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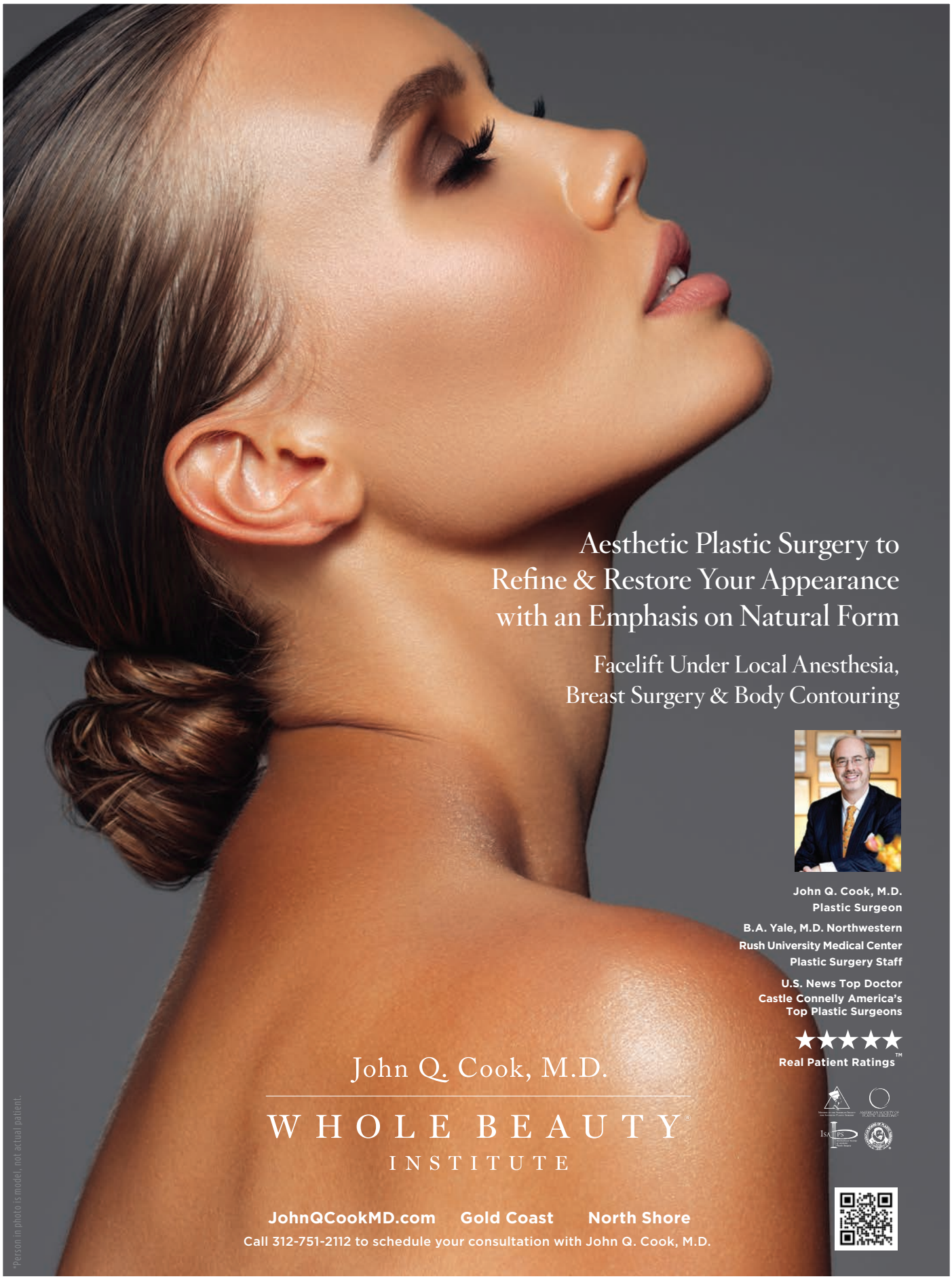
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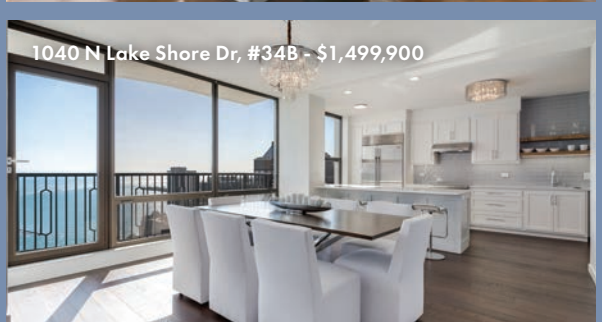

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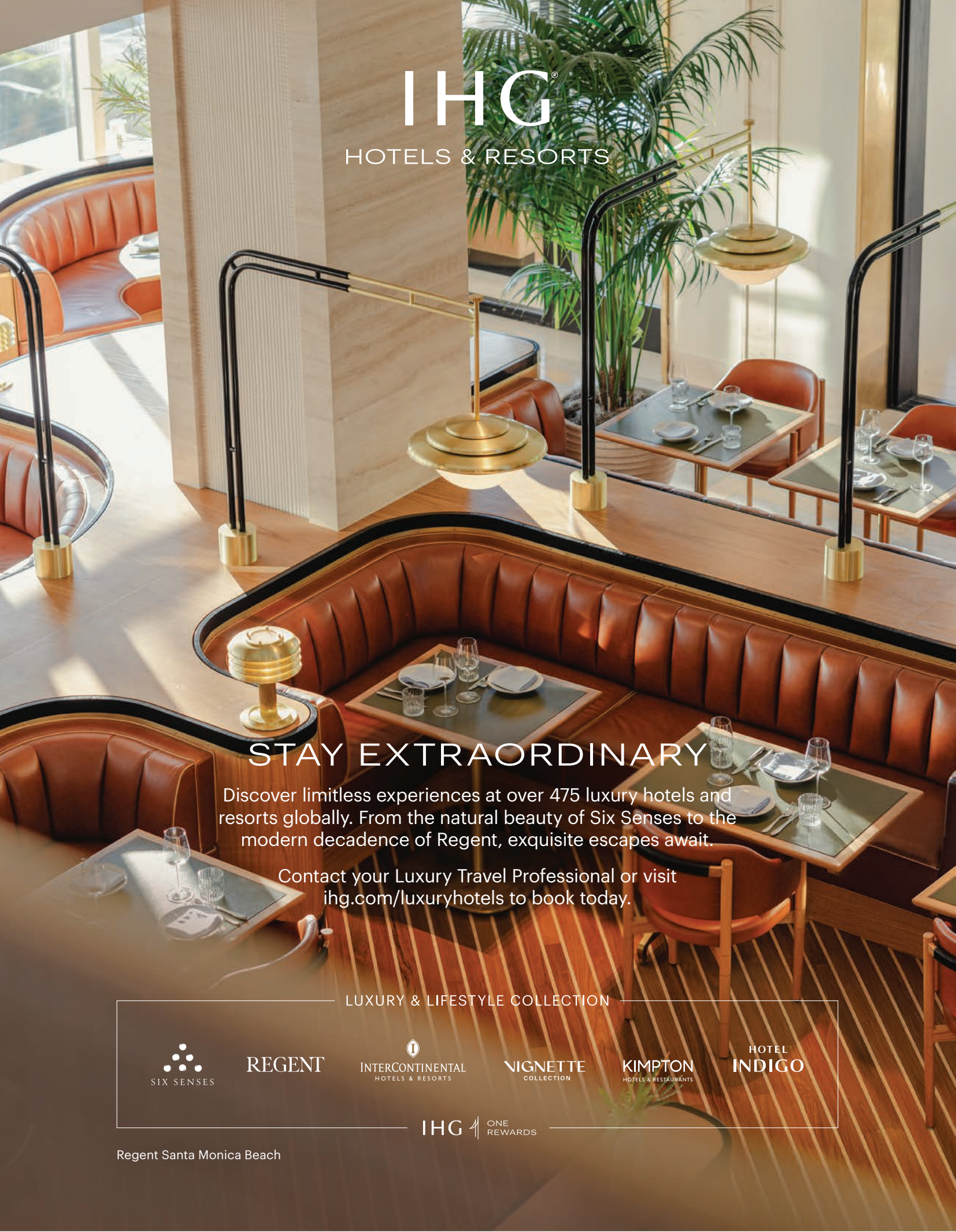
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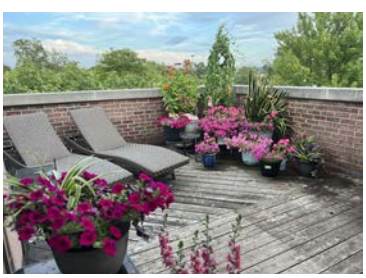




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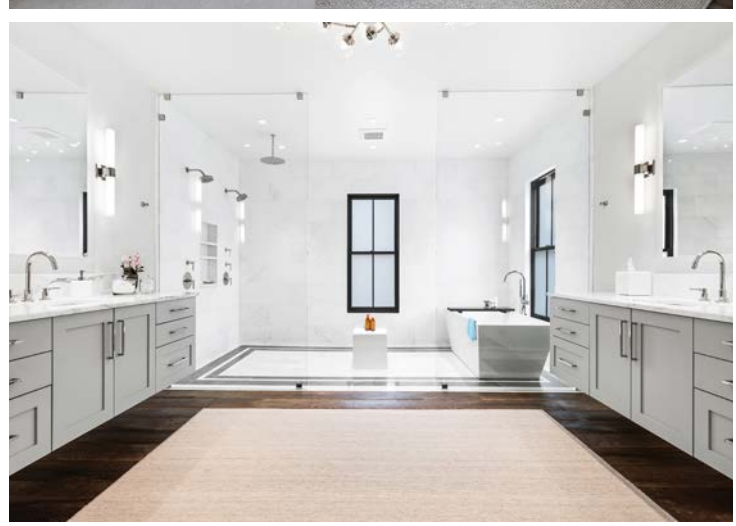
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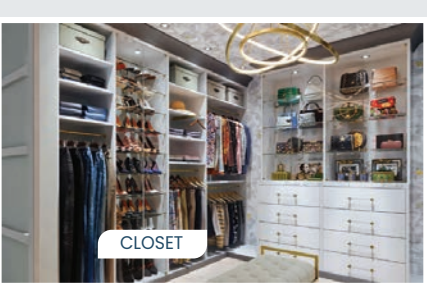
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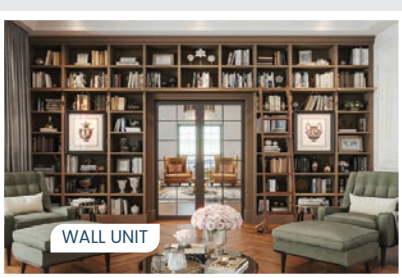
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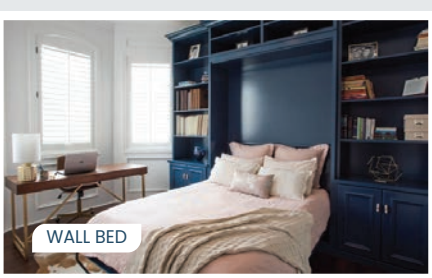
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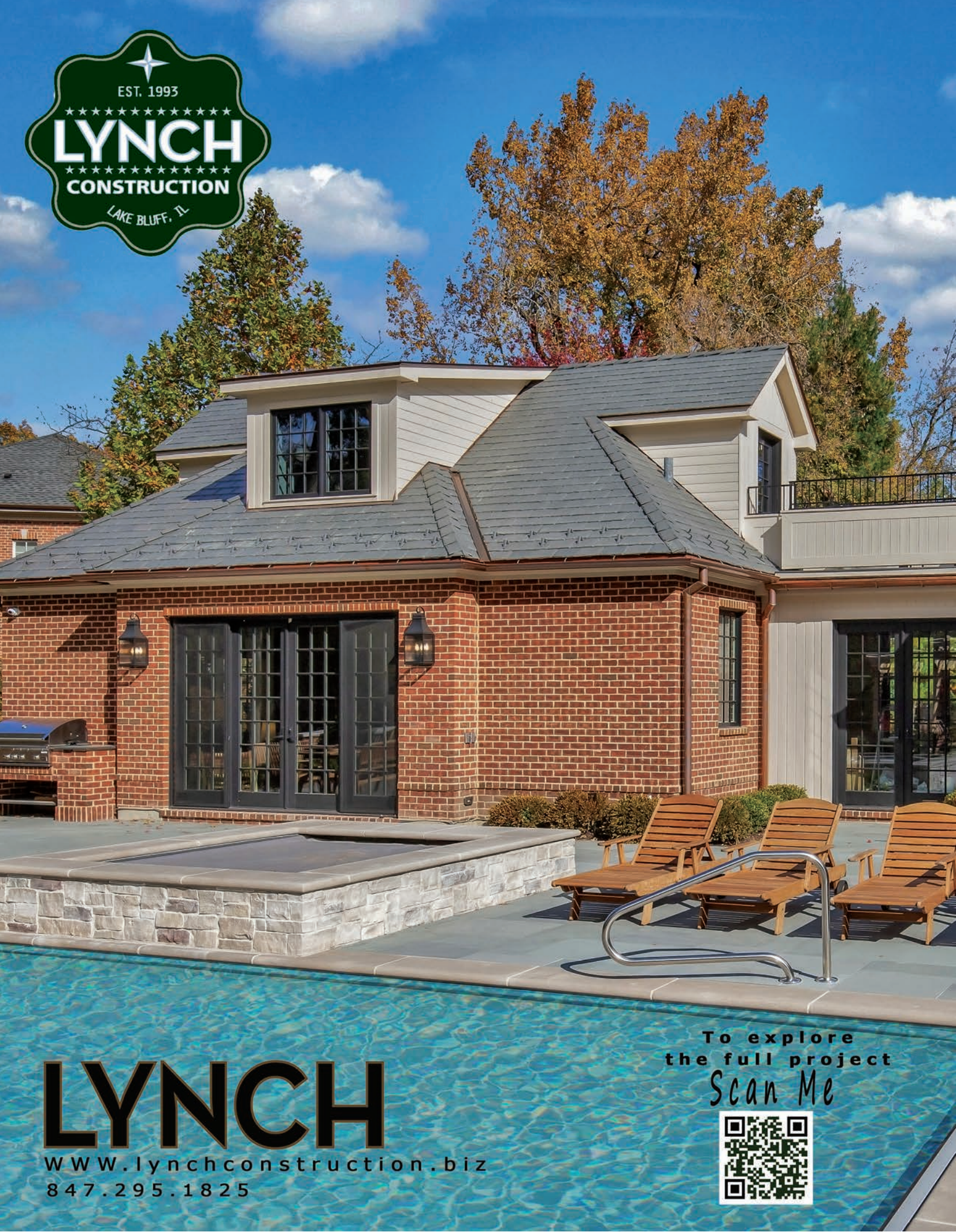
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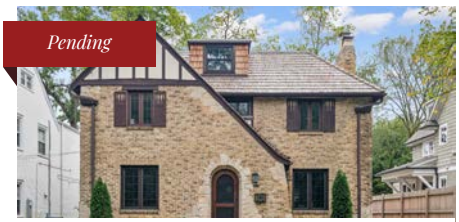
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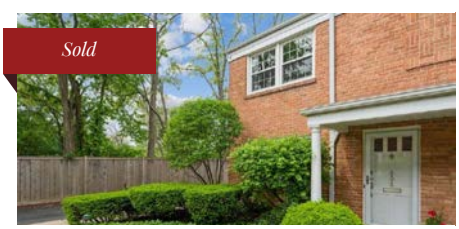
2418 Thayer St | *Evanston*



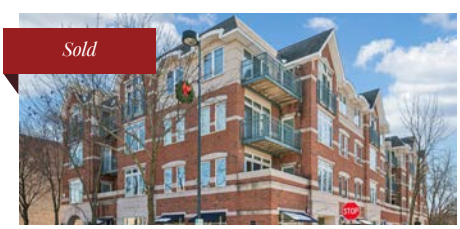
128 Washington St | *Glenview**



799 Happ Rd | *Northfield**



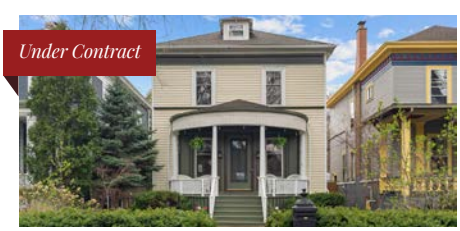
606 Lincoln Ave | *Winnetka**



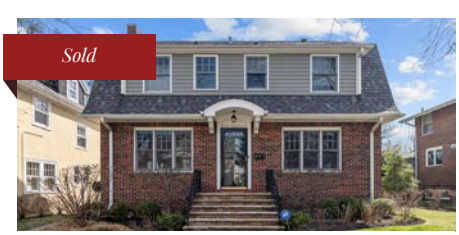
812 Oak St #200 | *Winnetka*



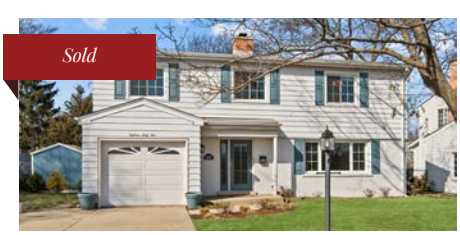
2632 Commons Dr | *Glenview*



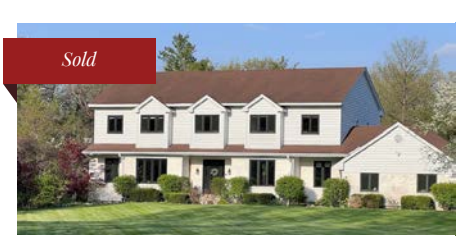
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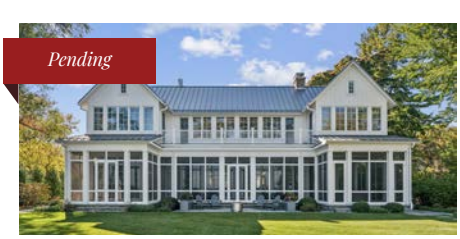
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ON THE COVER
Carolyn Agnew, co-founder of Pickles Group, is featured in *You Are Not Alone*. Photography by Maria Ponce/Styling by Theresa DeMaria/Hair & Makeup by Doria de Bartolo

ON THIS PAGE
Gloria Groom, Chair and Mary Winton Green Curator Painting and Sculpture of Europe at the Art Institute of Chicago, is featured in *Art & Artist*. Photography by Maria Ponce/Styling by Theresa DeMaria/Hair & Makeup by Leanna Ernest

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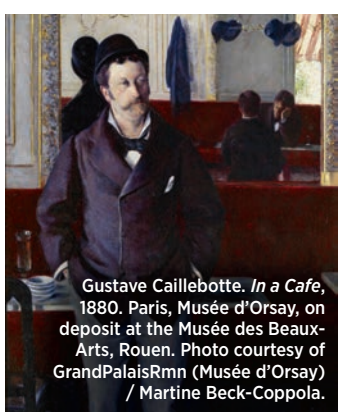


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EDITOR'S NOTE



THIS MONTH **I WILL BE**



Gustave Caillebotte. *In a Cafe*, 1880. Paris, Musée d'Orsay, on deposit at the Musée des Beaux-Arts, Rouen. Photo courtesy of GrandPalaisRmn (Musée d'Orsay) / Martine Beck-Coppola.

ATTENDING
Caillebotte: Painting His World at the Art Institute

CONGRATULATING
My daughter on her invitation to join The National Society of Leadership and Success



VISITING
Ravinia, Ravinia, Ravinia!



Temple St. Clair amulet featured in *Collector's Corner*.

