

# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

APRIL 29, 2010 ★ A PIONEER PRESS PUBLICATION ★ WWW.NILESHERALDSPECTATOR.COM ★ \$2.00

## THIS WEEK

### FOOD



#### DERBY DINING

'Hot Brown' sandwich debuts at Arlington Park.

SEE PAGE 26

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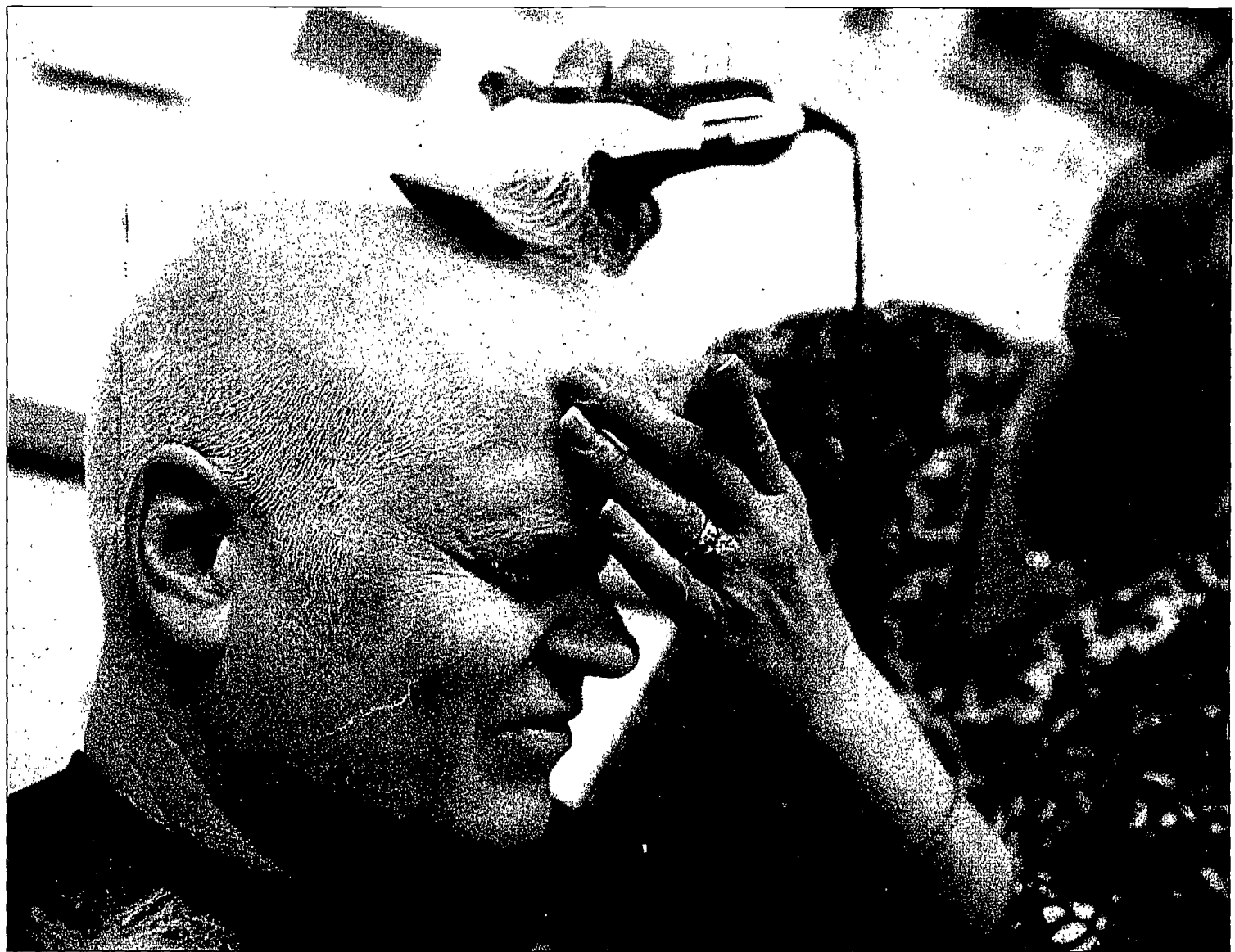
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Inside!

Mother's Day



## BALD FOR A CAUSE

Cook County Sheriff's Department custodial staff member Ted Cook of Niles gets his head shaved by stylist Carmela Lollino of InStyle salon for St. Baldrick's in support of cancer research. PAGE 10 (Joel Lerner/Staff Photographer)

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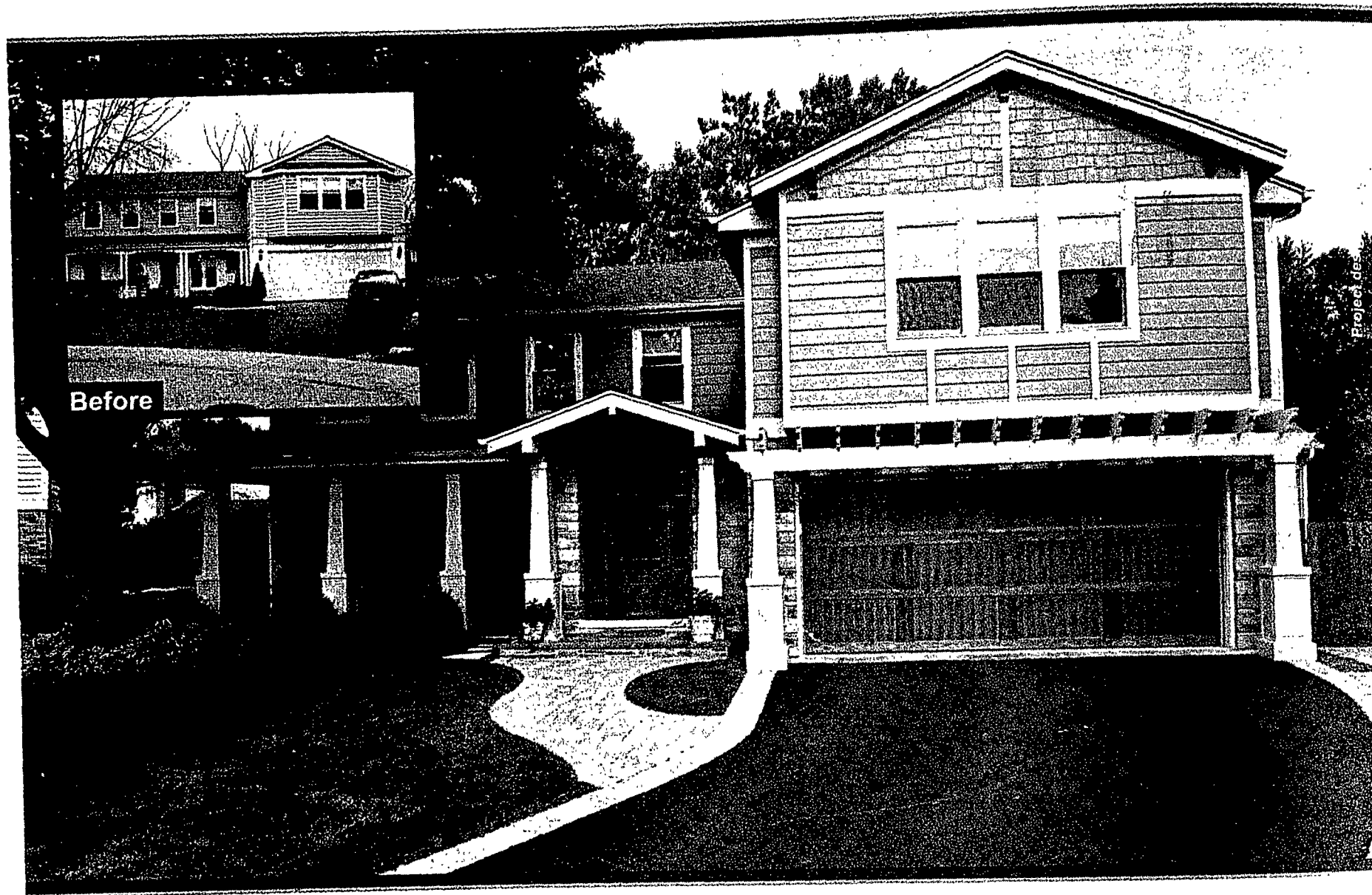
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**Casino coming** A large crowd gathered under the tent of the site of the future casino construction project in Des Plaines for the ground breaking ceremonies. On stage before the ceremony are (from left) Neil Bluhm, Midwest Gaming Chairman, Mayor Marty Moylan and Greg Carlin, Midwest Gaming CEO. Page 6 (Joe Cyganowski/for STM)

## Alleged officer misconduct not a widespread problem

By ALEX MCLEESE  
Contributor

In the last year, two Niles Police Department officers have faced criminal allegations, but village officials say that there is no cause for concern about a systemic problem in the department.

The department's officers have repeatedly been accused of wrongdoing. Former police officer William Christie was charged with four counts of theft and four counts of official misconduct for stealing \$1,700 from a room that he was processing as part of an investigation. Current police officer Fotis Markadas allegedly sexually assaulted a female employee at a Milwaukee Avenue bar, and those accusations could turn into criminal charges.

Sentencing documents related to the Nicholas Blase case suggest that village employees, including possibly police officers, could have been part of corruption involving sales of insurance.

Niles officials say the problems are aberrations.

"It just so happened that there were two incidents in

the same year," said Mayor Robert Callero. "It's completely abnormal. It shows we are making sure they are all toeing the line."

Niles Police Chief Dean Strzelecki acknowledged that the accusations have created a public relations problem.

"It's compounded because one happened and the other happened right afterward," he said. "But because of the way we addressed it, because we responded to it post haste, the image here is still a positive one of the Niles Police Department, as it should be."

Strzelecki said the police department is functioning without trouble.

"As far as the operation of the police department, all my people are professionals and they just continue to do their job and serve the public," he said.

Christie, who served 27 years in the force, pled not guilty at his arraignment hearing on April 8. He is accused of committing theft as part of a death investigation on the Leaning Tower YMCA on Touhy Avenue in Niles. Christie resigned from the police force on Nov.

30. In February, based on an internal Niles investigation, the Cook County State's Attorney filed criminal charges.

Markadas' case is moving through an independent arbitration process that will last three to six months. Niles fire and police commissioners are attempting to terminate his employment.

Currently, Markadas is suspended without pay and does not face any criminal charges. However, he may be charged once DNA results are processed by a state lab. Strzelecki said he expects to receive the test results any day. If they can be used as evidence in a criminal trial, he will present them to the State's Attorney.

The Niles Board of Ethics is charged with investigating the suggestions in Blase sentencing documents of wrongdoing by village employees possibly involved with corruption relating to the sale of insurance.

Trustee Joe LoVerde has said that the conclusion of this investigation will be released within weeks.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

## Blase will be sent to Duluth

By ALEX MCLEESE  
Contributor

Former Niles Mayor and Maine Township Democratic Committeeman Nicholas Blase did not report to the federal minimum prison security camp where he wanted to be released in 10 months. In addition, the former mayor must pay \$1.1 million in fines.

In January, Federal Judge Wayne Andersen sentenced Blase to one year and one day in prison for each of the two counts of the 11-count

indictment he had pled guilty to. If he behaves well as a prisoner, Blase could be released in 10 months. Andersen had recommended that Blase serve his time at the federal camp in Oxford, Wis., a common destination for prisoners from the Chicago area. But the Federal Bureau of Prisons decided that Blase would be moved to Duluth.

That choice was likely made because Duluth has superior medical facilities, said Duluth Public Information Officer Alice Johnson. Blase will be expected to keep up with the pace of the prison.

"All the prisoners are to be treated the same," said Johnson. "If he was not appropriate for this facility, he wouldn't have been designated here."

Blase, PAGE 14

## Former trustee seeks pardon

By ALEX MCLEESE  
Contributor

George Alpagianis, who served briefly as Village Trustee last year before the revelation of past felony charges forced him to resign, recently dropped a lawsuit that sought to compel Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez to declare that he is not a convicted felon. However, he said he still plans to seek a pardon from Gov. Pat Quinn.

Alpagianis, owner of the local restaurant Kappy's Pancake House, won a race for Village Trustee last April. But Journal & Topics Newspapers discovered that as a teenager he had been charged with six felony counts of aggravated battery. The Illinois Officials Convicted of Infamous Crimes Act prohibits people with felony convictions on their records from serving public office. After Alvarez sought to seek his removal and fine him, Al-

pogianis resigned last June. He filed a suit against Alvarez and commissioners on the Cook County Board in October to clear his record. But he dropped that suit earlier this month, in part because of the declining health of his attorney, Michael Lavelle, who died in December.

Now, Alpagianis intends to seek a pardon from Gov. Quinn. Early this month, Quinn acted on 407 clemency petitions, granting 147 pardons.

## Man arrested for sexual abuse of minor

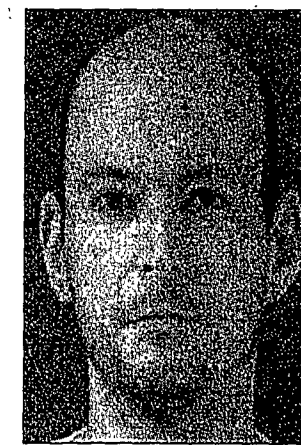
By CRAIG A. WHITNEY  
cwhitney@pioneerlocal.com

Niles Police Department announced the arrest of a man for aggravated criminal sexual abuse of a minor.

An April 6 police department press release stated Gregory J. Chmiel, 33, of 9029 N. Maryland Ave., Niles, was arrested and charged April 5 with six counts of felony aggravated criminal sexual abuse, a class 2 felony.

The release states a 14-year-old Norridge girl met Chmiel on the Internet, then met with him in person on two separate occasions.

On Thursday, April 1, the girl was allegedly picked up by Chmiel at her Park Ridge high school and driven to a Niles motel where he al-



Gregory J. Chmiel

legedly had sex with her, the release states. The girl's mother reported her missing to the Park Ridge police department that day. Park Ridge police were then contacted by Norridge police when the girl returned

home early April 2.

Park Ridge police then went to the girl's Norridge home and questioned her. She was then transported to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge after police learned the incidents may have taken place in Niles. The girl was then examined at the hospital and further questioned by Niles detectives.

It is also alleged that Chmiel brought the girl to his Niles home on Feb. 25 and allegedly engaged in sexual activity with her.

On April 6, Chmiel was brought to a bond hearing at Skokie Court House before Judge Marcia Orr and bond was set at \$200,000. His preliminary court date is May 4.

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LAST WEEK

TOP FOUR STORIES

1. Mourners look for something positive amid tragedy

Area Polish residents, their country's red-and-white flags flying from their cars, filed into St. John Brebeuf for a special Polish Mass in memory of the Polish President Lech Kaczynski, his wife Maria, and others on board a plane that had crashed the week before in Russia.

2. Niles West: Student newspaper to go online-only next school year

Reflecting a national trend in which newspapers are doing a disappearing act or appearing solely in online form, the Niles West High School student newspaper, the West Word, will only be available via the Internet starting next school year.

3. People who go 'above and beyond' to be recognized at awards banquet

The Niles Chamber of Commerce and Industry will award 13 individuals and businesses who make Niles "a place where people count" at a dinner at the White Eagle Banquet Hall on Saturday.

4. Mass honors victims of Polish air tragedy

On April 14, the Polish community of St. John Brebeuf Parish hosted a special memorial Mass to pray for the souls of the Polish people who lost their lives in the recent air tragedy in Smolensk, Russia.

5. FBI Academy graduates

Niles commander Niles Police Department announces the graduation of Division Commander Joseph Penze from the FBI National Academy Program at Quantico, Va. Commander Penze was among 253 law enforcement officers graduating from the 240th Session which included men and women from all 50 states and the District of Columbia, 20 international countries, four military organizations and four federal civilian organizations.

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### LAUGHING WITH YOGA

Members of the Park Ridge Hysterical Society lift their hands up at the end of a laughter yoga session.

See more pictures on PAGE 11



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### NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

SERVING READERS SINCE 1951

INSIDE THIS WEEK	
CALENDAR	17
CROSSWORD	B20
FIXER	19
OPINION	16
POLICE BLOTTER	15
SCHOOLS	24
SHOWTIMES	B3

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### MAINE EAST IDOLS

# Library Idol allows students to shine

Poets, singers, songwriters and musicians shared their talents in front of their peers during Maine East High School third annual Library Idol.

The two-day event, held April 14 and 15, drew about 100 performers, including poets from Gemini Junior High School in Niles who were invited to share their original work, said Merrilee Andersen Kwielord, lead librarian of Maine East's LRC.

Library Idol began three years ago as a way to celebrate National Library Week, Kwielord said. Students perform throughout the school day for their peers who drop in at the LRC during study periods.

"Because 'American Idol' is such a popular show, we decided to let the kids show off a little bit," she said.

The writing and recitation of poetry is encouraged as the event also takes place during National Poetry Month.

Although no winners were crowned in this particular idol competition, every student who participated received a pen and pencil set engraved with words "Maine East LRC Idol," and other prizes were given away as well.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com



ABOVE: Marielle Solano of Des Plaines sings and Sam Ray Panganiban of Glenview plays guitar during the third annual Library Idol competition at Maine East in Park Ridge on April 14. (Rob Hart/Staff Photographer)



Jessica Gammell of Des Plaines recites a poem entitled "Hate Poem" written by Julia Sheehan at the third annual Library Idol competition at Maine East in Park Ridge April 14. (Rob Hart/Staff Photographer)



Asfa Hasan an eighth-grader from Gemini Junior High School recites a poem she wrote called "Starlight" during the third annual Library Idol competition at Maine East in Park Ridge on April 14. (Rob Hart/Staff Photographer)

NILES WEST

# Student newspaper to go online-only next school year

By NATALIE HAYES CONTRIBUTOR

Reflecting a national trend in which newspapers are doing a disappearing act or appearing solely in on-line form, the Niles West High School student newspaper, the West Word, will only be available via the Internet starting next school year.

School officials decided to eliminate the hard copy edition of the monthly newspaper for several reasons, including to save money and to allow for more coverage of immediate news; but most importantly to train future reporters for the upcoming era of online journalism, said Niles West English and journalism teacher Evelyn Lauer.

Lauer, who was chosen by school officials to run the West Word in the 2010-11 school year, said the benefits of an online student newspaper are plentiful. "The hard reality is that newspapers are dying all around us," Lauer said. "To train high school students who will graduate from college with journalism degrees solely as print jour-

nalists seems to be doing them a disservice because we're not addressing the realities of the field."

And the realities of newspaper circulation look dismal at best. According to a recent report released from the Audit Bureau of Circulations, U.S. newspaper circulation hit its lowest level in seven decades at the end of 2009.

But the disappearance of the modern-day newspaper has its perks. The online newspaper includes features such as blogging, a student comment section, an opinions page and can get more students involved by giving everyone an equal voice, Lauer said.

"The main goal is to get more students involved in the newspaper, and to reach kids in other walks of life who might not normally be interested in journalism," Lauer said. "The online element lets you do more."

English teacher and West Word advisor for the past 10 years, Michael Conroy decided to step down from his position following the announcement that the hard copy edition would be eliminated. At 55-years-old, Conroy said he has accepted the fact that hard copy papers are on the wane, but made

the decision to leave the newsroom because he doesn't have the energy at his age to reinvent himself as an on-line journalist.

"In the past few years I have prepared my students for a form of journalism that is quickly becoming obsolete," Conroy said. "With newspapers like the Seattle-Post Intelligencer and Rocky Mountain News going online only, with the Detroit Free Press only printing on weekends, and the Chicago Tribune and Chicago Sun-Times both in bankruptcy, I would say that the handwriting is on the wall."

While newspaper popularity around the U.S. continues to decline, the Niles West community has also lost interest. School officials said that 10 years ago in 2000, 2500 copies of each edition of the student newspaper were printed for the 2300 students enrolled in the school, and all the copies were taken within a week of being put out.

Today, the school prints 1,800 copies per edition for the more than 2700 students who attend the school. More than 500 copies go to waste each month, Conroy said. "Meanwhile our web site

is averaging about 800 hits per month," Conroy said. "Obviously, less than half the student body reads the paper in print, so it is ecologically unsound and a waste of money to continue printing issues."

Niles West has made a sort of history with its switch to online news, as there are no other known high schools in Illinois who have eliminated the print newspaper.

As for Conroy, who will leave the newsroom and its staff that he has grown to know and love over the past 10 years, he will miss the many late nights spent in the newsroom, rushing to meet deadlines, eating pizza, and sharing a laugh with students.

But he stands 100 percent behind the school's decision to move the newspaper online.

"As someone who began his career in journalism in an era of typewriters, paste-up boards, Exacto knives, and 35mm photography, I realize time marches forward to the past is futile," Conroy said.

"The medium evolves, and schools should not only reflect that evolution they should be the vanguard of it."

# At casino groundbreaking, officials looks on bright side

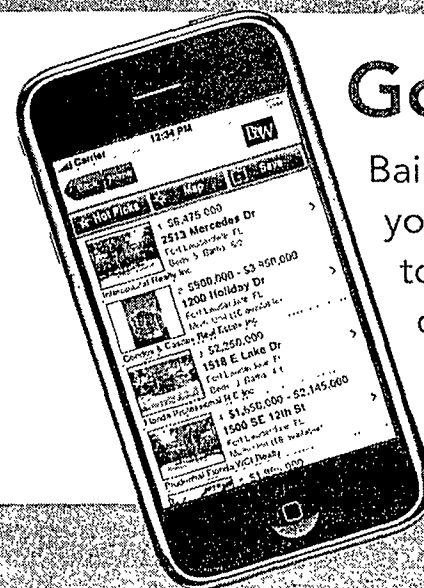
By JENNIFER JOHNSON jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

Predicting that a new casino in Des Plaines will turn the community and surrounding areas into a "tourism hub," Des Plaines Mayor Marty Moylan led a symbolic groundbreaking of the future complex Friday morning.

Under a large white tent facing DePaul University's O'Hare Campus on River Road just north of Devon Avenue, hundreds of elect-

ed officials and other dignitaries gathered as shovelfuls of boxed dirt symbolized the start of the \$445 million casino project on the site. The 147,000 sq. ft. casino, which will be located less than one mile west of Park Ridge, is scheduled to open in late 2011 and projected to generate over \$150,000 in annual gaming tax revenue. There are plans to add hotels and restaurants to the casino site in future years as well. "This is going to be the

most exciting and successful casino in the state of Illinois," promised Neil Bluhm, chairman of Midwest Gaming & Entertainment, LLC, the casino's developer. Bluhm said the casino, which will create "hundreds" of construction jobs and another 1,000 permanent positions when it opens for operation, will provide Des Plaines many economic benefits and "will be great for our bordering communities as well."



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MAINE TOWNSHIP

# Major work scheduled on 4 roads

By JENNIFER JOHNSON  
jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

Four residential streets in unincorporated Maine Township are slated to undergo extensive repairs this construction season.

Residents living on Linnea Lane will have an easier time exiting their street when the creation of a cul-de-sac is complete at the western end of the road.

The block west of Oak Lane previously came to a dead end, but work is taking place to create an actual cul-de-sac allowing vehicles to turn around, said Maine Township Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano.

Linnea Lane, located north Lake Mary Anne, will also undergo drainage improvements in an effort to alleviate flooding in the area, Provenzano said. Similar drainage work will take place on Oak Lane just south of Linnea.

This summer, Rancho Lane, a small street south of Ballard Road and west of Kennedy Drive, is scheduled to be resurfaced and drainage ditches will be renovated. The project will be funded through a Cook County Community Development Block Grant obtained through County Commissioner Elizabeth Doody Gorman, Provenzano said.

In the unincorporated Glenview area of Maine Township, curbs, gutters and sidewalks will be reconstructed on Julie Court, which will also be resurfaced.

With more than 30,000 residents living in unincorporated Maine Township, Provenzano hopes the Highway Department can convince the federal government to share stimulus money with the township for other infrastructure projects. No other townships have received stimulus dollars, but Provenzano believes Maine Township taxpayers should benefit.

"We'd like to be on the receiving end of all these millions of dollars," he said, suggesting that funds could be used to repave Church Street, which touches the Park Ridge border, as well as Washington Street in unincorporated Glenview.  
Comment: pioneerlocal.com

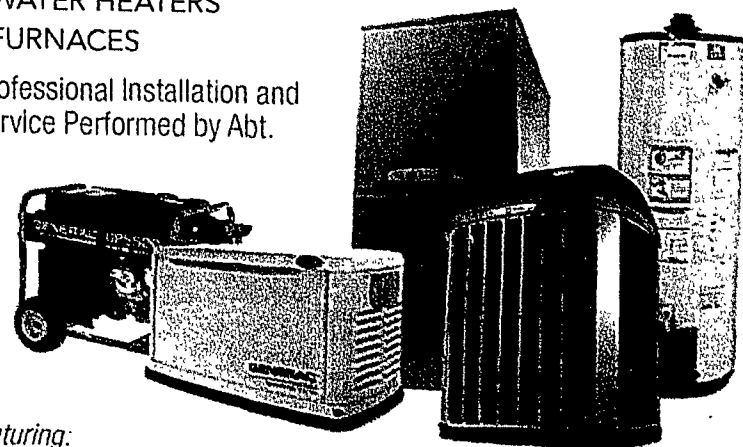
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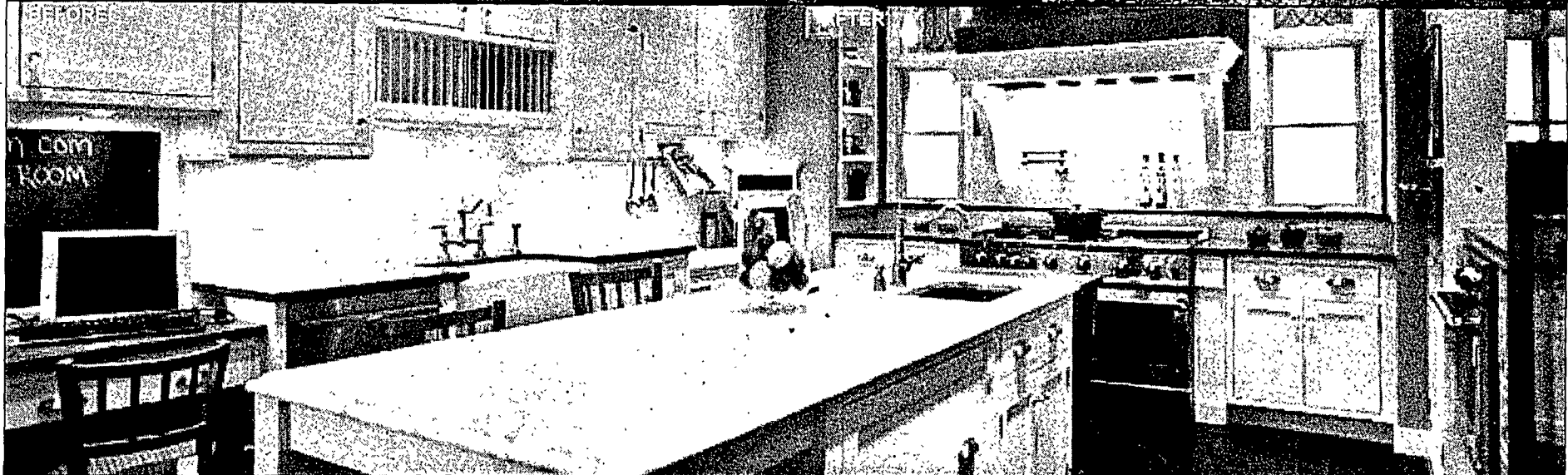


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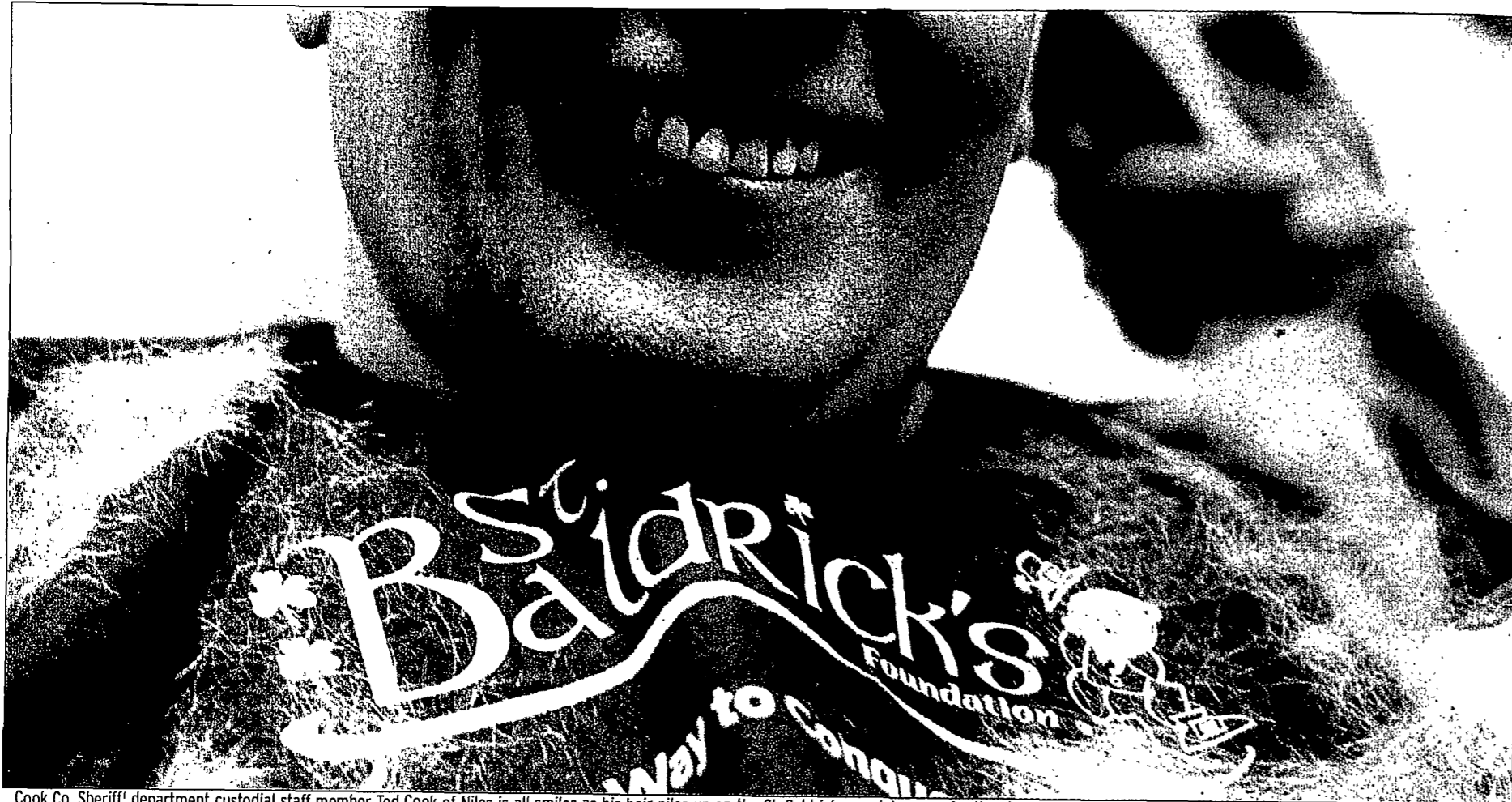
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Cook Co. Sheriff's department custodial staff member Ted Cook of Niles is all smiles as his hair piles up on the St. Baldrick's smock he wore for the shaving. He outraised all of the deputies, raising more than 1000 dollars, he also go his hair shaved off for St. Baldrick's, in support of cancer research.

# A close shave



Ted Cook of Niles touches his newly shaved head.



Ted Cook braces as stylist Carmela Lollino starts to shave his head.

Photos by  
**Joel Lerner**  
Staff Photographer

Cook gets his head shaved by stylist Carmela Lollino of InStyle salon in Des Plaines.



# YOGA

Dr. Madan Kataria, founder of Laughter Yoga, joined the Park Ridge Hysterical Society for various exercises on April 13.

Laughter yoga combines group laughter exercises with yoga breathing, and allows everyone to laugh without using jokes, humor or comedies.

After being founded at a park in Mumbai in 1995, Laughter Yoga has grown into a world-wide movement. Once a week The Park Ridge Hysterical Club hosts a laughter club where laughter lovers have fun with laughter exercises.

For more information go to [www.parkridgelughter.com](http://www.parkridgelughter.com).

# LAUGHTER



Members of the Park Ridge Hysterical Society lift their hands up at the end of a laughter yoga session.



Barb Chartier, of Bridgeport, laughs and dances around during Laughter Yoga exercises at the Park Ridge Plaza Building.



Donna Nelson, of Chicago, a certified Laughter Yoga Leader leads the Park Ridge Hysterical Society in laughing.



LEFT- Dr. Madan Kataria, founder of Laughter Yoga, leads the Park Ridge Hysterical Society in exercises.

RIGHT- Miguel Angel Garza, of Mexico, lets the laughter out during Laughter Yoga exercises at the Park Ridge Hysterical Society gathering on Tuesday. Garza was in the Chicago area for a Laughter Yoga Teaching seminar.

Story & photos by  
**Curtis Lehmkuhl**  
Staff Photographer



ON LOCATION

# Maine high school grads shoot independent movie in Park Ridge

By JENNIFER JOHNSON  
jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

Taking a cue from the late John Hughes a group of Park Ridge filmmakers are using their hometown as the backdrop for their comedy about the awkward years of adolescence — and a dilapidated old party van, nicknamed “the Sin Bin.”

For five days last week the house at the northwest corner of Prospect Avenue and Gillick Street served as a full-fledged movie set teaming with actors, producers and crew members, not to mention dozens of teen and pre-teen girls camped out on the parkway after school, hoping to catch a glimpse of cable TV’s “Life with Derek” star Michael Seater, who plays the film’s lead role.

“Sin Bin,” the working title of the small independent film, is the brainchild of best friends Chris Storer



Park Ridge natives Christopher Storer, Billy Federighi and Dante Federighi are making an independent film using several locations in and around Park Ridge. (Jennifer Johnson/Staff Writer)

and Billy Federighi, two Park Ridge natives and 1999 Maine South High School graduates who dabbled in film making as teenagers

but who are now seeing their very first full-length feature film come to life. Basing the characters on actual people he’s known Storer

wrote the script and is co-producing the film with Federighi, who is also the director, and Chicago native Brian Petsos, who also has

an acting role.

Billy Federighi’s brother, Dante Federighi, a 1989 graduate of Maine East High School, is the executive producer and the man who essentially got the movie to the point of actually being made.

“I’d been trying to prod them along for the last couple years to put together a movie,” Dante Federighi said, explaining that making a film was something the friends always dreamed of doing. “It’s probably been five years, but we’ve finally got the right script at the right time in everyone’s lives.

“We put a deal together and raised the money for it and helped produce the film.”

Storer said from the start he and Billy Federighi wanted to shoot the film on location in Chicago, but ending up in Park Ridge was purely a fluke, the result of loca-

tion assistants finding homes there that fit Storer’s vision.

In addition to the Prospect Avenue house the crew filmed at a home at 1833 Brophy Ave., which happens to be located across the street from where Storer grew up. This week filming was expected to take place at a third location near the Park Ridge Country Club.

“It could have been anywhere, but it just turned out that three or four of our locations happen to be here (in Park Ridge),” Billy Federighi said. “But now that it happened, I’m so happy it did. It seems to have worked out really well for us.”

Billy Federighi said it has been “really cool” to work in the community he grew up in.

“Everyone’s been really excited to see people in

Movie, PAGE 14

## PARK RIDGE-NILES DISTRICT 64

# School board hires new superintendent

The Park Ridge-Niles District 64 Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the hiring of new Superintendent Philip Bender, the current leader of New Prairie United School Corp. in New Carlisle, Ind.

Beginning July 1, Bender will replace Sally Pryor, who has spent 18 years with District 64, and begin a three-year term ending June 30, 2018.

Board President John Heyde said he and his colleagues had heard from more than 100 stakeholders about their priorities for the district. They then interviewed dozens of candidates from across Illinois and the nation. Heyde said he was “very impressed with Dr. Bender from the get-go, and solidified that judgment through intensive site visits to Indiana and then here in Illinois.”

Fellow board member Pat Fioretto said he was particularly pleased by what he saw in Indiana.

“What struck me as most impressive was that his strongest critics, the teachers’ union representatives, had nothing but wonderful things to say about Dr. Bender,” he said. “He collaborates with teachers.”

Bender holds a doctoral degree in school administration from Indiana State University, has 14 years of administrative experience and spent 20 years in the classroom. He was named Indiana Teacher of the Year by the Congress of Parents and Teachers, and he is the author of a recently released book, *Perceptions of Ethical Public School Leadership in Indiana*. He said his ethical commitment to dealing with public funds openly and cautiously, always keeping in mind the people involved, has shaped how he has acted as superintendent at New Carlisle, a rural K-12 district outside South Bend, in northern Indiana.

Bender said he is satisfied with the district he is leaving behind.

“In January, we cut about \$1 million from our budget, precisely and involving all stakeholders,” he said. “I stand proud tonight for those words (of praise from teachers), and I’m proud of those folks I’m leaving behind. It’s a bittersweet move.”

When Bender visited District 64 on April 8, what he saw attracted him greatly.

“To work in an environment where all stakeholders place a high value on education is important,” he said. “I saw custodians and dining-hall workers all doing what’s best for the kids. It’s a phenomenal atmosphere to work in.”

Besides cooperating with teachers Bender will be faced with implementing District 64’s Strategic Plan, a five-year program that will be finalized at the Board of Education’s May 10 meeting. Board member Russell Gentile said Bender was the candidate most focused on the plan.

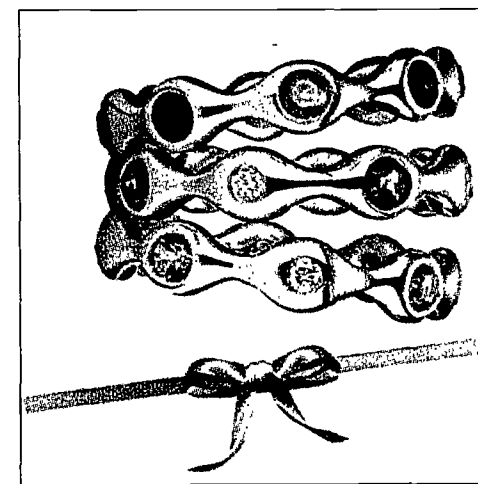
“The plan expresses the district’s continued emphasis on differentiating students,” said Gentile. “What struck me individually about Bender was his experience with longer-term, K-12 education. He can help students to be even better prepared for success in high school.”

District 64’s leaders said they are happy with the district’s current state.

“Dr. Pryor should feel proud of leaving the district in an enviable position both academically and financially,” said Heyde.

Bender said he’s enthusiastic about moving into his new role in the coming months.

“I’m excited to be implementing goals for each student, individualized plans to capitalize on each child’s strengths,” he said.



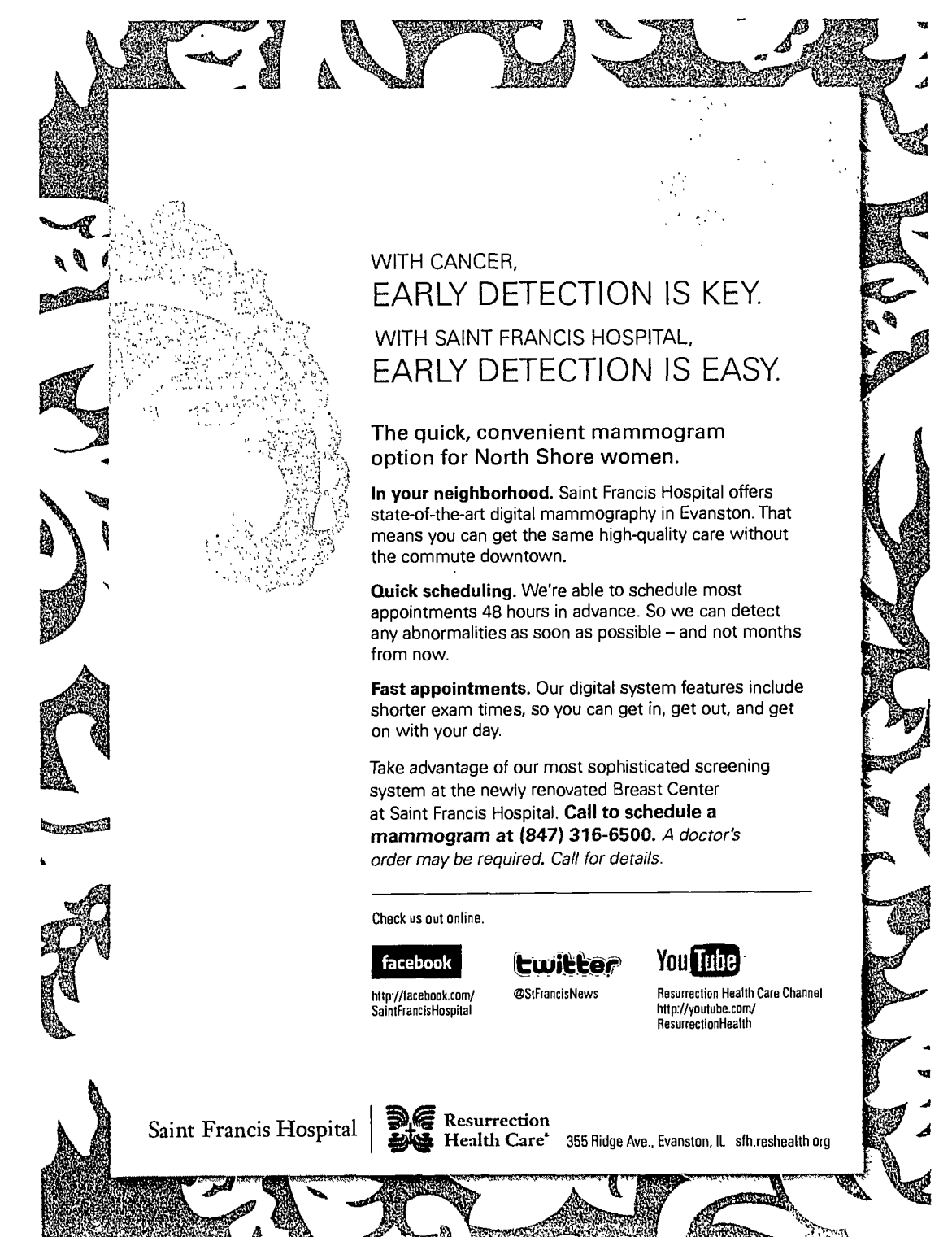
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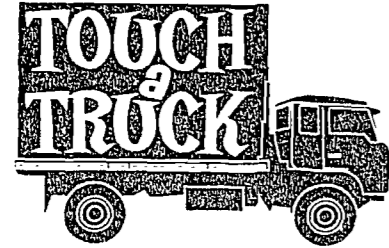
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## Movie

Continued from PAGE 12

town filming a movie," he said. "There are a lot of neighborhood people who come and check it out."

"They're extra surprised when they see that me and Chris went to Maine South and to Lincoln (Middle School). A lot of these kids who come by to see some of the stars go to those schools currently. It's been cool for them."

The local set also means frequent appearances from family and friends. Cousins of the Federighis have stopped by with baked treats for the crew and their father has shared his mechanical expertise by getting the film's most important prop -- the Sin Bin -- running.

"It's just been great to work with all our friends and family and the Park Ridge community has been really great to us," Dante Federighi said. "We're very appreciative. We'll show off the city and Park Ridge the best way possible."

Setting "Sin Bin" in the Chicago area was a priority of Storer, who wanted to the model the film after John Hughes' style of film mak-

ing, from the Chicago-area location to the character-based storytelling.

"The reason John Hughes appealed to us was the same reason he appealed to everyone in the country: It's never about cheerleaders and it's never about football players. It's the people you grew up with, it's your friends," Storer said. "It's not overly clever or overly cute and I think a lot of people related to the way they spoke and acted."

Storer says "Sin Bin" is inspired by the Billy Wilder film, "The Apartment."

In "Sin Bin" the plot centers around "teens trying to find their own personal space," and the old van one of them loans out to his friends as a type of "portable apartment," where they "do the kind of stuff you could never do in front of your parents," Storer said.

The blue van, which was parked outside the house on Prospect Avenue during last week's shooting, was also taken on the road to places like the iconic Superdawg, 6863 N. Milwaukee Ave., where Storer says Hughes shot scenes for "Sixteen Candles" that never made it into the film. The crew also shot inside Happy Foods in Edison Park, where TV star Ben McKenzie, of "The O.C."

and "Southland" fame, appears in a cameo, as well as the former Maine North High School in unincorporated Maine Township, where "The Breakfast Club," another John Hughes-directed film, was made.

Billy Federighi, who has worked professionally behind the scenes of TV commercials, believes "Sin Bin" will have a wide appeal. "Everyone at one time in their life was an awkward teenager and that's kind of our audience," he said.

Shooting of the film is set to wrap Friday, followed by several weeks of post-production work, said Dante Federighi. Though the movie does not yet have a distributor, Storer is hopeful it will reach a wide audience because he believes it carries a commercial appeal that is relatable to the audience. He also plans to look into film festivals.

Storer said he is impressed with the way the cast and crew have responded so enthusiastically to the movie.

"It's like this dumb thing that I wrote in my room that now is coming to life and people are actually working on it," he said. "It's actually pretty incredible."

Comment: [pioneerlocal.com](http://pioneerlocal.com)

## Blase

Continued from PAGE 3

Earlier, Blase's attorneys asked Judge Andersen for home confinement because of the onset of Parkinson's disease and other problems, but were denied. If the former mayor had to be transferred, he could move to a prison medical center like the one near Duluth at Rochester, Minn. At the prison camp, Blase will be expected to do seven hours of work each day on projects like food services and landscaping, Johnson said.

Blase is one of over 1,500 people who have been convicted of corruption in Cook County since 1970, according to University of Illinois-Chicago Political Science Department Head

Dick Simpson. Simpson said that while convicting people like Blase is important, "it's clear that convicting rotten apples is totally insufficient to eliminating corruption."

The professor and former Chicago alderman said that local and federal corruption in Cook County costs taxpayers around \$500 million each year.

Despite those costs, Niles residents, including many of those interviewed at the Senior Center, seem to remember their imprisoned mayor fondly. Simpson attributed the great success of politicians like Blase to the strong machines they build.

"Once they come into power, it's very hard for anyone to raise sufficient money or volunteers to challenge them in time to

defeat political figures like Nick Blase," he said. "They have done so many favors for so many groups and individuals, and garnered so much media attention, even if mostly local, that it's very hard to challenge them at that point."

Blase, who served as Niles' mayor for 47 continuous years, was arrested and charged with corruption by federal authorities in June 2008. He pled guilty in 2008 to charges that he forced local businesses to buy insurance from an insurance company, Ralph Weiner & Associates. Prosecutors provided evidence of \$421,500 of kickbacks between 1997 and 2006, and said that the corrupt practices might have stretched back as far as the 1970s.

Comment: [pioneerlocal.com](http://pioneerlocal.com)

## POLICE BLOTTER

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

### ENDANGERING A CHILD

Juliana and Victor Osemobor, 36 and 37, of 8815 N. Grand, Niles, were charged April 22 with endangering the life of a child. An investigation alleged that they had locked their 11-year-old

son in the basement of their home for approximately one week, with food and a clean area, after he was suspended from school. Their court date is May 11.

### DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Matthew La Liberty, 38, of 3747 N. Harlem Ave., Chicago, was charged April 18 with felony possession of a controlled substance. Police found a white rock substance that field tested positive for cocaine in the bushes near where the alleged criminal had been walking in the view of a police offi-

cer, who had seen him drop something. His court date is May 4.

Leonel Ramirez-Reyes, 19, of 9001 S. Cicero Ave., Oak Lawn, was charged April 18 with felony driving under the influence of alcohol, aggravated by the absence of a valid drivers license. He allegedly fell asleep inside a moving car with a blood alcohol content of .14. His court date is May 5.

Cherish Scarpelli, 19, of 2815 Helen Drive, Glenview,

was charged April 18 with driving under the influence of alcohol. She was allegedly driving 61 miles per hour near the 8800 block of Greenwood Avenue with a blood alcohol content of .135. Her court date is May 18.

Maria Zaloga, 21, of 7635 W. Monroe St., Niles, was charged April 16 with driving under the influence of alcohol. She was allegedly driving wildly near the 7200 block of N. Meade Avenue with a blood alcohol content of .17. Her court date is May 6.

## THEFT

Michael Dean, 31, of 6638 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, was charged April 16 with felony retail theft, aggravated by the amount taken, and felony possession of a controlled substance. He allegedly stole \$1,047.56 in cigarette cartons from the Jewel at 7900 N. Milwaukee Ave. and allegedly possessed 1.75 grams of a substance in his car that field tested positive for heroin. His court date is May 4.

Felix Santos, 70, of 1635

W. Morse Ave., Chicago, was charged April 20 with retail theft and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. He allegedly stole \$146.06 in clothing from the Wal-Mart at 5630 Touhy Ave. while an 11-year-old relative was with him. His court date is May 18.

