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TIME OUT! Neighbor Fun things to do this week in the Northwest suburbs

Mane Event

FRIDAY'S PARTY KICKS OFF MILLION WEEKEND AT ARLINGTON PARK

By SHEILA AHERN
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The only missing thing from the annual Mane Event will be the winner's circle.

The pre-party for the Arlington Million will be held Friday from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. in downtown Arlington Heights, at Vail Avenue and Campbell Street. The free event is open to the public.

The Mane Event — also known as the "Million Dollar Block Party," previews the Arlington Million, the most anticipated race of the year at Arlington Park, since it draws horses and racing fans from around the globe.

The event was created in 2000 to engage village residents in the excitement surrounding the Arlington Million and to solidify the village's partnership with Arlington Park. The event started with Ponies on Parade, Arlington Heights' take on Chicago's cows, and has expanded to include an

If you go

The 2008 Mane Event in downtown Arlington Heights

When: 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. Friday

Where: downtown Arlington Heights, at Vail Avenue and Campbell Street

Cost: Free with free parking after 6 p.m. in the commuter surface lots along Northwest Highway; in the Municipal Garage at Arlington Heights Road and Sigwalt; and the commuter lot "O" across from the Municipal Garage at Arlington Heights Road and Sigwalt.

Call: (847) 368-5100

array of attractions.

The Metropolis Youth Symphony will perform from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and ARRA, a classic rock band, will take the stage from 8 to 10:30 p.m. The event also will

feature a business expo, with more than 60 local businesses setting up displays and booths. Local restaurants will sell food and drinks and beer and wine will be available.

For children, there will be pony rides, a moon jump, balloon artists, an inflatable "Pony Racer" course and other activities.

The Arlington Heights Memorial Library's "Reading Railroad" train float will also be displayed. After the event, the float will be auctioned off on eBay with proceeds going to the Friends of the Library.

Free parking is available after 6 p.m. in the commuter surface lots located along Northwest Highway, in the Municipal Garage at Arlington Heights Road and Sigwalt, and the new commuter Parking Lot O, across from the Municipal Garage at Arlington Heights Road and Sigwalt.

For information about the Mane Event, visit vah.com or call (847) 368-5104.



Avery Gorey, left, and Sophia Brown, then 3 and 2, respectively, stop to pop bubbles during last year's Mane Event.

DAILY HERALD FILE PHOTO, 2007



Hundreds of people are expected to crowd Vail Avenue in downtown Arlington Heights Friday for the Mane event.

DAILY HERALD FILE PHOTO, 2005

Greek Days comes to Long Grove

Long Grove is going Greek this weekend with another summer festival.

Greek Days will be held on Saturday and Sunday near the Long Grove Cafe, 235 Robert Parker Coffin Road, and Mill Pond shops. Bill Hristakos, owner of the Cafe, started the festivities to honor his heritage. The weekend will include Greek food, such as lamb and baklava, dancing and music.



Nadia Malik
 Local beat

The Saturday entertainment schedule has Vassilli Peroulas at noon; belly dancers at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.; Terran's Greek Band at 2 p.m.; and the Hellenic Five at 4 p.m. Sunday's entertainment includes Andreas Georgas at noon; belly dancers at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.; The Athenian Duet at 2 p.m.; and Terran's Greek Band at 4 p.m.

The festival itself will be from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Besides the live entertainment, the event will also include Agora Marketplace Arts and Crafts and a Mount Olympus climbing wall.

Admission and parking are both free. For information, call the Long Grove Cafe at (847) 955-9600.

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Giving back: The cast of the Buffalo Grove Park District production of "The Music Man" was able to collect more than \$13,000 for flood victims during the musical's run.

Jeff Berman, village trustee and a participant in the show, said the second weekend raised \$1,655. The six shows together raised \$3,165, and other checks came in for a total of \$5,615.

The McCormick Foundation also agreed to a 50 percent match, bringing the total to \$13,170.

The money will go to Neighbors in Need 2008, a disaster relief campaign for Midwest flood victims.

Exceptional students: Three eighth-grade graduates of Aptakisic-Tripp Elementary District 102 were recently given the Bob Basofin and Douglas Parks awards by the PTO.

The Bob Basofin award is given to a student who has shown outstanding commitment and leadership during his or her tenure in the district. Two \$50 savings bonds were given to Joshua Sushan and Rachita Vasan.