For many of us, summertime is a time to relax as we revel in freedom from demanding schedules. Some of us, however, use the energy the longer days bring to accomplish even *more*. This issue salutes those doers. Our features highlight a nonprofit helping kids deal with a family member's cancer diagnosis, a luxury PR powerhouse, a club fostering civil discourse, and last but certainly not least, an advertising icon making *waves* in the world of branding.

Shore vs. City introduces interior designer Ona Villier, who hails from the Mediterranean island of Menorca but now, with her family of four, calls Wilmette home.

Moving from local favorites to world-class exhibitions, *Art & Artist* takes us behind the scenes of *Caillebotte: Painting His World* with Gloria Groom, Chair and Mary Winton Green Curator Painting and Sculpture of Europe at the Art Institute of Chicago. The exhibition, which opened in 2024 at Paris' Musée d'Orsay and travelled to Los Angeles' Getty Museum in February, opens in Chicago on June 29.

Swapping paintings for paddle boards, *Trending*'s Steph Metz gives us an inside look at the SUP yoga craze taking over Lake Michigan. Steph shares how she stays balanced between yoga poses and her *spirited* career.

Youthful Expressions highlights 16-year-old artist Jonah Rosenthal. You will be amazed to learn that this Glencoe rising junior is self-taught.

Looking for a little Southern charm? *First Class* takes us to Barnsley Resort in Georgia, where towering pines, Southern hospitality, and endless luxury await. In *Recipe*, we bring you a beloved Southern dish—Shrimp & Grits. As we return to the North Shore, *Home Tour* explores a stunning estate brimming with bold patterns and vibrant design.



Art Institute of Chicago Curator Gloria Groom is featured in *Art & Artist*.

We end our summer issue with the sage words of Dave Tolmie, who shares the inspiring story of Tanzania's Faraja Primary School. Founded two decades ago, this remarkable school has served as a sanctuary for children with disabilities. Within its walls, the students have found opportunities to thrive.

Enjoy the issue!



Dave Tolmie, pictured with students of Tanzania's Faraja Primary School, is featured in *Parting Words*.



DUSTIN O'REGAN
Editor-in-Chief
dustin@jwcmedia.com

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JUNE 7

GRACE JONES
JANELLE MONÁE



JUNE 18

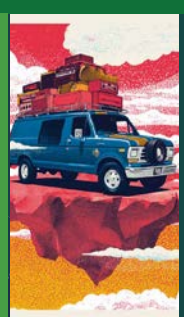
THE BLACK CROWES





JUNE 20

DAVID FOSTER AND CHRIS BOTTI
featuring **KATHARINE MCPHEE**



JUNE 21

DISPATCH
JOHN BUTLER (WITH BAND)
DONAVON FRANKENREITER

JUNE 22

DIANA KRALL



JUNE 26

LINDSEY STIRLING
CHICAGO PHILHARMONIC





JUNE 27

THE ROOTS
NAI PALM



JUNE 28

AL GREEN
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INSIDER

FINDS, OPINIONS, OBSESSIONS



Cara Cara Tilda Top and Pant, *lilliealexanderboutique.com*. See more of my favorite finds in *The DO List*

YOUR GUIDE to the *latest* on PEOPLE, PLACES, and *THINGS* on the **North Shore**

SAVE *the* DATE

Sheridan Road provides the North Shore's comprehensive social calendar.

EDITED BY ***DUSTIN O'REGAN***

JUNE 5 – 22

ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND

WHERE: Lyric Opera House, Chicago

The Joffrey Ballet closes its 69th season with two-time Tony Award-winner Christopher Wheeldon's family-friendly *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Combining Joby Talbot's hallucinatory sound world of sweeping melodies and ticking clocks with Tony Award-winning designer Bob Crowley's vibrant stagecraft and puppetry, Wheeldon makes Wonderland wonderfully real in this audience-favorite dance adventure. *joffery.org*

JUNE 6 – 7

WINNETKA CHILDREN'S FAIR

WHERE: Village Green, Winnetka

Kick off the summer with the 78th annual Winnetka Children's Fair presented by Winnetka Community Nursery School. Carnival rides, games, delicious food, live entertainment and more! Proceeds benefit Winnetka Community Nursery School. *winnetkacommunity-nurseryschool.org*

JUNE 6 – AUGUST 31

RAVINIA SUMMER SEASON

WHERE: Ravinia Festival

Ravinia Festival's 2025 season is packed with exciting performances, including appearances by James Taylor & His All-Star Band (June 19), Diana Krall (June 22), and "Weird Al" Yankovic (June 29). Rock fans can look forward to The Allman Betts Band and The Record Company (June 12), Blues Traveler and Gin Blossoms (July 26), and Train (August 2), while King Gizzard & The Lizard Wizard (August 6) offers a unique blend of pop-rock, metal, and classical elements with conductor Sarah Hicks and Chicago Philharmonic. The season also features the Haymarket Opera Company's semi-staged concert performance of Handel's *Alcina* (August 24), starring Nicole Cabell with the company's period-instrument orchestra. *ravinia.org*

JUNE 9

THE ANNUAL PAWS CHICAGO PETER FASSEAS GOLF OPEN

WHERE: Westmoreland Country Club

Guests will enjoy a day of golf with on-course entertainment including cocktails, raffle prizes, golfing contests, a Golf Ball Shooter, and photo stations with adoptable animals. The day will conclude with a dinner reception featuring a silent and live auction, program, and networking with other corporate and individual supporters. Funds raised will help PAWS Chicago save the lives of countless homeless dogs and cats. *pawschicago.org*

JUNE 20

RNDD PUP CRAWL & CAT WALK

WHERE: River North Design District

Explore 11 River North Design District showrooms filled with unique, one-of-a-kind pet accoutrements created by 19 of Chicago's top designers. Guests will have the opportunity to bid on exclusive items such as dog beds, pet apparel, and cat condos with all auction proceeds benefiting PAWS Chicago, the city's largest No Kill animal shelter. Catch the trolley from north to south and enjoy light bites and cocktails while exploring the latest in design. While the event is not open to guest pets, PAWS Chicago will have adoptable animals on-site at many of the showroom locations. *rivernorthdesigndistrict.com*

JUNE 20

GUILD BOARD'S 20TH ANNUAL LAWN BALL

WHERE: Saddle & Cycle Club, Chicago

The Lawn Ball, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago Guild Board's signature event, celebrates its 20th anniversary. Guests will enjoy a cocktail reception on Saddle's beautiful lawn and terrace while bidding on silent auction items. A seated dinner follows, culminating with remarks from a Club member whose life has been positively impacted by their Club experience. A paddle raise will offer guests an opportunity to directly support BGCC's programs and mission. The evening concludes with music and dancing on the terrace. *bgcc.org/lawnball/*

JUNE 21

LAKE BLUFF HISTORY MUSEUM AUTO SHOW

WHERE: Downtown Lake Bluff

There's no better way to spend a Saturday afternoon than in charming downtown Lake Bluff surrounded by scores of classic cars and trucks. You'll see everything from Corvettes, Mustangs, Jaguars, and Rolls to Chevys, Buicks, Lincolns and more! Food and beverages will be available for purchase from local merchants, and parking is free at the Lake Bluff train station and Walnut Street parking lots. *lakebluffhistory.org/events/*

JUNE 21 – 22

ART IN THE VILLAGE

WHERE: Hubbard Woods Park, Winnetka

The 100-year-old North Shore Art League located in the historic Community House, Winnetka, hosts its annual juried show in the middle of the Village's Hubbard Woods Design District. The boutique exhibition features more than 70 artists from across the country with faculty member and portrait artist Lisa DePinto on site to paint oil portraits. *northshoreartleague.org*

JUNE 22 – 23

PRO-AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP & DINNER ON THE BLUFF

WHERE: Onwentsia Club, Lake Forest; Shoreacres, Lake Bluff

The Founders' Board of Lurie Children's hosts the 65th annual event at Onwentsia, pairing 200 amateur golfers with professionals from 50 prestigious clubs across the country. The festivities kick off the night before with a summer dinner party, paddle raise, and

live auction at Shoreacres in Lake Bluff. Proceeds will benefit the Founders' Board's new $4 million commitment to the Lurie Children's Heart Center. *luriechildrens.org/proam*

JUNE 25

INFERNO FEST

WHERE: Everts Park, Highwood

Celebrate Highwood is fired up to bring you the summer's hottest event, Inferno Fest, back with spicy food and beverages to test the taste buds of the most fearless food enthusiasts. *celebratehighwood.org*

JUNE 29 – OCTOBER 5

GUSTAVE CAILLEBOTTE: PAINTING HIS WORLD

WHERE: Art Institute of Chicago

Impressionist artist Gustave Caillebotte (1848–1894)—known and beloved by many Art Institute visitors for his monumental painting *Paris Street; Rainy Day*—takes center stage in this major exhibition exploring the very personal interests and relationships that shaped his world. This exhibition, which opened at the Musée d'Orsay in October 2024, includes more than 120 works—paintings, works on paper, photographs, and other ephemera from throughout Caillebotte's career. Together, these works open a new window onto Caillebotte—as a complex figure with many interests, as an Impressionist who painted like no other Impressionist, and as an artist who captured his own, very distinct Paris. *artic.edu*

JULY 12

CITADEL MASQUERADE

WHERE: The Exclusive Sanfilippo Estate, Barrington

The private estate will set the stage for a fantastic evening, featuring a house tour of the Sanfilippo "Place de la Musique," renowned for its magnificent collection of restored antique music machines, phonographs, the world's largest theater pipe organ, and more. The evening will continue with hors d'oeuvres, a live auction, and dinner in the Eden Palais Carousel Pavilion, home to the world's most spectacular European salon carousel, and other functional mechanical antiques, displayed within a breathtaking French Second Empire setting. *easy-ware-forms.com/citadeltheatre/gala*



Race to Mackinac
July 18 – 22

JULY 13

RAVINIA GALA BENEFIT

WHERE: Ravinia Festival

Ravinia Festival's annual fundraising gala, hosted by the Ravinia Women's Board will be an unforgettable evening of music and philanthropy and a highlight of the summer season. Tony Award winners Sutton Foster and Kelli O'Hara will take the stage for a one-night-only performance, accompanied by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and conducted by Marin Alsop. Proceeds from the evening will support Ravinia and its Reach Teach Play education programs, which provide music education and community engagement opportunities for 50,000 people in Lake and Cook Counties. The event will kick off with a cocktail hour featuring performances by the Ravinia Jazz Scholars, a Reach Teach Play ensemble of top Chicago Public High School student musicians. *ravinia.org*

JULY 16

MARGARITA NIGHT

WHERE: Everts Park, Highwood

This festive theme night invites attendees to dress in their favorite Jimmy Buffet-style Parrothead and Hawaiian gear to party to the sounds of a Jimmy Buffet tribute band. There will be beach balls, flamingos, margaritas, Mexican food, key lime pie, and more! *celebratehighwood.org*

JULY 17

PAWS BEACH PARTY

WHERE: Offshore at Navy Pier, Chicago

Beach Party is a summer celebration for more than 500 luau guests and their pets. Sip festive cocktails and soak up the sun, as the Lake Michigan waves roll in and the summer breeze fills the air. As the sun sets, dance the night away, enjoy an open bar, dinner, live and silent auctions, raffles, and so much more. *pawschicago.org*

JULY 17 – 20

HIGHWOOD DAYS

WHERE: Downtown Highwood Metra Station Parking Lot

Recognized as the City's oldest festival, Highwood Days features one of the area's largest carnivals, with rides, games, live music, and more! The addition of the Taste of Highwood brings together the City's numerous restaurants and specialty food operations to offer a wide range of mouth-watering creations along with full booze tents. Attendees will enjoy casting their vote for the People's Choice Award for the Best Taste of Highwood. *celebratehighwood.org*

JULY 18 – 22

CHICAGO YACHT CLUB RACE TO MACKINAC

WHERE: Chicago Yacht Club

What began in 1989 is now Chicago Yacht Club's most famous event and the longest annual freshwater sailing race in the world. Sailors from around the world navigate 333 miles of stunning Great Lakes waters to reach iconic Mackinac Island. *cycracetomackinac.com*



Maxime Maufra, *Entrée du port de Port Goulphar, Belle-Ile-en-Mer*, 1909. p.104 ©Madrid, Museo Nacional Thyssen Bornemisza, *Impressionism and the Sea*, Flammarion

THE SEA IS CALLING

Impressionism and the Sea by Cyrille Sciama transports readers to the very coastlines interpreted by the impressionists. Capturing the natural beauty of coastal landscapes, this volume illuminates the works of Claude Monet, Édouard Manet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Camille Pissarro, Berthe Morisot, and more, taking readers on a journey along shorelines and beaches—from the coasts of Normandy and Brittany to the Mediterranean Sea to Tahiti—to discover all aspects of seaside life in the 19th century. The movement's penchant for plein air painting and its characteristic style, with delicate brushstrokes and incomparable color palettes, was perfectly suited to portrayals of the sea's perpetual movement, from gently rippling waves to raging storms. Published in collaboration with the Musée des Impressionnismes Giverny, this volume includes 110 paintings and drawings presented alongside photographs by masters such as Gustave Le Gray. *Impressionism and the Sea* is the perfect read for a balmy summer day. *For more information, visit rizzoliusa.com.*





FLYING **HIGH**

As part of its ongoing commitment to further connecting major U.S. cities to Asia, luxury airline Cathay Pacific has resumed its highly anticipated nonstop service from Chicago O'Hare to Hong Kong International Airport. The three-times-weekly flight, operated by the airline's state-of-the-art Airbus A350-1000 aircraft, departs from Chicago on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. With its incredible mix of modernity and tradition, Hong Kong is the perfect jumping-off point for exploring any Asian country. Whether you're heading to Japan, Thailand, or Vietnam, this vibrant city offers convenient connections to the rest of the region. Cathay is the perfect airline for long-distance trips as it combines the utmost in comfort with exceptional cuisine showcasing fresh, seasonal produce whipped up in dishes inspired by your destination. Wellness is an integral part of any Cathay Pacific journey. The airline's luxury lounges each provide a unique experience to travelers, including an array of wellness offerings (think personalized massage treatments, shower suites, and more). From its comprehensive recycling program to being the first airline to invest in sustainable biofuel research and development, Cathay Pacific has paved the way for sustainable practices in the airline industry, with a goal to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. Pack your bags, a great adventure awaits. *For more information, visit cathaypacific.com.*



Photography by Hannah Schweiss

ELEVATED WELLNESS

Kenilworth's SALT North Shore is enhancing its wellness offerings by adding an infrared sauna, designed to support clients with inflammation, immunity, and overall well-being. SALT is a boutique fitness studio providing a holistic, wellness-centered experience that goes beyond traditional workouts. With a curated class schedule featuring barre, strength training, and restorative movement, SALT is dedicated to fostering total body health at every stage of life. Members are embraced by a warm, empowering community that values balance, authenticity, and intentional living. In addition to its class offerings, the studio features wellness-focused retail products and a digital class library, ensuring members stay connected and engaged both in and out of the studio. At SALT, fitness is seamlessly integrated with whole-body wellness, creating a space where you can feel strong, supported, and truly at home. *For more information, visit saltfitnorthshore.com.*


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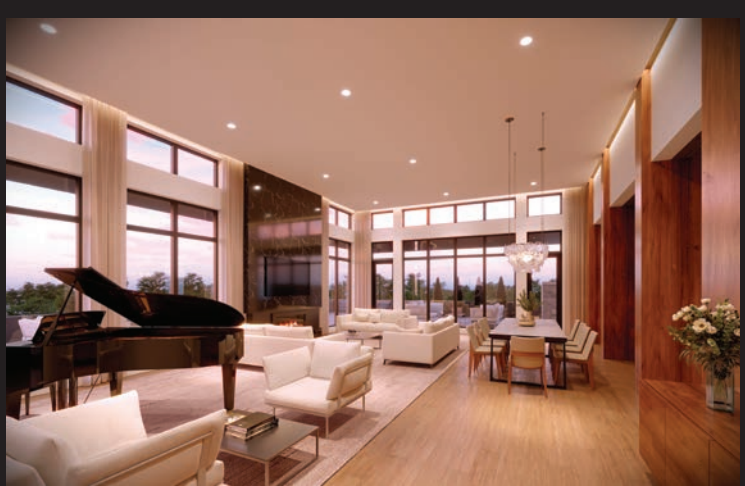
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SHORE VS CITY



Ona Villier wearing
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Marcus Northbrook

ONA VILLIER, originally from the Mediterranean island of Menorca, Spain, moved to New York City at 14. After completing her academic design studies, she began her career in fashion advertising in Manhattan. Her journey took another turn when her husband, a native Tuscan whom she met while living in Barcelona, was appointed as a professor at a prestigious university in Chicago. They made the move, and it was there that Villier's passion for interior design flourished. Today, she is the principal of ONA VILLIER STUDIO, a high-end interior design firm serving clients across the Chicagoland area and beyond. Specializing in a harmonious blend of minimalist lines and European vintage charm with an elegant fusion of luxurious and rustic finishes, the studio's signature style is aptly called "Rough Luxe." Villier resides in Wilmette with her husband and their two children, Paolo (7) and Ariadna (10), and makes it a point to visit Italy and Spain whenever possible.

EDITED BY ***MORGAN HOGERTY***
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ***KATRINA WITTKAMP***
STYLING BY ***THERESA DEMARIA***
HAIR & MAKEUP BY ***DORIA DEBARTOLO***



Memorable moment of 2025? A family trip to Morocco visiting Marrakech and Aït Benhaddou on our way to the Sahara, where we stayed with a Berber family and spent two days in a kasbah in the Atlas Mountains **Mantra?** Be curious **Best grooming tip?** NEOSTRATA Resurface Foaming Glycolic Wash **Guilty pleasure?** *Project Runway* **Favorite foods?** Salads **Music you love?** I listen to indie electronic bands while working and The Rolling Stones, Nina Simone, Lenny Kravitz, or Adele when cooking dinner **Best advice ever given to you?** Believe in yourself **Best advice you've given?** Be the person you want others to be to you (to my daughter) **Earliest memory?** Visiting New York with my mom when I was 2 years old. The avenues looked SO big **When you wake up, you?** Drink a glass of water **Before bed, you?** Unwind by watching a show **What's on your bookshelf?** I love reading *The New Yorker*, so I'll often have a selection of them on my nightstand **You can't live without?** Deep friendships **Love to escape to?** Anywhere with my husband, Jacopo **Advice you would give to your younger self?** Take a gap year before college and see the world



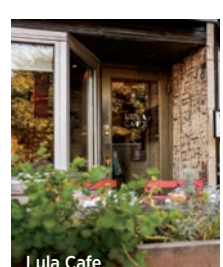
ON THE SHORE



Pink & Tan

Your style is? Timeless pieces with an artsy twist **Can't leave the house without?** Funky socks **Transportation?** Walking **Driving music?** *ArtHoles Podcast* **Place to eat?** Towne & Oak and FRÍO Gelato **Shop?** Pink & Tan **Best thing about the Shore?** The large green trees and beautiful beaches **Worst thing about the Shore?** I sometimes miss the vibrant atmosphere of a major city **The perfect day is?** Wake up early for a barre workout with friends, brunch with family, attend an oil painting and ceramics class, and get my nails done with Ariadna. To cap it off, a walk with my family to Gillson Beach and dinner with my Cookbook Club girlfriends

IN THE CITY



Lula Cafe

Your style is? Understated chic **Can't leave the house without?** Melixir tinted lip butter **Transportation?** Car **Driving music?** Indie pop and alternative **Place to eat?** Kai Zan on Chicago Avenue. They have amazing omakase and the best fish collar **Shop?** Gem Jewelry **Best thing about the City?** Restaurant scene **Worst thing about the City?** Coming from the suburbs, it can sometimes feel gritty and congested **The perfect day is?** Brunch at Milk & Honey Café and a visit to Damen Avenue and The 606. Afterward, go to the Art Institute and the Maggie Daley Park. In the afternoon, my husband and I would go to the AIRE Ancient Baths, followed by dinner at Lula Cafe



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THE BENEFITS OF UNCONTESTED DIVORCE

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WORDS BY ***MICHONE J. RIEWER*** */ PHOTOGRAPHY BY* ***MARIA PONCE BERRE***
STYLING BY ***THERESA DEMARIA*** */ HAIR AND MAKEUP BY* ***LEANNA ERNEST***

Divorce does not have to be a battle. In many cases, an uncontested divorce provides a smarter, more efficient solution for families who want to move forward without unnecessary conflict. At Strategic Divorce, we recognize the advantages of uncontested divorces—and we offer a flat fee arrangement to make the process even more predictable and accessible for our clients.

