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Niles Herald-Spectator



Regina Mundt leads a Zumba class at the Niles Family Fitness Center. The center hopes to meet the needs of members resolving to work out more in the new year. | **JOEL LERNER**-Sun-Times Media

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Fit for a new year



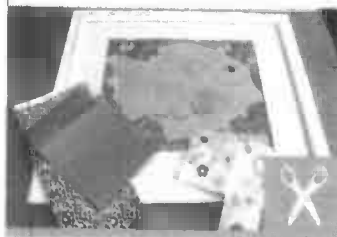
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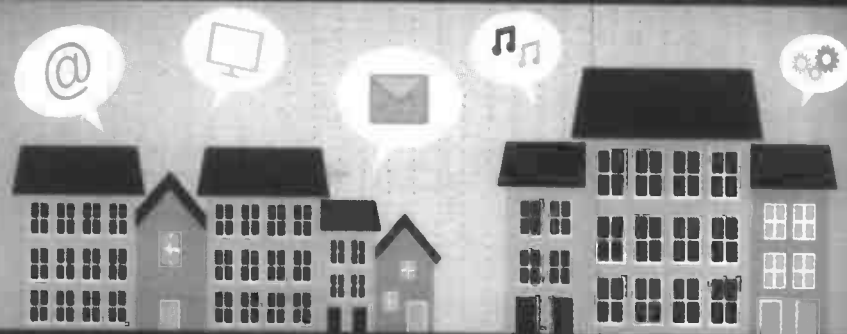
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Cover Story

Fitness centers resolve to meet new members' needs

BY TRACY GRUEN | Contributor

NILES

Each year as people celebrate together and ring in a new year, many also make New Year's resolutions.

A popular one is to start working out and eating healthier.

"Generally, if they make it through the first month, they're going to be successful," said Carl Maniscalco, director of the Niles Family Fitness Center that is located at 987 Civic Center Dr.

Maniscalco said that in January the number of members increases because there is a new wave of people who want to kick-off the new year by getting physically active.

To meet their needs, the Niles Family Fitness Center is starting a new program in January to try to encourage new members to interact more with the staff and ask them questions about how to become more fit in 2013.

The new Passport to Fitness program will encourage members to ask six different staff members questions about how to lose weight, eat healthier, etc. The goal of the program is to have members get connected

with the fitness center staff and the program also features a drawing and prizes.

The current membership at the Niles Fitness Center is about 2,600 and Maniscalco said that number has been pretty stable over the past few years.

Maniscalco added that the center has created a private Pilates room and now holds popular aerobics classes, such as Zumba, in the gymnasium. Spinning, yoga and Pilates are also popular fitness classes offered at the center.

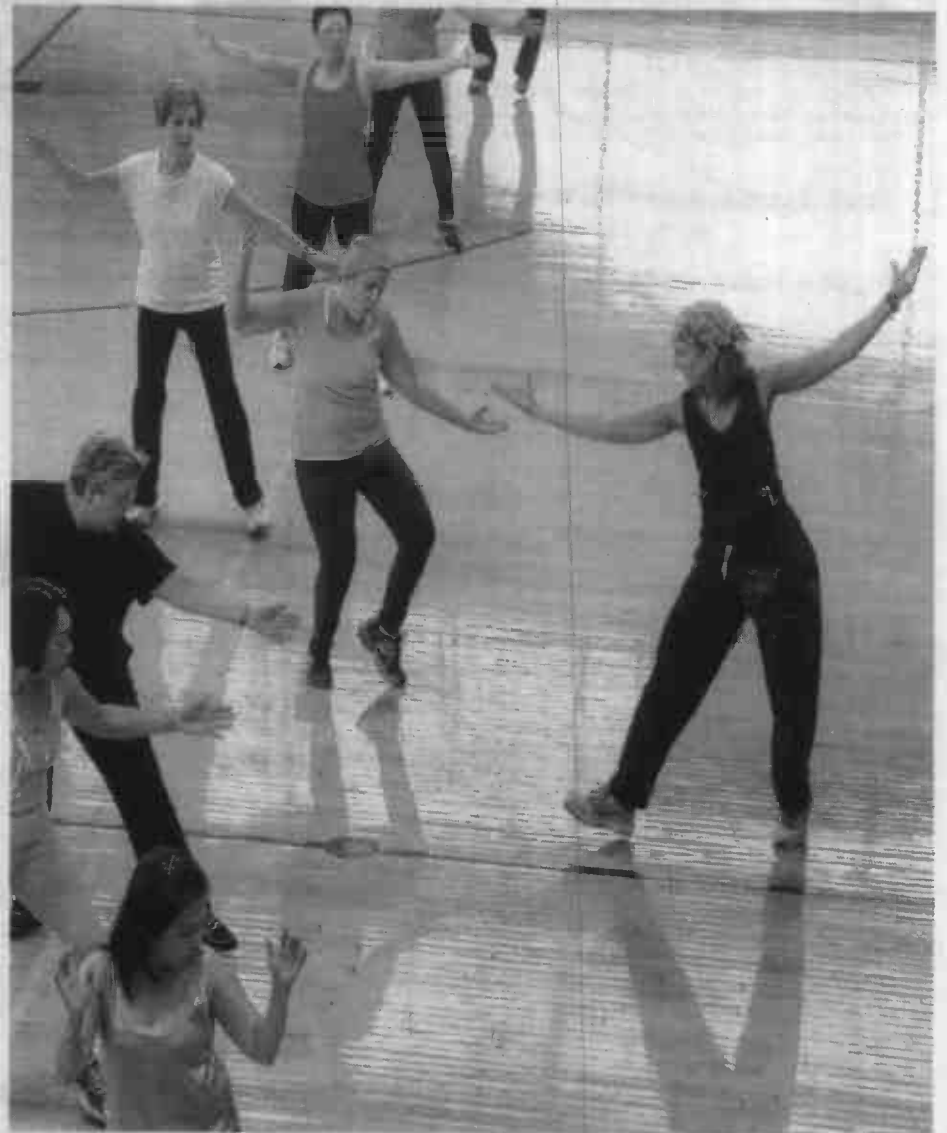
"We're continuing to find space for our growing programs," Maniscalco said.

The Niles Family Fitness Center is a 70,000 square-foot facility that opened in December 1998. The center offers a gymnasium, cardio equipment, an indoor track, indoor aquatic center, an 1,800 square-foot fitness studio and more.

In December the center offered one extra month for new members and one extra month for those who are members and refer someone new to the center.

XSport Fitness, 9210 N. Milwaukee Ave. in Niles, also offered a special membership deal. Those who purchased one year of membership received another year free.

"Every club sees an increase in



Regina Mundt of Chicago leads a Zumba class at the Niles Family Fitness Center. | JOEL LERNER-Sun-Times Media

people in January," said Zach Ford, fitness manager at XSport.

Ford said that if new customers start working with a personal trainer one on one they typically continue to work out about three times longer than if they did not have a trainer.

Without a trainer, the number of people who join a fitness center in January starts to drop off after about eight weeks, he said.

"Anytime where you have somebody helping you it's really going to increase your chances of succeeding,"

Ford noted.

According to the XSport Fitness website, personal training helps with goal setting, nutritional guidance, accountability, consistency, motivation, proper technique and creating a personal program design.

Ford said people also make New Year's resolutions to eat healthier and XSport staff will help them reach that goal also, by using food logs, creating meal plans and recipes.

"Nutrition is 80 percent of your results," Ford said. ■

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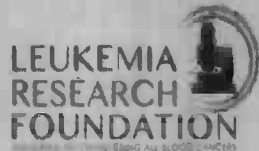
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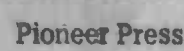
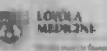
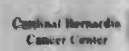
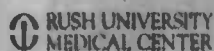
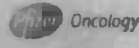
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Dist. 207 School Board votes to fire coach

BY BECKY SCHLIKERMAN AND JON SEIDEL

PARK RIDGE

The Maine Township High School District 207 Board of Education voted Dec. 19 to fire one of the soccer coaches at the center of a hazing scandal at Maine West High School in Des Plaines.

Board President Sean Sullivan said varsity soccer coach Michael Divincenzo violated the district's policy "by failing to adequately prevent, recognize, report and punish student hazing."

Divincenzo is suspended without pay while the dismissal process plays out.

The board's resolution said Divincenzo damaged his reputation and the school district's, caused harm to staff and students and failed to serve as a role model.

Sullivan said the board no longer believes it needs to wait for other agencies to complete investigations into claims of hazing at the high school.

Those claims are now the focus of a "top-to-bottom" review by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. That came after a lawsuit was filed accusing the coach of sanctioning hazing rituals that led to the alleged sexual assault of multiple soccer players and a baseball player.

But Sullivan cautioned, "The school district is not conceding the accuracy of the allegations made in the lawsuit now pending against the district over the hazing controversy."

The board also cited a previously undisclosed allegation against Divincenzo in its resolution, accusing him of letting varsity soccer players dunk "less senior" players' heads and grab their genitals in a hot tub at a training camp in Wisconsin.

The School Board's decision stunned a room full of former

students who pleaded with the Maine Township High School District 207 board earlier in the night not to fire Divincenzo or Emilio Rodriguez, the freshman soccer coach. Both men are targets of the lawsuit.

Their supporters waited about three hours while the board met in closed session. They left in a hurry after the vote, clearly upset by the board's decision.

"He gave his life to this sport," former student Cara Franke said after the meeting. "Every second I saw him he was talking about soccer....He really cares about his team more than anything else. Now that's the one thing in life that he's lost."

Divincenzo did not return a call for comment and he has ignored several earlier calls from the Chicago Sun-Times. Rodriguez declined to comment when reached by phone after the board's unanimous vote.

Both coaches have denied having any knowledge of hazing on the teams to Des Plaines Police, according to police reports. Those reports show that police and a prosecutor determined no charges could be filed after the coaches' interviews.

That was before State's Attorney's review began.

Tony Romanucci, the Chicago lawyer who filed the lawsuit against the district and coaches over the hazing allegations, said the board acted appropriately. He also renewed a call Wednesday night for the board to fire Maine West's principal.

Divincenzo has 17 days to ask for a hearing. If he does, the process could take a year or more.

The board's resolution also cites previously reported allegations that he let older members of the soccer team haze younger members in September and July and knew of an assault on the baseball team in 2008. ■



Callero not seeking another mayoral term

BY TRACY GRUEN | Contributor

NILES

After dedicating many years of service to the village of Niles, most recently as village president, Robert Callero has confirmed he will not be seeking re-election in the April mayoral race.

Appointed village president in 2008 and elected to the seat in 2009, Callero issued a formal statement on Dec. 26, saying he will not run for another four-year term. Callero told the Niles Herald-Spectator he would



Niles Village President Robert M. Callero has announced he will not seek re-election in April. | DAN LUEDERT-Sun-Times Media

have run for re-election if he did not believe there were any other qualified candidates who could do the job.

"It was a hard decision," Callero

acknowledged. "I would not leave the village in unwelcome hands."

Callero said he is strongly supporting Trustee Andrew Przybylo in his mayoral bid. Also running for the seat is Trustee Chris Hanusiak.

A resident of Niles for more than 50 years, Callero joined the Pension and Fire Board in 1975. He was appointed trustee in 1995 and elected to the seat in 1997. The Village Board appointed him village president after the resignation of Nicholas Blase who led the village for over four decades.

At 75 years old, Callero said he is looking forward to spending time with his family and playing some golf.

"I'll miss the people in administration," he said. "People don't realize how much these (employees) love Niles."

Callero commended the employees of the village who dedicate much time and hard work to Niles' success.

"With the help of our Niles employees we were able to bring new businesses into Niles, increasing our sales-tax receipts and enabling us to keep our real-estate taxes as one of the lowest in the surrounding communities," Callero said in his statement.

He also stated that during his mayoral tenure the village began a beautification program for Milwaukee Avenue, initiated a program to help control flooding, formed an Ethics Committee and ethics plan, formed a comprehensive plan guiding the village through 2030 and was named the Best Place in the U.S. to Raise Kids by Bloomberg's Businessweek.

"I trust our next mayor will continue these and other programs," Callero said.

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IN PROFILE

Mary Swanson turns seniors into MaineStreamers

BY NATASHA WASINSKI | Contributor

MAINE TOWNSHIP

Mary Swanson has worked in senior services for more than three decades, including the past 12 years as the director of MaineStreamers, a social group for residents aged 55 and up. Prior to her post with Maine Township she served as program coordinator at the village of Niles Senior Center. Through MaineStreamers, Swanson organizes educational programs and recreational activities that encourage socialization, learning, and independence among elderly residents.

Q: What inspired you to pursue work in senior services?

A: My whole life I have been helping seniors. As a young child I would help my elderly neighbors. I believe it's been just something I always liked to do. While in college, I took classes in gerontology and the rest is history.

Q: What do you like the most about your job?

A: It's extremely rewarding to offer trips, classes and programs to make people's retirement years both fun and challenging. Last year I offered a Danube River tour. I had seniors say it was a lifelong dream fulfilled. I also appreciate my wonderful staff and the elected township officials who fully support the MaineStreamers program in many ways.

Q: In what ways does MaineStreamers enhance seniors' lives?

A: There are so many ways that I believe we enhance their lives. They appreciate all

the opportunities we offer to keep them involved and enjoying life. Most importantly, I believe it's the relationships they establish. I have seniors who have lost a spouse, so many of the MaineStreamers take it upon themselves to watch over each other.

Q: How do you determine the groups' programming and activities?

A: I meet quarterly with the Advisory Council that consists of MaineStreamers who offer advice and suggestions on all aspects of the MaineStreamer program. After that, I work with staff to develop an action plan. I also read many different publications, such as newspapers and travel magazines, that help me keep up-to-date on the interests of seniors. It's a lifelong learning thing for me, too.

Q: What is your favorite MaineStreamer event?

A: I would have to say the 90-Plus Birthday Party. I have been doing this type of program throughout my career. Maine Township invites residents that are 90 years of age or older to an event held during May in honor of Older Americans Month. Each attendee gets a certificate, a corsage/flower and a nice lunch. They are also recognized by the Maine Township elected officials. Last year we had over 80 residents celebrate their 90-plus years with two of them being over the age 100.

Q: What are the benefits to staying active later in life?

A: I believe being connected with others helps seniors remain active and by



Mary Swanson

being active they maintain a healthier lifestyle.

Q: How do you encourage seniors to stay active and social?

A: First of all, my wonderful staff and I try to make everyone feel welcome by encouraging them to participate in different activities. I also feel that the MaineStreamers are never alone because they are with us. We offer a variety of programs that a MaineStreamer can choose from so we just have to encourage them to try something new and they often do.

Q: What are the biggest issues affecting seniors today?

A: There are always the worries of health issues and money problems. But I believe it is those seniors who no longer have family nearby who occasionally need our help. Nowadays people move for various reasons such as job relocation. This might cause a senior to become isolated and that is why I think programs such the one Maine Township offers is a blessing. And it's free to join. ■



The following incidents were listed in the 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.

RETAIL THEFT

Ruben Perez, 30, of 1362 Jefferson St., Des Plaines, was charged with retail theft Dec. 18 on the 8900 block of Milwaukee Ave. Police said Perez concealed two bags of fish with a value of \$20 and left the store without paying for the items. He also had two active warrants for driving under the influence, police said. He has a Jan. 16 court date.

DUI

Michael Ochonicki, 32, of 9242 N. Normandy Ave., Morton Grove, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol Dec. 22

on the 7200 block of Dempster Street. He has a Jan. 16 court date.

BURGLARY

A home on the 8300 block of Olcott Avenue was reported burglarized between Dec. 17 and Dec. 18. An investigation was pending.

An 84-year-old man from Niles told police his home was burglarized Dec. 19 on the 7600 block of Harlem Avenue. An investigation was pending.

HARASSMENT

A 28-year-old woman from Niles told police that a 29-year-old woman from Niles called her between Dec. 18 and Dec. 19, threatening her in Spanish. Police said the woman reported that she works with the suspect's husband at a Niles restaurant.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

A 51-year-old woman from Naperville told police that someone shattered the front passenger side window of her 2005 Toyota Camry between Dec. 17 and Dec. 19 on the 9700 block of Fox Glen Drive.

BATTERY

A 33-year-old man told police that he was punched in the face several times on Dec. 16 by someone he knows at a bar on the 8700 block of Milwaukee Avenue.

ATTEMPTED THEFT

A man in his 20s was reportedly seen removing a television from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center on Dec. 18. The value of the television is about \$500, police said. When a loss prevention agent confronted the suspect he dropped the television and ran away, according to police. ■

Few details released about Park Ridge crash

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON | jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

PARK RIDGE

Park Ridge Police are releasing little information about a Dec. 22 one-vehicle crash that left three people hospitalized.

According to the Park Ridge Fire Department the accident occurred at 3:20 a.m. on Cedar Street between Wisner and Elmore Streets and involved a Jeep Wrangler that struck a tree. Two of the adults of the Jeep were transported to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge with multiple non-life threatening injuries, according to Deputy Fire Chief Jeff Sorensen. A third individual was taken to Resurrection Medical Center in Chicago. ■



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Dry summer meant tough break for water mains

BY TRACY GRUEN |
Contributor

Local public works directors agree that 2012 was a tough one in terms of water main breaks.

"This summer was so bad," said Niles Public Works Director Scott Jochim about the ruptures.

Hot and dry weather conditions this summer have been blamed for causing a higher than normal number of main breaks across the area. Water mains are underground pipelines that deliver lake water to residents, businesses and other users.

Breaks occur when holes or cracks develop in the underground pipes that transport the water. The temperature, ground settlement (which can occur during dry spells) or the type of material used in the pipe can cause breaks.

Between January and December there were 180 water main breaks throughout the village of Niles. Though he did not have specific numbers available, Jochim said the amount of breaks was higher than in past years.

"I know we're over budget," Jochim said, referring to the amount of money spent on overtime to pay workers to fix the main breaks this year.

In 2012 there were about 10 water main breaks on Monroe Street alone. Jochim said that



Park Ridge Public Works employee Pat Navin shovels debris during a water main break restoration in August. Dry summer weather has been blamed for an increase in main breaks this year. | BUZZ ORR-Sun-Times Media

when there are too many water main breaks in one area the village replaces pipelines instead of just repairing them.

"We don't want businesses or residents to be out of water," Jochim said. He explained that main breaks can sometimes take six or more hours to repair.

In Park Ridge, the situation

was very similar this year.

From May 1 through December Park Ridge experienced 65 water main breaks — and the city usually averages 50 or 55 for the entire year, explained Park Ridge Public Works Director Wayne Zingsheim.

"The ground was so dry," Zingsheim acknowledged.

Park Ridge also had 22 water

service leaks in 2012.

"We haven't even hit the hardest part of the year," Zingsheim added, explaining that most breaks tend to occur during cold-weather months.

Zingsheim said his department went over the city's \$50,000 budget for overtime pay this year and will likely transfer money from the

construction fund in order to have funds in the budget for all future water main breaks.

"A main break is something you can't let run," Zingsheim said. "People need to have water so whenever they occur we need to fix them. Unfortunately, a lot of times they seem to happen on a weekend or at night."

The city is also working to replace pipe that is not so durable, though the process has been slow due to the cost involved.

In Morton Grove the increase in main breaks was not as significant as in Niles and Park Ridge, though there were more in 2012. The village had 67 water main breaks this year compared to the 64 that they had in 2011.

Joe Dahm, division superintendent of Public Works for the village of Morton Grove, said materials used in the water mains during the late 1950s were not as good as the materials used in the 1920s and 1930s. He said the part of town that is on the west side of the north branch of the Chicago River has more annual water main breaks than the east side does because the materials on the west side deteriorate faster.

For the severe water main breaks, Dahm said the village pays workers overtime so they can be repaired.

"We take care of it right away," said Dahm. "You don't want to let ice build up on the street." ■

—Jennifer Johnson contributed to this story



Election filings show several contested Niles races

BY TRACY GRUEN AND JENNIFER JOHNSON

NILES

Niles voters are expected to see several contested races when they hit the polls this April, from the Village Board to the Library Board.

Dec. 26 was the last day to file nominating petitions for the April 9 election. The period for filing objections to any petitions is taking place this week.

Seats up for election on the **Niles Village Board of Trustees** are currently held by Louella Preston, Jim Hynes and Andrew Przybylo.

Przybylo is running for village president, leading a slate called the New Niles Party 2013 that includes trustee candidates George Alpogianis, Danette Matyas and John Jekot.

Trustee Chris Hanusiak is also running for village

president with the Responsible Leadership for Niles Party. Trustee candidates within that party include incumbents Preston and Hynes, as well as Mary Marusek who ran for trustee in 2011.

On the **Niles Library Board**, with two seats up for election, Karen Dimond has filed to retain her seat and newcomers Billy VanCannon and Carolyn Drblik have also filed.

Current **East Maine School District 63** board members with terms up are President Jane Wojtkiewicz, Walter Gluzkin, Krystal Zec and Sheila Urban. Gluzkin, Zec and Urban have filed petitions today for re-election and new candidates Zeev Walny and Alexandra Brook also filed petitions.

In **Park Ridge-Niles School District 64**, six candidates are vying for four open seats. They are incumbent Scott Zimmerman and newcomers Terry Cameron, Rick Van Roeyen, Vicki Lee, Benjamin Seib and Dathan Paterno. Not running for re-election

are District 64 board members Pat Fioretto, Sharon Lawson and Eric Uhlig. All three were first elected to the board in 2009.

In **Malne Township High School District 207** there is a crowded field of candidates vying for five open seats. The candidates include incumbents Eldon Burk, Eric Leys, Margaret McGrath and Carla Owen, and newcomers Mary Childers, Jin Lee, Jeffrey Spero and Sean Story.

Childers and Leys have filed for both a four-year term and the one two-year term that exists. They will need to withdraw from one of those races, according to district spokesman David Beery. Not running for re-election in District 207 is Edward Mueller.

New faces are squaring off against longtime board members for three open seats on the **Niles Township High School District 219** Board of Education. The candidates include incumbents Robert Silverman,

Ruth Klint and Lynda Smith, and newcomers Orrin Joffe and Mitchell Steinberg.

There will also be a contested race for four trustee positions and the office of clerk on the **Malne Township Town Board**.

The board's current incumbents have filed for re-election as a Republican slate. They include Carol Teschky for supervisor, Gary Warner for Clerk, Tom Rueckert for assessor, Robert Provenzano for highway commissioner and trustees Walter Kazmierczak, Susan Moylan-Krey, Laura Morask and Peter Gialamas.

On the Democrat side, Laura O'Donovan will face Warner in the clerk's race. Trustee candidates include Judlth Foster, Abraham Lee, Carol Sue Walker and James Wozny.

Uncontested races are on the Niles School District 71 Board of Education, the Niles Park Board and the Niles Township Town Board.

In **District 71** the terms for President Patrick Byrne,

Secretary Mary Krueger and members Matthew Holbrook and John Zuckerman are up this spring. Two petitions were filed on the first day, which were from Holbrook and new candidate Jill Astbury-Brocar. Matt Glancy also filed for a spot on the District 71 board of education, leaving one open seat.

Terms expiring on the **Niles Park District Board** are currently held by Bill Terpinas, Dennis O'Donovan and Julie Genualdi. Each has filed to seek re-election.

On the **Niles Township Board** incumbents Lee Tamraz, supervisor; Scott Bagnall, assessor; Charles Levy, clerk; and trustees Marilyn Glazer, Mark Collins and Donald Gelfund are all running for re-election. In addition, newcomer Anthony Lundin is running for the fourth trustee seat.

Information on the Golf-Maine Park District Board race and filings for the Golf School District 67 Board of Education were not immediately available. ■

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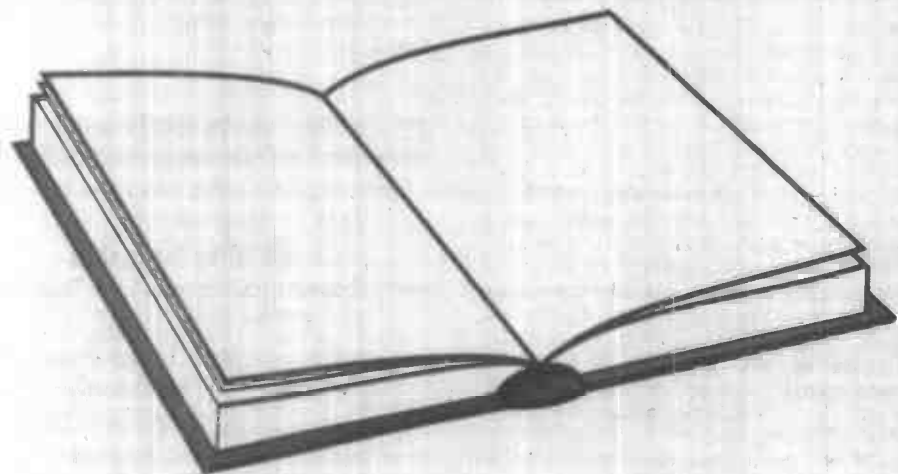
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Obituaries

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Death Notices

Davlin, James A.

October 20, 1929 - December 25, 2012. James A. Davlin, 83, residing in Granger and formerly a longtime resident of Park Ridge, IL, passed away Tuesday, December 25, 2012 in St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, Mishawaka, IN. He was born October 20, 1929 in Springfield, IL to the late Marcus & Gertrude (Staab) Davlin.



On November 10, 1951 in Blessed Sacrament Church, Springfield, IL, James married the former Phyllis Marie Black. In addition to his loving wife, Phyllis, of Granger, he is survived by daughters, Katy (Dennis) Rosolowski and Karen (Jim) Seida; son, Jim (Jane) Davlin; grandchildren, Anna Davlin and Tim, Matt, John, Annie, Mary and Caroline Seida; as well as many nephews, nieces and cousins. James was preceded in death by a daughter, Patti Davlin; and siblings, Robert (Norene) Davlin and Virginia (Ed) O'Brien.

James graduated from the University of Illinois Champaign/Urbana with a degree in Accounting. Following college graduation, he joined Walgreens, and his distinguished finance career spanned 31 years, rising up to become the treasurer and play a key role in Walgreens' growth.

James was active in the Park Ridge Jaycees, serving as president in 1962. The service project, of which he was most proud, was successfully overcoming all the obstacles to get children vaccinated for polio and raise a record \$25,000 for local hospitals. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus and Our Lady of Hope Church and volunteered for the Park Ridge Senior Center. James enjoyed a lifelong love of baseball, fishing, music, Ireland, Illini football, mathematics and reading.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Thursday, December 27, 2012 in St. Pius X Catholic Church, 52553 Fir Road, Granger, IN. Graveside services and burial followed at All Saints Cemetery, Des Plaines, IL. **Palmer Funeral Home - Hickey Chapel**, 17131 Cleveland Road, South Bend, is assisting the family with arrangements.

Expressions of sympathy on behalf of James may be offered to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105 (www.stjude.org) or Boys Town, PO Box 8000, Boys Town, NE 68010 (www.boystown.org). Online condolences may be left for the Davlin family at www.palmerfuneralhomes.com.

Sign Guest Book at www.chicagolandobits.com

In Memoriam

Death Notices

Matousek, Jeanette "Jean"

91, of Lake Geneva died Tuesday, December 18, 2012. Wife of the late Miles Matousek. Teacher most of her life. Loving mother of Rosalynne (Vincent) DiVincenzo, Barrington, IL and Rea Barreth West Palm Beach, FL; grandmother of Kristen, Keri Ann, Vincent Jr., Paul and Ryan; great-grandmother of Marlowe, Macklin, Alexandra and Lazzaro.

Services 1:00 P.M. Friday, December 28th at the Bohemian Nat. Cemetery Chapel. Visitation 12:30 P.M. to time of services. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society. **Steinke Funeral Home**, 515 Center St. Lake Geneva, WI is assisting the family with the arrangements. 1-262-248-2320.

Sign Guest Book at www.chicagolandobits.com

In Memoriam

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- A paid death notice may be ordered to appear in the Pioneer Press when funeral arrangements are made, and must be submitted in writing. Information about charges for death notices may be obtained from area funeral directors or by calling (847) 998-3400. A 24-hour fax service is offered at (847) 486-6836 or death notices may be e-mailed to deathnotices@pioneerlocal.com.
- An in memoriam or card of thanks may be placed using the same information above.
- The deadline for placing a death notice, in memoriam or card of thanks, is Monday at 5:00 pm. Photos must be submitted by Monday at 2:00pm.
- The death notice department is staffed from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday and 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday.
- A death notice, in memoriam or a card of thanks may be submitted in person from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday at the Pioneer Press, 3701 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, IL 60026.
- Family and friends may visit our website and sign a guest book at Pioneerlocal.com.

SUN-TIMES MEDIA

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Keeping Tabs

How Illinois lawmakers voted in Congress for the week ending Dec. 28, 2012

Major roll call votes in the Senate

GOVERNMENT SPY POWERS

Senators voted, 73-23, to renew the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act through 2017. The law authorizes the National Security Agency to conduct surveillance without specific warrants on phone calls, emails and other contacts between foreigners that pass through telecommunications switching points in the U.S. Additionally, the bill authorizes a secret FISA court to issue blanket warrants for spying on communications between U.S. and foreign locations, while continuing the requirement that strictly domestic spying on Americans be authorized by FISA-court warrants on a case-by-case basis. If FISA surveillance conducted without a specific warrant inadvertently picks up communications by an American, that information must be expunged or disregarded, although the law lacks transparency by which outsiders could see if corrective action is taken. FISA was enacted in 1978 to govern the domestic collection of foreign intelligence while protecting Americans' civil liberties. The law was expanded in 2001 and 2007 to deal with post-Sept. 11 terrorism threats. The secret FISA court, which issues blanket and specific warrants and monitors government compliance with the law, is composed of sitting federal judges who serve on a rotating basis. A yes vote was to pass the bill. **Sen. Richard Durbin: NO; Sen. Mark Kirk: DID NOT VOTE**

mail but not for most other searches of customer records held by third parties with whom the suspect does business. A yes vote backed the amendment. **Sen. Richard Durbin: NO; Sen. Mark Kirk: DID NOT VOTE**

SPYING ON AMERICANS

Senators refused, 43-52, to require minimal public disclosure of the extent to which the electronic communications of law-abiding U.S. citizens or legal residents are inadvertently spied upon during government surveillance of terrorism suspects' phone calls and Internet communications. The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which empowers the government to monitor worldwide communications passing through U.S. switching points, requires that incidentally collected information on Americans be expunged or disregarded. But there is no public accounting of the extent to which incidental collections occur or on what happens to the information. This amendment sought to slightly lift the government's blanket of secrecy on its handling of incidentally collected information on Americans. A yes vote backed the amendment. **Sen. Richard Durbin: YES; Sen. Mark Kirk: DID NOT VOTE**

FISA COURT RULINGS

Senators defeated, 37-54, an amendment to HR 5949 (above) requiring the most important FISA court opinions to be declassified and made available to the public. These rulings reportedly judge whether government information collections respect Fourth Amendment privacy rights, among other issues. Under the amendment, if the Justice Department were to deem a ruling too sensitive for public consumption, even after redactions, it would have to release an unclassified summary. This amendment barred public disclosure of information that would reveal intelligence sources and methods. A yes vote backed the amendment. **Sen. Richard Durbin: YES; Sen. Mark Kirk: DID NOT VOTE**

4TH AMENDMENT PROTECTIONS

Senators refused, 12-79, to require the government to obtain search warrants for inspecting customer records held by third parties such as Internet service providers, banks and credit cards. Although it was offered to HR 5949 (above), the amendment applied to all types of searches by law enforcement, not just those conducted under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Under Supreme Court rulings, authorities must obtain search warrants based on probable cause to gain access to an individual's land-line telephone records or conventional

Key votes ahead

There is a possibility, however remote, that the 112th Congress will take up a bill to avert the so-called "fiscal cliff" before it gives way to the 113th Congress on Jan. 3.

What it means to you

TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

CHICAGO



Emanuel, area mayors want state ban on assault weapons

Calling the Connecticut school massacre a "tipping point," Mayor Rahm Emanuel joined forces with suburban mayors in the fight for a state ban on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines and criminal background checks before every single gun sale.

"There are moments in time that sear to the public a debate and it's a tipping point in galvanizing forces and bringing people together to find common ground," said Emanuel, likening Newtown, Conn., to the assassination attempt against Ronald Reagan that gave birth to the Brady Bill.

Joining Emanuel at a City Hall news conference were: Gary, Ind. Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson; Evanston Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl; Lynwood Mayor Eugene Williams and Maywood Mayor Henderson Yarbrough; Winnetka Village President Jessica Tucker and Westchester Village President Sam Pulia.

For Winnetka residents, what happened in Newtown was like reliving the nightmare of the 1988 shooting by Laurie Dann, Tucker said.

"We still grieve over 20 years later for little Nick Corwin. He was a second-grader at Hubbard Woods Elementary school, 8 years old, died of gunshot wounds when a babysitter went berserk and shot up the school," Tucker said. ■

— Chicago Sun-Times

SPRINGFIELD



Gov. Quinn says 'ample time' for Illinois pension deal to be struck

Gov. Pat Quinn says lawmakers should have plenty of time to deal with pension reform and other major issues during a shortened lame duck session.

Legislators are scheduled to return to Springfield this week. Quinn has said he wants them to approve a fix for the state's estimated \$95 billion pension crisis before new lawmakers are sworn in Jan. 9. Other issues that could be on the agenda are a gambling expansion, allowing gay marriage and a bill to let illegal immigrants have driver's licenses.

Quinn said he talked with the leaders last week and believes there will still be "ample time" to get things done.

Legislative leaders in the House and Senate have canceled some of the days lawmakers had been scheduled to meet.

The Senate meets through Friday. Senate officials announced that they've canceled meetings Saturday through Monday. Senate President John Cullerton's spokeswoman said the Senate may return Tuesday, if senators need to respond to any House action.

The House had planned to meet Jan. 3, but a memo from House Speaker Michael Madigan's office said the initial days are cancelled and representatives won't meet until Sunday. They plan to also meet Monday and Tuesday. ■

— The Associated Press

WASHINGTON



ICE data: Audits of businesses for illegal immigrants rising

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement reached its highest number yet of companies audited for illegal immigrants on their payrolls this past fiscal year.

Audits of employer I-9 forms increased from 250 in fiscal year 2007 to more than 3,000 in 2012. From fiscal years 2009 to 2012, the total amount of fines grew to nearly \$13 million from \$1 million. The number of company managers arrested has increased to 238, according to data provided by ICE.

The investigations of companies have been one of the pillars of President Barack Obama's immigration policy.

When Obama recently spoke about addressing immigration reform in his second term, he said any measure should contain penalties for companies that purposely hire illegal immigrants. It's not a new stand, but one he will likely highlight as his administration launches efforts to revamp the nation's immigration system.

"Our goal is compliance and deterrence," said Brad Bench, special agent in charge at ICE's Seattle office. "The majority of the companies we do audits on end up with no fines at all, but again it's part of the deterrence method. If companies know we're out there, looking across the board, they're more likely to bring themselves into compliance." ■

— The Associated Press

Opinion

VIEWPOINT | Pioneer Press

1,000 WORDS | Jack Higgins

Spending for kids

Early January is an excellent time to do right by the state's most abused and neglected kids.

A court ruling last month finally allows for the closure of four state prisons and juvenile detention centers, freeing up state money that is desperately needed to help these kids.

All that's left is for state legislators to act.

When lawmakers return to Springfield today for the lame-duck session, one of their first acts should be to restore \$38 million cut from the budget of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. All told, the agency's budget was cut by \$86 million this year. If lawmakers fail to act, 1,957 DCFS workers — two-thirds of the staff — will lose their jobs in March, according to DCFS.

No one will regret spending these dollars. A smartly reorganized DCFS will spend the money on 138 new investigators to knock on doors where abuse and neglect is suspected. ■



What kind of luck will '13 bring?

Can anything good come from 2013?

With a year ending in unlucky No. 13, will it go down as one of the worst years in history?

Just think of all the bad things that happened the last time a year ended in 13, just a century ago in 1913.

Richard M. Nixon was born Jan. 9, so that gives you an idea of how the year started.

The 16th Amendment was ratified in 1913. Remember that one? Just look at your paycheck, if you need a reminder. The 16th Amendment gave Congress the power to levy income taxes.

In July of that year, Death Valley recorded a temperature of 134 degrees, the hottest day ever. We may

hit that mark somewhere in Greenland in 2013.

Pancho Villa returned to Mexico in 1913 and in czarist Russia the Romanov Dynasty celebrated its 300th anniversary on the throne amidst great monarchist sentiment among the people.

So what could 2013 bring? Will it be just as unlucky? Here's my take on what will happen in 2013.

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the income tax, we will pay more taxes. Despite what the pols say, you can bet taxes will go up in 2013 — definitely for the so-called rich and maybe for everyone.

As former Congressman Dan



RANDY
BLASER

Rostenkowski told President George Bush in 1989, "The Treasury is empty." It still is, and that's unlucky for the rest of us.

Russia hasn't called back the Czar, but if President Barack Obama is contemplating a third term, as some of the right-wing wackos claim, he

might want to watch "Dr. Zhivago." Public sentiment can change in a hurry. Oh, wait, 2013 may be the year he comes clean as a secret Commie.

Gun owners were buying weapons like mad at the end of 2012 because of all the talk about gun regulation. I suspect that will continue in 2013, as Congress continues to dither on new gun laws.

The sad thing is whatever Congress decides will have no impact whatsoever. Dozens of people, including innocent children, will continue to be murdered on the streets of big cities such as Chicago every month.

In the immediate future, everyone is wondering if the country will go off the fiscal cliff. By now, I think nobody really cares. Since no pundit has been able to tell us what it will mean to the individual, it doesn't matter. Will there not be action movies on Friday nights, meatloaf on Mondays and happy hours on Thursdays?

If so, then who cares?

Have a happy new year in 2013, and don't walk under any ladders, step in front of a black cat or step on a crack. ■

Turning an optimistic eye toward 2013...

Fiscal cliffs. Mass murder. War. Unemployment. End-of-the-world scares.



PAUL
SASSONE

Glad to see the last of 2012.

But will 2013 be any better?

We approach the new year warily. After all, it has the number 13 in it.

A lot of the old problems still loom for the new year. But we hear hopeful talk of fiscal-cliff deals, new gun laws and a drop in unemployment.

So, a guarded optimism is probably the best way to welcome in the new year.

What choice do we have, really? The river of time flows no matter what we say or do.

And though we all are buffeted by economic, political and cultural forces, they are not places we actually live. We live in our own very specific lives. And successful living requires at least some optimism.

A job, a home, enough to eat, education for our children — these are not accidents that just happen to us. We are not passive observers of our own lives. We get up every day and work hard to see that the needs of our family are met.

What has shadowed us the past few years is a somber streak running through American life that — through no fault of their own — too many of

us are unable to fulfill our family's needs.

In 2013, I hope those who have more will have a care for those who have less. We'll need to be good neighbors in 2013, to volunteer, to support groups that help the less fortunate, to generally help out.

But that is not beyond us.

We Americans have time and time again shown ourselves to be a generous and compassionate people willing to lend a hand to those in trouble. We have aided former enemies. How much more can we help our fellow Americans, literally the people next door?

But offering a hand up is only part of what awaits us in the new year.