Mark Tracy, 50, of 4821 W. Belle Plaine, Chicago, was charged April 17 with retail theft. He allegedly stole \$85.22 in food and vitamins from the Jewel at 8730 Dempster. His court date is May 18.

## Vandals tag Washington School twice

By JENNIFER JOHNSON  
[jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com)

Vandals armed with spray paint targeted Washington Elementary School's playground and building twice between the past weekend and Tuesday, Park Ridge police reported.

An officer on routine patrol discovered the vandalism early Sunday, police said. Park Ridge Police Cmdr. Lou

Jogmen said officers on routine patrol discovered initials and other markings spray-painted on the playground equipment and on exterior wall of the school overnight between Saturday and Sunday. The graffiti did not appear to be gang-related, he said. A window on the school was also broken.

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 Superintendent

Sally Pryor said at least one of the vandals climbed onto the roof of the school because graffiti was found up there, as well. The school's maintenance staff was able to remove the graffiti, she said.

Graffiti was again spray-painted on the grounds overnight between Monday and Tuesday, but it was less extensive than the previous incident, Pryor said.

In an e-mail to parents Monday, Assistant Principal Dan Ophus wrote that most of the weekend graffiti had been removed by the school's custodians and maintenance staff before school resumed Monday morning.

Ophus encouraged families living near the school to report any unusual or suspicious activity they see in the area to Park Ridge police or to the school.

## Making Earth Day fun

Park Ridge marked Earth Day 2010 a few days early with Earth-friendly events Saturday at Maine Park.

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64's Green Team demonstrated how to "reduce, reuse and recycle" at a booth where visitors learned how to turn an old CD into a mobile, play a Mancala game with an egg carton, and discovered what can be created with old re-

cycled gym shoes. The afternoon also featured nature hikes around the Maine Park pond and prairie, presentations of live animals, a visit by Smokey the Bear, a tree rope climb, and assorted games, raffles and prizes. Gently used household items were also collected for donation to local nonprofit organizations or for recycling. Comment: [pioneerlocal.com](http://pioneerlocal.com)

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\$5 Million	Wrongful death of worker at job site
\$4 Million	Physician's negligence, brain damage
\$2.7 Million	Police misconduct/excessive force
\$2.7 Million	Construction worker injured
\$2.5 Million	Truck Rear-ends van
\$2 Million	Pedestrian hit by automobile, resulting in brain damage
\$1.97 Million	Failure to Diagnose Cancer
\$1.2 Million	Nurse negligence causes thumb amputation
\$1 Million	Landlord's negligence

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<b>Hillside</b> 2225 South Wolf Road Hillside, IL 60162 708-562-2200	<b>Lake Zurich</b> 1100 South Rand Road Lake Zurich, IL 60047 630-562-2265	<b>Lombard</b> 837 South Westmore Avenue Lombard, IL 60148 630-953-0600	<b>Morton Grove</b> 6111 West Dempster Street Morton Grove, IL 60053 847-583-1907	<b>Villa Park</b> 355 West St. Charles Road Villa Park, IL 60181 630-530-5000

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GUEST ESSAY

# Social conscience should be our guide

By BALJINDER BATHLA, M.D.

When I chose medicine as my lifelong vocation many years ago, I was unaware why I wanted to do it.

It was not until I grew older that I realized how significantly fulfilling the practice of medicine can be. Medicine has changed me over the years more than I could have imagined.

If I chose medicine as a career, my wife was called to it. She is one of those rare doctors who sincerely chose medicine to "help people." As soon as we got married, we were traveling to other countries through local charities: to Thailand after the tsunami of 2004, to New Orleans after hurricane Katarina, and most recently, to Haiti after the earthquake.

None of these places has left the lasting impression on me that Haiti did. Haiti is a very special place. Each time we went, we returned with heavy hearts, but also hearts filled with joy and inspiration from witnessing the resiliency and determination of its people.

It's a country dealing with circumstances that are beyond unfair, which have only been confounded by not-so-genuine interests of other countries and, recently, the earthquake.

It was astonishing to see the poverty there and even more difficult to comprehend that these living conditions — even before the earthquake — could exist so close to us in the Western Hemisphere.

It's unfortunate that it took a devastating earthquake to give Haiti some attention.

Several things changed between my two visits to Haiti, which were about a month apart. Many of the Non-Governmental Organizations have gone back

home, possibly due to lack of funding or frustration. Much of the news media have also left. This leaves the Haitians with a sense of being forgotten, unfortunately, a feeling that is not unfamiliar to them.

Furthermore, it's unclear how the Haitian people will face the seemingly insurmountable task of cleaning up and rising again. No federal building or records exist anymore; therefore, no mechanism of recording or collecting taxes is available.

It appears that Haiti can only rely on international humanitarian aid and, more importantly, each individual's efforts.

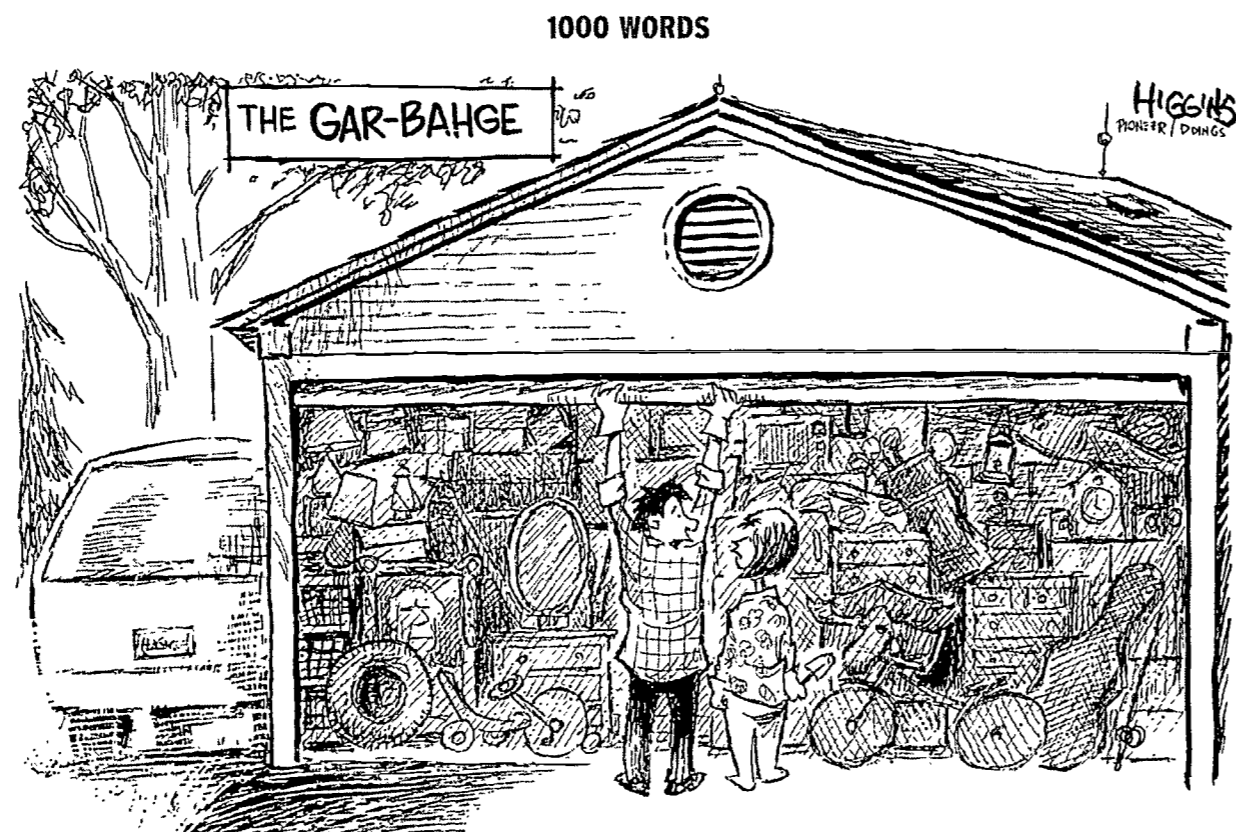
The challenge for all of us now is to keep Haiti and countries like it within our sights so they will not be forgotten and lost to us.

To me, developing and nurturing a social conscience entails being aware of the problems that less fortunate societies and communities face on a day-to-day basis.

Working toward greater awareness made me to realize that as individuals, we are not independent entities. We do and should rely on others throughout our lives to help us, and conversely, we should always offer our help to others without thoughts of our own benefits and returns.

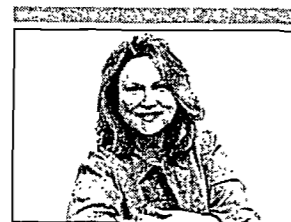
No place has taught me social awareness like Haiti. Seeing the numbers of volunteers who left their families, comforts of home, and paychecks was not only tremendously inspiring, but humbling as well.

*Baljinder Bathla, M.D. works with Continental Anesthesia and is a staff member of the Pain Management Center at Saint Francis Hospital, a Level I Trauma Center in Evanston. The Pain Clinic can be reached at (847) 433-3361.*



"IT USED TO BE A GARAGE....NOW IT'S WHERE WE PARK OUR STUFF."

# His and her haircut cutbacks



CHERYL O'DONOVAN

## VAN MOM STRIKES AGAIN

To survive this Great Recession and joblessness, we don't spend.

But my hair didn't know this.

It kept growing, until the witchy split ends attracted a broom. My hair became so long and straggly, that someone cracked I missed the ramp to Woodstock. At the toll booth, instead of change, I got love beads. Some kid at the elementary school confused me with Chong.

Oh, the weird looks I've gotten. "Say, aren't you supposed to be

*"My hair became so long and straggly, that someone cracked I missed the ramp to Woodstock. At the toll booth, instead of change, I got love beads."*

writing a manifesto?" Men can walk into a "Buzzes R Us," wait two minutes, sit in a chair, blink, and *voila*, done.

We women schedule our appointments in advance, or roughly when the next comet appears. While we wait for our hairdressers, we brave the brutal taunts of air-brushed fashion models.

I leaf through a magazine. Oh, joy. An article featuring 90-year-old Mildred de Olay. She thrives on yogurt and mountain air. Not only does Mildred look better, she's apparently much happier than I am.

The snooty receptionist suggests I splurge, get a

facial infused with algae extracts and a garlic clay base. My husband's idea of a splurge is wrestling the barber's gum ball machine to get a stale jawbreaker.

Men glide into a barber and plop in the chair of any stylist. A woman attempting this plays Boutique Roulette, winding up with a stylist from the Bungling & Bailey Beauty School. My fears run rampant, because this particular stylist escorts a client wearing a scarf to the door, crooning, "Oh, that bald patch will grow back."

Men leave a paltry tip that would make a busboy spit into his coffee. We women angst over tips.

"How much do I tip the shampooer? Do I tip the colorist more than the stylist? Do I tip L'Oreal?"

We women hear the banter of a neighboring stylist and twentysomething. They talk about the hip entertainment and trendy fashions. That, coupled with the German synthesized robot music, and we cross the threshold to "old."

Men don't care. The second they hear "trendy," they cling to their plaid shirts and Dockers. They yell when they hear the German robot music. "Where is the (censored) Boston, Van Halen or Merle Haggard?"

Yes, I have a wonderful haircut. But it cost some moola.

But somehow the alternative of giving my husband a bowl and a pair of scissors isn't the solution.

Comment: [pioneerlocal.com](http://pioneerlocal.com)

## COMMUNITY 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 [mbottari@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:mbottari@pioneerlocal.com).

### Benefits

**A benefit for the people of Haiti** will be held May 2 at the St. John Brebeuf Parish Ministry Center, 8305 N. Harlem Ave., Niles. Doors will open at 5 p.m., and a dinner of Italian sausage sandwich with peppers, mostaccioli marinara, oven roasted potatoes, salad, Italian bread, coffee, soft drinks and Diane's Famous Punch from Trattoria Porretta Ristorante will be served at 6 p.m. Diners will enjoy a performance by the Notre Dame/Resurrection High School Band and dancing to vocalist Jodi Meehan and music by Eagle Scout Daniel Wiehac. Tickets are \$20; widows/widowers, \$18. This event is held in conjunction with Eric Carrabotta, a Life Scout with Boy Scout Troop 175, and the Knights of Columbus Council 4338. Carrabotta is raising funds to send health packs containing toothbrushes, toothpaste, bars of soap, washcloths, band-aids, antibiotic ointment, lubricating eye drops, over-the-counter pain relievers, chewable antacid tablets, and re-sealable plastic bags to be shipped to the people of Haiti. Call (847) 210-1102 or send donations to Eric Carrabotta, c/o May Parish Ministry Center, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles IL 60714; make checks payable to North American Martyrs Council 4338.

**Maryville Academy Crisis Nursery** hosts its Tea and Fashion Show from 11:30-2 p.m. May 6 at Sunset Ridge Country Club, 2100 Sunset Ridge Road, Northfield. This event offers on-site boutique shopping lunch and a fashion show; \$85 per person or \$800 for a table of 10. Contact Maryville Academy's Development Department at (847) 294-1982 or [development@maryvilleacademy.org](mailto:development@maryvilleacademy.org). Online registration available on the Events page at [www.maryvilleacademy.org](http://www.maryvilleacademy.org).

**Have Dreams** hosts a "Night of Dreams" on May 8 at the Drake Hotel in Chicago. Andy McKenna Jr. will be honored during this evening of dinner, dancing, entertainment. Robert Smigel, of Saturday Night Live fame, will again appear to help auction one-of-a-kind opportunities for the Dreams of a Lifetime live auction. Tickets may be purchased through the mail or online at [www.have-dreams.org](http://www.have-dreams.org). Lead and table sponsorships are available beginning at \$3,500. Call Bobbi Goldman at Have Dreams, (847) 685-0250 or e-mail [bgoldman@havedreams.org](mailto:bgoldman@havedreams.org).

### 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 10 - Alzheimer's caregivers support group, 10 a.m.  
Tuesdays, May 4 and 18 - Medicare counseling, by appointment.  
Tuesday, May 4 - Annual Meeting.

Wednesdays, May 5 and 19 - Grief and loss support group (call first).  
Saturdays, May 8 and 22 - Legal counseling, by appointment.

Saturday, May 22 - Blood pressure and blood sugar testing, 10 a.m.-noon (no appointment needed)

**Note:** May 29 to 31 - Closed for Memorial Day.

**The Center of Concern**, a not-for-profit social service agency serving the elderly and other adults in need in the north and northwest city and suburbs, will hold its Annual Meeting at 7:30 p.m. May 4 at the Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge. Friends, supporters, and clients are invited. Entertainment will be provided. The center will provide light refreshments and announce the winner of its Dee Heinrich Volunteer of the Year Award. Guests are asked to bring a non-perishable food item for the Maine Township Food Pantry. Call (847) 823-0453 if attending or to request transportation to this event. **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. **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.

**Employment counseling** and preparation of simple wills and durable powers of attorney for health care and property also are available by appointment. All services are offered at the Center of Concern offices at 1580 N. Northwest Highway, Suite 310, in Park Ridge. For services that require an appointment, call (847) 823-0453 weekdays, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### Chamber

**The Maine Township Food Pantry** is in desperate need of nonperishable items, including: canned vegetables, canned fruit, jelly, peanut butter, ham-burger/chicken helper, cookies, crackers, spaghetti, rice and snack bars. Items may be dropped off between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Niles Cham-

ber of Commerce office, 8060 W. Oakton St., inside the North Side Community Bank building.

### Civic

**Examining the influence** of major corporations in the political process is a 2010 focus of the national MoveOn organization and the Illinois 9th District MoveOn Council. That theme will pervade at a community forum to be held at 7 p.m. May 4 at the Evanston Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd. Evanston. Some 100 local citizens are expected to attend with their questions, complaints and suggestions regarding the influence corporate lobbies have on government, legislative oversight and the

rights and voices of citizens and other stakeholders in the political process. The forum will start with a national MoveOn presentation, and continue in moderated sessions with participants exploring the issues, possible actions and remedies. Those interested in participating may register at [http://pol.moveon.org/event/events/event.html?event\\_id=10311](http://pol.moveon.org/event/events/event.html?event_id=10311). Jan Schakowsky, D-9th, represents the district in Congress.

### Classes

**The North Maine Fire Department** will sponsor a CPR class at 9 a.m. May 15 at the firehouse located at 9301 N. Potter Road in Des Plaines. A certified

CPR instructor will teach the Heartsaver and Heartsaver with First Aid classes. To reserve a spot, call the firehouse at (847) 297-5020. **Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy Inc.**, is now offering "Introduction to Animal Assisted Therapy," dog training classes at various locations, including 6042 W. Oakton St., in Morton Grove. The fee is \$60. Contact Dorinda King at [dhking4@yahoo.com](mailto:dhking4@yahoo.com) or call (773) 736-9021, for schedules and locations.


### Clubs

**Les Bavards**, a monthly francophone dinner group, will meet at 6:30 p.m. May 5 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 are required, merely the willingness to converse in French. Visit [lesbavardsfrancophones.blogspot.com](http://lesbavardsfrancophones.blogspot.com). Respond by e-mail to [lesbavards@yahoo.com](mailto:lesbavards@yahoo.com) by the preceding Tuesday before noon. Call (847) 921-7864.

**The Twenty-first Star Chapter** of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution will offer a Genealogy Workshop from 1:30-4 p.m. May 1 on the third floor of the Park Ridge Library, 20 S. Prospect

Calendar, PAGE 18



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**Saturday, May 15**  
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**Morton Grove American Legion Memorial Civic Center**  
**6140 Dempster Street**  
**Morton Grove, IL. 60053**

*Pre-registration is required. Register online at [www.afseminars.org](http://www.afseminars.org) or call 1-800-735-0096.*

**Change Your Diet to Lessen Your Pain**  
Dr. Brian R. Schurgin, Specialty, Bariatric Medicine,  
Physicians for Weight Loss LLC, Highland Park, Des Plaines, and Schaumburg

**Gout and Pseudo gout: What Are They Really All About?**  
Dr. Ami Kothari, Rheumatologist, Illinois Bone and Joint Institute

**Fosomax: To Fear or Not To Fear**  
Amanda Myers, Rheumatologist, Illinois Bone and Joint Institute

**Case Study of Knee Arthroplasty; What Can It Tell Us?**  
Katie Fisher, DPT, Illinois Bone and Joint Institute

*This program is sponsored by Illinois Bone and Joint Institute*

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## Calendar

Continued from PAGE 17

Ave. Attendees will have the opportunity to work with a member on lineage research. Bring along all records and information; there will be reference books available. Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion, or ethnic background, who believes she might be a descendant from a patriot of the American Revolution and would like to learn "hands on" on how to trace her genealogy, is welcome. The DAR recognizes "Patriots" as not only soldiers but also anyone who contributed to the cause of American freedom. Call Betty Borman, (847) 818-9001, or e-mail bgjiggram@sbcglobal.net.

**Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7712** meet at 7 p.m. every second Wednesday of the month at the Post at 7680 Caldwell Ave. (next to Tam Tennis in Niles on Howard Street). The Post is open also on Fridays from 7 p.m. until closing. All veterans from Vietnam, Gulf War, Afghanistan Korea and World War II are welcome. Call Bernard Beverley, (847) 966-5479, e-mail jamesbond54762@yahoo.com or call (847) 470-9890.

**The Korean War Veterans Association**, Greater Chicago Chapter No. 25, meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Montclare-Leyden VFW Post, 6940 W. Diversey Ave. Call Joe Henmueller, (773) 774-9671.

**I Chiacchieroni** Italian-language din-

ner 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 13. Call Gabriella, (847) 292-0089, or e-mail: ichiacchieroni@yahoo.com.

**Join the Catholic Women's Bowling League** for Ladies Night Out at Classic Bowl, 8530 Waukegan Road, Morton 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. **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

**The Leaning Tower YMCA**, 6300 W. Touhy Ave., invites members, local businesses and community members to attend an open house showcasing the Leaning Tower YMCA's facilities from 6-8 p.m. May 6. Light refreshments will be served. Visitors will participate in a scavenger hunt that will highlight how the Leaning Tower YMCA's Strong Kids Campaign benefits the Niles community. Through the Strong Kids Campaign, the Leaning

Tower YMCA makes it possible for adults, children and families to become members of the YMCA and participate in programs, regardless of their ability to pay. Call (847) 410-108 or visit [www.leaningtowerymca.org](http://www.leaningtowerymca.org). **The Park Ridge Newcomers Kids' Sale** will be held from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. May 1 at St. Andrews Lutheran Church, 260 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge. The sale contains a wide variety of children's clothes, baby gear and essentials like strollers and car seats. For information on how to become a seller, call (847) 622-4399.

**Louise Borden**, author of the book *The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of Margret and H.A. Rey*, on which the Museum's current temporary exhibition is based, will appear from 5-7 p.m. April 29 at the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie. Having published 25 books, Borden will discuss her experience researching and writing about Margret and H.A. Rey, the intrepid creators of *Curious George*. Free with museum membership. For reservations, call (847) 967-4507 or e-mail [membership@ihmec.org](mailto:membership@ihmec.org).

**Friends of the Chicago River** will host a Chicago River Wilderness Canoe Trip from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. July 10. Paddle the boundary between Lake and Cook counties. Experienced guides will guide participants through the mild bends and brambles on the North Branch from the Skokie Woods in Glencoe through the wild woods of

Calendar, PAGE 21

# AUCTIONS

**LEACH AUCTIONS**

Sat. May 8, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.  
520 W. Coal City Rd.  
(I-55 & Rt. 113, Bradwood, IL.)  
(Take Exit 236 off of Interstate I-55)  
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AUCTIONEER Richard P.  
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Northwest Municipal Conference  
**Vehicle & Equipment Auction**

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(Inspection auction day from 8:30 am)  
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## Credit is good — but it's not his



STEPHANIE ZIMMERMANN

THE FIXER - Chicago Sun-Times

Dear Fixer: I have been having a problem with TransUnion reporting another person's credit on my report.

The good news is he has a good payment record. However, when I try to refinance my home, they ask me about this GMAC mortgage and the home address. It is not my mortgage. It belongs to someone in New Jersey.

This has been going on for more than two years, and I cannot seem to get anywhere with them. I do not know what I would do if this person were not paying. That would have destroyed my credit.

An amusing part of this is I run the mortgage department for a major Chicago bank and I still cannot make any progress. I have not even been able to talk to anyone in this country on this matter: HELP!

James F. Brady

Dear James: The Fixer agrees; it's a good thing the other James — who had a very different last name but a similar Social Security number — wasn't a grifter, or you'd have real problems. You told us that the mix-up originally was more extensive, but over the years you were able to remove most of the other guy's information.

As for that stubborn GMAC listing, The Fixer went straight to TransUnion's chief operating officer, David Emery. Emery got on it right away, setting some sort of credit report speed record. In less than two hours, it was fixed. They've since sent you an updated report.

### Friendly reminder

It's worth checking your reports with the three credit reporting bureaus — Experian, Equifax and TransUnion — to make sure there's nothing weird lurking there.

By law, you are entitled to one free report from each of the agencies every 12 months. The place to order them is [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) — not one of the sound-alike Web sites. If you don't have a computer, you can call (877) 322-8228 to order your free reports.

For more info, check out [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov).

Dear Fixer: I had a problem with the refinancing of my house. The mortgage company, Taylor Bean & Whitaker, went bankrupt last summer, and when the loan was transferred, I was supposed to receive a refund for my escrow balance.

I tried to contact them by phone, but they are no longer answering calls. I would appreciate it if there is anything you can do to help us. We recently experienced the passing of my son, age 23 years.

I work as a carpenter and have been laid off for the past year and a half. I am behind on my payments with Wells Fargo, and getting this escrow money bank would help my situation.

Roberto Diaz

Dear Roberto: You weren't the only one left in the cold when Taylor Bean & Whitaker went belly-up last August. The Internet is replete with stories of consumers who didn't know where to send their payments, couldn't get their escrow money or found out too late that their property taxes weren't paid.

Since it appeared your loan went to Bank of America before landing at Wells Fargo, we contacted a Bank of America spokes-

woman to see whether they could help us pick up the money trail. She got on the case right away, and ultimately told you to contact your current mortgage holder, Wells Fargo.

She was right — when you called Wells Fargo, they found your money. It took a few days but they refunded you \$2,029.79 on April 17.

The delay caused another problem, however — \$55 in late fees while you were waiting for the money so you could make your monthly payment. So we got in touch with Wells Fargo's assistant vice president for communications, Kevin Waetke, who got this to the right person. They agreed to remove the late charges and they gave you the direct number for one of their reps, so you should be OK going forward.

### How to complain

We've all had times when we feel our blood pressure rising over some maddening consumer problem. Here are some tips for consumers who need to battle a company over the phone:

- Before you call, write down the names, dates and other specifics of what happened, so when you feel your blood vessels dilating you'll still be able to calmly describe what happened.
- Don't stray from the core complaint.
- Remember to breathe deeply and smile.
- Try using language like: "What can WE do to fix this?" Better yet, have a solution ready, so all the rep needs to do is act on it.

Getting the runaround about a consumer problem?

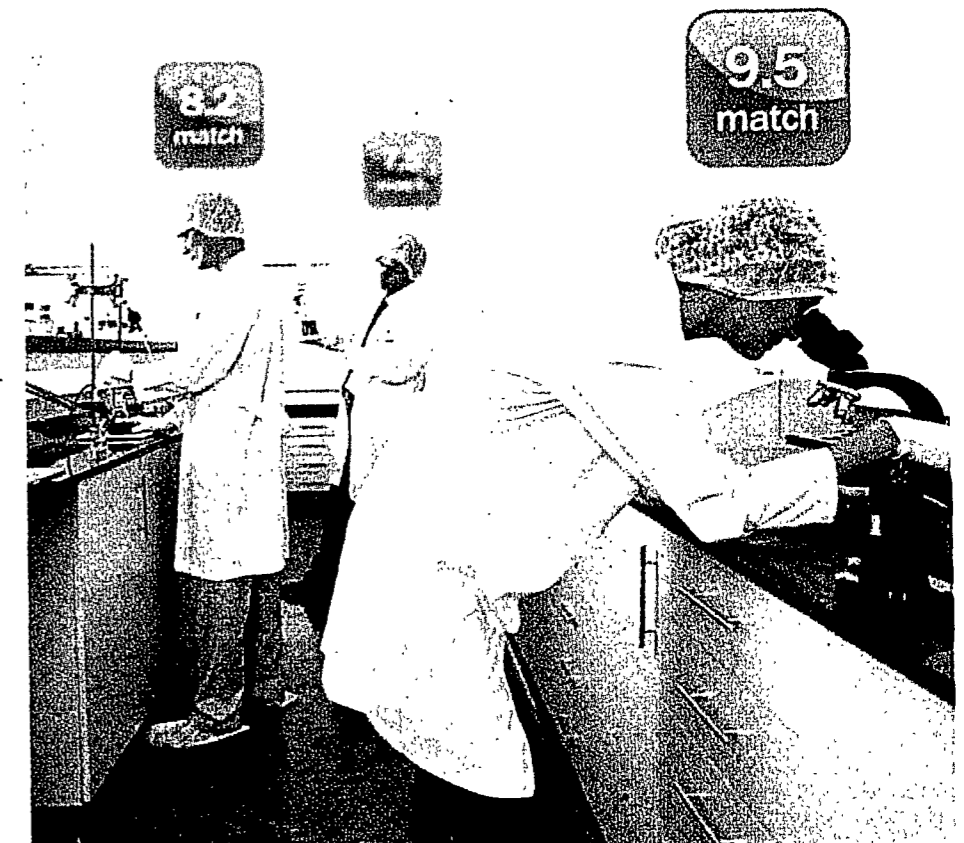
Tell it to The Fixer at [www.pioneerlocal.com/fixer](http://www.pioneerlocal.com/fixer). Or, you can mail a brief description of your problem, along with your name, address and telephone number, to: The Fixer, 3701 W. Lake Ave., Glenview IL 60026. Don't send original documents. Letters are edited for length and clarity.

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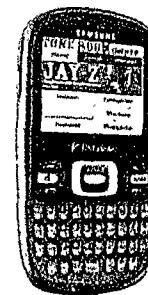
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## diversions | PAGE B1

CONTACT: Jennifer Thomas, Managing Editor  
p: 847.486.7358 e: [jthomas@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:jthomas@pioneerlocal.com)

### 4 For Your Consideration

A quartet of...  
the coming we...



Anne Harris

**1. Violinist Anne Harris** and singer-songwriter Jann Klose present folk, pop and roots rock at 8 p.m. April 30 at the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Call (847) 677-7761 or visit [www.skokie-theatre.com](http://www.skokie-theatre.com).

**2. "Fiddler on the Roof,"** at 8 p.m. April 29-30, May 6, 8 and 13-15 and 2 p.m. May 2, 9 and 16 at Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. \$8-\$10. Special benefit performances, which include a post-show party, at 8 p.m. May 1 and 7, \$20. Call (847) 635-1900 or visit [www.oakton.edu/tickets](http://www.oakton.edu/tickets).

**3. The Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra**, the North Shore Choral Society and the Ryan Center for Young Artists at Lyric Opera present "Blockbuster Beethoven's Ninth" at 7 p.m. May 2 at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall on the Northwestern University campus, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. \$20-\$70; \$10 for students. Call (847) 866-6888 or visit [www.chicagophilharmonic.org](http://www.chicagophilharmonic.org).

**4. An opening reception** for "American Nature," paintings by artists from Wilmette, Chicago, Evanston, Niles and Skokie, will be held from 7-9 p.m. April 30 at the Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie. The exhibit is on display through June 27. Call (847) 674-1500.

## 'Catch' this thriller if you can

**'Catch Me If You Can'**  
May 1-23 at the Jolin Waldron Arts Center, Edison Park United Methodist Church, 6740 N. Oliphant Ave., Chicago. 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 1:30 p.m. Sundays. \$20, \$15 seniors and students. (224) 725-3696 or [www.brown-papertickets.com/event/108396](http://www.brown-papertickets.com/event/108396).

By **MYRNA PETLICKI**  
Contributor

A newlywed couple staying in the Catskills quarrels and the wife disappears. A couple of days later she returns to her husband, adman Daniel Corban. The only problem is that Daniel insists the woman who reappears is not his wife.

Is he "losing it" or is something terribly wrong? That's the puzzle presented to audiences in Robert Thomas' "Catch Me If You Can," adapted from the French version by Jack Weinstock and Willie Gilbert. Mark Brewer of Mount Prospect directs the comedy-thriller for James Downing Theatre.

"It becomes sort of a psychological cat-and-mouse game," Brewer said. That explains the "thriller" part. The director said that the comedy element is supplied by the investigating detective (played by Lee Wichman), who "is very colorful in his language and very frustrating for the husband because every time he tries to get the detective on task, the detective is running off to do something else," like eat a sandwich.

Brendan Siegfried plays Daniel, whom the actor described as "a relatively high-strung person. He's very forceful and seems used to getting his way." Daniel's control of his world is threatened early in the play.

"A woman shows up and I've never seen her before, although she seems to have all the necessary qualities of my wife,"



Inspector Levine (Lee Wichman, center) tries to figure out why Daniel Corban (Brendan Siegfried) refuses to acknowledge that Elizabeth (Krista Damico) is his wife.

Siegfried said. Daniel considers the woman "an utter stranger."

The complexity of this show requires intricate acting skills, which pleases Siegfried. "It's fun to be an actor portraying a person who's trying to portray a different emotion than they're actually feeling," he said.

Siegfried, a Nashville native who earned a degree from Carleton College in Minnesota, moved to Chicago seven months ago to pursue a theater career. This is his first show since arriving here.

Floyd A. May has a small but crucial role in the show.

"I look at it that I'm the comic relief," he said. "I'm only in one scene but it's a nice role. I'm a Jewish delicatessen owner who is delivering a brunch to the



Inspector Levine (Lee Wichman) asks Elizabeth (Krista Damico) if she knows how to use a gun.

young couple. I am the only other person besides Corban who can identify his wife on sight because they stopped at my delicatessen when they arrived."

Depending on your perspective, the deli owner is either "the fly in the ointment" or "Corban's salva-

tion," May said.

May said he is having a lot of fun reprising the role that he originally played at the long-gone Playhouse at the Mill dinner-theater in Niles about 26 years ago. May had to re-memorize his lines but, to his surprise, "They came a lot easier

than a role that you're learning for the first time," he said.

Because of his limited stage time in this show, May is also handling props.

Brewer set the play in the 1960s, which presented some obstacles because props from that era weren't as easy to find as he thought they would be. His other challenge has been "balancing the comedy along with the tension."

He has had help on that score, though.

"Fortunately," Brewer said, "I'm blessed with actors that are able to understand that sort of complexity and balance it between the humor and the thriller aspects."

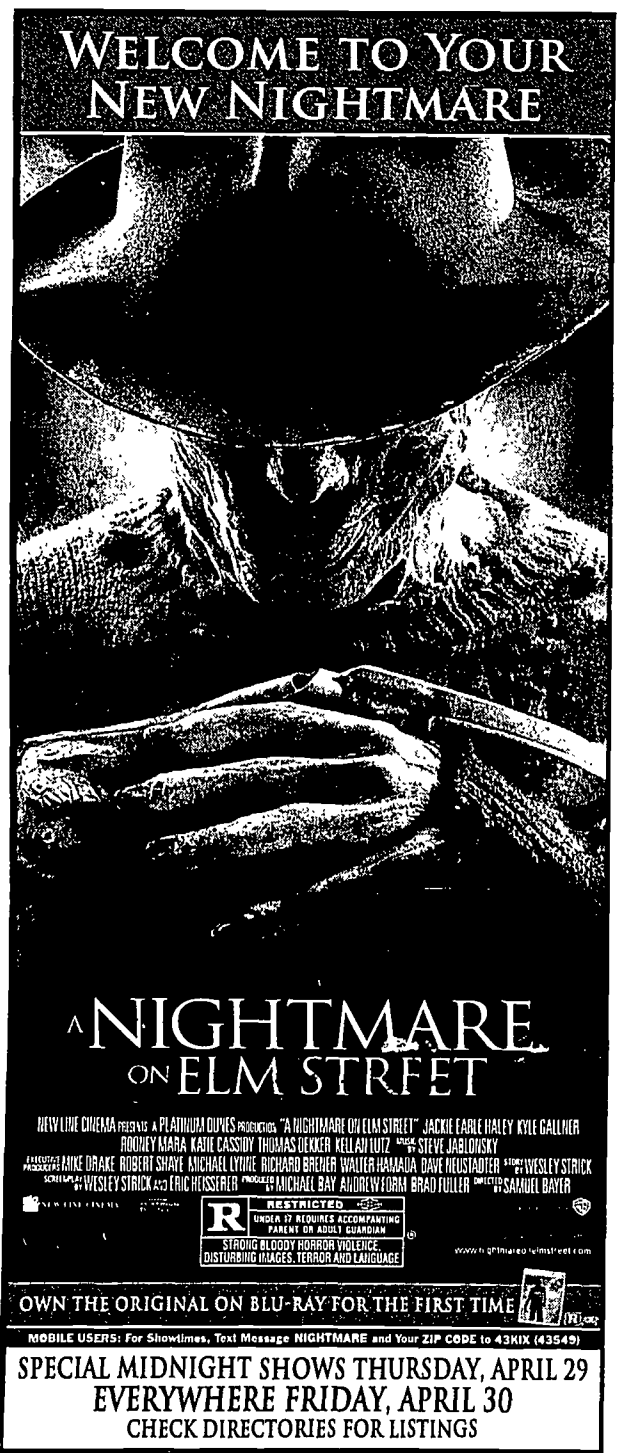
Audiences can expect to enjoy a suspenseful evening of theater, and have some laughs.

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**A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET**

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**OPENING**

**FURRY VENGEANCE**  
A real estate developer (Brendan Fraser) runs afoul of a radical group of woodland creatures who plot to sabotage a subdivision that would destroy their home. (92 min.) The family comedy is rated PG for some rude humor, mild language and brief smoking.

**HARRY BROWN**  
★ ★ ★

A retiree in an English housing project takes it upon himself to battle a group of drug-dealing punks. The revenge drama is rated R for strong violence and language throughout, drug use and sexual content.

**A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET**

The recurring horror franchise about a serial killer (now played by Jackie Earle Haley) who kills teens in their dreams gets a brand-new lease on life with this remake of the 1984 original. (102 min.) Rated R for strong bloody horror violence, disturbing images, terror and language.

**STILL PLAYING**

**THE SQUARE**

A tightly wound, but tawdry story of lust, betrayal, blackmail and murder in the film noir tradition with an Australian flavor. When conniving strumpet Carla (Claire van der Boom) convinces her married, middle-aged sugar daddy Ray (David Roberts) to help her steal a bag of money from her scary hubby, it's not long before things start lurching inexorably downhill, with one grim crime following another. Aussie stuntman turned director Nash Edgerton lays the guilt on thick early, giving a queasy overlay of immorality to the proceedings, and rarely lets up on the suspense — as well as providing a couple of nice jolts here and there and one or two visual grace notes. All in all, it should provide a good incentive for unhappy middle-aged men to stay home and watch TV with their mousy wives. (BI) (105 min.) Rated R for violence and language.

**THE BACK-UP PLAN**  
★ ★ ★

The best-laid plans of desperate, baby-crazed women go off awry. It's said, and so they do in "The Back-Up Plan." But not in a way that generates much genuine feeling — whether laughter or romance or pregnancy horror. Jennifer Lopez stars as Zoe, a nice lady who's opted for artificial insemination after de-

**FILM CLIPS**



"A Nightmare on Elm Street"

ciding "guys just aren't working out," only to meet cute with her dream guy Sam (Alex O'Loughlin) after her first-time-a-charm first treatment. Unfortunately, since "The Plan" is founded on a contrivance, there's not much more screenwriter Kate Angelo (a sitcom veteran making her feature debut) can do to move the story along than continue to up the ante with weary contrivance after contrivance. There's no shortage of stuff that's supposed to be funny (and might reasonably pass muster if you're not feeling particular) after Sam and Zoe start playing house on the third date and Zoe starts to swell up, get grumpy and vomit a lot. There's even a bit of heart-rending drama here and there. Somehow, though, very little has the desired effect. (BI) Rated PG-13 for sexual content including references, some crude material and language.

**THE LOSERS**

After being betrayed and left to die in the field by CIA agents, a group of black ops mercenaries sets out for revenge. Sylvain White ("Stomp the Yard") directed the thriller. (98 min.) Rated PG-13 for sequences of intense action and violence, a scene of sensuality, and language.

**OCEANS**

Disneyature follows the success of "Earth" with this documentary about life in the Earth's oceans — and the environmental factors endangering aquatic life. (100 min.) Rated G.

**THE SECRET IN THEIR EYES**

A retired prosecutor attempts to unravel the 25-year-old mystery of a murder case that still haunts him. Winner of the 2009 Best Foreign Language Oscar. In Spanish with subtitles. Rated R for a rape scene, violent images, some graphic nudity and language.

**A SHINE OF RAINBOWS**  
★ ★ ★

It won't do to approach this sentimental story of rough-yet-wholesome family life on a tiny Irish is-

**THE JONESES**  
In this consumer-society satire, a seemingly perfect couple (David Duchovny, Demi Moore) and their super-trendy kids move into a suburban neighborhood, making all the residents desperate to keep up. (96 min.) Rated R for language, some sexual content, teen drinking and drug use.

**DATE NIGHT**

A case of mistaken identity turns a bored, middle-aged husband and wife (Steve Carell and Tina Fey), out for an obligatory night on the town, into the targets of hit men, and running for their lives. Shawn Levy ("Night at the Museum") directed the comedy. (88 min.) Rated PG-13 for sexual and crude content throughout, language, some violence and a drug reference.

**THE GREATEST**

A mother and father (Susan Sarandon and Pierce Brosnan), grieving the death of their son, are forced to take in the troubled teenage girl (Carey Mulligan) who is pregnant with his child. (99 min.) Rated R for language, some sexual content and drug use.

**AFTER LIFE**

In this supernatural thriller, a young woman (Christina Ricci) caught between life and death accepts the counseling of the funeral director preparing her for burial (Liam Neeson) — who may not be as helpful as he appears. Rated R for nudity, disturbing images, language and brief sexuality.

**THE LAST SONG**  
★ ★ 1/2

Tween idol Miley Cyrus makes her serious dramatic debut in this competent, only occasionally ick-inducing adaptation of the latest best-selling novel from Nicholas Sparks ("The Notebook") — this one specifically tailored for teenage girls. Cyrus plays Ronnie Miller, a sullen teen forced to spend a summer with her annoying little brother (Bobby Coleman) and her estranged divorced dad (the always welcome Greg Kinnear) in his beachfront cottage. One's heart bleeds. Sparks intertwines a story of young love between Ronnie and a hunky heartthrob (Liam Hemsworth) with his story of family love restored before ushering in the climactic sobs. The only thing that's really remarkable about "The Last Song" is the extent to which Cyrus as Ronnie occasionally comes across as downright mean and disagreeable. Rated PG for thematic material, some violence, sensuality and mild language.

**DEATH AT A FUNERAL**

The situation begins to get farcically out of hand when the funeral home delivers the wrong corpse at a family funeral. Neil LaBute ("Lakeview Terrace") directed the comedy featuring Chris Rock, Martin Lawrence, Danny Glover, Tracy Morgan, Luke Wilson and Zoe Saldana. (90 min.) Rated R for language, drug content and some sexual humor.

— Reviews by Bruce Ingram

**SHOWTIMES**

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

**ARLINGTON HEIGHTS**

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

**A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET (R)**  
Fri: 5:20-7:30-9:40  
Sat: Sun: 1:00-3:10-5:20-7:30-9:40  
Mon, Tues: Thurs: 5:20-7:30  
Wed: 1:00-3:10-5:20-7:30

**FURRY VENGEANCE (PG)**  
Fri: 5:15-7:15-9:15  
Sat: Sun: 1:15-3:15-5:15-7:15-9:15  
Mon, Tues, Thurs: 5:15-7:15  
Wed: 1:15-3:15-5:15-7:15

**THE BACK-UP PLAN (PG-13)**  
Fri: 5:10-7:20-9:30  
Sat: Sun: 12:45-3:00-5:10-7:20-9:30  
Mon, Tues, Thurs: 5:10-7:20  
Wed: 12:45-3:00-5:10-7:20

**OCEANS (G)**  
Fri: 5:00-7:00-9:00  
Sat: Sun: 1:00-3:00-5:00-7:00-9:00  
Mon, Tues, Thurs: 5:00-7:00  
Wed: 1:00-3:00-5:00-7:00

**DATE NIGHT (PG-13)**  
Fri: 5:20-7:20-9:40  
Sat: Sun: 1:00-3:10-5:20-7:30-9:40  
Mon, Tues, Thurs: 5:20-7:30  
Wed: 1:00-3:10-5:20-7:30

**HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (PG)**  
Fri: 4:50-7:10-9:15  
Sat: Sun: 12:40-2:45-4:50-7:10-9:15  
Mon, Tues, Thurs: 4:50-7:10  
Wed: 12:40-2:45-4:50-7:10

**THE SECRET IN THEIR EYES (R)**  
Fri-Sun: 11:00-2:00-5:00-8:00  
Mon-Thurs: 2:00-5:00-8:00

**HARRY BROWN (R)**  
Fri-Sun: 12:00-2:30-5:15-7:45  
Mon-Thurs: 2:30-5:15-7:45

**THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO (NR)**  
Fri-Thurs: 1:00-4:15-7:30

**CITY ISLAND (PG-13)**  
Fri-Sun: 11:45-2:20-4:45-7:15  
Mon-Thurs: 2:20-4:45-7:15

**THE GHOST WRITER (PG-13)**  
Fri-Sun: 11:15-7:00  
Mon-Thurs: 7:00

**A SHINE OF RAINBOWS (PG)**  
Fri-Thurs: 2:10-4:30

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**A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET (R)**  
Fri-Thurs: 11:45-2:15-4:45-7:15-9:45

**FURRY VENGEANCE (PG)**  
Fri-Thurs: 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40

**THE BACK-UP PLAN (PG-13)**  
Fri-Thurs: 1:00-3:50-7:00-10:00

**OCEANS (G)**  
Fri-Thurs: 1:45-4:15-6:50-9:50

**DEATH AT A FUNERAL (R)**  
Fri-Thurs: 12:20-3:20-6:20-9:20

**DATE NIGHT (PG-13)**  
Fri-Thurs: 1:30-4:30-7:10-10:10

**CLASH OF THE TITANS (PG-13)**  
Fri-Thurs: 1:15-4:00-7:20-9:55

**HOT TUB TIME MACHINE (R)**  
Fri-Thurs: 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30

**HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (PG)**  
Fri-Thurs: 12:00-2:30-5:00-7:30-10:15

**THE GHOST WRITER (PG-13)**  
Fri-Thurs: 12:10-3:10-6:10-9:10



"Furry Vengeance"

**IRON MAN 2 (PG-13)**  
Thurs: Midnight

**HIGHLAND PARK**

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

**A PROPHET (R)**  
Fri-Thurs: 1:30-4:30-7:30

**THE JONESES (R)**  
Fri, Sat: 2:15-4:45-7:15-9:15  
Sun-Thurs: 2:15-4:45-7:15

**THE LAST STATION (R)**  
Fri-Thurs: 2:00-7:00

**CRAZY HEART (R)**  
Fri, Sat: 4:30-9:15  
Sun-Thurs: 4:30

**CHLOE (R)**  
Fri-Thurs: 2:15-7:15

**HOT TUB TIME MACHINE (R)**  
Fri, Sat: 4:45-7:15  
Sun-Thurs: 4:45

**Renaissance Place**  
1850 2nd St.  
(847) 258-7282

**THE SECRET IN THEIR EYES (R)**  
Fri-Sun: 11:00-2:00-5:00-8:00  
Mon-Thurs: 2:00-5:00-8:00

**HARRY BROWN (R)**  
Fri-Sun: 12:00-2:30-5:15-7:45  
Mon-Thurs: 2:30-5:15-7:45

**THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO (NR)**  
Fri-Thurs: 1:00-4:15-7:30

**CITY ISLAND (PG-13)**  
Fri-Sun: 11:45-2:20-4:45-7:15  
Mon-Thurs: 2:20-4:45-7:15

**THE GHOST WRITER (PG-13)**  
Fri-Sun: 11:15-7:00  
Mon-Thurs: 7:00

**A SHINE OF RAINBOWS (PG)**  
Fri-Thurs: 2:10-4:30

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**A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET (R)**  
Fri-Thurs: 12:10-3:10-6:10-9:10

**CLASH OF THE TITANS (PG-13)**  
Fri, Mon-Thurs: 12:30-2:50-5:10-7:50-10:10  
Sat, Sun: 11:00-1:50-4:50-7:40-10:30

**DATE NIGHT (PG-13)**  
Fri, Sat: 2:15-4:45-7:00-9:15  
Sun-Thurs: 4:45-7:00-9:15

**HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (PG)**  
Fri, Sat: 1:00-3:30-6:00-8:15  
Sun: 1:00-3:15-7:15  
Mon: 3:15-7:15  
Tues-Thurs: 3:45-6:00-8:15

**THE BACK-UP PLAN (PG-13)**  
Fri, Sat: 2:15-4:45-7:00-9:15  
Sun-Thurs: 12:50 p.m.  
Mon-Thurs: 12:50 p.m.

**IRON MAN 2 (PG-13)**  
Thurs: 12:01 a.m.

**THE BACK-UP PLAN (PG-13)**  
Fri, Sat: 2:15-4:45-7:00-9:15  
Sun: 2:15-5:15-9:15  
Mon: 5:15-9:15  
Tues-Thurs: 4:45-7:00-9:15

**IRON MAN 2 (PG-13)**  
Thurs: Midnight

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**A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET (R)**  
Fri, Sat: 11:45-12:15-2:15-2:45-3:45-4:45-5:15-6:15-7:15-7:45-9:15-9:45-10:15-9:45-10:15-11:45-12:15-12:45  
Sun: 11:45-12:15-2:15-2:45-3:45-4:45-5:15-6:15-7:15-7:45-9:15-9:45-10:15  
Mon-Thurs: 12:15-2:15-2:45-3:45-4:45-5:15-6:15-7:15-7:45-9:15-9:45-10:15

**THE LOSERS (PG-13)**  
Fri, Sat: 10:10-12:30-3:00-3:50-5:30-6:20-8:10-9:00-10:35  
Sun: 10:10-12:30-3:00-3:50-5:30-6:20-8:10-9:00-10:35

**OCEANS (G)**  
Fri, Sat: 11:15-1:45-4:15-6:45-9:10-11:30  
Sun: 11:15-1:45-4:15-6:45-9:10  
Mon-Wed: 1:45-4:15-6:45-9:10  
Thurs: 1:45-4:15-6:45-9:10

**DEATH AT A FUNERAL (R)**  
Fri, Sat: 10:00-12:20-2:40-5:20-8:00-10:20-12:50  
Sun: 10:00-12:20-2:40-5:20-8:00-10:20-12:50  
Mon-Thurs: 12:20-2:40-5:20-8:00-10:20

**KICK-ASS (R)**  
Fri, Sat: 11:30-12:45-2:10-3:30-5:00-7:10-8:15-9:55-11:15-12:40

**ON ELM STREET (R)**  
Fri, Mon-Thurs: 12:15-2:15-2:45-4:45-5:15-7:15-9:45-10:15  
Sat, Sun: 9:50-11:45-12:15-2:15-2:45-4:45-5:15-7:45-9:45-10:15

**FURRY VENGEANCE (PG)**  
Fri, Mon-Thurs: 1:30-3:50-6:40-9:15  
Sat, Sun: 11:10-1:30-3:50-6:40-9:15

**THE BACK-UP PLAN (PG-13)**  
Fri, Mon-Thurs: 1:10-4:00-6:50-9:30  
Sat, Sun: 10:20-1:10-4:00-6:50-9:30

**THE LOSERS (PG-13)**  
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Sat, Sun: 11:00-1:50-4:50-7:40-10:30

**DATE NIGHT (PG-13)**  
Fri, Mon-Thurs: 12:30-2:50-5:10-7:50-10:10  
Sat, Sun: 10:15-12:30-2:50-5:10-7:50-10:10

**CLASH OF THE TITANS (PG-13)**  
Fri, Mon-Thurs: 2:00-4:30-7:30-10:00  
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# Ars Viva showcases local viola virtuoso

**Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra**  
4:30 p.m. May 2 at North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie. Box seats, \$70; regular admission, \$48 to \$39; seniors, \$44 to \$35; younger than 21, \$30 to \$16. (847) 673-6300; www.arsviva.org.