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- **Lower Cost**
  An uncontested divorce is almost always less expensive than a contested divorce. Because the spouses agree on the terms, the process requires less attorney time, fewer court filings, and no drawn-out courtroom battles.
- **Faster Resolution**
  When there is no need for repeated court appearances or discovery battles, an uncontested divorce moves through the court system much more quickly. This allows both parties to move forward with their lives without unnecessary delays.
- **Less Stress**
  Divorce is emotional, even under the best circumstances. An uncontested divorce minimizes the tension, the accusations, and the ongoing conflict that often accompany a traditional contested divorce. By focusing on cooperation rather than confrontation, you can reduce emotional strain for yourself, and your family.
- **More Control**
  When you and your spouse negotiate your own settlement, you retain control over your future. In a contested divorce, a judge—who does not know your family—makes the final decisions. In an uncontested case, you decide what is best for you, your family, and your financial future.
- **Privacy**
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At Strategic Divorce, we offer a *flat fee* arrangement for qualifying uncontested divorces. This provides peace of mind, financial predictability, and transparency. No hidden costs. No surprises. Just smart, strategic representation that helps you move on efficiently and effectively.


Michone J. Riewer

Is an Uncontested Divorce Right for You?
Not every family can pull off an uncontested divorce. But if you and your spouse are in agreement and want to finalize the divorce without court intervention, Strategic Divorce is ready to guide you through the process with experience, compassion, and efficiency.

If you are considering divorce and want to explore whether an uncontested, flat-fee option is right for you, reach out to Strategic Divorce today. We are here to help you make smart decisions, protect your family and protect your future.

Michone J. Riewer is the managing partner at Strategic Divorce in Lake Bluff, 847-234-4445, strategicdivorce.com.

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SARAH BROWN
DNP, APRN, CNM, WHNP

Sarah Brown is a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner and Certified Nurse Midwife with experience in pediatrics, labor and delivery, community birth, and gynecology. She obtained her Doctorate degree from University of Illinois at Chicago. A primary passion of Sarah's is physiologic birth, which pertains to moving through labor, birth, and postpartum in a way that prioritizes one's natural body processes and capabilities. Functional medicine became a deeper interest as she recognized a profound intersection with her own specialty and Retreat's vision to heal and balance the body naturally. Sarah began working for Retreat as an RN, and has now joined the team as a Provider. She integrates her knowledge in reproductive and intimate health with her functional training to optimize health outcomes from puberty to menopause.

CONDITIONS WE TREAT:

- Menopause
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- Personalized hormone therapy
- Irregular periods
- PCOS

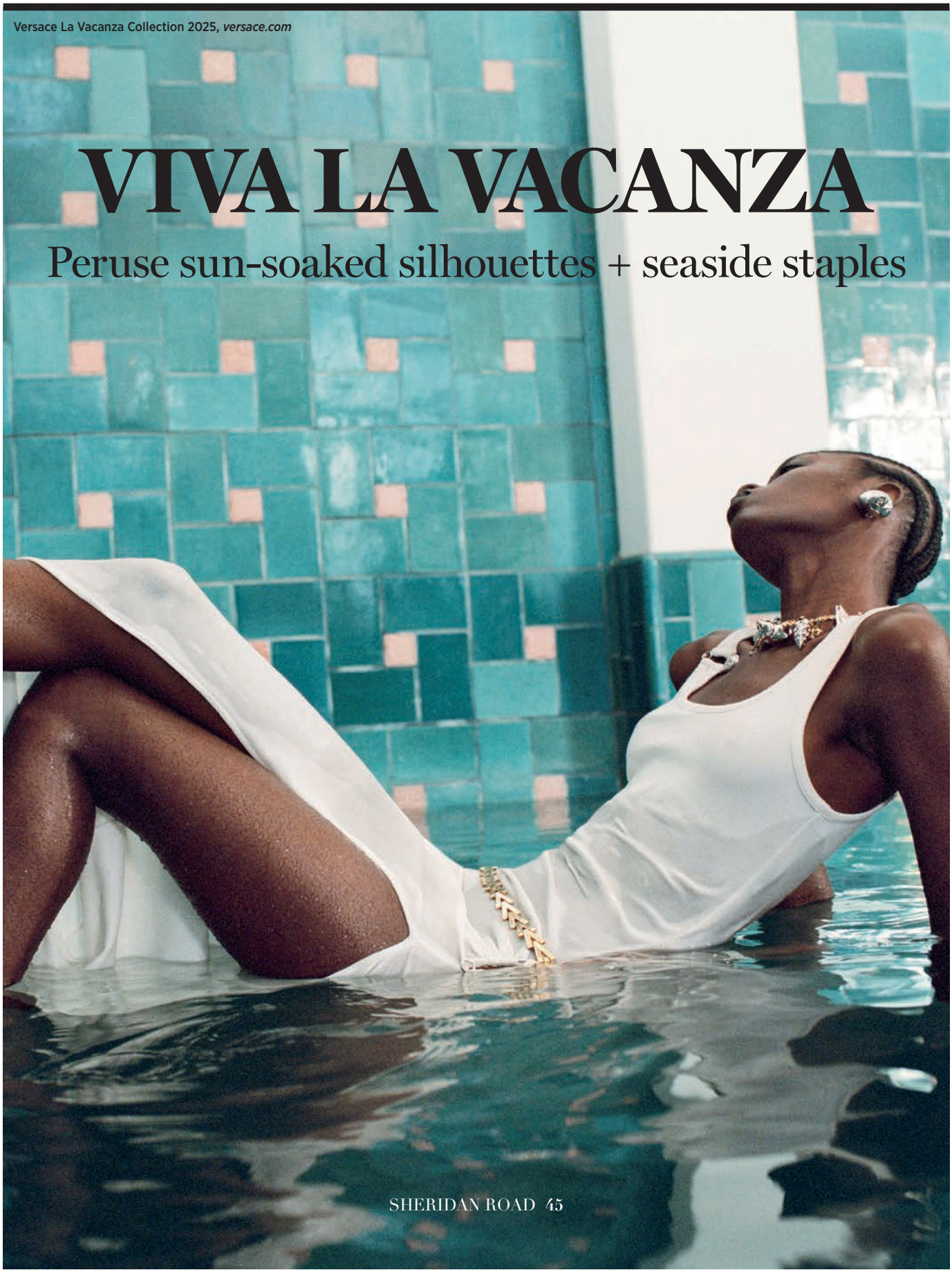
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Our summertime essentials

EDITED BY ***ALLISON MELONE***



01 Catbird Treasure Chest Eternity Ring, *Catbird Lincoln Park, 872-351-6460* **02** Helen Kaminski Raffia Dome Hat, *Nordstrom Old Orchard, 847-677-2121* **03** Marysia Palm Springs Swimsuit, *net-a-porter.com* **04** AGOLDE Parker Cutoff Shorts, *net-a-porter.com* **05** Saint Laurent Hair Clip, *Saint Laurent Chicago, 312-202-0166* **06** Farm Rio Sweet Bloom Bouquet Bikini, *lillielexanderboutique.com* **07** Saint Laurent Tote, *Saint Laurent Chicago, 312-202-0166* **08** Farm Rio Blue Floral Cascade Swimsuit, *lillielexanderboutique.com* **09** Hunza G Metallic Swimsuit, *net-a-porter.com* **10** Chloé Shell Earrings, *net-a-porter.com* **11** Saint Laurent Baseball Hat, *Saint Laurent Chicago, 312-202-0166* **12** Tanya Taylor Leigh Dress, *tanyataylor.com* **13** Loeffler Randall Theo Sandal, *lillielexanderboutique.com* **14** Prada Fisherman Sandal, *Nordstrom Old Orchard, 847-677-2121* **15** Pucci Pareo, *net-a-porter.com* **16** Agua Bendita Ellis One-Piece, *Nordstrom Old Orchard, 847-677-2121* **17** Ulla Johnson Bag, *lillielexanderboutique.com* **18** Miu Miu Canvas Slide Sandal, *Nordstrom Old Orchard, 847-677-2121* **19** LOEWE Sunglasses, *net-a-porter.com*



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SAFE SUN

Summer responsibly

EDITED BY ***ALLISON MELONE***

01 Augustinus Bader Mineral Sunscreen, *augustinusbader.com* **02** Tarte Key Largo Glow Body Oil, *tarte.com* **03** Laura Geller Better Than Block, *laurageller.com* **04** RMS Beauty SuperNatural Radiance Serum, *Nordstrom Old Orchard, 847-677-2121* **05** Ultra Violette Sheen Screen Hydrating Lip Balm, *sephora.com* **06** Neutrogena Clear Body Broad Spectrum SPF 50, *neutrogena.com* **07** Clé de Peau Beauté UV Protective Lip Balm, *Nordstrom Old Orchard, 847-677-2121* **08** Ultra Violet Vibrant Screen Sunscreen, *sephora.com* **09** Vacation Sun Jug, *vacation.inc* **10** Moroccanoil Protect and Prevent Spray, *moroccanoil.com* **11** Charlotte Tilbury Glow Drops, *charlottetilbury.com* **12** La Mer The Broad Spectrum Face Sunscreen, *Nordstrom Old Orchard, 847-677-2121* **13** Dr. Dennis Gross Alpha Beta Glow Pad Self-Tanner, *Nordstrom Old Orchard, 847-677-2121* **14** Lanolips Sun Balm, *lanolips.com* **15** Charlotte Tilbury Invisible UV Flawless Primer, *charlottetilbury.com* **16** Kiehl's Better Screen UV Serum, *Nordstrom Old Orchard, 847-677-2121* **17** Chantecaille Ultra Sun Protection Sunscreen Primer, *Nordstrom Old Orchard, 847-677-2121*

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MASTER YOUR **MAKEUP**

Celebrity makeup artist Rabecca Ann shares her makeup bag must-haves.

EDITED BY ***MORGAN HOGERTY***
PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY BY ***DIMITRY LOISEAU***

When you catch a glimpse in the mirror, do you see the best version of yourself? Perhaps it is time for a makeup lesson refresher? If so, there is no better resource than Rabecca Ann. One of the most sought-after celebrity makeup artists in the Chicago area, Rabecca Ann focuses on enhancing natural assets and partners with her clients to provide consistent results that allow them to shine. She creates custom makeup tutorials for her clients, shops with them for personalized makeup picks, and emails suggestions for individual products to purchase. Here she shares the essentials that should be in everyone's makeup bag. *To book your makeup tutorial, visit rabeccaann.com.*

1. **DIOR LIP GLOW OIL**



2. **WESTMAN ATELIER VITAL SKINCARE COMPLEXION DROPS DEWY SKIN TINT**



3. **DIBS BEAUTY GLOWTOUR DUO SHIMMERING BLUSH + CONTOUR STICK**



4. **LILLY LASHES SELF-ADHESIVE LASHES**



5. **DIOR FOREVER SKIN PERFECT 24H MULTI-USE FOUNDATION STICK**



6. **CHARLOTTE TILBURY AIRBRUSH FLAWLESS WATERPROOF SETTING SPRAY**



7. **HAUS LABS BY LADY GAGA BIO-RADIANT GEL-POWDER ILLUMINATING HIGHLIGHTER WITH FERMENTED ARNICA**



8. **LAURA MERCIER CAVIAR STICK CREAM EYESHADOW**



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Divorce is a complex and emotionally charged process with significant financial and legal ramifications. The stakes are undeniably high, making it crucial for individuals to maintain clarity and a strategic approach throughout. High-net-worth divorce involves intricate asset divisions, complex tax implications, and often, the involvement of multiple professionals such as financial advisors, forensic accountants, private investigators and asset valuation experts.

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CULTURE & ARTS

THE NORTH SHORE'S MOST CREATIVE PURSUITS



Gustave Caillebotte. *The Bank of Petit Gennevilliers and the Seine*, 1890. Private collection.
Photography by Christian Baraja SLB.

From *world class* exhibitions to *youthful expressions*, here is your guide to all that is **trending**

LES HOMMES DE CAILLEBOTTE

The Art Institute of Chicago's Gustave Caillebotte: Painting His World *examines the artist's portrayals of the people in his life in 19th-century France.*

WORDS BY ***THOMAS CONNORS***
PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY BY ***MARIA PONCE***
STYLING BY ***THERESA DEMARIA***
HAIR & MAKEUP BY ***LEANNA ERNEST***



Gloria Groom, Chair and Mary Winton Green Curator Painting and Sculpture of Europe at the Art Institute of Chicago



Gustave Caillebotte. *Boating Party*, about 1877–78. Musée d'Orsay, Paris, Purchased thanks to the exclusive patronage of LVMH, 2022. Photo courtesy of GrandPalaisRmn (Musée d'Orsay) / Sophie Crépy.

Gloria Groom has helmed many of the Art Institute of Chicago's blockbuster exhibitions, including those dedicated to Monet, Manet, Van Gogh, Gauguin, and Cezanne. Now, working with peers at Paris' Musée d'Orsay and Los Angeles' J. Paul Getty Museum, she's turned her attention to Gustave Caillebotte, whom many museumgoers may know only by a single image—the monumental *Paris Street; Rainy Day* (1877). The painting, which depicts umbrella-toting citizens crisscrossing the metropolis' slickened streets, entered the museum's collection in 1964 and is usually prominently positioned at the top of the grand staircase off Michigan Avenue.

"What makes Caillebotte so fascinating is his insistence on a technique that is more realist than impressionist, but with an amazing and unexpected perspective, framing, and viewpoint, that sometimes puts us *in* the painting," observes Groom, Chair and Mary Winton Green Curator Painting and Sculpture of Europe. "His best paintings tell stories and are, therefore, accessible. At the same time, the narrative remains open-ended, anti-descriptive, indeed ambiguous, all of which are characteristics of avant-garde painting at the time."

The artist has been the subject of various explorations over the years, including 1994's *Gustave Caillebotte: The Urban Impressionist,* organized by the Art Institute's former director Douglas Druick, and the Musée d'Orsay. *Gustave Caillebotte: Painting His World,* on view from June 29 through October 5, offers a fresh perspective on the artist by focusing on images he created of the people in his life, including portrayals of men. "Paul Perrin at the Musée d'Orsay had the idea that, given the artist's predilection for painting men—70 percent of the works in his short career show men—and the absence of males as a prime subject during the two decades of high Impressionism, it was time to explore and celebrate this aspect of Caillebotte's art and career," explains Groom.

The exhibition showcases more than 120 pieces—ranging from paintings and works on paper to photographs and various ephemera—spanning Caillebotte's entire career. These pieces reveal Caillebotte to be a multifaceted individual with diverse passions, an Impressionist painter with a unique style, who immortalized his own, distinct vision of Paris.

Groom, whom France has recognized by naming her an Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters and *Chevalier* in the Legion of Honor, was born and raised in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Languages





ABOVE: Gustave Caillebotte. *Floor Scrapers*, 1875. Musée d'Orsay, Paris, Gift of the Caillebotte heirs through Auguste Renoir, 1894. Photo courtesy of Musée d'Orsay, Dist. GrandPalaisRmn / Franck Raux. **RIGHT:** Gustave Caillebotte. *Paris Street; Rainy Day*, 1877. The Art Institute of Chicago, Charles H. and Mary F. Worcester Collection.







ABOVE: Gustave Caillebotte. ***On the Pont de l'Europe***, about 1877. Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth, Texas. **TOP RIGHT:** Gustave Caillebotte. ***Balcony***, about 1880. Private collection. Photo courtesy of the private collection/Bridgeman Images. **RIGHT:** Gustave Caillebotte. ***Portrait of a Man***, 1880. The Cleveland Museum of Art, Bequest of Muriel Butkin. Photo courtesy of Cleveland Museum of Art.

were her first love. She began learning Spanish in elementary school and, as a teen, spent summers in Mexico and Venezuela. Along the way, she learned French through private lessons with a former member of the Resistance. "During my junior year abroad in Valencia, Spain," she relates, "I discovered that the written and visual languages of a culture are intertwined and that provided me with the impetus to pursue art history. I wanted to be part of a larger system of communication than the academic environment provided, which is why I found my path in museums."

Married to sculptor and author Joe Berton (*T.E. Lawrence and the Arab Revolt*), Groom joined the staff of the Art Institute in 1985. Looking back over her career, she says, "The Art Institute has always encouraged exhibitions that expand on our knowledge of the collections, and of course, the Impressionist collections are very visible and accessible. Because of that, we try to dig deeper, to find different angles. For example, *Gauguin: Artist as Alchemist* was based on his work in clay, wood, and other materials. *Manet and Modern Beauty* explored the final years of the artist's career, which are much less well-known and, for that reason, less popular."

The figures depicted in *Painting His World* range from friends and family members to anonymous figures at work and play; from a top-hatted swell rowing a boat to a trio of laborers refinishing a floor. *In a Café* (1880*)* features a man with his hands in his pockets, looking a little worse for wear. *Portrait of a Man* (1880) captures a well-dressed fellow gazing out a curtained window, sunlight streaming across his mustachioed face. *Partie de Bésigue* (1880) shows Caillebotte's brother and his friend playing cards. While the artist painted many women—reading, engaged in needlework, lying naked on a divan—his images of men occupy a significant niche in his oeuvre, which was unusual for the art of his day. "Frédéric Bazille painted men, bathers," notes Groom, "but he died in the Franco-Prussian War, before the artists who would become the Impressionists had organized around their 'brand.' Besides Caillebotte, Edgar Degas is the only artist who, in paintings such as *Portraits à la Bourse* (1879) and his portraits of musicians and family members, showed the modern male, but never to the extent that Caillebotte focused on the male in his incredibly compelling and modern works."

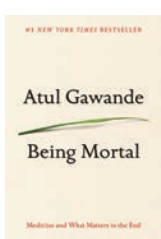
For more information, visit artic.edu.



Steph Metz wearing Burberry, Neiman Marcus Northbrook

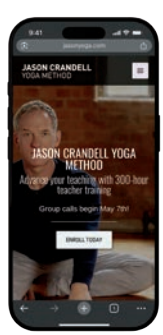
SURF'S UP

A 20-plus-year veteran of the wine and spirits industry, Deerfield resident and former attorney **STEPH METZ** brings a wealth of expertise and energy to Heaven Hill Brands, one of the world's largest bourbon suppliers. This bourbon enthusiast (Elijah Craig being her favorite) is also deeply committed to wellness. She fell in love with yoga after discovering she has the BRCA1 gene and underwent preventative surgery. Now, a yoga instructor for more than 15 years, Metz holds Level 200 and 500 yoga certifications, as well as a Red Cross CPR certification. Her journey to stand-up paddleboard (SUP) yoga began nine years ago on a rainy summer day. Despite battling choppy waters and spending more time in the lake than on the board, the experience sparked a lasting passion that led to a desire to share the SUP experience. Metz approached Glencoe Park District seven years ago with the idea of offering a "board" yoga class on the summer schedule. She enthusiastically believes that SUP yoga is more than just a workout—it's a shift in perspective. There's something magical about standing on the water, feeling the breeze, and being immersed in nature. Metz's students return year after year to experience the mental and emotional transformation that comes from SUP yoga. For class information, visit *glencoeparkdistrict.com*. Back on dry land, Metz shares what else sparks her interest and brings her joy.