There is life to be lived — the closeness of family and friends, the vacations, the satisfaction of work, the school pageants, the graduations, the weddings, the good dinners, movies, laughs, books, how "Breaking Bad" concludes, music and, yes, even Chicago sports teams.

All these wonderful components of life, and more, are available to us in 2013.

I sincerely hope the new year turns out to be a good one for you.

And I fervently hope the new year turns out to be a good one for us all as a country and as a society.

May 2013 be a happy new year. Please. ■

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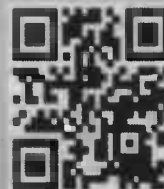
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Niles Herald-Spectator Wants to Hear from You

Please send your Letters to the Editor to Niles Herald-Spectator, 3701 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, IL 60026. Please keep letters to 250 words or fewer. The Herald-Spectator reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity and content. All letters must be signed to be published.



Question of the Week

Q At Maine South High School we asked, "Is rock and roll dead?"



A **Joe Azzaro**
Park Ridge

"No, I think its a matter of style now." ■



A **Justin Wacker**
Park Ridge

"No. Because there are still some different rock bands and old ones like The Who and AC/DC." ■



A **Joel Matter**
Mount Prospect

"We're in a non-musical music cycle." ■



A **Mark Gotthelf**
Park Ridge

"No, we still have rock and roll bands like Green Day." ■

People Poll

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

"How do you clear your snow at home?"

RESPONSES

- 1) Shovel: 56%
- 2) Thrower: 29%
- 3) Plow: 1%
- 4) Pay someone: 14%

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

"Should school districts be expected to pay into teachers' penslons?"

RESPONSES

- 1) Yes, all of it.
- 2) Yes, within reason.
- 3) No.
- 4) Undecided.

To respond to this week's People Poll question, visit niles.suntimes.com.

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Education in Focus

Gifted students unwrap partnership with hospital

BY TRACY GRUEN | Contributor

PARK RIDGE

Sometimes a little hard work goes a long way.

For the next two years juniors and seniors in Maine East High School's Gifted Lyceum Program will partner with the Child Life Program at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge. In doing so, the students will work to enrich the lives of children and teens who are spending time in the hospital's pediatrics unit.

"I'm really excited because health care and working with kids is something I'm passionate about," said Alex Plezia, a junior at Maine East and member of the Gifted Lyceum Program. The program involves students who score in the top 5 percent of their class and there are currently about 100 members.

Members of the gifted program held a Santa's workshop before Christmas so they could help wrap gifts for the children. Plezia added that there is a lot of musical talent in the class so another idea the group had was to hold music days for the patients. Days dedicated to

craft projects were also proposed.

Lyceum students held their first bake sale and money raised from the sale went towards creating activity boxes filled with crafts for the children and teens in the hospital. All of the activities and programs provided by the Gifted Lyceum are paid for through fundraisers.

"We're really excited that they picked us," said Michelle Stern, certified child life specialist with the Child Life Program at Lutheran General. "I think it is a great partnership."

Stern said the Child Life Program provide emotional support for the kids and tries to make the hospital as normal and routine as possible, alleviating stress and anxiety that could come with a hospital stay.

"We do a lot of play-based therapeutic activities," Stern added.

During their first year in the Gifted Lyceum Program, Maine East students learn about subjects such as cultural anthropology and ethical problem-solving. Sophomores learn about current affairs and humanities and junior and senior years are dedicated to sculpting leadership skills for life.



Members of the Maine East High School Junior Lyceum. Juniors selected Advocate Lutheran General Hospital's Child Life Program to assist this year. | CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"It's about developing civic awareness and giving back to the community," said Judy

Tyler, director of the Gifted Lyceum Program.

During their last two years in the program students participate in 80 service-learning hours, Tyler explained. It is during this time that they have an opportunity to share their talents with the world outside of school and learn the importance of helping others.

Each year, juniors make proposals for projects and two are chosen. The students do the research on the organizations they want to assist and work to put their proposals together.

The proposals are selected by the

superintendent, assistant superintendent, the principal and assistant principals, as well as the students. They use a presentation rubric that contains categories such as goals and objectives, a mission statement, and viability and planning to help decide which proposals become actual projects.

In addition to the Child Life Program, the other proposal that was selected this year is People Matter, a suicide awareness program.

"People Matter is an organization that wants to raise awareness of adolescent depression and help to prevent teen suicide by educating Maine East students and decreasing the stigma of depression," Tyler said. ■

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DISTRICT 219

Niles North Presents "Reflections," an improv revue

Make a resolution to start the New Year laughing, which is easily done by attending the Niles North production of "Reflections," an improvisation and sketch comedy revue, featuring actors from the Play Production Class. Performances will be held at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Jan. 9, in the Drama Performance Center at 9800 Lawler, Skokie. Tickets are \$5 and may be reserved through the Box Office at (847) 626-2122.

The cast includes Sarah Alkyer, Emma Decker, Max Dolinko, Sabina Dzelilovic, Athanasia Giannetos, Amy Hagedorn, Alex Hammond, Eugene Hyun, Chris Khoshaba, Ryan Loach, Camille Paskind, Erin Rourke, Nina Roy, Lauryn Schmelzer, Nathan Selinger, Rachel Sepiashvili and Sebastijan Torgus. The faculty advisor is Timothy Ortmann.

District 219 hosts Financial Aid Night

Niles Township High School District 219 is holding a Financial Aid Night for high school seniors and their parents on Jan. 7. The event will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Auditorium at Niles North High School, 9800 North Lawler, Skokie.

The evening will begin with a general session on financial aid in the auditorium, followed by a step-by-step FAFSA session led by Jerry Cebrzynski, director of financial aid, Lake Forest College. For questions, contact College and Career Counselors Dan Gin (West) at (847) 626-2682 or Allegra Giulietti-Schmidt (North) at (847) 626-2170 or National College Advisor Jerry Pope at (847) 626-3947.

Pizza Wars return Jan. 17 at Niles West

Get ready for the epic pizza

battle that has Niles Township tastebuds salivating. The District 219 Education Foundation, with assistance from Dance Marathon, announces the return of Pizza Wars 3, the quest for the best pizza in the D219 universe. This intergalactic throwdown of local pizzerias will take place on Jan. 17 at Niles West High School, 5701 W. Oakton, Skokie. Twelve pizzerias have taken up the challenge and will enter the pizza arena to present their hot, delicious slices for a vote. Thick or thin, sauce or cheese on top, vote for your favorite.

Tickets are \$10 per person, five tickets for \$40, and \$12 at the door. To purchase tickets in advance go to www.219foundation.org.

Doors open at 6 p.m. Pizza tasting will end at 7:15 p.m. and the winner of Pizza Wars 3 will be announced at 7:30 p.m. The entertainment continues until 9 p.m.

Pizza Wars 3 participating pizzerias include de Carlucci's, Edwardo's, Father & Son Italian Kitchen, Gulliver's, Jet's, Lou Malnati's, Nancy's, Organic Life, Papa John's, Pequod's, Sarpino's, and Village Inn.

Proceeds from this event benefit Niles Township High School District 219 students. To find out more about the D219 Education Foundation, visit the website at www.219foundation.org. The Foundation has provided \$130,000 in grants to needy D219 students since 2007.

Niles North graduate earns perfect score on AP Economics Exam

David Kim, a Niles North High School 2012 graduate, was recently named one of 12 students in the world to receive a perfect score on the 2012 Advanced Placement (AP) Microeconomics exam. Kim received a 5 on the exam, the

highest score possible for an AP test, which placed him in the top 15.5 percent of all students taking the exam. Kim received a perfect score by answering all of the multiple choice questions and the written free response questions correctly.

Around 70,000 to 80,000 students take this exam each year. While a student, Kim was enrolled in the AP Economics class, and had the help of two teachers in preparing for the exam, Niles North teacher Sarah Stucky and Niles West teacher Shaun Waldron.

West Debate earns first TOC bid

Niles West Debate experienced tremendous success at the Ohio Valley Tournament held Dec. 1

through 3 at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, Ky. Debaters Jonass Placitis and Theo Noparstak earned their first Tournament of Champions (TOC) bid, a milestone for the West Debate program. The pair need just one more bid this year to automatically qualify for the TOC Tournament at the end of April, the national championship for rapid delivery policy debate. Also, the team of Justina Jude and Soretti Donka won the championship in the Novice division.

In Varsity Policy Debate, Niles West sent 10 teams. A total of 71 teams across the country competed in this category. Miranda Kang and Vinay Patel were 4-2 in preliminary rounds and were the 23rd seed into the elimination rounds. They lost in the Double

Octafinal round. Theo Noparstak and Jonass Placitis went 5-1 in the preliminary rounds and were the seventh seed entering elimination rounds. They advanced without debating in the Double Octafinal round. In the Octafinal round, they won on a 2-1 decision, which earned them their first TOC bid. They lost in the semifinals. Placitis was named 18th best speaker out of 142 debaters.

Other students who competed in Varsity were Lia Isono, Sana Khan, Nick Charles, Gershom Chan, Janat Ahmed, Nathan Anderson, Alwin Alex, Tahir Meeks, Michelle Sproat, James McLellan, Ari Hoffman, Walter Lindwall, Kris Trivedi, Lizzie Prete, Breana Brill and Emma Lazar.

Niles West sent four teams to compete in Novice Policy Debate.

A total of 31 teams from across the country participated. Justina Jude and Soretti Donka were 4-2 in the prelims and were the 10th seed entering the elimination rounds. They won on a 5-2 decision in the championship round against a team from Alpharetta High School. Alex Brown was the 16th best speaker out of 62 debaters.

Other students who competed in Novice were Mariam Al-Anaswah, Faith Geraghty, Rebecca Harbeck, Anam Farrukh and Joseph Lee.

Niles West Debate is coached by Eric Oddo. He is assisted by Matt Fahrenbacher, Kevin Bancroft, Val McIntosh and Melanie Johnson. Also assisting were Tyler Salathe, Sam Varney and Jackson Challinor. ■



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Puzzles



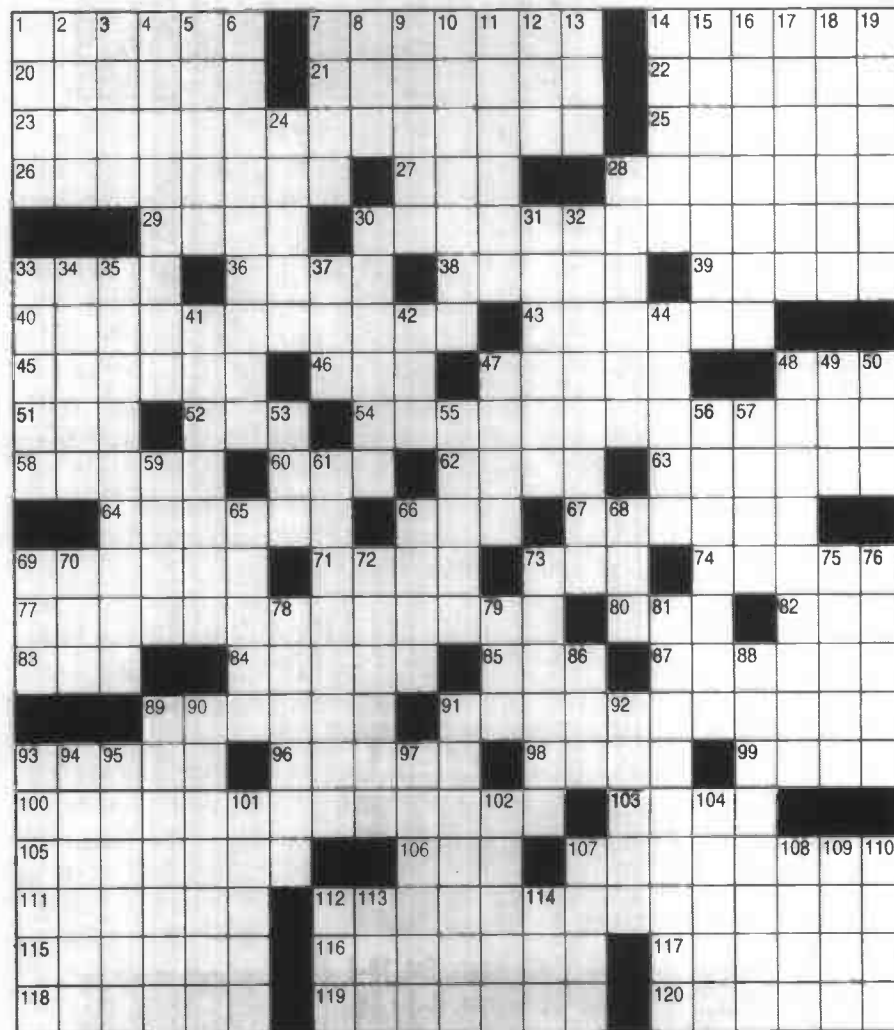
SUPER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Hammed it up onstage
- 7 "— Girls" (2000-07 TV series)
- 14 Mall parts
- 20 Ethiopian's neighbor
- 21 Virtual merchant
- 22 Tough trial
- 23 "You gave me no warning!"
- 25 Wasn't honest with
- 26 "Draw me" challenges
- 27 Seventh Greek letter
- 28 Place to buy dog food
- 29 Gen. Robert —
- 30 Product line owned by General Mills
- 33 Common papal name
- 36 Queenly role for Liz
- 38 Dandelion-infested, e.g.
- 39 Smartly dressed
- 40 Choice for a fill-up in Canada
- 43 Make ill
- 44 Charge for electronic banking
- 46 Taxpayer's ID
- 47 Bursting — seams
- 48 Strongman Ferrigno
- 51 Up — point
- 52 Jets' stats
- 54 Small-but-potent pick-me-ups
- 58 Old British ruling family
- 60 With 42-Down, extensions
- 62 Make anew
- 63 Attends, as an event
- 64 Come out of a daydream
- 66 Cail hidden in this puzzle's eight longest answers that's apt for May Day?
- 67 Injury-free
- 69 Scarf material
- 71 Café au —
- 73 Summer, in Tours
- 74 Meet events
- 77 "CBS News Sunday Morning"
- 80 Tic-toe link
- 82 Hi-fi part
- 83 USMC title
- 84 — Amboy, New Jersey
- 85 Champion's sign
- 87 Tempt
- 89 Pollux's twin
- 91 Region of calms in the northern Atlantic
- 93 Drinking aid
- 96 "— Mio"
- 98 Folk wisdom
- 99 Social misfit
- 100 What those "who only stand and wait" do, per Milton
- 103 Tenets
- 105 Empire
- 106 Knot up in this
- 107 Like dark igneous rock
- 111 California city near Berkeley
- 112 Baseball's 2004 All-Star Game MVP
- 115 Gave a lousy review of
- 116 Watered down
- 117 Ransacked
- 118 Horses
- 119 Homer work

DOWN

- 1 This, in Lima
- 2 Actor Jay
- 3 Fail to name
- 4 Has a flavor like
- 5 The elder architect
- 6 Took apart
- 7 Metro and Prizm, once
- 8 FWIW part
- 9 Morning TV host Matt
- 10 City's central section
- 11 Senior years
- 12 R&B singer Des'—
- 13 West end?
- 14 Parts of feet
- 15 Three-whole-step interval
- 16 Certain Ukrainian
- 17 Burning
- 18 Visit a diner
- 19 Careless
- 24 Inscribed stone pillar
- 28 Fires (up)
- 30 Self-assured
- 31 Kicked back
- 32 Bleeps
- 33 Like fuel-rich bogs
- 34 "How much — much?"
- 35 Fed. fugitive hunter
- 37 UFO's crew
- 41 Start cruising
- 42 See 60-Across
- 44 Retirement plan name
- 47 God of war
- 48 Goner
- 49 Famed Giant Mel
- 50 Mil. morale booster
- 53 Used a chair
- 55 Prefix with -plasm
- 56 Origins
- 57 Mother of 47-Down
- 59 Wood knot
- 61 Sorrowfully, in music
- 65 Readies for surgery
- 66 — of relief
- 68 After taxes
- 69 Livy's 1,200
- 70 "My, my!"
- 72 Houston ball team
- 73 Olympic swimmer
- 75 Intro giver
- 76 Converse
- 78 Having bristles
- 79 Eggs in a lab
- 81 Pros at property appraisal
- 86 Immodesty
- 88 Miserable, unhappy existence
- 89 Hot pepper
- 90 Gave a trophy, e.g.
- 91 Not kidding
- 92 Dramatic solos
- 93 Sharpening bands
- 94 Year of — (Chinese zodiac cycle starter)
- 95 Make pure
- 97 Give free rein to, as anger
- 101 Is in charge
- 102 Air outlets
- 104 County north of San Francisco
- 107 Physique
- 108 Narrative
- 109 Don Juan's mother
- 110 Zip —
- 112 Hurly-burly
- 113 Kettle cover
- 114 Understand



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SUDOKU

BY LINDA THISTLE

9				7	6	8	
	2		4				3
	1		5		4		
		9		3	1		
8	6		2				9
	3		6			2	
6		8		5		7	
5			3		2		
	7		4	1			8

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

(★: Moderate; ★★: Challenging; ★★★: HOO BOY!)

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HOROSCOPES

For the week of January 9 to January 15

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
You might be hurt by a colleague's harsh criticism. But don't let it shake your confidence in what you're trying to do. A more positive aspect starts to appear by week's end.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
You're torn between your sensible self and the part of you that enjoys acquiring lovely things. Best advice: Wait for an end-of-month sale, and then buy something wonderful.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
Your artistic side has practical applications this week, such as redecorating your home or redesigning your personal stationery. Whatever you do, someone special will like it.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
You could be drawn into a problem 'twixt friends or family members. Best bet: Ask the

questions that go to the heart of the matter, then get them all together for a group hug.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
As much as you love being the center of attention, your big Lion's heart impels you to share the spotlight with a colleague who helped you with that well-praised project.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)
Your eagerness to act on a challenge is wisely tempered early in the week by a lack of necessary information. Things begin to clear up during the weekend.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
A relationship you'd hoped would keep going seems to be going nowhere. Close it out and move on to a brighter romantic aspect just beginning to manifest itself.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)
Things don't go completely as planned this week. But enjoy the surprises, even if you have to adjust your schedule. Some of them could be quite delightful.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)

Making choices is usually easy for straight-shooting Archers. But a new development could deflect your aim. Try to put off decisions until you know more.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)
While part of you might prefer taking a more familiar path, let your more daring and — admit it — super-curious self see what the unexplored has to offer.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)
Those nasty types have slithered back under the rocks and present no more problems. Now's the time to move ahead on that promising new relationship.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)
A new offer could clear up that lingering money problem. Also, a more confident attitude on your part might well help get that personal situation back on track.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a way of turning chaos into order. You're also generous with your help for those who seek it.

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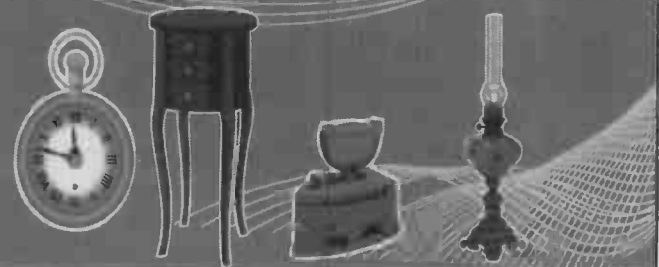
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Calendar



Toddlers **0-3** Kids **4-12** Family **FAM** Teens **13+** Adults **18+** Seniors **65+**

FAM 18+

4-12 13+

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.

ARTS & CRAFTS

Creative Crafts

FAM 65+

Crafters will unite to showcase their artistic flare at the Heartland Creative Craft Fair Jan. 18-20 at Golf Mill Shopping Center. Vintage jewelry featuring Chinese and fabric materials will be displayed. Latin flare will be seen in an array of South American crafts. Other handmade gifts include wooden roses, air-brush art and more. Admission is free. Guests are invited to shop the craft fair while supporting local and small businesses.

Tuesdays, Jan. 8 and 15 - Medicare counseling, by appointment (sponsored by the federally-funded Senior Health Insurance Program).

Wednesdays, Jan. 16 and 30 - Grief and loss support group (call first).

Saturdays, Jan. 12 and 26 - Legal counseling, by appointment.

Saturday, Jan. 26 - Blood pressure and blood sugar testing, 10 a.m.-noon (no appointment needed).

COMMUNITY

Lights recycling

18+ 65+

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County and its member communities are offering a holiday light recycling program at no cost to residents. All holiday string lighting and extension cords can be dropped off at the various locations. Garland, live greens, wreaths or other non-recyclables are not accepted in this program. Local drop-off sites are: Niles Public Services Department, 6849 Touhy Ave., (847) 588-7900, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays up to Feb. 28; Niles Family Fitness Center, 987 Civic Center Drive, (847) 588-7900, 5:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 5:30-9 p.m. Fridays, 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, through Feb. 28; Park Ridge Public Works Service Center, 400 Busse Highway, (847) 318-5240, 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, through Jan. 31. See swancc.org.

18+ 65+

Advocate Lutheran General Hospital will host four community lectures in January focusing on healthy digestive systems. Lectures will be held at 7 p.m. at the hospital's West End Conference Center, 1775 W. Dempster St., Park Ridge. Jan. 8: "How you can help your gastrointestinal system" presented by Dr. Kenneth O'Riordan, gastroenterologist; Jan. 15: "Colorectal Health" presented by Dr. Slawomir Marecik, colorectal surgeon; Jan. 22: "Obesity: Sound Nutrition for the Coming Year" presented by Dr. Marc S. Fine, gastroenterologist; Jan. 29: "Celiac Disease: Diagnosis and Management" presented by Dr. Esperanza Garcia-Alvarez, pediatric gastroenterologist. No charge to attend but registration is required; call (800) 323-8622 and mention the class code 8G52 or visit www.advocatehealth.com/luth, click on "I need a class or support group" and type in the class code 8G52. Free valet parking; refreshments will be served.

CENTER OF CONCERN

Schedule

65+

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

Mondays, Jan. 7, 14, 21, and 28 - Employment counseling, by appointment.

Monday, Jan. 14 - Alzheimer's caregivers support group, 10 a.m.

CIVIC

Niles Township Clerk

18+ 65+

Niles Township Clerk's Office is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays and evenings by appointment on the second and fourth Mondays of each month to accommodate residents with passport applications, voter registrations and temporary handicapped parking placards. To schedule an appointment at Niles Township in Skokie, call (847) 673-9300.

HEALTH

Digestive health

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Golden Notes

The Niles Historical Society will present the Golden Notes from the Niles Senior Center in a revue of songs at 1 p.m. Jan. 13 at the Niles Historical Museum, 8970 Milwaukee Ave. Doors open at 1 p.m., with a short business meeting at 2, followed by the musical program. Refreshments will be served. Admission is free but donations are accepted. Call (847) 390-0160.

Hours for the public

FAM 65+ 18+

Niles Historical Museum: 8970 N. Milwaukee Ave., is open to the public 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Drop in, make arrangements for a tour, drop off artifacts and collections, or just come to visit. The new magnetic elevator makes the auditorium easily accessible. Call (847) 390-0160.

LIBRARY

Niles Public Library: 6960 W. Oakton St., (847) 663-1234 or online at www.nileslibrary.org. Registration is required for most programs unless indicated otherwise.

Gingerbread House Decorating

Through Jan. 6, come to the Niles Public Library Youth Services Department and make a decoration for the giant gingerbread house.

PARKS

Golf Maine Parks offices are located at Feldman Recreation Center, 8800 Kathy Lane (one block south of Golf Road on Western Avenue), in Niles or at Dee Park, at the corner of Dee and Emerson roads, Des Plaines. Call (847) 297-3000.

Zumba

18+ 65+

New Year Zumba Party - Try out a free Zumba class at 7:15 p.m. Jan. 7 at Feldman. Next session begins at Jan. 14, 7:15 p.m. Mondays; Zumba/Zumba Toning begins Jan. 8, 7:15 p.m. Tuesdays at Feldman.

NILES SENIOR CENTER

The center offers membership to Niles residents age 55 and older and their spouses. Drop by the **Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive, Niles**, or call (847) 588-8420 for an application. Visit www.vniles.com, click on Departments and then Senior. Registration required for most programs.



Charlie Brown at the Museum

65+

Go to the Museum of Science & Industry to see the exhibit "Charlie Brown" on Jan. 24 from 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Through original cartoons and reproductions, see how Charlie Brown and Peanuts were developed.

Participants will enjoy lunch at the center featuring ribs, baked potato, coleslaw and dessert. Cost is \$50, members; \$55, nonmembers.

Holiday Parties

65+

Celebrate the new year from noon-2:30

p.m. Jan. 3. Lunch will include salad, chicken parmesan, potatoes, vegetables and dessert. Peter Oprisko and his four-piece band will entertain and the afternoon will conclude with a champagne toast. Cost is \$15, members; \$20, nonmembers.

Issues in the News

65+

Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m. - This dynamic class is led by Arlene Golub and is filled with seniors from all walks of life, retired or not, who want to keep abreast of a broad spectrum of what is occurring locally and worldwide. Issues for discussion are brought up by class participants, and everyone's opinion is valued.

Holy Trinity Episcopal

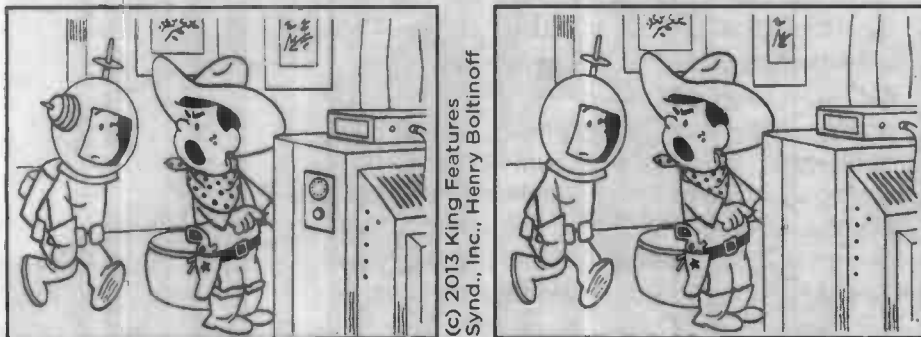
18+ 65+

Holds Adult Christian Education classes following 10 a.m. Sunday services at 8201 N. Karlov Ave., Skokie. Classes held on a variety of topics. A Fellowship Hour follows the 10 a.m. service each week with "Bring a Friend to Church and Brunch" the first Sunday of each month. Call the church (847) 673-1434.

Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, offers Introduction to Judaism and beginning adult Hebrew classes on Sundays and monthly Yiddish. Members and nonmembers welcome. Call (847) 675-4141, or visit www.ehnt.org.

HOCUS FOCUS

Find at least six differences in details between panels



(c) 2013 King Features Synd., Inc., Henry Boltinoff

Differences: 1. Earpiece is missing. 2. Backpack is missing. 3. Bandana is moved. 4. Boots are different. 5. Picture is different. 6. Dial is missing.

RELIGION

St. Luke's Community Church

FAM

St. Luke's Christian Community Church, 9233 Shermer Road, Morton Grove, offers worship services on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. and Sunday School for children of all ages from 10:15-11 a.m. Following the service St. Luke's hosts a coffee hour, dedicated to fellowship. The Rev. Isabel Hughes, pastor of St. Luke's, also conducts a Bible Study on Wednesday mornings from 11 a.m.-noon, followed by a luncheon on the first Wednesday of the month. This church community is diverse, open and welcoming to all, accepting and affirming. The building is completely handicapped accessible. Contact Pastor Hughes (847) 691-0236.

Messiah Lutheran

FAM

Messiah Lutheran Church, 1605 Vernon Ave., Park Ridge, holds a Christian education hour 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. Childcare services are available during worship. Call (847) 823-6984.

St. John Brebeuf

FAM

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

FAM

Ezra-Habonim Niles

SENIORS

Walking program

65+

Golf Mill Shopping Center: Hosting "Feats of Fitness," a mall-walking program Mondays through Saturdays, to enable seniors to walk within an enclosed environment. Health seminars and blood pressure screenings offered throughout the year every month from 9-10 a.m. on the second Wednesday. Call Golf Mill management office at (847) 699-1070.

Mather's

65+

Mather's, More Than a Cafe, 7134 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago, (773) 774-4804 - Mather's invites adults 55 and older to experience professionally taught, free-to-moderate-priced programs such as life-long learning programs, fitness classes, free blood-pressure checks and health screenings, free consumer seminars, special-interest workshops, special events and day trips.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

See page 22 for this week's Super Crossword and Sudoku puzzles.

9	5	4	3	1	7	6	8	2
7	8	2	9	4	6	5	1	3
3	1	6	5	8	2	4	9	7
4	2	9	8	7	3	1	6	5
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Business \$

Business Spotlight

Christmas is over; time for deals on decorations

BY TRACY GRUEN | Contributor

NILES

Norbert Pools and Mil-Green in Niles have been lighting up the village this holiday season by turning their stores into a festive, sparkling winter wonderland.

But now it's time for those after-Christmas deals.

"Every Christmas we get a lot of customers, but this year we went even bigger on Christmas and made the store more of a forest," said Robert Hack, manager at Norbert Pools, 9141 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Each year on Dec. 26 long lines form with customers wanting to take advantage of

the store's big half-off sale, Hack said.

"It's almost like a Black Friday sale just for Christmas trees," he noted.

Hack said sales "were great" this year with a steady crowd for much of the day. Usually there is a line starting to form at 8 a.m. the day after Christmas, filled with customers who had been eyeing a certain tree or decoration to take home and display next December.

Hack added that there are some people who celebrate Christmas in January (many Orthodox Christians will celebrate on Jan. 7), so they can get trees and other decor on clearance before the holiday.

Norbert Pools also sells inflatable decorations, indoor and outdoor lights, Disney characters, wire figures, wreaths, LED wire figurines



ABOVE: Lisa Bascomb, of Park Ridge, shops for Christmas lights at Norbert Pools in Niles on Dec. 26. The store has all of its holiday decorations on sale. | **BRIAN O'MAHONEY**-for Sun-Times Media

Robert Hack, store manager of Norbert Pools in Niles, discusses a sale with a customer on Dec. 26. | **BRIAN O'MAHONEY**-for Sun-Times Media

and shooting-star tubes.

Though the store is stocked with ping-pong tables, pool tables, poker tables, darts and a wide variety of swimming pools and outdoor furniture outside of the holiday season, it is Christmas decor that is hugely popular.

"It's been a lot bigger on the Christmas side than the billiard side this year," said Hack.

Hack added that he generally doesn't start packing away the Christmas decorations until mid-February when it's time to get ready for pool season.

"We'll keep it out longer if people keep coming," said Hack.

Up the street at Mil-Green, employees have been busy selling pre-lit Christmas trees,

lights and something new and unique this year: life-size LED decorations. One such decoration consists of Santa's sleigh and two reindeer made up of 20,000 LED lights.

"They look like molded ice sculptures," explained Steve Arden of Mil-Green, 9650 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Arden said the store featured a 7-foot-tall Santa and

a 16-foot-tall Christmas tree, both made with LED lights.

Just like at Norbert Pools, the after-Christmas sale at Mil-Green attracts many customers by offering Christmas items at half price.

"It's been a little better than last year," noted Arden about sales leading up to Dec. 25.

In addition to Christmas

decorations and trees, Mil-Green also sells fireplaces and gas logs, gas grills and grill parts, outdoor furniture, patio umbrellas, pool filters and chemicals and other outdoor items.

Arden said that he saw a good crowd at the store the day after Christmas.

"It was quite encouraging," he said. ■

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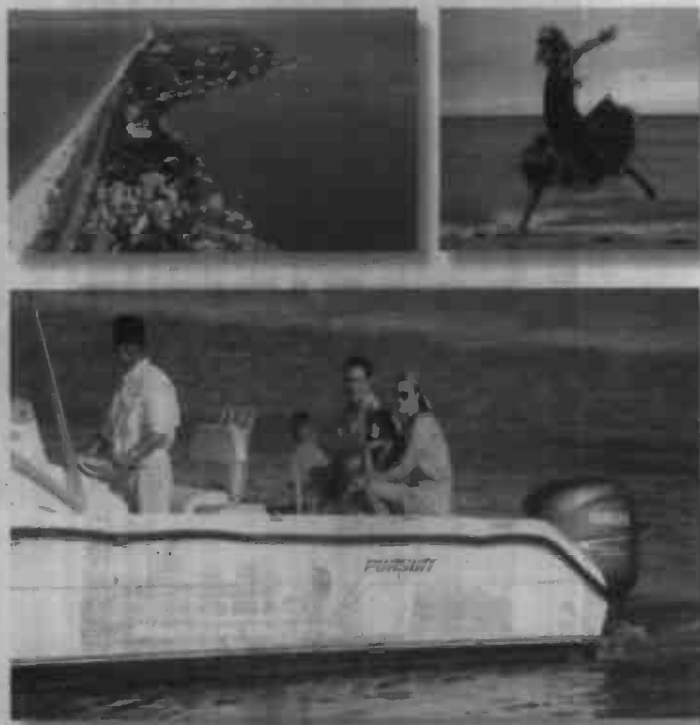
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Real Estate



PROPERTY TRANSFERS

NILES

7908 N Harlem Ave: Divya Upashyay to Kenneth J Gatesman for \$147,000 on Nov. 14

8420 North Ave: Leeanne R Bravine Trust to Piotr J Woziwoda for \$180,000 on Nov. 15

9701 Dee Road Unit 31: Anna Sonkin to Sharon Goldstein Trust for \$54,000 on Nov. 14

DES PLAINES

8911 Robin Drive: Devon Bank Client Services LLC 181 to Yvette Nelson for \$115,000 on Nov. 14

241 Good Ave: Laura Szady Trust to William P Lichtfuss for \$235,500 on Nov. 13

MORTON GROVE

8610 Waukegan Road Unit 208: Chicago Trust 00000SBL

3206 to Olga M Gonzalez for \$80,000 on Nov. 15

8610 Waukegan Road Unit 208: Olga Gonzalez to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc for \$55,000 on Nov. 15

6411 Lincoln Ave Unit 203: Emily Deam to Anastasia P Jelasiy for \$160,000 on Nov. 14

8837 Oswego Ave: Judicial Sales Corp to Rashed A Khan for \$370,500 on Nov. 15

7840 Beckwith Road: Barbara Eastman to Blake Eastman for \$327,000 on Nov. 14

7235 Palma Lane: James Patrick Owens to Lyndon O Yanga for \$165,000 on Nov. 15

ROSEMONT

9614 W Higgins Road Unit 2E:

Joan R Jablonski Trust to Ejub Sutkovic for \$75,000 on Nov. 13

GLENVIEW

2409 Covert Road: Dean Giannasi Trust to Munzir Habibovic for \$405,000 on Nov. 14

1944 Roblncrest Lane: William J Banis to John V Quinn for \$788,000 on Nov. 13

706 Waukegan Road Unit 308: Edward B Avildsen to Elizabeth A Carlson Trust for \$165,000 on Nov. 15

710 Waukegan Road Unit 201: Constance B Heldrich Trust to Lynn Staudacher Trust for \$187,000 on Nov. 15

508 Glendale Road: Right Residential Series 1 LLC to Tommy Babella for \$143,000 on Nov. 13

611 Juniper Road: Karen Posch to Erich R Hertsche for \$494,500 on Nov. 14

1224 Brook Lane: Chicago Title Land Trust 000000007879 to John A Burds for \$625,000 on Nov. 15

2618 Independence Ave: Naraharsetty Rao to Brian O'Neil for \$1,300,000 on Nov. 15

10369 Dearlove Road Unit 1L: Jong Rok Song to Soo Jin Kim for \$83,000 on Nov. 14

PARK RIDGE

610 Elmore St: Nancy B Trust Black to Garrick Bunting for \$422,500 on Nov. 14

207 Austin Ave: 3FCB I LLC Holding 4 to Monica M Bacon for \$625,000 on Nov. 14

31 S Prospect Ave: Winchester

Investment Services LLC to GFM Development LLC for \$1,753,000 on Nov. 15

306 N Lincoln Ave: 3FCB I LLC Holdings 8 to Glen W Hassler Trust for \$315,000 on Nov. 14

1720 Linden Ave: John Ronan to Mariusz S Gombarczyk for \$390,000 on Nov. 14

304 N Rose Ave: John S Gallagher to Scott Scheuber for \$575,000 on Nov. 14

SKOKIE

8646 Harms Road: Roberta Tiran to Heidi R Officer for \$165,000 on Nov. 13

5019 Mulford St Unit 103: Evelyn Brownstein Trust to Steven C Brownstein for \$80,000 on Nov. 14

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15 yr fixed	2.625	0.000	\$1324	20%	2.740	15 yr fixed	2.750	0.000	\$1870	20%	2.913	15 yr fixed	2.500	0.000	\$995	20%	2.586
5/1 ARM	2.625	0.000	\$1324	20%	2.993	10 yr fixed	2.625	0.000	\$1870	20%	2.862	5/1 ARM	2.500	0.000	\$995	20%	2.771
7/1 jumbo ARM	Call for Rates					30 yr jumbo	3.750	0.000	\$1870	20%	3.785	7/1 ARM	2.750	0.000	\$995	20%	2.846
30 yr jumbo	3.750	0.000	\$1424	20%	3.777	Fannie Mae HARP program available. Call today!						(A) 3 Westbrook Corporate Center, Suite 1010, Westchester, IL 60154 MB.0006479					
(B) 1780 Maple Street, Suite 22, Northfield, IL 60093 MB.0006457						(C) 7111 W. Foster Avenue, Chicago, IL 60656 NMLS# 787575											
KENILWORTH FINANCIAL, INC. 630-812-2100 http://www.KenilworthFinancial.com						PRIMELENDING 708-516-5120 http://www.DTMortgage.com						LENDERS, TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS FEATURE CALL BANKRATE.COM SALES DEPARTMENT @ 800-509-4636					
30 yr fixed	Call for Rates					30 yr fixed	3.375	0.000	\$385	20%	3.394						
5/1 ARM	Call for Rates					15 yr fixed	2.750	0.000	\$385	20%	2.783						
30 yr jumbo refi	Call for Rates					30 yr jumbo	3.750	0.000	\$385	20%	3.757						
15 yr fixed	Call for Rates					RANKED #1 MORTGAGE COMPANY IN AMERICA By Mortgage Executive Magazine for 2011 Volume. Illinois Residential Mortgage Licensee											
FHA and VA Approved- Call us for Details						(A) 15255 S. 94th Ave., Orland Park, IL 60462 MB.6760635											
(B) One Oakbrook Terrace, Suite 210, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181, NMLS#189531 MB.6760321																	

Legend: The rate and annual percentage rate (APR) are effective as of 12/26/12. © 2012 Bankrate, Inc. <http://www.interest.com>. The APR may increase after consummation and may vary. Payments do not include amounts for taxes and insurance. The fees set forth for each advertisement above may be charged to open the plan. (A) Mortgage Banker, (B) Mortgage Broker, (C) Bank, (D) S & L, (E) Credit Union, (BA) indicates Licensed Mortgage Banker, NYS Banking Dept., (BR) indicates Registered Mortgage Broker, NYS Banking Dept., (loans arranged through third parties). "Call for Rates" means actual rates were not available at press time. All rates are quoted on a minimum FICO score of 740. Illinois Mortgage Licensee. Conventional loans are based on loan amounts of \$165,000. Jumbo loans are based on loan amounts of \$435,000. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Lock Days: 30-60. Annual percentage rates (APR) are based on fully indexed rates for adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs). The APR on your specific loan may differ from the sample used. Fees reflect charges relative to the APR. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. Bankrate, Inc. does not guarantee the accuracy of the information appearing above or the availability of rates and fees in this table. All rates, fees and other information are subject to change without notice. Bankrate, Inc. does not own any financial institutions. Some or all of the companies appearing in this table pay a fee to appear in this table. If you are seeking a mortgage in excess of \$417,000, recent legislation may enable lenders in certain locations to provide rates that are different from those shown in the table above. We recommend that you contact your lender directly to determine what rates may be available to you. TO APPEAR IN THIS TABLE, CALL 800-509-4636. TO REPORT ANY INACCURACIES, CALL 888-509-4636. • <http://suburbanchicagonewspapers.interest.com>

WHAT'S IN MY PRICE RANGE?

