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NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

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THIS WEEK

DIVERSIONS



RAGING IN THE TUB

"X-Men Origins: Wolverine" is featured in Film Clips.

SEE PAGE B2

FOOD



AND THEY'RE OFF!

Local tattle 'bout bourbon-spiked Derby fare.

SEE PIONEERLOCAL.COM

Inside!
*Mother's Day
Today's
New Homes*



MEET BEN FRANKLIN

Actor Terry Lynch, from left, mingles with Niles Historical Society President Marge Berles and members Norbert Johnson and Gloria Anderson in Niles on April 26. Lynch spoke with the group in character as Benjamin Franklin. PAGE 6 (Shauna Bittle/For STNG)

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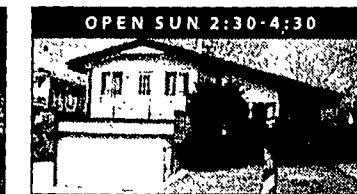









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Turn off the TV and read
Franklin School's Principal Dan Walsh reads to children after school on April 21. The event was part of TV Turn-Off Week in Park Ridge-Niles School District 64. (Tamara Bell/Staff Photographer)



Niles ethics law clear for approval — again

By TONY BERTUCA
tbertuca@pioneerlocal.com

Niles officials revisited April 23 an ethics ordinance that would create the Niles Ethics Board and a Citizen's Plan Compliance Committee.

With Village Board members hailing an improved effort at transparency, the ordinance appeared to be on track for approval at the board's April 28 meeting.

The discussion comes in the wake of a rebuke by the Attorney General's Office which said the village had violated the state's Open Meetings Act when it first attempted to pass an ethics ordinance.

The first attempt occurred last fall when the newly formed ethics board convened without a public meeting. Trustees later held a public meeting and voted on an ethics ordinance even though the item was not on the meeting agenda.

Shortly afterward, Trustee Kim Biederman filed a complaint with the attorney general's office alleging violations of the

state's Open Meetings Act. An associate attorney from the office concurred with Biederman and wrote a letter to village officials suggesting they revisit the issue at a public meeting.

Village Attorney Joe Annunzio said Niles officials decided to return to the matter Thursday and conduct all business at open meetings in the interest of transparency.

"Given that the attorney general's opinion said we violated the open meetings act, we are going to do it this way just to be sure," he said. "Nothing is really going to change in the ordinance. Everything is going to be open. This is a learning process for all of us. Everything is going to be evolving."

At the meeting Thursday, Mayor Robert Callero and trustees Louella Preston, Kim Biederman and Joe LoVerde discussed the newly proposed ethics ordinance and took public comment.

Currently, the ethics board is composed of Callero, Preston and LoVerde, but Callero said

he would appoint someone to replace him after he takes the official oath of office to become mayor.

Serving beneath the ethics board would be the Citizen's Plan Compliance Committee which would consist of 13 residents and would be advised by Annunzio and attorney Mike Siegel.

Annunzio said the citizen committee members had already been chosen but would not be named publicly until the ordinance was approved.

The citizen's committee will not have subpoena power and will be advisory only. It will still fall to the board of trustees to make ethics rulings.

During the discussion Thursday Callero said he hoped the committee would create an ethics hotline that would put callers in direct contact with Annunzio to register complaints or report unethical behavior.

"The only problem we have here is that we could have people just calling up and making statements that are totally false," Callero said. "The com-

plaint does not have to give their name. We just have to be careful of calls that have no meaning."

Should the hotline be created, Annunzio said it would be his responsibility to investigate complaints, though he said it was still possible the village would hire an outside firm to handle the calls and report back to him.

The current makeup of the ethics board was a matter of contention at the meeting. Biederman said the board lacked a citizen's voice because it was only staffed three elected officials — Callero, Preston and LoVerde.

"One of the things I feel strongly about is that we should have a resident on this board," she said.

Resident Robert Kurfirst, a former political science professor who has applied to be on the citizen's plan compliance committee, said he too was concerned that the board which oversaw a citizen's committee would not have a citizen member.

"My concern is this being the same people over and over," he said. "Why do we

need the middle man?"

Annunzio said it was important to have at least one trustee on the ethics board because only a trustee could bring a matter before the full board of trustees for a vote. He also said he believed it was important for elected officials to be part of the ethics board and not see it as something that needed to be pushed back against.

"My fear is that if we hand it over completely to the citizens, there would automatically be a disconnect," he said.

But after the concerns were heard Callero said he would consider re-writing the ordinance to allow only a maximum of two trustees on the ethics board.

Callero also said Thursday's meeting was a sign of things to come, which could mean the village will call more public meetings to discuss issues with residents.

"I feel this is the way meetings will run now on with comment from people who care just as much as we do," he said. Comment: pioneerlocal.com

Budget hearing May 5

By TONY BERTUCA
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Niles officials have announced that a draft of the Fiscal Year 2010 Budget is available for review by village residents.

A public budget hearing has been set for May 5 at 6 p.m. at Niles Village Hall. All Niles residents are encouraged to attend and may submit written or oral comments at the hearing.

Niles officials say residents who wish to see a draft of the budget can obtain one at the Village Hall Finance Department or online at www.niles.com.

In other village news, the board of trustees was scheduled to vote on an ethics ordinance April 28 that would create an ethics board and a citizen's plan compliance committee (see related story).

Trustees were also scheduled to hear a report from the village stormwater commission that has been tasked with alleviating flooding, and the board was expected to vote on an item that would bid out GPS collection data of water and sewer assets.

Other bid awards slated for discussion and possible approval included road salt for 2009-10 winter season, the 2009 sidewalk and gutter program, and a fuel tank monitoring system.

A discussion to expand the services of the Niles Teen Center was also expected.

Sights and Sounds

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LAST WEEK

TOP FIVE STORIES

1. Mall operator files for bankruptcy

The Chicago-based company that manages Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles filed for bankruptcy April 16, but officials were assuring residents and shoppers that business will go on as usual.

2. Walgreens offers free health services

Village of Niles officials want residents to know that Walgreens, in cooperation with Take Care Health Systems, has announced it will provide free health care services to all patients who have recently been laid off.

3. Four ND seniors sign letters of intent

Four Notre Dame seniors signed letters of intent last month to play college football.

4. Oakton briefs

Poodle skirts, hula hoops and pompadours will be swinging at "Rock Your Socks Off," the Oakton Educational Foundation's spring fundraiser at 7:30 p.m. May 2 at Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road.

5. Trustee faces potential legal entanglement

Newly elected Niles trustee George Alpogianis will likely face a legal battle in the near future over whether or not he can keep his seat on the village board, but a former political opponent Dan Ryan says he won't be the one to rock the boat.

To find stories go to www.pioneerlocal.com

Police search for gas station robber

Investigators say crime could be linked to Skokie robbery.

By **TONY BERTUCA**
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A Shell gas station in Niles was robbed Tuesday morning by a masked gunman, according to local police.

Niles police said a hooded man who wore a mask

and brandished a handgun entered the Shell station, located on the 5900 block of West Touhy Avenue, at 7:33 a.m. and stole \$100 before fleeing the scene on foot.

Sgt. Thomas Davis of Niles Police Department said authorities investigating the crime were looking into the possibility that it could be related to another gas station robbery in Skokie.

"They are still investigating this robbery," Davis said. "We don't know if the

crimes are related at this time.

"We are asking that anyone that may have been in the area of Touhy Avenue and Lehigh Avenue at that time this morning and feel they may have either witnessed the robbery or anything suspicious, to please call the Niles Police at 847/588-6500 or Niles Crime Stoppers at 847/588-6533. Their information will be kept confidential."

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

Niles schedules two green events

By **TONY BERTUCA**
tbertuca@pioneerlocal.com

The village of Niles has organized two events to help the public get greener in May.

For the first event — Spring Cleaning 2009 — the village has teamed up with Golf Mill Shopping Center to provide a place where residents can recycle a wide variety of electronic items.

Every year Americans improperly discard millions of electronic items that can take more than 50 years to fully break down, according to village officials.

Spring Cleaning 2009 will take place between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Saturday at Golf Mill Shopping Center.

Items that will be accepted include PCs, laptops, cell phones, modems, printers, monitors, key boards, cables and disk drives. Office equipment like telephones, copy machines, fax machines, postage machines, can also be recycled at the event. Clothing, lightly used furniture and various

household appliances like TVs, VCRs, cameras, blenders and toasters will be accepted as well.

Village officials say many of the items will be donated to Habitat for Humanity or WINGS. (Women in Need Growing Stronger).

Items that will not be accepted include household hazardous wastes (paints or chemicals), air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers, washers and dryers.

A full list of eligible and ineligible items can be found at www.vniles.com.

The second green event organized by the village will be the Community Rain Garden Plant-A-Thon scheduled for May 23.

Students from Notre Dame High School's Environmental Adventure Club agreed last June to care for the rain garden during its first year and will use the event to expand the garden. Mayor Robert Callero praised the project for its educational and environmental value.

"During this event the stu-

dents not only hope to see the reinvigoration of the main rain garden on the site, but the installation of two smaller rain gardens and a prairie grass area," Callero said. "This will allow the class seniors in the group, who have worked so hard on the project, to see it nearly completed before graduating."

The rain garden was installed in a vacant lot near the corner of Touhy and Harlem avenues last June by Niles residents and 150 volunteers from Coca-Cola. Its special design is meant to capture and filter stormwater from surrounding buildings and parking lots before it enters the local sewer system.

Anyone interested in participating in the event or making a donation should contact Assistant Village Manager Steve Vinezano at (847) 588-8007.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

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THIS WEEK ONLINE NOW

SLIDESHOW



Photos of the week

Take a look at the past week through the lenses of the photographers of Pioneer Press and The Doings. Go to pioneerlocal.com.

SPORTS



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WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

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Maine Township woman charged in ambulance theft

By **JENNIFER JOHNSON**
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A woman from unincorporated Maine Township was arrested this week after Chicago police found her driving an ambulance that had been reported stolen from outside Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge.

Estera Bulbucan, 25, of the 9100 block of North Lincoln Avenue, was

charged with one felony count of possession of a stolen motor vehicle and a misdemeanor count of damage to public property, according to Chicago Police News Affairs.

Park Ridge Police said security officers at Lutheran General reported that an ambulance belonging to a private ambulance company was left running near the emergency room entrance about 5 p.m. Mon-

day, but when the paramedics returned about 45 minutes later, the vehicle was gone.

At about 6:50 p.m., after Park Ridge police broadcast the vehicle's description and license plate number to a statewide police radio network, a security guard at Chicago's Millennium Park observed a woman, later identified as Bulbucan, sitting in the driver's seat of an ambulance at 30 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago police said.

When the security guard approached, the woman allegedly drove off through the park, tearing up patches of grass.

Chicago police tactical officers were located nearby and Bulbucan was taken into custody. She was expected to appear in bond court Tuesday afternoon.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com



Estera Bulbucan

Area officials responding to flu threat

By **NICK KATZ and IRV LEAVITT**
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ileavitt@pioneerlocal.com

So far, at least, local officials are not taking any major steps in response to the swine flu, instead treating it like any other contagious disease.

The flu has taken more than 100 lives in Mexico, but so far swine flu patients in the United States have recovered from their illness. As of Monday afternoon the Centers for Disease Control had reported 40 confirmed cases in the U.S.

"It's not epidemic," said Jackie Walker-O'Keefe, Morton Grove's director of senior and family services. "I'm just asking people to do the normal things you would do during flu season."

The village, however, has taken some steps to provide information about the swine flu to Morton Grove residents.

O'Keefe said a link has been added to the village Web site to the CDC. "People can click on that and it will give them the latest updates," she said.

In addition O'Keefe put together a flier that is available at the senior center and

was given out during the senior lunch program with information on the swine flu. Also, she said, anyone with questions can call village nurse Margaret DiSalvo at (847) 663-3076.

At the Morton Grove Park District, Human Resources Coordinator Laurie Larson said standard procedures that are always in use to maintain cleanliness are in effect.

In the park district's preschool program a sanitizing spray and wipes are used to routinely clean tables and equipment as well as kids' hands. In addition, she said, parents are asked to keep their children at home if they are sick.

In the fitness center, Larson said, she is posting a sign reminding members to use available sanitizing wipes to wipe down equipment after they use it. "We're following the same good hygiene procedures we follow normally," she said.

Gary Zablika, superintendent of Park View Elementary District 70, said he planned to bring up the issue Monday afternoon at an already scheduled meeting of Niles Township superintendents to see what other districts are doing in

response to the swine flu threat. For the time being, though, unless the problem becomes more urgent, he said he is not planning any special procedures in district 70.

"At this point Illinois doesn't even have any cases reported," he said. Zablika said the district is treating the disease like any other flu, documenting cases and sending kids home if they have a fever. Parents are asked to keep them home until the fever is gone.

"We always have cases of the flu," he said. "If you don't feel well you should stay home."

School nurses at Niles Township High School District 219 expected to get some general swine flu reporting and response guidelines from the Skokie Health Department Monday, district community relations director Jim Szczepaniak said.

"Once the department decides on how to proceed, we'll get that information and work from there," he said. The district hasn't yet gotten any calls from students or parents about the outbreak, he added.

Chicago-area residents are quietly preparing themselves for the swine flu to spread here.

Walgreens sales of anti-infection masks are brisk in Texas, California, Kansas and New York, where the swine flu has been confirmed — and the Chicago area, where — as of early this week — it hadn't, spokesman Rob Elfinger said Monday.

By Monday, the outbreak had been confirmed to have spread to the U.S. and Canada. It hadn't risen to the level of epidemic, but it had been declared Sunday a "public health emergency" by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Monday, Illinois Department of Public Health Spokeswoman Kelly Jakubek said tests on a handful of suspect cases had turned up negative, but the agency is girding itself for the swine flu to get here soon.

"We're monitoring the situation around the clock," she said Monday. "It's kind of like a tropical storm. It could die out or escalate into something bigger. We just don't know right now." There's probably plenty

of Tamiflu available, she said, especially after the CDC released a portion of the strategic national stockpile Sunday.

Swine flu is rare in the United States: Before the latest outbreak, there had only been a dozen cases in the previous three years or so.

There are four known swine flu viruses, which are respiratory diseases normally only affecting pigs, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. They can infect humans who are directly exposed to pigs or their excrement.

The disease may have been present in Mexico's state of Veracruz in February, or even earlier, according to Veratect, an American company that tracks infectious human and animal diseases.

Area residents believed, according to Veratect, that the disease traveled from pigs to people through contamination by area factory hog farms.

Vaccines many area residents received last year won't stop the swine flu, the CDC says. Deerfield-based Baxter HealthCare announced last

weekend that it has asked the World Health Organization for a sample of the virus strain, so it can begin preparing a vaccine. Switzerland's Novartis made a similar announcement. Neither predicted when a vaccine might be ready.

Monday, a worried mom brought her 5-year-old son into pediatrician Mark Swislow's Lincolnwood office. "Basically, he had a cold and cough and no fever," Swislow said. "She just wanted to make sure it wasn't swine flu."

He reassured her, but not completely. "They just canceled their vacation to Mexico," he said. "They were supposed to go in 10 days."

"This is not very good for Mexican tourism."

"Hand-washing before eating and after contact with other people — especially sneezing people — will be enough protection for most, he said. And since the germs last an hour or so on surfaces, keep your hands away from your face between hand-washings, he added.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com



Terry Lynch tells the story of how Ben Franklin moved to Philadelphia and met the love of his life to the Niles Historical Society in Niles April 26. Lynch also anecdotes from Franklin's life, including how he taught himself to read as a child and how he publishing as an adult. (Shauna Bittle/For STNG)



Terry Lynch dons the costume of Ben Franklin at the Niles Oasis Fun Center Clubhouse in Niles on April 26. Lynch has been working as a Ben Franklin recreator for seven years. (Shauna Bittle/For STNG)

Tales from Franklin Terry Lynch portrays Ben Franklin in a presentation to the Niles Historical Society in Niles April 26. Lynch also anecdotes from Franklin's life, including how he taught himself to read as a child and how he publishing as an adult. (Shauna Bittle/For STNG)

Affordable escapism: Movie theaters thriving

By LIZA ROCHE
lroche@pioneerlocal.com

That usual cold-weather get-away to Florida might have been a no-go this winter, but some local business owners — especially movie theater operators — say they are direct beneficiaries of those so-called “stay-cations.”

For the past 10 weeks, box-office sales have been up over the same period in 2008 for Classic Cinemas, which operates more than a dozen theaters in the region, including the Lake Theatre in Oak Park and the York Theatre in Elmhurst, said Mark Mazrimas, the

company's marketing director.

“Going to the movies is like taking a two-hour, sometimes plus, vacation,” he said, adding it's escapism that is affordable.

Indeed, so far so good, said Andy DiOrto of AMC Theatres, the chain that owns theaters in Skokie, Northbrook, South Barrington and Norridge.

“We've seen that when times are tough, basically guests may forego vacation or those long road trips, and instead turn to entertainment options that are closer to home,” he said. “And movies are certainly right up their alley.”

Overall movie box office admissions have increased in five of the last seven recession years, DiOrto said.

“As long as there's still good product to go see, guests still want that escape.”

And local theater operators, who say their fate is largely determined by the quality of movies, say they're relieved that so far during this recessionary period, Hollywood studios have pumped out winners.

Academy Award winner “Slumdog Millionaire” is still playing in some of Classic Cinemas' theaters, said Mazrimas, adding that he is expecting a great start to

the summer movie season.

He anticipates several hits, including the sequel “Night at the Museum 2,” the prequel “X-Men Origins: Wolverine,” and a new “Star Trek” movie that “could reinvigorate the franchise” in the same way the “Batman” franchise saw its star rise in recent years.

Dino Vlahakis, who operates Park Ridge's Pickwick Theatre, says he has a gut

feeling that the economy in general is going to improve sometime this summer, but regardless, movie theaters' biggest threat has never been hard economic times.

“The golden years of the theater was during the Depression,” he said.

The biggest problem came several years ago during “the popcorn scare,” when health experts gave out warnings about the-

aters' use of high-in-saturated-fat coconut oil for popping the familiar movie treat.

For longer than theater owners liked, nobody bought popcorn even though, Vlahakis said, a patron would have had to eat a “truckload” of popcorn to do real damage.

And even that crisis was averted. “We switched to canola oil,” he said.



YOUTH OF THE YEAR
Matthew Bardelas addresses the crowd after receiving the Youth of the Year award during the annual Night of Roses awards dinner. (Jerry Dallego/For STNG)



LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR
Mary Mahoney reacts as she is introduced as the Niles Good Neighbor recipient, during the annual Night of Roses awards dinner. (Jerry Dallego/For STNG)

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Green Peppers 59¢ (LB.)	USDA Choice Boneless Sirloin Steak \$3.99 (LB.)	Stella Baby Swiss Cheese \$3.49 (LB.)	GROCERIES
Golden Delicious Apples 59¢ (LB.)			Open Pit BBQ Sauce 99¢ (Ea. 18 Oz.)
Golden Ripe Pineapple \$1.59 (Ea.)			Riceland Rice \$7.99 (Ea. 10 LB.)
			Domino Sugar \$1.99 (Ea. 4 LB.)
			Wishbone Dressing (All Varieties) \$5.00 (2 FOR Ea. 16 Oz.)
			Old Orchard Juice \$4.00 (2 FOR Ea. 64 Oz.)
			Culligan Premium Water 89¢ (Ea. 1 Gal.)
			Sain' Olio Extra Virgin Olive Oil \$5.99 (Ea. 1 Lt.)
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POLITICS

Bills would limit Illinois campaign contributions

By IRV LEAVITT ileavitt@pioneerlocal.com

The national scandal surrounding accusations that former Gov. Rod Blagojevich traded power and influence for hefty campaign contributions has given hope to activists that Illinois will soon join the 46 other U.S. states with laws that cap donations.

"Corruption has become the catch phrase for state government," said Peter Bensinger, former head of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency who now leads Change Illinois, a new bipartisan group fighting to limit political contributions.

"The problem is not just Blagojevich; it's a system that allows big money to dominate what gets done and who gets what."

His group backs two state bills that mirror federal caps and would basically limit contributions by individuals to legislative candidates to \$2,400 per primary or general election cycles.

Political action committees would be limited, also, to between \$10,000 and \$30,000 per cycle per legislative candidate, depending upon the type of PAC. A statewide candidate could accept up to \$125,000 for a general election from a political party's PAC.

"I think we have the best chance this year of any of the 12 years I've been in the legislature, and I've had a bill like this for most of those years," said Beth Coulson, R-17th of Glenview. She's a chief sponsor on the lower chamber bill, HB24.

Change Illinois hopes to shame legislators into going along, but last week, only 25 legislators has signed as sponsors for the House bill, and three for the Senate bill, SB 1768.

Recent state ethics hearings have brought questions from members, including

Is Illinois ready for reform?

Activists and legislators seeking caps on campaign contributions say their time is now, because voters have had enough.

In a January poll, more Illinois residents said they were "extremely concerned" about corruption in state government and the influence of money in state politics than any other issues. Last year, the top state issue was the price of gasoline.

Table: Corruption in state government influence of money in politics. 2008 vs 2009. Extremely concerned, Very important, Somewhat important, Not very important, Not at all important.

"If your state representative repeatedly supported legislation to reduce the influence of money in politics, how important would that be to you in deciding to vote to re-elect your legislator?"

Source: Joyce Foundation Survey

Pioneer Press/IRL

House Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie, D-25th. She notes that super-rich candidates, by federal law, can't be stopped from spending their own money. With limits, wealthy candidates' opponents "would not have a chance to fight back. It would be like going into battle with one arm tied behind your back," she said.

"My argument to the millionaire argument is one word: Oberweis," said Change Illinois supporter Mary E. Anderson.

Anderson, a former Illinois deputy inspector general investigating state corruption, referred to Jim Oberweis, the dairy magnate whose milk money couldn't get him into the governor's mansion or the U.S. Senate or House.

Currie argues that some candidates need lots of cash to fight off "Swift Boat" attacks by the deep pockets of "527" organizations, and she also has a problem with the bills' \$30,000-per-cycle limits for legislative caucuses to General Assembly candidates.

"I have a fund, the Majority Leader's Fund, and peo-

ple contribute to me and I'm able to use that fund to help elect other Democrats," she said. "I guess I don't see anything wrong with that." Bensinger differs. "This is a source of power and influence, excessive influence for the leaders," he said. "Influence needs to come from the voters in the individual districts. That's what representative government is all about."

Money just helps get the word out, Currie maintains, and the leadership no longer can crack the whip like it used to.

"I don't see people 'hoping to' when the leaders speak," she said.

The bills limit businesses to \$5,000 per candidate per cycle, which might sadden members of the state senate's Insurance Committee, said Jennifer McDermott, advocacy coordinator for the Illinois branch of the AARP.

"Everybody wants to be on that committee because the insurance companies give so much money," said McDermott, in constant struggle to bring more regulation to the health insurance industry.

Suburban jobless rate increases slowing?

By LYNNE STIEFEL lstiefel@pioneerlocal.com

There may be positive signs in the latest report of jobless residents in Chicago's north, northwest and western suburbs.

The unemployment rate for suburbs served by Pioneer Press with more than 25,000 residents decreased, stayed flat, slowed or grew by no more than one-half of 1 percent from February's rate, according to statistics released Thursday by the Illinois Department of Employment Security.

Illinois' economy as a

whole, however, continued to contract. The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for March was 9.1 percent — the highest level since November 1985.

The manufacturing sector lost 14,200 jobs in March, its third largest over-the-month reduction since January 1992. There were 13,200 fewer workers in the professional and business services sector, the second largest decrease on record and the third time in the last five months the number of workers had declined by more than 10,000.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

POLICE BLOTTER

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

NILES BATTERY

Tomasz Wisniewski, 27, of 705 W. Grove Drive, Buffalo Grove, was charged with domestic battery April 25 on the 1500 block of Ebinger Drive. He was released on \$15,000 bond was due in court April 29.

BURGLARY

A car was burglarized April 22 on the 9200 block of North Milwaukee Avenue. The owner reported \$300 stolen.

A car was burglarized April 21 on the 8600 block of West Dempster Street. A GPS valued at \$200 was reported stolen.

DUI

Steve Wesley, 26, of 8892 Jody Lane, Des Plaines, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol and possession of marijuana April 26 on the

9400 block of North Milwaukee Avenue. He was released on \$1,000 bond and is due in court May 29.

Jennifer Niu, 20, of 440 W. Arlington Court, Hoffman Estates, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol April 25 on the 7300 block of West Dempster Street. She was released on \$1,000 bond and is due in court May 27.

Andrew Ratanavade, 25, of 4151 N. Troy St., Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol April 25 on the 7600 block of North Milwaukee Avenue. He was released on \$1,000 bond and is due in court May 19.

Tariq Kahn, 48, of 5304 W. Addison St., Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol April 21 on the 7000 block of West Touhy Avenue. He was released on \$1,000 bond and is due in court May 19.

ROBBERY

A business on the 8300 block of West Golf Road was robbed of \$200 April 23 by a man with a handgun.

Second Annual North Shore Women's Conference

Sponsored by the Pioneer Press & Sun Times News Group

Friday, May 15, 2009 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Expo: 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Luncheon: 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.

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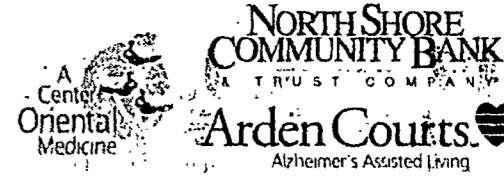
Job Seekers Welcome!

- Special Networking Hour for Job Seekers from 9:30-10:30 a.m. with tips from expert Beverly Chana
Receive "job search" advice from the Career Resource Center all day
Image consultants from Elizabeth Arden and Macy's will provide tips on your interview suit and professional appearance.
Enter a drawing to win an Elizabeth Arden "interview makeover"

Organized by the DBR and Wilmette Chambers of Commerce.

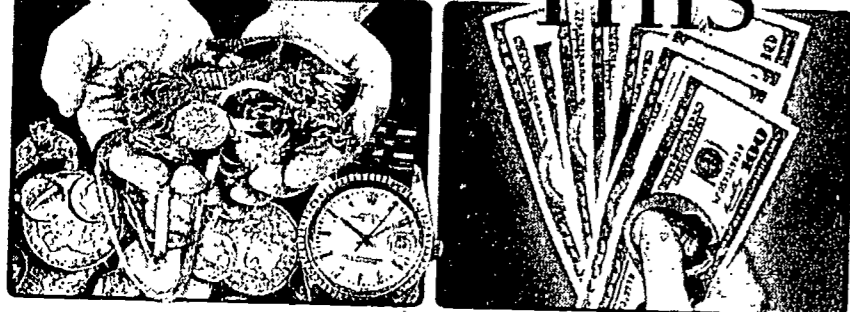
Call 847.945.4660 or 847.251.3800 for more information.

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WE SAY

Time to control campaign cash

Two bills making their way through the state legislature would limit the amount of contributions candidates receive from individuals, businesses and legislative caucuses. It would mirror the federal government's limits of \$2,400 from individuals per primary and general election contest, \$5,000 from businesses during those cycles and \$30,000 from legislative caucuses.

It would put Illinois in the same league as 45 other states which have some limits on their campaign finances.

Voters should send the word loud and clear: It's time to change the insidious role money plays in our state's politics.

With one former governor in jail on corruption charges, another recently indicted for selling state business to the highest contributor and a history of public official misconduct, getting state legislators to support these bills would seem a slam dunk. Yet both bills are mired in committees.

Illinois has a systemic money problem that allows corruption to invade Illinois politics. With no limits on contributions, anyone with financial resources can contribute an unlimited amount of money to "their" candidates. Businesses that hope to line up better deals for themselves in state business can fatten the campaign coffers of friendly candidates.

Even honest businesses bemoan the "tax" they have to pay to win lucra-

tive state contracts.

And allowing legislative PACs to contribute unlimited funds to their "friends" makes it hard for newcomers to mount a successful campaign.

Opponents of the limits contend the bill would allow millionaire candidates to dominate political campaigns. But Illinois residents have a habit of denying deep pocketed candidates, as perennial candidate Jim Oberweiss illustrates. And other states with campaign limits don't seem to have an overabundance of millionaire politicians.

The truth is, special interests have too great an influence over state politics. It corrupts the system and the politicians. A reasonable set of limits is overdue.

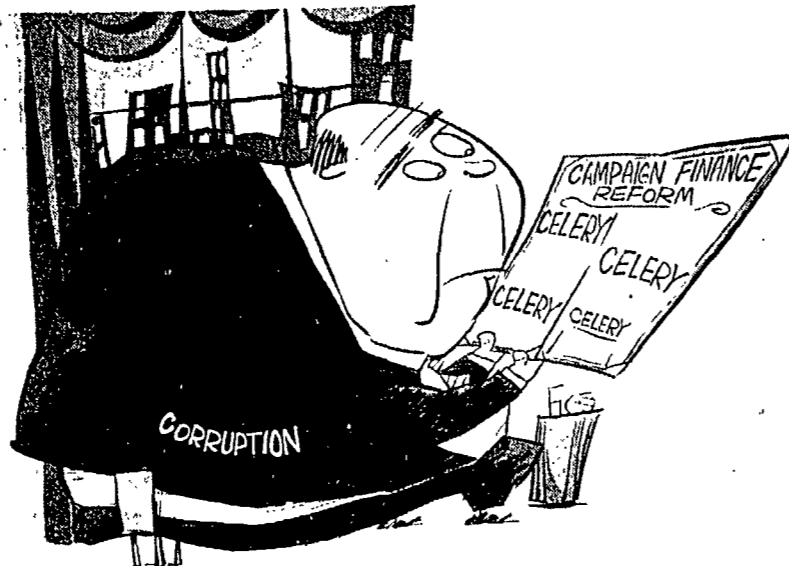
Change Illinois, a coalition of bipartisan groups, is leading the charge for limits. Organizers are buoyed by a January poll that found the top two problems respondents identified in the state are corruption in state government (named by 61 percent) and the influence of money in state politics (54 percent).

While Blagojevich has made the state the subject of too many jokes, his experience should galvanize citizens and legislators to change the way politics is run in this state.

Citizens should contact their legislators and tell them to support these bills.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

1000 WORDS



Doofus and Doggy dilemma



CHERYL O'DONOVAN

VAN MOM STRIKES AGAIN

Long ago, in a dentist's waiting room, far, far away, a bespectacled, nerdy lass in a pixie haircut anxiously paced ... coping with molar anxiety by leafing through a Highlights magazine.

Because she was born with the uber guilt gene, that lass (me), gravitated toward the moral lessons of "Goofus and Gallant." Goofus was the oafish, self-centered boy and Gallant the courteous, heroic one.

Oh, dear reader, I was deluded. Yes, I was Gallant, always pure and noble. In truth, I had more Goofus moments, like the time I sheared off my bangs and looked like I had a shrub for a hairline.

This Highlights concept

could have even wider application. In the dog world, only one canine could carry the Goofus torch.

Our pooch Kirby.

To contrast, a German shepherd named King would be Gallant.

Following the classic Goofus/Gallant comparisons, imagine these scenarios.

King sniffs for bombs before containers are loaded onto planes, trucks and ships. Kirby sniffs the Twinkie in the Most Wanted thug's pocket.

King quietly sits next to his master, his ears perked for the slightest hint of danger. Kirby perks for the slightest hint of a potato chip bag rustling.

King was trained in the Prissy Academy for Showoff Circus Dogs and dates Lassie. Kirby flunked obedience school three times and dates a Swiffer.

King discreetly does his business on one patch of the yard, preserving the grass. Kirby crouches and deposits next to a busy intersection, in front of a stadium's worth of eyewit-

nesses ... right across from a parked police car.

King retrieves the stick and returns to his master, dropping the stick at her feet. Kirby watches the stick soar through the air and sink into the mud, and says, "That's not in my contract."

King plops down on his doggie bed and listens for burglars. Kirby tries every human bed like Goldilocks and listens for ice cream trucks.

King responds to "sit," "stay," "heel," and "down." Kirby responds to "cookie."

King won't budge from his principles of duty and honor, even if tempted with gourmet biscuits or a French poodle. Kirby is easily bribed with a Cheeto.

King defends his property by discharging a gravelly warning bark and guards his home at all costs. Kirby tells that seary "No Country For Old Men" dude where we're hiding.

Readers: Do you have a King or a Kirby? E-mail me at cherylodonovan@comcast.net.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

YOU SAY

Thank you for your support

I would like to thank Niles residents for participating in the first open election for mayor in almost 50 years. I decided to run for mayor because I couldn't sit on the sidelines while our community faces unprecedented challenges — ethics reform, annual tax increases, flooding, and many others — that have been neglected for far too long.

Because of this campaign, these issues are finally being debated — and that is a victory. I will continue to be a Village Trustee to make sure that campaign promises turn into reality.

As they say, politics is a tough sport. I understood that before I entered the race and made personal sacrifices to give back to a community that I love so much. Distortions and deceptions told about me, my family and my record were simply attempts to confuse and intimidate voters, and especially senior citizens. With these tactics, it's no wonder that most residents are turned off from politics.

Even with those challenges, I am overwhelmed by the tremendous support from residents, not for my campaign, but for their commitment to making Niles an even better community. I am so proud of what we accomplished together.

I look forward to continuing to work together to make Niles a community we are all proud to call home.

Kim Biederman
Village Trustee
Candidate for Mayor

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You can have an X-ray, CT, or MRI taken most anywhere. But can you trust the eyes that are reading and interpreting the results? At Lake Forest Hospital Diagnostic Imaging Centers, we invest in state-of-the-art machinery, and it's our skilled technicians and our highly credentialed radiologists who interpret the results and create a plan for you. Because proper diagnosis is the first step in helping you heal.

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Camera lost in Naperville Triangle



STEPHANIE ZIMMERMANN
THE FIXER - Chicago Sun-Times

Dear Fixer: I placed an online order with Kmart for a Kodak 9.2 MP Camera Bundle with a 1GB SD memory card on Nov. 27. That same day I talked to my son, and he told me that he had already purchased a camera for me for Christmas.

I contacted Kmart, and they told me to return the camera to Kmart's returns office at an address in Naperville via insured mail. I did this on Dec. 2.

They said my Sears card would be credited in two or three days. If there was a problem, they

would e-mail me.

I never got the credit, so on Feb. 24, I filed an insured mail inquiry with the U.S. Postal Service. I contacted Sears three days later. They wanted to get the tracking number and some other information, which I provided to them.

On March 7, the USPS let me know their records showed the package was delivered on Dec. 4. Because of this, my postal insurance claim was denied.

I still haven't received a credit for the returned camera. Sears froze the interest on the bill as of March 10, but I would like to see a credit for the whole purchase on our Sears account.

Janice D. Merifield

Dear Janice: It looks like you did all the right things: insuring the package, following up, keeping good notes. And we were con-

vinced that you weren't trying to scam anyone.

We have some good news: We gave this to our own fixer at Sears and she got right on it.

She had them try tracing it with the tracking number you provided, with no luck (we're guessing it's possible it contained a typo, which might explain the slow response you initially got). At any rate, they believe you and have issued a full credit for \$135.08 for the purchase.

As for the camera, who knows where it walked off to? Napervilleans, keep your eyes open.

Dear Fixer: I ordered two sets of Totally Tables by Joy Mangano/Ingenious Designs from HSN Inc. as Christmas gifts.

When they arrived, one set didn't have the custom tablecloths, so I called HSN customer service. They told me they would contact the company and

get the tablecloths sent out to me.

After about two weeks, I e-mailed HSN to follow up. The e-mail I got in return was an offer of a \$10 refund for the missing tablecloths.

I called to tell them I wanted my tablecloths, and they said they'd try again. In the meantime, I searched the Web and found a customer service e-mail address for Ingenious Designs and e-mailed them on March 11.

I'm still waiting for a response. All I want are the custom tablecloths that go with the tables I purchased — and no more runaround.

Kim Bogue

Dear Kim: We don't blame you — it sounds like the runaround you've gotten is more than enough exercise.

Team Fixer had a little better luck. We contacted HSN and found Melissa Bach, Joy Mangano's publicist. Bingo! When Bach heard your story, she said it

must have been a "crazy miscommunication" that happened during the holidays.

She promised to drop the tablecloths into the mail immediately, and that she did. You reported getting them within 48 hours.

And now — we'll consider this fixed.

Good deed

Earth Day is over, but that's no reason to stop being good to the planet. Here's one way:

AT&T and Cell Phones for Soldiers are teaming up to give wireless customers of any carrier (not just AT&T) a chance to recycle their old cell phones.

It's estimated that more than 100 million cell phones are discarded each year and only a fraction of those are recycled. Recycling helps save valuable components and prevents nasty things like arsenic, cadmium, lead and mercury from polluting the environment.

AT&T and Cell Phones for Soldiers have a free online tool designed to help

community groups and individuals launch and conduct their own donation drives with a new electronic "starter kit," available at www.att.com/recyclewireless.

Also, wireless customers of any carrier can drop off used cell phones and accessories at local AT&T stores. More info is at <http://www.att.com/wireless>.

Getting the runaround about a consumer problem?

Tell it to The Fixer at www.pioneerlocal.com, where you'll find a simple form to fill out. If you don't have a computer, you can mail a brief description of your problem, along with your name, address and telephone number, to: The Fixer, 3701 W. Lake Ave., Glenview IL 60026. Don't send original documents. Because of the large volume of submissions, The Fixer can't make personal replies. Letters are edited for length and clarity.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

CALENDAR

Submissions for Community Calendar are required 14 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 mobbartari@pioneerlocal.com.

Center of Concern

The Center of Concern, 1580 N. Northwest Highway, Suite 310, Park Ridge, (847) 823-0453. Calendar of events includes:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays (every week) - Employment counseling, by appointment.

Monday, May 11 - Alzheimer's caregivers support group, 10 a.m.

Tuesdays, May 5 and 19 - Medicare counseling, by appointment.

Tuesday, May 12 - Center of Concern annual meeting (public invited).

7:30 p.m., Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge.

Wednesdays, May 6 and 20 - Grief and loss support group (call first)

Saturday, May 9 - Legal counseling, by appointment.

Saturday, May 30 - Blood pressure and blood sugar testing, 10 a.m.-noon (no appointment needed)

The Center will be closed May 23-25 for Memorial Day weekend.

Center counselors also are available to help eligible residents apply for Illinois Circuit Breaker property-tax relief grants and license-plate discounts. Illinois Cares Rx (prescription-drug assistance), the senior-citizen real-estate tax exemption and deferral, the senior-citizen tax-assessment freeze, and the longtime-occupant-homeowner property-tax exemption.

Employment counseling and preparation of simple wills and durable powers of attorney for health care and property also are available by appointment.

Support groups for Alzheimer's caregivers, those suffering from grief and loss, and seniors seeking to improve their nutrition are available at the Center of Concern in Park Ridge. The center also offers affordable personal counseling to adults of all ages. Call center social worker Myrna Fogarty, (847) 823-0453. The center is at 1580 N. Northwest Highway, Suite 310, Park Ridge. The center also offers housing counseling for seniors and others seeking affordable housing. programs designed to prevent homelessness, in-home health care referrals, friendly visitors for the homebound and volunteer opportunities in the office and in the field.

