

NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

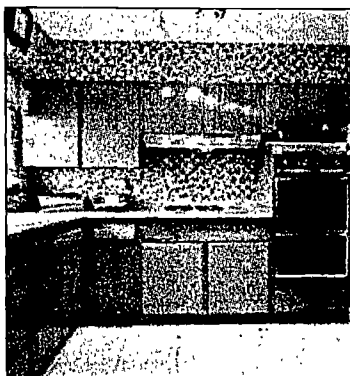
NOVEMBER 4, 2010 ★ A PIONEER PRESS PUBLICATION ★ WWW.NILSHERALDSPECTATOR.COM ★ \$2.00

THIS WEEK

ELECTION COVERAGE

Find out which candidates will be representing the area

PAGES 5, 7



Home Front

 by BlockShopper

House calls

Which local residence sold, and for how much? Turn to Home Front to find out

PAGE 19



GALS 'N GUISE

Stevenson fifth-graders Washma Abid and Aneta Alkesandrowicz are dressed up for "trick-or-treating" at Maine Township Town Hall on Friday, when more than 400 students from the school donated food to the township food pantry as part of the Halloween parade. PAGE 13. | Suzanne Tennant~Sun-Times Media

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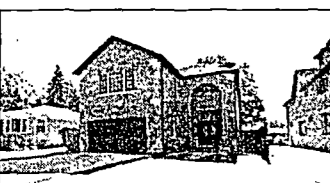
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Morton Grove \$885,000
Wonderful 4000+ sq ft custom blt home. 5bd/6.1ba/gourmet kit/2nd flr Indry. C. Robert Black
ID#03105304
847-491-1855



Des Plaines \$450,000
Beautiful/Updtd 4br/2.5ba spl't lvl w/main flr FmRm, Bas, oak flrs, dck/patio
ID#03105325
Delia Joyce
847-491-1855



Chicago \$389,000
Stately brick georgian on a beautiful tree lined street. Not a short sale.
ID#04405568
Rebecca Cleal
773-775-1855



Skokie \$350,000
Adorable 4bed/3ba Cape Cod w/newer updates. Hdwd flrs finished bsmt & more.
ID#03105299
Sheila Doyle
847-491-1855



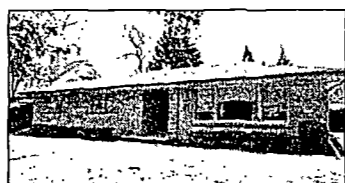
Skokie \$349,950
Superb 3bd/Devonshire Hghlnds w/updts/Custom Brick wrk/Rock grdn/Must see!
ID#03105303
Dorit Helmer
847-491-1855



Skokie \$349,000
Beautiful cape cod home on a lovely lot with expansive back yard.
ID#04405462
Lorenzo Sanchez
773-775-1855



Lincolnwood \$339,000
Lincolnwood estates- traditional brk georgian-spacious home offers 4 bdrms
ID#04405281
Irene Yungerman
773-775-1855



Skokie \$319,000
Brick 3BR 1.1 BTH Ranch, Hwood Flrs Fin Bas 2-car gar. Immediate Possession.
ID#03105187
Delia Joyce
847-491-1855



Skokie \$315,000
Jumbo upd sunny ranch on dbl lot w/ lge rms. Fin bsmt 3+br 2ba. att gar!
ID#03105246
Naumiak, Julie
847-491-1855



Morton Grove \$299,000
Brt & sunny top flr 2BD, 2BA unit in Woodlands, w/ unobstructed west views
ID#04405235
Ray Speare
773-775-1855



Skokie, 8932 Lockwood \$299,000
Brite 4BR hrdwd flrs, frplc, EA kitch, sep dining porch & more Dist #68!
ID#93109248
Julie Naumiak
847-491-1855



Skokie \$298,500
Fairview south school dist. 50x125 lot. Oak hdwd flrs, inv LR w/wdbfrpl.
ID#04405381
Rebecca Cleal
773-775-1855



Niles \$275,900
True three bedroom unit with extra large terrace with a beautiful view
ID#04405431
Gina Purdy
847-823-1855



Skokie \$275,000
Super locale directly across Emily Oaks. Newer mechanicals. Great layout!
ID#03105265
Helmer, Dorit
847-491-1855



Skokie \$249,000
Spacious & bright condo feat lg LR w private balc. Open kit w maple cabs
ID#94409691
Diane Staton
773-775-1855



Skokie \$244,000
Great condition estate home. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, att. garage, fenced yard.
ID#03905254
Susan Ani
847-446-1855



Chicago \$189,000
2BD 2BTH Condo w/lpk spc. Owner will provide \$3500 in labor to update unit.
ID#03105263
Elaine Rothner
847-491-1855



Lincolnwood \$179,000
Clean, spotless & ready to move into! Neutral colors, ceramic tile foyer.
ID#04405442
Lynn Pufpaf
773-775-1855



Morton Grove \$137,000
Beautiful 1 bdrm condo w/2 spacious balc! Nice floor plan w/sep dining area
ID#04405096
Xavier Oravanakalathil
847-823-1855



Morton Grove \$133,900
Sensational spacious unit- newly remodeled thru out- huge lrd/ combo
ID#04405137
Irene Yungerman
773-775-1855

bairdwarner.com

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Niles \$475,000
Free-standing, all-brick investment property. Newer tear-off roof, boiler, oak hdwd flrs, tuckpointing. 2/3 acre pro landscaped lot.



Morton Grove \$400,000
3 br 3 ba georgian in prime area. Hardwood floors. Master suite w/ closet, bsmt rec rm, new kit appl, hdwd flrs under carpet, new roof, balcony & alcove/ Island kitchen & ss appls. Newer 2-car garage.



Niles \$389,000
Attractive 4 br, 2+ ba Colonial. Main flr fam rm, mstr w/walk-in closet, bsmt rec rm, new kit appl, hdwd flrs under carpet, new roof.



Niles \$385,000
4 br, 3 ba home on a huge lot w/many improvements & updates. All refin hdwd flrs. Big eat-in kitchen w/new oven, cooktop & new ceramic flrs.

Richard Tomoleoni 847-696-0700

Douglas Stitt 847-222-6884

Bill Alston 847-696-0700

Barbara Mundt 847-696-0700



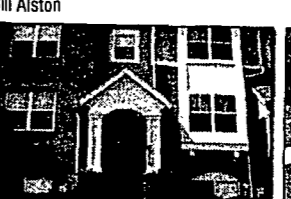
Niles \$365,000
2-sty 3 br, 2.5 ba. Fam rm access to patio, garden & pool. Liv rm calh cels & tpic. Din rm, kit w/stainless, granite, skylight. Fin LL.



Morton Grove \$350,000
Beautiful 2 br, 2.5 ba unit with \$40,000 of upgrades. 42 inch cherry cabinets and hardwood floor in the kitchen with sliding door to patio.



Niles \$348,000
4 br, 3 ba brick Georgian w/hdwd floors thruout. Kit w/stainless appl. Newly rehabbed ba. Fin bsmt. Newer furnace, roof, c/a, water heater.



Morton Grove \$349,000
Newer 3 br, 2.5 ba townhome w/morning sunrise views. Liv rm & din rm w/multi-sided tpic. Granite eat-in kitchen. Opens to large balcony.



Morton Grove \$335,000
Spacious and open floor plan. 3 br, 2 ba. Meticulously maintained Mortonaire split. Large w/din rm combo with beautiful picture window.



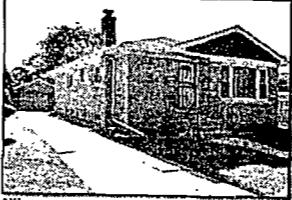
Niles \$329,000
Beautiful 4 br, 2 ba bi-level home w/vaulted cels & plush carpeting over hdwd floors. Large eat-in kit. Huge fam rm. 2.5 car detached gar.

Cindy Fine 847-724-5800

Suraj Malik 847-724-5800

Anna Wateska 773-610-5599

Beverly & Marshall Fleischman 847-217-0494



Niles \$309,000
Beautifully updated 3 br, 2 ba brick ranch. Hdwd flrs. New kitchen w/maple cabinets. Newer ss appls. Finished basement w/lpic. Fenced yard.



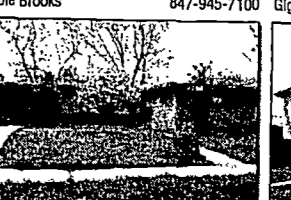
Niles \$300,000
Breathhtaking, gorgeous 4 bedroom, 4 bath end unit penthouse with city views from the 12th floor. 2 private decks. Huge living room has tpic.



Morton Grove \$299,999
Woodlands 1670 sq ft condo offers 2BR, 2 1/2 BA w/gourmet kitchen in maple & granite, master w/two walk-in closets, balcony, heated prkg & more



Morton Grove \$298,000
Good size split level. Newer white appliances, ceramic tile kitchen, hardwood floors. 2.5-car gar.



Morton Grove \$285,000
Rare 3 br, 2 ba contemporary rustic ranch w/exp wd beams. Gas tpic, newer appl. Pro landscaped, huge fenced yard & large patio. Att carport.



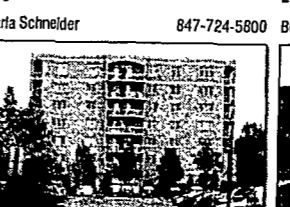
Niles \$279,000
Attractive 3 br, 2 ba bi-level in great loc! Updated kit & both ba. Newer windows. Hdwd flrs under carpet. 2.5-car gar, big patio & more.



8120 N Park Ave 405, Niles \$275,000
2 br, 2 ba. Top-of-the-line finishes throughout. 10 ft ceilings. Hdwd flrs in kitchen and great room. Kitchen with Kraft cabs, huge island.



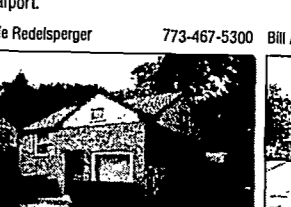
Niles \$274,500
2 br, 2 ba brick ranch. Kit w/appl. Newer furnace, water heater & remod ba. Hdwd flrs refin. Bsmt. Newer c/a, roof. Agent related to seller.



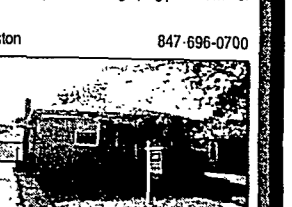
Niles \$267,500
Pristine condition 2 br, 2 ba condo w/gorgeous view overlooking forest preserve wood floors, balcony & heated garage space.



Morton Grove \$250,000
Desirable 2 br, 2 ba 5th floor morton house w/ gorgeous forest preserve views. Oak cabinetry kitchen including breakfast bar. Heated garage.



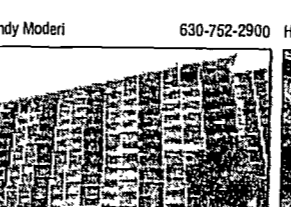
Morton Grove \$240,000
Great 3 br, 2 ba home w/2-car att garage on spacious corner lot. Hdwd flrs. Rec rm w/ built ins, family rm w/wood-burning fireplace & more.



Morton Grove \$238,000
3 bedroom, 1.5 bath located on a quiet tree-lined street, close to schools, transportation and shopping. Gleaming hardwood floors.



Morton Grove \$210,888
California split level w.newer roof. Liv Rm w/ cathedral ceiling and hardwood floors, Updated kit & bathrooms. Fenced yard.



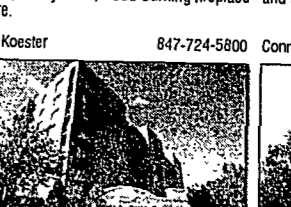
Niles \$200,000
Upgraded 2 br, 2 ba corner unit. Dev/ofc can be 3rd br. Maple cabs, stainless appl, updated ba. Assessment incl pool, heat, cable. Lig balc.



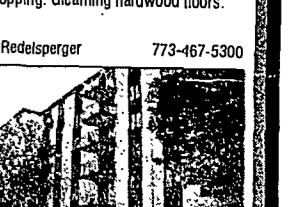
Niles \$189,900
Nice 2 br 2nd floor unit w/peaceful west exposure out to a big balcony & tree lined grounds. Heated gar & storage. Eating area in kitchen.



Morton Grove \$179,000
Lovely 2 br, 2 ba condo w/neutral decor. Newer appliances & countertops in kit & balcony from eating area & liv rm. Spacious master suite.



Niles \$179,000
Bright & cheery 1 br penthouse unit w/high ceilings & sky lit rooms. Lots of upgrades. Large living/dining rm. Heated parking.



Niles \$139,900
Largest unit in complex! 2 br, 2.5 ba unit feat new carpet, window treatments, fresh paint, newer a/c units. 2 balc. Ample closets & ba.

Ana Anita Moral 847-724-5800

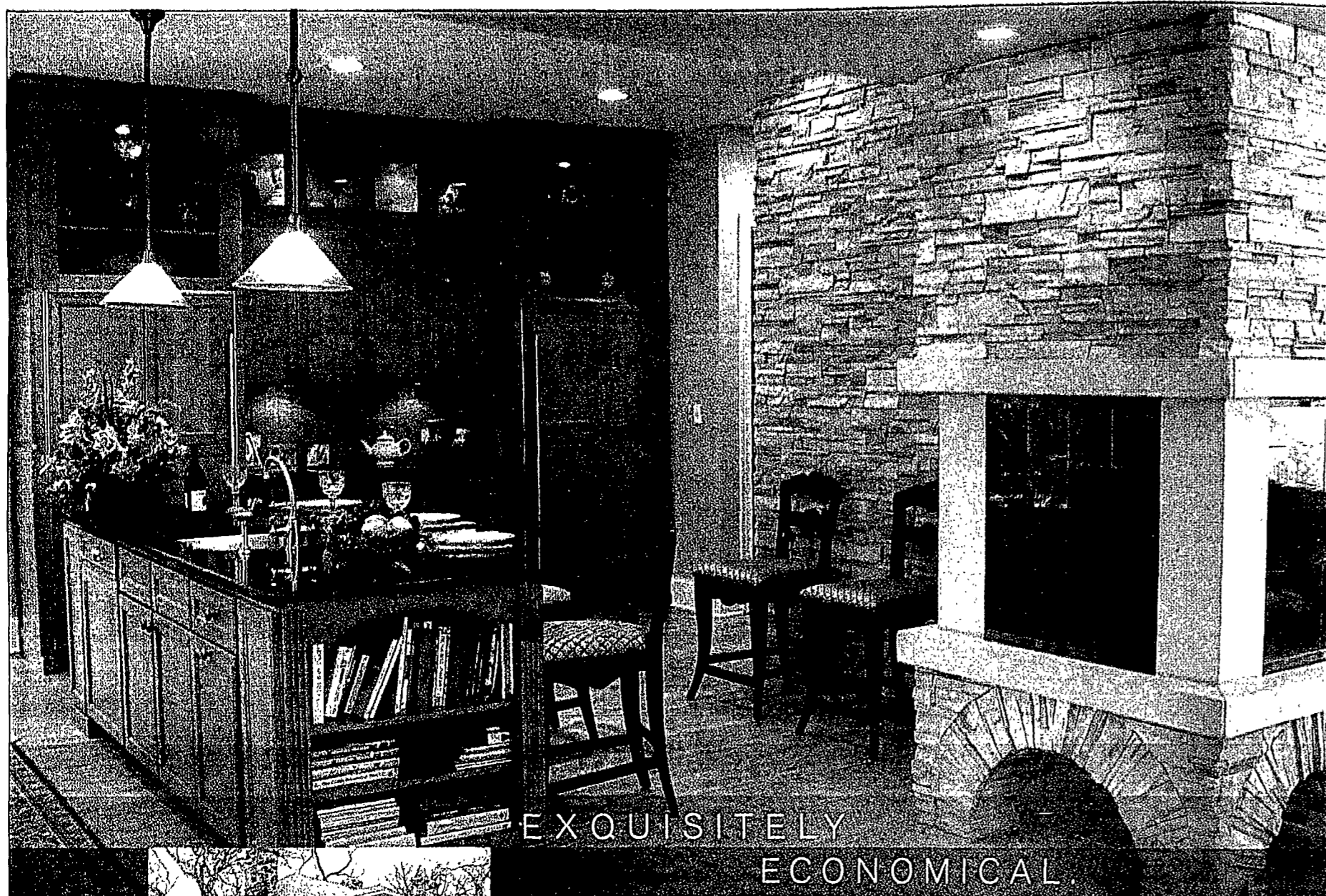
Rodd Davis 847-864-2600

Mark Kloss 847-394-7579

Linda Antokal 847-945-7100

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Mulroe wins 10th state senate seat

By **PATRICK BUTLER**
pbutler@pioneerlocal.com

In one of the Northwest Side's most intense electoral battles in recent memory State Sen. John Mulroe emerged victorious.

With 186 of 192 precincts reporting, Mulroe had 28,449 of the 51,117 votes cast, or 55.7 percent, to opponent Brian Doherty's 22,668 votes, or 44 percent.

Shortly after 9 p.m. — early by election-night standards — Doherty called Mulroe to concede after learning that the Associated Press had just called the race, with unofficial figures.

Needless to say, the mood was euphoric as Mulroe's campaign workers prepared to move on to Black-

thorn Manor, 7280 W. Devon, said Mulroe spokesman Owen Kilmer.

"After all, we had every polling place covered, every bus stop. We didn't miss any opportunity," said Kilmer, speaking for Mulroe, who had been serving as interim state senator after the resignation of James DeLeo earlier this year.

Doherty said he was surprised.

"We really didn't see this coming," he said. "But in politics, as in everything else, the Lord closes one door and opens a window."

Doherty plans to finish out his aldermanic term and work to get Maurita Gavin (one of his longtime staffers) elected the next alderman.

Asked what he might have

done differently to avoid the first political defeat of his life, Doherty said: "Nothing. We did all the right things. We have nothing to regret."

Ironically, the two sons of Irish immigrants had known each other since growing up on the West Side together. Their paths diverged as Mulroe became a lawyer and CPA and prosecutor, and Doherty became a Golden Gloves champion and served as 41st Ward alderman for more than 20 years.

Doherty said the mood at his campaign headquarters was somber, but not morose as his supporters prepared to adjourn to the Emerald Isle Pub down the block.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com



State Sen. John Mulroe greets a crowd of his supporters at the Blackthorn Manor after poll results had shown he was victorious in his campaign. | Vincent D. Johnson-Sun-Times Media.

Mulligan walks to victory for her 10th term in 65th

By **JENNIFER JOHNSON**
jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

State Rep. Rosemary Mulligan will hold on to her 65th District seat for a 10th term after sailing to victory over Democratic challenger Wendy Gruen on Tuesday night.

With 80 of 83 precincts reporting, unofficial vote totals showed Mulligan with 68 percent of the vote.

Mulligan celebrated her victory at her campaign headquarters in Park Ridge's Renaissance Office Plaza.

"This was a pretty easy one," she said of the race against newcomer Gruen. "She didn't run in the primary, she started late and she didn't do much. I think she didn't have the understanding of who I am as a

legislator or who I am in the community."

Mulligan, a resident of Des Plaines, was first elected state representative in 1992.

"I have an expertise that most people don't have as far as the budget goes and the General Assembly," she said during a September interview with **Pioneer Press**.

Mulligan has served on the Illinois House Human Services Appropriations Committee for 16 years, in addition to committees focused on Medicaid reform and health care.

She has also served on the Immigrants and Refugees Task Force, the Early Intervention Task Force and the Elder Abuse Task Force.

One of Mulligan's biggest

challenges in her new term will, once again, be working on the state's budget.

Mulligan predicts next year's budget "will be the worst budget we have ever had," due to the ever-growing state deficit.

While some state leaders have eyed income-tax hikes to generate new revenue, Mulligan has expressed opposition to raising taxes and believes a state audit is something that should be considered.

She said the term she is about to begin will be a difficult one for her because of the state's financial problems.

"I don't think the economy's going to pick up over the next budget year," she said. "It's going to be tough year."

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

Silvestri keeps 9th Cook seat

By **CATHRYN GRAN**
cgran@pioneerlocal.com

Cook County 9th District voters have rewarded the incumbent commissioner with a fifth term.

Republican Peter Silvestri of Elmwood Park received about 55 percent of the votes to beat Democratic challenger R. Cary Capparelli of Chicago, who received about 36 percent, according to unofficial vote totals. Green Party candidate Brock Merck won about 8 percent of the vote.

With all but two precincts in Tuesday night, preliminary numbers are 46,244 votes for Silvestri, 30,267 votes for Capparelli, and 6,907 for Merck.

"I am very, very pleased with the results," Silvestri said, noting his strong vote totals not only in the suburbs but also in the city. "It's a great accomplishment. And I appreciate the votes." Silvestri already has

plans for what he would like to accomplish in his next four years.

"I will continue to fight the oppressive taxes," he said. "I will oppose increases in taxes or creating new ones."

"I will continue to fight for ethics reform and to reform hiring practices to do away with cronyism and patronage."

Silvestri said the board does not need to raise revenue; it needs to cut costs.

Among the examples he gave were giving the Office of the Inspector General more power to effectively initiate change, prioritizing county programs to invest more in those at the top of the list and cutting from inefficient ones, and get politics out of the process.

Silvestri said the county has been too quick to raise taxes as opposed to cutting down on the number of outside contracts.

And while the district

may have a lot of people who do not use the county health system or corrections, Silvestri said the county still must "keep the bad guys locked away" and "take care of those who need health care services."

Silvestri suggested prioritizing county programs, investing more in those at the top of the list, and getting politics out of the process.

"We need to consolidate," he said. "We can cut mid-management and outside contracting, and ask employees to do more."

He also suggested a greater co-operation among local, state and federal governments to receive better pricing on materials and reduce duplication of efforts.

Attempts to reach Capparelli were unsuccessful.

Capparelli ran on a platform that called for cutting the county budget of "social welfare" programs.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

RESURRECTION HIGH SCHOOL

Swift sings praises of reading, learning on live webcast

By PATRICK BUTLER
pbutter@pioneerlocal.com

It's cool to be smart and it's smart to be cool.

That was four-time Grammy Award winner Taylor Swift's message to about 300 Resurrection High School students during a live webcast Oct. 27 promoting Scholastic publications' global literacy campaign.

The Northwest Side Catholic girls college-preparatory school was one of a select group of schools around the world plugged into the live half-hour program hosted by actor/musician and "America's Got Talent" host Nick Cannon.

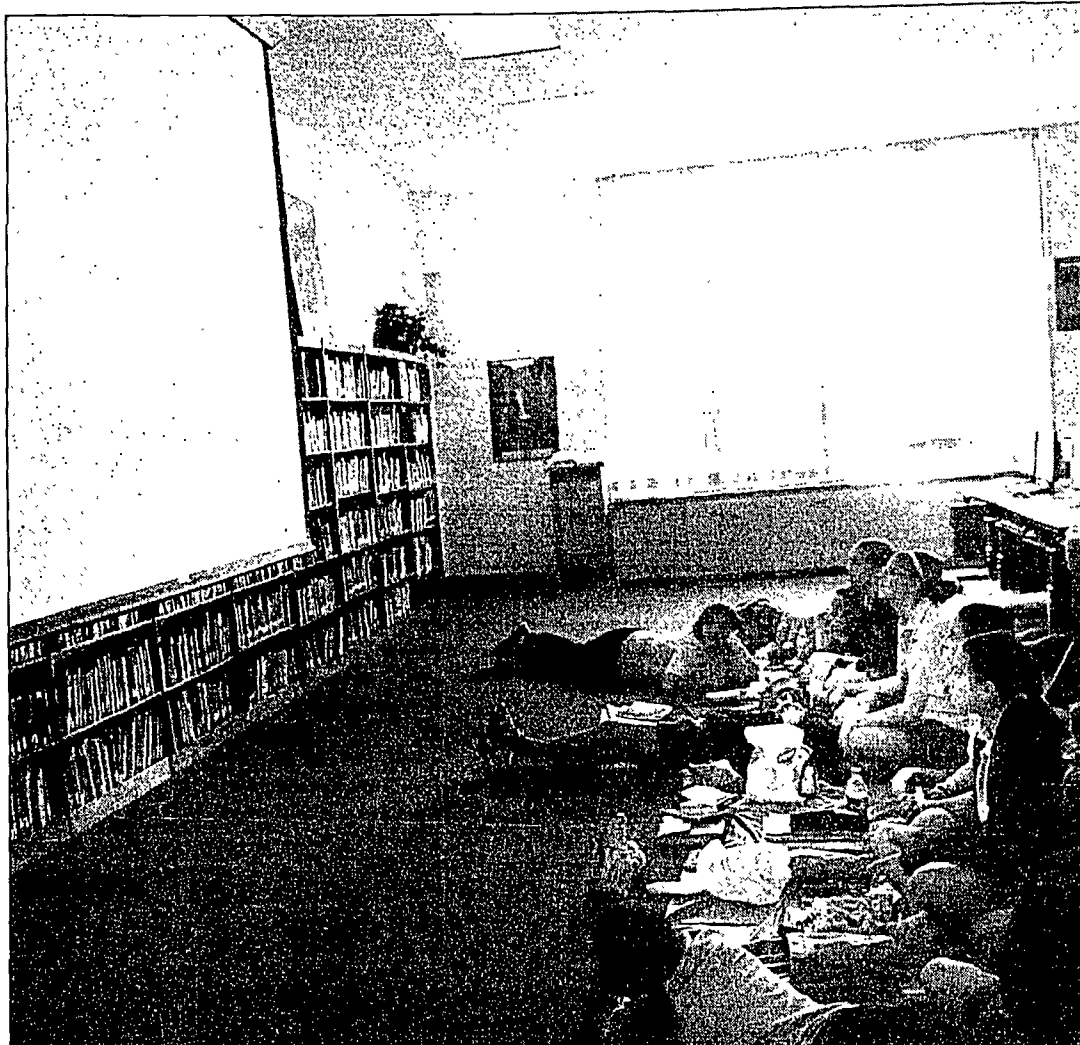
The 20-year-old singer, who cut her first album when she was 15 and just released her latest, "Speak Now," doubts she could have had such a stellar career without a love of reading that began with Dr. Seuss and grew with *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

"I wouldn't know how to paint pictures with words," to write songs she said are largely based on her life's experiences starting when she was 12 and now as a young adult, "when life gets more complicated."

"Now the albums are all about how to figure out what love is all about and how to be 20 in the right way."

One of the good parts about getting into the reading habit, she said, is "You don't have to start with a big, scary book. You can begin with a short story, a newspaper. You can start by letting yourself become part of a little story once and awhile."

It also helped to discipline herself to study hard enough to get good grades even when she didn't always feel like working at it, Swift said, promising the "Res" girls: "You're going to look back



Taylor Swift on Oct. 27 did a live webcast interview with students in different schools across the United States promoting her global literacy program. Resurrection High School students watched the webcast during lunch hour in the library. | Tamara Bell-SunTimes Media

and realize it was all worth the effort. You can have a life and you can have friends, and at the same time throw yourself into learning all you can so you have that much more to offer the world."

Asked what she thinks makes her songs so popular with everyone from preteens to adults, Swift said it might be that, "when I'm writing a song, I'm thinking only about the person I'm writ-

ing that song about, not the people who might hear that song and what they would think about it."

Her message wasn't lost on either the students or the teachers who arranged to bring the program Resurrection.

"She made the idea of reading more entertaining. She gives a whole different perspective," senior Emily Garcia said.

"I liked it that when she starts

writing a song it's as if she's writing a letter to someone," added Gina Colucci, another senior.

As far as Resurrection librarian Teresa Hamlin was concerned, Swift's most important message was that reading is supposed to be fun.

"I'm hoping our circulation will skyrocket over the next few weeks," she laughed.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

NILES HERALD SPECTATOR

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

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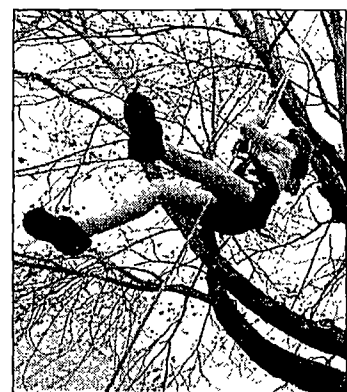
SPORTS



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SLIDESHOW



Photos of the Week

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

By e-mail: mschmitz@pioneerlocal.com By mail: Letters to the editor, Niles Herald-Spectator, 3701 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, IL 60026 By fax: (847) 486-7495 Letters must include name, address and daytime phone

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Schakowsky wins 9th handily

By KAREN BERKOWITZ
kberkowitz@pioneerlocal.com

"I feel very gratified that it looks like a very decisive victory of just about 2-to-1 in the district."

U.S. Rep.
Janice Schakowsky

U.S. Rep. Janice Schakowsky of Evanston hasn't faced a serious challenge in her 12 years in the 9th District seat, and she's had the luxury of spending most of her campaign cash to get other candidates elected.

But Republican challenger Joel Pollak, a 33-year-old Harvard Law School graduate, gained enough traction and campaign cash in a year of anti-Democrat sentiment that Schakowsky stepped up her bid for re-election. With 91 percent of the Chicago and suburban precincts counted Tuesday, Schakowsky was winning by a 2-to-1 margin. She was carrying the Chicago portion of the district 74 to 22 percent and winning in the suburbs 61 to 37 percent. The suburban portion of the district stretches from Evanston to Park Ridge.

Green Party candidate Simon Ribeiro was coming in at 3 percent.

"This was clearly the most vigorous opponent that I've had and he ran a very strong campaign. We, in turn, took nothing for granted," said Schakowsky as the returns came in Tuesday night. "I feel very gratified that it looks like a very decisive victory of just about 2-to-1 in the district. I am looking forward to continuing to represent one of the

most progressive districts in the country and standing up for our values in the face of what may be a difficult environment in Washington right now," said Schakowsky.

Addressing a gathering of party faithful in Evanston Tuesday night, Schakowsky pledged to "continue to stand up for the values of this district, for health care, for protecting Social Security and Medicare."

"We have much to celebrate," Pollak told supporters Tuesday night. "We smashed all previous fundraising efforts in our district by nearly 10 to 1. We recruited more volunteers and built a bigger online campaign than any campaign had done here before. Most of all, we provided a real choice to the people of our district — and a real voice. We spoke directly to the people of our district, when the local media would not convey our message."



U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky speaks Tuesday to her supporters at the Firehouse Grill in Evanston after being re-elected in the 9th Congressional District. | Suzanne Tennant-SunTimes Media

Berrios elected Cook assessor

By LISA DONOVAN and SALLY HO
SunTimes Media

In the nasty, David-versus-Goliath race for Cook County assessor, political heavyweight Joe Berrios carried the day Tuesday.

With 79 percent of precincts reporting, Berrios had about 47 percent of the vote, compared with chief rival and Cook County Commissioner Forest Claypool's 32 percent. Republican Sharon Strobeck-Eckersall had about 18 percent and the Green Party's Robert Grota received nearly 3 percent.

"Today is the culmination of a long trip," said Berrios, the powerful head of the Cook County Democratic Party. "We were beat up, we were knocked on, you can take every newspaper — major newspapers if they call themselves here in Chicago — but the vot-

ers and taxpayers of Cook County saw through that."

Editorial boards at newspapers joined the chorus, hitting Berrios hard for stacking his board of review office payroll with relatives.

But Claypool — retiring from his seat on the county board and seemingly politics — came charging in to the assessor's race this spring saying he specifically wanted to knock Berrios, whom he described as a "machine" Democrat, out of contention.

In the months leading up to Tuesday's election, Claypool — a Democrat running as an Independent — repeatedly accused Berrios of using his seat on the Cook County Board of Review, which hears property tax appeals, to give breaks to commercial property owners repre-

sented by clout-heavy attorneys.

Editorial boards at newspapers joined the chorus, hitting Berrios hard for stacking his board of review office payroll with relatives.

Both Berrios and Claypool tried to position the other as an enemy of the homeowner.

During his victory speech, Berrios vowed to "make sure the assessor's office is the taxpayers' office, the homeowner's office for each and every one of them."

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

Preckwinkle wins board president

By LISA DONOVAN and MONIFA THOMAS

Pledging "it's a new day in Cook County," Ald. Toni Preckwinkle declared victory Tuesday night, becoming the first woman elected Cook County Board President.

"I'm proud to stand here as your next County Board president," the Democratic alderman told her supporters in a banquet room at the Chicago Holiday Inn Mart Plaza.

Preckwinkle had 62 percent of the vote, steamrolling former Republican state legislator Roger Keats, who had 27 percent, with 79 percent of the precincts tallied.

Before Preckwinkle took to the stage to declare victory shortly after 9 p.m., a recording of "Celebration" by Kool and the Gang played as the crowd cheered.

The applause and shouts of praise grew louder as she announced: "We're going to

cut taxes, we're going to clean up county government by ending patronage and doing everything in our power to root out the waste and fraud that have cost taxpayers millions."

Savoring the history-making win will be short-lived. Preckwinkle must get to work immediately dealing with the headache ahead of her: a looming February deadline to close an estimated \$300 million budget gap to keep the local courts and jail open along with the health and hospital system serving the poor and uninsured.

In doing so, she'll have to chart a course toward eliminating the remaining half cent on the dollar sales tax hike championed by outgoing board president Todd Stroger and hated by voters. The tax increase likely tanked Stroger's political aspirations, as he lost his bid for re-election in the Democratic primary to Preckwinkle.

While her rivals in the race — Keats and Green Party candidate Tom Presser — said the half penny could be rolled back immediately and the budget still balanced, Preckwinkle insisted it's not fiscally responsible to lose the revenue stream right now as the county prepares to write a big check to settle a jail strip-search lawsuit and not to mention meeting pension and union contract obligations. She predicts the rollback will happen in 2012.

Beyond the budget, Preckwinkle takes the reins of a scandal-plagued office in need of an image makeover. She's expected to send out a flurry of pink slips to Stroger's political appointees — several with ties to his ousted deputy chief of staff Carla Oglesby, who is awaiting trial on public corruption charges for allegedly steering no-bid contracts to pals and her own firms.

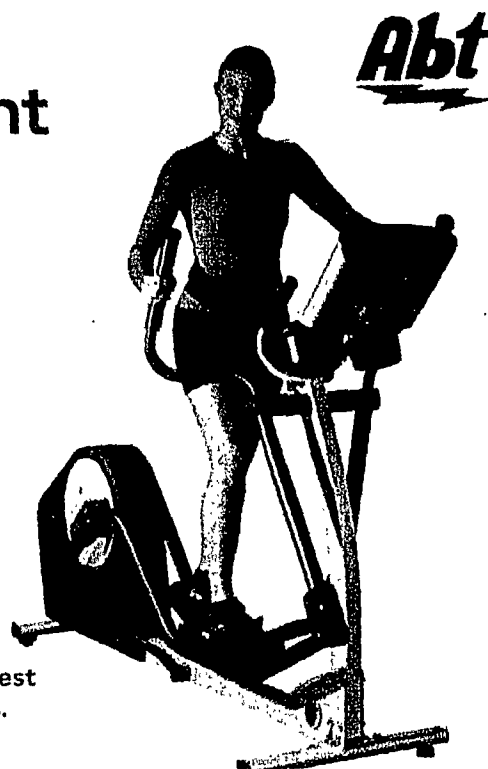
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NILES POLICE

Deep-rooted grudge cited in man's alleged attempt to kill his neighbor's trees

By JENNIFER JOHNSON
 jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

A tempestuous relationship between two Niles neighbors that has reportedly spanned a quarter of a century led to a disorderly-conduct charge for one man last month after he allegedly poured a chemical on his neighbor's trees.

Niles police said 77-year-old Volcho Petkov, of the 7200 block of West Lill Court, tossed a flammable liquid on his next-door neighbor's backyard trees the evening of Oct. 22.