GLENVIEW

1821 Monroe Court, \$387,000
Townhouse size: 2,000 square feet
Lot size: NA
Year built: 1999
Bedrooms: 3 **Baths:** 3.5
Garage: Two-car attached
Most recent available tax:
 \$6,150 (2011)
Agent: Alla Kimbarovsky, Prudential
 Rubloff Properties, 847-208-7212



NORRIDGE

4637 Oriole Ave., \$398,000
House size: 1,978 square feet
Lot size: 5,762 square feet
Year built: 1958
Bedrooms: 3 **Baths:** 3.5
Garage: Two-car detached
Most recent available tax:
 \$6,174.58 (2011)
Agent: Judel Roberts,
 Fresh Horizon Realty, 312-450-8350



LAKE ZURICH

873 Broadway Court, \$373,900
House size: 2,052 square feet
Lot size: 11,579 square feet
Year built: 1989
Bedrooms: 4 **Baths:** 2.5
Garage: Two-car attached
Most recent available tax:
 \$5,226.45 (2011)
Agent: Michelle Wendell, Prudential
 American Heritage, 847-530-3009



OAK PARK

408 N. Lombard Ave., \$399,000
House size: 2,250 square feet
Lot size: 6,327 square feet
Year built: 1909
Bedrooms: 4 **Baths:** 2.5
Garage: Two-car detached
Most recent available tax:
 \$9,770.75 (2011)
Agent: Laura Talaske, Better Homes &
 Gardens Gloor Realty, 708-851-2211



LAKE FOREST

836 Everett Road, \$365,000
House size: 2,489 square feet
Lot size: 21,981 square feet
Year built: 1955
Bedrooms: 4 **Baths:** 4
Garage: Two-car attached
Most recent available tax:
 \$7,800 (2011)
Agent: Kiki Clark, Prudential Rubloff
 Properties, 847-804-0969



What can I get for \$350K-\$400K?

Suburban Chicago is a desirable place to live. The region is a network of communities that offers access to a world-class city. However, choosing a community from the dozens of towns and villages that surround the city can be challenging for homebuyers.

When it comes to real estate, there is no limit to the choices in the suburbs. Each week, What's In My Price Range? will feature six homes from throughout the area that fall within a certain price range. See just how much your money gets you in the suburbs.

CLARENDON HILLS

318 Reserve Circle, \$399,500
Townhouse size: 2,000 square feet
Lot size: NA
Year built: 1997
Bedrooms: 3 **Baths:** 2.5
Garage: 2.5-car attached
Most recent available tax:
 \$7,241 (2011)
Agent: Tina Porterfield & Anna Fiascone,
 Prudential Rubloff, 630-325-7500



HOUSE FOR SALE? For details to get a home listed on the Price Range page, contact homes@suntimes.com with Price Range in subject line or 312-300-7987. Information for listings that aren't submitted is received from the local county assessor's offices.



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 <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">UNBELIEVABLE BUY!</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Morton Grove...Very affordable 7 room ranch located near transportation, shopping, Park View School, forest preserve/ trails & more! Hardwood floors, new windows & central air. Eat-in kitchen with ceramic tile floor. Large living room + dining room. Bath with whirl pool tub. Full basement with huge family room + den. Roof 4 yrs old. Large yard with patio. 2 car detached garage. Great Location, Move right in and enjoy!!..... Only \$182,000</p>	 <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">SPECTACULAR ARCHITECTURAL FIND!</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Park Ridge. "One of a Kind contemporary "Prairie Style" design backs to forest preserves! Superb finishes/amenities include Brazilian cherry hardwood floors & Granite kitchen. 3 brs & 2 1/2 baths. Master bedroom suite w/2 walk-in closets, separate shower, whirlpool bath, skylight & balcony. Finished lower level family room with bath. Balcony/slate patio off dining room. Paver brick yard/driveway. 2 car attached garage. Showplace Perfection!..... \$449,500</p>
 <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">RARE BRICK 4 FLAT!</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Skokie... Great location near new Skokie Swift Station! Superb solid brick 4 Flat, each apartment has separate furnaces, separate gas and electric meters. Each apartment with 2 bedrooms and 1 bath. New roof and tuck pointing 2009. New windows and interior painted 2008. Many new appliances last 3 years. All kitchens and baths are updated. 2 car garage. Convenient to downtown Skokie and Old Orchard Shopping, restaurants and much more!!..... \$440's</p>	 <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">WHY PAY RENT??</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Skokie...When you can own this very affordable updated 4 room Condo in Super Location, Downtown Skokie, block and a half to the New Skokie Swift Station + near 6 different restaurants. Newer hardwood laminate floors in living room/dining room and bedroom. Bright and cheery 13' eat-in kitchen with ceramic tile floor and updated bathroom. Very clean move in condition!! One car garage parking space. Ask Only..... \$74,900</p>

Mommy



BETH ENGELMAN
MOMMY ON A
SHOESTRING

What can you do with old wrapping paper?

The holidays may have “wrapped up,” but that doesn’t mean your fun has to end. Use wrapping paper remnants to make jewelry, picture frames, flowerpots and more.

WRAPPING PAPER JEWELRY

Go eco-chic with bracelets and necklaces made from old wrapping paper.

You need:

20-40 2 x 4-inch wrapping paper rectangles

Hole punch

Ribbon

Tacky glue (optional)

Directions:

Similar to a gum-wrapper chain, a wrapping paper chain is pretty simple to make. All it requires is a series of folds, a few dabs of glue and a little bit of patience.

Lay one wrapping paper rectangle on a flat surface. Fold one side (lengthwise) into the center.

Fold the other side lengthwise into the center creating a 4 x 1-inch rectangle.

Fold lengthwise again, making a 4 x ½-inch rectangle. Fold the rectangle in half, which will make a 2 x ½-inch rectangle.

Fold the ends into the fold and fold again, creating your first chain link (1 x ½-inch rectangle).

Repeat steps above to make a second chain link.

Attached chain links by inserting the ends of one link through the folded ends of the other. Continue creating chain links and attaching them until you reach desired length.

Punch a hole at the ends of the chain and insert a ribbon to clasp the bracelet or necklace together.

Tip: If some of the paper links pop open, close them with a small dab of glue before attaching the ribbon.

WRAPPING PAPER DECOUPAGE

Add color and design to frames, mirrors and more with wrapping paper and Mod Podge.

You need:



Above and below, Beth Engelman creates a bracelet using wrapping paper. Right, wrapping paper remnants are used for decorative picture borders. Below right, decoupage objects with paper specific to a holiday.

| BUZZ ORR-Sun-Times Media



Wrapping paper remnants
Mod Podge
Paint brush
Flowerpot, picture frame and/or mirror

Directions:

Cut or tear paper into small pieces and apply to desired object (flowerpot, picture frame, etc.)

Continue adding paper until entire surface is covered.

Add a final layer or Mod Podge to seal design. Allow 24 hours to dry.

Tip: Make a holiday themed flowerpot or picture frame with old holiday wrapping paper, which can then be



put away until next season.

MAT PHOTOS AND KIDS' ART

Use wrapping paper to mat photographs and kids' artwork in frames. Not only does it add color and visual interest, but it can also add meaningful context. For example, mat your favorite holiday photo with cheerful

holiday paper or place your preschooler's artwork on a background of baby ducks. The most important thing is to use paper that has a color scheme and pattern that will complement the art, such as small patterns or neutral colors.

Our Facebook friends weigh in

Check out these inventive wrapping paper ideas from our friends on Facebook.

“Next time you mail a package, use wrapping paper as an eco-friendly and budget-friendly alternative to Styrofoam peanuts.” — Cindy

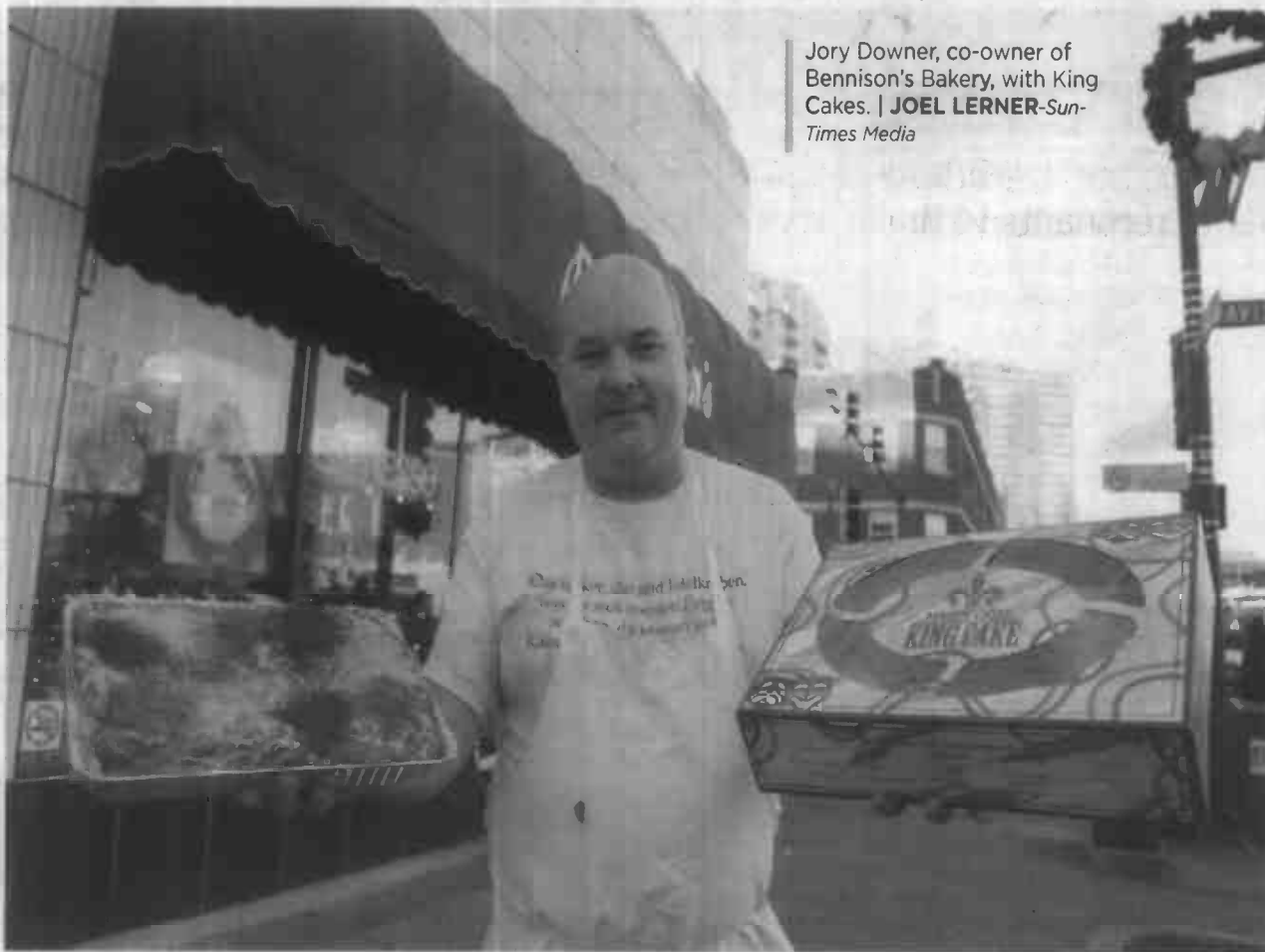
“Use wrapping paper to make a decorative banner for Valentine's Day. Simply cut the paper into small triangles and attach with a ribbon or string.” — Jenna

“Make origami inspired Xmas tree ornaments that won't break

when the baby/dog/cat has a run-in with the tree.” — Amy

“Make bows for other gifts. Wrap up your ornaments to put away. Make ornaments with wrapping paper inside.” — Heather

Become a Facebook friend! Visit www.facebook.com/PioneerPressGo and tell us your favorite use for old wrapping paper. ■



Jory Downer, co-owner of Bennison's Bakery, with King Cakes. | **JOEL LERNER**-Sun-Times Media

King Cake

(FROM JORY DOWNER)

2 tablespoons sugar
 ½ cup warm milk
 2 envelopes dry active yeast
 In large mixing bowl. Combine milk, sugar and yeast. Let stand about 5-10 minutes until yeast foams.
 3 eggs
 ½ cup sugar
 4½-5½ cups bread flour, (like Gold Medal Better for Breads flour)
 2 egg yolks
 2 teaspoons fine salt
 1 stick butter, unsalted
 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
 ¾ cup milk
 Zest from ¼ lemon, zested fine
 ¼ teaspoon nutmeg

Place milk, butter, sugar and salt in microwave-safe bowl. Heat to just melt butter and warm milk. Let stand until slightly warm.

Beat eggs and egg yolks into yeast, add the milk mixture when lukewarm.

Add about half of the flour, stir with a wooden spoon. Gradually add remaining flour, about ½ cup at a time, until soft and not sticky. Then turn out onto work surface and continue kneading flour into dough.

When all flour is incorporated, knead about 5-10 minutes. Grease large bowl with soft butter, place dough inside and cover with a damp cloth. Let sit until double in size, about two hours.

Punch down when doubled. Roll out to about 18-inch x 36-inch rectangle. Brush with additional melted butter and sprinkle with cinnamon sugar (1 cup sugar plus 1-1½ tablespoons cinnamon).

Cut dough into three strips, rolling each, and then braid. Join braided dough in a circle, place on cookie pan lined with parchment paper. Cover with a damp towel and let rise again until almost double in size.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. When dough is doubled, mix one egg with one tablespoon of milk. Brush dough with mixture and place in oven. Reduce temperature to 350 degrees and continue baking 20-30 minutes.

Decorating: Mix one cup powdered sugar with 2-3 teaspoons of milk. Glaze cake when slightly cooled and warm. Sprinkle on separate sections of gold, purple and green-colored sugar over glaze.

King Cake crowns feasts of Epiphany

BY VERONICA HINKE | Contributor

The last crumbs of the *Bûche de Noël* are hardly swept away and it's time for King Cake.

The dessert, a crowning jewel of Epiphany feasts the world over, is not only a Mardi Gras treat. It's a symbol of Epiphany, Jan. 6, a day honoring of the tradition of the three kings' visit to the baby Jesus in Bethlehem. In medieval times it was Twelfth Night, the official end of Christmas revels.

Around the first of the year, Luann Gawlick of Evanston will place her annual order for three or four King Cakes at Bennison's Bakery. On a workday close to the Epiphany, she and 20 of her office co-workers in Lincolnwood will get together at work to share the cakes.

Gawlick's cakes have miniature plastic baby Jesus figures baked into the cake and whoever bites into one are tagged to bring food for the annual Fat Tuesday work lunch. "I just think

it is funny," Gawlick says, "everybody getting a piece of the cake and seeing who gets the doll."

Last year, though, the laugh was on her. After that experience biting into a doll, she advises others to consume King Cake cautiously. Many cultures use a bean, rather than a toy baby, which mean good luck for the finder.

Bakers at Bennison's in Evanston will start making two styles of King Cake after Jan. 1. One of those is co-owner Jory Downer's. Here in the U.S., Downer estimates, the most popular is New Orleans-style King Cake. "They're just more popular nationwide," he says.

This King Cake, a ring of braided sweet bread, is decorated with symbolic colored sugar. Purple, symbolizing justice, green for faith and gold for power color the sugars sprinkled atop a white sugar glaze.

The European variation, a cream-filled puff pastry known as *Galette des Rois*, is a more elegant option for Epiphany.



Toy babies, representing the Christ Child, on a King Cake from Bennison's Bakery. | **JOEL LERNER**-Sun-Times-Media



Your Local Worship Guide



Central Zone

CHICAGO

Edison Park Lutheran Church

6626 N. Oliphant Ave. Chicago, IL
 (Across park from Edison Park Metra)
 773.631.9131, www.edisonparkchurch.com
 Saturday Worship 4:30 p.m.
 Sunday Worship 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
 Rev. Dr. Michael D. Sparby, Sr. Pastor
 Carole Edwards, Associate in Ministry
 Matt Haider, Worship /Music
 Michael Lyda, Children/Youth/Family

St. Paul Lutheran Church

5650 N. Canfield, 60631,
 (708)867-5044, www.stpaulcanfield.org
 Street Level, Air Conditioned
 Sunday Worship 8:15 & 10:45AM
 Sunday School & Adult Bible 9:30AM
 Saturday Worship 6PM
Lutheran Unity School - West
 Pre K-Grade 8, SHARING GOD,
 TOUCHING LIVES EVERYWHERE

Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)

6201 W Peterson Ave.
 Chicago, IL (773) 631-0715
 Saturday Worship 5:30PM
 Sunday Worship 10:30AM
 Holy Communion Weekly
 Pastors: Barbara Berry-Bailey
 and Jeffery King

MORTON GROVE

Morton Grove Community Church Presbyterian Church (USA)

8944 Austin Avenue
 (Lake and Austin)
 Morton Grove, IL
 (847) 965-2982
www.mgccpresbyterian.org
 Sunday Worship 10 AM
 Fellowship 11 AM
 Rev. Lolly Dominski
 Handicapped Accessible
 ALL ARE WELCOME!

NILES

St. John Lutheran Church (LCMS)

7429 N. Milwaukee Ave.
 847-647-9867
www.st-john-niles.org
 Preaching Christ crucified
 for your forgiveness
 Welcoming traditional worship
 Sanctuary Handicap accessible
 Sunday Worship at 9:30
 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45
 Rev. Matthew Joseph Gunia, Pastor
 "For whenever our heart condemns us,
 God is greater than our heart...."
 -1 John 3:20



NORTHFIELD

Willow Creek Community Church North Shore Campus

315 Waukegan Road
 847-441-6599
 Sunday Services: 9 & 11 am
 Promiseland (Infants-Gr5): 9 & 11 am
 Elevate (Grades 6-8): 11 am
 Impact (Grades 9-12): 6 pm
 For more information visit
www.WillowNorthShore.org

NORRIDGE

Zion Lutheran Church

8600 W Lawrence Avenue
 Norridge, IL 60706
 (708) 453-3514
 Rev. Luther John Bajus, Pastor
 Sunday Worship 9:30 am
 Holy Communion 3rd & 5th Sunday
 Early Communion - 1st Sunday 9:00 am
 Sunday School - 10:35 am
 Adult Bible Study - 10:45 am
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 Sharing God's Promises

NORWOOD PARK

Norwood Park Lutheran (ELCA)

5917 N. Nina Ave.
 Chicago, IL 60631
 773-631-2860
 Fax 773-631-0142
 Sunday Worship 10:00 am
 (Communion 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays)
 Education Hour - Sundays 9 am
 Rev. Robert Johnson, Pastor

NORWOOD PARK

St. Alban's Episcopal

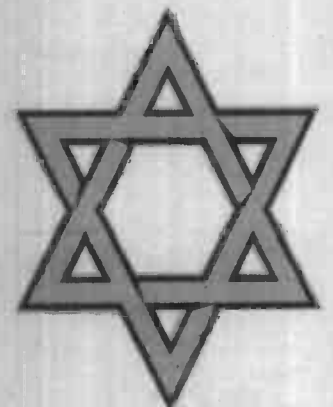
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 near Devon & Harlem
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stalbanschicago.org

PARK RIDGE

Park Ridge Presbyterian Church

1300 West Crescent Avenue
 847-823-4135
www.parkridgepresby.org
 Sunday Service: 10:00 AM



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 call 630-978-8277 or Worship@Pioneerlocal.com



Your Local Worship Guide



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the North Shore since 1954
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at \$150.00
847-676-1566
www.TempleJM.org

**Central United Methodist
Church**

8237 Kenton, Ave., Skokie
(847) 673-1311
www.skokiecentralumc.org
Worship: Sundays at 10:30 AM

**St. Timothy Lutheran
Church**

9000 Kildare Ave. Skokie
847-676-1300
www.StTimothySkokie.org
Worship: Sundays at 10AM

Congregation Bene Shalom

4435 Oakton, Skokie (847) 677-3330
www.beneshalom.org • Interfaith Families Welcome
Rabbi Dr. Douglas Goldhamer
Asst. Rabbi Shari Chen, Soloist Charlene Brooks
All services voice and sign language
Check our website for service times

**Evanshire Presbyterian
Church**

4555 Church Street
www.evanshirepresbyterian.com
Every Sunday at 11AM

Temple Beth Israel

3601 W. Dempster St.
Skokie, IL 60076
847-675-0951
www.tbiskokie.org

SKOKIE**St. Peter's United**

Church of Christ
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847-673-8166
www.stpeteruccskokie.org
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Sunday School 9AM
(Sept. thru May)
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Devar Emet Messianic

Synagogue
7800 Niles Ave., Skokie 847-674-9146
www.devaremet.org
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that Yeshua (Jesus) is the Promised Jewish Messiah"

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10:45 am Traditional Service
with Choir
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Fridays 7:00-9:30 pm
Assyrian Fellowship
Tuesday Evenings 7:15-8:45 pm
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2nd Saturday
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www.ehnt.org
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Minyan Mon-Thurs 7PM;
Sat & Sun 6PM
Monthly Shabbat dinners at 6:30PM
Religious School Wed & Sat;
Rabbi Jeffrey Weill
Cantor Benjamin Warschawski
Rabbi Neil Brief, Emeritus

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Rabbi Barry Schechter
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(1 block west of Eden's)
847-673-3370

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Sunday 8:30 AM Followed by breakfast
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847-674-4117
www.wix.com/skokiecentral/shul

SKOKIE**KEHILLAT SHALOM**

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8610 Niles Center Rd, Skokie
847-679-6513
www.kehillatshalom.org

WILMETTE**Beth Hillel Congregation
Bnai Emunah**

3220 Big Tree Lane, 847-256-1213
www.bhcbe.org
Kabbalat Shabbat Fridays 6:30 PM
Shabbat Service – Saturdays 9:15 AM
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Torah Time 10:30 AM
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<p>Acura 2009 TSX Heated Leather, Bluetooth, CD/MP3, All The Options! #26554B \$19,995 877-766-8864</p>	<p>Acura 2007 RDX W/ Tech Package Navigation, Sunroof, Bluetooth, Loaded! #25989A \$18,995 877-766-8864</p>	<p>Cadillac 2005 SRX Loaded Luxury With Low Miles, All The Toys! #34197 \$13,995 888-638-5096</p>	<p>Toyota 2006 Sienna XLE Heated Leather, Moonroof, Under 60K Miles! #34317 \$17,995 888-638-5096</p>
 	 	 	 
<p>Lexus 2004 LS430 Only 77K Miles! Moonroof, Luxury Package, Navigation, Moonroof, Levinson Sound, 17" Chromes. A Must See! #25843A \$18,995 877-766-8864</p>	<p>Lexus 2007 ES350 Low Miles, Navigation, Moonroof, Bluetooth. Sleek & Loaded! #26629A \$19,995 877-766-8864</p>	<p>Cadillac 2007 DTS Super Low Miles! Great Style & Luxury! #P1202A \$17,975 866-960-7980</p>	<p>Volvo 2007 S60 Dual Zone A/C, Power Options, Super Nice! #5141A \$13,975 866-960-7980</p>
 	 	 	 
<p>Lexus 2005 ES330 With Navigation 86K Miles. Leather, Moonroof, Luxury Loaded. Super Nice. #26469A \$15,995 877-766-8864</p>	<p>Lexus 2003 GX470 Good Miles, Premium Package, AWD, Heated Leather, Great Value! #26486B \$15,995 877-766-8864</p>	<p>Mitsubishi 2010 Lancer Evolution GSR Low Miles. Well Equipped & Sporty! #P1101A \$26,975 866-960-7980</p>	<p>Volkswagen 2013 Jetta Hybrid SEL Loaded With Style! #5194 Hybrids Are Here!!! 866-960-7980</p>

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<p>Chevy 2011 Silverado 2500HD Low Miles, Duramax Diesel, Crewcab, Ready To Work! #C12561A \$42,995 888-695-0977</p>	<p>VW 2008 Passat Turbo German Engineering At It's Finest! Low Miles! #34150 \$14,995 888-638-5096</p>	<p>Acura 2010 RDX Tech Package Navigation Moonroof, Multi-Zone A/C, Heated Mirrors, Leather Interior, Practical Luxury! #33316 \$27,000 866-981-4380</p>	<p>Acura 2003 MDX Touring Package Low Miles For Year, Moonroof, Heated Leather, 3rd Row Seat, Family Ready! #33636 \$13,000 866-981-4380</p>
 	 	 	 
<p>Jeep 2005 Liberty Sport 4x4 Am/Fm/CD, Clean! Priced To Move You! #CP1244A \$8995 888-695-0977</p>	<p>Lincoln 2005 Navigator Ultimate All You Want & More! Reduced Price & Low Miles! #33959 \$14,995 888-638-5096</p>	<p>Audi 2004 A8 LL Navigation Moonroof, Leather Interior, Multi-Zone A/C, Premium Sound System, Affordable Luxury! #33347 \$12,000 866-981-4380</p>	<p>Honda 2003 Pilot EX 3rd Row, Premium Sound. Ready For The Family! #33568 \$9000 866-981-4380</p>
 	 	 	 
<p>Chevy 2007 Express G3500 Chrome Package, A/C, Ready To Work! #C12566A \$10,995 888-695-0977</p>	<p>Honda 2007 Pilot EX-L Loaded From Leather To Navigation! Flawless! #34426 \$16,995 888-638-5096</p>	<p>Ford 2008 Mustang GT Deluxe Super Low Miles! Power Options, Rear Spoiler, A Beauty! #33563 \$19,000 866-981-4380</p>	<p>Acura 2004 TSX With Navigation Super Low Miles! Luxury Loaded! #33578 \$13,000 866-981-4380</p>
 	 	 	 
<p>Hyundai 2007 Santa FE GLS Sport Super Low Miles. CD/MP3, Showroom Fresh! #C12560A \$13,995 888-695-0977</p>	<p>Toyota 2006 Sienna XLE Limited AWD Leather, Moonroof, Navigation! Loaded Family Luxury! #34234 \$16,995 888-638-5096</p>	<p>Acura 2006 TL Low Miles, Sunroof, Leather, Heated Mirrors. This Won't Last! #33573 \$16,000 866-981-4380</p>	<p>Acura 2011 MDX Advance Package With Navigation Good Miles, All The Toys! #P33497 \$40,000 866-981-4380</p>
 	 	 	 
<p>Nissan 2003 Pathfinder LE Super Low Miles! Leather, Moonroof, Premium Sound, Must See! #26610A \$11,995 877-766-8864</p>	<p>Hummer 2005 H2. Ridiculously Low Miles! One Owner, Navigation, Sunroof, Heated Seats & Mirrors. A Powerhouse At A Great Value! #0003243A \$26,905 888-586-7908</p>	<p>BMW 2006 X5 3.0i Low Miles, Moonroof, Heated Mirrors, Super Nice! #33613 \$19,000 866-981-4380</p>	<p>BMW 2006 330i With Navigation Moonroof, Heated Mirrors & More! Loaded! #33507 \$14,000 866-981-4380</p>
 	 	 	 
<p>Mercury 2001 Grand Marquis GS Low Miles, Power Options, In Great Shape! #4713PB \$6995 877-766-8864</p>	<p>BMW 2007 550i Navigation, Sunroof, Heated Mirrors, Black Beauty! #26701A \$20,995 877-766-8864</p>	<p>Lexus 2005 ES 330 Navigation, Heated Leather, Stylish & Loaded! #26658A \$14,995 877-766-8864</p>	<p>Honda 1995 Accord Super Low Miles For Year! Well Equipped At A Great Value! #26604B \$5995 877-766-8864</p>
 	 	 	 
<p>Lexus 2007 RX350 Navigation, AWD, Heated Seats, Loaded Luxury! #4756P \$20,995 877-766-8864</p>	<p>Acura 2006 MDX Touring Heated Seats, 3rd Row Seat, Moonroof, Looks & Runs Great! #26552A \$14,995 877-766-8864</p>	<p>Ford 2005 Escape Hybrid Good For The Environment. Great For Your Wallet! #26062A \$9995 877-766-8864</p>	<p>Subaru 2012 Outback 2.5 Limited Heated Mirrors, Premium Sound. Save Off New! (file photo) \$26,995 877-766-8864</p>

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A CHICAGO SUN-TIMES PUBLICATION

DECEMBER 30, 2012-JANUARY 12, 2013

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family and philanthropy

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need to know

jan. 9-13

Chicago Boat, Sports & RV Show

Escape the winter chill — and daydream of sunny days ahead — at the 2013 Progressive Insurance Chicago Boat, Sports & RV show, where a harbor exhibit, complete with lake fog, a lighthouse, docks and live nautical music, will set the stage for hundreds of boats for sale. Participate in Paddlefest (for paddleboard workout enthusiasts) and peruse a historic wooden boat exhibit, or scout out RVs, kayaks, marine accessories, camping equipment and fishing gear. Hours vary. Adults \$12; children under 15 free. McCormick Place (North Building), 2301 S. Lake Shore. For more information, visit Chicagoboatshow.com.



SCOTT STEWART - SUN-TIMES

THINGS WE LOVE THIS WEEK



We were delighted to learn this gorgeous Organic Coil bracelet (\$170), which bends and spirals elegantly around the wrist, is made of 100 percent wood. Chicago artist **Gustav Reyes** uses a modern "cold bend" technique to create wood jewelry that moves easily when you do. GustavReyes.com



Raise a glass at Boarding House, the long-anticipated, three-level restaurant from master sommelier **Alpana Singh**. Of course, the wine list is spectacular, but we're also excited about dishes like tourtiere ravioli (pictured), northern California-style pizzas and pork tots from chef **Christian Gosse-lin**. Boardinghousechicago.com



Bar Method, known for intense workouts and body-sculpting results, celebrates five years with a new fifth location at 1 E. Delaware, plus the chance to pick up a five-week new client package for \$100, starting Jan. 7.



Erase the signs of another year with Kiehl's new Powerful Wrinkle Reducing Cream, which uses copper to reduce wrinkles and improve elasticity by one-third. \$52 for face cream, \$42 for eye cream; Kiehls.com



SHOPPING SPY

The latest intelligence from the retail scene

SHOP FOR WU

Designer Jason Wu, who rose to fame when first lady Michelle Obama wore his gown for the 2009 inauguration, is making a personal appearance at Nordstrom Michigan Avenue (55 E. Grand) to debut a new contemporary line called Miss Wu. Sold exclusively at Nordstrom, the collection of silk blouses, flirty dresses and leather jackets starts at \$195. View the collection at Nordstrom.com. Jan 10, 6-8 p.m.

ONE STOP, LOADS OF SALES

There are New Year's deals on every level at the 900 North Michigan Shops, but here are a few of our favorites: Karen Millen (level 3) offers up to 70 percent off everything in the store; Cache (level 4) takes an additional 60 percent off already reduced items until Jan. 10; Jane Weber, Ink! (level 5) offers half off all boxed Christmas cards; Yolanda Lorente (level 4) offers 50 to 70 percent off select items while supplies last; and Charles David



Jason Wu

(level 6) offers up to 70 percent off shoes and up to 50 percent off boots through the end of January. See more sales at Shop900.com/newyearsales.com.

MADE FOR WALKING

Chicago-based line Ifeanyi Chuku (at left) offers a colorful take on a classic loafer: the Omu (\$275). Crafted from suede in Bologna, Italy, the shoes are designed to become softer over time. Both men's and women's styles available at Ifeanyichuku.com.



Ifeanyi Chuku

ON THE COVER

Photographer: Anthony Tahlier

Stylist: Eric Himel

Makeup: Sarah Lukasiewicz, Amazing Cosmetics

Hair: Joe Vieyra, Mario Tricoci

On Larsa: Lovers + Friends dress, \$264, Sofia (100 E. Walton); Tory Burch earrings, \$175 (45 E. Oak)

On Scottie: Daniel Hechter sportcoat, \$298; Cutter & Buck shirt, \$99.50; Rochester Big & Tall sweater, \$135
All clothing Rochester Big & Tall (840 N. Michigan Avenue)

the calendar

THE SPLASH SEVEN

PLAN YOUR WEEK

BY THOMAS CONNORS



1 'Macbeth' by Suitcase Shakespeare

Jan. 2-27: The Bard can be a bear, especially for younger audiences. Sure, there's plenty of blood and guts, scheming and smooching. But these shows can be long, and plenty of today's teens find a night in the theater tough to take. Enter Suitcase Shakespeare: This itinerant troupe offers condensed adaptations tailored to high school audiences — powerful, streamlined shows that pack a punch. Tickets: adults \$20, students \$10, seniors/teachers, \$15. Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport. Call (773) 935-6875, or visit AthenaeumTheatre.org.



2 'Shatner's World: We Just Live in It'

Jan. 4: Perhaps no celebrity has had more fun playing with his image — or profiting from our post-modern obsession with irony — than **William Shatner** (left). Even with his artful turn as Denny Crane on "The Practice," the classically trained actor mined his own persona to create a character that never let viewers forget who was pulling the strings. With an actor's aplomb, the octogenarian recalls his Quebec youth, early days on the stage, his career on screens large and small and the meaning of life as he knows it. Tickets \$65 and \$85. Paramount Theatre, 23 E. Galena, Aurora. Call (630) 896-6666 or visit Paramountaurora.com.

3 'I Love Being Me, Don't You?'

Jan. 4-5: As an insider who's willing to spill the beans, an outsider unafraid to toss a few stones and a self-proclaimed diva willing to face the mirror, **Sandra Bernhard** long has been a shrewdly funny showbiz oddity. Whether pondering politics, slamming celebrity culture or singing a song as if she were still the girl from Scottsdale dreaming of stardom, Bernhard never registers as less than the real thing. Tickets: \$45-\$65. City Winery Chicago, 1200 W. Randolph. Call (312) 733-9463 or visit Citywinery.com.



4 Winter Dance 2013

Jan. 4-6: You've let the figgy pudding sit for too long — it's time to get the lead out. What better way to burn those empty calories than to bust a move? Even if you're no twinkle toes, the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events has you covered, with professional instructors offering one-hour introductory classes in swing, salsa and ballroom. After a lesson in the basics, the floor is yours for two hours of dance delight. Free: first come, first served. For more information, please visit Cityofchicago.org.

5 'Side Effects May Include ...'

Jan. 4-Feb. 10: When life hands you lemons, you make lemonade, right? Seinfeld writer **Marc Jaffe** and Emmy-nominated playwright **Eric Coble** have done just that with this one-man show that tackles the seemingly laugh-proof subject of Parkinson's disease. Based on Jaffe's own experience dealing with his wife's diagnosis, the piece stars **Andrew J. Pond** as a stand-up comic whose life alters once his spouse starts showing symptoms. Ten percent of the show's proceeds will be donated to Shaking with Laughter, an organization set up by Marc and **Karen Jaffe** in support of the Michael J. Fox Foundation. Tickets: \$20-\$25. Greenhouse Theater, 2257 N. Lincoln. Call (773) 404-7336 or visit Greenhousetheater.org.

6 'The Second City Guide to the Opera'

Jan. 5: She's received Grammys, an honorary doctorate from Juilliard and has a dessert named after her, but **Renée Fleming** (right) also has a sense of humor. The wildly admired soprano lets us in on the jokes with the zany mash-up she's orchestrated between Second City members, mezzo soprano **J'nai Bridges** and tenor **Bernard Holcomb**. Fleming — who will sing a number or two herself — hosts the show with stage and screen star **Patrick Stewart**. Tickets start at \$40. Civic Opera House, 20 N. Wacker. Call (312) 332-2244 or visit Lyricopera.org.



7 'Passing Through The Opposite of What It Approaches, Chapter 25'

Jan. 6-Feb. 17: Artist **R. H. Quaytman** has made a practice of creating shows in which every work addresses a visual or conceptual theme. At the Renaissance Society, her subject is the gallery itself and its history as a center for the display of conceptual art under the direction of **Susanne Ghez**, who's celebrating her 40th year at this trail-blazing institution. Free. 5811 S. Ellis. Call (773) 702-8670 or visit Renaissancesociety.org.

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HUMAN RIGHTS MEDALLION AWARD DINNER

ALL THAT 'CHAS'

BY KATERINA BIZIOS

The American Jewish Committee honored senior advisor and retired Apollo Group Co-CEO **Chas Edelstein** with dinner, drinks and a lighthearted roast. On Dec. 5 more than 300 guests turned out at the Ritz-Carlton (160 E. Person) for an extra dose of entertainment as Edelstein's celebrity pals **Rob Schneider**, **Jack Hanna** and **Neil McCoy** took the stage to playfully poke fun at the honoree. The evening netted tons of laughs and nearly \$500,000 for the AJC.