The Douglas Parks award is given to a student who exhibits loyalty, a pursuit of excellence, good citizenship, caring, respect, trustworthiness, fairness, honesty and accountability. The \$100 savings bond this year was given to Anne Orlov.

• Do you have any interesting Buffalo Grove, Long Grove or Wheeling story ideas? Pass them along to Nadia Malik at (847) 427-4489 or nmalik@dailyherald.com.

What's on your mind?

Share your views with the Daily Herald by e-mailing us at neighborlet@dailyherald.com to have your comments included in the Neighbor Fencepost.

Where cultures come together

Punjabi Sports Festival returns to Palatine celebrating health and fitness



The colorful Punjabi Sports Festival parade walked down Devon Avenue in Chicago last year; the 2008 version will go travel through Community Park in Palatine.

By LIA LEHRER
 lehrer@dailyherald.com

The Punjabi Cultural Society's 14th annual Punjabi Sports Festival will be back in Palatine this weekend.

The Indian-based sports and entertainment festival returns to the suburbs — and the Palatine Park District — after last year's event was held on the North side of Chicago.

"The purpose of this event is to bring people out so they can bond with each other, have fun and play games," said Amarjit Atwal, president of the organization.

Palatine Mayor Rita Mullins, who opens the ceremony every year, said the sports festival is usually held in Palatine because the village is home to both the cultural organization and the Sikh Religious Society, the prayer

If you go

14th annual Punjabi Sports Festival, Palatine Park District Community Center, 250 E. Wood St., Palatine.

9 a.m. Games begin
 Noon Parade through park; free lunch
 3 p.m. Kabaddi game
 6 p.m. Festival ends

Cost: No charge

More information: pcschicago.org

center for many Chicagoans from the Punjab region on the border of India and Pakistan.

"It's an opportunity for the

See **FESTIVAL** on **PAGE 4**

Village spending \$125,000 to spruce up some medians

The village board approved spending \$125,000 Monday to spruce up medians for the northern part of Arlington Heights Road. The medians will include trees and grass. Starting this week, Arlington Heights Road from Rand Road north to University Drive was narrowed from four lanes to two while workers repave and improve the roadway, curbs and gutters.

The \$1.7 million project will last until November. All of the curbs, gutters and storm sewers will be replaced and the entire portion of the road will be resurfaced, according to a Cook County Highway Department spokesman.

While the county will pay to fix their road, they weren't



Sheila Ahern
 Local beat

planning on making it look too pretty. They wanted to leave the flat cement medians as is, according to a village memo.

So the village coughed up \$125,000 to make the medians look better.

You call that a storm? Arlington Heights residents lucked out during Monday night's storm. Some DuPage, Kane and Cook county officials will spend the week cleaning up after a strong

summer thunderstorm that blew through Chicago and neighboring suburbs late Monday night.

ComEd crews said about 238,000 customers — 102,000 in Chicago — remained without power Tuesday morning due to the powerful storms that carried wind gusts up to 80 miles an hour, hail, and possibly tornadoes.

The storms hit the suburbs causing damage in several neighborhoods, a tornado warning in downtown Chicago and evacuation of fans from the stands at Wrigley Field.

On the other hand, Arlington Heights saw very little damage. By Tuesday afternoon village officials received no phone calls

about flooding or trees down. It appeared everyone's lights stayed on, said Village Manager Bill Dixon.

"We were very fortunate," he said. The village received 2.3 inches of rain, he said.

Look out Harry: The local Twilight Book Club will meet from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library, 500 N. Dunton. Fans of the vampire fantasy series by Stephenie Meyer are invited to the Twilight book discussion, which is open readers ages 11 and older. Register at www.ahml.info or call (847) 392-0100. "Breaking Dawn," the fourth of Meyer's teen vampire series, sold 1.3 million copies in

the first 24 hours after its midnight, Aug. 2 release.

In closing: You can now find out about recent crime sprees, either online or by simply checking your cell phone. The Arlington Heights Police Department signed up with CitizenObserver to provide village residents and businesses crime alerts and prevention information through e-mail and text messaging. CitizenObserver works with more than 300 law enforcement agencies in 30 states. The idea is to get relevant and timely information to prevent crimes and maybe solve them. The system also allows users to send anonymous tips. Sign up at www.citizenobserver.com.

