

NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR



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Thursday, February 12, 2015

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'Niles Treasures'

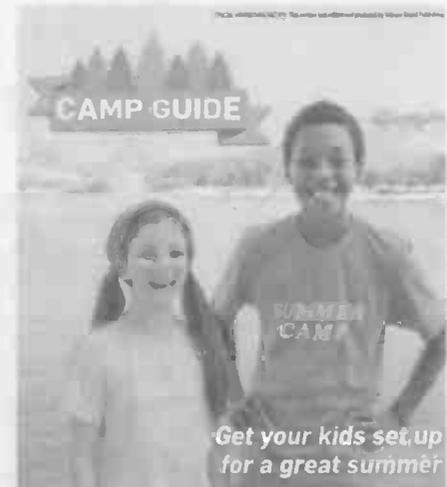
Niles Chamber of Commerce unveils new public art program, **Page 6**



IGOR STUDENKOV/PIONEER PRESS

Niles Chamber of Commerce and Industry Executive Director Katie Schneider, from left, and the chamber's Public Art Program Committee chair, Kyle Brown, unveil the new "Niles Treasures" public art program, similar to last year's "Stop and Smell the Roses."

See inside



- Camp on a budget
- Beat the blues
- Local camp directory

ENTERTAINMENT

Five fresh films for Valentine's Day this year

Bruce Ingram updates the romantic standards by introducing five recent movies that all offer the same romance as the classic Valentine's Day films "Casablanca" and "Breakfast at Tiffany's," but in updated formats for today's audiences. **Page 50**



WARM BODIES/SUMMIT FILMS

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Some things will change, or already have. We've added food, health and family content we hope you will find useful and enlightening. We've greatly expanded our offering of puzzles and games. And we've added more real estate listings in a new format we think is easier to read.

What we haven't changed is our lineup of local news, features, sports and event listings. Those items are the foundation of this newspaper. And in the coming months, we plan to strengthen and build further upon that foundation.

On the digital side, we have created a local news website designed to better accommodate your on-the-go lifestyle. **Nilesheraldspectator.com** is easier to navigate, fast and clean on mobile devices, and perfectly at home within chicagotribune.com. You're just a click away from the comprehensive Chicagoland coverage that only the Tribune can provide.

A lot has changed for us at Chicago Tribune and Pioneer Press in the last few months. More is in store. So, please, let us know what's on your mind, what you like or don't like so far, and what else you'd like to see.

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Women in Motion
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We invite you to join us for lunch at the upcoming Women in Motion, Tuesday, February 17 at Meatheads in Lincolnwood. The Chamber has partnered with Y.O.U. and Coming Together in Skokie & Niles Township (CTIS) for a very special program, "A Walk in My Shoes." Guest speaker and writer, Susan Van Dusen, will share a reading, "The Long March," a story about her experiences 50 years ago as she marched for civil rights in Montgomery, Alabama.

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Chamber gears up public art effort

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Pioneer Press

The Niles Chamber of Commerce and Industry is inviting artists to submit designs for its newest public art initiative.

Last year, the chamber did a "Stop and Smell the Roses" art project. Taking a cue from the city of Chicago's 1999 "Cows on Parade" project, the chamber created 35 fiberglass roses and invited artists to paint them. Once they were finished, the roses were put on display throughout the village. During the annual Night of Roses event, the sculptures were auctioned off, with proceeds going toward several Niles organizations.

Niles Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Executive Director Katie Schneider said that the project was so successful that her organization wanted to do something similar this year. The "Niles Treasures" project will give artists a chance to color and otherwise modify wooden chests. The artists have until March 6 to apply. Compared with last year, the artists will have more leeway to modify the chests, and they'll get a bigger stipend — and Schneider said she hopes that it will bring even more money than the roses.

The project will use wooden coolers made out of pine. Each "treasure chest" has four wooden legs, rising to 30 inches, with the top measuring 18.5 inches across and 27 inches wide. Each one weighs approximately 35 pounds.

According to the artist application form, which is available on the chamber's official website, the artists will be able to paint, sculpt and otherwise "transform" the object. However, the chest can't be modified to the point where it can't function as a cooler — so the modifications can't block the inside drain. All designs must be approved by the chamber beforehand, and they can't include anything "overtly religious, political, violent or sexual in nature."

While the artist will have some flexibility to make changes to their designs after their applications are accepted, any of those changes will need to be approved by the chamber. The artists will have an option of designing a chest to suit one particular business, but they won't be able to use any corporate logos without the approval of both the logo's copyright owner and the chamber.

As per the agreement the artists will be required to sign as part of the application, all the rights to their design will be assigned to the chamber. However, once the chests go up on public display, each chest will have signage with artist information.

The artists will be expected to buy their own supplies. Once the chest is complete, each artist will receive a \$150 stipend. By comparison, last year, each artist received a



IGOR STUDENKOV/PIONEER PRESS

A rose-themed artwork created for last year's "Stop and Smell the Roses" art program in Niles sits beside one of the wooden "treasure chests" that will be similarly transformed this year as part of the "Niles Treasures" art program.

\$50 stipend.

Schneider said that any artist in any medium can apply. Once the designs are approved, each chest will be paired with a local business, which will sponsor the chest. The artist will have eight weeks to make their design a reality, with the final deadline set at June 28.

After the deadline, the chests will be displayed throughout Niles from beginning of July to the end of September. During this year's Night of Roses — which is scheduled for Oct. 3 — the chests will be auctioned off. As last year, the proceeds will be donated to

Niles Family Services' Food Pantry and the chamber's Dollars for Scholars scholarship program, and some of the proceeds will go to the chamber itself.

Schneider and Kyle Brown, the chair of the chamber's Public Art Program Committee, officially unveiled the project on Jan. 27, at the start of the Niles Village Board meeting. The two chamber officials brought a tapestry-covered chest to the chamber floor and revealed the object. Schneider thanked the village residents for supporting the previous year's projects and touted its success.

"Each organization [that the donations went to] received more than \$2,000," she said. "Because of the positive response, we decided to do the program again."

Brown encouraged local artists to get involved.

"Niles has many treasures, and we'd like the entire community to participate," he said.

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @istudenkov

Niles Forward Party unveils platform

IGOR STUDENKOV
Pioneer Press

The Niles Forward Party slate of Village Board candidates unveiled their official platform earlier this month.

The platform offers a number of proposals to address business development, job growth, public safety, flood control and fiscal accountability. Among other things, the candidates propose creating an apprenticeship program to train employees, coordinating with nearby municipalities on public safety improvements, expanding police department's outreach to the community, creating a TIF district to fund Touhy Corridor improvements, and changing the way industrial properties get approved for tax incentives, according to a document provided by the party.

The Niles Forward Party (NFP) slate is made up of Niles Trustee and Niles Park District Executive Director Joe LoVerde, recently retired Niles Police Department Chief Dean Strzelecki and Niles Ethics Board member Denise McCreery. They are running for seats currently held by LoVerde and trustees Chris Hanusiak and Rosemary Palicki. Hanusiak and Palicki are running to keep their seats, while Newcomer David Carrabotta is running as an independent.

Mike Yesner, a member of the party's campaign committee who currently functions as its de facto spokesman, clarified some of the platform points.

For the business development and job growth, NFP wants to continue working with the Niles Chamber of Commerce and Industry to promote and strengthen local business. It suggests several steps to help village businesses suc-

ceed.

"The Niles facade program could be expanded toward beautification and expanded sales, Niles Economic Development Department could work with vacant store owners to better fill properties with on-site marketing, website marketing, and a telephone hot line to better answer questions of potential renters," Yesner said.

NFP also wants the village to work with local and county agencies to provide economic development, job training and to help strengthen the village's consumer fraud protection ordinance. The candidates support creating a Tax Increment Financing District in and around the Touhy Avenue corridor to facilitate its redevelopment. The candidates also want to create an apprenticeship program for Niles residents.

NFP offered several proposals to improve public safety throughout the village. The candidates want the village to work with other municipalities to improve public safety, using Mayor Andrew Przybylo's proposal to work together with Morton Grove to create a joint fire station as an example. The candidates want the police and fire departments to have the latest technology, and they support increasing the departments' outreach to the public, especially toward "young people" and businesses. "Forward Party embraces new technology that allows better and more efficient service to our citizens," Yesner said.

The Niles Forward Party dedicates an entire section of its platform to flood control, expressing support for funding Tier II flood mitigation projects and the village's cost-sharing program, which helps homeowners fund upgrades to

their flood control systems. The candidates also advocate adopting an ordinance that would require the village and private entities to incorporate "green infrastructure" procedures into any projects that involve sewers and flood mitigation.

Finally, the platform offers several proposals geared toward improving "fiscal accountability." The candidates argue that replacing the sewer system was a major priority because it continues to leak, losing millions of gallons and increasing residents' bills in the process. They call for expanding the village's programs to collect unpaid taxes and fees. The candidates support changing water suppliers, arguing that the village is currently "held hostage" to Chicago's water rate increases. They also call for changing the way the village authorizes Cook County Class 6B tax incentives.

Under the current procedures, the Niles Finance Committee makes the recommendation on whether to approve the classification, and the village board makes the final decision on whether to approve it. The Niles Forward Party platform said that the candidates want to revise the process and incorporate public input.

When asked to elaborate, Yesner offered the following response.

"The 6B process for promoting business opportunities should be thoroughly vetted by the Finance Committee and the Economic Development Committee and should only be considered by the Village Board upon the dual recommendation of both committees," he said.

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

These Shining Lives



February 26 - March 8

Rivendell Theatre Ensemble's artistic director Tara Mallen guest directs this true story. The roaring 20s have arrived, bringing new opportunities for women to work outside the home. Catherine and her young friends feel lucky to have positions painting watch faces at Ottawa's Radium Dial Company—until the radium they thought harmless exacts its price.

April 9 - 19

Celebrate the 100th anniversary of Edgar Lee Masters' *Spoon River Anthology*. Humor and sincerity pepper this beautiful piece of theater adapted from the collection of poems about a small town and its eclectic citizens. Set in a graveyard and accompanied by live music, the "ghosts" of rural Illinois tell their stories in verse—recounting lives, loves, and regrets.



Six Piano Ensemble

Saturday, April 25, 8 p.m.

Sunday, April 26, 3 p.m.

Critics from Honolulu to Vienna hail the group as "unique," "impeccable," and "technically superb." Under the baton of maestra Glenna Sprague, the Ensemble showcases classical, ragtime, symphonic and popular music—and the group's rich, layered sound is comparable to an orchestra. A reception will follow the concerts.

Luck of the Irish



In an effort to circumvent the racism of an affluent, segregated Boston suburb, the Taylors—an African-American couple—enlist an Irish family to buy a house on their behalf. Fifty years later, the Irish family wants "their house" back. Themes of home and America are explored in this staged reading.

Saturday, May 2, 8 p.m. and Sunday, May 3, 2 p.m.

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Special Olympics athletes share court

IGOR STUDENKOV

Pioneer Press

On the evening of Feb. 5, Special Olympics athletes from across the Maine and Niles township areas gathered in the Fieldman Park's basketball court ready to drill with their coach.

But this time, they didn't have just any coach. For the next 90 minutes, WNBA Chicago Sky basketball player Elena Delle Donne and Chicago Sky Head Coach Dana "Pokey" Chatman ran drills, gave pointers and organized competitions to see which athletes could score the most points. Afterwards, Donne signed Chicago Sky shirts, and she and Chatman posed for pictures with athletes.

The event was organized by Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation and Chicago Sky, and sponsored by Des Plaines' River Casino. Donne and M-NASR staff both told Pioneer Press that they were happy with how the event turned out.

M-NASR is a Morton Grove based organizations that provide recreational programs for children, teens and adults with physical and mental disabilities. Those programs include athletics such as golf and baseball, as well as art classes and gardening clubs. The organization teams up with park districts throughout Maine and Niles townships, including the park districts of Niles, Skokie, Morton Grove, Lincolnwood, Park Ridge and Des Plaines, as well as Golf-Maine Park District, which serves unincorporated townships.

Donne has been playing for Chicago Sky since 2013. Her skills were recognized fairly early. For the 2013 WNBA All-Star Game, starters were determined by fan vote, and Donne earned more votes than anybody else — a first time in league history that a rookie was able to accomplish such a feat. She later earned the 2013 Rookie of the Year Award.

Chatman has been coaching at Chicago Sky since 2010. Before that, she was a player and later coach at Louisiana State University's Lady Tigers basketball team. Between 2007 and 2010, Chatman coached what was then known as Spartak Moscow Region Women's Basketball Club.

The Feb. 5 event, which was officially known as the Basketball Training Clinic, took place at Golf-Maine Park District's Fieldman Park. It started with Donne and Chatman had the athletes do some exercises. This was followed by some drills and dribbling across the basketball court. Donne and Chatman made sure to encourage the athletes and provided pointers throughout.

"Eyes up, and let's try to keep our dribble a bit lower, about waist high," Donne told the athletes.

Donne and Chatman also had the athletes compete to see who could keep dribbling the longest. Every athlete who dropped the ball was asked to sit. As the numbers



IGOR STUDENKOV/PIONEER PRESS

Chicago Sky's Elena Donne gives M-NASR athletes basketball tips.

dwindled, the athletes were confined to an increasingly narrow area, until only two players remained. After a few more minutes, one player emerged victorious.

Donne and Chatman did the competition one more time. Then, Donne gave the athletes tips on proper shooting techniques.

"The way I hold my arm is an a perfect 'L,'" she said, demonstrating the shape as she spoke. "A perfect L, 90 degree angle just like that."

She cautioned the athletes against making some common mistakes that would make their shots less effective.

"I don't want to see anyone shooting like this," said Donne, throwing the ball with both hands. "None of the launching stuff. It's just not correct."

She had the athletes take turns shooting hoops into one of the court's six baskets, correcting their technique where necessary.

Later, athletes were divided into small teams and each team took turns trying to score.

The competition ended in a tie and Chatman praised all the athletes.

"You guys are all excellent," she said.

The event ended with Donne giving out and signing Chicago Sky T-Shirts. The athletes and M-NARS staff presented her and Chatman with M-NARS blankets. The two women stuck around for a bit to pose for pictures with athletes and staff alike.

Donne told Pioneer Press that the event was a good experience.

"This is a great program," she said. "The players had great energy. Hopefully, we were able to teach them a little."

Suzanne Bear, M-NARS' Executive Director, said that she was pleased with how the event turned out.

"There was lots of positive energy in the gym today," she said. "I just want to thank Chicago Sky for making it happen. Our athletes really appreciated it."

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



Chicago Sky's Elena Donne gives M-NASR athletes basketball tips.

Niles rolls out online option for water bills

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Pioneer Press

Niles residents now have an option to pay their water bills online.

The village unveiled the new option during the Jan. 27 Board of Trustees meeting. The option was made possible thanks to the state of Illinois' E-Pay system. The system can be accessed through the village website by clicking on the "E-Pay" icon on the home page.

According to village of

Niles spokeswoman Hayley Garard, residents can pay using Visa, MasterCard and Discover credit cards and debit cards.

E-Pay charges a \$1 convenience fee for payments \$40 and under, and a 2.35 percent convenience fee for anything above that.

In a statement, Niles Finance Director Scot Neukirch said the new option is just the first step.

"Using E-Pay for our water bills is just the first step," he said. "Eventually we plan

on making many more village service payments available from the website."

During the Village Board meeting, Mayor Andrew Przybylo emphasized that residents will still have the option of paying water bills in person or by mail.

"I want to repeat that — residents who don't wish to use E-Pay can continue paying the same ways they had years prior."

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Park Ridge police: Teens found with marijuana

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Two teens were allegedly found with marijuana following a traffic stop conducted by police on Mary Jane Lane in Park Ridge.

Daniel Kasch, 19, of the 1000 block of South Washington Street, was charged with possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia after a Park Ridge police officer pulled over his vehicle for an undisclosed traffic violation on the night of Feb. 8.

According to police, 27 grams of suspected marijuana, as well as pipes used for smoking the drug, were located on the driver's side floor of Kasch's vehicle.

A 17-year-old male passenger, also of Park Ridge, was charged with possession of 0.5 grams of marijuana under a local ordinance citation, police said. He was assigned to appear before the city's adjudication hearing officer on March 10.

Bond for Kasch, who was charged with a misdemeanor offense, was set at \$1,500. He has a March 11 court date.

Records show Kasch was also arrested by Park Ridge police in May 2014 after marijuana and drug paraphernalia were allegedly found inside his car.

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No injuries in Niles apartment fire

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Pioneer Press

A fire erupted in the basement apartment of a six-flat apartment building at 9032 Cumberland Ave. on the morning of Feb. 6.

According to Niles Fire Department Chief Steve Borkowski, firefighters were dispatched at 10:20 a.m. and arrived on the scene three minutes later.

They put out the fire by 10:44 a.m.

Aside from Niles firefighters, the Park Ridge, Morton Grove, Des Plaines, Glenview and Lincolnwood departments were involved.

Borkowski estimates that a total of about 35 firefighters helped put out the blaze.

The building is across the street from Northridge Preparatory School.

Borkowski said the building was evacuated quickly and no one was injured. While the basement apartment suffered damage, the other units in the building weren't affected.

"The cause of the fire is still being investigated," he said.

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



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The following incidents were listed in the official bulletin of the Niles Police Department. Readers are reminded that an arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt. Only a court of law can make that determination.

DRUG POSSESSION

■ Heather Aragosa, 38, of 8506 Madison St., Niles, was charged with felony possession of a controlled substance and driving with a suspended license on Jan. 30. According to police, officers responding to a call of a vehicle stopped in the middle of the 8000 block of Madison found Aragosa and her passenger, a 44-year-old man, asleep inside the car. Police learned that Aragosa's license was suspended and a search of her vehicle revealed a number of pills identified as Valium, painkillers, and drugs used for treating attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and narcolepsy, police said. On Jan. 21, Aragosa was arrested by Park Ridge police after a bag containing 30 anti-anxiety pills was reportedly found inside her vehicle during a traffic stop. She was also

charged with possession of a controlled substance and driving with a suspended license in that case.

RETAIL THEFT

■ Feeshia Hyde, 38, of 1549 W. Jonquil Terrace, Chicago, was charged with retail theft on Feb. 4. Hyde was accused of stealing several items from a store inside Golf Mill Shopping Center and returning one of the items for \$31.51 in store credit, which she allegedly used to purchase other merchandise.

BATTERY

■ A 19-year-old man told police that on Feb. 4 he was punched multiple times in the arm and kicked twice in the leg by a 16-year-old girl he knew from high school. The alleged altercation took place at Golf Mill Shopping Center. According to police, the man said the girl and another teen accompanying her ran away when he said he was calling 911.

HARASSMENT

■ A 59-year-old Niles woman reported on Jan. 29 that she began receiving multiple text messages

from someone threatening to blow up her house. According to police, the sender initially contacted the woman with messages saying she had won prize money and needed to send additional funds in order to pay taxes on her winnings. The messages then "escalated from winning money to blowing up her house," police said. The woman was advised by police that she was the target of a scam and that someone may have obtained her phone number from a social media page she maintains.

BURGLARY TO VEHICLE

■ Two checks, two Polish passports and \$3,000 in cash were reported stolen Jan. 31 from a van parked in a driveway on the 8200 block of Octavia Avenue.

THEFT

■ On the afternoon of Jan. 30, a man entered a store on the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue and allegedly grabbed 42 prepaid debit cards before attempting to leave the building without paying for them. At the exit, the man reportedly dropped a bag that contained the cards and fled.

Bottle thrown in taco eatery

By JENNIFER JOHNSON

Pioneer Press

A customer unhappy about her taco order allegedly threw a bottle of liquor against the wall of a Niles restaurant to express her displeasure, Niles police reported.

According to police, the 32-year-old Skokie woman had ordered food at Taco Burrito King, 6710 W. Touhy Ave., just after 2 a.m. on Jan. 31, but began quarreling with an employee over whether she had paid for her tacos.

The woman reportedly told police that when the employee walked over to the cash register to check the receipts, she jumped over the counter, grabbed a bottle of gin from the bar and threw it against a wall, causing the bottle to shatter

and gin to spill onto the floor.

According to police, the woman admitted to throwing the bottle "because she was upset about not receiving her tacos in a timely manner." The employee reportedly gave officers the same account of what had occurred.

The employee declined to pursue charges against the woman, who agreed to pay for the bottle of gin that was destroyed, police said. The woman did not appear to be intoxicated and had not been served any alcohol at the establishment, police reported.

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EDUCATION

D64 approves annual residency checks

IGOR STUDENKOV
Pioneer Press

The Park Ridge-Niles District 64 Board of Education voted to conduct residency checks for all district families in the run-up to the 2015-2016 school year.

While the resolution adopted at the Feb. 9 meeting states that the checks will be annual, the board members agreed that the first residency check would be a trial. If the check shows that the number of families that don't live in the district isn't significant enough to justify the expense involved, the board would repeal it.

The board considered two options for annual residency checks. But when it cast the vote, it declined to choose a particular option, leaving the details up to the district administration.

The board has been discussing residency checks for the past few months. While families that live in rented housing have their residency checked annually, families that live in housing they own only get checked when their children first enter the district. The board and the district administration have been concerned that this allowed home-owning families to keep sending their children to the district even after they move out of the district. Since such families



IGOR STUDENKOV/PIONEER PRESS

The board considered two options for annual residency checks. But when it cast the vote, it declined to choose a particular option, leaving the details up to the district administration.

don't pay property taxes in their district, educating their kids puts a strain on district resources.

During Jan. 26 board meeting, District Superintendent Laurie Heinz presented three options for more regular residency checks. Under Option A, the families would be checked once every three years. Under Option B, families would be checked every year, and families would be required to bring in documents to prove their residency in person. Option C would also create annual checks; but families would be able to simply drop documents off.

At that meeting, board members John Heyde and Scott Zimmerman expressed concerns about all of the options. Heyde

maintained his long-standing argument that more frequent checks would be too burdensome for residents, while Zimmerman argued that, unless the residency checks are more thorough, increasing their frequency would be pointless.

In response, Heinz offered what she described as a compromise. During the Feb. 9 meeting, she said that she and the district staff believed that Option A would be thorough enough to cover half of the district families. It would give the district a decent idea as to how many non-residents the district schools had without placing too much burden on families.

But as the board proceeded to discuss the issue, most board

members rejected that option. Board member Bob Johnson argued that the district needs to determine the full extent of the problem, that checking half of the home-owning families wouldn't cut it.

"I think the only way we can determine the efficiency of [residency checks] is to do it completely," he said.

Board member Dan Collins, who previously said he would support whichever annual check gets the best results, agreed with Johnson's argument. He noted that he had two kids in the district schools, and he was willing to deal with the burden. Collins also noted that none of the district parents he spoke to felt annual residency checks were burdensome.

"I had no one in the community come up and question if it was a bad idea," he said. "They told me it was a great idea."

Board member Dan Paterno also agreed with Johnson.

"We should at least do it once, and if we don't catch anybody, we'd know it was a waste of time," he said.

Board member Vicki Lee offered a similar sentiment.

Heyde said that, if the board were to adopt annual checks, he would favor Option C. He compared Option B to airport security

that, in his opinion, didn't actually make passengers safer.

"It makes people feel like we're tougher, and it's questionable whether it does any good," said Heyde.

Zimmerman reiterated an earlier argument that, without more thorough residency checking process, increasing frequency was pointless.

Board president Tony Borrelli said that he was sympathetic to concerns that the process would be burdensome, but he also felt that the district should do the residency check at least once.

"We don't know what we don't know, and we have to find out, so that we at least have an estimate," he said.

After some discussion, Collins proposed a resolution that mandated annual background checks. The language of the resolution didn't specify whether the district would use Option B or Option C. District 64 Public Information Coordinator Bernadette Tramm subsequently confirmed to Pioneer Press that the board decided to leave the details up to the district administration.

The board approved the resolution 5-2, with Heyde and Zimmerman voting against.

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Parents, officials: District 219 buses unreliable, unsafe

NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

"The bus was late" has become a believable excuse for students showing up late to class at Niles North and Niles West High Schools this year.

The school district's bus service contract with Evanston-based Positive Connections has grown into a nightmare for school officials, forced to deal with late students and angry parents.

To the chagrin of both parents and District 219 officials, buses regularly arrive late to school in the mornings.

On other days, ill-timed bus drivers sometimes arrive so early to some bus stops that District 219 has hired a van service to retrace

bus routes and pick up any stragglers who may have been left behind.

The safety of kids while they're on the bus has also come into question, with some parents raising concerns about kids smoking on the bus to school, and pushing each other to get a seat.

Anger toward the school district's bus service provider boiled even higher last week when the school bus company decided not to run on Feb. 2, the Monday after the big Super Bowl day blizzard.

Most schools shut down completely that day—including Chicago Public Schools—but District 219 officials settled on a plan to start school two hours late to allow students extra time to battle the snow on their way in.

The late-start day was canceled, however, because Positive Connections refused to run the buses in the snowy conditions.

In a letter sent home to parents that day, District 219 Superintendent Nanciann Gatta apologized for canceling school, blaming the bus company for what was described to District 219 as a shortage of bus drivers that day.

Beyond concerns raised about the bus company's reliability, an incident this week has some parents scared for kids' safety.

Parent Denise Stoneback said her son, who attends Niles North, has been pushed and shoved while boarding the bus as kids rush on board to try to get a seat before it fills up.

Fed up with the bus service,

Stoneback had been driving her son to school for the past two weeks. He finally agreed to start taking the bus again on Monday, she said, only to find that the situation was worse.

"Kids rush each other and push to get on the bus, and there were 10 kids standing in the aisles by the time they reached the school," Stoneback said. "This service is completely unacceptable and unsafe."

That school bus driver was terminated the same day, on February 9, according to Gatta.

"This community deserves better," Gatta said. "We're doing everything we can to make sure these buses start arriving on time."

District 219 is in the process of finding a new bus carrier, but they

will have to ride out the remainder of the school year. That's because finding a new company to pick-up the routes in the middle of the year is next-to-impossible.

Spokesperson for Positive Connections, Aaron Holcom, denied claims that buses regularly show up late to pick up students. He also said bus service was never refused to District 219 on Feb. 2.

"Buses are generally on time, but we work with the school districts to identify and correct every concern," Holcom said. "It is unfounded that we are late every day, and we're not in the same understanding [of Feb. 2]."

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

District 64 Spelling Bee champ earns second title

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

For the second year in a row, Catherine Sernel emerged from a spelling bee V-I-C-T-O-R-I-O-U-S.

After 22 rounds and correctly spelling the word "clementine," Sernel, a sixth-grader at Lincoln Middle School, was declared the winner of the 2015 Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 bee, a title she captured last January as a fifth-grader at Washington School. This makes her the first District 64 student to win two consecutive district-wide bees.

"I'm just proud I did it again," Sernel told the Park Ridge Herald-Advocate. "I'm happy I accomplished my goal and I still have two more years I can [participate]."

Sernel went on to compete in the North Cook area spelling bee, which is part of the Scripps National Spelling Bee network, on Feb. 3 in Kenilworth. She placed in

the top 10 at that competition.

Each year, all seven District 64 schools host a spelling bee, with the top spellers from each moving on to the district-wide bee. In all, 268 students in grades 3-8 took part this year.

Sernel studies for the annual spelling bees weeks in advance, memorizing as many as 2,000 words that are on a list provided by District 64. She also relies on her parents, Tracy and Marc, to quiz her.

"She's a very bright girl, but she's also pretty easy going in general so she handles the pressure of the competition well, which is amazing to us," Tracy Sernel said. "And there is real pressure in that competition."

There's no real trick to being a good speller, other than memorization, Catherine Sernel says. She doesn't write down the words she is studying; she simply visualizes them.

Above all, though, it's fun, she admits.

"It's something I like to do on top of all my other stuff," said Sernel, who plays piano and basketball and soccer. "It's a challenge because there are a lot of good spellers."

Some of those star spellers also earned accolades last month. Owen Mech, an eighth-grader at Emerson Middle School, took second place, while Zoe Berthold, a seventh-grader at Lincoln, placed third.

Individual school winners included Brandon Griffin, Sara Plaza and Sargon Adam of Carpenter School; Owen Mech, Kenneth Kim and Fallon Adams of Emerson Middle School; Joseph McDonough, Makala Wilson and Martyna Golebiewska of Field School; Matt Williams, Nathan Brozell and Arham Rahman of Franklin School; Catherine Sernel, Zoe Berthold and Charlotte Geier of Lincoln Middle School; Alaina Basis Alex Eng and Brayden Bristle of Roosevelt School; and Anthony Giustino, Tommy



SCHOOL DISTRICT 64/HANDOUT

School District 64 Spelling Bee winner Catherine Sernel, left, is joined by Owen Mech, second place, and Zoe Berthold, third place.

Locascio and Sean Stachorek of Washington School.

This year's Spelling Bee also included a new requirement. During every fifth round, students were required to select the correct definition of the word they were asked to spell. They were given two choices.

"This academic competition takes students' understanding of words, word parts, and meanings to a whole new level," said Meghan Keefer, District 64 Language Arts Curriculum Specialist, in a statement from District 64.

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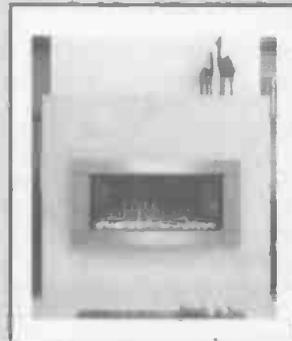
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Lieberman resident releases seventh book

By MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

Selma Lamkin may have been the student, but that didn't stop her from teaching the instructor a mighty valuable lesson: Never underestimate her.

It's a familiar lesson for anyone and everyone who have crossed paths with Lamkin, now nearing age 90.

Auditing a criminal law class, the student proved to be so sharp that the teacher mentioned she should be in law school.

It was most likely a flippant, tongue-in-cheek comment since Lamkin was already in her 70s. The teacher said he'd even find her a scholarship if she passed the entry exam.

Fast forward: Lamkin graduated law school at age 74.

"Told woman at the mailbox, 'Look at this — I passed the bar!'" she writes in her recently-released self-published memoirs. "She said, 'I pass it almost every day on my way to work.'"

This funny exchange is another example of people sometimes having a hard time wrapping their minds around Lamkin's defiance of the odds.

Her memoirs are filled with random, anecdotal recollections of her difficult and challenging, but rich and varied life, all of which is perfectly summed up on the last page.

"I try to overcome obstacles," she writes. "I work really hard at it. I advocate for myself."

A resident of Skokie's Lieberman Center for Health & Rehabilitation, Lamkin may not speak quite as often as she once did, but there is still a spark and feistiness in her when she does.

She appeared at a book party Jan. 29 attended by a small group of residents, staff and volunteers, fielding questions from the front of the room while seated in her wheelchair.

How does she feel now that the book has been published and the public can read about her trials and tribulations?

"Happy," she succinctly said.

Not surprisingly, "Selma's Memoirs" is dedicated to Katharine Houpt, the creative arts therapist at Lieberman who encouraged Lamkin and illustrated her story with well-rendered, playful comics.

"The reason the comics came about is because Selma talked about how she lost a lot of her photos throughout her life," Houpt said. "I suggested drawing comics as a way to have some visual representation with her memories."

Selma's first response was an emphatic no.

But Houpt brought in examples of different styles of comics, having the author choose the style she liked best. It was a true collaboration, the two deciding on stories



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Lieberman Center For Health & Rehabilitation resident Selma Lamkin enjoys a cookie Jan. 29 at her book party. Lamkin recently self-published her memoirs documenting her remarkable life, and Art Therapist Katharine Houpt, left, provided the illustrations.

that best exemplified Selma's "fighting back against oppression."

Many of Boston-born Lamkin's memories are of difficult experiences: her grandfather died in the car when her father was taking him to the hospital; her grandmother suffered a nervous breakdown; she had tough relationships — one man abandoned her, another embezzled money from his job; she mostly raised her three children on her own; and she lived in a time when discrimination and sexism ran rampant.

"Selma's Memoirs," however, is the antithesis of a downer; it's an inspirational read sprinkled with flashes of humor. There is a sense of triumph about what Lamkin overcame during all phases of her life.

And best of all, her personality comes shining through.

At age 70, Lamkin ate at a restaurant where a waiter kept referring to her as "dear," even after she asked him to stop. She ultimately handed off the check to the cashier, saying the waiter who served her

will pay because "I'm his dear."

"I walked out and nobody followed me," Lamkin writes.

Her first published work appeared in a most unexpected source — Penthouse Magazine, which lends itself to one of the funnier comics.

Lamkin didn't even know what Penthouse was, she said. She called her son to tell him he had to go out and buy Penthouse.

The final comic panel has Lamkin's son telling his wife: "My mother says I have to go buy Penthouse."

"Selma's Memoirs" is not Lamkin's first book, but her seventh. She self-published books on topics ranging from self employment and home-based businesses to networking and franchising.

She wrote books about buying a condominium and how to fix the legal system.

This one, however, is certainly her most personal, an informal and conversationally-



Lieberman Center Art Therapist Katharine Houpt shows off Selma Lamkin's self-published memoirs.

Turn to Book, Page 15

Book recounts memories from Selma's long, full life

Book, from Page 14

written journey through the highlights of her ever-changing life.

She was an accountant, an author, an educator. She consulted on money and investment. She has been recognized in "Who's Who in American Women," "International Who's Who," "American Biographical Institute" and "Personalities of America."

Long before Lamkin earned her law degree — when most people are well into their retirements — she earned a degree in accounting and finance and then a doctorate in economics from Pacific Western University.

At age 87, she was Bat Mitzvahed at Lieberman. Now, she becomes an author again just before she turns nonagenarian.

"It was exciting to go back and live my life again," she said.

Her challenges in that life belonged not only to her earliest days.

Recounted in the memoirs was her serious injury at age 82. Lamkin was in Florida where she fell and was unable to get up. She lay on the floor for three or four days before she was rescued.

"They said three to four more hours I

would have been dead," she said.

Lamkin came to Evanston to live with one of her sons and his family, then to the Lieberman Center some seven years ago. "There are pros and cons of living here," she writes. "My major concern is that I can't get out of the building at all."

She says she sometimes feels stuck, lost in a routine of watching TV and listening to tapes. But she also enjoys some of the activities at Lieberman as well.

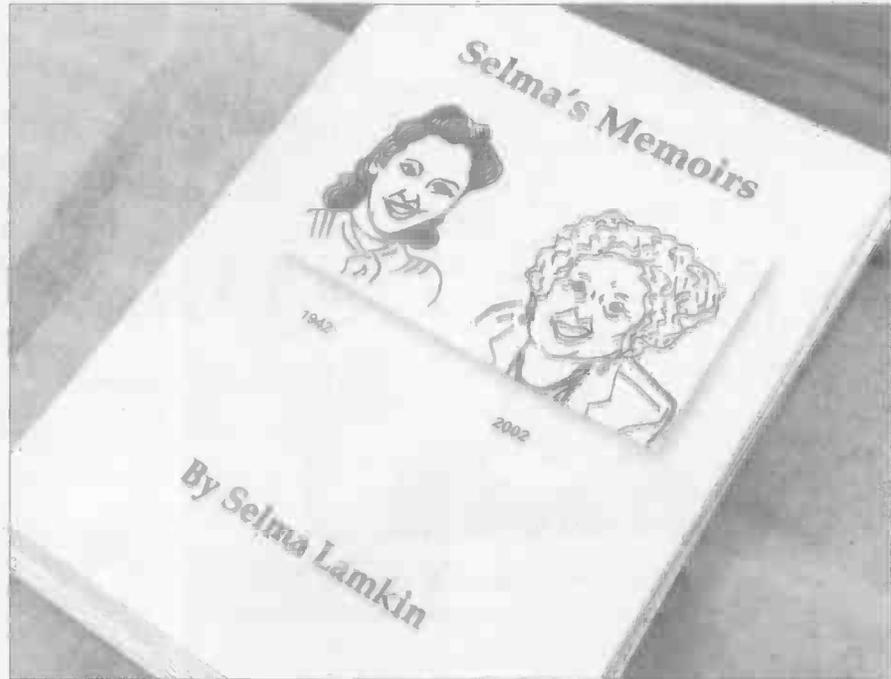
During last month's book party, Houpt read various entries to the gathered group, which asked questions and expressed admiration for the life Lamkin has lived.

The author said there were plenty of stories that had to be set aside so she has already entertained the idea of a sequel.

"I'd like to if Katharine is willing," she said when asked.

Some people chuckled, but after hearing Selma's story, they knew better than to doubt it would happen. If her life proves one thing, it's that underestimate Selma Lamkin and she'll undoubtedly have the last laugh.

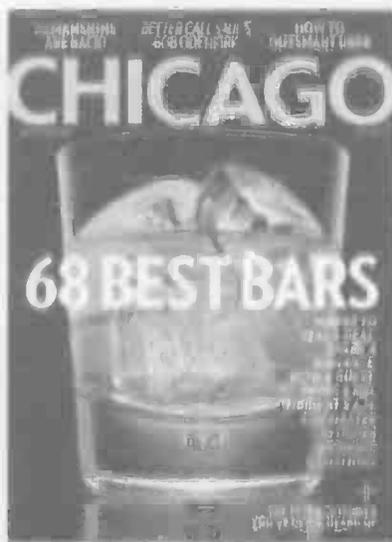
To inquire about receiving a copy of "Selma's Memoirs," call Andrea Koch at the Lieberman Center at (847)-929-3244.



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

Lieberman Center For Health & Rehabilitation resident Selma Lamkin introduced her memoirs at a Jan. 29 book party attended by a small group of her friends.

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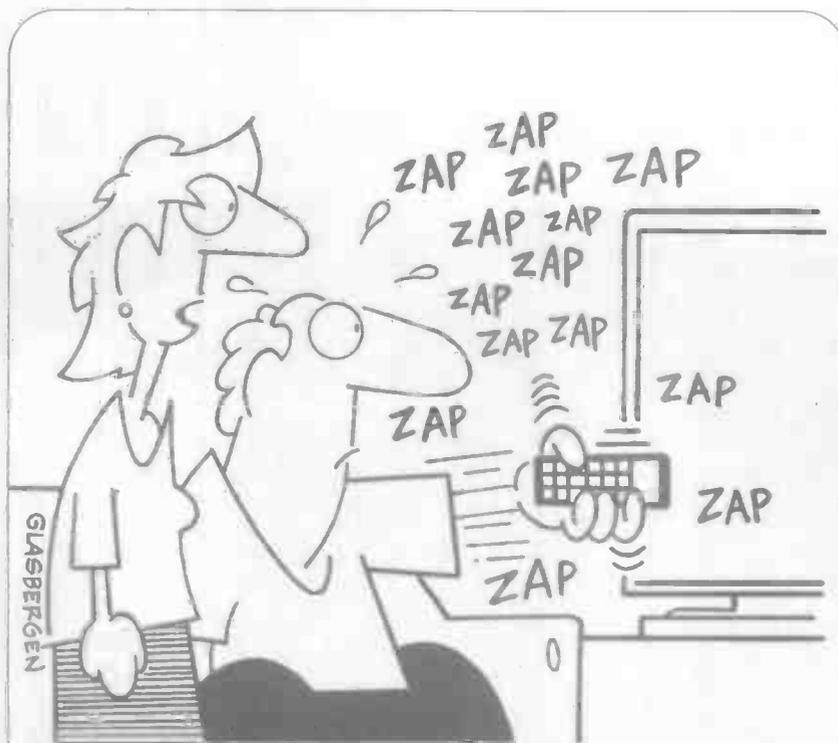


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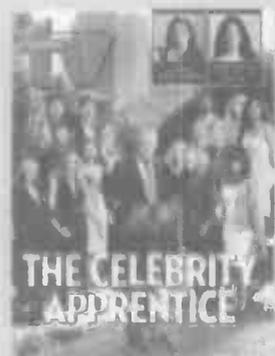
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NEWS



IGOR STUDENKOV/PIONEER PRESS

The Cabrini Retreat Center located in unincorporated Maine Township.

NDFS, Cabrini Retreat team up to provide emergency housing

IGOR STUDENKOV
Pioneer Press

The Niles Department of Family Services and Maine Township's Cabrini Retreat Center have teamed up to help Niles residents who need emergency housing.

When Niles residents needed emergency housing, the department traditionally sent them to Travelers Inn motel.

The department and Cabrini Retreat Center began discussing working together in November. Tony Hollenback, the director of family services, reported on the agreement during the Nov. 6 Niles Human Services Committee meeting.

Family Services runs a range of programs and services to help Niles residents. When Niles residents can't stay in their homes, the department helps them find emergency housing. Hollenback told Niles Herald-Spectator that residents might need emergency housing for many reasons.

"When Niles Family Services receives a referral from a new or existing client in need of urgent housing, these requests are precipitated by domestic violence/situation, fire, rain or water damage, extreme heat or eviction," he said.

Hollenback explained that requests for emergency housing can come from individuals themselves, or

they can come from emergency services, a school or the community organizations Family Services works with.

Travelers Inn is one of the only two remaining overnight lodging facilities within village limits, but around August 2014, the department started getting reports about conditions at Travelers Inn that concerned them.

He told the Human Services Committee that he started looking for other options.

"If you are in a crisis, you need a safe place to go," said Hollenback. "The more I heard about Travelers Inn, the more I felt like it wasn't a good place."

After considering some options, he decided to reach out to Cabrini Retreat Center. The center is located in unincorporated Maine Township, near the section of Golf Road between Niles and Des Plaines. It is run by the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a female-only Roman Catholic congregation. According to the organization's website, the center is part of its mission to help individuals and organizations to have a fuller spiritual experience. Among other amenities, the center offers single-person bedrooms where group members can rest overnight. Hollenback reached out to Nancy Golen, the

center's executive director, in November. After some discussion, they agreed that the center would provide rooms for Family Services' clients, provided the rooms aren't occupied.

"The retreat center is an optimal location given the mission of hospitality in providing a warm, compassionate space for guests to come to," he said. "This is exactly the type of setting conducive to healing which our residents can benefit from. It can be very traumatic to be displaced, homeless and not have a place to go."

Hollenback told the Human Services Committee that the center charged the same for rooms as the Travelers Inn did. Unlike the motel, the Cabrini Retreat Center offers free meals to its guests. Like Travelers Inn, Cabrini Retreat Center will send a bill once a month.

Hollenback said that, at the moment, the agreement between Family Services and Cabrini Retreat Center doesn't have an expiration date, and some aspects of the agreement may be tweaked over time.

"It's exciting to partner with other organizations who share our mission of community service," Hollenback said.

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Seven arrested in undercover prostitution sting

Multi-jurisdictional task force targeted prostitution using various social media sites

By **STEVE SCHERING**
Pioneer Press

Seven Chicago area men were arrested Feb. 5 in Wilmette in an undercover sting operation for offering prostitution in advertising on social media, police said.

According to Wilmette police, a multi-jurisdictional task force targeted prostitution through various social media networks. Investigators set up a fake prostitution advertisement and directed would-be customers to a specific room at the Residence Inn, 3205 Old Glenview Road, police said.

Five area police departments and prosecutors were involved in the sting operation, police said.

"All arrests took place in Wilmette," said Wilmette Deputy Police Chief Kyle Murphy. "In the past we've partnered with these other jurisdictions when they've run prostitution stings. This time, we took a turn."

Those arrested Feb. 5 include Don



Romero



Rumbolt



Sellas



Lizarov



Husetovic



Karger



Brian Tierney

"All arrests took place in Wilmette. In the past we've partnered with these other jurisdictions when they've run prostitution stings. This time, we took a turn."

Wilmette Deputy Police Chief Kyle Murphy

Karger, 53, of 9040 Kedvale Ave., Skokie; Eduardo Romero, 30, of 7035 N. Ridge Blvd., Chicago; Mark L. Rumbolt, 40, of 329 Custer Ave., Evanston; Stavros C. Sellas, 38, of 2214 N. Rockwell St., Chicago; Samir Husetovic, 50, of 7521 W. Brown Ave., Forest Park; Vasil Lizarov, 24, of 1720 Palm Drive, Mount Prospect; and Brian Tierney, 44, of 5812 N. Octavia Ave., Chicago, police said.

According to police, the seven suspects

were arrested after allegedly offering an undercover police officer money in exchange for a sex act.

Each of the seven offenders was charged with one count of solicitation of a sexual act, police said. Each suspect is expected to appear in court at 1:30 p.m. March 24 at Cook County's 2nd Municipal District Courthouse in Skokie.

The undercover operation included participation from the Cook County State's

Attorney's Office and the Evanston, Skokie, Lincolnwood and Oakbrook Terrace police departments, police said.

Murphy declined to comment on which social media websites police targeted.

Residence Inn officials cooperated in the investigation, he said.

"They were very helpful in offering up their facility to assist our investigation," Murphy said.

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SMARTPHONE!



CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTO BY DON CAS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

As the "Blizzard of '79" paralyzed the city, Jane Byrne's campaign gained momentum, tumbling her into City Hall on voter discontent that rumbled over the Democratic machine candidate, Michael Bilandic.

Snow removal can sting you

There was a calm after the storm, and not just metaphorically. This was why shoveling 2 inches of snow on Tuesday night in windless 28-degree weather actually felt invigorating rather than miserable — it was a beautiful winter night, proving that there is such a thing.

But then there is the storm after the storm, and not the literal kind that produces more snow. This would be the tempest of complaints that rains down from citizens when, say, their specific side street still features snow in the days after a blizzard.

Such anger shouldn't be waived off too quickly. The legends are mostly true about the Blizzard of '79 giving the late Jane M. Byrne the shot in the arm she needed to compete with Mayor Michael Bilandic, a quiet and charmless guy who — fairly or not — came across as more quiet than usual during the city's response to an epic natural disaster.

On election day that year — Feb. 27, about six weeks after the blizzard — Byrne squeaked out a victory by 2 mere percentage



DAN MORAN

points, but the margin doesn't matter. All we remember is that she took down The Machine because it didn't plow the streets, pick up the garbage or keep the trains running on time.

Do you know what Byrne was before she was elected mayor of a major American city? The city's commissioner of consumer affairs. That would be like Maria Guerra Lapacek defeating Rahm Emanuel on Feb. 24, 2015. There's your perspective on how significantly weather can change history.

But maybe we need a little perspective when it comes to human beings trying to make snow disappear. Here in Lake County on Monday and Tuesday, there were places where four-lane roadways suddenly became two-lane roadways, with mounds

of plowed snow extending off the shoulder.

Yes, there were side streets that looked like lost trails through the woods, but there were also primary roadways here and there covered with a thick, lumpy layer of gray slush. Raise your hand if you know and love someone who complained loudly about such things — or if you complained about them yourselves.

But keep that hand raised if you don't want your municipal, township or county share of your property taxes to go up, because that's what pays for the plows and their gasoline and their salt, not to mention the weekend and evening overtime paid to their drivers.

Do the taxes you already pay cover the expense of scraping every paved roadway in Lake County down to the asphalt immediately after a Top 5 blizzard? Take a look around this week to get your answer, and drive carefully.

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The choice not to vaccinate is a false one



RANDY BLASER

I never got the measles vaccine.

But that wasn't by choice.

Unlike the growing number of parents who choose not to vaccinate their children because they think vaccines are harmful or will cause autism, my parents had no say in the matter. There was no measles vaccine.

Instead, I came down with a full-blown case of the measles at 7 years old. I remember little of the experience, except for missing school for about a week and watching kid shows on TV from the comfort of our living room sofa.

My mother had a different story, however. She told of my battle with measles from her perspective of panic over my high fever, my "becoming delirious," as she called it, watching my eyes roll back, and as a last resort, throwing me in a cool bath to break the fever. "I thought you were dying," she said.

I'll take my mom's word for it.

A few years later I had German measles, known as rubella, which was a breeze compared to the real thing, and later still I came down with mumps. The case of chicken pox between those bouts gave me the grand slam of childhood diseases. All my friends had those diseases, too.