PHOTOS BY ELIAS ZIMIANITIS



Lynne and Allan Reich

Stedman Graham



Bill Heavener and Lou Welsbach



Basil Salaymeh, Neal McCoy, Chas Edelstein and Jack Hanna

WORLD OF CHOCOLATE GALA



Peppermint chocolate pot de crème by Hilton Chicago

PRETTY SWEET



Michelle Saltzer and Angela Spencer



Jim Loblanco, Neil Schneider and David Purpura



Gregory Thomas and Andre Shaw



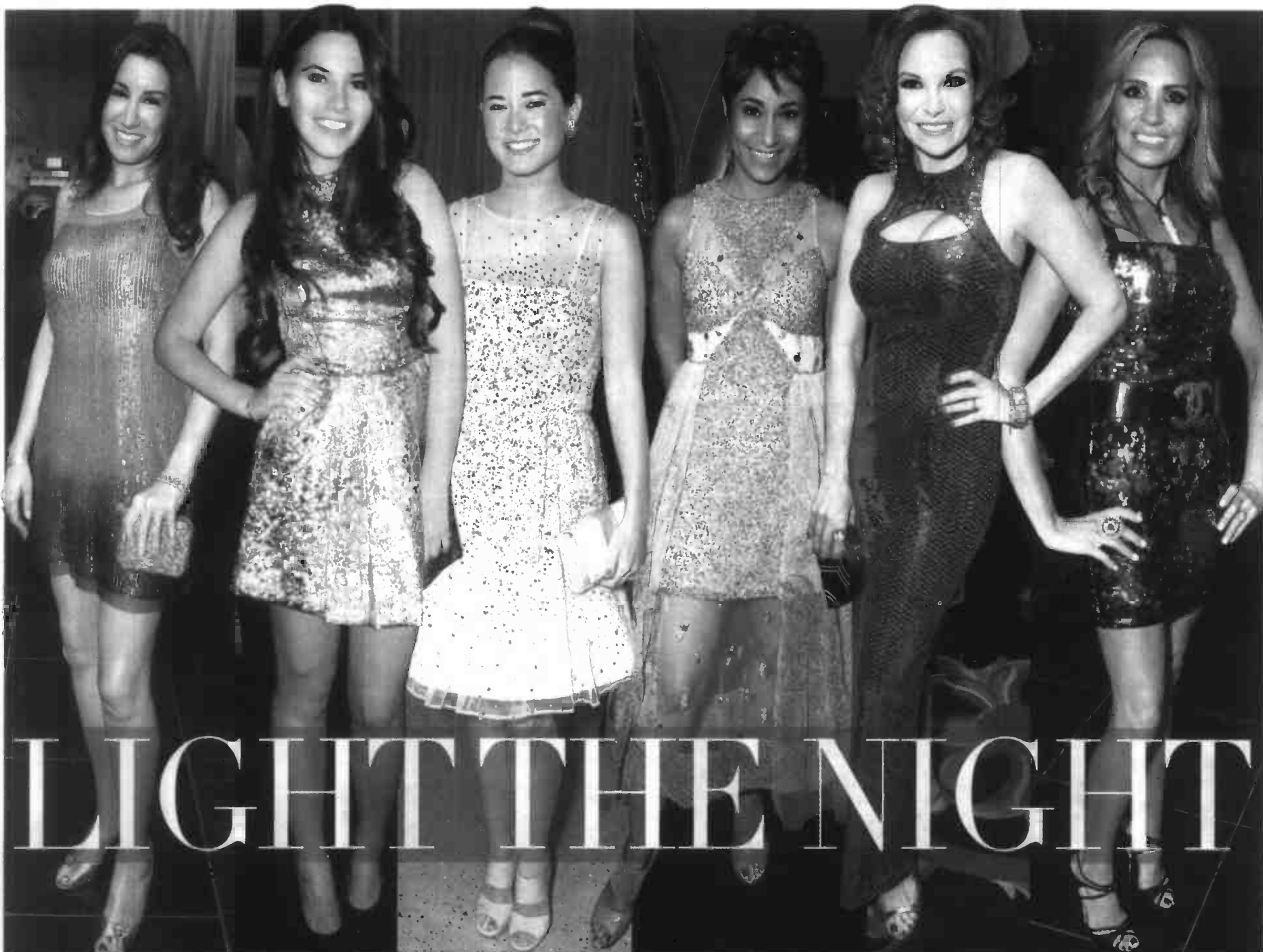
S'mores and candy cane macaroons by The Peninsula Chicago

BY BIANCA BETANCOURT

On Nov. 29 the AIDS Foundation of Chicago satisfied the sweet cravings of more than 1,000 guests at the 11th annual World of Chocolate Gala. Thirty of Chicago's premiere chocolatiers and caterers created cocoa confections ranging from traditional truffles to chocolate-covered mashed potatoes, which were judged by a panel that included RPM chef **Doug Psaltis**, The Bristol chef **Amanda Rockman** and WLS-Channel 7's **Kathy Brock**. Five awards were given to the evening's most creative concoctions, and \$100,000 was raised for the non-profit's mission of battling the spread of HIV/AIDS.

The Sun-Times was the media sponsor of this event.

PHOTOS BY ED NEGRON



LIGHT THE NIGHT

**JULIE
LAMPERT**

in Renzo + Kai
at McGrath Acura

**ELENA
BESSER**

in Urban Outfitters in
the Gold Coast

**JENN
LAKE**

in Alice + Olivia
at McGrath Acura

DESIRÉE ROGERS

in Rodarte at
the Museum of Science
and Industry

TINA WELLER

in a vintage dress from
LuLu's at the Belle Kay at
the Four Seasons Chicago

**KORINNA
ISSELHARDT**

in Dolce & Gabbana
at McGrath Acura

Not even the Times Square ball drop can hold a candle to these Chicago women who dazzle in sequins and glitter, grabbing attention with every twist and turn. Whether in a bright color or a silvery sheen, pick a dress with a flash of shoulder and a flattering cut. When it comes to accessories, metallic shoes, bags and belts are fair game, but use them sparingly, like the ladies featured here. You're sure to start 2013 with a bright statement and the resolution to always be confident, daring and stylish.

FRIENDS OF LA RABIDA



Co-chairs Anne Pramaggiore and Richard Price, La Rabida CEO Brenda Wolf and honorees Jesse and Michele Ruiz with family



WLS-Channel 7's Ravi Baichwal

CARE FOR KIDS



Melody Spann-Cooper, Brenda Wolf and Earl Jones



Gertrude and Jim Wooten

BY KATERINA BIZIOS

Since 1896 La Rabida Children's Hospital has helped young people fight chronic illnesses, developmental disabilities, abuse and trauma and has grown to serve 9,000 children annually. To help fund the cause, 600 friends of La Rabida turned out for the hospital's 26th anniversary gala on Nov. 16 at the Four Seasons (120 E. Delaware). Complete with a live and silent auction — and moving testimonials from patients and families who've defied the odds with La Rabida's help — the gala raised a record-breaking \$750,000. In attendance were WLS-Channel 7's Ravi Baichwal, who served as master of ceremonies, co-chairs Anne Pramaggiore and Richard S. Price, and Sen. Kwame Raoul.

The Sun-Times was the media sponsor of this event. The Sun-Times foundation and The Chicago Community Trust will match donations to La Rabida Children's Hospital, up to \$15,000, now until Jan. 8, 2012. Donate now at: Suntimes-foundation.org/larabida.

PHOTOS BY NEIL GATES AND MARK CAMPBELL

JDRF GALA

LIFE OF THE PARTY



Roy, Isaac and Nate Lippe and Matt Shove



WMAQ-Channel 5's Rob Stafford and Allison Rosati



Colleen Kelly and Tricia Fusilero



Mellssa and Bob Laskey

BY KATERINA BIZIOS

The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's Illinois Chapter had an ambitious multimillion dollar fundraising goal for its 33rd annual Chance of a Lifetime Gala, and reached it when the party pulled in more than \$3 million. On Dec. 8 the McCormick Place Lakeside Ballroom Center and Arie Crown Theater (2301 S. Lake Shore) hosted about 2,000 guests for dinner and a live performance by Grammy Award-winning artists Kool & the Gang, who performed their hits (including "Ladies Night," "Jungle Boogie" and "Celebration"). The money raised will help fund research to find a cure for type 1 diabetes.

The Sun-Times was the media sponsor of this event.

PHOTOS BY MARK WHEATLEY

CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S ALL ABOARD

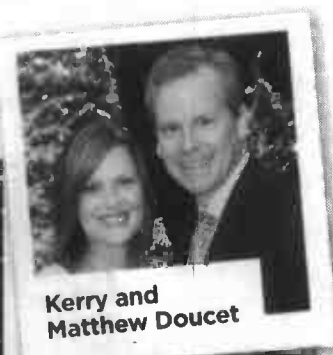


Patrick Kearney, Emily Betts Susanin and Sean Susanin

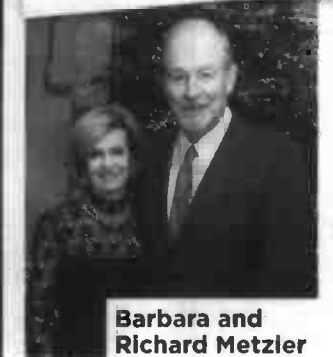
WISH UPON A CZAR



Gerald, Marina and Donald Miller



Kerry and Matthew Doucet



Barbara and Richard Metzler

BY BIANCA BETANCOURT

On Nov. 29 the Woman's Board of the Chicago Horticultural Society hosted about 400 guests for All Aboard, a Russian-themed fundraiser. Guests sampled vodka and caviar during a cocktail reception, and later enjoyed dinner in one of three rooms that were replicas of Russian imperial palaces. Lively entertainment was provided by Russian singing ensemble Golosa. Co-chaired by **Gail Miller** and **Alicia Crawford**, the party raised \$300,000 to support community gardening programs.

The Sun-Times was the media sponsor of this event.

PHOTOS BY ROBERT CARL

CHICAGO/MIDWEST EMMY AWARDS



Hector Villegas, Daniella Guzman, Angellca Atondo and Alex Lopez



Morgan and Stefan Holt

PRIME TIME

BY BIANCA BETANCOURT

The Alhambra Palace Restaurant (1240 W. Randolph) was a multiplatform media hub when 600 industry professionals gathered for the 54th annual Chicago/Midwest Emmy Awards. The event was emceed by Sun-Times columnist **Richard Roeper**, who was joined by honorees including WMAQ-Channel 5's **Daniella Guzman** and **Stefan Holt**, WFLD-Channel 32's **Robin Robinson** and "Windy City Live" host **Ryan Chiaverini**. In addition to recognizing local television excellence, organizers invested in the next generation of storytellers by awarding \$20,000 in scholarships to journalism students.

The Sun-Times was the media sponsor of this event.

PHOTOS BY ROBERT J. DOWEY



Greg Klazura and Mary Hynes



Quanica McClendon, Garrard McClendon and Roz Varon



Keri Morgan, Brittney Payton and Laura Hoffman

sunday in the life

The Diet Doctor

Bestselling author **Dr. Ian Smith** shreds the stress and relaxes with family and good food

BY ZAK STEMER

He's a lean, mean, fat-fighting machine and he's gunning for you — but don't worry, you'll thank him for it. **Dr. Ian Smith**, the Hyde Park-based medical mind behind four bestselling wellness books, just penned his fifth guide to slimming down, *Shred: The Revolutionary Diet*. Released on Dec. 24, the book details Smith's sure-fire way to drop the extra pounds quickly, safely and without feeling hungry. "The concept is diet confusion. Every day there's variety," says Smith. "The number one comment about the diet is that there's too much food." With four meals a day and three snacks, the Shred diet is a welcome antidote to crazy crash diets and ultra-low calorie plans, making Smith poised to be 2013's most popular diet expert.

Between steady TV stints on shows like "The Dr. Oz Show" (including an episode focused on the Shred diet airing Jan. 2), "Rachael Ray Show," "The Steve Harvey Show" and "Anderson Cooper Live," Smith is developing an entire line of products to complement the healthy lifestyle he embodies. The new line of Shred snacks, bars and drinks will hit store shelves later in the year. "This program is extremely convenient, extremely portable. I built it because not everyone has the time or the energy or the desire to cook," explains Smith.

That attitude infuses every aspect of the diet, from the actual food plan that makes dining out a snap to the exercise program, which can even be done on the go. "I give people exercise recommendations. Sometimes you can slack; if it's a 30-minute workout, maybe you can do 15 minutes," he says. There's even a workout that only involves a rope and a chair, making it ideal for travel.

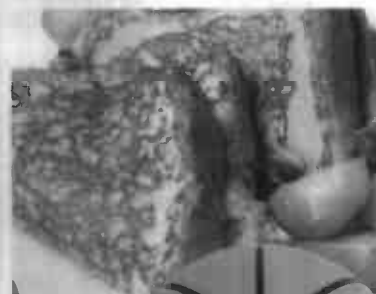
Thanks to Smith, dropping pounds might be a resolution we can actually stick to.

Here, he maps out his perfect Sunday.



6:30 A.M.
"I have two small kids, so I'm up early," says Smith. To start his day on the right foot, he heads to L.A. Fitness (1301 E. 47th) for a quick workout.

8 A.M.
Smith exercises his hidden cooking talents by making French toast and pancakes from scratch.



9 A.M.
Sundays are the perfect time for a pick-up game of basketball at a local Hyde Park court.



11 A.M.
Smith heads to the UIC pavilion (525 S. Racine) to hear a sermon by Pastor John Hannah of the New Life Covenant Church.



12:30 P.M.
Lunch is a family favorite: either Frankie's (900 N. Michigan) for pizza or Bandera (535 N. Michigan) for ribs.

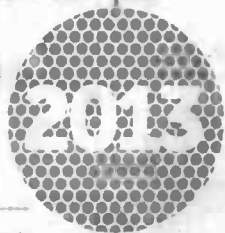
3 P.M.
A hands-on dad, Smith gives his five-year-old son a tennis lesson at XS Tennis (1301 E. 47th).



6 P.M.
The family comes together again for another of Smith's home-cooked meals. Dinner is barbecued steak, buttery mashed potatoes and honey-glazed carrots.



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SPLASH



Scottie and **Larsa Pippen** settle into Chicago's North Shore and focus on family, philanthropy and a brand new reality show

STORY BY MOLLY EACH
PHOTOS BY ANTHONY TAHLIER

holding court

HOME COURT ADVANTAGE: Scottie and Larsa Pippen pose on the newly built basketball court inside their home.

ON LARSA: SAUCE LEGGINGS, \$80, SOFIA, 100 E. WALTON; TORY BURCH SHOES, \$395; TORY BURCH BRACELET, \$295, 45 E. OAK; TOP AND EARRINGS, LARSA'S OWN

ON SCOTTIE: DANIEL HECHTER JACKET, \$248; THOMAS DEAN SHIRT, \$14; SOCIETY OF ONE JEANS, \$99; ALL CLOTHING ROCHESTER BIG & TALL (840 N. MICHIGAN)

STYLIST: ERIC HIMEL; MAKEUP: SARAH LUKASIEWICZ, AMAZING COSMETICS; HAIR: JOE VIEYRA, MARIO TRICOCI

For much of his career, Scottie Pippen has been one half of a dynamic duo. As a member of the Chicago Bulls from 1987 to 1998, Pippen was the yin to Michael Jordan's yang — his defensive prowess, ability to step into almost any on-court role and more reserved personality complementing his teammate's flashy dunks, buzzer-beating shots and hyper-competitive attitude. Together, Pippen and Jordan won six championships and a gold medal and cemented themselves individually and as teammates in the top tier of players and teams to ever grace the court.

It's been eight years since Pippen, 47, retired from the game. Now, he's stepping back into the spotlight as one half of a different dynamic duo: Scottie and Larsa. After living in Florida for several years, the Hall of Famer, his wife of 15 years and their four children — Scottie Jr., Preston, Justin and Sophia — have recently returned to Chicago, and have moved into a home on the North Shore.

"I feel like the people in Chicago are really grounded," says Larsa, who grew up here. "It's better for our family."

Posting up in Chicago means returning to Scottie's roots as a member of the Bulls organization. He recently took a new position as senior advisor to team president and COO Michael Reinsdorf, a role that has him helping out on everything from working with sponsors to advising current players. For Scottie, it's good to be back not only with the team, but with the fans who supported him for so long.

"[The Bulls] have always been able to keep the players close to the fans, with opportunities to meet and greet and do things together," says Scottie. "They've always tried to focus on guys with great character. Not just guys who can do things on the court, but guys that will be good for the city. For the players, it's great to be a part of the community."

Though they've been back just a few months, the Pippens have already entrenched themselves in the local philanthropic scene — and they're doing much more than just making donations. In addition to working actively with the Chicago Bulls charities, Scottie recently made his theatrical debut in the Goodman Theatre's "A Christmas Carol" through Make-A-Wish, appearing on stage alongside a young aspiring actress. Larsa has been working with Gilda's Club and Bright Pink, the Chicago-based organization that promotes screening and awareness of breast and ovarian cancers. It's a non-profit that is especially close to Larsa after a recent scare. "The doctor sent me a letter that said, 'We found something in your left breast. Come back in six months.' I was like, 'six months? Are you crazy?'" She sought out a specialist and everything turned out to be fine, though the experience was a wake-up call. "If I wasn't as paranoid and crazy as I am, then who knows what could have happened?" she says. "I like that [Bright Pink] is about knowing your body and being proactive."

On Jan. 8, the Pippens' on-court accomplishments will take a backseat to their philanthropic efforts as the duo is honored for their work with the Chicago Bulls charities at a United Center gala. Helmed by Nancy Reinsdorf — with some input from Larsa — the event will feature dinner and cocktails with an ambiance that's more glamorous than previous years. "We wanted it to be more formal, to take it to the next level," says Larsa. "We didn't want to have anyone wearing jeans at a Bulls gala. So we're making it much nicer."

While they're taking center stage in Chicago, they're about to put their lives on display nationally with a new reality show for WE TV called "Big Pippen."

"At times athletes are portrayed in such a negative way," says Larsa. "I want to show that my husband isn't like that. He's a great dad, a great husband and we've been married for 15 years. It will be fun to show." While the couple has dabbled in reality TV before — Larsa was on the first season of the "Real Housewives of Miami" — this time they will have creative control,



Clockwise from top: Scottie and Larsa go head-to-head on their home court; The couple talks to children at Lurie Children's Hospital; Pippen and Michael Jordan walk to the bench during a game against the Utah Jazz in the 1997 NBA finals. | ANTHONY TAHILIER; COURTESY LURIE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL; TOM CRUZE-SUN-TIMES FILE PHOTO

from producing credits to input on what to shoot. And this time, instead of a group of strangers, the show will follow the family as well as the extended Pippen brood (Scottie comes from a family of 12, Larsa from a family of five). Just don't expect unnecessary drama or petty fights; at the end of the day, the Pippens are a pretty normal family. They take the kids to school every morning, can often be found in the stands at their kids' basketball games, eat dinner together every night and Scottie and Larsa try to spend time together after the kids are in bed.

For average couples to be married 15 years is an achievement. But for celebrities, it's practically a lifetime. So what's the secret? "There are times when it's so good, and time when it's [not]," says Larsa. "But you kind of have to make yourself happy first, then you can make the other person happy." For Scottie, making it work in a marriage mirrors his on-court drive. "We're in it all the way. That's what makes it work, two people who are willing to commit themselves."

An Evening with the Chicago Bulls, Jan. 8. Tickets: \$400, call (312) 455-4000 or visit Bulls.com/community.

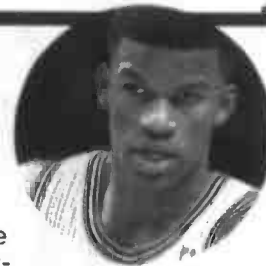
THE REAL LARSA



Fans of the "Real Housewives of Miami" know Larsa from season one of the show, and while it was rumored that she was fired for being "boring," according to Larsa, the split was mutual. "The reason I did [the show] was to showcase all of the charities I was involved with. But none of it made the footage! All they kept showing was me complaining about my nannies," she says. And the drama was just too much for the Chicago native. "I didn't know any of the girls on the show [before filming], and when you're put in a situation with a bunch of strange women, you can't act like yourself. I couldn't handle all of the cat fights."

PIPPEN ON THE BULLS

What does Pippen think of this year's Bulls squad? While he cites Jimmy Butler as a young player who is fun to watch, he says that the team as a whole really gets him fired up. "People have written this team off in terms of what they're capable of without Derrick [Rose]. But you know, we're still one of the top teams in the league defensively, and that's what it takes to win games. So as long as they maintain that caliber and put in that effort night in and night out, they'll definitely be in the top 8 when it's all said and done."



HIS DREAM MATCHUP

When asked what current player he wishes he could have played against in his prime, he answers quickly.

"LeBron [James]," he says. "I kind of played against Kobe, but I was at the end so it was like a grandfather playing against a kid. But I would have loved to play against LeBron."

5 minute fixes

Make a resolution to take advantage of these quickie style solutions

BY AMY TARA KOCH

Busy women have no moments to spare. Believe me, I get it. As a card-carrying member of the supremely stressed syndicate, I know all about time constraints and priorities. Between putting in crazy hours at work and raising a family, the time that used to be spent on ME — namely toning at the gym, grooming at the salon and primping in front of the mirror — has evaporated. But I still manage to carve out the nanoseconds required to pull myself together. The trick? Having an arsenal of quickie style solutions at the ready.

<< Have a go-to uniform

Decisions are draining. With a cache of power basics at the ready, dress stress is easily eliminated from morning mayhem. Have four or five go-to outfits that are flattering and versatile and can be dressed up or down for most life situations. Examples: a black wrap or sheath dress with a flowy asymmetrical cardigan, the perfect tunic and leggings, dark denim and a go-anywhere blazer or a white button down with black trousers. Keep it neutral. Keep it basic. Keep it simple.



Clean your closet

Women always complain that they have “nothing to wear,” a claim often made within spitting distance of a closet teeming with shirts, dresses and skirts. The problem? Overwhelming clutter. Without a pared-down closet, you will always feel overwhelmed and make poor choices. Once you rid yourself of all keep-sake clothing — think “Dynasty”-era power blazers, boxy button downs and when-I-lose-weight clothing — getting dressed will be a snap.



Just say no to sweats

It's easy to pop on sweat pants when you're picking up the kids from school, but sweats do no one's figure any favors. Their voluminous cut makes legs look stocky and thighs resemble tree trunks. They make an extra 5 pounds look like 15. They make your butt balloon. Switch out sweats for more stylish bottoms and look instantly more polished.

<<Ann Taylor: Modern sporty twill slim leg pants, \$59, 845 N. Michigan, (312) 573-2775; Anntaylor.com



Two Penny Blue: Cambridge blazer in gray, \$355; 2pennyblue.com

Stop making excuses

Looking good has everything to do with feeling good. But getting to an actual gym before or after a grueling day is often impossible. Don't let that minor detail hinder your physical activity. Gaiam resistance bands can tone biceps, triceps, shoulders and chest. A mushy playground ball can strengthen thighs and belly with deep plies toning legs and butt, and sit-ups with the ball between the knees strengthen the core.

Gaiam: covered resistance cord kit, \$14, Target, 2656 N. Elston; Gaiam.com

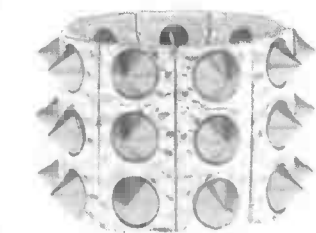


BareMinerals: Multi-tasking face mineral powder, \$18, Sephora, 108 N. State; Barescentuals.com



Wear makeup

Let's face it: Jennifer Lawrence-esque luminescence is a 20-something trait. It's one of those unfair things that keeps the beauty industry funded. Looking polished is not about a bouncy blowout and face full of makeup. It's about evening out your skin tone. Mineral powder foundation takes 30 seconds to apply. With the flick of a brush-wielding wrist, uneven skin is flawless with a weightless powder that delivers a version of you, but airbrushed and more radiant.



Topshop: spike stretch bracelet, \$30; 830 N. Michigan; Us.topshop.com

Add a transformative accessory

Statement accessories — a dramatic scarf, a cuff or a “wow” necklace — serve as fashion Botox, punching up an outfit. The three minutes that it takes to pop on some accessories is the difference between a look that is ho-hum to one that's high wattage. To stay stylishly prepared, keep accessories at work or stashed in your car for emergencies.

Get rid of sallow skin

You don't need a visit to the spa to revive a dull complexion. Juveel is a breakthrough serum that brightens and tightens skin by infusing it with a highly concentrated, cryogenically frozen form of L-ascorbic acid (vitamin C). Juveel regenerates cells and delivers instant radiance to a not-so-vibrant visage. For maximum results, try the transformative 21-day kit.



Juveel: Advanced Skin Rejuvenation Kit, \$155, Marlo Tricoli, 900 N. Michigan, (847) 202-1900; Marlotricoli.com



Learn to layer

When you add a leather jacket, classic blazer or hot pink cardi-coat to a basic black dress, a look is born and your basics are suddenly cooler. By mixing and matching a basic with layering pieces, a woman can recast a handful of garments into looks that work for almost any situation in her life.

Lower your neckline

An open neckline always receives high marks in the style department. The exposed skin breaks up the line from shoulder to chest, drawing attention to the neck and décolletage and making a woman look taller, longer, leaner and sexier. Bonus? An open neckline also succeeds in making a large chest look smaller.

<< Elleen Fisher: Merino shawl collar cardigan, \$238, Bloomingdales, 900 N. Michigan; Bloomingdales.com

Ditch your sneakers

Fact: A woman sporting great shoes is perceived as polished and pulled together while a woman in sneakers looks frumpy. Sure, sneaks are comfortable and easy to pull on in the morning. But there are many footwear options that are as comfortable as sneakers and far more chic, like these London Sole ballet flats.



London Sole: Simple navy leather quilt with toecap, \$165; Londonsole.com



NEW YEAR'S YOGI

Lululemon's regional manager Brooke Johnson shares her favorite picks for feeling good and staying in shape

1. Shred415: drop-in class, \$24, 230 W. Division, (312) 291-8722; Shred415.com

"This might be one of the most intense workouts I've experienced. I feel almost zero guilt about what I eat after this calorie-burning class. It's interval training at its best."

2. Lululemon Athletica: The Mat, \$68, 2104 N. Halsted; Lululemon.com

"This is the best mat I've ever practiced on. It's got incredible grip and I don't slide while I move into the poses. My downward dog stays put!"

3. Fresh: Sugar Plum tinted lip treatment SPF 15, \$22.50, Sephora, 108 N. State; Sephora.com

"I'm addicted to lip treatments, and this one combines all my favorite elements. It has SPF 15, smells delightful and gives a great sheer plum tint to the lips."

4. Yves Saint Laurent: Touche Éclat radiant touch highlighter \$40, Nordstrom, 55 E. Grand; Nordstrom.com

"On those days when I'm dragging and feeling sleep-deprived, Touche Éclat instantly gives me a lift. The dark circles somehow disappear and it makes me seem more awake and vibrant. Fake it till you make it!"

5. Maya Tulum Spa Resort: three-day yoga retreat: starts at \$950; Rrresorts.com/mayatulum

"I just came back from a Baron Baptiste yoga retreat at Maya Tulum, a beautiful resort on the Mayan Riviera, where every guest gets their own cabana located on the beach. Daily yoga practice with walks on the beach and delicious, healthy cuisine make for a guiltless getaway."

6. Kind Healthy Snacks: Kind bar, \$1.99, Target, 1154 S. Clark; Target.com

"I'm not a bar type of person — I'd rather have a good meal. That said, Kind bars work for me. I love that they use simple, natural ingredients I can actually pronounce. Plus, I think their philosophy of being kind to your body and kind to others is just good business."

7. Protein Bar: Wrigley Peeled smoothie, \$4.39-\$5.39, 235 S. Franklin; Proteinbarchicago.com

"A mix of chocolate protein, milk, all-natural peanut butter, banana and organic agave nectar. It's a winning combination — and a favorite snack of mine. It tastes too good to be healthy, and yet it's exactly that."

8. Zoe Oliver: Bezel-set purple chalcedony earrings, \$120; Zoeoliver.com

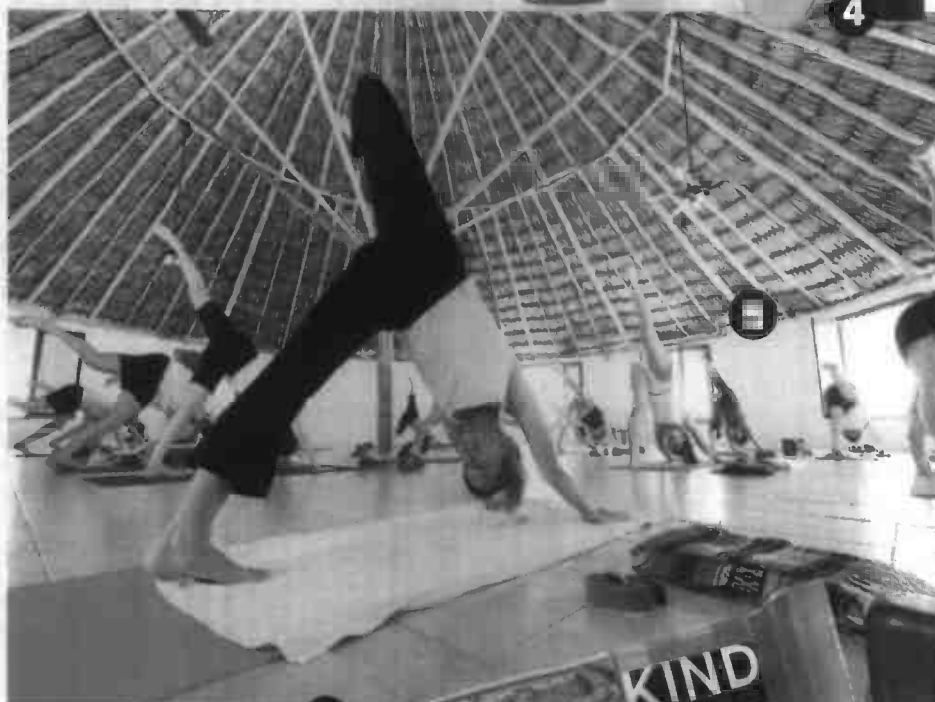
"I adore Zoe Oliver jewelry, created by the lovely Chicagoan Maggie Rhodes Shapack. Each piece of jewelry has healing gemstones that can attract things such as love, prosperity and balance into one's life. Receiving good energy while wearing pretty jewelry — yes, please."

9. A to Z Wineworks: pinot noir, \$16.99, Binny's, 213 W. Grand, (312) 332-0012; Binnys.com

"Unwinding with a glass of wine helps me achieve mental wellness. A to Z Pinot Noir is one of my go-tos after a long day."

10. Lululemon Athletica: Wunder Under pant, \$82, 900 N. Michigan and 930 N. Rush; Lululemon.com

"These are my favorite pants. They're my yoga class staple, but I also pair them with boots or flats and transform them into a daily uniform."



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PHOTOS BY TONE STOCKENSTRÖM

January Wong & Jordan Wishner

January Wong and Jordan Wishner first met at 16 through a mutual friend, but it was charity work that brought them closer after college. While they were both serving on the junior board for Linda's Hope — a local pancreatic cancer nonprofit — they built a friendship that turned romantic in 2007 after sharing a cab ride together from an event. Three years later, Wishner, owner of the Health Insurance Shoppe, popped the question with a custom designed Lester Lampert ring. On their wedding day, Wong, who is the Reiss shop manager at Bloomingdale's, wore an Oscar de la

Renta gown and sparkling tiara by Erin Cole. The bride chose the Palmer House Hilton hotel's Empire Room as the venue to match her elegant attire. "My grandma used to go there for drinks and dancing and to see famous musicians play, so it brought back memories for her," says Wong. In order to incorporate both of their religions, Wong and Wishner had a rabbi and pastor present for the ceremony, which opened with Vail, their Boston Terrier, walking down the aisle with their flower girl. At the reception, a live band kept guests dancing until after 1 a.m. —*Katerina Bizios*

CHEERS!

Congratulations to hair legend **Marlo Tricoci**, who celebrated the reopening of his newest salon and day spa at Old Orchard Mall on Dec. 11 with complimentary services like mini-facials and massages.



Larry Silvestri, Cheryl Tricoci, Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen and Marlo Tricoci | GLENN KAUPERT-FOR SPLASH



We're tipping our hats to chef **Jonas Falk** — CEO and founder of OrganicLife, an organization providing healthful food options for schools across the Midwest — for being named to Forbes magazine's "30 under 30" list in the food and wine category.



Eleni and George Bousis

Warm wishes go to friend of Splash **George Bousis**, founder and CEO of Chicago-based company Coupon Trade, for partnering with his parents' grocery store chain Cermak Produce to donate \$5,000 to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana.

Send us your cheers at *Splash* @suntimes.com

sunday dinner



Local point

The team behind Chicago Cut looks to the neighborhood for their next concept: **The Local**

BY MOLLY EACH

Steakhouse honcho **David Flom** has an unexpected back story. For three generations his family has run one of the country's largest pea farms in Cannon Falls, Minn. Today they supply around 90 percent of Green Giant's product, and once a year Flom and his entire extended family head home for a giant harvest party.

So it's easy to see why for Flom's newest eatery, he and business partner **Matthew Moore** veered away from the power lunch/business dinner/white tablecloth vibe of their first restaurant, Chicago Cut Steakhouse, and created a more low-key spot. To Flom, it was just what the Gold Coast needed.

"There were lots of fancy, special-occasion spots in the area," says Flom of the enclave east of Michigan Avenue. "But nowhere you could go with

your significant other or a group that's not over the top. We wanted [a place] that soothes the soul on a daily basis." Enter The Local, a restaurant that pays homage to the surrounding clientele — the locals — as well as the fact that many of the ingredients are sourced from around the Chicago area.

Located inside the Hilton Suites Chicago, the restaurant maintains some of the signatures of Chicago Cut — an elegant dining room, an iPad wine list, impeccable service — but boasts homespun touches like stars and stripes décor and a menu of classic Americana cuisine created by chef **Travis Strickland**, a veteran of the noted **Inn at Blackberry Farms** restaurant in Tennessee. Even if you're not a neighborhood denizen, it's worth a trip to the Gold Coast for his menu of classic comfort

food, including a cobb salad with filet mignon (\$25), Dr Pepper barbecue baby back ribs served with fries and slaw (\$26) or a bowl of chicken noodle soup (\$8). For the most traditional and nostalgic American comfort food dishes, look to the daily specials menu for Monday's meatloaf, served on a pile of mashed potatoes (\$24), Tuesday's chicken potpie (\$22) or Sunday's fried chicken and waffles (\$22). For libations, The Local offers tap brews such as Bell's and Two Brothers, a full bar and 120 different bottles of wine. Don't leave without ordering up a side of the mac and cheese. In a nod to Flom's family, it's mixed with thick chunks of bacon and peas, which add a bright note to a traditionally heavy — and delicious — dish.

198 E. Delaware, (312) 280-8887, TheLocalChicago.com

Americana To Go



Does all this talk of The Local have you craving some traditional American comfort food? GrubHub to the rescue! Here are a handful of our favorite soulful American dishes in Chicago — all available for takeout.

Markethouse Restaurant 611 N. Fairbanks Ct.

It doesn't get a whole lot more American than an egg salad sandwich, and the Swan Creek Egg Salad Sandwich at Markethouse does this favorite justice. Add the Roasted Wild Mushroom Casserole as your side and prepare to feast.

Pork Shoppe 2755 W. Belmont Ave.

Pork Shoppe Barbecue Restaurant in Logan Square offers some of the best southern-style takeout we've had, and we highly recommend the Pork Belly Pastrami Sandwich with sides of Sweet and Spicy Cornbread and Cream Corn. Oh lawd.

The Meatloaf Bakery 2464 N. Clark St.

This pickup-only "bakery" serves up an always-changing menu of inventive meatloaf concoctions, and the Mother Loaf Cupcake has consistently been one of their most popular items on GrubHub.

Market 1113 W. Randolph St.

Market delivers a mean assembly of American classics. A few GrubHub favorites include Markets Stack'd Reuben Sandwich, Mac and Cheese and Truffle Fries.

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real estate

New starts

For the new year, get a clean slate with a new-construction home

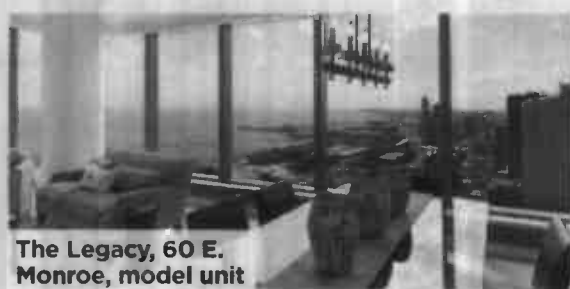
BY LISA SKOLNIK

Why buy new? "Besides pristine floors and walls and fresh appliances, the associated costs — from assessments to potential repairs — can be lower because of new state-of-the-art building materials and mechanicals that offer energy efficiencies and sport warranties," says Coldwell Banker broker **Stephanie Englund-Siegel**. Unfortunately, new construction residences can be hard to find thanks to the housing market crash in 2008. In fact, last month Home Builders Association of Greater Chicago President **John Wozniak** noted that new residences have dropped from a high of 36,000 six years ago to less than 3,000 annually.

That makes spanking new places a rarity until housing starts to gain traction, but there are still some intriguing pre-crash options on the market with improved pricing. A 10 percent lower ask is one of the reasons why this condo in Lincoln Square Homes at 4950 N. Western is an exceptional deal. Now \$265,000, the one-bedroom (plus den) two-bathroom is the last developer-owned unit in the concrete, steel and brick construction building, which is quieter thanks to those materials. It has high-end finishes, stainless-steel appliances and custom-made Amish cabinets in the kitchens and bathrooms. This unit is also a penthouse and sports an exceptionally large outdoor terrace, notes Englund-Siegel (773-750-6423, [Stephanie.englund@cbexchange.com](mailto:englund@cbexchange.com)), who is marketing the residence. Indoor heated parking spaces are also still available.



4950 N. Western, unit PH4 (top), unit 4H (bottom left) and unit G (bottom right)



The Legacy, 60 E. Monroe, model unit



The Columbian, 1160 S. Michigan, unit 3601

More 'new' old stock

The 11 units left in the Columbian (1160 S. Michigan), a 47-story luxury building that went up in 2008, are now "probably the best value on Grant Park because they've been reduced to \$300-\$400 per square foot, compared to \$500-\$700 at two nearby buildings," notes the development's marketing chief, **Garry Benson**. (Contact **Kay Varga**, 312-341-0000, Kvarga@garrisonpartners.com.)

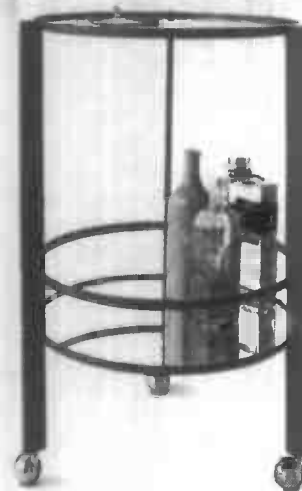
Prices range from \$329,900 for an

850-square-foot, one-bedroom one-bathroom to \$1,899,900 for a 3,483-square-foot, two-bedroom 2.5-bathroom.

Also enticing is the Legacy at Millennium Park (60 E. Monroe), where there are about 100 units left, including an 845-square-foot, one-bedroom one-bathroom for \$393,000; a 2,400-square-foot, three-bedroom 3.5 bathroom; and \$6 million half- and full-floor penthouses.

Contact the sales center at (312) 252-0060.

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la la liz

DISPATCHES FROM OUR CHICAGOAN IN HOLLYWOOD, LIZ CROKIN

Brangelina breakup?

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie are breaking up! That is, if you're to believe one of the many 2013 predictions celebrity psychic **Thomas John** gave me in an interview. He also predicts many other Hollywood splits, weddings and the sex of **Kate Middleton's** baby.

Liz Croklin: *What couples will break up next year?*
Thomas John: Sharon Stone and Martin Mica will part ways. **Kathy Griffin** and **Randy Bick** will split. However, none of these breakups compare to the drama surrounding the split I am seeing around **Brad and Angelina**. I just do not see this [wedding] happening.



LC: *Will Kate Middleton have a boy or a girl? What about twins?*

TJ: I'm predicting that **Kate Middleton** is having a boy. I think the rumors about her health issues being related to twins are actually not true ... I just see a boy coming, not two children and not a girl. And **Pippa** is going to be going off and doing her own thing.

LC: *There are a lot of engaged celebrity couples who have not set wedding dates yet — who do you see walking down the aisle and when?*

TJ: **Britney Spears** and **Jason Trawick** are going to be stronger than ever. I do not see a wedding next year for them, though. **Jes-**

sica Simpson will have a wedding, but I actually feel it [happening] very soon. **Jennifer Aniston** and **Justin Theroux** will also wed in 2013.

LC: *Will troubled Lindsay Lohan get her act together or continue on a downward spiral?*

TJ: **Lindsay Lohan** will start to pull it together. She will get some awards. She will begin to really distance herself from her parents, and that will be the key to her success. A big role in 2014 will bring her back.