ON HER NIGHTSTAND

"I usually have something nonfiction. I gravitate toward medical books like Atul Gawande's *Being Mortal* and Dr. Siddhartha Mukherjee's *The Emperor of All Maladies*. My taste is probably a combination of my desire to be a doctor in my next life and my curiosity about the science of consciousness. I also have my Ashtanga Yoga Teacher Training Manual, which I am rereading to memorize Sanskrit counting."



jasonyoga.com

ON HER MOBILE

"I follow Jason Crandell's yoga blog at *jasonyoga.com.* He is one of my favorite yoga teachers! He is smart and articulate, and his explanations/perspectives on practice and teaching are common sense. I often catch up on industry news with *Just Drinks* and *Shanken Daily News*."



IN HER EARBUDS

"During the pandemic, my younger daughter introduced us all to her favorite genre—country. My husband and I both became fans, and we go to concerts all the time at Joe's Live in Rosemont and Windy City Smokeout. I love Morgan Wallen, Russell Dickerson, and Jordan Davis. Also, Taylor Swift (yes, a slight Swifty). For podcasts, I enjoy *Pod Save America*, *Yogaland,* and *Bourbon Pursuit*."

EDITED BY MORGAN HOGERTY/PHOTOGRAPHY BY KATRINA WITTKAMP/STYLING BY THERESA DEMARIA/HAIR & MAKEUP BY DORIA DEBARTOLO









It's always cooler by the lake.

Plaza del Lago Summer 2025.

SPACE 519 | the lunchroom

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YOUTHFUL EXPRESSION

DRAWN TO ART

Jonah Rosenthal, a self-taught 16-year-old artist, emulates the masters to develop a style of his own.

WORDS BY ***ALESSIA GIRARDIN***
PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY BY ***MARIA PONCE***
STYLING BY ***THERESA DEMARIA***



Greek Statue

After a post-school workout at New Trier, Jonah Rosenthal will grab either a guitar or a pencil—his tools of choice for creatively whiling away the afternoon or finding escape from the intensity of the Trevian workload.

The high school rising junior has created art for as long as he can recall. "It's just something that's special to me—no matter what happens in my life," he says.

As a fourth grader at West School in Glencoe, Rosenthal put his emerging skills to work creating comic books based on his friends' lives. It was around that time he adopted his *nom d'artiste*, "Jonis," after his principal accidentally mispronounced his name and it stuck.

His artistic talent could very well run in his genes—his mother painted in college, his father sketched in high school, his great-aunt is a pastel artist, other relatives have been cinematographers and photographers, and his sister is a dancer.

Inspired by famous paintings and internet images, Rosenthal enjoys recreating surrealistic, impressionist, and neoclassical images. Polish artist Zdzislaw Beksiński, English artist Ivan Seal, and French artist Claude Monet are among his favorites.



Artist Jonah Rosenthal photographed at The Art Center Highland Park

YOUTHFUL EXPRESSION



Summer '24 Cicada



Sketch of a scene from *The Last Day of Pompeii* by Karl Bryullov

Most of Rosenthal's work is done in graphite, found in a No. 2 pencil, and some in charcoal. He likes mechanical pencils best, using them to create *Summer '24 Cicada* and the fanciful *Valentine's Angel*.

"I prefer mechanical pencils because the tips don't get dull, and the erasers are usually better," he explains. "Charcoal makes mistakes stand out, so it's more of a challenge."

Rosenthal usually doodles in 10 to 15-minute sessions at a time (dryly noting that he finds it an effective tactic for procrastinating on his homework) or sets aside time to draw during the weekend. It takes him between 5-10 hours to complete a drawing, with breaks in between. His longest work of art took him two months to complete. "It's a prolonged process," he says. "The works take longer than you'd expect, just by looking at them."

The time spent on these pieces is not only a measure of his dedication but, Rosenthal argues, also makes his work worth looking at in our digital age. "Especially right now, with AI and art, you can create a hyper-realistic, detailed image from your imagination in 30 seconds that would normally take 10 hours to draw," he explains. "But I find beauty in the fact that a human toiled over a piece of paper for 10 hours—I think it's special that so much human effort can be put into an art piece, especially in pencil."

Despite his never having formal art training, the level of sophistication has grown dramatically over the years. His recent pieces not only show incredible technical skill but also convey a rich emotional depth.

The most difficult piece he has done was based on *The Death of Marat* by Jacques-Louis David, which was painted during the French Revolution in the neoclassical style. The painting depicts the assassination of the French revolutionary leader Jean-Paul Marat, who was stabbed to death by Charlotte Corday while taking a bath. "It's this pretty intense and dramatic painting," Rosenthal says. "Recreating it let me explore creating textures, like making the cloth look different from the skin. I like doing drawings like that because it gives me a lens into the process an artist goes through. When you recreate the work, you can understand why the artist made certain stylistic decisions."

Rosenthal also references magazines as an artistic aid. "There's a lot of great photography in old magazines from the '50s and '60s for drawing or learning shadows," he says.

"When you recreate the work, you can understand why the artist made certain stylistic decisions."

When the weather is nice, Rosenthal has a fondness for creating art outdoors. During summer camp, he would visit a spot overlooking a lake to draw. He now finds the North Shore to be the perfect "sanctuary" for art. "Churches in Glencoe have nice courtyards, it's gorgeous and serene—any excuse to get around churches is brilliant," he notes.

The young artist spent last summer as an intern at The Art Center Highland Park, where he was exposed to different styles and types of media. Watercolor is his latest medium. "I find watercolor expressive," he says. "It's kind of a midpoint between oil painting and sketching because you can still see the outlines of the sketches."

Rosenthal offers this advice to other young artists: "Don't be afraid to start. The most important thing to know is that if you take 10-15 minutes to doodle every day, you'll get better. Keep doing it for a year, and you'll be far better than the average person."

Jonah Rosenthal accepts requests for portraits through his Instagram @stillindeep.

HAMMER TIME

Summer soirée edition.

*WORDS BY **KARINA HAMMER**, SENIOR SPECIALIST, JEWELRY & WATCHES AT FREEMAN'S | HINDMAN*

Summer has arrived in Chicago! After enduring the chilly temperatures of the Midwest for months, it's time to rejoice in the return of long daylight hours and balmy evenings. Whether planning festive nights with loved ones or elegant outdoor soirées, Freeman's Hindman is here to help you shine.

We are thrilled to offer a curated selection of fine jewelry from our June 18 Important Jewelry Auction—the perfect finishing touch for your next event. This is a wonderful opportunity to discover timeless pieces that elevate any look and capture the spirit of the season.



Iconic in both design and for the women who have worn them, the 'Diamond Dots' bracelet by Jean Schlumberger for Tiffany & Co. is a collector's piece:

First introduced in the 1960's, the designer's signature Paillonné enamel pieces are created by a 19th Century technique, when enamel is repeatedly layered over very fine sheets of gold, creating rich hues with dramatic depth of color and shimmer.

This red edition would be a delight at any 4th of July celebration!



On a personal note, I am thrilled that we are presenting a collection of Temple St Clair's amulets and chains in our June Important Jewelry sale. These amulets are rarely offered in the secondary market, and this collection is in pristine condition.

Temple St Clair's 'Blue Moon' Amulet is nothing short of spectacular. Her rock crystal amulets are a signature of her collection, established almost forty years ago, especially worn with her recognizable circular chains. Temple's amulets are born in design from her travels to Florence and love of storytelling. Since the beginning of time, amulets have been recorded in history as symbols offering protection and good fortune. They also pair perfectly with your favorite caftan on a warm summer evening.



JB Star has been creating luxurious jewelry for over four decades in New York City. They have a reputation for meticulously designed pieces that can be considered wearable works of art. This stunning diamond and platinum ring, featuring a 5.04 carat round brilliant cut is no exception and sparkles from every angle. The mounting is reminiscent of the 1940's Retro period, featuring several diamond cuts streamlined into a gorgeous cocktail ring.

Freeman's | Hindman's Important Jewelry auction will be held on June 18 in its New York saleroom. Chicago previews will be held June 5–9.



SHANA VITEK

EQUITY PARTNER
BEERMANN LLP

DIVORCE WITHOUT COURT

Divorce is a very personal and emotional process that often involves children. However, anyone with an internet connection can access most divorce court documents. Additionally, divorce court often takes place on Zoom and is broadcast on YouTube where anyone can log on and watch.

It is concerning that children can go online to read the details of their parents' divorce, or that a nosy neighbor could pull up another family's divorce paperwork on their phone.

There is simply no reason the details of any divorce need to be public. Even the most contentious divorces can be handled without going to court. Better options are available if both parties agree they want to keep their divorce private. Alternative dispute resolution processes like mediation, arbitration, and collaborative divorce are very effective ways to accomplish this goal in the most efficient manner possible.

Shana Vitek is an Equity Partner at Beermann LLP, the largest family law firm in Illinois. For over 20 years, she has practiced family law exclusively and is trained in mediation, arbitration, and collaborative law.

For more information, visit www.beermannlaw.com/team/shana-l-vitek.

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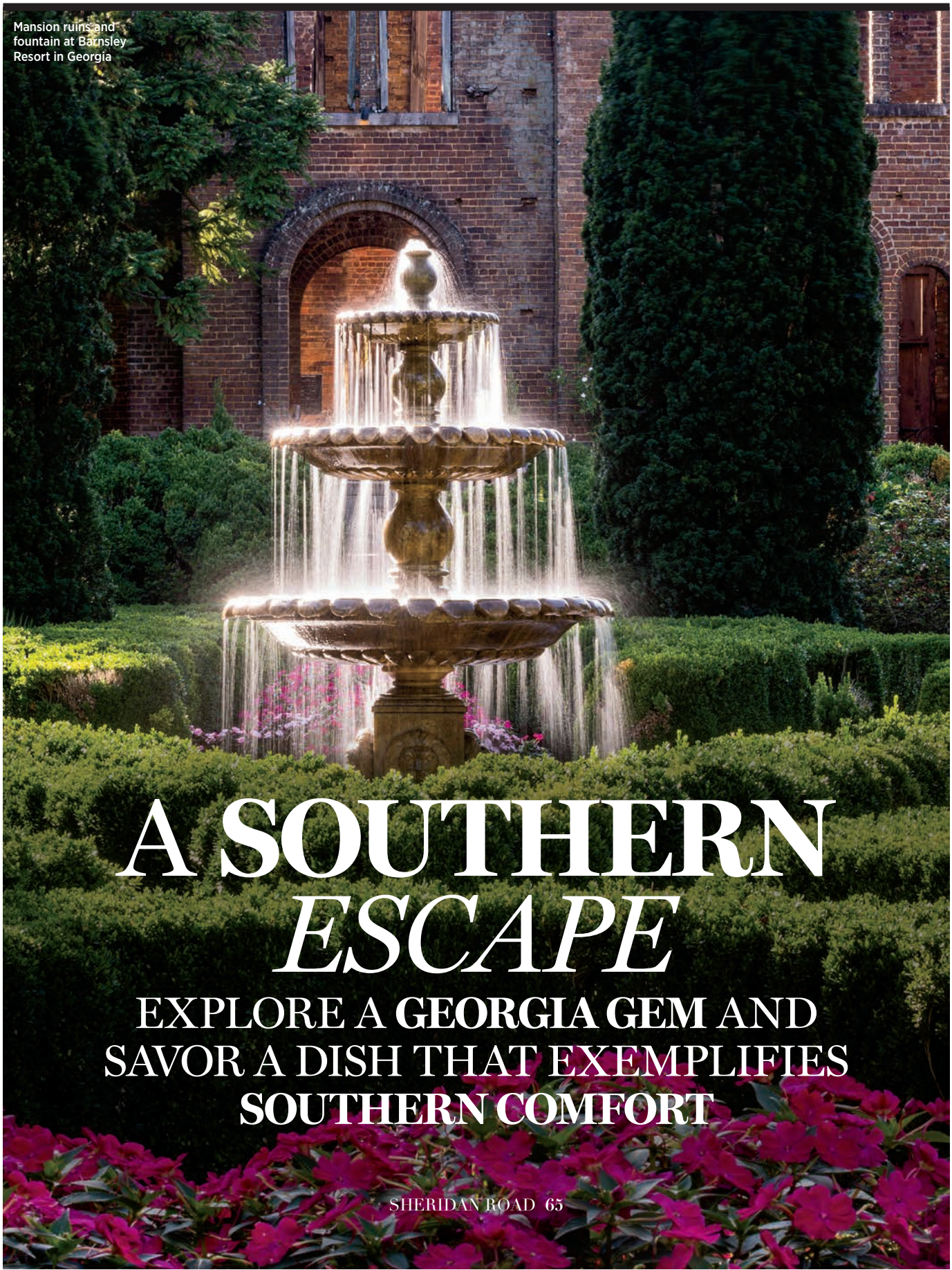


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Mansion ruins and fountain at Barnsley Resort in Georgia

A SOUTHERN *ESCAPE*

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Barnsley Resort Golf Course at sunset

A GEORGIA PEACH

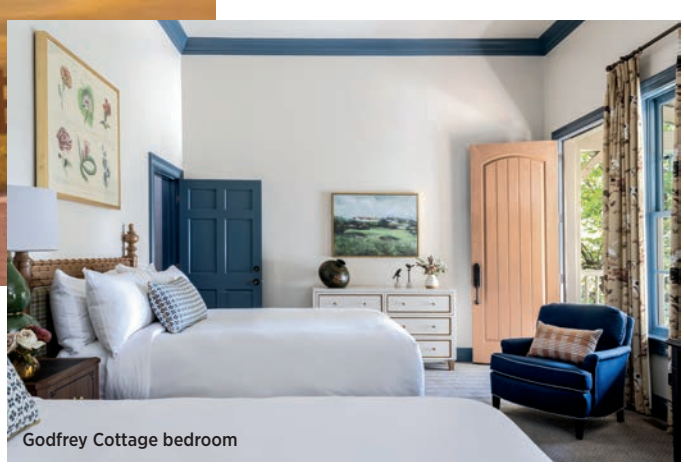
Barnsley Resort, a tranquil resort village in northwest Georgia, offers Southern hospitality and modern luxury.

WORDS BY ***DUSTIN O'REGAN***

FIRST CLASS



Cottage exteriors



Godfrey Cottage bedroom



Village Green

Located just 60 miles outside Atlanta on a historic 1840s estate, Barnsley Resort invites guests to create cherished memories on a 3,000-acre setting that brims with Southern charm. With its thoughtfully updated accommodations, enticing dining experiences, and expanded recreational activities, Barnsley Resort is a premier destination for elevated Southern hospitality and adventure. Whether savoring a pint at Biergarten, testing your skills at the Beretta Shooting Grounds, or relaxing in the serenity of your cottage, Barnsley offers something for everyone from the sporty to the contemplative and from the golf aficionado to the historian.

In addition to personal getaways, Barnsley is also an excellent choice for corporate retreats. The resort's inspiring surroundings, upscale accommodations, and team-building activities make it a standout venue for businesses looking to mix work with play.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The resort village feels like something out of a storybook. Picturesque cottages, cozy fire pits, and inviting hammocks dot the property, while soft music from hidden speakers floats through the air creating a welcoming, close-knit atmosphere. Strolling the property, we often felt like we were starring in a Hallmark movie.

The resort recently underwent a transformative $6.2 million renovation to celebrate its 25th anniversary. Reimagined by the acclaimed Charlotte Lucas Design firm, the interiors of the 84 cottage suites pay homage to Southern design traditions infused with elegant, modern touches.

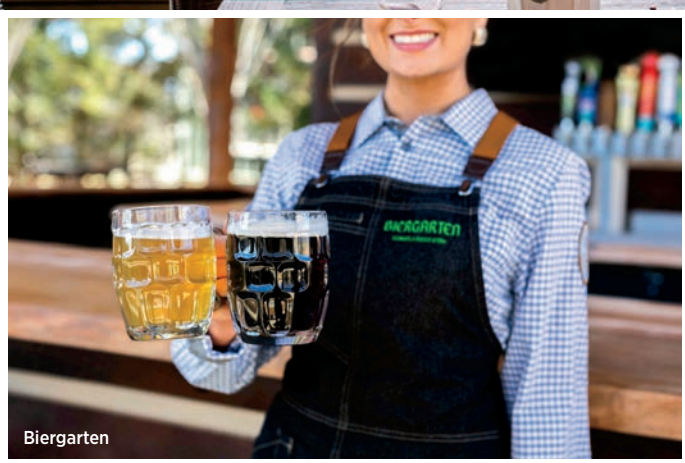
Warm plaids and stripes complement the rooms' soothing, neutral palette, while wall coverings and draperies feature subdued florals and sporting dog motifs. Bathrooms boast wood vanities, updated fixtures, and some sport checkered tile floors.

We stayed in the darling, two-bedroom Julia Cottage and spent evenings around the living room's tiled fireplace playing board games and reminiscing about the day's experiences.

FIRST CLASS



Woodlands Veranda



Biergarten



Biergarten pavillion

DINING

Barnsley offers an exceptional culinary experience highlighting Southern flavors and using locally sourced ingredients (many directly from the Barnsley Farm). For weekend dinners, we savored seasonal, chef-curated dishes at the Rice House, the resort's fine dining option housed in a historic 19th-century farmhouse (which at press time was undergoing an exciting renovation that will unveil a brand-new concept later this year).

Barnsley's new, open-air Biergarten features a two-sided, stacked stone fireplace under a covered pavilion in the heart of the resort village. Guests can indulge in regional, German, and European brews alongside an all-day menu featuring biergarten classics like pretzels and bratwurst, and barbecue favorites prepared by the resort's Pitmaster.

Woodlands was our favorite spot for breakfast and lunch. As we admired the beautiful view overlooking rolling hills and a mirror-like lake, we enjoyed Southern favorites like fresh, homemade buttermilk biscuits with sausage gravy—decadent but worth every forkful! For dinners, an impressive wine list and thoughtfully crafted menu make it a must for all epicureans.

ACTIVITIES

Barnsley offers a variety of recreational adventures. Recent additions include six lighted pickleball courts. We had a ball during our family pickleball lesson on a court overlooking the stunning Jim Fazio-designed golf course.

The Beretta Shooting Grounds have been enhanced with a new five-stand station, two redesigned 15-station clays courses, and a Helice field—an Italian-inspired sport featuring unpredictable, spinning targets that challenge participants' instincts and speed—and are now considered to be one of the Southeast's finest shooting facilities. My husband and daughter especially enjoyed shooting clays while picking up tips from the expert instructor. After our lesson, we visited the bird dog pavilion—an immaculate building full of elite hunting dogs, who are available for full

FIRST CLASS



Arbor Cottage's living room

or half-day hunting packages that also include the services of a professional guide and the rental of Beretta shotguns.

One afternoon, we borrowed bicycles from the Outpost for a scenic ride around the village, riding on picturesque paths past lush stands of Georgia pines and waving to other guests who were headed to the stables for a guided trail ride. The Outpost, housed in a log cabin, is a treasure trove of Barnsley merchandise, private-label wines, and hand-forged grills and accessories by Sea Island Forge.

The resort also offers archery and axe throwing. Walking to the archery range takes you past the ruins of the original 1840s manor. Towering over the resort's legendary boxwood gardens, the ruins offer a glimpse into the love story of the English-born merchant who built the Italianate villa for his cherished wife. Before reaching the archery platform, you will also pass a barn, where frisky ponies and sweet little goats vie for your attention.

Another favorite activity was stopping by the Inn nightly to pick up s'more kits. We then headed to the village fire pits to toast marshmallows under the stars or back to our snug living room for s'mores by the fire. For bourbon lovers, the Inn also hosts bourbon tastings on weekends.