Today, few kids get any of those diseases because we have vaccines for them. They are 100 percent preventable.

Yet this week we have an outbreak of measles, mostly in Southern California. And the cause of this outbreak is parents

who have decided not to vaccinate their children.

These parents believe there is a link between the MMR vaccine, which is given to prevent measles, mumps and rubella, and children becoming autistic. Pop celebrity Jenny McCarthy, who has appeared in Playboy, movies and television, popularized this idea after her son was diagnosed with autism after being vaccinated.

But one does not cause the other. The weight of medical research and studies show there is no link between the vaccine and autism.

The rise of autism does not coincide with the rise of the vaccine. The MMR vaccine began in 1971. Yet throughout the 1970s and 1980s autism was diagnosed in about one out of every 2,000 children. Today it is one out of every 150. Something

The rise of autism does not coincide with the rise of the vaccine.

else is happening.

Rotary International has a goal of wiping out polio by making sure all children are throughout the world are immunized. Yet polio lingers in some Third World countries, in part because some parents believe the vaccine causes sterilization.

We're not in a Third World Country, but misconceptions and misinformation seem to be the same the world over.

We give parents the choice on whether to give their kids the vaccine or risk this deadly childhood disease. But it's a false choice. Don't make it a deadly one.

Vaccine debate proves you can't fix stupidity

Know how to identify a smallpox rash? No? Me either.

Can you recognize the pending signs of polio, the disease that killed thousands of American children and paralyzed a generation with fear of it?

What's cholera, anyway? Sure it killed thousands of us a century ago and still kills thousands in other nations. Would you know it if you saw it?

Mostly we've cured fear because we feel impervious to deadly diseases, other than cancer. But we can't be immunized against dumb ideas.

The dumbness du jour allows otherwise intelligent people to believe that vaccines are a dangerous plot. Yes, down with evil vaccines.

This comforting self-deception survives mostly because vaccines actually have worked.

They work so well that we've forgotten what those diseases were, largely because we don't see them anymore.

Vaccines are not precise molecular snipers, but their aim is efficient enough to have produced a healthier world. Most of us survive to 80 now, not because of Pilates, yogurt and holistic balms. We survive because of vaccines. In the absence of hospital wards filled with dying children, we smirk at vaccines, ignoring that free speech also can be stupid speech.

Now measles are back because parents are tempted by junk science to avoid inoculating their children.

On Friday, Lake County Health Department officials were testing a suspected case of measles. In Cook County, a cluster of five measles diagnoses has been associated with a Palatine child care center.

An in Wauconda, village trustee candidate Jason Anderson revealed in a recent forum for the April 7 election that he shuns vaccines because they contain materials "harmful to individuals' health."

Vaccines are made from human fetuses, too, he says.

Just as a matter of fact — remember facts? — nothing Anderson believes about vaccines is true, as if we needed science to provide wisdom about scientific fact.



DAVID RUTTER

As other protesters do, Anderson advocates "vaccine choice" as if protecting children from death should be a matter for voter referendums.

Maybe Wauconda trustees have limited power to shape public health policy. We hope so. But some ideas are dangerous to everyone.

Consider the science. "Herd" barriers protect those who can't be inoculated because their health is compromised or frail. When enough people are vaccinated, the larger "herd" shares the immunity. But that immunity can be compromised for everyone when fewer healthier members are vaccinated. Anti-vaxxers risk your life too.

The measles vaccination rate for young children in America is 92 percent. Although lower than in most affluent countries, it's the minimal rate needed for herd immunity. Although all 50 states require vaccines for students, 19 allow them to opt out without a doctor's approval or religious justification.

Dumb. Very dumb. We are a species prone to bouts of such dumbness. But no parent in the 1800s could have comprehended willfully withholding cures for measles, rubella, typhoid or cholera had they been available. Parents were petrified of polio only 50 years ago. Those parents had seen children die.

We live healthier, longer lives now than ever, but that's because diseases that once killed our children no longer do. Vaccines have become a victim of their own public relations triumphs.

Of course, in the perfect health utopia of America there are no realities like those in Africa, where 700,000 children die every year from illnesses that vaccines would stop.

Why? They don't vaccinate enough to stop the disease.

For those who agitate against vaccinations, Africa should be a perfect experimental petri dish to test their theories. In fact, it is.

Death is both indifferent and immune to free speech.

David.Rutter@live.com

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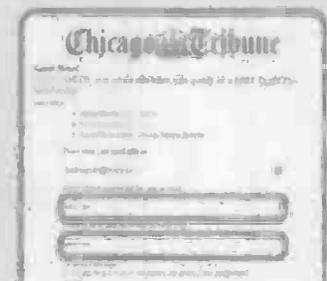
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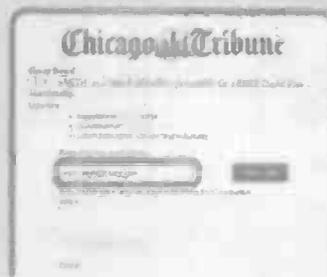
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OPINION

Reader asks 'How can I block unsolicited calls?'

Dear Help Squad,

I am exasperated by the number of unsolicited phone calls I receive on both my landline and cell. The numbers are on the www.donotcall.gov list and when I get the calls I wait until the end of the recording or ask the person on the other end to remove me from their calling list. I actually have a chimney sweep company that calls every 21 days and says I am rude and that she could call us anytime she wanted. Really irritating. The political calls are exasperating too. I have told people I am deceased or a felon (unable to vote) so that they would stop calling. It doesn't work but I am out of ideas!

— Jennifer, Morton Grove



CATHY CUNNINGHAM
Help Squad

phone. This feature blocks all calls that do not provide caller ID. All such callers are told, "The number you dialed does not accept calls without caller ID information."

When it comes to her cellphone, Jennifer has a couple of different options. According to McGrath, Jennifer can sign up for AT&T's Smart Limits program, which, among other things, enables the blocking of unwanted phone calls, texts and data. The cost is \$4.99/month for one phone or \$9.99/month for up to 10. It is available through AT&T or as an iPhone or Android app. Jennifer could also go the free app route and download a call-blocking app such as YouMail or Truecaller.

Though registering her land line and cellphone numbers with the FCC's National Do-Not-Call Registry should have prevented Jennifer from receiving solicitations from the chimney sweep, the reality is that not every company abides by the rules. By law all telemarketers are required to check the numbers they intend to solicit against the Do-Not-Call Registry, and any that appear on the registry are to be purged. Jennifer can and should file a complaint at donotcall.gov. However, the reality is that FCC enforcement can't keep pace with the volume of complaints received and, as a result, unscrupulous companies weigh the risk of getting caught against the reward of making a sale. Unfortunately for Jennifer (and like-minded call recipients) political calls are exempt from the registry.

So where does that leave Jennifer? As an AT&T U-verse customer, she has access to free call blocking and call screening. Per AT&T spokesperson Erin McGrath, Jennifer can access this service by logging into her account online and activating call blocking. There, up to 20 phone numbers can be entered. Once this has been done, she can then turn Call Blocking on (*60#) and off (*80#) from her home phone. When the blocked caller next rings, they will hear, "The number you dialed will not accept your call," and be disconnected. While in her online account, Jennifer can also set up Anonymous Call Blocking, which is activated and deactivated by pressing *77# and *87#, respectively, from her home

Comcast provides similar features for its home phone service. Its offerings are called Call Screening and Anonymous Call Rejection. Both can be activated from a customer's home phone or via his/her online account using similar prompts to AT&T's: *60 to activate Call Screening, *80 to deactivate it; *77 to activate Anonymous Call Rejection, *87 to deactivate it. The only difference is that with Comcast, a customer can manage everything from the keypad of his/her phone if he or she so chooses.

A free workaround for filtering out unsolicited cellphone calls could also be to assign them a silent ringtone. Though this doesn't discourage such callers directly (aside from the fact that their calls are never answered), it does cut down on the interruption and annoyance caused by their persistent dialing. Silent ringtones can be found for a variety of cellphone makes and models by conducting an Internet search for "silent ringtone."

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Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @HelpSquadCC

Who needs candy or flowers on Valentine's?

This might come as a surprise, but I've never been a huge fan of Valentine's Day. Don't get me wrong, I love romantic gestures and the idea of giving someone you love a gift.



JACKIE PILOSSOPH
Love Essentially

But, I think the holiday puts a lot of pressure on couples to make the day special, and if two people in a relationship have different expectations of what is going to happen on Valentine's Day, they could have issues. In other words, if a woman thinks her guy is walking in the door with a dozen roses and he shows up with a nice card, look out!

Inequality on Valentine's Day can cause feelings of disappointment, anger, sadness or even embarrassment (if he or she buys you an expensive gift and you do nothing).

My suggestion is, why not forget about material gifts this year and give your Valentine something that is 100 times more valuable? Here are some examples:

1. Instead of dinner in a crowded restaurant, make him or her an unforgettable meal at home. Cooking for someone signifies thoughtfulness and effort. By preparing food, you are showing that you care enough to take time out of your busy day to do something you think the person you love would enjoy. Being cooked for makes a person feel special, important and appreciated. And, I want to make this clear: sauce out of a jar on boiled spaghetti noodles actually achieves the same result as roasted bronzino prepared in a white wine reduction sauce with caramelized leeks and a beet salad.

2. Instead of Hershey's Kisses, kiss her with your lips. Women love to kiss. It makes us feel sexy and young and loved. It also brings us back to the time when the relationship was fresh and new and exciting.

3. Instead of chocolates in a heart shaped box, give her your heart. How do you give someone your heart? By

making it very clear that you are here. Not for a day or a week or even a year, but forever, no matter what. By letting him or her know they are appreciated. That might mean saying, "Thank you for all you do for this family," or a

backrub, or doing the dinner dishes every night for a week, or saying, "I'll baby-sit the kids Thursday night; you should make plans with your friends and go out." Giving someone your heart also means showing vulnerability, and showing the one you love that you need him or her, not just to pick up your dry cleaning or to bring home a paycheck but because you need your best friend, your life partner, the love of your life.

4. Instead of a Hallmark Valentine's Day card, try a love letter. Don't let a greeting card company tell the person you love how you feel. Say it yourself, in your own words. Too often, couples assume their spouse is a mind reader, and that after a few years he or she doesn't need to hear "I love you more than I've ever loved anyone," "I feel lucky to have you as my wife" or "You are an amazing man who has made me very happy." It doesn't matter if you write it on a piece of stationery, a note pad or even the back of a sales receipt. It just matters that it came personally from you, and that you took the time or got up the nerve to tell your Valentine how you feel about him or her. Ever heard the phrase, "Payback is hell?" Write your Valentine a love letter and "Payback will be heaven!"

Lastly, although it is customary to give your spouse a gift on Valentine's Day, remember that no day is off limits when it comes to surprising your spouse with one of these special gifts. Happy Valentine's Day!

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

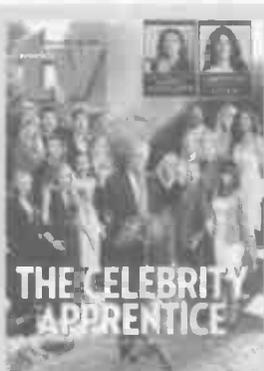
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303 N Fairview Ave, Mount Prospect	Meaghan C Hansen	Reithal Trust	01-08-15	\$209,000
601 N Wille St, Mount Prospect	Stefanie M Anderson	Richard E Underwood	01-08-15	\$235,000
1812 E Euclid Ave, Mount Prospect	Robert R Stachura & Mary Ellen Stachura	Karl F Haromi	01-08-15	\$305,000
8815 W Golf Rd, # 6E, Niles	Katarzyna Broszkiewicz	Ana Domazet	01-09-15	\$75,000
9500 N Washington St, # 504, Niles	Iwona Zyllinska & Grazyna Choros	Anna Sisto	01-08-15	\$150,000
8729 N National Ave, Niles	Genadiy Aizikovich	Nina Vilner	01-08-15	\$183,000
8323 N Oleander Ave, Niles	Breanna Wietlispach	Steven V Larsen	01-08-15	\$265,000
8702 N Oketo Ave, Niles	Lucille M Petrone	Mirel Hanic	01-09-15	\$318,000
2500 Archbury Ln, Park Ridge	Steve Kachniewicz & Haldee Kachniewicz	Thomas M Mcalvany	01-07-15	\$144,000
1301 W Touhy Ave, # 314, Park Ridge	Ramsen Youkhana	Andrew Rajchel	01-07-15	\$150,000
1705 Pavilion Way, # 505, Park Ridge	Ioannis Dalapas & Eva Dalapas	Rhodora A Markazi	01-07-15	\$175,000
239 E Edgemont Ln, Park Ridge	Timothy J Guzzetta & Kenneth Guzzetta	Edward C Uliassi	01-09-15	\$320,000
1263 N Northwest Hwy, Park Ridge	Filip Trograncic & Nevenka Trograncic	Wladyslaw Moryl	01-08-15	\$351,500
1700 Glenview Ave, Park Ridge	Scott M Irving	Kovac Trust	01-08-15	\$435,000
728 S Home Ave, Park Ridge	Christina Popovic & Roza Popovic	Bank Of New York Mellon Ttee	01-08-15	\$528,000
422 S Vine Ave, Park Ridge	Daniel Nyhan & Ann Nyhan	Linda Sherbahn	01-08-15	\$665,000
822 S Aldine Ave, Park Ridge	Steve Boyack & Kerl Boyack	Patien Inc	01-08-15	\$1,050,000

This list is not intended to be a complete record of all real estate transactions.
Data compiled by Record Information Services ■ 630-557-1000 ■ public-record.com



BARRINGTON

Fantastic 4/5 bedroom, 3.5 bath colonial on over 1/2 acre that is packed with potential. Highlights include a spacious screened-in porch just off the kitchen, a 4-car tandem garage that would be perfect for a workshop and an in-law suite with full bath and kitchen. Spacious master suite with full bath. Basement is finished with a rec room & fifth bedroom or office space. Paver patio off porch.

Address: 725 Cumnor Ave.
Price: \$430,000
Schools: Barrington High School
Taxes: \$9,948
Agent: Jamey Johnson/Kale Realty



LIBERTYVILLE

One previous owner. New roof, siding, gutters & downspouts, furnace, carpet, and newer water heater. Huge first-floor laundry w/ extra access & room for office. Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths, full basement waiting for your finishing touches. Kitchen with Corian counters and pantry. Family room brick fireplace is flanked by built-ins and slider to extensive patio. In-ground sprinkler system for mature landscaping. Close to shopping.

Address: 1180 Tamarack Lane
Price: \$439,000
Schools: Libertyville High School
Taxes: \$10,159
Agent: Millie Kepler/KoenigRubloff Realty Group



GLENVIEW

Custom brick 4-bed, 2.5-bath home situated at end of cul-de-sac. Gracious foyer with curved wrought iron staircase and Juliet balcony. Generously sized living room, built to accommodate grand piano, adjacent to dining room. Kitchen with eat-in area. Family room with gas fireplace and sliding doors opens to patio. Den/office off foyer. Master bedroom with dressing room.

Address: 2742 Norwood Terrace
Price: \$509,000
Schools: Maine East High School
Taxes: \$7,842
Agent: Heidi Grumley/Coldwell Banker



HIGHLAND PARK

Spacious 3-bedroom, 2-bath beautifully updated. New kitchen with stainless steel appliances, new cabinets, and granite countertops. Hardwood floors throughout. New baths, basement, floors, mechanicals, lighting, banister, exterior, siding, roof, driveway, and more. Close to Metra/294/94/shopping.

Address: 1348 Sunnyside Ave.
Price: \$369,900
Schools: Deerfield High School
Taxes: \$5,030
Agent: George Delamatyr/Hometown Realty

Listings from Homefinder.com.

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ALL DRIVE. No drama.

Aw Yeah Games wants you to play

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
For Pioneer Press

The downtown Skokie space that was once occupied by 7th Heaven Cafe is now home to a different kind of a community experience.

Aw Yeah Games sells board games, card games, role-playing games, gaming miniatures and anything else a group of people can play at a table. It also holds game nights, when game enthusiasts can come and play together.

The store is the spin-off of Aw Yeah Comics, a comic store that has been in downtown Skokie since March 2012. Aw Yeah Comics co-owners Marc Hammond, Art Baltazar, and Franco Aureliani co-own the store with Randy Field, who handles most of the day-to-day operations.

The store opened Jan. 24, and it will have the grand opening on March 14, to coincide with Aw Yeah Comics' three-year anniversary. For now, Field said that Aw Yeah Games is focusing on growing its customer base, expanding inventory and getting more events up and running. Field feels that the store will have something for anyone that comes through the door — and he will be happy to help the customers find it.

Since it opened, Aw Yeah Comics left a mark on downtown Skokie. Baltazar is a comic book artist, and the store signage and interior reflect his art style. Last year, Baltazar took part in art projects around downtown, painting several fire hydrants to look like superheroes and drawing panels from his kid-oriented comic books on utility boxes.

Aw Yeah Games shares a lot of aesthetic elements with its comic book selling counterpart, down to similar signage and Baltazar's characters painted on the walls. But the store is different in one important way — it offers something Aw Yeah Comics would never sell.

"[Hammond] got a lot of request for games like Magic the Gathering and HeroClix," Field explained. "We were already buddies, and [Hammond and Aureliani] already knew I published some games, so they asked me if I would be interested."

In 2012, Field co-founded Split Second Games, a board and card game company, with his brother-in-law. The company created Quicksilver, an airship racing themed board game, and Paradox, a science fiction puzzle game. Hammond approached him about opening a game store in 2014, and the idea was too enticing to resist.

Aw Yeah Games opened across the street from Aw Yeah Comics, less than a block to the east. Field said he and the other co-owners always wanted to have the stores close together.

"That was really important too for the convenience of our customers," he said.



IGOR STUDENKOV/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Aw Yeah Games is already beginning to host game nights.

"Plus, it's a great location. There aren't any other gaming stores within four miles."

Aw Yeah Games opened next door to Old Magazine Store, a long-time downtown staple. The two retailers have been trying to help each other out. Old Magazine Store is currently holding a sale on comics and game magazines, and Aw Yeah Games has been promoting it on social media.

The game store currently has a mix of board games, card games, tabletop role-playing games and miniatures games. Field said that he tried to have something for both long-time gamers and newbies. The store already has classic games such as Risk, Dungeons & Dragons and Magic the Gathering, as well as board games based on The Walking Dead and Game of Thrones, and Pokemon, Yu-Gi-Oh and My Little Pony card games.

Field said that he always welcomes anyone who wants to learn more about games.

"First thing I'd ask you is — what kind of games you enjoy, what kind of movies do you like," he said. "Do you want something that requires deep strategy, or do you want something quick to just sit down and have fun?"

Whatever a person may want, Field believes he'll be able to find something they'll be happy with.

"There's definitely a game for everyone,"



Aw Yeah Games plans to start hosting tournaments in 2-3 weeks.

he said. "I absolutely believe it."

Field said that he's planning to greatly expand the store's inventory. But there's one type of game Aw Yeah Games doesn't plan to carry.

"We don't do video games, because there are other people who do it better," said Field.

Besides, he wants to see his customers

play together and interact — the kind of experience that he believes video games can't provide.

"I think people are really hungry for interaction, more so than staring at a TV together," said Field. "I think there is a lot of power in that."

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Listings are subject to change.
Please call the venue in advance.

Thursday, Feb. 12

Candy making in Chicago: Join the Des Plaines Garden Club as Leslie Godard from Darien gives a presentation on the history of candy making in Chicago. Bring a sandwich for lunch, the hostess will bring a treat. Following the presentation, Horticulturist Bob Nicholson will discuss Controlling Pests in Your Indoor Garden. The group will collect non-perishable food items for the Self-Help Closet and Food Pantry for the Annual Food Fight Contest. Also bring a Valentine-related item for the raffle. Advance registration recommended. 11 a.m. Thursday, Frisbie Senior Center, 52 E. NW Highway, Des Plaines, free, 847-296-3457

Music in the Galleries: Organized by the Block Museum's Student Advisory Board, informal weekly performances by Northwestern student musicians and musical ensembles, inspired by both Eastern and Western musical traditions, will permeate the museum's galleries. 4 p.m. Thursday, Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art and Pick/Laudati Auditorium, Northwestern University, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, free, 847-491-2261

Anytime/Anywhere: The Piven Improvisation Ensemble performs long-form improv. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 2:30 Sunday, Piven Theatre Workshop, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$10, 847-866-8049

The Odd Couple: Enjoy the Tony Award-winning comedy classic about mismatched roommates by playwright Neil Simon. 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday, Oil Lamp Theater, 1723 Glenview Road, Glenview, \$35, 847-834-0738

Internet Searching Intermediate: Spend less time searching and more time finding exactly what you need. Basic search skills required. Registration and Glenview Library card required. Register at glenviewpl.org/register. 2 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Lyric Opera of Chicago Lecture Series: "The Passenger" by Mieczyslaw Weinberg: Tales of intrigue, love and death. Moderated by Lyric Opera docents. Register at glenviewpl.org/register. 7 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

'Build It!' at Kohl Children's Museum: The museum announces its newly constructed, temporary exhibit "Build It!" which puts a spin on classic building blocks by letting children explore and interact with 10 different varieties of blocks in a single space through May 3, 2015. Children can discover, stack, bridge, enclose, make patterns, name and symbolize using blocks and more. 9:30 a.m. All week and 12 p.m. Sunday, Kohl Children's Museum, 2100 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, \$10-\$11, 847-832-6600

Valentine's Bingo: Play for a chance to win gift cards to restaurants and the movie theater just in time for Valentine's Day. Lunch is included. (Ages: 55 & Up). Register online at www.prparks.org. 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, \$10 Member/\$12 Guest, 847-692-3597

Garden club meeting: The Park Ridge Garden Club hosts speakers Inge Serpe and Lynn Crowley, who discuss techniques to decorate terra cotta pots by distressing. 7 p.m. Thursday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-3597

Mike Toomey: The Chicago-based comedian, as seen on MTV's "Half Hour Comedy Hour," A&E's "Comedy on the Road," and other programs, headlines a stand-up showcase. 8 p.m. Thursday, 7 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Zanies Rosemont, 5437 Park Pl., Rosemont, \$22 plus a two-item food/drink minimum, 847-813-0484

Ice Skating at Westfield Old Orchard: The rink, in conjunction with the Skokie Park District, features skate rentals as well as special performances from the professional ice skating ensemble 5-8 p.m. Monday through Friday; 1-8 p.m. Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday through March 15, Westfield Old Orchard, 4999 Old Orchard Center, Skokie, \$2 to skate; \$3 rentals; \$12 for skating lessons, 847-673-6800

'White Guy on the Bus': In this play, Ray, a successful white business executive, rides the bus past the state penitentiary every Saturday. On his weekly ride, he befriends Shatique, a young black woman putting herself through school and struggling to raise a son on her own. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday, 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd, Skokie, \$15-\$49, 847-673-6300

Lyric Opera Presents: A Weinberg Evening: Members of the Lyric Opera Orchestra perform chamber music by composer Mieczyslaw Weinberg and

his contemporaries. A companion lecture provides a historical perspective. 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, \$20-\$30, 847-967-4800

European Journey: This concert by the Rembrandt Chamber Players weaves together influences from the Dutch, German and French repertoire. 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nichols Concert Hall, Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$35; \$25 for young adults ages 18-30; \$10 for students, 312-360-3145

Origins of Today's Anti-Semitism in France: Jewish scholar Steven T. Katz will discuss anti-semitism in France. The program begins with Kabbalat Shabbat services at 6:30 p.m., followed by a Shabbat dinner entirely catered from Mizrahi Grill at 7:30 p.m. At 8:15 p.m., Professor Katz will present his program. Advance reservations are required. 6:30 p.m. Friday, North Shore Congregation Israel, 1185 Sheridan Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-3232

School Day Off Fun: Valentine: Crafts, games, baking and more, with a Valentine's Day twist. Create your very own heart pizza for lunch. The activity fee includes activities, trip admission, transportation and a pizza lunch for each School Day Off Fun program. Pre-registration is required for all School Day Off Fun programs; on-site registrations will be accepted only if spaces remain. 9 a.m. Friday, Takiff Center, 999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe, \$45, \$54, 847-835-3030

Game Night! (Ages 13-18): Play with the library's game systems and collection on big screens. Pizza is generously donated by Viccino's Pizza Company and D'Agostino's Pizza. Register at glenviewpl.org/register, 847-729-7500 Ext. 7600, or the Reader Services Desk. 5 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Share the Warmth: Volunteers wanted to join a group of warm, friendly, supportive women (men welcome) to prepare one-of-a-kind fleece blankets for chemo patients. Add a crochet edge to fleece and send these free blankets to new adult chemotherapy patients. You can be taught a basic crochet stitch if needed. Bring lunch. Gatherings often last until 2 or 3 p.m. 9 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6000

Valentine's Party with the Animals: Show love for the animals. Create hand-made valentines for cuddly friends.

Spend some time with the critters - feeding, petting, playing and learning about them. Then enjoy a valentine snack and receive a valentine from the animals. (Ages: 3-7 without adult) Register online at www.prparks.org. 6 p.m. Friday, Wildwood Nature Center, 529 Forestview Avenue, Park Ridge, \$12 Res/\$21 Non-Res, 847-692-3570

A Diamond Valentine's Day show: Steve Richards pays tribute to Neil Diamond. 7 p.m. Saturday, Two Chefs Cafe and Catering, 3 S. Center St., Bensenville, free, 630-766-6030

2015 ETHS Jazz Festival: ETHS celebrates its 12th Annual Evanston Township High School Jazz Festival. Jeff Hamilton Trio headlines the evening's performance, in the school's main auditorium. The Festival is open to the public and offers a full day of non-competitive, educational workshops and performances by middle school and high school jazz groups. 7 p.m. Saturday, Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, Adults \$20; \$15 for children, students and seniors with identification, 847-424-7848

The Orchid Show: Escape from winter to a tropical paradise created by 10,000 colorful, fragrant blossoms filling the greenhouses, galleries and halls of the Regenstein Center at the Chicago Botanic Garden. The month-long exhibition includes activities for every age and interest, including free concerts on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. 10 a.m. All week starting Saturday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, \$8-\$10, \$25 parking fee, 847-835-5440

Genealogy Public Meeting: The North Suburban Genealogical Society invites the public to attend its February meeting featuring Caron Primas Brennan. This presentation will look at the Ancestry.com site, including the Ancestry Trees, and review what it has to offer beginners as well as more advanced genealogy researchers. It will also discuss what is available through the free site and the paid subscription. The meeting is open to the public. The meeting room is on the lower level and has a ramp for handicap accessibility. Go to the website for further information. 1 p.m. Saturday, Northbrook Historical Society, 1776 Walters Ave., Northbrook, free, 847-498-3404

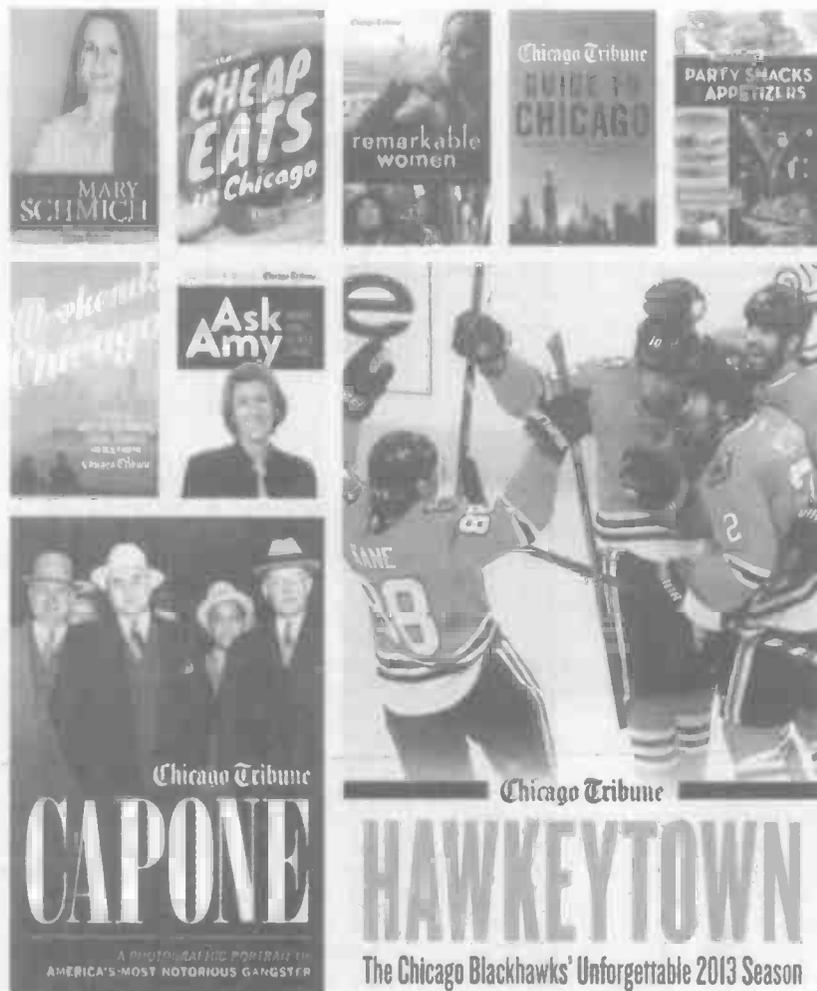
A Year with Frog and Toad: Enjoy the musical about a cheerful frog and a grumpy toad. 10 a.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. Saturday, Northbrook Theatre, 3323 Walters Ave., Northbrook, \$10-\$12,

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CALENDAR

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847-291-2367

Temple Beth Israel presents author and journalist Martin Fletcher:

Presents Martin Fletcher, an Emmy award-winning journalist and author of the new book "Jacob's Oath." Includes catered dinner, dessert and presentation. Dessert and presentation at 7:30 p.m. RSVP for dinner is required by Feb. 9. Visit www.tbiskokie.org. Martin Fletcher has been covering world events for 35 years, including 26 years as the NBC correspondent in Israel. 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, \$20 TBI members, \$25 non-members; \$10 less each for dessert/speaker only., 847-675-0951

Thomas Nickell and the Olstrakh

Symphony of Chicago: Young Steinway Artist Thomas Nickell makes his Chicago debut with the Oistrakh Symphony, Mina Zikry, Conductor. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, \$10-\$30, 847-673-6300

Sunday, Feb. 15

Chicago Philharmonic: Taste The

Music: The concert features pieces by Mozart and Strauss II plus Bohuslav Martinu's one-act comedic ballet, "La Revue De Cuisine," performed by Visceral Dance Chicago. 3 p.m. Sunday, Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, \$25-\$75; \$10 for students, 312-957-0000

Art in the Library Gallery Talk: Chicago native Shalisha Erenberg (ShalishaWorks.com) finds her inspiration for the current exhibit, "Snow, Glorious Snow: The Calendar as Muse," in the seasonal rhythm of the midwestern calendar. The calendar guides her hand as she combines color and texture to evoke and express emotion and feeling. As you view this exhibit, you may be dusting snow off your jacket, but you will be embraced by Shalisha's interpretation of the seasons and a hopeful hint of warmer days to come. Just drop in. 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Dios No Choro: Get a taste of Carnival -- an-afternoon of Brazilian choro music (a genre originating in Brazil in the late 1800s, mixing African rhythms and European dance melodies). Dios no Choro is comprised of Julie Koidin, flute, and Paulinho Garcia, guitar and vocals. Also, Julie Koidin presents her recent book, "Choro Conversations," along with a question and answer session about her experiences performing

with the foremost choro musicians in Brazil. 2 p.m. Sunday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Avenue, Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Mental Health Presentation: Temple Beth Israel Sisterhood and NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness-Cook County & North Suburban Area) present "In Our Own Voices: Stories of Hope and Recovery from Individuals Living with Mental Illness." Open to the community. Call or visit the website, for more information. 2 p.m. Sunday, Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-0951

Music and the Spoken Word: The Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra performs. 3 p.m. Sunday, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, \$30; \$27 for seniors; \$10 for young adults (13-25 years); \$5 for children 12 years and younger, 847-673-6300

Film and discussion: The Pawnbroker: Watch the film about a Holocaust survivor whose loss of his family to the Nazis shapes his character and drives his actions, followed by a post-screening discussion. 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, \$10-\$15, 847-967-4800

Monday, Feb. 16

Book Discussion Network: Calling all book discussion lovers and leaders. Join library staff for an evening filled with book discussion ideas. Learn about the staff's favorite discussion titles and discover resources available through the library to help lead your own discussion group. Participants also have the opportunity to share success stories from their individual groups. Refreshments served. Limit 20. Register at glenviewpl.org/register. 7 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Baby and Me Time: Parents and their children up to 12 months can come in for this opportunity to socialize and share parenting advice. An Advocate Lutheran General Hospital nurse representative is on hand for any childhood development questions. 9:30 a.m. Monday, Kohl Children's Museum, 2100 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-832-6600

MGPL Kids: Monday Morning Playgroup: Drop-in play time for preschoolers with a parent or caregiver to introduce young children to the library in a low-key, unstructured session. Visit

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www.mgpl.org for more information. 10:30 a.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Yarn Gang: Kids in grades one and up are invited to try their hand at knitting, crocheting or other yarn crafts. 4 p.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Mardi Gras Party: Celebrate the holiday with cake, crafts and snacks. 1 p.m. Monday, Whole Foods Market, 840 Willow Road, Northbrook, free, 847-729-7500

Presidents' Day Fun: Meet the Lincolns: Bring the kids to meet President and Mrs. Lincoln this Presidents' Day. President Lincoln talks about growing up in a log cabin, how he got his beard and why he wears such a tall hat. Presidential games and activities follow. 1:30 p.m. Monday, Wilmette Historical Society, 609 Ridge Road, Wilmette, free, 847-853-7666

Tuesday, Feb. 17

Beyond the Box Score: The Female Voice in Sports Media: The state of sports journalism today, the advantages and disadvantages women face in the media and the perceptions they must overcome are addressed during "The Female Voice in Sports Media," the fifth installment of the "Beyond the Box Score," lecture series hosted by Medill and Northwestern Athletics. 5 p.m. Tuesday, McCormick Tribune Center, Northwestern University, 1870 Campus Drive, Evanston, free, 847-491-2050.

Power Employment Workshop: This free workshop, presented by volunteers from Business and Career Services of Illinois WorkNet, provides expert guidance on smart goals, resume and cover letter writing, effective job searching and interview techniques. Arrive on time. Register at glenviewpl.org/register. 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

WORD 2010 Formatting and Images: Format a document and learn how to work with pictures and clip art. Registration and Glenview Library card required. Register at glenviewpl.org/register. 2 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Science Night at Wildwood Nature Center: Turn one's family into scientists and explore fun science concepts. Make cool scientific discoveries

through experiments, projects and play. Different activities in each class. Register online at www.prparks.org. 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wildwood Nature Center, 529 Forestview Avenue, Park Ridge, \$12 per family, 847-692-3570

Wednesday, Feb. 18

YMCA Preschool Art Classes: The North Suburban YMCA Art Academy provides experiences for preschoolers to create art. Ages 3-5 with an adult. Parent or caregiver must be present. Registration is required and preference is given to Glenview Library cardholders. Register at glenviewpl.org/register. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Bernard Weinger Jewish Community Center Men's Group: The Men's Club meets throughout the year on Wednesday mornings. For adults 55 and older. Every week there's a stimulating new topic for the guys to talk about at the JCC. The JCC Men's Club gives one an easy way to meet up with others for fellowship and intellectual stimulation. Enjoy the camaraderie while coming together for a broad range of interesting programs and lectures. There's always something new to learn. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Bernard Weinger JCC, 300 Revere Dr., Northbrook, free, 224-406-9200

Who wrote Shakespeare's plays?: Examine the history of Shakespeare's authorship from his own time, and on into our own time, and take a close look at the principal candidates for his throne. 1 p.m. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$10-\$13, 847-784-6030

Free movie night: Enjoy a double feature that highlights historical films from the heyday of Maxwell Street and South Haven. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

A Song For You: National Louis University hosts a screening of the new documentary "A Song for You," which looks at a family's escape from the Nazis in France and their five years on the run after that escape. 6 p.m. Wednesday, National Louis University North Shore, 5202 Old Orchard Road, Skokie, free, 224-233-2369

Have an event to submit? Go to chicagotribune.com/calendar



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ManUP honors veterans at 'Leave No One Behind'

KARIE ANGELL LUC
Pioneer Press

"A major success in supporting our Gulf War wounded veterans," said Bill Landwehr of Northbrook, describing the first annual "Leave No One Behind" breakfast at Northbrook's Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel on Jan. 24.

Landwehr, as event director, organized the fundraiser for the Wounded Warrior Project with fellow members of ManUP, a north suburban volunteer group.

The breakfast raised over \$101,000, twice the goal of \$50,000. Keynote speaker was Deven Schei, a Gulf War veteran, who gave emotional testimony of the war's toll, chronicling his long recovery from wounds. Schei shared his passion for the Wounded Warrior Project, which helps other returning veterans.

"Deven's compelling story helped us further understand the trauma of war, and the physical and mental challenges from wounds and what we can do to share our support and compassion for our veterans," Landwehr said.

More than 310 people attended the sold-out Saturday morning sit-down breakfast.

Enough money was netted to purchase eight Action Trackchairs for veterans. Track wheelchairs move far better than standard wheelchairs, traveling over hills and snow, for instance.



From left, Joe Butzen, Peter Stockslager, Chris Birren and Nick Kaup, all of Northbrook.

"It's great to see the community turn out for an event like this," said Northbrook Village President Sandy Frum. "It is so important to support the men and women who have served and who have come back wounded."

Local corporations, American Legion posts, police and fire departments were also fundraiser sponsors.

Felix Castillo, 9, of Mundelein, attending with his mother Laura Castillo, wore his Scout uniform. Felix donated money he'd raised selling "Felix's Famous Cookies." Mexican tea cookies.

"It feels great," Felix said. "I like helping people out." "I am extremely proud of him," said Laura Castillo. "It



Irv Winer of Wheeling and Karl Ritz of Northfield. Both men served in the U.S. Army, Winer during World War II and Ritz during the Korean War.

has never been about him, it's always about giving back."

To learn more about

ManUP and its future fundraising events, email wiliam.landwehr@yahoo.com or ssnenadov@comcast.net.



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Bill Landwehr of Northbrook, the event director.



Laura Castillo of Mundelein and her son Felix, 9. Felix raised money by selling cookies and donated it to help wounded Gulf War veterans.



Deven Schei, keynote speaker and a Gulf War veteran, near a trackchair.

Evans Scholars: 85 years of funding college for caddies

BY LAURA PAVIN
Pioneer Press

Glenview resident Joe Haffner learned early on that he had to work for what he wanted in life.

Coming from a family with 15 kids, caddying at the Beverly Country Club in Chicago offered him and his siblings the chance to earn money and a shot at becoming an Evans Scholar.

Haffner, who graduated from Marquette in '87, credits the Foundation's support system for his success. "I moved into a house with four roommates cut from the same cloth, and it made a huge difference in how I approached school," said Haffner, now an attorney with his own private practice. "We all felt obligated to do well and supported each other."

His experience isn't unique.

As of last December, the Evans Scholars Foundation had more than 10,000 alumni. Currently, 870 young men and women are enrolled as Evans Scholars at 19 universities across the United States.

Evans Scholars began 85 years ago with the dream of one of Chicago's great sportsmen, golfer Charles "Chick" Evans Jr. (1890-1979), who hoped to send as many hardworking, ambitious caddies as possible to college.

In 1930, Evans asked the Western Golf Association to take over the fund he had started earlier with his golfing prize money. The WGA set up the Evans Scholars Foundation in Golf, Ill., and has since helped thousands of students, most of them with significant financial needs, fulfill dreams of a higher education, covering the costs of tuition, room and board.

Roger Mohr of Lake Forest also grew up know-



Chick Evans golfing.

ing he'd have to work for what he wanted. His father had died, and his mother, little education had little income.

So in eighth grade, Mohr started caddying at the Milwaukee County Club in Wisconsin. By 1949, that caddying earned him a scholarship from the Evans Scholars Foundation.

"No one in my family had ever gone to college — without the scholarship, I don't know what would have happened to me," said Mohr. "It was the opportunity of a lifetime."

Mohr went on to serve as president of Chicago's Arthur Meyerhoff advertising agency, secretary of the board of the American Association of Advertising Agencies, and president, CEO, board chairman and vice chairman-international of BBDO Chicago Inc., and in other

prestigious positions.

Like many Evans Scholars, Mohr has stayed connected to the Foundation. He has been president of the Evans Scholars Alumni Association, as well as director, vice president and chairman of the WGA. Under his leadership, the association's first endowment fund was formed. It's worth millions today.

Loyalty is a big part of the reason why the Foundation is one of the largest privately-funded scholarship programs in the country.

In 2014 alone, alumni donated a record \$8 million to the program; over the course of its 85-year history, they've given more than \$93 million.

More information at wgaesf.org.

Laura Pavin is a freelance reporter.

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Heal your heart

Whether you have a genetic predisposition to heart disease or not, lifestyle changes can reduce risks

BY HEATHER SCHROERING
Special to Tribune Newspapers

When President Lyndon Johnson proclaimed February as American Heart Month 51 years ago, cardiovascular disease was responsible for more than half of all deaths in the country. With improved medical technology and more knowledge of risk factors, the death toll has dropped remarkably, but heart disease is still the leading killer, claiming one in four people each year, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Cancer claims another of the four, and a variety of less common causes account for the rest.

Like cancer, heart disease isn't one thing; it's an umbrella term for all types of conditions that affect the heart. Coronary artery disease, when plaque builds up in the arteries that supply blood to the heart, is the most common in the U.S. and is increasingly taking a toll on younger Americans. But even in middle age, heart disease isn't inevitable, according to Dr. John Mandrola, a cardiac electrophysiologist at Louisville Cardiology Group in Kentucky.

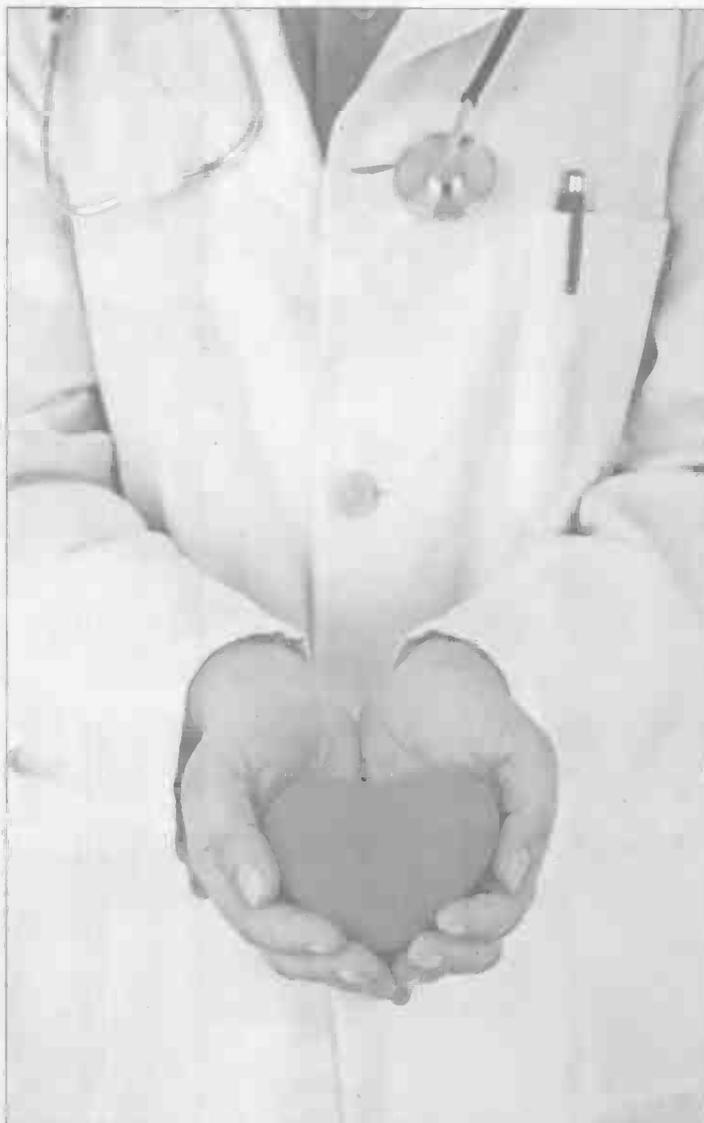
While not all risks can be controlled or treated, Mandrola stressed that 95 percent of heart disease risk is modifiable. "Even if you have a strong family history, the risks can be lowered significantly," he said.

What causes heart attacks?

Sudden heart attacks are caused by abrupt closure of a vessel. Historically, physicians have focused on fixing larger blockages that appear on stress tests. These markers for heart disease are important because they can cause chest pain and heart failure.

But even though less blood flows past larger blockages, the surface of the plaque is smoother because the larger blockages have been there longer, so doctors now understand that heart attacks can be caused by less severe obstructions.

"A plaque fissures, just a little,



PEPIFOTO/E+

like a skin nick," said Mandrola, also a columnist for the professional cardiology site TheHeart.org. "A few platelets stick to the vessel wall, like what happens on skin. Then a few more platelets stick. Then a cascade of sticking. A clot ... The pipe, which an hour ago had a 10 percent blockage, is now 100 percent blocked. Heart attack. That's why you can pass a stress test and have a heart attack hours later."

Nearly everyone is susceptible, but if someone has a parent who had a heart attack in his or her 50s or younger, it's better to worry early. "The genetic predisposition is kind of relevant because if you find out you do have a genetic

tendency, that should increase (your awareness)," Mandrola said, "that's an important piece of information."

So especially if you're genetically inclined, here are things you should and shouldn't do.

The don'ts

Smoking: It's the chief contributor to heart disease, Mandrola said, causing short-term and long-term risks. It irritates the inside of blood vessels, causing plaque buildup over time. The good news is that the risk of sudden heart attack starts to decrease about two weeks after a smoker

quits as the vascular system begins to heal. But other smoking risks, such as cancer and a future heart attack from plaque buildup, remain, so the longer a person has been smoking, the higher the risk.

Diabetes: Having high blood sugar and elevated insulin (the hormone that helps metabolize glucose) increases risk of plaque formation and inflammation, according to Mandrola. "Insulin promotes fat and plaque buildup, and the more insulin you have, the more likely you are to have plaque and also more inflammation," Mandrola said.

High blood pressure: High blood pressure, or hypertension, means the blood vessels are stiff. "The heart beats 100,000 times per day," Mandrola said. "If you're pumping into a blood vessel that has a lot of tension because it's stiff, that's a lot of sheer force, and over time, that sheer force of having high blood pressure is going to cause wear and tear on that blood vessel." Hypertension also damages the arteries and kidneys but mostly can be corrected with exercise and a good diet.

Obesity: Not only does being overweight wear on the body, joints and blood vessels, but fat cells are "factories of inflammation," Mandrola said. The benefits of weight loss begin right away, within the first 10 to 20 pounds, Mandrola said.

The do's

Eat better: Rather than turn immediately to medications, Dr. Sudhakar Chennareddy, a cardiologist with Kentucky Heart Specialists at Baptist Health Louisville, believes diet and nutrition are the primary components of prevention. "As doctors, we need to tell them what they can and cannot eat," he said.

Any fried foods or anything with trans fat doesn't have much benefit, and watch the salt and sugar, which mostly turns into fat, he says. Also, avoid foods with a shelf life and lots of preservatives. He recommends that the diet be mostly plant-based, particularly in

people with coronary disease or high risk factors for heart attack.

"Choose to make your plate colorful every time you eat," said Dr. Jennifer H. Mieres, professor of cardiology and a cardiologist at the North Shore-LIJ Health System in metro New York. Fill it with fruits and vegetables and just a palm-sized portion of grilled or boiled meat, if you have to have it.