LC: *Will Tom Cruise get a new girlfriend next year and marry again?*

TJ: **Tom Cruise** will be with a major girlfriend by summer 2013 and be wed to her in 2014 — or at least engaged. It's going

to move quickly. This time, it won't be a high-profile actress.

LC: *Finally, what do you see happening with the Kardashian family?*

TJ: **Kim and Kanye West** won't last. **Bruce and Kris Jenner** will be on the rocks. **Khloe and Lamar Odom** will be on the outs, too. You can expect lots of scandal around those separations. The most stable couple in the Kardashian clan is actually going to be **Kourtney** and **Scott Disick**.

Make what you want of these celebrity predictions, but I will add that **Thomas** gave me a reading, too, and several of his predictions have already come true. Needless to say, I can guarantee that I'll have lots of drama to write about next year, coming straight to you from Hollywood!



ask jenny

JENNY MCCARTHY OFFERS UNCONVENTIONAL WISDOM

Fighting for control

Jenny's secret for dealing with dominating friends

Dear Jenny, A very good friend of mine frequently offers unsolicited advice and can never be wrong. I enjoy being around her, but even when I try to make casual conversation I am met with an opposing opinion. Every topic turns into a debate. I am really getting frustrated and am beginning to avoid her phone calls. I don't want to lose her as a friend, but also cannot tolerate being micromanaged and yelled at constantly. Please help! How would you handle this situation?

— Jessica from Pekin, Ill.

Jenny says: I have a friend like that, too! I think everyone does. They're called "control freaks." They're the ones who say black when you say white. They love to fight and they thrive on being "right." I've learned the key is not to react in any way when they claim to be an authority on something. Instead, state your position and let it be. There is no need to justify why or what you are doing. You will never win an argument with a control freak, so save

Send questions to Askjenny @suntimes.com

your breath.

Studies have also shown most control freaks are insecure. By maintaining control they keep their insecurities in check. You can help alleviate their domineering and assertive personalities by stroking their egos. A compliment or recognition of hard work will create a more relaxing environment, thus giving them the confidence to be more flexible.

Jessica, keep in mind your friend is not trying to hurt you. Instead, she is trying to protect herself. Remember: Her behavior toward you isn't personal.

However, you should always put yourself first. If your relationship is no longer positive with your friend, it may be time to say goodbye.

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today's homes

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All that glitters ...: Park Monroe 2.0's City View Residences feature views of glittering downtown buildings, including the Willis Tower. Constructed on the top nine floors of a vibrant mixed-use building, the condominiums of The Park Monroe feature an enviable location less than one block from Millennium Park. The one- and two-bedroom homes in the City View Collection offer dramatic views of the city skyline from floor-to-ceiling windows that are 10 feet tall. There are also three-bedrooms and large penthouse homes for buyers seeking more space. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

See the full story in the Today's Homes section inside

MAZDA CX-5 CROSSOVER MARRIES FORM AND FUNCTION

BY SUE MEAD
Motor Matters

The all-new 2013 Mazda CX-5 is a design philosophy guided by the principle of oneness between a rider and horse. Mazda transforms its compact crossover SUV into a unified marriage of form, function and fuel economy.

The CX-5 is a replacement for the Mazda Tribute and competes with the Ford Escape and Honda CR-V. Starting at \$20,695, the 2013 CX-5 comes in three trim levels: Sport, Touring and Grand Touring.

Completely new from the inside out, the 2013 CX-5 is a charmingly curvy little SUV with strong shoulders and a raked roofline that gives it the crouching profile of a sport wagon. The front grille has an elongated shield shape that is capped by narrow snake-eye headlamps and brawny wheel wells.

Inside, the new CX-5 is spare and sensible — as though a feng shui consultant came in to remove all unnecessary objects and obstacles. Two color schemes are available: black on black or sand on black, with leather available as an option and cloth upholstery standard. Drivers' seats have power adjustments on higher end models, and all

three of the 40/20/40 split rear seats can be folded independently completely flat.

We drove Mazda's new CX-5 recently on several roadways as well as at a small performance track, the Dallas Motor Speedway complex. We are fans of Mazda vehicles and the execution of its "zoom-zoom" philosophy in each of its vehicles. It's easy to apply sporty driving characteristics to the two-seater Miata, but a bit more involved with a five-seater SUV whose primary mission is that of a people and cargo carrier, yet Mazda succeeds.

The first thing we noticed is the attractive, modernized new looks of the CX-5. The first impression when getting behind the wheel is a feeling of lightness mixed with concrete substance. A comprehensive array of weight-saving technologies make the CX-5 feel lighter on its feet and despite a more carved exterior, you'll find good elbow room and airiness in the cockpit.

A 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine powers the new 2013 model. Making 155 horsepower and 150 pound-feet of torque, the four-cylinder engine is mated to a standard six-speed manual or an optional six-speed automatic transmission. All-wheel drive is available,

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and towing capacity, with an optional towing package, is 2,000 pounds.

You don't have to be a gear head to appreciate the engineering behind this updated model: A redesigned exhaust system and numerous other components in a suite of features called Skyactiv make the heart of the CX-5 10 percent lighter, with more torque, better fuel economy and lower emissions than the previous version. Environmental Protection Agency estimates are 26/35 mpg city/highway for the manual transmission and 26/32 mpg for the automatic.

While the upgrades will bring a smile to driving enthusiasts who appreciate the packaging and handling

that this compact SUV offers in a nod to energy efficiency, boosted power is not one of its attributes. While there was ample power on tap for our driving experience, the 2.0-liter engine with 155 horses is not meant to imply "boy racer," but still has a slightly racy sound when the driver motivates the throttle.

We found the CX-5's power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering provides a tight rein on maneuvering and its independent front and rear suspension soak up bumps and uneven pavement. Its brakes are power-assisted ventilated in the front and solid rear discs with an antilock braking system. Of note: Stability and traction control are standard, along with hill launch assist.



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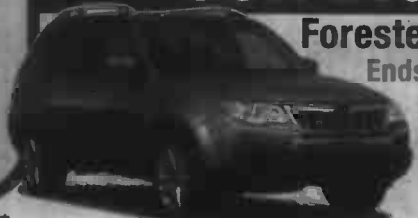
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today's homes

Options with a view

Park Monroe offers luxury living, inside and out

Condominiums in general offer many conveniences within the building and within their particular neighborhood.

Although options for new construction condominiums in downtown Chicago have diminished in recent years, one building in the Millennium Park area enjoys a central location with all of the culture and amenities a buyer could want, plus features amazing views of the city.

The Park Monroe, 65 East Monroe St., includes many impressive finishes and amenities and also boasts of having one of the most desirable locations in downtown Chicago, less than one block from Millennium Park.

Many of the homes at The Park Monroe offer stunning views of the lake and Millennium Park, but residences in the City View Collection offer dramatic views of the city skyline from floor-to-ceiling windows that are 10 feet tall. These homes provide value for buyers looking for one-bedroom and two-bedroom homes.

The residences in the City View Collection include hardwood floors in the living room, dining room, kitchen, foyer and entry hall. The kitchens feature custom Italian cabinetry and Silestone or granite countertops, as well as stainless steel appliances including a 30-inch chimney hood. A marble or stone vanity is standard in the master bath, along with Grohe fixtures. The secondary baths are adorned with a similar luxury finish package.

The residences in the City View Collection are part of "Park Monroe 2.0." This second, and final, phase of



All that glitters Park Monroe 2.0's City View Residences feature views of glittering downtown buildings, including the Willis Tower. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

condominiums was introduced on Oct. 18 and consists of 48 one-, two- and three-bedroom residences. Park Monroe 2.0 comes on the heels of several years of successful sales at The Park Monroe and takes the best of the first phase and "re-imagines" it with luxurious new floor plans, the latest finish options and state-of-the-art technology. The new residences are expected to be ready in late spring of next year. Less than 10 homes available for immediate occupancy remain in the first phase.

Taking into account the requests and finish selections that buyers made in the first phase, the sales and development team incorporated many of the latest modern finishes that buyers were requesting into phase two. There are also options that buyers can choose if they prefer a traditional or a transitional look.

However, the time for buyers to customize the appearance of their home and make it their own has nearly come to an end. Once construction begins in earnest at the end of this month, the opportunity will no longer be available.

There are so many choices at The Park Monroe. A buyer could purchase a one-bedroom as a place to stay downtown. There are also two-bedroom, three-bedroom and large penthouse homes for buyers seeking more space.

"Sales are really fantastic," said Pat Young, vice president of marketing at The Park Monroe. "The sales records here are generally only seen in a great real es-



Where envy is OK: Constructed on the top nine floors of a vibrant mixed-use building, the condominiums of The Park Monroe feature an enviable location less than one block from Millennium Park. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

tate market but we are still selling in a market that has just started to turn around in a positive direction."

"I think the views at The Park Monroe really steal

SEE PARK MONROE, PAGE 2

PARK MONROE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the show. There are no other views that are as expansive as The Park Monroe's. In addition, the amenities make you feel like you live at a resort. The indoor pool, the entertainment suite with catering kitchen, the three-season sun terrace with garden and year-round spa, as well as the Blue Ray theater room and sophisticated fitness center are some of the resident's favorites."

In addition to the luxury amenities at The Park Monroe, there is also a 24-hour door staff and full-time property management.

Park Monroe 2.0 residences are priced from \$319,500 for one-bedrooms, \$494,900 for two-bedrooms and \$1,050,000 for three-bedrooms. The remaining available residences in the first phase at The Park Monroe range from two-bedrooms to three-bedrooms to two-story penthouses with prices starting at \$749,000 for east-facing two bedrooms.

The models and sales center at 65 East Monroe are open seven days a week. Call (312) 855-0550 or visit ParkMonroe.com for information.

Optimism surfaces in views of housing's future

It's time to gaze into the crystal ball and see what is forecast for the housing market in the New Year.

With a residential revival already under way in the Chicago area, housing analysts are looking forward with optimism to 2013.

"The last few months have brought a spate of favorable news on the U.S. housing market with construction up, more home sales, and home-value growth turning positive," noted Frank Nothaft, vice president and chief economist for Freddie Mac.

"This has been a big change from a year ago, when some analysts worried that the looming 'shadow inventory' would keep the housing sector mired in an economic depression," Nothaft said. "Instead, the housing market is healing, is contributing positively to GDP and is returning to its traditional role of supporting the economic recovery."

Gazing into the future, here is what Freddie Mac's U.S. Economic and Housing Market Outlook is

ON THE HOME FRONT
DON DeBAT

forecasting for the nation's housing market in 2013:

- Look for long-term mortgage rates to remain near their record current low of 3.32-percent for the first half of 2013. However, rates will rise gradually during the second half of the year, but remaining below 4 percent.
- Expect property values to continue to strengthen with most U.S. house price indexes likely rising by 2 percent to 3 percent in 2013.
- Household formation should step up further. Look for a net increase to 1.20 million to 1.25 million new household formations in 2013. Housing starts should rise to around a 1 million annualized pace by the fourth quarter.

- Vacancy rates for both apart-

ments and the single-family for-sale market could shrink aggregate vacancy rates to levels not seen since 2002 and 2003 as household formation outpaces new construction.

- While the refinance boom will continue into early 2013, loan volume will decline compared with 2012. Look for single-family mortgage originations to decline by 15 percent. Conversely, multifamily lending should rise approximately 5 percent.

It appears a residential revival already is underway in the Chicago area. RE/MAX Northern Illinois and Midwest Real Estate Data reported that November sales of attached and detached homes in the seven-county area totaled 7,500 units, 37 percent

more than in November of 2011.

The median sales price was \$155,000, up 3.3 percent from the \$150,000 median price recorded 12 months earlier. Average market time, which is the average number of days a home sold in November was on the market before a sales contract was signed, fell from 170 days in November of 2011 to 136 days in November of 2012.

Home sales in Chicago climbed 22 percent to 1,770 units, and the city also recorded the biggest rebound in home prices. The median sales price in November was \$180,000, 16 percent higher than a year earlier.

The median price of attached homes, including townhomes and condominiums, rose 7 percent in Cook County to \$133,151, and jumped 12 percent in Chicago to \$205,750.

Don DeBat's weekly real estate column is syndicated by DeBat Media Services. For more home-buying information visit his Website at www.dondebat.net.

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Add color to kitchens, baths with bright sinks

Why is it that some people can do daring things with color in their living rooms or bedrooms, but stick with the strongholds of beige and white in their kitchens and baths?

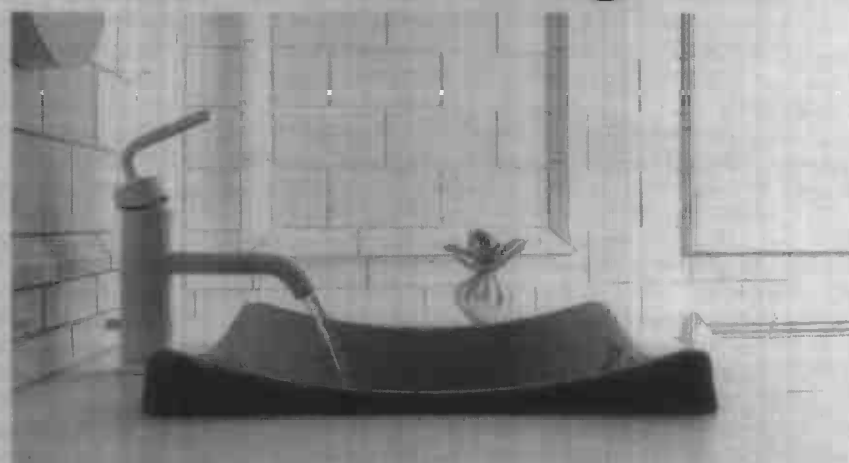
As bright hues are surfacing in kitchen and bath design trends, existing off-neutral palettes make it easy to introduce bold splashes.

Whether it's with a new faucet finish, a vibrant wall color, a playful backsplash — even a brightly-colored sink — adding color instantly creates a personalized and pleasing look in your kitchen or bath.

Debating the best way to bring new colors into your home? Consider these seven tips straight from two industry professionals.

Matching it up: First, find your perfect (color) match. Before you begin mixing and matching paint chips with backsplash tile, identify a color that has long resonated with your own design or fashion aesthetic.

"If a client isn't able to answer this question instantly, all I have to do is peruse the closet," said Kohler interior designer Diana Schrage. "Chances are that repeated pop of color worn over the years belongs in his or her home decor as much as in his or her wardrobe."



Sink it: Bring a bold splash of color to a bathroom or powder room with a brightly-colored sink with bright colors. Shown is a Kohler DemiLav Wading Pool lavatory sink in Greenwich Green. Color brings instant happiness to a space, and when color is on a kitchen sink, maybe it's not such a chore to do the dishes. | ARACONTENT PHOTO

"Once that signature color has been identified, Schrage says homeowners often feel more confident introducing those brighter hues in a more permanent manner.

Splashing around: Second try making a color splash in a place not normally consider, like the sink.

"A brightly-colored sink makes a de-

lightful and memorable impact," Schrage said.

Kohler is among the companies that makes basins in a variety of bright colors, with 28 in enameled cast iron to choose from.

"Whether it's on a farmhouse sink in

SEE SINKS, PAGE 3

TODAY'S HOMES

William Ryan Homes brings buyers tomorrow's technology

Imagine being on vacation, 1,200 miles from home, yet being able to control your home's temperature or simply turn on and off the lights from your iPad.

How about getting a text alert at work when your daughter gets off the bus and opens the front door. Maybe getting Netflix or Apple TV in every room without cable boxes, wires and Blue Ray players sounds appealing.

With William Ryan's "Connected Home" homebuyers can do that and more.

"We're bringing today's digital technology to our home buyers and 'future-proofing' their homes to accommodate the innovations of tomorrow," said Deborah Beaver, vice president of sales and marketing for William Ryan Homes.

"We've partnered with Digital Innovations, Inc., to include the most essential components during the construction process such as six distinct wire 'pulls' for house-wide phone and data connection, a four-port wireless router, and television and telephone distribution modules to handle virtually any computer or communications device. A state-of-the-art home control processor



Power portfolio: The Jaden is one of the many homes in William Ryan Homes' portfolio, available at a number of its Chicago-area communities where the builder also offers its "Connected Home" digital control package. William Ryan also sets up a "MyHome 24-7" Website for each buyer to select plans and options, and monitor the homebuilding schedule. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

with structured wiring panel is at the heart of the system. And the best part is that all of these features can be controlled from any web-enabled mobile device."

William Ryan is currently building single-family homes in Bolingbrook, Cary, Elgin, Joliet, Lakemoor, Lake Villa, Lindenhurst, Naperville and Shorewood.

The infrastructure package, a \$1,500 value, will be included at no additional charge with buyers able to purchase the modules that best fit their lifestyle. The modules include:

- **Energy:** Ability to control

heating and air conditioning for maximum comfort and efficiency, from anywhere and any time, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- **Lighting:** Turn lights off and on in any room — even program lighting for the entire house — from wherever you are, whether it's across the hall or across the country.

- **Security:** Secure your property in state-of-the-art style, with everything from keyless locks and entry door camera monitoring, to automatic text messages alerting you when your kids arrive home from school.

- **Entertainment:** Control television and movies, digital audio, WiFi, subscription video, music and more from your computer system.

According to Mike Creeden, president of Digital Innovations, the interest in the connected home concept has increased 100-fold in the past two to three years.

"In the past, the connected home was something that was very expensive, making it only available to a small segment of home owners," Creeden said. "With the introduction of the flat-panel televisions, the iPad, on-line content and other advancements, the desire to hide wires and cable boxes as well as create a centralized technology hub within the home has increased dramatically in demand. Nobody wants to mount the fancy 1/2-inch-thick flat-screen over the fireplace and have a cable box, Netflix box, Blue Ray player and all of the wires hanging from it."

"The Connected Home makes that a thing of the past putting the proper infrastructure in the home as it's being built and installing the needed components in the basement."

Beaver said the homeowners meet with a Digital Innovations representative

during the selection process to determine their "connected home" needs and desires.

"When buyers come in to select flooring, appliances and other accents we are there to help them determine their technological needs," Beaver said. "Currently, entertainment modules are the most popular with buyers. They want all of their television, video and audio needs streamlined throughout the home and controlled with one device."

"After buyers move in, we come in and show them how to use their new system and make sure they are comfortable with its capabilities. The important thing to remember is technology is ever-changing, but centralizing the technology and having proper infrastructure included means the home is ready to accommodate the industry's next advancement."

Chris Rack, a William Ryan homebuyer at Highland Woods in Elgin, is no novice when it comes to the connected home.

"We are moving into our new home at Highland Woods and our current home includes 'connected home' features that I wanted to make sure I had in our new home," Rack said. "We are primarily

interested in the entertainment and convenience features. The cable box, DVD player, router ... all that is in the basement out of sight, yet I can control every television, computer, speaker throughout the house with the touch of a button."

"We currently have Control4 technology which offers the most flexibility and function and wanted to make sure we had that technology again. You don't have to purchase all the modules immediately you can add on as needed or wanted. Once the infrastructure is in place you're ready to go."

In addition to connected technology, William Ryan Homes also offers a unique program for its homebuyers. "MyHome 24-7" is an individualized Website for each William Ryan Home homeowner. Buyers use the site to view floor plans, option pricing and use a mortgage calculator; select and visualize kitchen and exterior color schemes; view their specific homebuilding schedule with daily construction updates; and explore home maintenance tips and on-line warranty requests.

For more information on William Ryan Homes, call (847) 998-8700 or visit www.williamryanhomes.com.

SINKS | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

the kitchen or a lavatory in the powder room, a bright sink is a perfect piece to build upon as you bring new colors into your space," Schrage said.

Harness the power: Try harnessing the power of color. Color can have a big impact on mood and what happens in a space.

Restaurants and retail outlets often enlist color psychologists to select colors that will encourage diners to splurge on dessert or draw shoppers into a store. Do the same in your home.

Want your kitchen to be a

comfortable space for your family that encourages an appetite in the pickiest of eaters? Incorporate orange. If you long for a peaceful bathroom oasis, bring in calming blues and soothing greens.

"Blue in all of its many shades is the universal beloved color in the whole color world," said Jonathan Adler, whose color hues are featured by Kohler. "A crisp light blue is refreshing, calming and serene."

Make your own rules: "I feel like the world is often tame when it comes to color,"

Adler said. "But embracing color is about embracing life. And to truly make a space your own, you have to make your own rules."

If your powder room feels plain and predictable, its small footprint makes it the perfect space to strengthen your color confidence by experimenting to show off your own design aesthetic. Always had a fondness for chartreuse, for example? Select a sink in your choice of colors, then use a new faucet finish that isn't used elsewhere in the home.

Focus, focus: Focus on a focal point. Incorporating color doesn't require a

complete redo. Instead, focus on a smaller project within the space to create a focal point or accent. Color can act as an eye magnet to create a focal-point-worthy design statement that draws a room together visually and gives you a solid foundation on which to build out the room's design theme.

"A striking pairing of a faucet and sink can create a focal point," Schrage said. "Throwing color into the mix only strengthens it."

Layer it on: Layer for visual interest. If you want use color like a pro, learn to layer.

Adler's go-to layering hue is navy blue, for example.

"It's a great base color to use with other bold colors," he said.

Do your homework: If you're considering a fresh coat of paint, a bright backsplash or bold new sink, experiment with apps and different Websites to see how new colors can best be applied to your space. Kohler offers an app that allows you to mix and match sink colors with different faucet finishes, and sites like Houzz.com put more than half a million design photos at your fingertips and allows you to store your favorites in your very own idea book on the site.

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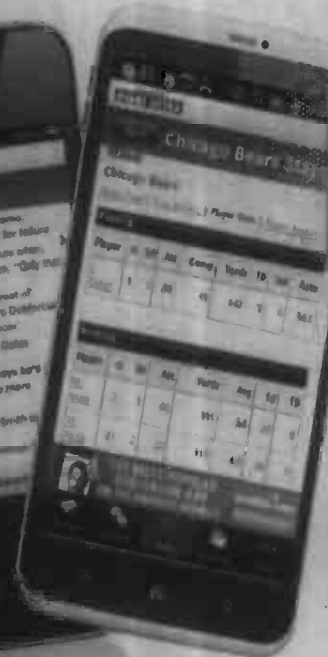
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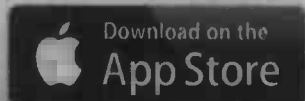
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Cover Story

A tap-dancing superhero will be taking up residence at Skokie Theatre.

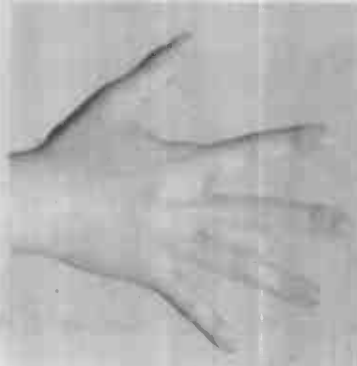
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GO...

TapMan triumphs with feet of valor

BY MYRNA PETLICKI | Contributor

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Never underestimate the power of tap dancing.

Case in point is TapMan — a tap-dancing superhero who will fight evil at the Skokie Theatre every Friday night in January in "TapMan: Origin."

We hate to blow TapMan's cover but the crime fighter's real name is Tristan Bruns. He shared the tale of how a mild-mannered dancer became a superhero.

"Growing up, I was always reading comic books until they became four bucks and I couldn't afford it anymore," Bruns said. That inspired a dream. "I wanted to make a family show that I would have wanted to see when I was a kid."

Bruns began dancing in musical theater when he was 9. He had a life-changing experience when he was in a kids' version of "42nd Street." The cast was required to take a six-week tap dance class to prepare for the opening number. That class changed Bruns' focus.

"I stopped doing musical theater and kept tap dancing," he said. When he was 20, Bruns added tap dancing improvisation to his skill set.

Since he was in his teens, the former comic book addict has been thinking about incorporating TapMan into his dance routines. "I've written scripts for this character," he noted. "One of my life's aspirations was to put on a TapMan show."

The character first emerged onstage six years ago at the Lake Shore Theater. Bruns is taking his superhero alter ego to a new level at Gorilla



Tapman (aka Tristan Bruns) dances into Skokie.

'TapMan: Origin'

7:30 p.m. Fridays, Jan. 4-25
 Gorilla Tango's Skokie Theatre,
 7924 Lincoln Ave.
 \$15
 (773) 598-4549; www.go

Tango's Skokie Theatre.

The show includes vignettes danced by Bruns about his TapMan character. "He starts out as Albert Scientist — A Scientist," Bruns said. He meets a girl at a tap dance class and wants to impress her so he creates a formula to make himself a super tap dancer. Turns out the formula is stronger than he intended. Soon he is a tap dancing crime fighter.

Most often he battles a villain played by dancer Zada

Cheeks. "He kidnaps TapMan's girlfriend all the time," Bruns said.

Filling in the show will be members of Julie Cartier's dance company The Cartier Collective.

"Tristan danced with my company for a short time," Cartier said. "He came to me a couple of years ago with this idea of his own show as TapMan. He was looking for an ensemble group to backup and be a vehicle for the story. He thought we would be a perfect fit."

Six of Cartier's dancers will perform in "TapMan: Origin." They will do a couple of numbers from the Cartier Collective repertoire and serve as characters in TapMan segments.

Cartier described the show as "a great way for Tristan to show his skills along with his sense of humor and quirky

personality. He's an incredible tap dancer. His skills are amazing. This show allows him to define who he is as an artist."

Also playing a role in the show is singer-songwriter Kyle Greer, who will serve as accompanist. "I'm also going to be singing and providing some original music," he said. "It's going to be a nice mix."

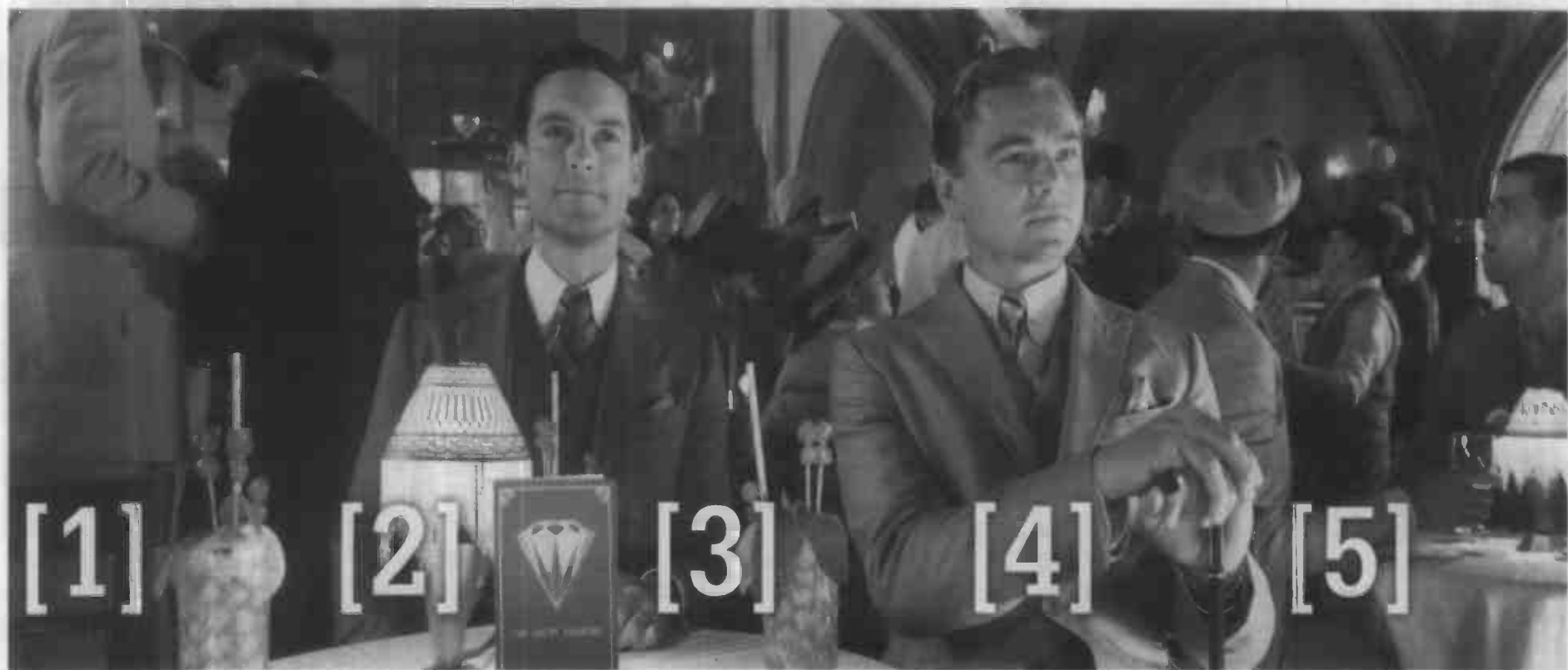
Greer described working with tap dancers as being "almost like playing with a percussionist because they do so much with their feet to keep the rhythm. I have to really, really pay attention to what they're doing but it's fun. It keeps me on my toes."

TapMan takes the stage for the final number. "In true comic book fashion, the show ends on a downer," Bruns revealed. "But there is something that alludes to the future of TapMan. He's not done yet." ■



TOP FIVE

Managing Editor Jennifer Thomas' picks for books to read before the movie comes out in 2013



Ender's Game

Orson Scott Card's sci-fi novel looks at the children training for the rumored return of an old enemy. It raises questions on pressure, independence and violence.

Carrie

See where it all started for Stephen King with his first novel about the telekinetic, queen-of-pig's-blood herself. Chloe Grace Moretz is cast in the remake.

The Devil in the White City

Erik Larson's popular historical novel is hard to put down. Chicago World's Fair and killer H.H. Holmes make a fascinating combination.

World War Z

Max Brooks' novel is a country-hopping, serious and entertaining treatment of the post-zombie apocalyptic world. Forget the imitators, this is the real deal.

The Great Gatsby

Read or re-read F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic, with one very unreliable narrator, before Leonardo DiCaprio (above) steps into Robert Redford's shoes as Gatsby.

Guide



A guide to ice skating, sledding and winter sports

BY HEATHER LESZCZEWICZ | hleszczewicz@pioneerlocal.com

Snow enthusiasts get ready.

Start lacing up those ice skates, finding all the warm clothing you have and pull your sleds out of storage. Here's a guide to help you find the best hills, outdoor rinks and other winter activities.

All activities are weather permitting. Make sure to check conditions before venturing to any location.

SLEDDING

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Willow Stream Park, 600 Farrington Dr.

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Evanston

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Deer Grove #4 and #5, Quentin Road, north of Dundee Road, Palatine

Deer Grove #5 has lighting and is open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Deer Grove #4 is unlit and is open 10 a.m. to sunset. For more information, call (800) 870-3666 or go to www.fpdcc.com

Glencoe

Watt Park, 300 Randolph St. For more information, call (847) 835-3030 or go to www.glencoe-parkdistrict.com.

Glenview

Flick Park, 3600 Glenview

Road

Johns Park, 2101 Central Road Hills are lit and open until 10 p.m. nightly

For more information, call (847) 724-3337 option 2 after 10:30 a.m. for recorded weather/hill conditions message or go to www.glenview-parks.org.

Highland Park

Danny Cuniff Park, 2700 Trail Way St.

Call 847-579-3130 for conditions or go to www.pdhp.org.

Lake Bluff

Blair Park Campus, 355 W Washington Ave.

Lake County Forest Preserves

Lakewood Winter Sports Area, Route 176, just west of Fairfield Road

The hill is lit and open until 9 p.m.

Old School Forest Preserve, Saint Mary's Road just south of Route 176, and north of Route 60

The hill is open until sunset. For conditions, call the Winter Sports Hotline at 847-968-3235 or go to www.lcfpd.org.

Lake Zurich

Paulus Park, 200 S. Rand Road

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Techny Prairie Park, 1750 Techny Road

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Briarwood Park, Greenbriar Drive and Eastwood
Jewett Park, 836 Jewett Park Drive

Jaycee Park, 1026 Wilmot Road

Patti Stryker Park, Corner of Pine Street and Hackberry

Evanston

Ackerman Park, Central Street at McDaniel

The lagoon at Dawes Park, Sheridan Road at Church Street

Baker Park, Forest Avenue at Keeney Street

For more information, call (847) 859-7822, ext. 8 or go to www.cityofevanston.org.

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For more information, call (847) 835-3030 or go to www.glencoe-parkdistrict.com.

Glenview

Flick Park, 3600 Glenview Road

Johns Park, 2101 Central Road
Roosevelt Park, 2200 Grove



The more the merrier is the rule most of time on the sledding hill at Centennial Park in Park Ridge. | JON LANGHAM-for Sun-Times-Media



Chicagoland's Premier Live Theater Guide

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Highland Park
Sunset Woods Park, 1801 Sunset Road
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Lake Bluff
Artesian Park, Sheridan Road and East Sheridan Place
For more information, call (847) 234-4150 or go to www.lakebluffparks.org/icerink.html.

Lake Forest
West Park, 850 North Summit Ave.
For more information, call (847) 234-6702 or go to www.cityoflakeforest.com.

Lake Zurich
Paulus Park, 200 S. Rand Rd.
Manor Park, Miller Road east of Rand Road
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For more information, call (847) 918-7275 or go to www.libertyville.com.

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Mundelein
Community Park, 1401 N. Midlothian Road
For more information, call (847) 566-0650 or go to www.mundeleinparks.org.

Niles
Oak Park, Lee Street and Ottawa Avenue
For more information, go to www.niles-parks.org.

Northbrook
Meadowhill Park, 1479 Maple Ave.
Tower Rink, 1225 Cedar Lane.

Both rinks are open dawn to 9 p.m. and are lighted. Call (847) 291-2985 for recorded weather/hill conditions message or www.nbparks.org.

Northfield
Northfield Park, 240 Lockwood Ave.
For more information, call (847) 446-0080 go to www.winpark.org.
Clarkson Park, 1950 Willow Road
For more information, call (847) 446-4428 or go to www.northfieldparkdistrict.org.

Park Ridge
South Park, 833 W. Talcott Road
Northwest Park, 1200 N. Dee Road
Woodland Park, 1200 N. Western Ave.
For more information, go to www.prparks.org.

Vernon Hills
Century Park, near Lakeview Parkway and Indianwood Drive
Evergreen Lake and Willow Lake at Deerpath Park, between Phillips Road and Route 45
Grosse Pointe Pond, Grosse Pointe Boulevard and Hunter Court
For more information, call (847) 996-6616 or go to www.vhparkdistrict.org.

Wilmette
Gillson Park, corner of Sheridan Road and Michigan Avenue
Thornwood Park, Dartmouth and Thornwood avenues
Mallinckrodt Park, 1960 Elmwood Ave.
For more information, call (847) 256-6100 or go to www.wilmettepark.org.

Winnetka
Hubbard Woods, 939 Green Bay Road
Indian Hill, 131 Wilson St.
For more information, call (847) 446-0080 go to www.winpark.org.

SNOWSHOEING AND CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

The Lake County Forest Preserves offers cross-country skiing along any forest preserve hiking trail as long as there is snow on the ground except at Ryerson Conservation Area, where at least four inches of snow is required. For weather conditions, call (847) 968-3235. For a full list of cross-country skiing locations, go to www.lcfpd.org. ■

For the full winter guide, go to www.pioneerlocal.com and choose your town and look in the Entertainment section.

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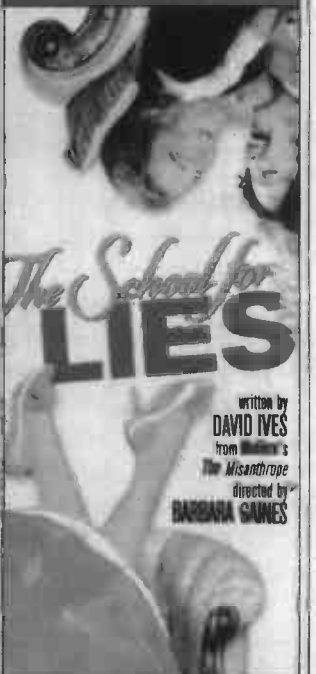
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Listen



Chamber music fest warms up winter at NU

BY DOROTHY ANDRIES | Contributor

If it's January, it must be time for the Winter Chamber Music Festival at Northwestern University.

This is the 17th year chamber music fans will gather in Pick-Staiger Concert Hall to enjoy performances by local, national and even internationally acclaimed chamber musicians.

"I started planning for this year right after the 2012 festival ended," said festival director Blair Milton, a Northwestern faculty member and player in the first violin section of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for 33 years. "I was also on a panel of judges at the Weimar Chamber Music Competition in November and I heard some good ensembles, so I've lined up one and maybe two of them for our 2014 festival."

The 2013 festival follows the established format, but also has several surprises among its seven concerts.

Performances will include the Chicago premiere of "Perpetual Chaconne," featuring the Calder Quartet and Chicago Symphony assistant principal clarinetist John Bruce Yeh on Jan. 20. It was written by Yale-based Aaron Jay Kernis, 2012 recipient of Northwestern's Nemmers Prize in Music Competition.

Kernis said "I'm very happy that John and the Calder Quartet were so enthusiastic to add it to their concert at Northwestern."



The Calder Quartet

Yeh and the Calder Quartet gave the California premiere of the quintet and will give the fourth performance of "Perpetual Chaconne" at the Chamber Festival.

"The first time I heard the piece I thought 'wow,'" Yeh concluded. "It is a delight for me to play."

The Boston-based ensemble, A Far Cry, will make its festival debut Jan. 18. The group will play what violinist Jesse Irons calls "a bunch of our greatest hits over the last six years."

Their program includes works by Golijov, Arvo Part, and Biber, as well as William Walton's Sonata for strings. "Only one person in our group knew the Walton," Irons said.

He is one of the founders of the 17-member group, a conductor-less orchestra with rotating leadership. Its members call themselves Criers and show a strong independent streak.

Many of them are from New England Conservatory, but some studied at Curtis and Juilliard. "We do our own thing," explained Irons. "We build from the ground up and play music we choose. We get input from each other and consider ourselves to be like a giant string quartet."

From the San Francisco Bay area, the New Century Chamber Orchestra with violinist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg returns to conclude the festival Jan. 31.

The ensemble has 19



Blair Milton



Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg

Winter Chamber Music Festival

Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston Jan. 11 to 31; all concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. Single tickets \$20-\$30; series subscription \$148 www.pickstaiger.org or (847) 467-4000



The New Century Chamber Orchestra

glorious, a showcase for the orchestra."

Blair Milton established the initial Winter Chamber Music Festival in January of 1997 to commemorate the death of Johannes Brahms. That first program included his Piano Quintet, with no less than Daniel Barenboim, then CSO conductor, at the piano.

"We couldn't stick to one composer like that in subsequent festivals," Milton said, "but I think we've managed to have a piece by Brahms in almost every festival."

Sure enough, Brahms' Clarinet Quintet in B Minor will be played in the opening concert of the 2013 Winter Chamber Music Festival. ■

players, including Salerno-Sonnenberg, but at Northwestern they are playing Richard Strauss' "Metamorphosen," which requires four more musicians. The German composer wrote it in the midst of World War II as he mourned the bombing of the Munich Opera House and all that symbolized.

