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*Today's*  
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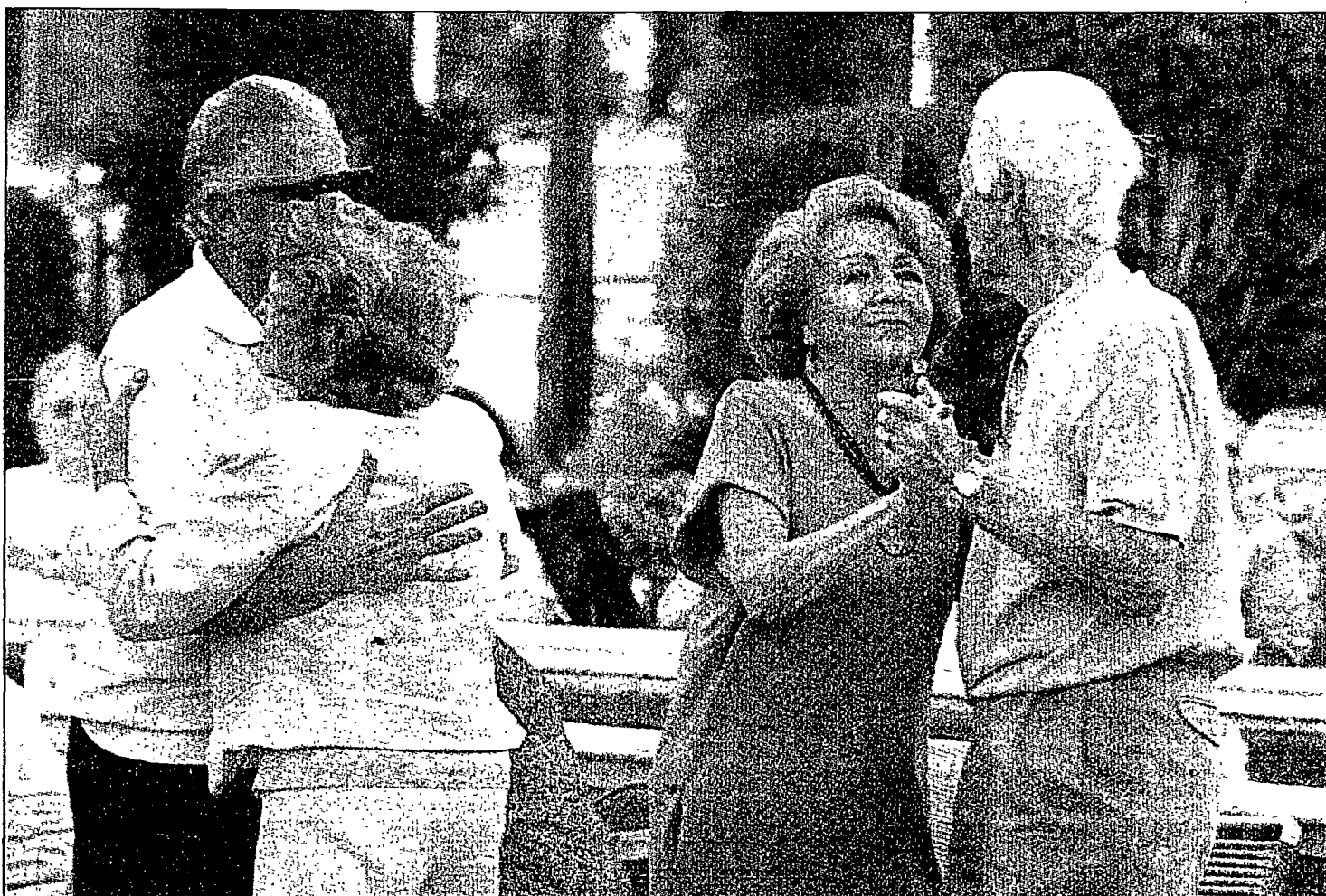
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athletics blog

# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR



## CUTTING A RUG

Couples dance as Jimmy Damon performs tunes sung by Frank Sinatra July 24 at Leaning Tower YMCA. Page 3 PHOTO BY STACIA TIMONERE/FOR PIONEER PRESS

### THIS WEEK

#### NEWS



**FLYING FORTRESS**  
WWII pilots fly back  
in time.

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#### NEWS

**WORST CIRCUITS**  
The second installment  
in our series about  
ComEd.

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readers sent in.

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 <b>Niles</b> Perfectly maintained tri-level w/basmt. Huge LR/DR combo. Updated kit. ID#83908087 Frank Nash 847-446-1855	 <b>Lincolnwood</b> Great lincolnwood location! 3 br. Brick georgian with many, many updates. ID#84408115 Mera Wei 773-775-1855	 <b>Skokie</b> Luxury 3BD 2BA w/quiet forest views, granite, cherry, indr pool, pets OK. ID#83108127 Theo Shaw 847-491-1855	 <b>Park Ridge</b> 3br ranch in mint condition! Remodeled baths, newly fin bsmthdwd flrs, sun rm ID#84718013 Jill O'malley 847-823-1855	 <b>Skokie</b> Magnificent 2br/2bth 06' Built Penthouse! Golf Course View Prime Gar spot. ID#83108139 John Creighton 847-491-1855
 <b>Morton Grove</b> Well maintained 3BR/2BTH all brick ranch. Full basement, 2 car att. garage. ID#83158095 William Blohm 847-724-1855	 <b>Lincolnwood</b> Charming brick Cape Cod nestled on tree lined street. Entertain in lge rms ID#84408164 Pauline Dreuth 773-775-1855	 <b>Skokie</b> Skokie brick Georgian - original cond with great potential & curb appeal. ID#84408156 Irene Yungerman 773-775-1855	 <b>Skokie</b> Brick ranch w/2br 2ba. Hdwd flrs, updated kitchen & ba. Fin bsmt w/bar & ba. ID#84718072 Anne Camarano 847-823-1855	 <b>Chicago</b> Belmont Cragin Double lot, two PINS. 11 room home. ID#83158067 Nand Shirel 847-724-1855
 <b>Des Plaines</b> Great home & great location 3br +4th in LL Newly fin rec rm, 2-1/2 car gar. ID#84718022 Dick Neswold 847-823-1855	 <b>Chicago</b> Immaculate 3 bedroom brick home with brand new kitchen and new appliances. ID#83158106 Eve Pribel 847-724-1855	 <b>Chicago</b> Bright top flr 3 bks to lake, 2 bks to EL. Huge deck, lrg Mstr Br. Bay wndws. ID#83158022 Ann Lee 847-724-1855	 <b>Chicago</b> Contemporary 3BR townhse w/hdwd flrs, new patio, lg Fam rm & \$17/mo asses. ID#83158107 Gordon Smith 847-724-1855	 <b>Des Plaines</b> Updated 3br 2.5 bath townhome. Eat in kit/hdwd flrs, lg fenced yard w/patio. ID#84718136 Donna Plank 847-823-1855
 <b>Des Plaines</b> 2br ranch on a deep lot. Updated bath/lg living/dining rm. Att gar, full bsmt. ID#84718001 Donna Bolas 847-823-1855	 <b>Morton Grove</b> Corner unit w/bright & open flr plan. 2 bdrms 2 baths. Updated baths & kit. ID#74717184 Karen Wright 847-823-1855	 <b>Skokie</b> Spacious 2B/1.18TH BRK TOWNHS W/PRKG Most convenient locale, no assessments. ID#83108130 Terry Tonon 847-491-1855	 <b>Skokie</b> Huge 2BR 2BA in dwnvntn Skokie. Quiet quality bldg, lge terrace, fresh paint ID#83108101 Julie Nsumiak 847-491-1855	 <b>Skokie</b> 2 BR, 1.1 BTH top floor unit - newer w/updated decor. Near transportation. ID#83158006 Georgia Pierini 847-724-1855

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# News

## Pioneer changes obituary policy

Beginning with the Aug. 7 issue, we will publish mostly paid death notices. Publication of death notices will be guaranteed and will appear for one full year on our Web site after appearing in print. To send any obituaries, call Zack Sutton (847) 486-7479. Death notices can also be faxed to (847) 486-7456 or e-mailed to zsutton@pioneerlocal.com or deathnotices@pioneerlocal.com.



**BELTING THEM OUT** Jimmy Damon performs songs sung by Frank Sinatra July 24 at the Leaning Tower YMCA.

STACIA TIMONERE/FOR PIONEER PRESS

## 24/7: Check out pioneerlocal.com for more

### HOROSCOPE In the stars

Check out this week's horoscope online. [www.pioneerlocal.com](http://www.pioneerlocal.com)

### MOVIE REVIEW



### The Decider

Bruce Ingram reviews Kevin Costner in "Swing Vote." [www.pioneerlocal.com/](http://www.pioneerlocal.com/)

### FOOD



### Melon prime time

Cut into many varieties. [www.pioneerlocal.com/](http://www.pioneerlocal.com/)

## New officers won't have to go to college

### More education may be required for higher ranks

By **TONY BERTUCA**  
[tbertuca@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:tbertuca@pioneerlocal.com)

The Niles Village Board decided not to change the educational requirements for new police officers; however, it will explore the possibility of changing the standards for promotion within the department.

Currently, the Niles Police Department requires new recruits have a high school diploma or GED.

The board decided to examine the issue after Trustee Louella Preston asserted that police officers, who are considered first-responders in a post-Sept. 11 world, should have at least some college education.

"In 1978, a patrolman was a suburban police officer," she said. "Today, our officers are considered first responders. What is the world going to look like 30 years from now?"

But Chief Dean Strzelecki said making college mandatory for all recruits would have deprived him of some of his finest officers.

"It's not just for the Korean community," he said. "Everyone will be welcome."

Trustee Joe LoVerde said he was in favor of the development because of the lengths Kim went to please the village and residents neighboring the site.

"I've never seen a developer respond so generously," LoVerde said. Santo Bruno, the chairman of the police and fire commission, said the department was doing a good job of attracting good candidates and weeding out the bad ones.

"Our recommendation is to continue as we're continuing now," he said. "We have a system."

Psychologist Av Mendelsohn, a consultant for the police department, said there was no statistical correlation between police recruits who tested well and their level of education.

"When it comes to report writing, high school people do better than college people," he said. "You really don't have any compelling reason to raise your requirements."

John Katsoolias, a member of the police and fire commission, said the current make-up of the police department shows that 66 percent of officers have some level of college education.

"We're getting educated people anyway," he said. "The cream is going to rise to the top."

The majority of trustees agreed that the system for hiring entry-level officers should remain unchanged, but they did not oppose Preston's suggestion that the village require some level of college education for police officers seeking promotions.

"It's absolutely necessary anybody who is at the sergeant level or above, have a minimum level of 60 hours of college," she said.

Mayor Nicholas Blase agreed, but stipulated that officers taking the upcoming sergeant's exam would be grandfathered in if an ordinance changing the education requirements were to be enacted.

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

# Starters

## Niles outages among worst in '06

www.pioneerlocal.com

By TONY BERTUCA  
tbertuca@pioneerlocal.com

In 2006, Niles was served by one of ComEd's worst-performing circuits, and 11 power outages on that circuit occurred that year, the company reported.

Things seem to have improved during the past two years, village officials have said, but there are no statistics available to prove ComEd has improved its service in Niles.

ComEd has not provided Pioneer Press with any reliability information for its performance in 2007, and the village does not keep those records.

But George Van Geem, village manager, said reliability has come a long way in two years.

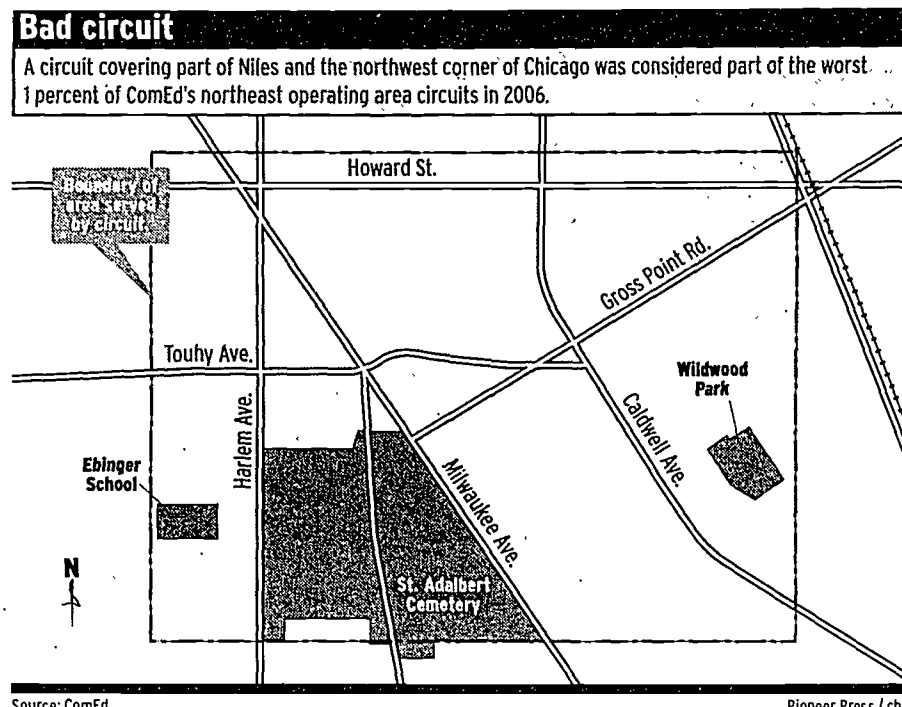
"My general sense is that things are improving," he said. "There has been so much discussion over the last two years that 2006 is really light years away. It's not a high-profile problem now."

But 2006 was a different story, when Niles' Circuit 2910 was one of the worst of 1 percent of ComEd's Northeast Operating Area Circuits, according to information provided by the company.

Assistant Village Manager Steve Vineziano can recall the difficulties Niles experienced.

"Well, 2006 was a pretty bad year," he said. "ComEd is a pretty big bureaucracy to deal with."

Vineziano recounted an instance in which a Niles circuit tied to the



Source: ComEd Pioneer Press / chc

### Outages for Circuit 2910 in 2006:

- Feb. 16, 2006 — 1,239 customers affected for 33 minutes because of weather
- May 11, 2006 — 625 customers affected for 135 minutes because of equipment
- May 11, 2006 — 297 customers affected for 153 minutes because of equipment
- Aug. 8, 2006 — 776 customers affected for 40 minutes because of equipment
- Aug. 8, 2006 — 597 customers affected for 55 minutes because of equipment
- Aug. 27, 2006 — 1,071 customers affected for 56 minutes because of animals/other
- Aug. 27, 2006 — 167 customers affected for 86 minutes because of animals/other
- Aug. 27, 2006 — 42 customers affected for 186 minutes because of animals/other
- Dec. 1, 2006 — 771 customers affected for 148 minutes because of weather
- Dec. 1, 2006 — 249 customers affected for 191 minutes because of weather
- Dec. 1, 2006 — 258 customers affected for 231 minutes because of weather

— Source: ComEd

Northwest Side of Chicago had to be rerouted because tree branches kept interfering with power lines.

"It took a while to get things fixed, but they did it," he said.

Like Van Geem, Vineziano also said service has improved.

"The volume of calls I get about it is down," he said. "But we really haven't had any crazy storms this year."

Vineziano said Niles used eOutage, ComEd's online information network, to alert village employees to the location of outages.

But when it comes to keeping reliability and outage records, Vineziano said the village mostly relied on information provided by ComEd.

Read more about ComEd's worst circuits on page 7.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

### WHAT'S NEXT

U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky, D-9th, invites residents to a Town Hall meeting, to be held from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Aug. 3 at Maine South High School's auditorium, 1111 S. Dee Road, Park Ridge (at Talcott Road). Park in the north lot and enter through the auditorium entrance at the northwest corner of the building. Call (773) 506-7100 or (847) 328-3409 for information.

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### Plan

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Kim has said he plans to widen Ballard Road to

accommodate more traffic as well as widen Washington Street to give residents 40 free parking spaces. A deal brokered with the park district will also give residents 72

spaces at Washington Terrace Park where they can park for free from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m.

Altogether, Kolpak said, Kim will spend \$2 million in his efforts to ac-

commodate the village. "That tells you something about the nature of my client," Kolpak said. But resident Nancy

Plan, PAGE 6

# Flying Fortress

## WWII fighter pilots recall missions in B-17 bombers

By TODD SHIELDS  
tshields@pioneerlocal.com

Propeller engines roaring, the hulking World War II B-17 bomber lumbered west up into the summer haze above Waukegan Regional Airport, banking 600 feet over the yellow-gold beaches and blue-green waters of Lake Michigan.

Named Flying Fortress, the 44,000-pound Boeing bomber was an intimidating mainstay in the Pacific and European war theaters.

A handful of former U.S. Air Force pilots in their 80s and 90s had returned July 18 for a 23-minute flight from Waukegan to Chicago Executive Airport, Wheeling, where the B-17 and several World War II relics were displayed for the weekend.

Before take-off, David

Weinberg of Niles recalled piloting 28 missions over Italy, Germany and France, bombing Axis oil refineries, factories and railways.

First Lt. Weinberg lost hearing in his left ear while flying over Europe when a fired shell exploded his cockpit.

In another mission in 1944, flying low over Montecassino, Italy, — a German stronghold — Weinberg's plane was struck and lost two engines, yet he touched down safely in Naples, Italy.

Weinberg, now 91, sat in a wheelchair below the B-17's chin turret that showed three painted German swastikas in scorn.

"It would have been smart to jump out, but I didn't want to be a German prisoner of war. I'm Jewish and even though the Germans treated officers pretty well, I didn't want to do that," said Weinberg, an owner and operator of car washes in Chicago after the war.

Weinberg's son, Guy, and daughter, Toby Gale,

accompanied their father in 1994 to a 99th Air Force bomb group reunion in St. Louis. They met Weinberg's flight engineer, Mike Johns, who later wrote Guy a letter.

"(Johns) wrote me that Dave was offered the Distinguished Flying Cross for that ... but he turned it down because it wasn't offered to all the crew," said Guy Weinberg, a doctor at Jesse Brown Veterans Affairs Hospital and professor of anesthesiology at University of Illinois, both in Chicago.

"That day, Dad saved his own life and nine others, too. He never lost a crew member," Guy Weinberg said.

Sixty-four years later, David Weinberg's view of world wars had changed.

"Of course, we believed World War II was justified back then, but like all wars it just made money for the armament people," he said.

Over Bahai Temple in Wilmette, the B-17 heavy bomber dipped toward Wheeling. Strapped in and

seated inside the shuddering metal fuselage, Weinberg smiled in the sunlight.

"Can you imagine being down in there?" he yelled, pointing to the belly gun turret.

"It was very cold during flights, and that's how the electric blanket was invented. Men wore electric gloves and socks so they wouldn't freeze!"

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

## Tour gives tactile experience

Since 1989, as part of Collings Foundation, the Wings of Freedom tour has showcased World War II aircraft at 2,200 airports in the United States.

The tour includes three restored bombers: B-17 Flying Fortress, B-24 Liberator, B-25 Mitchell and most recently a WW II P-51C Mustang fighter.

On July 18, Wings of Freedom planes flew from Waukegan Regional Airport to Chicago Executive Airport, Wheeling.

David Weinberg, of Niles, was a U.S. Air Force first lieutenant and flew 28 B-17 missions in World War II. He again boarded a B-17 July 18 and flew over Lake Michigan to Wheeling.

The Collings Foundation, of Stow, Mass., organizes living history events, such as antique car rallies, hill climbs, sleigh rides and a winter ice cutting festival in Stow, but later produced aviation shows.

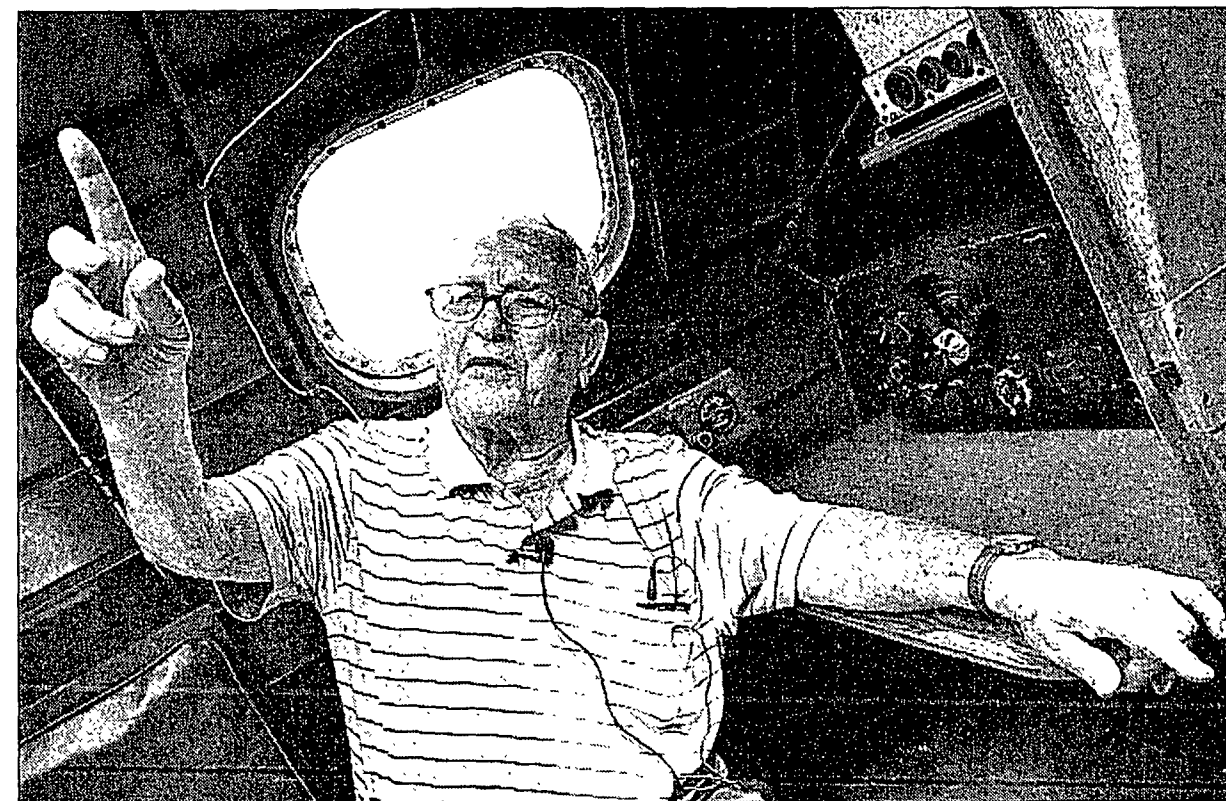
Wings of Freedom honors the efforts of war veterans and educates young Americans about their history and heritage, said Hunter Chaney, Collings spokesman. For a fee, people can board the planes and enjoy a flight.

"World War II involved nearly every continent in the world. Tremendous sacrifices were made, but people tend to forget that. Put them in a tactile experience, and they will go back to learn more," Chaney said.

He described B-17s as "rumbling bricks, bristling with guns."

In addition, Collings Foundation has developed the Vietnam Memorial Flight, featuring the McDonnell F-4D Phantom II, Douglas TA-4J Skyhawk and the Bell UH-1E Huey at air shows since 1999.

The Foundation also sponsors off-site aircraft education and restoration workshops.



DAVE SHIELDS/FOR PIONEER PRESS

Dave Weinberg, of Niles, gesturing toward the open roof, sits in the radio room of a WWII B-17 Bomber like the one he piloted during the war, as it flies over Lake Michigan earlier this month.

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POLICE BLOTTER

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

- DUI
Erick Kraus, 27, of 4419 N. Newland Ave., Harwood Heights, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol July 28 on the 7900 block of North Milwaukee Avenue. He was released on \$1,000 bond and is due in court Aug. 19.
Carmen Hernandez, 49, of 5867 W. Gunnison St., Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol July 26 on the 7100 block of North Milwaukee Avenue. He

- was released on \$3,000 bond and is due in court Aug. 7.
Marshall Skloss, 40, of 200 S. St. Louis Ave., Mount Prospect, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol July 23 on the 8600 block of West Dempster Street. He was released on \$1,000 bond and is due in court Aug. 7.

- BURGLARY
A GPS of unknown value was stolen July 25 from a car parked on the 9000 block of Grace

- Street.
A laptop computer valued at \$1,500, a "Walkman" valued at \$200 and a GPS valued at \$500 were stolen July 23 from a car parked on the 8900 block of North Milwaukee Avenue.
A laptop computer valued at \$1,700 and a cell phone valued at \$350 were stolen July 22 from a car parked on the 8900 block of North Wisner Street.

- THEFT
Amisadai Abrego, 20, of

- 611 Glenview Road, Glenview, was charged with retail theft July 26 of \$124 worth of merchandise from a store on the 400 block of Golf Mill Center. He was released on \$1,000 bond and is due in court Aug. 19.
Gayatri Sarwade, 26, of 6443 N. Washtenaw Ave., Chicago, was charged with retail theft July 27 of \$147 worth of merchandise from a store on the 400 block of Golf Mill Center. He was released on \$1,000 bond and is due in court Aug. 19.

Plan

Continued from PAGE 4

Comita wasn't buying it. She has fought the project for months and deliv-

ered 232 signatures to Mayor Nicholas Blase on behalf of residents who were against the development.

"It's a shame how they picked the taxes over our quality of life," she said.

"This is just too big -- it's overbuilding. It won't be safe for the children who have to walk in the area. You're going to see a lot of sale signs around the neighborhood. We can't live with this."

But Sherwin Weinberg, a Washington Street resident and Democratic precinct captain, was in favor of the development. "There will be more than enough parking," he said.

Each year ComEd must fix 'worst 1%' of circuits

Repeat problems not supposed to happen

By RUTH SOLOMON

rsolomon@pioneerlocal.com

This is the second installment in a two-part series. About two dozen of a total of 161 "worst performing circuits" from a 2006 list are located in communities served by the Pioneer Press and Doings newspapers.

The list is compiled every year by ComEd as required by the Illinois Commerce Commission. Providing the annual list is one way that the ICC tries to keep ComEd on its toes, to improve reliability. The idea is for a given circuit

not to make the list two years in a row.

The "worst 1 percent" are defined as those circuits with the greatest number of outages and the longest length of time without power. Outages don't necessarily affect every customer on a circuit. ComEd must also report to the ICC remedies taken.

After a circuit in Oak Park made the list because of an Aug. 2, 2006 weather-related lightning strike, ComEd planned to spend \$32,000 in 2007 to install fuses at four stations. After a circuit in Northbrook had outages on eight dates in 2006 -- some tree-related, others related to underground equipment failures and some intentional --

ComEd planned to plunk down \$19,000 in 2007 to install an automatic circuit recloser. If the remedies worked, customers on these circuits presumably have had improved reliability this year.

Of 37,390 outages in 2006 -- all outages, not just those on the worst 1 percent list -- 6,373 were categorized as weather-related. Other causes: overhead equipment failure (7,089), underground equipment (7,068), tree-related (7,369), intentional (2,538), animal-related (2,480), public (2,536), ComEd/contractor errors (275), transmission and substation equipment (83), unknown (647), other (922) and customer-caused (10).

The list of worst-per-

forming circuits is on the ICC's Web site, in "Section J" of the 2006 ComEd reliability report. Each of the following towns had one circuit on the list unless otherwise noted: Northbrook (four circuits), Evanston, Vernon Hills/Mettawa, Skokie (two), Niles, Wheeling, Arlington Heights, Elk Grove Village, Lake in the Hills/Crystal Lake, Maywood, Oak Park (two), Broadview/Westchester, Franklin Park, Northlake (two), Oak Brook (three), Elmhurst, LaGrange/Western Springs, Western Springs/Hinsdale.

In a July 1 meeting with reporters, ComEd officials said the company's service area extends across much of northern Illinois; they

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don't want to invite town-by-town comparisons on spending to decrease outages, since circuits cross municipal boundaries.

"Providing all the information opens up the opportunity to compare," said ComEd spokesman Luis Diaz-Perez.

Addressing the problem circuits is far less costly for ComEd than funding improvements to keep up with higher demand. Without such improvements, an area can experience more outages.

But overall, the utility

company's budget for improving distribution capacity was projected to decline from 2007 to 2009.

"If you look at subdivision growth, it has halted. We are growing this year at a lot slower rate," said Fidel Marquez, communications manager with ComEd.

ComEd is required to provide yet another list in its annual report -- situations even worse off than the bottom 1 percent of circuits. The list includes 360 unfortunate individual customers who have had outages "in excess of service reliability targets" year after year after year, some for as long as five years. That list doesn't say where these hapless customers live.

Whenever it storms, store owner sleeps with the fishes

Power-dependent businesses take extra precautions

By TODD SHIELDS

tsields@pioneerlocal.com
When power returned after a three-day blackout last year in downtown Arlington Heights, Chris and Michelle Beal jumped up and down.

On Aug. 23, a violent cloudburst swept through the Chicago area. As new owners of an aquarium business, Marine Connection, the Beals had thousands of dollars invested in fish, snails and crabs.

They kept the aqueous critters alive with a portable gasoline generator that cooled water temperatures. Recalling that weekend, Chris said about \$500 in livestock.

"When bad storms come, I sleep overnight here in the store because we're so worried about power losses," said Chris, of Buffalo Grove.

When punishing weather hits, some businesses scramble to preserve refrigerated food. Others, dependent on technology to generate revenue, rely on good utilities and uninterruptible power supplies -- UPS, in-house systems that keep computers humming during outages.

Brian Burke, president of Links Technology Solutions, an IT management company in Schaumburg, said the business district around Woodfield Mall, with underground lines, can withstand intense storms.

"The business community in Schaumburg rarely has outages that maybe last 15 minutes to several hours," Burke said.

David Overbye, an administration dean at DeVry University, Oakbrook Terrace, said lower costs for UPS systems were "the primary change in the market."

Some businesses cannot afford even an hour-long shutdown, such as

just-in-time parts distributors that supply automated assemblylines.

To prevent shutdowns, manufacturers are installing backup generators, said Ken Stevens, owner of Breakwater Electric in Alsip.

"We're seeing more installs of generators, everything from printing press businesses, to factories and architects who have all their designs stored in computer files," Stevens said.

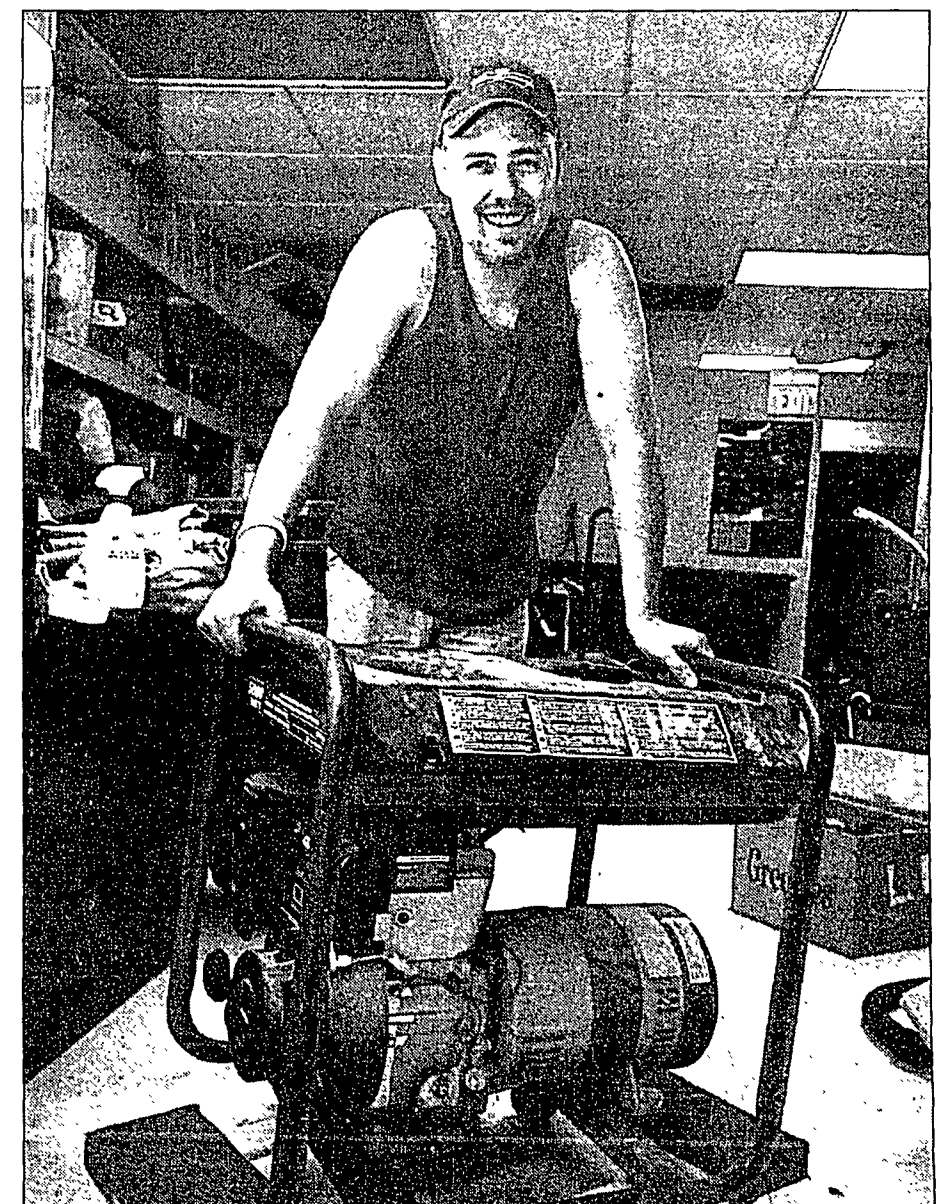
Commonwealth Edison does not monitor the growing trend of constant power that certain businesses need.

"We do have some businesses that have approached us with issues such as this," said Fidel Marquez Jr., vice president of operations for ComEd. He said customers needing additional power can pay extra for an automatic switch to the overall distribution grid.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

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Chris Beal with his 5000-watt generator, in the back room of his aquarium shop in downtown Arlington Heights.

# Personal Touch Salon

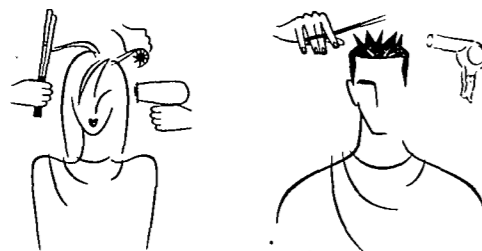
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# Delinquent taxes? Catch up with payments by Aug. 1

Some 43,000 Cook County property owners who owe about \$127 million in delinquent taxes should pay by Aug. 1 to avoid further financial penalties and having their taxes auctioned at the Annual Tax Sale beginning later in August, Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas said.

This year's Annual Tax Sale for delinquencies from tax year 2006 issued in 2007 will be conducted electronically. That means it will only take four days instead of the 20 business days needed in the past. Property owners will have less time in which to avoid their delinquent taxes being sold.

Pappas said those who pay before Aug. 1 will avoid having their delinquent bills rise another 1.5 percent. Those whose taxes are purchased at the

Tax Sale would have to pay more to buy their taxes back and could lose their homes or other real property if they fail to redeem.

Taxpayers can see if they owe for Tax Year 2006 by having their 14-digit Property Index Number and visiting Pappas' Web site at cookcountytreasurer.com or calling (312) 443-5100.

Delinquencies are paid by certified check, cashier's check or money order, and cash in person. No personal, company or business checks are accepted. Payments can be made at more than 300 Chase Bank locations throughout Chicagoland, or at the Cook County Treasurer's Office, 118 N. Clark St., Suite 112, Chicago IL 60602, in person or by mail.

The sale will be con-

ducted from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Aug. 12-15, via a Web site of RealAuction.com. Unpaid taxes in the County's 30 suburban townships will be offered first, followed by Chicago's eight townships, according to the following schedule:

■ Aug. 12 - Barrington, Berwyn, Bloom, Bremen, Calumet, Cicero, Elk Grove, Evanston, Hanover, Lemont, Leyden, Lyons, Maine, New Trier, Niles, Northfield, Norwood Park, Oak Park, Orland, Palatine, Palos.

■ Aug. 13 - Proviso, Rich, River Forest, Riverside, Schaumburg, Stickney, Thornton, Wheeling, Worth, Hyde Park.

■ Aug. 14 - Hyde Park, Jefferson, Lake.