Choose complex carbs, which require more work to break down, versus refined foods. And even at that, opt for small portions of brown rice or whole-grain pasta and of root vegetables, like yams and sweet potatoes.

Mieres also said having two servings of fish high in omega fatty acids (salmon, mackerel and herring) twice a week can be cardioprotective.

Exercise every day: Obviously a medical work-up before starting strenuous exercise is recommended, but even moving will help.

Do something active every day for 20 to 30 minutes. From yoga to mall-walking, any exercise that increases breathing and heart rate and is enjoyable is good exercise. Mandrola, a cyclist, finds high-intensity interval training very effective.

That involves intense bouts of exercise for a short period of time (sprinting versus jogging). "It's like you're sprinting with your heart," said Dr. Jordan Metzl, sports medicine physician at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City. This type of exercise can be done on a bike or the treadmill but certainly is not limited to that.

Get enough sleep: Sleep deprivation irritates the heart rhythm and blood vessels. "If you don't get a good night's sleep, you're less apt to exercise, you're more apt to be hungry," Mandrola said.

Manage stress: Doctors agree that managing stress is important. Though it's unavoidable, how we handle it is important. Many studies, for example, point to links between anger and heart disease.



puzzle island

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2/8

Double Dactyls: With the same meter reading

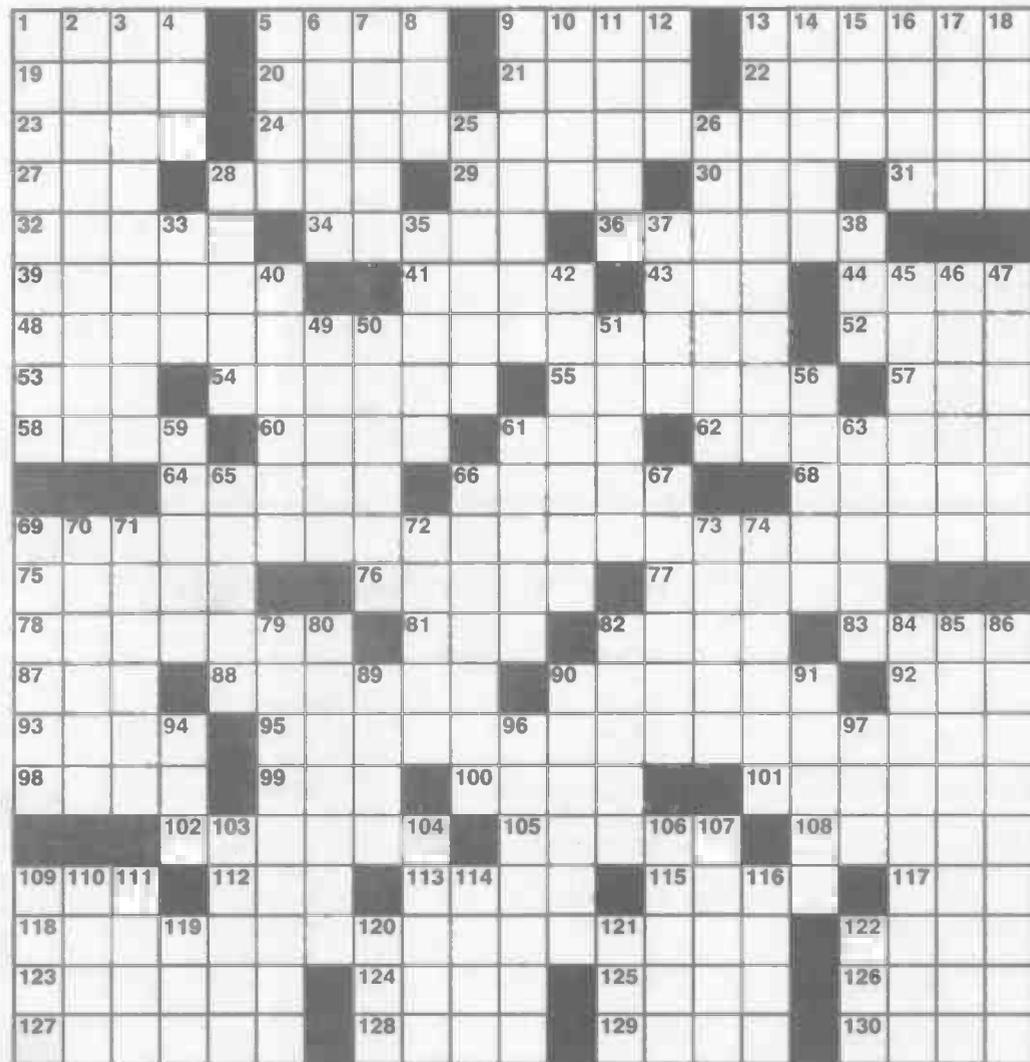
BY S.N. | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN
(stanxwords.com)

Across

- 1 Lucy van
— (Peanuts character)
- 5 Sound scared
- 9 —-Cola (Pepsi rival)
- 13 Headquartering
- 19 Big name in tablets
- 20 Choir voice
- 21 Wally of cookies
- 22 World's largest peninsula
- 23 Name of 12 popes
- 24 Russian-born pianist
- 27 Leaving guess: Abbr.
- 28 Quick look
- 29 Solemn act
- 30 Trio on older phones
- 31 Poor grade
- 32 Rhett Butler spouse
- 34 Himalayan land
- 36 More sore
- 39 Send back
- 41 Bruins of the Pac-12
- 43 "For ___ a jolly good ..."
- 44 Ring of light
- 48 Anderson Cooper's heiress mom
- 52 Aroma
- 53 Make known
- 54 Lab garments
- 55 Field of work
- 57 Expected
- 58 All those against
- 60 Greatly impresses
- 61 Spree
- 62 On the way up
- 64 You, south of the border
- 66 Drinks with fizz
- 68 Outback predator
- 69 *The Little Mermaid* author
- 75 Keep ___ to the ground
- 76 Freezing temperatures
- 77 Sleep disturber
- 78 Disentangles
- 81 Sgt. subordinate
- 82 *House Hunters* cable channel
- 83 Den seating
- 87 Acorn, essentially
- 88 Tomasso's "thanks"
- 90 Prepared
- 92 Convent resident
- 93 Bath-powder ingredient
- 95 "First Lady of the World"
- 98 Gravity-powered vehicle
- 99 UFO pilots
- 100 Jacuzzi
- 101 Army medic's procedure
- 102 Put a match to
- 105 Social gathering
- 108 Hairy, as an 82 Down
- 109 Director — Lee
- 112 SEAL's employer
- 113 Cleaner scent
- 115 Heavy mists
- 117 Cloner's material
- 118 *A Beautiful Mind* Oscar winner
- 122 Accord
- 123 Fit for plowing
- 124 Pick a candidate
- 125 Look to be
- 126 Peace Nobel
- 127 Take turns
- 128 GNP or RBI
- 129 Monitors before flat-screens
- 130 Lumber along

Down

- 1 Church fixture
- 2 Skin cells
- 3 Praiseful
- 4 Super Bowl scores
- 5 Handed over
- 6 *Blue Jasmine* director
- 7 Amount bet
- 8 Okra portion
- 9 Composer Saint-Saëns
- 10 Decide to leave out
- 11 Jazz pianist Chick
- 12 Wood in bats
- 13 British attorney
- 14 Come up smelling like ___
- 15 Tool with teeth
- 16 Bibliography abbr.
- 17 Marquee time
- 18 Stare intently
- 25 S&L offerings
- 26 Hamlet's love
- 28 Helen of Troy's abductor
- 33 Play about robots
- 35 Young hoodlums
- 37 IOU
- 38 Frat letter
- 40 "Broadway Joe" of football
- 42 Naval fleets
- 45 Computer accessories
- 46 Waiting room
- 47 Crater Lake locale
- 49 Party to a promise
- 50 Nailed an exam
- 51 Took the first step
- 56 Travels on
- 59 Scottish singer Boyle
- 61 Shared equally
- 63 Fathers of colts
- 65 Very thin person
- 66 Justice succeeded by Kagan
- 67 Serenaded
- 69 Favorite hangouts
- 70 Flower category
- 71 Get cozy
- 72 Dark brown
- 73 Wrong
- 74 Rid (of)
- 79 Cost to play a round
- 80 Chowder cracker
- 82 Polo participant
- 84 Everybody
- 85 Castro foe Batista
- 86 Came before
- 89 Gusto
- 90 Second Commandment word
- 91 Contractual details
- 94 Start of the fifth century
- 96 Scoring opportunity in hockey
- 97 Traveling through
- 103 Jury's determination
- 104 Part of Disney World
- 106 Any Super Bowl athlete
- 107 Landlord's sign
- 109 Open a little
- 110 Emperor after Claudius
- 111 Small fly
- 114 Slightest amount
- 116 Where boxers train
- 119 Hoop group
- 120 Campers, for short
- 121 PC key
- 122 Gusto



Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

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Quote-Acrossic

- Define clues, writing in Words column over numbered dashes.
- Transfer letters to numbered squares in diagram.
- When pattern is completed, quotation can be read left to right. The first letters of the filled-in words reading down form an acrostic yielding the speaker's name and the topic of the quotation.

Clues

Words

- A. African antelope 131 33 52 39 18 5
- B. Entanglement 156 91 141 58 21 38 124 164 46
- C. Former Bush mouthpiece 144 45 37 78 153 117 99 8
- D. Podiatric affliction; 2 wds. 163 32 65 89 143 54 11 112 100
154 125 26
- E. Partnered with Purina 86 140 105 128 98 24 1
- F. Brown deliverers 159 85 47
- G. Gut 152 69 63 34 22 92 118 79 48 103
- H. Harriet and Ozzie 147 80 49 60 7 122 74
- I. Creamy syllabus 111 16 71 158 29 82

- J. Equilateral parallelogram 25 113 126 135 88 72 4
- K. A christening designee 123 36 157 129 87 67 145 108 165
- L. Foster's ___ at Home; 2 wds. 106 28 9 136 114 155 127 61
- M. Cleopatra's needle, e.g. 96 51 75 142 27 13 43
- N. British award of merit 56 70 130
- O. Offering, sometimes 116 101 133 10 73 23 81 42 55
- P. Moor of Venice 134 94 110 31 102 44 151
- Q. Worship rites 35 104 84 93 19 149 50
- R. Establish for use 121 77 97 64 146 40 53
- S. Nimble 57 115 17 139
- T. MP3 radio show 162 137 68 20 148 12 119
- U. Societal hymn 66 6 109 83 132 95
- V. Follows 'Our Father who art...'; 2 wds. 14 3 120 59 76 107 90 160
- W. Very, very hungry 138 41 30 62 15 150 2 161



Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

By Angela Hoyt.
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.
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Superior Scientists

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across

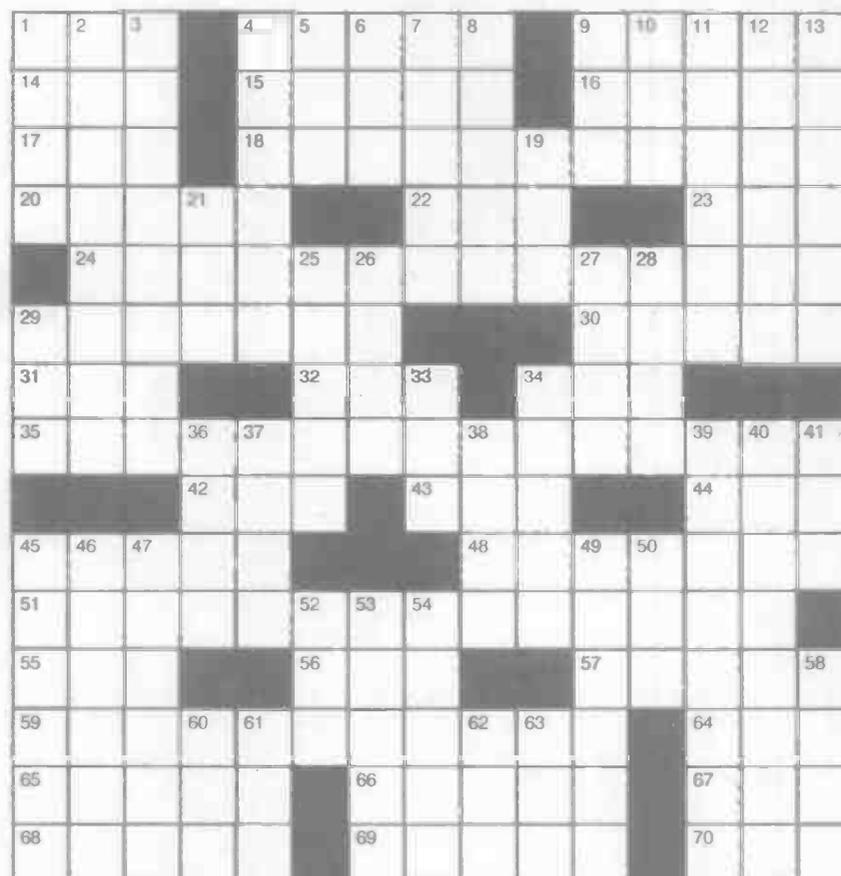
- 1 Sugary ending
4 Muscle component
9 Miser
14 Lenient
15 Nintendo's precursor
16 Asian capital
17 Western Holiday
18 Gravity theorist
20 Javelin
22 Do the slopes
23 Tina's ex
24 Pioneer in quantum theory
29 Salzburg's site
30 Pelts
31 Year in Vigilius's papacy
32 Univ. entrance test
34 Actor Kingsley
35 Oxygen discoverer
42 ___ King Cole
43 Black cuckoo
44 Bullring cheer
45 City on the Po
48 Villain, often
51 He coined the word molecule
55 FedEx alternative

- 56 Arafat's gp.
57 Leg part
59 Radium co-discoverer
64 Charged particle
65 Bert's buddy
66 Expressed in base eight
67 Gun-rights gp.
68 Sisters of Charity founder
69 Attention-getters
70 Musical sensitivity

Down

- 1 Auto-industry pioneer
2 Largest city in South America
3 Gloria in ___ Deo
4 More light-complected
5 ___ now or never!
6 Cote note
7 Wipe the chalkboard
8 Talk-show host Lake
9 Revolutionary Guevara
10 Turn left
11 Removed a knot
12 Novice
13 Bedclothes
19 Diarist Anais

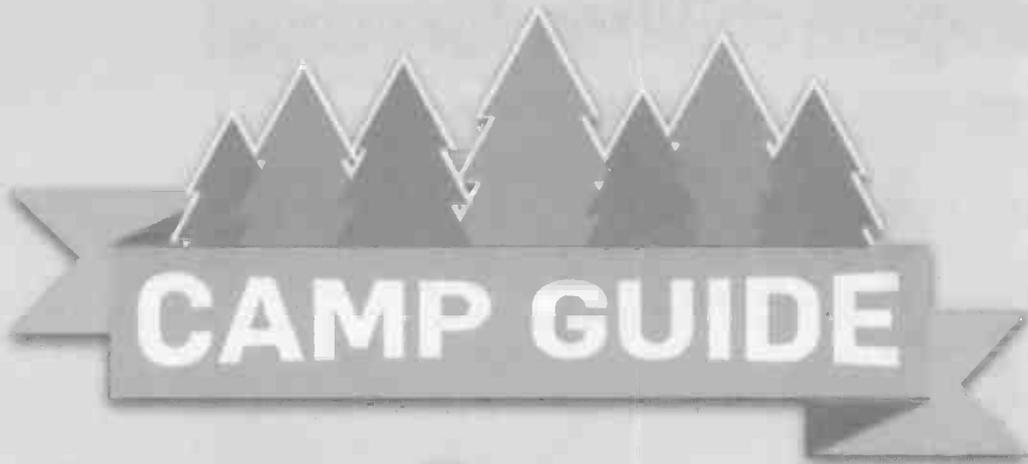
- 21 Composer Franz ___
25 Privilege
26 Waterproof canvas
27 Females
28 Shade
29 Pt. of speech
33 Paleozoic, for one
34 Existence
36 Author Bagnold
37 Window section
38 ___ many words
39 Region in France
40 Actress Duse
41 ___ Blues: Beatles tune.
45 Brownish grays
46 Diamond official
47 Hold a grudge
49 Painters' supports
50 Old English letter
52 Unclosed, in verse
53 Tennessee city
54 Verify
58 Tree burl
60 Lead-in for Branco or Bravo
61 Stimpy's sidekick
62 Highway abbreviation
63 ___ Woman



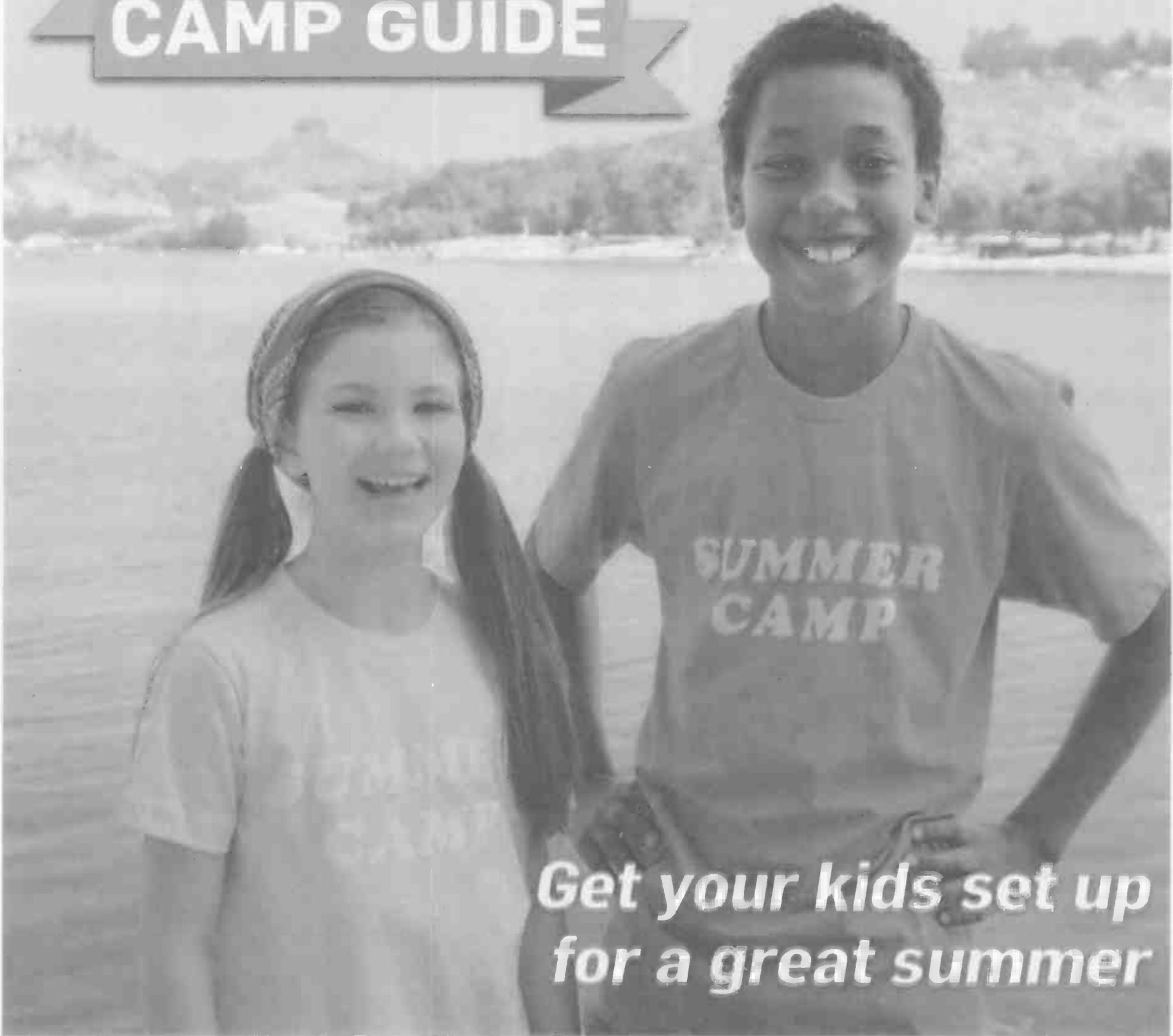
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CAMP GUIDE



**Get your kids set up
for a great summer**

Skills learned at camp prepare children for school

Now that the holidays are over, and families have settled in to a new semester, it's a good time for parents to reflect on their child's growth and development during this school year. Parents of children who attended a great summer camp last year will notice that skills learned over the summer are reflected in their child's school performance: Camp becomes a bridge between school grade levels, keeping children on the path to success.

One of the ways a summer spent at camp prepares children for the school year is by supporting their independence. For some younger children, a day at camp marks the first experience they have away from their parents. A safe, nurturing experience provided by a mature and well-trained staff guides younger campers as they learn to dress themselves, take care of their belongings and try new activities. Older campers experience greater independence as they choose activities based on their interests and learn to advocate for their needs. These experiences build self-confidence as campers learn that they can



Summer camp teaches children to communicate and develop lasting friendships.

be self-reliant in many areas of their lives.

Camp also prepares children by teaching important social skills needed to make friends, work within a group and communicate with adults. If conflicts arise, children

at camp learn how to communicate for healthy and meaningful resolution. As part of a camp group, children learn to cooperate and support one another. They learn teamwork through spirited activities like

color wars and sports leagues. Children also learn to communicate with adults outside of their family circles. This is extremely important in building a foundation where children feel comfortable speaking up for themselves and asking questions in the classroom.

In addition to independence and social skills, campers demonstrate a greater level of resiliency. Through encountering new experiences and taking safe-risks, children learn to stretch out of their comfort zones.

The lessons learned from a summer spent at camp lay a strong foundation for a successful future. The right camp teaches children to do their best, work together, support their friends and to keep doing their best even when challenges arise. Campers learn to work together as a team and be kind to each other. This attitude combined with the wholesome nurturing of a loving staff is the essence of a great camp.

— Submitted by Banner Day Camp, a premier day camp on Chicago's North Shore serving Chicago and the northern suburbs.



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Making camp affordable

With summer school's many positive effects, parents are eager to sign their children up for the experience. However, camp can quickly become an extra expense, and some families may question their ability to afford it. Being on a budget doesn't have to mean summer camp is out of reach.

"There is a camp for every family budget," says Peg Smith, CEO of the American Camp Association (ACA). "It is important that you ask financial questions. What discounts are available? Are there scholarships? What kind of payment plans (are there)? Don't assume you can't afford to send your child to camp."

Smith suggests that parents begin their research at campparents.org, a resource website run by the ACA. The database allows users to research camps by cost as well as age, interests and special needs.

Many camps offer special discounts including early-registration markdowns, price reductions for multiple enrollments per family, and reductions for full season attendance.

"We offer payment plans and an early-registration discount," says Gayle Baritz, communications specialist for the Northbrook Park District.

Some camps might also be willing to help cover full or partial cost of tuition for children who come from families with special circumstances and financial issues.

"There are so many different ways to accommodate special circumstances, from full funding to payment plans," says Barb Lazarus, owner of Game On! Summer Sports Camp 4 Girls.

Families can also ask if a camp is part of a scholarship program. SCOPE Midwest offers scholarships. According to Stacy Schwartz Kotelov, co-owner of the Lake Forest-based Banner Day Camp, families can contact SCOPE Midwest directly to find out which camps participate with the scholarship program.

For families who find their budgets cannot accommodate the cost of residential or overnight camp, places such as the YMCA or local park districts can provide economical day programs.

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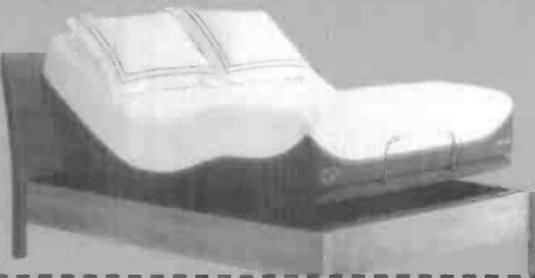
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Association for Individual Development, an agency serving adults with disabilities, seeks FT Maintenance person for our residential and office facilities in the Elgin and Tri-Cities area. Duties include electrical, plumbing, HVAC, painting, and general repairs. Job requires good interpersonal skills. Starting wage \$13.50 - \$14.50. HS Diploma or GED, valid driver's license, vehicle, tools & auto insurance req'd. Applications accepted online at www.the-association.org

Association for Individual Development
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Aurora, IL 60506
Phone: 630-966-4028
Fax: 630-844-1753

Help Wanted Full Time

Sr. Sustainability Research Engineer

EXTENDED - UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN (UIUC). The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is seeking qualified candidates for the open position of Senior Sustainability Research Engineer for the Illinois Center for Transportation (ICT) located at the Advanced Transportation Research and Engineering Laboratory (ATREL) in Rantoul, Illinois. The Senior Sustainability Research Engineer will prepare and maintain a research portfolio for the sustainability transportation program at the Illinois Center for Transportation (ICT) and will manage and carry out sustainability research projects at the Advanced Transportation Research Engineering Laboratory (ATREL) and on-site. Please visit <http://jobs.illinois.edu> to view the complete position announcement and application instructions. The closing date for this position is February 9, 2015.

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Labrador Retriever - LAB PUPS & MINI LABS \$350-\$800. Choc, Polar, yellow, & Bk. Started dogs \$1000-\$2500. Guar., Mchlp, delivery avail. 815-712-9090

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All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, in the sale, rental, or financing of housing.

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This paper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in connection with the sale, rental or financing of housing, Call:

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HOPE Fair Housing Center
630-690-6500

South City and Suburbs:
South Suburban Housing Center
708-957-4674

North City and Suburbs:
Interfaith Housing Center
of the Northern Suburbs
847-501-5760

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Judicial Sales - Legal

SKOKIE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, NOT ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT WOLEY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE PRIMESTAR-H FUND I TRUST and WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLEY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE PRIMESTAR-H FUND II TRUST, as successor by assignment from BMO HARRIS BANK N.A., as successor in interest to HARRIS N.A. Plaintiff,

vs. ANGELO BERT; BESSY BERT; BMO HARRIS BANK N.A. AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO HARRIS N.A.; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

12 CH 28198 NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause on Monday, March 2, 2015, at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:

Commonly known as 8922 Kolmar Avenue, Skokie, IL 60076. P.I.N. 10-15-320-026 and 10-15-320-027. The mortgaged real estate is a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by Subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds balance, by certified funds within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call Mr. David C. Kluever at Plaintiff's Attorney, Kluever & Platt, L.L.C., 65 East Wacker Place, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (312) 236-0077. INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION Selling officer, (312) 444-1122 1642204

1/29, 2/5, 2/12/15 907948

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Judicial Sales - Legal

HARWOOD HEIGHTS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWAIT, INC. LOAN TRUST 2007-5CB MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-5CB Plaintiff,

vs. STEVEN JANKOVIC; GAIL JANKOVIC; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants.

12 CH 24495 NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause on November 20, 2014 Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, February 23, 2015 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:

Commonly known as 7432 West Carmen Avenue, Harwood Heights, IL 60706. The mortgaged real estate is improved with a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by Subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds balance, by certified funds within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call Mr. David C. Kluever at Plaintiff's Attorney, Kluever & Platt, L.L.C., 65 East Wacker Place, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (312) 236-0077. INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION Selling officer, (312) 444-1122 1/29, 2/5, 2/12/15 #906828

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CHICAGO - ESTATE SALE 7304 N Octavia, 60631. Fri 2/13 & Sat 2/14 9a-4p, Sun 2/15 10a-2p. Cash Only.

Estate Sale - Sun 2/8, 10-2. 151 S. Ashlawn Oswego, off RT25. Rescheduled from Feb.1 due to blizzard Conducted by Triple S. 630-707-7189

Evergreen Park - High School Annual Indoor Garage Sale/ Antique Market 100+ tbs full of treasures Food, raffle, adm. \$1. Sat. 2/14, 9-3. 99th and Kedzie.

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Skokie - Items From A to Z. 5204 Brown St. Fri 2/13 and Sat 2/14 9-3. Antiques See estatesales.net Cash only

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Judicial Sales - Legal

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Plaintiff,**

**-vs- ALSON ODISHO, MICHELLE ODISHO, CITIBANK, N.A. F/K/A CITIBANK,
FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK, NATIONAL CITY BANK, TCF NATIONAL BANK
Defendants
09 CH 0390154
5342 HARVARD TERRACE SKOKIE, IL 60077**

**NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 10, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on March 12, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 5342 HARVARD TERRACE, SKOKIE, IL 60077 Property Index No. 10-28-117-021, 10-28-117-035. The real estate is encumbered with a residential Sales terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/ or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(a)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-(i). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For more information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney, CODILUS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-9876 Please refer to file number 14-09-25303. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-3456 You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.jsac.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILUS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 Attorney File No. 14-09-25303 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number 09 CH 039054 TJSC#: 35-47 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
644000
02/12/2015, 02/19/2015, & 02/26/2015 3045025**

LEGALS**Assumed Name**

ASSUMED NAME
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct of transaction of Business in the State," as amended, that a certification was registered by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County Registration Number: 045140686 on January 22, 2015. Under the Assumed Name of

HEBDA SERVICES
with the business located at 4219 N Mason, Chicago, IL 60634. The true and real full name(s) and residence address of the owner(s)/partner(s) is: Michal Hebdia, 4219 N Mason, Chicago, IL 60634
1/29, 2/5, 12/2015 908653

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Judicial Sales - Legal**Bid Notice**

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
Lincolnwood School District 74, is accepting sealed bids for a building envelope project. A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held at the Lincolnwood School District 74 Administration Center located at 6950 North East Prairie Road, Lincolnwood, IL 60712 at 2:30PM on February 13, 2015. All bidders intending to submit a proposal must be present, attendance will be taken. SEALED BIDS TO BE SUBMITTED TO Lincolnwood School District 74, 6950 North East Prairie Road, Lincolnwood, IL 60712. Attention: Ms. Jessica Donato, Business Manager, Before 11:00AM, February 27, 2015. Bids will be received and stamped-in prior to 11:00AM local time on February 27, 2015. All bids will be publicly opened and announced at that time. Bids received after the above noted date and time will not be considered. Bid security, payable to the Owner, in the form of a certified check, or bid bond in an amount equal to 10% of the base bid shall be submitted with the bid. Performance and Labor and Material Payment Bonds and Certificate of Insurance, as required by the Owner, will be required from the successful bidder. The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, or waive any irregularities or informalities, and to make the award in the best interest of the District. All bidders must comply with applicable Illinois Law requiring the payment of prevailing wages by all contractors working on public works. Bidder must comply with the Illinois Statutory requirements regarding labor, including Equal Employment Opportunity Laws. The bid documents and drawings are on file, February 12, 2015, and copies may be obtained electronically by contacting Terry Stoklosa @ tskoklosa@tfsalliancegroup.com or by phone @ 773-930-3385. Please contact Terry Stoklosa, TFS Alliance Group for any questions regarding this Request for Bid at (773) 930-3385 or tskoklosa@tfsalliancegroup.com

BOARD OF EDUCATION: LINCOLNWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT 74, 6950 NORTH EAST PRAIRIE ROAD, LINCOLNWOOD, IL 60712 2/12/2015 30444028

Bid Notice

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
Niles Township District for Special Education 807, is accepting sealed bids for purchase of HVAC equipment. A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held at the Niles Township District for Special Education 807 Administration Center located at 8701 Menard Avenue, Morton Grove, IL 60053 at 9:00AM on February 13, 2015. All bidders intending to submit a proposal must be present, attendance will be taken. SEALED BIDS TO BE SUBMITTED TO: Niles Township District for Special Education 807, 8701 Menard Avenue, Morton Grove, IL 60053. Attention: Ms. Kathy Gavin, Director of Fiscal Services, before 9:00AM, February 27, 2015. Bids will be received and stamped-in prior to 9:00AM local time on February 27, 2015. All bids will be publicly opened and announced at that time. Bids received after the above noted date and time will not be considered. Bid security, payable to the Owner, in the form of a certified check, or bid bond in an amount equal to 10% of the base bid shall be submitted with the bid. The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, or waive any irregularities or informalities, and to make the award in the best interest of the District. All bidders must comply with applicable Illinois Law requiring the payment of prevailing wages by all contractors working on public works. Bidder must comply with the Illinois Statutory requirements regarding labor, including Equal Employment Opportunity Laws. The bid documents and drawings are on file, February 12, 2015, and copies may be obtained electronically by contacting Terry Stoklosa @ tskoklosa@tfsalliancegroup.com or by phone @ 773-930-3385. Please contact Terry Stoklosa, TFS Alliance Group for any questions regarding this Request for Bid at (773) 930-3385 or tskoklosa@tfsalliancegroup.com

BOARD OF EDUCATION: NILES TOWNSHIP FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION 807, 8701 MENARD AVENUE, MORTON GROVE, IL 60053 2/12/2015 3044825

APARTMENT FOR RENT?

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ADVERTISERS

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Bid Notice

Evanson / Skokie School District 65 OAKTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ROOFING REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
ADVERTISER INFORMATION: Lump sum sealed bids will be received by the Owner, Evanston/Skokie School District 65 on Wednesday, March 4, 2015, at 11:00 a.m. prevailing time of the financial records of the Roofing Removal and Replacement at Oakton Elementary School. Bidding Documents: Are on file and may be examined at the offices of the Architect or forwarded to contractors via e-mail (pdf) on Wednesday, February 18, 2015. Hutchins Design Group, Ltd. 232 E. Main Street, Barrington, IL 60010 (847) 756-4450, (847) 756-4451 Fax: info@hutchinsdesigngroup.com

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Monday, February 23, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. prevailing time at the Oakton Elementary School located at 436 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, IL 60202.

Bid security in the form of a Bid Bond, Certified Check, or Cash in an amount equal to 10 percent of the Base Bid amount shall be submitted with the bid. Should a Bid Bond be submitted, the Bid Bond shall be payable to the Owner.

All bidders must comply with applicable Illinois Law requiring the payment of prevailing wages by all contractors working on public works. Bidder must comply with the Illinois Statutory requirements regarding labor, including Equal Employment Opportunity Laws.

All bidders, prior to receiving Bidding Documents, must be either a Carlisle Centurion or a Firestone Building Products Master Contractor, pre-qualified available from the Architect, and have \$10 million in umbrella excess liability insurance over primary insurance prior to obtaining Bid Documents. Pre-qualification forms are available from the Architect, and must be returned for review, 100% complete, five working days prior to the Bid Opening Date.

Bids shall be submitted on or before the specified closing time in an opaque sealed envelope addressed to:

Contact Name
Mr. Doug Stevenson, Director of Buildings & Grounds
Owner
Evanston/Skokie School District 65
Address
2017 Greenleaf Street
City, State, Zip Code
Evanston, IL 60202

A copy should also be submitted via e-mail to:

Contact Name
Mr. Thomas Hutchinson, AIA, FRCI, RRC, Architect
Company
Hutchinson Design Group, Ltd.
E-mail
info@hutchinsdesigngroup.com

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, or waive any irregularities or informalities, and to make the award in the best interest of the Owner.
2/12/2015 3035433

Skokie School District 73 seeks bids for Painting Project at Middleton Elementary School. Bid Specifications will be available from the Architect, 12, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. Prairie Road, Skokie, IL 60076 or by calling Steve Ruelli at 847.676.8227. There will be a mandatory site inspection on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 3:30 pm at Middleton Elementary School, 8300 St. Louis Ave., Skokie, IL, 60076. Sealed bids must be submitted by 10:00 am on Wednesday, February 12, 2015 at the Skokie School District 73, 8000 East Prairie Road, Skokie, IL 60076. 2/12/2015 3044120

ONLINE

Go to placeand.tribunesuburbs.com to order and pay for your classified ad. Online. Anytime. It's fast! It's easy!

Bid Notice

The Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education invite independent certified public accounting firms to submit audit proposals to conduct an annual audit of the financial records of the Lincolnwood School District 74 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015.

Sealed proposals clearly marked "AUDIT PROPOSAL" must be received no later than 10:00am March 5, 2015. Three copies of this proposal should be submitted.

Selection of an auditor is exclusively at the discretion of the Board of Education. Each Board reserves the right to select on the basis of written information provided and/or interview, as well as reject any and all proposals. All bids will be received until 2/12/2015 3044075

Niles Township H.S. District # 219

Building Maintenance Plan - 2015 Summer Work ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS BID RELEASE #3
Sealed bids will be received by IHC Construction Companies, LLC for the Niles Township High School District #219 on February 26, 2015 @ 10:00 am prevailing time at the Niles Township High School District Offices for the Niles Building Maintenance Plan - 2015 Summer Work.

Lump Sum Bid Proposals will be received until the scheduled time of closing the receipt of bids, and then will be publicly opened at that time for Bid Release #3. The Trade Packages included are:
Trade Package 2a: Demolition
Trade Package 3a: Concrete & Excavation
Trade Package 4a: Masonry
Trade Package 5a: Structural Steel
Trade Package 6a: General Trades
Trade Package 7a: Roofing
Trade Package 9a: Flooring
Trade Package 21a: Fire Protection
Trade Package 22a: Plumbing
Trade Package 23a: BAS System
Trade Package 23b: Mechanical
Trade Package 26a: Electrical

Bids shall be submitted on/before the specified closing time in a sealed envelope addressed to: Mr. Eric Trimmerger, Niles Township H.S. District # 219 7700 Gross Point Rd Skokie, IL 60077
• Envelopes should be clearly marked "Sealed Bid" and list the Trade Package Number. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, or waive any irregularities or informalities, and to make an award that in the Board's opinion is in the best interest of the District. Bid security in the form of a bid bond, certified check, or cash in an amount equal to 10 percent of the total bid amount shall be submitted with the bid. Should a bid bond be submitted, the bid bond shall be payable to the Board of Education, Niles Township High School District # 219. All bidders must comply with applicable Illinois Law requiring the payment of prevailing wages by all Contractors working on public works. Bidders must comply with the Illinois Statutory requirements regarding labor, including Equal Employment Opportunity Laws. The successful bidder will be required to furnish insurance equal to or greater than the specified amounts and conditions. The cost of the insurance will be included in each bidder's proposal. Bidding Documents will be available from IHC Construction Company, 1500 Executive Drive, Elgin, IL 60123. Contact Tina McAlpin @ tmcAlpin@ihc-construction.com

Bidders who receive plans from services such as Dodge or Reed must contact IHC Construction Companies to get proper bid forms and addenda. Questions should be addressed in writing via email to IHC Construction Companies, LLC. Attn: Tom Carrano, tcarrano@ihcconstruction.com, or Sean Gaskill, sgaskill@ihcconstruction.com. Questions submitted less than one week prior to the bid opening cannot be considered. End of section 00030 2/12/2015 30433021

Niles Township High Schools, District 219, will receive sealed bids to supply and install a backstop netting system including the removal of existing backstop fencing at Niles North High School varsity baseball field up to 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at the Business Office of District 219, 7700 Gross Point Road, Skokie, IL 60077.

Bids will thereafter be publicly opened and read aloud. Specifications of the project may be obtained from the Business Office at the above address. A mandatory pre-bid meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18 at 11:00 a.m. at Niles North High School, Door 12 - Athletic Entrance.

For further information contact: Jean Hedstrom, Purchasing Agent, District 219 - Business Office 847-626-3978 leahed@219.org 2/12/2015 3044332

CAR OWNERS

Our Transportation Classifieds will drive readers to your automobile ad! Call 866-399-0537 or visit placeand.tribunesuburbs.com

Bid Notice

Niles Township H.S. District # 219 Health Care Clinics ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS BID RELEASE #1
Sealed bids will be received by IHC Construction Companies, LLC for the Niles Township High School District #219 on February 26, 2015 at 11:00 AM prevailing time at the Niles Township High School District Offices for the Health Care Clinics.

Lump Sum Bid Proposals will be received until the scheduled time of closing the receipt of bids, and then will be publicly opened at that time for Bid Release #1. The Trade Packages included are:
Trade Package 6a: General Trades
Trade Package 9a: Flooring
Trade Package 22a: Plumbing
Trade Package 23a: HVAC
Trade Package 26a: Electrical, Fire Alarm & Technology
Bids shall be submitted on/before the specified closing time in a sealed envelope addressed to: Mr. Eric Trimmerger, Niles Township H.S. District # 219 7700 Gross Point Rd Skokie, IL 60077

• Envelopes should be clearly marked "Sealed Bid" and list the Trade Package Number. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, or waive any irregularities or informalities, and to make an award that in the Board's opinion is in the best interest of the District. Bid security in the form of a bid bond, certified check, or cash in an amount equal to 10 percent of the total bid amount shall be submitted with the bid. Should a bid bond be submitted, the bid bond shall be payable to the Board of Education, Niles Township High School District # 219. All bidders must comply with applicable Illinois Law requiring the payment of prevailing wages by all Contractors working on public works. Bidders must comply with the Illinois Statutory requirements regarding labor, including Equal Employment Opportunity Laws. The successful bidder will be required to furnish insurance equal to or greater than the specified amounts and conditions. The cost of the insurance will be included in each bidder's proposal. Bidding Documents will be available from IHC Construction Company, 1500 Executive Drive, Elgin, IL 60123. Contact Tina McAlpin @ tmcAlpin@ihc-construction.com

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Bid Notice

VILLAGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE NOTICE TO BIDDERS SINGLE AXLE DUMP TRUCK
The Village of Lincolnshire will receive sealed proposals until 10:00 a.m. local time on February 26, 2015 at the Lincolnshire Village Hall, located at One Oldie Half Day Road, Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069-3115 at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened.

The proposed project consists of the provision of one Single Axle Dump Truck as specified. Proposal specifications will be made available free of charge on February 12, 2015, at the Village Hall of the Village of Lincolnshire, Lake County, One Oldie Half Day Road, Lincolnshire, Illinois.

All Contracts for the Construction of Public Works are subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/1-12) and the Employment of Illinois Workers on Public Works Act (30 ILCS 570).

The Village of Lincolnshire reserves the right to defer the acceptance of a proposal for a period not to exceed 45 calendar days after the date proposals are to be received and to accept or reject any and all proposals and to waive technicalities and to accept the proposal which best meets the needs and requirements of the Village.

Village of Lincolnshire
Nick Azzone,
Fleet Maintenance Supervisor
02/12/2015 3029449

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Foreclosures

CHICAGO
NOTICE OF SALE
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
 COOK
 COUNTY, ILLINOIS, COUNTY DEPARTMENT,
 Chancery

Division: Brendan Financial, Inc.,
 Counter-Plaintiff, vs. Flagstar
 Bank, FSB, Rosalinda Guzman,
 Rodiniro Guzman, Unknown
 Owners, and Non-Record Claimants,
 Counter-Defendants.

Case No. 13 CH 04413
 Pursuant to a judgment made
 and entered by said Court in the
 above entitled cause on November
 18, 2014, Thomas J. Dart, Sheriff
 of Cook County, Illinois, will
 on February 19, 2015 at 1:00
 p.m. in Room 06 of the lower
 level of the Richard J. Daley Center,
 50 West Washington Street,
 Chicago, Illinois, sell at public
 auction the following described
 premises and real estate mentioned
 in said Judgment:

LOTS 43 AND 44 IN BLOCK 3 IN
 JOHN F. EBERHART'S SUBDIVISION
 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4
 (EXCEPT RAILROAD), OF SECTION
 23, TOWNSHIP 38 NORTH,
 RANGE 13, EAST OF THE THIRD
 PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK
 COUNTY, ILLINOIS
 P.I.N. 19-23-201-030-0000
 Address: 3410 W. 63rd Place,
 Chicago, Illinois 60629
 Improvements: Single family
 Residence.

Sale shall be under the following
 terms: The real estate described
 herein, with all improvements,
 fixtures and appurtenances is
 sold in "as is" condition. The
 subject property is offered for
 sale without any representation
 as to quality or quantity of
 title and without recourse to
 Counter-Plaintiff. Premises will
 NOT be open for inspection,
 and Counter-Plaintiff makes no
 representations nor any warranties
 as to the condition of the property.

There shall be no proration of
 taxes, assessments, water bills
 or any other bill that may accrue
 or has accrued in association
 with the property.

The deposit required at the time
 of sale will be between 10%
 and 25% of the successful bid.
 The balance of the bid amount
 is required to be paid within 24
 hours of sale. All payments of
 the amount bid shall be in certified
 funds.

The judgment amount is
 \$32,687.79 with accruing post
 judgment interest and accruing
 costs.

At any time, if the sale is set
 aside for any reason, the purchaser
 shall have no recourse or
 claims against the mortgagee's
 attorney(s). Prospective bidders
 are to check the court file and
 verify all information herein and
 therein.

Sale shall be subject to general
 taxes, special assessments, and
 any liens or encumbrances that
 have priority.

For information: Scott R. Barfuss,
 Counter-Plaintiff's Attorney,
 24 East Avenue, Riverside,
 IL 60546, Tel. No. (708) 788-4870.
 This is an attempt to collect a
 debt pursuant to the Fair Debt
 Collection Practices Act and
 any information obtained will be
 used for that purpose.
 1/29, 2/5, 2/12/15 #903798

APARTMENT FOR RENT?

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Foreclosures

SAUNDRA FELLER A/K/A SAUNDRA B FELLER, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 Defendants
 10 CH 007825
 8813 KOSTNER AVENUE SKOKIE, IL 60076 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 18, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 24, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 8813 KOSTNER AVENUE, SKOKIE, IL 60076 Property Index No. 10-15-331 009. The real estate is improved with a single family residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lien or acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. Where a sale of real estate is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem, except that with respect to a lien arising under the internal revenue laws the period shall be 120 days or the period allowable for redemption under State law, whichever is longer, and in any case in which, under the provisions of section 505 of the Housing Act of 1952, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701k), and subsection (d) of section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(a)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(a)-(f). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County, and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876 Please refer to file number 14-10-05425. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606 4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 Attorney File No. 14-10-05425 ATTORNEY CONTACT: 00468002 Attorney Code: 21762 Case Number: 10 CH 007825 TJSCH. 35-1014 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
 1/29, 2/5, 2/12/15 907947

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE
 Representatives and parents of students who are home-schooled or attend a non-public school are invited by the Niles Township District for Special Education (NTDSE) to attend a special meeting on Monday, March 2, 2015 at 9:00 A.M. at the Molloy Education Center, 8701 N. Menard Ave., Morton Grove, IL 60053. The purpose of the meeting will be to conduct timely and meaningful consultation relating to the services offered to home-schooled or non-public school students by the NTDSE on behalf of Districts 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 73.5, 74). Dated this 12th day of February, 2015.

Governing Board of the Niles Township District for Special Education #807

Vicki Goldberg
 Governing Board Secretary

Published in Pioneer Press
 2/12/15
 2/12/2015 3041023

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Foreclosures

SKOKIE
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT -CHANCERY DIVISION JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff,
 vs.
 SAUNDRA FELLER A/K/A SAUNDRA B FELLER, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Defendants
 10 CH 007825
 8813 KOSTNER AVENUE SKOKIE, IL 60076 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 18, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 24, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 8813 KOSTNER AVENUE, SKOKIE, IL 60076 Property Index No. 10-15-331 009. The real estate is improved with a single family residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lien or acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. Where a sale of real estate is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem, except that with respect to a lien arising under the internal revenue laws the period shall be 120 days or the period allowable for redemption under State law, whichever is longer, and in any case in which, under the provisions of section 505 of the Housing Act of 1952, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701k), and subsection (d) of section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(a)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(a)-(f). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County, and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876 Please refer to file number 14-10-05425. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606 4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 Attorney File No. 14-10-05425 ATTORNEY CONTACT: 00468002 Attorney Code: 21762 Case Number: 10 CH 007825 TJSCH. 35-1014 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
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SELL, SELL, SELL

Your Stuff! Placing an ad in the Classifieds is the most cost-effective way to sell your home, car or valuables! Call 866-399-0537 or go online to placeanad.tribunesuburbs.com to place your advertisement.