The neighbor, a 61-year-old man, contacted police after he smelled a "gas-like" odor in the yard, and officers determined some type of substance had been thrown on two trees and a fence that bordered Petkov's property, according to a police report.

Petkov allegedly denied knowing how the chemical had spilled on his fence and the trees and reportedly told police he had been changing the oil in his car.

According to police a 1-gallon can of a flammable liquid was found inside

Petkov's garage and Petkov's pants had stains on them that bore the odor of the same liquid.

Police said both Petkov and his neighbor admitted that for the past 25 years they have "been at odds with one another" and the neighbor stated that Petkov has often complained about the trees on his property.

Petkov was issued a local ordinance citation for disorderly conduct and was advised by police to avoid future confrontations with his neighbor.

Parking lot flooding targeted

By NATASHA WASINSKI
 Contributor

Four Park Ridge-Niles District 64 schools may get makeovers next summer to fix continual water-drainage problems.

The Board of Education passed a motion to allow GreenAssociates, a firm specializing in architecture and construction services for schools, to proceed with design plans for exterior improvements at Emerson, Jefferson, Franklin and Carpenter schools.

The estimated total cost is \$1.51 million, which is "consistent with our general level of spending," said Business Manager Rebeca Allard at the regular board meeting Oct. 25.

"We're taking the construction projects outside instead of inside," she said.

The labor-intensive work would include removing and replacing asphalt of parking lots and sidewalks and adding underground stormwater piping.

The board approved construction at three schools

and granted Superintendent Philip Bender authority to act on the Carpenter School plan on the condition that a government project is approved.

The district currently has a grant request pending with the Federal Aviation Administration and Chicago Department of Aviation for Carpenter School. If approved, stormwater improvements and bioswale/retention near the west playground could be included in the project scope.

Allard said there is no indication whether the grant would cover this aspect of the project and could not confirm when a decision will be announced.

Board member Eric Uhlig asked whether the all projects fit within the district's priorities like complying with the state Health/Live Safety Code.

"The condition of the asphalt at Jefferson (school) is a Health/Live Safety issue," Allard said. "And you can't go in and fix that asphalt without fixing some

of the drainage problems." Allard said the four projects address public-safety concerns in areas around the schools that flood in heavy rain.

The entire faculty parking lot at Franklin School floods and there have been related minor injuries of staff, Allard said.

Member Sharon Lawson said that when the sidewalks flood around Washington School, which is not one of the four schools included in the 2011 construction schedule, "it's like taking your life into your own hands."

"I've seen grandmothers go down; I've seen children go down, because there's no drainage and the sidewalks are covered with ice," she said.

Lawson added: "When you see people trying to walk on the that ice, it's pretty scary. We don't need to have people breaking their hips."

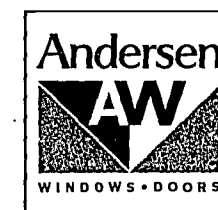
Allard said the district assessed which buildings had the greatest need and will fix their problems first.



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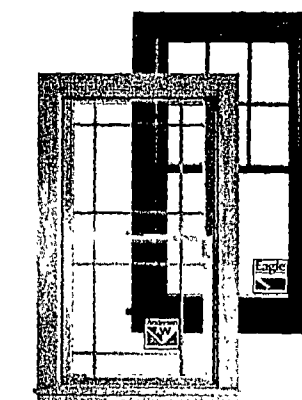
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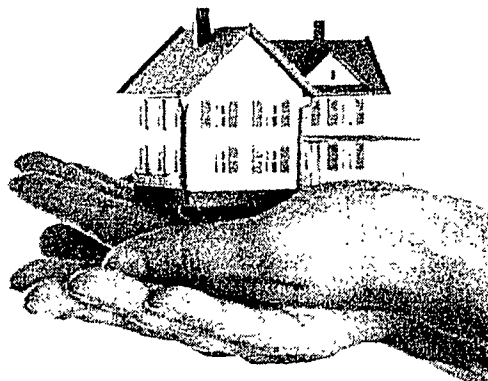
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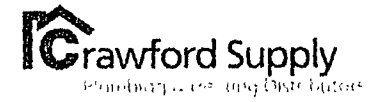
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THE BOLD LOOK OF **KOHLER**



German exchange student Eva Wagner, 16, takes a photo of a fire truck during a tour of the Skokie fire station Oct. 18. The 29 students from Germany are part of a foreign exchange program at Niles West. | Suzanne Tennant-Sun-Times Media

DISTRICT 219

Students from Germany make 'electrifying' visit to schools, Chicago area

By **PAT KROCHMAL**
pkrochmal@pioneerlocal.com

Twenty-nine students from Germany have been soaking up American culture while living in the homes of Niles North and Niles West families the last

few weeks. The teenagers came Oct. 15 from Bruchsal, where they attend the Schönborn Gymnasium (similar to a high school) at the invitation of Niles Township High School District 219 as part of an exchange program

with local students. Teens here who study German visited Bruchsal in the summer of 2009 and will return in the summer of 2011.

The visitors began by touring downtown Chicago and Skokie to get a look at



Skokie firefighter Kevin Finley shows German exchange students one of the fire trucks during a tour of the Skokie station Oct. 18. | Suzanne Tennant-Sun-Times Media



German exchange students walk into the Skokie fire station Oct. 18 before having a tour and lunch with the firefighters. | Suzanne Tennant-Sun-Times Media

American communities. They visited cultural destinations throughout Chicago such as the Museum of Contemporary Art, the John Hancock Building and the Chicago Board of Trade.

They stopped at Skokie's Village Hall, where they met Mayor George Van Dusen who told them about the village's history and welcomed

them to the community. They also visited the police station and the library.

The German students also attended a day of classes at both Niles West and Niles North so they could experience an American school system.

And the district planned to give them a real American send-off, not only by

taking them to the schools' homecoming activities, but also to probably their first Halloween costume party.

When the visitors dropped in Oct. 18 at Central Park Skokie Fire Station 17, they also got a look at American technology

through an introduction to fire fighting and rescue equipment. They also were

treated to the firefighters' famous "fireman dogs and chili" lunch.

That is when they shared their impressions of the area that they had so far.

"When we went to downtown Chicago, we had never seen anything like that before. Skyscrapers everywhere — and so expansive!" said Felix Buehler, a 16-year-old exchange student.

"I live in an area where there are five villages together, totaling about 46,000 people. We don't have any skyscrapers, just a few buildings with second and third floors," he added.

Verena Bitterle, a 15-year-old who was amazed at how friendly everyone was, said that she was making lasting contacts here.

But she really wanted to see if the high school students here actually had the kind of after-school parties depicted by the Hollywood movies she had seen.

Wolfgang Schneider, a German teacher chaperoning the group, said one of the students' greatest benefits from the trip is that

they will improve their English, since they are immersed in it and must speak it here. But they also must prepare a presentation about the culture they've observed when they return home, so they will absorb that too, he added.

Christiana Welz, another German teacher chaperoning the group, said the exchange visits were fostering real German-American relationships.

"American and German mothers have been on the phone getting to know each other," Welz said.

"American students who have stayed in Germany have even returned on their own to visit the families they stayed with during the exchange," she added.

And though Skokie and Bruchsal are not sister cities, the communities are becoming closer through gestures such as the mayor of the German town sending a letter with the students to the mayor of Skokie, Welz noted.

Perhaps that is because the district has enjoyed a

reciprocal exchange with the Bruchsal school since 2006, because of Niles North and Niles West German teachers Josef Neumayer, Lydia Ronning, Sara Shuster, Natalie Bartl and Caroline Ahern.

"The students were very excited to be here. They come from a more rural area in Germany and were in awe of downtown Chicago when we took a bike tour along the lake," said Josef Neumayer, a Niles West German instructor.

"And like typical teenagers, they just love to shop, so they shopped along Michigan Avenue. Some even brought an extra suitcase, because things are cheaper here, even with our 9.5 percent sales tax. In Germany, sales tax is 20 percent," he added.

Neumayer said that the visit was so "electrifying" that he would like to add an extra day to the Germans' next visit to allow them to mingle with students who are not involved with the exchange, therefore benefiting more students.

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DISTRICT 207

Schools fail to meet federal standard for 4th year

By JENNIFER JOHNSON
jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

Illinois School Report Cards show all three schools in Maine Township High School District 207 failing to make annual yearly progress for the fourth consecutive year, with the total number of students meeting or exceeding standards

in reading and math actually dropping in comparison to last year's scores.

As benchmarks increase each year of the federal government's No Child Left Behind program, District 207, like nearly every high school district in the state, has found it increasingly difficult to make annual yearly progress, or AYP.

"It's a system that has been doomed to fail from the beginning," said Barbara Dill-Varga, District 207's assistant superintendent for curriculum.

In 2010, 77.5 percent of students were required to meet or exceed standards in reading and math on their junior-year ACT exam. All students are required to

take the exam, including students with limited English proficiency and those with learning disabilities. It is the performance of students in those two subgroups that has made achieving AYP a challenge for school districts, as those students are required to meet nearly the same standards as their mainstream counterparts, Dill-Varga said.

Dill-Varga called the task "impossible," especially for a school as diverse as Maine East, where more than 50 languages are spoken among a student body that consists of many recent immigrants who may not have the vocabulary skills or academic background to fully comprehend all they are being tested on.

By 2014 the AYP benchmark is 100 percent for all students.

"It's the same story we've been saying for the past many years — it's kind of an idealistic goal that, practi-

cally speaking, is impossible to accomplish," Dill-Varga said.

Even New Trier High School, which has traditionally been a top-performing school in the state, failed to make AYP in 2010 due to the learning-disabled subgroup not making the reading and math benchmarks, Dill-Varga pointed out. Maine South High School failed to make AYP because students with disabilities and a subgroup of Hispanic students failed to meet the AYP benchmark in reading. This is the first year Maine South has had a Hispanic subgroup, meaning there are at least 45 Hispanic students tested.

The school last made AYP in 2006.

Maine East High School, which is undergoing academic restructuring required under No Child Left Behind, failed to make AYP in both reading and math. The "all students" group, as well as white students, lim-

ited English proficient students, disabled students and economically disadvantaged students, did not make AYP in reading and math. Hispanic students and Asian students did not make AYP in reading, but did meet the benchmark for math.

Maine West also failed to make AYP in both reading and math. The "all students" group failed to make AYP in both subjects, as did the subgroups of white students, Hispanic students, students with disabilities and the economically disadvantaged. Asian students did not make AYP in reading, but did meet the benchmark in math.

At all three schools the total number of students who met or exceeded standards in reading and math fell between 2009 and 2010, according to the official school report cards.

At Maine South, 75.7 per-

cent of students met or exceeded standards in reading in 2010, compared with 82.8 percent in 2009. In math, 81.5 percent of student met or exceeded standards in 2010 while 82.1 percent did the same in 2009.

Fail

Continued from PAGE 12

cent of students met or exceeded standards in reading in 2010, compared with 82.8 percent in 2009. In math, 81.5 percent of student met or exceeded standards in 2010 while 82.1 percent did the same in 2009.

At Maine East, 47.8 percent of students met or exceeded standards in reading, and 61.8 met or exceeded standards in math in 2010, compared with 52.2 percent and 62.7 percent, respectively, in 2009.

At Maine West, 56.1 percent of students met or exceeded standards in reading, and 60 percent met or exceeded standards in math in 2010. In 2009, 60.2 percent of students met or exceeded standards for reading, and 62.1 percent met or exceeded standards in math.

Dill-Varga said the decline could be due to a new group of juniors taking the test and changing demographics in the schools. She added that it is more important to look at trends over time rather than a two-year comparison of scores.

"You want to take a five- to 10-year look, or at least a three- to five-year look, to see how you are doing," Dill-Varga said.



Food fright Costumed students from Stevenson School bring food items for the township food pantry during "trick-or-treating" at Maine Township Town Hall on Friday. | Suzanne Tennant-Sun-Times Media

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2010 high school report card

The figures below show the percentage of 11th-grade students per school in high school districts serving the north suburbs of Chicago who met or exceeded learning standards, according to recently released figures from the Prairie State Achievement Examination. The composite ACT scores for the schools also are included.

	Reading	Math	Science	ACT composite
Evanston District 202				
Evanston	62.1	65.2	57.6	23.5
New Trier District 203				
New Trier	89.6	89.7	89.7	27.2
Maine Township District 207				
Maine East	47.8	61.8	54.3	20.8
Maine South	75.7	81.5	82.9	24.6
Maine West	56.7	60.0	59.8	21.4
District average	61.2	68.5	66.9	22.5
Niles Township District 219				
Niles North	59.0	60.1	59.9	22.6
Niles West	55.2	66.0	63.2	22.2
District average	56.9	63.2	61.6	22.4
Glenbrook District 225				
Glenbrook North	83.1	87.1	83.3	25.2
Glenbrook South	74.3	82.2	78.9	24.5
District average	78.4	84.5	81.0	24.8
Township District 113				
Deerfield	90.5	90.8	88.6	26.3
Highland Park	80.1	79.7	80.4	25.2
District average	85.2	85.1	84.3	25.7
Stevenson District 125				
Stevenson	81.1	85.2	82.0	26.2
State average	54.0	52.7	52.4	20.5

Source: Illinois State Board of Education

Pioneer Press



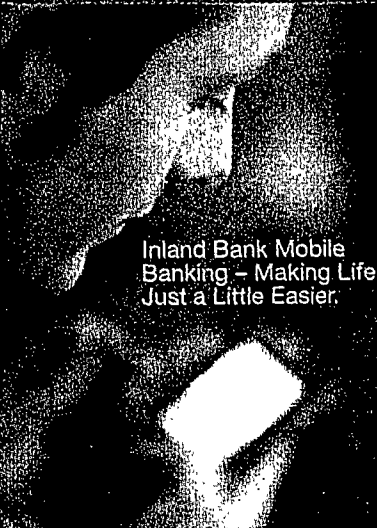
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VILLAGE OF NILES

Comprehensive planning to begin at Nov. 16 workshop

Village residents and businesses are encouraged to participate in two upcoming community-wide workshops, one for businesses and one for residents, as part of the village of Niles comprehensive planning process, according to a news release.

The business workshop will be at 8 a.m. Tuesday at Village Hall, 1000 Civic Center Drive. A light breakfast will be served.

The community-wide workshop be at 7 p.m. Nov. 16 in the Community Room at the Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive. Led by the village's consultant, Houseal Lavigne and Associates, participants will be engaged in a series of workshop exercises focused on planning for the future of Niles. This workshop will be one of several over the next year with the purpose of de-

veloping a comprehensive plan for Niles.

In addition to the community workshops, questionnaires are available for both businesses and residents on the village website, www.vniles.com, with translation services available. A special link identified by the comprehensive-plan logo, "Niles 2030, Comprehensive Plan," will lead viewers to the interactive website designed to maximize participation and communication with the community. The survey, key planning components, meeting updates and summaries, and draft documents will be also be posted on the website.

A comprehensive plan serves as the village's official guide for land use, physical improvement and development — a "road map" — for the future. It provides long-range policies for elect-

ed and appointed village officials to plan for the related factors that will affect growth and change in Niles. These factors include: land use and development, transportation and circulation, community facilities and infrastructure, open space and sustainability, and community character and urban design.

The comprehensive plan also provides a framework that will be used to evaluate development proposals and direct the village's growth in the context of 15 to 20 years.

"Most importantly the comprehensive plan allows residents and Niles decision makers to identify and respond to changing community needs and desires in a thoughtful, rather than reactive, way," the news release stated.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

VILLAGE BOARD

Trustees reject property tax hike

By TRACY GRUEN
Contributor

Niles village trustees rejected a staff proposal to increase the 2010 property-tax levy by 9.78 percent at the village pre-board meeting on Oct. 26.

If the proposal had been approved the average resident would have seen a \$20 to \$30 annual increase and \$425,000 would have been generated for the village of Niles. Staff recommended a total tax levy of \$5,237,019.

Trustees said they did not see a reason to increase taxes for residents when there's a \$24-million fund balance in the general fund.

"I think we should use some more of our fund balance," said Trustee Joseph LoVerde. "The fund balance is continuing to grow."

One of the main reasons

village staff proposed the tax-levy increase was to help pay down the village's pension obligation, which is about \$41 million underfunded. The pensions are required to be 100-percent funded by 2033.

LoVerde questioned why money couldn't be used from the fund balance to help pay the police and fire pension obligations as opposed to raising taxes for the residents during a tough economy.

Village Manager George Van Geem said that the fund balance "is there to get us through the type of economy we've had."

Trustee Andrew Przybylo disagreed with the need to have a \$24-million fund balance.

"I'm really tired of the scare tactics," said Przybylo, in response to Van Geem.

Village Trustee Louella Preston said: "Taking more out of the reserves is not going to solve the problem."

Niles resident Rosemary Palicki agreed with the village board's decision to look into whether money from the fund balance could be used to help with pension challenges. "I think the way they resolved it was right," she said.

Finance Director Scott Neukirch said that in order to address the pension problem it often takes "very significant cuts" in expenses or a property-tax increase. "It's not specifically addressing the liability," he said. There was a property-tax increase of 9.78 percent in the tax year 2009; no increase in 2008, a 4.9-percent increase in 2007; and no increase from 2004 to 2006.

BUSINESS

AMC theaters to provide 'sensory friendly' movie screenings

AMC Entertainment (AMC) and the Autism Society have teamed up to bring families affected by autism and other disabilities and sensory issues a special opportunity to enjoy their favorite films in a safe and accepting environment on a monthly basis.

Sensory Friendly Films will continue this month beginning with a showing of "Megamind" at 10 a.m. Saturday, and "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1" at 10 a.m. Nov. 20.

Autism is a complex neurodevelopmental disability that affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. It often comes with sensory challenges, such as hypersensitivity to light or sound, and children or adults affected

by autism may not understand the social boundaries of movie theater etiquette, such as not talking during the film or sitting still through most of the show.

In order to provide a more accepting and comfortable setting for children with autism or other special needs, AMC movie auditoriums will have their lights brought up and the sound turned down, families will be able to bring in their own gluten-free, casein-free snacks, and no previews or advertisements will be shown before the movie. Additionally, audience members are welcome to get up and dance, walk, shout or sing — in other words, AMC's "Silence is Golden" policy will not be enforced unless the safety of the au-

dience is questioned. Tickets can be purchased on the day of the event.

Participating theaters in the area include:

■ AMC Northbrook 14, 1525 Lake Cook Road, Northbrook, IL 60062

■ AMC Showplace Galewood 14, 5530 W Homer St, Chicago, IL 60639

■ AMC Village Crossing 18, 7000 Carpenter Rd, Skokie, IL 60077

■ AMC Showplace Niles 12, 301 Golf Mill Center, Niles, IL 60714

A list and map of participating theaters is available at www.autism-society.org/sensoryfilms. This nationwide event has 124 participating theaters in more than 50 markets.

An estimated 30 million people in the world have an

autism spectrum disorder, 1.5 million in America alone. In America, 1 in every 110 children has an autism spectrum disorder. These families face challenges of care, support, education, financial hardship and medical and health care issues that make autism a national public health issue, costing the U.S. economy \$60

billion a year. Though there is no cure, autism is treatable and individuals with autism have tremendous potential.

The Autism Society, the nation's leading grassroots autism organization, exists to improve the lives of all affected by autism. This is done by increasing public awareness about the day-

-to-day issues faced by people on the spectrum, advocating for appropriate services for individuals across the lifespan, and providing the latest information regarding treatment, education, research and advocacy. For more information, visit www.autism-society.org.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

COOK COUNTY SHERIFF'S POLICE

Patrols stepped up after attempted abduction of Maine East student

By JENNIFER JOHNSON
jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

A student at Maine East High School in Park Ridge was reportedly the victim of an attempted abduction while walking to school Oct. 27.

Cook County Sheriff's Police Deputy Cmdr. Anthony Brzezniak said the 18-year-old girl was walking about 7:30 a.m. through the Robin Drive subdivision just north of Niles when a man driving a blue van began speaking to her. The student reported that the man spoke only Spanish and she told him she did not speak the language and asked him to leave her alone, Brzezniak said.

As the student walked onto Bobbie Lane the man reportedly began speaking

to the student again before grabbing her wrist with his left hand and pulling her toward the van. When the girl began to scream, the man let go of her wrist and drove away, Brzezniak said. The student reported the incident when she arrived at school, he said.

According to an alert issued to elementary school parents by Park Ridge-Niles School District 64, the suspect is described as a Hispanic man with black hair, brown eyes and a mustache.

Brzezniak said Cook County Sheriff's police increased their presence in the neighborhood after the attempted abduction was reported.

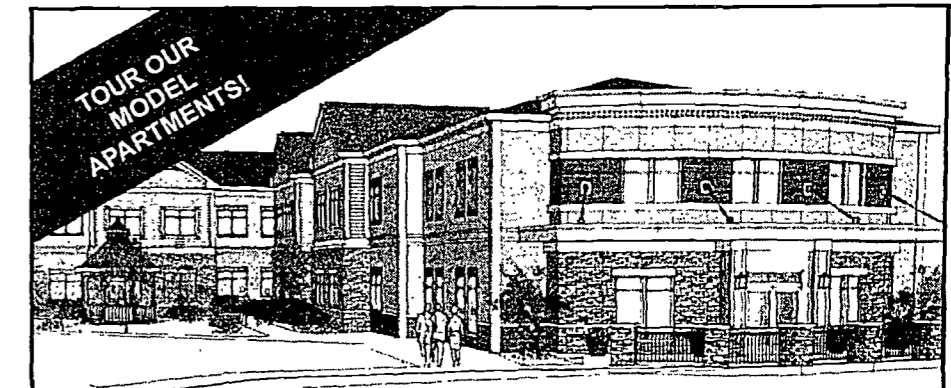
"We have stepped up patrols and made notification to our gang unit," he said Friday, referring to the

Cook County Gang Crimes Unit, which is active within the unincorporated area, particularly the Robin Drive and Dee Road neighborhoods.

Brzezniak added that investigators were "trying to follow up on all the leads we have on the vehicle."

Park Ridge Police Cmdr. Lou Jognmen said his department was notified of the incident and informed the area schools in Park Ridge. There were no plans for Park Ridge to supplement the sheriff's department with increased patrols within the unincorporated area, Jognmen said.

Anyone with information should contact the Cook County Sheriff's Department, (708)-865-4700.



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WOODSTOCK INSTITUTE

Foreclosure filings not likely to slow soon: report

By **LYNNE STIEFEL**
lstiefel@pioneerlocal.com

Even though foreclosure activity looks to be slowing in a few suburbs, rates are increasing in most others, leading the Woodstock Institute to conclude that the crisis hasn't yet bottomed out in the six-county Chicago region.

Increases were highest in northwest Cook County, at nearly 50 percent, and southwest Cook County. Northern Cook County saw gains of almost 24 percent, and west Cook County, almost 29 percent.

In Park Ridge, there were 51 foreclosure filings within the third quarter of 2010, and a total of 170 so far this year. That is a 21-percent increase in foreclosures since 2009.

There were bright spots, however. The number of foreclosure filings actually decreased by nearly 18 percent in Hinsdale in the third quarter of 2010 compared to a year earlier, by 6.5 percent in Wilmette and by 3 percent in Highland Park.

And increases were in single digits for Lake Zurich, Libertyville, Niles and Maywood.

That would seem to indicate stabilization in a few

communities, Smith said, but not an overall trend.

"Some (suburbs and Chicago neighborhoods with stable real estate markets) are fairly well positioned to recover," he said. But "We haven't hit bottom yet. We have a little time to go before we do that."

Suburbs notably seeing increased foreclosure filings include Oak Park, which experienced a 62 percent increase in the third quarter of 2010 from a year earlier; Grayslake, with a 62 percent increase in the third quarter of 2010 from a year earlier, by 6.5 percent in Wilmette and by 3 percent in Highland Park.

Foreclosed homes sold through auction jumped 45 percent for the six-county Chicago area in the third quarter compared to the same period a year earlier.

Highest rates of increase in communities covered by Pioneer Press included

Oak Park, which experienced a 62 percent increase; Franklin Park, which saw a 40 percent rise; Mundelein, a 34 percent increase; and Evanston, a 32 percent increase.

In Park Ridge, 12 homes sold at auction during the third quarter of 2010, with a total of 57 for the year. The number of auctions actually dropped nearly 37 percent since 2009. In neighboring Niles, there have been 89 foreclosed homes sold at auction this year.

Smith predicts concerns over documentation and lender moratoriums on foreclosure auctions could bottleneck the process in the fourth quarter.

That means more homes could remain vacant for longer periods, and significant jumps in foreclosure auctions in 2011.

Meanwhile, real estate agents and homeowners can't understand why banks

Suburban foreclosures climbing

New foreclosure filings in the six-county Chicago region grew 28 percent in the third quarter of 2010 from the third quarter of 2009, according to an analysis by the Woodstock Institute of new foreclosure filings and completed foreclosure auctions.

Note: The Woodstock Institute compiled figures only for the 100 most populous Chicago region Census places, which included these North Shore and north suburban suburbs and Northwest Side of Chicago neighborhoods covered by Pioneer Press.

Community	July-Sept. 2010	Year to date	July-Sept. 2009	Year to date	Percent change
Evanston	102	278	62	211	31.8
Glenview	54	194	82	167	16.2
Morton Grove	61	163	57	140	16.4
Niles	62	169	59	155	9.0
Northbrook	60	165	37	116	42.2
Park Ridge	51	170	63	140	21.4
Skokie	148	431	131	358	20.4
Wilmette	16	58	26	62	-6.5

Chicago neighborhoods	July-Sept. 2010	Year to date	July-Sept. 2009	Year to date	Percent change
Edison Park	11	33	12	25	32.0
Norwood Park	62	163	51	140	16.4

Source: Woodstock Institute
Pioneer Press

and lenders are making it so difficult for properties to sell, particularly through short sales, which allow

owners to sell deeply devalued homes for less than what remains on their mortgages.

ILLINOIS STANDARDS ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

Despite ISAT success, District 64 fails to hit mark for the first time

Math subgroup of students with disabilities was problem area

By **NATASHA WASINSKI**
Contributor

Since 2004, Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 students have excelled at the Illinois Standards Achievement Tests (ISAT), typically scoring at least 10 percentage points higher than the state average in all subjects and across all grade levels.

The 2010 ISAT administered to the schools' third-through eighth-graders the past March yielded similar results — overall, 93.7 percent of students performed at the level of "meeting or exceeding" the Illinois Learning Standards for math, science, and reading — yet the district did not meet an Illinois benchmark to satisfy federal goals.

"Students with disabilities improved but we fell short of state standards," Diane Betts, assistant superintendent for student learning, told the Board of Education at its meeting Oct. 25.

Betts presented the results to the board in anticipation of the release of statewide ISAT data on Friday by the Illinois State Board of Education.

According to a report prepared by Betts, ISAT scores are used as the sole indicator to comply with the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 that requires all third-through eighth-grade stu-

dents be tested annually in reading and math.

Under this law, states must measure public school and district performance and establish annual achievement targets. By 2014 every student in every public school is expected to meet or exceed their state's learning standards.

In 2010 the state board set the goal that 77.5 percent of all students must score in the combined "meets or exceeds" category on both math and reading exams in order to make "adequate yearly progress," or AYP. According to Betts the target score in Illinois increases every year by 7.5 percent so that by 2014, 100 percent of students must meet state standards for schools to achieve AYP.

Though the overall results of District 64 hovered in the 90th percentile, the district did not make AYP for the first time based on a subgroup's score in math.

The students with disabilities subgroup scored 72.1 percent in math, just shy of the 74.7 percent needed to qualify for AYP under a "safe harbor" provision, which was modified this year, Betts said.

Federal law requires schools to distinguish and determine the performance level of subgroups in addition to measuring student performance as one aggregated total, Betts reported. Subgroups must consist of at least 45 students and, typically, the only qualifying subgroup in District 64 schools is students with disabilities.

"We're still making good progress with kids with disabilities," Betts said. "It's just the way the formula

played out."

Betts and District 64 Superintendent Philip Bender downplayed this missed mark given the district's strong performance overall. Districts and schools are not penalized unless scores remain critically low for consecutive years, both confirmed.

In some ways the subgroup standard does not make sense, Bender said, as students with disabilities aren't necessarily expected to meet, let alone exceed, academic standards. If they did there would be no need for individual education programs, he said.

Bender predicts that other well-performing districts will experience similar problems in complying with the demands of the No Child Left Behind Act, especially if federal lawmakers do not address education reform and the benchmark for academic improvement inches closer to 100 percent of students meeting state standards.

"Districts are going to stand back and say, 'Wait, something is not right,' when they are told that, as a district, they are not making progress despite consistently high scores, Bender said.

Betts said that, technically, on micro level, all schools in District 64 obtained adequate yearly progress but a reporting error caused Franklin School to miss the target.

"If the correct number of students (in the disabilities subgroup) had been reported, Franklin would not have had a 45-student subgroup and would have made AYP," she said.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

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Dr. Stamatis (Tom) Dimitropoulos is a graduate of Rush Medical College. He completed his internal medicine residency, as well as his fellowship in Cardiovascular Disease at Rush University Medical Center. He completed an Interventional Cardiology fellowship at William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, Michigan in 2009. Dr. Dimitropoulos is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Cardiology and Internal Medicine.

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Dr. Bill Dimitropoulos received his medical degree from Rush University. He completed Dermatology residency in 2005 at the University of Michigan as well as additional training in the Melanoma Multidisciplinary Clinic. Dr. Dimitropoulos followed his residency with a fellowship in Mohs Micrographic Surgery at Rush University, completed in 2006. Dr. Dimitropoulos is board certified by the American Board of Dermatology and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology.



Dr. Clarence Brown is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh's School of Medicine. He completed his Internship at the University of Chicago Hospitals and his Dermatology residency in 1999 at Rush University Medical Center. He completed a fellowship in Mohs Micrographic Surgery at Baptist Medical Center, Kansas City, Missouri, in 2000. Dr. Brown is board certified by the American Board of Dermatology and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology.

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Niles natives open Logan Square pizzeria

Papa Ray's Pizza & Wings, located at 2551 W. Fullerton in Logan Square, was started by brothers George and John Rayyan who grew up in the Northwest suburb of Niles. With another location opening this month at 4757 N. Sheridan in Uptown, and at least three locations slated to open in 2011, this family-run neighborhood spot is,

BUSINESS BRIEF

according to the brothers, rapidly becoming a household name.

Twenty-two-year-old George and 27-year-old John developed an interest in the food business at a young age in an extended family of restaurateurs.

Prior to opening Papa Ray's first location, George and John gained industry experience as partners in the popular Pinocchio's Pizza eateries. In 2010, the

brothers opened Papa Ray's, a namesake of their father Ray, and have quickly positioned it as a go-to place in Logan Square. The quaint 1,200-square-foot space, the brothers say, attracts locals who line the single-seat stools and review the daily newspaper page inserts posted along the walls.

For more information on Papa Ray's, visit www.paparayspizza.com. *Comment: pioneerlocal.com*

SHERIFF'S REPORTS

The following incidents in unincorporated Maine Township were compiled by the Cook County Sheriff's Department. Readers are reminded that an arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt. Only a court of law can make that determination.

BURGLARY

Michael Stephenson, 26, of the 10000 block of Linda Lane, unincorporated Maine Township, was charged with one count of burglary Oct. 28 after he allegedly broke into Extra Value Food and Liquor, 9570 Potter Road, and stole several bottles of alcohol. According to police an officer witnessed a man dressed in dark clothing exiting the liquor store through the front door about 3 a.m. When the man saw police he reportedly re-entered

the store and fled through the rear alley. Police canvassed the area and reportedly located a man, later identified as Stephenson, hiding in some brush at 9401 W. Golf Road. Police said Stephenson was in possession of a duffel bag filled with alcohol taken from Extra Value Food and Liquor. Nothing else was reported stolen from the store.

BURGLARY TO VEHICLE

A theft from a vehicle was reported the evening of Oct. 18 on the 9400 block of Sumac Road.

On Oct. 23 a resident of the 9500 block of Sumac Road discovered his credit card, debit card and drivers license missing from his vehicle after he received a phone call from his bank re-

garding suspicious charges made to one of the cards.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

Windows were smashed on several vehicles parked outside residences overnight between Oct. 19 and Oct. 20. The incidents occurred on the 8700 block of Ballard Road, the 9400 block of Hamlin Avenue, the 9000 block of Emerson Street, the 9100 block of Terrace Place, the 9100 block of West Oaks Avenue, and the 9400 block of Park Lane. Similar incidents were also reported overnight between Oct. 19 and Oct. 20 on the northeast side of Park Ridge.

A vehicle was reported damaged on the night of Oct. 24 on the 9100 block of Church Street.

POLICE BLOTTER

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

BURGLARY

A man reportedly entered an elderly couple's Park Lane home without their consent Oct. 26 after stating he needed one of them to show him where the backyard property line was located. While the woman took the man into the backyard three other men reportedly entered the house and talked to the woman's husband before they walked

upstairs and looked through dresser drawers in a bedroom. When the husband asked the men why they were in his bedroom they quickly exited the house, police said. Nothing was reported missing at the time of the report.

A burglary was reported the night of Oct. 27 on the 8000 block of Ozark Avenue. A bedroom window was reportedly broken to gain entry. No further details were provided.

THEFT

A motorized shopping cart belonging to Jewel-Osco, 7900 Milwaukee Ave., was reported stolen Oct. 24.

According to police a woman between the ages of 50 and 60 wearing a black fur coat had used the cart to do her shopping before she rode out of the store with it and disappeared about 8:50 a.m. The cart has a reported value of \$3,000.

A gum-ball machine was reported stolen Oct. 25 from Jerry's Fruit Market, 7901 Milwaukee Ave. The owner of the machine told police he came to service the machine when he discovered it was missing. The employees of the store could not tell the owner what had happened to the machine,

Blotter, PAGE 21

Blotter

Continued from PAGE 20

which is believed to have been stolen between Oct. 6 and Oct. 8, police said. The gum-ball machine was valued at \$625 and contained between \$200 and \$250 in change, according to the police report.

A 51-year-old man who identified himself as homeless told police that on Oct. 25 someone stole his duffel bag while he slept behind a gas station on the 8500 block of Golf Road. The bag reportedly contained the man's birth certificate, his passport, a digital camera, a laptop computer and medication.

A wallet containing credit cards and identification was stolen between 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Oct. 24 from a man's locker at XSport Fitness, 9210 Milwaukee Ave.

An iPhone was reported stolen Oct. 24 after the

owner reportedly left it unattended in the gym at XSport Fitness, 9210 Milwaukee Ave.

Susan Panico, 54, of 7429 W. Mulford, Niles, was charged with theft Oct. 29. Police said Panico failed to pay a Park Ridge taxi driver the \$43 she owed him. Bond was set at \$1,500. She has a Nov. 29 court date.

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY

A resident of the 7500 block of Neva Avenue called police after hearing a noise coming from the back of her home the night of Oct. 27. Police discovered the rear door wide open and part of the door frame broken. The resident told police she did not see anyone enter the house.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

On Oct. 22 a swastika was found painted on the hood of a vehicle parked in an alley on the 8800 block of North Grand Avenue.

A man in his 30s on the morning of Oct. 23 reportedly caused damage to Spir-

it Halloween, 5631 W. Touhy Ave., after he was told the store had a no exchange policy. According to police the man allegedly began shouting and swearing at employees before pulling down a banner at the front of the store, causing a downspout to separate from building. The man then left the area.

Between Oct. 24 and Oct. 27 someone stole the house-number sign off a lamp post on the 8200 block of Monroe Street, police said.

BURGLARY TO VEHICLE

An iPod and cigarettes were reported stolen Oct. 23 from a vehicle parked outside Wal-Mart, 5630 Touhy Ave.