Classes

TLC: Total Learning Community, in Partnership with Oakton Community College, is offering free Family Literacy Classes on Saturday mornings. Free child care is also provided. Participants will learn about the U.S. school system; how to report a child's absence from school; under-

stand report cards; how to prepare for parent-teacher conferences; how to complete required forms; how to help with homework; and how to participate during the parent-child activity. Register now. Classes run from 9 a.m.-noon at Gemini Junior High School, 8955 Greenwood Ave., Niles. Note: Child care is available for children who are out of diapers. Call Pamela Surber, TLC director, (847) 827-4137.

Adella's Closet, a bead store at 9227 Waukegan Road, Morton Grove, hosts free beginning jewelry-making classes at 9 a.m. weekdays. Call (847) 966-2323.

Clubs

The Park Ridge Catholic Woman's Club meets at 12:15 p.m. May 11 at the Park Ridge South Recreational Center, 833 Talcott Road, Park Ridge. The program will be a Marian Travelogue. Dessert and coffee served. The annual Spring Luncheon will be held at noon May 21 at Café La Cave, Des Plaines. Guests are invited; \$35. The luncheon will be preceded by a Mass of Thanksgiving at 11 a.m. in the chapel of Our Lady of Hope Church, 9711 W. Devon Ave., Rosemont.

The Heritage Club of Polish Americans meets at 1:30 p.m. May 3 at the Merrimack Park Field House, 6343 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago. Mariene Wilczynska Gill will give a presentation on contributions of Polish American women to this country. Upcoming events in Polonia will be discussed. Public is invited. Refreshments served; \$1 non-members. Call (773) 763-5587.

Les Bavards, a monthly Francophone dinner-group, will meet at 6:30 p.m. May 6 for dinner and conversation at a restaurant in Des Plaines to practice using the language in an informal setting. Participants have various levels of proficiency in speaking French, and include native speakers of the language. No membership dues required. To respond, call (847) 720-4502 or e-mail lesbavards@yahoo.com by the preceding Monday evening.

Chiacchieroni Italian-language 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 May 14. Call Gabriella, (847) 541-8524, or e-mail: chiacchieroni@yahoo.com.

LoTip International, a business networking organization, recently opened a 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. Also, in every LoTip chapter, each busi-

ness category is represented by one member to prevent conflicts of interest (once you join, your competition cannot). To learn more, contact Janet Hansen, (815) 728-1483, or jvhansen@letip.com. For details on LoTip, visit www.LoTip.com.

Join the Catholic Women's Bowling League for Ladies Night Out at Classic Bowl, 8530 Waukegan Road, Merton Grove. Fee is \$15 per week. All skill levels welcome. Call Deanne Drozd at (224) 628-4009 or d.drozd@comcast.net.

The Knights of Columbus (North American Martyrs Council, Niles), provides ways for members to help others in the community while trying to improve their family and spiritual lives. Call Bob Galassi, (847) 965-0920.

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

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

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 Toastmasters meets at 7:15 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at the Morton Grove, 6140 Lincoln Ave. Members learn how to feel comfortable and have self-confidence talking to an audience. Call (847) 583-9328.

Community Fitness Center

Niles Family Fitness Center, 987 Civic Center Dr. Niles, (847) 588-8400 or www.nilesfitness.com. Swim Club - This class, for ages 7-15, will teach different training techniques used for competitive swimming. Requirements are: 100-yard freestyle, 100-yard backstroke, 50-yard breaststroke and 25-yard fly. Fees are \$90 for members; \$10, nonmembers.

Glamour Girls ages 6-11 may get ready to be pampered. Enjoy an evening of hair, nails, lotions and jewelry-making from 6-9 p.m. May 8. The fee is \$10 for members; \$15, nonmembers.

Fund-raisers

Maine Center, a not-for-profit provider of mental health and

counseling services in Park Ridge and Maine Township, will hold its annual fund-raiser, "Cruising Lake Michigan," on June 7. Board at 11 a.m. for a two-hour Odyssey Boat Brunch Cruise. Enjoy a live jazz band, spectacular views of Lake Michigan and the Chicago skyline, complimentary champagne, food, auction and raffle items. Tickets are \$95 per person. Call (847) 696-1570, Ext. 308.

Library

Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., (847) 663-1234 or online at www.nileslibrary.org.

Niles Public Library, the Ameri-

can Library Association and Woman's Day magazine want to know how women have used resources and services at the library during this tough economic time. From now until May 18 women older than 18 may submit their story in 700 words or less to womansday@ala.org. Four stories will be featured in the March 2010 issue of Woman's Day, which has more than 4 million readers. Official rules are available on the Woman's Day Web site, womansday.com/ala.

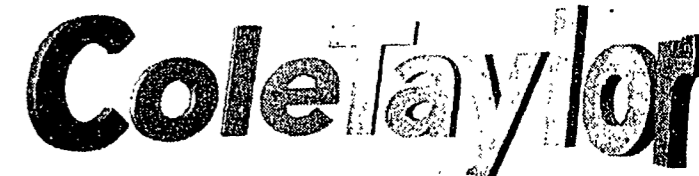
The Go Club for ages 6 to 12 usually meets the first and third Saturdays of each month on a drop-in

basis.

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 asks that appointments

Calendar, PAGE 14



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Calendar

Continued from PAGE 13

be 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, Ext. 283.

Parks

Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation's seasonal brochure for summer is available. M-NASR offers people with physical and mental challenges, behavior and learning impairments and emotional disabilities an opportunity to enjoy a variety of recreation activities. The summer season offers programs and special events including sports and Special Olympic programs, art, cooking and aerobics. Look for the addition of many outings this season, such as: Camping Connection, Teen Adventures and Tee Time Golf. Registration begins upon delivery of the brochure. Maine-Niles serves Des Plaines, Golf-Maine, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Niles, Park Ridge and Skokie. To receive a seasonal brochure, or to offer support for people with special needs by volunteering, call (847) 966-5522.

Niles
Tam O'Shanter Golf Course has reopened for the 2008 season with low rates, a mid-day special, Junior

Golf Program and private golf lessons. Tam O'Shanter Golf Course is located at 6700 Howard St., (847) 965-2344.

Niles Park District Pioneer Park has re-opened for the 2009 season. This facility has an 18 hole mini-golf course and seven batting cages and a concession stand. Parties and fund-raisers are also available. Pioneer Park is located at 7135 N. Harlem Ave. Spring hours are: 5:10 p.m. Mondays through Fridays: 10:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Call (847) 583-2746.

Niles Park District offers a wide variety of summer camp programs for preschool age through incoming eighth-graders. Full-day and half-day camps, sports camp, hockey and ice skating camps are offered. Stop by Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard St., to register. Campers will enjoy swimming, weekly field trips, arts and crafts and sports. Most camps begin June 8. Call (847) 967-6633.

Niles Park District is accepting registration for Girls Softball Leagues for girls in first grade through high school (as of 2008-09 school year). 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) 967-1529.

Niles Park District Bright Beginnings Preschool registration is conducted for the 2009-10 school year.

Both 3- and 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) 967-6633.

Niles Park District is accepting registration for the Spring Learning Gymnastics Program. Classes are at Golf View Recreation Center, 7800 Caldwell Ave. Programs offered are for ages 3 to 14 and include beginner to intermediate skill levels. Sessions are Monday or Friday evenings. Skills taught include tumbling, balance beam, vaulting, minitramp and bars. Registration is accepted at Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard St. Call (847) 967-1529.

A new 3's Preschool program is for children who turned 3 after Sept. 1, missing the deadline for the regular 3-year preschool. Children will experience their first classroom experience. Classes are from 12:30-2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, or Wednesdays and Fridays at Howard Leisure Center. The session runs to May 21. Call (847) 967-6633.

Golf Maine
The Golf Maine Park District has taken a new and innovative approach in raising much-needed funds for the park and spreading the word on energy efficiency. The district offers a selection of ENERGY STAR qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs for sale to the public from a Lights for Learning kiosk.

Proceeds from the sale of every bulb will directly fund the scholarship program sponsored by the district. The scholarship program allows children the opportunity to attend camp when they may not have the resources to do so on their own. The kiosk will also house the Lights for Learning teacher toolkits, designed for educators and organization leaders, to provide informational materials on the overall Lights for Learning Program ENERGY STAR Activity Books for children, as well as ENERGY STAR home energy-conservation and electronics information, will also be available. A recycling bin for used CFLs will also be available. CFLs may be purchased at Feldman Park, 8800 Kathy Lane, Niles, from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call (847) 297-3000.

The Golf Maine Park District offers the community an opportunity to recycle paper products. A recognizable green-and-yellow container supplied by Albitri Bowater was dropped off in the Feldman Park lot, 8800 Kathy Lane, near the corner of Western Avenue and Kathy Lane. Products that can be recycled in this container include: newspapers, magazines, office paper (fax and copy), shopping catalogs, mail and envelopes, catalogs, folders, colored paper and shredded paper (bagged); no cardboard or phone books. All money raised will fund the scholarship program, allowing children to attend summer camp and other programs. Call (847) 297-3000 or go

to www.paperretriever.com/.

Golf Maine Park District is taking registration for:
Adult Bingo: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., first Wednesday of the month, split-the-pot bingo at the Feldman Recreation Center (May 6).

Youth Baseball: League ball is available for youth ages 7-15. Practices begin in April and games begin May 16. Hot Shots Baseball T-Ball Skills Clinic for 3-7 year-olds begins May 2.

Hot Shots Sports: Hot Shots Sports and the Golf Maine Park District have joined to bring various sports classes and clinics. Offered are Baseball, Basketball, Tennis, and Soccer classes. Stop by the Feldman or Dee Park Recreation Centers for details.

Summer Camp for kindergarten through sixth-graders includes sports and games, arts and crafts, playground activities, field trips, spray park, swimming and more. Four two-week sessions are offered beginning June 22. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Before and after camp child care is also available. Register early.

Preschool: Early registration is important to ensure child a space for the fall 2009 semester. A five-day morning program and a four-day afternoon program are offered for children turning 4 years old by Sept. 1, 2009.

Crickets: Dee Park now has a cricket pitch that will be ready for use this spring. Call the park district for rental fees or availability.

Visit one of the Park District offices, Feldman Recreation Center, 8800 Kathy Lane (one block south of Golf Road on Western Avenue), Niles; or Dee Park, at the corner of Dee and Emerson Roads, Des Plaines; or call (847) 297-3000.

Religion

Mary Seat of Wisdom, at Cumberland and Granville avenues in Park Ridge, offers a once-a-month Mass for young adults at 4:30 p.m. the third Sunday of each month. A priest who works specifically with young adults and a choir that incorporates both voice and instruments to provide upbeat music for liturgies will be featured. Liturgies will be prepared and presented by young adults. All young adults ages 22 to older than 40, married or single, with or without children, are invited. Call Peg Barry, (847) 720-7914, or e-mail peg.barry@bjbpartners.com.

Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, offers Introduction to Judaism and beginning adult Hebrew classes on Sundays and monthly Yiddish. Members and non-members are welcome. Call (847) 675-4141, or go to www.ehnt.org.

Reunions

Navy and Marine Corps shipmates who served on the USS Columbus CA-74/CG-12 from 1944 through 1976 and the USS Columbus (SSN-762), past and present, will reunite Sept. 30-Oct. 3 at the Holiday

Inn Select, Nashville, Tenn. Contact Allen Hope, president, 3828 Hobson Road, Fort Wayne IN 46815. (260) 486-2221. hope4391@comcast.net.

Union Ridge School, Harwood Heights, Class of 1974, holding a 35-year reunion 7-10 p.m. Oct. 10 at Francesca's Tavola, 208 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights. Cost is \$65 per person (includes appetizers, beer, wine and soft drinks). E-mail joannekoby@juno.com.

Maine East and Maine West High Schools, classes of 1961 and 1962, will hold a mini-reunion at 4 p.m. May 16 at Romano's, 1396 E. Oakton St., Des Plaines. Call (847) 823-4327. The January and June classes of Marshall High School will hold a 60th reunion at 5 p.m. May 17 at the Wyndham in Glenview. Call (847) 676-4437 or (847) 674-1541.

WMTH-FM (and WMTH-TV), the high school broadcasting voice owned and operated by Maine Township High Schools, will celebrate 50 years of broadcasting in 2009. Broadcasting from a small studio at Maine East High School, the first program was aired Dec. 20, 1959. Over the past 50 years the station has grown to include radio and television studios at each of the high schools. Plans are under way for an alumni gathering for students and faculty staff members to be held Sept. 25-27 in the Park Ridge/Des Plaines area. A reunion committee has been formed to locate all former WMTH-FM alumni. Contact reunion@wmthalumni.com.

St. Robert Bellarmine is planning an all-class Alumni Reunion for spring 2009. Alumni are asked to send current contact information, including name, maiden name (if applicable), year graduated, address, phone and e-mail address. Alumni are also asked to share memories of time at the school or thoughts about the impact it has had on life. Send information to Sue Calcagno, alumni reunion chair, c/o St. Robert Bellarmine School, 6036 W. Eastwood Ave., Chicago IL 60630, or e-mail scalcano@sbrcglobal.net. An alumni-information form may be downloaded from the alumni page of the school's Web site, www.srb-chicago.org.

Chicago's Bowen High School Class of 1969 will stage its 40th-reunion celebration July 25 at Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza, 350 N. Orleans St., in downtown Chicago. The reunion will begin at 6 p.m. Two additional events are scheduled: a cocktail party in the hotel's hospitality suite July 24, and "day after" party at a site still to be determined July 26. Tickets are \$110 per person or \$195 per couple, and may be purchased by sending a check to Phyllis Volk, 250 E. Pearson St., Unit 906, Chicago IL 60611. Make checks payable to Phyllis Volk and indicate Bowen Reunion in memo section. The Holiday Inn will offer special room rates to Bowenites: call (312) 836-5000. The Web site, www.freewebs.com/bowen1969reunion, provides more information and names of classmates who have

not yet been located. Call Brett Weiss, (630) 248-5405.
St. John Brebeuf is looking for all St. John Brebeuf School alumni. Alumni should contact Libby Ryder, (847) 966-3266, or e-mail lryder@sjschool.org, and submit their name, year graduated, address, phone number, maiden name (if applicable) and e-mail address, and may share a story or tell how St. John Brebeuf made an impact on their life.

Immaculate Conception School on Talcott Avenue in Chicago is establishing an Alumni Association. In preparation for its 100th-anniversary celebration the school is searching for its missing alumni. If you attended Immaculate Conception School or know someone who did, e-mail ICalumni@icparish.net, or call the rectory, (773) 775-3833. Alumni who prefer to reach the association by mail are encouraged to send their first, maiden or last name, phone number, e-mail address, the year in which they graduated, along with their favorite IC memory and favorite IC teacher, to: IC Alumni Association, c/o Immaculate Conception Parish, 7211 W. Talcott Ave., Chicago IL 60631. Submissions may also be dropped off at the IC Parish Rectory during normal business hours or after Masses on Sunday.

Taft High School, class of June 1959, will hold a 50th reunion Sept. 24-27. Contact Larry Marsh at fairseas2u@cox.net, or (703) 444-6255; Pat Sankel Lutz, patlutz@comcast.net, or (347) 259-0120; or Kent Meyer, carolekent@accelplus.net, (765) 362-9262. See also www.taftreunion1959.com.

Wildwood School classes of 1959 will be celebrating their 50th reunion in June 2009. January and June graduating classes will be included, as well as people who were classmates sometime between kindergarten and eighth grade, but moved away before graduation. E-mail wildwood09@gmail.com, or call Kathy Anderson Walsh, (773) 775-5011.

Scholarships

The Illinois Sons of Italy Foundation is offering \$1,000 college scholarships to high school seniors who have full or partial Italian ancestry. The foundation will award students who will graduate this year from a recognized public or private Illinois high school. Applicants will be selected on the basis of financial need, scholastic achievements; activities in high school showing character and leadership; an applicant's personal essay; and faculty recommendations. For applications contact the Illinois Sons of Italy Foundation, 9447 W. 144th Place, Orland Park IL 60402, with a self-addressed, stamped envelope, or e-mail osial@aol.com. The deadline is July 1. Winners will be notified by Aug. 31.

Maine Seniors

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.maine-township.com.

"A Taste of Home" trip to Greendale, Wis., will be from 7 a.m.-6:30 p.m. June 16. Trip Rate \$90 members, \$95 guests. Greendale is called the Cookbook Capital of the Country and noted for unique "backward" houses in which the architect purposely positioned the homes for a better view. Tour starts at the Reiman Visitor Center and

Taste of Home Outlet in downtown Greendale. There will be time for shopping with a discount afterward. Lunch will be at the Boerner Botanical Gardens in one of the dining rooms overlooking the gardens. Last stop is a historic trimborn farm and Jeremiah's curtain house for a guided tour.

An outing to see the Cubs vs. the Brewers at Miller Park in Milwaukee is from 3:45-11 p.m. May 9 (the outing requires lots of walking). The cost is \$70 for members; \$75, guests (Loge outfield box seats). Anyone who knows MaineStreamers age 90 or older are urged to call (847) 297-2510 so those people can be sent an invitation to a special event in May.

Lake Geneva and the Abbey in

Fontana, Wis., will be highlighted on a trip from 8:30 a.m. May 28-6 p.m. May 29. Cost is \$235, double occupancy; \$300, single occupancy. Start out with shopping time in Lake Geneva followed by a narrated luncheon boat cruise on Lake Geneva. Lunch features chicken breast stuffed with cranberry and pecan dressing with all the trimmings. Upon arrival at the Abbey resort in deluxe accommodations, relax and enjoy the amenities including the spa before dinner in private dining room. Choose between queen-cut prime rib or grilled salmon Florentine while enjoying the sounds of Tom Stanfield on the piano and horns. A stop at the Geneva Lake Museum the next day will complete this overnight adventure

Maine Township is asking for assistance in locating good, reliable handymen in the area. If you know of someone and would like to submit a name, contact Therese Tully, (847) 297-2510, Ext. 260, and she will forward a form to complete. **Maine Township**, in cooperation with the Cook County Sheriff's Office, is collecting used cell phones to be converted for emergency 911 use for seniors. Donate phones at Maine Town Hall.

Senior Center

The Niles Senior Center offers free membership to Niles residents age 62 and older, and their spouses. Only center members may register.

Calendar, PAGE 18

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Day

Targeted Communities: Elk Grove Village, Schaumburg, Des Plaines, Arlington Heights, Mt. Prospect and Rolling Meadows

Saturday May 9, 2009

8:00 am to 3:00 pm
Elk Grove High School
500 West Elk Grove Blvd.
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

AN OPPORTUNITY TO RID YOUR HOME OF HAZARDOUS WASTE PRODUCTS!

Anti-freeze	Insecticides	PLEASE DO NOT BRING:
Auto Batteries	Medicines	Businesses and School Waste
BBQ Propane Tanks (EMPTY)	Mercury	Computers
Drain Cleaners	Metal Polishes	Electronics
Fire Extinguishers (EMPTY)	Oil Based Paints	Explosives
Fluorescent Bulbs	Paint Removers	Fireworks
Fuels	Pool Chemicals	Latex Paint
Fungicides	Solvents	Medical Wastes
Furniture Strippers	Thermostats	Smoke Detectors
Household Batteries	Used Oils	Tires
Household Cleaners	Weed Killers	

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FAMILY FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 11 A.M. - 2 P.M.

(Rain or shine)

Location: Fields Chrysler Jeep Dodge, 670 Frontage Road, Northfield, IL 60093

Kids can safely explore large vehicles \$25 per family (for up to 6 people), benefiting Kohl Children's Museum of Greater Chicago

To register, or for more information, please visit www.kohlchildrensmuseum.org/truck

2100 Patriot Boulevard, Glenview (847) 832-6600 www.kohlchildrensmuseum.org

RED, WHITE & CRUISE!

Lake Geneva Get-away Contest

GRAND PRIZE

Two winners will each receive a Lake Geneva Getaway package, courtesy of The Abbey Resort & Spa and Grand Geneva.

FIRST PLACE PRIZE

Sunday, May 24
5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Twenty-five winners will be chosen at random to each receive four **Dinner Cruise** tickets, which includes free pizza, soft drinks, and a cash bar available.

SECOND PLACE PRIZE

Sunday, May 24
7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Fifty winners will be chosen at random to each receive two **Dessert Cruise** tickets, which includes champagne boarding toast, desserts, soft drinks and a cash bar available.

To be eligible to win, contestants must include personal email address and answer the three questions below. All entries must be received by **May 15, 2009**.



Don't get caught in the wake... Win a cruise on Lady of the Lake!

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www.theabbeyresort.com

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www.lakegenevawinefestival.com

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OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

NAME:

EMAIL:

Lake Geneva, it's always _____.

Lake Geneva was recognized in 2009 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as _____.

What Lake Geneva event takes place June 13 - 14? _____.

Answers and online entry form can be found by visiting www.lakegenevawine.com. After completion, mail this form to:
Red White & Cruise!, c/o Lake Geneva Convention & Visitors Bureau, 201 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva, WI 53147

4 versions | PAGE B1

4 YOUR CONSIDERATION

A quartet of activities for the coming week.



Sesame Street Live: "When Elmo Grows Up"

1. Sesame Street Live: "When Elmo Grows Up," at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. May 7-8; 10:30 a.m., 2 and 5:30 p.m. May 9; and 1 and 4:30 p.m. May 10 at the Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. \$15-\$35. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com.

2. "Tartuffe," April 30-May 10 at Oakton Community College's Studio One, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. Performances at 8 p.m. April 30-May 2 and 8-9; 2 p.m. May 3 and 10; and 7:30 p.m. May 7. \$8-\$10. (847) 635-1900.

3. Evanston Symphony Orchestra performs at 2:30 p.m. May 3 at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts, Circle Drive, Evanston. The program includes the Brahms Symphony No. 4 in E Minor and the Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat Minor. \$20-\$28; \$5 for students. (847) 864-8804 or www.evanstonsymphony.org.

4. "Music of the World" with Guitars of Spain, 1:30 p.m. May 6 the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. \$10-\$15. (847) 677-7761 or www.skokietheatre.com.

UFO event touches down at Skokie Theatre

"UFOs Over Illinois" with UFO investigator Sam Maranto May 1-3 at the Skokie Theatre, 7924 N. Lincoln Ave. 8 p.m. May 1: History of Illinois Sightings; 8 p.m. May 2, Modern Illinois Sightings (Tinley Park and Rockford); 2 p.m. May 3 Modern Illinois Sightings (O'Hare). \$20 for each event, \$25 at the door, \$50 for all three programs. Call (847) 677-7761 or visit www.skokietheatre.org.

By LILLI KUZMA
Contributor

Almost everyone has seen something in the sky that looked strange: an aircraft that didn't move like a jet or airplane, or suddenly disappeared from view, or maybe a weird flash or orb. Most chalk it up to an optical illusion, the result of an overactive imagination, or perhaps accept that they might have seen an experimental craft that the government wants to keep under wraps. But others are adamant that they have seen something from outer space, and in some cases even describe alien craft, creatures or experiences.

UFOs, or unidentified flying objects, continue to



UFO investigator Sam Maranto, president of the Illinois Mutual UFO Network, is leading three discussions on UFOs at the Skokie Theatre. (Irv Leavitt/Staff Writer)

fascinate people, and to generate impassioned discussion and argument.

"UFO accounts go back thousands of years," said Sam Maranto, president of Illinois Mutual UFO Network. He is recognized internationally for his knowledge and expertise in the field of UFO investigation.

"It's a crock to relate UFOs just to the recent sci-fi era. This goes back to ancient times — flaming chariots, Ezekiel's wheel in the Bible, and not just

Western cultures, but all over the world. The so-called 'modern era' of UFOs started in the 1940s, with the Kenneth Arnold sighting, that's where the term 'flying saucer' comes from."

Maranto will host UFOs Over Illinois May 1-3 at the Skokie Theatre. He will present multi-media programs, History of Illinois Sightings and Modern Illinois Sightings, and lead discussions with the audience. The programs will highlight Illinois UFO

history dating from the 1800s to sightings in Tinley Park, Rockford, and most recently the mass sighting over O'Hare Airport in 2006. Maranto will present the results of his own personal investigations, including specific details and video, recorded interviews and eyewitness testimony.

"We have proof, we have a mountain of proof, that UFOs exist," said Maranto. "But the evidence is intentionally ignored by academia and segments of government. There is no doubt about the genuine phenomenon. With UFOs Over Illinois, this is a chance for people to engage their intellect. I'm not asking for anyone to believe — I want them to know. We are not alone."

Asked about the most recent O'Hare sighting, Maranto noted: "It was an actual physical object, rotating counter-clockwise. It took on the color of the sky, as though it were trying to cloak. It was seen hovering at Concourse C, Gate 17, at

O'Hare, at about 4:20 in the afternoon, and was seen by quite a few people — the ground crew, pilots, people on the ramp. I talked to witnesses who saw the UFO from La Grange Road."

Maranto thinks central Illinois is the hottest area for UFO sightings right now.

"In and about the area of Route 39 and close to El Paso there are a lot of sightings, and for some reason, out here in Chicagoland, in the Tinley Park and Orland Park area. And there is a higher incidence in Freeport, Illinois, too. Get night vision, infrared binoculars, and go look."

Al Curtis, Associate Director at Skokie Theatre, noted that the UFO event is family-friendly.

"This is for anyone. There is a public out there for this event, and we believe Illinois MUFON has the right to tell their story. We are building our audience, offering a (variety) of events."

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

New 'Elmo' show includes fairy godmother

By MYRNA PETLICKI
Contributor

Abby Cadabby is the new kid on the block. The 3-year-old fairy-godmother-in-training gets enthusiastic responses from young fans in "Sesame Street Live: When Elmo Grows Up." The touring musical comes to the Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont, for performances May 7-10.

"She's very spunky, even maybe a little bit sassy," reported actor Megan Godin, who has played Abby since the tour began in August.

Abby sings a solo called "Magic in Me," in which the character talks about having trouble learning all she needs to master in order to become a fairy

godmother. "But she knows if she keeps practicing and believes in herself, eventually she will have her dream come true," Godin said.

For details, call (847) 671-5100.

Rags to riches

Life is tough for a beautiful young woman who is bossed around by abusive stepsisters but things takes a turn for the better in Mare Robini's version of "Cinderella," presented by Big Noise Theatre, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturdays, and 11 a.m. Sundays, May 2-17, at Prairie Lakes Theatre, 515 E. Thacker Road, Des Plaines. Tickets are \$10, which includes a meet-and-greet with the actors following the performance.

For details, call (847) 604-0275.

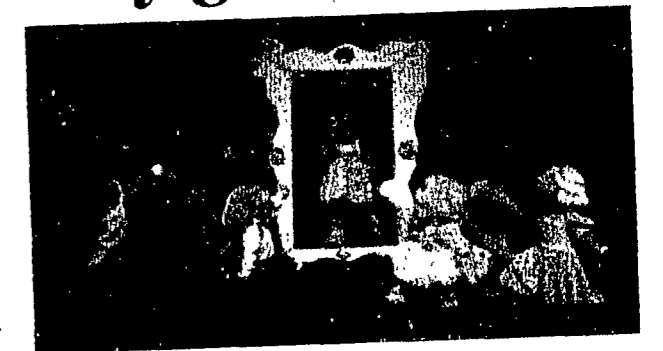
Write approach

Kids, ages 6-10, with a parent, will explore nature, then write about the experience during Family Inspiration — Parent & Child, 1-3 p.m. Sunday, May 3, at Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel, Skokie. Participants will receive a journal to encourage them to keep writing.

Cost is \$10 per family for residents, \$12 for nonresidents. For details, call (847) 674-1500, Ext. 2500.

Top of the afternoon

Kids in funny hats will make fashion statements at Mad Hatters Storytelling, 1-2 p.m. Saturday, May 2, at Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave. Junior League of Chicago



The touring production of "Sesame Street Live: When Elmo Grows Up" comes to Rosemont Theatre May 7-10.

members in funny hats will read to kids and parents. The child wearing the funniest hat will receive a gift certificate.

For details, call (847) 965-4220.

The eyes have it

You can celebrate Cinco de Mayo with your child,

ages 5 and up, by helping them create an ojo de dios (God's eye) as part of the Sunday Craft Series at Skokie Heritage Museum, 8031 Floral Ave. The cost is \$2 for residents, \$3 nonresidents.

For details, call (847) 674-1500, Ext. 3000.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

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OPENING

GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST ★★
 Matthew McConaughey stars as a womanizing fashion photographer who gets his comeuppance in the manner of Ebenezer Scrooge. Mark Waters ("Mean Girls") directed the romantic comedy. Rated PG-13 for sexual content throughout, some language and a drug reference. Reviewed in this section.

X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE
 The X-Men's retractable-clawed super mutant (played by Hugh Jackman) gets his own movie. Gavin Hood ("Rendition") directed the comic-book adventure. (107 min.) Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of action and violence, and some partial nudity.

STILL PLAYING

EARTH
 A feature-length documentary rendered from the spectacular BBC series "Planet Earth," following the migration patterns of three animal families. Narrated by James Earl Jones. (96 min.) Rated G.

FIGHTING
 A young counterfeiter (Channing Tatum) becomes involved in New York's bare-knuckles fighting circuit with a con man (Terrence Howard) as his manager. (95 min.) Rated PG-13 for intense fight sequences, a sex scene and brief strong language.

OBSESSED
 An office temp (Ali Larter) stalks a happily married financial manager (Kris Elba). Rated PG-13 for sexual material including some suggestive dialogue, violence and thematic content.

THE SOLOIST
 A reporter (Robert Downey Jr.) in Los Angeles befriends a brilliant but psychologically disturbed musician (Jamie Foxx) who lives on the street - but still dreams of a solo performance at Walt Disney Concert Hall. Directed by Joe Wright ("Atonement"). (109 min.) Rated PG-13 for thematic elements, some drug use and language.

CRANK: HIGH VOLTAGE
 After apparently falling to his death in the previous installment, a hit man (Jason Statham) racing the clock to beat a time-release poison returns for more vengeance. Writer/directors Mike Neveldine and Brian Taylor are also back for the ongoing action extravaganza. (96 min.) Rated R for frenetic strong bloody violence throughout, crude and graphic sexual content, nudity and pervasive language.

FILM CLIPS

17 AGAIN ★★
 Hard to believe the "Freshly Baked"-inspired subgenre about unhappy middle-agers reliving their teen years is back again, but maybe some things are just too stubborn - or stupid - to die. Most of the comedy is labored, but Thomas Lennon (LL Cool J) from "Ben Stiller" is amusing as his King Nerd best friend (especially when he's repeatedly sleeping Efron) and there are a couple of nice moments when Efron lectures his new classmates on the virtues of chastity. (81 min.) Rated PG-13 for language, some sexual material and teen partying.

ALIEN TRESPASS
 An alien and noted astronomer team up to capture a runaway monster in this send-up of '50s sci-fi movies. (90 min.) Rated PG for sci-fi action and brief historical smoking.

FAST & FURIOUS
 The cast of the original "The Fast and the Furious" street-racing undercover-cop saga (Vin Diesel, Paul Walker and Michelle Rodriguez) reunite to bust a heroin importer. Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, some sexual content, language and drug references.

SIN NOMBRE ★★
 There's a slightly disconcerting strain of classic Hollywood in this story of love on the run in contemporary Mexico. "Sin Nombre" develops two parallel plots - a teenage girl from Honduras heads for a better life in America with the father she's never known and a young gang member violently rejects that life and runs for his life with vicious thugs in murderous pursuit - and unites them on a train bound for an illegal border crossing. In Spanish with subtitles. (81 min.) Rated R for violence, language and some sexual content.

THE HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT
 A mother (Virginia Madsen) who relocates her ailing son to be closer to a hospital discovers she's sharing the house with unfriendly spirits. Very unfriendly. (92 min.) Rated PG-13 for some intense sequences of terror and disturbing images.

MISS MARCH
 A young man who wakes up from a four-year coma discovers his former girlfriend is a Playboy Playmate - and decides to pick up where they left off. Writer/directors Trevor Moore and Zach Cregger ("The Whitest Kids U Know") co-star in the comedy. Rated R for strong crude and sexual content, nudly pervasive language and some drug use.

HIGHLAND PARK
 A Las Vegas cab driver (Wayne "The Rock" Johnson) assists a couple of kids with supernatural powers on a race to save the planet in this update of the '70s Disney adventures. Rated PG for sequences of action and violence, frightening and dangerous situations, and some thematic elements.

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.

SHOWTIMES

1850 2nd St. (847) 258-7282

LEMON TREE (NR)
 Fri-Sun: 12:30-3:00-5:40-8:15

LYMELIFE (R)
 Fri-Sun: 1:00-3:30-6:00-8:20

IS ANYBODY THERE? (PG-13)
 Fri-Sun: 12:15-2:40-5:00-7:30

SUGAR (R)
 Fri-Sun: 12:00-2:30-5:15-8:00

SUNSHINE CLEANING (R)
 Fri-Sun: 12:45-3:10-5:30-8:10

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
 Arlington Theaters
 53 S. Evergreen St. (847) 483-0123

ELK GROVE VILLAGE
 Elk Grove
 Biesterfeld & Arlington Hts. Rds. (847) 444-FILM 5559

GLENVIEW
 Glen 10
 1850 Tower Drive (847) 729-9600

X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE (PG-13)
 Fri-Wed: 1:30-2:00-4:15-4:45

GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST (PG-13)
 Fri-Wed: 12:50-2:15-3:40

BATTLE FOR TERRA (PG)
 Fri-Wed: 1:00-3:50-6:20-9:00

OBSESSED (PG-13)
 Fri-Wed: 12:40-3:15-6:10-9:10

THE SOLOIST (PG-13)
 Fri-Wed: 1:10-4:00-7:10-9:50

17 AGAIN (PG-13)
 Fri-Wed: 1:45-4:30-7:20-10:00

STATE OF PLAY (PG-13)
 Fri-Wed: 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:40

HANNAH MONTANA: THE MOVIE (G)
 Fri-Wed: 12:00-4:10-6:50-9:20

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

STATE OF PLAY (PG-13)
 Fri: 4:30-7:00-9:30

PARIS 36 (PG-13)
 Fri: 4:30-7:00-9:30

ADVENTURELAND (R)
 Fri: 4:45-7:15-9:30

I LOVE YOU, MAN (R)
 Fri: 4:45-7:15-9:30

17 AGAIN (PG-13)
 Fri: 4:45-7:15-9:30

STATE OF PLAY (PG-13)
 Fri-Mon: Wed: 7:15-10:10

HANNAH MONTANA (G)
 Fri: Mon, Wed: 1:45-4:20

SHOWTIMES

Sat: Sun: 11:00-1:45-4:20

MONSTERS VS. ALIENS 3-D (PG)
 Fri, Mon-Thurs: 1:10-3:40-6:20-8:50

NORRIDGE
 Norridge
 4520 Harlem Ave. (708) 452-9000

STAR TREK (PG-13)
 Thurs: 7:00-10:00

BATTLE FOR TERRA (PG)
 Fri: 3:00-5:15-7:20-9:20

GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST (PG-13)
 Fri: 2:00-4:45-7:15-9:50

X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE (PG-13)
 Fri: 1:30-2:15-4:10-4:55-7:00-7:45-9:40-10:25

STAR TREK (PG-13)
 Thurs: 7:00-10:00

DR. LAURA LIVE! IN PRAISE OF WOMEN
 Tues: 7:00

THIS AMERICAN LIFE
 Thurs: 7:00

X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE (PG-13)
 Fri, Mon-Thurs: 1:00-1:30-2:00-3:45-4:15-4:45-6:30-7:00-9:15-9:45-10:15

GHOST OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST (PG-13)
 Fri, Mon-Thurs: 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:30

BATTLE OF TERRA (PG)
 Fri, Mon-Thurs: 1:40-4:10-6:40-9:20

SOLOIST (PG-13)
 Fri, Mon-Thurs: 1:50-5:00-7:45-10:30

OBSESSED (PG-13)
 Fri, Mon-Thurs: 1:15-4:40-7:20-10:00

FIGHTING (PG-13)
 Fri, Mon-Thurs: 1:20-4:00-6:50-9:50

EARTH (G)
 Fri, Mon-Thurs: 12:45-3:30-6:15-9:10

17 AGAIN (PG-13)
 Sat: Sun: 11:05-1:45-4:20-7:10-10:00

HANNAH MONTANA (G)
 Fri: 4:25-6:45-9:10

FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13)
 Fri: 4:20-7:10-10:00

PARK RIDGE
 Pickwick
 5 S. Prospect (847) 604-2234

X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE
 Fri-Sun: 2:15-4:45-7:00-9:15

WILMETTE
 Wilmette
 1122 Central Ave. (847) 251-7411

STATE OF PLAY (PG-13)
 Fri-Thurs: 2:00-4:30-7:10

GOMORRAH (NR)
 Fri, Sat, Mon-Thurs: 2:10-4:45-7:20

TEACHER TALES LIVE
 Sun: 6:00

CRANK: HIGH VOLTAGE (R)
 Fri, Sat: 12:40-3:00-5:40-8:10-10:35-1:00

17 AGAIN (PG-13)
 Fri, Sat: 12:15-11:00-2:50-3:40-5:30-6:20-8:00-9:15-10:30-11:45

HANNAH MONTANA (G)
 Fri, Sat: 1:30-4:40-7:15-9:45-12:10

OBSERVE AND REPORT (R)
 Fri, Sat: 1:50-4:30-6:45-9:55-12:15

FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13)
 Fri-Thurs: 1:40-4:50-7:40-10:45

MONSTERS VS. ALIENS (PG) 3-D
 Fri, Sat: 11:40-2:10-4:30-7:00-9:20-11:40

KNOWING (PG-13)
 Fri, Sat: 12:45-3:45-6:40-9:40-12:45

I LOVE YOU MAN (R)
 Fri, Sat: 12:20-3:10-6:05-9:00-11:40

X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE (PG-13)
 Fri, Sat: 10:15-10:45-11:15-11:45-12:30-1:00-1:30-2:00-2:30-3:15-3:45-4:15-4:45-5:15-6:05-6:30-7:00-7:30-8:00-8:45-9:15-9:45-10:15-10:45-11:30-12:00-12:30-12:55

GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST (PG-13)
 Fri, Sat: 11:10-12:20-1:50-3:20-4:20-6:15-7:15-8:50-9:40-11:50-12:20

BATTLE FOR TERRA (PG) 3-D
 Fri, Sat: 10:30-12:40-2:50-5:00-7:10-9:20-11:40

OBSESSED (PG-13)
 Fri, Sat: 12:30-1:20-3:20-4:10-6:10-7:10-9:10-10:00-11:50-12:40

THE SOLOIST (PG-13)
 Fri, Sat: 11:30-12:50-2:20-3:50-5:10-6:50-7:50-9:50-10:40

THE INFORMERS (R)
 Fri, Sat: 12:00-2:40-5:20-7:45-10:10-12:55

FIGHTING (PG-13)
 Fri, Sat: 11:50-2:30-5:00-7:30-10:20-12:50

STATE OF PLAY (PG-13)
 Sun-Thurs: 11:50-2:30-5:00-7:30-10:20

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STAGE

Blood, sweat, pointillism turn Seurat's painting into musical

"Sunday in the Park With George" through May 17 at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays at Prairie Lakes Theatre, 515 E. Thacker St., Des Plaines. \$20, \$18 for seniors, \$12 for kids 12 and under. (847) 604-0275 or www.bignoiseitheatre.org.