Legal Notices

Village of Skokie Notice to Bidders
 The Village of Skokie is now accepting sealed BIDS for
 Fire Apparatus Refurbishment

Notice is hereby given that the Village of Skokie will receive BIDS at
 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077 Attention: Michael Aleksic,
 Purchasing Agent until 11:00 a.m. local time on Tuesday, March 10, 2015

Bids can be obtained by visiting www.skokie.org. Click on Village Department, Purchasing, Bids & RFP's to download a copy. Bids can also be obtained from the Village of Skokie Purchasing Office at the address shown above.

Any bid or proposal submitted unsealed, unsigned, fax transmissions or received subsequent to the aforementioned date and time will be disqualified and returned to the bidder. The Village of Skokie reserves the right to reject any and all bids or parts thereof, to waive any irregularities or informalities in bidding procedures and to award the contract in a manner best serving the interest of the Village.

Skokie Village Hall is a fully accessible building. Persons requiring assistance should contact the Purchasing Office at 847-933-8240 or TTY 673-9330

Michael Aleksic
 Purchasing Agent
 Village of Skokie
 02/12/2015 3044864

Village of Skokie Notice to Bidders
 The Village of Skokie is now accepting sealed BIDS for
 Crushed Stone

Notice is hereby given that the Village of Skokie will receive BIDS at
 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077 Attention: Michael Aleksic,
 Purchasing Agent until 11:00 a.m. local time on Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Bids can be obtained by visiting www.skokie.org. Click on Village Department, Purchasing, Bids & RFP's to download a copy. Bids can also be obtained from the Village of Skokie Purchasing Office at the address shown above.

Any bid or proposal submitted unsealed, unsigned, fax transmissions or received subsequent to the aforementioned date and time will be disqualified and returned to the bidder. The Village of Skokie reserves the right to reject any and all bids or parts thereof, to waive any irregularities or informalities in bidding procedures and to award the contract in a manner best serving the interest of the Village.

Skokie Village Hall is a fully accessible building. Persons requiring assistance should contact the Purchasing Office at 847-933-8240 or TTY 673-9330

Michael Aleksic
 Purchasing Agent
 Village of Skokie
 02/12/2015 3044909

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Probate

State of Illinois
 In The Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois
 Probate Division
 in the matter of the estate of Jane Gabrielow, (Deceased)
 Case No. 2014 P 007660
 Publication Notice

Notice is given in the death of Jane Gabrielow, of Mt. Prospect, Illinois 60056. Letters of office were issued on January 9, 2015 to Peter Gabrielow, 1806 Tano, Mt. Prospect, Illinois 60056, whose attorney is Jory Chelin, 1454 Miner, Des Plaines, Illinois 60016 email address: jory.chelin@yahoo.com.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court in Room 1202, Richard J. Daley Center, Chicago, Illinois 60602 or with the attorney located at 150 feet of or before January 29, 2015 which date is not less than 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of any claim filed with this notice must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
 1/s/ Jory Chelin, Attorney
 1/29, 2/5, 2/12/15 #907709

Public Hearings

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on Monday, March 2, 2015, at 7:30 P.M. at the Village Hall, 4000 N. Cicott Avenue in the Village of Norridge, to consider a petition requesting variances under the requirements of Article IV, R-1 Single Family Residence District, Section 3-Area Regulations, Subsection 3.1(e) Lot Coverage and Green Area and Subsection 3.4 Side Yard Requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Village of Norridge - 1962 to increase the lot coverage from the required 1608.10 sq. ft. to 2054.36 sq. ft., to reduce the green space from the required 1250.74 sq. ft. to 958.51 sq. ft. and to reduce the side yard from the required 3 ft. to 2.83 ft. to enlarge the house to accommodate an accessible living area on the following described property:
 LOT 21 AND SOUTH 1 FOOT OF LOT 22 IN BLOCK 2 IN KINSEY'S IRVING PARK BOULEVARD SUBDIVISION OF SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SOUTHWEST 1/4 (EXCEPT EAST 10 FEET THEREOF) OF SECTION 13, TOWNSHIP 40 NORTH, RANGE 12 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

The property is commonly known as 4103 North Overhill Avenue in Norridge, Illinois. All interested persons should attend and will be given an opportunity to be heard.
 ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
 VILLAGE OF NORRIDGE
 By: Janice J. Magnuson, Chairperson
 02/12/2015 3038836

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Public Hearings

Notice of Lincolnwood Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., the Plan Commission will conduct a Public Hearing on each of the matters below in the Council Chambers room of Village Hall, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, Illinois:

Case #PC-03-15
 6430 North Hamlin Avenue - Special Use for Hours of Operation

Consideration of a request by Hatzalah Chicago for Special Use approval to operate an emergency medical service 24 hours. Section 4.08(4) of the Zoning Code states that no business located within 150 feet of any residentially zoned or residentially used property shall be operated before 7:00 p.m. or after 11:00 p.m.

Case #PC-04-15
 Text Amendment - Elimination from the Zoning Code of Commercial and Recreation Vehicle Regulations

Village Board Referral to review Article VII, and any additional Article/Section of the Zoning Code that may be discovered during review of this case, relative to the elimination of commercial and recreation vehicle regulations.

Case #PC-05-15
 Text Amendment - Consideration of Establishing a Residential Overlay Zone within B-2 District Along Devon Avenue East of Drake Avenue

Village Board Referral of a recommendation by the Economic Development Commission to review Article IV, and any additional Article/Section of the Zoning Code that may be discovered during review of this case, relative to establishing a residential overlay zone along Devon Avenue from McCormick Boulevard to Drake Avenue to allow as a Special Use residential units above ground level.

Case #PC-06-15
 Text Amendment - Review of Multi-Family Off-Street Parking Regulations

Village Board Referral of a recommendation by the Economic Development Commission to review Article VI, and any additional Article/Section of the Zoning Code that may be discovered during review of this case, relative to establishing open-air guest parking requirements for multi-family developments.

At this Public Hearing, the Plan Commission will accept and consider all testimony and evidence pertaining to these requests. Persons desiring to comment or present evidence or testimony on any of these matters should appear at this Public Hearing or submit written comments in advance for consideration at the Hearing. Written comments, addressed to the Village Zoning Officer in the Community Development Department of Village Hall, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, Illinois 60712, must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on the day of the Hearing. Information concerning these requests is available for inspection in the Community Development Department during normal business hours.

Dated: January 12, 2015
 02/12/2015 3044966

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Public Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
 Case No. 15 P 47
 ESTATE OF MARY JANE PINK Deceased

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of MARY JANE PINK of LAKE FOREST, ILLINOIS. Letters of office were issued on February 2, 2015, to JAMES A. PINK III, 2020 SOUTH SOUTHMEADOW, LAKE FOREST, IL 60045 whose attorney is BRIAN S. DENENBERG, 5215 OLD ORCHARD RD., SUITE 1010, SKOKIE, IL 60077

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at 301 Greenleaf Street, Park City, Illinois 60085 or with representative, or both, on or before August 10, 2015, which date is not less than 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of any claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it is filed.
 02/12/2015 3035822

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in the Matter of Lindsey A. Urry Koshgarian v. Justin B. Fanella, Cook County Case No., 2014-L-00844. Justin B. Fanella is hereby served by publication and is required to file an answer to the complaint in this case, or otherwise file his appearance, and pay the required fee, in the Office of the Circuit Court Clerk of the Cook County, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington, room 801, Chicago Illinois. Justin B. Fanella is required to file within 30 days of the date of this publication. If he fails to do so, a judgment by default may be entered against him for the relief requested in the complaint.
 1/29, 2/5, 12/2015 907450

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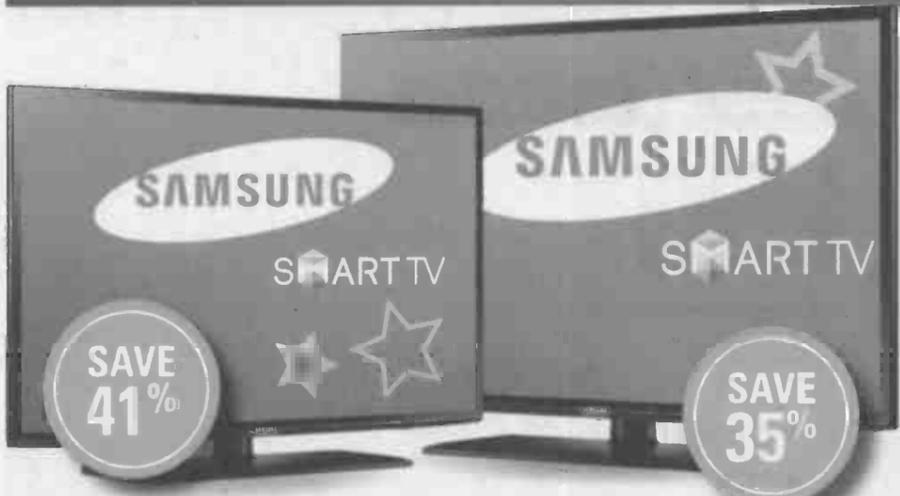
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\$79⁹⁹

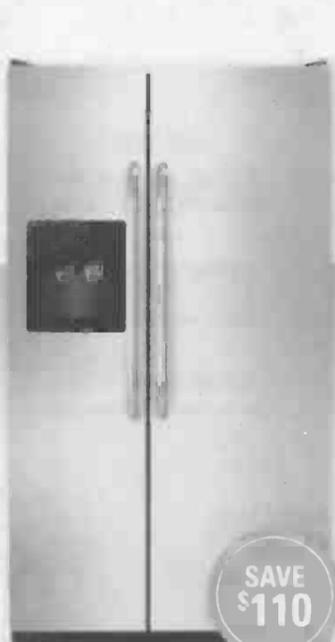

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\$939⁹⁹

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28 Cu. Ft. Door-within-Door
Stainless Steel French Door
Refrigerator
• RF28HDED8SR
SRP \$3299⁹⁹
\$2299⁹⁹

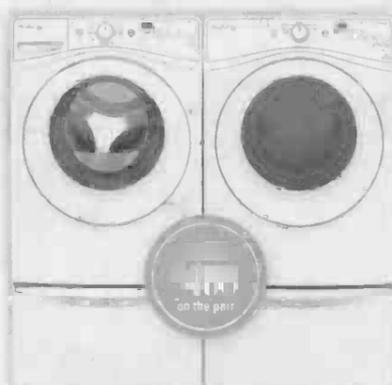
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30%



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Top-Load Washer
• NTW4611BQ
SRP \$449⁹⁹
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SRP \$449⁹⁹

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4.2 Cu. Ft. Duet®
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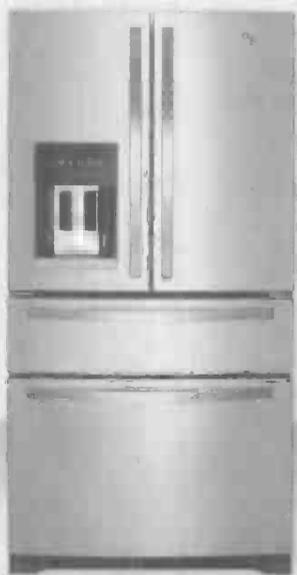
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\$410

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Refrigerator
• WRX7355DBM
SRP \$2199⁹⁹

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27.6 Cu. Ft. Stainless
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Refrigerator
• LFX28968ST
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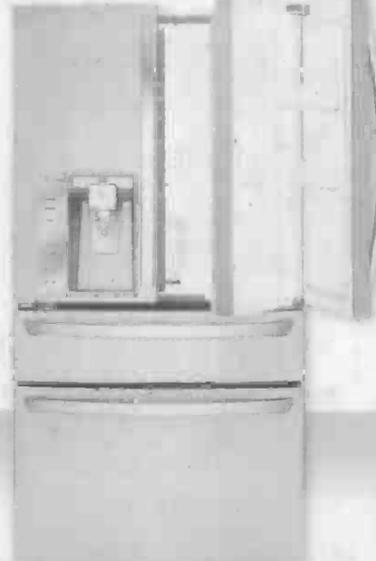


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28 Cu. Ft. Stainless
Steel 4-Door
Refrigerator
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steam washer

steam dryer

Whirlpool

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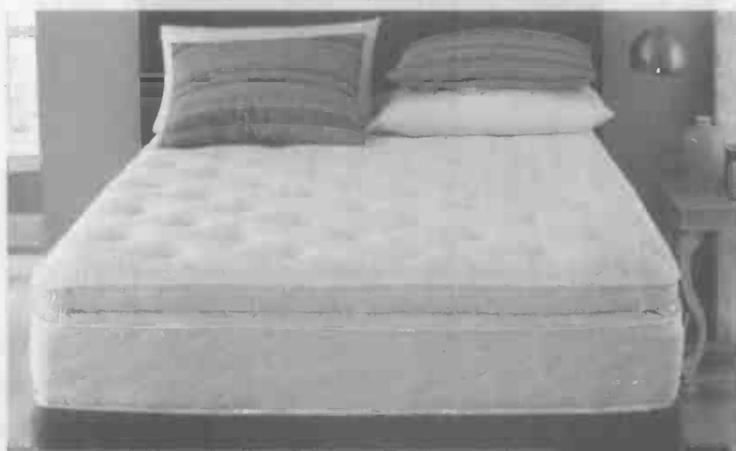
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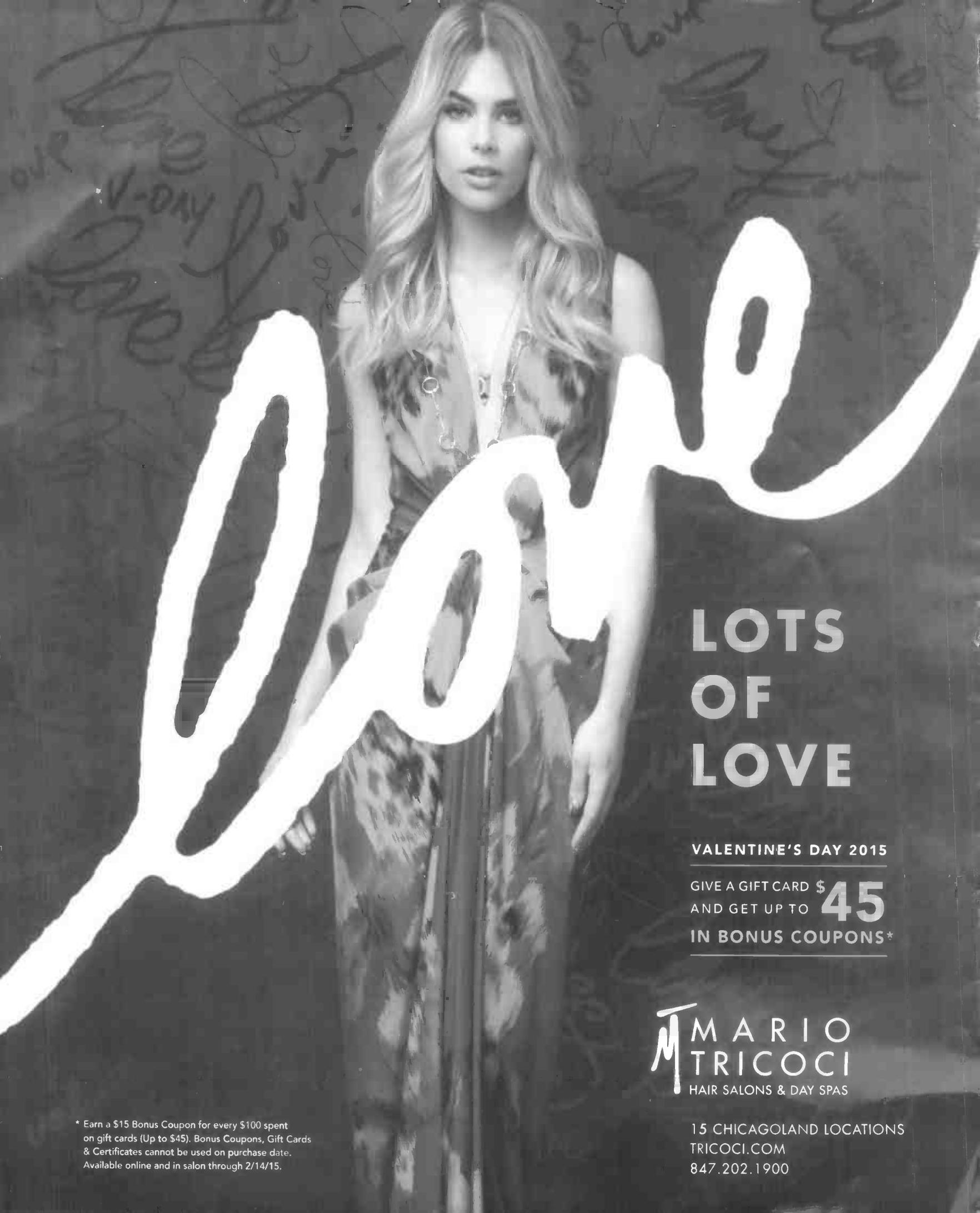
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SPLASH

WHICH CELEBRITY DO YOU WISH WAS YOUR VALENTINE?

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"Maggie Grace. She was Hank Moody's muse on 'Californication,' but that show ended last year, so she's available!"

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"If Scott Foley asked me to be his Valentine, I wouldn't be upset about it."

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"David Beckham. ... He is No. 1 on my island."

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Founder
Michael Ferro

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THE DRIEHAUS MUSEUM PRESENTS: MAKER & MUSE

Get ready for some major jewelry envy: On Feb. 14, the museum unveils its exhibit of 250 pieces of "art jewelry" — ornate brooches, bracelets, tiaras, rings and more — created between the Victorian era and World War I. \$20 general admission, \$10 students, 40 E. Erie; Driehausmuseum.org

< René Lalique's French aquamarine pendant, circa 1900

SAVED WINE

From artist **Scott Campbell** — who has tattooed stars like Marc Jacobs, Sting and Robert Downey, Jr. — comes this bold Zinfandel, packaged in a bottle and box etched with symbols of good luck, love and a coded message to Campbell's wife, actress **Lake Bell** — making this possibly the most romantic wine ever. \$25. Joe's Wine Cellar, 2108 W. Division; Joesswinecellar.com

MAKE UP FOR EVER'S GIVE IN TO ME

The cosmetics brand released a collection inspired by Anastasia Steele, the protagonist of the novel and hotly anticipated film "Fifty Shades of Grey" (left). Featuring provocative monikers like the Tease Me nude lip trio (\$32) and Desire

Me cheeky blush trio (\$49), the kits come with tips from the movie's makeup department head, **Victoria Down**. Sephora locations city-wide; Sephora.com

< LAUGH STAFF

Nail your best-man toast or maid-of-honor speech during wedding season with help from this service, which employs 13 veteran comedians who craft the perfect hilarious script in under 48 hours, based on a thorough questionnaire. Laughstaff.com

at the shoot

Newlyweds **Jenny McCarthy** and **Donnie Wahlberg** met the Splash team two days before Christmas for their cover shoot at Hotel Baker in St. Charles. The couple posed for photos at the romantic boutique hotel (where they tied the knot just four months prior), then jetted off to do some last-minute holiday shopping.



COVER CREDITS

Photographer: Simon Perry
Stylist: Agga B. Raya
Hair: Jenn "Tori" Wiley and David Garcia for Mario Tricoci
Makeup: JoJo McCarthy
Shoot producer: Katerina Bizios
Location: Hotel Baker, 100 W. Main, St. Charles; Hotelbaker.com

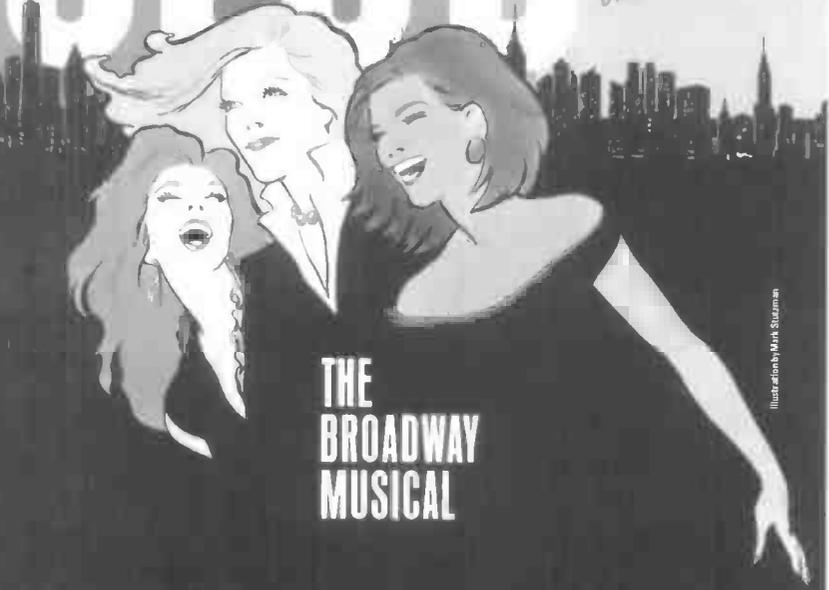
ON MCCARTHY
Dress: Dolce & Gabbana, \$3,675, Saks Fifth Avenue, 700 N. Michigan; Saksfifthavenue.com
Earrings: Mariani, diamonds and 18-karat white gold, \$15,500
Ring: Carrera y Carrera, diamonds and 18-karat white and yellow gold, \$8,350
Both available: A. Marek Fine Jewelry, 3021 Butterfield, Oak Brook; Amarek-finejewelry.com

ON WAHLBERG
Suit: Tallia, \$650
Shirt: Tallia, \$79.50
Similar styles available: Macy's, 111 N. State; Macys.com
Pocket square: Reiss, \$30
Tie: Reiss, \$75
Similar styles available: Bloomingdale's, 900 N. Michigan; Reiss.com
Watch: Girard-Perregaux, \$10,450, A. Marek Fine Jewelry, 3021 Butterfield, Oak Brook; Amarek-finejewelry.com

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the calendar

● ARTS & CULTURE | ● PHILANTHROPY | ● FOOD | ● FASHION



FEBRUARY 13

● Pizza-tossing class

You've done chocolate and flowers, perfume and Champagne, so why not try something different this Valentine's Day? The culinary team at Bar Toma — chef **Tony Mantuano's** regional Italian restaurant — invite lovers to get close at this interactive pizza-tossing class. Executive Chef **Erik Freeberg** walks guests, from dough to oven as they learn how to create the restaurant's award-winning, wood-fired pizzas and sip on a selection of wine, beer and Italian-inspired cocktails.

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Bar Toma, 110 E. Pearson

Cost: \$50. For reservations, call (312) 266-3110 or visit Opentable.com.

BY THOMAS CONNORS

THIS WEEK

FEBRUARY 9-MARCH 6

● 'TANN-HÄUSER'

In a short, six-performance run, **Sir Andrew Davis** conducts **Tim Albery's** production of the Wagner classic. Tenor **Johan Botha** sings as the titular minstrel poet, torn between the sensual love represented by the goddess Venus and the purity of the saintly Elisabeth.

Time: 6 p.m. (1 p.m. on Feb. 22)

Place: Civic Opera House, 20 N. Wacker

Cost: \$34-\$279 adults, \$20-\$50 children under 17. For tickets, call (312) 827-5600 or visit Lyricopera.org/tannhauser.

FEBRUARY 11

●● STATE OF THE ART

Marc Smlth hosts the upcoming SOTA at his Loop-located Tradition, offering patrons more than just food and drink. For the pop-up event, five local artists — including **Joshua Talsma** and

FEBRUARY 12

● AMERICAN DESIGN AUCTION

Wright, the widely respected auction house specializing in modern and contemporary design, puts over 130 lots on the block. Some of the best-known names in midcentury American design are represented, including Charles and Ray

Eames, George Nelson, Florence Knoll and Eero Saarinen. Pieces range from Russel Wright ceramics to a set of six Harry Bertola dining chairs.

Time: Noon

Place: 1440 W. Hubbard

Cost: Free. For bid forms and more information, visit Wright20.com.



Erica Baran Fasano

— showcase their work, while guests enjoy appetizers and complimentary beer.

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: Tradition Gastro Pub and Bar, 160 N. Franklin

Cost: \$5 donation recommended.

FEBRUARY 13-15

● **“LE ÇA (THE ID)”**

Dynamic Barcelona-based dancer **Sonia Sánchez** makes her North American debut with a searing solo, accompanied by electric guitarist **David Soler** and vocalist **Miguel Angel**. Conceived during a year-long sojourn in the forest, the piece combines the rhythms of flamenco with a raw, wilderness-driven vocabulary of gestures.

Time: Friday and Saturday 7:30 p.m., Sunday 3 p.m.

Place: Museum of Contemporary Art's Edlis Neeson Theater, 220 E. Chicago

Cost: \$28, \$22 for MCA members. For tickets, call (312) 397-4010 or visit Mcachicago.org.

FEBRUARY 13-15

● **WINTER TAP JAMBOREE**

Chicago Human Rhythm Project welcomes students and performers to this annual get-together, featuring master classes, a panel discussion, tap jams and auditions for the Tap Scholar Program and Nicholas Young's Institute For The Rhythmic Arts.

Place: American Rhythm Center, Fine Arts Building, 410 S. Michigan

Cost: \$15 registration fee, \$20 per

FEBRUARY 15-MAY 3

‘Shatter Rupture Break’

The first in The Art Institute of Chicago's new Modern Series — exhibitions showcasing the museum's rich holdings in fresh and challenging ways — this show examines how art and life were transformed a century ago, as commerce, communication and artistic innovation created a brave new world. Drawn from collections across the museum, the exhibition includes work by Robert Delaunay, Kurt Schwitters and Salvador Dalí.

Time: 10:30 a.m.–5 p.m. daily, Thursdays until 8 p.m.

Place: The Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan

Cost: \$23 general admission.



class. To register, visit Chicagotap.org.

NEXT WEEK

FEBRUARY 16

●● **FEAR NO ART PRESENTS THE DINNER PARTY**

Gospel singer and former Destiny's

Child member **Michelle Williams**; **Dr. Ian Smith** of “The Doctors”; and film director **Cathryn Michon** join host **Elysabeth Alfano** for an unscripted conversation. Tippling Hall Chef **Gullermo Tellez** serves up signature bites, and jazz great **Frank Catalano** gets the evening going.

Time: 6:30 p.m. doors open, 7 p.m. show

Place: City Winery, 1200 W. Randolph

Cost: \$45. For tickets, call (312) 733-9463 or visit Citywinery.com.

FEBRUARY 17-MARCH 29

● **‘FIRST WIVES CLUB’**

Based on Olivia Goldsmith's novel and its movie adaptation, this Broadway-bound musical was penned by **Linda Bloodworth-Thomason** and scored by the legendary Motown team **Holland-Dozier-Holland**. The cast includes Tony-winner **Faith Prince**, “Wicked” star **Carmen Cusack**, and “Mamma Mia’s” **Christine Sherrill**.

Place: Oriental Theatre, 24 W. Randolph

Cost: \$33-\$100. For tickets, visit Broadwayinchicago.com.



Michelle Williams

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who what



ALIYEA RIZAI
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at the Field Museum

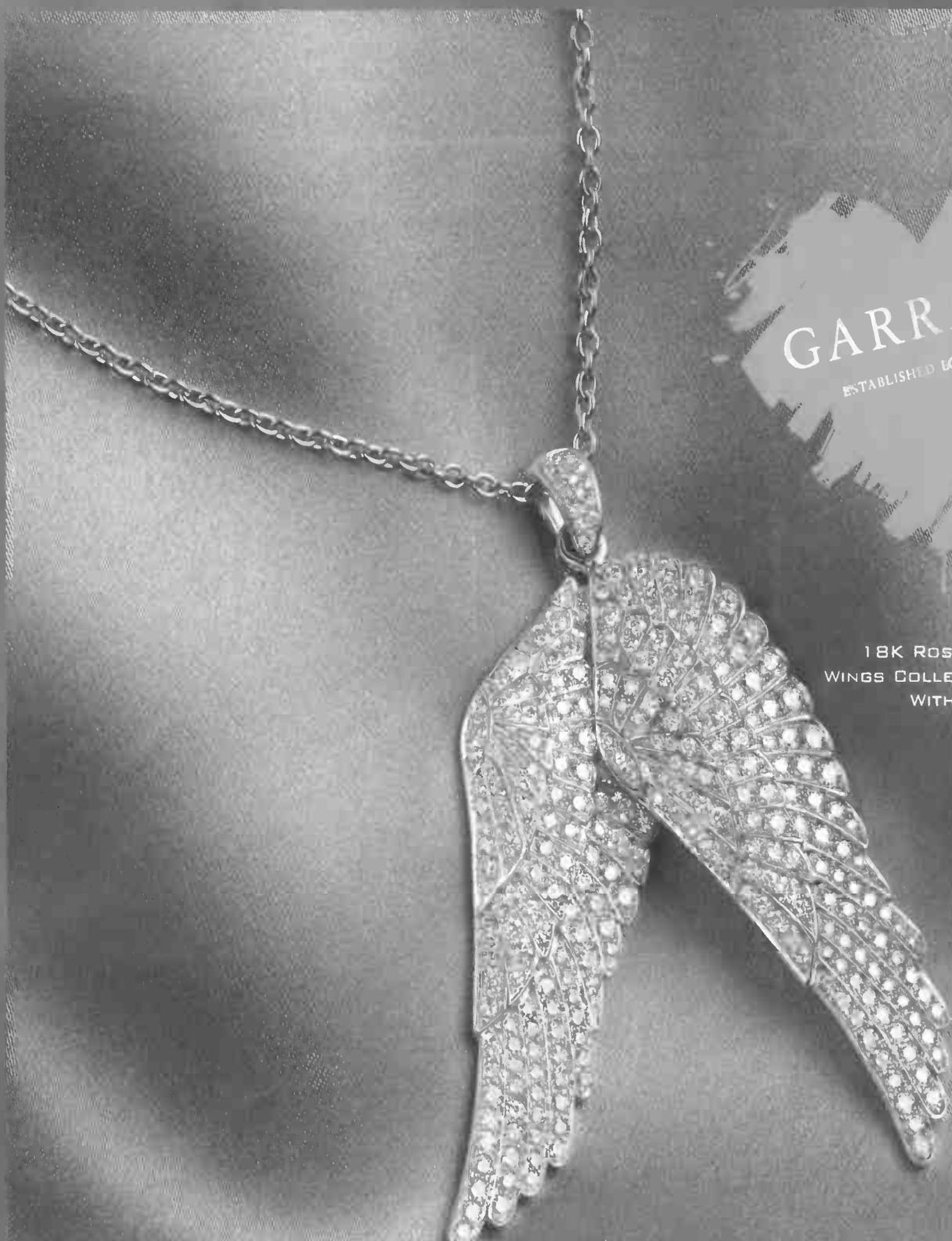
ASHLEY GARDNER
in BCBG at the Museum of
Science and Industry

ALICIA ZERMAN
in H&M at the Four
Seasons Hotel Chicago

MEREDITH WOOD-PRINCE
in Marchesa at the Art
Institute of Chicago

ELIZABETH COLE
in Fendi
at Bin 36

This Valentine's Day, celebrate with romance, roses, rosé and — of course — a rosy-hued dress. Feminine and soft, blush is every girl's best friend, especially when paired with gold or diamond jewelry (hint hint, gents). Plus, the neutral shade will transition seamlessly into next season, thanks to designers like Joseph Altuzarra and Burberry Prorsum's Christopher Bailey, who included soft gingham and romantic sheer dresses, respectively, in their spring collections. Trust us, you'll be blushing from all the compliments.



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parties

scene & heard

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY'S BLACK CREATIVITY GALA

The scene: Nearly 750 guests got an exclusive view of the Black Creativity Juried Art Exhibition — which showcases more than 100 original works of art by African-American artists — at the 32nd annual Black Creativity Gala at the Museum of Science and Industry (5700 S. Lake Shore) Jan. 24.

The invite list: Hosted by Allstate Insurance Senior VP **Cheryl Harris** and ComEd President and CEO **Anne Pramaggiore**, the black-tie affair featured a cocktail reception and musical entertainment by the **Walt Whitman & The Soul Children of Chicago**, **The MoFitz Project** and **DJ Lil' John**. Guests filled up from six dinner stations, themed "Around the World" (inspired by locales like India, Australia, Alaska and Rome) before indulging at the Moulin Rouge-inspired dessert station. Partygoers also purchased raffle tickets to win prizes, including air travel courtesy of United Airlines and a portrait package from Ebert Studios.

The bottom line: The gala raised \$500,000 to support Black Creativity programming and events, which pay tribute to the culture, heritage and scientific contributions of African-Americans and help motivate youth in the sciences. —*Chiara Milloulis*

Splash was the media sponsor of this event.

"The menu is spectacular. ... Personally, the New Orleans station, with crawfish fritters, gumbo shooters and Creole jambalaya is my favorite."

— **LaTonya Foster**, director of operations for external affairs at Museum of Science and Industry



1. Fah'hem Majeed and Lashana Jackson 2. Science Achiever Tyrone Ferguson 3. Ngozi and Emeke Ezike 4. Ira Staples and Lynsey Mitchell 5. Leslie Hairston, William Burns and Shari Runner 6. Shatesha Boyce and Justin Johnson 7. Anne Pramaggiore and Cheryl Harris

PHOTOS BY JB SPECTOR, ALISON NEIDT TOONEN AND JOHN WHEELER

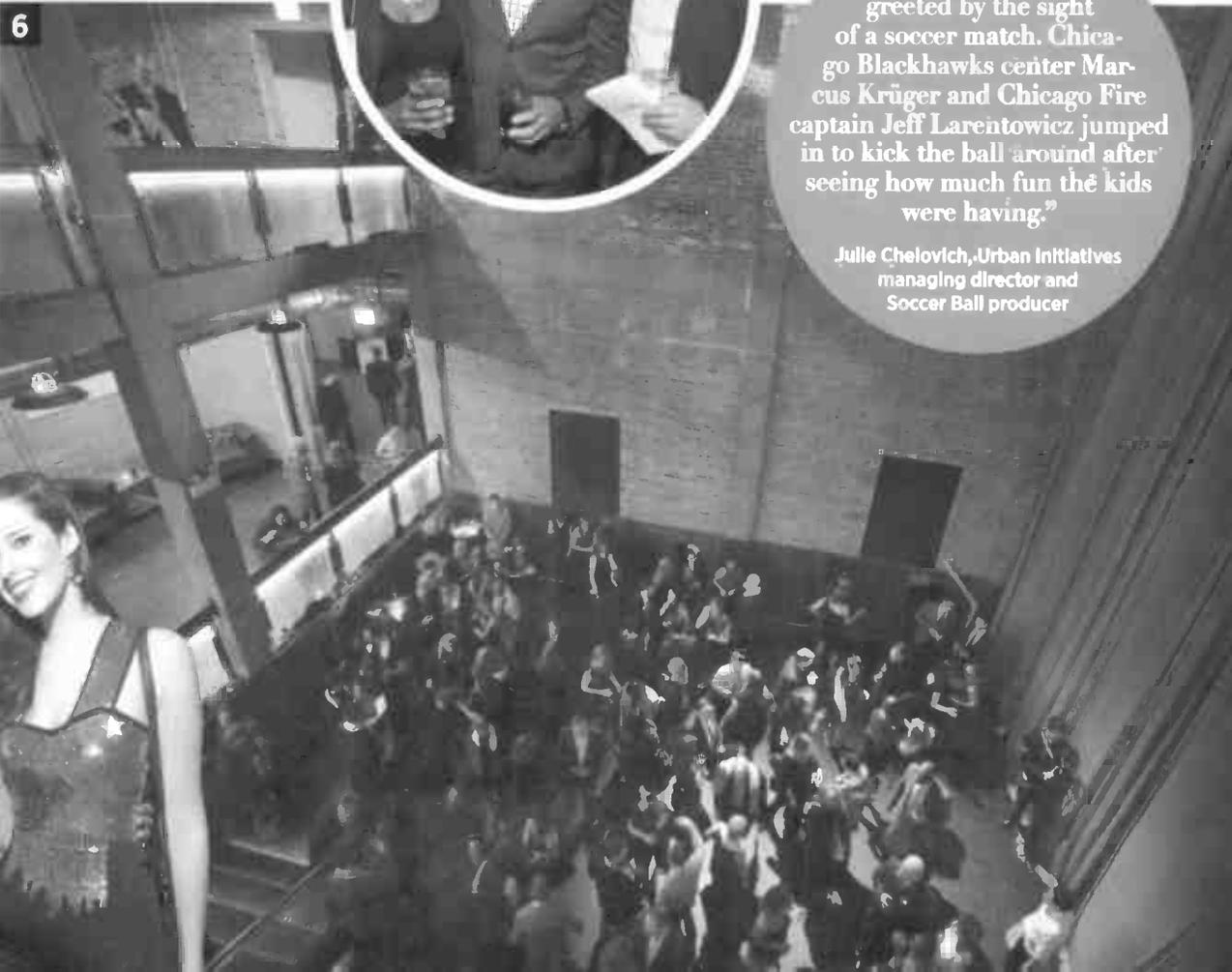
URBAN INITIATIVES' SOCCER BALL

The scene: On Jan. 23, host and emcee **Carmen DeFalco** of ESPN 1000 welcomed more than 1,000 guests to a black-tie evening at Morgan Manufacturing (401 N. Morgan) in support of Urban Initiatives. Partygoers indulged in bites and signature libations by Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises before participating in a silent auction, featuring items like a vacation to Colombia and exclusive Chicago Cubs seats.

The invite list: A-list attendees included Chicago Blackhawks' **Marcus Krüger**, Chicago Fire Soccer Club's **Jeff Larentowicz** and Rep. **Bob Dold**. This year, the soirée honored **Mayor Rahm Emanuel** with the Soccer Ball Award for his unwavering support, and Pasteur Elementary student **Estrella Alvarez** with the Troy Cameron Team Captain Award for dedication and leadership in her community.

The bottom line: The Soccer Ball raised a record-breaking \$480,000 to benefit Urban Initiatives' sports-based youth development programs, which serve over 16,500 boys and girls throughout 41 Chicago public schools. —*Chiara Milioulis*

Splash was the media sponsor of this event. The Sun-Times Foundation and the Chicago Community Trust will match every dollar donated to Urban Initiatives up to a total of \$25,000. Up to \$1,000 can be matched per individual donation.



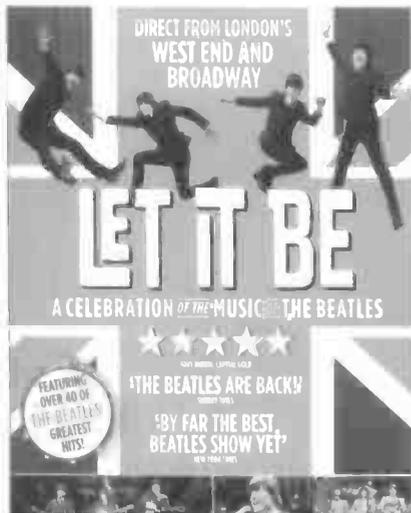
1. Game time!
2. Carmen DeFalco
3. Jared Thomas, Diego Martínez, Ian Martínez, Andre Martínez and Marcus Krüger
4. Jim Dower with Julie and Ben Chelovich
5. Theresa Conduah, Handal Mu and Randy Rivera
6. A party space at Morgan Manufacturing
7. Shreya Canakapalli and Conan Zhang
8. Katie Couyoumjian, Persy Sample and Ana Acosta

PHOTOS BY JONATHAN MATHIAS PHOTOGRAPHY

"We were greeted by the sight of a soccer match. Chicago Blackhawks center Marcus Krüger and Chicago Fire captain Jeff Larentowicz jumped in to kick the ball around after seeing how much fun the kids were having."

Julie Chelovich, Urban Initiatives managing director and Soccer Ball producer

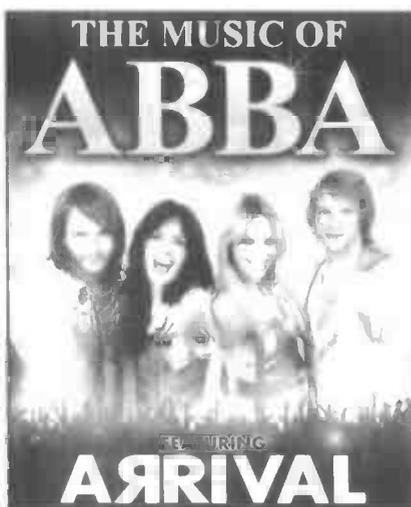
UPCOMING SHOWS ONLY IN ROSEMONT!



SAT. FEB. 21 AT 2PM & 8PM



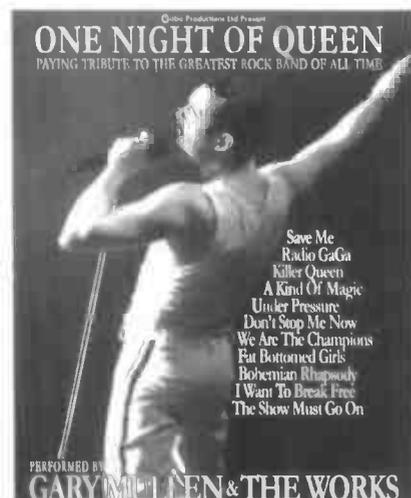
SUN. FEB. 22 AT 3:30PM



FRI. MAR. 13 AT 8PM



SAT. MAR. 14 AT 8PM



SUN. MAR. 15 AT 7PM



SAT. MAY 9 AT 1PM & 4PM



ROSEMONT
THEATRE

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! For tickets go to RosemontTheatre.com or visit the box office.

sunday dinner



Ham, egg and cheese sandwich, \$14 (above); wild boar chop, \$30 (left) PHOTOS BY RAMZI DREESSEN | SPLASH

MORE ONLINE
For more delicious photos of Seven Lions' fare, go to Chicagosplash.com

Join the club

Alpana Singh's **Seven Lions** spices up lunchtime **BY ANTHONY TODD**

Alpana Singh never slows down. Just two years ago, the former "Check, Please!" host opened the doors to The Boarding House, a glittering River North restaurant; last fall, she appeared as a judge on Food Network's "Food Truck Face Off"; and her latest venture, Seven Lions, opens soon on Michigan Avenue.

The location for the new restaurant, just across the street from the Art Institute, couldn't be better — though it took some work getting it into shape. "We completely re-did everything," explains Singh. "We take pride in restaurants that have a great visual appeal." The space is adorned with reclaimed wood, gray velvet booths and a massive work by local artist **Gail Mancuso**.

The kitchen, helmed by **Chef Chris Curren**, will focus on American clubhouse fare, designed to appeal to locals and tourists alike. "My



Chris Curren and Alpana Singh

mindset is to take dishes people know and put a twist on them," he says.

Chefstats: Curren started his career in Cleveland at Three Birds, then moved to Chicago, where he ran his own restaurant, Blue 13, for five years. After a stint with Fifty/50 Restaurant Group (Homestead, The Berkshire Room) and a family-focused hiatus, he reenters the culinary scene with Seven Lions.

Menu musts: Curren's favorite dish is a citrus-braised pork shank with heirloom beans, ham and pork jus. "It's very simple, straightforward, but we're taking great care and making sure we're cooking things properly," he says. It wouldn't be a club without a shrimp cocktail, but Curren's ver-

sion is made with pickled shrimp and served on a cake of grits for a southern flair.

All-American: Singh is a master sommelier, and the list at The Boarding House spans the world. At Seven Lions, however, she's only serving American wines. "I get bored quite easily," she laughs. "Having just done a global wine program, I wondered how to keep challenging myself." She was intrigued by new grapes emerging from states not traditionally known for great wine, including Texas, New Mexico and even Illinois.

Lunch hour: Because of the location, Curren expects heavy traffic at lunchtime — so he's created a midday menu that's sure to please, including items like a porkchop sandwich with garlic aioli, sauerkraut and fried pickles. "It's one of the best sandwiches I've ever made," Curren says.

130 S. Michigan;
Sevenlionschicago.com

making a splash

Big eats

"I'm a foodie, but the portions [in Chicago] are ridiculous. At The Original Pancake House [22 E. Bellevue], I asked for an omelet and it's the size of a meatloaf. Steak at Carmine's [1043 N. Rush] is the size of my plate. But I'm a soldier. I want to eat it all."

Latest downloads

"'I Will Run to You,' a gospel song; 'A Change is Gonna Come' by Wayne Brady; and 'Glory' [by Common and John Legend from 'Selma']. Common is my boy!"

'Empire' state of mind

Trai Byers on his rapid rise to fame — and really hating suits BY ZAK STEMER

Trai Byers is having a #MovieStarProblem: He's sitting in a suite at The James Chicago (55 E. Ontario) tugging at his suit. "They make me wear a suit, I'm a T-shirt and jeans guy," he laments. "It's a high-class problem." Sadly for Byers, 33, his future looks like it will be filled with suits — very, very nice suits.

The Kansas City native broke out last month playing James Forman in the critically acclaimed "Selma"; now he's co-starring in one of the year's biggest new TV shows, the Chicago-filmed "Empire," as Andre Lyon, the bipolar, power-hungry, scheming suit-clad son of Lucious Lyon (Terrence Howard).

The show is only five episodes in, but Byers teases of the drama that will unfold. "Expect the unexpected," he says. "Where you think it's gonna go, it's gonna go the complete opposite way, and it's gonna drop your jaw to the floor." For Andre, according to the actor, more womanizing, plotting and bipolar breakouts are in store this season.

Pulling in more than 10 million viewers a week, the show has already been dubbed a breakout hit — even reigning TV queen Shonda Rhimes tweeted, "I am all about 'Empire.'" Byers attributes the instant success to the series' wild plot — based on Shakespeare's "King Lear" — and improvised dialogue. "'Empire' is cool, it's crazy, it's unpredictable," he says. "A lot of these artists are coming up with ideas that aren't [scripted]. ... Taraji

[P. Henson], for instance, she's like a snapping live wire. [Her line] 'Boo-boo, kitty' — she just brings up these terms from different worlds and incorporates them into 'Empire.' It's amazing."

Improvisation doesn't come easy for Byers, whose theater training taught him that "if it ain't on the page, it ain't on the stage." He graduated from the Yale School of Drama in 2011, though even while in school he was booking gigs on shows like "All My Children." But, after more success on "90210" and in several indie movies, Byers hit a roadblock. He remembers: "In 2013, BOOM! Everything was completely down. Life was kind of shattering a little bit. Girlfriend of years? Gone. Friends dropping off." The struggling actor turned to religion for guidance and, just as he was contemplating leaving show business altogether, he received his saving grace. "'Empire' came out of nowhere. [It felt like it] fell from the sky," he says. The day after "Empire" was picked up to series, Byers got the role in "Selma."

Now, he's just counting his blessings — even if they mean he'll be forced into suits. "I feel grateful — very, very grateful," he says. "I got a message the other day, someone thanking me for using myself as a vessel to show what bipolar [disorder] actually [looks like]. That means something to me. It's beautiful to be useful." He adds, "It's just a blessing, the opportunity to live my dreams out in a way I didn't think I'd be able to."

Watch "Empire" Wednesdays at 8 p.m. on FOX.

Star-struck moment

"I did lose my mind when I saw Smokey Robinson. I'm an old soul — [singing] 'Ooo Baby Baby,' that's my stuff. I looked, looked again, [screaming] 'Smokey! SMOKEEEYYY!'"