A \$150 GPS device was stolen between 9:30 p.m. Oct. 26 and 12:44 a.m. the following day from a vehicle parked on the 9100 block of Golf Road. The driver's side window was broken to gain entry.

PUBLIC INTOXICATION

Julio C. Sanchez, 30, of

7246 Crain St., Niles, was issued a local ordinance citation for public intoxication and cost of emergency services Oct. 22. According to police Sanchez was observed falling down while attempting to walk at 10:06 p.m. near Dempster Street and Oketo Avenue. He was transported to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital.

RETAIL THEFT

Edelynn Cayas, 19, of 6915 Niles Terrace, Niles, was issued a local ordinance citation for retail theft Oct. 23. An employee at JCPenney, Golf Mill, told police Cayas was seen placing an \$18 ring on her finger and exiting the store without paying. A fine was paid at the scene and she was released.

Aktaben Shah, 26, of 9371 Hamlin Ave., unincorporated Maine Township, was issued a local ordinance citation for retail theft Oct. 24 after she allegedly exited Kohl's, Golf Mill, without paying for \$175 worth of pants and costume jewelry. A fine was paid at the scene

and she was released. Byambajav Bor, 47, of 9978 Holly Lane, unincorporated Maine Township, was issued a local ordinance citation for retail theft Oct. 24. According to police Bor attempted to leave Wal-Mart, 8500 Golf Road, without paying for an electric razor valued at \$45. He paid a fine at the scene and was released.

Simone Whitton, 40, of 2100 Windsor Mall, Park Ridge, was issued a local ordinance citation for retail theft Oct. 25 after she allegedly stole \$109 worth of merchandise from Kohl's, at Golf Mill. She paid a fine at the scene and was released.

Carlos Garcia, 26, of 10405 Dearlove, Glenview, was charged with retail theft Oct. 25. According to police an employee at Meijer, 9000 Golf Road, observed Garcia place two DVDs in his shorts and exit the store without paying. Garcia remained in custody at Cook

County Jail. He was set to have appeared in court Monday.

DUI

Jose Ugalde-Resendiz, 22, of 5844 N. Harlem Ave., Chicago, was charged with felony driving under the influence, driving without a valid license and failure to signal Oct. 23. Ugalde-Resendiz was taken into custody on the 6800 block of North Harlem Avenue. Bond was set at \$5,000. He had a Wednesday court date.

Angel Arriaga, 27, of the 7900 block of North Caldwell Avenue, Niles, was taken into custody on a DUI warrant Oct. 24 after police responded to a domestic dispute at his residence. According to police a woman said Arriaga began arguing with her because he felt she had bought too much pizza. Both allegedly admitted to pushing each other, as well, according to the police report. Bond for Arriaga was set at \$40,000.

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WE SAY

Can't we all just get along?

Elections have grown nastier and nastier over the past few years. This year, probably because some high-profile races were undecided right up until Tuesday's election, the mud seemed denser and dirtier than usual. And that's pathetic because, lost among the nastiness were some legitimate issues that many candidates failed to address: the state's massive budget woes and the country's unemployment situation, to name just two. Many pundits predicted that this mid-term election would go negative. With nearly every local race contested and some prime races without an incumbent, candidates defined the race by the supposed flaws of their opponent. Even incumbents who had been elected several times found themselves challenged relentlessly by newcomers who immediately took the low road. Judging by many of the attack ads, neither choice in a contest seemed worthy of a voter's time in the voting booth. Candidate A is a bald-faced liar while the challenger keeps company with crooks. It's so much easier for candidates to sully an opponent, after all, than to define themselves by solid positions on important but complicated issues. Instead of educating voters, candidates relied on half-truths, omissions of fact, distortions or even outright lies. Those on the receiving

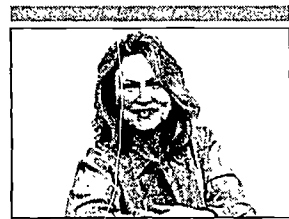
end of these nasty ads would then turn around and give as good as they got. As a result, many voters held their noses with one hand while casting their ballots. Other citizens may well have been turned off by the intense mudslinging and skipped the election process altogether. And the sad truth is that negative campaigning works. Rod Blagojevich coasted to a second-term win not by highlighting accomplishments in his first four years but by dumping on his opponent. Fueled by money from special interest groups, political parties, legislative leaders and millionaire business executives, negative ads threatened to take over prime time television as the time allotted to ads seemed longer than what had been devoted to programming. As we reported last week, the cash was flowing too quickly to analyze who was bankrolling whom. Here's hoping that all those winners who defined their election campaigns by negative ads — while praising their opponent on election night — will spend as much fervor tackling the huge issues confronting Illinois and our nation. And we also hope they will come up with workable solutions that both sides can support in a truly bipartisan effort to move the country and our state in a positive direction. *Comment: pioneerlocal.com*

1000 WORDS BY JACK HIGGINS



"NO, I AM NOT BURNING LEAVES. I'M JUST EXORCISING MY FRANCHISE."

Always something that doesn't work



CHERYL O'DONOVAN

VAN MOM STRIKES AGAIN
Everyone's familiar with Frank Capra's classic, "It's a Wonderful Life," the scene where George Bailey strides up his stairs and the newel post knob plops off the second he touches it. George pauses, resists hurling it. Well, most every household has a newel post knob or two, those trouble items

that never quite work right. Typing, for example, on my laptop, the T key won't capitalize properly. I must press, hold, and chant to the silicon gods before it kicks in. Our kitchen telephone and cord are temperamental, too. If the cord is pulled a certain way, bammo, disconnection. With our luck, the once-in-a-lifetime call would happen. "You've won \$2 million. Here's all you need to..." My husband untangles the long cord, grunts. "I'm the only one who ever does this." Uh-oh. His tone on the kids' Doppler indicates a potential F-5 grouch storm,

so they scramble, take cover, which leaves me and the dog to bear the Potter-inspired lecture. The dog eliminates himself as a suspect, barks he never uses the phone, flashes his new iPaw. "We could buy a new one," I suggest. My husband looks at me. So help me, if he pulls out tin cans and string. "This phone is fine," he insists. "It's old." "What, four or five years?" "Alexander Graham Bell used it to summon Watson." So we endure the thing that half-works. A lot of folks do, due to this Great Recession. Downstairs, we've replaced two dryers and

re-routed the duct, but darned if that electric dryer doesn't take an epoch to dry three towels. I have a hideous feeling all that lint's escaping somewhere. I imagine a future discussion among medical professionals. "Most confounding thing, this x-ray of Van Mom. This substance throughout her lung tissue. Dr. Oz, what do you make of it?" "Trans fats? Something hydrogenated?" "No, docs," I explain. "It's dryer lint. Our duct never has worked properly." "Hmm." One doctor frowns. "What's this mysterious ailment called?" "Newel post knob syndrome," I say. *Comment: pioneerlocal.com*

Are schools really preparing students?



RANDY BLASER

What should schools be teaching students and how do we know whether schools succeed at teaching it? Those are key questions about education. The state has standards as to what schools should be teaching; you can find them on the state's Board of Education website. And the state conducts annual testing to measure how well schools teach the standards. That's the annual report card that was recently released for all schools. After it is released, you'll hear of schools touting how they surpassed the standards, or explaining why they failed to have the

required number of students meet the standards. But can't there be a simple system that tells you how well schools do at teaching what is essential? How about the ACT test? Students take this test in high school, and the scores determine not only where a high school graduate will go to college but also whether a student will go to college. Should that be a quick and easy method to determine how successful a school is at teaching what's necessary? If that's the case, I'm not so sure schools are doing that great of a job. Why? Because I get regular e-mails from my school advising me to enroll my student in special classes regarding the ACT. These classes are taught by outside companies, not the school, and they charge a fee. In other words, the school admits that it may have not prepared students to take the most important

exam of their lives, the test that determines if they can go to college and if so, where, so I better pay someone else to help them. Shouldn't the schools have prepared them properly for this test? A friend recently told me he spent thousands of dollars for private tutoring for his student to raise his ACT score. It helped, he told me, because his student had a low score initially on the test, a score that would have sent him to a community college. After the tutoring, he got a score that helped him get into a major state school. Am I the only person wondering why after 12 years of school, my friend has to spend thousands of dollars for his student to get the education he needs to move on from high school? Doesn't that tell us more about education in Illinois than the mountains of data they release in the so-called report card? *Comment: pioneerlocal.com*

Moving on after hideous campaigns



PAUL SASSONE

My ears bleed. My eyes burn. My head throbs. That — metaphorically speaking — is how I feel after the beating I've taken from political commercials. For the last several months I have been slapped, punched, kicked and gouged by these nasty TV machine gun bursts that denounce men and women running for high and significant political office as crooks, hypocrites, incompetents, traitors, liars, tax cheats, frauds, totalitarians of the left, totalitarians of the right, and just plain bad people. The object of TV political advertising is to smear. It

must work. Otherwise, political candidates and their supporters wouldn't spend millions of dollars on these commercials. And TV news is no antidote for TV commercials. TV practices what I call game-based journalism. TV news treats politics as a contest, a game. You seldom see stories about issues, solutions and implications. We also have to take a lot of the blame for the shambles of American politics. As Cassius says of Julius Caesar; "I know he would not be a wolf, but that he sees the Romans are but sheep." We let the candidates spew forth these character-assassination noncampaigns. We don't set the bar very high for political candidates. Now here is where I insert a commercial of my own for journalism in general and newspapers in particular. Real journalism is done by people trained in gathering facts and evidence, and

who have a commitment to fairness and informing the public. It is from journalists that the public can learn about the issues and where each candidate stands. Journalism is necessary to the functioning of democracy. That's why the Founding Fathers put the press into the Constitution. It's good to remember this in the wake of this year's hideous political campaigns. It's good to remember this in an era when so many are welcoming the decline in newspaper readership without yet having anything else to replace newspapers' necessary function. When I look through the smoking ruin of this year's campaign, the one bright spot I see is how newspapers have presented the issues and where the candidates stand on those issues. We read, become informed and elect the better candidates. That's how it is supposed to work. *Comment: pioneerlocal.com*

YOU SAY

Escaping the ordinary is allure of Halloween

Why, we wonder, has Halloween become second only to Christmas in modern America's decorations and fascinations? Is it possible — like Christmas — Halloween whooshes us into the enigmatic realm of the unlikely? Of the deliciously impossible? Is it that it pulls and tugs us out of our everyday comfort zone, compelling a confrontation with things that don't quite compute? In other words, is it possible that this neatly rational century of ours occasionally enjoys giving way to witches, spirits, skeletons, vampires and all things not of this world? When kids get this way, it's written off as, well, as kiddish. However, adults in

increasing numbers are getting into the act. Masks, costumes, frights and parties are no longer just for the kids. I mean, why should they have all the fun pretending to be something they're not? A privilege lost with maturity, now fondly re-wished for. Especially when this maturity of ours has ball-and-chained us to such excruciating adult confusions and consternations. What can be so wrong with a little October escape from them? It's not likely the escape will be all that successful. But even prisoners welcome their daily walk under the sun. In the case of Halloween, it's not the sun so much as the moon. Halloween traditionally is

played out in the night, and among all things nightly. Time enough to wake up again to the confusions and consternations awaiting us. In the meantime, take a closer look at those moms and dads escorting their costumed kids to your front door. Is that a wisp of envy you see in their eyes? I know you'll find it in mine. **Jack Spatafora**
Park Ridge
Violent video games do not beget violence
As a fun pastime, video games have entertained us since their inception. Yet, some fear their power to influence young, *Letters, PAGE 30*

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT diversions

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THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 4, 2010

Managing Editor: Jennifer Thomas | Phone: (847) 486-7358 | Have a tip? E-mail: jthomas@pioneerlocal.com

4 For Your Consideration

A quartet of activities for the coming week

1. "Hairspray" will be presented by The Rising Stars Theatre Co. Nov. 6-21 at The Stahl Family Theatre, 5900 W. Belmont, Chicago. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. \$16, with discounts for seniors and children. Visit www.risingstarschicago.com or call (773) 736-2490.

2. The Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra presents "Masterworks by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Franz Schubert" at 7 p.m. Nov. 7 at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall on the Northwestern University campus, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. \$20-\$75. Call (847) 866-6888 or visit www.chicagophilharmonic.org.

3. Hogeye Folk Arts presents Cindy Mangsen and Steve Gillette in concert at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 6 at Lake Street Church, 607 Lake St., Evanston. \$15; \$13 for senior citizens; \$5 for students; free for children under 12. Visit www.hogeyefolkarts.org.

4. Ethnic Fest: The Many Faces of Lincolnwood, 1-4 p.m. Nov. 7 at the Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., featuring international cuisine, cultural entertainment by Valeriy Beludzhiev, Character Fleadh, Lamajamal, Patchouli, Natraj Dance and Special C Revival, and activities for all ages. For information, visit www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org.

Time for 'Little Shop of Horrors'

'Little Shop of Horrors'
7 p.m. Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays Nov. 6-21 at Devonshire Playhouse, 4400 Greenwood St., Skokie. \$10, \$8 students and seniors. (847) 674-1500, Ext. 2400; www.skokieparkdistrict.org.

By MYRNA PETLICKI
Contributor

There will be two rare sights onstage during Devonshire Playhouse's production of "Little Shop of Horrors": a plant that grows to gigantic size and Elizabeth Yerkovich.

That plant is brought into Mushnik's Skid Row Florists by a nerdy clerk named Seymour, who names it Audrey II after his adored co-worker Audrey. Yerkovich, who usually directs and choreographs at Devonshire, couldn't resist the opportunity to play Audrey — one of her dream roles.

That switch worked well for Dana Omar, who primarily directs Devonshire's children's shows.

"We had talked before and I knew one of her dreams was to direct 'Little Shop,'" Yerkovich said. "It's been my favorite musical for a very long time," Omar concurred. "The music is fantastic. I also really like the comedic side of it. The characters are honest and entertaining to watch onstage."

Jessica Sawyer is musical director of the Howard Ashman (book and lyrics) and Alan Menken (music) musical, which has a 1960s vibe.

Yerkovich revealed that she watched the movie version of "Little Shop of Horrors" over and over again when she was a child. "I fell in love with the character of Audrey. She comes off as somebody



(From left) Edith Lee, Grant Pritchard, Rhiannon Yalowitz and Emma Sheffey in "Little Shop of Horrors," on stage Nov. 6-21 in Skokie. | Dan Luedert-Sun-Times Media



(Left) Nicholia Eason plays Chiffon and Zandra McGee is Ronnette in the macabre, funny and touching musical, "Little Shop of Horrors." | Dan Luedert-Sun-Times Media



Grant Pritchard plays Seymour in Devonshire Playhouse's production of "Little Shop of Horrors." | Dan Luedert-Sun-Times Media

who has been doing theater since he was 6 in his native Tennessee. Pritchard described Seymour as "the lovable nerd. Nothing ever goes right. He's clumsy. He always messes everything up. He understands why everything goes that way, and he accepts it."

In Seymour's eyes, Audrey is the girlfriend he would have if he were "cool," Pritchard said. His feelings about Audrey's namesake plant change drastically as it grows bigger and bigger, and Seymour is forced to satisfy Audrey II's macabre dietary demands.

"I don't think he likes the plant at all," Pritchard said. "But without the plant, he's nobody again."

For Pritchard, the best part of being in the show is the songs. His favorite number is "Now (It's Just the Gas)," which he sings with the dentist Orin, played by Jimmy Hoppers. The song is both serious and hysterical as the dentist is about to expire from inhaling too much gas.

Omar reported that she is "working the show around the color green. Green means something different to each of the characters. It will come out in the set and the costume design also."

The biggest challenge Omar is facing might be described as plant management — showing Seymour's care and feeding of the ever-growing Audrey II, with its voracious appetite for blood. Omar revealed her clever solution. But we're keeping her secret. We don't want to anger that plant.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

who may be a little bit ditzy and may not be really smart and may not have a lot going for her," Yerkovich said. "But this character really does have a lot of depth to her."

Audrey has had a hard life. Raised on Skid Row, she has a boyfriend who beats her.

"She really is the leader of the pack when it comes to Mr. Mushnik and Seymour," Yerkovich said. "But her self-esteem is so low that her smarts and her business savvy take second fiddle."

Seymour's adoration makes Audrey believe "that she could get out of Skid

Row. That she could be in a healthy relationship," Yerkovich said. "To watch her grow and see her self-esteem build because of this one little geek who madly fell in love with her is really a fascinating story."

That "little geek" is played by Grant Pritchard,

DVD COLUMN

'Ramona and Beezus' on DVD

NEW THIS WEEK

RAMONA AND BEEZUS

It's wholesome, wholesome, wholesome for the entire family, but don't hold that against "Ramona and Beezus." It's not saccharine sweet; room is made for sadness, bruised feelings and real-life anxieties — and it's more fun than you might expect. Eleven-year-old Joey King is delightful as Beverly Cleary's mostly inadvertent trouble-making heroine Ramona, caught between Little Miss Perfect big sister Beezus (Selena Gomez) and an adorable baby sister: She also has to cope with some big-time adult problems such as Dad (Johm Corbett of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding") losing his job and her favorite aunt, Bea (Ginnifer Goodwin of HBO's "Big Love"), being thrown into a tizzy by the arrival of the twinkly-eyed high-school boyfriend (Josh Duhamel) who dumped her long ago. "Ramona and Beezus" has tree-lined suburban street cred to spare, but Cleary's idyllic tale isn't divorced from reality. Something dire even happens to the family cat. (BI) Rated G. (Fox)



"Ramona and Beezus"

the Dead") revels in a dynamic visual (and narrative) style that owes much to video games in addition to comic books, action films, sitcoms, music videos, etc., all sampled with a knowing hipster sensibility. The upside of all that nonstop pop-cultural input is that "Pilgrim" is never lacking for style. The downside is that so much emphasis is placed on spectacle that emotional involvement and character development are given short shrift. "Scott Pilgrim vs. The World" may be entirely superficial, but it's apparently superficial by choice. And having made that choice, it's clever and genuinely exhilarating from time to time. (BI) Rated PG-13 for stylized violence, sexual content and drug references. (Universal)

SCOTT PILGRIM VS. THE WORLD

A hard-rocking, video-game-saturated, occasionally very funny hipster romance, faithfully adapted from Bryan Lee O'Malley's series of cult-hit graphic novels. Ironic-vulnerability poster boy Michael Cera ("Youth in Revolt") is nicely suited for the title role of a 23-year-old Toronto slacker/rock musician who falls in love with the hipster chick of his dreams (Mary Elizabeth Winstead), then learns he must defeat her seven Evil Exes in mortal combat if he wants to have her. Director/co-writer Edgar Wright ("Shaun of

develops between the married owners (Joe Pesci and Helen Mirren) of one of Nevada's first legalized brothels and a heavyweight boxer: Taylor Hackford ("Ray") directed the drama. Rated R for sexual content, pervasive language and some violence.

ROBIN-B-HOOD

Jackie Chan plays a gambler who turns to burglary to pay his gambling debts, but balks when his co-horts decide to kidnap a baby. (Vivendi Entertainment)

SECRET ORIGINS: THE STORY OF DC COMICS

A documentary on the history of the comic-book publishing company that gave the world Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman and more. (Warner)

RECENT RELEASES

THE LARRY SANDERS SHOW: COMPLETE SERIES

An undeniable treasure for fans of Garry Shandling's brilliant HBO late-night talk-show parody and one of the most exciting DVD events of the year: This deluxe Shout! Factory box set throws in all the extra features from previous limited compilations of the show, plus a wealth of outtakes and deleted scenes. (BI) (Shout! Factory)

TOY STORY 3

Defying the odds, the apparently eternally reliable wizards at Pixar Animation have delivered a third installment to their flagship "Toy Story" franchise that's every bit as good as the first two. This time, cowboy Woody (Tom Hanks), galactic ranger Buzz Lightyear (Tim Allen) and the gang are donated to a daycare center when their owner grows up and goes to college. (BI) Rated G.

JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT: THE RADIANT CHILD

A definitive documentary on the life of the graffiti artist who became an international art-world superstar in the 1970s before dying of a heroin overdose. (Arthouse/New Video)

LOVE RANCH

A romantic triangle

go.

Continued from PAGE B3

of Henry V," 8 p.m. Nov. 12 and 2 and 8 p.m. Nov. 13 in Northwestern University's Annie May Swift Hall, Alvina Krause Studio, 1920 Campus Drive, Evanston. Admission is free.

CLASSICAL

Bella Voce a cappella choral ensemble presents "Holiday Delights" at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 5 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 616 Lake St., Evanston. Tickets: \$35 premium; \$28 general admission; \$15 students. Visit www.bellavoce.org or call (312) 479-1096.

The Chicago Chamber Choir presents "Canciones de Navidad: A Spanish Christmas," at 7 p.m. Dec. 12 at the Music Institute of Chicago's Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Tickets are \$18 in advance; \$20 at the door; \$15 for students. For information, visit www.chicagochamberchoir.org or call (312) 409-6890.

Chicago Chamber Musicians, (312) 225-5226. www.chicagochambermusic.org. Concerts are held at 7:30 p.m. Sundays at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall on Northwestern University's campus, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. Tickets: \$20-\$40 for general admission; \$10 for students. Nov. 14: "Honoring Schumann." The program includes works by Schumann and Bruch, and Dohnanyi's Piano Quintet in C minor, Op. 1. Chicago Master Singers, directed by Alan Heatherington, performs at Divine Word Chapel, 2001 Waukegan Road, Techny. For information, call (877) 825-5267 or visit www.chicagomas-tersingers.org. Ticket prices: preferred seating \$48, general seating \$38, side seating \$28; discounts available for seniors and youth/students. Prices for the three-concert season subscription run from \$49 (students) to \$130 (preferred seating). Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m., and Nov. 7, 7 p.m.: "Celebrating the Schumann Bicentennial," with the Ars Viva Orchestra and guest soloists. The program includes Schumann's Requiem, Op. 148; and Bruckner's Mass No. 3 in F minor. A free pre-concert lecture will be offered one hour before each performance.

The Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra performs at 7 p.m. Sundays at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall on the Northwestern University campus, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 866-6888. www.chicagophilharmonic.org. Tickets are \$20-\$75. Nov. 7: "Masterworks by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Franz Schubert." The program includes Mozart's Horn Concerto No. 3 in E flat major and Symphony No. 38 in D Major ("The Prague"), and Schubert's Symphony No. 5.

Evanston Chamber Music Group will present a free concert at 2 p.m. Nov. 7 at the Evanston Masonic Temple, 1453 Maple Ave. The program includes a variety of classical and contemporary selections.

Evanston chapter, Lyric Opera of Chicago, will host a presentation by Patrick Casali, professor emeritus of humanities and foreign language at Oakton College, on "A Masked Ball" by Verdi at 3 p.m. Nov. 14. The afternoon will include a social hour. Cost is \$10 for members; \$15 guests. New members may sign up at the program. For location and more information, call (847) 328-0158 or (847) 475-5345.

Baroque Music Ensemble, the Dunbar Festival Orchestra and the Alice Millar Chapel Choir in a performance of Monteverdi's "Vespers," the largest-scale religious composition of the pre-Baroque era. The performance includes solos and duets as well as complex 10-part choruses and the early music instrumental sounds of cornetti, sackbuts and theorboes. \$9/\$7/\$5.

Mostly Music Chicago presents the Georgia Guitars Quartet with Robert Sims, baritone, at 4 p.m. Nov. 14 at the Charles Gates Dawes House, 225 Greenwood St., Evanston. The program includes works by Grieg, Chopin, Bernstein, Schubert and others. Tickets: \$30; \$15 for students. For tickets and information, call (312) 287-5761 or visit www.mostlymusicchicago.com.

Music of the Baroque performs at

First United Methodist Church of Evanston, 1630 Hinman Ave., unless noted otherwise. (312) 551-4141. www.baroque.org. Tickets are \$38, \$45, \$60. Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m.: "Glorious Chorus - Vivaldi and Handel."

Music Institute of Chicago, Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. (847) 905-1500. www.musicinst.org. Nov. 14, 3 p.m.: Lincoln Trio in a concert featuring works by woman composers, including Jennifer Higdon, Lera Auerbach, Augusta Read Thomas and Stacy Garrop. Tickets: \$25; \$15 for senior citizens; \$10 for students. Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m.: The Music Institute of Chicago Chorale celebrates the 200th anniversary of Mexican independence with a Mexican Baroque concert, featuring the Rogers Park Neighborhood Choir of Chicago Children's Choir. The

program includes works by late 16th to 18th century composers Manuel Zumaya, Francisco Lopez Capillas and Gaspar Fernandez, and concludes with a Te Deum for double choir and orchestra by Ignacio de Jerusalem. Tickets: \$15; \$10 seniors; \$7 students.

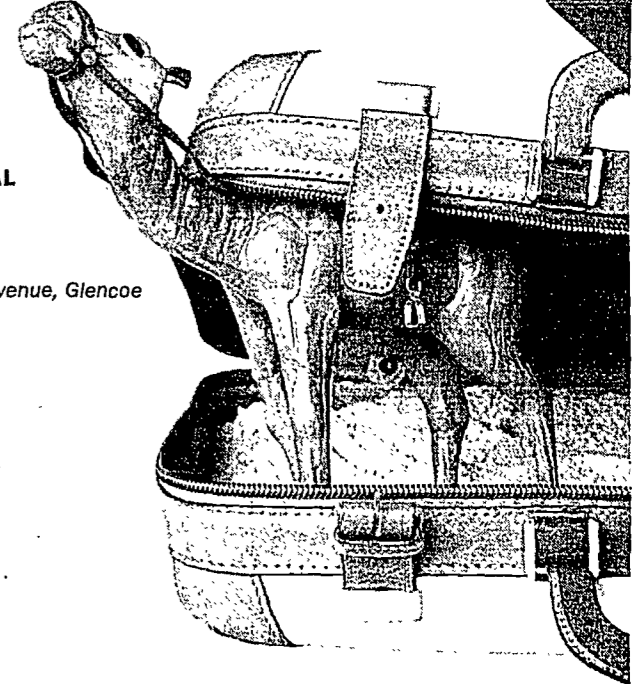
North Shore Choral Society begins its 75th anniversary season at 3 p.m. Nov. 21 at Glenview Community Church, 1000 Elm St., Glenview. The program of holiday music includes "There Shall Be a Star" from Mendelssohn's Christus; Biebl's "Ave Maria"; and the American premier of "Creator of the Stars of Night" by Canadian composer Jeff Ennis. The 140-member chorus will be joined by Gary Wendt, organist, and The Joyful Ringers handbell choir. Tickets: \$25; \$22 seniors; \$15 students. For information, call (773) 741-6727 or visit

www.northshorechora.org. North Suburban Symphony, conducted by Ron Arden. (847) 234-4150. http://northsuburbansymphony.art-of-felicity.com. Performances are at 4 p.m. in the Gorton Community Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, unless noted otherwise. Tickets: \$18; \$10 students and seniors; children 12 and under free with a paid adult. Nov. 21: "It's Classic - Because it Lasts." The program includes Rossini's "William Tell" Overture; Debussy's "Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun"; Sibelius' "Finlandia"; Saint Saens' "Danse Macabre"; and Rachmaninoff's "Vocalise." Northbrook Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Lawrence Rapchak, performs at 4 p.m. Sundays at Shelly

go., PAGE B8

Travels With My Aunt

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Ann Noble

November 5 – 21



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Continued from PAGE B7

Center for the Performing Arts at Glenbrook North High School, 2300 Shermer Road, Northbrook. Tickets: \$23-\$45; \$7 for students. Call (847) 272-0755 or visit www.TheNSO.org. Nov. 7: "The Spirituality of Music," with The Conservatory Chorus of Roosevelt University. The program includes Beethoven: Gloria from Mass in C Major, op. 86; Brahms: "Nanie," op. 82; and Delius: "Appalachia."

Northshore Concert Band performs at 3 p.m. Sundays at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, unless otherwise noted. Tickets \$18; \$13 seniors; \$7 students and children. www.northshoreband.org. (847) 432-2263. Nov. 7: Fall concert, conducted by artistic director Mallory Thompson. Guest artists include Barbara Butler and Charles Geyer, professors of trumpet at Northwestern University, who will perform Georges Bizet's Carmen Fantasia for Two Trumpets. The second half of the concert features Northwestern University's Symphonic Wind Ensemble joining the NCB for performances of Morten Lauridsen's "O Magnum Mysterium" and "Dionysiaques" by Florent Schmitt.

Northwest Symphony Orchestra, Paul Vernel, music director, presents concerts at 3:30 p.m. Sundays in the Theatre for the Performing Arts at Maine West High School, 1755 S. Wolf Road, Des Plaines. Pre-concert commentaries



"Hairspray" will be presented by The Rising Stars Theatre Co. Nov. 6-21 at The Stahl Family Theatre, 5900 W. Belmont, Chicago. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. Admission is \$16, with discounts for seniors, children 12 and under, and groups. Visit www.risingstarschicago.com or call (773) 736-2490.

by Carolyn Paulin, a staff member of radio station WFMT, begin one hour prior to each concert. Tickets: \$20; \$15 for seniors; \$10 for students. Children under age 14 are admitted free when accompanied by a paying adult. www.northwestsymphony.org. Nov. 14: "Romance of the Harp," with soloist Nuiko Wadden, principal harpist of the Pittsburgh Symphony. The program includes Gliere's Harp Concerto in E-flat

Major; Liszt's "Les Preludes"; and Schubert's Rosamunde Overture and the Rosamunde Ballet Suites I and II. Jan. 23, 2011: "Music of Vienna," with soloist Daniel Gingrich, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's co-principal French hornist. The program includes Mozart's Horn Concerto No. 3 in E-flat Major; Robert Schumann's Third Symphony ("Rhenish"); Johann Strauss Sr.'s Radetzky March; and Johann Strauss

Jr.'s Emperor Waltz. April 10, 2011: "Russian Triumph," featuring bassoonist William Dawson. The program includes Mozart's Concerto in B-flat for Bassoon and Orchestra; Debussy's Petite Suite; and Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5 in D minor. May 22, 2011: Pops concert, showcasing military, opera and Broadway themes. Featuring

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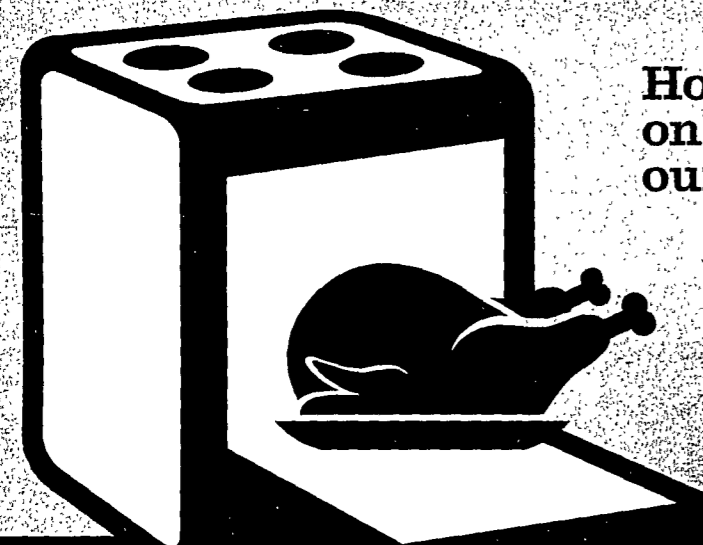
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'Sleepwalk' for troubling teenage times

'Sleepwalk'
7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 1:30 p.m. Sundays, Nov. 6-21, James Downing Theatre in the Edison Park United Methodist Church, 6740 Oliphant Ave., Chicago. \$15-\$20. (224) 725-3696; www.jamesdowningtheatre.typepad.com.

By **J.T. MORAND**
jtmorand@pioneerlocal.com

"Sleepwalk" could perhaps not be performed at the James Downing Theatre at a more poignant time with so many teen suicides grabbing local and national headlines recently. Five suicides in nearly as many years have occurred in Barrington and suicides by youths who were bullied or taunted for being gay have been reported nationwide, prompting President Barack Obama to comment on the events.

"Sleepwalk," by William Mastrosimone, is about a teenage boy named Dillon, who becomes deeply depressed after his idol, a rock guitarist named Rock Star, commits suicide. Dillon begins to consider killing himself, but Rock Star appears to Dillon in a dream, trying to convince the boy not to take his own life.

The Chicago production is directed by Tom Akouris. "It's very much a timely piece," Akouris said. "It's an important piece."

It's so important that he decided to step out of his comfort zone of directing large, light comedies to take on "Sleepwalk," which has a young cast of only nine. It's also short, running about an hour. He most recently

directed "The Man Who Came to Dinner" at Theatre Nebula in Palatine in 2009 and "Get Smart" for the Elgin Theatre Company in 2007.

"I've never done this type of piece before," he said.

Playwright Mastrosimone, Akouris said, interviewed several psychiatric professionals who work with suicidal teens to gain insight into troubled youth before writing the play, which debuted in 2005. Mastrosimone often writes about tough issues teenagers have to deal with.

"It gives you this intimate look inside the head of a suicidal teenager," Akouris said. "Where else are you going to get a look like that?"

He added, "It's almost like a secret."

The play, although intended to shed light on teen suicide, is not like a public service announcement, director and actors say.

Akouris said there's entertaining dialogue between teens and humor is sprinkled throughout the show. But, most important and convincing is the all-teenage cast.

Anisha Pashaj, 18, of Elmwood Park, plays May Flowers, Dillon's good friend who had been hospitalized for an eating disorder. Dillon was the only one who wrote to her in the hospital. She can tell there's something wrong with Dillon, but she doesn't know he's suicidal.

Pashaj said she can relate



Dillon (Stephen E. Fenstermacher, right) is worried about issues in his life, and would like to confide in his favorite teacher (Jessica Perelman, left) in "Sleepwalk," a play about teen suicide.



Dillon (Stephen E. Fenstermacher, right) imagines jamming with his favorite musician, Rock Star (Erik Enberg, left), who took his own life. Dillon struggles with going down the same path in "Sleepwalk."

to at least some of the feelings Dillon feels.

Earlier this year, her beloved grandmother died, which was a tremendous loss for the Northeastern Illinois University student.

She had a decision to make: Either slip into depression or add overcoming grief to her repertoire of strengths.

Pashaj chose the latter. "I could kind of relate to it," she said. "It's why I wanted to audition for this play. This is a great thing to do and a great way to learn more about (suicide)."

The characters, she said,

are well developed and the play will give pause to youths and adults alike.

"It could be happening to my own best friend," she said teens might think. "Or, parents could think, 'This could be happening to my own child.'"

Akouris is looking forward to the Q & A sessions after each show. He hopes the conversation continues long after the house lights are turned off and the doors are closed.

"If it does anything," he said, "it should inspire discussion."

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Stephanie Block, viola, winner of the Paul Vermet Young Artist Award. Opera Gala 2010 will be presented by Janice Pantazelos, director of the Chicago Studio of Professional Singing, at 6 p.m. Nov. 6 at Northwestern University's Alice Millar Chapel, 1870 Sheridan Road, Evanston. The evening will include both professionals and up-and-coming singers performing selections from "Nozze di Figaro," "Carmen," "Die Walküre," "Faust" and other operas. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door, with free admission for Northwestern students. Call (773) 764-5022.

The Orion Ensemble performs in Nichols Hall at the Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Tickets are \$26; \$23 for senior citizens; \$10 for students. Free for children 12 and younger. (630) 628-9591 or www.orionensemble.org. Nov. 28, 3 p.m.: All-French program featuring masterworks of French romanticism by César Franck and Théodore Dubois, and a neoclassical work by 20th century composer Jean Françaix.