■ Aug. 15 - Lake, Lake View, North Chicago, Rogers Park, South Chicago, West Chicago.

# Opinion

## WE SAY

### Shining a light on reliability of ComEd's electrical grid

Sometimes you think the weather's awful, until you turn on the TV and learn about a hurricane someplace else. Many things are a matter of perspective.

Our reporters kept that in mind while working on a two-part series about Commonwealth Edison's distribution grid. A number of suburban towns served by Pioneer Press and by The Doings Newspapers — Deerfield, Hinsdale and Glenview come to mind — have long-running disputes with ComEd over power outages.

So our reporters tried to get some perspective, to find out how ComEd's reliability compares with other Midwest utility companies.

Our first conclusion: Believe it or not, based on data gleaned from some neighboring states, ComEd may be better than average in providing reliable service.

Our second conclusion: Data about reliability, for ComEd and other utility companies, is fragmented, incomplete and often hidden because each state has its own reporting rules.

Cheryl Warren summed it up in a 2008 article in Transmission & Distribution World, "In the United States, we have potentially 50 different approaches to reliability regulation in the foreseeable future. Over time, it would be ideal if regulators could develop common metrics and measures that assess performance uniformly and fairly, and attach appropriate penalties/incentives for performance." Those "common metrics" still don't exist.

"Confidentiality" is a roadblock if you're trying to get information about

reliability. ComEd benchmarks itself against comparable utilities, saying it ranks in the "second quartile," but didn't provide details. ComEd files annual reports with local towns, but says they're based on information filed with the ICC, and the ICC's rules require confidentiality. And why is that?

"The ICC decided it. It's in the rules. I can't tell you why," a ComEd spokesman said.

Buried on the ICC's Web site is a list of the bottom 1 percent of electrical circuits for 2006, for outages. But if the purpose was to shine a light on chronic problems, the job isn't getting done. ComEd staff insisted most of the circuits on the "worst 1 percent" list correlate closely with bad weather; few show up in successive years.

There seems to be no way for the media, or any third party, to identify pockets within ComEd's grid where chronic problems occur, or to learn what the utility has done, or plans to do, to fix them. ComEd knows where the problems are. The ICC might know. The public doesn't.

Like any business, ComEd is about providing services and maximizing profit. Unlike most, it has a local monopoly. Is ComEd doing everything possible to replace aging cable, to solve chronic problems quickly?

So far as we can tell, ComEd may be better than average. But it's unlikely we'll ever know for sure, unless the General Assembly and Congress begin to require more transparency, more disclosure and effective tools to measure reliability across the industry.

## 1000 WORDS



## YOU SAY

### Celebration thanks all supporters

For almost 20 years, parent volunteers from Maine South High School have organized and sponsored a substance-free, post prom event called "Celebration." This event is the high school's safe alternative to "what to do after prom."

On May 30, 380 students and 25 chaperones took part in a memorable evening which began at the historic Aragon Ballroom, where the students were entertained for several hours by the Sports Comedy group and a hypnotist and ended with a Lake Michigan cruise on the Mystic Blue with dancing, relaxing with friends, and culminating with an incredible sunrise.

The Maine South 2008 Celebration Committee would like to thank the generosity of parents, businesses and community members that fully supported the event through their time, talents, gifts and donations that allow this event to take place and at a heavily subsidized price to each student. Thanks to all of the Maine South families who donated through our phone-a-thon and to everyone who supported us through their participation in our fundraisers throughout this past school year.

The following businesses and organizations deserve special thanks for keeping the Celebration tradition going at Maine South. We encourage everyone to patronize these businesses to thank them for their help and support. All are located in Park Ridge unless otherwise indicated.

Accents by Jenny; Advocate Health Care; Bai-

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# Of course dogs have souls



PAUL SASSONE

Let us now praise dogs. Dogs give you everything they have. And what do they expect in return? They hope you will like them. They don't demand your affection. They don't even expect your affection. They hope for your affection. But even if you don't like them, they'll still like you.

There's a selflessness, a sweetness about dogs that is almost holy. The first time I remember doubting something a grownup told me was one morning in Sunday school when the nun told us that animals did not have souls.

I knew that couldn't be right because our dog,

Sandy, had a soul as big as the sky over Montana. And be honest, can you look at a helper dog, or a guide dog, or a dog that visits the ill or elderly and doubt that dogs have souls?

I'm thinking about dogs because Jake died recently. Jake was kind of my brother-in-law. He lived with my wife's

lovers — so do cats. To me, dogs and cats are pretty much the same in the things that really matter. But, that's a column for another day.

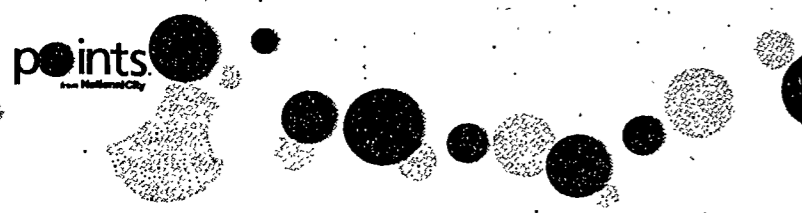
There are millions of homeless dogs and cats in the United States. And each year, eight million healthy dogs and cats are put to death. They really don't deserve such a fate.

Just a reminder: There still is time to honor your favorite movie bad guy or bad gal. Last week, I mentioned that one critic called Heath Ledger's performance as the Joker the best villain in movie history. I listed what I consider 25 really great villain performances and asked for your picks. Write me and I'll publish your choices next week. I'm at psassone@pioneerlocal.com. Or, write to me care of Pioneer Press, 1140 Lake St., Oak Park 60301.

And — at the risk of offending other dog

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## How Illinois lawmakers voted in Congress

Week ending July 25

### Major roll call votes in the Senate

**Housing rescue:** Senators voted, **80-13**, to debate a bill to potentially bail out the mortgage firms Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac at an estimated cost of \$25 billion. A yes vote was to advance a bill (HR3221) that also helps homeowners and communities deal with foreclosure issues. **Sen. Richard Durbin: Yes; Sen. Barack Obama: Not voting**

**Oil speculation:** Senators failed, **50-43**, to end GOP blockage of a bill (S3268) ordering tougher Commodity Futures Trading Commission oversight of speculation in oil futures, in part by requiring more public disclosure and setting higher margin requirements. A yes vote was to advance the bill. **Sen. Richard Durbin: Yes; Sen. Barack Obama: Not voting**

### Major roll call votes in the House

**1. Housing rescue:** Members approved, **272-152**, a standby, multi-billion-dollar bailout of the private mortgage-finance firms Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, along with new terms allowing 400,000 troubled mortgages to be reworked into federally backed loans. A yes vote was to pass HR3221.

**2. Strategic petroleum reserve:** Members failed, **268-157**, to reach a two-thirds majority needed to pass a bill requiring President Bush to gradually release 10 percent of the 700-million-gallon Strategic Petroleum Reserve over the next several months. A yes vote was pass HR6578.

**3. Global AIDS funding:** Members authorized, **303-115**, \$50 billion over five years for U.S. support of global programs to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis. A yes vote was to pass a bill (HR5501) ending a requirement that one-third of U.S. HIV/AIDS funds be spent on abstinence programs.

**4. Bridge inspections:** Members passed, **367-55**, a bill to upgrade inspection standards for state and local authorities responsible for the safety of highway bridges in the U.S. A yes vote was to pass a bill (HR3999) requiring states to put their riskiest bridges first in line for repairs.

	1	2	3	4
Bobby Rush, D-1st	NV	NV	NV	NV
Jesse Jackson Jr., D-2nd	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dan Lipinski, D-3rd	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Luis Guterrez, D-4th	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rahm Emanuel, D-5th	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Peter Roskam, R-6th	No	No	No	Yes
Danny Davis, D-7th	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Melissa Bean, D-8th	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jan Schakowsky, D-9th	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mark Kirk, R-10th	No	No	No	Yes
Jerry Weller, R-11th	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Jerry Costello, D-12th	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Judy Biggert, R-13th	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Bill Foster, D-14th	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Timothy Johnson, R-15th	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Donald Manzullo, R-16th	No	No	No	Yes
Philip Hare, D-17th	NV	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ray LaHood, R-18th	Yes	NV	NV	NV
John Shimkus, R-19th	No	No	Yes	Yes

For a more detailed description of the issues, see our Web page at [www.pioneerlocal.com](http://www.pioneerlocal.com) and pick your hometown paper, click on News and click on Politics.

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## Children's Learning World

**Children's Learning World**, a Montessori School at 8101 Golf Road, Niles, is accepting enrollment for the 2008-09 school year. Montessori is a philosophy with the fundamental tenet that a child learns best within a social environment that supports each individual's unique development. The year-round school cares for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years old. Parents may visit or call (847) 470-0370 for more information.

## Resurrection

**Resurrection High School**, 7500 W. Talcott Ave., Chicago, will celebrate the renovation of its Little Theatre with a rededication at 2 p.m. Aug. 17. The ceremony will be in the Little Theatre, with a blessing, followed by a short program and refreshments. The 500-seat auditorium, built in 1964, is the school's central venue for the performing arts. The renovation includes new seats, flooring, lighting, sounds and technology. Members of the community, Resurrection High School alumnae, students and families are invited. RSVP to Stefanie Thorpe, (773) 775-6616, ext. 127. Opportunities to name a seat in the auditorium after a family member, friend, student, alumna, special event or business are available through the Little Theatre "Take Your Seat" program. For more information call (773) 775-6616, ext. 142, or [amartorano@reshs.org](mailto:amartorano@reshs.org).

## St. Mary of the Woods

**St. Mary of the Woods School**, Chicago, in June released the names of this year's eighth-grade graduates. They include: Nathan Albaugh, Daniel Allen, Zachary Allen, Mario Asencio, George Bicknell, Heather Bucher, John Budzinski, Alexis Bulgajewski, Anthony Cambria, Sean Cheevers, Jeanne Deloughery, Luke Domán, Cullen Foley, Jennifer Fox, Kaitlin Frick, Nolan Garrity, Patricia Gernady, Dylan Grant, Connor Haughey, Alexander Hawley, Joseph Imburgia, Devin Kirkley, Haley Konor, Kara Konow, Kathleen Kurtenbach, Joseph Laughlin, Sarah Lazarich, Anthony Lombardo, Kirsten McDermott, Evan McHugh, Charlotte Miller, Patrick Mooney, Robert Murchach, Griffin Nuzzo, Ryan O'Reilly, William Palivos, Katherine Reilly, Taylor Rock, Jake Spizzirri, Joseph Stapleton, Trevor Talhami, Rita

## Resurrection High

**Resurrection High School** is offering an adult enrichment class, Humanities 105: The Gothic Story in Literature and Film.

Topics include several short stories from the Gothic period and the novels *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte and *The Historian* by Elizabeth Kostova. The

## SCHOOLS DIGEST

four-sessions class will meet from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. every other week on Tuesdays at Resurrection High School, 7500 W. Talcott Ave., Chicago, beginning Sept. 9. The cost is \$50; the class is open to all. Call (773) 775-6616, ext. 142.

## St. John Brebeuf

The annual **St. John Brebeuf Art Fair** was May 15 in the St. John Brebeuf Ministry Center. Under the direction of Michael Jankowski the fine-arts director at Notre Dame High School, 12 Notre Dame students, including two SJB alumni, **Jonathan Mazur** and **Brian Triplitt**, displayed their paintings, photographs and sculptures, and discussed them with hundreds of students and teachers. The art-fair committee also displayed the work of **Bradley Markovich**, a junior from Maine East High School who could not be at the fair.

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Thompson, Meghan Tomaszewski, Amanda Vullmahn, Thomas Wickey, Jeremy Widelka, Matthew Wojkowski and Elizabeth Wuertz.

## St. Viator

**Students from Niles** who earned honors for the second semester at St. Viator High School, Arlington Heights, include **Daniel A. Kamys**, who received high honors, and **Melissa L. Kamys**, who made B honors.

## Scholarships

**Sen. Dan Kotowski, D-33rd**, has announced the winners of the 2008 General Assembly Scholarships.

**Kellye Stefanski**, of Park Ridge, was chosen as one of the qualified college-level students from the 33rd Senatorial District to receive a one-year full tuition scholarship to University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

**Katherine Boundy**, of Mount Prospect, was selected and will attend Illinois State University in Normal, along with **Maura Schelhammer**, of Park Ridge, who is at University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign.

The following qualified high-school level students from the 33rd Senatorial District were chosen to receive a one-year full tuition scholarship to the state institution of their choice: **Daniel Jares** (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), of Arlington Heights; **Xuyi Xiang** (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) from Taft High School, Chicago; **Josephine Manicke** (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), of Des Plaines; **Kristin Ingstrup** (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), of Elk Grove Village; and **Agata Parfienluk** (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), of Niles.

## Who's not going to Disney World?



**STEPHANIE ZIMMERMANN**  
THE FIXER - Chicago Sun-Times

**Dear Fixer:** I purchased a very sick son online, through American Airlines Vacations. I paid for it on May 9 by credit card.

The Web site and itinerary I have indicates the package includes air, hotel at Disney's All-Star Movies Resort, Magic Your Way ticket to any Disney theme park, plus free dining. The total was \$1,743.11.

On May 10, someone from AA Vacations called and said it was urgent to call them back on their 1-800 number. I talked to a representative who told me that the package did not include Disney park tickets. I told him the itinerary said it did.

He said we could add it for another \$993. I told him no way. He transferred me to another rep. She indicated there was an error on the Web site somehow, and that you are supposed to buy park tickets separately. She said she could refund the money so I could go and rebook it online, and they would give me 5,000 miles on American.

I told her that since they called me, they must have known of the issue and must have had other complaints. This was supposed to be a trip for my son after his surgery and being in the hospital and with home nurse care. It took months to save and watch the prices, and when this deal came up, I took it. Now I have to tell a 3-year-old he is not going to see Mickey Mouse. Please help.

Michael Alter

Dear Michael: Don't tell him about the mouse yet.

After you wrote us, you wound up canceling the reservations (you said you were told you'd have to cancel right away to get your money back). You then went and booked a trip on another Web site. You still were upset, however, that the second booking cost quite a bit more than the deal you'd found at AAVacations.com.

The Fixer told your story to the folks at American Airlines. They looked into it, and it turns out the Web site was unclear about what was and was not included in the price. They've fixed that, and now they've fixed your problem, too, by sending you \$900 in travel vouchers to make up for the extra amount you spent to re-book your travel.

## Happy ending

Dear Readers: You may remember last month's letter from Debby Shulruff of Chicago, whose big night out at "Jersey Boys" was ruined by a thick bar that was directly across her field of vision. (Who wants to see "Can't Take My Eyes Off Of You" with a big black bar in the way?)

Debby said that after the show, the ticket agent agreed with her that the seat had an obstructed view. Getting a refund was a little tougher, though.

We contacted Broadway in Chicago, which offered Debby tickets to "SHOUT!" — a show that had comp tickets available and no long waiting list like "Jersey Boys." Not the greatest resolution in Debby's mind, but something.

Well, we heard from Debby a few days ago with an update. Shortly after that Fixer column ran, the ticket people called back with two comp tickets to "Jersey Boys." Debby went the other night and had a blast. So, thanks, Broadway in Chicago.

## Nicor update

Earlier this summer we heard from Ernest Blondis of Brookfield, who said a Nicor tech had disconnected his outdoor gas grill about two years ago because of a leak, but never came back to hook it back up.

We checked into it with Nicor, and it turns out the gas company is NOT responsible for hooking up appliances that were disconnected because of something unrelated to Nicor's gas line. However, sometimes the technicians will do it anyway, if they're able, to spread a little good will.

Soon after we contacted them, a Nicor tech came out to Ernest's house and hooked up his grill. Ernest was again grilling happily — that is, until a bill for \$143.72 for the free fix arrived in his mailbox.

The latest good news: The Fixer stepped in again, and the inadvertent charge was wiped off. Thanks, Nicor!

## Nightmare customers

Every waitress, cashier or small business owner has at least one horror story about an obnoxious customer that almost ruined their day. We want to hear those tales for an upcoming Fixer feature in August. Send your best stories to [soundoff@sun-times.com](mailto:soundoff@sun-times.com). Thanks!

Getting the runaround about a consumer problem?

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

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**Fee OK'd for vehicle storage**

Niles trustees amended a local ordinance at their July 22 board meeting that prohibits anyone from storing a motor vehicle for longer than seven days.

The village will now charge a \$100 annual license storage fee for any motor vehicle that is stored for longer than seven days.

The ordinance defines a "motor vehicle" as any vehicle that requires a drivers license to operate;

it defines "stored" as put aside, or accumulated for use or sale at a later date.

Exceptions to the ordinance include no more than five vehicles are stored at the same location, or good cause for an exception that must be presented to the village. A decision will be made by the village manager, finance director and village attorney.

— *By Tony Bertuca*

**Comment: pioneerlocal.com**



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**Letters**


Continued from PAGE 9

ley's Restaurant; Biz Express Printing, especially Norman; Brunswick Zone Bowl, Niles; Caldwell Banker, 991 W. Touhy, especially Mark Kloss and Jane Moroney; Carson Pirie Scott, Harlem and Irving, Chicago; Cache, Skokie; Cenzina Couture, Glenview; Coldstone Creamery, Rosemont; David's Bridal, Norridge; Des Plaines Park District; Di Franco Orthodontics; Drs. Artrip & Oliva; Dr. Michael Athans; Dr. John Davis; Dr. John Kenney; Dr. Sally Pryor; El Famous Burrito; Evergreen Commercial Real Estate; Frontera Foods; Gartner Orthodontics; Giordano's Pizza Rosemont; Giordano's Pizza Morton Grove; Go Figure; Jewel Food Stores; Kiwanis Club of Park Ridge; La Pelusa Home Improvement, Niles; Le Peep Restaurant; Lou Malnati's Pizza; Machon & Machon Insurance; Michelle Gabrielle Boutique; Morningfield's; MW Tux, Norridge; New Prospects;

Nail Beauty; Norridge Jewelers; Teresa Nuccio; Oakton Community College; Old Navy, Morton Grove; Pickwick Theatre; Pines of Park Ridge; Plato's Closet, Skokie; Park Ridge Community Bank; Park Ridge Community Church; Park Ridge Community Fund; Park Ridge Park District; Perry's Pizza; Picture Us Different Dance; Planet Smoothie; Raymond James Financial Services; The Red Carpet Boutique, Morton Grove; REI, Northbrook; Riggio's Restaurant; Robin Elliott, Morton Grove; Rotary Club of Park Ridge; Roosevelt School PTO; Royal Touch Car Wash, Des Plaines; Russo Family; Bib and Robert Ryan; Sam's Club, Des Plaines especially Luis Gonzalez; Savvi Formalwear, Niles; Savvy Salon and Spa; SCM Promotions; Steak 'n Shake, Rosemont; Troy Realty Ltd., Chicago; Wendy's at Potter and Dempster; William Wrigley Co.; The Chicago Wolves; XO Glow Tanning and Spa.

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**Student help is Foundation aim**

**By KATHY ROULIFFE**  
kroutliffe@pioneerlocal.com

Members of the Foundation for Educational Excellence hope alumni from Niles Township High District 219 schools will help make the group's mission a success, and the Niles West High School 50th reunion celebration is just one way to attract alumni and dollars, foundation officials say.

**DISTRICT 219**

But you don't have to be an alumni of any township high school — Niles North, West, or the now closed Niles East — to help the foundation support needy District 219 students struggling with the fiscal burdens of education, one of the foundation's directors said last week.

"We're definitely looking for people to come on board. This foundation is there to embrace the entire district and the needs of students throughout the district."

**Alyse Burman**

"We're definitely looking for people to come on board," Alyse Burman said. "This foundation is there to embrace the entire district and the needs of students throughout the district."

The district's first education foundation was started in 1999, but lay moribund after some initial activity. It was revived in late 2004 by members of the Neighbors United community organization which had successfully helped win a tax rate hike for District 219.

The foundation now provides grants for financially strapped students who are trying to improve their academic performance, or are pursuing academic advancement.

Foundation members review grant applications from staff, administrators and counselors, who are familiar with students' financial and academic needs.

Students who meet foundation guidelines have gotten funds to pay for ACT preparation classes or advanced placement test fees, and to buy graphing calculators. The foundation has also provided students with refurbished personal computers, Burman said, and with other financial assistance for school-related activities.

To fund those activities, the foundation takes individual donations. It also offers District 219-themed merchandise such as T-shirts and keychains.

For more information on the foundation's mission and needs, or to view and order Foundation goods, visit its Internet Web site at [www.219foundation.org](http://www.219foundation.org), or call (847) 626-8959.

**Comment: pioneerlocal.com**

**Schakowsky ahead in raising campaign funds**

**By NICK KATZ**  
nkatz@pioneerlocal.com

Deputy Whip.

Information filed by the candidates with the Federal Election Commission for the second quarter of 2008, from April 1 through June 30, shows Schakowsky well ahead of both challengers, taking in more than 20 times what Younan has.

Total contributions to Schakowsky's campaign during the quarter came to \$284,370 compared to \$13,721 for Younan.

According to federal filings Shanfield has not had any contributions and does not have any money in his campaign fund.

On the expense side, Schakowsky spent \$172,193 during the second quarter and had \$407,888 on hand at the end of June.

During the same period Younan spent \$6,686 and had \$7,035 at the end of the quarter.

Those are the same figures Younan has for the full campaign cycle, which runs from Jan. 1 2007 through the end of June.

Money contributed to Schakowsky's campaign totaled \$1,182,869 during that period.

Younan was also outspent by Schakowsky during the entire election cycle. Younan ran unopposed in the March primary while Schakowsky was challenged by Democrat John Nocita.

The contest against Nocita was only the second time Schakowsky has faced a primary challenge. She beat Nocita with more than 87 percent of the vote.

The financing figures filed with the election commission show that Schakowsky spent a total of \$967,511 during the 18-month reporting period.

Younan's money has come from his own election committee, Citizens for Michael Benjamin Younan and himself.

Most of Schakowsky's money during the election cycle, \$908,687, has come from individual contributions with a maximum contribution of \$2,300. The average individual contribution to her campaign has been about \$738, according to her election commission filings.

The remainder of Schakowsky's money has come from political action committees and other committees.

They include the political committees of several labor unions including the AFL-CIO, the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, International Association of Firefighters, United auto Workers and Service Employees International Union.


**Comment: pioneerlocal.com**

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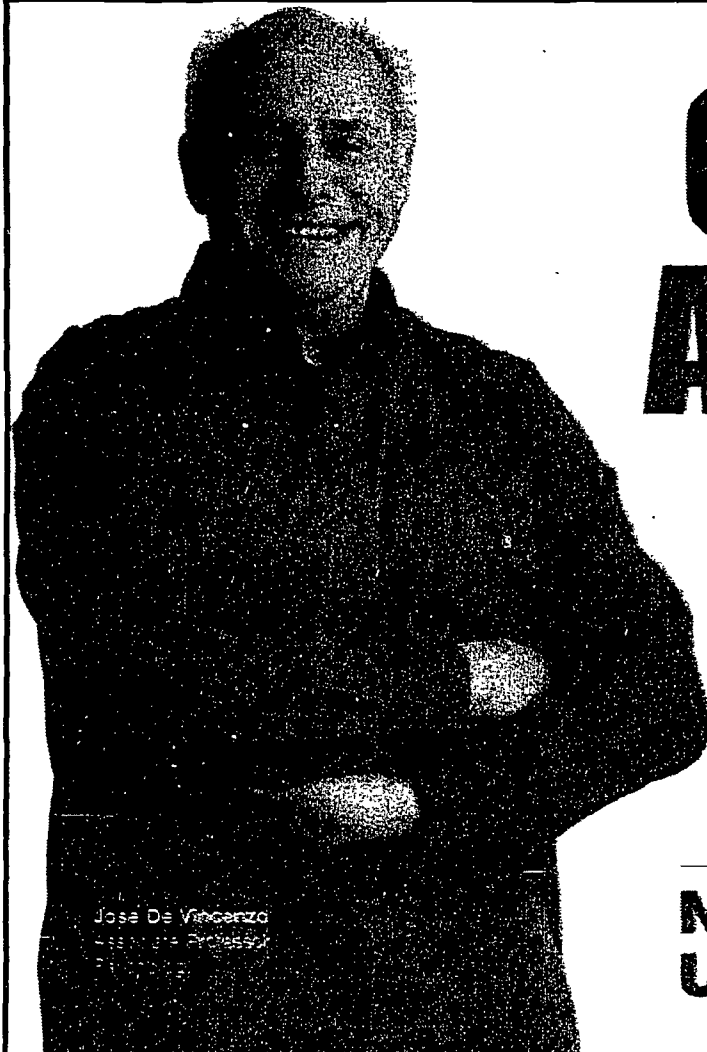
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Jose De Vincenzo  
Assistant Professor

## Maine Township plans National Night Out

A Chicago gang crimes police officer who grew up in unincorporated Maine Township is scheduled to speak to children, teens and adults about making the right choices in their lives during Maine Township's National Night Out.

The annual event will take place on from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday at Dee Park, Dee Road and Emerson Street.

Officer Jason Cowin, the guest speaker, grew up on Dee Road and attended Stevenson Elementary School, Gemini Junior High and Maine East High School. He graduated from Western Illinois University in 1999, majoring in criminal law and sociology. Cowin has been a Chicago police officers for eight years, assigned to the West Side Gang Unit.

National Night Out is a yearly event for residents

and police to come together and take a stand against crime and gangs in their neighborhood. This year, Maine Township will have games and prizes for children in the park, a dance performance by Michelle Biondo and Richard Lyon, singing and raffles. Information booths will be manned by representatives of Maine Township, the township's Emergency Management Agency, Cook County Sheriff's Police, North Maine Fire Department and the Maine Township Neighborhood Watch.

Winners of the National Night Out poster contest will also be announced. Judging was scheduled for July 21.

The night will conclude with a flashlight walk through the neighborhood with members of the Cook County Sheriff's Department leading the way.

## Diversions



Go to [www.pioneerlocal.com](http://www.pioneerlocal.com), select a community and click on Entertainment.



**» BLOGS »**  
In Entertaining Ideas, Jennifer Thomas catches up on her reading with Stephenie Meyer's "Twilight" series and James Frey's "A Million Little Pieces." (Did you read "A Million Little Pieces" before or after the controversy?) Bruce Ingram muses about the most recent Forbes list of top-paid movie stars in "Reel Time."

**» MUSIC »**  
The CSO performs Mahler's "Symphony of a Thousand" at Ravinia. Dorothy Andries tells us how it went.

**» DVDS »**  
"The Counterfeiters," last year's Oscar winner for Best Foreign Language Film, leads off our DVD coverage.

**» GAMES »**  
Erik Stein reviews "Sid Meier's Civilization: Revolution" and "Final Fantasy IV."

**» HOROSCOPE »**  
Check online for this week's forecast.

**» MOVIE TIMES »**  
Updated movie times can be found online on Fridays.

## In the nude for laughs? See 'Full Monty'



PHOTO BY DAN REST

(From left) Joe Coots, Stephen Schellhardt, Milton Craig Nealy, Michael Gerhart, Jason W. Shuffer and KC Lupp at the beginning of their routine.

**'THE FULL MONTY'**  
Through Sept. 21 at Marriott Theatre, 10 Marriott Drive, Lincolnshire. 1 and 8 p.m. Wednesdays; 8 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays; 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays; 1 and 5 p.m. Sundays. \$45. (847) 634-0200 or [www.marriotttheatre.com](http://www.marriotttheatre.com).

By **DOROTHY ANDRIES**  
[dandries@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:dandries@pioneerlocal.com)

It's a raunchy topic, but you're laughing so hard that you don't have time to be offended. The Marriott Theatre's production of the musical "The Full Monty" is so packed with hilarity and so innocent — yes, innocent — that all those jokes about male anatomy just don't matter.

Here's the set-up: Six steel workers are rendered redundant by a plant closing. One, Jerry, is disastrously behind on his child-

support payments, and if he had been behind in his mortgage payments, the show could have been written yesterday. After seeing the financial success of a

male strip show in town, he and his buddies hatch a scheme to do the same themselves, with the added incentive of going all the way, in other words, the full monty.

The book by Tony Award-winner Terrence McNally and score by David Yazbek was inspired by the 1997 British "Monty",

PAGE B2

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FAMILY FRIENDLY

# The sweet spell of a successful magician

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Contributor

You may think your eyes are deceiving you when you see a magic trick. Magician Jeff Bibik will tell how magicians fool all the senses during "Magic and the 5 Senses," 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 6, at Skokie Theatre, 7924 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie.

This family program is free but reservations are required.

Bibik won't give away any secrets, he said. "I'll talk about the principles behind the secrets, and teach a couple of tricks."

Bibik chose his profession when he was in first grade. "A magician came to our school and picked me out of the audience," he related. "He had this little handkerchief. He showed it on both sides and made a bag out of it. He said, 'Reach your hand inside and whatever you find you can keep.' So, I reached my hand inside and when I pulled it out it was full of candy. That's when I decided, 'I'm going to be a magician, too. If you know magic, you can make all the candy you want!' I found out later that isn't the way it works."



Jeff Bibik brings some magic moments to the Skokie Theatre.

For details, call (847) 677-7761.

**Sure bet you'll get wet!**

Families are invited to enjoy food, games and stories during

the "Summer Picnic," 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 2, at the Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo, Harwood Heights. Bring towels for the Super Soaker stories. Registration is required.

**Glass act**

You and your child, ages 6-10, can create a safe "Spectacular Stained Glass," 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

For details, call (708) 867-7828.

Saturday, Aug. 9 at the Brickton Art Center, 306 Busse Highway, Park Ridge. Workshop participants will be shown examples of stained glass works and then create their own. Cost is \$36 per pair for members, \$40 for nonmembers.

For details, call (847) 823-6611.

**Disney world**

It will seem as if the Magic Kingdom has come to the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., during the "Disney Mini-Marathon: Fun and Games Edition," 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 7. The evening will feature Disney short cartoons about sports, games and fun, and a Disney trivia contest with a Disney prize for the family that has the most correct answers. Registration is required.

For details, call (847) 324-3149.

**Imagine this**

Even though your family will be sitting on grass, you will feel you have been transported to a sandy waterfront spot during "Dave Rudolf's Beach Party," 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 3, at the Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave. Rudolf will sing tunes by Jimmy Buffet and others. Audience members will do the hula, jump rope, bend low for the limbo, and otherwise have a great time. Reservations required.

For details, call (847) 825-3123.

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

**'Monty'**

Continued from PAGE B1

film. The setting has been changed from Sheffield, England to Buffalo, N.Y., but the story has not been lost in translation. Male insecurity, marital love and even family values are all portrayed with the same tender touch as in that Academy Award-winning film.

Jerry (KC Lupp), a divorced dad, proposes the stripping scheme to his

co-worker and pal Dave (Joe Coots from the national tour), who is sweet, but overweight. Other workers include plant foreman Harold (Michael Gerhart) who loses his job after he lays off the workers, and Malcolm (Stephen Schellhardt), the timid steelworker who lives with his mother.

Malcolm has been rehired as a security guard for the empty mill, so the men hold auditions for their show there. Enter "Horse" (Milton Craig Nealy, also from the na-

tional touring company), who appears to be an aging fellow with a bad hip, but when he begins his number "Big Black Man," everything changes. He

sweet touch to the team. Jerry's son (Matthew Levy) wins our hearts by being a straightforward, down-to-earth kid — just what the role should

Mueller, fresh from her role as Sister Mary Amnesia in "Nunsense," plays Dave's wife, who loves him, despite his girth. The foreman's wife is played by the lively Kymberly Mellen and Jerry's ex, who is trying to collect child support, is played by Summer Naomi Smart.

The most visible female on stage, however, is the wise-cracking, chain-smoking piano accompanist, portrayed by the indomitable Alene Robertson, just seen as the

Mother Superior in Marriott's "Nunsense." Her character has seen everything and she steals every scene she's in.

Don't be afraid of this production. The songs with music and lyrics by David Yazbek are tuneful and pleasant, and Marc Robin has directed and choreographed a show that is actually quite wholesome at its core.

Do the men go all the way? Yes, but you'll have to see the show to find out how they do it.

**"Marc Robin has directed and choreographed a show that is actually quite wholesome at its core."**

even throws in a series of cartwheels! The sixth member of the dance team is Ethan W. Shuffler, who adds a

Wives, ex and otherwise, have smaller parts, but their presence is crucial. Marriott star Abby

MUSIC

# Band fills in gaps of pop music history



The Nevery Brothers demonstrate musical connections between American rockabilly and the British Invasion groups.

**THE NEVERLY BROTHERS**  
Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines. 2-3:30 p.m. Aug. 3. Free; registration required: (847) 376-2787. [www.dppl.org](http://www.dppl.org)

BY ROBERT LOERZEL  
Contributor

A show by the Nevery Brothers is almost as much history lesson as it is rock concert.

The band, which plays Aug. 3 at the Des Plaines Public Library, shows audiences how the strains of American rockabilly crossed the Atlantic Ocean and influenced British bands like the Beatles.

Kevin Giragosian of southwest suburban Homer Glen is not just the lead singer and guitarist of the Nevery Brothers. He also calls himself the

narrator, because he tells the stories behind the music.

"It gives people a perspective and more meaning behind the songs," he says.

A Nevery Brothers concert begins with the trio in full '50s mode. The story starts in Sun Studios, the famous Memphis studio where Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Roy Orbison recorded.

**Morphing music**

Giragosian tells audiences how country, folk and blues combined into a new form of music called rock 'n' roll. And then the band (which also includes Giragosian's brother Kegang on drums and Craig Gigstad on bass) brings the history to life, playing some of those

early hits.

The story shifts to England in the second half of the concert, after the Nevery Brothers make a costume change. As Giragosian recounts how the young John Lennon and Paul McCartney discovered rock 'n' roll records from America, the Nevery Brothers show the way rockabilly and roots music transformed into the Mersey Beat.

"The Beatles were the most innovative band in rock 'n' roll," Giragosian says. "They changed all the rules."

Growing up, Giragosian liked '60s rock better than '50s music.

"I always liked the Beatles from the time I was a kid," he says. "When I was 5 or 6, I remember seeing them on Ed Sullivan."

By the time he was in

high school in the early '70s, Giragosian was into the music of Alice Cooper and David Bowie. As a college student, he began playing guitar, figuring out how to play songs by listening to his Kinks records over and over.

"I was so fascinated that I couldn't put my guitar down," he says. "Within six months, I started my first band."

**Writing as Wombat**

In the late '80s, when Giragosian was managing Red Tower Records in Orland Park, he started a group called the Wombats. At first, they were a cover band, specializing in power pop, but Giragosian says, "I got the bug to start writing."

The Wombats played

Band, PAGE B9

STAGE

# Teens find kindred spirits in '80s musical

**'FOOTLOOSE'**

ArtReach Educational Theatre and Spotlite Theatrical Company at Stage One Theatre, 620 Lee St., Des Plaines. 7:30 p.m. Friday Aug. 1, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2 and 2 p.m. Sunday Aug. 3. \$13 in advance, \$16 at the door. (630) 808-5852. [www.artreachspotlite.com](http://www.artreachspotlite.com).

BY CATEY SULLIVAN  
Contributor

Having lost her cell phone privileges, Meghan Kalbas, 17, is getting an unwanted crash course in 1980s 101. "On a difficulty level of 1 to 10, this is definitely a 10. I have no idea if anyone's texting me. It's like the one thing I can't live without," she said.

But losing the phone (The Fremd High School junior was understandably vague about the in-

fraction that caused her mother to confiscate the device) has its benefits. For one thing, she's gleaned a clearer picture of what life was like for Ariel, the bad-girl preacher's daughter she plays in the Spotlite Theatrical Company production of "Footloose."

"I've really had to educate the cast about life in the back then," said director Dana Hardel, who loved nothing more as an elementary schooler in the early 1980s than plunking down in front of the family VCR and watching a triple feature of "Footloose," "Flashdance" and "Annie."

**No tech day**

"I had the cast all try to live a day in the 1980s — no laptops, no cell phones, no texting, no iPods. They all came back



"Footloose" features Dan Hamman (from left) of Palatine, Jake Stempel of Buffalo Grove, Meghan Kalbas of Palatine and Shawna Wagner of Schaumburg.

to me and said 'this totally sucks,'" said Hardel. The Roselle resident also gave the cast pictures from the first season of "Facts of Life," "Fame," and "Diffrrent Strokes" so the ac-

tors could get a feel for the look of a decade that was over before they were born.