"This is a piece for 23 solo strings," the violinist continued. "It is Strauss at his most



Family Friendly

Mothers and sons can team up

BY MYRNA PETLICKI | Contributor

Boys, ages 4-10, will get a kick out of competing with their moms at Mother/Son Kickball Fun, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18 at the Maine Park Leisure Center, 2701 W. Sibley Ave., Park Ridge.

Kickball is similar to baseball, except that you kick the ball rather than using a bat. That makes it easier for young children to play — and for nonathletic grownups, too. Dress in comfortable clothes.

After a vigorous workout, moms and their boys will have a make-it-yourself treat at an ice cream sundae bar. Each boy who is registered will receive a special gift to commemorate the occasion.

The event will be held in both the activity room and the gymnasium. Registration is required. The cost is \$20 per couple for residents, \$35 for nonresidents; \$10 and \$20 for each additional participant.

For details, call (847) 692-5127 or visit www.prparks.org.

DRIFTING OFF

Three animal friends use an iceberg as a ship when their continent begins moving in "Ice Age: Continental Drift." That's the Kid Flick selection at Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4. The 88-minute animated film is PG-rated.

For details, call (847) 965-4220 or visit www.mgpl.org.

MAKING BEAUTIFUL MUSIC

Young musicians have their chance to shine by performing in the Young Steinway Concert Series at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Next up, 3 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6, are violinist Genevieve Smelser and pianist Cindy Yang. Bringing your kids to this concert may inspire them to keep practicing!

For details, call (847) 673-7774 or visit www.skoki.library.info.

WIMPING OUT

Summer isn't the fun time a young boy hoped it would be in "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days." The 94-minute, PG-rated film is the Kid Flick selection, 3:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 7 at Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave.

For details, call (847) 677-5277 or visit www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org.

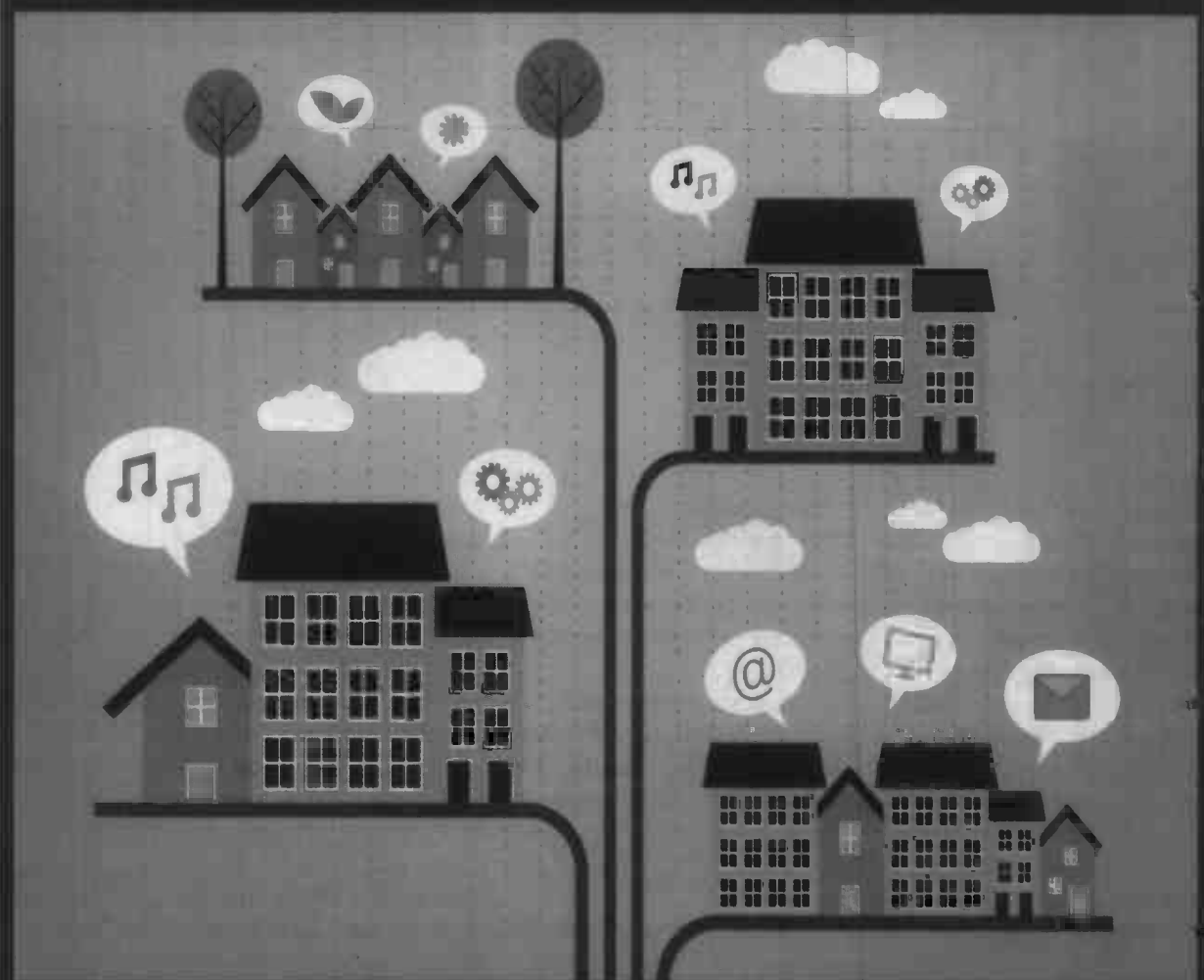
PIRATE LORE — AND MORE

Actors from Lifeline Theatre will read selections from Geoffrey Hayes' "The Mystery of the Pirate Ghost," 3 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5 in the second floor Community Room at Rogers Park

Library, 6907 N. Clark St. This free event is for kids of all ages and their parents. Afterwards, everyone is invited to participate in drama games.

For details, call (773) 761-4477 or visit www.lifelinetheatre.com. ■

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Eat



Classic crepes in Evanston

BY THOMAS WITOM | Contributor

Crepes form a culinary backbone in Brittany.

But that French region does not have an exclusive claim on these versatile savory and sweet pancakes.

A case in point is Creperie Saint Germain in Evanston, which has elevated this fare to an art form since its opening early in the year. Fans of crepes regularly beat a path to the cozy 40-seat storefront establishment owned by Pascal Berthoumioux. At the casual, affordable Creperie, Executive Chef Rene Lorenzano serves a broad selection of the classics.

First courses include homemade soup, mussels and assorted artisanal cheeses. French onion soup is always available, but also consider

the daily soup selections which vary from frothy fresh pea to sweet ginger-carrot.

Three interesting salad selections — beef, fennel and caramelized pear and Lyonnaise (mixed greens, bacon lardon and poached egg) — are available. But keep in mind that main-course crepes are substantial and come plated with a smattering of greens.

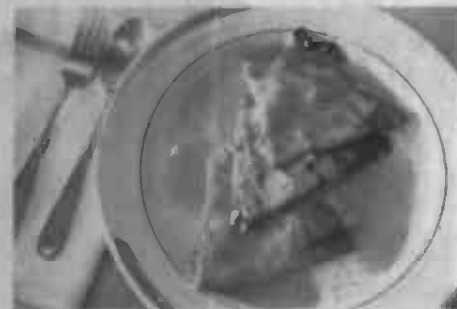
Canard Confit, a personal favorite, showcased moist slow-cooked duck, braised cabbage and fines herbes in a port wine sauce — the whole business housed in a deftly folded buckwheat galette. Sensational eating, and, at \$12, sensibly priced.

Other main-course possibilities offered something for a broad range of appetites: Crepes paired with diver

scallops (Coquilles Saint Jacques), French ham and aged gruyere (Puriste), stewed mixed vegetables (Ratatouille) and grilled salmon.

Skipping dessert could be a cardinal sin, especially with such luxurious options as the Marquis, a bittersweet chocolate crepe packaged with a light chocolate mousse and plated with chocolate sauce and a mix of fresh berries. And there are classic Crepes Suzette.

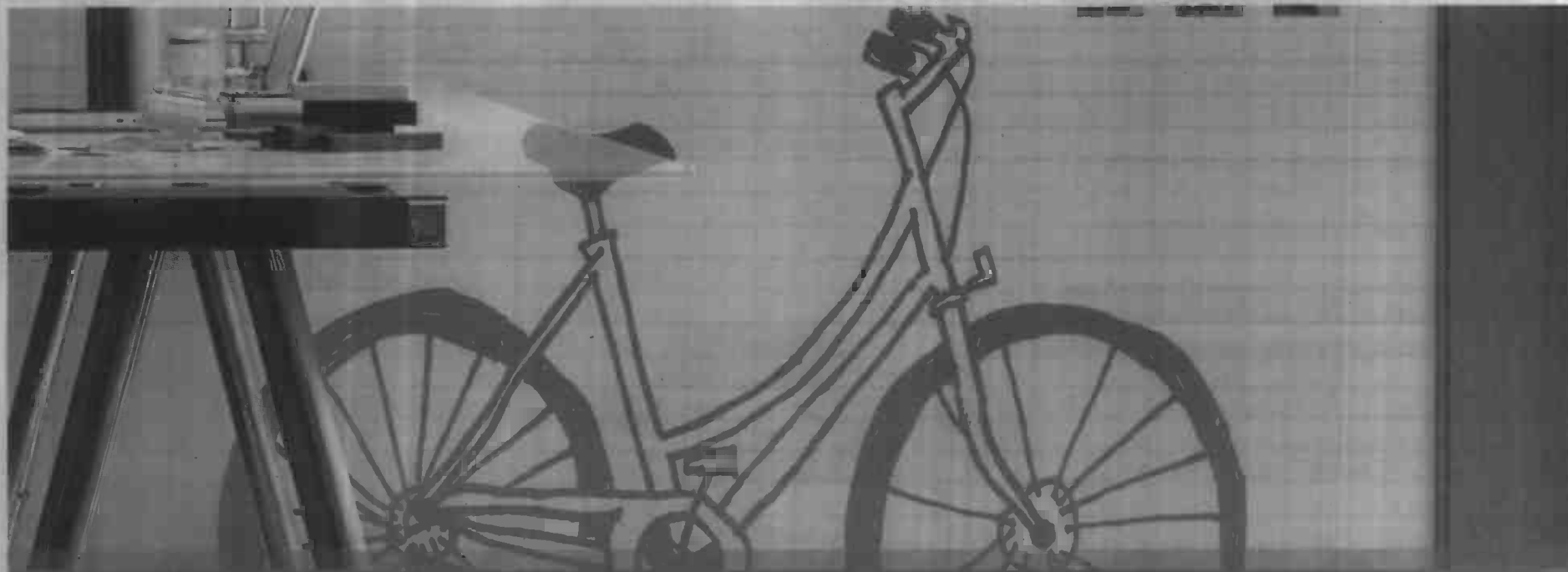
Or just say "oui" to another inviting choice also endorsed by our attentive server: the Normande, a whole-wheat crepe with caramelized apples, chantilly whipped cream, candied walnuts and caramel sauce. Go over the top, if you like, and have the kitchen add a scoop of premium ice cream to your order. ■



Crepes Suzette with caramelized citrus sugar flambéed with Grand Marnier at Creperie Saint Germain, 1512 Sherman in Evanston. | RICH HEIN-Sun-Times Media

Creperie Saint Germain

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At Write Club ideas become blood sport

BY LAURA AMANN | Contributor

Two competitors face off. They stand on opposing sides of a theme.

A bell rings.

Each has exactly seven minutes to outwit their competitor.

Boxing? Wrestling? Dueling? Nope, it's a competition of words where wit and intelligence face off in a battle of ideas.

Welcome to the Write Club where they tout literature as a blood sport. Twice a month writers meet up for a competitive reading series. The structure is such: three bouts of readings with two opposing writers sounding off on two opposing ideas. (Think hot/cold, salty/spicy, fire/ice, with each performer taking one side.) The audience picks a winner and a cut of the proceeds goes toward a charity of the winner's choosing.

Write Club is the brainchild of founder Ian Belknap, an actor, standup comedian, writer-performer and current "host and overlord" of Write Club.

"We wanted to put on a show that's smart, fast and intellectually stimulating," said Belknap. "It's not just a popularity contest here. Everyone is battling on behalf of not only their idea but also for their pet cause."

Since 2010 Write Club has put on shows on the third Tuesday of the month at the Hideout in Chicago. In January, they'll start up a second show monthly at S.P.A.C.E. in Evanston, an 18-and-over club which will allow the college crowd some exposure.

Writers are given the themes and then left to their own devices. Belknap performs hosting duties, adopting a fast and



Overlord Ian Belknap | PHOTO BY JOE MAZZA-Brave Lux

loose, sometimes obnoxious, attitude. Audience members are encouraged to mess with him; but that tone changes as soon as the artist steps on stage. And although the pace of the show follows Belknap's fast and furious guidelines, he doesn't expect performers to adopt his style.

"There are (writers and performers) who are more nuanced and gentle," he says. "My hope is that whatever they choose to do, it's completely unsparing. It's great when they go after the ideas and perform them unapologetically."

Audiences have seen stories, personal essays, poems and songs performed. Sometimes a writer will dress in elaborate costume or incorporate a dance-type routine. Anything goes as long as it relates to the theme and as long as it adheres to a strict seven-minute limit.

"It's literally ruthless," said Belknap speaking about the time limit. "The bell sounds and you MUST stop talking. I've been to too many readings where there's a looser time limit and people go on and on over that limit."

This is definitely a show, not

a performance or a reading; it's more theater than fine art.

The performers change frequently — rarely does someone do more than two or three shows a year. The vast density of talent in the area allows for in-depth performances and unique ways of approaching a topic.

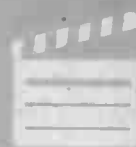
Charity is a big part of the event. Attendees vote on the winners but they don't know the artist's chosen charity until after they have been proclaimed the winner. This assures that the performance wins on the basis of artistic and literary merit, not the cause.

Write Now has now expanded into five other cities, including Atlanta, Athens, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Toronto. Each chapter adds local flavor and idioms so while they're similar, every club is unique.

"The thing that constantly astonishes me is that you can give someone a one-word or short assignment and what they can do within that strict time limit is pretty limitless. Some just blow my mind: the complexity with which they treat this simple idea. It's a privilege to witness." ■

Write Club

S.P.A.C.E., 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston
7 p.m. Jan. 7, first of monthly shows
\$10
(847) 492-8860 or www.evanstonspace.com



Blockbuster or flop? The Movie Review section has the scoop.

Get up and **go**

Your guide to the weekend and beyond
Every Thursday

Film Clips



BY BRUCE INGRAM | Film Critic

OPENING FRIDAY

ZERO DARK THIRTY

★★★★

Rated

R for strong violence including brutal, disturbing images, and for language

Stars

Jessica Chastain, Jason Clarke, James Gandolfini
A determined CIA agent (Chastain) relentlessly follows leads in Pakistan that lead to the death of Osama bin Laden. Kathryn Bigelow ("The Hurt Locker") directed the drama.

STILL PLAYING

DJANGO UNCHAINED

★★★

Rated

R for strong graphic violence throughout, a vicious fight, language and some nudity

Stars

Jamie Foxx, Christoph Waltz, Leonardo DiCaprio, Samuel L. Jackson

Here's an interesting bit of holiday counter-programming. Quentin Tarantino wrote and directed this overlong, uneven, yet scandalously entertaining saga, loosely based on the 1960s Spaghetti Western classic "Django." Waltz is excellent as a dentist-turned-bounty hunter who frees a slave (Foxx) to help him locate a fugitive. He then makes him a partner and agrees to help rescue his long-lost wife on the

infamous plantation of Calvin Candie (DiCaprio). Much violence ensues.

PARENTAL GUIDANCE

★

Rated

PG for some rude humor

Stars

Billy Crystal, Bette Midler, Marisa Tomei, Tom Everett Scott

It takes a lot of effort to come up with something as contrived and utterly artificial as this painfully unfunny family comedy. Crystal and Midler go into grandparent mode as out-of-touch, old-school elders butting heads with their New Age-influenced, work-obsessed daughter and son-in-law (Marisa Tomei, Tom Everett Scott) and their three children, with plenty of one-liners, pratfalls, potty jokes and schmaltzy sentiment — a little something for everyone from 9 to 90, *capisci*? The only trouble is that everything about it is strained and phony, and very little of it works.

PROMISED LAND

★★½

Rated

R for language

Stars

Matt Damon, Frances McDormand, Hal Holbrook, John Krasinski

Two corporate salespeople (Damon and McDormand) offering to purchase natural-gas drilling rights in a small farming community are met with unexpected opposition from a respected teacher (Holbrook) and a crusading environmentalist (Krasinski) — but the drama never quite clicks into gear.



Helena Bonham Carter and Sacha Baron Cohen in "Les Misérables."

LES MISÉRABLES

★★★

Rated

PG-13 for suggestive and sexual material, violence and thematic elements

Stars

Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe, Anne Hathaway
A 19th-century French ex-convict (Jackman) who has broken parole and a relentless officer of the law (Crowe) form a fateful relationship in the film adaptation of the Broadway musical based on Victor Hugo's classic novel.

THE GUILT TRIP

★★½

Rated

PG-13 for language and some risqué material

Stars

Seth Rogen, Barbra Streisand
It's the road trip from hell for young inventor Andy (Rogen in unaccustomed dull schlub mode) when he invites his over-involved, nagging mother (Streisand) for the cross-country ride while pitching his new miracle cleaning

Ocean tsunami. Bayona captures the enormity and power and terrifying suddenness of the 100-foot-tall tidal wave, in a brief but breathtaking 10-minute sequence. But the real subject of "The Impossible" is how far the separated and injured mother and father (Watts and McGregor, each delivering emotionally wrenching performances) are willing to go to remain alive, care for their children and maintain varying degrees of hope of being reunited.

THIS IS 40

★★★

Rated

R for sexual content, crude humor, pervasive language and some drug material

Stars

Paul Rudd, Leslie Mann, Albert Brooks
Writer/director Judd Apatow continues to distance himself, gradually, from the raunchy, gross-out comedy that made his reputation, without entirely letting go of his signature showcasing of quick-witted people getting comically down and dirty. Roughly half of "This Is 40," which follows the marital misadventures of "Knocked Up" supporting characters Pete and Debbie (Rudd and Mann), is on the humorous, yet essentially serious side, while the rude and crude stuff pulls awkwardly in the opposite direction. There's a lot to like though, here and there, as Pete and Debbie melt down during the week they enter their 40s. Primarily because it's clearly a personal (not strictly autobiographical) film — featuring Apatow's real-life wife and daughters — resulting in enough emotional resonance to provide dramatic balance. ■

THE IMPOSSIBLE

★★★★½

Rated

PG-13 for intense realistic disaster sequences, including disturbing injury images, and brief nudity

Stars

Naomi Watts, Ewan McGregor, Geraldine Chaplin
Grueling, harrowing, difficult to watch at times — yet utterly compelling. Spanish director Juan Antonio Bayona takes an artful approach to this real-life disaster movie, depicting a vacationing family's efforts to survive after their beachfront resort in Thailand is wiped out by the 2004 Indian



Movie Review

'Zero Dark' brings the hunt for bin Laden to light

BY BRUCE INGRAM | Film Critic

'Zero Dark Thirty'

★★★★

Though it's difficult to watch, given its harrowing subject matter, "Zero Dark Thirty" is a film that really should be seen, as much for its dazzling cinematic qualities as its insights into the way the war on terrorism is waged.

It doesn't offer easy answers to the ethical issues it raises or a false sense of security, or more than a brief moment of celebration after Osama bin Laden is finally tracked down and killed. In fact, the film's final moments are given over to exhausted sobs. But it's sure to provoke serious discussion on the way home from the theater.

"Zero Dark Thirty" is certainly a provocative film, but not for the sake of provocation. It has already stirred up considerable controversy, but it seems more likely that it simply intends to recreate reality as close as it can, without judgment.

Created by the same director/screenwriter team (Kathryn Bigelow and Mark Boal) that made the Oscar-winning "The Hurt Locker," "Zero Dark" is every bit as realistic, suspenseful and emotionally intense.

A young intelligence officer (Jessica Chastain) joins a team at a CIA black-site detainee center in Pakistan. On her first day, she observes the "enhanced interrogation" of a terrorist. Maya is obviously disturbed by the questioning, but doesn't leave the room. A few years later, she's quite comfortable having a prisoner beaten during her own interrogations.



Jessica Chastain stars in "Zero Dark Thirty."

Those first sessions she witnesses are significant, however, because they produce the lead that she doggedly pursues, year after year, long after it's been dismissed by her superiors — the name of bin Laden's most trusted courier. If she can find that man, she reasons, she can find the al-Qaeda leader.

Though it's 157 minutes long, "Zero Dark" moves swiftly, despite the fact that the plot frequently turns into blind alleys. Those blind alleys never feel frustrating because the film is made up of rapid cuts and brief scenes conveying a sense of uncertainty mixed with anxiety. The only constant is Maya's almost monomaniacal belief that bin Laden is in Pakistan and that she will find him.

You know he is found and what happens to him, but what you might not be prepared for is how efficient, methodical and essentially dispassionate the SEAL Team Six mission turns out to be — or the way Bigelow films the mission without sensationalism or voyeurism.

On their return trip to base, the soldiers stare at the body bag lying on the floor, but they are silent. Suggesting that the magnitude of what they have just done and of the wrong they have at least partially righted, is beyond words.

Dialogue doesn't get better than that. ■

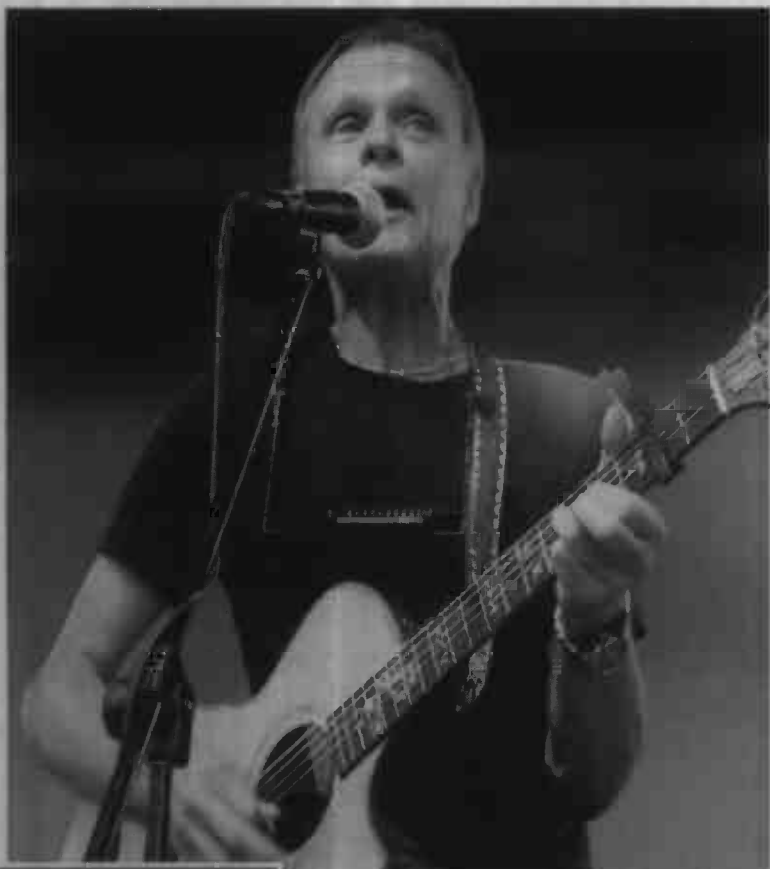


5

Looking for fun? Check out our **Top Five** picks for the weekend's best bets.

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Every Thursday



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Leonardo DiCaprio in "Django Unchained."

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STAGE

"The Bachelors"

18+

Pride Films and Plays presents a staged reading of a screenplay, 2 p.m. **Jan. 13** at Piven Theatre, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. Free. Call (847) 644-7448.

Gorilla Tango's
Skokie Theatre

18+

7924 Lincoln Ave. Skokie. www.gorillatango.com. (773) 598-4549. **Jan. 4-5**, 9 p.m.: "Strip of the Tongue: A Study of Contemporary American Burlesque." \$15. **Jan. 12 and 19**, 7:30 p.m.: "Desdemona: A Play About A Handkerchief." \$20.

"Little Shop of
Horrors"

13+ 18+

Presented by the Teen Ensemble **Jan. 13-21** at Youth Company Chicago Studios, 5340 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. \$17; \$12 ages 17 and under. Call (312) 324-3700 or visit www.youthcompanychicago.org.

"The Whipping
Man"

18+

Presented by Northlight Theatre **Jan. 18-Feb. 24** at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. \$25-\$72; \$25-\$54 for previews, Jan. 18-24. Student tickets

\$15, subject to availability. Call (847) 673-6300 or visit www.northlight.org. Backstage with BJ, a discussion with artistic director BJ Jones, offers behind-the-scenes insight into the production while it is still in rehearsal, will be held at noon **Jan. 11**. Reservations are required at

(847) 679-9501, ext. 3555, or specialevents@northlight.org.

"A Woman Killed
With Kindness"

18+

Shakespeare Project of Chicago presents a theatrical reading of



Evanston native Benjamin Lash, cello, Hanbyul Jang, violin, and pianist Matthew Hagle will present a recital of solo and duo music by Handel, Beethoven, Debussy, Mozart, de Falla and Cassadó at 7 p.m. **Jan. 8** in the Petty Auditorium at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. Lash and Jang are students at the Colburn School in Los Angeles. Admission is free. Visit www.skokieliibrary.info.

Thomas Heywood's drama at 7 p.m. **Jan. 18** at the Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St., Niles. www.nileslibrary.org.

CLASSICAL

Ars Viva Symphony
Orchestra

13+ 18+ 65+

Performing at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. \$36-\$75, with discounts for seniors and youth. Call (847) 673-6300 or visit www.arsviva.org. **Jan. 13**, 3 p.m.: Works by Vaughan Williams, Mahler and Beethoven, with soloist Gerard Sundberg, bass-baritone.

Baroque Band

18+

The period instrument orchestra performs at 7:30 p.m. **Jan. 18** at the Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. The program features recorder soloist Piers Adams in works by Vivaldi, Albinoni and Telemann. \$35; \$30 seniors; \$15 students. Visit www.baroqueband.org.

Evanston Chapter,
Lyric Opera of
Chicago

18+ 65+

Presents Patrick Casali, professor emeritus of humanities and performing arts at Oakton Community College,

Icon Key

Toddlers 0-3

Kids 4-12

Family FAM

Teens 13+

Adults 18+

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Submissions

You Want In?
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Submit GO events one week prior to the date of publication

Entries must be typed. GO listings are free. Include brief descriptions of the event, date, address, price and phone number.

Email: Send submissions to go1@pioneerlocal.com

Fax: 847-486-7451

discussing "Rivers in Opera," highlighted with musical excerpts, at 3 p.m. **Jan. 13**. Cost for social hour and program is \$10 members, \$15 guests. For location, call (847) 328-0158 or (847) 475-5345.

What to Do [Page 54]

go What to Do
pioneerlocal.com

What to Do

Continued from page 53

Winter Chamber Music Festival

13+ 18+

Presented from Jan. 11-31 at Northwestern University's Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston.

All concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. Call (847) 467-4000 or visit www.pickstaiger.org. **Jan. 11:** Bienen School faculty and guests perform works by Ravel, Brahms and Mendelssohn. \$22; \$10 students. **Jan. 13:** Bienen School faculty and guests perform works by Ravel, Blanc

and Dvorak. \$22; \$10 students. **Jan. 18:** The chamber orchestra A Far Cry performs works by Golijov, Arvo Part, Biber and Walton. \$24; \$10 students. **Jan. 20:** The Calder Quartet performs works by Andrew Norman, Ravel and Bartok. \$22; \$10 students. **Jan. 25:** The Escher

String Quartet performs works by Prokofiev, Shostakovich and Beethoven. \$22; \$10 students. **Jan. 27:** Bienen School faculty and guests perform works by Saint-Saens, Prokofiev and Schumann. \$20; \$10 students. **Jan. 31:** Violinist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg and the New Century Chamber Orchestra perform works by Mendelssohn, William Bolcom, Villa-Lobos and Strauss. \$30; \$10 students.

Rosemont. www.mon-troseroom.com. **Jan. 18,** 8:30 p.m.: The Young Rapsallions. \$12; \$25 meet & greet. **Jan. 19,** 7 p.m., and **Jan. 20,** 10:30 a.m.: Jazz saxophonist Gerald Albright. The brunch jazz show on Sunday will be hosted by SmoothChicago.com's Rick O'Dell. Saturday \$49-\$69; Sunday brunch, \$24.95.

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts

18+

9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. (847) 673-6300. www.northshorecenter.org. **Jan. 3,** 7:30 p.m.: Elvis Tribute Artist Spectacular. \$20.50, \$37, \$51.

POP/FOLK/JAZZ

Artemis Singers

18+

Chicago's lesbian feminist chorus will present "Many Voices Create the Song: Artemis Singers in Concert" at 7:30 p.m. **Jan. 19** at the Ethical Humanist Society, 7574 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie. \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door. www.artemissingers.org.

Gorilla Tango's Skokie Theatre

18+

7924 Lincoln Ave. Skokie. www.gorillatango.com. **Jan. 7,** 8 p.m.: Paul Asaro & The Fat Babies: Chicago Hot ('20s and '30s jazz/swing). \$10.

InterContinental Chicago O'Hare Hotel

18+

Montrose Room, 5300 N. River Road,

S.P.A.C.E.

18+

1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. www.evanspace.com. **Jan. 4,** 8 p.m.: Susan Werner (folk). \$20-\$40. **Jan. 5,** 8 p.m.: Otis Clay CD release show (soul). \$15-\$35. **Jan. 6,** 7 p.m.: Nellie McKay (pop/jazz). \$15-\$35. **Jan. 10,** 7:30 p.m.: The Daredevil Christopher Wright with Bears of Blue River and The Wild Famil, \$10. **Jan. 11,** 8 p.m.: Chris Smither, \$22/\$25.

ART GALLERIES

DoubleTree Hotel

18+

9599 Skokie Blvd.,

Skokie. **Through February:** Simply Chicago Art hosts "Life and the City," paintings by Gary Bradley.

Oakton Community College

18+ 65+

Koehline Museum of Art, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. (847) 635-2633. www.oakton.edu/museum. **Through Jan. 25:** "Nuances of Landscape: Paintings by Mary Porterfield and Nina Weiss."

AUDITIONS & OPPORTUNITIES

Teen casting call

13+

Devonshire Playhouse, 4400 Greenwood St., Skokie, will hold auditions for 12- to 17-year-old actors for its April production of "Fame," 6-8 p.m. **Jan. 8** and 4:30-6:30 p.m. **Jan. 11.** For more information, call (847) 674-1500, ext. 2400.

BOOKS & POETRY

Author appearance

18+

Lois Leveen, author of *The Secrets of Mary Bowser*, speaks on "Race, Social Justice, 'Chosenness' and Jewish American Literature" at 7:30 p.m. **Jan. 16** at Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie. \$5 suggested

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donation. Books will be available for purchase and autographs. Visit www.tbiskokie.org.

Lincolnwood Public Library

18+ 65+

4000 W. Pratt Ave. www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org. **Jan. 5-12:** Friends of the Library Book Sale, held during library hours. **Jan. 14,** 11 a.m.: Discussion of *The Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles.

CHILD'S PLAY

Lincolnwood Public Library

L12

4000 W. Pratt Ave. (847) 677-5277. www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org. **Jan. 7,** 3:30 p.m.: "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days," rated PG.

Niles Public Library

412

6960 Oakton St., Niles. www.nileslibrary.org. **Jan. 5,** 2 p.m.: "The Lucky One," rated PG-13.

COMEDY

Gorilla Tango's Skokie Theatre

18+

7924 Lincoln Ave. Skokie. www.gorillatango.com. **Through Jan. 26,** 9 p.m. Saturdays, except 10:30 p.m.

Jan. 5: "Holy Bouncing Boobies! A Batman Burlesque." \$35.

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts

18+

9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. www.northshorecenter.org. **Jan. 24-27:** The Capitol Steps present political satire. \$45.50-\$49.50.

Perla Cafe

18+

1813 Dempster St., Evanston. (847) 424-1382. **Jan. 19,** 7-8:30 p.m.: "An Evening of Comedy & Spoken Word," with author and comedian Debbie Sue Goodman and friends. No cover.

Zanies Comedy Club

18+

5437 Park Place, Rosemont. <http://rosemont.zanies.com>. **Jan. 3-5:** Tom Clark. **Jan. 9-12:** Ryan Hamilton. **Jan. 18,** 8 p.m., and **Jan. 19,** 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.: Paul Reiser. \$30. **Jan. 23-26:** Larry Reeb. **Jan. 30-31:** April Macie.

DANCE

Gorilla Tango's Skokie Theatre

13+ 18+

7924 Lincoln Ave. Skokie. www.gorillatango.com. (773) 598-4549.

Jan. 4-25, 7:30 p.m. Fridays: "TapMan: Origin," featuring Chicago tap dancer Tristan Bruns in a stage adaptation of his TapMan variety character. \$15.

FILM

Lincolnwood Public Library

18+

4000 W. Pratt Ave. (847) 677-5277. www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org. **Jan. 4,** 1 p.m.: "Total Recall." **Jan. 10,** 10:30 a.m.: "Natural Selection." **Jan. 10,** 1 p.m.: "Double Indemnity."

"A Night with Nicholas Sparks' Safe Haven: Filmmakers, Author and Stars Bring the Book to Life"

18+

Screened at 7 p.m. **Jan. 17** at select movie theaters nationwide, including Niles 12, 301 Golf Mill Center, Niles; and Evanston 18, 1715 Maple Ave., Evanston. The event, broadcast live from Burbank, Calif., will feature author Nicholas Sparks in a discussion about the cinematic adaptation of his best-selling novel, *Safe Haven*. Visit www.FathomEvents.com.

Niles Public Library

18+

6960 Oakton St., Niles. www.nileslibrary.org. **Jan. 11,** 7 p.m.:

Shakespeare After Hours film discussion features "Shakespeare in Love," rated R.

LECTURES

Lincolnwood Public Library

18+

4000 W. Pratt Ave. www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org. **Jan. 4,** 10:30 a.m.: Richard Klein presents "The Musical Sides of Audrey Hepburn."

WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

Niles Public Library

18+

6960 Oakton St., Niles. (847) 663-6405. www.nileslibrary.org. **Jan. 17,** 7 p.m.: Niles Songwriters group invites area songwriters to bring original songs to share and receive feedback.

ET CETERA

Allstate Arena

18+

6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont. Tickets available at www.ticketmaster.com or (800) 745-3000. For information, visit www.allstatearena.com. Parking is \$20, cash only. **Jan. 12,** 8 p.m., and **Jan. 13,** 2 p.m.: Professional Bull Riders 2013 PBR Built Ford Tough Series, featuring the top 35 bull riders in the world. \$15,

\$35, \$50, \$75 and \$125.

MUSEUMS

Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center

13+ 18+ 65+

9603 Woods Drive,

Skokie. www.ilholocaustmuseum.org. Admission: \$12; \$8 for students and senior citizens; \$6 for children ages 5-11. **Jan. 17,** 6:30 p.m.: Screening of a new documentary, "Skokie: Invaded, But Not Conquered." Reservations required. ■

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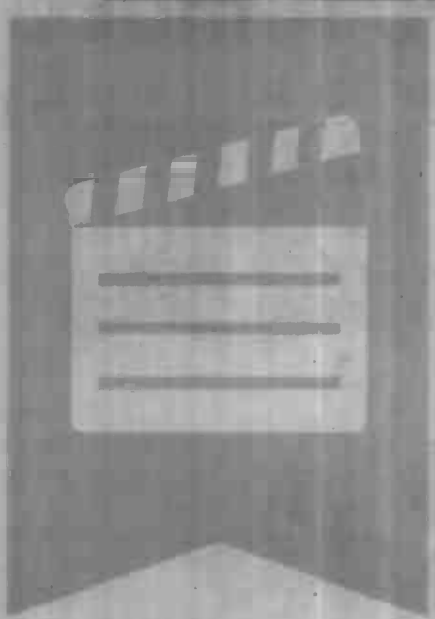
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10 Career Resolutions

By Dan Miller, Monster Staff Writer

Like the saying, "Today is the first day of the rest of your life," it's never a bad time to start moving your career in a better direction. Here are 10 New Year's resolutions that can help.

Pay Attention In Class

Treat every workday like a school day. Be sure you learn something and use it to make yourself more productive. It may be as simple as understanding how to work with specific peers or improving your emotional intelligence. Take mental notes. Don't sleepwalk through the day.

Look for the Next Rung

You need to excel at your job. This is how you gain credibility. But understanding your next step is key to career happiness. Career pathing is critical to remaining engaged on the job. Schedule discussions with your manager to get clarity on the next challenge. If you don't get it on your team or in your company, it may be time to look elsewhere.

Understand Company Goals

Make sure you understand how your job contributes to your company's business objectives. Are you in a revenue-generating role? A brand-awareness role? Is your mission to delight the customer? Knowing how your job fits into the big picture will give you inspiration and a sense of accomplishment – and will help you understand your job's impact.

Be Ethical

Whether you're running the company or cleaning its restrooms, be honest in all you do. Don't call in sick just to get a day off – that's stealing. Put in an honest day's work. Be accountable. If you're working remotely, be sure you are. Do what you say you're going to do. Honesty and reliability mean a lot to your manager.

Stay Fit

OK, this was probably on your last New Year's resolutions list, but that's because it's so important. Try to break a sweat for 20 minutes, three days a week. Go for a walk at lunch. Join a gym. Lift weights. A healthy body makes a healthy mind. Exercising increases blood flow to the brain and gives you ideas. You'll be more productive at work, and best of all, you'll feel better.

Stretch Your Role

Occasionally think how you can go above and beyond. Are there projects outside your defined role you could help with? Come up with your own ideas, and work with your manager to implement them. If you're a hamster, step off the wheel and poke your head out of the cage. Stretch a little. This won't go unnoticed.



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Manage Up

Make sure you and your manager are in firm agreement on what you're doing. Be proactive and get on his calendar to ensure you're meeting or exceeding expectations. Don't assume he's paying close attention. There are bad managers. If there's a disconnect between what you're doing and what your manager wants, you're partly to blame. Don't wait until your annual performance review rolls around.

Manage Across

Even if you work primarily alone, be sure to make time to understand your peers' roles and how they go about their jobs. Show an interest. Don't just choose a few friends and become part of a clique. High school is over. You never know when you may need people – or be reporting to them.

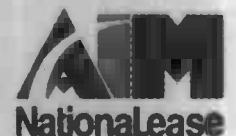
Communicate

Don't leave people waiting for answers. If you're in an email environment, return emails promptly. Let people know what you're doing. If you're working on a project, always ask yourself who needs to know about it, then tell them. Talk to people; give them a heads up. And when someone helps you out, be sure to thank him. It's amazing this item even needs to be on a list, but bad communicators abound. Don't be one of them.

Make Time for Play

Have fun. Work hard, but smile while you're doing it. No one likes a grump. Approach each day with a positive spirit and stay loose. Enjoy your family and friends as well. Make time for them – and you. It's called work-life balance. All work and no play makes life a chore.

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Judicial Sales-Real Est.

SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. AS TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF THE HARBORVIEW 2006-12 TRUST FUND Plaintiff, -v- ABDUL QADEER, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., COUNTRYWIDE BANK, FSB F/K/A COUNTRYWIDE BANK, N.A. Defendants
08 CH 017740
7942 KOLMAR AVENUE SKOKIE, IL 60076
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 28, 2012, an agent of The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on January 23, 2013, at the The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 7942 KOLMAR AVENUE, SKOKIE, IL 60076 Property Index No. 10-27-101-024. The real estate is improved with a residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOME OWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-08-110767 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4655 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit www.tjssc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-9876 Attorney File No. 14-08-110767 ARDC# 03468002 Attorney Code: 21762 Case # 08 CH 017740 NOTE: Pursuant to the Federal Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
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NORRIDGE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO BANK HOME LOANS SERVICING, L.P. FKA COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS SERVICING LP Plaintiff, -v- EWA M. SEK, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR HSBC MORTGAGE CORPORATION Defendants
09 CH 36405
4225 NORTH OVERHILL AVENUE NORRIDGE, IL 60706
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 24, 2012, an agent of The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on January 28, 2013, at the The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 4225 NORTH OVERHILL AVENUE, NORRIDGE, IL 60706 Property Index No. 12-13-307-011-0000. The real estate is improved with a brick single family home with a detached 2 car garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOME OWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-08-110767 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4655 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit www.tjssc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-9876 Attorney File No. 14-08-110767 ARDC# 03468002 Attorney Code: 21762 Case # 08 CH 017740 NOTE: Pursuant to the Federal Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
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Waukegan	847-648-3570	\$650.00	1	1	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	847-903-6670	\$1,100.00	3	2	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N

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NOTICE OF LIEN
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 773-539-5443
 To sell the following article to enforce a lien existing under the laws of the State of Illinois against such article for repairs and storage furnished for such article at the request of the following designated persons, unless such articles are redeemed prior to the designated sale date:
OWNER(S): WILL SANTIAGO
 4907 W. PARKER STREET
 CHICAGO, IL 60639
OWNER/LIEN HOLDER: A.L.L. STATE INSURANCE COMPANY
 4665 BUSINESS CENTER DR. FAIRFIELD, CA. 94534
Vehicles: 2003 CADILLAC DEVILLE
 VIN # W1G6KD54YX3U27172
 Amount of Lien: \$5470
 1/3, 1/10, 1/17 474872

Probate
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, PROBATE DIVISION
THE ESTATE OF
 William E. Chwalinski, Deceased.
NO: 12 P 6421
PUBLICATION NOTICE
 Notice is given of the death of William E. Chwalinski, of 1545 Colorado Lane, Elk Grove, Cook County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on November 14, 2012, to Denise Ambrose, as Independent Administrator, whose mailing address is 1545 Colorado Lane, Elk Grove, Illinois, 60007, and whose attorney is Michael J. Moran, 121 S. Wilke Road, Suite 201, Arlington Heights, IL 60005, 847-577-8556.
 Every claim filed must be in writing and state sufficient information to notify the representative of the nature of the claim or other relief sought.
 Claims must be filed on or before June 20, 2013, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Every claim filed must be in writing and state sufficient information to notify the representative of the nature of the claim or other relief sought.
 Claims must be filed with the representative of the Estate or in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of this Court, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602. If filed with the Court, the claimant within ten (10) days after filing his claim with the Court: (1) shall cause a copy of the claim to be mailed or delivered to the representative and to his Attorney of record, unless the representative of his Attorney has in writing, either consented to the allowance of the claim or waived mailing or delivery of copies in writing, and (2) shall file with the Court proof of any required mailing or delivery of copies.
 /s/ Michael J. Moran (Attorney)
Pub: 12/20, 12/27, 1/3 466801

Probate
STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION
Elvema Stroud, Deceased
Case No. 12 P 6508
PUBLICATION NOTICE
 Notice is hereby given of the death of Elvema Stroud, of Palatine, IL. Letters of office were issued on December 13, 2012 to Mark Hagenow, 4317 Gayle Drive, Woodstock, IL 60098; whose attorney is Cary A. Lind, 121 S. Wilke Rd, Suite 407, Arlington Heights, IL 60005, 847-577-0030.
 Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court in Room 1202, Richard J. Daley Center, Chicago, Illinois 60602, or with the representative, or both, on or before June 20, 2013, which date is not less than 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of any claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it is filed.
 /s/ Mark Hagenow (Representative)
 /s/ Cary A. Lind (Attorney)
Pub: 12/20, 12/27, 1/3 468902
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, PROBATE DIVISION
THE ESTATE OF
 Walter W. Reider, Deceased.
NO: 12 P 6713
PUBLICATION NOTICE
 Notice is given of the death of Walter W. Reider, of 1212 W. Hawthorne Street, Arlington Heights, Cook County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on December 10, 2012, to Craig D. Reider, as Independent Representative, whose mailing address is 1327 Zee Court, Wheeling, IL 60090, and whose attorney is Michael J. Moran, 121 S. Wilke Road, Suite 201, Arlington Heights, IL 60005, 847-577-8556.
 Every claim filed must be in writing and state sufficient information to notify the representative of the nature of the claim or other relief sought.
 Claims must be filed on or before June 20, 2013, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Every claim filed must be in writing and state sufficient information to notify the representative of the nature of the claim or other relief sought.
 Claims must be filed with the representative of the Estate or in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of this Court, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602. If filed with the Court, the claimant within ten (10) days after filing his claim with the Court: (1) shall cause a copy of the claim to be mailed or delivered to the representative and to his Attorney of record, unless the representative of his Attorney has in writing, either consented to the allowance of the claim or waived mailing or delivery of copies in writing, and (2) shall file with the Court proof of any required mailing or delivery of copies.
 /s/ Michael J. Moran (Attorney)
Pub: 12/20, 12/27, 1/3 466801

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VILLAGE OF LINCOLNWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, January 16, 2013, at 7:00PM, a public hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Village of Lincolnwood, Cook County, Illinois, in the Council Chambers Room of Lincolnwood Village Hall, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, Illinois for the purpose of considering the following:
 Property Address: 6545 North Sauganash Avenue
 Property P.I.N.: 10-33-425-039-0000
 Applicant: Zubeda Moten, Property Owner
Nature of Request: The requested action would allow for a six foot tall fence in the corner side yard on the subject property. The petitioner seeks a variation from Section 3.13(11)(h) of the Zoning Code to permit a fence in the corner side yard that exceeds the maximum permitted height for fences in corner side yards.
 At the public hearing, the Zoning Board of Appeals will accept and consider all testimony and evidence pertaining to this application, and will consider any zoning actions or relief that may be necessary or convenient related to this request. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Zoning Board of Appeals will make a recommendation to the Lincolnwood Village Board of Trustees based on the information presented. The Village Board will consider that recommendation at a subsequent public meeting. The decision of the Village Board will be the final decision of the Village regarding this application.
 Information concerning this application is available for inspection in the Community Development Department of the Lincolnwood Village Hall, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, Illinois. This public hearing may be adjourned to another date by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Village without further notice, other than a notice entered upon the minutes of said meeting, fixing the time and place of its reconvening.
 All persons in attendance at the hearing shall have an opportunity to be heard regarding this application. Any person who also desires to appear as an "interested party", with the right to cross-examine others at the public hearing, must file an appearance form with the Village of Lincolnwood no later than 5 p.m. on the business day prior to the commencement of the public hearing. Appearance forms are available in the Community Development Department of the Lincolnwood Village Hall, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, Illinois.
 This is not a "notice to appear." It is an invitation to all interested persons to submit oral or written comments concerning this application. Written comments must be received no later than 5 p.m. on the business day prior to the public hearing and may be sent to the attention of the Village Zoning Officer at the Lincolnwood Village Hall, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, IL 60712. Persons having questions regarding this matter may call the Village Community Development Department at 847-673-7402.
Dated: December 21, 2012
 Village Clerk
 Village of Lincolnwood
 1/3/2013 #472449

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SPARTANBURG
IN THE FAMILY COURT SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SUMMONS AND NOTICE
Case No.: 2012-DR-42-2391
 South Carolina Department of Social Services, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 Wendy Zonka Rios, Juan Manuel Rios, And the minor children under the age of eighteen (18) years
 Damian Jose Rios (DOB: 12/03/1994)
 Elysa Jean Rios (DOB: 12/13/1995)
Defendants.
TO THE DEFENDANT: JUAN MANUEL RIOS YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint for Termination of Parental Rights in this action, the original of which was filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Spartanburg County, South Carolina on September 4, 2012, a copy of which will be delivered to you upon request and to serve a copy of your answer to the Complaint upon the undersigned attorney at the address shown below, within thirty (30) days of the date of service upon you, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time stated, the Plaintiff will apply for judgment by default against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. **PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that should you fail to respond or appear at the final termination of parental rights hearing in this matter you may lose your parental rights to the above named child.
DEBORAH MURDOCK
 (SC Bar No. 7640)
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 116 Renaissance Circle
 Mauldin, South Carolina 29662
 (864) 213-1097/(864) 213-1098 (fax)
 Mauldin, South Carolina
 December 18, 2012
PUB: 1-3, 1-10, 1-17 469445

Probate
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, PROBATE DIVISION
In the matter of the estate of Bogdan Hordejuk Deceased.
Case No.: 2012 P 006834
Publication Notice
 Notice is given of the death of Bogdan Hordejuk who died on September 27, 2012, a resident of Cook County, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on December 20, 2012, to Monika Hordejuk, 180 Riverside Blvd., Apt. 3U, NY, NY, 10069, whose attorney is Bogdan Skoskiewicz, 7111 W. Higgins Avenue, Chicago, IL 60656. 773-631-7111.
 Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court in Room 1202, Richard J. Daley Center, Chicago, Illinois 60602 or with the representative, or both, on or before June 27, 2013, which date is not less than 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of any claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
12/27/12, 1/3, 1/10/13 #472052

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Probate
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, PROBATE DIVISION
In the matter of the estate of Bogdan Hordejuk Deceased.
Case No.: 2012 P 006834
Publication Notice
 Notice is given of the death of Bogdan Hordejuk who died on September 27, 2012, a resident of Cook County, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on December 20, 2012, to Monika Hordejuk, 180 Riverside Blvd., Apt. 3U, NY, NY, 10069, whose attorney is Bogdan Skoskiewicz, 7111 W. Higgins Avenue, Chicago, IL 60656. 773-631-7111.
 Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court in Room 1202, Richard J. Daley Center, Chicago, Illinois 60602 or with the representative, or both, on or before June 27, 2013, which date is not less than 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of any claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
12/27/12, 1/3, 1/10/13 #472052

Probate
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, PROBATE DIVISION
In the matter of the estate of Katarzyna Dziura Deceased.
Case No.: 2012 P 007029
Publication Notice
 Notice is given of the death of Katarzyna Dziura who died on November 13, 2012, a resident of Cook County, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on December 20, 2012, to Marzena Panek, 7N071 Eagle Terrace, Medinah, IL 60157, whose attorney is Lucas Figiel, 7111 W. Higgins Avenue, Chicago, IL 60656. 773-774-6084.
 Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court in Room 1202, Richard J. Daley Center, Chicago, Illinois 60602 or with the representative, or both, on or before June 27, 2013, which date is not less than 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of any claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
12/27/12, 1/3, 1/10/13 #472052

VILLAGE OF LINCOLNWOOD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, January 16, 2013, at 7:00PM, a public hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Village of Lincolnwood, Cook County, Illinois, in the Council Chambers Room of Lincolnwood Village Hall, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, Illinois for the purpose of considering the following:
 Property Address: 6540 North Lincoln Avenue
 Property P.I.N.: 10-35-325-014-0000, 10-35-325-020-0000
 Applicant: John Kosich/Debb Kosich LLC, Contact Purchaser and Park Moon Kang and Jung J. Kang, Property Owner
Nature of Request: The requested action would allow for a medial office facility at the subject property. The petitioner seeks variations to permit (1) parking between the building and front lot line, (2) less than minimum setback and landscape requirements for driveways, drive aisles, and off-street parking spaces including but not limited to required perimeter landscaping, off-street parking landscape requirements, and foundation landscape areas; (3) less than required distance from street intersection to access driveway (4) less than minimum screening requirements for trash enclosure and (5) greater number of wall signs for a corner lot.
 At the public hearing, the Zoning Board of Appeals will accept and consider all testimony and evidence pertaining to this application, and will consider any zoning actions or relief that may be necessary or convenient related to this request. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Zoning Board of Appeals will make a recommendation to the Lincolnwood Village Board of Trustees based on the information presented. The Village Board will consider that recommendation at a subsequent public meeting. The decision of the Village Board will be the final decision of the Village regarding this application.
 Information concerning this application is available for inspection in the Community Development Department of the Lincolnwood Village Hall, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, Illinois. This public hearing may be adjourned to another date by the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Village without further notice, other than a notice entered upon the minutes of said meeting, fixing the time and place of its reconvening.
 All persons in attendance at the hearing shall have an opportunity to be heard regarding this application. Any person who also desires to appear as an "interested party", with the right to cross-examine others at the public hearing, must file an appearance form with the Village of Lincolnwood no later than 5 p.m. on the business day prior to the commencement of the public hearing. Appearance forms are available in the Community Development Department of the Lincolnwood Village Hall, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, Illinois.
 This is not a "notice to appear." It is an invitation to all interested persons to submit oral or written comments concerning this application. Written comments must be received no later than 5 p.m. on the business day prior to the public hearing and may be sent to the attention of the Village Zoning Officer at the Lincolnwood Village Hall, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, IL 60712. Persons having questions regarding this matter may call the Village Community Development Department at 847-673-7402.
Dated: December 21, 2012
 Village Clerk
 Village of Lincolnwood
 1/3/2013 #472441

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Public Notices
 A special meeting will be held Thursday, January 3, 2013 at the Morton Grove Park District, 6834 Dempster, Morton Grove, IL 60053 for the selection of an executive search firm to hire a new Executive Director for the Morton Grove Park District. There will be no committee meetings that night. The Recreation and Facilities Maintenance Committee meetings are postponed to Thursday, January 10, 2013.
Pub: 1/3/13 474913
Public Hearings
LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. before the Planning and Zoning Commission in the City Council Chambers of Park Ridge City Hall, 505 Butler Place, Park Ridge, Illinois, when the following matter will be considered:
ZONING CASE NUMBERS:
 PD-12-01:
 Application by Orchard Development Group, Inc., for a special use for a planned development review for a stage 1 development plan for a multi-family residential project, and any exceptions as may be requested as part of this application, at the following property, in accordance with Section 5.6 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Park Ridge:
LOT 1 IN REGENCY OF PARK RIDGE RESUBDIVISION, BEING A RESUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE EAST HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER AND OF LOT 2 IN HEINZ'S COLONIAL PLAZA RESUBDIVISION IN SAID EAST HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER, ALL IN SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 41 NORTH, RANGE 12 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT RECORDED DECEMBER 6, 2007 AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 0734015119 IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
 The property is commonly known as: 446-516 North Northwest Highway
 All persons interested in the above described matter are invited to attend and will be heard.
 The case file for this matter is available for review in the Department of Community Preservation and Development in City Hall.
 Alfredo Marr, Chairman
 Planning and Zoning Commission
Pub: 1/3/2013 Ad 472423

Storage - Legal
NOTICE OF AUCTION
 Life Storage Centers of Hermosa will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Illinois Code 770 ILCS 95/1 to 95/7, at 4:00 PM on Monday January 14, 2013 at Life Storage Centers of Hermosa, 4500 W. Grand Ave. Chicago, IL 60639. Phone number is 773-235-8452
 Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is/Parts Only" no titles or registration.

Unit	Tenant Name
018	Virginia Daniels
516	Tisha Canada
509	Kwabena L. Stewart
688	George Jones
050	Carolina Vargas
249	Jeanette Turner
443	Floyd J. Street
475	Louella Murray
586	Marquita Jefferson
156	Gildardo Gonzalez
398	Patricia D. Chapman
353	Vivian Boyd
014	Maurice Bell
680	Juan M. Morquecho
676	Isidoro R. Colon
570	Samantha D. Menard
246	Patrick V. Wandick
174	Mana A. Gandara
273	Tatiana Baugh
024	Patrick Jones
044	Francine Brown
141	Donnerco Walker
389	Jimmie L. Price
415	Stephen D. Meredith
431	Tanai E. Sanders
471	Ismael S. Muhammad
611	Eugene Kloczek
668	Alice Fisher
781	Anthony Autrey
403	Michael Walker
12/27/12, 1/3/13 #472537	

 Life Storage Centers of the Southwest Loop will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Illinois Code 770 ILCS 95/1 to 95/7, at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, January 16, 2013, at Life Storage Centers of the Southwest Loop, 601 W. Harrison St., Chicago, IL, 60607 (312)-360-1153
 Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only," no titles or registration.

Tenant Name	Unit #
Donald Sago	199
Cordell Willis	206
David Turner	228
Glacia Sancio	302
Tonya Price Harden	348
Norvel Wilbourn	359
Robert Evrard	427
Darlene Williams	596
Willie Buggs	754
Raymond Russ	763
David Turner	816
Alan Maynie	823
Gwen Woolridge	840
Antonio Puckett	916
Tanya Rayford	921
Frank Raffaelli	933
Robert Stevenson	1068A
Clegg Wilson	1081A
Edna Wash	1083A
12/27/12, 1/3/13 #472140	

758021 Portage U-HAUL STORAGE AUCTION 2012 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISE STATUTES, CHAPTER 114, PARAGRAPH 301, ET. SEQ
 Notice is hereby given that on January 10, 2013, U-HAUL Auctioneer, Executive Administrator, Storage Clerk for U-Haul Co. North Shore Chicago will be offering for sale under the Judicial Lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. U-Haul Co. of North Shore Chicago reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sales will be at the following location, 4301 N Cicero Ave, Chicago, IL 60641 and will be at or after 12:30pm and continue day by day until all units are sold.
 Silvia Barajas--- 5122 W. Addison, Chicago, IL 60641
 A131- Space Heater, Table, Clothing, Paint & Boxes
 Mark Goles--- 4050 N. Milwaukee, Chicago, IL 60641
 A125- File Cabinet, Dolly, Boxes & Bags
 Keith Hamilton--- 915 W. Wilson, Chicago, IL 60640
 A214- VCRs
 Mary Leonard--- 3036 N. Kolmar, Chicago, IL 60641
 A231- A/C Unit & Bags
 Camelia Bonifacio--- 3950 N. Lake Shore Dr, Chicago, IL 60613
 B126- Chair, Tables, Box Spring, Dresser & Boxes
 Eddie Figueroa--- 5538 W. Sunnyside, Chicago, IL 60630
 B359- Bed Frame & Mattress
 Anne Heller--- 2241 W. Eastwood St. Chicago, IL 60625
 B392- Guitar, Golf Clubs, Chairs, Stool & Boxes
 Jannet Beniquez--- 3434 W. Berteau, Chicago, IL 60618
 B137- Misc
Pub: 12/27, 1/3 469831

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Storage - Legal

Notice of Auction
Life Storage Centers of River North will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facilities Act, Illinois Code 770 ILCS to 95/7, at 10:00 AM on Monday, January 14, 2013, at Life Storage Centers of River North, 333 West Ohio Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60654. Phone: 312-222-0136
Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only." No titles or registration.
Tenant Name Unit #
Mohd Kamis: Unit #3001
Edward Phelps: Unit #2091
Pub: 12/27, 1/3 469063

Storage - Legal

TO PLACE A HELP WANTED AD IN THE CLASSIFIEDS, CALL 847-998-3400

758078 Westside
U-HAUL STORAGE AUCTION 2012 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISE STATUTES, CHAPTER 114, PARAGRAPH 301, ET. SEQ
Notice is hereby given that on January 10, 2013 U-HAUL Auctioneer, Executive Administrator, Storage Clerk for U-Haul Co. North Shore Chicago will be offering for sale under the Judicial Lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. U-Haul Co. of North Shore Chicago reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sales will be at the following location, 1700 N Cicero Ave, Chicago, IL 60639 and will be at or after 1:30pm and continue day by day until all units are sold.
Latina Houston--- 1644 N. Saint Louis, Chicago, IL. 60651
AA2541S- Misc. Items
Latina Houston--- 1644 N. Saint Louis, Chicago, IL. 60651
B163- Vacuum, Chair & Boxes
Terrance Bridges--- 720 N 14th St., Dekalb, IL. 60115
B161- Boxes, Chairs & Table
Richard Williams--- 1436 N Luna, Chicago, IL. 60651
A132- Weights, Stove, Microwave, Dresser & Bed
Elliot Thomas--- 418 S Lotus, Chicago, IL. 60644
B128- A/C unit, Dresser, Microwave, TV & Bags
Barbara Carrington--- 5116 W Fulton, Chicago, IL. 60644
B120- Freezer, Shelf, Boxes, Chair, Mirror & Totes
Georgia Galarza--- 4249 W Palmer St. Chicago, IL. 60639
A120- Mini-Fridge, Table, Desk, Ladder, Dresser & Totes
Pub: 12/27, 1/3 469848

758075 Fortress
U-HAUL STORAGE AUCTION 2012 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISE STATUTES, CHAPTER 114, PARAGRAPH 301, ET. SEQ
Notice is hereby given that on January 10, 2013 U-HAUL Auctioneer, Executive Administrator, Storage Clerk for U-Haul Co. North Shore Chicago will be offering for sale under the Judicial Lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. U-Haul Co. of North Shore Chicago reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sales will be at the following location, 4100 W. Fullerton Ave, Chicago IL. 60639 and will be at or after 2:30pm and continue day by day until all units are sold.
Patricia Albitzer--- 2427 N Ridgeway Ave, Chicago, IL. 60647
3418- Ladder, Boxes & Bags
Jessica Echevarria---
4260- Chairs, Table, Boxes & Bags
Sidney Lucas--- 397 Trace Frk JR, Chapmanville, WV. 25508
4263- China Cabinet, Sewing Machine, Tools, Boxes & Bags
Michael Gardener--- 108 North Waller, Chicago, IL. 60644
4189- Weights, Desk, Chairs, Boxes & Bags
Rosa Moreno--- 2424 N Montecello Apt# B, Chicago, IL. 60647
4026- Love Seat, Sofa, Chairs, Bed Frame, Clothing & Misc. Items
Nicholas Graf--- 2921 N Milwaukee Ave Apt#201, Chicago, IL. 60618
4103- Fire Place, Desk, Chairs, Shelf, TVs & Boxes
Shaunte Holliday--- 3717 W 80th St., Chicago, IL. 60652
4618- Toddlers Items, Chairs, Washer & Dryer
Yvette Montiko--- 3567 W. Palmer Apt#A, Chicago, IL. 60647
4672- Sofa, T.V., A/C Unit, Boxes & Bags
Jason James--- 3050 W. Cornelia, Chicago, IL. 60657
4389- Mattress, Tables, Dresser & Boxes
Marisel Jimenez--- 4141 W Hirsh, Chicago, IL. 60651
4772- Mattress, Table, Chair & Boxes
Kayla Flores--- 3327 W. Evergreen, Chicago, IL. 60651
3778- Stereo Equipment, TV, Table, Speakers, Toys & Boxes
Alexis Norwood--- 2500 N Spaulding, Chicago, IL. 60647
3757- Bags, Boxes, Mattree & Box Spring
Sneque Price--- 1122 S Sacramento Blvd, Chicago, IL. 60612
3126- Table, Amrtress, TV, & Boxes
Jim Gomez--- 4100 W Fullerton, Chicago, IL. 60639
3725- Boxes & Moving Blankets
Sheree Howard--- 900 N Louis, Chicago, IL. 60651
4271- Fish Tank, Frezzer, TV, Chair & Misc. Items
Natsha Cervantes--- 3565 W. Lyndale, Chicago, IL. 60647
4269- Golf Clubs, Electronics, Crates, Children items & Totes
Perry Marshall--- 402 Berkley, Elmhurst, IL. 60126
4621- Misc. Items
Perry Marshall--- 402 Berkly, Elmhurst, IL. 60126
4520- Fan, Chair, Sheleves, Mattress, Boxes & Misc. Items
Perry Marshall--- 402 Berkley, Elmhurst, IL. 60126
4028- Stereo, Luggage, Fulton, Dresser & Boxes
Patricia Moreno--- 2924 N. Harlem, Chicago, IL. 60639
4848- Refrigerator, Table, Trays & Boxes
Sylvia Labrador--- 2725 N Marmora, Chicago, IL. 60639
4734- Bed Frame, TV, Lamps, Stroller & Boxes
Pub: 12/27, 1/3 469863

U-HAUL STORAGE AUCTION 2012 758069 Niles
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISE STATUTES, CHAPTER 114, PARAGRAPH 301, ET. SEQ
Notice is hereby given that on January 10, 2013 U-HAUL Auctioneer, Executive Administrator, Storage Clerk for U-Haul Co. North Shore Chicago will be offering for sale under the Judicial Lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. U-Haul Co. of North Shore Chicago reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sales will be at the following location, 7644 N Milwaukee Niles, IL 60714 and will be at or after 12:15pm and continue day by day until all units are sold.
Claudia Ostrow--- 7540 N Waukegan Rd Apt# 1s, Niles, IL. 60714
106- Fan, Boxes, Bags & Misc. Items
Ann Carlson--- 20 Union Ave, Jamica Palne, MA. 02130
130- Misc. Items
Pub: 12/27, 1/3 469883

NOTICE OF AUCTION
Life Storage Centers of Morton Grove will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facility Act Illinois Code 770 ILCS 95/1 to 95/7, at 1:00 PM on Thursday, January 17th, 2013, at LifeStorage Centers of Morton Grove, 6505 West Oakton Street, Morton Grove, Illinois, 60053, 847-966-1899. Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only," no titles or registration.
Tenant Name Unit #
Jerold LeVine 1031
Mark Wesolowski 1343
Sherian E. Lammey 1208
James Hoffman 1333
Jeffery Ortmann 1231
Jeffery Ortmann 1237
Paul Kotowski 1315
Clarence Vogt 1271
Clarence Vogt 1347
Glen Freeman 1721
12/27/12, 1/3/13 #471444

758086 Morton Grove
U-HAUL STORAGE AUCTION 2012 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISE STATUTES, CHAPTER 114, PARAGRAPH 301, ET. SEQ
Notice is hereby given that on January 10, 2013 U-HAUL Auctioneer, Executive Administrator, Storage Clerk for U-Haul Co. North Shore Chicago will be offering for sale under the Judicial Lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. U-Haul Co. of North Shore Chicago reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sales will be at the following location, 9009 Waukegan Rd, Morton Grove, IL. 60053 and will be at or after 11:45am and continue day by day until all units are sold.
Victor White--- 3045 W Coluboa Ave, Chicago, IL. 60645
148- Guaitar, Clothing, Luggage, Totes, Boxes & Bags
Caleb Turner--- 211 Custard, Evanston, IL. 60202
449-50- Chairs & Misc. Items
Christine Kim--- 330 S. Wells, Chicago, IL. 60606
402- Love Seat, Chairs, Table & Mirror
Keith Roberson--- 7605 North Bosworth, Chicago, IL. 60626
AA2560S- Bed, Boxes & Misc. Items
Pub: 12/27, 1/3 469824

758061 Uptown
U-HAUL STORAGE AUCTION 2012 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISE STATUTES, CHAPTER 114, PARAGRAPH 301, ET. SEQ
Notice is hereby given that on January 10, 2013 U-HAUL Auctioneer, Executive Administrator, Storage Clerk for U-Haul Co. North Shore Chicago will be offering for sale under the Judicial Lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. U-Haul Co. of North Shore Chicago reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sales will be at the following location, 4055 N Broadway Street Chicago, IL. 60613 and will be at or after 4:30pm and continue day by day until all units are sold.
Rachel Robertson--- 4011 58th St. Ct. NW, Gig Harbor, WI. 98335
122- Luggage & Bags
Thomas Hires--- 3335 N Halsted St. 3, Chicago, IL. 60657
143- Shelves, Table, Chairs & Misc. Items
Todd Borders--- 3319 W Fullerton, Chicago, IL. 60617
157- Freezer, Chair & Bags
Kenneth Swanson--- 920 W Wilson, Chicago, IL. 60640
303- Luggage, Clothing & Misc. Items
Charles Lockett--- PO BOX 13264, Chicago, IL. 60613
301- Clothing, Bags & Boxes
Darcell Taylor--- 808 W 76th St. Apt# 1, Chicago, IL. 60620
178- Dresser, Iron Board, Box Spring & Misc. Items
Cruicta Ugarte--- 550 S Banana River Drive Apt#103, Merritt Island, FL 32952
211- Stereo, Luggage, TV & Boxes
Pub: 12/27, 1/3 469873

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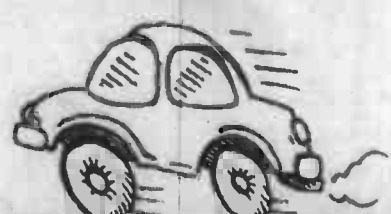
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self-Service Storage Facility Act, State of Illinois, the undersigned will sell at a public sale by competitive bidding on: Date & Time
1-18-13 at 3 pm
Units to be auctioned:
585 Bruce Soboroff Full furnitures
24, Bruce Soborof: bags personal item
128 Hardy Trumaine
944 Wroda Sherri Lee , full of bag, and boxes
#979 Wroda Sherri Lee full of suitcase
#9795 Bring it on home., full of boxes.
1008 Ultra Enterprises : A car, and personal item.
Pub: 1/3, 1/10 467699

Life Storage Centers of Rogers Park will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Illinois Code 770 ILCS 95/1 to 95/7, at 11:00 AM on Thursday, January 17th, 2013, at Life Storage Centers of Rogers Park, 7524 N. Paulina St. Chicago, Illinois, 60626. (773) 381-1417
Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only," no titles or registration.
Tenant Name: Unit #
Vashti Watson 973
Stanley Jones 883
James L. Bauman 848
Anthony S. Robinson 813
David Robert Jones 726
Mary Holmes-Johnson 710
Steven Ellis 708, 665
Michael McCarthy 706
Joan D. Edwards 692
Jessie L. Nimmers 669
Robert A. Johnson 664
Marie Ferguson 586
Sam Winchester 550
Tilleya Shita 536
Mara D. Ramos 514
Tamira Rutues 506
Cornel Gorahm 450
Wyvetta A. Westbrook 431
Edward Deane 387
Mary Brown 339
Shunda Nash 177
Jisselle Lopez 174
Andrea Peden 142
Sharla Lopez--- 130
Stephanie Wynn 127
Saundra Hale 102
Dimitri Humes 127
12/27/12, 1/3/13 472631

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Don't Miss

Friday

Boys basketball: Benet at Notre Dame, 7:30 p.m.

Six days after playing the final round of Wheeling's Wildcat Hardwood Classic, Notre Dame jumps into conference play against one of the country's most sought-after big men. Sean O'Mara is being recruited by many high Division I schools, including the University of Notre Dame, and has the potential to present many problems for the Dons.

Heneghan hopes to follow father's footsteps, reach state

BY DAN SHALIN | Contributor | @danshalin

Longtime Notre Dame wrestling coach Augie Genovesi's success can be measured in victories, state qualifiers and Hall of Fame inductions.

But another sign that Genovesi has been doing something right over the last 35 years at the school — 28 as the head coach — is the fact that several former wrestlers are more than happy to send him their sons.

Genovesi said he has coached about 10 legacies at Notre Dame, and his current roster includes four.

One of the most prominent of the current crop is senior captain Sean Heneghan (152 pounds), who is actually the third, and final, member of his household to don the singlet for the Dons.

Heneghan's father, Kevin, was a two-time state qualifier for Notre Dame in the early 1980s. In fact, during practices, Kevin Heneghan often would wrestle with Genovesi,

then a young Dons assistant coach.

A few years ago, Sean's older brother, also Kevin, was a successful 119-pounder for Notre Dame. He is now a junior at Eastern Illinois, though he does not wrestle there.

Genovesi, who received the Lifetime Service to Wrestling award in 2011 from the Illinois Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, said that all three Heneghans have been talented wrestlers and team leaders.

"(Kevin and Sean) are chips off the old block," Genovesi said about the younger Heneghans, who grew up in Chicago's Jefferson Park neighborhood.

While in middle school, Sean Heneghan began attending Notre Dame practices with his older brother, which he said gave him an advantage when his high school career began.

During his freshman and sophomore seasons, Sean Heneghan qualified for the sectional as the regional runner-up. Then

This Week Notre Dame

BOYS BASKETBALL
Friday
Hosts Benet, 7:30 p.m.**BOWLING**
Tuesday
At Habetler Bowl vs. Position Round, 4 p.m.**ICE HOCKEY**
Sunday
At Artic Tourn., vs. Marist, 7:40 p.m.
Monday
At Niles-Ballard vs. Mt. Carmel, 8 p.m.**BOYS SWIM/DIVE**
Thursday (1/10)
At St. Viator, 5 p.m.**WRESTLING**
Saturday
At Malne South, 11 a.m.

a 130-pounder, Heneghan was voted all-conference both those years.

Junior year did not go as smoothly as Heneghan missed almost the entire wrestling campaign because of an ankle injury suffered on the football field.

Heneghan bounced back this past fall on the gridiron, putting together an all-conference season as a linebacker for the Dons, who went 7-5 and advanced to the Class 6A quarterfinals.

The strong performances have carried over to the mat, where Heneghan has won 16 of his first 20 matches this winter and is looking to close out his high school wrestling career in style.

"Any time you do well in one sport, it builds up your confidence (for another)," said Heneghan, who is hoping to study criminology in college, but is unlikely to wrestle. "My goal is to get downstate (in wrestling) and hopefully place (top six) in state. Those are my top two goals." ■



5

Looking for fun? Check out our **Top Five** picks for the weekend's best bets.

Get up and go

Your guide to the weekend and beyond
Every Thursday

I'LL BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW...

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JENNINGS CHEVROLET JENNINGS VOLKSWAGEN

They call it "the luck of the Irish" for a reason. In November of 2012, the only thing standing between the Notre Dame football team and a shot at a national title was archrival USC. But Notre Dame caught a big break when star USC quarterback Matt Barkley was injured in a game against UCLA one week earlier. With Barkley out, the Irish won and earned the right to play for their first title since 1988. And it just so happens that the UCLA player who made the tackle that injured Barkley was Anthony Barr — son of Tony Brooks, who quarterbacked Notre Dame's last championship team.

It looks like college football prognosticators actually know what they're doing. Once again in the 2012 season — for the 13th time in the 15 years since the BCS format began in 1998 — one of the top two teams in the initial rankings ended up reaching the title game (in this case Alabama) even though the rankings first come out almost two months before the season ends. What's more, 2012 marked the seventh time in those 13 seasons that the top-ranked team in the initial standings went on to play in the championship game.

The University of Arizona boasts a big-time football program — but apparently not at quarterback. Get this: When Nick Foles replaced an injured Michael Vick at quarterback for the Philadelphia Eagles in November of 2012, it marked the first time in 39 years that a U of A signal caller threw a pass in an NFL game. In that time, other Pac-10 quarterbacks started 3,659 NFL games, threw 4,525 touchdowns, and gained 785,236 yards through the air — about 446 miles.

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Don't Miss

Saturday**Boys diving: Maine East at New Trier Meet, 9 a.m.**

Maine East will get a prime opportunity to compete against some of the state's best divers in a loaded meet. The Trevians, who consistently have one of the state's top diving programs, will welcome divers from Glenbrook South, Loyola, Oak Park-River Forest, Lincoln-Way East and Neuqua Valley.

Tuesday**Girls basketball: Maine East at Niles North, 7 p.m.**

The most intriguing individual matchup of this game will likely be between Maine East junior post player Shaylee Sloan and Niles North junior Taylor Louis. Louis, a 6-foot-2 center, blocked six shots against Lake Forest on Dec. 27.

Roddy embraces her role with Blue Demons

BY ERIC VAN DRIL | Contributor | @EricVanDril

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

At the midway point of the Maine East girls basketball summer camp, senior guard Amanda Roddy stopped coming to practice because she no longer felt needed.

After seeing her teammates win 10 of their last 11 games of the summer without her, Roddy felt insignificant and was leaning heavily toward not playing this season.

A conversation with Maine East coach Karol Hanusiak changed that.

"I just felt like they didn't need me," Roddy said. "But then I talked to Hanusiak and she really convinced me to come out and play. ... I thought about it and everyone has a role on the team and I guess my role isn't main shooter or point guard. My role is just to be there for them and play as much as I can."

Hanusiak's conversation with Roddy, which took place in



The Maine East girls basketball team huddles up before its game at the St. Viator Snowflake Tournament on Dec. 27. Visit parkridge.suntimes.com/sports to view a photo gallery from the game. | DAN LUEDERT-Sun-Times Media

Maine East's physical education office near the end of Roddy's volleyball season, allowed the senior guard to be frank with Maine East's coach and for Hanusiak to outline Roddy's importance to the team.

The role Hanusiak laid out — to be a vocal leader in practice, provide on-court intelligence and help build team

camaraderie — is more subtle than that of, say, junior play-making point guard Jazlene Gonzalez, but Hanusiak said it's been important this season.

Embracing that role, along with having a positive attitude, led to Roddy being named a co-captain.

"There's a lot of things you can bring to the table,"

Hanusiak said. "Sometimes, as high school kids, they don't see that because, if they're not playing, they think, 'Well, why am I even bothering being here. If I'm not scoring 20 a night, I have no purpose on this team.' We talked a lot about roles. She's accepted her role and she's really stepped up.

"She brings smarts on the

floor and her attitude has been so good. One of the things I love is, whether she plays five minutes or a minute, when she comes out and we stand up (and) say, 'Hey, nice minute,' she smiles and says, 'Thanks.' I think, being away from it made her realize how much she enjoys it." ■

This Week Maine East

BOYS BASKETBALL

Tuesday
Hosts Niles North, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Tuesday
At Niles North, 7 p.m.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Saturday
At Evanston Invite, 1 p.m.
Thursday (1/10)
At Highland Park, 5:30 p.m.

ICE HOCKEY

Saturday
At The Edge vs. St. Patrick, 6:05 p.m.
Sunday
At Iceland Skate vs. Latin, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday
At Iceland Skate vs. Warren, 8 p.m.

BOYS SWIM/DIVE

Saturday
At Elk Grove Invite, 9 a.m.
At New Trier Invite - Dive 9 a.m.

WRESTLING

Saturday
At Leyden Invite at East Campus, 9 a.m.
Wednesday
Hosts Ida Jewish Acad., 6:30 p.m.



Niles West

FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/SportsPioneerPress](https://www.facebook.com/SportsPioneerPress)

TWITTER: @Pioneer_Press

Don't Miss

Today

Girls basketball: Niles West at Glenbrook South, 7:30 p.m.

Glenbrook South was ranked No. 22 by the Sun-Times on Dec. 23 and they boast an exceptionally tall, balanced starting five which is led by seniors Molly McDonagh and Lindsey Oldshue.

Friday

Wrestling: Taft, Bogan at Niles West, 10 a.m.

Unlike many wrestling teams, the Wolves have continued wrestling opponents during the holiday break. Niles West wrestled against Lincoln Community on Dec. 27, and the Wolves play host Taft and Bogan, a pair of teams from Chicago, on Friday.