By STEPHANIE FOSNIGHT Contributor

On April 17, a week before Big Noise Theatre's "Sunday in the Park" opened, director Rick Frendt wasn't to be found onstage with the actors, nor even backstage examining props. Instead, he's high up in the air on a ladder, helping to set up lighting cues for the seven professional, high-intensity

projectors that have just arrived at Prairie Lakes Theater in Des Plaines.

"We're dealing with perspective issues today," Frendt says, after he descends a ladder to explain the new show's demanding technical requirements. "Many of the projections overlap and they're at very steep angles, so we use a software package to project at the correct geometry."

The 1984 Stephen Sondheim-James Lapine musical about artist Georges Seurat's creation of the pointillist masterpiece "Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande

Jatte," is revered for its remarkable pointillist score and for its thematic exploration of how art can both isolate and embrace. The show opened last Friday at Prairie Lakes — the performance home of Winnetka-based Big Noise Theatre — and runs week-ends through May 17.

When Frendt agreed to direct "Sunday in the Park with George," for Big Noise, he knew it was a major commitment. Not only have the last few months been spent in cast rehearsals, but Frendt devoted the entire last year to learning the animation and software skills he needed to create a show integrating song, dance, 19th century art and 21st

century technology. "Seurat, because of his early adoption of pointillism, is often considered the artistic originator of the pixel and is revered by those who currently work in digital media," Frendt said.

Like the 2008 Broadway revival, Frendt and the team honor Seurat by using digital projections of sketches, animations and landscapes that eventually come together with the live characters to create a three dimensional, onstage version of Seurat's famous painting — the original, of course, hangs not far away at the Art Institute of Chicago.

"In this way, Seurat's every paint stroke and

pencil sketch can come to life before the eyes of the audience, becoming characters in themselves," Frendt said.

And so, just seven days before the show opened, the director and his team were consumed not only with directing the singing and acting, but also with tasks like setting up the projectors.

"If the cues don't line up, we have to go up 30 feet in the air with pipe wrenches and make the tiniest little adjustments," Frendt said, sounding clearly frustrated. "People who do this for a living probably think nothing of it."

Like other members of Big Noise, Frendt has a day job — chemical engineer in his case — and he's been on a steep learning curve for months, whether he was taking an animation course or sketching the two dogs that Georges

sings to at one point.

"It's ironic that one of the show's main themes is the difficulty of creating art. It asks why in the world artists do it.

The character of George/Georges struggles with that all through Acts I and II and a common lyric is 'Art isn't easy,'" Frendt said. "Boy, he said it!"

However, nothing worth having should come easy, he reckons. Even in the midst of last-minute arrangements for a show that is musically, technically and thematically difficult, Frendt keeps finding himself pulled back to the magic of creation.

"There's a yearning to do something that's beyond ourselves," he said. "That's the payoff, looking at something you've created that didn't exist before and never will exist again in exactly this way."

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STAGE

"Amal Zenzele," 8 p.m. May 1-2, 8-9; and 2 p.m. May 3 in Northwestern University's Ethel M. Barber Theater, 30 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. Adapted from J. Nozipo Maraire's novel. Zenzele: A Letter for my Daughter, the personal and historical are combined in a series of letters from a mother to her daughter concerning cultural inheritance and tradition, the struggle for Zimbabwe's independence and the trials and tribulations of African womanhood and identity. \$10. Call (847) 491-7282 or visit www.tic.northwestern.edu.

"Disappearing Acts: Stories By Nikolai Gogol," through May 31 at Piven Theatre, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. Curtain at 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$25-\$23 for students and seniors. Theatre Thursdays: \$5 tickets available, subject to availability. (847) 866-8049.

"I used to love... A Hip-Hop Choreography," at 8 p.m. May 1 and 2 and 8 p.m. May 2 in Northwestern University's Theatre and Interpretation Center, 1949 Campus Drive, Evanston. \$5. Call (847) 491-7282 or visit www.tic.northwestern.edu.

"The Illusion" at 8 p.m. April 30-May 2; and 2 p.m. May 3 in Northwestern University's Josephine Louis Theater, 20 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. Tickets: \$20; \$18 for senior citizens; and \$10 for students and children. Call (847) 491-7282 or visit www.tic.northwestern.edu. "Jesus Christ Superstar," starring Ted Neeley, at 8 p.m. April 30 and May 1

and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. May 2 at the Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. Tickets: \$35-\$69. Visit www.ticketmaster.com or call (800) 745-3000.

"The Lieutenant of Inishmore," through June 7 at Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Curtain times are Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. (except May 19); Wednesdays at 1 p.m. (except May 6) and 7:30 p.m.; Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.; Fridays at 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. (except May 2) and 8 p.m.; Sundays at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. (except May 17, 31 and June 7). Tickets: \$25-\$55; \$10 for students. Previews, through May 6, \$25-\$50. Tickets for the opening night, May 7, are \$75 and include a post-show reception with the company. Call (847) 673-6300 or visit www.northlight.org.

Next Theatre Company will present three performances of "What You Need To Know." The new play was created through Next Communities' method of pairing community members with a local playwright for in-depth exploration of the issue at hand. The 15 workshop-participants will perform the 40-minute play, which will be followed by a discussion. Performances include 7 p.m. April 30 at BooCoo Cultural Center and Café, 1823 Church St., Evanston; 7 p.m. May 1 at Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston; and 2 p.m. May 2 at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. Admission is free; donations will be accepted at the door. Reservations are suggested; call (847) 475-1875, ext. 2.

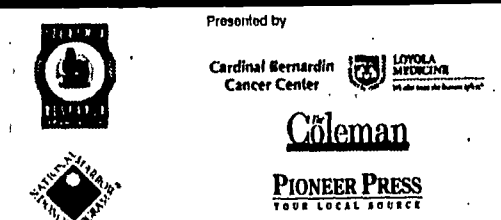
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GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST

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Today's New Homes

NORTH EDITION APRIL 29-MAY 1, 2009

The best of everything for anyone

Special tour shows off all ranges, styles, features of new, remodeled homes

Judging by the robust response from area home builders to the Greater Chicago Home Tour, the Home Builders Association of Greater Chicago is anticipating a large turnout as it debuts homes in a tour-de-force spanning three weekends and four counties.

And it's all for you. The Greater Chicago Home Tour will open many doors to new and remodeled homes on May 2-3, 9-10 and 16-17.

Featuring the best of new housing and remodeled projects, the Tour showcases innovative design and state-of-the-art technology and products. Visitors will see some very impressive residences priced from \$200,000 to more than \$5 million.

Opening its doors to the public on Saturday May 2 and running for three weekends through Sunday May 17, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Tour will display the workmanship of 17 builders and remodelers at 25 sites throughout the Chicago suburbs, from River Forest to St. Charles, from Marengo to Spring Grove, from Morton Grove to Lincolnshire and many points along the way.

Residences feature amenities and design elements to appeal to a wide range of buyer preferences. New construction entries are open throughout the Tour, with the

Turn to TOUR, 2

Toll Brothers' Carmel model at Hawthorn Woods Country Club is one of 25 homes included in the Greater Chicago Home Tour, a scattered-site tour of new houses and remodeled homes running three weekends between May 2 and May 17.



inside

Livability and privacy

Spacious, luxurious townhomes offer a higher level of living.

Page 7

The recent subprime mortgage mess has a lot in common with the FHA and HUD scandals of the 1970s.



Read **Don DeBat**, Page 7

Spring is in the air, and the season is perfect for viewing model homes.

Page 3

online

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The Home Builders Association of Greater Chicago presents the Annual

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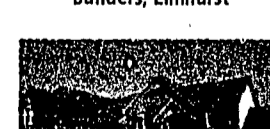
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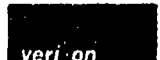


Wynwood Homes
Algonquin



Attendees receive a copy of the 2009 Greater Chicago Home Tour magazine (\$5 value).

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Attendees receive a copy of the 2009 Greater Chicago Home Tour magazine (\$5 value).

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Tour FROM PAGE 1

remodeled residences on view the final weekend May 16-17.

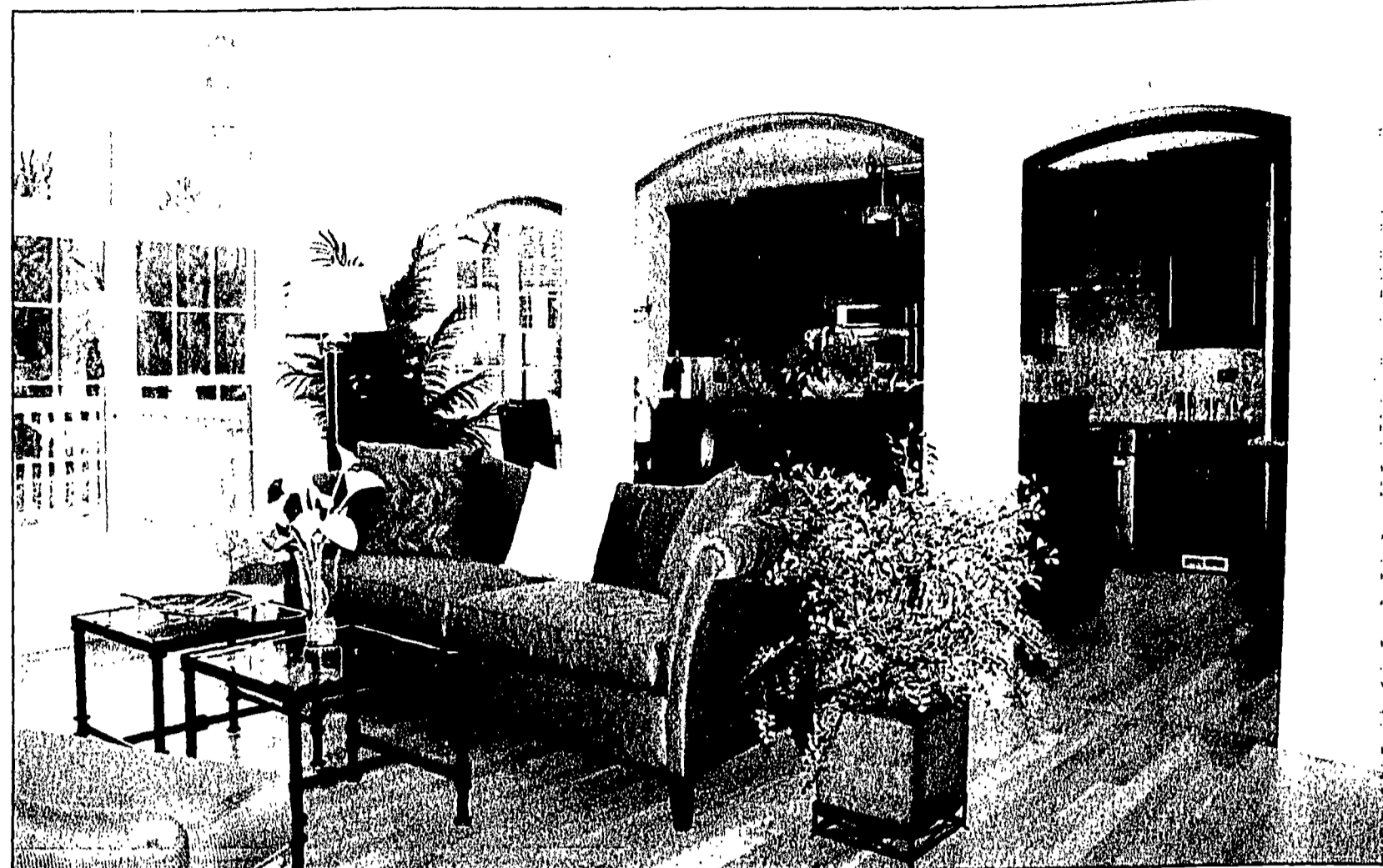
"Whether you're an empty-nester looking for a maintenance free lifestyle, a growing family seeking a home with plenty of indoor and outdoor living space in a top-rated school district, or an established homeowner contemplating renovation of your existing residence, the Tour has homes you don't want to miss," said Dan Ungerleider, president of the Home Builders Association. "Considering the quality of inventory, the range of options to choose from and available financing, there are some exceptional opportunities out there for buyers right now."

Participating builders are convinced that growing consumer confidence, low interest rates, and the quality and workmanship evident in the homes on the Tour will all generate some real activity, with several builders making the commitment in time and staffing to feature multiple projects.

Toil Brothers, a recognized luxury home builder, has a major stake in the Tour with six entries in Elgin, Glenview, Hawthorn Woods, Morton Grove and South Barrington. Wynwood Builders has stepped up with showings in Crystal Lake and Algonquin; Integrity Homes is featuring two properties in Barrington/Inverness, and Orren Pickell Design is showing both a custom new construction home in Elmhurst and a high-end remodeling project in Northbrook.

"Homeowners are seeking innovative strategies and creative ideas on how they can best suit their needs and family's lifestyle," said Lisa Pickell, House & Home Tour co-chairperson. "This year's Tour represents a great cross section of styles and budgets representing both new construction and renovation. Attendees are sure to come away impressed and inspired by the scope of projects showcased."

The Northwest suburbs are well represented with homes in Kildeer from Arthur J. Greene and Castlerock; a DBI home in



The Carrington model at The Enclave in Libertyville is making its debut in the Greater Chicago Home Tour.

Lakewood, a Gerstad home in McHenry and a Brackmann residence in Marengo. Up and coming Spring Grove features offerings from Mihovilovich and KLM; Empeco is showing in Long Grove, Merit Homes in Libertyville and R. Franczak in Palatine. Kane County residences enter the mix with two St. Charles sites from SeBern and Michael Vincent, and Oak Park based Oak Design and construction opens a recent remodeling project to the public in River Forest. Marvin Windows & Doors and Verizon Wireless are Tour sponsors.

"We serve both the replacement and the new construction market with offerings that meet the highest standards of energy efficiency and durability, products that will benefit the builders, the homeowners, and the environment."

Free admission at the 25 Tour locations includes a copy of House & Home 2009, (a \$5 value). The official magazine of the Tour features details of each home as well as informative articles and valuable remodeling tips. Magazines are available at all Verizon Wireless retail locations, all US Bank branches, Marvin Windows & Doors showrooms and through the Home Builders Association office in Addison. More details, directions to the homes and entry blanks for door prize drawings are available at www.hbagc.com.

Today's New Homes

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Spring the best time to view model homes

By Marcy Marro SPECIAL TO SUN-TIMES NEWS GROUP

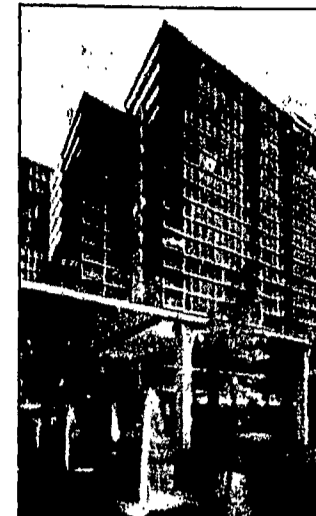
Spring is in the air and many communities are offering opportunities to view their model homes. If you are in the market for a new home, be sure to visit these local communities and see what they have to offer.

Three models — the Warrington, Coventry and Bristol — are open at Lexington Park, a community of 120 townhomes in Des Plaines. Developed by Lexington Homes, the community offers three floor plans ranging from 1,605 to 1,913 square feet. They are base priced from \$249,900 to \$264,900. The three-story homes feature two to three bedrooms, 2½ baths and an attached two-car garage.

"Lexington Park is the first new-construction townhome community in Des Plaines to offer buyers the charm of a quiet suburban setting, plus urban conveniences, such as retail, entertainment and public transportation options within footsteps of their front door," said Jeff Benach, co-principal of Lexington Homes. "And these city-like characteristics extend to the design of the home as well, with standard features such as Juliette balconies and eight-foot front doors that are more common in city developments."

The 1,758-square-foot Warrington is base priced from \$256,900; the 1,913-square-foot Coventry is priced from \$264,900; and the \$1,605-square-foot Bristol is priced from \$249,900. Sales center hours are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. For more information about Lexington Park, call 847-299-0500 or visit www.lexingtonchicago.com.

Two models are open at Willow Place, a community of 58 townhomes in Wheeling, also developed by Lexington Homes. Willow Place offers two floor plans ranging in size from 1,858 to 2,157 square feet that are base priced from \$259,900 to \$289,900. The three-story



New models at Optima Old Orchard Woods in Skokie offer a one-stop spring homebuyers' tour. Incentives are offered on condominiums for 30- to 60-day closing.



The 1,913-square-foot Coventry plan at Lexington Park in Des Plaines features a Juliette balcony off the main-level living/dining room area, as well as an oversized balcony off the eat-in kitchen.



The 1,858-square-foot Chestnut model at Willow Place in Wheeling displays some of Lexington Homes' most unique and stylish inclusions, such as arched openings and a kitchen pass-thru with breakfast bar.

homes come standard with three bedrooms, 2½ baths and attached two-car garages.

"Some of our buyers looked at townhomes in the city, but when they comparison shopped they realized Willow Place offers the same sophisticated touches, but at a fraction of the price," Benach said. "From stainless steel appliances and brushed nickel lighting fixtures to nine-foot ceilings and luxurious master baths, these homes have it all."

The 1,858-square-foot Chestnut model is base priced from \$259,900 and has proven popular with many first-time buyers. The Hickory, at 2,157 square feet, is an end unit that features a side entrance and mostly single-level living, and is priced from \$289,900. For more information about Willow Place, call 847-818-0800 or visit www.lexingtonchicago.com.

Optima Old Orchard Woods in Skokie offers a collection of six new model condominiums for viewing. Comprised of three interconnected towers, the community will include 665

residences when complete. "Optima Old Orchard Woods offers an unusually attractive environment for a condominium community because of the exceptional amenities it offers," said David Hovey, award-winning architect and president of Optima, Inc. his design and development company. "With green roof sky gardens, floor-to-ceiling windows for scenic views, recreational facilities and a location close to nature, transportation and shopping, residents

Turn to MODELS, 4

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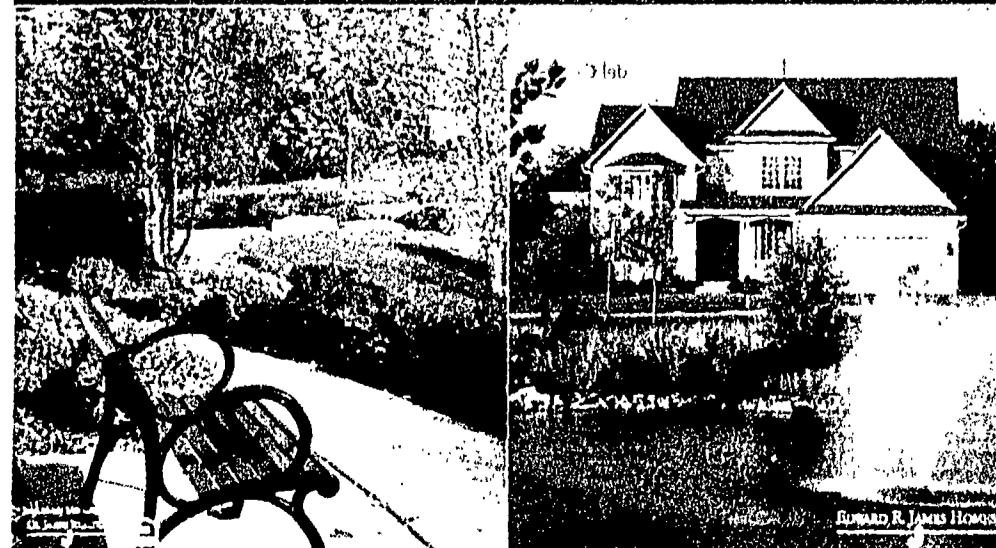
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Final two Estate Homes are available for immediate occupancy at The Residences of Old Irving Park, located in the Old Irving Park neighborhood on the Northwest Side of Chicago.

Immediate occupancy homes meet immediate needs

By **Karie Angell Luc**
SPECIAL TO SUN-TIMES NEWS GROUP

Many once-in-a-lifetime real estate bargains are available for those willing to close a deal quickly. Here are several communities for you to consider for that fast, immediate move-in.

The Residences of Old Irving Park, Chicago

The final two estate homes are available for immediate occupancy at The Residences of Old Irving Park, in the Old Irving Park neighborhood on Chicago's northwest side. The first home is the all brick two-story Greenwood model, on a corner lot at 4000 N. Kolmar. The home was previously priced at \$849,000, and it includes more than \$100,000 in installed upgrades. The home is sealed-bid priced at \$525,000. The second home is a two-story Elm design with five bedrooms and 4,126 square feet of living space. Built on a 63-foot-wide lot, the home features two fireplaces. Previ-

ously offered at \$869,000, it now has a sealed-bid price at \$625,000. The decorated model home and sales center is open at 4000 N. Kolmar. Call 773-777-8910; visit www.cadevelopment.com.

Cider Grove, Huntley

Town & Country Homes is offering three beautifully decorated model homes at its Cider Grove clubhouse neighborhood located in northwest suburban Huntley. These professionally decorated homes are filled with deluxe options and showcase stunning custom fixtures and finishes, giving buyers the chance to save tens of thousands of dollars on a one-of-a-kind home. The three models for sale are the Sommerfield, Cortland and Granny Smith. When completed, Cider Grove will feature 290 single-family homes from two different series, in an intimate setting close to retail offerings and top-rate schools. The sales center is located at 10284 Hopkins Street near the I-90 Interstate and Randall Road,



Town & Country Homes has three wonderfully decorated model homes for sale at Cider Grove, its clubhouse neighborhood located in northwest suburban Huntley. Each of the three models features deluxe options and custom finishes. Shown here is the Cortland model.

and is open daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. or by appointment. Call 866-432-8717; visit www.townandcountryhomes.com.

Georgetown on the River, Glen Ellyn

Kipling Homes is offering stunning bargains and many closeout incentives for several homes available for quick delivery at Georgetown on the River, a 48-unit, maintenance-free community in west suburban Glen Ellyn. "Kipling Homes believes that every buyer has different needs, some need help with a down payment, some need help with an interest-rate buy-down and some just plan appreciate upgraded appliances," said Kathy Dames, vice president of Kipling Homes. "We are offering many tiers of special bargains and builder incentives in an a la carte fashion to meet the needs of our buyers."

Georgetown on the River is conveniently located off Interstate 355 near North Avenue and Swift Road. Call the Kathy Dames Team from REMAX Joliet at 815-741-5082 or 815-693-8336, or visit www.kiplinghomes.com.

Liberty Trails, McHenry

For families looking for a beautiful single-family ranch home that offers a stair-free lifestyle, Gerstad Builders has a

new ranch model ready for immediate occupancy at Liberty Trails in McHenry. The 1,888-square-foot Lexington II ranch home is a new architecturally significant model within the mid-priced community. Base priced at \$263,990, this spacious three-bedroom, two-bath home with corner lookout basement and numerous upgrades would normally be priced at \$329,250, but is priced at \$289,990.

Need a larger home site? Come view various ranch and two-story plans base priced from \$241,990 to \$323,990. Liberty Trails' sales center is located on Lincoln Road, approximately 1 mile west of Chapel Hill Road and north of Route 120. Models are open seven days a week. Call 815-385-4495; visit www.gerstadbldrs.com.

Lake Ridge Townhomes, Mundelein

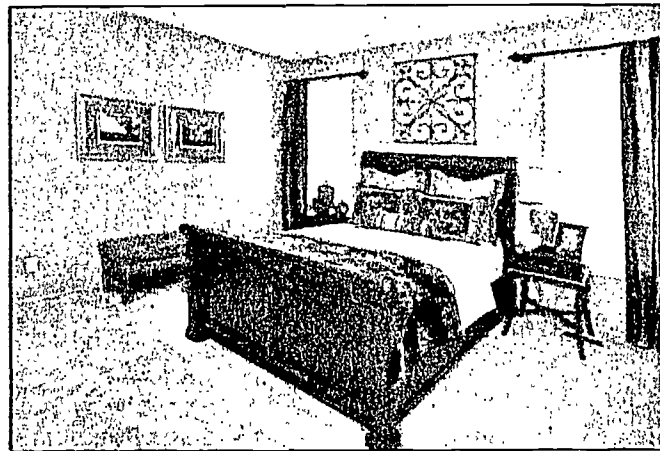
Lake Ridge Townhomes, a new community offering customized floor plans, recently opened its first fully furnished model in Mundelein and is now offering homes for 30-day delivery. The two-and-a-half-story homes provide 1,600 to 2,000 square feet of luxurious living space. For a limited time, buyers looking to sweeten the deal on the purchase of a two-, three- or four-bedroom Lake Ridge



For the first time, prospective buyers have the opportunity to walk through a fully finished townhome and get a feel for the type, style and quality of homes available at Lake Ridge Townhomes.

townhome can receive \$40,000 worth of upgrades. Upgrades include multi-level crown molding, stainless steel appliances, hardwood staircases and more. Lake Ridge Townhomes is on Route 45, north of Route 60 and

three miles west of I-94. The decorated model is open on weekends from Noon to 5 p.m. or by appointment. Call Jeff Ohm of Premier Realty Group at 847-234-9800; visit www.newlakeridge.com.



For families looking for a beautiful single-family ranch home that offers a stair-free lifestyle, Gerstad Builders has a new ranch model available for immediate occupancy at Liberty Trails in McHenry.

Models

FROM PAGE 3

enjoy an exciting lifestyle along with their carefree new home."

"We like to showcase new models on a continuing basis to demonstrate to visitors the many different floor plans,

prices, views and interior finishes that are available to buyers," said Andy Zajac, vice president of sales and marketing. "Five of the furnished models are in

Maple Tower, with one model in Elm Tower, and one, two- and three-bedroom designs are featured. And, with prices starting at \$255,000 and incentives on condos for 60-day closings, Optima Old Orchard Woods is affordable enough for

first-time buyers as well as those desiring penthouses and extra-large combination units up to 3,000 square feet."

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Chicago's multi-level townhomes showcase livability, privacy

Today's spacious, multi-level new-construction townhomes are a notch above condominium living and many include a private landscaped environment without the worry of maintenance, housing experts say.

And, townhomes — ranging from classic rowhomes to duplex-style residences — now are a popular housing choice in the Chicago area for entry-level buyers, first-time move-up purchasers and empty-nesters.

New townhomes developed in Chicago in 2009 are much more luxurious, with spacious, open living areas, and high-end finishes and amenities. They also give buyers a nice front yard, deck, balcony or patio space, a garage and off-street guest parking.

Developer Steven V. Frytz of Anchor General says there are many reasons why condo dwellers should consider upgrading their lifestyle to a higher level with townhome living.

"One of the best attributes of a townhome is there is more privacy. No one lives above or below you," said Frytz who is developing Cornelia Court, an award-winning 63-unit townhome development at 3001 W. Cornelia Ave. in Chicago's West Roscoe Village neighborhood.

When complete, Cornelia Court will feature 13 buildings with two to seven three-story and four-story townhomes per building. The six-unit first phase of Cornelia Court is sold out and occupied. Phase II also is nearly sold out with one unit, priced at \$425,900, available for immediate occupancy.

The \$28-million Cornelia Court development includes two-bedroom-plus-den, three-bedroom and four-bedroom townhomes with two-and-a-half to three-and-a-half baths and 2,242 to 2,904 square feet of living space. Phase III base prices range from \$499,900 to \$644,900.

Frytz currently is offering six free monthly home-loan payments for mortgage principal and interest — a cash value of \$15,000 — to qualified buyers in Phase III of Cornelia Court.

Frytz outlined several of the key advantages of townhome living when compared with residing in a condominium:

■ **Privacy.** "Townhomes are the next best thing to owning a house," Frytz said. "Like single-family homes, the townhomes at Cornelia Court have a private secured entrance and a private deck and yard space."

"Townhomes typically have more square footage than condos and they have the luxury of an attached two-car garage," Frytz said.

■ **More Green space.** Many townhome developments offer a bucolic setting. Townhomes at Cornelia Court overlook a



The townhomes at Cornelia Court feature fee simple ownership with a homeowners' association structure to provide grounds maintenance. Monthly assessments are projected to range from \$85 to \$115, and include common-area expenses, such as common insurance, landscaping, snow removal and water and scavenger service. Typically, condominium assessments are three times as expensive as a townhome.

new 10,650-square-foot private park nestled within the 2.4-acre development. The entire perimeter of the property is dotted with mature trees and lushly landscaped private front yards. Anchor General is planting additional maple and oak trees in the wooded area. The 1-acre perimeter green space, which serves as a dog park for Cornelia Court, surrounds the eastern and southern borders of development.

■ **Quality construction.** Cornelia Court showcases old-school craftsmanship and quality construction, Frytz said. "We have real balusters and spindles on the staircase. It's not a pre-fabricated shortcut that many developers take to cut costs."

■ **Higher level of detail.** Goldstick said Cornelia Court features spacious interiors with a multitude of standard high-end detailing ranging from upgraded stainless-steel appliances and surfaces such as granite, marble and limestone.

■ **Solid appreciation.** For buyers looking for a good appreciation on their investment, townhomes generally have a better appreciation than condominiums because design and construction details often are a step above, Frytz said.

A new professionally deco-

rated and furnished 3-story model townhome recently grand opened for viewing at the Park Homes of Cornelia Court, a new 12-unit townhome phase, said Gale Goldstick, of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage.

The townhomes at Cornelia Court feature "fee simple" ownership with a homeowner's association structure to provide grounds maintenance. Monthly assessments are projected to range from \$86 to \$112, and include common-area expenses, such as common insurance, landscaping, snow removal, water and scavenger service.

The sales center, located at 3007 W. Cornelia, is open Tuesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. For more information, please call 773-478-8414, or take a virtual tour at www.corneliacourt.com.

Fletcher Row

Another urban townhome choice is Fletcher Row, a 20-unit townhome in West Roscoe Village. The development features a landscaping plan showcasing trees, bushes and other greenery all year, with flowers in the spring and summer.

The land plan calls for two clusters of 10 townhomes separated by a landscaped court-

yard, said co-developer Roby Frankel, partner in Bluestone Development.

Bluestone Development currently is offering seller financing with a down payment as little as 10 percent and interest rates as low as 4.99 percent on jumbo loans at Fletcher Row. In addition, buyers will receive six months free mortgage principal and interest payments, an incentive valued at \$10,000.

A professionally decorated and furnished model townhome

is open for viewing at Fletcher Row. The model is among a group of 10 townhomes now nearing completion in Phase I at the innovative development.

Fletcher Row has three- and four-bedroom units with three or 3½ baths and 2,179 to 3,044 square feet of living area. Base prices range from \$499,900 to \$749,900. Two townhomes have been sold and closed and the remaining eight Phase I units are available for occupancy within 60 days.

The Fletcher Row sales center, located at 2424 W. Fletcher S., is open on Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. and by appointment. For more information or to make an appointment, call 773-281-6600 or visit www.fletcherrow.com.

Oakwood Shores

Three rowhomes and four townhomes currently are available for immediate occupancy at Oakwood Shores, a 94-acre mixed-income community in North Kenwood on Chicago's Mid-South Side lakefront.

Oakwood Shores will eventually encompass 3,000 new homes and rental apartments. The community — developed by Granite Development, The Community Builders, MB Real Estate and UJIMA Venture — is being built along Oakwood Boulevard (39th Street) between Lake Park Avenue and Martin Luther King Boulevard.

A special \$15,000 City of Chicago down-payment assistance grant is available at Oakwood Shores between now and April 29, according to co-developer Joe Williams, president of Granite Development. Here are details on the row homes and townhomes now available for immediate occupancy at Oakwood Shores:

■ **Rowhomes.** Three available rowhomes feature three to five bedrooms, 2½ to 3½ baths, a family room and 2,827 to 3,500 square feet of living area, starting at \$529,900.

■ **Townhomes.** Four two-story townhomes are available for quick move-in. They feature three bedrooms, 2½ baths, a family room and 1,995 to 2,044 square feet of living area. Townhome prices start at \$374,900.

The Oakwood Shores sales center is located at 3744 S. Cottage Grove is open by appointment only. Call Monica Hernandez at 773-538-0001 to schedule an appointment, or visit www.oakwoodshoreschicago.com.



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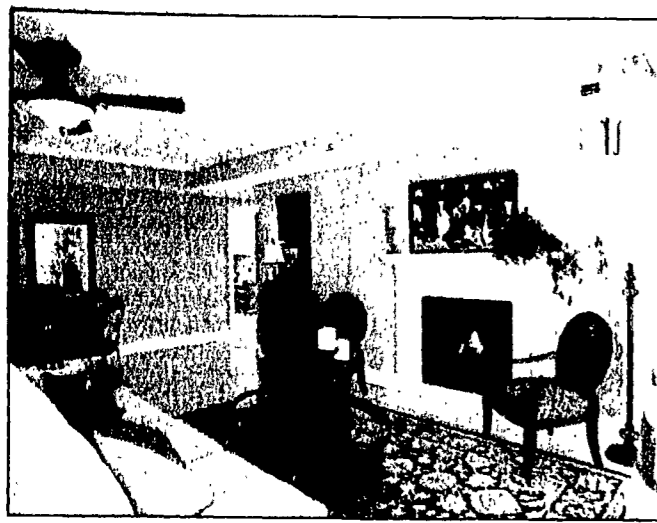
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<p>HIGHLAND PARK</p> <p>10,700 SF North Shore Estate Near Lake Michigan</p> <p>1098 Sheridan Rd Highland Park, IL Originally Priced to \$3,195,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 room, 5 bedroom, 6½ bath estate home • Gourmet Kitchen with many upgrades • Decorative stone, tile & cherry wood throughout • Lavish master spa • 4 Fireplaces • French Provincial with dramatic 2 story foyer 	<p>EVANSTON</p> <p>Luxury Condos</p> <p>2935 Central St. Evanston, IL Originally Priced to \$349,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large 2 bedroom 2 bath units • Spacious floor plans: 1,531-1,580 Sq. Ft. • Gourmet kitchens with upgrades • New Solid masonry construction with architectural details • Heated indoor parking; Private balconies; Elevator • Walk to shops, schools & transportation
<p>NAPERVILLE</p> <p>15,000 SF Hobson Road Estate</p> <p>85061 Indiana Ave Naperville, IL Originally Priced to \$5,500,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26 room, 5 bedroom, 5-1/2 full & 5-1/2 bath estate on 2.5 Acres • All levels accessible by elevator • 5 Fireplaces; 4+ car garage • Fully integrated "Smart House" Technology • Guest suite, theater, fitness room with sauna & steam • Wine Cellar with tasting room • Horses allowed 	<p>WOODSTOCK</p> <p>3 Sanctuary of Bull Valley Homesites</p> <p>The Sanctuary of Bull Valley is an exclusive 200-acre environmentally progressive development near the City of Woodstock just 50 miles from Chicago. Every aspect of the 105 homesite development is thoughtfully planned around the natural features with towering oak & hickory forests and savannahs.</p> <p>Home Values to the Upper - \$1,000,000's Originally Priced to the mid - \$100,000's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ¾ Acre - 1 acre homesites • Excellent Woodstock schools • City sewer & water • Conveniently located near shopping & commuter train

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Plans for the \$50-million Clocktower Pointe development call for six condominium buildings to be clustered on a winding, landscaped road overlooking a signature stone and brick clock tower and two ponds. Construction on the 18-unit first phase of Clocktower Pointe development is nearing completion and ready for immediate occupancy.

Suburban home, condo choices offered for quick spring move-ins

With the first day of spring just around the corner and the home hunting season officially under way, qualified Chicago home buyers who are willing to close a deal quickly and move in now will find an abundance of once-in-a-lifetime deals for the purchase of condominiums, townhomes and single-family homes that are ready for immediate occupancy, real estate experts say.

Chicago area developers are pulling out all the stops to liquidate immediate-occupancy home inventory. However, you must have down payment cash, job security, a good credit score, and be able to qualify for a mortgage, consumer advocates say.

If you are shopping for a pre-selling housing deal in the northwest suburbs, some of the best quick occupancy choices include condominiums developed by R. Franczak & Associates in northwest suburban Des Plaines and Palatine.

"R. Franczak and Associates offers a variety of well designed homes that suit all taste levels and we are offering limited time incentives at all of our developments," Katie Campbell, sales manager for R. Franczak & Associates, said. "Right now, buyers can take advantage of several special limited time incentive offers depending on their individual needs."

These might include a year of paid assessments, or thousands of dollars in upgrades including wood floors and premium appliance packages or even builder paid closing costs at The Heritage of Palatine, The Stratford of Palatine and The Waterford Condominiums in Des Plaines, said Campbell.

Here are some of the suburban communities:

Northwest suburban deals

The Heritage of Palatine is a new 48-unit luxury condominium development at 50 South Greeley Street in downtown Palatine.

Several decorated model residences are now open for viewing at the development and several homes are available for immediate occupancy.

The one-bedroom, two-bedroom and two-bedroom-plus-den condominiums range in size from 1,126 to 1,716 square feet of living space. The first residents have already moved into their new homes and prices range from \$221,900 to \$359,900.