"They were horrified. At the clothes, but mostly at the hair styles," Hardel

recalled. "Way too big. I can't believe people actually went out like that," Meghan said.

Then there's the Kevin Bacon factor, something inherent to any production of "Footloose." Bacon, of course, starred in the 1984 movie. As Ren, the foxy teenage rebel whose cause was to bring dancing to a parochial backwater, Bacon ensured that an otherwise cheesy movie became an iconic cultural touchstone from the era of leg-warmers and Men at Work.

"The biggest challenge with this show is making the audience understand that this is a new creation. That we're not just putting the movie on stage," said Hardel.

**He's a rebel**

As Ren, 2008 Steven-

son High School graduate Jake Stempel, 18, of Buffalo Grove, isn't worried.

"I think of Ren as a role that fits me instead of a role that fits Kevin Bacon. And I'm a rebel, so it fits my character," Stempel said. "There's a song Ren has, 'I Can't Stand Still' and that completely fits me too. I feel like I always have to be doing something, moving. I'm a free spirit," he said.

"Footloose" is pure retro fun, said Hardel, but it also has a message buried in with the nostalgia.

"It all boils down to the fact that dancing never hurt anybody," said Hardel, "I hope audiences just kick back and enjoy it."

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**OPENING THIS WEEK**

**AMERICAN TEEN**  
Documentary filmmaker Nanette Burstein ("The Kid Stays in the Picture") directed this Sundance hit about five high school kids - a jock, a geek, a heartthrob, an artsy girl and a popular girl - in a small Indiana town. (101 min.) Rated PG-13 for some strong language, sexual material, some drinking and brief smoking.

**MIDNIGHT MEAT TRAIN**  
A New York photographer hunts down a serial killer in this adaptation of the horror story by Clive Barker ("Hellraiser"). Directed by Ryuhei Kitamura ("LoveDeath"). (100 min.) Rated R for sequences of strong bloody gruesome violence, grisly images involving nudity, sexual content and language.

**THE MUMMY: TOMB OF THE DRAGON EMPEROR**  
An American explorer (Brendan Fraser) combats a resurrected Chinese emperor (Jet Li) who wants to take over the world. Rob Cohen ("The Fast and the Furious") directed the latest entry in the action undead franchise. (112 min.) Rated PG-13 for adventure action and violence.

**SWING VOTE**  
★★★  
An ordinary guy (Kevin Costner) learns he will cast the deciding vote in a presidential election. Joshua Michael Stern ("Neverwas") co-wrote and directed the comedy reviewed in this section. (B) Rated PG-13 for language.

**STILL PLAYING**

**BRIDESHEAD REVISITED**  
★★  
It only takes two hours to watch this mediocre, severely altered adaptation of Evelyn Waugh's "Brideshead Revisited," compared to 11 hours for the superb 1981 Granada TV miniseries, but that's no reason to shortchange yourself. The new "Brideshead" suffers by comparison on all counts. Director Julian Jarrold (best known for lighter fare such as "Becoming Julia" and "Kinky Boots") presides over a Britlit lite version of English gentleman Charles Ryder's involvement in the tragic lives of the aristocratic Flyte family, which collapses much of Waugh's story by contriving a tawdry love triangle between Charles (Matthew Goode) and Lord Sebastian Flyte (Ben Whishaw) and Sebastian's sister Julia (Hayley Atwell). The performances range from satisfactory (Goode and Atwell) to seriously disappointing (Whishaw) and there's only a hint of the rich complexities

of Waugh's observations of the insidious way of life of England's upper classes between the world wars. (B) (135 min.) Rated PG-13 for some sexual content.

**THE DARK KNIGHT**  
★★★ 1/2  
You can't trust that Joker character. He's a vicious, amoral, psychopathic, murdering maniac and, given half a chance, he'll steal your movie. Jack Nicholson did it in the 1989 "Batman" and Heath Ledger most definitely does it in the generally excellent "Dark Knight," though their approaches to the character couldn't be much more different. Nicholson camped it up, but Ledger took the Joker seriously - and found a way to make the demented character seem uncomfortably, almost disturbingly, real. Writer/director Christopher Nolan ("Memento") returns with star Christian Bale after "Batman Begins" with the Big Bat suffering more angst about his moral ambiguity while cleaning up Gotham City as a dark vigilante. "The Dark Knight" looks fantastic and the adrenaline-pumping action sequences are spectacular, but it's Ledger's powerfully strange performance that makes it a must see. If he doesn't get an Oscar nomination, it'll be a bigger crime than the Joker ever dreamed of. (B) (152 min.) Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and some menace.

**HANCOCK**  
★★  
Superman. Drunk, burned out, sleeping off a hangover on a park bench. Really annoyed by the whole superhero thing. Wishing the world would go away and leave him alone. Not much chance that's going to happen. That's the great high-concept idea at the heart of "Hancock," which starts strong, looks destined for great things, and then disappoints. Badly. If you're looking for a good-time movie, it might not be a complete waste of time to check out this Will Smith action comedy, but savor the fun stuff in the first half. That's all you're going to get. And be warned before taking the kids: The PG-13 rating on this baby should be taken seriously. Smith plays the burnt-out superhero who serves time in prison as part of an image makeover engineered by a nice-guy PR man (the reliable Jason Bateman) and and pretty much gets his life back on track - until he discovers he has a surprising history with the PR guy's wife (Charlize Theron). (B) (92 min.) Rated PG-13 for some intense sequences of sci-fi action and violence, and language.

**HELLBOY II: THE GOLDEN ARMY**  
★★★  
Rude, brutish and not very bright. That's how the brainy, ecto-

plasmic leader of Hellboy's team of freaky superheroes describes the cigar-chomping, wise-cracking Son of Satan. He may have a point, too, but big Red's still a good guy to have around whenever there's a giant forest god or an army of giant mechanical robots that needs to be clobbered. The second installment in a likely trilogy of Hellboy sagas has the same mix of dark, snarky humor and spectacular supernatural action as the 2004 debut (based on the similarly entertaining Dark Horse comics series), but writer/director Guillermo de Toro has made this one even more eye-poppingly fantastical - apparently finding work for every weird creature he couldn't jam into "Pan's Labyrinth." The plot is more-or-less standard comic book action-extravaganza stuff, with a pinch of dungeons and dragons for flavor. A dark prince of the magical world wants to destroy mankind with a giant mechanical army because of the way we've ghetto-ized all the fairies and ogres and trolls and so forth. Frankly, you can't blame the guy. But Hellboy says heck no. (B) (110 min.) Rated PG-13 for sequences of sci-fi action and violence, and some language.

**KITT KITTREDGE: AN AMERICAN GIRL**  
Aspiring young reporter Kitt (Abigail Breslin of "Little Miss Sunshine") investigates the charge that a camp of hobos is responsible for a crime wave in Depression-era Cincinnati. Patricia Rozema ("Mansfield Park") directed the adventure derived from the American Girl doll line. (101 min.) Rated G.

**MAMMA MIA!**  
★★★  
I have to admit that I'm one of those grumps who break out in a rash whenever I hear a song by the insistently upbeat '70s supergroup ABBA. Even so, this infectiously fun musical romp, which draws on the hits and the back catalog of the Swede popsters to tell a story of young love, not-so-young love and a big happy wedding on a sun-drenched Greek island resort, managed to win me over. For the most part, Meryl Streep (obviously having a blast), plays a middle-aged former nightclub chanteuse, whose daughter (Amanda Seyfried) invites the three men who might possibly be her father (Pierce Brosnan, Stellan Skarsgard and Colin Firth) to her impending nuptials, confident that she'll know her true dad at first glance - and ask him to give her away. That's a classic romantic comedy setup that might have appealed to Shakespeare, and "Mamma Mia!" makes good use of it, as Donna and her three former suitors are thrown into a tizzy of unresolved emotions and uncertain paternity. (B) (108 min.) Rated PG-13

for some sex-related comments.

**STEP BROTHERS**  
★★ 1/2  
If you want a sophisticated plot and deep character development, rent "Talladega Nights." This one's strictly for laughs. Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly and writer/director Adam McKay reportedly had so much fun and made so much money with "The Ballad of Ricky Bobby" that they decided to get together and do it again. This time, Ferrell and Reilly play a couple of developmentally-stunted 40-year-olds who become step-brothers (and mortal enemies) when their parents get married. There's not a lot going on beneath the rude and raunchy surface in "Step Brothers" - in fact, this premise is so thin I'm not even sure it has a surface - but, until it run out of momentum three-fourths of the way through, it's often ridiculously funny. (B) Rated R for crude and sexual content, and pervasive language.

**WALL-E**  
★★★★  
A treasure. If you've been wondering how PIXAR's winning streak is going to come to an end, the answer is: Not this time. Oscar-winning writer/director Andrew Stanton, who's had a hand in roughly half of the animation production company's best efforts, most notably "Finding Nemo," has created what amounts to a classic silent comedy (with a few lines of dialogue here and there) for the 21st century. Wall-E is a faithful little trash-compacting robot, still diligently cleaning up planet Earth hundreds of years after its inhabitants, having thoroughly mucked up the place, have abandoned it and headed for the stars. It's a lonely existence until a robot scout named EVE (for Extraterrestrial Vegetation Evaluator) arrives, discovers the little green plant Wall-E keeps in a boot that looks a lot like the one Charlie Chaplin devoured in "The Gold Rush," and heads back to mankind's mothership to report the news - with the love-struck little robot right behind her. "Wall-E" is fast-paced, action-packed and funny (it's sharply satirical at times and some of the sight gags are inspired), but, best of all, it manages to be touching without being mawkishly sentimental. Chaplin, most likely, would be impressed. (B) (103 min.) Rated G.

**THE X-FILES: I WANT TO BELIEVE**  
FBI agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully (David Duchovny, Gillian Anderson) return in another stand-alone story updating the enormously popular TV series mixing mystery, sci-fi and unexplained phenomena. Co-written and directed by series creator Chris Carter. (105 min.) Rated PG-13 for violent and disturbing content and thematic material. - Reviews by Bruce Ingram

**MUSIC**

**NU theater project gives 'Beauty' a voice**

**'DANGEROUS BEAUTY'**  
Ethel M. Barber Theater, Northwestern University, 30 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. 8 p.m. Aug. 1-2, Aug. 7-9 and Aug. 14-16; and 2 p.m. Aug. 3, 10 and 17. \$30; 27 for seniors and \$10 for students. (847) 491-7282. www.tic.northwestern.edu/tickets.php.

By DOROTHY ANDRIES  
dandries@pioneerlocal.com

Sometimes a story just cries out for music. Not only for music to underscore the drama, but for songs - songs that propel the story into the realm of musical theater.

Such a transformation has happened at Northwestern University. As part of the university's prestigious American Music Theatre Project, the story of Veronica Franco,



Hollis Resnik (left) and Jenny Powers play mother and daughter in the world premiere of "Dangerous Beauty," at the Ethel M. Barber Theater on Northwestern University's Evanston campus.

a 16th century Venetian courtesan and poet, is having its world premiere in a musical titled "Dangerous Beauty."

This real woman, whose story was told in the book, *The Honest*

*Courtesan*, by Margaret Rosenthal in 1992, and made into a sumptuous R-rated 1998 film called "Dangerous Beauty," now has voice to sing about the life she chose to lead, its pleasures and its perils.

"When I saw that the movie 10 years ago, I thought 'This is a musical,'" said singer and composer Amanda McBroom, who wrote the lyrics for the show. McBroom previously composed "The Rose," which became a hit for Bette Midler in 1989.

**Sin in the Renaissance**

"Venice was the Las Vegas of its day," McBroom explained, "but then the Inquisition came to town."

"Courtesans had access to education," she continued. "They were supposed to be able to converse with men on world affairs. Wives were confined to the home and read the Bible."

Set in Renaissance Venice, the production is lavish. "And the costumes by Virgil Johnson!" McB-

room exclaimed, "His costume shop is a visual feast."

The music was written by Michele Brouman, an alumna of NU's School of Music.

"We're using everything from lute to electric guitar," McBroom said, laughing. "This is a big concept piece. Not an opera and not 'Les Miz,' but big."

**Really big show**

"We've given each of these shows a full production, only slightly less than it would be on Broadway," said Stuart Okin, artistic director of the project. He noted that costumes, sets, musicians and many of the actors all came from the university. "I've never worked with such a committed team," he added.

Heading up the 17-

member cast in the role of Veronica is Jenny Powers, a Northwestern alumna, who left "Grease" on Broadway to do this musical.

Playing her mother, who in the story grooms her daughter for a courtesan's life, is Hollis Resnik, an eight-time Joseph Jefferson Award winner and well-known to Chicago audiences.

"It's remarkable to learn about this woman who really lived. When she got older, she set up a home for aging courtesans in Venice," Resnik said. "The costumes are gorgeous, and the students are terrific. Plus it's a brand new work that tells a terrific story."

A story just waiting to be illuminated with music.

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Continued from PAGE B9

**BOOKS & POETRY**

Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave. (847) 965-4220. Aug. 3, 3 p.m.: Discussion of *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver. Aug. 26, 7 p.m.: Discussion of *Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides.

Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St. (847) 376-2787. www.dppl.org. Advance registration required for activities unless noted otherwise.

Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago. (773) 282-7035. www.irishamhc.com. The Irish American Heritage Center School of Celtic Art continues its free discussion series on the Irish Book of Kells at 2 p.m. the last Sunday of each month this fall. The discussions are led by artist and teacher Frank Crowley. The Book of Kells is an ornately illustrated manuscript, produced by Celtic monks around 800 AD. It is one of the more lavishly illuminated manuscripts to survive from the Middle Ages and contains the four gospels of the Bible in Latin, decorated with numerous colorful illustrations. It is on permanent display at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. The next discussion will be held Sept. 28.

Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. (847) 825-3123. www.parkridgelibrary.org. Aug. 26, 7 p.m.: Daniel P. Smith will discuss his nonfiction book, *On the Job: Behind the Stars of the Chicago Police Department*.

**CHILD'S PLAY**

Allstate Arena, 6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or (312) 559-1212; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. The information line is (847) 635-6601. Aug. 9-10, 1:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.: "Pop Go the Wiggles Live!" \$18-\$38.

Creative ceramic classes and workshops for children 5 to 13 years old will be offered in artist Laurey Fisher's studio in Skokie. Summer classes available weekdays and weekends. Projects will emphasize self-expression and imagination while teaching handbuilding and glazing techniques. No experience necessary, all materials and firings included. Call (847) 674-1191 for information and registration.

Kohl Children's Museum, 2100 Patriot Blvd., Glenview. (847) 832-6600. www.kohlchildrensmuseum.org. Hours: 9:30 a.m.-noon Mondays; 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sundays. Special members only hours from 9-9:30 a.m. Monday-Saturday. Admission \$7.50; \$6.50 for senior citizens; free for children under 1. Through Aug. 31: Chagall for Children, hands-on and interactive exhibit designed for children up to age 8. The exhibit features 14 multi-sensory exploration stations, each incorporating a high-quality reproduction of one of Chagall's works. Specific art principles such as color, composition, light and texture are showcased, and many stations feature audio accompaniment.

Wilbur Wright College, 4300 N. Narragansett Ave., Chicago, offers summer dance camps. Children ages 4 and up can enroll in the special summer classes, which range in price from \$20 to \$50. Returning from last summer's offerings is "Rainbow Connection Dance Camp," Aug. 11-13, which covers jazz, tap, hip-hop and ballet. "Movement for Fun," Aug. 14-15, will use upbeat music to help kids get fit. To register for camps, call (773) 481-8114 or e-mail [drosser@ccc.edu](mailto:drosser@ccc.edu). Wunder Studios Performing Arts Conservatory offers classes are in the

Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston. (847) 475-1030. www.mitchellmuseum.org. Suggested donation is \$5 adults; \$2.50 senior citizens, students and children. Maximum suggested admission per family is \$10. Kids Craft Mornings are offered from 10:30 a.m.-noon. Museum staffers and volunteers lead informal workshops where children learn to construct simple versions of traditional Native American objects and engage in other hands-on activities related to native culture. Admission is included with an entrance donation to the museum. Kids Craft Workshops are recommended for children ages 5 and up, but there is no minimum age requirement. Participants must be accompanied by an adult. No pre-registration is necessary. Aug. 5: Dream catchers. Aug. 7: Beaded bracelets. Aug. 12: Great Lakes fishing lures. Aug. 14: Tablitas. Aug. 19: Dream catchers. Aug. 21: Demonstration of powwow dancing, with Mike Pamonicutt of the Menominee Indian tribe.

Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave. (847) 965-4220. July 31-Aug. 14, 3 p.m. Thursdays: Build a Band, for grades 2-6. Register for one or all of the sessions to make musical instruments, then on Aug. 14 come to the Baxter Room to present a concert for friends and family. Aug. 2, 10:30 a.m.: Lego Enthusiasts Club. Children ages 7 and up are invited to the Activity Room to build Lego creations. Some Lego sets will be provided. Aug. 2, 2 p.m.: Twilight Book Discussion for Teens. To celebrate the release of Stephanie Meyer's latest book, *Breaking Dawn*, teens are invited to a discussion of her first three books in the Twilight series. Aug. 9, 10 a.m.: Moovin' and Groovin' for ages 2-4 includes music, dancing, marching, musical instruments, parachute games and creative movement. Aug. 9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Crafty Saturday. Drop in to the Youth Services Department to make a seasonal craft. Aug. 22, 4 p.m.: Paint Your Self-Portrait, for ages 6-13. Art supplies will be provided. Aug. 23, 3 p.m.: Beads for Teens and Chainmaille Jewelry. Supplies and instruction will be provided. Aug. 24, 2 p.m.: World of Robots, an interactive program.

Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. (847) 825-3123. www.parkridgelibrary.org. Registration required unless noted otherwise. Aug. 1, 6-8 p.m.: After-hours release party for *Breaking Dawn* by Stephanie Meyer, the newest book in the Twilight saga. Featuring trivia, book giveaways, costume contests and more. *Starbucks Book Discussion* - Meet at Starbucks on Northwest Highway in Park Ridge. Aug. 21, 4 p.m.: *Breaking Dawn* by Stephanie Meyer. Skokie Theatre Music Foundation presents programs in the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call (847) 677-7761 or visit [www.skokietheatre.com](http://www.skokietheatre.com). Through Aug. 20, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.: Wednesday Afternoon Summer Youth Programs. Free admission; reservations required. Aug. 13: "Brass Works." Aug. 20: "The Magic of Memory."

Chicago and the Midwest Chapter of USA Dance, the national organization representing amateur ballroom dancers. Lesson begins at 7:30 p.m.; general dancing begins at 8:15 p.m. Admission: \$8 members; \$10 nonmembers; \$6 college students with ID. Call (847) 426-7978 for more information. Dance music for all swing, Latin and ballroom dances. Partners not required - singles welcome. Beginning dancers encouraged. The Chicago and the Midwest Chapter of USA Dance is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting ballroom dancing as a healthy recreational activity and as a competitive sport known as DanceSport. [www.chicago-usa-dance.com](http://www.chicago-usa-dance.com). Aug. 2, 7-11 p.m.: USA Dance is co-hosting an event at the Interclub Academy of Dance, 7350-52 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles. Aug. 9, 7 p.m.: "Summer Swing" at The Center at North Park, 10040 Addison, Franklin Park. The featured lesson, West Coast Swing, will be taught by Angie and Paul Cameron. The Flying Squares Square Dance Club will host a special summer dance featuring Jack Pladdys of Fairfield, Ohio, on Aug. 23 at the Arlington Heights Park District Senior Center, 1801 W. Central Road, Arlington Heights. There will be an afternoon advanced dance from 3-5:30 p.m. and an evening

Pickwick Building in Uptown Park Ridge, 3 S. Prospect Ave. Visit [www.wunderstudios.com](http://www.wunderstudios.com) or call (847) 685-2030. Offerings include group musical theatre, guitar and drum classes for children 5 and older, as well as private music lessons for all instruments. There are also Musikgarten classes that build music and movement skills for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. The YADI Club (Youth Arts/Dance International) holds dance classes for teens and younger students at the Jefferson Park Field House, 4822 N. Long. Classes meet at 1:30 p.m. Saturdays and 6:15 p.m. Wednesdays and are conducted by Tina Mangos Dance. Learn salsa, swing, cation dances, big band and more. (773) 282-5108 or [www.tinamangosdance.com](http://www.tinamangosdance.com).

**COMEDY**

Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. Tickets are available at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or (312) 559-1212; the ticket prices listed below do not include service fees. For more information about the theater, call (847) 671-5100. Oct. 24, 6 p.m.: Carlos Mencia. "At Close Range." \$43.50. Nov. 1, 8 p.m.: "An Evening of Classic Lily Tomlin." \$37.50, \$55, \$75.

**DANCE**

Chicago Dance Club, (847) 622-4466. Dance to DJ music from the '50s to today from 7:30-11:30 p.m. Saturdays at American Legion Hall, 8664 W. Grand Ave., River Grove. Mostly swing dancing, some ballroom, Latin and line dancing. Open to ages 21 and older. \$5 members; \$9 nonmembers. Membership fee \$25. Upcoming dates: Aug. 9 and 23; Sept. 13 and 27; Oct. 11 and 25; Nov. 8 and 22; Dec. 13. Chicago's Windy City Jitterbug Club holds dances to the music of the '50s, '60s and more, from 8 p.m.-midnight at the American Legion Hall, 9757 W. Pacific Ave., Franklin Park, unless otherwise noted. Admission to club dances is \$5 for members; \$10 for nonmembers. Proper attire required; no blue jeans or shorts allowed. Must be 21 or older. Call (773) 467-0177 or visit [www.jitterbugchicago.com](http://www.jitterbugchicago.com). Aug. 2 and 16: Regular dances.

The Chicago and the Midwest Chapter of USA Dance, the national organization representing amateur ballroom dancers. Lesson begins at 7:30 p.m.; general dancing begins at 8:15 p.m. Admission: \$8 members; \$10 nonmembers; \$6 college students with ID. Call (847) 426-7978 for more information. Dance music for all swing, Latin and ballroom dances. Partners not required - singles welcome. Beginning dancers encouraged. The Chicago and the Midwest Chapter of USA Dance is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting ballroom dancing as a healthy recreational activity and as a competitive sport known as DanceSport. [www.chicago-usa-dance.com](http://www.chicago-usa-dance.com). Aug. 2, 7-11 p.m.: USA Dance is co-hosting an event at the Interclub Academy of Dance, 7350-52 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles. Aug. 9, 7 p.m.: "Summer Swing" at The Center at North Park, 10040 Addison, Franklin Park. The featured lesson, West Coast Swing, will be taught by Angie and Paul Cameron. The Flying Squares Square Dance Club will host a special summer dance featuring Jack Pladdys of Fairfield, Ohio, on Aug. 23 at the Arlington Heights Park District Senior Center, 1801 W. Central Road, Arlington Heights. There will be an afternoon advanced dance from 3-5:30 p.m. and an evening

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Continued from PAGE B10

Plus dance from 8-10 p.m., with pre-rounds starting at 7:30 p.m. Howard and Anna Hoffman will cue the rounds. Cost is \$6 per person for each dance. Casual attire welcome. For information, call (847) 885-7387.

Frisbie Senior Center, 52 E. Northwest Highway, Des Plaines. Mondays: Big Band Night, 7-9 p.m., dance to big band music; \$3 for members, \$5 nonmembers. Tuesdays: Line dancing from 10-11 a.m.; \$2.50 for members, \$3 nonmembers; square dancing, 12:30-2:30 p.m., \$3 per person. Wednesdays: Square dancing, 10 a.m.-noon; \$1.50 for members, \$2 nonmembers. Fridays: Round dancing, 9:30-10:30 a.m. for beginners, 10:30 a.m.-noon for regulars; \$3.50 for members, \$4 nonmembers. Call (847) 7688-5944.

Happy Twirlers Dance Club provides round and square dancing on the second Saturday of the month, September-May, in Immanuel Lutheran Church, Thacker and Lee streets, Des Plaines. Rounds begin at 7:30 p.m. Call (847) 827-6500 or (773) 685-0407.

Kaleidoscope Dance & Movement Center, 3944 Church St., Skokie, offers classes in ballet, jazz, hip-hop, tap, and modern. Call (847) 679-7842 or visit [www.kaleidoscopedance.com](http://www.kaleidoscopedance.com).

Leikarringen "Heimhug" dancers welcome those age 16 and older interested in Scandinavian folk dance to join them from 8-9:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the First United Methodist Church of Des Plaines, 666 Graceland Ave. No prior dance experience or partner necessary. Call (847) 823-7596 or (847) 692-6616.

Squares Sunday Evening Club holds ballroom dances from 7:30-10:30 p.m. the first and third Sunday of the month at the American Legion, 9757 Pacific Ave., Franklin Park. Admission is \$8 for members; \$9 guests. Call (847) 965-5730. Aug. 3: Music by Chuck and Friends. Aug. 17: Music by the Dick Elliot Orchestra.

Square Spares & Pairs, a nonprofit square dance club, dances the second and fourth Mondays of the month all year long at the Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge. Rounds start at 7:30 p.m., with squares from 8-10 p.m. Admission: \$5 for members; \$6 for visitors. Square dance lessons are held from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Glen Park Center, Room 201, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview. First lesson is free. For information on lessons, call (847) 663-0116 or (847) 398-8087.

Swing 'N' Country Dance Club offers

dances and lessons in couples country western and swing dances. Dance lessons are offered on Wednesdays every month: 7:30 p.m. for beginners; 8:35 p.m. for intermediate dancers. Cost for monthly lessons \$30 for members; \$40 nonmembers. Dances are held the first and third Friday of every month. Doors open at 7:15 p.m.; open dancing from 9 p.m.-midnight. Admission is \$6 for members; \$12 for nonmembers. All lessons and dances are held at Centre at North Park, 10040 W. Addison, Franklin Park. For information, visit [www.swingincountry.org](http://www.swingincountry.org) or call (847) 638-7621.

**FAIRS & FESTIVALS**

Lakeshore Arts Festival, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Aug. 2-3 at Dawes Park, Sheridan Road at Church Street, Evanston. The event features works by 125 juried artists, entertainment by Jacob Hertzog, jazz guitarist, Emily Hurd, vocalist/pianist, juggler/magician Andy Head, performers from Actors Gymnasium and Angela Allyn/Pirate Girl, a children's craft tent, a silent art auction each day, and food by local restaurants. Admission is free. Call (847) 448-8058 or visit [www.cityofevanston.org/arts](http://www.cityofevanston.org/arts).

"Rev Up for Summer Fun," 1-4 p.m. Aug. 3 on the grounds of the Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Featuring a display of "muscle cars" from 1-4 p.m., and "beach party" music by Dave Rudolf from 2-3 p.m. Food will be available. (847) 825-3123 or [www.parkridgeli-brary.org](http://www.parkridgeli-brary.org).

**FILM**

Block Cinema, in the Pick-Laudati Auditorium at the Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, (847) 491-4000. [www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu/block-cinema](http://www.blockmuseum.northwestern.edu/block-cinema). July 31, 7 p.m.: Screening of rare films from the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY. The two-hour program will include commentary by David Filipi, film and video curator at Wexner Center for the Arts, Ohio State University. Free. Block Cinema will present a summer outdoor movie series on the East Lawn adjacent to Norris University Center, 1999 Campus Drive. Admission is free. In the event of rain, films will be shown at Norris University Center's McCormick Auditorium, 1999 Campus Drive. Aug. 6, 8:30 p.m.: "Touch of Evil." Aug. 13, 8:30 p.m.: "Inherit the Wind."

Canine Lovers Cinema, 2 p.m. Aug. 10 at the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. A series of short films featuring dogs as the main characters will be shown. Admission: \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door. Tickets can be ordered

online at [www.skokietheatre.com](http://www.skokietheatre.com). A percentage of the proceeds will benefit CARE (Community Animal Rescue Efforts) in Evanston. For information, contact Marilyn Goler at (847) 987-8755 or [mgoler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mgoler@sbcglobal.net). Capannari Ice Cream, 10 S. Pine St., Mount Prospect, (847) 392-2277. [www.capannaris.com](http://www.capannaris.com). Aug. 12, dusk: Outdoor Moovie Night series featuring "Hairspray."

"Long Way Down," a documentary featuring Ewan McGregor and Charley Boorman riding motorcycles through 20 countries from Scotland to South Africa, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. July 31 at the Niles Showplace, 301 Golf Mill Center, Niles. Tickets are available at the theatre box office or online at [www.FathomEvents.com](http://www.FathomEvents.com).

Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave. (847) 965-4220. Aug. 3, 2 p.m.: Animé Club summer movie, "Fullmetal Alchemist." Aug. 5, 11:30 a.m.: "Smart Travels Pacific Rim: Shanghai, Hong Kong." Aug. 12, 11:30 a.m.: "Smart Travels Pacific Rim: Sydney, Queensland." Aug. 15, 4 p.m.: "College Road Trip." rated G. Aug. 16, 2 p.m.: "P.S. I Love You." rated PG-13. Aug. 21, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.: "National Treasure 2: Book of Secrets." rated PG. Aug. 23, 2 p.m.: "Juno." rated PG-13. Aug. 26, 11:30 a.m.: "Déjà Vu." rated PG-13. Aug. 31, 2 p.m.: "Bella." PG-13.

Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. (847) 825-3123. [www.parkridgeli-brary.org](http://www.parkridgeli-brary.org). Films @ the Library - No registration needed. Doors open for seating one-half hour before show time. July 31, 7 p.m.: "Into the Wild." rated R. Aug. 7, 7 p.m.: "Raise the Red Lantern." rated PG. Aug. 12, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.: "Enchanted." rated PG. Aug. 14, 7 p.m.: "The Counterfeiters." rated R. Aug. 21, 7 p.m.: "The Orphanage." rated R. Aug. 28, 7 p.m.: "Persepolis." rated PG-13. *Travel films*, at 2 p.m. Thursdays - Aug. 7: Beijing. Aug. 14: Germany. Aug. 21: Spain. Aug. 28: Iran.

Silent Film Society of Chicago's 2008 Silent Summer Film Festival, held Fridays through Aug. 22 at the Portage Theater, 4050 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago. For more information, visit [www.silentfilmchicago.com](http://www.silentfilmchicago.com).

**ORGANIZATIONS**

The American Jewish Artists Club is currently accepting new members. The group, founded in the early 1920s, focuses on the broad aspects of visual art and serves to enrich the cultural fiber of the Jewish community at large. For information, contact Lorre Slaw, (847) 272-0744 or [lslaw@oakton.edu](mailto:lslaw@oakton.edu). Des Plaines Art Guild meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in Prairie Lakes Community Center, 515

Thacker St., Des Plaines. There is a \$3 fee for nonmembers. For information, call Margaret Newman, (847) 824-8952, or visit [www.dpag.org](http://www.dpag.org).

Park Ridge Art League meets at 7:30 p.m. the third Friday of the month in the South Park Fieldhouse, 833 Talcott Road, Park Ridge. Guest fee is \$3. Call Dorothy DuSold, (847) 825-3505.

Skokie Art Guild meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month in the Mary Radmacher Room at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Visitors welcome.

Skokie Photographic Society meets at 7:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at Skokie Village Hall, 5127 W. Oakton St. All levels of photographers welcome. Call (847) 677-8324.

Weavers Guild of the North Shore meets at 10 a.m. the first Thursday of the month at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3637 Golf Road, Evanston. New mem-

bers are welcome. Call Lou Spedale, (773) 274-6505, or e-mail [manouli@people.com](mailto:manouli@people.com).

**TOURS & OUTINGS**

Skokie Northshore Sculpture Park, on the north channel of the Chicago River, separating the cities of Skokie and Evanston, (847) 679-4265. [www.sculpturepark.org](http://www.sculpturepark.org). A series of free guided tours are offered on select Sundays, May-October, weather permitting.

Trained volunteer docents will lead informal and informative walking tours in the park. Participants will learn about a selection of the park's more than 60 large-scale, contemporary sculptures, the creative entities and forces behind the works, and the history and genesis of the sculpture park. Tours begin promptly at 1 p.m., will be approximately one hour in length and

cover one section of the park. Aug. 24: Section I. Park and meet in the North Parking Lot between Dempster and Main. Sept. 28: Section II. Meet on the northeast corner of Oakton and McCormick park in Additional Parking. Oct. 26: Section IV. Park and meet in the South Parking Lot between Howard and Touhy.

**WORKSHOPS & CLASSES**

**ART**

Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave. (847) 965-4220. Aug. 23, 10 a.m.: Bookbinding Using Thread. Learn how to bind handmade books using thread. For ages 13 and up.

**MUSIC**

Bel Canto Conservatory of Music, 209

S. Main St., Mount Prospect, offers acting, piano and voice lessons for all ages and levels; private half-hour and hour lessons with qualified trained professional instructors in all styles of music. Musical theatre, pop and classical classes are Monday-Friday, scheduled on personal preference. Call (847) 707-5392.

Northwest Music School, 920 E. Northwest Highway, Mount Prospect, (847) 394-9442. Offering lessons in guitar, bass, drums/percussion, piano, voice, woodwinds and strings. George Peyovich, Suzuki specialist, offers lessons in violin, piano and organ on an individual basis in his Skokie and Glenview studios. Call (847) 674-8235.

**ET CETERA**

"Big, Loud & Live 5." Drum Corp International's World Championship Quar-

terfinals, will be shown live from Indiana University's Memorial Stadium at 5 p.m. Aug. 7 at Niles Showplace, 301 Golf Mill Center, Niles. For tickets, visit [www.FathomEvents.com](http://www.FathomEvents.com).

The Mount Prospect Historical Society will hold its sixth annual "Grave Conversations" Cemetery Walk from 5-8 p.m. Aug. 1 and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Aug. 2 at the St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery on Elmhurst Avenue just north of the Mount Prospect post office. Local residents will portray men and women from Mount Prospect history. As visitors walk through the cemetery, actors will talk about the people they are portraying and converse with visitors in character. Admission is \$10 and tickets will be sold at the gate only. (847) 392-9006 or [www.mtphist.org](http://www.mtphist.org).

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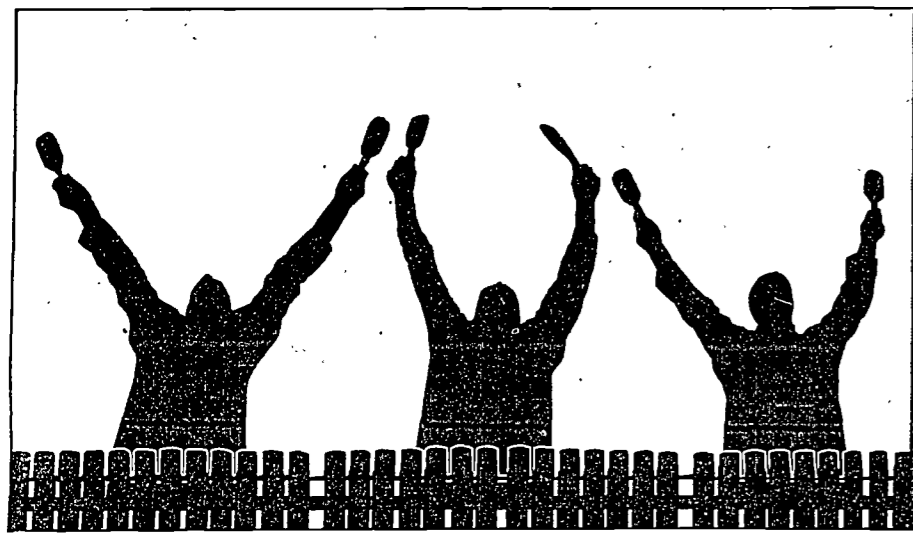
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We are proud to announce that Cafe Lucci is the recipient of **Wine Spectator's 2008 Best of Award of Excellence** (Award of Excellence 2002-2007)

To view Cafe Lucci's 2008 award-winning, 740-selection list, visit [www.cafelucci.com](http://www.cafelucci.com) and click on Wine Program.

