

NILES HERALD-SPEC



\$1.50

Thursday, March 19, 2015

Reeling 'em in

St. John Brebeuf fish fry brings out people by the dozens. **Page 4**



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

Boy Scouts from Troop 175 help at the St. John Brebeuf Catholic Parish Holy Name Men's Club Fish Fry on March 13. From left are Danny Connolly of Niles, Dylan Gates of Morton Grove and Andrew Allison of Chicago.



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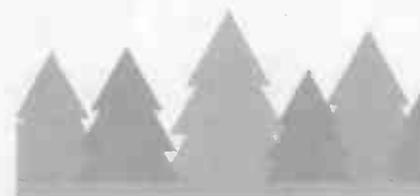


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Pink Taxi Co-founder Patti Carpenter, a 20-year cancer survivor, along with business partner Mike Kowal, presented a \$1000 check to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital's Cancer Survivorship Center on November 11, 2014. It will be used to buy wigs for cancer patients who have lost their hair due to chemotherapy treatments.

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Niles St. John Brebeuf Fish Fry reels 'em in

KARIE ANGELL LUC
Pioneer Press

For which occasion should one net 100 pounds of potatoes, 100 pounds of tilapia, 10 gallons of tomato soup and two dozen lemons?

Why, the Niles St. John Brebeuf Fish Fry, of course.

The March 13 tradition rounded out your choice of baked or fried tilapia with pizza bread, coleslaw and pasta to go in that soup.

"Last week we had 68 so we're expecting to double that," said Dennis O'Donovan of Niles, president of the St. John Brebeuf Holy Name Men's Club who estimated attendance.

O'Donovan, a 55-year Niles resident, is a 1978 Notre Dame College Prep graduate. He's a commissioner on the Niles Park Board of Commissioners and a dad of three.

O'Donovan and his wife, Laura, have three girls, Katie, 16, a Maine East High School sophomore; Danielle, 14, a Gemini Junior High School eighth-grader; and Emma, 11, a Nelson School sixth-grader.

People started filtering in about 5 p.m. A wall of windows in Flanagan Hall brought light into the multipurpose dining room.

"We've got some of the finest chefs on the north side of Chicago right here in this room!" Gorski said.

Boy and Cub scouts from Pack 175 worked together filling soup bowls and spooning ice cream.

"It's pretty rewarding to see the boys working with the elderly people in our church community," Pack 175 Cub master Paul Allison said.

"I went all the way through Eagle Scouts so that's why I'm giving it all back to the boys," said Allison, a 1992 Brother Rice High School graduate.

"We're helping out to make money for our pack," said Scout Ryan Gates, 9, of Morton Grove and a Nelson School fourth-grader who prefers salmon but likes tilapia.

"I think it's nice for the community to get out and get together," said Gabi Gates, Ryan's mother. "It's nice they learn to help people and gets them out of the house."

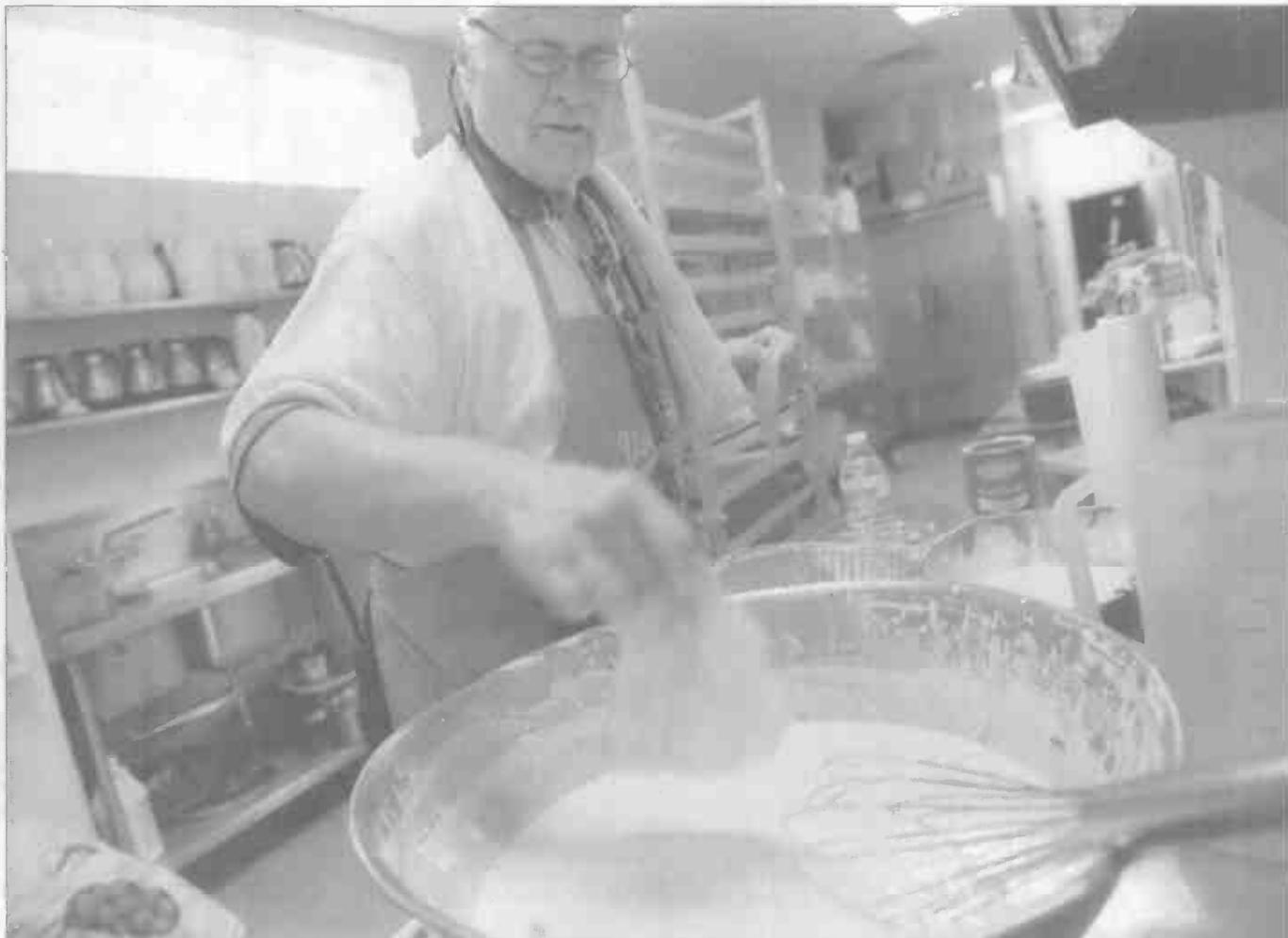
The two fish fry dinners in March raised about \$1,000 with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the Boy Scouts.

"It's not easy, you gotta work for it," O'Donovan said, of the lesson of earning money.

The scouts cleaned the kitchen after the event, something O'Donovan was grateful for.

Fred Disch, a 40-year Niles resident, is renowned for his batter recipe.

"The baked tilapia is made with a coating of mayonnaise, Parmesan cheese with freshly cracked pepper," he said.



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Fred Disch, a 40-year Niles resident, lends a hand at breadng tilapia at the March 13 St. John Brebeuf Catholic Parish Holy Name Men's Club Fish Fry.



Rich Gorski, left, and Fred Disch, right, both of Niles, and Peter Berletich, center, of Morton Grove, get ready to bread and fry the tilapia.



Niles residents Dennis O'Donovan, from left, Fred Disch and Bob Broderick volunteer at the Fish Fry.

Pace unveils text message-based bus arrival information service

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Pioneer Press

Pace bus riders can now find out when their bus is coming by sending a text message.

CTA has been offering a similar service for a number of years. Pace held off, preferring to focus on its online bus tracker. But the customer comments prompted the agency to reconsider.

As with the CTA's service, riders would need to send a text message to number 41411. They would need to type in "Pace" followed by a bus stop number.

The agency is currently in the process of posting bus stop numbers on all bus stop signs. Meanwhile, riders can get the bus stop numbers from the bus tracker.

Pace's bus tracker comes in two formats — the more graphically complex one and a simpler, text-based format. Both can be found at tmweb.pacebus.com/TMWebWatch. For the more graphically based version, riders can find their route by either typing it in or choosing an option for a pull-down menu. They can also narrow the options on the pull-down menu by typing in some of the digits. The riders would then choose the direction and the location of their stop. As with the route numbers, riders can search for their location by typing in the name of the street or a landmark.

The more text-based "accessible" option requires riders to choose a route from the list of route numbers. They would then need to click on a direction, then choose a stop from the list of all possible stops.

Both options can be accessed by mobile devices, but the latter tends to work better on smart phones, since pull-down lists of the more graphic-heavy option don't always display properly.

Pace spokesman Patrick Wilmot said that, when

CTA launched its text message-based real-time arrival information service, Pace decided to focus its resources on the bus tracker. But customer response convinced Pace that following CTA's lead was worthwhile.

"Surveys and customer comments indicated that while the overwhelming majority of our riders have Internet access, a smaller percentage do not have smartphones, yet availability of real time information is a key source of customer satisfaction, so we researched the CTA's program to develop a similar service," he said.

Pace decided to use the same company as CTA to provide the service. Wilmot said that, while the agency considered joining CTA's contract, it ultimately decided to make its own contract.

This means that, while the phone number is the same, the two agencies use different systems for numbering their stops. On the stops that are served by more than one Pace bus route, typing in the station number would give the rider information about all the routes that use that stop. But for stops that are used by both CTA and Pace, riders would need to send separate text messages for CTA and Pace routes.

"Because of these different numbering systems, the customer would need to send a separate text message to receive the Pace data and the CTA data," said Wilmot.

When CTA unveiled its version of the service, it posted bus stop numbers, along with instructions on how to send texts, onto all bus stop signs. Wilmot said that Pace is only starting the process — and given the sheer size of the system, the agency isn't sure how long it will take.

"Pace has more than 25,000 bus stops with signs in its six-county service



IGOR STUDENKOV

Riders can get information for when the bus will arrive at a bus stop near Shure Inc. headquarters by texting "Pace 22224" to 41411.

area, so the process of producing and replacing old signs with coded new signs is going to take quite some time," he said. "At this stage we do not have an estimated timeline."

In the meantime, there is a way for customers to find out what the bus stop numbers are.

When they look up bus arrival times using the text-based version of the bus tracker, the number is displayed at the end of the URL in the address bar. For example, when looking up information for the Lincolnwood Town Center stop, riders would get the page with the URL tmweb.pacebus.com/TMWebWatch/LiveADADeparture-Times?r=27&d=4&s=22097, in which "22097" is the station number. To find out when the next westbound bus arrives, riders would need to text "Pace 22097" to 41411, and the information would be texted back in seconds.

Pioneer Press has field-tested the service along Pace Routes 250 and 290, and found that all of the codes provided work.

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Trustee Palicki unveils campaign platform

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Pioneer Press

Incumbent village of Niles trustee Rosemary Palicki has officially released a campaign platform.

Palicki is one of the three trustees running to keep her seat. Incumbent Trustee Chris Hanusiak and new candidate David Carrabotta are running as independents, while Trustee Joe LoVerde is running as part of the Niles Forward Party slate with the retired Niles police Chief Dean Strzelecki and Niles Ethics Board member Denise McCreery.

In her platform, Palicki calls for greater fiscal responsibility, as well as doing more to support services for some of the village's most vulnerable populations — the poor, teenagers, the elderly and the disabled. Like Niles Forward Party, she speaks in favor of more environmentally friendly initiatives. And like other independent candidates,

she argues that the village can do more to listen to residents and take their input into account.

Palicki's platform described fiscal responsibility as a major goal, calling for a long-range plan to guide village expenditures. The platform singled out improvements to village property and infrastructure as major priorities.

In a follow-up interview with Pioneer Press, Palicki outlined what she sees as other important financial priorities.

"Completion of the tiers of the stormwater project, meeting our pension obligation annually to reach the level of funding required by the state of Illinois by 2040 are all top priorities," she said. "But before we allocate dollars to any of these we need to develop a long-range financial plan."



Rosemary Palicki

While Palicki said she doesn't oppose giving companies tax incentives and using tax increment financing funds, she believes the village should be more careful and deliberate about grant-

ing them.

In her platform, Palicki said that, if elected, she would push for several initiatives that would improve snow removal. She called for establishing a volunteer snow removal program for senior and disabled residents who can't afford to hire private snow removal contractors. The village would put together a list of volunteers willing to remove snow for them. Palicki's platform also called for the village to see if it could buy snow removal equipment that wouldn't dump as much snow on driveways.

Palicki heads the Niles Human Services Commit-

tee, which deals with services provided by the Niles Senior Center, Niles Fitness Center, Niles Teen Center and the Niles Department of Family Services. Her platform calls for supporting those services, placing special emphasis on the services that help "the most needy in our community." Palicki said there are number of issues to address.

"Family Services has experienced a sharp increase during the past year in the number of homeless people that need shelter," Palicki said. "The number of individuals and families in need of emergency housing has more than doubled. The [Family Services] food pantry needs to be stocked at all times, not just during the holiday season, and should not have to rely solely on the generosity of individuals."

Palicki noted those issues can't be addressed by the village alone.

Palicki also heads the Environmental Practices

Committee. In her platform, she says reducing energy consumption and supporting environmentally friendly initiatives that encourage sustainability would be a major priority. Palicki said she supports the Pace Niles Free Bus system, describing it as an important asset for the village. She believes the proposed changes to its routes would benefit Niles residents.

Like other independent candidates, Palicki said she wants to encourage greater resident involvement in village issues.

"With term limits now in effect in Niles, we should be encouraging our residents to attend board meetings and to speak to issues," she said.

"Before I was a trustee, I attended board meetings regularly and championed the right of citizens to speak at board meetings," she said. "As a result, board agendas were revised to allow citizens the right to comment

on an issue before it was voted on but after the trustees finished their discussion."

Since then, Mayor Andrew Przybylo changed the procedure so residents had to comment on agenda items during the early portion of the meeting, before the board discussed them. At the time, he justified the change as the way to ensure the meetings didn't run too long. Palicki thinks this change was ill-conceived, because it forces residents to comment on issues before they hear the trustees discuss them.

When asked how to respond to comments from Niles Forward Party candidates and supporters lamenting what they described as a divided board engaged in in-fighting, Palicki argued that healthy debate is critical to good government.

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Niles library adopts new voting procedures on retirement plan changes

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Pioneer Press

The Niles Public Library board of trustees voted to establish special procedures for any vote to change the library's retirement benefits from the current system to the benefits provided through the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, or IMRF.

The possibility of changing retirement plans has been discussed in the past, but it wasn't until February that board President Morgan Dubiel proposed establishing special voting procedures that would be required to make the change. He called a special meeting on March 12 to approve those changes.

The resolution the board voted on was different from Dubiel's original proposal. It would take longer to ap-

prove any changes, and future boards would need to go through three readings to make any changes to the newly adopted procedures. The changes were approved 4-0, and all of the board members who expressed reservations about Dubiel's proposal were absent.

The IMRF is a public pension fund that provides retirement benefits for municipal employees. Originally created to provide retirement benefits for school and municipal employees who weren't covered by other pension funds, it was expanded to include employees from other municipal organizations such as park districts, airport authorities and libraries.

Niles Public Library currently offers 401(k)-style retirement benefits. If it joins IMRF, its employees would be enrolled in the Tier 2

Regular Plan. The library would deduct 4.5 percent of employee salaries, which would go into their retirement plan accounts. The library would also need to make contributions from its own budget. The amount the library would contribute would be set by IMRF based on employee earnings, actuarial estimates, the library's finances and how the library would handle pension costs.

A library can join the IMRF by either a referendum measure or a board vote. Once it joins, it won't be able to leave the fund.

Under Dubiel's original proposal, the board would be required to hold three readings, one per regular board meeting. The board would only be able to vote on the change during the third meeting, after the third reading is over. He argued that, because the

switch to IMRF would be permanent, the vote deserved a higher level of scrutiny. The three readings would give the public more opportunities to comment on the change, and the board would have more time to discuss it.

During the February meeting, Trustees Linda Ryan and Karen Dimond argued that the change would create unnecessary burdens, since the board rarely discusses a change and votes on it at the same meeting. Dimond also questioned the timing of the proposal, noting that it came a month before the April 7 election, in which Dubiel, Ryan and Trustee Chris Ball could potentially lose their seats. Dimond argued that it would be unfair to saddle the new board with rules they might not necessarily agree with.

During the special meeting, Dubiel presented a slightly different version of the proposal. It established that the vote would take place during a regular meeting a month after the third reading. It would also require the board to do three readings over the course of three regularly scheduled meetings before changing the special procedures he proposed. The vote to change the procedures would take place at the same meeting as the third reading.

Ball praised the tweaks. "This gives plenty of room for public comment," he said.

Trustee Carolyn Drblik said she supported the special voting procedures.

"[Joining IMRF] is a very costly consideration," she said. "I value that there will be three meetings which

will allow public input."

Trustee Danette Matyas also said that she supported the change.

"I remember when this was first brought up before the staff [on whether they want to join IMRF] and it was 50/50," she said.

Matyas noted that, if the election changes the makeup of the board and the new board doesn't want the special procedure, they could always change it back.

Responding to earlier criticism that the procedures were too burdensome, Dubiel argued that it wasn't something they should avoid.

"It does make it hard [to make changes], which I think is a plus," he said. "The public would want to know what's going to happen."

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Niles mayor proposes official village tree

IGOR STUDENKOV
Pioneer Press

During the March 4 Niles Environmental Practices Committee meeting, Trustee Rosemary Palicki and Village Forester Tony Dati announced that Mayor Andrew Przybylo is considering the idea of selecting an official village tree as a way to teach residents about the importance of trees to Niles.

Dati reported that the village tree probably would be a red oak.

He is currently proposing putting a tree near the Niles Veterans Memorial Waterfall at the intersection of Touhy and Milwaukee avenues. Dati indicated the project would cost at least \$1,100.

Przybylo said while the beautification of Niles was one of the purposes of the village tree, it wasn't the main reason.

"Having an official village of Niles tree would further demonstrate the importance of trees," he said. "We want to promote the value of trees and inspire Niles."

The trees, Przybylo said, play an important role in Niles.

"Trees have so many substantial benefits that I would like to see them treated as significant village infrastructure," he said. "They have been shown to cool the air, soak up climate change-inducing gases, protect us against flooding, reduce stress levels and raise property values."

Przybylo added that the trees have other economic benefits.

"Studies have even shown that people spend more money at stores on tree-lined streets," he said. "This is a cause that profits every resident and business owner in Niles."

During the Environmental Practices Committee meeting, Dati explained that the mayor is interested



IGOR STUDENKOV/PIONEER PRESS

Niles Village Forester Tony Dati proposes putting the village tree on the right side of this piece of land, where a dead ash tree currently grows.

in having a red oak as the official village tree.

The size of the tree could be anywhere between 25 feet — 90 feet, but it would be a grown tree that would need to be transplanted. Dati explained that the village would buy a tree from one of the area tree-growing businesses, and that several site assessments would need to be conducted before the tree is moved.

The tree would need to be planted on village-owned property, so the options are limited. However, Dati indicated that he had already found a good option.

"There's land behind the [Niles Veterans Memorial Waterfall] wall that has two, three dead ash trees," he said. "We can remove those trees, and there's room to put in benches."

The land in question is a relatively small strip located in between the parking lot and a traffic circle that's directly behind the waterfall. Dati showed the Niles Herald-Spectator an early concept sketch that depicted the tree at the west end of the strip of land.

He told the Environmental Practices Committee that the site has a number of

advantages.

"It's far enough from Milwaukee Avenue that salt damage won't be an issue," he said. "And it already has a sprinkler system."

The tree would also benefit from being located along one of the village's main arteries, and parking wouldn't be an issue.

It would also be easy to reach by public transit — Pace bus routes 270 and 290, as well as Niles Free Bus Route 411, stop near the site.

Palicki asked if it would be possible to put the tree near the Village Hall, to which Dati explained that there simply wasn't enough room.

Palicki asked Assistant Village Manager Hadley Skeffington-Vos how committed the mayor was to the project.

"I don't know if he's looking at a certain date," she said. "I'd talk to the mayor."

For now, one thing is certain — the proposed site is going to be cleared soon.

"Either way, the (dead ash) trees are coming down," Dati said.

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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NEWS

POLICE REPORT

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.

DUI

■ Patrick Moore, 50, of the 7400 block of North Oconto Avenue, Chicago, was charged with felony driving under the influence and illegal transportation of alcohol on March 6. According to police, Moore's vehicle was stopped in a parking lot at Milwaukee and Oriole Avenues after he reportedly crossed over the center line and into the path of a Niles police car. He has a March 25 court date.

■ Sung Dokko, 49, of the 6900 block of North Karlov Avenue, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence on March 7 following a traffic stop near Caldwell and Touhy Avenues at 2:26 a.m. He has a March 27 court date.

THEFT

■ An employee of a store on the 9500

block of Greenwood Avenue told police his cell phone was stolen on March 8 while he was helping a co-worker. When the employee later called his cell phone, a man reportedly answered and offered to return the cell phone if the owner paid \$100 and met him at Union Station. Police advised the victim that it would not be safe to meet the man.

■ A 23-year-old Niles woman told police on March 9 that she lost \$3,000 when she offered to purchase a 2004 Nissan Pathfinder that was advertised on a website. The woman never received the vehicle and has been unable to get her money back from the reported seller, police said.

■ A purse was reported stolen from an unlocked vehicle on the morning of March 11 while the owner returned a shopping cart outside a store on the 7300 block of Melvina Avenue.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

■ A Niles man told police that the driver of another vehicle threw an object at his car on the morning of March 10 near the intersection of Milwaukee Avenue and Golf Road, causing chipped paint.

Niles Township to dedicate event room to Lee Tamraz

BY MIKE ISAACS

Pioneer Press

It's no wonder that Niles Township has picked an all-purpose room available to the public to dedicate to former Supervisor Lee Tamraz.

In his 20 years as a township trustee and then more than 10 years as the township supervisor, Tamraz was a friend to the public. He died unexpectedly last August at age 79 after serving the township for more than 30 years.

"He had his ear to the community. He wanted to help people all the time," said Niles Township Deputy Clerk Kitty Kendrick, who worked with Tamraz for years.

Tamraz was instrumental in expanding the Niles Township Food Pantry so more people in need could obtain food. He also

spearheaded the township's successful Coast2Coast Rx program, which provided needed drugs to seniors at much more affordable costs.

In addition to his work with Niles Township, Tamraz was a Cook County road engineer.

The Niles Township board of trustees will dedicate the all-purpose room at the township's government offices at 5225 Main St. in Skokie following its 8 p.m. April 14 annual meeting.

The all-purpose room is available to the public for clubs, groups and associations to use.

Niles Township describes it as "a large room, handicap accessible, and designed to accommodate multimedia presentations."

The room has a full-sized refrigerator and sink for refreshments and accommo-

dates people in a classroom style setting. When tables are used, it can accommodate 30 people.

The space is available to the public at no cost and can be reserved 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Evening hours can be requested and will be accommodated by the township if possible.

Niles Township, located in the northeast corner of Cook County in Skokie, covers a population of over 102,000. The township includes the villages of Skokie, Lincolnwood and Golf, and sections of Morton Grove, Niles and Glenview.

To book an event, tour the facility or for more information, call 847-673-9300 and ask for Kitty, Rick or Lauren.

misaacs@pioneerlocal.com

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Candidates talk education, finance, legal backgrounds

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON

Pioneer Press

With two members stepping down from the Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 Board of Education this spring, and a total of three four-year seats to fill, new faces are a given. And voters will have four candidates from which to choose.

Running are Anthony Borrelli, a podiatrist, 25-year resident and the sole incumbent; Greg Bublitz, a five-year resident and a special-education administrator for a neighboring school district; Mark Eggemann, a District 64 native and an account executive for a commercial real estate information company; and Tom Sotos, also a District 64 native, attorney and business owner.

The candidates, each of whom has at least one child in a District 64 school, recently answered a series of questions from Pioneer Press.

What changes would you like to see implemented in District 64?

Anthony Borrelli: I would like to see continued improvement in individual MAP testing to maximize each individual student. The net effect of this is to ultimately raise the entire district wide scores, and eventually place a school or schools in the top 20 in Cook County. I would also like to see a long-range financial plan that covers facilities year to year, provides for expenses and yet holds a line to non-sustainable salary and benefit increases.

Greg Bublitz: I think that continued reform in regard to supporting all students in an inclusive model is necessary. I know I support Jane Boyd's Core Plus More efforts in addressing the unique needs of all our children. I would also like to see an improved Multi-Tiered System of Support (previously known as Response to Intervention) in the district to support student needs.

Mark Eggemann: We must restore educational excellence, so that we can

demonstrate measurable improvement in student performance and school rankings commensurate with any additional investments we make. Second, we must respect our taxpayers and hold the line on spiraling property tax increases. Finally, we must insist on complete transparency by the District 64 Board and the administration, starting with the minimization of closed meetings and elimination of secret union contract negotiations.

Tom Sotos: I would like to see the district work closer with parents, to insure parents are doing their part at home to progress our children's education. We must not, and cannot, rely solely on the school system if we demand our children excel at levels our residence are demanding.

Do you support annual increases in property taxes?

Borrelli: I do not favor automatic annual increases in taxes. But until the spending in the district is dramatically reduced, annual increases in property taxes are a necessary evil. As long as the increases are tied to the CPI, as mandated by state law, though the dollars increase, the buying power remains the same. This forces districts to do more with less. Cutting taxes now prior to implementing needed reforms will produce a negative effect, forcing the referendum timeline sooner and not later. I pledge to find ways to improve the spending efficiency to decrease the need for increases in taxes.

Bublitz: I support tax increases when necessary. A flat statement supporting or opposing an annual increase in property taxes without context regarding the community, the economy and the needs of students is inappropriate. I do not support property-tax increases for taxing sake. I do support making appropriate and responsible decisions as an investment in our children and community based on need and research-based best practices.

Eggemann: I don't support any increases levied as a matter of course or

custom. Every dollar matters. It goes without saying that we must meet our legal and social obligations to our students, account to our taxpayers for increased costs, and sustain the opportunity for a quality education for our students today and tomorrow. We cannot go beyond spending, which is absolutely necessary without first making a strong case to the taxpayers for added increases and then showing real, measurable results directly related to those increases.

Sotos: I do not support annual increase in property taxes unless all other means have been exhausted. Instead, I plan to work tirelessly to keep our expenditures lower than revenues, wherever and whenever possible. I would like to see justification and projected and promised results for any program a proposed tax increase was intending to fund.

How can student achievement be improved?

Borrelli: The school board needs to be the driving force to demand the Educational End review and implementation of recommendations. The board must not accept an attitude that the district is high performing when that term cannot be justified. Furthermore, once those recommendations are made the board must make the hard decisions to find the money, if necessary, to allow for changes to occur.

Bublitz: The board can maintain oversight of funding and educational initiatives to ensure that the right things are being done to improve the district without jumping on the latest fad or program. The board can help to ensure that administration is using data, research-based practice and appropriate strategies in directing the district. As a director in a school district, nothing upsets me more than waste and inefficiency.

Eggemann: The board can have a huge impact on student achievement by insisting upon nothing less than the best and demanding accountability in all things. Teachers are District 64's greatest asset,

and they need a stronger voice — at the board level — to ensure that the board knows what they need to bring out the best in our students. That means setting clear and understandable goals that the whole community can know, understand and embrace.

Sotos: We as a Board need to set a good example by working hand in hand with administration personnel, teachers, taxpayers and the union to create an environment where we all trust each other and feel confident that we are all working toward a common goal of high levels of student achievement.

How would you describe your knowledge of school finance?

Borrelli: As an active member of the Board for the past three-plus years, I think that I have a good handle on district revenue, expenses, projections and capital needs for the future. This large body of insight will enable me to hit the ground running as the new board is seated so as to incorporate ways of extending the referendum timeline further to the future.

Bublitz: In my role as director of special education, I oversee about 25 percent of our district education budget. The budget includes local, state and Federal funding and grants. I also am a doctoral candidate at Loyola University Chicago in the Educational Leadership and Policy Studies Program, and school finance is a requirement of the degree.

Eggemann: Excellent. I follow District 64's finances closely through the meetings online, board packet downloads and my relationships with current board members.

Sotos: I have a good grasp and a working knowledge of the district's finances. To prepare myself for the obligations of a school board member, I am currently engaged in enormous amounts of research and reading, to better inform myself of the differences and similarities of school finance to general business finance.

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District 207 school board hopefuls talk future plans

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON

Pioneer Press

Six candidates — three of them incumbents — are vying for three, four-year seats on the Maine Township High School District 207 Board of Education this April 7.

Incumbents Paula Besler, Pablo Morales and Sean Sullivan, with new-

comers Teri Collins, Jill Dolan and Chimanlal Patel, recently answered a Pioneer Press questionnaire regarding their own background and their thoughts on some of the district's key issues.

Paula Besler

Besler is a Park Ridge native. Two of her four children are District 207

graduates and one a current student. She is 50 years old and director of community and health relations at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge. A former attorney and adjunct law professor, she also served on the board of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago and was appointed to the District 207 school board last year.

Teri Collins

Collins is a Park Ridge resident and has lived 24 years in District 207. She is 59 years old with one child at Maine South. She has a background in education and administration and is executive director of the Maine Community

Turn to **District 207**, Page 12

Niles Township D219 provides financial outlook

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

Despite a three-year freeze on local property taxes for taxpayers in Niles Township School District 219, the school district has found what Superintendent Nanciann Gatta described as innovative ways to continue hiring more teachers and adding programs during the past five years.

During the school district's annual financial address to the public on March 10, Gatta said "sound financial planning" on behalf of the school board has helped the district continue to invest in new K-12 programming and avoid referendums to pay for capital improvement projects.

Gatta addressed a group of about 30 people at Niles North High School who gathered for the annual overview of the district's financial status and a discussion on how tax dollars are being spent.

Despite a district-wide spending increase passed by the school board this year of an estimated \$1.1 million — coupled with roughly \$5.5 million less revenue — the district has managed to avoid raising taxes for property owners in Niles Township in recent years.

The school district has spent more on salaries and per-student spending — a 4 percent increase in salaries this school year and an additional 3.5 percent on its operating expense per pupil, or OEPP — but the school board has found ways to offset those increases, Gatta said.

"It's impossible for us to add new resources and programs without reducing expenditures if we want to provide property tax relief to our residents," Gatta said. "To freeze taxes requires restructuring."

A major step to cut costs this year was to bid or renegotiate all of the district's big contracts to ensure competitive pricing, she explained.

By contracting with outside providers for food service, busing, security and custodial maintenance, the school district estimates a savings of \$10.9 million annually.

If the district were to take on those expenses, the tax levy would increase by 8.5 percent, Gatta said, and the OEPP would rise by about \$2,340.

"These dollars we do not spend on other school operations are dollars that we can instead invest in our classrooms," she said.

Pensions were also addressed at the meeting, and the school district estimates

that it could start paying \$9 million per year toward pensions if the state eventually withdraws pension funding under recent legislation that has been proposed.

Among new investments in the classrooms this year, Gatta said the district was taking a "cradle-to-career" approach to streamline curriculum and testing in grades kindergarten through 12.

Last year, the school district budgeted \$2 million for a heavily-scrutinized partnership with Skokie School District 69 called Classrooms First Consolidation to provide resources to help the feeder school district align its curriculum with the high school.

Some parents and members of the general taxpaying community have accused the partnership of being exclusionary to the other eight districts that feed into Niles North and Niles West high schools.

Gatta and school officials have defended the program by claiming District 219 plans to gradually start providing more opportunities for equal partnerships to the other districts within the next few years.

"There are a lot of forms of partnership that have already been happening — it's not all under the umbrella of Classrooms First," Gatta said.

"It's impossible for us to add new resources and programs without reducing expenditures if we want to provide property tax relief to our residents."

— Nanciann Gatta, superintendent

The \$2 million in costs District 219 planned to spend on Classrooms First during the program's first year has so far only reached \$237,000.

Parent Elline Eliasoff said she was concerned that District 219 has yet to secure any formal partnerships with the other school districts that feed into the high schools.

"She spoke of the importance of partnerships and only referenced a partnership with feeder District 69," Eliasoff said. "Shouldn't a consolidated effort be a consolidated effort across the district?"

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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District 207 candidates answer questions on key issues

District 207, from Page 10

Youth Assistance Foundation, which works to prevent drug and alcohol use through positive messages and programs.

Jill Dolan

Dolan is a Park Ridge resident, with 12 years in District 207. She is the mother of two children who attend Maine South. Dolan, 49, is the owner of an online sales company and a volunteer at Maine South.

Pablo Morales

Morales is a three-year Park Ridge resident and 18-year resident of District 207. He is 47 years old with two children in the district. Morales is senior manager of implementations for new products and services at Walgreen Co. and is currently a member of the board, having been appointed last year.

Chimanlal Patel

Patel is a Niles resident who has lived in District 207 for 31 years. He is 64 years old and the parent of two District 207 graduates. He works as a financial controller and has assisted lower-income and immigrant parents in understanding the enrollment process and their role in student success.

Sean Sullivan

Sullivan is a Park Ridge resident who grew up in District 207. He is 53 years old and the father of two District 207 graduates and one current student. He is vice president of business services at Triton College and has been a member of the District 207 school board for eight years.

What changes or new additions would you like to see implemented in District 207 schools?

Paula Besler: We need to continue to be on the forefront of instructional technology. We also need to continue to support the district and its students in implementing the core standards, which are mandated by law.

Teri Collins: The facilities at Maine South, East and West are aging and in need of some pretty major repairs and updating. While I know the district is already implementing some capital projects for facilities, like a needed \$10 million athletic facility at Maine West because they have very limited facilities right now, there are basic updates like bathrooms, leaking roofs and broken doors that also need to be considered.

Jill Dolan: I would like to see more transparency in everything that District 207 does, particularly at the board and administration levels. ... All too often, board items are posted last-minute, board meetings are closed to the public and the open meeting videos online are poor quality. I also believe that District 207

must do a better job posting financial information online and explaining its expenditures to the public.

Pablo Morales: I support the Maine West athletic addition, which will hopefully go up by the coming school year. From an academic perspective, I want to see District 207 continue to move toward a learning environment where our students not only memorize concepts, but are actually taught to develop the critical thinking and reasoning skills so necessary to survive in a 21st century world.

Chimanlal Patel: Cross-school collaboration both at the administrator and teacher level, but also at the student level. Students benefit from learning from each other so much more than we realize sometimes.

Sean Sullivan: I would like to see our continued development of cutting edge technology. Our implementation of Chromebooks well before other schools has given our students an advantage. Added to this, as more and more books become regularly available electronically, we save our parents and the district taxpayers a substantial amount of money as we move forward.

How satisfied are you with current student achievement?

Paula Besler: I am very satisfied with current student achievement. For the past seven years, District 207 has posted its highest mean ACT scores, with each year being higher than the last.

Teri Collins: Student achievement can always improve, but one thing that doesn't really reflect how well we are doing is the ranking of our schools by outside entities such as U.S. News & World Report. For example, they have ranked Maine South as No. 27 in the state and yet our true achievement is higher than that. One of the components that make up rankings is the number of students who take AP classes. At Maine South, both accelerated and AP classes are offered in a number of subject areas. By offering both, we provide more choice for our students and for some a better fit for their ability. However, if we dropped that choice and eliminated accelerated courses, we could double the number of kids in AP classes and dramatically improve our ranking. By offering more, we get rated less. Make sense? No. ... I also believe that students learn by doing and the way to do this is to offer more cooperative learning education opportunities.

Jill Dolan: Maine South has slipped from No. 1 in the nation (1975) to No. 623 (U.S. News & World Report 2014 data). Unfortunately, District 207 schools have become stagnant or have slipped in the ranking in these past years. However, we

have nearly the highest paid professionals in the state, as well as the country. We must do better to fairly balance the interests of everyone who lives in the district.

Pablo Morales: The most objective criteria (at this time) to measure student achievement are the ACT scores. Using that standard, the data shows that over the past seven years, district mean ACT scores are the highest ever. Does this mean we are satisfied? Absolutely not. My goal as a board member is for District 207 students to receive a world-class education. We are headed in the right direction.

Chimanlal Patel: Until all our students are performing at the top levels, none of us should be satisfied.

Sean Sullivan: I am highly satisfied with District 207 academic achievement. ... The past seven years we have seen the highest ACT scores in 207 history. Many of our implemented academic programs are providing targeted improvements to students of need at all levels.

What can the school board do to improve student achievement?

Paula Besler: We need to continue to invest in resources and support our students, staff and administration in staying at the forefront of education. ... This includes continuing to invest in technology, our physical facilities and staff.

Teri Collins: The board could assist in cooperative education opportunities by thinking outside the box for funding by looking for corporate donations or support in certain fields.

Jill Dolan: Spend more time reviewing curriculum and student performance. Every District 207 board member, administrator and teacher needs to be accountable to students, parents and taxpayers for what happens on their watch. ... I think that great teachers who go beyond the call of duty to change lives should be rewarded with more opportunities for public recognition. The board should collaborate more frequently with teachers to better understand what they require to be effective. The board should also take a more active role in encouraging our teachers' development and success by soliciting feedback from students and parents.

Pablo Morales: It is incumbent on the board to have a solid understanding of the right metrics to determine if student achievement is improving. The board then needs to demand accountability if progress is not seen ... and also do its due diligence to determine why some things are working well and why they may not be working so well.

Chimanlal Patel: The school board can take an "outside in" approach to help the district see data-based comparisons of achievement within the district and with

other districts. The school board can also support the administration in a continuous improvement plan focused on the right issues.

Sean Sullivan: At this stage, it is all about technology, facilities and staff. The board needs to continue to provide the best that we can afford of all three.

Do you support annual increases in property taxes?

Paula Besler: I do not support blanket annual increases in property taxes. ... When possible, I think it is important to give an abatement back to the taxpayers, which I am proud to say D207 has for the past two years. However, that cannot necessarily happen every year, especially if there are needed expenses to ensure the best environment for our children to learn and our teachers to educate.

Teri Collins: Not as a matter of course. Things such as the rate of cost of living increases need to be examined every year.

Jill Dolan: Increasing our already exorbitant property taxes should be the last resort and we should focus on cost control. ... With a fund balance of \$126.6 million, it is unreasonable to ask and expect taxpayers to pay for increases every year.

Pablo Morales: No. ... Tax increases should only be done as a last resort and only after all other opportunities to cut costs have been leveraged.

Chimanlal Patel: I support funding education as a top priority in our community. I also believe that sometimes evaluating efficiency of programs can do more good than simply adding more money to the pot.

Sean Sullivan: No. However, I do not think that this is a question that can be answered with a simple yes or no. Actual circumstances will always dictate the correct answer for the time that it is an issue. I believe that the school board is charged with the duty of protecting the assets (i.e. buildings, property and equipment) of the district and of maintaining and improving the quality of the education that our students receive. While I believe that this duty requires some taxation, I believe that taxation should be measured in its application and used no more than necessary to protect the assets, fund the education and serve the students. In the past two years I have supported and managed (with other board members) an abatement (return) of tax dollars back to the taxpayers of District 207.

Read about the candidates backgrounds on school finance at www.parkridge.chicagotribune.com.

Lincolnwood mall offers 'Bunny by Appointment' service

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

The Easter Bunny is set to make his annual debut at Lincolnwood Town Center this spring, but waiting in line to spend a few moments with the floppy-eared character might be a thing of the past thanks to a new bunny reservation service the mall will test this spring.

Long lines to see the Easter Bunny or Santa Claus are typical of malls during holiday seasons, but Lincolnwood Town Center officials are hoping to eliminate wait times to see the bunny for the first time in the mall's history.

The "Bunny by Appointment" service, launched by Lincolnwood Town Center's property manager WP Glimcher, allows parents to go online and reserve a time and a date to visit with the Easter Bunny.

Reservations are now open for "Bunny by Appointment" at lincolnwoodtowncenter.com.

Highlights of this year's annual Easter festivities at Lincolnwood Town Center include the "diaper derby," an Easter egg

hunt and shopping cart races for children.

On April 4, the last day of the Easter Bunny's appearance at the mall, Lincolnwood's "fastest baby" will be crowned in the "diaper derby," which will have babies racing to the finish to win.

Infants younger than 1 will face off in the derby before older children up to 5 compete in the "shopping cart" race.

"Last year, we had 50 kids participate in our event, and we're expecting about the same this year," said Genelle Iocca, marketing director for Lincolnwood Town Center. "However, with the addition of an egg hunt immediately following the races, there will definitely be more children throughout the day."

Eggs will be hidden throughout the mall starting March 20 when the Easter Bunny marks his first day at the mall this season. The eggs will contain candy, toys or gift cards, said Genelle Iocca, Iocca said. To register for the events, go to www.facebook.com/LincolnwoodTownCenter.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press

Recently honored World War II veteran passes away

BY GREGORY PRATT
Tribune reporter

Leonard Goldstein, a decorated World War II veteran who earlier this month received the French Legion of Honor for his military service, died Monday morning, his daughter said. He was 100.

Mr. Goldstein, who was born in Chicago and raised his family in Skokie, served in the 4th Infantry Division during the war, also known as the Ivy Division or the Iron Horse. He stormed a Normandy beach during the D-Day invasion.

As a rifleman, his mission was providing cover for disembarking troops, according to French officials. He was wounded days later and received a Purple Heart.

Mr. Goldstein had several medical maladies in recent months, said his daughter, Janet Noble. He died at 2:40 a.m. at Alden Estates in Barrington.

At a ceremony March 7 at Alden Estates, the French consul general in Chicago, Vincent Floreani, thanked Mr. Goldstein and all American troops "who were ready to sacrifice their lives for France and

Western Europe." Floreani then pinned the Legion of Honor on Mr. Goldstein's chest. The award is France's highest honor.

Mr. Goldstein seemed happy during the ceremony. "For almost three hours, he looked like his old self," Noble said.

Mr. Goldstein was married to Sylvia Goldstein for more than 60 years. Noble said her parents met at work, where he declared: "I'm going to marry you."

The couple loved to dance together. "That's what kept my mom and dad in such great shape," Noble said. "It was their way of bonding."

At the ceremony where he was awarded the Legion of Honor, Mr. Goldstein thanked everyone in the room: his family, longtime friends, the French consul, a reporter and members of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3579 in Park Ridge. He said he was overwhelmed with joy by the honor.

"My dad left this earth with such gratitude for his friends and family for honoring him last Saturday," Noble said.

gpratt@tribpub.com

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NEWS



PAM DEFIGLIO/PIONEER PRESS

Marcia Wineberg, left, and Marguerite Wendell, both of whom live in Morton Grove, said they enjoy attending community events to see friends and neighbors.

Morton Grove raises money for charity with Taste event

By PAM DEFIGLIO
Pioneer Press

Hundreds of people came to try the fare of local restaurants when Taste of Morton Grove got underway March 5. While diners were busy tasting a wide variety of savory foods and desserts, buying raffle tickets and bidding on silent auction items, they were also benefiting 26 local charities.

"We had 30 people waiting outside at 5:30 when we opened," said Eileen Harford, one of the Morton Grove Foundation organizers, as she staffed the entrance table.

Jim Karp, another organizer of Taste of Morton Grove, guessed that about 700 people had passed through the doors at White Eagle Banquets in Niles, which donated its event space for the evening. It also had its own table among the many restaurants serving food to diners, and dished up pierogi,

Polish sausage and mushroom barley soup.

The final number of attendees tallied up to 750.

"We've had a very nice turnout," Karp said. "I'm glad the weather cooperated — we've had snow the past two years."

Mike Simkins, also an event organizer with the Morton Grove Foundation, did not have the final dollar amount of the event's proceeds. However, the foundation gave away \$50,000 to local charities during the event. Simkins estimated proceeds this year, based on previous Taste of Morton Grove events, is around \$60,000.

Organizers said a few new businesses were among the 20-plus eateries serving food this year. They included Mariano's, Nothing Bundt Cakes and Northside Meats, a new butcher in Morton Grove.

Neighbors and people who knew each other from various local organizations sat at tables, periodically

getting up to sample food from the various restaurants or browse the silent auction.

"I've been coming here practically since it started," said Marcia Wineberg, of Morton Grove. "It's a place to be with your neighbors and friends from church groups and volunteer groups."

"And all our favorite restaurants are here."

Some of those included Chinatown restaurant, serving noodle and chicken dishes, Maggiano's and Graziano's serving pasta, Father and Son and Giordano's serving pizza, Sri Siam serving Thai food and Uni-Mart serving Filipino food and special-occasion cake.

"I liked the itty-bitty grilled cheese sandwiches and tomato soup from Catered by Design," said Lindsey Karp, daughter of Jim and Yvette Karp, as she was helping sell \$25 raffle tickets for a \$4,000 first prize

Turn to Taste, Page 15

Restaurants showcase best at Taste of Morton Grove

Taste, from Page 14

and \$1,000 second prize.

Morton Grove firefighters made firehouse chili, a perennial favorite with a slightly sweet and medium spicy kick this year. Fire Chief Tom Friel said the firefighters arrive at White Eagle at about 9 a.m. and cook all day.

Dessert offerings were out in force, with Maier's Bakery offering a raspberry crumble and Orchard Village putting out cake pops. Culver's and Dairy Queen also offered frozen treats.

In addition to the silent auction, Morton Grove Firefighters Jeff Laitar and Sean Brink were carrying a huge raffle board from table to table, and diners were buying squares for \$20 each.

There was also a cash board with a \$500 first



Dakota Hosfield, left, helps out the Morton Grove firefighters as retired Lt. Pat Schey hands Skokie Fire Chief Ralph Czerwinski a bowl of the firefighters' homemade chili.

prize, and another raffle board with a prize of a 40-inch flat screen television.

Not missing a chance to wring out every last dollar for charity, the Taste also featured a lottery board

filled with chances to win \$50 worth of lottery tickets, and a Quick Pick booth with chances to win one of 350 smaller prizes.

Pam DeFiglio is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



PAM DEFIGLIO/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Jim Karp, from left, Eileen Harford and Yvette Karp all helped organize the Taste of Morton Grove and were taking tickets at the entrance table.

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GASTON DE CARDENAS/AP

Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks at a university conference sponsored by their Clinton Global Initiative at the University of Miami, Saturday, March 7, 2015, in Coral Gables, Fla.

Clinton emails are the new Nixon tapes

If only Richard Nixon could have been as diabolical as Hillary Clinton, we might never have endured the long national nightmare known as Watergate.

As we all can remember, Nixon's downfall was precipitated by tape recordings of conversations he held in the Oval Office. Some were government related, like sending Henry Kissinger to China. Others were personal, like, "How do we cover-up this Watergate thing?"

There were taperecordings in the Nixon era because e-mail did not exist back then. If you wanted to communicate with somebody, you either picked up the phone and talked to them or you had a meeting.

Kissinger never sent to rmn@nixonmail.com the following: "Hey, let's invade Cambodia and end this Vietnam thing."

Without the choice of withholding his private emails, Nixon tried to withhold the tapes. It didn't work.

Now we have former Secretary of State Clinton, who set up an email address on a private server, hdr22@clintonemail.com, and used it for both government and private emails.



RANDY BLASER

The reason for this, Clinton claims, is she didn't want to have to keep and monitor two separate devices with two separate email accounts.

Oh really? Most employed Americans today can handle several email accounts on one device.

Just for fun, let's say the government operation known as the State Department couldn't provide employees more than one email account on one device. If that's the case, then Clinton's real explanation is: "I'm just really lazy."

So she mixed it all up on one account and on one device.

Clinton claimed that private e-mails were about Chelsea's upcoming wedding, or her mom's funeral or yoga stuff. But wouldn't that be a bit confusing?

Could top secret emails have gotten lost amid all the white

noise of the spam everyone gets these days?

Do we really want the secretary of state of the United States scrolling through a retinue of spam and mundane family chatter to get to the business of the foreign policy of the United States?

Is the following a likely sample of e-mail subject lines that show up for the account hdr22@clintonemail.com?

- Subject: Join Tony Robbins in New York for UPW
 - Subject: Nigerian prince seeks to return to you \$6,000,000
 - Subject: Mom, can you get me on "Say Yes to the Dress?"
 - Subject: Hey Babe, check out this selfie of me in Barbados - Bill
 - Subject: Blame video for attack on Benghazi
 - Subject: Need corrections for chapt. 6 of "Hard Choices" ASAP!!!!!!
 - Subject: Don't Miss Maine South Class of 1965 50th Reunion!
- I'll say this for technology. It creates a whole new way to buffalo the people.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Pull the plug on cameras, never mind the cash



PAUL SASSONE

For suburbanites it's almost impossible not to get caught up in Chicago news.

It dominates TV and daily newspapers, and we may visit or work in the behemoth on the lake.

Take the issue of red light cameras. It has become a leading issue in the campaign for Chicago

mayor. But it isn't just a Chicago issue. We suburbanites drive in Chicago and could well become prey to a red light camera. Not to mention that many suburbs also employ the infernal devices.

As you can tell, I detest red light cameras. Studies show they don't prevent accidents, they criminalize minute infractions, they entrap motorists with yellow lights set too short and they are profoundly undemocratic in the way they shift the burden of taxation onto the middle class and the poor.

But red light cameras make money — \$500 million for Chi-

cago since 2002.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel's opponent, Jesus Garcia, would eliminate red light cameras.

And sure enough, like Pavlov's dogs, TV and other reporters ask first — and only — if red light cameras were nixed, how would Garcia replace the \$70 million a year it is estimated the cameras pour into the city's coffers?

Is this the right question?

Is it the only question?

Is it even an appropriate question?

There is an underlying assumption to this question that a candidate who suggests a practice

be eliminated must be able to somehow replace whatever money that practice brought in.

Not necessarily. Suppose the practice is a bad one? Should it be retained until an equivalent amount of money can be found elsewhere?

Suppose a town had a law that fined people for wearing white clothes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Should this law remain on the books until the revenue it brought in could be provided some other way?

It's a far-fetched example, but it makes the correct point that it is the rightness or wrongness of a

government practice that should be considered first, not revenue, which is an important but separate issue.

There are many people who believe red light cameras do more harm than good.

Their views should not be discounted — or cynically mocked — because they can't pull \$70 million out of a hat.

If a practice is bad it should be eliminated. Effective political leaders — urban or suburban — can find more than one way to finance government.

Youth violence and the ripple effect

Each week I receive multiple requests from parents looking to promote their kids' efforts, but Emily Anderson's Facebook message tugged at me. Hard.



CHRISTINE WOLF

"I wanted to reach out to you about an upcoming performance of a play that the students at Nichols Middle School wrote and performed last November. This seems something right up your alley. You will not regret it!"

Though I have a child at Nichols, I somehow hadn't heard of the production.

The show, titled "The Ripple Effect" — written by sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders — was inspired by author G. Neri's graphic novel, "Yummy: The Last Days of a Southside Shorty." Neri visited five Evanston/Skokie District 65 schools in October 2014 as part of Foundation 65's Family Author Experience.

The performance explores the story of 11-year-old Chicago gang member Robert "Yummy" Sandifer's murder as well as his role in the accidental shooting of Shavon Dean, age 14.

"Seeing children the same age as the kids who really experienced this tragedy was powerful," Anderson wrote. "And watching it knowing that these students studied the actual facts, researched, read 'Yummy', talked with G. Neri and this is what THEY came up with? It was powerful."

After the performance, Anderson was determined to share it with more people.

"I invited a few people

"There have been some shootings in Evanston. This (production) helps some people learn the effects of doing that."

—Sixth-grader

and the only one that could come was a police officer that I met when I took the Evanston Citizen Police Academy class. I knew Officer Spells would appreciate it. He came to a daytime school performance and was overwhelmed. He felt as I did, that more people needed to experience it."

According to Anderson, Spells spent several months contacting numerous non-profits and securing financing for future productions. Together, Spells and Anderson also got the buy-in from Nichols' drama teacher Elisabeth Westphal and almost all of the kids from the original production to keep rehearsing and performing. The first spring performance of "The Ripple Effect" was a free show on Saturday, March 14, at The Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave., in Evanston. Future dates will be shared on the city of Evanston's website link.

During a podcast interview last week, I asked the young actors their

thoughts and feelings about the production, about Yummy's story and about their voices addressing the challenges of youth violence in America. As shocked as they were to see a columnist interested in their story, I had the same reaction to all they had done to research, write and share Yummy's story from multiple perspectives.

As one sixth-grader explained, "there have been some shootings in Evanston. This [production] helps some people learn the effects of doing that."

When asked if they believed they would see an end to the cycle of violence in their lifetimes, the students fell silent.

"No," one student said, quietly.

"Not really," said another.

"Not entirely," said one more.

"It would take a long time," another added. "Every human being is their own person."

"We would have to find a way to peace," someone added.

"It would help to root out the people causing these problems and help them," said another. "To help offenders face reality."

With earnest expressions they suggested personal responsibility and better policing to bring about change.

It was my privilege to learn what these students have done.

Bravo, young voices. Can't you see what's possible? Your stories matter, beyond your own stages, in the hearts and minds of America.



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OPINION

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Debate, theater no less important to kids than science

Almost everyone insists they are pro-education.

Exactly what parts of our local high school programs have proved the most important? The most valuable for the rest of our children's lives?

Naturally, everyone has their own particular choices. History and literature classes energize the student with a sense of time and place, language classes equip them for a global society, math and science classes are surely the most highly regarded in today's age of technology.

And yet I find the most gratification in what our educators are doing outside the classroom itself. Often that means the enduring life-skills provided by our coaching staffs. Still, I look to two other extra-curricular departments: the debate coaches and the theater directors.

If you study how well our children function and fly in the years to come, chances are it won't have much to do with the Spanish-American War, the conjugation of French words or even the exciting new algorithm. Yes, they all form part of the adolescent learning process, yet hardly on a day-to-day basis.

Instead, let the record show the debate coach can help your child think on his or her feet, while the theater director can help them discover the social elegance's needed once they are on their feet. These two assets are the kind our children will take and use each and every day for the rest of their learning lives.

My salute to those two very special departments!

—Jack Spatafora, Park Ridge

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dold, Kirk owe nation an apology

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution clearly delineates the powers of Congress and conducting foreign policy is not one of them. It was bad enough when Rep. Bob Dold vocally supported the unprecedented invitation of a foreign leader, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, to speak before Congress without informing the White House, but when Sen. Mark Kirk and 46 other Republicans signed and sent a letter to the government of Iran, they not only violated the separation of powers in the Constitution, they dangerously undermined the ability of this government to conduct negotiations with foreign governments.