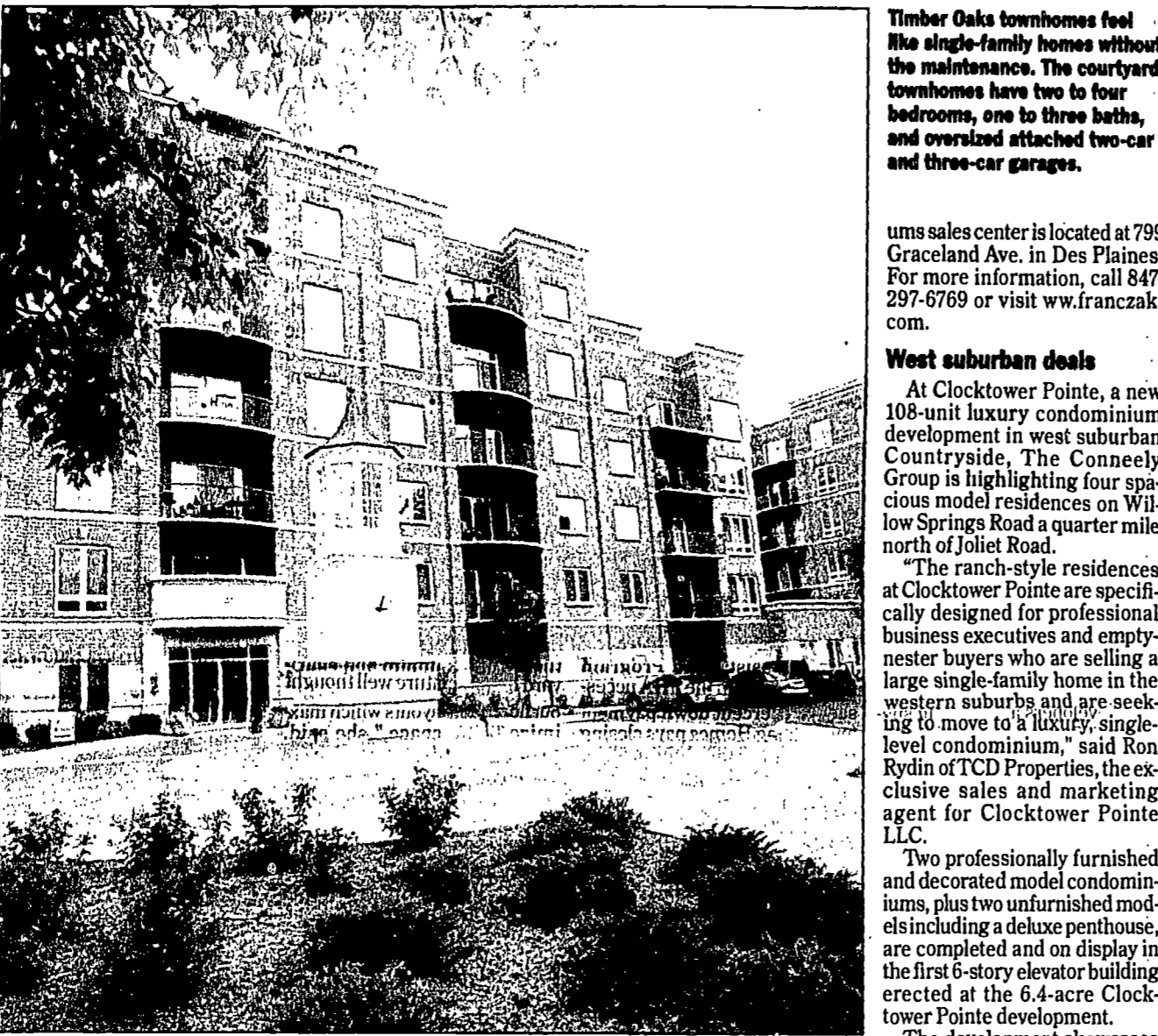
The Heritage of Palatine model

The Stratford of Palatine includes 32 condominiums offering eight different two-bedroom, two-bath floor plans. The remaining units range in size from 1,414 to 1,594 square feet of living space. Prices range from \$294,900 to \$339,900. The Stratford of Palatine sales center is at 190 West Johnson Street. For more information call 847-705-6238 or visit www.rfrczak.com.

In Des Plaines, there are five units remaining at The Waterford, Franczak's luxury 118-unit



The Cypress floor plan also features a breakfast bar in the urban designed kitchen, which opens to the large great room. It is priced from \$339,900.



Timber Oaks townhomes feel like single-family homes without the maintenance. The courtyard townhomes have two to four bedrooms, one to three baths, and oversized attached two-car and three-car garages.

ums sales center is located at 799 Graceland Ave. in Des Plaines. For more information, call 847-297-6769 or visit www.franczak.com.

West suburban deals

At Clocktower Pointe, a new 108-unit luxury condominium development in west suburban Countryside, The Conneely Group is highlighting four spacious model residences on Willow Springs Road a quarter mile north of Joliet Road.

The ranch-style residences at Clocktower Pointe are specifically designed for professional business executives and empty-nester buyers who are selling a large single-family home in the western suburbs and are seeking to move to a luxury, single-level condominium," said Ron Rydin of TCD Properties, the exclusive sales and marketing agent for Clocktower Pointe LLC.

Two professionally furnished and decorated model condominiums, plus two unfurnished models including a deluxe penthouse, are completed and on display in the first 6-story elevator building erected at the 6-acre Clocktower Pointe development.

The development showcases two-bedroom or three-bedroom, two-bath residences with 1,882 to 1,972 square feet of living area on floors two through five of the building. Base prices on these residences range from \$449,900 to \$464,900.

The two top-floor penthouse condominiums feature two or three bedrooms and 2,179 to 2,267 square feet of living space plus spacious terraces. The penthouses are designed for custom build-out and are expected to range in price from \$700,000 to \$725,000 when completed.

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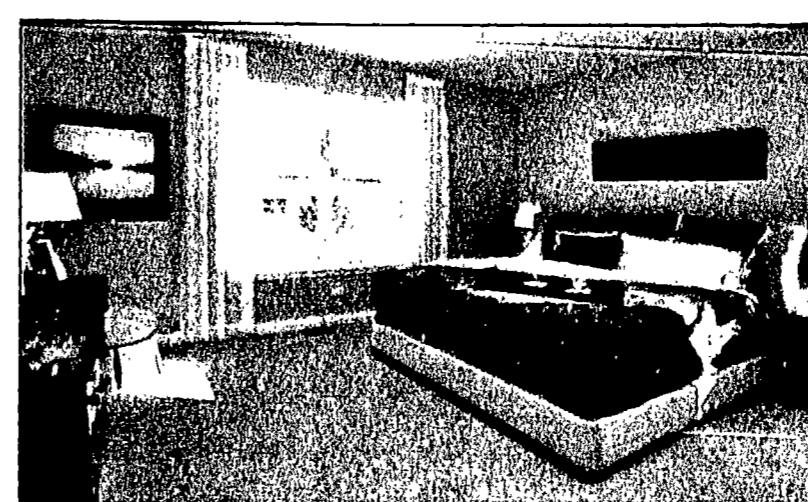
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* Ask sales consultant for details.

According to Lynda Conkel, vice president of Marketing for Gerstad, local lenders are looking to make home loans to buyers who have good credit and the required down payment.



Tax credit makes now the perfect time for first-time homebuyers

By Marcy Marro
SPECIAL TO SUN-TIMES NEWS GROUP

A provision in the new economic stimulus program allows eligible first-time homebuyers a tax credit up to \$8,000 on the purchase and closing of a new home by December 1, 2009. The credit is for individuals with an income under \$75,000 or for married couples with incomes under \$150,000 who file their taxes jointly, and is forfeited if the buyer sells the home within three years. Complete details on the tax credit are available at www.federalhousingtaxcredit.com.

Town & Country Homes is offering the lowest prices in years, with townhomes starting at \$149,995 and single-family homes beginning at \$199,995. Town and Country is also offering community-specific incentive programs, financing offers through K. Hovnanian American Mortgage, plus a mortgage payment protection plan that helps if a homeowner loses their job.

Town & Country has eight com-

munities throughout Chicago: Liberty Lakes in Wauconda; Oaks at Irish Prairie in McHenry; The Townes at Remington Pointe in Voli; Church Hill Club, Steeplechase and Hunt Club in Oswego; Providence in Elgin; and Cider Grove in Huntley.

"Coupled with our incredibly low base prices, attractive incentive programs and access to a wide range of mortgage financing through our own lender, buyers who have been wondering when to make a purchase should make their move now," said Brian Murphy, vice president of marketing for Town & Country Homes.

All Town and Country sales centers are open daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. or by appointment. For more information, visit www.townandcountryhomes.com.

According to Gerstad Builders, the lowest 30-year fixed mortgage rates in the past 52 years, combined with the \$8,000 federal tax refund, and new homes priced at levels last seen in 2003, make this the financial opportunity of a lifetime for first-time homebuyers.

"Prospective homebuyers couldn't wish for a better financial environment to buy their first home," said Roger Gerstad, second generation president and CEO of Gerstad Builders. "If buyers look at the homes we offer at The Trails of Dawson Creek, they will notice that our pricing has dropped to the level we were selling homes back in 2003. This perfect storm has resulted in one of the best investment opportunities in a lifetime."

"With mortgage rates at historically low rates near 4.75 percent for a 30-year fixed rate loan, it is now more affordable for a family to buy one of our single-family homes at Dawson Creek than to rent a typical two-bedroom apartment," said Lynda Conkel, vice president of marketing. "Plus many believe that the housing market has stabilized and will come back with a vengeance in a short time."

For additional information on Dawson Creek and Gerstad Builders, visit www.gerstadbuilders.com or call 815-547-0800.

Suburban

FROM PAGE 6

ments throughout Chicago: Liberty Lakes in Wauconda; Oaks at Irish Prairie in McHenry; The Townes at Remington Pointe in Voli; Church Hill Club, Steeplechase and Hunt Club in Oswego; Providence in Elgin; and Cider Grove in Huntley.

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"This is really a great program for all types of buyers with absolutely no money down through Joliet's Assist-A-Buyer Program that grants them the FHA necessary 3.5 percent down payment and Kipling Homes pays closing costs up to \$3,000," she said.

The award-winning condominium and courtyard homes at Timber Oaks are one of the developer's most successful selling floor plans, offering well-designed floor plan layouts at affordable prices.

The attractive brick condominium buildings feature gabled roofs, recessed balconies, covered patios and second floor sun-decks.

Condominium home plans range in size from 807 to 1,259 square feet with one to two bedrooms and one or two baths. The condominiums range from \$124,900 to \$158,900.

They range in size from 1,115 to 1,664 square feet of living space and are priced from \$169,900 to \$230,900.

Located near Frontage and McDonough roads, the residences at Timber Oaks offer innovative interior layouts as well as exceptional exterior accents.

Timber Oaks offers home buyers the best of both worlds, a lifestyle community with the latest architectural accents in two

distinct multi-family product lines," said Dames.

"Although affordably priced, these condominium and courtyard homes feature well thought out floor-plan layouts which maximize living space," she said. "The first residents have already moved in."

Several of these exceptional homes at Timber Oaks back-up to green space and meadow vistas, as well as groves of aging oak and pine trees as well as ponds-offering residents' scenic views, she said.

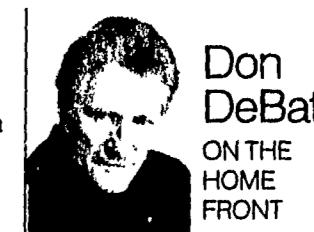
Golf enthusiasts who live at Timber Oaks also have a choice of more than three Joliet Park District public, 18-hole courses including Inwood, Wedgewood and Woodruff. Reduced rates are available for Joliet Park District members.

To visit Timber Oaks, take Interstate 55 to Illinois 52 (Jefferson Street) and head east. The community is located south on Frontage Road near McDonough Road in West Joliet.

For more information about Timber Oaks, call the Kathy Dames team from ReMax Joliet at 815-741-5082 or 815-693-8336. Visit www.kiplinghomes.com.

For more home-buying information visit DeBat Media Service's Web site www.debatmedia.com.

Today's mortgage crisis a replay of the scandal-ridden 1970s



Don DeBat ON THE HOME FRONT

Thanks to an aggressive \$1-trillion effort by the Federal Reserve Board to push home-loan interest rates lower, a thick-skinned America appears to be weathering the Wall Street bailouts and dire condition of the U.S. economy.

The home-refinance market is hotter than a pistol, and mortgage rates in the mid-4-percent range and the \$8,000 first-time purchaser tax credit is starting to lure buyers into a budding spring housing market.

However, we still have to deal with the all-encompassing greed that got the nation into the subprime mortgage debacle, which critics say really started back in 1999, when Fannie Mae Corp. began easing the credit requirements on loans it purchased from banks and other lenders in a move designed to help increase home-ownership among minorities and low-income consumers.

Today, tens of thousands of these loans are headed into foreclosure nationwide because moderate income borrowers cannot afford to pay the escalating interest charges, and cannot refinance because home values are not appreciating.

All this recent experience seems to indicate is that everyone may dream about the American Dream of homeownership, but not everyone has the credit score, income and job security to step across the threshold of a new home. Unfortunately, the recent subprime mess was fueled by easy mortgage deals that no one could refuse.

With that in mind, it is surprising that no one seems to recall the great U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) scandal of the 1970s and the tidal wave of Federal Housing Administration-insured (FHA) loans that washed through blighted neighborhoods in Chicago and other major U.S. cities shattering the dream of homeownership.

It was riddled with building-code violations, Cincotta said. And the people who bought the houses were so poor they could not get conventional financing, so they got approved for FHA loans with minimal down payments sometimes as low as \$200.

"Congress had every good intention when they passed the Housing Act of 1968," John Waner, head of the FHA's Chicago office in the 1970s, "They meant well, but the FHA wasn't geared up for it. And they should have taught the buyer about value."

The 1999 Fannie Mae action, which began as a pilot program initiated by the Clinton Administration, involved 24 banks in 15 housing markets nationwide. The program encouraged lenders to extend home mortgages to individuals whose credit was generally not good enough to qualify for conventional loans.

By 2004, Congress demanded that Fannie Mae help steer more loans to low-income borrowers. Lenders were threatening to sell loans directly to Wall Street unless the organization bought a bigger slice of their riskiest loans. Fannie Mae complied, and experts say that decision nearly destroyed the company and threatened to drag down the housing market and the economy because it introduced a rash of risky subprime loans to the marketplace.

So it was déjà-vu all over again.

The first step is when the banks and the savings and loans refer to give mortgages or loans for rehabilitation and repairs on the homes, Cincotta said. The second step is when the speculators come in to panic-peddle.

Speculators would buy a home for \$7,500 from a white family and resell it to a black family for \$14,500 even though

the Home Front, Don DeBat's weekly real estate column syndicated by DeBat Media Services, unravels the complexities of home buying, mortgage shopping, homeownership, renting, building, renovation and remodeling. For more home-buying information, visit his Web site at www.dondebat.net.

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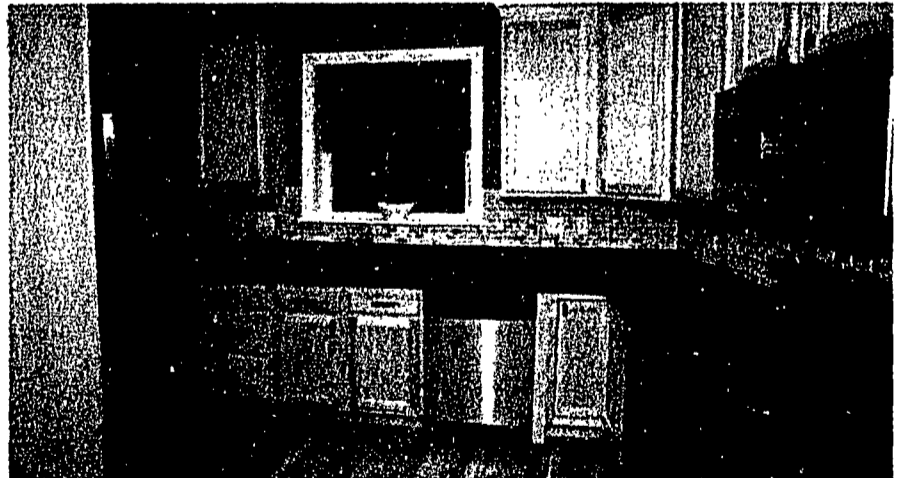
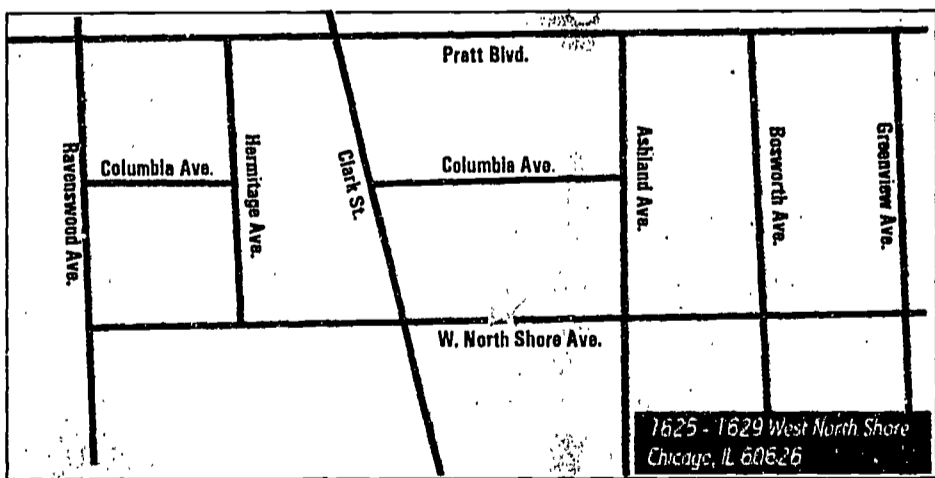
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mother's day

a pioneer press special section | april 30, 2009

THE ANNUAL MOM OF THE YEAR CONTEST

"i love my mom because..."



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by Sean Brosnan, 15, of Park Ridge

I love my mom because she is always there for me. I love her because whenever I fall down, she is the first one there to help me up. She's mother of five boys, and besides being a full time referee and chauffeur for my brothers and I, she's a registered nurse. My mom is always extremely positive and caring. She's the only person I can really talk to and I know she will understand me. No other mom could do such a great job loving us as my mom can. I love my mom for just who she is.

by Brendan Brosnan of Park Ridge

I love my mom because there is simply no one better then her.

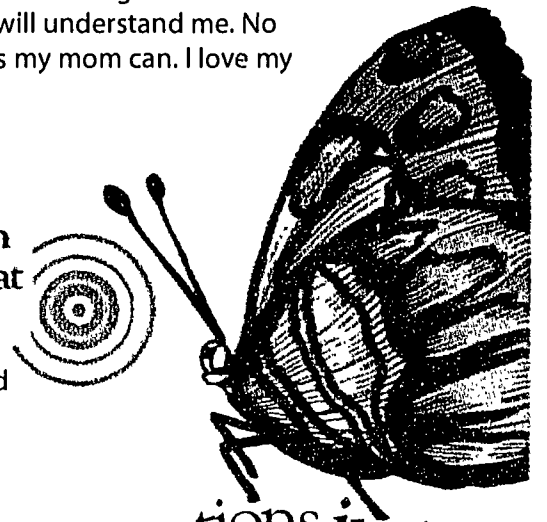
She is a single mom who has raised me on her own, teaching me right from wrong, do good in school and everything else you have to teach a little girl. She recently got laid off and times are tight, but she still does her best to give me everything I want or need. She will do without to give me something. She stopped getting her hair and nails done and does them herself to make things better for me. But

in my eyes, things are always great when I am around her, I just want to make her proud. I am only 12 years old but I know a lot of things, making me more aware of how much my mom means to me. I've always known she was pretty darn special. I look back at my childhood in astonishment. My mom rarely lost her temper, always had a smile on her face and loved me with no conditions no matter what I did wrong. I have more respect for her than I know how to put into words. I only hope I'm half the mother you are. I may not always show my love, but believe me I will always love my mom. I think she deserves to be the Mom of the Year because to me she is already that. To me, you are the Eighth Wonder of the World. What an amazing woman.

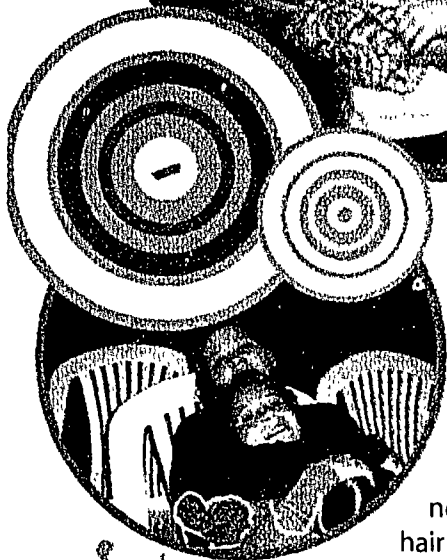
by Samantha Marsh, 12, of Chicago

WINNER

"to me, you are the eighth wonder of the world. what an amazing woman."



honorble mentions inside »



winner

I love my mom because she adores me, cares for me and treats me the way a mother should. I love her because she introduces me to many opportunities that will help me in life. She is a role model to me and teaches me to be strong and take challenges. I love how my mom tries so hard to keep us out of trouble and focus on schoolwork and after-school classes. No matter what, I love my mom, and I know my mom love me back.

by *Akilah Fletcher of Chicago*

Mother's Day

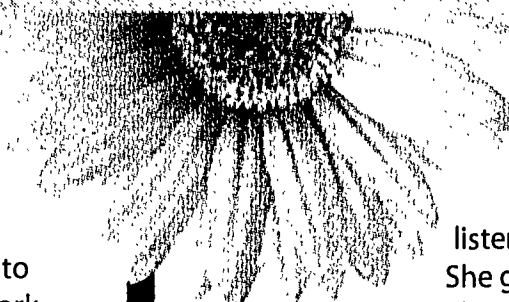
Sunday, May 10

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I love my mom because she is a parent and not a buddy or friend. She is my best friend and ultimately my mom. My mom listens to me with caring ears and open heart. She guides me with quality advice and helps me handle negative circumstances. My mom is not only a mom to me; she is also a teacher. She is someone who provides ministry and mentors her students. She reaches out to them like her own, and they reciprocate to her like she is their real mom. She teaches Language Arts/English in the inner city schools of Chicago. She is firm but cares for them as if they were her own children. When a student doesn't have lunch money (she pays) — she provides assistance. She pays for student graduation fees, clothing and special outings and provides them incentives to feel special. She takes and initiates special events tickets such as the Chicago Bears, Cubs game, the Chicago Bulls and music concert tickets. She also teaches them and me that not everyone is trustworthy, not to be arrogant but confident in life in order to accomplish our goals. She teaches honesty and to walk in integrity in our daily lives — reaping what you sow and to fear the Lord, the word of God and to obey God. She also teaches us to respect elders when they get older. My mother deserves this award because she is not just my mom — she is a mother to others.

My mom's famous words: "We will not accept you as you are. Instead, we will show you a greater vision of what you can become and help you achieve it."

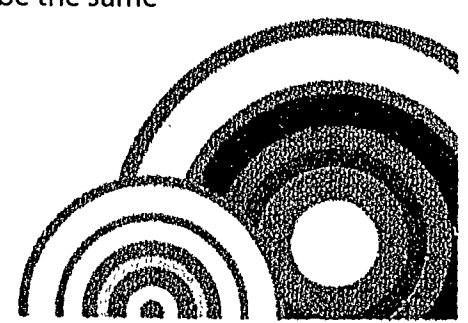
by *Jewell Loyd of Lincolnwood*

I love my mom because she is a wonderful person.

My mother makes a home-cooked meal everyday for my father and 94-year-old grandmother. She also takes care of my grandmother in their home...cuts and styles her hair, doctors appointments, medication upkeep and making sure she uses her walker to walk. Aside from this, she volunteers her time singing for two different church's choirs and sends special cards out all year long.

She is the glue that holds our family together...from regular spaghetti dinners every Sunday, to the genuine love and support she gives her friends and family. Our family wouldn't be the same without her.

by *Vicki LoBianco Peake of Niles*
On her mother *Antoinette LoBianco*



I love my mom because she has shown me what unconditional love is really about. Her unconditional love has been the foundation of our relationship. It has created a healthy bond where I don't want to disappoint her by making the wrong choices when it comes to those obstacles we as teenagers will naturally face. I thank God for allowing my mother to be such an extraordinary role model in my life. She is the best factor a girl can have in her life to make her realize which way is right. Thank you, Mom. I love you.

by *Shawntae Douglas of Maywood*



I love my mom because throughout my life she has sacrificed her time, finances and comfort to provide me with all that I needed as a child and even now in adulthood by reaching out to me in any way within her means.

"we recognize *beverly ann wright* as mother of the year each and everyday"

My mother has always provided me with fair and unconditional love. Our mother's love shown to my brothers and me was something that, in childhood, we didn't see often provided to our peers and even now in adulthood still don't often see. We recognize *Beverly Ann Wright* as mother of the year each and everyday.

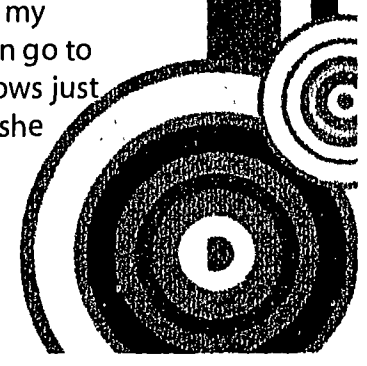
by *DeeAnna Wright of Forest Park*
On her mother, *Beverly Ann Wright*

I love my mom because she is simply amazing. No words can describe.

by *Courtney Dziadosz of Franklin Park*

I love my mom because she has always been my rock, my solace and my friend. Whenever I have a problem, I can go to her for advice, a kind word or a cookie. She always knows just what to say to help me through the rough times, and she is always there with me in the good times.

by *Terri McCann-Michalski on her mother who lives in Northlake*



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SUNDAY, MAY 10TH

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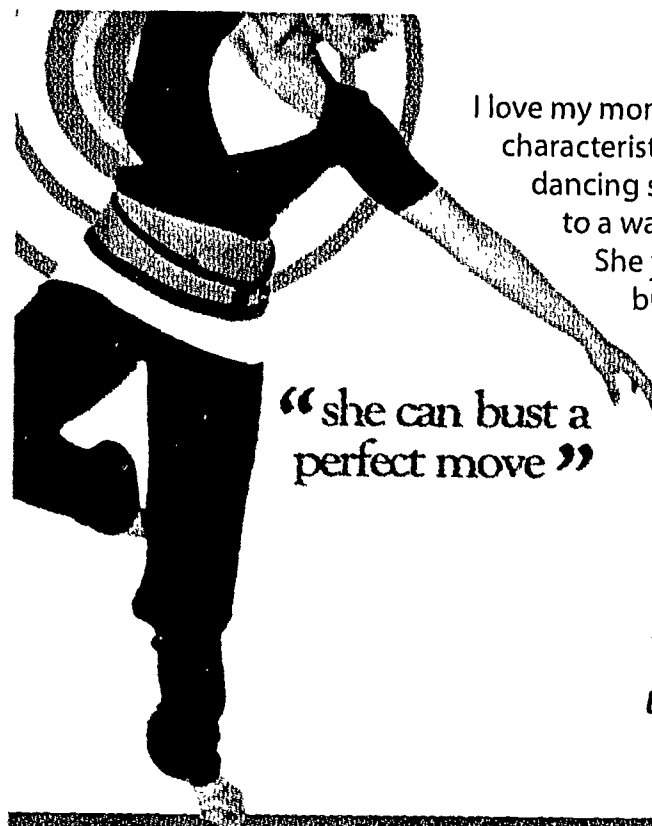
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I love my mom because she has the most unique characteristics. For example, she has incredible dancing skills. In any type of music (from rap to a waltz), she can bust a perfect move. She taught me how to dance well, but I still can't match her fabulous technique. Not only does she have a great dancing style, but she also has an interesting smile/frown combination that she uses to get a funny point across. I always start laughing when she displays that hilarious face. I think my mom is fantastic and I can't imagine life without her!

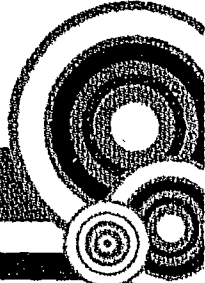
"she can bust a perfect move"

by Delaney Roberts of Darien



I love my mom because she is: kind, helpful, friendly, loving, caring, special, hard-working, smart, teaching, neat, expert, amazing.

by Luke Goldthorpe of Burr Ridge



MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

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letter from the editor

Thanks, Mom, for the love.

Unconditional love fascinates me. Through the shallows of anxiety and the heights of ego, unconditional love floats, unwavering. Even with tempers flaring and insecurity penetrating, those who give and receive unconditional love take emotional hits with grace.

I often remind myself: do not take advantage of your mother's unconditional love. She, my mother specifically, has never once made me feel unloved or as if my random antics were burdensome, although I'm sure they were.

About two weeks ago, I called my mom in a frantic rage about fielding rabid Sunday morning phone calls, city drivers blocking my car into the garage and subsequently running late for practice. Of course, no parts of those were her fault. But she knows how I need her. She knows I need her

to listen to my breakdowns without the fear of causing some inexplicable and permanent damage.

That's unconditional love; that's my mom. From reading your Mom of the Year submissions, I've learned that your mothers are fighters. Battling cancer, battling misfortune, battling you. Your mothers are teachers of life and academics. They are smart, fashionable and generous. They volunteer, they minister and they spend a good amount of time playing chauffeur. They feed you. They tuck you in. And they are, in your eyes, amazing cooks.

I apologize for my thievery; I'm stealing some of your quotes for the end of my "I love my mom because" letter. Your sentiments happily reminded me of my own mom; ya'll just say it so well.

E-mail your comments to nichepublications@pioneerlocal.com. We welcome your feedback.

- "I love my mom because..."**
- Michelle Weiss..... Manager, Niche Publications
"... she inspires me to be a better person."
- Tammy Matthews..... Special Sections Editor
"... her love is unconditional." tmatthews@pioneerlocal.com
- Jennifer Williams..... Special Sections Designer
"... she gave me the courage to survive brain surgery."



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She always checks on my family, making sure we're happy or if there's anything we need. She knows my symptoms of a bad mood. She always checks my homework. You might just think I'm lying. But I promise, I'm not.

It's a very big job, and she's very good at it. Sometimes I may just ignore her, but then I think she has been through all of this before and she knows best so I end up doing what she says. I would like to follow in mom's footsteps and be smart just like her.

She will let me be what I want. She is always willing to try harder. She lets me have a day where I pick everything. My mom takes the time to make my family a nice dinner, which if you get to know our family, it is a big deal!

She has maintained the perspective that "everything happens for a reason." She buys me toys. I know it hasn't been easy. She raised three children. I don't want to disappoint her by making the wrong choices. Regardless of my crazy antics,

she always will love and support whatever it is I do. One little joke will keep her laughing for days. She is always there for me when I am having a hard time. I have how my mom tries so hard to keep us out of trouble. If I had to write a book about all the things you have done and sacrificed for me, I would never finish.

The world is better because of her. She is an amazing person who laughs and loves without limits. She is either driving us, and our friends, picking us up or staying up till we get home. My mom is a champion survivor and she is my mom of the year. Our mother's love shown to my brothers and me was something that, in childhood, we didn't see often provided to our peers and

even now in adulthood still don't often see.

She is the glue that holds our family together. She teaches honesty and to walk in integrity in our daily lives. My coach...encourages me to try my best in all of my sports, activities, academics and everything else I do. If there's school on a weekday, my mom forbids any television. She's never too busy for me. I think she's the best person I have ever known! My mom is the greatest thing that has ever happened to me. She listens to my secrets, and I know I can tell her anything. She protects me. She helps me all the time time time. She let me get my ears pierced. She is our valentine.



This is my mom, Carol. The most beautiful woman in the world.

Tammy
Tammy Matthews
Special Sections Editor

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“if i had to write a book about all the things you have done and sacrificed for me, i would never finish”

I love you, Mom, because you are more than I can ever ask for. You may not be perfect, but you surely

are close to it. If something ever comes up, I come to you. Whether it is for advice, comfort or support, you are always there. I can't imagine life without you, nor do I want to. You've taught me discipline, responsibility and love. If I had to write a book about all the things you have done and sacrificed for me, I would never finish. You loved me, and I know you always will. I love you, Mom, and I could only hope that one day, I become as great of a mother as you.

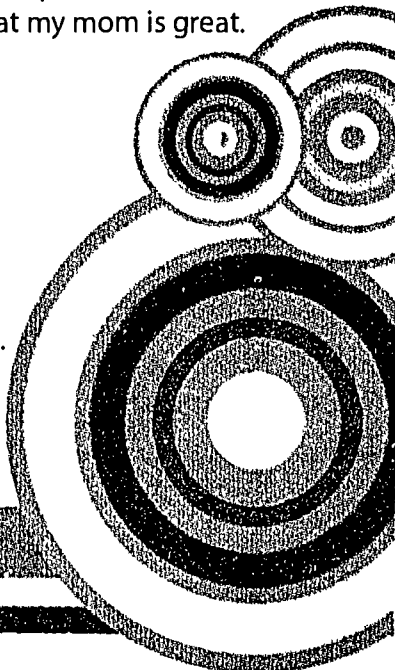
by Sara Olvera, 16, of Melrose Park

My mom is the best mom ever because she is talented. She can run a whole marathon! She is also great at helping people. She is so great at helping people that she makes a living being a social worker. My mom is great because she is always there for me when I am having a hard time. She helps me whenever I need help and is there for me at all times. That is just a few ways that my mom is great.

by Maya Fagen, 10, of Evanston

I love my mom because: She cooks for me every night. She tucks me into bed. She helps me. She comforts me. And she is nice to me. I love my mom.

by Ruby Fagen, 7, of Evanston



I love my mom because she isn't like anyone else. My mom can never stay mad for long. One minute she will be angry about something and the next she will be laughing about it. Also, my mom has a great sense of humor. One little joke will keep her laughing for days. I could write about how my mom is the best mom ever, which goes unstated, or how she is smart and pretty, also true, but my mom taught me to see past the obvious and look for more in people, and I love her everyday for that.

“my mom taught me to see past the obvious and look for more in people, and I love her everyday for that”

by Irene and Mary Kay O'Connor of River Forest

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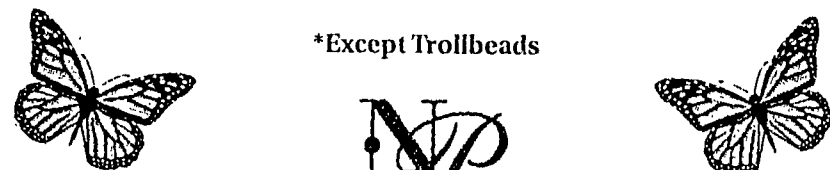
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We love our mom because even 100 words aren't enough to describe this amazing woman.



She's a single mom to three teens, who works two jobs and teaches an Internet course to keep us clothed and fed.

She's strict and enforces her rules even in the face of the "logical arguments against them" coming from the three of us. She's tough but we always know we're loved.

She never spends anything or anytime on herself. She attends every home game or meet that we have in the evening. She is either driving us, and our friends, picking us up or staying up till we get home.

by Henry, Maddie and Griffin Hermes
On their mother, Tricia



I love my mom because she inspires me to be a better person. She makes people the priority in her life, and not things. She ages gracefully, without artificially induced beauty. She never alters her values or beliefs to meet popular trends. She loves deeply and laughs often. My mother is sandwiched between the family responsibilities of being a daughter, a mother, a grandmother and a wife of over 30 years. She approaches all these roles with a tender heart and unwavering compassion. The world is better because of her.

by Jennifer McGee Preschern, 32, of Evanston
On her mother, Clare McGee,
of Arlington Heights



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 - COURSE TWO •
Insalata Della Casa - Mixed Italian greens with chopped tomatoes and a red wine vinaigrette
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I love my mom because she had an awful year and survived. She got breast cancer, had a mastectomy and chemotherapy.

My father got a new job and moved to Chicago, flying home on weekends. Mom felt overwhelmed and the drugs depressed her; she spent six days in the hospital. My mom was so sick she stopped chemotherapy and work.