Park Ridge Civic Orchestra presents concerts at the Pickwick Theatre, 5 S. Prospect, Park Ridge. Tickets are \$25; \$20 for students and senior citizens. Visit www.parkridgecivicorchestra.org or call (847) 692-PRCO or (847) 823-8861. Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m.: "Holiday Pops," conducted by Victor Muenzer, with tenor soloist James Cornelson and the

Park Ridge Civic Orchestra Chorus. The program includes Prokofiev: "Lieutenant Kijí"; Tchaikovsky: "Nutcracker" Ballet Suite; Solstice - Fantasy on Old English Carols by Bill McLaughlin; and a Christmas sing-along.

Pick-Stalger Concert Hall at Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. Information: (847) 491-5441; tickets: (847) 467-4000. www.pickstalger.org. Most ticket prices listed in three categories: general public; senior citizens and NU faculty and staff; and student rate. Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m.: Symphonic Wind Ensemble and the Northshore Concert Band present a full-instrumentation performance of Florent Schmitt's "Dionysiaques." The program also includes Eugene Bozza's "Children's Overture"; selections from Tielman Susato's "The Danserye"; Arthur Bliss' "Inestiture Antiphonal Fanfare"; and Morten Lauridsen's "O Magnum Mysterium." \$7/\$5/\$4. Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m.: "NU Voices: A Choral Showcase, Op. 25," featuring the University Chorale, University Singers, Alice Millar Chapel Choir, University Chorus and University Women's Chorus. \$12/\$9/\$6. Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m.: "Evening of Brass." Faculty member Gail Williams will conduct the Brass Ensemble in a program including Koelsier's Symphony for Brass as well as music by Bach, Gabrieli and others. \$7/\$5/\$4. Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m.: Keyboard Conversations, "Romantic Music of Robert Schumann." Pianist Jeffrey Siegel will present Schumann's "Fantasy Pieces," Op. 12, including "Dream Visions" and "Soaring," and "Symphonic Etudes," in a concert with commentary. \$23/\$21/\$16.

Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m.: Northwestern University Symphony Orchestra presents "Music from Kiev: A Festival of Ukrainian Composers," featuring cellist Rusell Rolen. The program will include Pylyutikov's "Colors and Shadows," Lyashenko's Cello Concerto and Silvestrov's Symphony No. 5. \$9/\$7/\$5. Nov. 21, 3 p.m.: Concert Band presents band standards. \$7/\$5/\$4. Nov. 21, 7:30 p.m.: Philharmonia performs Dvorak's "Slavonic Dances," Op. 46, Nos. 1-8, and Rimsky-Korsakov's "Dance of the Tumblers" from "The Snow Maiden." \$7/\$5/\$4.

Ravinia Festival, Lake-Cook and Green Bay roads, Highland Park. (847) 266-5100. www.ravinia.org. Rising Stars concerts are held at 8 p.m. in Bennett-Gordon Hall. Tickets are \$25. Concert/dining packages are \$50, with dinner at 6 p.m. in Ravinia's Park View restaurant in the festival's dining pavilion. Nov. 5: Violinist Mikhail Simonyan. Nov. 12: Soprano Teresa Eickel. March 18, 2011: Musicians From Ravinia's Steans Institute. March 25, 2011: Pianist Jan Lisiecki. April 8, 2011: Ritz Chamber Players.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 306 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. www.stmaryspr.org. Nov. 7: The musicians of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, under the leadership of Kevin McKelvie, will present the Requiem by John Rutter throughout the 10 a.m. Sunday worship service, in celebration of All Saints Day. The Rutter Requiem will be presented in its chamber orchestra version, which includes choir, vocal


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(From left) Saren Nofs-Snyder, Ravi Batista and Joanne Underwood star as the titular sisters in Sara Ruhl's adaptation of Anton Chekhov's "The Three Sisters."

PLAY REVIEW

'Three Sisters' is solid, but needs more vibrancy

'The Three Sisters' through Nov. 21 at Piven Theatre Workshop, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. \$25. www.piventheatre.org; (847) 866-8049.

By **CATEY SULLIVAN**
Contributor

With "The Three Sisters," Piven Theatre Workshop tackles one of the 20th century's inarguable masterpieces, Anton Chekhov's difficult comedy of longing in Moscow's distant hinterlands. Much of its intricacy — and difficulty — lies in the fact that this is a drama driven more by internal longing than outward events. Physical stasis — the literal inability to move to Moscow — dictates the emotional lives of the titular siblings as they yearn for a change that never arrives. The stage is a place of feeling rather than doing, and that makes "Three Sisters" a formidable challenge.

Directed by Joyce Piven, "Three Sisters" locates the vibrant heart within the playwright's dialogue — occasionally. There's a stiffness to the young ensemble; the staging often has the feeling of a carefully arranged still-life rather than spontaneously lived real lives. Sara Ruhl's new adaptation (based on a literal translation by Elise

Thoron with Natalya Paramohova and Kirstin Johnsen-Neshati) brings a vibrant clarity to the dialogue. But as Masha, Olga and Irina ache to escape the monotony of their lives over the course of two hours and 40 minutes, the sisters of "Three Sisters" become numbing rather than empathetic.

At the core of the 14-member cast are Joanne Underwood (Olga), Saren Nofs-Snyder (Masha) and Ravi Batista (Irina), a trio of women too educated for their provincial surroundings and each chafing at the bit of life in the sticks. As Olga, Underwood is prone to rolling her eyes skyward and waving her hands dismissively, creating a character too often defined by overly repetitive gestures. A school teacher, Olga's journey deep into a mediocre career she never intended is a harrowing example of how the cold, practical responsibilities and inevitabilities of the daily grind can turn youthful dreams into the harsh compromises of middle age. Nobody sets out to be a bureaucrat in an undistinguished school out in some nonentity of a suburb.

As Masha, Nofs-Snyder brings a pent-up, dark-eyed anguish to the middle

sister, whose marriage to the doting but utterly uninspiring Kulygin (Brent T. Barnes, quite effective as a fellow whose slavish, needy niceness is both cloying and annoying) is a death-by-a-thousand-cuts torment. The joy-to-despair trajectory of her affair with the dashing Lieutenant Vershinin (Daniel Smith, nicely capturing the vivacious idealism of the unhappily married soldier) provides the production's strongest cord of emotional truth. Batista's plucky take on the youngest sister Irina injects a sparkle of optimism into "Three Sisters," and a noteworthy sense of hope to the sisters' final tableau.

But it isn't one of the sisters who is the most intriguing of "Three Sisters" — it's Amanda Hartley-Urteaga as their bossy, insufferably self-absorbed sister-in-law Natasha. From quavering, insecure peasant to imperious domestic tyrant, Urteaga's Natasha commands her every scene. But it's not Natasha's play — the piece should belong to the sisters. By only intermittently showing their restless hearts, the Piven production falls short.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

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soloists, flute, oboe, cello, harp, timpani, glockenspiel and organ. Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra performs at 3 p.m. Sundays at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Tickets are \$23-\$37; \$10 for children. Free pre-concert lectures begin at 1:45 p.m. For tickets, call (847) 673-6300 or visit www.svso.org. Dec. 12: "Rachmaninoff, Puccini and Wagner," including a semi-staged performance of the third act of "La Bohème." The concert also features Kate Liu, second prize winner of the orchestra's Young Artist Competition, performing Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2. The program also includes Wagner's Overture to "Rienzi." Feb. 27, 2011: An all-Beethoven program featuring the Symphony No. 3 (Eroica) and Symphony No. 8. May 15, 2011: "Strauss and Tchaikovsky," including the Pathétique Symphony. Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette. (847) 251-7424. www.wilmettheatre.com. Opera In Cinema series features performances from opera houses throughout the world. Tickets are \$20, unless noted otherwise. Nov. 11, 7 p.m., and Nov. 13, 2:30 p.m.: "Carmen," by Georges Bizet, from the Grand Theatre del Liceu, Barcelona, Spain. Sung in French with English subtitles. Nov. 18, 7 p.m., and Nov. 21, 2:30 p.m.: "Così fan Tutte," by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, from the Royal Opera House,

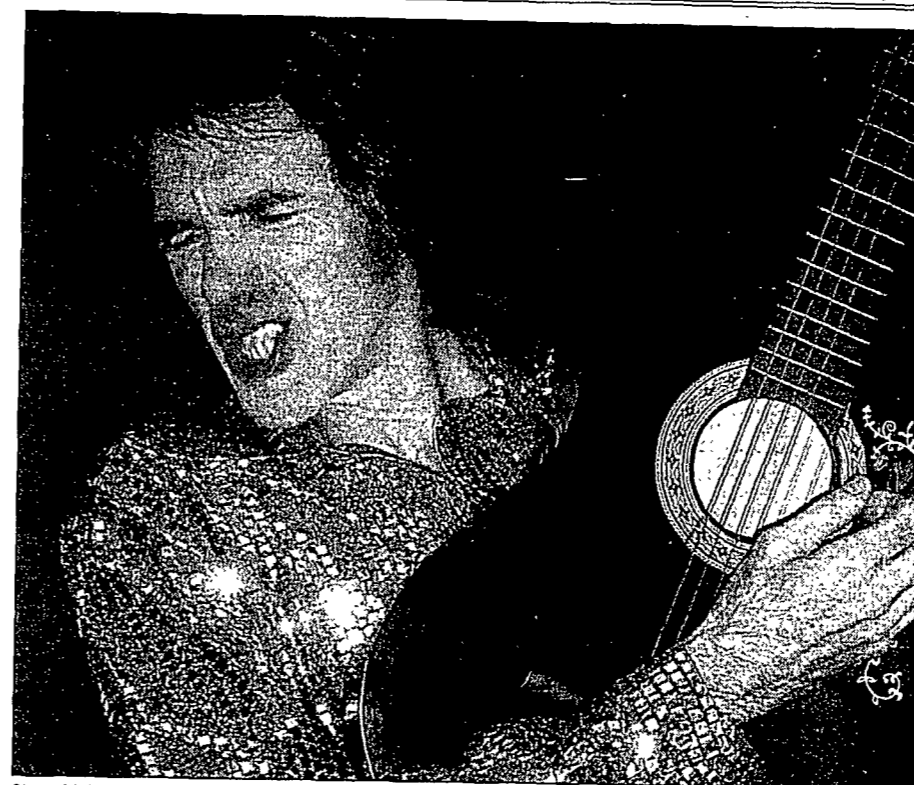
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POP/FOLK/JAZZ

Allstate Arena, 6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or (800) 745-3000; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. The information line is (847) 635-6601. Nov. 26, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.: Trans-Siberian Orchestra. Tickets are \$25-\$61. Dec. 4, 8 p.m.: Michael Bublé. \$49.50, \$75, \$95. "Bon Jovi-The Circle Tour," featuring footage shot at the band's performances at New Jersey's New Meadowlands Stadium in May, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 8 at Showplace Niles 12, 301 Golf Mill Center, Niles, and Evanston 18, 1715 Maple Ave., Evanston. The event will kick off with a sneak preview of Bon Jovi's new music video, "What Do You Got." Tickets are available at the theatre box offices and online at www.FathomEvents.com. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston. (847) 864-1679. www.celticknotpub.com. No cover unless noted otherwise. Mondays, 8 p.m.-midnight: Bluegrass and roots music with The Mudflapps. Tuesdays, 7-10 p.m.: Irish music session. Nov. 7 and 21, 5-8 p.m.: Eric Lugosch. Nov. 13, 10 p.m.: Sunnyside Up. Ethical Humanist Society Second Saturday Coffeehouse, 7574 N. Lincoln Ave. (at Howard), Skokie. (847) 677-3334. www.ethicalhumanist.org. Nov. 13: Folk and popular music of the '60s and '70s with David and Gail Hardesty, Lisa Crowe and others. \$8 donation in-

cludes refreshments. Gibsons Bar & Steakhouse, 5464 N. River Road, Rosemont. (847) 928-9900. www.gibsonssteakhouse.com. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8 p.m.-midnight: Lenny Capp. Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m.-midnight: Lenny Capp Trio. Hogeve Folk Arts hosts concerts at Lake Street Church, 607 Lake St., Evanston. All concerts start at 7:30 p.m.; doors open at 7 p.m. \$15 general admission; \$13 for senior citizens; \$5 for students; free for children under 12. Admission may be paid at the door in cash or by check, or by credit card in advance from www.brownpaperickets.com. For information, visit www.hogeyefolkarts.org. Nov. 6: Cindy Mangsen and Steve Gillette. Nov. 20: Andrew and Casey Calhoun. Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago. (773) 282-7035. www.Irish-american.org. Nov. 5, 8 p.m.: The Four Courts in concert, featuring Paddy Homan, Jimmy Keane, Maurice Lennon and Jimmy Moore. \$15. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave. (847) 677-5277, ext. 236. Nov. 7, 1:30 p.m.: Character Fleadh, a traditional Irish acoustic instrumental group, will perform as part of the library's Ethnic Fest. Free. Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse Ave. in Rogers Park, Chicago. (773) 381-4554. www.maynestage.com. Nov. 4, 8:30 p.m.: Rough Cut (pop/rock and blues). \$10. Nov. 11, 8 p.m.: Johnny Flynn. \$15. Nov. 19, 9 p.m.: JT & the Clouds. The Lowdown Brass Band, a nine-piece, horn-driven ensemble, opens. \$12. Nov.

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Steve Richards performs as Neil Diamond.

You need heart to capture essence of Neil Diamond

'An Evening with Neil Diamond starring Steve Richards'
7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7 at Skokie Theatre, 7924 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie. \$20-\$25. (847) 677-7767; www.skokietheatre.com.

By J.T. MORAND
jtmorand@pioneerlocal.com

Neil Diamond fans don't have to wait long to hear his new songs performed live.

His album "Dreams" dropped Nov. 2, but Steve Richards, who calls himself the next closest thing to Diamond, will perform some songs from the album Nov. 7 at the Skokie Theatre, as well as many of Diamond's old fan favorites, such as "America," "Cracklin' Rose," and "Solitary Man." "You have to have the heart and soul of what Neil does," Richards said. "I really relate to those songs."

Richards, of Chicago, has been performing as Diamond since 1986, after he gave up impersonating Elvis Presley because the tribute world was over-

saturated with The King wanna-bes.

"It got to be disrespectful," Richards said. "Elvis was more than just sunglasses, jumpsuits and 'Thank you very much.'"

He answered a newspaper ad looking for a Neil Diamond impersonator and when he auditioned he nailed the song "America." But, this wasn't to be just some half-baked Diamond tribute band. Richards said they were to perfect the Diamond catalog, so they rehearsed every Sunday for two years before playing their first show.

"I sounded so much like him and the power in my voice," Richards said.

Richards would eventually incorporate other big names into his repertoire — Elton John and Garth Brooks — but he particularly enjoys doing Diamond, especially the reactions he gets from fans when he performs.

He said "Sweet Caroline" is the song audiences enjoy

the most. "You can't go wrong with that."

However, he doesn't have a favorite Diamond song. He compares Diamond's library to a beauty pageant.

"It's hard to say which is your favorite," he said.

Diamond is also harder to impersonate than the others, Richards said.

"Getting the message across is so important," he said. "They're part of his life. If you walked in his shoes, you can put your own feelings into it."

Richards, who gave his age as between 35 and 50, dabbled in writing his own music for a while. But, when he saw the adoration these popular singers were receiving, he wanted a piece of the action.

"I admire these people so much," he said. "This is fun."

But, he's writing some of his own music again, and a certain influence can be heard in it.

"It's Diamond-esque," he said. "It's soul-touching music."

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21, 8 p.m.: Singer/songwriter Bleu. \$10. Nov. 23, 7:30 p.m.: Indie band Seryn. The Numbers, a Bolingbrook-based alternative country band, opens. \$10. Nov. 24, 9 p.m.: Family Groove Company (funk/jazz). Thinner Teed opens, presenting jazz, funk, blues, reggae and rock. \$10. Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m.: Asian-American singer/songwriter BettySoo (folk-rock). Singer/songwriter Imelda de la Cruz opens, followed by Sarah Vonderhaar. \$10. Dec. 2, 8 p.m.: Shannon McNally and Hot Sauce (rock and Americana). \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door. Dec. 7, 8 p.m.: Singer/songwriter Darrell Scott. \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door; \$40 for VIP seating. Dec. 8, 8 p.m.: Eastern Blok plays world music. \$15. Dec. 9, 8 p.m.: Geoff Muldaur and Jim Kweskin (folk and Americana). \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. Pick-Staiger Concert Hall at Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. Most ticket prices listed in three categories: general public; senior citizens and NU faculty and staff; and student rate. Information: (847) 491-5444; tickets: (847) 467-4000. www.pickstaiger.org. Nov. 13, 7:30 p.m.: "An Evening of Jazz," with Patricia Barber and Kenny Werner. \$18/\$15/\$8. Regenstein Recital Hall at Northwestern University, 60 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 467-4000. Most ticket prices listed in three categories: general public; senior citizens and NU fac-

ulty and staff; and student rate. Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.: Small Ensemble Concert, "Music of Northwestern Jazz Studies Students." \$7/\$5/\$4. Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or (800) 745-3000; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. For more information about the theater, call (847) 671-5100 or visit www.rosemonttheatre.com. Nov. 16: The Australian Pink Floyd Show, featuring Pink Floyd's greatest hits. \$25, \$35, \$45, \$55. Skokie Central Traditional Congregation, 4040 Main St., Skokie. Nov. 14, 7 p.m.: Maxwell Street Klezmer Band, featuring tenor Pavel Rolyman. Tickets: \$25; \$10 for children under 16. Call (847) 674-4117. Skokie Theatre Music Foundation presents concerts in the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. For information, call (847) 677-7761 or visit www.skokietheatre.com. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, unless noted otherwise. Nov. 6, 8 p.m.: Charlene Brooks presents "Confessions of a Cabaret Cantor." Nov. 7, 7 p.m.: "An Evening with Neil Diamond," starring Steve Richards. Nov. 10, 1:30 p.m.: Jack Miuccio's "Forever Frank" (Sinatra). Nov. 14, 2 p.m.: Bounding Main. Nov. 14, 8 p.m.: Sarah Marie Young. Nov. 19, 8 p.m.: SamaSama Project presents "Sarsuela Ni Lola" ("Grandma's Musical") (Filipino folk fusion). Nov. 21, 2 p.m.: Jimmy Damon's "Happiness Show." Nov. 21, 7 p.m.: Ron Estrada and Rick Hunt perform songs by Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Tony Bennett, Tom Jones and others. Nov. 24, 1:30 p.m.: Rob

Dorn's "Got Gershwin." S.P.A.C.E., 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. www.evanstonospace.com. (847) 492-8860. Shows at 8 p.m., unless noted otherwise. Nov. 4: Jay Farrar with Bobby Bare Jr. (rock). \$20/\$25. Nov. 5, 7 p.m.: Pinetop Perkins with the Willie "Big Eyes" Smith Band. \$22/\$25. Nov. 5, 10 p.m.: Honey Island Swamp Band (bayou funk). \$12/\$15. Nov. 6, 7 p.m.: Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues featuring Rollo Radford (blues). \$25/\$30. Nov. 6, 10 p.m.: Peter Rowan Bluegrass Band. \$20/\$25. Nov. 7, 7 p.m.: Kat Eggleston and Kate MacLeod (folk). \$12/\$15. Nov. 8, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.: Dr. John & the Lower 911 (funk/jazz). \$30/\$35. Nov. 10: Green River Ordinance (rock). \$12. Nov. 11: TFDI: Tony Lucca, Jay Nash, Matt Duke. \$12/\$15. Nov. 12: Mindy Smith (country). \$18/\$22. Nov. 13, 7 p.m.: Ellis Paul (folk). \$20/\$25. Nov. 13, 10 p.m.: Tab Benoit (blues/rock). \$20/\$25. Nov. 14: The Chapin Sisters and The Pines (indie folk). \$10/\$12. Nov. 15: Melissa Manchester. \$25/\$30. Nov. 16, 8 p.m.: Bobby Long. \$12/\$15. Nov. 18: Guitarist Pete Huttlinger. \$15/\$20. Nov. 19: Bill Frisell's Disfarmer Project (jazz/guitar). \$15/\$20. Nov. 21: Isaac Russell. \$8/\$12. Nov. 25: Dave Specter's Adventures in Guitar with Mark Wydra. \$12/\$15. Nov. 26: American English (Beatles tribute). \$17/\$20. Nov. 27: Andrew Ripp. \$10/\$14. Nov. 28, 7 p.m.: Paul Geremia and Jim Craig (folk). \$12/\$15. Dec. 1: Jenny Scheinman with Nels Cline, Jim Black and Todd Sickafoose (Americana). \$25/\$30. Dec. 2-3: Hot Buttered Rum and The Lee Boys (bluegrass). \$20/\$25. Dec. 8: Jeffery Foucault. \$12/\$15. Dec. 9: Lucy Kaplansky (folk). \$17/\$20. Dec. 11:

Joe Krown Trio with Walter Wolfman Washington and Russell Batiste (New Orleans/funk). \$15/\$18. Dec. 15: Josh Hoge and Todd Carey. \$12/\$15. Dec. 17: Gillyman (folk/rock). \$20/\$25. Dec. 30: Ezra Furman: Solo Acoustic. \$10/\$12. Dec. 31, 6 p.m.: Jill Sobule and Julia Sweeney. \$20/\$25. Dec. 31, 10 p.m.: Shemekia Copeland (blues). \$40/\$45. Jan. 14, 2011: Eddy "The Chief" Clearwater (blues). \$15/\$20. Jan. 18, 2011: Guitarist Charlie Hunter. \$18/\$22. Jan. 21, 2011: Leo Nocentelli's The Meters Experience (soul). \$20/\$25. Jan. 30, 2011: Freddy Johnston and Gorden Smith. \$17/\$20. Feb. 12, 2011: James Hunter (soul). \$24/\$28. Feb. 18, 2011, 7 p.m.: Rory Block (blues). \$15/\$18. Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette. (847) 251-7424. www.wilmettetheatre.com. Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m.: Cabaret at the Mette presents "Broadway with Bob and Kat," starring Kat Taylor and Bob Moreen. \$20; \$15 for students and senior citizens. Nov. 21, 7:30 p.m.: "InterFRIENDtions," an evening of friendship in song, with Joanie Winter, Sharon Carlson, John Eskola and Patricia Rusk. \$20; \$15 for students and senior citizens.

ART GALLERIES

Block Museum of Art at Northwestern University, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 491-4000. www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

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Admission to the museum is free; unless noted, admission to all programs is also free. Through Dec. 12: "Leon Golub: Live & Die Like a Lion?," featuring late drawings by the American artist, in the main gallery, Nov. 11, 6 p.m.; Gallery Talk. Brett Littman, executive director of the Drawing Center, New York, and curator of "Leon Golub: Live & Die Like a Lion?," leads an in-gallery discussion of the exhibition. Through Dec. 12: "Shirin Neshat: Rapture," a video and sound installation by the Iranian-born and U.S.-based photographer, video artist and filmmaker, in the Alsdorf Gallery, Nov. 13, 2 p.m.; "Art and Oppression: Leon Golub and Shirin Neshat," Eduardo Cadava, professor of English, Princeton University, and Rannjana Khanna, Margaret Taylor Smith Director of Women's Studies, Duke University, discuss the treatment of oppression in the artwork of Golub and Neshat, Nov. 17, 10 a.m.; Educating the Eye series, "Barbara Crane and Brad Temkin: Choices in Contemporary Photography," \$10; free for Block Museum members. Reservations are required; call (847) 491-7540.

Dittmar Memorial Gallery at Northwestern University's Norris Center, 1999 Campus Drive, Evanston, www.norris.northwestern.edu/dittmar.php, (847) 491-2348. The gallery is open from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. daily. Admission is free. Nov. 4-Dec. 9: "Intense Brightness," works by Licha DeLaPena. Chicago-based artist DelaPena creates textured, vibrant acrylic paintings inspired by her Logan Square neighborhood. An opening reception will be held from 6-8 p.m. Nov. 5.

Evanston Art Center, 2603 Sheridan Road, www.evanstonartcenter.org, (847) 475-5300. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 1-4 p.m. Sundays. Through Nov. 7: "Through the Looking Glass."

Lincolnwood Village Hall, 6900 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood. Gallery hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Contact Shirley Engelstein, fine arts coordinator, (847) 674-3806. Through Nov. 5: "A Passion for the Fine Arts," works by Robert G. Lyon. Lyon's work is inspired in part by photographs taken locally and while traveling in the United States and overseas. He reflects his interests in subjects as varied as dancers, musicians, landscapes and portraits.

Perspective Group and Photography Gallery, 1315-1/2B Chicago Ave., Evanston, a not-for-profit, community-oriented cooperative whose purpose is to promote photography as fine art. Gallery hours are noon-6 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sundays. Visit <http://perspectivegallery.org> or call (224) 200-1155. Nov. 4-28: "Reflections," photographs by Mark Kaufman, and "Imagined Landscapes," photographs by Bob Tanner, as well winning photographs from the sixth annual Faces of Evanston contest. Opening reception from 5-8 p.m. Nov. 6.

Seniors Action Service, 1123 Emerson, Suite 200, Evanston, (847) 864-7274, www.sasathome.org. Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays or by appointment. Nov. 14-Feb. 11, 2011: "Celebrating Experience: A Gallery of Art by Older Adults," with works by Diane File, Patience Kramer and Baila Miller. Artists' reception will be held from 2-4 p.m. Nov. 14.

Simply Chicago Art, 1318 Oakton St., Evanston, (847) 864-0716, www.simply-chicagoart.com. Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturdays; 1-5 p.m. Sundays. Through Nov. 21: "A Sick Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste," works by Steve Halliger.

Skokie Art Guild's 2010 Members Only Fall Exhibit will be showing through Nov. 20 at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Visit www.skokieartguild.org.

AUDITIONS & OPPORTUNITIES

MUSICIANS

Canzonetta Youth Orchestra is seeking players for the 2010-11 music season. Directed by Hilel Kagan, Canzonetta is a chamber orchestra that offers instruction for children interested in developing their orchestral skills. Training orchestra, for 7- to 10-year-olds with beginning orchestral experience, meets from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Saturdays. The Intermediate orchestra, for 10- to 13-year-olds with more advanced training, meets from 3-4:30 p.m. Sundays. The Senior orchestra, a high school group for advanced musicians, meets from 1-3 p.m. Sundays. There will be at least four concerts throughout the year. All orchestras meet at the Wilmette Recreation Center, 3000 Glenview Road. For audition information, call Hella Schramm, (847) 328-0570.

Music Institute of Chicago is sponsoring the Generation Next Young Composer's Competition. Prizes range from \$75 to \$350 and include a concert of the winning works, a CD recording of the performance, and scholarships to participate in MIC's Composer's Lab. Application deadline is Dec. 15. For information, visit www.musicinstituteofchicago.org.

SINGERS

Chicago Metro men's chorus rehears-

es at 7:15 p.m. Wednesdays at Sokol Community Center, 4855 N. Elston Ave., Chicago. New members welcome. Call (847) 208-6055 or visit chicagometrochorus.com.

Skokie Concert Choir seeks male and female singers at any level of choral experience. No auditions are held. The choir performs a variety of music, from classical to Broadway, and performs two concerts annually, under the direction of Candice Crane, with accompanist Adrian Metzger. Rehearsals are held from 7-9 p.m. Mondays, September through June, at Old Orchard Junior High School, 9310 Kenton Ave., Skokie. Visit www.skokiechoir.org or call (847) 674-3219.

ARTISTS

Seeking vendors, artists and craftsmen for a holiday boutique to be held from 11 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Nov. 11 at Ezra Habonim the Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie. Call the synagogue office at (847) 675-4141 or e-mail judy@tcscorp.com.

BENEFITS

The Christmas in Park Ridge Boutique, sponsored by The Center of Concern, seeks participants for its boutique and craft show, to be held Nov. 20-21 at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Park Ridge. Space rental is \$20-\$80, plus 10% of sales. Call (847) 823-0920 (evenings). Application deadline is Nov. 12.

Singer-songwriter Mark Cleveland and his Mark Cleveland Band will present a benefit concert for Evanston's Mitchell Museum of the American Indian from 6:30-9 p.m. Nov. 4 at Prairie Moon restaurant, 1502 Sherman Ave., Evanston. Tickets are \$60 per person, which includes entertainment, appetizers and one beverage. A split-the-pot cash raffle will be held, with raffle tickets costing \$5 each or six for \$25. The winner need not be present. For information, call (847) 475-1030 or visit www.mitchellmuseum.org.

Saint Scholastica Academy's Alumnae Board presents award-winning Broadway and Hollywood composer Marvin Hamlisch in a program at 8 p.m. Nov. 6 in the school's Patricia G. Nolan Center for Arts Auditorium, 7416 N. Ridge Blvd., Chicago. Tickets are \$65 and include a reception at 7 p.m. For information, call (773) 764-5715, ext. 360, or visit www.scholasticacommunity.us.

The Chicago Stereo Camera Club will host its 62nd annual "Chicago Lighthouse International Exhibition of Stereo Photography" at 2 p.m. Nov. 20 at Oakton Community College, Hartstein Campus, Room A151, 7701 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie. The international juried exhibition features 3-dimensional photographic slides viewed through polarized glasses, set to a musical background, and 3-dimensional cards and anaglyph prints to be viewed during the intermission. A minimum donation of \$6 is requested at the door. Proceeds benefit The Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired. For information, visit <http://chicagostereocameraclub.org/llght.htm>.

Tamar-Modin Hadassah presents Jewish a cappella ensemble Shirchigo in concert at 7:15 p.m. Nov. 20 at the Win-

netka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka. Tickets are \$20 in advance; \$36 reserved section; \$25 general seating at the door. Proceeds benefit Hadassah Medical Organization. For tickets, call (847) 675-6790.

The Musical Offering of Evanston will hold a benefit from 2-4 p.m. Nov. 21 at SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. The day includes crafts and activities for children, food and drinks, a silent auction and a performance of "O Saci," a musical theater piece. Tickets: \$15; \$10 students and seniors. Visit www.evanstonospace.com or call Rick Ferguson, (847) 866-6260.

Empty Bowls at Oakton, sponsored by the Ceramics Club at Oakton Community College, will be held from 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 4 at Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. Professional and student potters from the Chicago area have contributed hundreds of bowls for the fund-raiser, which benefits local food charities. For a donation of \$12, participants select a handcrafted bowl that is theirs to keep, and receive a simple meal of soup and bread. The event includes a raffle drawing for ceramic art works and a silent auction of sculpture and jewelry. Entertainment will be provided by the acoustic duo Patchouli. For information, call (847) 635-1699.

BOOKS & POETRY

Borders Books and Music, 1700 Maple Ave., Evanston, (847) 733-8852. Oct. 29, 5-7 p.m.: Robert McClory will discuss and sign *Radical Discipline: Father Pflieger, St. Sabina Church, and the Fight for Social Justice*. Nov. 7, 3 p.m.: Irving Cutler will present a reading and slide show and sign copies of his latest book, *Chicago's Jewish West Side*. Nov. 19, 7 p.m.: Skokie resident Debbie Sue Goodman will discuss and sign her books, *My Husband the Stranger*, *Still Single* and *Still Dating*.

Borders Bookstore, 2817 N. Clark St., Chicago, (773) 935-3909. Nov. 5, 7 p.m.: Skokie resident Debbie Sue Goodman will discuss and sign her books, *My Husband the Stranger*, *Still Single* and *Still Dating*.

Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., (847) 677-5277. www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org. Nov. 8, 1 p.m.: Discussion of *Let the Great World Spin* by Colum McCann.

BROADCAST

Quartet Danae, an ensemble comprised of Chicago teens that study at the Music Institute of Chicago in Evanston, will appear on the NPR radio program "From the Top" at 7 p.m. Nov. 7 on WFMT 98.7. Quartet Danae includes violinists Zachary Spontak, 18, from Fairbanks, Alaska, and Sophia Cho, 18, from Park Ridge; violist Leah Ferguson, 17, from Wilmette; and cellist Ben Fried, 17, from Highland Park.

CHILD'S PLAY

The Book Stall at Chestnut Court, 811 Elm St., Winnetka, (847) 446-8880, www.thebookstall.com. Nov. 19, 4:30 p.m.: "Pajama and Teddy Bear Storytime" will feature picture book writer Carolyn Crimi reading from her new book, *Principal Fred Won't Go to Bed*.

Children ages 3-7 are encouraged to wear their favorite pajamas and bring their favorite stuffed animal to the storytime. Free.

Kids Fare series, featuring hour-long concerts for children ages 3 to 8 and their families, are held at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall at Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, unless noted otherwise. Information: (847) 491-5441; tickets: (847) 467-4000, www.pickstaiger.org. All Kids Fare concerts begin at 10:30 a.m. Tickets: \$7; \$5 for senior citizens; \$4 for children. Nov. 6: "Rebellious Rhythms." The Northwestern University Percussion Ensemble will showcase the diversity of musical instruments such as drums and rattles. Jan. 22, 2011: "Banding Together." Brass and woodwind players and percussionists from Northwestern's Sym-

phonic Band will perform band music. Feb. 12, 2011: "Sing a Song, Sing Along." Vocalists from folk music to opera singers will perform. March 12, 2011: "Jump That Rhythm." Dance company Jump Rhythm Jazz Project performs to an array of music. April 23, 2011: "Pluck Those Strings." A celebration of string instruments by the Northwestern University Guitar Ensemble will feature guitars, banjos, lutes, mandolins, harps, balalaikas, ukuleles and more. May 7, 2011: "Charming Chamber Music," featuring string, woodwind and brass instrumentalists and small ensembles.

