned and killed off by dry summers.

"Some of the plant-material choices were what I'd call unfortunate," he

One of the several trees "The plaza itself isn't Ryan recommended was a marmo maple, a hybrid that allows for brilliant fall colors but was also invite people in." drought-resistant. Ryan also included various

shrubs and perennial and annual flowers in his recommendations. The presentation also highlighted the proposed \$43,000 upgrade to Veterans Memorial Fountain, which would occur in the second phase of the project and add shade trees, planters and new brick

pavers to the plaza.

that inviting," he said. "It's just an expanse of pavers. There's no shade to really

Combined, both phases of the project would cost about \$190,000, Ryan said.

The Village Board was quick to emphasize that recommendations before them were not set in stone and would be subject to further debate given the current economic crisis afflicting the state and country.

"The costs of this are going to have to be scrutiLouella Preston, who spearheaded the effort to come up with a comprehensive beautification plan. "At least we have this now as a plan to move forward with."

While the future of the plan remained uncertain, the board did approve a request to go out to bid for landscape-maintenance services and based the new contract on specifications provided by Ives/Ryan Group.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

The Niles Village Board approved payment Feb. 24 to a former assistant U.S. attorney who is assisting the local government with ethics policy re-

Mike Siegel, of Northbrook firm Stone,

McGuire, & Siegel, will be paid \$2,850 for his legal services, according to board documents.

community entrance

Ryan said.

signs. The total cost, in-

cluding additional mainte-

Phase 2, proposed for

nance, would be \$60,843,

2010, would be more am-

bitious and include land-

scape upgrades to the po-

lice station, the plaza at

Veterans Memorial Foun-

tain and small parks on

Siegel is assisting Joe Annunzio, village attorney, in forming the new citizen compliance committee, a cornerstone of Niles'

planned ethics reforms. The pair are in the process of choosing citizen volunteers to staff the committee, and Siegel said he expects to bill the village for about 10 hours

Siegel told Annunzio in a letter that he would charge the village \$285 an hour, which he said is "substantially lower" than his normal billing rate.

The board also ap-

\$38,598 to Groot Waste and Recycling for services provided when the company hauled away residents' debris left by widespread flooding in Sep-

proved payment of

Board members noted

the village would be reimbursed nearly \$29,000 of the cost by the Federal **Emergency Management**

The board also approved a \$500,000 payment to SEC Group for Phase 3 construction engi-

MARINO REALTORS

neer for Milwaukee Avenue improvement projects, along with engineering services for street improvement, water-main installation and streetscape upgrades. The village is paying for the service with motor-fuel-tax funds, but will be reimbursed by the







I NEWS

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2009 Spring Registration

Richard Harczak, former village trustee, dies at 82

World War II, Harczak

was an active business

leader and public servant

in the village for several

decades. He co-owned

Harczak's Sausages in

Chicago and Niles, co-

founded the Bank of Niles

founded Dempster Plaza

Bank of Niles, and served

about a dozen years in the

1960s and 1970s. He un-

successfully ran again in

Harczak was also a

Post 7712, the Niles Lions

and the Polish Welfare As-

Acting Mayor Robert

Callero said he had known

Club, the Optimist Club

sociation.

member of Niles VFW

as a village trustee for

tbertuca@pioneerlocal.com

A former Niles trustee and the husband of a current Niles mayoral candidate, Richard J. Harczak, 82, died Saturday and was honored with a moment of silence Feb. 24 at a Village Board meeting.

Visitation for Harczak, who was married to mayoral candidate Carol Harczak, was Feb. 25 at Skaja's Terrace Funeral Home, 7812 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles. His funeral was Feb. 26 at St. John Brebeuf Church, followed by interment at Maryhill

Harczak's wife said she was unable to be interviewed when reached by phone the morning of Feb. 25 at Re/Max All-Stars, a

Harczak for many years she co-owned with her and was familiar with his contributions to the community. An Army Veteran of

"We're very sorry to lose him," Callero said. "He was a valuable resident - he owned businesses, he was a truster. he helped found the bank.

"He was a good fellow and a good friend, and he will be sorely missed."

Among his survivors are his wife, his children Ron (Carol), Doug (Jan) and Sammie Ficarra (Mike) Lancia, and six grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, Harczak's family asked that contributions be sent to St. Jude Children's Hospital, Shriners Children's Hospital, or the American Cancer Society.

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POLICE BLOTTER

The following incidents were listed among the official reports of Niles Police Department. An arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt. Only a court of law can make that determination.

BATTERY

A Pioneer Press Publication

Sussan Khano, 29, of 6218 Lincoln Ave. Morton Grove, was charged with battery and driving under the influence of alcohol Feb. 24 on the 6400 block of Dempster Street after she allegedly struck a police officer. She was released on \$75.000 bond and is due in court March 13.

Debra Poneman, co-au-

thor best-selling book

"Chicken Soup for the

American Idol Soul."

spent six months in 2007

interviewing more than 50

"American Idol" Top 10 fi-

nalists, as well as judges,

producers, directors, vo-

cal coaches and scores of

BURGLARY

- A car was burglarized Feb. 25 on the 200 block of Golf Mill Center, A GPS valued at \$225 was reported
- A car was burglarized Feb. 25 on the 8400 block of Western Avenue. An air compressor valued at \$88 was reported stolen.
- A car was burglarized

Idol'-inspired writer to speak at library

At 7:30 p.m. Wednes-

brary, 6960 W. Oakton St.,

at Waukegan, the author

will share stories of her

perience and why, after

spending months with

contestants, she wrote in

the book, " ... I discovered

what most have suspected

behind-the-scenes Idol ex-

day at Niles Public Li-

Feb. 19 on the 8000 block of Foster Lane. Assorted tools valued at a total of about \$1,500 were reported stolen.

I NEWS I

DUI

 Khad Erdenekhuyag, 41, of 1008 N. Holly Lane, Des Plaines, was charged with aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol Feb. 25 near the intersection of Waukegan and Shermer roads. He was released on \$20,000 bond and is due in court March 13.

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flects the beauty of their

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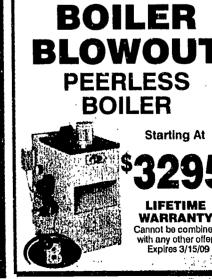




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Please contact us regarding registration anytime at 312.307.2508 or email me gary:cartez@gmail.com

The Skokje Indians is a "no-cut, every player plays" league and an Official Charter Member of Little League Baseball, Inc., in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

Little League Baseball Inc., established in 1939, is the world's premier youth baseball organization, and the Skokje Indians Little League is the Official Little League Affiliate for Skokje and its surrounding communities.

Our league is for players ages 5 through 15. Rookie division (5 and 6-year-olds) and A division (7-year-olds) stress developing baseball "fun" damentals. AA division (8-year-olds) is a more formal level of baseball that emphasizes the teaching

sion (8-year-olds) is a more formal level of baseball that emphasizes the teaching of fundamentals and introduces components of real games, such as balls and strikes. AAA (9 and 10-year-olds) and Majors divisions (11 and 12-year-olds) are instructional levels with organized practices and scheduled competitive games with umpires. Pony League (13 through 15-year-olds) offers competition against other North Shore and Chicago Pony League teams.

AAA and Majors placements are based on players' age. Mandatory Evaluations for all AAA (9 and 10-year-olds) will be held on Sunday, March 8, 2009, and Majors (11 and 12-year-olds) players will be held on Sunday, March 15, 2009 (location and time to be announced). A make-up date and time slot for both AAA and Majors players will also be available.

Sign Up Today at

www.skokieindians.org

GUEST ESSAY

Pawn shop complaints reflect hard times

By TOM JOYCE

The Better Business Bureau is reporting an increase in the number of consumers filing complaints against "online pawnshops." From coast to coast consumers have been reporting that when selling used DVDs and video games to a business known as Rerun Media, what they have been promised does not match what they received.

Rerun Media, headquartered in Austin, Texas, does business online as DVDPawn.com and GamePawn.com. The company's Web sites says they pay customers by check or through a PayPal account the same day the merchandise is received. Complainants allege customers are not getting paid what they were promised or they're not getting paid at all, and that e-mails and phone calls to the company go unanswered.

The Austin, Texas, Better Business Bureau reports it has received 28 complaints from consumers in cities across the United States, including northern Illinois. The report states the company responded to some complaints, but as of April 2008 Rerun Media stopped answering BBB complaints.

"This company is allegedly not providing people with payments. They have turned to them because of a need and are becoming victims at a time when they can least afford it," said Steve J. Bernas, president and CEO of the Better Business Bureau of Chicago & Northern Illinois, "Consumers selling online should do some homework before they ship their possessions. Whenever possible, consumers selling their possessions for cash should deal with an established online husiness '

The BBB also recommends:

- To ensure they are getting the best price for the item or items they are selling, consumers should ask for a price quote or estimate of how much the pieces may be worth and then comparison shop.
- Have the items appraised. Keep in mind that just because an item gets appraised for a certain amount, it is unlikely you will receive that exact amount for it.
- When selling items make sure all transactions are done in the open. If a buyer wants to take the item somewhere else or to a back room, don't let that happen. This should not be necessary and should be considered suspect.
- Always look for the BBB logo, or go to www.bbb.org to find businesses you can trust.

Many people often confuse pawn shops and secondhand stores, thinking they are the same. Although they may do the same thing in terms of buying or selling secondhand items, pawn shops are regulated and have licensing requirements in Illinois, Secondhand stores are not regulated by the state.

Tom Joyce is a member and works for the Better Business Bureau of Chicago & Northern Illinois; (312) 245-2643; tjoyce@chicago.bbb.org;

1000 WORDS



DIY: Delude it yourself



CHERYL O'DONOVAN

VAN MOM STRIKES AGAIN

Our craft instructor at the Oakton Community College tells us we will be converting junkyard castoffs into decorative musthaves ... what she calls a "trash to treasure."

The instructor hoists an old rain bucket onto a table. "Pluck out the bugs, rotted rope and animal remains. Now, spray paint it a buoyant green. We can loop a hose through the bottom and create a multi-level fountain. A sprig of Yukon kelp and voila! A fragrant master-

piece." The students burst into applause and resume working, Bethany, the star duck-goose on me. I got pupil, could turn a the "sunburns easily" -Twinkie into a five-tier

The instructor beams.

"Bethany, yours is gorgeous." Bethany blushes. "The Botanic Garden is building

an exhibit around it."

The instructor raises her eyebrows at my papier-mâché manifesto, which is dripping onto the

I shuffle my feet. "They're building a crime scene around mine."

Later, I'm told my "treasure" will be shot into space by the Millennium Falcon with the rest of the intergalactic garbage, Unfortunately, I was born with two left scrapbooks. If I even look at a glue stick, it tries to scorch mė.

Alas, my lineage was promising. My grandmother hand-stitched quilts. My mother can resuscitate a dead plant and grow a rainforest. But that DNA strand played duck-

On HGTV, every step seems easy. Smiling hosts tug on the blue painter's tape and reveal a clean line and smooth paint. What happens when I try that move? Zzzzippp! Crash! Half the drywall comes up.

Yes, despite the 20 layers of buoyant green paint, my trash-to-treasure reeks. I bet Mr. Clean his earring he couldn't fumigate it. We use smoke. vapor, gas. Kirby lent me his pine tree air freshener from his doghouse. Noth-

ing worked. I hear the garage door open. The instant my husband and children set foot into our house, their noses wrinkle. Kirby's fastened a clothespin on his

No doubt ... my trashto-treasure's destiny is the recycling bin.

My husband yells, "Ahoy, matey! Did a tuna boat run aground in here?

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

YOU SAY

www.pioneerlocal.com

Lights not needed

First, I offer a disclaimer so my house isn't egged by open-mouthbreathing football fans, I like football. Other than professional football. I like the game very much. In fact, I attended a Division 1 school on a football scholarship and have coached football on the high school and Division 1 levels.

I think a fall afternoon at a high school football game is a piece of real Americana, it's almost better than mom's apple pie More specifically, to attend a Maine South football game is just a terrific way to spend a Saturday afternoon. Important word here — afternoon. The Hawks play exciting, winning football and the supporting cast of bands, flag girls and cheerleaders is first-class entertainment. The best! Better than most small col-

Yep, I like high school football and I like high school football played on natural grass and during the day time. A tip of the old Ridell helmet to our local politicians who have wisely put a temporary hold on the appalling suggestion to spend nearly \$2 million dollars to add lights and artificial turf to Wilson

Not only is this an unwise, and unneeded, use of public funds during these very, very difficult economic times, it is very simply a vanity move that cannot be justified. The Hawks were state champi ons last year using Wilson Field. Let them continue to use natural grass on their home field to their advantage and instill in the team a pride of playing the game as it was intended to be played, on grass, yes occasionally in the mud and during the day.

If they installed lights and artificial turf, how long do you think it will take some jock's parent to figure we need a Jumbotron

Letters, PAGE 11

ects where \$2 million can

Continued from PAGE 10

Letters

A Pioneer Press Publication

at Wilson Field? Out of the question? No. not at all. They have a Jumbotron at the Barrington High School Field, along with artificial turf and lights. You remember Barrington's football team don't you? Let me refresh. Last year in the state play-offs, the Hawks nearly destroyed the Barrington

Just think what Maine South High School could do with an extra \$2 million How many new teachers might we add? How about new hand uniforms and cold weather capes for the band? How about added space and an added theater for the fine arts department? How about additional support for the school's Constitution, dehate and academic school bowl teams, by the way, all state champions. All repeat state champions.

It takes no school board member mentality to compile a list of worthy proj-

be better spent at the school. Where the money could be spent could and should be debated. That it shouldn't be spent on unnecessary football field additions should be a no-

I am so hoping that we don't learn that this whopping amount of money has been earmarked and set aside for the football field and that this happened without community input. That would really be a very disappointing discovery.

So to all you folks who live near the high school and who think that lights at Wilson Field will interfere with your precious quality of life, I almost wish I was for the addition of lights. In my opinion, you people are self-absorbed. I find your whining argument against lights as selfish as those who want to add them.

Looking forward to football at Wilson Field in the fall, during the day and

Park Ridge

Morask for township

I am writing in support of Laura Morask for Maine Township trustee. I have known Morask for the past 10 years and have worked with her on many National Night Out programs for the township. Morask is a dedicated trustee who not only cares for our community but also brings her expertise in gang crimes to educate our community in how to recognize, prevent and fight the growing gang problems we face.

Morask is a deputy supervisor in the Cook County States Attorney's Office and has dedicated her life to fighting all kinds of crime, being a dedicated mother of two as well as numerous other volunteer projects. Laura faces each challenge with a smile and determination. It has been my honor to know and work with her and I would definitely recommend her as a trustee.

Louise Friedenson





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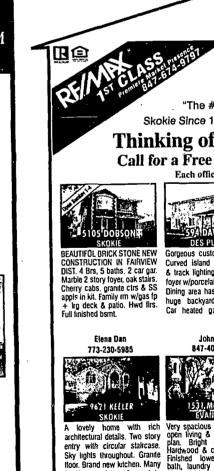


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p.m. (an additional \$10 per

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day). Fees run \$128 for

members for a full one-

week session; three days

per week (parent's choice)

is \$86 for members; \$111,

PEEK AT THE WEEK

DEADLINES

Submissions for Community Calendar are required 10 days preceding the date of publication. Send to: Niles Managing Editor, Pioneer Press, 3701 W. Lake Ave., Glenview IL 60026. Information may be faxed to (847) 486-7495 or e-mailed to mbottari@pioneerlocal.com.

BENEFITS

The animal Monarch Ball.

a black-tie benefit for Resurrection Health Care, will be at 5:45 p.m. March 7 at Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan Ave. Tickets are \$350 per person and include a cocktail reception. formal dinner, dancing and guest entertainment by Dennis DeYoung and The Music of Styx. All proceeds support West Suburban College of Nursing on the campus of West Suburban Medical Center in Oak Park. For ticket information contact Sandy Malkin, Resurrection Development

(NT

Foundation, (847) 813-3465.

door. Call (847) 269-5409.

The following classes are

held in the Niles Township

CLASSES

1426 to register.

NILES TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT LECTURE SERIES 5255 Main Street, Skokie

Don't Miss These Informative Programs!

By Niles Township Assessor and attorney Scott Bagnall

We will examine and discuss the current state of Niles

Township market values and the cause and effect

relationship of market values to property tax. The seminar

will also explore concepts of myth versus fact in analyzing

THROUGH THIS TROUBLED ECONOMY"

By Niles Township Clerk and attorney Charles Levy Niles Township Clerk and attorney Charles Levy will lead

a panel of experts who will explain what you should do

if you are facing an economic crisis brought on by the

loss of a job, a catastrophic illness or some other event

The panel will inform you of steps you need to take when

dealing with your credit card companies, your bank, your

By Niles Township Trustee and REALTOR® Marilyn D. Glazer

This lecture is for those thinking about buying investment

property and for those who already own investment property. Learn the top ten things you must know to

No charge for lectures. For info call Carol Fritzshall (847) 673-93005

Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 24, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

"SO, YOU WANT TO BE A LANDLORD?"

ayoid lawsuits and be a successful landlord.

"Market Value"

best courses of action.

mortgage lender, etc.

"STEERING YOUR WAY

with Oakton Community College, is offering free A Night for Ronce Fund-Family Literacy Classes on raiser to benefit the Saturday mornings. Free WINGS program (Women child care is also provided. in Need Growing Stronger) Participants will learn will feature music, dancing, about the U.S. school sysa live band, professional tem; how to report a child's singers and entertainers. absence from school; un-Jim Johnson, of radio staderstand report cards; how tion WLS AM 890, the Roe to prepare for parent-Conn show, will be master teacher conferences; how of ceremonies. The event to complete required will include appetizers, a forms; how to help with cash bar and raffles. The homework: and how to parevent will be at 7 p.m. March 14 at the Meridian ticipate during the parentchild activity. Register now. Banquets, 1701 Algonquin Classes run from 9 a.m. to Road, Rolling Meadows. Tickets cost \$30 per pernoon at Gemini Junior son in advance, or \$45 at High School, 8955 Green-

Schools ELL Parent Center, 9440 N. Kenton Ave., Adelia's Closet, a bead store at 9227 Waukegan Computer classes will Road, Morton Grove, hosts continue 6-8 p.m. March 9, free beginning jewelry-16 and 30, and April 6, 13, making classes at 9 a.m. 20 and 27. Call (847) 635weekdays. For more infor-

wood Ave., Niles. Note:

Child care is available for

pers. Call Pamela Surber.

TLC director, (847) 827-

mation call (847) 966-2323,

children who are out of dia-

TLC: Total Learning **CLUBS** Community, in Partnership

at Forest View Educational Center. Room 100, 2121 S.

Call Linda, (847) 640-9590.

I Chiacchieroni Italianlanguage dinner group meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at Salerno's, 1716 E. Kensington Road, Mount Prospect. This is a casual evening of conversation in Italian. The next meeting will be March 12. Call Gabriella, (847) 541-8524, or e-mail: ichiacchieroni@ya-

Northwest Suburban

Council of Genealogists meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month

Grandparents As Caregivers, a program sponsored by Children's Home + Aid, will offer grandparents an opportunity to meet other grandparents, share concerns and talk about interesting topics that will help them care for their grandchildren. Meetings are 10 to 11:30 a.m. the first Wednesday of the month at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St., except for the next meeting, which will be March 11. Free child care is available with 24-hour notice. Meetings are monthly.

new local chapter. Area professionals seeking new leads, networking opportunities and valuable business tips are invited to join the group, which meets every Thursday at 7:01 a.m. at Omega, 9100 W. Golf Road in Niles, At each meeting, members exchange qualified business referrals, build professional relationships, create alliances, develop public speaking skills and take turns promoting their products and services. Fellow members serve as your sales force, providing access to clients you would not otherwise be able to contact. Also, in every LeTip chapter; each busi-

ness category is represent-

Goebbert Road, Arlington

Heights. Guests are wel-

or call (847) 818-9159.

come. Visit www.nwscg.com

LeTio International, a

business networking organ-

ization, recently opened a

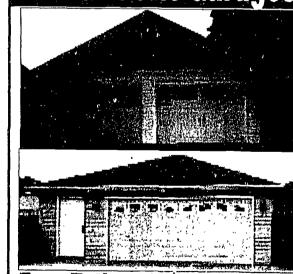
ed by one member to prevent conflicts of interest (once you join, your competition cannot). To learn more about the Des Plaines/Mount Prospect/Niles chapter of LeTip, contact Janet Hansen at (815) 728-1483 or at jvhansen@letip.com. For more information on LeTip.

visit www.LeTip.com. Join the Catholic **Wemen's Bewling** League for Ladies Night Out at Classic Bowl, 8530 Waukegan Road, Morton Grove. Fee is \$15 per week. All skill levels welcome. Call Deanne Drozdz at (224) 628-4009 or d.drozdz@comcast.net.

The Knights of Columbus provides ways for members to help others in the community while trying to improve their family and spir itual lives. During the next few weeks the North American Martyrs Council. Niles, will offer several opportunities to have a Catholic man or woman learn about membership in the organization. For more

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The Niles Chamber of Commerce Reminds you to **Shop Locally**

Call the Chamber office for referrals on businesses in the area

(847) 268-8180

www.nileschamber.com

Visit us at our new location 8060 Oakton Street

(Inside the NorthSide Community Bank)

information contact Bob Galassi, (847) 965-0920.

A Pioneer Press Publication

The American Jewish **Artists Club** is accepting new members. The group, founded in the early 1920s focuses on the broad aspeets of artistic performance and serves to enrich the cultural fiber of the Jewish community. Call Lorre Slaw, (847) 272-0744, or e-mail : · · lslaw@oakton.edu.

Audubon Society of Park Ridge meets at 7:30 p.m. the fourth Thursday Park Leisure Center. Forestview and Sylviawood. Guests of all ages are welcome, Call Roger Ginger, (847) 825-2982.

of the month in the Maine

The Jerseypine Cruisers Motorcycle Touring Club

meets at 7:45 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Des Plaines Elks Club, lower level, 495 Lee St. (two blocks north of Route 14), Des Plaines. Jerseypine Cruisers' Sunday Breakfast Rides leave at 9 a.m. from McDonald's Restaurant at Oakton and Lee streets in Des Plaines. Rides are usually 25 to 85 miles, Call Betty, (708) 366-3822, or Joe, (847) 217-5876 or visit www.jerseypinecruisers.org.

Niles Chapter Toastmas-

second and fourth Lincoln Ave. Members able and have self-confidence talking to an audience, Call (847) 583-9328.

ters meets at 7:15 p.m. the Wednesdays of the month at the Morton Grove, 6140 learn how to feel comfort-

COMMUNITY

I NEWS

Theatre will present Disney's "Cinderella Kids" at

Take Two Children's

7 p.m. March 6, and 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. March 7, at the village of Morton way for Niles Family Fit-Grove American Legion ness Center's Summer Civic Center, 6140 Demp-Camp programs for ages 6 ster St. Regular admission to 11. Activities include is \$10, \$8 for students and sports, outdoor games and senior citizens, and free field trips, from June 15 to for children 3 and Aug. 14. Camp hours are 9 younger: Call (847) 674a.m. to 3 p.m., with extend-2216 or go to www.northshoredancecen ed hours of 8-9 a.m. (an additional \$5 per day) and 3-5

FITNESS CENTER

Niles Family Fitness Center. 987 Civic Center

Dr. Niles, (847) 588-8400 or www.nilesfitness.com. Registration is under

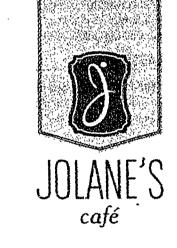
FUNDRAISERS

nonmembers.

The Maine South High

School Hawkette dance teams are holding their annual Flower Show fundraiser, "Masquerade." The event will be at 5 p.m.

Peek, PAGE 14



friends & family offer

Jolane's Café is currently offering "Buy One Dinner, Get A Second Dinner Free" when you present this coupon.* Just stop by any time from Sunday thru Wednesday, after 4:00 p.m & enjoy your meal.

Jolane's Café was established to honor the memory of our mother, grandmother & cofounder of Abt Electronics - Jolane Abt.

Our menu features classic homestyle cooking with fresh, high-quality ingredients all served in a friendly atmosphere.

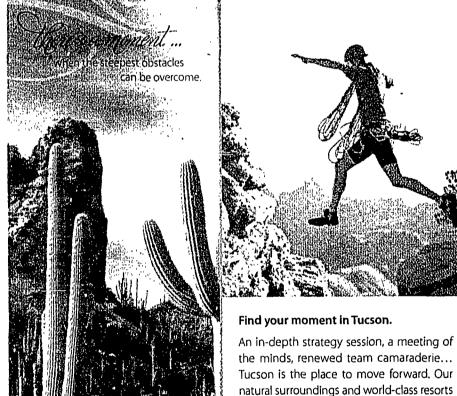


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METROPOLITAN TUCSON CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Peek

Continued from PAGE 13

March 13 in the Avalon

Banquet Hall, 1905 E. Higgins Road in Elk Grove Village, and will include a Chinese raffle of fun baskets, a silent auction and the Diamond Earring Extravaganza. The Junior Varsity Hawkettes will perform their "Kick Line" after dinner. Tickets are \$30 per person for dinner. For reservations contact Julie Sorensen, Hawkette Board member at jgsorensen@msn.com or by

HEALTH

calling (847) 318-8911.

National Alliance on Mental Illness Cook County North Suburban will present "When Therapy Can Help a Loved One With a Mental Illness - and You, Too," Hank Schneider; of the Evanston Hospital Outpatient Psychiatric Clinic. will discuss when people with mental illness and their families should see a

therapist, and how to find a good one. The free program will be 7-8:30 p.m. March 9 at Kenton-Knox Conference Center, 9701 N Knox Ave., Skokie. Call (847) 716-2252, or go to www.namicens.org.

related information.

comprehensive health

For more information

about CAC, contact

The American Cancer Society, Chicago office is seeking partnerships with faith-based organizations to outreach in various Chicago communities to provide resources involving cancer issues. In organizations where no health ministry exists, ACS will help the organization begin a min-

istry, or will provide health Through this program, Churches Against Cancer (CAC), ACS will provide a awareness campaign within the organization to help build capacity, provide culturally appropriate resource materials and technical assistance to member churches. To participate, faith-based organizations must approve joining CAC. asks that appointments be

Desmond Konadu at (312) desmond.konadu@cancer.o

LIBRARY

Niles Public Library. 6960 Oakton St., (847) 663-1234, www.nileslibrary.org. Registration is required for

The Go Club for ages 6 to 12 usually meets the first and third Saturdays of each month on a drop-in

MAINE TOWNSHIP

Maine Township's FISH (Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteer drivers to provide residents free transportation to medical facilities in and near Maine Township, Volunteers may choose how much time they wish to devote, Requirements include a current drivers license and proof of auto insurance. The program requires residents in need be mobile, or be able to use a cane or walker; FISH also

set three or more days in advance. To become a volunteer driver call Ed Oken. (847) 696-0761. To schedule a ride or for information call FISH coordinator Gloria Stepek, (847) 297-2510.

PARKS

Registration is under way for Niles Park Dis-

trict's Coach Pitch program for girls and boys, ages 6 to 7. It is an instructional league where the coach pitches; no hitting tees are involved. One week of indoor clinics are held the week of April 18. Season play runs April 25-July 25 at Grennan Heights, 8255 Oketo Ave. Registration fees are \$71 for residents: 888, nonresidents, Call (847) 967-1529, Register at Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard St.

Registration has begun for Niles Park District Teeball for girls and boys, ages 4 to 5. Tee-ball is an introduction to baseball fundamentals and team play. Team shirts and Major League replica hats are provided. A week of indoor clinics are held the week of April 18. Season play runs April 25-July 25 at Grennan Heights, 8255 Oketo Ave. Registration fees are \$71 for residents; \$88, nonresidents. Call (847) 967-1529. Register is at Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard St.

Niles Park District is accepting registration for Girls Softball Leagues for girls in first grade through high school (as of 2008-09 school year). The season . begins with a clinic on April 18. Opening Day games are May 16, Major League replica hats, jerseys and socks are provided by the Park District. Participant must supply their pants, shoes and gloves, Registration is accepted at the Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard St. Call (847) 967-

Niles Park District is accepting registration for Spring Youth Soccer

Leagues. There are programs for girls and boys age 4 to eighth grade Clinics begin April 25. Season play begins May 2. Partici. pants will develop individ. ual skills and teamwork, as well as enjoy the benefits of continuous exercise. Nilos Park District will provide soccer uniforms, Partiej. pants must purchase soc. cer spikes and leg guards Registration is taken at the Howard Leisure Center. 6676 W. Howard St. Call (847) 967-1529.

Niles Park District Bright Beginnings Preschool registration is conducted for the 2009-10 school year. Both 3and 4-year-old programs are offered. There are a variety of class times and locations from which to choose. Registration will be accepted at Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard St., until all classes are filled. Call (847) 967-

Niles Park District is accepting registration for the Spring Learning Gymnastics Program. Classes are

Diversions



\ Pioneer Press Publication

A quartet of activities for the coming week.



Noah Zacharin

1. Folk singer Noah Zacharin performs at 7 n.m. March 8 at Bill's Blues, 1029 Davis St., Evanston. \$10. (847) 424-9800 or www.billsbluesbar.com.

2. Take Two Children's Theatre presents Disney's "Cinderella Kids" at 7 p.m. March 6 and 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. March 7 at the Village of Morton Grove American Legion Civic Center, 6140 Dempster St. \$8-\$10. (847) 674-2216 or www.northshoredancecentercom.

3. yox 3 presents an evening of "Lieder," works written for voice and piano, at 3 p.m. March 8 at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. (773) 784-0425 or www.vox3.org.

4. "Alice in Wonderland," presented by the **Evanston Dance Ensem**ble at 7 p.m. March 6; 2 and 7 p.m. March 7; and 2 p.m. March 8 at The North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. \$15-\$25. (847) 673-6300.

Skip Griparis talks 'Love in the Key of Ouch!'

Starring Skip Griparis 8 p.m. Friday, March 6 and Saturday, March 7 at Skokie Theatre 7924 N. Lincoln Ave.. Skokie. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. (847) 677-7761 or www.skokietheatre.com.

> By LILLI KUZMA Contributor

Skip Griparis has taken the expression, "if you're handed lemons, make lemonade" to a creative new level. The multi-talented artist, who has received critical acclaim as a musician, songwriter, actor and comedian, has turned his own relationship quirks into a new variety show, "Love in the Key of Ouch!" subtitled: "A Life of Showbiz, a World of Rebounds."

Griparis performs at the Skokie Theatre March 6 and 7.

Showbiz romance

"I looked back on my life, I've done such a variety of things in showbiz, and showbiz always affected my relationships," said Griparis, speaking by phone from his home in Chicago. "I had one girlfriend, in Vegas, who left me when I didn't get a big record deal. And another who (couldn't handle) my success. This show focuses on my search for both love from the audience and love in my personal life."

"Love in the Key of Ouch!" is a quick-moving show that incorporates original music, comedy bits, impersonations, parodies, storytelling, jokes and personal revelations about great success mixed with tragedy. Griparis will be accompanied by percussionist, Jim Alberico.

"One of my goals is keeping a relatively even tone throughout," said Griparis. "It's not a farce, it's more nuanced than that. And my story is a vehicle for my songs."

And Griparis certainly has a story to tell, of a career that has included being part of the '60s rock band, The New Colony Six, and touring with Olivia Newton-John; opening for or sharing the stage with the likes of Johnny Carson, Barbara Mandrell, Glen Campbell, the Beach Boys, Rodney Dangerfield, Peter Frampton,



The Four Tops, and The Guess Who; acting in two major motion pictures, the "Major League" films, to critical acclaim; becoming a star on the comedy circuit; and successfully touring with a one-man show.

Accidental leave

Unfortunately, a freak accident and several years of health problems interrupted Griparis in his showbiz pursuits for almost seven years, and right when he was gaining attention as an actor.

Griparis played the colorless color commentator in the media box for both "Major League" and "Major League II," of which

Roger Ebert said on an episode of "Siskel & Ebert":

"The best thing about 'Major League II' is the relationship between Bob Uecker and Skip Griparis."

Explained Griparis:

"My part had no direction. Bob Uecker was this blustery, pushy character, so (I decided to) play the exact opposite, timid and earnest."

Traveling light

Asked about the staging for his upcoming shows, Griparis

"It's very simple, so that I can perform this show anywhere. It's

a guitar and me, a table, very little props. The show is very clean. a PG rating, but the material will be of interest to mainly a more adult crowd, 16 and over at least."

Griparis is enthusiastic about his new material and show:

"It's the project of my life, better than anything I've ever done. It's not quite as commercial, as this show is more substantial and displays all of my talents. This show is very different from my comedy act. I always need a new challenge. This is long-form writing, an expansion of other things I've done. It is very entertaining."

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

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IL 03/09

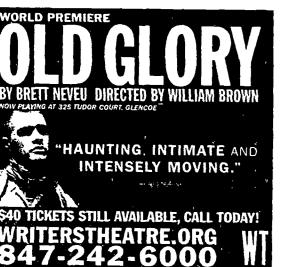
WATCHMEN

A vigilante investigating the connection between the murder of a retired superhero and his former colleagues reveals a conspiracy that threatens global destruction Zack Snyder ("300") directed the adaptation of Alan Moore's groundbreaking 1986 graphic novel. (163 min.) Rated R for strong graphic

violence, sexuality, nudity and lan-

THE HORSEMEN

A grieving detective (Dennis Quaid) discovers a link between himself and a series of murders inspired by the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse. Music video filmmaker Jonas Akerlund directed the thriller. (110 min.) Rated R for grisly and disturbing content, some sexual images and language





FILM CLIPS

STILL PLAYING

CROSSING OVER A "Crash"-like drama about immigrants of different nationalities who struggle to achieve legal status in Los Angeles, Wayne Kramer ("The Cooler") wrote and directed, featuring Harrison Ford. Ray Liotta and Ashley Judd. Rated R for pervasive language some strong violence and sexuality/nudity

GOMORRA

This almost clinically detailed portrait of the way ornanized crime has infiltrated life in Nanles from drup dealing on the streets. to high fashion to toxic waste disposal, has none of the family lovalty that's professed in the Godfather" films or "The Sopranos" - just cold-blooded murder, treachery and corruption. And the sense that there's no escape for anyone because the mob is inextricably intertwined with the day-to-day business of making a living, honest or other wise. Winner of the Grand Prize at last year's Cannes film festival. In Italian with subtitles. (BI) (137 min.) No MPAA Rating.

JONAS BROTHERS: THE 3D CONCERT EXPERIENCE The title says it all about this

document of the boy band's 2008 "Burning Up" concert tour. Rated G

STREET FIGHTER: THE LEGEND OF CHUN LI

An Interpol agent infiltrates an underground fighting tournament hoping to bring down the crime syndicate that killed her father Rated PG-13 for sequences of violence and martial arts action, and some sensuality.

CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC

A shopping-addicted young lady (Isla Fisher) in New York City looks for love while working as an advice columnist for a financial magazine, P.J. Hogan ("My Best Friend's Wedding") directed the comedy. Rated PG for some mild language and thematic elements.

CORALINE

Feisty, sassy, lonely little Coraline is feeling neglected in the new house her parents have moved to, so she's receptive to the attentions paid to her by the seemingly perfect "Other Mother and "Other Father" – until the ideal mom reveals herself as a nasty witch who collects children's souls by replacing their eyes with buttons. (BI) (100 min.) Rated PG for thematic elements scarv images, some language and sugaestive humor

THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON *** 1/2

"The Curious Case of Beniamin Button" is shot through with a strain of melancholy that

comes from a constant preoccupation with mortality. The title character (Brad Pitt) is born one step away from the grave and his aging in reverse is a constant reminder to everyone heading the other way that time is limit ed. (BI) (159 min.) Rated PG-13 for brief war violence, sexual content, language and smoking.

4 . 44

2

YPERIALIST WEAPON

Just your average clean-cut, All-American superhero: Jeffrey Dean Morgan in "Watchmen."

and stars as one of a loosely

related group of gal pals (includ-

ing Jennifer Anniston, Jennifer

Connelly and Scarlett Johansson)

trying to meet the right guy, con-

vince the right guy to get mar-

ried and stay married when the

right guy starts to go wrong. (BI)

(129 min.) Rated PG-13 for sexual

THE INTERNATIONAL

* * *

"The International" if you're a

thriller fan in need of a fix. For

Woo and it features a massive

Guggenheim Museum that echoes

the hyperbolic bullet ballets of his

min.) Rated R for some sequences

MADEA GOES TO JAIL

back for another cross-dressing

installment as the pistol-packing

trouble-loving grandma Madea.

PINK PANTHER 2

Bumbling Inspector

Writer/director Tyler Perry is

late-80s masterpieces. (BI) (118

shoot-out in New York's

of violence and language.

There's a lot to enjoy about

starters, it was executive-produced

by Hong Kong action maestro John

content and brief strong lan-

FIRED UP

A couple of high school football stars (Nicholas D'Agosto, Eric Christian Olsen) decide to skip summer training camp and follow the girls to cheerleading camp instead. Rated PG-13 for crude and sexual content throughout partial nudity, language and some teen partying.

FRIDAY THE 13TH

He's back. Machete-wielding maniac Jason Vorhees re-terrorizes Camp Crystal Lake in this remake of the 1980 slasher opus. Rated R for strong bloody violence, some graphic sexual content. language and drug material.

FROST/NIXON ***1/2

Rated PG-13 for mature thematic Screenwriter Peter Morgan material, drug content, some vioadapted his Broadway play about lence and sexual situations. the epic series of post-Waterpate interviews between disgraced former president Richard Nixon and British chat show host David Clouseau (Steve Martin) joins an Frost - which Nixon pointedly international team of detectives regarded as a duel - for this sursearching for stolen art treasprisingly suspenseful and funny ures. (92 min.) Rated PG for some suggestive humor, brief adaptation by director Ron mild language and action. Howard. (BI) (122 min.) Rated R for some language.

HE'S JUST NOT

THAT INTO YOU

** 1/2

Diew Barrymore produced

A group of young Americans with psychic and telekinetic abilities go on the run from a secret ernment agency trying to force them into service. Paul McGuigan

PUSH

("Lucky Number, Slevin") directed the sci-fi thriller (111 min.) Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, strong language smoking and a teen drinking

THE READER ***

Stephen Daldry directed the drama about the dour, distant Hanna (Kate Winslet) a woman with a couple of big-time secrets who begins a summer-long affair with a bookish 15-year-old boy (David Kross) based on his love for her and her desire to hear him read novels aloud to her in bed. (BI) (123 min.) Rated R for some scenes of sexuality and nudity.

TAKEN

*** A retired CIA field agent, who has given up the spy biz to be near his estranged teenage daughter. gets back in the game when she is kidnapped in Paris by white slavers. (BI) (94 min.) Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence disturbing thematic material, sexual content. some drug references and language.

THE WRESTLER *** 1/2

"The Wrestler" could have been a sentimental washout, with its story of a long-past-his-prime former superstar wrestler (Mickey Rourke in a must-see comehack performance) trying to find a way to fit into the straight world after a heart attack forces him out of the ring. Director Darren Aronofsky doesn't go there. though, and he gives his hero a certain sort of dinnity in difficult circumstances. (BI) (109 min.) Rated R for violence, sexuality/nudity, language and some drug use.