We moved to Chicago in October. Mom happily recovered, is cancer-free and her hair grew in. Watching her go through this experience, I have learned that beauty comes in all ways. My mom is a champion survivor and she is my mom of the year.

by Pamela Kekst, 12, of Lincolnshire
On her mother, Nancy

I love my mom because she is the strongest person I know. She holds true to her values no matter what and has persevered through more struggles than I've ever seen anyone deal with. Throughout her entire life, she has maintained the perspective that "everything happens for a reason" and "someone always has it worse than us." When we were almost homeless, she was at church folding clothes for those less fortunate than us. She touches everyone she meets and never turns down an offer to help. My mother is my role model, my inspiration and my cheerleader.

by Kelly Strumillo of Lemont
On her mother, Karen Strumillo

She takes care of me, loves me and always stays positive about my mistakes when I mess up. My mom always does her best to make us happy! After a rough day at school, my mom will have a nice warm smile and a hug for me to come home to. Every night, my mom takes the time to make my family



a nice dinner, which if you get to know our family, it is a big deal! The reason I'm doing this is because my mom deserves it and I love her with all my heart no matter what.

by Kevin Schiff of Elmhurst



"my mom is a champion survivor"

"my mom takes the time to make my family a nice dinner, which if you get to know our family, it is a big deal"

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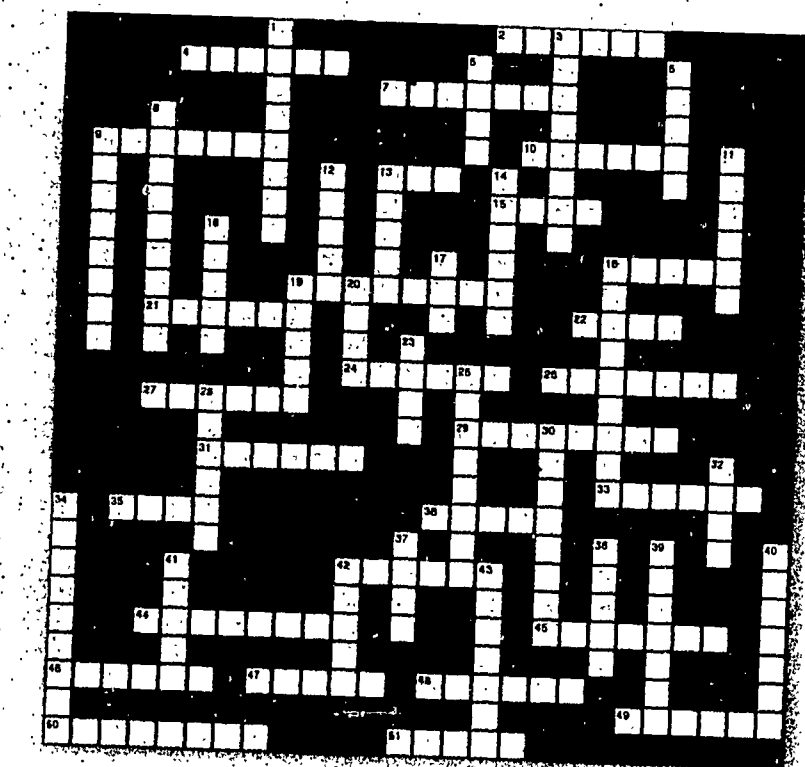
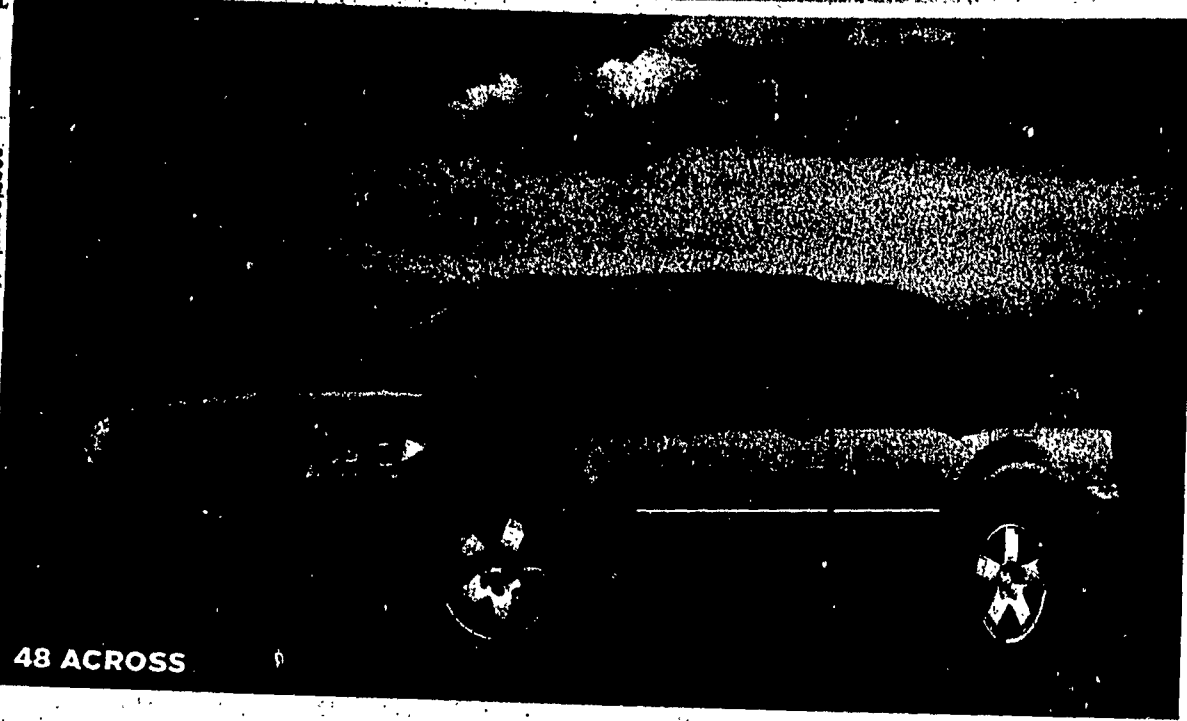


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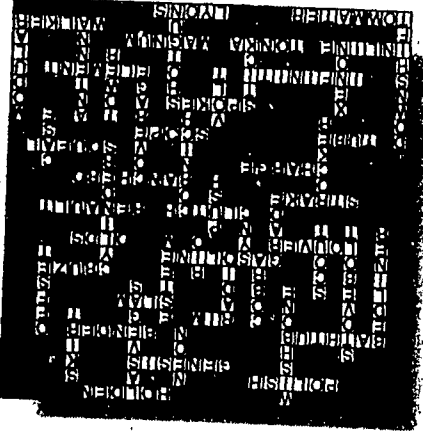
- 2. Aussie car brand
- 4. Wax work
- 7. Hyundai coupe or sedan
- 9. Early Porsche nickname
- 10. Fender
- 13. The out edge of a wheel
- 15. "Drop" the ride height (slang)
- 18. Cobalt replacement
- 19. Overhaul'n' theme song
- 21. Popular window treatment once
- 22. Auto/lawn mower inventor
- 24. Don't let this slip
- 26. Dauphine or Caravelle
- 27. Help aerodynamics
- 29. Half pickup, half car
- 31. Battery holds this
- 33. Tire noise
- 35. Tire necessity, once
- 36. Diagnostics slang
- 42. Wooden wheel supports
- 44. Q45, G35X, QX56 models
- 45. One Honda sport-ute
- 46. a.k.a. "straight" six
- 47. Small, yellow-truck maker
- 48. Dodge wagon offered in SRT8 trim
- 49. Back for Fast and the Furious 4
- 50. Lightning McQueen sidekick
- 51. Jaguar founder

DOWN

- 1. Double
- 3. Shelby plant locale
- 5. Former Dodge compact
- 6. Fender surround
- 8. Chevy inline six
- 9. Box protector
- 11. Critical wheel measurement
- 12. Tony Stark's crushed ride
- 13. Option available in 1929
- 14. Confidence-boosting Suzuki
- 16. International sport-ute
- 17. A Brazilian Kia?
- 18. Pistons drop in here
- 19. Pick before fueling

ANSWERS

- 20. Ford's voice command
- 23. a.k.a. understeer
- 25. Rolls convertible
- 28. Arm or panel
- 30. Bumper-to-bumper feature
- 32. Transfer or crank
- 34. Drop a gear
- 37. Caddy Corvair based on this
- 38. A shock's home
- 39. Helps reception
- 40. Three-piece wheel
- 41. Headlamps or #54 on periodic table elements
- 42. Manual-trans slang
- 43. Passenger-seat term



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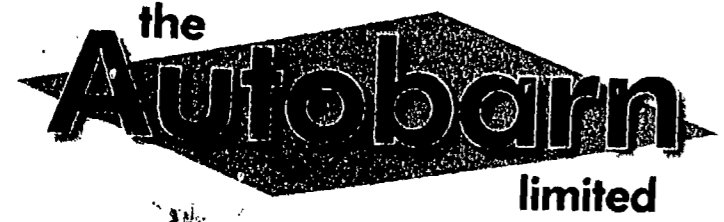
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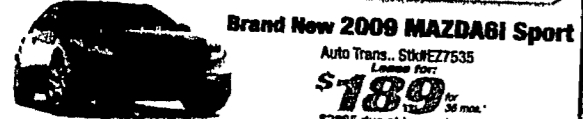


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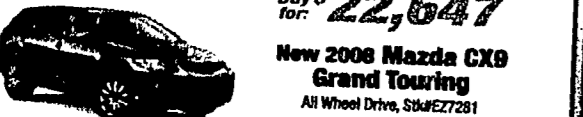
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Brand New 2009 MAZDA6i Sport \$189



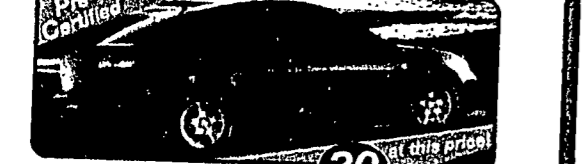
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2008 MAZDA3i Touring



Auto, AC \$13,980

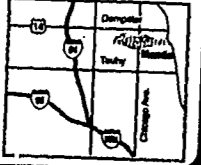
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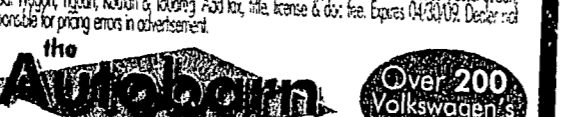
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0% on all 2009 models

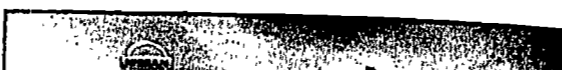
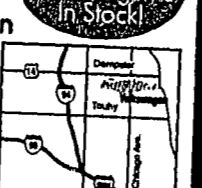
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2008 Nissan Altima \$17,927

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2008 Nissan Maxima \$18,927

2008 Infiniti Q35 \$23,927

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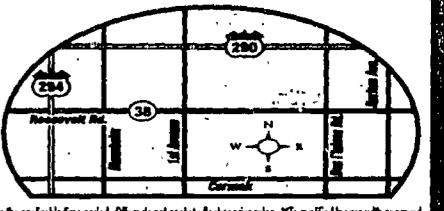
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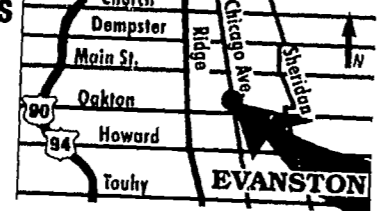
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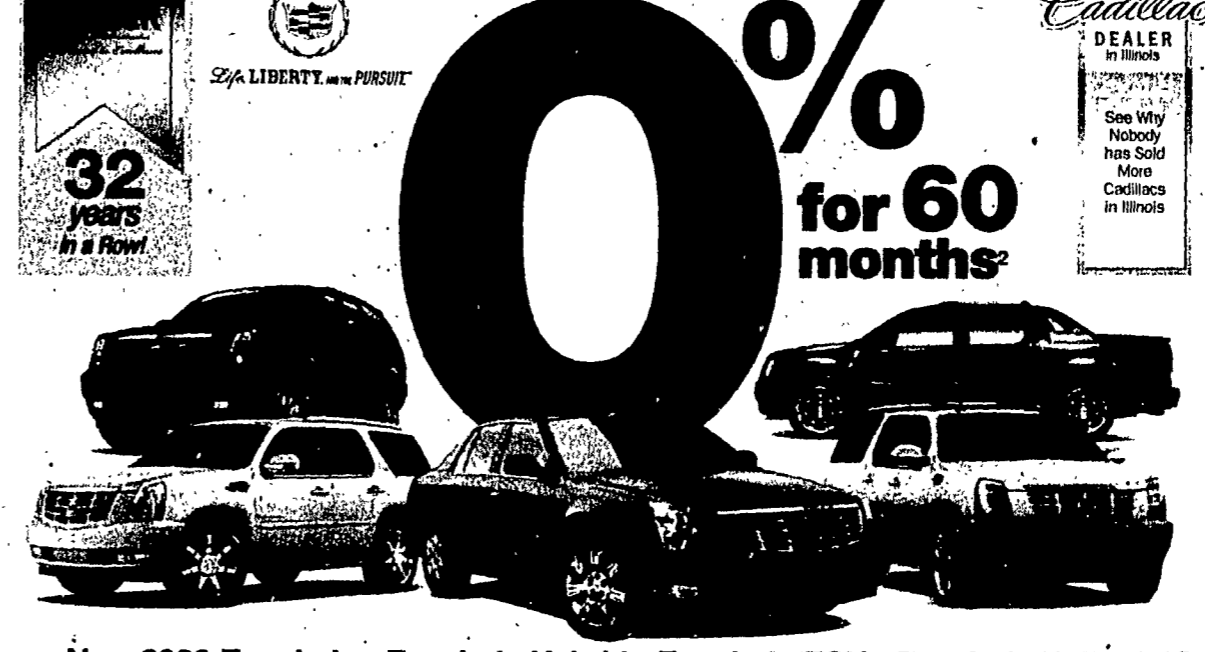
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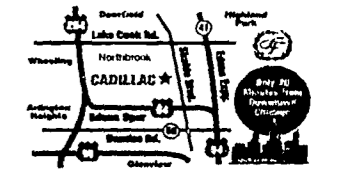
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Ford posts \$1.4 billion loss for first quarter, uses less cash

BY KIMBERLY S. JOHNSON
Associated Press

DEARBORN, Mich. - Ford Motor Co. reported a first-quarter loss of \$1.4 billion last week and said it depleted less of its cash, emphasizing that it doesn't expect to seek any of the government assistance that is keeping the rest of the Detroit Three alive.

The nation's second-largest automaker said it spent \$3.7 billion more than it took in during the first three months of the year, far less than the \$7.2 billion it spent in the fourth quarter of 2008.

Chief Financial Officer Lewis Booth said the company is confident that it will slow the drain on its cash even further this year, and he said Ford will make it through 2009 without needing government aid. He would not speculate, however, about 2010.

"This is a very, very difficult environment,"

Booth said. "We're comfortable we'll get through this year."

Ford said it cut structural costs by \$1.9 billion, adding that it is likely to exceed its \$4 billion cost-cutting goal for the year.

"We are off to a very good start," Chief Executive Officer Alan Mulally (right) said in a conference call with reporters. "So we believe that we will be able to exceed that target for the year."

Ford said it remains on track to break even or post a profit on a pre-tax basis in 2011.

While General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC have accepted \$17.4 billion in federal aid and are racing toward deadlines to make deep cuts or file for bankruptcy, Ford was the first U.S. automaker to modify its contract with the United Auto Workers union and strike a deal to make up to 50 percent of payments to a union-run health care trust in stock instead of cash. The company also completed tender offers to reduce its debt by more than one-third.

The company said the moves would result in annual savings of \$1 billion.

Ford drew the last \$10.1 billion from its revolving line of credit during the quarter and said it had \$21.3 billion in cash as of March 31. That's down from \$28.7 billion in the same period last year.

Ford's first-quarter loss compares with a \$70 million profit a year earlier. On a per share basis, Ford lost 60 cents, compared with earnings of 3 cents a share for the comparable quarter a year ago.

Revenue was \$24.8 billion, down nearly 37 percent from \$39.2 billion in the same quarter of last year, as Ford's U.S. sales declined 43 percent.

On a pretax basis excluding special items such as a gain from its March debt exchange, Ford lost 75 cents a share, beating analysts' estimates. Eleven analysts polled by Thomson Reuters expected a \$1.23 per share loss on revenue of \$22 billion.

Booth called the first-quarter performance

"solid" compared with Ford's fourth-quarter loss of \$5.9 billion, which led to a \$14.6 billion loss for 2008, the worst annual loss in the company's 106-year history.

"I think the important comparison for us is, 'are we improving versus the fourth quarter?' Because the fourth quarter, things were really dreadful," Booth said.

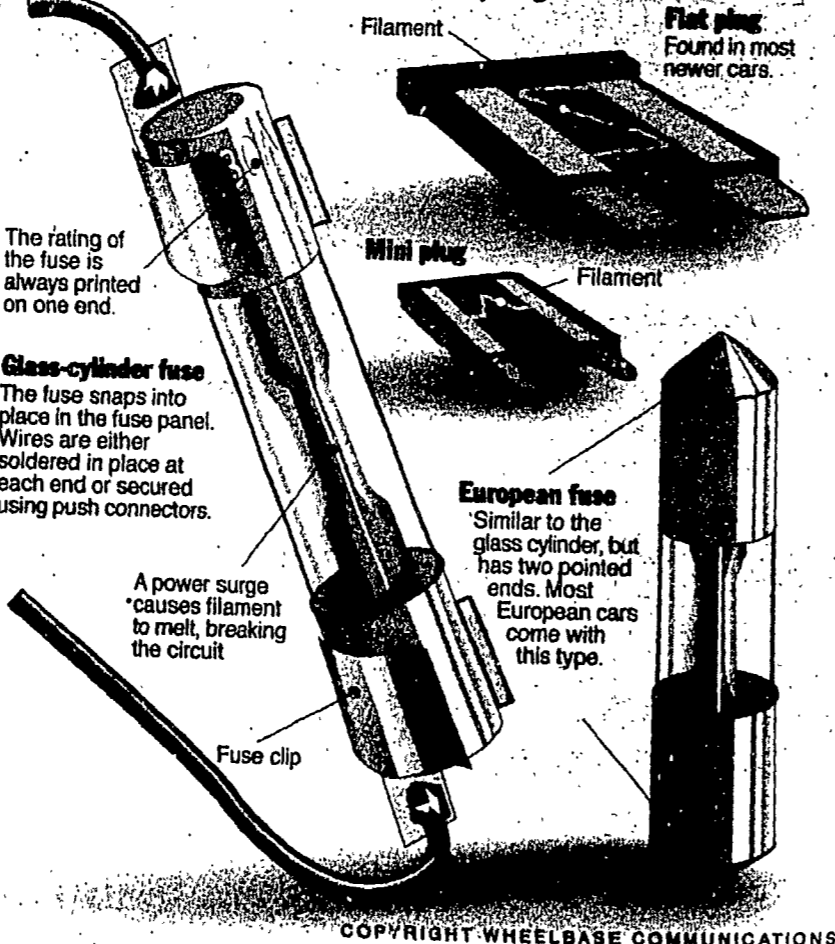
He said cost cuts and better pricing for its vehicles helped the company narrow its losses, and he expects continued improvement for the remainder of the year.

BRENDAN HOFFMAN/GETTY IMAGES

autoGRAPH

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Fuses are a necessary part of any auto electrical system for the same reason fuses and breakers are used at home. If too much current is running through a particular circuit, it could damage expensive parts. Instead, a power-sensitive fuse is spliced into the circuit. Too much power will melt the inner filament, breaking the circuit before the power surge damages any parts. This is why it's important to never install a fuse that exceeds the recommended amperage.



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EVAN VUCKI/AP

Bright IDEA: Plug-in hybrid van gets 100 mpg

Associated Press

NEW YORK - It sounds like a bright idea.

Last week Bright Automotive, based in Anderson, Ind., unveiled the IDEA, a 100-mpg plug-in hybrid electric van that it is looking to sell to fleet customers such as businesses and government agencies.

The automaker's goal is to produce 50,000 vehicles a year starting in 2013. The ultimate outcome, it hopes, will be millions of dollars in savings in gasoline and drastically reduced emissions for fleet users.

"We are ready to provide the necessary automotive leadership our nation is calling for," Chief Executive John Waters (above) said in a conference call with reporters.

Waters, who developed the battery pack for General Motors Corp.'s first electric vehicle, the EV1, unveiled the IDEA at Capitol Hill in Washington. He said the company has applied for a \$450 million loan from a Department of

Energy program designed to help automakers develop fuel-efficient technology.

Waters hopes to begin production of the vehicle by 2012 and begin supplying to fleet customers the following year. He said the company is targeting fleet, rather than retail, customers, because fleet customers buy vehicles "on spreadsheets" in large quantities, which helps bring down the cost and eliminates the emotion present in car buying.

"We feel there would be a rapid adaptation and adoption of vehicles in the fleet sector," Waters said. He declined to offer an estimated price of the vehicle.

Waters said the IDEA will run on battery power alone for 30 miles. At that point, it will function like a conventional hybrid, drawing on a combination of gasoline and an electric battery to generate power. He said the 100 mpg figure is an estimate that assumes a fleet driver averages 50 miles per day.

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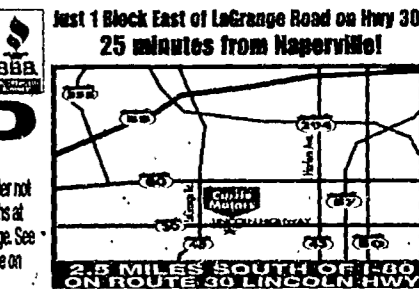
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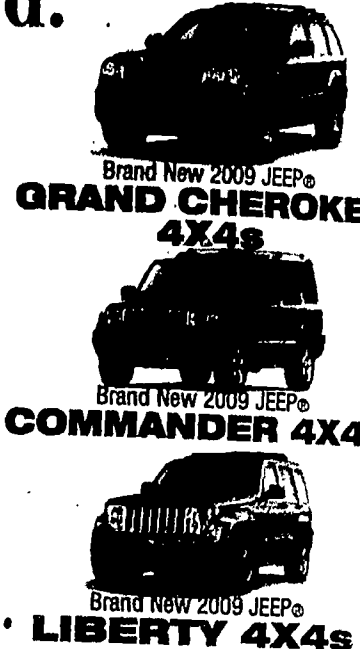
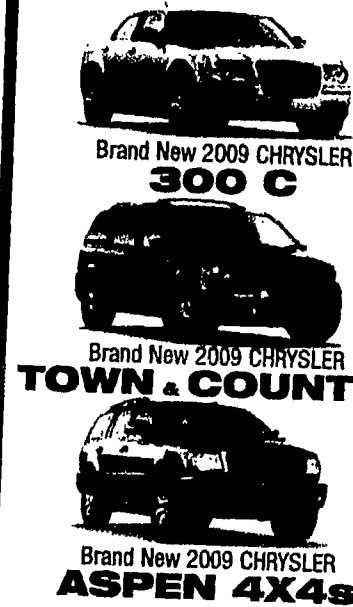


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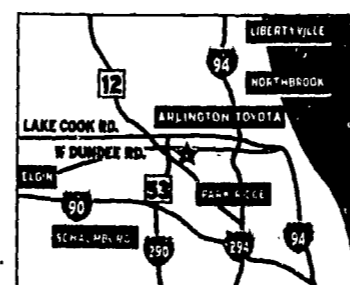
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Nice surprise from Lexus: the 2010 RX 350

autoREVIEW



by JILL CIMINILLO
SearchChicagoAutos Editor
jciminillo@suntimes.com

I have to admit Lexus has done such a great job with its vehicles that they've actually become a bit boring. So well made. So luxurious. So comfortable. So uninspiring. So predictable.

Which is why sliding behind the wheel of the 2010 RX 350 was such a nice surprise.

This benchmark crossover may look familiar with the shape that launched the segment, but don't let that fool you. This vehicle is all new for 2010, and it has raised the bar again.

I'm typically not a fan of anything larger than a coupe for my personal use, but after driving the RX 350 for a week, it has joined the Nissan Maxima on my top-pick list.

Usually when I hop into a new car there's a learning curve. Sometimes it's a day, sometimes I'm in the car a whole week and still don't quite get it. But with the RX 350, it was like driving a car I'd driven a million times before. No learning

curve. No real frustration with controls. Just the familiar and comfortable sensation of driving a vehicle that I've driven before.

This is one of those crossovers that has a very carlike ride, so for people who are used to driving a sedan, the jump to the RX 350 isn't that different. Ride and handling is smooth and even, and only the largest of those Chicago potholes will jostle the vehicle uncomfortably. And, while you aren't going to take the RX 350 out on a race track, it is nice to know that the crossover corners pretty well and accelerates even better.

Equipped with the 3.5-liter V-6 engine, the RX 350 is perfectly powered for a 4,343-pound vehicle. It delivers 275 horsepower and 257 pound-feet of torque. The six-speed automatic transmission is well geared, and combined with the V-6 engine, you'll notice smooth, seamless power during acceleration.

The test vehicle was the up-level all-wheel drive model and had a base price of \$39,025. It then proceeded to tack on an eye-popping \$14,000 in options, bringing the as-tested price to a whopping \$52,965. While I like the start price of less than \$40,000, I thought \$53,000 was a bit excessive.

The test vehicle added pricey packages like the comfort package (\$2,000), rear-seat entertainment with navigation (\$4,980) and luxury package (\$4,800). Then it added a bevy of lesser options such as the premium audio system (\$610), park assist (\$500), tow prep package (\$238), cargo mat (\$92), wheel locks (\$81), glass breakage sensors (\$205), remote engine start (\$375) and the cargo net (\$59).

Way, way too much stuff if you ask me. If I were optioning this car, I'd really only want the navigation system and the breakage sensors (I do live in Chicago after all). But the hard thing is, on the Lexus Web site, it appears that you can only get navigation "with additional options" for \$6,658, which means I'm looking at a minimum of \$45,733 for the pricing. Ugh.

The base RX model is front-wheel drive and starts at \$37,625.

One of the reasons I'd be willing to pay for the nav system, though, is the new onboard computer. I immediately fell in love with this system, which is managed by a unique remote touch controller.

Unlike the Audi MMI or the BMW iDrive, the Lexus onboard computer really is intuitive. And, it's set up so that the controller is familiar. It feels just like a mouse -- next to your keyboard. The enter and back buttons are a finger touch away, and moving the controller is easy and familiar. Then the system itself works the way you'd expect it to, and all the information you need is found without paging through multiple screens. Bravo, Lexus!

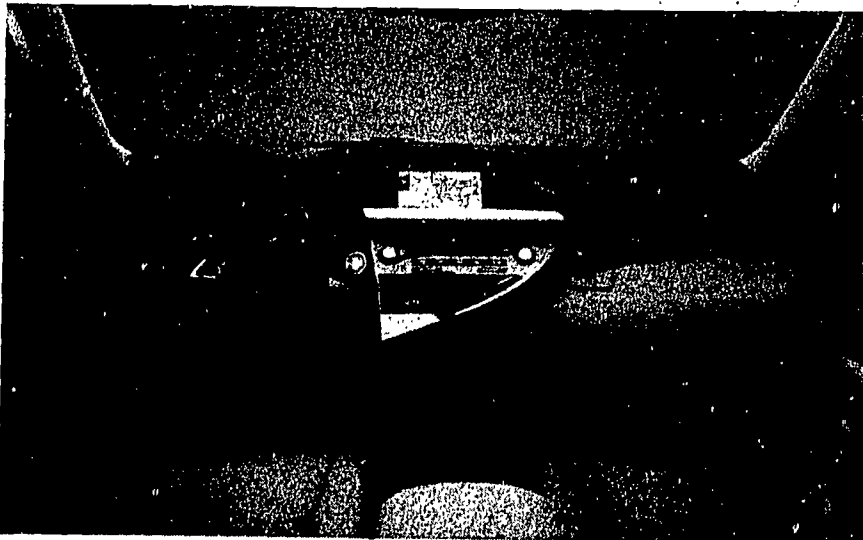
Overall, the interior of the RX 350 is well done. Fit and finish is excellent, and all the touch points were solid, as you'd expect from Lexus. The seats were comfortable and infinitely adjustable so that I got a great driving position. I really liked that I could sit up high and have great vis-

ibility out all windows.

The exterior of the new RX 350 isn't too different from the previous generation. The overall shape is a little more refined and there are some sharper edges, but the taillights will be the big clue to the new model.

When you're looking at luxury crossovers, the new RX has a lot going for it. The technology is cool and intuitive. The ride and handling is great. The interior is comfortable. And, with its easy maneuverability, it makes for a pretty good city car.

The stiffest competition that the all-new RX will face is going to be in the form of the 2009 Audi Q5, which comes standard with all-wheel drive. I haven't had an extended test in the Q5, but the brief time I had behind the wheel was both sporty and comfortable. Plus, it has a base price of \$37,200, which is a bit of a zing to the RX pricing.



autoSPECS

2010 LEXUS RX350

ENGINE: 3.5-liter V-6, 275-hp
TRANSMISSION: six-speed automatic

DRIVETRAIN: front-wheel drive, all-wheel drive

FUEL ECONOMY: 18 city/24 highway (AWD), 18 city/25 highway (FWD)

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AS TESTED: \$52,965

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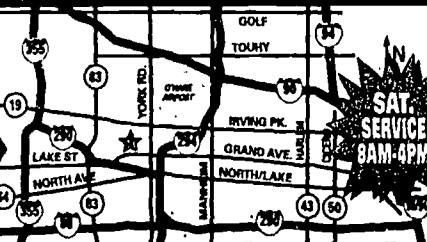
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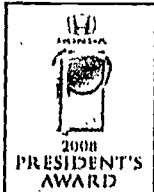
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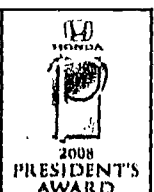
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Continued from PAGE B5

"One for the Books," the 78th annual

Waa-Mu Show, 8 p.m. May 12, 7-9: 2

p.m. May 3 and 10 at Northwestern University's Cahn Auditorium, 600 Emerson St., Evanston. The performance features songs and sketches involving the fairy tales of storybook princesses, the adventures of Curious George, the trials of Holden Caulfield, the tribulations of Humpty Dumpty and the poet-

ry of e.e. cummings and Walt Whitman. Tickets: \$21-\$28; \$17 for senior citizens; \$11 for full-time students and children. For tickets, call (847) 491-7282 or visit www.waamu.northwestern.edu. "The Overwhelming," through May 17 at Next Theatre Company, located at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927

Noyes St., Evanston. Tickets: \$28-\$38, with discounts for students. Call (847) 475-1875 or visit www.nexttheatre.org. "Rough Crossing," presented by Piccolo Theatre through May 30 at the Evanston Arts Depot, 600 Main St., Evanston. Curtain at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$25;

\$20 seniors; \$15 students and children. Call (847) 424-0089 or visit www.piccolotheatre.com. "Someone Who'll Watch Over Me," presented by Shapeshifters Theatre through May 9 at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox, Chicago. Performances at 8 p.m. Fridays and

Saturdays; 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$15; \$12 for IAHC members. Call (773) 282-7035 or visit www.irish-american.org. "Sunday in the Park with George," presented through May 17 by Big Noise Theatre Company, a division of Winnetka Theatre, at The Prairie Lakes Theatre, 515 E. Thacker St., Des Plaines.

Performances at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$20; \$18 for senior citizens; \$12 for children 12 and under. Visit www.big-noise-theatre.org or call (847) 604-0275.

"Tartuffe" will be presented by the Performing Arts at Oakton April 30-May 10 at Oakton Community College's Studio One, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. Performances at 8 p.m. May 1-2 and 8-9; 2 p.m. May 3 and 10; and 7:30 p.m. May 7. A brief discussion follows each performance. Tickets: \$10; \$8 for students and seniors; \$6 per person for groups of 15 or more. A \$5 preview performance will be staged at 8 p.m. April 30. Call (847) 635-1900.

"The Wedding Singer," presented by The Rising Stars Theatre Co. through May 10 at The Stahl Family Theatre, 5900 W. Belmont, Chicago. Performances at 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. General admission \$15, with discounts for seniors, children and groups. Call (773) 736-2490 or visit www.risingstars.org.

CLASSICAL

Allstate 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. May 21, 7:30 p.m.: Violinist and conductor André Rieu and his Johann Strauss Orchestra. Tickets: \$50-\$159.

The Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra performs at 7 p.m. Sundays at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall on the Northwestern University campus, 50 Arts Circle

Drive, Evanston. (847) 866-6888. www.chicagophilharmonic.org. Tickets: \$20-\$70. Student tickets are \$10, available in the lobby before the performance. May 31: "Mozart Masterworks" featuring Mozart's Quartet in D for Flute, Violin, Viola and Cello, with flute soloist Jean Berkenstock. Mozart's Quintet in E-flat for Horn, Violin, two Violas and Cello will follow, with soloist Jonathan Boen. French horn. Concerto for Violin, Piano and String Quartet by Ernest Chausson will conclude the program.

Evanston Symphony Orchestra performs at 2:30 p.m. Sundays at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 864-8804. www.evanstonsymphony.org. Tickets in advance are \$25; \$20 for senior citizens; \$5 for students. Tickets at the door are \$28; \$23 for seniors; \$5 for students. May 3: "The Passionate Piano," with guest artist Cameron Smith. The program includes the Brahms Symphony No. 4 in E Minor and the Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat Minor.

Lutkin Hall at Northwestern University, 700 University Place, Evanston. (847) 467-4000. May 3, 3 p.m.: Newberry Consort, "Arcadia Revisited: A Garden of Earthly Delights." \$24/\$20/\$11. May 3, 7:30 p.m.: Baroque Music Ensemble. "A Celebration of Georg Philipp Telemann." Stephen Alltop will conduct the vocalists and instrumentalists of the Baroque Music Ensemble in a performance of solo cantatas, quartets, fantasies and other pieces by Telemann. \$7/\$5/\$4. May 4, 7:30 p.m.: Faculty pianists Elizabeth Buchteri and Sylvia Wang will present William Bol-

com's "Abendmusik." Antonin Dvorak's "Legends," and Leonard Bernstein's "Symphonic Dances" from "West Side Story." \$9/\$7/\$5. May 5, 7 p.m.: Carol Vaness Vocal Master Class. \$7/\$5/\$4. May 7, 7:30 p.m.: The Charivari Quintet and a group of Bienn School of Music woodwind students will appear in concert. The program includes Maurice Ravel's "Le Tombeau de Couperin" for woodwind quintet and harp. Carl Nielsen's Woodwind Quintet, and Emile Bernard's Divertissement for double woodwind quintet. \$9/\$7/\$5.

"Monday Music at Millar," a monthly music performance series, will be held from 12:15-12:45 p.m. May 4 and June 1 at Northwestern University's Alice S. Millar Chapel, 1870 Sheridan Road, Evanston. Free. Attendees may bring a sack lunch to eat inside the chapel. www.northwestern.edu/chaplain/purpose.html.

Mostly Music Chicago presents Chicago Ensemble at 4 p.m. May 17 at a private residence in Evanston. Elizandro Garcia-Montoya, clarinet. Mathias Tacke, violin, and Gerald Rizzer, piano, will present works by Paul Hindemith, Béla Bartók, Alban Berg and Igor Stravinsky. \$25; \$15 for students. www.mostlymusicchicago.com.

Music of the Baroque performs at 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. May 17, 7:30 p.m.: "Musical Fireworks" featuring Music of the Baroque Orchestra. Nicholas Kraemer, conductor. The program includes Handel: Concerto for a Duet in F Major; Haydn: Symphony No. 80 in D Minor; Haydn: Symphony No. 92 in G Major (Oxford); and Handel: Music for the Royal Fire-

works. Music Institute of Chicago, Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. (847) 905-1500. www.musicinst.org. May 3, 3 p.m.: MIC PERFOR-

Mance Series: "Seven Wonders." Violinist Rachel Barton Pine and narrator Carl Crapenitno perform Stravinsky's septet, "L'histoire du Soldat." Also, mimes T. Daniels and Laurie Willets join the MIC Chamber Players for Milhaud's "Le Boeuf sur le Toit." \$7-\$20.

North Shore Choral Society concerts are at 3 p.m. Sundays at the Parish Church of Saint Luke, 939 Hinman Ave., Evanston. Tickets in advance are \$22; \$20 seniors; \$12 students. Tickets at the door are \$25; \$22 seniors; \$15 students. (847) 272-2351. www.northshore-choral.org. May 31: "Ethereal Light," with guest conductor David Edelfelt.

The program includes works by Gabriel Faure, Sergie Rachmaninov and Morten Lauridsen.

Northwest Symphony Orchestra. Paul Vermet, music director, presents concerts at 3:30 p.m. Sundays in the Theatre 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 prior 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. May 31: Family Pops Concert with Allan Steele, cello. Offenbach: Ballet Parizien; Lloyd Webber: "Memory" from "Cats"; Williams: "E.T.," highlights; Williams: Pieces from "Schindler's List"; Dvorak: Cello Concerto.

Keyboard Conversations performance titled "Musical Pictures." The program includes Bachmannoff's "Etudes-Tableaux," Debussy's "Preludes" and Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition." \$23/\$21/\$16. May 2, 7:30 p.m.: The Northwestern University Chamber Orchestra, with Ellen Huntington as flute soloist. The program will include Bernhard Romberg's Flute Concerto and Anton Bruckner's Symphony No. 4 ("Romantic"). \$7/\$5/\$4. May 8, 7:30 p.m.: Symphonic Band, "Ice Dreams." \$7/\$5/\$4. May 9-10, 7:30 p.m.: The Northwestern University Symphonic Choir and Symphony Orchestra will present Carl Orff's cantata, "Carmina Burana." Robert A. Harris and Emanuele Andrizzi will conduct, and Samantha Barnes will be the soprano soloist. Both concerts will also include Ottorino Respighi's "Pini di Roma"

Northwest Symphony Orchestra. Paul Vermet, music director, presents concerts at 3:30 p.m. Sundays in the Theatre 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 prior 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. May 31: Family Pops Concert with Allan Steele, cello. Offenbach: Ballet Parizien; Lloyd Webber: "Memory" from "Cats"; Williams: "E.T.," highlights; Williams: Pieces from "Schindler's List"; Dvorak: Cello Concerto.

Organ Plus: Music for Organ with Instruments, 3 p.m. May 17 at Loyola University's Madonna della Strada Chapel, 6525 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago. Organists are Joe Burgo, Jay Peterson, Steve Belancourt, Brian DuSelle and Todd Gresick, with Dan Legacy on violin.

Pick-Staiger Concert Hall at Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 467-4000. www.pickstaiger.org. May 1, 7:30 p.m.: Pianist Jeffrey Siegel will present a

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"Pines of Rome") and Carlisle Floyd's "Ain't It a Pretty Night?" from his American folk opera, "Susannah." \$12/\$9/\$6.

The Red Rose Children's Choir of Lake County will present its spring concert at 7:30 p.m. May 3 at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. Tickets: \$15; \$12 for students. (847) 548-8432.

Regenstein Recital Hall at Northwestern University, 60 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 467-4000. May 6, 7:30 p.m.: Cellist Lucas Fels, a member of the Arditti Quartet and a founding member of the new-music group Ensemble Recherche, will perform. The program includes works by Rihm, Luigi Dallapiccola and Hans Thomalla.

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Stokio Valley Symphony Orchestra performs at 3 p.m. Sundays at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts...

POP/FOLK/JAZZ

Alitaste Arena, 6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com...

\$4, \$31, \$26 May 15, 7:30 p.m. Sean Urban's 'Escape Together World Tour'...

Bill's Blues, 1029 Davis St., Evanston (847) 424-9800

The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston (847) 864-1679

Moretti's Ristorante & Pizzeria, 1799 S. Busse Road, Mount Prospect (847) 593-2200

Centre East in the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie (847) 673-6300

Ethical Humanist Society Second Sunday Coffeehouse, 7574 N. Lincoln Ave. (at Howard), Skokie (847) 677-3334

Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com...

Skokie Theatre Music Foundation presents concerts in the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie, Ill. (847) 677-7761

Chicago at 3 p.m. May 3 in Victory Hall of Irving Park Lutheran Church, 3938 W. Belle Plaine Ave., Chicago

German-American Children's Chorus and the German-American Singers of Chicago will present a Mother's Day concert and dance at 2:30 p.m. May 17 at the Irish American Heritage Center...

Skokie Theatre Music Foundation presents concerts in the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie, Ill. (847) 677-7761

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ute to Tony Bennett starring Robert Whorton. May 10, 7 p.m. 'Steppin' Out' featuring 'Jersey Boys' star Michael Ingersoll in concert...

Regenstiel Recital Hall at Northwestern University, 60 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston (847) 467-4000

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ART GALLERIES

Congregation Or Torah, 3800 W. Dempster St., Skokie. May 3, 1-5 p.m. Israeeli Judaica Boutique and Art Sale...

Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie (847) 674-1500

St. Patrick and The Rising Stars theatre companies announce auditions for 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'...

St. Patrick and The Rising Stars theatre companies announce auditions for 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'...

practice with ink, brush and rice paper. Opening reception from 5-8 p.m. May 7. Skokie Art Guild artists showing through April 30 include Hope Salmanoff...

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8844, ext. 276, or e-mail garndt@stpatrick.org.

SINGERS

The Music Institute of Chicago Children's Choir will hold auditions for the 2009-10 academic year from 5-7 p.m. May 27 at the Evanston East Campus...

ARTISTS

Custer's Last Stand is accepting arts and crafts exhibitor applications for its 2009 festival of the arts, to be held June 20-21 in the Evanston Main Street Station Shopping District...

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 call (847) 677-8163.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Shining Lights, a professional Jewish youth entertainment group, will hold auditions for new members on May 6, 13 and 18 in Deerfield. The group is seeking talented Jewish teens who can sing and dance...

BENEFITS

Spring Benefit Exhibition and Art Auction, through May 16 at the Evanston Art Center, 2603 Sheridan Road. The public can view and bid on paintings, drawings, photographs, ceramics, sculpture, prints and other artworks...

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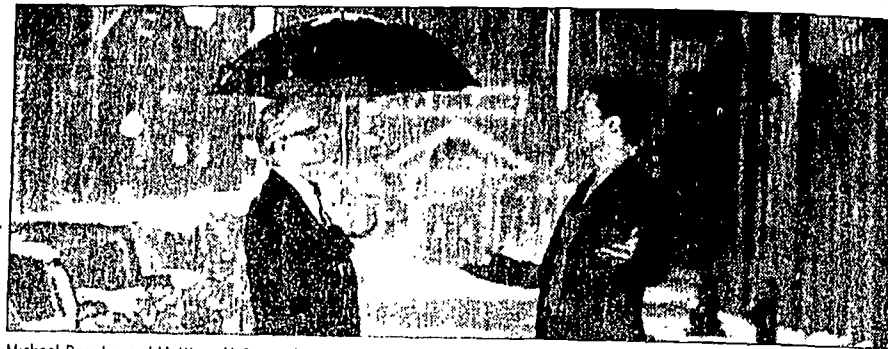
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- Chicken Finger Salad
- Beef Crisper w/FF
- Rotini w/Sausage
- Liver and Onions
- Chicken Tenders
- Breaded Pork Tenderloin
- Sweet & Sour Chicken
- Fried Filet of Perch
- Chopped Steak w/Onions
- Grecian Style Chicken
- Spaghetti w/Meat Balls

Includes Soup or Salad

Glass of Wine \$1.50 with meal



Michael Douglas and Matthew McConaughey in 'Ghosts of Girlfriends Past.'