Jodi Koplin's Jigglejammer classes, for children ages 6 months to 3 years and their parents, feature guitar, per-

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
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Continued from PAGE B16

21. 8 p.m.: Singer/songwriter Bleu. \$10. Nov. 23, 7:30 p.m.: Indie band Seryn. The Numbers, a Bolingbrook-based alternative country band, opens. \$10. Nov. 24, 9 p.m.: Family Groove Company (funk/jazz). Thinner Teed opens, presenting jazz, funk, blues, reggae and rock. \$10. Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m.: Asian-American singer/songwriter BettySoo (folk-rock). Singer/songwriter Imelda de la Cruz opens, followed by Sarah Vonderhaar. \$10. Dec. 2, 8 p.m.: Shannon McNally and Hot Sauce (rock and Americana). \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door. Dec. 7, 8 p.m.: Singer/songwriter Darrell Scott. \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door; \$40 for VIP seating. Dec. 8, 8 p.m.: Eastern Blok plays world music. \$15. Dec. 9, 8 p.m.: Geoff Muldaur and Jim Kweskin (folk and Americana). \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. Pick-Staiger Concert Hall at Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. Most ticket prices listed in three categories: general public; senior citizens and NU faculty and staff; and student rate. Information: (847) 491-5441; tickets: (847) 467-4000. www.pickstaiger.org. Nov. 13, 7:30 p.m.: "An Evening of Jazz," with Patricia Barber and Kenny Werner. \$18/\$15/\$8. Regenstein Recital Hall at Northwestern University, 60 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 467-4000. Most ticket prices listed in three categories: general public; senior citizens and NU fac-

ulty and staff; and student rate. Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.: Small Ensemble Concert. "Music of Northwestern Jazz Studies Students." \$7/\$5/\$4. Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or (800) 745-3000; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. For more information about the theater, call (847) 671-5100 or visit www.rosemonttheatre.com. Nov. 16: The Australian Pink Floyd Show, featuring Pink Floyd's greatest hits. \$25, \$35, \$45, \$55. Skokie Central Traditional Congregation, 4040 Main St., Skokie. Nov. 14, 7 p.m.: Maxwell Street Klezmer Band, featuring tenor Pavel Roytman. Tickets: \$25; \$10 for children under 16. Call (847) 674-4117. Skokie Theatre Music Foundation presents concerts in the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. For information, call (847) 677-7761 or visit www.skokietheatre.com. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, unless noted otherwise. Nov. 6, 8 p.m.: Charlene Brooks presents "Confessions of a Cabaret Cantor." Nov. 7, 7 p.m.: "An Evening with Neil Diamond," starring Steve Richards. Nov. 10, 1:30 p.m.: Jack Miuccio's "Forever Frank" (Sinatra). Nov. 14, 2 p.m.: Bounding Main. Nov. 14, 8 p.m.: Sarah Marie Young. Nov. 19, 8 p.m.: SamaSama Project presents "Sarsuela Ni Lola" ("Grandma's Musical") (Filipino folk fusion). Nov. 21, 2 p.m.: Jimmy Damon's "Happiness Show." Nov. 21, 7 p.m.: Ron Estrada and Rick Hunt perform songs by Frank Sinatra. Dean Martin, Tony Bennett, Tom Jones and others. Nov. 24, 1:30 p.m.: Rob

Dorn's "Got Gershwin." S.P.A.C.E., 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. www.evanstonpace.com. (847) 492-8860. Shows at 8 p.m., unless noted otherwise. Nov. 4: Jay Farrar with Bobby Bare Jr. (rock). \$20/\$25. Nov. 5, 7 p.m.: Pinetop Perkins with the Willie "Big Eyes" Smith Band. \$22/\$25. Nov. 5, 10 p.m.: Honey Island Swamp Band (bayou funk). \$12/\$15. Nov. 6, 7 p.m.: Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues featuring Rollo Radford (blues). \$25/\$30. Nov. 6, 10 p.m.: Peter Rowan Bluegrass Band. \$20/\$25. Nov. 7, 7 p.m.: Kat Eggleston and Kate MacLeod (folk). \$12/\$15. Nov. 8, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.: Dr. John & the Lower 911 (funk/jazz). \$30/\$35. Nov. 10: Green River Ordinance (rock). \$12. Nov. 11: TFDI: Tony Lucca, Jay Nash, Matt Duke. \$12/\$15. Nov. 12: Mindy Smith (country). \$18/\$22. Nov. 13, 7 p.m.: Ellis Paul (folk). \$20/\$25. Nov. 13, 10 p.m.: Tab Benoit (blues/rock). \$20/\$25. Nov. 14: The Chapin Sisters and The Pines (indie folk). \$10/\$12. Nov. 15: Melissa Manchester. \$25/\$30. Nov. 16, 8 p.m.: Bobby Long. \$12/\$15. Nov. 18: Guitarist Pete Huttlinger. \$15/\$20. Nov. 19: Bill Frisell's Disfarmer Project (jazz/guitar). \$15/\$20. Nov. 21: Isaac Russell. \$8/\$12. Nov. 25: Dave Spector's Adventures in Guitar with Mark Wydra. \$12/\$15. Nov. 26: American English (Beatles tribute). \$17/\$20. Nov. 27: Andrew Ripp. \$10/\$14. Nov. 28, 7 p.m.: Paul Gernemia and Jim Craig (folk). \$12/\$15. Dec. 1: Jenny Scheinman with Nels Cline, Jim Black and Todd Sickeloose (Americana). \$25/\$30. Dec. 2-3: Hot Buttered Rum and The Lee Boys (bluegrass). \$20/\$25. Dec. 8: Jeffery Foucault. \$12/\$15. Dec. 9: Lucy Kaplansky (folk). \$17/\$20. Dec. 11:

Joe Krown Trio with Walter Wolfman Washington and Russell Batiste (New Orleans/funk). \$15/\$18. Dec. 15: Josh Hoge and Todd Carey. \$12/\$15. Dec. 17: Giryman (folk/rock). \$20/\$25. Dec. 30: Ezra Furman: Solo Acoustic. \$10/\$12. Dec. 31, 6 p.m.: Jill Sobule and Julia Sweeney. \$20/\$25. Dec. 31, 10 p.m.: Shemekia Copeland (blues). \$40/\$45. Jan. 14, 2011: Eddy "The Chief" Clearwater (blues). \$15/\$20. Jan. 18, 2011: Guitarist Charlie Hunter. \$18/\$22. Jan. 21, 2011: Leo Nocentelli's The Meters Experience (soul). \$20/\$25. Jan. 30, 2011: Freddy Johnston and Darden Smith. \$17/\$20. Feb. 12, 2011: James Hunter (soul). \$24/\$28. Feb. 18, 2011: 7 p.m.: Rory Block (blues). \$15/\$18. Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette. (847) 251-7424. www.wilmettheatre.com. Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m.: Cabaret at the Mette presents "Broadway with Bob and Kat," starring Kat Taylor and Bob Moreen. \$20; \$15 for students and senior citizens. Nov. 21, 7:30 p.m.: "InterFRIENDions," an evening of friendship in song, with Joanie Winter, Sharon Carlson, John Eskola and Patricia Rusk. \$20; \$15 for students and senior citizens.

ART GALLERIES

Block Museum of Art at Northwestern University, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 491-4000. www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

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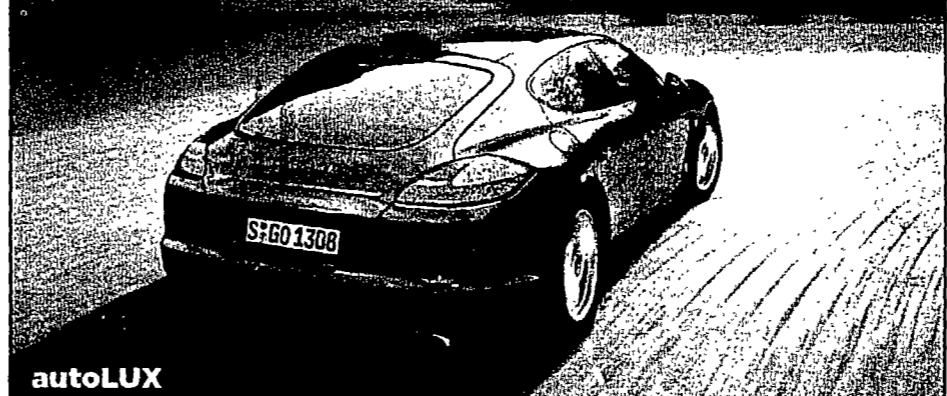
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Open its doors and Panamera reveals beauty

BY REX ROY
SearchChicago-Autos Correspondent

Introduced in the summer of 2009, Porsche's Panamera sedan caused quite a stir. It was Porsche's first sedan.

Now that we Americans have had almost a year to get used to Porsche's first sedan, and the furor over its introduction has passed, it's time for a fair evaluation.

The best way to introduce yourself to the Panamera is from the inside out. The reasoning: The Panamera isn't a beautiful car from the outside. While it has some proper Porsche cues, its athletics aren't in the same league as the Maserati Quattroporte, Aston Martin Rapide or even the Mercedes-Benz CLS.

However, if you're in the market for this kind of exceptional vehicle, letting the exterior stop you from discovering all that the 2011 Panamera Turbo offers would be a tragic mistake.

While Audi is properly recognized as being an innovator in interior designs, the Panamera's interior is one of the most beautiful in all of

autoSPECS

2011 PANAMERA TURBO
ENGINE: twin-turbo 500-horsepower 4.8-liter V-8

TRANSMISSION: Porsche-Doppelkupplungsgetriebe

DRIVETRAIN: all-wheel drive

FUEL ECONOMY: 15 city/23 highway

BASE PRICE: \$135,300

AS TESTED: not available

WEBSITE: www.porsche.com

autodom. The layout, materials and overall environment are among the best of the best.

Regarding layout, the Panamera is not a two plus two with limited room in back. A long wheelbase of 114.9 inches stretches out the distance between the front and rear seats. Rear-seat passengers enjoy surprising room that provides ample space for those as tall as 6 feet 2 inches.

continued on page 4

today's homes
SearchChicago.com/homes



SEE INSIDE FOR:

Don Debat
Distressed properties are selling, often at bargain prices

Your new neighbors
Local real estate transactions

New pricing, low rates spark a surge at The Glen

Patriot Commons at The Glen has sold four more townhomes and secured deposits or sold five of the final 13 final condominiums available in the current building. The builder's new pricing and today's historic mortgage rates have created a window of opportunity, and buyers clearly have noticed.

Buyers can own an impressive new Toll Brothers condominium for \$299,995 or townhome for as low as \$379,995. The low-maintenance townhomes offer three or four bedrooms and 2.5 baths with 1,550 to 1,700 square feet of one- or two-level living. Three designs feature granite countertops, Kohler fixtures, hardwood flooring, tall ceilings, in-home storage space, two private balconies and an attached two-car garage.

Also available are the condominiums. One-bedroom, two-bedroom, and two-bedroom-plus designs feature 1,000 to 1,400 square feet of living space with 1.5 to two baths. Each residence has a private balcony. Other features include 9-foot ceilings, hardwood floors, stainless steel appliances.

To visit, I-94, exit Willow Avenue and go west three miles, then turn left on Patriot Boulevard. The sales center is a quarter mile south of Chestnut Avenue and is open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call 847-998-0400 or visit PatriotCommonsAtTheGlen.com.

Full story inside Today's Homes

See Today's Homes section insert



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NEW 2010 VERSA MODEL 11150L ST00K 11053	\$12,115	\$9,995	NEW 2010 ALTIMA MODEL 13110L ST00K 12313	\$22,900	\$17,584	NEW 2010 ALTIMA MODEL 13110L ST00K M4552	\$23,010	\$17,684
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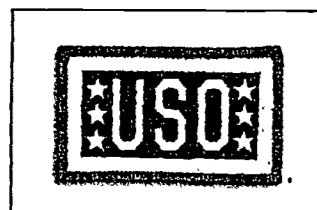
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TRUCKS & VANS	TRUCKS & VANS	TRUCKS & VANS	TRUCKS & VANS	TRUCKS & VANS	TRUCKS & VANS	TRUCKS & VANS	TRUCKS & VANS	TRUCKS & VANS	TRUCKS & VANS	TRUCKS & VANS	TRUCKS & VANS
04 FORD S20 TONK (LWB) \$7,989	08 FORD RANGER \$10,989 \$239	02 CHEVY SILVERADO LT EXT \$10,989 \$239	08 TOYOTA TUNDRA \$12,989 \$289	08 FORD F-250 CREW CAB LT \$24,989 \$479	10 FORD F-150 CREW CAB LX \$29,989 \$569	09 MAZDA 5 \$13,989 \$299	08 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SE \$13,989 \$299	08 FORD E250 CARGO VAN \$14,989 \$339	08 HONDA ODYSSEY EX \$17,989 \$339	10 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY \$19,989 \$379	10 FORD E-350 PASS WAGON \$27,989 \$529
SUVS	SUVS	SUVS	SUVS	SUVS	SUVS	SUVS	SUVS	SUVS	SUVS	SUVS	SUVS
04 JEEP COMPASS (LWB) \$10,989 \$239	08 HYUNDAI SANTA FE GLS \$10,989 \$239	08 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LT \$14,989 \$329	08 KIA SPORTAGE V6 \$16,989 \$319	08 NISSAN XTERRA 4x4 \$16,989 \$329	08 TOYOTA RAV4 SPORT \$17,989 \$339	08 NISSAN ROGUE AWD \$18,989 \$349	08 FORD ESCAPE XLT 4x4 \$18,989 \$349	10 JEEP LIBERTY 4x4 \$19,989 \$379	10 MITSUBISHI ENDEAVOR LS AWD \$21,989 \$409	10 FORD EDGE SEL AWD \$22,989 \$439	10 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT (LWB) \$25,989 \$499
LUXURY	LUXURY	LUXURY	LUXURY	LUXURY	LUXURY	LUXURY	LUXURY	LUXURY	LUXURY	LUXURY	LUXURY
04 CHEVY IMPALA CLASSIC \$18,989 \$349	08 ACURA TSX \$20,989 \$389	08 INFINITI G35 \$20,989 \$389	08 CADILLAC STS \$22,989 \$429	10 CHEVY CAMARO LT \$23,989 \$459	10 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA LWB \$23,989 \$459	07 AUDI A4 QUATRO \$23,989 \$459	10 FORD FUSION SPORT \$24,989 \$479	08 INFINITI I37 SEDAN \$24,989 \$479	08 VOLKSWAGEN CC 4MOTION \$29,989 \$569	10 FORD TAURUS SHO AWD \$38,989 \$749	10 FORD F150 LARIAT CREW CAB \$39,989 \$769

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TOLL BROTHERS

New pricing, historic low rates spark a surge

Sales up at The Glen's new condo, townhome community

The Glen's hottest new condo and townhome community is seeing a surge in sales.

In the past few weeks, Patriot Commons at The Glen has sold four more townhomes and secured deposits or sold five of the final 18 final condominiums available in the current building.

The builder's new pricing and today's historic mortgage rates have created a window of opportunity, and buyers clearly have noticed.

"We have the amazing location and walkable lifestyle that buyers are looking for," said Nicole Bastian-Gardiner, the community's senior sales manager. "When they find out we also have prices they can't beat and then factor in an unbelievable mortgage rate, they can't walk away."

Buyers can own an impressive new Toll Brothers condominium for \$209,996 or townhome for as low as \$379,996.

"For those ready to move now, we have a few townhomes available for immediate occupancy so they can enjoy the holidays in their new home," said Bastian-Gardiner.

Toll Brothers offers mortgage services through their wholly-owned subsidiary, TBI Mortgage. The local mortgage representative is available by phone or will meet in person on-site to discuss today's financing options. In addition, buyers can also find out about the exclusive below-



A few townhomes like the one pictured are ready for move-in at Patriot Commons at The Glen, so home buyers can enjoy the holidays in a new home.

market rate programs and long-term rate locks only available through TBI Mortgage.

All are welcome to visit and tour the decorated townhome model as well as other townhomes and condominiums at various stages of construction. The community is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Maps and directions can be found at PatriotCommonsAtTheGlen.com.

The spacious low-maintenance townhomes offer three or four bedrooms and 2½ baths with 1,650 to 1,700 square feet of one- or two-level living. Three spacious and unique designs feature high-end finishes like granite countertops, Kohler fixtures and rich hardwood flooring, plus tall ceilings, in-home storage space, two private balconies and an attached two-car garage.

Also available are the popular condominiums. One-bedroom, two-bedroom, and two-bedroom-plus-den designs feature 1,000 to 1,400 square feet of living space with 1½ to two baths. Each residence has a private balcony and many offer breathtaking golf course views.

Interiors include 9-foot ceilings, hardwood floors and a complete stainless steel appliance package including a refrigerator, range, dishwasher, microwave, washer and dryer. Condominium owners enjoy climate-controlled indoor heated parking, the convenience of two elevators per building, a secure storage area and a common entertainment room.

Patriot Commons at The Glen is located just steps away from The Glen

Town Center featuring fine dining, first-class shopping, everyday conveniences such as the drycleaner and bank, as well as entertainment venues and lots of nightlife. Commuters will enjoy access to The Glen's own Metra station.

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

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

Toll Brothers, a Fortune 1000 company, has won all three of the industry's highest awards: America's Best Builder, the National Housing Quality Award, and National Builder of the Year.

To visit Patriot Commons at The Glen, from Interstate 94, exit Willow Avenue and go west for three miles, then turn left on Patriot Boulevard. The sales center is a quarter mile south of Chestnut Avenue and is open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call 847-998-0400 or visit PatriotCommonsAtTheGlen.com. For Facebook users, the community can be found by searching for "PatriotCommonsGlen."

For information on Toll Brothers other Chicagoland communities in Bloomingdale, Elgin, Hawthorn Woods, Morton Grove, North Aurora, and South Barrington, visit TollBrothers.com/IL.

Chicago market offers distressed property bargains

The Great Recession has put for-sale signs on a large number of distressed properties in the Chicago area, and as a result this could also be the year of unusual real estate bargains, experts say.

The RE/MAX Northern Illinois real estate network reports that the average price paid for those homes that changed hands in September in the metro Chicago real estate market was \$288,692, down 4.6 percent from the average price a year earlier.



Don DeBat
On the home front

"Home prices are still under pressure from the large number of distressed properties on the market," said Jim Merriam, regional director of the RE/MAX Northern Illinois. In September, distressed properties accounted for 2,239 sales in the metro Chicago area, or 42.5 percent of all closed sales.

"That is the highest percentage of distressed sales, relative to total sales, that we have seen since March and helps explain why prices looked softer in September than in August," said Merriam.

He noted that for detached homes the percentage of total transactions represented by properties selling for less than \$160,000 rose to 38 percent this September from 32 percent a year earlier.

The high percentage of distressed sales and the large number of homes changing hands at the low end of the price range, "suggest that investors, who are often attracted to these types of properties, were quite active in September," Merriam said.

Year-to-date home sales in the metro area through September remain 14 percent higher than during the first nine months of 2009. A total of 6,264 homes changed hands in September compared with 6,898 in September of 2009, a 24-percent decline that is quite similar to sales levels seen in July and August.

"We believe that over the next several quarters the metro Chicago real estate

SEE DDH DEBAT, PAGE 3

ONLINE

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TRANSACTIONS

Curious about home sales in your neighborhood? Below are some of the homes sold recently for \$200,000 and up. For a complete list of all Chicago area transactions, see "recent sales" at www.seenrealestate.com/homes.

932 Saybrook Ln: Park, Jung Wook & Kim, MI Jung: \$270,000
250 Thompson Blvd: Xu, Mingyu & Zou, Jun: \$569,500
Des Plaines
707 Greenview Ave: Saverino, William & Marianne: \$200,000
1151 Kylesore Ct: Mathew, Vipin C & Blini C: \$485,000
1926 S Tures Ln: Gava, Valeriu: \$255,000
410 S Western Ave 604: Maksimov, Andrey: \$225,000
1509 Webster Ln: Deblase, William C & Dobbeleare, Theresa: \$283,500
747 Yorkshire Ln: Retser, Robert P & Marie A: \$386,000
Elmwood Park
1745 N 76th Ave: Kirschoke, Mark L: \$271,000
2947 N 76th Ct: Gonzalez Jr, Nelson: \$212,000
1845 N 77th Ave: Holmquist, Paul F: \$205,000
Evanston
931 Crawford Ave: Olsen, Niels & Patrick, Eric: \$238,000
2178 Dodge Ave: Vance Jr, Harry David & Vance, Lawanda E: \$590,000
331 Crawford Ave: Olsen, Niels & Patrick, Eric: \$238,000
2178 Dodge Ave: Vance Jr, Harry David & Vance, Lawanda E: \$590,000

3275 Countryside Ln: Macwan, Nelson: \$850,000
1721 Grove St: Krenzel, Vladimir Z & Alexandra: \$230,000
1557 Independence Ave: Merchant, Arif & Hiram, Waheeda M: \$830,000
4646 Locust Ave: Kujawinski, Phillip E & Sheri L: \$245,000
2020 Spruce Dr: Thein, Thomas & Jennifer E: \$666,000
339 Taft Ct: Akira, Eli: \$850,000
840 Windsor Rd: Ramsey, John S & Christine M: \$690,000
Golf
10 Orchard Ln: Gasbarra, Mark C & Frances Johnson: \$2,010,000
Harwood Heights
4318 N Newcass Ave: Bermudez, Catherine: \$250,000
4372 N Oak Park Ave: Agolli, Dhimitri & Pavlo: \$200,000
4811 N Elcott Ave 503: Guy-sayko, Janice & Pelagio, Gemma: \$278,000
2250 White Oak Dr: Siddiqui, Muzammad: \$410,000
Northfield
344 Greener St: Piotrowski, Andrew & Archana: \$416,000
2106 Middlefork Rd: Tragos, Peter W & Karen D: \$962,500
Oak Park
839 Clinton Ave: Adams, David & Kathleen: \$622,500
308 N Lombard Ave: Fardney, Ted F & Susan L: \$575,000
904 N Oak Park Ave: Radziulowski, David & Mary Lorraine Hodur: \$526,000
532 N Ridgeland: Martin, Christopher & Lee, Elizabeth L: \$205,000
506 S Austin Blvd 3: Day, Steven & Noriko: \$209,000
236 S East Ave: Mack, Jennifer L: \$655,000
523 S Grove Ave: Lynch, Matthew C & Flynn, Nora K: \$410,000
615 S Harvey Ave: Hirt, Kevin M & Susan L: \$350,000
Park Ridge

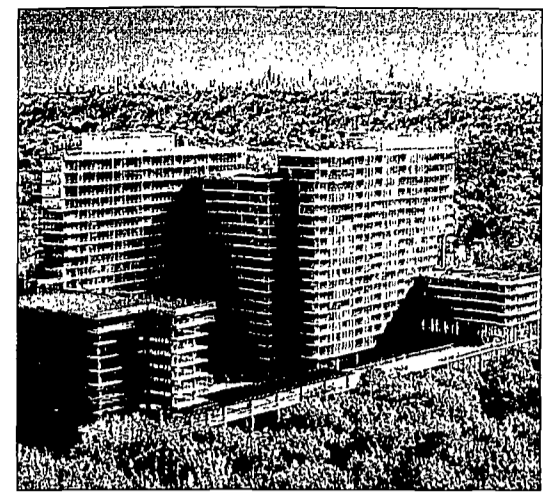
8300 Callie Ave 407: Choi, Hye Alison J: \$265,000
5736 Reba St: Kaleem, Kashif & Haifa: \$261,500
Northbrook
2348 Brentwood Dr: Trivedi, Nitin D & Devendra V: \$290,000
1104 Butterfield Ln: Saperstein, Brian & Jennifer: \$230,000
4031 Crestwood Dr: Valencia, Edwin F & Penny S: \$492,000
821 Division St: Roberts, Glen & Carolyn: \$262,500
1850 Ellendale Dr: Devries, Robert: \$340,000
303 Elm Ct: Masood, Syed & Anela: \$945,000
2218 Illinois Rd: Ferrick, John & Maurine: \$612,000
2206 Oak Ave: Yonallies, Anthony & Christine: \$416,000
1739 Tudor Ln 201: Blum, Meryl: \$245,000
2250 White Oak Dr: Siddiqui, Muzammad: \$410,000
Northfield
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236 S East Ave: Mack, Jennifer L: \$655,000
523 S Grove Ave: Lynch, Matthew C & Flynn, Nora K: \$410,000
615 S Harvey Ave: Hirt, Kevin M & Susan L: \$350,000
Park Ridge

1892 De Cook Ave: Lazar, Sorin & Alison J: \$265,000
918 Harrison St: Trueman, Todd P & Elizabeth: \$392,000
1816 S Ashland Ave: Essitt, Hector & Rebecca: \$367,500
307 S Redfield Ct: Kasz, Katarzyna: \$500,000
999 S Rose Ave: Boyks, Claudio A: \$562,500
1135 Tyrrell Ave: Dietrich, Brad & Dawn: \$220,000
181 W Kathleen Dr: Sullivan, John P & Heather M: \$552,000
701 W Oakton: Potekhina, Tatiana: \$385,000
River Forest
417 Lathrop Ave 4E: Goelzer, Paulo G & Burgoyne, Nancy G: \$555,000
Skokie
8942 Crawford Ave: Kinne, Brian W & Garvin, Laurie J: \$280,000
9240 Gross Point Rd 106: Epstein, Harry S & Rosalie B: \$225,500
3810 Isabel St: Woodiwale, Aatif & Marie: \$215,000
4828 Jarvis Ave: Tran, Kathy: \$288,000
8748 Kedvale Ave Dr: Singer, Sharon: \$210,000
7941 Kilgus Ave: Frost, Mitchell J & Wendy R: \$350,000
3319 Lee St: Abdullah, Hassan Ali & Munira J: \$210,000
7519 Lowell Ave: Gilbert, Dave T & Elizabeth A Y: \$322,000
9725 Wood Dr 1007: Inbody, Eric: \$325,500
South Barrington
5 Wood Oaks Dr: Hyder, Ahtesham & Samana: \$796,000
Westchester
1426 Bristol Ave: Lizee, Yvonne: \$243,000
Wilmette
716 9th St: Ocranon, John K & Wendy R: \$350,000
2711 Blackhawk Rd: Struckman, Douglas B & Kristin Bjorkholm: \$1,800,000
748 Chilton Ln: Foote, Michael J & Michele E: \$485,000
715 Harvard St: Varkey, Sonja J & Sajl P: \$618,500
739 Lavergne Ave: Heywood, Daniel J & Simmons, Erin: \$271,000
2337 Schiller Ave: Lukes, Michael T & Porter, Karen A: \$1,455,000
412 Skokie Ct: Man, Sujje & Sun, Yanzhao: \$213,000
Winnetka
380 Green Bay Rd 2E: Golan, Eileen M: \$692,000

City chic, country charm

Optima Old Orchard Woods offers a winning combo for condo living

Do you enjoy the beauty of nature, long walks in the woods, golf just minutes away yet without the upkeep of your own yard? Do you delight in city nightlife, world class shopping and a high-style residence with views of downtown Chicago or sweeping views of miles of trees?



City chic and country charm abound at optima old orchard woods in Skokie, overlooking Harms Woods. The condominium community offers the best of both worlds in a building with every comfort and amenity inside and outside.

Both city chic and country charm are easily accessible to residents of Optima Old Orchard Woods. The architecturally distinctive condominium building overlooking the Harms Woods forest preserve is the ideal solution for buyers who are attracted to sophisticated city amenities and the serene beauty of nature. The strategic location of Optima Old Orchard Woods is one of many factors that have made it one of the fastest-selling communities of its type on the near North Shore.

City chic and country charm abound at optima old orchard woods in Skokie, overlooking Harms Woods. The condominium community offers the best of both worlds in a building with every comfort and amenity inside and outside. Includes miles of trails, a horseback riding stable and 18-hole public golf course. Prices at Optima Old Orchard Woods start at \$199,680 for one-bedroom plans, from \$275,120 for two-bedroom plans and from \$409,240 for three-bedroom plans.

DON DEBAT | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

market will hold in current levels, relative to year-earlier volume, and then we expect activity to increase substantially as the jobs picture improves," said Merrion. Record low mortgage interest rates and more affordable home prices is fueling a buyer's market this fall, according to the Illinois Association of Realtors. "An extraordinary buyer opportunity should continue as 30-year fixed mortgage rates remain in rock-bottom territory as they were just last week averaging 4.19 percent for our region," said Realtor Sheryl Ordy Whitehurst, president of the IAR. "The city of Chicago the median home and condo price in September was \$180,000, down 20 percent from \$225,000 a year ago in September of 2009. Year-to-date sales remain up 11 percent January through September 2010 with 15,286 sales compared to 13,760 home sales for the same period in 2009. The year-to-date median sales price for the city of Chicago is down 70 percent to \$20,000 from \$228,000 for 2009. "With condo sales in the city of Chicago up more than 11 percent year-to-date from the same period in 2009, we see an expansion of choices for potential buyers to jump in the market now and find great value for homes they may have not otherwise been able to afford," said Mabel Guzman, president of the Chicago Association of Realtors. Don DeBat's weekly real estate column is syndicated by DeBat Media Services. For more home-buying information visit his Web site at www.dondebat.net.

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The Grand Prize Winner, Best Craftsman of Paint Application, entered by Anne Bird for 268 Seneca St., Elgin. PHOTO COURTESY CHICAGO PAINT & COATINGS ASSOCIATION

'Painted Ladies' take center stage

On Oct. 28, the "Indies" were honored at a special dinner celebration in Schaumburg.

They were clad not in flowing gowns but pictured in coats of paint, and the event was hosted by the Chicago Paint & Coatings Association.

The event marked an honor paid to "Chicago's Finest Painted Ladies," a "beauty contest for houses" saluting the area's most colorfully painted homes, business buildings and other structures that in many ways beautify their neighborhoods.

This unusual beautification project for homes originated in Chicago and has received national attention. Seven houses have been featured in the book "Painted Ladies, U.S.A." by Larsen & Pomada.

This year's competition closed on Labor Day, and the entries were judged not only on the beauty of the craftsmanship of the paint application, but how well they complement the structure.

Winners were selected based on a variety of categories. Among the winning categories were Best Use of Color Combinations, Best Use of Color for a Business, and Best Use of Color for Multiple Surfaces. One Grand prize winner was selected from all entries for both professionally painted and non-professionally painted homes.

"We wanted to continue to create more opportunities for homeowners and businesses to enter the contest beyond just traditional Painted Ladies," said Bill Heiden, chairman of the contest. "Changes in home and business renovation, restoration and construction create new challenges and opportunities to use paint and coatings," he said. "Yet it is the use of paint and color that creates interest and appeal to the public and the surrounding homes and businesses in an area. We hope our contest now and in the future will inspire homeowners and business of many styles to be creative."

Homes, Businesses and other painted structures were considered for the contest. The style, size or age of the property were not factors in selecting the winners, and although the contest was open to homes and commercial properties all over the Chicago area, one was a winning entry from Walworth, Wis.

Information may be obtained from the Chicago Paint & Coatings Association by calling 847-



Winner, Best Professionally Painted Home, entered by James McCauley for 1333 Church St., Evanston



Winner, Best Use of Color for Multiple Surfaces, entered by Carol McCullough for 1120 Elmwood Ave., Evanston

240-0102 or visiting the Web site at www.chicagopaint.org. The CPCA office is at 1701 Woodfield Road Suite 205, in Schaumburg.

This year's winning entries by category were:

- Grand Prize, Best Craftmanship of Paint Application, Anne Bird, 268 Seneca St., Elgin. The painter was Homework Construction, Inc.

- Best Professionally Painted, James McCauley, 1333 Church St., Evanston. Painter was Louis Perlin.

- Best Non-Professionally Painted, Don Cole, 418 Walnut St., Batavia.

- Best Use of Detail, Jim Sosnoski and Patricia Harkin, 1005 N.

- Spring St., Elgin. Painting was by Quality Painting and Carpentry.

- Best Use of Color for Multiple Surfaces, Carol McCullough, 1120 Elmwood Ave., Evanston. Painted by Thomas J. Dewey & Company.

- Best Use of Color Combinations To Enhance Details, Jim and Janice Gleason, 18 Spring St., Cary. Painted by Swanson Painting.

- Best Use of Color For the Style of the Structure, Jed and Cindy Mundell, 9601 S. Damen Ave., Chicago. Painted by Chicago Stucco Company.

- Best Use of Color For A Business, Barbara Peterson, 241 South Main St., Walworth, Wis. Painted by Swanson Painting.

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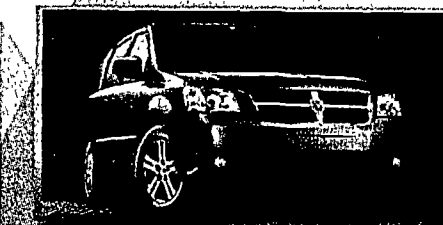
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 - T-12 TRUCKS
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 - T-16 FINDERS SERVICE
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 - T-26 LIMOUSINES

- T-5 FOR SALE IMPORTS**
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 - '06 Acura TL #1278A \$19,895
 - '09 Honda Civic EX-L #497A \$16,648
 - '07 Honda Accord #P15799 \$12,995
 - HONDA 2001 Accord EX 4 cyl. only 55k miles, 4 door, black. Good condition. \$4200. Call 630-709-5464
 - '10 Honda Accord EX-L #93248B \$24,995
 - '10 Honda Accord EX-L #1608A \$25,995
 - TOYOTA '99 Corolla CE. auto. 1 owner, no rust, loaded, garaged. \$2950. 708-610-1658

- T-9 ANTIQUE CARS**
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- T-10 VANS**
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- '10 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT #P15971 \$15,995
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- Dodge '94 Caravan, auto, red, must see. \$1400. 773-907-2276
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go.

Continued from PAGE B21

ussion instruments and puppets to introduce children to music.

Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave. (847) 677-5277.

to 2-year-olds and a caregiver. Monday Kid Flicks, at 3:30 p.m. Mondays - Nov. 8 & "Diary of a Wimpy Kid."

Planet 51," Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston. (847) 475-1030.

there is no minimum age requirement. Participants must be accompanied by an adult.

Music Institute of Chicago, Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. (847) 905-1500.

at 8 p.m. Nov. 12, 18-19; 2 and 8 p.m. Nov. 13 and 20; 2 p.m. Nov. 14 and 21 in Northwestern University's Cahn Auditorium.

COMEDY

Allstate Arena, 6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or (800) 745-3000.

DANCE

Northwestern University Marjorie Ward Marshall Dance Center, 10 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. Nov. 18-20, 8 p.m.; Fall Dance Concert, the annual performance of student choreography.

GROUPS & LESSONS

The Centre at North Park, 10040 Addison Ave., Franklin Park. Nov. 14: Sunday dance will be sponsored by Ballroom Chicago.com.

Chicago Barn Dance Company sponsors contra dancing from 8-11 p.m. Nov. 22 at S.P.A.C.E. 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston.

Square Spares & Pairs Square Dance Club, a club for couples and singles, dances the second and fourth Mondays of the month all year long at the Park Ridge Senior Center.

FAIRS & FESTIVALS

IBAMI a celebration of Irish books, arts and media, will be held from 11

a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 6-7 at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox, Chicago. More than 100 Irish and Irish-themed authors, artists and musicians will participate.

St. Mary Of Providence Craft Faire will be held from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 6-7 at the church, 4200 N. Austin Ave., Chicago. Free admission. For information, call (773) 545-8300.

Norwood Park Historical Society will host Victoria's Holiday Craft Boutique and Café Dec. 2-5 at the Noble-Seymour-Crippen House, 5624 N. Newark Ave., Chicago.

ORGANIZATIONS

The American Jewish Artists Club is now accepting applications for new artist members. The club exhibits widely in the Chicago area in museums, public venues and institutions.

FILM

Block Cinema in the Pick-Laudati Auditorium at the Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. (847) 491-4000.



keep Ave., Niles. \$10 cover per person; cost of dinner and tax on your own. Nov. 14 and 28, Dec. 12, 6:15 p.m.: Bowling at Brunswick Zone.

WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

Skokie Art Guild offers figure drawing workshops from 7-9:45 p.m. Thursdays and 9 a.m.-noon Saturdays at the Devonshire Cultural Center, 4400 Greenwood St., Skokie.

fundamentals of plein air (outdoor) painting with the utilization of photos, computer images and sketches to create small, medium and large paintings in the studio.

ET CETERA

The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston. (847) 864-1679. www.celticknotpub.com. No cover unless notified otherwise.

North Shore Art League, located on the second floor of the Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka. www.northshoreartleague.org.

MUSEUMS

Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie. (847) 967-4889. www.iholocaustmuseum.org.

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Ring in the Holidays with this Miracle of a Musical... IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS

The Northshore Concert Band will perform at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston.

sleight-of-hand manipulation, audience participation and levitation. \$10. Tickets are available at www.brownpapertickets.com or at the door.

Weekend services at Willow Creek are designed to meet you wherever you are on your spiritual journey.