As the leaders of Iran stated, they cannot negotiate in good faith when the Senate tries to interfere in foreign policy. How will we conduct foreign policy if members of Congress now decide to usurp the power of

the Executive Branch any time they want to? This is an outrageous abuse of power and Kirk should be ashamed of his behavior, which, quite frankly, has, in the media, been called treasonous.

Imagine if the Democrats had attempted to treat with the Taliban, undermining President Bush's policies, or the isolationist Republicans had talks with Japan in 1941 while Franklin Roosevelt was trying to keep a lid on the Pacific. The damage to the Iranian nuclear negotiations and the future conduct of foreign policy in general is incalculable. Dold and Kirk owe President Barack Obama, the country, and their constituents an apology for overstepping their prerogatives and endangering America and they deserve to be severely censured for their violation of the Constitution.

—Laurence Schüller, Deerfield

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We want to hear from you! Send your letters to the editor to suburbanletters@tribpub.com. Letters should not exceed 250 words and should include your name, phone number and address (only your name and town will be published).

SCOTT STANTIS



SCOTT STANTIS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

BEDS building not right for La Grange

I want to make it very clear that I support the mission of the BEDS program. My wife and I moved to La Grange in November 2013 and live one block from where BEDS is seeking approval to build its new facility.

At the Plan Commission meeting on March 10, the majority of people speaking in favor of the facility were involved with BEDS in some capacity and do not live near the proposed site. When residents in our neighborhood and others not involved with BEDS spoke, there was a near unanimous opposition to this project.

What nobody provided is a clear study on the impact this facility will have on

property values. BEDS promotes that property values have increased in the areas surrounding its existing facilities. Everybody seems to ignore that BEDS currently operates in churches, not a stand alone homeless shelter with a day program and permanent housing.

We are a community; we pay taxes, we maintain our homes and we strive to keep La Grange a destination for families and businesses. There is a difference between doing what is right and doing the right thing. Approving this project is not the right thing for La Grange.

— Ethan Bennett, La Grange



We know your favorite spot better than your spouse



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ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
1322 S Wilke Rd., # 2A, Arlington Heights	Ivaylo Asenov & Galina Asenova	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	02-10-15	\$105,000
900 E Frederick St, Arlington Heights	Roman Pakhlevanyants	Va	02-10-15	\$219,000
359 S Newbury Pl, Arlington Heights	Timothy Phillips & Jamie Phillips	Larry A Niemi	02-10-15	\$331,000
415 S Carlyle Pl, Arlington Heights	Alex Platt & Lauren Platt	Right Residential II Fund I	02-09-15	\$355,000
26 N Dryden Pl, Arlington Heights	Joshua N Fischel & Lauren A Roman	MTHomes Chicago Lic	02-11-15	\$429,500
1010 N Arlington Heights Rd, Arlington Heights	Bhaskaran Pulamantole Pisharam & Bhavani Krishnajt	William Ryan Homes Inc	02-10-15	\$478,500
815 Grove Dr., # 210, Buffalo Grove	Grant E Lassen	Zhanybek Madiarov	02-10-15	\$79,000
100 Lake Blvd., # 661, Buffalo Grove	Mirosława Borowski & Wojciech Borowski	Samuel W Soltan	02-10-15	\$147,500
2328 Magnolia Ct E, Buffalo Grove	Steven Savitsky & Jacqueline Savitsky	Pearl F Caplan	02-11-15	\$214,500
447 Saint Marys Pkwy, Buffalo Grove	Michael Matt & Carrie Matt	Mdp Investments	02-10-15	\$245,000
791 Shady Grove Ln, Buffalo Grove	Stephanie S Howard	North Shore Residential Fund	02-11-15	\$270,000
1659 Joseph Ct, Buffalo Grove	Kiko Stefanov & Alexandra Stefanov	Vivek V Thakkar	02-11-15	\$670,000
8852 N Leslie Ln., # 1E, Des Plaines	Imtiaz Rahman	Fannie Mae	02-13-15	\$67,000
900 S River Rd., # 3D, Des Plaines	Nikolay Mihov	Stefan Kislov	02-13-15	\$71,500
9250 W Emerson St., # 2A, Des Plaines	Alen Rekanovic & Hlket Rekanovic	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	02-13-15	\$77,000
9358 Bay Colony Dr., # 2N, Des Plaines	Mieczyslaw Flrlit & Helena Flrlit	Fannie Mae	02-09-15	\$80,500
9385 Bay Colony Dr., # 3S, Des Plaines	Dariusz Fraczek & Bartlomiej Fraczek	Slawomir Bucko	02-13-15	\$100,000
2415 E Church St, Des Plaines	Leszek Babinski	Dij Mortgage Capital Inc	02-10-15	\$103,000
463 Graceland Ave., # 402, Des Plaines	Pavlo Mnykh & Galyna Mnykh	Idamarisa Defily	02-13-15	\$127,500
1657 Howard Ave, Des Plaines	Arcelii Bolanos & Raul Samano Guerra	Dolores J Black	02-13-15	\$128,000
1062 E Prairie Ave, Des Plaines	Jose Nonoal & Armida Bravo	Baltazar Hernandez	02-13-15	\$140,000
2675 S Scott St, Des Plaines	Vladimir Lapshin	Sandra Lorkowski	02-09-15	\$158,500
901 Center St., # 505, Des Plaines	Wanda Morgan Wasikowski & Halina M Stanczyk	Genthner Trust	02-13-15	\$164,000
1740 Maple St, Des Plaines	Elio Custic	Donald L Rudd	02-11-15	\$180,000
320 Denver Dr, Des Plaines	Prahladbhal M Patel & Sejalben P Patel	Angel Vera	02-09-15	\$210,000
68 N Cumberland Pkwy, Des Plaines	Eric S Waldier & Katarzyna Waldier	Michael A Buric	02-10-15	\$211,000
148 Jeffery Ln, Des Plaines	Marcin Sarna	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	02-10-15	\$220,000
1696 Buckingham Dr, Des Plaines	Gemma Lacay	Abbasi Real Estate Lic	02-11-15	\$246,000
2125 Plainfield Dr, Des Plaines	Sumi J Weltes & Jesushiju M. Pereira	Kenneth Stankiewicz	02-10-15	\$265,000
720 Waterford Dr, Des Plaines	Atila Genc & Plamena Genc	Sam Ratanasuan	02-09-15	\$436,000
209 Ridge Ave., # G, Evanston	Dale Carter	Deutsche Bank Natl Trt Co Ttee	02-10-15	\$32,000
2310 Greenwood St, Evanston	Henely Friedman	Antoine P Phllidor	02-11-15	\$125,000
1932 Brown Ave, Evanston	Ivan G Reyes & Irma Arreguin	Alan Cosby	02-13-15	\$215,000
722 Brown Ave, Evanston	Jeremy Lawson & Jarrod L Gaither	White Trust	02-11-15	\$245,000
1415 Sherman Ave., # 406, Evanston	Andrew Howell Timmons & Caroline L Powers	Margaret Kessler	02-13-15	\$258,500
9349 Crawford Ave, Evanston	Roland M Martel	Hafiz Yaqoob	02-13-15	\$285,000
1210 Chicago Ave., # C506, Evanston	Charudatta Phatak & Emine Begum Gulsoy Phatak	Timothy A Qualheim	02-09-15	\$427,000
3700 Capri Ct., # 108, Glenview	Rafiq Basaria	Reinhold G Lange	02-09-15	\$81,000
2442 Victor Ave, Glenview	Muhammad Hayat & Zehra Hayat	Kevin Philbln	02-10-15	\$260,000
118 Montgomery Ln, Glenview	Sean Elder & Phoebe Elder	Edward W Forsberg	02-10-15	\$465,000
847 Klinnny St, Inverness	Craig Rook & Emily Rook	Howard L Wagner	02-11-15	\$382,500
20525 N Plumwood Dr, Kildeer	Zhong Bi & Xueqing Li	Greenbluff Lic	02-12-15	\$650,000
20 N June Ter, Lake Forest	Samira Hussain	Thomas L Pfeiffer	02-10-15	\$465,000
1460 Edgewood Rd, Lake Forest	Harry Watson & Carmen Watson	Lane Trust	02-10-15	\$625,000
1351 W Everett Rd, Lake Forest	Caroliann Stickler & Paul Stickler	Cartus Corporation	02-12-15	\$1,240,000
520 Andrew Ln, Lake Zurich	Michael L Nitti	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	02-12-15	\$152,000
23817 N High Ridge Dr, Lake Zurich	Arturas Liutkevicius & V Liutkevicius	Mark Boksa	02-11-15	\$160,000
1133 Oxford Ln, Lake Zurich	Robert S Puglisi & Jennifer N Puglisi	Chad M Gilbert	02-10-15	\$490,000
1207 Spruce Ct, Libertyville	Michael Herchenbach & Margaret Lynch	Barbara Higgason	02-11-15	\$250,000

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
300 E Church St., # 210, Libertyville	Mary K Mather	De Epanshu Pandita	02-11-15	\$270,000
450 Village Grn., # 309, Lincolnshire	Joseph Thaler	Lincolnshire Place Lic	02-11-15	\$820,000
8235 Mango Ave, Morton Grove	Robert Baban	Bank Of New York Mellon Ttee	02-10-15	\$130,000
8440 Callie Ave., # 310, Morton Grove	Nicole E George	Kathryn L Gartner	02-13-15	\$179,500
7431 Lyons St, Morton Grove	Caroline Zaia & Zala W Zaia	Fannie Mae	02-13-15	\$225,000
9027 Central Ave, Morton Grove	Young Kim	Dariusz Joks	02-13-15	\$290,000
202 Concord Ct, Morton Grove	Beata Godyn & Victor Godyn	Lexington Station Lic	02-11-15	\$336,000
8346 Concord Dr, Morton Grove	Russell A Vloria	Lexington Station Lic	02-13-15	\$345,000
7921 Lake St, Morton Grove	Barbara Wojtkowiak	Roman Kratochvil	02-11-15	\$350,000
7442 Lake St, Morton Grove	Flore Sfrengeu	Romeo Ramos	02-10-15	\$354,000
8928 Austin Ave, Morton Grove	Andrew E Rabin & Barbara F Rabin	Alla Nazarov	02-10-15	\$453,000
1103 S Hunt Club Dr., # 230, Mount Prospect	Edina Devis & Ernes Custic	Voula Plikas	02-10-15	\$79,000
41 E Judith Ann Dr, Mount Prospect	Witold Drozd	Bank Of New York Mellon Ttee	02-10-15	\$89,500
207 N Elm St, Mount Prospect	Angela Kowal	Grzegorz Wojtowicz	02-11-15	\$160,000
503 Blue Jay Ct, Mount Prospect	Saif Qasaimah & Safa Salamah	New York Community Bank	02-13-15	\$181,000
510 N Wille St, Mount Prospect	John Corbu & Ramona Corbu	Novak Trust	02-13-15	\$185,000
1416 S Fern Dr, Mount Prospect	Mircea Hotca	Renuka Gandhi	02-11-15	\$239,000
1427 S Chestnut Dr, Mount Prospect	Aurimas Efremovas	Fannie Mae	02-13-15	\$257,500
2000 E Ivy Ln, Mount Prospect	Marek Walliko	Fannie Mae	02-09-15	\$260,000
717 N Wille St, Mount Prospect	Amir Hamza & Shiraz Najam	Nasir Nazar	02-13-15	\$385,000
221 Autumn Ln, Mount Prospect	Rajesh Joseph Jacob & Sumini K Oommen	Mercurio Muzzupappa	02-11-15	\$480,000
8801 W Golf Rd., # 31, Niles	Ana Maria Cojocnean	Mark Wyman	02-13-15	\$100,000
8118 W Overhill, Niles	Babak Foroughi	Krystyna Naplorkowska	02-10-15	\$182,500
8725 N Elmore St, Niles	Javier Moreno & Claudia Moreno	Sonia Holler	02-11-15	\$235,000
1026 Dell Rd, Northbrook	Teng Cao	Massoud Fathi	02-13-15	\$228,000
1721 Mission Hills Rd., # 108, Northbrook	Sarah Stollberg & Lynn M Stollberg	Michael Rosenbaum	02-13-15	\$235,000
59 Avon Rd, Northbrook	Andriyous P Youkhana & Layla Youkhana	Yen Yen Chiang	02-13-15	\$375,000
1748 Larkdale Rd, Northbrook	Thomas J Desmidt & Emily R Desmidt	David S Jablonsky	02-10-15	\$550,000
2601 Mulberry Ln, Northbrook	Elizabeth Glowacz & Kevin Glowacz	Sns Realty Group Lic	02-10-15	\$680,000
4041 Plicardy Dr, Northbrook	Kenneth W Kapecki & Melinda M Kapecki	Adam Panfil	02-13-15	\$685,000
1548 Windy Hill Dr, Northbrook	Mesut Korhan Acar & Vuslat Acar	Sam Rosenwasser	02-11-15	\$1,085,000
308 Happ Rd., # 206, Northfield	Pureza E Grucel	Phyllis Mosele	02-13-15	\$242,000
2600 Bayside Dr., # 5, Palatine	Steve Smith	Fannie Mae	02-13-15	\$66,500
140 W Wood St., # 314, Palatine	Timothy M Oakley	Kelly Clegg	02-10-15	\$70,000
1275 E Baldwin Ln., # 209, Palatine	Olga Moukhina	Nison Kirnos	02-09-15	\$72,000
1275 E Baldwin Ln., # 510, Palatine	Olga Moukhina	Nison Kirnos	02-09-15	\$72,000
1205 N Sterling Ave., # 207, Palatine	Nazim Fidal	Pennymac Corp	02-10-15	\$75,000
980 N Countryside Dr., # 101, Palatine	Igor Ozerov	Pennymac Holdings Lic	02-10-15	\$76,500
2500 Bayside Dr., # 6, Palatine	Nirmal K Ghuman	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	02-13-15	\$80,000
1009 E Glavin Ct., # 3, Palatine	Kateryan Otworth	Cynthia Hosman	02-13-15	\$88,000
132 W Johnson St., # 207, Palatine	Paul J Magrath	Christina J Smith	02-10-15	\$232,000
348 S Lancelot Ln, Palatine	Johnathan A Kiwala & Ashlyn Kiwala	Elizabeth O Connor	02-09-15	\$247,000
455 W Wood St., # 410, Palatine	Gregory M Barclay & Joanna C Barclay	Richard F Kuebler	02-10-15	\$250,000
888 E Stonebridge Ct, Palatine	Laver Miraka & Yivije Miraka	Rosalie M Schroeder	02-11-15	\$296,000
1581 S Kembley Ave, Palatine	Steven T Reetz & Patricia A Reetz	Jeffery N Balek	02-10-15	\$392,500
2500 Archbury Ln., # 3C, Park Ridge	Lee Newman	Fannie Mae	02-13-15	\$161,000
1021 N Dee Rd, Park Ridge	Dominador B Guno Jr & Marjela M Guno	Lucian V Vasilache	02-11-15	\$199,000
123 N Knight Ave, Park Ridge	Michael Anthony Lydon & Martin P Cooney	Dennis W Mroz	02-13-15	\$268,000
620 N Dee Rd, Park Ridge	Amornrat Naughton	Terra Nosa Properties Lic	02-11-15	\$435,000
9504 Glenlake Ave., # 113, Rosemont	Juan H Careaga	Efran L Ignacio	02-11-15	\$46,500

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



LAKE FOREST

Charming 2,000 square foot 2-story with related living. Open floor plan, hardwood floors under carpet, full basement apartment with kitchen, bathroom, and separate entrance. New patio, fenced yard, and detached garage. Excellent location with-in minutes to beach, town, train, bike path, and high school. Property is being sold as-is. Second-floor bonus rm could be 5th bedroom. Lower level bedroom as well.

Address: 1197 Griffith Road
Price: \$550,000
Schools: Lake Forest High School
Taxes: \$8,562
Agent: Madalena Lawrence/GC Realty And Development



WINNETKA

This arts & crafts style 4-bedroom, 1.5-bath home is larger than it looks. Sun-filled first floor boasts extra large living room, dining room, eat-in kitchen, large foyer and den with beautiful leaded glass windows throughout. 4 bedrooms upstairs. Two fireplaces, unfinished basement. Close to town, train, schools, parks.

Address: 747 Walden Road
Price: \$550,000
Schools: New Trier Township High School Winnetka
Taxes: \$15,683
Agent: Laura Cross Collyer/@Properties



LONG GROVE

Meticulously maintained, move-in ready home backs to large pond but still plenty of backyard to enjoy plus gorgeous landscaping too. Inside: hardwood floors (Oak&Brazilian cherry) throughout. All-season sunroom. Gourmet kitchen with timeless white cabinets, newer stainless steel appliances. Finished basement with full bath. House painted in designer colors. Trim and doors painted white.

Address: 25802 North Arrowhead Drive
Price: \$529,900
Schools: Adlai E Stevenson High School
Taxes: \$13,155
Agent: Susan Coveny/RE/MAX Prestige



PALATINE

New construction. Upgrades include: granite kitchen counters, 42" cabinets, hardwood in foyer, kitchen, powder room and hall. Oak rails, ceramic in full baths, landscaping and a master suite. Partial basement with moisture wrap. Award-winning schools.

Address: 63 West Illinois Ave.
Price: \$505,995
Schools: Wm Fremd High School
Taxes: N/A
Agent: Beverley Caliendo/Coldwell Banker

Listings from Homefinder.com.



March Madness Specials
 Free Delivery, Recycling & Haul-Away



32" PLD32A30RQ.....\$181
40" LED40G45RQ.....\$269
55" LED55C55RQD.....\$499



40" UN40H5003.....\$348
55" UN55H6203.....\$698
65" UN65HU8550..... Top Rated
 by Leading Consumer Magazine, Feb. 2015



32" 32LB520B.....\$199
55" 55LB5900.....\$598
65" 65LB5200.....\$798



32" KDL32R330B.....\$218
40" KDL40R380B.....\$378
60" KDL60R510A.....\$798

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 1200 N Milwaukee Ave, Glenview, IL 60025

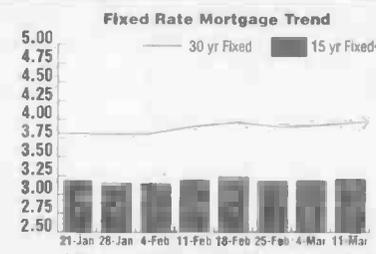


Pioneer Press Mortgage Guide

Check rates daily at <http://pioneerlocal.interest.com>

Bankrate.com

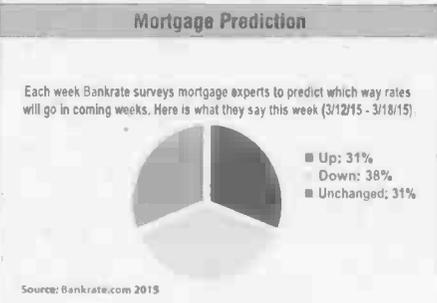
Program	Rate	Points	Fees	% Down	APR
HOYNE SAVINGS BANK 888-492-1368					
<i>Hayne.com</i>					
30 yr fixed	3.750	0.000	\$1361	20%	3.862
20 yr fixed	3.625	0.000	\$1361	20%	3.781
15 yr fixed	3.125	0.000	\$1361	20%	3.323
Portfolio Lender					
Pre-Approvals available					
(C) 7001 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, IL 60707 NMLS# 462640					



Calculate Your Mortgage Payment

	30 yr fixed	15 yr fixed	5 yr ARM
This week	3.97	3.18	3.23
Last Week	3.93	3.16	3.28
Last Year	4.50	3.51	3.70

Source: Bankrate.com, for more information visit www.bankrate.com. Bankrate national averages are based on 100 largest institutions in the top 10 markets in the United States.



LENDERS, TO HAVE YOUR RATES APPEAR IN THIS FEATURE CALL BANKRATE.COM @ 800-509-4636

Legend: The rate and annual percentage rate (APR) are effective as of 3/12/15. © 2015 Bankrate, Inc. <http://www.interest.com>. The APR may increase after consummation and may vary. Payments do not include amounts for taxes and insurance. The fees set forth for each advertisement above may be charged to open the loan. (A) Mortgage Banker, (B) Mortgage Broker, (C) Bank, (D) S & L, (E) Credit Union, (BA) indicates Licensed Mortgage Banker, NYS Banking Dept., (BR) indicates Registered Mortgage Broker, NYS Banking Dept. (Banks arranged through third parties). *Call for Rates* means actual rates were not available at press time. All rates are quoted on a minimum FICO score of 740. Illinois Mortgage Licensure. Conventional loans are based on loan amounts of \$165,000. Jumbo loans are based on loan amounts of \$435,000. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Lock Days: 30-60. Annual percentage rates (APR) are based on fully indexed rates for adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs). The APR on your specific loan may differ from the sample used. Fees reflect charges relative to the APR. If your down payment is less than 30% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. Bankrate, Inc. does not guarantee the accuracy of the information appearing above or the availability of rates and fees in this table. All rates, fees and other information are subject to change without notice. Bankrate, Inc. does not own any financial institutions. Some or all of the companies appearing in this table pay a fee to appear in this table. If you are seeking a mortgage in excess of \$417,000, recent legislation may enable lenders in certain locations to provide rates that are different from those shown in the table above. Sample Repayment Terms - ex. 360 monthly payments of \$5.29 per \$1,000 borrowed ex. 180 monthly payments of \$7.56 per \$1,000 borrowed. We recommend that you contact your lender directly to determine what rates may be available to you. To appear in this table, call 800-509-4636. To report any inaccuracies, call 800-509-4636. <http://pioneerlocal.interest.com>

Group workshops offer financial tips for women

BY JACKIE PILOSSOPH
Pioneer Press

Dan Fisher has always believed in staying physically fit. To him, that means taking Pilates classes, running 5K races and practicing martial arts.

Now, Fisher is carrying his physical discipline over to his business. The financial adviser and owner of Northbrook-based Fisher Financial Group recently launched a new division of his company called Financially Fit Women, which specializes in coaching, educating and empowering women to understand their investments

and long-term goals.

"I took a look at my practice and found out that two thirds of my clients are professional women, mostly single, divorced or widowed," said Fisher. "I felt that women were grossly underserved, so I wanted to create a forum for those who want to become more secure, take control of their financial future and make a positive change in their lives."

Financially Fit Women hosts educational work-



Dan Fisher

shops, seminars and wine tastings where women can not only learn, but also network and socialize.

"Women are very social, and our events are more relaxed and less intimidating," he said. "They can enjoy themselves and become educated at the same time."

According to Fisher, statistics show that 40 percent of women over the age of 65 are widows, compared with just 13 percent of men. Also, more than 25 percent of people married 20 years or longer get divorced.

"Women need more retirement income, but they usually have less," he said. "They are hit with a double whammy. They've historically made 76 percent of what men make, so they are underpaid, and the second whammy is that they are going to live longer than men by at least five years. They have to make sure they don't outlive their income."

Fisher said that in his three decades of experience, he has found that when it comes to investing, women are more patient than men and more willing to accept that money isn't made over night.

"They're more into taking their time, and realize that good, solid investments are wiser than trying to make a quick buck."

Anna Mae Byrne of Wadsworth has been a client of Fisher's for several years.

"I got laid off a few years ago and I had to make some financial changes," said Byrne, who is 70 years old and single. "Together, we went over the options I had and what would be best for me. He never forced me one way or the other. He provided me information so I could make the best decision possible."

Financially Fit Women is

holding its next event, "Taking Control: Financial Strategies for Women," on Thursday and Tuesday. Both events will be held at Francesca's North in Northbrook at 6 p.m. The workshops are free, and include a complimentary dinner.

To learn more about Financially Fit Women or Fisher Financial Group, go to fisherfinancialgroup.com or call 847-205-9300.

Jackie Pilosoph is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter: @lovessentially

jBaby program welcomes new, expectant Jewish moms

BY JACKIE PILOSSOPH
Pioneer Press

Lauren Hewitt has lived in Chicago for only two years, and said she is always looking to make more friends. So when the New York native had her first baby six weeks ago, she decided to sign up for "JNew Moms Group," a professionally led education and support group for new moms of Jewish babies.

"Everything is so new right now, and we're all in the same situation," said Hewitt, a senior account executive for a creative agency, whose husband, Michael, grew up on the North Shore. "It's important to have the support of other women who understand the situation you're in."

"JNew Moms Group" is among a variety of classes offered by jBaby, an outreach program through the Jewish United Fund for expectant parents, new parents and their babies.

jBaby launched in Chicago last year, but is new to the North Shore. Classes are

currently offered in Evanston, Glencoe and Northbrook.

"The Jewish community doesn't have anything like this," said Julie Brodsky, director of new parent engagement for the JUF, who oversees the program. "There are many classes offered to new moms, but none have that Jewish lens on it, so that's where we come in. There's a common bond of meeting someone who is Jewish and also at the same stage."

Classes, which take place at various synagogues and Jewish organizations in many North Shore towns, include "Love, Religion...and Baby," "Daddy & Me Movement," "Baby-Toddler Music & Movement" and "SENSE-sational Shabbat."

"They're more about the cultural aspect of Judaism rather than religion," said Brodsky, who spent 10 years as a preschool teacher and assistant director at Gan Shalom in Chicago and who has worked for JUF for over three years.

Jen Streicher, a social worker for early childhood programs at the Jewish

Community Center, teaches a few jBaby classes, including "SENSE-sational Shabbat."

"When you start a family, it's a time of reflection of the traditions you grew up with and the values you had in your home, and you are recreating those traditions for your children," said Streicher, a mom of two, who holds master's degrees in child development and social work. "The Shabbat class is a hands-on interactive hour to help toddlers connect to Shabbat through touching, tasting, hearing and smelling."

Streicher said one of the goals of jBaby is to help Jewish parents make lasting connections.

"This is the starting point," she said. "People who meet here could end up being life-long friends."

"We talk about things that are specific to raising a Jewish family," said Hewitt. "All of the girls share this desire to be connected to the Jewish community, while trying to figure out how to incorporate Judaism into their family. It helps create a bond."



JACKIE PILOSSOPH/PIONEER PRESS

Julie Brodsky, right, shown here with Jen Streicher, who teaches jBaby classes.

Signing up for jBaby is free and includes a welcome gift package and a coffee meeting with a "mom ambassador" who has taken the classes.

All Chicago jBaby classes are funded through the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago, making

the rates low in cost, according to Brodsky.

"We wanted to be able to offer the classes at very reasonable rates so that all families interested in taking a jBaby Chicago class have the opportunity to do so," she said.

"Staying home with a

baby can get very lonely sometimes," said Hewitt. "I look forward to the class each week."

Jackie Pilosoph is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter: @lovessentially

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

Thursday, March 19

Dan Bern CD release show: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$27, 847-492-8860

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

"Lone Star" and "Laundry and Bourbon": Presenting two plays depicting life in a sleepy Texas town. "Lone Star" and "Laundry and Bourbon," by James McLure, both seem to show us a simpler life and a unique perspective on the world. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Friday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oil Lamp Theater, 1723 Glenview Road, Glenview, \$17.50-35, 847-834-0738

"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 ten 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. Thursday-Saturday, noon Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Monday-Wednesday, Kohl Children's Museum, 2100 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, \$10-\$11, 847-832-6600

The Most Common Parent Trap: This workshop is for parents of teens who are experimenting with alcohol or other drugs. Attendees will receive valuable information on talking to teens about substance use and connect with helpful resources for intervention. Event is provided by Rosecrance, in collaboration with David Lee of Intervention services, the largest intervention service provider in North America. 7 p.m. Thursday, Glenbrook South High School, 4000 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, free, 815-391-1000

More Than a Lunch: Mather LifeWays and the Village of Morton Grove invite those age 50 and older to a rockin' good time with a hearty lunch, '50s music, and a special guest appearance by a super-famous rocker. Call for a reservation.

11:30 a.m. Thursday, Morton Grove American Legion Civic Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove, \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door, 888-600-2560

Senior Adult Spelling Bee: Illinois residents age 50 and older can compete at the second annual event. 10 a.m. Thursday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

"Birdman": See the Academy Award-winning film about awashed-up actor who once played an iconic superhero trying to reclaim his past glory. 2 p.m. Thursday, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Introduction to Microsoft Excel 2010: Learn simple formatting and how to enter and edit data. 7 p.m. Thursday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Save A Star's Drug Disposal Program: Save a Star Drug Awareness Foundation's Drug Disposal Program box is still in the lobby of the Niles Police Department. Accepted are: prescription medications (including controlled substances), all over-the-counter and pet medications, samples, vitamins, liquids and creams. Call 847-579-1300 ext. 146. 9 a.m. all week, Niles Police Department, 7000 West Touhy Ave., Niles, free

How to Handle Difficult Conversations with Your Aging Parent: Dyanne Bresler, MA, RN-BC, LCPC of Park Ridge Psychological Services to discuss how to talk with one's aging parents about getting assistance in their home, driving issues, moving out of their home, division of responsibilities among family members and compiling legal documents. Parking available in the city lots across the street and Summit's Garage. RSVP by March 15 to 847-825-1161 Ext. 129. 5:30 p.m. Thursday, The Summit of Uptown, 10 N. Summit Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-1161

Save A Star's Drug Disposal Program: Save a Star Drug Awareness Foundation's Drug Disposal Program box is still in the lobby of the Park Ridge Police Department. Accepted are: prescription medications, (including controlled substances), all over-the-counter and pet medications, samples, vitamins, liquids and creams. Call 847-579-1300 ext. 146. 9 a.m. all week, Park Ridge Police Department, 200 Vine Ave., Park Ridge, free

Karaoke Thursdays: Enjoy some great pizza and sing a tune or two. 7 p.m.

Thursday, Perry's Pizza and Ribs, 711 Devon Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-4422

Skokie Photographic Society: The group meets on the third Thursday of each month. All levels of photographic skill are welcome. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton St., Skokie, free, 847-677-8324

"Outside Mullingar": Anthony and Rosemary are two introverted misfits. Anthony has spent his entire life on a cattle farm in rural Ireland, oblivious to the longing of his neighbor Rosemary, who hopelessly pines for him as the years slip away. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, \$15-\$60, 847-673-6300

Pioneers and Partisans: Soviet Jewish Youth Confront the Nazi Genocide: Anika Walke, history faculty member at Washington University, discusses her book, which draws on oral histories, video testimonies and memoirs to analyze how Soviet Jews experienced the Nazi genocide. 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, \$8-\$12, 847-967-4800

Friday, March 20

Trivia Night Contest featuring French topics: Bring your knowledge of French history and culture. Hosted by the Alliance Française du North Shore with questions in English. Advance registration required. 7 p.m. Friday, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 1509 Ridge Ave., Evanston, \$20, 847-864-4806

Ring 43 Magic Club Meeting: Magic performance and instruction by Philadelphia magician Francis Menotti. 7:30 p.m. Friday, Presence Saint Francis Hospital, 355 Ridge Ave., Evanston, \$20, 847-272-3850

Do more with Word 2010: This follow-up to the "Introduction to Microsoft Word 2010" workshop covers page layouts, working with columns, bullet points, and more. 2 p.m. Friday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Duplicate Bridge: The senior center offers a friendly bridge game every Friday morning. 9 a.m. Friday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-5127

3rd Grade Social: Calling all third

graders! Join in a taste of Friday Night Live fun with live DJ! Pay at the door for some great fun! Concessions are available (pop, water, candy and chips). 6 p.m. Friday, Maine Park Leisure Center, 2701 W. Sibley Ave., Park Ridge, \$5, 847-692-5127

Saturday, March 21

FUSE: Studio: Drop in with friends to wire LEDs, compose a ringtone, build an amp, mix chemicals to make gel beads, navigate a robot obstacle course and more. For grades six to 12. Midnight Saturday, Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston, free, 847-448-8600

Evanston Winter Farmers Market: Shop for fresh produce and other local goods at the winter market. 9 a.m. Saturday, Evanston Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd., Evanston, free

Tufaan 2015: Tufaan Entertainment hosts afilmi/fusion Bollywood dance competition featuring some of the best dance teams across the nation. 6 p.m. Saturday, Cahn Auditorium, 600 Emerson St., Evanston, \$15

The Mark Cleveland Band: 9:30 p.m. Saturday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

Circuscope: The creators of the Actors Gymnasium Winter Circus explore a fascinating world on the other side of the microscopic lens. Circuscope transports audiences through surprising acrobatics, mime, live music and other-worldly design. 4:30 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday, Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$15-\$20, 847-328-2795

World puppetry maker fair: This international puppetry exhibit features make-and-take puppet crafts and an interactive shadow puppet studio. 1 p.m. Saturday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Stars on strings: a puppet extravaganza: Chicago's premier marionette artist Dave Herzog is joined by puppeteer extraordinaire Marc Dunworth for a performance. 11:15 a.m. Saturday, Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

World Record Challenge: puppet "flash mob" for early literacy: Help set the world record for "most puppets in a flash mob" and watch a puppet

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Chicago
Tribune



I want to be
doing better. I
wish I understood
why it's so hard

Understood
for learning & attention issues

For the 1 in 5 kids with learning and attention issues, every day can be a challenge. Explore Understood.org, a free online resource designed to help you help your child thrive in school and in life.

Brought to you by 15 nonprofit partners.

understood.org

CALENDAR

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show at 11:15 a.m. 10 a.m. Saturday, The Book Market at Hangar One, 2651 Navy Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-904-7304

"Downton Abbey" tea and luncheon: Lynn Rymarz, portraying Lady Almina, recounts the story of Highclere Castle based on the book. 1 p.m. Saturday, Glenview New Church, 74 Park Drive, Glenview, \$35, 847-724-2235

Be Green When You Garden: Horticulturist Sharon Yiesla demonstrates simple ways to conserve water and use fewer chemicals in your garden, including proper plant selection and composting. 10 a.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

The Two Hour Cup: Try three different premium loose leaf teas and take home info cards with descriptions and tasting notes. 2 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday, TeaLula, 11 S. Fairview Ave., Park Ridge, \$4.50, 888-832-5852

Middle School Open Gym and Swim: This Saturday night social for sixth - eighth grades includes a DJ, inflatables, open gym, swimming, wallyball, ping pong, and racquetball. Snacks and pop are available for purchase. No admittance after 7:30 p.m. Pick up is at 9 p.m. Participants are not allowed to walk home without a parent note. Register online at www.prparks.org. 7 p.m. Saturday, Park Ridge Community Center, 1515 W Touhy Ave., Park Ridge, \$5 at the door, 847-692-5129

March Genealogy Workshop: Enjoy a genealogy workshop sponsored by the Twenty-first Star Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

Mega Movie Pajama Nights In Park Ridge: Hey kids, come dressed in your favorite pjs and enjoy an evening of fun! Play games, enjoy a fun snack, and watch a G/PG rated movie on the inflatable movie screen in the gym. This is a great opportunity for parents to enjoy a quiet evening to themselves. (Ages: 4-9) Register online at www.prparks.org. 6 p.m. Saturday, Maine Park Leisure Center, 2701 W. Sibley Ave., Park Ridge, \$15 Resident / \$27 Non-Resident, 847-692-5127

Playdate with Nature: For family games, crafts, and educational activities based around the seasonal nature theme of the day. Registration required, but one member of your family is sufficient. Register online at www.prparks.org. 9 a.m. Saturday, Wildwood Nature Center,

529 Forestview Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-3570

Sunday, March 22

An Evening with the Masters at Nichols Concert Hall: Rembrandt Chamber Players perform Beethoven's "Archduke Trio." 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nichols Concert Hall, Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$35 general admission; \$25 young adult; and \$10 student., 312-360-3145

"Salvo": Watch the Italian film about a mafia hit man who decides to spare a young blind girl's life. 2 p.m. Sunday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Chicago Pet Rescue's Bowling Fundraiser: Bowl to spare a life until 5 p.m. \$20 per adult & \$15 per child includes snacks, shoes and two hours of bowling! There is a silent auction, door prizes & raffles. All funds raised go towards saving the lives of homeless animals! 3 p.m. Sunday, Classic Bowl, 8530 Waukegan Road, Morton Grove, \$20 per adult/\$15 per child, 847-965-5300

Women's Seder: Celebrate the Jewish holiday with a light meal and dessert. 2 p.m. Sunday, Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, \$5 suggested donation. Reservations required, 847-675-0951

"Hope In a Time of Crisis: My Life as a Community Organizer": Amanda Weaver, lead organizer for the local affiliate of National People's Action, the Illinois-Indiana Regional Organizing Network, speaks. Weaver discusses the craft of community organizing and how people are motivated to become involved and what keeps her engaged and energized. Childcare is available. 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Ethical Humanist Society of Chicago, 7574 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie, free, 847-677-3334

Staged Reading: In Their Voices: Actors from Writers Theatre in Glencoe read from the moving compilation of stories "In Our Voices," which pay tribute to emotional and inspiring accounts of Holocaust survival written by Chicago-based survivors. 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800

Monday, March 23

MGPL Kids: Monday Morning Play-

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group: Drop-inplay time for preschoolers with a parent or caregiver to introduce young children to the library in a low-key, unstructured session. Call 847-929-5102 or visit 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

Knitting Roundtable: Come work through knitting projects and socialize with fellow knitters. Expert knitters can show you how to solve knitting challenges. Don't forget your current knitting projects and needles! Call 847-929-5101 or visit www.mgpl.org for more information. 2 p.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Tuesday, March 24

Rotary Club of Evanston Lighthouse: This community leadership group boasts 80 members and meets every Tuesday. 7:15 a.m. Tuesday, Hilton Garden Inn Chicago North Shore/Evanston, 1818 Maple Ave., Evanston, free

Beginning genealogy: Learn the basic steps and resources to start searching your family tree. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

MGPL Kids: Listen Up! Drop-in story and play time for preschoolers with a parent or caregiver. Call 847-929-5102 or visit www.mgpl.org/kids for more information. 4:45 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Women and World War I: Author and historian Kathryn Atwood shares true stories of women's contributions to the war effort. A book signing follows. 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Beginning Bridge Lessons: Come and learn the most stimulating partnership card game around! Learn the basic bidding and playing in a stress-free environment. Sign up with a friend or partner, or come to meet new ones, to be playing bridge at the end of the session. Phyllis Bartlett, ACBL Accredited teacher, guides the class. Contact the Park Ridge Senior Center. This is an

eight week class. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Park Ridge Park District - Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, \$86, 847-692-3597

Camera Club: The club meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-3597

Life Transitions Group: A support group for men and women who have been widowed for one to four years. The group is volunteer-facilitated and held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Park Ridge Nonprofit Center, 720 Garden Street, Park Ridge, \$5 per session, 847-720-4170

Wednesday, March 25

Little Wiggles Storytime: Kids under age 2 work on the foundations for early literacy through songs, rhymes and stories. 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

BOOKit! Non-fiction book group: Discuss "Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity" by Katherine Boo. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Bingo and Pizzal: Treat oneself to hot slices of Spuntino's cheese, sausage and veggie pizza. Afterwards, play several games of bingo! Contact the Park Ridge Senior Center at 847-692-3597. 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Park Ridge Park District - Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, \$8 Members; \$10 Guests, 847-692-3597

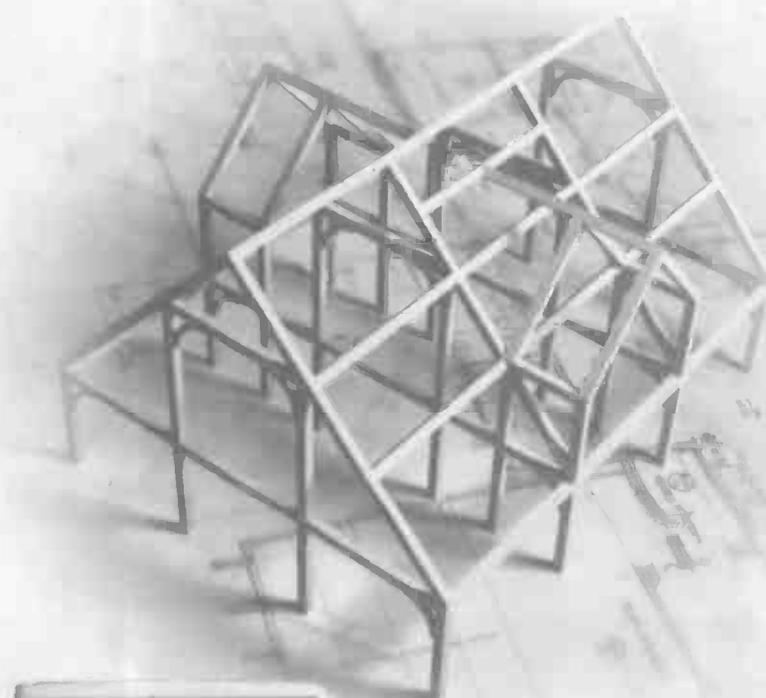
Seaton Smith: The comedian - regular on FOX TV's "Mulaney" - performs standup. 8 p.m. Wednesday, Zanies Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont, \$22 plus a two-item food/drink minimum, 847-813-0484

Julie Butler Chanteuse: Julie Butler Chanteuse brings "A Touch of Downton Abbey" to her Red Carpet Events for seniors. A red carpet is rolled out for attendees of thematic performances. 2 p.m. Wednesday, Skokie Theatre, 7924 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie, \$15, 847-677-7761

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

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America Craft Exposition moves to Chicago Botanic Garden

By Pioneer Press Staff

The Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe will be the site of the 2015 American Craft Exposition. The Auxiliary of NorthShore University HealthSystem, along with the CBG, will present the annual show Sept. 24 through Sept. 27.

This year's ACE Co-Chairs, Debbie Kerr and Liz Dauten, both of Northfield, said that funds raised this year will continue to support pioneering ovarian cancer research at NorthShore — a cause the group has now been supporting for 12 years. Kerr and Liz Dauten noted that these funds continue to be critical in helping to drive this research forward and that it is already showing promising results.

Showcasing the country's finest handmade jewelry and art objects from world-renowned craftspeople, this juried exposition and sale of fine craft includes one-of-a-kind pieces, luxury collections and uniquely creative artwork.

Festivities will kick off with the Benefit Preview Party from 5:30 to 9 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 24. For more information, see americancraftexpo.org or call (224) 364-7270.



JONATHAN F. HILLENBRAND/AMERICAN CRAFT EXPOSITION

Auxiliary President Claudine Gerbel of Winnetka (from left), 2015 ACE Co-Chair Liz Dauten of Northfield, 2015 ACE Co-Chair Debbie Kerr of Northfield, and 2016 ACE Co-Chair Dana Turban of Northfield



ERIC STRAITS/CENTER OF CONCERN PHOTOS

Patty and John Sheehan (back, from left), Doug Marshall, and front from left: Jeff and Anita Stimson, Steve and Rhonda Crane, all of them from Park Ridge

'Blarney Bash' raises \$24,000 for Center of Concern

'Blarney Bash'

Benefiting:
Center of Concern, Park Ridge

Location:
Chief O'Neill's, Chicago

Date:
March 7

Attended:
215

Raised:
\$24,000

Website:
centerofconcern.org



Jim Dorrans (from left), Ralph Chor, both of Park Ridge, Mike Sica of Niles Irene Ruckoldt of Des Plaines and Kathy Gozzolo of Park Ridge - Original Credit: Center of Concern



Jim Radermacher of Park Ridge (from left), Mary Miklaszewski of Chicago, Laurle Hachmeister of Park Ridge, Todd Chambers of Schaumburg, Bob Chambers of Mt. Prospect, Steve Ramsdell of (DeKalb, Joey Farella of Inverness and Susan Patke of Chicago

HONORS

Les Turner ALS Foundation honors Wendy Abrams

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Pioneer Press

During her 36 years as executive director of the Les Turner ALS Foundation, Wendy Abrams has presided over its growth from a small local fundraising group to one of the most distinguished independent ALS organizations in the world.

That's why the longtime North Shore resident, who has announced her retirement this spring, was honored March 7 at the foundation's 28th annual "Hope Through Caring" award dinner. The gala, emceed by author Jonathan Eig ("Luckiest Man: The Life and Death of Lou Gehrig") took place at the Ritz-Carlton Chicago.

"It's been all-consuming," she said. "My life has been very much devoted to this organization. It's been like a fourth child. I've watched it grow up and that's been extremely rewarding."

Abrams began working with other friends of Les Turner, the Glenview businessman who created the foundation a year before dying of ALS in 1978, as a volunteer at the annual Mammoth Music Mart fundraiser. In 1979, she was hired to oversee the Music Mart and all other activities of Les Turner ALS just as she was about to become a single parent to her three children.

"It was a job for me at first, more than a cause," Abrams recalled, "but it's become an incredible, inspiring career. It's made a huge difference in my life."

Abrams' first order of business was partnering with Northwestern Medicine to create the nation's first ALS research labora-



LES TURNER ALS FOUNDATION

Les Turner ALS Foundation Executive Director Wendy Abrams

tory. The foundation and Northwestern each contributed \$50,000 to establish the lab and hire one researcher. Today, that operation includes more than 30 scientists working at three research facilities at the Feinberg School of Medicine.

Next, Abrams turned her attention to patient services and practical assistance for people coping with the disease. Focus groups led to the establishment in 1986 of the Lois Insolia ALS Clinic at Northwestern, where patients are treated by a team of specialists.

Six years later, Abrams extended the outreach of Les Turner ALS by guiding its founding membership in the International Alliance of ALS/MND Associations, a group that attracts roughly a thousand clinicians and researchers from 40 countries to its conferences.

Since Abrams became

executive director, Les Turner ALS has raised \$52 million dollars for research, patient care, education and advocacy. The foundation now serves 90 percent of all people with ALS in the Chicago area.

"It's a very exciting time," Abrams said. "We've just named a center at Northwestern Medicine called the Les Turner ALS Research and Patient Center, which is an umbrella for the three research labs we're supporting and the Lois Insolia Clinic. It's a huge commitment and our hope is the center will grow and attract more researchers, clinical trials and collaboration. Collaborative research is where the answers will be found."

"It's also a time of great momentum thanks to the ALS ice-bucket challenge last summer. That's given us a real step up in awareness and in money, one we're hoping will get us to the goal post faster."

Want to see your event in Trend? Debbie Hoppe, Trend editorial assistant, will send you guidelines. Email her at dhoppe@pioneerlocal.com.

the mash

18 UNDER 18

MAKE THE LIST

Chicago teens are hardworking passionate leaders trying to make a difference in their communities. Share your high schooler's incredible achievements with us so he or she can be honored in our annual **18 Under 18** list.

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Comeback Story | Music
Civics and Politics | Activists
Arts | Entrepreneur

themash.com/18under18

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO NOMINATE OR BE NOMINATED. Nominations accepted from 12:01 AM 2/19-4/2 11:59PM at themash.com/18under18. Nominees may be any student at any Chicago-area High School residing in the Illinois counties of Cook, Lake, McHenry, Kane, DuPage or Will who are age 14 years or older as of the Contest start date. Parents, teachers, staff and fellow students may nominate students. You may nominate yourself. To enter, submit an essay about why you, or the student you are nominating, should be an 18 Under 18 Winner (the "Essay"). You must also include complete and accurate contact information (name, address, email address, and telephone number), as well as your age, year in school, name of your (or the nominee's) school and a photo of yourself (of the nominee). The Mash staff and a panel of judges will choose 18 winners, 2 in each category from among all nominees based on their applications and essays. 18 winners will be acknowledged on stage at Chicago Tribune Printer's Row Lit Fest on June 6th or 7th. Full rules and winners list (after 5/14/15) at Themash.com/18under18. Other eligibility & limits apply. Sponsor: The Mash, a Chicago Tribune Co. LLC publication. Void where prohibited.

Can men and women really be friends?

When the late Nora Ephron wrote her mega-hit 1989 movie, "When Harry Met Sally," she was exploring the question, "Can men and women be friends?"

According to Harry (played by Billy Crystal), men and women can't be friends "because the sex part always gets in the way."

I personally happen to have many friendships with men, all of them strictly platonic. According to Harry, they all want to have sex with me, but I disagree.

Older, single, divorced men and women living in the suburbs gravitate toward each other. Yes, oftentimes to date, but I think platonic friendships with members of the opposite sex at this stage in my life offer many, many gifts.

First off, I believe that almost everyone we meet — whether male or female — brings something special into our lives or touches us in some positive way. It might be the introduction of a new hobby, interest, travel destination, museum, Broadway show, recipe, book or movie. It might be great advice about kids or a career. He or she might make us laugh like never before, or change our opinion of something or someone. Our lives only get better and richer from the people we let in, and it makes no difference if they wear a bra or boxers.

Other benefits of male/female friendships include the possibility of meeting



JACKIE PIROSSOPH
Love Essentially

and connecting with other men or women. You could become friends with a guy, be out with him one night, and meet the love of your life when your friend happens to run into his sister's college roommate's cousin's ex-coworker.

Right?

I also love having male friends because I enjoy hearing a guy's perspective on dating and relationships. It's fun and very eye opening, at times. And if he needs my take on things, I am always happy to offer my opinion as to what's going on in the head of the girl he's dating.

Remember, though: I am a single person, so having platonic male friends is perfectly acceptable. But, are there rules for married people or people in serious relationships? Are they allowed to have friends of the opposite sex? Or is that considered cheating?

I asked these questions to Dr. Chet Mirman, Ph.D., a North Shore-based clinical psychologist. His answer to all of them: "Maybe."

"If someone asked me, 'Is it OK to have a platonic friend even though I'm married?' I would ask, 'How would you feel if your partner was a fly on

the wall while you're having lunch with your friend?'" said Mirman, a 30-year veteran in the field, who works with adult individuals and couples, primarily with relationship issues. "If something feels like it's a secret in your mind, it's more than friends."

Additionally, Mirman said if the person is hiding the relationship from their spouse, or if they are complaining to the friend about their spouse, the friendship is most likely inappropriate.

He also said that if the person is jealous of his or her friend having a date, or jealous of the person's spouse that's a red flag.

"I tell people to look inward," Mirman said. "Do you have sexual feelings for that person? Is the relationship flirtatious? Do you have fantasies about the person? Is it a playful, sexual type of engagement? That could be considered emotional cheating."

One might ask, "Why does my spouse need this friend of the opposite sex?" My answer: maybe it's a coworker with whom he can more easily talk shop. Also, what about a grade school or high school friend of the opposite sex? Isn't it kind of a given that those people are in our lives forever, regardless of whether we are single or married?

So, in closing, can men and women be friends? I say yes, Dr. Mirman says "maybe," but Nora Ephron basically said no. Because, remember how the movie ended? Harry and Sally fell in love and got married.

Twitter: @lovessentially

Customer asks who's responsible, UPS Store or UPS?

Dear Help Squad,

I recently had a run-in with The UPS Store at 6348 N. Milwaukee in Chicago. [I was told by the manager of that store] that The UPS Store is not affiliated with the real UPS. So, they are pointing the finger at each other. The real UPS on the phone (1-800-PICK-UPS) gave us the wrong information. We needed a package to arrive on Saturday, Feb. 14, in South Lake Tahoe. The UPS Company told my office manager she needed to take the package to a UPS Store to mail the package. We paid \$63 to have it shipped overnight for Saturday delivery. My office manager was told to send the package to a South Lake Tahoe UPS Store that wound up being closed on Saturdays, so the package was never delivered.

The UPS Store manager is telling us that because The UPS Store is "not affiliated with UPS" there is nothing he can do to get my money back; it is UPS, the company, that gave me the wrong information. He says he is just a mailing store.

There are two customer services — the real UPS (customer.service@ups.com) and The UPS Store (customerrelations@upsstore.com). The real UPS told me there is nothing they can do for me. They also can't tell me why UPS is not affiliated with The UPS Store and why they do not have the same customer service. [I was told to] e-mail The UPS Store customer service.

It really is false advertising on the part of The UPS Store because I guarantee you that anyone who walks into one of those stores thinks they are walking into a UPS facility. The UPS Store uses the UPS Com-



CATHY CUNNINGHAM
Help Squad

pany logo on their uniforms and their business cards. Yes, they are franchised, and that is what UPS Customer service told me, but so are McDonald's and Starbucks — they are representing a big name. UPS even has The UPS Store on its website, yet they are still NOT affiliated?!

It is very frustrating when neither party wants to take responsibility for the mistake.

Thank you, Cissy, Northbrook Help Squad called 1-800-PICK-UPS to speak with customer service, however when we explained who we were, we were directed to UPS Public Relations Manager Dan McMackin. After receiving Cissy's complaint, Dan did some investigating and ultimately put us in touch with The UPS Store Public Relations Manager Chelsea Lee. Chelsea worked fast to get things resolved. In fact, even before Help Squad heard back from Chelsea, we received the following e-mail from Cissy:

"I'm not sure what you said or did but I received a call from Tracy [of The UPS Store] customer service. She told me they are going to refund me the \$63. She was very nice. She tried to explain this whole situation was a "perfect storm" — every possible mistake that could happen did. She also said the manager at the UPS Store on Milwaukee Avenue didn't explain it

correctly. They have a contract with UPS even though they are franchised. Thank you so much for your help."

Shortly thereafter we received the same report from Chelsea. She additionally provided the following clarification:

"The UPS Store is a wholly owned subsidiary of UPS. So The UPS Store is an independent company, but owned and managed directly by UPS. We have two individual customer relations teams that often work together to resolve customer issues. The UPS corporate customer relations team can track package status for all customers and process claims that arise when a customer ships directly with UPS. The UPS Store customer service can help when a customer has shipped a package through The UPS Store locations. The UPS Store customer service team works with both UPS customer relations and our individual locations. The process is designed to be seamless, and we very rarely have issues. But occasionally there are challenges [as with Cissy's situation]."

Need help?

Are you the victim of fraudulent business practices? Is someone just exhibiting bad business behavior? Let Help Squad make the call for you. Send your letters, your complaints, your injustices and your story ideas to HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com and we will be happy to help you.

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com
Twitter: @HelpSquadCC

Meditation settles into the mainstream

Practice has snaked its way 'into every sector of our lives'

BY MARY MACVEAN
Tribune Newspapers

One hundred-fifty people sat in the big meeting room, hands on laps, eyes closed, feet flat on the floor.

"Bring your attention to this moment," Janice Marturano instructed. "Be open to sensations of warmth or coolness, sensations of fullness from breakfast, or perhaps hunger." Minutes later, the meditation ended with the traditional strikes of little hand cymbals.

Buddhists? Old hippies? New Agers?

No. The room was full of hospital executives and managers in lab coats and scrubs, jeans and sport coats at Long Beach Memorial Medical Center in California. And Marturano, the teacher, was once a top executive at General Mills.

The founder of the Institute for Mindful Leadership, Marturano is about as far from woo-woo as the spectrum allows and a sign that meditation has snaked its way into every sector of our lives. The hospital employees were learning a practice shared by millions these days: college students, parents and prisoners; soldiers, the overweight and the lovelorn; the Seattle Seahawks, public school kids and members of Congress; Oprah, Chopra and Arianna.

Meditation, primarily a 2,500-year-old form called mindfulness meditation that emphasizes paying attention to the present moment, has gone viral.