Romantic reeducation in 'Ghosts of Girlfriends Past'

By BRUCE INGRAM
Film Critic

"Ghosts of Girlfriends Past"

For a film that's based on the idea that casual sex is an empty, frivolous, emotionally hindered pastime, there's an awful lot of it banded about in "Ghosts of Girlfriends Past." Take it away and there'd be nothing for anyone to talk about. That's all right though. "Girlfriends" doesn't really have a point to make — aside from a last-minute bromide about true love being worth the risk of a broken heart — and it's lustily entertaining while it goes about not making it.

Basically, "Girlfriends" is the story of the romantic reeducation of a world-class womanizer: Matthew McConaughey is appropriately obnoxious as Connor Mead, a woman loving/hating fashion photographer who gets great results by stripping gorgeous pop stars down to their underwear, insulting them and clicking the shutter just at the moment an Olympic orher shoots apples off their heads. Generally, the photos turn out well, but, more important for Connor, his subjects typically jump directly into his bed. When one of them wonders why she's behaving that way, Connor offers a little Playboy Advisor psychoanalytical insight: "Usually, it

has something to do with your father."

Connor thinks nothing of breaking up with three women simultaneously on a conference call ("Ladies, I'm pressed for time, so we're going to have to do this in bulk") and he has enough cast-off conquests to fill a barroom the size of the state of Montana, or his own ego, whichever is larger. That's a point that will eventually be dramatically illustrated — to his horror.

In short, the guy is a colossal cad. It's not entirely his fault, though. He was home schooled in Vegas and Bangkok by his sex-crazed rich uncle Wayne (Michael Douglas, wonderfully sleazy), whose attitude toward the ladies comes straight from Hugh Hefner by way of the Rat Pack. And he had his little heart broken in middle school by his one true love.

So, it's no surprise, years later, when he's reluctantly serving as best man at his little brother's wedding, that he does his best to break up the marriage, or that he makes a little speech at the rehearsal dinner where he declares that "love is magical comfort food for the weak and uneducated."

It's a surprise to Connor, though, when his long-deceased uncle shows up to do the Marley's Ghost thing. If he continues to diss love, Uncle Wayne says, he'll end up old and alone, like he did. So, he's

arranged for the ghosts of girlfriends past, present and future to visit Connor and show him the error of his ways. But Wayne's careful not to blow his long-cultivated cool. "This isn't for your own good," he says. "It's for my entertainment."

And it is surprisingly enjoyable, thanks to a nice light-comic touch by director Mark Waters ("Mean Girls"), a snarky script and zingy performances from several of the women in the cast, who seem equally appalled by Connor's suavely piggish behavior and their own attraction to him.

There's nothing unexpected about the outcome, of course. Jenny (Jennifer Garner), the girl who broke Connor's heart, whom he has secretly loved all his life, has grown up to become the bridesmaid at the wedding — and the only woman on the premises in control of her libido. There's little doubt where that's going.

But at least "Girlfriends" has enough smarts to wink at itself at bit while it's going through the romcom motions. "What are we going to do now?" Connor asks the ghost who's trying to prove that he does actually have feelings for Jenny.

"Now, we're going to watch a romantic montage of you and Jenny to Cyndi Lauper's 'Time After Time,'" she says.

And they do...
Comment: pioneerlocal.com

go.

Continued from PAGE B9

with a gala party featuring wine and refreshments, and a live auction of approximately 15 works. Proceeds from the sale of artwork will benefit the EAC's school, exhibition and outreach programs. Tickets are \$100 per person for the closing night event. For reservations, call (847) 475-5300.

"Dancing the Dream II: Kazuarria," 7 p.m. April 30 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. The Hadassah fundraiser will feature the Israeli dance company Ranana Raz. Tickets: \$36. Visit www.chicago.hadassah.org or call (847) 675-6190.

May Music Marathon, 8 p.m. May 1 through 7 p.m. May 2 in Northwestern University's Regenstein Recital Hall, 60 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. At 7:30 p.m. May 2, the marathon will continue at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, with a ticketed concert by the Northwestern University Chamber Orchestra. Performances by Northwestern students, faculty and alumni, as well as guest artists from the Chicago area, will feature music ranging from Rachmaninoff to Radiohead. Artists who wish to participate in the benefit must raise \$100 to "purchase" a 15-minute time slot in the performance schedule. The marathon is open to the public; admission is \$5 for the opening night, and then by donation beginning at midnight. Proceeds benefit The People's Music School, a tuition-

free community music school located in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood. For a schedule of performers and updated information, visit www.music-marathonconcert.org.

"Red Blues on Blue Monday," a concert featuring Al Jewer & the Native American Blues All-Stars, will be presented from 6:30-9 p.m. May 4 at S.P.A.C.E., 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Proceeds will benefit Evanston's Mitchell Museum of the American Indian. Tickets are \$75 per person and include admission, pizza, salad and a beverage. Cash bar. Call (847) 475-1030.

An Evening with John Blegen's Swing Quintet, 7 p.m. May 15 at Lake Street Church, 607 Lake St., Evanston. The group of jazz musicians will play swing standards associated with Benny Goodman and Artie Shaw, as well as tunes from The Great American Songbook. \$15 for first ticket, subsequent tickets are \$12 each. No admission fee for children under 12. Proceeds benefit the Lake Street Church music program. Call (847) 864-2181.

BOOKS & POETRY

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 Community College. May 3: *The Snapper* by Roddy Doyle.

Little City Foundation Used Book Sale, June 5-14 at Westfield Old Orchard Shopping Center, 4999 Old Orchard

Center, Skokie. Admission to the event is free, except on opening night, Friday, June 5, when a \$10 donation is charged. Hours for the event are 5-10 p.m. June 5; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. June 6, 12-13; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. June 7 and 14; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. June 8-11. Proceeds benefit the Palatine-based Little City Foundation, which provides programs for people with disabilities. Senior Citizen's Day is June 10, Children's Day is June 11, and Bargain Weekend is June 13-14. For details and schedule updates, visit www.LittleCityBooksSale.com. Toms-Price, 374 Old Orchard Center, Skokie, (847) 675-9400. May 3, 2 p.m.: HGTV's interior design expert, Libby Langdon, will sign her new book, *Libby Langdon's Small Space Solutions*.

CHILD'S PLAY

Big Noise Theatre Company presents an Especially for Kids production of "Cinderella," May 2-17 at Prairie Lakes Theatre, 515 E. Thacker Road, Des Plaines. Suitable for children ages 3-10. Show times are 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m. Sundays. All tickets are \$10 and may be purchased by calling (847) 604-0275 or visiting www.big-noise.org.

"Cinderella" will be presented by Chicago Kids Company at 10:30 a.m. and noon May 7-8 and 22; 10:30 a.m. May 12, 14, 19-21, 26-29, June 24-26, July 1-2 and 7-10; and 1 p.m. May 16 and July 11 at the Stahl Family Theatre, 5900 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago. Tickets: \$10. Call (773) 205-9600 or visit

go., PAGE B13

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STAGE

Play explores reaction to 'b' word — baby

'Baby'
7:30 p.m. Thursdays, 8 p.m. Fridays, 7 p.m. Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays.

May 14-June 20, plus matinees at 3 p.m. on May 16 and 1:30 p.m. on May 27 at Metropolis Performing Arts Cen-

tre, 111 W. Campbell St., Arlington Heights. \$26-\$42. (847) 577-2121 or www.metropolisarts.com.

By **MYRNA PETLICKI**
Contributor

Three couples contemplate childbirth from very different perspectives in *"Baby,"* opening May 14 at Metropolis Performing Arts Centre in Arlington Heights, under Lauren Rawitz's direction. With humor and tenderness, the musical by David Shire (music), Richard Maltby, Jr. (lyrics) and Sybille Pearson (book) charts the highs and lows of having a child when you think it's too soon or too late — or when you feel as if it will never happen.



Katie Siri of Lake Zurich and Jason Kellerman in *"Baby,"* opening May 14 at Metropolis Performing Arts Centre in Arlington Heights.

degree in musical theater at Viterbo University in La Crosse, Wis., studying in London her junior year. Since graduating in 2004, she has performed in three other shows at Metropolis, as well as in children's theater productions at the Marriott Theatre in Lincolnshire and Drury Lane Water Tower, and in productions at Light Opera Works. "Chicago's been good to me," Siri said. Like Siri, David Elliott of Morton Grove is also a full-time actor. He plays Dean Webber and Ensemble Member 3, as well as understudying the role of Alan, half of the older couple who discover they are becoming parents again.

What to expect

Dean Webber appears in the song "Fatherhood Blues." "He helps explain to the young guy who's going to have a baby, how great it is to have a kid," Elliott said. "You think you have plenty of money. Kiss it all goodbye. You're going to be extremely happy. The line is, 'It's unaccountable giddiness.' And so, my vision of Dean Webber is that he's very giddy himself." Elliott noted that music director Micky York, who is working with a six-piece orchestra, "has taken the six ensemble members, who are playing the various

roles, and added them as six other pieces of his orchestra. There's one point in the show where two people in love — Lizzie and Danny, the young couple — sing where it says, 'A heavenly choir joins them,' and we come in. York is having the heavenly choir participate in five or six other songs." Elliott admitted that he had hoped to play the role of Alan. "What hooked me is a song that Alan sings called, 'Easier to Love.' It's a very touching song." Even though he didn't land the part he wanted, the actor is still happy to be part of this production, his eighth or ninth at Metropolis.

Elliott is an ensemble member of the Northbrook Musical Theatre for Young Audiences, currently playing Geppetto in "Pinocchio." He also performs in touring shows for young people with American Eagle Productions. On Sundays, he sings at Church of the Atonement in Chicago "as a hired gun." Elliott lauded this production of *"Baby."* "There are a lot of great young performers in this show," the father of a 10-year-old said. "There's something very basic about having a child. It strikes a very strong emotional chord." *Comment: pioneerlocal.com*

Cosmic thinker

Katie Siri of Lake Zurich plays Lizzie, who discovers that she and her boyfriend Danny, both still in college, are going to be parents. Siri described Lizzie as "very enthusiastic. She thinks very cosmically. She likes to think how everything in the universe is working, how it affects her and how she affects the universe."

That philosophy is reflected in the powerful act one closer the character sings, "The Story Goes On." "It's probably the song of my career so far — the song I'm most excited to perform," Siri declared.

Playing the role has caused Siri to consider, what it would be like to be pregnant. "I constantly see pregnant woman when I'm out and I kind of have this new radar — 'Oh, my gosh, there's one. What is she thinking?' — I have this newfound appreciation for anyone who's pregnant or recently had a baby," she said. "It's not a phase of my life that I'm into yet so to start thinking about that and wondering what it's like has been a really fun experience."

The phase of Siri's life that she is in is actively — and successfully — pursuing a career in Chicago theater. Siri earned a

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Continued from PAGE B11

www.chicagokidscompany.com. Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, (847) 475-1030. www.mitchellmuseum.org. Suggested donation is \$5 adults; \$2.50 senior citizens, students and children. Maximum suggested admission per 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 traditional Native American objects and engage in other hands-on activities related to native culture. Admission is included with an entrance donation to the museum. Participants must be accompanied by an adult. No pre-registration is necessary. May 9: Dreamcatchers, May 23: Talking sticks and coup sticks.

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 as 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 audition technique. Audition Workshop for grades 8-10, July 14-Aug. 7. Sesame Street Live "When Elmo Grows Up," 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. May 7-8, 10:30 a.m., 2 and 5:30 p.m. May 9; and 1 and 4:30 p.m. May 10 at the Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. Tickets: \$15, \$20 and \$30, plus \$35 Gold Circle seats. For tickets, call (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com.

GROUPS & LESSONS

Chicago Dance Club, (847) 622-4466. Dance to DJ music from the '50s to today from 7:30-11:30 p.m. Saturdays at American Legion Hall, 9757 Pacific Ave., Franklin Park. Mostly swing dancing, some ballroom, Latin and line dancing. Open to ages 21 and older. \$5 members; \$10 nonmembers. Membership fee \$25. Upcoming dates are May 23 and July 11. Chicago's Windy City Jitterbug Club holds dances to the music of the '50s, '60s and more, from 8 p.m.-midnight at the American Legion Hall, 9757 W. Pacific Ave., Franklin Park, unless otherwise noted. Admission to club dances is \$5 for members; \$10 for nonmembers. Proper attire required; no jeans or shorts allowed. Must be 21 or older. Call (773) 467-0177 or visit www.jitterbugchicago.com. Upcoming dances are May 2 and May 30. Sweet Home Chicago

DANCE

PERFORMANCES

Northwestern University Marjorie Ward Marshall Dance Center, 10 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, May 2, 7 p.m.: David Parker and The Bang Group, St-

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go dance convention, July 2-4. Call the hotline or visit the Web site for details. **Prairie Lakes Senior Center**, 515 E. Thacker, Des Plaines. For information, call (847) 825-2901 or (847) 825-6637. **May 2 and 23, 8-10:30 p.m.:** Alice Lowy will host ballroom dancing to taped music. \$15 per couple at the door. **May 15, 8-10:30 p.m.:** Alice Lowy will host ballroom dancing to live music. \$25 per couple at the door. **Square Spires & Pairs Square Dance 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. Western 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. **May 11:** "Old Tymes, New Tunes."

The Trinity Academy of Irish Dance 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. Participants will learn the basics of Irish dance, including proper techniques of movement set to the rhythm of Irish music. No previous dance experience is necessary. Sessions will be held **June 16-July 2** and **July 21-Aug. 6** at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox, Chicago. Cost per six-class session is \$95, which includes a Trinity T-shirt. Registration is in progress; call (773) 529-4822, ext. 35, or e-mail cynthia.oblein@trinitydance.com. For information, visit www.trinityirishdancers.com.

FAIRS & FESTIVALS

An Arts & Crafts Adventure, presented by the American Society of Artists is designed to introduce boys and girls ages 4-12 to the world of Irish dance. Participants will learn the basics of Irish dance, including proper techniques of movement set to the rhythm of Irish music. No previous dance experience is necessary. Sessions will be held **June 16-July 2** and **July 21-Aug. 6** at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox, Chicago. Cost per six-class session is \$95, which includes a Trinity T-shirt. Registration is in progress; call (773) 529-4822, ext. 35, or e-mail cynthia.oblein@trinitydance.com. For information, visit www.trinityirishdancers.com.

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Superstar Ted Neeley is starring in "Jesus Christ Superstar" April 30 to May 2 at the Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road. Tickets cost \$35-\$69. Visit www.ticketmaster.com or call (800) 745-3000.

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Continued from PAGE B13

FILM

Block Cinema, in the Pick-Laudati Auditorium at the Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, (847) 491-4000.

www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu/block-cinema. Admission is \$6-\$4 for Block Museum members, senior citizens, and students with ID, or as noted below. All films shown at 8 p.m. unless noted otherwise. May 13: Inspire Films event, "The Case for Israel." "Rape Is..." and "Perversion of Justice." May 21: "Sonic Celluloid," a collaboration of WNUR, Northwestern's non-commercial radio station (89.3 FM.), and Block Cinema. The event features musicians performing live musical accompaniment to silent and experimental film. Admission is \$10. May 22: Northwestern Student Film Festival. Gordon Parks series - April 30: "Half Past Autumn: The Life and Words of Gordon Parks." May 8: "Shaft." May 29: "Solomon Northrup's Odyssey: Biomimicry series - May 6: "Ghost in the Shell" and "Ghost in the Shell 2: Innocence." May 15: "RoboCop." Talking Pictures Festival - May 1, 6 p.m.: "1000 Journals." May 1, 8 p.m.: "Treeless Mountain." May 2, 1 p.m.: Animation & Shorts Showcase. May 2, 3 p.m.: "Pray the Devil Back to Hell." May 2, 6 p.m.: "Off Off Broadway." May 3, 1 p.m.: "Sita Sings the Blues." May 3, 3 p.m.: "Bilal: 1960s Godard series - May 7: "Band of Outsiders." May 14: "La Chinoise." May 28: "Alphaville." Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, (847) 825-3123. www.parkridgeilibrary.org. Films @ the Library - No registration needed. Doors open for seating one-half hour before show time. May 8, 7 p.m.: "Crisis Cross" (1949) May 12, 2 and 7 p.m.: "Stumdog Millionaire," rated R.

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"The Tinkers in Irish Literature," presented by José Lanter. A linker is a member of any traditionally itinerant group of people living especially in Scotland and Ireland. Lanter will discuss linker characters in Irish literature, and contrast them with gypsies in European and British literature in particular. \$10 includes a reception.

ORGANIZATIONS

Des Plaines Art Guild meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Prairie Lakes Community Center, 515 Thacker St., Des Plaines. New members are welcome. For information, call Margaret Newman, (847) 924-8952, or visit www.dpag.org. May 12: Thelma Spain will present a watercolor demonstration.

Park Ridge Art League meets at 7:30 p.m. the third Friday of the month in the South Park Fieldhouse, 833 Talcott Road, Park Ridge. Guest fee is \$3. Call Dorothy DuSold, (847) 825-3505.

Skokie Art Guild meets at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Visitors welcome. For information, e-mail Ina-Marlowe@gmail.com. May 26, 7 p.m.: Leslie Riley, quiltmaking.

TOURS & OUTINGS

Rogers Park/West Ridge Historical Society 23rd annual House Tour will be held from 1-5 p.m. May 3. The tour features sites in the Germania and Eastlake Terrace Neighborhood between Howard Street and Juneway Terrace and Paulina Avenue and Lake Michigan. Registration starts at 12:30 p.m. at 1643 W. Howard Street and continues until 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$20/\$16 for members. The tour features commercial buildings, houses, gardens and condominiums, including the lobby of the historic Howard Theater, the Broadmoor Hotel, the Bishop Mall Building, the garden and pier at North Eastlake Terrace, an apartment building, and four houses on Juneway Terrace. www.rpwths.org.

WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

MISCELLANEOUS
Oakton Community College Emeritus Program offers courses at its Skokie campus, 7701 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie. For information about the Emeritus Program, call (847) 635-1414 or visit www.oakton.edu/emertus. Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down (HUM E74-72) allows film buffs to gather to critique the latest movies. Four-week course meets from 1-3 p.m. Fridays, starting May 1. Course fee is \$60. The New Yorker (HUM E93-73) focuses on selections from the magazine that was established in 1925. A subscription is required. Three-week course meets 9:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays, starting May 4. Course fee is \$39.

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ET CETERA

"Dream: A Circus in One Act," through May 17 at The Actors Gymnasium, located at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. The family-friendly circus production includes acrobatics, comedy and live music. Performances at 7:30 p.m. Fridays; 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays; and 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$20; \$10 for children 12 and under. For tickets, visit www.brownpapertickets.com or call (800) 838-3006.

Drum Corps International's "DCI 2009: The Countdown," will be shown at 7:30 p.m. May 13 at the Niles Showplace, 301 Golf Mill Center, Niles. The event showcases six of the top drum corps performances from recent competitive seasons followed by an interactive fan vote. Tickets are available at participating theater box offices and online at www.fathomevents.com.

Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, (847) 825-3123. www.parkridgeilibrary.org. May 14, 7 p.m.: "Alicia: Story of a Polish Heroine," presented by professional actor Betsy Means. May 19, 7 p.m.: "World War II Radio Hour."

Skokie Theatre Music Foundation presents concerts and programs in the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call (847) 677-7761 or visit www.skokietheatre.com. May 17, 7:30 p.m.: "Lincoln Tales Tall & True." \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. May 15-16, 8 p.m., and May 17, 2 p.m.: Christopher Carter Messes With Your Mind. \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. May 22-23 and 29-30, 8 p.m., and May 24 and 31, 2 p.m.: Jim Post's "Mark Twain and the Laughing River." \$25 in advance; \$30 at the door.

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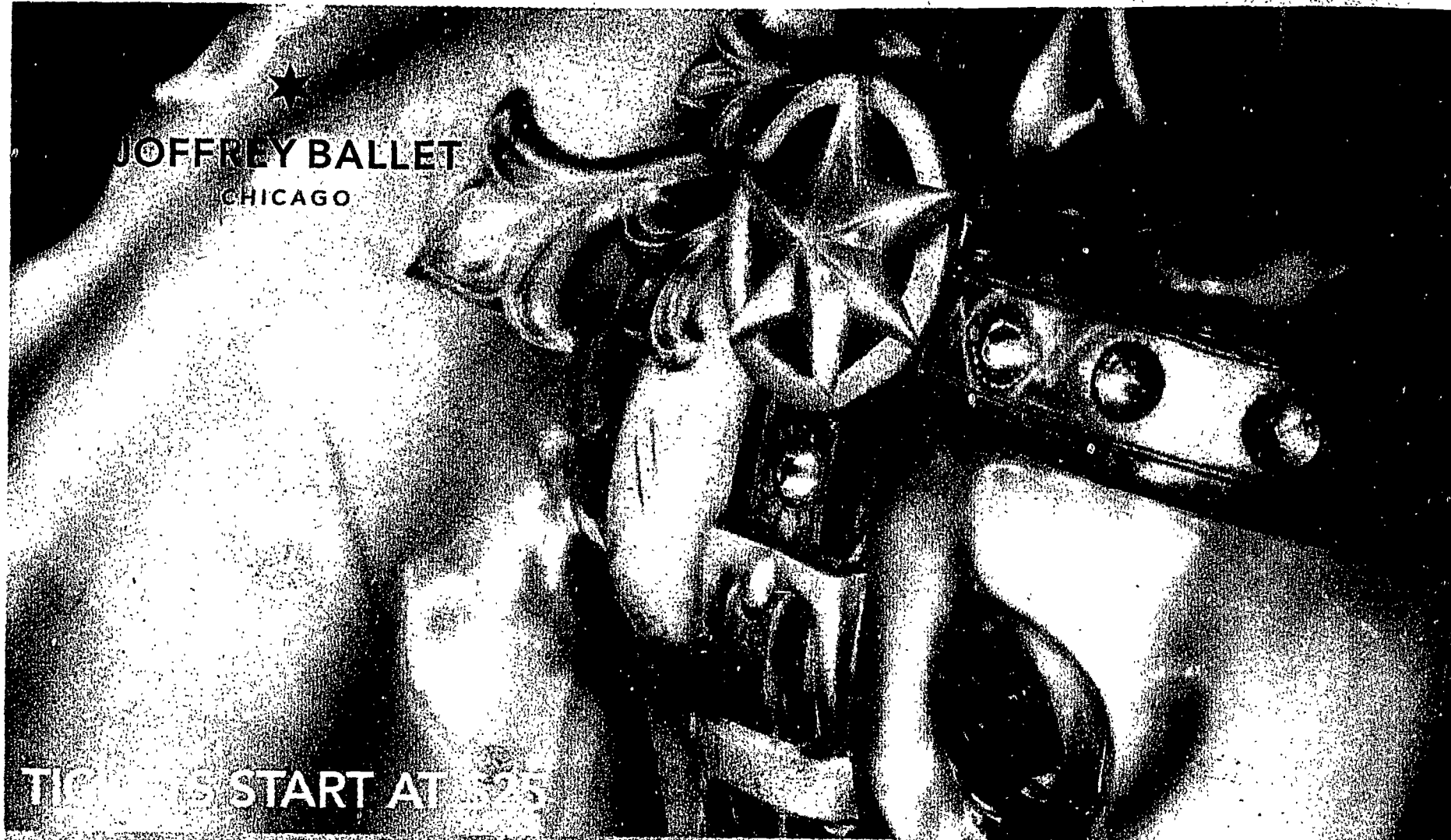
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Oleg Gobyshov as Onegin | Maria Abashova as Tatiana | photo by Oleg Zolov



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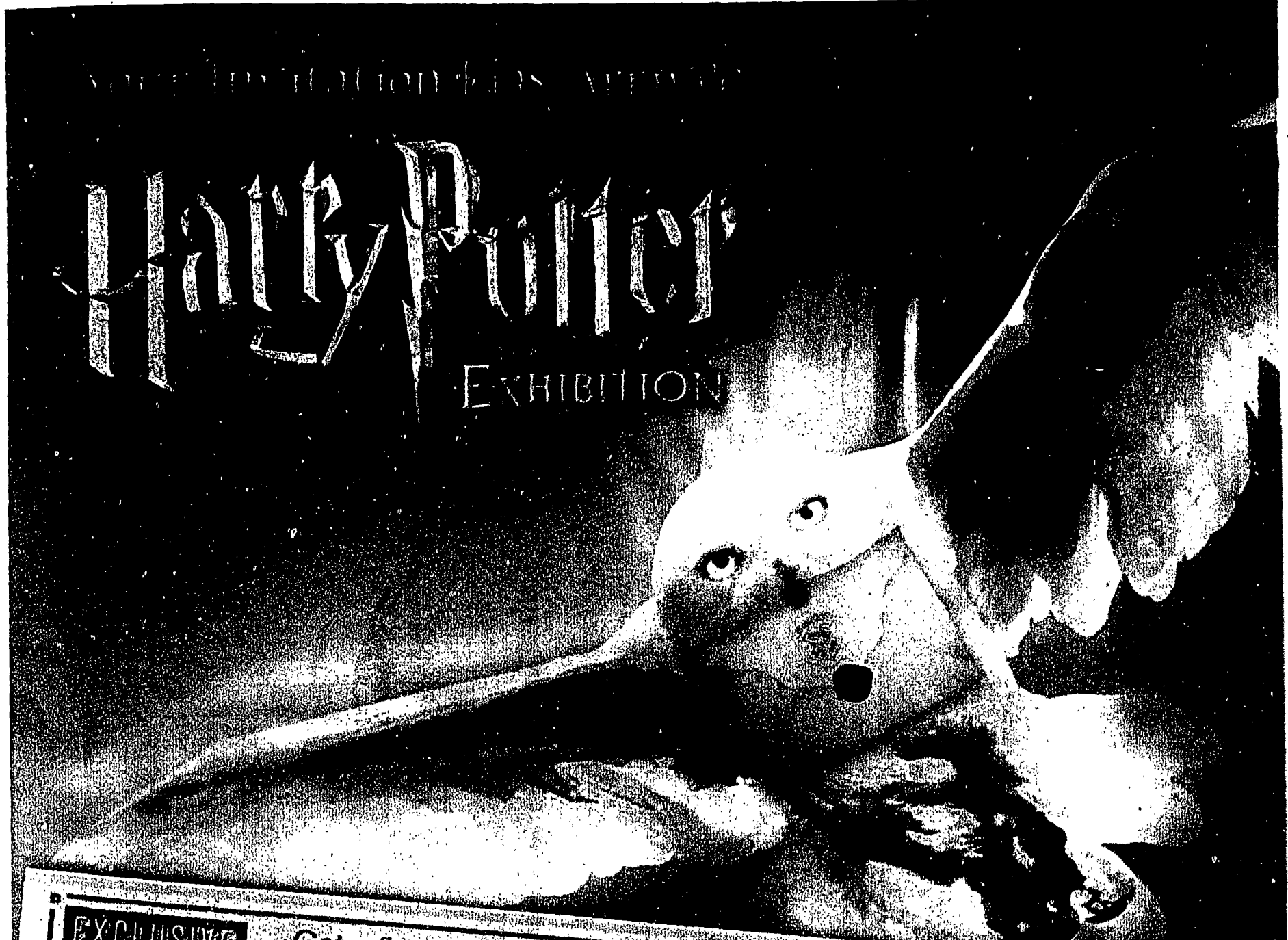
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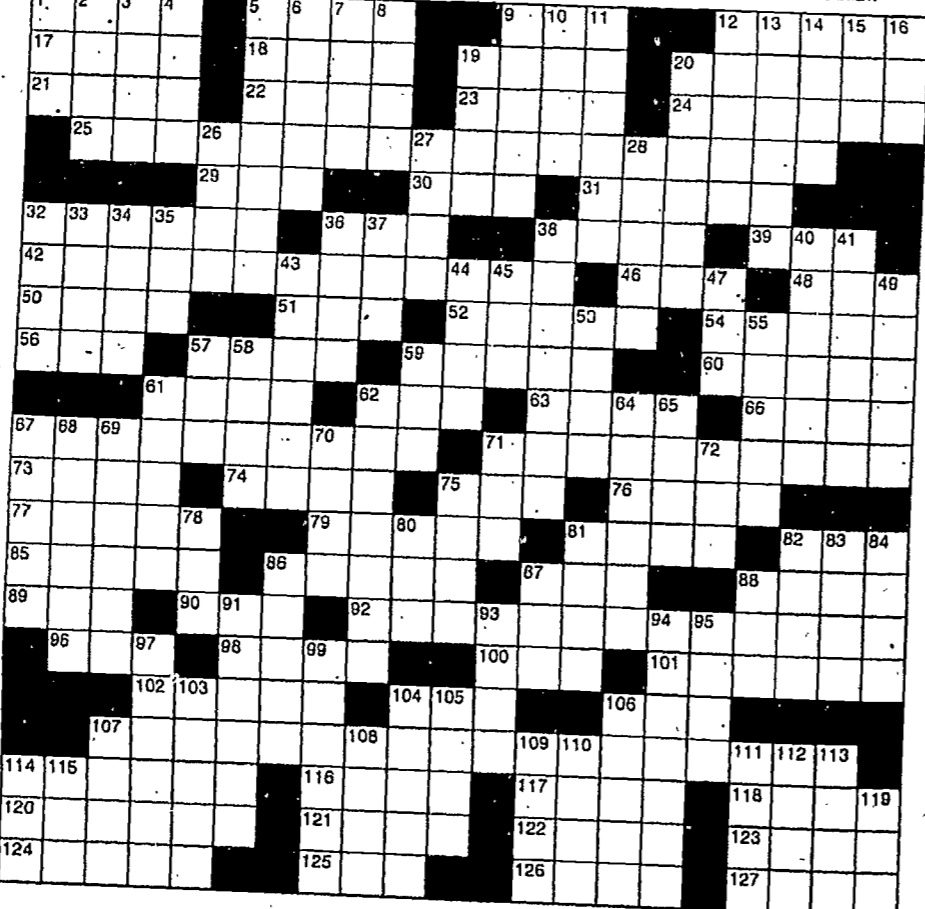
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 - 5 Plead
 - 12 Wooden pin
 - 17 Baseball's Vizquel
 - 18 Portrait painter John
 - 19 Pakistani language
 - 20 Flaunt
 - 21 Small hawk
 - 22 Descartes or
 - 23 Trusting sort
 - 24 Loath
 - 25 "I Think I Love You" group
 - 29 Khan opener?
 - 30 Figs.
 - 31 Posters a felon
 - 32 Avoid an accident
 - 36 Poetic contraction
 - 38 Way off base?
 - 39 Pixie
 - 42 Joy to the World group
 - 46 Swimmer Thorpe
 - 48 Supper scrap
 - 50 Meat cut
 - 51 Fix a fight
 - 52 Mercury, for one
 - 54 Dwight's competition
 - 56 Acorn, eventually
 - 57 Enthusiasts
 - 59 Trite
 - 60 "Break" ('91 film)
 - 61 Director Kazan
 - 62 Sister
 - 63 Amonillado container
 - 66 Yen
 - 67 "Happy Together" group
 - 71 "Here I Go Again" group
 - 73 Actress Lillian
 - 74 Line of clothing?
 - 75 "The Simpsons" bartender
 - 76 "The Avengers" star
 - 77 Wan
 - 79 "Moll Flanders" author
 - 81 Sour
 - 82 Toady or Muldoon
 - 85 Musty
 - 86 "Iron Mike"
 - 87 Onassis' nickname
 - 88 Hermes' mom
 - 89 Russell or Wahl
 - 90 WWII area
 - 92 "In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida" group
 - 96 Rocker Claypool
 - 98 They may be split
 - 100 Shoe width
 - 101 Evaluate
 - 102 Sweatshirt size
 - 104 Botanist
 - 106 Birds — feather —
 - 107 "For What It's Worth" group
 - 114 Imam's subject
 - 116 Skeleton part
 - 117 Cordelia or Edith
 - 118 Sink or swim?
 - 120 Bundle
 - 121 Valley
 - 122 "Around" ('74 hit)
 - 123 Notion
 - 124 Cabinet wood
 - 125 Canal zone?
 - 126 Word with biscuit or jerk
 - 127 Suburban obsession
- DOWN**
- 1 Hunan pan
 - 2 Skip
 - 3 Inauguration Day event
 - 4 Liberate
 - 5 Scrounged around
 - 6 Beethoven wrote one
 - 7 Navel
 - 8 Mailer's "The Park"
 - 9 Belters oneself, in a way
 - 10 Falco of "The Sopranos"
 - 11 Loud laugh
 - 12 Cargo crane
 - 13 Threat words
 - 14 Guarded across
 - 15 Mag.
 - 16 Gaffer bigwigs
 - 18 Goller Trevino
 - 19 Reverse singer
 - 20 Richardson Diana novel
 - 26 Macadamize
 - 27 Cross inscription
 - 28 Extremely hot
 - 32 Normandy site
 - 33 "Hold your horses!"
 - 34 Palladino of "ER"
 - 35 Stimp's pal
 - 36 Protection
 - 37 Chang's sib.
 - 38 Lawyer's case?
 - 40 '62 Kubrick film
 - 41 Composer Cesar
 - 43 Roccoco
 - 44 Fed
 - 45 Party animal?
 - 47 Dozo
 - 49 Church offering
 - 53 Jal — fabric
 - 55 "Nothing —!"
 - 57 Winter melody
 - 58 Pretension
 - 59 Kramden's vehicle
 - 61 One of the Barymores
 - 62 Downfall
 - 64 Channel
 - 65 Actor Dullfo
 - 67 Country singer
 - 68 Inn
 - 69 Petroleum component
 - 70 Chatterley
 - 71 "— is mel"
 - 72 Bilko's rank
 - 75 Non-stereo abbr.
 - 78 Born
 - 80 In place of
 - 81 Real
 - 82 Java joint
 - 83 Art medium
 - 84 Actress Amanda
 - 86 Friendly Islands
 - 87 Novelist Kobo
 - 88 "Doubtfire" ('93 film)
 - 91 Bass-baritone Bryn
 - 93 Imminent
 - 94 Lustrous
 - 95 Morales of "La Bamba"
 - 97 Channel
 - 99 Geneasis disaster
 - 103 Out to get
 - 104 Ed of "Fosia O'Neil"
 - 105 Extend across
 - 106 Inspected too closely?
 - 107 Tweezer
 - 108 — podrida
 - 109 Spring flower
 - 110 Inoperative
 - 111 Depraved
 - 112 A swan was her swain
 - 113 Sketched
 - 114 Hydrotherapy site
 - 115 Porter or Prince
 - 119 Outlaw



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Answers: Inside today's classified section

Remembrances



Condon, Patricia Marie
Patricia Marie Condon (nee Bronder), of Park Ridge, passed away April 27, 2009. Beloved wife of John E. "Jack" Condon; loving mother of Joan (Chuck) Bende, Priscilla Malewski, John E. (Joan) Condon, III, Tom (Lynn) Condon, Robert Condon, Liz (Jim) Frale and Patrick Condon; dear grandmother of Jamie (Todd) Kendall, Tracy Foltz, Kylie Condon, John Condon, IV, Allison Bende, Becky Frale, Billy Condon, Matt Condon, Jessica Condon, J.J. Frale, Maggie Condon and Charlie Majewski; sister of Carl (Barbara) Bronder and the late Tom (Mary) Bronder; cousin, aunt and great-aunt, caring friend and mentor to many. She was most proud of the Park Ridge Garden Club's Beautification Program, which she organized for 20 years, was past-president of Park Ridge Garden Club. She served on the State Board of the Garden Clubs of Illinois. Named "Outstanding Citizen" in 1990 by the Park Ridge Jaycees for her significant volunteer work. Past-President of the 20th Century Club in Park Ridge. Parishioner of Mary, Seat of Wisdom Church since 1957. Named "Woman of the Year" by MSW in 2002. Enthusiastically served on parish and Archdiocesan Councils of Catholic Women, charter member of Guardian Angel Guild. Memorials to Park Ridge Garden Club or Rainbow Hospice appreciated. Visitation Thursday 2 to 9 p.m. at Nelson Funeral Home, 820 Talcott Road (at Cumberland), Park Ridge. Funeral Friday 9:15 a.m. from the funeral home to Mary, Seat of Wisdom Church, Mass 10 a.m. Interment Town of Maine Cemetery. Info: 847-823-5122 or www.nelsonfunerals.com.

Sign Guestbook at legacy.pioneerlocal.com

Remembrances

Sargent, Benjamin (Bo)
Benjamin (Bo) Sargent passed away April 19th, 2009 at the age of 80. Survivors include Mazie, his wife of 56 years; and three children, daughter, Susan Kaye (Dan) of Northbrook and their children, Jeffrey and Kristin; son, Andrew Sargent (Judy Eichmann), and their children, Matthew, Emily, Zachary and Tom; and daughter, Betty Sargent and her children, Ali and Sahar MirRasekhian. A memorial reception and dinner to celebrate Bo's life will be arranged through Stonewall Orchard Golf Club in Grayslake at a later date. Memorials may be made to Advocate Hospice, 801 S. Milwaukee Ave., Libertyville, IL 60048 or your local food bank. Arrangements have been made through the Cremation Society of Illinois.

Sign Guestbook at legacy.pioneerlocal.com

May, Donald W.
Donald W. May, age 89, formerly of Park Ridge and Marshfield, WI, recently of Honolulu, HI, passed away April 16, 2009 in Honolulu. Beloved husband of the late Delores (nee Anderson); loving father of Kristine (Raymond) Barry; dear grandfather of Courtney May (Evelyn) Barry; dearest brother of the late Robert (Ada) and the late Harold (the late Gwen) May; fond uncle of Kurt, Allan, Keith and Greg May; godfather of Nancy (Rich) Holz Jenkins. Services were held Monday, April 27, 2009 at St. Andrews Lutheran Church, Park Ridge. Burial in Town of Maine Cemetery, Park Ridge. Visitation was held on Sunday, April 26, at the Ryan-Parke Funeral Home, Park Ridge, IL. Donations to St. Andrews Lutheran Church are appreciated.

Sign Guestbook at legacy.pioneerlocal.com

Fabianich, Anthony J.
Anthony J. Fabianich, 80 years, 52-year resident of Park Ridge, passed away Monday, April 20, 2009. Anthony proudly served in the 101st Airborne during the Korean War. Deeply committed to giving back to his community and helping those in need, he was a volunteer driver for FISH, a member of the Elks, and adorer for the Eucharistic Chapel at St. Paul of the Cross and a fundraiser for the Church's school addition. Anthony also served as Park Ridge Art League president for five years. Husband to his beloved wife Lorraine (nee Potok); dear father to Anthony Jr., the late Alan, Mary (Terrence) Hanney, Laura Cameron; cherished grandfather to Sara, John, and Courtney Cameron. Private memorial service to be arranged. Memorial contributions to American Cancer Society appreciated.