PHOTO BY RAMZI DREESSEN | SPLASH

WE'VE STORY

ON MCCARTHY

Gown: Oscar de la Renta, \$9,490, Saks Fifth Avenue, 700 N. Michigan; Saksfifthavenue.com

Clutch: Judith Leiber Couture, \$5,995, Neiman Marcus, 737 N. Michigan; Neimanmarcus.com

Earrings: Garrard, diamond and ruby 18-karat white gold, \$32,250 **Bracelet:** A. Marek, ruby and diamond line platinum, \$65,000

Both available; A. Marek Fine Jewelry, 3021 Butterfield, Oak Brook; Amarekfinejewelry.com

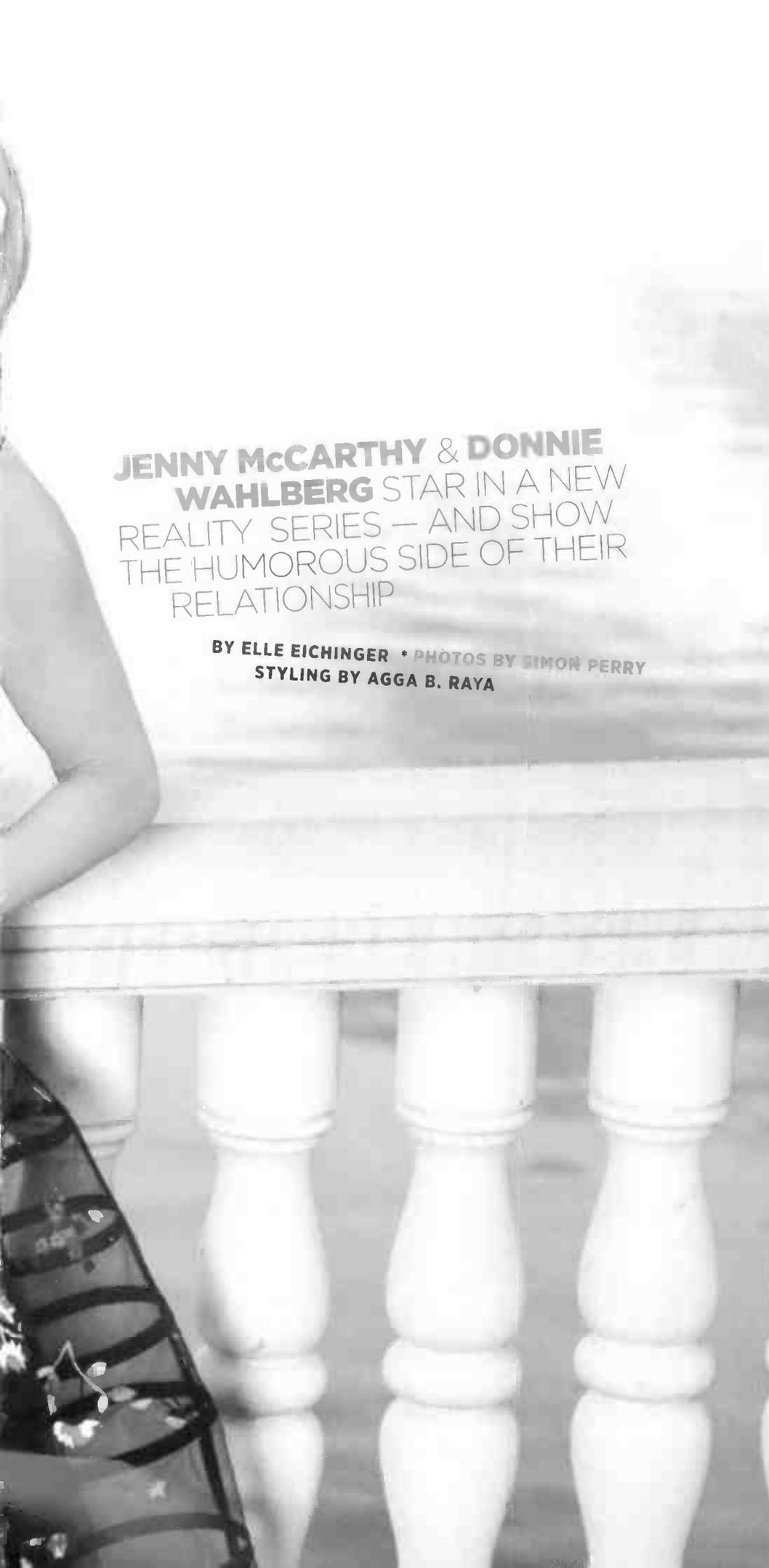
ON WAHLBERG:

Suit: Reiss, \$745 **Shoes:** Reiss, similar styles \$295

Both available; Bloomingdale's, 900 N. Michigan; Reiss.com

Shirt: Emporio Armani, \$295, Saks Fifth Avenue, 700 N. Michigan; Saksfifthavenue.com

Shot on location at: Hotel Baker, 100 W. Main, St. Charles; Hotelbaker.com



JENNY MCCARTHY & DONNIE WAHLBERG STAR IN A NEW REALITY SERIES — AND SHOW THE HUMOROUS SIDE OF THEIR RELATIONSHIP

BY ELLE EICHINGER * PHOTOS BY SIMON PERRY
STYLING BY AGGA B. RAYA

It's a rare moment of seriousness for Splash columnist Jenny McCarthy and Donnie Wahlberg when, in the premiere episode of their new A&E docuseries, "Donnie Loves Jenny," they stand at an altar inside St. Charles' Hotel Baker and exchange wedding vows. The two can't stop staring into each other's eyes ... and smiling, they can't stop smiling.

Four months later, back at Hotel Baker for our Splash cover shoot, they're still staring into each other's eyes and smiling.

"He's just 'the one,'" McCarthy, 42, gushes. "I always heard old people say that when you meet the one, you'll know, and I was like, 'Yeah, right.' And then it happened."

The couple has taken steps to prove they're in it for the long haul. They've combined their families, a total of three kids from previous marriages, and — spoiler alert — purchased a home in suburban St. Charles (until now they've been living outside New York City, where Wahlberg films his CBS cop drama, "Blue Bloods," and McCarthy records her SiriusXM radio show, "Dirty Sexy Funny").

And now, they're doing it all on camera. "Donnie Loves Jenny" premiered Jan. 7 to 1.7 million viewers, and follows the duo's madcap relationship, documenting the (often surprisingly normal) obstacles they face each day. In one episode, for example, Wahlberg, 45, makes a mess fixing breakfast for McCarthy's son, and then uses chewing gum to glue planets together for his school science project.

"It's almost like we get to make a sitcom together, on our terms," Wahlberg says. "We're the 'writers' of our lives" — they're the executive producers, too — "so it's turned out to be really fun."

"['Wahlburgers'] [another A&E series that Wahlberg stars in with his brothers] I think broke the mold of reality shows, in terms of being feel-good TV," McCarthy says. "We wanted to do something in the same, feel-good place as a relationship show, because [everything else] was salacious."

It only makes sense that the two would have a show — their relationship played out largely on TV. The couple first met on New Year's Eve 2010, when McCarthy was co-hosting "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest" and Wahlberg was performing with New Kids on the Block. A few more televised run-ins followed: They were guests together on Andy Cohen's "Watch What Happens Live" in 2013 and Wahlberg was a guest on McCarthy's short-lived Vh1 talk show; eventually, they announced their engagement on "The View" during her season as a co-host.

Most importantly, though, the show allows them to spend more time together. "Jenny and I are both workaholics," says Wahlberg. "We're constantly being pulled to different sides of the Earth, [but] we want to be on the *same* side of the Earth, in the same place, holding hands as much as possible. We were trying to find a way to work together and spend as much time as possible together, so [doing a show] seemed like a no-brainer."

At this point in the interview there's a long pause. The newlyweds have honed in on each other and don't seem to realize anyone else is in the room — not the stylist primping McCarthy's hair or the photographer staging his next shot — and certainly not me, recorder light blinking red, waiting for an answer to my last question.

"You'd both been married before," I repeat. "So what was different this time?" Neither can quite put it into words, except to reiterate "just knowing."

"I immediately knew there was something special about her," Wahlberg says. "I immediately knew, though, that if I was going to [go] out with her, I was going to have to get out of my own way. Meaning I was used to being alone; after being married once, relationships were my way or the highway. I didn't feel like she was someone I could just date for a little while and move on. I felt like [I had to] get in and commit or get out fast — and I decided to get in."

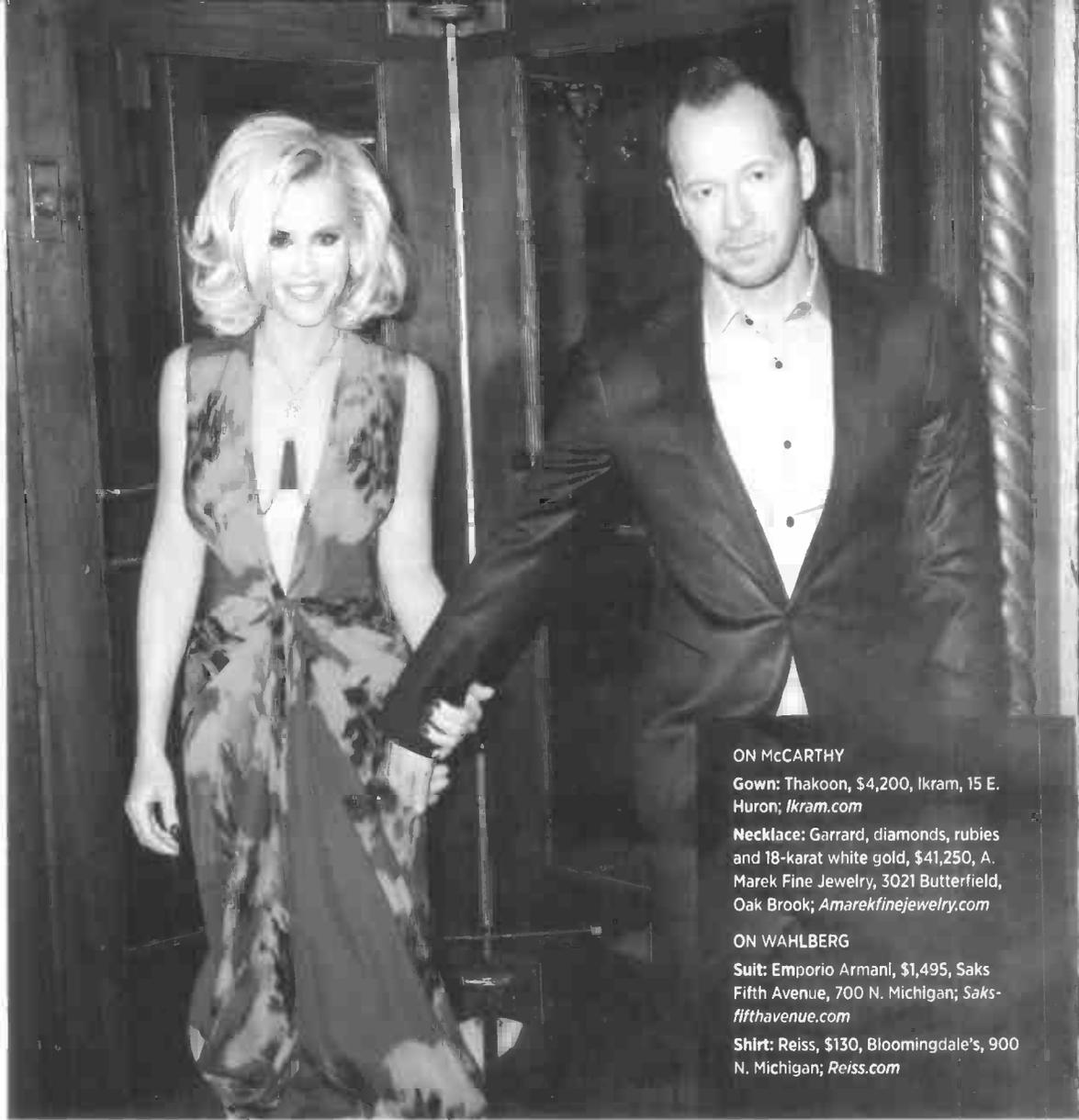
Of course, it didn't come without challenges. Both McCarthy and Wahlberg already had children: his two sons, ages 13 and 21, and her son Evan, a 13-year-old who appears often in the show.

"[Bringing the families together was] scary at first, because the unknown is always scarier than reality," McCarthy admits. "It turned out to be wonderful. ... Evan was desperate for a male hero."

As the season unfolds — it runs through March 11 — we'll watch them face more challenges, too, albeit with a heavy dose of humor. But for as unconventional as McCarthy and Wahlberg are as individuals, their love story is surprisingly by-the-book — and one we can all take a page from. They'll finish their house hunt, groan at McCarthy's live-in dad's jokes and laugh all along the way, but, mostly, they'll continue to fall in love with each other.

MORE ONLINE

For more photos from our shoot — plus a behind-the-scenes video, go to Chicagosplash.com



ON MCCARTHY

Gown: Thakoon, \$4,200, Ikram, 15 E. Huron; Ikram.com

Necklace: Garrard, diamonds, rubies and 18-karat white gold, \$41,250, A. Marek Fine Jewelry, 3021 Butterfield, Oak Brook; Amarekfinejewelry.com

ON WAHLBERG

Suit: Emporio Armani, \$1,495, Saks Fifth Avenue, 700 N. Michigan; Saks-fifthavenue.com

Shirt: Reiss, \$130, Bloomingdale's, 900 N. Michigan; Reiss.com

THE NEWLYWED GAME

We tested McCarthy and Wahlberg to see how much they really know about each other.

Splash: Donnie, what is Jenny's favorite sports team?

Donnie Wahlberg: The [New England] Patriots.

Jenny McCarthy: Nooo!

DW: Yes!

JM: [stage whisper] This is a Chicago newspaper! I root for the Bulls — my family is a basketball family, so I have to go with the Bulls.

DW: All right, since the [Boston] Celtics are bad this year,

I will adopt the Bulls. ... But you should be adopting the Patriots for me.

S: Who's the better dancer?

JM: Oh, that's easy. Donnie! Donnie's like John Travolta. I always had a crush on him in "Grease" and was like, "I wanna marry Danny Zuko." Now I definitely feel like I married Danny Zuko.

S: Donnie, do you agree?

DW: No, I love how she dances. Jenny thinks she's the worst dancer in history, but the smile on her face when she dances ... I don't even look at her body. I don't know what she's doing.

I'm just looking at her smile.

S: Who's messier?

DW: That's close. We're both incredibly messy, then we go on incredible cleaning binges.

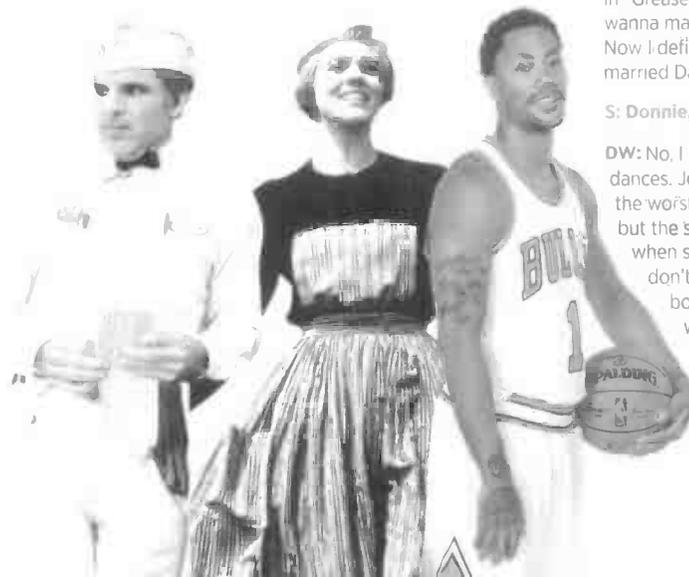
JM: Yes. I'd have to agree with that.

S: What is each of your favorite movies?

DW: She has a few; I'll give three: "The Jerk," "Grease" and "The Sound of Music."

JM: I would include "Airplane!" but he definitely got those three right. Donnie's would be ... that's tricky. "Scarface"?

DW: That's one of my favorites, for sure. And now "The Sound of Music" is, too. I had never seen it before, but we just watched it the other day. I cried a lot.



< On their list of favorites: Steve Martin in "The Jerk" (from left), Julie Andrews in "The Sound of Music" and the Bulls' Derrick Rose

#mychicagostory



Pink ladies

On Tickled Pink's 10-year anniversary, founder **Jodi Fyfe** reflects on love, loss and leaving a legacy

From the moment I was born, my cousin Carrie was my constant companion. Only a year older, she taught me how to tie my shoelaces, how to kiss boys, how to do anything and everything. She was fun and energetic, the life of the party. When we got older and went to college, we made regular trips to visit each other. Carrie was someone I relied on and looked up to — truly my best friend.

So I'll never forget the call I got from her in 1997, just after she'd returned from her honeymoon. Carrie said she had found a lump in her breast; I remember not having any idea what that meant. Eventually, we went to the hospital and the doctors told Carrie she had breast cancer. Neither of us had ever

known anyone with breast cancer before, and we had no idea what lay ahead.

After a difficult seven-year battle, Carrie succumbed to cancer at the age of 35. After she passed, I would call her over and over, just to hear her voice on her outgoing message — having been joined at the hip for 34 years, I couldn't imagine I'd never see her again. Carrie had such a profound impact on my life from an emotional and mental standpoint, and I quickly realized I needed to do something to commemorate her. I wanted to keep her memory alive by giving back to breast cancer organizations, in order to help other women like Carrie deal with the questions, the fear and the pain she had faced.

With a group of my close friends, I put together the first Tickled

Pink fundraiser in 2005. More than 700 people attended and we raised over \$100,000. Since then, we've grown every year, and it's humbling to know over \$1.6 million has been donated to breast cancer organizations.

This year, we celebrate Tickled Pink's 10th anniversary — a huge milestone. It's proof that people believe in the message we are conveying, and that we can come together to support one another. My cousin Carrie always lived for the moment and appreciated every second of every day. In her memory, Tickled Pink is — and continues to be — about celebrating our lives here and now.



FEBRUARY 20
TICKLED PINK

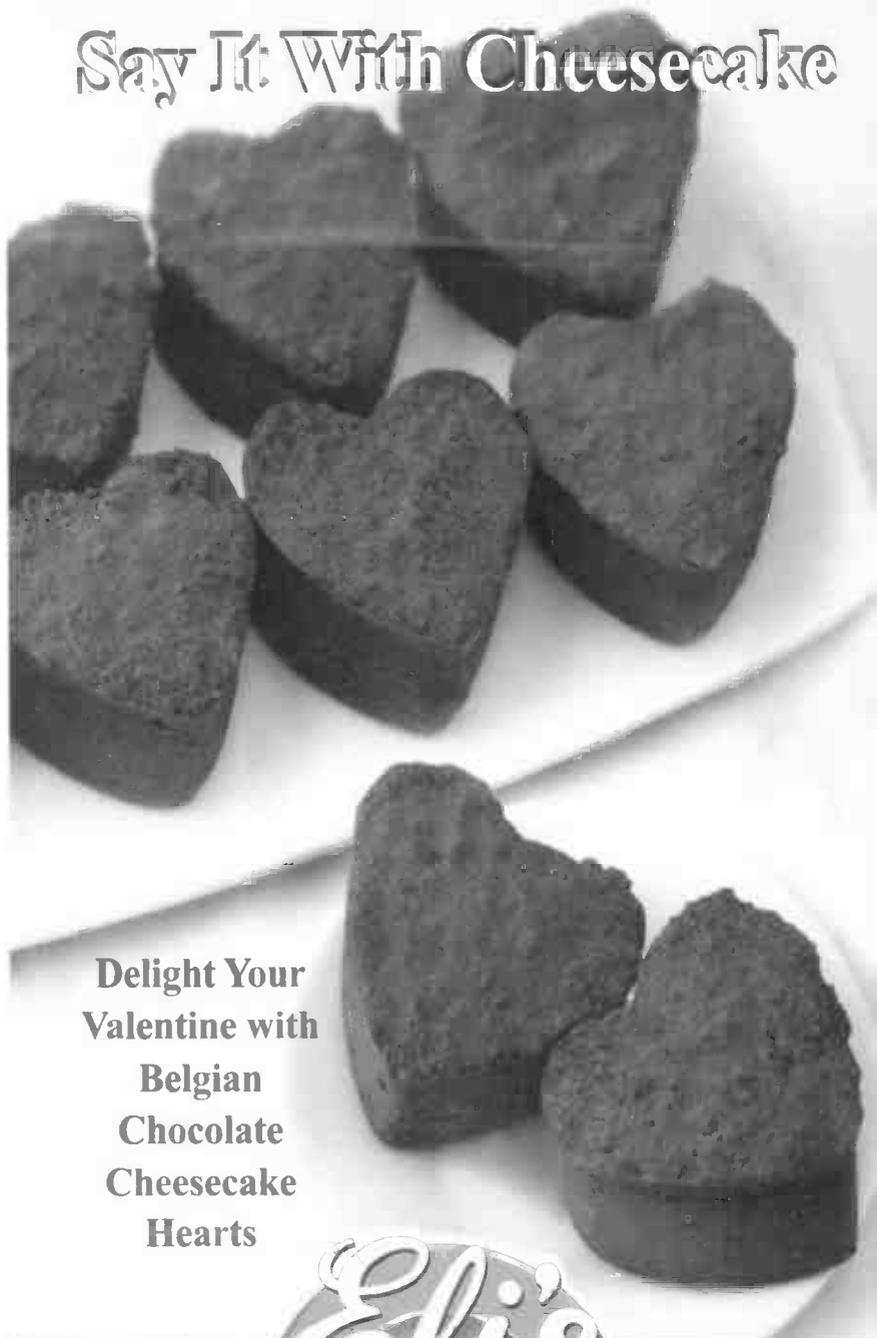
Sport your favorite rosy shade at this event benefiting Bright Pink, a Chicago-based nonprofit dedicated to the prevention and early detection of breast and ovarian cancer. Emceed by "Windy City LIVE's" Val Warner, the event features a pink carpet, Pink-tini cocktails and music by The Gold Coast All Stars.

Time: 7 p.m. VIP reception, 8 p.m. event

Place: Morgan Manufacturing, 401 N. Morgan

Cost: \$125. For tickets, visit Tickledpinkchicago.com.

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> SWEETEST SUITE

Tucked away off Michigan, the Sofitel Chicago Water Tower is a romantic hidden gem. With the Magnifique Romance package, you can get Champagne delivered to your suite with chocolate bonbons or flowers. Enjoy the super-late checkout and soak up the property's refined French style. Rates start at \$196. 20 E. Chestnut; Sofitel.com - A.G.

Right: Rhubarb and raspberry vacherin from Café des Architectes at Sofitel



The best of
VALENTINE'S
DAY 2015

< BEST BUBBLY

Sip some sweet bubbles in the holiday's signature pink hue with the Moët & Chandon Rosé Impérial. It comes in a special package with two Champagne flutes for you and your Valentine (\$150, call 212-838-7500) — or as a single bottle (\$53.99, Binny's locations citywide; Binny.com). - Z.S.

*The Splash staff
— and four local
romance experts —
craft the perfect
holiday*

CREATIVE NON-DINNER DATE

Start Valentine's Day early with CH Distillery & Cocktail Bar's spirit and truffle pairing session (Feb. 10, 5:45 and 8 p.m.), featuring Ethereal Confections out of Woodstock. Sip spirits like CH Amaro, paired with a sea salt, almond and cocoa nib chocolate bar, and take a tour of the distillery. 564 W. Randolph; Chdistillery.com - S.L.

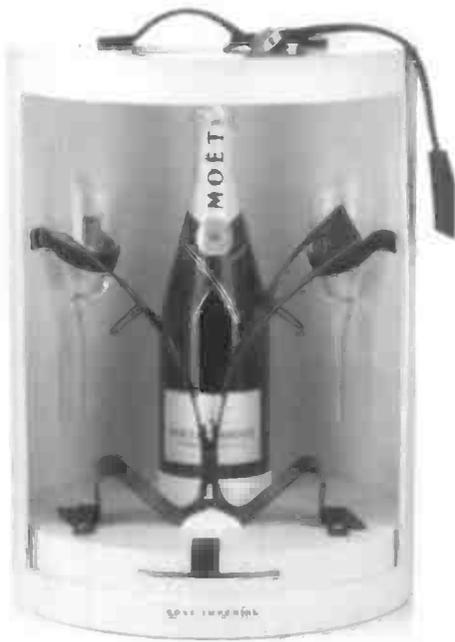


SHERRILL BODINE

Romance novelist

Best gift: The best gift is when my husband surprises me, either with [a trip] to The American Club in Kohler, Wisconsin, or he makes dinner reservations at one of my favorite restaurants. Often there's a surprise gift. He never gives me flowers, but jewelry makes up for no roses.

Advice to singles: Do not stay home! Go out with friends, anywhere there are other singles. This could be the night you look across the room and lock eyes with your soul mate. Trust me — I write this stuff — it does happen!



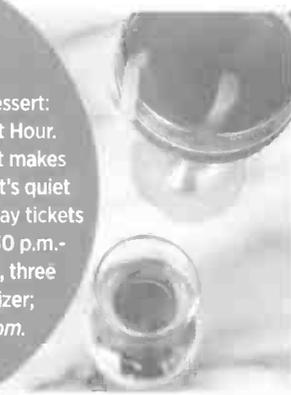


BEST PRE-DATE PREP

Take the stress out of getting ready: Grab a seat and a glass of wine (or two) at Pin Me Up and let co-owners Brittani and Jessica Sylvester and their team go to work. Lashes, blowouts, hair extensions, airbrush makeup — the salon delivers on all fronts, making you picture-perfect for your special day. Services start at \$50, 111 N. Wabash; Pinmeupchicago.com — *K.B.*

> BEST AFTER-DINNER DRINK

The romance doesn't end with dessert: Splurge on nightcaps at The Violet Hour. The swanky but inconspicuous spot makes you seem in-the-know and, inside, it's quiet enough to actually talk. Valentine's Day tickets (\$200, seatings at 6-9 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.) include a table for two, three drinks each and a shared appetizer; email Aubrey@theviolethour.com. 1520 N. Damen; Theviolethour.com — *Z.S.*



< FAVORITE CHICAGO ROM-COM

There's no shortage of great romantic films set in Chicago — "My Best Friend's Wedding," "High Fidelity," "Love Jones" — but which uses our city best? We're giving this to 2000's "Return to Me," which filmed at Old Town's Twin Anchors Restaurant & Tavern and Lincoln Park Zoo's ape house (points for cute animals, too). Rent on iTunes and Amazon Instant Video. — *J.S.*



LARA SHIFFMAN

Publicist and matchmaker to more than 20 couples

Best Valentine's Day memory: Coming home to find my husband and boys in the kitchen, preparing a surprise Valentine's Day dinner — including cupcakes. It was so sweet ... and messy!

Advice to couples: Don't have crazy, over-the-top expectations — Valentine's Day is about celebrating your love, even if that doesn't result in a proposal. There's nothing better than ordering in a heart-shaped Lou Malnati's pizza and watching a good movie.



> MOST ROMANTIC DINNER

I'm pretty traditional — a steak-and-seafood dinner is the perfect V-Day date for me. At Chicago Cut, the food's unbeatable, the river view is spectacular, and the soft mood lighting makes my skin look great. Oh, and the wine list is *really* long. 300 N. LaSalle; Chicagocutsteakhouse.com — *E.E.*

BRIGHTEST BLING

Stack them, mix-and-match them (they come in yellow, rose and white gold) or wear one as a necklace — these versatile Posey rings by Monica Rich Kossan are inscribed with sweet sayings and make a great gift for your Valentine. Starting at \$465, A. Marek Fine Jewelry, 3021 Butterfield, Oak Brook; Amarekfinejewelry.com — *K.B.*

> BEST BOUQUET

This V-Day, make sure your special delivery stands out among the sea of red roses. Kalla offers a signature "Grand Gesture" package filled with artisan chocolates, Napa Valley wines, customizable stationery and, of course, a pretty bouquet of crimson, heart-shaped Wanted Heart roses and hypericum berries. \$325; Kalla.com — *C.M.*



CONTRIBUTORS

- Kat Bizios
- Ashley Devick
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- Elle Eichinger
- Amber Gibson
- Samantha Lande
- Chiara Milioulis
- Susanna Negovan
- Jessica Sedgwick
- Zak Stemer



UNIQUE GIFT

Whether it's a heartwarming romance novel or steamy read à la *Fifty Shades of Grey*, a book is always a great gift. Hyde Park's legendary Seminary Co-op has just about every book in print — there are more than 100,000 on their shelves. 5751 S. Woodlawn; Semcoop.com — E.E.



< WHERE TO BUY FOR HER

G Boutique takes the "ick" out of shopping for items ranging from lacy lingerie to racy accessories. The store is run by women, for women — but it wouldn't be a bad idea to take your guy there to help you choose the ultimate V-Day gift. 2131 N. Damen; Boutiqueg.com — S.N.

> WHERE TO BUY FOR HIM

I could easily spend a whole day in Belmont Army. I'm all about the third floor, which is full of military jackets, boots and the like, but it's the fourth floor (the costume area) that really shines. When I need to find a '70s-era, flat-collared shirt to impress that special someone, I know where to go. 855 W. Belmont; Belmontarmy.wordpress.com — R.D.



BELA GANDHI

Founder and president of Smart Dating Academy

Best Valentine's Day memory: Feb. 14, 2004, wins. My husband and I were all set to go out for a nice dinner; I was nine months pregnant. At 4 p.m., my stomach felt unsettled — I was going into labor! So our nice dinner turned into an evening at home, timing contractions. Such an exciting and unforgettable night.

Advice to couples: If you're in a brand-new relationship, acknowledge it, but don't go overboard — a cute note and a small gift are totally cool. Don't give a woman a Tiffany's box on the second date (I've seen it happen) — it's TOO much!

JEFF LAWLER

Managing partner of Geja's Café, where more than 16,000 couples have gotten engaged!

Best gift: My long-distance girlfriend Darla compiled all of our text messages and email conversations into a photo album as thick as the Chicago

phone book. It took a lot of time and thoughtfulness. I often refer to it for nice memories of our beginnings.

Advice to couples: Go to a place that's special to you both, or somewhere with an environment that you can truly lose yourself in each other. Make a reservation in advance, relax and have fun.



BEST CANDLE

I burn Michael Aram's olive branch candle constantly, especially when special company comes over. It has an incredibly clean and refreshing scent — it's the perfect accent, without being overpowering. \$60, Saks Fifth Avenue, 700 N. Michigan; Saksfifthavenue.com — A.D.



CUTEST STATIONERY

Known for their signature modern floral designs, Ravenswood-based stationery and gift company Snow & Graham shows its humorous side with cute (but not too cutesy) V-Day messages: "I Wanna Take You Out," "You Are Smokin'" and "I Like Your Type." \$3.50 and up. 4021 N. Ravenswood; Snowandgraham.com — J.S.



STYLISH USE OF HEARTS

As a serial LBD lover, I'm swooning over these Saint Laurent heart-print Paris Half D'Orsay pumps (\$795). The four-inch, pointed-toe stiletto adds a pop of color to a date-night outfit — and is the perfect pretty print for the sweetheart holiday. Barneys New York, 15 E. Oak; Barneys.com — C.M.



MOST EXOTIC CHOCOLATES

Katherine Anne Confections, hands down. I love that they collaborate with other local businesses, like Evanston's FEW Spirits for a bourbon-infused truffle. Valentine's Day Sun & Moon box, \$65. 2745 W. Armitage; Katherine-anne.com — E.E.

SHARABLE SWEET

One spoonful of the salted caramel chocolate mousse (\$10) from Maude's Liquor Bar will numb your senses. My fiancé and I love to share the salty-sweet treat after a meal in the dining room, or with a glass of Champagne at the bar. 840 W. Randolph; Maudesliquorbar.com — A.D.



THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM THE RETAIL SCENE

shopping spy



CITY SPARKLE

Jewelry designer **Daisy Knights** teamed up with The James Hotels to put a spin on standard V-Day bling, with a collection inspired by the hotel chain's trendy locations. The James Collection features everything from necklaces to cufflinks in gold, brass or silver. Our favorite is the Chicago-inspired friendship bracelet (pictured, \$79), made of nylon cord and 22-karat gold-plated brass pendants. Pieces start at \$79. The James Chicago, 55 E. Ontario; Daisyknights.com



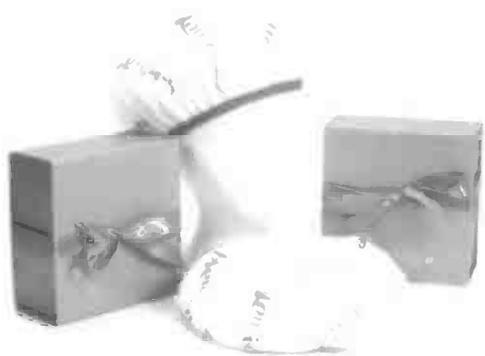
APPAREL

generation bliss

ACCESSORIES

14184 MCCARTHY ROAD, LEMONT, IL

WWW.GENERATIONBLISS.COM



BLOWOUTS, BEAUTY & BUBBLES

This Valentine's Day, stop by River North's Blowtique, choose your blowout style and get a complimentary makeup application and gift from Burberry. Oh, and don't forget to take advantage of the complimentary build-your-own mimosa bar. Blowouts \$40, 1-5 p.m. 520 N. Michigan; Blowtique.com

IN GOOD CO.

Make Valentine's Day a family affair at the opening celebration of The Red Balloon Co. children's store Feb. 14. The kid-centric fête includes face painting, story and craft hours, cookies and a valentine-making station 10 a.m.-6 p.m. 3651 N. Southport; TheRedballoon.com



SLEEP RESEARCH STUDY FOR PEOPLE WITH LUNG DISEASE:

Volunteers are invited to join this study: you must be over age 45 years, have either emphysema or chronic bronchitis and difficulty falling asleep or staying asleep to qualify.



We are testing a program to improve sleep in people with lung disease. Volunteers eligible for the study will participate in 6 weekly sessions in one of four behavioral or educational programs. The programs are offered by the University of Illinois at Chicago and the Hines VA. Health evaluations include an overnight sleep study, lung function tests, two blood draws, activity monitoring and questionnaires. Compensation is provided to enrolled participants, all program activities and testing are free and free parking is provided.

For more information call Mary Kapella PhD, RN or Franco Laghi MD at (312) 996-1575, 9:30AM to 4:00PM, Monday thru Friday at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Center for Narcolepsy, Sleep & Health Research. This study is funded by the National Institutes of Health.



O'Heir as Jerry/Garry/Larry/Terry Gergich/Gengurch on "Parks and Recreation"

ON SPEED DIAL ...

Jim O'Heir

The Chicago native calls in to talk 'Parks' and pizza

BY ELLE EICHINGER

You might know Jim O'Heir — or you might not — from NBC's "Parks and Recreation," on which he plays Jerry/Garry/Larry/Terry Gergich/Gengurch, the comically overlooked associate director for the Pawnee Parks and Recreation Department. O'Heir was originally booked for just six episodes, but

became a recurring character throughout seven seasons of the show, which airs its series finale Feb. 24.

Calling from: "My little home in Encino, [Los Angeles], where it's going to be 80 degrees today."

Growing up: "I loved television. I would think, 'How exciting that would be [to be

on TV],' but I didn't know what I was going to do. ... From my first day of the first class I did at The Second City, when I got that first laugh, I knew that's what I wanted."

How I got the part: "The word was out that Amy Poehler was getting a show. [The producers] put out a call for [the part of] Ron Swanson, so I initially auditioned for that — along with everyone in town. But they must have liked something I did, because two weeks later I got a call to be seen for Jerry."

My goal is: "To always just do a decent audition. You never know what it could lead to, you never know who's in the room — so just make a good impression."

At "Parks and Recreation": "We do a fun-run after every scene to improv. The writers know us so well, so about 90 percent of what you see is written [in the script], but sometimes things make it in."

People would be surprised to know: "I have a shockingly large tongue — you asked!"

In Chicago I go to: "Gino's East and Lou Malnati's. I get the frozen pies sent to my house — it's two pies in a nice container and it's a great deal."

Up next: "I have three different independent films lined up — one I'm the lead in. [The writer/director] is a Chicago guy, Ned Crowley."

Watch O'Heir in "Parks and Recreation" Tuesdays at 7 p.m. on NBC.



How do I love thee?

The Newberry Library counts the ways

BY THOMAS CONNORS

Valentine's Day. Bah, humbug! Next to Christmas, this is the holiday commercialism-denouncing cranks love to hate the most. But whether you eat it up or swear as you scramble to grab a box of chocolates before heading home, the Newberry Library has got a treat for you: "Love on Paper" is a rewarding look at how richly folks have expressed affection over the centuries (and it won't cost you a nickel).

Drawn from across the library's various collections, the material on view ranges from the saccharine to the steamy, from handmade missives to mass-produced cards, from tokens of affection to "vinegar valentines," irreverent antidotes to the sweetness of the usual love note. We're not talking Hallmark here: The exhibition includes a book of love songs from Venetian musician Francesco Bossinensis, published in 1509, and a tiny book from 1627, featuring imaginative images of hearts adapted from Hieronymus and Anton Wierix's famous prints, "Cor Iesu Amanti Sacrum (Heart of Jesus Sacred to One Who Loves Him)."

Of more recent vintage are letters exchanged between couples in Sullivan, Illinois and in Madison, Wisconsin in the late 19th century. "These letters are valuable to genealogical researchers tracing the histories of individual families, to local

'LOVE ON PAPER'
 Through April 4, The Newberry Library, 60 W. Walton. Free. For more information, visit Newberry.org

historians seeking to understand the texture of daily life in particular places; to scholars interested in gender relations; to anthropologists studying family dynamics or the history of handwriting," observes Diane Dillon, exhibitions director and interim vice president for research and academic programs at the library.

The bulk of the straight-up valentines in the show come from the collection of the late Andrew McNally III of the famous map publishing firm, who began amassing material as a teenager. "After his family and friends learned of his passion for the cards, they began sending him examples of the genre every February," relates Dillon. "By the time he donated his collection to the Newberry in 1999, it had grown to about 325 valentines, plus another 25 related items." Included are those "vinegar valentines," garishly colored cards with rude verses that, as Dillon explains, "were often sent COD, so that the recipient had to pay the mail carrier to be insulted." Humbug, indeed.

Mallory Ulaszek & Bryan Tews

BY CHIARA MILIOULIS

Mallory Ulaszek and Bryan Tews weren't exactly high school sweethearts: Even though they met at Loyola Academy in '09, it wasn't until 2008, while working in Atlanta, that the pair reconnected. It was another two years before they began dating. "We finally decided to bridge the gap between friendship and a relationship," says Ulaszek, co-founder of local PR firm Presence Agency.

In August 2013, Tews, who works in software and business analytics at IBM, planned a trip to Seattle to pop the question. "He had our dog's tag engraved [with the proposal]," Ulaszek remembers. "I laughed because I was like, 'Is the dog proposing or are you?'"

The romantic gesture did the trick: Late last year, the couple honored their alma mater by reciting their vows in front of close friends and family at their high school's sister parish, Old St. Patrick's Church (700 W. Adams). "It was a classic wedding experience, but I wanted to have more fun," Ulaszek says. So, a week later, the couple invited 100 guests to a private estate in Big Sur, California, for a second — more upbeat — coastal wedding.

With the help of their wedding planner, the newlyweds dressed the estate's grounds with red blooms, fresh greenery and white protea flowers for a whimsical, fairytale-themed affair. Following the ceremony, guests gathered on rustic wooden benches around a fire pit to continue the revelry. "It felt like *A Midsummer Night's Dream*," says Tews. "We felt like we were escaping reality."



MORE ONLINE
For more of their wedding photos, visit Chicago.splash.com

"He had our dog's tag engraved [with the proposal]," the bride says. On the big day, the best man walked their dog Dexter (above) down the aisle.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOTT CAMPBELL

IT'S IN THE DETAILS

Bride's gown: Monique Lhuillier, Ultimate Bride, 106 E. Oak; Ultimatebride.com

Bride's shoes: Pierre Hardy, Barneys New York, 15 E. Oak; Barneys.com

Bride's jewelry: David Yurman, 40 E. Oak; Davidyurman.com; Loren Stewart, Lorenstewart.com

Bride's hair & makeup: Shawn Cavian Beauty Co.; Shawncavianbeautyco.com

Groom's attire: custom Alton Lane; Altonlane.com

Maid of honor's dress: BHLDN, 8 E. Walton; Bhdn.com

Best man's attire: custom Alton Lane; Altonlane.com

Rings: Jules Vance Jewelry, Julesvancejewelry.com; Eva Fehren, Barneys New York, 15 E. Oak; Barneys.com

Wedding planner: Allison Weddings, 15 Westwood, Santa Cruz, California; Allisonweddings.com

Catering: Francesca's on Taylor, 1400 W. Taylor, Miafrancesca.com; Paradise Catering, Paradisecater.com

Décor & florist: Presence Agency, Presenceagency.com; Sprout Home, 745 N. Damen, Sprouthome.com; Fleurs du Soleil, 244 Pearl, Monterey, California, Kimen-glandflowers.com

Entertainment: Synchronicity Strings, Synchrostrings.com; Pop Fiction, Popfictionlive.com

Invitations: Helanders Stationers, 222 E. Westminster, Lake Forest; Helanders.com

CHEERS!



Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants has a lot to celebrate this month: The brand's regional VP **Ron Vlasic** (above) was recently named 2015 chairman of the Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association Educational Foundation to help increase scholarship funding and hospitality education. Kimpton's sales and marketing teams got a boost, too, with the promotion of **Denise Schultz** to Chicago area director of sales and marketing and the addition of **Jose Angulo** as director of sales and marketing for Hotel Palomar (505 N. State).



Karena Fiorenza Ingersoll comes from California to settle in the Midwest as Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's new general manager, bringing more than a decade of performing arts management experience to the company.



Celebrity hairstylist **Anthony Cristiano** — owner of the eponymous salon in the Trump International Hotel & Tower Chicago (401 N. Wabash) — reaches new heights in hair-care as the recently appointed global artistic director of PHYTO, a line of plant-based hair products.

who to watch

ANGELA CARROLL

AGE: 27. LIVES IN: South Loop. NAMESAKE: Idlewild is a town in Michigan, where I grew up. There's an old folk saying, "Idle men and wild women." We repurposed that — we want to make women feel powerful and free. FIRST BIRTHDAY: For our one-year anniversary collection in April, we'll have pants, dresses, leather bralets — real statement pieces. WARDROBE STAPLES: We want our clients to curate their closets as if they were art collections. BABY NEWS: I'm due in February — I'm convinced it's going to be a Valentine's Day baby. LOVEBIRDS: For Valentine's Day, my husband [artist Hebru Brantley] and I will be low-key. We'll have one-on-one time, because I know once the baby comes, it won't ever happen again!

This was an exclusive piece from our Hebru collaboration. Everyone should own a motorcycle jacket, and the fact he painted on it makes it special.

Similar styles available at Idle.Wild: painted leather jacket, \$1,500; ShopIdlewild.com

I'm all about chunky booties — the platform makes them easier to walk in.

Similar styles available at Topshop: Hackney lace up boots, \$135, 830 N. Michigan; Topshop.com

RHEA FERNANDEZ

AGE: 27. LIVES IN: Gold Coast. STYLE SISTERS: We wanted to do something creative and we have similar styles, so we started designing bags and slowly [grew]. ART MEETS DESIGN: Hebru Brantley has an aesthetic unlike anyone else's. We had a lot of inspiration from other painted bags, like [the ones by artist] George Condo. BRAND IDENTITY: We love menswear, so [our pieces] tend to have more masculine structures and cuts. QUICK TURNAROUND: We make such small runs, so each piece is as different as possible. Once an item is gone, it's gone. We're constantly looking for new material. FRESH INSIGHT: If you put everything into what you do and you believe in what you're making, people will appreciate it.

Shop Idle.Wild products at Sir & Madame (138 N. Damen) or at ShopIdlewild.com.

Clutches: Hammered gold clutch (left, similar styles available), Speak clutch (right, \$600); ShopIdlewild.com

Argan oil is moisturizing and [makes your hair] shiny — perfect for the dry winter.

Target: Acure Organics, Argan oil, \$12.34, locations citywide; Target.com

I only wear black and white, and this is a perfect everyday piece.

Similar styles available at Barneys New York: Hellessy, slide-shirred leather Mirlam pencil skirt, \$1,450, 15 E. Oak; Barneys.com

Wild ones

The co-creators of **Idle.Wild** prep for the urban chic label's one-year anniversary

BY
CHIARA MILIOULIS
PHOTO BY
RAMZI DRESSEN



—Bonnie & Tracy

Co-owners, Shred415

Watch fitness experts Bonnie and Tracy give nutritional and motivational wisdom at marianos.com.

MARIANO'SSM

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At GEMS World Academy – Chicago, innovative technology in every classroom connects cultures.

When most students first learn about other cultures, they open a book. At GEMS World Academy – Chicago, a premier JK - 12 school, they do it face-to-face via international teleconferences. With 70-inch interactive touch screens in every classroom, students collaborate globally beginning as early as first grade. Building authentic relationships with others around the world enables our students to understand the universal experiences that make us responsible global citizens. That's learning on a higher level.

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years of experience
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worldwide



Attend An Open House

To learn more about GEMS World Academy - Chicago, tour the school and meet faculty and staff, join us for an Open House with our Director of Admissions, Ryan Hannon.

To learn more and reserve your spot, visit
gemschicago.org/splash
312.809.8910
admissions@gemschicago.org

Easing the summer camp blues

Homesickness doesn't have to disrupt a positive away camp experience. Parents or guardians who speak honestly and openly with their children about being away from home can help ease the anxiety.

"What parents say matters and is very important for the intensity of homesickness," says Edward Walton, M.D., who serves on the board of the American Camp Association (ACA), an accredited camp organization that specializes in youth development.

The ACA and other camp professionals offer a few tips that can help children ease into the summer camp experience.

Make certain that residential camp is appropriate for your child. While overnight camps can offer an exciting experience, discuss your decision with your child. Show websites, catalogues or brochures that offer activities of interest to your child. Contact the camp and find out if they will allow you and your child to meet some of the staff to discuss the programs before enrollment.

Frank Lenardi, senior director of programs and facilities of the North Suburban YMCA, suggests that families ask camp staff the following questions: What will my child be doing? What experience does your staff have? How flexible and accommodating is the camp? How do you deal with allergies?

Start with a sleepover. If your child has never spent a night away from home, encourage them to stay the night at a friend's home. During that time, limit any phone calls or text messages so your child can experience what camp may be like without you.

Talk about it. Feeling some sort of fear while at camp is natural for most children, especially those attending for the first time. Encourage children to figure out their own solutions when it comes to handling homesickness. Learning how to cope with difficult feelings can become a positive growing experience for your child.

Share information. Tell children that camp will be even more fun if they take



Reminding your child that camp is really fun can help ease their anxiety about going.

advantage of the many offerings, join the activities and keep busy, says camp director Paul Denowski of YMCA Camp Wapsie.

Talk about the fun part. Remind your children that camp is a fun, learning environment where they will have exciting new experiences and meet new friends. Children need the opportunity to play and engage with other people, to learn how to make friends, to make mistakes, to correct

those mistakes, to learn how to survive and thrive in the world today, and have opportunities to play," says Peg Smith, CEO of the ACA.

Parents get homesick, too. Some parents may struggle with feelings of sadness while their children are away. If the thought of separation from your child has you feeling down, speak to a professional that can suggest a plan to ease the summer camp blues for you.