**Next Wine Event!**  
**Mediterranean Wine Tasting**  
Thursday, August 21  
6:30pm to 8:30pm

featuring exotic new appetizers from Chef-Owner **Angie Arifi's** recent travels to Italy, Turkey, Spain and Greece

\$30 per person  
Space is limited, so reserve your spot early!  
**847-729-2269**

Lunch: Monday - Friday Dinner: Seven Days  
609 Milwaukee Avenue, Glenview  
847-729-2268 [www.cafelucci.com](http://www.cafelucci.com)

- ACROSS**
- 1 News bit
  - 5 Billboard
  - 9 Request an encore
  - 13 Flying Pan?
  - 18 Praise passionately
  - 19 Singer Guthrie
  - 20 Top-notch
  - 21 Pit
  - 22 "It Up" ('73 hit)
  - 23 A roaring success?
  - 24 Nary a soul
  - 25 Actress Address
  - 26 Start of a remark by Laurence J. Peter
  - 30 Unfashionable
  - 31 Castilian cry
  - 32 "— and shine!"
  - 33 Part 2 of remark
  - 37 "Golden Girl" McClanahan
  - 38 Read quickly
  - 40 Spellbound
  - 44 Generation
  - 45 McGregor of "Train-spotting"
  - 47 Company
  - 49 Hot off the press
  - 50 Mirth
  - 52 Tennis legend
  - 53 Kanga's creator
  - 54 Crafter's need
  - 56 Anderson's "Tea and —"
  - 58 Shucks
  - 59 "Beagle" passenger
  - 60 — Spumante
  - 61 Lout
  - 62 "State Fair" state
  - 64 Etta of the comics
  - 65 Commercials
  - 68 Part 3 of remark
  - 72 Actor Fernando
  - 73 Learning method
  - 75 Grant or Elwes
  - 76 Youngster
  - 77 Emulated Pinocchio
  - 79 Winter wear
  - 81 Milo of "Ulysses"
  - 83 Malamutes and huskies
  - 87 Poe crow
  - 88 More owlsh
  - 89 Coat material
  - 90 Singer Amos
  - 91 Relished the rigatoni
  - 92 Ullman or Gold
  - 94 Flicka's foot
  - 95 Chum
  - 96 Harper of "Tender Mercies"
  - 98 Adequate
  - 99 Under-standing
  - 100 Part 4 of remark
  - 104 Lug
  - 106 Actress Zadora
  - 107 TV's "Have — Will Travel"
  - 108 End of remark
  - 117 Infantry action
  - 118 Cheese-board choice
  - 119 Landed
  - 120 Bearing
  - 122 Like Corn Belt soil
  - 123 Congenial
  - 124 — list
  - 125 Beige
  - 126 "The Threepenny Opera" star
  - 127 Antlered animal
  - 128 Out-of-this-world org.
  - 129 Meat cut
  - 3 Sinister
  - 4 Wine variety
  - 5 Greet the general
  - 6 Rainbow goddess
  - 7 Whipped-cream serving
  - 8 Hendryx or Gaye
  - 9 Wicked thing?
  - 10 At large
  - 11 — May Wong
  - 12 Jury member
  - 13 Knitting stitches
  - 14 Less demanding
  - 15 Part of Micronesia
  - 16 Colleague of 101 Down
  - 17 Rug type
  - 21 Like a Vermont village
  - 27 "What?"
  - 28 It may be common
  - 29 Rub
  - 33 Packs groceries
  - 34 "The — Dachshund" ('66 film)
  - 35 Swarm (with)
  - 36 New York university
  - 37 — Dawn Chong
  - 38 Made mucky
  - 39 Faultfinder
  - 41 Response
  - 42 Clothing category
  - 43 Jacksonian bill
  - 46 Kid's query
  - 47 Hodges of baseball
  - 48 Loser's locale
  - 51 Antipollution grp.
  - 52 Storm
  - 53 Winter wear
  - 55 Joan Van —
  - 57 Lava particles
  - 58 "Balli —"
  - 59 '73 Elton John hit
  - 61 Ancient epic
  - 63 Prosperous
  - 65 Genesis peak
  - 66 Contribute
  - 67 Ranges
  - 69 Beethoven symphony
  - 70 Air safety org.
  - 71 Nugent or Knight
  - 74 Poetic preposition
  - 78 Banned pesticide
  - 80 Picnic pest
  - 82 "Yo!"
  - 83 — Canals
  - 84 Klutz's cry
  - 85 Mardi —
  - 86 Farm feature
  - 88 Rouse
  - 89 Finished first
  - 93 Act like the Earth
  - 94 "— Wave" ('63 hit)
  - 97 Comic Kaye
  - 99 "Trees" poet
  - 101 Author Christie
  - 102 Word with fruit or Stanley
  - 103 Crown covering
  - 105 Florida city
  - 106 Locale
  - 108 Knight time
  - 109 Muscat's nation
  - 110 Be inclined
  - 111 Magnus or McClurg
  - 112 "Laugh-in" name
  - 113 Literary pseudonym
  - 114 Pine for
  - 116 Garr of "Mr. Mom"
  - 117 "Silent" president
  - 121 Sister

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Answers: inside today's classified section  
See the Web for the horoscope, [www.pioneerlocal.com](http://www.pioneerlocal.com)

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Classified Display Ads: 5:00 pm Mon

Logos or Artwork: 5:00 pm Mon

Commercial Ads: May vary - consult your rep

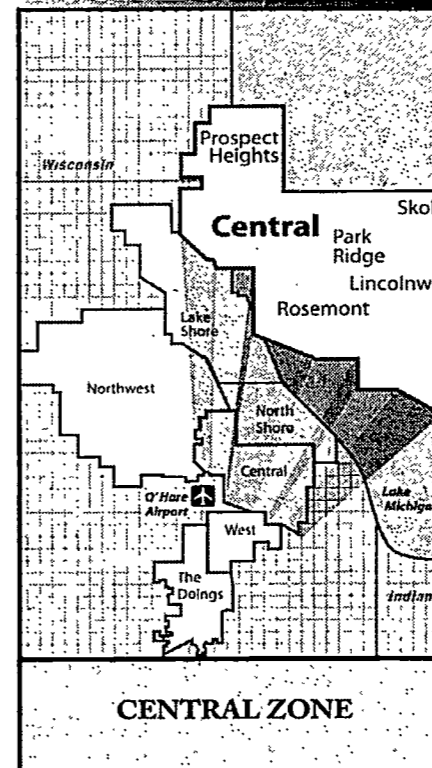
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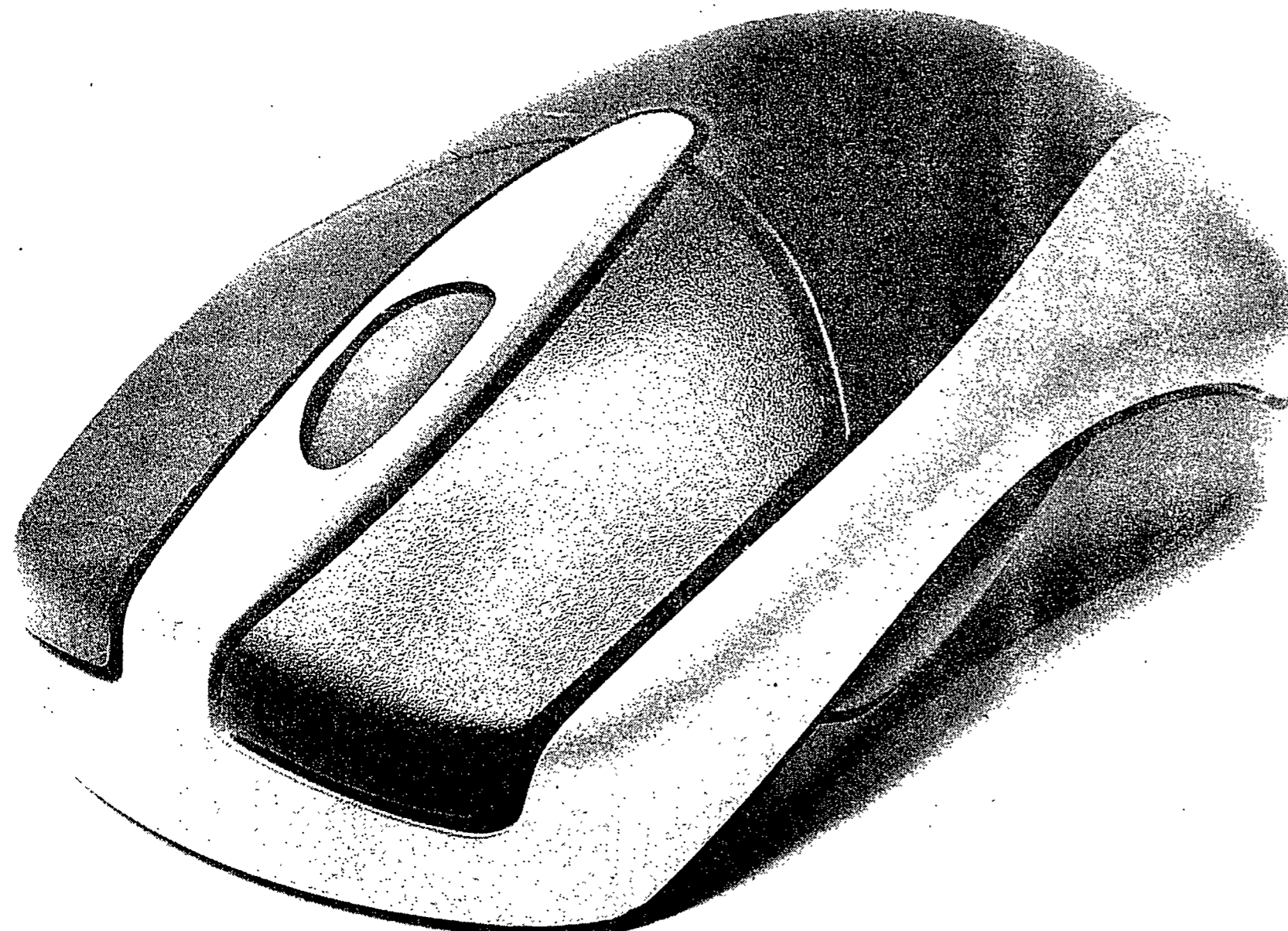
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- Employment .....400s
- Rentals .....500s
- Real Estate For Sale ....600s
- Marketplace .....700s
- Sporting Mart .....800s
- Automobiles .....900s
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### WOMEN SEEKING MEN

**LET'S SPEND SOME TIME**  
Attractive, young senior, blonde/blue, average build, very youthful-looking, seeks secure SWM, 65-75, N/S, with SCH, for companionship, movies, dining out, possible LTR. #14821

**WANTED**  
A man with a mind is hard to find, and add to that he must be kind, funny, polite, North-Shore lady, retired but fun, asks "are you the one?" If you fit the bill, don't stand still. 69 and over will be fine!

**INTERESTED?**  
SBF, 35, 5'7", N/S, enjoys bowling, dining, movies. Looking for hard-working SWM, 40-45, for friendship, maybe more. #285657

**LIKES TO LAUGH**  
Divorced mom, 31, three kids, looking to start dating again. You must be able to accept my children as part of my life. #275171 @ likestolaugh1

**SOMEONE SPECIAL**  
Sweet, down-to-earth SWF, 32, in search of mature, older man who enjoys dining, movies and quiet evenings at home. #280146

**DOWN-TO-EARTH**  
BF, 32, looking for SM, 27-45, to hang out and spend time with. If you're out there, give me a ring. #25962

### TAKE A CHANCE

DWF, 31, marriage-minded, N/S, 5'10", curvaceous, bubbly, mother of two, loves church, seeks WM, 28-41, N/S, for friendship, maybe more. #134323

**HOT, SEXY NURSE**  
SWF, 34, 5'4", 120lbs, blond/brown, seeks SWM, 35-65, for LTR. Now to the point. Wonderful writer fun a must. Lots got to know each other. #240633

**THE BEST OF LIFE**  
SBF, 29, 5'2", full-figured, shapely, attractive, N/S, looking for a spontaneous, passionate SWM, 30-36, for friendship first, maybe more. #272211

**SIMILAR QUALITIES?**  
SBF, 31, 5'8", full-figured, soccer, N/S, social drinker, enjoys bowling, travel, weekend getaways and being spontaneous. Seeking tall, handsome, soccer BM, 31-35, for dating. #274391

**SINGLE MOM**  
Fun-loving, very outgoing BF, 25, 5'11", 250lbs, would like to meet a man who likes to have fun to go out on dates with. #276969

**OLDER GENTLEMAN**  
WWMF, 51", 110lbs, college grad, attractive, active, 70s, caring, friendly, enjoys walks, movies, music, theater. Seeking intelligent man, 77-82, to share pleasant times together. #224625

### TAKE LEAP OF FAITH

1ddd, S/PF, 46, blonde, 5'8", appealing, with traditional values, bright, advanced degree, fun, passionate, ethical, eclectic interests, very, very nice. Former personal assistant to nationally syndicated advice columnist. Seeking compatible WM, late 40s-mid-60s, for permanent best friend/lover. Great kisser! #749453

**MEN SEEKING WOMEN**

**NO DISAPPOINTMENTS**  
SBM, 32, 6'1", 145lbs, slim build, father of two, seeks S/B/F, 25-33, D/L free, no drama, who will be there for me. #285203

**ATHLETIC**  
SBM, 34, 6'4", 230lbs, N/S, seeks nice woman, 24-38, to talk and joke with and get to know. Enjoy taking walks, basketball, football, jogging. #287790

**CASUAL DATING**  
SWM, 31, 6'1", blond, large build, looking for fun SWF, 27-35, to hang out with. I like reading, writing, movies. #283173

**SEEKING REAL WOMAN**  
SBM, 33, seeks SW/BF, 18-45, seeks SW/BF, 18-45, for friendship first, possibly more. No drama. #284610

**HI GIRLS!**  
SWM, 25, 5'8", 160lbs, handsome build, outgoing, entertaining, soxy, silly guy, wants SW/BF, 18-28, wants one happy, easy, sexy girl that's hilarious, spontaneous, adventurous, fun-loving. #893093

**LOOKING FOR MY #1**  
SBM, 25, outgoing, likes to have fun, seeking a SF, 18-24, nice, caring, down-to-earth, fun-loving, to spend time with. #226505

**GOOD-LOOKING CPA**  
Single Jewish male, 5'11", brown hair, blue eyes, physically fit, N/S, enjoys movies, plays, long walks, dining out, dancing, and sports, has great sense-of-humor. Seeking attractive single Jewish female with similar interests. 52-60, for LTR. #749098

**A GENTLEMAN**  
DWM, 6'2", 50s, looks younger, brown/brown, 195lbs, old-time, N/S, social drinker, many interests. ISO 40+ petite female, race open. La Grange area (within five miles). #285780

**SEEKING ASIAN LADY**  
ISO petite, pretty, asian for fun, friendship, and possible LTR. I am 35, SWM, 5'11", 180lbs, attractive, in-shape, I'm looking for a S/DAR, 25-40, who is looking for a caring, honest man. Please call. #246893

**HELLO LADIES**  
SWM, 60, 6'4", 260lbs, enjoys dining in/out, flea markets, outdoor activities, casinos, c&w music, seeking nice SWF, 50-60, Waukegan area. #281989

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Refinish your turn & kit chairs. Back to like new condition. 23 yrs exp. 847-927-4679

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**400s** Situations Wanted Business & Professional.....405 Child Care.....410 Elder Care.....411 Home Medical Care.....412 Household.....415 House Sitting.....416 Kids Classified.....420

**Help Wanted Domestic** Domestic Agency Employment.....422 Child Care.....424 Elder Care, Companion.....426 Home Medical Care.....428 Household.....430

**Help Wanted Commercial** Business for Sale.....431 Business Copies, Franchises.....432 Career Services.....434 Employment Training Svcs.....435 Personal, Temporary Svcs.....436 Full Time.....440 Sales, Independent Reps.....441 Job Fairs.....442 Seasonal Positions.....443 Part Time.....445 Courses in Real Estate.....446 Temporary Positions.....448

**426- Help Wanted Elder Care, Companion** Live in weekends. Evanston, IL. LTH & care for two disabled persons. English, dr, non-smk. Ret. Sandy 630-308-8833

### 410- Seeking Employment-Child Care

Any person regularly providing child care for more than three unrelated children under age 12 is subject to licensing by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. The number counted includes the family's own children. If you are unsure whether any person listed here is subject to licensing, please contact your local DCFs office.

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**TODAY'S MARKET SAYS BUY!** Rehab. Foreclosed Properties. Bion 312-217-5876

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Pursuant to the Business Opportunity Sales Law of 1995, every business opportunity must be registered with the Illinois Securities Department. Protect yourself and the facts before you hand over your hard earned money by contacting the Illinois Secretary of State's Securities Department at (800) 628-7937.

**Executive Assistant** Polished professional w/ top skills desired to assist Exec. Director at national medical foundation in Evanston, IL. Must be a Stock Owner/Shareholder. Meeting mgmt. experience a plus. Bachelor's degree, project mgmt. & advanced MS office skills req'd. Apply with salary history to: dtpen@dermatologyfoundation.org

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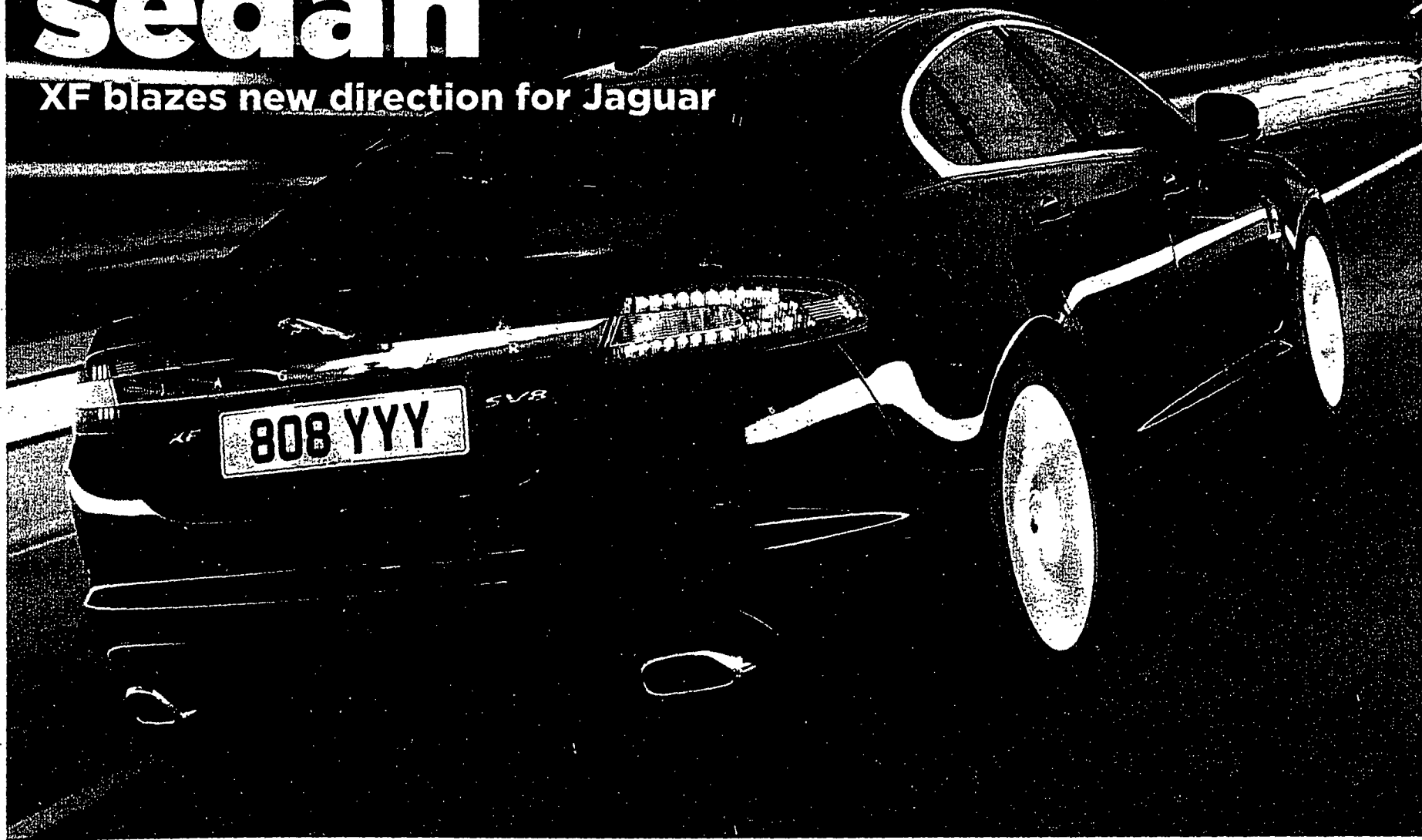
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Lease for: **\$129** for 24 mos.\*  
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13 More Available At Similar Savings

**New 2008 Mazda CX7**  
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Lease for: **\$179** for 24 mos.\*  
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11 More Available At Similar Savings

**New 2008 Mazda CX9**  
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\*All prices are MSRP. Taxes and fees are extra. \*\*0% financing is available on select models. Financing for Mazda is subject to credit review. Dealer will not honor errors in this advertisement. See dealer for complete details. \*\*0% APR for 24 mos. on select models. \$2323 due at lease signing. No security deposit required. (Tax, title, license extra). Offer ends 07/31/08.

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Lease for \$189 mo./36 mos.\*  
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Lease for \$198 mo./36 mos.\*  
\$1999 due at signing includes 1st mos payment, acquisition fee & down payment. No security deposit required. (Tax, title, license extra). Offer ends 07/31/08.

**2008 Volkswagen Jetta S**  
Lease for \$198 mo./36 mos.\*  
\$1999 due at signing includes 1st mos payment, acquisition fee & down payment. No security deposit required. (Tax, title, license extra). Offer ends 07/31/08.

\*Closed end lease with qualified credit thru Volkswagen Credit. \$450 security deposit. \$1999 due at signing includes 1st mos payment, acquisition fee & down payment. No security deposit required. (Tax, title, license extra). Offer ends 07/31/08. \*\*0% APR for 72 mos. = \$13.88 per \$1000 financed with approved credit on 2008 New Beetle Convertible & GTI. 0% APR for 36 mos. = \$27.78 per \$1000 financed with approved credit on Rabbit, R32, New Beetle, Jetta, Passat, EOS, Tiguan & Touareg.

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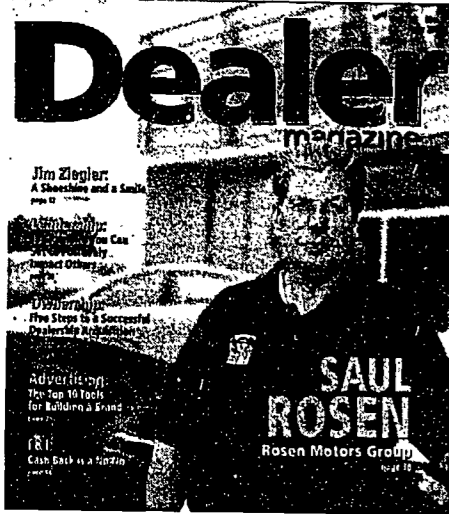
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# Saul Rosen makes the cover of Dealer Magazine

While many northern Illinois/south-east Wisconsin residents may not see the July issue of Dealer Magazine, a monthly trade journal that goes to more than 56,000 automotive professionals, chances are they would recognize the man on the cover - Saul Rosen, founder and president of Rosen Motors Group - either by his face, his name or both.

That's because generations of area residents have grown up hearing the familiar Rosen-Rosen-Rosen jingle, seeing the iconic Rosen Motors Group advertising and buying cars from the auto dealer, who has eight franchises in Illinois and Wisconsin.

"I'm honored to be featured by Dealer Magazine because the story is more about our organization and hard-

working team at Rosen Motors Group than it is about me," Saul Rosen said. "We're a family run business since two of my nephews manage dealerships and my other managers have been with us since the beginning. That gives us stability and continuity in today's world where everyone seems to change jobs every few years. We're in this business for the long term and our customers know it.

"Being recognized by Dealer Magazine shows that our organization is among the top automotive dealer groups in the U.S. and that really says something," Rosen said. "I'm blessed by a hard-working and dedicated sales and service staff, many of whom have spent their entire career with Rosen Motors Group."

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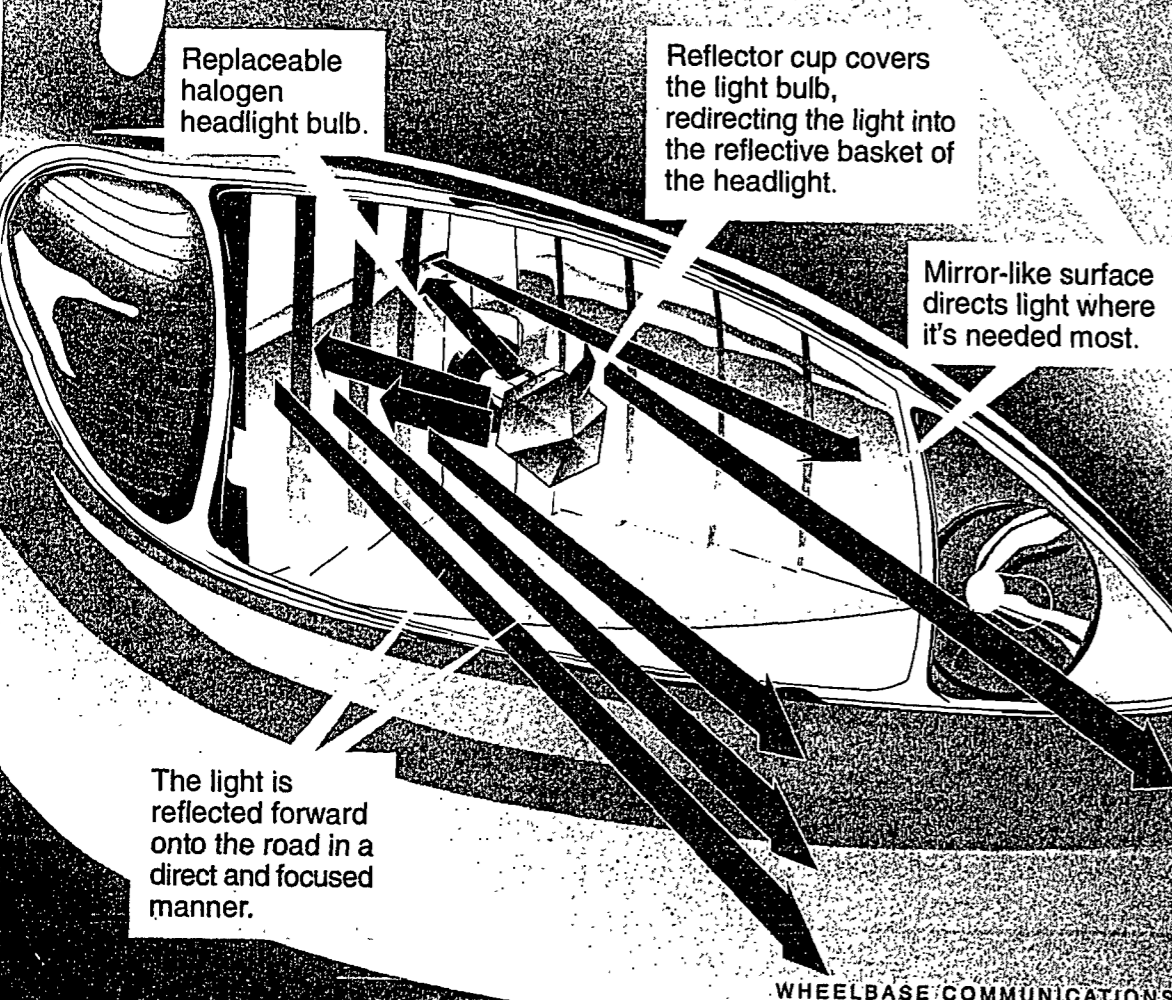
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### autoGRAPH

## Brighter headlights use mirrors

Headlights on most new vehicles have a reflective cap that covers the bulb. Without the cap, the ambient forward light generated by the bulb is unfocused and offers little usable luminosity. The cap reflects the wasted light rearward into the headlight "basket," which redirects the light, focusing it on the road ahead.



Replaceable halogen headlight bulb.

Reflector cup covers the light bulb, redirecting the light into the reflective basket of the headlight.

Mirror-like surface directs light where it's needed most.

The light is reflected forward onto the road in a direct and focused manner.

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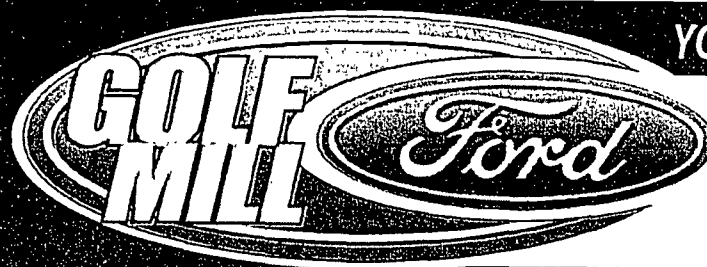
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02 FORD TAURUS pw, pl, pwr seats, ac, stereo cd, #10331B	\$1,150
92 FORD F-150 custom, a/t, ac, abs, pwr seats, #271795B	\$1,950
95 CHEVY PICKUP 1500 ac, abs, pwr seats, tach, 6 cyl, #280147A	\$2,995
94 CHEVY SUBURBAN 4X4 pw, pl, rear ac, 3rd seat, alloy wheels, #280478A	\$3,650
95 BMC PICKUP SLE 4X4 ac, pw, pl, tow pkg, bedliner, #370036B	\$4,750
93 MITSUBISHI MONTERO sr, 4dr, pw, pl, lthr buckets, 4x4, cd, #271730C	\$4,950
96 FORD CONVERSION VAN pw, pl, cruise, tilt, roof rack, #271522B	\$5,950
01 CHEVY VENTURE w/b, pwr lthr, buckets, rear ac, #280167A	\$7,995
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01 CHEVY SILVERADO Z71 LT loaded, 4x4, pwr htd lthr seats, tow pkg, #270932A	\$8,995
02 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4 snrl, loaded, 8cyl, stereo cd, #180374A	\$9,650
03 CHEVY SILVERADO 4X4 8cyl, ac, bedliner, cruise, tilt, 1 owner, #271128A	\$9,650
02 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT pw, pl, pwr buckets, snrl, 1 owner, #180331A	\$10,650
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07 CHEVY EQUINOX LT fwd, pw, pl, stereo cd, alloy, 1 owner, #10333A	\$15,950
05 FORD EXPLORER LTD pw, pl, pwr htd lthr buckets, 3rd row seat, #10222C	\$15,650
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07 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LS 4x4, pw, pl, pwr buckets, rear ac, 1 owner, #280111A	\$19,650
05 CHEVY COLORADO LS 4dr, loaded, 4x4, hard tonneau cover, #10464A	\$19,650
06 GMC ENVY SLT 4X4 snrl, loaded w/htd lthr, 1 owner, #10381A	\$20,995



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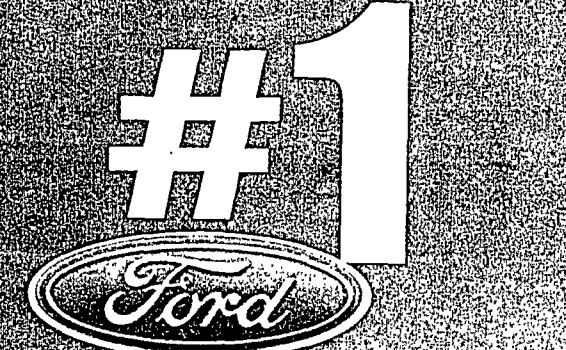
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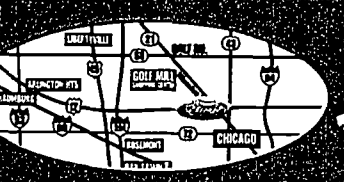
BRAND NEW 2008 FORD TAURUS SEL 3.9% APR! \$19,988 PER MONTH W/\$500 DOWN \$349 DOWN #82870. V6, ALLOY WHEELS, PL. PW. PWR SEAT, BACK UP SENSORS, MP3, TILT, CRUISE, LOADED. ALL NEW JUST REDESIGNED! NAVIGATION SYSTEM!

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<b>TOTAL SAVINGS: \$9,223</b>		<b>TOTAL SAVINGS: \$10,349</b>	

<b>NEW 2008 NISSAN PATHFINDER</b> #V80101A ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. \$26,805 OUR DISCOUNT -\$1,662 MFG. REBATE -\$2,500 NISSAN BONUS CASH -\$5,000 <b>YOUR PRICE: \$17,743*</b>	OR LEASE FOR \$186 PER MO. FOR 36 MO. \$0 DOWN Plus tax, title, lic. & doc. fee. 17¢/mi. 15¢/mi over. Res. #12,516	<b>NEW 2008 NISSAN TITAN</b> #V80101A ORIGINAL M.S.R.P. \$28,045 OUR DISCOUNT -\$2,545 MFG. REBATE -\$5,000 NISSAN BONUS CASH -\$5,000 <b>YOUR PRICE: \$15,500*</b>	OR LEASE FOR \$229 PER MO. FOR 36 MO. \$0 DOWN Plus tax, title, lic. & doc. fee. 17¢/mi. 15¢/mi over. Res. #11,701
<b>TOTAL SAVINGS: \$9,162</b>		<b>TOTAL SAVINGS: \$12,545</b>	

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H4749A '05 Lexus ES330 18K Miles... <b>\$25,988</b>	B1841A '08 GMC 1500 Pickup 424 Crew Cab... <b>\$17,988</b>
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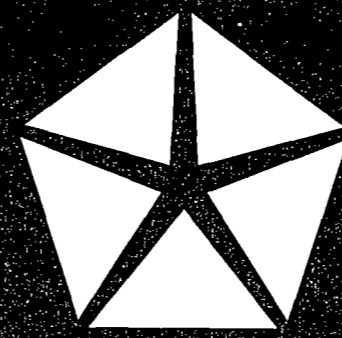
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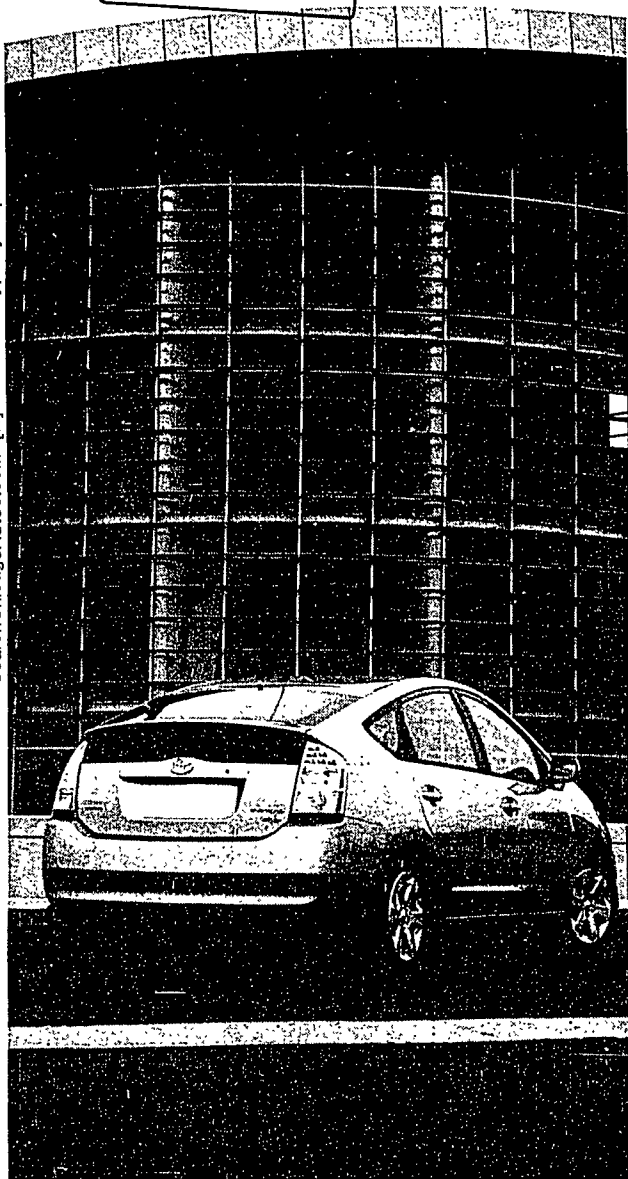
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2001 Chevy Lumina Auto, Tilt, Cruise, PW, PDL... \$4,995	2000 Dodge Grand Caravan PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, 64k Miles... \$5,995	2007 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT 5 Cyl, PW, PDL, Rear AC, PDriver's Seat, Full Stow N Go... \$14,995	2008 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab SLT 4x4 Only 1550k, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, CD... \$17,995
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2005 Chevy Cobalt 40 Seater, Auto, CD, AM/FM, Tilt, Cruise, AC, Only 32K MI, Great Gas Saver... \$8,488	2003 Ford Explorer Ltr 4WD, Auto, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, CD... \$8,995	2006 Dodge Dakota Quad Cab SLT 4x4 Auto, V8, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, Alloy, 1 Owner... \$15,995	2008 Chrysler Aspen Limited V8, Flex Fuel, Auto, AM/FM, Ltr, Mfr, Chrome Wheel, 7 Psg, Htd Seats, AM/FM/CD, Sirius Satellite, Climate Control, Black/Pearl Paint, Like New... \$25,988
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2002 Chrysler 300 Special Edition 1 Owner, Only 28K MI, V6, Auto, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, CD... \$8,995	2007 Dodge Caravan V6, Auto, PW, PDL, CD, Tilt, Cruise, 7 Psg, Pwr, Alloy, Only 44 MI... \$12,995	2008 Jeep Liberty Auto, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, 4x4, Only 6k Miles... \$15,995	
2003 Jeep Liberty Sport 4x4 Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, CD, Low Miles... \$9,995	2007 Dodge Charger SXT 2007 Chrysler Town & Country Touring Edition PL, PW, Quad Captains Chairs, Power Sliding Doors... \$13,988	2007 Dodge Charger SXT 3.5L, Auto, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, CD, Alloy, Suna Satellite... \$15,995	
2005 Chrysler Pacifica Ltr, Mfr, Alloy, CD, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, CD... \$9,995	2006 Chevy Cobalt LT Ltr, Mfr, Alloy, CD, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, CD... \$9,995	2008 Chrysler 300 Hemi Ltr, Chrome Wheels, Htd Seats, PMV, Ltr... \$16,995	
2003 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo 4WD, Ltr, Mfr, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, CD, Power Mirr, V8... \$9,995	2004 Dodge Durango 4x4 4x4, 4 Dr, 7 Psg, PW, PDL, CD, 7 Pass... \$9,995	2007 Dodge Charger RT Ltr, Mfr, Nav, Mfr, Alloy, Black... \$16,995	
	2003 Cadillac CTS Ltr, Climate Control, Alloy, PW, PDL, CD, 30K MI, Like New... \$13,995		

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**Toyota raises Prius price for 2009**

NEW YORK – Toyota Motor Corp. said last Friday it is raising the U.S. suggested retail price of its Prius hybrid by \$500 for the 2009 model.