Sign Guestbook at legacy.pioneerlocal.com

Schaefer Jr., James W.
James W. Schaefer Jr., beloved father of James III, Tracey Meicher, Thomas (Mariah) and John (Jennifer); loving grandfather of Keith, Mason, Abigail and Samantha; dear former husband of Marlene. 30 year drummer of "The Riverboat Ramblers" a traditional New Orleans jazz band, member of the Phi Kappa Theta Fraternity, advertising director of "The Quill". Retired founder of Professional Supervising Associates, long time member of the Park Ridge Lions Club and Former Executive Director of the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce. Funeral was held April 23 from Ryan-Parke Funeral Home, 120 S. N.W. Hwy., Park Ridge, to St. Paul of the Cross Church. Interment Town of Marine Cemetery. Visitations were held Wednesday. In Lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Jazz Institute of Chicago, 410 S. Michigan Ave. #943, Chicago, IL 60605.

Sign Guestbook at legacy.pioneerlocal.com

Gerber, Fred W. "Fritz"
Fred W. Gerber, 92, of Morton Grove, passed away Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at Bethany Terrace Nursing Center. Mr. Gerber was born in Morton Grove on February 25, 1917. He was the husband of the late Katherine H. (nee Ransdell), and the late Anne (nee Hutchison); father of Lois Gerber, Linda (Jerry) Klinger and Fred (Marina) Gerber, Jr.; brother of the late Christ (the late Mildred) Gerber. Services and visitation were held on Monday, April 27, 2009 at Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Morton Grove. Interment at Ridgewood Cemetery, Des Plaines, IL. Memorials may be made to Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church, 6218 Capulina Ave., Morton Grove, IL 60053.

Sign Guestbook at legacy.pioneerlocal.com

Ragel, Jack W.
Jack W. Ragel, of Scottsdale, AZ passed away April 22, 2009. Born October 6, 1925 in Marion, IL, he served in the US Army during World War II and was awarded a Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. He had a long career as advertising executive in Chicago and later Madison, WI as CEO and chairman of the board of Stephen and Bradley, before retiring to Scottsdale. He was the beloved husband of Joan; and loving step father to Ranson Bleyer; and loving grandfather to Ranson Bradley "Boo" Bleyer. Memorial contributions may be made in his name to the Leukemia - Lymphoma Society, P.O. Box 4072, Pittsfield, MA 01212 or online at www.leukemia-lymphoma.org.

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for more

information

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Decks - 321 -

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Drywall - 323 -

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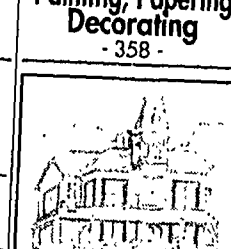
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Tile - 375 -

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440- Help Wanted Full Time

Accounts Receivable Skokie Nursing Home. Management Company seeks experienced Accounts Receivable Representative. Must have Healthcare Accounting Experience. Medicare Billing a Plus. Please send resumes to hr@stannmc.net

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15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS... PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN...

cash the following described... PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN...

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SKOKIE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT... PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN...

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ILLINOIS CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK. ADOPTION, EMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES, AUTO DONATIONS, FINANCIAL SERVICES, HELP WANTED DRIVERS, REAL ESTATE.

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695- Judicial Sales

THE BANK OF NEW YORK TRUSTEE FOR THE BENEFIT OF CWMBS, INC. THROUGH TRUST 2007-21 MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES...

NOTICE OF SALE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT PURSUANT TO THE JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE AND Sale entered in the above entitled cause on February 27, 2009...

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695- Judicial Sales

May 19, 2009 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 110 West Madison Street, Suite 608A, Chicago, Illinois...

NOTICE OF SALE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT PURSUANT TO THE JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE AND Sale entered in the above entitled cause on February 27, 2009...

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717- Auction Sales

Several Estates, Consignments Includes: Sod. Limbert Bookcase & Siskey Bros. Mission Oak Rocker...

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735- Garage House Sales

PARK RIDGE 1234 Cantliff HUGO GARAGE SALE Sat 5/2, 9am-3pm...

PARK RIDGE 342 Austin & 349 Austin, May 1st-2nd 8-4pm...

PARK RIDGE 426 S Clinton Fri-Sun 5/1-5/2, 9am-4pm...

PARK RIDGE 921 Wasley (1/2 blk. S. of Oakton/Arlington) Fri, Sat, Sun, May 1, 2 and 3...

WILMETTE HUGE MULTI-FAMILY SALE, 600-641 KNOX, 3/2-3/4 PM, HUGES...

WILMETTE Sunday 9-5 410 Ridge Road YARD SALE GARAGE SALE...

WINNETKA 485 Maple St. Sat, May 2 & 3 2 Winnatka Woman's Club rummage sale...

CHICAGO- 5461 N. Newland Sat 5/2, 9-2pm CONTENTS SALE...

EVANSTON 1018 Elmwood Ave., May 2 8-12. Moving sale...

GLENVIEW GARAGE SALE Items incl. housewares, gardening...

STEEL BUILDING AND SPECIALS Steel Prices Are Down! ADDITIONAL discounts available...

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GLENVIEW GARAGE SALE Items incl. housewares, gardening...

STEEL BUILDING AND SPECIALS Steel Prices Are Down! ADDITIONAL discounts available...

790- Wanted to Buy

I want to buy your used records, autographs and music-related or Beatles items...

WANTED HOME STEREO Equip. Records, 33s-45s-78s Will pick-up cash 847-266-0190

Automotive 2002 Nissan Altimo Auto, full power, \$7,995

2008 Chrysler Sebring Limited convertible loaded! \$11,995

2002 Honda Accord EX V-4 leather, moon loaded \$9,495

2008 Chrysler 300 Touring Leather, loaded! \$11,995

2005 Jeep Liberty 4x4 Full power \$12,995

2005 Jeep Wrangler 4x4 One owner, auto \$6,995

2007 Chrysler Sebring Touring 17k miles 4 cyl \$12,995

2007 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo 4x4 13k miles \$17,995

2008 Chevrolet 5-10 Pickup Full power \$7,995

936- Automobiles Dealership

GREAT DEALS ON WHEELS 2002 Nissan Altimo Auto, full power, \$7,995

2008 Chrysler Sebring Limited convertible loaded! \$11,995

2002 Honda Accord EX V-4 leather, moon loaded \$9,495

2008 Chrysler 300 Touring Leather, loaded! \$11,995

2005 Jeep Liberty 4x4 Full power \$12,995

2005 Jeep Wrangler 4x4 One owner, auto \$6,995

2007 Chrysler Sebring Touring 17k miles 4 cyl \$12,995

2007 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo 4x4 13k miles \$17,995

2008 Chevrolet 5-10 Pickup Full power \$7,995

2004 Ford Taurus SES Full power \$12,995

2008 Chrysler PT Cruiser Auto, AC, 19K miles \$12,995

1008- Assumed Name

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to an Assumed Business Name in the conduct of transaction of Business in the State...

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1010- Auctions

PLACE: The Lock Up Sell Storage Containers 225 W. Arlington Chicago, IL 60647

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE The Board of Education, Niles Township High School District #219

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Marketplace

700s 705- Pets 708- Antiques and Art Goods

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24/7 (847) 998-3400

1046- Liens

PUBLIC LIEN SALE

Notice is hereby given that on May 18, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. a sale will be held at MR. O'S TOWING & AUTO SALES, 300 E. 69th ST., CHICAGO, IL 60637 to sell the following articles...

Name of Person: Andrew Walker Nissan Motor Acceptance Corp. Description of Article: 2005 Nissan Altima VIN# 1N4AL11085C218735

PUBLIC LIEN SALE

That on 5/26/2009, a sale will be held at 3:00 p.m. at: Grand Auto & Truck Center, 2427 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, IL 60612. All bids to be in writing...

Name of Person(s) Audrey F. Byrd Capitol One Auto Finance Description of Article: 2004 Cadillac CTS I6G0M57940190885

Name of Person(s) Lorraine Hawkins Toyota Motor Credit Corp Description of Article: 2006 Toyota Corolla INXBR32E86275410

PUBLIC LIEN SALE

That on 5/26/2009, a sale will be held at 3:00 p.m. at: Park One, Inc., 711 S. Plymouth Court, Chicago, IL 60605. All bids to be in writing...

Name of Person(s) Luke Tworek BMW Bank of North America Description of Article: 2003 BMW 330i WBAEV53403K022920

PUBLIC LIEN SALE

That on 5/26/2009, a sale will be held at 3:00 p.m. at: Phillips Towing, 1168 N. Halsted, Chicago, IL 60622. All bids to be in writing...

Name of Person(s) Honest Abe Auto Sales Description of Article: 2000 GMC Jimmy TGK0T13W6Y219781

1046- Liens

PUBLIC LIEN SALE

That on 4/7/2009, a sale will be held at 3:00 p.m. at: Phillips Towing, 1168 N. Halsted, Chicago, IL 60622. All bids to be in writing...

Name of Person(s) Jami Thomas Description of Article: 1999 Kia KNAFB1214W5750876

PUBLIC LIEN SALE

That on 4/7/2009, a sale will be held at 3:00 p.m. at: Schoumburg Motor Works, 435 W. Wise Road, Schaumburg, IL 60193. All bids to be in writing...

Name of Person(s) Justin Scott Probst Description of Article: 1994 Pontiac Grand Prix 1G2WJ12X6RF335950

Name of Person(s) Justin Scott Probst Description of Article: 2006 Toyota Corolla INXBR32E86275410

PUBLIC LIEN SALE

That on 4/7/2009, a sale will be held at 3:00 p.m. at: Phillips Towing, 1168 N. Halsted, Chicago, IL 60622. All bids to be in writing...

Name of Person(s) Honest Abe Auto Sales Description of Article: 2000 GMC Jimmy TGK0T13W6Y219781

PUBLIC LIEN SALE

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Name of Person(s) Honest Abe Auto Sales Description of Article: 2000 GMC Jimmy TGK0T13W6Y219781

1062- Probate

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION

In the matter of the estate of JOSEPH L. COLUCCI AKA GIUSEPPE L. COLUCCI. (Deceased) Case No. 2009 P 08113

Name of Person(s) Jami Thomas Description of Article: 1999 Kia KNAFB1214W5750876

Name of Person(s) Justin Scott Probst Description of Article: 1994 Pontiac Grand Prix 1G2WJ12X6RF335950

Name of Person(s) Justin Scott Probst Description of Article: 2006 Toyota Corolla INXBR32E86275410

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Name of Person(s) Honest Abe Auto Sales Description of Article: 2000 GMC Jimmy TGK0T13W6Y219781

1066- Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE To Customers of Illinois American Water Company (IAWC)

IAWC hereby gives notice to the public that information the company has filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission...

Name of Person(s) Honest Abe Auto Sales Description of Article: 2000 GMC Jimmy TGK0T13W6Y219781

Name of Person(s) Justin Scott Probst Description of Article: 1994 Pontiac Grand Prix 1G2WJ12X6RF335950

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Buying or Selling, Pioneer Classified is the place for you! (847) 998-3400

Buying or Selling, Pioneer Classified is the place for you! (847) 998-3400

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Pioneer Press Classified Auto Dealer Directory

ACURA BOB ROHRMAN'S ARLINGTON ACURA IN PALATINE

JOE RIZZA ACURA 2065 WEST 159TH STREET, ORLANDO PARK

MULLERS WOODFIELD ACURA 1099 WEST HIGGINS ROAD

PAULY ACURA 2699 SKOKIE VALLEY ROAD, HIGHLAND PARK

THE AUDI EXCHANGE 2490 SKOKIE VALLEY RD, HIGHLAND PARK

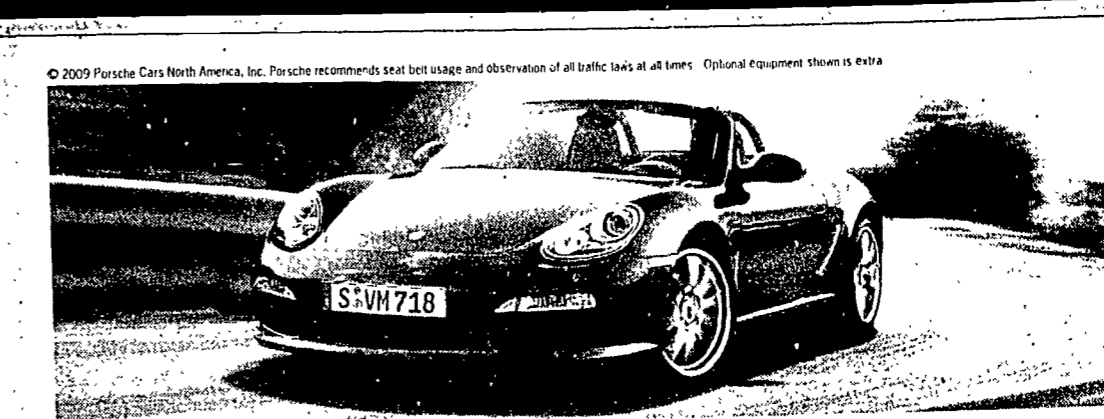
BENTLEY STEVE FOLEY BENTLEY 500 SKOKIE VALLEY RD, NORTHBROOK

BMW BILL JACOBS BMW 1554 W. OGDEN AVE, NAPERVILLE

ELMHURST BMW 488 WEST LAKE STREET, ELMHURST

KNAUZ AUTOPARK 600 N. LAKE BLUFF, LAKE BLUFF

KNAUZ BUICK KNAUZ AUTOPARK ROUTE 41 @ RT. 176, LAKE BLUFF



Closer to heaven, but further from the competition. Experience the new Boxster. THE EXCHANGE (847) 266-7000

CADILLAC ETTLERSON CADILLAC-BUICK-PONTIAC-GMC 6150 S. LAGRANGE RD., HODDGENS

GROSSINGER CADILLAC 6900 N. MCCORMICK BLVD., LINCOLNWOOD

HERITAGE CADILLAC 303 WEST ROOSEVELT RD., LOMBARD

PATRICK CADILLAC 526 MALL DRIVE, SCHAUMBURG, IL 60173

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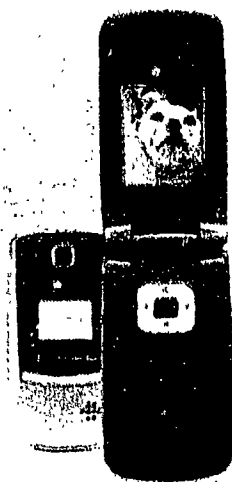
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Calendar

Continued from PAGE 15

ter for classes or trips, or purchase tickets. Drop by the Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive, Niles, or call (847) 588-8420, for an application.

Support

Advocate Lutheran General Hospital offers Sibsensations, a program for brothers and sisters of children with special needs, ages 8-13, that focuses on working with healthy siblings of children with developmental and physical disabilities. Participants learn how to handle situations and the implications of having a brother or sister with special needs through crafts and other activities, including age-appropriate discussion. Sibsensations is held once a month during the school year in the Yackman Children's Pavilion, 1675 Dempster St., Park Ridge, Room Y2109 (second floor). The next meeting is 9-11:30 a.m. May 9. Cost is \$10 for each session; \$5 for each additional family member. To register, call Kathryn Smart at (847) 723-9484 or e-mail Kathryn.Smart@advocatehealth.com. **Catholic Charities** of the Archdiocese of Chicago invites those who have experienced the loss of a loved one to suicide to participate in its Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide program meetings 7-9 p.m. May 10 at Catholic Charities

Northwest Office, 1717 Rand Road, Des Plaines. Call (847) 376-2118. **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 10-11:30 a.m. the first Wednesday of the month at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St. Free child care is available with 24-hour notice. Meetings are monthly. Call Linda, (847) 640-9590. **The Stroke Club** of Advocate Lutheran General Hospital meets from 3-4:30 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at the Outpatient Therapy Center, Church and Potter avenues, Des Plaines. Call Megan Potterfield, (847) 723-6690. **Holding Onto Hope** is a monthly daytime group for widowed people grieving the loss of a spouse. It meets from 1-2:30 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of the month at Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care, 444 N. Northwest Highway, Suite 145, Park Ridge. Registration is required. Admission is \$5 per session. **Life Transitions Group** is an ongoing support group for anyone who, as a general guideline, has been widowed for one to four years, meeting 7-8:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month at Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care, 444 N. Northwest Highway, Suite 145, Park Ridge. The fee is \$5 per session. **A Widowed Support** Group is an ongoing support group that addresses losses faced by persons, as

a general guideline, who have been widowed less than two years. It will meet at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, at Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care, 444 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge. Cost is \$5 per session. Call (847) 685-9900. **Good Mourning Program** will meet 6:45-8 p.m. every third Monday of the month at Lutheran General Family Care Center, 9375 Church St., Des Plaines. The program is a support group for children, teens and families who have lost a loved one through death. Preliminary interview is required before registration. To register, call Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care Bereavement Support, (847) 692-8884. **Weight No More**, a friendly weight-loss support group, is welcoming new members. Discussions include weight-loss tips, recipes, contests and helpful ideas to help you reach your goal. Meetings are 9:30-10:15 a.m. Fridays at Howard Leisure Center, 6676 Howard St., Niles, lower level (elevator accessible). Weigh-ins are 9:15-9:30 a.m., meetings from 9:30-10:15 a.m. Cost is \$5 per month. Call (847) 679-4229.

TARA APD Chicago - Treatment and Research Advancements Association for Personality Disorders holds a monthly support group for people with loved ones suffering from borderline personality disorder or emotional dysregulation. The meeting is at Rush North Shore, 9600 Gross Point Road, Skokie, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. the third

Wednesday of the month. E-mail rh5mail-tara@yahoo.com for the room number or more information. **The Counseling Center** of Advocate Medical Group offers a free Healing Our Lost Dreams (HOLD) support group twice a month for pregnancy and infant loss. Meetings are 7-8:30 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the Counseling Center, 1610 Luther Lane, Park Ridge. Parents, grandparents and other adult family members are invited to attend the sessions, share their feelings with others who understand what they are going through, receive support as they move through the first season of grieving, serve as resources for each other and gain new perspectives of life. Call (847) 795-3100. **Crohn's & Colitis** Foundation support group meets from 7:30-9:30 p.m. every third Thursday of the month at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, 1775 Dempster St., Room 1063, Park Ridge. The focus is to assist patients with Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis, their families, significant others and friends in coping more effectively with the illness. Call (847) 827-0404. Resurrection Medical Center sponsors a variety of free cancer-support groups for both patients and their family members. All support groups are free and meet in the Cancer Conference Room (ground floor, Entrance C). Contact Carol Flanagan, (773) 792-5116. **The Cancer Support** Group for cancer patients, families and

friends meets monthly from 7-8:30 p.m. every last Wednesday. **The Leukemia & Lymphoma** Family Support Group for people with leukemia, lymphoma, myelodysplastic syndrome, multiple myeloma, Hodgkin's Disease and their families meets every first Wednesday of the month. **The Butterfly Club** is a support group for children ages 6 to 13 whose parent or caretaker has been diagnosed with cancer. The group meets every first Wednesday of the month. Registration and parental consent are required. **The Us Too! Prostate Cancer** Support Group meets every second Wednesday of the month. **The Teen Cancer Support** Group is for teens ages 13 to 18 whose parent or caretaker has been diagnosed with cancer. The group meets every third Wednesday of the month. Registration and parental consent are required. **Multiple Sclerosis Support** Group meets the last Saturday of each month in the Resurrection Rehabilitation Center of Chicago, first floor, Professional Building, Entrance C. Call (773) 594-7856. **Alzheimer's Support** Group meets the second Tuesday of the month in the Health Management Classroom. The session is free. Call Health Management, (773) 792-5022. **Afterglow Support** Group for stroke survivors and their family and friends meets the second Wednesday of the month in the Resurrection Rehabilitation Center

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PARK DISTRICT

Time for tea

The Niles Park District sponsored an afternoon tea party for girls and their moms, grandmothers or aunts at the Howard Leisure Center April 25.

The ladies and girls in attendance were dressed in style as they dined on fresh fruit and sandwiches while sipping lemonade or light tea.



Protecting her bonnet from gusts of wind, Kelly Gurdak, 4, of Niles makes her way into the Niles Park District-sponsored afternoon tea party for girls and their moms, grandmas or aunts at the Howard Leisure Center April 25. (Allen Kaleta/For STNG)



Friends Elisa Adreani, 7, (left) and Sibel Truong, 8, amuse themselves with a game of 'patty-cake' before the tea is served at the Niles Park District-sponsored afternoon tea party for girls and their moms, grandmas or aunts at the Howard Leisure Center April 25. (Allen Kaleta/For STNG)



Isabella Cohn, 4, of Niles chats with friends at her table at the Niles Park District-sponsored afternoon tea party April 25 for girls and their moms, grandmas or aunts at the Howard Leisure Center. Guest were treated to light tea, lemonade, fresh fruit and sandwiches. (Allen Kaleta/For STNG)



Hoping to beat the rain, Epi Marin (right) of Park Ridge escorts her daughter Melanie, 6, (center) and her friend Estrella Montoya, 4, to the Niles Park District-sponsored afternoon tea party for girls and their moms, grandmas or aunts at the Howard Leisure Center April 25. Guests were treated to light tea, lemonade, fresh fruit and sandwiches. (Allen Kaleta/For STNG)

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Continued from PAGE 18

contact Families Anonymous, 1-800-736-9805, or www.familiesanonymous.org.

Butterfly Group for Bereaved Parents meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the St. John Brebeuf Rectory, 8307 N. Harlem Ave. All bereaved parents, family and friends are welcome whether their loss is recent or many years ago. Call Anna LaCorte, (847) 965-2771, or the rectory, (847) 966-8145.

Midwest Palliative & Hospice CareCenter grief support groups meet at various locations across its service area. Grief support groups are free; donations are accepted. Call (800) 331-5484 to register. The schedule for 2008 winter/spring includes: At 2050 Claire Court, Glenview - Adult Loss, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays; Daytime Spouse Loss, 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays; Evening Spouse Loss, 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesdays; Sudden Loss, 6:30-8 p.m. Mondays. At 6133 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago - Families with Children Loss Group meets every third Monday, 6:30-7:30 p.m. or in Glenview, 6:30-7:45 p.m. Wednesdays.

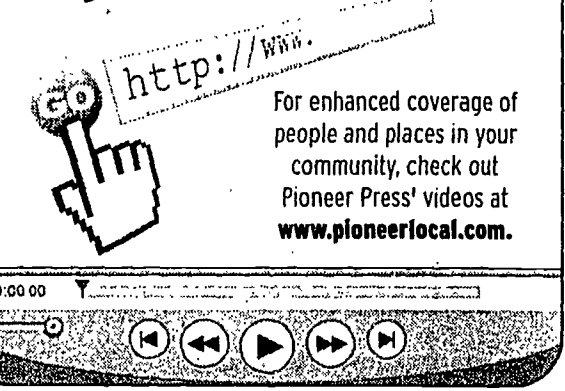
A new AI-Anon group is being formed at Messiah Lutheran Church, 1605 Vernon Ave., Park Ridge. For information call the church office, (847) 823-6984, between 9 a.m.-3 p.m. during the week.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness Cook County North Suburban invites the public to attend its Caring and Sharing monthly support group. This group is for family and friends of people with a mental illness and offers the opportunity to share problems and learn how others have overcome them. This program is free and meets from 7-8:30 p.m. the first Monday of every month at the Kenton-Knox Conference Center (Rush North Shore Medical Center), 9701 N. Knox Ave., Skokie. Call NAMI CCNS, (847) 724-1460, or visit www.namicns.org.

Northwest Suburban Interstitial Cystitis/Painful Bladder Syndrome Support Group of Illinois meets at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month in Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, 1775 Dempster St., Park Ridge. Conference Room 1064. E-mail: bzarnikow@aol.com to be added to the e-mail list for meeting announcements.

The Maryville Crisis Nursery, 4015 N. Oak Park Ave., Chicago, offers a safe harbor for children 5 and younger when parents have nowhere to turn during a family or personal crisis. It is a free, center-based program where children may stay for as long as three days. Its goal is to prevent abuse and neglect of children and help a family stabilize its situation by providing support and resources. Examples of a crisis include domestic violence, parental stress, medical emergency or respite care. The 24-hour Help

Sights and Sounds



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Line is (773) 205-3637.

An area **Alzheimer's** support group for caregivers and family members of people with Alzheimer's Disease meets at 10:30 a.m. every second Saturday at Central Baptist Village, The Commons Theater Lounge, 4747 N. Canfield Ave., Norridge. New members are always welcome. Call Jessi Lenth, group facilitator, (708) 583-8509.

Queen of All Saints hosts a weekly meeting for female survivors of sexual abuse. The meetings are from 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the Benedict Center Chapel, 6275 N. Loma. To participate in the confidential, 12-step program, call Queen of All Saints Rectory, (773) 736-6060. Additional meetings are from 7-8:30 p.m. Fridays at St. Juliana Parish Center, 7200 Osceola Ave. Call Linda, (773) 271-2281.

Teen Center

The Niles Youth Council is a group of teens from sixth through 12th grade who provide support and advice on Teen Center programming, develop leadership skills and work to serve the Niles community. They meet the first and third Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m. Stop to check them out. Call (847) 375-8949. The Teen Center is located at 373 Golf Mill Center in Niles. **The Teen Center** is working with the Niles Senior Center to find teenagers willing to help senior citizens with leaf raking, snow shoveling and general yard work while earning money. Complete the Niles Teen Job Connection form available on the center Web site and return it to Mark at the center. Information will be shared with the director of the center and contacts will be made with residents in need of services.

Register your bike through the Niles Teen Center or Niles Police Department. Every year the Niles Police Department accumulates a number of lost or stolen bikes and is forced to sell them at an auction because their owners cannot be identified. By registering your bike, you are issued a Village of Niles Police Department sticker and your bicycle's information is entered into a national database allowing the Police Department to reconnect you

if it is ever lost or stolen.

Volunteers

Junior Achievement of Chicago is a nonprofit organization focused on inspiring and preparing young people to succeed in the global economy. Volunteers from businesses are trained and given materials to go into a classroom and teach students from kindergarten through high school about financial literacy and entrepreneurship-work readiness skills. Partnerships have been formed with some teachers at Niles North, Central and West High Schools for JA programs this school year. Volunteers are needed. Each program consists of five visits to the classroom for about 45 to 50 minutes each. If interested call Kristin Goodwin, operations manager, Junior Achievement of Chicago, (708) 456-1400, Ext. 245, e-mail kgoodwin@jachicago.org or go to www.jachicago.org.

The Men's Association of Advocate Lutheran General Hospital has recently expanded its role and membership base in the community and adopted a new name to reflect that change: The Men's and Women's Association of Lutheran General Hospital. The change will allow the nonprofit organization to sponsor more events, encourage greater participation in annual activities, such as the golf outing and fund-raising sales, expand opportunities for men and women to take on leadership roles, and increase collaborative efforts with the hospital's development office. Service League and the Advocate Charitable Foundation. The organization's donations have assisted Lutheran General in expanding its programs, purchasing state-of-the-art medical equipment and pursuing research and education efforts. Call (847) 723-6105.

Workshops

Verizon Wireless is hosting a free hands-on PDA workshop at Verizon Wireless, 9635 N. Milwaukee Ave. The workshop is designed to better acquaint PDA users with their mobile devices and clear up the confusion around their many features. Register at www.pdaworkshop.wds.vzw.com.

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- Bloomington 524 Stratford Sq. Mall, #5524
- Bolingbrook 720 E. Boughton Rd., Ste 109
- Calumet City River Oaks Mall, 96 River Oaks Dr.
- Chicago 1101 S. Canal St.
- Elmhurst 619 N. York Rd.
- Evanston 1620 Chicago Ave.
- Geneva 1749 S. Randall Rd., Ste. G
- Gurnee 6170 W. Grand Ave., #17
- Highland Park 36 Skokie Valley Rd.
- Joliet 3340 Mall Loop Dr., Ste. 1234
- La Grange 34 N. La Grange Rd.
- Lincolnwood 1333 W. Touhy Ave., D02A
- McKinley 3817 W. Elm St.
- Mokena 1124 W. Lincoln Hwy.
- Niles 9479 Milwaukee Ave.
- Norridge 4155 1/2 N. Harlem Ave.
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- Oak Park 425 N. Harlem Ave.
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- Orland Park 15135 S. La Grange Rd.
- Oswego 2754 Rio. 34
- Peru 4371 Venture Dr.
- Plainfield 12720 S. Ric. 59, Ste. 300
- Rockford 6270 E. State St.
- Schaumburg 1408 F. Golf Rd.
- Woodfield Mall, Unit F123
- Skokie 9725 N. Skokie Blvd.

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- Vernon Hills 445 E. Townline Rd., Ste. C
- West Dundee 729 W. Main St.
- Wheaton 8 Danada Sq.

INDIANA

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- Michigan City 5360 Franklin St.
- South Elgin 312 S. Randall Rd.
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- West Dundee 729 W. Main St.
- Wheaton 8 Danada Sq.

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- Hoffman Estates 4630 Tiffin Blvd.
- Homer Glen 14003 S. Bell Rd.
- Lincolnshire 910 Milwaukee, Ste. B
- Lockport 1027 E. 9th St.
- Matteson 4736 Lincoln Hwy.
- Naperville 1160 E. Ogden Ave.
- Oak Park 425 N. Harlem Ave.
- Rosemont 7024 N. Mannheim Rd.
- Round Lake Beach 718 E. Rollins Rd.
- Schaumburg 2644 W. Schaumburg Rd.
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SCHOOLS DIGEST

DISTRICT 207

Thirty Maine South High School fashion students recently competed at the family, Career and Community Leaders of America state competition in Springfield. Tess Chappell took first place in the prom dress design category, and Lindsay Blanchl look first place in semi-formal dress. Delndre Smith also took first place in fashion design and Melissa Magunson look first place in recycled construction. Smith and Magunson will go on to compete in the national competition in Nashville, Tenn. Members of Maine South's martial arts club took home high marks in the 2009 Region 5 World Tang Soo Do

Association Tournament. Louie Coridon took second place in Forms; Winston Douglass look third place in forms; Nick Jacobson took second place in Forms and third in Sparring; Jimmy Kulka captured third place in Forms; and Mario Raines took second place in Sparring and third in Forms.

NORTHBRIDGE PREP

DEAN'S LIST

Alec Brennan, Matthew Brown, Andrew McDonough, James Snitzer, William Thornton, Jacob Krupowicz, Derek Simon, Benjamin Sturgeon, Pedro Acosta, Thomas Carden, William

Cheely, Brian Leahy, Alexander Lopez, Thomas Lucas, John Radlinski, Michael Stangel, Vincent Rinaolo, Timothy Madigan, Mohammad Abdel Fattah, George Adams, Dylan Haig, Tikku George, Matthew Badyna, Lawrence Billelo, Bartosz Bak, In-Kang (Richard) Bang, John Falco, Andy Lui, Jae Young (Tom) Soh, Bartlomiej Radzik, Thomas Dieffenthaler, David Rahimi, John Rahimi, Peter Knapp, John Sander, Michael Vidovic, Isaac Holterman, Marko Cujjak, Matthew Griffin, Michael Psomas, John Birmingham.

FIRST HONORS

Michael Hanretty, Joseph Hinderer, Michael Kane, Peter Kane, John Pen-

SECOND HONORS

Philip Davis, Joseph Hanretty, Peter Hinderer, Liam Holohan, Tyler Kapuska, Aidan McNally, Peter Baca, Matthew Witter, Christian Arevalo, William Beltran, Justin Betz, Jimmy Cabrera, Timothy Choldas, Julian Coleman, Conor Doyle, Adrian Febus, John Healy, Charles Jonathas, John Leahy, Anthony Montante, Martin Navarrete, Adnan Saucedo, Randal Troche, John Whalen, Brian Bland, Peter Bland, John Coyle, Patrick Lechner, Jason Bae, Samuel Fernandez, Matthew Jaroslowski, Jeffrey Kestler, Jose Tamayo, Michael Wojnar, Paul Brown, Conall Brannon, Liam Brannon, Matthew Bennett, Tyler Maricich, Michael Gigante, Patrick O'Connor, John Hauff, Young Hwang, Jun Kyu Jeon, Alex Kaduthodil, John Kaiser, Andy Shin, Matthew Koziol, Song Sanghyun, Christian von Holdt, David Strenk, Forest Moses, John Klatt, Peter Tishuk, Joseph Kelly, Nathan Kelly, Adam Youman, Robert Ballin, William Cleveland, Matthew Galloway, Edward Bleka, Benjamin Kiernan, Connor Tobin, Miquel Torres, Joseph Adams, Jacob Jaeckel, James Petros, Ye Chan Kim, Davio Nuccio, Kang Yeol Youn, Robert Lechner, Bryant Balasa, Luke Dieffenthaler, Nicholas Rahimi, James Beck, Andrew Ingraham, Andrew Knapp, Andrew Murphy, Jason Ostojic, Rey Robert, Nicholas Zaris, John Zurawski, Theodore Huntington, Jonas Kuprys, Daniel Segoviano, Paul Carter, Spyritthon-Pyros Rubanis, Kevin Birmingham, Kevin Conroy.

DISTRICT 219

Under the guidance of Niles Township High School District 219 faculty and students, area senior citizens participated in a Digital Storytelling program to bring their personal stories to life, while using the latest technology. This year's participants screened their original productions in a public debut on April 27 in the Robert L. Johnson Auditorium at Niles West High School, Skokie. In an effort to share resources with the community, the Technology department at District 219 has been offering free technology workshops for local senior citizens since 2004. Not only are senior citizens exposed to state-of-the-art technology in a friendly environment, but their stories preserve cherished memories which

can open the lines of communications between generations. Participants learn how to craft and distill memories into a strong and cohesive narrative, scan memorabilia and photos and record their narration to produce the final project as a brief video. For more information on District 219's Digital Storytelling program, go to www.digitaltories.org/. To register for a future program, contact Daphne Watson at (847) 626-3930. At a recent signing day event, four Niles North High School students committed to play sports at the collegiate level. The signing day was organized by Niles North Head Football Coach Scott Smith. Students at the signing included: Running back Terry Turner, All-Conference and Central Suburban League North Offensive Player of the Year, will play for Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls, IA; running back and defensive corner Michael Dotson, two-time All-Conference player, will suit up for Lake Forest College; tight end and defensive end Bergeau Saintil signed a letter of intent for Ellsworth Community College; and Guard Nicole Yousif committed to play basketball at Oakton Community College, Des Plaines. Four Niles West students received trophies at the Illinois Drafting Educators Association state championship held at Illinois State University this month. Two Niles West students are state champions - Derek Wong won first place in Machine CAD and Frank Kaufhold won first place in Machine Board. Teammates Andrew Lee placed second in Machine Board and Thea Ledesma placed third in Architectural Board.

Niles West art teacher John Zilewicz was accepted to the School of the Art Institute of Chicago's Teacher Institute in Contemporary Art. He has also been accepted to the Institute's Studio Extension immediately following the session. The Studio Extension allows teachers to continue their studio practice uninterrupted for an additional week, and will take place this summer. Only 28 teachers across the United States are selected for this opportunity. During the course of the program, Zilewicz will experience contemporary art practices with leading artists, participate in discussions with nationally known lecturers in contemporary art and theory, and explore current pedagogical issues and the impact of museum resources on curriculum.

Explore the vast culture and natural treasures of Ecuador through a travel/study program sponsored by Oakton Community College. Trips in 2009 depart in May, July, October and November. Begin in the 450-year-old capital city of Quito and experience Jacchigua, the Ecuadorian folklore ballet. Visit Oswaldo Guayasamin's gallery of contemporary paintings, and take a day trip to Calderon, home of native bread dolls. Enjoy a seven-day Galapagos Islands cruise that includes outdoor adventure at the Charles Darwin Research Station and Pinnacle Rock. Participants in this physically demanding trip should be in good health. An optional week-long extension to Peru's Machu Picchu is offered at an additional cost. For complete itineraries and information about upcoming 2009 and 2010 tours, call Bea Cornelissen at (847) 635-1812, or visit www.oakton.edu/news/first/travel.htm.

OAKTON

Prospective students and their families are invited to visit Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road, starting at 4 p.m. May 5. The campus visit features information about Oakton's admission process, career programs, transfer programs, financial aid, student services, athletics, and extracurricular activities. Oakton faculty, administrators, staff and students will provide tours and answer questions. To register, visit www.oakton.edu/admiss/openhouse/campusvisit.htm or call (847) 635-1629. Oakton Community College offers associate degree and certificate programs for students preparing to earn a bachelor's degree at a four-year col-

lege or university, as well as those preparing for employment in a variety of careers. Oakton is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association, Illinois Community College Board and American Association of Community Colleges.

Learn money-saving and money-making techniques in classes offered by the Alliance for Lifelong Learning at Oakton this spring. Retirement Planning Today (FIN E02-08) shows how to integrate finances with goals to create an early retirement plan. Three-week course meets 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays starting May 6 at Maine West High School, 1755 S. Wolf Road, Des Plaines. Course fee is \$35. Make Money from Surveys (BUS S68-03) demonstrates how to make extra money in your spare time by participating in paid surveys. One-session course meets 8-10 p.m. May 7 at Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston. Course fee is \$19. Construction Trouble Bubbles (TEC E71-02) offers insight for those considering new home construction or a major renovation project. One-session course meets 10 a.m.-4 p.m. May 9 at Oakton's Des Plaines campus, 1600 E. Golf Road. Course fee is \$120. For a complete Alliance for Lifelong Learning class schedule, visit www.oakton.edu/all or call (847) 982-9888, press 3.

Gain a deeper insight into a classic American magazine by enrolling in a class offered by the Emeritus Program at Oakton this spring. The New Yorker (HUM E93-73) focuses on selections from the sophisticated magazine established in 1925. A subscription is required. Three-week course meets 9:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays starting May 4 at Oakton's Skokie campus, 7701 N. Lincoln Ave. Course fee is \$39. For more information, call (847) 635-1414 or (847) 982-9888, press 3. For a complete list of Emeritus classes, course fees, seminars, and events, visit www.oakton.edu/emertitus.

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OAKTON NOTES

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PEOPLE & PROMOTIONS

Notre Dame High School sophomore Matthew Bardelas collected more than 200 blankets for critically ill children as part of his project to attain Eagle Scout status. Bardelas received the Niles Youth of the Year Award at the Night of Roses on April 25 at White Eagle Banquets in Niles. A two-year, clarinet-playing member of the Notre Dame/Resurrection Band and the Jazz Band, Bardelas is also in the Sci-Fi/Fantasy and Games Clubs at Notre Dame. He is a recent recipient of one of the Chicago Archdiocese's Vicariate Awards for social justice and community service.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Information is provided by Record Information Services, Inc. in St. Charles, www.public-record.com, (630) 365-6490.

NILES

- 8309 W. Park Ave., Rafal Jurowski to Piotr Gruzka, \$180,000, Jan. 20.
8801 W. Golf Road Apt. 7G, Greg Martin to Lorrain Dimaria, \$117,000, Jan. 20.
8709 W. Bruce Drive, Chicago Title Land Trust Co to Brian C. Staunton and Angela L. Staunton, \$445,000, Jan. 30.
8801 W. Golf Road, Apt. 11E, Anne Simonsen to Neena Oza Krishna Oza, \$95,000, Jan. 30.
8064 W. Prospect Court, Brian Staunton to Noah Schroer and Hillary A. Schroer, \$325,000, Feb. 5.