- Reviews by Bruce Ingram

SHOWTIMES

2:40-4:50-7:05-9:10

Sun: 2:40-4:50-7:05-9:10

THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG)

Fri-Thurs: 11:45-2:05-4:30

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R)

Fri-Thurs: 1:20-4:20-7:30-10:25

STREET FIGHTER:

OF CHUN-LI (PG-13)

2:30-5:00-7:30-9:55

Sat: 5:00-7:30-9:55

TAKEN (PG-13)

Fri-Thurs: 12:45-3:05-5:30-7:55-10:30

THE CLASS (PG-13)

Fri-Thurs: 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:10

<u>Fri-Thurs: 7:25-10:05</u>

THE READER (R)

Fri-Thurs: 1:00-4:00-7:00-9:55

THE WRESTLER (R)

Fri-Thurs: 11:35-12:50-2:10-3:30

ELK GROVE VILLAGE

Fri-Thurs: 12:00-1:20

3:20-4:40-6:40-8:00-10:00

3D (G)

Fri-Thurs: 12:00-1:50-

3:40-5:30-7:20-9:10

THE READER (R)

Fri-Thurs: 1:45-4:25-7:05-9:50

CONFESSIONS

OF A SHOPAHOLIC (PG)

Fri-Thurs: 12:05-4:30-9:05

PINK PANTHER 2 (PG)

Fri-Thurs: 2:25-7:00

HE'S JUST NOT

THAT INTO YOU (PG-13)

Fri-Thurs: 1:30-4.15-7:00-9:45

TAKEN (PG-13)

THE INTERNATIONAL (R)

Movie times are effective Friday and are compiled from nformation available on Tuesday. Please note that theater schedules are subject to change. If no listings are provided. nlease call the theater for information.

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

A Pioneer Press Publication

Arlington Theaters

53 S. Evergreen St. 47) 483-0123

WATCHMEN (R)

Sat Sun: 12:00-3:10-6:30-9:40 Mon, Tues, Thurs: 6:30 Wed: 3:10-6:30

TAKEN (PG-13) Fri: 5:20-7:20-9:20

Sat. Sun: 1:20-3:20-5:20-7:20-9:20 Mon, Tues, Thurs: 5:20-7:20 Wed: 3:20-5:20-7:20

FIRED UP (PG-13) Fri: 5:00-7:00

Sat, Sun: 1:00-3:00-5:00-7:00 Mon. Tues. Thurs: 5:00-7:00 Wed: 3:00-5:00-7:00

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) Fri: 4:50-7:20-9:50

2:20-5:00-7:40-10:15 Sun: 2:20-5:00-7:40-10:15 Sat, Sun: 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:50 **MADEA GOES** Mon, Tues, Thurs: 4:50-7:20 Wed: 2:20-4:50-7:20 TO JAIL (PG-13)

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) Fri: 4:40-7:10-9:40

Sat Sun: 11:50-2:15-4:40-7:10-9:40 Mon Tues Thurs: 4:40-7:10 Wed: 2:15-4:40-7:10

HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) Fri: 4:45-7:20-9:50

Elk Grove Sat. Sun: 11:30-2:10-4:45-7:20-9.50 Biesterfield & Arlington Hts. Rds. Mon. Tues. Thurs: 4:45-7:20 (847) 444-FILM #559 Wed: 2:10-4:45-7:20 WATCHMEN (R)

CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC (PG) Fri-Sun: 9:00

CHICAGO

Lincoln Village 1-6 6341 N. McCormick at Devon (773) 604-4747

EVANSTON

Evanston Century/Cinearts 1715 Maple Ave.

847) 491-9751

Frì, Sat; 11:25-11:50-1:05 2:15-2:55-3:25-4:40 5:50-6:30-7:00-8:15

WATCHMEN (R)

9:25-10:00-10:35 Sun-Thurs: 11:25-11:50-1:05 2:15-2:55-3:25-4:40 5:50-6:30-7:00 8:15-9:25-10:00

CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC (PG) Fri. Sat. Mon-Thurs: 12:05

2:40-5:15-7:50-10:20 Sun: 2:40-5:15-7:50-10:20

CORALINE (PG) Fri-Thurs: 11:55 2:25-4:55-7:35-10:10 **GRAN TORINO (R)**

Fri-Thurs: 1:30-4:30-7:20-10:00 **HE'S JUST NOT** THAT INTO YOU (PG-13) Fri-Thurs: 12:55-4:05-7:10-10:20

JONAS BROTHERS: THE 3D CONCERT EXPERIENCE (G)

THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) Fri-Thurs: 2:00-5:00-7:45-10:00

THE READER (R)

Fri-Thurs: 12:45-3:50-6:40-9:50 FROST/NIXON (R) Fri-Thurs: 12:30-3:40-6:30-9:20

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) Fri-Thurs: 1:45-4:45-7:30-10:20

GRAN TORINO (R) Fri-Thurs: 12:15:3:20-6:20:9:10

HIGHLAND PARK

Highland Park 445 Central Ave. (847) 432-3300

GRAN TORINO (R)

Fri: 4:45-7:15-9:30 Sat: 2:15-4:45-7:15-9:30 Sun: 2:15-4:45-7:15 Mon-Thurs: 4:45-7:15

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) Fri: 4:30-7:00-9:30 Sat: 2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30

Sun: 2:00-4:30-7:00 Mon-Thurs: 4:30-7:00 FROST/NIXON (R)

Fri: 4:30-7:00-9:30 Sat: 2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30 Sun: 2.00-4:30-7:00 Mon-Thurs: 4:30-7:00

DOUBT (PG-13) Fri: 4:45-7:15-9:30 Sat: 2:15-4:45-7:15-9:30 Sun: 2:15-4:45-7:15

4:45-6:05-7:15-8:40-9:45 THE METROPOLITAN OPERA: Mon-Thurs: 4:45-7:15 MADAMA BUTTERFLY (NR) Renaissance Place

1850 2nd St. (847) 258-7282

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) Fri-Sun: 11:15

Mon-Thurs: 2:15-5:10-8:10

2:00:5:00:8:00 Mon-Thurs: 2:00-5:00-8:00 **JONAS BROTHERS CONCERT**

TWO LOVERS (R) Fri-Sun: 12:00

2:45-5:45-8:30 Mon-Thurs: 2:45-5:45-8:30

THE READER (R) Fri-Sun: 11:30 2:30-5:20-8:20

2:15-5:10-8:10

MILK (R)

Mon-Thurs: 2:30-5:20-8:20 THE CLASS (PG-13) Fri-Sun: 11:10-2:10-5:15-8:15 Mon-Thurs: 2:10-5:15-8:15

MOUNT PROSPECT

NILES

MET OPERA

MADAME BUTTERFLY

JONAS BROTHERS 3-D

CONCERT

Fri Mon-Thurs: 1:40-3:50:

6:05-8:15-10:20

Sat Sun: 11:30-1:40-3:50-

6:05-8:15-10:20

WATCHMEN (R)

6:15-7:00-8:00-9:45:10:30

Sat, Sun: 11:15-11:50-1:00-2:45-3:30-

Mon-Thurs: 1:00-2:45-3:30-4:30-

Sat: Noon

Randhurst

Show Place 12

301 Golf Mill Center

www.Kerasotes.com

(800) 326-3264, #1643

Fri-Thurs: 1:00-3:10-5:20-7:30-9:40 101 Fuclid Ave (847) 590-9788 PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) www.amctheatres.com Fri-Thurs: 12:40-2:50-5:00-7:10-9:20

GLENVIEW

Glen 10

1850 Tower Drive (847) 729-9600 www.Kerasotes.com

Fri-Thurs: 12:00-2:45-3:30 6:15-7.00-9:45-10:30 CONFESSIONS

WATCHMEN (R)

OF A SHOPAHOLIC (PG) Fri-Thurs: 1:15-4:15-6:50-9:30 THE INTERNATIONAL (R) Fri-Thurs: 1:30-4:30-7:20-10:15

HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG-13)

THE READER (R) Mon-Thurs: 1:20-4:20-7:10-10:10

Sat, Sun: 10:30-1:20-4:20-7:10-10:10 FIRED UP (PG-13) Fri. Mon Thurs: 2:15-5:00-7:40-10:10

4:30-6:15-7:00-8:00-9:45-10:30

Sat, Sun: 11:20-2:15-5:00-7:40-10:10 FRIDAY THE 13TH (R) Fri. Mon-Thurs: 1:15-4:00-6:20-9:00

Sat, Sun: 10:45-1:15-4:00-6:20-9:00 CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC (PG)

Fri-Thurs: 7:50-10:15 INTERNATIONAL (R) Fri. Mon-Thurs: 12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20

Sat: 3:40-6:30-9:20 Sun: 10:00-12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20

CORALINE (PG) Fri. Mon-Thurs: 2:00-4:45-7:20-9:50

Sat, Sun: 11:10-2:00-4:45-7:20-9:50 HE'S JUST THAT NOT INTO YOU (PG-13)

Sat, Sun: 9:45-12:40-3:45-6:45-9.55 **SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R)** Fri. Mon-Thurs: 1:10-4:10-7:15-10:05

Sat, Sun: 9:45- 1:10-4:10-7:15-10:05 PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) Fri, Mon-Thurs: 2:30-5:10 Sat. Sun: 11:45-2:30-5:10

NORRIDGE

Norridge 4520 Harlem Ave. (708) 452-9000

www.amctheatres.com WATCHMEN (R) Fri: 1:45-3:35-5:15-7:00-8:45-10:30

Sat: 10:20-12:10-1:45-3:35-5:15-7:00-8:45-10:30 Sun: 10:20-12:10-1:45-3:35-5:15-7:00-8:35

Mon-Thurs: 3:35-4:35-7.00-8:00 FIRED UP (PG-13) Fri: 2:05-4:20-6:25-8:30 Sat. Sun: 11:30-2:05-4:20-6:25-8:30

Mon-Thurs: 3:40-6:00-8:05 TVI FR PERRY'S MADEA GOES TO JAIL (PG-13) Sat- 11:10-1:55-4:40-7:15-9:45

Sun: 11:10-1:55-4:40-7:15 Mon-Thurs: 4:40-7:15 CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC (PG)

Sat: 11:40-2:30-5:00-7:40-10:00 Sun: 11:40-2:30-5:00-7:40 Mon-Thurs: 4:10-7:30 CORALINE (PG)

Fri: 2:15-4:50-7:20-9:35 Sat: 11:20-2:15-4:50-7:20-9:35 Sun: 11:20-2:15-4:50-7:20 Mon-Thurs: 4:50-7:20

THE PINK PANTHER 2 (PG) Fri: 3:45-6:10 Sat: 10:40-1:00-3:45-6:10

Sun: 10:40-1:00-3:45-6:10-8:15 Mon-Thurs: 3:45-6:10-8:15 TAKEN (PG-13)

Sun: 11:00-1:15-4:30-6:50 Mon-Thurs: 4:30-6:50 SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) Fri: 1:30-4:10-7:10-9:50 Sat: 10:50-1:30-4:10-7:10-9:50

Sat-1000-015-4-30-6-50-9:10

PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) Fri: 3:10-5:30-7:50-10.10 Sat: 10:30-12:50-3:10-5:30-7:50-10:10 Sun: 10:30-12:50-3:10-5:30-7:50

Sun: 10:50-1:30-4:10-7:10

Mon-Thurs: 4:20-7:10

PARK RIDGE

Mon-Thurs: 3:50-6:05-8.10

Pickwick 5 S. Prospect

(847) 604-2234

FROST/HIXON (R) WATCHMEN (R) Frí-Sun: 1:00-4:15-7:30

Mon-Thurs: 4:15-7:30

GRAN TORINO (R)

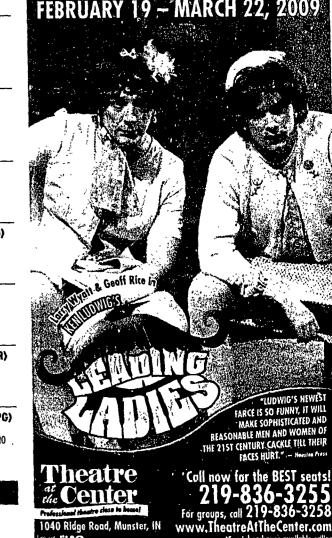
Fri-Sun: 2:15-5:15-8:00

Mon-Thurs: 5:15-8:00

Fri-Thurs: 5:15-8:00 SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R)

Fri-Sun: 2:15-5:15-8:00 Mon-Thurs: 5:15-8:00





Piccolo Theatre scores with mischief-making 'Twelfth Night'

through March 21 at Piccolo Theatre, Evanston Arts Depot 600 Main St., Evanston, \$25, \$20 seniors, \$15 students. (847) 424-0089 or www.piccolothe-

> BY TOM WITOM Contributor

With its production of "Twelfth Night," Piccolo Theatre's first shot at a work by William Shakespeare, the eight-year-old Evanston company has scored a direct hit.

As director, Karen Yates, who most recently appeared in "Lust, Lies and Marriage" at Piccolo, doesn't skip a beat with the Bard's much-loved comedy. Her well-honed 15-member cast delivers maximum impact in a tight in-the-round performance space that barely seats 50.

Proving the timelessness and flexibility of

Shakespeare's play, Yates shifts the action from the early 17th century to 1968 London. It's a period marked by social unrest and confusion. Fighting in Vietnam has roused antiwar protests, and the press is rife with headlines dealing with immigration issues involving transplants from India, gay rights, political upheaval and changing social

Love beads, peace medallions and loud clothing are much in evidence. Snatches of incidental music are heard, including short original songs by Phil Rockrohr, and cast members carrying placards of topical interest that recall the era.

Though this "Twelfth Night" is a no-frills production (read: very little in the way of props and scenic design left largely to the imagination), it remains abun-



Minita Gandhi as Viola and Anthony DiNicola as Sebastian in "Twelfth Hight" at Piccolo Theatre.

dantly rich in Shakespeare's poetic language.

Even at its zaniest,

most comical moments -

and there are many involving mistaken identities and zany plots — the play shines with intelli-

ICKETS:

thought-provoking dia-

Minita Gandhi, exotic from head to toe in Indian dress, finds herself in a touchy situation as Viola, who was shipwrecked in a storm and separated from her brother. Masquerading as a male page, she is taken under the wing of the handsome Duke Orsino (David Marcotte). There are romantic sparks on her part, but Orsino is infatuated with Lady Olivia (Vanessa Hughes) and has asked his new aide to make Olivia know of his ardor. As it turns out, Olivia isn't interested. Instead, she is keen on the fair page.

A riotous subplot also woven through the play involves some mischiefmaking aimed at taking Olivia's pompous chief steward Malvolio (Eric Damon Smith, thoroughly

ited performance) down a peg or two. The conspirators — Olivia's uncle, Sir Toby Belch (Christopher Hibbard), another potential suit, Sir Andrew Aguecheek (David WM Kelch); Feste, the Fool (Adam Verner) and two of Olivia's servants, Maria (Allison McCorkle) and Fabian (Mark Sharp) trick Malvolio with a spu-

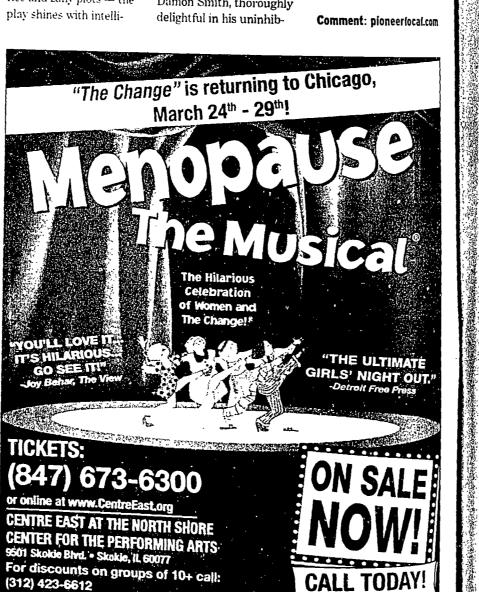
that Olivia has romantic inclinations for him. The unexpected appearance of Sebastian (Anthony DiNicola), Viola's long-lost twin who was presumed to be dead. adds further confusion. Olivia, mistaking him for Viola, asks for his hand.

rious letter into playing

the buffoon in the belief

But identities get sorted by the final curtain and love prevails.

and the two are secretly



A Pioneer Press Publication

What to do. This week and beyond.

YOU WANT IN? HERE'S HOW.

Submit go. events one week prior to the date of publication.

o Entries must be typed. We're sorry, but we can't take it over the telephone. We prefer e-mail submissions.

» go. listings are free. Include brief description of the event, time, date, address, price and phone

» By mail: go. c/o Pioneer Press, 3701 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, IL 60026. E-mail gol@pioneerlocal.com. FAX: (847) 486-7451.

Choudhury of Northbrook: "Ice Cream

and Linen" by Ronald Denham of Park

Ridge: "The Waiting Room" by LaVerne

Mona Ghadiri of Long Grove; "An Outra

geous Horror" by Derek Newhouse of

Skokie: and "Why" by Michael Poloz of

Skokie. Tickets: \$7: \$5 for students.

Proceeds support the Oakton Perform

ing Arts Scholarship Fund, For tickets

and Saturday nights. \$15 tickets are

visit www.thegifttheatre.org.

Theatre through March 21 at the

Evanston Arts Depot. 600 Main St.,

days and Saturdays: 3 p.m. Sundays

Call (847) 424-0089 or visit www.pic

Ars Viva, conducted by Alan Heather

ngton, performs at North Shore Cen-

Dahlman of Evanston: "Untitled" by

Centre East in the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts. 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. (847) 673-6300. www.centreeast.org. March 24-April 5: Menopause: The Musical:"\$46.

STAGE

"Godspell" will be presented at 7 p.m March 14 at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 1111 N. Elmhurst Road. Prospect Heights. A free-will offering will be collected to benefit The Night Ministry, an organization that aids the homeless (847) 537-4353

"The Illusion," at 7:30 p.m. March 5-7 and March 12-14 at Northeastern Illinois University's Stage Center Theatre. Building F. 3701 W. Bryn Mawr, Chicago Tickets: \$10: \$8 senior citizens and stu dents. (773) 442-4274.

"Little Women," at 7 p.m. March 13 and 2 and 7 p.m. March 14 in the auditorium at Niles North High School 9800 Lawler, Skokie, Tickets: \$10: \$5 for chil dren. A free community performance will be held at 10 a.m. March 12. Call (847) 626-2117 or visit ww.nntheatre.com.

"Mauritius." presented by Northlight

Theatre through April 5 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts. 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. The stakes are high when half-sisters inherit a book of rare stamps that may include the crown jewel of the collecting world The battle for possession takes a dangerous turn when three rival collectors appear willing to go to any lengths to stake their claim on the find Performances Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. (except March 17 and 31), Wednesdays at 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (except March 18): Thurs days at 7:30 p.m.; Fridays at 8 p.m.; Sat urdays at 2:30 n.m. and 8 n.m.; and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. (except March 15, 29 and April 5), Tickets: \$25 \$55. (847) 673-6300 or www.north

ter for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skok-"Play On." a collection of original onele Blvd., Skokie. (847) 673-6300, act plays by Oakton Community Colwww.arsviva.org. Tickets: \$64 box lege students, will be staged at 7 p.m. seats: \$45 reserved: \$40 seniors: \$16 students March 22, 4:30 n m and March 13-14 at Oakton's Des Plaines March 23, 7:30 p.m.: "Soaring Strings." campus, 1600 E. Golf Road, Works to be performed include "Legacy" by Arif with Gary Stucka, cello. Bloch: Prayer

Grieg: Holberg Suite, Op. 40: Mendelssohn: String Symphony No 7 in D Minor; Shostakovich: Chamber Symnhony 0p. 110. Baroque Band, a period-instrument

orchestra, performs in Nichols Hall at the Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Tickets: \$30. \$27 senior citizens: \$15 students Call (312) 235-2368 or visit www.baroque band.org. March 13: Suite Candy.

or information, call (847) 635-1893. "The Sound of Music," presented at 1 Chicago Chamber Musicians. (312) and 7 p.m. March 12 and 7 p.m. March 13 225-5226. www.chicagochambermu sic.org. Concerts are held at 7:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Lutheran School, 260 N. Sundays at Pick-Stainer Concert Hall Northwest Highway Park Ridge, Tickets: \$6. Call (847) 823-9308, ext. 200. on Northwestern University's campus "Stop/Kiss." through March 15 at The 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, Tickets: Gift Theatre, 4802 N. Milwaukee, Chica-\$20-\$40. March 22: Debussy: Sonata go. Curtain at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays and No. 2: Ligeti: Trio, and Spohr: Nonet in I Fridays: 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Salur: Major, Op. 31 days. Tickets are \$20 for Thursdays The Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra and Saturday matinees: \$25 for Friday performs at 7 p.m. Sundays at Pick-

Staiger Concert Hall on the Northwest available at all performances for stuern Úniversity campus, 50 Arts Circle dents, seniors and industry with prop Drive, Evanston. (847) 866-6888. er identification, Call (773) 283-7071 or www.chicagophilharmonic.org. Tickets are \$70 on the main floor; \$33 main "Twelfth Night." presented by Piccolo front wings: \$60, \$33 and \$20 in the balcony: \$20 obstructed view, March 15: "Mendelssohn's 200th Birthday," with David Perry violin soloist Evanston Performances at 8 p.m. Fri Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto in E Mi Tickets: \$25: \$20 seniors: \$15 students nor, Op. 64 and Symphony No. 3 in A Minor, Op. 56 ("Scottish"). Classical Symphony Orchestra of Chicago will present a free concert at 3 n.m. March 15 in Preston Bradley Hall at

the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E.

includes Ravel: La Tombeau de

Washington St., Chicago. The program

Couperin: Dukas: Sorcerer's Apprenctice: and Dvorak: Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, Op. 95 ("New World") Call (312)

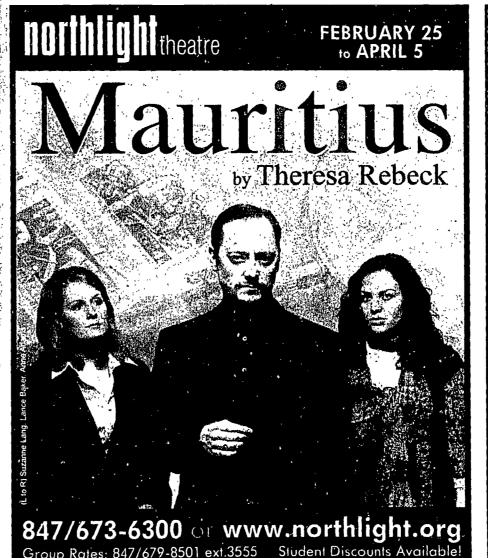
Evanston Symphony Orchestra per forms at 2:30 p.m. Sundays at Pickgo., PAGE B7





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Jeffery the Great juggles, jokes, does magic tricks

By MYRNA PETLICKI Contributor

We have some great news — Jeffery the Great. that is. The multitalented family entertainer alka. Jeffery Fredriksen, showcases his diverse sidils of 2 p.m. Saturdays, through March 28, at the Sholde Theatre, 7924 N. Lincoln Ave., Sixide. He calls his tien storn "Circue Da

"It's a new concept that i doc't bedere has been done before." Fredriksen said "There's been magicians who did a little juggling or there's been jug-होंसर कांत्र दीवं व देत्रीय ताबहार or evec a córcus ibat did a little masie, but never combined this way where the magic and the juggling are done at the same

The enterwiner will also ride a uniquele and do puppetri, verirlismism rope spirning and physical

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comedy — and he will even shoot someone from W. Oakton St., 2-3:30 p.m. "I'm traing to duplicate

as many of the circus things as I remember from when I was a kid," he said. "I like to sprinkle my vistal magic with lots of comedy and audience participation. My tricks have always been very kidfriendly but adults enjoy them as well?

Tickets are \$15 for adults. \$10 for children. For details, call (847) 6.....61.

it takes two

We won't tell the duo called Pooke: Circus that Jeffers the Great has usurred their title as "The World's Smallest Circus The couple from Argentina will be juggling. doing aerobaties and performing magie wher.

"Planet Circus" at the Niles Public Library, 6960

Sunday, March 8. For details, call (847) 663-1234.

Kids in kindergarten

Helping paws

and older, and their parents, will learn what it's like to live with a disability from award winning author and National Pub lic Radio commentator Beth Finke, 4-5 p.m. Monday, March 9, at Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Finke, who is blind, will be accompanied by her seeing eye dog. Hanni. After the presentation, the pair will sign and paw print copies of their book. Hanni and Beth: Safe and Sound.

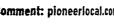
Plastic surgery perhaps?

She doesn't look it but Barbie is turning 50 on March 9. Bring your daughters and their Bar. bie dolls to the auditorium of the Morton Grove Pullic Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday March 7, for a "Barbie Birthday Party:"

For details, call (847) 929-5102.

Creating with kids

Parents and their pintsize Picassos, ages 18months to 3 years, will have fun working on a project together at Toddler Art, 10:45-11:15 a.m. Monday, March 9, at Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave. Registration is required for this program in the First Floor Meeting Room.





ences with a variety

A Pioneer Press Publication

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intinued from PAGE B5

Evanston. (847) 864-8804. evanstonsymphony.org. Tickets in nce are \$25: \$20 for senior citi-S5 for students. Tickets at the or are \$28; \$23 for seniors; \$5 for nts. March 22: "The Voice of the lola." with quest artist Charles Pickler SO principal violist. The program inles Hector Berlioz: "Harold in Italy." elix Mendelssohn's The Hebrides ("Fingal's Cave") Overture and Richard **Wá**nner's "Sieafried IdvII." First Congregational Church House

1417 Hinman Ave., Evanston, (847) 864 8332. March 8, 2:30 p.m.: Megan Bauer, iólin, and Kingsley Day, piano, will present the Chausson "Poeme" and the Brahms D Minor Sonata. \$10. Lutkin Hall at Northwestern Universi-7,700 University Place, Evanston. Most icket prices listed in three categories general public: senior citizens and NU faculty and staff: and student rate. (847) 467-4000. March 8, 7:30 p.m.: Fac fulty Recital, Gail Williams, horn, The

nrogram includes the world premiere of the Sonata for Horn by John Stevens; and Dana Wilson's "Shallow Streams, Deep Rivers" for violin, horn and piano, featuring pianist Alan Chov and violinist Joseph Genualdi. \$9/\$7/\$5. March 10, 7:30 p.m.: Mark Nucclo. clarinet, presents George Gershwin's Three Preludes for Piano: Olivier Messiaen's "The Abyss of the Birds" from "Quartet for the End of Time": J.S. Bach's Chromatic Fantasy for Solo Clarinet: Johann Strauss: "Perpetual Mo-

tion." Op. 257; and Charles Lefebvre's Intermezzo from the 2nd Suite, Op. 122. \$9/\$7/\$5. March 12, 7:30 p.m.: Elizabeth Buccheri with Jesse Rosenberg and faculty singers will perform and present commentary about Richard Strauss' "Kraemerspiegel," a rarely performed cycle of 12 piano songs with Midwest Young Artists presents

"Shooting Stars" at 6 p.m. March 8 at First United Methodist Church in Evanston. The Early Music portion of Early Music Academy. Soloists Amy Pikler and Evan Foitik, the winners of the MYA Division Early Music category at the 13th annual Walgreens Concerto Competition, will perform their win ning piece Concerto in E Minor for Recorder and Flute by Georg Philipp Telemann, accompanied by MYA's Chamber Orchestra. The New Music portion of the concert will include the Reniamin Britten's Phantasy Ouarfet Eric Ewazen's Roaring Fork and Astor Piazzolla's Tango Ballet performed by

ensembles from MYA's chamber music program, Tickets: \$20-\$25, \$10-\$15 for students and seniors, available at www.mva.org or at the door.

Mostly Music Chicago presents the Lincoln Piano Trio presenting works by Mendelssohn and Brahms at 4 p.m. March 8 at a private residence in Evanston. Featuring Desiree Ruhstrat violin, David Cunliffe, cello, and Mart Aznavoorian. piano. Tickets: \$25: \$15 for students. For tickets or information, visit

(312) 287-5761

Music of the Raroque performs a

First United Methodist Church of Evanston, 1630 Hinman Ave., unless noted otherwise, (312) 551-1414. www.baroque.org. Single tickets are \$30-\$75: \$25-\$30 students/seniors March 29. 7:30 p.m.: "Celebrate! Handel, Haydn, Purcell, Mendelssohn Jane Glover, conductor, Featuring the Music of the Baroque Chorus and Orchestra. Sarah Gartshore, soprano. Emily Lodine, mezzo-soprano, Ryan Be longie, alto, Harold Brock, tenor, and Douglas Anderson baritone. The pro gram includes Handel: Coronation Anthem No. 1, "Zadok the Priest": Haydn: Mass in B-flat Major, Missa Sancti Bernardi von Offida; Purcell: King Oberon's hirthday sequence from "The Fairy Queen " Act IV: and Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 4 in A Major (Italian). Music Institute of Chicago, Nichols

Concert Hall 1490 Chicago Ave. Evanston (847) 905-1500, www.mu sicinst.org. Four-day festival, directed by Abraham Stokman, featuring works y George Crumb, Osvaldo Golijov, John Adams and John Corigliano, In cludes a fecture, film, art exhibits and workshop presentations, with performances by guest artists and MIC faculty March 6: Osvaldo Golijov concert, Art exhibit 6:30 p.m. concert at 7:30 p.m. \$20/\$15/\$7. March 7: John Adams concert. Open rehearsal 11 a.m., art exhibit 6:30 p.m., concert at 7:30 p.m. \$20/\$15/\$7 March 8, 3 n.m.: John Corigliano concert, with an art exhibit at 2 p.m., concert at 3 p.m., and at 7. p.m., Rachel Barton Pine performs mu sic from "The Red Violin," followed by a

screening of the film at 7:30 p.m. \$20/\$15/\$7. Northwest Symphony Orchestra, Paul Vermel, music director, presents concerts at 3:30 p.m. Sundays in the The atre for the Performing Arts at Maine West High School, 1755 S. Wolf Road, Des Plaines. Pre-concert commentaries by Carolyn Paulin, a staff member of radio station WFMT, begin one hour pri or to each concert. Tickets: \$20; \$15 for seniors: \$10 for students. Children under age 14 are admitted free when accompanied by a paying adult. www.northwestsymphony.org. March

Fingal's Cave: Stephen Paulus: Sea Por traits: Bruch: Scottish Fantasy.

The Orion Ensemble performs at the Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chica go Ave., Evanston, Tickets are \$25; \$22 for senior citizens; \$10 for students. Free for children 12 and younger. (630) 628-9591 or www.orionensemble.org. March 29, 3 p.m.: Laura Elise Schwendinger's "Celestial City": Max Bruch's Pieces for Clarinet Viola and Piano, Op. 83: and Felix Mendelssohn? Piano Trio No. 1 in D Minor, Op. 49.

Park Ridge Civic Orchestra presents concerts at the Pickwick Theatre, 5 S Prospect, Park Ridge, Tickets are \$25: \$20 for students and senior citizens. Call (847) 692-PRCO or (847) 823-8861

www.parkridgecivicorchestra.org. March 15, 2:30 p.m.: "Strings 'n Things," with Robert Hanford, violin, the Park Ridge Civic Orchestra Strings and the Maine South Chamber Orchestra Strings, Vivaldi: The Four Seasons: and Tchaikovsky: Serenade, April 26, 2:30 p.m.: The Spirit of Brahms: A German Regulem with the Park Ridge Civic Or chestra Chorus, the Park Ridge Community Church Chancel Choir, the Mu sic Institute of Chicago Chorale, Sarah Hibbard, soprano soloist, and Peter Van De Graaff, bass-baritone soloist. Pick-Staiger Concert Hall at North-

western University, 50 Arts Circle Dri ve. Evanston. Information: (847) 491-5441: tickets: (847) 467-4000 www.pickstaiger.org. Most ticket prices listed in three categories; general pub lic; senior citizens and NU faculty and staff: and student rate, March 6, 7:30 n.m.: Northwestern University Sympho ny Orchestra, "Student Showcase." Victor Yampolsky, Yahui Cheng. David Cubek and Robert McConnell will conduct the orchestra in a concert featur ing Northwestern Concerto Competition winners - cellist Charlene Prescot and violinist Ari Vilhjalmsson. The prooram will feature Mozart's Symphony No. 38 in D Major ("Prague"):

:Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No. 1 in E-flat Major: Prokofiev's Violin Concer to No. 2 in G Minor; and winning Student Composition Competition work "Almost Past" by David Carter. \$9/\$7/\$5. March 8. 3 p.m.: "A Tribute to Heroes." Robert G. Hasty and Robert McCoppell will conduct the Philharmo

nia in a program featuring Tchalkovsky's "1812 Overture": Michael Daugherty's "Red Cape Tango": and Aram's Khachaturian's "Spartacus" Suite No. 1, \$7/\$5/\$4, March 8, 7:30 p.m. University Singers, "Sing Praises!" vestern University Chorus and Univer sity Chamber Orchestra, Haydn's "The

go., PAGE B8



BLUE NOTE RECORDS 70TH ANNIVERSARY

Friday, March 20, 8:00

Bill Charlap music director and piano Ravi Coltrane saxophones

Pat Martino guitar

Lewis Nash drums

Nicholas Payton trumpet **Peter Washington** bass

Steve Wilson alto saxophone

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information and to purchase tickets.

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Continued from PAGE B7

Creation," with soprano Pamela Hinchman, tenor Kurt Hansen and baritone Robert Heitzinger, \$12/\$9/\$6, March 12 4 n.m.: Master Class, Victor Lemonte Wooten, bass, in the Pick-Staiger Concert Hall Rehearsal Room. Free.

The Protégé Philharmonic of Chicago youth orchestra will present a free concert at 3 n.m. March 8 in Preston Bradley Hall at the Chicago Cultural Center. 78 E. Washington St., Chicago. The program includes works by Verdi, Saint-Saens, Rimsky-Korsakov and Mozart, Call (312) 341-1521.

Recenstein Recital Half at Northwest ern University. 60 Arts Circle Drive. Evanston, (847) 467-4000, Most ticket prices listed in three categories; gen eral public: senior citizens and NU faculty and staff; and student rate. March 10, 9:30 a.m.: Master Class, Mark Nuccio clarinet Free Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra

performs at 3 p.m. Sundays at the

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Tickets are \$22-\$36: \$9 for children. Free pre concert lectures begin at 1:30 n m. For tickets, call (847) 673-6300 or visit www.svso.org. March 15: Featuring Karen Frost, flute, Jennifer Stuck oboe, Noah Lambert, trumpet, and Rebecca McCulloch, violin, J.S. Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 2; Haydn: Symphony No. 104 ("London"): Glazunov: Symphony No. 3. May 17: Fea turing the Ryan Opera Center Ensemble. Mozart: Overture to "Abduction From the Seraglio": Symphony No. 38 ("Prague"): and opera scenes, semi-

VOX 3 presents an evening of "Lieder," works written for voice and piano, at 3 p.m. March 8 at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. Sonranos Dana Campbell and Angela Zawada annear with haritone Brian von Rueden, with accompaniment by Irina Feoktistova. Admission is free; donations welcome. (773) 784-0425 or www.vox3.org.

POP/FOLK/JAZZ

The Abbey Pub. 3420 W. Grace St., Chicago. (773) 478-4408. www.abbevnuh com. Sundays: Traditional Irish Session with Devin Shepherd. 4 p.m. Tuesdays: Open Mic Night with Nick Gonzales, 8 p.m. Wednesdays: Sweetwater Melldown 9 n.m. Thursdays: House band 8 n.m. March 6, 9 n.m.: Ephyra, Liars Royale, Romi Lovel, \$8 in advance: \$10 at the door. March 6, 10 p.m.: Forte in the pub. March 7, 10 p.m.: NASA, DJ Zebo, Starter DJs, \$15. March 11 9 n m · Folinse: The Music Of Pink Floyd, \$8 in advance: \$10 at the door, March 12, 7:30 p.m.: Kasim Sulton. \$20. March 13, 9 p.m.: Elevation (U2 tribute band). \$10. March 14: St Patrick's Day Bash with live Irish music from In m. h The McCabes Larry Nugent, Fonn Morr. \$10. March 15, 9 p.m.: An Horse. My Gold Mask. \$8 in advance: \$10 at the door. March 17: St Patrick's Day party with live Irish music from 1 n m, by Mulligan Stew Larry Nugent, Fitz & the Celts.

Alistate Arena, 6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com.or (312) 559-1212: the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. The information line is (847) 635-6601. March 5-6: Fleetwood Mac's "Unleashed 2009 Tour," May 4-5, 7:30 p.m.: The Dead \$95. \$50. May 9, 6:30 p.m.: Fall Out Boy

with Metro Station, Cobra Starship and All Time Low \$41 \$31 \$26 May 15, 7:30 p.m.: Keith Urban's "Escape Together World Tour." Zac Brown Band opens. \$59.50, \$39.50 and \$20. Bill's Blues, 1029 Davis St., Evanston.

(847) 424-9800, www.billsbluesbar.com Cover charges vary, Sundays, 4 p.m.: Lilfest Onen Mike, Mondays, 8:30 n.m.: Paul Doppelt & Friends (blues). Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m.; Bill's Blues Jam. hosted by the TFB Band. Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.: North Shore Steppin' (DJ). Wednesdays, 10:30 n.m.; John Nance Urban Dance Mix (DJ), March 5, 7 p.m.: Lemondrop (folk/rock). March 5, 10 n.m.: Erratik Static (pop), March 6, 5:30 p.m.; Neither Nor Big Band Jazz. March 6. 8:30 p.m.: Milton Houston & the Chicago Blues All Stars (blues) March 7. 8:30 p.m.: Hitsville USA Motown Show, March 7, 11:30 p.m.: TRC Events Presents (world music). March 8, 7 p.m.: Noah Zacharin (folk), March 9, 9 om.: Paul Doppell & Friends (blues).

March 12, 7 n.m.: Lil Fest Presents (folk/rock). March 12, 10 p.m.; Erratik Static (pop). March 13, 6 p.m.: The Side men Big Band Jazz. March 13, 8:30 p.m.: Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials (blues). March 14, 8:30 n.m.: Jason Ricci and New Blood (blues), March 14, 11:30 n.m.: TRC Events Presents (world music). The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, (847) 864-1679. www.celticknotoub.com. No cover unless noted otherwise Mondays 8 nm • midnight: Bluegrass and roots music with the Mudflapps. Tuesdays, 7-10 p.m.: Irish music session, March 7, 10 p.m.: Bluegrass Advocates. March 14-17: St. Patrick's weekend celebration, Saturday entertainment includes Irish dancers from noon-3 p.m.; Tim O'Shea

and Steven Carroll presenting tradi

tional Irish folk music from 6-9 p.m.;

and The Henhouse Prowlers presenting

folk and bluegrass from 10 p.m.·1 a m. Sunday entertainment includes Char acter Fleadh presenting traditional Irish music from 7-10 p.m. The Mudflapps present folk and bluegrass from 8 p.m.-midnight Monday. Tuesday entertainment includes Irish dancers from noon-3 p.m.; The Public House Band presenting Irish folk music from 6-9 p.m.; and Tim O'Shea and Steven Carroll presenting traditional Irish folk music from 6-9 p.m. March 22, 5-8 p.m. Eric Lugosch. March 28, 10 p.m.: Naomi

Centre East in the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. (847) 673-6300. www.cen treeast.org. March 14, 8 p.m.: "Get Backl. The cast of Beatlemania recreates the era and music of the Fab Four \$42. May 9, 8 p.m.: The Rat Pack is Back, \$58.

Edison Park Lutheran Church, 6626 N Oliphant, Chicago. (773) 631-9131, March 22, 4-6 p.m.: Chicago Grandstand Big Band will present a concert of American jazz. \$10 general admission: \$6 for seniors and students.