By **DOROTHY ANDRIES**  
Contributor

The Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra, in partnership with the Music Institute of Chicago, will present 18-year-old violist Matthew Lipman, the Juilliard-bound winner of a new musical competition for pre-collegiate instrumentalists and singers, excluding pianists.

He will play William Walton's 1929 Viola Concerto on a program that opens with John Corigliano's "To Music" and concludes with Symphony No. 1 by Brahms. The concert will be conducted by Alan Heatherington, founder and music director of Ars Viva, who was one of competition judges.

The first round of the competition took place in late January and attracted nearly 30 young musicians studying with teachers on the faculty of the Winnetka-based Music Institute of Chicago. The final round was held Feb. 7 with six string players, all vying for the chance to perform a full concerto with either Ars Viva or the Lake Forest Symphony, both of which are conducted by Heatherington.

Assisting Heatherington were judges David Taylor, assistant concertmaster of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and concertmaster of Ars Viva, and Gary Stucka, CSO cellist and principal cello of Ars Viva. "Music Institute of Chicago students have been given a magnificent new opportunity with this competition," said Jim



Matthew Lipman

Setapen, director of MIC's instrumental ensembles and its prestigious academy. "The chance to play with orchestras of this caliber is indeed very special."  
"For years Ars Viva has been associated with the Steinway piano competition," Heatherington added, "and we will continue that. But the MIC competition is open to all kinds of instrumentalists and singers. So that is something new for us."

Lipman is a scholarship student in the MIC's Academy, where he studies viola with Roland Vamos. He started his music studies at age 10 and, in addition to this competition, has won first prizes at the 2010 Blount-Slawson Young Artists Competition, the 2009 Johansen International Competition for Young String Players, the 2009 ASTA National Solo Competition, the 2008 Society of American Musicians Solo Competition and the 2007 Walgreens National

Concerto Competition, among others.  
In addition to his engagement with Ars Viva, Lipman will play with the Montgomery Symphony Orchestra and the Capital City Symphony. He has played on National Public Radio's "From the Top" and on WFMT-FM (98.7), and appeared on WTTW-Channel 11 and WBBM-Channel 2 in Chicago.

He has performed solos at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and made his European debut at the Guildhall School in London. With Quartet Polaris, he won the Gold Medal of the 2008 Fischeff National Chamber Music Competition, and he is principal violist of the Academy Chamber Orchestra and the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra. He is the recipient of a Rachel Elizabeth Barton Foundation Career Grant and performs on a viola made by luthier Matteo Goffriller in 1700, on loan from the Barton foundation.  
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# David Cromer directs Writers' 'Streetcar'

**'A Streetcar Named Desire'**  
May 4-July 11 at Writers' Theatre, 325 Tudor Court, Glencoe. \$40-\$65. (847) 242-6000 or www.writerstheatre.org.

By **ROBERT LOERZEL**  
Contributor

In the last few years, David Cromer has been one of Chicago's most critically acclaimed directors, working on plays such as "Our Town," "Picnic" and

"The Adding Machine."

After a stint in New York, Skokie native Cromer is back at one of his favorite theatrical homes, Writers' Theatre in Glencoe, directing Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire." As rehearsals got under way, he discussed his approach to directing.

**Q:** What sort of experiences have you had with

this play?

**A:** I taught acting for many, many years at Columbia College, and I would give it to students to work on. The outcome of that was everything from disastrous to brilliant. When you hear something over and over again in that context, you can get so sick of these scenes you do in class, but the more I would

be exposed to it in this tedious work situation, the better it got. It just kept demanding that we spend time on it.

I feel like I'll wrestle a lifetime, trying to get my hands around how (Williams) was able to write naturalism and poetry so simultaneously — something that was practical and so conversational and so believable, while having all these images and all these metaphors and all these things that lined up so beautifully and echoed back and forth and spoke to each other.

Life is too short not to work on that kind of stuff every minute you can.

**Q:** You've downplayed the idea that you have some ingenious way of interpreting familiar plays.

**A:** There's a misconception among artists, where you believe that your artistry comes from how you decorate something that's there — what you decide to do with it. I think someone's actual work is more subconscious.

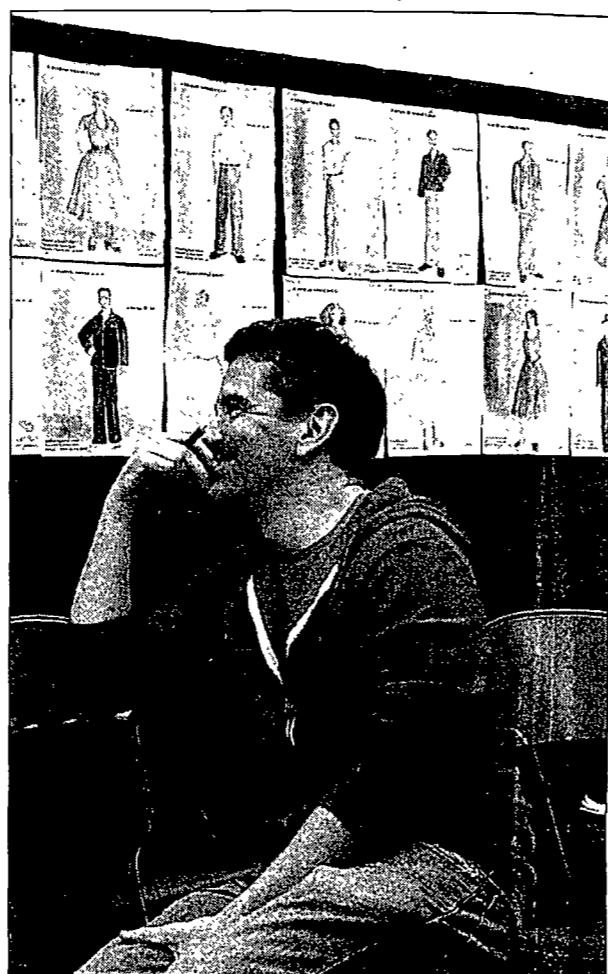
My approach is merely to do what the play tells me it wants. And I don't mean that the plays speak to me in the night and I light a candle. You base it on everything: How it's laid out on the page. Why he chose this word over that word.

**Q:** You've worked many times with Natasha Lowe, who plays Blanche DuBois. Why did you think she'd be good in this role?

**A:** I knew her when I used to run around in Chicago as a teenager. And then we ended up going to Columbia College together. She and I fell into working together. I just fell in love with her rawness and depth. She has this enormous emotional reservoir, and she doesn't flaunt it or exploit it. She can go anywhere.

From a standpoint of self-preservation, if you keep great actors in your shows, you have less to do.

**Q:** Have you and Matt Hawkins, who's playing Stanley Kowalski, been thinking much about



Skokie native and acclaimed director David Cromer is directing Writers' Theatre's production of "A Streetcar Named Desire."

Marlon Brando's performance in that role?

**A:** I haven't thought about it. We're looking at little black marks on a page, and we're doing that. We have to go out of our way to decide that the ghost of Marlon Brando is bothering us.

Because here's the thing: Marlon Brando, who is revelatory and spectacular in that role, is playing the role exactly the way it's written. He did not elevate a nonexistent piece of writing with that performance. He is submitting himself to that writing. You don't read that play and go: "Oh, wow, Brando really fleshed this out." It's there. It's in the writing.

**Q:** It doesn't seem like you were particularly crushed when "Brighton Beach Memoirs" closed so quickly on Broadway after getting good reviews.

**A:** I try not to be crushed by anything other than

death and heartbreak. It is a commercial venture. And I have done enough commercial theater to understand that it's a crashout. Enough people either say yes or no to it, and you move on. It's the life.

**Q:** You're a high-school dropout, from Evanston Township High School?

**A:** I was a high-school flunk-out. They didn't throw me out the door. I just kind of stopped going.

**Q:** Did you know you wanted to go into theater?

**A:** I was headed for theater from the time I was 10 and was in the school play. Looking back on my earliest memories, almost everything I did — every game I played, every silly hat I put on, the way I played with my friends, saying, "You walk over here. You do that" — it all seems to point to the job I ended up in.

**Comment:** pioneerlocal.com

MOVIE REVIEW

# Michael Caine puts age in rage in 'Harry Brown'

By **BRUCE INGRAM**  
Film Critic

**HARRY BROWN**

★ ★ ★

It may not be entirely accurate to describe "Harry Brown" as a geriatric "Death Wish" (a strangely appealing idea for a movie, by the way), but it's not far off the mark, either.

And honestly, who better than Michael Caine to play an enraged avenger-on-a-pension, Clint Eastwood having stopped a bit short in "Gran Torino"?

Caine plays Harry, a quiet, lonely, peaceable old man (not peaceable for long, of course), who lives in a housing project and spends his days sipping coffee in the kitchen and listening to the sirens and screams outside the window. He has two remaining connections to life: His seriously ailing wife, whom he visits daily in the hospital, and his drinking buddy Leonard (David Bradley). Day after dismal day, Harry survives by keeping his head down, drinking fairly heavily and carefully avoiding the heroin-dealing, sub-human gang of hoodie-wearing, punk-kid vermin who terrorize the neighborhood.

Until his wife dies, that is, and his pal Leonard is savagely (and we are talking savagely here, make no mistake) murdered by the gang.

Then it's elder-payback time. You see, Harry was once a decorated Royal Marine who saw combat duty in Ulster, so when the police fail to step in and dispense justice, Harry decides to step up and do it for them.

Fortunately, even though he's not quite as spry as he was in his youth and his emphysema slows him down somewhat, Harry's



Michael Caine in "Harry Brown."

old, liver-spotted hands still remember how to whip a knife out of a junkie's chest. Soon, he's striking terror into the shriveled, rat-like hearts of the gang members and attracting the attention of a kindly detective lady (Emily Mortimer) who begins to suspect that Harry may not be as harmless as he looks.

Unfortunately, debut director Daniel Barber (Oscar-nominated for his short "The Tonto Woman") presents "Harry Brown" as more of a tragedy than a guilty-pleasure revenge thriller, framing it in relentless blacks and grays and garnishing with a score reminiscent of Bernard Herrmann's "Taxi Driver." (Though screenwriter Gary Young does give Caine one light-hearted line when he tsks-tsks "You have failed to maintain your weapon, son," before blowing a particularly vile bottom-dweller away.) Asking us to take this exceedingly unlikely story to heart makes watching it, at times, a bleak, miserable, even despairing affair, with more than a touch of nastiness given Harry's willingness to match the punks' viciousness — and then some. Not to mention an

over-reaching finale that strains for an apocalyptic effect, casting the future of civilization itself in doubt. It takes a special sort of bloke in the title role to make something like this work and Caine is, of course, more than up to the job. Among his other achievements, he's been playing soft-spoken tough guys like this since the '60s, with those big sad eyes and that deep well of anger seething beneath the placid surface of his personality, and no one does it better. As a character, Harry is little more than a sketched outline, but Caine gives him humanity, dignity and even credibility. Simply put, he makes "Harry Brown" worth seeing.

(It's worth pointing out that there's one other very strong, though very unpleasant, performance in "Harry Brown" from Sean Harris as a truly loathsome, carved-up junkie arms dealer who clearly gives Caine the actor something to contend with in one disturbingly memorable scene.)

"Harry Brown" is Caine's movie, though, from start to finish. Sometimes, age simply brings inarguable authority. Especially when it's holding a 9mm handgun. And threatening to shoot you in the kneecap. **Comment:** pioneerlocal.com

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### STAGE

"All Shook Up," presented by Big Noise Theatre Company through May 16 at the Prairie Lakes Theater, 515 E. Thacker St., Des Plaines. Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays: 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$20; \$18 for senior citizens; \$12 for children 13 and under. Visit [www.bignoisetheatre.org](http://www.bignoisetheatre.org) or call (847) 604-0275.

"And Neither Have I Wings to Fly," presented by Shapeshifters Theatre through May 9 at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago. Curtain at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$15 for general admission; \$10 for IAH members. Call (773) 282-7035 or e-mail [shapeshifters@irishahc.org](mailto:shapeshifters@irishahc.org).

"Catch Me If You Can," May 1-23 at the James Downing Theatre, in the John Waldron Art Center at Edison Park Unit Methodist Church, 6740 N. Oliphant Ave., Chicago. Performance times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 1:30 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$20; \$15 for senior citizens and students; \$13 per person for groups of 10 or more. Call (224) 72-JDOWN or visit [www.JamesDowningTheatre.typepad.com](http://www.JamesDowningTheatre.typepad.com).

"Fame" will be presented by the Niles West Theater Department at 7:30 p.m. April 29-30 and May 1 in Niles West High School's Robert L. Johnson Auditorium, 5701 Oakton, Skokie. The production contains language and situations that may not be suitable for young children. Tickets: \$10; \$7 for students and senior citizens. Call (847) 626-2633. A no-charge community performance will be presented at 10 a.m. April 30.

"Fiddler on the Roof," at 8 p.m. April 29-30, May 6, 8 and 13-15 and 2 p.m. May 2, 9 and 16 at Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. Tickets are \$10 for general admission; \$8 for students and seniors; and \$6 for groups of 15 or more. Special benefit performances, which include a post-show party, are scheduled for 8 p.m. May 1 and 7. Benefit tickets are \$20 with proceeds supporting Oakton student scholarships. Call (847) 635-1900 or visit [www.oakton.edu/tickets](http://www.oakton.edu/tickets).

"Keeping Time," 8 p.m. April 30 and May 6-7; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. May 1 and 8; and 2 p.m. May 2 and 9 in Northwestern University's Cahn Auditorium, 600 Emerson St., Evanston. The 79th annual Waa-Mu production is a time-traveling showcase of song and dance. Tickets: \$21-\$28; \$17 for seniors; \$11 for full-time students and children. Call (847) 491-7282 or visit [www.tic.northwestern.edu](http://www.tic.northwestern.edu).

"A Life," through May 2 at Northlight Theatre, located in the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. John Mahoney stars in a play about the evolution of friendships in a small Irish town. Performances on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.; Friday at 8 p.m.; Saturday at 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Tickets: \$35-\$50. Young adult (25 and under) tickets are \$10. Call (847) 673-6300 or visit [www.northlight.org](http://www.northlight.org).

"The Merry Wives of Windsor," 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. May 7-8 in the Drama Performance Center at Niles North High School, 9800 Lawler, Skokie. \$10. Call (847) 626-2122. A free community performance will be at 10 a.m. May 6.

"Oliver!" will be presented by the Rising Stars Theatre Co. at 7:30 p.m. May 1 and 2 p.m. May 2 at the Stahl Family Theatre, 5900 W. Belmont, Chicago. General admission is \$15, with discounts for senior citizens, children under 12 and groups. Call (773) 736-2490 or visit [www.risingstarstc.org](http://www.risingstarstc.org).

"One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," through May 9 at The Gift Theatre, 4802 N. Milwaukee, Chicago. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$25. For information, call (773) 283-7071 or visit [www.thegifttheatre.org](http://www.thegifttheatre.org).

"RIPPED: The Living Newspaper Project," presented at 7:30 p.m. May 10 at the Piven Theatre Workshop, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. \$20 in advance at [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/107304](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/107304); \$25 at the door, cash only. All proceeds benefit the Greater Chicago Food Depository.

"Shape of Faith," an examination of faith and its place in the community, will be performed at 7:30 p.m. April 30 at Ebenezer AME Church, 1109 Emerson St., Evanston; at 5 p.m. May 1 at Next Theatre Company, 927 Noyes St., Evanston; and at 5 p.m. May 2 at The Ethical Humanist Society of Chicago, 7574 N. Lincoln, Skokie. Donations will be accepted at the door. Reservations are encouraged; call (847) 475-1875.

"Six Dead Queens and an Inflatable Henry" will be presented by the Women of Piccolo Theatre through June 5 at the Evanston Arts Depot, 600 Main St., Evanston, with performances

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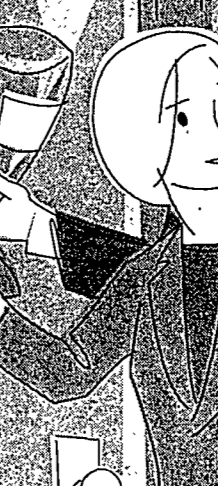
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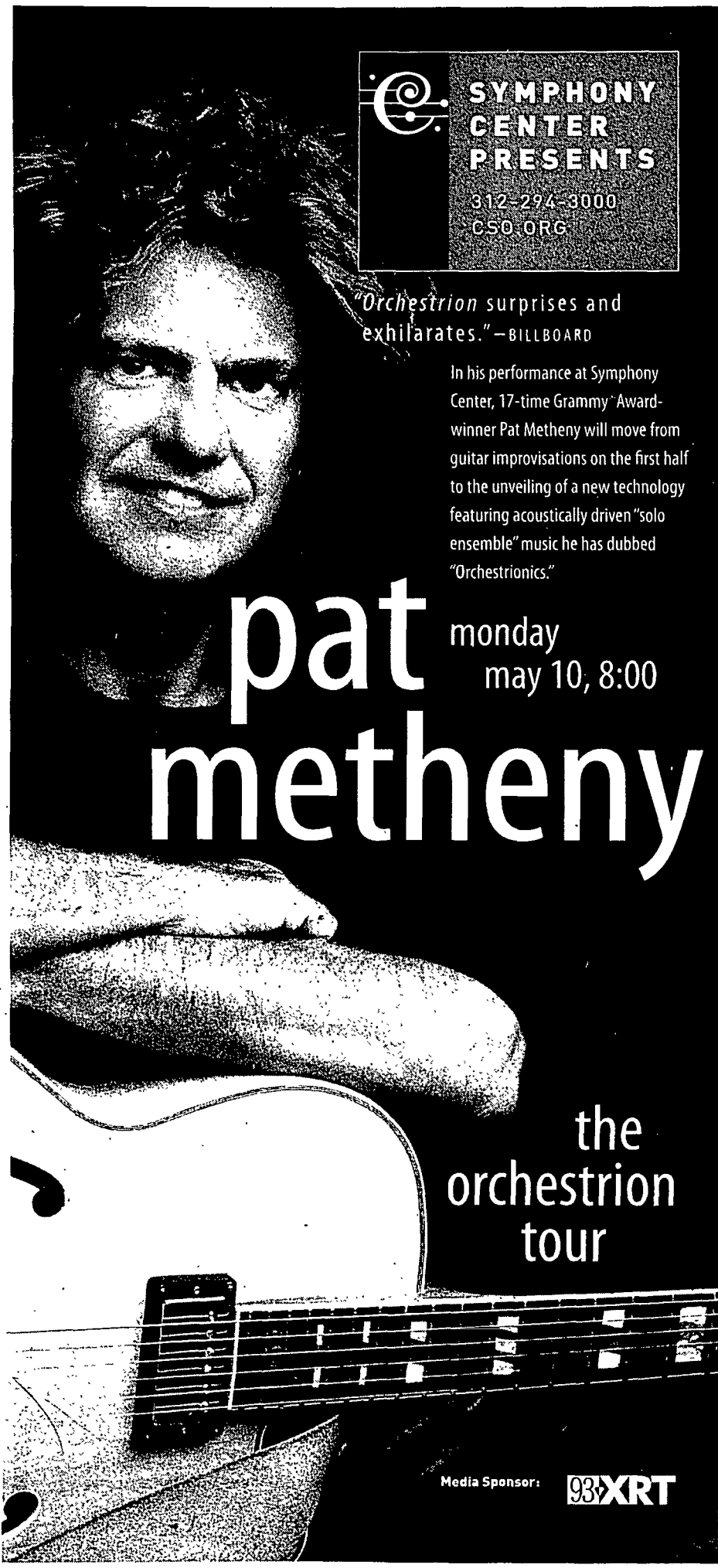
**Salads:**  
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Continued from PAGE B8

at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets: \$25; \$20 seniors; \$15 students. Call (847) 424-0089 or visit [www.piccolothatre.com](http://www.piccolothatre.com).

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Allstate Arena, 6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or (800) 745-3000; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. The information line is (847) 635-6601. June 28, 7:30 p.m.: André Rieu and his 55-piece Johann Strauss Orchestra. "Celebration of Music Tour." \$39-\$139.

Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Alan Heatherington, performs at North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. [www.arsviva.org](http://www.arsviva.org), (847) 673-6300. Tickets: \$44-\$70, with discounts for seniors and students. May 2, 4:30 p.m.: Young Artist Showcase, featuring violinist Matthew Lipman, winner of the Music Institute of Chicago Concerto Competition, performing William Walton's Concerto for Viola and Orchestra. The program also includes John Corigliano's "To Music," and Johannes Brahms' Symphony No. 1 in C minor. The afternoon includes an instrument petting zoo for children at 4:30 p.m., as well as the Music for Life program, in which parents or grandparents to bring their children/grandchildren to

the concert free of charge. Children 4-10 years old listen to the first part of the concert with their parents and then are escorted by teachers from the Music Institute of Chicago to classrooms in the building to participate in entertaining music education. Child-care is provided for siblings younger than 5 years old.

Bach Week Festival, featuring the Bach Week Festival Orchestra, chorus and soloists, with Richard Webster, organist, concludes at 7:30 p.m. April 30 at Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Program includes Bach's Overture No. 2 for Flute and Orchestra in B minor; Concerto for Violin, Oboe and Orchestra in C minor; and Magnificat in D Major. Tickets are \$35; \$25 seniors; \$20 students; \$10 children under 12. Call (800) 595-4849 or visit [www.bachweek.org](http://www.bachweek.org).

The Beethoven Project Trio will celebrate the release of its debut CD, featuring the world-premiere recording of a recently rediscovered piano trio by Ludwig van Beethoven, at a concert 7 p.m. May 7 in Nichols Concert Hall at the Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Pianist George Lepauw, violinist Sang Mee Lee and cellist Wendy Warner will play the three Beethoven piano trios from their new Cedille Records CD, \$20. Students will be admitted free if seats are available. Tickets are available at <http://beethovenprojecttrio.com> or by calling (312) 772-5821.

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](http://www.chicagophilharmonic.org). Tickets are \$70 on the main floor; \$33 main front wings; \$60, \$33 and \$20 in the balcony; \$20 obstructed view. Student tickets are \$10, available in the lobby before the performance. May 2: "Blockbuster Beethoven's Ninth," presented with the North Shore Choral Society and the Ryan Center for Young Artists at Lyric Opera.

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](http://www.evanstonsymphony.org). Tickets in advance are \$25; \$20 for senior citizens; free for children 12 and younger. Tickets at the door are \$28; \$23 for seniors; \$5 for students. May 2: "Russian Folkfest," with Irina Muresanu, violin. The program includes Liadov: Eight Russian Folk Songs, Op. 58;

Tchaikovsky: Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D Major, Op. 35; and Stravinsky: "Petrushka" (1947 version). Musical Insights, a free lecture/recital program focusing on music from the concert, will be presented at 1:30 p.m. April 30 at Presbyterian Homes, 3200 Grant St., Evanston. Lawrence Eckering, music director of the ESO, David Ellis, the ESO's general manager, and Irina Muresanu, violinist, will use recordings, DVDs, and the piano to demonstrate musical ideas and themes.

Lutkin Hall at Northwestern University, 700 University Place, Evanston. Most ticket prices listed in three categories: general public; senior citizens and NU faculty and staff; and student rate.

(847) 467-4000. April 30, 7:30 p.m.: Trio Globo — cellist Eugene Friesen, harmonica virtuoso and pianist Howard Levy and percussionist Glen Velez. The program will feature music inspired by global folk traditions, classical music, jazz and blues. \$15/\$12/\$7. May 1, 7:30 p.m.: Tenor Richard Drews and pianist Alan Darling will perform works by Faure, Beethoven, Schubert, Bixio and others. \$9/\$7/\$5. May 2, 7:30 p.m.: The Northwestern University Guitar Ensemble will perform music from Paraguay, Cuba, Spain, Italy, France and Japan. \$7/\$5/\$4. May 6, 7 p.m. Lecture and vocal master class by Susan Youens, focusing on the German "lied" repertoire — romantic art songs for solo voice with piano accompaniment, written by Schubert, Schumann and other composers. \$7/\$5/\$4.

The Met Live in HD series, featuring Metropolitan Opera performances transmitted in high definition to movie theaters throughout the United States, including Niles Showplace, 301 Golf Mill Center, Niles; and Evanston 18, 1715 Maple Ave., Evanston. Each performance will be transmitted live at noon Saturdays, followed by a pre-recorded encore presentation at 6:30 p.m. the third Wednesday after the live performance. [www.FathomEvents.com](http://www.FathomEvents.com). May 1 and 19: Rossini's "Armida," featuring Renée Fleming.

Alice Millar Chapel at Northwestern University, 1870 Sheridan Road, Evanston. (847) 467-4000. May 7, 8 p.m.: Baroque Music Ensemble presents Buxtehude's "Membra Jesu Nostri." The performance will include concertos, arias and choral selections

from the various cantatas. \$7/\$5/\$4. May 16, 7 p.m.: Alice Millar Spring Festival Concert, "Music of John Corigliano." Free-will offering.

Music of the Baroque performed at First United Methodist Church of Evanston, 1630 Hinman Ave., unless noted otherwise. (312) 551-1414. [www.baroque.org](http://www.baroque.org). Tickets are \$30-\$75. May 9, 7:30 p.m.: "Gloriously Baroque — Telemann and Bach," with the Music of the Baroque Chorus and Orchestra, Nicholas Kraemer, conductor; Suzie LeBlanc, soprano; Colin Ainsworth, tenor; and Sanford Sylvan, bass-baritone. The program features works by J.S. Bach, including the Brandenburg Concerto No. 1 in F Major, and Telemann's Suite in D Minor for three oboes, bassoon and strings, and the cantata, "Nun ist das Heil und die Kraft."

Music Institute of Chicago, Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. (847) 905-1500. [www.musicinst.org](http://www.musicinst.org). May 4, 7 p.m.: Abraham Stokman, piano, performs J.S. Bach's Goldberg Variations. \$20; \$15 seniors; \$7 students. May 8, 7:30 p.m.: Pacifica Quartet in concert. \$20; \$15 seniors; \$7 students. May 17, 7:30 p.m.: The fourth annual "Q & A with Quintet Attacca" offers an interactive concert with works by Albright, Radzynski, Ravel and Poulenc. \$20; \$15 seniors; \$7 students.

Northwest Symphony Orchestra, Paul Vermel, 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

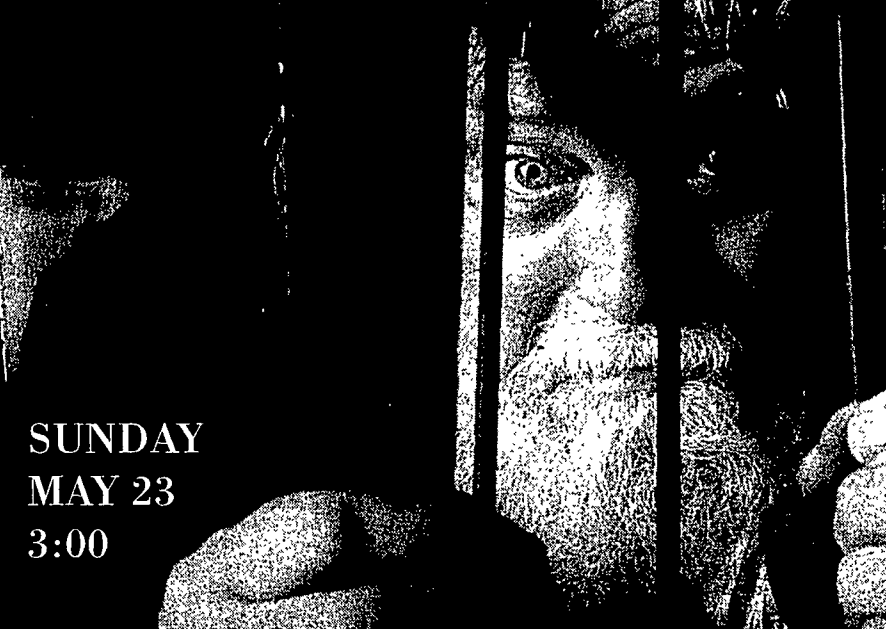
of radio station WFMT, begin one hour prior to each concert. Tickets: \$20; \$15 for seniors; \$10 for students. Children under age 14 are admitted free when accompanied by a paying adult. [www.northwestsymphony.org](http://www.northwestsymphony.org). May 16: Traditional pops concert, featuring violinist Kevin Hu, winner of the Paul Vermel Young Artist Award, who will play Jean Sibelius' Violin Concerto in D minor. The program also includes Bernstein's Overture to "Candide," highlights from Richard Rodgers' "Oklahoma!," "Memory" from Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Cats," and selections from Disney's "Pirates of the Caribbean."

The Orion Ensemble performs in Nichols Hall at the Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Tickets are \$25; \$22 for senior citizens; \$10 for students. Free for children 12 and younger. (630) 628-9591 or [www.orionensemble.org](http://www.orionensemble.org). May 9, 3 p.m.: The program includes Johannes Brahms' Scherzo for Violin and Piano; Opus 8 Trio for Violin, Cello and Piano; and Clarinet Quintet, Op. 115.

Pick-Staiger Concert Hall at Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 467-4000. [www.pickstaiger.org](http://www.pickstaiger.org). April 30, 7:30 p.m.: Keyboard Conversations, "Chopin and the Future." Pianist Jeffrey Siegel will feature music by Chopin and composers he influenced: Debussy, Scriabin, Tchaikovsky and Szymanowski. \$23/\$21/\$16. May 4, 7:30 p.m.: "Evening of Brass: A Symphonic Blast." Bienn School of Music faculty member Gall

go., PAGE B13

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**3:00**

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AN Afternoon of **Musical Mayhem**

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**Edwin Outwater** conductor  
**Professor Peter Schickele**  
**Michèle Eaton** soprano  
*Bach* Suite from *The Civilian Barber*  
*Bach* Perückenstück (*Hairpiece*) from *The Civilian Barber*  
*Schickele* Eine Kleine Nichtmusik  
*Bach* Variations on an Unusually Simple-Minded Theme

After a nine-year absence from Chicago, Professor Peter Schickele will perform a new and hilarious orchestral program featuring the complete Suite from *The Civilian Barber*—including the *Perückenstück (Hairpiece)*—as well as *Eine Kleine Nichtmusik*. His Variations on an Unusually Simple-Minded Theme will leave you humming a forgettable tune all the way home.

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*Schickele* Eine Kleine Nichtmusik  
*Bach* Variations on an Unusually Simple-Minded Theme

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FAMILY FRIENDLY

# 'Music for Life' introduces kids to classical pieces

By MYRNA PETLICKI  
Contributor

Children learn to love classical music through Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra's unique free interactive program "Music for Life," offered in conjunction with the Music Institute of Chicago. The next session, geared toward kids 4 to 10 years old, is at the orchestra's May 2 concert at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd. in Skokie.

Starting at 3:30 p.m., families can visit the Music Institute's instrument petting zoo in the lobby. "It's a chance for kids to see instruments and even try them out," said Alan Heatherington, Ars Viva music director.

The concert begins at 4:30 p.m. Kids registered



Families can visit the instrument petting zoo as part of the "Music for Life" program.

in the "Music for Life" program stay for the first two numbers. Aaron Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man" is "a splashy piece with lots of brass and percussion," Heatherington said. Four brass players are located

in the audience for "To Music" by John Corigliano. Following those pieces kids will be taken to classrooms by Music Institute educators, who will teach them about the music through activities.

"Their parents can enjoy the rest of the performance," Heatherington said.

Tickets are \$39-\$70; "Music for Life" participants attend free but must have reservations. For details, call (847) 673-6300 or visit [www.arsviva.org](http://www.arsviva.org).

### Feel the rhythm

Toddlers will be dancing, marching, playing musical instruments and participating in parachute games at Moovin' and Groovin' Toddlers, 10 to 11 a.m. May 1 at the Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave. Youth services staff will lead kids in physical activities. Registration is required.

For details, call (847) 965-4220 or visit [www.webrary.org](http://www.webrary.org).

### Free for all

Your family won't want to miss the chance to celebrate Free Comic Book Day at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 W. Oakton St., from 1 to 2:30 p.m. May 1. Comix Revolution will distribute free comic books suitable for children through adults. This all-ages event is promoted by Diamond Comics, the United States' major comic book distributor. Get your comics in the East Gallery area under the stairs.

For details, call (847) 673-3733 or visit [www.skokieliibrary.info](http://www.skokieliibrary.info).

### Crafty Cinco de Mayo celebration

A colorful yarn creation called an "ojo de dios" (God's eye), created by early Hispanic settlers in the Southwest, is the May 2 project for the Sunday

Craft Series at Skokie Heritage Museum, 8031 Floral Ave. The workshop, from noon to 1:30 p.m., is for kids ages 5 and older accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$2 for residents, \$3 for nonresidents. Registration is encouraged but drop-ins are welcome. For details, call (847) 674-1500, Ext. 3000, or visit [www.skokieparkdistrict.org](http://www.skokieparkdistrict.org).

### Have s'more fun

There will be stories, singing, a night hike and a yummy snack during the Family Campfire from 7 to 9 p.m. May 7 at Wildwood Nature Center, 529 Forestview, Park Ridge. Bring a blanket or chair. Reservations are required. Cost is \$15 per family.

For details, call (847) 692-3570 or visit [www.prparks.org](http://www.prparks.org). Comment: [pioneerlocal.com](http://pioneerlocal.com)

## go.

Continued from PAGE B11

Williams will conduct the Brass Ensemble in a program of brass arrangements of powerful symphonic works. \$7/\$5/\$4. May 6, 7:30 p.m.: Contemporary Music Ensemble, Student Composition Concert. \$7/\$5/\$4. May 7, 7:30 p.m.: Symphonic Band, in a program featuring Frank Ticheli's "Postcard"; Carter Pann's "Hold This Boy and Listen"; Karel Husa's "Cheetah"; and John Corigliano's "Gazebo Dances." \$7/\$5/\$4. May 8, 7:30 p.m.: The Northwestern University Symphony Orchestra will perform Rimsky-Korsakov's "Capriccio Espagnol," Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 2 in G Minor and Stravinsky's "The Rite of Spring." Wei-Han Wu will be the piano soloist. \$12/\$9/\$6.

The Polish Museum of America, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago. [www.PolishMuseumofAmerica.org](http://www.PolishMuseumofAmerica.org). (773) 384-3352. May 16, 2 p.m.: Reproducing piano (pianola) concert given by Rex Lawson, founder of the Pianola Institute in London, England. The concert, comprised of piano rolls recorded during a concert given on a reproducing piano by Polish composer and pianist Ignacy Jan Paderewski (1860-1941), will be held in the Great Hall of the museum. The concert is dedicated to the memory of the late Polish President Lech and First Lady Maria Kaczynski, and the Polish officials who perished in the April plane crash. Reserved VIP tickets are \$25 per person, which include a guided

tour beginning at 12:30 p.m. of the renovated Paderewski Room of the museum, and an "up close and personal" seating to watch the workings of the 1925 seven-foot reproducing concert grand during the performance. General admission reservations are \$15. Regenstein Recital Hall at Northwestern University, 60 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 467-4000. May 1, 7:30 p.m.: 2010 Music Marathon Grand Finale Concert, featuring mezzo-soprano Karen Brunssen, pianists Elizabeth Buccheri and Sylvia Wang, clarinetist Steven Cohen, violinists Gerardo Ribeiro and Almita Vamos, violist Roland Vamos, guitarist Anne Waller and hornist Gail Williams. Admission by donation. Proceeds benefit Chicago's People's Music School, which provides free music lessons to underprivileged youth. For information, visit [www.musicmarathonconcert.org](http://www.musicmarathonconcert.org).

### POP/FOLK/JAZZ

Allstate Arena, 6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or (800) 745-3000; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. The information line is (847) 635-6601. May 1, 7 p.m.: Freight Train Tour - Alan Jackson with Josh Turner and Chris Young. \$25, \$45, \$75. May 18, 6:30 p.m.: Nickelback 2010 Dark Horse World Tour with guests Breaking Benjamin, Shinedown and Sick Puppies. \$46.50, \$60, \$85. May 24, 7:30 p.m.: Carole King and James Taylor, Troubadour Reunion Tour. \$45, \$85, \$125. American Legion Music Hall, 1030

Central St., Evanston. (847) 573-0443. [www.chicagobluegrass.com](http://www.chicagobluegrass.com). Bluegrass Legends Concerts - doors open at 7 p.m., show at 8 p.m. Admission: \$20; \$15 for senior citizens and children. May 1: David Davis & the Warrior River Boys.

Blues Bar, 2 W. Busse Ave., Mount Prospect. (847) 788-9977. [www.bluesbar.com](http://www.bluesbar.com). Music from 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m., unless noted otherwise. April 30: Mr. Slate.

Chambers, 6881 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles. (847) 647-8282. [www.thechambersonline.com](http://www.thechambersonline.com). Sunday music is from 5-9 p.m.; Thursday music is from 7:30-11:30 p.m.; Friday-Saturday music is from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. April 29: John Bany, Charles Braugham and Don Stille (jazz). April 30: Rick Lindy & the Wild Ones ('50s-'60s rock).

The Edgewater Singers present "Songs of America & Travelin' On" at 7:30 p.m. May 15 at Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1244 W. Thorndale Ave., Chicago. Free admission.

Ethical Humanist Society Second Saturday Coffeehouse, 7574 N. Lincoln Ave. (at Howard), Skokie. (847) 677-3334. [www.ethicalhuman.org](http://www.ethicalhuman.org). May 8, 8 p.m.: Folk singing duos February Sky (Phil Cooper and Susan Urban) and Cooper and Nelson (Phil Cooper and Margaret Nelson). \$7 minimum donation includes hot and cold beverages and pastries.

Hogeye Folk Arts, Ltd. hosts concerts at Lake Street Church of Evanston, 607 Lake St. (847) 475-6165. [go., PAGE B14](http://www.hogeye-</a></p>
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**go.**  
Continued from PAGE B13

folkarts.org. \$15 general admission; \$13 for senior citizens; \$5 for students; free for children under 12. May 1, 7:30 p.m.; Jim Craig & Friends.

InterContinental Chicago O'Hare Hotel, 5300 N. River Road, Rosemont. www.jconhare.com/montrose\_room. (847) 544-5300. **Friday Nights Live**, featuring music from 8:30 p.m.-midnight in the Montrose Room. \$5 cover, unless noted otherwise. April 30: The Pantastic 4. May 7: Michael McDermott with special guest Carl Broemel from My Morning Jacket. \$12 in advance through Ticketmaster. \$15 at door. May 14: "Showdown & Shootout" Battle of Rock Bands championship round (www.showdownshootout.com).

Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago (773) 282-7035. www.irish-american.org. May 15, 8 p.m.: Mikenny Castle Inn Reunion Concert II, with Brogue and the Dooley Brothers. \$20. Entertainment at 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays in the Fifth Province Lounge, no cover - April 30: Steve Davern and Friends.

Lincolnwood Jewish Congregation AG Beth Israel, 7117 N. Crawford Ave., Lincolnwood. www.ljccagbi.org. (847) 676-6491. May 11, 7 p.m.: Yom Yerushalayim Concert, featuring Stereo Sinai Jewish Fusion Music.

Oakton Community College Performing Arts Center, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. (847) 635-1900. May 4, 8 p.m.: Spring Vocal Recital offers an evening of classic and contemporary songs performed by voice students under the direction of Eileen Berman. Admission is free. May 13, 8 p.m.: Choral Recital features student vocalists under the direction of Eileen Berman. Admission is free. May 14, 8 p.m.: Oakton Jazz Band performs works by Duke Ellington, George Gershwin, Oliver Nelson and Horace Silver. \$5 for general admission; \$3 for students and seniors. May 15, 2 p.m.: Guitar Recital presents classical, contemporary and original music performed by student combos, duets and soloists. Directed by Tom Clippert.

Repenstein Recital Hall at Northwestern University, 60 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 467-4000. May 5, 7:30 p.m.: Small Jazz Ensemble Concert, "Birth of the Cool." \$7/\$5/\$4.

Ridgewood High School Band will present its spring concert at 4 p.m. May 15 at the school, 7500 W. Montrose Ave., Norridge. The band will play a medley of songs in honor of Armed Services Day, and local service personnel and veterans are invited to wear their uniforms and be recognized during the performance. Contact Steve Klaus at sklaus@ridgewood.org or (708) 456-4242 ext. 250.

Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at: www.ticketmaster.com or (800) 745-3000; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. For more information about the theater, call (847) 671-5100 or visit www.rosemonttheatre.com. May 25-26, 7:30 p.m.: "Glee Live" in Concert. "Glee" stars Lee Michele Costello, Rosemont. Ticket Price: \$18 \$30A.

Chris Colfer, Kevin McHale, Jenna Ushkowitz, Mark Salling, Dianna Agron, Naya Rivera, Heather Morris, Harry Shum Jr. and DiJon Talton will perform in a musical celebration of the Golden Globe Award-winning show. Tickets are \$39.50-\$89.50.

Sing to Live Community Chorus will present its spring concert, "She," at 7:30 p.m. May 15 at Nichols Concert Hall at the Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. General admission tickets: \$20; \$15 for senior citizens and students; complimentary tickets for breast cancer survivors. Visit www.singtolive.org.

Skokie Theatre Music Foundation presents concerts in the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call (847) 677-7761 or visit www.skokie-theatre.com. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, unless noted otherwise. April 29, 8 p.m.: Marcus Gentry in "Stand By Me." April 30, 8 p.m.: Jann Klose and Anne Harris present folk, pop and roots rock. May 1, 8 p.m.: John Van Keulen presents "Broadway with a Twist." May 2, 2 p.m.: Esther Hana. May 2, 7 p.m.: Jazz vocalist Janet Redstone with the Bobby Schill Quartet present "The Colors of the World" CD release concert. May 7, 8 p.m.: Jimmy Niteclub in "Music of Sinatra and Friends." May 8, 8 p.m.: "This Time Around," starring Paul Molondo. May 9, 2 p.m.: Ron Hawking in "One From the Heart." \$35 in advance; \$44 at the door. May 9, 7 p.m.: Modern Klezmer Quartet featuring Lisa Fishman. May 15, 8 p.m.: "They Say It's Spring: The Musical World of Blossom Dearie."

S.P.A.C.E., 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. www.evanstonpace.com. (847) 492-8860. Shows at 8 p.m., unless noted otherwise. Most ticket prices listed in three categories: in advance; at the door; and reserved table seating. April 30: Alice Peacock with Peter Bradley Adams. \$17/\$20. May 1: Jonatha Brooke (folk/rock). \$24/\$28. May 2, 7 p.m.: Steve Ramsdell and Friends. \$15/\$20. May 3, 6:30 p.m.: Prohibition Orchestra of Chicago. Swing dance lessons at 7:30 p.m. \$6. May 5: Jason Reeves with Chase Coy (pop/rock). \$12/\$15. May 6: Crooked Still with Bubbly Creek Bluegrass (bluegrass). \$18/\$22. May 7: Josh White Jr. and Claudia Schmidt (folk). \$15/\$20. May 8: Chad & Jeremy (folk/rock). \$30/\$35. May 9, 3 p.m.: Musical Offering presents the Sam Stryke Jazz Trio. \$12/\$15; students \$8/\$10. May 9: John McCutcheon (folk). \$17/\$20.

**ART GALLERIES**

Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie. (847) 674-1500. Visitor hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday; 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays; and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sundays. April 30-June 27: "American Nature," paintings by artists from Wilmette, Chicago, Evanston, Niles and Skokie. Opening reception will be held from 7-9 p.m. April 30.

Oakton Community College, Koehline Museum of Art, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. (847) 635-2633. www.oakton.edu/museum. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays. Through April 30: "The Skyway Conference Art Competition," an exhibition of works by Illinois community college students. Works include paintings, prints, photographs, ceramic, mosaics & mixed media.

**AUDITIONS & OPPORTUNITIES**

**MUSICIANS**

Volunteer accompanist sought for a senior citizen performance troupe sponsored by the Skokie Park District. Rehearsals are held on Tuesday afternoons and some Thursdays at the Oakton Community Center in Skokie. Candidates should be able to read a lead sheet and transpose, and be available year-round, with time off in January and July. Sight-reading is a plus. Call (847) 998-8894.

**ARTISTS**

Custer's Last Stand Festival of the Arts will be held June 19-20 in Evanston's Main Street Station Shopping District. Booths for arts and crafts exhibitors are \$250-\$275. Applications are now being accepted. Download or apply online at www.custerfair.com. Application deadline is May 1.

Ridgewood High School in Norridge is seeking alumni artists for its 50th anniversary Fine Arts Festival on May 15. Artists can submit and show their work in the Visual Artists Exhibition at the festival. Artists must be RHS alumni, faculty or staff (either former or current.) All media types will be accepted for the juried exhibition. Ribbons will be awarded at the opening reception from noon-2 p.m. May 15. No fees. Drop-off date for all artwork is April 19 from 4-8 p.m. Entry forms can be found on the RHS Web site, www.ridgeonet.org, under the "50th Anniversary" link, then to the "Fine Arts Festival" pdf. For information, call (630) 408-3516.

Skokie Art Guild's 49th annual Art Fair will be held July 10-11 on the Village Green, 5211 W. Oakton, downtown Skokie, featuring fine art and offering prizes and awards. For an application or information, visit www.skokieartguild.org or call (847) 677-8163.

**BOOKS & POETRY**

Barnes & Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. (847) 676-2230. May 17, 7 p.m.: Louis Sachar will sign his new young adult novel, *The Card Turner*. Brothers K, 500 Main St., Evanston. April 30: RHINO Reads!, a monthly poetry series. Open mike from 6-6:30 p.m.; featured poets, Bill Yarrow and Tim Hunt. from 6:45-7:30 p.m. Visit www.rhinopoetry.org.

Ethical Humanist Society, 7574 N. Lincoln Ave. (at Howard), Skokie. (847) 677-3334. www.ethicalhuman.org. May 2, 12:15 p.m.: Fiction Circle will discuss *The Housekeeper and the Professor* by Yoko Ogawa.

**CHILD'S PLAY**

"Aladdin, Jr." will be presented by Devonshire Playhouse Children's Theatre at 3 and 7 p.m. May 1 and 3 p.m. May 2 at the Devonshire Playhouse, 4400 Greenwood, Skokie. Tickets: \$10; \$8 for students and senior citizens. Call (847) 674-1500, ext. 2400.

Creative Kids Corner, (847) 933-0672 or www.creativekidscorner.org. Registration is in progress for spring and summer classes. June 1, 2, 4 and 7 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. \$25 for 2-4 year olds.

**COMEDY**

Centre East in the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. (847) 673-6300. www.centreeast.org. May 1, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.: "Whose Live Anyway?" featuring improvised comedy and song by the stars of the television show, "Whose Line Is It Anyway?!" \$58. May 15, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.: Political satirist and musician Mark Russell. \$40-\$50.

Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or (800) 745-3000; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. For more information about the theater, call (847) 671-5100. June 4, 8 p.m.: Comedian Ron "Later Salad" White presents his new stand-up show, "Behavioral Problems." The performance is recommended for mature audiences. \$35.75, \$45.75.

**DANCE**

Pick-Staiger Concert Hall at Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 467-4000. www.pickstaiger.org. Kids Fare series, featuring hour-long concerts for children ages 3 to 8 and their families. Tickets: \$6; \$5 for senior citizens; \$4 for children. May 1, 10:30 a.m.: "Ivories, Buttons and Such" blends music, dance and song in a performance celebrating different keyboard instruments, including pianos, accordions, concertinas and melodions.

Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or (800) 745-3000; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. For more information about the theater, call (847) 671-5100 or visit www.rosemonttheatre.com. May 6-9: Sesame Street Live: "Elmo's Green Thumb." Performances at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 10:30 a.m., 2 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Saturday; and 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets: \$15, \$20 and \$30. Gold Circle seats are \$35. Opening night, all seats (excluding Gold Circle) are \$15. "A Summer in the Theater" will be offered by Three Cat Productions at the Skokie Theatre Music Foundation, June 14-Aug. 20. The camp, open to children and teens, includes the U.S. premiere of "Cinderella" by the British composer Ric Brunnell. "Let Me Entertain You!", a celebration of Broadway classics, "Broadway Rocks!", the student-created play "Choose Your Own Fairytale Adventure," and the "Golly Gee Glee" show choir camp. Camps vary in length from one to four weeks. "Cinderella" and "Choose Your Own Fairytale Adventure" are both \$695 per camper. "Let Me Entertain You" and "Broadway Rocks" are both \$195 per camper. "Golly Gee Glee" is \$250 per camper. For information or to register, visit www.threecatproductions.com/education or call (312) 725-6859.

Take Two Children's Theater offers summer camps at the North Shore Dance Center, 8401 Crawford Ave., Skokie. "Aladdin" Kids' Drama Camp, for ages 5-13, meets from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, June 14-July 28, for \$300. Dance and Drama Camp, for ages 5-13, will meet from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, Aug. 2-12, for \$250. Call (847) 674-2216.

**PERFORMANCES**

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. (847) 673-6300. www.northshorecenter.org. May 21, 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.: Giordano Dance School presents "Gus Tracks." The shows feature Giordano students performing jazz, modern, ballet, tap, hip-hop, lyrical, acrobatic and musical theater pieces, as well as Giordano 3 Company performing original works.

Northwestern University, Josephine Louis Theater, 20 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. April 29-30 and May 1, 8 p.m. and May 2, 2 p.m.: "Danceworks 2010," featuring Jump Rhythm Jazz, modern, classic jazz and contemporary dance. Tickets: \$20; \$18 for seniors; \$10 for full-time students. Call (847) 491-7282 or visit www.tlc.northwestern.edu.

**GROUPS & LESSONS**

Brian Patti Orchestra presents a 10-piece ballroom dance band from 6:30-10:30 p.m. Thursdays at Mango Mexican Restaurant, 8743 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles. \$5 cover.

Chicago Dance Chapter of USA Dance, the national organization representing amateur ballroom dancers. Lesson begins at 7:30 p.m.; dancing from 8:15-11 p.m. Admission: \$8 members; \$10 non-members; \$6 for students with ID. Dance music for all swing, Latin and ballroom dances. Partners not required - singles welcome. Beginning dancers encouraged. For information, call (847) 577-9014 or visit www.usadancechicago.org. May 8: "New York, New York," at The Centre at North Park, 10040 Addison, Franklin Park. Featured dance is the quick step.

Chicago Dance Latin & Ballroom

**FAIRS & FESTIVALS**

Rainbow Hospice Arts and Crafts Fair will be held from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. May 1 at the Rainbow Hospice Main Offices, 444 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge. The event includes local artists, craftspeople and vendors selling handcrafted and other items. The fair benefits Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care programs and services. Admission is free. For information, call (773) 655-6851.

Fine Arts Festival, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. May 15 at Ridgewood High School, 7500 W. Montrose Ave., Norridge, featuring an art exhibit, concert, swing dance workshop, a performance of "Much Ado About Nothing," dinner and more. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.ridgeonet.org. For information, call Carol Valentin-Barry, (708) 456-4242, ext. 225.

Skokie Festival of Cultures Planning Committee meets at the Oakton Community Center at least one month per month leading up to the 20th annual Festival of Cultures on May 22-23. To participate or for information, call (847) 674-1500, ext. 7715.

Skokie Festival of Cultures, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. May 22-23 at Oakton Park, 4701 Oakton St., Skokie. The festival includes more than 30 cultural booths, ethnic music and dance, a wide range of food, arts and crafts, international children's games, and a merchandise marketplace. The cultures represented at the festival will range from Hellenic to

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Haitian, Indonesian to Slovakian, and Japanese to Jamaican. A free shuttle will deliver attendees to the festival grounds from Oakton Community College, 7701 Lincoln Ave., from 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m. both days. For information, call the Skokie Park District, (847) 674-1500, or visit www.SkokieCultureFest.org.

## 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 7 p.m., unless noted otherwise. The Tales of Man and Beast series - April 29: "The Tale of the Fox" ("Le Roman de Renard"). Adapted by animator Wladislaw Starewicz from northern European folklore, the film follows the comic adventures of the fox Renard. Haiti on Screen series - April 30, 5 p.m.: "Man by the Shore" ("L'Homme sur les quais"). Terror inflicted by the "Tonton Macoute," the private secret police of dictator François "Papa Doc" Duvalier in the 1960s, haunts a small Haitian town. Admission is free. April 30, 7 p.m.: "Moloch Tropical," a story focusing on a Haitian president who cannot face

the inevitability of his fall from power. Admission is free.

Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, (773) 282-7035, www.irish-american.org. May 8, 8 p.m.: Screening of "Lefty," set in Chicago's Beverly neighborhood. The filmmaker and cast will be present for discussion. \$10. May 16, 2 p.m.: Lecture and film screening honoring the work of Irish saint, St. Brendan the Navigator, including a showing of the Tim Severin documentary film on the Brendan Voyage. \$10.

Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, (847) 825-3123. www.parkridgelibrary.org. Forbidden Cinema: The Pre-Code Hollywood Series - Films are shown at 7 p.m. Thursdays, hosted by film historian Matthew C. Hoffman. The series features films made before the enforcement of the 1930 Production Code. The uncensored movies often examined forbidden topics such as adultery, sex, violence and drug addiction. April 29: "Heroes for Sale." May 13: "Midnight Mary." May 20: "Baby Face." May 27: "Murder at the Vanities." Talking Pictures Festival, May 6-9, features 18 full-length films and five programs of shorts at Evanston venues including NEXT Theatre at Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St.; Hotel Orrington's Hinman Theater, 1701 Orrington Ave.; Century 12/CineArts 6, 1715 Maple Ave.; and the Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave. Single tickets are \$10; five-pack discount pass, \$40; opening night at Century 12/CineArts 6, \$15. Screenings at the Evanston Public Library are free. For a

full schedule of films, visit www.talkingpicturesfestival.org.

## ORGANIZATIONS

Northern Illinois Stereo Camera Club meets from 6:30-8:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month at the Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. The group is devoted to preserving and promoting all aspects of three-dimensional art and photography. Beginners welcome. For information, call T.J. Adamczyk, (773) 631-7068, or Tom Stremlau, (773) 761-0795. Skokie Art Guild meets on the fourth Tuesday of March, April, May, June and September at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Visitors welcome. For information, visit www.skokieartguild.org. May 25, 7 p.m.: Robert Pinhasik - Working with Acrylics.

## WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

### MISCELLANEOUS

Oakton Community College offers Alliance for Lifelong Learning classes at Maine West High School, 1755 S. Wolf Road, Des Plaines. For information or registration, visit www.oakton.edu/all or call (847) 982-9888, press 3. Great Directors Series: Film Study (HUM 110-01) explores the films of Stanley Kubrick, Alfred Hitchcock, Woody Allen and David Lynch. Four-week course meets from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays, starting May 4. Course fee is \$99. 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. The New Yorker (HUM E93-73) analyzes favorite selections from the magazine that debuted in 1925. A subscription is required. Four-week course meets from

9:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays, starting May 3. Course fee is \$52.

## ET CETERA

Allstate Arena, 6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or (800) 745-3000; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. The information line is (847) 635-6601. May 8, 7:30 p.m.: Smucker's Stars on Ice Tour, including Evan Lysacek, Tanith Belbin, Benjamin Agosto, Sasha Cohen, Todd Eldredge and Michael Weiss. Tickets start at \$25. Centre East in the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, (847) 673-6300, www.centreast.org. May 22, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.: "One-Man Star Wars Trilogy" written and performed by Charles Ross, \$30. The Chicago Humanities Festival's 11th annual spring festival, Stages, Sights & Sounds, features 20 performances and events taking place in Evanston from May 6-16. Tickets are available at (312) 494-9509 or www.chicagohumanities.org. Advance tickets to all performances are \$11, \$5 for children; cost at the door is \$13, \$7 for children. Israel's Galilee Multicultural Theatre presents "Sofia's Drawings" at 7 p.m. May 8 and 14, 12:30 p.m. May 10-13, 3 p.m. May 15 and noon May 16 at Northwestern University's Josephine Louis Theater, 20 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. The play weaves together actors, puppets and video to tell the story of Sofia's life, hopes and fears during her time in hiding from the Nazis during World War II. Recommended for children ages 8 and up. Seattle's LelaVision performs at 10 a.m. May 6 and May 10-13, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. May 7 and 15, 3 p.m. May 8, and 5 p.m. May 16 at Northwestern University's

go., PAGE B18

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by Lee Blessing

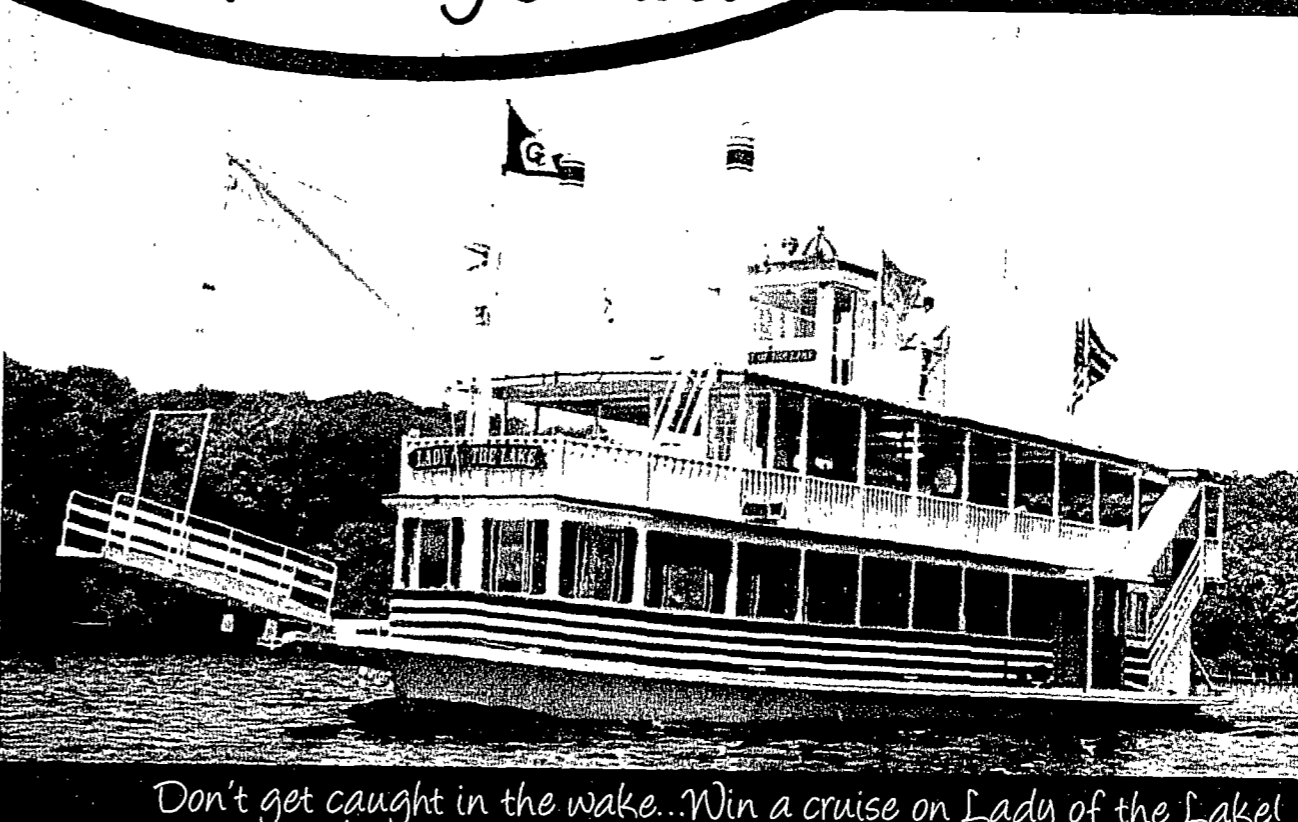
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You could win a **Grand Geneva** getaway or escape to **The Abbey Resort & Spa** on Lake Geneva!

**25 FIRST PLACE PRIZE WINNERS**  
Sunday, May 30, 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
Be among 25 Pioneer Press readers to win a **4-pack of Dinner Cruise tickets**, which includes dinner, soft drinks, and cash bar available.

**25 SECOND PLACE PRIZE WINNERS**  
Sunday, May 30, 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Join 25 Pioneer Press readers and their guests on a delectable **Dessert Cruise!** Each winner will receive a **4-pack of Dessert Cruise tickets**, which includes champagne boarding toast, desserts, soft drinks and a cash bar available.

All entries must be received by **May 6, 2010.**

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NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. Contest open to legal residents of Cook, DuPage, Lake, Kane or McHenry county in Illinois who are 21 years of age and older. See PioneerLocal.com/win for restrictions and complete official rules which apply. Void where prohibited. Approximate retail value (ARV) of Grand Geneva grand prize is: \$569, ARV of Abbey Resort & Spa Grand Prize is \$375, ARV of each First Prize: \$200, ARV of each Second Prize: \$200, ARV of all prizes: \$10,994. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. Limit of one (1) entry per person regardless of method of entry. Sponsor: Sun-Times Media Productions, LLC, 350 N. Orleans St., 10th Floor, Chicago, IL 60654.

**ENTER NOW AT PIONEERLOCAL.COM** or complete the official entry form below

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 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  Yes, I would like more information about Lake Geneva.

Mail this form to: Red White & Cruise!, c/o Lake Geneva Convention & Visitors Bureau, 201 Wrigley Dr., Lake Geneva, WI 53147 or go to **www.pioneerlocal.com** and enter now. Good luck!

go.

Continued from PAGE B16

Josephine Louis Theater, 20 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. An instrument maker and a dancer, husband-and-wife team Ela Lamblin and Leah Mann create performances that combine art, music and dance. Recommended for all ages. Block Family Day will be from 1-4 p.m. May 16 at the Mary & Leigh Block Muse-

um of Art, 40 Arts Circle Drive, on Northwestern University's Evanston campus, featuring visual arts exhibits and activities for children and families. Admission is free.

The Chicago Photographic Collectors Society will present its 39th annual International Camera & Image Show And Sale from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. May 2 at the North Shore Holiday Inn, 5300 W. Touhy Ave., Skokie. Free camera appraisals and free camera check-ups will be available on-site. More than 80 dealers will buy, sell and trade contemporary,

antique, collectable and digital cameras, photo equipment, books and images of all kinds. Admission is \$6; \$4 for children under 12 and photography students (with school ID). Visit www.chicagophotographic.org.

Northwestern University, Josephine Louis Theater, 20 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. May 15, 10 a.m.: Chicago Humanities Festival presents husband-and-wife team Ela Lamblin and Leah Mann, a dancer and an instrument-maker, in "Physical Music," a performance that combines art, music and

dance. \$5-\$13. Call (312) 494-9509.

Skokie Theatre Music Foundation presents concerts in the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call (847) 677-7761 or visit www.skokietheatre.com. May 14, 8 p.m.: "Shtick With Us: A Vaudeville Burlesque." \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. May 16, 2 p.m.: Carla Gordon in "Queen Bea, A Tribute to Beatrice Arthur." May 21, 8 p.m.: "The Next Generation of Artists," a showcase of up-and-coming artists in the Chicago area, hosted by Amina Bennett & Friends. The show features vo-

calists, instrumentalists, spoken word poets, comedians and more. \$20.

MUSEUMS

Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie. (847) 967-4889. www.illholocaustmuseum.org. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays; 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Admission: \$8; \$5 for children ages 5-12; \$6 for students

ages 12-22 and senior citizens. Special exhibitions are free with museum admission. Through June 20: "The Wartime Escape: Margaret and H.A. Rey's Journey from France." Based in part on the 2005 book, *The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of Margret and H.A. Rey*, written by Louise Borden and illustrated by Allan Drummond, the exhibition features 27 framed art prints by Drummond and supplemental archival images.

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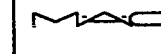
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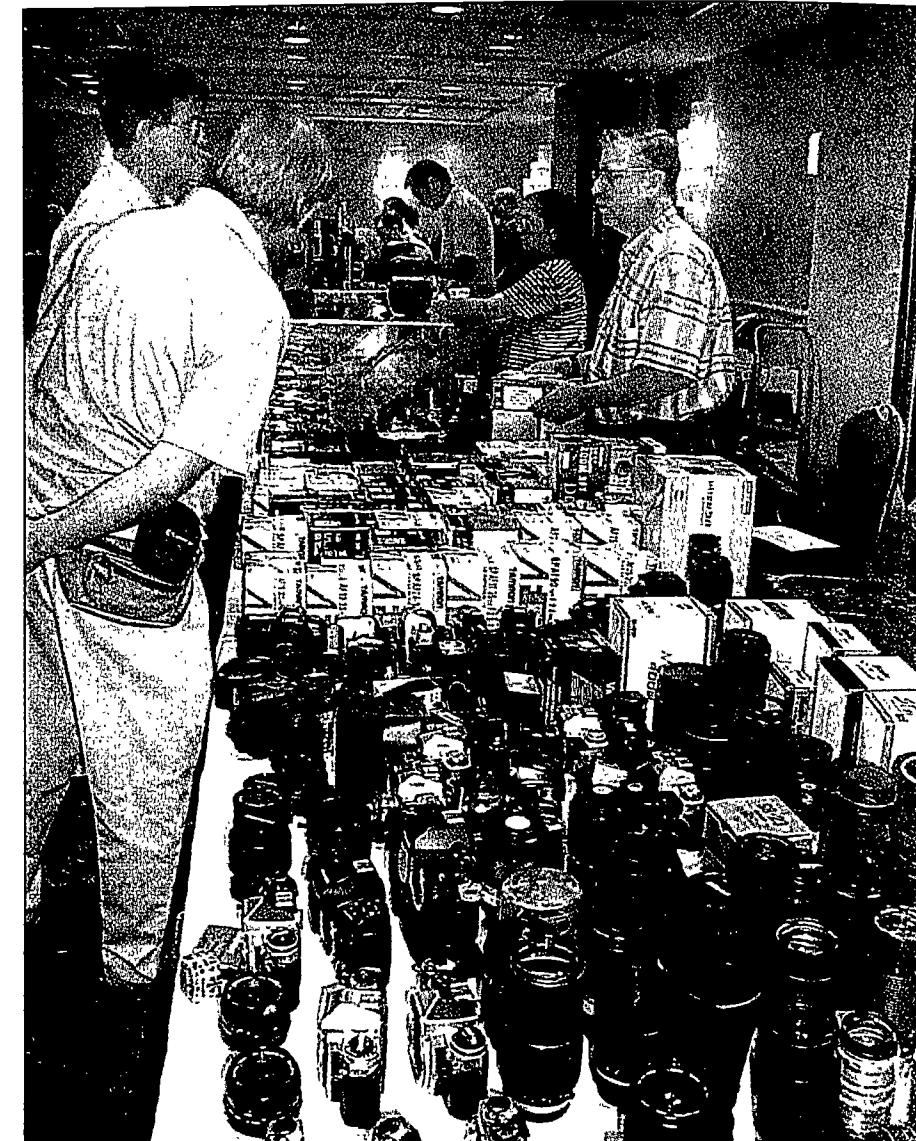
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The Chicago Photographic Collectors Society will present its annual International Camera & Image Show and Sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 2 at the North Shore Holiday Inn, 5300 W. Touhy Ave., Skokie. Free camera appraisals and camera check-ups will be available. More than 80 dealers will buy, sell and trade contemporary, antique, collectable and digital cameras, photo equipment, books and images. Admission is \$6; \$4 for children under 12 and photography students. Visit www.chicagophotographic.org.

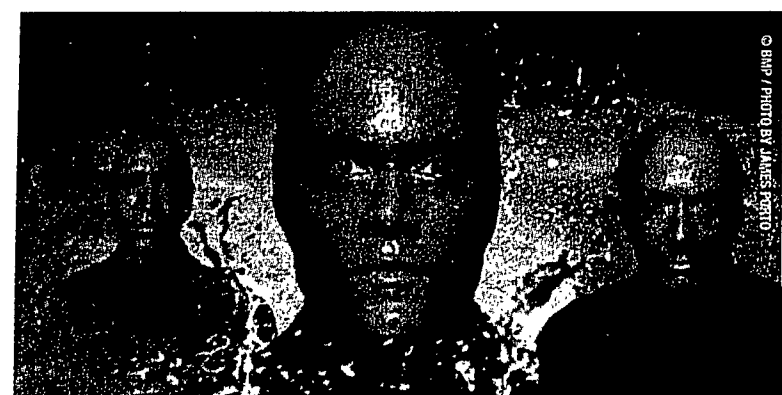
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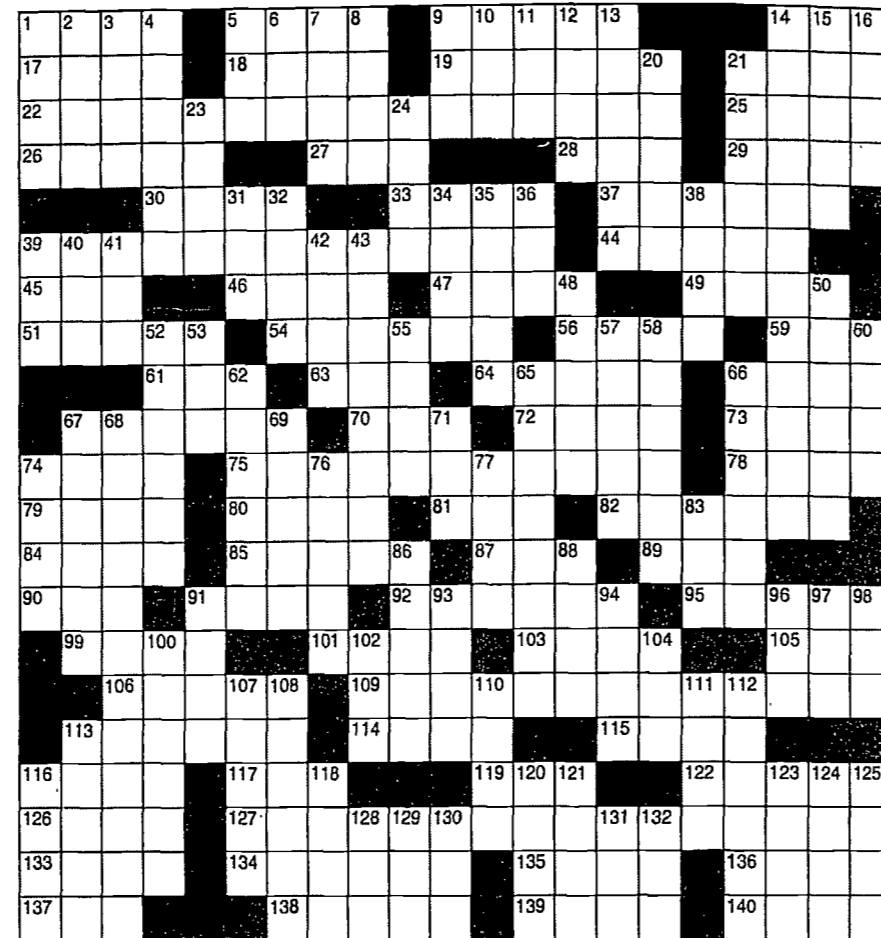
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# Super Crossword FOR THE BIRDS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sagan or Sandburg
  - 5 Swarm sound
  - 9 Montana city
  - 14 Monterrey Mrs.
  - 17 '58 Pulitzer winner
  - 18 Piece of fencing?
  - 19 He was "The Thing"
  - 21 Pipe part
  - 22 WREN
  - 25 Brooding-nagian
  - 26 For — (cheaply)
  - 27 Comic Costello
  - 28 — Na Na
  - 29 Mascagni opera
  - 30 Poet Wilcox
  - 33 Lohengrin's bird
  - 37 African antelopes
  - 39 LARK
  - 44 "The Optimist's Daughter" author
  - 45 Bonanza material
  - 46 Coveleski or Musial
  - 47 Vichyssoise veggie
  - 49 Tip one's topper
  - 51 Long-tailed parrot
  - 54 Sanford of "The Jeffersons"
  - 56 Scandinavian city
  - 59 Griffon greeting
  - 61 Fool
  - 63 Missouri airport abbr.
  - 64 Valuable instrument
  - 66 Stowe sight
  - 67 Screen-writer Nora
  - 70 Elf
  - 72 Dash
  - 73 Sarah —
  - 74 Inland sea
  - 75 QUAIL
  - 78 Depravity
  - 79 Easy stride
  - 80 Bit of gossip
  - 81 Parenthesis shape
  - 82 Physicist Fermi
  - 84 Corset part
  - 85 Alfredo ingredient
  - 87 British big shot
  - 89 Monsarrat's "The Cruel —"
  - 90 Tulsa commodity
  - 91 Cheat at hide-and-peek
  - 92 Preposterous
  - 95 Sweetheart
  - 99 Turn over
  - 101 Darjeeling dress
  - 103 Invasion
  - 105 Frankfurter's field
  - 106 Rent
  - 109 CRANE
  - 113 Church official
  - 114 Oriental staple
  - 115 Big rig
  - 116 Channel
  - 117 Actress Hagen
  - 119 Plutarch character
  - 122 Tote material
  - 126 Be important
  - 127 PAR-TRIDGE
  - 133 Actor Novello
  - 134 Kindle
  - 135 Heart burn?
  - 136 Time for a sandwich
  - 137 According to
  - 138 German port
  - 139 Racing legend
  - 140 Guy Fri.
  - DOWN**
  - 1 — Grande, AZ
  - 2 FBI workers
  - 3 "— Man" ('84 film)
  - 4 Not as fatty
  - 5 Neighbor of Ger.
  - 6 Prosperous times
  - 7 Non-non-chalance?
  - 8 Nil
  - 9 Crank's comment
  - 10 Swiss canton
  - 11 Explosive initials
  - 12 Golfer's gadgets
  - 13 Avoid
  - 14 DUCK
  - 15 Toomey or Philbin
  - 16 Iowa city
  - 20 Musty
  - 21 Japanese religion
  - 23 Hard on the eyes
  - 24 Astrology term
  - 31 Brown or Baxter
  - 32 Vino center
  - 34 Corduroy ridge
  - 35 Writer Rogers St. Johns
  - 36 Formerly known as
  - 38 Moro of Italy
  - 39 One who no's best?
  - 40 Distinctive period
  - 41 — room
  - 42 Singer Elliot Ger.
  - 43 Bete noire
  - 48 Adorable Australian
  - 50 Tenor
  - Corelli
  - 52 One of the Judds
  - 53 Tolstoy title
  - 55 Coalition start
  - 57 Play ground?
  - 58 Bidding
  - 60 At large
  - 62 Word with dog or state
  - 65 "Never on Sunday" star
  - 66 Good-humored
  - 67 Amatory
  - 68 CARDINAL
  - 69 — Dame
  - 71 Anaconda, for one
  - 74 As well
  - 76 Pursues
  - 77 Coffee pots
  - 83 Ring counter
  - 86 Andretti or Cuomo
  - 88 Fiber source
  - 91 Swamp stuff
  - 93 "Death of a Salesman" son
  - 94 Pad
  - 96 Ryan's "Love Story" co-star
  - 97 Bud
  - 98 Fluffy female
  - 100 Crime writer
  - Colin
  - 102 PC key
  - 104 SHAEF commander
  - 107 "The March King"
  - 108 Whole
  - 110 Stamping ground
  - 111 TV award
  - 112 Strauss city
  - 113 Debonair
  - 116 — coffee
  - 118 Energy source
  - 120 One of a pair
  - 121 South Seas novel
  - 123 New Mexico resort
  - 124 John of "Roots"
  - 125 Expected back
  - 128 Bossy's chew
  - 129 Sugary suffix
  - 130 Guys
  - 131 College growth
  - 132 Empower



Answers: Inside today's classified section

## HOROSCOPES

For the week of May 3 - May 9

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** A seemingly stalled romantic situation could benefit from your reassurance that you want this relationship to work. And if you do, use a tad more of that irresistible Aries charm.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** Going to new places and meeting new people appeals to both the Taurean's romantic and practical side. After all, you never can tell where those new contacts can take you. Right?

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** That career-change opportunity that didn't work out when you first considered it could come up again. But this time, remember that you have more to offer and should act accordingly.

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** There could be some tensions in relationships — domestic or workaday. But a calm approach that doesn't raise the anger levels and a frank discussion soon will resolve the problem.

**LEO (July 23 to August 22)** It's a good idea to begin preparing for that career change you've been thinking about for a while. Start to sharpen your skills and expand your background to be ready when it calls.

**VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** Bless that Virgo skepticism that has kept you from falling into traps others seem to rush into. But you might want to give a new possibility the benefit of the doubt, at least on a trial basis.

**LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** Traveling and career are strong in your aspect. Perhaps your job will take you to someplace exotic. Or you might be setting up meetings with potential clients or employers. Whatever it is, good luck.

**SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** Someone might use deception to try to push you into making a decision you're not fully comfortable with. But those keen Scorpio senses should keep you alert to any such attempt.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Romance dominates this week when Cupid spears the Archer, for a change. Positive things also are happening in the workplace. Expect important news to arrive by the week's end.

**CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** Anyone trying to bully the Sea Goat — whether it involves a personal or a professional matter — will learn a painful lesson. Others will also benefit from the Goat's strong example.

**AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** Congratulations. With things going the way they are, you should be able to spare some time and take a break from your hectic schedule for some well-earned fun and games.

**PISCES (February 19 to March 21)** Your sharp Piscean intuition should be able to uncover the true agendas of those who might be trying to catch the Fish in one of their schemes.

**IF YOU WERE BORN THIS WEEK:** Your flair for innovative art and design keeps you at least a step ahead of most everyone else.

DP

# Mother's Day

April 29, 2010 | A Pioneer Press Special Section

I love my mom because...

## Winner

She has always helped me though the good and bad. As a young teenage mother, I needed help and my mother helped me more than anyone. My mother is not only a great mother to me and my sister but also a wonderful grandmother to her two grandchildren. She gives advice and

**"She's the glue this house needs to stay together"**

tries her hardest to understand even the worst decisions people may make. She's the glue this house needs to stay together and even though she hardly gets any time to herself she is always willing to help with open arms. She is truly a walking angel.

By Amanda Grzetic of Niles

## Winner

She has a heart of gold. As one of eight children, I am blessed with a mom who really treats each of her children as individuals. Her positive approach to life has taught many life lessons. She is a woman of great faith, is patient and kind. A good listener who does not pass judgment. She is not free in her advice but facilitates



thought provoking decisions even when difficult. My mom is very loving... her 21 grandchildren thoroughly enjoy their granny. She takes them to the parks, bakes with them and lives in the moment.

By Eileen Wright of Skokie

Honorable Mentions INSIDE »

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All Mothers receive a glass of champagne  
**Special Menu** - prime rib, fresh fish, roast duck, stuffed pork loin, veal, lamb shank and all your German favorites.  
 Children's menu available.  
 Seatings at 11:30, 12:00, 1:30, 2:30, 4:00 and 5:00  
 Live Music - Johnny Wagner  
**Make your reservations early!**

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 Sunday, May 9 10am-3pm

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- Omelets, Eggs Benedict and other Breakfast Favorites
- Shrimp, Seafood and Salmon
- Our Classic Renowned Italian Pastas and Pizzas
- Dessert Table
- Champagne for Mom

\$29.95 Adults | \$14.99 Children 7-12  
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Not only does she do my laundry, make me hearty meals every night and ensures that our home is spotless, but she's a **selfless Supermom** who's caring, emotionally strong and there when I need her. With six kids to care for, each with their dilemmas, she still finds time to run the family business, attend our games and performances and volunteer at school whenever possible. We are lost without her, from shopping to homework to plans for the night. She knows what's best and is always right. She's dedicated her life to her family, and for that, I'm grateful.

I love my mom because she helps me when I am sick. She hugs me and kisses me when I go to bed. She wishes me good luck when I have a test at school. She takes me to a movie theater when I say could we go to a movie? **She listens to me when I read her a book. She plays really fun games with me. She cheers me up by saying: "Don't worry; it's ok."** And she's the best mom in the whole wide world!

By Taylor Gatz of Park Ridge

I love my mom because she works really hard to keep everyone up and running, while doing what she likes to do best. She branches out in all different fields: cooking, teaching, writing and parenting. This goes to show how hard she works to make my life, and everyone else's life easier. She also drives me to certain activities and she makes dinner before I get home. When I need help with certain homework questions, she can be there to walk me through it.

By Josh Byster of Skokie



I love my mom because she is one-of-a-kind. She is always willing to do anything at anytime for me. She loves to spend time with my brother and me. She does a lot of things for a lot of people. She likes to play games with me and watch TV as well. She always feeds me when I'm hungry, loves me when I'm sad and takes the time to do things for me even if she has something she needs to do. I love my mom for many different reasons. She's the best!

By Charles Sell, age 12, of Chicago



I love my mom because she is not only a devoted and loving mother but also an amazing woman. She had her share of crosses since my father died tragically in 8/2003. Seven months later, my grandpa passed, too. In 2006, she had breast cancer and also chemo. Thank God today she is healthy. I'd like her to be recognized by the community because, after all this, she holds a house, two jobs and my brother attending U of I. She's dedicated to others but is the person who is mother and my role model. I hope to be like her. Love you, Mom!

By Carmela Di Michele of Norridge

## Thank You

to our sponsors for the fabulous prize donations:

<b>MK</b> Margaret Kukuc PHOTOGRAPHY \$3,180 worth of photography certificates	<b>TEDDIEROSSOF</b> salonspa \$450 worth of salon & spa services	<b>Wilmette Jewelers</b> Pandora Bracelet
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2010 Mom of the Year Contest | **PIONEER PRESS The Doings**

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**Celebrate Mother's Day Zia's Style!!!**  
 Sunday, May 9th  
 4 course family style Champagne Brunch  
 Availability from 11am-2:30pm  
 Open for regular dinner service from 4pm-8pm  
 Make your reservations now!!  
 Please Call **773-775-0808**  
 Limited Seating Available

**Café Touché**  
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 Chicago, (Edison Park) IL 60631  
 (773) 775-0909

**Mother's Day Sunday Brunch at Café Touché**  
 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
**Regular Dinner Menu**  
 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
**Call for Reservations**  
**773-775-0909**

# I LOVE YOU TIMES A MILLION

Every year, I look forward to reading our Mother's Day contest entries. I feel like we're doing a good deed by publishing them. Not only are we allowing kids an outlet to brag about their moms, but also we are giving mothers the satisfaction they deserve and pride in their kids.

As a graphic designer, my work gets published all the time. Despite its regularity, my mom has always been proud of each and every one of my publications. She's asked for copies, sometimes with my signature, to show off to her friends and co-workers. I imagine that comes with being a mother, but it's made me feel special and encouraged me as an artist.

Just recently, she left on a very long and peaceful journey. She went to a place where she'll watch over me always, while getting daily massages and pedicures. In her sudden departure, she taught me one last important lesson: life is precious, and you never know when someone you love will leave this world.

My mom's biggest strength was holding a positive attitude and taking care of us when we were sick and in the hospital. She helped my dad and I survive brain cancer, my siblings survive asthma and more. Beyond our own family, she helped other children fight their sickness with her hard work at Children's Memorial



Me, my mom and my older sister in France



Our big happy family

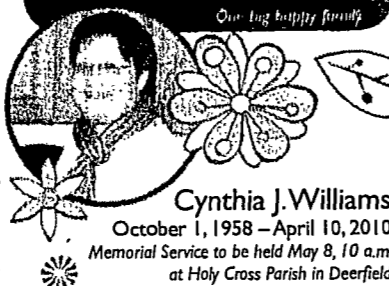
Hospital. When she expressed a fear of becoming a burden when she grew old, I made it clear to her that I would still love her and happily take care of her. At the time of the heart attack that took her life, the least I could do was be with her, hold her and try my best to save her.

Although life will never be the same without my wonderful mother, I take comfort in the fact that she left quickly and without pain. I constantly told her I loved her, and I was lucky that one of these random I-love-yous came ten minutes before her departure.

The message I want all of you to take from this: You can never tell your mother that you love her too many times. Don't let Mother's Day be the only day you show your appreciation to the woman who brought you into this world.

I was asked recently, "How can you be so strong through this?" There's only one answer: Because I take after my mother.

— Jennifer Williams | Special Sections Designer



Cynthia J. Williams  
October 1, 1958 - April 10, 2010  
Memorial Service to be held May 8, 10 a.m.  
at Holy Cross Parish in Deerfield

She showed her love in many ways:

- Scratching our backs even though her nails were short
- Letting us lick the beaters when she made chocolate chip cookies
- Driving down to the city to pick me up when I slept in for family brunch
- Insisting to go with to all doctor visits
- Doing everything she could to support us financially when we needed it
- Laughing with us about silly/goofy things
- Driving to Indiana every week to visit her parents and siblings (sometimes with one of us kids)

## letter from the editor

Mama, I'm okay out here. I've seen how hard the world can be. My step is sure, and I know my name. I'm strong just like you prayed I'd be.



This is my mom... beautiful woman

I love my mom because, for some unfathomable reason, she knows just what I need from her. When my life feels off-balance and incredibly chaotic, she reminds me, sometimes not so subtly, where I came from and who I am. No one can lead me to the brink and back quite like my mom. I put up a fight, and she still fights harder. When I am in total disarray, she magically finds the pieces to set me back together.

— Tammy Matthews | Special Sections Designer  
headline: song by Miranda Lambert, "Mama, I'm Alright"

I love my mom because she is a great role model. She raised me and my twin brothers while my father was out to sea with the navy. She taught me how to be a great mother and a great wife. She and my father fell in love with a foster child I was working with. She went through 6 months of struggling but finally adopted her. My mom will do everything for her family even if she does without. She is the most amazing woman I have ever known. If I am half the mother she is, I will be lucky.

By Deana Burnham of Glenview



Burnham

She truly embraces the blessing of motherhood. Having me in between six miscarriages makes her feel lucky to be a mom. Currently fighting breast cancer and suffering the recent untimely loss of two siblings, my mom has still made it the top priority to take care of my dad, myself and our community. She organizes play dates, neighborhood block parties, events for classmates, is a schoolroom mother, troop Daisy leader and frequently helps other moms with their kids before or after school. My model, my mentor, my mom.

By Carly Wilensky of Deerfield

She takes me shopping. She always snuggles me when I am sad. She loves me! First, I love my mom because she will take me shopping. My mom takes me to go shopping at any store I want. We go to Abercrombie, Hollister and a lot more. Two, I love my mom because she snuggles me when I am sad. When I come home sad from school, my mom always makes me feel better. Last, but not least, she always snuggles me when I am sad.

By Kelsey Cook, age 11, of Winnetka  
On her mother, Trish Cook

My sister and I wrote a poem that describes our mommy: "We love you so much, oh yes we do. We love you so much, yahoo yahoo. If we don't, we know you'll cry and we will be as sad as a pie." Our mommy deserves to win because she is sweet, caring, loving, hard working and the best mommy we could ever ask for.

By Michael, age 9, and Madyson, age 6, Klein of Highland Park

She understands everything I say. She is sweet like candy and loves our family. She edits my papers and gets me good grades, so I think my mother earns some praise. She sits with me and cooks even better when I sick. She cares for all the flowers and animals in the world. She hangs out with me when I'm tired and puts me to bed. She records videos on the TV for me and lets me be alone on YouTube when I want to be alone. She is the most amazing mom ever.

By Sam Rosen, age 11, of Glenview  
On his mother, Carrie Rosen

I love my mom, not because she lets me watch movies, takes me to the library, gives me band-aids for my ouchies, allows me to crawl in bed with her on Saturday mornings to watch cartoons, reads me stories at night, makes delicious dinosaur chicken nuggets, arranges play-dates with my friends, gives me Hershey Kisses when I do good on the potty or because she lets me do crafts in her office at night. I love my mom because she is my mom. That is the only reason that I need.

By Parker Feder, age 4, of Highland Park  
On his mother, Alyson Feder

She is playful. And cuddly. And very nice. Sometimes she is a little firm. On warm days, she lets me go outside to play. On cold days, she gives me hot cocoa. She walks me to school at 9 a.m. My mom is named Elena. She is so fabulous. I have two younger brothers and one younger sister. I like to cook with my mom. She lets me set the table. I like to help her.

By Lucia Goldberg, age 6, of Evanston  
On her mother, Elena

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

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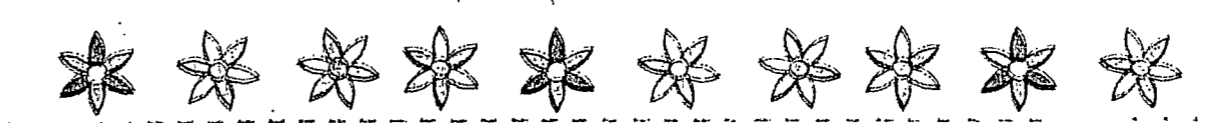
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I love my mom because she is the woman I aspire to be. Who can I count on when nobody else is there? Who do I run to when nobody else seems to care? Who tucks me in and makes sure I'm nice and snug? Who loves me no matter what and embraces me with a hug? And who will wave goodbye to me standing by the door? My mom does all of these and so much more. No gift is big enough to cover the love I receive. For you see, she's the mom that I strive to be.

By Regina Riesterer of Northlake

At 79 years old, she is always there to support her family! Everyday, we hop on our treadmills, put our phones on speaker mode and talk while we walk, solving world problems together. My mom, Sandy Pesmen, is fiercely independent, having had a fulfilling career as a journalist for 60 years. After my dad died, she created a blog called Widows List, a platform where "Women in the Widow 'hood" have a voice. **She has shown us all how to power through the hardest of times with grace and dignity and relish the happy times!**

By Beth Pesmen of Northbrook  
On her mother, Sandy Pesmen



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Merkley

I love my mom because I have never, not once, doubted that she loves me. Everyday, she shows it through her service of picking me up from sports practice, making a delicious dinner every night or listening to me talk about nothing in particular. She tells me and writes down her words so I can keep them and reread them when I'm having a hard time. Her love and confidence in me has helped me persevere through hard times and I know that whenever I need a listening ear or open arms for a hug, she'll be there with endless love.

By Sheridan Merkley of Evanston

There are three things I love about my mother:

- 1) She always makes me good and delicious tasty food. Especially chocolate sheet cake. It's as tasty as deep dark chocolate. It smells like an incredible chocolate factory. It looks like a HUGE chocolate bar.
- 2) She tries to find the best things for me and my brother.
- 3) And I saved the best for last. Everything! I can't say everything that is special about my mother. She's just so special! I mean bedtime, helping with homework and making things for us. That's hardly anything because there are so many things!

By Caroline Viravec, age 9, of Hinsdale  
On her mother, Diana Viravec

I love my mom because she has always been my inspiration. On 3/24/2010, she turned 97 years old and retired from her job as a cafeteria worker at OPRF High School at age 90. She still goes up and down the stairs everyday, cooks a little and always opens her home to friends.

As she says: "The coffee pot is always on." The most important lessons I learned from her was to be kind, to be compassionate, always listen, help those less fortunate and never hurt anyone because nice matters. She is my treasure.

By Renee Glos-Block of Oak Park  
On her mother, Ruth Glos-Block

I love my mom. She isn't mean or lets you do everything. **She's perfect.** My mom is amazing and beautiful. No matter what, she treats me and my sister, Sloane, the same. My spectacular mother knows a lot. She shows me a lot, too. For example, today we tried making a table for flowers, but it hangs on your wall, too. It worked out great, so as I was saying, my creative mother chitchats a lot. She's always up for hugs and kisses. All these things are why she should win!

By Grayson Goodwin, age 7-and-a-half, of Western Springs



Goodwin

I love my mom because she strives to better herself each day to the benefit of everyone around her. **A dedicated wife and mother, loving daughter, an integral member of her community and a beloved doctor, she recently enrolled in a leadership program through her work at the North Chicago Veteran's administration,** which challenges her to examine strengths and weaknesses in the journey to become a better leader. Rather than becoming complacent in her work and life, she works every day to learn and grow both personally and professionally. I truly could not ask for a better role model.

By Joanna Kramer of Libertyville  
On her mother, Laura Carothers

My mom is the best mom because she helps me with my homework. She tucks me in at night. She helps me when I'm scared or frightened. She makes my food. She goes to work to pay for the bills. Helps me with my Legos. She makes time for me. She makes me feel loved. And she is pretty.

By Evan Meister, age 7, of Mundelein

I love my Mom because of everything she does. I cannot name just one so here are 3 things about my mom I can't resist.

1. Her smile. It gives me energy like I can run a whole mile.
2. I love the way that my Mom sings-like a cheerful bird coming home in the spring.
3. She is always encouraging me when I'm down. It makes her likable to be around. I'd like to say more though it's 100 words or less. I just wanted you to know that my Mom's the very best.

By Elizabeth Meister, age 10, of Mundelein

My mom is the best mom because she means everything to me. She makes meals, maintains her teaching job, does yard work, yet she still has time to play. She means everything to me because she takes care of us in the first place. But she helps with our hair, doing laundry and comforting us when we're scared or nervous. These would be a few of the reasons that my mom means everything to me. She's always cheerful. And she lets us keep cats even though she is allergic to them. I love my mom.

By Emily Meister, age 11, of Mundelein  
On their mother, Kristen Meister

She always knows what to say to push me in the right direction. She always listens to me, whether I am in a dispute with one of my friends or when I get a bad grade on a test. After she lets me vent, **my mom always has me take a reality check and forces me to look at the big picture.** She has helped me realize that these little things that happen are not the end of the world! My mom is such a blessing in my life and I love her very much.

By Meghan Schick, age 14, of Hinsdale

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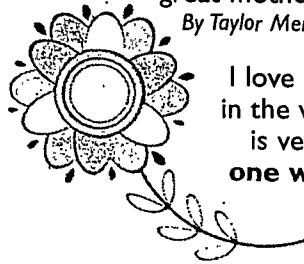
She always manages to take care of the family and our needs. Combined, my siblings and I have nine extracurricular activities, and she coaches one of them! Not to mention birthday parties, Sunday School and anything else that pops up. She works full time and barely ever gets a break, but she always puts us first. It is pretty hard to manage all that, but she does. It's phenomenal!

By Abbey Boyd of Wilmette



She prepared for the responsibility that comes with getting older. I remember road trips when she would give me 20 dollars to spend and tell me that I was allowed to spend it however I saw fit. But when it was spent, that was it. I learned how to save, to weigh my options and to confidently decide. When I left home, I was not overwhelmed by my responsibilities and choices as an adult. Good mothers prepare their children to leave the nest, but great mothers prepare them to confidently enter the world.

By Taylor Merkle of Evanston



I love my mom because she is the most wonderful person in the whole wide world. Nobody can compare to her. She is very understanding even when I do bad. If there was one word that I can describe my mom, it would be **GODDESS!!!!!!!!!!!!**

By Kimberly Johnson of Evanston



She is a wonderful person and a spectacular role model to my older sisters and I. She cares about all her family and friends. I realize how lucky I am to have the privileges that I do. My mom shows that I can become a wonderful grown woman like her. She carries on her faith and love for everyone to us by showing us the moral ways to make decisions. She helps by being a shoulder to cry on when I need one. I love her dearly.

By Lauren Lombard of Western Springs



I know she'll do anything for me. Whether it's picking me up from school every day or comforting me when everything else has gone wrong, I can always count on her to be there for me. She loves me no matter what, and the most amazing thing is that somehow, she can spread all that love equally among my two siblings, my dad and me. What my mom does everyday is more than I could ever imagine. But the most important reason I love my mom is because my mom loves me.

By Julia Conversa of Elmhurst



She is always there for me. She is a mother of SIX children and has been a home mom for us so we can grow up into the kids we are today. She also just recently went back to school. She was always our room mom at school and a PTO member. She always puts our needs over hers. She tries her best to come to all school games, meetings, concerts, etc. and always help to make our schools a better environment. I love my mom more than anything more than I could fit in a 100 words.

By Anna Holland of Hillside  
On her mother, Alicia Holland



She cares for us all the time by loving us, keeping us happy, safe and healthy by giving us organic foods. She'll help us with our homework when we need help. We have fun by playing outside, running track (because she's a runner) and playing games like board games and cards. The card games she plays with us are Speed, Crazy 8s, and Go Fish. She always hears us say, "Mom, let's play!" She is great at so many things like being a great mom (of course), being healthy, staying safe, being fun and she is a great athlete.

By Eden Schreiber Post, age 9, of La Grange

She's kind and loving. She feeds me and my sisters organic foods and seems to telepathically know how I'm feeling. My mom likes to know how I feel and what I think. She's raised me quite well. Instead of me coming home and grabbing a bag of Doritos (which don't ever enter my mom's house), I'll grab a pear or other fruit. Instead of watching TV, I do my homework. It's fun to eat organic ice cream at night and watch Dirty Jobs on Discovery with her. My mom never spanked me and never needed to. I love her!

By Owen Schreiber Post, age 12, of La Grange  
On their mother, Maria Schreiber



# SEARCHCHICAGO

## SEARCHCHICAGO autos

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### Lexus IS 250C opens up to spring

BY JEFF TAYLOR  
SearchChicago-Autos Correspondent

The arrival of spring in Chicago is heralded by the words "play ball" followed by the dropping of window screens and convertible tops.