The unrelenting siege on our attention can take a good share of the credit; stress has bombarded people from executives on 24/7 schedules to kids who feel the pressure to succeed even before puberty. Meditation has been lauded as a way to reduce stress, ease physical ailments like headaches and increase compassion and productivity.

Religious practitioners have long claimed that, adopted by enough people, meditation could bring us world peace. Now we hear that from Chade-Meng Tan, a Google executive charged with



KATIE FALKENBERG/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS

Participants meditate during a class at Unplug, a meditation studio in Los Angeles that uses simple instructions as it aims to appeal to skeptics.



Polished stones at the Unplug studio list the many benefits of meditation for practitioners.

making the company more mindful. You needn't even put down your phone, with apps like Insight Timer, which has guided meditations and ways to track your stillness.

It has moved from its Asian, monastic roots to become a practice requiring no particular dogma, on a path not necessarily toward nirvana but toward a more mindful everyday life.

The practice of mindfulness meditation has become more widespread at a time when the fastest-growing group demographic is made up of people who say they are unaffiliated with a denomination, said Varun Soni, dean of religious life at the University of Southern California, which has launched a universi-

tywide effort toward mindfulness.

"Every religious tradition changes when it moves to a new place," Soni said.

In the case of meditation, it has also moved full force into the academic realm. At Lesley University in Cambridge, Mass., students can earn a master's degree in mindfulness studies.

"It's mind-blowing," said Sharon Salzberg, co-founder of the Insight Meditation Society in Massachusetts and one of the people who brought Buddhist meditation to the United States in the 1970s. "It fits a lot about the American spirit. You don't have to join anything. It's very private. It's a very direct answer to an awful lot of stress and confusion."

Marturano was one of those modern jugglers: a spouse, mother of school-age children, daughter to aging parents, president of an arts board in the Twin Cities and a top executive at General Mills.

"Every day I juggled faster and faster, and on most days, most of the time, most of the balls stayed in the air," she told the hospital group.

You know where this is going. What goes up must come down.

She was put in charge of a protracted buyout of Pillsbury by General Mills; failure would have

meant 10,000 layoffs (as she put it, 10,000 families losing an income, some of them people she knew). Then, within months, both of her parents died.

Marturano was depleted; a friend suggested a spa — not really her thing. Her friend insisted, and what finally lured Marturano was that it was an "intensive" retreat to study mindfulness. She figured if it was intensive, then it might be OK.

And so she found herself at a spa in Arizona, studying with Jon Kabat-Zinn, pioneer in bringing meditation to a secular audience. She was hooked.

When she returned to General Mills, she was for a time a "closet meditator." Slowly, she shared what she had learned and her thinking on using mindfulness as a leader. The company now has dedicated meditation rooms, and Marturano left in 2010 to found her institute.

"You do not have to chant, shave your head or wear a robe," she told the Long Beach group.

"Being mindful or meditating does not mean that thoughts don't intrude, that the mind doesn't wander. It does," she said. "Mindfulness occurs at the moment you are aware of the distraction. Then, escort the mind back to the breath."

When Suze Yalof Schwartz opened her pristine, white-walled West Los Angeles meditation studio nearly a year ago, she kept in mind just the sort of people Marturano knows well.

Unplug aims to be a place where "my husband, who's a venture capitalist and has zero tolerance for woo-woo things, won't walk out." There are no zafu cushions or incense sticks. Instead, meditators come into the studio and take a sleek, black folding chair — no sitting cross-legged required. The lighting is a pink-violet, inspired by the artist James Turrell.

Unplug appeals to the meditation skeptics, to "the people who don't want to meditate, but their shrinks told them they should," said Schwartz, who calls herself a spiritual entrepreneur. The formula for classes is simple, she said: Tell people what the point is, show them how to do it.

Meditation, said Schwartz, who spent years as a makeover maven and fashion editor in New York, speaks to our moment.

"We're all overstimulated. It doesn't matter whether you are 3 or 93. People are not going to the bathroom without their iPhones, and if they tell you they are, they're lying," she said. "We need a place to take a time out."



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Consider the vegetable and fruit aisles an anti-cancer pharmacy, nutritionists say.

Your mom knew how to prevent cancer

BY SUZANNE ALLARD LEVINGSTON

Special to The Washington Post

The best advice for cancer prevention is to do what your mom always told you: Eat your fruit and vegetables, get some exercise and keep that weight in a healthful range, said Stephen Hursting, a professor of nutrition at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Here are recommendations from nutrition experts for a balanced diet that will serve you well for avoiding a variety of diseases.

■ **Eat lots of leafy, colorful fruit and vegetables.** They're full of antioxidants, which are substances that help repair cell damage and may help prevent some kinds of cancer. These foods also

have anti-inflammatory components that might play a role in fighting cancer.

Red, orange and yellow pigments of an antioxidant class called carotenoids are thought to be particularly important and are found in such foods as carrots, sweet potatoes and peppers. Tomatoes have shown some benefits against prostate cancer, said Walter Willett, chair of the Department of Nutrition at the Harvard School of Public Health.

■ **Choose whole grains.** These fiber-rich foods, such as brown rice and bulgur, are essential for a healthy gut and healthy gut bacteria. Gut bacteria and the digestive tract play an important role in the immune system, which may be implicated in some cancers, said Marian Neu-

houser of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Whole-grain foods will help you feel full and avoid overeating, which can lead to excess weight and obesity and related cancers.

■ **Opt for lean protein.** Find protein in foods such as nuts or beans and in fish or lean meats. Limit red meats. Avoid processed meats. The American Institute for Cancer Research recommends aiming for a plate filled one-third or less with animal protein, two-thirds or more with fruit, vegetables and whole grains.

■ **Eat low-fat or nonfat dairy products.**

■ **Limit alcohol.** Experts recommend moderation.

■ **Limit empty calories.** Consider sugary sodas or sports drinks on par with cupcakes.

Ultrasound treatment may be option for plantar fasciitis

BY ALAN MOZES
HealthDay

An ultrasound technique is showing early promise as a quick and minimally invasive treatment for the common and painful foot condition known as plantar fasciitis.

The finding is based on a short-term study involving just 65 patients, the researchers noted.

"While the long-term outcome studies are in progress, the results we have seen to date are very promising," said Dr. Rahul Razdan, study lead author and an interventional radiologist with Advanced Medical Imaging in Lincoln, Neb.

The American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society describes plantar fasciitis as essentially an "overuse injury" resulting from inflammation of a band of tissue in the sole of the foot that links the heel bone to the base of the toes.

According to Razdan, standard treatment includes painkillers, cortisone shots, icing, heating, massage, silicone arch supports and physical therapy centered on the benefits of controlled stretching. For some patients, invasive surgery is another option.

Dr. Raymond Monto is an orthopedic surgeon at Nantucket Cottage Hospital in Nantucket, Mass. He said that about 85 percent of patients will recover from plantar fasciitis with sufficient rest and standard treatment. However, the remaining 15 percent are "problem patients" for whom typical treatments fail to provide relief.

"So when you're looking at chronic cases of disabling morning pain lasting three or four months or more, then absolutely it is warranted to explore new treatment options," Monto said, "because the treat-



CHRISTINE SCHNEIDER/CULTURA

A sonogram is used to check a patient's foot. A short-term study using ultrasound to treat plantar fasciitis showed promise.

ments we currently have are just not that great for these kind of stubborn cases."

Razdan said the new ultrasound therapy is an entirely "novel approach" that uses ultrasonic energy to cut and remove damaged, pain-generating tissue while sparing healthy foot tissue.

In the study, Razdan's team tested the procedure on 65 patients who sought care at an interventional radiology clinic in 2013 and 2014.

All had chronic plantar fasciitis, and all had failed to respond to standard treatments.

During the ultrasound therapy, doctors guided a hollow needle tip into an area of "problem" tissue by means of ultrasound guidance. Once in position, the tip targeted a combination of high-frequency/low-amplitude sound to the damaged foot region. That broke up the pain-generating tissue, which was then extracted out of the foot.

In total, average treatment time was about a minute and a half, and sedation was not used.

According to the study, by two weeks after treatment patients showed more than a 90 percent improvement (on average) in their foot disability assessments, compared with their pre-treatment status.

These improvements appeared to persist for at least six months out, with no notable complications, Razdan said.

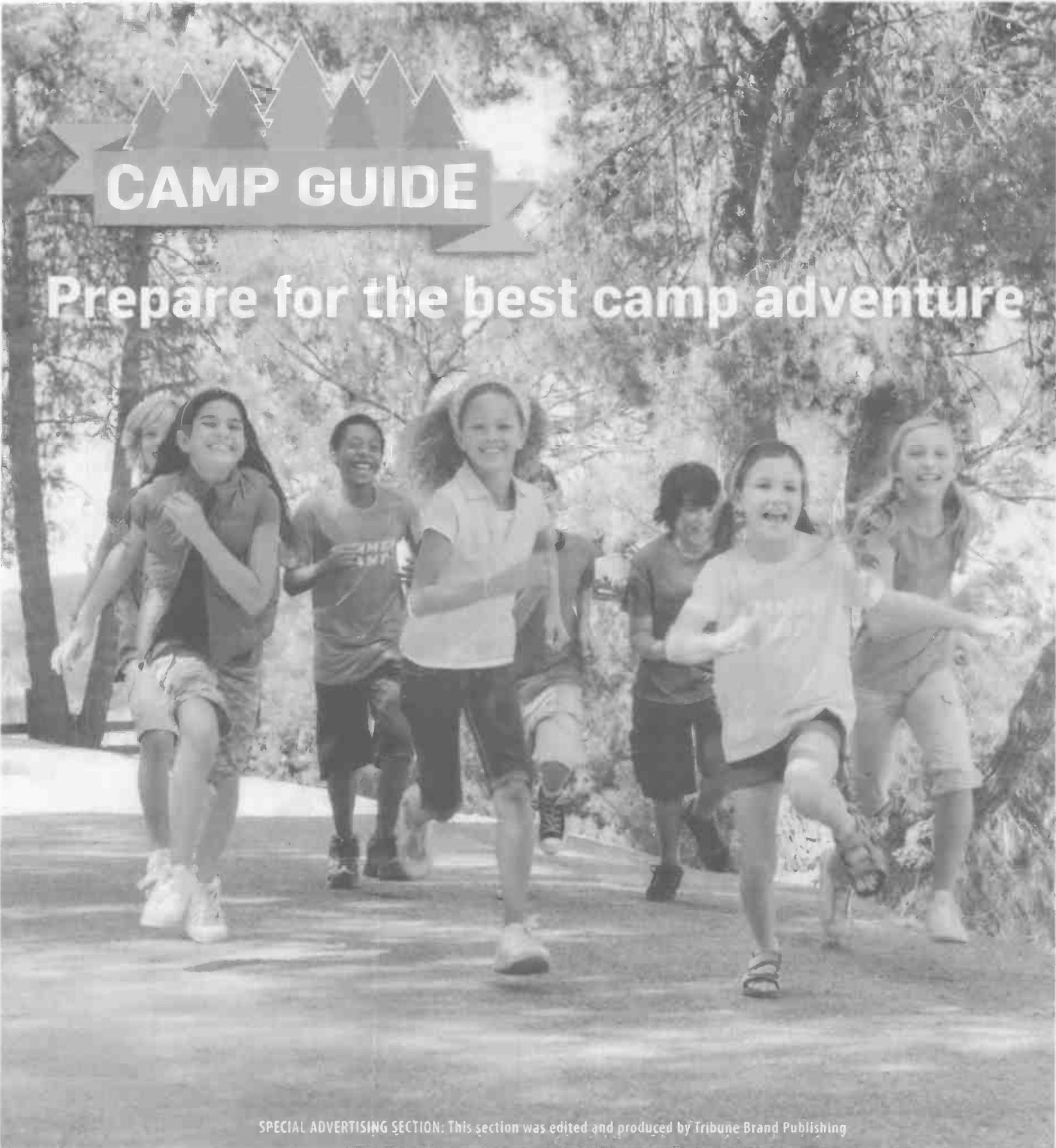
"It's premature at six months to know if these kinds of early results can be sustained for longer periods of time," said Monto, who was not involved in the new research. "Still, it's a fascinating approach and certainly worth looking at further," he said.

However, Dr. Howard Luks, chief of sports medicine at Westchester Medical Center and New York Medical College in Valhalla, N.Y., said the idea isn't all that new. He said the idea of using ultrasound to address plantar fasciitis has been kicking around for the better part of a decade, with mixed results.

"We do need more treatment options, and it would be nice to have a procedure to offer that's not invasive for patients who fail typical conservative measures," Luks said. "Surgery is never a great option when your foot's involved."

"But this idea," Luks added, "has been on the radar for a while. At a certain point it seemed to be coming into favor. ... But then it fell out of favor, as some studies showed that it had moderate benefit, while others showed it had no benefit whatsoever."

"So I would say that there could potentially always be a renewed role for this, if it's clearly deemed to be efficacious," he said. "But it's certainly not new. And I would never bet the farm on any one study."



CAMP GUIDE

Prepare for the best camp adventure

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION: This section was edited and produced by Tribune Brand Publishing

Be healthy and happy at summer camp

These long, cold winter days sometimes make it difficult to focus on the fun of camp that awaits us every summer.

A great camp is more than just fun and games. Camp provides a tremendous opportunity for children to begin laying the foundation for a healthy and happy lifestyle. Camp does more than just form a bridge between the school years. A summer spent playing, laughing, growing and learning can be the catalyst for a lifetime of happiness and success for your children.

Camp provides a unique opportunity to enjoy and explore a wide variety of physical activities. Traditional sports such as baseball, soccer, basketball and football, provide campers an engaging opportunity to learn and play. In addition, campers gain exposure to sports and activities that they might otherwise not have experienced, such as high ropes, pioneering or kayaking. Daily swimming provides campers with a chance for physical development as well as a valuable life skill. Playgrounds and creative play areas allow campers to

exercise both their bodies as well as their imaginations. This sort of play is essential to the development of healthy, well-adjusted children. Through increased physical activity, children will build stronger, healthier bodies and an appreciation for an active lifestyle, which will in turn help set the stage for a healthier and a happier adulthood. Camp provides a refreshing change from the rigors of the school year to focus on just playing and the enjoyment that comes from being outdoors.

A traditional outdoor camp setting imparts a sense of adventure and offers the freedom and opportunity to explore our natural environment. Too often, suburban sprawl confines us to small, self-contained play areas such as a neighborhood park. Camp empowers children to disconnect from the TV or gaming platform and to reconnect and enjoy the expansive, natural beauty that once surrounded us. From the simple exploration of a muddy creek bed in search of animal tracks to racing down a zip line through the trees, camp provides

an opportunity to unplug from the day to day grind and overprogramming that has percolated down to our children. Outdoor experiences like these afford a remarkable opportunity to add a sense of wonder and awe back to play.

Camp offers all this in an environment that encourages and strengthens friendship, team building and the ability to grow while having fun. The spirit of joy and laughter that resonates through a campground, as well as permeates a child's memory, represents the most fitting tribute to any summer spent at camp. It is no surprise that children frequently attend camp with their friends. What is perhaps more surprising is the number and depth of relationships with which children emerge from camp. Lifelong friendships are forged and cemented at camp every summer. That ability to make new friends represents an enduring skill that will continue to pay dividends through college and beyond. Every summer, campers grow so close to their counselors that the joy



A Banner Day Camp attendee shows off her bug collecting jar.

of the summer is always punctuated by the realization of how much they will miss their counselor; at least they will see them back at camp next year.

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



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CAMP MAGELLAN, WEST COOK YMCA

Summer camp at the Y means days filled with activities at the local forest preserve, swimming, games, sports and field trips. Your child will experience the best of what summer has to offer — all in a safe environment where he or she can try something new, build friendships and make memories to last a lifetime.

June 8th – August 21st

Mention this ad when you register by April 30th and save 10%

Details and registration forms available at westcookymca.org/camp

WEST COOK YMCA 255 S. Marion St., Oak Park, IL 60302 | 708 383 5200

Is your child camp-ready?

Consider these factors before sending your child to camp

Going away to summer camp may be one of the first separation experiences for your child. Head off these feelings by fully preparing your child for the adventure.

"Recognizing that you and your child are growing and learning on a journey together is key to adequately preparing yourself and your child for any type of separation, including going to camp for the first time," says American Camp Association (ACA) executive director, Peg Smith.

Feelings of separation are normal but allowing your child the opportunity to be independent in a safe environment might help strengthen emotional development. According to the ACA, healthy separation can prepare a child to be a more confident overall and help them recognize their strengths.

Before signing up your child for camp, consider several factors. Director Kevin Gordon of Camp Kupugani suggests discussing if overnight camp is appropriate for your camper before making any decisions.

"There's no perfect formula, but you definitely want to make sure that your child is ready," Gordon says. "The camp experience is far too valuable to turn your child off because he isn't yet ready."

Gordon suggests truthfully answering questions regarding your child's development before researching overnight summer camps. Has your child had positive experiences staying overnight away from home? Can your child normally care for herself or himself without much supervision? Is your child comfortable about telling other adults about their needs?

Gordon says also to consider: "if he's able to tell adults easily about his needs that can make for a seamless transition. If he's a little shy at first, but usually soon finds someone he trusts, that also works well. If he's often nervous about telling teachers or other adults that he needs help, then you should pay special attention."

Honestly answering questions about your child's independence can help you determine if he or she is ready to stay at an



Photo by Camp Kupugani

overnight camp.

If you know your child is ready and is of the appropriate age level, involve them in the research experience. Let your child express their interests and allow them to be a part of the process. Discuss any concerns they might have, and let them openly

express what they are feeling.

"The more the child can be involved in the decision-making process and reviewing information, the better," Gordon says. "Checking out camp videos, pictures, or visiting the camp are all beneficial to a first-time camper's readiness and confidence."



"Our camp conforms to kids, not the other way around."

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Packing List

Typical packing list for summer away camp

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | brush/comb | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 swimsuits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | toothbrush/paste | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 pajamas/robes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | soap/soapbox/shampoo | <input type="checkbox"/> | names and addresses of 5 friends (to send free camp postcards) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | (2 in 1 shampoo/conditioner is a good idea) | <input type="checkbox"/> | stamped, pre-addressed envelopes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | hat or visor | <input type="checkbox"/> | jacket/windbreaker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | sunscreen/lip balm | <input type="checkbox"/> | rain gear/poncho |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | insect repellent (not containing Deet!) | <input type="checkbox"/> | sunglasses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 pr tennis shoes (in case one gets wet) | <input type="checkbox"/> | flashlight & extra batteries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 pr Teva type sandals/Aqua sox | <input type="checkbox"/> | water bottle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | stationery/stamps/pen/pencil | <input type="checkbox"/> | culturally representative item (i.e. flag, clothing, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | sleeping bag | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 long sleeve cotton shirts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 10 short sleeved t-shirts | <input type="checkbox"/> | laundry bag |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 sweatshirts/sweaters | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 bath towels |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 pr jeans/pants/sweatpants | <input type="checkbox"/> | Bedding: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7 pr shorts | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 blanket |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | (length=no more than 3 inches above knee) | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 fitted sheets and 2 flat sheets (singles) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | garbage bag for wet/dirty clothes | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 pillow and 2 cases |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | socks (enough for one week) | <input type="checkbox"/> | index cards with your name and contact info (to share with new friends before leaving camp) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 10 pr underwear | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | girl campers: feminine hygiene products (incl. tampons or pads) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | large garbage bag labeled with your name (for wet or last-minute items) | | |

Optional

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | toiletries case/basket | <input type="checkbox"/> | small fan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | musical instrument | <input type="checkbox"/> | disposable camera or other non-digital camera |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | reading material/books | <input type="checkbox"/> | one nice, casual outfit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | fanny pack for carrying inhaler or Epi-Pen, if necessary | <input type="checkbox"/> | soccer shin guards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | shirt/socks to be tie-dyed | <input type="checkbox"/> | Croc-type sandals (for shower only...not for use elsewhere, i.e. doesn't count as shoe w/straps) |

When packing your items for camp, please remember:
Anything you wear during camp may get stained, torn, and sometimes completely ruined! Camp is fun and can get messy!

NOT to Bring!

The following are typically confiscated.

- Food, candy, or gum.
- Knives or other weapons
- Matches or lighters
- Hair dryers, curling irons or hair straighteners (fire hazard)
- Box fans (if necessary, those will be supplied by camp for the cabin)
- Make-up or perfume
- Electronic games
- Cell phone or pagers
- MP3 player, or personal music player, or radio
- Money
- ANYTHING VALUABLE

Source: Camp Kupugani



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AGES 3-12 ★ SPORTS ★ AQUATICS ★ ADVENTURE ★ ARTS

Summer programs reach out to non-traditional campers

Camps offer tailored experience for kids with special needs

At summer camp, children have the opportunity to grow intellectually and emotionally through new experiences outside of their home environment. Some camps, however, go beyond the traditional camp adventure to transform the lives of those who may not have had an opportunity before.

The Illinois Fire Safety Alliance started Camp "I Am Me." The program allows children with burn injuries the opportunity to participate in camp activities such as swimming and sports in a non-judgmental atmosphere to help build their self-esteem.

"We support character development by challenging campers to accept and demonstrate positive values such as caring, honesty, respect, responsibility, and joy," says Camp "I Am Me" director Phillip Zaleski. "These projects work on issues of burn survival, self-esteem and exploring themselves and how people see them."

Children enrolled in Camp "I Am Me" are given the opportunity to stay in touch with each other after the camp is over, which



Photo courtesy of Illinois Fire Safety Alliance

provides peer support for those who have undergone similar experiences.

"Many become lifetime friends from this," Zaleski says. "No one is really able to understand the physical and emotional pain and suffering of a burn survivor except for another burn survivor."

For this reason, the positive outcomes of camp go well beyond the one week the kids are together in June.

Camps can also introduce children to the

act of community service. Camp Ondessonk is one of several religious camps throughout Illinois that allows campers to participate in community service programs during and after the camp ends.

"Responsibility and independence are the fundamental building blocks that help our children become strong productive members of our community," says Ondessonk's director of marketing, Tony Vrooman. "Members are divided geograph-

ically to perform service in their communities and for Ondessonk throughout the calendar year."

Some camps also cater to communities with special needs. Camp One In A Hundred was established to help children develop social skills who have been diagnosed with challenges such as Asperger's Syndrome, ADD/ADHD and other anxiety disorders. The camp's staff is comprised of doctors and professionals who have experience working with children with social cognitive challenges.

"We serve children with high functioning special needs by combining therapy and theater into the day camp experience," says executive director, Cheryl Allen. "We are able to combine therapy into the camp because children don't want therapy in the summer, they want fun."

Children are divided by group and function level, and they work with a psychologist, a certified speech-language pathologist and a drama professional with a background in working with children with special needs.

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SCHOOL
OF ROCK
OAK PARK, IL

2015 Camp Listings

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.

BASE CAMP

970 Madison St.
Oak Park, IL 60302

(708) 524-3023, opef.org/basecamp

Come to Oak Park Education

Foundation's BASE Camp in Oak Park for hands-on summer enrichment in a creative, collaborative environment that includes: Time Warp Tales; VEX Robotics; Hip-Hop Dance; Sailing + STEM; LEGO Engineering; Good Food Experience; Art + Technology; Urban Biker; Waterbotics and 15 more engaging camps from June 15 to July 10. Camps are open to all kids from any school entering grades 1-8 in fall 2015. Options include one- and two-week programs; half- or full-day programs and extended camp until 6 p.m. Get full details and register online today.

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

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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 caring 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.

CODE SPORTS CAMP

30 Chicago Ave.
Oak Park IL, 60302
708-374-8286, codeplaylearn.com



Teaming up mind and body, Code Sports Camp is an innovative collaboration between business neighbors Code Play Learn and Legacy Sports Camp. Serving boys and girls currently in kindergarten through the eighth grade, the weekly camps begin on June 8, with the first three weeks geared toward children from kindergarten through sixth grade, the next week for current third through fifth-graders and a mid-July camp for fifth through eighth-grade students. The blend of mental and physical stimulation addresses a rising demand among parents — and promises to chal-

lenge and engage children in dramatically different ways.

CAMP ST. JOHN'S NORTHWESTERN

1101 Genesee St.
Delafield, WI 53018
(262) 646-7199, sjnma.org/summer-programs

Camp St. John's Northwestern offers four one-week sessions for young men ages 10 to 16. These high-energy adventure camps are designed to promote physical activity, leadership, self-confidence and teamwork while having fun. Each camp session includes popular activities such as paint-

ball, rappelling/rock climbing, The Mud-Pit and archery, to name a few. Campers may participate in more than one session. Day and boarding camps are available.

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 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 shuttle buses throughout Lake County serve areas such as Lake Zurich, Grayslake, Mundelein, Gurnee, Abbott Park and Vernon Hills.

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CAMP GUIDE

each of Impact Dance Studio's weeklong, themed camps, dancers will enjoy a fun dance warm up, make different crafts each day and learn a very special dance to be performed for friends and family on the last day of camp. All levels and ages from 2 to 12 years old are encouraged to join the fun. Why not try the Doc McStuffins, Super Hero or Barbie camp? The kids love to get into character, and campers will have a blast every day of the week.

IMPROV PLAYHOUSE PERFORMING ARTS CAMPS

Libertyville and Highland Park

847-968-4529, improvplayhouse.com

Improv Playhouse Performing Arts Camps (ACA accredited) involve your child in fun-filled, local summer camp programming with stellar professional staff at prices for families looking for flexible choices and budgets. Sessions of "Frozen"/"Newsies"/"Glee," filmmaking, improv comedy, fashion and print modeling are held at the locations in Libertyville and Highland Park. Camp sessions offer unique training where each camper will have the opportunity to explore and focus upon new paths of creativity. Improv Playhouse emphasizes an environment that nurtures every child as an indi-

vidual artist, challenges aspiring actors and inspires performing arts beginners. All levels are encouraged to enroll. Ages 6-17.

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

Get inspired to play this summer at Lake Forest Parks and Recreation. The camps are

Legacy Sports Leagues



Jr. League:
Grades
3rd/4th/5th

Pro League:
Grades
6th/7th/8th

4/19, 4/26, 5/3, 5/17 @ Sports Zone in Melrose Park.



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July 2**
In Oak Park

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For 1st-8th graders | Exciting, educational, hands-on programs for every kid from any school! Options for 1- and 2-week programs, 1/2 or full day, in Oak Park.

filled with many opportunities for great experiences, new friendships, exploring the outdoors and creating a fantastic and memorable summer. Lake Forest Parks and Recreation has been providing camps to Lake Forest and surrounding communities for more than 59 years, and it offers the best variety, flexibility and value around. It is again offering this year a series of two-week options in most of the camps as well as the traditional full summer option. Find your inspiration and make this your best summer yet with Lake Forest Parks and Recreation.

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Oak Park, IL 60301

708-524-LALA (5252), lmschool.com

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LEGACY SPORTS CAMP

info@legacysportscamp.com,

legacysportscamp.com

Legacy Sports Camp offers a number of spring break/summer camps, sports leagues, training, after-school programs and birthday parties for boys and girls in grades K-9 throughout Oak Park, River Forest and Melrose Park. The spring and summer programs are currently accepting registration. This spring, Legacy Sports Camp will be offering exciting Flag Football League for grades 3-5 and 6-8 at Sportszone in Melrose Park. This summer, we are offering basketball leagues for incoming fourth and fifth-grade boys and seventh and eighth-grade girls. Email info@legacysportscamp.com for information.

MATHNASIUM OF OAK PARK AND RIVER FOREST

212 S. Marion St.

Oak Park IL 60302

708-613-4007,

mathnasium.com/oakpark/riverforest

Summer presents a wonderful opportunity to help kids with any math concepts that they didn't master during the school year as well as get a head start for the upcoming school year. Extended time away from school can leave kids rusty in their academic subjects. Additional math help

prior to the start of school and into early fall months can help children warm up their math muscles and recall those important concepts from the prior year they no longer remember. Mathnasium offers year-round and summer-only programs, including test prep and homework help. With a variety of tailored learning plans and specific goals, Mathnasium can make a student's summer enjoyable and productive.

NORTHBROOK PARK DISTRICT

545 Academy Drive

Northbrook, IL 60062

847-291-2995, nbparks.org

The Northbrook Park District offers 10 weeks of high-quality summer camps for tots to teens with numerous enriching experiences outdoors and close to home. The camp is committed to providing a wide variety of safe, active learning opportunities that promote teamwork, friendship and fun.

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920-893-0782 www.anokijig.com Plymouth, WI

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SCHOOL OF ROCK OAK PARK

219 Lake St.
Oak Park, IL 60302
708-298-0002, oakpark.schoolofrock.com

Want to rock? Enroll! Sign up for a Summer Camp and get a free T-shirt. School of Rock has something for musicians at all levels (ages 8-17): History of Punk, Chicago Blues, Song Writing, The Beatles and more. More than a music school, School of Rock inspires the world to rock on stage and in life. Kids of all ages (adults, too) can express themselves freely. The school is social, inspiring and a place where anything is possible. School of Rock sets the bar high and the kids go for it. It offers lessons on guitar, bass, drums, vocals and keys. For information, call or visit the website.

STEVE & KATE'S CAMP

28 Liberty Ship Way, Suite 2815
Sausalito, CA 94965

Mailing Address:
70 W Madison St,
Three First National Plaza, Suite 1400,
Chicago, IL 60602

773-770-4752 ext. 128, steveandkate.com

At Steve & Kate's Camp, camp conforms to kids, not the other way around. Campers

grades pre-K through seventh grade choose activities such as stop-motion animation, soccer in an inflatable stadium, go-karts, bread making, knitting, music recording in custom vocal booths, learning to code and pie throwing - all good for your child's resumé. Two ways to play: (1) Day Passes: Buy any number of days and use them anytime. (2) Membership: One fee covers the entire summer. Lunch, snacks and all materials included in both plans. You don't even have to tell us when you're coming. At the end of the summer, we'll give you a full refund for unused days. Ta-da! Camp just got easier. Camps are located in Oak Park, River Forest and four other Chicagoland locations, and open 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

TERRA INCOGNITO STUDIOS AND GALLERY

246 Chicago Ave.
Oak Park, IL 60302
35 S. LaGrange Rd.
LaGrange IL 60525

708-383-6228, terraincognitostudios.com

Terra Incognito's Summer Camps have been a favorite of parents and kids for 15 years. Camps are designed to fit complicated schedules. Register for whichever

camp fits your schedule, your child's interest or for the entire summer. For 5-9 year-olds, Terra features Multi-Media Camps. Your child will have a thoroughly enjoyable and creative summer as she/he explores a variety of materials and methods while learning about different cultures and art processes. Also offered are Throwing pots on the Potters Wheel for teens (12-15) and preteens (9-12). These camps fill quickly. Reserve your space today on the website.

WEST COOK YMCA

255 S. Marion St.
Oak Park IL 60302
708-383-5200, westcookymca.org

Explore your summer at the West Cook YMCA, and have the best summer ever. You know you count on West Cook YMCA for what you need to live healthily and feel great. You can also count on the camp to give your kids the best summer ever. Friendship: The West Cook YMCA is here to inspire kids to work together and play together while creating friendships that can last a lifetime. Accomplishment: The West Cook YMCA is here to surround your kids with fantastic chances to try new experiences. Show them all they can



Photo courtesy of Camp Chicago

do when they believe in themselves. Belonging: The West Cook YMCA is here to make kids feel welcome, feel comfortable being themselves and know they're a part of something great.

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mathnasium.com/oakpark/riverforest

210 S. Marion St.
Oak Park, IL 60302

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For details, visit nbparks.org
or call 847-291-2995.



Unhappy campers: Helping combat separation anxiety



Photo courtesy of Camp Kupugani

Healthy separation is a critical step on a child's journey towards independence. Summer camp can be the safe environment that allows children to grow emotionally and for their self-esteem to mature.

Becoming more self-reliant, however, might trigger nervousness as a child prepares to leave home for a new experience. Parents can help ease separation anxiety by providing positive guidance in the transi-

tion from home to camp. The American Camp Association suggests the following advice to parents:

Ask children what their interests are and what they would like to learn at camp. Research camps together to find a program that is the right fit.

"Learning in advance about the camp experience allows a parent to create positive expectations for the child," says Kevin Gordon, director of Camp Kupugani and Camp White Eagle. "The more information you and he can get about the program beforehand, the better for a smooth transition from home life to camp life."

If your child is feeling anxious or sad about leaving home, acknowledge her or his feelings in a positive way. Do not plan an exit strategy. If a child calls and expresses a desire to come home, parents should speak calmly and offer reassurance.

"Do not offer to rescue your child," says Marla Coleman, former president of the American Camp Association. "That only confirms for him that you believe he cannot cope with something that is difficult."

Instead, have your child focus on the positive, learning experiences of the camp and the friendships she or he will be forming. Have your child pack a small, personal item to evoke feelings of home during difficult times.

Homesickness is a natural part of the separation process, and children may want to know if they can contact their families.

"Overcoming a bout of homesickness and enjoying time away from home nurtures children's independence and prepares them for the future," Gordon says.

Camps train staff members to help children deal with homesickness. For most children, feelings of homesickness tend to dissipate the more involved they are with camp activities. However, discuss communication options with camp staff before enrollment. Many camps offer password access to their website where the staff may post photos, videos or updates that allow parents to check in and see how their child is doing. Some camps may also allow for the delivery of email or regular mail throughout the session. Knowing that

some communication may be involved may ease the feelings of separation.

If you have any concerns, contact the camp and speak with a counselor before enrollment.

Many camps provide assistance on how to prepare your child for the camping experience.



Photo courtesy of Camp Kupugani

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THEO JAMES

THE 'INSURGENT' STAR REFUSES TO BE LABELED

SEAN PENN

THE A-LISTER REVS UP FOR HIS NEW MOVIE, 'THE GUNMAN'

CHICAGO BULLS CHARITIES'
AN EVENING WITH THE CHICAGO BULLS

BEAR NECESSITIES PEDIATRIC CANCER FOUNDATION'S
BEAR TIE BALL

& MORE

Kathy Griffin

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SPLASH

WHAT DOES YOUR HOME SAY ABOUT YOU?

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Founder
Michael Ferro



BIG SEXY HAIR FULL BLOOM

Next weekend, Chicago will be flooded with over 60,000 salon professionals for the annual America's Beauty Show, where brands display their latest goods. We already love Sexy Hair products, but the brand's latest offering is a horse of a different color — or scent, rather: The perfumed hairspray boasts a 72-hour hold, plus 24 hours of fragrance (a combination of flowers and fruity apple-pear). \$14.95. Ulta, 114 S. State; ulta.com



RPM COCKTAILS FOR CHARITY

March over to RPM Steak (66 W. Kinzie) or RPM Italian (52 W. Illinois) this month for a charitable cocktail: Restaurant partner **Bill Rancic** has teamed up with Mercy Home for Boys & Girls to donate a portion of sales from Steak's Old Fashioned (\$13) and Italian's Bellini (\$12) to the nonprofit's March for the Kids campaign. Marchforkids.org

SWAROVSKI SHINE

Fitness gets a fabulous twist with this gleaming activity and sleep monitor. The large crystal is a high-tech tracker in disguise: It fits seamlessly into your wardrobe with a range of nine pieces of jewelry — think pendants, watches, and bracelets — plus counts steps and calories burned, tells time and syncs wirelessly to your smartphone. Tracker, wrist band and sports band, \$199. 540 N. Michigan; Swarovski.com



TÊTE CHARCUTERIE GRAB-AND-GO LUNCH

The meat-centric West Loop restaurant is targeting carnivores on the go. Last week, it debuted a counter-service lunch menu, featuring dishes like jambon beurre (French ham), Italian sausage and a weekly terrine and salumi sandwich. Sandwiches, \$12. 1114 W. Randolph; Tetecharcuterie.com

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Illustration by Mark Steeman

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the calendar

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



BY THOMAS CONNORS

THIS WEEK

MARCH 17

●● SAUCED NIGHT MARKET

The 21-and-over monthly market returns with a St. Pat's-themed event, featuring beer from Marz Community Brewing Co., art from local creator **Nicolette Ross**, jewelry from Made in and so much more.

Time: 6-11 p.m.
Place: Emporium, 2343 N. Milwaukee
Cost: Free. For more info, visit Saucedmarket.com.

MARCH 18

● TALKING ABOUT INJUSTICE: A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION WITH BRIAN STEVENSON

A public interest attorney and founder of the Equal Justice Ini-



tiative, **Brian Stevenson** discusses his life — his memoir, *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*, is a New York Times Best Seller — and work as a guest of Facing History and Ourselves and The Allstate Foundation.

Time: 6-7:30 p.m.
Place: Thorne Auditorium, 375 E. Chicago
Cost: Free. For reservations (recommended), call (312) 345-3203 or visit Facinghistory.org/community-conversations.

MARCH 19-22 ● PEACE ON EARTH FILM FESTIVAL

MARCH 20

○ Animal Magnetism

PAWS.Chicago — which found new families for 5,952 homeless pets last year — relies entirely on community support to fulfill its mission. Don your best cocktail attire for this lively evening, which is emceed by KISS-FM's **Christopher "Brotha' Fred" Frederick** and features doggie brush-outs and bandanas for man's best friend.

Time: 7 p.m.
Place: Venue One, 1034 W. Randolph
Cost: Starting at \$125 and \$25 per pooch. For tickets, visit Animalmagnetism.pawsevents.org.

The eighth annual festival's roster includes "J Street: The Art of the Possible," a look at young, pro-Israel lobbyists; "The Light at Walden," a conscientious objector's testament; and "The Road to Little Rock," an examination of the attempt to desegregate an Arkansas high school in 1957.

Place: Chicago Cultural Center, 78

E. Washington
Cost: Free. For a full schedule, visit Peaceonearthfilm-festival.org.

MARCH 21

● BIG MAC UNDER GLASS

Benefiting Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana — which provide comfort and community for

families of sick children — this black tie-optional event is emceed by comedian **Pat McGann**. Enjoy cocktails, dinner, a raffle and silent auction.

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, 301 E. North Water

Cost: \$475. For tickets, visit Bigmacunderglass.org.



MARCH 21

● **GGLASS-QUERADE**

David Schwimmer (above) hosts this event benefitting Lookingglass Theatre, at which Chef **Rick Bayless** and Steppenwolf Theatre's **Martha Lavey** will receive The Lookingglass Civic Engagement Award.

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: The InterContinental Chicago, 505 N. Michigan

Cost: Starting at \$2,500 for a pair. For tickets, email Events@lookingglasstheatre.org.



THROUGH MARCH 22

● **Chicago Flower & Garden Show**

You don't have to have a green thumb to enjoy this mammoth celebration of all that grows — just wandering through the exquisite installations is a thrill. But if you're eager to learn, there are seminars and demonstrations, a Kids' Activity Garden, photography competition, cake decorating competition, creative tabletop displays and a marketplace where more than 100 vendors offer everything from plants to fountains.

Time: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday

Place: Navy Pier, 600 E. Grand

Cost: \$17 weekdays. \$19 weekends; \$5 kids ages 4-12. For tickets, visit Chicagoflower.com.

MARCH 21-22

● **VISCERAL DANCE CHICAGO**

This vibrant troupe — founded by former Giordano Dance member

Nick Pupillo — solidifies its presence on the local scene with a program that includes new pieces by Pupillo and **Brian Enos**.

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

Place: Harris Theater, 205 E. Randolph

Cost: \$25-\$60. For tickets, call (312) 334-7777 or visit Harristheaterchicago.org.

NEXT WEEK

MARCH 26

● **'FROM WISCONSIN ... WITH LOVE'**

There's more than beer and brats in the Badger State.

The Dawson Executive Chef **Shaun King** salutes our neighbor-to-the-north with a camping-inspired dinner, featuring libations from Death's Door Spirits and dishes such as fluke with fennel.

Time: 6-9 p.m.

Place: The Dawson, 730 W. Grand

Cost: \$65. For reservations, visit The-dawson.com/wisconsinwithlove.

MARCH 24

● **PARK HYATT MASTERS OF FOOD & WINE**

This scrumptious series from the Park Hyatt's NoMI continues to entice. The first-of five events this year is a Bouchard Père & Fils Wine Dinner, **Luc Buchard**, whose family has operated the renowned Burgundian house for nine generations, will share his insights and lead diners through a fine selection of bottles accompanying the four-course meal Chef de Cuisine **Paul Dobroski** (left) has specially created for the occasion.

Time: 6-9 p.m.

Place: Park Hyatt Chicago, 800 N. Michigan
Cost: \$130. For tickets, call (312) 239-4137 or visit Mastersfoodandwine.com.



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The Most Magnificent Thing



WED, MAY 6, 10-11AM
What do you do with an idea?



WED, JUN 3, 10-11AM
Iggy Peck Architect



WED JUL 1, 10-11AM
Larry Gets Lost in Chicago



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scene & heard

CHICAGO BULLS CHARITIES' AN EVENING WITH THE CHICAGO BULLS

The scene: On Feb. 26, the Chicago Bulls Charities hosted its 26th annual gala, "An Evening with the Chicago Bulls," featuring a progressive cocktail reception, dinner by Lettuce Entertain You Restaurants, live entertainment, a silent auction and a special comedic performance by **Gary Owen** at the Advocate Center (15 S. Wood).

The invite list: The soiree — hosted by "Windy City LIVE!"s **Val Warner** and **Ryan Chiaverini** — let supporters mix and mingle with current Bulls stars, including **Joakim Noah, Jimmy Butler** and **Taj Gibson**, plus former players like **Scottie Pippen**. The bash also debuted the Chicago Bulls Charities Collection, a line of socks, ties and pocket squares designed in collaboration with Chicago-based menswear brand The Tie Bar.

The bottom line: All proceeds from the gala benefit Chicago Bulls Charities, which provides annual financial support to Chicagoland nonprofits that share the Bulls' commitment to youth education, health and wellness and violence prevention. —*Chiara Miliouls*

Splash was the media sponsor of this event.

Jacky and Michael Ferro, Jr./The Sun-Times Foundation donated to the Chicago Bulls Charities.



"Best night out in Chicago, hosted by two fabulous women: Nancy Reinsdorf and Leslie Forman. I mean, where else could you play a video game with the players who are in the game?"

— **Justine Fedak**
of presenting sponsor **BMO Harris Bank**



3



4



6

1. Guests play video games with Mike Dunleavy, Jr. during the cocktail hour.
2. Jimmy Butler meets partygoers.
3. Taj Gibson
4. Scottie and Larsa Pippen with Nancy and Michael Reinsdorf
5. Jacky Ferro and Lupe Fiasco
6. R.J. and Jerrod Melman
7. Joakim Noah and Cathy Elward

PHOTOS BY RAMZI DREESSEN,
OREN AMZALEG
AND GRACE WILEY



Phoebe DePree, Adam Gerchen and Lauren Grundhofer Peterson

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO'S UNCORKED: A CASE FOR WINE

The scene: The Art Institute of Chicago's Auxiliary Board toasted to "Uncorked: A Case for Wine" at Casino (195 E. Delaware) Feb. 28. The 6th annual event featured a wine-tasting reception and a seated gourmet dinner, with dishes like with sea scallops and braised short ribs paired with wines from Buehler Vineyards.

The invite list: Co-chairs **Lauren Grundhofer Peterson, Adam Gerchen** and **Phoebe DePree** made sure there was no shortage of luxury: Live and silent auctions featured items like a Buccellati jewelry experience and courtside Bulls tickets. Later the more than 250 guests tested their luck during a raffle by Celebrity Cruises.



Dustin O'Regan in a McElroy fur that was up for auction

The bottom line: More than \$180,000 was raised for the Auxiliary Board to help support special exhibitions at the Art Institute of Chicago. —*Chiara Miliouls*

Splash was the media sponsor of this event.



7



**SHEILA
ARWAY**

in Robert Rodriguez at
Vertigo Sky Lounge

**LINDSAY
AVNER**

in Amanda Uprichard
at Stella Barra Pizzeria

VALERIE CORR HANSERD

in Lafayette 148 New
York at The dec Rooftop
Lounge + Bar

**ANNA
DZAMASHVILI**

in Wren at The Kensington
Roof Garden & Lounge

JANE ZAPPALA

in a dress from Nordstrom
at the Fairmont Chicago
Millennium Park

The violet hour

Next week marks the official start of spring (would someone *please* let Mother Nature know?) — and Chicago's fashion elite are prepping their purples. Ditch the tights and hop into lovely lilac skirts from flirty brand Alice + Olivia or Emilio Pucci's vibrant violet tie-dyed maxis. When it comes to choosing the exact shade, we go for amethyst — it pairs perfectly with the 2015 Pantone Color of the Year, Marsala. Even if the cold weather sticks around, at least you can match the flowers that *ought* to be blooming.

parties

BEAR NECESSITIES PEDIATRIC CANCER FOUNDATION'S BEAR TIE BALL

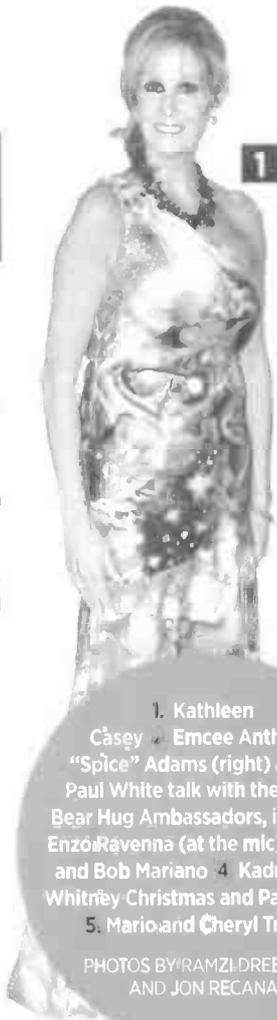
The scene: Retired Chicago Bear and "Inside the Bears" host **Anthony "Spice" Adams** welcomed 650 guests to the 22nd annual Bear Tie Ball, themed "Latin Nights," at Union Station (500 W. Jackson) Febr. 28.

The invite list: Hosts **Nina Mariano** and **Paul Iacono** joined guests in heating up the dance floor — thanks to live music from **The Puerto Rican Arts Alliance's Cuatro Ensemble** and **Ken Arlen Evolution Orchestra** — and bidding on items like a trip to Abu Dhabi from Qatar Airways and private dinners by Piccolo Sogno Chef **Tony Priolo**. Later, the foundation recognized this year's William J. Casey Hope Awards honorees: The Langham Chicago and

O'Hare-Midway Limousine Service. To round out the night, Honorary Bear Hug Ambassador **Emily Crabtree** spoke about her brave cancer journey.

The bottom line: The fête raised more than \$760,000 for Bear Necessities Pediatric Cancer Foundation, which is dedicated to eliminating pediatric cancer and providing support to those affected by it through its Bear Discoveries and Bear Hugs programs.

Splash was a media sponsor of this event. The Sun-Times Foundation and the Chicago Community Trust will match every dollar donated to Bear Necessities Pediatric Cancer Foundation up to a total of \$15,000. Up to \$1,000 can be matched per individual donation.



1



2

1. Kathleen Casey & Emcee Anthony "Spice" Adams (right) and Fr. Paul White talk with the young Bear Hug Ambassadors, including Enzo Ravenna (at the mic). 3. Nina and Bob Mariano 4. Kadmiel and Whitney Christmas and Paul Iacono 5. Mario and Cheryl Tricoli

PHOTOS BY RAMZI DREESSEN AND JON RECANA



4



5



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shopping spy

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Shinola
Detroit
Arrow bike,
\$1,000

SOLEMATES

Experience some serious shoe envy: On March 25, the ladies of The Service Club of Chicago host a reception with renowned couture shoe designer **Gianvito Rossi** to reveal his glam Spring 2015 collection. 5-7 p.m., Neiman Marcus, 737 N. Michigan. For tickets (\$50), visit Serviceclubofchicago.org

BEAUTY LOFT

George Gonzalez has moved his eponymous George the Salon to a new, 3,300-square-foot loft. In addition to hair services, the Gold Coast location offers facials and waxing. Women's cuts start at \$75, color services start at \$25 and up-dos start at \$80. 945 N. Rush; Georgethesalon.com

FALL FASHION

After appearing at New York Fashion Week, The Row will show off its fall designs to Chicagoland shoppers with a trunk show at Neapolitan March 18-21. Guests will have the opportunity to place orders on the latest ready-to-wear items and handbags. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., by appointment only. 715 Elm, Winnetka; Neapolitanonline.com

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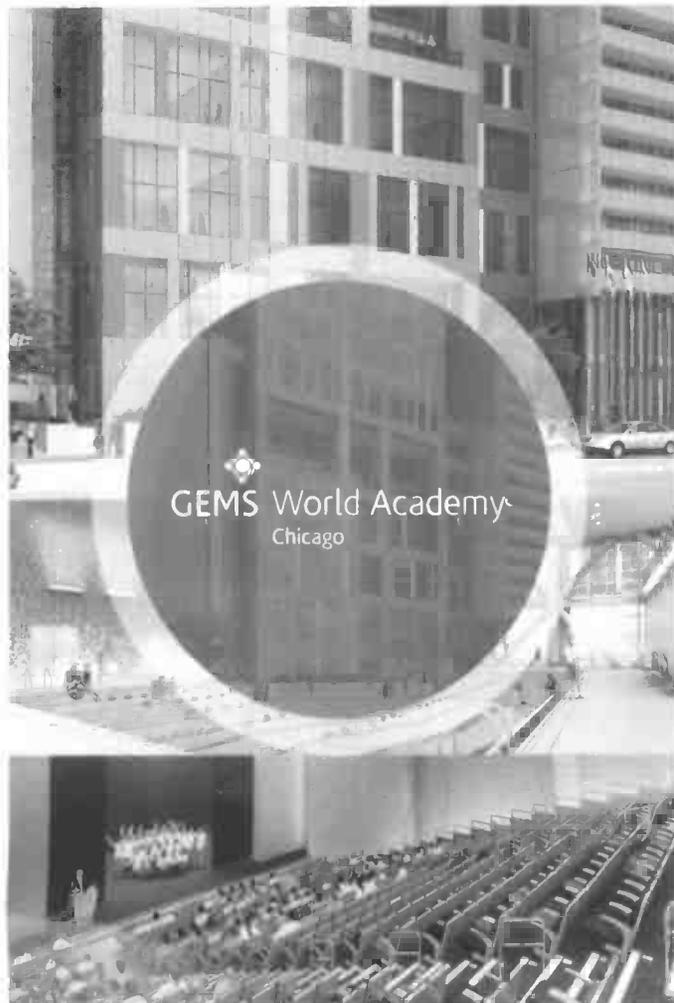
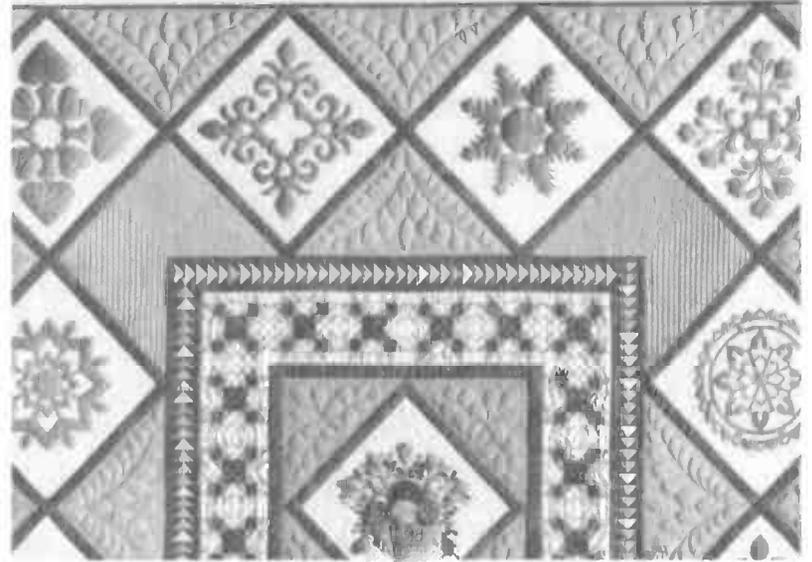
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making a splash



Four score

'Insurgent' star **Theo James**
pushes his limits **BY ZAK STEMER**

Favorite Chicago spot

"Chicago is a great city, an iconic city. I love the Green Mill [4802 N. Broadway] — that's a great spot."

Who would play you in a movie of your life?

"Meryl Streep. [The tagline would be] 'Welcome to the jungle.'"



Everyday adventures

"I love spontaneous trips. The great thing about England is you can jump on a plane and be in mainland Europe pretty quickly, whether it's Paris or Rome or wherever."

Theo James doesn't drive your typical movie star car: He's still rolling around in his old British coupe that constantly breaks down and "kicks out horrendous fumes." "It has sentimental value," says James, who stars as Four in the massive "Divergent" franchise (the second installment, "Insurgent," premieres March 20). While the U.K.-born actor is one of Hollywood's hottest commodities, he refuses to let success go to his head — and that means keeping the car, among other things. "I still have the same friends and the same family that I did before and I will forever," he explains, then laughs, "but you become aware of your environment: You don't walk past a high school when they're breaking for lunch. It's a little dangerous."

James, 30, is more than capable of inciting an all-out teen-girl stampede with his sultry brood — a skill that he puts to good use in "Insurgent," portraying the mysterious yet courageous love interest of the film's star, Tris (Shailene Woodley). Together, Four and Tris attempt to bring down the dystopian system — headquartered right here in Chicago, albeit many years in the future — that has divided society into five factions. The film is chock full of fight sequences, emotion-packed stunts and, of course, super servings of CGI.

Filming a sequel has its own set of challenges. "There's less pressure because you feel like you've already done one movie,

[so] you know the character," James says. "But on the other hand, there's the pressure we put on ourselves. If you're going to do another movie, you need to make it better; it needs to be bigger and more complex, and the characters need to evolve. Four is very different now in the second movie. In this movie, [Four and Tris] are together and he's trying to temper her, in a way."

To balance the major spotlight he's put in with each "Divergent" movie release (there'll be two more in the series), James uses his downtime to film smaller indie flicks — this year, he'll appear in "Franny" with Dakota Fanning and "The Secret Scripture" with Rooney Mara. "You spend a year [filming], and then more when you do press, so you have to make sure the things you do in between are very different and satisfy not only your own needs and wants, but also what you can do and what you can learn as an actor."

In that way, he's a lot like his character, someone who refuses to be labeled — either by a totalitarian government or by Hollywood producers. He is, in reality, what he plays in the film: divergent. He's a blockbuster star and a regular English bloke with a fondness for his broken car; an action hero who's more interested in pushing his limits and telling great stories than the fame he's found in the last year. The only difference between now and the days before "Divergent," he laughs, is that, "now, I get better shoes."