Ethical Humanist Society Second Salurday Coffeehouse, 7574 N. Lincoln Ave (at Howard), Skokie. (847) 677-3334 www.ethicalhuman.org. March 14, 7,30 p.m.: Folksingers Phil Cooper and Margaret Nelson present songs from the British Isles. \$7 includes refreshments Famous Freddie's, 1799 S. Busse Road Mount Prospect. (847) 593-2200. www.famousfreddiesroadhouse.com Music at 9 p.m. Fridays and 10 p.m. Sat

urdays, unless noted otherwise March 6: Random X (hard rock covers), March 7: Coverguri (party rock). March 13: In dependent Rock Society (adult altern tive), March 14: American English (Real les tribute). March 20: Sure Fire Groove (blues/rock), March 21: Arra (classic rock). March 27: X-Side, March 28: Kas

mir (Led Zeppfin tribute) Harper College, 1200 W. Algonqui Road Palatine, (847) 925-6100. www.harpercollege.edu. March 14. 7:30 nm · "All Things Mandolin, Part III" featuring The Don Stiernberg Trio, In Room A238, Building A. The trio will present jazz, bluegrass and a tribute to Chicago musician Kenneth Jethro Burns Tickets: \$25: \$15 for Harner students and senior citizens: \$20 for oth-

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Hogeye Folk Arts hosts concerts at Lake Street Church of Evanston, 607 Lake St. (847) 475-6165, www.hogevefolkarts.org. All concerts start at 7:30 p.m.; doors open at 7 p.m. \$15; \$13 for senior citizens: \$5 for students: free for children under 12. March 7: Jim Crain & Friends.

Irish American Heritage Center. 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago. (773) 282-7035. www.irishamhc.com. Entertainment at 9 n.m. Fridays and Saturdays in the Fifth Province Lounge, no cover -March 6: Ceili Dancing with Ceoltoiri Chicago, March 7: Joe Cullen and Kathen Keane. March 13: Tony Leonard's Rand March 14: St. Patrick's Festival March 17: St. Patrick's Day Celebration March 20: The Celtic Groundhous. March 21: Dyed in the Wool. March 27: Seamus O'Kane and Jimmy Moore. March 28: The Dooley Brothers.

Levy Senior Center, 300 Dodge Ave. Evanston, (847) 448-8250, March 7, 2 n.m.: The Jazz Quintet from Arlen Music Consultants performs a free community concert.

Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoin Ave. (847) 965-4220. March 8, 2 p.m.: In Full Swing, under the direction of Ron Sürace, will present jazz and big band music, March 22, 2 p.m.: "Abraham Lincoln in Song," presented by folksinger Chris Válillo. Myron and Phils, 3900 W. Devon, Lincolnwood. (847) 677-6663. Fridays. open for Mushroomhead at Fangoria's through April 24: Karaoke contest. Weekend of Horrors convention All Pick-Staiger Concert Hall at North ages show. For tickets, visit www.fash omb.net or www.fangocon.com. The Sing to Live Community Chorus

western University, 50 Arts Circle Dri ve. Evanston, Most ticket prices listed in three categories; general publicsenior citizens and NU faculty and staff; and student rate, information (847) 491-5441; tickets; (847) 467-4000 www.nickstainer.org March 7 7:30 p.m.: The Bienen School of Music's spring festival. "Collaboration Exultation: A Festival of Musical Connections," opens with a program titled "Mando Maunificat." This celebration of the mandolin includes mandolinis Mike Marshall and Big Trio (featuring Marshall, violinist Alex Hargreaves an bassist Paul Kowert): mandolinist Sam Bush: mandolinist Caterina Lichtenberg with guitarist Mirko Schrader and mandolinist Don Stiernberg and the Milwaukee Mandolin Orchestra. The concert will feature classical jazz, nev acoustic Americana blues and orchese tral music. \$16/\$12/\$8. March 11, 7:30 p.m.: Spring Festival, SFJAZZ Collective. "Celebrating the Music of McCoy Tyner." \$16/\$12/\$8. March 12, 8 p.m.; Spring Festival Victor Lemonte Wooten and J.D. Blair. "Two Minds, One Groove." Bassist Wooten is joined by drummer J.D. "The Groove Regulator" Blair. \$20/\$15. Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River

Road, Rosemont, Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or (312) 559 1212: the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. For more information about the theater call (847) 671-5100. May 19-20 and July 7: "An Evening with II Divo." \$55, \$85, \$125 and

"Shock-n-Roll Spooktacular," 9 p.m. March 6 at the Wyndham O'Hare, The Grand Ballroom, 6810 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont, Fashion Bomb will

presents "Sweets for Lovers" at 7:30 p.m. March 21 at the Music Institute of Chicago, Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston, Tickets: \$20: \$15 for senior citizens and students. Complimentary admission for breast cancer survivors, Call (773) 250-SING Skokie Theatre Music Foundation presents concerts in the Skokie The atre. 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call (847) 677-7761 or visit www.skokiethe atre.com. Concert tickets \$20 in advance: \$25 at the door unless noted otherwise, March 6-7, 8 p.m.: "Love in the Key of Ouch!" starring Skip Griparis. March 8, 2 p.m.: "Rosiel A Tribute to Rosemary Clooney," presented by Heather Moran. \$25 in advance: \$30 at the door. March 8, 8 p.m.: The Chicago Cossacks present a program of Russ ian, Cossack, Ukrainian and gypsy dances and songs. March 11, 1:30 p.m.: Forever Frank," presented by Peter Oprisko. \$10 in advance: \$15 at the door Seniors and Niles Township residents. \$10 in advance or at the door. March 13. 8 p.m.: Blues pianist Erwin Helfer, with John Brumbach, March 14. 8 p.m.: The Nitz & Howe Experience Prime Time Special, March 15, 2 n.m.:

"The Boys of Tin Pan Alley," starring Joan Curto, \$25 in advance: \$30 at the door. March 15, 8 p.m.: "Celtic Muse." starring Gillian Kelly March 18 1:30 p.m.: "Tribute to Nat King Cole." \$10 in advance: \$15 at the door. Seniors and Niles Township residents, \$10 in advance or at the door. March 20, 8 p.m. Three Troubadours - Jeff Libman, Brad Cole and Terry MacNamara, March 21, 8 p.m., and March 22, 2 p.m.: Ava Logan's Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald & Friends.

March 25, 1:30 p.m.: Music of the World. \$10 in advance: \$15 at the door, Seniors and Niles Township residents, \$10 in advance or at the door. March 27-28. 8 p.m.: Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues. \$25 in advance: \$30 at the door March 29 2 p.m.: "Gershwin's Greatest Hits" with Elaine Dame, April 1, 1:30 p.m.; Mu sic of the World. \$10 in advance: \$15 at the door. Seniors and Niles Township residents, \$10 in advance or at the door. April 3, 8 p.m.: Sons of the Neve Wrong, April 4, 8 p.m., and April 5, 2 p.m.: "This One's For You - The Songs of Barry Manilow" starring 3Girls3, \$25 in advance: \$30 at the door. April 5. 7:30 p.m.: Music of the World, starring Eddy Patay. April 8, 1:30 p.m.: Tribute to Nat King Cole, starring Marcus Gentry. \$10 in advance: \$15 at the door Senior: and Niles Township residents. \$10 in advance or at the door. April 15, 1:30 p.m.: Dean Martin Songbook. \$10 in advance: \$15 at the door. Seniors and Niles Township residents \$10 in advance or at the door. April 17, 8 p.m.: Chuck Salvo. April 18, 8 p.m.: West End Jazz Band. April 19, 2 p.m.: "Kate the Great: The Music and Times of Kate Smith." April 22, 1:30 p.m.: The Americ can Songbook. \$10 in advance: \$15 at the door. Seniors and Niles Township residents. \$10 in advance or at the door April 24. 8 p.m.: "Cole Porter Made Me Gay - Again," starring John Van Keulen. April 25, 8 p.m.: Charlene Brooks presents original arrangemen from George Gershwin and Stephen Sondheim April 26, 2 n.m.: Randy Sabi en and Mike Dowling. April 26, 7:30 Ensemble. April 29, 1:30 p.m.: "Come to the Cabaret," \$10 in advance: \$15 at the door Seniors and Niles Township resi-

Vocalist and recording artist Joan Curto will perform her onewoman concert, "The Boys of Tin Pan Alley," singing the music dents, \$10 in advance or at the door.

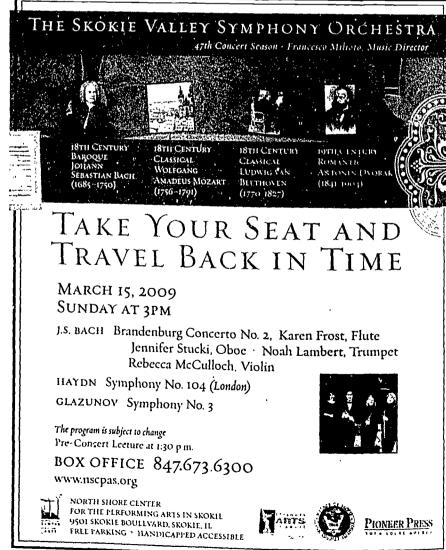
of the likes of Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, Harold Arien and George and Ira Gershwin at 2 p.m. March 15 at the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Tickets are \$25. Call (847) 677-7761 or

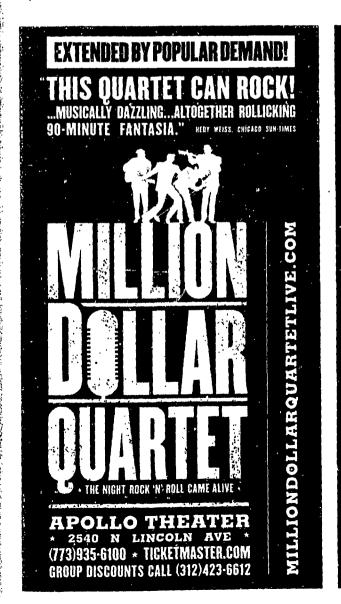
visit www.skokietheatre.org.

RESTAURANT 708-453-8100

go., PAGE B10









8349 W. LAWRENCE • NORRIDGE (at Lawrence & Cumberland)

Open Sun.-Thurs. 6:00 am -,12:00 Midnight., Fri. & Sat. 6:00 am - 1:00 am

Continued from PAGE B9

\$14 at the door. March 10, 8 p.m.: Tony

do Rosario and Paulinho Garcia's dou-

ble CD release party (jazz). \$10 in ad-

vance: \$12 at the door. March 11, 8 p.m.:

Vocal Brew: Teen Showcase. \$10 in ad-

(folk), \$16 in advance: \$20 at the door.

An Evening with Carrie Newcomer

vance: \$15 at the door. March 12, 8 p.m.:

S.P.A.C.E., 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. (847) 492-8860. p.m.: Richard Shindell (folk), \$18 in advance: \$22 at the door. March 7, 8 p.m.; Benefit for Hillels Around Chicago featuring Dave Specter (blues). \$85. March 9, 8 p.m.: WNUR presents Sic Alps with TV Ghost (indie rock), \$10 in advance;

\$22 at the door. March 15, 8 p.m.: California Guitar Trio with Andreas Kapsalis and Goran Ivanovic Guitar Duo (rock. blues, jazz). \$15 in advance; \$20 at the door. March 17, 8 p.m.; Keri Noble (soul) with Phil Rockrohr, \$10 in advance: \$12 at the door. March 18, 8 p.m.; Karan Casev with Kathleen Keane (folk/Irish). \$15 in advance: \$20 at the r. March 19, 8 p.m.: Mitch Lavin Accident (rock). \$10 in advance. March 20, 8 p.m.: Paul Cebar Tomorrow Sound with Pete Special (American roots), \$15 in advance: \$20 at the door. March 21, 8 p.m.: David Honeyboy Edwards (blues) with Aaron Moore. \$15 in advance; \$20 at the door March 24 8 p.m : Nervous But Excited with Actor Slash Model, \$5 in advance. March 26, 8 p.m.: Porter. Batiste and Stoltz of The Funky Meters (soul/R&B). \$20 in advance; \$25 at the

March 13, 8 p.m.: Theresa Andersson

with Cameron McGill. \$10 in advance:

door, March 28, 8 p.m.: Josh Hoge with Curtis Peoples and Ernie Halter (pop/rock). \$10 in advance.

ART GALLERIES

Block Museum of Art at Northwestern University, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, (847) 491-4000, www.block museum.porthwestern.edu. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays: 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday-Friday; noon-5 p.m. Salur days and Sundays. Admission to the museum is free; unless noted, admission to all programs is also free. Through April 5: "From Michelangelo to Annibale Carracci: A Century of Italian Drawings from the Prado." This exhibition of 70 drawings explores the work ing methods of the most important artists active in Italy from 1520-1620. March 12, 5 p.m.: David Rosand, Meve Schapiro Professor of Art History. Columbia University, will present "Things Never Seen: Graphic Fantasy and the Dreaming Draftsman." March 13, 10 a.m.·1 p.m.: Panel discussion on Renais sance drawing. Through April 5: "Polaroids: Mapplethorpe" exhibition, in the Alsdorf Gallery. The show brings together 100 works, including self-por traits, figure studies, still-lifes and portraits of friends and lovers. Some material may be inappropriate for

younger or more sensitive audiences. March 7, 2-4 p.m.: Panel discussion. "Robert Mapplethorpe: Artist and Activist." April 24-June 28: "Bare Witness Photographs by Gordon Parks." Gordon Parks (1912-2006) began working as a professional photographer in the 1940s, documenting the urban and rural poor in the United States for the Farm Security Administration and other organizations. He also served as a

Dittmar Memorial Gallery at Northwestern University's Norris Center. 1999 Campus Drive, Evanston. (847)

www.porris.porthwestern.edu/dittmar php. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-10 p.m. daily. Admission is free. Through March 17: "Ex Vivo: Out of the Living," paint ings by Eduardo De Soignie. March 30Chicago," featuring abstract largescale photographs of man-made structures in and around Chicago's Loop by Robert Logan, a 90-year-old Highland Park-based photographer. March 30-May 6: Jain Fraser, "missed places." dian-born architect and St. Louisbased artist Fraser will exhibit his three-dimensional steel, glass and concrete constructions. A reception for Robert Logan and Jain Fraser will be held from 6·8 p.m. April 3.

Evanston Art Center, 2603 Sheridan Road. (847) 475-5300. evanstonartcenter ord. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays: 1-4 p.m. Sundays. Through April 5: "WithOut Borders," an exhibition of works by artists of the global multiculture who are living and working in the Chicago area.

Gallery, 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago. (773) 282-7035. Gallery hours are 1-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Through March 29: "Irish Eyes." showcasing paintings and photography by Irish American Chicagoans, Artists include Pam Ryan, Mary McCloskey and Tom Joyce. Students of the Center's Tradi tional Celtic Art Class will also be included in the show.

coln Ave., Lincolnwood. Gallery hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, Contact Shirley Engelstein, fine arts coordinator, (847) 674-3806. Through April 30: "A Tribute to Hal Foster" by Sidney Mitchell Museum of the American In-

dian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, (847) 475-1030. www.mitchellmuseum.org Admission to events is included with an entrance donation to the Mitchell Museum. Suggested donation is \$5 for adults; \$2.50 for senior citizens, sludents and children. Maximum admission per family is \$10. Through March 29: "Inupiatscapes." mixed media drawings inspired by northern Alaska vistas. The exhibit of six letterbox format drawings is the first solo show for Jake Wilson, 39. who is of Inupiat descent. Through March 29: "The Power of Tradition." showcasing beadwork b Karen Ann Hoffman and Barbara Little Bear DeListe, and paintings by Towar-

Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. (847) 965-4220. March: "Visions in Photography by Morton Grove resident John Pete son, will be on exhibit in the Baxter

Oakton Community College, Koehnline Museum of Art, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines, (847) 635-2633, www.nai

ton.edu/museum. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday: 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays. Through March 27: Pastels Chicago," presented by the Chicago Pastel Painters. The juried ex-

A Pioneer Press Publication

hibition features 100 works represent

MUSICIANS

Canzonetta Youth String Chamber Or-

chestra, under the direction of Hilel

Kagan, is accepting new members for

March 21-22. Training Ensemble (ages

7-11) meets 1:30-2:30 p.m. Saturdays: In

meets 3-4:30 p.m. Sundays: Senior En-

semble (ages 13-18) meets 1-3 p.m. Sun

days. All practices are held at the Wil-

view Road, Wilmette, For auditions, cal

Na Mele Aloha Hawaiian music club

seeks musicians who play ukulele, up

right string bass, keyboards, flute and

violin. The group is open to all ages.

Thursdays at Oakton Community Col

Call Earl Essig. (847) 272-0762, or e-

mail earlessig@aol.com.

Rehearsals are held from 7-10 p.m.

mette Recreation Center, 3000 Glen-

Helia Schramm, (847) 328-0570.

termediate Ensemble (ages 10-14)

its spring season. Rehearsals begin

OPPORTUNITIES

Biornson Male Chorus invites male ing a diversity of visual styles and sub-546-2050. Normennenes Singing Society Male

Chorus invites male singers to join the group in singing American and Scandinavian selections throughout the year. except for the months of July and August. Rehearsals are held at 8 p.m. Tuesdays at the Estonian House in Lincoinshire, Call Thor Fiell, (630) 369-4233 or (630) 479-4233.

Des Plaines. The chorus presents three concerts of classical and popular mu-

SINGERS

North Shore Choral Society, a 120tions at 6:30 p.m. March 10 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3637 Golf Road, Evanston, Additional singers are need ed for a May 31 concert of works by Gabriel Faure, Sergie Rachmaninov and Morten Lauridsen. Contact Len Barker at (847) 272-2351 or lenobarker@com cast.net for an appointment. Re

hearsals are held from 7:30-10 p.m. Tuesdays at Trinity Lutheran Church. www.northshorechoral.org.

singers to join in four-part choral singing. They rehearse at 8 p.m. Thurs days in the Park Ridge VFW Hall, Higgins Road and Canfield Avenue, September-June, and sing American and Scandinavian selections at various locations. Call (847) 741-4210 or (847)

North Shore Harmonizers, an inde pendent women's barbershop chorus, invites women who love to sing a capnella four-part harmony to attend rehearsals at 7 p.m. Thursdays at St. Augustine's Church, 1140 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, All voice parts are welcome For information, call (312) 409-4215 or visit www.northshoreharmonizers.org. Northwest Choral Society seeks bass. tenor, alto or soprano singers with previous choral experience. Auditions will be held during rehearsals on Tuesday evenings, through March 24, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 855 Lee St.

tion. call (773) 504-3426 or visit

sic each season, including a holiday

concert, a winter concert and an early

summer concert. To schedule an audi

Artist applications are now available for the 24th annual Evanston Ethnic

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ARTISTS

19, and the 37th annual Evanston Lakeshore Arts Festival, which will take place Aug. 1-2. Both festivals are held at Dawes Park along Evanston's lakefront. The Ethnic Arts Festival is open to ethnic artists and art vendors the Lakeshore Arts Festival is open to fine artists selling their own original work. Deadline for submission of applications for the Lakeshore Arts Festi val is March 6. The Ethnic Arts Festival

(847) 448-8260 for information. Artists and craftspersons are invited to apply to participate in the 19th annual An Arts & Crafts Adventure, to be presented May 9 in Hodges Park. Prospect and Vine streets, Park Ridge

application deadline is April 6. Call

www.americansocietvofartists.org or call (847) 991-4748.

Call for artists for the Skokie Art Guild's 48th annual Art Fair, to be held July 11-12 on the Skokie Village Green. 5211 W. Oakton, Skokie. Prizes and awards. E-mail skokieart@aol.com or

MISCELLANEOUS

Morton Grove Public Library seeks entries for its annual writing contest. In honor of National Library Week, the library is sponsoring its fourth annual writing contest, with two categories. students in grades 7-12 and adults age 19 and up. The theme for 2009 is "Worlds Connect @ Your Library." Rules are: Maximum of 500 words: en tries must be printed legibly or typed on 8.5 x 11 inch paper; and the author's name, address, and age category must be printed on the back of the entry. Entries must be received in the library by 9 p.m. April 6. Winners will be announced April 13. For information, call

BENEFITS

Choral ensemble Bella Voce will hold a benefit at 3 p.m. March 8 at S.P.A.C.E.. 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. The after noon includes performances of works by Purcell and Handel, a silent auction and food and wine. Tickets: \$85: \$600 for a table of eight, Call (312) 479-1096 or visit www.bellavoce.org.

Holly Near in concert with emma's

revolution, 7 p.m. March 13 at the Unitarian Church of Evanston, 1330 Ridge lve.. Evanston. General admission is \$30: premier seating \$60. Proceeds will benefit the church and Open Lands. For tickets and information, call (847) 864-1330 or e-mail uce@ucevanston.org. Fundraiser Feast 2009, to benefit the Evanston Children's Choir, 5-7:30 p.m. March 20 in MacLeish Hall at Lake Street Church, 607 Lake St., Evanstor

"A wonderful script...the characters are strong

and interesting...the tale is well told. Delightful!"

children under 12. For tickets, contact Gary Geiger at (847) 733-0814 or nary@evanstonchildrenschoir.org. Reba McEntire and Red Steagall will

-Maureen O'Hara

Featuring an all-you-can-eat potluck

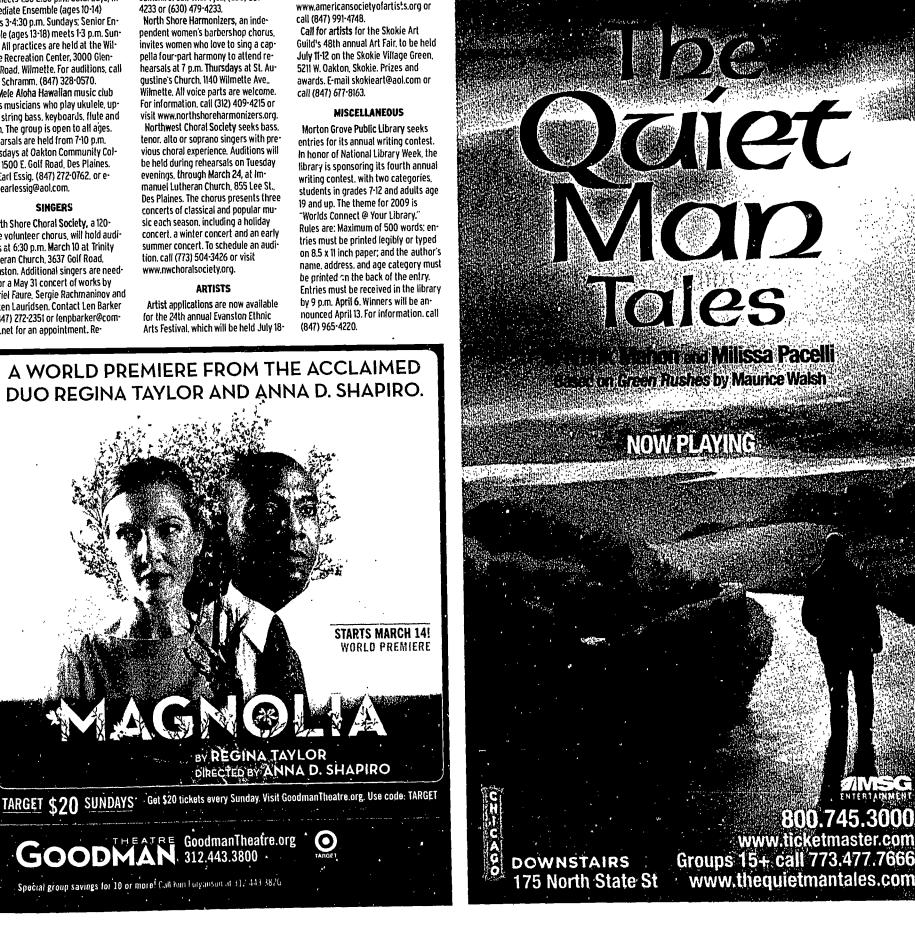
dinner with live music by the ECC Main

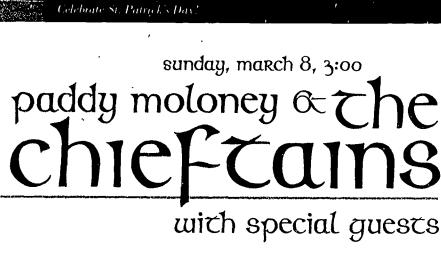
and Junior Choirs, a silent auction and

a raffle. Tickets: \$15; \$10 students and

seniors: \$5 for children 12-17: free for

go., PAGE B12







Celebrate St. Patrick's Day a little early with a rousing performance by the six-time Grammy® Award-winning Chieftains, Ireland's premier musical ambassadors. The Chieftains always know how to have a good time with their program of traditional Irish melodies, step dancing and spirited style.



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MARCH 20TH • 8PM









qo.

Continued from PAGE B11

orform a honofit concert at 7 n m

pay medical expenses for retired

Maine West High School wrestling

coach Richard Carlini, Tickets: \$62-

\$202. Visit www.ticketmaster.com.or

ner will be held at 5:30 n m. April 28 at

the Exmoor Country Club. 700 Vine St.

Highland Park The evening includes a

silent auction, dinner, performance by

the Magical Strings of Youth, and the

presentation of the Ars Viva 2009

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Kuhnke, director of the Betty Haao

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(847) 675-6790

Academy. \$175 per person. To make a

"Dancing the Oream II: Kazuaria " 7

p.m. April 30 at the North Shore Center

for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie

Blvd . Skokie. The Hadassah fundraise

viil feature the Israeli dance company

March 21 at Sears Centre, located in the



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MARCH 13-17

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Patio Open - Weather Permitting www.hubs-restaurant.com

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CARRY-OUT SPECIAL 8 Tacos Rice & Beans

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Party Room Available

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CHILD'S PLAY

Centre East in the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd Skokie (847) 673-6300 www.centreeast.org. April 19, 1 and 3 p.m.: Junie B. Jones \$18.

Prairie Stone Complex on Interstate 90 Evanston Children's Theatre will between the 1-59 and Beverly Road ex stage "Thar's Gold in Them Thar its. Hoffman Estates. Proceeds will help Clothes" at 7 p.m. March 27: 3 and 7 p.m. March 28; and 3 p.m. March 29 at the Levy Center 300 Ondge Ave. Evansion, Tickets are \$6 through March 6; \$8 thereafter. Call (847) 448-"A Magical Evening," the annual Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra benefit din-

Light Opera Works is currently taking enrollment for its 2009 Musical Theater Summer Workshop, Students ages 8-15 will learn singing, duncing and acting in preparation for a public performance in a mini-musical. Four sena rate one-week workshops will be offered based on a bit musical Fach workshop meets from 9:30 a m -3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, with a finat dress rehearsal at 1 o.m. Saturday ollowed by the performance at 4 p.m. This year's workshops are Oisney's "Beauty and the Beast." July 6-11: "An nie." July 13-18: "The Music Man." July 20-25: "Bye 8ye Birdie." July 27-Aug. 1 There are no auditions for roles and every child enrolled in the workshop gets a part. Classes are held in Evanston. The fee is \$350 per student

per workshop. Register online at

www.LightOperaWorks.com.or.cal

Mitchell Museum of the American In

dian, 3001 Central St., Evanston. (847)

Suggested donation is \$5 adults: \$2.50

senior citizens, students and children

family is \$10. Kids Craft Mornings are

offered from 10:30 a.m.-noon, Museum

staffers and volunteers lead informal

workshops where children learn to

construct simple versions of tradition

al Native American objects and engage

in other hands on activities related to

native culture. Admission is included

with an entrance donation to the mu

seum. Kids Craft Workshops are recom-

mended for children ages 5 and up, but

Maximum suggested admission per

475-1030, www.mitchellmuseum.org

(847) 869-6300.

BOOKS & POETRY

Ranana Raz Tickets: \$36 Visit

www.chicago.hadassah.org.or.call

Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, (773) 282-7035. www.irishamhc.com. Great Irish American Books and Authors book discussion group meets at 2 p.m. the second Sunday of the month unless noted otherwise. The discussion is led by Virginia Gibbons, a teacher at Oakton ommunity College March 8: The Poor *Mouth* by Flann O[°]Brier

Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lin coln Ave. (847) 965:4220, March 19 10 a.m: Discussion of March by Geraldine Brooks, March 24, 7 pm: Discussion of Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston March 29, 3 pm Disthere is no minimum age requirement Participants must be accompanied by an adult. No pre-registration is neces sary. March 28: Northwest Coast but Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lin

coln Ave. (847) 965-4220 March 6 45 p.m.: Drama Club for ages 6 12 March 7, 10 a.m.: Moovin' and Groovin' for ages 2-4. Includes music, dancing. narching. musical instruments, parachute games and creative movement March 10, 6:30 p.m.; Fancy Nancy Party. for ages 3-8. includes stories, songs, activities and hors d'oeuvres. March 13. 4 p.m.: Kids Flicks presents "Beyerly ills Chihuahua," rated G. March 14, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Crafty Saturday drop-in program. March 14. 3 p.m.: Beads for Teens and Chainmaille Jewelry. Supplies and instruction will be provided For grades 7-12. March 15, 2 pm · Honors Performing Arts Showcase March 21 and April 18, 10 a.m.: "Saturday Shorts," video adaptations of award winning classic childrens picture

Funny Magic North Shore Cance Center 8401 Craw ford Ave., Skokie. (847) 674-2216. www.northshoredancecenter.com. Salurdays, 11:50 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: Story Time Yoga for ages 3-7: parents welcome \$260 for 20 weeks.

Northlight Theatre Academy, at the

books. Recommended for ages 3.8.

March 29. 2 p.m.: Denis DeBondt: Very

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, (847) 679-9501. www.northlight.org. Offering summer performing arts camps for students in grades 3-10; registration is in progress. Camps include Junior Camp for grades 3-6. June 15-July 10 and July 14-Aug. 7, featuring acting. improvisation and musical theatre as well a swimming and field trips to Chicago area theatres, Senior Camp for grades 7-10. June 15-July 10 and July 14-Aug. 7. featuring ensemble-based acting, playwriting, comedy and improvisation, musical theatre and aud tion technique. Audition Workshop for grades 8-10. July 14-Aug. 7.

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847-931-5900

www.hemmens.org

ROGER MCGUINN

Saturday, March 21

8:00 p.m.

US Beer Company, 1801 N. Clybourn Oakton Community College, 1600 E Ave., Chicago. (773) 871-7799. March 21, Golf Road, Oes Plaines. (847) 635:1900 8:30-10 p.m.: Skokie resident Oebbie March 21, 10 a.m.: Family entertainer Sue Goodman presents a comedy per Jim Gill performs. Tickets are \$4: \$5 a formance based on her books. Still Single and Still Dating. \$5.

and \$49.50

PERFORMANCES

A Pioneer Press Publication

"The Princess and the Pea." present

ed by Chicago Kids Company at 10:30

a.m. through March 9-11 at the Stahl

Family Theatre, 5900 W. Belmont Ave

Chicago. \$10. Call (773) 205-9600 or

www.evanstonspace.com. April 19, 11

a.m.: Justin Roberts. \$15 in advance.

Take Two Children's Theatre will pres

ent Disney's "Cinderella Kids" at 7 p.m

March 6, and 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. March 7

at the Village of Morton Grove Ameri-

can Legion Civic Center, 6140 Demoste

and senior citizens: free for children 3

and under Call (847) 674-2216 or visit

Centre Fast in the North Shore Center

for the Performing Arts 9501 Skokie

Rivd Skokie (847) 673-6300, www.cen-

treeast.org. April 21-23, 7:30 p.m.: Jack-

O'Hare, 5300 N. River Road. Rosemont.

Saturdays in the Montrose Room, Tick

ets: \$21 at www.tickmaster.com or by

For information, visit www.comedvs

portzchicago.com, March 13: "Un-Tied,

8 n.m. every other Friday for an open

run. Tickets are \$15 and can be pur-

chased at www.ticketmaster.com or

Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River

Road, Rosemont, Tickets are available

at www.ticketmaster.com.or (312) 559-

1212: the ticket prices listed below do

not include service fees. For more in-

formation about the theater, call (847

671-5100. March 27. 8 p.m.: Robin

Williams: "Weapons of Self-Oestruc-

tion" comedy tour. Tickets: \$95, \$75

mprov by Annoyance Theatre, opens.

Parformances in the Montrose Room at

calling (800) 745-3000: \$30 at the door.

March 7-April 25: ComedySportz, 8 p.m.

Hotel Intercontinental Chicago

www.northshoredancecenter.com.

St. Admission is \$10: \$8 for students

(847) 492-8860.

COMEDY

ie Mason, \$72.

(312) 559-1212.

S.P.A.C.E., 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston.

Oance Program faculty choreogra-

phers and guest artists. Performances

at 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Satur-

day: and 2 n.m. Sunday Tickets: \$20:

\$18 for senior citizens and Northwest

ern faculty and staff: \$10 for students

and children. March 7, 10 a.m.: "Jump

Rhythm Technique and the Language

of Rhythm." The Emmy Award-winning

Jump Rhythm Jazz Project will presen

mont Theatre, 5400 N. River

Road. Rosemont. Tickets are available

al www.ticketmaster.com or (312) 559

1212: the ticket prices listed below do

not include service fees. For more in-

formation about the theater, call (847)

671-5100. March 19-22: "Riverdance" a

celebration of Irish music, song and

Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday: 2 and 8 p.m.

Saturday: and 2 p.m. Sunday, Tickets:

GROUPS & LESSONS

Chicago Oance Club. (847) 622-4466.

Dance to DJ music from the '50s to

today from 7:30-11:30 n.m. Saturdays

at American Legion Hall, 9757 Pacific

ing, some ballroom. Latin and line

Ave., Franklin Park, Mostly swing danc-

dancing. Open to ages 21 and older, \$5

members: \$10 nonmembers. Member-

The Chicagoland Chapter of USA

Dance, the national organization rep-

resenting amateur ballroom dancers.

dancing begins at 8:15 p.m. Admission:

college students with IO. Oance music

Lesson begins at 7:30 p.m.; general

\$8 members: \$10 nonmembers: \$6

dances. Partners not required - sin-

gles welcome. Beginning dancers en

couraged. Call (847) 577-9014 or visit

www.usadancechicago.org, March 14

Shamrock Shuffle at The Centre at

North Park, 10040 Addison, Franklin

Park. Quickstep lesson from 7:30-8:15

for all swing. Latin and ballroom

ship fee \$25. Upcoming dates are

March 28

dance. Performances at 7:30 p.m.

an audience-interactive lecture-

demonstration on rhythm. \$5.

"Alice in Wonderland," presented by the Evanston Dance Ensemble at 7 p.m. March 6: 2 and 7 p.m. March 7: and 2 p.m. March 8 at The North Shore Cener for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skok ie Blvd., Skokie. Tickets: \$21: \$15 for children students and senior citizens Premium seats are available for \$25: \$20 for children, Call (847) 673-6300. Centre East in the North Shore Cente for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd. Skokie. (847) 673-6300. www.centreeast.org. April 18, 8 p.m.: River North Chicago Dance Company, \$46. rish American Heritage Center. 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, (773) 282-7035. www.irishamhc.com. March 13, 7 p.m.: Irish Oance Chicago, an Irish step dance concert featuring Springad Darnhsa Irish Dancers, the Trinity Irish

Itish Oanring and special musical

with a paying adult.

Oancers, the O'Hare School of Irish Dance, the Mullane Healy O'Brien Irish Oance Academy, the World Academy of quests and the Academy of Irish Music. Tickets: \$10; free for children under 12 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, First lessor Northwestern University, Josephine

Louis Theater. 20 Arts Circle Orive. The Trinity Academy of Irish Oance Evanston, Through March 8: "Danceworks 2009." The program will feature tap, jazz, ballet, modern and contemporary dance forms by Northwester

Participants will learn the hasics of Irish dance, including proper techniques of movement set to the rhythm of Irish music. Fach session American Heritage Center 4626 N shirt. Registration is in progress: cal

Irish American Heritage Center, 4626

www.irishamhc.com. St. Patrick's Oay events include March 13, 7 n.m.: Irish Oance Chicago, a dance concert featuring Trinity Irish Oancers, Spriorad Oamhsa and the Academy of Irish Oance, Tickets: \$10: free for children contemporary Irish music, dance food and children's activities. Performers include The Irish Heritage Singers, Tim O'Shea and Stephen Car gan Stew, the Oooley Brothers and others. Tickets: \$15: \$12 if purchased free with a paying adult, March 17. noon-midnight: St. Patrick's Day Cele bration in the center's Fifth Province Lounge. Activities include frish dancing, traditional and modern Irish mu sic and food. Live entertainment in cludes: Tim O'Shea and Stephen Car roll. The Chancey Brothers, Barry Fagan's Rand and the Matt Stedman Band. \$10 at the door.

Kristine's Dance Party, 7:30-11 p.m Thursdays at the Park Ridge VFW, 10 W Higgins Road, Park Ridge, Open to singles and couples. Nightclub, swing iitterbug, salsa, hustle, cha cha, fox trot and and other music provided by a O.J. \$5 cover: cash bar. (773) 482www.kristinesdanceparty.com.

Prairie Lakes Senior Center, 515 F. Thacker, Oes Plaines, For information call (847) 825-2901 or (847) 825-6637 March 20, 8-10:30 p.m.: Alice Lowy will host ballroom dancing to live music \$25 per couple at the door, March 28, 8-10:30 n m · Alice I nwy will host hallroom dancing to taced music. \$15 per couple at the door.

Spares Sunday Evening Club holds ballroom dances from 7:30-10:30 p.m. at the American Legion. 9757 Pacific Ave., Franklin Park, Admission is \$8 members: \$9 quests, March 16: Mu sic by The Music Men

Square Spares & Pairs Square Oance Club. a club for couples and singles. dances the second and fourth Mondays of the month all year long at the Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. West ern Ave., Park Ridge, Rounds start at 7:30 p.m., with squares from 8-10 p.m. For information, call (773) 775-9427 or (708) 442-8646. March 9: "Wild West" (western wear). March 23: "Spring Fling." Square dance lessons are held from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Glen Park Center, Room 201, 2400

offers a new summer program. Taste of Trinity. Each six-class workshop is designed to introduce boys and girls ages 4-12 to the world of Irish dance. will conclude with a 15-minute special performance for family and friends. No previous dance experience is nec essary. Sessions will be held **June 16** July 2 and July 21-Aug. 6 at the Irish Knox, Chicago, Cost per six-class ses sion is \$95, which includes a Trinity 1 (773) 529-4822. ext. 35, or e-mail cyn this oblein@frinitydance.com For in-

FAIRS & FESTIVALS

formation, visit www.trinitvirish-

dancers.com.

Spring Bead Bazaar, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. March 8 at the Hilton Garden Inn. 1819 Maple Ave., Evanston, Admission \$3. Call (847) 328-4040 or visit

N. Knox Ave., Chicago, (773) 282-7035. under 12 March 14 1 n m -midnight: St Patrick's Festival. The family-oriented annual event includes traditional and roll the Shannor, Rovers, Anish, Mulliby March 13. Children 12 and under are

Polish Faster Cultural Day, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. March 28 in the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Social Hall 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, The event includes folk art projects and Polish cuisine, \$20: \$15 for children ages 7-15. (773) 782-2600 or www.prcua.org.