With its 25th anniversary marking a milestone year, this is the perfect time to enjoy one of the South's most celebrated retreats. Pack your bags and "Set Life Alight™" now that Georgia is on *your* mind.

For more information, visit barnsleyresort.com.



Horseback riding

COCKTAIL

SPICY WATERMELON **MARGARITA**

WORDS AND PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF ***TWISTED ALCHEMY***

INGREDIENTS:

- 1.5 ounces of premium tequila
- 1.5 ounces Twisted Alchemy Cold-Pressed Watermelon Twist
- 2 ounces Twisted Alchemy Three Citrus Margarita Mixer
- 2 fresh jalapeno slices
- Watermelon slices and rosemary sprigs

METHOD:

Muddle fresh jalapeño slices in a cocktail shaker. Add juices, tequila, and ice. Shake until well-chilled. Strain into a chilled rocks glass filled with fresh ice. Rim with habanero salt for an extra kick and garnish with a watermelon slice and sprig of rosemary. If you prefer a mocktail, substitute tequila for sparkling water. Enjoy!



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SHRIMP & GRITS

WORDS, STYLING, AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY FOOD EDITOR ***MONICA KASS ROGERS***

The marriage of shrimp with grits in this classic Lowcountry dish goes back generations. Grits originated in the South with the Native American Muscogee, who stone ground dent corn, which has a softer and starchier kernel than other corn varieties, and boiled it into a soft, creamy porridge. Over the years, spooning buttery shrimp over the grits became a popular breakfast made in Lowcountry home kitchens. Recipes for it started appearing in newspapers in the 1890s and then in *Two Hundred Years of Charleston Cooking* published in 1930. However, the dish didn't become a nationwide restaurant phenomenon until 1985 when North Carolina chef Bill Neal put it on menus at his Crook's Corner restaurant, and Craig Claiborne wrote about it in *The New York Times*.

Neal added bacon, garlic, and green onions to the simple original recipe, and in the years that followed, chefs riffed even more, adding tomatoes, peppers, hot sauce, and other ingredients. This version adapts *The Lee Bros. Charleston Kitchen* cookbook's recipe to include peppers and onions because the extra veg helps balance the flavors in the dish.

Also of note: stone-ground grits (also called old-fashioned grits) are ground with the germ intact, preserving nutrients and giving the cooked result more flavor than instant grits. So, use either white or yellow stone-ground grits in this recipe. And while many modern shrimp and grits recipes include cheese, since the grits already contain butter and the shrimp sauce is studded with bacon, the dish is plenty rich without it.

RECIPE



Serves 4

INGREDIENTS

For the grits

- 2 cups whole milk
- 2 cups water
- 1 cup stone-ground coarse grits
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Pinch of sugar
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- Fresh-cracked pepper to taste

For the shrimp

- 1-1/2 pounds headless large, raw, shell-on shrimp (you will use the shells to make stock)
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups water
- Pinch of cayenne pepper

For the shrimp sauce

- 4 slices thick-cut uncured bacon, diced
- 2 bell peppers, one red, one green, core and seeds discarded, diced small
- 1 small onion, peeled and diced fine
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1 tablespoon olive oil or butter
- 1 fresh lemon, cut in half
- 1 pound fresh tomatoes on the vine
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 1 tablespoon flour
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 3 scallions, chopped for garnish

METHOD

Make grits: In a heavy-bottomed 2-quart pot, add milk, water, salt, and sugar and heat to boiling over medium-high heat. As soon as the mixture boils, rapidly whisk in the grits and butter and continue whisking until mixture begins to boil again. Reduce heat to low, cover pot, and simmer, stirring occasionally for 35 minutes. Remove cover, add pepper and stir until mixture is quite thick and creamy soft. Remove from heat and set aside, keeping warm.

Prep shrimp and make stock: Peel shells from shrimp and place in a stock pot with 2 cups of water, a bay leaf, salt, and a pinch of cayenne pepper. Place pot over high heat and cover. When water boils, remove lid, reduce heat to medium-low and simmer until liquid has reduced by half (about 15 minutes). Strain stock through mesh strainer, discarding shells. Set reduced stock aside.

Make tomato juice: Place tomatoes in food processor or blender or in a large bowl if using a stick/immersion blender. Add vinegar and 1/2 teaspoon salt. Pulse or blend well. Press through a fine mesh strainer, capturing tomato liquid in cup and discarding seeds and skins. Set liquid aside.

Saute bacon, veg, and shrimp: In a sauté pan over medium heat, sauté bacon until fat has rendered and meat is crisp. Remove cooked bacon to a paper towel-lined plate. Leaving bacon fat in pan, add diced onion, peppers, minced garlic, and smoked paprika and sauté until soft. Scoop vegetables into a bowl and set aside. Add 1 tablespoon butter or olive oil if needed. Add shrimp to sauté pan and cook until pink. Remove cooked shrimp from pan and add to veg in bowl; squeeze 1/2 lemon over shrimp. Set aside.

Make sauce: With pan over medium heat, add shrimp stock. Heat until boiling. Scoop out a ladle of the stock to a small bowl; whisk 1 tablespoon flour into the bowl to make a paste. Set aside. Stir reserved tomato juice into shrimp stock in pan. Cook for 3 minutes. Whisk in the flour paste and tomato paste and cook, whisking until thickened. Remove from heat. Fold in shrimp, onions, peppers, and half of the bacon. Adjust seasoning with salt and pepper.

To serve: Ladle grits into serving bowls. Top with generous spoonfuls of the shrimp and vegetable sauce. Garnish with the remaining bacon and green onions. Serve hot, with the remaining 1/2 lemon cut into wedges, and a bottle of hot sauce.



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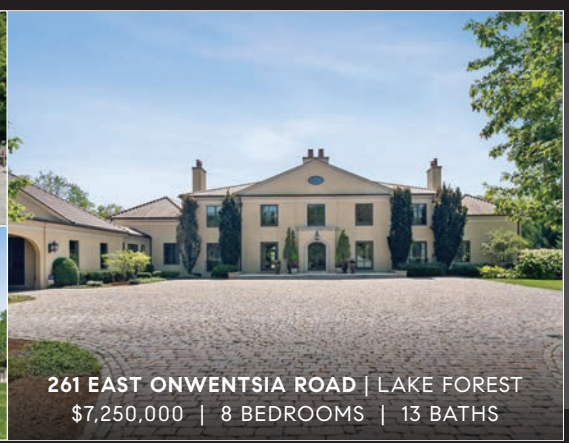
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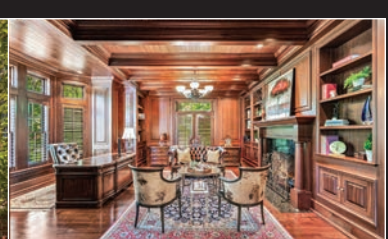
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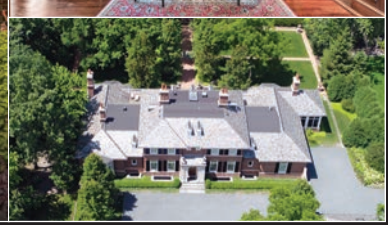
This stunning East Lake Forest estate, designed with architect Darcy Bonner in 2010, sits on nearly three gated acres, blending elegance and natural beauty with a Santa Barbara vibe. Surrounded by landscaped gardens, native plants, and a fruit orchard, it offers privacy and style. The home offers over 11,000 square feet of living space and features clean lines, high ceilings and exceptional finishes throughout. With eight custom fireplaces, exotic woods, light fixtures from Paris, swimming pool, professional gym, an elevator and fabulous first floor primary suite, this estate epitomizes luxury and comfort.

Discover luxurious living in this custom-built 2006 estate on nearly two acres along historic Ridge Road. This home features generously sized rooms with stunning architectural details, soaring ceilings, exquisite millwork, and walnut and mahogany flooring throughout. A gorgeous mahogany library and eight fireplaces. The first-floor owner's wing serves as a luxurious retreat, featuring two fireplaces, his and hers luxury baths, a beautiful dressing room, and a private sitting room. Outside, a gated entry and beautifully landscaped grounds welcome you. Designed for both grand entertaining and comfortable family living, this residence exemplifies quality and value.



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The boot room of the house featured in *Home Tour* designed by Claire Staszak of Centered by Design. Photography by Heather Talbert

Kick off summer with a tour of a **stunning abode** full of intricate patterns and peruse pages of **patio décor**

Dining Room



BOLD MOVES

Designer Claire Staszak transforms this 1990s North Shore home with 21st-century panache.

WORDS BY ***SHANNON SHARPE*** */ PHOTOGRAPHY BY* ***HEATHER TALBERT***
STYLING BY ***KIMBERLY SWEDELIUS***

HOME TOUR



Entry

There's nothing a designer loves more than a client who is both design savvy and trusting. Fortunately for Claire Staszak of Centered by Design, a North Shore couple who turned to her to transform their 90s-esque contemporary home into a transitional abode were just that. "Her work really appealed to me," the wife says, an architect by training. "I wanted the home to feel like it was always here, and Claire's style is really warm."

The bones of the home were there, but certain aspects of the layout—faux columns, unnecessary arches, and odd wall indentations—were illogical for the family of six. "These kinds of architectural devices didn't work," Staszak notes. "So, there was a focus on creating a better shell and then layering in all these great cabinets, textiles, and furniture."

Working with home builder Kiril Ratia of Ratia Construction, Staszak rethought various elements including creating a mudroom underneath the stairs, pulling space from the powder room for additional kitchen cabinetry, and transforming the second-floor landing from a hallway-like space into a functional room with cupboards for arts and crafts supplies and a computer station for the kids. "It's a very popular spot," the wife notes of the once-wasted space.

Perhaps, most popular of all is the combination kitchen and family room, complete with a dual-sided banquette separating the spaces, a mix of warm walnut and white cabinetry, and separate prep and cooking spaces for the kosher-observant family. "What we wanted was an environment for people to plop down, feel comfortable, and not worry about the little things," the husband explains.



Kitchen

HOME TOUR



Library


Dining room

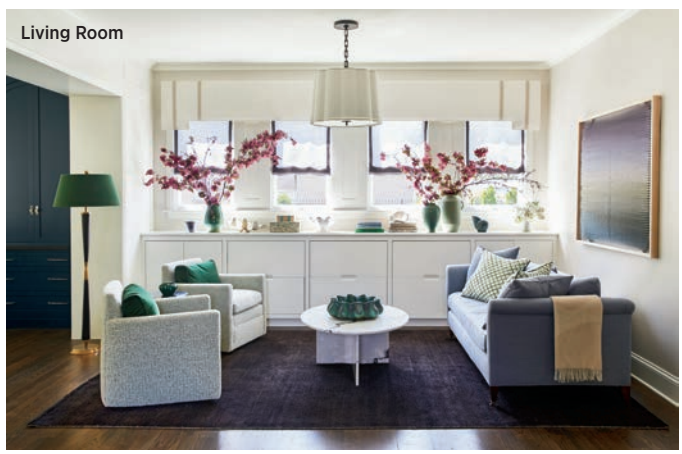
"Another big request was to be able to host lots of people in the dining space," Staszak says. With weekly gatherings for Shabbat dinners, the family asked the designer to bring in a table that could seat a large group. Cabinetry in Farrow & Ball's Hague Blue sets the backdrop for a mix of prints that reflect the wife's love of pattern and color. "On the back of the dining chairs is a Liberty of London fabric," Staszak says. "That was something I fell in love with right away and just reminded me of her."

Nods to the wife's colorful taste are found throughout the home, especially on the walls. From the Ferrick Mason floral in the powder room to the subdued Morris & Co. behind the family room built-ins to the blue Pierre Frey print along the staircase, wallpaper is a key design element.

Even when patterns aren't used, punches of color keep the bold vibe going. A string-art piece in shades of blue and green by Rachel Mica Weiss hangs above the blue Highland House sofa in the living room, while an ombre Theo Pinto painting in pink and aqua greets people as they descend the stairs to the lower level.

Staszak steered away from the bright palette in the library, which the husband calls "my cocoon." Setting the stage for the room with a Patterson Flynn rug in blue, white, sage, and aubergine that plays to the veined viola marble fireplace, she then coated the room in Farrow & Ball's Green Smoke.

Upstairs, one of the boys' rooms is also painted in a gray-green—this time Benjamin Moore's lighter Beach Glass—while the daughter's walls are covered in an oh-so-delicate pink Phillip Jeffries grasscloth. For the primary, coziness was the driving factor. Reading lights, luxurious fabrics, and a wall-to-wall headboard that provides a space for artwork and objects creates a personal sanctuary. "We wanted to keep it very ethereal and light," Staszak says.


Living Room

The home's design strikes a perfect balance between elevated and welcoming. "The entire home is comfortable, inviting, warm, and hospitable," the husband observes. Adds the wife, "It's not ostentatious. It's not flashy. We sometimes host 25 people, but it works. Everyone just feels cozy. I love it."

For more information, visit centeredbydesign.com.

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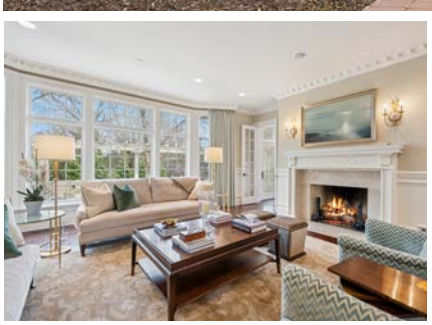
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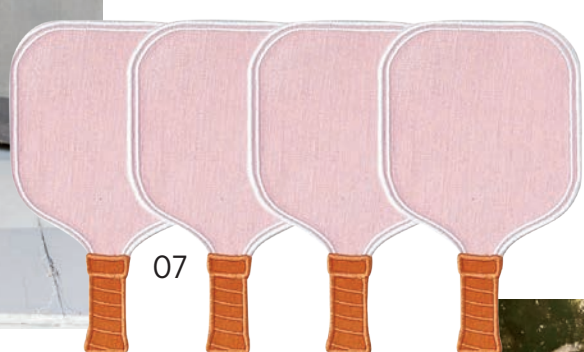

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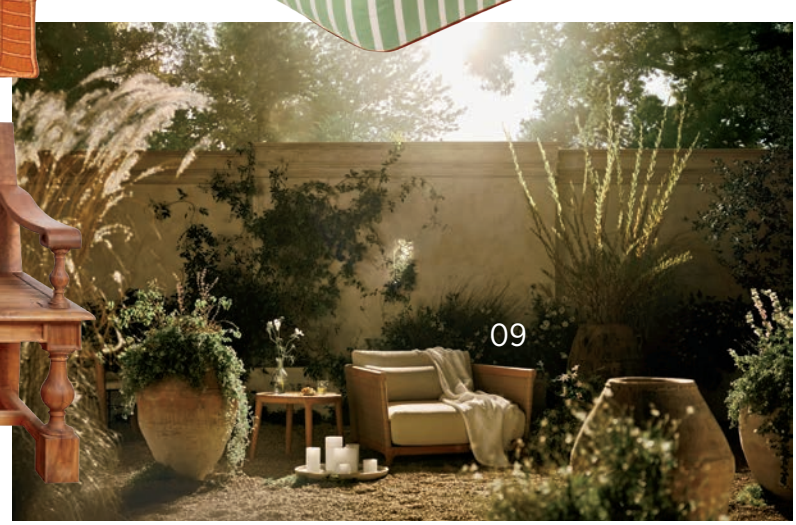

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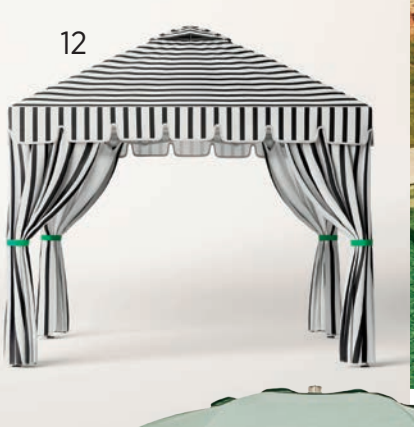

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HOME STYLE



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PHOTOGRAPHY BY ***ANNA ZORN***

Loomcraft Textiles, known as the North Shore's go-to source for high-quality fabrics and home décor projects for 35-plus years, has just completed a stunning renovation of its Vernon Hills location (645 Lakeview Parkway). The refreshed showroom now offers an even more inspiring environment for discovering fabric, drapery, and upholstery solutions—and features expanded offerings backed by the best custom window and upholstery workroom in the region.

Whether you're designing custom drapery, sunshades, Roman shades, or reupholstering cherished furniture, Loomcraft delivers unmatched craftsmanship with industry-leading turnaround times. The in-house workroom is widely regarded as best-in-class for its precision, attention to detail, and personalized service—all at the most competitive pricing on the North Shore. This month, customers can enjoy 20 percent off book fabrics, making it the perfect time to begin your spring refresh. Whether you're updating a single room or redesigning your entire home, Loomcraft is your trusted partner for window treatments, reupholstery, and more.

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Pickles Group, the brainchild of three couples contending with cancer, helps the children of parents diagnosed with cancer navigate difficult times.

WORDS BY ***THOMAS CONNORS***
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ***MARIA PONCE***
STYLING BY ***THERESA DEMARIA***
HAIR & MAKEUP BY ***DORIA DE BARTOLO***



Carolyn Agnew







Pickles Group Annual Family Fun Day at Clarkson Park

When bad things happen, adults often have no choice but to pick up the pieces and move on. But kids aren't always equipped to do the same. They're often at a loss to make sense of a shattering situation, especially when mom or dad is diagnosed with cancer. No matter how hard adults may try, when a household is upended, when daily schedules are disrupted, when there's no time to sit and talk, children can feel very alone.

In 2019, Mark Agnew, Adjunct Associate Professor of Entrepreneurship at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, was diagnosed with stage 2 brain cancer. "Our oldest daughter Molly was 9 at the time," says Carolyn Agnew. "She had wonderfully supportive young friends but still felt lonely and isolated having a dad with cancer. Other kids just didn't get it. One day, she told Mark that she wished she could hang out with other kids who were in the same boat."

Soon after Mark received his diagnosis, he learned that a colleague—Ned Smith, a professor at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management—had been diagnosed with glioblastoma, an aggressive form of brain cancer. Smith and his wife, Erin, were friends with the Agnew's neighbors, Erika and Jeff Hlavacek, who were facing lung and colorectal cancer respectively. The six parents decided "to build a community for our kids during this scary experience," explains Carolyn.

As they began exploring how to best help their children, the families learned that therapy was crucial. They turned to Kelsey Mora, a dual-certified Child Life Specialist and therapist with extensive experience supporting families through illness and grief. "We were all a little nervous about our very first meeting," recalls Carolyn. "There were ten kids among the three families, and they hardly knew each other. We invited Kelsey to facilitate some activities with the kids at our first meeting. By the end of the night, the kids were laughing, having fun, and just being kids—it was an enormous relief to all of us. After that meeting, we knew we had to get more families involved.

"This experience has taught me how incredibly resilient kids can be."

Seeing how well their children responded and aware that not every family can easily access counseling, the three couples set out to create a group that could provide free, peer-to-peer support and resources for children struggling to navigate a parent's cancer diagnosis. That effort came to fruition with the formation of Pickles Group. Named for their children's shared taste for the vinegary condiment, Pickles took shape with the guidance of Kelsey Mora, who now serves as the organization's chief clinical officer. "Our next critical move was hiring Cassy Horton as executive director," recalls Carolyn. "Cassy's entire career has been focused on youth services and K-12 education, working with kids from marginalized communities. This combination of family experience, nonprofit expertise, and healthcare and mental health experience is our secret sauce. Bringing them on board as our three families were facing our most challenging moments is what allowed Pickles to grow to meet this urgent need, despite how difficult things have been for us personally."