HAPPY

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CHICAGO



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THE RINGLEADER

Hollywood fashion is a circus, and "Fashion Police's" **KATHY GRIFFIN** isn't afraid to crack the whip **BY ZAK STEMER**



Kathy Griffin is offended, and when she's offended, she lets you know. "Wait ... what? I am very close to hanging up," she says. The offense? As our interview began, she asked, "If you and I were in 'Sex and the City,' and it were set in Chicago, what character would you be?" and I confessed to being unfamiliar with the show. "Well, just trust me and go with Carrie," she says. It's always good to go with Carrie. I'm a Samantha."

Much like Kim Cattrall's over-the-top character on the show, Griffin is larger-than-life. The Forest Park native, 54, has made a name for herself by constantly stating the taboo and finding the comedy in everything, even herself — she notably dubbed her 2005-2010 Bravo show "My Life on the D List." In January, the Emmy- and Grammy-winning comedian stepped into a new role: co-host of E!'s "Fashion Police," replacing her late friend Joan Rivers. "I get to continue [Joan's] tradition of a fearless approach to something I know firsthand to be ridiculous: red-carpet fashion," Griffin says.

Taking over for the legendary Rivers spurred a great debate among the show's fans. Sites like the Daily Beast lambasted her jokes and accused the sharp-tongued redhead of being unknowledgeable about fashion. Of course, Griffin isn't the type to take those comments lying down. "I do believe fashion is an art," she says. "And it's also ridiculous. I've been the girl who has to be sewn into the dress. I've been on the best-dressed and worst-dressed lists, but what I've learned is that the approach to the red carpet should continue in Joan's tradition of just not [caring]."

Her no-holds-barred attitude allows "Fashion Police" to shine as an edgy, comedic tentpole on the network, but it comes with risk — when your job is to pick apart celebrities' appearances, you're sure to rub some people the wrong way.

AS IT IS MY LIVING, PASSION AND VOCATION, HERE'S THE BEST I CAN GIVE YOU:

I WILL MAKE MY MILEY CYRUS JOKES AS LONG AS PEOPLE WANT TO LAUGH AT THEM.



1. Griffin protesting for marriage equality in California in 2009

2. With Brooke Shields and Joan Rivers in "Suddenly Susan" in 1998

3. Accepting the GLAAD Vanguard Award — in true outrageous fashion in 2009



That's exactly what happened last month during the show's Oscar fashion recap, when co-host Giuliana Rancic joked that 18-year-old actress Zendaya's dreadlocks probably smelled like "patchouli oil" or "weed"; outraged viewers collectively took to the Internet.

Though Griffin is no stranger to the occasional controversy, the firestorm caught her off guard. "The Vegas odds were about 6,000-to-1 that I would *not* be the one responsible [for an off-color remark]," she jokes.

A few days later, fellow "Fashion Police" co-host Kelly Osbourne announced she was exiting the show, sparking rumors that she was leaving because of the Zendaya controversy (Griffin says she doesn't know Osbourne's reasons for leaving). Of course, the show must go on — and Griffin refuses to let fear of backlash dull her comedic edge. "As it is my living, passion and vocation, here's the best I can give you: I will make my Miley Cyrus jokes as long as people want to laugh at them," she says. "But there is a chasm of difference between making a joke about Miley Cyrus wearing duct tape over her nipples in public — which I think is totally fair game — and simply looking at a photo of her on a red carpet and saying she is ugly or a bad singer or pathetic or something like that."

She adds, "Look, God knows my — how shall I say? — repertoire over all these years on TV and live touring has used some language I wouldn't use today, but people just aren't into that stuff anymore and I get it. Name-calling and alliteration with no comedic context is simply the lowest hanging fruit."

Acting and doing stand-up for more than 30 years, Griffin has certainly earned the right to build her own brand of comedy. She left Chicago for LA at 19 to join the famed Groundlings comedy troupe; she launched a comedy night called "Hot Cup of Talk" at a small theater in LA with two other hold female comedians, Margaret Cho and Janeane Garofalo; and through the '90s, she amassed acting credits on shows like "Seinfeld," "Ellen" and "Suddenly Susan." Since 1996, Griffin has created 20 comedy specials — 2013's "Calm Down Gurr!" won a Grammy for Best Comedy Album — and toured the world, always keeping Chicago a main hub. "I've played everything from the Chicago Theatre, where I did at least one of my specials, to — oh God, what's that dive club that's been around since the '70s?" Griffin pauses. She can't think of the name, but she remembers her routine: "I made a joke when I played there, I said, 'I think there's still cocaine in the shag rug.'"

People — even those at the butt of her jokes — have finally come to embrace Griffin's unfiltered humor. "Oh, I saw

Ryan Seacrest yesterday and I said, 'What's up, girl?'" Griffin laughs. "As you do this more and you get a little older, a lot of the celebrities finally come around, they get it. So now, if I see Gwyneth Paltrow, she finally knows, 'Alright, the crazy redhead is going to come up to me and she's gonna bust my [chops]. I can either continue to be mad or I can just roll with it and laugh.'" Griffin knows that, at the end of the day, her taunts don't carry the power to make or break a Hollywood star — or, as she puts it, "Nobody's career is going to be ruined at the end of my jokes, that's for sure."

For all of Griffin's verbal jabs, acerbic comebacks and off-color comedy, though, she's proven herself to be a humanitarian, activist and feminist. She's fought for marriage equality, railed against Don't Ask Don't Tell and earned the Vanguard Award from GLAAD (formerly the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation).

When we broach the topic of LGBT issues — "First of all, it's [called] LGBTQIA2," she jokes. "You gotta get all the letters and numbers" — Griffin says: "Basically my two causes are LGBT issues and straight-up feminism. I think feminism was on a great journey — and I've had many conversations with Gloria Steinam about this — I feel like women [are] in this plateau area. We think, 'Oh, Sarah Palin means progress.' That's not what we're talking about when we're talking about feminism. Just like [with the] LGBT movement, if you have a gay person on television, after a while you go, 'OK, we have a gay person representing on TV but, you know what, we can do better. Now we need an array of gay characters in television and media.'"

Griffin is motivated — in comedy and in activism — by her own challenges. Her biggest obstacle? "Straight-up sexism," she says. "I get in trouble every time I say this publicly, but it's true. Look at the world of late-night [TV]. ... It's still such a male-dominated field that the struggle is more challenging than I ever imagined."

While coming up in her career, Griffin heard every excuse in the book, from "chicks aren't funny" to "we aren't considering any females at this time." "Sexism in stand-up, in comedy, in television, is alive and well," she says. "I'm just chopping away, loving every job I'm doing — but it's still an uphill battle."

Despite going against the grain, Griffin remains undeterred and, more importantly, unsilenced. "I will continue to fight for the rights of all the letters and all the numbers because, ultimately, [working] together, that's how you get stuff done," she says. "And you might as well have a laugh while you're doing it."

RIFFIN' WITH GRIFFIN

The fiery comedian leaves no celeb un-bashed



I [angered] Demi Lovato through her fanbase, or as they are referred to, the Lovatics. I was doing a Twitter Q&A one night and someone asked who's the [most annoying] celebrity you've ever met. I said, 'Probably Debbi Lovato,' because I was reciting into Siri. That set off her army."



"Taylor Swift — I don't know what she's 'shaking off.' Her life seems to be going pretty darn well; maybe she should start shaking some things back on. But she's not going to shake me off — she's a perfect subject for me!"



"If I'm making fun of Oprah, I don't just scream, 'She's fat. G'night everybody.' I do an impression of her hilarious voice. I quote episodes of [Oprah's] Favorite Things; I even tell a story of my personal experience about being on her show. I do *not* say she's a terrible talk show host or actress. I do *not* say she isn't beautiful. She *behaves* in a way that my audiences have found amusing for years. And, God willing, Stedman and Gayle will come around."

Interior intel

THIS SPRING, DON'T JUST CLEAN — MIX THINGS UP MAJORLY WITH A COMPLETE REDESIGN, USING TIPS FROM 3 LOCAL DESIGN EXPERTS BY AMBER GIBSON



THE BEDROOM

The Gettys Group Senior Design Director Chris McDonough led the team responsible for the sleek minimalist design of the guest rooms at The Godfrey Hotel Chicago (127 W. Huron, pictured). Amid the busy River North neighborhood, not to mention the hotel's hopping rooftop bar, McDonough wanted the rooms to be a quiet haven for guests. Here are his tips for making your bedroom at home a sophisticated yet serene sanctuary. 55 W. Upper Wacker; Gettys.com



TRY A WHITE BED

"Hotels have embraced white beds for the last 15 years, pioneered by Westin. At home, everyone seems to have a colored comforter on top of the bed, but if you want to make [the space] feel cleaner or more open, the white-bed concept works really well."

ADD FURNITURE TO THE FOOT OF THE BED

"It's a great way to personalize the space. We used a bench with tan leather strapping at The Godfrey, to contrast with the white linens. It's a great luggage rack or a place to sit down and tie your shoes or take a breather. In your house, the end of the bed can be a little messy looking — [a piece of furniture] creates a more tailored look."

COMBINE SEATING AND DESK SPACE

"You don't need a formal desk in the bedroom. If you have a comfortable sofa, loveseat or chaise and a moveable table you can put your device on, that can be really helpful. You're probably carrying laptops and tablets up to the bedroom, so a flexible horizontal surface to work on is comfortable and space efficient."

TRY THESE SPLASH PICKS

Luxury striped comforter: Fjeldcrest, \$99.99-\$119.99, Target locations citywide; Target.com

Lucite bench: Haziza, \$1,100, Vern + Vera, 5856 N. Broadway; Vernandvera.com



THE LIVING ROOM

Designer Eva Quateman curated the living room for the Merchandise Mart's DreamHome this year, and has been nominated as the Design Center at the Merchandise Mart's Designer of the Year the past two years. She recommends collecting special pieces over time to create a one-of-a-kind space that showcases your personality. Check out the DreamHome for more inspiration when it opens April 17 at 222 W. Merchandise Mart, 220 W. Huron; EvaQuateman.com

Try green as a new chic color: "I started obsessing over a green, black and ivory Chinese toile fabric a year ago. I'd been saving it in the office and it [became] the starting point for my DreamHome room: upholstered shimmered walls in green, and softer midcentury furniture. I really love emerald

greens and citron, but not together since they clash — you could do citron and avocado, but not citron and emerald."

Add a personal touch: "For my daughter's apartment in New York, we bought fabric and made [our own] pillows. They make everything look so much newer and personalized. If you're not crafty, there's stuff on Etsy [Etsy.com], too, so get something that's totally special."

Antique shop for centerpieces: "I do a lot of antique shopping in Connecticut; there's a big antique center there [with] thousands of dealers from New York. [Locally], The Find [9 Highwood, Highwood] is great for little tabletop stuff, [and] I'll go to the Chicago Botanic Garden [1000 Lake Cook, Glencoe], too."



A residential living room designed by Eva Quateman



TRY THESE SPLASH PICKS

Pillow covers: Reed Feather Straw, starting at \$15; Etsy.com

Arsenic No. 214 paint: \$32.50/750 mL, Farrow & Ball, 222 W. Merchandise Mart; Us.farrow-ball.com



Oak + Char



THE DINING ROOM

Jordan and Karen Mozer — along with architect Jeff Carlross and the rest of their design team — are the business-and-life partners behind the interior of Oak + Char (217 W. Huron), the modern-Midwestern restaurant from the team that opened Untitled. The Mozers balanced rustic elements like masculine brick,

concrete and charred timbers with more feminine draped chandeliers and lamp "skirts." Here are their tips to creating a dining room that is comfortable, warm and versatile. 320 N. Laflin; Mozer.com

Get a durable table for every-day use: "A residential table size and shape should be configured to be comfortable for two or 12. Flank a nearby sideboard with chairs for more seating when needed. The tables at Oak + Char are cut from old growth white oak felled in a thunderstorm. They are natural, casual, warm and have a wonderful grain — the definition of durability. They'll develop a pleasing patina over time instead of maintenance problems. Wood veneers may show corner damage over time, while stained

wood will show scratches."

Don't buy chairs based on photos: "Before buying a chair, invest time to sit in it for a half hour or more. Find a chair that's comfortable and supportive. Think about what the chair looks like from the back and how it will work with the table."

Use lighting to change the mood: "At Oak + Char, you get natural light from the windows at lunchtime and, in the evening, dimmers/rheostats allow the team to adjust the lighting to look brighter and more upbeat or softer and more mysterious and sexy. We use bright lights on the tables to highlight the food and guests' faces, while soft ambient light fills the room from our custom-designed pendant lamps."

TRY THESE SPLASH PICKS

One-light lamp: Trans Globe Imports, \$49.80, Idlewood Electric, 114 Skokie Valley, Highland Park; Idlewoodelectric.com

Dakota 77-inch dining table: \$1,499, Crate & Barrel, 646 N. Michigan; Crateandbarrel.com





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Pulling weeds

Last week on my SiriusXM radio show "Dirty, Sexy, Funny," we talked about some signs of toxic relationships. I think we've all been there — in those friendships and relationships that, after a while, make you wonder why you continue to invest yourself and your time in them. Some of us might actually be experiencing toxic relationships right now; the good news is that there are warning signs to look out for, so you can get out before you get sucked in too far.



BY JENNY MCCARTHY

healthy relationship.

- Never keep score.

Are you and your partner constantly trying to one-up each other, or prove each other wrong? A little friendly competition is fun at times, but it shouldn't consume your entire relationship.

- Are you still being yourself?

It's possible to get so wrapped up in someone that you start to lose your own personality or identity. In order to have a successful relationship, you also need to stand out as individuals.

I think Lynne Koplitz, a comedian on my "Dirty, Sexy, Funny" tour, put it best when she said that there are three types of relationships: perennials, annuals and weeds. In order to have happy, healthy relationships, we need to focus more on the perennials in our lives and toss out the weeds. As hard as it can be, it can also be extremely refreshing to sort through the people in your life in order to keep yourself happy.

What are some other signs of a toxic relationship, or how do you keep your own healthy? Tweet me @JennyMcCarthy.

- If someone is giving you backhanded compliments, they aren't showing you the respect you deserve. We all deserve to be given genuine, nice compliments.

- Does your relationship feel one-sided? No one wants to be with someone who only comes around when they need something — relationships are a two-way street.

- Jealousy is the worst thing to experience in a relationship. Along with jealousy come controlling behaviors and mistrust — and none of those qualities should be welcomed or tolerated in a



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High society

Jose Garces brings Argentine cuisine to Streeterville **BY ELLE EICHINGER**

Chicago's dining scene crisscrosses the globe, rife with restaurants offering Mediterranean cuisine, Spanish tapas, Brazilian meats — not to mention the countless meccas of Greek, Italian and Mexican fare. With the opening of Rural Society — inside the brand-new Loews Chicago Hotel — though, Chef **Jose Garces** (Mercat a la Planxa) offers adventurous diners something less familiar: food fresh off a traditional Argentine grill.

"When I went to Buenos Aires [last year], I was fascinated by the way most restaurants cooked over an open fire," Garces says. "[Rural Society] is inspired by the culture and landscape of South America. ... It's designed to transport you to the sweeping cattle ranches and grill-fired kitchens of Argentina."

Chef de Cuisine **Cory Morris** creates dishes specific to the region, such as the empanada tucumana with braised Wagyu beef belly and smoked chile (\$11) and

house-made sausages (\$8-\$24) — and throws just about anything on the Argentine oak grill, from bone-in short rib (\$40) to Tasmanian sea trout (\$32).

Here's what else to expect at Rural Society:

Chef stats: Originally from Chicago, Garces has opened more than a dozen restaurants, beginning with Philadelphia's Amada in 2005. In 2009, he was named Best Chef, Mid-Atlantic by the James Beard Foundation and, that same year, won Food Network's "The Next Iron Chef."

Interior vibe: "We worked with AvroKO, out of New York," says Garces. "They really captured my vision. ... [The Rural Society] in D.C. was a makeover from the previous restaurant that was there — [but] we had a blank canvas to start with here in Chicago, so it's unique in a lot of ways."

Must-try dish: Garces loves the Argentine pizzas, known as fugazza.

dining out



Choclo fugazza, \$16 (top); and house-made sausages, \$8-\$24

"They're like a little pan pizza," he says. "Growing up in Chicago, it kind of brings me home." Try the choclo, with roasted corn and peppers, crab and asiago (\$16).

To drink: Like the menu, Rural Society's wine list has a heavy South American influence, comprising rich red wines curated by sommelier **Aaron Beaver**. Whisky and aperitifs are also prevalent, and try the Argentine specialty Fernet con Coca, made with Fernet Blanca, Coca-Cola, cherries and vanilla (\$10).

455 N. Park, (312) 840-6605; Chicago. ruralsocietyrestaurant.com



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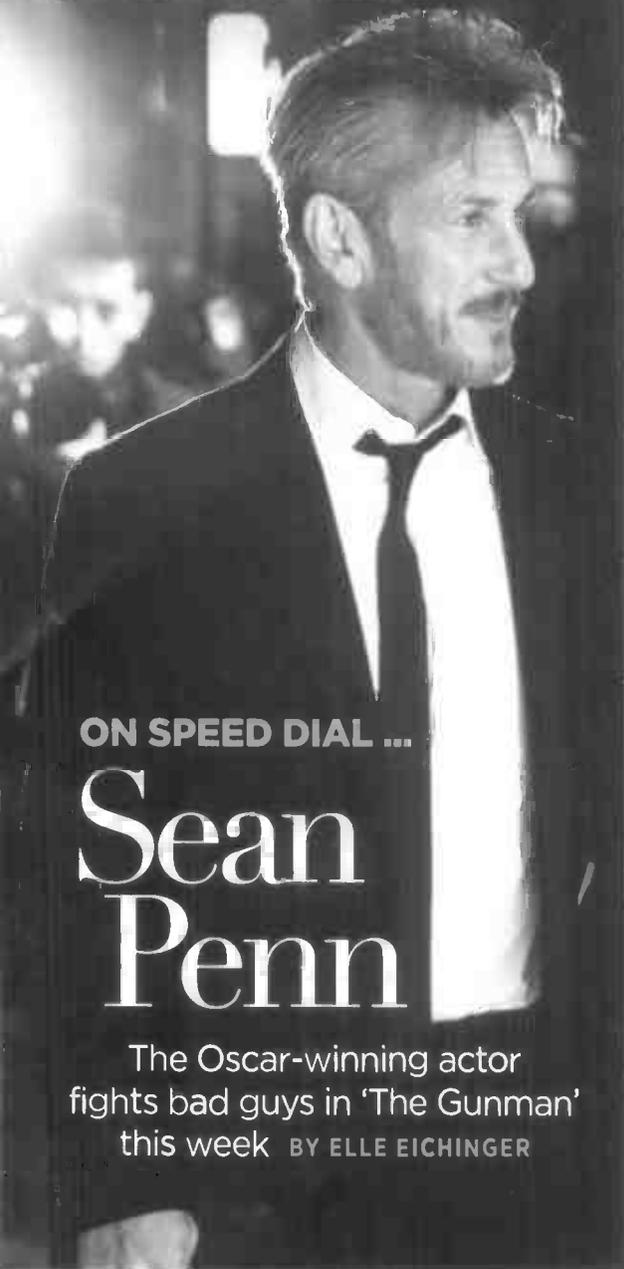
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For more information on the James Beard Foundation Awards, visit www.jamesbeard.org/awards



ON SPEED DIAL ...

Sean Penn

The Oscar-winning actor fights bad guys in 'The Gunman' this week **BY ELLE EICHINGER**

"I was going to be a lawyer. I don't know that I was being very realistic about my academic achievements at the time." — SEAN PENN

balance of that attracted me."

"The Gunman": "Was very physically challenging. [Director] Pierre Morel shoots in a very high-octane way. It was something new every day."

People would be surprised to know: "Well, I don't know; I feel I've been around so long. I suppose there are things people assume about me based on things that have been written which are accurate and others that are highly inaccurate, so depending on which group you're in, you could be surprised."

Biggest achievement: "Because of the nature of [the industry], you're very much in the 'what's behind me doesn't matter' business. Anything creative is a brand-new pursuit — you're at once a veteran and a baby."

Up next: "I directed a film in Africa this year, ['The Last Face'], with Javier Bardem and Charlize Theron and several others, that is kind of a large project. I'm in the editing [process] now."



Top: Penn and partner Charlize Theron hit the red carpet at the César Awards Feb. 20 in Paris. **Bottom:** Penn stars as Jim Terrier in "The Gunman."

Los Angeles."

Growing up: "I was going to be a lawyer; I don't know that I was being very realistic about my academic achievements at the time. But my senior year I got involved in filmmaking ... and got involved professionally with it the summer I left high school."

I chose this film because: "I read a very active script. ... It didn't have a big 'wink at the audience' factor, which is something I'm not crazy about — when you have a pop-violence movie and people making witty comments. [It's] a dominantly entertainment-focused picture, but with a few thoughts in it — the

In his decades-long career, Sean Penn has played a gay rights activist and politician ("Milk"), an ex-con father out for revenge ("Mystic River") and an ailing mathematician ("21 Grams") among other award-winning roles — but we think he's at his best when portraying the action hero, as he does in "The Gunman," hitting theaters March 20. Even at 54, Penn's never looked better (take as proof his relationship with the stunning Charlize Theron), or more in-shape than he does in this latest thriller, which follows a former military contractor on the run.

Calling us from: "The Four Seasons [Hotel] in beautiful



Above: Andrew Nicholl's "A View from Carlingford, County Louth, to Rostrevor, Beyond a Bank of Wild Flowers," 1835
Left: John Egan's "Portable Harp," 1820

Luck o' the Irish

Just in time for St. Patrick's Day, the Art Institute showcases the Irish taste for fine living **BY THOMAS CONNORS**

When one thinks of Ireland and the arts, it's usually her great writers that come to mind: Oscar Wilde, James Joyce, Samuel Beckett. But you can't judge this country solely by its books (or Bono) — Eire also has a rich history in the decorative arts. With "Ireland: Crossroads of Art and Design, 1690-1840," the Art Institute of Chicago gives it its due.

Comprising hundreds of pieces — paintings, furniture, ceramics, textiles and glassware — drawn from public and private U.S. collections, the exhibition examines Irish art and design traditions and their relationship to the aesthetics of England and the Continent, while celebrating the Irish as artists, patrons and collectors.

While influenced by movements in England, craftsmanship in Ireland was also impacted by the arrival of French Huguenots (experts at textiles, carving and silver) and plaster workers —

stuccadores — from Italy. "The presence of a foreign workforce can be seen in examples of Irish linen, carved furniture and tin-glazed earthenware known as 'Dublin Delft,' made in Dublin between the 1730s and 1770s," notes the show's organizer, Christopher Monkhouse, chair and Eloise W. Martin Curator in the museum's Department of European Decorative Arts. "The fact that the decoration found in several [pieces] on view brings French faïence to mind is not surprising, as several of the decorators are known to have emigrated to Dublin from Marseille, [France]."

Although aspiring to the sophistication of Europe was paramount for the well-born Irish, the native sons who fashioned interiors and furniture managed to incorporate motifs that would come to stand as appropriately Irish features. "With native craftsmen working side by side with foreigners, a degree of whimsy and light-heartedness emerged, especially in the production of carved silver and furniture," Monkhouse says. "Bacchus, the god of wine and revelry, plays a particularly prominent role; so many side tables for food and wine prominently display a bust of a mischievous satyr or a smiling lion, both of whom stood in for Bacchus as they fall within his circle of supporters." *Sláinte!*

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Abby Silverman & Alex Suarez

BY CHIARA MILOULIS

Alex Suarez knocked it out of the park the moment he met **Abby Silverman**. Both were working for the Chicago Cubs in January 2011, and he put the moves on her at the annual Cubs Convention. “We spent the entire night dancing,” says Silverman, the team’s manager of fundraising and community events. After three years of dating, Suarez, assistant director of player development and international scouting, got down on one knee while on vacation with Silverman’s family in Puerto Rico. “He found this amazing spot overlooking the ocean,” Silverman says. “It was so cute and so us.”

On Jan. 31, the pair said their “I do’s” at Morgan Manufacturing (401 N. Morgan), which Revel Decor decorated with white blooms, green succulents and candles to set a romantic scene. The bride also added a personal touch: “I carried a Bible down the aisle

— it’s a tradition in my family that every girl signs it on the day she gets married,” Silverman says. “The first person to sign it was my great-grandmother in 1941.”

Later, the 300 guests moved to the cocktail lounge while the ceremony space was flipped into a lively reception hall. The party featured sounds by The Party Faithful, bites by Wolfgang Puck and a surprise after-hours Mercadito food truck. As the bash continued inside, a blizzard raged outside — but the vivacious mood couldn’t be dampened: Guests headed outdoors for an impromptu snowball fight.

The reception may have been a night to remember, but the couple never lost focus on the day’s true meaning. “My favorite moment was having my parents walk me down the aisle, and seeing Alex at the very end of it,” Silverman says. “It was all I had ever dreamed about.”



IT'S IN THE DETAILS

- Bride's gown:** Watters, Simply Luxe Bridal Boutique, 2390 Esplanade, Algonquin; Simplyluxebridal.com
- Bride's shoes:** Badgley Mischka, Bloomingdale's, 900 N. Michigan; Bloomingdales.com
- Bride's hair:** Kara Osborn, Salon Buzz, 1 E. Delaware; Salonbuzz.com
- Bride's makeup:** Stella Mikhail, (847) 845-0812
- Groom's attire:** Canali, Nordstrom, 55 E. Grand; Shop.nordstrom.com
- Groomsmen's shoes:** Custom NIKEID, Nike, 669 N. Michigan; Nike.com
- Rings:** Lester Lampert, 57 E. Oak; Lesterlampert.com
- Décor & florist:** Revel Decor, 1402 N. Western; Reveldecor.com
- Catering:** Wolfgang Puck, Wolfgangpuck.com/catering-events; Mercadito, 108 W. Kinzie; Mercaditor-estaurants.com/chicago
- Entertainment:** Colby Beserra, The Party Faithful; Greatlifemusik.com
- Invitations:** Pulp & Ink, 1344 N. Wells; Pulpankink.com
- Programs:** Todd T Designs, 116 W. Illinois; Toddttdesigns.com

CHEERS!

We're lovin' that former McDonald's brand marketer **Tania Haigh** is helping her own Chicago startup, Magnolia Insights, Inc., a national marketing strategy firm that targets influential women and moms.



Now that's a full plate: The Illinois Restaurant Association has appointed Hyatt Regency Chicago's **Patrick Donnelly** as its new board chairman. In the role, Donnelly will work to bolster the restaurant industry statewide.



A very glad goodbye to **Maureen Lampert** (right), who is retiring after nearly 20 years of service on the Oak Street Council. **Toni Palumbo** (left), store director of Oak Street's Lanvin boutique, will step into Lampert's (totally fabulous) shoes and oversee the chic council.



The Hard Rock Hotel Chicago showed its support for manager **Carllyle Robinson**, who was diagnosed with Myelodysplastic Syndrome. The hotel teamed up with Delete Blood Cancer DKMS for the second annual bone marrow drive, followed by a complimentary lunch, cotton candy social and cocktail reception.

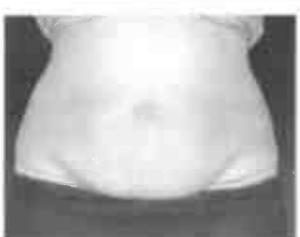


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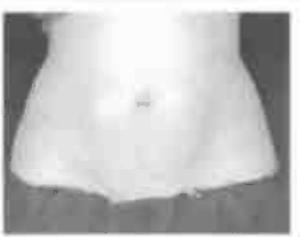
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BY CHIARA MILIOULIS
PHOTO BY RAMZI DREESSEN

Related Realty's president toasts the luxury real-estate firm's second anniversary

This is one of my favorite spring blazers ... just waiting for spring!

Similar styles available at **Ermenegildo Zegna**: 645 N. Michigan; Zegna.com

If I'm not wearing a tie, it's great to have a pocket square to add color to the look.

Brunello Cucinelli: pocket square, \$165, Neiman Marcus, 737 N. Michigan; Neimanmarcus.com

My wife got my watch for me as a present and it reminds me to always make time for my family.

Similar styles available at **Tourbillon**: Glashütte PanoReserve, \$15,500, \$45 N. Michigan; Tourbillon.com

DAVID WOLF

AGE: 37. CLAIM-TO-FAME: President of Related Realty, which has 50 brokers and sold \$306 million in volume in 2014. **LIVES IN:** Bucktown. **BORN TO BUILD:** When I was a kid, I always found myself interested in architecture and construction. I was always building things and drawing houses. **GROWING FAST:** We're really excited by the position we've established within the real-estate brokerage community in under two years. In 2014, Related Realty was the top firm in Chicago for the two things you want most when selling your home: highest list-to-sell ratio and shortest time on the market. **NEW HUB:** Related Realty is opening a second branch this year [and we're] targeting the Bucktown area. It's a market that's seeing a resurgence. **UP-AND-COMING:** Streeter-ville is going to see

a lot of new luxury construction in the next several years with retail, restaurants and grocery stores following. This is, in part, due to [Related Realty parent company] Related Midwest's acquisition of two significant sites in the neighborhood: 451 E. Grand and 400 N. Lake Shore, the site of the former Chicago Spire project. It's going to be a very different neighborhood in the next three to five years. **DESIGN AESTHETIC:** Eclectic modern — we like classic things but with a little modern flair in them. I don't want something that everybody else has; I like things that are unique. **WHEN I'M NOT WORKING:** I'm playing with my children. I have two boys, so it's pretty much just chasing them around and wrestling — avoiding disastrous injuries at all times, pretty much.

STYLING: HEIDY BEST OF BECLOTHESMINDED
GROOMING: KRISTINA MARIE FEYERHERM

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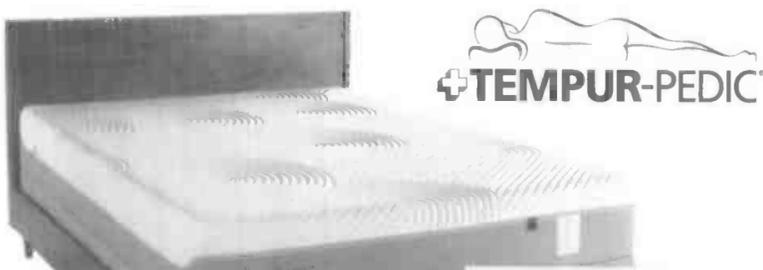
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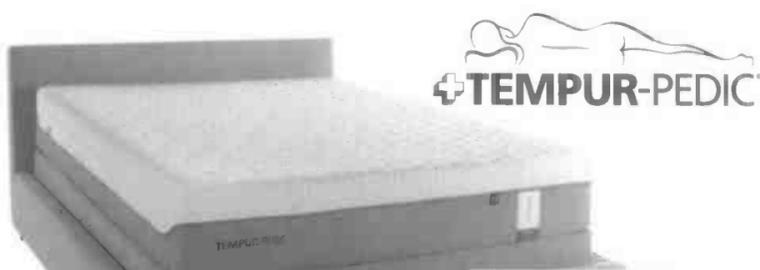
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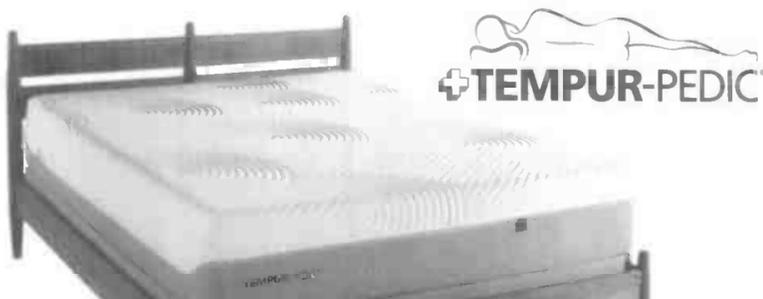
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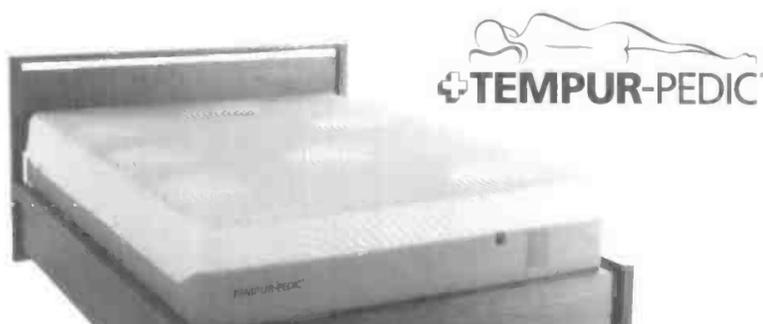
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MARCH 2015

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INSIDE

MLB's Top 25
Players Under 25

Tiger Woods
Injury Infographic

Eat Like a Fan:
BBQ Bacon-Wrapped
Jumbo Shrimp

The Wildcats
are the

SUPERTEAM

of
March Madness

Kentucky freshman
Karl-Anthony Towns

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Golfer Dustin Johnson and Paulina Gretzky just had their first son, making Wayne Gretzky a granddad. Is that kid going to be a great athlete?

—Steve S., Charleston, S.C.

The Great One's grandson has some serious hand-eye coordination in his genes, that's for sure. We recently sat down with Dustin — one of the biggest hitters on the PGA Tour — and asked him about his son, Tatum, who was born on Jan. 19. "Obviously, I'll try to get him into golf. But he can play whatever he wants. Or he doesn't have to play anything. I don't care. It's up to him. Hopefully yes, hopefully he'll play sports. I hope he'll be a golfer. I would imagine he'll play sports, but if he doesn't it's all right."



DID BACK TO THE FUTURE PART II SUCCESSFULLY PREDICT ANYTHING IN THE WORLD OF SPORTS?

—Biff T., Las Vegas, Nev.

Good question, Biff — if that is your real name. When Marty McFly and "Doc" Brown time travel in the 1989 cult classic *Back to the Future Part II*, they go all the way to the year 2015. So, the future is now. In the movie, the Chicago Cubs win the World Series over a Florida team with an alligator mascot. Since the release of the film, the Sunshine State has landed two MLB teams — the Miami Marlins (1993) and Tampa Bay Rays (1998). But the Cubs have not won the World Series. Maybe this year? Nike will also sell the self-tying sci-fi shoes worn by Michael J. Fox in the film. And the infamous "Left Shark" from Katy Perry's Super Bowl XLIX halftime show looks suspiciously like the hologram billboard shark from the movie. But still no functional hover boards... even in 2015.

Will the New England Patriots' ball boy get a Super Bowl ring?

—Nelson J., Stamford, Conn.

DeflateGate and/or Ballghazi jokes aside, there is certainly a chance that a few unknown Patriots employees are rewarded with a Super Bowl ring. The NFL pays for 150 rings, estimated at roughly \$7,000 worth of bling per ring (depending on the number of diamonds, price of gold or platinum, etc.). Everyone on the 53-man roster, the entire coaching staff and front office receives a ring. And some teams have been known to hand out less expensive rings to less expensive employees. So, depending on the generosity of owner Robert Kraft, the Pats' ball boys just might get a Super Bowl ring — but it could come at a deflated price, so to speak.



HAVE A QUESTION? Email us questions at editor@athlonsports.com. Or mail to: Athlon Sports, Suite 320, Building #2, Landers Plaza, 2451 Atrium Way, Nashville, TN 37214. Please include your name and hometown.



Cover: Matt Hernandez/Creative; Johnson/Gretzky; Michael Kovac/JAMA2013/Getty Images for Dodge; Ring: AP Photo/NFL Photos; Perry: Art Foxall/UPI/Landov; Nike shoe: AP Photo/Nike

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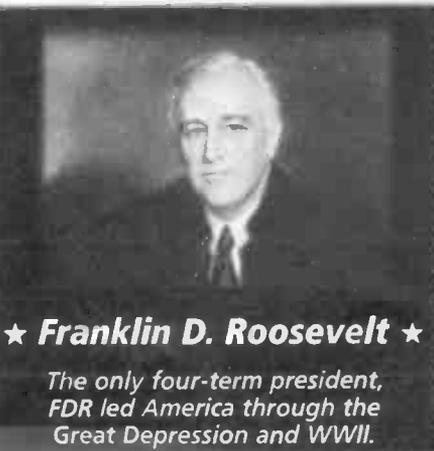
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NCAA TOURNAMENT BEYOND BRACKETOLOGY

BY NATHAN RUSH • COVER PHOTOGRAPHY BY MATT HERNANDEZ

One and Won

Before achieving NBA superstardom, Carmelo Anthony and Anthony Davis each cut down the nets as NCAA Tournament champions in their lone collegiate season — setting the nylon standard for every freshman since. Both Melo and the Unibrow had one foot out the door, as obvious one-and-done NBA Draft prospects. But they still made the most of their brief college experience, leading Syracuse (2003) and Kentucky (2012) to national titles.

This season, another crop of freshmen hope to make history before cashing in their NBA lottery tickets. Only time will tell if any of these 18- and 19-year-olds has what it takes to carry his team to the promised land of the Final Four at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. But these are the best bets to pull a “Carmelo Anthony Davis” and go “one and won” in the Big Dance.

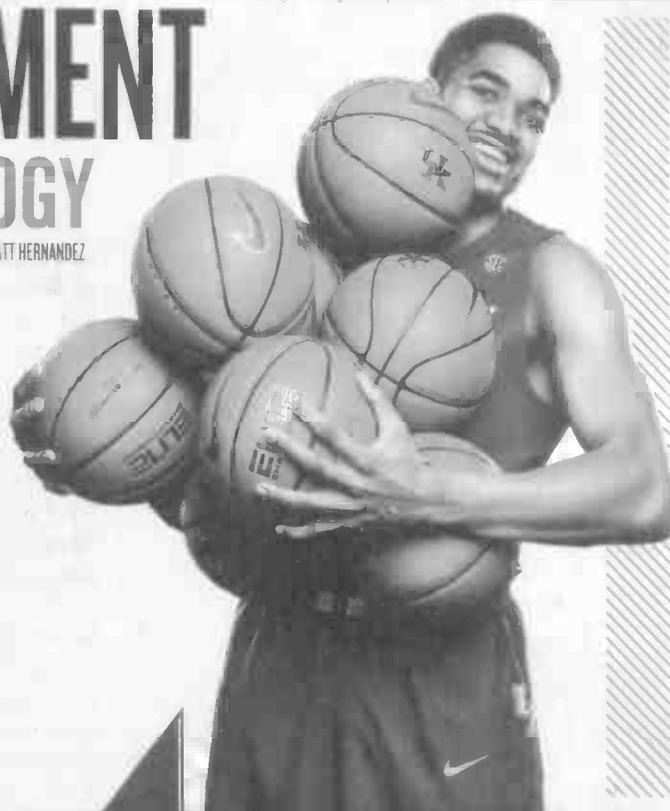
JAHILIL OKAFOR DUKE

Coach K's anchor is a leading candidate to go No. 1 overall in the NBA Draft, along with Towns and Emmanuel Mudiay — who signed a \$1.2-million deal to play in China during his single-season sabbatical. Okafor is a 6'11", 270-pound monster in the middle and headlines a freshman class that includes Justise Winslow, Tyus Jones and Grayson Allen — easily the most talented recruiting haul Mike Krzyzewski has had since the NBA instituted its one-and-done rule (which outlawed players going directly from high school to the NBA) in 2006.



STANLEY JOHNSON ARIZONA

The last time the UA won it all, freshman point guard Mike Bibby led Lute Olson's squad past Rick Pitino and Kentucky in a battle of Wildcats that went to overtime in 1997. But before coach Sean Miller can win a national title, he must first shake his distinction as the best coach never to advance to the Final Four. That should be easier with Johnson — a 6'7", 245-pound bull on the drive and pogo stick off the floor — leading the Cats.



KARL-ANTHONY TOWNS KENTUCKY

The 6'11", 250-pound Wild-KAT shares the spotlight down low with fellow Kentucky bigs Willie Cauley-Stein (7'0", 240), Dakari Johnson (7'0", 255) and Trey Lyles (6'10", 235), giving UK more size than every NBA team outside of the Portland Trail Blazers. Towns is not coach John Calipari's only hot shot frosh (we see you Devin Booker, Tyler Ulis and Lyles). But the shot-blocking, tip-dunking, photo-bombing Jersey native and Dominican national team star is undoubtedly the Superman on Kentucky's latest super team.

Upper Hand

Not every NCAA Tournament contender is led by a rookie eyeing the next level. Impact upperclassmen are far from extinct. In fact, since 1973 (when true freshmen were granted eligibility to play varsity NCAA basketball), the Final Four Most Outstanding Player has been an upperclassman in 31 of 42 years. These traditional student-athlete superstars have a chance to join that basketball dean's list.

Frank Kaminsky, Wisconsin “Frank the Tank” is aiming to go out with a bang; the 7-foot senior led the Badgers to a surprise Final Four run last season.

Kyle Wiltjer, Gonzaga A 6'10" transfer from Kentucky, Wiltjer could become the first Canadian named MOP if the Zags can make their first Final Four.

Montrezl Harrell, Louisville An NCAA champion as a freshman, the 6'8" terror could have hit the road for the NBA after a strong sophomore campaign. Instead, he's back for ring No. 2.

Towns: Matt Hernandez; Creative: Oklafor: Harrison McClary/Athlon Sports; Johnson: Tom SportsWire via AP Images



1 Mike Trout

CF, ANGELS

Age: 23 | Best-Case Comp: Mickey Mantle with better knees

Described by scouts as an NFL linebacker in center field, the best player in the game is starting to lose some of his blazing speed, but he's also hitting more home runs. If he only keeps up what he's done in his first three full seasons, he'll hit age 30 with more than 300 home runs. There's been a lot of talk about Trout being the next Mickey Mantle, but so far, Trout's been better.

Bryce Harper

OF, NATIONALS

Age: 22 | Best-Case Comp: Larry Walker

A Sports Illustrated cover boy before he reached 11th grade, Harper has yet to meet unfathomable expectations, but he just needs a full year of good health to battle for a home run crown, even if that means he has to shy away from a few of his wall-crashing catches in the outfield. His power and his precociousness mean that superstardom is only a matter of time.

MLB'S TOP 25 UNDER 25

Say hello to a power-packed group of big leaguers who are already taking over the game. The following is a look at the 20 best players in the majors (and five on their way up) who are 24 or younger heading into the 2015 season.

BY J.J. COOPER

3 YASIEL PUIG OF, DODGERS

Age: 24 | Best-Case Comp: Bo Jackson
As one long-time scout described after watching Puig for the first time: "This must have been what it was like to watch Bo Jackson play baseball." And like Bo, Puig has been more about flashes of greatness than consistent production. It's worth remembering he'll play all this season as a 24-year-old.



4 JOSE FERNANDEZ RHP, MARLINS

Age: 22 | Best-Case Comp:

Dwight Gooden with more longevity
We can only hope his stuff isn't diminished by Tommy John surgery, but pre-injury Fernandez was a hitter's worst nightmare. We'll have to wait until sometime around midseason for his return.

Photos by Tom D'Agostino



5 ANTHONY RENDON
3B, NATIONALS

Age: 24 | Best-Case Comp: Scott Rolen

Rendon suffered a pair of serious ankle injuries and a shoulder injury at Rice, then broke his ankle during his first full pro season. But he has been healthy each of the past two seasons, and he's quickly turned into one of the best young players in the game.

6 MANNY MACHADO
3B, ORIOLES

Age: 22

Best-Case Comp: Brooks Robinson

His 2014 season is best forgotten, but his defense and potential at the plate could make him an all-time Orioles' great.

7 YORDANO VENTURA
RHP, ROYALS

Age: 23 | Best-Case Comp: Johnny Cueto

Scouts always worried about Ventura's durability because he's short, but his consistent 95-plus mph in Game 6 of the World Series in late October is a pretty clear sign he can handle the grind.

8 SALVADOR PEREZ
C, ROYALS

Age: 24 | Best-Case Comp: Benito Santiago
Perez is a defensive whiz who has shown offensive potential. His bat would be better if the Royals would give him a day off every now and then.

9 JULIO TEHERAN
RHP, BRAVES

Age: 24 | Best-Case Comp: Kevin Appier

His teammates keep changing as the Braves' remake their roster, but Teheran gives Atlanta someone to build around.

10 GERRIT COLE
RHP, PIRATES

Age: 24 | Best-Case Comp: Nolan Ryan

Cole is one of the hardest-throwing starters in baseball, but so far he's been more reliable than revelatory. Expect more from him in 2015 and beyond.

11 JOSE ALTUVE
2B, ASTROS

Age: 24 | Best-Case Comp:

Rod Carew

Baseball's mighty mite has proven that short people (he's 5'6") can still make an awfully big impact.

12 MOKIE BETTS
2B, RED SOX

Age: 22 | Best-Case Comp:

Joe Morgan-lite

He's just starting to get his feet wet at the major league level, but Betts has the potential to battle for batting titles while posting excellent on-base percentages.

13 XANDER BOGAERTS
SS, RED SOX

Age: 22 | Best-Case Comp:

Nomar Garciaparra

Bogaerts is the rare player with the defensive skills to play shortstop combined with the bat to hit in the middle of the order.

14 GREGORY POLANCO
OF, PIRATES

Age: 23 | Best-Case Comp:

Dave Parker

Right now Polanco is a tall, skinny right fielder with excellent speed, but as he fills out, he could turn into a power hitter whose athleticism is a bonus.

15 MICHAEL WACHA
RHP, CARDINALS

Age: 23 | Best-Case Comp:

A tall Johnny Cueto

There are few right-handed starters who excel with a fastball-changeup approach, but Wacha is the exception.

16 MARCUS STROMAN
RHP, BLUE JAYS

Age: 23

Best-Case Comp: Tom Gordon

Few starting pitchers as short as him (he's 5'9") have had big league success. But don't bet against a pitcher with a fastball like Stroman's.

17 WIL MYERS
OF, PADRES

Age: 24

Best-Case Comp: Dale Murphy

The 2013 American League Rookie of the Year's versatility may see him play multiple spots in San Diego and give baseball's most listless lineup a powerful punch.

18 SHELBY MILLER
RHP, BRAVES

Age: 24

Best-Case Comp: Homer Bailey

It's been an up-again, down-again start to Miller's big league career, but after a trade to Atlanta, he's going to get 30-plus starts to try to find the power stuff he showed in the minors.

19 BILLY HAMILTON
CF, REDS

Age: 24 | Best-Case Comp:

Vince Coleman in center field

Baseball's speediest man nabbed more than 50 bases in his rookie season, he may have 100 steals in him if he can get on base more.

20 CHRISTIAN VAZQUEZ
C, RED SOX

Age: 24

Best-Case Comp: Russ Martin

A decade ago, Vazquez wouldn't have made this list. But now we know much more about how valuable a catcher who can steal strikes with his receiving can be and Vazquez is one of the best.



To Watch

These five aren't big leaguers yet, but these prospects are even more in demand in big league front offices than some of the names on the big league list.

21. KRIS BRYANT, 3B, CUBS

Age: 23 | Best-Case Comp: Troy Glaus with a better batting average

If the Cubs finally end a century of postseason futility, Bryant should be one of the big reasons for the turnaround. He could battle for home run titles in the not-too-distant future.

22. BYRON BUXTON, OF, TWINS

Age: 21

Best-Case Comp: Andrew McCutchen

Twins fans should finally have something to cheer about when Buxton arrives in Minnesota, hopefully sometime later this year.

23. ADDISON RUSSELL, SS, CUBS

Age: 21

Best Case Comp: Miguel Tejada

Billy Beane may be one of the smartest GMs around, but trading away Russell (for Jeff Samardzija and Jason Hammel) last year is going to look awfully dumb.

24. CARLOS CORREA, SS, ASTROS

Age: 20

Best Case Comp: Troy Tulowitzki

Correa is supposed to start the season in Double-A, but it's going to be hard for Houston to keep him there for long, as the precocious shortstop should soon be the Astros' best player.

25. COREY SEAGER, SS/3B, DODGERS

Age: 20

Best Case Comp: Evan Longoria

He'll play shortstop for now, but in the long-term, Seager looks like a smooth-fielding third baseman with an exceptional bat.

For people with a higher risk of stroke due to
Atrial Fibrillation (AFib) not caused by a heart valve problem



ELIQUIS® (apixaban) is a prescription medicine used to reduce the risk of stroke and blood clots in people who have atrial fibrillation, a type of irregular heartbeat, not caused by a heart valve problem.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:

- **Do not stop taking ELIQUIS for atrial fibrillation without talking to the doctor who prescribed it for you. Stopping ELIQUIS increases your risk of having a stroke.** ELIQUIS may need to be stopped, prior to surgery or a medical or dental procedure. Your doctor will tell you when you should stop taking ELIQUIS and when you may start taking it again. If you have to stop taking ELIQUIS, your doctor may prescribe another medicine to help prevent a blood clot from forming.
- **ELIQUIS can cause bleeding, which can be serious, and rarely may lead to death.**
- **You may have a higher risk of bleeding if you take ELIQUIS and take other medicines that increase your risk of bleeding, such as aspirin, NSAIDs, warfarin (COUMADIN®), heparin, SSRIs or SNRIs, and other blood thinners. Tell your doctor about all medicines, vitamins and supplements you take.** While taking ELIQUIS, you may bruise more easily and it may take longer than usual for any bleeding to stop.

- **Get medical help right away if you have any of these signs or symptoms of bleeding:**
 - unexpected bleeding, or bleeding that lasts a long time, such as unusual bleeding from the gums; nosebleeds that happen often, or menstrual or vaginal bleeding that is heavier than normal
 - bleeding that is severe or you cannot control
 - red, pink, or brown urine; red or black stools (looks like tar)
 - coughing up or vomiting blood or vomit that looks like coffee grounds
 - unexpected pain, swelling, or joint pain; headaches, feeling dizzy or weak
- **ELIQUIS is not for patients with artificial heart valves.**
- **Spinal or epidural blood clots (hematoma).** People who take ELIQUIS, and have medicine injected into their spinal and epidural area, or have a spinal puncture have a risk of forming a blood clot that can cause long-term or permanent loss of the ability to move (paralysis).

I was taking warfarin. But ELIQUIS was a better find.

I TAKE ELIQUIS® (apixaban) FOR 3 GOOD REASONS:

- 1 ELIQUIS reduced the risk of stroke better than warfarin.
- 2 ELIQUIS had less major bleeding than warfarin.
- 3 Unlike warfarin, there's no routine blood testing.

ELIQUIS and other blood thinners increase the risk of bleeding which can be serious, and rarely may lead to death.

Ask your doctor if ELIQUIS is right for you.

This risk is higher if, an epidural catheter is placed in your back to give you certain medicine, you take NSAIDs or blood thinners, you have a history of difficult or repeated epidural or spinal punctures. Tell your doctor right away if you have tingling, numbness, or muscle weakness, especially in your legs and feet.

- Before you take ELIQUIS, tell your doctor if you have: kidney or liver problems, any other medical condition, or ever had bleeding problems. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or breastfeeding, or plan to become pregnant or breastfeed.

- Do not take ELIQUIS if you currently have certain types of abnormal bleeding or have had a serious allergic reaction to ELIQUIS. A reaction to ELIQUIS can cause hives, rash, itching, and possibly trouble breathing. Get medical help right away if you have sudden chest pain or chest tightness, have sudden swelling of your face or tongue, have trouble breathing, wheezing, or feeling dizzy or faint.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see additional Important Product Information on the adjacent page.

Individual results may vary.

Visit ELIQUIS.COM
or call 1-855-ELIQUIS

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432US14BR01976-02-01 11/14

Eliquis®
(apixaban) tablets 5mg
2.5mg



IMPORTANT FACTS about ELIQUIS® (apixaban) tablets

The information below does not take the place of talking with your healthcare professional. Only your healthcare professional knows the specifics of your condition and how ELIQUIS may fit into your overall therapy. Talk to your healthcare professional if you have any questions about ELIQUIS (pronounced ELL eh kwiss).

What is the most important information I should know about ELIQUIS (apixaban)?

For people taking ELIQUIS for atrial fibrillation: Do not stop taking ELIQUIS without talking to the doctor who prescribed it for you. Stopping ELIQUIS increases your risk of having a stroke. ELIQUIS may need to be stopped, prior to surgery or a medical or dental procedure. Your doctor will tell you when you should stop taking ELIQUIS and when you may start taking it again. If you have to stop taking ELIQUIS, your doctor may prescribe another medicine to help prevent a blood clot from forming.

ELIQUIS can cause bleeding which can be serious, and rarely may lead to death. This is because ELIQUIS is a blood thinner medicine that reduces blood clotting.

You may have a higher risk of bleeding if you take ELIQUIS and take other medicines that increase your risk of bleeding, such as aspirin, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (called NSAIDs), warfarin (COUMADIN®), heparin, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) or serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs), and other medicines to help prevent or treat blood clots.

Tell your doctor if you take any of these medicines. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure if your medicine is one listed above.

While taking ELIQUIS:

- you may bruise more easily
- it may take longer than usual for any bleeding to stop

Call your doctor or get medical help right away if you have any of these signs or symptoms of bleeding when taking ELIQUIS:

- unexpected bleeding, or bleeding that lasts a long time, such as:
 - unusual bleeding from the gums
 - nosebleeds that happen often
 - menstrual bleeding or vaginal bleeding that is heavier than normal
- bleeding that is severe or you cannot control
- red, pink, or brown urine
- red or black stools (looks like tar)
- cough up blood or blood clots
- vomit blood or your vomit looks like coffee grounds
- unexpected pain, swelling, or joint pain
- headaches, feeling dizzy or weak

ELIQUIS is not for patients with artificial heart valves.

Spinal or epidural blood clots (hematoma). People who take a blood thinner medicine (anticoagulant) like ELIQUIS, and have medicine injected into their spinal and epidural area, or have a spinal puncture have a risk of forming a blood clot that can cause long-term or permanent

loss of the ability to move (paralysis). Your risk of developing a spinal or epidural blood clot is higher if:

- a thin tube called an epidural catheter is placed in your back to give you certain medicine
- you take NSAIDs or a medicine to prevent blood from clotting
- you have a history of difficult or repeated epidural or spinal punctures
- you have a history of problems with your spine or have had surgery on your spine

If you take ELIQUIS (apixaban) and receive spinal anesthesia or have a spinal puncture, your doctor should watch you closely for symptoms of spinal or epidural blood clots or bleeding. Tell your doctor right away if you have tingling, numbness, or muscle weakness, especially in your legs and feet.

What is ELIQUIS?

ELIQUIS is a prescription medicine used to:

- reduce the risk of stroke and blood clots in people who have atrial fibrillation.
- reduce the risk of forming a blood clot in the legs and lungs of people who have just had hip or knee replacement surgery.
- treat blood clots in the veins of your legs (deep vein thrombosis) or lungs (pulmonary embolism), and reduce the risk of them occurring again.