FILM

Ethical Humanist Society of Chicago, 7574 N. Lincoln, Skokie. March 8, 10:30 a.m.: Screening of "Never Turning Back The World of Peggy Lipshutz." the story of artist and political activist Peggy Linsbutz, \$10.

www.neverturninghack.net. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave (847) 965-4220, March 10. 11:30 a.m.: "Stories of the American Puppet," a documentary chronicling the evolution of the art form. March 19 2 and 7 p.m.: "Nights in Rodanthe." rated PG-13, March 24, 11:30 a.m.: "Hawaiian Paradise. Part 1." March 27, 2 p.m. "Mildred Pierce," starring Joan Craw ford, March 28, 2 p.m.; "The Shawshan Redemption," rated R. March 31, 11:30 a m. "Hawaiian Paradise, Part 2."

LECTURES

Irish American Heritage Center. 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago. (773) 282-7035 www.irishamhc.com. The Irish Heritage Library Lecture series; \$8 per lecture with a reception following each event. March 8. 2 p.m.: Mary Pat Kelly will discuss her book, Galwai

will address the state of publishing Bay. She will be joined by singer Catherine O'Connell, who will perform today and alternatives to the big pubsongs from County Galway fishing houses. Danielle Chanman, di rector of the City of Chicago's new Publishing Industry Programs, will

Morton Grove Public Library 6140 Lincoln Ave. (847) 965-4220. March 17. 11:30 a.m.: Music historian Jack Diamond presents a biography of Irist tenor Oennis Oav.

ORGANIZATIONS

Des Plaines Art Guild meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Prairie Lakes Community Cer ter, 515 Thacker St., Des Plaines, New members are welcome. For informa tion, call Margaret Newman, (847) 924-8952, or visit www.dpag.org. March 10: Carolyn Griffin will present pastel demonstration. Midwest Writers Association invites

all current and potential authors to its March 18 dinner program at Mc-Cormick & Schmick's Seafood Restau rant, on the northeast corner of the Old Orchard Shopping Center. Skokie. Sharon Woodhouse of Lake Claremoni Press and Jim Kenler of Adams Press

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member, TaRon Patton

representatives are welcome. For in formation call (847) 674-1500, ext 2715 or visit www.SkokieCultureFest.org. talk about the many book and period-& CLASSES ical publications based in the Chicago area and her department's program

MUDECHUDS

THEATER

Broadway Dreams Foundation's Triple Threat Extreme, acting/vocal perform ance/theatre dance workshops for ages 8-adult, 9:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. March 29 at Gus Giordano Dance School, 614 Oavis St., Evanston, Three classes for \$225 or \$95 per class. To register, e-mail Annette@mybroad waydreams.com: for information, call (847) 910-9946

MISCELLANEOUS

Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago. (773) 282-7035. www.irishamhc.com. April 25. 9 a.m.-4 n m · In celebration of National Li-

go., PAGE B15

ROAST SUCKLING PIG FEB. 27 - MARCH 8

ming. Networking at 6 p.m., dinner a

members: \$25 nonmembers, Reserva-

ceived by March 13, RSVP to Ada Kahr

adapkahn@aol.com, or Janis Guggen

Skokie Art Guild meets at the Skokie

Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Visitors

welcome. For information, e-mail Ina-

Marlowe@gmail.com, March 24, 7 p.m

Jessica Fine, pastel from a photo.

Skokie Festival of Cultures organiz

ing committee meets at 7 p.m. the

second Monday of the month at the

Oakton Community Center. 4701 Oak

ton St., Skokie, November through

weeks until the festival, to be held

February, and then every one to two

May 15-16. New members and cultura

6:30 p.m., program at 7:30 p.m. \$20

tions are required and must be re-

heim, guggiel@shcglobal.net.

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brary Week, the Irish American Her-

itage Center Library will host the In ternational Women's Writing Guild for a day-long women's writing workshon "A Writing Life/A Creative Life:

The Importance of Words," taught by Susan M. Tiberghien. Fee is \$80 for International Women's Writing Guild members: \$95 for nonmembers. A \$25 nonrefundable deposit is required. To register, call (773) 282-7035, ext. 19. Oakton Community College offers Alliance for Lifelong Learning classes. For information or registration visit www.paklon.edu/all or call (847) 982 9888, press 3, Digital Photography

EHDS MARGH 29, 2009

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(ART CO4-02), a two-week course meets 6-8 p.m., Mondays, starting March 9. at Evanston Townshin Hin School, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, Course fee is \$50.

Oakton Community College Emeritus Program offers courses at its Skokie campus, 7701 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie. For information, cali (847) 635-1414 of visit www.oakton.edu/emeritus.The Cozies - British Lady Mystery Writers

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meets 3-4:30 p.m. Tuesdays, starting March 10. Course fee is \$60. Sketch ing. Painting with Watercolor and Acrylic (ART D07-71) meets from 1-3 p.m. Wednesdays, starting March 18. Sirens: The Great Temotresses of Opera (MUS CO4-71) features video and audio excerpts, as well as biogra phical details about the composers.

(HIIM R51-71) a four-week course

MAN

ET CETERA

Grossinger Scion, 7225 N. Cicero Ave. Lincolnwood www.grossingernorth scion.com. March 7: "Bringin' Down The House 2009," the dealer's third annua import and custom car show. Roll-in starts at 8 p.m. All import vehicles can compete Pre-register by calling (847)

Fridays starting March 20, Fee is \$100.

745-4398. Registration will also be available day of event. There will als be food and beverages, music by a DJ break dancing competition, and a raf fle Free admission.

Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave. Skokie, (847) 677-7761, www.skokiethe atre.com. March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2 p.m.: Cirque Da Uno, featuring magic, jugaling numnetry ventriloquism and

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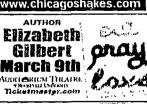


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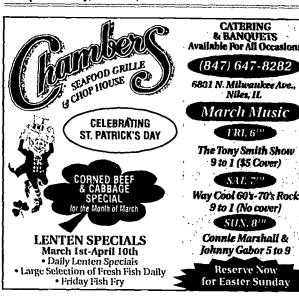
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Answers: Inside today's classified section

Death Notices

Bartnick, Richard V.

A Pioneer Press Publication (DC)

Richard V. Bartnick, age 81, belaved husband of the late Betty L.; laving father of Deboroh (Thomas) Hermes, Larry V. and the late Karen; dear grandfather of Hannah and Evan Hermes; devoted brather of the late Walter, Arthur and Leanard; fand brother-in-law of Emma; dearest uncle of Sue, Denise, Renee and Katle; caring companian of Carol Clemmans and her laving family. Funeral was held Wednesday, February 18. Interment All Saints Cemetery. In lieu of flawers, memorials to the American Cancer Society or the Veterans of Fareign Wars Faundation. Sign Guestbook at legacy-pioneerlocal.com

Heinz, Timothy J.
Timothy J. Heinz, age 44, passed away on
February 28, in Marinette, Wisc. He was a
Park Ridge resident. He is survived by his wife Jeannie (nee Guillem); ane son Nichalas; parents Jahn & Barbara (nee Dorer) Heinz; in-laws Ted and Betty Guillem; one sister Christine (Jahn) Alfirevich; two nephews, John and Joseph Alfirevich; ane niece Olivia Alfirevich Funeral mass was held Wednesday, March 4, at St. Paul of the Cross Church. Interment fallowed in All Soints Cemetery. Visitation was held Tuesday at the Ryan-Parke Funeral Hame, 120 S. Narthwest Hwy., Park

Ridge. Sign Guesthook at legacy-pioneerlocal.com

Perry, Alvin F. "Al"

Perry, Alvin F. "Al"

Alvin F. "Al" Perry, farmer langtime resident of Park Ridge, passed away February 21, 2009 in the Rainbow Hospice Ark, Park Ridge. Beloved husband af Fredette "Freddy" (nee) Brunner; laving father of Joe, Sue, Deanna (Rick) Dreyer, David (Shannan), Kathy, Bruce, Chris (Doris) and Jon (Desiree); dear grandfather of 12; greatgrandfather of ane. Graduate of Calumet High School and DePaul University. Active member of Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, current sales agent for McLennan Church, current sales agent for McLennan Commercial Properties in Park Ridge, former Vice President of IVEX Packaging. 1975 President of District 64 School Baard. member of the Park Ridge Uptown Advisory Committee, member of Highland School District Board, coached in the Park Ridge Baseball Pragram far 12 years. Visitatian was held Wednesday, February 25 at Ryan-Parke Funeral Hame, 120 S. Northwest Hwy., Park Ridge. Interment private. Memarial Service Thursday, February 26, 7 p.m. at Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, 1300 S. Crescent Ave., Park Ridge, IL 60068. Memorials in lieu of flowers to Park Ridge Presbyterian Church Music Fund ar Rainbaw Haspice Ark, 444 N. Narthwest Hwy., Park Ridge IL 60068 are appreciated. Funeral info (847) 823-1171. Sign Guestbook at legacy pioneerlocal.com

Steinfels, Margaret Hollahan Margaret Hallahan Steinfels af Park Ridge, age 97, died peacefully at home February 18, 2009. She was the belaved wife of the late Melville P.; loving mather of James (Jaan Mattingly), Peter (Peggy), Jane Hussain and Martin Steinfels; grandmather of 16; great-grandmather of three; sister of Daro-thy Hollahan, BVM, Helen McGrath, Patri-Cia Judge, the late James Hallahan, the late Frank Hallahan, the late Marija Schneider and the late Catherine Hollahan. Funeral Mass was Monday, February 23 at Mary, Seat of Wisdam Church, and interment at All

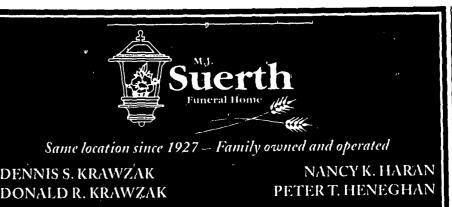
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DARTMOOR HOMES

Customization made easy at Coventry Creek Estates

By Marcy Marro

SPECIAL TO THE SUN-TIMES NEWS GROUP

t Coventry Creek Estates, a master-planned single-family home community in Lake Zurich, homebuyers have the opportunity to customize any of its available floor plans. Dartmoor's high-end ranch and two-story floor plans automatically include three-car garages, fireplaces, air conditioning and full basements. Located in Stevenson High School District 125, buyers will find 2,446 to 5,062 square feet of luxury homes base priced from \$694,900 to \$779,900.

Coventry Creek Estates features eight fully cus-

tomizable plans that can be finished with optional features, including skylights, additional volume ceilings, oversize custom millwork, home theater/music systems, wood decks, in-ground sprinkler system, finished basements and more.

"Over the years we have accommodated families who wanted sunrooms, dedicated home theater rooms, wine cellars, exercise rooms, billiard parlors and more," said Pat Taylor, president of Dartmoor Homes. "If people want custom millwork, exotic hardwood flooring, imported granite or marble, or any other high-quality material, we have the craftsmen and suppliers on hand to make the dream a reality."

The luxury homes include 9-foot first-floor ceilings, volume ceilings, three-car garages, basements, custom cabinetry, Bosch kitchen appliances, Kohler bath fixtures/faucets, and much more.



Dartmoor Homes has constructed a wine-tasting cellar and a billiard room with custom bar in one of Its professionally decorated two-story models. Homes at Coventry Creek Estates in Lake Zurich provide 2,446 to 5,062 square feet of living space and are base priced from \$694,900 to \$779,900.

The decorated model/sales center for Coventry Creek Estates is open daily from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment. For more information, call 847-726-3600 or visit www.mydartmoorhome.com.

Find out more! Visit the developer online at www.mydartmoorhome.com

un inside un

Alterations? Ask away

Buyers of Gerstad Builders homes can request expanded plans, rearrange layouts and more.

Page 2

Some Cook County property owners might be hit with higher taxes



come this summer's assessment. Read **Don** DeBat, Page 2

Rock Creek Homes

knows how to accommodate a family's desire for a customized specialty room.

Page 5

an online and

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Gerstad makes customization easy

By Marcy Marro

SPECIAL TO SUN-TIMES NEWS GROUP

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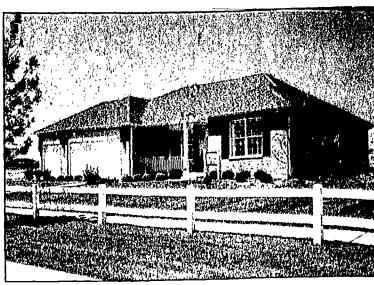
er's imagination and his financial budget." met both parties' lifestyles."

According to Roger Gerstad, president of expand the foundation for more space to ac- with Islands (per plan), breakfast areas, living the company. "The buyer of a 1,560-square- commodate a private in-law suite," Gerstad rooms, family rooms, formal dining rooms, dens foot ranch home for \$169,990 can request as said, "Thus we had to take into consideration (per plan), master-bedroom sultes and atmany alterations and changes as a family conthe privacy issues that are so important in tached two-car garages.

structing a 3,177-square-foot two-story home for \$330,000. The only limit is the homebuy-dertaking and then design a floor plan that

Buyers of a Gerstad Builders home at Gerstad Builders can handle small things Decorated models are open daily or by

Gerstad Builders create homes that include de-"We have had a number of families request the total rearrangement of interior walls and two or two-and-a-half baths, spacious kitchens



Real estate taxes may skyrocket as values fall in reassessment

s if Chicago homeowners didn't have enough to worry about amid the deepest housing recession in nearly 30 years, hundreds of thousands of property owners are scheduled for real estate tax assessment this summer as part Cook County's triennial reassessment.

"Even though most home resale values generally are lower because of the recession and the home-foreclosure crisis, homeowners may be hit with assessment increases with the 2009 reassessment in Chicago," noted Michael Griffin, a real estate tax appeal attorney. "The lucky ones will see their assessments stay-

The assessor's office reassesses the value of each of the 1.5 million parcels of property in Cook County every three years. through a "mass appraisal system," which compares each prop- are saying, "I'm mad as hell and I erty to similar properties in a given area.

rotating basis among three regions of Cook County: north suburbs, south suburbs, and the city of Chicago. This year, it's the city's turn.

Any 2009 reassessment hike issued by the assessor this summer will not be reflected on the oberty owners tax bill until the

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2009 second installment, which will be payable in August or Sep-

tember of 2010. Increased real estate tax reassessment generally means higher property taxes, but the relationship, or ratio, is not one to

one. An assessment increase does not equal the same percentage increase in taxes, experts Chicago and Cook County homeowners who have been battered with skyrocketing real

estate tax bills in recent years won't take it any more," as actor Peter Finch famously said in the 1976 movie, "Network." Cook County Assessor James Houlihan said he is eager to

make assessment "factor adjustments," based on the consumer price index and other real estate indicators. However, such a move may require an additional appropriation from the Cook. County Board or approval from

All Credit Considered!

the Illinois General Assembly.

Chicago-area real estate appraisers and some Realtors are estimating actual depreciation of over assessed is checking the asels, a decrease in value of nearly 50 percent by some estimates.

ers of smaller apartment properties have been hammered with higher taxes, experts say. Here

tax bill for a three-flat was percent increase in taxes over

\$7,575 in 2007 from \$5,800 in ceived a 2008 first installment

■ North Lincoln Square. The tax bill on this yellow brick fiveunit jumped nearly 27 percent to \$6,800 in 2007 from \$5,368 in 2003. The owner just received a 2008 first installment bill of

So what's a hapless property owner to do to put a leash on, these runaway real estate assess-

Meanwhile, "Ma and Pa" own-

are some examples: Old Town. The real estate \$16,400 in 2007. The owner just received a first installment bill for 2008 of \$8,232 due March 3. The 2002 tax bill for property was \$12,200. That's nearly a 35

■ East Logan Square. The tax bill for a four-flat gray stone shot up more than 30 percent to 2002. The owners recently rebill of \$4,150.

ment and tax hikes?

The first step in ascertaining whether or not your property is real estate values to pre-2000 lev-sessed valuation of properties similar to your own in your neighborhood. Visit the assessor's Web site, www.cookcountyassessor.com, or call

312-443-7550. If you feel you have grounds for a reduction, file an appeal online appeal at the assessor's Web site. Or call Michael Griffin, a professional tax assessment lawyer, at 312-943-1789. Griffin says there are three key grounds for an assessment reduction:

■ Assessor's error. If you can prove the assessor made an error in the description of your property, you can win a reduction. However, the error must have an impact on the estimated market value of your home.

A uniformity complaint. This means your home's assessment is not in line with the assessed, valuation of other similar houses in your neighborhood. A homeowner should find at least three examples of similar homes with lower assessments than theirs.

■ Evaluations approach. Homeowners must file a complaint and submit recent closing statement for your home or purchase prices of homes similar to yours

to show that the assessed value is greater than 10 percent of the

purchase price. If an initial appeal doesn't lower the assessed value, there are three other appeal options: the Taxpayer Advocate in the assessor's office, the Cook County Board of Review (312-603-5542),

and the Property Tax Appeals Board (217-785-6076). Griffin advises homeowners in recently assessed neighborhoods to carefully look at the assessor's estimate of your property's market value. "Ask yourself, 'Is it fair?'"

Griffin said.

Today's

NORTH EDITION is produced by Fox Vailey Publications, 495 North Commons Drive, Suite 200, Aurora, Illinois.

Editorial

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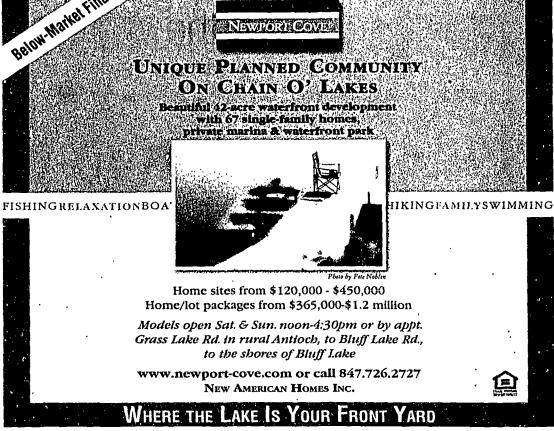
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Monthly Paymer \$945.15 \$926,53 5.58% \$1,298,80 \$2,856,19

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LAKEWOOD PRAIRIE IN JOLIET Country Homes from \$179,990 Single-family Classic Homes from \$233,990, including basement Single-family Executive Homes from \$259,990, including basemer Clubhouse, tennis, swimming pool, sand volleyball
 Take Rt. 59 south to Caton Farm Road. West 4 miles to Ridge Road. South 1 mile to Sales Center. (815) 439-5777

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Village Homes from \$159,990

Single-family Classic Homes from \$219,990, including basement

Single-family Executive Homes from \$276,990, including basement

Clubhouse, tennis, swimming pool, sand volleyball
 Take I-90 to Rt. 47. South to Big Timber Road. West (right) to Sales Center.

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most walkable city in the nation, door parking is available starting according to the Web site www. at \$65,000. walkscore.com. The site ranked the nation's 40 largest cities and stated elegance that would make

the economic strain of conges- neighborhood." tion on the Chicago region. It found that the average commuter wasted \$14.75 an hour, or Not far behind, with a score \$1,580 a year, sitting in traffic, of 98, Library Tower, on the corwhile the toll on the six-county ner of State Street and Congress

Today's **New Homes**

Four properties score high marks

for walking-conscious homebuyers

Add "city of long strides" to the oversized balconies. Prices list of Chicago's monikers, as it range from \$550,000 to \$2.6 mil-

was recently named the fourth lion and climate-controlled, in-

but also theirs.

Ten East Delaware

Street. In addition, the develop- delivery. ment's close proximity to the a quick commute to work.

room floor plans ranging from Lennar's Chicago region. 845 to 3,095 square feet. Residences will include 1½ to three Printers Corner baths, 9- to 10-foot ceilings and

their neighborhoods based on the building right at home on the their pedestrian friendliness. Just streets of Paris," said Michael W. ahead of Chicago were San Fran-Reschke, CEO and chairman of cisco, New York and Boston. The Prime Group, Inc., devel-A local advocate, the Metro-oper of Ten East Delaware. "And politan Planning Council, also not unlike a Parisian residence, released a recent study detailing it is located in a highly walkable

Library Tower

region was as high as \$7.3 bil- Parkway, sits in the middle of lion, twice the original esti-downtown Chicago's cultural and outdoor attractions. Harold Not coincidentally, many Washington Library and the homebuyers have taken walk- Auditorium Theatre are a ability increasingly into account stone's throw away; the Art Inwhile shopping for a home. Stitute, Symphony Center and Among their choices, the follow-Chicago Architecture Foundaing new communities have tion are a short walk; and Grant topped not only Walk Score's list, Park and the Lakefront Trail are only a few blocks east on Con-

Developed by Lennar, Library With a perfect walk score of Tower offers floor plans of one to 100 - also dubbed a "walker's three bedrooms with 11/2 to 21/2 paradise"—Ten East Delaware, baths, ranging in size from 905 in the heart of the Gold Coast to 2,130 square feet. Residences neighborhood, is footsteps away are priced from the high from the designer boutiques of \$200,000s to the mid \$800.000s.

"This building offers one of proximity to the urban campus- Printers Corner. Loop will provide residents with the city's best locations - one of es of DePaul University, Columthe few addresses in which the bia College and Roosevelt transportation around Printers Designed by renowned archi- city's front yard, Grant Park, University makes it a prime spot tect Lucien Lagrange, the 35- practically becomes your own for graduate students, while the story boutique building will front yard," said Michelle Wil- restaurants and shops of Printinclude one-, two- or three-bed- liams, marketing director for ers Row have attracted many in-

Just a few blocks to the south and the in-town buyers want to en-

Oak Street and the shops along with indoor parking available at in Printers Row, the recently tertain guests in the city without Michigan Avenue, as well as the dining and nightlife of Rush homes is available for immediate dining and nightlife of Rush homes is available for immediate as another "walker's paradise," said Bob Horner, co-principal of coming in with a score of 97. Its Winthrop Properties, developer of

nium building in Printers Cor-

McKinley Park Lofts (right) is an authentic loft conversion of 163 "Young professionals like being condominiums in McKinley Park able to walk to work in the Loop,



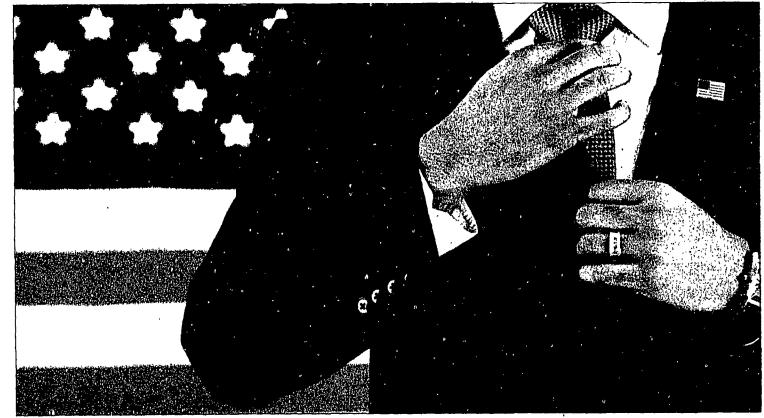
From the White House to your house.

Library Tower is a 17-story cond

ner. Lennar is the builder.

town buyers.

Chicago named nation's fourth most 'walkable' city



The "economic stimulus" means lower prices, easier financing and an "American Dream" home of your own.

Things are starting to look up! Prices and financing are becoming so affordable that buying a new home makes sense once again. There are new tax advantages and new cash incentives provided by the government and by Lakewood Homes, too. The opportunity is just like the home you'll enloy: completely new. And there's nothing nicer than a new home.

(The fresh smell of new wood, paint and carpeting!) The neighborhood is new; new trees, new parks. There are new friends to meet. The American Dream is alive and well, and it's living in a Lakewood community. There's one exactly where you want to be, near good schools, shopping and convenient commuting. Check the locations in this ad. It's a new day-enjoy it!

- Models now grand opening at each of these communities! SADDLE RIDGE IN ST. CHARLES

> Luxury Townhomes from \$254,990 Ideal location on Rt. 25 Excellent St. Charles schools Take Rt. 59 to Army Trail Road, West to Rt. 25. North (right) 1 1/2 miles to Sales Center. Sales Center closed Thursdays and Fridays. (847) 622-8352

Lakewood Home The American Dream, Builde

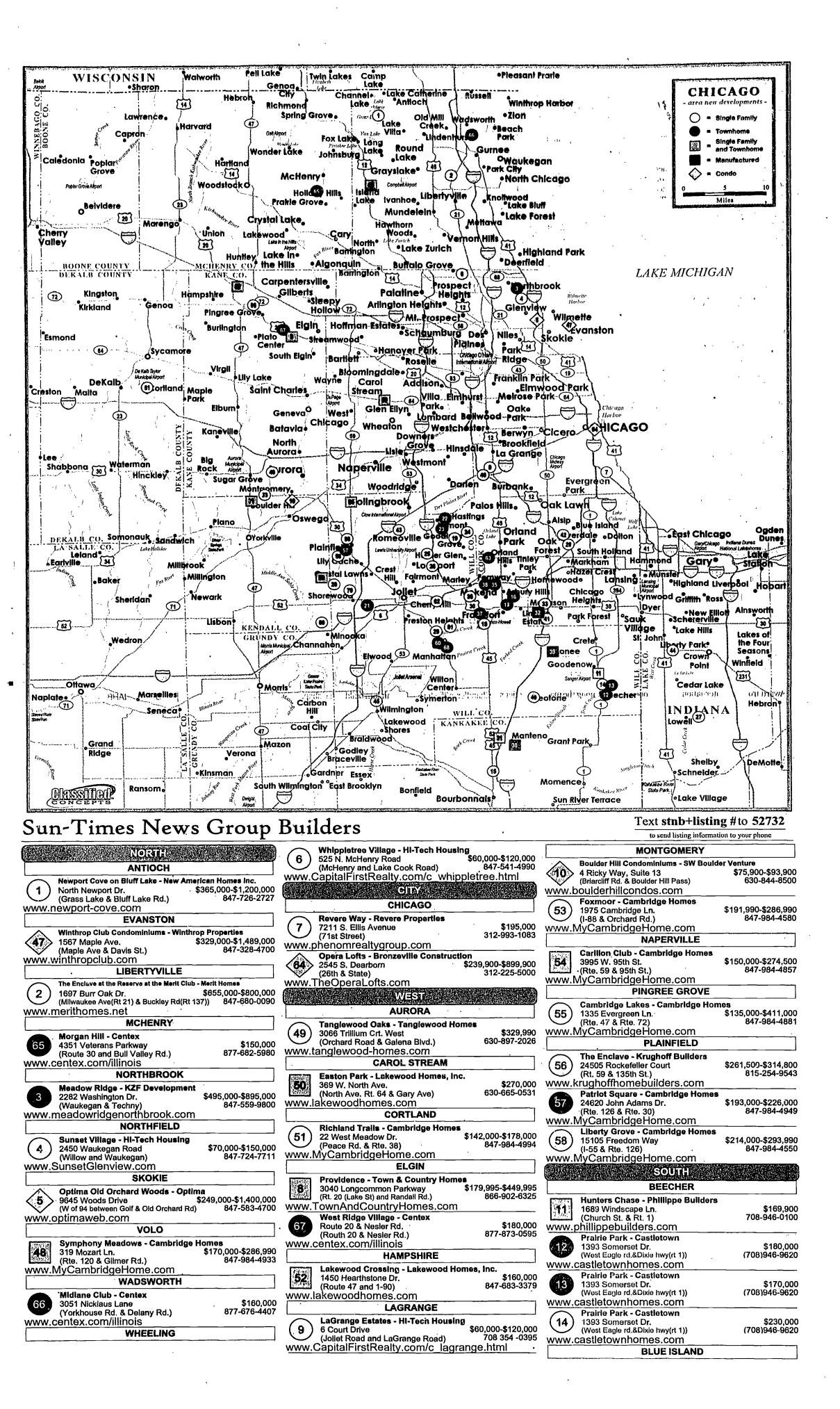
All Lakewood communities are open daily 10-5. Visit our website for floorplans, complete information and free financial homebuying analysis. www.lakewoodhomes.com

EASTON PARK IN CAROL STREAM • English "Row-style" Townhomes from \$269,990 Convenient to transportation, shopping and recreation Beautifully landscaped grounds Off North Avenue (Route 64), Just west of Gary Avenue. (630) 665-0531

LAKEWOOD SPRINGS IN PLANO Village Homes from \$109,990 Single-family Classic Homes from \$130,990 Single-family Executive Homes from \$199,990 · Clubhouses, tennis, swimming pool, sand volleyball Take I-88 to Sugar Grove exit. South on Rt. 47, 7 1/2 miles to Rt. 34. West 3 miles on Rt. 34 to Sales Center.

Prices subject to chang





Make your custom home a reality

By Marcy Marro

SPECIAL TO SUN-TIMES NEWS GROUP

Rock Creek Homes has the experience to make a buyer's desire a reality, whether it be customizing a room for their passion or hobby, creating a dedicated home theater, finishing the basement as a game room or creating a woodworking shop in the garage.

The way our company is structured, we can accommodate a family's desire

president of Rock Creek Homes. "Over the past year we have constructed game rooms with custom wet bars in the large bonus rooms that are commonly found above garages or in basements. No matter a homeowner is looking for, we have the skilled craftsmen and management team to get the job done at a reasonable price."

Customized rooms are great places

to have a specialty room built for their specific enjoyment," said Ryan VanLue, er and laugh, joke and have a good time. They are also a great place to host parties with friends and family members.

> "It's very important to know about the homeowner's desire for a unique room, such as a home theater," Van Lue said. "Pooms like this have special requirements for sound deadening, lighting, electrical, speaker placement and audio/video equipment location."

At The Hennings, homebuyers have a chance to own one of 35 spacious ranch and two-story homes set on oneor two-acre home sites, priced from \$489,000 to \$799,000. Rock Creek Homes will customize a home as little or as much as a homebuyer desires.

To set up an appointment to view the community or meet with Rock Creek Homes, call 815-923-2717 or visit www. rockcreekhomesil.com or www. thehenningsestates.com.

Lakeshore East sets the pace for residential growth in downtown Chicago

At the intersection of Chicago's two great waterways — Lake Michigan and the Chicago River — an urban retreat known as Lakeshore East, unlike any in

Approximately one-third completed, this \$4 billion, 28-acre mixed-use development on the site of a former ad-hoc golf course continues to set the pace for downtown Chicago's steady progression as a residential center as well as its business/ entertainment/cultural hub.

Ideally situated in the heart of downtown Chicago, steps from world-class attractions Michigan Avenue, Millennium Park, Navy Pier and the lakefront, thisurban oasis — believed to be the largest parcel of downtown land under development in a major U.S. city — also represents the most impressive front yard in the city. Lakeshore East incorporates all the elements of a traditional city community, a lifestyle center that includes homes, retail, recreational opportunities and amenities such as a magnificent, awardwinning 6-acre public park and a planned elementary school.

Lakeshore East has received numerous awards, including a National Honor Award for excellence in urban design from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and more recently the prestigious 2008 Prix d'Excellence International Design Award from the International Real open space. Among the many attractions Hebrann

Find out more

For additional information, call the Lakeshore East Sales Center at (312) 565-9600 or visit the Web site www.LakeshoreEast.com.

Secon

Estate Federation for its master plan:

Prior to its transformation to the most vibrant new community in Chicago, the Lakeshore East site has served as a transshipment port serving Chicago's growing economy in the mid 19th century, an Illinois Central railroad freight yard and terminus and, most recently, a par-3, ninehole urban golf course.

Lakeshore East is regarded as a preview of the future, a mixed-use development where people can live, work, shop, eat and pursue whatever interests them without having to get into a car. The plan that completes the ambitious Illinois Center development allows for the construction of up to 4,950 residences, a magnificent 6-acre public park, 2.2 million gross square feet of commercial space, 1,500 hotel rooms, 770,000 square feet of retail space and a proposed elementary school.

Some 40 percent of the site will remain

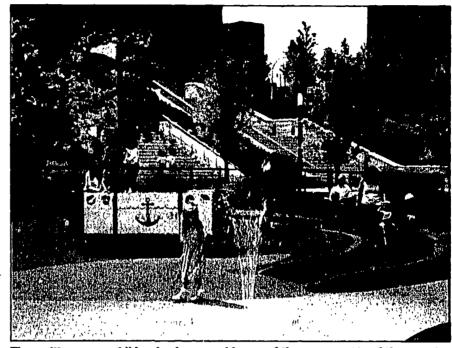
\$520,000 (630)257-2600

\$350,000

\$355,000

708-838-4357

815-838-5506



The multi-purpose children's playground is one of the components of the awardwinning park at Lakeshore East.

of the Lakeshore East Park, which has ing with 304 condo homes; 340 on The won numerous awards, is free Wi-Fi or wireless broadband Internet access. Other park amenities include a children's play park, a gated dog park, a large open meadow, water fountains, ornamental gardens and extensive seating.

Residential developments at Lakeshore East currently include six completed and occupied buildings: the 29-story Lancaster, the community's first condominium building with 209 homes; The Shoreham, a 46-story apartment tower with 548 residences; The Regatta, a 44-story condominium building with 325 units; The Chandler; a 35 story condominium build-

Spring Run - Phillippe Builders

(Holtz Rd. & Commercial Ave.)

18020 Oakwood Ln.

Park, a 62-story condominium tower with 344 units and the 51-story The Tides, the community's second rental property with 607 luxury units.

Construction is progressing on the 82story Aqua, the first high-rise in the city designed uniquely to combine condominiums, rental apartments and hotel and retail spaces. The first phase of The Parkhomes at Lakeshore East, an enclave of 25 townhomes, is also under construction. A diverse retail component of the community already includes a Fifth Third Bank facility and Café RoM gourmet coffee shop.

Enhanced tax credit provides opportunity

In its efforts to stimulate the economy and revive the housing market, Congress has enacted legislation providing a tax credit of up to \$8,000 for first-time home buyers.

But time is of the essence for buyers who want to take advantage of this opportunity. Only homes purchased on or after Jan. 1 and before Dec. 1, 2009, are

The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) has launched a newly-designed Web site that provides detailed information about the \$8,000 tax credit for first-time home buyers that is a key measure in the sweeping economic stimulus legislation signed into law by President Barack Obama.

"The new tax credit provides a great opportunity for first-time home buyers," said Joe Robson, NAHB chairman and a home builder from Tulsa, Okla. "Combined with today's near record low interest rates, the large selection of homes on the market, and very competitive pricing, the tax credit should be the extra incentive needed to get prospective buyers who have been sitting on the fence into the market."

The web site at www.federalhousingtaxcredit.com includes basic information about the tax credit and a detailed question and answer section. It also includes information about other housingrelated and small business measures in the legislation and a number of homebuying resources for consumers.

Here is the \$8,000 home buyer tax credit at a glance:

■ The tax credit is for first-time home buyers only.

■The tax credit does not have to be re-The tax credit is equal to 10 percent

of the home's purchase price up to a maximum of \$8,000. ■ The credit is available for homes purchased on or after Jan. 1, 2009, and be-

fore Dec. 1, 2009. ■ Single taxpayers with incomes up to \$75,000 and married couples with incomes up to \$150,000 qualify for the full tax credit.

Text stnb+listing #to 52732

sellisource: NAHB

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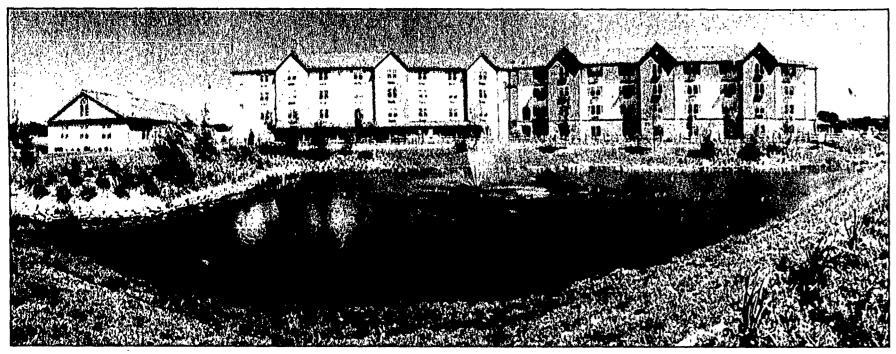
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dominiums are constructed with sound deadening materials and all of the floors systems included concrete for sound and fire suppression. For safety the building has secured entrances, is constructed with fire-resistant drywall, has interconnected fire alarms, and a sprinkler system installed throughout the building.

Activities part of life at Willow Falls Condominiums

Willow Falls condominiums, a nev four-story, elevator-equipped building in Crest Hill, offers more than a maintenance-free lifestyle for active seniors.

For example, whether purchasing or renting a new condominium, all residents (at least 55 years of age) are able to participate in a variety of programs.

Constructed and managed by the husband and wife team of Greg and Renee Wolf, Willow Falls Condominiums represents the final phase of the Willows Falls senior living community.

top priority to keep all of our condominium residents busy and active," said Renee Christmas and New Year's holidays Wilable for up to \$140,485 or \$2,145 per low Falls went "all out with decorations month. and numerous special events to keep everyone's spirits high

carefully placed throughout the secure twice a month housekeeping service, and

66 We make it a top priority to keep all of our condominium residents

busy and active. " Renee Wolf, Willow

Falls Condominiums

The rental fees include a supportive care package consisting of one daily full Willow Falls offers five different stu-course meal and a Continental breakfast, \$1,585 per month. Additional spacious top condition as well as parking lots/side-cise classes, card games and other ac-right onto Willow Circle Drive.

little help now and then with meals or terfeatures a heated swimming pool and housekeeping, the Willow Falls commuan oversized hot tub that can soothe sore nity offers its supportive care package to muscles. The heated pool is also used for them as an option for \$525/month (\$450/ low impact, exercise classes and certified dryer not included.

baths, 17-inch-high toilets and hookups Free bus service for local shopping, Dr. for washer/dryer. For the ultimate in in- appointments and entertainment is also Wolf. For example, during the recent one-bedroom condominiums are avail- dependent living, these homes feature available. kitchens furnished with a full-size GE with oven and a GE dishwasher.

dominium residents to socialize and re- are open Mondays to Fridays from 10 dio or one-bedroom floor plans that are 24-hour emergency call button response, main active is consistent throughout the a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to year. A recreational center equipped with 2 p.m., or by appointment. 78-unit building. For maximum financial basic cable TV. For renters, a clothes a television, fireplace, exercise equipflexibility, these studio or one-bedroom washer and dryer are included as well. ment, chairs/tables and fully equipped exit Weber south, 6.5 miles to Knapp condominiums can be purchased or rent- Association fees, also included in the kitchen make this room perfect for par- Drive and turn left to Willow Circle Drive. ed. The most affordable studio home can rental price, keep the landscaping, recreties, special events or family gatherings. From I-80 exit Larkin Avenue north, and be purchased for \$102,895 or rented for ation center, ponds and common areas in Wii bowling tournaments, Tai Chi exerdrive 21/2 miles to Knapp Drive, then turn

tivities are hosted here as well. For condo purchasers looking for a The lower level of the recreation cen-

month for second person), washer and Arthritis Foundation exercises as well. This self-contained community also Within each of these spacious condo- boasts an old time general store, bank, miniums. filled with an abundance of hair salon, soda fountain and a dinning natural light from the oversized windows, room. A charming library is accessible potential residents will find oak trim, in- to families who wish to surf the Internet, dividually controlled heating/air condiaccess e-mail, or pick out a free movie to tioning, Moen faucets, ceramic floor tiled take back to their private condominium.