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Mt. Prospect library card is the key to discounts, freebies

Your Mount Prospect Public Library card will become much more valuable during September.

In celebration of National Library Card Sign-Up Month, the library and 19 local businesses and other entities are teaming up to shower library patrons with assorted discounts and gifts.

For instance, Vino 100, 110 S. Emerson, will offer a free travelers corkscrew to anyone who shows their library card and makes a purchase of \$10 or more.

At Steak 'n Shake, 201 E. Euclid Ave., card holders will get a free small order of



Jean Murphy
Mount Prospect/
Prospect Heights

french fries with any purchase. The UPS Store, 119 S. Emerson St., will offer 10 percent off any service.

Mount Prospect Child Care, 406-408 E. Northwest Hwy., will waive its registration fee and offer a small gift. Byte Me Computers, 718 E. Northwest Hwy., will offer 25 percent off on labor.

Carolynn Muci, marketing/

public relations director for the library, says she got the idea from the Naperville Public Library and presented the idea to the Downtown Merchants Association for feedback.

"They were enthusiastic, so I sent information about the program to all of the members of both the Downtown Merchants Association and the Mount Prospect Chamber of Commerce ... and we ended up with 19 participants," she said. "Not bad for the first year."

September is the month when most libraries encourage residents to sign up for

library cards.

But in Mount Prospect, fully 82 percent of households already have cards, "so our aim is to reward people for having a library card," Muci added.

Posters announcing the program and the participating businesses will begin showing up around town soon. In addition, the library Web site, www.mpppl.org, will explain the various offers and provide links to the Web sites of the participating businesses.

'Bee Movie': The Mount Prospect Park District will host

its final outdoor movie of the summer at dusk Friday at the Veterans Memorial Bandshell at Lions Park, 411 S. Maple St. No admission will be charged.

This week's featured show is "Bee Movie," starring the voices of Jerry Seinfeld and Renee Zellweger.

Popcorn, snacks, ice cream and drinks will be available for purchase. So take your blanket and chairs to Lions Park to enjoy this family movie.

Adult Fall Softball: The Mount Prospect Park District is accepting registration for fall

softball leagues at RecPlex, 420 W. Dempster St., from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Phone registration is also accepted at (847) 956-5353 with a credit card. Payment in full is required at the time of registration.

Both Monday and Wednesday "A" and Tuesday and Thursday "B" leagues are available. Play begins Sept. 15 and each team plays 10 games. ASA rules apply, gloves are optional and the 10-run rule applies. Game times are 7, 8 and 9 p.m.

For details, call Bob Ancona at (847) 640-1000.

Fundraisers

• To have an event listed in this calendar, e-mail the details at least two weeks in advance of the event or registration deadline to nbrcalendar@dailyherald.com. Please put "Fundraisers" in the subject line.

Corey Diamond Memorial Fundraiser: 6:30-11 p.m. Aug. 8, Arlington Bowling Lanes, 3435 N. Kennicott Ave., Arlington Heights. Includes dinner, dessert, open bowl-

ing, Baggo and other games, raffles, prizes. Proceeds will benefit local music, art and community service programs. www.coreydiamondmemorialfund.org.

Car Show/Fundraiser: 2-6:30 p.m. Sundays through Aug. 31, Historic Methodist Campground of Des Plaines at Algonquin Road, east of River Road, Des Plaines. Awards for first-, second- and third-

place trophy; \$10 application fee, includes parking. Food, swimming pool, children's moon jump. Vendor and swap spaces available; RC truck racecourse available. For other costs and details, visit www.methodistcampground.org or e-mail carshow@methodistcampground.org

Movie night: Aug. 16, St. Emily Parish Center, 1400 E. Cen-

tral Road, Mount Prospect. Eighth-grade class is raising funds for a trip to Washington, D.C., after graduation next spring. (847) 390-0681.

Oakton at Arlington: Aug. 16, Arlington Park. Supports the Oakton Education Foundation Student Scholarship fund. Includes auctions, luncheon buffet, open bar, horse racing. \$85. Call (847) 635-1893.

Health and fitness

• To have an event listed in this calendar, e-mail the details at least two weeks in advance of the event or registration deadline to nbrcalendar@dailyherald.com. Please put "Health & fitness" in the subject line.