Age 6-13 WORKSHOPS

Age 13-18 YOUTH PRODUCTION

In Wilmette

MUSICAL THEATER Summer Workshop

5 SEPARATE SESSIONS IN 2015:

The Sound of Music • June 15-20
Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka • June 22-27
Annie • July 6-11
Fiddler on the Roof • July 13-18
Strek The Musical • July 20-25

LightOperaWorks.com/workshop.html

SOUTH PACIFIC

YOUTH PRODUCTION

July 29-August 16, 2015

Free public performance:

Monday, August 17 • 7:30 pm

Fully staged with professional costumes, lights, and sound on same set as the Light Opera Works adult production of *South Pacific*

LightOperaWorks.com/youth.html



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ILLINOIS MUSIC THEATER

(847) 920-5360



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preK-8th
grade



Junior Golf Camps & Clinics

www.canalshores.org 847-475-9173

2015 Camp Listings

21ST CENTURY SKILLS ACADEMY

Multiple locations

21stcenturyskillsacademy.com

As the 16-year director of Saint Ignatius College Prep's Model United Nations program, internationally recognized Diane Haleas Hines and her team have scored victories in the United States and at numerous competitions across the globe. This summer, the Academy offers students in grades 7-12 the opportunity to engage in a United Nations simulation in which they will act as diplomats representing the interests of their assigned country and debate issues, navigate conflicting perspectives, make decisions, and negotiate solutions. Summer sessions will be in Lombard (June 9-13), Hinsdale (June 16-19) and Western Springs (July 28-Aug. 1).

BANNER DAY CAMP

1225 Riverwoods Road

Lake Forest, IL 60045

847-295-4900, bannerdaycamp.com

Banner Day Camp offers a safe place to

make new friends, accept challenges and develop self-esteem in a nurturing, positive setting. Days begin with door-to-door bus transportation — and once at Banner, large pavilions, an air-conditioned dining hall and multipurpose rooms make it easy to enjoy camp in any weather. Professional-level specialists lead swim instruction, sports, arts, music and adventure programs. Preschool-age specialists supervise children as young as 3 years. Beginning in kindergarten, campers choose activities that provide high-level instruction. A ratio of one staff member for every three to four campers ensures personalized attention.

CAMP ANOKIJIG

W5639 Anokijig Lane

Plymouth, WI 53073

920-893-0782, anokijig.com

Since 1926, Camp Anokijig has been helping children grow by making new friends, developing positive values and experiencing great adventures mixed with fun. The camp offers coed, overnight

programs for children ages 7-16. Camp duration is from four days to one or more weeks. Campers enjoy two daily skill periods, all-camp activities, sectional/cabin events and directed free time. Specialty programs and off-site, weeklong adventure trips are also available. Camp Anokijig emphasizes honesty, respect and responsibility.

CAMP JORN YMCA

13591 Zenner Lane

Manitowish Waters, WI 54545

715-543-8808, www.campjornymca.org

For over 60 years the focus of Camp Jorn has been developing relationships with campers, the staff, their peers and the outdoors. Through the mission and tradition of YMCA resident camping, Camp Jorn places a strong emphasis on creating and providing a memorable and impactful experience for campers and families. Camp Jorn's facilities provide the setting for carling and qualified staff to lead progressive and challenging programs making Camp Jorn the perfect place for campers to grow and develop self-esteem and a strong sense of worth, all while in a safe and nurturing environment.

CITADEL THEATRE

300 S. Waukegan Road

Lake Forest, IL 60045

847-735-8554, citadeltheatre.org

Registration is now open for Citadel Theatre's summer musical theater camps, which will stage two age-specific productions. Taught by seasoned professionals, the conservatory-style acting camps are a creative way to spend the summer. Kids learn an artistic discipline, work as a team to form an acting ensemble, and gain confidence as they prepare for the final performance. Ages 6-10 will journey under the sea with Ariel and her aquatic friends in Disney's "The Little Mermaid Jr.," while ages 11-16 will perform the family-friendly musical "Hairspray Jr."

DEERFIELD PARK DISTRICT

836 Jewett Park Drive

Deerfield, IL 60015

847-945-0650, deerfieldparks.org

Whether for an entire summer, a week, a full day, or just a few hours, Deerfield Park District offers numerous camp experiences for children from preschool to middle school. Campers will get the chance to hone basketball skills, enhance swimming ability, participate in theater, and play



www.21stcenturyskillsacademy.com

21st Century Skills through Model United Nations

Summer Camps for Grades 7-12 (space is limited to 20 students per classroom)

Instructor: Diane Haleas Hines

Director of the Saint Ignatius Model United Nations Program,
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certified Golden Apple Finalist,
Winner of Singer Family Prize for Excellence in Secondary School Teaching,
Internationally Recognized Model UN Director

Camp Objective: To prepare students for success in high school, college, and global workforce.

Camp Overview: The camp will provide students entering grades 7-12 with the opportunity to develop the following essential skills through interactive, challenging and fun activities in an open and friendly environment.

Critical Thinking Innovation **Communication/Networking Problem-solving** **Technology Literacy Public Speaking** **Leadership Entrepreneurship**

Students will explore current events, global issues, and the basics of international diplomacy. Each day students will engage in an on-going Model United Nations simulation in which they will act as diplomats representing the interests of an assigned country, debating pressing issues, navigating conflicting perspectives, making decisions, and negotiating solutions. They will be exposed to the real-life challenges of solving problems and dealing with unexpected crisis situations.

What is Model United Nations? Model UN is an internationally recognized program for high school and college students designed to simulate the real and complex world of international diplomacy and to encourage students to seek solutions to problems such as nuclear proliferation, cyber warfare, climate change and global health.

Camp Session Dates and Locations • Tuition \$500 per session

First Session - July 6-10 (5 days) 9:00 AM-2:00 PM
4753 N. Broadway, Chicago

Second Session - July 13-17 (5 days) 9:00 AM-2:00 PM
Community House, 415 W. 8th Street, Hinsdale

Third Session - July 20-24 (5 days) 9:00 AM-2:00 PM
McClure Junior High, 4225 Wolf Road, Western Springs



To register, please visit: 21stcenturyskillsacademy.com
Enrollment opens 02/09/15 @ 8:00 am

NORTHBROOK PARK DISTRICT

SUMMER CAMPS & WORKSHOPS



Register now and save!*

For details, visit nbparks.org
or call 847-291-2995.

*Early fee discount applies to most camps until March 13.



tennis, golf or archery. In addition, those 14 and 15 years of age can develop leadership skills as counselors in training. There's something for every child, and the chance to create lasting summer memories with a wide range of activities.

DECOMA DAY CAMP

4350 Walters Ave.
Northbrook, IL 60062
847-945-4455, decomadaycamp.com

Decoma offers a flexible camp schedule of from four to nine weeks of three or five days with included transportation and daily lunch. A shortened-day preschooler program and free extended care also are available. Highlights include individual attention, small staff/camper ratios, mature experienced counselors, flexible programming, and twice-daily swimming with expert instruction. Activities include tennis, basketball, baseball, sand volleyball, tramp-ball, a climbing wall, crafts, dance, archery, drama, soccer, fishing, gymnastics, martial arts, mountain biking, photography, circus arts, theme days and field trips. Optional specialty camps are offered in dance, golf, music, tennis, sports, taekwondo and horseback riding.

EVANSTON JUNIOR/YOUTH GOLF CAMPS AND CLINICS

Canal Shores Golf Course
1030 Central St.
Evanston, IL 60201

847-475-9173, canalshores.org

Programs for pre-K through eighth grade at all skill levels are provided under an agreement between Evanston Wilmette Golf Course Association and The Golf Practice. Sessions help youth develop skills and friendships, instill an appreciation of the game of golf, and offer an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors. Some 400 youth are expected to sign up this season. Funds are actively being raised to offer special programming and scholarships. Afternoon golf clinics run May 20-Sept. 30, half-day camps June 8-Aug. 7, and full-day camps June 15-Aug. 7. Register online, contact the Pro Shop, or email info@canalshores.org.

GOOD TIMES SUMMER DAY CAMP

Libertyville Sports Complex
1950 N. Highway 45
Libertyville, IL 60048

847-680-4884, goodtimescamp.com

Based at Libertyville Sports Complex, Good Times offers campers active programs for children ages 4-12. Each week is



Kids are the stars at Light Opera Works, Summer Kids Musical Theater Workshop in Wilmette.

filled with hours of swimming, field trips, various sports, activities, and a theme-based cookout every Friday. Extended hours from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at no extra charge accommodate parents' busy schedules. Schedules are flexible and

campers can attend only the days desired. Camp shuttlebuses throughout Lake County serve areas such as Lake Zurich, Grayslake, Mundelein, Gurnee, Abbott Park and Vernon Hills.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

NIKE TENNIS CAMPS
SERIOUS. FUN.

JUNIOR DAY CAMP (ages 5-17)

Northwestern University - Evanston, IL

JUNIOR OVERNIGHT AND DAY CAMPS (ages 9-18)

Rod Schroeder National Tennis Camp - Carthage College, Kenosha, WI

University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign, IL

Wayland Academy - Beaver Dam, WI

Butler University - Indianapolis, IN

Michigan State University - East Lansing, MI

USSportsCamps.com

1-800-NIKE CAMP
(1-800-645-3226)

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Deerfield Park District
SUMMER CAMPS

- After-Summer School Camps
- Sports Camps
- Early Childhood Camps
- Youth and Teen Camps
- Creative Art Camps
- Flexible Scheduling Options
- Swim Lessons
- Bus Transportation*

So Big Camp *Sports Camp*

Deerfield Park District
836 Jewett Park Drive
Deerfield, IL 60015
847-945-0650 | deerfieldparks.org/summer-camps
*Bus Transportation not available for all camps

CAMP GUIDE

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

KESHET

3210 Dundee Road
Northbrook, IL 60062
847-205-0274, keshet.org

Keshet offers various eight-week, full-day and overnight-integrated camp options for individuals with special needs. Families can choose from more than 14 camps that suit their child's interests and needs. The state-of-the-art programs offer a well-rounded functional summer that emphasizes maintaining goals achieved throughout the school year. Camps are located in Chicago and surrounding suburbs, as well as in Wisconsin. Keshet provides exceptional opportunities for children with developmental and/or intellectual disabilities. Space is limited.

LAKE FOREST PARKS AND RECREATION

400 Hastings Road
Lake Forest, IL 60045
847-234-6700, lfrec.com

Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department's camps are filled with many opportunities for great experiences, new friendships, exploring the outdoors and

creating a memorable summer. The department has been offering camps for Lake Forest and surrounding communities for more than 59 years with variety, flexibility and value. In addition to the traditional full-summer experience, a series of two-week options in most of the camps is available again this year.

LIGHT OPERA WORKS

Summer Kids Musical Theater Workshop
516 4th Street, Wilmette, IL 60091
847-920-5360,
LightOperaWorks.com/summer.html

Kids 8-13 learn acting, dancing and singing in five, self-contained weeklong sessions. Productions include "The Sound of Music" (June 15-20), "Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka" (June 22-27), "Annie" (July 6-11), "Fiddler on the Roof" (July 13-18) and "Shrek The Musical" (July 20-25). Fee is \$365 per workshop. Scholarships are available. Teen "South Pacific" is offered July 29-Aug. 16 for ages 13-18. The show will have a free public performance Aug. 17 with professional costumes, sound and lighting on the same set as Light Opera Works' adult production of "South Pacific" at Cahn Auditorium in Evanston. Fee is \$1,250.

NIKE TENNIS CAMPS

US Sports Camps
1010 B St., Ste. 450
San Rafael, CA 94901
415-451-2203, ussportscamps.com

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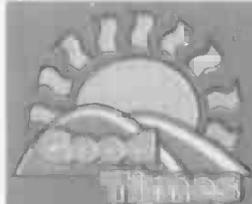
PLAY-BY-PLAY SPORTS BROADCASTING CAMP

100 Leverington Ave. PH 18
Philadelphia, PA 19127
800-319-0884, playbyplaycamps.com

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Movie Trailers

BY MARTI DUGUAY-CARPENTER

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

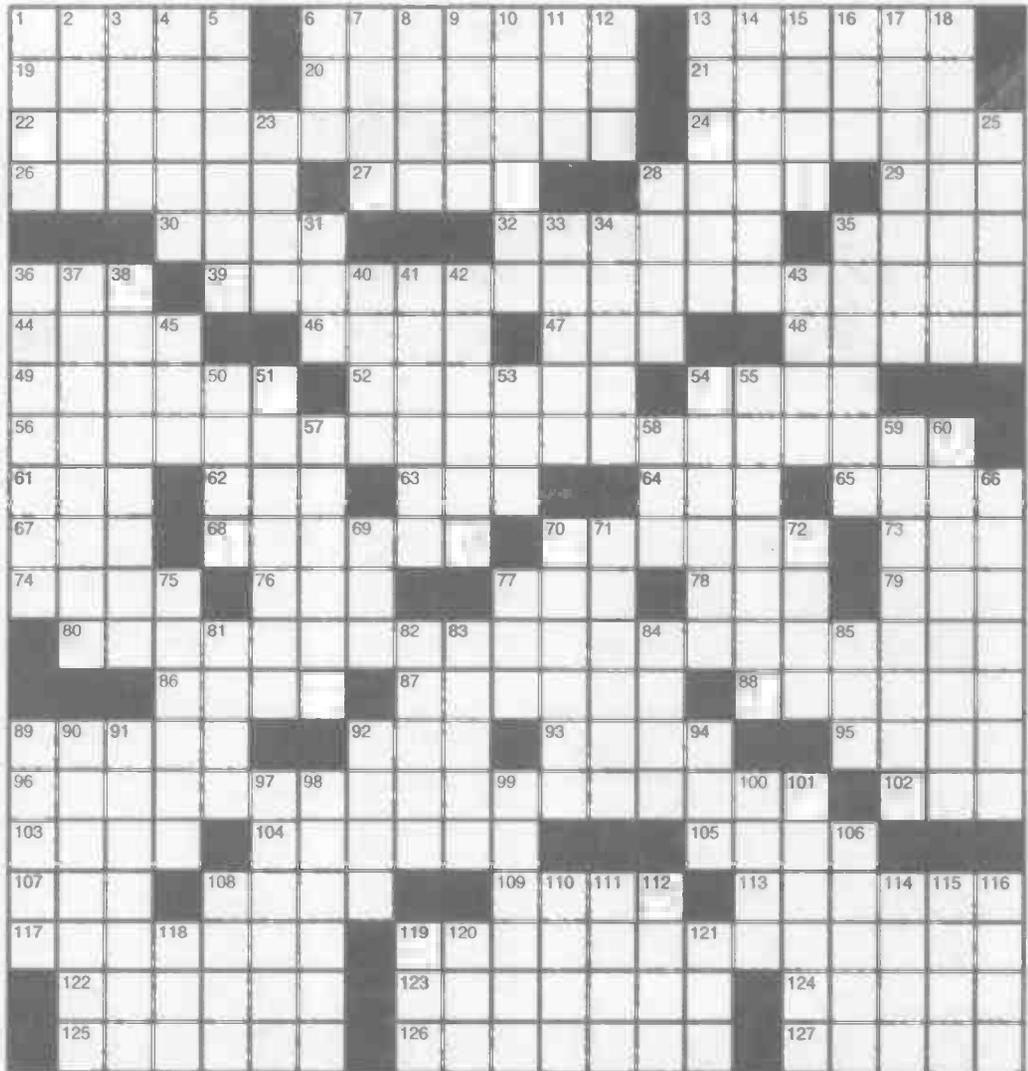
- 1 "Shucks!"
- 6 Alley roamers
- 13 Relatives of bolts
- 19 Contemporary of Burns
- 20 Central —
- 21 Red choice
- 22 Movie about a second-place swordsman?
- 24 Went around
- 26 Fifth-century invader
- 27 As above, in footnotes
- 28 Logan of "60 Minutes"
- 29 Con opening
- 30 It might include problems
- 32 Syria's most populous city
- 35 Stupefyn' Jones creator
- 36 Rocks, maybe
- 39 Movie about a case of brilliance?
- 44 "Finale Ultimo" chorus in "The Sound of Music"
- 46 Dire destiny
- 47 Actress Vardalos
- 48 Mudville dud
- 49 Per se
- 52 Cocktail word for "strained"
- 54 "12 Angry Men" actor Cobb
- 56 Movie about a morning mixer?
- 61 Rembrandt van —
- 62 One who gives a hoot
- 63 Some "MIB" characters
- 64 Prefix with metric
- 65 Guns
- 67 1977 Steely Dan album
- 68 Fisher daughter on "Six Feet Under"
- 70 Eur. peak on the Decade Volcanoes list
- 73 Slammer
- 74 Milkweed features
- 76 911 responder, for short
- 77 Game-winning line
- 78 Austrian article
- 79 Bard's preposition
- 80 Movie about remedial grammar?
- 86 River islets
- 87 Steps in for
- 88 One might get a return

- 89 Pre-Little League game
- 92 "Selena" star, to fans
- 93 Ton
- 95 Paper or plastic alternative
- 96 Movie about a gabfest getting out of hand?
- 102 Agree silently
- 103 Solo often in Italian
- 104 It had a big part in "The Ten Commandments"
- 105 Tater
- 107 Denver winter hrs.
- 108 Big do
- 109 Popular tablet
- 113 Blows
- 117 Naval attire
- 119 Movie about a Brownie coming of age?
- 122 Laid-back
- 123 Like the Empire State Building
- 124 Helped by the jet stream, as a flight
- 125 ATM part
- 126 "Ah, it's clear now!"
- 127 Inscribed pillar

Down

- 1 Group whose logo looks the same in a mirror
- 2 Shoemaker's strip
- 3 Flying pest
- 4 Call the whole thing off
- 5 Lace hole
- 6 Start of ancient Troy?
- 7 Upscale hotel chain
- 8 Heal
- 9 First Nations tribe
- 10 Aviator
- 11 Horned Frogs' sch.
- 12 Flower in trees?
- 13 Pickle
- 14 Laundry brand
- 15 Pro —
- 16 The Gay '90s, e.g.
- 17 Messy-meal handouts
- 18 Church feature
- 23 Impetuous
- 25 Grumpy companion
- 28 Evian
- 33 Godiva competitor
- 34 "Giant Brain" introduced in 1946
- 35 Key of 20 Haydn symphonies

- 36 Caught
- 37 Plum position
- 38 Baja city
- 40 Put (away), as money
- 41 Bojangles, e.g.
- 42 "Sorry, can't stop to chat"
- 43 Whizzes
- 45 Hero
- 50 Gator relative
- 51 Computer company co-founder Bill
- 53 Braying beast
- 54 Sheen
- 55 Piano keys not played in a 35-Down scale
- 57 Los —
- 58 A bad one can raise one's score
- 59 Trust
- 60 Put off by
- 66 Showed disdain
- 69 Hairy sitcom cousin
- 70 Airy dessert
- 71 Bottom lines
- 72 Hold 'em opener
- 75 Colleague of Thomas
- 77 O'er and o'er
- 81 Brickmaking tool
- 82 Lecture sites
- 83 Paris' — des Beaux-Arts
- 84 Doesn't allow to gather dust
- 85 Otolaryngology doc
- 89 Lady's friend
- 90 Stool, often
- 91 Inflame
- 92 Patron saint of lost causes
- 94 "America's Dairyland": Abbr.
- 97 Washday challenge
- 98 Outdo
- 99 Superdome team
- 100 GM subsidiary
- 101 Drinks on a 90-Down
- 106 Old Venetian coin
- 108 Mustang that just arrived
- 110 Mani go-with
- 111 A long time
- 112 Rollers for high rollers
- 114 Tiny sweater?
- 115 Eponymous 18th-century agriculturist
- Jethro —
- 116 Eye sore
- 118 Animation still
- 119 Lively
- 120 Vein contents
- 121 Anagram of 120-Down



Last week's answers appear on the next page

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Jumble

Unscramble the six Jumbles, one letter per square, to form six words. Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by this cartoon.

TREETL
 GREEEM
 FARDIT
 NAPUTE
 HEELAX
 YINREW



PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

“○○○○” - ○○○○ ○○○○○○

This week's answers appear on the next page

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2015 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

Sudoku

2/8

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders contains every digit 1 to 9.

Level: **1 2 3 4**

				1	5			
4	2			8				
	3		5				2	
2				3				7
	7		6		4		9	
5	8			9				1
	6				5		8	
				7			4	5
				2				

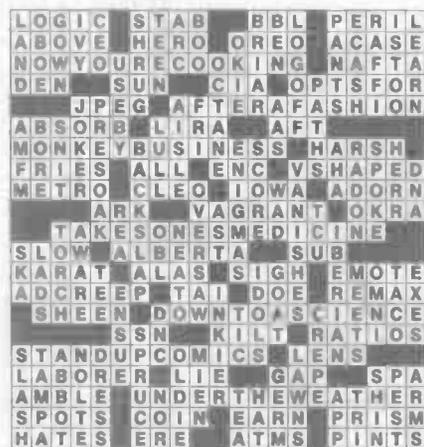
Last week's answers appear on the next page

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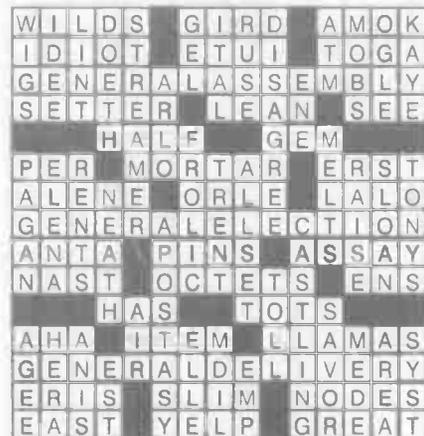


Last week's crosswords

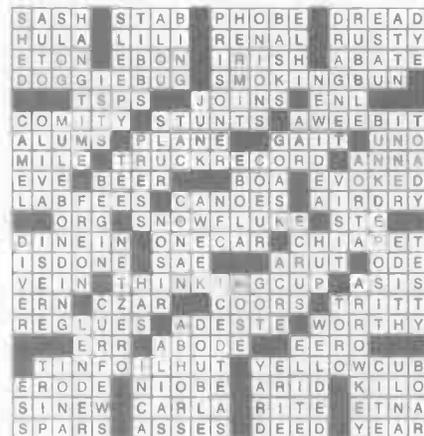
"In the News"



"Top Brass"



"You Must Be Joking"



Last week's Quote-Acrostic

(Jay) ROACH: A REAL WOMAN'S WORLD: I think men are obsolete. I was going to do a film called 'Used Guys' about a future where women run the world because men are poisoned with testosterone and shouldn't be allowed near anything explosive.

Last week's Sudoku

9	1	5	2	3	6	4	8	7
7	6	2	8	4	5	9	1	3
3	8	4	9	7	1	6	5	2
8	9	1	5	2	3	7	4	6
5	2	3	7	6	4	8	9	1
4	7	6	1	9	8	3	2	5
1	4	9	3	5	7	2	6	8
2	5	7	6	8	9	1	3	4
6	3	8	4	1	2	5	7	9

This week's Jumble

LETTER ADRIFT EXHALE
EMERGE PEANUT WINERY

The monster movie about the giant cyclops was playing at the —

"EYE"-MAX
THEATER



ask amy

BY AMY DICKINSON

askamy@tribpub.com

Unexpected windfall brings on greed

Dear Amy: My older brother recently passed away. Among the assets he left was a life insurance policy that names our son (age 45) and daughter (age 42) as equal beneficiaries.

Our son and daughter were unaware of this policy until I discovered it among his papers. The policy was purchased with a single premium of \$40,000, purchased from his savings, which at the date of policy issue was close to his annual salary. My brother was single, with no children, and was not close to our children — nor did our children reach out to him very often. Most interaction was at family holiday gatherings a few times each year.

The benefit payable to each will be approximately \$36,000.

When I advised our children of this unexpected windfall, the first response from each was, "How much am I getting?" I was expecting to hear something like, "I appreciate the generosity of my uncle for leaving me this money. To honor his memory I will use it wisely."

It was very disappointing and hurtful to me that neither one had the decency to make a statement of appreciation before the greed kicked in.

Am I correct in feeling disappointed by my children's failure to express simple appreciation for their uncle's generosity?

If you agree, how do you suggest I let each one know of my disappointment? I do not want to create any hard feelings with my remarks, but I want to make it clear I expected better.

— *Disappointed and Confused*

Dear Disappointed: Surely you don't need me to confirm that this episode is, in fact, disappointing.

You raised these people. I suggest you give them the full benefit of your honest reaction to their behavior. Your worry about creating any "hard feelings" over this is a sign that you are more fearful of upsetting them than you are willing to be an honest parent. This attitude on your part contributes to their attitudes now.

Sometimes hard truths cause hard feelings. So be it.

If you decide to be honest with your offspring, do so knowing that your honesty may not have any impact on their behavior. Once the check clears, they will

likely move on, willfully oblivious. But maybe — just maybe — it will make them think. And it's never too late for that.

Dear Amy. I gave my girlfriend \$250 for her birthday. She used it to have her hair done. When she got home, she didn't like the color. She is going back this weekend. It probably won't be free, so who should pay?

— *Darryl*

Dear Darryl: You gave your girlfriend a gift — not a colorfast guarantee. She should negotiate a "fix" with the salon. For that amount of money, I'd assume they would fix it. If not, she should pony up.

Dear Amy: I'm responding to the letter from "All Charged Up," whose old friend routinely drove an electric sports car to his house, parked in his driveway and "plugged in" during the visit.

There's another way to deal with the thieving friend (which is ultimately what he is): Simply shut off the circuit breaker that feeds the outside outlet. Chances are, it's on a separate circuit, so it wouldn't interfere with anything else. I'd love to see the friend's face when he runs out of power, thinking he had a fully charged battery pack.

— *Jolted*

Dear Jolted: This question has generated a lot of "buzz" from readers. I've heard from electrical engineers, utility workers and electric car advocates.

They debate how much it will cost to charge a car under these conditions, but they agree that the cost is quite low.

I wouldn't call this "thievery," but rather the give-and-take of friendship. Your solution is unfair and unkind.

Dear Amy: "Plan B Grab Bag" described holiday gift-giving in which each adult basically gave himself or herself a wrapped gift and unwrapped the gift in the presence of others, explaining why it was chosen.

You asked for reader reaction to this idea. I like it!

— *Reader*

Dear Reader: Others do too.

3-D technology comes to ailing girl's rescue

BY REBECCA SAVRANSKY
Miami Herald

MIAMI — Adaenelle Gonzalez had two open-heart surgeries by the time she was 4.

She was born with a heart condition that prevented blood from flowing properly into the heart from the lungs, and the surgeries yielded only a temporary fix.

On a recent Friday, Adaenelle underwent her third open-heart surgery, but this time, the results may be permanent.

The Heart Program at Miami Children's Hospital created a model of Adaenelle's heart using new 3-D printing technology. The model allowed the heart surgeons to thoroughly examine the problem areas before carrying out the actual surgery.

"We were running out of options, as she had already had a couple of surgeries in the newborn period," said Dr. Nancy Dobrolet, pediatric cardiologist at Miami Children's Hospital. "It became clear that to prolong her life, she needed to have another procedure done."

Adaenelle was born with total anomalous pulmonary venous connection, a heart disease in which the four veins that carry blood from the lungs to the heart do not attach to the left atrium. Instead, the blood is transported to a wrong area of the heart, causing breathing difficulties and heart failures.

The 3-D technology lets doctors manipulate blood vessels and explore how to repair the organ's damage before the actual surgery. The 3-D model is identical to the heart being operated on, so doctors can envision the procedure in advance.

Dr. Redmond Burke, chief of cardiovascular surgery at Miami Chil-



AL DIAZ/MIAMI HERALD

A 3-D model helped Dr. Redmond Burke, left, correct a heart condition that threatened the life of Adaenelle Gonzalez, seen with her mother, Gabriella Alonso.

dren's, said that before seeing the 3-D model, he "couldn't picture" the operation. At the time, he said the child's life expectancy was in days or weeks.

Using the model, Burke was able to place a new piece of a heart, which came from a person who died, into the exact location it needed to be in Adaenelle's heart. Once Burke did that, her blood began to flow normally.

"I didn't know if it would work," he said. "But I thought at least we have a chance, and it's worth it for me to put her through the massive trauma of a third open-heart surgery."

To make the heart, the team took complex files and rendered them into a format that could be read by a 3-D printer. Although looking at pictures and computer models helped Burke prepare for the procedure, by holding the model in his hands, he could manipulate it and get a sense of the actual operation.

The process of creating the model included several steps, said Chelsea Balli, a biomedical engineer at the hospital. Rendering the files to send to the printer

can take from two to 10 hours depending on the model's specifics. The files were then transmitted to an Atlanta company, AdvancedRP, which constructed the model heart over 24 hours. Advanced RP distributes Stratasy's 3-D printers.

The hospital has purchased its own 3-D printer, paying nearly \$100,000, Balli said. The software costs an additional \$50,000, she said. Balli said the hospital is awaiting the printer's delivery.

Burke said the models will be beneficial both for planning surgeries and for medical education.

"I was able to teach fellows and students what we did using an actual model of her heart," he said. "It's invaluable."

Since the operation, Adaenelle has had an accelerated recovery, Burke said. Although she is still in the hospital, she is walking around and playing.

Gabriella Alonso, Adaenelle's mother, said she was starting to lose hope, but Adaenelle will be heading home soon.

"I didn't know it was possible," she said. "I'm happy."

Coffee drinkers less likely to have melanoma in study

BY DENNIS THOMPSON
HealthDay

Your morning coffee might do more than perk you up. Researchers suggest it also might help protect you against melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer.

Coffee drinkers are less likely to suffer from malignant melanoma, and their risk decreases somewhat with each cup they swallow, according to findings published in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*.

"We found that four or more cups of coffee per day was associated with about a 20 percent reduced risk of malignant melanoma," said lead author Erika Loftfield, a doctoral student at Yale University School of Public Health who is completing her dissertation work at the U.S. National Cancer Institute.

Previous research has shown that coffee drinking could protect against less deadly forms of skin cancer, apparently by mitigating the damage to skin cells caused by the sun's ultraviolet rays, the researchers said in background notes.

They decided to see if this protection extended to melanoma, the leading cause of skin cancer death in the U.S. and the fifth most common cancer. In 2013, there were an estimated 77,000 new cases of melanoma and about 9,500 deaths from the cancer, according to the study.

The researchers gathered data from a study run by the U.S. National Institutes of Health and AARP. A food questionnaire was sent to 3.5 million AARP members living in six states: California, Florida, Louisiana, New Jersey, North Carolina and Pennsylvania; as well as two cities, Atlanta and Detroit.



TIM BOYLE/GETTY

With each cup of coffee consumed, the incidence of melanoma dropped.

The questionnaire yielded coffee drinking information for nearly 447,400 white seniors in 1995 and 1996, and researchers followed up with the participants for about 10 years on average.

All participants were cancer-free when they filled out the questionnaire, and the researchers adjusted for other factors that could influence melanoma risk. These included ultraviolet radiation exposure, body mass index, age, sex, physical activity, alcohol intake and smoking history.

They found that people who drank the most coffee every day enjoyed a lower risk of melanoma, compared with those who drank little to no coffee.

There was also a trend toward more protection with higher intake. People who drank one to three cups a day had about a 10 percent decreased risk of melanoma compared with those who drank none at all, while those who drank four or more cups had a 20 percent decreased risk.

The study only uncovered an association between coffee consumption and melanoma risk; it

didn't prove a cause-and-effect relationship.

Caffeine could be the reason for the apparent protection. The researchers found a significant decrease in melanoma risk only among those who drank caffeinated coffee, and previous studies have indicated that caffeine could protect skin cells against ultraviolet-B radiation, Loftfield said.

However, most of the people in the study drank caffeinated coffee, which made it difficult to fully analyze the health benefits of decaf. There could be other compounds in coffee besides caffeine that also protect against skin cancer, including antioxidants.

"We certainly cannot rule that out as a possibility," Loftfield said.

This isn't the first study to look into the effect that coffee drinking might have on cancer risk, said Dr. Len Lichtenfeld, deputy chief medical officer of the American Cancer Society.

"Coffee has been around the block several times in a variety of cancers, in terms of whether it increases or decreases risk," he said, noting that the findings have been very mixed.

Lichtenfeld said the researchers behind the new study made a good basic science case for the possibility that coffee might protect against skin cancer. However, because this study was not a clinical trial, it didn't prove cause and effect.

"As a result of that, one cannot conclude that in 'real life' coffee actually decreases the risk of melanoma," he said.

Even with these findings, Loftfield said people should not rely on coffee to protect them from melanoma. Sunscreen, long sleeves and a wide-brimmed hat will do more than a mug of java ever could.

Plant-based diet touted as heart disease fix

Doctor stresses the importance of nitric oxide

BY HEATHER SCHROERING

Special to Tribune Newspapers

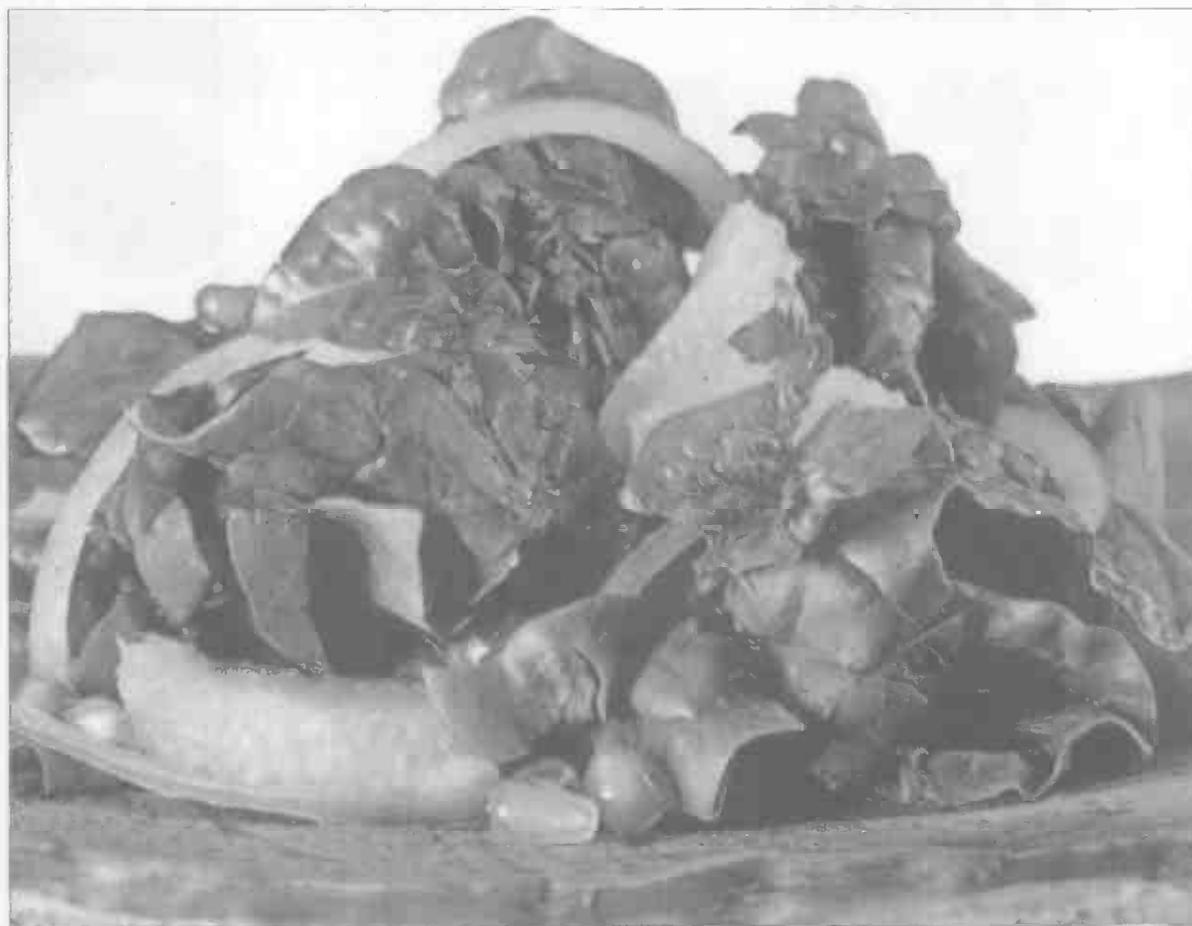
In Tarahumara natives of Mexico and the highlanders of Papua New Guinea, coronary heart disease is rare. Some call them superhumans, but it makes perfect sense to Dr. Caldwell B. Esselstyn of the Wellness Institute at the Cleveland Clinic.

"On this entire planet, there are millions of people who will never have heart disease, and the common denominator is that they are largely all plant-based (eaters)," he said.

For 20 years, Esselstyn, who is director of Cardiovascular Disease Prevention & Reversal Program, studied 17 heart patients who adopted a plant-based, oil-free nutrition foundation. His book, "Prevent & Reverse Heart Disease: The Revolutionary, Scientifically Proven, Nutrition-Based Cure," outlines this study and promotes this strategy as an aggressive solution.

Esselstyn says heart disease is a "completely foodborne illness" perpetuated by the Western diet. Processed foods are the primary culprit, he said, especially any oils, including olive, corn, sunflower, soybean, coconut and palm. He also pointed to "anything with a mother or a face," so meat, fish and dairy products, as well as any excess sugar, from sodas to maple syrup and honey. Coffee and other caffeine too.

Though some categorize olive oil and other oils as good fats, Esselstyn said oils are low in nutritive value and are 100 percent fat calories. One tablespoon of olive oil has about 120 calories, he added, and the monounsaturated and



CULINARY INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

The chief weapon in the plant-based diet for cardiac repair is leafy greens with no added oil, according to Dr. Caldwell B. Esselstyn, author of "Prevent & Reverse Heart Disease: The Revolutionary, Scientifically Proven, Nutrition-Based Cure."

saturated fat in oil is damaging to important cells in the blood vessels.

Endothelial cells, called the "life jacket" of our blood vessels, line the innermost part of the artery; they make nitric oxide, which protects the heart. Esselstyn called nitric oxide a "magic molecule" that keeps the blood flowing, like Teflon rather than sticky Velcro. Nitric oxide helps prevent blockages, keeps arteries from becoming inflamed and helps the heart widen during physical activity. However, oil and other foods Esselstyn names destroy the capacity for our cells to make nitric oxide.

"What seems to be happening is, anybody in Western civilization or elsewhere who develops cardiovascular disease has

developed that disease because they have so sufficiently trashed, injured and impaired the capacity of their endothelial cells to make nitric oxide to protect them," Esselstyn said.

And it starts when we're young. Esselstyn points to studies that showed evidence of coronary disease found when autopsies were done on young men and women who died of other causes between age 17 and 34.

"Now the disease is ubiquitous," he said. "You graduate from high school, you get a diploma, and you get a foundation for heart disease."

The basis for Esselstyn's nutrition program is whole grains in cereal, bread and pasta; more than 100 types of beans and legumes; potatoes; fruit; red and

yellow vegetables; and, most of all, leafy greens. These foods encourage nitric oxide. Food high in antioxidants is especially good for those who have blockages, according to his regimen. He suggests strawberries, raspberries or blueberries on cereal.

But, he said, nothing can compete with several daily servings of antioxidants in leafy greens, such as bok choy, Swiss chard, kale, collards, beet, mustard and carrot greens, cilantro, parsley, spinach and arugula, as well as napa cabbage, Brussels sprouts, broccoli, cauliflower and asparagus. You can eat these raw or steam them for five to six minutes, with a squeeze of lemon juice and balsamic vinegar on top, Esselstyn said.

"You're bathing this

horrible oxide caldron of inflammation with all of these powerful antioxidants," Esselstyn said.

He also advises staying away from pills and vitamins that supposedly supply the nutrients, because they aren't as beneficial. And for those who want to relegate all this to the juicer, he added that chewing food is better than juicing, because fructose separated from fiber is absorbed too rapidly and is damaging.

Esselstyn said he has seen a plant-based diet reverse younger plaque buildup and halt symptoms such as chest pain, angina and erectile dysfunction. Major improvements in patients are possible in less than a year, he added.

"All of those non-plaque-containing vessels can

suddenly be renewed to create additional nitric oxide," he said. "Even these middle-aged patients with plaque that will not regress can still be restored to full activities of daily living without restriction or disease progression."

Esselstyn's program isn't for everyone, however, and Dr. Yoni Freedhoff, medical director of the Bariatric Medical Institute in Ottawa, Ontario, recognizes that.

"There are people out there who absolutely have dramatically improved their health, longevity and quality of lives with very strict plant-based diets, but we're all built differently," said Freedhoff, who specializes in weight management and writes the blog WeightyMatters.ca. "We present the dietary ticket to success as perfection, and that's a really impossible goal."

Freedhoff said people who want to make big changes in their diet should start by replacing the least healthy meal in their diet with a more nutritious option and go from there: Cook more, reduce meals out by half and reduce the number of boxed and jarred foods by half.

As for meat, minimizing the amount rather than eliminating it is a more realistic goal initially, he said, and avoiding processed meats is a good idea. He encourages having fattier fish a few times a week and said there is clear evidence that diets rich in fatty fish are good for cardiovascular health. In addition to smaller portions of meat, he recommends a wider variety of foods, especially fruits and vegetables.

"I'd rather somebody embrace imperfection and live the healthiest life they could enjoy," Freedhoff said.

hschroering@tribpub.com

Change your fitness mindset

Creating mental and physical connection can alter our hang-ups about exercise

BY MIKE PLUNKETT
The Washington Post

It's still a new year, and you may feel like a fitness failure. Join the gym, find a yoga class or lose 10 pounds? Not a chance. Go from couch to 5k? Still on the couch. Achieve that feeling of euphoria your friends say they get after SoulCycle?

It's still Greek to you. Instead of calling it quits for the year, what if you resolved to change your mindset about fitness?

In his book "How to Think About Exercise," Australian philosopher Damon Young offers a foundation to fulfill that resolution. As part of the School of Life book series that had its U.S. release in January, Young uses philosophical inquiries to explain how we in the West came to think about exercise and fitness and how that way of thinking is a major barrier to being fit.

"This is one of my motives: How can exercise become a normal part of everyday life?" Young said to me via e-mail. "Exercise is often a fad for buffed 20-somethings or a spectator sport. How can ordinary people reclaim the pleasures and rewards of exercise, over a lifetime?"

Young argues that much of our thinking comes from the philosophical separation of mind and body, a dualism that permeates Western thought. We as a society put more value on intelligence and mental ability than on the body and its improvement, he says. When the body is worked out, it's to fix a deficiency. Combined with the stereotypes of dumb jocks, it creates "an outlook

that sees physical and mental exertion as somehow in conflict," he writes in his book.

"People are living sedentary lives and trying to overcome this by treating their bodies as machines needing a tuneup," Young told me.

So what should be the purpose of exercise? According to Young, exercise is striving toward wholeness and a fuller life. Fitness is a quest for character, virtue, beauty and pleasure. The point of intelligent exercise is full embodiment of that, a commitment to working out the body and the mind together.

Young looks to the ancient Greeks, who saw fitness as the way to push themselves physically and mentally and to reap the rewards of that effort. "This is the Greek lesson," Young writes in his book. "What we get out of the gym is more than a buffed body; it is a more defined version of ourselves."

That's great for the philosophy majors on the elliptical machines, but how about the rest of us?

To see how Young's arguments can have a practical application, I contacted my college friend Jennifer Gleeson Blue, who works as a restorative exercise specialist and personal trainer in West Philadelphia and features her work on her website, thereslientbody.com. Her focus is on movement, teaching clients to be fully aware of how their body is positioned. Her goal is mindful alignment at all times.

She described alignment and form as the right relationship of parts.

"At the most basic, mechanical level, it's the intersection, the sweet spot of joint stability and



Just thinking about how you ride a bike can help you gain a better sense of how your body works while maximizing exercise.

SPENCER PLATT/GETTY

range of motion," Blue said. "So, in that regard, the right relation of my femur to my pelvis would mean I would have a certain amount of hip flexion and hip extension available to me as allowed by all the muscles, fascia and connective tissue that exists at that joint."

The right relationship also is the mind and body interacting.

"It takes an unbelievable amount of mindfulness to maintain (alignment). Even as I am talking, I noticed that my ribs were a little lifted, so I dropped them down. I do that all day. The change requires an incredible amount of consistent mindfulness."

"I don't like it, and I'm sure nobody likes that. We're a quick-fix culture, and we don't want to think too hard about it."

It takes effort, but thinking about how you sit, stand, walk, do squats or ride a bike can help you gain a better sense of how your body works while maximizing exercise. Ask yourself: What exactly are you working out? Why are you working out? What are your muscles for?

Young points out that fitness implies that you're fit for something. For some people, that means fit to compete and, most important, fit to win.

While winning is worthwhile, it can create frustration. A com-

mon misconception is that if you didn't win, then there was no point in trying. Young argues there's a different impetus at work in an inner challenge. As he writes, "the goal is not simply to win but to impress upon the world the stamp of our own existence; to walk away with a heightened feeling of our own enterprise."

Striving involves pride in our abilities, humility in our limitations, pain and sacrifice in embracing the costs and pleasure in the journey.

Nelle Pierson, the 26-year-old outreach coordinator for the Washington Area Bicyclist Association, spoke to me about using her bike commute as an opportunity to compete in what she calls her micro-challenges.

"For a lot of people, when they start biking, it can be really hard to get to the top of the hill of their neighborhood," Pierson said. "Turn that into a micro-challenge. Today, I'm going to get three-quarters up that hill. You can find these little segments of your ride to really push yourself."

And when you complete the challenge, Pierson said, make sure to celebrate. "Once I get to the top of the hill, I pump up my arms in the air and say, 'Yes!' I turn it into my finish line."

Will Handsfield, a Washington resident and transportation man-

ager for the Georgetown Business Improvement District, leads an active lifestyle, having run and swum competitively. Now that he has children, he's using his bike commute to keep fit. "I'm not trying to make my legs bigger or more shapely," Handsfield said. "I'm trying to make them function."

Bike commuting may not be seen as a high level of competition, but Handsfield points out there's virtue to be found.

"I find nobility in the idea that most of the places I'm going, I'm self-propelled. I'm moving myself with my own energy. I think that's something we've lost a little in the U.S. because it's so easy to hop in a car. When you do carry your own stuff, it's a real sense of satisfaction."

The satisfaction in physical striving isn't exclusive to biking, and there's nothing wrong with gyms or fitness competitions. What is important is your motivation.

The year is still new, and there's time to lose 10 pounds and join the gym. Instead of making those goals ends in themselves, resolve to have a different mindset. Create a mental and physical foundation to have a healthy year and a healthy life.

All it takes is a desire to be whole.

UNCORKED

Red wines to match foods of winter

**BILL ST. JOHN**

Wine is a food, and as such, our moods for it change with the seasons just as they do for the solid stuff we eat. A lot more rose and dry white are sold in summertime; this is the time of year for teeth-staining reds and fortified wines that can be too heavy for midyear heat.

I'd like to recommend some wines that pair nicely with wintertime eats. I'll offer some suggestions for the latter as well. These are some of the better red wines I've sampled during the past few months, and I'll tell you why.

I played a little game with myself to see how many countries I could cover — seven — plus give you a wide price range as well.

A sweet fortified first, then the reds, listed from lightest- to heaviest-bodied.