For 2010 Lexus introduced the IS 250C and IS 350C hard-top convertibles as "entry-level" luxury drop tops. The label "entry-level" can be a bit misleading as my IS 250C test vehicle had a base price of \$39,660, but hit \$48,200 after selected option boxes were checked off.

The can't-miss feature of this car is the three-piece folding hard top that performs an overhead, rapid sequence of moves. Lexus claims the IS 250C and IS 350C are "the world's fastest-opening three-piece metal hard tops" because the top opens and closes in less than 21 seconds due to a roof-speed brake-control system. This system decreases the roof speed as it approaches the end of the opening/closing operation to keep the top from slamming or snapping shut and giving unauthorized haircuts.

I found the top operation to be efficient with single-switch action and power windows that automatically lower in the folded position and rise

autosPECS

2010 LEXUS IS 250C

ENGINE: 204-horsepower 2.5-liter V-6

TRANSMISSION: six-speed automatic

DRIVETRAIN: rear-wheel drive

FUEL ECONOMY: 21 city/29 highway

BASE PRICE: \$39,660

AS TESTED: \$48,200

WEB SITE: www.lexus.com

back up when the operating switch is held to raise the aluminum roof. Driving around with the roof overhead is almost as quiet as a coupe, but you get the safety and security of a hard fixed roof versus a cloth top with a network of braces.

Unfortunately the "wow" factor subsides when you steer the IS 250C onto the road. The 2010 IS 250C shares the same powertrain as the IS sedans, so the IS 250C features a 2.5-liter,

continued on page 4

## today's homes

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Don DeBat  
on rising prices

**On vacation**  
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**Ask the expert**  
House to home  
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### Record sales continue at 200 North Dearborn

American Invscos sold 20 condominiums in two weeks following a record price reduction averaging 43 percent at 200 North Dearborn Private Residences, a 47-story apartment tower being converted to condominium ownership in Chicago's Loop.

The sale of 20 condominiums represents about \$5 million in sales volume, said Nicholas S. Gouletas, chairman and CEO of American Invscos.

"Serious condominium buyers are flocking to our once-in-a-lifetime home-buying opportunity at 200 North Dearborn," Gouletas said. "On Sunday, April 18, more than 300 people visited 200 North Dearborn to tour the building and models, and we wrote seven sales contracts."

The sales surge was sparked by extremely affordable pricing at 200 N. Dearborn.

Prices have been slashed by an average of 43 percent. Convertible/junior one bedrooms now start at \$147,409, down from \$284,700. One-bedroom units start at \$189,399, down from \$339,000. The prices of two-bedroom, two-bath layouts now start at \$222,815, down from \$471,100.

Full story inside Today's Homes

See Today's Homes section insert >



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'05 Chevrolet Uplander LS	\$9,495	'08 Chevrolet Malibu	\$13,495
'02 Toyota Rav-4 4x4	\$9,875	'06 Chevrolet Impala SS	\$14,995
'03 Nissan Xterra 4x4	\$9,995	'05 Toyota Tacoma X-Runner	\$14,995
'06 Nissan Altima	\$9,995	'07 Nissan Murano SL Leather-Moon	\$15,995
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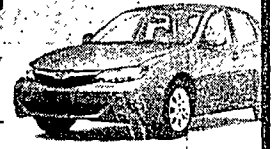


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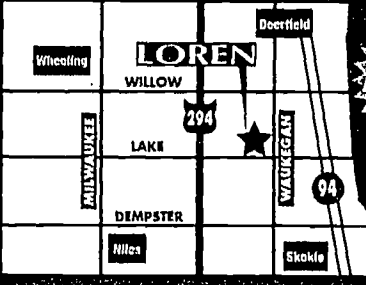
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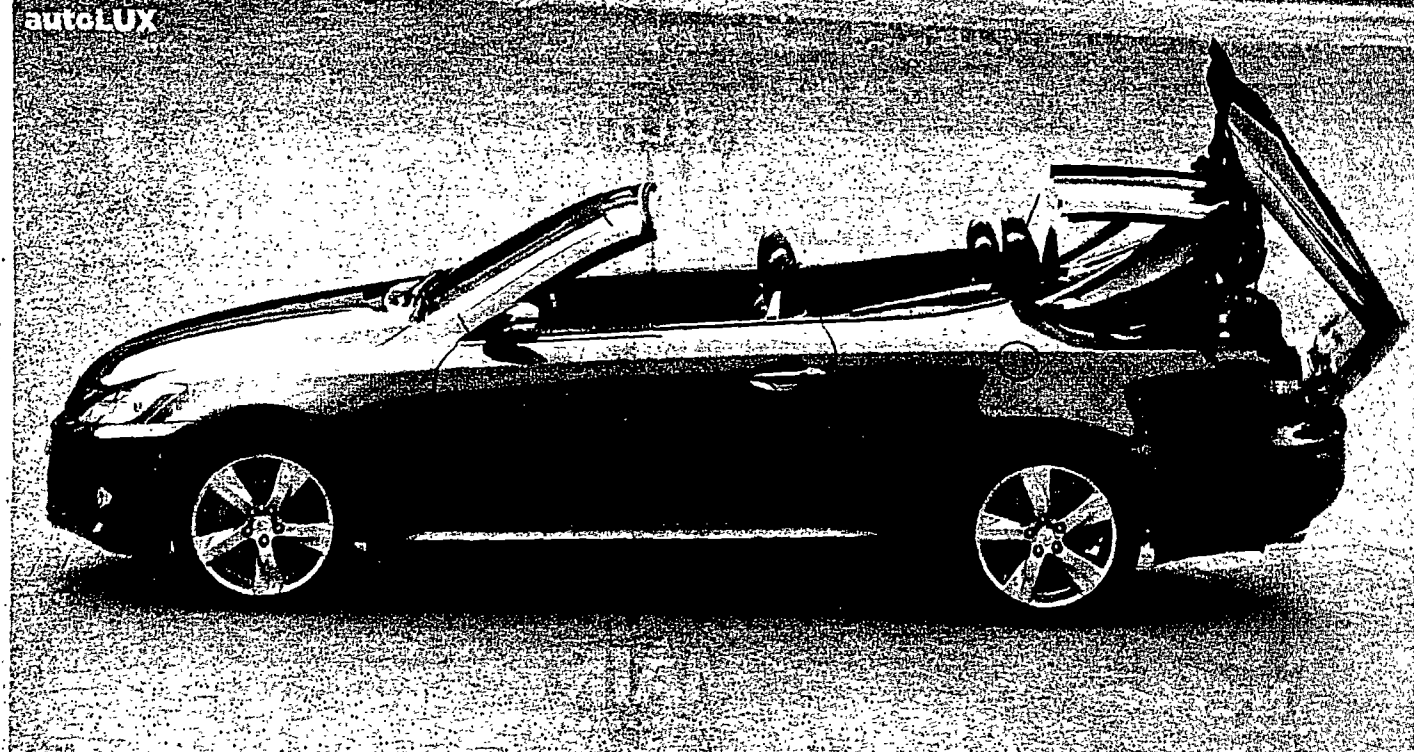
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## Lexus hard top springs onto scene

continued from page 1

204-horsepower V-6 engine. My test vehicle came with a six-speed automatic with manual-over-ride paddle shifters or you can stand pat with a six-speed manual. Shifting with the paddles is fun for a short time and then you just settle into the standard mode. If you don't wear your heavy shoes you can pull down Environmental Protection Agency numbers of 21 mpg city and 29 mpg highway; I fell a little short of those numbers because my regular shoes were being shined that week.

Acceleration with this car is not brisk; if you want grunt then step up to the IS 350C. The 204 horses are just adequate to move this 3,814-pound car. I didn't get run over and the engine did have just enough juice for quick passing bursts faster than 50 mph.

The IS 250C's road manners are more midsize luxury sedan than sport machine. The IS 250C has a double wishbone front suspension and multilink rear that is programmed to deliver a soft luxury ride. I'm big on steering feel and this car has slow, numb steering that provided minimal feedback.

My rear-wheel-drive IS 250C test car greeted the road via optional (\$720) 18-inch liquid graphic alloy wheels wrapped with all-season 225/40R18 tires front and 255/40R18 rears. The tires are decent but need a suspension that can take better advantage of their grip.

I will say that braking was very good via standard antilock brakes with electronic brake force distribution and brake assist.

Another plus is the IS convertible's body structure features excellent rigidity and strength.

In the area of styling, the IS 250C drew mixed reviews; some liked the raked beltdline and chiseled front end. Several observers thought the IS was a new BMW when viewing the profile with the top up. Others commented that the design is attractive but it didn't really stand out in the crowd.

This car slips past 15 feet in length and is more than 2 inches longer than the IS sedan. The benefit

here is that you get 10.8 cubic feet of trunk space with the top up and just less than 2.5 cubic feet with the top dropped. The downside is that the rear quarters are huge and you have to be careful when parking or you could end up with some revised bodylines.

Inside the IS 250C impresses with its high level of rich interior components courtesy of the optional luxury package (\$3,055) that adds perforated ventilated front leather seating, high polished wood, driver/passenger memory seats, illuminated scuff plates, rain-sensing wipers and bi-xenon high-intensity headlights with adaptive front lighting. I

really like that the roof panels are solid and cover all braces, struts and mechanicals.

The interior has four seats, but when adjusted for the safe driving comfort of an average-size adult there isn't any room for rear seat passengers.

In the end, the 2010 Lexus IS 250C is a respectable luxury touring convertible with a slick retractable top. The IS 250C shines with a high level of luxury, interior refinement and a soft comfortable ride. This is a nice car for cruising around town, in parades and to weekend getaways as long as you don't bring too much luggage.



## autoNEWS Northfield dealership hosts Kohl's annual 'Touch a Truck' fest

The Women's Board of Kohl Children's Museum will present the fifth annual "Touch a Truck" family festival from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday at Fields Chrysler Jeep Dodge, 670 Frontage Road, Northfield.

"Touch a Truck" provides the opportunity for pint-sized guests to get up close and personal with their favorite full-sized vehicles in a safe and protected environment.

Children can climb aboard a fire truck, discover military vehicles and explore construction equipment. More than 25 major vehicles are expected at the "Touch a Truck" family festival this year. Families also can enjoy food and treats, unwind to music provided by a DJ, participate in a special appearance by Curious George and take a ride on the Great Chicago Kiddie Express child-size train.

Food and activity tickets will be available for additional purchase at the event, with proceeds benefiting Kohl Children's Museum.

Hundreds of families attended the 2009 "Touch a Truck" event, which raised more than \$35,000 in funding for the museum's educational programming.

Tickets are \$25 per family for up to six people. Complimentary parking is available. For tickets and more information, call (847) 832-6600 or visit [www.kohlchildrensmuseum.org/truck](http://www.kohlchildrensmuseum.org/truck).



Fields Chrysler Jeep Dodge of Northfield hosts the fifth annual "Touch a Truck" festival in which kids can get up close and personal with emergency, military and construction vehicles. Proceeds benefit the Kohl Children's Museum educational programming.

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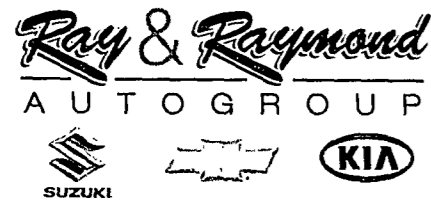
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2009 SUZUKI SX-4	#S1907A	2007 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500	#20327A	2006 PONTIAC SOLSTICE	#P7372	2007 CHEVY AVALANCHE	#P200A	1999 DODGE GRANO CARAVAN	#P200A	2000 TOYOTA TUNDRA	#K2056A	2000 CHEVROLET TAHOE	#26033A	2006 FORD F150	#26028A
2007 JEEP COMMANDER	#P7143A	2010 KIA SOUL	#S1919A	2009 CHEVY MALIBU	#P7362	2006 CHEVY SUBURBAN	#P7373	2003 CHEVROLET GALANT	#K2277B	2003 CHEVROLET IMPALA	#P9102A	2009 CHEVROLET AVEO S	#25306A	2006 CHEVROLET TOWN & COUNTRY	#25638A
2009 CHEVY TAHOE	#P7265	2000 PONTIAC GRANO PRIX	#P7322A	2007 DODGE DURANGO	#P7371	2006 FORD EXPLORER	#P7373	1995 SATURN SLI	#K2097B	2003 CHEVROLET MALIBU	#P9165B	2008 CHEVROLET COBALT	#P9102A	2008 KIA RONDO	#P9198
2010 CHEVY IMPALA	#P7274	2005 CHEVY EQUINOX	#P7337	1998 FORD ECONOLINE CARGO VAN	#20109A	2006 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500	#P7376	2000 PONTIAC MONTANA	#K2151A	2003 KIA SORENTO	#P9036A	2002 CHEVROLET TAHOE	#P9036A	2006 VOLVO S60	#P9065A
2008 MERCURY GRANO MARQUIS	#P7274	2004 LINCOLN AVIATOR	#P7337	2001 GMC YUKON	#P7257A	2007 CHEVY TAHOE	#P7377	2002 FORD ECONOLINE CARGO VAN	#P911A	2003 DODGE RAM 1500 PICKUP	#P9133B	2006 CHEVROLET MALIBU	#26042A	2007 HYUNDAI SONATA	#K2208A
2006 BUICK LACROSSE	#P7287	2006 HONDA AQUA TRAX WAVE RUNNER	#P7282A	2006 CHRYSLER SEBRING CONV'T	#P7367	2008 CHEVY MALIBU	#20430A	1997 PLYMOUTH NEON	#25877B	2006 CHRYSLER SEBRING	#25899A	2002 PONTIAC GRANO PRIX	#P9127B	2007 CHEVROLET MALIBU	#P9142
2006 SUZUKI GRANO VITARA	#P7288	2007 PONTIAC G6	#P7342	2007 HUMMER H3	#P7367	2007 ACURA TL	#P9180A	2001 BUICK CENTURY	#25916B	2003 CHEVROLET S10 PICKUP	#K2078B	2006 CHEVROLET MALIBU	#25389A	2007 DODGE CALIBER	#26013A
2008 SUZUKI SX-4	#S2085A	2008 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER	#196278B	2007 FORD FIVE HUNDRED	#P7369	2004 CHRYSLER PACIFICA	#25483A	1998 CHEVROLET MALIBU	#25483A	2001 DODGE INTREPIO	#26040A	2003 DODGE RAM VAN	#25621A	2007 TOYOTA MATRIX	#25742C
2007 CHEVY COBALT COUPE	#20256A	2009 SUZUKI SX-4	#P7259B	2004 LINCOLN NEON	#P7370	2000 NISSAN ALTIMA	#20055A	2002 DODGE INTREPIO	#26076A	2006 KIA SPECTRA	#K2120A	2003 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 PICKUP	#25628B	2008 MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE	#P9136
2008 CHRYSLER SEBRING TOURING	#S2175A	1998 MAZDA PROTGE	#S2126B	2008 HONDA CIVILY	#S2220A	2006 TOYOTA MATRIX	#P7242A	1996 FORD EXPLORER	#P9185A	2002 DODGE INTREPIO	#25332A	2005 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE	#P9073A	2004 DODGE DURANGO	#25089A
2009 CHEVY IMPALA LT	#P7298	1999 FORD EXPLORER	#20292A	2001 TOYOTA CAMRY	#19635B	2003 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER	#P7289A	2000 MERCURY SABLE	#K2133A	2004 HONDA ODYSSEY	#K2118A	2006 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY	#P9126A	2006 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO	#P9141
2007 CHEVY COBALT COUPE	#20256A	2009 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500	#P7370	1999 FORD RANGER SUPERCAB	#19664B	2004 DODGE DURANGO	#P9189A	2003 LANO ROVER FREELANDER	#K2121A	2001 DODGE INTREPIO	#26040A	2003 LANO ROVER FREELANDER	#K2121A	2005 JEEP LIBERTY	#P9159A
2004 CHEVY SILVERADO	#P7299	2003 KIA SORENTO	#20319A	2005 FORD RANGER	#20319A	2007 TOYOTA COROLLA	#S2127B	2000 GMC YUKON	#25922B	2003 DODGE CARAVAN	#K1925A	2004 CHEVROLET S10 PICKUP	#P9100	2008 SATURN AURA	#26065A
2000 CHEVY S-10 PICKUP	#S2086B	2007 PONTIAC GRANO PRIX	#P7350	2008 CHEVY AVEO	#20414A	2006 CHEVY HHR	#19698B	1999 CHEVROLET S10 PICKUP	#25738B	2002 CHRYSLER SEBRING	#K1965B	2007 PONTIAC G6	#P9100	2006 CHEVROLET EXPRESS VAN	#P9110
2007 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER	#20200A	2007 CHEVY SUBURBAN	#P7351	2005 FORD RANGER	#20386A	2006 CHEVY EQUINOX	#K1953B	2005 CHEVROLET SEBRING	#25738B	2005 CHEVROLET IMPALA	#25736B	2004 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 PICKUP	#P9100	2006 BUICK TERRAZA	#K2127A
2008 CHEVY TAHOE	#2301A	2009 CHEVY MALIBU	#P7352	2008 CHEVY TAHOE	#S2102A	2009 CAOLLAC ESCALAOE	#P7320A	2000 OLDSMOBILE ALERO	#K2165A	2005 DODGE STRATUS	#25851A	2007 TOYOTA CAMRY	#25840A	2008 CHEVROLET IMPALA	#P9196
2007 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500	#P7318	2007 CHEVY MALIBU	#P7353	2002 LINCOLN LS	#19009A	2001 HONDA ODYSSEY	#P9076A	2001 HONDA ODYSSEY	#S2200B	2000 NISSAN XTRERRA	#S2592A	2004 CHEVROLET PACIFICA	#25539A	2009 PONTIAC G6	#P9201
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2008 HUMMER H3	#P7326	2008 CHEVY AVEO	#P7355	2001 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 #	#P7353A	2006 HYUNDAI SANTA FE	#19970A	2002 KIA SEDONA	#K2139A	2003 FORD EXPLORER	#P9088A	2007 TOYOTA CAMRY	#25310A	2005 CHEVROLET EQUINOX	#P9062A
2005 CHEVY UPLANDER	#P7330	2006 CHEVY HHR	#P7360	2007 CHEVY IMPALA	#P7364	2007 CHEVY COBALT	#20442A	2004 CHEVROLET CLASSIC	#P9094A	2009 CHEVROLET AVEO	#P9109	2008 CHRYSLER SEBRING	#P9119	2004 CHEVROLET EXPRESS VAN	#25348B

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# today's homes

A SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION | NEAR NORTH EDITION | APRIL 29, 2010

TOLL BROTHERS

## Own a new condo in The Glen for as low as \$297,995

Spectacular savings during builder's National Spring Sales Event

National homebuilder Toll Brothers just announced a new value-pricing program for the company's luxury condominiums and townhomes in the popular new community, The Glen.

Buyers can own a new condominium for \$297,995 or a townhome for as low as \$479,995 at Patriot Commons at The Glen. The news comes during the builder's National Spring Sales Event, taking place now through Sunday, May 2.

In addition to the spectacular new pricing, homebuyers can also take advantage of limited-time only incentive packages offered during the national event. A designer upgrade package is available at no extra cost to the buyer including high-end kitchen appliances, upgraded cabinetry, custom tile and additional hardwood flooring.

"The new pricing and this fabulous incentive provide an unparalleled value," said Brian Wulffestieg, senior project manager for Toll Brothers.

The builder has condominiums completed and ready for immediate occupancy as well as units near the end of construction allowing a buyer to personalize to their own taste. The included features remain impressive with granite counter-



Patriot Commons features condos and townhomes priced from \$297,995, located walking distance to The Glen Town Center in Glenview.

tops, hardwood flooring and luxurious master bedroom suites.

The timing couldn't be better for potential homebuyers ready to make the move.

"With this new pricing and today's low rates, it's the perfect time to purchase the condo or

Turn to TOLL BROTHERS, 3

## Your new neighbors

Local real estate transactions start on PAGE 11

## INSIDE Surge in sales

Affordable condo pricing sparked scores of sales at 200 North Dearborn.

PAGE 6

Price declines seem to be slowing and values are on the rise heading into the spring and summer months.



DON DEBAT, PAGE 5

Vacation-home community in Michigan sees a third of its lots sell in about a year.

PAGE 2

Luxury penthouses offer urban lifestyle, PAGE 4

## ONLINE

For market news, expert advice, neighborhood profiles and more, visit:



searchchicago.com/homes

TollBrothers.com | PatriotCommonsatTheGlen.com | TollSalesEvent.com

# Now Is The Time To Buy In The Glen!

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\*Offer valid for new buyers who purchase a home in Patriot Commons at The Glen and deposit between 4/24/10 and 5/2/10, sign an agreement of sale within 10 days from date of deposit, and close on the home. Offers, incentives, and seller contributions vary by community and are subject to certain terms, conditions, and restrictions. Toll Brothers reserves the right to change or withdraw any offer at any time. Not valid with any other offer. See sales representative for details. This is not an offering where prohibited by law. TOLL BROTHERS NYSE

# Business results at Lake Chapin Shores buck nationwide trend

### Second-home buyers purchase a third of available lots in just over a year

BERRIEN SPRINGS, Mich. — Lake Chapin Shores — one of southwest Michigan's newest vacation-home developments — has attracted second-home buyers despite the general economy and slow-down in real estate activity locally and across the country. The 21-home community on Lake Chapin is now one-third sold. In sharp contrast to many home development properties the past two years.

Managing partner Steve Sprengel said, "It's been a little nerve-testing at times, but I think our decision to build it and they will come" was the right one.

He's referring to the two model homes they built and sold last year.

"2009 was our first full season and we've already sold seven sites," he said.

Buyers have 12 designs to choose from if they select their own lakefront, lakeview or forested site in the development, but the models speed up the process, so buyers can start using their new home right away.

"Once we saw the community, the lake and the homes, we were sold," said Grant Armstrong, who purchased one of the model homes this past



Some homes at Lake Chapin Shores in southwest Michigan have lakefront, and some have lake and woods views, but all have access to the community's common areas, which include a heated pool, waterfront and private piers.

spring. "We talked about choosing a lot and a home design and picking out our own finishes, but in the end we were so anxious to get an extra summer on the lake, we decided to buy the model. We realized their

designer had selected most of the same things we would have chosen ourselves, and it saved us a five- or six-month wait." Another one was sold a couple of months later, and the developer's decision appeared

to have been a good one. Two more models are under construction now, to be available this spring.

Originally from the Chicago area, three of the four partners have strong networks of contacts and recognize that most second-home buyers in Southwest Michigan want an easy, convenient drive to their property. Lake Chapin Shores offers a 90-minute drive from the Chicago Loop to a week-

end getaway surrounded by old growth oaks, maples, black walnuts and more. It is set on rolling terrain leading down to the waterfront of one of the largest all-sports lakes in Southwest Michigan.

"Families enjoy taking their boats on long rides to just sightsee," Sprengel said. "Or if the kids can hold on, they can take one of the longest waterskiing rides on some of the calmest waters anywhere." A stretch of approximately 11 miles between the end of the lake at Berrien Springs and the next dam on the connected St. Joe River offers not only great boating, but some of the area's best fishing, stocked with 250,000 steelhead every year.

Lake Chapin Shores is minutes from the regionally popular Harbor Country and famous Lake Michigan beaches. Homes are built on 1/2- to 1-acre lots, with wooded sites from the low \$400,000s, and lakeview and waterfront homes from the mid-\$500,000s. Ten homes will have lake frontage, offering private lake access and spectacular views. Others will have lake views or secluded wooded settings, all with access to a heated pool, waterfront, and private piers.

Through Oct. 30, Lake Chapin Shores is hosting open houses and tours of its model homes. Saturdays and Sundays, from noon to 4 p.m., and by appointment. Call 888-70-MICHIGAN (888-866-4244) or visit the Web site at www.LakeChapinShores.com.

## HOUSE HOME

Industry experts answer your questions

### New homes give buyers the edge

Modern designs provide choices from the ground up



**Steve Friedman**  
PARTNER  
KZF DEVELOPMENT  
1404 Techny Road  
Northbrook, Ill., 60062

#### Send your questions

In this column, real estate professionals will answer your questions about their industry and how you can be better prepared to participate in the buying and selling experience. Please address your questions via mail to: House To Home, Sun-Times Media, c/o The Beacon-News, 495 N. Commons Drive, Aurora, IL 60504, or by e-mail to NewHomes@stn.com. Please include a contact name and a telephone number or e-mail address so we may contact you as needed.

**Q:** What are the advantages of buying a new home from a builder vs. a resale home?

**A:** New homes are designed for the way we live today. For instance, today's new homes generally have larger, brighter kitchens and great rooms. Less space devoted to hallways, nicer master suites, and more closet space than the homes of yesterday. Many older homes, even those that have been well taken care of, may be functionally obsolete in terms of room layout, the number and size of bathrooms, and plumbing and electrical systems.

A new home will also tend to be safer and much more energy-efficient than a home built even five or 10 years ago. By virtue of modern building codes, a new home is built to the most current safety standards, which often include features such as heat-sensitive interior fire sprinkling systems. Most builders today use higher-value insulation in walls and ceilings, highly energy-efficient windows, and more efficient heating and cooling systems and appliances than in the past. The energy savings in a new home is often significant.

New home buyers are usually given the opportunity to pick out colors and finishes and do any design customization in advance, before their home is completed. Not only does this create cost savings, but it affords the buyer the ability to really get what they want. Whether picking out flooring, cabinets and countertops, or choosing plumbing fixtures, changes are much easier to make at the blueprint stage than after a home has been built.

The cost of a major renovation of an existing home can often approach the cost of building a new home from the ground up. Plus, today's market it can be difficult for a homeowner to tap the equity in

their home for even minor remodeling work. Taking these factors into account will often tip the scales for a home buyer from buying an older home toward buying a new home that doesn't need any "fixing up."

Another advantage of buying new is that you are getting a warranty from the builder against defects. If there is a problem with your home during the warranty period, the builder will inspect it and make any necessary repairs free of charge. Also, all appliances and mechanical equipment in a new home will be covered by the individual manufacturers' warranties (since they are all brand new).

**Q:** What are some of the recent trends you're seeing in the new home market?  
**A:** With baby boomers now nearing retirement age and with people living longer, the demand for accessibility and convenience in home design is a major trend today and will continue to be in the future. In our market, we have increasingly had requests for first-floor master bedroom suites. Many new home buyers, even younger buyers, like the convenience of having all of the high-use areas of their home on one level.

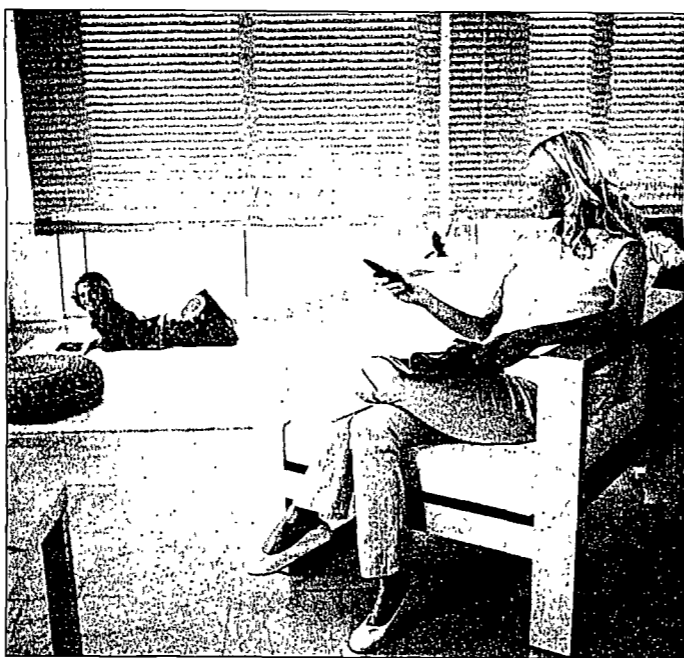
Another trend we're seeing is in the desire of many new home buyers to live in a maintenance-free community, where items like exterior painting, landscape maintenance and snowplowing are handled by a homeowners' association. Many of these buyers are nearing retirement age and have owned their previous home for many years. They are

looking to buy something new, but they no longer want to be burdened with the traditional maintenance responsibilities of owning a home.

New home buyers today aren't necessarily looking for larger room sizes, but they do want plenty of closet space and storage space. Buyers today are looking for bright, well-lit homes. Large windows and skylights are popular, as well as increased interior lighting, including recessed can lighting and under-cabinet lighting. Most people have heard about the trend toward "green building." Whether it's using renewable building materials, energy-producing solar panels or ultra-high efficiency appliances, the trend towards eco-friendly building is something that's here to stay.

Another interesting trend in new home design is in the use of the Eastern philosophy of Feng Shui. Followers of Feng Shui believe that such things as the physical orientation of a home and the placement of features like staircases can contribute either positively or negatively to the health and prosperity of the family living inside.

It's trends like these that would have been hard to predict even a few years ago that, for me, make homebuilding such an interesting and dynamic business.



Motorized shades and awnings, controlled from a remote, are not only easy to use but provide shade and save on energy costs. ARAContent PHOTO

### Sophisticated sun control saves energy and makes life easier

Do you ever wish you could create an outdoor environment that would be comfortable and safe from the sun, while also having a positive impact on the environment?

This can be your reality with motorized awnings, window coverings and rolling shutters. Motorization has many benefits, one of which is reducing heat gain and loss, creating a more energy efficient home.

By providing shade to windows and patio doors, interior temperatures can be significantly reduced, which will reduce cooling costs. According to an energy study conducted by the Professional Awning Manufacturers Association, more energy is lost through glass doors and windows than through any other part of the home. On a hot day, more energy comes through one square foot of glass than through an entire insulated wall.

Solar radiation through glass is responsible for approximately 20 percent of the load on an air conditioner. The insulating benefits of awnings and window coverings are enhanced with motorization that is so easy to use, that you'll find yourself using them more frequently. At the press of a button, shades can raise or lower and awnings can extend or retract to meet your needs. Control options are compatible with both interior window coverings and awnings and can be used together or separately. They include hand-held remotes, wireless wall switches and timers that you can program to operate shades at predefined times, or sensors that can automatically lower shades and extend awnings when the sun reaches its strongest intensity. There is also a wind sensor for an awning that automatically retracts it upon detecting wind generated movements, so your investment is always protected.

In addition to their energy efficiency, motorized awnings are also a great addition to your home for other reasons. They make your deck or patio a more enjoyable area that extends your living space. You can turn your outdoors into a comfortable space that you'll use time and again with family and friends without the worry of intense sun or other weather factors. Automated window treatments after additional benefits beyond saving energy. Motorization provides a safe and easy solution for accessing window treatments that are hard to reach, whether they are in a high foyer or even above a bathtub or sink. They allow you to reduce harsh glare when viewing television or computer screens, without interrupting your activity. Also, they eliminate dangling cords, creating a safer environment for small children or pets. Motorization is also available for rolling shutters that are especially popular in hurricane-prone areas. These systems protect your property during storms and can actually detect weather conditions and react automatically, which provides peace of mind, even when you're away from the property. Motorized rolling shutters also reduce heat gain and loss and provide added security, making them a popular option for areas of the country that experience significant sun.

Source: ARAContent

### Toll Brothers

FROM PAGE 1

townhome you've dreamed of," said Wulfestieg. "The best part is that buyers can move in and immediately start enjoying the walkable lifestyle of The Glen."

"We invite everyone to tour our condominium homes and townhomes today and visualize your lifestyle here," said Wulfestieg. "I'm certain all will be impressed with the spacious designs, the convenient location and fabulous golf course views. A few even offer a shot of the Chicago skyline."

Patriot Commons at The Glen is just steps away from The Glen Town Center featuring dining, shopping, everyday conveniences such as a drycleaner and bank, as well as entertainment venues and lots of nightlife. Commuters will enjoy the access to The Glen's own Metra station.

Year-round recreational activities are steps away at The Glen Town Center, along with amenities such as The Glen Club, an 18-hole championship golf course nestled alongside the community.

Sports enthusiasts will be enthralled by Gallery Park featuring playgrounds, gardens, athletic fields, tennis courts, walking and biking trails and picnic areas adjacent to the community. In addition, Glen Park Center boasts a fitness center, indoor swimming pool, jogging and walking track and a gymnasium.

One-bedroom, two-bedroom and two-bedroom-plus-den condominiums feature 1,000 to 1,400 square feet



An octagonal living room and an abundance of windows distinguish the single-level Hargrove townhome model.

of living space with 1 1/2 to two baths. Each residence has a private balcony and many offer breathtaking golf course views. Interiors include 9-foot ceilings, hardwood floors and a complete stainless steel appliance package including a refrigerator, range, dishwasher, microwave, washer and dryer. Condominium owners are already enjoying the climate-controlled indoor heated parking, the convenience of

two elevators per building, a secure storage area and a common entertainment room. Association dues include basic cable, heat, water, garbage removal, landscape maintenance, and snow removal.

Also available are the popular low-maintenance townhomes with two to four bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths featuring 1,550 to 1,700 square feet in one- or two-story living. A decorated

3-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bath, 1,700 square-foot, two-story Randall model is open to tour and now for sale. This great room design offers two-stories of living, with a well-appointed gourmet kitchen, a luxurious master suite with a large private bath, and two balconies. Other Randall townhomes are available including the last corner unit and buyers can still select their finishes.

Centered within the community will be a private landscaped courtyard with park benches, a rock garden, walkways and trellised shade canopies providing a place for rest and relaxation.

Toll Brothers, a Fortune 1000 company, was recently named Fortune magazine's 2010 World's Most Admired Home Builder. To create Fortune magazine's 2010 list, executives, directors and analysts were asked to rate companies in their own industry on nine criteria. Toll Brothers ranked Number One in seven categories, including Quality of Products and Services, Quality of Management, Financial Soundness, People Management, Use of Corporate Assets, Long-Term Investment, and Global Competitiveness.

Toll Brothers, Inc., is honored to have won all three of the industry's highest awards: America's Best Builder, The National Housing Quality Award and National Builder of the Year. For more information, visit TollBrothers.com.

To visit Patriot Commons at The Glen, from Interstate 94, exit Willow Avenue, drive west for three miles and turn left on Patriot Boulevard. The sales center is a quarter mile south of Chestnut Avenue and is open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 847-998-0400, or visit Patriot Commons@TheGlen.com.

For More Information on the National Spring Sales Event and other participating communities in Bloomington, Elgin, Hawthorn Woods, Morton Grove, North Aurora and South Barrington, visit TollSalesEvent.com.

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**INVESTMENT PROPERTY**  
PARCEL 2: 326-334 Raymond St., Elgin, IL  
13-unit apartment building located just around the corner from the Grand Victoria Casino. Current occupancy about 62%. Zoning: RC2.  
On Site Inspections: May 11, 18 & 25 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON  
Appraised Value: \$530,000  
Published Reserve Price: \$275,000

**RESTAURANTS**  
PARCEL 3: 1225 E. Kimberly Rd. Davenport, IA  
Formerly a Cheddar's Restaurant — 7,386 SF free-standing restaurant built in 1991 on 1.64 acres. Seating capacity for 290. Located in the heart of the Quad Cities. Ample parking, heavy traffic location with close access to I-74. Zoned C-2.  
On Site Inspections: May 10, 17 & 24 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON  
Appraised Value: \$890,000  
Published Reserve Price: \$450,000  
In cooperation with Terrus Real Estate Group, IA Real Estate Broker

**RESIDENTIAL**  
PARCEL 4: 628 Palmyra, Dixon, IL — Former Brown Shingle Restaurant, 5,490 SF Non-operating restaurant. Free-standing building, on 2.12 acres. Zoned C-3. Located in close proximity to I-88 from the south and I-39 to the east.  
On Site Inspections: May 10, 17 & 24 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM  
Appraised Value: \$250,000  
Published Reserve Price: \$95,000

**RESIDENTIAL**  
PARCEL 11: 3616 G Wilson Avenue, Chicago, IL  
2 bedroom 1 bath condo.  
On site inspections: May 16 & 23 from 12:00 NOON to 2:00 PM  
Previously Listed at \$65,000  
Published Reserve Price: \$20,000

#### LAND, RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL

For all land parcels drive by at your convenience.  
PARCEL 5: Henneberry Woods Subdivision Kendall County, IL - Cherty Rd., West of Grove Rd. Three Single Family Homesites. Lots 12, 29 & 60. Homesites from .69 to .83 acres. To Be Sold In Bulk.  
Appraised Value: \$370,000  
Published Reserve Price: \$105,000

PARCEL 6: Royal Hawk Country Club, St. Charles, IL - Lot 78 Clubhouse Dr. Beautiful 1.72 acre homesite facing the 10th Tee. Homes in the subdivision are selling from \$750,000 to \$2,500,000+.  
Appraised Value: \$280,000  
Published Reserve Price: \$125,000

PARCEL 7: Oakwood Hills Subdivision, Cary, IL  
A 4 lot, 2.11 acre residential site adjacent to (just west of) Chales Hills Golf Club, Zoned R3. Off Rawson Bridge Road, turn north onto Oakhill Road to the top of the street.  
Appraised Value: \$60,000  
Published Reserve Price: \$30,000

PARCEL 8: 5306 S. Indiana, Chicago, IL - Vacant 4,025 SF development site. Zoned: R5 General residential dist.  
Appraised Value: \$60,000  
Published Reserve Price: \$10,000

**ESTATE HOME**  
PARCEL 1: 26458 Farnell, Lake Forest, IL  
Single Family Estate. Located in prestigious Deer Path Farms, a 200-acre development with just 41 homesites. This newly constructed Lake Forest luxury home is 1/4 mile west of I-94 just north of Towline Rd. (Rt 60). The home's stunning design blends in with its unspoiled surroundings and offers breathtaking views of one of the nation's largest and best preserved nature areas. The estate features oak hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, 5 bedrooms (first floor master suite), 6 baths, huge gourmet kitchen, stone fireplace, 3-car garage with radiant heat, snow melt system, settee porch, decks, full basement with 10' ceiling, & much more.  
On Site Inspections: May 8, 16 & 23 from 12:00 NOON to 2:00 PM & May 20 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM  
Originally Priced at: \$2,750,000  
Published Reserve Price: \$900,000  
Bidding to start at \$750,000  
Virtual Tour: www.Oheo.com/598949

#### AUCTION: Thursday, May 27 — 1:30 P.M.

Sheraton Gateway Suites, 6501 N. Mannheim Rd., Rosemont, IL

For Brochure, Bid Packet & Terms of Sale Call: 847-929-9257

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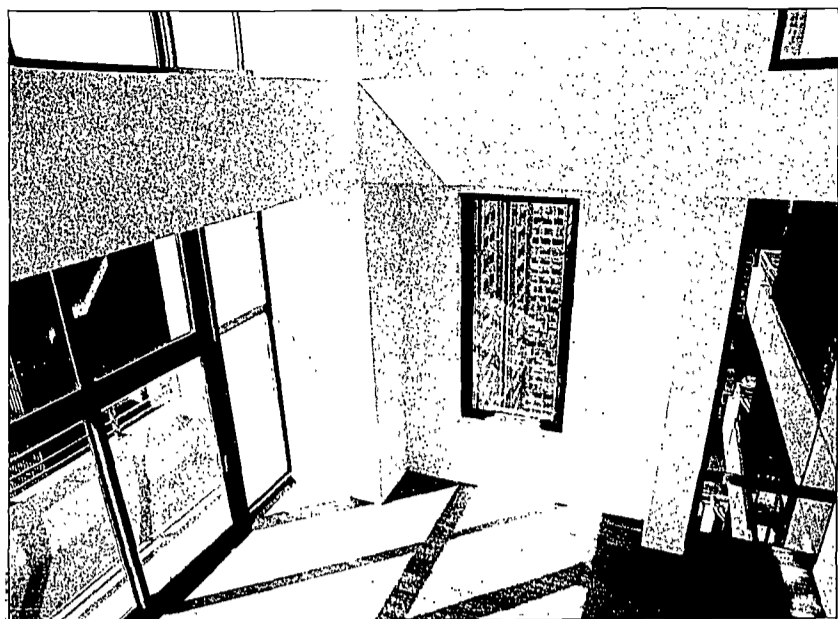
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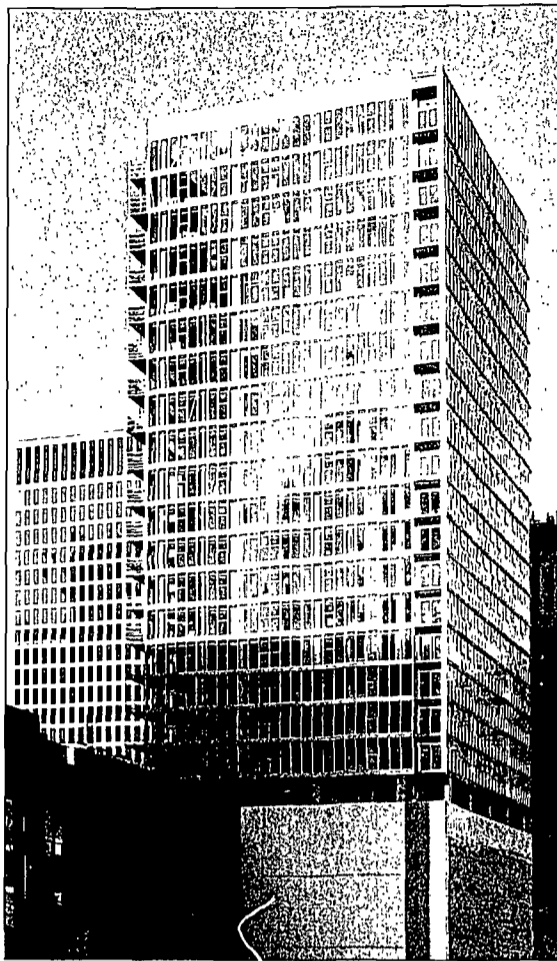
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A one-of-a-kind duplex penthouse sits atop 235 Van Buren. The building has 32 penthouses in all.



Penthouses anchor the top four floors at 550 St. Clair in Streeterville.

# Mansions in the sky

**Luxury penthouses offer the ultimate urban lifestyle**

A "mansion in the sky" — a condominium penthouse — is the height of elegance in luxury downtown housing, real estate experts say.

Though usually priced higher than standard condominiums, penthouses often are loaded with Manhattan-style amenities and features only seen in Hollywood movies. Private elevators, spectacular views from rooftop terraces, tall ceilings and palace-quality upgrades add to the mystique of the penthouse.

"Living in a penthouse is more than just prestige; it's being able to have the best money can buy," said Mark Sutherland partner in Sutherland Pearsall Development, developers of 550 St. Clair, a 26-story high-rise condominium in Streeterville.

Views usually steal the show in penthouse living, including vistas of the Chicago skyline and Lake Michigan. A spacious terrace, often standard equipment with a city penthouse, provides outdoor space and a perfect perch for enjoying picture-perfect views.

The lure of luxury, privacy and a great Gold Coast location continues to attract affluent empty-nest buyers to 50 E. Chestnut, a 39-story boutique condominium high-rise only steps west of Michigan Avenue.

"Each condominium at 50 East Chestnut really is a penthouse that occupies an entire floor," said developer Charles Huzenis of Jameson Development and Rush/Chestnut, L.L.C. "The building, at the corner of Rush and Chestnut, is so private it is like owning a single-family home in the sky."

The condominiums range in size from 3,845 to 3,904 square feet and are priced between \$2,871,900 and \$3,359,900. Each condominium showcases windows with 270-degree views, a large living room, a dining room, a kitchen and a family/media room. Parking is available for \$65,000 per space.

In addition to a professionally designed and furnished model by Gary Lee Partners, the developers currently are building out two custom-designed "spec" residences, one on the 22nd floor and another on the eighth floor. The residences are tentatively scheduled for completion in May and June.

The 50 E. Chestnut model is open 1 to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays in residence 2101. For more information, call Jameson Realty Group at 312-944-5050 or visit [www.50EastChestnut.com](http://www.50EastChestnut.com).

Here are details on some of the plusher penthouses now available:

■ **235 Van Buren.** A one-of-a-kind duplex penthouse at the top of 235 Van Buren truly is one of Chicago's special residential spaces. The 2,272-square-foot duplex features two bedrooms, a den and 2½ baths and comes with a 1,400-square-foot private garden terrace. It is priced at \$995,900.

"Our two-level penthouse on the 46th and 47th floors at 235 Van Buren showcases the most breathtaking panoramic views in the building," said Scott Hoskins, president and managing broker for CMK Realty, the exclusive sales and market-

ing agent.

The penthouse features a two-story living room with a spiral staircase and a private 33-foot-long balcony. The spiral staircase leads up to a sitting room and the master bedroom suite, which includes a master bath with walk-in shower and separate tub.

"From the sitting room, you can step out on a private balcony or walk out to the expansive private terrace and garden," Hoskins said.

The high-rise showcases 32 penthouses all located on the 45th and 46th floors of the building. Nearly a dozen penthouses are still available for sale.

Available penthouses include two-bedroom-plus-den units with two baths, two-bedroom, 2½-bath residences and two-bedroom-plus-den layouts with 2½ baths. They range in size from 891 to 2,272 square feet. Penthouse prices range from \$339,900 to \$995,900. Condo prices range from \$179,900 to \$269,900.

The sales center is located in residence 3302. It is open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information, contact CMK Realty at 312-376-0600 or visit [www.235vanburen.com](http://www.235vanburen.com).

■ **550 St. Clair.** New pricing for top-of-the-line three-bedroom luxury penthouses start at \$1,248,000 at 550 St. Clair, a modern, cutting-edge 26-story condominium tower in the heart of the fashionable Streeterville neighborhood.

The new price level on penthouses represents a reduction of more than

35 percent from the earlier price of \$1,998,500, said Ron Ruby, managing broker for Weichert Realtors — First Chicago, the exclusive marketing and sales agent.

The four available penthouses anchor the top four floors at 550 St. Clair.

"Our three-bedroom penthouses feature three or four baths, 2,500 to 3,075 square feet of living space, amazing views and outdoor space, both balconies and terraces," said developer Mark Sutherland, principal in Sutherland Pearsall Development.

Unit 2302, the top-of-the-line penthouse at 550 St. Clair, is a three-bedroom residence with four baths and 3,075 square feet of living area. The penthouse is priced at \$1,498,000.

"Showcasing sweeping panoramic views south, east and west through glass window walls, this penthouse has a west-facing terrace that spans the entire 52-foot length of the living room and dining room," Ruby said.

In addition to the penthouses, only 11 condominiums are available for purchase at the 112-unit 550 St. Clair, Ruby said. Prices now start at \$199,900 for the most affordable studio, down from \$298,500.

The sales gallery and model center for 550 St. Clair is located on the ground floor at 552 N. St. Clair. Sales gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Call 312-222-0550 or visit [www.550StClair.com](http://www.550StClair.com).

■ **Astoria Tower Residences & Spa.** A one-of-a-kind top-floor penthouse

— a "Sky Residence" with all the luxury features of a single-family home — now is discounted priced at Astoria Tower Residences and Spa, a 30-story Art-Deco-style high-rise at the northwest corner of Ninth and State streets in Chicago's South Loop.

Unit 3004 is a two-bedroom-plus-den penthouse with 2½ baths and 1,814 square feet of living area. Formerly listed for \$1,449 million, the penthouse now is available for sale at \$1.06 million, said Jim Psychogios, vice president/broker for Weichert Realtors — Frankel & Giles.

"This is a highly upgraded penthouse residence showcasing 14-foot ceilings, floor-to-ceiling windows, cherry hardwood flooring and two expansive terraces commanding breathtaking north, south and west views," Psychogios said.

Prices for junior one-bedroom units now start at \$169,800, while one-bedroom, one-bath residences begin at \$199,800 and one-bedroom-plus-den layouts with two baths start at \$245,800. Psychogios said. Two-bedroom, two-bath residences begin at \$328,800. In addition, the developers now are offering an \$8,000 cash incen-

tive for a limited time.