Willow Creek Community Church | North Shore www.WillowCreekNorthShore.org

Super Crossword

PAIRS IN COMPARISON

- | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 51 Part 2 of remark | 106 "Gunsmoke" star | 10 Round table title | 50 Pays to play | Express |
| 6 "Later, Lust" | 57 Tin Tin | 107 Muscat's nation leader | 11 Labor leader | 52 Violinist | 88 Ridge |
| 11 Start to paint | 58 From ___ Z | 109 Fawn's father | 12 Eugene | 53 RN's specialty | 90 Publisher Conde |
| 14 Reggae relative | 60 84 Across, for one | 110 Calculating person? | 13 "American" ("72 hit) | 54 "I Am ... I ..." | 91 Idyllic area |
| 17 Vision-related | 61 Without ___ (daringly) | 111 Emulate Ederle | 14 Eddy | 55 Trigger | 92 Actor Enriquez |
| 19 ___ acid | 62 "Thanks, Robespierre!" | 112 Spring remark | 15 Couric of "Today" | 56 Flipped Trigger | 93 Surrealist Tanguy |
| 21 Samuel's teacher | 64 Happen | 115 End of remark | 16 Pallid | 57 Throw ___ (rage) | 94 Tibia |
| 22 Existed | 67 Wipe out | 122 Summer hummer | 18 Genuine | 58 North Carolina campus | 96 Measure |
| 23 Queen Anne chair? | 69 Furniture wood | 124 High peak bottom | 20 Telescope view | 59 FL | 100 Up for (available) |
| 24 Start of a remark by Mary Waldrip | 71 Hit rock ingredients | 125 Geologic division | 25 Keatsian crock | 60 "Locka, FL" | 101 Dachshund-like |
| 27 Party animal? | 76 Self-confidence | 126 Ariel, for instance | 26 Strauss specially | 61 Machine part | 102 "The Magic Flute" heroine |
| 28 "Ohello" villain | 78 Andes animal | 127 Like some watches | 29 Something of value | 62 Security resort | 103 Examine |
| 30 "___ Miniver" ("42 film) | 79 Ham up "Hamlet" | 128 Affirmative vote | 32 Author Dinesen | 63 Plants | 104 Hackneyed |
| 31 Racer | 81 Gray or Moran | 129 Combat | 33 Prowl | 64 Novelist Binchy | 105 Florida resort |
| Luyendyk | 82 Diva | 130 Model of simplicity? | 34 Poverty | 65 Taxing time? | 106 Gibbon or gorilla |
| Presque ___ ME | 84 Senegal's capital | 131 Dote upon | 35 Actress Moore | 66 In addition for one | 107 Glinka's "A Life for the ___" |
| 33 Where to spend a krona | 86 Al once | DOWN | 37 "Treasure Island" extra | 67 Astronaut Slayton | 111 See 85 |
| 37 It's on the bee's knees | 89 Seixas of tennis | 1 Actress Lillian | 38 "I'm working" | 68 Charlotte, Emily, or Anne | 112 Sign of sainthood |
| 39 Disconcert | 90 Part 3 of remark | 2 Exercise aftermath | 39 Eban of Israel | 69 "jongg Kruger of "High Noon" | 113 Bouquet |
| 42 Mosque feature | 95 Polished | 4 Jeff Lynne's grp. | 40 Canvas contest | 70 Henchman | 114 Kid at court |
| 44 Washer residue | 97 English county | 5 Coffee accompaniment | 41 Bury Burt | 71 Bolger/Haley co-star | 115 Whip up a waistcoat |
| 45 ___ Raton, FL | 98 Rain hard? | 6 Choir member | 42 Dit's cousin | 72 Cola cooler | 117 Author Levin |
| 46 Malice | 100 First in a series | 7 Dit's cousin | 43 Decorative | 73 Sib's kid | 118 Good times |
| 47 Tombstone territory | 103 Perceptive | 8 Cola cooler | 44 Sib's kid | 74 Rock's ___ | 119 Dernier ___ (latest fashion) |
| | | 9 Giant legend | | | 120 Kipling novel |
| | | | | | 121 WWII area |
| | | | | | 123 Heel |

HOROSCOPES

For the week of Nov. 8 — Nov. 14

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your ruling planet, Mars, allows you to assume a sense of command that can help you turn a chaotic workplace situation into one that's orderly, productive and, yes, even friendly.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Getting a relationship that's been stuck in a rut up and running again depends on how far you want to run with it. Be honest with yourself as you consider which decision to make.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Be wary of rumors that seem to be coming from everywhere this week. Waiting for the facts before you act means never having to say you're sorry you followed the wrong lead.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A difficult personal matter might prompt you to turn to a trusted friend to help you sort through a maze of emotional conflicts. The weekend should bring some welcome news.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Some of the new people coming into the Lion's life could play pivotal roles in future personal and professional matters. Meanwhile, an old friend might have an important message.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A delay in getting things moving on schedule can be a blessing in disguise. Use this extra time to do more research so you can buttress any of the weaker points with solid facts.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You might need to get involved in a personal matter before it becomes a serious problem. Also be wary of someone offering to mediate unless you can be sure of his or her motives.

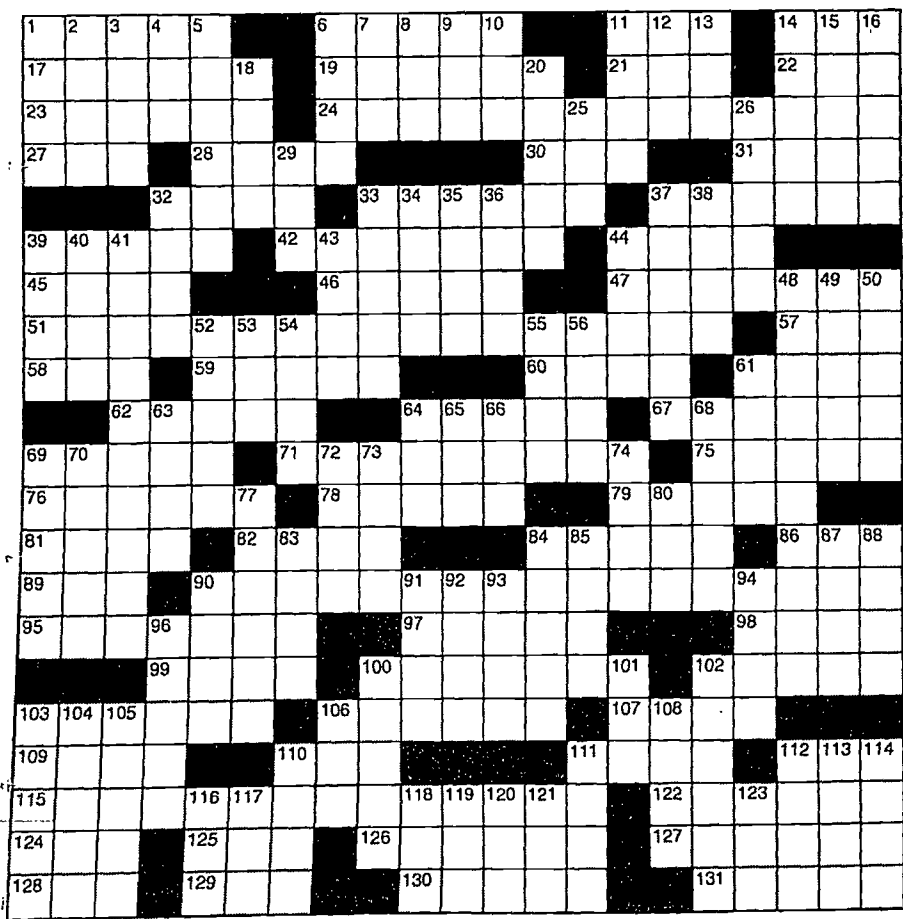
Reflections.
Remembrances.
Condolences.

REMEMBERING

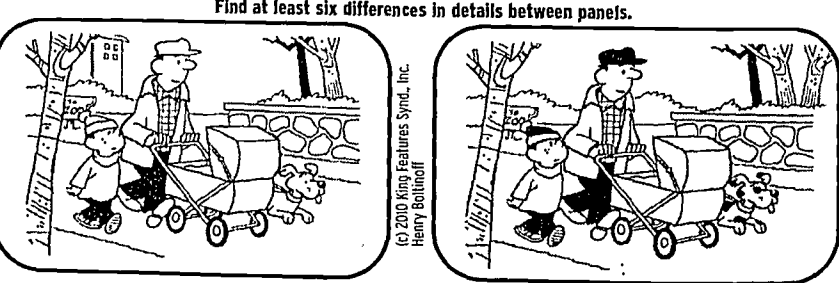
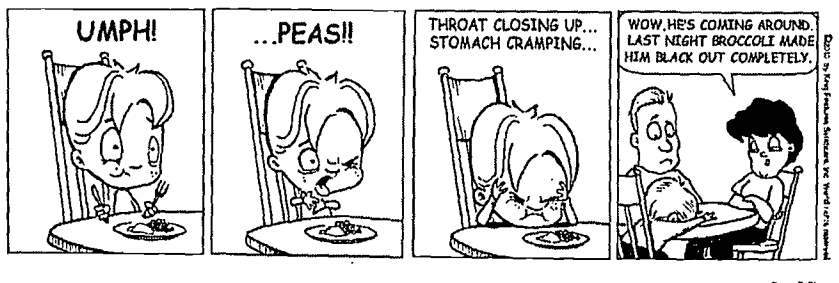
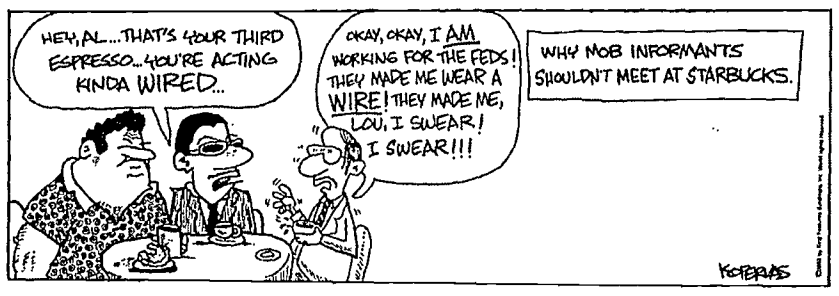
Remembrances

Ganter, Avelina Julia
Avelina Julia Ganter, former Park Ridge resident, died peacefully on October 6th in Tampa, FL. Born November 20, 1914 in Chicago, Avelina married Andrew Ganter in 1937 and later resided in: Park Ridge, IL; Rye, NY; and Sarasota, FL. While in Park Ridge, Avelina was active with St. Paul of the Cross and Mary, Seat of Wisdom guilds. Since 2008, she resided at Emeritus Assisted Living, Tampa. Avelina is preceded in death by parents Michael and Anna Bodnar, brothers Emil and Frank and her dear husband Andrew. She is survived by children Andrew Ganter, Jr. (Greichen), Pasadena, CA.; Carolyn Ganter, Madison, WI; Joanne Ganter Tapella (Bill), Tampa, FL.; eight grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. A Memorial Mass will be held Saturday, November 6th, 10 AM, Mary, Seat of Wisdom Church, Park Ridge. Donations may be made to Lifepath Hospice, 12973 Telecom Pkwy. Suite 100, Temple Terrace, FL 33637.
Sign Guestbook at legacy.pioneerlocal.com

Nudera, Ardeth (Schanel)
Of new Smyrna Beach, FL (formerly, Park Ridge, IL) passed away on October 26, 2010 at age 91. Ardeth was the daughter of Danish immigrants and grew up on a farm in Iowa. She was the youngest of five children born to Anton and Louisa Jensen. Ardeth was a successful business owner in Park Ridge. Her clothing stores Jr. Attitudes and Pizazz served many clients. She was preceded in death by two husbands, William Schanel and George Nudera; also four brothers, Harry, Parvin, Ralph and Glenn Jensen and their wives. She is survived by her son, Brian Schanel (wife Myra) of Sanford FL; and her daughter, Ardeth Jokisch (husband David) of Carlinville, Illinois; grandsons, William Schanel, Anthony Schanel, Derek Jokisch, Matthew Jokisch; and granddaughter, Ashley (Schanel) Stewart; five great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. A private celebration of life will be held by her family next to the ocean she felt a part of all her life. If you wish to make a donation in her memory, Ardeth was fond and proud of the Park Ridge Library.
Sign Guestbook at legacy.pioneerlocal.com



AMBER WAVES OUT ON A LIMB



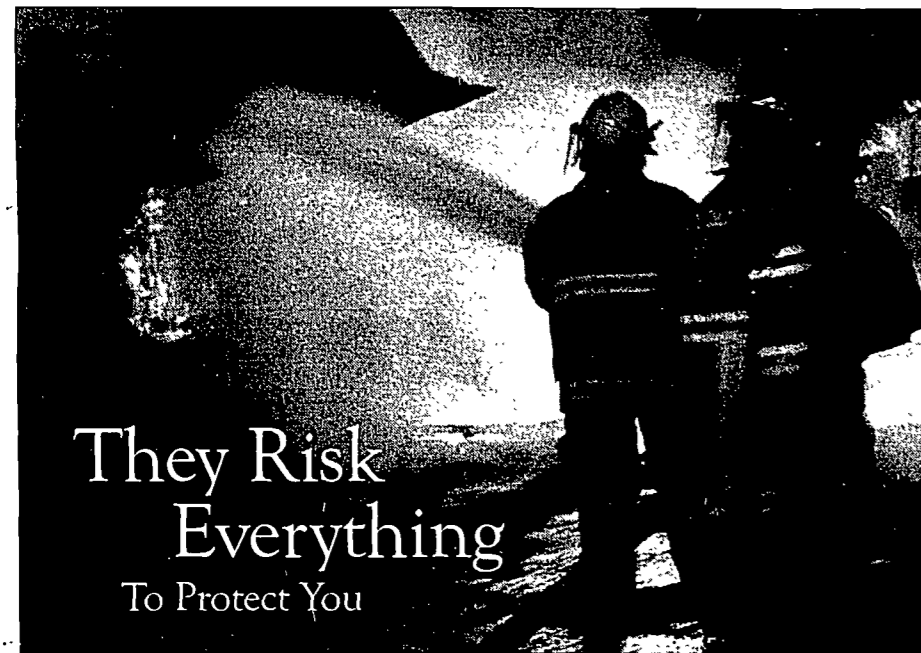
Sign a guest book, share memories and send flowers, gifts and charitable contributions online. Visit legacy.pioneerlocal.com for a complete list of Death Notices and In Memoriams

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Answers to Super Crossword

Crossword puzzle grid with answers: RATED ADIOS DIP SKA, OCULAR LACTIC ELI WAS, THRONE TROUBLE WITH, HEN IAGO MRS ARIE, etc.

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RE JUDICIAL SALES
Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602. Tel.No. (312) 476-5500. Refer to File Number 0910836. INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION... Pub: 11/4, 11/11, 11/18/10 (1805546)C

RE JUDICIAL SALES
um residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the subdivisions (9) (1) and (9) (4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act.

RE JUDICIAL SALES
NO RRIDGE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION... Pub: 10/21, 10/28, 11/4/10 (1803289)C

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ASSUMED NAME

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to an Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct of business in the State...

AUCTIONS

Notice of Public Sale to be held at Metro Self Storage Centers, 3366 N Kedzie Chicago, IL 60618. 11/23/2010 begins at 10:00 am. CONDITIONS: All units will be sold to the highest bidder...

AUCTIONS

Notice of Sale. The goods listed below are stored at Storage Today 500 S. 20th Street, Chicago, IL 60606. Will be sold to the highest bidder...

AUCTIONS

b095 Unit 8244 Neil Bornett - boxes, monitor, computer, printer, W. 2006 cherry Bullock-tuton, bedroom turn, misc. items, wine fridge, printer, fax, misc. items...

BID NOTICES

Village of Skokie Notice of Bids for the Village of Skokie will be held on Tuesday, November 23, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. at the Village of Skokie, 60077 West Washington Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077...

LIENS

PUBLIC LIEN That on November 10, a sale will be held at 3:30 p.m. at: Thon's Auto Service & Body 4416-20 N. Kedzie Chicago, IL 60625...

PROBATE

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY PROBATE DIVISION In the matter of the estate of Anastasio Green Deceased Case No. 10 P 6146

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the Planning and Zoning Commission on Tuesday, November 23, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of Park Ridge, Illinois...

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Pioneer Press Classified Auto Dealer Directory

ACURA BOB ROHRMAN'S ARLINGTON ACURA IN PALATINE 1275 W. DUNDEE RD., PALATINE JUST WEST OF RT. 53 ON DUNDEE (847) 991-9000

HYUNDAI LOREN HYUNDAI 1620 WALKERMAN ROAD, GLENVIEW (847) 729-0300 PATRICK HYUNDAI 1020 E. GOLF RD., SCHUMBERG (847) 519-9600

MAZDA PAULY MAZDA 2699 SKOKIE VALLEY ROAD HIGHLAND PARK, IL 847-433-8200 MULLERS WOODFIELD ACURA 1099 WEST HIGGINS ROAD HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL 847-519-9550

NISSAN THE AUDI EXCHANGE 550 SKOKIE VALLEY RD, HIGHLAND PARK (847) 432-5020 CADILLAC ETTLESON CADILLAC-BUICK-PONTIAC-GMC 6150 S. LAGRANGE RD., HOOGLINKS (708) 579-5000

CHEVROLET JENNINGS CHEVROLET 241 WALKERMAN RD, GLENVIEW (847) 729-1000 RAYMOND CHEVROLET 118 W. ROUTE 173 ANTOUCH, IL 60002 (847) 395-3600

CHRYSLER LIBERTY AUTO CITY/ CHRYSLER-JEEP 1000 E. PARK AVE., LIBERTYVILLE (856) 474-4313 DODGE DU PAGE DODGE CHRYSLER-JEEP 800 EAST ROOSEVELT (ONLY 3 MILES WEST OF 355) (866) 388-0387

BUICK RIZZA BUICK 8425 WEST 159TH STREET, TINLEY PARK (708) 429-6000 BREDEMANN CHEVROLET 1401 W. DEMPSTER, PARK RIDGE, IL (847) 655-1466

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property Metro Self Storage Notice is hereby given that the undersigned self storage unit(s) will be sold to a public bidder...

Notice of Public Sale to be held at Metro Self Storage 3859 W. Devon Ave., Lincolnwood, IL 60468. Begins at 10:00 am Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Notice of Public Sale to be held at Metro Self Storage 465 N Des Plaines, Chicago, IL 60654. Begins at 10:00 am Tuesday, November 23, 2010

Notice of Public Sale to be held at Metro Self Storage 5701 W. Ogden Avenue, Cicero, IL 60804. Begins at 10:00 am Tuesday, November 23, 2010

Notice of Public Sale to be held at Metro Self Storage 7540 McCormick Blvd., Skokie, IL 60076. Begins at 10:00 am Tuesday, November 23, 2010

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN RE: The Marriage of Dorislaam Khooda Peltitioner. Answer of Defendant, Respondent.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN RE: The Marriage of Dorislaam Khooda Peltitioner. Answer of Defendant, Respondent.

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF COOK SS. Circuit Court of Cook County, County Clerk, Low

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TO PLACE A HELP WANTED AD IN THE CLASSIFIEDS, CALL 847-998-3400

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(847) 510-5516
BREDEMANN.COM

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1250 W. DIVISION
(800) NEW-LEXUS
WWW.MCGRATHLEXUS.COM

MC GRATH LEXUS OF WESTMONT
470 E. OGDEN AVE.
(800) NEW-LEXUS
WWW.MCGRATHLEXUS.COM

LEXUS OF HIGHLAND PARK
3040 SKOKIE VALLEY ROAD,
HIGHLAND PARK
(847) 432-1900
LEXUSAUTOS.COM

LEXUS OF ORLAND
8300 W. 159TH ST.
(708) 342-6475
WWW.LEXUSOFORLAND.COM

BOB ROHRMAN'S ARLINGTON LEXUS IN PALATINE
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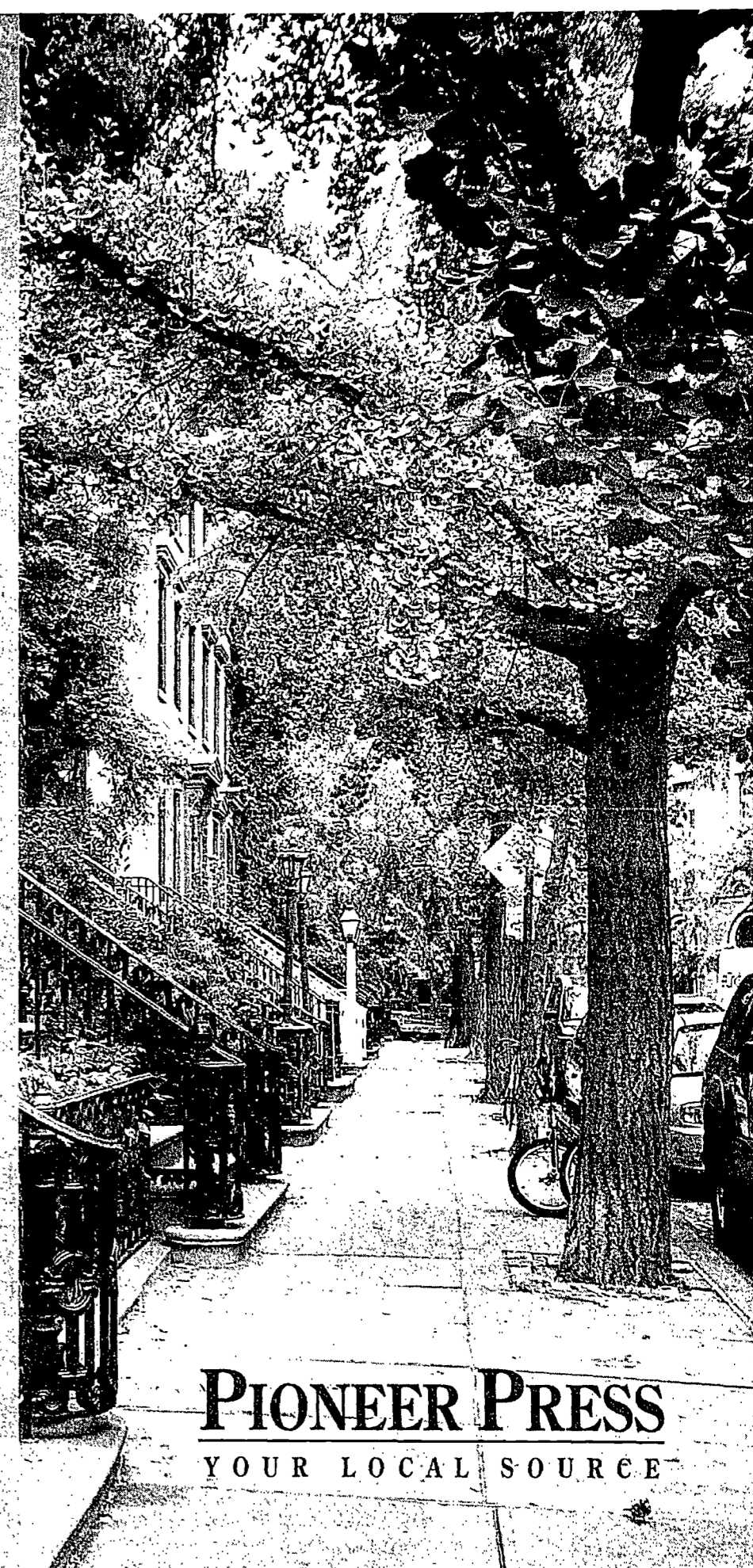
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Schools

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NIL • THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2010

NILES NORTH

Instructor to head state teachers union

By **PAT KROCHMAL**
pkrochmal@pioneerlocal.com

Dan Montgomery, a veteran English teacher at Niles North High School in Skokie, is the new president of the Illinois Federation of Teachers.

Montgomery, who lives in Evanston, won the group's election unanimously by acclamation last month. He requested and received Monday a three-year leave of absence from the Niles Township School district board of education to temporarily trade his teaching duties for the union's leadership.

The Federation represents more than 103,000 teachers and paraprofessionals in kindergarten to

grade 12 school districts throughout Illinois, as well as faculty and staff at the state's community colleges and universities.

"It is going to be very hard for me to leave teaching. I get choked up when I think about it. I have loved every minute of being a teacher. There has never been a day in my life that I haven't been happy and excited to go to work," Montgomery said.

"But it's a very difficult time for all teachers in the U.S. There is a lot of teacher bashing going on and talk about problem teachers. One of my goals is to try to change that public conversation and focus on the good things that we can do for kids. Bashing teachers and bashing teachers' unions

does not help one kid learn anything," Montgomery said.

Montgomery, who grew up in suburban Detroit, Mich., earned a graduate degree at the University of Michigan, then a masters degree in education at Northwestern University.

His first job was working as an English teacher at Niles North, which he has continued to do for the last 17 years.

"When I started here, I shared an office with a well-known union leader, Jim Sweeney, who was also an English teacher, and he got me interested in unions. They were always so professional and so good at what they did that I just kind of got involved," Mont-

gomery said.

Montgomery also taught at the City Colleges of Chicago and Northwestern University. And his teaching expertise earned him a place as a member on the board of directors of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

He has served as president of the North Suburban Teachers Union, Local 1274, for nearly 10 years, and was a vice president on the IPT Executive Board from 2002 until his election to the IPT presidency.

He also has been active at the national level. He currently co-chairs the American Federation of Teachers Kindergarten to Grade 12 Program and Policy Council.

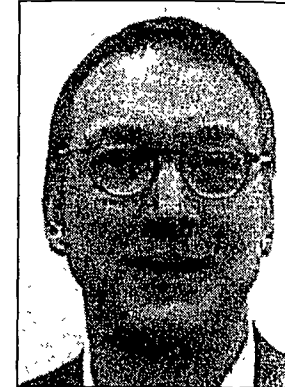
Montgomery is celebrat-

ing his new title with his wife Patti, a professional illustrator; and their children, Elinor, 11; Peter, 9; and James, 6.

Superintendent Nanciann Gatta said she and Montgomery first met 15 years ago, when they were both English teachers. They both worked on campaigns for several local politicians and for school referenda, as well as being active in the union.

"Through all those experiences, I've come to count on Dan. I think we take for granted what that simple phrase means. It means the person has both the character and the competence to help — and a consistency in attitude and response," Gatta said.

She also told Montgomery that she was very proud of



Dan Montgomery

his accomplishments.

"For me, it's not surprising that you have made it to this point. I believe that success is not something you run after, but something you attract by the person you are," she added. "And Dan, this is a huge success!"

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

DISTRICT 219

The Niles West bands, under the direction of William Koch, presented a spooky and spirited fall concert Wednesday in the Auditorium at 5701 Oakton, Skokie.

This free concert featured the Marching Band, Concert Band, Symphonic Band and Symphonic Wind Ensemble. The Concert Band played "Pandora" by Randall Stand-

bridge, an intense work that conjures the story of Pandora's box, "Midnight Escape" by Larry Neeck and "Haunted House" by John Prescott,

with sounds and effects like the soundtrack to a scary movie. The Symphonic Band performed "Ghost Fleet" by Robert Sheldon, "Through Darkened Sleepy Hollow" a piece inspired by Ichabod Crane's chase by the Headless Horseman, and "Thriller" by Michael Jack-

son, arranged by Jay Bocook. The Symphonic Wind Ensemble played "March of the Trolls" by Edvard Grieg, arranged by Brian Beck, "Rondo" from Mozart's "Horn Concerto No. 3 in E-flat," arranged by Robert J. Bardeen, and "The Witch and the Saint" by Steven Reineke. All bands combined with the Marching Band for a rousing performance of "Fiddler on the Roof."

Jacklyn Naughton, a Niles North High School Science teacher, was featured as the Association of Women in Science (AWIS) Chicago Chapter Scientist of the Month for October. The Scientist of the Month honor acknowledges the contributions of an area scientist who has promoted the advancement of women in the fields of science, technology and engineering (STEM). Naughton was nominated for the accolade by former student Marina Viktoria Pazin, an AWIS Chicago staff writer who wrote, "Jacklyn's passion for research is reflected in the curriculum she has developed at Niles North over the past twenty years. As soon as she was hired she began to mandate independent research...." In the fall of 2009 District 219 unveiled state-of-the-art STEM labs had

envisioned. The STEM Inquiry and Research (SIR) course debuting in 2009-10 taught students to develop and test hypotheses in many disciplines and opened up the opportunity to build collaborative relationships with researchers and scientists across the globe. The success of the SIR class is evidenced by the award-winning projects that Naughton's scientists presented at an International Science and Engineering Fair, as well as the "best in category" commendations that were garnered at last year's Illinois Junior Science Academy competition.

Writes Pazin, "Thanks to Jacklyn Naughton, the science experience at Niles North will never be the same."

Stacy (Albrecht) Metoyer, Niles West High School physical welfare teacher, was inducted into the North Park University (NPU) 2010 Hall of Fame at a ceremony held during the school's Homecoming festivities Oct. 2. A total of seven individuals and two North Park Academy teams were honored at the presentation ceremony. Inductees received a plaque of recognition, a North Park Vikings blanket and were acknowledged at half-time during the Homecoming football game.

Metoyer, who graduated from NPU in 2000, was the first multi-sport athlete to earn 12 letters and start in three sports for four years (volleyball, basketball, softball). She was voted NPU's Female Athlete of the Year in 2000. She holds school records that still stand: single game record holder in basketball for steals (8) and record holder for consecutive free throws made (21). Metoyer has been employed as a physical welfare and health teacher at Niles West since 2001. She is also Head Coach of girls' volleyball and Junior Varsity softball coach.

The Illinois Teachers of Bilingual Education will hold a Fall Workshop from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday at Niles North High School, 9800 Lawler Ave., Skokie. The event is organized by Gevik Anbarchian, District 219

English Language Learner teacher and the professional development chair of Illinois Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages Bilingual Education.

The event Plenary is Dr. William Stone, an associate professor in the Teachers of English as a Second Language program at Northwestern Illinois University and his presentation is "If You're Not Having Fun, You're Not Learning."

For more information contact Gevik Anbarchian at prof-develop@tibe.org.

Niles West High School Director of Student Activities Jessica Ogulnik was scheduled to present "Tangoing through Neuroscience" at the 2010 Professional Development Conference for the National Association of Biology Teachers on Nov. 1 in Minneapolis, Minn. Ogulnik, who spent last summer in Buenos Aires, will discuss the research she conducted there as a recipient of the Fulbright Distinguished Teaching Award.

The names of approximately 16,000 semi-finalists in the 56th annual National Merit Scholarship Program were announced recently. Alison Rosenblum from Niles West High School was named as a 2011 Merit Scholarship Semi-finalist. She has the opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,400 Merit Scholarship awards that will be offered next spring. Semi-finalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the finalist level of the competition. About 90 percent of the semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing, and approximately half of the finalists will be awarded a National Merit Scholarship.

Special education teacher Iris Kerbis Cantor of Niles North High School, will give a special presentation along with Beverly Johns, adjunct faculty of MacMurray College at the Illinois Council for Exceptional Children Fall Convention held in Lisle, from Nov. 4-6. The session, titled "Critical Issues Impacting Teachers: Elementary Workload/Class Size, Role Ambiguity, Differentiated Compensation" discusses

SCHOOLS DIGEST

the changing role of the special educator and how state and federal initiatives are impacting the classroom.

All fifth- and sixth-grade girls who want to learn how math and science can make a difference and change the world should register for the Girls Empowered by Math & Science (GEMS) Conference held from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Nov. 6 at Niles West High School, 5701 Oakton, Skokie. The GEMS Conference, Niles West's second annual Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) conference, is open Niles Township resident who are fifth- and sixth-grade girls along with their parents. Girls will attend science/math sessions with fun hands-on activities while their parents will attend sessions on how to prepare their daughter for high school and beyond. The conference is free, but parents must register online by Oct. 29 at

https://sites.google.com/a/d219.org/2010gems. Each girl will receive a bag of science

fun. The keynote presentation will be "Hot Science in Cold Place," a lecture about ANDRILL Antarctica Research. Other session presenters will be from Northwestern University, American Red Cross, American Chemical Society's Polymer Ambassador Program and Koppers, Inc. For questions, contact Ami LeFevre at amilef@d219.org or (847) 626-2771.

English teachers Sharon Swanson and Lisa DeNapoli of Niles West High School have been invited to speak at the Journalism Education Association/National Scholastic Press Association's Fall National High School Journalism Convention will be held Nov. 11-14 in Kansas City, Mo. Swanson and DeNapoli's topic is

"Power+Empower=Success" and they will discuss how the close bonds formed while putting together the school's yearbook enabled them to develop a successful product. Approximately 14 Niles West high school journalists will also attend the

convention.

A revitalized Niles West Debate Team, under the coaching of teachers Eric Oddo and Matt Fahrenbacher, competed in its first tournament of the season at Glenbrook North High School on Oct. 2. Twenty policy debaters from Niles West competed against teams from Glenbrook North, Glenbrook South, Homewood-Flossmoor, Maine East and New Trier. The 2010-11 debate topic is "Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially reduce its military and/or police presence in one or more of the following: South Korea, Japan, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Iraq, Turkey." The tournament was a four-round scrimmage with no elimination rounds and teams only debated one side of the topic (either Affirmative or Negative).

Niles West freshman Kris Trivedi was the ninth-place speaker among all Affirmative debaters in the tournament.

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ST. JOHN BREBEUF SCHOOL

Eighth grade Leadership Day held for 2nd year

For the second year in a row 12 Catholic schools with more than 500 eighth-grade students from the city and surrounding suburbs gathered together for a leadership day.

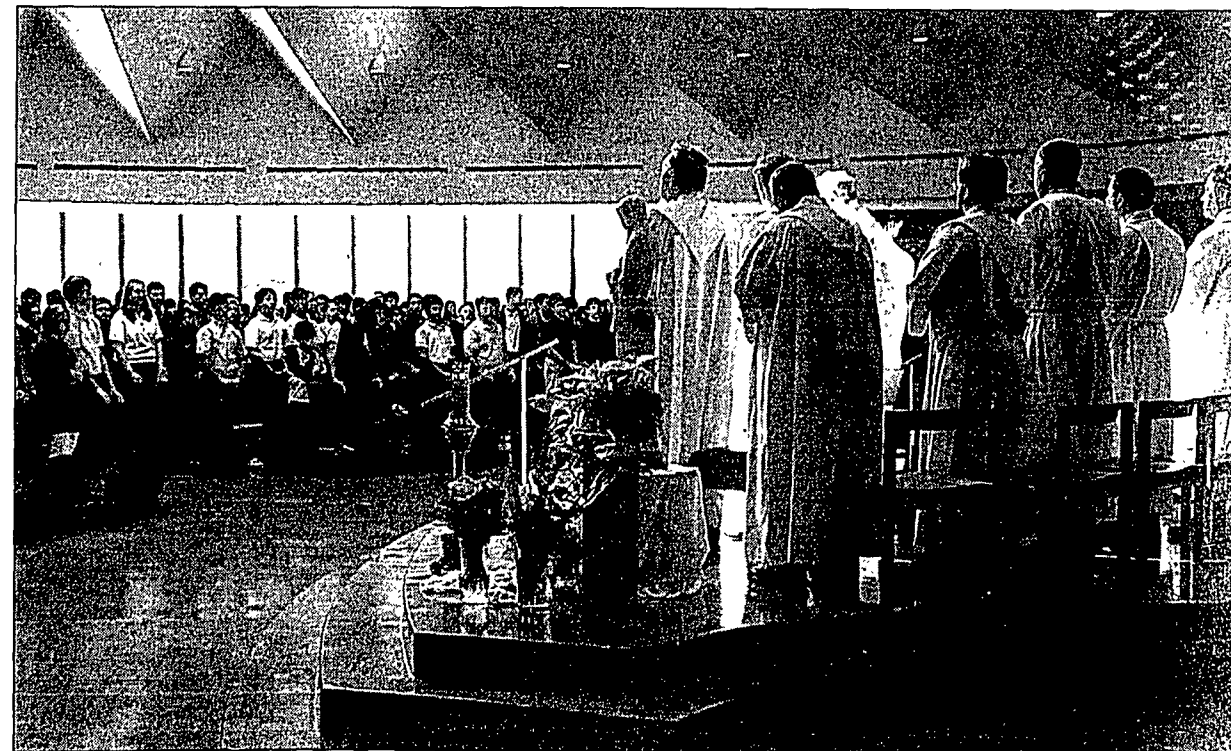
This year's theme was "The Sum is Greater than the Parts."

The morning started off with a prayer. Andi Wadas from the Ronald McDonald House was the guest speaker. She spoke to the students about how the Ronald

McDonald house helps families in need and ways they can help.

After the speaker, participants broke out in smaller groups and discussed how they can go back to their schools and get them involved in helping the Ronald McDonald House.

At the end of the day they attended Mass, which was celebrated by many of the pastors where the children attend school.