Graham's 20 Year Old Tawny Port, Portugal: My feeling is that the wooded port that shows its age the most expressively is the 20-year-old tawny. The 20s are viscous enough to show that they've long been in barrel; layered enough to entice back and again; and so lengthy on the palate that they haunt. (Older tawnies, in my view, overplay all of that and hence suffer nuance.) This delicious, come-hither mix of nuts, citrus and darkness (toffee, coffee, chocolate) is superb. Best by itself (and a hearth) or with dried nuts, dried fruit, rich heavy cake or lighter chocolates. \$40-\$45

2010 Vina Real Crianza, Rioja, Spain: The truly great thing about Rioja reds



BILL HOGAN/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS; LISA SCHUMACHER/FOOD STYLING

Deeply colored and full-bodied wines warm us in winter. A simple beef stew makes a welcome companion.

is how much you get for so little, all a function of the winemaking style there. Riojas tend to sport years of aging at the winery, the cost of which is not passed on to you, as it would be from other regions. This is a beautiful almost 5-year-old red Rioja: all cherry fruit and soft tannin, polished by years in barrel and bottle. The liveliness of Rioja red is refreshing too, especially at table. Lamb, of course, but also anything from pizza to a rich vegetarian. \$12-\$18

2012 Edmeades Zinfandel Peril Vineyard, Mendocino Ridge, California: It's terrific when wood is so well integrated into a red wine that, though its aroma is upfront on first snort, it has also become part of the

wine and doesn't call unneeded attention to itself, distracting from what else is there: buckets of bright red fruit (raspberry and cherry especially), with subtle notes of brown cooking spice and black pepper. America's new zinfandels are killer delicious, like this one. Gimme deep-dish pizza or anything else with tomatoes in it or on it. \$30

2012 Vinas del Vero La Miranda de Secastilla Garnacha, Somontano, Spain: What's best about grenache/garnacha is its in-your-face perfume that just says, "Drink me." This is from high-altitude vineyards just recently rediscovered and refurbished for modern winemaking, and it shows: bright fruit, soft tannin, super-juicy finish.

Vegetarians and vegans would appreciate its flexibility with nonfat proteins. \$14

2011 Ktima Driopi, Nemea, Greece: This comes from central Greece and is all agiorgitiko, the justly famed red grape of Nemea. Higher altitude allows for a long maturation of the effulgent aroma in the wine, but a retention of refreshing, table-friendly acidity as well. Lots of dark cherry flavor here, with spice and green herbal notes. Solid tannin, so pair with some fat or oil on the plate. Grilled tuna would be nice; or something from veal or turkey; also any cheese-vegetable dish. \$20

2011 Bastianich Vespa Rosso, Friuli Venezia

(blackberry, black currant) is very prettily accented with spicy and earthy notes, but it's the rich tannins that will turn on the tongue. Stews, ragouts, especially meat-and-bean combinations would be delicious. \$13-\$18

2009 Meerlust Red Blend Rubicon, Stellenbosch, South Africa: In the Bordeaux fashion, this well-respected estate blends nearly three-quarters cabernet sauvignon with merlot, cabernet franc and a smidgen of petit verdot. It's a splendid take on a wine from a classified chateau in the Medoc that would cost two to three times as much. All it adds is a bit of South African mood and more tannin than the French are comfortable with these days. Drink with wild mushrooms sauteed in lots of olive oil or elevate a medium-rare hamburger. \$25-\$35

2011 El Enemigo Cabernet Franc, Mendoza, Argentina: So many layers of flavors, aromas, textures and (even a multilayered) finish that it would help to have a calculator on hand. The dominant dark fruit is accented with earth, graphite and black pepper; the texture attacks right on the sip, but then plays out with vapor-menthol "lift" and line; and though there are ample tannins, they're plushly rendered and so carry the flavors and aromas through to a nonstop finish. More lamb to go with the minty note, but also a nice beef stew or even baked ziti. \$25-\$30

If your wine store does not carry these wines, ask for one similar in style and price.

Bill St. John has been writing and teaching about wine for more than 40 years.

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Late to the party



LEAH ESKIN
Home on the Range

Chicken Marbella anchored dinner parties of the '80s. Pull on shoulder pads, dig in; feel all David Byrne.

Frankly, I tangled with the trend three decades late. "You've never tried chicken Marbella?" Risa whispered, brows raised. "Where were you?"

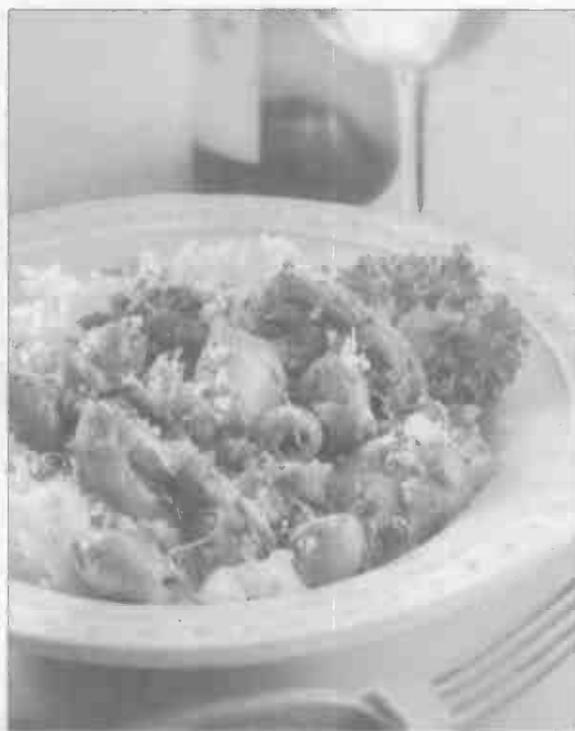
I worried I'd been snubbed by the chicken Marbella crowd. Then Daniëlle reminded me I'd spent the decade snubbing chicken.

So by the time I caught up with Marbella's satisfying contrast of sweet prunes and salty olives, the dish had gone retro. And needed a retrofit. It's good — but messy.

Chicken Marbella is designed for a crowd. But crowd members — especially those attempting to balance both plate and conversation — dread skinning and deboning. They fear fast-spreading sauce. They want compact.

So I streamlined the chicken and reduced the sauce to a glaze, making the dish party-compatible. My RSVP: Yes, please.

leahreskin@aol.com



BILL HOGAN/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS; JOAN MORAVEK/FOOD STYLING

Glazed Marbella

Prep: 15 minutes **Wait:** overnight
Cook: 35 minutes **Makes:** 10 servings

- 5 pounds boneless, skinless chicken thighs, halved
- 1 cup white wine
- 1 cup pitted prunes
- ¾ cup brown sugar
- ½ cup red wine vinegar
- ½ cup pitted Spanish green olives
- ½ cup capers
- ¼ cup dried oregano
- 1 tablespoon kosher salt
- 1 ½ teaspoons freshly ground black pepper
- 8 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 6 bay leaves
- ¼ cup finely chopped parsley
- ½ teaspoon finely grated lemon zest

1 Marinate: Combine all ingredients except parsley and lemon zest. Cover and chill overnight.

2 Cook: Slide all ingredients (except parsley and lemon zest) into a wide skillet (or use two medium skillets). Heat to a boil; reduce to a simmer. Cook uncovered, 8 minutes. Turn chicken and continue cooking until fork-tender, 8 minutes.

3 Glaze: Increase heat to medium-high. You may want to nudge the olives and prunes toward the cooler edges of the pan and leave the chicken in the center. Cook, stirring, until chicken glistens deep brown and sauce has all but disappeared, about 15 minutes. As the sauce caramelizes, lower heat.

4 Serve: Discard bay leaves. Heap onto a platter. Scatter on parsley and zest. Serve. Nice with rice.

Provenance: Adapted from that '80s classic, "The Silver Palate Cookbook."

Wort were you saying? A guide to beer words

BY JOHN VERIVE

Special to Tribune Newspapers

Even if you haven't yet fallen into the craft beer rabbit hole — a warren of minutiae and terminology that can make even a brewer's head spin — it's helpful to get a grasp on some of the more common terms that beer writers and beer geeks use to discuss the beverage that entralls them. Here are six terms often tossed around without much explanation, plus beer suggestions that exhibit the idea.

Wort: It all starts with wort, the sweet liquid created by steeping malted barley in hot water and boiling the resulting liquid with hops. It becomes beer once the yeast is added and fermentation takes place. Try: Whatever's in your glass.

Specific gravity: The measure of density of a liquid, specific gravity is used to communicate how much sugar is dissolved in the unfermented wort (called "original gravity") or finished beer ("final" or "terminal gravity"). A brew with a higher original gravity ends up with a high alcohol content. The yeast had more dissolved sugars to eat, which resulted in the production of more alcohol. The converse is also true. A brew with a very dry finish (also called "well attenuated") will usually also have a low final gravity — less dissolved sugar in the final beer means a less sweet flavor. Try: A typical West Coast-style IPA (such as AleSmith's), for a beer with moderately high starting gravity resulting in moderate alcohol and a dry finish. East Coast IPAs (think Dogfish Head 60 Minute) typically feature a sweeter finish.

Session beer: Typically a low-alcohol beer (anything under about 5 percent) that's flavorful enough to hold your interest for several pints during a drinking session. Try: Stone's Go To IPA or State-side from the Three Weavers Brewing Co.

Bottle conditioned: Some beer styles — typically Belgian beers, but also many craft-brewed beers and home brews — are naturally carbonated in the bottle (as opposed to force-carbonated with carbon dioxide in the tank). A bit more sugar (and sometimes a dose of fresh yeast) is added to the nearly finished beer just before it's packaged. The extra fuel kicks off a mini-fermentation, which results in a touch more alcohol and enough CO₂ to carbonate the beer in the bottle. Try: Belgian abbey ales (a dubbel or tripel) from St. Bernardus or Chimay.



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS

Knowing the language of beer geeks can help you understand what's in your glass. For example, wort: Every beer starts with wort, which is the sweet liquid created by steeping malted barley in hot water and then boiling the resulting liquid with hops.

Noble hops: While there are dozens upon dozens of hop varieties being grown today, only a tiny fraction can rightfully be called noble hops. Traditionally, the ranks have included four continental European varieties with similar floral, earthy flavors and lower levels of bittering acids: Tettnang, Hallertauer Mittelfrueh and Spalt from Germany, and Saaz from the Czech Republic. Try: European lagers, especially golden Pilsners.

Bugs: The myriad bacteria and wild yeasts that make sour beers and wild ales so funky and puckering are collectively called "bugs." The wild yeast Brettanomyces ("brett") can lend complex flavors to a brew — from bright tropical fruit scents to musty, sweaty aromas lovingly described as "barnyard" or "horse blanket." Lactobacillus and Pediococcus are two common types of bacteria used in beer to consume sugar molecules that brewer's yeast doesn't usually like. They create lactic acid as a byproduct and are largely responsible for the sour in sour beer. Try: For the brett character, Orval from Belgium.



Crave more Leah?
Find all your favorite stories and recipes in Leah Eskin's new memoir, "Slices of Life: A Food Writer Cooks Through Many a Conundrum." Available now, wherever books are sold.

THE VEGGIE COOK

Treat your valentine to pumpkin pancakes

BY KAY STEPKIN

Special to Tribune Newspapers

Who needs chocolate? An equally delicious way to celebrate Valentine's Day is with these pumpkin pancakes — crisp on the outside and pumpkin-moist in the center. Not only do they taste divine, they also infuse the house with the most lovely, delicately spiced aroma.

You could even cook some of them up using heart-shaped cookie cutters, about 3 inches in diameter. Carefully spray oil on the insides of the cutters and set them on the heated pan. Pour in the batter, level the surface with a rubber spatula and cook the first side, then carefully remove the hot cookie cutter with tongs and turn the pancakes.

Tips

■ If using a griddle that covers two burners, be sure to turn on — and, later, to turn down — the heat on both. And don't ask what brings this to my mind.

■ Look for baking powder that is aluminum-free.

foods@tribune.com

Pumpkin pie pancakes

Prep: 15 minutes Cook: 12 minutes Makes: 8 pancakes

- 1/3 cup pecans
- 1/4 cup pumpkin puree
- 2 tablespoons each: olive oil, maple syrup
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 3/4 cup soy milk, plus more as needed
- 1 cup plus 2 tablespoons whole-wheat pastry flour (140 grams)
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon each: cinnamon, allspice, nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon sea salt

- 1 Place pecans in a dry skillet over low heat. Toast, stirring frequently until fragrant, about 5 minutes. Coarsely chop pecans.
- 2 Stir pumpkin puree, 1 tablespoon oil, maple syrup and vanilla together in a bowl. Gradually stir in 3/4 cup soy milk.
- 3 In a second bowl, combine flour, baking powder, cinnamon, allspice, nutmeg and salt. Reserve 1 tablespoon of the chopped pecans; stir the rest into the flour mixture. Pour dry ingredients all at once into the bowl of wet ingredients. Stir just until combined. Let batter rest at least 5 minutes.
- 4 Coat a skillet or griddle with some of the remaining oil; place over medium-low heat. When a drop of water sprinkled on the grill sizzles, pour batter onto grill to form pancakes, using 1/2 cup for each. Turn heat to low; cook until bottoms start to brown, about 4 minutes. Flip carefully with a spatula; cook, 3 minutes. (Do not press pancake down after flipping.) If you prefer a thinner batter, add more soy milk, 1 tablespoon at a time, to batter until you get the consistency you like.
- 5 Keep finished pancakes warm while cooking the rest of the batter. Serve with remaining chopped pecans.

Nutrition information per pancake: 153 calories, 8 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 0 mg cholesterol, 20 g carbohydrates, 3 g protein, 307 mg sodium, 3 g fiber



BILL HOGAN/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS;
LISA SCHUMACHER/FOOD STYLING

Toasted pecans and maple syrup finish pancakes flavored with pumpkin and pumpkin pie spices.

Shelf life

BY JUDY HEVRDEJS

Tribune Newspapers

Say it with cake

Spell out your feelings in 6-inch-tall letters of cake with help from the L-O-V-E Fluted Cake Pan by Wilton. The pan holds batter from one standard package of cake mix or about 4 1/2 cups batter from a favorite recipe. The frosting and sprinkle decorating are up to you. The pan has a nonstick coating, and directions suggest prepping it with nonstick baking spray, especially around its indentations. We found it worked beautifully. It's \$9.99. For a store locator or to buy: wilton.com.



Lovin' cupfuls

Give a favorite baker or cook a valentine of these bright red heart-shaped measuring cups from Sur La Table. The nesting cups, made of melamine, come in 1 cup, 1/2 cup, 1/3 cup and 1/4 cup sizes. A set is \$10.

A similar set of measuring spoons is \$5. For a store locator or to buy: surlatable.com.



Gluten-free love

Walkers shortbread, which has been baking the buttery sweets in Scotland since 1898, has entered the gluten-free market with a rich, crisp round version: Pure Butter Shortbread, Chocolate Chip and Ginger & Lemon. We enjoyed the simple shortbread as well as the ginger-lemon accented version. And the one with chips? It's chocolate — what more can we say.

A 4.9-ounce box is \$4.99. At retailers nationwide or us. walkersshortbread.com.



BILL HOGAN/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS PHOTOS

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ANNE CUSACK/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS

Swiss chard with golden raisins and lemon breadcrumbs is just one of many creative dishes you can make with greens.

Warm up with pot of greens

BY RUSS PARSONS
Tribune Newspapers

And so we enter our greens days. When the weather turns damp and chilly, when gray skies have you feeling spent and lethargic, there is nothing like a pot of long-simmered greens to warm you and fill your empty spaces.

My wife and I regularly pick up a bucket of them from our local barbecue stand to serve with crumbled cornbread — it is about as good a winter dinner as I can imagine.

But as delicious and soul-satisfying as greens are stewed the traditional way with smoked pork, there are many other ways to cook them. Here are a few of my favorites.

Kale, collards, chards,

mustards, dandelions, even turnip and beet greens have their own distinct personalities, but they can be used more or less interchangeably. The result will be different in character but still delicious. Choose whatever looks best at the market or, preferably, a combination of as many as you can find.

The packages of already chopped greens mixes are a convenience but tend to be a little sloppily sorted for my taste. Poke through and toss as many of the woody stems as possible. If you're starting from scratch with whole leaves, trim the stem to the point that it becomes easily flexible.

It may seem paradoxical, but fresh greens are actually at their best after

they've been cooked awhile. The color fades, true, but the flavor, which can be a bit harsh and bitter when raw, mellows to become sweet and complex, and the texture becomes silky.

Greens shrink incredibly during cooking. What might seem like a sinkful when you wash them will wilt quickly when you heat them. The best way to cook greens is by the handful. Use a wide pan to accommodate as many as possible, and add another handful only after the first has reduced.

Once you've cooked the greens low and slow until they're almost melting, you can start playing with the flavorings.

Collard greens with

roasted peanuts and crushed red peppers: Add peanuts you've toasted in oil to blanched greens flavored with chili peppers and lots of garlic.

Greens with crisped breadcrumbs: Toast breadcrumbs in olive oil to add crunch to blanched greens.

Swiss chard with golden raisins and lemon breadcrumbs: Toast the breadcrumbs with lemon zest, and add them and soaked raisins to greens you've braised to sweet silkiness.

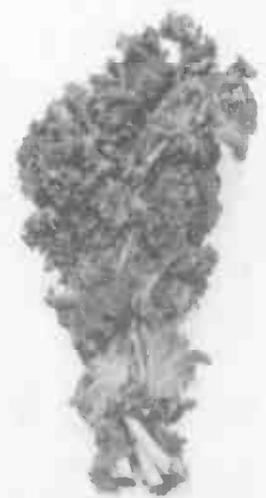
Greens with spicy lemon-cumin oil: Make an aromatic oil by warming olive oil with cumin seeds, red pepper and lemon

zest. Add this a teaspoon or so at a time to braising greens so they absorb the flavor slowly.

Quesadillas stuffed with greens and feta: Fry corn tortillas you've stuffed with braised greens and feta or goat and mozzarella cheeses.

Greens soup: Simmer tough greens and potatoes until they're tender, then finish with tender greens such as spinach or arugula.

Southern comfort soup: This is my go-to when the flu calls. Simmer shredded greens and lots of garlic, then stir in cooked rice. A bit of sherry vinegar and a grating of Parmigiano at the end make all the difference.

GLENN KOENIG/
TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS

A guide to greens

Here's a vest-pocket guide to which green is which.

Kale: Pictured above, today's darling salad green has always been one of the best cooking greens. The flavor mellows nicely; the texture is tender. Befitting its star status, there are a variety of kales available today, and the darkest tend to be the best flavored.

Collard: A Southern specialty, collards have a mild flavor, but the thick leaves have a rich, meaty texture when cooked.

Mustard: Wonderfully peppery, mustard greens have strong flavor but a delicate texture.

Chard: Slightly bitter when raw, the sweet, earthy side of chard comes out with cooking. Red chard has a touch of beet flavor. It's equally prized for its stalks and greens, which are usually cooked separately.

Dandelion: The bitterest of the greens, with cooking it remains assertive but turns more earthy and nutty.

Turnip and beet: Tender leaves that taste like milder versions of the roots.

Modern romance, Hollywood-style

Five fresh films to consider for Valentine's Day viewing

BY BRUCE INGRAM
 Pioneer Press

We all know the classics, from "Casablanca" to "Breakfast at Tiffany's," but there's no law that says you have to go vintage when choosing a movie for Valentine's Day.

Romance is a perennial in movie theaters, after all, so there's a love story to choose from almost every week. (Just don't make the mistake, this week, of choosing "The Boy Next Door.") Which means there are lots and lots of relatively recent films out there perfectly capable of putting your heart through its paces.

Here are five refreshingly unfamiliar options from the past five years to consider, if the old standbys won't cut it this Feb. 14. Not that the course of true love appears to be heading in any radically new direction.

"Crazy, Stupid, Love" — Steve Carell is at his best as a dedicated family man trying, ineptly, to recover his manhood after his beloved wife (Julianne Moore) cheats on him and asks for a divorce. In addition to being a smart, funny, far-above-average romantic comedy, it scores impressive dramatic points about how crazy, stupid, complicated and painful the big L can be.

"Enough Said" — It's a shade lighter in terms of emotional heft compared to writer/director Nicole Holofcener's terrific previous efforts, but "Enough Said" is still a substantial, thoughtful and casually witty comedy-romance. And it comes with a particularly warm and engaging performance from James Gandolfini as a bruised survivor of divorce gambling on a new woman (Julia



Steve Carell and Julianne Moore in "Crazy, Stupid, Love."

BEN GLASS/WARNER BROS. PICTURE

Louis-Dreyfus) while the specter of his ex looms in the background.

"The Lunchbox" — A million-to-one error in Mumbai's impossibly accurate hot-lunch delivery service results in a love connection in this very modern, yet very old-fashioned romance from India. Irrfan Khan ("The Life of Pi") plays a soon-to-retire widower who mistakenly receives lunches meant for the husband of a neglected housewife — leading to a correspondence that gradually turns into something akin to courtship. Though one last big step still needs to be taken.

"Warm Bodies" — The most romantic zombie movie you're ever likely to see. There's a moderate amount of gore to placate zombie purists, but the emphasis is on smart, subtle comedy and awkward young love as undead teenager R (Nicholas Hoult) falls for alive-and-kicking Julie (Te-

resa Palmer). After eating the brain of her boyfriend. Hence the awkwardness. Which only becomes more pronounced as his awakened heart slowly restores his humanity in general.

"Upside Down" — Romeo and Juliet had it easy compared to the star-crossed, gravitationally challenged lovers in this wildly implausible but visually dazzling sci-fi fantasy romance. Kirsten Dunst and Jim Sturgess fall in love after climbing mountains on their opposing twinned planets, which somehow exist face to face and separated by a few hundred yards. Unfortunately, contact between residents of their worlds is punishable by death. Nothing that happens makes much sense, but if you have enough of an amorous inclination, who needs logic?



James Gandolfini and Julia Louis-Dreyfus in "Enough Said."

LACEY TERRELL/FOX SEARCHLIGHT

Bruce Ingram is a freelance reporter.

MOVIES



UNIVERSAL PICTURES PHOTO

Robert Mitchum in 1962's "Cape Fear."

See it again: Theatre film series goes retro

BRUCE INGRAM
Pioneer Press

If you're old enough to remember what it was like to see "The Deer Hunter" or "Goldfinger" on the big screen back in the day, and you long to share that experience with the less fortunate, Cinema Retro could be what you're looking for.

George Mangan of Winnetka, a lifelong movie buff and collector, launched the five-film program Jan. 18 at the Wilmette Theatre with a remastered digital print of "The Deer Hunter." And with a pre-film cartoon instead of half an hour of commercials and trailers.

"I picked films from the '60s and '70s because a lot of people are around who had the chance to see them when they were first released," said Mangan, a Wilmette Theatre board member who proposed Cinema Retro as a way of diversifying the theater's usual menu of contemporary indie and art-film fare. "It's designed to be a nostalgic experience to a certain extent — an opportunity for Baby Boomers to bring younger friends and family who might not have had the chance to see these great movies on the big screen."

Mangan will serve as host for all five films — including the original, 1962 "Cape Fear" Feb. 15, "Once Upon a Time in the West" March 22, "Goldfinger" April 17 and the original "Planet of the Apes" May 31 — providing production info and setting each

in the context of their times.

"They're all genre movies, one Western, one war movie, one thriller, etc., and they're all pretty much my favorites in each category," Mangan said. At least his favorites among the vintage titles that are available in remastered DCP prints.

"I also chose films that have amazing scores by great composers like John Barry and Ennio Morricone and Jerry Goldsmith," he added, noting that he has created a pre-screening audio montage featuring dialogue and music from each film in the series.

"It's rare to find scores like these in movies these days. When was the last time you went to a movie and left humming the music?"

Of course, Mangan expects the key ingredient in the Cinema Retro experience to be the chance to experience these films in a theater with other fans.

"It's just not the same watching them at home by yourself," he said. "Even if you have a nice home theater with a big screen, you're not going to get the same impact."

"The communal experience, the opportunity to enjoy these great movies with an audience, that's a big deal."

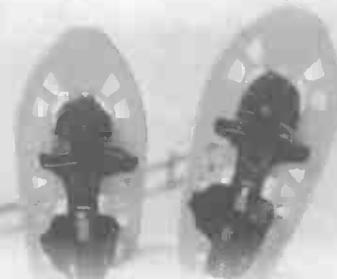
Cinema Retro continues at 3 p.m. Feb. 15 with a screening of "Cape Fear" at the Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette. Tickets are \$10. For more information, call (847) 251-7424 or visit www.wilmettetheatre.com.

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PLAY REVIEW

Marriott's dazzling 'La Cage' is bright and bold

BY CATEY SULLIVAN
Pioneer Press

There's a make-or break moment that comes roughly midway through "La Cage Aux Folles," a number that — done wrong — renders everything before it meaningless and everything after it anticlimactic. It starts unassumingly enough, with a lone figure on stage, not singing but barely speaking four small words, "I am what I am."

From there, "I Am What I Am" gradually but ruthlessly soars into a 12-alarm fire of a self-affirming anthem, ending not just with a mighty roar but with a wig hurled across the stage in a gesture of rage and self-empowerment. Albin, the "transvestite" pair in the gay couple that also includes "plain homosexual" Georges (David Hess) ends the number with an uncompromising fabulosity.

At the Marriott Theatre staging of "La Cage," directed by Joe Leonardo and running through March 22, the all-important number falls to Park Ridge's Gene Weygandt, a triple threat singer/dancer/actor arguably known more for a sly, slightly understated sense of wicked menace than for histrionics. But here, as Albin's fierce showgirl alter-ego Zaza he's worth every rhinestone in his skin-tight gown. He makes the song an unbridled ode to joy that has the power to instill pride in every questioning youth (or adult) lucky enough to be sitting in the audience. It's glorious.

"I Am What I Am" may be the signature show-stopper, but the 11-time Tony-winning "La Cage" has plenty more going for it. Based on the 1973 French play, the musical's score comes courtesy of Jerry Herman ("Mame," "Hello,



MARK CAMPBELL/MARK CAMPBELL PHOTOGRAPHY

Gene Weygandt in Marriott Theatre's production of "La Cage Aux Folles."

'La Cage Aux Folles'

Through March 22
Marriott Lincolnshire Theatre, 10 Marriott Drive, Lincolnshire
\$50-\$55, dinner theater packages available
847-634-0200;
marriotttheatre.com

Dolly") and a clever book by the unstoppable Harvey Fierstein ("Kinky Boots"). When it premiered over 20 years ago, the show was revolutionary. Wearing one's pride out, loud and uncompromising was an act of supreme bravery. It still is, even though — thankfully — gay marriage and civil rights have made significant advancements.

The basic story, though, is classic boy (Alvin and Georges' son Jean-Michel, played by Brian Bohr) meets ingénue Anne (Elizabeth Telford). The complication is that Anne's uber-conservative parents M. (Fred Zimmerman) and Mme. Dindon (Anne Gunn) are on a quest to raze every last den of inequity (read: nightclub) on St. Tropez, where La Cage is the nightclub crown jewel and Zaza its biggest bauble. Once the Dindons discover that

Albin and George are not only gay but have a son and most unforgivably, show no signs of repentance, all heck breaks loose.

Not to worry, this is musical comedy not tragedy and all ends well. But not before some highly entertaining shenanigans.

Among those are the endless delight of the Cagelles. Kudos to choreographer Melissa Zarembo for continually ratcheting up the jaw-dropping moves the Cagelles perform. Every last one of the Cagelles (J Tyler Whitmer, Raymond Interior, Adam Estes, Jordan Fife Hunt, Clayton Cross, Zachary L. Gray and Jhardon DiShon Milton) is a showgirl extraordinaire and deserve combat pay for some of the moves they're called on to undertake.

Fierstein's book retains its charm and its naughty humor, delivered to perfection by Hess and Weygandt. And there is great fun to be had in watching Zimmerman's Dindon get his comeuppance in the end.

Yes, the world has evolved since "La Cage" first came into the world. The show itself, at least at the Marriott, remains timeless.

Catey Sullivan is a freelance reporter.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Generations can learn together at Library

"A Day In My Life" hosted in Skokie

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Kids and grownups will learn from each other at "A Day in My Life: Intergenerational Program," 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22 at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St.

Learning Experiences Manager Amita Lonial said that they wanted to involve kids in Skokie and Niles Township's annual Coming Together program, which focuses on Voices of Race this year.

"Skokie is such a diverse community," Lonial noted. "We have families from all over the world. We have over 90 languages spoken here. We thought why not invite children to bring along a beloved caregiver — be it a parent or a grandparent, an aunt or an uncle — and invite them to talk about what it was like to be a child at another time or possibly in another place."

Kids and adults will converse in pairs but there will be some group sharing at the end.

Each child/adult couple will create a book to capture the stories.

Light refreshments will be served.
For details, call 847-673-7774 or go to www.skokie-library.info.

Spectacular circus

Otherworldly designs, surprising acrobatics, mime and live music will be used to follow the journey of two clowns in "Circuscope," 7:30 p.m. Fridays, 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays, Feb.



SKOKIE PUBLIC LIBRARY PHOTO

Kids and grownups will enjoy "A Day in My Life: Intergenerational Program" at the Skokie Public Library.

14-March 22 at the Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. The show features acclaimed Chicago performer Dean Evans. Tickets are \$15-\$20.

For details, call 847-328-2795 or go to www.actors-gymnasium.org.

Walking in a winter wonderland

That's the plan for a Winter Wonder Walk, for children ages 3 and older with an adult, 1:30-2:15 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15 at Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie. A naturalist will lead the hike. Afterward, hot cocoa will be served. Cost is \$4 per person.

For details, call 847-674-1500, ext. 2500 or go to www.skokieparks.org/emily-oaks-nature-center.

Eureka!

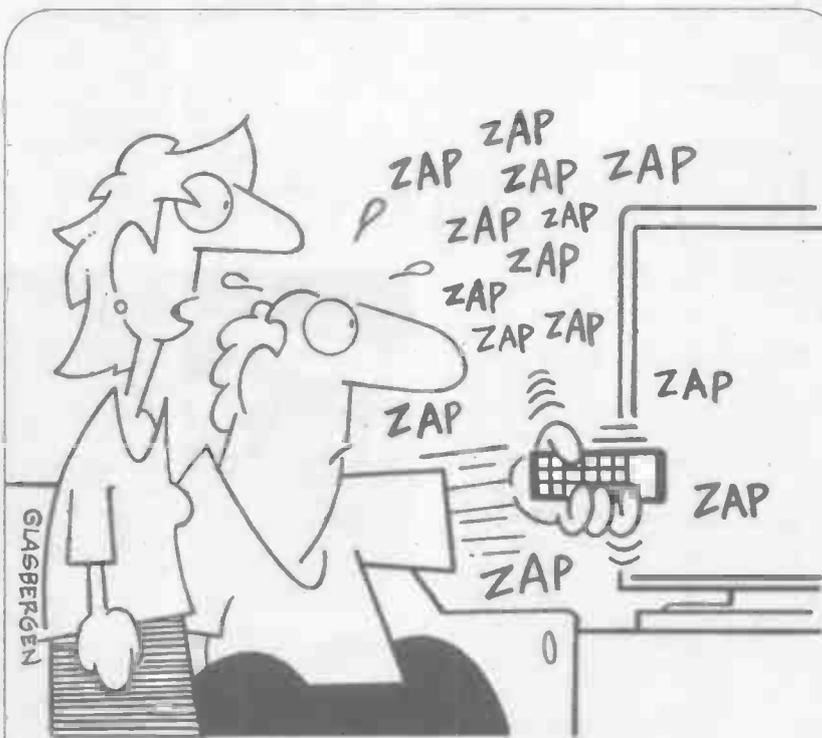
You and your kids will make cool discoveries at Science Night, 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 17 at Wildwood Nature Center, 529 Forestview Ave., Park Ridge. You will do experiments, work on projects and play together. The cost is \$12 per family. Registration is required.

For details, call 847-692-3570 or go to www.prparks.org.

They've got your number

...at Second Saturday Breakfast Bingo, 9:30-10:15 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 14 at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St. Families will enjoy breakfast treats as they compete for prizes at Bingo.

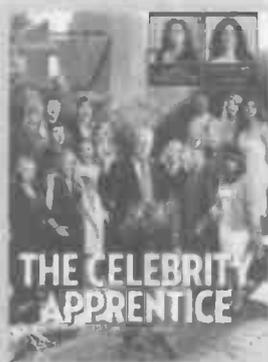
For details, call 847-663-1234 or go to www.niles-library.org.



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FOOD

African crops at heart of Mardi Gras cuisine

BY VERONICA HINKE
Pioneer Press

In rural Vacherie, La., in the heart of Cajun country, Oak Alley Plantation rises amid the thick of mossy trees and billowing sugar cane fields. Inside the antebellum estate, which, true to its name, is framed in an alleyway of 300-year-old Oak trees, the foods of the African slaves that once sustained the vast property are celebrated in a recreated exhibition of their former quarters. Three important ingredients — watermelon, okra and cow peas (or black-eyed peas) — are highlighted on a plaque as foods that were introduced into Cajun cuisine from Africa.

We'll be seeing two of those ingredients — black-eyed peas and okra — soon in plenty of Mardi Gras meals. As the plaque at Oak Alley Plantation documents, the Bantu name for Okra, *ki ngombo*, is the root of the word gumbo. "Okra, then and today, was used in gumbo as a thickening agent," said Debra Mayhew, director of marketing at Oak Alley Plantation Restaurant & Inn.

At some point, okra collided with a type of paella in the heavily Spanish-influenced region — and jambalaya evolved.

Jambalaya, as sure a symbol of Mardi Gras as the king cake, wouldn't be the same without okra. At The Lantern in Lake Forest, chef Israel "Izzy" Valerdi makes a traditional jambalaya. He includes sautéed chicken, jumbo tiger shrimp, Andouille sausage and plenty of okra.

"I love this recipe because of all the different ingredients and the unique flavors it brings together," Valerdi said.

At Bluegrass in Highland Park, chef Brian Bishop recently dreamed up a recipe for Roasted Dirty Rice-Stuffed Quail and Fried Okra. He made the rice with chicken livers, Andouille sausage, sautéed onions and garlic and a splash of cognac. "I was browsing recipes from down South to prepare for a recent beer dinner at Bluegrass," he said. He was inspired to make what he considers a sort of de-constructed gumbo. "It has all the components of what would be in a gumbo," he said. "I like to take classic foods and elevate them."

Deep frying okra instantly makes the seeds more intact, which reduces that goeey sensation okra is famous for. "After cooking okra other ways, I don't know how else to say it: it's goeey," Bishop said.

Bishop and Bluegrass staff member Diane Sandler will share some of their other intriguing approaches to cooking Creole during a Mardi Gras Cooking School they will host at Bluegrass at noon on Saturday, Feb. 14. They class will feature Smoked Turkey Legs, Corn Hush Puppies, and a quick course in "Oyster Shucking 101."



Dirty Rice-Stuffed Quail and Fried Okra at Bluegrass in Highland Park.

BLUEGRASS IN HIGHLAND PARK



THE LANTERN IN LAKE FOREST

A bowl of jambalaya is ready to leave the kitchen at The Lantern in Lake Forest.

Bishop and Sandler will show how to prepare oysters raw or cooked in a "twist on the classic Oysters Rockefeller."

"Some people are a little squeamish about raw oysters, but if you cook them it's a different story," said Bluegrass owner Jim Lederer.

"It's like liver: You either love it or you hate it."

The class will also highlight pralines. "Pralines are just really fun," Lederer said.

"They're like a big sugar bomb. They're simple to make, you just can't take any phone calls while you stir the mixture on the stovetop. It's one of those recipes."

Lederer learned about Cajun cooking while he was the general manager at the now-shuttered Crawdaddy Bayou restaurant in Wheeling.

He and the kitchen crew would visit Louisiana six-eight times each year through the late 1990s. "I've spent a lot of time down

Jambalaya

SAUCE:

2 cups onion, diced
2 teaspoons garlic, chopped
1 bunch celery, chopped
1 cup okra
1 tomato, diced
2 tablespoons favorite Cajun seasoning blend

4 bay leaves
1 cup chicken stock
Sweat (sauté) onion, garlic, celery and okra in olive oil. Add tomato, seasoning, bay leaves, and chicken stock. Simmer until ingredients thicken. Remove bay leaves.

MEAT STOCK:

4 ounces chicken breast, diced
4 ounces tiger shrimp
4 ounces smoked andouille sausage, sliced

In a separate pan, sauté chicken, shrimp and sausage.

Combine meat and sauce.

South," he said. On one of those trips he discovered Green Gator. It's a slushy cocktail made with rum and pineapple juice.

"It's an old Southern classic," Lederer said. "When you go down there, you'll see Green Gators in slushy machines."

Lederer and his Bluegrass team host cooking school events throughout the year.

Listings are subject to change. Please call the venue in advance.

Friday, Feb. 13

Private Lives: Noel Coward's best known comedy tells the story of divorcees Elyot and Amanda who are perfectly happy honeymooning with their new spouses in France. To their surprise, they bump into each other on their adjacent hotel balconies. Each trying unsuccessfully to convince their new spouse to leave immediately to avoid another awkward encounter, the two quickly reignite their old flame. 8 p.m. Friday, 7 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday, Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, 111 W. Campbell St., Arlington Heights, \$30-\$38, 847-577-2121

'First Date': When blind date newbie Aaron is set up with serial-dater Casey, a casual drink at a busy New York restaurant turns into a hilarious high-stakes dinner. As the date unfolds in real time, the couple quickly finds that they are not alone on this unpredictable evening. 7 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday, 5:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 19, Royal George Theatre Center, 1641 N. Halsted St., Chicago, \$49, 312-988-9000

'Red Bud': Written by Brett Neveu and directed by Brant Russell, this play follows some middle-aged friends tapping into their youth on a regular trip to the Red Bud motocross race. "The group has nearly wrung their mutual friendship dry and uses the overnight camping party to relive past glories, play asinine games and beat the holy hell out of each other," according to promotional materials. "The fly in the ointment this year, is the 18-year-old girlfriend of one of the group's 40-something members. Frustration, weirdness and old baggage rapidly comes to the surface as old friendships die hard." 8 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. Feb. 19, Signal Ensemble Theatre, 1802 W. Berenice Ave., Chicago, \$12-\$23, 773-698-7389

A Kid Like Jake: About Face Theatre presents the Chicago premiere of Daniel Pearle's play about a four-year-old boy whose gender non-conforming behavior jeopardizes his chances of getting into an elite kindergarten program. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday, The Greenhouse Theater Center, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, \$20-\$35, 773-404-7336

Mr. Burns, a post-electric play: This is the Chicago premiere of Anne Wash-

burn's comedy that imagines a world where the last shreds of culture are episodes of "The Simpsons." 7:30 p.m. Friday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 19, Theater Wit, 1229 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, \$10-\$70, 773-975-8150

Really Really: Interrobang Theatre Project presents the Midwest premiere of Paul Downs Calizzo's play about the hazy aftermath of a wild campus party which explores class warfare, sexual politics and ambition. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 19, Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport Ave., Chicago, \$10-\$20, 773-935-6875

'The Revenants': This dramatic play from WildClaw Theatre at the Athenaeum follows two couples in hiding during an undead apocalypse. "Gary and Karen tether their turning partners, Molly and Joe, for the safety of all," according to promotional materials, "but as Molly and Joe fall deeper into sickness, the question of whether or not they are still themselves becomes harder and harder to answer as they become more threatening." 7:30 p.m. Friday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 19, Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport Ave., Chicago, \$22-\$27 (plus \$2 online fee), 773-935-6860

Original Tease: The monthly burlesque show includes go-go dancers, singers and more. 9 p.m. Friday, 10:30 p.m. Friday, Lincoln Tap Room, 3010 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, Free, 773-868-0060

'The Addams Family': The quirky Addams family comes to town via this strange and comic musical. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 19, Mercury Theater, 3745 N. Southport Ave., Chicago, \$45-\$65, 773-325-1700

'Circle-Machine': An American woman abroad is mistakenly left holding the newborn child of the First Secretary of the Community Party as the Berlin Wall comes crashing down. In the confusion of revolution, she decides to escape the chaos and corruption to raise the child in the safe embrace of the West. Things grow more complicated when the child's birth mother enters the picture. 8 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. Monday, Oracle Theatre, 3809 N. Broadway, Chicago, free, 773-244-2980

'The Sweeter Option': Strawdog Theatre's 100th production is this world premiere psychological thriller set in 1971 Chicago, written by John Henry

Roberts and directed by Marti Lyons. "A low-rent investigator named Tucker (Sam Guinan-Nyhart) tracks a stolen rent-a-car and stumbles neck-deep into an embezzlement scheme gone sour," is how promotional materials describe the play. "There's enough cash up for grabs to finance a whole new life, but the only way to it is through Irene Pike (Michaela Petro), a suburban housewife who is clearly more than she lets on." 8 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 4 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. Feb. 19, Strawdog Theatre, 3829 N. Broadway, Chicago, \$28, 866-811-4111

'Bates: An 80s Musical Psycho Parody': This is a parody of the classic Hitchcock horror movie. 10 p.m. Friday and 10 p.m. Saturday, Public House, 400 N. State St., Chicago, \$15, 312-265-1240

'Trial of Moses Fleetwood Walker': Moses Fleetwood Walker was the first black baseball player and he played for the Toledo Blue Stockings in 1884 in the major leagues. Moses is accused of murdering a white man in a time when blacks were traditionally lynched. This is based on a true story. 8 p.m. Friday, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 19, Black Ensemble Theater, 4450 N. Clark St., Chicago, \$55-\$65, 773-769-4451

Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind: The longest-running show in Chicago, it's a one-hour blitz of 30 extremely brief plays. 11:30 p.m. Friday, 11:30 p.m. Saturday and 7 p.m. Sunday, The Neo-Futurarium, 5153 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, \$9 plus the roll of one die (\$10-\$15) or \$20 for advance reservation, 773-275-5255

'Book of Merman': Pride Films and Plays presents this comedy musical by author Leo Schwartz and director David Zak about the misadventures of two Mormon missionaries. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 5 p.m. Sunday, Mary's Attic, 5400 N. Clark St., Chicago, \$15 for Thursday preview performances, \$25 for the other nights, 773-784-6969

The Three Little Pigs: The Chicago Kids Company- Theatre for Children presents a one-hour musical adaptation of the classic children's tale. 10:30 a.m. Friday, 1 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Monday, 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. Feb. 19, Stahl Family Theatre, 5900 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, \$12, 773-205-9600

'One Came Home': Lifeline Theatre presents a world premiere adaptation of Amy Timberlake's Edgar Award-winning and Newbery Honor book, One Came Home. During the great passenger pigeon migration of 1871,

throng of strangers descend upon Placid, Wis., bringing prosperity in their wake. But as the skies clear, tragedy strikes and Georgie Burkhardt's sister goes missing. When a body is found and the town goes into mourning, Georgie sets out to uncover the truth. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 4 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 19, Lifeline Theatre, 6912 N. Glenwood Ave., Chicago, \$20-\$40, 773-761-4477

Mad Mobster True Crime and Horror Expo: The Mad Mobster Chicago True Crime and Horror Expo is a weekend anniversary festival centered around of St. Valentine's Day Massacre, ranging from "the actors that play the monsters to the real life people who faced them," according to promotional materials. In the vendor room: a global collection of true crime and horror memorabilia. 6 p.m. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Chicago Hilton & Towers, 720 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, \$25-\$199, 312-922-4400

Married Alive: The comedic musical looks in on two married couples covering everything from babies to empty nests and job stress to domestic bliss. 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Raue Center for the Arts, 26 N. Williams St., Crystal Lake, \$32.50-\$38.50, 815-356-9212

All My Relations: A Seneca History: In collaboration with visual artist and dancer Rosy Simas (Seneca), this exhibit introduces the history of the Seneca culture through milestones in the lives of Simas and her relations. It features traditional and modern Seneca artifacts, which span various generations. 11 a.m. All week, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, Free-\$5; \$10-\$12 for talk, 847-475-1030

Native Haute Couture: The year long exhibit celebrates the history of Native American high fashion from pre-contact to today. It features garments that showcase American Indian artistry and expertise in tanning, weaving, embroidery, beadwork and tailoring. 10 a.m. All week, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-1030

Anytime/Anywhere: The Piven Improvisation Ensemble performs long-form improv. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 19, Piven Theatre Workshop, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$10, 847-866-8049

The Odd Couple: Enjoy the Tony Award-winning comedy classic about

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mismatched roommates by playwright Neil Simon. 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. Feb. 19, Oil Lamp Theater, 1723 Glenview Road, Glenview, \$35, 847-834-0738

"Other Desert Cities" at Citadel Theatre: Citadel Theatre launches its third production of the 2014-15 season with Jon Robin Baitz's "Other Desert Cities." The play, is named for a road sign east of Los Angeles, which lists upcoming towns in the Arizona Desert. Writer Brooke Wyeth comes home for Christmas to her parents' Palm Springs abode. The play turns from comedy to intense family drama as she reveals her intent to unearth the proverbial skeletons in the family closet with a tell-all memoir. For tickets, visit website or call. Discounts for seniors, students, and groups of 10 or more. 8 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. Feb. 19, Citadel Theatre Company, 300 S. Waukegan Road, Lake Forest, \$35-\$37.50, 847-735-8554

Face N Time: 8:30 p.m. Friday, Blues Bar, 2 West Busse Ave., Mt. Prospect, free, 815-385-7273

'White Guy on the Bus': In this play, Ray, a successful white business execu-

tive, rides the bus past the state penitentiary every Saturday. On his weekly ride, he befriends Shatique, a young black woman putting herself through school and struggling to raise a son on her own. 8 p.m. Friday, 2:30 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 19, Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd, Skokie, \$15-\$49, 847-673-6300

Predict the Oscars Contest: Fill out an Oscars ballot in the lobby and if you guess the Academy Awards winners correctly you could get free movie tickets for a year. All week, Woodstock Theatre, 209 E. Main St., Woodstock, free, 815-338-8555

Saturday, Feb. 14

Fortnight: A New Play Festival: The Underground Laboratory Theatre hosts this free theater exposition featuring performers and writers from Loyola University of Chicago. Each date includes a different performance, followed by an audience critique. At 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, watch "We Are Treacherous People" by Melissa Hubbert, then at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, watch "Syringomyelia" by Kyle McCloskey. Get tickets by visiting <http://>

LUC.Tix.com. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Underground Laboratory Theater, 1020 W. Sheridan Road, Chicago, free, 773-508-8400

'Edgar and Annabel': Sam Holcroft's play throws us into a world of government surveillance and societal distrust. Against the odds, a young married couple thrives at least to those who are listening. 4:15 p.m. Saturday, 4:15 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. Monday, The Side Project Theater, 1439 W. Jarvis Ave., Chicago, \$15, 773-904-0391

Chicago Auto Show 2015: See the latest and greatest cars, trucks and SUVs, plus concept vehicles and state-of-the-art technology on display. Family Day is Monday, Feb. 16, Women's Day is Tuesday, Feb. 17 (\$6 admission for women) and Hispanic Heritage Day is Friday, Feb. 20. Show goers who donate three cans of food receive coupons for \$6 off a full adult admission on Wednesday, Feb. 18, Thursday, Feb. 19 and Friday, Feb. 20. Cans of food can be redeemed for the coupons at booths that are set up at the two ticket locations for the Chicago Auto Show. All food collected will benefit A Safe Haven Foundation. 9 a.m. All week starting Saturday, McCormick Place, 2301 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, \$12 adults: \$6 for children and seniors, 312-791-7500

'Lions In Illyria': Bring the children to this Lifeline Theatre KidSeries world premiere performance of a play based on William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" that was written by Robert Kaulzlaric and directed by Amanda Delheimer Dimond. "Separated from her brother by a storm at sea, the young lioness Violet must brave an unknown country all alone," state promotional materials. "Disguised as a boy, she joins with a preposterous peacock on a quest to claim the attentions of the most graceful gazelle in town. But soon Violet is torn between multiple masters and her adventure takes a turn for the absurd when she becomes entangled in the clownish antics of a wacky warthog and his featherbrained dodo sidekick. Travel to the weird and wonderful land of Illyria in a magical comedy loaded with music, monkeys and mayhem." The show is best suited for children 5 and older; those younger than 2 won't be admitted. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Lifeline Theatre, 6912 N. Glenwood Ave., Chicago, \$15, 773-761-4477

2015 ETHS Jazz Festival: ETHS celebrates its 12th Annual Evanston Township High School Jazz Festival. Jeff Hamilton Trio headlines the evening's

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performance, in the school's main auditorium. The Festival is open to the public and offers a full day of non-competitive, educational workshops and performances by middle school and high school jazz groups. 7 p.m. Saturday, Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, Adults \$20; \$15 for children, students and seniors with ID, 847-424-7848

The Orchid Show: Escape from winter to a tropical paradise created by 10,000 colorful, fragrant blossoms filling the greenhouses, galleries and halls of the Regenstein Center at the Chicago Botanic Garden. The month-long exhibition includes activities for every age and interest, including free concerts on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. 10 a.m. All week starting Saturday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, \$8-\$10, \$25 parking fee, 847-835-5440.