It is not known if ELIQUIS is safe and effective in children.

Who should not take ELIQUIS?

Do not take ELIQUIS if you:

- currently have certain types of abnormal bleeding
- have had a serious allergic reaction to ELIQUIS. Ask your doctor if you are not sure

What should I tell my doctor before taking ELIQUIS?

Before you take ELIQUIS, tell your doctor if you:

- have kidney or liver problems
- have any other medical condition
- have ever had bleeding problems
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if ELIQUIS will harm your unborn baby
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if ELIQUIS passes into your breast milk. You and your doctor should decide if you will take ELIQUIS or breastfeed. You should not do both

Tell all of your doctors and dentists that you are taking ELIQUIS. They should talk to the doctor who prescribed ELIQUIS for you, before you have any surgery, medical or dental procedure. **Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-**

counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Some of your other medicines may affect the way ELIQUIS (apixaban) works. Certain medicines may increase your risk of bleeding or stroke when taken with ELIQUIS.

How should I take ELIQUIS?

Take ELIQUIS exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Take ELIQUIS twice every day with or without food, and do not change your dose or stop taking it unless your doctor tells you to. If you miss a dose of ELIQUIS, take it as soon as you remember, and do not take more than one dose at the same time. **Do not run out of ELIQUIS. Refill your prescription before you run out.** When leaving the hospital following hip or knee replacement, be sure that you will have ELIQUIS available to avoid missing any doses. **If you are taking ELIQUIS for atrial fibrillation, stopping ELIQUIS may increase your risk of having a stroke.**

What are the possible side effects of ELIQUIS?

• See "What is the most important information I should know about ELIQUIS?"

- ELIQUIS can cause a skin rash or severe allergic reaction. Call your doctor or get medical help right away if you have any of the following symptoms:

- chest pain or tightness
- swelling of your face or tongue
- trouble breathing or wheezing
- feeling dizzy or faint

Tell your doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all of the possible side effects of ELIQUIS. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

This is a brief summary of the most important information about ELIQUIS. For more information, talk with your doctor or pharmacist, call 1-855-ELIQUIS (1-855-354-7847), or go to www.ELIQUIS.com.

Manufactured by:
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
Princeton, New Jersey 08543 USA

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Princeton, New Jersey 08543 USA
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PATIENT ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION

This independent, non-profit organization provides assistance to qualifying patients with financial hardship who generally have no prescription insurance. Contact 1-800-736-0003 or visit www.bmspa.org for more information.

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TRAINING TABLE

BY BILLY BROWN

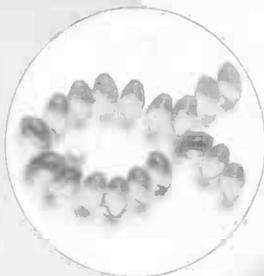
SPORTS SUPPLEMENTS: FOR BETTER, OR WORSE

Men's magazines are loaded with recommendations for supplements aimed at hard-core athletes. But are any of them actually effective? And what about the average guy who's not competing at a high level? We asked **Leslie Bonci**, MPH, RD, CSSD, LDN, Director of Sports Nutrition at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and a nutritional consultant to the Pittsburgh Steelers, Pittsburgh Pirates and Washington Nationals, among others. Here's Bonci's best advice on what to use, and what to avoid.



The Good Stuff

Omega 3 Fat: "The anti-inflammatory benefit and heart healthy benefits will have an impact," Bonci says. "And it's really hard to get that much in your daily diet." If fish oil doesn't work for you, algae-based Omega 3's are a good alternative.



Protein Isolate: Bonci favors powdered protein isolates for their versatility.

"A protein in powder form will be more versatile," she says. "You can mix it into oatmeal or in a shake." You can also choose from different types of protein — whey, casein, etc. "Also, premixed shakes can be loaded with unnecessary calories."



The Recovery Trifecta: "Ginger, turmeric and boswellia all have really big anti-inflammatory effects," Bonci says. She recommends ginger and turmeric for combatting delayed-onset muscle soreness after hard workouts, while boswellia is more effective for alleviating muscle tweaks, like a strained hamstring. "Take a mix of the three before bed," she says, recommending 500mg of ginger, 400mg of boswellia and 1200mg of turmeric. "The effects are faster than glucosamine/chondroitin and it works on a larger population."



What to Avoid

Energy Shooters: "The name '5-hour Energy' is really very misleading," she says. "It's not calories, it's a stimulant, so you'll get a boost for about half an hour and that's it." Also, the high concentration of caffeine can raise a heart rate that's already elevated when you exercise.

The Cleanses: "I've confiscated many of them from my athletes," Bonci says. "It's so counterproductive to performance." Her aversion to the trendy cleanses is due to their diuretic (and diarrheal) properties. "It can totally dehydrate and lead to electrolyte imbalance."

Growth Stacks: "Avoid anything you see like animal pack or growth or anabolic on the label," she says. "It probably won't do what it says, and it'll be adding a hormone to the body," which affects its ability to make its own hormones. "Protein isolate will do a lot more and it'll cost you a lot less."

Photo by Getty

EAT LIKE A FAN

BRINGING HOME THE BACON

BBQ Bacon-Wrapped Jumbo Shrimp Everyone likes bacon, right? Well, here's a new way to ingest it and make you look much fancier than you actually are. These can be served as hors d'oeuvres for a romantic dinner at home or on a paper plate to be devoured in sweatpants alone on the couch. (Probably the latter.) Add BBQ sauce and jalapeño peppers to taste and enjoy the fruits of your labor — which should take about 20 minutes from start to finish. Here's the game plan:

Ingredients

- 24 Jumbo shrimp — peeled and deveined, tails on
- 12 Bacon slices — cut into halves crosswise
- 6 Tablespoons barbecue sauce
- 2 Tablespoons olive oil
- 1 Jalapeño — sliced to garnish (optional)

Utensils

Baking sheet, Baking rack, Medium bowl, Toothpicks



Step One | Pregame Prep

1. Preheat oven to 400°F
2. Place rack over large foil-lined baking sheet

Step Two | Makin' Bacon

1. Arrange uncooked bacon on rack
2. Bake bacon about 8 minutes, until partially cooked but still pliable
3. Drain bacon on paper towel-lined plate

Step Three | BBQ Time

1. Combine barbecue sauce and olive oil in medium bowl
2. Add jumbo shrimp to bowl
3. Coat jumbo shrimp in barbecue sauce

Step Four | Wrapper's Delight

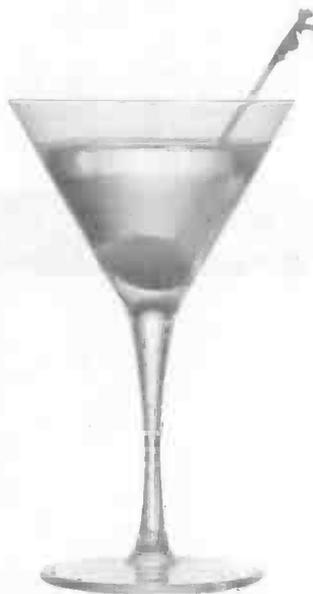
1. Wrap each jumbo shrimp with a half-piece of bacon
2. Arrange bacon-wrapped shrimp on rack
3. Bake 10 minutes — until shrimp are cooked and bacon is crisp

Step Five | Overtime Options

1. Run toothpick through shrimp
2. Slather in barbecue sauce
3. Add fresh jalapeño

—Recipe by Laraine Perri

Mark Boughton Photography/Styling by Teresa Blakburn



The "I'll Just Have One More" Martini

- 3 oz. gin or vodka
- 1/2 oz. dry vermouth
- 3 olives
- 1 automobile
- 1 long day
- 1 diminishing attention span
- 1 too many

Combine ingredients. Drink. Repeat.
Mix with sharp turn, telephone pole.

Never underestimate 'just a few.'
Buzzed driving is drunk driving.





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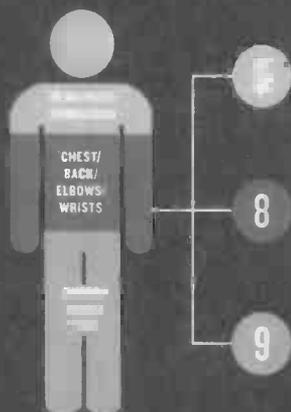
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TIGER TRIAGE



**INJURY
REPORT**

Tiger Woods was once viewed as a "sure thing" to break Jack Nicklaus' record of 18 major championships. These days, the 39-year-old, 14-time major champion can barely limp his way through 72 holes over a four-day weekend. Why? Here's a look at the physical breakdown of the seemingly invincible Tiger Woods.



ZONE BREAKDOWN



HEAD

NOV 2009

Ex-wife Elin Nordegren hit Tiger with a golf club after learning of his many extramarital affairs? That's the rumor.

NECK

MAY 2010

Inflamed facet joint; withdrew from Players Championship

SHOULDER

OCT 2006

Left shoulder blade muscle injury

SEPT 2004

Thoracic spine pain on cross-country flight

MAY 1995

Injured during Stanford intercollegiate



CHEST/RIBS

SEPT 2004

Thoracic spine pain

ELBOW

JUNE 2013

Left elbow strain; missed own tournament, the AT&T National

WRIST

JUNE 1995

Left wrist injury; withdrew from US Open

LOWER BACK

FEB 2015

Back injury; withdrew from Farmers Insurance Open

APRIL 2014

Microdiscectomy surgery for a pinched nerve

MARCH-AUG 2014

Back spasms; withdrew from Honda Classic, Arnold Palmer Invitational and Bridgestone Invitational

JUNE 1998

Back injury; withdrew from Kemper Open

APRIL 1995

Injured during practice round at The Masters



KNEE

JUNE 2008

Left knee ACL reconstruction; graft of right hamstring tendon to new ACL, along with repairs to damaged cartilage

APRIL 2008

Arthroscopic surgery; injury reportedly suffered during fist-pump celebration at 2007 PGA Championship

JULY 2007

Ruptured left ACL

DEC 2002

Benign cyst removed; fluid drained from near ACL

1994

Benign tumor removed

TIBIA

APRIL 2008

Surgery to repair two stress fractures in left tibia and cartilage damage

ACHILLES

MARCH 2012

Left Achilles injury; withdrew from WGC-Cadillac Championship

MAY 2011

Left Achilles and MCL strains; withdrew from Players Championship

DEC 2008

Torn Achilles; injury not revealed until 2010 Masters

Background: Harrison McClary. Left: AP Photo/Armando Trezzi. Center: Brad Barr/USA TODAY Sports. Right: AP Photo/Chris O'Meara

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SYMBICORT

Please read this summary carefully and then ask your doctor about SYMBICORT.

No advertisement can provide all the information needed to determine if a drug is right for you or take the place of careful discussions with your health care provider. Only your health care provider has the training to weigh the risks and benefits of a prescription drug.

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SYMBICORT?

People with asthma who take long-acting beta₂-agonist (LABA) medicines, such as formoterol (one of the medicines in SYMBICORT), have an increased risk of death from asthma problems. It is not known whether budesonide, the other medicine in SYMBICORT, reduces the risk of death from asthma problems seen with formoterol.

SYMBICORT should be used only if your health care provider decides that your asthma is not well controlled with a long-term asthma control medicine, such as an inhaled corticosteroid, or that your asthma is severe enough to begin treatment with SYMBICORT. Talk with your health care provider about this risk and the benefits of treating your asthma with SYMBICORT.

If you are taking SYMBICORT, see your health care provider if your asthma does not improve or gets worse. It is important that your health care provider assess your asthma control on a regular basis. Your doctor will decide if it is possible for you to stop taking SYMBICORT and start taking a long-term asthma control medicine without loss of asthma control.

Get emergency medical care if:

- breathing problems worsen quickly, and
- you use your rescue inhaler medicine, but it does not relieve your breathing problems.

Children and adolescents who take LABA medicines may be at increased risk of being hospitalized for asthma problems.

WHAT IS SYMBICORT?

SYMBICORT is an inhaled prescription medicine used for asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). It contains two medicines:

- Budesonide (the same medicine found in Pulmicort Flexhaler™, an inhaled corticosteroid). Inhaled corticosteroids help to decrease inflammation in the lungs. Inflammation in the lungs can lead to asthma symptoms.
- Formoterol (the same medicine found in Foradil® Aerolizer®). LABA medicines are used in patients with COPD and asthma to help the muscles in the airways of your lungs stay relaxed to prevent asthma symptoms, such as wheezing and shortness of breath. These symptoms can happen when the muscles in the airways tighten. This makes it hard to breathe, which, in severe cases, can cause breathing to stop completely if not treated right away.

SYMBICORT is used for asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease as follows:

Asthma

SYMBICORT is used to control symptoms of asthma and prevent symptoms such as wheezing in adults and children ages 12 and older.

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

COPD is a chronic lung disease that includes chronic bronchitis, emphysema, or both. SYMBICORT 160/4.5 mcg is used long term, two times each day, to help improve lung function for better breathing in adults with COPD.

WHO SHOULD NOT USE SYMBICORT?

Do not use SYMBICORT to treat sudden severe symptoms of asthma or COPD or if you are allergic to any of the ingredients in SYMBICORT.

WHAT SHOULD I TELL MY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER BEFORE USING SYMBICORT?

Tell your health care provider about all of your health conditions, including if you:

- have heart problems
- have high blood pressure
- have seizures
- have thyroid problems
- have diabetes
- have liver problems
- have osteoporosis
- have an immune system problem
- have eye problems such as increased pressure in the eye, glaucoma, or cataracts
- are allergic to any medicines
- are exposed to chicken pox or measles
- are pregnant or planning to become pregnant. It is not known if SYMBICORT may harm your unborn baby
- are breast-feeding. Budesonide, one of the active ingredients in SYMBICORT, passes into breast milk. You and your health care provider should decide if you will take SYMBICORT while breast-feeding

Tell your health care provider about all the medicines you take including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. SYMBICORT and certain other medicines may interact with each other and can cause serious side effects. Know all the medicines you take. Keep a list and show it to your health care provider and pharmacist each time you get a new medicine.

HOW DO I USE SYMBICORT?

Do not use SYMBICORT unless your health care provider has taught you and you understand everything. Ask your health care provider or pharmacist if you have any questions.

Use SYMBICORT exactly as prescribed. Do not use SYMBICORT more often than prescribed. SYMBICORT comes in two strengths for asthma: 80/4.5 mcg and 160/4.5 mcg. Your health care provider will prescribe the strength that is best for you. SYMBICORT 160/4.5 mcg is the approved dosage for COPD.

- SYMBICORT should be taken every day as 2 puffs in the morning and 2 puffs in the evening.
- Rinse your mouth with water and spit the water out after each dose (2 puffs) of SYMBICORT. This will help lessen the chance of getting a fungus infection (thrush) in the mouth and throat.
- Do not spray SYMBICORT in your eyes. If you accidentally get SYMBICORT in your eyes, rinse your eyes with water. If redness or irritation persists, call your health care provider.
- Do not change or stop any medicines used to control or treat your breathing problems. Your health care provider will change your medicines as needed.
- While you are using SYMBICORT 2 times each day, do not use other medicines that contain a long-acting beta₂-agonist (LABA) for any reason. Ask your health care provider or pharmacist if any of your other medicines are LABA medicines.
- SYMBICORT does not relieve sudden symptoms. Always have a rescue inhaler medicine with you to treat sudden symptoms. If you do not have a rescue inhaler, call your health care provider to have one prescribed for you.

Call your health care provider or get medical care right away if:

- your breathing problems worsen with SYMBICORT
- you need to use your rescue inhaler medicine more often than usual
- your rescue inhaler does not work as well for you at relieving symptoms
- you need to use 4 or more inhalations of your rescue inhaler medicine for 2 or more days in a row
- you use one whole canister of your rescue inhaler medicine in 8 weeks* time
- your peak flow meter results decrease. Your health care provider will tell you the numbers that are right for you
- your symptoms do not improve after using SYMBICORT regularly for 1 week

WHAT MEDICATIONS SHOULD I NOT TAKE WHEN USING SYMBICORT?

While you are using SYMBICORT, do not use other medicines that contain a long-acting beta₂-agonist (LABA) for any reason, such as:

- Serevent® Diskus® (salmeterol xinafoate inhalation powder)
- Advair Diskus® or Advair® HFA (fluticasone propionate and salmeterol)
- Formoterol-containing products such as Foradil Aerolizer, Brovana®, or Perforomist®

WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS WITH SYMBICORT?

SYMBICORT can cause serious side effects.

- Increased risk of pneumonia and other lower respiratory tract infections if you have COPD. Call your health care provider if you notice any of these symptoms: increase in mucus production, change in mucus color, fever, chills, increased cough, increased breathing problems
- Serious allergic reactions including rash; hives; swelling of the face, mouth and tongue; and breathing problems. Call your health care provider or get emergency care if you get any of these symptoms
- Immune system effects and a higher chance for infections
- Adrenal insufficiency—a condition in which the adrenal glands do not make enough steroid hormones
- Cardiovascular and central nervous system effects of LABAs, such as chest pain, increased blood pressure, fast or irregular heartbeat, tremor, or nervousness
- Increased wheezing right after taking SYMBICORT
- Eye problems, including glaucoma and cataracts. You should have regular eye exams while using SYMBICORT
- Osteoporosis. People at risk for increased bone loss may have a greater risk with SYMBICORT
- Slowed growth in children. As a result, growth should be carefully monitored
- Swelling of your blood vessels. This can happen in people with asthma
- Decreases in blood potassium levels and increases in blood sugar levels

WHAT ARE COMMON SIDE EFFECTS OF SYMBICORT?

Patients with Asthma

Sore throat, headache, upper respiratory tract infection, thrush in the mouth and throat

Patients with COPD

Thrush in the mouth and throat

These are not all the side effects with SYMBICORT. Ask your health care provider or pharmacist for more information.

NOTE: This summary provides important information about SYMBICORT. For more information, please ask your doctor or health care provider.

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For patients 12 years and older whose asthma is not well controlled on a long-term asthma medicine or whose disease severity warrants



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GOES"

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Inflammation, the root cause of asthma, is always there, making you more vulnerable to triggers. So, while it's important to avoid triggers, it's also important to treat this inflammation. SYMBICORT helps reduce that underlying inflammation, which can mean improved lung function, and better breathing all day and night, when taken twice daily. Once your asthma is well controlled with SYMBICORT, your doctor may switch you to a long-term asthma control medicine such as an inhaled corticosteroid.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SYMBICORT

Important Safety Information About SYMBICORT

SYMBICORT contains formoterol, a long-acting beta₂-adrenergic agonist (LABA). LABA medicines such as formoterol increase the risk of death from asthma problems. It is not known whether budesonide, the other medicine in SYMBICORT, reduces the risk of death from asthma problems seen with formoterol.

- Call your health care provider if breathing problems worsen over time while using SYMBICORT. You may need different treatment
- Get emergency medical care if:
 - Breathing problems worsen quickly, and
 - You use your rescue inhaler medicine, but it does not relieve your breathing problems

SYMBICORT should be used only if your health care provider decides that your asthma is not well controlled with a long-term asthma control medicine, such as an inhaled corticosteroid, or that your asthma is severe enough to begin treatment with SYMBICORT.

If you are taking SYMBICORT, see your health care provider if your asthma does not improve or gets worse. It is important that your health care provider assess your asthma control on a regular basis. Your doctor will decide if it is possible for you to stop taking SYMBICORT and start taking a long-term asthma control medicine without loss of asthma control.

Children and adolescents who take LABA medicines may have an increased risk of being hospitalized for asthma problems.

SYMBICORT does not replace rescue inhalers for sudden symptoms.

Be sure to tell your health care provider about all your health conditions, including heart conditions or high blood pressure, and all medicines you may be taking. Some patients taking SYMBICORT may experience increased blood pressure, heart rate, or change in heart rhythm.

Do not use SYMBICORT more often than prescribed. While taking SYMBICORT, never use another medicine containing a LABA for any reason. Ask your health care provider or pharmacist if any of your other medicines are LABA medicines.

SYMBICORT can cause serious side effects, including:

- **Pneumonia and other lower respiratory tract infections.** People with COPD may have a higher chance of pneumonia. Call your doctor if you notice any of the following symptoms: change in amount or color of mucus, fever, chills, increased cough, or increased breathing problems

- **Serious allergic reactions** including rash, hives, swelling of the face, mouth and tongue, and breathing problems
- **Immune system effect and a higher chance of infection.** Tell your health care provider if you think you are exposed to infections such as chicken pox or measles, or if you have any signs of infection such as fever, pain, body aches, chills, feeling tired, nausea, or vomiting
- **Adrenal insufficiency.** This can happen when you stop taking oral corticosteroid medicines and start inhaled corticosteroid medicine
- **Using too much of a LABA medicine** may cause chest pain, increase in blood pressure, fast and irregular heartbeat, headache, tremor, or nervousness
- **Increased wheezing** right after taking SYMBICORT. Always have a rescue inhaler with you to treat sudden wheezing
- **Eye problems including glaucoma and cataracts.** You should have regular eye exams while using SYMBICORT
- **Lower bone mineral density** can happen in people who have a high chance for low bone mineral density (osteoporosis)
- **Slowed growth in children.** A child's growth should be checked regularly while using SYMBICORT
- **Swelling of blood vessels** (signs include a feeling of pins and needles or numbness of arms or legs, flu like symptoms, rash, pain or swelling of the sinuses), decrease in blood potassium and increase in blood sugar levels

Common side effects in patients with asthma include nose and throat irritation, headache, upper respiratory tract infection, sore throat, sinusitis, stomach discomfort, flu, back pain, nasal congestion, vomiting, and thrush in the mouth and throat.

Approved Uses for SYMBICORT

SYMBICORT 80/4.5 and 160/4.5 are medicines for the treatment of asthma for people 12 years and older whose doctor has determined that their asthma is not well controlled with a long-term asthma control medicine such as an inhaled corticosteroid or whose asthma is severe enough to begin treatment with SYMBICORT. SYMBICORT is not a treatment for sudden asthma symptoms.

Please see Important Product Information on adjacent page and discuss with your doctor.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

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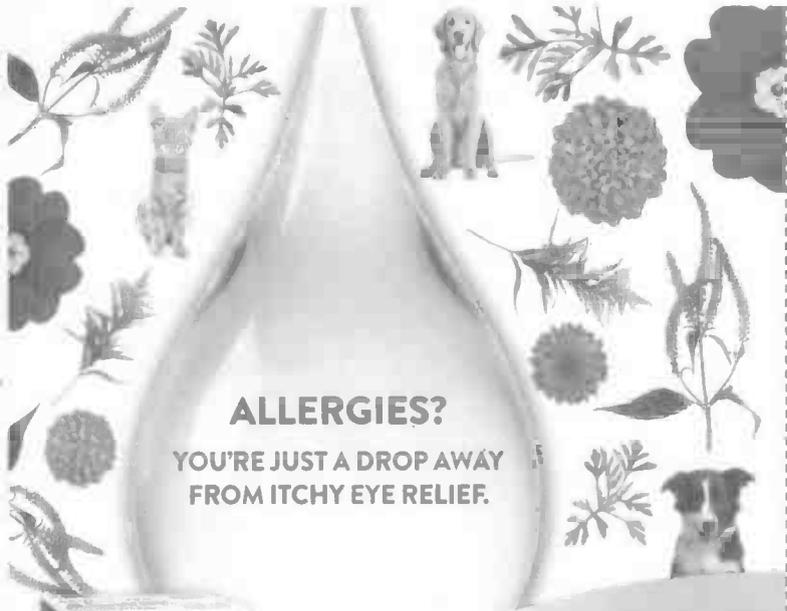
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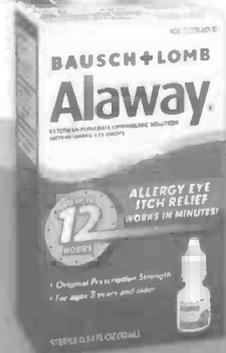
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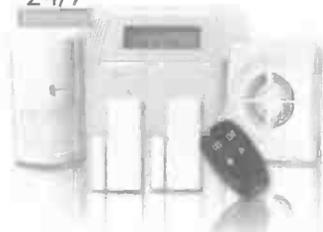
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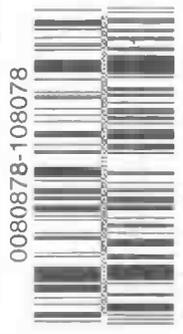
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BEFORE

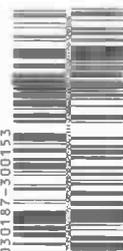


AFTER

Pictures represent results usage of AcneFree® 24 Hour Acne Clearing System after 8 weeks. Results may vary.

* Results from an 8 week independent clinical study (two arm, multi center test, 170 patients with test product: AcneFree® 24 HOUR Acne Clearing System (Cleanser, Toner, Lotion) vs. Original Proactiv® System (Cleanser, Toner, Lotion)).

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON EXPIRES 05/31/2015



SAVE \$4

on your next purchase of ANY AcneFree® 24 HOUR Acne Clearing System or Advanced Deep Cleansing Duo

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SAVE \$2

on your next purchase of ANY AcneFree® product*

*Excludes all 24 Hour Acne Clearing Systems, Advanced Deep Cleansing Duo and trial sizes.

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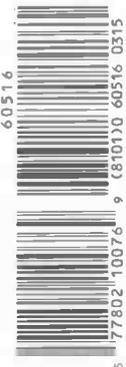
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\$1 OFF

Max Volume Plus Mascara

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wet n wild
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60516

5 77802 10076 9 (810110 60516 0315)

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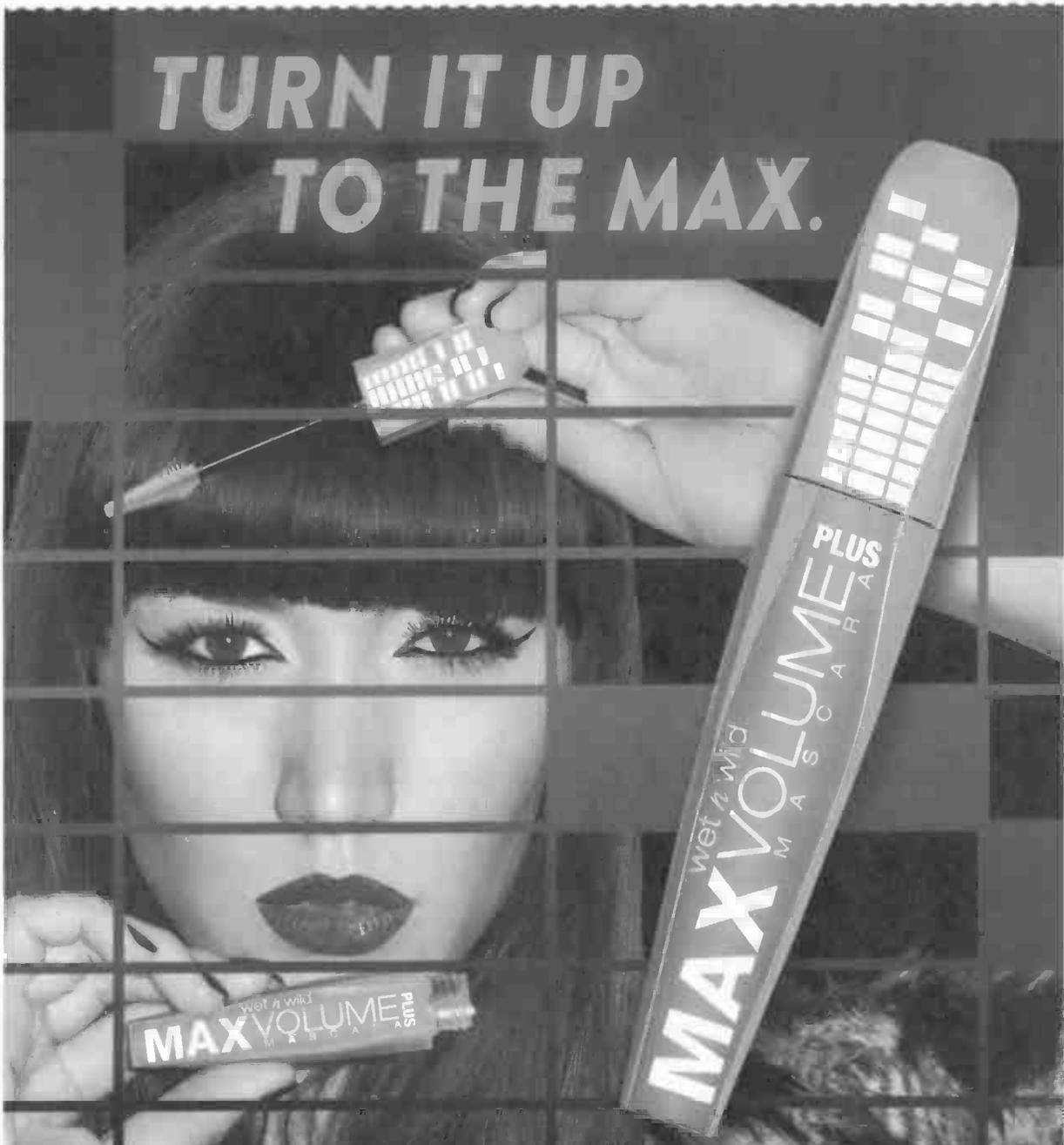
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TO THE MAX.**



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Special Lens
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0310119-082100



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 of PeroxiClear®

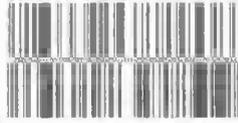


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0041785-010349



MANUFACTURER'S COUPON EXPIRES 8/30/2015



Sweeping made simple. See Beauty in The Mess.

This ad was created with dust and dirt collected from 10 homes using The Angler® Broom with Double Bristle Technology. Firm black bristles help capture big dirt particles, while soft grey bristles collect fine dust and hair. Long angled bristles make it easier to sweep in corners and under cabinets. When cleaning is this simple, a mess can be a beautiful thing.



Watch how our beautiful mess was created at cedar.com/beautifulmess





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Gold Foil Accents	Executive Gray EGR 1 Design
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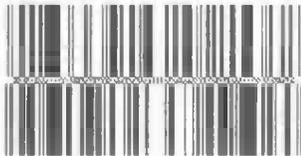
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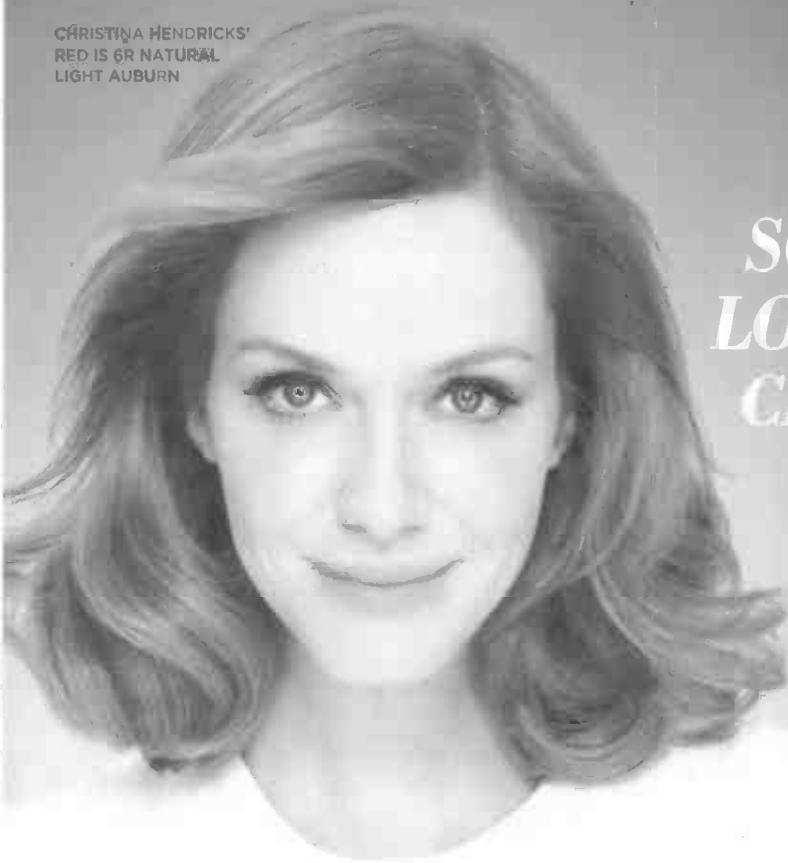


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WITH ROTATING HANDLE**
CHICAGO ELECTRIC POWER TOOLS



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LOT NO. 69340/60790
90305/61316

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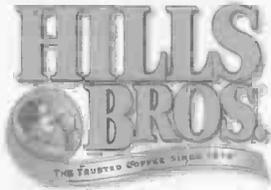
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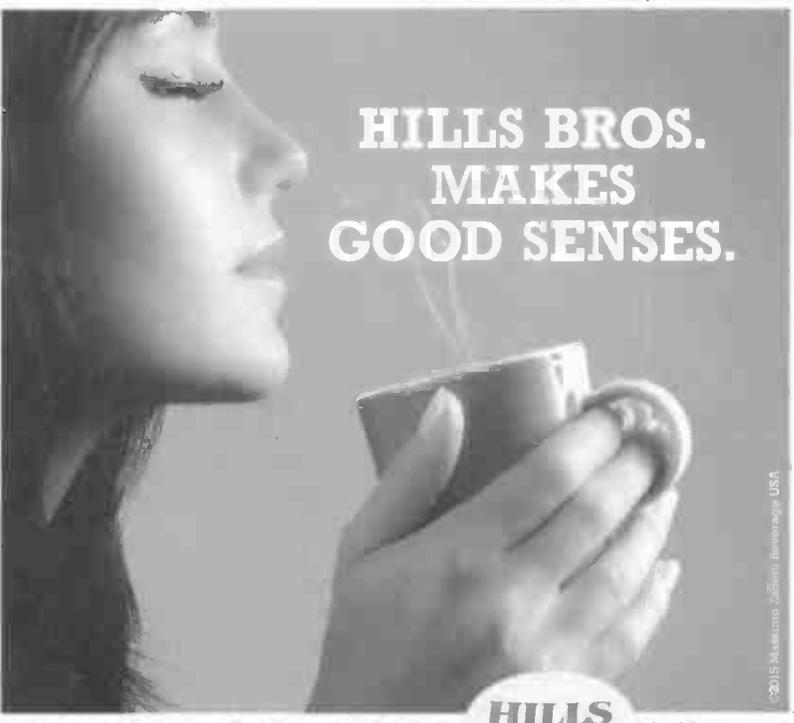
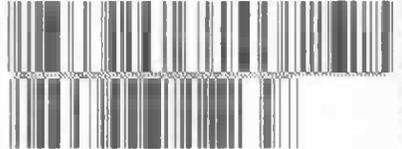
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- Pg 2 North Carolina, Texas
- Pg 3-6 Florida
- Pg 7 Alabama
- Pg 8-9 Indiana
- Pg 9 Nebraska
- Pg 10 Michigan
- Pg 10-12 Kentucky
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- Pg 14-15 Ohio
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Eligibility / Contest Description: No purchase necessary. Must be a legal resident of the United States or Canada, 18 years of age or older at the time of entry. Void where prohibited by law. GuestQuest, advertisers, and contractors working the product, project or promotion, and the immediate family members of each are not eligible. Refer to specific giveaway online for giveaway ending date.

Prizes: One giveaway per contest will be given at the end of the promotion period. No substitution, transfer or assignment of prizes is permitted. The prizes will be awarded and the winners will be notified by phone call and/or email within two (2) weeks after verification of their eligibility. GuestQuest will make several attempts to contact the winner. Failure to comply will result in disqualification and the selection of an alternate winner.

General Conditions: Contest entrants agree to be bound by the terms of these official rules and by the decisions of the judges which are final and binding on all matters pertaining to this Contest. All federal, state and local laws and regulations apply. Entrants further grant GuestQuest the right to use and publish their proper name and state of residence in print and in other media in connection with the Contest. Acceptance of a prize constitutes permission for GuestQuest use winner's name and likeness for advertising and promotional purposes without additional compensation unless prohibited by law. By entering, participants release and hold harmless Sponsors, their parent, subsidiaries, affiliates, directors, officers, employees and agents from any and all liability or any injuries, loss or damage of any kind arising from or in connection with this Contest or any prize won. GuestQuest reserves the right to change, alter or cancel this contest at any time.

How to Enter: Fill out the entry form above in its entirety. Submit the entry form to the above address before giveaway ending date.

All entries submitted must be received before giveaway ending date. No exceptions will be made. Limit one (1) entry per household. GuestQuest is not responsible for misdirected, or illegible entries. No copies, facsimiles or mechanical reproductions will be accepted. All entries become the property of GuestQuest.

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Several museums share historical artifacts about Alice and South Texas. The South Texas Museum offers an overview of the early days in the Hub City. The Maxine Flournoy Third Coast Squadron Museum is open on weekends. La Copita Ranch is available for family, business or group activities.

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It's hard to visit Florida without feeling drawn to the vacation mecca that is Orlando. This central Florida city is home to all things fun is the

perfect destination for families and couples alike. Enjoy a thrilling day at one of the city's many theme parks. Splash and play at one of the gigantic water parks. Indulge your taste buds at an award-winning restaurant. No matter what your age, it's easy to find something for everyone to enjoy.

For the wildlife fan, no vacation in Florida is complete without a trip to the Everglades National Park. This historic site is home to one of the most unique and breathtaking ecosystems in the world. Alligators, crocodiles, falcons, and even panthers are among the rare sights that can be seen at this beautiful locale.

For those looking to explore the active nightlife, Florida's South Beach is where you want to be. From laid-back lounges to the intense dance clubs, South Beach is world-renowned for its exciting nightlife. And with many locations open until dawn, you can literally dance the night away.

And for fun in the sun, Florida offers some of the best relaxation spots in the world. The gorgeous white-sands of Clearwater Beach span a three-mile stretch of the Pinellas Peninsula on the Gulf Coast, and provides an amazing view. With numerous activities including volleyball, parasailing, and

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Historic Key West offers vacationers an enthralling and tropical excursion. Once the home to Ernest Hemingway and Tennessee Williams, this beautiful city is the perfect place to unwind. Whether you're looking to embark on one of the many walking tours, swim with the

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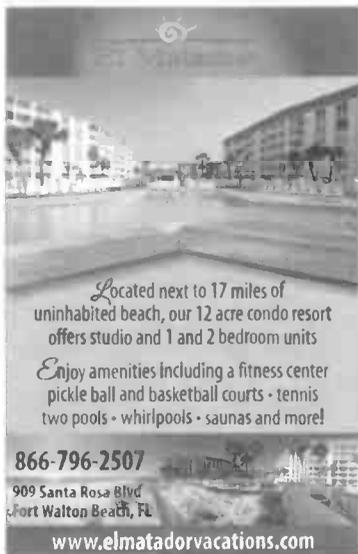
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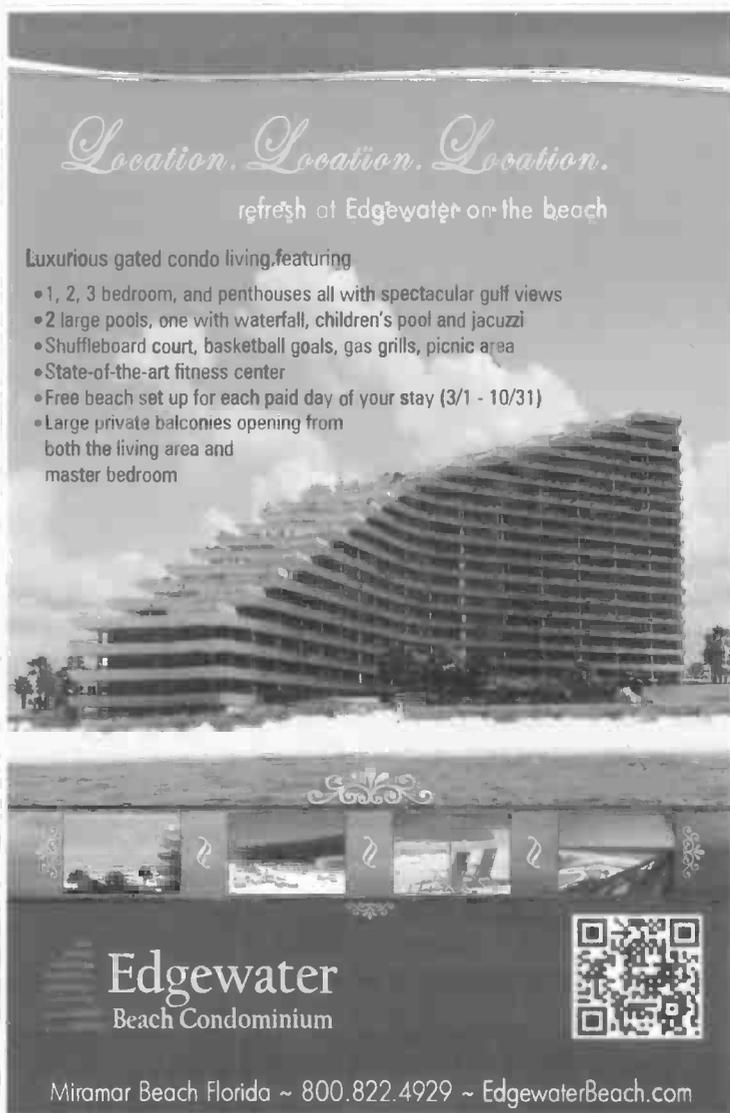


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Endless Activities in Northwest Florida

The ocean is teeming with life and you can smell that fresh ocean air from miles away. Get away on a Northwest Florida vacation and immerse yourself in the energy that coastal life brings. From seemingly endless beach parties to secluded romantic strolls in the sand, the list of things to do in Northwest Florida reads like an adventure book.

If you've never seen the Emerald Coast, you are missing out. Miles of beautiful coastland offer something for everyone. You could take the family on a fun-filled adventure, or have a grown-up escape that will never be forgotten. U.S. 98 is a great road to cruise along for a Northwest Florida vacation. It stretches from Pensacola in the west, to beyond Panama City in the east.

The western part of the Emerald Coast offers a number of great destinations for ecotourists. Big Lagoon State Park is very well known for its bird-watching potential. You can also, kayak, camp, hike and fish in

the park. Among the pines and oak trees you can find peace in nature. Keep an eye out for alligators!

The National Naval Aviation Museum is on the Pensacola Air Station naval base, home to the Blue Angels flight demonstration squadron. It is the most visited museum in Florida. You can witness the history of flight of the Marines, Navy, and Coast Guard from this single location.

Travel a little eastward and you'll lay eyes on the glistening white sands of Fort Walton Beach. Once a fishing village, this area now receives more than 80 percent of the Emerald Coast's yearly visitors. Fishing is still a favorite pastime here on the Choctawhatchee Bay and out into the Gulf of Mexico. And, you can easily find a stretch of beach on which to lay out to slow down and enjoy your Northwest Florida vacation.

If you continue east on U.S. 98 you'll hit a place known to spring-breakers the world around.

Panama City has long been a travel hotspot for college kids looking to get away in the spring. The months of March and April are a very busy time for this area. The beach parties go all night long and the clubs are wild. If you like to let your hair down, Panama City beach is a must on your "things to do in Northwest Florida" list.

Panama City beach isn't just for college kids and night owls anymore, however. There are a lot of great activities for the family, too. Camp Helen and St. Andrews state parks are great places to find yourself while getting lost in the woodlands. There are countless beach activities from fishing to paragliding. Honestly, you won't run out of things to do in Northwest Florida.

From the amazing seafood to the breath-taking sunsets, you will not be disappointed. Whether you like the nightlife or are looking to have some family-centered fun, GuestQuest can get you started on your Northwest Florida vacation.

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Warm hospitality, fun-filled activities and a casual island atmosphere await your arrival at the Veranda Beach Club on Longboat Key. Relax on your veranda, looking out over the crystalline sands of an eleven-mile beach, while the shimmering Gulf of Mexico lures you to the water's edge. Drink in the beauty of your surroundings directly on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico.

Enjoy the good life at White Sands, bordered by the azure waters of the Gulf of Mexico on one side and the wildlife-rich Sarasota Bay on the other. It has been designed for the fullest enjoyment of one of the most beautiful locations on Longboat Key. Nestled amid powder-white beaches and lush tropical gardens, the views from this property will always be spectacular.

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www.VerandaBeachClub.com

White Sands of Longboat
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Longboat Key, Florida 34228
800-230-2428
www.WhiteSandsOfLongboat.com

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Vero Beach offers an array of activities from water sports to professional theatre. If a unique culinary experience is on your to do list you, won't be disappointed. The area is known on the East Coast as being the city with the largest amount of chef-owned restaurants.

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ALABAMA

Seafood, Music and Beaches along Alabama's Coast

If centuries of history and legendary Southern hospitality aren't enough to get you to visit Alabama, maybe the Cotton State's more than 600 miles of tidal coastline will. Featuring sandy white beaches, fresh seafood and a vibrant music scene, everyone can find things to do in Alabama. Families can play together along the shore or charter a fishing excursion into the Gulf of Mexico to battle a marlin. Grown-ups can get in some shopping at a wide variety of boutiques and then stay up late to take in the nightlife. There's so much that an Alabama Gulf Coast vacation has to offer.

Gulf Shores/Orange Beach Region
With 32 miles of soft-sand beaches, Gulf Shores and Orange Beach are the hidden jewels in the Heart of Dixie. Travelers to this beautiful Alabama Gulf Coast region can bunk up in everything from beach houses to bed and breakfasts, or you can drive on down and set up your RV or tent in one of the areas family-friendly camping sites. Wildlife lovers can hike through the Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge or take the Hugh S. Branyon Backcountry Trail to see a wide variety of flora and fauna. If more exotic animals are your thing, then you can always visit the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo.

Different kinds of adventures await inland where fun awaits in form of waterslide parks, outlet shopping centers and richly green golf courses. Later, exercise your mind by visiting one of the area's museums, art galleries or historical sites. Then, after a day of excitement, relax in one of the regions decadent spas or salons. With all that, you can't say there aren't things to do in Alabama.

Dauphin Island
Nestled between Mobile Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, Dauphin Island has everything you'd expect from a barrier island, from dunes and maritime forests to salt marshes and tidal flats. Visitors can reach the

island by driving down a two-and-a-half mile causeway and then over a three-mile bridge. But don't let the island's distance from shore fool you: there are hotels, motels, condominiums and private homes available for rent year-round. And you won't just be sitting in your room as there are plenty of quaint shops and local seafood restaurants to explore. The culinary adventurer can visit during the town's gumbo festival, while music lovers can visit during the jazz festival. After hitting up the town, head out on the water for a fishing or kayaking trip. Don't plan an Alabama vacation without considering a trip to Dauphin Island.

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Some owners will accept two, three and four day rentals for that last minute getaway at most locations.

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Great Ideas for Excursions, Attractions & Destinations in Indiana

When you're looking for a fun and welcoming place to spend your vacation, few locations can match the history and natural beauty of Indiana attractions. The Hoosier State offers a variety of activities and destinations that the entire family can enjoy.

Outdoor lovers will have plenty of scenic locales to keep them occupied in Indiana. The Indiana Caverns is part of the longest cave system in Indiana,

and one of the longest in the U.S. At more than 40 miles, the Indiana Caverns gives visitors the chance to see ice age fossils dating back at least 40,000 years, and it includes a waterfall and underground boat ride. It's just one many Indiana attractions you can see if you make your way to this Midwest state.

And of course, your Indiana travel would not be complete without a stop at the famous Indiana Dunes.

Located along the southern tip of Lake Michigan, the dunes are one of the hottest Indiana tourist attractions, bringing millions of visitors each year. You will have a wonderful time exploring the world-class beaches, as well as hiking and biking along the scenic trails.

Indiana travel offers more to visitors than just scenic vistas and historic experiences. For the entertainment lover, Indiana offers a wealth of fun and exciting destinations. From casinos to theaters, horseback riding to kayaking, five-star resorts to ma-and-pa bed-and-breakfasts, people of all ages and with all

budgets will find plenty of Indiana attractions to keep them entertained.

So head to Indiana with an open mind and an open schedule. Whatever your taste, Indiana travel has something for you. When planning your next vacation, let the natural beauty and exciting locales of Indiana draw you in, and let GuestQuest be your guide.

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Sultan's Run Golf Club was voted the Number One Golf Course in the State of Indiana by INGCOA in 2015. After your round of golf, enjoy local

eateries such as our Authentic German Restaurant, the Schnitzelbank or visit our local pub, Snaps to enjoy some unique entrees.

Feel the rhythm and enjoy the sounds of traditional jazz near Huntingburg's Historic 4th Street on April 18. Partake in wine & craft beer sampling as you relax and enjoy live

jazz performances by three regional bands. Also taking place on Saturday will be a 5K & 10K walk/run benefiting the Make A Wish Foundation as well as the Huntingburg Kiwanis Antique Car Show!

For more information visit www.visitduboiscounty.com

Walk Through an Oasis of Beauty

The Azalea Path Arboretum & Botanical Gardens, a nonprofit and privately-owned facility, is nestled on the Gibson/Pike County border in southwestern Indiana. What began with 15 acres and a few azaleas and perennials in 1979 has grown to include over 60 acres and more than 3,000 azaleas plus a large variety of unusual plants and native Indiana

trees. Two spring-fed lakes, a waterfall, a koi pond and several unique sculptures complement the beautifully landscaped trails, which wind throughout the grounds.

Beverly Knight, along with her husband, Steve, became inspired by the gardens she encountered as a driver for UPS and eventually began collecting starts of plants and trees

from customers on her routes. This began what is now one of the largest collections of azaleas in the Midwest. In 2011, the Azalea Path was honored to host the national convention of the Azalea Society of America.

Azalea Path Arboretum and Botanical Gardens
www.azaleapatharboretum.org

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Discover "The Hub of Transportation Heritage"

DeKalb County, Indiana is the "The Hub of Transportation Heritage." DeKalb County presently has eight museums: the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum, with over 100 classic, vintage, and antique cars all displayed in the beautiful 1930 art deco factory showroom; the National Auto & Truck Museum, featuring over 100

automobiles and trucks; the Kruse Automobile and Carriage Museum, home to a display of classic cars, racecars, plus a collection of carriages; the National Military History Center, features military vehicles and uniforms; the Hoosier Air Museum, displaying vintage and military aircraft; the Garrett Historical Railroad Museum, houses local

heritage and railroad memorabilia; the DeKalb County History Museum, which exhibits early urban and rural home life; and the Early Ford V-8 Museum, focuses on cars from 1932 to 1953.

DeKalb County invites you to enjoy many of our festivals and events. Plan on visiting us for a day, a weekend or a week, you'll be glad you did. €

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- ★ Boat, ski, sail, swim at Mississinewa Reservoir ★ Camp at our campgrounds ★ Play golf and disc golf
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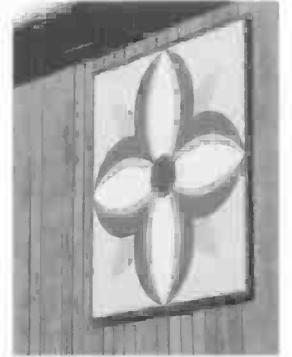
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National Scenic River is a great place to start. Or try tanking. That's right, climb into a stock tank and enjoy a leisurely float downstream. younger—a getaway filled with interesting stops, fun-filled days, and unforgettable moments.

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A funny thing happens when you. Just. Slow. Down. You find the time to pay attention to the people with you. You get a little closer with each lazy minute. And those precious moments are the things you'll want to pack up and carry with you. Forever. Wouldn't that be nice?

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Unique Experiences for Michigan Travelers

When planning your next vacation, consider a jaunt to the Great Lakes region for a Michigan vacation. There are many things to do in Michigan, from boisterous German brew pubs to quaint country vineyards, from watching Wolverine games to watching wolves. What's more, the Mitten State offers both diverse geography and seasonal weather, creating an opportunity for unique experiences for return visitors throughout the year.

Whether it's an introspective retreat on an isolated island or a stay in the Bavaria of the Midwest, Michigan has it covered.

Frankenmuth
Known as "Michigan's Little Bavaria," Frankenmuth offers year-round festivities and amenities that whisk visitors away to that fairy tale-like European region. From seafood festivals to a 1980s-style celebration to — of course — Oktoberfest, this little town has you covered. Enjoy polka music,

marathons, and craft beer festivals. And when you're too exhausted to do much more, cozy up in a local bed and breakfast or park your RV at one of the areas campgrounds.

Isle Royale National Park
Surrounded by the cold waters of Lake Superior, Isle Royale is Michigan's largest wilderness area, making it an ideal vacation spot for those who are looking to literally get away from it all. Isle Royale's per acre backcountry use is the highest of all National Parks in the United States,

and yet the yearly number of visitors is actually less than Yellowstone National Park receives in a day. That means whether you're camping or staying in a lodge or resort, you won't be bombarded by noise and other distractions from the island's pristine ecosystem.

Visitors can follow a park ranger on a guided tour along the islands many hiking trails, learning about the local arctic flora and fauna, as well as Isle Royale's cultural history. People can

also view the island from off shore on the deck of Motor Vessel Ranger III, which according to the National Park Service is the largest piece of moving equipment that they own and operate. Or, if being above water isn't exciting enough, experienced scuba divers will find a bevy of ship wrecks to explore in the waters of Lake Superior. Plan your much needed getaway today with GuestQuest and find out all the things to do in Michigan!

Rock Harbor Lodge — Isle Royale National Park / Michigan

Isle Royale National Park, a northwest Lake Superior archipelago wilderness, is only accessible by seaplane or boat. There are no roads or cars on the islands. Rock Harbor Lodge offers the Park's only lodging (housekeeping cabins, newly-renovated lakefront rooms,

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Here at Kentucky Lake, we understand that the perfect vacation is different for everyone. That's what makes Kentucky Lake naturally perfect for you to create a unique vacation experience that is just right for you and your family. Whether it's socializing around the campfire, lying out by the pool, or tubing and skiing along 2,300 miles of shoreline, Kentucky Lake has what you need.

Fishing is what we are known for and that is our main draw. Every year, Kentucky Lake is one of the Top Ten

Bass and Crappie lakes in the United States. It is also home to the largest tournament organization in the world, FLW Outdoors.

In addition to the great fishing, we also have hunting, mountain biking, road cycling, ATV riding, horseback riding, canoeing, kayaking or hiking and seeing what nature has to offer.

There are a variety of local antique shops, gift shops and boutiques. Whether you're looking for an old treasure or keepsake, or that perfect gift to take back home, our local

shopping has got you covered. Some of our shops are unique to Kentucky Lake and can't be found anywhere else.