For more information about the condorefrigerator/freezer, GE electric range miniums and active lifestyle offered at Willow Falls, call (815) 725-5868 or visit The opportunity for Willow Falls' con- www.willowfalls.com. Decorated models

To reach this community from I-55,

Sales Center Open Mon-Fri 10-5, Sat-Sun 11-5, Closed Wedgesday

Walkable FROM PAGE 3

Corner is not the car ... it's the side-

An 88-unit, 17-story high rise, Printers Corner features only corner units. Homes measure 769 to 1,168 square feet with one to two bedrooms and one to two baths. Prices range from \$285,000 to \$487,000, with deeded parking at \$36,000. Buvers can choose from a handful of homes available for mmediate move in.

McKinley Park Lofts

For a less urban feel, yet an almost equally walkable lifestyle, McKinley Park Lofts on the city's southwest side rests just across the street from the 69-acre McKinley Park and a few blocks from the 35th and Archer stop of the CTA's Orange Line. With a score of 78 - still "very walkable," according to www.walkscore.com residents should have no problem getting around by foot.

By taking the train north or south, one can arrive either in the Loop or at Midway Airport in less than 15 minutes. Closer to home, McKinley Park offers an outdoor pool, skating rink; field house, lagoon, ball fields, tennis courts and running and biking paths perfect for keeping active year

"Having merely to cross the street for a run through open green space is not something most Chicagoans can claim to be able to do every morning. Yet it is always a possibility at McKin-ley Park Lofts," said Christine Lutz, senior vice president of Garrison Partners Consulting, the community's exclusive sales and marketing agent.

The homes come in one- to threebedroom and one- to two-bath configurations, some with dens and balconies, per plan. Floor plans vary in size from 885 to 1,540 square feet, with prices ranging from the \$180,000s to \$300,000s.

For more information on Ten East Delaware, call (312) 397-1010 or visit www.teneastdelaware.com; for Library Tower, call (312) 386-9427 or visit www.librarytower.com; for Printers Corner, call (312) 880-1800 or visit www.printerscorner.com; and for McKinley Park Lofts, call (773) 523-2323 or visit www.mckinleyparklofts.

Odine Amazing architecture, value and views ce downtown luxury along the North Shore. PRICES EVER Plus...Additional Incredible Savings C.H.O.O.S.E. FROM: • Pre-paid assessments or taxes • Buy down your interest rate • Custom upgrades • Pre-paid parking • All of the above o O for a re **Resort Style Living** There's Never Been a **GRAND** MOYORGIS 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms Better Time to Buy! Take Advantage of the Record Low Interest Rates PLAZA Located at Dearborn & Ohio With Luxury Amenities 545 N. Dearborn Priced from \$355,900 and the First Time Home to \$1.4 million Buyer Stimulus Credit GrandPlazaPenthouses.com IT OUR NEW MODELS. OFEN PALLY 16AM TO 6FM . IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY . TROM \$2608 TO \$1 MILLION FLUG SWOODS DRIVE, BROKIE: JUGT WEGT,OF 1,94 EDENS, BETWEEN GOLF & OLD ORCHARD ROADS. BROKERS WELCOME

TOLL BROTHERS

Luxury homebuilder's convenient mortgage services ease process for homebuyers

It's a buyer's market, and we good to excellent. all know that now is an incredible

than 40 years of experience, the TBI Mortgage. Licensed in 22 each of our clients." states, the full-service mortgage company works together with and construction team to stream- Club in Elgin, line the entire process, from securing the best rates to insuring simple, straight forward and baa closing that is on-time and sically accomplished via email," worry-free.

"Buyers have lots of questions "Buyers have lots of questions when they navigate the mortwhen they navigate the morttive-adult section of Bowes Creek "Megan was extremely timely, cialize in new home financing homes and single-family homes and we possess the experience designed for those 55 and older and knowledge to answer their within a larger community. A re-Griffin, Business Development owners can enjoy year-round rec-said Platts. Manager. "And, since TBI Mort-reational opportunities, including gage only works with Toll Broth- a Rick Jacobson-designed 18ers buyers, we make you our hole golf course, now in its final number one priority."

customer satisfaction is very imof buyers rated their overall To serve the needs of those desir-

home builder Toll Brothers wants ity to lock in a long-term rate for two-car garage, priced from the to help its customers take advan- up to 14 months. Then, as the mid-\$200,000s tage of this historic opportunity buyer gets closer to closing, TBI and one way they are doing this may be able to offer them a lower best rate on a 30-year fixed mortis by offering a streamlined process that even includes financ- Long-term rate locks enable a gage not only offered competitive

why they now offer their buyers Working with the largest, most One happy customer recently closed on their new active-adult

the home buyer, sales manager, home at Bowes Creek Country "The mortgage process was

said Tom Japczyk.

stage of completion.

all know that now is an incredible time to buy a home. Luxury with TBI Mortgage is their abil-tional bedroom and bath, and a

"We shopped around for the buyer to float down into a lower rates, but provided the advantage As a home builder with more rate when it becomes available. of facilitating the flow of informa-"With considerable access to tion between the builder, the company knows one of the big- a national marketplace for mort- sales people, and construction gest worries for their customers gages, we can provide flexible department. Everyone worked is obtaining a mortgage and co-terms along with a wide variety together to create a seamless ordinating the closing. That's of alternative financing solutions. process," said Japczyk. "We also the option of mortgage services solid banking institutions helps ance through another subsidiary through their own subsidiary, us obtain the best mortgage for of Toll Brothers, assuring that all the documents were ready at

Another satisfied homebuyer is Debbie Platts, who moved to Chicago from Houston and purchased a golf villa at Hawthorn Woods Country Club. Her association with Megan Gillespie, a mortgage broker with TBI Mort-

gage process and build a new Country Club, an exclusive very accommodating and folhome. At TBI Mortgage, we spe-neighborhood of luxury town-lowed through with everything. She was pleasant and helpful and played a huge part in my satisfaction of the process. I felt like I questions and provide peace of sort-like lifestyle and six deco- was her first priority and she mind they may not find with a rated models are luring visitors gave me peace of mind that evtraditional lender," said Christina to the community where home-erything would go smoothly,"

Hawthorn Woods Country Club is a country club community that combines luxurious homes and a carefree lifestyle. Maintaining a high level of Homebuyers can choose ei- Homeowners enjoy resort-style living year-round with an 18-hole portant to the company. As mat- a low-maintenance townhome. Arnold Palmer Signature Golf ter of fact, Toll Brothers' There are luxurious two- and Course and a myriad of clubcustomer satisfaction reports three-bedroom single-family house amenities. This unique Club from I-90, take Randall



TBI Mortgage helps customers lock in mortgage rates at Hawthorn Woods Country Club (model interlor pictured) and seven other Toll Brothers communities, including Bowes Creek Country Club in Elgin.

Call (847) 695-0005 or visit www. and turn right, then left on

To visit Bowes Creek Country bowescreekcountryclub.com. Gilmer Road and continue 4½ To visit Hawthorn Woods miles west, turn left on echo Griffin's claim. On a recent homes with two-car garages gated community features sin-Road south for 5 miles to Bowes Country Club open daily from 10 Schwerman Road for a half-mile TBI Service Survey, 95 percent priced from the upper \$200,000s. gle-family homes and town- Road, go west on Bowes for 2 a.m. to 6 p.m., take I-94 and exit to the entrance. Call (847) 847of buyers rated their overall To serve the needs of those desir-homes priced from the upper miles to the entrance. The sales Route 22 West (Half Day Road), 7048, or visit www.hawthorn mortgage experience as very ing multi-family homes, town-\$300,000s to more than \$1 miles to the entrance. The sales Route 22 West (Half Day Road), 7048, or visit www.hawthorn and go 5 miles to Route 83 North woodscountryclub.com.

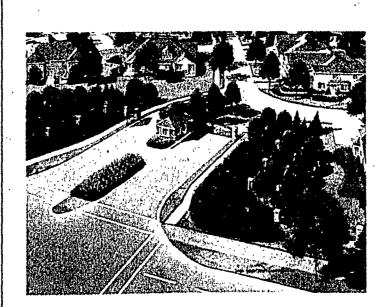
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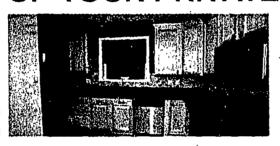
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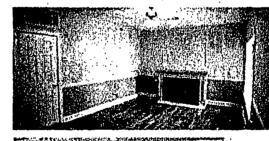
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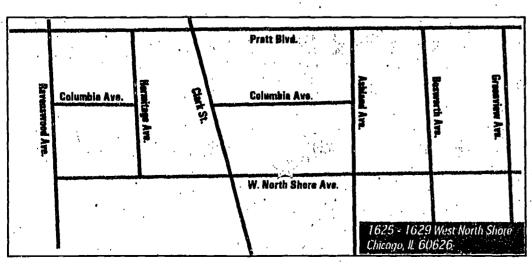






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PIONEER PRESS

HEAD FOR THE HARBOR PAGE 2C

Smaller crowds and a slower pace are among the rewards for a romantic, cold-weather visit to Michigan's summertime getaway art towns.



WATER AND WINE

Wine aficionado, blogger and author Gary Vaynerchuk will host a seven-day Caribbean cruise celebrating all things wine on April 18. Prices start at \$899 a person — and that includes all the wine you can drink; garyvthundercruise.com

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2009 | EDITOR: LORI RACKL | 312 321-2244

Let's get into it.



BY LORI RACKL

ATLANTIC OCEAN — Some cruises are lit-tle more than floating that parties. Others are more like epic voyages, those once in-a-life-time-type trips that have an inherent gravitas you just can't get from a weeklong booze cruise.

in the Caribbean. A transatlantic crossing aboard the Queen Mary 2 definitely falls into the epic voyage

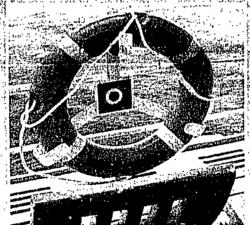
No ports of call. No belly flop competitions on the lido deck. Instead, it feels somehow important, historic. You're on the world's biggest ocean liner — three times the size of the Titanic — traveling 8,000 nautical miles over the imposing waters of the North Atlantic. You start on one continent and end on another. In between, your days and nights are spen aboard one of the most luxurious big ships at

A journey that takes about six hours by plane will take you six days by ship. But it's the difference between taking a taxi or a horsedrawn carriage. One is just a means of transportation; the other is an experience.

The Queen Mary 2 is the flagship of Cunard, the cruise line whose advertising whizzes half a century ago coined the slogan, "Getting there is

Cunard's tradition of transatiantic crossings dates back to 1840, when the company scored a contract to deliver mail by steamship between Britain and North America. These days, several cruise lines' ships take passengers across the Atlantic, but none as often — or arguably as well - as the QM2. This year alone, she'll make 25 transatlantic crossings, with most of them being her classic six-day voyage between

New York City and Southampton, England. The QM2 literally was built for this kind of



A journey that takes about six hours by plane will take you six days by ship. But it's the difference between taking a taxi or a horsedrawn carriage. One is just a means of transportation; the other is an experience.

trip. The \$800 million ship's long, slender lines, powerful engines, thick steel hull and massive stabilizers make it ideal for slicing through the

wild waves of the North Atlantic. "We're not a cruise ship, ladles and gentlemen. We're a liner," said the QM2's captain, Commodore Bernard Warner, as he raised a champagne toast to passengers on board the QM2 last September, when the liner made its 100th transatlantic crossing. My mother and I

were among those 2,470 passengers, traveling from Southampton to New York,
Mom was downright giddy when she caught

her first sight of the ship as we pulled up to the dock in Southampida. In Biliess to retting a rew goosepumps myself. Ounard vessels are conic, with their imposing hulls and trademark red and black funnels on top. The sheer size of the QM2 is impressive by even the most seasoned cruiser's standards. Lay the Eiffel

We crossed the ocean heading west, which is better than going east. Here's why: Because of the time change, you're constantly setting your watch back as you sail west. You pick up an extra hour almost every day of the cruise. And believe it or not, you'll find plenty of ways to fill

Tower on its side, and this floating queen is 147

"What are you going to do on a ship for six days?" It's a question more than one person asked before we left on our cruise.

the time.

I'd been a little worried about going stir crazy myself, especially since our trip was in late September. I couldn't exactly kill time sunbathing by the pool with a trashy novel.

Turns out you can easily devote an entire day just to finding your way around the ship. It spans the length of four football fields, and the corridors are filled with museum-quality exhibits chronicling the illustrious history of Cu-

I spent a few hours wandering around with a headset on the ship's self-gulded audio tour. A couple of interesting nuggets I picked up along the way: Cunard's Queen Elizabeth and other members of the fleet were painted gray and used to carry hundreds of thousands of troops and P.O.W.s during World War II, and Cunard's

SEE CRUISE, PAGE 6C

CHAR SEARL-SUN-TIMES ILLUSTRATION

Ill. corner a soar spot for mighty bald eagle

BY MAUREEN O'DONNELL Staff Reporter/modonnell@suntimes.com

GRAFTON, Ill. — This city girl is happy just to see a blue jay or hear a crow in the post-West Nile Virus era.

So imagine my joy on a recent weekend when I experienced more than 50 bald eagle sightings. All it took was a road trip to southwest Illinois, one of the best places in the world to view these majestic birds.

Eagles are plentiful between late December and early March in the Alton-Grafton area, about 245 miles southwest of Chicago. The region is home to the second largest wintering population of baid eagles in the lower 48. Even beginner bird-watchers can spot them gathered in treetops or diving for fish in the rivers.

The birds are drawn here thanks to a trio of mighty rivers nearby: the Illinois, Missouri and Mississippi. They fly down from Canada to fish because ice covers the waters up north.

It's possible to get close enough to see the eagles' formidable hooked beaks, hooded eves and powerful talons. You can hear their cries, which will make your reptllian brain feel reflexlvely happy that you are not a 4pound rabbit.

Pack a pair of binoculars and you'll feel like you can reach out and touch them. It's a thrill to watch them turn their heads and scan the rivers for fish or some plump waterfowl. It's like seeing a statue or a silver dollar come to

As I said, I'm a city girl who likes her comforts. No arduous hlkes in January or February, thank you very much. This is the perfect weekend road trlp for someone who enjoys the outdoors but likes a nice hotel, cozy fire and good meal at the end of the day. It's also an ideal road trip for families. The drive takes six hours from Chlcago to Grafton, including three stops for a meal, gas and bathroom break.

I start to feel I'm leaving the city behind when I get about two hours outside Chicago. The farms get bigger and the Midwest's Big Sky country begins. You start to see Burma Shavestyle poems --- courtesy of GunsSafeLives.com — that go like this: "When danger lurks, listen, sonny, that rabbit's foot won't save no bunny."

Closer to Alton and Grafton,

you begin to see town and street slgns like "Fidelity," "Spanish Needle," "Copperhead Hollow," "Stagecoach" and "Otterville."

My eagle-watching headquarters is one of my favorite hotels, the Pere Marquette Lodge, five miles from Grafton. It's in Illinois' largest state park, the 8,000-acre Pere Marquette State

The lodge was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps, a Depression-era effort by President Franklin Roosevelt that gave jobs to 3 million men. They created the lodge and other structures for a stipend and "three hots and a flop." Enter the lobby and your jaw might drop. It's a tribute to the might of the

SEE EAGLES, PAGE 3C



A bald eagle dips its bill into the Mississippi River while searching for food near Alton, Ill. | CHARLES REX

Steamboat reborn

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. --

new life as a floating hotel and

lounge on the Tennessee River

Hundreds of people turned

out under gray skles for a wel-

come ceremony Feb. 11 as the

historie boat sailed in from New

Orleans, and some well-wishers

foot-long Queen. In October, the

boat lost its exemption to oper-

ate overnight river cruises for

up to 176 passengers. Due to

fire safety concerns, federal lay

prohibits such boats from ear-

guests next month.

and restaurant.

Craig Haney said the boat,

which also has a history of serv

and fire alarm systems and will

be thoroughly inspected before

the planned opening of the 87

cabins, lounge and kitchen at

Coolidge Park Landing in April.

The owner, Ambassadors In-

ternational Inc., has chartered

ice in the Navy, has sprinkler

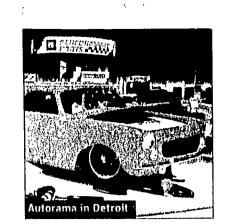
were allowed aboard the 285-

ln Chattanooga

as hotel and lounge

BY BILL POOVEY IF YOU GO

midwest



MICHIGAN

 Gearheads should motor to Detroit for the 57th annual Autorama at the Cobo Center, March 6-8. This super-buffed, turbocharged event features the hottest hot rods, custom cars and '50s classics with more than 1,000 exhibits of chopped, channeled, dumped and decked hot rods, custom cars, trucks, vans and motorcycles. And you can get a look at the Racer" and Kitt from the TV show "Knight Rider"; autorama.com.

WISCONSIN

◆ Bring your appetite for the World's Longest Weenie Roast, March 6-7, at Lakewoods Resort in Cable. There will be snowmobile races, raffles and a 1,000-foot-long fire trench for roasting footlong hot dogs; lake woodsresort.com, (800) 930-6657.

◆ The annual **Timm's Hill Trudge** snowshoe race/walk gets going at 10 a.m. March 7 in Ogema in northern Wisconsin. The 3- and 7-mile courses are at Timm's Hill, the state's highest point and one of the country's 10 best places for snowshoeing as rated by USA Today. Race-day registration costs \$30; highpointvillage.com, (715)

 College hoops fans will want to head to Indy for the Big Ten basketball tournaments at the Conseco ieldhouse. The women's tournamen is March 5-8, followed by the men's March 12-15; go to indianasports corp.com for information and ticket master.com for tickets.

Call ahead because details might

E-mail specifics about upcoming Midwest events to Travel Editor Lori Rackl at Irackl@suntimes.com

Less Town.

Saunter in Saugatuck, dillydally in Douglas

'DIFFERENT ATMOSPHERE' In winter, chilling in Michigan art towns is a lot more laid back

BY JAMES PRICHARD

SAUGATUCK, Mich. -- An eerle quiet hangs over the long, curving oardwalk alongside the frozen-over Kalaniazoo River late one recent afternoon in this small Lake Michigan harbor

A public rest room — the outside walls painted to resemble a famous Scurat painting — stands nearby with "CLOSED FOR SEASON" signs hanging

Snow eovers the ground, the temperature is in the teens, and the busy summer tourist season still is mouths away. While a number of downtown sliops and other businesses are closed until then, there's still plenty to do during a wintertime trip to Sangatuck and the neighboring harbor town of Douglas, both of which are better known as summertime

Most of their restaurants and inns are open this time of year, as are many of the area's slew of art gallerles. There are plays, concerts and festivals to attend all

"When you come here, it's not like your typical tourist town," says Felicia Fairchild, executive director of the Saugatuck/Douglas Convention & Visitors Bureau, "It's real. What we have here is real — it's not contrived. We don't have water parks and things like

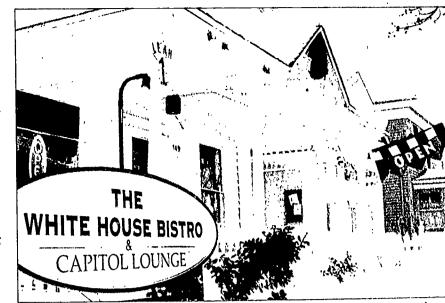
To those who have vacationed in the two cities during the summer, a wintertime stay would be a very different experlence. There are smaller crowds,

shorter lines and a slower pace. "You can shop better here in the wintertime because you're not jostling to get down the alsles," says restaurant and bar owner David Barton.

The people who live in Saugatuck and Douglas have less going on, so they have more time to talk with visitors. People who don't live in the area can take longer to discover the out-of-the-way restaurants and pubs haunted by the locals.

"The offseason here is a different pace, a different atmosphere," says Baron, who converted an old house into the White House Bistro & Capitol Lounge and lives upstairs. "It's just very laldback and very relaxing."

With its many fine inns and bed-andbreakfasts — several of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places — the area even becomes "a little more romantle" in the winter, Fairchild



Although some shops in downtown Saugatuck, Mich., are closed for the season, the White House Bistro & Capitol Lounge is among several restaurants in the village that



says. "It's a nice place to come for cou-

Outdoor enthusiasts can cross-country skl at Saugatuck Dunes State Park. lee skate at public rinks or, as Saugatuck City Manager Kirk Harrier has done, elimb the 280-plus steps that lead to the top of his city's Mount Baldhead, one of the tailest dunes in southwestern Michi-

"There's a lot of resting spots on the way up, and I used every one of them," he says with a laugh. The snow on the steps makes for an even more challenging hike than during warmer weather to the top of the dunc, where there is a large observation deck and a bird's-eve view of the area's scenic beauty.

The Saugatuck-Douglas area's reputation as a special place to visit received a boost in January when the National Trust for Historic Preservation selected lt as one of its "dozen distinctive destinapainting in the front vindow of his gallery

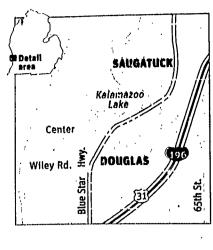
that he has painted 200 to 300 portraits of Saugatuck residents since 1993, when he decided that he would try to paint every resident of the village. Saugatuck has a perma tle more than 1,000.

tlons" for 2009 Each year since 2000, the organizaacross the United States that offer cultural and recreational experiences different from the typical vacation destinations. Selections were based on such qualities as architecture, downtown vitality, cultural diversity and commit-

ment to historic preservation. Saugatuck has a population of about 1,100, and Douglas about 1,200. Both cities boast fine examples of 19th century architecture, and the area's oldfashloned small-town feel is an important part of its considerable appeal. 'That's what I like about Saugatuck,' Harrier says. "It looks a little like small

town out of time." The mayors of both cities own local businesses that might appeal to visitors during any season. Saugatuck Mayor Barry Johnson operates the Saugatuck

Text ARIZUNA to-126682 for a chance to win a \$3000 trave incorper



IF YOU GO

GETTING THERE: From Chicago, take I-94 east toward Benton Harbor, Mich. Take Exit 34 and merge onto I-196 toward Holland/Grand Rapids. Take Exit 36 and merge onto Blue Star Highway toward Saugatuck/Douglas. About 170

miles or 21/2 hours. SAUGATUCK/DOUGLAS CONVEN-TION & VISITORS BUREAU: (269) 857-1701, saugatuck.com.

Brewing Co. in Douglas, with its 100-seat tavern section dubbed the Lucky Stone Club. Also in Douglas is the Everyday People Cafe, owned by city Mayor Matt Balmer, who went to cullnary school and is the executive chef.

The area long has been known as an art community. Artist-owned galleries in Saugatuck and Douglas offer paintings, sculptures, pottery and glass creations.

At James Brandess' art gallery, it's not unusual to see him painting portraits in his front-window studio, although he's just as likely to be outside somewhere painting a local landscape.

"It's beautiful and peaceful," Brandess says of the area. "It's a peaceful respite from the big city. The walls of his gallery are filled with

small, colorful portraits, most about the size of a postcard, that he has created since about 1993 in his attempt to paint every Saugatuck resident who is willing to sit for him. He estimates that he has completed between 200 and 300. Each small portrait takes him two to three hours to complete. In return for their time, he gives each subject a dozen

"Winter gives me ample opportunity to work on this project," Brandess says.

greeting cards with the portraits printed



EAGLES | Log cabins have all the amenities of a hotel room

The centerplece is a 50-foot high fireplace made of limestone from a nearby Grafton quarry, decorated with a painting of Jesult legend Pere Marquette entering Illinois circa 1678. The supports were built with 3-foot-thick logs of fir, cedar and cypress. The celling is graced with large hammered metal chandellers. Relax in the Misslon-style chairs or test your wits on a life-size chessboard with pieces taller than most toddlers.

The soaring rafters are decorated with gorgeous tapesti les by fiber artist M. Joan Lintault. No two of the estimated 6,000 leaves are alike. As the St. Louis Post-Dispatch put it, "It took three years, hundreds of yards of material, and miles of thread. She wore out her back, broke 123 needles. and sewed through a finger three times." Study the glowing golds and greens of the hangings and you'll make out the birds, fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and lu sects of Illinois.

Visitors can stay in the main lodge or in log cabins with all the amenities of a hotel room. They earry names familiar to any kid who paid attention in Illinois history class:

DeSoto, Jollet, LaSalle. To see eagles, take your binoculars and drive the 20 miles of Illinois Route 100, which takes you from the lodge to Alton. This is a section of the Great River Road that runs all the way from the Mississipp Delta to the Minnesota headwaters. The Mississippi and Illinois rivers cross near Grafton; the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, near Alton. (From Grafton to the vicinity of Pere Marquette State Park, you'll lung the Illinois River. For the portion from Alton to Grafton, you'll be near the Mississippl.)

If you see people pulled over on the road, looking up at trees and bluffs, chances are they've spotted



your eyes on the bare treetops and pretty soon you'll spot them: hulking brown objeets with white heads, studying the river or signs of fish.

loading docks and sean the trees

◆ Reaches speeds of 100 mph while diving

size chessboard with pieces taller than

I recommend crisscrossing the great rivers at nearby ferries to watch blrds careening overhead. Drive your ear directly onto the ferries and enjoy the views from vom sunroof. We've had the most sightings at the Winfield Ferry, just below lock and dam No. 25 on the Mississippi. It keeps those fishles moving and creates an eagle buffet. You can also try the Brussels Ferry,

aren't running. Just stand at their

Golden Eagle Ferry and Grafton Ferry.

The Pere Marquette Lodge includes a lifemost toddlers. | MAURELN O'DONNELL-FOR THE

took a dozen pallbearers to carry his casket when

Birds are plentiful, even when ferries

BALD EAGLE FACTS

◆ Found only in North America. ◆ Has wingspan up to 8 feet. Births one to three eaglets a year. ◆ At 15 pounds, females are slightly larger

 Sees five times as well as humans. ◆ Each eye can focus separately on ◆ Lives up to 40 years in captiv-

Keeps the same nest while

can reach 7 feet in diameter

◆ Born dark in color, but beaks, eyes and talons become yellow as they mature. Around their fifth birthday, their heads turn

 Their numbers declined because of the pesticide DDT and lead shot poisoning. A ban on DDT and other measures have seen their population rise in recent years, going from "endangered," to merely "threatened," to the current wildlife status of "pro-

SOURCE: SCOTT ISRINGHAUSEN, SITE INTERPRETER,

GETTING THERE: The Alton-Grafton area of southwest Illinois is about 245 miles from Chicago. Most of the drive is on I-55.

IF YOU GO

STAYING THERE: Pere Marquette Lodge in Pere Marquette State Park near Grafton has 50 rooms and 22 cabins. Weekend rates start at \$149 this time of year. The lodge has a beautiful view of the Illinois River. Facilities include a pool, sauna arcade and modest exercise room. The restaurant serves mouth-watering all-you-can-eat fried-chicken dinners for \$13.95; (618) 786-2331; pm

VISITOR CENTER: The park's visitor center next door to the lodge is a must. Free bald eagle-viewing programs teach fun facts about the bird and lead caravans to nesting and viewing spots. Kids will like standing in the center's 7-foot-wide eagle's nest. Hours are 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday to Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday; (618) 786·3323; dnr.state.il.us.

BIRD VIEWING: The park's visitor center begins taking reservations in November for eagle viewing programs from December to March. The remainder of the current programs are booked, but no worries. Helpful guides like Scott Isringhausen at the visitor center will map out bird-watching routes for you. Numerous wildlife

sanctuaries are in the area, which also sees thousands of American white pelicans in late fall and early spring. WHILE YOU'RE THERE: Visit Alton's life-size statue of native son Robert Wadlow, whose pitu itary made him the world's tallest man at 8 feet. 11.1 inches. He wore a size 37 AA shoe and it

he died in 1940. The statue is on the campus of the SIU School of Dental Medicine The bluffs of Alton feature a reconstructed mural of the Piasa Bird, a flesh-eating monster said to be based on Indian legend. You can find it on Rte. 100 about a mile from the Alton Visitors

MORE INFO: Alton Regional Convention & Visitors Bureau, (800) 258-6645, VisitAlton.com.

Banished from America's wa-Park Landing, Tennessee River, terways as a cruise vessel, the Chattanooga 82-vear-old sternwheel steamboat Delta Queen hopes to find

opening is planned for April 1. Room rates range from \$99 to \$175 depending on size and

DELTA QUEEN HOTEL: Coolidge

boat isn't allowed to

run overnight cruises

the mostly wooden vessel to Chattanooga Water Taxi owner Harry Phillips while they attempt to find a buyer to again operate it for overnight eruises The company said in a statement that the Queen is the last of the traditional steamboats to earry overnight guests on inland waterways.

rying more than 50 overnight The boat, with smokestacks The floating hotel will be 57 feet high, settled into its new managed by Sydney Slome. home with much fanfare as its steam-powered organ tooted owner of Chattanooga's Stone tunes such as "Rocky Top," the Fort Inn. Historically themed University of Tennessee fight tours, jazz brunches and entertainment including riverboat

gambler card magic acts are Vessel historian Blll Wiemuth said actress Helen Hayes was a planned when it opens for passenger many times and former President Jimmy Carter The Delta Queen once ran up and down the Mississippi River was a passenger in 1979. and docked in Cincinnati. The Don Clemens, 55, of Chat-

tanooga said while standing or boat is a National Historic Landmark, A twin vessel also Chattanooga's redeveloped completed in 1927, the Delta riverfront that seeing the King, is permanently moored in Queen brought back memories Sacramento, Calif., as a hotel of watching the boat when he was growing up in Cincinnati. Chattanooga fire marshal "I used to watch them run up

and down the river when I was a kid," said Clemens, a U.S. Navy r**etirce. "I am thrill**ed it is coming here. I've never been on it. I sat on the bank and watched it go by. They would have the steamboat races. It was fun just to see the big old thing and listen to the callions

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Pensacola celebrates 450th birthday

PARTY | Yearlong celebration for city on western edge of Florida Panhandle

BY MELISSA NELSON

PENSACOLA, Fla. - Long overlooked in favor of hot spots like Orlando and Miami, Pensacola hopes its 450th birthday bash this year will attract more visitors to this Florida Panhandle

Festivals, parades, battle reenactments, art exhibits and other events will commemorate Spanish explorer Don Tristan de Lama's 1559 arrival at Pensacola

King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain set the tone with a royal visit last month, touring the city of 60,000 and visiting Pensacola Naval Air Station, home of the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels aerial demonstration team.

Sometimes derided as the gateway to Florida's "Redneck Riviera" — the stretch of Panhandle beaches and kitsch attractions long favored by Southern tourists — many native Pensacolans would rather play up the city's history. Leaders dubbed Pensacola "The City of Five Fings" in the 1950s to recog nize the Spanish, French, British, Confederate and American flags that have flown here.

St. Augustine, founded in 1565, bills itself as "The Nation's Oldest City." and has been continuously occupied since its establishment on Florida's Atlantic coast. Pensacola is known as the first settlement, because historians believe de Luna's failed 1559 attempt to colonize here was the first European settlement in the United States. A hurricane sank eight of de Luna's 11 ships and the settlement collapsed in 1561 the Spanish didn't return until

"Pensacola has got a tremenlous amount of history through all periods. There was the Spanish defeat of the British here in 1781. Andrew Jackson came here in 1821. We had a lot of Civil War action here. In 1913, the airplane came and this place became the Cradle of Naval Aviation," said lo-



(right). Long in the shadow of tourist-heavy spots like Orlando and Miami, Pensacola, Fla., hopes birthday events this year will lure more visitors. | BEN TWINGLEY~AP

cal historic preservationist J. Earle Bowden, 80, and a former editor of the Pensacola News

"St. Augustine, all they've got is that little Spanish town — it never grew much," said Bowden referring to the collection of Spanish buildings that have long drawn tourists to St. Augustine.

Hurting Pensacola's efforts to promote itself has been the difficulty in getting there. Unlike other Florida tourists attractions, the city has never been an easy trip for visitors beyond the "St. Augustine had a railroad

and quality hotels back a long time ago. We had no such blessings. We didn't have a good hotel until 1910," said John Appleyard 86, a Pensacola historian And even when tourists arrive

it isn't easy to see all the sites. The remnants of the Spanish Fort Barrancas are on Pensacola Naval Air Station and tourists must pass through base security gates to tour them. Because the base is home to the Navy's Blue Angels and the National Museum of Naval Aviation, it has become tourist friendly in recent years. Fort Pickens was built by the U.S. government between 1829 and 1834 on the tip of Santa Rosa



King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain visit Pensacola, Fla., last month in celebration of the 450th anniversary of the Spanish founding of the city. | KATIE KING~AP

"Slowly but surely the histori-

Island and part of the Gulf Is-Fort Barrancas is an easier visit at Pensacola Naval Air Stalands National Seashore. The tion. It sits near the National Mufort was occupied by federal forces throughout the Civil War seum of Naval Aviation, which in-Modern visitors once could cludes historic aircraft, a drive the 14-mile round trip out restaurant that was an officer's to Pickens, but hurricanes club moved from the Philippines, washed the road away in 2004. and an IMAX theater. The air station is itself a historic site — it Since then, it has been accessible was the Navy's first air station only by boat, on foot or on bike. and has trained thousands of pi-Park officials plan to have the lots since World War I. road reopened to cars for the

summer tourist season.

cal aspect of Pensacola is taking place," said Appleyard, who was one of the organizers of the city's 400th birthday celebration in

In 1992, archeologists began anivaging parts of a Spanish galleon from de Luna's doomed leet in Pensacola Bay. Artifacts from the shipwreck, the oldest ever found in Florida waters, are on display at the T. T. Wentworth iowntown Pensacola

Fifty years ago, Appleyard lreamed of creating a tourist vilage like Virginia's Colonial Williamsburg on Pensacola Beach. A small village was constructed for the 400th birthday. actors wore period costumes and Spanish artisans displayed crafts, but enthusiasm for the roject faded after a few years and the village was abandoned Since then, the state has estab

sacola Village, a collection of museums, restored buildings and archaeological sites in downtown Pensacola. The Wentworth sits atop the remains of another colonial fort where Andrew Jackson accepted title to Florida for the United States from Spain in 1821 Appleyard hopes the 450th birthday will be an opportunity

nterest in Pensacola's history. There hasn't been an organized plan for getting people to make a historical tour of Pensacola before," said Appleyard, who has produced a series of television, print and radio spots

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Among the 2009 special events are an April wine festival a May commemoration of the 1781 Battle of Pensacola; a June visit by the four-masted topsail Spanish Royal Navy schooner Iuan Sebastian de Elcano: the 60th annual Fiesta of Five Flags celebration in June, and events recreating and commemorating de Luna's landing in August.

Most of the events will include parades, a tradition in Pensacola vhere Mardi Gras-like "krewes form social clubs and have activi ties throughout the year.

Historians say Pensacola celebrated a traditional Mardi Gras before the Great Depression. In the late 1940s, the largely Protestant city decided to break from nearby New Orleans and Mobile Ala., and have its own Fiesta of Five Flags. Nowadays, the city holds Mardi Gras events in Feb ruary and Five Flags events in

"For a small town, we have a whole lot of spirit. We love parades and we love to dress up for the parades — Spanish conquistadors, hippies, clowns, anything, people here just love to dress up and have a parade," said Laura Lee, 29, and a volunteer on the committee organizing the birth-

Lee says anytime is a good time to pay tha city a birthday visit, but those wanting to avoid the heat and crowds might consider coming in the spring or fall

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The Verwisseling ("Exchange"), a 130-year-old barge that once hauled firewood and now accommodates tourists in Amsterdam, Netherlands, is docked on the Amstel River. An estimated 2,500 houseboats line Amsterdam's picturesque waterways, and many are available to rent year-round by visitors looking for alternatives to hotels. | TERRY KOLE~AP PHOTOS

maintenance requires deep pockets.

Some of these vessels are crafted from oak or teak; others from steel or prefabricated materials. Some are irreplaceable bits of floating history; others are abandoned or in need of maor repairs. A few are just weird, ike the "Cat Boat" on the elegant Singel canal, a floating refuge for undreds of meowing strays. Fortunately for visitors, some of the very best are for rent, and at prices on par with three- or

four-star hotels. Ours was spacious enough to comfortably sleep six adults, and it was remarkably well-equipped The kitchen had a stove, oven, microwave, refrigerator, freezer dishwasher and even instant poiling water on tap — handy for coffee, tea or soup.

The common living area feaured a comfy L-shaped couch, ovely live orchids, a flat-screen TV with DVD player, a stereo and enough windows and portholes to watch life on the river



A real Dutch treat: Holiday on a houseboat

FUNKY | As water laps along barge's side, guests on steel-hulled vessel sit in lap of luxury

AP foreign correspondent William J. Kole peers through a porthole at a swan on his rented barge on the Amstel River in Amsterdam.

float leisurely by. And the bathroom had a huge jetted hot tub, a rain shower, and a laundry closet containing a washer and dryer. Getting aboard these things is

a snap: Just step off the curb and onto the boat. Getting inside can be a bit trickier, especially for people with disabilities: You enter

panies rent barges. A good place to start is Houseboat and Apartment Hotel Amsterdam also deal directly with a boat owner, which can get you a 10 per-

cult to ensure he or she is rep-HOUSEBOAT MUSEUM: There's ots of lore about barge life hrough the centuries, and you'll find it under one roof at the Houseboat Museum, *houseboati* s*eum.nl/uk/start1.html.* on Amsterdam's Prinsengracht canal, TOUR THE CANALS: Several companies offer tourists lovely rides hrough Amsterdam's web of warways; see amsterdam.info/tours nalcruise for details. We chose he hop-on, hop-off option, which costs \$23.50 (18 euros) for a 24nour ticket and drops you at some of the Dutch capital's major attractions, including the famed Rijksmuseum and the Anne Frank

through the cabin, but then have to negotiate a short but virtually vertical ladder.

Awaiting us on the dining room table were four wine bottle of red. Outside, through one of the brass portholes, twinkled the lights of the famous Magere Brug, or Skinny Bridge — one of Amsterdam's most oeloved spans.

That's surely one of the nicer aspects of staying on a barge: sipping the adult beverage of your choice while drinking in one anguid, liquid view after an-

Although our barge moved ightly if a large passing tour up waves, most of the time you ould barely notice. That might not be the case on smaller houseboats, which might be more easily knocked around.

ceilings in some spots even aboard a bigger boat like the Verwisseling. I knocked my head a few times before making a men

tal note of where to watch out. Security can be another draw back. Because it's at street level. a boat is easier to burglarize, so it's best not to bring valuables. Houseboats are different fron

notels in other ways: They're self-catering, so there's no minibar (unless you stock the fridge yourself), no room service, and no maid to make your bed. And like self-catering apartments, you have to pay a nonre-

fundable deposit in advance typically 35 percent — and fork over the rest in cash upon ar-

Smoking is forbidden or confined to the upstairs cabin on

You also might have to forgo an Internet connection. We were supposed to have wireless access, but the miscreant tenants who preceded us stole the router. One last caveat: Don't leave the portholes open.

Frank Jonckers, the affable owner of the Verwisseling and two other Amsterdam boats, says an entire family of swans once got in through an open window, only to panic when they couldn't get out, breaking glassware and soiling the boat as they flapped around. (Sure enough. we found a few telltale feathers when we swept up.)

vou away from the tranquility and sheer beauty of a barge. One of our nicest moments was spent outside, up on deck in the bow with scarves flung around our necks, raising our goofy bunch of "Pardon me but

None of the above should steer

nave you got any Grey Poupon? poseurs proud of our boat and pretending it was really ours. You couldn't spend a more quintessentially Dutch holiday if

you slept on a bicycle.