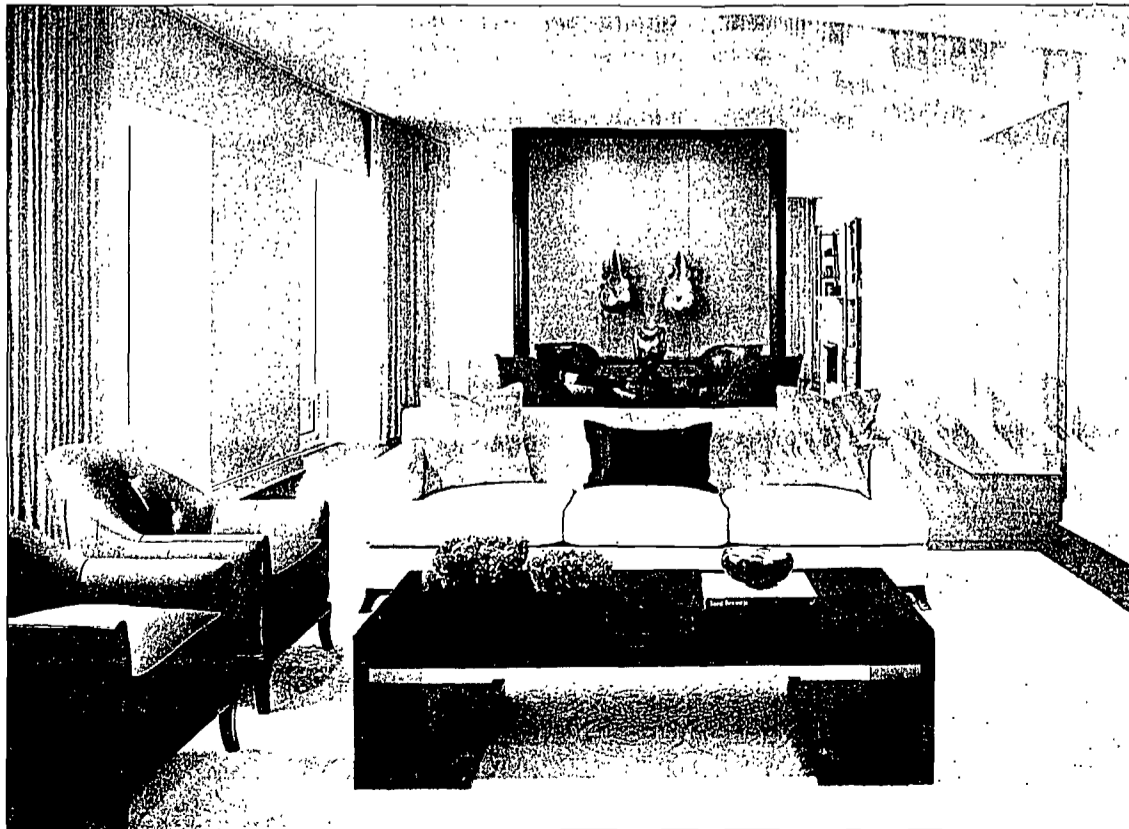
The sales center for Astoria Tower, located at 8 E. Ninth St., is open from noon to 5 p.m. daily or by appointment. For more information, call 312-922-0650 or visit [www.astoriatower.net](http://www.astoriatower.net).

■ **Michigan Avenue Tower II.** Two swank penthouses are for sale in the final closeout at Michigan Avenue Tower II, a 257-unit high-rise at 1400 S. Michigan Ave. in the South Loop.

These penthouses are spectacular one-of-a-kind units, truly the best residences in this upscale 28-story building," said Britta Rivera, director of sales for Weichert Realtors — Frankel & Giles.

The penthouse units with four bedrooms, three baths and up to 4,500 square feet of living area range are priced at \$1,800,990 and \$1,990,990. Both offer upgraded appliances and finishes; one has seven balconies/terraces.

The on-site sales center and model condominiums, open noon to 6 p.m. daily, are located at 1400 S. Michigan Ave. For more information, call 312-583-0600 or visit [www.1400michigan.com](http://www.1400michigan.com).



Each penthouse at 50 E. Chestnut occupies an entire floor of the boutique high-rise in the Gold Coast.

# Resale home prices rebounding at last in Chicago and suburbs

It appears that resale home prices in the Chicago area have quietly bottomed out and values are on the rise this spring.

That extremely good news comes from an analysis of resale data by the RE/MAX Northern Illinois real estate network that noted a dramatic improvement in the median prices of detached homes in Chicago and suburbs.

The best gain was posted in the City of Chicago, where the median price of detached single-family homes rose 27 percent to \$140,053 in March from \$110,000 in March of 2009.

RE/MAX Northern Illinois also reported that the median sales price of detached homes in March increased in Cook County, DuPage County and Lake County when compared to the same month a year ago.



Don DeBat  
ON THE HOME FRONT

"The median price in Cook County rose 8 percent to \$167,101. In DuPage the median price was \$271,750, a gain of 2 percent from \$266,000 a year ago. The median sales price in Lake County increased 9 percent to \$222,500 from \$205,000.

"Some of the improvement in median prices reflects the pickup in sales of more expensive homes, so it may

be premature to say that the decline in home prices is about to end. But we do seem to be headed in that direction," said Jim Merriam, regional director of the RE/MAX Northern Illinois real estate network.

"Last year, much of the activity in the market was concentrated at the low end, with upper-bracket home sales slowing dramatically," Merriam said. "This year the upper-bracket segment of the residential market is seeing an increase in activity."

"Low mortgage rates continue to help stabilize the housing market," said Frank Noflani, Freddie Mac vice president and chief economist. In mid-April, Freddie Mac reported that benchmark 30-year fixed-rate mortgages averaged 5.07 percent, down from 5.21 percent a week earlier. Last year at this time, the 30-year fixed loans

averaged 4.82 percent.

RE/MAX Northern Illinois also noted that the number of homes sold in the seven-county metropolitan Chicago real estate market Chicago posted a "notably improved performance" in March to close the first quarter of 2010 and set the stage for what could be the best spring home buying season in several years.

March sales of homes, townhomes and condominiums in the seven-county metro area totaled 6,266 units, up 48 percent from the 4,232 units sold in March last year. However, the median price of all the homes, townhomes and condos sold in March was \$185,000, a decline of 5 percent from the median price a year earlier, but 11 percent higher than in February of this year.

For the year's first-quarter, home, townhome and condo

sales in the metro area were up 39 percent, with 14,334 properties changing hands, compared with 10,277 units a year earlier. The median price of properties sold during the quarter was \$176,000, which is 7 percent lower than the median price in March of last year.

"Sales activity has increased substantially, and the price declines that we have been seeing for several years seem to be slowing," said Merriam. "This is good news going into the prime spring and summer months when most homes are sold."

Home sales for March were the highest they have been since 2007, and the same is true of the first quarter as a whole. The market for attached homes also showed improvement. The sales of townhomes and condominiums increased 59 percent in March and 46 per-

cent in the first quarter of 2010 compared to the same periods in 2009, RE/MAX reported.

"The attached homes market really suffered last year, in large part because financing was difficult to obtain for units in new buildings or those with a fairly high percentage of rental units," said Merriam.

"It is extremely encouraging to see the pace of sales in this segment of the market rebounding so strongly," he said. "It's a good sign for the entire market because many of those who will be able to sell their attached units will now turn around and buy something larger."

Don DeBat's weekly real estate column is syndicated by DeBat Media Services. For more home-buying information, visit [www.dondebats.com](http://www.dondebats.com).

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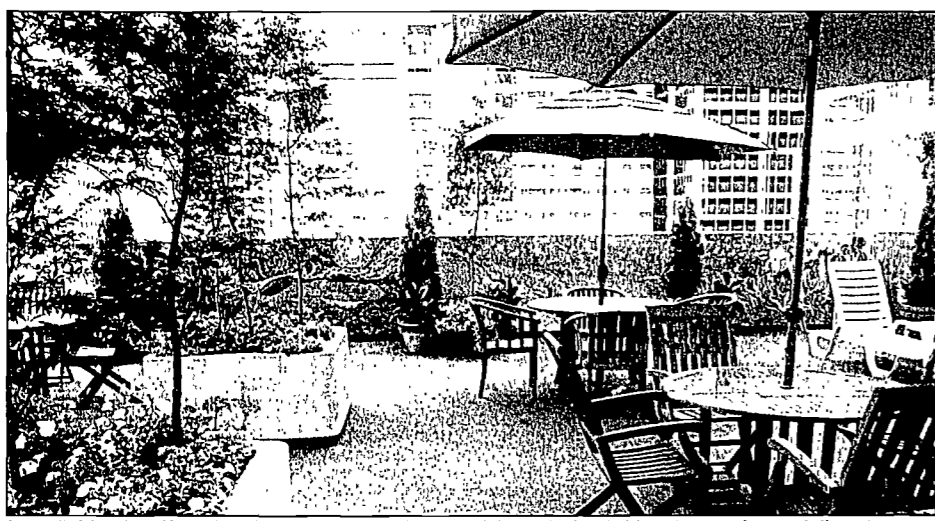
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Almost all of the units at 200 North Dearborn Private Residences have private balconies that face the lake to the east or downtown to the west.

AMERICAN INVSCO

Sales records continue at 200 North Dearborn

American InvSCO sold 20 condominiums in two weeks following a record price reduction averaging 43 percent at 200 North Dearborn Private Residences, a 47-story apartment tower being converted to condominium ownership in Chicago's Loop.

The sale of 20 condominiums represents about \$5 million in sales volume, said Nicholas S. Gouletas, chairman and CEO of American InvSCO.

"Serious condominium buyers are flocking to our once-in-a-lifetime home-buying opportunity at 200 North Dearborn," Gouletas said. "On Sunday, April 18, more than 300 people visited 200 North Dearborn to tour the building and models, and we wrote seven sales contracts. ... We expect to write another 10 to 20 contracts to approach our goal of 40 sales by April 30."

The sales surge was sparked by extremely affordable pricing at 200 N. Dearborn. "Our prices let you own a condominium for less than renting," Gouletas said. "Prices have been slashed by an average of 43 percent. Convertible/junior one bedrooms now start at \$147,409, down from \$284,700. One-bedroom units start at \$189,399, down from \$339,000. The prices of two-bedroom, two-bath layouts now start at \$222,815, down from \$471,100.

Almost all of the units have private balconies that face the lake to the east or downtown to the west.

Actual discounts on the 40 units that are priced to sell before the end of April range from 44.15 percent to 52.7 percent and cash savings range from \$137,291 to \$248,285, Gouletas said.

The 200 N. Dearborn price reduction and purchase deadline coincides with the April 30 date for the end of the federal government's \$8,000 tax credit for first-time buyers. In order to claim the credit, a home must be under contract by the end of April and closed by the end of June.

First-time buyers receive the \$8,000 tax credit in the form of a tax refund. Even if you do not owe much in taxes, the government will give you the money. A first-time buyer is defined as anyone who has not owned a home in three years.

Income limits for the tax credit range up to \$125,000 for singles and as high as \$225,000 for couples. In addition, the federal government is offering a credit of up to \$6,500 for existing homeowners who buy a new residence. These buyers must have owned their home for at least five years to qualify.

"American InvSCO is offering an additional cash incentive of 3 percent," Gouletas said. This money can be used to pay assessments, closing costs or pay for a buy down on the mortgage interest rate.

Along with hundreds of thousands of dollars in price reductions and the tax-credit opportunities, buyers at 200 N. Dearborn also are offered Federal Housing Administration-insured financing with a down payment as low as 3.5 percent.

The FHA-financing choices are a five-year adjustable-rate mortgage (ARM) at 3.875 percent interest or a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage at 4.875 percent interest.

Buyers at 200 North Dearborn who finance their purchase with an FHA loan must be owner-occupants who are buying a primary residence. They cannot be investors.

"With so many incentives now available to buyers it is inconceivable that they would not consider taking advantage of homeownership in 2010," Gouletas said.

Homeownership also brings the added benefits of federal tax writeoffs for mortgage interest and real estate taxes.

"More than 130 of 309 units at 200 North Dearborn are closed, and 150 units are under contract, so approximately half of the building is already sold," Gouletas said.

In addition to young first-time buyers who work in the Loop, purchasers at 200 N. Dearborn include people from the suburbs seeking a downtown pied-a-terre, Gouletas said.

The building is the ideal in-town location for those who regularly enjoy the finer aspects of downtown Chicago - from the Loop's dynamic Theater District to fine restaurants and shopping opportunities.

The sales center at 200 North Dearborn is located on the 35th floor in Suite 3507, with eight beautifully furnished and decorated model units on display.

Throughout April the sales center is open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call 312-558-1200 or visit [www.200NDearborn.com](http://www.200NDearborn.com).

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Dream Homes are quality-built with 2-by-6 wall construction. They are energy-efficient with upgraded insulation and high efficiency furnaces and water heaters.

The kitchens are a cook's delight. They are spacious, well-lit and include extensive cabinets. Many have kitchen islands, ceramic accents, pantries, pull-out cabinet shelves and kitchen desks ... enough to please any gourmet chef. The price also includes kitchen appliances including ranges, refrigerators, dishwashers and spacesaver microwaves.

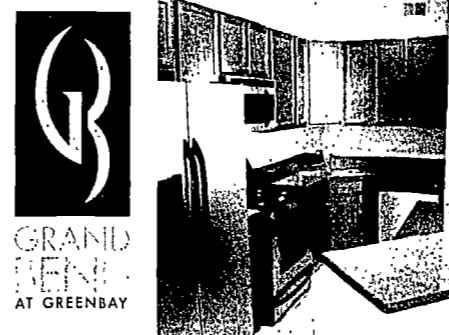
The living rooms are large and feature fireplaces, cathedral ceilings, bay windows and lighted ceiling fans. The baths include spa tubs, walk-in double showers, double sinks, upgraded faucets, linen closets and beautiful vanities with plentiful storage. All Dream Homes include central air and attached 2½-car garages.

Dream Homes offer an exceptional value for the housing dollar because the homes are factory-built in a controlled environment. Production efficiency of manufactured housing can save consumers up to 40 percent per square foot.

Dream Homes offers the latest in design trends and styles in everything from lighting and plumbing fixtures to carpet and trim treatments. Dream Homes U.S.A. has been a leader in manufactured housing since 1980.

The Dream Homes' model homes are available for sale or homes may be custom designed. This can be done at no additional cost. Choices include kitchen cabinets, countertops, flooring, carpeting, exterior design and more.

Dream Homes are located on newly sodded sites in Evanston. Turn to DREAM HOMES, 10



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<p><b>NORTH</b></p> <p><b>BEACH PARK</b>   Cambridge at Heatherstone NEW! Horizon Series SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the upper \$170's Prairie Series SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the low \$200's 847.984.4671</p> <p><b>KENOSHA, WI</b>   Kilbourn Woods Horizon Series SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the \$190's BASEMENT INCLUDED! 847.984.4855</p> <p><b>LIBERTYVILLE</b>   Cambridge Knoll EXECUTIVE SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the upper \$700's ONLY 2 LEFT! Please call for appointment. 847.984.4890</p> <p><b>VOLO</b>   Symphony Meadow FOXSHOES from the upper \$140's SINGLES-FAMILY HEATED HOMES from the \$150's Horizon Series SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the \$190's Prairie Series SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the \$220's 847.984.4933</p>	<p><b>NORTHWEST</b></p> <p><b>HUNTLEY</b>   Covington Lakes Prairie Series SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the \$260's EXECUTIVE SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the \$310's 847.984.4554</p> <p><b>PINGREE GROVE</b>   Cambridge Lakes Townhomes from the \$150's SINGLES-FAMILY ACTIVE HOMES from the \$150's Horizon Series SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the \$180's Meadow &amp; Prairie Series SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the low \$200's Signature Series SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the \$300's 847.984.4881</p> <p><b>STREAMWOOD</b>   Villas of Cambridge Arbor Series FOXSHOES from the \$200's Artisan Series FOXSHOES from the upper \$240's 847.984.4880</p> <p><b>SOUTH ELGIN</b>   Cambridge Bluffs EXECUTIVE TOWNHOMES from the \$210's Please call for appointment. 847.984.4880</p>	<p><b>WEST/SOUTH</b></p> <p><b>CORTLAND</b>   Richland Trails Horizon Series SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the \$160's 847.984.4944</p> <p><b>MONTGOMERY</b>   Foxmoor SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the low \$190's 847.984.4580</p> <p><b>PLAINFIELD</b>   Liberty Grove Prairie Series SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the \$230's Horizon Series SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the low \$200's Please call for appointment. 847.984.4949</p> <p><b>PLAINFIELD</b>   Patriot Square FOXSHOES from the \$160's 847.984.4949</p> <p><b>JOLIET</b>   NewFairfield NOW OPEN! Wildflower Series RANGED-BASED DUPLEXES from the mid \$100's Horizon Series SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the low \$200's 847.984.4865</p>	<p><b>ACTIVE ADULT LIFESTYLE COMMUNITIES</b> Penthouse At West in Naperville</p> <p><b>AURORA</b>   Carrillon at Stonegate SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the \$200's 847.984.4890</p> <p><b>NAPERVILLE</b>   Carrillon Club CONDOMINIUMS from the \$160's FOXSHOES from the upper \$220's SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the \$290's 847.984.4857</p> <p><b>PINGREE GROVE</b>   Carrillon at Cambridge Lakes FOXSHOES from the \$140's SINGLES-FAMILY HEATED HOMES from the \$190's SINGLES-FAMILY HOMES from the \$230's 847.984.4872</p>
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For more information about all Cambridge communities, call 847.984.4479 or visit our website. OPEN DAILY 10-6, FRI. 12-6.

[www.MyCambridgeHome.com](http://www.MyCambridgeHome.com)

All prices, included features, availability and delivery dates are subject to change without notice. Terms and conditions subject to credit approval, model charges and availability. Energy Star is a trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Logo used with permission. \*Applies to homes begun after March 1, 2010.

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MONDAY-FRIDAY 10AM-10PM**

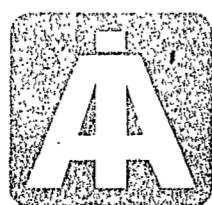


Status	Unit	Unit Size	Old Price	New Price	Discount
	801	Conv.	\$304,400	\$182,000	\$122,400
	803	1 Bedroom	\$355,400	\$195,691	\$159,709
	805	1 Bedroom	\$327,700	\$216,000	\$111,700
SOLD	806	2 Bedroom	\$486,400	\$271,751	\$214,649
SOLD	807	2 Bedroom	\$471,100	\$222,815	\$248,285
SOLD	901	1 Bedroom	\$355,100	\$190,223	\$164,877
	902	1 Bedroom	\$359,100	\$251,370	\$107,730
	903	1 Bedroom	\$356,600	\$196,418	\$160,182
	904	1 Bedroom	\$338,900	\$235,830	\$101,070
	905	1 Bedroom	\$339,000	\$189,399	\$149,601
SOLD	906	2 Bedroom	\$488,200	\$272,757	\$215,443
SOLD	907	2 Bedroom	\$472,900	\$242,365	\$230,535
	1001	1 Bedroom	\$356,400	\$191,001	\$165,399
	1002	1 Bedroom	\$360,400	\$252,280	\$108,120
	1003	1 Bedroom	\$357,900	\$242,365	\$115,535
	1004	1 Bedroom	\$338,200	\$236,740	\$101,460
	1005	1 Bedroom	\$340,200	\$190,069	\$150,131
	1006	2 Bedroom	\$490,000	\$343,000	\$147,000
SOLD	1007	2 Bedroom	\$474,700	\$243,370	\$231,330
SOLD	1102	1 Bedroom	\$361,600	\$202,025	\$159,575
SOLD	1103	1 Bedroom	\$359,100	\$197,759	\$161,341
	1104	1 Bedroom	\$339,400	\$237,580	\$101,820
	1105	1 Bedroom	\$341,400	\$190,740	\$150,660
	1106	1 Bedroom	\$491,900	\$344,330	\$147,570
SOLD	1107	2 Bedroom	\$476,600	\$244,432	\$232,168
	1201	1 Bedroom	\$358,800	\$192,437	\$166,363
SOLD	1202	1 Bedroom	\$362,800	\$202,696	\$160,104
SOLD	1203	1 Bedroom	\$360,300	\$198,485	\$161,815
SOLD	1205	1 Bedroom	\$342,600	\$191,410	\$151,190
SOLD	1206	2 Bedroom	\$493,700	\$275,830	\$217,870
SOLD	1207	2 Bedroom	\$478,400	\$245,438	\$232,962
	1301	1 Bedroom	\$360,000	\$193,156	\$166,844
SOLD	1302	1 Bedroom	\$364,100	\$203,422	\$160,678
	1303	1 Bedroom	\$361,500	\$199,155	\$162,345
	1306	2 Bedroom	\$495,600	\$346,920	\$148,680
SOLD	1307	2 Bedroom	\$480,300	\$243,537	\$236,763
SOLD	1401	1 Bedroom	\$361,300	\$193,934	\$167,366
SOLD	1402	1 Bedroom	\$365,300	\$204,093	\$161,207
	1403	1 Bedroom	\$362,800	\$253,960	\$108,840
	1404	1 Bedroom	\$343,100	\$240,170	\$102,930
SOLD	1405	1 Bedroom	\$345,100	\$192,807	\$152,293
	1406	2 Bedroom	\$497,400	\$348,180	\$149,220
	1503	1 Bedroom	\$364,000	\$254,800	\$109,200
SOLD	1505	1 Bedroom	\$346,300	\$193,477	\$152,823
SOLD	1507	1 Bedroom	\$348,700	\$193,119	\$155,581
	1603	1 Bedroom	\$365,200	\$255,640	\$109,560
SOLD	1605	1 Bedroom	\$347,500	\$194,148	\$153,352
SOLD	1607	1 Bedroom	\$349,900	\$193,790	\$156,110
	1702	2 Bedroom	\$502,000	\$351,400	\$150,600
SOLD	1707	1 Bedroom	\$351,200	\$194,517	\$156,683
SOLD	1807	1 Bedroom	\$352,400	\$195,187	\$157,213
SOLD	1901	Convertible	\$284,700	\$147,409	\$137,291
SOLD	1907	1 Bedroom	\$353,600	\$195,858	\$157,742
SOLD	2001	Convertible	\$285,300	\$147,744	\$137,556
	2007	1 Bedroom	\$354,800	\$196,528	\$158,272
SOLD	2107	1 Bedroom	\$356,100	\$197,254	\$158,846
	2204	1 Bedroom	\$394,800	\$296,100	\$98,700
	2301	Convertible	\$287,200	\$201,040	\$86,160
	2401	Convertible	\$287,800	\$201,460	\$86,340
SOLD	2601	Convertible	\$289,000	\$231,200	\$57,800
SOLD	2903	1 Bedroom	\$381,200	\$304,960	\$76,240
	3004	1 Bedroom	\$378,900	\$303,120	\$75,780
	3103	1 Bedroom	\$406,900	\$325,520	\$81,380
	3107	1 Bedroom	\$397,800	\$318,240	\$79,560
	3108	1 Bedroom	\$338,200	\$270,560	\$67,640
	3402	1 Bedroom	\$601,900	\$520,900	\$81,000
	3505	1 Bedroom	\$350,700	\$280,560	\$70,140
	3701	Convertible	\$295,800	\$236,640	\$59,160
	3706	2 Bedroom	\$568,400	\$454,720	\$113,680
	4102	2 Bedroom	\$564,500	\$451,600	\$112,900
	4307	1 Bedroom	\$412,500	\$330,000	\$82,500
	4502	2 Bedroom	\$571,800	\$457,440	\$114,360
	4507	1 Bedroom	\$414,900	\$331,920	\$82,980
	4604	1 Bedroom	\$416,900	\$333,520	\$83,380
SOLD	4607	1 Bedroom	\$422,300	\$422,300	\$0

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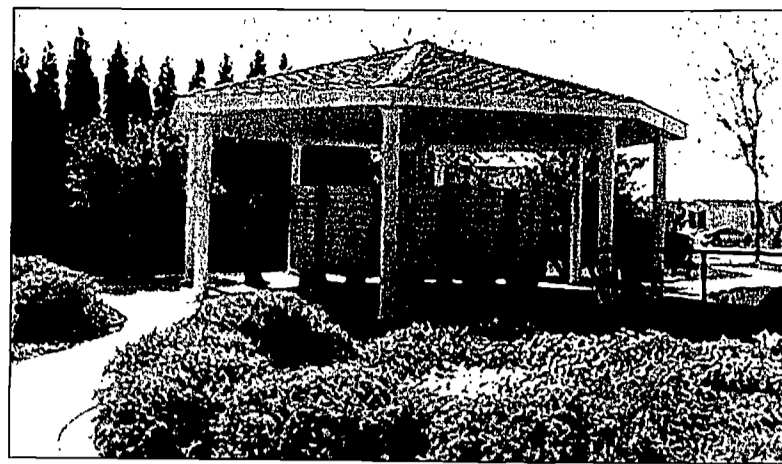
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### Dream Home

FROM PAGE 7

Four Seasons, an award-winning community. The community entrances are boulevards filled with flowers. Four Seasons is a beautifully landscaped and meticulously maintained community where residents still practice old-fashioned neighborliness. It's a supportive community reminiscent of years gone by. Residents walk lighted sidewalks on curving tree-lined streets. They enjoy the pool complex, picnic areas, green areas and a flag park.

within walking distance. Four Seasons residents save money on gas as well as their housing cost. Four Seasons residents like the charming small-town atmosphere of Belvidere and the proximity of Rockford and Cherryvale, a large shopping mall that can be reached in just a 10-minute drive. In today's economic times, Dream Homes U.S.A. offers a dream come true. There is a way for consumers to own their dream home in a beautiful neighborhood, reduce their cost of living and have money left over to improve their lifestyles. Four Seasons Dream Homes U.S.A. have many model homes available to tour. The homes may be visited seven days a week. Dream Homes' hours are Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday noon to 4 p.m. Additional information on Four Seasons Dream Homes is available at the Web site www.fourseasonsdreamhomes.com or by calling toll free 888-373-2604 or 815-544-2700.



The Four Seasons community in Belvidere offers a beautiful community with such features as a mall gazebo, which offers residents more opportunity to meet neighbors and make friends.

### TRANSACTIONS

Curious about more home sales in your neighborhood? For more Chicago area transactions, see "recent sales" at www.searchchicago.com/homes. Search by address, county, ZIP code, price range or year of sale.

#### Barrington

417 S Summit St: Bach, James G & Beth Ann: \$103,000

#### Buffalo Grove

1174 Cambridge Dr: Battinus, Jeffrey Richard: \$245,000  
685 Grove Dr 104: Guajardo, Evangelina: \$90,000

#### Des Plaines

1436 E Thacker St 204: Takahashi, Christine: \$95,000  
2696 Rusty Dr: Donmez, Kaan: \$143,000  
312 Laurel Ave: Buzell, Brandis: \$292,500  
436 Ambleside Rd: Cusic, Amra: \$199,000  
651 Debra Dr: Kudla, Kamil & Katarzyna: \$250,000  
9424 Meadow Ln: Kamdar, Dhaval: \$150,000

#### Elmhurst Park

1834 N 78th Ave: Buzinski, Michael & Elisa: \$315,000  
2010 N 73rd Ct: Sotero, Alex G: \$128,000

#### Evanston

1507 Darrow Ave A: White, Glenis: \$190,000  
2441 Cowper Ave: Lavery, Ronald: \$530,000  
9217 Ewing Ave 101: Gibson, Jillian M: \$165,000  
942 Michigan Ave 2: Trieschmann, Mary V: \$280,000

#### Franklin Park

3041 Emerson St: Endaya, Joel F & Aquino, Mayra: \$190,000  
9754 Pacific Ave: Kiesel, Adam J & Jared A: \$183,000

#### Glencoe

491 Washington Ave: Baum, Jaime & Mann, Robert: \$1,172,500  
830 Oak Dr: Vogel, Thomas & Oriana: \$1,500,000

#### Glenview

1527 Pebblecreek Dr 1527: Pakula, Joanna D: \$236,000  
1539 Central Pkwy: Danko, Daniel: \$452,000  
1632 Senola Tr: Vujlech, Brad & Kellie: \$541,500  
2780 Independence Ave: Hall, Thomas M & Marcia M: \$1,262,500

#### Harwood Heights

5143 N Odell Ave: Drossos, Peter & Constance: \$168,000  
7632 W Lawrence Ave 1B: Hernandez Jr, Steven & Hernandez, Steven: \$145,000

#### Lincolnwood

3830 W Sherwin Ave: Abbas, Wazeer: \$245,000  
3839 W Chase Ave: Kung, Gerald T



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& Wu, Nancy M: \$432,000

3919 W Jarvis Ave: Patel, Dilawarhusen A & Hajrabi D: \$280,000

#### Maywood

804 S 8th Ave: McClaurin, Melvina & Christopher: \$150,000  
918 N 8th Ave: Mitchell, Linda: \$115,000

#### Melrose Park

2801 Landon Dr: Flores, Javier &

Monica: \$186,000

909 Park Dr: Wagner, Stephen: \$220,000

#### Mount Prospect

128 N Marcella Rd: Masztak, Adam & Olga: \$329,000  
1411 N Park Dr: White, Mark E & Miobowski, Amy C: \$278,000

1805 W Catalpa Ln: Adam, Michael & Karen: \$320,000

214 N Graylyn Dr: Alexander, Athena: \$260,000

216 S Main St: Sohl, Justin M & Michele L: \$315,000

40 E Northwest Hwy: Alport, Daniel & Boysen, Emily: \$300,000  
611 S Can Dots Ave: Gibbons, Jerry: \$330,000

#### Niles

7091 W Touhy Ave 407: Snyder, Shirley M: \$135,000

8200 N Okata Ave: Harsch, Douglas R & Barbara: \$305,000

9701 W Dee Rd 3D: Seriruk

Aphisak: \$100,000

#### Norridge

4405 N Canfield Ave: Boll, David & Urban, Holly E: \$255,500  
8580 W Foster Ave 210: Owsjak, Boguslaw & Justyna: \$214,000

#### Northbrook

1983 Penfold Pt: Lay, Christopher B & Julie Gibson: \$805,000

2100 Valencia Dr: 4059: Kim, Jennifer E: \$131,000

#### Northfield

190 Dickens Rd: McInerney, Robin & Joseph: \$950,000

#### Northlake

232 S Maplewood Ave: Patel, Mahendra T & Ajay: \$165,000

#### Oak Park

1120 Thomas St: Forward, Stephen & Beverly R: \$288,000

Turn to TRANSACTIONS, 14

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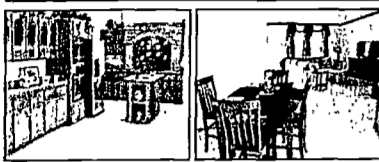
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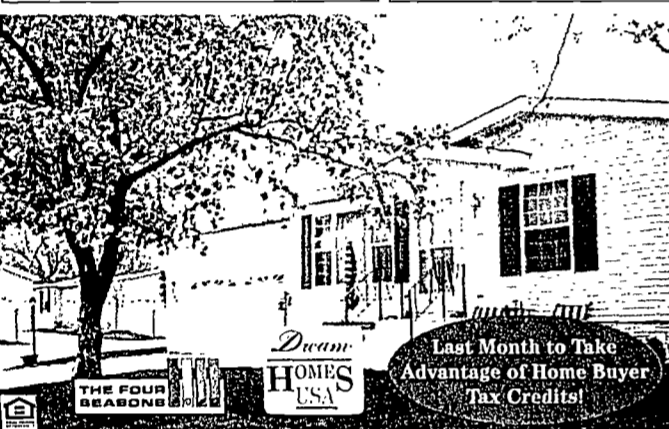


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## Tour of home provides Ronald McDonald House charities with much-needed funds

Greenspire Properties and Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana (RMHC-CNI) have come together to present the Homes of Distinction by Greenspire Properties, designed by Mandy Brown Architects PC.  
This luxury, LEED-registered "green" home will showcase the latest building products and design trends, with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana. The home will be open for tours from May 13 to May 30, Thursdays through Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. Parsons may tour the home for a \$10 admission fee.  
The Home of Distinction is being constructed by Greenspire Properties and designed by Mandy Brown Architects PC. With 5,200 total square feet, this five-bedroom, five-bath Colonial home offers exquisite masonry and stone veneer construction, nine-foot ceilings and uniquely green features. As Winnetka's first LEED-registered home, this is a terrific opportunity for guests to learn more about environmentally friendly building products and services.  
The mission of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana is to improve the health, well-being and education of children through their three core programs.  
RMHC-CNI operates four Ronald McDonald Houses in the Chicagoland area and, through these houses, provides a home away from home for the families of children being treated at nearby hospitals. The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile provides basic health care to thousands of underserved children, and the RMHC-CNI College scholarship program provides up to four years of financial assistance to help local youth achieve their academic dreams.  
The Home of Distinction by Greenspire Properties will highlight products and services from several local companies to help raise funds for Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana.  
For more information about The Homes of Distinction by Greenspire Properties, visit [www.ihomedistinction.com/10Chicago/index.php](http://www.ihomedistinction.com/10Chicago/index.php).

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With today's low mortgage interest rates and an abundance of available new-construction condominiums for sale in the Chicago area, now may be the best buyer's market since the mid-1980s, real estate experts say.

Qualified home buyers who are willing to close a deal quickly and move in now will find an abundance of once-in-a-lifetime deals when purchasing condominiums ready for immediate occupancy in the suburbs.

R. Franczak & Associates is pulling out all the stops to liquidate its immediate-occupancy condo inventory at the Heritage of Palatine, a new condominium development in downtown northwest suburban Palatine.

R. Franczak & Associates offers a variety of well-designed homes that suit all taste levels, whether you are a first-time buyer or an empty-nester," said Katie Campbell, sales manager for R. Franczak & Associates. "Also, right now, buyers can take advantage of several special limited-time incentives offered depending on their individual needs."

The Heritage of Palatine is nearly 75 percent sold and offers one-bedroom, two-bedroom and two-bedroom-plus-den condominiums ranging in size from 1,126 to 1,716 square feet of living space. Prices of the remaining units range from \$229,900 to \$359,900.

Here are the details on the designer models available for immediate occupancy:

■ The Geneva, Residence 409, is the newest immediate occupancy model to be unveiled at the 48-unit luxury development. The two-bedroom-plus-den, two-bath penthouse offers 1,518 square feet of living space.

■ Showcasing a split-bedroom plan, the Geneva features a dramatic entry foyer with views of the kitchen with a breakfast island and great room with access to the balcony with a sunny western exposure. A large private office with French doors and full laundry room complete this home. It is priced at \$329,900.

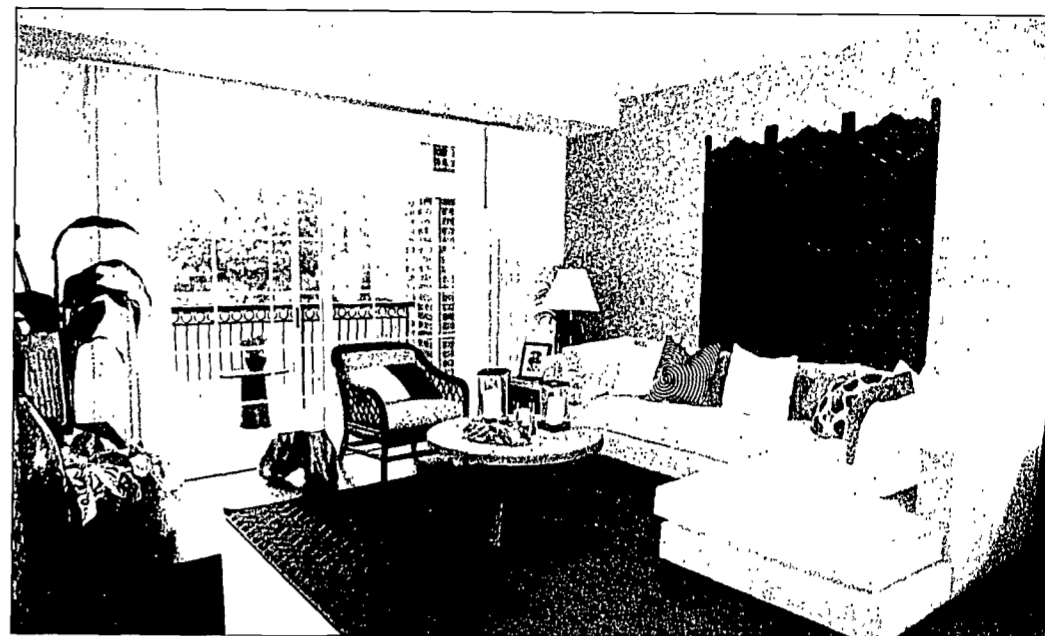
■ The two-bedroom, two-bath Colfax offers 1,515 square feet of living space. Residence 215 is a split-bedroom plan featuring a dramatic entry with views of the kitchen and great room with access to the balcony. The Colfax is priced from \$289,900.

■ According to Campbell, this Colfax is the "eclectic" model that MB Interiors has designed with many green products such as sustainable, organic, recycled and reclaimed materials. Energy Star appliances and low VOC paints.

■ A second Colfax, Residence 307, is also available and priced at \$299,900. It features a dramatic entry with views of the kitchen with breakfast bar and great room with access to the balcony.

■ The Cypress II, Residence 306, is an award-winning floor plan that offers two bedrooms, two baths and 1,694 square feet of living space. This is one of the unique tiered floor plans that showcase a large open floor plan and dramatic floor-to-ceiling windows in the dining room and access to a nearby balcony.

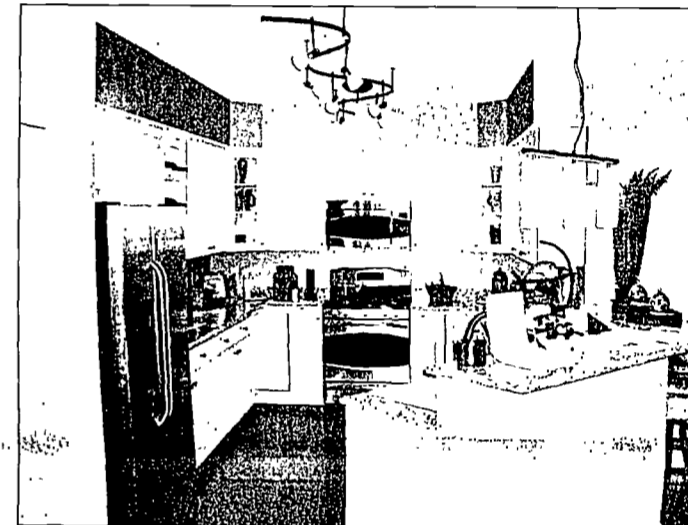
The Cypress II also features a large great room, autumn birch cabinetry, upgraded granite countertops, Black Forest cherry wood flooring and design-



Above: Great rooms at the Heritage of Palatine offer access to balconies. Right: The kitchens feature top-of-the-line appliances, countertops and cabinets.

### Find out more

The Heritage of Palatine sales center is located at 50 S. Greeley St. and is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 847-705-6238 or visit [www.rfranczak.com](http://www.rfranczak.com).



er selected paint. It is priced at \$359,900.

■ The Thoreau, Residence 311, is a well-designed floor plan offering 1,456 square feet of living space with a west-facing exposure. The two-bedroom, two-bath Thoreau model features an impressive kitchen with cooktop island peninsula and built-in double oven. The kitchen opens to the dining room and living room with access to a nearby balcony. It is priced at \$319,900.

■ The Belmont, Residence 216, is a two-bedroom-plus-den, two-bath design with 1,518 square feet of living space. This split-bedroom plan features a dramatic entry foyer with views of the kitchen with cat-in-bar and great room with access to the balcony. An office and laundry room completes the home. It is priced at \$334,900.

## Belle Plaine Commons attracts 'older' first-time buyers

Who says first-time home buyers have to be young?

Belle Plaine Commons is the perfect choice for novice buyers age 55 or older to discover the joys of homeownership in the AARP-award-winning community.

Belle Plaine Commons, an affordably priced 92-unit condominium development, is at 2335 W. Belle Plaine in the heart of the North Center neighborhood on Chicago's North Side. To purchase a condo, one member of the household has to be 55 years of age or better, but the other member may be as young as 48 years.

Belle Plaine Commons anchors the five-acre North Center Senior Campus bounded by Irving Park Road, Western Avenue, Oakley Avenue and Belle Plaine Avenue.

The North Center Senior Campus was named a winner of the 2009 Livable Communities Award by AARP and the National Association of Home Builders.

First-time buyers Jerry Perkins, 62, and Ann Coulson, 59, purchased a new condo at Belle Plaine Commons about a year ago, before the tax credit was in effect. They are among a half dozen first-time buyers age 55 or older residing at the development.

"I have been a renter for 40 years," Perkins said. "For the past 10 years we rented in North Ravenswood. I guess we had been thinking about buying for a number of years; then we got a flyer from Aldertrust [Engineer] Schuler with information on Belle Plaine Commons."

Perkins and Coulson really liked Belle Plaine Commons' campuslike environment anchored by a spacious landscaped park accented with fountains.

"We liked the idea that it



Jerry Perkins is one of about a half dozen first-time buyers at Belle Plaine Commons, a senior condo community in the North Center neighborhood.

was for people aged 55 or better. There gets to be a point when you just want to live with people your own age. We like the quiet. When you're renting sometimes it can be loud. We also thought it was a good deal for the money," noted Perkins.

"My sister Gloria and I purchased in 2006 during pre-construction and we moved into our unit about a year ago," said

Phyllis Swanson. The sisters had rented an apartment for 27 years in West Rogers Park.

"We felt it was time for a change and really wanted to move here with all the young people in this building," she said.

"My neighbors here are very nice people and there is so much to do here," Swanson said. "There is a community

room where they have parties all the time. There is an exercise room, too, with machines."

Swanson noted that the campus has a nearby senior center on Oakley that serves lunch daily Monday through Friday for just \$1.50.

"It also has exercise classes and other activities to get into such as a walking club. I am

thinking of doing that soon," she said.

"Buying my first home was a big venture for me and an expensive one too," Swanson said. "But when we file our federal income taxes we will benefit from being homeowners because we will take advantage of the deductions for mortgage interest and real estate taxes."

### Get more info

The Belle Plaine Commons sales center and model are located in the building at 2335 W. Belle Plaine. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday through Wednesday. The center is closed Thursday and Friday. Prospective buyers may view floor plans and amenities at [www.belleplainecommons.com](http://www.belleplainecommons.com). For more information, call Westenberg at 773-442-6995.

"The majority of the buyers at Belle Plaine Commons are people who have resided in the North Center neighborhood for decades, and are looking forward to maintenance-free and carefree condominium living," said Rena Appel, development coordinator for North Center Associates LLC, the developer of Belle Plaine Commons.

Prices at Belle Plaine Commons range from \$194,990 to \$212,990 for one-bedroom condominiums with 848 to 900 square feet of living space, \$204,990 to \$249,990 for one-bedroom-plus-den condominiums with 944 to 1,011 square feet of living space, and \$249,990 to \$298,990 for two-bedroom condominiums with 1,134 to 1,268 square feet of living space. All prices include one outdoor parking space. Heated garage parking is available for an additional \$15,900.

While sales at Belle Plaine Commons are nearing the 90 percent mark, there still is a wide selection of residences.

"At these prices, this is a rare opportunity that won't last," said Judy Westenberg, sales manager for Garrison Partners Ltd., the exclusive sales and marketing agent.

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'07 Nissan Altima 2.5S	Automatic, Air, Full Power, Blue, 39K, P3616	\$13,995
'07 Mazda6 Touring	Automatic, Alloys, ABS, Low Miles, 5383A	\$12,995
'03 Toyota Rav-4 L AWD	Auto, Sunroof, Leather, 41K, Silver, 5886A	\$11,995
'08 Nissan Sentra	Automatic, Air, Full Power, P3614	\$11,995
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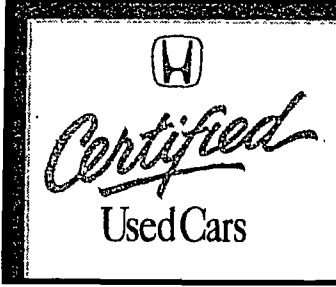


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**Remembrances**

**Simpson, William C.**  
William C. Simpson 85, at rest April 14, 2010 in Park Ridge, IL; beloved husband of Elizabeth (nee Shogren); loving father of James C., Susan Kay (David) Lurty, Victoria (the late Robert) Wolworth and Stephen (Tamara); dear brother of Margaret (James) Rice and Marilyn (Leland) Bailey, cherished grandfather of Wynne, Claudia, Henry and Lee and close friend of Peter, William was a U.S. Army veteran serving in World War II and fought in the Battle of the Bulge, he was former member of Toastmasters Club, American Abrasive Society and the Illini Down Streamers Canoe Club, Bill loved being around his family telling jokes, sharing stories and enjoying a game of chess. Family receiving guests Friday, April 23, 2010 from 4:00-8:00 p.m. at Dieterle Memorial Home, 1120 Broadway Montgomery, IL 60538. Funeral Service Saturday 10:00 a.m. at the funeral home; interment River Hills Cemetery Batavia, IL. In lieu of flowers, all memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or the World War II Illinois Veterans Memorial, 1441 Monument Ave., Springfield, IL 62702  
[www.dieterlememorialhome.com](http://www.dieterlememorialhome.com)  
Dieterle Memorial Home (630) 897-1196  
Sign Guestbook at [legacy.pioneerlocal.com](http://legacy.pioneerlocal.com)

**Martin, Sue Ann (Savage)**  
Sue Ann (Savage) Martin, 50, died after a short illness on April 9 in Lebanon, NH. She was born October 7, 1959, a 1977 graduate of Maine South High School, completed her undergraduate degree at Indiana University in 1981, was married at Park Ridge Community Church, December, 1981. After living briefly in Valparaiso, IN, she relocated to Concord, NH, in 1987. She earned a master's degree in education and was working as a elementary school teacher. Sue Ann was predeceased by her father, Dr. Robert Savage. She is survived by her husband, Thomas E. Martin; her three children, Chelsea Margaret, Kelly Marie, and Robert Tellis; her mother, Barbara Savage-Fraser; and her three brothers, Thomas Savage, Douglas Savage, and William Savage. Donations may be made in her memory to the Sue Ann Martin Scholarship Fund, c/o Merrimack County Savings Bank, P.O. Box 2826, Concord, NH, 03302.  
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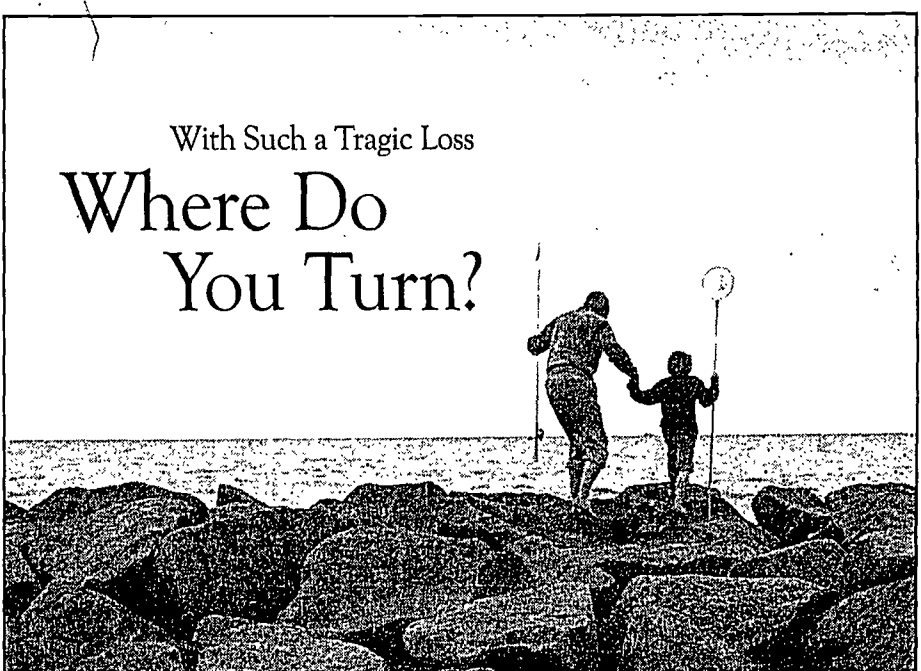
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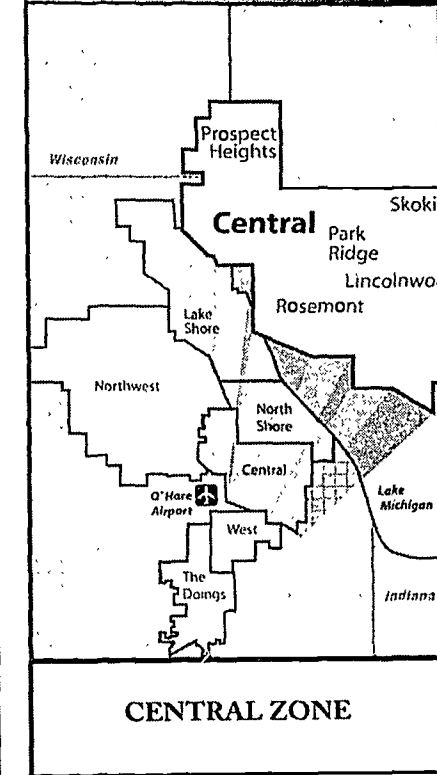
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1-773-973-2151 CALL ALEX Electrical, Carpentry, Painting & All Other Repairs

## FENCING

**DAREK & SONS**  
Affordable Home Remodel Kitchens, Baths, etc. Ins. Ref. avail 847-219-4020

**LANDSCAPE/NURSURIES**  
ALWAYS CUTTING LAWN SERVICE - Clean-Ups Weekly Service, Aeration Fertilizing 847-361-9222

**DIRT CHEAP TREE SERVICE**  
Tree Removal, Trimming, Stump Removal, Insured Free estimates 847-465-1503/224-595-8262

**T & L LANDSCAPING**  
Complete Landscape Service Free Estimates • 847-640-0591

**LIGHT HAULING**  
RED'S HAULING SERVICE Complete Clean out Service 847-409-4860

**WWW.ABLEREMOVAL.COM**  
Basements, Attics, Apts, etc. 24-7 SVC 847-338-0588

**MOVERS (LICENSED)**  
Illinois law requires movers to be licensed by the Illinois Commerce Commission. The CC number and respective business license must appear in the advertisement in this column. Licensed movers must have insurance on file. For more information, contact the Illinois Commerce Commission

**GRZIK ROOFING, INC.**  
Residential Spec. for 99 yrs. 773-286-3992

**TILE**  
MR. GROUT 847-359-4156 REPAIR - CAULK BATHROOM REMODELS TILE/MARBLE INSTALLS EUROPEAN CRAFTSMAN

**TREE TRIMMING**  
MR. GROUT 847-359-4156 REPAIR - CAULK BATHROOM REMODELS TILE/MARBLE INSTALLS EUROPEAN CRAFTSMAN

**DIRT CHEAP TREE SERVICE**  
Tree Removal, Trimming, Stump Removal, Insured Free estimates 847-465-1503/224-595-8262

**TUCKPOINTING**  
1-847-679-7860 NEHMUS CONSTRUCTION General Contractors 24 Yrs.

## KITCHEN & BATHS

**PAINTING/PAPERING/DECORATING**  
A1 FRITZ & SON PAINTING Int/Ext - Free Est. Wallpaper 1-847-299-1005 1-847-222-0589

**COLORS BY MARC**  
DECORATING SOLUTIONS Specializing in Painting Kitchen Cabinets, Int/Ext. For Free Color Consultation and Estimate Call Marc at (847) 679-1534

**PLASTERING**  
Drywall, Plaster, Water and Mold Repairs. Insured Dous: 708-453-5921

**AFFORDABLE REPAIRS**  
By Retired Plumber Fully Insured Lic. #055-020762 Cell 708-814-6755 - 847-674-1584

**REMODELING**  
10% OFF ALL REMOD. THROUGH MAY 31ST @AAA QUALITY @ CALL JIM 773-699-6100

**ROOFING**  
GRZIK ROOFING, INC. Residential Spec. for 99 yrs. 773-286-3992

**MR. GROUT**  
847-359-4156 REPAIR - CAULK BATHROOM REMODELS TILE/MARBLE INSTALLS EUROPEAN CRAFTSMAN

**MIKE'S WINDOW CLEANING**  
Power Wash-Gutter Cleaning Free Est. 847-296-3089

## TUCKPOINTING

**BIL Construction Inc.**  
Tuckpointing • Masonry (773) 501-6080

**ATMIKWAY.com**  
Tuckpointing/Brick/Masonry 847-965-2146

**C. CELINSKI Tuckpointing**  
Brick, Work, Pressure Wash, Walls & Chimneys Repair/Rebuild, Lintel Replacement Lic. - Ins. - Free Est. 847-724-5446 773-282-9495

**COAST TO COAST CO.**  
Tuckpointing • Brickwork Chimneys • Glass Block Wind All Types of Masonry Work Free Est/Lic/Ins 847-438-9165

**O J K TUCKPOINTING & MASONRY REPAIRS**  
Chimneys Repaired, Rebuilt, Re-lined • Free Est/Full Ins 847-965-6316

**EDGEBROOK Tuckpointing & Mason Repair**  
Since 1949 Free Est. Ins. 773-774-0722

**HAWK MASONRY**  
Brick & Chimney Repair & Rebuilds • Tuckpointing Chemical Cleaning Free Est. 847-975-2305

**WINDOW WASHING**  
MIKE'S WINDOW CLEANING Power Wash-Gutter Cleaning Free Est. 847-296-3089

## TUCKPOINTING

**TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD**  
CALL 847-998-3400

Answers to Super Crossword

Grid of crossword puzzle answers including CARL BUZZ BUTTE SRA, AGEE EPEE ARNESS STEM, STPAULS ARCHITECT HUGE, ASONG LOU SHA IRIS, ELLA SWAN ELANDS, MERRY ESCAPADE WELTY, ORE STAN LEEK DOFF, MACAW ISABEL OSLO ARF, SAP STL AMATI JBAR, EPHRON HOB ELAN ORNE, ARAL LOSECOURAGE VICE, LOPE ITEM ARC ENRICO, STAY CREAM NOB SEA, OIL PEEK ABSURD FLAME, CEDE SARI RAID LAW, LEASE LIFTING DEVICE, SEXTON TOFU SEMI, DUCT UTA RHO METAL, RATE SITCOM FAMILY NAME, IVOR AROUSE LOVE NOON, PER EMDEN FOYT ASST

SEEK EMPLOYMENT CHILD CARE

Any person regularly providing child care for more than three unrelated children under age 12 is subject to licensing by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. The number counted includes the family's own children under age 12. If you are unsure whether any person listed here is subject to licensing, please contact your local DCFS office.