NILES LIBRARY

Library celebrates 50th

By TONY BERTUCA
tbertuca@pioneerlocal.com

The Niles Public Library celebrated its 50th anniversary April 26 with a birthday cake and live music from a 1950s-style quartet. Parents and children created a time capsule with objects they wanted to share with library visitors in 2059. Patrons' pocketbooks were shown some leniency when the library rolled back fines on overdue items to 2 cents in observance of National Library Week.

How Illinois lawmakers voted in Congress

Week ending Month April 24

Ambassador to Iraq: Senators voted, 73-23, to confirm Christopher Hill as U.S. ambassador to Iraq. Backers praised his foreign service career of 32 years, while critics said he was not tough enough as the Bush administration's chief negotiator with North Korea. A yes vote was to confirm Hill. Sen. Richard Durbin: Yes; Sen. Roland Burris: No vote

Whistleblower Rewards: Senators refused, 31-61, to cap at \$50 million the reward for whistleblowers who use the False Claims Act to help the Treasury recover funds lost to fraud. A yes vote was to retain rules that allow successful plaintiffs to receive up to 30 percent of recovered U.S. funds. (S 386) Sen. Richard Durbin: Yes; Sen. Roland Burris: No

1. U.S. Water Policy: Members voted, 413-10, to improve the work of the 20-plus agencies concerned with assuring the U.S. has adequate water supplies and clean drinking water. A yes vote was to pass a bill (HR 1145) that creates a White House office to streamline and focus U.S. water policy.

2. Community Police Funds: Members passed, 342-78, a bill (HR 1139) to expand the Clinton-era COPs program, which provides U.S. grants for the hiring of local police officers. A yes vote was to authorize grants for purposes such as hiring prosecutors and helping schools fight drugs and gangs.

For a more detailed description of the issues, see our Web page at www.pioneerlocal.com and pick your hometown paper, click on News and click on Politics.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Vote (Y/N). Rows include Bobby Rush, Jesse Jackson Jr., Dan Lipinski, Luis Guterrez, Mike Quigley, Peter Roskam, Danny Davis, Melissa Bean, Jan Schakowsky, Mark Kirk, Debby Halvorson, Jerry Costello, Judy Biggert, Bill Foster, Timothy Johnson, Donald Manzullo, Philip Hare, Aaron Schock, John Shimkus.

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The Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce would like to congratulate Good Karma Construction for being chosen as the Chamber's Member of the Month for May 2009. Good Karma Construction 5414 Oakton St. Morton Grove, IL 847-980-9770 goodkarmaconstruction.com. Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce and Industry 847.965.0330 www.mgcci.org 6101 Capulina • Morton Grove, IL 60053

Kohl Children's Museum SUMMER DISCOVERY CAMPS June 15 - August 21, 2009. 9 weeks of summer camp programming. Morning and afternoon sessions. Hands-on learning and fun. Supervised indoor/outdoor play. For children ages 3-5. More information: (847) 832-6918 or visit www.kohlchildrensmuseum.org/camps

Weekly Worship

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Chicago, IL 60631
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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, Young Adults Bible Study,
Sunday, 12:00 PM

Chair Practice: Sundays, 9:30 AM
Susanah Wesley Club (Women's Group)
Meets once a month on 4th Tuesday of the month. Youth Worship Sunday, 3rd Sunday of every month
Pastor, Rev. Jerry Miller Organist,
Dana Somava Musical/Youth Director,
Naralyn Baroja Senior Exercise Class,
Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:30 AM
Fellowship Hall James Downing Theatre Performances. Edison Park United Methodist Church is a church with Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors. ♿
Chair Lift Available Parking in Rear.

The Edgebrook Church

6155 W. Touhy Avenue, (773) 631-1155
<http://edgebrookchurch.org>
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM
Ensemble Practice,
Wednesday 6:30 PM
Praise, Prayer & Bible Study,
Wednesday 7:30 PM

Bethel Community Church

7601 W. Foster Ave., (773) 775-2355
www.bethelcommunity.org
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 AM
Encounter Gathering: Sunday 6:00 PM
Sunday School &
Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM
Senior Pastor—Pastor Paul Jordan
Associate Pastor—Pastor Rob Bukowski;
Student Ministries—Pastor Shawn Clark
Music & Worship—Pastor Andy Clifton
Childcare available for all services.
Seniors & Women's Bible Studies
September thru May.
Call for information or see the website.

CHICAGO

Norwood Park Lutheran Church—ELCA

5917 N. Nina Avenue (at Nickerson)
(773) 631-2860
Sunday Services—10:00 AM
Holy Communion celebrated 1st, 3rd & 5th
Sundays Service of the Word on 2nd & 4th
Sundays. Sunday Church School—9:00 AM
(with Confirmation Ministry)
Unstaffed Nursery available Sunday from
9:45—11:00 AM, Rev. Robert C. Johnson,
Pastor Joyce M. Kissinger, Director of Music
Children's Sermons, 2nd Sunday of the Month.
"Celebrating God's grace and mercy for
over 86 years in old Norwood Park."

"Our Lady Mother of the Church

8701 W. Lawrence Avenue, (773) 625-3369
www.ourladymotherchurch.com
olmotherchurch@aol.com
Mass Schedule: Weekdays Monday through
Friday 8:30 AM, Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 8:00, 9:30 & 11 AM, Sunday 11:00 AM
Young People's Liturgy of the Word Holy
Days 8:30 AM & 7:00 PM, Tuesday 9:00 AM
Perpetual Help Novena Eucharistic
Adoration First Fridays 9:00 AM—3:00 PM
Saturday Confession 4:00—4:30 PM
Baptism 2nd & 4th Sundays of the Month
Rev. Richard J. Klajbar, Pastor

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 Worship 9:00 AM, Sunday
School and Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM
Wednesday
Advent & Lenten Worship Services—
Wednesday at 7:00 PM

St. Eugene Catholic Church

7958 W. Foster Ave., (773) 775-6659
www.st-eugene.org
Daily Masses: Mon thru Fri 6:30 & 9:00 AM
Weekly Masses:
Sat — 8:30 AM & 5:30 PM,
Sun — 7:00, 9:30, 11:30 AM & 4:30 PM
Confession: 4:00—5:00 PM Sat.
Baptism: 1:00 PM 1st & 3rd Sunday of the
month, Rev. George Koevne, Pastor;
Rev. Jerome Tworog, Associate Pastor;
Rev. Philip Grib, SJ, Resident

CHICAGO

St. Mary of the Woods Catholic Church

7033 N. Moselle, (773) 763-0206
www.smow.org
Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 PM
Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM
and noon Weekday Masses,
Mon-Fri 6:30 and 8:00 AM.
Confession Saturday 3:30—4:15 PM.
Holy Days Vigil 7:30 PM
Holy Days 6:30, 8:00, 9:00 AM & 7:30 PM
Rev. Gregory Sackowicz, Pastor
We have a Preschool (3 yrs. Old)
through 8th Grade School. And offer
wonderful programs of Religious
Education for Children and adults.

St. Monica Catholic Church

5136 N. Nottingham, (773) 763-1661
www.stmonicachicago.com
Daily Mass: Mon — Fri 8:00 AM
Weekend Masses: Saturday — 4:00 PM
Sunday — 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM, and 12:00 PM
Polish 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, Pastor
Rev. Andrew Izyk, Associate Pastor
Fr. James O'Brien, In Residence
Fr. William Holbrook, In Residence
contactparish@stmonicachicago.com

St. Paul Lutheran Church

5650 N. Canfield; 60631; (708) 867-5044
Rev. Walt Schoenfuhs
www.stpaulcanfield.org
Street Level, Air Conditioned
Sunday Worship 8:15 & 10:45 AM
Sunday School & Adult Bible 9:30 AM
Saturday Worship 6:00 PM
St. Paul Lutheran Christian Day School
Pre-K—Grade 8
SHARING GOD, TOUCHING LIVES,
EVERYWHERE

Victory Worship Center

3750 N. Nevada, (773) 205-3787
www.victoryworshiponline.com
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM
Friday Worship 7:30 PM. Youth Service
Friday 7:30 PM. Christopher Lewis,
Pastor, Rev. Ramona Dorsey

MORTON GROVE

St. Luke's Christian Community Church

9233 Shermer Rd., (847) 966-9233
saintlukesccc@sbcglobal.net
Robin Jones—Senior Pastor
Jeff Nelson—Youth Pastor
Judy Smith—Worship Director
Sunday Worship—10:00 AM
Sunday School—11:00 AM
Wednesday 7:30 PM—Choir Rehearsal
Friday 8:00 PM Youth Group and
Teen Praise Band Rehearsal
Praise Service
Last Sunday of each month
Featuring our Praise Band

Morton Grove Community Church

Presbyterian
8944 Austin Ave., (847) 965-2982
Bible Study Sundays 9:00 AM.
Worship Service Sundays 10:00 AM.
Fellowship Sundays 11:00 AM.
Adult Choir Practice Sun. 9:00 AM
Handicapped Accessible ♿
EVERYONE IS WELCOME

NILES

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

8450 N. Shermer Rd. Niles IL, 60714
(847) 965-8210
Sunday (Sept.-June) 10:30 AM
(June-Sept) 9:30 AM, 1st Sunday of Month
7:30 PM - Jazz Vesper Service
(Sept-June).
Rev. Dr. Bruce T. Anderson - Pastor
Carolyn N. Sonderson - Minister of Music
A member congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

St. Michael's Orthodox Church

7313 N. Waukegan Road
(847) 647-8398
www.stmichaelniles.org
Sunday Worship 10:00 AM
Discover the ancient faith and rich
traditions of the Orthodox Church — the
first Christian Church — founded.
By the Lord Jesus Christ and
described in the pages of
The New Testament. Today her
Apostolic doctrine, worship,
and structure remain intact.

NORRIDGE

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

8600 W. Lawrence Ave.
Sunday Worship 9:30 AM
Sunday School 10:35 AM
Youth & Adult Bible Class
Sunday 10:45 AM
Midweek Bible Study -
Wednesday 10:30 AM. Luther John
Bojus, Pastor Communion service
3rd Sunday of every month Choir
practice Thursday 7:00 PM
708-453-3514, Fax 708-456-8818
www.zionnorridgeil.org

NORTHBROOK

Temple Beth-El

3610 Dundee Rd.
(847) 205-9982, Fax (847) 205-9921
templebeth-el.org
Friday Shabbat Evening Services:
First and fourth Fridays — Traditional
Shabbat Service at 8 PM
Second Friday — Wine & Cheese
reception at 5:30 PM followed with
Kabbalat Shabbat Service at 6 PM or 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 Shabbat Service
Shabbat Yeladim

St. Luke's Lutheran Church (ELCA)

205 N. Prospect Ave., (847) 825-6659
www.stlukespr.org
Sunday Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 AM (School
Year), 8:30 & 10:00 AM (Summer) Thursday
Worship (Summer) 7:00 PM Sunday
— Christian Education for all ages. 9:45 AM
(School Year) Child Care Provided
Rev. Dr. Stephen M. Larson, Lead Pastor.
Rev. Kristina C. Weber, Associate Pastor.
Rev. Dr. Malcolm Minnick, Jr., Pastor.
Emeritus, Anne Krenz Organ, Director
of Music Ministries Melinda Ramseith
Haildon, Director of Children's Choirs,
Nancy Olson, Member Care Coordinator

Norwood Park Lutheran Church (ELCA)

5917 N. Nina Ave. (at Nickerson)
(773) 631-2860
(Street level accessibility to main Church)
Sunday Services—10:00 AM
(Holy Communion celebrated 1st, 3rd, and
5th Sundays. Service of the Word 2nd & 4th
Sundays). Sunday Church School—9:00 AM
(With Confirmation Ministry classes for 7th
and 8th grades)
Nursery room (with P.A. hooked up to
Church). Available during worship services.
Rev. Robert C. Johnson—Pastor
Lenten + Midweek Services
Wednesdays—11:00 AM with Soup
Luncheon following
(March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1st)
Theme: "At the Cross"

**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**

Weekly Worship

EDISON PARK

Edison Park Lutheran Church ELCA
6626 N. Oliphant Ave., 773-631-9131
www.edisonparklutheran.org
Sunday Morning Worship Schedule
Litururgical Worship with Holy Communion
8:00 AM and 9:45 AM
Contemporary Worship with Holy
Communion 11:15 AM.
Sunday School ages PreK thru 6th grade
9:45 AM. Attended Nursery for Sunday
Services. Handicapped Access ♿
from south parking lot

NORWOOD PARK

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
6240 North Avondale, Norwood Park, Illinois
(773) 763.8845
www.saintalhanschurch.com
Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9:30 AM
The communities of St. Alban's Episcopal
Church and St. Richard's Episcopal Church will
combine their Holy Week services as follows:
Maundy Thursday Agape Supper at 6:30 PM
followed by church service — St. Richard's
Good Friday service at 7:00 PM —
St. Alban's. Holy Saturday, Great Vigil
at 7:00 PM — St. Alban's. Easter Sunday,
Holy Eucharist at 9:30 AM — St. Alban's.
St. Richard's Episcopal Church is located at
5101 W. Devon,
Chicago, IL 60646, Ph: (773) 774-4519
St. Alban's offers the Catechesis of the
Good Shepherd Sunday school program,
September thru May. It is a Montessori-
based program that enriches your child's
knowledge of the Holy Spirit through
the presentations of Jesus' parables and
liturgical elements. Your child is welcome
to join us for morning song 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 Worship:
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
Sunday Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 AM (School
Year), 8:30 & 10:00 AM (Summer) Thursday
Worship (Summer) 7:00 PM Sunday
— Christian Education for all ages. 9:45 AM
(School Year) Child Care Provided
Rev. Dr. Stephen M. Larson, Lead Pastor.
Rev. Kristina C. Weber, Associate Pastor.
Rev. Dr. Malcolm Minnick, Jr., Pastor.
Emeritus, Anne Krenz Organ, Director
of Music Ministries Melinda Ramseith
Haildon, Director of Children's Choirs,
Nancy Olson, Member Care Coordinator

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

306 S. Prospect Ave., (847) 823-4126
www.stmaryspr.org
Sunday Services: 8:00 & 10:00 AM
Wednesday Service: 9:00 AM
Sunday School & Nursery during worship,
Youth Fellowship
The Rev. Sarah D. Odderstor, Rector
WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME!
Check website for all activities.
Handicap Accessible ♿

NORWOOD PARK

Holy week services +
Palm Sunday- (Sunday of the Passion-
April 5-10:00 AM.)
Blessing and Distribution of Palms
Maundy Thursday-April 9, 2009 7:30 PM
Holy Communion with the Stripping of
the Altar Good Friday- April 10, 2009,
2:00 PM Good Friday Liturgy (The
Church will be open for private donations
from 12 Noon to 2:00 PM). The Day
of Resurrection of Jesus Christ (Easter)
Sunday April 12, 2009
Holy Communion at 10:00 AM.
Special music and Children's Sermon will
be offered. To God Above Be All the Glory

PARK RIDGE

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church & School
260 N. Northwest Highway
(847) 823-6656
www.standrewsparkridge.org
Sunday Worship:
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
Sunday Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 AM (School
Year), 8:30 & 10:00 AM (Summer) Thursday
Worship (Summer) 7:00 PM Sunday
— Christian Education for all ages. 9:45 AM
(School Year) Child Care Provided
Rev. Dr. Stephen M. Larson, Lead Pastor.
Rev. Kristina C. Weber, Associate Pastor.
Rev. Dr. Malcolm Minnick, Jr., Pastor.
Emeritus, Anne Krenz Organ, Director
of Music Ministries Melinda Ramseith
Haildon, Director of Children's Choirs,
Nancy Olson, Member Care Coordinator

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

306 S. Prospect Ave., (847) 823-4126
www.stmaryspr.org
Sunday Services: 8:00 & 10:00 AM
Wednesday Service: 9:00 AM
Sunday School & Nursery during worship,
Youth Fellowship
The Rev. Sarah D. Odderstor, Rector
WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME!
Check website for all activities.
Handicap Accessible ♿

PARK RIDGE

Park Ridge Presbyterian Church
1300 W. Cresent Ave., (847) 823-4135
www.parkridgepresby.org
Sunday Worship 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
411 N. Wheeling Rd., (847) 255-7452
www.saintalphonsus.com
Worship Days & Hours: Monday-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 Formation - Kindergarten thru 8th Grade
High School Youth Ministry Program

SKOKIE

Carter-Westminster United Presbyterian Church
4950 W. Pratt, (847) 673-4441
www.cmupc.net
Sunday Morning Worship 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 Scott Porter, Senior Pastor
Alex Wickell, Director of
Youth Ministries Office Hours: Mon.,
Tues. & Thurs. 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Central United Methodist Church

8237 Kenton Avenue, (847) 673-1311
www.skokiecentralumc.org
Sunday Worship 10:30
Sunday school 9:30 AM. Children & Adult
Adult Choir Practice 8:30 AM Sunday
Fellowship 11:30 AM — 12:30 PM
Pastor, Reverend David L. Holey
Choir Director Joseph Poprowski
E-mail: SkokieCentral@UMC.org
Youth Choir 9:15 AM Sunday
Accessible Church Building ♿

Temple Beth Israel

3601 W. Dempster St., 847-675-0951
www.tbiskokie.org
Likrot Shabbat/Kabbalat Shabbat, first
Friday of each month, 5:30 PM
Light Nosh — 6:15 PM

SKOKIE

Kabbalat 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 Minyan
Monday — 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
— Volunteer Choir High Holiday Services
— Rabbi Michael A. Weinberg
Cantor Pavel Roytman
Lori B. Sagarin Director of
Congregational Learning

St. Paul Lutheran Church

5201 Galitz Street, (847) 673-5030
web.mac.com/stpaulskokie
Sunday Morning Worship 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 Conrad
John Schuman, Minister of Music
Dale Luksha, PK — 8 Academy Principal
The Church is Handicap Accessible ♿

St. Peter's United Church of Christ

Oakton Street & Laramie Avenue
(847) 673-8166
www.stpeteruccskokie.org
Sunday Worship 10:00 AM.
Sunday School 9:00 AM.
(September thru May)
Rev. Richard Lanford. Childcare provided.
Air Conditioned Sanctuary

Congregation Bene Shalom

4435 Oakton, (847) 677-3330
www.beneshalom.org
Fridays 7:30 PM;
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30 PM.
On 3rd Friday of the month
Kabbalistic Prayer/Meditation Service
10:30 AM. On 2nd Saturday of the month.
Eshet Knapp Religious School. Sundays
9:00 AM-12:00 PM
Hebrew School Sunday 12-1 PM
Children's Model Seder
Sunday, April 5, 10 AM

SKOKIE

Temple Family Seder
Thursday, April 9, 6:00 PM
Robbi Dr. Douglas Goldhamer
Asst. Robbi Shori Chen
Cantorial Soloist Charlene Brooks
Choir Director Nona Balk
Interfaith Families Welcome
All services sign language and voice
Handicap Accessible ♿

Devar Emet Messianic Synagogue

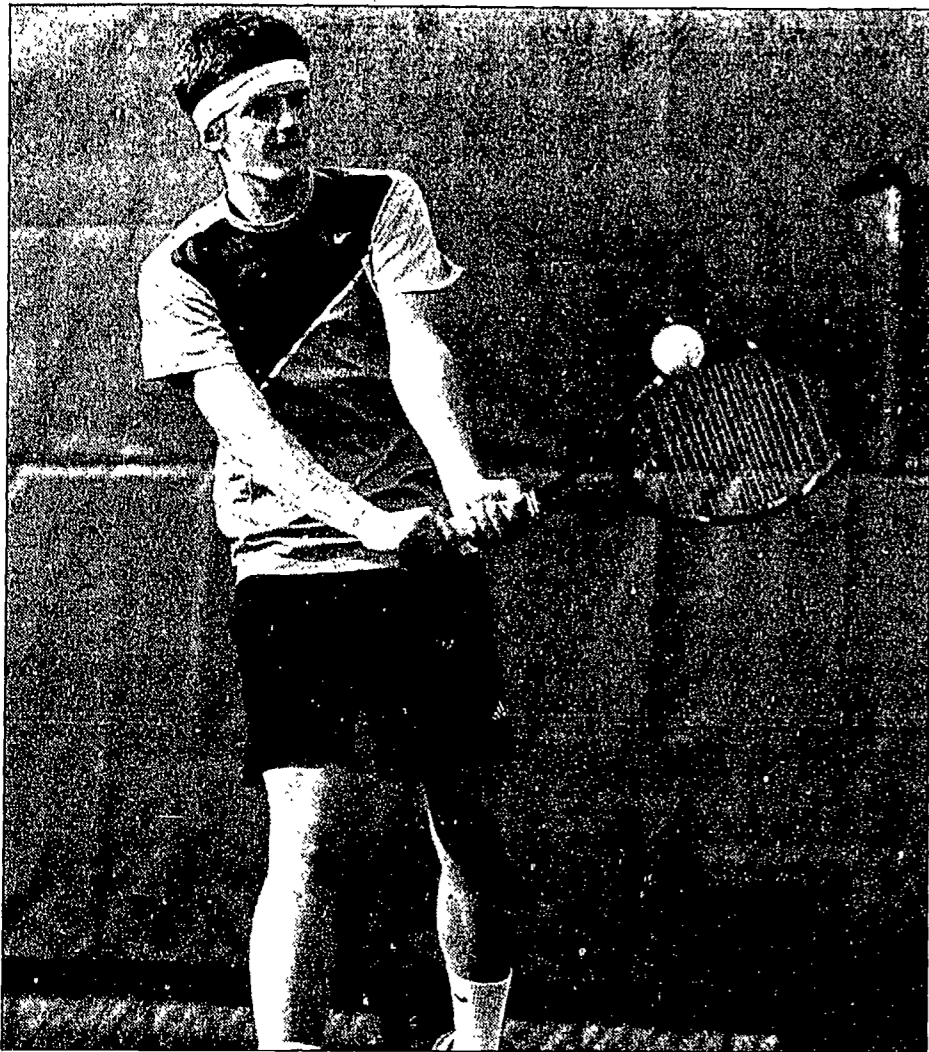
7800 Niles Avenue, (847) 674-9146
www.devaremet.org
Saturday 10:00 AM
Shabbat Morning Services
Wednesday 6:45 PM
Midweek Religious Studies for Adults and
Youth Wednesday 6:30 PM
Club Maccabee Children's Club
For K-5th Graders at Devonshire School in
Robbi Kirk Gliebe
Devar Emet Messianic Synagogue is 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.templejm.org
Friday 8:00 PM
Second Friday of the Month 7:00 PM
Family Shabbat Religious School
Grades K-7 Sunday 9:30 AM — 12:00 PM
Hebrew School Grades 3 — 7
Tuesday 4:15 — 5:15 PM
Religious School Grades 8 — 12
Sunday 11:45 AM - 1:15 PM
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. Kane — Executive Director
Adult Education Multi-faith
Families Welcome Community Theater
High Holiday & Festival

St. Timothy Lutheran Church

9000 N. Kildare, (847) 676-1300
www.sttimothyskokie.com
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM
Choir Practice, Thursday 7:30 PM
Bible Study, Monday 10:00 AM
Youth Christian Education 3rd Sunday of
10:30 AM. Rev. Erik Weber
of each month
Accessible Building ♿



David Hebda and Notre Dame beat St. Patrick 5-0 Friday. (Brian Valentin/Staff Photographer)

Dons break bread with Shamrocks after match

By DAN SHALIN
dshalin@pioneerlocal.com

TENNIS — The Notre Dame-St. Patrick rivalry is a fierce one, though it is a bit more of a laid-back affair on the tennis court than on the football field or basketball hardwood.

The Dons defeated the Shamrocks 5-0 in tennis Friday in Chicago. But the afternoon didn't feature opposing student sections yelling insults at one another. Instead, it was just gentlemanly matches of singles and doubles. When it was over, the teams had a cook-out.

"We cook out once or twice a season and invite the rest of our students to watch the games (and enjoy the food)," ND head coach Steve Jankowski said.

"We usually do it during our home match with St. Patrick. But we played them on the road this year, and

the St. Patrick kids were looking forward to (grilling). So, we cooked at their place. They provided the drinks and snacks and we brought the hot dogs."

ND must have enjoyed the postgame tailgate a little more than the Shamrocks did after a convincing victory.

Leading the way for the Dons was David Hebda, who won 6-1, 6-1 at first singles.

"The kids really look up to Hebda," Jankowski said. "He is the heart and soul of the team. They rally behind him, and he keeps them in line."

Teammate Ronnie Wing, a trick-shot artist who remains undefeated, was a 6-0, 6-2 winner at second singles. Gino Recchia and Kyle Smith were tops in first doubles, John and Joe Kalkowski won second doubles, and Tom Crowley and Jack Smith prevailed at No. 3 doubles.

Notre Dame has been playing some inspired tennis recently.

ND followed up a Niles West Invite title April 11 with dual-meet wins over defending ESCC champ St. Viator, Maine East and Nazareth. In the tuneup before facing rival St. Patrick, the Dons dropped a 4-3 decision to undefeated Carmel April 23.

"We're cranking. That was a good week," Jankowski said.

The Dons were scheduled to visit Benet on Tuesday. They return home to face St. Joseph at 4 p.m. today at Northeast Park in Park Ridge. ND students and teachers are invited to attend. Hot dogs will be provided.

"I buy the food on my own dime. They just have to come out and support the team," Jankowski said. "I have 160 hot dogs and I'm ready to go."

Bascom sets Notre Dame record in 110 high hurdles

By DAN SHALIN
dshalin@pioneerlocal.com

TRACK — Notre Dame High School's Matt Bascom may not have the typical hurdler's build, but the senior has hardly been held back by a lack of size.

At Friday's Don Relays, Bascom won the 110-meter high hurdles (14.4), setting a school record in the process. He was coming off a victory the previous week at the competitive Bartlett Invite, which included state powerhouses like Thornridge and some quality programs from Wisconsin.

"He won that meet, and everybody surrounding him was like a foot taller, and he goes out and wins it," ND head coach Mike Jankowski said. "(At Dons Relays), he did the same thing. That's a testament to how hard he's worked over four years. He's worked really hard to be good at

what he does. I'm really proud of him."

Bascom's workload at the ND meet was hardly an easy one. He went from the 110 high hurdles to the middle distance relay (4th, 3:54.3) to the low-hurdle shuttle (5th, 1:02.5) with barely a moment to catch his breath. He later participated in the team's 1600 relay (6th, 3:55.10).

Joining Bascom in those events were the likes of Greg Leifel, Mike Angelini, Jack McAndrew, Tyler Tangney, Mike Clark and Tim Curley.

McAndrew, a sophomore, had a fine day in the field. He came in sixth in the long jump (18-feet-11) and sixth in the high jump (5-6).

Senior Kyle English came in fifth in the shot put (44-9), but scratched in the discus.

"He kept making throws that were right outside the sector line. I think it was because of the

wind," Jankowski said.

While the wind was a drawback in the throws, it aided several of the runners, as meet records were set in the 400 relay, 100 middle distance relay, 800 triple jump and 1600 relay.

"We had a lot of records broken today for the relays. I think the wind might have helped a little, especially in the 100 (won by Niles West senior Chris Wright in 10.5)," Jankowski said.

The Dons were scheduled to visit Joliet Catholic earlier this week, where they will face the hometown Hilltoppers and Nazareth.

ND then has three straight meets in Lisle. They will face Benet and St. Viator at Benet on May 5, compete in the Carlin Nalley Invite at Benedictine University on May 9, and then return to Benedictine for the ESCC Conference Meet on May 14. Comment: pioneerlocal.com



Jack McAndrew of Notre Dame takes off in the long jump finals, where he placed sixth, during the 43rd Don Relays. (Allen Kalela/For STNG)

Phelps not worried after ND loss to Lane Tech

By DAN SHALIN
dshalin@pioneerlocal.com

LACROSSE — Though the Notre Dame lacrosse team came up on the short end of a 9-2 game April 23 against visiting Lane Tech, Dons head coach Sam Phelps was not alarmed.

"I think our play was better than the score," said Phelps, whose team entered this week with a 3-5 record.

The coach said his team's mishaps were common and correctable, and that he saw several strong improvements from his inexperienced squad.

Phelps said his team's mistakes were in areas like mid-field possession, midfield defense, ground balls, passing and give-and-goes in front of the goal.

When the Dons did get

themselves open in front of the net, their shots were too often off-target.

"Another one of the things we have to work on is shooting," Phelps said. "That's one of our weak spots. We've worked on it, but it's just a matter of drill, drill and practice. That's one of the things we know we need to work on."

The Indians set the tone early in the game by scoring in the first minute. Lane led 2-0 after one quarter and were ahead 4-0 when ND's Ben Pecoraro found the net with just less than seven minutes remaining before halftime.

The Dons surrendered the next five goals, but ND seemed to catch a second wind late in the game. It's solid fourth-quarter play was rewarded with a Rob Neylon strike with five minutes re-

maining.

The goal came after a timeout in which a play was drawn up specifically for Neylon.

"We ran the isolation play and it worked pretty well," Phelps said. "We isolated him on the restraining line and had the remaining middies and attacks crash the net and shield the goalie. As (Neylon) beat his man, the other guys broke out, and we had a layup."

On Saturday, the Dons managed to play one and half games in the Deerfield Tournament before the rest of the invite was washed out by rain.

Deerfield defeated the Dons 7-2 in the opener. Neylon and Harry Johnson scored the goals for ND. Notre Dame was leading Taft 5-1 when the game was called just before halftime.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com



Notre Dame's Harry Johnson (1) tries to evade Lane Tech defenders during a 9-2 loss to the Indians on April 23. (C. Jason Brown/For STNG)

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Blue Demons struggle without senior starters

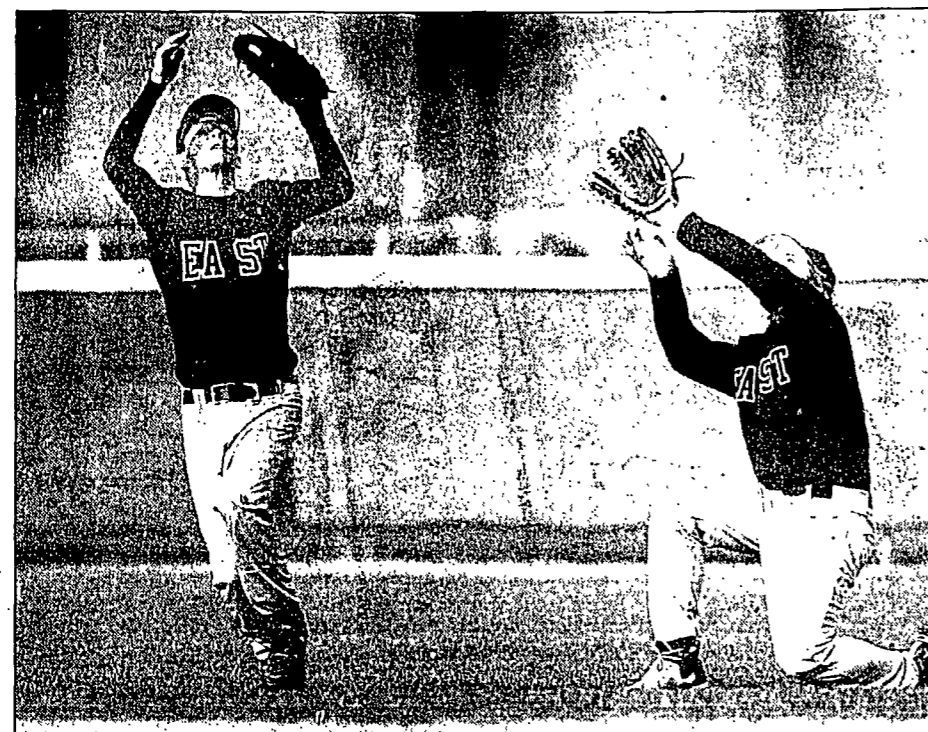
By **ROB VALENTIN**
Contributor

BASEBALL — Missing two of its everyday seniors, Maine East endured a tough week as it dropped a pair of conference games to Glenbrook North and a non-conference showdown with Conant.

"We're playing a little light right now," said Blue Demons coach Dan Dolney. "We're without two starters right now, so it's difficult. The positive is the juniors are getting a chance to get in there and play varsity baseball."

Catcher Dan Witkus has been out with a sprained ankle and pitcher/outfielder Danny Walker is on the bench with a tweaked shoulder. With just three other seniors on the squad, it was an exceptionally difficult week.

Maine East (6-10, 1-3 CLS North) stumbled April 23 to Glenbrook North 14-7. The Blue Demons fell behind early and fought back to



Maine East's Corey Evans (left) and Derek Howard fight the sun as they track up pop-up Thursday during the Blue Demon's 14-7 loss at Glenbrook North. (Allison Williams/Staff Photographer)

within 10-7 before the Spartans closed the door.

"We are hitting the ball pretty well this season," Dol-

ney said. "We're hitting .275, but unfortunately those two guys we were missing are two of our top hitters."

Maine East struggled the next two days as they were hammered Friday by Glenbrook North 11-2 and Satur-

day by Conant 18-3.

"We still have to work on making adjustments as to what we're doing wrong," Dolney said. "We're not playing good fundamental baseball. And it's stuff that we're working on weekly. We have to do what we practice."

Dolney said he thinks his starters just need to play with a little more confidence.

A bright spot was junior Al Nagode. With Witkus on the bench, Nagode stepped in behind the plate and did a solid job. Even more impressively, he showed some pop in his bat, going 6-for-12 in the three-game span.

"He was asked to do a little more and he did an excellent job," Dolney said. "Hopefully he can continue that. Things look good if we get those guys back. We can make a good push at the end."

Dolney said he is hoping that his other three seniors can take a cue from Nagode and step up. If seniors Alex

Czubak (pitcher/first base), Derek Howard (pitcher/outfielder) and Chris Ripple (pitcher/outfielder) can put the team on their shoulders, they may just be able to add more wins.

As for the pitching staff, they had been having a pretty good season before the setbacks last week. Ripple has been very consistent, Dolney said, but he needs some help from his teammates.

"Every time he goes out he battles and gives us a shot to win the game," Dolney said. "We just haven't played very good defense. Our defense hasn't been there every game and we need to be a complete team."

The Blue Demons have a busy week ahead. Maine East was scheduled to travel to Deerfield on Tuesday, host Deerfield today, travel to St. Viator on Friday and host Niles West on Saturday.

Comment: *pioneerlocal.com*

Team atmosphere pays off as East finds success

By **ROB VALENTIN**
Contributor

SOFTBALL — Maine East's Reilly Vohasek couldn't have been more excited last year as she prepared for her freshman season.

Vohasek was going to be a starting third baseman for the Blue Demons and she was planning on making an immediate contribution.

Then the unthinkable happened. Vohasek had some pain in her knee and went to the doctor where they diagnosed her with a genetic injury. Part of the bone in her knee wasn't getting blood and she needed surgery, putting an end to her season after just one game.

"When I found out, I wanted to burst into tears," Vohasek said. "Softball is my favorite sport and I was devastated. I was really excited to play be-

cause I went through all the off-season workouts."

While Vohasek couldn't even take batting practice, she remained dedicated to the team, going to all the practices and games. That might have made things even worse as she had to watch Maine East win just one game all season.

"I don't even know what words to use to describe last year," Vohasek said. "It's painful to just sit there and watch them lose because there was nothing I could do to help them."

While last year may have been unbearable, this spring has brought a rebirth for Vohasek and Maine East. The Blue Demons have already racked up four wins this season and first-year head coach Mike Bender has increased the number of girls in the program from 21 to 36.

"We came in with a brand

new philosophy," Bender said. "We hadn't had much success as a program and the first goal was to build a team atmosphere. We had trips together and we did a lock-in and it's really paid off."

Maine East registered early season wins over Von Steuben and Proviso West while sweeping Proviso East in a double-header. But what may be even more impressive is how the Blue Demons are handling themselves in conference play.

The Blue Demons had Niles North against the ropes before dropping a 3-2 decision in extra innings. They also dropped a close 5-2 contest to Highland Park.

"We set a lot of goals, but the real goal was to compete in every game," Bender said. "We've run into road bumps this year, but now we have the ability to compete. We're not

used to winning ball games. We're able to get leads but now we have to learn how to finish."

After not seeing live pitching for almost a year, Vohasek has struggled a bit at the plate, but she's been solid in the field. Meanwhile junior Jenny Krawiec has been the team's most consistent hitter with a batting average around .400.

"We're coming out and putting up a fight this year; it's really exciting," Krawiec said. "If we just try, we can amount to anything we want."

Other key contributors this season have been catcher Mary Caruvana, pitchers Michele Perchess, Sam Dosek and Cara DeBenedictis, first baseman Jessie Demars and second baseman Kyla Stacey.

Maine East is scheduled to travel to Highland Park Thursday and Wheeling on Saturday. Comment: *pioneerlocal.com*



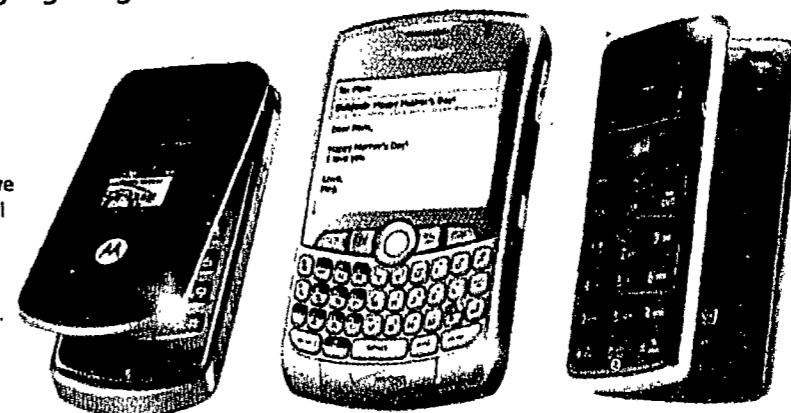
Maine East center fielder Reilly Vohasek crosses the plate during the Demons' win over Von Steuben. (Jerry Dallego/For STNG)



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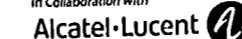
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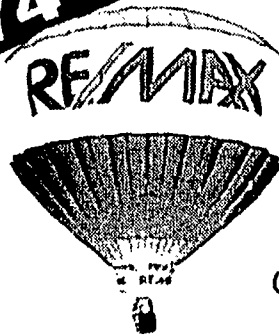


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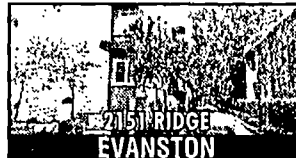


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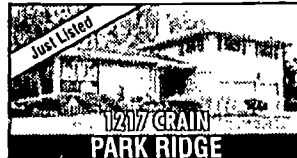
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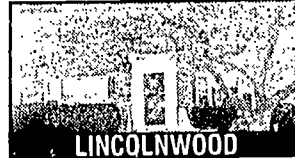
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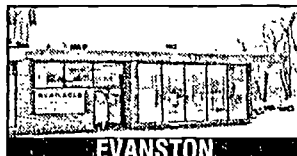
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