Throughout the area you will find many holiday activities including Festival of Lights, Old Fashioned Country Christmas Show presented by the Carolina Opry, Dickens Christmas, Christmas in the Park and Holiday Dinner Experience at Kenlake State Park Resort — to name a few. Visit our website for details and a

complete list of activities and events held during the year.

Kentucky Lake prides itself in offering diverse accommodations for everyone. Resorts and marinas line the lake. Our lodging includes lakefront cabins and cottages, motels and hotels, primitive and full hook-up campgrounds and unique floating houseboat vacations. Accommodations are strategically located throughout the beautiful lake area with access to major highways.

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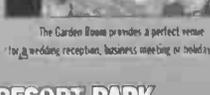
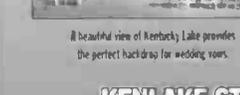


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At Woodlands Nature Station, your family will learn about the critters that inhabit our forests. Visit Homeplace, a living history and take a peek at life here in the 1850s.

Take a peek in the shops and galleries along Main Street Cadiz for an eclectic mix of treasures, collectibles, handcrafted wooden toys and more.

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Schools Performing Arts Center. It's the perfect weekend getaway destination and best of all our attractions are FREE!

The newly renovated General George S. Patton Museum offers artifacts that are displayed in their original historical environment among the sights and sounds that replicate battlefield settings. A set of restored WWII Barracks located on the

grounds of the museum is slated to open this year.

To plan your trip, go to radcliff4tourism.org or call (800) 334-7540.

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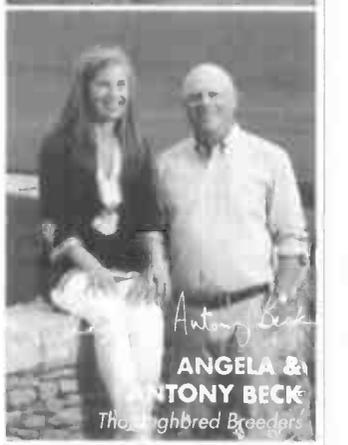
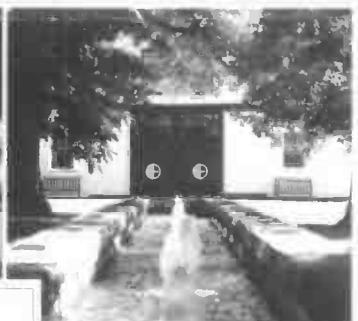
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Lexington, KY – Southern Starts Here

Lexington KY tourism and attractions has a unique liveliness and vigor to it. The arts, the culture, the people, the food, the music—it's all defined by a very distinct energy and sense of tradition that's grounded in hospitality. That's what makes Lexington so beautiful and inviting, especially for visitors.

Many know us as the "Horse Capital of the World," and for good reason. The celebrated and historic Keeneland racetrack, the renowned Kentucky Horse Park, tours of the world's most magnificent horse farms—there's no other place where you can experience the excitement, tradition and grace of the horse quite like Lexington.

Home to an exploding culinary scene, you'll find an urban and chic white tablecloth establishment a block away from the local favorite, no frills hole-in-the wall. With an

emphasis on fresh, locally sourced cuisine with distinct Bluegrass flair, and several internationally acclaimed chefs leading the way, our city is a celebration of good tastes.

More than 95% of all bourbon whiskey is crafted in Kentucky. In fact, there are more bourbon barrels in the state than there are people. Here, you can see how America's native spirit is crafted on a tour of seven working distilleries, all within 35 miles of Lexington, the birthplace of bourbon.

From the scenic landscapes of surrounding horse country, to the unique experiences waiting to be discovered throughout downtown, Lexington is full of uncommon Southern charm. We invite you to experience the beauty and hospitality of our city the way our locals do every day. €



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swaths of dense forests and prairies beckoning you from every direction on your Illinois vacation.

One of the states' most premiere vacation spots is the lovely Rend Lake. This 18,000 acre lake is perfect

for fishing, boating, and waterskiing. If the shore is more your speed, the sandy beaches offer a relaxing place to bring the family for the day. Wayne Fitzgerald State Park is directly adjacent with 20,000 acres of

parkland. Plenty of room for camping, hiking, and nature watching. If you're still in the forest, you may get a chance to see a majestic whitetail deer in its native habitat.

When you get a chance, take a trip eastward to a community steeped in cultural and historical treasures.

Near Jacksonville, the Underground Railroad was very active in the 1800s. You have the amazing

opportunity to tour the actual homes involved in the daring act of helping slaves to freedom. From Woodlawn Farm to the Grierson Home, you can feel the significance of these

locations and the people that ran them on your Illinois vacation.

Whether you're a fan of the history of freedom, or just a fan of freedom, GuestQuest will help you find things to do on your Illinois vacation.

Visit Effingham – Something for Everyone

Located in Central Illinois where Interstates 57 and 70 meet, Effingham has something for everyone. With 17 hotels and over 65 restaurants, Effingham IL's tourism and travel spots provide the very best in service and hospitality and welcomes visitors to come spend a few days exploring what the city and surrounding communities have to offer.

Local attractions in the city include The Cross at the Crossroads, which stands at 198 feet; The Effingham Performance Center, which hosts live performances by local, regional and national performers; Tuscan Hills Winery, with an old-world Tuscan feel and exceptional wines; and the Firefly Grill, a modern roadhouse located on the shores of Lake Kristie.

Effingham is also home to several annual events, such as the Corvette Funfest, Funfest for Air Cooled VWs, Wonderland in Lights and Sculpture on the Avenues.

For more information about the city, visit www.visiteffinghamil.com or call 1-800-772-0750 to request a free Visitors Guide. €

Fun and Festive Mt. Vernon, Illinois

Where are you headed this weekend? May I recommend the fun and festive Mt. Vernon, Illinois for tourism and travel opportunities? Plan to enjoy the sites, attractions and colorful events we offer. Mt. Vernon is a place where artistic endeavors

with an unusual twist are the norm, a place that is known for its incredible artisans, and is home to Southern Illinois' renowned Cedarhurst Center for the Arts. You will pick up on the creativity vibe as you meander

through more than 100 sculptures at nearly every turn.

A weekend in Mt. Vernon could be spent looking at authentic log cabins in a recreated village from the pioneer days when the area was being settled, paying tribute to service people and veterans who served their country at the Hall of Honor and Military Museum, enjoying a day in the sun at Mt. Vernon's newest attraction – the Aquatic Zoo waterpark, enjoying outdoor recreation at Rend Lake or relaxing at one of our local spas.

Feel free to contact us at the Mt. Vernon Convention and Visitors Bureau for information on lodging, attractions, eateries, directions, and for our calendar of events. More information may be found at www.enjoymtvernon.com and Facebook.

We would like to welcome you to Mt. Vernon where creativity is constantly being redefined. €



We've got big plans for you.

Where are you headed this weekend? Pick a weekend, log on to enjoymtvernon.com, check out the festivals and events, and you'll be making tracks to Mt. Vernon. From concerts, to motorcycle exhibitions, classic car shows, art and craft shows, garden shows, and new events being added, Mt. Vernon has become the festival city. Fun, engaging, exciting, and ultimately creative, no place gets the juices going like a weekend in Mt. Vernon.

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Ohio truly is the heart of it all! From the shores of Lake Erie to Zanesville,

you'll find adventure, activities and places to explore in the great state of Ohio. Be sure to add Amish Country to your Ohio getaway, and take in the rural charm and timeless lifestyle of the world's largest Amish population. Learn a little state history by visiting the many museums and historic tourist attractions in Ohio. When you're ready to pick up the pace on

your Ohio getaway, climb aboard the scenic railroads, or head over to an amusement or water park for an unforgettable experience and adrenaline rush. Take in the beautiful sights along Lake Erie by boat or visit the beach. When the day draws to a close, say cheers at any of the numerous Ohio wineries to sample award winning wines.

Capture the beauty of the state on a scenic air tour, hot air balloon ride, or zip lining excursion. For the more

adventurous, Ohio's many parks and forests offer places to camp, fish, canoe and explore the untouched landscape. Check out the many family friendly tourist attractions in Ohio including area festivals, thrilling amusement parks and water parks. There's no shortage of shopping options in the Buckeye state, so shop 'til you drop at the many outlet malls and boutique shops around Ohio and pick up some great deals.

GuestQuest Vacations provides those vacationing in the Buckeye state with convenient ideas for Ohio vacation spots as well as lodging options with our selection of hotels, motels and a wide variety of Ohio resorts. Visit Ohio for weekend getaways, fun-filled family adventures and memorable vacations!

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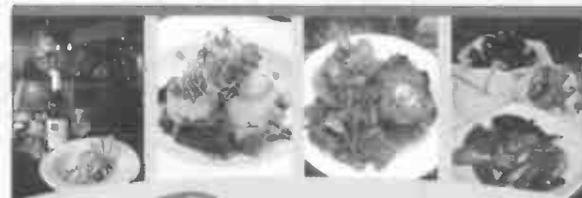


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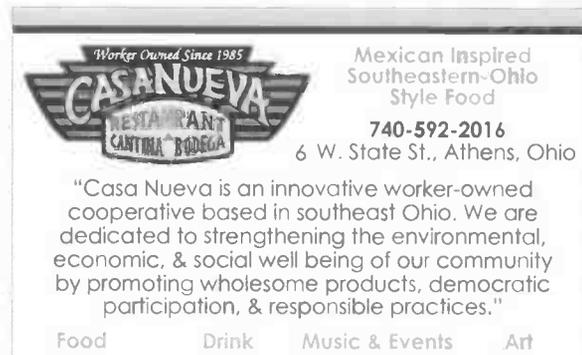
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MARCH MADNESS SALE - All glassware is 50% off. Everything else is 25% off. Antiques Vintage Furniture, Household items, Old & New Metal Toys & Trains, Plus 100s of other bargains! Come in today for the best selection. Zion Antique Mall 2754 Sheridan Rd, Daily 10-5, Sun 1-5. Closed Mon.

Pond Vac 3 by Oase - Pond vacuum with attachments, like new. \$250 OBO. 773-581-6090

Estate Sales

Aurora - Sat, March 21st 9-3pm, Sun March 22nd 10-2pm, 1108 Assell Ave. Aurora, Dir: Indian Trail to High St. to Edison, to Assell. Clean sale, nice lamps, lamp tables, trunk, cedar chest, rocking chairs, carved side chair, sectional sofa, beds, dressers, hutches, tables & chairs, clocks, treadmill and much more. Pictures on estatesales.net conducted by Triple S, numbers 1/2 hr before start. 630.707.7189 / 630.327.1427

Crown Point - Estate Sale! 943 Pawnee Drive. Sat. 3/21 8a-2p.

"A FAB SUCCESSFUL SALE" - "When You Want The Best" PHYLLIS REIFMAN TRIO HOUSE SALES. 847-432-3770

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Estate Sales

TRIO'S TRADITIONAL KENILWORTH - SAT 21 MARCH 11AM-5PM & SUN 22 MARCH 12-4PM
314 Abbottsford Rd Kenilworth IL From Green Bay Rd, turn E on Kenilworth Ave & then go 3 blocks to Abbottsford Rd, turn R/A to house on R/W side of street. Park on either side of Abbottsford & do not block driveways. Sat # @ 10:30AM & Sun# @ 11:30AM

Furniture & Lighting + including: Antique, primitive; pie safe; display cabinet with chicken wire doors; painted 3 door cabinet; wicker, settee, chair, rocker & planters; c 1900 mahogany dining table; antique round pedestal dining table; 4 leather studded, Arts & Crafts, sd chairs; Stickleby colonial style chest, 19th c tiger maple stand with shelf; pr arrow back sd chairs; pr early 19th c Italian sd chairs; c 1850 prie dieu chair; c 1850 English pierced steel fender; c18xx secretary / bookcase. Bill Wallick Windsor, handcrafted & painted: Windsor writing chair, with stool + miniature painted bench; reproduction washstand; vintage French caned, syphon lamps; On Anne style tables; wrought iron floor lamp; colonial style lamp table; antique pairs of tole table lamps; Lane Wicker settee, pr lounge chairs & tables; pr swivel lounge chairs; custom hassock; Herman Miller, George Nelson, "Action Office" table; antique tole coal bin; antique lead, lion mask planter & terracotta eagle. Fine & Decorative Art including: antique miniature painted portraits; engravings, inlaid or duck c 1775 by Alessandri & Scattaglia; 1920's watercolor; 2 small equestrian paintings; Santori French figures; folk art wood carvings by Eddie Carlson, Tabletop & Collectables including: Sterling hollowware; collections of antique: Rockingham, Bennington & Doulton; Lambeth pottery; copper & porcelain jelly molds; copper hollowware; turned wood candlesticks; decoys; perfume bottles; Herend figures; v intage Dansk "Flord" flatware; Stangle's "Fruit" china service; glassware & full kitchen. Jewelry including Fine & fashion. Ladies fashions including sz 14-16; books housewares; digital cameras; holiday decor & much more. See you @ this very lovely sale. For more info please visit estatesales.net

LORI REIFMAN TRIO LIMITED Estate Sales of Distinction 877 835 2099

Phyllis Reifman of Trio House Sales - own town house in Chantilly is For Sale! View At http://1400orleanscircle.bairdwarner.com or call Amy at 312-543-2759 to make an appointment.

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7232 N. Western Ave., Chgo. Gold Coast Estate, Plus Other Estates & Consignments! Includes: Collection of Waterford & Other Crystal, Bronzes & White Metal Sculptures; 50's/60's/70's Mid-Century Modern Furniture; Ormately Carved Antique Furniture; Antq. Grandfather Clock; Antq. Cash Registers; Collection of Antq. Leaded, Bevelled & Stained Glass Windows; Collection of Fine Oriental Rugs - Lg., Small, Runners, Bag Faces, etc.; Crystal Prism Light Fixtures; Ormately Mirrors & Sconces; Antq. Marble Lady Bust, Old Clocks; Sterling Items; Hutschenreuter & Lladro Figurines; Oil Paintings, Artwork & Prints, Some Fine, Some Listed; Musical Instruments; Ladies' Fur Coats; Books; Estate & Other Jewelry, inc. 18k Ring w/ Appx. 1 1/2 Carat Solitaire Diamond (4 Ctww. Diamonds), Stunning 14K White Gold Diamond & Sapphire Necklace, 14K Bracelet w/4 Ctww. Diamonds, Many Beautiful Gold Rings w/ Diamonds, Rubies, Sapphires, Emeralds, etc.; Silver Jewelry; Watches; Costume Jewelry; Estate Coins, inc. 6 Gold Coins; Stabbed Morgan Dollars; Other Silver Coins, Currency; Also, Cunosites, Box Lots, HDTV's & More! Over 700 Lots, Most with No Reserves!
Preview: Mon, Mar. 23rd, 3:30-7:30 PM & 1 Hour Before Sale. Full Listing, Photos & Video on Sunday at: www.directauction.com Seeking Quality Estates & Consignments for this & Upcoming Auctions! **DIRECT AUCTION GALLERIES** 773-465-3300

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GARAGE SALE DIRECTORY

Chicago - 7214 N Harlem, 3/21-3/28 10:30am-4:30pm, Mon-Sun, 20% off entire stock. Antique & Resale Shoppe

Deerfield - Garage Sale. Moving. Miscellaneous household, ping pong table, furniture. 1685 Dartmouth Lane, Deerfield. Saturday 3/21 10-3.

Middleton - 14319 Kenneth St. 3/14 9a-3p, 3/15 10a-3p. Furniture, electronics, kitchen/decorative items, lawn mower, patio furniture, etc.

Orland Park - MOVING SALE 3/19, 3/20, 3/21 17601 Capistrano Lane Mission Hill Sub. 9a-3p. GREAT deals on high end quality furniture, treasures, & general household!

Park Ridge - MOVING SALE. 815 S Hamlin Ave. 3/20 & 3/21, 8:30-4:30, 12-4. Behind Maine S HS. Brian Devon & Talcott. Many vintage & collectible items. Old toys, games, linens, glassware, Lenox china set, misc china, 1,000 books, x-wood ois desk, enamel top covered & kit table, rug, kit misc, walnut chest, cedar chest, large glass top rrd tbl on ped, Danish xmas plates, fruit jars, tools, antq indry basket, washbrds, set blue handblown glass dishes, list chair, long lbr tbl, pix to stand, bkcs, bikes, scooter, jugg, tall tree, historical newsp, Weber grill, trunk, & sew mach. Our # at 8am Fri.

LOOK

Wheaton - DuPage County Fairgrounds 2015 Manchester Rd. Half price sale from 1pm-2:30pm. Children's clothing and toy resale. \$1 admission, morning only. No strollers all day. No children. Sat 3/14 7:30am-12pm. For more info call 630-765-5707. Sponsored by DuPageMother-and-More.org



puzzle island

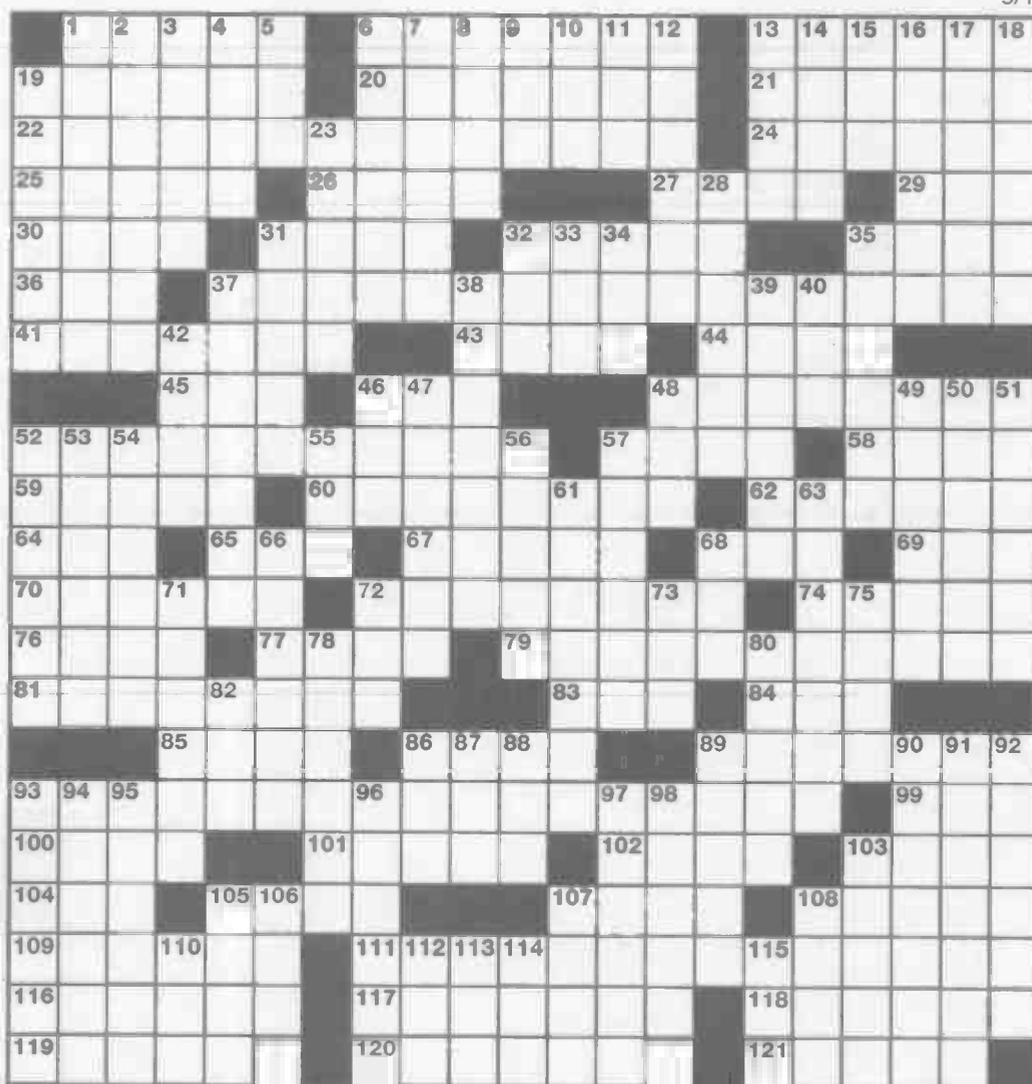
For interactive puzzles and games go to chicagotribune.com/games

State Dinner: Black tie optional

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

Across

- 1 Buffett's birthplace
6 Building-site topper
13 China's loan to the National 110
19 Took potshots (at)
20 High praises
21 What sales jobs may require
22 HORS D'OEUVRE
24 Fine wool
25 Wordsworth, for instance
26 Sources of shade
27 Get bested
29 Disloyal one
30 Expression of loyalty
31 Greek Mother Goddess
32 Disconnect
35 Unchangeable outcome
36 Part of TNT
37 APPETIZER
41 Oceanographers' hangouts
43 Possibly "grand" vacation
44 Made a rip in
45 Golf instructor
46 Mid 12th-century year
48 Regatta, for instance
52 MAIN COURSE
57 Fashion designer Michael
58 Norway's patron saint
59 Broad cuisine category
60 Be important
62 Third-person contraction
64 Do nothing
65 Uncommon sense
- 67 Decided not to
68 That. Sp.
69 DC title
70 James I's house
72 Sitcom opening-credits word
74 Snug shelters
76 "I ___ my wit's end"
77 Bassoon cousin
79 SIDE DISH
81 Stuffed, in Mexican cuisine
83 Telephone threesome
84 Fancy vase
85 Iowa State's home
86 Starter for circular
89 Sneaky skill
93 DESSERT
99 "Great idea"
100 Eight, to one who says "nein"
101 Cybernotes
102 Beef cut
103 Felonious verb
104 Summer zodiac sign
105 Edge of a zodiac sign
107 Fr. miss
108 Sports-page news
109 Hero of 100+ films since 1918
111 COCKTAIL
116 Get by threat
117 Gesture of affection
118 Deep-space vehicles
119 Spanish explorer
120 Telescope part
121 Watchband
- 4 Great weight
5 Clamor
6 Town on the Thames
7 Twenty Questions category
8 Some flat-screens
9 Palme __ (Cannes prize)
10 Patient-care grp.
11 Have a bug
12 With more stature
13 HS auxiliaries
14 Duncan of the cabinet
15 Constant critic
16 *New World Symphony* composer
17 Fill with bubbles
18 Candidate lists
19 Leaves in a hurry
23 Brings up
28 Bombastic speaker
31 Cameroon neighbor
32 Cold, in product names
33 www.caltech___
34 '70s tape machine
35 Denmark's ___ Islands
37 Coleridge character
38 Peach Bowl city
39 Lacks humility
40 Flat-screen ancestor: Abbr.
42 Women's links org.
46 Novelist Rita ___ Brown
47 Virtuous
48 Web-crawling software
49 Actress Milano
50 '70s Carson rival
51 "All things considered ..."



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

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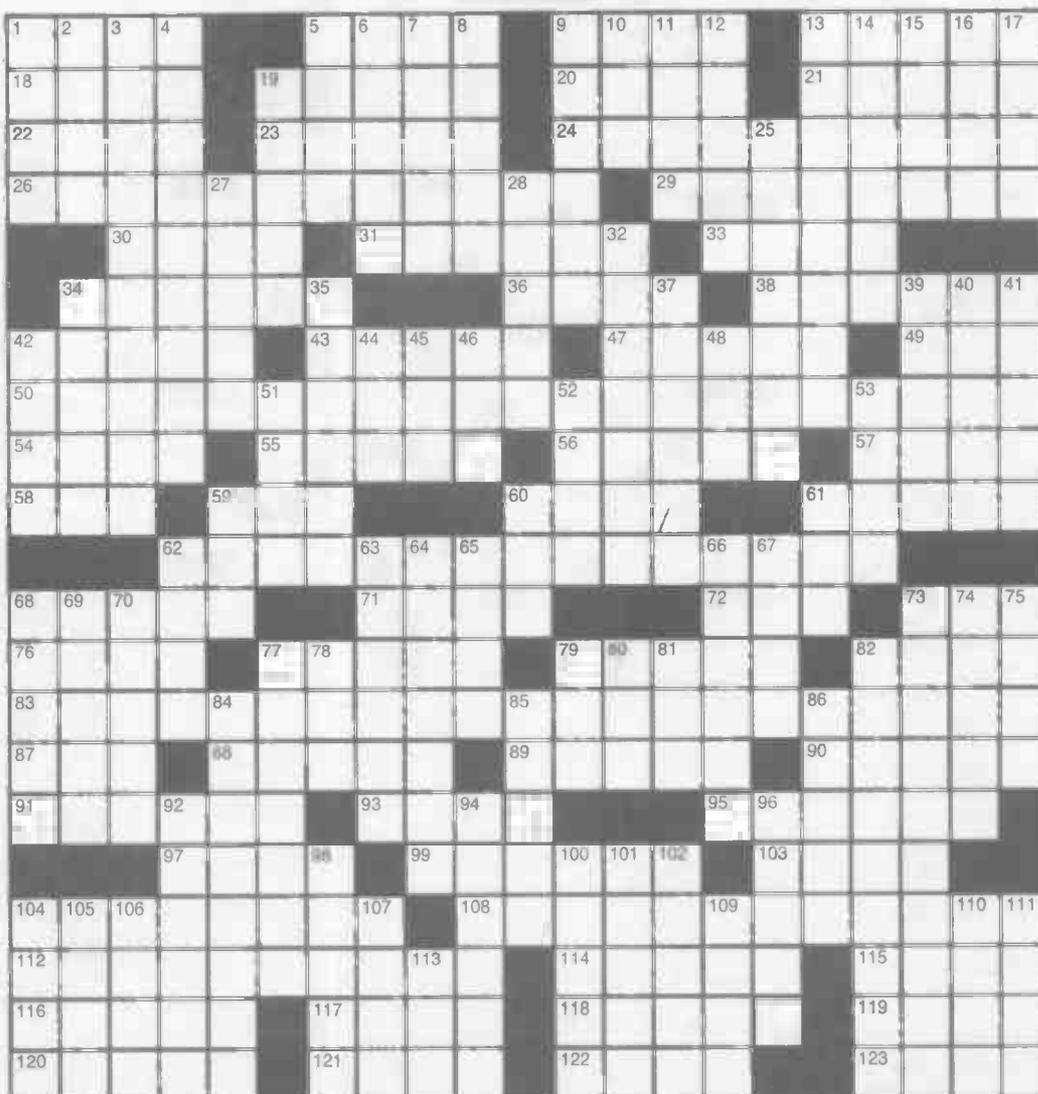
- 52 New York college
53 "Am I to blame?"
54 Ceremonial act
55 Small scamp
56 Native New Zealander
57 Second-largest US island
61 Conrad novel
63 Name on a plaque
66 Jeweler's gems
68 Id counterpart
71 After a long wait
- 72 Distress signal
73 Stanley Cup awardee
75 Sicilian hot spot
78 Pushes around
80 Leningrad-born leader
82 Former UK record giant
86 Hot spot
87 Prefix for center
88 Big bucks, for short
89 Le Carre characters
- 90 Ritchie Valens tune
91 Benchley beach book of '76
92 What "-phobes" means
93 Milkshake
94 Sherpa's tool
95 Most Three Stooges films
96 Pierce
97 Her show first aired the Simpsons
- 98 Exercise in a pool
103 Tank's covering
105 Luggage carrier
106 Golden Rule word
107 Matching sock
108 Sour in taste
110 Menagerie
112 Myrna of movies
113 City map abbr.
114 ___ Paese cheese
115 Audiophile collectibles

For the Fun o' It

BY DEBBIE ELLERIN AND JEFF CHEN
EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

- 1 "The King and I" heroine
5 Lakers' all-time leading scorer, familiarly
9 Predator of ungulates
13 Say yes
18 Horse coloring
19 Spirits that come in bottles
20 Pioneer in car safety
21 Puget Sound traveler
22 Cantata component
23 Sumatran swinger
24 Irritating swarm?
26 Halloween party invoice?
29 Get off the leash
30 ... and then —
31 Sell
33 iPhones, e.g.
34 They have heads
36 Square —
38 DHs, as a rule
42 Wise guy
43 Razz
47 Gecko's grippers
49 Nagano Olympic flame lighter
50 Complex airline route map display?
54 Johns of Scotland
55 Missays "say," say
56 Weird Al Yankovic song parody
57 Opponents
58 ICU staffers
59 Torso muscle
60 Grub
61 Winner's prize
62 Guy who rakes leaves, cleans gutters, etc.?
68 Watched over, with "for"
71 Upper limb bone
72 Cake —
73 Belle of the ball
76 Mariner's heading
77 Occupied, in a way
79 Provoke
82 Two masked men may be behind it
83 What measures one's ability to endure traveling inconvenience?
87 Swing —
88 Jodie Foster, e.g.
89 Titter
90 French bean products?
- 91 Pre-Aztec native
93 Poster mailer
95 Thus far
97 Tarbell and Lupino
99 Beaten on the mat
103 Mr. Burns' teddy bear on "The Simpsons"
104 Handlebar spot
108 Blundering physician?
112 Campus phobia?
114 Saintly glows
115 Scads
116 Leading
117 Giggly redhead
118 Creator of Dogbert, Catbert and Ratbert
119 Emergency room supplies
120 Sloughs off
121 Kurt refusal
122 Sonic Dash publisher
123 Sub
- ## Down
- 1 — League
2 Sushi wrapper
3 Polish sites
4 Akin
5 "The King and I" (1956) co-star
6 Sign at a studio
7 Spree
8 Skating figure
9 Stops by
10 Three-time Boston Marathon winner
11 Very small: Pref.
12 Invite from the balcony
13 Not FDA-approved, as a drug treatment
14 First female Speaker of the House
15 Salt-N-Pepa, e.g.
16 Ticks off
17 Home to MMM and JNJ
19 Errand runner
25 Tapped out?
27 Signs
28 "Star Trek" actor with a popular Facebook page
32 Letter writing, for example
34 "Mean Girls" star
35 Xmas visitor
37 Professor, at times
39 Strength
- 40 Fictional landlady
41 "I'm innocent"
42 —crazy
44 Mag wheels?
45 Smartphone download
46 Nine-tap signal
48 Parisian pronoun
51 Frequent "SNL" host Baldwin
52 Cassidy of the Beat Generation
53 "Honest!"
59 — Thai
60 Keys home: Abbr.
61 Everycowboy
62 Heckle
63 Something worn
64 Sudden outburst
65 Naysayer
66 Charm
67 Critical
68 Space —
69 Olds model
70 Buick model
73 Executed perfectly
74 Role shared by Fey and Poehler at the last three Golden Globe Awards
75 Certain contests
77 Harbor seal
78 Letters in many email addresses
79 Prez after Harry
80 Highest degree
81 Amateur golfer Charlie with three top-ten finishes at the Masters
82 Really enjoyed oneself
84 They can make your pupils greater
85 Dictator's assistant
86 No longer burdened by
92 Steering system part
94 Goes for on eBay
96 Double-reed winds
98 Temptation on the rocks
100 Annual coll. tourneys
101 Practice piece
102 Snug headgear
104 Alleged visitors
105 Phnom —
106 Hors d'oeuvre spread
107 Lacking color
109 Avatar of Vishnu
110 Virus kin
111 "Darn it!" sound
113 Response to an oversharer

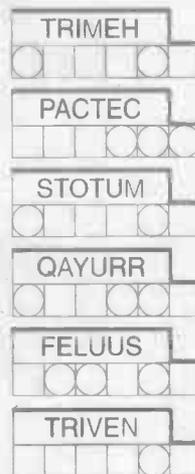


Last week's answers appear on the next page

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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.



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

3/15

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**



Last week's answers appear on the next page

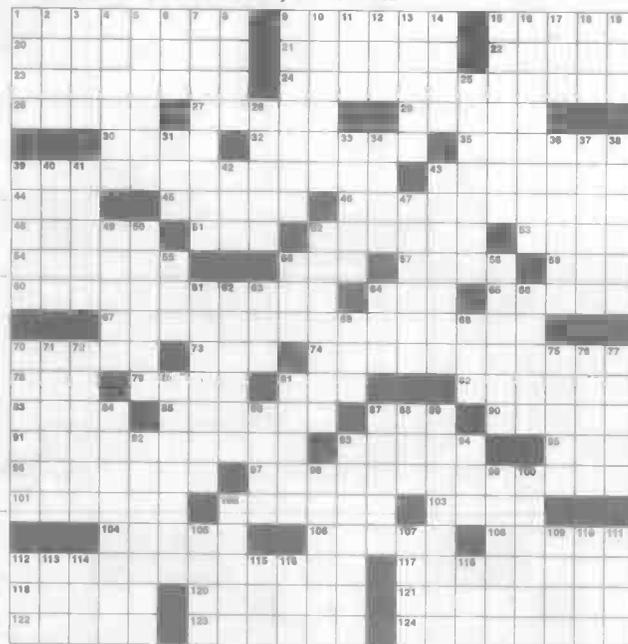
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MAKING CONNECTIONS

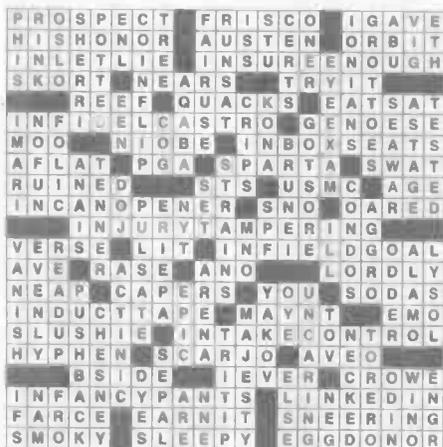
By Dan Feyer / Puzzles Edited by Will Shortz

ACROSS

- 1 Opportunity
 9 So-called Baghdad by the Bay
 15 "___ at the office"
 20 Mayor's title
 21 Mr. Darcy's creator
 22 Circle
 23 "You can never moor a boat here?"
 24 Provide sufficient coverage from risk?
 26 Fashion portmanteau
 27 Gets close to
 29 "Have some!"
 30 Feature of Hawaii's Molokini Crater
 32 Some miracle-drug pushers
 35 Bothers
 39 Atheistic Cuban leader?
 43 Like Columbus
 44 Low
 45 Legendary weeper
 46 Desk chairs?
 48 Most common key of Chopin's piano pieces
 51 Tour grp.
 52 Side in the Peloponnesian War
 53 Hit hard
 54 Unsalvageable
 56 Valentine and others: Abbr.
 57 Pvt. Pyle's outfit
 59 Get on
 60 Quechuan "hello"?
 64 ___ Caps
 65 Moved a shell
 67 Removing a Band-Aid too early?
 70 2:1, e.g., in the Bible
 73 On
 74 Covering first, second and third base?
 78 "Hello, Hadrian!"
 79 Tear down, in Tottenham
 81 A year in Brazil
 82 Aristocratic
 83 Certain tide
 85 Green deli stock
 87 With 115-Down, 1983 Lionel Richie hit
 90 Subjects of some modern school bans
 91 Add to the Video Clip Hall of Fame?
 93 Is forbidden to,

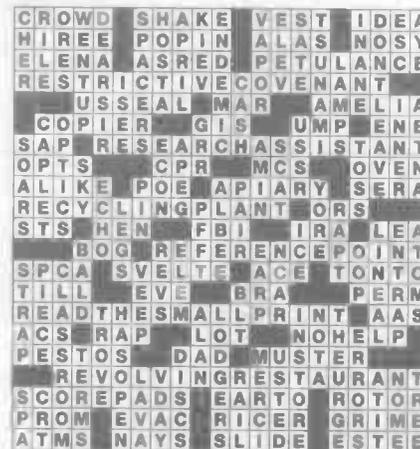


- quantly
 95 Genre for Panic! at the Disco
 96 Drink that might cause brain freeze
 97 Diet?
 101 Jack-in-the-box part
 102 "Lucy" star, in tabloids
 103 Bygone Chevrolet
 104 Madonna's "Into the Groove," originally
 106 "Do ___!"
 108 Cameron who directed "Jerry Maguire"
 112 Diapers?
 117 Popular website whose name is a hint to this puzzle's theme
 119 Shakespeare's "The Comedy of Errors," e.g.
 120 How to make money "the old-fashioned way"
 121 Disrespectful, in a way
 122 ___ Mountains
 123 Heavy-lidded
 124 Visitor to a fertility clinic
- DOWN**
 1 ♠ ♠ ♠
 2 Place for curlers
 3 Home for King Harald
 4 Shepherd formerly of "The View"
 5 Stinko
 6 Big picture: Abbr.
 7 50-50 chance
 8 It can be sappy
 9 Parodist's principle
 10 Charges
 11 There's one every year for Person of the Year: Abbr.
 12 Political analyst Rothenberg
 13 Roll by a cashier
 14 Long, unbroken take, in film lingo
 15 Certain ancient Greeks
 16 Small caves
 17 ___ Dhabi
 18 Bookie's charge
 19 Ordinal ending
 25 Something you might get two 20s for?
 28 Mideast's Gulf of ___
 31 Morn's counterpart
 33 Bloods' rivals
 34 Coastal region of Hawaii
 36 What the Spanish Armada fought
 37 Shakespeare's world?
 38 Proven
 39 Japanese porcelain
 40 A drag
 41 ___ acid (vitamin B9)
 42 Interlocking piece
 43 Became peeved
 47 Oil-rich land ruled by a sultan
 49 Writer Nin
 50 Pair of fins
 52 Bits of music
 55 Atty. gen.'s employer
 56 Word with get or smart
 58 Some ski-resort rentals
 61 Throb
 62 City about 100 miles ENE of Cleveland, O.
 63 Paper featured in the documentary "Page One," for short
 64 No. often between 15 and 50
 66 Belligerent, in Brit-speak
 68 Three on a 6
 69 Poorly
 70 Go poof
 71 Without variation
 72 Get educated (on)
 75 More outré
 76 Memorable mission
 77 Disinfecting Wipes brand
 80 Like light that causes chemical change
 81 "Gladiator" locale
 84 Resistance
 86 "Gladiator," for one
 87 Smirnoff of comedy
 88 "___ Como Va" (Santana hit)
 89 Cold
 92 Country singer Kenny
 93 Grandeur
 94 "Mazel ___!"
 98 Bottom sirloin cut of beef
 99 Made out
 100 One who takes the bull by the horns
 102 Plant part
 105 Turns a different shade, say
 107 Alternatively
 109 Slep'nir's master, in myth
 110 Drunk's favorite radio station?
 111 App creator, perhaps: Abbr.
 112 Uncertainties
 113 '60s war zone
 114 Back the other way
 115 See 87-Across
 116 Uptown dir. in NYC.
 118 -: Abbr.

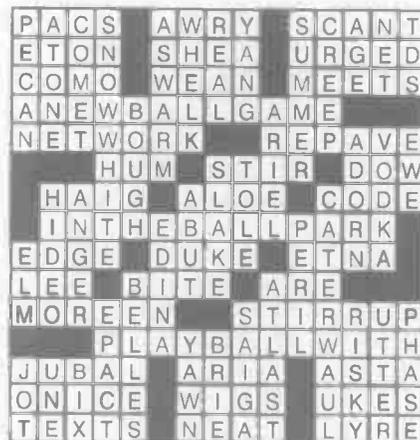


Last week's crosswords

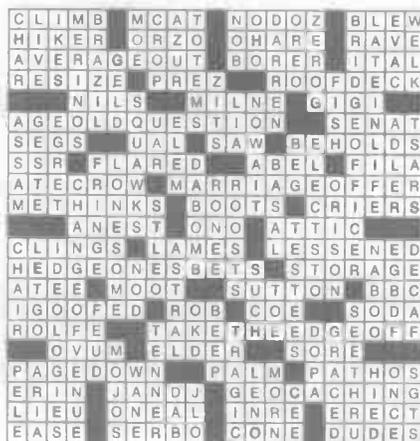
"Roomies"



"Batter Up"



"Hide and Seek"



Last week's Quote-Acrossic

MEG(han) GURDON: LITTLE LOMANS: School fund raisers using children going door to door and parents selling to fellow pushovers have spread like lice in a first grade class. Everyone has transmogrified into one vast, seething sales team.

Last week's Sudoku

6	1	8	7	5	9	2	4	3
9	5	3	2	8	4	1	6	7
2	4	7	1	3	6	8	9	5
5	6	9	4	2	8	3	7	1
8	3	4	5	7	1	6	2	9
7	2	1	6	9	3	4	5	8
3	7	6	8	4	5	9	1	2
1	9	2	3	6	7	5	8	4
4	8	5	9	1	2	7	3	6

This week's Jumble

HERMIT UTMOST USEFUL
 ACCEPT QUARRY INVERT

Her cat wanted a back rub, so she gave him one —

"PURR" HIS
 REQUEST

chicago
 tribune.com
 /games

Interactive
 puzzles and
 games

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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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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

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

Residential for Rent

1 BR Apt Fresh paint, new carpet, all appl. heat incl. no pets. \$650+ sec dep. 63rd & Kildare. 773-851-3666 Call 10am-8pm.

3 BR House Newly remodeled, finished basement, \$725/mo + deposit 219-730-5518

Aurora 1 BR apt, hrdwd flrs, off str parking, \$550, dep \$450 avail 3/15. 411 W Park. 480-305-4562

Chicago Ridge 3bd, 2nd floor, 2ba, includes heat, 1.5 mo security, 5 blocks to metra. \$1375/mo 708-422-7373

Ford Heights 4br, 3br, Indry, \$800, \$750. 2br \$700 steam heat. Cal City 2br \$750. All 1 mo. 1.5 security. 8 OK. 630-728-2430

Hickory Hills Cozy 2BR/1BA House with garage. Call Bhajan 630-373-2867 \$1250/mo

Montgomery Nice 3BR/2BA, 2 car gar, Oswego schools, pets ok. \$1395/mo. + 1 mo. dep. 630-542-5698

Morton Grove 8500-06 N. Waukegan Road, 1BR, heat, water, carpet, blinds, AC, laundry avail. \$835 + deposit. 847-983-0802/847-677-1889

Park Ridge Niles 3 BR, 2BA, no pets, security deposit, 2 year lease, credit check, \$1550/mo, avail. now 773-774-3571

PLAINFIELD Modern 2BR, 1 BA apt w/ new carpet, all appliances, dishwasher, AC, coin laundry \$1075/mo. Call 815-478-4316

Residential for Rent

Rental Open House 3/22 1-40, 2142 E 223rd St, Sauk Village. 3BR/2BA, full bsmt. \$1200/mo. Sec 8 ok. 708-494-8164

Sugar Grove Rolling Oaks 2BR/1.5BA Loft, FP 2car, All appl. \$1250/mo. 630-973-8785

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Residential for Sale

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LEGALS

Bid Notice

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Niles Township District for Special Education 807, is accepting sealed bids for a roof replacement project. 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 10:00AM on March 23, 2015. All bidders intending on submitting 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 10:00AM, April 3, 2015. Bids will be received and stamped 48h prior to 10:00AM local time on April 3, 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, March 19, 2015 and copies may be obtained electronically by contacting Terry Stoklosa @ tstoklosa@tsalliancegroup.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 tstoklosa@tsalliancegroup.com

BOARD OF EDUCATION: NILES TOWNSHIP FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION 807, 8701 MENARD AVENUE, MORTON GROVE, IL 60053 3/19/2015 3134412

BID NOTICE
Evanston/Skokie School District 65 will accept sealed bids on the following:

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

To be received prior to April 13, 2015 and opened at 10:30 A.M.

At the Evanston School District 65 Joseph E. Hill Administration Center, 1500 McDaniel Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201, 2nd Floor Meeting rooms 2&3 at which time they will be opened publicly and read aloud.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid meeting on March 30, at 11:00 a.m. at Evanston/Skokie School District 65 Joseph E. Hill Administration Center, 1500 McDaniel Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201, 2nd Floor Meeting rooms 2&3.

Specifications may be obtained from School District 65, 1500 McDaniel Ave, Evanston, IL, 60201, from Bonnie Kent, Purchasing Agent beginning March 19, 2015.

It is the policy of School District 65 to provide equal opportunity to all qualified businesses in awarding of contracts, and accordingly promotes the utilization of diversified and local businesses to the maximum extent feasible in any contract issued against this solicitation of bid.

The owners reserve the right to waive any or all bids, or to accept that bid which in their judgment is for the best interest of the Board of Education.

3/19/2015 3134234

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Bid Notice

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

Ambulance Refurbishment and Police Vehicle Outfitting

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, April 7, 2015.

A copy of the bid 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
3/19/2015 3131808

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENT TO FORFEIT

Notice is hereby given that the United States Department of the Interior is hereby commencing a forfeiture proceeding against the following items of wildlife or wildlife products which were seized in the Grove Village area of Illinois on the dates indicated because they were involved in one or more violations of any of the following laws: Endangered Species Act, Title 16 U.S.C. Sec. 1538, the Marine Mammal Protection Act, 11 U.S.C. Sec. 1371-1372, the Lacey Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec. 3372, Wild Bird Conservation Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec. 4901-4916 or the African Elephant Conservation Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec. 4221-4245. These items are subject to forfeiture to the United States under Title 16, U.S.C. Sec. 1540(e), 16 U.S.C. Sec. 1377, or 16 U.S.C. Sec. 3374 and Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 12.23. Any person with an ownership or financial interest in said items who desires to claim them must file a claim with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement, 10600 Higgins Road, Suite 200, Rosemont, IL 60018, Telephone 847-298-3200. Such claim must be received by the above office by April 27, 2015. The claim will be transmitted to the U.S. Attorney for institution of a forfeiture action in U.S. District Court. If a proper claim is not received by the above office by such date, the items will be declared forfeited to the United States and disposed of according to law. Any person who has an interest in the items may also file with the above office a petition for remission of forfeiture in accordance with Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 12.24, which petition must be received in such office before disposition of the items. Storage costs may also be assessed.

File Number: 2015300439
Seizure Date: 01/21/2015
Value: \$49,400.00

Items: One hundred ninety four (194) American alligator (Alligator mississippiensis) skin leather watchbands.

3/12/2015, 3/19/2015, 3/26/2015 3116459

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:
Plans and related documents are available at the Village's Community Development Department, Planning Division, (847) 933-8447 Monday through Friday, from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

SPECIAL AID: Available upon request for the disabled. Call (847) 673-0500 or email info@skokie.org.

Interested parties are invited to attend this meeting. This notice is for information purposes only. Published in the Skokie Review on March 19, 2015. Paul Luke, Chairman 3/19/2015 3134264

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Public Hearings

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the legal voters, residents of The Township of NILES in the County of COOK and the State of ILLINOIS, that the Annual Town Meeting of said Township will take place on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 being the second Tuesday of said month at the hour of eight (8:00) o'clock p.m. at 5255 Main Street Skokie, IL 60077

For the transaction of the miscellaneous business of the said town and after a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as may in pursuance of law, come before the meeting, and especially to consider and decide the following:

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Electors
4. Motion - Salary for Moderator
5. Motion - Nominate Moderator
6. Moderators Oath Administered by Clerk Charles Levy
7. Waive Reading and Approve Minutes of April 22, 2014
8. Set Date and Time for 2016 Meeting
9. New Business - Supervisor's Report
10. Old Business
11. Citizens Comments
12. Adjournment
13. Dedication of All-Purpose Room to former Supervisor

Levon (Lee) Tamraz
3/19/2015 3115835

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Skokie Plan Commission Thursday, April 16, 2015, Village of Skokie, 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077, at 7:30 P.M., to consider the following:

2015-13P - Special Use Permit: 3706 Oakton Street, 3724 Oakton, ILL. requests a special use permit for an automotive repair facility at 3706 Oakton Street in an M2 Light Industry district. In addition, relief is requested from §118-212(a)(1) of the Village Code to allow parking spaces that do not meet the dimensional requirements and any relief discovered during the review of this case. PINS: 10-23-331-035-0000 and 10-23-331-036-0000

2015-14P - Zoning Map Amendment: 3400 Main Street
Janusz and Marzena Pezinski request to amend the zoning map to change the zoning district for 3400 Main Street from B1 Service Commercial to NX Neighborhood Mixed-Use. PINS: 10-23-222-039-0000 and 10-23-222-040-0000

2015-15P - Special Use Permit: 4445 Golf Road
Skokie Property, LLC, on behalf of Reena Panjwani, requests a special use permit for outdoor dining at 4445 Golf Road in a B2 Commercial district and any relief discovered during the review of this case. PINS: 10-15-103-001-0000, 10-15-103-002-0000, 10-15-103-013-0000, and 10-15-103-005-0000

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:
Plans and related documents are available at the Village's Community Development Department, Planning Division, (847) 933-8447 Monday through Friday, from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

SPECIAL AID: Available upon request for the disabled. Call (847) 673-0500 or email info@skokie.org.

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Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE
If you live in NILES Township and have a child in grades K-8 who is home-schooled or attends a private school and you are concerned about their educational growth and development, please contact Niles Township District for Special Education, Tann Kendrick, Executive Director, PH: 847-965-9040, 8701 Menard, Morton Grove, IL 60053. 3/19/2015 3125485

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PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

Raisins can help reduce nighttime bathroom visits

BY JOE GRAEDON AND TERESA GRAEDON
King Features Syndicate

Q: A while back, I read in your column that eating raisins before bedtime could control nighttime trips to the bathroom.

For the past three years I have suffered from urgency urination. My physician prescribed oxybutynin twice a day. This helped quite a bit for the daytime; it did not help much for nighttime urgency.

When Oxytrol patches came out, I tried them instead. Again, the daytime problem was mostly controlled, but I would still have to get up five or six times every night, and sometimes I did not get to the bathroom in time.

After reading your article, I tried eating raisins before bedtime and had my first good night's sleep in a long time! This has been working for me for weeks now.

I didn't know the right dose, but I have settled on nibbling about 1/4 cup of raisins between 9 and 10 p.m. (I usually go to bed at 11 p.m.)

Now I only have to get up perhaps once during the night, usually without the urgency that was so troubling. I am delighted to learn about this.

A: A number of other readers also have reported benefit. Raisins don't come with the same side effects as oxybutynin, which can cause dry mouth, constipation, blurred vision, urinary difficulties, headaches and dizziness.

A downside to this raisin remedy is extra calories. One reader noted that she also was delighted that she went from getting up five



STEVE WISBAUER/GETTY

Eating raisins before bed can reduce the urge to urinate during the night, though extra calories are a downside.

times a night to once a night, but after two weeks she had gained 4 pounds. You may have to compensate for the raisins by cutting back on snacks or desserts.

Q: Is it harmful to take Crestor and red yeast rice together? My doctor prescribed Crestor, but I also have been taking red yeast rice. I would like to get my cholesterol level low enough so I would not need to take Crestor.

A: This is not a good idea. Red yeast rice contains some natural statins that work in the same way as rosuvastatin (Crestor). Increasing the dose of statins could lead to side effects such as muscle pain, headache, fatigue, stomachache, nausea and joint pain. Long-term use of high doses of statins could lead to cataracts, diabetes and nerve damage.

There are effective ways to lower cholesterol without drugs. You can read about them in our book "Best Choices From The People's Pharmacy," available online at PeoplesPharmacy.com. Be sure to read Laura Effel's account of how she lowered her LDL cholesterol 44 points in five weeks without drugs.

Q: I was diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy

in September. I could barely walk. My feet felt swollen, like I had a pair of water balloons strapped to the soles of my feet. I couldn't feel the ground to keep my balance!

According to the doctor, my blood tests from the lab revealed a very low B-6 level. He immediately prescribed pyridoxine (vitamin B-6). Within a couple of months, my peripheral neuropathy has essentially disappeared.

When I looked online for more information, I found a story on your website about someone whose nerve damage was caused by excessive vitamin B-6. What is a safe amount?

A: Vitamin B-6 is crucial for nerve function. Both too much and too little can harm the nerve system. The recommended daily intake from food is under 2 mg. We suggest keeping supplemental vitamin B-6 at or under 100 mg daily unless a doctor has recommended a higher dose and is monitoring.

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Send questions to them via peoplespharmacy.com.

Cardiologists urge caution with daily aspirin for some

BY TOM AVRIL
The Philadelphia Inquirer

At Martin O'Riordan's cardiology practice in the Philadelphia area, it happens weekly.

A 45- or 50-year-old patient mentions that her father had a heart attack at the same age. Worried that the same fate will befall her despite being in good health, she takes baby aspirin every day.

O'Riordan's typical response: Please stop.

Physicians have known for decades that daily, low-dose aspirin makes sense for patients who have had a heart attack or stroke, as it sharply reduces the chance of having a second one.

But for people who have never had one of these cardiovascular "events," the thinking on aspirin is less clear, despite two recent large-scale studies. The reason for caution is the very reason that aspirin wards off heart attacks and strokes: It interferes with blood clotting, putting the patient at higher risk of serious gastrointestinal bleeding.

Bottom line: Aspirin is more potent than many people realize, said O'Riordan, of Mercy Cardiology.

"People have kind of looked at it as, 'Aspirin, an apple, a glass of milk, it's all good for you,'" O'Riordan said. "Aspirin is a medication."

It is a medication drawing renewed scrutiny, 30 years after the Food and Drug Administration approved its use after a heart attack.

Evidence suggests it also is a good idea for some people who have not had a heart attack but who are at risk of having one — those with multiple risk factors such as high cholesterol, high blood pressure or diabetes. But the FDA has not approved it for that



FOTOLIA

Aspirin is more potent than many people realize.

use.

And no one is precisely sure at what point aspirin's benefits outweigh the risk of bleeding, said J. Michael Gaziano, chief of the division of aging at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

"We know that it prevents heart attacks in everybody," said Gaziano, who is helping to oversee one of three ongoing aspirin trials. "What we don't know is exactly what's the break point."

One issue is deciding how much "weight" to assign to a serious bleed. It is generally not as bad as a heart attack, yet some aspirin-related bleeding is severe enough to require a blood transfusion.

Another problem is the low rate of heart attacks in the broader population, which is dropping with healthier lifestyles. Statistically, it is hard to measure a reduction in something that is uncommon to begin with.

Among those who have never had a heart attack or stroke, studies have linked aspirin use with a nearly 12 percent reduction in the chance of suffering one. But that is a reduction in a very small number. Instead of 57 heart attacks and strokes per year in a group of 10,000 people, you get

51, according to a meta-analysis published in the *Lancet*.

The impact on serious bleeding, meanwhile, varies from study to study. As with the drop in heart attacks, however, the yearly increase in major bleeds per 10,000 people is in the single digits, though higher in older people.

O'Riordan and other physicians use one of several "risk calculators" to determine a patient's chance of a cardiovascular event in the next 10 years, generally recommending aspirin if that risk is above 6 to 10 percent.

Researchers have found that some of these calculators, popular online, may overestimate the chance of a heart attack. The most recent evidence was published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Still, the numbers are compelling enough for Cherry Hill, Pa., resident Frank Plunkett, who has not had a heart attack but who has taken daily aspirin for more than a decade.