The new price is a 2.2 percent increase over the current models. Prices will range from \$22,000 for the standard Prius to \$24,270 for a touring model, the company's U.S. sales unit said.

Bill Kwong, spokesman for Toyota Motor Sales USA Inc., said the growing cost of commodities is the main reason behind the increases. He ticked off a list of commodities-based raw materials that have seen a price run-up in the last year.

"Almost everything is made out of petroleum," he said. "Rubber, plastic, transportation [costs], glass, things like that."

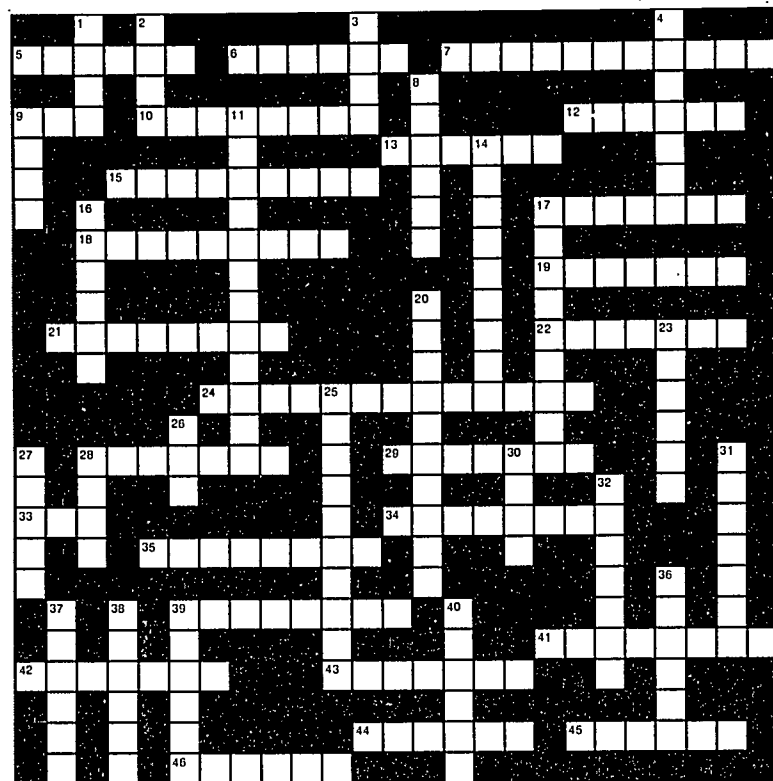
"We try to absorb the costs by making things more efficient and cutting back where we could, but we also don't want to cheat the customer on the quality of the product," he said.

U.S. Prius sales have recently declined because the company has been unable to keep up with demand as gas prices soared and consumers sought more fuel-efficient cars. The Japanese automaker sold 91,440 Priuses in the first half of 2008, down about 3 percent from a year earlier. The gas-electric hybrid gets a combined 46 miles per gallon, according to Environmental Protection Agency estimates.

Toyota also announced new prices for a dozen other Toyota and Scion models, with an average increase of \$181. Lexus, Toyota's luxury brand, announced higher prices for four vehicles as well.

Except for the Prius, the price increases are all below 2 percent.

Associated Press



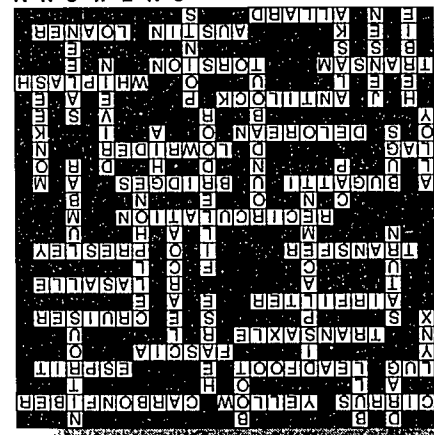
**DOWN**

1. Spoiler adds this
2. Lamborghini mascot
3. Shift-gate cover or trunk term
4. This gas adds power
8. Last-ride vehicle
9. Mercury's Escort derivative
11. Cylinder volume
14. Paint protection
16. GM division launched in 1983
17. Off. illegal to use when driving
20. Open this to fuel up
23. Adjustable seat support
25. Traffic-circle term
26. Bad cover
27. Wheel type
28. Clog grille and radiator
30. Italian auto stylist
31. Band drove modified GTO
32. Show venue for autos
36. Mustang modifier
37. "Fully Loaded" car star
38. \_\_\_\_\_ Healey
39. \_\_\_\_\_ Highway (northern road)
40. Lost for driving too fast

**ACROSS**

5. A cloudy Chrysler?
6. Caution light
7. Lighter and stronger than fiberglass
9. Engine revs are too low
10. Fast-driver slang
12. Pretty Woman car star
13. Moulded bumper covering
15. Tranny/differential combo
17. Police or PT
18. Often made of paper
19. Archie and Edith's car
21. 4x4 \_\_\_\_\_ case
22. "Speedway" singing star
24. "R" in EGR
28. 1,000-horsepower Bugatti
29. Last American Hero star
33. Delayed turbo boost
34. This custom uses hydraulics
35. Flux Capacitor movie car
39. Brake-assist feature
41. Rear-ender injury
42. Bandit's ride
43. \_\_\_\_\_-bar suspension
44. Metropolitan engine maker
45. Temporary driver
46. 1950s Caddy-powered sports car

**ANSWERS**



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 <b>2004 FORD FOCUS</b> \$12,995 or \$175/mo	 <b>2004 FORD FOCUS</b> \$12,995 or \$175/mo
 <b>2004 FORD FOCUS</b> \$12,995 or \$175/mo	 <b>2004 FORD FOCUS</b> \$12,995 or \$175/mo
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# New Car Buyers Guide

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<b>Audi</b>	<b>LOREN BUICK/PONTIAC</b> 1610 Waukegan Road, Glenview 847-729-8900 www.lorenautogroup.com	<b>Chevrolet</b>	<b>LARRY ROESCH CHEVY</b> 866-235-0505 333 W. Grand Ave., Bensenville www.larryroesch.com
<b>AUDI OF TINLEY PARK</b> 8021 W. 159th St. 866-379-5929 audiotinleypark.com	<b>Cadillac</b>	<b>ADVANTAGE CHEVROLET</b> I-55 & Route 53, Bolingbrook 888-655-5359 www.advantagechevy.com	<b>PHILLIPS CHEVROLET</b> Rtes. 30 & 45, Frankfort 866-281-0769 www.phillipschevy.com
<b>LAUREL AUDI OF WESTMONT</b> 276 E. Ogden Ave. 866-383-3044 www.laurelaudi.com	<b>AL PIEMONTE CADILLAC</b> 1611 E. Main (North Avenue-Rt 64) St. Charles 630-513-5353 piemontecadillac.com	<b>ADVANTAGE CHEVROLET</b> LaGrange & Joliet Roads, Countryside Auto Mall 800-961-7609 www.advantagechevy.com	<b>RIZZA CHEVROLET</b> 8200 S. Harlem, Bridgeview, (888) 560-7799 www.rizzachevy.com
<b>BMW</b>	<b>Bill Jacobs Cadillac</b> 2001 W. Jefferson St., Joliet 800-540-0731 www.BillJacobsAuto.com	<b>APPLE CHEVROLET IN TINLEY PARK</b> (708) 429-3000 8585 W. 159th www.applechevy.com	<b>SKYWAY CHEVY</b> 8650 S. Commercial Ave. Chicago 888-496-5471 skywaychevy.com
<b>BILL JACOBS BMW</b> 1564 W. Ogden Ave., Naperville, IL 1-866-516-8015 www.billjacobsbmw.com	<b>Cadillac of Naperville</b> 1507 W. Ogden Ave., Naperville, 630-355-2700 www.napervillecadillac.com	<b>Bill Jacobs Chevrolet</b> 2001 W. Jefferson St., Joliet 800-507-6841 www.BillJacobsAuto.com	<b>SUNRISE CHEVROLET</b> 147th & Cicero SunriseDeals.com (866) 892-0836
<b>BMW OF ORLAND PARK</b> 8470 159th St. Orland Park, 888-500-2369 bmwop.com	<b>Frank Shirey Cadillac</b> 10125 S. Cicero Oak Lawn, IL 1-800-DEVILLE www.shireycadillac.com Ext. Service Hrs. Evenings til 8pm, Fri & Sat til 5pm CERT CAR CTR. 108th & CENTRAL, Oak Lawn, IL	<b>BILL KAY CHEVROLET</b> 601 Ogden & I-355 Downers Grv/Lisle 630-968-2900 billkaychevrolet.com	<b>Chrysler</b>
<b>ELMHURST BMW</b> 466 W. Lake St., Elmhurst 888- 287-6555 www.elmhurstbmw.com	<b>GROSSINGER CADILLAC</b> 6900 N. McCormick Lincolnwood 800-775-9843 www.grossinger.com	<b>BREDEMANN CHEVROLET</b> 1401 W. Dempster St. Park Ridge 847-698-1234 Next to Lutheran General Hospital www.bredemmann.com	<b>ADVANTAGE CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE</b> 77 Rand Rd., Des Plaines 888-504-5048 www.advantagecj.com
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<b>LAUREL BMW OF WESTMONT</b> 430 E. Ogden Ave. 866-385-9527 bmwofwestmont.com	<b>HERITAGE CADILLAC</b> 303 W. Roosevelt rd., Lombard 630-629-3300 www.heritagecadillac.com	<b>GROSSINGER CHEVROLET</b> 151 E. Lake Cook Rd. Palatine 877-359-2438 www.grossingerchevy.com	<b>FIELDS CHRYSLER</b> 670 Frontage Road, Northfield, IL 60093 866-419-3385 www.fieldsauto.com
<b>PATRICK BMW</b> 700 E. Golf Road, Schaumburg 877-749-9921 www.patrickbmw.com	<b>PATRICK CADILLAC</b> 526 Mall Dr., Schaumburg 877-749-9921 www.patrickcadillac.com	<b>HOSKINS CHEVROLET</b> 175 N. Arlington Hts Rd., Elk Grove Village 847-439-0900 www.hoskinschevrolet.com	<b>GREGORY CHRYSLER-JEEP</b> 130 Cedar Ave., Lake Villa 800-770-6582

# New Car Buyers Guide

**Authorized Dealers**

Chrysler (Cont'd)	Hyundai (con't)	Mini	Subaru (cont'd)
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<b>Dodge</b>	<b>O'HARE HYUNDAI</b> River Rd & Oakton, Des Plaines. For The Lowest Prices Call Direct 888-404-7084	<b>Mitsubishi</b>	<b>GERALD SUBARU</b> 1210 E Ogden, Naperville 630-355-3900 1-888 & Orchard Rd, N. Aurora 630-907-0800 www.GeraldSubaru.com
<b>ADVANTAGE CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE</b> 77 Rand Rd., Des Plaines 888-504-5037 www.advantagecj.com	<b>PATRICK HYUNDAI</b> 1020 E. Golf Rd., Schaumburg www.patrickcars.com 866-314-4539	<b>GRAND MITSUBISHI</b> 303 W. Grand Ave. Bensenville 630-860-3100 GrandMistu.com	<b>Grand Subaru</b> York Rd. & Grand Ave., Elmhurst, Bensenville www.GrandSubaru.com 630-595-0250
<b>DODGE OF NAPERVILLE</b> 1565 W. Ogden Ave. (630) 355-3410 www.napervilledodge.com	<b>Hummer</b>	<b>MAX MADSEN MITSUBISHI</b> He's Mad, He's Bad, He's at 3 SALE locations in Countryside 708-469-5050, Downers Grv 630-960-5040 Aurora 630-898-6000 www.MaxMadsen.com	<b>Suzuki</b>
<b>FIELDS DODGE</b> 670 Frontage Rd., Northfield, IL 60093 866-419-3385 www.fieldsauto.com	<b>HUMMER OF NAPERVILLE</b> 3200 Ogden Ave Lisle (630) 946-1700 www.napervillehummer.com	<b>SOUTH HOLLAND MITSUBISHI</b> 150 W. 159th St. 708-680-5100 www.southhollandmitsubishi.com	<b>Grossinger Suzuki</b> 6900 N. McCormick (Kimball) Lincolnwood 800-775-9843 www.grossinger.com
<b>GREGORY DODGE</b> 490 Skokie Valley Rd. Highland Park 800-770-6574	<b>Infiniti</b>	<b>AL PIEMONTE NISSAN</b> 401-11 E. North Ave., Northlake (708) 343-3800 www.apnissan.com	<b>JACK PHELAN SUZUKI</b> You Gotta See Jack 7050 W. Ogden, Berwyn 888-400-1847
<b>NORWOOD PARK DODGE</b> 800-BUY-DODGE 6333 N. Northwest Hwy. At The Corner Of Harlem & Devon www.norwoodparkdodge.com	<b>FIELDS INFINITI</b> 1121 S. Milwaukee Ave., Libertyville 847-362-9200 www.fieldsauto.com	<b>AUTOBARN NISSAN OF EVANSTON</b> 1034 Chicago Ave. 847-475-8200 www.theautobarn.com	<b>Suzuki of Elmhurst</b> 334 W. Grand Ave., Elmhurst 630-532-5600 www.suzukiofelmhurst.com
<b>SHERMAN DODGE</b> 7601 N. Cicero Ave., Skokie (888) 739-9744, #1 Dodge Dealer in IL	<b>Jaguar</b>	<b>BERMAN'S MID CITY NISSAN</b> 4444 W. Irving Pk. Rd. Chgo. 888-590-8669 midcitynissan.com	<b>Toyota</b>
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<b>ANDERSON FORD</b> 6539 W. Ogden, Berwyn, IL 708-795-7900 www.AndersonBrosFord.com	<b>LAUREL JAGUAR OF TINLEY PARK</b> 8031 W. 159th St. 866-451-0812 laureljaguar.com	<b>KELLY NISSAN</b> 4300 W. 95th St. Oak Lawn 708-499-1000 www.kellynissan.com	<b>ELMHURST TOYOTA</b> "The Low Price Leader" 888-205-6340 http://www.elmhursttoyota.com
<b>ARLINGTON HTS. FORD</b> www.ahford.com 801 W. Dundee Rd, Arlington Heights (847) 346-3042	<b>PATRICK JAGUAR OF NAPERVILLE</b> 1559 W. Ogden Ave. (877) 749-9921 www.patrickjaguar.com	<b>MARTIN NISSAN</b> 5240 Golf Road, Skokie 866-838-2300 www.martinissan.com	<b>GROSSINGER CITY TOYOTA</b> 1233 N. Wells Chicago 800-783-9315 www.grossingercitytoyota.com
<b>AUTONATION/WOODFIELD FORD</b> 815 E. Golf Road Schaumburg 877-211-1935	<b>Jeep</b>	<b>NISSAN OF SOUTH HOLLAND</b> 708-333-2000 94nissan.com 159th & I-94 on Van Dam Rd.	<b>GROSSINGER TOYOTA NORTH</b> 7225 N. Cicero Ave., Lincolnwood 800-782-2649
<b>BILL KAY FORD MIDLOTHIAN</b> 800-804-3558 14633 S. Cicero Ave. www.billkayford.com	<b>ADVANTAGE CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE</b> 77 Rand Rd., Des Plaines 888-504-5043 www.advantagecj.com	<b>Fields Jeep</b> 670 Frontage Rd., Northfield, IL 60093 866-419-3385 www.fieldsauto.com	<b>Libertyville Toyota Scion</b> 1180 S. Milwaukee Ave, Libertyville 877-311-3817 www.libertyvilletoyota.com
<b>CURRIE MOTORS FORD-FRANKFORT</b> #1 In Midwest Rt 30&45 fordoffrankfort.com 866-YESFORD	<b>GREGORY CHRYSLER-JEEP</b> 130 Cedar Ave., Lake Villa 800-770-6582	<b>Kia</b>	<b>NORTHBROOK TOYOTA</b> 1530 Frontage Rd. 800-734-3205 www.northbrooktoyota.com
<b>JOE RIZZA FORD OF NORTH RIVERSIDE</b> 2100 S. Harlem, 1-888-400-1222 rizzacars.com	<b>EVERGREEN KIA</b> 9205 S. Western Ave., Chicago (866) EVER-KIA, www.evergreenkia.com	<b>Pontiac</b>	<b>OAKBROOK TOYOTA IN WESTMONT</b> 550 E. Ogden Ave. 630-789-9600
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<b>MCCARTHY FORD, INC</b> 11400 S. Pulaski, Chicago 773-239-7900 www.mccarthyfordinc.net	<b>JOE RIZZA KIA</b> 159th & 80th Ave. Orland Park, 708-403-0300 rizzacars.com	<b>Bill Kay Buick Pontiac GMC</b> 2300 Ogden, Downers Grove 630-969-0022 billkaypontiac.com	<b>Orland Toyota/Scion</b> 8505 W. 159th St. Tinley Park, IL 708-342-6429 www.OrlandToyota.com www.OrlandScion.com
<b>Webb Ford on 95th</b> 2601 W. 95th Evergreen Pk IL 708-423-3500 www.webbford95th.com	<b>KIA OF SCHAUMBURG</b> 910 W. Golf Road 800-604-7549	<b>Grossinger Pontiac</b> 6900 N. McCormick (Kimball) Lincolnwood 800-775-9843 www.grossinger.com	<b>PAULY TOYOTA</b> 1035 S. Rt. 31 One Mile South of Rt. 14, Crystal Lake 815-459-7100 847-658-9050
<b>GMC Truck</b>	<b>Lexus</b>	<b>Loren Buick/PONTIAC</b> 1610 Waukegan Road, Glenview 847-729-8900 www.lorenautogroup.com	<b>PLANET TOYOTA</b> I-57 & Rt 30, Matteson Auto Mall, 800-625-7012 www.planettoyotaonline.com
<b>GROSSINGER GMC</b> 6900 N. McCormick (Kimball) Lincolnwood 800-775-9843 www.grossinger.com	<b>BREDEMANN LEXUS IN GLENVIEW</b> 2000 N. Waukegan Rd. 847-729-6000 www.bredemmann.com	<b>Porsche</b>	<b>TOYOTA SCION ON WESTERN</b> 6941 S. Western Ave. Chicago 773-884-7200 www.toyotaonwestern.com
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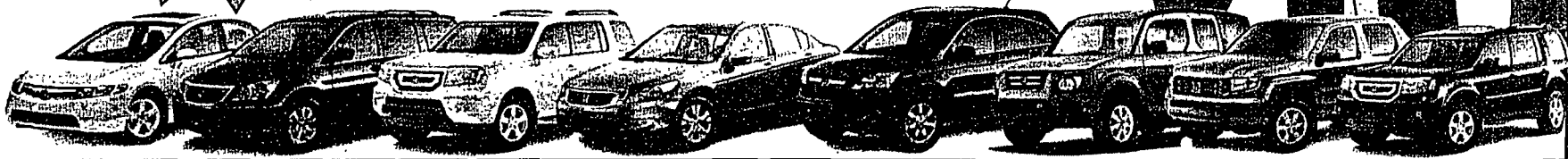
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# Today's New Homes

NORTH EDITION ■■■■ JULY 30-AUGUST 1, 2008

## Communities take advantage of natural settings

By Marcy Marro  
SPECIAL TO SUN-TIMES NEWS GROUP

At times, it seems that most open has now been, or soon will be, developed into a new building, shopping center or office park. Here are some of the communities in the Chicagoland area that pride themselves on displaying Mother Nature in her purest form.

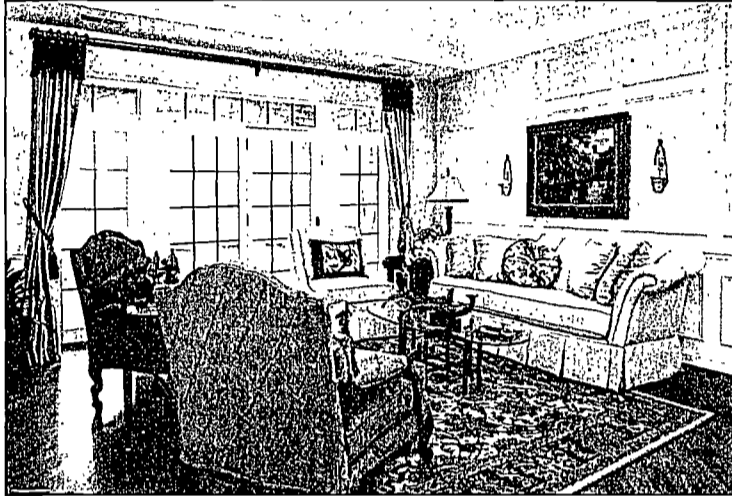
### Amberley Woods

By visiting Residential Homes of America's Amberley Woods in Lake Forest, prospective buyers can see how close they can be to Mother Nature when they purchase a home at this one-of-a-kind premium condominium estate community.

A 38-acre master plan community that is being built on the historic Blithfield Estate, Amberley Woods gives buyers a rare opportunity to live in a mature wooded setting surrounded by nature, yet only minutes from every modern convenience.

RHA has planned for just 90 maintenance-free luxury condominiums at Amberley Woods, with pricing starting in the low \$500s. The first deliveries have begun, along with the debut of furnished models. Amberley Woods features 45 condominiums in two four-story buildings on a heavily wooded 9.5-acre site that is part of the overall 38-acre master planned estate. The buildings feature brick and stone exteriors with cedar shake roofs, lush landscaping and an English country architectural style that complements the natural décor of Blithfield Estates and the prestige of Lake Forest.

An amazing variety of birds, waterfowl, plants and animals can be seen on any given day at Amberley Woods. Homes are situated to provide great views of the site's rolling terrain and scenic pond. Walking paths throughout the estate allow homeowners to get up close and personal with the natural landscape.



Nature greets visitors on a daily basis with a wonderful array of sights, sounds and visual delights at Amberley Woods, Residential Homes of America's premium condominium community in Lake Forest.

"Living at Amberley Woods is the best of both worlds," said Ann Danner, president and owner of RHA. "Homeowners can enjoy the rich natural setting without concerns of landscape upkeep or exterior maintenance chores. They will have plenty of time to relax in their homes, have friends over to share in their experience of living in such a beautiful setting or go away on vacation or business without any worries. This neighborhood fits

a wide variety of lifestyles and really is the perfect combination of luxury, natural beauty and carefree living."

RHA offers a selection of different condominium floor plans with homes sized from 1,363 to 2,648 square feet with two to three bedrooms; up to three baths; master suites with walk-in closets

■■■■ Turn to NATURAL, 2

### ■■■■ inside ■■■■

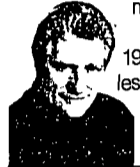
#### 'Ultimate' sale

**KLM Builders** offers savings through Sunday on inventory homes.

Page 4

Today's housing market and economy might seem gloomy, but analysts say things were

much worse in the early 1980s. A history lesson with **Don DeBat**,



Page 6

**Weiss Development Corp.** condominiums are new, not conversions, so luxury and personal touches can be added.

Page 7

### ■■■■ online ■■■■

Market news, expert advice, neighborhood profiles and more. Visit:



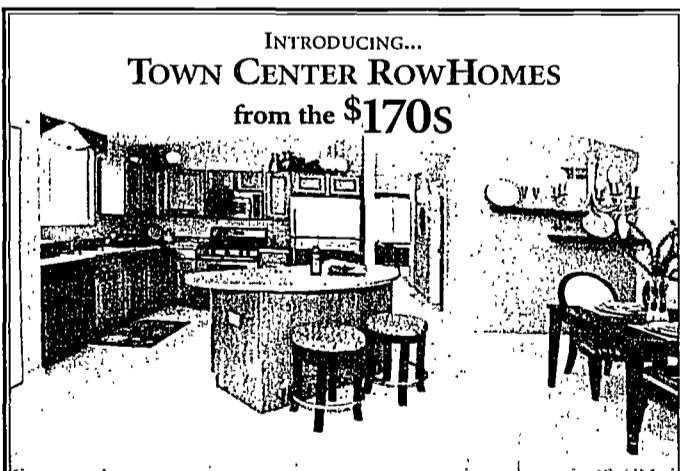
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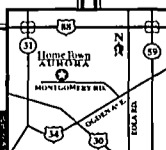
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IN AURORA: Take I-88 to Rt. 59 south, to Rt. 34 (Ogden Ave.) west, to Montgomery Rd., right to community on right.

**Natural**  
FROM PAGE 1

and private baths; individual laundry rooms; private balconies; and two indoors heated garage spaces are included.

RHA carefully restored the original Blithfield English manor home to properly pay homage to the community's original stewards.

"I suggest buyers interested in seeing a truly unique maintenance-free neighborhood stop by Amberley Woods for a visit, so they can experience firsthand the tremendous natural beauty this community offers," Danner said. "Words cannot adequately do justice to this setting, but once the sights and sounds of nature are on display in front of you, what Amberley Woods offers will be very clear."

The condominiums at Amberley Woods are at 1800 Amberley Court, Suite #103, in Lake Forest. The sales center is in the historic Blithfield Mansion and is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. or by appointment. Call (847) 482-0600 or visit [www.rha-homes.com](http://www.rha-homes.com).

**The Enclave**

Natural beauty and privacy is key to The Enclave at the Reserve at the Merit Club, a new section of semi-custom ranch and two-story homes in the award-winning, well-established community in Libertyville. Rolling hills, mature trees and scenic protected views combine for a majestic resort-like setting at the community. Some of the 17 new homes will overlook the Merit Club golf course fairways or groves of mature trees.

"When creating this community, we envisioned that our gracious homes would take advantage of the spectacular views and cater to those who want to be surrounded by natural beauty and improve their quality of life," said Jeri Szatko, director of sales and marketing. Merit Homes guarantees its

buyers that the natural setting will remain a conservation area forever, and there will be no future development because the site is protected by a conservation easement.

The Enclave is part of a gated community at the Reserve at the Merit Club, which is comprised of 102 semi-custom homes and 200 one-acre custom homes on 106 acres of rolling land. Honored with the Best Overall Community award from the Home Builders Association, the community was recognized for excellence in design and construction.

The maintenance-free homes feature breathtaking views of the Merit Club 18-hole private golf course that is ranked as one of the top 100 courses in the world by Golf and Travel magazines. The Merit Club hosted the U.S. Women's Open several years ago.

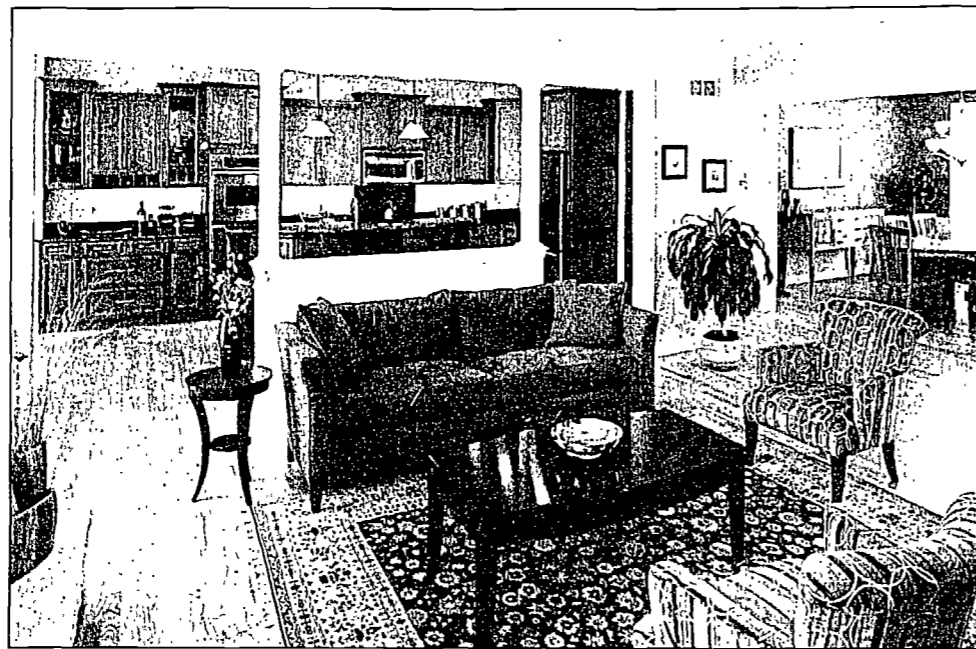
There are seven homes to choose from at The Enclave, including five ranch plans and two two-story designs featuring first-floor master bedrooms. With 1,800 to 3,000 square feet, homes have two to four bedrooms and up to three-and-a-half baths and are priced from the \$655,000 to \$800,000.

Luxurious features include all appliances such as a counter-depth refrigerator and washer and dryer, Kohler fixtures in brushed nickel, oil rubbed bronze, or brushed bronze finishes, maple, elder, hickory and cherry cabinets, granite countertops, laundry room cabinets and tub, site-stained hardwood floors, Baldwin hardware, full masonry fireplace, extensive trim details, Pella wood windows, cedar shake roofs, zoned temperature control, 93 percent efficient furnaces, fire suppression systems, patios and an irrigation system.

The Enclave is at 1687 Burr Oak Dr. in Libertyville. The sales center is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Tuesday and Wednesday. Call (847) 680-0090 or visit [www.merithomes.net](http://www.merithomes.net).

**Optima Old Orchard**

Residents at Optima Old Orchard can enjoy a carefree life-



The Forrester is one of five ranch plans at The Enclave, where 17 homes are available in an established Libertyville community.

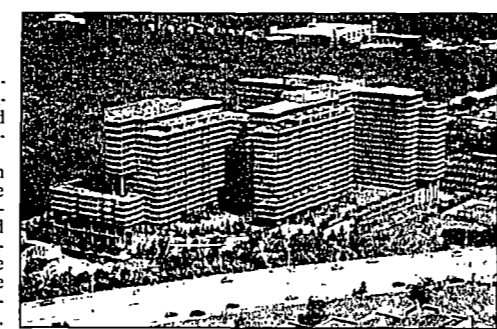
style and a close connection to nature. The condominium community's location is exceptionally scenic, set beside the dense wooded beauty of Harms Woods forest preserve. Additionally, David Hovey, the recognized architect who designed the contemporary building, incorporated nature's beauty into the building's unique design.

"Those buyers who choose the condominium lifestyle may be just as interested in having a close connection with nature as the owner of a country estate, but traditionally condominiums have had a much more urban character," Hovey said. "It has been an important part of my design philosophy to design buildings that offer green roof sky gardens, terraces and balconies as well as well-landscaped entries and beautiful grounds as

elements to maintain the benefits of nature. These not only include beauty for the eye and tranquility but also are environmentally friendly too.

"Green roof sky gardens can reduce heat build-ups, reduce ultraviolet light on the roof, increase energy efficiency and cleanse the air of airborne toxins. They also re-oxygenate the air, recycle nutrients and reduce noise transmission into the building. The green roof concept, which is a signature feature of Optima condominium communities, is a popular feature with our buyers at Optima Old Orchard Woods."

The building is designed to take maximum advantage of its extraordinary setting by including floor-to-ceiling windows in both the condominiums and the recreational areas that frame



Carefree condominium living in a lush natural setting creates dual attractions at Optima Old Orchard Woods in Skokie. Both the building design and location maximize the enjoyment of nature as well as providing a luxurious lifestyle.

magnificent views of the forest preserve as well as the Chicago skyline.

The grounds also include an impressive entry and a private

park for residents. The Grove, Optima Old Orchard Woods includes 665 condominiums in

Skokie. Turn to NATURAL, 3

**Natural**  
FROM PAGE 2

three interconnected towers, each with their own entry and a fitness center on the penthouse floors. A gourmet grocery, coffee shop and dry cleaner are all within the building, which also features an indoor swimming pool and spa, an adjacent sun deck and a party room.

One-, two- and three-bedroom residences plus penthouse floor plans are available, and buyers have the option of combining two units into one extra-large design. Twelve models are open for viewing, and a selection of condominiums is available for quick move-ins at very attractive pricing. Prices start at \$239,800 for one-bedroom plans, from \$319,000 for two-bedroom plans and from \$459,500 for three-bedroom plans.

Sales are taking place at the Optima, Inc. Skokie sales center at 9645 Woods Drive. Hours are seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please call (847) 583-4700 for voicemail at any time or visit [optimaweb.com](http://optimaweb.com).

Architect maximizes outdoors.

In Chicago, nothing meets the challenges of weather as a screened-in porch to enjoy indoor-outdoor living of a home's natural setting. With more than 40 years designing and constructing many of the North Shore's most impressive homes, architect Charles Page has his own signature method of assisting his clients in maximizing their enjoyment of the outdoors.

"Surely one of the most satisfying reasons to build a custom home is the creative ability to design a plan that blends the indoor environment with the beauty of nature, both the existing trees and foliage and the professional landscaping that is added," Page said. "In Page-designed homes, we use vast expanses of decorative windows that frame the picturesque views and balconies and terraces are easily integrated into the traditional architec-

ture favored by most of our clients. However, one of the most requested features associated with my designs is an elaborate screen room. This casual yet elegant indoor-outdoor room can function as part of the kitchen, breakfast and gathering room areas while giving residents the ideal place to relax, entertain, enjoy the fresh air and cultivate a close connection with nature. Virtually every client wants a Page screen room."

Page recently designed a screened-in porch at a French Chateau on a half-acre within walking distance of downtown Winnetka. The 9,000-square-foot home features a five-sided screen room overlooking the terrace, providing an inviting vantage point for outdoor living. The room features a beamed wood cathedral ceiling accented with skylights, and a curved stone raised-hearth fireplace to add warmth on a cool night. A wall of windows and sliding glass doors separate the screen room from the kitchen and gathering room.

"An important aspect of good design is the relationship of rooms to one another to reflect the way that people live," Page said. "These screen rooms are closely integrated with the area where families spend most of

their time, and they become an outdoor gathering space with easy access to the kitchen."