The Doings and Pioneer Press Newspapers

SEEK EMPLOYMENT ELDER CARE

Caregiver available. Come & Go or 24/7 live-in. Best price. All Loc's. No Fees. English. Bonded/Insured 708-672-2580

SEEK EMPLOYMENT HOUSEHOLD

JENNY'S AGENCY Babysitters, Caregivers, Housekeepers. Live In/Out. Certified and Bonded. 847-337-6469/847-459-0565

The Doings and Pioneer Press Newspapers

DES MOINES PUBLIC SCHOOLS MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL 12 Month Contract Salary Range: \$87,620-94,831 Competitive Benefits Package

Des Moines Public Schools is conducting an open search for a middle school principal. The district is searching for an extraordinary leader to provide leadership to planning, transforming, and managing a school into an excellent learning environment where all students can achieve at high levels.

- HIGHLY PREFERRED: Knowledge of secondary education. PRINCIPAL COMPETENCIES: Principals must demonstrate additional competencies that are critical to succeeding in a comprehensive secondary school.

Go to Career Opportunities on the Des Moines Public School District's web site www.dmps.k12.ia.us for more details.

Individuals possessing all of the above qualifications and characteristics must submit a letter of interest and resume by 4pm on May 12 to Twyla Woods, Chief of Staff & Student Affairs, Des Moines Public School District, 901 Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309, or fax to 515-242-8251.

FIND YOUR PERFECT PET IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

Sales Full-Time, Part-Time, Seasonal & Year-Round Positions. Nationally recognized general contractor seeking talented individuals in all departments of our rapidly growing Schaumburg office.

SEEK EMPLOYMENT ELDER CARE Seeking Personal In-Home Employment. Flexible work including local errands and household help.

JENNY'S AGENCY Babysitters, Caregivers, Housekeepers. Live In/Out. Certified and Bonded.

SEEK EMPLOYMENT ELDER CARE Pursuant to the Business Opportunity Sales Law of 1975, every business opportunity must be registered with the Illinois Securities Department.

HELP WANTED FULL TIME ACCOUNT SERVICE MANAGER Mature, hard-working, responsible team player needed for outside and inside sales involving home improvement and construction.

BE YOUR OWN BOSS MENARDS is looking for an Aggressive & responsible person with a Class "A" CDL to OWN & OPERATE their own delivery truck and to deliver materials.

meijer NEW MEIJER STORE Opening Soon in Orland Park! TEAM MEMBER OPENINGS: Grocery Department • Meat Department • Bakery Department • Deli Department • Utility Clerk

HELP WANTED FULL TIME HEALTHCARE & NURSING Attention Healthcare Advertisers: Let local healthcare professionals know about Healthcare & Nursing positions available within your company by taking advantage of some economical employment packages.

HELP WANTED FULL TIME BE YOUR OWN BOSS To advertise please contact Sandy Gilbert at (630) 978-8225 or sgilbert@stng.com

meijer NEW MEIJER STORE Opening Soon in Orland Park! TEAM MEMBER OPENINGS: Grocery Department • Meat Department • Bakery Department • Deli Department • Utility Clerk

HELP WANTED FULL TIME ASSISTANT STORE MANAGER Consistent growth and excellent staying power has made Marshalls the largest off-price retailer of apparel and home fashions in the United States.

HELP WANTED FULL TIME INSIDE & OUTSIDE SALES POSITIONS Seeking sales individuals to work inside retail locations or contacting small businesses.

Marshall's www.marshallsonline.com TX is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to work/life diversity

STANDARD BANK MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATORS WANTED Join one of Chicagoland's fastest growing, locally-owned community banking groups headquartered in the southwest suburbs.

HELP WANTED FULL TIME CANVASSEER NEEDED Make up to \$1000 a wk! Start Immediately! Call 430-227-1111 or email info@home remodeling.com

HELP WANTED FULL TIME HOUSEKEEPER Norwood Crossing is Reshaping Aging(tm) and we are looking for Housekeepers to join the team.

HELP WANTED FULL TIME BUYING ASSISTANT Black Art Materials, an international distributor of Art Materials Products has an immediate opening for a Buying Assistant in Highland Park.

HELP WANTED FULL TIME REGIONAL RUNS OTR Tanker Freight Limited Positions Available! Great pay & benefits. Pa, orientation, assigned trucks, fuel card, PrePass.

HELP WANTED FULL TIME MANAGER TRAINEE Great benefits and earning potential. Career opportunities available upon completion of training program.

HELP WANTED FULL TIME BUYING ASSISTANT Black Art Materials, an international distributor of Art Materials Products has an immediate opening for a Buying Assistant in Highland Park.

HELP WANTED FULL TIME MYSTERY SHOPPERS Earn up to \$150/day. Shoppers needed to judge retail & dining exp. not req. 800-307-3349.

HELP WANTED FULL TIME PERSONAL / ADMINISTRATIVE ASST Exd. Proven exp with sensitive and confidential matters required. Must have exp with MS office products.

HELP WANTED FULL TIME BUYING ASSISTANT Black Art Materials, an international distributor of Art Materials Products has an immediate opening for a Buying Assistant in Highland Park.

2010 STAFFING SYMPOSIUM Building the World-Class Recruiting Organization DATE: May 13, 2010 STAFFING SYMPOSIUM 7:45 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD CALL 847-998-3400









# PIONEER PRESS

## YOUR LOCAL SOURCE

# Garage Sale Guide

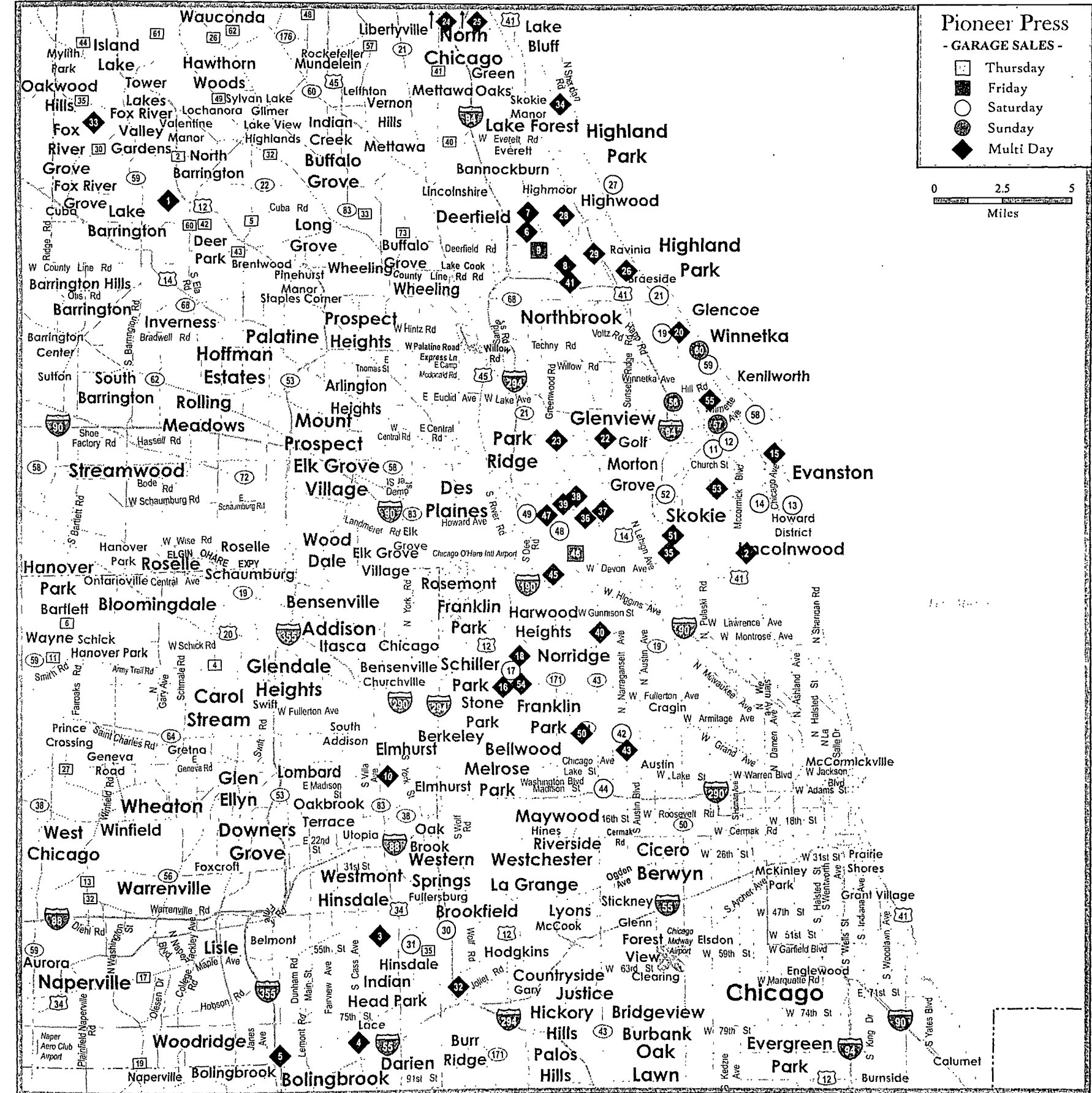
# PIONEER PRESS

## YOUR LOCAL SOURCE

# Garage Sale Guide

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>BARRINGTON</b>				
1 575 Christopher Dr		9am to 4pm		
<b>CHICAGO</b>				
2 6714 N. Mozart				
<b>CLARENDON HILLS</b>				
3 27 Oxford Avenue			8am to 4pm	8am to 4pm
<b>DARIEN</b>				
4 1209 Champman Court				
5 Woodward				
<b>DEERFIELD</b>				
6 1327 Greenwood Ave				
7 1542 Woodbine Ct		8:30am to 4pm	8:30am to 4pm	
8 164 Oakmont Dr		9:30am to 3:30pm	9:30am to 3:30pm	
9 934 Osterman Ave				
<b>ELMHURST</b>				
10 582 S. Fairview		8am to 4pm	8am to 4pm	8am to 4pm
<b>EVANSTON</b>				
11 2308 Prospect Ave				
12 2400 & 2500 Lawndale			9am to 1pm	
13 618 Sheridan Square			8am to 3pm	
14 653 Wesley				
15 827 Gaffield Pl			8am to 4pm	8am to 4pm
<b>FRANKLIN PARK</b>				
16 2837 Hawthorne		9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm	
17 3342 Calwagner St.			9am to 12pm	
18 9504 Nichols		10am to 5pm	10am to 5pm	10am to 5pm
<b>GLENCOE</b>				
19 355 Brookside			9am to 3pm	
20 515 Oakdale				
21 999 Green Bay Rd			9am to 2pm	
<b>GLENVIEW</b>				
22 1766 Culver		9am to 3pm	9am to 3pm	
23 429 Lotus Ln	9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm	
<b>GURNEE</b>				
24 1988 Liberty Lane			6pm to 9pm	
25 5328 Grand Ave			10am to 5pm	
<b>HIGHLAND PARK</b>				
26 1000 Marion Ave.			9am to 3pm	
27 151 Edgecliff Dr.			9am to 2pm	
28 1706 Sunnyside Ave		9am to 2pm	9am to 2pm	
29 584 Barbary Rd.		9am to 5pm	9am to 5pm	
<b>HINSDALE</b>				
30 318 Springlake			9am to 2pm	

31 532 W. Eighth St			8am to 3pm	
<b>INDIAN HEAD PARK</b>				
32 6501 Pontiac Dr.		9am to 1pm	9am to 1pm	
<b>LAKE BARRINGTON</b>				
33 18 Rivers Bend Dr.				
<b>LAKE FOREST</b>				
34 210 N. Western Ave		9am to 5pm	9am to 5pm	
<b>LINCOLNWOOD</b>				
35 6715 Nokomis			9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm
<b>NILES</b>				
36 7747 N. Oriole			9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm
37 7939 N. Neva			9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm
38 8100 W. Monroe			9am to 3pm	9am to 3pm
39 8240 Monroe St			8am to 3pm	8am to 12pm
<b>NORRIDGE</b>				
40 4345 N Nottingham				
<b>NORTHBROOK</b>				
41 239 Elm Ct		9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm	
<b>OAK PARK</b>				
42 1112 Fair Oak			8:30am to 1:30pm	8am to 3pm
43 632 N Ridgeland			8am to 3pm	
44 732 South Wenonah Ave				
<b>PARK RIDGE</b>				
45 1011 Frances			9am	8am to 4pm
46 126 Gillick				8am to 4pm
47 1421 Cynthia				
48 260 N Northwest Hwy			9:30am to 1pm	
49 914 Park Plaine			9am to 5pm	
<b>RIVER FOREST</b>				
50 1400 Ashland Ave				
<b>SKOKIE</b>				
51 5019 Jarlath		9am to 6pm	9am to 6pm	9am to 6pm
52 8451 Lockwood			8am to 4pm	
53 8635 N Hamlin		9am to 5pm	9am to 5pm	
54 9517 Schiller		9am to 3pm	9am to 3pm	
<b>WILMETTE</b>				
55 2134 Chestnut			9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm
56 3223 Sprucewood Rd			9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm
57 410 Ridge Rd			9am to 5pm	
58 618 Washington Ave			8am to 2pm	
<b>WINNETKA</b>				
59 485 Maple St			8am to 2pm	
60 860 Summit St.				





AUCTIONS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE TO BE HELD AT THE LOCK UP SELF STORAGE... 3840 Devon Ave., Lincolnwood, IL 60472

AUCTIONS

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISED STATUTES... PARAGRAPH 301, ET. SEQ.

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U-HAUL STORAGE AUCTION 2010 758078 Westside NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISED STATUTES...

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U-HAUL STORAGE AUCTION 2010 758061 Uptown NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISED STATUTES...

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U-HAUL STORAGE AUCTION 2010 758021 Parkview NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISED STATUTES...

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U-HAUL STORAGE AUCTION 2010 758059 Lincoln Park NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISED STATUTES...

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U-HAUL STORAGE AUCTION 2010 758075 Fortress NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISED STATUTES...

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BID NOTICES

VILLAGE OF SKOKIE NOTICE TO BIDDERS The Village of Skokie is now accepting sealed bids for CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW CTA YELLOW LINE

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LIENS

LIENS PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given that on 5/15/2010 at 9:00AM, a sale will be held at the court...

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State of Illinois In The Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois Probate Division

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There's a great job out there. It may even be in here. Pioneer Press and Monster now work together. www.pioneerlocal.com/monster

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BID NOTICE
Community Consolidated School District 64, 144 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, IL, will accept bids for verographic paper and specifications for the Board Office, 164 South Prospect Avenue, Park Ridge, IL 60068. Bids are due and will be publicly opened and read on Tuesday, May 25, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. Bidders are invited to attend the opening but their presence is not required.

District to Adopt New Policy Manual
Norridge School District Board of Education has completed its policy manual development project and will vote to adopt a new district policy manual at its meeting, Tuesday, May 4, 2010.

RESOLUTION ASCERTAINING THE PREVAILING RATE OF WAGES FOR LABORERS, WORKMEN AND MECHANICS EMPLOYED ON PUBLIC WORKS
WHEREAS, the State of Illinois has enacted an Act Regulating wages of laborers, mechanics and other workers employed in any public works by the state, county, city or any public body or any political subdivision...

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
MILWAUKEE COUNTY
MARVIN A. ZETLEY
870 N. Port Washington Road, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53217
Plaintiff,

SUPERVISOR'S STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS ROAD & BRIDGE FUND
I, Thomas Lupo, Supervisor of Norwood Park Township, Cook County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2009, and ending March 31, 2010.

REVENUES
Property Tax 110,388.20
Replacement Tax 5,883.70
Interest Income 502.75
Miscellaneous Income 32.52
Traffic Citations 1,111.41
TOTAL REVENUES: 117,618.58

EXPENDITURES
Administration 17,804.67
Audit Insurance
Social Security & Medicare Maintenance 97,471.90
TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 115,476.57

ENDING BALANCE, MARCH 31, 2009 434,931.44
The amount of tax levied preceding year 190,846.41
The amount of property tax collected: 110,388.20
The Supervisor shall, within 30 days before the annual town meeting, prepare and file this report with the Township Clerk.

ENDING BALANCE, APRIL 1, 2009 432,789.43
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OF ILLINOIS, THAT AN AMENDED BUDGET FOR SAID SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2009 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2010 IS BEING FILED AND CONVENIENTLY AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, 6950 EAST PRAIRIE ROAD, LINCOLNWOOD, ILLINOIS FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY AND AFTER THE 30TH OF APRIL, 2010.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 74 IN COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS.

PRESIDENT/SECRETARY
Pub: 429/10 (1763661)C

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
MILWAUKEE COUNTY
MARVIN A. ZETLEY
870 N. Port Washington Road, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53217
Plaintiff,

MARIO PAPPAS,
8536 Oleander Avenue, Morton Grove, IL 60053
Defendant.

THAT STATE OF WISCONSIN, County of Cook, Pappas named above as a Defendant.

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written answer, as that term is used in chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes. Complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the required district policies or the answer must be sent or delivered to the court whose address is Clerk of Court of Milwaukee County Wisconsin Milwaukee County Courthouse 901 N. 9th Street Milwaukee, WI 53233

SELL YOUR CAR FAST WITH A CLASSIFIED AD. CALL 847-998-3400

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
MILWAUKEE COUNTY
MARVIN A. ZETLEY
870 N. Port Washington Road, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53217
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Public Notices section containing various notices from different districts and organizations.

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Pioneer Press Classified Auto Dealer Directory

Advertisement for Pioneer Press Classified Auto Dealer Directory featuring car listings for Acura, Hyundai, Hummer, Infiniti, Jaguar, and others. Includes contact information for various dealerships and a large image of an Audi S5 Cabriolet.







RESURRECTION COLLEGE PREP HIGH SCHOOL

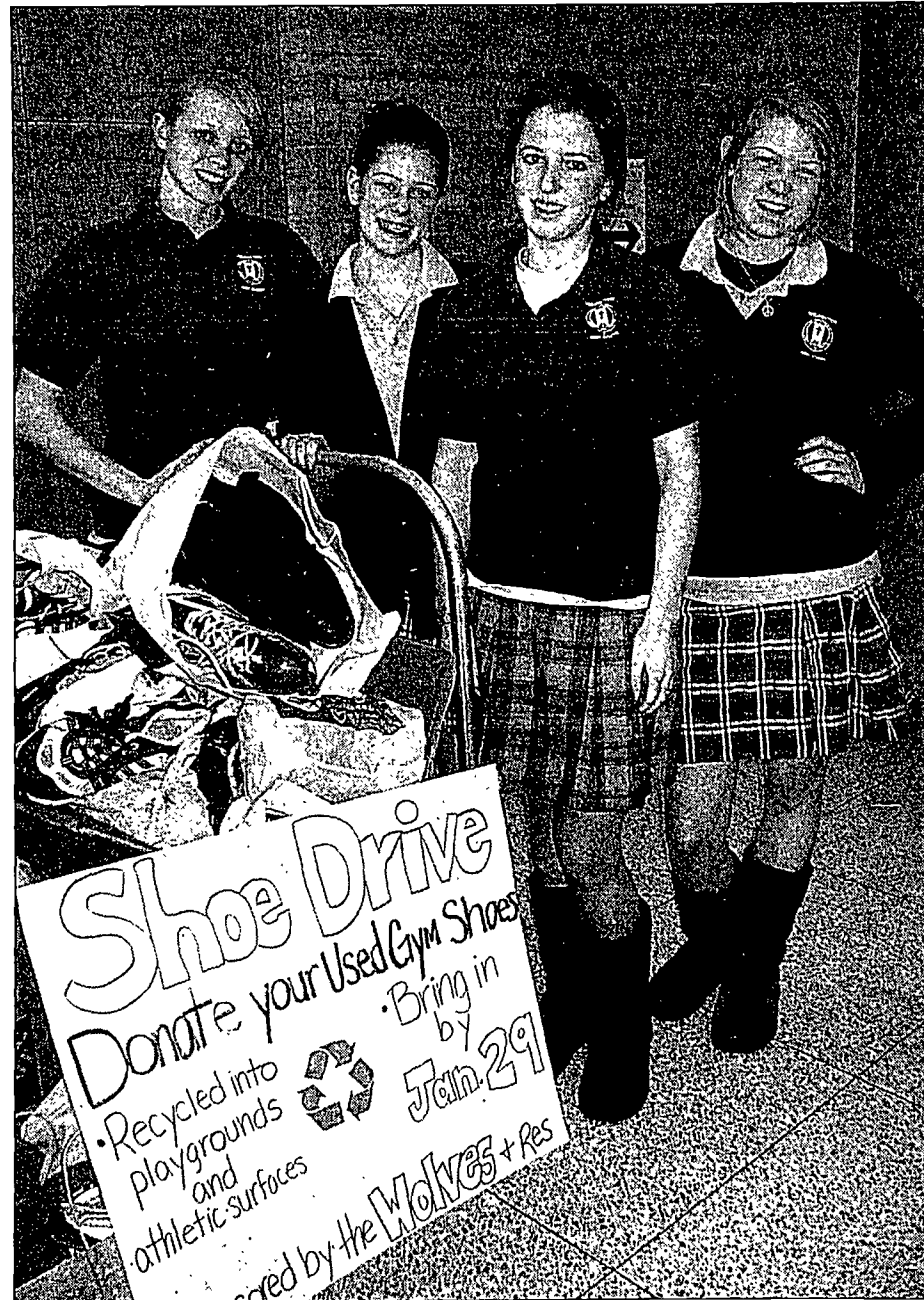
# Go Green Club promotes environmental efforts

The Go Green Club at Resurrection College Prep High School, launched during the current school year, promotes environmental efforts within the school and the community.

The club began its activities by selling spring bulbs for planting last fall and tying club T-shirts. In January and February the club collected more than 300 pairs of used athletic shoes to be recycled into running tracks, playground equipment and sports mats. The club collected the used athletic shoes from students at Resurrection and Notre Dame College Prep High School in Niles. The collection was coordinated in partnership with the Chicago Wolves Hockey Team. The Wolves team sponsored the athletic shoe recycling program in conjunction with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County, who will recycle the soles of the athletic shoes for various uses.

The Resurrection Go Green Club planned activities for Earth Week, which was to be celebrated at Resurrection, April 19 through the past Friday. In conjunction with the Resurrection Science Club, the Go Green Club placed orders for Earth Day T-shirts that students were able to wear on Earth Day on April 22. Thirty percent of the T-shirt sale proceeds were to be donated to the World Wildlife Fund in support of endangered animals. The Go Green Club planned to share information about endangered animals during Earth Week along with other environmental issues: organic farming efforts, ozone layer, destruction of rain forests, effect of landfills, water supply issues and the North Pacific gyre.

Each officer in the Go Green Club has researched



Michelle Buch, Colleen Santella, Catherine Nelson and Rebecca Wallace, all participate in the Resurrection Go Green Club. (Contributed photo)

and presented information to club members during meetings on various local and global environmental issues. The club officers include co-presidents Michelle Buch and Hilary Podgers, vice president Catherine Nelson, secretary Colleen

Santella, treasurer Ariana Nelson and public relations officer Rebecca Wallace.

The Go Green Club activities have also included making purses out of old newspapers, propagating plants for staff members and decorating flower pots as gifts.

Club members have designated an Environmental Resource section in the Resurrection College Prep High School Library, purchased books for student inspiration, and will be adding native plants to the school's courtyard.

## SCHOOLS DIGEST

### DISTRICT 63

"Jammin' at Gemini," a fundraiser to support the School District 63 Fine Arts Boosters program that is currently raising funds to purchase risers for the students, will be held from 5:30-8 p.m. May 12 at Gemini Junior High School, 8955 Greenwood Ave., Niles. This annual event allows students an opportunity to showcase their talent to the entire community in an outdoor venue, weather permitting. Performances include music from the various band and orchestra sections, songs from the choir, and various scenes performed by the drama classes.

A raffle will be held to assist in the raising of funds. Some of the raffle prizes include: two tickets for Northlight Theater (\$110 value), iPod shuffle, iTunes card (\$50 value), Target gift card (\$50 value) and Pita Inn gift cards (\$20 value each).

Cost is \$2 adult; \$1 student; \$10 family; kids under 4 are free.  
Call (847) 827-1181 for more information.

### MAINE EAST

Maine East High School senior Abigail Medrano took second place in the 2010 Shakespeare Competition held at Roosevelt University on Feb. 24. Students from 24 high schools competed by reciting a monologue from a Shakespearean play as well as a sonnet. Medrano, who won \$500, advanced to the contest after participating in Maine East's Shakespeare Recitation Contest on Feb. 16.

### MAINE SOUTH

Members of Maine South High School's Martial Arts Club recently competed in the World Tang Soo Do Association Region 5 Tournament in Flint, Mich. The following took home metals: **Mario Raines**, first place Sparring and second place Forms; **Jason Freeman**, first place Forms; **Lindsey Zawila**,

first place Forms; **Jimmy Kulka**, second place Sparring and third place Forms; **Andrew Delacy**, third place Forms; and **Michelle Maggiore**, third place Forms.

### REGINA DOMINICAN

The Regina Dominican High School drama department will present "Charlotte's Web" at 7 p.m. tomorrow and 2:30 p.m. Sunday in the Regina Dominican Auditorium. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for students. A family special rate is available at \$20 for two adults and the children with them. A special schools performance will take place at 10 a.m. tomorrow. Admission is \$8 for children and complimentary for chaperones. For more information, visit [www.rdhs.org](http://www.rdhs.org).

The entire student body at Regina Dominican High School participated in Wellness Day: Discovering Your Best Self April 16. Wellness Day is an informative all-day event where volunteer presenters come to campus to share their time, talent and expertise with the Regina community.

This year, over 35 presenters (including 11 alumnae) met with students throughout the day, sat in on keynote panels and engaged their audiences with real life experiences on "Discovering Your Best Self." Topics included healthy relationships, the positive impact of therapy and self-esteem, happiness, yoga, fitness, college life transitions, nutrition, success with stress and female empowerment.

Freshman, Charlotte Griffith, said of the day, "I thought it was great. I really liked the yoga, it was a lot of fun and relaxing." Colleen Morris, Freshman, also thought the day was enjoyable, "I liked the female empowerment session, my whole class thought it was great."

After the event, students used the last period of the day to process the day's experiences and consider up-

Digest, PAGE 27

## Calendar

Continued from PAGE 23

Washington St. Park Ridge, continues the "Catholics Returning Home" series for Catholics who have been away from the church. It includes informal listening sessions and an update of the Catholic faith at 10 a.m. Sundays through May 23. No matter how long someone has been away and no matter what the reason, all are invited. Call (847) 692-6025.

**Messiah Lutheran Church**, 1605 Vernon Ave., Park Ridge, holds a Christian-education hour at 9 a.m. each Sunday, with worship service at 10:15 a.m. During the hour, Sunday school is in church parsonage: children from preschool-sixth grade welcome. Child-care services are available during worship. Call (847) 823-6984.

**St. John Brebeuf Adoration Chapel** in the Parish Ministry Center, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for spiritual devotion, prayers and meditation. Call (847) 966-8145.

**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 nonmembers are welcome. Call (847) 675-4141, or go to [www.ehnt.org](http://www.ehnt.org).

### Reunions

Alumni from Taft High School Class of 1970 are sought for a 40th class reunion Sept. 25 at the LaGrange Country Club featuring Dick Biondi. Visit [1970taftreunion.com](http://1970taftreunion.com).

**Metro High School** (Chicago Public High School for Metropolitan Studies) is having an all-year Reunion June 25-June 27 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, McCormick Place, in Chicago. Friday evening: Hospitality suite and music in hotel bar by Metro alumni; Saturday, 1:30-4:30 p.m. MetroPalooza, an event detailing the history of Metro (a non-traditional school) and its effect on current and future education, followed by a banquet at 6:30 p.m. Sunday morning activities to be announced. Guests of honor are Principals Nathaniel Blackman and Nina Robinson. All Metro students, faculty, staff, family and friends are invited. Fee is \$125. Register online or pay by check. Go to [chicagometroreunion.org](http://chicagometroreunion.org) to register. For more details, e-mail Blythe Olshan-Findley at [metroreunion@comcast.net](mailto:metroreunion@comcast.net) or call (708) 409-5009.

**Our Lady of Ransom** Parish of Niles will hold an All-Grad Alumni Night June 26 in Paluch Hall, 8300 N. Greenwood Ave., Niles. All former OLR School alumni are invited to attend an evening of reminiscing. Light refreshments will be served. For ticket(s) and/or information, contact the Ministry Center at (847) 823-2550, or e-mail the parish at [ofralumni@att.net](mailto:ofralumni@att.net).

**Elmwood Park High School** Class of 1970 plans a 40th reunion from 6-11 p.m. Oct. 2 at Russell's Barbecue Restaurant, 1621 N. Thatcher Ave., Elmwood Park. Cost is \$30 per person for

all-inclusive buffet dinner. Send checks to: Christine Cowan, P.O. Box 1662, Deerfield IL 60015, by Sept. 1. Contact Christine Thomas Cowan, [cowan@sbccglobal.net](mailto:cowan@sbccglobal.net), or Janice Ryden Deaton, [deaton\\_janice@yahoo.com](mailto:deaton_janice@yahoo.com).

**All St. Christopher School** (Midlothian) alumni are invited to an all-alumni reunion to be held in conjunction with the parish "Spring-Fling of Midlothian 2010" on May 1. The evening will begin with a reception in the school at 5 p.m. for alumni and their families. At 6 p.m., alumni will proceed to their reserved seating in the parish hall where they can enjoy dinner, dessert, and open bar. Following dinner, there will be music and dancing, along with raffles and a live and silent auction with many prizes. The following classes are organizing class reunions at this event: Classes of 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990. Cost is \$24 in advance or \$30 at the door for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under. Tickets may be purchased via mail or in person at the parish office at 4130 W. 147th St., Midlothian IL 60445. For the latest information, visit [www.stchrisalumni.org](http://www.stchrisalumni.org), e-mail [info@stchrisalumni.org](mailto:info@stchrisalumni.org), or call (708) 388-8190.

**Niles East High School** Class of 1960 is holding a 50-year reunion Oct. 1-3 at the Lincolnshire Marriott. See [www.niles1960.com](http://www.niles1960.com).

**Roosevelt High School** Class of 1975 is having a 35th reunion July 10 at the Fountain Blue in Des Plaines. Contact information should be e-mailed to [rhst1975@yahoo.com](mailto:rhst1975@yahoo.com).

**St. John Brebeuf School** in Niles is looking for graduates from the class of 1964. Contact Libby Ryder at [ryder@sjbschool.org](mailto:ryder@sjbschool.org).

**St. John Brebeuf** is looking for all St. John Brebeuf School alumni. Alumni should contact Libby Ryder, (847) 966-3266, or e-mail [ryder@sjbschool.org](mailto:ryder@sjbschool.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.

### 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](http://www.maine-township.com).

**The following Day Trips** are currently on sale. All Day Trips depart from Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles, unless otherwise noted. Join the MaineStreamers for a trip to see "Cinderella" at the Fireside Theatre, Ft. Atkinson, Wis., on May 6 from 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Cost is \$87 for members and \$92, guests, a "Level 1" trip. Participants will enjoy Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical adaptation of one of the world's most enduring love stories. A meal will be served before the show and the menu will include

pasta, a deli salad, lean pork back ribs and breast of skinless chicken dipped in an egg batter, and a baked potato filled with broccoli buds in a cheese sauce. Dessert will be pumpkin ginger caramel flan.

**Seniors are also invited** to see *Bobby Vinton* live in concert at Drury Lane, Oak Brook, on May 10 from 10:45 a.m.-5 p.m. This trip is also rated "T" and costs \$76 for members, \$81, guests: Everyone will start their included meal with a Caesar salad followed by a choice (through registration) of pike Francais with lemon sauce and capers, chicken Provençal with spinach and artichokes, sun dried tomatoes and white wine, or prime rib. Dessert will also be served.

**Volunteer drivers** are needed for FISH. If interested in providing transportation to township residents who need local rides to medical appointments, etc., call Gloria Stepek, (847) 297-2510, ext. 283.

**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

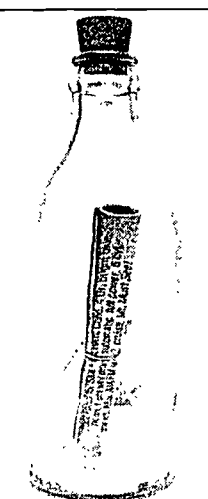
The Niles Senior Center offers free membership to Niles residents age 62 and older, and their spouses. Only center members may register for classes or trips, or purchase tickets. Drop by the Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive, Niles, or call (847) 588-8420, for an application.

### Seniors

Chicago area senior citizens will get a chance to challenge their spelling skills by competing in the Illinois State Senior Spelling Bee. Any one 50 or older is eligible to participate. The Chicago Area Illinois State Senior Spelling Bee contest will be held June 2, beginning with registration at 9 a.m. at the Bernard Horwich Building, 3003 W. Touhy Ave., Chicago. The competition will begin at 10 a.m. Winners will advance to the regional semi-finals and the state finals will be held at the Illinois State Fair on Senior Day, Aug. 16. Those interested in participating must call (773) 508-1073, by May 7, to reserve a place. Space is limited to the first 50 people to RSVP. The Chicago area event is sponsored by CJE SeniorLife, in partnership with the Association of Illinois Senior Centers and the Illinois Department on Aging.

**North Shore Senior Center** has initiated a new Home Delivered Meals Program that serves seniors throughout the north and northwest suburban communities. For those who qualify, it means a hot, healthy lunch delivered every Monday through Friday. The program has attracted a range of volunteer drivers but more are need-

Calendar, PAGE 29



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# Derby dining

## Heartly Louisville sandwich in the running at Arlington

By **SUSAN KANE-PARKER**  
sparker@pioneerlocal.com

America's most prestigious horse race, the Kentucky Derby, run annually at Churchill Downs in Louisville since 1875, is steeped in history and ritual. Those hosting Derby parties on the first Saturday in May often serve traditional items such as mint juleps and Derby pie, but another venerable Kentucky dish, the Hot Brown, is a perfect regional specialty for the occasion.

Developed at The Brown Hotel, an opulent 16-story edifice constructed in 1923 in downtown Louisville, the open-face turkey sandwich was created by chef Fred K. Schmidt to serve to late-night revelers when the hotel's dance band took its midnight break. Over the years the Brown hosted its share of celebrities, including the Duke of Windsor, Elizabeth Taylor, Bing Crosby and Muhammad Ali, especially during Derby week, and the popularity of the Hot Brown soared.

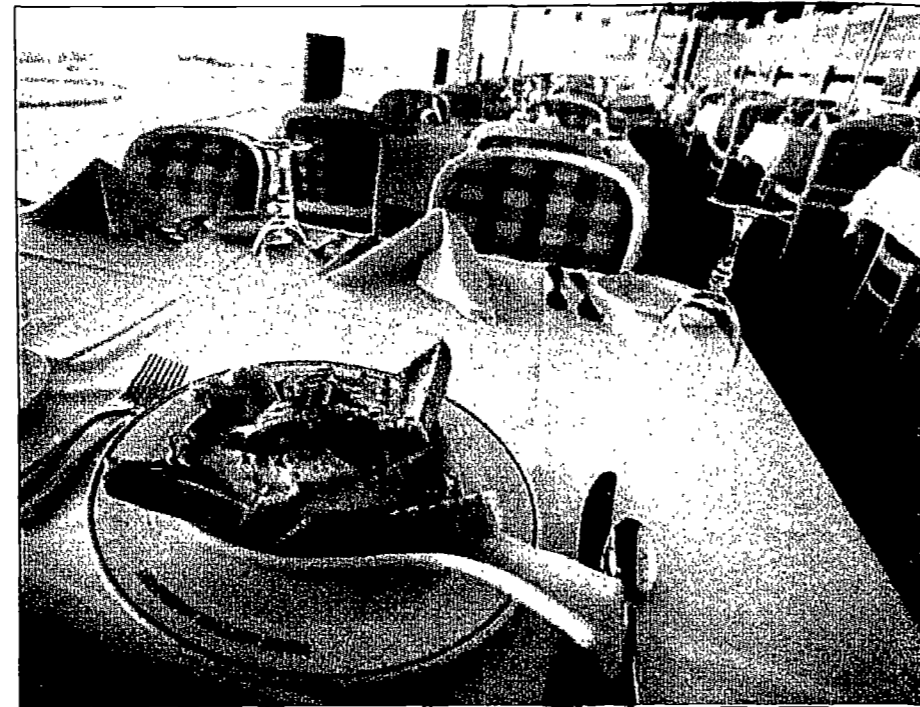
### Race day doings

Arlington Park will serve the Hot Brown on Kentucky Derby day, May 1, in several of its restaurants, including the Million Room, the Turf Club and the sky suites, as part of its "Chicago's Largest Derby Party" celebration. Festivities at the Arlington Heights race-track will include a live racing program, giveaways of official Kentucky Derby mint julep glasses to the first 2,500 people to purchase their tickets online, and a simulcast of the Derby.

Chef Ron Krivosik, vice president of culinary operations for Levy Restaurants, the food service provider for both Churchill Downs and Arlington Park, was part of the team that developed a customized Hot Brown recipe for the tracks.

"It was very tough when we had to go down to research it — we had folks from Chicago who had no idea what a Hot Brown was," Krivosik said.

The group visited The Brown Hotel to sample the original, as well as other venues to taste different versions. Typically, a Hot Brown consists of slices of roasted turkey on toasted bread, layered with a creamy, cheese-infused sauce, and topped with tomato and bacon. The sandwich is then broiled until the top is golden and bubbly. Krivosik and his crew found Hot Browns that featured sliced ham, and one that was very heavily flavored with nutmeg.



Hot Brown, a traditional Kentucky Derby day sandwich, will be available at Arlington Park this year. (Photos by Dan Luedert/Staff Photographer)

### Taste tested

"We used the whole Churchill corporate staff as guinea pigs," he said of the Hot Brown development process.

The Levy chefs also had to make sure Arlington Park chairman Richard L. Duchossois, known by all track employees as Mr. D, was happy with the new product.

"Mr. D, he screams quality, and that's what Levy Restaurants is all about," Krivosik said. "It's a great partnership."

Krivosik will be at Churchill Downs for the Derby this year, as he has been for the past 10 years, "in the heat of the battle," as he describes it. And sadly, he never has time to watch the actual race.

"You work so much, you're so tired and you're down in the kitchen and someone will say, 'Racing's over!' What? We missed the race again!"

But the chef takes comfort in a job well done. "The great thing is, you feed 150,000 people at Churchill and they leave happy, even if they don't pick the winner," he said.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

### Hot Brown Sandwich

4 slices toasted white bread  
8 oz. sliced, roasted turkey  
Mornay sauce (see recipe below)  
4 strips of cooked bacon  
8 wedges of broiled tomato

Place one slice of bread in the bottom of an oven-proof dish. Top the bread with turkey and Mornay sauce, finishing with two strips of bacon crossed on top. Broil under broiler until golden. Make toast points by cutting a second slice of bread into quarters. Garnish by alternating toast points and tomato wedges. Makes two servings.

### Mornay Sauce

3 T butter  
1 tsp. finely chopped onion  
3 T flour  
1 C hot milk  
1 C chicken stock  
1/4 C freshly grated Parmesan cheese  
1 tsp. chopped parsley  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/2 tsp. freshly ground black pepper  
1/4 tsp. nutmeg

Melt butter in a saucepan over medium-low heat; add chopped onion. Cook over low heat until onion has softened. Stir in flour and cook, stirring, until smooth. Gradually add milk, stirring constantly. Add remaining ingredients; cook, stirring, until cheese is melted and sauce is smooth.

## Digest

Continued from PAGE 24

plying what they had learned into their daily lives.

### RESURRECTION

Resurrection College Prep High School, 7500 W. Talcott Ave., Chicago, will host "Ten Thousand Villages," a fair trade international craft supplier, on May 3 and 4 to allow students and school employees to support fair trade workers from around the world.

Ten Thousand Villages brings items from their store in Glen Ellyn and students assist in selling fair trade gift items during lunch periods during the two-day event.

Ten Thousand Villages partners with thousands of talented artisans in healthy business relationships to provide gainful, dignified employment to men and women around the world.

Ten Thousand Villages uses the model often referred to as "fair trade" for poverty alleviation and sustainable development. Its purpose is to create opportunities for producers who have been economically disadvantaged or marginalized by the conventional trading system.

For almost 20 years, Mike Longo, religious studies and fine arts teacher at Resurrection, has annually coordinated a two-day event with Ten Thousand Villages at the school.

Call (773) 775-6616, ext. 129, or see www.reshs.org for more information.

### ST. ANDREWS LUTHERAN

St. Andrews Lutheran School, 260 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, is holding an Open House from 6-8 p.m. May 4.

The school is offering a 50-percent discount on tuition for new families enrolling a student in second through eighth grades.

Those who cannot attend the Open House are asked to call (847) 823-9308 or e-mail schoolinfo@st-andrews.org to arrange a

visit at another time.

For 100 years St. Andrews has been providing a Christ-centered learning environment and outstanding academics for students from preschool through eighth grade. Small class sizes are offered with foreign language instruction, art, music and physical education in every grade.

Visit [www.StAndrewsPR.org](http://www.StAndrewsPR.org).

### ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

The following students were recognized for their Academic Fair projects at St. Paul Lutheran School.

Sixth-graders: **Joe Sienkiewicz**, first place; **Matt Difer** and **Taylor Maretta** (tie), second place; **Kelly Rave**, third place.

Seventh-graders: **Eric Gore**, first place; **Lawson Abramovitz**, second place; **Lydia Zuehsow**, third place.

Eighth-graders: **Audrey Tamulewicz**, first place; **Milijana Marjanovic**, second place; **Will Clarke**, third place.

### ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE

The next session of P.E. for Me after-school athletics for kindergarten and first grade will begin at 2:45 p.m. May 3.

Everybody Rocks rock band lessons are being held after school during Fridays in May (May 7, 14, 21 and 28) from 2:50-3:50 p.m.

Classes are all-inclusive, welcoming all skill and grade levels. Students have the opportunity to experiment on various instruments while learning to play together as a group. The cost is \$80 for all four one-hour sessions. Registration forms are available in the school office.

Beginning in the fall, traditional music lessons for flute, trumpet, saxophone, percussion, clarinet, and other instruments will be offered. Contact the school office for more information.

More details will be posted on the school Web site ([srb-chicago.org](http://srb-chicago.org)) as they become available.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

Officials of the National Merit Scholarship Corpora-

tion released the names of the first group of winners in the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. About 1,000 distinguished high school seniors have won corporate-sponsored National Merit Scholarship awards. Scholars were selected from students who advanced to the Finalist level in the National Merit Scholarship competition and meet criteria of their scholarship sponsors.

Most of these awards are renewable for up to four years of college undergraduate study and provide annual stipends that range from \$500 to \$10,000 per year. Some provide a single payment between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

To be considered for a National Merit Scholarship, Semifinalists had to fulfill requirements to advance to Finalist standing. Each Semifinalist submitted a detailed scholarship application, which included writing an essay, and providing information about extracurricular activities, awards, and leadership positions. Semifinalists also had to have an outstanding academic record, be endorsed and recommended by a school official, and earn SAT scores that confirmed their qualifying test performance.

The following local students were named: **Klaudia Leja** of the Northwest Side of Chicago, a student at Northside College Preparatory High School, is the recipient of the National Merit Harry C. Bates Scholarship. Her probable career choice is biomedical engineering.

**Erin E. McMannon** of the Northwest Side of Chicago, also a student at Northside College Preparatory High School, received the National Merit CNA Foundation Scholarship. Probable career field is law.

**Brent B. Terry-Penak** of Park Ridge, a student at St. Ignatius College Preparatory School in Chicago, was awarded the National Merit CACI Scholarship. His probable career field is mathematics.

Comment:

[www.nmsa.org](http://www.nmsa.org)

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The traditional Derby sandwich known as Hot Brown was adapted for Arlington Park by Chef Ron Krivosik of Levy Restaurants.

# The lines, the wit and the warehouse

By IRV LEAVITT  
ileavitt@pioneerlocal.com

For all the previous workdays of 'The Unemployed,' I have been able to blend in with my fellow laborers.

Not this time. My day as a rehearsal stagehand for the Marriott Theatre's new show made me feel like a Bartlett pear trying to gain entry to a package of celery stalks.

Just picture celery with dancers' legs, ripply abs and perfect butts, and then a pear that stops to consider the pros and cons of picking up a \$5 bill it dropped on the floor.

I've got to start working out.

I had intended to pass the time taking props on and off stage. That soon became pretty unnecessary, as the actors are accustomed to snatching props all by themselves.

They do a better job anyway. Cheryl Avery, a member of the ensemble cast for "The Drowsy Chaperone," performed a high kick each time she swept off with a small bookcase.

I feel a little sore just writing about that.

