

THE TOP 40 CHICAGO MOVIES EVER
OUR #1 WILL SURPRISE YOU

Chicago

**BLAGO'S
LAWYER:
HOW I'LL
GET THE
EX-GOV OFF**
BY BRYAN SMITH

SUMMER HOT LIST

CHOOSE YOUR
OWN ADVENTURE:
112 THINGS TO DO

**REDESIGNING
THE WORLD—
FROM
WINNETKA!**
BY MARCIA FROELKE COBURN

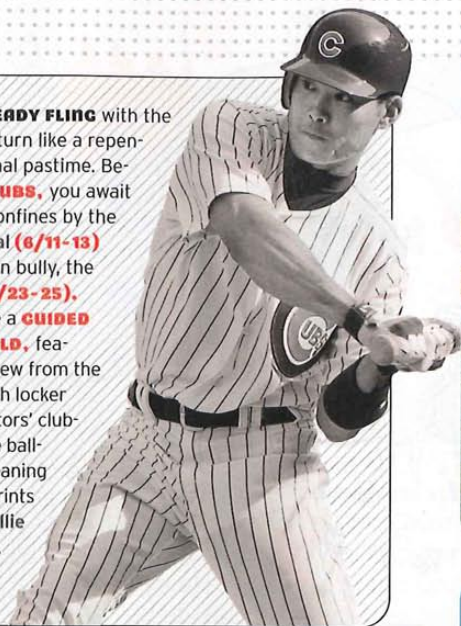
**FRESH
FOR YOU:
SIX LOCAL
FARMERS**
BY KARIN HORGAN SULLIVAN

JUNE 2010



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AFTER A BRIEF BUT HEADY FLING with the beautiful game, you return like a repentant lover to the national pastime. Be-sotted with all things **CUBS**, you await visits to the Friendly Confines by the team's cross-town rival (8/11-13) and that central division bully, the St. Louis Cardinals (7/23-25). In the interim, you take a **GUIDED TOUR OF WRIGLEY FIELD**, featuring a Piniella's-eye view from the dugout and stops in both locker rooms. The original visitors' clubhouse remains from the ballpark's 1914 opening, meaning you stand in the cleat prints of Jackie Robinson, Willie Mays, and other greats.



OR

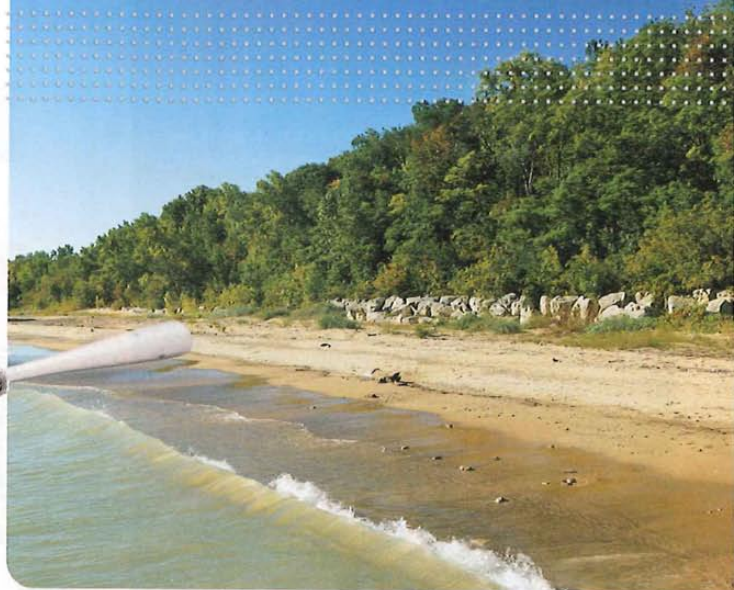
WHAT'S THAT? Any day the Cubs get beat is sweet indeed? You can't wait for the **WHITE SOX** to demolish the North Siders during part two of the Crosstown Classic on 6/25-27—same goes for their arch-rival, the Minnesota Twins, on 8/10-13. But you wonder why Wrigley's bleacherites get to own the patent on barley-infused fun. Solution: a **PREGAME PARTY ON THE PATIO** near right-center field at U.S. Cellular Field; festivities include discounted game tickets and an unlimited buffet.



WITH SOME JULY DAYS hot enough to smelt iron ore, you gravitate toward the water. Fortunately, you had the foresight to enter a team in the **DRAGON BOAT RACE FOR LITERACY (7/24)**, in which crews of paddlers square off in two-boat heats on the Chicago River, just off Ping Tom Memorial Park, until a champion is crowned. **▶▶** For a more pampered cruise, turn to page 68.

STOKED, YOU SEEK OUT MORE ROWING. A **CANOE TRIP** on the scenic Lower Fox River—with its sandstone cliffs and gentle currents—fits the bill. C & M Canoe Rental, in Ottawa, is one of several outfitters that can equip your voyage, but C & M's trips begin and end at a tavern. Score! **▶▶** For kid-friendly and closer canoeing options, turn to page 66.

YOU'VE BECOME SO DEFT with a paddle that you're ready to try the growing sport of **STAND-UP PADDLE BOARDING**—a cross between kayaking and surfing that's popular in Hawaii but has gained a foothold in Glencoe, of all places. You sign on for a lesson with the Great Lakes Board Company, which also rents the boards for \$20 per hour.



ALL THIS TIME on the water has rusted your golf game—but whacking balls to regain your stroke can get monotonous.

TOPGOLF, a high-tech driving range in suburban Wood Dale, turns practice into play time for serious golfers and hackers alike. The object is to score points by hitting balls onto targetlike greens up to 250 yards away; a microchip embedded in each ball transmits stats on shot distance and location to a computer monitor in the hitting bay.

▶▶ If a world in which golf balls communicate complex flight data leaves you seeking more scientific advancements, turn to page 62.

IF, HOWEVER, you find yourself craving a simple brush with nature, plot a course 25 miles north of the city. The **OPENLANDS LAKESHORE PRESERVE** (above)—long a part of Fort Sheridan but accessible to the public only since last September—offers just what the doctor ordered: a hike through Bartlett Ravine, one of the last remaining ravine and bluff ecosystems in the region, harboring rare plants and a profusion of birds, and leading to a mile-long stretch of beach backed by 60-foot bluffs left behind by the last glacier. As you sink your feet into the sand, with nary a volleyball player or Rollerblader in sight, you ooze *ahhhs*.



SPIRIT REPLENISHED, you're ready for summer's final challenge, the Chicago Triathlon (8/29), for which you've diligently trained between less competitive outings.

UP TO THIS POINT, your focus on the race has kept your mind off Labor Day, but summer's symbolic end arrives anyway. Good thing **LEBOWSKI FEST**, the traveling bowling-and-bashes tour devoted to the cult flick *The Big Lebowski*, hits town 9/17-18.

A dose of ten-pin philosophizing provides perspective as you prep for an autumn equally well played.