Plunkett has high blood pressure and a total cholesterol count that at times has exceeded 200, so his physician told him aspirin was a good bet.

"I think it helps prevent clots and keeps my blood vessels from getting clogged," said Plunkett, chair of the school of criminal justice at the ITT Technical Institute in Levittown, Pa.

The FDA has taken a more cautious stance. In May, the agency rejected Bayer HealthCare's request to market low-dose aspirin for use by people who have not had a heart attack.

Yet many people take it, even those who are at low risk of heart disease, according to a January study in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*.

A taste of Cuba

Humble dishes, fresh flavors await future island travelers

BY MARGARET SHERIDAN
Special to Tribune Newspapers

Editor's note: Just a couple of months before President Barack Obama's announcement of the easing of travel restrictions to Cuba, freelance writer Margaret Sheridan visited the island. Her impressions of the food scene paint a compelling picture of what future travelers will enjoy.

For once in my travel memories, protein eclipsed carbohydrates. During my weeklong tour of Cuba in October, grilled fish, lobster and chicken left starches in second place. The aromas of ripe, fresh fruit and the simplicity of unadorned food rivaled the music and sunset.

There were 12 of us, plus two guides, on a people-to-people jazz tour of Havana, organized by InsightCuba. We walked and bused to jazz clubs, recording studios and nightclubs. We met musicians, visited music and art schools, and admired the faded art deco elegance of the facades.

Those postcard images of Cuba are true. Those vintage cars in carnival colors? Yep, they were there along with taxi drivers, hand on chrome-edged fins, beaming under straw brims. Citizens at dusk do stroll along the iconic 8-kilometer ribbon of concrete, called Malecon, that faces the Straits of Florida. Walking that promenade became a pre-breakfast ritual.

The hotel's breakfast buffet was a reason to rise for the custardy scrambled eggs, flecked with bacon. The perfume of ripe mangoes, papayas and pineapples had a hypnotic effect. The first time I peeled a banana, I became suspicious. Someone had slipped a perfume pellet inside the peel. Not true.

Our authorities on cuisine,



MICHAEL TERCHA/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS; CORRINE KOZLAK/FOOD STYLING

Tres leches cake gets its moist texture from the three milks of its name, evaporated, condensed and regular. This version is topped with meringue.

dancing, architecture and politics were Ari and Jeff, our guides, and Victor, a chef who moonlights as a tour bus driver. (Jobs in tourism offer lucrative opportunities for Cubans, so holding two jobs is not uncommon. Our salsa dance instructor works as an English teacher. Ari, our multilingual guide, has a university background in translation and communications.)

Lunches and dinners were in *paladares* (family-run restaurants in private homes) and state-run restaurants. One, *Paladar Los Mercaderes* in a two-story colonial home, was most memorable — from the rose petals strewn on the stairway leading to the dining room to the sounds of school kids invading the kitchen to greet their aproned parents. The silken flan with shaved coconut compote was hard to forget. So were the garlicky grilled shrimp and the vegetable salad, drizzled with lemon vinaigrette and arrayed with slices of creamy avocado.

After one orchestra presentation, a lunch at the state-owned restaurant *El Aljibe* enticed us

with its reputation for grilled chicken in a secret sauce. Jeff divulged a few ingredients: onions, garlic, chicken broth and orange juice. Family-size portions of grilled red snapper were served at dinner at *Restaurante el Templete*, a state-run restaurant. The sassy tomato sauce was tempered by rice and lard-enriched black beans.

We walked narrow alleys and stumbled upon baseball diamonds and clusters of horn-tooting amateur musicians on folding chairs. Three-wheeled yellow taxis, called *coco taxis*, and two-seater bike taxis, took some of us on short hops around city plazas. Thirst was quenched by cups of sweetened, high octane coffee sold from cafeteria takeout windows, and fruit juice sellers, pushing wooden carts between colonnades, eyed customers from behind pyramids of oranges and melons.

Desserts volleyed among flans, tres leches cakes, ice creams (peach, strawberry, coconut) and puddings. Poached guava in a heavy sugar syrup rode shotgun



MARGARET SHERIDAN PHOTO

Paladar Los Mercaderes was the most memorable restaurant of the many encountered on a tour.

with sharp cream cheese. Meals were accompanied by live music.

For our last night in Havana, we hired drivers with vintage taxis.

Along the Malecon, we raised paper cups of aged sipping rum, in farewell. No one wanted to leave.

Tres leches

Prep: 50 minutes, plus chilling time

Cook: 25 minutes

Makes: 16 to 18 servings

Adapted from 2011's "Authentic Cuban Cuisine" by Martha Abreu Cortina, this version of the classic cake is topped with a silky meringue. Use pasteurized eggs if you are concerned about consuming uncooked egg whites.

- 1 box (18 ounces) yellow cake mix (plus ingredients called for on the box directions)
- 1 can (12 ounces) evaporated milk
- 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk
- 1 1/2 cups whole milk or half-and-half
- 3 eggs, divided
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 1 tablespoon vanilla
- Maraschino cherries
- Heavy syrup:
 - 3/4 cup sugar
 - 5 ounces light corn syrup (about 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons)

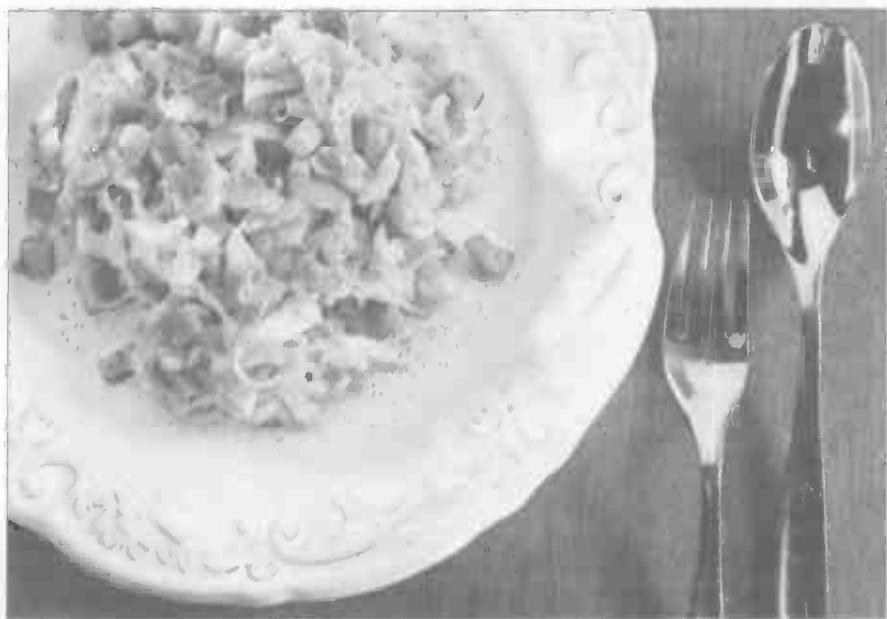
1 Prepare the cake batter according to package directions in a greased 9- by 13-inch baking pan. Let cool. Remove thin brown layer from top.

2 In a blender, combine milks, egg yolks, sugar and vanilla; blend until smooth. Pour over cake slowly, allowing it to soak in. Chill.

3 For the heavy syrup, combine sugar and corn syrup in a small saucepan. Boil over medium-high heat to softball stage, 238 degrees on a candy thermometer. (The syrup must be at this temperature when poured into the meringue.)

4 Meanwhile, beat reserved egg whites with electric beaters or a stand mixer on high until stiff, about 5 minutes. With mixer running, slowly add hot syrup in a thin trickle, pouring down the inside of the bowl so it doesn't hit the beaters. Mix until shiny and silky, up to 5 minutes. Spread the meringue on the cake; decorate with cherries.

Nutrition Information per serving (for 18 servings): 303 calories, 9 g fat, 5 g saturated fat, 74 mg cholesterol, 51 g carbohydrates, 6 g protein, 277 mg sodium, 0 g fiber



ABEL URIBE/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS; JOAN MORAVEK/FOOD STYLING

All of the above



LEAH ESKIN
Home on the Range

Zeus was flummoxed: One prophecy predicted this, one predicted that. The god broke out in a cold sweat, which rolled down his body, dropped to the ground and sprung up as cabbage. Explaining the vegetable's divine stink.

At first cabbage was a spindly plant — according to the botanist's version of the tale. Over time it amassed its round head and proliferated into the big, bold brassica family — all mustard sharp and broccoli pungent. These days the paparazzi stalk kale, but the curly cutie comes from a long line of celebrity greens.

The nutritionist has it that cabbage is packed with superpowers. The farmer depends on the crop's cold-weather chops. The cook likes its versatility; those crunchy layers can go coleslaw mild, kimchee bold and sausage-studded spicy — especially now, in the runup to the big day cabbage shares with potatoes and St. Patrick.

The student of cabbage knows that all of the above are true. Sometimes conflicting perspectives can be equally correct. Just ask the sweaty Zeus.

Spicy cabbage

Prep: 15 minutes **Cook:** 40 minutes
Makes: 4 servings

- 1 green cabbage, about 2 pounds
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- ¼ pound smoked andouille sausage, cubed
- 2 strips bacon, thinly sliced crosswise, see note
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, finely chopped
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste

1 Toss: Quarter and core cabbage; slice into thin slivers. Toss with salt and pepper, separating cabbage strands; set aside.

2 Brown: Set a small heavy skillet over medium heat. When hot, tumble in sausage cubes and cook, stirring, until brown, about 3-4 minutes. Use a slotted spoon to scoop out sausage. Drain on paper towels.

3 Crisp: Meanwhile, set a wide, heavy skillet over medium heat. When hot, toss in bacon slivers and cook, stirring, until crisp, about 3-4 minutes. Use a slotted spoon to scoop out bacon and drain on paper towels along with the sausage. Leave rendered bacon fat in the pan.

4 Caramelize: Tumble cabbage, onion and garlic into the hot bacon fat. Cook, stirring, over medium heat, until the vegetables turn a deep caramel brown, 30-35 minutes. In the last 10 minutes, lower heat to prevent scorching.

5 Season: Stir in tomato paste; cook 1 minute. Tumble in sausage and bacon and toss until hot. Enjoy.

Note: For ease in slicing, wrap the bacon in waxed paper; freeze 20 minutes.

DINNER TONIGHT

Bowl of charro beans answers a hankering

BY JOE GRAY
Tribune Newspapers

When I was growing up, my dad often would make a big pot of beans, usually navy, flavored with ham, and offer us kids bowlfuls. He'd eat them all himself, though. We weren't eating beans. Are you kidding?

Flash forward a number of decades, and of course, I love having a pot of beans on the stove. Whether dad's favorite or black beans, cannellini or cranberry, a bowl of beans is a welcome comfort.

A recent hankering sent me searching out a recipe for charro beans, a Mexican dish with more complex flavor than the typical refried beans. I'd had them at restaurants but never cooked them. They proved simple to make, deriving their smoky flavor from a few ingredients. A version from TV cooking show star



ABEL URIBE/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS;
LISA SCHUMACHER/FOOD STYLING

and cookbook author Pati Jinich, of "Pati's Mexican Table" on PBS, was just what I wanted. Her recipe calls for dried beans. I made them that way, then took a shortcut the next time with canned beans.

Both versions satisfied. As a side dish, or a meal unto themselves, their smoke and slight heat are just the thing.

jxgray@tribune.com
Twitter @joegraysgoodeats

Cowboy charro beans

Prep: 15 minutes **Cook:** 20 minutes **Makes:** 4 servings

Adapted from a recipe by Pati Jinich from her website patismexicantable.com.

- 6 slices bacon, chopped
- 8 ounces fresh, uncooked Mexican chorizo, casings removed
- 1 medium white onion, finely chopped
- 1 jalapeno pepper, seeded, finely chopped, or more to taste
- 1 can (14 ounces) no-salt-added chopped tomatoes or ½ pound fresh Roma tomatoes, chopped
- 3 cans (15 ounces each) pinto beans, drained, rinsed (or about 5 cups cooked pinto beans and their cooking liquid)
- Kosher salt, if needed
- Cilantro, chopped
- Tortillas

1 Cook the bacon in a large skillet over medium-high heat, until lightly browned and starting to crisp, 3-4 minutes. Add the chorizo; cook, breaking up the sausage into smaller pieces, until it starts to brown and crisp, 4-5 minutes.

2 Add the onion and jalapeno; mix well. Cook until they begin to soften, 2 minutes. Stir in the tomatoes; cook, stirring, until the tomatoes begin to break down and the ingredients come together, 3-4 minutes.

3 Add the beans; mix well and reduce the heat to medium. Cook, covered, until the beans are moist but not soupy, 8-10 minutes. Add broth or water if needed. Taste, and add more salt to your taste. Serve in bowls, topped with cilantro and accompanied by warmed tortillas.

Nutrition information per serving (for 6 servings): 330 calories, 9 g fat, 3 g saturated fat, 29 mg cholesterol, 42 g carbohydrates, 22 g protein, 336 mg sodium, 14 g fiber



FOTOLIA.COM

SERIOUSLY SIMPLE

Dressing brings out green beans' flavor

BY DIANE ROSSEN
WORTHINGTON
Tribune Content Agency

Green beans are that all-dependable vegetable that will match most any main dish. I think of it as my fallback green vegetable when I am in a hurry and want an easy side that satisfies. For years my go-to cooking technique for green beans was steaming or simmering them, adding some butter or oil, salt and pepper, toss and serve.

Through the years I have tried other methods and have discovered that roasting or blanching and then sauteing bring out the inherent sweetness in the glorious green bean. Green beans are available year-round and can be found in different sizes at your market. I tend to choose the smaller ones because they cook quickly, are tender and can be a bit sweeter than the larger ones.

To trim green beans, wash them in cold water and break off both ends of the bean. I like to leave them whole, but you can cut them in pieces if you prefer. Here you will find a fresh approach to preparing them. Roasting the beans in a hot oven and seasoning with a tahini and sesame seed dressing is chef Tanya Holland's answer to simple green bean preparation in her cookbook, "Brown Sugar Kitchen."

Roasted green beans with sesame seed dressing

Prep: 20 minutes Cook: 20 minutes
Makes: 6 servings

- 3 garlic cloves, smashed
- 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespoons Champagne vinegar
- 2 tablespoons tahini
- 1 tablespoon sesame seeds
- 1 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 1 pound green beans, trimmed
- Coarse salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 Heat the oven to 450 degrees. Set a rack to the top position. Line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper.

2 In a small bowl, stir together the garlic, oil, vinegar, tahini, sesame seeds and red pepper flakes. Add the green beans; toss until evenly coated. Season with salt, about 1/2 teaspoon, and pepper.

3 Spread the beans in a single layer on the baking sheet; roast, tossing occasionally, until tender and lightly browned, about 20 minutes. Serve immediately.

Nutrition information per serving: 225 calories, 22 g fat, 3 g saturated fat, 0 mg cholesterol, 8 g carbohydrates, 3 g protein, 205 mg sodium, 3 g fiber

Book highlights what the presidents drank

BY JOE GRAY
Tribune Newspapers

It's more a collection of humorous essays than a cocktail book, but the newly released "Party Like a President: True Tales of Inebriation, Lechery and Mischief From the Oval Office" (Workman, \$14.95) is an entertaining read. Humorist Brian Abrams ("And Now ... An Oral History of Late Night With David Letterman") delivers a record of the drinking of the nation, not just its leaders.

Each president gets a chapter, and each is attached to a drink choice, though in many cases that beverage is not so much what history recorded he drank, as much as a drink common for the time. Franklin Pierce fancied hot rum punch, when not drinking casks of Madeira, but the recipe is culled from several books of the period. Abrams details how to make hard cider, so you can drink like John Adams and the people of the time. (Safe drinking water was hard to come by, so everyone drank lots of hard cider.)

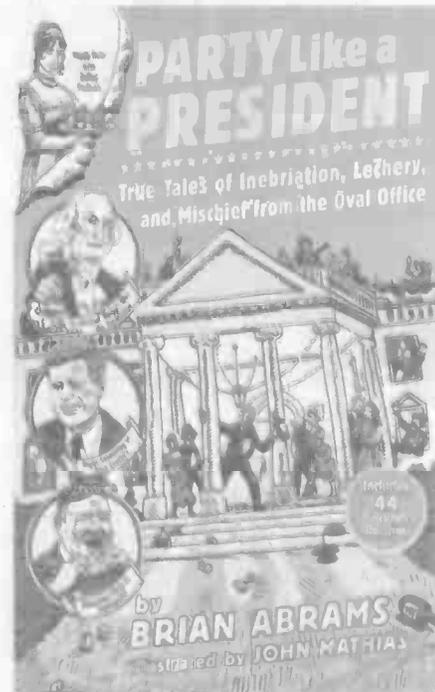
The early years of the nation were pretty much doused in booze, with Madeira, the fortified wine from the Portuguese island with a 20 percent alcohol level, being the most popular choice. Dolley Madison was known for bourbon punch, Virginian John Tyler liked a mint julep and the shrub (lately enjoying a comeback) was popular in the days of James K. Polk.

Cheeky illustrations by John Mathias populate the book. (The doomed 32-day reign of William Henry Harrison is kissed off in a two-page set of comic panels. We never even learn what the poor bugger liked to drink.)

Some of the better tales, that you might recount in your own drinking sessions:

Thomas Jefferson's five-year diplomatic turn in France influenced his tastes. Back home his monthly order comprised "630 gallons of Madeira, one barrel of sherry, 540 bottles of sauterne and 400 bottles of claret," Abrams writes. And plenty of Champagne; his 1804 bill was \$3,000. Of course, not all of that was for him. Jefferson's Monticello dining room was often full of guests.

Andrew Jackson's inauguration day was marred by a crowd of thousands that mobbed the White House, smashing the place up and eating and drinking whatever they could get their hands on. The day was saved when the kitchen staff moved the party's main hooch, an orange punch ("a barn-burning recipe for moonshine that smacks sweet on one's lips before



Brian Abrams recounts many of our nation's leaders' drinking secrets in his new book, "Party Like a President."

tearing out the lining of one's stomach"), out onto the lawn. The mob followed. The recipe for the infamous punch is lost (maybe on purpose?), but Abrams offers a version gleaned from 19th century cook-books.

Little is said about what Abraham Lincoln drank — though he seemed to pop pills (laden with mercury, yikes) to banish depression — excepting a youthful stunt of drinking straight from a whiskey barrel to win a wager.

Bess and Harry Truman's idea of an Old Fashioned was more like straight bourbon on ice.

Teddy Roosevelt abstained, mostly, instead fueling his hard-charging ways with copious amounts of coffee (an amount rumored to be a gallon a day).

And our current president? He gets tagged as a heavy user of weed in younger years ("I inhaled. That was the point"), and the beer summit (with Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Sgt. James Crowley) is mentioned, but the more notable White House foray into craft beer brewing is skipped. The recipes for honey ale and honey porter are certainly a more interesting legacy than the undrinkable pot-infused martini that Abrams lists and Obama certainly never tasted.

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UNCORKED

The coast isn't clear

'Sonoma Coast' on a wine label reveals little about what's inside



BILL ST. JOHN

The entire reason for a wine's appellation, or the name of the place where the grapes are grown that make the wine, is to tell you what kind of wine it is.

The name may be significant because it is narrow and tells a lot; "Napa Valley" certainly is. It may be general, overarching and therefore difficult to parse; that's the case with "California."

In both, and for all the appellations in between, the producer or winemaker often matters too. (There are many terrific wines simply labeled "California"; it just very much helps to know the reputation of those who made them.)

"Sonoma Coast" the appellation — statutorily called an American Viticultural Area or AVA — is 500,000 acres in size. Lots of wine comes from it, some good, some not so good, some great, some amazing. It's difficult to tell, however, from the appellation alone and without knowing much about the producer, what's up.

Half a million acres is 2½ times the entirety of the five boroughs of New York.

Why so large? In 1987, when the federal government approved the AVA, the word "coast" had cachet in the wine world, as it still does. It connoted cool-climate grape growing, long growing and ripening seasons, development of finely etched flavors and aromas in wine, lower alcohol levels and zippy acidity.

Those are characteristics that wine lovers seek in many a wine and are the opposite of what warm-climate appellations give to wine.

In a political move equal to the craftiest gerrymandering, some winemakers successfully lobbied the government to sweep into the AVA their far-flung vineyards within Sonoma County under the one AVA of Sonoma Coast.

The appellation now covers wines as disparate as those from Chalk Hill, a decidedly warm-climate sub-AVA, to those from close to Napa in the Carneros, to those from cool-climate Green Valley and those made along what's called, by winemaking rabble-rousers, "the true Sonoma Coast" (aka West Sonoma Coast), that is, from vineyards within view of the Pacific.

As winemaker Greg La Follette, who makes wine in the Sonoma Coast and other California AVAs, sums it up, "It is too large an AVA to be useful. ... As it stands, there's



RICK TUMA/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS ILLUSTRATION

no 'wine type' there, no definable system overall."

"Back in the day," says Greg Bjornstad, winemaker for Pfendler Vineyards and a vineyard consultant for many wineries within the Sonoma Coast AVA, "they said, 'Let's put everything in there.' At the time it was no big deal. But now the name is a draw, and it's always a challenge to talk about it."

I put together a tasting of wines, all of which carry the Sonoma Coast appellation. Some came from vineyards that hug the Pacific shores; some came from vineyards as far as 30 miles inland.

None of the wines was poorly made, but the differences between true coastal, or markedly cool-climate vineyards, and those from warmer regions within the AVA was striking.

Someone once told me that if you want to smell the difference between wines from Europe and those from the Americas, sniff out the aromas of earth or minerals in the former and the lack of them in the latter. Also, note the higher levels of acidity in the

former and the lower levels in the latter.

Those differences, goes the suggestion, are due to the generally differing climates in grape-growing regions between Europe and the Americas. (This is, of course, a huge generalization.)

From the Sonoma Coast, the scents of minerals or earth, and definitely lower alcohols and finely etched acidity, come to the fore in wines, both white and red, made from grapes grown closer to the Pacific.

Check that out for yourself in the lean, diaphanous 2012 Emeritus Vineyards Pinot Noir William Wesley Vineyard (\$65) or the citrusy, sea-breezy 2012 Flowers Vineyard & Winery Chardonnay Camp Meeting Ridge Vineyard (\$80), both costly, yes, but offering stories about their birthplace nonetheless.

Other wines that tell the same tales: the restrained, silky 2013 Sojourn Cellars Pinot Noir Ridgetop Vineyard (\$60), the vibrant, simply delicious 2012 MacRostie Winery Pinot Noir Goldrock Ridge (\$55) and the earthy, Burgundian-style 2012 La Pitchoune Pinot Noir (\$60).

Also worth appreciating in some wines from within the Sonoma Coast AVA is the skill with which this or that winemaker goes from his or her grapes the "coastal" factor, even if the vineyard is out of sight of the Pacific.

What I've learned from this group of winemakers is that they eschew the ripe California "style" by picking earlier than their neighbors and holding back on the oak.

That's the case with La Follette's zestily acidic and truly pretty 2012 La Follette Pinot Noir Sangiacomo Vineyard (\$42) and the 2012 Gallo Chardonnay Gina Gallo Signature (\$30), for its layered fruit and aromas, moderate alcohol and integrated oak.

If your wine store does not carry these, ask for wines similar in style and price.

Bill St. John has been writing and teaching about wine for more than 40 years.

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Pickwick Classic Film series books 'Hard Day's Night'

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Pioneer Press

The Pickwick Theatre Classic Film Series has presented vintage gangster movies, horror movies, war movies and even Westerns, but rock 'n' roll has never been on its radar.

That will change, however, when "A Hard Day's Night" hits the Pickwick March 19, complete with a live performance by the Time Bandits, a Beatles tribute band, before the show. Time Bandits drummer Robert Rodriguez, an author with five books on the Beatles to his credit, will also speak about the film before the screening. The 1964 Richard Lester-directed movie is a comedic and heightened look at a day in the life of the Fab Four at the height of their popularity.

"It's really going to be a fun show," said programmer/host Matthew Hoffman. "You really can't go far wrong with the Beatles. We're expecting a large audience because of their cross-generational appeal."

Now winding up its second season (with one more show, 1959's "Ben Hur" on the schedule April 1), the Classic Film Series has been growing steadily since its debut in September of 2013 with "20,000 Leagues Under The Sea." Its last three films, "Casablanca," "Gone With The Wind" and "Son of Frankenstein" have attracted a combined audience of more than 2,000 and advance ticket sales suggest similar success for "A Hard Day's Night."

"Anytime you get six or seven hundred people at this sort of thing you're doing extremely well," said Hoffman who attributes the success of the series to his determination to make each show an event — with a Beatles cover band in this case or a personal appearance by actor Paul Henreid's daughter Monica at last month's screening of "Casablanca." "We're very happy with the way things are going."

Given that a digitally restored and remastered version of "A Hard Day's Night" already ran in theaters last year for the film's 50th anniversary, Hoffman had planned to book the Beatles' 1965 follow-up film "Help" for the Pickwick screening. Legal complications made that plan impossible; however, a development that didn't particularly trouble the "Hard Day's Night" fan.

"A Hard Day's Night" has always been



JANUS FILMS RELEASE PHOTOS

"A Hard Day's Night" is the Beatles first full-length movie.

'A Hard Day's Night' screening

7 p.m. Beatles tribute band Time Bandits perform; 7:30 p.m. movie screening, March 19

Pickwick Theatre, 5 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge.

Tickets are \$7; \$5 for seniors. (847) 825-5800; www.parkridgeclassicfilm.com

considered a classic in its genre and I've always thought it was a very inventive film," he said. "It also has that wonderful, offbeat sense of humor. The director, Richard Lester, really understood and appreciated film history and some of his chase scenes in the film almost seem like a throwback to Buster Keaton."

If attendance for "A Hard Day's Night" lives up to expectations, Hoffman is hoping he'll be able to keep the momentum going with another mid-60s film for the Classic Film Series' third-season opener in September. Namely, the a 50th-anniversa-



George Harrison, Ringo Starr, Paul McCartney and John Lennon in "A Hard Day's Night."

ry booking of the 1965 James Bond hit "Thunderball."

"We had so much success with 'Goldfinger' last September," he said. "We're planning a similar event featuring an origi-

nal prop from the film with help from the Ian Fleming Foundation. Who knows? If we keep doing this well with every screening, maybe we can start doing two a month."

THEATER

Playwright captures language of father's Irish homestead

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Every year, John Patrick Shanley's father made a solitary trip to the farm in Ireland where he was born and raised. It wasn't until his father was too old to make that journey alone that the playwright was allowed along. It was an eye-opening and ear-opening experience.

"The people come up out of that ground like local plants," Shanley said by phone from his New York home. "The language of people who are on a farm in Ireland is so rich that it's startling. If you have relatives who live down the road from a farm, they speak a little less well. And then I have relatives that live several miles from the farm and they speak yet a little less well. Being on the farm itself generates for some reason, that I can't completely comprehend, a quality of language that is extremely rare in the modern world."

Shanley captures that language in "Outside Mullingar" at Northlight Theatre. The play revolves around Shanley's cousin Anthony, who runs the family's farm. It tells of his relationship with his cantankerous father and with Rosemary, the neighbor who pines for him in the midst of a land feud between the two families.

Shanley, who grew up in the Bronx, declared that visits to the family farm had a deep impact on his overall work as a playwright. "As soon as I went there, I felt completely untalented because every single person talking had more of a gift of language than I did," he said.

Fans of the author of "Moonstruck" and "Doubt" would question that assertion. A New York Times review of the 2014 Broad-



NORTHLIGHT THEATRE PHOTO

The cast of "Outside Mullingar" at Northlight Theatre.

Northlight Theatre's 'Outside Mullingar'

March 20-April 19
North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie
\$25-\$78
847-673-6300;
northlight.org

way production of "Outside Mullingar" praised the language of the play, saying, "The rural dialect spoken on the farms and villages of Ireland translates into prickly poetry."

The reason that Shanley decided to tell the story of his cousin is that, "There's nothing about Anthony that just look at him and you can see the wheels turning," the playwright said. "Ask what he's thinking and he's not going to directly answer

you. But he's going to say something that's provocative and irascible and challenging. He's basically mysterious."

Not only did Shanley tell Anthony to his face that he had written a play about him, he sent him the script before the New York production. "He never mentioned it," Shanley said. "I invited him to New York to the opening. He didn't come but his brother Brendan did and his sister Trish did a little later in the run, so he was getting steady reports back but he keeps his own counsel so what he thought of that, I'll never completely know."

One family member did tell Shanley what he thought, though. "On opening night," Shanley related, "my cousin Brendan grabbed my arm and said, 'Thank you for bringing my parents back to life for a night.'"

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THEATER

Skokie actor closing in on August Wilson's 10-play cycle

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Decade by decade, Actor Alfred H. Wilson is closing in on playwright August Wilson's 10-play cycle exploring the African-American experience in 20th century America. Alfred has appeared in productions of seven plays in the late playwright's cycle, some multiple times.

The Skokie resident next plays *Holloway* in his third production of "Two Trains Running," this one on stage through April 12 at Goodman Theatre. The production is part of a spring 2015 citywide August Wilson Celebration.

Obviously, August Wilson has figured prominently in Alfred Wilson's career but it's not just a matter of numbers. "He wrote ten plays that feature middle age to elderly African-American men, telling stories that I can relate to and that audiences can relate to," Alfred said.

What makes August Wilson's plays so distinctive is "his language," Alfred said. "He's a master in how he uses the language of that time."

"Two Trains Running," which was written in 1990 and first produced at the Goodman in 1993 following a 1992 Broadway run, is set in 1969. It takes place in a Pittsburgh restaurant

where a young man named Sterling, who has just been released from prison, tries to help a man named Ham-bone who was not given what he was promised for a painting job years earlier. Restaurant owner Memphis Lee has his own troubles because the place is about to be condemned. Restaurant patron Holloway is a retired painter who likes to philosophize.

Alfred won a Jeff Award for his first appearance in "Two Trains Running" in



LIZ LAUREN FOR GOODMAN THEATRE

Skokie resident Alfred H. Wilson in rehearsal for August Wilson's "Two Trains Running," at Goodman Theatre.

'Two Trains Running'

Through April 12
Goodman Theatre, 170 N.
Dearborn St., Chicago
\$25-\$79
(312) 443-3800;
www.goodmantheatre.org

2005 at Pegasus Players in the role of Memphis. He previously played Holloway in 2010 at Rochester, New York's Geva Theatre.

Alfred described his character as a self-educated intellectual. "Holloway sees everything that's happening in Pittsburgh. He knows everything," Alfred said. "In all of the productions before, Holloway sits at the window and looks at everything going on outside the window. Here [director] Chuck [Smith] has us looking out into the audience."

That change has meant that the actor "has to create a different world for what Holloway's seeing outside that window."

Alfred further noted that Holloway is "a man struggling to hold onto his life, his livelihood."

The actor reflected on the fact that his hometown of Flint, Mich. in the 1980s was going through similar economic problems as Pittsburgh was in 1969 so he can easily relate.

In the middle of the economic struggles that impact the characters in "Two Trains Running," Holloway "wants to share his wisdom with the young folks around."

Alfred is convinced this is the right role for him.

"I think I'm feeling the same way — wanting to impart wisdom to young people, especially young actors," he explained.

"When you're doing an August Wilson play, I want them to understand that this is one of the premiere playwrights of our time and that he deserves respect. If you say his words the way they're supposed to be said, there's a poetry and a rhythm that comes across."

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Explore the surprising world of Incredible Bats

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Dispelling common misconceptions is one goal of Sharon Peterson and her husband Daniel, who will bring their Incredible Bats to the Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., 2-3 p.m. Saturday, March 28.

"There are five myths about bats that people believe," Peterson said, citing one common misconception—that bats are blind. They're not.

All of those myths are dispelled through a multimedia presentation that first presents an overall look at bats of the world. The audience will also learn about echolocation, what bats eat and what eats bats. They will also learn how valuable bats are to ecology.

"We talk about the twelve species that live here in Illinois," Peterson said. "Then we bring out the live bats."

Because bats are too fragile and skittish to be touched, Peterson has a surprise for kids with another misunderstood animal. "I bring along my pet skunk," she revealed. "People can pet him and have their picture taken with him."

For details, call 847-965-4220 or go to www.mgpl.org.

A beautiful day in the neighborhood

A classic kids' television program will be honored during Mr. Rogers' Day, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, March 20 at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St. Visitors can watch the TV show, engage in related activities and sing about the series that ran from 1968-2001.

For details, call 847-663-



JORDAN BACKEY/INCREDIBLE BATS

Egyptian Fruit Bats

1234 or go to www.nileslibrary.org.

Think big

The goal of Mission BOOMbox: Family Construction Challenge is to build the tallest building you can. Kids in kindergarten through fifth grade, with an adult, will be working toward that goal, 2-3 p.m. Saturday, March 28 at Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St.

For details, call 847-673-7774 or go to www.skokieliibrary.info.

Rescue party

Hiro and his friends become a band of high-tech heroes in order to save the city of San Fransokyo in "Big Hero 6." The PG-

rated film will be shown from 4-5:45 p.m. Friday, March 20 at Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave.

For details, call 847-965-4220 or go to www.mgpl.org.

Another happy holiday

Children will learn the significance of matzo and other facts about an important Jewish holiday at a Passover Storytime, 11 a.m. Sunday, March 29 at Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. They will hear a story and work on a related craft project to learn about the Jewish culture.

For details, call 847-676-2230 or go to www.barnesandnoble.com.



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FOOD

James Beard Award nominees spring into action

BY VERONICA HINKE
Pioneer Press

For the first time in its 25-year history, the James Beard Awards show is leaving New York City and coming to Chicago. Plenty of Chicago area chefs are basking in the glow of the affirmations (award semifinalists were named Feb. 18) and preparations are aflutter as local venues prepare to welcome the show to the city. But a few of our favorite chefs are purely focused on their food. We asked some local nominees what they're excited about for spring.

For chef/restaurateur Paul Virant, this latest Beard nod is a three-peat of acknowledgment in the Best Chef: Great Lakes category. He is happy about the award show coming to Chicago, but he's really excited about a new treat he said chef Dan Compton has been making lately at Virant's Vie Restaurant in Western Springs. They are homemade cheese straws accented with smoked apple butter and served with a bit of coppa, which is a type of salami. The cheese straws are made with cheddar cheese, butter and flour and a little bit of cream, kosher salt and red pepper flakes. All of the ingredients except the flour are combined in a food processor in five, five-second pulses until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Then, the cream is added and the dough forms an amalgamated ball. The dough is rolled out and cut into strips and baked at 325 degrees for 12 minutes or until the ends are barely browned.

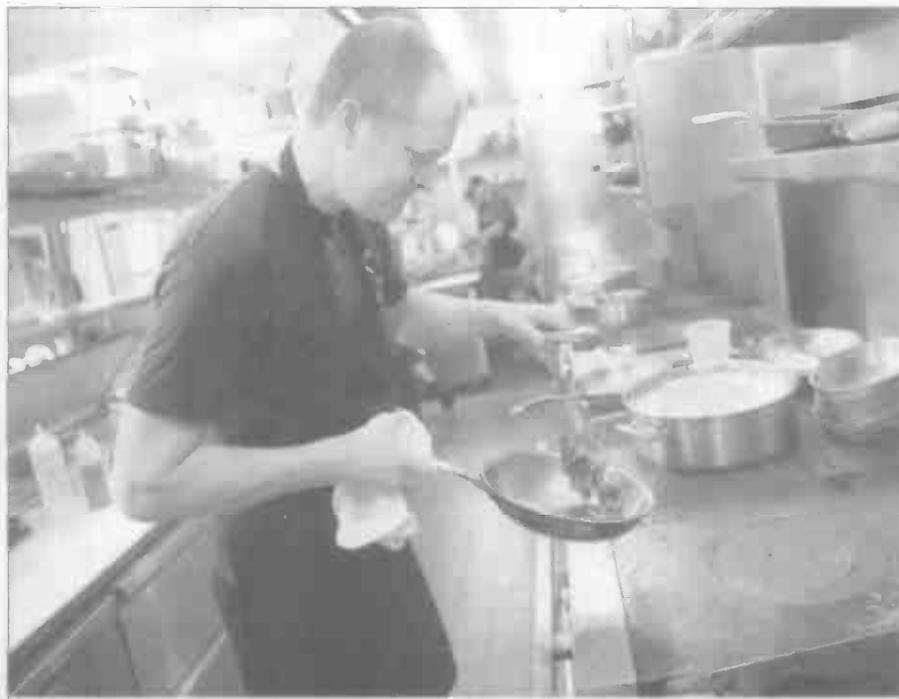
"Deliciousness," Virant said.

For the fifth time, Rick Bayless's Topolobampo has been nominated for the Outstanding Service award. But Bayless, the noted rooftop garden pioneer, is just as thrilled that spring is around the corner. "We always look forward to spring around here," Bayless said. "It's when our rooftop gardens begin to sprout and farmers markets start to come alive."

At Boltwood in Evanston, where, like Virant, Executive Chef Brian Huston snagged a nod in the Best Chef: Great Lakes category, Asian ingredients are the latest hype. Huston has seen growing interest in ramen and dashi, a stock for Japanese miso soup that is made with fish and kelp. He's been making an asparagus soup for spring with a dashi base. He makes it with dried shiitake mushrooms and kombu, a type of seaweed.

He calls his soup Spring Asparagus Soup with Parmesan-Mushroom Broth and Poached Egg. "I know, very 'wasabi mash potato' of me," he said, "but that's the kind of stuff we've been thinking about lately."

"A lot of chefs these days are trying to tap into that fifth basic taste, umami," Huston explained. "Instead of just making a broth,



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Paul Virant in the kitchen at his newest restaurant, Vistro, in Hinsdale. Virant is again nominated in the Best Chefs: Great Lakes division.

which is kind of cool in its own right, we add the kombu and the dried shiitakes to give it the non-intrusive element. It may take a few more minutes but it's worth it."

The James Beard Awards black-tie gala and reception takes place at the Lyric Opera House on May 4. Tickets are available starting April 1.

"It's totally awesome for Chicago to be the first city outside of New York to host the most prestigious hospitality award event," Virant said. "Chicago has really become a premier dining/drinking city, and this event helps legitimize that fact."

Bayless and his team are preparing nominee Topolobampo's sister restaurant, Frontera Grill, as the official venue for the award show's after-party. "Hopefully we'll all have something to celebrate," Bayless said. "Many chefs are already a little competitive, so everyone will have to shine for the Beard crowd during the festivities."

"Having the awards in Chicago is pretty cool," Huston said. "There is the home field advantage element. It should be an exciting week in Chicago. I know I speak for a lot of cooks when I say that cooking for a fellow chef is more fun for us than cooking for anyone. I'm sure there will be a lot of revved up menus that week."

The full list of James Beard Awards semifinalists can be found at jamesbeard.org/awards. Final nominees for all award categories will be announced on March 24.



BRIAN HUSTON

Brian Huston, a nominee for a 2015 James Beard Award in the Best Chef: Great Lakes category, grates Parmesan cheese over a bowl of his new Spring Asparagus Soup with Parmesan-Mushroom Broth and Poached Egg in the kitchen at Boltwood in Evanston.

Spring Asparagus Soup with Parmesan-Mushroom Broth and Poached Egg

Two 3-inch x 6-inch pieces of kombu (dried kelp, you can find at Asian markets)

4 quarts water
2 cups dried shiitake mushrooms, rinsed well

2 pounds Parmesan rind, plus additional cheese for garnish

Equal parts kosher salt and mirin, to taste

Two bunches of asparagus

One dozen eggs for poaching

1 Tablespoon soy sauce

1 Tablespoon salt

1 Tablespoon mirin

1 teaspoon fish sauce

1 teaspoon black pepper

BROTH:

Rinse the kombu under running water, and then combine with water in 8-quart pot. Bring water to a simmer over high heat and turn off heat. Let steep for 10 minutes. Add soy sauce, salt, mirin, fish sauce and black pepper. Remove the kombu from the pot and add the shiitakes. Turn the heat back up to high and bring the water to a boil, then turn the heat down so liquid simmers gently. Add Parmesan and steep for one hour. Remove the mushrooms and Parmesan from the pot with a slotted spoon. Season the broth with salt and mirin, to taste.

ASPARAGUS:

Trim the woody end off of each piece of asparagus. Thinly cut asparagus on an extreme bias.

POACHING EGGS:

Add a dash of white vinegar to a pan of simmering water. Crack eggs individually into a ramekin or cup. Create a gentle whirlpool in the water to help the egg white wrap around the yolk. Slowly tip the egg into the water. Cook for about three minutes. Remove with slotted spoon. Drain onto kitchen paper.

ASSEMBLY:

Divide broth evenly between 6-12 bowls. Evenly distribute asparagus between bowls. Add a poached egg to each bowl. Grate Parmesan over the top.

Adapted from Brian Huston, Boltwood

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

Friday, March 20

Chicagoland Family Pet Expo: If your little pet lover can't get enough of all things Fido and Fluffy, then she'll go ape over the Chicagoland Family Pet Expo. Besides the hundreds of exhibits featuring pet products and services, there's also entertainment, a petting zoo and plenty of paws-on fun. 1 p.m. Friday, 1 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. Sunday, Arlington International, 2200 W. Euclid Ave., Arlington Heights, \$10; \$5 for kids 3-12; \$7 parking, 630-793-9779

"Balm In Gilead": This production set in an all night coffee shop on Manhattan's Upper West Side follows the lives of Joe (a cynical drug dealer) and Darlene (a new arrival to the city) as their paths cross over the course of three days. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday, The Den Theatre, 1333 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, \$20-\$35, 773-398-7028

"Macbeth": See Shakespeare's epic tale of ambition gone wrong. 8 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday, 8 p.m. Wednesday, The Artistic Home, 1376 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, \$28-\$32, 312-243-3963

Into the Bat Caves of Kenya: Scientists Bruce Patterson and Paul Webala, accompanied by vlogger Emily Graslie, venture deep into a cave in Kenya's Mount Suswa to study the varied bats of East Africa. 9 a.m. Friday, 9 a.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. Sunday, 9 a.m. Monday, 9 a.m. Tuesday, 9 a.m. Wednesday, Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, free, 312-922-9410

Vodou: Sacred Powers of Haiti: This exhibit explores Vodou as a religion and an expression of the Haitian national experience. 10 a.m. Friday, 10 a.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. Monday, 4 p.m. Monday, 10 a.m. Tuesday, 10 a.m. Wednesday, Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, free, 312-922-9410

"The Illusionists": This magic show, originally performed on Broadway, features seven talented magicians performing their acts. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Cadillac Palace Theatre, 151 W. Randolph St., Chicago, TBA, 800-775-2000

"The Hammer Trlnity: The Excelsior King": Sixteen actors bring 54 characters to life in a tale spanning three full-

length plays. 7:30 p.m. Friday, Chopin Theatre, 1543 W. Division St., Chicago, \$15-\$30, 773-769-3832

Chicago Styled: Fashioning the Magnificent Mile: This exhibition uses 20 outfits from the museum's costume collection to tell the story of a St. in fashion. The exhibit runs Nov. 15 to Aug. 16 and is free with admission. 9:30 a.m. Friday, 9:30 a.m. Saturday, noon Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Monday, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark St., Chicago, free, 312-642-4600

"Bible Bingo": Vicki Quade ("Late Nite Catechism") unleashes what promotional materials call "a new, interactive comedy," centered around an Archdiocesan bingo department on the hunt for revenue. "That's where you come in: Get ready to play bingo for a variety of wacky prizes. Along the way, you'll be drawn into conversation about everything from Adam and Eve to modern sins. Just be careful: You might laugh so hard you forget to yell 'bingo.'" 8 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m. Saturday, Royal George Theatre Center, 1641 N. Halsted St., Chicago, \$30, 312-988-9000

"Marie Antoinette": See David Adjmi's play about the fair-and-famed young French queen, which promotional materials describe as "a confec-tion created by a society that values extravagance and artifice. But France's love affair with the royals sours as revolution brews, and for Marie, the political suddenly becomes very personal." This performance promises to hold "a mirror up to our contemporary society that might just be entertaining itself to death." 7:30 p.m. Friday, 3 p.m. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, 1650 N. Halsted St., Chicago, \$54+, 312-335-1650

"The Walk Across America for Mother Earth": Political activism meets bedazzled drag show in this story about two young friends who flee their suburban upbringing in "Real America" to join a ragtag group of activists on a protest march from D.C. to Nevada. 8 p.m. Friday, 4 p.m. Saturday, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, 1650 N. Halsted St., Chicago, \$20, 312-335-1650

"Bob's Burgers Live": This show features individual stand ups, audience Q&As, and a table read of the show's script in character. 8 p.m. Friday, The Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St., Chicago, \$29.50-\$49.50, 312-462-6300

"The Book of Mormon": This Tony Award-winning musical satire by Trey

Parker and Matt Stone ("South Park") and Robert Lopez ("Ave. Q") follows the misadventures of two missionaries who naively attempt to convert the inhabitants of a village in Uganda. See photos from the Chicago production here. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Bank of America Theatre, 18 W. Monroe St., Chicago, \$45-\$115, 800-775-2000

"The Royale": This play is set in America, in 1905. Jay is a legend. He has everything he needs to be the heavy-weight champion of the world ... except he's not white. 8 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, American Theater Company, 1909 W. Byron St., Chicago, Call 773-409-4125, 773-409-4125

Citizen: 6 p.m. Friday, Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave., Chicago, \$13-\$15, 773-278-6600

Leo Jimenez: 10:30 p.m. Friday, Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave., Chicago, \$30-\$60, 773-278-6600

"There Will Be Blood": This movie is a story of family, religion, hatred, oil and madness, focusing on a turn-of-the-century prospector in the early days of the business. 11 p.m. Friday, 11 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 p.m. Monday, The Logan Theatre, 2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, \$7.50, 773-342-5555

"Orquideas a la Luz de la Luna": Written by Carlos Fuentes and directed by Sandor Menandez, this play is described by promotional materials as "a linguistic tour de force by one of the most brilliant writers of the 20th century." The play is performed in Spanish with English subtitles. 8 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 6 p.m. Sunday, Aguijon Theater, 2707 N. Laramie Ave., Chicago, \$20-\$25, 773-637-5899

Grandtheft: 10 p.m. Friday, The Mid, 306 N. Halsted St., Chicago, \$10, 312-265-3990

Maker & Muse: Women and Early Twentieth Century Art Jewelry: The museum presents the major exhibition comprised of works drawn from the Collection of Richard H. Driehaus and prominent private and public collections throughout the United States. 10 a.m. Friday, 10 a.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. Monday, 10 a.m. Tuesday, 10 a.m. Wednesday, Richard H. Driehaus Museum, 40 E. Erie St., Chicago, \$12.50-\$20, 312-482-8933

"The Other Place": In Sharr White's new drama, Juliana Smithton, a successful neurologist, finds her life coming

apart at the seams. 8 p.m. Friday, 5 p.m. Saturday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday, Profiles Theatre at The Main Stage, 4139 N. Broadway, Chicago, \$20-\$40, 773-549-1815

DJ Konflikt: 10 p.m. Friday, Studio Paris Nightclub, 59 W. Hubbard St., Chicago, \$10-\$15, 312-377-9944

"Jesus Christ Superstar": This is an intimate re-imagining of the classic rock opera, performed acoustic and unplugged. 8 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Monday, No Exit Cafe, 6970 N. Glenwood Ave., Chicago, \$20-\$68, 773-743-3355

McHenry County College presents "Columbinus": See the play sparked by the April 1999 massacre at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. It is a meeting of fact and fiction that illuminates the realities of adolescent culture by exploring the events surrounding the shootings. The play weaves together excerpts from discussions with parents, survivors and community leaders in Littleton as well as police evidence to bring to light the dark recesses of American adolescence. A discussion between cast members and the audience will follow each of the Friday performances. Reservations are recommended. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, McHenry County College, 8900 U.S. Highway 14, Crystal Lake, \$10-\$15, 815-455-8746

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. Friday, 10 a.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. Monday, 10 a.m. Tuesday, 10 a.m. Wednesday, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-1030

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. Friday, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, Free-\$5; \$10-\$12 for talk, 847-475-1030

"The Diary of Anne Frank": The classic production explores the life of a young Jewish girl in hiding for two years during World War II. 8 p.m. Friday, 4:00 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 p.m. Sat-

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urday, 2:00 p.m. Sunday, 6:00 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Writers Theatre, 664 Vernon Ave., Glencoe, \$35-\$75, 847-242-6000

"Lone Star" and "Laundry and Bourbon": Presenting two plays depicting life in a sleepy Texas town. "Lone Star" and "Laundry and Bourbon," by James McLure, both seem to show us a simpler life and a unique perspective on the world. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oil Lamp Theater, 1723 Glenview Road, Glenview, \$17.50-35, 847-834-0738

Monster Truck Nationals: See the Bigfoot Birthday Bash and Smash Tour come roaring into town for two shows. 7:30 p.m. Friday, The Sears Centre, 5333 Prairie Stone Parkway, Hoffman Estates, \$10, 630-328-1222

"Outside Mullingar": Anthony and Rosemary are two introverted misfits. Anthony has spent his entire life on a cattle farm in rural Ireland, oblivious to the longing of his neighbor Rosemary, who hopelessly pines for him as the years slip away. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2:30 p.m. Saturday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m.

Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd, Skokie, \$15-\$60, 847-673-6300

Wilmette Theatre Hosts DOC Fest : See selections from the 1960s and 1970s in the documentary film fest. See website for film times and titles. 2 p.m. Friday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$7.50, 847-251-7424

"A Midsummer Night's Dream": Lightninghead, an adventurous new theatre company based in Chicago and the North Shore, announces its new production of A Midsummer Nights Dream. The show opens March 13 at the historic Winnetka Chapel and will run Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. through March 28. This uniquely bonkers production is an event that audiences of all ages will enjoy. Visit the website for tickets. 8 p.m. Friday, Winnetka Chapel, 630 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka, \$20 & \$10 for students and industry, 847-331-3960

Saturday, March 21

"Anne of Green Gables": Tickets are \$10 for children 12 and younger and \$15 for adults. For tickets, call 312-455-0066 or go to ProvisionTheater.org. Noon Saturday, 3 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday,

Provision Theater, 1001 W. Roosevelt Road, Chicago, \$10-\$15, 312-455-0066

Brit Floyd: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, The Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St., Chicago, \$30-\$60, 312-462-6300

Caloncho: With Irene Diaz. 8 p.m. Saturday, Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave., Chicago, free, 773-278-6600

Micfest: R&B Edition: Enjoy throw-back R&B and hip hop throughout the night. 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave., Chicago, \$7, 773-278-6600

Have Mercy: With Weatherbox, You, Me, and Everyone We Know and Head North. 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, \$12, 773-281-4444

El Bandolero & Souphonetics: 10 p.m. Saturday, Masada, 2206 N. California Ave., Chicago, free, 773-697-8397

"Fancy Nancy: The Musical": Follow Nancy to her first dance recital, after which she's picked to be a tree in an upcoming show. "Can she still bring fancy flair to her role when it isn't the one she wanted?" asks promotional materials. "Adapted from the best-selling books, this is a funny, frilly ballet

story with a lot of heart." 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Apollo Theater, 2540 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, Price varies., 773-935-6100

No Shame Theatre: Bring a less-than-five-minute piece of original work—monologue, stand-up, sketches, dance, poetry, original music, magic, mind-reading, performance art, storytelling—and sign up for the open mic or watch others throw down. Arrive early—the first 15 sign-ups at the door perform. Includes a cash bar. 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Lincoln Loft, 3036 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, \$5 suggested donation, 773-680-4596

Rosana in Concert: Buy tickets at www.tickeri.com/events/54e74974e3eee61300f67477/rosana-in-chicago. 7 p.m. Saturday, Instituto Cervantes of Chicago, 31 W. Ohio St., Chicago, \$25 general admission; \$20 students and members of Instituto Cervantes. Parking is \$11 for 12 hours with the Instituto Cervantes validation., 312-335-1996

"The Greatest Story Never Told": This event brings families and strangers together to collaborate and create improvised stories on stage. Professional

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improvisers help coax audience suggestions and invite volunteers to take to the stage. 1:30 p.m. Saturday, iO, 3541 N. Clark St., Chicago, \$15, 773-880-0199

Jerzy: 9 p.m. Saturday, Studio Paris Nightclub, 59 W. Hubbard St., Chicago, \$20, 312-377-9944

8th Annual Pinot Days: This event showcases 65 producers of pinot noir and consumers can sample over 100 pinots from every important domestic pinot noir region, from the Russian River Valley to the Santa Lucia Highlands, Oregon to Carneros, the Anderson Valley to the Sonoma Coast to the Santa Rita Hills. . 2 p.m. Saturday, Navy Pier, 600 E. Grand Ave., Chicago, \$75-\$125

Fire and Beer: The Annoyance House Ensemble improvises based on an audience suggestions.. 8 p.m. Saturday, The Annoyance Theatre, 851 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, \$12; \$8 for students, 773-697-9693.

The Mark Cleveland Band: 9:30 p.m. Saturday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679.

Lake Forest Symphony The Dawn of Impressionism: Vladimir Kulenovic conducts. Come an hour before the performance for pre-concert talk. 8 p.m. Saturday, James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts, 19351 W. Washington St., Grayslake, \$35-\$59, 847-295-2135.

Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra Concert: Vladimir Kulenovic, recently appointed Music Director of the Lake Forest Symphony, conducts the program at 8 p.m. March 21 and at 2 p.m. March 22. The concerts will be held at the James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts. 8 p.m. Saturday, College of Lake County, Grayslake Campus, 19351 West Washington St., Grayslake, \$35-\$59, 847-295-2135.

Family movie: The Book of Life: Watch the film about a young man torn between fulfilling the expectations of his family and following his heart who embarks on a fearful adventure. 2 p.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

Mega Movie Pajama Nights In Park Ridge: Hey kids, come dressed in your favorite PJs and enjoy an evening of fun! Play games, enjoy a fun snack, and watch a "G/PG" rated movie on the inflatable movie screen in the gym. This

is a great opportunity for parents to enjoy a quiet evening to themselves. (Ages: 4-9) Register online at prpark-s.org. 6 p.m. Saturday, Maine Park Leisure Center, 2701 W. Sibley Ave., Park Ridge, \$15 for residents and \$27 for non-residents, 847-692-5127.

Dinner Detective: Be a part of this award-winning, interactive comedic murder mystery dinner show in the U.S. Prizes awarded to the Top Sleuths. 6 p.m. Saturday, Chicago Marriott Schaumburg, 50 N. Martingale Road, Schaumburg, \$59.95, 866-496-0535.