Carolyn Agnew at home

Annual Family Fun Day at Clarkson Park





Pickles Group Honor Community Dinner at the Women's Club of Wilmette



Carolyn and Mark Agnew, co-founders of Pickles Group

Operating from established research in behavioral science, Mora designed programs targeted to youth, facilitated by trained volunteers who have experience working with young people and backgrounds in education, child development, and other related fields. Revolving around open, age-appropriate information about cancer, the development of coping skills, and establishing connections with peers living the same experiences, Pickles Group programs are a mix of fun games, creative activities, art, team-building exercises, and education.

"In addition to in-person family events," relates Carolyn, "we currently offer two key programs for kids: Connect Over Cancer, a five-week virtual program that uses an activity-based peer support approach to educate kids about cancer and teach coping skills; and Pickles Jars, a monthly small group program—virtual or in-person—offering a consistent, safe, and welcoming space to build relationships and connect with youth mentors. We also recently introduced our Peer Leader team, a group of kids who have been through our programming and feel empowered to help others."

The nonprofit's impact is felt beyond the North Shore through a webinar for parents, "How to Talk to Kids About Cancer," and a nine-page Family Cancer Support Kit offered in English and Spanish that has been distributed in more than 800 hospitals nationwide. Between virtual and in-person programming, Pickles reaches 49 states and nine countries.

"This experience has taught me how incredibly resilient kids can be," shares Carolyn. "They can handle the truth and are more at ease when they have information that can quiet their imaginations. It has also been such a gift to observe Pickles kids who are inspired to help other kids. For many, this is an important part of the healing process. Sadly, we have lost many Pickles parents, including two of our founders, Ned Smith and Erika Hlavacek. This is the hard reality of the work we are doing. But watching those kids turn their pain into purpose—walking other kids through grief—is awe-inspiring."

For more information, visit picklesgroup.org.

The #1 Brokerage in the Northwoods

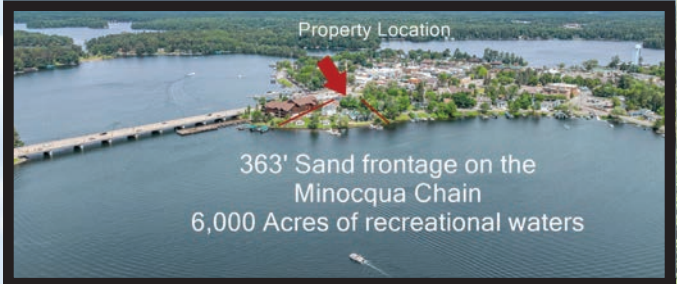
Minocqua · Manitowish Waters · Eagle River
Three Lakes · Rhinelander · Upper Peninsula



OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME ON THE SHORES OF TOMAHAWK LAKE

Active resort established over 100 years ago, on the renowned Minocqua Chain, Expansive 945' of sandy shores with southern exposure. Multi-Family Zoning. Long driveway through the 30+ acres, across a lakeside land bridge leads into the nostalgic resort that exudes the epitome of a Northwoods Currier and Ives vibe. Gambrel roofed main home / office and seven seasonal cabins along the shoreline. Scenic walking trail leads to the back land and an open field, prime for recreation or expansion. *www.TomahawkLakeLegacy.com*

MLS# 211508 $4,950,000



MAGNIFICENT RESORT ON THE SHORES OF LAKE MINOCQUA

Experience the charm of a century-old historic home at the heart of a beautiful resort. The original home boasts timeless elegance with its grand entrance, stained glass, and well-preserved wood details. Surrounding this piece of history are 4 waterfront cottages, 6 well-appointed kitchenette units and a duplex. Includes 343 ft. of sand frontage and 2 permanent piers. Rental history proves strong with generations of families who have enjoyed this property for years, making it possible for the new owner to continue to run as a resort if desired.

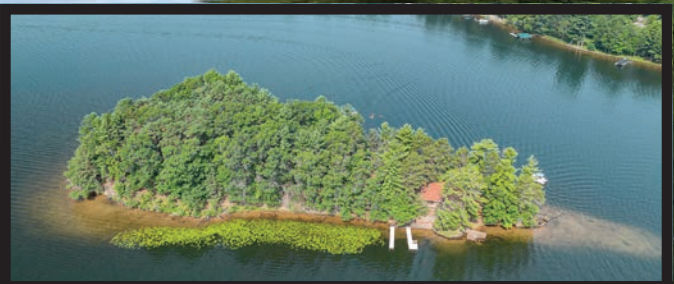
MLS# 210892 $4,950,000



EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTY ON LAKE MINOCQUA

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MLS# 210742 $3,750,000



DEVINE ISLAND - PART OF MINOCQUA CHAIN HISTORY

The 2-acre private island is located in Schoolhouse Bay on Lake Minocqua. Surrounded entirely by ripple sand frontage with mature trees throughout. The 3-bedroom/1-bathroom cabin is dripping in nostalgia, jutted out on the northern most point. The southern portion of the island offers a large, level undeveloped space. The property is complete with electric, point/driven well, and conventional septic system already in place. The island property also includes a nearby main land base for parking with pier/dock for a quick boat ride out to the island. *www.DevineIsland.com*

$1,950,000

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Melissa Skoog, founder of Skoog Co., wearing Nili Lotan blue shirt, brown pants, and tan jacket, *neimanmarcus.com*

The STORYTELLER

Starting in the pages of Vogue, *Melissa Skoog's storied career in luxury PR has taken her from the East Coast to the West Coast to the Magnificent Mile.*

WORDS BY ***MEGAN WEISBERG*** */ PHOTOGRAPHY BY* ***MARIA PONCE*** *AT LONDONHOUSE CHICAGO*
MAKEUP BY ***LEANNA ERNEST*** */ STYLING BY* ***THERESA DEMARIA***

In August of 1995, Chicago native Melissa Skoog set her sights on the Big Apple, giving herself a tight, one-month time frame to move to Manhattan and find a job. It so happened that a family friend had made introductions to *Vogue's* advertising department, thus setting her career on an unstoppable path.

Skoog's interview roster read like *Women's Wear Daily*'s Best Dressed List, including famed stylist, Elizabeth Saltzman, who almost 20 years later is still at the top of her career. Spoiler alert: Skoog didn't get that job, so she returned home to Chicago and began working in office management. Little did she know that this "failure" would lay the foundation of a legendary PR career.

Six months later, her phone rang with a call from Condé Nast—if Skoog could manage to uproot her life and move to New York within three weeks, she had a job as a rover between the magazines' departments. On her first day of work, Skoog learned Anna Wintour—legendary gatekeeper of all things in the fashion world—needed an assistant. Within a week of temporarily filling that role, Skoog officially became Wintour's second assistant. If these events recall the plot of *The Devil Wears Prada* movie, Skoog agrees. "Yes, it was just like Anne Hathaway's character," laughs Skoog. The cinematic similarities continued—she was responsible for bringing Wintour her coffee and delivering the "book" (a mock-up of the magazine) to her home. Within a month the first assistant (Emily Blunt's character) left, and Skoog stepped into that role where she stayed for the next two and a half years in a position that afforded her extraordinary exposure to fashion industry greats. When Skoog was ready to move to her next role, she stayed in-house, becoming an accessories editor at *Vogue*.

While at a business dinner in New York City with Banana Republic's PR team, she boldly shared what she would have done differently with their newly released handbag design. At the time, another legendary fashion guru Mickey Drexler was at the helm of Gap, Inc. (owner of Banana Republic), and shortly after the dinner, the team reached out to Skoog saying they had re-made the bag to her specifications. Skoog soon relocated to the Bay Area to work in-house for Banana Republic as a merchant buying ready-to-wear categories such as sweaters and knitwear for the brand.

But New York was calling her back to its storied streets and the world of luxury fashion. Wintour recommended Skoog to the house of Prada, where Skoog stepped into a role of overseeing U.S. communications for the brand and its subsidiary Miu Miu. "Mrs. Prada is extraordinary," says Skoog of the head of the 100-year-old Italian fashion house.

Soon, however, love intervened. Within six months of meeting, Skoog married her husband and together they moved to Chicago for a start-up opportunity for his career. Back in her hometown, Skoog found a lack of niche luxury public relations, so taking a leap she started her own—the eponymously named Skoog Co. With her three-week old son at her side, Skoog and her team opened 41 stores for LOFT in 41 new markets. "Learning of my move to Chicago, my friends in luxury started calling with regional PR needs for Gucci, Tiffany & Co., and more," says Skoog. "We supported the launch of Shinola and launched the San Francisco-based brand Rothy's. I was a national person sitting in a regional market."

> "WE ARE STRATEGISTS DISCOVERING WHAT IS GOING TO MOVE THE NEEDLE FOR YOUR MESSAGING; BRINGING YOUR BRAND INTO THE BIGGEST LIGHT AND DRIVING SALES."

"At Skoog, we are strategists discovering what is going to move the needle for your messaging; bringing your brand into the biggest light and driving sales," Skoog explains. "That's our goal."

Now, creating her own storied brand, Skoog Co. works with the best of the best in luxury, home, and food—Hermès, Mark Cross, Curio Home Goods, Vosges Haut-Chocolat—and is the first U.S. agency on record for the British brand Boden.

"From rebrands and store openings to press placements and influencer campaigns," Skoog shares, "your brand has a story to tell; and we make sure the world is paying attention."

"We focus on lifestyle, food, and fashion. And we have a total blast," says Skoog.

With such incredible heights scaled already, it seems that Skoog's story is just beginning.

For more information, visit skoogco.com.



Melissa Skoog
wearing Proenza
Schouler dress



Skoog wearing Brunello Cucinelli top, jacket, and pants, *neimanmarcus.com*

MELISSA'S **DAILY JUGGL**

6:00 A.M.	Wake up. Drink hot lemon water + green tea
6:30 A.M.	30-minute workout of yoga or strength training
7:00 A.M.	Coffee (very important)
7:30 A.M.	Wake up the kids, breakfast, get dressed, and ready for camp
8:30 A.M.	Camp drop-off
9:00 A.M.	Mahjong once a week
10:30 A.M.	Client work
NOON	Networking lunch
1:30 P.M.	Client work
5:30 P.M.	Dinner prep to serve by 6:30 p.m.
7:30 P.M.	Family game night (1-2x per week)
10:00 P.M.	Reading
10:30 P.M.	Lights out for everyone!

As a woman over 50 who feels like she has a lot more to learn, live, and explore, Skoog has created theJuggl—a community to provide women a place to turn to for fashion and lifestyle ideas, tips, tricks, and products to help solve the little and big things in their lives one day at a time. Sign up at *thejuggl.substack.com*.

MELISSA'S **FAVORITES**

1



SANDRA TOP
cartolinanantucket.com

2

FANTASTICAL FLORA ENSEMBLE
vosgeschocolate.com



3



BODEN SANDAL
khaite.com

4



SWING DRESS
us.ladoublej.com

5



THOMASINA LINEN MIDI SKIRT
us.boden.com

6



ROMY CLUTCH IN CANVAS CHOCOLATE
markcross.com

7



TRUDON, GABRIEL CANDLE
trudon.com

8



ANITA KO, LARGE LEAF DIAMOND RING
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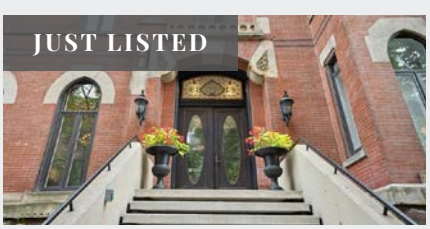
Crain's most influential real estate brokers (2018)
Who's Who brokers in Chicago Agent magazine (2014-2015, 2018-2021)
30+ years combined experience

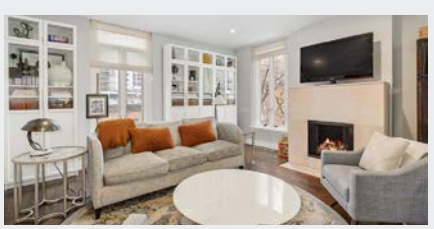




3702 N MILWAUKEE AVENUE, CHICAGO

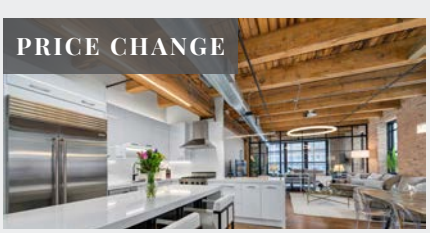
4 bed | 3 ½ bath. Basecamp Old Irving, modern single family home. Award winning development. $699,000

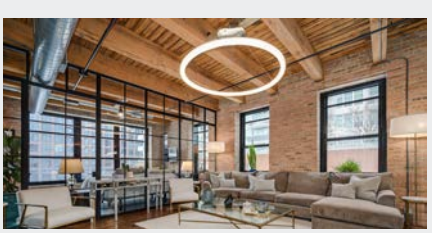




839 N DEARBORN STREET #F, CHICAGO

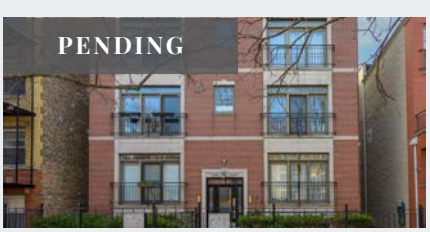
Renovated 3 bed | 3 ½ bath triplex. 1 of 6 luxurious condos in the Newberry Mansion. $1,550,000





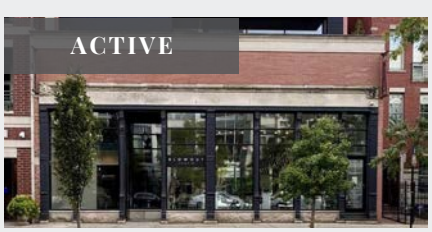
14 N PEORIA STREET #3E, CHICAGO

3 bed | 2 bath | 1,800 sqft. Completely gut renovated loft space. $999,000



2441 W WALTON STREET #1, CHICAGO

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North Shore Civic Club founding members Mary Galea and Yvonne Bruce. Galea is wearing Giorgio Armani, Neiman Marcus Northbrook

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

The North Shore Civic Club kickstarts conversations.

WORDS BY ***THOMAS CONNORS*** */ PHOTOGRAPHY BY* ***KATRINA WITTKAMP***
STYLING BY ***THERESA DEMARIA*** */ HAIR & MAKEUP BY* ***LEANNA ERNEST***



Lake Michigan. Photography by patty_c.

According to philosopher William James, a country's fortune is directly tied to the level of civic discourse between its citizens. "The nation blessed above all nations," he wrote, "is she in whom the civic genius of the people does the saving day by day … by good temper between parties." Through forums and events that create a culture of curiosity and bring thoughtful conversations into our daily lives, the North Shore Civic Club is heeding these words on a local level.

Established in 2023 by biochemist Yvonne Bruce, media executive Don Adams, and conservationist Mary Galea, the Club is founded on, as Bruce explains, "the old-fashioned idea of slowing down, getting together, and engaging in civil discourse that leads to thoughtful, constructive solutions." Bruce, the organization's president, is driven "by a passion to be positive amid polarization, to helping each other out, crowdsourcing great people with fantastic skills, and getting in a room to pull on threads of curiosity and get a discussion going. With my training as a biochemist, I never deviate from facts. I like to get multi-modal evidence before I reach a conclusion. My most favorite thing in the world is to face a convincing argument because that means I'm growing."

The Club launched its forum-based programming at Lake Forest's The Gorton Center with "The State of the Great Lakes," featuring guest speakers University of Michigan economist John Austin, The Nature Conservancy scientist Scott Sowa, and Joel Brammeier, president and CEO of the Alliance for Great Lakes. As other freshwater sources begin to dry up, the Great Lakes, which provide drinking water to 48 million people, are being eyed by others. "We thought we'd see what people's appetite is for knowing what's going on in our own backyard," says Bruce. "We had allotted half an hour for questions afterward, but an hour in there were still things people wanted to know."

Committed to presenting four panel discussions annually, the Club followed the debut with a roster that included "The Future of Energy," "Inspiring Entrepreneurship," and most recently, partnering with Lake Forest College for "Bridging the Impasse: 21st Century Practice for a Stronger Democracy," with classicist and political scientist, Dr. Danielle Allen, the James Bryant Conant University Professor at Harvard. With each offering, the goal "is to get beyond the headlines served up by media and news platforms," Bruce shares.

In addition to its forums, the Club offers a book club where the selections marry with the panel discussions. Recent selections included Dan Egan's *The Death and Life of the Great Lakes* and *Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard* by etymologist and wildlife ecologist, Douglas W. Tallamy, and *Democracy in One Book or Less* by David Litt. These expert-led book discussions have proven so popular that the club created a subcommittee led by board member Tina-Dann Fenwick.

At 200 members and growing, Bruce dreams of the North Shore Civic Club becoming the local equivalent of The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. "We are working hard to attract informed, civically engaged people who would like to get together and make a difference."

For more information, visit northshorecivicclub.org or email info@northshorecivicclub.org.

ON BRAND

After making advertising history as the Chairman and Chief Creative Officer of Leo Burnett, Cheryl Berman founded her own branding agency dedicated to big ideas and new beginnings.

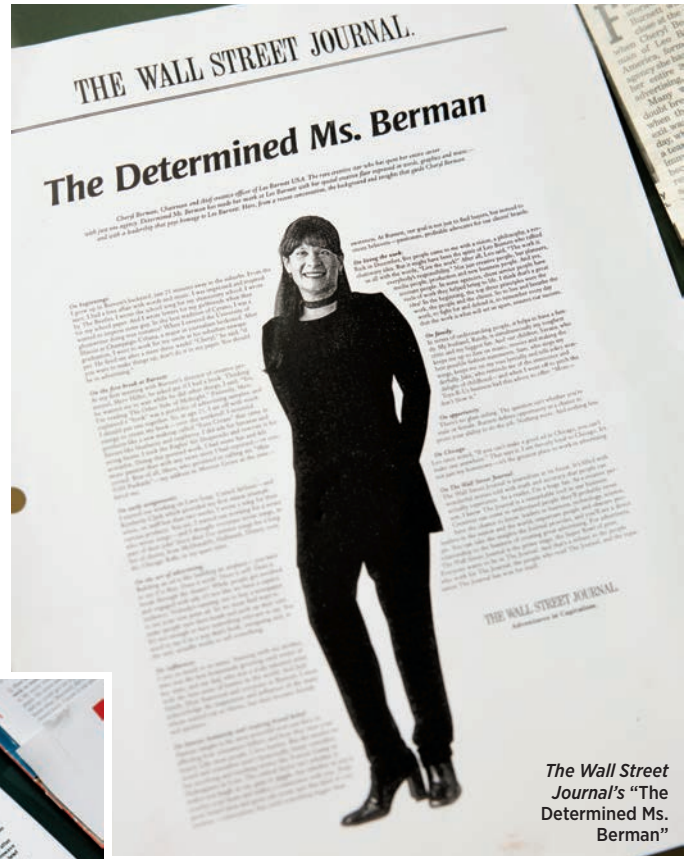
WORDS BY ***JOE ROSENTHAL***
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ***MAGGIE RIFE***
STYLING BY ***THERESA DEMARIA***
HAIR & MAKEUP ***LEANNA ERNEST***



Advertising icon Cheryl Berman wearing Lela Rose, Neiman Marcus Northbrook



The Journal introduces "Artist in Residence." Berman's way to connect bands with Burnett clients



The Wall Street Journal's "The Determined Ms. Berman"



Berman's Wake Up Call at Cannes: Women make 88 percent of all purchases.

"A brand is first and foremost a promise."