The home also includes another popular Page configuration: a dramatic, open and airy kitchen, breakfast and gathering area. The two-story kitchen boasts a vaulted ceiling with maple beams, a huge island and curved snack bar with granite top, custom maple cabinets with granite countertops, commercial range with custom hood and pairs of top-quality appliances. The cheerful breakfast enjoys the natural light of a wall of windows, and the gathering room, also with vaulted ceiling, is an inviting place for casual conversation in front of the French cut limestone fireplace with gas logs and a 42-inch plasma TV built-in above the mantle.

The six-bedroom home includes six baths plus three powder rooms, a full finished basement and three-car side-load garage.

"The stone French Chateau exterior with its cedar shake roof complements the natural environment, and the use of natural woods and moldings throughout the home as well as the large windows give every room a link with nature," Page said. "Of special note for indoor-outdoor living are an arched decorative



North Shore architect Charles Page features elaborate screen rooms in his custom homes to maximize the enjoyment of natural settings.

window in the great room, a curved balcony in the second-floor master suite, and another balcony off the first-floor guest bedroom. There are ample design elements that connect residents with the outdoors."

Charles Page has designed and built homes in the Chicago-land area for 40 years and has brought his singular architectural vision to hundreds of the most memorable homes in Winnetka, Kenilworth, Wilmette,

Northfield, Riverwoods, Lake Forest and Lake Bluff. He continues the architectural tradition of revered architects David Adler and Charles Van Doren Shaw, while capturing the nuances of today's luxury lifestyles.

**Today's New Homes**

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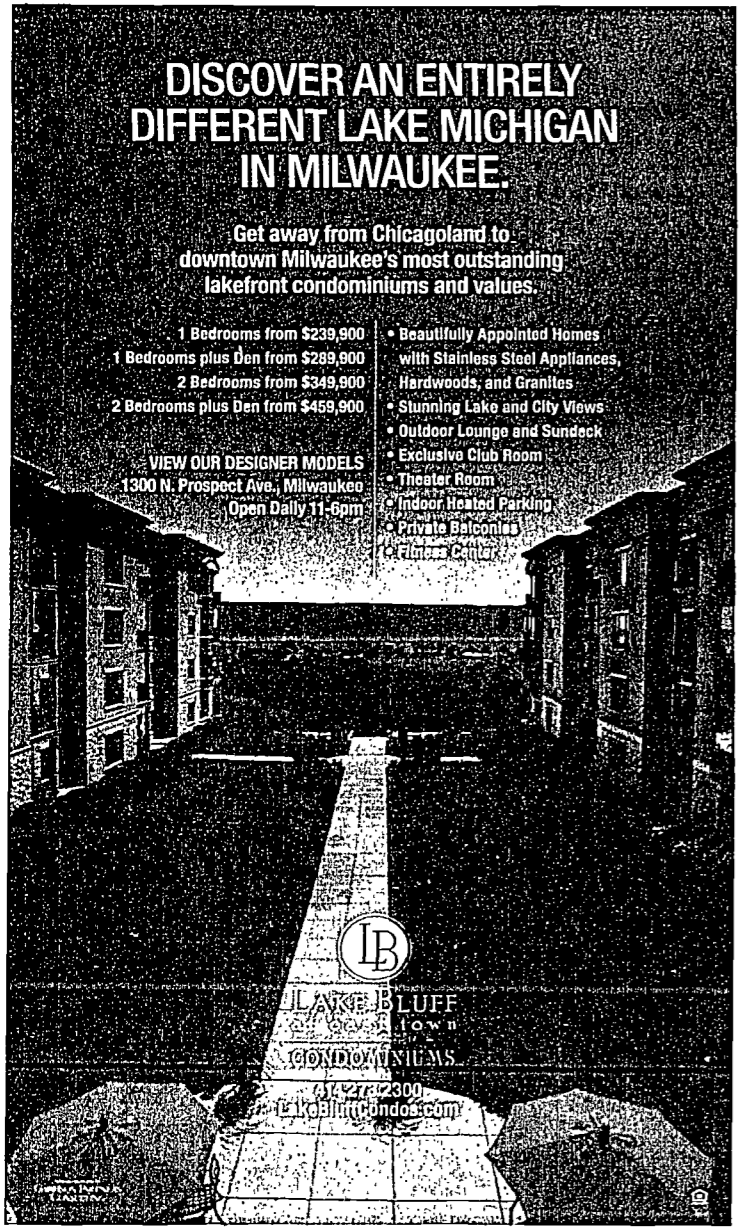
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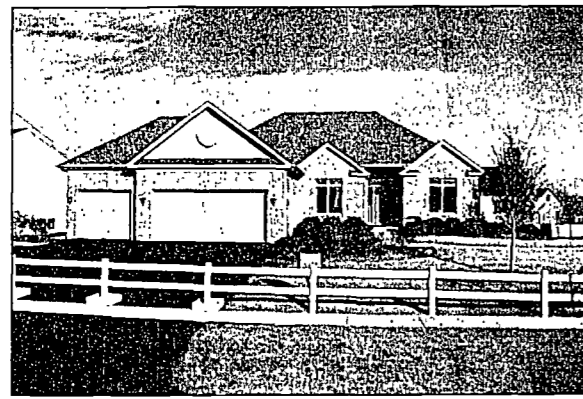
In Pingree Grove: Take I-90 (Northwest Tollway) to Rte. 47 and exit south to Rte. 72. Turn left to the community entrance. To Condo Sales Center: Take I-90 to Rte. 47 and exit south (left) approx. 3/4 miles to Rte. 72 West (second stoplight). Turn right (west) to the entrance on the right.

\*Prices are inclusive of a Special Services Area credit. See sales representative for details. Prices subject to change without notice.



KLM BUILDERS

# 'Ultimate sale' wraps up this weekend



The Linden ranch plan is ready for its first family at Sunset Ridge Estates in Richmond.

It's Christmas in July, and KLM Builders is playing Santa Claus. Through Sunday, smart home shoppers can earn substantial savings on a limited selection of generously equipped single-family inventory homes ready for immediate delivery at Sunset Ridge Estates in Richmond and at Forest Ridge Estates in Spring Grove.

Included in the special sale are six luxurious model homes as well as two upgraded move-in ready homes discounted up to \$165,000, according to Barry McMahon, Vice-President, KLM Builders.

"We want to clear out our inventory by offering tremendous savings on eight of our most popular homes, each loaded with preferred amenities and in-demand extras," McMahon said. "This isn't your ordinary run-of-the-mill kind of sale where a builder simply discounts prices a little or throws in a few upgrades. This is an event — a limited-time opportunity for you to claim a dream home for up to 30 percent off the original price."

At these reduced prices, McMahon doesn't expect the eight homes to be around for long. All sales are on a first-come, first-served basis," said McMahon, who noted that all purchases must be non-contingent and close no later than Sept. 15, 2008. Special financing will also be available through Chase Bank to those who qualify.

Seven of the homes are available at Sunset Ridge Estates, including:

■ The Mansfield at 10940 Partridge Trail, an award-winning two-story model home loaded with five bedrooms, three-and-a-half baths, finished daylight basement, oversized three-car garage, rich cherry cabinetry with a built-in media unit, an island kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite countertops, deluxe master bath with whirlpool, hardwood flooring, and 3,650 square feet — priced at \$385,000, a savings of more than \$126,000.

■ The Linden, a classic ranch model home at 10930 Partridge Trail featuring four bedrooms, three baths, finished daylight basement, three-car garage, all-brick front façade, raised-panel oak cabinetry, whirlpool appliances, stone-to-ceiling fireplace and two skylights in the great room, brick fireplace in the lower level family room, deck, professional landscaping and sprinkler system, 3,065 square feet and more — priced at \$349,000, a savings of more than \$135,000.

■ The Pinelhurst, a two-story model home set at 10920 Partridge Trail, offering three bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths, a den, two-car garage with extra storage space, full daylight basement, kitchen with creamy white cabinetry and built-ins throughout, breakfast bar, glassed-in dinette, built-in dry bar and full appliance package, wood-burning fireplace, vaulted ceilings and skylights, decorative pillars, deck, 2,285 square feet and more — priced at \$289,000 for a savings of nearly \$115,000.

■ The Jefferson, a two-story model home set at 10929 Partridge Trail, boasting three bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths, full unfinished basement, two-car garage, front porch, loaded kitchen with Silstone countertops, tumbled marble backsplash, white cabinetry, full appliances and pantry, formal living and dining rooms, wood-burning fireplace with marble surround, oak floors, premium sound system, beautifully landscaped site with stone work and irrigation system, 2,030 square feet and more — priced at \$269,000 for a savings of \$70,000.

■ The Franklin, at 10921 Partridge Trail, a stunning two-story model home equipped with four bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths, den, full unfinished basement, oversized three-car garage, dramatic two-story living room with an open railing to the second floor, deluxe kitchen with raised panel maple cabinetry, chef's kitchen with breakfast bar,

try with a huge center island/breakfast bar, Silstone countertops and plenty of built-ins, tile and oak floors, stone fireplace with plasma TV, in-house sound and security system, vaulted ceiling in the master suite, meticulous landscaping with decorative stone planting beds, mature trees, sprinkler system, 2,677 square feet and much more — priced at \$329,000 for a \$100,000 savings.

■ The Roosevelt, a low-maintenance upgraded ranch set at 10929 Teal Trail offering three bedrooms, two baths, full basement, two-car garage, Prairie style exterior with handsome stonework, island kitchen with breakfast bar, separate dining area, whirlpool appliances, Silstone quartz countertops and maple cabinetry, wood-burning fireplace, vaulted and tray ceilings, lighting and landscape package, 1,525 square feet and more — priced at \$229,000, a savings of \$49,000.

Forest Ridge Estates in Spring Grove also has a nicely appointed inventory home for sale: The Bentley, located at 3822 Magnolia Drive. This upgraded residence features four bedrooms, 2½ baths, full daylight basement, scenic conservation acre homesite, three-car garage, unique double-sided staircase with oak handrails and spindles, gourmet kitchen complete with cherry cabinetry, Silstone quartz countertops and whirlpool appliances, impressive two-story family room with soaring brick fireplace, oak and tile flooring, skylights, guest suite with sitting area, landscaping package and sprinkler system, and 2,805 square feet. The Bentley is priced at \$384,000, yielding a savings of more than \$111,000.

Sunset Ridge Estates is in its third and final phase. Shoppers in less of a hurry can also select from 23 unique designs that can be built, including several two-story styles that boast a first-floor master bedroom. Each home offers three to five bedrooms, two to four baths, two- to three-car garage, pre-finished oak floors in the kitchen and breakfast area, vaulted and nine-foot ceilings, oak trim and stair rails, city sewer and water, sod in the front and side in the rear yard. Other high-

lights include standard whirlpool appliances, Pella wood windows, Merrillat cabinetry, Kohler plumbing fixtures, TJI Silent Floor truss systems, high-efficiency Trane heating and cooling systems, and ceramic tile foyer, bath and laundry room floors.

Stainless steel appliances, screened porches, jetted tubs and granite countertops are just a few of the popular options buyers can choose from. All home sites range from one quarter to one full acre, with many that are wooded or that back up to scenic ponds or open spaces. Sites with walkout and daylight basements are available, as well.

Base prices on to-be-built homes span from \$239,900 to the upper \$300,000s (including standard home site), with sizes ranging from 1,540 to 3,490 square feet. A 10-year structural warranty is also included.

Sales for Sunset Ridge Estates are being conducted in The Mansfield model home located at 10940 Partridge Trail in Richmond. Take I-94 to Route 173; head west to Route 12 (Main Street); turn right a half mile to the entrance. Or, take Route 12 north to Winn Road; turn right to Route 173; turn left to Route 12 (Main Street); turn right a half mile to the entrance. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends. Call (815) 678-4018 or visit [www.klmbuildersinc.com](http://www.klmbuildersinc.com).

At Forest Ridge Estates, meanwhile, buyers can choose from 22 different floor plans in all, each offering three to four bedrooms, up to four baths, three and four-car garages and full basements with eight-foot, 10-inch poured concrete walls. Homes also feature dens, family rooms or great rooms, and screen porches, depending upon the design. Base prices span from \$383,900 to \$459,900, and sizes range from 2,000 to more than 4,000 square feet.

Take I-94 north to Rt. 173. Go west approximately 15 miles to Clark Road in Spring Grove. Turn left on Clark to the entry on the right. The sales center is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends. Call (815) 678-0804 or visit [www.klmbuildersinc.com](http://www.klmbuildersinc.com).

RESIDENTIAL HOMES OF AMERICA

# Price protection available at Walnut Glen

Homebuyers, take a deep breath and relax!

Residential Homes of America, Inc. has unveiled a unique program for buyers at its Walnut Glen luxury single-family community in Island Lake that puts them at ease when making their new home purchase.

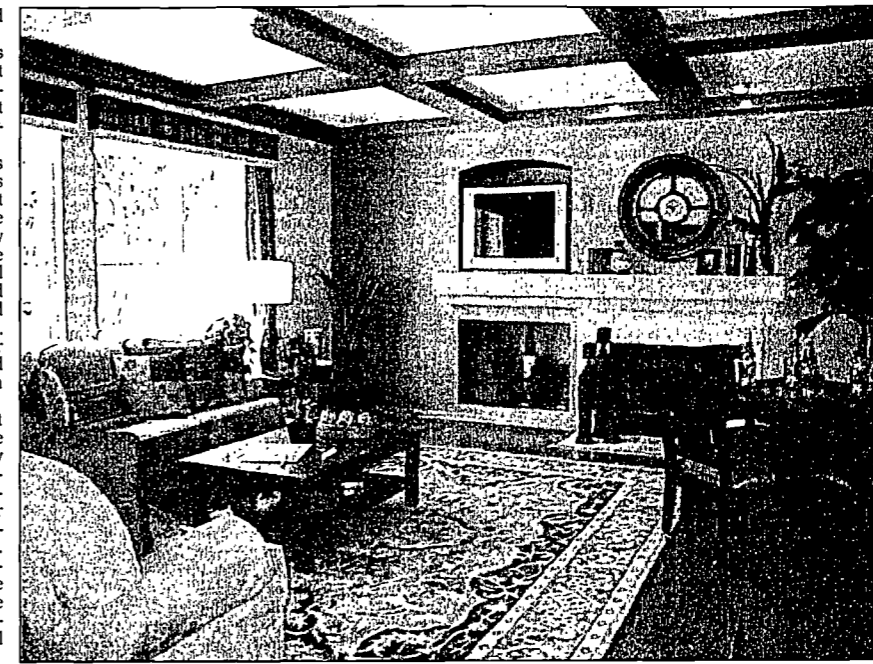
RHA's price protection program allows buyers to purchase a new home at this community and not have to worry about missing out on a lower price during the next 12 months. If the base price of a new home that was purchased goes down, the buyer will receive the price differential from RHA. Walnut Glen has been planned for 222 single-family homes on beautiful one-quarter acre and larger home sites, with prices starting at just \$296,990. Four lavishly decorated and fully furnished models and one finished ranch are open for tours everyday.

"With our price protection program at Walnut Glen, RHA once again takes the lead in providing a real sense of security and relief to homebuyers at this community. During the present economic conditions, many builders are lowering their prices and buyers are sitting on the sidelines, waiting for prices to fall even more. This actually puts buyers at a disadvantage, because they are missing out on the advantages of purchasing a new home and its associated value," said Ann Danner, president and owner of Residential Homes of America, Inc.

"With our price protection program, if the base price of a home that a buyer bought at Walnut Glen goes down, we will refund the price difference to the buyer. It's really no different than a price guarantee program at a retailer when a product goes on sale and someone who just bought that product before the sale is eligible for the newly reduced price."

Visitors to Walnut Glen can receive complete information on the new price protection program from the sales center.

Walnut Glen has become a destination community in Island Lake, because it combines so many outstanding features in one location. This community does not have an SSA (special service area), which translates into thousands of dollars of sav-



Residential Homes of America has unveiled a price protection program for buyers at its Walnut Glen luxury single-family community in northwest suburban Island Lake. Should RHA decide to lower the base price of the home after a buyer has moved in, the buyer is entitled to a refund of the price difference. This program helps put buyers at ease and allows them to make a purchase decision with full confidence.

ings for each homeowner.

Walnut Glen is also one of the only new home communities in Chicagoland that borders a protected forest preserve, a feature which adds tremendous beauty and tranquility to the neighborhood. Walnut Glen is adjacent to the Black Crown Forest Preserve that along with the 628-acre Black Crown Marsh wetland complex, creates an 873-acre nature area. The 2,200-acre Moraine Hills State Park is also close by.

Homes at Walnut Glen are available in nine different floor plans, sized from 1,909 to 3,483 square feet. There are eight two-story plans, each with three to five bedrooms, 2½ baths, full basements and two or three-car garages. The one ranch plan features two to three bedrooms, two full baths, full basement and a two-car garage. Prices begin at \$296,990.

The long list of included features at Walnut Glen highlights 9' first floor ceilings, hardwood or ceramic tile in the foyer and powder room, kitchens with 42-inch cabinets and center islands or peninsulas

Visit this community

Walnut Glen is in Island Lake. Take Route 176 to Darrell Road, north 1½ miles to Neville Road, west on Neville Road to Dowell Road, south on Dowell to the Walnut Glen Information Center on the west side of the street. Or, take Route 120 west to Darrell Road, south 1½ miles to Dowell Road, south one mile to the Walnut Glen Information Center and models. The information center and models are open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Call (815) 344-3030 or visit [rhamhomes.com](http://rhamhomes.com).

IIIIII

When buyers tour the models at Walnut Glen, they will not only see the included features firsthand, they will also experience RHA's exclusive "Good Ideas" options, which have been specially designed for the active and varied lifestyles of today's homebuyer.

Good Ideas options include everything from a computer center in the kitchen to a gift-wrapping center in the mud room. These intriguing options also highlight closet storage lockers, sitting benches, built-in ironing boards, dual laundry rooms, wine coolers, twin dishwashers, whole house emergency backup generators and HD television pre-wiring. In all, there are over 35 Good Ideas to choose from.

"As a smaller builder focused on the needs of our customers, we work hard to develop real world, practical solutions to address their concerns. By introducing our price protection program, we are taking the worry out of buying a home, because the buyer doesn't have to wait to see if the price will go down. Walnut Glen has so much to offer growing families, move up buyers and young married couples who are just starting out and we're confident this program will enable them to proceed on the purchase of their dream home," Danner said.

# PASQUINELLI HOMES

The right move

## THE RIGHT PRICE

**HAMPSHIRE**

Siena at Tuscany Woods INTRODUCING NEW SINGLE-FAMILY SERIES FROM \$223,990 SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES FROM THE \$260'S 847-683-7487

Torino at Tuscany Woods TOWNHOMES FROM THE \$140'S 847-683-9524

**HARVARD**

The Meadows of Countrybrook SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES FROM THE \$160'S 815-943-8303

The Woods of Countrybrook DUPLEXES FROM THE \$130'S 815-943-5274

**JOLIET**

Theodore's Crossing MODELS FOR SALE! CLOSEOUT PRICING! SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES FROM THE \$220'S 815-609-3497

The Estates at Cedar Creek SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES FROM THE \$170'S 815-726-8700

Theodore's Ridge SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES FROM THE \$170'S 815-254-1313

Villas at Cedar Creek ATTACHED RANCH HOMES FROM THE \$180'S 815-630-5816

\*Prices and availability are subject to change without notice.

FROM THE \$130'S



TOWNHOMES

**THE RIGHT TIME**  
Ready for the independence of owning your own home? With a great interest rate, a terrific price, and a choice of exciting plans, now is the right time to buy—from the right builder, Pasquinelli.

FROM THE \$160'S



SINGLE-FAMILY

**THE RIGHT PLACE**  
Looking for the best community to raise your family? Pasquinelli offers great neighborhoods, with good schools and parks, and affordable prices. When you need more space for your growing family, depend on Pasquinelli.

FROM THE \$160'S



RANCH HOMES

**THE RIGHT PLAN**  
When the kids are grown and you're ready for something new, Pasquinelli offers one-level living with easy maintenance and a choice of 19 gorgeous new designs. And because they've been around for 50 years, you know you've chosen the right builder.

**PLAINFIELD**

Huntercrest at Grande Park MODELS FOR SALE! CLOSEOUT PRICING! SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES FROM THE \$300'S 815-609-2584

Tall Pines at Grande Park TOWNHOMES FROM THE \$190'S 815-609-1811

**ROUND LAKE**

Heron Bay MODELS FOR SALE! CLOSEOUT PRICING! TOWNHOMES FROM THE \$150'S 847-740-5398

**ROMEOVILLE**

Townes at Crookside TOWNHOMES FROM THE \$190'S 815-407-1150

**YORKVILLE**

Traditions at Grande Reserve SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES FROM THE \$240'S 630-553-3962

Colonos at Grande Reserve SINGLE-FAMILY RANCH HOMES FROM THE \$490'S 630-553-4518

The Commons at Grande Reserve TOWNHOMES FROM THE \$140'S 630-896-5179

Mill Crossing at Grande Reserve TOWNHOMES FROM THE \$140'S 630-896-5368

Pioneer Place at Grande Reserve DUPLEXES FROM THE \$170'S 630-897-6922

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The right move

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Practical, Personalized & Perfectly Priced

Aspen Expressions\* 3 Bedrooms



**All Featured at**  
**The Meadows of Countrybrook** SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES \$160'S to \$170'S In Harvard: Rte. 47 north to Rte. 14, west 13 miles to Airport Rd., left 3 blocks. 815-943-8303

Birch III Expressions\* 3 Bedrooms



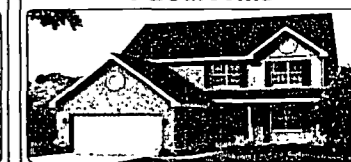
**Theodore's Ridge** SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES \$170'S to \$190'S In Joliet: I-55 south to Rte. 126, exit west to Ridge Rd., turn south (left) to Sales Center (just west of Ridge Rd. on Theodore St.). 815-254-1313

White Pine Expressions\* 4 Bedrooms



**The Estates at Cedar Creek** SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES \$170'S to \$190'S In Joliet: I-80 to Rte. 53, exit south 4 miles to entrance on the right. 815-726-8700

Sequoia II Expressions\* 4 Bedrooms



Communities open 7 days 10 to 6, or by appt.

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# Will tomorrow's housing market be stronger than it was in the gloomy '80s?

If you are a 30-year-old dreaming about buying your first home or condo, it is possible that you still were in diapers during the last great housing recession of 1981-1982, so keep reading and learn.

As gloomy as the media says the economy and housing market are today, things were much, much worse in the early 1980s, veteran analysts recall. In mid-July, lenders were charging an average of 6.24 percent for a benchmark 30-year fixed home loan, according to Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey. That's down from 6.37 percent a week earlier and nearly a half of 1 percentage point less than this time last year when the benchmark rate was 6.73 percent.



**Don DeBat**  
ON THE HOME FRONT

percent range during the balance of the 1980s as housing climbed out of the recession.

Now, let's look at inflation. In 1980, the annual inflation soared to 13.5 percent. Today, through June of 2008, the nation's inflation rate stands at 3.4 percent even though oil prices have doubled in the past year, and the dollar is weak.

How long with the current housing downturn last? The recession of the 1980s lasted about five years and finally ending in 1985 when home loan rates eased into the 11-percent range.

Experts say the current downturn already is in its third year and it is likely that the market will not rebound until six months to nine months after the Presidential election.

With today's low interest rates, if the economy bounces back and job formation increases, the worst part of the recession could be over by late 2009, analysts say. The wild card is how long it takes consumer confidence to rebound.

"Today's young, first-time home buyer drives a fuel-efficient auto or rides a bicycle and wants housing that is small, affordable and green," said Chicago architect Pat Fitzgerald of Fitzgerald & Associates.

"Developers should be focusing on building housing that is nice, but not fancy."

"What's wrong with an 800-square-foot, two-bedroom unit

with concrete floors and a minimalist kitchen? This home would look good to a buyer whose last home was a college dorm room."

Young homebuyers have to get smarter. Thousands of subprime borrowers recently were saddled with punishing loan terms that quickly made the loans unaffordable. Borrowers today must understand the loan documents they sign.

The Federal Reserve Board has adopted a series of new rules to protect borrowers, including prohibiting lenders from making loans without proof of a homebuyer's income. Lenders now must verify the

borrower income and assets to make sure they can repay the loan.

In Cook County a new law now requires first-time home buyers to receive mandatory housing counseling and obtain a Certificate of Mortgage Compliance at closing.

So, it's going to be a vastly different housing market out there in 2009.

The Home Front, Don DeBat's weekly column, focuses on home buying, mortgage shopping, homeownership, renting, building, renovation and remodeling. His Web site is [www.dondebat.net](http://www.dondebat.net).

## THE HUMMEL GROUP

### Model of School Street District brownstones unveiled

The Hummel Group recently hosted a gathering at the School Street District Brownstones to unveil its newly completed model for the historic project and also celebrate the completion of Phase One. Approximately fifteen village officials attended the event, along with homeowners from Phase One who have moved into the development, contractors and subcontractors, the site inspector, and other notable guests of the Hummel Group. All enjoyed a selection of drinks and hors d'oeuvres while getting a first-hand tour of the elegant model.

The School Street District development, featuring 31 brownstones and 18 condominiums, is valued in excess of \$40 million and is the most ambitious residential development in the history of downtown Libertyville. The village mayor has spoken to how long the School Street District project has been discussed in Libertyville: and of its importance to the community's continued economic growth, as the development is expected to bring home valuation to new highs for the area.

For more information on the School Street District Brownstones, or for information on any of The Hummel Group projects, call (224) 513-5500 or visit [www.thehummelgroup.com](http://www.thehummelgroup.com).

## Did you know?

On June 28-29, over one hundred tours were given at an event featured in the newly re-designed Today's New Homes.



"We are more than pleased with the turnout of last week's event... much greater than we anticipated. I can honestly say that almost every visitor mentioned our ad and editorial in Today's New Homes / Pioneer Press. It's the paper we have chosen to run our ads in consistently, and we've had great recognition and response from doing so. Because of everyone's efforts, Meadow Ridge has been able to remain in the spotlight as a top selling community in Chicagoland."

Choose the network that delivers Chicagoland. Contact your STNG Account Executive or Rita Walker, at 708-633-4924 or [rwalker@mswp.com](mailto:rwalker@mswp.com).

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# MORTGAGE GUIDE

<http://suntimes.interest.com> FROM BANKRATE.COM

Program	Rate	Points	Fee	% Disc	APR
<b>PRESTIGE MORTGAGE CORPORATION</b> 708-579-3333 <a href="http://www.prestigemortgages.biz">http://www.prestigemortgages.biz</a>	30 yr fixed	6.375	0.000	\$766	5% 6.419
7/1 ARM (interest only)	5.875	0.000	\$766	20%	5.715
5/1 ARM (interest only)	5.625	0.000	\$675	20%	5.598
7/1 ARM (interest only)	5.875	0.000	\$675	20%	5.737

**ABI MORTGAGE** 847-585-1995  
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Loan Program	Rate	Monthly Payment		
30 yr fixed	6.125	\$1300	20%	6.205
30 yr FHA	6.000	\$1300	5%	6.177
5/1 ARM	5.375	\$1300	20%	5.120
5/1 jumbo ARM	5.500	\$1300	20%	5.123

**LENDERS, TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS FEATURE CALL BANKRATE.COM SALES DEPARTMENT @ 800-509-4636**

# New condominiums compete with conversions

Although condominium conversions continue to surface here and there, the continuing and rapid growth of the baby-boomer-turned-empty-nester segment of the population provides increasing support for new condo construction.

"At the root of this preference is, I believe, simply a desire for more luxury than is typically available in a conversion," suggested Helen Weiss, a principal of Weiss Development Corp.

Another major highlight for buyers is the ability to shape their new space: that is, personalize their condominium. At Lincolnshire Place, many pre-construction options, such as a gas fireplace with a slate or limestone surround, crown molding, Kohler whirlpool tub, a kitchen butler's pantry and kitchen terrace gas barbecue connection, are still available to purchasers.

Lincolnshire Place on the Village Green boasts seven two-, two-plus-den and three-bedroom floor plans, ranging from 1,784 to 3,200 square feet, as well as up to 400 square feet of additional balcony or deck space, and prices range from \$424,000 to \$823,500. Construction has just begun, with first residents anticipated to take occupancy starting after Labor Day.

Lincolnshire Place features a sophisticated uptown architecture design by Myefski Cook Architects of Glenview; it is situated on a tree-lined, landscaped boulevard known as Village Green. Residents and visitors can experience the intimacy of the building's two separate entrances, each with its own elegantly furnished lobby, and three elevators (two passenger, one service), as well as a Resident's Club Room with a hospitality kitchen, large-screen television and surround sound. Other building amenities include closed-circuit security access, a fitness room, bicycle room, individual storage lockers and 114 spaces in the heated indoor parking garage.

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Models now grand opening at each of these communities!

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  - Single-family Classic Homes from \$239,990, including basement
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**KLM BUILDERS****Buyers find Thousand Oaks even better second time around**

Maria and Gus Ponce are not your classic move-up buyers.

Yes, like most purchasers who fit this criterion, they wanted abundant square footage, a larger home site and more amenities. What sets this couple apart from most move-up buyers, however, is that they are not thirty-somethings with a young, growing family. They are empty nesters with two married sons who have long ago flown the coop and a third son who is away at college.

But instead of downsizing to a town-home or condominium as many empty-nesters do, the Ponces upsized their dreams and traded in their two-story home for another — both crafted by the same firm, KLM Builders, Inc.

"With all our children moved out, it's just the two of us now. So this time, we wanted to choose a new home that catered to our current lifestyle," said Gus, who first heard about KLM Builders 10 years ago from co-workers. "They were talking about the large size of KLM Builders' home sites and the quality of their new construction. So we decided to visit their models at The Preserve in Spring Grove and take a closer look. We were sold. KLM built us a wonderful new home in that community and they were a pleasure to work with," he said.

More recently, when the Ponces heard that KLM was planning to develop Thousand Oaks, a community of 73 semi-custom homes in Spring Grove, they started inquiring regularly so that they could claim their preferred home site.

"We visited Thousand Oaks and fell in love with the fantastic views and the wooded home sites," said Maria. "I think we were one of the first three buyers. At the time, the roads were not even complete, but we had all the faith in the world that this was the right community for us."

The couple chose the Vail II design, a 3,000-square foot, two-story home with a first-floor master bedroom, plus two additional bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths, a den, formal dining room, a loft overlooking a great room, and kitchen with adjacent solarium. They worked closely with the builder to add their own personal touches, including a solarium, side-load garage, custom flooring, custom interior oak trim, two-panel solid wood doors,



Maria and Gus Ponce, pictured here with their dog Rambo in their solarium, recently purchased a new home at Thousand Oaks in Spring Grove from KLM Builders, Inc.

Cambria quartz countertops, custom maple kitchen cabinetry and a custom bookcase in the family room. The Ponces also enlarged the kitchen by bumping it out an additional four feet.

"KLM Builders customized our new home just for us and added many more amenities that we wanted," said Maria, who took delivery of their new residence earlier this year. "We designed this home for entertaining. We can't wait to have our kids and our grandchild visit. And this will probably be our last home, so we wanted to be sure everything met our needs and preferences."

While the Vail II's square footage wasn't much larger than their previous home, the floorplan offered more luxury features and flexibility—including a convenient first-floor master suite—as well as more abundant yard space, said Gus.

The couple's favorite room in their Vail II is the solarium, which features

extra-wide windows on all four walls—revealing a panorama of Mother Nature outside—plus ample skylights that let in plenty of sunshine.

"In fact, every window in the house offers a wonderful sight. We wake up in the bedroom and there's a beautiful view of our backyard to greet us," said Gus, who is looking forward to getting settled in and landscaping the backyard so that he and Maria can start enjoying their abode's outdoor perks. "Our home site provides fantastic views from all angles. We've got plenty of trees on our property, and we back up to a conservation area on one side and a tree farm on the other, so we're pleasantly secluded out here."

One of the biggest reasons the Ponces chose Thousand Oaks is thanks to its heavily wooded home sites, each graced with plentiful, scenic, mature trees.

"And we can't say enough about KLM Builders and their ability to create such

nice homes," said Maria. "The fact that we had them build our last two homes says a lot about our trust in their craftsmanship."

Thousand Oaks is KLM Builders' newest community, located on Winn Road with easy access to Route 2 (Rand Road). Buyers can select from over 20 different designs, which include 2-story, ranch and first-floor master bedroom designs. All of the home sites feature plentiful, mature trees, with most sites heavily wooded, while some back up to scenic wetlands.

Each home features three to five bedrooms, up to four baths, three- to four-car garage, full basement, fireplace, vaulted and nine-foot ceilings, rear deck, oak trim and stair rails and a 10-year structural warranty. Other highlights include hardwood floors in the kitchen and breakfast areas, granite kitchen countertops, Whirlpool stain-

**Visit this community**

To reach the Thousand Oaks' sales office and tour the new Brentwood model, take I-94 north to Route 173; head west to Spring Grove and continue to Winn Road; turn left (south) one mile to the Thousand Oaks entryway on the left. Or, take Rt. 12 to Winn Road and turn north approximately two miles to the Thousand Oaks entry on the east side. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Call (815) 675-0011 or visit our website at: [www.klmbuildersinc.com](http://www.klmbuildersinc.com).



less steel appliances, Kolbe and Kolbe wood windows, Kohler plumbing fixtures, high-efficiency Trane heating and cooling systems, central vacuum, intercom music system, ceramic tile foyer and bath floors and luxury baths. A standard one-acre homesite is also included in the price of the home.

Prices range from the \$470,000s to the low \$700,000s (all prices subject to change without notice) and sizes span from 2,300 to 3,775 square feet.

Among the popular options buyers can choose are screen porches, solariums, finished basement space and covered or uncovered outdoor living areas equipped with a fireplace.

Additionally, every standard design can be customized to suit a buyer's tastes and preferences, and KLM Builders can build a completely custom home from your outside architect's plan.

Residents will appreciate Thousand Oaks' picturesque setting, conveniently located near Horse Fair Park, plentiful walking and biking paths, and the Chain O' Lakes State Park—which offers fishing, boating, bicycling, horseback riding and numerous other outdoor activities. A new Jewel food store and Walgreen's recently opened within two miles of the community. Children can attend highly acclaimed schools in the area such as Richmond Elementary, Nippersink Middle School and Richmond Burton Community High School.