Party goes on for college spring breakers

Cancun, Jamaica most popular international beaches, while more seek adventure in Asia, Australia

AMSTERDAM — So there we

were, sipping shiraz at sunset

and minding our own business,

vindow. And then a hiss,

as I spun around.

when there was a rude rap at the

"Hullo? Goeiemiddag!" I said,

affecting my best Dutch greeting

"Honk!" responded the in

pecking at a porthole of our

truder: a handsome white swan

rented houseboat on the Amstel

That kind of thing happens

when you bunk on a barge, as we

did on a recent getaway to Ams-

more conventional lodging, but

hotel, schmotel. In this dreamy

everywhere, and you might as

pect when we booked ourselves

or bob up and down? Would we

get a hot shower and a decent

night's sleep? Would it smell like

fish? Would we bump our heads?

All our fears were unfounded

- and every expectation was ex-

Aboard the Verwisseling ("Ex-

Would we get cabin fever, or

change"), a 130-year-old steel-

hulled barge that once hauled

wood in and out of Amsterdan

day that's guaranteed to float

we enjoyed the kind of funky holi-

Amsterdam's waterways, in-

sluices through the city, are lined

with an estimated 2,500 house-

boats. So large and unruly is the

have slapped a freeze on the con-

Barges became a popular al-

flotilla, overwhelmed officials

struction of any new moorings

ternative in cramped Amster

the 1960s. Then, it was a bo-

dam during a housing crunch ir

hemian lifestyle and a bargain.

Today, it's mostly a yuppie sub-

culture, if only because boat

cluding the Amstel River that

vorse, become sensick?

onto one of the city's househosts

Would it rock back and forth,

We weren't sure what to ex-

European capital laced with

canals, there's water, water

vell stav on some.

terdam. Sure, we considered

NEW YORK — College students don't seem to be planning staycations for spring break. Bookings to popular beach destinations are strong, accord ing to travel companies, and volunteering vacations continue to gain momentum.

"Typically the student business is more resilient to the economy because it's like a once-in-alifetime trip," said Jason Chute, director of operations for StudentCity.com. "A lot of times kids will go no matter what." Here's how students will be

spending their break. INTERNATIONAL BEACHES: Cancun and Jamaica are top destinations for spring breakers, according to Patrick Evans of STA Travel. Some 30,000 revelers are expected to visit the beach spot in Mexico this year. The same number came to Cancun last year, according to Quintana Roo's

Tourism Office. Also popular is Acapulco, Mexico, according to Chute. Acapulco has some of the hottest nightclubs, and many are open all night, he said.

Scott Schechter, 22, a Boston University senior, said he was looking for that big-party atmosphere. "Generally, when I think of spring break, most of the nice spring break locations that aren't transatlantic would be in Mexico," he said. "The idea of traveling outside the country makes it a little more exciting." Perhaps because of the econ-

omy, more students are choosing the Party Bus this year, said Evans. The bus departs from locations in California, Texas, Arizona and New Mexico, to Mazatlan. Mexico. Prices for the seven-night trip (two nights on the bus), start at \$300 a person on StudentCity.com.

Besides Cancun, Puerto Vallarta and Los Cabos are the most popular international destinaions for people booking through Travelocity, according to Genevieve Shaw Brown, senior

But she said both have slipped in overall popularity from last

Students from the United States party it up in a hotel pool in Acapulco,

Mexico, a popular spring break destination. | EDUARDO VERDUGO~AP

year, which suggests people are vacationing closer to home. ADVENTURE: Demand for trips to Asia and Australia is up, according to Atle Skalleberg of StudentUniverse.com. And France, Italy, Spain and the U.K. remain popular too, he said. "The exchange rate is still not great for Americans, but it is a lot better and that seems to be enough." he said. "The other reason is we have had some pretty competitive pricing to Europe

Also popular this spring break are ski trips to Colorado, said Debbie Gibb of the Student and Youth Travel Association. Jennifer Rudolph, spokesperson for Colorado Ski Country USA, said resorts are offering more creative deals this year because of the economy. Colorado has also experienced near-record snow fall this season.

DOMESTIC: Panama City

to determine if the economy has

had a negative impact, so

Beach, Fla. remains a top destination for the college crowd, according to Chute. Once again the beach hosts mtvU's Spring Break party March 8-21. The beach's north Florida location makes it accessible for road trips, he said. Hotel bookings are strong, according to Dan Rowe, president and CEO of the Panama City Beach Convention and Visitor's Bureau, But he said it's too early

Panama City Beach is doing aggressive marketing. "In addition to college students, the month of April, we're really gearing out activities and

marketing to families," he said. The top three spring break destinations based on Travelocity bookings are Las Vegas, Orlando and south Florida. Las Vegas was No. 8 last year. Also making the top 10 this year was Washington, D.C. Travelocity does not separate bookings by families and students. In Vegas, average daily hotel

Travelocity's Brown. "So that combined with the fact that there are deals galore, free nights, two-for-one show tickets, Las Vegas is going to be more popular this year than last," she said. Also popular this year are

Padre Island, Texas, according to

South Beach in Miami and South

in Travel Expo. "We're farther away from Katrina, but President Obama was just elected," said Steven Rov

rates are down 28 percept, said

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK: It's been more than three years since Katrina, but spring break volunteering is growing exponentially, according to Andrea Hutchinson, of Adventures

Goodman, educational consultant. "There has been a real resurgence of a spirit of service.' set up almost 40 trips that are 100 percent carbon offset, and volunteering trips have gained sales momentum in the past year according to Christian Wolters

The great thing about alterna

Anna Rice, 19, a sophomore at Northeastern, hit up friends and family members to help with the cost of her trip to New Orleans. She is going to be rebuilding an animal shelter.

"I didn't have a lot of money and I wanted to go away for spring break," she said. "It

should be fun to do community service and I like animals." Jimmy Camacho, 26, a senior at San Diego State, will be working in Honduras to bring clean

water access to a village. This is his second volunteer trip there. About 40 students are going, and many of them are interested in the Peace Corps, he said. "I think this program was at-

tractive in that it's only a week

and not a two-year commitment,' he said. "It gives you work experience while allowing you to experience a new country and make a lot of new friends." Evans said Dominican Republic and Costa Rica are also drawing interest for volunteer oppor-

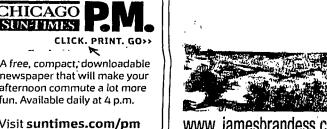
CRUISES: Cruise lines in gen-

eral do not market to college students, according to Heidi Allison-Shane, spokesperson for CruiseCompete.com. But that doesn't stop college kids from

Chute said cruises to the Bahamas are popular this year. Spring breakers drive to Fort Lauderdale and take a Discovery cruise ship to Freeport, where they spend four nights. Prices start at \$400 per person on StudentCity.com. Cameron Pittman, 21, a senior

at Vanderbilt, said it's tradition for the seniors in his fraternity to take a cruise. About 25 of them are going to the Caribbean with Norwegian Cruise Line, departing from New Orleans. Other groups on campus are taking the same seven-day cruise, he said. Pittman has gone to Panama City Beach and Destin, Fla., for previous spring breaks, which he said were "kind of boring." There's more to do on a cruise,

he said. "I can't wait." he said. "Everybody can't wait. It's going to be a



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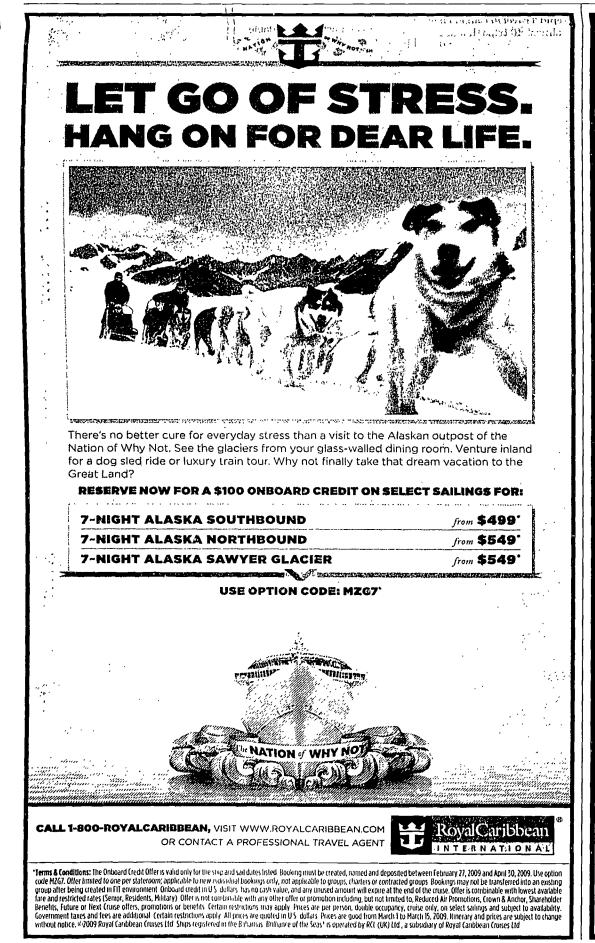


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FROM THE COVER

CRUISE | Six days at sea sail by when you have a spa, planetarium and plenty to do

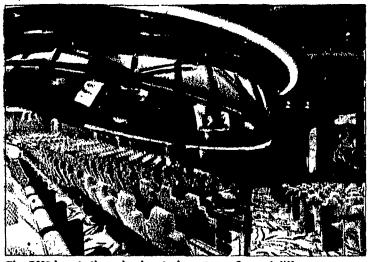
Carpathia rescued more than 700 survivors of the Titanic, whose watery grave was only a couple hundred miles away from our route across the Atlantic.

When you're not boning up on Cunard's colorful past, you can pass the time with the typical cruise ship offerings: casino, art auctions, enrichment classes. But the QM2 also has some unique perks, like the 20,000-square-foot Canyon Ranch Spa outfitted with an elaborate pool, herbal sauna, aromatic steam room and ornately tiled chamber for Middle Eastern mud cleansing rituals. That's the fun part. The not-as-fun part is a gym and weight room with enough equipment to ensure supply always exceeds demand - even on a ship

For lazier pursuits, the QM2 also has the only planetarium at sea. Tilt back your recining seat and look up at the overhead projection screen to watch shows about the origin of the universe. Or check out a book from the world's largest floating library, totaling more than 8,000 titles.

The choices seemed endless. Should I take an indoor cycling class or an acting workshop led by graduates of London's Royal Academy of Dramatic Art? Go on a bubbly binge in the Venve Clicquot Champagne Bar or listen to guest author Joanne Harris talk about writing a Chocolat sequel?

I could learn to paint watercolor or take in one of the many lectures, the most intriguing of



The QM2 boasts the only planetarium at sea. Several different space shows are shown in the 150-seat facility, where the seats tilt back.

which was titled "Forensics for Everyone: Let's Bump Off

A long list of activity options came delivered to our cabin each evening in the glossy "Daily Programme" — the British spelling being one of the ship's many Angle touches. Others bushed of the glo touches. Others include afternoon high tea, portraits of the queen, fish 'n' chips at the Golden Lion Pub and trivia competitions rigged in favor of the mostly. British crowd. Example: What are the first names of the founders of the department store Marks & Spencer? This prompted an indignant American to pipe up: How about the first names of Sears and Roebuck?

Given that this was a cruise, we spent a fair bit of our time doing what cruise passengers do best: eating.
"With a transatlantic crossing,

your audience is here for six days. You'd better have enough food to feed them," said chef Jean-Marie Zimmermann, a Frenchman who oversees Cunard's cuisine. "We've done these so often I know exactly how much to purchase."

Zimmermann's lengthy shopping list includes 18 pounds of caviar, 1,000 pounds of lobster, 4,500 pounds of beef and 8,000 pounds of chicken. A team of 150 chefs staff QM2's 10 dining venues, which range from the soar-

IF YOU GO

TRANSATLANTIC CROSSINGS: This year, Cunard Line's Queen Mary 2 has 25 transatlantic cross. ings scheduled, including the classic six-day voyages between Southampton, England, and New York; two eight-day trips between Hamburg, Germany, and New York; one eight-day trip from Boston via New York to Southampton, and one nine-day crossing from Southampton via New York to Halifax and Boston. (In total, Cunard's two ocean liners, the QM2 and Queen Victoria, will run more than 60 departures calling on ports in 34 countries.)

WHEN TO GO: Transatlantic crossings start in April and end in November. Keep in mind that the weather in the North Atlantic ocean is unpredictable, and rough waves are a possibility anytime of year. In September, we could definitely feel the boat pitching and

ing, three-story main dining room to the intimate, self-titled restaurant by celebrity chef Todd English, where it's worth forking over the \$30 cover charge for dinner at least once during the course of the cruise.

Passengers staying in suites instead of normal staterooms have their own dining rooms, the Princess and Queen grills, where you're allowed to deviate from the menu and order whatever you like. Zimmermann promises they'll make it, as long as they

rolling some days. People prone to seasickness should come prepared with their preferred remedy. The ship's doctor also can give in-

jections to relieve symptoms.

SPECIAL DATES: Cunard has scheduled guest authors, playwrights and poets to sail on many of its ocean crossings this year: Kathryn Harrison (April 20), Oscar Hijuelos (May 8), Rita Dove (May Hijuelos (May 8), Rita Dove (May 25), E. L. Doctorow (May 31), Erica Jong (June 13), Susan Cheever (June 25), Amy Bloom (July 6), Brad Gooch (July 30) and John Guare (Sept. 8).

COST: Fares start at \$795 a person, based on double accurancy.

son, based on double occupancy, for inside cabins on some six-day transatlantic crossings. Prices go up for cabins with a window or balcony or larger suites on the

Princess and Queen grills.

CONTACT: (800) 728-6273, cu nard.com

have the ingredients on board. "People order things Cunard hasn't had on the menu for years,

but guests remember it from a previous cruise," Zimmermann said. "When a meal is special, people remember.'

Nostalgia runs deep with a lot of Cunard passengers — especially those who salled on the original Queen Mary. That legendary vessel retired from regular passenger service in 1967 after 1,001 crossings of the Atlantic. I crashed a reunion of previous Queen Mary guests during my QM2 cruise. Many of them had photos and souvenirs from their past voyages. A few folks got

teary-eyed recalling their stories. "It was the most famous ship in the world," said Anders Tuxen, 78, of Denmark. He and his new bride boarded the Queen Mary in 1954 for a trip that ultimately ended in Chicago, where he had a Fulbright scholarship to study pharmacology.

A woman from Atlanta showed me an old menu she saved from a Queen Mary voyage 52 years earlier. She was only 6 months old at the time. She and her Scottish mother sailed on the Queen Mary to their new home in America.

Getting that first glimpse of the U.S. shore after days spent on the ocean - it's a memory shared by millious of immigrants, my father included. That view was the carrot on the stick that roused me out of bed at the unholy hour of 4 a.m. the last day of the cruise. I wanted to watch as we pulled into New York's harbor.

Plenty of passengers had the same idea. We gathered on deck in the chilly, pre-dawn air. When the QM2 slowly crept under the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, we looked in disbelief as her regal funnel missed the bridge's bottom by just a few feet.

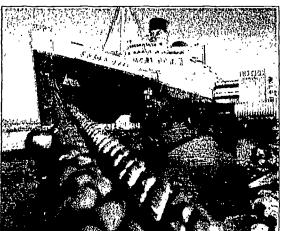
In the distance glowed the Statue of Liberty, a fitting welcome home from an epic voyage.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Cunard Line's fleet still has two queens sailing the seas: Queen Mary 2 the flagship for transatlantic crossings, and Queen Victoria, which went into service in 2007.

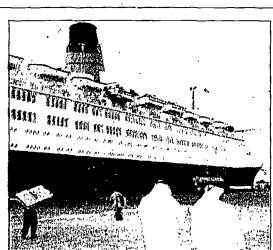
The cruise line also is building a new ocean liner, Queen Elizabeth, scheduled to make its maiden voyage in autumn

Two retired queens -Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth 2 — no longer ply the waters but they're



QUEEN

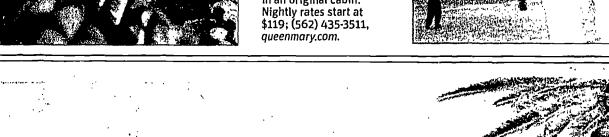
This floating Art Deco masterpiece and World War II troopship ended her sailing days in 1967 and is now a 314-room hotel in Long Beach, Calif. People can take tours of this historic ocean liner, eat at one of the ship's three restaurants or spend the night in an original cabin.



QUEEN ELIZABETH 2

After 40 years at sea, Queen Elizabeth 2 late last year arrived in Duhai, where she's supposed to start her new life as a luxury hotel. Cunard sold QE2 to the state-run conglomerate Dubai World for about \$100 million. Plans call for transforming the ship into a hotel/entertainment complex moored in the Persian Gulf off Dubai's artificial palm-shaped island. Speculation about whether these lofty plans will come to fruition has increased in recent months, as the global economic crisis has forced Dubai to scale back some of its most ambitious projects; nakheel.com.



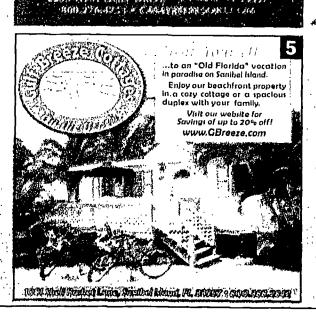






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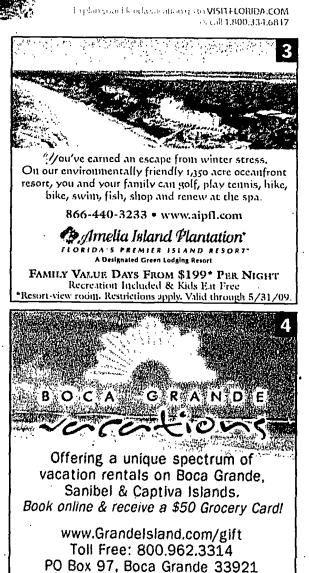
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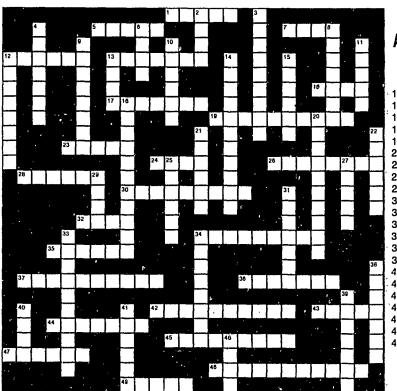
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ACROSS

- 1. Once popular roof trim 5. Series of tight turns
- 7. Signal or brake
- 2. Pink Panther "Smart" ride 13. Clean-up spot
- 16. Radiators and sharks have these
- 17. A part with a post 19. Barracuda brethren
- 23. a.k.a. body filler 24. A 70-year old Swede
- 26. Ford in "American Graffiti 28. Fully optioned auto
- Non-power windows (sland) 32. Spark plug wire end
- 34 '40s fastback Chevy 35. Once-common shift spot
- 37. Rescue tool "of life"
- 38. Turned 45 in 2009 Corvair-based minivan 43. Trap or bump
- Camaro, Mustang, Challenger 45. Connects to CV joint
- 47. Chrysler powered Brit car, once
- 48. Italian brand owned by Audi 49. Honda's variable cam timing

ANSWERS

DOWN

9. Pickup state

11. A "shifty" Olds?

14. Flywheel cover

15. Gasket materia

12. V8 launched in 1932

18. A Vantage for this company

13. Borders the road

__ running lights

- 2. Rambler maker 3. Pedestrian zone 22. Mr. Fisker
- 4. Aspen's relation 6. Currency or VW Van
 - 31. Handa's first Hybrid
- 10. Lowering your ride changes this 33. A function of torque and rpm
 - 36. Auto-manual shift levers
 - 40. Toyota-powered Pontiac
 - 41, GMC's Astro
 - 46. Lower a vehicle (slag)

20. Trucker slang 21. 1930s Indiana-based marque

- 25. Cambridge or Powers 27. Earl MacPherson's invention 29. Vehicle line honors Enzo's son
- 34. Attaches to crankshaft
- 39. Max rev indicator

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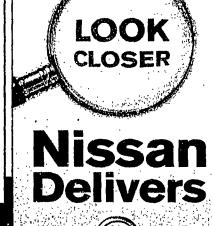
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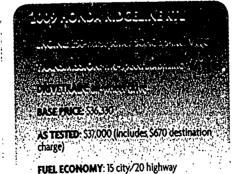
Honda's 2009 Ridgeline revise brings improvements A few surprises include poor panel fit, heavy use If you're familiar with the Honda Ridgeline, BY JEFF TAYLOR
SearchChicago-Autos Writer you won't notice the exterior changes upon first of hard, shiny plastic pieces and odd placement of some switches and controls. This is very un-Honda. glance, but there are differences. The front and I was not a big fan of the soft-looking I-londa Under the slightly revised sheet metal is an rear styling updates put the 2009 Ridgeline more all-aluminum, 60-degree, SOHC 3.5-liter VTEC Ridgeline pickup when it debuted three years ago. in line with other Honda family members, espe-I mean, here was a midsize pickup based on a engine producing 250 horsepower at 5,700 rpm cially the Pilot crossover. minivan platform trying to invade the rough-and-The Ridgeline's redesigned wheel openings and 247 pound-feet of torque at 4,300 rpm. Ridtumble truck segment. I still don't embrace the geline's variable valve timing enhances low rpm and new bumpers do help to reduce the soft look. Ridgeline as a full-fledged member of the midsize torque while extending high rpm horsepower for The closed-box, unit-body architecture provides

pickup segment, but my resistance is fading fast.

In the pickup world, it's all about macho looks, ground clearance, payload and towing capacity. All things the Ridgeline doesn't really excel in. So why is the glacier melting? Ride, handling and convenience.

The Ridgeline was never intended to be a work truck. A big percentage of truck sales are for personal-use buyers who don't need the full capabilities of a body-on-frame pickup. So personal-use buyers are accepting vehicles like the Ridgeline and passenger-car-based crossovers as easier-to-use alternatives.

autoSPECS



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big gains in rigidity compared to traditional bodya big reason why the Ridgeline has class-leading broader at rpms as low as 2,500 - while maintainride and handling.

At the business end of the Ridgeline, the cargo area measures 49.5 inches wide between the pands to a total of 79 inches. Honda indicates that the tailgate is rated to support up to 300 pounds (while the vehicle is moving) and can easily close with contaminates like sand, snow or mad in the tailgate can be opened flat or swing out.

On the inside, styling updates include revised three-dimensional-style gauges, a new steering wheel design and enhanced controls, buttons and displays for the air conditioning, audio, cruise control and headlights. New technology-friendly features include the addition of a 115-volt power outlet on my Ridgeline RTL test vehicle. The pickup holds up to five people or allows for cargo and gear. I appreciated the headroom, legroom and wide, supportive seating. Behind the wheel you sit up high for a decent view of the road.

In the rear there is plenty of legroom, but the seat backs are a bit upright and could use a bit more padding. Because the Ridgeline is based on Houda's minivan platform, it has a flat floor unlike most crew-cab-style pickups.

a broad, confidence-inspiring power band. For on-frame designs and provides the foundation for 2009, the engine produces 3 more horsepower the Ridgeline's interior cabin and bed. It is also and a torque curve that is up to 10 pound-feet ing the same fuel economy as 2008.

The Ridgeline comes only with a five-speed antomatic dash-mounted transmission. Fuel econowheel wells, 20.7 inches deep and 60 inches long. — my numbers for the Ridgeline are 15 city mpg and Put the load-bearing tailgate down and length ex- 20 highway mpg. 1 don't think these are compelling numbers since the bigger and heavier F-150 gets slightly better numbers and can tow/haul a lot more. While it is true that the Ridgeline rides/handles better than full-size trucks, it should do better space between the bumper and the tailgate. The in the mileage department for what you are giving up versus a traditional pickup.

l wasn't overly impressed with Ridgeline's acceleration: The engine runs out of steam when pushed and will probably be taxed when handling a full payload amount or towing up to 5,000 pounds. Flonda's only pickup is rated for a 1,550-pound total vehicle payload.

The Ridgeline's all-wheel drive feature provided good traction while driving through the winter slop. Just don't get any ideas about serious trail hopping because the tires, suspension set up, ground clearance and lack of a low-speed transfer SUV, it is competitive with some full-size trucks case will ensure that your trip into the woods will · be a short one.

Ridgelines have a fully independent suspension with MacPherson struts in the front and a multilink with trailing arm design in the rear. Engi-



neers really enhanced the Ridgeline's ride through the vehicle stability assist system with active yaw control that monitors cornering stability and seamlessly integrates traction control, four-wheel drive, anti-lock braking, throttle control and stability control functions by modulating brake power at each wheel and controlling throttle input. The VSA system doesn't make the ride carlike, but it doesn't feel like a truck either. The Ridgeline is predictable and nimble with decent steering.

The Honda Ridgeline is really the un-truck of midsize trucks and has the pricing to support that statement. My well-equipped 2009 Honda Ridgeline RTL AWD test truck had a base price of \$36,330. With a \$670 destination charge it topped out at an even \$37,000. While that number may not seem high for a well-equipped car or a midsize that carry more, have more interior room, return nearly the same gas mileage figures and take you to that remote fishing spot.

In the Ridgeline's favor are resale value, reliability, convenience features and driving ease.

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2005 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER Loaded, automatic, air condi oning, power windows, power locks, AMTM/CD, bit steeening, Low mikes, CERTRIED! Only 57995	2002 JEEP WRANGLER 4X4 Hard and Soft Tops, automatic, air Londitroning, power steering, power stakes, AMFMCD. 57995	2004 PONTIAC SUNFIRE Loaded, 2.2. 4 cyf. automatic, air conditioning, power steering. power brakes. Great on Gast 58# 1-0067-9 Oaty \$6995	
2002 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 4X4 Fully kaded, automatic, air conditioning, power windows, oney\$7995		2002 SATURN VUE 4X4 Loaded, 3.0 Vis. automatic, au conditioning, power windows, power loads, AMFMCD, III coales, still 1-0074-9 2008 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER LX	2005 CHEVY AVEO LS 4DR Great on gast Automatic, au condition, power steeving. Downer brakes, balance of lactory warrafty, std 2-01759-0nily 3,300 Miles 2003 MONDA ODYSSEY EX
2004 HONDA CRVIC LX Loaded, automatic, air conditioning, powe windows, power locks, AMFMCD, bit, cruise, skul 12-1550U-8		Fully backel, 24L, automatic, ar conditioning, sode arthaps, keyless entry, hid power, AMFM COSAtelitie Radio sike 12-01315P-8 Octoy \$9995 2005 CHEVY EQUINOX LS	power siding doors, ABS, prenium stereo stk/ 11-01220P-8 omly \$7995 2004 NISSAN PATHFINDER 4X4
2001 CHRYSLER SEBRING LIMITED CONVERTIBLE Loaded, automatic, ar conditioning, pointer infodores, power locks, power log, AMFMOD, bit, cruise, 1 owner, only 48% certified miles. Only 8995	Absolutely loaded, leather interior, automatic, air conditiorung, power vindows, power locks, AM-FALCO, bit, cruise Only\$9995	Fully leaded, 3-ft. V6, auto, ar conditioning, full power, keyless entry, AMFINTO, luggage rack, rear spoiler, stw 1-0105-9 2004 CHRYSLER PACIFICATION TOURING AWD 10th leaded 2 ft Execution 2 ft mouth in the conditioning awd	2005 HYUNDAI TUSCON V6
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2006 JEEP LIBERTY 4X4 Loaded, Chrysler certified, automatic, for conditioning, ower windows, power locks, AMFMCO. Only \$12,995		icks, AMFM/CD. rear defrost. Great on gast stat 2-0215-9 Only* I U, 333 2008 DODGE AVENGER SXT	ZUUD MINI LUUPEN 3 LUNYENIIDLE
2005 CHEVY EXPRESS CARGO VAN Flety backed, automatic, ar conditioning power steering, power brakes, power windows, power backs, AM TAKES, Ready for Words Orany \$12,995		Fully loaded, 2-fl., acts, lemp, corbot, power seat, set a-thorse, AUFNLOD w/Satekie radio, altumium wheeks, factory warranty, schil-1-0111199 (may	2007 ACURA RDX
2006 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY Loaded, automatic, air conditioning, chrome wheels, power windows, power locks, AMFMCO. Casty		2006 JEEP WRANGLER X 4X4 Loaded: 4 O. G. of. automatic, air condoning, hard too. AMFMCD, aluminum wheels, OWL tires, six 4 1-00867-9 only \$ 14,995	2003 FORD SUPER DUTY F250 EXTENDED CAB
2007 FORD ESCAPE XLT Loaded, 3 OL Vo. moorroot, power seat, ASS, bull power, AMFMCD, bit, cruise Low males! stul* 12-1528 Oady \$ 13,995	2008 DODGE AVENGER SXT Lossed 2.41, automatic, as conditioning, power seat, full power, AMTHACOScience Radio, bit, crusse. CERTIFED! sixto 1-090P-9 Dealy \$ 14,995	2006 PONTIAC G6 GT COUPE Fully loaded 3 S. V6. Dower Surroof, Build air. ABS, full dower, BUMPER-TO-BUMPE	2008 DODGE RAM 1500 BIG HORN 4X4 OUAD CAB
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	2009 SCION XD Losset automatic, ar conditoring power windows, power locks, MLTHCO Only 1,700 certified miles! slik 12-1527-8 Only \$ 14,995	2007 TOYOTA COROLLA S 4DR Leated, ant. ar condenung, his power toy lamps. ANFANCO, factory burger to bumper warranty Super Sharp, sits 11-13099-8 only \$ 74,995	2003 CHRYSLER YOWN & COUNTRY EX Fully loaded, leather interior, 3rd row, 7-passenger, auto, air conducting, power windows, power ocks, AMFMCD. Only \$6995
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	2006 JEEP COMMANDER Loaded, CHRYSLER CERTIFEO, 4 TL V8 auto, air conditioning. 515,995 hill power, keyless entry, AMFM/CD.	2005 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY LIMITED Absolutely loaded, nampation, moorrood, leather, fosted soats, near 515,995	2004 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 4X4 Lockd, automatic, air conditioning, power windows, power locks, Authorito, Dit, cruss, sith 2-0202-9 2004 GMC ENVOY SLT
	2005 HONDA ACCORD EX COUPE Fully loaded, leather interior, moormoof, only 25k certified miles, ar , power windows, p-wer looks, AMFAICO. Only \$ 15,995	2008 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA Fully loaded, automatic, air conditioning, power windows, power locks, AMFH/CD, stul 7-9289-8 Onty 5 16,995	Fully leads, automatic, air conditioning, power windows, power locals, AMFMCD, bit, cruise, trailer from situl 2-0200-9 Only\$8995
	2008 JEEP COMMANDER 4X4 Fully loaded. 7-passenger, 3rd row seat, automatic, sir conditioning, full power, AMFMCD, bit, cruise. Only \$16,995	2008 DODGE CHARGER SXT Fully leaded, 3.5, 16, autostick, ar conditioning, power seal, leyers entry, MATHACO WASHER radio, 276 well army, situ 12-1481 Only \$ 16,995	Loaded, 3 lbt. Vis, heated power leather seets, climate control, quad seats, rear DND, power Impale, AMFANCO cascette stal 1-0045P-9 Daily \$9995 2005 JEEP LIBERTY 4X4
	2006 CADILLAC STS Absolutely loaded, moornool, leather interior, healed seats, power windows, power locks, AMFH/co. Cally\$16,995	2005 AUDI A4 Absolutely based, leather interior, moorcool, automatic, air. power windows, power locks, AMFMCD, styl 7-836P-8 Only \$ 17,995	Fully loaded, eutomatic, au conditioning, power windows, power locks, AMFMCO, tit, cruse, sixt 2-0201-9 2004 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 4X4 Also later loaded, monrod, leather interior, heated seats, automatic.
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	2006 JEEP WRANGLER RUBICON UNLIMITED 4X4 3.71. 6 cyt., Command Tree 4 wheel drive, bir conditioning, power steering, power brakes, AMFMCD. Fantastic Off-Road Funt Only \$18,995	2007 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED 4DR 4X4 Loaded, automatic, air conditioning, power windows, power locks, AMFAICO. Only 5 19,995	heated seats, Stow IN Go trax OVD entertainment, but power, I & LED GITUUS & 2006 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4 Absolutely leaded, moorroof, leather interior, automatic, air conditioning, but power, AMFWCD, but, cruise, stxl 1-0039 pp.j., \$ 17,995
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2007 LEXUS LS 460 LWB 2007 LEXUS IS 460 LWB

LETT, 18 IN actions texture, neutral substituted pines tremot seats.

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2007 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4

Absolutely koaded, navigation, moorrod, leather interior.

2006 DODGE CHARGER R/T DAYTONA EDITION

Fully koaded, 5.71, V9 HEMI, leather Interior, sports seats, auto.

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Absolutely koaded, moorrod, leather healed seats, power windows, power lock, AMPANDO, set 1-011019-9

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2008 CHRYSLER SEBRING CONVERTIBLE

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2008 CHRYSLER SEBRING CONVERTIBLE

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2008 CHRYSLER 300 C HEMI power windows power locks, AMFANTOD, bit, crusse, shid 2-01700 finity... 17,995
2006 CHRYSLER 300 C HEMI
Berhart Back 15 71. V9 HEMI, Accordingly backed, recornory, leather, shid, and conditioning, his power, shid 2-02111-9
2006-2009 JEEP COMMANDER 4X4s
UMRIERS, SPECAL EDRIONS, SPORTS
7 ROO CHROOSE
2004 CHRYSLER CROSSFIRE
Finity backed 32 Ni, sebra intent, and, as headed seal, left power, power loop, and AMFANCO and yet leaded 30 of the sealing have grown small AMFANCO and yet lines, and 1-0112-9
2006 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER CONVERTIBLE
2 Ni (Incho. ads., as / AMFANCO, are shed & lamble spit bench seal;
admirtum Hessel, Chrysler Carbod, 18th Reise 311-1012-51 posty... 11, 995
2004 CHRYSLER SEBRING LIMITED CONVERTIBLE
Absolutely lorded, leather intent, auto, are conclosing, power loop.
3 power windows, power look, AMFANCO, and 1-03038-9
2002 GADILLAC DEVILLE 2002 CADILLAC DEVILLE

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stopped the bleeding. Not cutting 50,000 jobs in the

United States. Not closing 11 factories. Not \$13.4 bil-

The teetering company, once the symbol of Amer-

only hope of living another year is more aid from the

GM has continued to spend on a company too big

Expenses are so high and income so low that GM

for the market, paying workers when plants are closed

and covering other costs such as machinery, market-

warned that auditors are reviewing whether it can con-

tinue as a "going concern." Auditors are determining

whether there is substantial doubt about the compa-

To many, though, the doubt has existed a long

time. The company has piled up \$82 billion in losses

during the last four years, much of it in restructuring

"It's really a bit of a stamp of notice on something

structuring specialist for the audit, tax and advisory ly challenging."

we already recognize," said Kimberly Rodriguez, re-

firm Grant Thornton LLC. "The fact that they're into

the government for financing in order to maintain vi-

ability pretty much says there's a going concern prob-

GM executives met for several hours with mem-

bers of President Barack Obama's auto industry task

force last week. Company spokesman Greg Martin

said the meeting "was just the beginning of the hard

force to understand our business, industry challenges

"We found a genuine willingness among the task

work ahead for GM and the president's team."

and GM's restructuring plan," Martin said.

ing, pensions and health care.

ny's ability to stay in business.

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2005 NISSAN FRONTIER SE KING CAB 4WD Stk. #57866 \$11,250*
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2008 FORD E350 SUPER DUTY XLT CLUB WAGON Std. rf58020 2004 FOND ESSO SOFER DUTY ACT CLUB WACON SIC #58020
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2004 LINCOLN HAVIGATOR ULTIMATE 4WD St. #57994
2008 SUBARU TRIBECA LIMITED AWD St. #2595
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2007 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER PREMIER AWD #5793
2005 INFINITI FX35 AWD St. #57943
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CARS

2002 PONTIAC FIREBIRD 6501 7-Tops! Str. #29266
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2005 DODGE MAGNUM SE Str. #28970
2004 HONDA ACCORD EX Str. #28970
2005 CHRYSLER 300 Str. #757901 \$8,450* \$8,350* \$10,995* \$12,450* \$12,650* \$12,650* \$13,750* \$13,750* \$13,950* \$13,950* \$14,450* \$14,450* \$14,650* \$16,250* 2007 DODGE CALIBER SXT 5K, #28856 2007 HYUNDAI ELANTRA LIMITED #29227 2007 FORD MUSTANG DELUXE V6 5tk. #28993 2007 FORD MUSIANG DELOXE VO 584 F289
2007 FORD TAURUS SEL 584 F2868
2007 FORD FIVE HUNDRED SEL 584 FF57627 2005 CHEVROLET COBALT SS SUPERCHARGED Str. #23122 2005 LINCOLN LS Str. #3M0001 2005 HONDA ACCORD SE Str. #3M0005 2008 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GP Str. #F57788
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Beijing Auto mum on report it may bid for Chrysler

BY ELAINE KURTENBACH

SHANGHAI - Officials at Chrysler LLC and Chinese carmaker Beijing Automotive Industry Holding Corp. refused comment last week on a report that the Chinese automaker might bid for assets of Chrysler LLC.

The state-run newspaper China Business News, citing an unnamed Beijing Auto executive, said Beijing Automotive wanted to acquire Chrysler assets using an approach similar to that taken by Nanjing Automobile (Group) Corp.'s when it bought defunct automaker MG Rover Group.

The aim, China Business News said, was to acquire production facilities and technology to build up Beijing Auto's own brand vehicles. The Beijing city govcrnment might also provide support for such a deal, it

Staff at Beijing Auto's headquarters in Beijing, however, refused comment.

"Oh, I know what you are calling for, but it is not convenient to answer that question," said Jiang Wei, a staffer in the company's publicity department. David Elshoff, spokesman for the Auburn Hills,

Mich.-based Chrysler, also refused comment in an e-"Chrysler does not comment on rumors or specu-

private discussions," Elshoff wrote.

identified more than \$1 billion worth of "non-earning" assets it wants to sell, and it has completed selling \$700 million worth. The company's viability plan submitted to justify its \$4 billion in U.S. government loans says that Chrysler plans to sell the remaining \$300 million in assets, Elshoff wrote.

Like other Chinese automakers, Beijing Auto is

In 1984, Beijing Auto was the local partner in Motor Corp., Beijing Jeep Corp.

Chrysler became Beijing Auto's partner when it bought out AMC in 1987. Later, DaimlerChrysler AG launched a factory making Mercedes-Benz and Chrysler sedans. But Chrysler withdrew from the venture after it was acquired by Cerberus in 2007,

But his message pointed out that Chrysler has

The automaker, which reported a \$9.6 billion and throwing more money at them," he said.

again he said.

through 2008

The U.S. anto industry as a whole has high fixed

costs and is stuck with them regardless of whether

sales drop, said Efraim Levy, a Standard & Poor's Eq-

uity Research analyst. But once demand returns to

cover the costs, the industry can become profitable

go up by a few million units per year," Levy said.

"Even Toyota is losing money in this environment."

Department to justify more loans said the company

would close five more U.S. factories and cut another

47,000 jobs globally. GM also reached a tentative deal

with the United Auto Workers on concessions that

will reduce labor costs. It expects to post a profit on

by another \$4.5 billion in 2009, from \$30.8 billion to

\$26.3 billion. The company said it cut North Ameri-

can structural costs by roughly \$12 billion from 2005

which has been around for decades.