Back in the early aughts, *The Wall Street Journal* dubbed Chicago native Cheryl Berman "The Determined Ms. Berman," running a full-page ad to recognize her stratospheric success in the advertising world—she had become the first woman to ascend to the roles of chairman and chief creative officer of Leo Burnett USA and the first woman to serve on the agency's board of directors. It was a flattering and catchy nickname, but it paid a subtle disservice to Berman, whose determination is matched by her creative firepower, leadership ability, social insight, and knack for creating communications that resonate across generations. Her story doesn't fit neatly into the magazine format; in fact, there's a book forthcoming. But merely touching on the highlights should inspire anyone seeking to make their mark in branding, advertising, music, or business. Or, frankly, for anyone looking to make a mark in life.

After graduating from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Berman spent three weeks working in journalism for her uncle before he fired her and told her to find another line of work. "If you wanna make things up," he said, "don't do it in my paper. You should be in advertising."

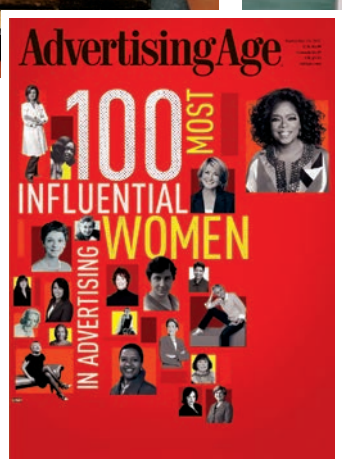
With those fateful words, she followed the guidance of another relative who introduced her to an opportunity at Leo Burnett. She showed up for her interview and was asked for her "book." Without skipping a beat, she replied, "Yeah, I'm reading *The Other Side of Midnight*." The interviewer politely explained that a "book" was a portfolio, and she needed to have one to work at an agency. Armed with a weekend and a hazy concept of what a portfolio was, Berman returned the following week with her book, talked her way into a second interview, and the rest is advertising history.

She soon found herself part of the team that landed the agency-defining McDonald's account, which put her on a fast track to advertising immortality, and found herself a mentor in Paul Schrage, the fast-food giant's chief marketing officer. "People don't raise the bar unless somebody makes you do that," she says. "So that's what I learned from him. He would say, 'Hey, this is good, but maybe it could be better.' He was there when Ray Kroc was around, and he's still a friend. He was probably the best mentor I ever had."

All the mentoring and on-the-job lessons clearly took hold, as Berman moved up the ranks and became the youngest copy supervisor and vice president in Leo Burnett's history.



Berman was named a partner in the opening of the Disney Institute in 1996.





Berman in her office

As a copywriter, she wrote award-winning ads for United, McDonald's, Disney, Hallmark, and 7UP. She won the first advertising award the Leo Burnett agency ever received (for a Nestlé Crunch commercial), Chicago Ad Woman of the Year, the Missouri Honor Medal for Distinguished Service in journalism, *Ad Age*'s 100 Most Influential Women, and *Adweek*'s 11 Most Inspiring Women.

In her spare time, she wrote songs that were performed at the Super Bowl halftime show and are still heard at Disney theme parks around the world, founded Miss Understood at Cannes, and launched Women on the Rise at Rise Interactive Ad Agency.

Berman's pride in her career achievements is clear (her home office in Wilmette features furniture, framed art, and trophies from her last office at Leo Burnett), but she's always mindful of what made her successes possible—the ability to forge a human connection. "I am all about making emotional connections that touch people's hearts and minds," she says. "You can't feel or touch a brand, but it must touch you and make you feel something. A brand is first and foremost a promise. And if you keep true to your promise, loyalty grows. And if you don't, it erodes, then people look for something else."

It's that belief in the power of brand that Berman channeled into the company she founded after leaving Burnett in 2008. A low-overhead creative company, unbundled specializes in high-quality strategic and creative expertise. The company has successfully shaped brands including American Greetings, Sky Zone, SKATIE, the Joffrey Ballet, Start Early, and Pharmacyclics. At the core of the agency's process is a unique branding workshop that Berman leads at her beachside home, allowing the environment to soak into the creative process.

As much as Berman is a traditionalist when it comes to branding, she's energized to find herself in the midst of an industry being turned upside down by AI. She's part of the world's first AI advertising agency, Ad Legends, which has a mission to pair brilliant technology with legendary human talent to create world-





Berman's Mobius Awards for excellence in television advertising.



Berman received the Cannes Advertising Festival Gold Lion for a McDonald's commercial.

"You can't feel or touch a brand, but it must touch you and make you feel something."

class work. Clients can interact with AI trained by ad business icons, and if clients wish to collaborate live with a real legend, that will be possible, too.

"I'm hoping to help humanize AI," she says. Coming from someone who broke through the boys' club of advertising to rise to the very top, penned songs sung by Christina Aguilera and Gloria Estefan, and challenged the status quo for decades, it's not difficult to believe she'll do just that.

On the topic of future plans, in the early 2000s, the *Wall Street Journal* hired her to review a few seasons of *Mad Men* and encouraged her to write her life story. After doing several rewrites over the years, she's planning to get the book published this year.

The book will be a testament to Berman's energy, passion, and wisdom—all of which are contagious. It's no accident that Berman followed so effectively in Burnett's footsteps, only to step off the beaten path, making a beeline to her own brand of success.

For more information about unbundled, visit unbundledcreative.com. For more information about Ad Legends, visit adlegends.ai.



Leo Burnett as AdWeek's cover story


Jonathan Merel

WHAT TO DO BEFORE YOU SAY "I DO"

Marriage is a major commitment. These five steps can help you build a stronger foundation—and avoid heartache down the road.

*WORDS BY **JONATHAN MEREL**, FOUNDER AND MANAGING PRINCIPAL OF MEREL FAMILY LAW*

Most people don't want to think about divorce before marriage—but the truth is, the best way to avoid divorce is to never end up in the wrong marriage to begin with. While happily ever after is never guaranteed, a good marriage starts with making intentional choices long before the wedding bells.

Here's what every couple should consider *before* saying "I do."

1. Stop Thinking You HAVE to Get Married
Society pushes a narrative: Date, get engaged, marry, have kids. But following that path just because it's "normal" can lead to major regret.

Marriage isn't a requirement for happiness or a cure-all for life's problems. And getting married just because you've hit a certain age—or because your friends are doing it—is often a fast track to misery.

If you're going to marry, make sure it's because you *want* to, not because you *feel obligated* to.

2. Choose the Right Partner—for the Right Reasons
Many divorces stem from marrying someone who wasn't a great match in the first place. Maybe you've been together for years and feel like marriage is just the next step. Maybe you're ignoring red flags and hoping things will magically get better.

Before committing, ask yourself:
- Do we share the same long-term goals?
- Can we handle conflict in a healthy way?
- Do I enjoy everyday life with this person?

If you're answering "no," it's worth taking a step back. Chemistry is important—but compatibility is what sustains a marriage.

3. Don't Let Passion Cloud Your Judgement
Yes, physical attraction matters—but it's not enough. Marrying someone you barely know because the spark is strong can backfire fast.

The honeymoon phase doesn't last forever. Build your relationship on friendship, communication, and shared values—not just passion.

4. ALWAYS Get a Prenup
A prenup isn't about mistrust—it's about maturity.

Prenuptial agreements help couples have honest financial conversations *before* marriage. They can protect businesses, inheritances, and assets—and save both parties from years of court battles if things go south.

If you're serious about love, be serious about protecting each other from unnecessary legal chaos.

5. Take Your Time
Not sure if they're "the one?" Feel like you're rushing into things? Take a breath.

Marriage is one of the biggest decisions of your life. There's no harm in waiting if it means gaining clarity. A bad marriage can cost you years, peace of mind, and financial stability.

The Bottom Line
Marriage can be beautiful—but it's not something you owe anyone. Don't let pressure from family, friends, or society push you into a lifelong commitment you're not ready for.

The best way to prevent divorce? Be honest—with yourself and your partner—before you ever walk down the aisle.

Merel Family Law is located at 440 W Randolph Avenue, 5th Floor, in Chicago; 595 Elm Place, Suite 225, in Highland Park; and 40 E Hinsdale Road, Suite 202, in Hinsdale. For more information, call 312-408-7000, visit merelfamilylaw.com, and follow @merelfamilylaw on social media.

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Back row: Chrissy Davis, Jenny Mulligan, Eva Rice, Katie Donovan, Kate Holland, Kate Rother
Front row: Shannon Shader, Wendy Franzen, Annie Liddle



Katy Collins, Molly Weinlader

PREVIEW PARTY

PHOTOGRAPHY BY WIDIA VITI

The Lake Forest Chapter of the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago hosted the sold-out opening night party to preview the 2025 Lake Forest Showhouse & Gardens. More than 700 guests were the first to see the transformed Pembroke Lodge Estate and celebrate the work of more than 45 top interior designers and landscapers. The evening featured lavish food stations with cuisine generously donated by jdR Companies' Chef John des Rosiers. Cambio Tequila cocktails were served along with dancing under the tent to the beats of top party band Maggie Speaks. The event was co-chaired by Devon Jeffers and Laura Werner and 2025 Showhouse co-chair Shannon Shader. The Showhouse is celebrating its 20th anniversary and every ticket purchased raised essential funds for the Infant Welfare Society. *lakeforestshowhouse.com*



Dustin O'Regan, Alexandra Nichols



Shannon Shader



Rotunda by Kaylan Kane Design

Photography by Heather Talbert



Liz Sherwood of White Couch Design, Kate Holland, Pim Alley

LIVING & GIVING



Marita Simmons, Krysta Gibbons



Jill Alberts and Charlie Mills

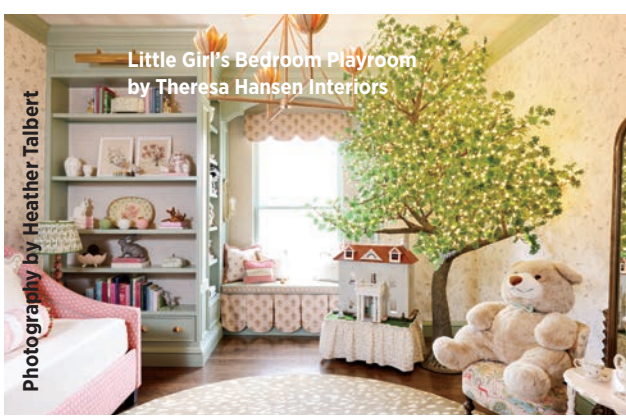


Showhouse co-chairs Shannon Shader, Jennifer Durburg, Susan Rolander, Dawn Talma, Barrett Erker, Cathy Crowley



Pool House Cabana by Meghan Jay Design

Photography by Heather Talbert



Little Girl's Bedroom Playroom by Theresa Hansen Interiors

Photography by Heather Talbert



Kim Conatser



Kathy Fletcher



Cassie Buccellato, Jennifer Keenan, Laura White



Eloise Vollmer, Stella Mytty, Frances Wilson, Elena Victoria, Coco Zabel, Murphy Foster, Caidyn Lowry



Claudia Cramer, Courtney Miller, Holly Nesbitt

RUMC FASHION SHOW

PHOTOGRAPHY BY COLE WILKINSON

Spring was in the air at the sold-out RUSH University Medical Center (RUMC) Junior Auxiliary Board Fashion Show held at The Glen View Club in Golf. Area retailers Bunny & Babe, Elena Victoria, Lillie Alexander, ENAZ, Gigi's Closette, LuxLab, and Styles & Smiles provided stunning fashions ranging from casual day wear to full-length gowns. Led by Parent Advisor co-chairs Kelly Mangel and Emily Tzur, the Rush Junior Board, comprised of more than 100 girls from New Trier Township, raised nearly $80,000 for RUMC from their three major fundraisers: a fall car wash; a holiday tea; and a spring fashion show. *jrboardrumc.org*



Maggie Elvart



Julia Bukta



Stella Mytty



Frances Wilson, Stella Mytty, Coco Zabel



Morgan and Courtney Mathy

DOWNTOWN EVENTS

THERE'S MORE TO ENJOY IN 2025

A brand new season of events and festivals is headed to Downtown Highland Park from June until October. Savor the season with live music, delicious dining, and tons of **FREE** family fun. Head to **enjoyhp.com** or scan the QR code for more information.

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JUNE 20 & 21
5 PM - 10 PM

VINTAGE CAR SHOW

SEPTEMBER 6
12 PM - 4 PM

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OCTOBER 11
5 PM - 9 PM

Plus, get ready for an **extended** season of weekly Friday evening concerts from July 11 - September 19. Don't miss the September 26 Finale & Scarecrow Trail!

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6 PM - 8 PM

FINALE & SCARECROW TRAIL
SEPTEMBER 26, 4 PM - 8 PM

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City of Highland Park









Animal Magnetism co-emcee Fred with adoptable puppy Gecko



Animal Magnetism co-emcee Jake Hamilton with Dr. Ronnie Fox



Danielle DeCamp with Sebastian

ANIMAL MAGNETISM

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DANIELLE HEINSON AND EVAN COBB

PAWS Chicago's sold-out 18th annual Animal Magnetism event raised a record-breaking $300,000 to support homeless and at-risk pets. Over 600 guests—and many furry companions—enjoyed a vibrant evening at Morgan Manufacturing featuring food from top Chicago restaurants, lively auctions, and pet-friendly fun including doggy portraits and a canine buffet. Presented by Becker's Healthcare and hosted by PAWS Chicago's Professional Board, the event was co-chaired by Alyssa Gregory, Danielle Kroloff, and Ritu Shah. Jake Hamilton of FOX 32 and Fred from 103.5 KISS FM emceed the night. Since PAWS relies entirely on community support, events like Animal Magnetism are vital to sustaining its No Kill mission and lifesaving programs. *pawschicago.org*



Canine guest Sammy in the City



Marcela Giegerich with Barnes



Back: Laura Lowderan, Victoria Howard, Elly Greenspahn, Jennifer Dahl
Front: Helen Kalantzis, Beth McMahon, Marcela Giegerich, Melissa Canning, Shanna Nickolic



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Gala co-chairs, Daisy and Jamie Tolles, Eliza and Mark Johnson, Julie Brandt and Tim Lange, Sara and Brian Lewis, Leigh Morrison and Interim Head of School Tom Johnson



Lynn and Ned Jessen

LAKE FOREST ACADEMY'S GALA 2025

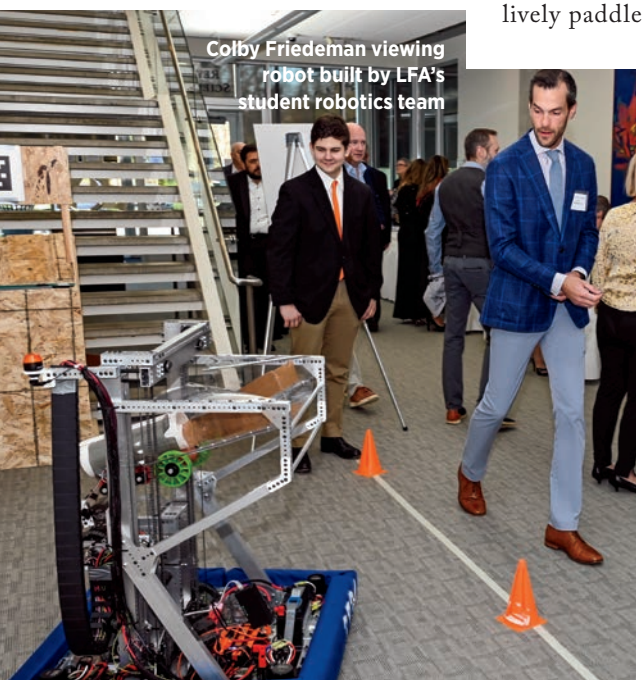
PHOTOGRAPHY BY GEORGE PFOERTNER

Experiential education took center stage at Lake Forest Academy's annual Gala this spring. At LFA, learning is most impactful and lasting when students actively engage with the world around them. Through retreats, experiential learning-focused clubs, field trips, and global travel, students develop critical thinking, collaboration, and adaptability. Thanks to the generous support of the LFA community at Gala 2025, these transformative opportunities will continue to grow for all students. Led by co-chairs Julie Brandt and Timothy Lange, Sara and Brian Lewis, Daisy Wood Tolles, and Eliza Walters Johnson and Mark Johnson, the event featured camaraderie, dinner, student performances, and a lively paddle raise. *lfanet.org/gala2025*





Kara Harchuck Schmitz



Colby Friedeman viewing robot built by LFA's student robotics team



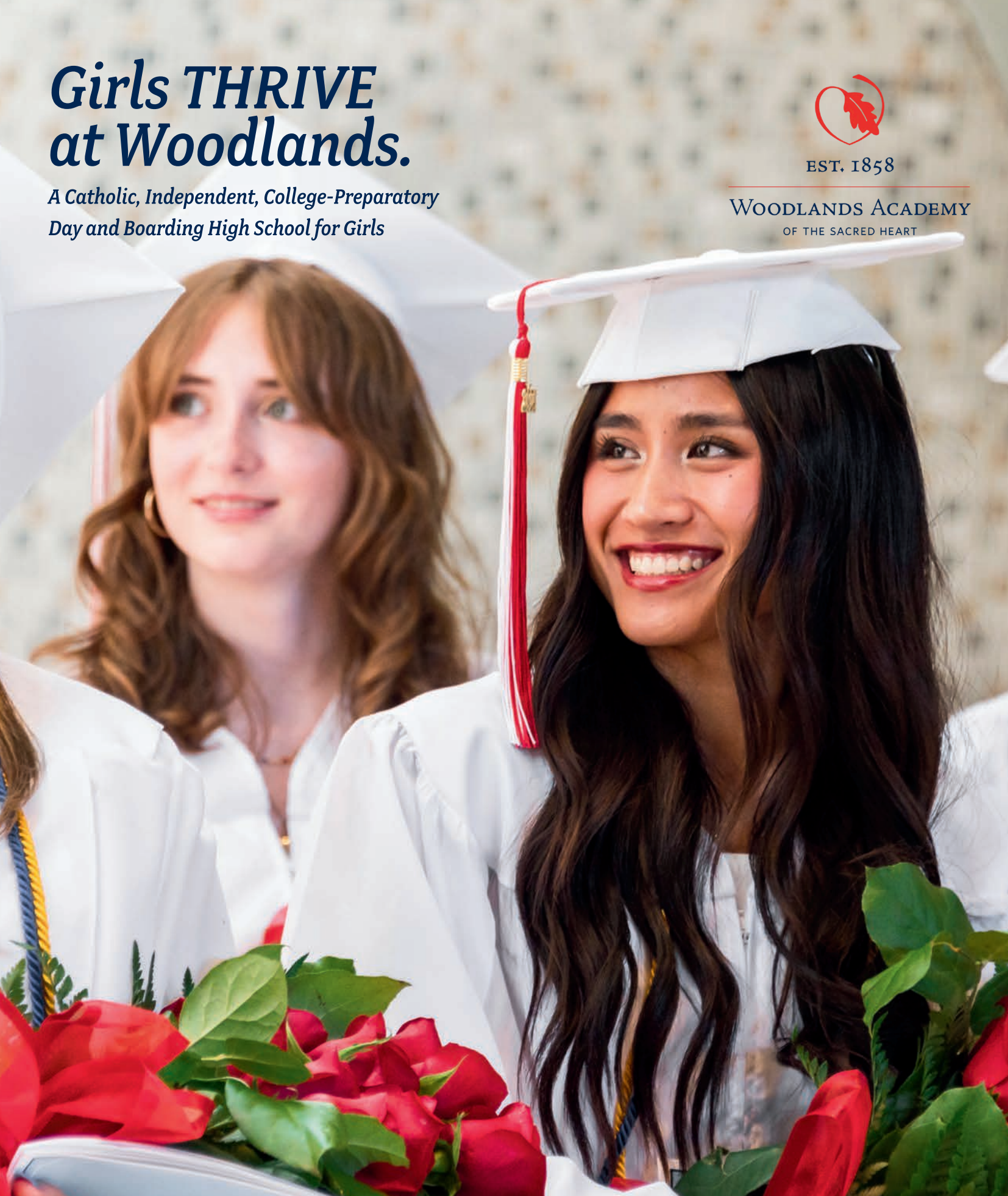
Anokhi Bock, Lei (Grace) Wang, Lisa Chang, Diana Qiu, Cindy Bai, Luke Chang, David Huang, Kevin Yang

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Paws for Patrick therapy dog Sutter



Ben and Adriane McKnight with Ollie, Jess and John Newell with Max



Elizabeth Malone

PAWS FOR A CAUSE

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MINDY GARFINKLE

Paws for Patrick hosted its third annual Paws for a Cause benefit at Pinstripes in Northbrook, raising funds to improve young people's mental health through its Emotional Support Animals and Therapy Dogs programs. At the sold-out event, 300 attendees enjoyed cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, silent and live auctions, a paddle raise, and a musical performance by the Modern Day Romeos. *pawsforpatrick.org*



Artbeat Live artist Elliott From painting Chicago's skyline for the auction.