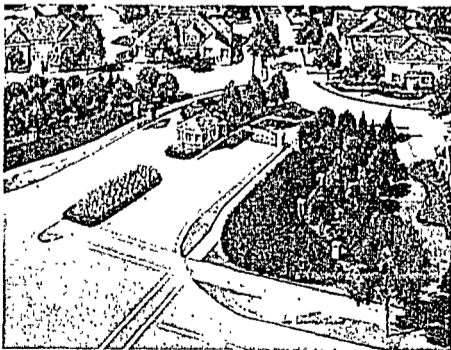
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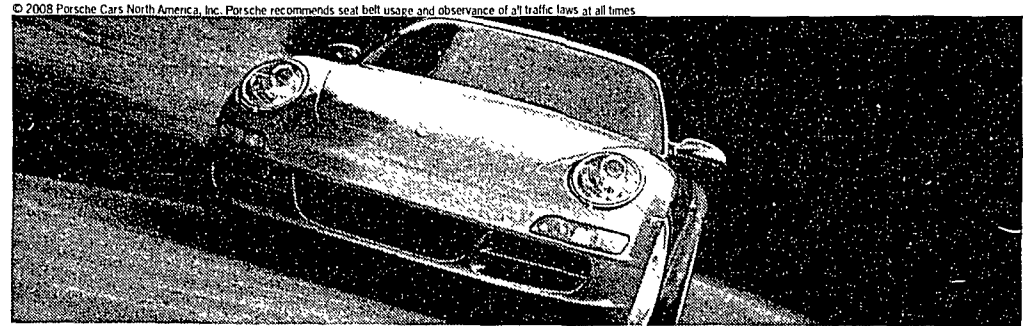
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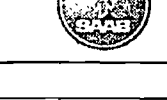
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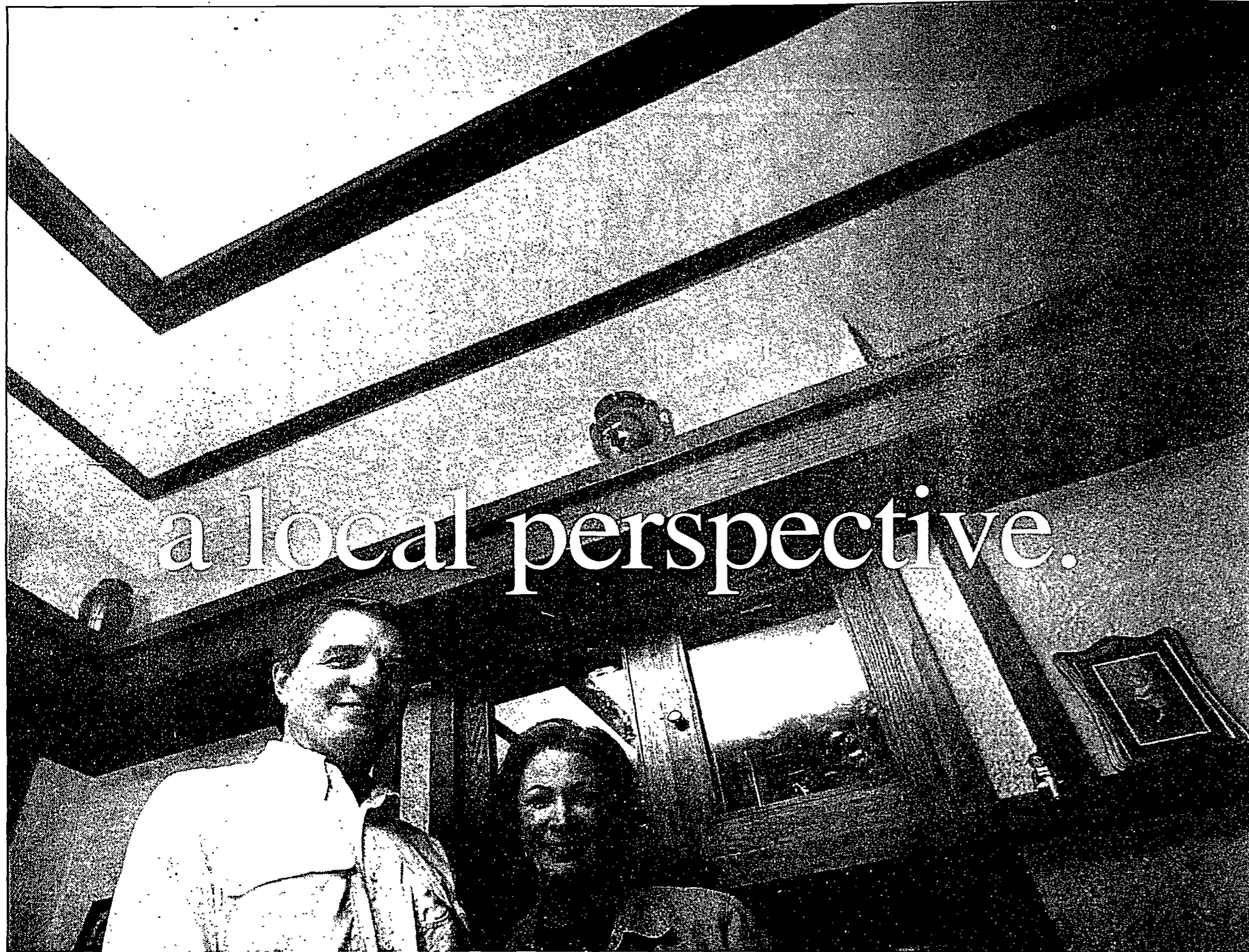
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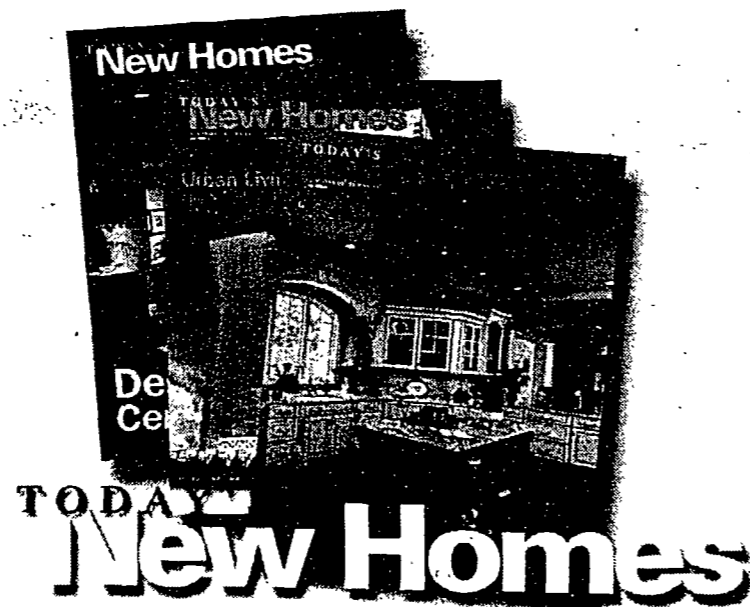
Evanston Griffin House. Photo by Pioneer Press photographer Jason Han.

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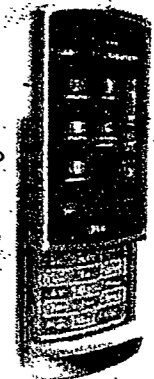
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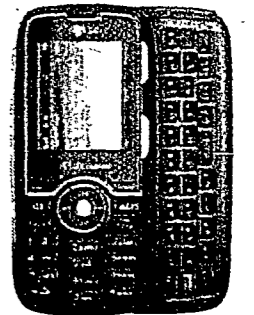
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# Your Page

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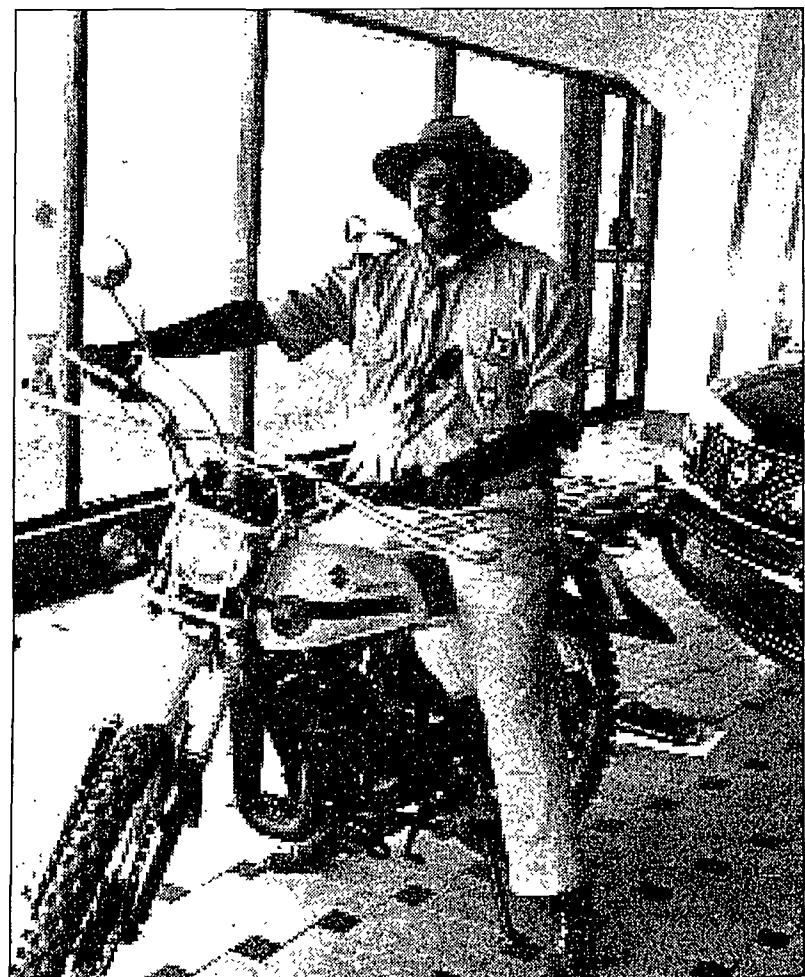
**FLAG RETIREMENT** Boy Scout Michael Car cuts away the field of stars as part of the flag retirement ceremony as members of American Legion Post No. 166, joined the Knights of Columbus and Boy Scouts of Troop 175 in a Flag Day ceremony at the Jackman Park gazebo in Glenview that culminated in a small number of flags being retired.



**GRADE A COP** Sergeant Vincenzo Genualdi of the Niles Police Department graduated from the Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command May 30. Genualdi attended the 10-week course, as do all Niles Police officers that have achieved the rank of sergeant or above. The course centers on honing supervisory skills, methods and ethics as well as many other management-oriented tasks. Genualdi is pictured in the middle flanked by Chief Dean Strzelecki and Division Cmdr. Anthony Fianza to his right and Sergeant Robert Tornabene and Cmdr. Joseph Penze to his left.



**POSTER CONTEST** The Niles Environmental Practices Committee presented awards to children from local schools who participated in a poster contest, "What the environment means to me" this spring. The awards were given to grades kindergarten through eighth; U.S. Savings Bonds were awarded to the winners: Augustin Kim, Laura Habeeb, Barbara Skrzypek, Dorothy Enabe, Amanda Aragon, Sarah Ryan, Sabina Fijor, Jan Solano and Mimi Speri.



**MOTORCYCLE PRIEST** The Knights of Columbus thanks all who donated to the priest in the Kampala Archdiocese of Uganda, Africa. All of the donations were sent overseas to secure a motorcycle. Grand Knight Dave Carrabotta of Knights of Columbus Council 4338 presented a check for the amount necessary for the purchase of the motorcycle to Gordon Stiefel, national vice-chair for the Catholic Committee on Scouting. Stiefel traveled to Africa in May to assist in the purchase and operation of the vehicle. The photograph shows a Ugandan bishop on the new motorcycle in the showroom. The bishop sent out a request for funds for a motorcycle because one of his priests needed transportation in order to visit 41 parishes.

## DEADLINES

Submissions for Community Calendar are required 10 days preceding the date of publication. Send to: Nicole Wagner, Managing Editor, Pioneer Press, 130 S. Prospect Avenue, Park Ridge IL 60068. Information may be faxed to (847) 696-3229 or e-mailed to nwagner@pioneerlocal.com.

## BENEFITS

**Sister Fest '08** will be held Aug. 9 on the grounds of Maryville Academy, River Road and Central Avenue in Des Plaines. The event will feature Classic Cars from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. along with bingo, crafts, refreshments, children's games and more. Music will be provided from 3 to 10 p.m. by The Class of '68, American English and Rick "Elvis" Saucedo. Suggested donation for a musical trip down memory lane is \$5; parking is free. The event will benefit the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth. For more information, call (847) 298-6760, Ext. 137 or see [www.csfm.org](http://www.csfm.org).

## CENTER OF CONCERN

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

Saturdays, Aug. 2 and 16 - Legal counseling, by appointment.

Saturdays, Aug. 5 and 19 - Medicare and tax counseling, by appointment.

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

Wednesdays, Aug. 6 through 27 - Employment counseling, by appointment.

Wednesdays - Aug. 13 and 27 - Grief and loss support group (call first).

Saturday, Aug. 23 - Blood pressure and blood sugar testing, 10 a.m. to noon (no appointment

needed).

(The center will be closed Aug. 30 for Labor Day weekend.)

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

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

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

## CLUBS

**The Polish Women's Alliance**, Group 819, will meet at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 28 at the Polish Women's Alliance Building, 6843 Northwest Highway, Chicago. The guest speaker will be Camille Kopiolski, president of the Polish American Congress, Illinois Division, who will give an update on current issues. Refreshments will be served. RSVP to Marlene Gill, (773) 763-5587.

**NCRG Astrologers**, Northern Illinois, will meet

## PEEK AT THE WEEK

at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 12 at the Dance Building, 1330 Webford St., Des Plaines. Dawn Silver: RasaVidya Health Astrology at 7:30 p.m. Bring birth data. Astrologers of all levels are welcome. Members pay \$8; guests, \$10. For information and directions go to <http://geocosmic.org/whsites.net/chapters/> and select Northern Illinois, or contact the chapter president, Judy Johnson, (630) 303-3187.

**Les Bavards**, a monthly francophone dinner group, will meet at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 6 for dinner and conversation at a restaurant in Des Plaines to practice using the language in an informal setting. Participants must have the ability to carry on general conversations in French. No membership is required, merely listening in French. For full details, or to RSVP, e-mail [lesbavards@yahoo.com](mailto:lesbavards@yahoo.com), or call (847) 720-4502 by the preceding Monday evening.

## FITNESS CENTER

**Niles Family Fitness Center**, 987 Civic Center Drive, (847) 588-8400, [www.nilesfitness.com](http://www.nilesfitness.com). There is still time to register 6 to 11 year olds in the Niles Family Fitness Center's Summer Camp Program. Activities include sports, outdoor games, swimming, crafts, field trips and more. Hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, for sessions: Aug. 4 to 8 and Aug. 11 to 15. Full-time one week camp fees are: \$128 for members, \$166, nonmembers; part-time, three-day week: \$86, members and \$111, nonmembers. Extended camp hours are 8 to 9 a.m. for \$5 per day or 3 to 5 p.m., \$10 per day.

## FUND-RAISERS

**The Annual Knights of Columbus Council 4338** will host its Steak-Fry Aug. 23. This year's dinner, complete with salad, baked potato and corn-amber fluid or wine and dessert will cost \$20 per person, wid-

ows and widowers discounted to \$16. The dinner will be held at St. John Brebeuf Parish Ministry Center, 8805 N. Harlem Ave., Niles. Doors open for social hour at 6 p.m., with dinner scheduled for 7 p.m. This year the special entertainment will be provided by the talented Jodi Meehan and her great magical voice beginning at 8 p.m. Food must be ordered in advance and reservations must be received by Aug. 18. For more information contact Bob Galassi at (847) 965-0920. All proceeds will be donated to area charities.

## LIBRARY

**Niles Public Library**, 6960 Oakton St., (847) 663-1234, [www.nileslibrary.org](http://www.nileslibrary.org)

**Niles' musical historian** Jack Diamond will bring to life in words and music the legendary pop singer Judy Garland (1922-1969) in a free coffee hour program at the Niles Public Library at 10:30 a.m. Aug. 6.

**Niles Public Library** will relive the era of the 1969 Woodstock Music Festival with its Rock Documentary Series featuring music films from the 1970s, complete with insight from Pat Wilsey, educator, musician and rock 'n' roll fanatic for more than 40 years. Head to the Niles Public Library for one of these shows. At 2 p.m. **Aug. 9:** "The Filth and the Fury: A Sex Pistols Film," winner of Chicago Film Critics Association 2001 Best Documentary, charting the rise and fall of the band that changed rock music. Registration is required. This series is "A Night at the Oscars early Registration Punch Card" qualifier and part of the free seat-cushion giveaway.

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

**Read a great book aloud**, enter its writer's imagination and talk about it with others. Join the

Niles Public Library for a Flash Fiction Break, where you may come to listen or bring a story to read. Flash/Sudden Fiction Break will be at 10:30 a.m. Aug. 5 and 1 p.m. Aug. 9. Reading is limited to 15 minutes per story. Refreshments will be provided. Registration is required.

"Benjamin Franklin, in Search of a Better World," an exhibit, will be displayed from Oct. 15 to Dec. 5 at Niles Public Library, with special programs and events for both children and adults. The exhibit is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Library Association.

## MAINE TOWNSHIP

**Maine Township** encourages residents to attend its annual National Night Out Against Crime, which will be from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Aug. 5 at Dee Park, 9229 Emerson St., in unincorporated Maine Township. The event promotes crime prevention, police-community partnerships and neighborhood unity. It is sponsored by Maine Township, the Cook County Sheriff's Department, Golf Maine Park District and North Maine Fire Department. This year's theme is "Ways to Keep Your Neighborhood Safe." Children from Maine Township are also invited to enter a poster contest. The most creative poster drawing featuring the theme will win an MP3 player. Runners up will receive U.S. savings bonds donated by Liberty Bank for Savings and Parkway Bank. Applications and instructions are available at Maine Township Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge. In addition there will be a guest speaker; demonstrations, exhibits, entertainment, games, raffles and prizes for children. The speaker will be Jason Cowin of the Chicago Police Department, who works on a West Side gang unit. The evening will end with a flashlight walk through the

neighborhood with Cook County Sheriff's Police. Anyone interested in volunteering to help should contact Maine Township Trustee Susan Moylan Krey, (847) 297-2510. For more information go to [www.maintownship.com](http://www.maintownship.com).

**Parent-Child Golf** will take place at Tam

**Resident and non-resident** registration for Niles Park District Bright Beginnings Preschool for 2008-09 is being taken. Spaces are available in the mornings and afternoons for 3- and 4-year-old classes. Registration will be accepted at the Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard St., until classes are filled. For more information stop in the Howard Leisure Center, or call (847) 967-6633.

## PARKS

### Niles

**Niles Park District** offers free family concerts at Oak Park, Main and Ottawa streets, on Friday evenings. Children's entertainment begins at 6:30 p.m. with the main stage performances at 7:30 p.m. — **Aug. 1:** Dan Lemonnier (songs and storytelling); Lesley Byers & The Jazz Cats. **Aug. 8:** Ken Schultz ("The Flying Fool"); Soul Cookin' (soul and Motown). **Aug. 15:** Chuck Field (ventriloquism); 215 West (Rhythm and blues, classic rock, disco, blues). **Aug. 22:** Jeff Bibik (magic and comedy); Final Say (rock 'n' roll to today's hits).

**A mini-session of camp** is available for children in kindergarten through sixth grade and will include a field trip, swimming, sports, games and crafts. The two week session will begin Aug. 4 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The camps will be held at the Oasis Fun Center, 7877 Milwaukee Ave. Campers should bring a swimsuit, towel and a sack lunch with beverage daily. To register, come to the Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard St., or call (847) 967-6633 for more details.

**Parent-Child Golf** will take place at Tam

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## Peek

Continued from PAGE 53

**O'Shanter Golf Course** on Aug. 3. This is an opportunity for children 7 years and older to have an enjoyable experience with the game of golf. Lunch is included in the fee of \$55 per couple for residents and \$65 per couple for nonresidents (gas carts are not included in the fee). Tee times start at 11 a.m. To register, come to the Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard St., or call (847) 967-6633 for more details.

**Niles Park District** is offering Drama Classes for youth this summer. Summer Theatre Camp II, ages 9 to 14, will run Aug. 11 to 15. Students will practice acting, singing, dancing and create a set. All drama students will then present a final play or skit at the end of their sessions. Registration is being accepted at Howard Leisure Center. For more information, call

(847) 967-6633.

## Golf Maine

**Golf Maine Park District** is taking registrations for:

**Preschool.** Sign up now for the fall 2008 semester. Early registration is urged. A five-day morning program and four-day afternoon program are offered for children turning 4 years old by Sept. 1.

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

## RELIGION

**Theology on Tap**, a summer speaker series exclusively for people in their 20s and 30s continues at St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church, 320 S. Washington St., Park Ridge. Programs are at 7:15

p.m. in Mother Cabrini Prayer Garden (rain location is the Morello Parish Life Center). Pizza and beverages are served. Aug. 5: "The Quest for Happily-Ever-After," with Dr. Kelly Schilder Ray, clinical psychologist. For more information contact Kelly Heus, (847) 692-6025, or e-mail kellyheus@yahoo.com.

**The co-ed evening group** of Community Bible Study, which meets in Mount Prospect, has opened its registration for the 2008-09 study year. A \$25 fee reserves a seat for adults. The course to be studied is "The Divided Kingdom," covering the Old Testament books of I and II Kings and the minor prophets. For information or to register for the course, which will be from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. starting Sept. 9, call class secretary Pam Reed, (847) 373-7375.

## MAINE SENIORS

The Maine Township MaineStreamers program

offers a variety of opportunities for residents 55 and older. Membership includes a free subscription to the MaineStreamers monthly newsletter, which details activities for the upcoming month. Most activities are at Maine Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Road, Park Ridge, unless otherwise noted. For information contact the MaineStreamers, (847) 297-2510, or go to www.Maine-township.com.

**A Trip to Fort Atkinson, Wis.**, to see "The Rock and the Rabbi" is planned from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Aug. 15. The music sets the stage as Simon, a simple fisherman, draws audiences of all ages into his story. Lunch will be served before the show and features chopped salad, roasted New York strip sirloin of beef, mushroom flan, scalloped potatoes, asparagus spears, and banana crème brulee. Cost is \$79 for members; \$84, guests. All Day Trips depart from Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles.





**A day trip** to see the Dancing Horses at Delevan, Wis., will be from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Aug. 24, and features an array of horse breeds that perform alongside trainers with a backdrop of lights and fountains. A buffet lunch is included. Participants also may visit the Baby Animal Barn and the wildlife zoo. The cost is \$73 for members; \$78, guests. All day trips depart from Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles.

**An On-Site Health Monitoring Program** will be offered from 9 a.m. to noon Aug. 19, sponsored by Advocate Health Care. Screenings for cholesterol (LDL, HDL, Triglycerides), glucose, BMI calculations, height, weight, blood pressure, and medical flexible spending may be used. Results will be immediately available. A health consultation will follow the screening. A fast for 12 hours is required prior to the test. This program will be held every third Tues-

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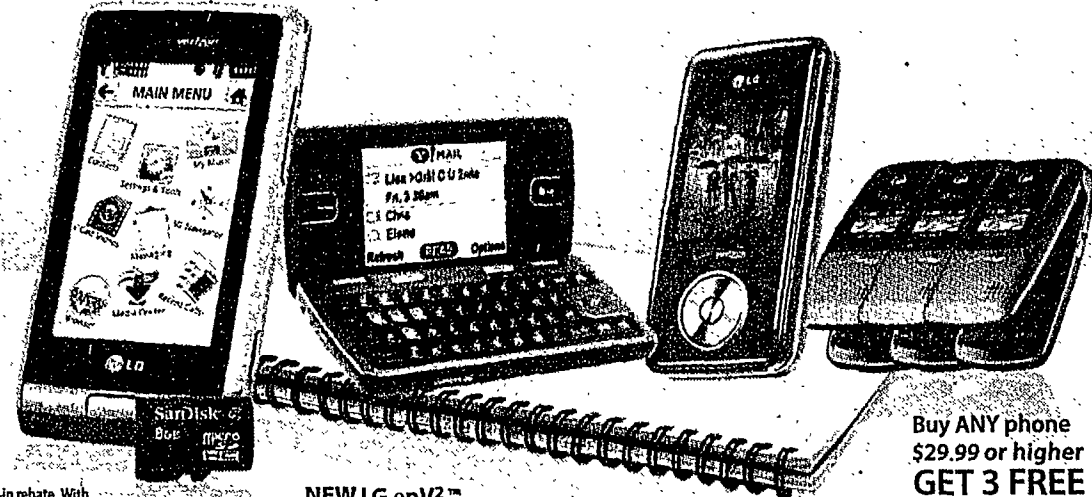
**Weekly Worship**

<p><b>CHICAGO</b></p> <p><b>Bethel Community Church</b> 7601 W. Foster Ave. (773) 775-2355 www.bethelcommunity.org Sunday Worship 8:30 &amp; 11:00 am (for August 9:30 am only) Encounter Gathering: Sunday 6:00 pm Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible Study - 9:45 am (Does not meet in August) Senior Pastor - Pastor Paul Jordan Associate Pastor - Pastor Rob Bukowski Student Ministries - Pastor Shana Clarke Music &amp; Worship - Pastor Andy Clifton Childcare available for all services. Seniors &amp; Women's Bible Studies - September thru May - call for information or see the website.</p> <p><b>St. Eugene Catholic Church</b> 7958 W. Foster Ave. (773) 775-6659 www.st-eugene.org Daily Masses: Mon thru Fri - 6:30 &amp; 9:00 am Weekend Masses: Sat - 8:30 am &amp; 5:30 pm, Sun - 7:00, 9:30, 11:30 am &amp; 4:30 pm Confession: 4:00 - 5:00 pm Sat Baptism: 1:00 pm 1st &amp; 3rd Sunday of the month Rev. George Koehn, Pastor; Rev. Jerome Tuarog, Associate Pastor; Rev. Philip Grib, SJ, Resident</p>	<p><b>DES PLAINES</b></p> <p><b>St. Stephen Protomartyr Church &amp; School</b> 1280 Prospect (847) 824-2026 Hispanic Number (847) 824-7526 www.ststephen-desplaines.org Daily Mass - 8:00 am Saturday Masses: 9:00 am &amp; 5:00 pm Sunday Masses: 8:30 &amp; 10:30 am, 6:00 pm Spanish Mass Holy Day Masses: 7:00 &amp; 9:00 am, 7:00 pm Confessions: Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 pm Rev. Gerald Rogala, Pastor Rev. Flavio Gonzalez, Associate Pastor</p> <p><b>MORTON GROVE</b></p> <p><b>St. Luke's Christian Community Church</b> 9233 Shermer Rd. (847) 966-9233 Sunday Worship - 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal: Wednesday 7:30 pm Pastor Gordon Smith</p> <p><b>PARK RIDGE</b></p> <p><b>First Church of Christ, Scientist</b> 330 Touhy Ave. (847) 823-3329 Sunday Service 10:30 am Wednesday Testimonial Meeting 7:30 pm Sunday School 10:30 pm Christian Science Reading Room, 13 N. Prospect Ave. in Park Ridge Hours: Tues - Fri 10:00 am - 4:00 pm, Sat 10:00 am - 1:00 pm</p>	<p><b>PARK RIDGE</b></p> <p><b>St. Andrew's Lutheran Church &amp; School</b> 260 N. Northwest Highway (847) 823-6656 www.standrewsparkridge.org Sunday Worship: September through May 8:30 &amp; 11:00 am, June - August 9:00 am Contemporary Worship: Saturday 5:00 pm Vespers: Monday 7:30 pm Sunday School &amp; Adult 9:45 am (September thru May) Christian Day School - Pre-Kindergarten thru 8th Grade</p> <p><b>St. Luke's Lutheran Church (ELCA)</b> A Reconciling in Christ Congregation 205 N. Prospect Ave. (847) 825-6659 www.stlukespr.org Email: office@stlukespr.org Sunday Worship: 8:30 &amp; 11:00 am (School Year), 8:30 &amp; 10:00 am (Summer) Thursday Worship (Summer) 7:30 pm Sunday - Christian Education for all ages 9:45 am (School Year) Child Care Provided Rev. Dr. Stephen M. Larson, Lead Pastor Rev. Kristina C. Weber, Associate Pastor Rev. Dr. Malcolm Minnick, Jr., Pastor Emeritus, Anne Krentz Organ, Director of Music Ministries Melinda Ramseth Hoiland, Director of Children's Choirs, Nancy Olson, Member Care Coordinator</p>	<p><b>PARK RIDGE</b></p> <p><b>St. Mary's Episcopal Church</b> 306 S. Prospect Ave. (847) 823-4126 www.stmaryspr.org Sunday Services: 8:00 &amp; 10:00 am Wednesday Service: 9:00 am Sunday School &amp; Nursery during worship, Youth Fellowship The Rev. Sarah D. Odderstoel, Rector The Rev. Amity Carrubba, Curate WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME! Check website for all activities. Handicap Accessible</p> <p><b>PROSPECT HEIGHTS</b></p> <p><b>St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church</b> 411 N. Wheeling Rd. (847) 255-7452 www.saintalphonsus.com Worship Days &amp; Hours: Monday-Saturday 8:15 a.m. Mass of Anticipation: 5:00 p.m. Saturday Sunday Masses: 8:30 &amp; 11:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Curtis A. Lambert Additional Information: School: Pre-3 thru 8th Grade - Before &amp; After School Care Ongoing Faith Formation - Kindergarten thru 8th Grade High School Youth Ministry Program</p>	<p><b>SKOKIE</b></p> <p><b>Carter-Westminster United Presbyterian Church</b> 4950 W. Pratt, (847) 673-4441 www.cnupe.net Sunday Morning Worship Schedule: 9:00 Contemporary Service 10:00 Sunday School (for all ages) 11:00 Traditional Service 12:00 Fellowship Hour Michael Scott Porter, Senior Pastor Alex Wickell, Director of Youth Ministries Office Hours: Mon., Tues. &amp; Thurs. 8:30 am to 4:30 pm St. Peter's United Church of Christ Oakton Street &amp; Laramie Avenue, (847) 673-8166 www.stpeterscskokie.org Sunday Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am (September thru May) Rev. Richard Lanford Childcare provided. Air Conditioned Sanctuary Handicap Accessible</p>
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To List Your Church on Our Weekly Worship Pages Please Call Cheryl Glass at 847-486-7239 Changes can be faxed to her attention at 847-486-7456 Email: cglass@pioneerlocal.com

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**AUTHORIZED RETAILERS** Equipment prices, models & return policy vary by location. Authorized Retailers may impose additional equipment related charges, including cancellation fees.

<b>ALGONQUIN</b> The Wireless Network 1072 Algonquin Rd. 847-658-0808	<b>BARTLETT</b> Wireless Millennium Communications 144 Bartlett Plaza 630-483-5050	<b>ELMNURST</b> The Cellular Connection 540 W. North Ave. 630-834-2776	<b>HANOVER PARK</b> Wireless Millennium Communications 1178 Lake St., Unit B-12 630-213-6060	<b>JOLIET</b> The Wireless Network 16527 W. 159th St. 815-838-2900	<b>LAKE ZURICH</b> Corporate Cellular 580 W. Main St. 847-540-4440	<b>OAK LAWN</b> The Cellular Connection 10646 S. Cicero 708-499-4088	<b>ROUND LAKE BEACH</b> The Wireless Network 800 E. Rollins 219-947-9900	<b>VERNON HILLS</b> Star Wireless 122 Hawthorne Center 847-247-0361	<b>WAUCONDA</b> Wauconda Cellular 210 W. Liberty St. 847-487-0400	<b>WEST DUNDEE</b> The Wireless Network 625 S. 8th St. 847-426-9933
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\*Our Surcharges (incl. Fed. Univ. Svc. of 11.4% of Interstate & Int'l Telecom charges (varies quarterly), 7% Regulatory & 85% Administrative/line/mo., & others by area) are not taxes (details: 1-888-684-1888); gov't taxes & our surcharges could add 9% - 33% to your bill. Activation fee/line: \$35 (\$25 for secondary Family SharePlan lines w/ 2-yr. Agmts).  
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# Food HUNGRY FOR MORE?

Find more recipes on the Web [www.pioneerlocal.com](http://www.pioneerlocal.com).

MANAGING EDITOR: Sara Burrows  
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## Melons: sweet way to beat the heat

By CHRISTINE A. VERSTRAETE  
Contributor

Nothing says summer like a fresh, juicy melon. Now is the best time to get your pick of the crop.

Though most melons probably originated in India, Americans are generally eating California and other western state varieties, many of them hybrids developed in this country.

So if you haven't ventured beyond the usual watermelon or cantaloupe, you're in for a tasty treat. There are many varieties of fresh melons to choose from, with flavors to whet any appetite and colors across the rainbow from bright yellow and green, to the creamiest white and the deepest pink.

If you prefer old favorites like the always popular watermelon, which probably first grew in Africa, new varieties like Californian Dulcinea Farm's smaller and sweeter "mini" watermelons will have you licking your lips for more.

### Old time flavor

"The Dulcinea is getting to be more and more popular," said Stan Barszcz, produce manager with Dominick's Finer Foods in Gurnee. "The flavor is more intense. It tastes the way watermelon used to taste 10, 12 years ago."

Melons have a short season, so pick your favorites early. To assure a good melon, experts advise buyers to choose melons without bruising



Stan Barszcz, produce manager at Dominick's Foods in Gurnee, holds a Dulcinea PureHeart seedless watermelon (left) and a Tuscan style cantaloupe (right) in his hands.

or soft spots. Refrigerate melons only after cutting to avoid refrigerator burn. If a regular-size watermelon feels heavy, it contains more water and is riper. Check that an attached stem is brown and the watermelon has a deep green rind.

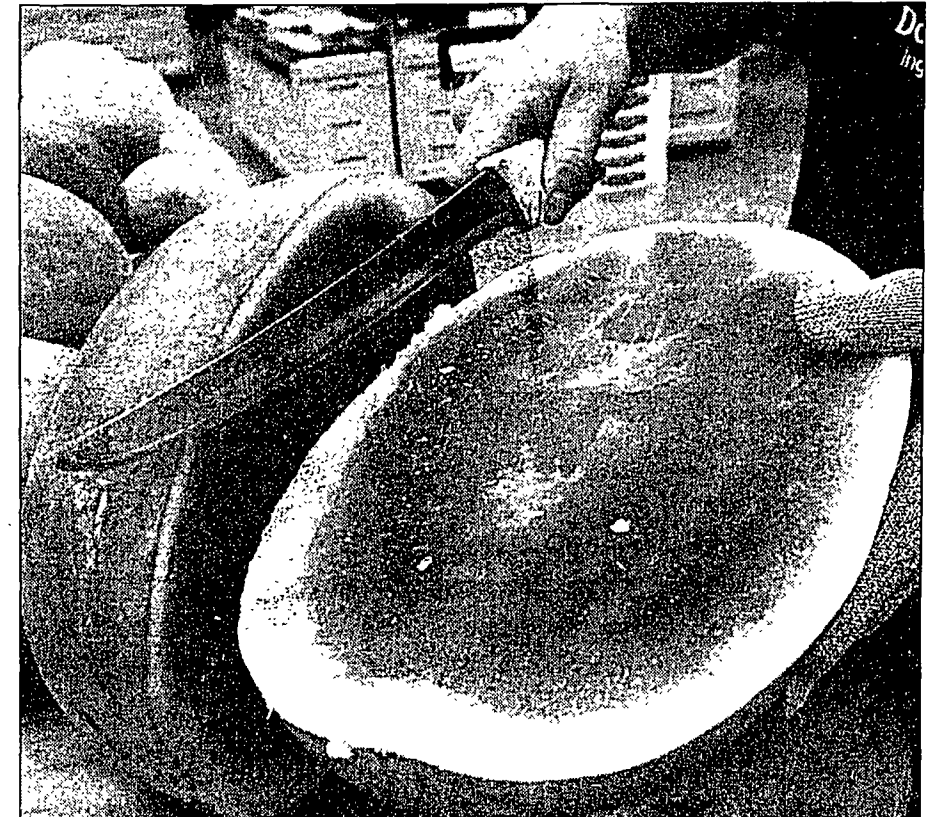
Interested in trying a new type of melon? Some recent favorites include the Dulcinea PureHeart, a sweeter, seedless watermelon with a 1/8- to 1/4-inch rind averaging about 4 to 6 inches around. A bonus is that watermelons are a good source of antioxidants and offer at least twice the lycopenes than tomatoes. The Galia melon resembles a cantaloupe and tastes like a sweeter hon-

eydew. Dulcinea's Tuscan-style cantaloupe is another sweeter variety melon.

Other melons to try include the Santa Claus, which has a lighter, "cucumber" type taste; the orange-flesh honeydew melon, and the Sharlyn melon, a sweet melon, netted like a cantaloupe, but with white to light green insides and a perfume-like fragrance, which some compare to a cross between a honeydew and a cantaloupe.

### Exotic tastes

You might also find the bright yellow canary melon, with pale flesh that's a bit more tangy than a honeydew. Or the crenshaw, another yellow melon, that also comes in



ROB DICKER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Gurnee Dominick's produce manager, Stan Barszcz, shows the deep rosy flesh of a Dulcinea brand Ruby Bliss seedless watermelon.

a creamy white. When fully ripe, the crenshaw will be quite fragrant, and have a bit of give at its blossom end.

The large, beige, orange-flesh variety called muskmelon is making its annual appearance in local groceries and weekly farmer's markets. These are a type of cantaloupe, and grow well in the Midwest summer heat. They tend to be softer-fleshed than those coming from western states.

The name comes from the melon's rather musky fragrance, which is common to all cantaloupes. According to the University of Illinois Extension Web site, these melons originated in India, and were cultivated by settlers here in the 1600s.

Though it's hard to beat a simple melon slice for sweetness and color, melons are turning up in recipes all over the menu, in sweet/savory and even spice preparations.

### Melon Appetizer with Asian Dipping Sauce

This recipe comes from Dominick's Finer Foods. For more recipes, see [www.dominicks.com](http://www.dominicks.com)

- 1 tsp. minced fresh ginger
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 1 tsp. fish sauce (nuoc mam or nam pla) or soy sauce
- 1 honeydew, cantaloupe, or watermelon
- 1 T crushed dried hot red chilies

In a small bowl, mix together lime juice, vinegar, ginger, sugar and fish sauce. Cut melon in half; trim a slice from each rounded end so it will sit steadily. Slice melon crosswise into approximately 1-inch-thick rounds. Restack slices and cut down through them to make wedges about 2 inches wide at rind end. Stack wedges on serving platter.