Young said GM would reduce its structural costs

an adjusted, pre-tax basis, by 2010.

"Things will look different when you see demand

Last week, a plan GM submitted to the Treasury

fourth-quarter loss, burned up \$6.2 billion in those

last three months of 2008, including a \$4 billion gov-

ernment loan as the company fought the worst U.S.

Chief Financial Officer Ray Young told report-

Much of this year's cash burn can be attributed to

GM and other automakers took the unprecedent-

ers and industry analysts that GM expects to burn

through \$14 billion funding its operations this year,

the temporary shutdown of GM plants early in the

ed move of shutting down many factories for most of

January to stop cars from piling up with low consum-

er demand. But GM's size, with 243,000 employees

worldwide and 47 factories in the United States alone,

a dismal 10.5 million vehicles in the United States this

year, down from 13.2 million in 2008. But GM says it

can't break even until U.S. sales reach 11.5 million to

Young said. 'But at the same time we recognize that

the industry conditions in '09 are going to remain fair-

cy at low sales volume, and there's no guarantee it can

hold its market share even if U.S. auto sales rehound

to 12 million next year, said Kevin Tynan, an industry

analyst for Argus Research in New York, GM ended

last year with 21.6 percent of the U.S. market, down

rests with the government and how long it is willing to

written already except for the government coming in

The future of the storied company, Tynan said,

"By all intents and purposes, their story has been

GM simply has too many fixed costs to make mon-

"We're not pleased with a negative \$14 billion cash flow burn; that's still a very, very sizable amount,"

The automaker expects the entire industry to sell

which raises the need for more government help.

sales climate since 1982

keeps its fixed costs high.

year, he said.

12 million

1.6 points from 2007.

subsidize the cash burn.

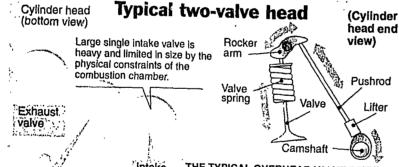
Chrysler's majority owner is private-equity firm Cerberus Capital Management LP. The company lost 58 billion last year and is seeking billions more in government help as well as the \$4 billion it has already

keen to build up a globally competitive brand name. Its chairman, Xu Heyi, has expressed interest in fortifying the company through acquisitions and mergers.

China's first automaking joint venture, with American

leaving Daimler as the foreign partner.

Beijing Auto is also a partner with Korean autolation, nor does it confirm or disclose the nature of its maker Hyundai Motor Co.



Valves: more is usually better

fuel. Hence, a growing number of new engines use four- and even five-

use two-valve technology (possible because of the large cylinder bore),

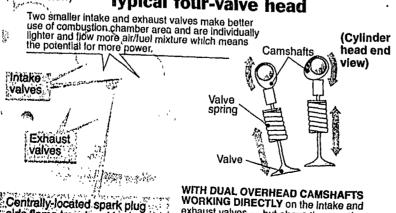
valve technology, which maximizes the circular surface area of the

To squeeze every ounce of power and economy out of a small-displacement

engine, manufacturers have to make them more efficient at moving air and

combustion chamber. Still, plenty of vehicles, even the Chevrolet Corvette,

THE TYPICAL OVERHEAD VALVE SETUP Spark plug location. has many moving parts: the more surfaces that touch one another, the more wear and valve tear the engine endures and the less precise Cylinder head (bottom view) Typical four-valve head



Centrally-located spark plug alds flame travel and improves combustion - more power and better fuel economy.

exhaust valves - but above them - there are fewer moving parts. As well, the valves are smaller, hence less valve-spring fatigue and higher rev capabilities (which usually increases

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loke vlow, Rent \$600/m
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OB CH 17028.
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Into pursuant to a
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LL 6866, soil at public ouction to the highest bidder, os
soil torth below, the tollowing
described roal estate is improved
with a single family residence. The ludgmann omount
was \$668,702.30. Solo torms:
25% down of the highest bid

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without recourse to it and in "AS IS" condi- ho sale is turther sub-	60062. (847) 498-9990. betwoon 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. weok- days only. 1153147	ony representation as to the quality of title or recourse to Plaintift. Prospective bid-	COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION	IL. 60606. soli of public ouc- tion to the highest bidder, os sot terth below, the following	ond without recourse to Plointiff and in AS IS condi- tion. The solo is turthor sub- loct to confirmation by the	court tile to verity oil inter- motion. It this property is o condominium unit, the pur-	SUITE 100. BURR RIDG IL 60527. (630) 794-9876 tween the hours at 1 god 2
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The Purchosor sholl no further recourse if the Mortgager the	LINCOLNWOOD IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF Cook County, Illinois	Shopiro. 4201 Loko Cook Rd 1st floor. Northbrook. Illinois 60062. (847) 498-9990. botwoon	MOHAMMAO A. MALIK VK/A MOHAMMAD MALIK tol Octondants	dox No. 10-20-432-002. The reel ostate is improved with a sin- ple temily residence. The	only to a roturn of the deposit pold. The Purchasor shell have no further recourse against the Mortagans, the	required by The Condominium Property Act. 765 (LCS 605/7(9)(1) and (9)(4). IF	TION One South West Orivo. 24th Floor. Chicogo.
ogee or the Mortgogeo's Y. Upon peyment in A the emount bid, the F	County Oppartment Choncory Olvision. Mutual Bank. Plaintitt. ys.	doys only. 1156385 Published in Plencer Press 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/09 (1674260) C	NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HERE-	tuggment emount wes it sales, 194.27. Solo terms: 25% codown of the highest bid by it cortified tunds at the circumstance.	Mortgogoo or the Mortgogoo's ottornoy. Upon poyment in ull of the emount bid, the	GOR (HOMEOWNER). YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO RE-	NOTE: Pursuant to the P Debt Collection Procti Act, you are advised to
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4-08-12068. THE JU- IN 26ALES CORPORA- NO 10 South Wacker Sub-	itiod tunds. bolonco with 25% hours, by certified tunds. by rotunds. The sole shell be at t	s \$351,131.88. Solo torms: only 6 down of the highest bld polo cortified tunds of the close have	ho sole shall be ontitled sol to a return of the doposit shall. The Purchosor shall on	o, other then a mortgogoo null pay the assessments Did the logal toos required by Tic	mbor 14-08-15067. THE JU-FCIAL SALES CORPORA-FON SOUTH	MAC MORTGAGE, LLC pridintitiv. DORINA C. The	1-1023 The rool ostato is im ovod with a condominium to judgment omount we
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A Pioneer Press Publication (DC)

Foreclosure Sales • Real Estate



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	ogoinst sold real ostato and is
M. of al Defendants CH 31045 NOTICE OF SALE JBLIC NOTICE IS HERE- CGIVEN that pursuant to a	representation as to quality or quantity at title and with- out recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sole
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NUSELMAN. KAPPIN 68 SWANG. LTO 39 South Sollo Stroet - Suito 1105. IICAGO. IL 60603. (312) 372- 10. Ploose rotor to 1110 num- r 09-2222-7648. THE JUOI AL SALES CORPORA- DN Ono South Wockor DN 24th Eleor Chicago II. 10. 24th Eleor Chicago II.	ANTS: Oofondonts. 08 CH 309S5 NOTICE OF SALE
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bblishod in Pionoor Pross /5. 3/12. 3/19/09 (1674278) C	PUBLIC NOTICE is horoby given that pursuont to 0 Judg-ment of Foreclosure entored in the obove entitled couse on 1/5/2009, intercounty Judiciol Solos Corporotion will on Tuesday, April 7, 2009, of the hour of 11 o.m. in their office of 120 West Madison Street, Sulte 718A, Chicago, Illinois, soil to the highest bidder for cosh, the following described property: P.I.N. 09-13-429-010. Commenty known as 8805
ORTON GROVE N THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY.	OLEANDER AVENUE,
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GAGE	Judicial Salas Carparation will an Manday, March 30, 2009, at the hour at 11 a.m., in	Act. y Plointi
LAW is horoby to o Judg	their office at 120 West Modi- son Street, Sulle 718A. Chico-	ing to a
o ontorod I couso on / Judiciol	mant of Furciosure entered in the obevo entitled cruse en Januery 15, 2009. Intercounty Judiciol Soles Corporation will en Monday, Morch 30, 2009, et the hour of 11 e.m. in their ettics of 120 Wost Madison Stroot, Sullo 718A. Chicoballinois, soil to the highest bidder for cosh, the following described mortgogod real	usod fo
will on	ostoto:	2/19. 2
V Judiciol Will on 109. of the noir office on Stroot. b. Illinois.	Commonly known os 7137 Emorson St., Morton Grovo, IL 60053, P.I.N, 10-18-117-002, The Improvement on the	NORRI IN TH
o, Illinols. olddor for doscribod 13-429-010.	The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. Solo forms:	COUN
as 880S	fomily residence. Solo terms: Biddors must prosent, of the time of sale, a coshier's or cortified check for 10% of the successful bid emount. The	CHA INOYA Ploliiil
on the	bolonco of the successful bid shall be poid within 24 hours.	HINM
on the fosingle ith 2 cor ms: 25% unds. boj-	by similar funds. The proporty will NOT be open for in-	PUBLI BY GIV
, by corti-	corrillod chock for 10% of the successful bid omount. The belonce of the successful bid shell be poid within 24 hours, by similer funds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. For information cell Ms. Mary A. Fronzol of Plointiff's Attorney. Koough & Moonty. P. C. 1001 East Chices.	Solo e
n nonn far	Ms. Mary A. Fronzol of Piolin- tilit's Altornoy. Koough & Moody. P.C., 1001 East Chico- go Avonuo. Noporvillo. Illi- nols 60540. (630) 389-2700. INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL Salling Officer. (312) 444-1122.	openi
ymont in aid. the lve o Cor- h will on-	INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION	on Mor
or confir-	LIAIZIO	i Orivo -
obsite of	Published in Plonoor Pross 3/S, 3/12. 3/19/09 (1674083) C	IL. 606 tion to sot for doscrib
rco & As-	NORRIDGE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT	WINN
Ocorborn nois 60602. 00. Rotor 959.	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY. ILLINOIS COUNTY OF PARTMENT - CHANCERY OIVISION	Norrid Indox rool os
959. JDICIAL	CHANCERY OIVISION	singlo

Officer, (312) 444-1122	NOTICE OF SALE	down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of	the or
shod in Ploneer Press 12, 3/19/09 (1674265) C	PUBLIC NOTICE IS HERE- BY GIVEN that pursuont to a Judgment of Foroclosuro and	the ouction; the bolonce, in I	will I
11, 4 1,707 (107-120) C	Sole onforod in the obove couse on November 26, 2008.	cortified tunds. Is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to	ostoto
ON GROVE	on ogent of The Judicial Soles Corporation will of 10:30 AM	Gonoral real astate taxas, spe-	the s NOT cud p
HE CIRCUIT COURT COOK COUNTY. ILLINOIS	on Morch 13, 2009, of the of- fice of The Judicial Sales Cor-	toxes lovied against sold rool estate and is attared for sole	sento of the
TY OEPARTMENT -	Darotion. One South Wocker i	without ony representation as	bidde
CHE BANK NATION-	Orivo - 24th Floor, CHICAGO. IL. 60606. soil of public ouc- tion to the highest bidder, os	to quality or quantity at title and without recourse to Prointitt and in "AS IS" condi-	oll in
TRUSTEE	sot torth below, the tollowing described real estate:	tion. The solo is turthor sub- loct to contirmation by the court. It the solo is set aside	the P
MABLES TRUST 2005-1	CHESTER AVENUE.	court. It the solo is set oside for ony rooson, the Purchesor	than the es
	Norridge, L. 60706, Property Indox No. 12-11-307-023, The l	of the sole shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit	tees miniu
E, IF ANY, OF ARET M. WUCKI. LANDS OF MORTON	real estato is improved with a single family residence. The	poid. The Purchoser shell hove no turther recourse	ILCS IF YO
ECONOOMINIUM AS- TION, UNKNOWN RS GENERALLY	judgment emount wes \$445.086.12. Sale terms: 25%	ogoinst the Mortgogor, the Mortgogee's	GOR
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Oefendonts. 08 CH 30599	the ouction: the balence, in corfitled tunds, is due within	purchoser will recoive a Cer- tificate of Sale that will enti-	SION
OTICE OF SALE C NOTICE IS HERE /EN that pursuant to a	twonty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to	tie the purchosor to a deed to the real estate attack.	WITH OF
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use on Decombor 22.	ostoto and is offered for solo without any representation as	spection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition at the property.	HEA
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sdoy. Morch 25, 2009 of ir of 11 o.m. in their of 1 120 West Modison	Plointiff and in 'AS IS' condi-	tile to verify all intermetion.	(217) CIAL
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tor inspection For in- ion coll Mr. Dovid C.	tilo to vority all information. If this property is a condo- minium unit, the purchasor of	IL 60527. (630) 794-9876 be- tween the hours of 1 and 3 PM	WAS BAN MUT
r of Piointitt's Attor- uevor & Piott. L.L.C	the unit of the foreclesure sole, other than a mortgogoo	only and ask for the soles de- portment. Please refer to tile	titt. Oeto
t Wocker Place. Chi- llineis 60601. (312) 236-	shall pay the assassments and the logal toos required by	number 14-08-5716. THE JU-	00101
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S N.A., Plointitf, vs.	The Solo Clerk. COO'LLS & ASSOCIATES. P.C 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD. SUITE 100. BURR RIOGE. IL 60527, (630) 794-9876 between the hours of 1 and 3 PM.	NORRIDGE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT	Com
OAH M. LAKI: UN-	SUITE 100. BURR RIOGE. IL 60S27. (630) 794-9876 be-	OF COOK COUNTY,	60706 13-42
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ery A. Fronzol of Pioln- Altornoy. Koough & B.C. 1991 East Chica.	Judgmont at Foroclasure and Sale entered in the above couse on June 18, 2008, on opent at The Judicial Sales Corporation will at 10:30 AM on Morch 13, 2009, at the of-	Commonly Known os 4/22 N. OCTAVIA AVE. Norridgo. It. 60706 Property Index No. 12-13-410-029-0000 The reol ostolo is Improved with a single tomily residence. The Judgment ornount was \$408.475.81. Solo terms: The bid emount sholl be poid in certified.	mini
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ATUR. IL 62523. 719. THE JUDI-	Corporation will of 10:30 AM	NOT ond p
ES CORPORA-	on April 10, 2009, of the office of The Judicial Sales Corpo-	sento
	COANS SERVICING LP Plointiftv. DARIUSZ (RZYWOA, et al Detendents WC H3014 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuent to a Judament of Forencesure and Sale entered in the above couse on January 8, 2009, on agent of The Undiciol Sales Corporation will at 10:30 AM on April 10, 2009, at the other of the Judicial Soles Corporation one South Wocker Drive - 24th Floor. CHICAGO, ILL. 60066, soil at public ouction to the highest bidder, as soi torth below, the following	of the
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For
PARK RIDGE ~ NILES COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED
SCHOOL DISTRICT 64
Sealed bids for the above named construction project will
be received by the Owner at the business office of School
District 64 at 164 South Prospect Ave. Park Ridge, IL. unIll 2:00 p.m. locol time. 27 March 2009 at which time they
will be publicly opened and reod aloud. The sealed bid
must be submitted in duplicate on the form provided. Project Nome. Date ond Time of Bid clearly marked on the
outside of the envelope to prevent premature opening. Bid
forms con be downloaded from our website at
www. greenassociales.com.
Bids will be received for a single prime contract. In general the Project Work consists of masonry restoration
low stope and aspholt shingle rooting, corpontry and tinlishes, and miscellaneous MEP.
Drowings and Project Manual may be examined at the
offices of the Owner and Architect. Documents are also an
illie at: Our Automotive Section has the Car you are looking for. at: McGrow-Hill Construction/DODGE Plan Room 1333 Burr Ridge Porkwoy Suite 100 Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527 Northern Illinois Building Controctors Association 1111 South Alpine Road Suite 202 Rocktord. Illinois 61108 Buying or Reed Construction Data 30 Technology Pkwy South. Suite 500 Norcross, GA 30092 Selling, One set of Bid Documents may be abtoined at the office of the printer, IDM Group by calling ahead 847-541-6100. The Architect will issue addendo to plan holders of re-The Architect will issue obscined to post instances of re-cord...

1. Bid Security is required in the torm of o Bid Bond. AIA Document A310 made payable to the Owner in an amount equal to not less than ten percent (10%) of the Base Bid and all Additive Alternates.

2. The successful bidder will be required to turnish a Per-tormance Bond and o Poyment Bond, in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the confroct sum. on AIA Document A312, os Issued by the American institute of Architects. Pioneer Classified AlA Document A312. os Issued by the American Institute of Architects.

3. A mandatory walk-thru rneeting for masons and general contractors will be held 20 March 2009 at Roosevelt School. 1001 S. Folirylew Ave, Park Ridge, Follure to attend may result in relection of bid. Additional visits to the site may be arranged by contacting Jim Wuerttel. 847-318-4313.

4. It is the Owner sintent to issue o Notice of Award to the successful Bidder within thirty (30) calendar days of the Bid Date. No bid shoil be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) calendar days ofter the opening of bids.

5. Any bid submitted unsealed, or unsigned, without bid bond or received subsequent to the aforementioned date and hour will be disqualified and refurned to the bidder. is the place tor you! (847)Direct inquiries to: ies to: Mr. Andrew Jose GreenAssociotes. Inc. 111 Deerlake Road Suite 135 Deertleld. Illinois 60015 ajose@greenassociotes.com 847-317-0852 998-3400 847-317-0899 Focsimile CLASSIFIED Published in Pioneer Press 3/5/09(1674762)C PUBLIC NOTICE

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Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Illinois Selt-Storage Facilities Act. o sale will be held on March 19. 2009 at 3:00 p.m.. at Lite Storage of Hermosa. 4500 W. Grand Ave. Chicago. IL (773) 235-8400. The contents of the below spaces will be sold at o public sale for cash. credit cord or certified funds. It there is no market value or no bids received, the goods will be otherwise disposed of.

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Unit #0979 - Barbora J. Jackson-computer, stereo equipment, miscellaneous boxes and
Unit #0982 - Grant Strickland- boxes, toles, bags
Unit #0403 - Losha Rucker, store, refrigarator, toys
Unit #0403 - Robert Harper-tools, toles
Unit #0404 - Particla J. Smith- bags
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Unit #0405 - Particla J. Smith- bags
Unit #0587 - Alberto Moreno-commercial equipment
Unit #0586 - Ernest Martin- furniture, toles, boxes
Unit #0587 - Mary McMath- turniture, toles, boxes
Unit #0587 - Alysta M. Arroyo-lools, stove, washer/ dryer, refrigerator
Unit #0586 - Debra Y. Persono-boxes, refrigerator
Unit #0586 - Debra Y. Persono-boxes, refrigerator
Unit #0587 - Aysta M. Arroyo-lools, stove, washer/ dryer, refrigerator
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Published in Ploneer Press 3/5, 3/12/09 (1672830) C2

1010- Auctions	1010- Auctions	1010- Auctions	1013- Bid Notices
			BID NOTICE The Board of Educe Skokle School Dist 1ct 68 N. Kenton, Ave Skokle 60076-1397, will receive s bids for:
Buying or	Buying or	Buying or	Addition and interio Alterations for Jane Ste School 9201 Lockwood Aven Skokle, Illinois 6007
Selling,	Selling,	Selling,	Project Description: In addition and interior vations at the existing purpose room and kitch
Pioneer	Pioneer	Pioneer .	citity including, but not ed to, selective demolis existing building, contion of toundations, componers, walls, structure.
Classified	Classified	Classified	steel structure, and re interior wolls, kitchen ment, tinishes, and mo tions to existing plui electrical, and tire pro
is the place	is the place	is the place	systems. The Bid Opening will 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, 24. 2009. at the adminis ottice of the Owner: Kenton Avenue. Skok
for you!	for you!	for you!	nois 60076 and will be plopened and read at the Performance and Poson Bond in the full amoun contract will be requised by Security at 10% of
(847)	(847)	(847)	is required with the property of the Contractor must prevailing Wage Rale work per Illinois L.C (LCS)30. It is the policy of School District 68 bequal opportunity to a
998-3400	998-3400	998-3400	tled business in the avoid contracts and accompromotes the utilization versified businesses maximum extent tea
Ave. Chicago, IL (773)23 sole for cash, credit cor- ceived, the goods will be	PUBLIC NOTICE nat pursuant to Illinois Self-Stor 1 10:00 a.m of Life Storoge of 5:2800. The contents of the below d or certified tunds. It there is otherwise disposed of. on-TVs. weights. turniture.boxe	w spaces will be sold at a Publi no market value or no bids re	any confract Issued this solicitation tobid. The Owner reser right to relect ony or to woive irregularitie d bidding procedure, o the Bid that in its opi serve its best intere such decision shall be ered ilnal. The Os serves the right to se Bid tram a Confracto

1013- Bid Notices

1046- Liens

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PUBLIC LIEN SALE

The Board of Education Stock School District A. 496- Bid of 300 p. 911.0 ft. Austin. School District A. 496- Bid of 300 p. 911.0 ft. Austin. School District A. 496- Bid of 300 p. 911.0 ft. Austin. School District A. 496- Bid of 300 p. 911.0 ft. Au promotes the utilization will be referred within Intity (10) state of the control of the control

ment. A Pre-Bid Meeting will be on a Wednesday. March 18, 2009 at 2:30pm at Jane Stenson School. Published in Pioneer Press 3/5/09(1675031) C 1046- Liens PUBLIC LIEN SALE

/s/Gregg Stephen Weinstein Gail Leslie Weinstein Signature of Petitioners Published in Ploneer Press 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/09 (1673510) C2 1060- Plan Commission & ZoningHearings

PUBLIC LIEN SALE

That on 4/6/2009. a sale will be held at 3:00 p.m. at: B&M Auto Collision. 4440 W. Addision. Chicago. It. 60641, Alt blats to be in writing, to sell the tollowing articles to enforce of the state of illinois ogainst such articles for labor, services, skills or malerial expended upon or storage furnished for such articles of the trequest of the following designated person(s), unless such articles are redeemed within thirty (30) days of the publication of the such person(s). LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Skokle Plan Commission. Thursday. April 2, 2009. Village of Skakle, 5127 Ookton Street. Skokle, Illinois 60077. at 7:30 P.M., to consider the following:

NAME OF PERSON(S) Henry G. Amezcua Marcello J. Figueroo Toyota Mir Crdi Corp

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Published in Ploneer Press 3/5/09 (1673842) C

New 2009-5p - Chapter Amend-

2009-5p Chapter Amenament: Home Heolith Care
Agencies
The Village Of Skokie Planning Division Requests A Review Of Home Heolith Care
Agencies To Add Them As A
Specific Use Under Heolith
And Human Services in Apnendix A Of Chopter 118 Of
The Skokie Village Code And
Any Other Regulotions That
May Need To Be Aniended As
A Result Of This Request.

FOR YOUR INFORMA-TION: Plons and related documents are ovoliable at the Village's Community De-velopment Department. Plon-ning Division. (847) 933-844 Monday through Friday.

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1060- Plan Commission 1062- Probate

1046-1 lens

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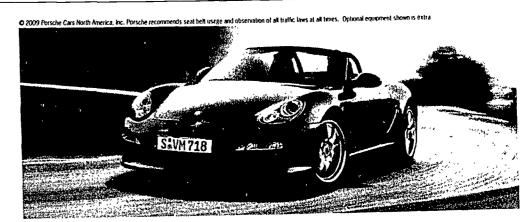
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world will gather in March in observance of the 2009 World Day of Prayer Service. St. Peter's United Church of Christ, 8013 Oakton St., Skokie, hosts a service at 1 p.m. March 6. This year's service, written by the women of Papua

Christians around the New Guinea, will focus on "In Christ, there are many

members, yet one body." Featured in the service will be a slide presentation of Papua New Guinea, All denominations are welcome. An offering will be taken to support Church Women United, the national committee of World Day of Prayer in the United States. Call St. Peter's UCC. (847) 673-8166 or Barbara Todd. (847) 965-0345.

MAINE **SENIORS**

A Pioneer Press Publication

at Golf View Recreation Center, 7800 Caldwell Ave.

Programs offered are for

ages 3 to 14 and include be-

ginner to intermediate skill

levels, Sessions are Monday

or Friday evenings begin-

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ing the deadline for the reg-

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dren will experience their

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Classes are from 12:30-2

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Niles Park District helps

plan children's birthday

ations, Rumble Jumble,

parties. Party packages in-

clude: Tie-Dye, Crafty Cre-

Princess Party and Dora &

Diego. Parties are 6:30 p.m.

to 8 p.m. Fridays, and 10:30

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RELIGION

A new 3's Preschool pro-

(847) 967-1529.

minitramp and bars, Regis-

ning March 30. Skills

The Maine Township MaineStreamers program offers a variety of opportunities for residents 55 and older: Membership includes a free subscription to the MaineStreamers monthly newsletter, which details activities for the upcoming month. Most activities are at Maine Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge, unless otherwise noted. Contact the MaineStreamers, (847) 297-2510, or go to www.mainetownship.com.

Maine Township offers

free tax filing assistance for seniors and low-income residents 55 and older at Township offices, 1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge. For an appointment, call (847) 297-2510.

AARP'S Driver Safety

Program will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 23 and 25. This class updates knowledge of age-related changes and Rules of the Road. Upon completion, automobile insurance companies offer a discount. Cost is \$12, AARP members; \$14, nonmembers.

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Spring coming — ready to shred?



STEPHANIE ZIMMERMANN

THE FIXER - Chicago Sun-Times

It's a sure sign spring is coming: the hum of the shredder trucks preparing to shred your unwanted personal and financial documents into oblivion.

Several readers have asked when the next free shredding events will be held. You can sign up for an e-mail notification at www.chicagoshreds.com to get info on the big events planned by the Better Business Bureau, Federal Trade Commission, U.S. Postal Inspection Service and other agencies.

Last year, they held events downtown and in the western suburbs. Meanwhile, Glenview

State Bank has scheduled a charges exorbitant rates. some of its own events. which also are free and open to anyone, though there is a limit of 25 pounds per person.

Here are the dates (each event is on a Saturday and will run from 9 a.m. to noon):

- April 18 at 800 Waukegan Road, Glenview ■ June 13 at 1707 Sher-
- mer Road, Northbrook ■ Aug. 15 at 1808 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights
- Oct. 3 at 2222 Chestnut Ave., Glenview

For more info on the Glenview State Bank events, go to www.gsb.com/ infoC/news.html#shred.

Slimy locksmiths

We recently wrote about scamming locksmith companies that place phone listings that seem to be local but actually ring to a national call center that will send out a questionable person who

Our advice was to find a truly local, honest locksmith now, when you don't need one. That way, you'll be ready in an emergency.

Here's another tip from Fixer reader Alan R. Engel, a security/investigation consultant and a retired senior investigator with the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation:

Alan points out that in Illinois, employees of locksmith companies are required to carry their permanent employee registration Card (a PERC or "blue" card) and a photo ID issued by their employer, which also must include the company's license number

If you ask a locksmith to show you these things and he or she can't, that's a red flag that you should hire someone else. (Thanks, Alan!)

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

Stop...Hibernating. Look...at Oakton's Noncredit Classes for Spring. Learn...Something New.

These affordable, high quality classes are conveniently located in your neighborhood. Classes are short-term - two hours per class, usually one to four weeks in duration.

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Oakton's Skokie Campus

Salsa Dance Hip Hop Dance Modeling for Ordinary People Office Software (Word, Excel) Symphonic Repertoire Communicate Like a Pro Going Into Business Workshop Gray Wolves Den Care giving 101 Residential Real Estate Investing The Art of Voice Mail

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For even more learning opportunities and detailed class information, call 847.982.9888 (press 3) or 847.635.1808, or go to www.oakton.edu/all.



A Pioneer Press Publication

Students suspicious of new surveillance cameras

tbertuca@pioneerlocal.com

The installation of more than 40 exterior security cameras began last month at all three schools in Maine Township High School District 207.

"We're in the process of installation now; some have been installed, some are not operational yet," said district spokesman Dave Beery. "The intent is not about real-time observation as much as it is

about being able to review recordings in the event of an incident."

Beery said the cameras cost the district \$293,573, and were being installed at Maine South, East and West.

have gone with it."

"We think it's the right

thing in terms of safety and security," Beery said. "District 207 is not by any means breaking any new ground with the installation of exterior cameras. A lot of other districts

But that doesn't mean students aren't a little disturbed by the presence of the cameras.

Maine South student Liz Brown recently wrote in an e-mail that the cam eras make her and some of her classmates feel confused and uncomfortable

"These new cameras were a complete surprise to the student body and even the teachers at Maine South, and we the students are left in a state

"We are all unsure of what the cameras are there to do, and why they were even necessary in

the first place." Brown said she considers the cameras an invasion of privacy, and said she was "outraged" the administration did not tell her and her classmates about them.

Beery said students at Maine South, unlike East and West, did not receive a formal communication

outside legal fees." Gatta

also thanked Vogler for re-

maining at the district an-

sponsible for employee re-

cruitment, staffing, certifi-

ment, among other things,

Gatta said, and will imple-

ment district support staff

cation and lane advance-

other year. She will be re-

getting facts out to stucause they were installed earlier than expected. dents regarding the cam-But, Beery said, Principal "The feedback that Mr. David Claypool has talked with some parents and Claypool has received

students, and the matter from parents, students and neighbors has been consistently positive, as words, the school's newsthey understand and appreciate the preventative nature of the cameras." Beery also noted that

the past couple months, Mr. Claypool has given South parents and neighthe cameras do not have audio capabilities. bors a heads-up that the cameras were coming."

Former teacher gets legal post in District 219 trict's expenditures on

By KATHY ROUTLIFFE kroutliffe@pioneerlocal.com

A former English teacher at Niles West High School, who also has a law degree and currently edits a legal journal at the Hague, in the Netherlands, will be the next personnel head at Niles Township High School District 219, Superintendent Nanciann Gatta announced last month.

John Heintz, who joins

the district on July 1, has also been named the district's chief legal officer, with the official title of Assistant Superintendent of human resources and chief legal officer.

Acting human resources assistant Superintendent Dale Vogler, who last year retired as Assistant Superintendent for curriculum, will stay on during the 2009-10 school year as personnel director under Heintz.

It is the first time the district has officially appointed someone to the post of legal officer. Gatta introduced

Heintz and members of his family at a Feb. 2 school board meeting, saying "John's combination of skills, including his legal training, will bring the district better service for less We will have the benefit of his legal advice inhouse and on a daily basis, which will reduce the dis-

programs. In an official statement, Heintz said he knew the district needs leaders who provide "excellent hu-

form of stipends from both

the state of Illinois and

District 207. Maine West's

teachers say putting their

man resources, competent legal guidance, strong labor relations, accountability of all district employees and an optimistic climate and culture."

was reported in South-

"Several times over

Beery said. "The South

Heintz, who taught English at Niles West from 1990-95 and at Niles North from 1997-2007, earned a law degree from the John Marshall Law School in Chicago. He was an associate with Scariano, Himes and Petrarca. That firm represents the

three classroom-based

portfolios, each certifica-

tion applicant must pro-

duce a fourth portfolio fo-

cusing on the candidate's

achievements outside the

classroom - in the com-

munity, with colleagues or

with students' families -

and how those efforts af-

fect their students' learn-

ing. Finally, each candidate

must take an exam. Many

candidates do not achieve

certification on their first

district on legal matters. Heintz was most recently an editor for the Leiden Journal of International Law at the Hague, and flew in from the Netherlands to meet the board.

He has a master of arts in English literature from Northwestern University, a bachelor of arts in speech communications and English from the University of Illinois, Urbana. He also earned a type 74 school administrator's certification from De-Paul University.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

SCHOOLS DIGEST

Campus

Niles students Lisa Heiderman (nursing) and Colleen Kearns (athletic training) earned bachelor's degrees from Marquette University.

Michael P. Palermo, of Niles, received a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Iowa.

Frank P. DeCicco and Joanna A. Knapik, of Niles were inducted into the Elmhurst College Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership/scholarship honor society.

Tomasz Buzun, Randall Polit and James Seggeling, of Niles, made the fallquarter dean's list at Northern Illinois Universi-

Robert Dulski, of Niles, a graduate student in law enforcement and justice administration at Western Illinois University, was named to the prestigious Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

District 207

Five nationally certified teachers now work in

Maine Township High School District 207, all in Maine West's Science Department.

Maine West Science teacher Phil Sumida began talking up the benefits of certification when he arrived in the district nine years ago. Biology teacher Leslie Vaughn earned her certification two years ago, and three more West teachers - Jennifer Ellberg. Steve Krasinski and Kristi Ryken - recently learned that they passed the final exam needed to seal their own certification Certification pays off in the work under the microscope for certification purposes improves their approach to teaching. Certification candidates must videotape sessions of their own teaching and analyze those recordings in detail, then write a series of detailed papers in which they document what they have

observed and what the im-

plications are for the way

ment their teaching.

they structure and implefessional Teaching Standards has certified about In addition to producing 74,000 teachers since it

attempt. The

was established 22 years ago. At the behest of Congress the National Research Council conducted a study concluding that certification has a positive impact on student achieve ment, teacher retention and professional develop ment. Certification must be renewed every 10 years.

District 219

Niles North High School will perform "Little Women" March 13 and National Board for Pro-March 14 in the auditorium at 9800 Lawler, Skokie.

Digest, PAGE 18

Digest

Continued from PAGE 17

The musical, written by Allan Knee, with lyrics by Mindi Dickstein and music by Jason Howland, is based on Louisa May Alcott's family experiences, as well as her novel.

Showtimes are 7 p.m. March 13, and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. March 14. A free community performance will be at 10 a.m. March 12. Re-



Clark - Cupp

Greenwood, IN.

Management.

served seats are \$10 for adults; \$5, children. Call the box office. (847) 626-2117. For more information go to www.nntheatre.com.

Elana Weiner-Kaplow. The

Timothy Ortmann, Techni-

cal Director Kristen Mack-

ie, Vocal Director Daniel

Gregerman, Orchestra Di-

rector John Jones, Choreo-

grapher Tim Veech, Cos-

technical staff: Director

Stage Manager Peter Rosemeyer, Assistant The cast features So-Stage Manager Cassandra phie Scanlon as Jo March, Baim, Assistant Technical Joseph Boersma (Prof. Director Nicole Carlson, Bhaer), Naomi Mark (Amy Shop Manager Jordan March), Kristina Loy (Meg Reiff. Assistant Vocal Di-March), Jessica Ellingsen rector Kirsten Pasia, Hair (Beth March), Allie Zeff Designer Brian Fallon, (Marmee March), Ari Scenic Painter Eric Kravetz (Mr. Laurence), Jimenez, Properties Man-Steven Yandell (Laurie ager Annaliisa Ahlman and Laurence), Kate Dovle **Production Assistants** (Aunt March), and Mike Shana Bender and Mark Wesolowski as (Mr. John Brooke). The Ensemble of Players are portrayed by: **Northridge Prep** Jonathan Berg-Einhorn, Stephanie Fenty, Jon Goncalves, Cate Hensley, Clara Montague, Anthony Pavel, Andrew Rosenblat, Shannon Rourke, Leo Smith, Danny Takushi and

The 2009 ICTM Regional Math Contest was held

tume Designer An-Lin

Dauber, Costume Supervi-

Designer Michael Rourke,

sor Teresa Ripley, Lighting

Competing in the Class 1A Division, Northridge Prep School's Math Team placed second in Region 3 and fourth in state.

The Algebra I team placed first in Region 3 and first in state. Math Team members include: Freshman Peter Kane; and

Kennedy - McGuire

and Justin Kitchens as ushers.

Anne Evelyn Kennedy and Michael Scott McGuire plan to

be married April 18, 2009 at the Newberry Library, Bruce Otto

Karoline Munger will be the maid-of-honor, and Joseph Rienti the bestman, Kristen Tranetzki, Mary Riggs, and Fallon

Flevshman will serve as bridesmaids, and Melanie Chambers.

The bride is the daughter of Marilyn Moats Kennedy and

Daniel Joseph Kennedy, Jr., of Wilmette. She graduated from

New Trier High School in 1999, the University of Michigan,

2003, and from New York University School of Law in 2006.

& LeBoeuf LLP in New York, NY. The groom is the son of

from Island Trees High School, 1998, and from

Union College in 2002, Michael Is currently Vice

The couple plans to honeymoon in Tuscany and Rome, Italy, and resides in New York, NY.

resident at Wachovia Securities.

Anne is currently an intellectual property associate at Dewey

Sheryl and Thomas McGuire, of Bethpage, NY. He graduated

with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History, in

Jaclyn McGuire, Kristin Howell, Bidish Sarma, Peter Caralis

officiating. A 6pm reception at the library will follow.

Sophomores John Birmingham, Tikku George, John Sander, James Snitzer, Ben Sturgeon, and Mark Williams. Juniors include: Bart Bak, Wonjik Chun, Sung Jae Hyun, Peter Knapp, Tim Madigan, Daniel McDermott, David Rahlmi, and Connor Schickel. Seniors are: Joseph Adams, Jason Bae, Richard Bang, Justin Betz, David Griffin, Young Hwang, Andrew McDonough, Matthew O'Connor, Andy Shin, and Derek Si-

The first in State Algebra I team members are: Peter Kane, of Arlington Heights, John Birmingham, of Winnetka, Tikku George, of Mount Prospect, John Sander, of Park Ridge, and Arlington Heights residents James

Snitzer and Mark Williams.

Notre Dame

Notre Dame High School's Debate Team captured its fourth-consecutive Catholic League Championship title and

junior Billy Hopkins was named the top in debate and was just one point shy of a perfect season. The team also had its best showing ever at the Har-Niles. vard Tournament, placing ninth of 111 teams from 25

The Dons' Debate continued a streak of setting Notre Dame records this year as four students advanced to the scmifinals. Joe Mahoney, class of 2009, Matt Sachaj, '10, Billy Hopkins, '10, and Kyle Conway '11, all advanced.

 \diamond \diamond \diamond Members of Northwest-

ern University's Improv group, "Mee-Ow," recently visited Notre Dame High School's Little Theater.

Also, Denver-based jazz

musician and composer Tyler Gilmore visited Notre Dame's jazz band recently to give pointers on how to play his music. Gilmore, founder of 9th + Lincoln jazz band, helped the Notre Dame jazz band learn two of his composi-

tions, which they will perform April 4 at Notre Dame Jazz Festival at St. John Brebeuf Parish Center, 8307 N. Harlem Ave.,

> *** * *** Tickets are on sale for

"Til Death Do Us Part: Late Night Catechism 3." which will have its Chicago-area debut at Notre Dame High School at 7:30 p.m. April 18. Tickets are \$25 each. The show is the latest class to be unveiled in this series. After teaching students about the saints, venial sins, guilt and limbo. Sister is now offering up her humorous lessons on the Sacraments of Marriage and Last Rites, including her own wacky version of

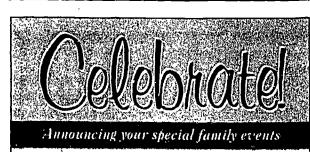
"The Newlywed Game." This premiere performance on April 18 will benefit this summer's New Orleans Service Immersion Trip.