Marriott does most of its rehearsing in a Buffalo Grove warehouse, with a stage that mimics the real one at the nearby Lincolnshire Marriott Resort, minus the perilous 6-inch step that graces half of the perimeter of the theater's floorboards.

And the theater's nest of lights and "flies" — scenery that runs up and down on pulleys — doesn't hover above the Buffalo Grove stage. So when you look up, you don't get the impression that you're trapped underneath the spaceship that ate New York in "Independence Day."

**Show off**

"Drowsy," running April 28 through June 27, may be the best musical you've never heard of. Its Broadway debut copped five Tony awards in

2006, and it led the league in nominations.

It starts as 'The Man in the Chair' plays a record album from a musical that proceeds to unfold right in his studio apartment.

The show purposely exploits some of the most hackneyed concepts in musicals, as 'The Man' says: "We have a bride who's giving up the stage for love, her debonair bridegroom, a harried producer, jovial gangsters posing as pastry chefs, a flaky chorine, a Latin Lothario and an aviatrix — what we now call a lesbian. And of course, 'The Drowsy Chaperone.'"

Drowsy, of course, means drunk.

So it's both a tribute to American musicals and a send-up of them. As I watched the first day of rehearsals, the play got increasingly funnier. But Shakespeare it ain't.

After the bride maintains "I don't want to show off," she proceeds to do everything from playing the bottles to the splits.

"I like it when we're doing important work," artistic director Andy Hite mugged, deadpan. "Serious theater. Changing lives."

There's little in this play that doesn't satirize something else.

"Kitty (the flaky chorine) is Norma from 'Victor/Victoria,'" director Marc Robin said. "The gangsters are ripped right off of 'Kiss Me Kate.'"

He said my favorite character, the dotty Mrs. Tottendale, has her antecedent in "Me and My Girl," a 1937 English musical restaged in the 1980s.

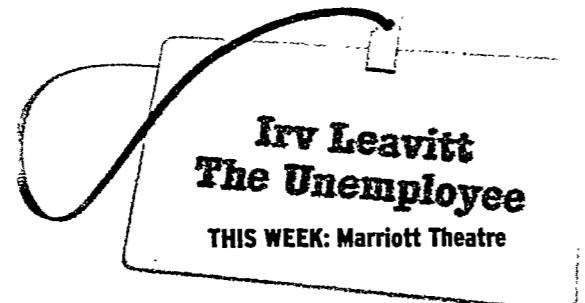
Paula Scrofano tottered comically through the role that day, bouncing most of her addled lines off Underling, a part won by her real husband, John Reeger.

Reeger was laid up with a bad back, however, and I had hoped to take advantage and recite Underling's lines. Acting!

But Mark Johnson, Marriott assistant stage manager, had worked on the



Pioneer Press reporter Irv Leavitt tapes the stage to indicate where props are supposed to go. (Rob Dicker/Staff Photographer)



A Pioneer Press reporter tries someone else's job for a day.  
**PLACE:** Marriott Theatre rehearsal hall  
**WHERE:** 1342 Barclay Road, Buffalo Grove  
**JOB:** Stagehand

Go to [www.pioneerlocal.com/unemployee](http://www.pioneerlocal.com/unemployee) for more photos

same play at the Maine State Music Theatre — where Robin is full-time artistic director — and he actually knew the part.

And Underling sings a lot more than I had thought. Johnson, a former actor, has a trained voice, while the only song I can sing all the way through is "Unchained Melody," and I can't hit the high notes.

So I guess I can't sing any song all the way through.

As the day wore on, Robin choreographed a dance scene on the little stage, involving three women doing grand jetés and pirouettes, followed by two men also leaping around ("Cabriole, cabriole, run, run, run, grand jeté!"), then a couple of other guys doing some significant gymnastics from a third direction, and Tari Kelly, as the

bride, cartwheeling into the middle of it all.

So far, none of them have been killed.

I spent a lot of time looking over the shoulder of my supervisor, stage manager Michael Hendricks. He makes sure the props and scenery are where they're supposed to be when they're supposed to be there.

But the 17 pieces of scenery were back at the theater, and there were only six floor props in use. I taped spots on the stage for them so they would go in the same place all the time, and then watched the play go by for a while, apparently having reached the apex of my own theatrical competence.

**Hair today**

So Hendricks sent me off to the costume department

to do something constructive, perhaps to help Wig Master Mary Schilling-Martin with fittings and to build wigs.

She showed me how to "ventilate," loop strands of hair into a fine mesh wig cap.

Ventilation is done with a prong that has a hook on the end the size of the vas deferens of a tsetse fly.

I took my glasses off, put them back on, looked through the bifocals, took the glasses off again, closed one eye, tried the other eye, and never once saw that little hook.

I was able to snag some hair a couple of times — maybe by sense of smell — but I could never draw it through to knot it.

"You're game," Martin said. "I like that."

She took the little tool away from me. Adam Pelty came in for a fitting. Pelty plays the Latin Lothario, Aldolpho, perhaps the most ridiculous character in a play completely populated by ridiculous characters.

Aldolpho is a charming idiot with a bizarre black bouffant hairdo accented by a white skunk-like stripe. Pictures from the Broadway play show the wig growing during the run to an eventual height of about 6 inch-

es.

Pelty told Martin he'd prefer to start a little smaller and stay that way.

Martin wrapped the hairy part of Pelty's head in Reynolds Foodservice Film, and then covered that in Scotch tape, forming a pattern for a custom wig cap.

She asked me to hold the tape dispenser for her, and I did an excellent job.

Later, I watched costume designer Nancy Missimi and cutter/drafter Diane Hinman fit Pelty for his costume. It had big, billowy, shiny sleeves, 5-inch lapels, striped pants and an iridescent green Rayon vest. And he got a heavy gold-capped cane, which he is required to drop noisily as he trips over his feet.

It gets better. Costume staffer Erin Wuorema and I climbed up to an overhead rack to find Pelty a "practice cape" so he can flourish it and get his head stuck in the folds for comic effect.

"I'm good with a cape, because I did Cyrano (on Broadway)," Pelty said. "Now I've got to learn how to do it wrong."

I revisited Hendricks, who told me his job is complicated at Lincolnshire because the theater is in-the-round, and there are no wings to hide people and props. Actors travel on- and off-stage at four different places, and he has to "block out" — keep track of — where they all come and go, or they won't have their stuff.

The former actor has been stage manager 30 years, blocking out musicals that run about nine weeks each, and are typically heavily attended by loyal subscribers.

He said he's lucky to work in the theater so long and still have a family that eats regularly.

"I like my job," he said. "There are times when it gets old. But usually when it gets old, you're on to the next one."

I'm hip.

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## Calendar

Continued from PAGE 25

To receive lunches, Maine Township residents must be qualified by NSSC's Social Services Department. There is a suggested donation of \$3 per lunch, although participants can contribute more. The actual cost is \$7. No one is refused service if they cannot afford it. For qualification information, call (847) 784-6040. **Golf Mill Shopping Center** is hosting "Feats of Fitness," a mall walking program Mondays through Saturdays, to enable seniors to walk within an enclosed environment. The program is sponsored by Bethany Terrace, Golf

Mill Shopping Center, Maine Township Mainstreamers and Partners in Healthcare (North Shore Physicians Group). Health seminars and blood pressure screenings will be offered throughout the year every month on the second Wednesday. Call the Golf Mill management office, (847) 699-1070.

**CJE SeniorLife** is accepting applications for its Robineau Residence, 7550 N. Kostner Ave., in Skokie. Robineau offers a residential community composed of 24 affordable units in a one-story building, in a warm, friendly setting designed to serve seniors, 62-years and older, who may need a helping hand. Staff is available on-site, 24 hours a day, in case of emergency. Additional supportive services are available through CJE. Applicants

should qualify for subsidized housing under the provisions of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Section 8 program. An additional monthly service fee is required. Scholarships are available. For an application and tour of Robineau, contact Dorothy Levant at (847) 675-8580.

**The North Shore Senior Center**, located in Northfield, is looking for volunteers to deliver meals to seniors living in Maine Township. Deliveries are made during weekdays. For more information on becoming a volunteer, contact Maura Rogan at (847) 784-6052 or e-mail mrogan@nssc.org. **Super Seniors**, a Jewish Seniors group for people older than 60, meets 3-4:30 p.m. the first and third Sundays at the North Shore University

Health System Skokie Hospital, 9600 Gross Point Road, Skokie. Topics include current events, books, jokes and Israel. Call (847) 583-9328.

**Support**

**Midwest Palliative & Hospice Care Center** grief support groups provide a confidential, supportive environment for adults who are grieving the loss of a loved one, whether by illness or trauma. Groups typically meet for eight weeks and are offered at no charge. Meetings take place at 2050 Claire Court, Glenview. General Loss Support Group: 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, May 5 to June 23; Spouse Loss Support Group: 10-11 a.m. or 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays, May 5 to June 23. Drop-in Support Group: 10:30 a.m.-noon, first and third Fridays of each

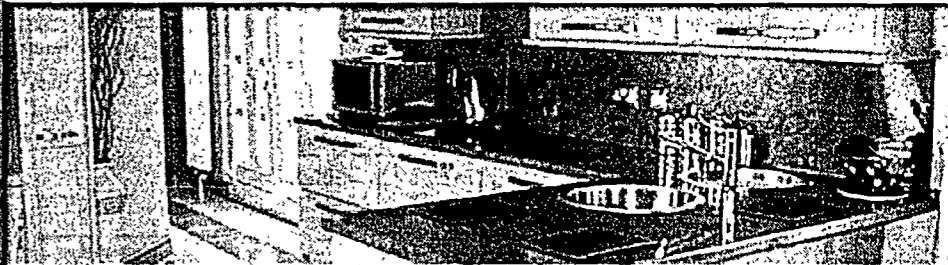
month. Call (847) 556-1777. **The National Alliance on Mental Illness** — Cook County North Suburban invites the public to hear attorney and author L. Mark Russell discuss "Planning for Your Disabled Son or Daughter If You Become Incapacitated or Die." Russell is an expert on trusts, guardianship, and safeguarding children with disabilities. This free program is from 7-8:30 p.m. May 10 at the Knox Center, 9701 N. Knox Ave., Skokie. Call (847) 716-2252 or visit [www.namicns.org](http://www.namicns.org). **Community Reinforcement and Family Training Groups** provide education on early intervention, tools for motivation and self-care techniques for families as they learn new ways to approach a loved one who misuses, abuses or has addictive behaviors

from 6:30-8 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the Serenity Center, 29 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Fee is \$35 per group. Open registration required; contact Barbara DeHart, (708) 536-8775 or e-mail [refnews4@gmail.com](mailto:refnews4@gmail.com). **NorthShore Hospice** will sponsor the following Grief Support Groups: **Grief is Like a River:** An eight-week Grief Support Group Wednesdays from 1:230 p.m., through June 9, at the NorthShore University HealthSystem Home & Hospice Services office, 4901 Searle Parkway, Skokie. This daytime support group is open to anyone who has experienced any type of loss in the last two years. Share the support

Calendar, PAGE 30



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MEN'S TENNIS

Oakton Community College qualified for the NJCAA National Men's Tennis Tournament during the Region IV Tournament...

(Prospect), who placed second at No. 1 singles, and freshman Alex Gohmann (Niles North)...

Elgin on April 15. The duo of Regus and Meerovich were undefeated at No. 2 doubles.

Oakton, which also defeated Olive-Harvey 5-3 on Friday, concluded conference play with doubleheader sweeps over College of Lake County...

batting average (11-for-17), amassing four extra-base hits, six runs, 10 RBIs and two stolen bases in that stretch.

freshmen Chase Litvan (New Trier), Nico Gonzalez (Leyden) and Martin Chavez (Maine West) - scored an impressive second-place finish...

OAKTON ROUNDUP

BASEBALL

Oakton stands as one of the top hitting teams in the nation. The Raiders (34-12-1 overall, 10-5-1 ISCC) held a .358 team batting average...

TRACK AND FIELD

Oakton's men's team finished 15th during the 21-team Outdoor Chicagoland Championships, hosted by the University of Chicago on April 10.

THIS WEEK

MAINE EAST

Today Baseball hosts Glenbrook North, 4:45 p.m. Boys gymnastics at CSL Championships, Niles North, 6:30 p.m. Girls soccer at Maine West, 4:45 p.m.

North, 6:30 p.m. Boys tennis hosts Niles West, 4:30 p.m. Boys water polo hosts Hersey, 5 p.m. Friday Badminton at New Trier (Conf.), 4:30 p.m.

THIS WEEK

MAINE SOUTH

Today Baseball at Evanston, 4:45 p.m. Boys gymnastics CSL Conf. at Niles

Softball at Maine West, 4:45 p.m. Boys volleyball hosts Deerfield, 6 p.m. Boys gymnastics hosts Conf., 6:30 p.m.

THIS WEEK

NOTRE DAME

Today Lacrosse hosts Lincoln Park, 6 p.m. Saturday Baseball at Nazareth, 10 a.m. and noon Lacrosse hosts Warren Township, 10 a.m.



Happy Wolf Niles West's Jennie DiJohn admires her hit during the team's win over CSL South rival Evanston last week.

THIS WEEK

NILES WEST

Today Boys gymnastics Conf. TBD, 10 a.m. Boys tennis at Maine South, 4:30 p.m. Baseball at New Trier, Duke Childs, 4:45 p.m.

REGISTRATION

Softball Libertyville Girls Softball Association (LGSA) Event: local competition of the Major League Baseball's Pitch, Hit, & Run (sponsored by Aquafina).

Despite some close defeats, Demons not discouraged

By BOB GOSMAN Contributor

WATER POLO - Forgive Maine East boys water polo coach Andrew Kittrell if he's as tired as his athletes lately.

After all, he's been pulling double duty.

Kittrell agreed to take over the girls program until early May when Scott Guilfoil returns from a long-planned vacation.

Although neither Blue Demons team is having a lot of success on the scoreboard, Kittrell is not at all deterred.

The boys team had a chance to defeat Maine South on April 20, but the Blue Demons came up one goal short in a 9-8 loss.

"Their speed during the game was a large factor," Kittrell said. "We played them tight and had a lot of fun."

Kittrell said there was nothing his team (4-10) could have done when Maine South's Scott Coyne scored the go-ahead goal.

"I had to stand up and clap; he made a sensational goal," Kittrell said. Kittrell singled out the play of senior Mike Mazur and junior Matt Wiegel.

"Mike's one of the smartest players I've coached," Kittrell said. "He has an intuitive grasp of the game. Mike has great defensive instincts and a powerful shot."

got an untapped source of potential."

Senior Steven Tom has excelled as the 2-meter defender.

"He was good last year, but he's a sensational water polo player this year," Kittrell said. "He's played for all but maybe three minutes of the season. He's been in the water every play of every day."

The girls team (8-12) fell to Maine South on the same night. Even though Maine South won 21-8, the Hawks had no answer for Natalia Bialecka.

"She's one of the finest athletes to come out of this building," Kittrell said. Seniors Caitlyn Weldon and Nicole Tagle also have impressed.

"Those two kids have put in a tremendous amount of effort," Kittrell said. Senior Night for the girls and boys teams will be Thursday against Richards.

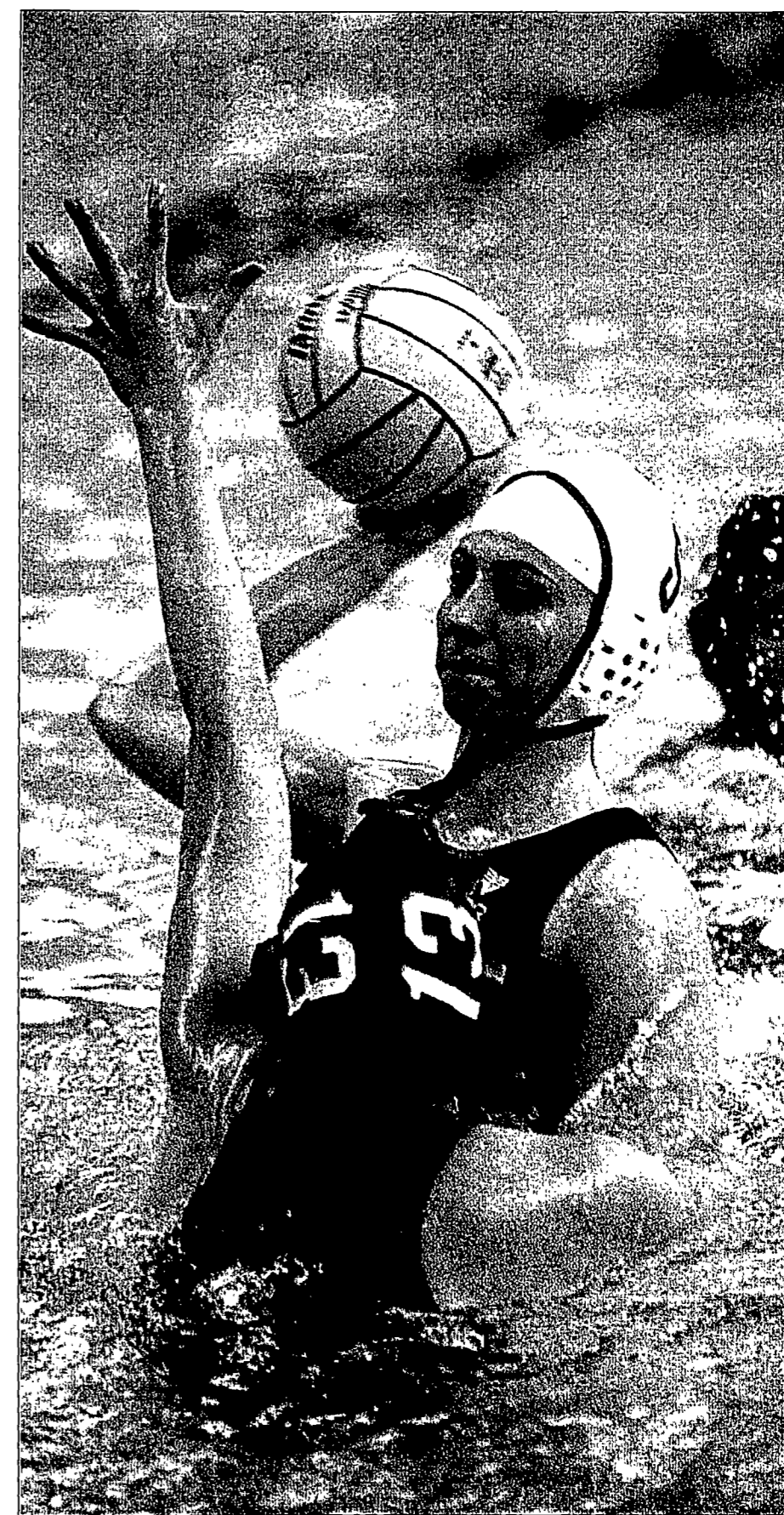
Unsung Hero

Kittrell is effusive in his praise for assistant coach Mehul Amin, who played at Maine East and is a sophomore at Northeastern University.

"He has saved my butt for the last month," Kittrell said with a smile. "I've really enjoyed the chance to work with this young man. In all the years I've been doing this, he's the best assistant I've ever had."

Playoff time

The girls earned the No. 8



Maine East's Natalia Bialecka(5) takes a shot on goal during a 14-11 loss to Highland Park April 22. (Michael Jarecki/for STM)

seed at the Glenbrook South Sectional and open the postseason May 11 against No. 9 Maine West.

The boys landed at No. 9 at Glenbrook South and play No. 8 Maine South on May 10. The winner meets top-

seeded Loyola in the quarterfinals.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

Middle hitter Anis powers Demons to victory

BOYS VOLLEYBALL - Middle hitter Ossama Anis led the Demons to two wins last week as they improved to 9-3 overall.

Maine East beat Fenton 25-18, 25-14 on April 19 to start the week before defeating CSL North rival Niles North 25-16, 19-25, 25-22 on April 21 to even its record to 1-1 in the league.

Anis totaled 17 kills in the two wins. Setter Tim Kim had 41 assists.

The Demons head into the heart of their schedule this week. They play four conference games and travel to two tournaments in the next two weeks.

Maine East softball

After a four-game losing streak in which the Demons were outscored 81-15, Maine East earned a 14-4 win over Prosser on Saturday.

Sam Dosek and Reilly Vohasek each had four hits, and Cara DeBenedictis hit her second homer of the season. Dosek struck out nine to get the win in the circle.

Maine East entered this week 8-9 overall and 1-2 in the CSL North.

Maine East boys track and field

Cyrano Roche highlighted the Demons' trip to Highland Park's invitational Friday.

The senior finished second in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles in 39.671 and placed third in the 110-meter high hurdles in 15.74 as Maine East took seventh in the eight-team field with 31 points.

Aleks Bojic led the Demons in the field by finishing fifth in the shot put with a toss of 47-11.

# Demons not discouraged

By **BOB GOSMAN**  
Contributor

**WATER POLO** — Forgive Maine East boys water polo coach Andrew Kittrell if he's as tired as his athletes lately.

After all, he's been pulling double duty. Kittrell agreed to take over the girls program until early May when Scott Guilfoil returns from a long-planned vacation. Guilfoil became the girls coach when Megan Kamarchevakul resigned early in the season to pursue a new career.

Although neither Blue Demons team is having a lot of success on the scoreboard, Kittrell is not at all deterred. The boys team had a chance to defeat Maine South on April 20, but the Blue Demons came up one goal short in a 9-8 loss. This was the fourth one-goal setback this season.

"Their speed during the game was a large factor," Kittrell said. "We played them tight and had a lot of fun."

Kittrell said there was nothing his team (4-10) could have done when Maine South's Scott Coyne scored the go-ahead goal. "I had to stand up and clap; he made a sensational goal," Kittrell said.

Kittrell singled out the play of senior Mike Mazur and junior Matt Wiegel. "Mike's one of the smartest players I've coached," Kittrell said. "He has an intuitive grasp of the game. Mike has great defensive instincts and a powerful shot. As his swimming continues to develop, he's got an untapped source of potential."

Senior Steven Tom has excelled as the 2-meter defender. "He was good last year, but he's a sensational water polo player this year," Kittrell said.

"He's played for all but maybe three minutes of the season. He's been in the water every play of every day. In a lot of ways, he's been the heart and soul of the team."

The girls team (3-12) fell to Maine South on the same night. Even though Maine South won 21-8, the Hawks had no answer for Natalia Bialecka. Bialecka, a four-year star, has already scored more than 70 goals this season.

"She's one of the finest athletes to come out of this building," Kittrell said. Seniors Caitlyn Weldon and Nicole Taglie also have impressed.

"Those two kids have put in a tremendous amount of effort," Kittrell said. Senior Night for the girls and boys teams will be Thursday against Richards.

**Unsung Hero**  
Kittrell is effusive in his

praise for assistant coach Mehul Amin, who played at Maine East and is a sophomore at Northeastern University.

"He has saved my butt for the last month," Kittrell said with a smile. "I've really enjoyed the chance to work with this young man. In all the years I've been doing this, he's the best assistant I've ever had."

## Playoff time

The girls earned the No. 8 seed at the Glenbrook South Sectional and open the postseason May 11 against No. 9 Maine West. The winner advances to play No. 1 Loyola in the quarterfinals. The boys landed at No. 9 at Glenbrook South and play No. 8 Maine South on May 10. The winner meets top-seeded Loyola in the quarters.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

# Evans a diamond for Demons

By **MIKE CAMERON**  
Contributor

**BASEBALL** — Contrary to rumor, Corey Evans was not born wearing a baseball hat.

But Maine East's sophomore shortstop, a budding star, always has lived, eaten and breathed baseball.

"We would all go to watch his big brother (Chris) play back when Corey was just two years old. He was always swinging a bat. All he wanted to do was play baseball," recalled his father, Craig.

Concentrating only on baseball, Evans represented the future of the Maine East program as soon as he entered high school. Blue Demons head coach Dan Dolney anointed Evans as his starting second baseman on last year's varsity squad.

The investment is already starting to pay off. Evans now anchors the infield at

shortstop, where he took over for now outfielder Nikko Andriotis. Evans has raised his batting average nearly 100 points to .280 while moving from the bottom of the order to the lead-off spot.

"We knew Corey would struggle last year, but he has improved a lot. He is a hardworker and loves the game. He's hitting the ball hard but getting a lot of line-drive outs," noted Dolney. "Corey is a quiet kid, but he's starting to get more aggressive and take charge more in the field."

A left-handed hitter with a picture-perfect, slight-upercut swing, Evans figures to add power as his lanky frame fills out.

"I wasn't pulling the ball last year. That's getting better. I've worked on bringing my hands around quicker," said Evans. "I like shortstop a lot. (The position) is teaching me to be more of a

leader. Coach (Dolney) has really helped me with both the mental and physical aspects of the game."

It would be an understatement to say Maine East lacks experience. Evans and senior outfielders Al Nagode (team-leading .300 average) and Andriotis are the only varsity returnees, and Andriotis is currently sidelined with an injury.

The Blue Demons face a whopping deficit in talent and experience virtually every time they take the field. After beating Luther North 10-6 in its season opener, Maine East (1-1, 0-4) absorbed 10 consecutive losses by the mercy rule.

"No matter what, we cheer on the team and keep each other motivated," Evans said.

Dolney's crew took visiting Highland Park (9-6-1, 3-1), the two-time defending CSL North champ, to seven innings in an 8-0 defeat

April 24 and showed quantum improvement.

Sophomore southpaw Rushi Shah threw 3 2/3 innings of shutout ball in relief after a credible start on the mound by classmate Andrew Glowacki. Evans sparked at shortstop.

Senior Alex Sheinson's single prevented the Giants from recording back-to-back no-hitters against the Demons.

Josh Swoboda, a soccer star brand-new to baseball, continues to develop as a first baseman and team leader. Senior hurler Eddie Contreras hopes to turn the corner and become consistently effective in the second half of the season.

Maine East hosts Glenbrook North on Thursday and visits St. Viator on Friday before traveling to Maine South for a doubleheader Saturday.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

# Vikes getting dizzy from ride

By **DAN SHALIN**  
dshalin@pioneerlocal.com

**GIRLS SOCCER** — Niles North had a 7-9 record after going 1-2 at last weekend's Glenbrook South Tournament.

"We're kind of on a rollercoaster," North head coach Dan Edminster said. "We're great one day and then the next day we're playing down to the level of the competition and we can't put passes together. Each game, we don't know what team will show up. We hope to find that consistency before the playoffs."

North opened the event with a 2-1 loss to Buffalo Grove on Saturday. Seth Penafiora scored the only goal for the Vikings.

Tiffany Ebeling scored twice and Camila Marquez also found the net in a 3-1 win over McHenry Saturday morning.

Lincoln-Way North defeated the Vikings 1-0 on Saturday afternoon.

## Boys Gymnastics

The Vikings scored a 124.4 and finished sixth at Friday's 12-team Niles North Invite. NN's Chris Vick finished sixth in the all-around with a season-best score 44.65. Vick was seventh on parallel bars (7.65), seventh on pommel horse (7.7) and seventh on high bar (6.8).

Manny Mangbanua came in sixth on rings (7.365) and Brian Oh tied for eighth on pommel horse (7.6).

## Softball

The Vikings (4-9, 1-1 as of Monday) split a Saturday doubleheader with Lane Tech. Jess Loy (2-for-4, double, home run) was one of many offensive stars of North's 11-10 win in Game 2.

NN struggled in the field in a 21-10 loss in Game 1.

Britlany Sanchez and Rebecca Gilbert collected two hits apiece, but it wasn't enough in a 10-4 loss to Glenbrook South on Friday.

Sanchez had a home run and Loy had a big triple in a 14-4 win over Maine East

on April 22.

## Bass Fishing

Niles North finished fifth out of 19 teams and narrowly missed out on advancing to state at last week's IHSA Sectional at Skokie Lagoon. The Vikings' Paul Houppvalis caught one fish. Jeff Wu caught another, but at 11.5 inches it was ruled too small to count. Fish had to be at least 12 inches long.

## Boys Track and Field

The Vikings (110 points) finished second at the April 20 Niles North Invite.

Among the highlights for North were: the team of Deon McDonald, Tony Kennedy, Sunil Rehmani and Devonier Casey winning the 4x200 relay (1:31.26) and coming in third in the 4x100 relay (43.66), Casey winning the 200 (23.02), Tony Kennedy coming in second in the 200 (23.06) and Zheng Fang coming in fourth in the 110 hurdles (15:33).

## Girls Track and Field

The Vikings finished third at Friday's Titan Invite at Glenbrook South. Mariya Denisenko won the triple jump and long jump, Nancy Harmon won the discus and Angie Walinski came in second in the discus.

## Baseball

The Vikings fell to 8-12-2 with an 11-7 loss to Lake View on Saturday. Billy Dixon and Mike Wilson had two RBIs apiece for North. Glenbrook North defeated the Vikings 15-7 on April 22. Tyler Chalem drove in four runs for NN, which dropped to 0-5 in the conference.

Niles North's Luke Manette plated two in an April 19 loss to Maine South.

## Boys Volleyball

The Vikings had a record of 6-9 after they went 1-2 at Saturday's Northside Prep Tournament. North defeated Jones before losing to Whitney Young and Zion-Benton.



Amanda Reichard and Niles North entered this week 7-9 and are struggling to find consistent play this spring. (Michelle LaVigne/Staff Photographer)

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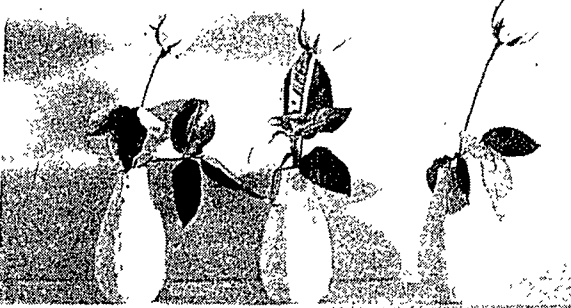
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# Talent warms Notre Dame bench

By DAN SHALIN  
dshalin@pioneerlocal.com

**BOYS VOLLEYBALL**— Notre Dame head coach Pat Cole raves about the talent he has on the bench this season.

While the players don't always see quality playing time, a few recently have been given opportunities and made the most of them.

Juniors Kevin Fay, Joe Cantacessi and Kevin Regal have all impressed lately, and senior Kyle Zielinski is an occasional starter who also has made an important contribution this campaign.

Of course, none of these performances would be surprising to anybody who had watched the Notre Dame No. 2s battle the No. 1s in practice every day.

"Honestly, in practice they always give the first team a good run for money," Cole said. "They bring a high level of energy and get overall effort points. I know it sounds strange, but we're probably one of the few teams that has a bench as good as we do. We've just been in so many close matches that it's hard to take out (the starters). But we have a lot of guys who would be starting for other teams in the state."

Last week, the Dons improved to 9-4, 1-1, with a 25-23, 25-23 win over Nazareth. With starting setter Ryan Ernst battling an ankle problem, Cantacessi was called into action, and he responded

with a fine match.

"Joey did a fantastic job. He distributes the ball well and puts it in good places for the hitters to make plays," Cole said.

Peter Maniscalco led the Dons with eight kills.

On April 20, Marist defeated Notre Dame 25-18, 24-26, 25-17. But the Dons performed better than they had in a two-game loss to Marist earlier in the season.

Unforced errors ultimately cost the Dons in the latest meeting, as ND had 14 missed serves.

"It's a lot of the mistakes we make on our own side of the net, when we control the ball," Cole said. "We have to minimize and try to eliminate them. You're always going to have mistakes. But we've shown that if we can minimize them, we can play with any team in the state."

Fay got a rare chance to start in the middle for ND against Marist, and Cole said he was pleased with the junior's performance. Maniscalco had 14 kills, Dan Podkova and Alex Bielech had seven kills apiece.

Maniscalco had a team-high 11 kills in Notre Dame's 25-16, 25-18 win over Gordon Tech on April 19. Dan French and Podkova each had six kills for ND. Notre Dame is next in action on Tuesday when it travels to Carmel (6:30 p.m.).

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Notre Dame's Alex Bielech prepares for a kill during the Dons' straight-set win over Nazareth last week. In a three-set loss earlier last week to Marist, one of the state's best teams, Bielech put down seven kills. (Jerry Daliege/for STM)

# Moran, Kerber help earn ESCC split

By DAN SHALIN  
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**BASEBALL**— The Notre Dame baseball team (11-5) split a pair of games with Marian on Saturday.

Phil Kerber started and went the distance, improving to 5-0, in a 7-3 win in Game 1. Kerber pitched seven innings, gave up three

runs, five hits, he walked one and struck out two. Notre Dame turned two double plays behind him.

ND's Matt Moran went 4-for-5, with four singles, two RBI and three runs scored, while Dan Fries hit a two-run homer in the first inning. Jack Wietlispach went 1-for-3 with three RBI.

Marian won 8-4 in Game

2. Moran had two more hits and Sam Bungum was 2-for-4.

The Dons will visit Nazareth on Saturday before hosting St. Patrick at 7 p.m. Monday.

## Lacrosse

The Dons went 2-1-1 in Saturday's Deerfield Tournament, defeating

Mundelein 7-4 score and Marian Catholic 6-4, tying Conant 7-7 and losing to Deerfield 8-0.

Rob Neylon led the way for ND, scoring seven goals in the event. Evan Pinter scored three goals, all of them assisted by Tyler Nicholson. Tony Belpedio led the Dons' transition game and goalie Patrick

Casey had a total of 28 saves on the weekend.

Earlier in the week, St. Rita defeated the Dons 12-6. Neylon scored three goals and Nicholson also found the net. ND head coach Sam Phelps said he was impressed by the play of defenders Jake Jumbek, Declan Mulcrone and Liam Healy for three and half

quarters.

St. Ignatius defeated the Dons 10-1 in Niles on April 22.

"We were outplayed by an experienced team that dominated the time of possession and ball control," Phelps said.

Neylon scored ND's only goal with a rocket of a shot on a fast break.

# Nader taking his game to New Mexico

Vikings' star to play for Alford, Lobos

By DAN SHALIN  
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**BOYS BASKETBALL**— Niles North's Abdel Nader is scheduled to make an official visit to the University of New Mexico's Albuquerque campus in late June.

The visit was originally planned so that Nader — a versatile, but raw 6-foot-6 junior — could decide if he would be interested in attending the school and playing for the Lobos.

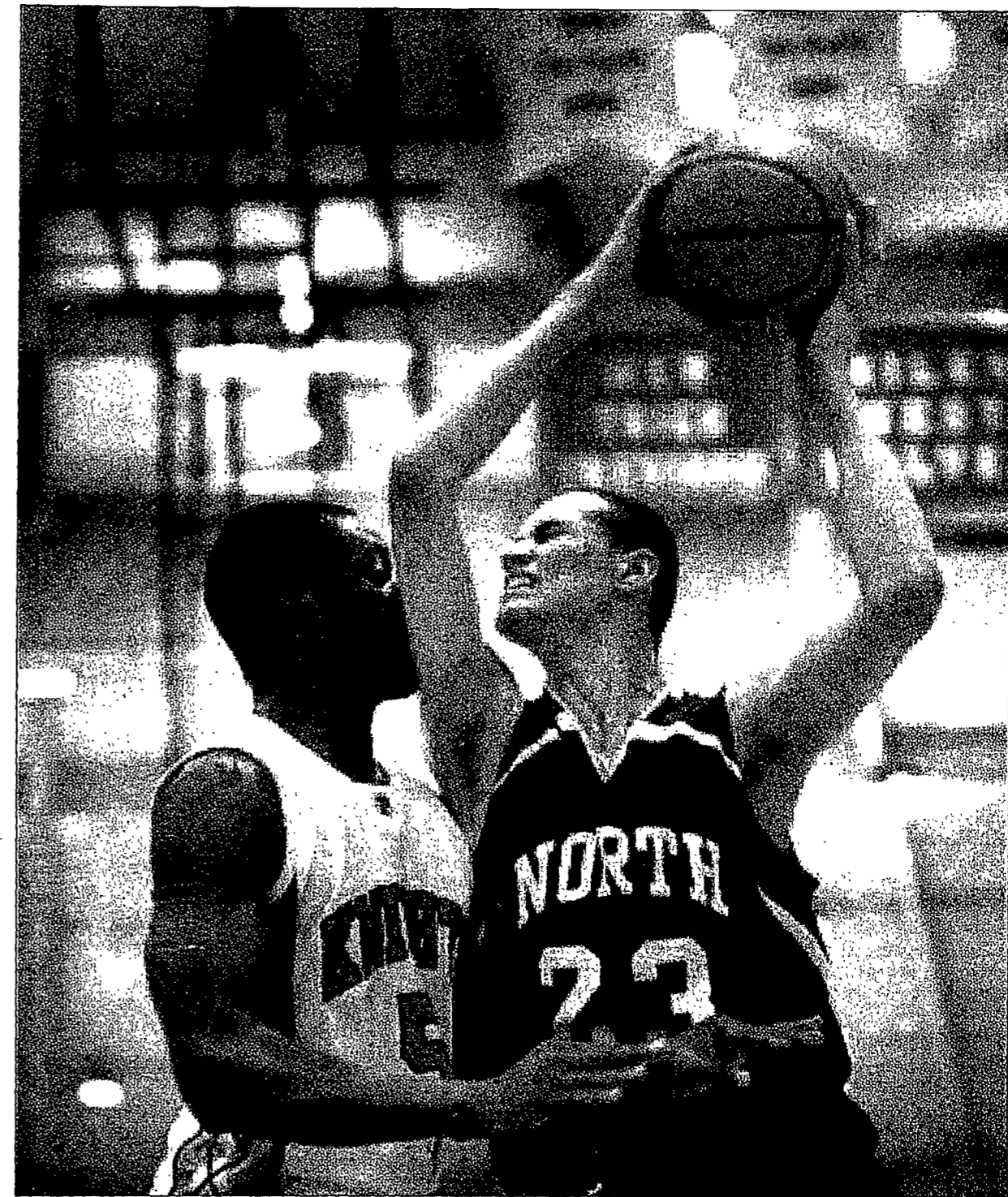
But Nader, who averaged 20.4 points, 4.4 blocks and 6.1 rebounds for the 12-15 Vikings in 2009-10, decided that he didn't need to see the place to realize that New Mexico was the right spot for him. So he picked up the phone April 22 and told Lobos assistant Ryan Miller to pencil him in for the New Mexico freshman class of 2011.

"They've been recruiting me a long time. I like their style of play and heard a lot of good things about the program," said Nader, who said he picked New Mexico ahead of Baylor. "I thought it was the right choice, and I did it."

The Lobos are coming off a season in which they finished 30-5 and were the No. 3 seed in the NCAA Tournament. They lost to Washington in the second round.

Following the season, head coach Steve Alford — the former University of Indiana star and Iowa coach — signed a long-term contract extension. Nader said that Alford's commitment to the program was instrumental in his decision to commit.

"It's nice to know that (Alford) is going to be there as long as I'm going to be there. They had a great year, and I want to help them continue with that



Niles North junior Abdel Nader recently committed to play basketball for New Mexico. (Dan Luedert/Staff Photographer)

and go deep into the tournament," said Nader, who transferred to Niles North after spending his first two seasons at Maine East.

Niles North head coach Glenn Olson, who also coached Nader at Maine East, said he believed that the player and New Mexico would be a great fit. He said Nader did not need to

fly across the country to confirm that.

"Abdel is comfortable with the coaches and the style of play," Olson said. "He has a feel for things and for people. He loves to play ball. Wherever he goes, he's going to be less concerned about location and more focused on his aspirations of continuing playing basket-

ball after college. That's really important to him. He's going to get to college, and it will be a business-like approach. He'll work hard. He was not under pressure to commit early. I know he feels good about this place. It's not a spur-of-the-moment type deal. He's liked them for a long time."

There is a lot to like about

New Mexico basketball. The team plays in front of regular sellout crowds in the famed University Arena, nicknamed, "The Pit." With no major professional sports teams nearby, Lobos hoops is the only show in town during winter.

Nader said that he got an early indication of the at-

tention that comes with playing NCAA Division I basketball during the weekend. When he woke up on Sunday, there were 100 messages on his cell phone, many of them from writers connected to local — and national — recruiting Web sites, and from New Mexico-based reporters. All wanted to confirm news of his commitment.

With the decision final, though nothing is official until signing day in November, Nader is free to concentrate on his game — and on getting stronger. There were times last season, such as a 31-point playoff performance against Prospect, when Nader looked like he could be one of the state's emerging superstars. Other nights, he was guilty of trying to do much, and he forced too many shots and got himself in foul trouble.

But Olson has seen Nader improve by leaps and bounds in recent years, and said he expects that trend to continue.

"I've already seen him do things this spring that he didn't do during the regular season," the coach said. "He did not showcase everything last season. He had his moments, but he was starting at a new school, coming off a broken wrist, filling a whole different role for the team, and he still scored 20 points a game."

**Senior commits:** Niles North senior forward Marlon Senior has committed to play college basketball at Division III Carthage College.

The 6-foot-4 Senior averaged 14.3 points and 5.5 rebounds in 2009-10.

"I loved the school. When I went up there for a visit, I talked to the coach (Bosko Djurickovic), and he said he would love to have me play with them freshman year," Senior said. "He said that I'd be a perfect fit up there. When I heard that, I said I'd love to go."

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**ATHLETES OF THE WEEK**

**BASEBALL**

**Jordan Crawford**  
**Evanston**  
Pitcher struck out 10 and allowed one hit in a 2-1, complete-game win over Loyola on Friday. Crawford took a no-hitter into the seventh inning before giving up a double.

**SOFTBALL**

**Sam Dosek**  
**Maine East**  
Helped Demons to a much-needed win Saturday by striking out nine in the circle and going 4-for-5 at the plate with two RBI in the 14-4 victory over Prosser.

**GIRLS SOCCER**

**Janelle Flaws**  
**Glenbrook South**  
The Illinois-bound forward scored 10 goals, including one in the final, as the Titans beat Crystal Lake South 2-0 on Saturday to capture the inaugural Glenbrook Cup.

**GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD**

**Noelle Tazioli**  
**Maine South**  
Senior was one of two, two-event champions Saturday at Glenbrook South's invitational Friday. Tazioli won both the 100 and 200 races as the Hawks took the meet championship.

**BOYS VOLLEYBALL**

**Stefan Van De Graaf**  
**Glenbrook North**  
Senior setter had 12 assists and four kills in the final as the Spartans finished second at Brother Rice's Smack Attack last weekend.

# West alum Afryl gets taste of Big 10

## Early grad plays in Illini's Spring Game

By DAN SHALIN  
dshalin@pioneerlocal.com

**FOOTBALL** - Niles West alum Shawn Afryl wore his familiar No. 56 on the football field Saturday. But the team colors and surroundings were quite different from what he's used to.

Afryl, who graduated in January, suited up for the Blue team and played approximately 15 plays at guard in the University of Illinois' annual Spring Game. The contest, which brought an end to spring practice, was played in front of 5,832 fans at Memorial Stadium. The Orange, which featured first-teamers, won 24-6.

Even though he was on the losing end, Afryl won't soon forget his first experience playing in Big Ten game-like conditions.

"It was pretty surreal. It hasn't sunk in yet. It was shocking to be out there," the 6-foot-3, 310-pounder said afterward. "I got some reps, made some mistakes and did some good things, too."

Afryl, who's been practicing with the team the entire month, said it didn't take him long on Saturday to realize he was no longer playing against opponents in the CSL South.

"The first play I was in was a run play, and I got beat by the defensive tackle. But it was like, 'OK, I'm here,'" Afryl said.

Afryl, no doubt, learned from that play, and he has learned from every rep and film session this spring. His

decision to graduate from high school early, and enroll in college and participate in spring practice, has almost certainly given Afryl a leg up on the other freshmen-to-be, who won't start practicing until August.

The former Wolves' offensive and defensive lineman said that his decision was a good one.

"Oh, definitely. I've bonded with the offensive linemen and the team, and learned a lot of the ways of the program," he said. "It will make it easier going to fall camp. I won't be lost. I'll have a little idea of what's going on."

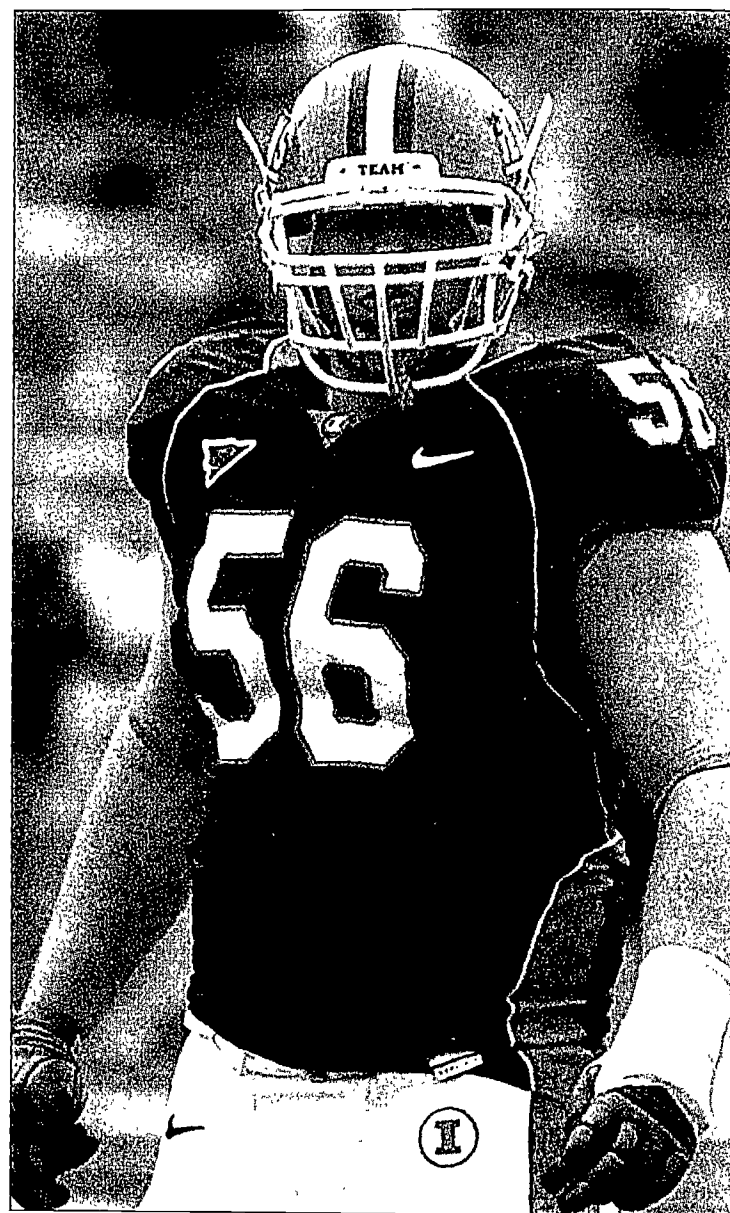
The decision did not come without sacrifices. Afryl finished high school Jan. 13 and moved into his dorm the following day. He's away from his friends, and he's missing his senior track season and many of the good times high school seniors enjoy during their last semester together. He is planning to attend his senior prom.

But Afryl has no regrets. "There always will be that one thing you wish you can do. I miss track with all my throwers," he said. "But I'm doing what's best for me. At times, you miss things, but you have to look ahead to the big picture."

Afryl said he would not be surprised or disappointed if he is asked to redshirt next season. Even if he does, however, he said he hopes to be part of the Illinois traveling squad for the game against Northwestern, which will be played at Wrigley Field Nov. 20.

"Oh, that would be awesome," said Afryl, a big Cubs fan. "To be at a football game, and at Wrigley. That would be awesome."

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Niles West graduate Shawn Afryl participated in Illini's spring football game Saturday. (University of Illinois Sports Information Photo)

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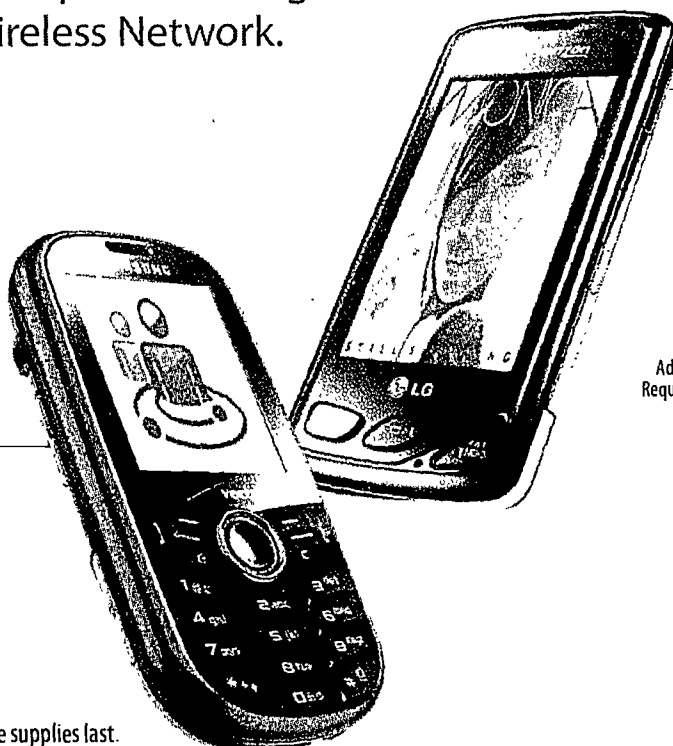
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