Delara's speed, energy spark Wolves

BY MARK PERLMAN | Contributor | @markdavidperlma

MUNDELEIN

Although the Niles West girls basketball team lost 11 of its first 13 games, it should be noted that eight of the 13 players are underclassmen. And at least one of them appears to have quite a future ahead of her.

Diminutive sophomore guard Katherine Delara is the spark plug that makes the Wolves offense run, and on the other end of the court she fires up the defensive intensity.

Though only a sophomore, the 5-foot-3 Delara has experience, seeing some minutes as a freshman.

"Katherine has been playing a long time (since fourth grade). She has good court instincts," Niles West coach Tony Konsewicz said. "You're not seeing many of the mistakes she made as a freshman."

Konsewicz added: "She's not playing scared quarterbacking the whole team. That's not easy having to tell the seniors on the court."

Senior Molly Kleppin doesn't seem to mind.

"Katherine is real quick. Always getting her hands on the basketball," said Kleppin, a co-captain.

"We know she's young and will make mistakes, but we have a lot of patience as a team."

Delara's quickness was evident on Dec. 27 in a 56-20 loss to Huntley in the consolation round of the Mundelein Holiday Classic. The loss dropped the Wolves to 2-11 on the season.

She had five steals and forced three other Huntley turnovers while also registering four points and four assists. She even went underneath against Huntley's 6-2 and 6-0 forwards to grab an offensive rebound.

"I try to use my speed to get to the basketball. To deny the wing entry pass," Delara said. "On offense I try to create space to drive to the basket or find my teammates."

Delara is also finding time to do a little mentoring. Backup Wolves point guard Jalynn Estrada is only a

This Week Niles West

BOYS BASKETBALL
Friday
At Glenbrook S., 6 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Friday
At Glenbrook S., 7:30 p.m.

GIRL GYMNASTICS
Saturday
At Evanston Twp., 1 p.m.

ICE HOCKEY
Saturday
At Skokie Skatium vs. Kings/Gold, 7:25 p.m.

BOYS SWIM/DIVE
Saturday
At New Trier (Winnetka), Dive 9 a.m.
At Evanston Twp., 1 p.m.

WRESTLING
Friday
At Glenbrook S., 9 a.m.
Saturday
At Wheeling, 8:55 a.m.



Streamwood's Kiana Jeremiah (left) pressures Niles West's Katherine Delara on Dec. 26 at the Mundelein Holiday Classic. Visit skokie.suntimes.com/sports to view a photo gallery from the game. | **JOE CYGANOWSKI**-For Sun-Times Media

freshman.

"I try to walk her through some things (in practice)," Delara said. "I know what it feels like to play on varsity as a freshman. It's so much faster and really high pressure."

"I like watching her play, especially with her speed," said Estrada, who is also 5-3 and quite fast. "She plays with a lot of energy and confidence."

In the Huntley game, Delara's protégé showed she is learning her lessons well, getting two steals and disrupting the Red Raiders offense on several occasions.

"Katherine is going to be doing a lot of mentoring going forward," Konsewicz said. "Something that Jewell Loyd (now a standout freshman at Notre Dame) did for her." ■



SEASON PASS

seasonpass.suntimes.com/pioneer

Niles North

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/SportsPioneerPress

TWITTER: @Pioneer_Press

Don't Miss

Tuesday

Boys basketball: Niles North at Maine East, 7:30 p.m.

The Vikings return to CSL North play after four games in Wheeling's Wildcat Hardwood Classic. Maine East won its first CSL North game in four years against Maine West on Dec. 7, but has struggled to handle quality backcourts like the one Niles North possesses.

Tuesday

Girls basketball: Maine East at Niles North, 7 p.m.

The Vikings' search for their first CSL North win continues against Maine East. The Blue Demons won only one game in the conference last year, but are improved this season in large part because of the development of 5-foot-11 junior center Shaylee Sloan. The matchup between Sloan and Vikings junior Taylor Louis figures to be one of the game's most intriguing.

Dillard's return gives Vikes another playmaker

BY DAN SHALIN | Contributor | @danshalin

WHEELING

Niles North senior guard Lorenzo Dillard took the local basketball scene by storm last winter.

After sitting out most of the season because of a suspension, Dillard returned in early February, scored 45 points against New Trier in just his fourth game and helped lead the Vikings to the sectional final.

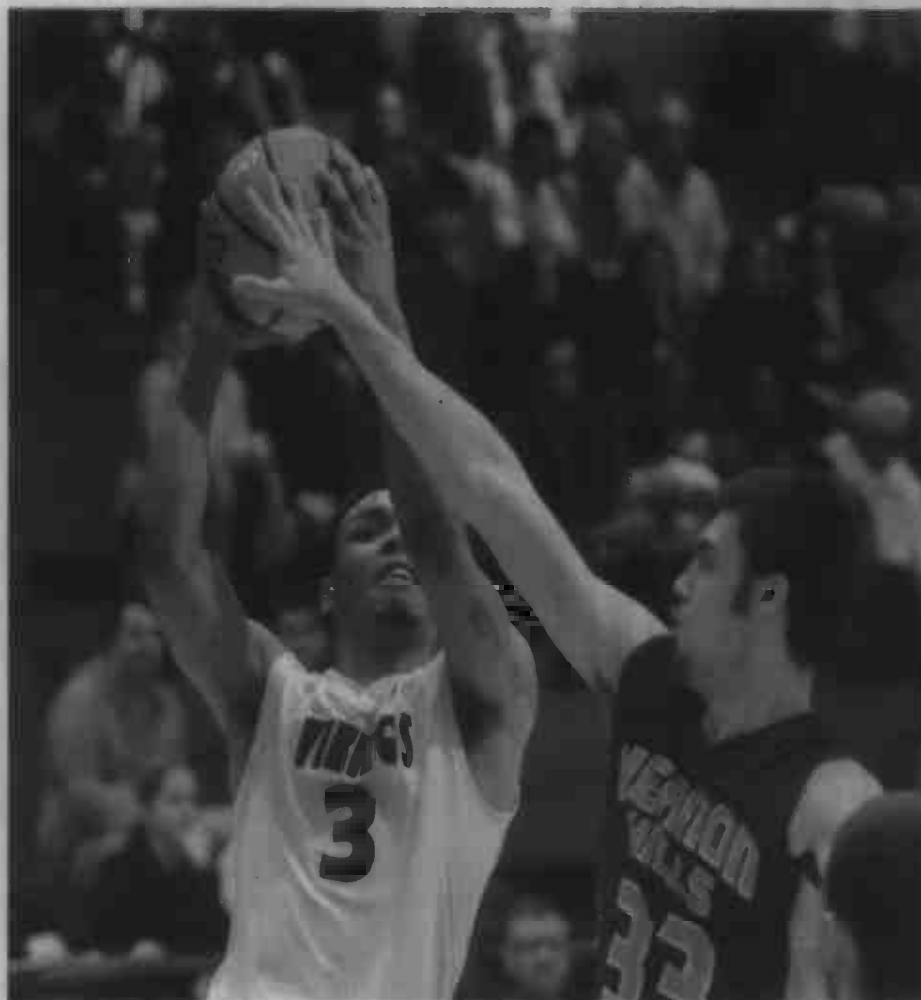
The 6-foot-2 Dillard missed the first seven games of this season for disciplinary reasons, according to Niles North coach Glenn Olson.

His latest return has been a little more low-key, but Dillard did score a team-high 21 points in a 71-57 win over Vernon Hills at the Wildcat Hardwood Classic on Dec. 26.

He then had 11 points and five rebounds in a 64-49 win over a talented Loyola squad the following day.

Dillard said he's just trying to establish his role on a Niles North team that, despite the presence of talented seniors Malachi Nix, Billy Voitik and B.J. Beckford, skews a little younger and is less experienced than the 2011-12 squad.

"I'm trying to get with the system, be a better player, be a leader. I'm just trying to better myself every way I can," Dillard said. "We have a lot of young kids and they're learning. But (the veterans) have to be



Niles North's Lorenzo Dillard drives for a layup as Vernon Hills' Trenton Fulton tries to defend him on Dec. 26 at Wheeling's 35th Annual Wildcat Hardwood Classic. Visit skokie.suntimes.com/sports to view a photo gallery from the game. | JON LANGHAM for Sun-Times Media

the leaders and teach them. It's a big job and a big role to play."

Though he stole headlines with his scoring outburst last year, Dillard

said he is just as happy to set up baskets.

"I'm a pass-first point guard," he said. "I really don't care about

points. I can dominate a game without scoring. That's what I love doing, I love passing the ball, I love making other people look better, it looks better on me at the same time."

A one-time recruiting target of Marquette, Dillard said he now is looking at prep schools and junior colleges for next season.

"When you are in a hole (academically), you have to go a different route," Dillard said. "I'm waiting for any school to come to me and pay for my education and help me get prepared for being a professional (basketball player)."

Olson said he has been satisfied with Dillard's progress on and off the court.

"He's doing great in the classroom and doing a real good job for us," Olson said. "We're impressed with where he's at right now."

Though the one-time Evanston student has had some challenges off the court, Dillard said he's committed to making the most of his considerable gifts and setting a good example for youngsters.

"When you have something, there is no point in not using it," he said. "You want to do good things and you want to make yourself look productive, you want to be presentable to little kids.

"Some kids look up to me and I have to represent myself the right way." ■



COLLEGE ROUNDUP



Niles North alumna Breannah Ranger drives during a game for Wisconsin-Green Bay this season. | PHOTO COURTESY TERRI WAGNER

Ranger giving UW-Green Bay a scoring boost off the bench

BY NICK BULLOCK | Contributor | @Pioneer_Press

Lake Zurich alumna **Lydia Bauer** and Niles North alumna **Breannah Ranger** helped the Wisconsin-Green Bay women's basketball team to three consecutive victories in December. The Phoenix defeated Marquette 55-46 on Dec. 8 in Milwaukee, North Dakota State 72-37 on Dec. 18 in Green Bay, Wis., and Wisconsin 53-38 on Dec. 23 in Green Bay.

Bauer, a senior forward from Lake Zurich, averaged six points and seven rebounds in those three wins, including a 10-rebound effort against Marquette. Ranger, a redshirt junior from Skokie, averaged six points in the three wins, including an 18-point outburst against North Dakota State.

With the win against Wisconsin, the Phoenix improved to 8-2 on the season. Bauer started all of the team's first 10 games and averaged 8.4 points and 4.9 rebounds. Ranger was the Green Bay's leading scorer off the

bench, appearing in eight of its first 10 games and averaging 4.4 points per game.

Freshman forward **Jackie Cardenas** led the Oakton Community College women's basketball team to a 59-33 road victory against Wilbur Wright College Dec. 13. The Niles West graduate dropped a team-high 24 points in the win.

Barrington alumna **Mary Kubiuk**, a senior forward on the Yale women's soccer team, earned Academic All-Ivy honors for the fall semester. Kubiuk, a Barrington native, played in 15 matches and started two of the team's 17 games. She finished tied for second on the team in goals scored with three, including one game-winning goal.

The Bulldogs finished the 2012 season with an 8-7-1 record. ■

Fricano working his way back into shape

BY GARY LARSEN | Contributor | @GaryLarsen3

Whether he's taking his undersized body into battle against a 250-pound lineman, or taking on wrestlers that weigh roughly 10 pounds more than he does, Niles North senior Danny Fricano embraces the opportunity.

"I'm not that big, but I can hit," Fricano said, "and I love a challenge."

Fricano is a football player by trade. He was named the CSL North's defensive player of the year as a senior and he intends to play football in college.

He's also back in Niles North's wrestling room after taking a year off from the sport as a junior in order to focus on his grades and on gaining muscle for football.

But once his senior football season ended, Fricano decided to resume his wrestling career.

"It just hit me one day that I really missed the competition of wrestling," Fricano said. "Besides, just going home after school would have been too boring and it's my senior year, so I figured, why not?"

Niles North wrestling coach Chris Albandia was happy to see Fricano walk through the practice room door.

"He's a tough-as-nails kid to begin with and he's very athletic," Albandia said. "He's very competitive and one of the reasons he's been able to come back after missing a year is his spirit to compete." ■

Fricano had to get back into wrestling shape, though.

"Wrestling is one of the hardest sports in terms of stamina and strength," Fricano said. "If you can handle wrestling, you can probably handle anything and I'm still getting my conditioning back."

Through his first eight matches this year, conditioning was no problem as Fricano quickly pinned his way to eight wins. He did so while wrestling at 195 pounds, despite only weighing roughly 185, having naturally shed about five pounds since football.

"Guys at 195 are bigger and obviously have more size, but they don't feel any stronger, and I've been able to use my quickness against them," Fricano said. "I'm 11-2 right now and in the matches I've lost, my cardio wasn't there and it hurt me. But I'm getting it back."

Albandia, assistant coach Ryan Lindberg, and 170-pound senior Eric Berkovich are helping Fricano get back into shape in the practice room.

The 6-foot Fricano may remain an undersized 195-pounder this year and his ability to handle the challenge hasn't surprised his coach.

"He has very good kinesthetic awareness on the mat and he's phenomenally athletic," Albandia said. "He was warming up ... and he was in his stance, simulating wrestling underneath a basketball rim. Then he just jumped up and grabbed the rim. So he has those physical tools and intangibles that you really can't coach."

"He's a really good kid, a hard worker, and even though he's a really quiet guy, he inspires the other guys in the room. I'm glad to have him back." ■



Danny Fricano



SEASON PASS

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Louis' return gives North a 'difference maker'

BY ERIC VAN DRIL | Contributor | @EricVanDril

GURNEE

A little more than a month after verbally committing to play volleyball at Marquette, Niles North junior Taylor Louis agreed to a different kind of pledge.

Louis, a junior, sat down with Vikings girls basketball coach Dan Paxson and expressed interest in joining the team two weeks into the current season.

Louis' change of heart came after spending all spring, summer and fall telling people she wasn't going to play basketball in order to focus on volleyball and her school work.

But after Louis ended her recruitment by choosing Marquette, the responsibility to correspond with myriad college coaches also ended.

With the weight of answering, in Louis' words, "30,000 emails (from college coaches) at one time" off her shoulders, she convinced her mother that a return to basketball wouldn't negatively affect her school work and then sat down with Paxson to map out her return.

Paxson spoke with Wildcat Juniors' Club Director Karen Sonders and worked out scheduling conflicts, and then drafted a contract which outlined how Louis would keep her grades up and keep her commitments to both teams.

This Week

Niles North

BOYS BASKETBALL
Tuesday
At Maine East, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Tuesday
Hosts Maine East, 7 p.m.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS
Saturday
At Lake Forest Invite, 6 p.m.
Thursday (1/10)
Hosts Maine West, 5:30 p.m.

ICE HOCKEY
Saturday
At Skokie Skatium vs.
Kings/Gold, 7:25 p.m.

WRESTLING
Friday
At Deerfield, 8 a.m.
Saturday
Hosts Quad, 9:30 a.m.
Thursday (1/10)
At Niles West, 6 p.m.

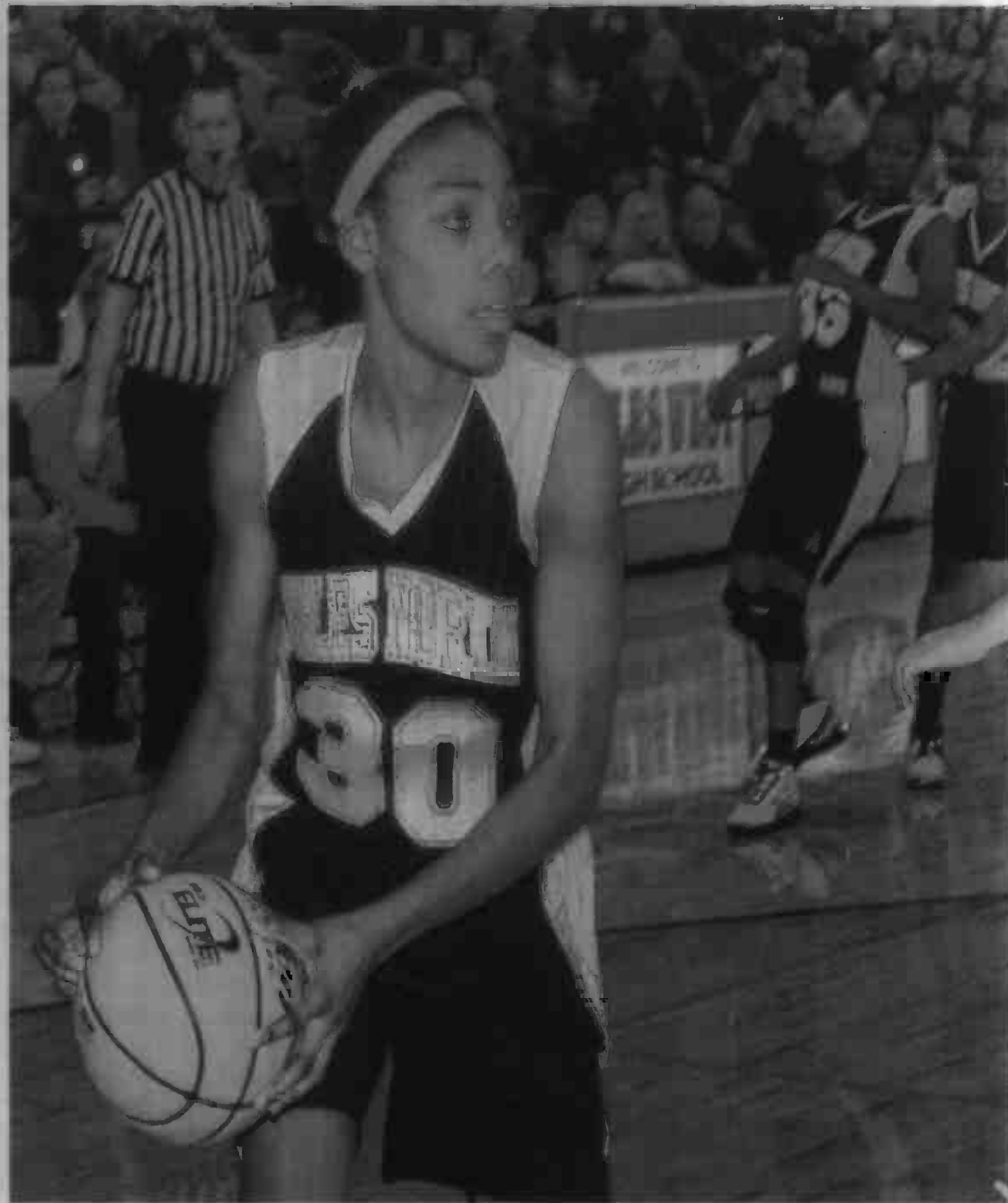
Louis signed the contract and then told her teammates she was back.

"They were just really happy when I came back," said Louis, who stands 6-foot-2.

So far, one month after Louis' first game of the season against Glenbrook North on Dec. 4, she has managed to balance two sports and her school work while also providing Niles North with a defensive anchor it sorely missed in her absence.

"She's coming off one of the best volleyball seasons in the history of our school; she just has a winning attitude and competitiveness," Paxson said. "She obviously adds a lot of shot blocking. That really allows us to apply more pressure on the perimeter."

Louis blocked six shots in a Dec. 27 game against Lake Forest at Warren's Blue Devil



In this Dec. 3, 2011, photo, Niles North's Taylor Louis looks to make a pass against Niles West. After sitting out the start of the 2012-13 season, Louis had a change of heart two weeks into the campaign and decided to rejoin the Vikings. | STACIA TIMONERE-for Sun Times Media

Classic and was an important reason why the Scouts shot 23 percent from the field.

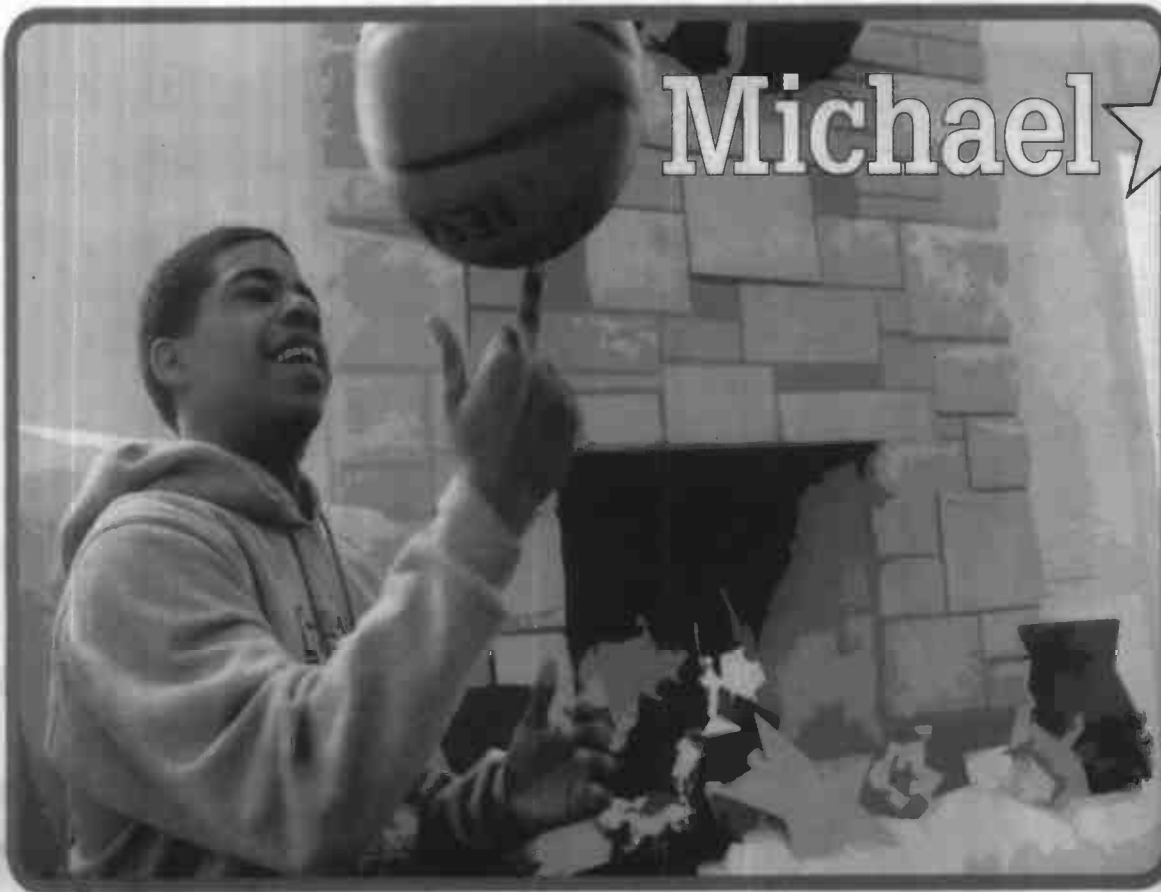
She rushed many of Lake Forest's shots and intimidated the Scouts' guards when they entered the lane, Lake

Forest coach Kyle Wilhelm said.

"(Louis) is just a difference maker on everything," said Wilhelm, whose team beat Niles North 26-25. "She crashes the boards really well.

Even though she's not scoring, she gives them a lot of second-chance opportunities. And then, the blocked shots."

Louis finished with two points as Niles North dropped to 0-15. ■



Michael ★ Smith

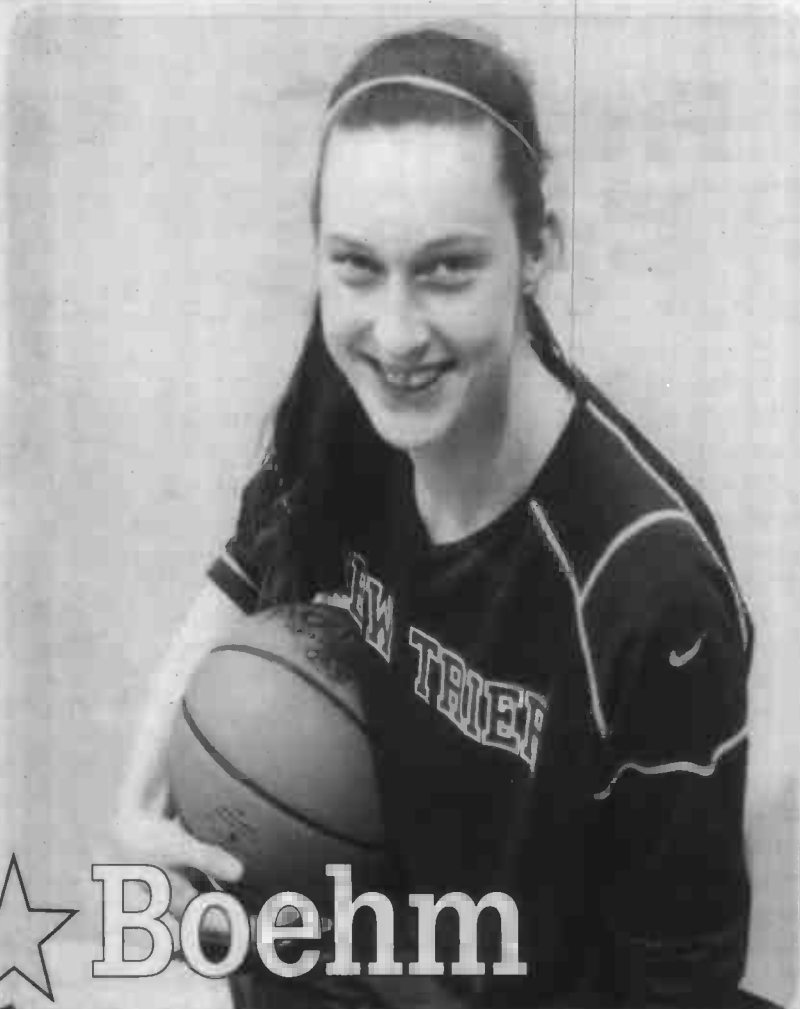
BOYS BASKETBALL | FENWICK
FRESHMAN | GUARD

Expectations were high for the freshman guard from Burr Ridge long before he even took his first class at the Oak Park school. Smith attended the prestigious Fab Frosh Camp in June, in Atlanta, and came away ranked among the top 40 freshmen in the country, along with Notre Dame forward Ammar Becar and Simeon forward Ben Coupet. Smith has been a regular contributor for the Friars off the bench this season and had 11 points at Brother Rice. Smith doesn't have to carry a heavy burden this season, but it is likely you'll be hearing more from him in the coming years.

Fresh Faces

GIRLS BASKETBALL | NEW TRIER
FRESHMAN | CENTER

Already a force on the floor in her first season on varsity, the 6-foot-3 Boehm has the potential to blossom into a Division I recruit. Boehm, whose older brothers played for the Trevians, is a classic post player who played well against Illinois-bound Jacqui Grant of Maine South and Evanston senior Alecia Cooley, two of the top posts in the area.



Jeannie ★ Boehm

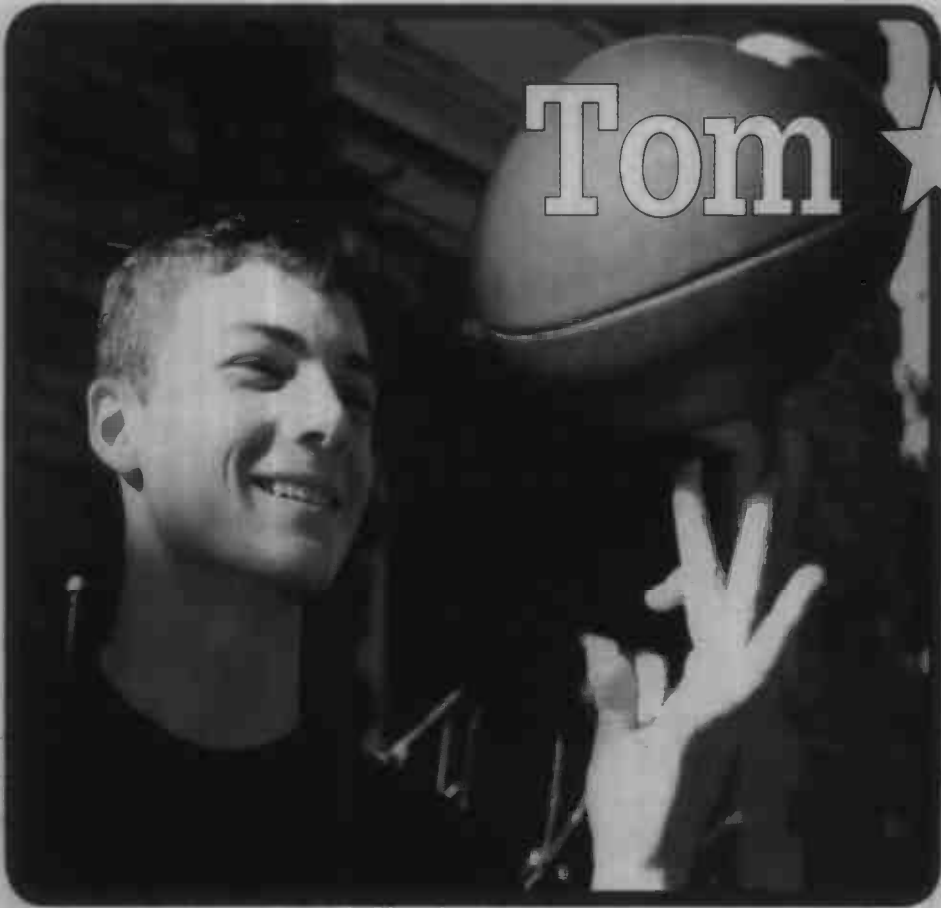
LET US HEAR IT

Which athletes are you expecting to have a breakout campaign in 2013? Tweet your answers to @Pioneer_Press or use the hashtag #PioneerSports. You also can comment on Facebook at fb.com/SportsPioneerPress. We'll publish the best submissions in a column in our Jan. 10 issue.



SEASON PASS

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Tom ★ Fiedler

FOOTBALL | LYONS | SOPHOMORE | QUARTERBACK

Fiedler's first pass of his varsity career was an incompleting; his second attempt found its mark. The sophomore from La Grange connected with Matt Mrazek for a 7-yard touch-down pass. An emergency starter for one game after Zach Mahoney injured his shoulder in the previous game, Fiedler completed 14-of-25 passes for 285 yards and two TDs. With Mahoney graduating this year, expect Fiedler to be handed control of a team, attempting to make its fourth consecutive Class 8A state quarterfinal appearance.

Fresh Faces

Nicole ★ Sroubek

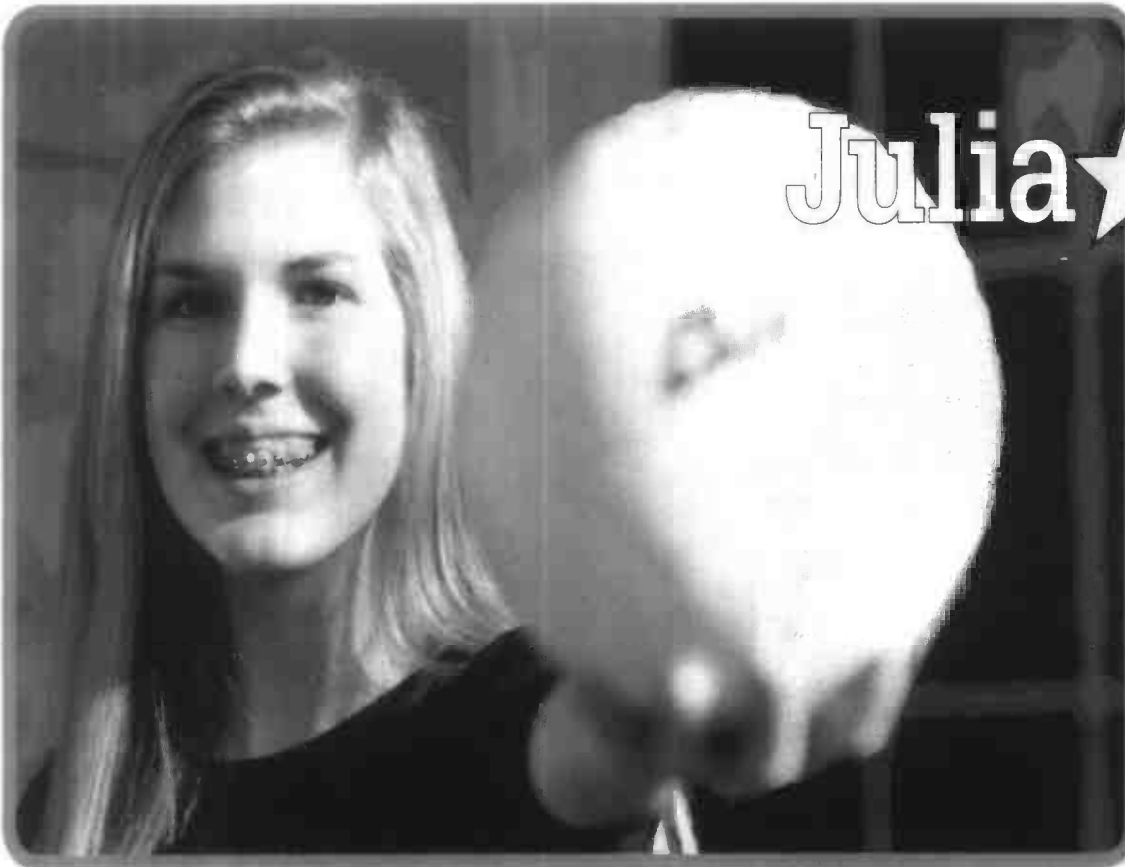
GIRLS SOCCER | GLENBROOK SOUTH | JUNIOR | FORWARD

After splitting time between JV and varsity as a sophomore, Sroubek projects to be a full-time varsity starter this spring. Blessed with fearlessness, speed and field vision, she offered a glimpse of her potential last season when she scored three goals and had six assists in her limited time with the big club.





SEASON PASS



Julia ★ Saunders

VOLLEYBALL | NAZARETH
SOPHOMORE | OUTSIDER HITTER

The Roadrunners can build around their 6-foot-3 standout for the next few seasons. Saunders proved more than capable of leading Nazareth's offense the past season with a team-leading 255 kills. She had 29 blocks as well. A resident of LaGrange Highlands, she was the only underclassman named to the all-East Suburban Catholic team in 2012. Saunders was named to the all-tournament team at the Bradley-Bourbonnais Invitational after recording a season-high 13 kills in a two-set win over Manteno and eventually led Nazareth to the championship.

Fresh Faces

On the Cover

Gehrig Parker ★

BASEBALL | MAINE SOUTH
JUNIOR | OUTFIELDER/PITCHER

Named for the famous New York Yankees slugger, the junior is a multi-dimensional player for the Hawks. The southpaw bats leadoff and possesses good speed with the bat and on the bases. Parker is a straight-A student and was selected for the J. Kyle Braid Leadership Foundation.

SOFTBALL | LAKE FOREST
SOPHOMORE | FIRST BASEMAN

As a freshman, Mack spent the last quarter of the 2012 season on Lake Forest's varsity team, where she batted .204 with 10 runs, seven RBI and two doubles. Scouts coach Susie Brugioni said that after she inserted Mack into the starting lineup, the rookie hit close to .300 in Lake Forest's final six games. "She probably could have used a year of seasoning at the lower level, but she never complained and wanted to get better," Brugioni said. "She worked on her swing, and the game slowed down for her."

Maggie ★ Mack



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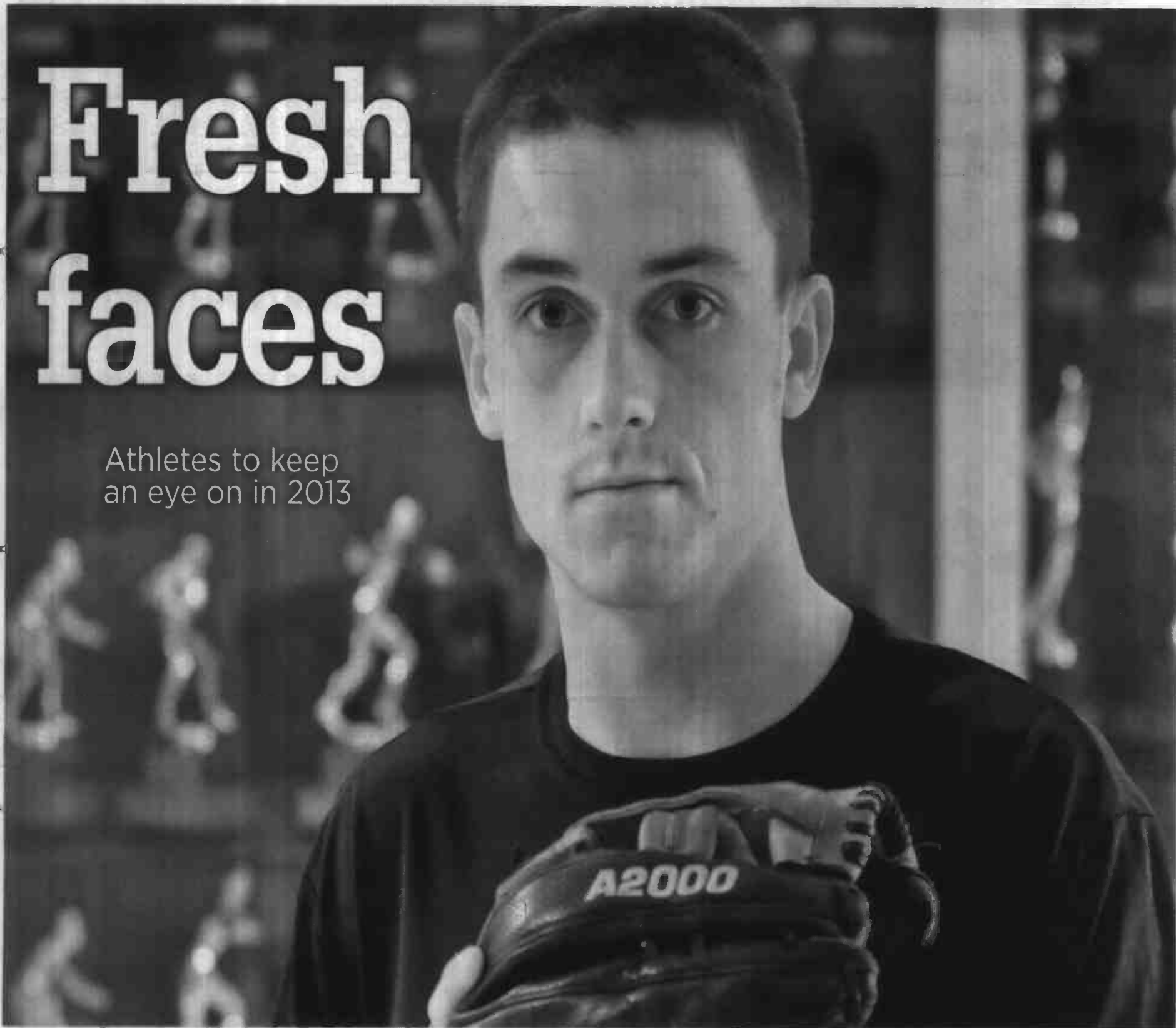
SEASON PASS

Niles Herald-Spectator

Thursday, January 3, 2013
seasonpass.suntimes.com/pioneer

Fresh faces

Athletes to keep
an eye on in 2013



Maine South junior Gehrige Parker has the baseball tools that would make his namesake proud. | **JON LANGHAM**-for Sun-Times Media

Read the full story **[Inside]**