Call Richard Balentine in Notre Dame's Office of Campus Ministry, (847) 779-8644, or e-mail rbale-



Private 1st Class, Eric Quintero

Eric, 20, of Glenview graduated from the U.S. Marine Corps boot camp at San Diego November 26, 2008 after completing a 13-week ntensive basic training. Following a 10-day leave at home, and a 30-day recruiting duty at Recruiting Station Mt. Prospect, Eric eported to Camp Pendleton for one month Military Combat Training Upon finishing his combat training he was sent to NAS Pensacola to commence Military Occupation Specialty school in avionics. He is currently in Aviation Maintenance Squadron 2 at MATSG-21. Eric is a 2007 graduate of Glenbrook South HS.



For more information, contact: Liz Majer at 847-486-7230 or celebrate@pioneerlocal.com

www.pioneerlocal.com

PIONEER PRESS The Boings

tine@ndhsdons.org, for more information.

A Pioneer Press Publication

Notre Dame High School, a college prep for young men, is at 7655 W. Dempster St., Niles.

Dakton : O de de de

A series of management and marketing courses geared to busy professionals is available in the spring at Oakton Community College. Classes meet evenings and weekends, and may be applied to a degree or cer-

tificate at Oakton.

Introduction to Business (BUS 101-052) presents language and concepts of the American business enterprise. The nine-week course will meet 6:30-10:15 p.m. Wednesdays starting March 11 at the Des Plaines campus, 1600 E. Golf Road.

Conflict Management (MGT 222-050) introduces a range of positive conflict-management processes, including mediation and arbitration. The seven-week course will meet 6:30-10:15 p.m. Tuesdays starting March 24 at the Des Plaines campus.

Organizational Change Management (MGT 228-050) examines technical and behavioral aspects of the change processes within an organization. The six-week course will meet 6:30-10:15 p.m. Wednesdays starting March 25 at the Des Plaines campus.

Introduction to Trans-

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portation, Warehousing, and Logistics (MGT 156-050) covers inventory, packaging and customer service. The seven-week course will meet 6:30-10 p.m. Mondays starting March 30 at the Skokie campus, 7701 N. Lincoln

Related classes include: Advanced Public Relations and Special Events (MKT 244-050), Effective Organizational Leadership (MGT 225-050), Principles of Management (MGT 121-0W1), and Supervisory Development (MGT 140-050).

For more information call Sue Cisco, chair of marketing and management, (847) 635-1872, or email scisco@oakton.edu.

 \diamond \diamond Enhance professional development by enrolling in a variety of continuingeducation courses offered by the Alliance for Lifelong Learning at Oakton.

Bartending Certification (BAR T01-04) prepares students for all skills and obligations associated with bartending in the public and private sectors. Graduates may qualify for job placement. The 10-session course will meet 6-10 p.m. Mondays to Thursdays starting March 9 at ABC Bartending School, 1699 Wall St., Mount Prospect. The fee is \$525.

Professional Impressions: Communicate Like a Pro (COM S61-02) demonstrates how to get your message across in

the most effective way in today's modern and diverse workplace. The course will meet 6:30-9:30 p.m. March 11 at Glencoe Park District, 999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe. The fee is \$75.

Home Inspection Exam Review (REL E95-01) helps prepare students for the Home Inspection Licensing Exam. The class will meet 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 14 at the Des Plaines campus, 1600 E. Golf Road. The fee is \$65.

An Introduction to Modeling for Ordinary People (PRO F13-01) teaches the basics of professional modeling. The course is taught by a modeling professional from a national modelingeducation company based in New York. The class will meet 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 14 at the Skokie campus, 7701 N. Lincoln Ave. The fee is

Real Estate Salesperson and Broker Exam Review (REL E93-01) provides a review of the Illinois Sales/Broker Exam and is designed to provide a better understanding of national and Illinois-specific material. Sample questions and testing strategies are available for home study. The course will meet 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 15 at the Des Plaines campus. The fee is \$65.

For a complete class schedule go to www.oakton.edu/all, or call (847) 982-9888, and press 3.

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Masters of Education

Gary and Cathy Cupp, of Park Ridge, are

pleased to announce the engagement of their son.

Clark, daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth Clark, of

Garrett William, of Hoffman Estates, to Carrie Marie

The bride-to-be is a 2003 graduate of Perry

Meridian High School, in Indianapolis, IN, and a 2008 graduate of Purdue University, with a Bachelor

of Science degree in Chemical Engineering. She is currently employed by General Mills in Operations

The future groom is a 2003 graduate of Maine

South High School, and a 2007 graduate of

Purdue University, with a Bachelor of Arts degree

in Psychology. He is currently employed by Mail

Terminal Services as a quality control manager, and

is in a graduate program at DePaul University for his

The couple is planning a June 2009 wedding in West Lafayette, IN, with their reception being held at the Purdue Memorial Union. They plan to reside in



Weekly Worship

Weekly Worship

Edison Park United Methodist Church

Chicago, IL 60631 Phone: (773) 792-3030, Fax: (773) 792-3031 www.edisonparkumc.com Email:pastor@edisonparkumc.com

Worship Days & Hours Sundays, 10:30 AM Potluck, 11:30 AM Sunday School for Preschoolers & Nursery Age Bible Study. Thursdays, 10:30 AM & Fridays, 7:00 PM Youth (High School) Bible Study. Sunday 1:00 PM "Celebrating God's grace and mercy for Young Adults Bible Study Sunday, 12:00 PM Choir Practice: Sundays, 9:30 AM Susannah Wesley Club (Wamen's Group)

Meets once a month on 4th Tuesday of the month. Youth Worship Sunday, 3rd Sunday of every month Pastar, Rev. Jerry Miller Organist. Dana Samova Musical/Youth Director. Naralyn Baroja Senior Exercise Class. Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:30 AM Fellowship Hall James Downing Theatre Performances Edison Pork United Methodist Church

is a church with Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors. Chair Lift Available Parking in Rear. The Edgebrook Church

6155 W. Toully Avenue, (773) 631-1155 http://edgebrookchurch.org Sunday Warship 10:30 AM Ensemble Practice. Wednesday 6:30 PM Praise, Prayer & Bible Study

Bethel Community Church 7601 W. Faster Ave., (773) 775-2355 www.bethelcommunity.org Sunday Warship 8:30 & 11:00 AM

Encounter Gathering: Sunday 6:00 PM Sunday School & Adult Rible Study-9:45 AM Seniar Pastar-Pastar Paul Jordan Associate Pastar—Pastar Rab Bukawski Student Ministries-Pastar Showo Clarke Music & Warship-Postar Andy Clifton Childcare available for all services. Seniors & Women's Bible Studies September thru May.

Call far information or see the website.

CHICAGO Norwood Park Lutheran

Church-ELCA 5917 N. Nina Avenue (at Nickerson) (773) 631-2860 2nd & 4th Sundays. Pastar Susan Schneider

Catholic Church 7033 N. Moselle, (773) 763-0206

www.smow.ora Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 PM Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:00, Man-Fri 6:30 and 8:00 AM

and Pastar Gardon Smith

Presbyterian

NILES

8450 N. Shermer Rd. Niles IL. 60714 (847) 965-8210 (June-Sept) 9:30 AM Vesner Service (Sept-June) Evangelical Lutheron Church in America

St. Michael's Orthodox

www.stmichaelniles.ora Sunday Warship 10:00 AM Discover the ancient faith and rich traditions of the Orthodox Church By the Lard Jesus Christ and described in the pages of The New Testament Today her Apostolic doctrine, warship. and structure remain intact.

Norridge

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

6626 N. Oliphant Ave., 773-631-9131 8600 W. Lawrence Ave. www.edisonparklutheran.ora Sunday Worship 9:30 AM Sunday Marning Warship Schedule Sunday School 10:35 AM Liturgical Worship with Haly Youth & Adult Bible Class Communion 8:00 AM and 9:45 AM Sunday 10:45 AM Contemporary Warship with Haly Midweek Bible Study -Communion 11:15 AM. Wednesday 10:30 AM Sunday School ages PreK thru 6th Luther John Baius, Postar grade 9:45 AM Communion service Attended Nursery for Sunday Services 3rd Sunday of every month Handicapped Access from south Chair practice Thursday 7:00 PM parking lat 708-453-3514, Fax 708- 456-8818

NORTHBROOK

www.zionnorridgeil.org

St. Alban's Episcopal Church Temple Beth-El 6240 North Avandale, Norwood Park. 3610 Oundee Rd. Illinois, 773-763-8845 (847) 205-9982, Fax (847) 205-9921 www.saintalbanschurch.com templebeth-el.org Sunday service at 9:30 AM Friday Shabbat Evening Services: St. Alban's affers the Catechesis of the First and fourth Fridays — Traditional Goad Shepherd Sunday school program. It is a Mantessari-based program that

Shobbat Service at 8 PM Second Friday - Wine & Cheese reception at 5:30 PM followed with Kabbalat Shabbat Service at 6 PM ar a traditional Shabbat Service at 7:30 PM Third Friday Family Service at 7 PM Saturday Shabbat Morning Services: 9:30 AM Casual Shabbat Service & Torah Study

10 AM Traditional Shahbat Service Shabbat Yeladim

Introduction to Temple for children up to ages 6 and their families. Older siblings are welcome to participate. Second Saturday of the month of 9 AM and the fourth Friday of the month at 6 PM Sideny Helbroun, Senior Robbi Jeffrey Weill, Assistant Robbi Victor Weissberg, Robbi Emeritus Kim Harris, Contar To List Your

congregation please call Neil Blatchford at 847-486-7252 Changes can be faxed to her at 847-486-7456 neil.blatchford@pioneerlocal.com

PARK RIDGE

Sunday Warship: 8:30 & 11:00 AM (School Year). 8:30 & 10:00 AM (Summer) Thursday Warship (Summer) 7-00 PM Sundav — Christian Educatia: for all ages 9:45 AM (School Year) Child Care Provided

Rev. Dr. Stephen M. Larsan, Lead Pastor Rev. Kristing C. Weber, Associate Pastor Rev. Dr. Malcalm Minnick, Jr., Pastar Emeritus, Anne Krentz Organ, Director of Music Ministries Melinda Rainseth Hailand. Director of Children's Chairs, Nancy Olsan, Member Care Coardinator

St. Mary's Episcopal Church 306 S. Prospect Ave., (847) 823-4126 www.stmarvspr.org Sunday Services: 8:00 & 10:00 AM Wednesday Service: 9:00 AM Sunday School & Nursery during warship, Youth Fellowship The Rev. Sarah D. Odderstal, Rectar WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME! Check website for all activities. enriches your child's knowledge of

> Park Ridae Presbyterian Church 1300 W. Crescent Ave., (847) 823-4135

Handicap Accessible

www.parkridgepresby.org Sunday Warship 10:30 AM Nursery care during service Children's Programming for Ages 3 — High School Adult Education 9:15 AM Rev. James P. McCracken

PROSPECT HEIGHTS St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church

111 N. Wheeling Rd., (847) 255-7452 www.saintalphonsus.com Warship Days & Hours: Manday-Saturday 8:15 AM Mass of Anticipation: 5-00 PM Saturday Sunday Masses: 8:30 & 11:00 AM Pastor: Rev. Curtis A. Lambert Additional Information: School: Pre-3 thru 8th Grade - Before & After School Care Ongoing Faith Farmation - Kindergarten thru 8th Grade High School Youth Ministry Program

SKOKIE

Carter-Westminster United Presbyterian Church 4950 W. Prott. (847) 673-4441 www.cmupc.net

Sunday Marning Warship Schedule 9:00 AM Contemporary Service 10:00 AM Sunday School (for all ages) 11:00 AM Traditional Service 12:00 AM Fellowship Hour Michael Scatt Parter, Seniar Pastar lex Wickell, Director of Youth Ministrie Office Hours: Man., Tues. & Thurs, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Central United Methodist Church

8237 Kenton Avenue, (847) 673-131 www.skokiecentralumc.org Sunday Service 10:30 AM Sunday school 9:30 AM Children & Adult Adult Chair Practice 8:30 AM Sunday Fellowship 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM David L. Haley

Chair Director Joseph Paprawski E-mail: SkokieCentral@UMCNIC.org Youth Chair 9:15 AM Sunday Accessible Church Building 💍 Temple Beth Israel 3601 W. Oempster St., 847-675-0951

www.tbiskokie.org Likrat Shabbat/Kabbalat Shabbat first Friday of each month, 5:30 PM Light Nash - 6:15 PM Kahhalat Shabbat service Shabbat Service Fridays 8:15 PM

Shabbat Service Saturdays 10:30 AM Shabbat Katan, third Saturday of each month, 10:00 AM for families with children under the age of five. Morning Minyon Manday - Friday 7:30 AM Religious School Pre-K - 7th Grade Sundays 9:00 AM -- 11:00 AM Hebrew School Grades 3-7 Sundays 11:10 AM - 12:10 PM and Wednesdays 4:15 PM — 6:00 PM Youth Groups Adult Education Kaleynu — Valunteer Chair High Holiday Services Robbi Michael A. Weinberg Cantor Pavel Raytman Lori B. Sagarin Director of

Congregational Learning

SKOKIE

St. Paul Lutheran Church 5201 Galitz Street, (847) 673-5030 web.mac.com/stpaulskokie Sunday Marnina Warship 10:00 AM Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 PM Fellowship Hour, Sundays 8:45 - 9:45 AM Sunday School & Bible Study Class, Sundays 9:00 - 9:45 AM Rev. Matthew Canrad John Schuman, Minister of Music Dale Luksha, PK - 8 Academy Principal The Church is Handicap Accessible 占 Variety of Warship Farmats, Small Group Ministry Adult Chair & Handbell Chair

St. Peter's United **Church of Christ** Oakton Street & Laramie Avenue. (847) 673-8166 www.stpeteruccskokie.org Sunday Warship 10:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM (September thru May) Rey. Richard Lanford Childcare provided. Air Conditioned Sonctuory Congregation Bene Shalom 4435 Oakton, (847) 677-3330 www.beneshalom.org Fridays 7:30 PM;

Kobbalistic Proyer/

Asst. Robbi Shari Chen

Cantarial Salaist Charlene Broaks

Choir Director Nona Balk

Interfaith Families Welcome

All services sign language

Check our website for Adult

Education classes

And High Holiday Schedule

Handicap Accessible 💍

Grades K-7 Sunday 11:45 AM - 1:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30 PM on 3rd Friday of the month Meditation Service 10:30 AM On 2nd Saturday of the month Special Kabbalistic Meditation Service Sunday, August 31s, 10:00 PM Esther Knopp Religious School Sundays 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Hebrew School Sunday 12:00 -- 1:00 PN Thursday 4:00 - 5:00 PM Rahbi Dr. Dauglas Galdhamer

St. Timothy Lutheran Church 9000 N. Kildare. (847) 676-1300 www.sttimothyskokie.com Sunday Warship 10:30 AM Chair Practice, Thursday 7:30 PM Bible Study, Manday 10:00 AM Youth Christian Education 3rd Sunday at 10:30 AM Rev. Erik Weber Birthdoy Sunday 3rd Sunday of each month Accessible Building

SKOKIE

Devar Emet Messianic Synagogue 7800 Niles Avenue

(847) 674-9146 www.devaremet.org Saturday 19:00 AM

Shabbat Marning Services Wednesday 7:00 PM Midweek Religious Studies for Adults and Youth Wednesday 6:30 PM Club Maccabee Children's Club For K-5th Graders at Devanshire School in Robbi Kirk Gliebe

Devar Emet Messionic Synagogue is a community of Jews who believe and teach that Yeshua (Jesus) is the Promised Jewish Messiah.

Temple Judea Mizpah 8610 Niles Center Road, (847) 676-1566

www.templeim.org Friday 8:00 PM Second Friday of the Month 7:00 PM

Family Shabbat Religious School Sunday 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Hebrew School Grades 3 - 7 Tuesday 4:15 - 5:15 PM Religious School Grades 8 - 12

Religious School PreK Two Sundays a month 10:15 AM Robbi Amy L. Memis-Foler Cantorial Intern Beryl Bellows Sally Gold - Education Director Terry J. Kone — Executive Director Adult Education Multi-faith

Families Welcame Cammunity Theater High Holiday & Festival

CHICAGO

6740 North Oliphant Avenue Sunday Services-10:00 AM Haly Communian celebrated 1st 3st & 5th Sundays Service of the Word on

Sunday Church School-9:00 AM (with Confirmation Ministry) Unstaffed Nursery available Sunday from 9:45-11:00 AM Rev. Robert C. Johnson. Pastar Jayce M. Kissenger, Director of Music Children's Sermons 2nd Sunday of the Month

> aver 86 years in ald Narwood Park." "Our Lady Mother

of the Church 8701 W. Lawrence Avenue, (773) 625-3369 www.ourladymotherchurch.com olmotherchurch@aol.com Mass Schedule: Weekdays Manday through Friday 8:30 AM, Saturday 5:00 PM Sunday 8:00. 9:30 & 11 AM Sunday 11:00 AM

Young People's Lituray of the Word Haly Days 8:30 AM & 7:00 PM Tuesday 9:00 AM Perpetual Help Novena Eucharistic Adaration First Fridoys 9:00 AM-3:00 PM Saturday Confession 4:00-4:30 PM Bootism 2nd & 4th Sundays of the

Manth Rev. Richard J. Klajbar, Pastar Our Savior Lutheran Church Norwood-Park LCMS

6099 N. Northcott Ave. (at Nickerson & Hood Avenues) (773) 631-1100 & (773) 631-1606 www.oslc3@sbcglobal.net Sunday Warship 9:00 AM Sunday School and Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM Wednesday

Wednesday 7:30 PM Advent & Lenten Warship Services-Wednesday at 7:00 PM

St. Eugene Catholic Church 7958 W. Faster Ave., (773) 775-6659

www.st-eugene.org Daily Masses: Mon thru Fri-6:30 & 9:00 AM Weekend Mosses: Sat - 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM. Sun - 7:00, 9:30, 11:30 AM & 4:30 PM Canfession: 4:00-5:00 PM Sat Baptism:

1:00 PM 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month Rev. George Koeune, Postor; Rev. Jerame Twaron, Associate Pastar; Rev. Philip Grib, SJ, Resident

CHICAGO

St. James Lutheran Church 7400 W. Foster Avenue, (773) 631-7666 www.stjamesonfoster.ora Sunday Marning Warship-10:00 AM Call Church for Dates & Times for the Following Activities: Jozzercise, Weight Watchers, Chair, LineDancing, A. A. Meetings, Girl Scouts

St. Mary of the Woods

10:30 AM and noan Weekday Masses Confession Saturday 3:30-4:15 PM

Haly Days Vigil 7:30 PM Halv Davs 6:30. 8:00. 9:00 AM & 7:30 PM Rev. Gregory Sockowicz, Postor We have a Preschool (3 yrs. Old) through 8th Grade School, And affer

wanderful programs of Religious Education for Children and adults St. Monica Catholic Church 5136 N. Nottinaham, (773) 763-1661

www.stmonicachicago.com Daily Mass: Man - Fri 8:00 AM Veekend Masses: Saturday -- 4:00 PM Sunday - 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM.

and 12:00 PM Palish Liturgy Mass: Sunday - 1:30 PM Confessions: Saturday - 3:00 to 3:45 PM Baptism: 1st Saturday and

3rd Sunday of the Month Rev. Ted Schmitt, Postar Rev. Andrew Izyk, Associate Pastor Fr. James O'Brien, In Residence

Fr. William Halbroak, In Residence contactparish@stmonicachicago.com St. Paul Lutheran Church 5650 N. Canfield, 60631, (708) 867-5044

Rev. Walt Schoenfuhs www.stpaulcanfield.ora Street Level, Air Conditioned Sunday Warship 8:15 & 10:45 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible 9:30 AM Saturday Warship 6:00 PM St. Paul Lutheran Christian Day School Pre-K-Grade 8

SHARING GOD, TOUCHING LIVES, EVERYWHERE Wednesdays - February 25-April Lenten Soup Suppers 6 PM Lenten Taize Services 7 PM

CHICAGO

Victory Worship Center 3750 N. Neva, (773) 205-3787 www.victoryworshiponline.com

Sunday Marning Warship 11:00 AM Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM Friday Warship 7:30 PM Youth Service Friday 7:30 PM Christopher Lewis, Postor Rev. Ramana Dorsey

Morton Grove St. Luke's Christian

Community Church 9233 Shermer Rd., (847) 966-9233 Sunday Worship-10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Sunday Teen Praise Band Rehearsal 11:00 AM

Chair Rehearsal Wednesday 7:30 PM Youth Group Friday 8:00 PM Praise Service Last Sunday of each month Featuring our Proise B

Morton Grove Community Church

8944 Austin Ave., (847) 965-2982 Bible Study Sundays 9:00 AM Warship Service Sundays 10:00 AM Fellowship Sundays 11:00 AM Adult Chair Practice Sun. 9:00 AM Handicapped Accessible

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

Sunday (Sept.-June) 10:30 AM 1" Sunday of Month. 7:30 PM - Jozz Rev. Dr. Bruce T. Anderson - Pastor

Caralyn N. Sanderson - Minister of Music A member congregation of the

Church

7313 N. Waukegan Road, (847) 647-8398 – the first Christian Church – founded

Edison Park **Edison Park Lutheran Church**

Norwood Park

the Haly Spirit. Your child is welcome

ta join us for marning sang at

8:45 AM and class at 9:00 AM.

PARK RIDGE

St. Andrew's Lutheran

Church & School

260 N. Northwest Highway, (847) 823-6656

www.standrewsparkridge.org

Sunday Warship:

September through May

8:30 & 11:00 AM,

June - August 9:00 AM

Contemporary Worship:

Saturday 5:00 PM

Vespers: Monday 7:30 PM

Sunday School & Adult 9:45 AM

(September thru May)

Christian Day School - Pre-Kindergarten

thru 8th Grade

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

(ELCA)

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

205 N. Prospect Ave., (847) 825-6659

www.stlukespr.org

Email: office@stlukespr.org

Ecumenical Inauguration Vigil

January 19 at 6:30 PM. Please jain us

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DEPARTMENT @ 800-509-4636

MORTGAGE UPDATE

Mortgage rates climb By Holden Lewis

For the third week in a row, the average rate on to 5.4 percent.

5.5 percent. Granted, rates went up. But they're in September 1985. In that time, there is only bigger than that: Lenders say that people are still very low from a historical perspective.

The benchmark 30-year fixed-rate mortgage under 5.5 percent for longer than this three- theory that they'll be turned down by one rose 7 basis points, to 5.41 percent, according week slide. That was May and June 2003, the lender but approved by another. to the Bankrate.com national survey of large height of a refinance boom. Americans were In 2003, about 6.1 million homes were lenders. A basis point is one-hundredth of 1 in a home-buying frenzy, too; back then, it resold. Last month, homes were resold at an percentage point. The mortgages in this week's seemed that everyone was either refinancing or annual pace of about 4.5 million. Nationally, survey had an average total of 0.45 discount and buying.

origination points. One year ago, the mortgage Not the case now.

index was 6:41 percent; four weeks ago, it was

The benchmark 15-year fixed-rate mortgage Two-and-a-half times as many people applied sales accounted for four in five transactions in was unchanged at 4.93 percent. The benchmark for refinances that week in 2003 as they did Santa Ana, Calif., last month, and one in five in 5/1 adjustable-rate mortgage rose 3 basis points, last week, according to the Mortgage Bankers Chicago, according to the Realtors.

Association. Actually, the 60 percent decline in a 30-year, fixed-rate mortgage remained under Bankrate's weekly mortgage survey began applications between then and now is probably one period in which the 30-year fixed remained applying at multiple places nowadays, on the

Source: Bankrate.com, 2009

about 45 percent of homes resold in January were short sales or foreclosures. The National

In the second week of June 2003, the Association of Realtors calls these "distressed benchmark 30-year fixed fell to 5.28 percent. sales," and they vary geographically. Distressed

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Coaching at Notre Dame is 'awesome' for North

Broadcaster enjoys volunteer work with kids

BY DAN SHALIN dshalin@pioneerlocal.com

Most Chicago sports fans know Mike North and Dan Jiggetts have recently resumed their broadcast partnership.

But many may be unaware of North's involvement with another team, namely the Notre Dame High School boys basketball team. The hot dog vendorturned media celebrity is in his second year as an assistant coach for the Dons, who brought a 17-8 record into Tuesday night's IHSA Class 4A Notre Dame Regional semifi-

North volunteers his time on head coach Tom Les' staff, offering a little bit of hoops knowledge, some empathy and - perhaps surprisingly - a calming

'Good perspective'

"He has a good perspective. Not necessarily Xs and Os, but perspective about what (kids) are thinking and what they're doing," said Les, in his second season at the helm. "He likes the kids, and the kids like him. I'm pretty tough on the kids. So when I'm on them, he puts an arm around them. We work well together."

North, the laid-back member of the staff?

"People can't believe it after they watch me on TV or listen to me on the radio," said the always outspoken and sometimes controversial broadcaster. "I'm the guy that's going to have to pat the kids on the back and say, 'We'll go back and get 'em.' "

North, whose television show "Monsters in the Morning," is on Comcast, said the Notre Dame opportunity came along at just the right time in

Dame High School. It's not really a hobby, it's an adventure."

Notre Dame assistant boys basketball coach Mike North makes a point from the bench during a game this season.

Involvement

ing two years ago and said, 'How am I going to eat up the six or seven hours a day if I'm not drinking anymore?" " he said. "I found a nice little release and it's helped me so much. The best thing that's ever happened to me, especially Bradley University and a somein the last two years since I times North guest, introduced stopped drinking, is Notre

"It's awesome. I quit drink-

himself to the host.

North's involvement with the program began prior to last season when he was emceeing a fund-raiser at the Niles school. Les, whose brother Jim is the head basketball coach at

"(North) said, 'If there is

anything I can do to help, I'm more than willing.' So I took him up on his offer," said Les, also a volunteer coach who works full-time as an electrical and mechanical contractor.

BUZZ ORR/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

North joined the stuff after receiving his coaching certifieate, which included passing an eight-hour test. He now sits on

the bench alongside Les and fellow assistants Tom Mocogni and Kevin Clancy, the latter a onetime Dons star who played college ball at Loyola.

Impact lives

North believes the coaches' real-world success also helps them impart life skills to the student-athletes. After attending every practice during his rookie campaign, television commitments have limited. North to about two practicesper week this winter. North of-

"I found a nice little release and it's helped me so much."

Mike North

ten mentions the team on his show, and the school is a spon-

The ND gig isn't North's first involvement with Illinois high school sports. A decade ago, he was instrumental in establishing 16-inch softball as a varsity sport in the Chicago Public League. Currently, 54 schools field teams.

North has had his detractors over the years. But the Senn High alum continues to appeal to fans who enjoy his everyman persona, his strong opinions and willingness to ask tough

Though North has achieved fame and fortune, Notre Dame star guard Mike DiGregorio said the talk show host-turnedcoach remains down to earth.

"He doesn't come in and flash fancy stuff around us," Di-Gregorio said. "He comes across as a regular guy, who happens to be famous and have

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Regional champ Northridge enjoying best season

dcurrier@pioneerlocal.com

After 19 years coaching at the college level, it was time for Will Rey to come home. The Chicago native had coached at different levels at various universities, including being a head coach at Loyola University of Chicago, St. Mary's in Minnesota and Wright State in Dayton,

"I was away from home too much and didn't see my kids growing up," Rey said. "I finally had enough of the rat race that goes along with college basket-

Five years ago, Rey found a home at Northridge Prep (22-5) in Niles. where he is both athletic director and basketball coach. In his time there, he has built a program that has become one of the elite in the north suburbs.

Knights defeated Luther win their own Class 2A regional. It was their second straight regional title.

seeded Knights with 15 points. Seniors co-capwhile Jason Beck conseven rebounds.

1 to win our conference (Independent School record is the best in school history."

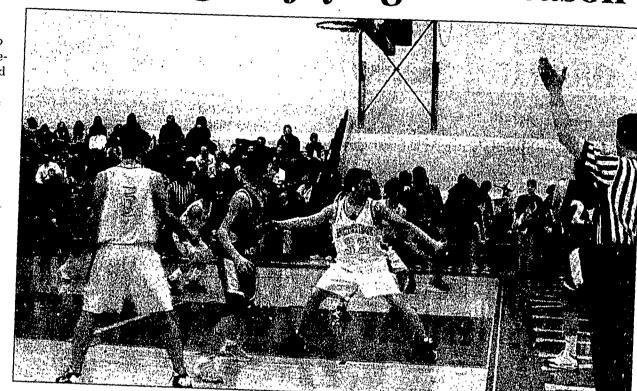
the half. When the score reached 45-18 at the end of the third quarter, Rey

North of Chicago 54-25 to

Junior Robert Rey, the coach's son, led the No. 1tains Jack Whelan added 10 points and six assists. tributed eight points and

"We played well, shooting 10-of-21 three-pointers," coach Rey said. "We are a veteran group with seven seniors. We went 11-League). The 22-5 overall

The Knights jumped out to a 14-3 first-quarter lead and were up 31-10 at



Northridge Prep senior Matt Jaroslawski guards a Luther North player on an inbounds play Feb. 26 during the regional final in Niles.

began clearing the

Northridge Prep played

Holy Trinity in the Luther North Sectional semifinals Tuesday, with the winner

playing either Walther Lutheran or Hales Fran-

in the sectional final.

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GIRLS SOCCER

Oh, baby! East coach enters year with back-up plan

mharness@pioneerlocal.com

Julie Dickinson is hoping her first child isn't eager to arrive early.

The Maine East girls soccer coach is due to give birth in May, around the time of the state playoffs. But if her baby boy can't wait, Dickinson prepared

her varsity assistant.

coach, but the fifth-year varsity coach wanted her fellow Maine South alumnus to take over the team should her pregnancy end prematurely. The pair have played together in summer adult soccer

by adding Katie Pavlik as Pavlik was the JV

> day after a week of tryouts. March 30

While Dickinson was using tryouts to fill out

"The two of us work well as a team," said Dickinson, who was scheduled to finalize her roster Fri-

The spring season started Monday. The Demons' first game is at home against Von Steuben

her roster, she welcomes

back several starters from a year ago. Seniors Samantha Lynn, Kristle

Cua and Jennifer Lescano. plus junior Jasmina Markovic, all saw significant time on the field last

Lynn, a defender, will be back in the starting lineup for her fourth season. Markovic and Cua both return to the midfield for a third consecutive season.

"We want those two to become bigger leaders this season," Dickinson said of Markovic and Cua.

One of Dickinson's big decisions in the preseason will be to determine who will play in goal. Senior Tiffany Jones was the backup last season, but Dickinson is keeping her

options open. The coach also likes the way Jones plays in the field.

"We will see if someone else can step up and possibly play goalie," the coach said. "But Tiffany's got good goalie skills. She was a basketball player, so she has good hands."

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BOYS GYMNASTICS

Maine East's numbers, excitement getting higher

mharness@pioneerlocal.com

In his first season as Maine East's varsity boys gymnastic coach, Erick Noriega has plenty of reasons to be excited, especially for the future.

With the biggest

with the program, the Demons have enough gym-

nasts to build a foundation for years to come. "It's odd," said the 2000 Maine East graduate, who

coached freshmen the four previous seasons. "I don't know how to explain it.

Usually, it's like 10 or 12 kids. Now, we're up to 30."

Although only three are freshmen, the majority of the Demons have at least two seasons in front of them.

"JV is going to be loaded," Noriega said. "It's really something to look

forward to. I'm really happy about it."

Senior Namania Bolic and junior Rinel Tabamo are two all-arounders back from a year ago. Sophomore John Agsao, a contributor last season, gives Noriega three allarounders this season.

Some newcomers include senior Ervin Gayapa (vault), junior Jasper Avila (all-around) and junior Lance Lindsay (vault, floor exercise).

Despite struggling to break 100 for most of last season, the Demons scored 104.5 at the league meet

and 104.65 at the sectional. Their high was 107.6.

"I know we are going to upset some people this year with the way everybody is working," said Noriega, whose team finished seventh in the CSL and eighth at the York Sectional last season. "The effort in the gym is relentless."

East starts the season Friday at home against

BOYS TRACK

Notre Dame facing challenges — on the inside

By DAN SHALIN dshalin@pioneerlocal.com

A Pioneer Press Publication

Notre Dame track coach Mike Jankowski has a built-in excuse for any struggles his team may have during the indoor season, as the school does not have a field But the coach chooses

to look at the lack of facilities as just another challenge runners must overcome to achieve their goals. In recent weeks. the Dons have done some training in the school gym, a lot of sprinting in the hallways and - when weather has permitted gotten outside for the occasional jog.

Jankowski said he looks forward to competitions, of which there have been three, so he can

perform in actual indoor track conditions.

esting challenge, because of the constraints we work within, to see how the kids handle (competing) in an (indoor) facility against the kids who (train) in indoor facilities all the time," the coach said. "But I've been really proud of how they've handled it. They've come to compete.

see the fire in the kids and they don't want to

"It's always an inter-

"From a coaching perspective, we know we're at a disadvantage, but we settle for just being OK. I've been very happy so

The Dons traveled to Niles West for the Viking Relays, hosted by Niles North on Friday. The

event also included Barrington, Maine West and New Trier.

Among the highlights for ND: senior Matt Bascom finishing second in the 55 high hurdles (8.1 seconds); senior Mike Clark placing fourth in the 1600 (5 minutes, 11 seconds); and senior Mike Angelini finishing fifth in the same event (5.13). In addition, senior Kyle

Enalish was second in shot put. Junior **Eric** Schuler was third in shot put and third in the over-200-pound 50 (7.6). Jankowski said about

two-thirds of the team is currently competing, while others are just returning to action after playing winter sports. As the season progresses and eventually moves outdoors, the coach will look

seniors with some talented, though unproven, youngsters.

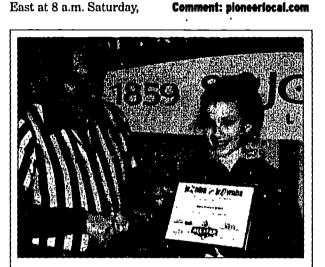
"I'm real excited because we have some real good leaders, but we don't have enough in terms of (depth)," Jankowski said. "But we have five or six seniors who will score a lot of points for us." Clark and Angelini will

be the team's top distance runners. English, the Dons' best thrower, has placed first or second in shot put in each of the first three meets. He also is athletic enough to dabble in high jump and long

Bascom has also had early season success despite training for hurdles in the school hallway. Junior Pat Lazzare is expected to be among the

in the 400. He is also a team Chicagoland long jumper. Catholic Schools Meet at Lewis University, in

The Dons will compete Romeoville, on Sunday. in the Niles West Invite at 5 p.m. Friday, visit Maine East at 8 a.m. Saturday,



AWARD WINNER Niles Park District director Dan Kosiba congratulates Mary Frances Dillon of St. Juliana after receiving the 2009 Jr. NBA/Jr. WNBA All-League Team Award.

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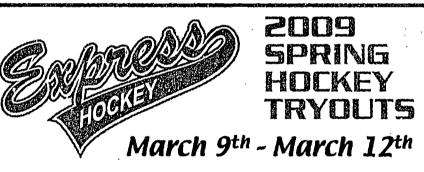
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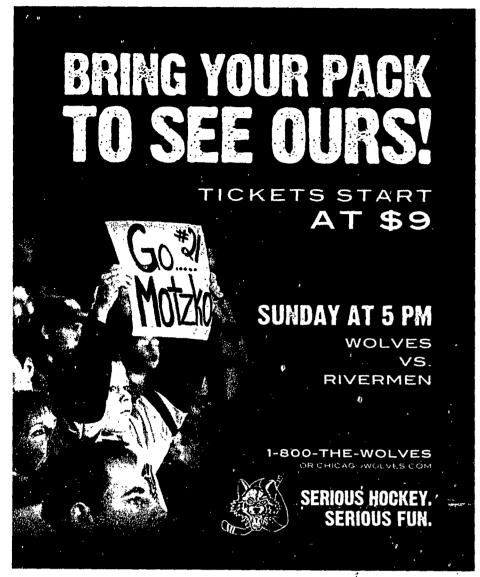
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I SPORTS !

Busy MAINEiacs get much-needed break

mharness@pioneerlocal.com

Usually, 11 days off between games is not ideal.

But the Maine Township MAINEiacs desperately need some time to rest before their quarterfinal contest against the Cobras in the Blackhawk Cup (combined division) playoffs on Saturday.

"It's not good in normal situations, but our five top players are on two rosters and have had a long stretch," said Maine coach Steve Glickman. "This gives us a chance to heal some wounds and rest. We want to come out Saturday refreshed."

Nick Barlock is one of those players who plays club hockey during the prep season. The Maine East senior also skates for the Park Ridge-based Express on the Midget Major team, which ended its season last week. Kevin Paso, LeBeau are Barlock's Express teammates. David Pukszta, nursing a hand injury, is on the Express Midget Minor squad.

"(The break) is very nice," said Barlock, who played 15 games during one 17-day stretch. "It gets tiring after a while."

Barlock, a defenseman. is in his first season with the MAINEiacs. He was recruited by Glickman, who coached him on the Express, and some of the other players - along with Salvatore Caruso on the MAINEiacs.

"Once I found out who would be playing on the high school team, I thought we would be good," Barlock said, "So

far, it's working out for us." Maine, which received a first-round bye and is the No. 2 seed behind Rockford, advanced to the final eight after beating Waubonise Valley 9-8 Feb.

onds to go in the game was the difference. The big highlight was Anderson's two goals in the first period when the MAINEiacs were down two skaters. The Maine South senior finished with a hat trick.

"I've never seen that at this level." Glickman said of the shorthanded scores.

Other than the result. the coach and his players weren't too pleased with the way they played in the

"It was a sigh of relief," Barlock said.

"I think we took them too easy," Glickman added. "It was a sloppy affair. We struggled to do anything right."

The winner of Saturday's game moves on to play in the semifinals March 9. The championship game is scheduled for March 11.

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OAKTON TRACK

East grads run to success

College's indoor track and field team competed at the Dick Pond Invitational, hosted by Lewis University Feb. 21.

In men's competition. reshman Marique

Stephenson (Evanston. Township) placed fourth in the 400-meter dash (52.49 seconds), and sophomore Karol Grabowski (Maine East) finished fourth in the 1,000-meter run (2 min-

utes, 36.89 seconds). On the women's side.

freshman Rashida "Bradley (Maine East) was the Raiders' highest , finisher, placing sixth in the 200-meter dash (28.32).

Niles Baseball League registration continues

The Niles Baseball League registration is still open for Little League, Bronco, AA and AAA players. All late fees are waived.

Players still can register in person at Pioneer Field house from 7-9 p.m. March 5, 10, 12, 19 and 24 and April 14. Online registration is available at

www.eteamz.com/NBL or at the league evaluations. Evaluations will be: Little League, 8:30 a.m. March 7 at Tam Tennis

and Fitness Center, 7686 N. Caldwell Ave., Niles; Bronco, 8:30 a.m. March 14 at Tam Tennis and Fitness Center; Instructional, 8:30

a.m. March 21 at Tam Tennis and Fitness Center: AA Division, 10 a.m. April 18 at Jonquil Park (Oriole Ave., one block south of Oakton); and AAA Division, noon April 19 at Jonquil

More information is available by calling John Dosek at (847) 967-1364 or John Zuckerman at (847)

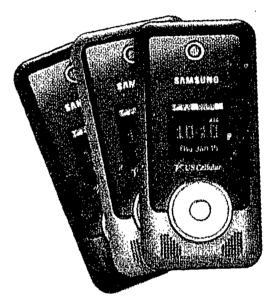
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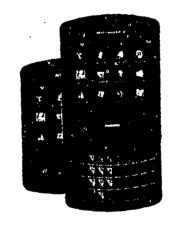
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