For the second year in a row 12 Catholic schools with more than 500 eighth-grade students from the city and surrounding suburbs gathered together for a leadership day. | Contributed photo



Pointers from the master
(From left) Mather culinary staff member Antonio Cyprian gets a few pointers from resident Constance Chang while preparing Sweet-Sour Cabbage. | Eric Davis-for Sun-Times Media

{food}

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THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 4, 2010

All-you-can-eat

CHINESE BUFFET CREATOR CONTINUES TO INSPIRE

By **VERONICA HINKE**
Contributor

For Evanston resident Constance Chang, life's been a smorgasbord experience. Long before globetrotting was as common as it is today, Chang had already sampled distinctly different cultures, living and working in three countries.

Born in Shanghai, she has lived in the United States since 1994, when she moved here with her husband from Tokyo. There she introduced Japan — and ultimately the world — to the wildly popular all-you-can-eat Chinese buffet.

The world's first such spread, an introduction by sampling of Chinese foods like tea-smoked duck, lemon chicken or beef stir fry, debuted in 1959 at Chang's storied Peacock Hall, her restaurant in the Tokyo Hotel. It was among four Chinese eateries through which Chang familiarized foodies with Chinese cuisine during the 42 years she and her husband lived in Japan.

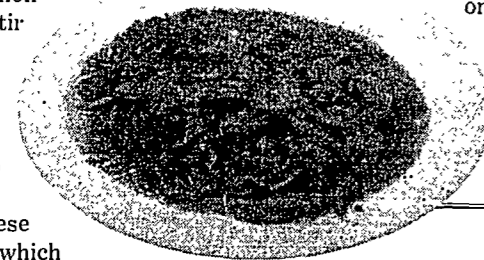
"When we arrived, most people only knew about a few Chinese foods, like spring rolls and sweet-sour pork," she said. Her guests, including Japan's Emperor Hirohito and 100 celebrants from his 60th birthday in 1962, were eager students and helped to popularize Chinese food.

Constance Chang's Shredded Beef with Onion and Green Pepper

- 1/2 lb. beef tenderloin
- 1 large bulb onion
- 3 pieces green bell pepper
- Garlic, to taste
- 8 T oil
- 1 T sake
- 2 T soy sauce
- 1/2 T sugar
- 1/2 T baking powder
- 1 tsp. garlic, minced
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- Ground pepper, to taste

Shred beef, onion and green pepper. Mix 2 tablespoons oil, sake, baking powder, soy sauce, sugar and garlic in large bowl, and marinate beef in mixture for at least 30 minutes.

Heat 3 tablespoons oil in cooking pan. Add salt. Stir-fry onion for 2 minutes. Add peppers and continue to stir-fry. Remove pepper and onion from pan. In same pan, heat 3 tablespoons oil. Add the beef and stir-fry until color changes. Add ground pepper to the beef. Add pepper and onion, and stir-fry until beef is fully cooked.



LEFT: Stir-fry dishes such as Constance Chang's Shredded Beef with Onion and Green Pepper helped popularize the Chinese Buffet. RIGHT: Constance Chang's Sweet-Sour Cabbage is simple to prepare — and healthy. Photos by Eric Davis-for Sun-Times Media

Sake's a must

Chang was, in turn, influenced by Japanese cuisine. She incorporates such regional ingredients as sake into her marinades. "You must have sake," she said, explaining that the flavorful rice wine intensifies taste and removes odors

from beef and fish.

Not on the menu at Chang's Peacock Hall: Fortune cookies, which she clarified as a legendary myth of Chinese cuisine. "We don't have fortune cookies in China," Chang pointed out. "When I came to America and saw them, I thought: 'That's a good idea.'"

Constance Chang's Sweet-Sour Cabbage

- 1/2 head green cabbage
- 3 red bell peppers
- 1 green bell pepper
- 3 T vinegar
- 3 T vegetable oil
- 3 T sugar
- 1 tsp. salt

Shred cabbage and peppers. Heat oil in cooking pan. Add salt. Stir-fry cabbage and peppers. Add vinegar and sugar.



Mather, the continuing care retirement community in Evanston where Chang lives, "She's Japan's Julia Child," referring to Chang's Julia-esque resume, which includes writing cookbooks, establishing a culinary school and, yes, even hosting a cooking TV show in Japan.

Chang, 93, continues to sample new ways to enjoy life: She leads chair aerobics exercise classes every morning, shops her way through Chicago's Chinatown and teams up with fellow Mather residents to play games such as mahjong. She's even been known to step up to the stir-fry pan over a high flame in the kitchen, appropriately clad in bright pink-colored Crocs. "They're comfortable," Chang said of her Mario Batali-like foot gear.

One block from The Mather, there is new evidence of how Chinese cuisine in another kitchen continues to inspire: 527 Café, a sandwich, salad and pasta eatery, opened at 527 Davis Street on Oct. 4.

The Asian infusion menu whimsically mixes teriyaki with guacamole (Salmon Teri Taco); Mongolian marinade with Philly-style cheese steak (Mongolian Cheese Steak) and bok choy with spaghetti pasta (Shrimp Pasta). The Asian-inspired smorgasbord continues to evolve.

Japan's Julia Child

For Chang's friend Jamie Merrell, a facilitator at The

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schools 29

Digest

Continued from PAGE 27

ment (out of approximately 50 Affirmative debaters). Niles West teams that will compete at the New Trier Season Opener next week-end include: **Sarika Malani and Fiona Mohan, Rimsha Baig and Jerry Varghese, Breana Brill and Alyssa Guzman, and Jessie Amgalanjargal and Sana Kahn.** According to Coach Oddo, this is a national varsity tournament and an amazing opportunity for Niles West students to grow as debaters. The Niles West Debate Team includes: **Sarika Malani, Fiona Mohan, Kris Trivedi, Liam Walters, Ari Hoffman, Jonass Placticis, Lia Isono, Amanda Muir, Justin Kang, Art Siriawatt, Breana Brill, Alyssa Guzman, Rimsha Baig, Jerry Varghese, Theo Noparstak, Vinay Patel, Jessie Amgalanjargal, Sana Kahn, Kathy Mirza and Taleen Poladian.**

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Immaculate Conception School on Talcott Avenue in Chicago is celebrating its Centennial this school year and will kick off the celebration in style on Nov. 7. Festivities will commence with a Mass of Thanksgiving at noon in Immaculate Conception Church, 7211 W. Talcott Ave. The celebration will continue with a luncheon at the White Eagle, 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles.

The school originally opened in September 1910 through the efforts of the Rev. Felix Ward, C.P. and Julia Mahoney, its first principal, and the Sisters of Providence, who arrived in 1911.

Today, Immaculate Conception is part of a pilot program to provide Inquiry Based Learning to its students. They are the only school in the Norwood Park area to provide this type of educational experience. Topics such as persuasive writing, the Constitution, weather, space and the Revolutionary War will be explored by the students through trade books, discussion and research. Students in fifth grade have been given iPads with which they will conduct research, take notes and explore relevant educational videos.

Current school families, alumni and friends may purchase tickets for the luncheon by contacting Bernadette Felicione at (773) 775-0545, Ext. 214. Tickets are \$60 for adults, \$50 for seniors and \$15 for children. The event will feature cocktails, lunch and music by various members of the I.C. community. Tickets will not be available on the day of the event.

NOTRE DAME COLLEGE PREP

Notre Dame College Prep will host an Open House for

grammar school boys and their families from 5:30-8:30 p.m. tonight (Nov. 4). The Open House includes personal tours, meeting staff, and learning about curriculum opportunities. Contact LaVerne Bontempo at (847) 779-8615 or lbontempo@nddons.org or visit www.nddons.org. Notre Dame College Prep is at 7655 W. Dempster St., Niles.

The Jugglers Theater Troupe at Notre Dame College Prep will help imaginations fly with their rendition of "Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" performed Nov. 4-7 in the school's Little Theater, 7655 W. Dempster St., Niles. Tickets are \$10 for adults, and \$5 for students/seniors, and are available at the door or by reservation. To reserve tickets, e-mail Drama director Tyler Beattie at tbeattie@nddons.org.

Showtimes for the public are 7 and 9 p.m. Nov. 5; 2, 7 and 9 p.m. Nov. 6 and 2 and 7 p.m. Nov. 7. Grammar school children will see the performance on Nov. 4.

Notre Dame College Prep invites junior high school boys to Science League Challenges on Nov. 17 and Dec. 1. All of the challenges begin at 4 p.m. in the George Holley Science Center, 7655 W. Dempster St., Niles. The Science League Challenges provide great opportunities for students to show off their scientific knowledge and to learn about science also. For more information or to RSVP, call Paul Tokarz, Director of Enrollment, at (847) 779-8616 or e-mail ptokarz@nddons.org.

REGINA DOMINICAN

Regina Dominican will hold an open house from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday and from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 14. For more information, call Patricia Fuentes, admissions director, at (847) 256-7660 ext. 223.

ST. PATRICK

On Nov. 17 from 6-8 p.m. Saint Patrick High School, 5900 W. Belmont Ave., will host an Open House for prospective students. Other events for prospective eighth-graders include: Shadow Days (Nov. 11, Nov.

30, Dec. 9, Dec. 14 and Jan. 7), and the placement exam (Jan. 8, 2011 at 8 a.m.). Call (773) 282-8844 or e-mail bmcillin@stpatrick.org for more information.

ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS

On Oct. 23, at the St. Ignatius College Prep Scholastic Bowl, The St. Paul of the Cross Academic Team won First Place. They were undefeated through eight rounds of play in a field of 30 Catholic schools from Chicago and the suburbs. Team members include

DeAnna Charkewycz, John Cichon, Liam Healy, Dan Hopkinson, Francis Lagunzad, Alec Munce, Ben Paoletti, Caitlin Riley, Daniel Wonsowicz and Michael Zonzius. The coach and moderator is Anne Hoverson.

TRINITY

Trinity High School, 7574 W. Division St., River Forest, will hold an Open House on Nov. 10. Tours begin at 7 p.m.; last tour is at 8 p.m. Trinity's President, Principal and International Baccalaureate Coordinator will be in

attendance to answer questions and provide information. Find out why the International Baccalaureate Program, the College-Prep Program, Block Scheduling, an exclusive collaboration with Dominican University, and a single-gender environment are just part of what makes Trinity a good choice for a young woman's future.

For more information or to schedule a shadow visit for an eighth-grade girl, call Mary Tansey at (708) 453-9374 or e-mail mtansey@trinityhs.org.

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U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, right, speaks during an economic roundtable with state Sen. John Mulroe at the Motion Picture Mechanics Union hall on Oct. 22. | Suzanne Tennant-Sun-Times Media.

NORWOOD PARK

Durbin talks economics during visit to N.W. Side

By PATRICK BUTLER
pbutter@pioneerlocal.com

U.S. Sen. Richard Durbin stopped here long enough to discuss grassroots economics, endorse State Sen. John Mulroe, D-10th and stress the importance of voting in what he called a "crucial" the past Tuesday's election.

"Sometimes off-year elections are just as important as a presidential election, and this is one of them," Durbin told about 50 local residents and Democratic party volunteers during an Oct. 22 pep talk at the Motion Picture Studio Mechan-

ics Local 476, 6309 N. Northwest Highway, in Chicago's Norwood Park community.

Without enough Democratic and progressive Republican votes in Congress, a bill extending credit to small businesses would never have reached President Barack Obama's desk recently, Durbin said.

"We're taking \$30 billion originally destined for Wall Street and redirecting it to community and local banks to be leveraged into \$300 billion in local loans," Durbin said.

Though the Obama-initiated bill had the support of the U.S. Chamber of Com-

merce and the National Federation of Independent Businesses, which Durbin described as "two very conservative groups," the measure would never have passed if one Republican hadn't tired of all the infighting and cast the one vote it still needed for passage.

Durbin said it was just the kind of bipartisan cooperation Mulroe said he hopes to bring to Springfield.

"We need to stop the blame game that's been going on. The work's not getting done," said the former state's attorney's prosecutor.

During a Q-and-A session Durbin and Mulroe fielded

concerns ranging from the outsourcing of jobs overseas to the future of Social Security.

Durbin said he finds it "frustrating to go into store after store and not find anything marked 'Made in USA,'" and said Congress itself is partly to blame.

"We're giving tax incentives to companies to move to China. What's wrong with this picture?," Durbin said.

He noted that "fewer and fewer people have company pensions. Now some people want to privatize Social Security. Can you imagine what would have happened to people if we had privatized Social Security three

years ago. People's checks would have been cut by 30 percent," as the market collapsed.

Durbin said he'd also like to change the bankruptcy law that allows a court to help a bankruptcy petitioner to save his summer home, but not his primary residence.

"There's no rationale for it. It's just the law," he explained.

He added that bankruptcy reform is in the interests of the banks as well as the public.

"Foreclosures are an expensive loss for banks, about \$50,000. And bankers aren't very good at cutting

grass. Property often goes downhill when it's in bankruptcy," he said.

At or near the top of Mulroe's list of concerns are what he considers the sorry state of education funding in Illinois.

"As a state we're doing a very poor job of funding education," he said. "And without a strong education program, we're doomed."

Mulroe said he's been seeing his share of people who are increasingly frustrated and angry.

"I tell them I understand. That's why I got involved in politics in the first place," he said.

Working the four corners of indecision

By IRV LEAVITT
ileavitt@pioneerlocal.com

Somewhere in your town, there's probably an old-timer who may be the only thing between your kid and The Great Nevermind.

Walt Welninski, 70, the retiree who tried to teach me how to be a crossing guard, looked down on me from all of his 6-foot-3 and made sure I understood my duty.

If a car looks like it has a kid's number on it, "You step in front of that car to save that kid."

Fortuitously, my day last month crossing Prospect School kids at Norfolk and Prospect in Clarendon Hills did not involve throwing myself in front of any bumpers to save a member of Generation Z. Everybody survived; otherwise, you would have read about this sooner.

Today, when so many kids are driven everywhere as if their feet are made of pudding, dozens walk to Prospect School, many with their mothers. About half the kids look up and say, "Thank you, Mr. W" as they cross a street.

They did the same thing for me. Thank you, thank you, thank you. It got embarrassing after a while.

"No, thank YOU," I answered one cadre of kids. "Thank you for thanking me."

(I didn't get any laughs. No George Carlin fans here.)

They are all very well trained. They wait for you to cross them at a line painted on the sidewalk about 8 feet back of the curb.

Welninski told me that's where I should wait, too, when there are no kids. If you wait near the curb, drivers see you and stop for no reason, because they think you're going to do something.

It's bad enough as it is, Welninski said. Drivers "don't understand the rules of the road at a four-way stop."

Key rules: Pedestrians always have the right of way. Those drivers arriving first get to proceed first, if possible. If two got there at once, the driver on the right goes first.

"I call it The Four Corners of Indecision," Welninski said.

"There's a temptation to go out there and direct traffic," Clarendon Hills Police Sgt. Ric Talerico told me. "Don't do that."

So how do you stop the cars from driving over you like a big speed bump? As soon as they stop at the stop sign, you walk to the middle of the street with your own stop sign up. In my one-day experience, that always worked.

You also have to keep the cars from making a right or left turn into your clutch of kids. Eventually, I did that the same way a shortstop keeps a runner from scoring while he throws to first: Just as he "looks the runner back" to third, I looked the driver back to the stop line.

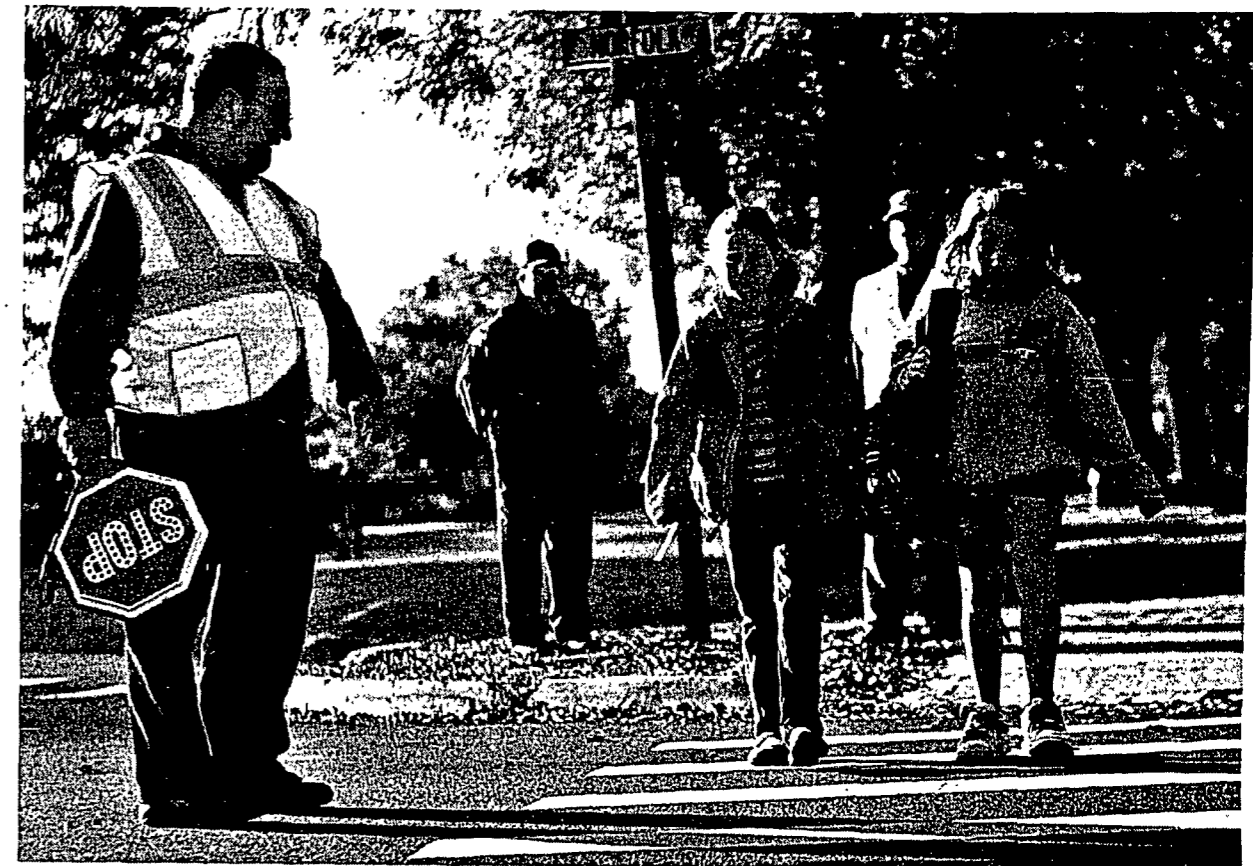
Very few drivers display bad citizenship at Welninski's crossing, because there's usually a cop parked in sight for the 15 minutes or so he's out there.

"If there's nothing else going on, that's a good place for (an officer) to be," said Chief Patrick Anderson, former head of the Deerfield Department. "It does keep everybody on their best behavior."

When all the kids were safely in school at 8:45, I accepted Anderson's offer to use his station's roll-call room, where I worked on Pioneer's Suburboddy funny-news column.

I have always found it difficult to be funny in a police station, however.

After we finished crossing a dozen kids going home for lunch at 11:35, Welninski led



Pioneer Press' Irv Leavitt, crossing school kids at the corner of Prospect and Norfolk avenues in Clarendon Hills, has put his sign down in the absence of cars, but he should probably be less confident and keep it up. | Tamara Bell-Sun-Times Media



A Pioneer Press reporter tries someone else's job for a day
PLACE: Prospect School, Clarendon Hills
MORE PHOTOS: www.pioneerlocal.com/unemployee

me to his own favorite lunch spot, daughter Katherine Schilder's house, a half block from the corner.

"This is the best part," he said — lunch every day with his grandchildren.

So we all sat down: Sarah, 2; Brian, 7; Ben, 10, and Welninski's son's boy, Andrew, 4.

Then the alarm clock rang signaling noon, and we went back to work.

We finished the lunch walkers at 12:20, and I was free until 3:05. I had made an

appointment to see a guy in Naperville that I hadn't seen in more than 30 years.

It only took 20 minutes to get there. But it took considerably longer to drive back. Traffic! I pulled into a parking space at 3:05 on the dot, with Welninski and the chief, too, watching me.

Then I remembered that my car clock is consistently two minutes slow.

"I knew you'd be here," I lamely told Welninski, who was looking at me darkly. "I knew somebody was respon-

sible."
"You can't ever be late," he said.

The afternoon is a much more perilous time.

In the morning, you can always tell which way the kids are going: They're going to school. They cross one street, and you accompany them around the corner to the second street they have to cross, if applicable.

And they come in dribs and drabs over a 15-minute span.

In the afternoon, they all leave the school at once, and they want to go home. Now I crossed some in one direction, and thought, now which way are they going? I don't know where they live. And now there's a bunch waiting on that other corner. And the one I just left. And the other one!

But the kids are calm, the parents are calmer, and they're all behind the stop lines. And Welninski is out there, too.

We split the crossing up, flowing in and out of each

other's territory.

I think I could have done it alone; Welninski certainly could have. In fact, Anderson told me, Welninski can handle it all from one point, by directing the kids with voice and motions.

I crossed my last couple of kids, turned my back and walked across the street.

"Hey," Welninski said. "Behind you." I saw a young woman with a stroller with a kid of about 8, and he was pushing an empty stroller. They were both crossing the street because they thought I still had the traffic stopped. I didn't.

I ran back into the street with my sign in the air. I don't think they noticed that I almost failed them.

A few minutes later, one last kid appeared on a corner, one where Anderson was alone. The 6-year-old looked up at the chief of police and decided not to move.

Mr. W came up, and he crossed the street.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

Calendar

Continued from PAGE 31

and 5 and entitled The Christmas Star, will feature Harlan's Christmas Canticle, accompanied by a string quartet, as well as carols and hymns of advent and Christmas by Bach and Lauridsen. The Spring Concert, to be presented March 26 is under the title Praise and Triumph. Haydn's "Lord Nelson Mass" will be the featured score. While typically more classical in nature, the Spring Concert also will include pieces from Handel, Mozart and Franck. Members of the Northwest Choral Society Chamber Orchestra with Alan Heatherington as concert-

master will accompany the chorus. The final concert of the season, Celebrate Americana will be held June 4 and 5, with selections from Copeland's "Old American Songs," Gershwin's "Porgy & Bess," and Bernstein's "West Side Story." Season tickets for the three concerts are offered at a discounted price of \$40, for adults and \$33, for students and senior citizens. Single concert tickets are \$18, for adults and \$15, for students and seniors citizens. To order tickets, call (224) 585-9127 or visit www.nwchoralsociety.org. **This year the Maine South Athletic Pass**, entitling bearers to admission to all home football and basketball games (except IHSA games), is available exclusively through the Maine South Athletic Boosters for \$30. See

south.maine207.org, click on Organizations, then Hawk Boosters and then the membership link to obtain a membership/pass application - or call Laurie Kovalcik, membership committee chairperson, at (847) 292-1665 or John Wolf, Booster president at (773) 935-5585 for more information or an application. Consider becoming a member in addition to purchasing the pass for the good and benefit of all Maine South athletics. **Any women interested** in joining the Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care Threshold Singers can contact Kathy Huber at (847) 685-9900. Practices are held on two Thursdays each month starting at 6:45 p.m. in Park Ridge. Threshold Singers are trained to sing in groups of two and three at the bedside of those who are sick and

dying. The songs are generally traditional or simple rounds, chants, lullabies and hymns that can be chosen to respond to musical taste and spiritual direction. Singers go through patient care volunteer training, but there are no auditions; only requirements are a love of music and a desire to serve others. **Avenues Thrift Shoppe** offers great prices and specials on gently used clothing for infants, children and adults, shoes, household items, books and small furniture. On Wednesdays, seniors 60 years and older receive 10 percent off all regularly priced items. The main shop is located at 7710 W. Touhy Ave. in Chicago, and the "boutique" shop at 7700 Touhy Ave. features upscale clothing, outerwear, collectibles and finer merchandise. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays and 1-8 p.m. Thursdays. Donations are accepted 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays only. Donate only gently used clothing; broken or obsolete electronics cannot be accepted. Purchases help adults with developmental disabilities. Avenues to Independence is a nonprofit organization based at 515 Busse Highway in Park Ridge that offers a variety of programs to enhance an individual's work, social, and daily living skills. For information on donations or to volunteer, contact Michael Frustini, (773) 631-6230.

Crafts

St. Mary of Providence, 4200 N. Austin Ave., Chicago, presents a Craft Faire from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 6 and 7. Crafts, vendors, food and bakery goods. Free admission. Call (773) 545-8300. **St. Paul Lutheran Church and School**, 5650 N. Canfield Ave., Chicago, will host its annual Holiday Vendor and Craft Fair from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Nov. 13 in the school gymnasium. The event will feature holiday craft and decorations, candles, homemade papercrafts, pillows, blankets, Tupperware, Tastefully Simple, PartyLite, jewelry, toys, White Elephant Table, homemade baked goods and more. Food and refreshments will be available throughout the day for purchase. View www.stpaulcanfield.org for details or call (708) 867-5044. **The Ladies Philoptochos Society** of the St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church, 7373 N. Caldwell Ave. in Niles, slates "The Spirit of Christmas is Love" Bazaar and Holiday Bake Sale Nov. 19 and 20. Hours are 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday. The bazaar will feature Christmas treasures, crafts, gifts, floral arrangements, CDs, jewelry, raffle, a Coffee Shop, and homemade Greek pastries. A special visitor from the North Pole comes from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. (for a Christmas photo). The Bake Shop will feature Greek Pastries, such as Baklava, Diples, Kataifi, Galaktoboureko, Kourambietes and Melomakarouna. Lunch will be served both days from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., and dinner will be served Friday only from 5:30-9 p.m. Call ahead to place a pastry order and it will be ready for pick up. There is no admission and plenty of free parking. Contact the church office, (847) 647-8880.

Resurrection College Prep High School, 7500 W. Talcott Ave., Chicago, will host its annual Arts & Craft Fair from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 13. Get in the holiday spirit while shopping for unique hand-crafted gifts, seasonal and holiday items, housewares, jewelry and tasty treats. Admission is \$3 for adults; \$1 for seniors; children under 10 are free. Call (773) 775-6616, Ext. 129, or go to www.resprep.org. **St. Thecla Woman's Council** annual Craft and Gift Show takes place from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 13 in Falcon Hall, 6725 W. Devon Ave., Chicago. Handmade crafts and jewelry, vendors representing Avon, Tastefully Simple, Thomas the Tank Engine, and others will be featured. Entertainment Books will be available for purchase; snack bar, hourly raffles and bake sale. Call Bernie, (773) 774-6897, or Terri, (773) 631-0215. **The Norwood Park Historical Society** will host Victoria's Holiday Craft Boutique and Café at the Noble-Seymour-Crippen House at 5624 N. Newark Ave., Chicago, Dec. 2 to 5. Hours are: 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday and Friday plus 7-10 p.m. Friday, Special Girls' Night P.J. shopping party; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. There is a \$1 admission fee; participants in the society's Dec. 4 Holiday House Tour will be admitted at no extra charge with their tour ticket. The Holiday Café will serve soup, sandwiches, and other lunch fare, homemade desserts and pastries and hot and cold drinks. Call (773) 631-4633 or e-mail info@norwoodparkhistoricalsociety.org. **Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Women's Club** Queen of Peace Guild will hold its annual Holiday Craft and Bake Sale Nov. 6 and 7 in Paluch Hall (elevator accessible), 8300 Greenwood Ave., Niles. Hours are 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday. There will be a variety of handmade crafts, ornaments, wreaths, afghans, baby knit quilts, dolls, baby knit sets, home decorations, jewelry and more plus a grand raffle, bake sale, a turkey booth, Christmas stocking tree and a candy guessing jar for added chances at gifts and items. Coffee and rolls will be served. A luncheon menu will be available. Free admission. Proceeds benefit the parish. Call the Ministry Center, (847) 823-2550. **St. John Brebeuf's Catholic Women's Club** will hold its annual Holiday Craft Fair 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Nov. 14 in the May Parish Ministry Center, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles. Any crafter wishing to receive an application may call Judi Stephens, (847) 296-6421.

Fitness Center

Niles Family Fitness Center, 987 Civic Center Dr. Niles, (847) 588-8400 or www.nilesfitness.com. **Niles Family Fitness Center** offers Lil' Pilgrim Party for ages 1 to 5 from 10-11 a.m. Nov. 23. Parents and children are invited for a special Thanksgiving celebration with crafts, games and more. Cost is \$10, members; \$12, nonmembers. **Parent Tot Yoga**, ages 2-5, is offered from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Fridays, Nov. 5 to Dec. 17; \$36, members; \$46, nonmembers. Youth Yoga, ages 5-9, runs from 4:15-5 p.m. Thursdays, Nov. 4 to Dec. 16; \$36, members; \$46, nonmembers.

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Mike Ippjan and the Niles Family Fitness Center present a highly instructional, highly competitive basketball program, Elite Instruction Basketball, for ages 7 to 11. It will run from 4:45-6:15 p.m. Tuesdays, Nov. 9 to Dec. 14. Focus is to enhance knowledge and performance while providing an opportunity for players to compete. Players will participate in 1 on 1, 3 on 3, and 5 on 5 tournaments, as well as various jumping and shooting competitions. Fees are \$99, members; \$115, nonmembers and includes a T-shirt. **Pilates Exo Chair** is a semi-private two-person class. *Exo Chair Express* is a 30-minute semi-private class providing a challenge to take on chair exercises and enhance mat exercises on the exo chair for an ab blasting, stability challenging workout. (Mat experience recommended). *Core Blast Express* is a 30-minute semi-private class focusing on challenging core musculature. *Exo Chair Express* is conducted 10:15-10:45 Mondays, 6-6:30 p.m. Wednesdays or 8:15-8:45 a.m. Thursdays; *Core Blast Express* is held 7:45-8:15 p.m. Wednesdays. Cost is \$114, members; \$119, nonmembers. **Pilates Reformer** Class options: Private Pilates Mat Training; Private Pilates Reformer and Chair Training; Pilates Individual Reformer and Chair Training, half session; Pilates Reformer and Chair, semi-private. To schedule an appointment, call Group Exercise Coordinator Danielle Desherow at (847) 588-8410. **Fall swim lessons** for ages 3 months to 13 years run six weeks and each lesson lasts 35 minutes. Bring a towel from home. Group lessons are \$54, members; \$69, nonmembers.

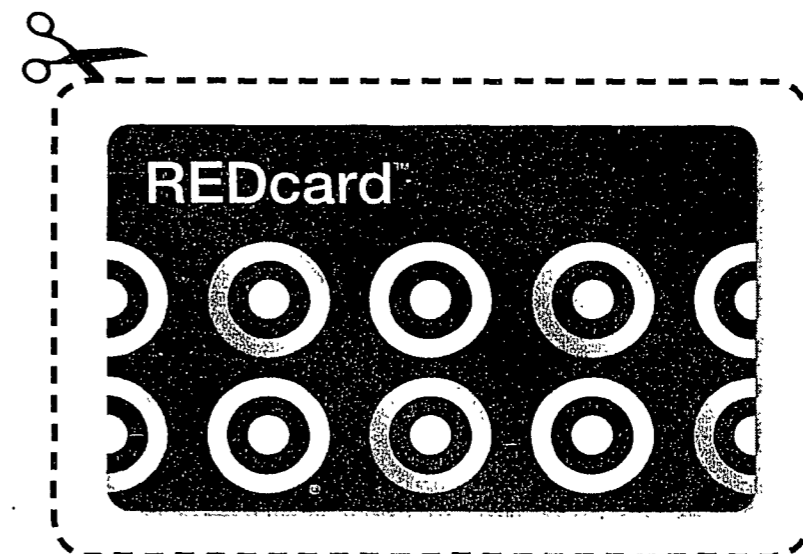
Food Drives

The Maine Township Food Pantry is in desperate need of nonperishable items, including: canned vegetables, canned fruit, jelly, peanut butter, hamburger/chicken helper, cookies, crackers, spaghetti, rice and snack bars. Items may be dropped off between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Niles Chamber of Commerce office, 8060 W. Oakton St., inside the North Side Community Bank building.

Fundraisers

The St. John Brebeuf Gala Benefit, "Teaming Up for a Better Tomorrow," will be held Nov. 6 in the St. John Brebeuf Parish May Ministry Center, 8305 N. Harlem Ave. Tickets are \$65 per person and include cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, live and silent auctions, live entertainment, and dancing. The \$10,000 Gala Grand Raffle prize will be awarded this evening. Raffle tickets may be purchased for \$25 each or five for \$100 by calling Maureen Polcyn at (847) 583-8821. All proceeds benefit the St. John Brebeuf Parish School. For ticket sales, contact Jackie Ermillo at (773) 677-1177 or Les Seitzinger at (847) 966-6733. **Our Lady of Ransom Parish** in Niles is selling Entertainment 2011 Books at \$25. The book offers a variety of values, mainly two-for-one deals at many restaurants and establishments. Discounts cover a variety of areas: travel, restaurants, car rentals, movie the-

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Calendar

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aters, hotel discounts and more. The sale of these books benefits the parish. To obtain a book, contact Josephine Box at (847) 823-8984. **Like New Auto Spa, Inc.**, 1050 Busse Highway, Park Ridge, has introduced a special fund-raising program that benefits Advocate Lutheran General Hospital/Advocate Lutheran General Children's Hospital. Anyone who visits Like New to have their car washed or detailed, or buys a gift card from the company - and also asks for the Lutheran General discount - will receive a price cut for the service, with a portion of the proceeds going specifically to benefit the Older Adult Services program of the hospital. Call AlMee Madden, Lutheran General Development Office, (847) 723-8518; Steve Radakovic at Like New Auto Spa, (847) 823-9274; or visit www.likenewautospa.com. The fundraising program is featured on the homepage with a link to a more detailed flyer containing the discount and donation matrix. This offer is not valid with an outside wash only, or any other promotion/program.

Health
Individuals can take advantage of free, confidential memory screenings and educational materials sponsored by Senior Helpers of Niles-Lincolnwood as part of National Memory Screening Day, an annual initiative of the Alzheimer's Foundation of America, to promote proper detection of memory problems from noon-2 p.m. Nov. 16 at the Levy Senior Center, 300 Dodge Ave., Evanston. No charge. Call (847) 679-7900.

The District 63 Health and Wellness Fair takes place from 6:30-8 p.m. Nov. 4 at Washington Elementary School, 2710 Golf Road, Glenview. The district has invited local businesses, professionals, teachers and volunteers to give health and fitness demonstrations and presentations. Highlights will include: helmets on sale; Walgreen's will provide flu shots - call (847) 657-9863 for pre-registration; presentations on home fire safety/prevention, dental hygiene, dance classes, how to find reliable health information on the Internet, autism awareness and education and more.

Women age 35 and older are invited to participate in a national research study of the Hologic, Inc. tomosynthesis 3-D mammography system. The study is conducted at the Advocate Lutheran General Center for Advanced Care, 1700 Luther Lane, on the campus of Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge. This is the only site in the Chicagoland area selected to conduct this multicenter clinical trial. The principal investigator for the study at this site is Dr. Sarah Friedewald, section chief, breast imaging and co-medical director of the Caldwell Breast Center at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital. The study is being done to see how breast tomosynthesis mammography, a 3-D imaging exam, compares to a conven-

tional digital 2-D mammography exam. Women ages 35 and older who are planning to have a routine mammogram may be eligible to participate in this research study. Participants will have additional 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional views taken of the breast. The study will take about 15-30 minutes, which includes the time it takes to read and complete a consent form. If interested in participating in the research study, call HealthAdvisor, 1-800-323-8622 and mention Code 8W35. There is no cost to study participants.