Highland Park Players Present Goodnight Moon Musical: Highland Park Players present Goodnight Moon, a musical for young audiences based on the beloved children's classic book, "Goodnight Moon." This musical transforms the simple story of a young bunny preparing for sleep into a 3-D wonder-

land, full of catchy songs, delightful choreography, a colorful set and clever costumes. Tickets are general admission, good for any performance, and available for purchase online and at the door. A special 60th anniversary edition of "Goodnight Moon" may also be purchased for only \$6, when you buy tickets online. For more information, contact: info@highlandparkplayers.com or Linda Rosen at 847-682-4632 or Jacob Cohen, 847-338-4813. 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Edgewood Middle School, 929 Edgewood Road, Highland Park, \$10-\$17, 224-765-3200

A Year with Frog and Toad: Enjoy the musical about a cheerful frog and a grumpy toad. 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, Northbrook Theatre, 3323 Walters Ave., Northbrook, \$10-\$12, 847-291-2367

Fleetwood Mac: 8 p.m. Saturday, All-state Arena, 6920 Mannheim Road, Rosemont, \$49.50-\$189.50, 847-635-6601

Ron Hawking Performs His Way: Sinatra Centennial Celebration: Ron Hawking performs the music of Frank Sinatra. 8 p.m. Saturday, Prairie Center for the Arts, 201 Schaumburg Ct., Schaumburg, \$42; \$40 for students and

seniors, 847-895-3600

Thomas Nickell and the Oistrakh Symphony of Chicago: Young Steinway Artist Thomas Nickell makes his Chicago debut with the Oistrakh Symphony, Mina Zikry, Conductor. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, \$10-\$30, 847-673-6300

Sunday, Feb. 15

Poutine Fest 2015: Chefs from restaurants across Chicago including Rocking Horse, Frontier, Bite Cafe and more serve up the gravy-laden, cheese-curd filled french fry dish at this fest. Admission includes 10 poutine tickets and two drink tickets. VIP tickets include early entry and an additional drink ticket. 10:45 a.m. Sunday, Haymarket Pub & Brewery, 737 W. Randolph St., Chicago, \$60-\$70 (+21), 312-638-0700

Chicago Philharmonic: Taste The Music: The concert features pieces by Mozart and Strauss II plus Bohuslav Martinu's one-act comedic ballet, "La Revue De Cuisine," performed by Visceral Dance Chicago. 3 p.m. Sunday, Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, \$25-\$75; \$10 for

students, 312-957-0000

Petra Van Nuis & Andy Brown: 2 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Dios No Choro: Get a taste of Carnaval -- an afternoon of Brazilian choro music (a genre originating in Brazil in the late 1800s, mixing African rhythms and European dance melodies). Dios no Choro is comprised of Julie Koidin, flute, and Paulinho Garcia, guitar and vocals. Also, Julie Koidin presents her recent book, "Choro Conversations," along with a question and answer session about her experiences performing with the foremost choro musicians in Brazil. 2 p.m. Sunday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Avenue, Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Mental Health Presentation: Temple Beth Israel Sisterhood and NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness-Cook County & North Suburban Area) present "In Our Own Voices. Stories of Hope and Recovery from Individuals Living with Mental Illness." Open to the community. Call or visit the website, for more information. 2 p.m. Sunday, Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St.,

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Skokie, free, 847-675-0951

Music and the Spoken Word: The Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra performs. 3 p.m. Sunday, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, \$30; \$27 for seniors; \$10 for young adults (13-25 years); \$5 for children 12 years and younger, 847-673-6300

Monday, Feb. 16

Presidents' Day Celebration: Attend this president-centric event at the Chicago History Museum, which includes performances, storytelling and crafting. "Mingle with Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd look-alikes and listen to an ensemble concert from the Chicago Brass Band," according to an announcement. "Stay for a production of 'Meeting the Lincolns' to learn more about the personal Lincoln, as well as the professional politician and the issues that troubled the nation in his time." For more information, visit www.chicago-history.org. 10 a.m. Monday, Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark St., Chicago, free, 312-642-4600

Tuesday, Feb. 17

Creole Stomp: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, 111 W. Campbell St., Arlington Heights, \$28, 847-577-2121

John Mellencamp: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, The Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St., Chicago, \$42.50-\$129.50, 312-462-6300

First Wives Club: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday and Feb. 19, Oriental Theatre, 24 W. Randolph St., Chicago, \$35-95, 800-775-2000

Wednesday, Feb. 18

Free movie night: Enjoy a double feature that highlights historical films from the heyday of Maxwell Street and South Haven. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

A Song For You: National Louis University hosts a screening of the new documentary "A Song for You," which looks at a family's escape from the Nazis in France and their five years on

the run after that escape. 6 p.m. Wednesday, National Louis University North Shore, 5202 Old Orchard Road, Skokie, free, 224-233-2369

Thursday, Feb. 19

The You Matter Chicago Concert: A variety of performing artists unite (for charity, even) under a single banner: the individual. The only inspirational themes: follow your dream. don't quit on excellence and seek the divine within. The artists: Terra Godz, Zoie Moser, Lonewolf and Darse Jackson. VIP guests with food allergies should email rowcypther@gmail.com in advance of the event. For more information and price packages, email rowcypther@gmail.com or visit www.rowcypther.com. 7 p.m. Feb. 19, Hostelling International Chicago, 24 E Congress Pkwy, Chicago, \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door, 312-360-0300

Chicago Flamenco Festival: With Paloma Gomez and Raquel Gomez. Buy tickets at www.brownpapertickets.com. For more information about the festival, visit <http://chicago.cervantes.es>. Get a parking validation from the Instituto Cervantes and pay \$11 for 12 hours. 7:30 p.m. Feb. 19, Instituto Cervantes of

Chicago, 31 W. Ohio St., Chicago, Instituto Cervantes members and students pay \$20; all others pay \$25. , 312-335-1996

'Fur Elites': Denny, a small, quiet boy in a big city is working as an assistant at Ecnayonna Furs, a retail fur shop in a high-end shopping district. The characters that orbit Ecnayonna Furs are of the oddest sort: former models, wildly wealthy global elites, international fur dealers and even the occasional illustrious vagabond. Based on actual events, Fur Elites is an absurd, parlor musical about finding the light in a world trying to eclipse you. 8 p.m. Feb. 19, The Annoyance Theatre, 851 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, \$15-\$19, 773-697-9693

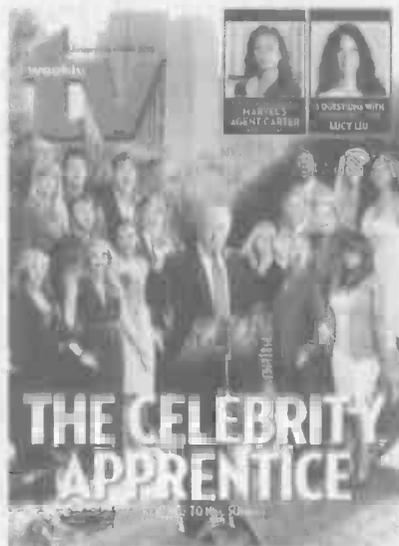
Music In the Galleries: Organized by the Block Museum's Student Advisory Board, informal weekly performances by Northwestern student musicians and musical ensembles, inspired by both Eastern and Western musical traditions, will permeate the museum's galleries. 4 p.m. Feb. 19, Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art and Pick/Laudati Auditorium, Northwestern University, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, free, 847-491-2261

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"Paddington" ★★★
PG, 1:29, family. Never judge by appearances. The poster image for "Paddington" depicts the valiant little bear in the red hat and blue jacket careening down a flooded staircase in a bathtub, and the image (from the first of creator Michael Bond's 26 "Paddington" books) is rendered in such a way as to make the film look pushy and twee and eminently skippable. And yet the film isn't any of those things. It's witty and charming, with a considerable if sneaky emotional impact. True, there is a not-insignificant storytelling misjudgment in adapter/director Paul King's picture, but enough goes right here to satisfy Paddington lovers and newbies alike. — M.P.



"Project Almanac" ★ 1/2
PG-13, 1:46, thriller. What have we done to deserve another found-footage movie? The tired handheld technique that seemed so fresh in 1999 with "The Blair Witch Project" long ago wore out its welcome. The only thing noteworthy about its use in "Project Almanac," which follows a group of high school misfits who invent a time-travel apparatus, is that this particular found footage film isn't really a horror film but a sci-fi thriller. Used as a means to gain an entry into the lives of these kids, it makes what could have been a fresh sendup of genre conventions seem as cheap and forgettable as all the rest. — Lindsey Bahr, Associated Press



"The Boy Next Door" ★ 1/2
R, 1:31, thriller. As the song from "Meet Me in St. Louis" put it, in a different story context: How can she ignore the boy next door? She can't! Jennifer Lopez just can't. The boy next door, played by Ryan Guzman, is just too darn hot. Psycho, but hot. And after so much "American Sniper" analysis of patriotism, jingoism, geopolitical morality and cinematic debate, it's important to remember what two things we, as a nation, fight for every day of our lives: the sight of Lopez's epochal posterior in horizontal stripes, and the God-given right to make a ridiculous thriller like "The Boy Next Door." I wish the movie had a different, zingier sort of mediocrity, but whenever it threatens to go the full Zalman King "Two Moon Junction" route, it pulls back and behaves itself and settles for a grindingly predictable series of escalations. — M.P.



"Black or White" ★ 1/2
PG-13, 2:01, drama. Writer-director Mike Binder's "Black or White," from the outset, is a story driven by the white, late-middle-aged male beset by circumstance. The building blocks came from Binder's own family life involving a biracial nephew whose mother died at 33 and the boy's subsequent upbringing in tony Santa Monica, Calif., and in South Central Los Angeles. The film, Binder declared in his director's statement, was designed to "spark a conversation about how we move forward with regard to race relations in this country." "Black or White" may not be racist, exactly, but it patronizes its African-American characters up, down and sideways, and audiences of every ethnicity, background, hue and predilection can find something to dislike. — M.P.



"American Sniper" ★★★
R, 2:13, biopic. Already director Clint Eastwood's latest has turned into an ideological war to be won or lost, rather than a fictionalized biopic to be debated. You don't have to know much about the real Navy SEAL marksman Chris Kyle (1974-2013) to wonder if the movie telling the whole truth about him. Plenty of military veterans have expressed their problems with Kyle's book as dangerously romantic in its view of war. Eastwood's view isn't that, exactly. But there's a difference between a film about a man reluctant to acknowledge the psychological toll of what he endured and a movie that basically doesn't want to talk about it, period. — Michael Phillips

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Death Notices

MacLean, Barbara J.

Barbara J. MacLean nee Betty (Tyksinski). Age 79 of Park Ridge, passed away February 4, 2015. Born on September 2, 1935 in Oak Park, IL. to Aimee MacLean Betty and James Betty. Graduate of Oak Park River Forest high school and Northwestern University with a degree in History. Barbara's life was defined by her devotion to causes of equality and justice. She was a staunch guardian of women, which took her to the front lines of the feminist movement. In a time when women had little or no voice, she stood up and yelled. She enjoyed a healthy debate and never shied away from the opportunity to defend the underdog. Always politically active, she spoke out against prejudices of any kind. She never wavered from her philosophies. Her opinions were never left silent and her belief system and values left a positive impression on many of the lives she touched. Her home was always open and welcoming to all. Barbara was a mover and a shaker, and she left her mark on this earth. Books were her first love, particularly those pertaining to history and mystery. Her love of sports moved well beyond her eternally optimistic (and irrational) devotion to the Cubs. As a player and a coach, she became an integral figure in the expansion and development of Woman's rugby in the mid-Atlantic region. An avid supporter of arts, literature and music, her home was alive with culture as well as the aroma of her Polish Hamburgers. Barbara was a self-taught artisan and loved knitting, quilting and needlework. Her gardens were a testimony to nature and the time she spent in them was her sanctuary. Her smile was infectious. Her generosity was unbounded. Her children and grandchildren embody her spirit and passions. She is cherished and remembered by her many lifelong friends. We will miss her laughter, her intelligence and her love of family.

Barbara was the vibrant mother of Barbara (Doug Sohn) Tyksinski, Michael (Kelsey Marsh) Tyksinski, Susan Tyksinski, Jamie (Carol Fratrik) Tyksinski and the late Catherine Tyksinski; devoted grandmother of Derrick Fisher, Shane Tyksinski, Dillon Tyksinski, Keaton Fisher, Taylor Fisher, Aidan Tyksinski, Caleb Tyksinski, Cooper Tyksinski, Georgia Tyksinski and Hazel Tyksinski; dear sister of Richard (Carol) Betty. A celebration of Barbara's life is planned for the spring. Memorial's to a charity of your choice are appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to Ryan-Parke-Funeral Home, www.ryan-parke.com.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Gray, Helen Ergang

Helen Ergang Gray, age 95, passed away peacefully at Rainbow Hospice Ark in Park Ridge on Sunday, February 1. She led a wonderful life, full of joy and love and compassion and friendship. Helen graduated from Amundsen High School in Chicago, where she competed in swimming the breast stroke, and became a charter member of the Girls' Athletic Association of Illinois. She grew up singing in the Berry Methodist Church choir, and later sang in the Park Ridge Presbyterian Church choir. After high school, she completed two years of college at North Park, joining Tri Delta there, and embarked on her professional career, beginning with Trans World Airlines. She married handsome and dashing Eric Gray in 1944. When their two children reached junior high school age, Helen returned to the work force as Executive Secretary to a succession of presidents at a large insurance firm, and she was named an officer of the company. She is survived by her two children, Georgene (Tom) Pomplun and Gordon Gray, and many loving nieces and nephews. Helen will be missed by all who knew her: companions of her youth, friends from her church, her PEO sisters, her health club buddies, and her wonderful neighbors. A celebration of Helen's life will be held Saturday, March 28, 11 a.m. at the Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, 1300 West Crescent Avenue, Park Ridge, Illinois. All are welcome. In lieu of flowers, please consider a contribution to your charity of choice.

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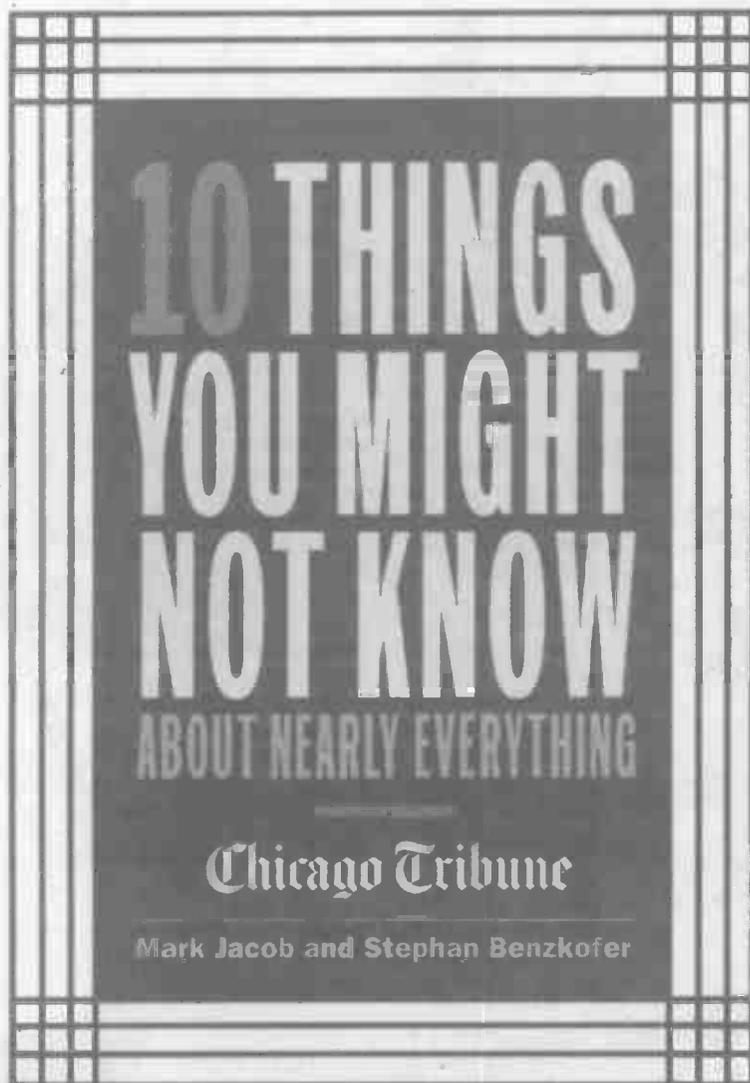
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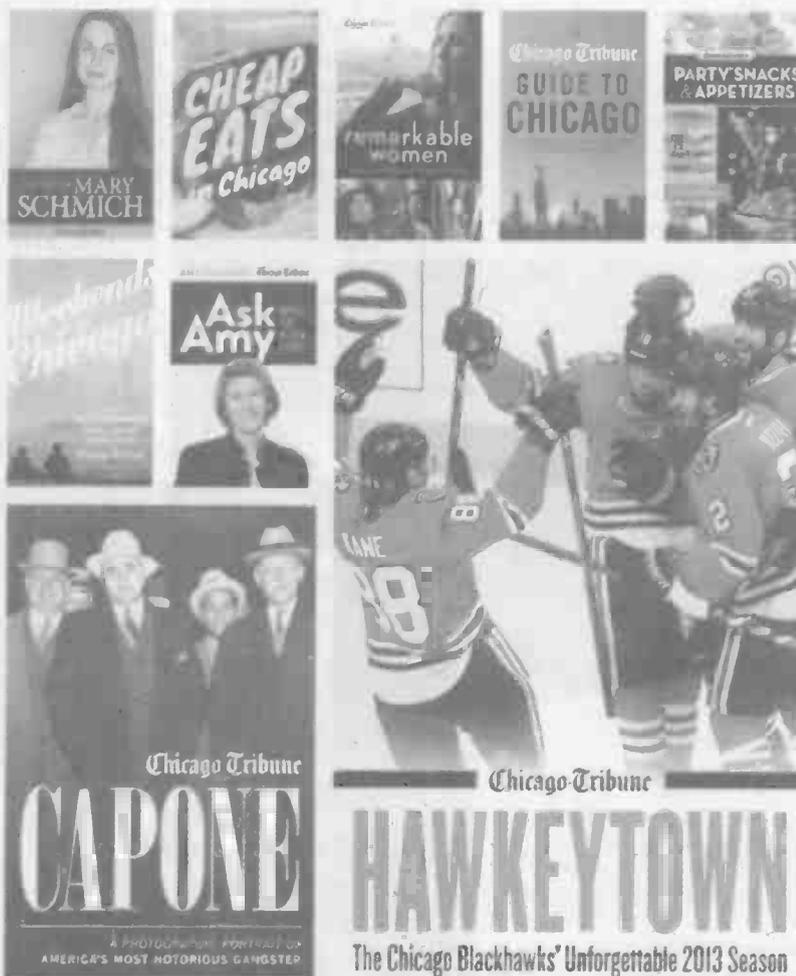
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Can you hear me now?

Artificial noises help fuel-efficient engines roar instead of purr — but purists are howling

By DREW HARWELL
The Washington Post

Stomp on the gas in a new Ford Mustang or F-150, and you'll hear a meaty, throaty rumble — the same style of roar that Americans have associated with auto power and performance for decades.

It's a sham. The engine growl in some of America's best-selling cars and trucks is actually a finely tuned bit of lip-syncing, boosted through special pipes or digitally faked altogether. And it's driving car enthusiasts insane.

Fake engine noise has become one of the auto industry's dirty little secrets, with automakers from BMW to Volkswagen turning to a sound-boosting bag of tricks. Without them, today's more fuel-efficient engines would sound far quieter and, automakers worry, seemingly less powerful, potentially pushing buyers away.

Softer-sounding engines are actually a positive symbol of just how far engines and gas economy have progressed. But automakers say they resort to artifice because they understand a key car-buyer paradox: Drivers want all the force and fuel savings of a newer, better engine but the classic sound of an old gas-guzzler.

"Enhanced" engine songs have become the signature of eerily quiet electrics like the Toyota Prius. But the fakery is now increasingly finding its way into even beefy trucks and muscle cars, long revered for their iconic growl.

For the 2015 Mustang EcoBoost, Ford sound engineers and developers worked on an Active Noise Control system that amplifies the engine's purr through the car speakers. Afterward, the automaker surveyed members of Mustang fan clubs on which processed "sound concepts" they most enjoyed.

Ford said in a statement that the vintage V-8 engine boom "has long been considered the mating call of Mustang," but it added that the newly processed pony-car sound is "athletic and youthful," "a more refined growl" with "a low-frequency sense of powerfulness."



GETTY PHOTOS; TRIBUNE ILLUSTRATION

Among purists, the trickery has inspired an identity crisis and cut to the heart of American auto legend.

The "aural experience" of a car, they argue, is an intangible that's just as priceless as what's revving under the hood.

"For a car guy, it's literally music, to hear that thing rumble," said Mike Rhynard, 41, a past president and 33-year member of the Denver Mustang Club. He's

swayed between love and hate with the snarl-boosting sound tube in his 2012 Mustang GT, but of the computerized noise, he's unequivocal.

"It's a mind-trick," he said. "It's something it's not. And no one wants to be deceived."

That type of ire has made the auto industry shy about discussing its sound technology. Several attempts to speak with Ford's sound engineers about the new

F-150, a six-cylinder model of America's best-selling truck that plays a muscular engine note through the speakers, were quietly rebuffed.

Car companies are increasingly wary of alerting buyers that they might not be hearing the real thing, and many automakers have worked with audio and software engineers to make their cars' synthesized engine melody more realistic.

Volkswagen uses what's called a "Soundaktor," a special speaker that looks like a hockey puck and plays sound files in cars like the GTI and Beetle Turbo.

Lexus worked with sound technicians at Yamaha to amplify the noise of its LFA supercar toward the driver seat.

Some, like Porsche with its "sound symposer," have used noise-boosting tubes to crank up the engine sound inside the cabin.

Others have gone further into digital territory: BMW plays a recording of its motors through the car stereos, a sample of which changes depending on the engine's load and power.

Orchestrated engine noise has become a necessity for electric cars, which run so quietly that they can provide a dangerous surprise for inattentive pedestrians and the blind.

Federal safety officials expect to finalize rules this year requiring all hybrid and electric cars to play fake engine sounds to alert passers-by, a change that experts estimate could prevent thousands of pedestrian and cyclist injuries.

With traditional engines, some boosters have even celebrated artificial noise as a little added luxury. Without it, drivers would hear an unsettling silence or only the kinds of road racket they'd rather ignore, like bumps in the pavement or the whine of wind.

Yet even drivers who appreciate the accompaniment have questioned the mission. A Slash-Gear reviewer who otherwise enjoyed the new F-150 said the engine sound was piped in "arguably pointlessly."

This raises a more existential question: Does it matter if the sound is fake? Is taking the best part of an eight-cylinder rev and cloaking a better engine with it really, for carmakers, so wrong?

Not everyone is so diplomatic. Karl Brauer, a senior analyst with Kelley Blue Book, says automakers should stop the lies and get real with their drivers.

"If you're going to do that stuff, do that stuff. Own it. Tell customers: If you want a V-8 rumble, you've got to buy a V-8 that costs more, gets worse gas mileage and hurts the Earth," Brauer said.



AMEE REEHAL/BUICK

The unassuming Buick Regal GS holds its own against its upscale rivals.

Don't dismiss Buick Regal

BY ROBERT DUFFER
Tribune Newspapers

In 2014, Buick had the best year in its 111-year history. The success is in part from a renewed lineup and a younger audience. But the Regal is Buick's worst seller of five models, selling less than half of the fourth-place Verano, an entry-level upscale compact. The Regal is sandwiched between the full-size LaCrosse and the Verano in a market that prefers crossovers.

The real challenge for the Regal GS comes from its \$40,000 price tag. The price is in range with BMW's 328i, Acura TLX, Volkswagen CC, even Mercedes C-Class and GM's own Cadillac ATS.

Stiff competition.

Averaging 22 mpg with all-wheel drive, the Regal GS lags the competitors in fuel economy and doesn't have the same cachet. Yet it justified its price more with each drive.

The acceleration in the 2.0-liter turbocharged four-cylinder is surprising for such an unassuming car, and while there is the slightest delay from a stop, the shift points of the six-speed automatic are optimal and smooth. It rides a bit higher than the 328i, but the wider stance minimizes roll, and steering feels like a direct extension of your arms.

Yet the GS' most remarkable aspects were its everyday uses. The cabin is as quiet at all speeds,

2015 BUICK REGAL GS

Midsize sedan

Price as tested:

\$43,045

Base: \$39,810

MPG: 19 city/27 highway

Engine: 2.0-liter turbo four-cylinder

Transmission: 6-speed automatic in all-wheel drive

Parting shot: The price might get a double take, but the Regal GS is worth another look.

and the front seats never feel cramped. The continuously variable damping suspension responds with a softer ride at cruising speeds and more feedback during aggressive driving.

The narrow center console widens into a neat, sleek, almost spartan center stack, which is a wonderful contrast from busier interfaces. The climate control system features buttons in the shape of a cup in the center flanked by touch-sensitive temperature gauge and heated seat levels. It's a cool design but risks the inconsistencies of any touch-sensitive surface, where pressing too hard or lightly won't get you what you want. Gloves won't help.

On top of the climate system is GM's 8-inch

touch screen for the Intel-link infotainment system. Once you understand the levels of logic, it's easy, and it may be the most complete system on the market. The voice commands are exceptional, reaching Siri-like fidelity in finding contacts and addresses.

The car is a hot spot capable of transmitting Wi-Fi to seven portable devices, which is another direct appeal to younger drivers and budding families. The GS could make a compelling case for a sports sedan that doubles as a family road tripper, except that the rear leg room is cramped, even for grade schoolers.

The \$40,000 starting price is loaded with features such as heated front seats and steering wheel, a nine-speaker Bose system and 19-inch alloy wheels. The test model came with \$2,335 in "driver confidence packages" that offer the latest safety features. The forward collision alert is more sensitive than we'd prefer, beeping and momentarily tapping the brakes when we made reasonable highway lane changes, but the settings are supposed to be adjustable.

Once you get past the sticker shock, the GS wins you over with great balance between performance and comfort, and with easy-to-use technology that's better than that of competitors.

rduffer@tribpub.com



TORU YAMANAKA/GETTY-AFP

Toyota sold 10.23 million vehicles last year, outpacing Volkswagen and General Motors.

Toyota keeps global sales crown, but VW is gaining

BY YURI KAGEYAMA
Associated Press

TOKYO — Toyota Motor Corp. stayed at the top in global vehicle sales in 2014, taking that auto industry crown for the third year straight, but it was less upbeat about this year.

The Japanese automaker sold 10.23 million vehicles, beating out Volkswagen AG and General Motors Co. But it expects to sell fewer trucks and cars this year, forecasting sales will fall 1 percent year-on-year to 10.15 million vehicles.

The drop largely stems from a projected nine percent plunge in Japanese sales. Sales in Japan had been inflated in the early part of last year ahead of a sales tax hike.

Overall, the Japanese auto market is weakening because of population decline.

Toyota expects sales outside Japan to grow two percent this year to more

"The Japanese automaker sold 10.23 million vehicles, beating out Volkswagen AG and General Motors Co."

than 8 million vehicles from 7.9 million vehicles last year.

Germany's Volkswagen sold 10.14 million vehicles in 2014, up four percent from the previous year.

Detroit-based GM was third at 9.92 million vehicles, a company record and two percent higher than its tally in 2013.

Selling 10 million vehicles around the world in a year is a milestone for major automakers.

And the race is intense as automakers increasingly compete in new markets.

Toyota's sales grew six percent in the U.S. from the previous year, 13 percent in China and 10 percent in Brazil, according to the maker of the Camry sedan, Prius hybrid and Lexus luxury models.

Toyota suffered a setback in 2011, when its production was hobbled by the earthquake and tsunami in northeastern Japan. But it made a comeback as No. 1 in 2012.

GM had been the top-selling automaker for more than seven decades until being surpassed by Toyota in 2008.

Even so, Volkswagen has been racking up stellar growth in recent years, beating GM last year and in 2013.

But that year, GM would have won if the companies had been compared without the sales of industrial truck brands, which GM doesn't make.

Last year, Volkswagen outsold GM even without its heavy trucks, which totaled 199,900 vehicles.

Glenbrook South gymnastics team wins first sectional title

Loyola, Glenbrook North, Niles West entrants also qualify automatically

BY MATT HARNES
Pioneer Press

MUNDELEIN — All Glenbrook South coach Steve Gale asked of his girls gymnasts was that they compete against themselves at the Mundelein Sectional. He didn't want them to worry about what everybody else was doing.

The game plan worked as the Titans finished first with 142.625 points on Monday. It was the program's first sectional title.

The six teams were separated by less than four points. The host Mustangs scored a 141.325, and Carmel placed third at 141.125. New Trier and Warren tied for fourth at 139.250, while Glenbrook North finished with 139.075.

"We did not look or ask about the scores," senior Kaci Castino said. "As long as we did our best, we were going to be happy. But this is awesome. I'm still in shock."

The sectional team champion automatically advanced to the Feb. 20-21 state meet at Palatine. The top five individuals and ties also qualified for the state meet. At-large bids will be announced after the last sectional is completed.

Gale said his gymnasts were nearly perfect Monday, and he credited that to their approach.

"I just told them to do what you're supposed to do, and the scores will take care of themselves," he said. "We had one miss. I would have liked to have been perfect, but this is very good."

Glenbrook South freshman Bebe Haramaras was the team's top finisher, taking second on the balance beam at 9.275. Sophomore Hannah Hartley took third on the floor exercise (9.600) and fourth on the vault (9.450). Sophomore Katie Wahl also earned an automatic trip to the state meet by tying for fifth on the vault

(9.400).

"There is a lot of good stuff happening with this team," Gale said.

Loyola

Following a flawless routine on the beam, Claire Sullivan stumbled on her dismount, mostly because she lost her footing at the edge of the pad.

The junior all-arounder mustered "shoot" under her breath before a smile returned to her face.

More than anything else, Loyola coach Shelli Sullivan said she's proud of her daughter's attitude with the sport.

"She's a joyful gymnast," said Shelli Sullivan, whose daughter competes as an individual. "She keeps it all in perspective."

Claire Sullivan will make her second trip to the state meet in two seasons after earning automatic qualification in the beam, bars and all-around. She finished first on the beam (9.300), fourth in the all-around (36.825) and fifth on the bars (9.100).

"I love the beam, and I've been working on my form," Claire Sullivan said. "I was nervous at the beginning of the year, but I am gaining more confidence."

As for the slip at the end, she said she wasn't upset.

"I just knew I could do it better," she said of the landing. "But I'm extremely happy with the routine."

Glenbrook North

Carli Betman said she didn't put too much pressure on herself at Monday's meet and treated the sectional more like a practice session.

That especially was true on the floor exercise, where the senior said she performed her best routine of the season. Betman's 9.550 was good for fourth and a



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Glenbrook South's Hannah Hartley performs on the floor exercise during Monday evening's Mundelein Sectional. Hartley finished third in the event, and Glenbrook South won the team title.

trip to the state meet.

"I focused on my form, and my tumbling was higher than before," she said. "In the past, I worried more about getting through it without a fall. You can't go into this thinking about stuff. You have to have an open mind."

Betman also advanced on the vault, finishing in a tie for fifth at 9.400. She took seventh on the beam with an 8.850.

Sophomore Alexandra Michalak was the team's other automatic qualifier, finishing fourth on the beam after an 8.950. The

Spartans placed sixth as a team with 139.075 points.

New Trier

The Trevians received bad news when senior all-arounder Sam Stoddart was diagnosed with mononucleosis in late January. She missed the conference meet, the regional meet and Monday's sectional.

"Bad timing," New Trier coach Jennifer Pistorius said. "We feel for her. But she's come to practice if she can, and she's supported the team at the meets."

New Trier finished tied

for fourth as a team with 139.250 points. No individuals earned automatic qualifications to the state meet.

Junior Peyton Burns had the team's best showing, placing seventh on the bars with a 9.025. She will have to wait to find out if the score is good enough for an at-large bid.

"The team did everything that was asked of them," Pistorius said. "They've done a great [job] all year."

Niles West

Senior Catherine Steegmueller was Niles West's

lone automatic qualifier for state after tying for fifth on the vault with a 9.400. She also was 11th on the beam (8.725), 15th on bars (8.575) and 16th on the floor (8.975). She finished 10th in the all-around with a 35.675.

Evanston

Two seniors capped their careers at the sectional. Emily Varua was 34th on the beam (7.100) and Clara Gruger was 35th on the vault (8.050).



NIC SUMMERS/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Maine East's Aornina Abram attempts a Tsukahara vault during the Hersey Regional on Feb. 5 in Arlington Heights.

Abram, Maurer end careers on high notes

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
Pioneer Press

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS — The Maine East girls gymnastics team scored less than 100 points at the Hersey Regional. It also didn't have anybody advance to the sectional.

But Maine East coach Neil Adamson was far from upset after the Feb. 5 regional. He was especially pleased with how seniors Aornina Abram and Rachel Maurer ended their careers.

"It's impressive to see how much these girls really push themselves," said Adamson, referring to Abram and Maurer. "We had goals as far as scores and stuff like that. We didn't necessarily hit them because it's hard at regionals to do that, but I couldn't be more proud."

A big reason why Adamson felt that way was Abram and Maurer worked hard in the two weeks leading up to the regional. Both gymnasts

prepared for the biggest meet of the season by working on new skills.

Abram's goal was to advance to the sectional for the first time. She began working on a Tsukahara vault late in the season. A Tsukahara is an advanced trick for gymnasts, and when executed correctly, it earns a score that likely leads to a sectional berth.

Although Abram doesn't have a club gymnastics background, she learned the trick in about two weeks and she said she was landing it in practice.

"For her to ... be throwing that kind of a vault at this point — and getting, technically, the correct way of doing it — is just absolutely amazing," Adamson said.

Abram's first Tsukahara at the Hersey Regional looked good all the way through, and she managed to land with her hands off of the mat. But the judges ruled that one of Maine East's coaches — who was positioned behind

the vault to spot Abram — tapped her back as she was flipping, which in turn voided her first attempt.

Abram tried the Tsukahara a second time, but her right hand hit the mat as she landed. She was awarded a 7.7, but she jammed four of the fingers on her right hand on her second attempt.

"My next event was bars, and at that time it didn't quite hurt as much," Abram said. "But as time went on, it started hurting more."

Abram fought through the injury on bars (6.375) and then did balance beam (5.425), but she elected not to compete on floor because of the pain.

Abram seemed disappointed at the end of the regional. It wasn't the way she wanted her gymnastics career to end, but the fact that she learned a Tsukahara in such little time and without any pre-high school training was a reason for her to feel proud.

"I'm really happy that I got my Tsuk," Abram said. "Even at the beginning of this year, I didn't think I was going to do it. I thought it was going to be impossible. But I just did what my coach told me. At the end of the season, I got it — even though it wasn't successful [at the regional]."

Maurer's goal for the regional was to do her first-ever routine on floor exercise. She finished with a 6.35 on floor on Feb. 5 and earned a 24.725 in the all-around.

Maurer, like Abram, also had reason to feel a sense of accomplishment at the end of the meet.

"Doing floor for the first time, I felt so happy, as opposed to the last two weeks, which has been really stressful, working on it so hard," Maurer said. "I think today was the payoff."

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Maine East's Rachel Maurer competes on the balance beam during the Hersey Regional on Feb. 5.

Niles North can win CSL North outright with victory Friday

Vikings have turned things around after going 0-10 in CSL North in 2012-13

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
Pioneer Press

NORTHBROOK — The Niles North girls basketball team's transformation from winless in the Central Suburban North to conference champions in two years was completed with a 52-38 victory over Glenbrook North on Friday night.

It's been quite the turnaround for the Vikings, but they didn't celebrate by dousing coach Dan Paxson with Gatorade or cutting down the nets. It was the complete opposite, in fact. There was barely any talk immediately afterward about the significance of the win over the Spartans.

"There was a little whisper amongst teammates, but not really," Niles North senior guard Alyssa Brand said when asked if the Vikings discussed clinching a share of the CSL North championship.

Niles North's conference campaign reaches its conclusion at 7:30 p.m. Friday against Highland Park in Skokie. A win will guarantee



NIC SUMMERS/PIONEER PRESS

Niles North's Alyssa Brand dribbles down the floor while guarded by Glenbrook North's Kiley Sullivan during the Feb. 6 game in Northbrook.

the Vikings (18-9, 8-1) an outright title over Maine West, which is currently a game behind at 7-2.

That was a big reason why the Vikings didn't get too high excited clinching a

share of what is the program's first conference championship since 2004, according to Paxson.

"I just want to get out there and get [the outright CSL North title]," Niles

North senior forward Kienya Jones said. "It's senior night, so I don't plan on losing on senior night."

Brand added: "I think we're trying to take each game at a time. I think we

just want to win out, and continue to win and play as best we can. ... But yeah, I think [clinching a share of the championship] is great. It's really exciting for our team."

Brand and Jones were part of the Vikings' 2012-13 squad that went 0-10 in conference. They've spent each of the last three years on varsity, along with junior forward Stephanie Donado and junior Olivia Schaps. That quartet has grown together and it made up four-fifths of Niles North's starting lineup against the Spartans (4-19, 1-8).

The nucleus' different skills help explain why the Vikings have had so much success this year. Jones (18 points, 12 rebounds) is tenacious within 10 feet of the basket on offense, as well as an excellent rebounder and a vocal leader.

Donado has a beautiful left-handed shot from the perimeter, and she spaced the floor with a pair of three-pointers en route to 12 points against Glenbrook North. Schaps (11 points, four rebounds) is the team's point guard — one who's a calm ball handler, a capable shooter and a good defender. Brand, a Drake soccer commit, is an excellent on-ball defender who often guards

the opposing team's best scorer.

The foursome's development — along with the ability of first-year varsity players like sophomore guard Gina Loy and freshman guard Alyssa Aragon to fit into supplementary roles — also has been vital.

"I knew we were getting better, even when we took lumps two years ago," Paxson said. "Even when we took lumps, we were still competing, we were still coming to practice focused every day. I thought this summer, I was seeing a lot of improvement. We felt good about the team going into [this season], and we thought that was a realistic goal, to win conference this year."

Notes

■ Glenbrook North was led in scoring by junior Ilana Malman, who finished with 15 points. Junior center Miranda Weber (10 points, four rebounds) also reached double figures.

■ Niles North outrebounded Glenbrook North 30-19. The Vikings had 11 offensive rebounds.

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Easter works to regain shooting touch after injury layoff

Niles West girls basketball captain missed six games with broken thumb

BY MATT HARNESS
Pioneer Press

SKOKIE — A broken right thumb forced Niles West senior Julia Easter to miss six girls basketball games last month.

It marked the first time in her high school career that an injury kept the three-year varsity starter away from competition.

"I guess I had been wait-

ing to get injured," Easter joked.

The 5-10 starting forward and a team captain returned to action Friday for the first time since Jan. 13, but her presence wasn't enough as the Wolves lost to Central Suburban South-leading New Trier 61-35. Easter, who was cleared to practice two days before the game, didn't start and played less than half of the

game while wearing tape around her wrist and thumb.

"I felt comfortable out there," said Easter, who injured herself during a drill at practice on Jan. 14. "I really didn't think about my thumb. I don't think it affected me too much."

"I was a little winded, but I felt like I could have played longer than I did."

Easter said she's just happy to be back playing basketball. The Wolves, who close out the regular season at 7:30 p.m. Friday at

Maine South, went 3-3 without her in the lineup.

"It was hard missing all of those games, and I was afraid I might not be ready in time for the playoffs," said Easter, who plans to play college ball at St. Norbert, a Division III program in De Pere, Wisconsin.

Last week, Niles West earned the No. 8 seed for the Class 4A Glenbrook South Sectional. The Wolves open the playoffs at home at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday against Taft.

Niles West coach Tony

Konsewicz said the Wolves missed Easter's offense.

"Julia is always a threat to score," he said. "She's capable of shooting outside and capable of taking the ball to the basket. The team also missed her leadership."

Easter said the most challenging part has been regaining her shooting form. The broken thumb was on her shooting hand. She said the first day she took shots after the injury "was pretty scary, pretty rough."

"I probably air-balled

like five shots," she said of the Feb. 4 session. "It felt better the next day and then again Friday."

After attempting one field goal and missing Friday, Easter was much improved Saturday, making seven three-pointers in a row at one point during practice.

"[Saturday] was the first day it didn't hurt to shoot," she said. "I'm getting better and better."

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D'Avanzo helps Dons squeak past Eagles

Junior forward, who scored 14 points against Leyden, praised for his development

By ERIC VAN DRIL
Pioneer Press

Down by one point in the final 30 seconds against Leyden, the Notre Dame boys basketball team ran its offense and the ball found guard Joe Mooney for an open three-pointer from the corner.

The left-handed senior's attempt bounced off of the rim Sunday. Several players from both teams jumped for the rebound, but it was Notre Dame junior Anthony D'Avanzo — a springy, 6-7 forward — who outjumped everybody and tipped the ball to one of his teammates. Dons coach Tom Les called a timeout with less than 15 seconds remaining and drew up an out-of-bounds play that resulted in junior forward Ammar Becar getting fouled near the basket. Becar drained the game-winning free throws.

That Mooney and Becar got the ball in the critical moments of Notre Dame's 50-49 victory over Leyden in the Conference Challenge Classic wasn't a surprise, given their proven offensive ability.

The little play D'Avanzo made to sustain possession wasn't a surprise, either. It's been part of his value to the Chicago Tribune's No. 14-ranked team all year.

"Anthony is figuring it out," Becar said. "He's playing outstanding defense — blocking shots when we have a defensive collapse — rebounding, finishing, tips. He's doing everything that we need him to do."

Les added: "Every game, he seems to get a little bit better, a little bit more active. He's making a lot of progress."

D'Avanzo had one of his best offensive games of the season against Leyden. He finished with 14 points on just eight shots and a game-high seven rebounds for the Dons (20-4).

All of D'Avanzo's points were scored in the paint or at the free-throw line. The majority of his shots came as a result of his teammates drawing the defense and finding him, but he also made himself available when the defense broke down, caught the ball cleanly and then scored in spite of



* TRACY ALLEN/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Leyden's Jason Timmerhaus (34) shoots in between Notre Dame's Lucas Simon, left, and Anthony D'Avanzo, right.

contact.

Playing alongside Becar, who finished with 18 points on Sunday, has made D'Avanzo especially effective.

"He's always patient with [the ball]," D'Avanzo said of Becar. "I'm always ready for the ball when he has it, because I know he's going to pass it to me."

An example of that came in the second half. Becar caught the ball near the basket on a fast break and fired a pretty touch pass to D'Avanzo, who caught it on the run and

laid it in.

"Every team we play, they're focusing on Joe and Ammar," Les said.

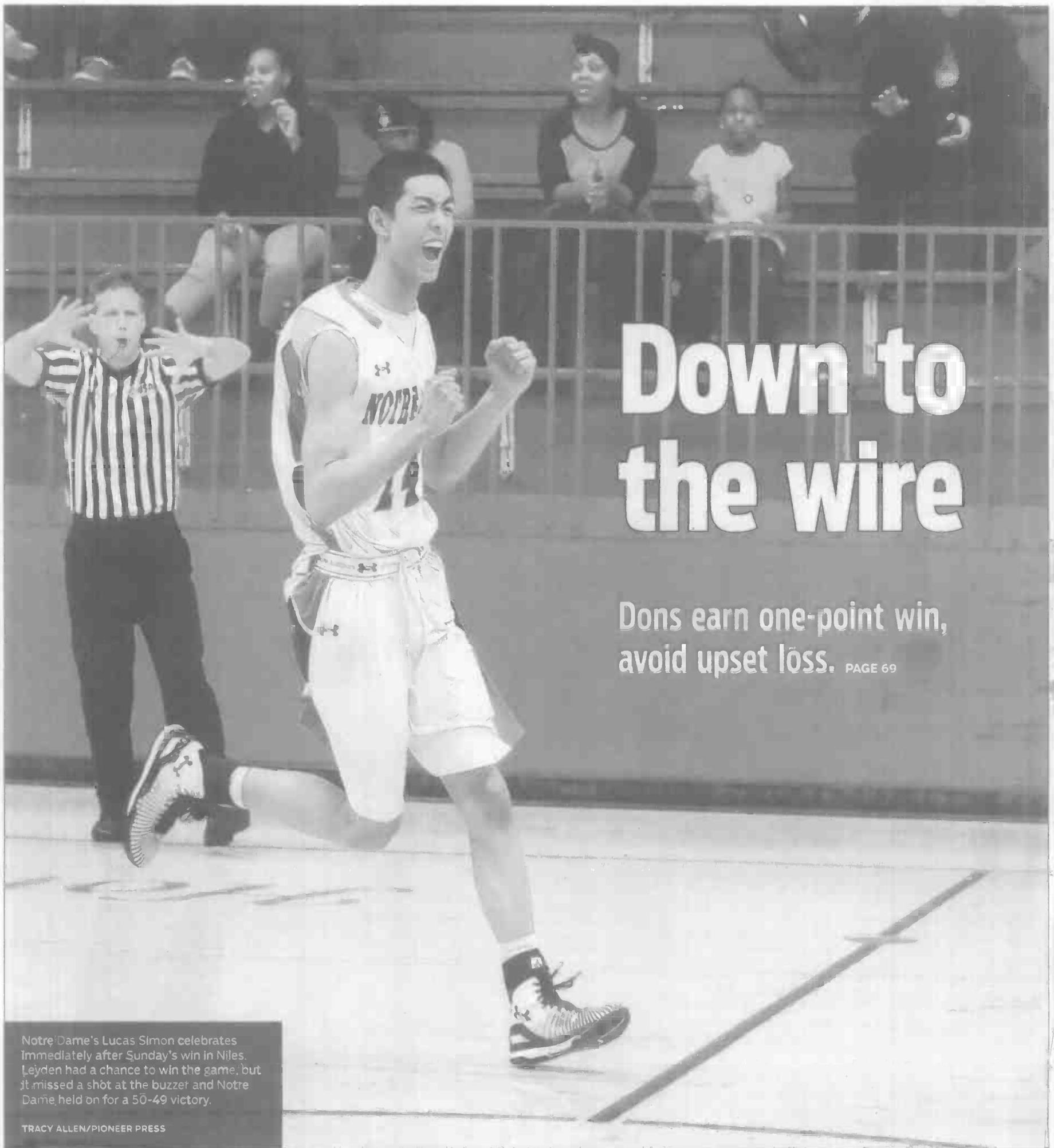
"They've got their best big guarding Ammar. Anthony's got good size, so he's looking at one of the players that may not be as good, defensively, and he's taking advantage of it."

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Notre Dame's Anthony D'Avanzo goes in for a dunk during Sunday's home game against Leyden. Notre Dame defeated Leyden 50-49.



Down to the wire

Dons earn one-point win, avoid upset loss. PAGE 69

Notre Dame's Lucas Simon celebrates immediately after Sunday's win in Niles. Leyden had a chance to win the game, but it missed a shot at the buzzer and Notre Dame held on for a 50-49 victory.

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 7th-8th grade Thursday 2/26/15 7:15pm-8:30pm @ Schechter

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