Rise, Shine, and Succeed

Every morning, long before classes start, two Evanston schools buzz with activity. At Lincolnwood Elementary, fourth-graders Omar and Ethan—known as “PB&J” because they’re always together—eat breakfast with a tutor before heading to the library to practice math problems and go over homework.

Their tutor and morning meal are thanks to Books and Breakfast, an organization that began informally more than 30 years ago. Parents and teachers realized that some students were coming to school without having had breakfast, but schools didn’t have resources to address the problem. “A group decided to do something about it,” says Kim Hammock, the organization’s executive director. “Somebody said, ‘You bring books, I’ll bring bagels.’”

In 2013, Books and Breakfast became an independent nonprofit, and a parent connected to Northwestern’s Buffett Institute (continued on page 3)
Earlier this year, the seventh annual Evanston MashUp brought more than 500 people together under one big tent on Northwestern’s lakefront campus. Guests from the city’s business community, government, nonprofit organizations, and the University attended the event, cocaptained by Northwestern president Morton Schapiro and Evanston mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl.

Patrick Hughes, an event cochair and owner of Inclusion Solutions, a small business in Evanston, helped devise MashUp in 2009 as a way to improve relations and spur connections between the city and the University. “We produced it to bring different circles of influence together and to see what magic would happen,” he says.

Steve Hagerty, another event cochair and founder of Evanston’s Hagerty Consulting, agrees: “The idea is that if we can get people to connect, collaboration and creation will come out of it,” he says.

After the MashUp, Palchak and Northwestern started bringing female athletes from the University to work with the younger girls in sports like swimming, field hockey, cross-country, and softball. Northwestern sports dietitian Katie Knappenberger has also visited for the past three years to speak about health and nutrition. “Not only do our grade school girls benefit from the mentorship of Northwestern athletes, but high school athletes have an opportunity to grow from working with such great role models,” Livatino says. “The MashUp is a great idea—it is so simple, yet it accomplishes so much.”

“Sheridan Road can be a sort of dividing line,” Hughes says. “The fact that President Schapiro provides this tent on campus is a huge part of the MashUp. Many people would probably not be on campus for any other reason. I think people like to see the president of Northwestern and the mayor getting along. It’s not just PR—it’s real.”

TO LEARN MORE about how to get involved, visit evanstonmashup.com. Find out more about Girls Play Sports at teamgps.org.
Books and Breakfast

(continued from front page)

for Global Studies suggested involving University students as tutors. Northwestern students now help children in kindergarten through fifth grade with homework and reading.

At Dewey Elementary, fifth-grader Alfredo Torres (below right) confesses he’d probably be at home sleeping if it wasn’t for the program and says his favorite part is spending time with Northwestern tutors.

“It’s been powerful to partner with Northwestern students,” Hammock says. “After getting them involved, the program took off. Principals and teachers asked, ‘What are you doing? Our kids are different—more engaged.'”

“Getting to know students and what they want to be helps us motivate them,” says Anthony “Ant” Pierce, a Northwestern tutor.

“Omar is very intelligent and wants to fly planes. Now I tell him, ‘You need to know this if you want to fly a plane,’ rather than just telling him to learn his multiplication facts.”

“There are three things that I like about it,” fourth-grader Jayden Maxwell Reid says of the program. “They have breakfast because I don’t eat at home, they help me with my homework that I can’t get finished, and I like to read.”

TO LEARN MORE about Books and Breakfast, visit booksbreakfast.org.

CONNECT WITH US

Our email newsletter includes a monthly community events calendar. To sign up, email Carol Chen at carol.chen@northwestern.edu.

Do you have a business or non-profit in Evanston? We can help increase your visibility, facilitate connections to the Northwestern community, and find student volunteers.

For details, visit our website at www.northwestern.edu/communityrelations or contact Neighborhood and Community Relations executive director Alan Anderson at alan.anderson@northwestern.edu or 847-467-5762.
The new facility for Northwestern’s Center for Audiology, Speech, Language, and Learning celebrated its first birthday this year.

The nonprofit center, established in 1928 and open to the public, includes one of the country’s few audio-environment simulation rooms, allowing specialists to personalize hearing devices against a range of background noises and real-world environments.

Patients can visit the center for evidence-based speech-language pathology, audiology, and learning services to address challenges affected by such issues as learning disabilities, autism, and stroke and cancer recovery.

“Our center not only provides excellent services for all ages but also partners with world-renowned researchers,” says center director Denise Boggs Eisenhauer. “We are all driven by our dedication to help people communicate.”

Clinical faculty members direct services in partnership with medical teams, educators, and other professionals to ensure comprehensive care for clients.

“After struggling for many years with deteriorating hearing, I finally discovered the clinic at Northwestern,” a patient says. “My audiologist’s attention to making sure I can hear in the situation I live in has made me feel like a part of the world again.”

TO LEARN MORE or to make an appointment, call 847-491-3165 or visit communication.northwestern.edu/clinic.

Northwestern welcomes Jennifer Lewin as coordinator of the new District 65/Northwestern STEM partnership, part of the University’s Science in Society research center.

Lewin works with schools in Evanston and Skokie’s kindergarten through eighth grade system to strengthen its science, technology, engineering, and math curriculum by leveraging Northwestern resources.

Expanding opportunities is key to Lewin’s work. “If we’re training a generation of STEM leaders for jobs that don’t yet exist,” she says, “we need to give students ways to explore, learn, and lead themselves into the unknown.”

Lewin is excited to work with students, teachers, and community members to ensure equitable resources for all students.

TO LEARN MORE about the District 65/Northwestern partnership office, email Lewin at jenlewin@northwestern.edu.

**Staff Profile: Jennifer Lewin**

**Events**

**Chicago Jazz Orchestra:**

*Not So Silent Night*

Tuesday, November 29, 7:30 p.m.

Pick-Staiger Concert Hall.

A special program of holiday classics featuring the Duke Ellington–Billy Strayhorn arrangement of Tchaikovsky’s Nutcracker Suite. Tickets are $25 or $10 for students with ID.

**Men’s Basketball**

Northwestern vs. Dayton

Saturday, December 17, 6 p.m.

United Center, Chicago.

The inaugural State Farm Chicago Legends game will honor standout former college basketball players from the area. Tickets start at $40.

**Dittmar Dinner: How Factors from Before You’re Born Affect Your Future**

Tuesday, January 24, 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Norris University Center, Dittmar Gallery.

Dinner and discussion on how big data is uncovering why some people have a head start. The free event is part of One Book One Northwestern. RSVP at onebook@northwestern.edu.