Pediatric developmental screenings offered at no cost. LYNX Therapeutics, 9436 Ozark Ave., Morton Grove, provides specialized occupational therapy services and learning instruction programs to children with physical, social, emotional, and learning difficulties. Contact: Ingrid Kenron at (847) 791-1631 or (847) 966-1505.

A local dialysis clinic, Fresenius Medical Care Niles, 9371 N. Milwaukee Ave., has started a new night-time program for dialysis patients. The new service allows patients to receive treatments in the clinic at night, for eight hours, while sleeping or resting, usually three times a week. In addition to having their days free for other activities, patients often report having more energy and better dialysis results. Medicare-certified Fresenius Medical Care Niles is now accepting new dialysis patients. Call (847) 581-0334.

Senior Advocate of Advocate Lutheran General Hospital offers free blood-pressure screenings 10 a.m.-noon on the first Wednesday of every month at the hospital's Patient Resource Center, 8820 W. Dempster St., Niles (across from the hospital). No appointment is necessary. Call (847) 723-7277.

Historical Society
The Niles Historical Society, 8970 Milwaukee Ave., is hosting another High Tea to celebrate its new look from 2-4 p.m. Nov. 7 and 14. As usual, hats and gloves are requested. Seating is very limited and tickets are available by calling (847) 390-0160 or contacting any member of the historical society.

Kids
The Twenty-First Star Chapter of NSDAR (National Society Daughters of the American Revolution) is looking for students to compete in this year's annual American History Essay Contest. All fifth- through eighth-grade students in a public, private, or parochial school, and those who are home schooled are eligible. This contest is conducted without regard to race, religion, sex, or national origin. Topic for 2010-11 is "Memoirs of Paul Revere" in celebration of the 275th anniversary of the birth of Paul Revere. (Pretend you are Paul Revere writing your memoirs; relate various accomplishments for which you wish to be remembered in the annals of American History.) One essay at each grade level is selected as the chapter winner and forwarded to the district American History chairman for further competition. Judging will be based on historical accuracy, adherence to topic, organization of materi-

al, interest, originality, spelling, grammar, punctuation and neatness. (Pictures, maps, drawings, graphics and other such additions will not be considered in judging and should not be included.) Deadline for submission is Dec. 1. Contact Twenty-first Star Chapter Historian Nancy Meyer at (847) 824-1150 or nwmeyerinv@aol.com for specific guidelines for this year's contest.

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.
Youth programs on a drop-in basis - *Babytime*. 11 a.m. Mondays, for babies age 2 and under. Continuous year-round drop-in program for children with an adult. Includes stories, songs, fingerplays and extended playtime afterward. *Rise & Shine Storytime*: 10 a.m. Thursdays, ages 2-6 with caregiver, enjoy stories, songs and more.

Maine Township
Maine Township's FISH (Friends Indeed Serve and Help) is in need of volunteer drivers to provide residents free transportation to medical facilities in and near Maine Township. Volunteers may choose how much time they wish to devote. Requirements include a current drivers license and proof of auto insurance. The program requires residents in need be mobile, or be able to use a cane or walker. FISH also asks that appointments be set three or more days in advance. To become a volunteer driver call Ed Oken, (847) 696-0761. To schedule a ride or for information call FISH coordinator Gloria Stepek, (847) 297-2510, Ext. 283.

Parenting
"What's a Parent to Do?" The Facts About Teen Drug and Alcohol Use," a free parent seminar, will be held from 7-9 p.m. Nov. 4 at Maine Township Hall, 1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge. Guest speaker is Dr. James Guidi, licensed psychologist and CEO of the Youth Campus in Park Ridge. Also highlighted will be "Stay Out of My Room!" - step inside a typical teen's bedroom and look for clues of alcohol or drug use, hidden in plain sight. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. This seminar is sponsored by the Maine Community Youth Assistance Foundation. Registration is requested by calling (847) 297-2510 x271 or go to www.maine-township.com/services/mainestay.com/munityeducation/teendruguse.shtml.

Parks
Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation offers people with physical and mental challenges, behavior and learning disorders, hearing and visual impairments and emotional disabilities an opportunity to enjoy a variety of recreation activities. MNASR serves Des Plaines, Golf-Maine, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Niles, Park Ridge and Skokie. To receive a seasonal brochure, or to offer support for people with special needs by volunteering, call (847) 966-5522.

Calendar, PAGE 38

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Meyer, ND humbled by Maine South

Dons drop sixth straight playoff game

By MATT HARNESSE
mharnesse@pioneerlocal.com

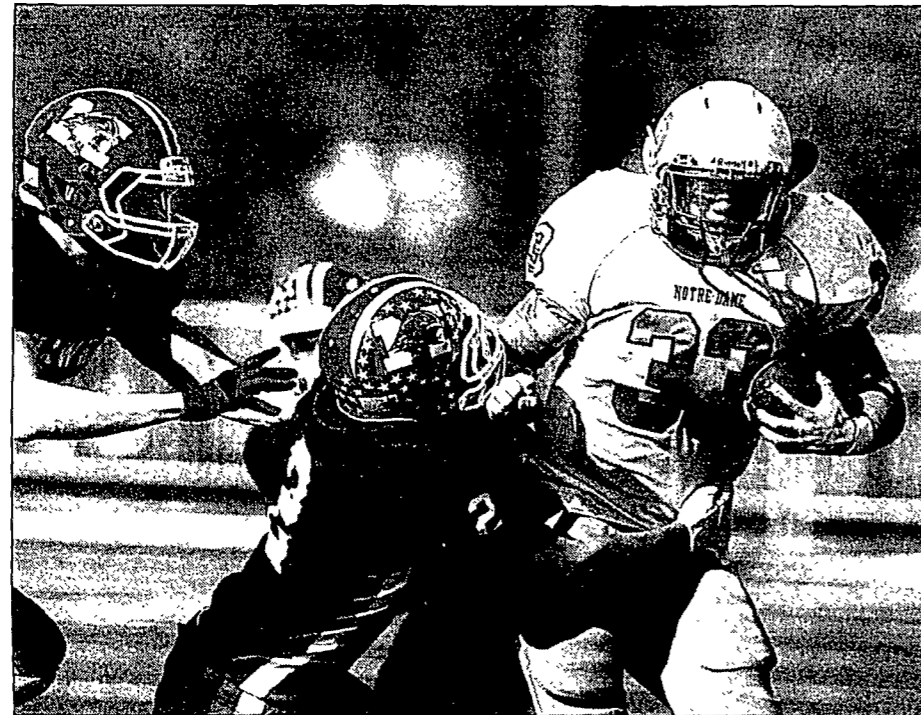
FOOTBALL — Jack Meyer lost his neighborhood bragging rights on Saturday.

A 47-0 loss to Maine South, his hometown school, will do that.

Meyer lives in Park Ridge, but the junior attends Notre Dame. The two schools played for the first time since 2002 in the first round of the IHSA Class 8A playoffs at Maine South.

The two-time defending Class 8A champs scored on their first two possessions and led 32-0 at the half. Three Notre Dame turnovers in the first five minutes of the second half left the Dons in a 47-0 hole with 10:03 to go in the third quarter.

"We were feeling pretty good going in," said the junior receiver, who attended St. Paul of the Cross prior to Notre Dame.



Notre Dame running back Jeremy Burgos (33) tries to slip the tackle of Maine South John Ferro, with Hawk teammate Doug Rogers closing quickly, Saturday during Maine South's Class 8A playoff victory. | Kevin Tanaka-for Sun-Times Media

"We had a good week of preparation. This is pretty difficult. At least I know I have next season."

Meyer caught three passes for 26 yards.

No part of Notre Dame's offense worked against the hard-hitting Hawks, who

won for the eighth time in a row.

The Dons, who ended their season at 5-5 following three consecutive defeats, managed only 150 yards of offense. The closest they got to scoring in the first half came after

quarterback Tom Whalen's 29-yard pass to Brian Fitzsimmons to Maine South's 14-yard line.

Whalen finished 8-for-19 passing for 76 yards with an interception that was returned 36 yards for a TD in the second half.



Notre Dame's Connor Thomas (5) knocks the ball loose from Maine South's Jimmy Frankos. | Kevin Tanaka-for Sun-Times Media

ND's running game wasn't any better. Six runners totaled 74 yards.

Jeremy Burgos, whose brother Julian was a star running back for the Dons in 2009, led the backfield with 33 yards on six carries. Connor Thomas ran eight times for 16 yards.

"A lot of good stuff happens when Connor gets the ball," said Meyer, who played football with several of Maine South's juniors on the Park Ridge Falcons

during seventh grade. "We weren't able to get it to him enough."

Notre Dame extended its streak of first-round play-off losses in the to six. The Dons haven't won a play-off game since 1998.

"I didn't think they ran anything special," Meyer said of the Hawks, who have won 36 of 38 games over the last three seasons. "They are a beatable team."

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

Bastian represents Dons at Niles West Sectional

By DAN SHALIN
dshalin@pioneerlocal.com

CROSS COUNTRY — Notre Dame's Andy Bastian started out well, but couldn't maintain his pace during Saturday's IHSA Class 3A Niles West Sectional.

"The gun went off and I tried to go out fast and stay with the front pack," Bastian said. "But the (last) two miles, I just couldn't stay with it."

The senior ended up finishing in 17:54.74 and, even though he was a disappointed with his time, Bastian still was pleased with his accomplishments this fall, which included representing ND on Saturday.

"I didn't do as well as I thought I would do. But overall, I'm pretty satisfied with the season," Bastian said.

"It was a great way to end senior year. I never expected to be at sectionals this year. It was a great feeling."

Bastian said competing in sectionals felt odd because he ran without his teammates for the first time.

"It was different. They were (on the sidelines) cheering me on, at least. I had that to look forward to," said Bastian, who trained for the meet with classmates Tim Curley, Todd Brady and Matt Sommers.

He considered himself fortunate because he was not affected by the illnesses and injuries that afflicted many teammates this fall.

"There were people sick this year with pneumonia. Brady hurt his hip. Everyone was getting hurt this year," he said. "I was lucky not

to have anything bad happen to me."

Dating back to last year, Notre Dame head coach Mike Jankowski has raved about the camaraderie on his team. Bastian also saw the squad's cohesion.

"We just love each other. We get along so well and have fun together," Bastian said. "It makes it a lot easier to train when you really like everybody on your team and have such a great time (training) with them."

Bastian's prep running career has one more chapter and he's looking forward to track season in the spring.

"I've run 10:30 in the 3200, and my goal is to run a sub-10," he said. "I want to run a 5:30 in the 1600. Hopefully, I can get that done if I train hard over the winter."



Notre Dame senior Andy Bastian finishes the Niles West Sectional in 17:54.74. | Jerry Dallegre-for Sun-Times Media

West rookie Omar makes State in first try

Teammate Julien narrowly misses cut

By DAN SHALIN
dshalin@pioneerlocal.com

CROSS COUNTRY — On the eve of Saturday's IHSA Class 3A Niles West Sectional, Niles West boys head coach Vachee Loughran mentioned to juniors Neal Omar and Marc Julien that each had a chance to reach State. However, the coach reassured the runners that if they didn't make it this year, there would always be next year.

Omar was having none of it. Though competing in just his first year of cross country, the junior insisted that he would, in fact, run at State this year.

He backed up those words, placing 25th in 15:50.27 to grab one of the final spots for runners from non-qualifying teams.

"Unbelievable," Loughran said. "He's just gotten progressively better and better. He's such an unbelievable competitor and he sees a race as an opportunity to beat people, and that's how he goes out and does it."

Julien (31st, 15:57.88) narrowly missed on his bid, but played an important role as a pace-setter for Omar. The two ran together before Omar, who also qualified for the state track meet in the 800-meter run last spring, started his push.

"The first lap I was working with Marc and I got out in 5:12," Omar said. "The second lap we pushed it more and came back in 10:22. The last lap, I knew what was at stake and coach (Loughran) kept telling me guys I had to pass. I just kept kicking as hard as I could."

Niles West has advanced a runner to the State Meet in five straight years: George Davros accom-

plished the feat last year; Alex Zasso each of the two years prior to that; and Ryan Leyba in 2006.

Loughran insisted that after the excitement of sectionals, anything Omar accomplishes Saturday at State, at Detweiller Park in Peoria, would be icing on the cake.

"Just getting there for a kid who never has run cross country, didn't run all summer and really just made it by determination and athleticism ... it's not an easy thing to do, especially out of this sectional," he said. "It just goes to show what an athlete he is."

Omar expects to play basketball this winter but said his success in track and cross country would push him to continue training during the hoops season.

Niles West (281) ended up ninth at the 19-team meet, drawing points from junior David Iverson (72nd, 16:50.24), junior Mas Hoshi (77th, 16:54.07) and senior

Vishal Piryani (93rd, 17:08.11).

Girls

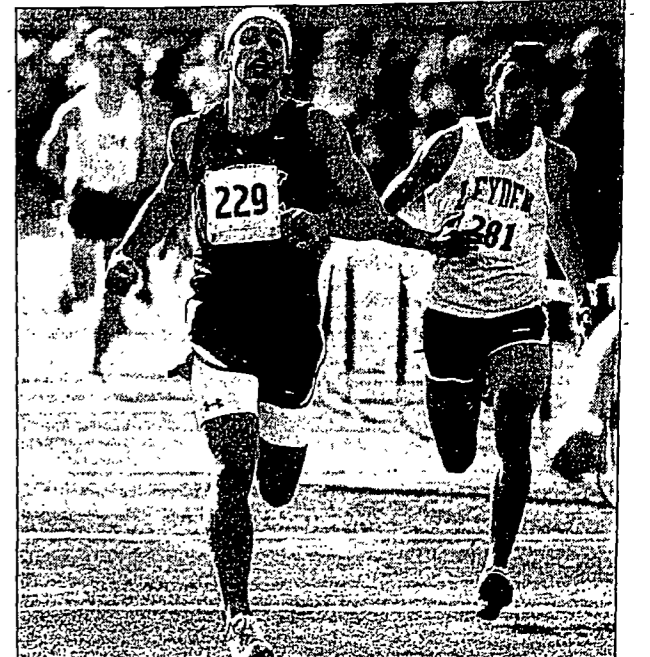
On the girls side, the Wolves (276) finished 10th at Saturday's 18-team sectional.

Sophomore Michelle Karp was West's top finisher, placing 31st (19:09.66). She said she followed head coach Ann Heselton's race plan, though admitted there were areas where she could have improved.

"I felt good during the race, pushing the second mile more. That was the coach's strategy for me. She said, 'Keep pushing the second mile, that's where you want to catch those girls,'" Karp said. "That's what I did, but I guess not as hard as I should have."

Heselton said she's always been pleased by Karp's ability to execute a race plan.

"(Karp) is tough, and she's one athlete who always, when you tell her to do something in a race, she will



Niles West's Neal Omar finishes ahead of Leyden's Fabian Cabrerra at the Niles West Sectional to earn an at-large bid to the State Meet. | Jerry Dallegre-for Sun-Times Media

try and do it regardless of how she's feeling," the coach said. "She actually converts what you're saying into race strategy. I kept pointing out specific girls whom she needed to beat, and she passed them. So, what do you say to that? She works

hard."

Also at the sectional, West junior Annie Goudes finished 55th (20:03.93), sophomore Rachel Bender was 60th (20:10.6), junior Jessica Sutfin placed 64th (20:16) and freshman Taylor Genis came in 89th (20:50.84).

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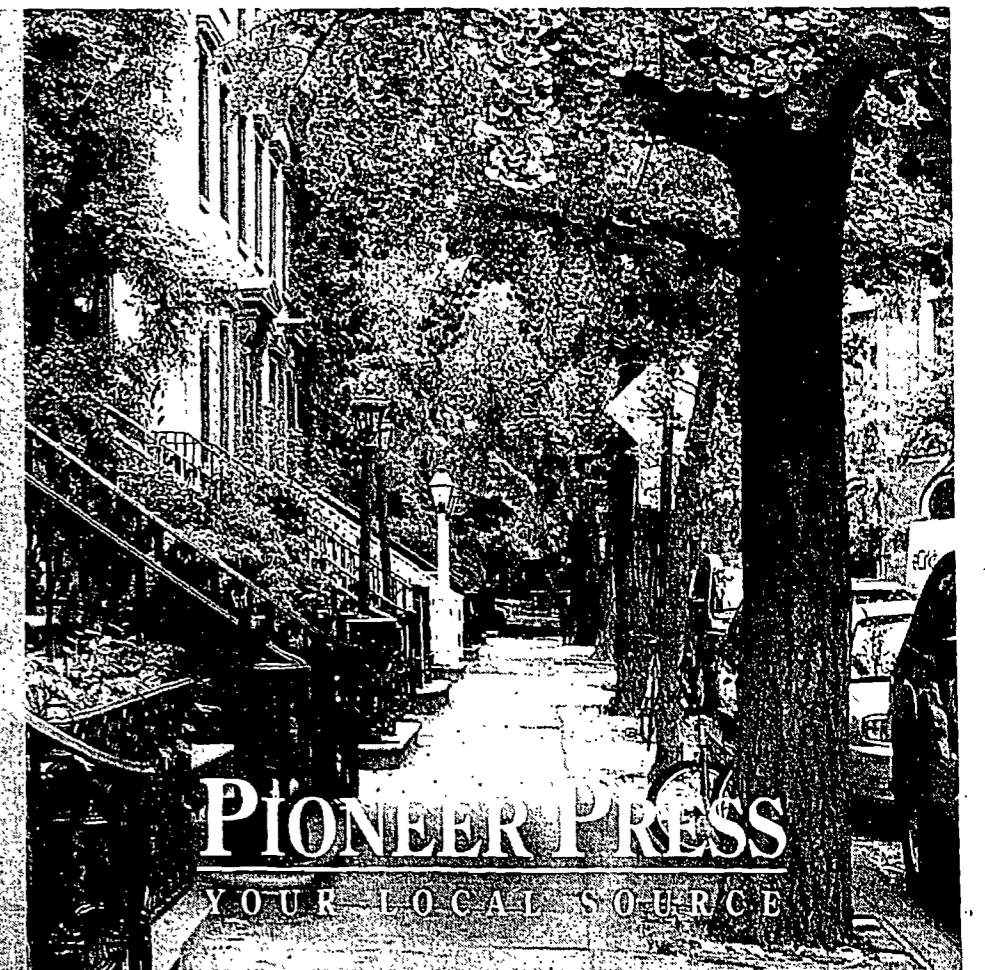
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Papazoglou grabs Vikings' 1st state berth in 8 years

North girls end 5 year sectional drought

By DAN SHALIN
dshalin@pioneerlocal.com

CROSS COUNTRY — After a poor sectional run last fall, Niles North's Kosta Papazoglou enjoyed some redemption when he qualified for the State Meet in track. The Vikings senior then put last year's disappointment firmly in the past with a state-qualifying performance at the Niles West Cross Sectional on Saturday.

Papazoglou posted a time of 15:39 to finish 13th overall and earn the second of five individual spots for the Class 3A State Meet in Peoria on Saturday. Papazoglou became the first Niles North runner to advance for State since Roenen Ben-Ami in 2002.

"I dropped the ball last year. It feels like huge redemption to finish in the top 20 and be the first from Niles North to qualify in eight years. It's awesome," Papazoglou said. "Other than the wind, it was a great day to run. I felt great all week."

Niles North head coach Dan Horyn said he had been concerned after Papazoglou struggled down the stretch during the previous week. But Papazoglou thrived during that portion of the race Saturday.

"(At the regional) he looked kind of broken down in the third mile," Horyn said. "This week, he was 14th or 15th at the two-mile mark, and he found a kick. He had a real nice 800, caught a few guys and finished with authority."

"He looked good, ran with confidence and seemed undaunted by the competition. I think he learned some-



Niles North's Muhammad Chattha places 44th Saturday during the Niles West Sectional. | Jerry Dallegre-for Sun-Times Media



Niles North's Clara Williamson finishes first among Vikings runners at the Niles West Sectional. | Jerry Dallegre-for Sun-Times Media

thing from last week and last year. It helped him to have a great sectional race in track, and it made him feel he could do it in cross here."

Inspired by the strong performance, Papazoglou is setting his sights high for

him next week, especially knowing the quality of the sectional and beating a couple of guys who beat him (at the regional)," Horyn said. "All-state is his goal and it's my goal for him as well."

Niles North finished seventh at the sectional (236 points) behind sixth-place Maine South (183). The top five teams advanced Downstate.

North senior Muhammad Chattha capped his career by placing 44th (16:19.26) at Niles West. Sophomore Micah Beller finished 58th (16:35.45), junior Carlilos Rangel came in 65th (16:44.21) and sophomore Justin Suh placed 68th (16:45.61).

Girls

The Vikings (409) finished 15th at the 18-team Niles West Sectional. Head coach Lauren Stump said just advancing out of regionals was reason to celebrate.

"We're happy overall how everyone ran," Stump said. "This is the first time we've made it to sectionals in five years. That was our goal. We're really happy how things went."

The Vikings lose only one of their top-seven runners, another reason for optimism.

Junior rookie Clara Williamson was North's top finisher, coming in 51st (19:49.98).

"Overall, the season was good," Williamson said. "I wasn't too happy with (the sectional). It was windy and my muscles were tight. But I'm just happy about the season. Pretty much each meet, I've lowered my time."

Senior Leah Wesolowski finished 57th (20:07.47), freshman Trinetta Lopez came in 110th (21:24.07), freshman Brenda Vazquez placed 118th (22:06.69) and junior Katherine Belz was 119th (22:07.10).

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

Wolves' season like dust in the wind

Conditions play havoc with game plan

By DAN SHALIN
dshalin@pioneerlocal.com

SOCCER — Normally, the team with the wind at its back holds an advantage. But with the presence of near-gale force conditions for the Oct. 26 Maine South Sectional semifinal, playing with the wind turned out to be the kiss of death for Niles West.

The No. 1 seeded Wolves (16-3-4) took a 1-0 lead over Mather into the break, but struggled in the second half as the weather forced them to alter their usual short-passing style. Seventh-seeded Mather scored twice in the final 15 minutes and advanced with a 2-1 upset win.

"The second half, we had the wind, and that's what really hurt us," West head coach Scott Ackman said. "We stopped playing our game, and started playing (long ball) and fell apart. I don't think we connected three passes until the final minute. We would have been better against the wind."

Senior Thomas Villamil opened the scoring with a first-half penalty kick following a Mather hand ball. Mather answered with two picture-perfect goals.

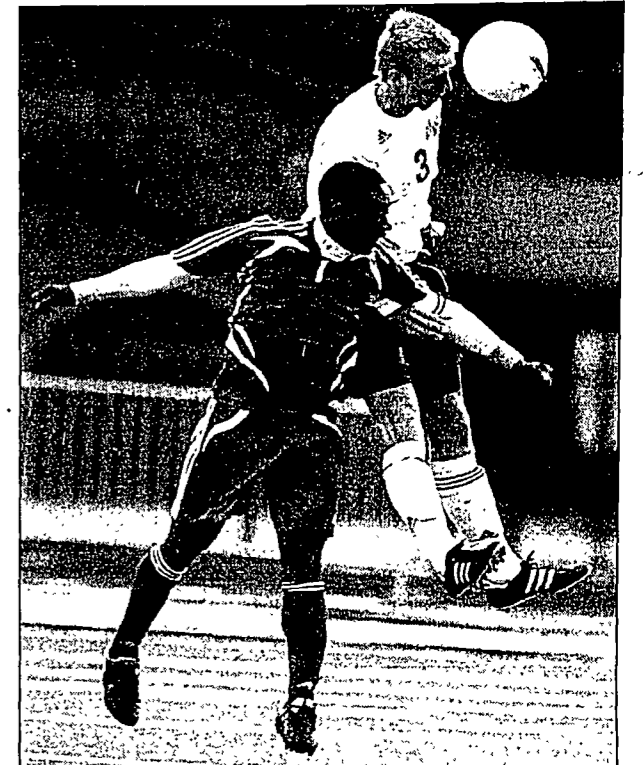
"If one was an inch to the left or right, the defender has it. If the other one was an inch lower, the goalkeeper has it," Ackman said. "The coach said the biggest source of disappointment was not the loss, but just how poorly the team performed."

"It was the worst game we played all year and it's the last game," he said. "If we had played well and lost, that would be fine."

The Wolves put their names in the book after registering the most wins in program history. Villamil, who led the team with 16 goals, was an IHSS-CA All-State selection and joined his central midfield partner, David Dawood (4 goals, 5 assists), on the all-sectional team. Villamil, Dawood, senior defender/mid-



Niles West's Thomas Villamil (center) points after scoring the first goal of the Wolves' 2-1 loss to Mather in the Maine South Sectional semifinal. Joining in the celebration are teammates David Dawood (8) and Daniel Rozen (17). | Buzz Orr-Sun-Times Media



Niles West's Arek Solowa (3) outjumps Mather's Chisom Ogonna during sectional semifinal action at Maine South. | Buzz Orr-Sun-Times Media

fielder Arek Solowa, senior goalkeeper Danny Niedzielski, junior defender Michael Taber and junior forward Jaime Zepeda (9 goals, team-high 8 assists) were all-conference picks.

The Wolves will return seven starters, including Zepeda and his striker partner, up-and-coming freshman forward Dzenan Nezirivic. Replacing Niedzielski, who played every minute in

net this season, Villamil and Dawood will be the biggest challenges. Junior back-up keeper Dange Gillespie will get the chance to succeed Niedzielski. Sophomore Robert Urosov and juniors Danny Heller and Daniel Rozen, role players this season, hope to fill the holes in the midfield.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

At the Next Level: Niles West 2009 graduate Mahi Mameledzija just finished his freshman season at Lake Forest College. The forward scored a team-high 13 goals with six assists for a Foresters team that went 12-6-0.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

West's Torres coaches final home diving meet

By DAN SHALIN
dshalin@pioneerlocal.com

SWIMMING — The Niles West swim program said goodbye to one legendary coach and seven seniors at Friday's dual meet against Evanston.

Diving coach Louis Torres was in charge for the last time at a home meet and will be retiring after more than 20 years of service at West.

"He'll be remembered for laying down the law, bad music and bad jokes," joked head swim coach Jason Macejak, a former West swimmer. "Actually, he'll be remembered for state qualifiers, too many to count. He took kids who were just learning to dive as freshmen and developed them into state qualifiers. He even had one state champ (Dan Rybalko, in 202). He left his mark in diving. Whoever comes after him will not just have huge shoes to fill, but a crater to fill."

Senior Jaci Moy, Alexis

Yusim, Emma Capps, Holly Norberg, Emily Fung, DeAnn Okrzysik, and Heather Funai also were competing at West for the final time Friday, as Evanston prevailed 126-59.

Yusim won the 500 free (5:37.44) and remains a few seconds off the school-record time. Freshman Edan Scott took first in the 50 free (24.96) and was third in the 100 butterfly (1:23.33), while Funai topped diving (206.3). Juniors Emina Djelovic and Emme

Deamont also continued their strong recent form. On Saturday, freshman Scott captured the 50 freestyle and 50 backstroke at the CSL freshman meet. Diver Valerie Fung finished second and Estee Cramer came in eighth in the 50 fly and 300 free.

Evanston will host the CSL South meet on Saturday.

At Niles North
The Vikings lost 104-81 to Glenbrook North in Friday's

final home dual. "(The meet) went really well. It was a good meet and a nice time for the nine seniors," NN head coach Paul Torres said. "They are a really good group of girls. Good leaders."

Senior Alexandra Vlad won the 200 IM (season-best 2:29.15), senior Amber Martin had her fastest time in the 100 backstroke (2nd, 1:08.66) and senior Xenia Kopylova took second in the 100 fly (season-best 1:03.01) and in the 100 breaststroke

(1:12.75). Torres said seniors Sara Karnes and Kelli Streicher have been turning in strong performances, as well.

Niles North honored nine seniors on Senior Night: Vlad, Martin, Kopylova, Karnes, Streicher, Hiba Ahmed, Justine Voloria, Christina Rouhotas and Remy Mathew. The Vikings will compete in Saturday's CSL North Meet at Maine West.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

Local Sports

Managing Editor: Rich Martin
Phone: (847) 486-7481 | rmartin@pioneerlocal.com

SOCCER: WINDY CONDITIONS WREAK HAVOC WITH WOLVES' STRATEGY | **DIVING:** WEST'S TORRES COACHES FINAL HOME MEET | **CROSS COUNTRY:** PAPAZOGLU WILL CARRY NORTH BANNER DOWNSTATE

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

FOOTBALL

Matt Alviti, Maine South sophomore
Quarterback wins first playoff start by passing 15-for-19 for 277 yards and three touchdowns in 47-0 win over Notre Dame.
Tyler Fahey, Maine South junior
Linebacker highlighted strong defensive effort with his 36-yard interception return for a touchdown early in the third quarter.
John Strickland, Glenbrook South senior
Running back carried 26 times for 142 yards and scored two touchdowns as the Titans shook off a shaky end to the regular season with a 35-28 playoff win over Barrington.
Mark Sullivan, Loyola senior
The CCL Blue defensive player of the year recorded two sacks in Ramblers' 42-0 victory over Young in the first round.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Taylor Tashima, New Trier freshman
Rookie impresses in two wins as Trevians capture a regional title. She had four kills and two aces in final against Maine South.
Nicole Moy, Niles West senior
Outside hitter puts down nine kills as the Wolves beat Von Steuben to collect regional championship.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Courtney Ackerman, New Trier sophomore
No signs of slowing down as she won the sectional title over sister Jessica, crossing the line in 17:26 at Niles West.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Kosta Papazoglou, Niles North senior
Finished 13th in 15:39 at the Niles West Sectional to earn an at-large bid to the State Meet.

GIRLS SWIMMING

Madeline Klichowski, Loyola senior
The MCAC Senior Swimmer of the Year led the Ramblers' 200-yard medley relay to its first victory over defending state champion Rosary in team history. Loyola's quartet was clocked in 1:47.67, one-hundredth faster than the conference mark set by Rosary in 2006 and the fastest time in the state this season.

NW takes notes before sweep

Advances to own Class 4A sectional semi

By DAN SHALIN
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VOLLEYBALL — While it may not have seemed monumental at the time, Niles West head coach Stacy

Metoyer said junior Milena Zalloni's kill to open the second game of Saturday's Class 4A regional final was important to her team's victory.

The No. 4 Wolves won the first game handily, and Zalloni's smash off a pass from senior Jordyn Toia sent a message that West was not going to let No. 12 Von Steuben back into the game at Lincoln Park High School.

Von Steuben had come in looking for its second

straight upset, after taking down No. 5 Niles North in three games two days earlier.

But in the final, West jumped out early on Von Steuben and never let up during the 25-15, 25-11 win.

West (22-11) captured its first regional since 2006 and advanced to the Niles West Sectional semifinal scheduled for Tuesday.

"We watched (Von Steuben) against Niles North; even though they lost that first game, they came back strong that second game and were able to hang. They just don't give up," Metoyer said. "But I think us dominating from the beginning was important, and us starting with the momentum in game two and jumping on them early there was key."

Senior Nicole Moy led Niles West with nine kills, Zalloni added seven, sophomore Molly Kleppin collected a team-high nine digs and senior Teegan Smith

"It was an all-around team win."

Stacy Metoyer,
Niles West head coach

dealt 14 assists.

Metoyer said West's performance was a true total effort.

"Everybody did their job," she said. "Our hitters put the ball away, our setters mixed up the sets, our back row passed excellent on serve receive and our libero (Kleppin) did a great job passing the ball up to the net. Everyone just did their job. It was an all-around team win."

In the regional semis Oct. 28, the Wolves were shaky early before defeating No. 16 Lincoln Park 25-18, 25-20.

The Wolves were slow to shake early playoff jitters and adapt to the bandbox court.

"We started off nervous.

No one was on," Toia said. "We were adjusting to the gym, the lights, the space. It was tough. But we were playing a team we could handle, so we had time to adjust. Then, we could come here (for the sectional) and take care of business."

At Niles North

The Vikings' loss to Von Steuben meant North ended the season 21-15 and with the second-highest win total in school history.

Head coach Mike Cott said his team was solid in game one, but inconsistent thereafter in a 17-25, 25-20, 25-23 defeat.

"We lost our energy and Von Steuben seized the momentum and carried it through the rest of the match," he said. "We were able to recover and play more spirited toward the end of game two and in most of game three, but untimely errors and a few tough breaks were too much for us to overcome."



Niles West's Nicole Moy lines up a kill during the Wolves win over Von Steuben in the regional finals. | Vincent D. Johnson-for Sun-Times Media



Niles West's Milena Zalloni 10 celebrates with her teammates after making a big play during the second game of their 4A regional victory over Von Steuben. | Vincent D. Johnson-for Sun-Times Media

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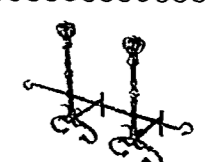
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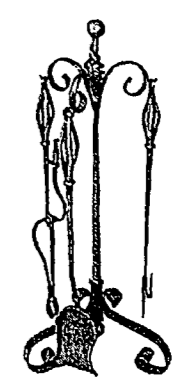
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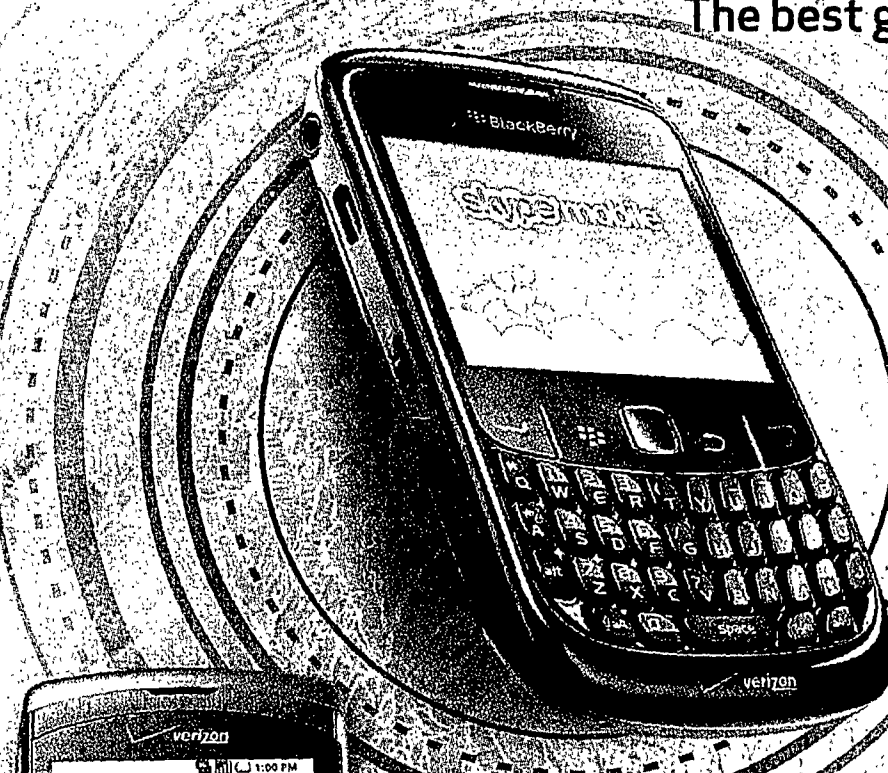
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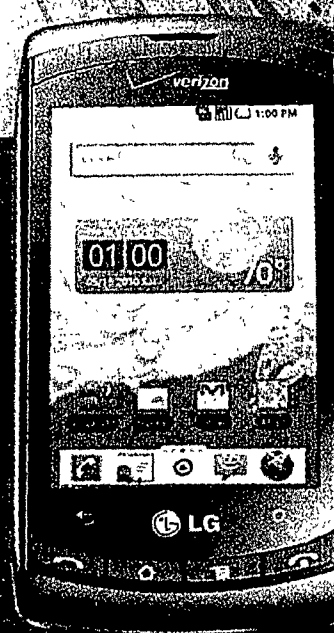


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