Steve and Fronzie Roemer



Michael Rourke, Christina and Rob Rourke, Spencer Silvernail



Natalie Daverman, Cara Snyder with Honey, Kate Neal, and Lauren Edelston with Bella

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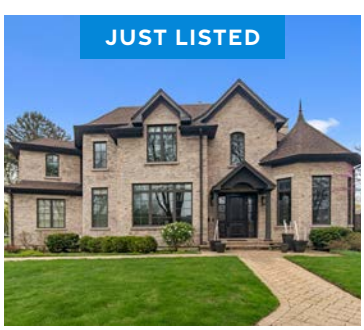
2087 MAGNOLIA LN, Highland Park
listed at $1,150,000



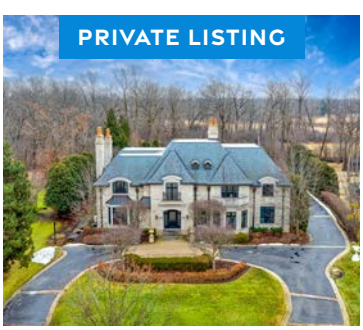
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Dara Caponigro, Honorary Chair Mary McDonald



Michelle Taubensee, Courtney Magliochetti

HONORARY CHAIR LECTURE & LUNCH

PHOTOGRAPHY BY WIDIA VITI

Award-winning, internationally published interior designer Mary McDonald joined Dara Caponigro—Chief Creative Officer of F. Schumacher & Co. and Editor-in-Chief of *FREDERIC* magazine—for the sold-out Honorary Chair Lecture & Lunch at the Lake Forest Showhouse & Gardens. The dynamic conversation captivated the audience, who enjoyed signature bites, sandwiches, and salads from SPACE 519's The Lunchroom. Attendees also received an advance copy of Caponigro's latest book, *Glorious Gardens: Private Edens of the World's Leading Interior Designers* and were treated to an exclusive tour of the beautifully reimagined Pembroke Lodge. *lakeforestshowhouse.com*



Annie Barlow, Kimberly Burt, Lance Lawson



Megan Engelberg, Katie Donovan



Photography by Cynthia McCullough

Front Porch of the 2025 Lake Forest Showhouse & Gardens



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THE EFFICACY OF KETAMINE FOR MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS

A promising new treatment or a fad?

WORDS BY ***RACHEL E. NORRIS, M.D.*** */ PHOTOGRAPHY BY* ***KATRINA WITTKAMP***
STYLING BY ***THERESA DEMARIA*** */ HAIR AND MAKEUP BY* ***LEANNA ERNEST***

Over the last decade, ketamine—once considered a party drug and a veterinary anesthetic—has emerged as a revolutionary treatment for mental health disorders, particularly depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). With the mental health crisis growing in severity, many are turning to this psychedelic substance with the hope that it might offer relief where traditional medications have fallen short. But as enthusiasm for ketamine's potential continues to rise, it's essential to weigh both the promising findings and the unanswered questions surrounding its use in mental health care.

Ketamine's reputation in psychiatry has shifted dramatically since the 2000s. Initially studied for its anesthetic properties, researchers stumbled upon its profound antidepressant effects, particularly for individuals who hadn't responded to conventional treatments like selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs). Unlike traditional antidepressants, which can take weeks or even months to show significant effects, ketamine has demonstrated rapid action—often relieving symptoms of depression within hours or days. This immediate relief is a game-changer for those experiencing severe depressive episodes or suicidal thoughts, where waiting for other medications to take effect can be a matter of life and death.

Ketamine is thought to work by targeting the brain's glutamate system, which plays a key role in mood regulation and synaptic plasticity. It appears to help "reset" the brain by promoting the growth of new neural connections. This mechanism of action differs greatly from that of SSRIs, which primarily impact serotonin levels. Ketamine's potential for creating lasting changes in brain connectivity offers hope for patients with treatment-resistant depression, a group who often feel trapped by their mental health conditions after exhausting traditional therapies.

However, as with any new treatment, the long-term effects of ketamine remain unclear. While its rapid action is undoubtedly attractive, it is not without risk. Some studies suggest that repeated use of ketamine, particularly outside of clinical settings, can lead to addiction or bladder issues. The "dissociative" effects of the drug, which can cause altered perceptions of reality, may also be troubling for certain patients. The very nature of ketamine's psychedelic effects means that it's crucial to administer the treatment in a controlled setting under medical supervision to avoid misuse or harm.

Despite these uncertainties, the enthusiasm surrounding ketamine is undeniable. Clinics offering ketamine infusion therapy have proliferated in recent years, and many patients report experiencing significant improvements. In particular, people with severe depression or suicidal tendencies often experience immediate relief, which can help them engage in other therapeutic interventions or develop coping strategies.


Dr. Rachel E. Norris

In conclusion, ketamine represents an exciting frontier in mental health treatment. Its rapid effects and potential to aid those with treatment-resistant conditions make it a valuable tool in psychiatry. However, caution is necessary. As with any emerging treatment, careful research, oversight, and long-term studies are required to ensure its safety and efficacy. While ketamine may not be a magic bullet, it could well be a groundbreaking addition to the arsenal of tools available for treating mental health disorders—provided its use is carefully managed and understood.

Brain Health Restoration of Illinois is located at 1111 N. Plaza Drive, Suite 101, in Schaumburg, 224-208-1247, bhrillinois.com, @bhrillinois.

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Alex Papadopoulos

BUILDING **WEALTH** WITH **PURPOSE**

Egéa Wealth Management's Vision for a Sustainable Future.

*WORDS BY **JANIS MVK***
*PHOTOGRAPHY BY **MAGGIE RIFE PONCE***
*STYLING BY **THERESA DEMARIA***

Planning for a fulfilling financial future can be complex, especially for those seeking prosperity and purpose. In an era where capital can be a force for positive change, discerning investors are increasingly looking to align their wealth with their values. For more than 25 years, Alex Papadopoulos, President and Senior Financial Advisor of Egéa Wealth Management, has guided affluent individuals, families, and institutions through thoughtful, forward-looking investment strategies grounded in sustainability.

From the outset of his career, Papadopoulos was drawn to the concept of sustainable investing. "Early on, I was fortunate to work with academics and professionals near Northwestern University who were deeply engaged in environmental and social impact investing," he recalls. "Their insights helped shape a philosophy that still guides our firm today."

That early influence became the foundation of Egéa Wealth Management's mission: to deliver sophisticated financial solutions that not only generate returns but also contribute to lasting global impact.

"Our belief is simple," says Papadopoulos. "Sustainable investing is not just about financial performance—it's about fostering meaningful change."

At Egéa, sustainability is embedded into every client relationship and investment strategy. The firm designs bespoke Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) portfolios for high-net-worth individuals, family offices, endowments, and mission-driven institutions. Whether advising entrepreneurs in transition, families preparing for generational wealth transfer, or retirees seeking stability with impact, Egéa's team offers deeply personalized financial guidance.

With specialized expertise in retirement planning, income strategies, and ESG integration, Egéa helps clients navigate pivotal life moments while remaining true to their values. "Our role is to ensure that wealth not only endures, but evolves with purpose," Papadopoulos explains. "Whether assisting clients in achieving a secure retirement or aligning organizational capital with ethical commitments, we tailor strategies to support both prosperity and progress."

A hallmark of Egéa's approach is its emphasis on knowledge and credibility. Papadopoulos holds the Chartered SRI Counselor™ (CSRIC®) designation—earned by fewer than 2 percent of financial advisors in the United States—signifying advanced expertise in sustainable and responsible investment principles.

"In an industry driven by constant change, we help clients rise above market noise and focus on long-term opportunity," he adds. This strategic perspective has supported strong performance: Sustainable investing assets have nearly tripled since 2020, with $30 trillion invested globally in sustainable assets, according to Morningstar Direct as of March 2024. The clean energy transition and sustainable technology require up to $5 trillion in spending per year and should create continual long-term investment opportunities.

As sustainable investing continues to gain momentum, Egéa Wealth Management remains at the forefront, combining technical excellence with a vision for a better world. For investors seeking more than returns, Egéa offers a clear path: one where financial success and social responsibility go hand in hand.

"At Egéa," says Papadopoulos, "sustainable investing isn't just part of our business—it's our passion."

Egéa Wealth Management is located at 721 Chicago Avenue in Evanston, 847-563-3150, egeasri.com, @egeasri.

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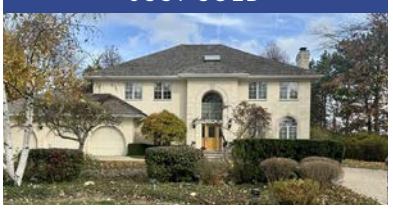
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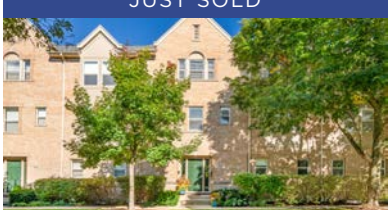
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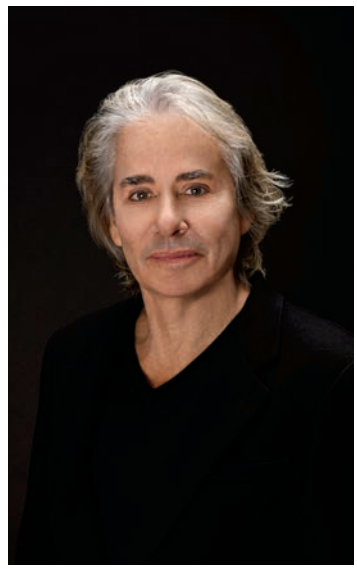
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Publisher's Profile

WORDS BY
STEVEN BLOCH, M.D.
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
MONICA KASS ROGERS

PLASTIC SURGERY UPDATE:

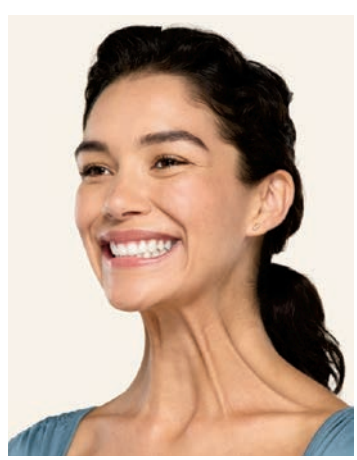
Botox Cosmetic
New Indication

At some point as part of the aging process most of us hate the way our neck looks. As we age the vertical bands in our neck connecting the jaw and neck become more pronounced. The vertical bands are caused by the contracture of the platysmal bands which becomes more noticeable as we age due to loss of collagen and elastin in the overlying skin and overall laxity of skin with aging.

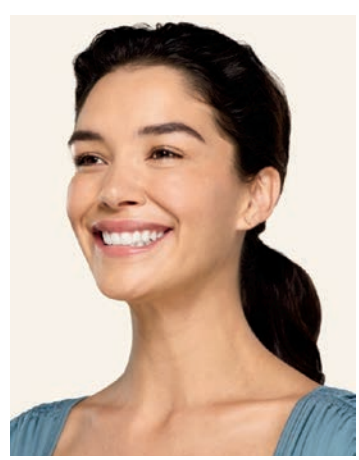
Botox cosmetic works beneath the surface and temporarily reduces the underlying platysmal muscle activity for a temporarily improved look of moderate to severe vertical bands of the neck.

Botox cosmetic is the first and only product of its kind that is now FDA approved to treat platysmal banding. I have personally been treating platysmal banding of the neck off label for years but with this new approval and revised guidelines I believe a more thorough outcome can be achieved.

As an introductory offer for this new indication we are offering a $200 discount on botox injections for vertical neck bands when combined with Botox injections to either the forehead or crows feet.



BEFORE



AFTER

For additional information, visit bodybybloch.com or Dr. Bloch can be reached at his Highland Park office at 847-432-0840.

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PROACTIVE VS. **REACTIVE** MEDICAL CARE

Taking care of your health before something goes wrong—just like routine car maintenance—can save you pain, time, and money in the long run.

*WORDS BY **CHIRAG PATEL, M.D.**, CEO, HANSA MEDICAL GROUPE*
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MONICA KASS ROGERS



For generations and even now, we go see the doctor mostly when something is wrong. An ache or pain, fever, or fatigue are a few of many symptoms that we seek out help for. What if I told you that we aren't using our doctors in the best way?

When I speak to patients about their health and wellness, I often use the analogy of owning a car. As Americans, owning and caring for a car has been a rite of passage for generations and now families often own multiple automobiles. We take care of our cars, by consistently going for oil filter changes, swapping out summer tires for winter ones, and getting a new registration license plate sticker each year. We don't wait for the engine light to go on for these preventative measures. Why not let the motor blow up and replace that instead of the oil change? How about risk driving in snow with summer tread tires? Or just pay expensive tickets instead of registering the license plate? It seems we do that with our bodies and health more than we think and should.

In 2022, there were approximately 155 million Emergency Department (ED) visits and around 20 percent of adults had one or more urgent care visits. Health statistical studies show 32.1 percent of ED visits are non-urgent and avoidable. One commercial health insurance company found 18 million out of 27 million visits were avoidable.

This brings me to how I advise my patients to be proactive versus reactive. See the doctor when nothing is wrong, discuss a preventative care plan, to avoid health issues and reduce the chance of ED visits or urgent care utilization. Depending on your health insurance there could be co-pays and other costs associated with seeing the doctor, but that will dwarf an ER visit or hospitalization out-of-pocket expense.

Common topics to discuss with your doctor depend on your health, current medications, and prior history of medical problems. For some patients I recommend monthly checks, while others may be more or less frequent. Mammograms, gynecological exams, a prostate check, and colonoscopies are all preventative recommendations. However, checking blood pressure, sugar or glucose, heart rate, pulse, and pulse oximeter, and a heart and lung exam are also key indicators to keep track of.

Back to my car comparison, the recommendation and visit frequency depend on the type of car (male or female), how long you have had it (age), and driving history (clinical history).

So, ask your physician about a preventative care plan and invest in your health early and often. If the doctor is not really interested in prevention, perhaps obtain a second opinion or maybe a change is due.

The bottom-line is don't let your motor blow up and get regular check-ups when nothing feels wrong or there is no engine light on—you will feel better, stay healthier, and avoid the mechanic or doctor for expensive avoidable repairs.

Hansa Medical Groupe has offices at 5250 Old Orchard Road, Suite 300, in Skokie, and in Chicago, 847-920-0902, hansamedicalgroupe.com.

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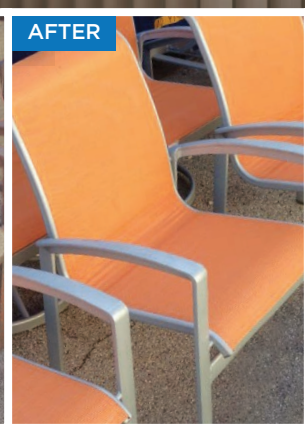




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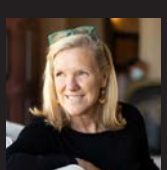
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PARTING WORDS

SCHOOL OF HOPE

Dave Tolmie supports Tanzania's Faraja School, a primary school for children with physical disabilities.

WORDS BY ***ANN MARIE SCHEIDLER*** */ ILLUSTRATION BY* ***ROBERT RISKO***

"It's never too late to make a difference," says Lake Forest's Dave Tolmie. "My mom and dad were each 70 years old when they founded the Faraja School in Tanzania, Africa." In 2001, Tolmie's parents, Don and Joann, went to Tanzania with their Lutheran church. "One day, my parents asked what was being done for the children with disabilities they saw," he recalls. "They were told that children can go to vocational training school if they receive a primary school education first. But at the time, there were no primary schools for children with disabilities."

To the couple's surprise, the church had already drawn up plans to build a school. They were simply waiting for the right people to help. The Tolmies were those people. "My parents had taken lots of trips like this to India, China, and Europe. They weren't out looking for a project, but they knew they were the ones to help build this school."

After discussing it with their three sons, the Tolmies made Faraja School their family's mission (*faraja* means comfort or hope in Swahili). Less than a year later, the school welcomed its first students.

Located on a 35-acre campus, surrounded by Mt. Kilimanjaro and called "Miracle by the Mountain" by the locals, Faraja School provides physically disabled children education, compassion, medical treatment, and an opportunity for a life of purpose and self-sufficiency. At this only school of its kind in Kilimanjaro, a region with the highest percentage of children with disabilities, students live in a boarding school-like environment where they share responsibilities and learn to rely on themselves and each other.



Today, Faraja has more than 100 students in kindergarten through Level 7, with a waiting list of nearly as many, and has graduated 10 classes.

In addition to providing a safe place to live and an education that ranks among the top five percent of all schools in Tanzania, Faraja provides students access to medical treatment that may strengthen their physical bodies and their self-esteem.

Tolmie is chairman of the Faraja Foundation, which provides financial support for the school. "When we celebrated our 20th anniversary, our board asked, 'What will the next 20 years look like?'" he recalls. "After commissioning a study with a leading Tanzanian research group, we started a new program called Faraja Forward. This is a mobile clinic that can reach the most rural areas. Many of these children have never seen a doctor. And we're trying to do more for their mothers. Many times, fathers abandon the family when a disabled child is born. The hope, emotional support, and the uplift we offer mothers is astounding."

"With Faraja Forward, we are trying to expand our impact and go from helping hundreds of disabled children to helping thousands. It's about giving all people the chance to live with dignity."

Most of the initial funding for Faraja came from the Tolmies' family and friends. Several members of the Board of Directors and many annual donors are from Lake Forest and the greater Chicago area. Now, with the bigger endeavor of Faraja Forward, the Faraja Foundation has hired its first executive director, Jeryl Levin, who is leading the effort to secure larger institutional grants. Last year, the foundation raised more than $1.1 million.

"Disabilities are the forgotten health care crisis," Tolmie explains. "As some programs are stepping back, we are stepping up. That is our calling, and we're doing it as fast as our funding and programming allow." The impact has been evident in the students' successes in the classroom and after graduation. Many alumni are healthcare workers, accountants, IT professionals, or operate their own small businesses.

"Hundreds of graduates are living fuller lives, light years from where they started," Tolmie recounts. "They are a beacon of hope for other children with disabilities of what can happen with the proper love, support, and training. My dad used to say that if this is something that appeals to you, we would love to have you join our mission. But if it doesn't, we hope this story moves you to help others. That's part of the mission here. We're all in this together. The takeaway should be, if we all live beyond ourselves, we can make a difference in the lives of those who need it most."

To learn more about the Faraja School and how you can help, visit farajaschool.org.

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