Triathlons: Adults ages 18 and older and youth ages 7 to 14 may sign up for the triathlons in Elk Grove Village, which will be Aug. 16. Registration is being taken up to Aug. 8 at the Pavilion front desk, 1000 Wellington Ave., Elk Grove Village. Race packet pickup is from noon to 7 p.m. Aug. 15 at the Pavilion. The swim

portion will be at the Pavilion outdoor pool. Biking begins from Pirates' Cove and continues through neighborhood streets. For details, including award categories, visit www.elkgroveparks.org or call Claire at (847) 228-3539.

Breast Friends: 10:20 a.m.-noon Aug. 9, Cancer Wellness Center, 215 Revere Drive, Northbrook. Breast Friends is an activity-based group in which breast cancer survivors will get together to connect with one another. Program offered at no charge for those living with breast can-

cer. RSVP to (847) 509-9595.

Punjabi Sports Festival 2008: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Aug. 10, Palatine Park District, 250 E. Wood St., Palatine. 14th annual health-care community fun fair features sports games for men, women, youth and children of all ages; demonstrations; performances; and more. Admission is free. www.PCSChicago.org.

Sleep techniques: 5:30-7 p.m. Aug. 12, Cancer Wellness Center, 215 Revere Drive, Northbrook. Program discusses techniques for falling asleep, tips for better sleep hygiene, as well as natural sleep remedies and sleep medication. Program offered at no charge for those living with cancer and their loved ones. RSVP to (847) 509-9595.

Festival: Games a good way to learn about others

Continued from Page 1

community to come and observe the Sikh community while having fun participating in the traditional games of the Punjab region of India," Mullins said.

About 700 to 800 people from all over the Midwest are expected to attend the free festival at the Palatine Park District Community Center, 250 E. Wood St., Palatine.

The festival will include organized games of soccer, volleyball, musical chairs and a three-legged race. But the main attraction of the day is Kabaddi, a Punjabi game of tag and tackling. Sports teams had to register by last week, but Atwal said the games are a lot of fun for spectators as well.

A colorful parade of drummers, dignitaries, banners and balloons will officially kick off the festival in the park at noon Sunday. Following the parade, everyone is invited to eat free food, including choke (a chick pea dish), jalebis (deep-fried desserts) and rice and curry.

Carnival-style games will be aimed at all age groups, but this year's focus will be on young children, since Atwal said children's games have been lacking in the past.

"Kids really need our attention," Atwal said. "Whatever time we can give kids, it's really worth it."

The festival is a great time to teach these children about their Punjabi heritage within an American context.

"We all try to bring our culture into our kids so that it stays preserved, but on the other hand, they also have a choice of American culture, so hopefully they pick the best of both cultures," Atwal said. "In order to survive, you want your heritage to continue, but you live in the Western world, so you want to know what goes on here, too."

In addition to allowing Punjabis to network with each other and experience a bit of home, Atwal said the event can also be an educational opportunity for Americans of all backgrounds, and promotes understanding among different peoples.

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Your snapshots

Lemonade supports walk



Seven-year-old Grace Milke with her mom, Annie, sit by a pink lemonade stand. Grace created the stand to raise money for the Breast Cancer 3-Day walk, which will be Aug. 8-10 in Chicago. She raised \$48 in sales to contribute to her mom's walk. Grace told customers that she was there to raise money to "help the moms that get sick and to make sure that other moms don't get sick."

SUPERHERO DAY

Friday Aug. 8

Come Visit Your Favorite Superheros and join them in a Costume Parade at 1:00 pm.
Superhero plays are Held at Noon and 2:00 pm

Pirates' Cove
Children's Theme Park
901 Leicester Road
Elk Grove Village IL 60007
847-439-COVE

General Admission \$9 per child
Adults are always free!
Monday-Friday 11am-4pm
Saturday 10am-4pm

MEGA Yard Sale



Food by

Saturday, August 9
8am - 4pm

Furniture, books, jewelry, music, housewares, toys, sports, art, boutique apparel, silver, quilts, tools/garden, & more!

First United Methodist Church

1903 E. Euclid Ave., Arlington Hts.
847-255-5112 • www.ahfumc.org
(East of Arl. Hts. Rd., west of Rand Rd.)

Free

Adult/Youth Triathlon

Saturday, August 16

Jack A. Claes Pavilion
1000 Wellington Ave
Elk Grove Village
- 8:30am start -

Register by August 8 at the Pavilion

(847) 228-3539

www.elkgroveparks.org