Place chilies in a small bowl next to melon and bowl with dipping sauce. To eat, dip melon into sauce, then chilies, as desired.

### Light Cantaloupe Smoothie

Melons are a natural ingredient for smoothies. A quick cantaloupe refresher comes from *Fast & Fit* by Ellen Haas (Hatherleigh Press, 2007)

- 1/2 C orange juice
- 1/2 C peeled, seeded, cubed cantaloupe
- 1 tsp. honey
- 1/2 C ice

Place the juice, fruit and honey in a blender. Blend on high speed for 30 seconds. Add ice and blend until smooth.

**Peek**

Continued from PAGE 55

day of the month. Cost is \$38. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-323-8622.

**A White Pines Dinner Theatre** Trip to Mount Morris, Ill., will be taken from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 24. The trip will begin with leisurely time to walk the beautiful grounds and visit the gift shop. Lunch will be served before the show fea-

turing the fabulous home cooked buffet. Stay in your same seat as you enjoy "Yes, Gentlemen do Prefer Blondes," a new memorable musical retrospect paying tribute to some of the great sirens of song. Cost is \$50 members, \$55 guests. All Day Trips depart from Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles.

**Interested income tax** counselor volunteers are needed to assist Mainestreamers and low income township residents

in completing simple income tax forms. Needed are those who have experience in filling out income tax forms and who have four hours available per week (February through April 2009). Training will be provided. If interested, contact Regina Provenzano, (847) 297-2510, Ext. 241.

**Maine Township** is asking for assistance in locating good, reliable handymen in the area. If you know of someone and

would like to submit a name, contact Therese Tully, (847) 297-2510, Ext. 260, and she will forward a form to complete.

**Maine Township**, in cooperation with the Cook County Sheriff's Office, is collecting used cell phones to be converted for emergency 911 use for seniors. Donate phones at Maine Town Hall.

**SENIORS**

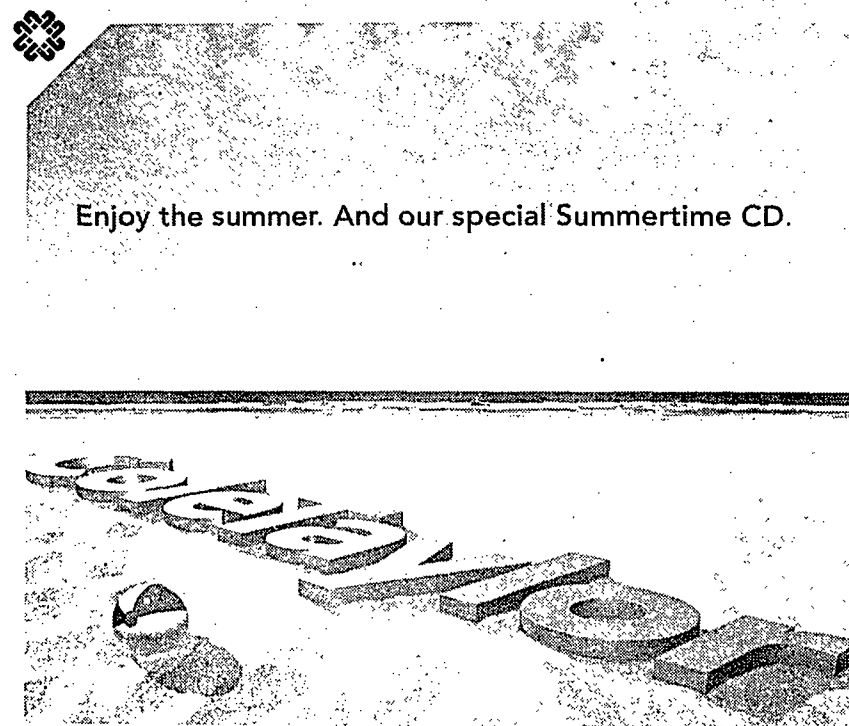
**State Rep. Rosemary Mulligan**, R-65th, will host a

Senior Expo to help elderly people become better acquainted with services available from state agencies and local organizations. The expo will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 5 at the Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge. More than 30 state agencies and local groups will provide information and answer questions. Free blood pressure, memory, hearing and body mass index screenings will also be available. Admission is free and re-

freshments will be provided. For more information contact Mulligan's office, (847) 297-6533.

**Retired adults who want to continue learning** are invited to attend the Lifelong Learning Institute's Open House from 1 to 4 p.m. July 31 at National-Louis University's third floor Public Forum Room, 5202 Old Orchard Road, in Skokie. The Lifelong Learning Institute is a peer-led, non-tradition-

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**Stone - Meyer**

Jamie Kristin Stone and Jonathan Paul Meyer were married on October 20, 2007 at The First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest. A reception followed in Audubon Hall at Independence Grove, in Libertyville.

The bride, daughter of John and Judy Stone, of Lake Forest, is a graduate of Lake Forest High School, the University of Michigan, and Loyola University Chicago. Jamie is a Spanish teacher at Vernon Hills High School.

The groom, son of Tom and Chris Meyer, is also a graduate of Lake Forest High School. J.P. earned an engineering degree at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, and is currently employed by Rexam, in Elk Grove Village.

Kelly and Tracy Stone, sisters of the bride, were maids of honor. Bridesmaids were Ashley Engelhart, Katie Lenz, Joanna Bickler, Sara Duncan, Sara Ward and Lauren Dalglish. Bridget and Kylene Flood, the groom's cousins, served as flower girls.

Matt Meyer, brother of the groom, was best man. Josh Rosenthal, Kris Sutti, Conor O'Grady, Louis Banks, Geoff Webber and Mike Ryan were groomsmen. Kippy Larpenier, second cousin of the bride, served as ring bearer.

The couple honeymooned in Belize, and currently reside in the River North neighborhood in Chicago.



**Coleman - Honn**

Patricia and Michael Coleman, of Winnetka, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Anne Sophie Coleman, to Aaron Daniel Honn, son of Cecilia and Rollin Honn, of Mission TX.

The future bride and groom are Foreign Service Officers for the U.S. Department of State. They met in Montreal while each was working at a U.S. Consulate in Canada, she in Montreal and he in Toronto.

The bride-to-be is a 1997 graduate of New Trier High School. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from William and Mary in 2001, and obtained a Master's Degree in European Studies from the College of Europe in Belgium on a Fulbright Scholarship in 2002.

The future groom is a 1992 graduate of Sharyland High School, Mission, TX. He graduated from Yale University in 1996, and earned his J.D. from the University of Houston in 1999.

A November wedding at St. Gabriel Catholic Church, in Washington, D.C. is planned.



**Llerena - Ridgeway**

Lleschen T. Llerena, of Skokie, and Charles W. Ridgeway, of Chicago, are pleased to announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Herman and Carmen Llerena, of Skokie. She earned her Bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois, and a Master's in Education from National Louis University. She is currently employed as a third grade bilingual teacher.

The future groom is the son of Charles and Mary Ridgeway, of Chicago. He is a graduate of Lakeview HS, and is employed at UPS as a package driver.

An October wedding in Chicago is planned, with a reception at the Doubletree Hotel, in Skokie.



**McGovern - Fink**

Nancy McGovern, of Northbrook, and Kevin McGovern, of Winnetka, announce the engagement of their daughter, Molly Shannon McGovern, to Michael Brian Fink, Jr., son of Gail and Mike Fink, of Miamisburg, OH.

The bride-to-be is a 2002 graduate of Glenbrook North HS, and a 2006 graduate from the University of Dayton, in Dayton, OH, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in communications. She is currently employed with Cline Davis and Mann, in New York City, as a team manager.

The future groom is a 2002 graduate of Miamisburg HS, and a 2006 graduate from the University of Dayton with a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration. He is employed with Mainstay Investments, a division of New York Life, in New York City.

A fall wedding will be planned at St. Norbert's Church, in Northbrook.



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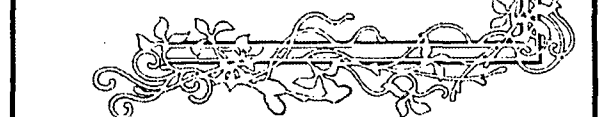
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Peek

Continued from PAGE 58

al educational and social program covering two 15-week semesters and two five-week winter and summer sessions during the year. At the July 31 Open House, participants will have an opportunity to discover the wide variety of classes, social events and "adventures" to be offered this fall, as well meeting and interacting with current participants. For further information, contact Joan Marks at (224) 233-2366 or www.nl.edu/lifelonglearning.

SENIOR CENTER

The Niles Senior Center offers free membership to Niles residents age 62 and older, and their spouses. Only center members may register for classes or trips, or purchase tickets. Drop by the Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive, Niles, or call (847) 588-

8420, for an application.

The Laughter Club, facilitated by Om-Johari, "Certified Laughter Leader," meets from 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Research shows laughter has health and social benefits. Call the center for more information.

The social Scrabble group meets at 10 a.m. every Friday in Room 231, and welcomes participants.

SINGLES

Spares Sunday Evening Club for all who enjoy dancing will sponsor a dance from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Aug. 3 at the American Legion, 9757 Pacific Ave., Franklin Park, with Chuck and Friends. Members pay \$8; guests, \$9. For more information call the hotline, (847) 965-5730.

Young at Heart Singles Club (ballroom dancers of all ages) will feature a dance at 8:30 p.m. Aug. 1 at

the American Legion Hall, 9757 Pacific Ave., Franklin Park, with the It Takes 3 Band. Members pay \$7 for each dance; guests, \$9. Attire is semi-dressy/dressy. Call the hotline at (630) 415-3499 for more information, or for directions, call (847) 678-7068.

The Single Gourmet will enjoy exclusive outdoor dining Aug. 1 on the Conrad's 16th Floor Grand Suite Terrace, 521 N. Rush St., Chicago. Reception will begin at 6:15 p.m., with dinner at 7:15. Cost is \$99. For reservations, call (773) 772-3535.

TEEN CENTER

The Niles Youth Council is a group of teenagers in sixth through 12th grade who provide support and advice on Teen Center programming, develop leadership skills and work to serve the Niles community. It meets at 5 p.m. the first and third Thursday of every month. Call (847) 375-8949, for more informa-

tion. The Teen Center is located at 373 Golf Mill Center in Niles. Summer hours are 2 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays, through Aug. 22.

Teen Center members can enjoy dinner and a movie on Aug. 8. Meet at the Teen Center at 6 p.m., then have dinner at the Elephant Bar Restaurant for only \$10, including an entrée (select menu), a soft drink and tip, and enjoy a movie for \$5 at the Showplace 12 Theatre. Sign up by the Thursday before each event.

Get your friends together (sixth through 12th grades) to watch the Schaumburg Flyers baseball team take on the Winipeg Goldeyes at Alexian Field from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. Aug. 15. Cost is \$30 for members and \$40, non-members. Ticket, supervision and transportation are included in the cost. Bring extra money for food, drinks and souvenirs. Registration deadline is Aug. 1.

German girl shines on baseball diamond

BY MIKE CAMERON Contributor



Milena Boettger, a 14-year-old from Germany who played this summer with the Chicago Pioneers 14B youth girls baseball team, chats with one of her coaches during a game last week. Boettger lived with a Norwood Park family during her visit.

Chicago Pioneers shortstop Milena Boettger backhanded a hard two-hopper hit by one of the larger boys on Glenview 2's team and rifled an accurate throw to first base for the out. Catcher Danielle Pauly, her roommate, high-fived Boettger as they ran off the field.

The Skokie-based Pioneers girls team made numerous such good plays during their 12-2 loss July 21, their second-to-last game of the season competing against boys teams in the 14B North Shore Baseball League. The 14-year-old Boettger would be flying back home to Goersroth, Germany, in another eight days after a memorable summer playing baseball and making new friends in the United States.

"I enjoyed the whole experience. Everyone made me feel welcome right away. I saw Chicago and went to movies and White Sox games. I like the Caesar's salad at Quiznos. I'm going

to keep in touch with the girls. I might come back again," said Boettger, who's fluent in English and will learn her fourth language this fall. "I hit a stand-up double with a broken bat in the second at-bat of the first game. I didn't know it was broken after my first at-bat. This was my fifth year playing baseball, but it's not the same in Germany. The fields are bad. The big sport is soccer."

Arriving here on June 23, Boettger stayed with Pauly's family in Norwood Park and also with Al Budding in Palos Heights. Budding discovered Boettger in the spring while in Germany to launch a baseball team for USA Athletes International. While conducting an instructional camp, he noticed the talent of both Boettger and her twin brother, Nick.

"I showed her the Pioneers website and said, 'This is available for you,'" Budding said. "Mary Jo (Stegeman, Pioneers founder and general manager) was all for bringing her here, and her parents (Dirk and Maria) were sup-

portive. Milena had the talent for baseball."

Boettger, who trained herself to be a left-handed hitter, excelled as the primary shortstop and also pitched well in five appearances. The 15-person roster included a girl from North Carolina and another from Kentucky, but Boettger was the first European import.

"From the beginning, Milena had a very good sense of how to play and what to do on the field, and she fit right in with the team," said Pioneers head coach Greg Stegeman, Mary Jo's husband.

It wasn't hard for Boettger to bond with the outgoing Pauly right off the bat.

"I love baseball, I'm good at it and I've been playing it for 12 years. Softball is boring, slower, like watching grass growing," said Pauly, whose home features a swimming pool in the backyard. "Milena and I got along right away. We all did. Heck, the very first thing she did at our pool was to push me in."

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

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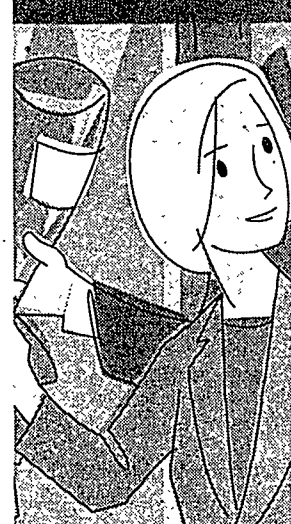
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AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

Mustangs end regular season with victory over Glenview

By DAN CURRIER dcurrier@pioneerlocal.com

The Morton Grove Mustangs American Legion team finished its regular season on a positive note.

First-year coach Ed Toledo's squad ended Cook County Legion League action 5-12-1 and took an overall record of 17-15-1 overall into Tuesday's league's playoffs at Arlington Heights.

The Mustangs closed out the regular season with a 2-0 victory over

Glenview July 23. Luke Kalliantasis pitched a one-hitter to earn his first shutout in his first start of the summer season.

The Mustangs scored a run in the first inning when Tim Reichert singled and was later driven home on a hit by Joey Blum. The second run came when Brian O'Toole reached first on a fielder's choice, got on second on a Glenview error and then scored on another Glenview error. "Considering it was

our first season, we did quite well, especially when it came to weekend tournaments," Toledo

"I need time to get adjusted at Niles North, so I really didn't put in a full year with Evanston."

First-year coach Ed Toledo

said. "For the first-year kids, it was an eye-opener as to how difficult Legion ball is.

"When you consider we had players from two

schools (Niles North and Maine South), they bonded well. We will be better next year."

Toledo, who is the head coach at Niles North, figures to have 50-60 percent of his players back for next year, including Reichert,

Kalliantasis and Dan Raetzman.

"We will have plenty of experienced players returning next summer," Toledo said.

Toledo was involved in putting together the Evanston Legion team in 2007 when he was coach at Evanston High School. However, when he transferred to Niles North during the school year, he dropped his involvement with Evanston and began working on assembling a Legion team for Morton Grove.

"I need time to get adjusted at Niles North, so I really didn't put in a full year with Evanston," he said. "When I arrived at Niles North, I knew the players there would need a summer team to play on, so I worked with the Maine South people and we formed the team at Morton Grove. It's gone quite well."

Toledo says he will lose around five players from this summer's squad.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

# Sports

## Seniors compete at 27th annual Olympics

By JIM EDISON  
jedison@pioneerlocal.com

There was plenty of excitement about the Olympics this past week in Park Ridge and the surrounding communities, but it had nothing to do with the world attention being focused on China and the start of the upcoming Games in Beijing.

The buzz around the town this past week involved a slew of aging athletes who participated in the 27th edition of the Six-County Senior Olympics.

Sponsored each July by the Illinois Park and Recreation Association and hosted by the Park Ridge Senior Center, the four-day event was headquartered at Maine East High School. And once again, as she has since the Senior Olympics began back in 1981, Teresa Grodsky was chairperson.

"It's strange, but it seems that every year some sports increase and others decrease in popularity," said Grodsky, who estimates there were about 400 participants

this year. "Basketball (free throw) and softball (throw) were smaller, but volleyball (both recreational and competitive) were up.

"Another thing we've seen is that the events that are well-run, draw the most people. We have a number of very qualified individuals in certain events and they do an outstanding job. And the Maine East administrators have gone out of their way to make it easy for us.

"For me personally, it is so nice to see the people that have been competing year after year."

### Wide variety

The Senior Olympics, which are open to individuals starting at age 50, offer a wide variety of sports for contestants. Included in this year's schedule were golf (both 18 and 9 holes), shuffleboard, tennis, horseshoes, softball throw, table tennis, basketball free throw, trap shoot, volleyball (recreational and competitive), pool, bike race, bowling, swimming and track and field.

"This my fourth year (participating)," said Clarence Hiltunen, 72, of Elmwood Park. "And I look forward to coming here. I used to be good at this (free throw shooting), but now, as I've gotten older, I have to use two hands. And it's tough to compete with the tall guys."

Another athlete, as well as former teacher and coach, Bob Vormittag, 73, was in action in several events. A Des Plaines resident, Vormittag coached sports at both Maine East and Wright College.

"I was sorry to miss (the Senior Olympics) last year," Vormittag said. "But last summer I was on a trip to China. I always wanted to visit there and it was interesting to see the preparations that were being made for this year's Olympics.

"As far as this year (at the Olympics), I already have a couple of medals. I took second in doubles tennis and third in the softball throw."

Comment: pioneerlocal.com



JASON BROWN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Ron Mikosinski of Niles competes in the horseshoe event July 21 at the Norridge Park District as part of the six-county Senior Olympics.

MANAGING EDITOR: Rick Hibbert  
rhibbert@pioneerlocal.com | (708) 524-4440

### SOFTBALL

## Slammers finish second at PlayUSF Classic tourney

The North Suburban Slammers 18-and-under fastpitch softball team rode strong pitching and solid defense to a second-place finish July 27 at the seventh annual PlayUSF Classic in Elgin.

Pitcher **Kate Seebacher** of Skokie struck out 12, walked one and allowed just two hits to

lead the Slammers to a 2-1 victory over the Park Ridge Pistols in the tournament's semifinal round. Seebacher had a perfect game until she allowed a solo home run in the fifth inning that tied the score at 1-1. She ended up facing 24 batters — just three over the minimum — as the Slammers defense turned

in an errorless performance. First baseman **Claire Prosperi** of Northbrook delivered the game-winning hit, a seventh-inning double, after **Sophie Gaynor** of Skokie had walked and advanced to second on a groundout by **Allie Ehrensaft** of Evanston. Prosperi also scored

the Slammers' first run when **Darcy Foreman** of Niles drew a bases-loaded walk in the second inning. Prosperi was hit by a pitch and advanced to third on an error and a bunt single by **Meghan Henry** of Morton Grove. In the championship game against the Bartlett Silverhawks, pitcher **Kim Griseto** of Skokie scat-

tered five hits, but the Silverhawks turned back several threats by the Slammers to take the title with a 2-0 victory. Prosperi again led the Slammers' attack with a triple and a walk to go with hits from Griseto, Seebacher, Foreman, **Molly Freund** of Northbrook and **Nancy Geden** of Niles.

The PlayUSF Classic marked the second consecutive tournament in which the Slammers reached the championship game. They conclude their season this week with a trip to the Amateur Softball Association Northern Nationals in Rochester, Minn.

Comment: pioneerlocal.com

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Last week	6.42	5.95	6.05
Last year	6.75	6.42	6.41

\$165,000 loan amount			
Loan Program	Rate	Monthly Payment	
1 yr ARM	6.24%	\$1,014.86	
5/1 ARM	6.48%	\$1,040.74	
15 yr fixed	6.32%	\$1,421.05	
30 yr fixed	6.77%	\$1,072.38	
\$435,000 loan amount			
30 yr jumbo	7.68%	\$3,095.38	

Source: Bankrate.com, for more information visit [www.bankrate.com](http://www.bankrate.com). Bankrate national averages are based on 100 largest institutions in the top 10 markets in the United States.

### MORTGAGE UPDATE

#### Mortgage rates rise to highest level in a year By Holden Lewis • Bankrate.com

Mortgage rates took a big jump this week, to their highest point in a year. There's no single explanation for the rise.

The benchmark 30-year fixed-rate mortgage rose 35 basis points, to 6.77 percent, according to the Bankrate.com national survey of large lenders. A basis point is one-hundredth of 1 percentage point. The mortgages in this week's survey had an average total of 0.45 discount and origination points: One year ago, the mortgage index was almost the same, at 6.75 percent. Four weeks ago, it was 6.62 percent.

The benchmark 15-year fixed-rate mortgage rose 37 basis points, to 6.32 percent. The benchmark 5/1 adjustable-rate mortgage rose 43 basis points, to 6.48 percent. The 30-year fixed jumbo, for big mortgages, rose 4 basis points, to 7.68 percent.

The last time the 30-year fixed was higher was the week of July 18, 2007, when it was 6.82 percent. Six weeks after that, the 30-year fixed was below 6.5 percent. Circumstances are different now, and there's no guarantee that we'll see a repeat of an August rate swoon.

Mortgage rates are being pushed and pulled by various forces: increasing inflation, tighter lending guidelines all around, a loss of confidence in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and an upcoming general election that makes politicians want to take some kind of action.

The Consumer Price Index went up 1.1 percent in June,

the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week. Core prices, excluding food and energy, rose 0.3 percent. Both rates were higher than most investors and economists had expected.

Michael Moskowitz, president of New York-based mortgage lender Equity Now, pronounces inflation to be one of the main culprits for this quick rise in rates. He believes that government policy is putting upward pressure on rates, too, by restricting lending. Last week, the Federal Reserve issued new mortgage regulations that, among other things, require lenders to verify borrowers' ability to repay. In practice, this means that borrowers will have to document their incomes and assets.

The regulation infuriates Moskowitz, who emigrated from the Soviet Union when he was 15 and adores the capitalist system because he grew up in its opposite. He's all for regulations that protect borrowers from being taken advantage of. But the Fed's new rule is too broad, he says: "I basically feel that government policies are restricting lending."

He asks: What of a marginally creditworthy buyer who makes a \$700,000 down payment on a \$1 million home and wants to borrow \$300,000, without stating or documenting his income? That buyer will find it difficult or impossible to get a mortgage at a reasonable rate. "Let the guy who lives in the million-dollar house borrow \$300,000," Moskowitz says. "How does it serve the public good by not allowing him to borrow anything?"

Fannie-Freddie stricter regulations, the mortgage world was buffeted in the last week by what Moskowitz's underwriting manager, Matt Hackett, calls "the Fannie-Freddie scare."

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are government-sponsored enterprises that securitize, guarantee and buy mortgages. Their job is to make sure that mortgage lenders have money to lend to creditworthy borrowers. But concerns about their financial stability led investors to wonder if they could continue to perform their mission.

Enter the federal government. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson announced that the government would offer cheap credit to Fannie and Freddie if they needed it in a pinch. So far, they haven't gone to Uncle Sam for a loan. But Fannie's and Freddie's troubles put upward pressure on rates.

"Even if there is a U.S. government bailout, there's going to be additional constraints put on Fannie and Freddie in terms of how much they can actually lend," says Cameron Findlay, chief economist for LendingTree.com. "That was going to constrain the market. Anytime you tighten that noose, it will increase the cost of borrowing."

Findlay predicts that "it will actually help rates" now that Congress and the White House are in general agreement about a housing bill that would create a stronger regulator for Fannie and Freddie, among other things.

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MORTGAGE RATES & INFORMATION AVAILABLE 24/7 ON THE INTERNET @ <http://pioneerlocal.interest.com>

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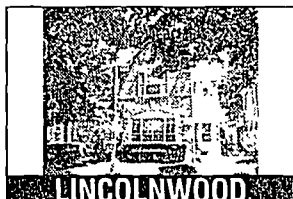


Cherylette Hilton



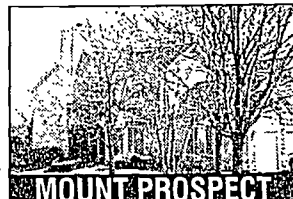
**SKOKIE**

Gut rehabbed bi-level on huge lot 44' X 179' w/patio. Features 3br/2bth. A balcony over looking beautiful Lr & Dr, eat-in kit w/new maple cabs. Ss appls, granite cntropts, w/travertine tile flrs. Lam rm w/bth on lower lev, heater 1 yr old, maintenance free ext, new full bth on 2nd flr & hrs have hrdwd fls/dr & kit elegant split w/cathedral ceiling



**LINCOLNWOOD**

Fully updated 1/2 duplex! All new windows kit w/cfl-flrs, newer appls All hrdwd flrs covered w/new carpetg BR w/jacuzzi tub. Good size bdrms mstr br has walk in closet. Pull down stairs to attic for ad'l storage space. All bnck exterior w/lennon stone highlights. Full size yrd w/1.5 car gar.



**MOUNT PROSPECT**

Just Listed! The best deal in town! Rarely available Spacious & immaculate 1st floor 2 bd/1 bth end unit Ranch Townhome w/attach garage, pvt patio & pond views Recently rehabbed Cherry cabs, hardwood & slate flrs, recessed lights, Extra large bath w sep shower/bath tub Full size washer/dryer in large utility rm



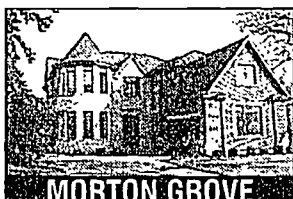
**SKOKIE**

Deluxe 4 bedroom 2.5 bath contemporary split w/finished sub-basement & attached 2.5 car gar. Dramatic living room & dining room w/cathedral ceiling 4 Large bedrooms upstairs. Newer master & hall baths Ground level family room w/sliders to large yard. Sump-pump. Newer windows on 2nd flr Newer furnace. Alarm



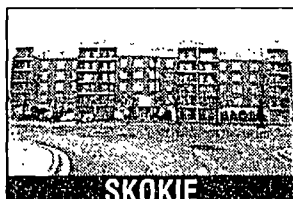
**SKOKIE**

Fabulous New 4800 Sq Ft Contemporary in Prime Devonshire Woods Upper level 4 Br's plus loft for play rm or den Gorgeous master suite & walk out balcony Main lev bedrm suite Large bright Liv & Din Rm great for entertaining. Island Kit w/2 sinks & 2 dishwashers, built in microwave, 5 Burner cooktop & Double oven Sep Eating area opens to Family rm w/16 Ft Vaulted Ceilings Finish lower level. Rec rm w/lp/c. Exercise room, Full bath and full second kitchen



**MORTON GROVE**

Spectacular 5 Bdrms, 5.1 Bath, New Construction, Torretti Stone Front, 10 Ceilings, 3 Fireplaces, SS Appls, 42 Inch Cherry Cabs, Cherry Butlers Pantry, Brazilian Cherry Hrdwd Flrs, 4 Walk-in Closets, Granite Countertops, Steam Shower & Whirlpool In Master Bth Bnck Paver Driveway, Sprinkler System, 1/2 Blk Frm On/Ole Park & 1/2 Block From Melzer Grade School.



**SKOKIE**

Spacious Bright Split Bdrms Fir/pln Largest 2 Bed 2 Bth w/South & East views. Roomy Liv RM Large Balcony Sep. Din RM & Eat-In Kitchen w/Oak cabinets & full compliment of appls MBB Suite w/huge W/Closet & Lovely Bath. Guest Bth w/Walk-in shower. Good size 2nd Bdrms. Sep. Laundry Rm w/Full Size Washer/Dryer Deeded Gar Prkg Space & Storage Rm too!



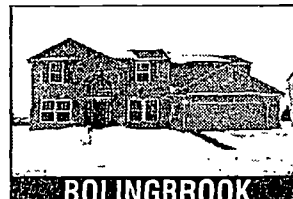
**CHICAGO**

Exquisite top-to-bottom renovation of a Georgian in the North Park area. Kit features cherry cabinetry, granite tops, stain steel appls & a cozy eat-in nook. Hrdwd flrg on main/upper levels 2 full bths w/sep showers, whirlpool tub, granite tops. Lower level fam rm. New plumbing, elec system



**EVANSTON CONDOS**

Spacious, Sunny And Luxurious 2bed 1+ Bath 1175 Sq. Ft Model Unit in New Condo Conversion In Heart Of North Evanston! In Unit Washer/Dryer. Central Air/ Heat! Spacious New Kit! New Bath W/Jacuzzi Tub! Huge Living/Dining Area! New Windows, Elect, Plumbing, Free Outdoor Prkg, 1yr. No Assmnts. No Closing Cost And Free Plasma T.V.



**BOLINGBROOK**

LOVELY UPGRADED LARGE WILSHIRE MODEL! Brick Facade-Entrance! Lovely 4 BR+1st flr Den & 2.1 Bths! Balc over 2-sty lylr! 1st flr Fam Room w/Fireplace! Mid-house Staircase! Kit w/Maple 42" Cabs, Island, W/I Pantry, All Stainless Steel Appl! Mstr Suite: Sit area; walk in closet, Sep Shwr; Soak Tub; Dual Sinks! \$289,000



Danny Kourouklis  
 847-409-4346

2-story contemporary which was completely remodeled expanded about 5 years ago. The functionality of this residence (fully applianced kit, instant hot water, dual-zoned heating/cooling, steam shower, all-new plumbing & electric, dbl-insulated attic, outdoor sprinkler system etc) is only outclassed by its ambiance which will instantly make you think.



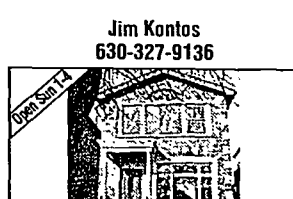
**LINCOLNWOOD**

Wonderful 2/3 bdrm condo in lincolnwood suites Third bdrm is currently being used as a den In unit washer/dryer Eat in kit w/newer appls & balcony new heat & a/c. Mstr bdrm w/full bth Security system Extra storm windows makes this unit very quiet from street noises. Pool, exercise rm, party rm, in door prkg & a beautiful garden. Excellent building Call me today!



**SKOKIE**

3 bdrms, 2 bths, hrdwd flrs throughout, skylight & marble on foyer, brazilian maple hrdwd in living & dining rms, huge fam rm, two remodeled bthrms, granite countertop in bthrm, whirlpool, nicely decorated in neutral colors, new furnace, new refrigerator, new hot water tank, huge backyard. Nice landscape. Ready to move in.



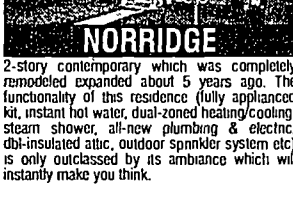
**CHICAGO**

Luxury new construction! 4 br/3.5 ba & 2.5c garage. 1st flr eat in kit w/cooktop island, 42" walnut cabinets, granite countertops. SS appls Stoppedown fam. Rm w/fireplace & large deck. Hrdwd flr thruout. 2nd flr: 3 br, 2 baths, master bath w/jacuzzi, sep double steam shower & balcony. Bsm't w/br + rec room w/lp, full bath w/double shower. Quality work thru-out. Close 2 xpressway! \$649,000



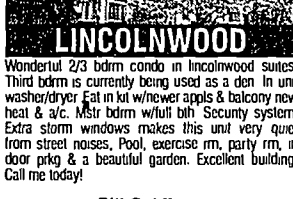
**SKOKIE**

This Home Has It All! 5 Bdrms, 3 Full Baths + 2 Powder Room, Full Finished Basement, All New Windows, Totally Hardwood Flrs, Fireplace, Jacuzzi Bath, Recessed Lighting, Granite Counter Tops, Cherry Kitchen Cabinets, SS Appliances, Walk In Closets, Large Deck Off Of Kit, 2 Car Attached Garage.



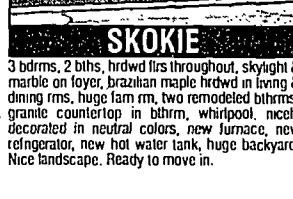
Markus Azadeh  
 773-230-4104

Unique bnck 3 story townhouse style 2 flat, 1st floor 3 rooms: 1 bedrm 1 bath, 2nd floor unit is a duplex up with 3 bedrooms & 1.5 baths. 2 car garage plus 2 car out door spot.



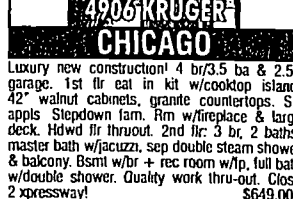
**CHICAGO WEST ROGERS PARK**

Bnck two-flat featuring lg rms beautifully remodeled first flr unit, finished bsm't w/extra income, great for owner occupied or investment. New roof, partly finished windows. Hwd flrs.



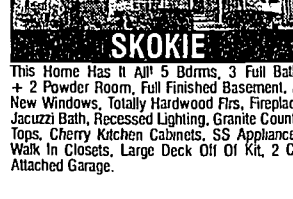
**EVANSTON**

Very spacious townhome w open living & dining rm floor plan. Bright new windows replaced in 2005. Hardwood and ceramic tile floors. Finished lower level w full bath, laundry room and storage. Many new appls and new roof in 2005. Parking in the rear. Close to schools, transportation and park across the street. \$239,000



**SKOKIE**

\*\*SHORT SALE\*\* Features 3 large size beds, 2 full baths, with separate liv, din, eat in kit, and full finish base with a 4th bed/office. Believe it or not, Hard to find a short sale in this great of a condition. \$290,000



**ELMHURST**

Custom designed stone & brick almost 5000 sq ft. A rarely found walk-out bsm't! 62 x 300 backs to creek & woods. 9ft cings, archways, trp crwn mldg, & handsome raised panel study you just have to see. Imported antique vanities Vo. tucked away on a quiet street.



Ivy Moy  
 847-913-3710

Unique bnck 3 story townhouse style 2 flat, 1st floor 3 rooms: 1 bedrm 1 bath, 2nd floor unit is a duplex up with 3 bedrooms & 1.5 baths. 2 car garage plus 2 car out door spot.



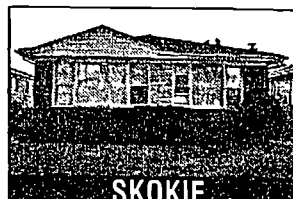
Harris Ali  
 847-322-6277

Bnck two-flat featuring lg rms beautifully remodeled first flr unit, finished bsm't w/extra income, great for owner occupied or investment. New roof, partly finished windows. Hwd flrs.



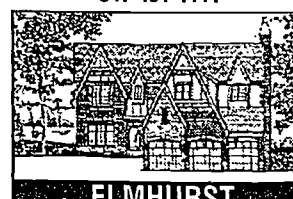
Elizabeth Lindsay  
 847-630-3796

Very spacious townhome w open living & dining rm floor plan. Bright new windows replaced in 2005. Hardwood and ceramic tile floors. Finished lower level w full bath, laundry room and storage. Many new appls and new roof in 2005. Parking in the rear. Close to schools, transportation and park across the street. \$239,000



Ashraf Memon  
 847-863-6169

Very spacious townhome w open living & dining rm floor plan. Bright new windows replaced in 2005. Hardwood and ceramic tile floors. Finished lower level w full bath, laundry room and storage. Many new appls and new roof in 2005. Parking in the rear. Close to schools, transportation and park across the street. \$239,000



Sylvana  
 630-363-6059

Custom designed stone & brick almost 5000 sq ft. A rarely found walk-out bsm't! 62 x 300 backs to creek & woods. 9ft cings, archways, trp crwn mldg, & handsome raised panel study you just have to see. Imported antique vanities Vo. tucked away on a quiet street.



Liz Lindsay



Ivy Moy



Elena Dan



Ann Tranda



Christne & Bonne Cozzers



Melanie Jane Javier



Dominick Guaberto



Don Keenan



Marc Shudnow



Michael & Cecilia Plurad