A Midsummer Night's Dream: Lightninghead, an adventurous new theatre company based in Chicago and the North Shore, announces its new production of A Midsummer Nights Dream. The show opens March 13 at the historic Winnetka Chapel and will run Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. through March 28. This uniquely bonkers production is an event that audiences of all ages will enjoy. Visit the website for tickets. 8 p.m. Saturday, Winnetka Chapel, 630 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka, \$20 & \$10 for students and industry. 847-331-3960.

Sunday, March 22

Chocolate Seder w/20s30sNWSub: For Jewish 20- and 30-somethings of the Chicagoland area. A fun afternoon with a sweet twist on a traditional Passover Seder. RSVP to Marla @ 20s30sNWSub@gmail.com by March 18. 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Congregation Beth Am, 1370 Abbott Court, Buffalo Grove, \$15, 847-383-5017.

BeHealthful: Spring Series: Learn, experience, re-center, connect, grow and get pampered at this event. Exercise, stretch, movie, listen to educational panels to learn how to declutter and more to prepare for spring. Group discount rates are available. 11 a.m. Sunday, Mars Gallery, 1139 W. Fulton Market, Chicago, \$60, 312-226-7808.

Finishing the Birthday Hat: The Chicago Theater community comes together on Stephen Sondheim's 85th birthday, to celebrate this giant of the theater world, with proceeds to Gilda's Club Chicago. Music, theater, improv, trivia, all for a great cause!. 8 p.m. Sunday, Stage 773, 1225 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, \$15, 773-327-5252.

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The Resolution: WithOut With The Old, The Fall Four, Nobody Move and Everyone Says. 6 p.m. Sunday, Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave., Chicago, \$12-\$15, 312-666-6775.

Super Stolle and The Rockstars: 11 a.m. Sunday, Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, \$6.

The Sing-Off Live Tour: 7 p.m. Sunday, House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, \$40, 312-923-2000.

An Evening With the Masters at Nichols Concert Hall: The Rembrandt Chamber Players perform the Archduke Trio. 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$35; \$25 for young adults ages 18-30; \$10 for students, 312-360-3145.

PJ Rocks Passover: Celebrate Passover with PJ Library Chicago! The morning features a rockin' kiddie concert with PJ Library recording artists Mama Doni & Eric, crafts, photo booth, chametz hunt and more. This event is presented in partnership with JUF Right Start and JUF's Russian Jewish Division. 10 a.m. Sunday, Highland Park Community House, 1991 Sheridan Road, Highland Park, \$18 per family in ad-

vance, or \$25, family at the door (space permitting), 312-444-2844.

Sunday Solree - Midwest Young Artists: Sunday Soirees are chamber music performances by groups from Midwest Young Artists, the premier youth music education and ensemble organization in the Midwest which represents some of the best young musicians in the country. 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Ravinia Festival, Bennett-Gordon Hall, 418 Sheridan Road, Highland Park, free, 847-926-9898

"Salvo": Watch the Italian film about a mafia hit man who decides to spare a young blind girls life. 2 p.m. Sunday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

TownSquare Players presents "The Drowsy Chaperone": The curtain rises on a present-day musical theatre fanatic eager to tell you about his favorite Broadway musical — "The Drowsy Chaperone." He's the ultimate "Everyfan," and "Drowsy" is his guilty pleasure. Performances are Fridays through Sundays, March 6 through March 22. Visit website for showtimes. 3 p.m. Sunday, Woodstock Opera House, 121 Van Buren St., Woodstock, \$13-\$23, 815-338-5300

Monday, March 23

The Mixer at The Playground Theater: This workshop includes top performers and coaches followed by coaches teaching a simple form and everyone working in a long-form show. BYOB. 10 p.m. Monday, The Playground Theater, 3209 N. Halsted St., Chicago, \$5, 773-871-3793

TV on the Radio: 8 p.m. Monday, Metro, 3730 N. Clark St., Chicago, \$35 | 18+, 773-549-0203

Tuesday, March 24

Traditional Irish Music Night: 8 p.m. Tuesday, Chief O'Neill's Pub, 3471 N. Elston Ave., Chicago, Free, 773-473-5263

Irish music session: Enjoy Irish music every Tuesday night. 7 p.m. Tuesday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

"Bigger Than Life: Bette Davis Live!": Enjoy a witty, sharp portrayal of the actress by Leslie Goddard. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-

7500

Wednesday, March 25

Heyrocco: With Chrome Pony and Kangaroo. 8 p.m. Wednesday, Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave., Chicago, \$8, 773-278-6600

Live music at Brasserie by LM: With the Giving Trio. 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Brasserie by LM, 800 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, free, 312-431-1788

Julie Butler Chanteuse: Julie Butler Chanteuse Brings "A Touch of Downton Abbey" to her Red Carpet Events for seniors. A red carpet is rolled out for attendees of the matinee performances. 2 p.m. Wednesday, Skokie Theatre, 7924 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie, \$15, 847-677-7761

Wilmette Theatre Hosts DOC Fest: See selections from the 1960s and 1970s in the documentary film fest. See website for film times and titles. 2 p.m. Wednesday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$7.50, 847-251-7424

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**"Chappelle" zero stars**

R, 2:02, sci-fi. We're in Johannesburg, South Africa, in the near future. Robotic law enforcement droids have improved crime statistics. The police force orders up another batch of robots from the weapons firm. The firm's lead designer (Dev Patel) cracks the code for a new iteration of droid that is human in its techno-makeup. "Mad Max" criminals kidnap Patel's character in hopes of enlisting his inventions in a multimillion dollar heist. The sweet, naive droid the punks nickname Chappelle becomes a pawn in their miserable game. This is one of those misjudgments that could only have come from a talented filmmaker with an idea, ripped off from "A.I." and a million other movies, seen through to the bitter end. — *Michael Phillips*

**"Focus" ★★**

R, 1:45, action. In "Focus," Will Smith plays gentleman thief Nicky Spurgeon, who runs a 30-person team of pickpockets and scam artists. Margot Robbie is the fatale-in-training Jess Barrett, looking for a mentor and a leg up in the con game. Some will take "Focus" in the intended spirit, that of a casual, eye-candy throwback to older Hollywood. Many found the same creative team's "Crazy, Stupid, Love," a disarming romantic comedy, and clearly the team has a gift for zigzag plotting. But the setup of

"Focus" feels hasty and insufficient, the action is barely trackable, and the editing is no help. Even in a lark about con artists working through their trust issues, we need more. — *M.P.*

**"Kingsman: The Secret Service" ★ 1/2**

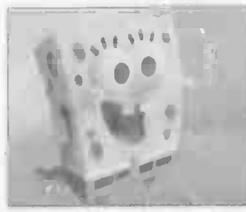
R, 2:09, action. Colin Firth portrays one of the crack gentlemen-spies working for a supersecret agency out to save the world from a crackpot billionaire philanthropist (Samuel L. Jackson). As Firth's colleagues, Michael Caine and Mark Strong offer unblinking gazes par excellence. And Welsh newcomer Taron Egerton is engaging as "Eggsy," recruited by Firth's Harry Hart to join the Kingsman cadre. Based on the 2012 graphic novel "The Secret Service" by Mark Millar and Dave Gibbons, director Mat-

thew Vaughn's picture will appeal to anyone who enjoyed Vaughn's earlier "Kick-Ass." I didn't. I find the jocularity of Vaughn's gamer-style violence a drag. — *M.P.*

**"The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" ★★ 1/2**

PG, 2:02, comedy. Director John Madden's easygoing follow-up to "Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" resembles a slightly scattered second season of a BBC sitcom. We're back in the Jalpur, India, retirement hotel run by Sonny Kapoor (Dev Patel), who plans to open a second establishment. The Maggie Smith character, a onetime Cockney racist, has mellowed and become Sonny's co-manager. The expat residents played by Bill Nighy and Judi Dench remain fast friends. The rest of the gang returns as well,

minus Tom Wilkinson (whose character died at the end of the first one). This is 50 shades of another sort of gray, and there's a tremendous box-office appetite for it. — *M.P.*

**"The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" ★ 1/2**

PG, 1:32, animation. "SpongeBob SquarePants" made its Nickelodeon TV debut in 1999. The series is the generator behind an \$8 billion merchandising revenue stream. The plot of "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" honors the series's key themes. Plankton is still after Mr. Krabs' secret formula for Krabby Patties. A 2011 University of Virginia study points to the TV show as the probable cause of "short-term disruptions in mental function and attention span" among preschool audi-

ences. I experienced similar disruptions watching "Sponge Out of Water" — disruptions I generally enjoy with the right movie, a funnier one than this. — *M.P.*

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Death Notices

Hodapp, James D



James D. Hodapp, 82, longtime resident of Park Ridge, IL, died peacefully after a courageous fight with cancer on March 4, 2015 in Anchorage, AK surrounded by his children. He was born on Aug. 5, 1932, in Chicago, IL, to Aloys and Margaret Hodapp. Jim graduated from Loyola School of Law in 1956. He worked as Counsel for Allstate Life Insurance Company for more than 25 years. His many passions included golf, tennis, choir, food and travel. He possessed a strong faith and spirit, and his memory will live on in the hearts of the many lives he touched. Jim was the beloved husband of Dolores (Grubba); loving father, with their mother Sharon, of James, Jr. (Christine), Douglas, and Daniel; proud grandfather of Jack, Rose, and Falth; and fond brother of Carol Russ DeRoeck (George), and the late Philip and Charles Hodapp. A Celebration of Life Mass will be held on Saturday, April 18th, 10 a.m. at Mary, Seat of Wisdom Church in Park Ridge, IL. A reception will be held afterwards at the church.

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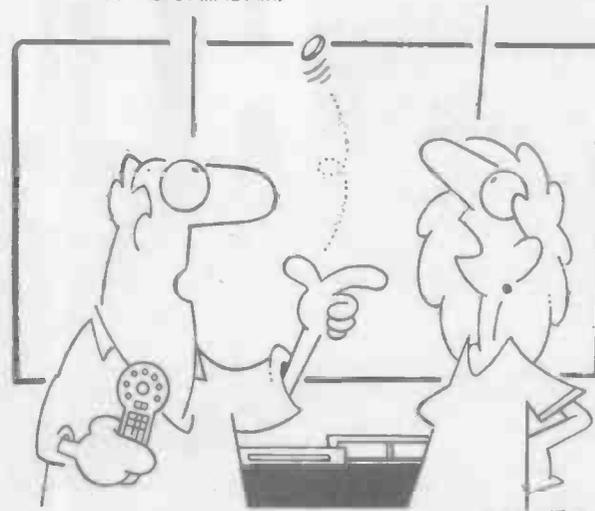
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Used cars can lack recall fixes

Vehicles may be legally sold without making any repairs — and without telling buyers of problem

BY TOM KRISHER
AND DEE-ANN DURBIN
Associated Press

DETROIT — It's a case of buyer beware, with potentially dangerous consequences.

More than 46 million cars and trucks on the road in the U.S. — about one-fifth the total — were recalled because of safety defects but never repaired, according to a study by Carfax, a company that sells vehicle history reports. Some of those defects have the potential to cause a crash, injury, even death.

Last year, around 5 million of those cars were sold to new owners.

That's because there is no legal requirement for dealers or individual sellers to get the repairs done before a used car is sold. They are not even obligated to tell buyers if a car is subject to a recall.

"It's a very major public safety problem," says Chris Basso, a used-car specialist for Carfax, which analyzed state registration data to determine that one-fifth of the 238 million cars on the nation's roads has an unrepaired problem that was the subject of a recall. "When those recalled cars go unfixed, they compound over the years, and it increases the chance of those parts failing."

Federal regulators are pushing for legislation that requires dealers to fix recalled used cars. Inde-

pendent dealers oppose such a measure but say they might go along with a requirement to disclose recalls to buyers, because a new government database makes it easier to tell if a car on their lot has been recalled.

The number of unfixed cars is certain to rise because automakers recalled nearly 64 million vehicles nationwide last year, double the old record set in 2004. Government data show that 25 percent of car owners never get recall repairs done.

No one is sure how many crashes or injuries happen because of unheeded recalls. But buying an unrepaired car cost Carlos Solis his life. The 35-year-old father of two died Jan. 18 when shrapnel from the driver's air bag in his 2002 Honda Accord tore into his neck after a minor accident near Houston.

Solis' Accord had been recalled in 2011 to fix a faulty air bag inflator made by Takata Corp. that can explode with too much force. But neither the two previous owners nor the independent dealer in Houston who sold Solis the car in April 2014 had the repair done.

Solis had no other injuries, says Rob Ammons, an attorney representing his family in a lawsuit against Takata, Honda and the dealer. "You fix the defective air bag, and he doesn't die," Ammons says.

Federal law requires car com-



PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

Eri and John Castro, of Glen Burnie, Md., bought their used 2011 Toyota Prius last year but didn't find out until later that the vehicle had been recalled for a hybrid component repair.

panies to notify owners of a recall within 60 days of finding a safety defect, which Honda did in 2011. But there's no legal requirement that companies contact the new owner if a car changes hands.

John Castro, 36, of Glen Burnie, Md., traded a pickup truck for a 2011 Toyota Prius in March of last year at Koons Ford in Baltimore.

Shortly after he took the car home, he read a dealer-provided Carfax report and found that his car had been recalled in February 2014 to fix a hybrid component that could malfunction and cause stalling. Koons had not done the repair, and no sales person mentioned the recall, Castro says.

"You think when you buy something, it's been checked and cleared," he says.

Dennis Koulatsos, Koons Ford general manager, says Castro's car should have been fixed because there was a safety issue. All dealers, he says, have incentives to fix recalled cars. They could lose customers to dealers who do, or they could be sued if something goes wrong.

But he also thinks dealers should be able to sell cars with open recalls if the problems don't affect safety or drivability. "Used cars are hard to get, and they depreciate by the day when they sit on the lot," he says.

A number of attempts to pass laws requiring dealers to fix recalled cars or disclose prob-

lems have stalled under opposition from carmakers, auto dealers and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Mark Rosekind, the new head of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx are making another push.

"We cannot allow vehicles with potentially dangerous defects to leave used-car lots without the necessary repairs," Rosekind says.

Used-car dealers fought past legislation because they didn't have access to a national database to check for recalls, says Steve Jordan, CEO of the 16,000-member National Independent Automobile Dealers Association.

That changed in August when the government set up a website (safercar.gov) for dealers and drivers to check recalls by keying in the 17-digit vehicle identification number. Now, Jordan says, the association may support a disclosure law, as long as the database allows dealers to check multiple numbers at a time to save time and labor.

The association still opposes a repair requirement because independent dealers would be at the mercy of competitors franchised by automakers. Those dealers are the only ones authorized to do recall repairs.

The National Automobile Dealers Association, which represents new-car dealers that sell

used cars, hasn't taken a position on the repair requirements. It is waiting for the government to estimate the cost, the effect on sales and whether the measure would save lives.

Individual sellers won't face any repair or disclosure requirements. Individuals sold just under one-third of the 42 million used cars in the U.S. last year, according to the Strategic Vision research firm.

Last year a Honda executive floated the idea of requiring recall repairs before license plates can be renewed. That's similar to the practice in Germany, where the government can revoke registrations of cars with outstanding recalls.

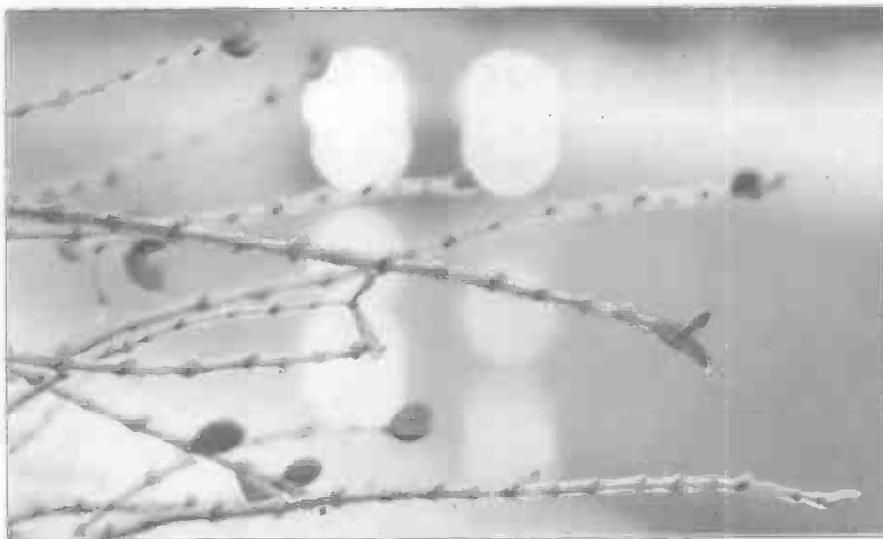
U.S. federal law does require dealers to make recall repairs on new cars before selling them.

CarMax, the nation's largest used-car dealership chain, says it informs buyers of open recalls, but it does not get the vehicles repaired.

AutoNation, the largest dealership group in the U.S., says it repairs recalled used cars before selling them when parts are available. If there are no parts available, it discloses that to buyers and tells them of any danger.

AutoNation CEO Mike Jackson says he favors laws requiring disclosure.

"The recall situation is a mess. It's a disgrace and it's a black eye for the industry," he says.



CHARLES BERTRAM/LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER

Waxing a car's plastic headlight lenses, even when a car is new, can help them stay clear.

Here's how to keep a plastic headlight lens from clouding



BOB WEBER
Motormouth

Q: I read your article about a plastic headlight lens turning yellow. Is there anything that can be done to prevent it, such as wax?

— E.V., Chicago

A: Waxing the lenses helps prevent them from clouding up. As a matter of fact, wax the lenses when the car is new.

We also have heard of people using paint-protecting film but have no personal experience with using it on headlight lenses.

Q: In a recent article, you said to put the new winter tires on the rear. Does it matter if the car is front-wheel drive or rear-wheel drive? And, should I install two winter tires or four?

— B.K., Clarendon Hills, Ill.

A: It does not matter if the car is front-wheel drive or rear-wheel drive. Install the winter (or new) tires

on the rear. Install winter tires at all four corners if you can afford it.

Q: I am elderly and do not drive much in the winter. My question is: To keep my car and battery going, how often should I drive the car, how long, how far and at what speeds?

— M.O., Berlin, Conn.

A: A 15- to 20-minute drive every couple of weeks should do the trick. Be sure that you do not make any stops in between.

Better yet, we would suggest you get a smart battery charger, the kind that senses the battery's state of charge and does not overcharge and damage the battery.

Q: I use a 50 to 1 mixture of gas to oil in my snowblower. At the end of winter, I always have some left in the can. Can I put the gas mixture in my lawn mower, or will the oil gum up my engine?

— L.R., Bourbonnais, Ill.

A: We trust that your mower has a four-stroke engine so we would advise against it. At the very least, the spark plug could get fouled. Put the leftover gas in your car.

Q: I have a 2000 Cadillac STS in very good condition with about 111,000 miles on it.

All of my remote entry devices (clickers) stopped working. I had the batteries replaced, but they don't work still, and I was told that they need to be reprogrammed after replacing the batteries. I looked on the Internet and could not find correct instructions to reprogram them.

I took the car to a dealership, but it wanted \$72.50 to reprogram them. Can you steer me to the directions so I can do it myself?

— S.K., Chicago

A: Unfortunately, the user programmable remote keyless entry is going the way of the dodo. A special device is required to pair the remotes to the vehicle. Many repair shops and locksmiths can handle it. Reminder: Take all of your remotes, working or not, with you if one needs reprogramming.

Send questions along with name and town to *Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Fifth Floor, Chicago IL 60611 or motormouth.trib@verizon.net.*



EVAN SEARS/CARS.COM

Chevy's 2015 Trax offers drivers a taller ride height and the flexibility of a hatchback.

Trax follows Encore's lead

BY ROBERT DUFFER
Tribune Newspapers

2015 CHEVY TRAX LT AWD

Subcompact crossover

Price as tested:

\$24,490

Base: \$20,995

MPG: 24 city, 31 highway

Engine: 1.4-liter Ecotec turbo four-cylinder

Transmission: six-speed automatic

Parting shot: People who love the size should find plenty to like about the all-new Trax.

Our test model came with AWD in LT trim, the middling of three trim levels.

In our week around town, we mostly matched the EPA average, but at 55 mph on the highway, we hit a sweet spot averaging just under 36 mpg.

In winter conditions, the AWD Trax handled competently. The 16-inch wheels held the road and enabled safe driving, but I would have reservations about taking the Trax off road.

The cabin left me with mixed emotions. The driver's area is somewhat narrow, and that impres-

GM aims to duplicate the success of the Buick Encore with the Chevy Trax. Starting at \$20,995 for the base of three trim levels, it's about \$4,000 less and a bit boxier than the Encore, which has body lines that are more rounded than edged. The lid reminds me of an HHR with a face-lift. The most distinguishing trait is the snub tail particular to all subcompact crossovers, tucked tight to the rear axle and giving the design a front-heavy asymmetry.

Derived from the Chevy Sonic compact platform, the Trax comes with one engine, a 1.4-liter turbo-charged four-cylinder that makes only 138 horsepower. There's not much from the line, but with 148 pound-feet of torque maximized early in the driving cycle (at 1850 rpm) it feels a bit more nimble in passing situations. The engine is paired to a six-speed automatic transmission that excels at being exactly what you expect, instead of an always shuffling CVT.

The Trax comes with an all-wheel-drive option that adds only \$1,500 and lowers fuel economy by 2 mpg city and 3 mpg on the highway (24 mpg city/31 mpg highway in AWD).

sion largely comes from my inability to match the narrow optional arm rest at the same level as the arm rest on the door. Minor but annoying. The hard plastic feel can seem cheap, specifically the blocky buttons and handles, but they enable 15 modular storage spaces, including a two-tiered glove box that is surprisingly useful for the passenger's gadgets.

The car is a hot spot with 4G LTE connectivity, so passengers can download whatever they want with plenty of speed. The 7-inch touch screen is uncomplicated, and GM's voice commands have better fidelity than most.

The rear seats can't be adjusted for comfort, and two adult passengers will be aware of their size, but the seats enable some nifty space optimization once you pull the seat bottoms up to fold down the backs.

The front passenger seat can also be folded flat to haul a bike without having to leave the gate open.

Overall, the Trax didn't leave me hot or cold, though I prefer a hatch to the smallest CUV. Regardless, the Trax is priced right and should be a consideration for those who prefer a taller ride height with hatchback flexibility.

rduffer@tribpub.com

Notre Dame has high expectations for next season

BY MATT HARNESS
Pioneer Press

WAUKEGAN — Following his team's season-ending loss to Stevenson last week, Tom Les devoted most of his postgame remarks to Joe Mooney and the other three seniors who dressed in a Notre Dame basketball uniform for the last time.

But the Dons coach uttered one sentence about the future of the program.

"We are set up well," Les said after the 78-77 loss to the Patriots in the Class 4A Waukegan Sectional semifinals on March 10.

While there is no question Notre Dame will miss Mooney, the East Suburban Catholic's player of the year, the other four starters March 10 were non-seniors. Junior forward Ammar Becar, junior center Anthony D'Avanzo, junior guard Lucas Simon and sophomore guard Jeameril Wilson rounded out the starting five and were major contributors to a 26-5 team that captured a regional title and the conference championship.

"We had a very, very good season, and Joe was our leader and a huge part of our success," Les said. "If the other guys come back and we get our underclassmen to continue to improve, next year could be a very special year."

Notre Dame has won four regional titles since 2009, but it's last sectional championship came in 1997. The Dons qualified for the Class AA state tournament that season.

While Simon and Wilson will bring experience to the backcourt, Notre Dame's strength should be Becar and D'Avanzo.

Becar, who was an all-conference selection this season after averaging 17 points and nine rebounds, said the Dons will aspire to play the final weekend of the season.

"Me and Joe were thinking about that this year, but we came up a couple of seconds short in the sectional game," Becar said.

"Now, it's up to me and Anthony and the others to lead the school to the state tournament."

Already a gifted all-around offensive player, the 6-foot-5 Becar said his primary goal this offseason is to improve his defense. Built like a linebacker at 225 pounds, Becar said he will be concentrating on increasing his lateral quickness by running on the Lake Michigan beach with ankle weights so he can better defend the perimeter.

"It's something the coaches already have been talking to me about," Becar said. "It's all about my defense. If you play great defense, your offense will come. The basket gets bigger with better defense."

Late in the season, D'Avanzo emerged as one of the best post players in the area and gave the Dons one of the best frontcourts around. Over the final nine games, D'Avanzo averaged 12 points, eight rebounds and three blocks while shooting 75 percent from the field. In the loss to Stevenson, he tied Becar for team scoring honors with 21 points.

D'Avanzo said his off-season regimen will include extending his shooting range out to 12 feet and adding mass his 6-7 frame. He played this season at 185 pounds.

"I will be hitting the weight room hard, and I've already started," he said. "I'm doing lots of bench presses, squats, curls. All the stuff we've learned from the coaches."

Les said Becar and D'Avanzo both are motivated to carry the Dons next season. But Les reiterated that it will take more than those two to get Notre Dame to state.

"They are an awfully good start for us," Les said. "If the other players progress like we think they can, we will have a special season."

mharness@pioneerlocal.com
Twitter: @harnesspreps



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Notre Dame's Ammar Becar defends Stevenson's Ryan Rosenbaum during the Class 4A Waukegan Sectional semifinal on March 10. Becar said he wants to work on his lateral quickness and perimeter defense during the offseason.

Stevenson holds off upset-minded Notre Dame

BY MATT HARNESS
Pioneer Press

WAUKEGAN — Notre Dame boys basketball coach Tom Les said Joe Mooney was a marked man this season.

Stevenson did its best to contain the senior guard in the Class 4A Waukegan Sectional semifinal on March 10, holding the Dons' leading scorer to zero points in the first quarter and two in the opening half. Four Dons scored before Mooney's baseline runner with 7 minutes, 17 seconds remaining in the second quarter.

But the 6-foot-2 Mooney got loose in the fourth quarter, scoring six points in the final 42 seconds, and nearly carried Notre Dame to the upset over the Patriots, a preseason favorite to win the state title.

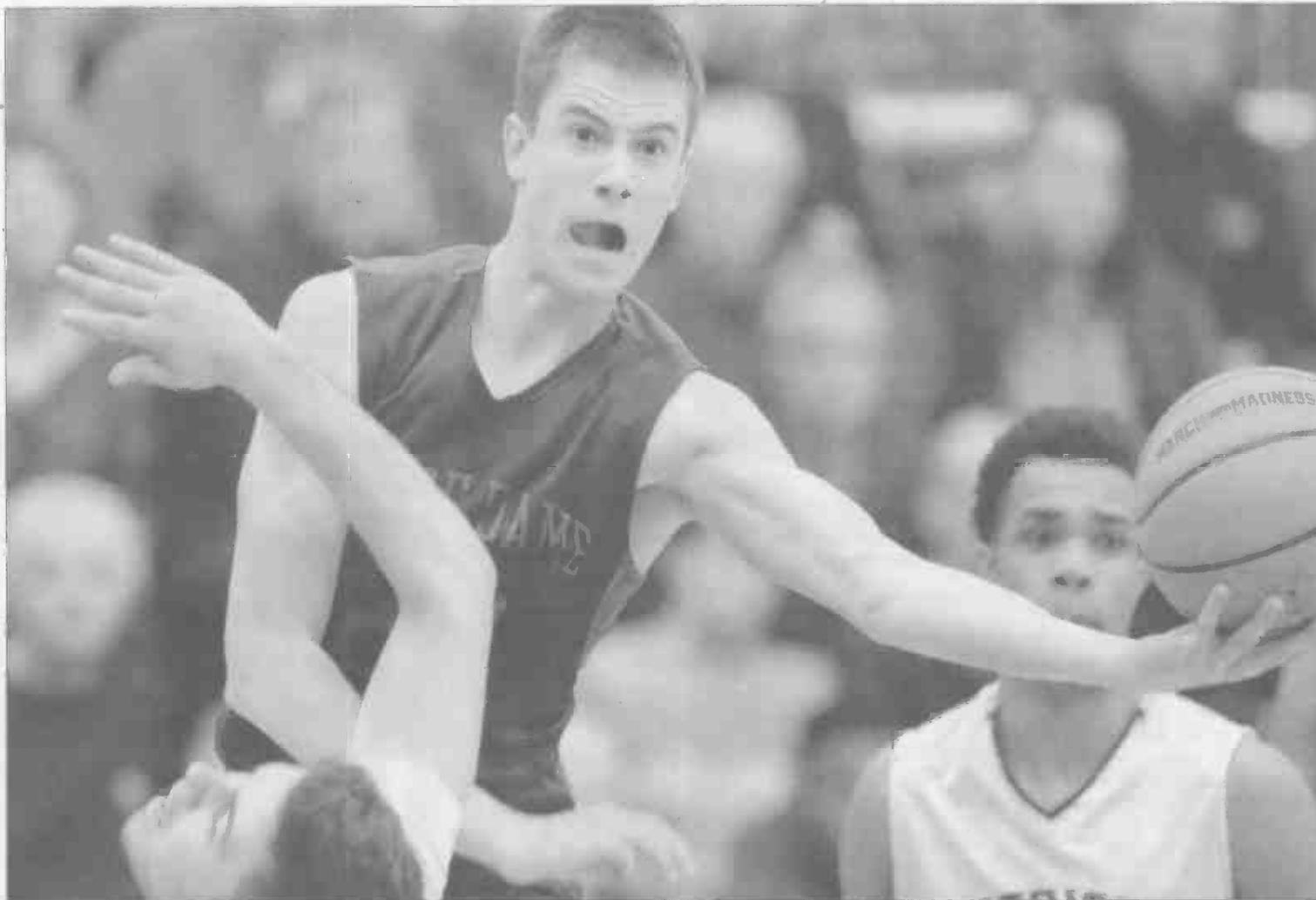
Stevenson, the top-seeded team in the sectional and the No. 2-ranked team by the Chicago Tribune, held on for the 78-77 win over the fourth-seeded Dons.

"They were guarding Joe really hard," said Notre Dame junior forward Ammar Becar, who had 21 points, tying junior center Anthony D'Avanzo for team honors. "But when he had the opportunity to score and get to the free-throw line, he did. He made some great, smart plays that kept us in it."

After Connor Cashaw hit one free throw to give Stevenson a 75-69 lead with 54.8 seconds remaining in the fourth, Mooney found an opening on the right wing and knocked down a 3-pointer at the 42-second mark.

Following two Jalen Brunson free throws with 33.3 seconds remaining, Mooney drew a foul on Brunson at the top of the key and beyond the arc. Mooney made all three free throws to get the Dons within two, 77-75, with 15.8 seconds to go. Brunson then made 1-of-2 free throws.

Mooney had a chance to tie the game, but his 3-point



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

(Above) Notre Dame's Joe Mooney draws a foul on Stevenson's Parker Nichols while putting up a shot during the Class 4A Waukegan Sectional semifinal on March 10. (Below) Mooney sneaks past Stevenson's Justin Smith during the third quarter. Stevenson won 78-77.

attempt with 4.8 seconds left bounced off the rim. The Dons (26-5) inbounded the ball underneath the basket, but all they could muster for a last shot was a layup by D'Avanzo.

Mooney, who declined to speak to the media after the game, finished with 12 points, nine assists and seven rebounds. Eight of his points came in the fourth quarter.

Stevenson coach Pat Ambrose used a combination of senior guard Matt Johnson and Brunson to defend Mooney. Even though Mooney had only two points at intermission, the Dons led 38-36.

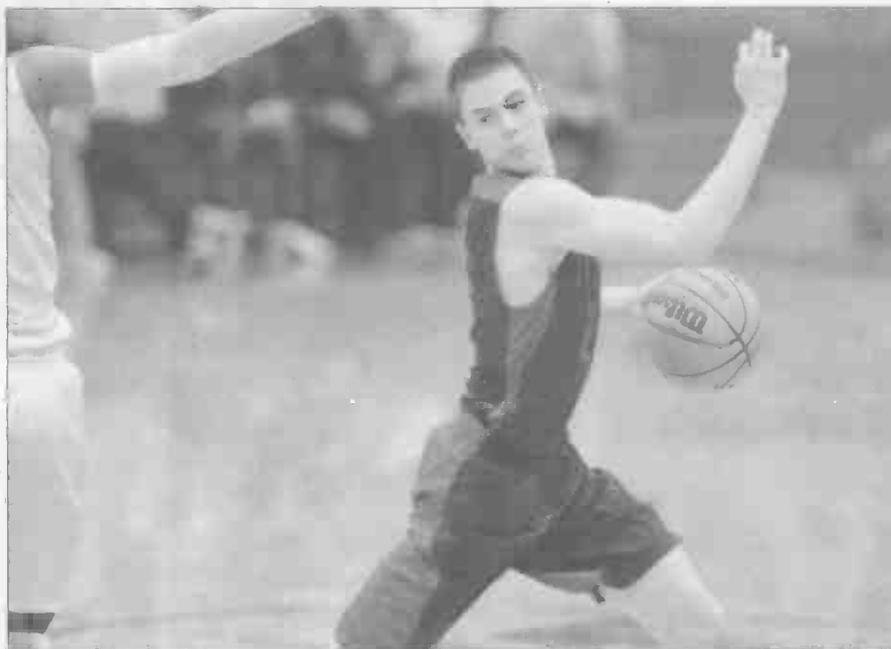
"[We tried] to limit his touches and try to limit his touches coming off of

screens," Ambrose said. "He's a very good screener, actually. Screens for others to get himself open. But one of our rules was not to leave him and help others, and I think we did a very good job."

Les agreed with Ambrose's assessment, but he said Mooney, who hasn't made a college decision, still found ways to contribute to the Dons.

"They definitely did a good job on him," Les said. "But he was finding open people and getting the ball to Ammar and Anthony. Joe absolutely did his best to help us try and win the game."

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BOYS VOLLEYBALL

SEASON PREVIEW

By MATT HARNESS
Pioneer Press

Notre Dame boys volleyball coach Patrick Cole said Daniel Messina probably could have started on many teams last season as a junior.

But Messina was stuck behind several senior front-row players, including Steven Lendy, the East Suburban Conference's player of the year.

Now a senior, Messina is the lone leftover from last season's team that finished 22-10 and won the conference at 8-0. The Dons lost in the regional semifinals.

"He spent a lot of time last year on his skill development," said Cole, the league's reigning coach of the year. "He's one of the hardest working kids I've had. He's gone from a player with good instincts to one with fantastic skills. He can hit every shot well."

While he's listed as an outside hitter, the 6-2 Messina, who had 32 kills last season, also can play middle hitter and right-side hitter.

"Frankly, I'm not sure where he will play," Cole said. "He's going to be an advantage for us in our game planning. We could play him somewhere different every game, but I don't think I would do that to him."

Senior setter Angelo Giannoni, junior outside hitter Conor O'Neill and junior outside hitter/middle Tyler Prokusi are three others projected to see playing time, according to Cole. All three played on junior varsity last season. In fact, 10 of this season's 12 varsity players were members of the Notre Dame JV team that shared the ESCC title last year.

"It's a new team for varsity, but this isn't a new



CURTIS LEHMKUHL/PIONEER PRESS

In this April 23, 2014, photo, Maine South's Evan Walsh attacks the ball during a match against Glenbrook South.

team," Cole said. "Those JV players were very, very good last year. I'm not expecting the learning curve to be great."

Maine East

Senior outside hitter Lerrin Mathew, the team leader in kills last season, and senior middle hitter Joe Swoboda are two of four players back to the starting lineup.

Mathew finished with 244 kills, 120 digs and 22 aces a year ago. Swoboda had 136 kills, 39 blocks and 15 aces for the Blue Demons, who went 19-14 and 7-3 in the CSL North. Maine East's season ended in the regional semifinals.

Senior middle Andrew Fox and senior right-side hitter Jose Ortiz also are returning starters.

Maine East coach Jon Kulesza, in his 15th season,

said he expects senior setter Gian Bobila and junior outside hitter Patrick Malkowski to make an impact this spring.

Maine South

Consistently one of the top teams in the area, the Hawks seem to be ready for another successful season.

Senior Evan Walsh leads six returning veterans who helped the Hawks go 26-11

and 6-4 in the CSL South last year. Maine South's 2014 season ended with a loss to state-bound New Trier in the regional final. The outside hitter/middle was first on the team in blocks and hitting percentage.

Other regulars to return include senior outside hitter Gino Debon, senior libero Zac Jaconetti, junior outside hitter Declan Cannon, junior right-side hitter

Jake Sidner and junior setter James d'Ambrosio.

Under coach Gary Grannell, Maine South has been to the state tournament four times since 2005 and the Hawks won the state title in 2006.

Niles North

While the Vikings welcome back senior Josh Bynum at right-side hitter and senior Thanasi Garbis at middle hitter, they will be breaking in a new starting outside hitter this season.

Among those auditioning for the job are senior Chun-Yi Yen and senior Kevin Kemp, both of whom are new to varsity.

Other newcomers to watch include juniors Zach Ono, Sang-Hyun Ahn, Dan Kim, Sean Lou, Kevin Rey Ferrer, Eduardo Aleman, Miguel Luna and Brian Cua. Sophomore Joshua Tatsui and freshman Ethan Soo also will be contributors, according to coach Carol Herlocker, who is in her 27th season.

Niles North finished 14-19 and lost in the regional semifinals last season.

Niles West

Senior middle Denis Ovoshchnikov is the only returning starter off last season's 26-12 club that went 7-3 in the CSL South and captured a regional championship.

Niles West coach Drew Roche, who's in his sixth season, said he expects senior setter/right-side hitter Josef Narcisa, senior setter Brad Erickson and junior hitter Hubert Gawin to step in and fill the other holes.

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BOYS TENNIS

SEASON PREVIEW

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
Pioneer Press

Greg Young is closing in on two decades as Maine South's boys tennis coach, and this year's team has a player he calls "probably the best kid I've had come in" during his tenure.

That player is freshman Danilo Kovacevic, who is currently listed as a four-star recruit by tennisrecruiting.net. He'll begin the season as the Hawks' No. 1 singles player. Kovacevic's a baseliner, Young said, with many strengths.

"He hits the ball pretty accurately," Young said. "He has good size, a good frame, a good disposition. He plays an all-around game, but does have a big serve. Solid, heavy topspin-type strokes, but just stays consistent [and] works points really well."

With Kovacevic at No. 1 singles, Young said he plans on partnering seniors Nick Salgia and Dominik Spalinski together at No. 1 doubles. Salgia qualified for the state tournament a year ago in doubles with Peter Demke, who was a senior last season.

Maine East

The Blue Demons return several players from last year's squad, including sophomore Boon Carreon and senior Peter Kloda.

Carreon and Kloda are both in contention for Maine East's No. 1 singles position, coach John Schwan said earlier this week. They're likely to practice with and against one another for much of the season. It should help them push each other and make them better.

"I think we've been very fortunate in that regard, that for the last several years we've had some really good



ROB VALENTIN/PIONEER PRESS

Niles West senior Jesse Sacks, pictured during the 2014 season, is trying to make it to state for the first time this season.

competition at our singles level," Schwan said.

The No. 1 doubles team of Mihir Modi and Michal Kanczuga also returns.

Niles West

One of coach Andrew Suarez's goals is to help senior Jesse Sacks qualify for the state tournament.

Sacks has been a mainstay at singles for Niles West

during his career, but the path to a state berth in singles — which requires a top-four finish at the sectional — will likely be very tough to navigate this year because there is so much individual talent in the area.

That's why Suarez is open to using Sacks at doubles. He'd likely play with junior Dan Weiss.

"We have to play our cards and see what we can

do to get him through," Suarez said. "We'll see how the season goes."

Niles North

The Vikings have a new coach in Andy Klamm and they had a new approach to the offseason.

Klamm said 20 members of the Niles North tennis team played year-round at racquet clubs, which at least

quadrupled the number that did so the previous year. That change has had a positive affect on the teams' preseason practices.

"It's given us a very different starting point to the season," Klamm said. "We've been able to jump right in and work hard on skills and strategy and not spend the two weeks we spent before just getting their hand-eye coordination and rhythm

back. We've been able to go right into full-scale practices."

Klamm, who was the school's freshman/sophomore coach the last four years, doesn't have his lineup set at this point. But he said senior Daniel Kang and junior Eric Herwitz will likely play singles, while seniors Ralph Ledesma and Kevin Chin — along with juniors Alan Goroshko and Grant Slovin — will likely play doubles.

Notre Dame

The Dons will look very different at the top of their singles lineup this year.

Ryan Sullivan spent the last two seasons at No. 1 singles, but he transferred to a boarding school in New York, according to Notre Dame coach Steve Jankowski. The Dons will likely fill his place in the lineup with freshman Nick Hebda.

Hebda is the younger brother of David Hebda, who used to play No. 1 singles for the Dons. Nick Hebda comes from a USTA background, Jankowski said, which should help him when playing against opponents who will often be older and more experienced than him.

"He's played in some big matches before in tournaments and stuff, so I don't think it's going to be anything new to him," Jankowski said. "I think it's good to get him in the fire right away."

Senior Nick Marselle played No. 2 singles for Notre Dame a year ago, and he's back on the team this year.

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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BASEBALL

SEASON PREVIEW

By ERIC VAN DRIL
Pioneer Press

Notre Dame returns five players who will be entering their third seasons as starters, including junior catcher Sam Ferri (Notre Dame commit), senior shortstop Thomas Norton (Illinois-Chicago) and senior second baseman Mike Ferri (Milwaukee).

Notre Dame also has the majority of its pitchers back from a team that won 20 games a year ago. That experience and pitching bodes well for the Dons, but the key in their quest to compete for an East Suburban Catholic title and win the first regional championship in coach Nelson Gord's tenure will likely be how well they hit top-of-the-line pitching.

"When we go play Joliet Catholic, or we go play Carmel, or whomever, we're going to see two or three guys each of those weeks that are going to be throwing 90 miles per hour or are professional prospects," said Gord, who's been the coach since 2012. Being able to score runs against them "is going to be the difference."

In addition to Norton and the Ferri brothers, the Dons' other top hitters will be junior third baseman Matt Segovia, senior pitcher/first baseman Joe Rimac and junior Ranko Stevanovic. Rimac will headline the pitching staff, which includes junior Scott Kutschke, senior Brandon Nowak and senior Adnan Sator.

Maine South

Maine South won 25 games a year ago, but it graduated Bobby Pennington and Gehrig Parker, who combined to win 15 of those



NIC SUMMERS/PIONEER PRESS

In this May 8, 2014, photo, Maine South's Stephen Sakowicz catches a throw at second base as Evanston's Peter Downie slides into the bag.

games as starting pitchers.

The Hawks' rotation is anchored by No. 1 starter Hank Schau, a senior. Joining Schau in the rotation will be juniors Kyle Zajdel and Jimmy O'Brien, as well as senior Brandon Ranieri. Senior Caleb deMarigny will get some spot starts and work as the closer, Maine South coach Bill Milano added.

Although the pitching staff is relatively inexperienced, the Hawks have the infrastructure for them to succeed. Senior Zach Parker, who led the team in RBIs a year ago, is back for his second year behind the plate. Maine South is also experienced up the middle, with Schau in center field, deMarigny entering his third season as the starting shortstop and all-Central Suburban South second

baseman Stephen Sakowicz also back.

The number of quality players up the middle "is going to help the staff," Milano said. "They make most of the routine plays."

Niles West

The Wolves will look to Tyler Stegich to contribute in a myriad of ways this year. The senior is penciled in as the team's No. 1 pitcher, its No. 3 hitter and he'll start in the outfield when he isn't on the mound.

Stegich will likely be joined in the middle of Niles West's lineup by sophomore Michael Gunartt — coach Garry Gustafson said he has the tools to be a Division I player — as well as senior Tommy Galanopoulos.

A contributor for the Wolves as a sophomore,

allowed Ridgewood to face the Tigers' bullpen as quickly as possible.

This year, with a defense that should be strong — especially with junior Michael Ruffolo (Indiana State) at shortstop, junior Keith Kerrigan in center field and junior Vito Iovino catching — Uhle hopes Uvelli's starts last longer.

"I'm looking for him to let it loose this year," Uhle said. "I want him to be comfortable. I want him to pitch more to contact, and not look to strike everybody out. That way, he can get deeper in games."

Uvelli and Kerrigan will be joined on the pitching staff by senior Frank Malicki.

Niles North

The Vikings were young all over the diamond last year, especially in the infield. They started two sophomores, a freshman and first baseman Tyler Egan, who's now a senior.

That group — which includes junior third baseman Phil Klafra, junior shortstop Alex Nanut and sophomore second baseman Giovanni Sanchez — is a year older and should be a year better.

"We did have some defensive issues, I would say, last year," Niles North coach Ed Toledo said. "Some of them were growing pains and [from] the speed of the game. The hope, right now, is that offensively and defensively with a year under their belts, the young guys will be a lot more comfortable and a lot more relaxed"

Ridgewood

Joe Uvelli transferred to Ridgewood before his senior year, and the Purdue signee will begin the season as both the Rebels' ace and No. 3 hitter.

Ridgewood is very familiar with Uvelli from his time at Elmwood Park. Rebels coach Chris Uhle encouraged his batters to be patient and get Uvelli's pitch count up early in games. That

Clark said this year's pitching staff is the deepest he's had in his five seasons at Maine East. It's led by senior Dylan Kuffell, sophomore Ryan Sands and senior Lukas Parker.

Defensively, Maine East is solid up the middle, with Parker at catcher, Kuffell and junior Jose Trujillo both capable of playing either middle infield position, and senior Jake Devitt in center field. All four are entering their third varsity seasons.

"I'm comfortable that if a ball is put in play, we'll pick it up and make plays," Clark said. "Our middle infield is tough."

Northridge

Northridge is in line to begin the season with 11 players on its roster.

Coach Pat Hunt's plan is to pick a starting nine and keep the players in the same field positions all season. But with a small roster and the need to use different pitchers on different days, Hunt will lean on his son, Patrick Hunt, to fill in where needed.

"He has that ability — he has that mobility — and he's the most logical one to do that," Pat Hunt said.

Patrick Hunt will pitch. So too will senior Tommy Kahle, who also plays shortstop, junior catcher Mike McCarthy and freshman third baseman Andrew Deardurff. Patrick Hunt — who was the Knights' top hitter in 2014 — will likely fill the vacancies left by Kahle, McCarthy and Deardurff when they're on the mound. Everybody else will stay put.

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Maine East

Pitching and defense will be the Blue Demons' strengths this year, according to coach Ron Clark.

SOFTBALL

SEASON PREVIEW

BY MATT HARNESS
Pioneer Press

Maine South softball coach Emmy Pasier didn't spend too much time in the preseason learning new names.

That's because the Hawks returned 11 players with significant varsity experience from last spring's 16-16-1 team that finished 7-3 in the Central Suburban South. Maine South lost in a Class 4A regional final.

It's the most players Pasier's ever had back in her 14 seasons at Maine South.

"It's definitely nice," said Pasier, who is looking to lead Maine South to its first regional championship since 2009. "We have high expectations this year, and the girls have done all the things we've asked of them so far."

Headlining the veterans are senior outfielders Courtney Richardson, Emily Suwanski and Erin Faltin. All three are four-year varsity players.

"It's pretty unique to have that," Pasier said.

Richardson, who plans to play at Michigan, plays center field, while Suwanski is in left and Faltin is in right.

"Courtney covers a lot of ground out there," Pasier said. "She can track down balls from just about anywhere."

Another returning player entering her fourth varsity season is Nina Anderson. She started at shortstop last season, but she will be the team's No. 1 pitcher this spring, according to Pasier.

Juniors Sabrina Argaez and Olivia Frink return to the starting infield, along with senior catcher Kerry Foley. Argaez batted clean-up as a sophomore.



GEOFF SCHEERER/PIONEER PRESS

In this July 19, 2014 photo, Ridgewood's Claudia Maloberti tries to catch a pop fly to left field while playing for the Norridge-Harwood Heights 16U Senior League summer team.

Niles North

Three of the team's top offensive players last season were sophomores and return to the Vikings, who went 16-14 and 5-5 in the CSL North a year ago.

Junior first baseman Stephanie Donado hit 412 with seven home runs and 40 RBIs. Junior catcher Kathryn Edmond batted .406 to go with five homers and 27 RBIs, and junior pitcher/third baseman Carolyn Dwyer drove in 31 runs, hit five homers and batted .366.

Five other starters are

back, including senior infielder Mandy Aragon, junior outfielder Adella Moss, junior pitcher Juliana Livieri, junior infielder Nicole Wheeler and sophomore shortstop Gina Loy.

After losing in a Class 4A regional final last spring, coach Karin Wick is hoping to lead Niles North to its first regional title since 2006.

Maine East

Coach Emiliano Hernandez said the Blue Demons will have to find a way to stay afloat while the team

waits for sophomore Alex Villalobos to return to the team. The fifth-year coach, who declined to comment on the reason for the absence, said he expects her back in early April.

Villalobos, one of the team's top players, pitched in every game last season and can play shortstop. At the plate, she hit .400 and her 12 RBIs led the 7-19 Demons, who lost in a Class 4A regional semifinal.

Junior outfielder Mary Iliopoulos, a three-year varsity veteran, returns to the starting lineup and will be joined by her sister Ana

Iliopoulos, a freshman pitcher/infielder. As a sophomore, Mary Iliopoulos batted .500 with 15 runs scored and 10 stolen bases.

Hernandez said Ana Iliopoulos will see some time in the circle this spring.

Senior second baseman Gabby Galati is back for a fourth varsity season, while senior catcher Colleen Murphy is entering her third season on varsity.

Ridgewood

All the signs are there for the Rebels to be better than last season's 16-15 club that

lost in a Class 3A regional final.

Nine starters are back, including the top producers: junior catcher/shortstop Sabrina Krasinski, junior pitcher/first baseman Giulia Magnelli, junior shortstop/outfielder Lexi Crotty and junior pitcher/outfielder Claudia Maloberti.

Krasinski hit 495 last spring, while Magnelli brings back her seven home runs and 52 RBIs. Crotty scored 45 runs, and Maloberti had 53 hits. Maloberti also led the team with a 3.32 ERA.

Second baseman Katie Richardson is the lone senior to return to the starting lineup.

Coach Steve Poznansky said junior infielder/outfielder Jessica Plaud and sophomore Jillian Lazzara should push for playing time in their first varsity seasons.

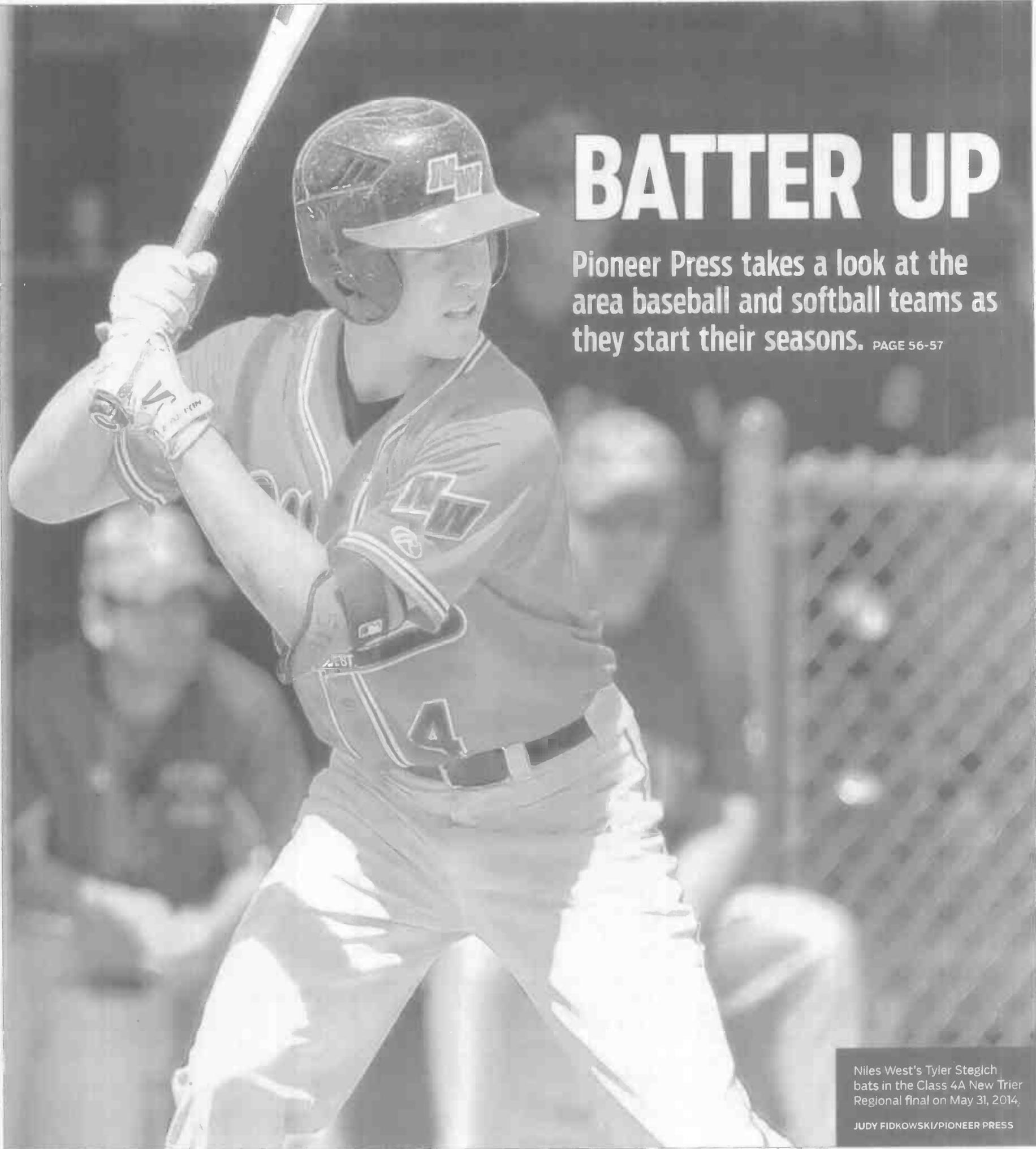
Niles West

The battery of senior pitcher/outfielder Maya Caballero and junior catcher Shannon McHugh are back in the starting lineup for the Wolves, who finished 7-19 and 2-8 in the CSL South last season. Niles West's season ended in the Class 4A regional semifinals.

Senior shortstop Atorena Michael and senior third baseman Val Sherman also have starting experience.

Others who should contribute this spring, according to fifth-year coach Nicole Reynolds, are junior outfielder Erynn Modena, junior infielder/outfielder Emily Butera and sophomore pitcher/first baseman Hope Cherian.

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BATTER UP

Pioneer Press takes a look at the area baseball and softball teams as they start their seasons. PAGE 56-57

Niles West's Tyler Steglich bats in the Class 4A New Trier Regional final on May 31, 2014.

JUDY FIDKOWSKI/PIONEER PRESS

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