

# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR



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Thursday, November 12, 2015

nilesheraldspectator.com

## Celebrating veterans

Area vets gather in Morton Grove for annual parade, service. **Page 4**



ALICIA RAMIREZ/PIONEER PRESS

Bugler Joseph Plento of Niles plays "Taps" as the American flag is lowered on Veteran's Day in Morton Grove to honor those who gave their lives.

GO



RAFE SWAN/GETTY IMAGES/CULTURA RF

## Novel tips

For National Novel Writing Month, local authors share their best advice for writing. **Page 23**

SPORTS



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

## Season of firsts

Niles North advances to state quarterfinals. **Page 45**

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# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

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## SHOUT OUT

# Joseph Piento, a Niles veteran

Joseph Piento, of Niles, is a bugler for the Morton Grove American Legion Post 134, who said he served 14 years with the United States Marine Corps during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

**Q: What did you do during your time of service?**

**A:** I was a naval gunfire spotter. I used to direct gunfire from cruisers to targets on the shore. Unfortunately for me, I never got boots on the ground because they signed the armistice at Korea and then when Vietnam came in, there were no landings so there was nothing to soften up the shoreline, so I spent a lot of time at sea, but I never fired a mean shot.

**Q: What do you do now that you're out of the service?**

**A:** I am very active in the



ALICIA RAMIREZ/PIONEER PRESS

Joseph Piento

American Legion. I've been a member for 30 years and I've been through the ranks. I've been commander and everything else.

Right now I'm doing my second tour as district commander.

**Q: Why is it important to celebrate Veterans Day?**

**A:** It's heartening for me to be able to do whatever I can to let people know that we appreciate our veterans wherever they are in the world and make sure they're supported. To me, it's (important) because we all too often take our men and women overseas who are in harms way all over the world for granted and we don't appreciate how much they put their lives on the line every day.

— Alicia Ramirez, for Pioneer Press

*Shout Out is a weekly feature where we get to know and introduce our readers to their fellow community members.*

#### CORRECTION

A Pioneer Press story published in the Nov. 5 edition incorrectly stated the terms of the contract for Niles Township High School District 219 Assistant Superintendent for Operations John Heintz. His contract does include a provision for tuition reimbursement. The Pioneer Press regrets the error.

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ALICIA RAMIREZ/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

During the singing of the National Anthem, the color guard from the Legion stood with that of the military academy, the JROTC and the scouts Nov. 8 at the Morton Grove Public Library as part of the annual Veterans Day Parade hosted by the Morton Grove American Legion Post 134.

## Morton Grove Veterans Day parade marches on

BY ALICIA RAMIREZ  
Pioneer Press

Dozens of residents took to the streets of Morton Grove Nov. 8 for the annual Veterans Day parade that marched from the doors of the American Legion Post 134 Hall to the Morton Grove Public Library for a brief service.

The group of Legion members, JROTC students, military academy students, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts walked their way through the streets as Morton Grove Police cordoned off sections of road. A few gathered on the parade route to thank those who have served in the armed forces.

According to Post 134

Adjutant Ken Trumbull, the Legion has been making this walk since 1931, when Veterans Day was still celebrated as Armistice Day, as declared by President Woodrow Wilson in 1919 after the end of World War I.

"In 1931, we were the Niles Township American Legion, but then we split up into the Niles, Morton Grove and Skokie American Legion Posts in the 1950s," he said. "Now Morton Grove has 977 members now and we have the largest post in Cook County."

The American Legion Post 134 gives the men and women who served a chance to talk with one another, share stories and connect with people in the

community who experienced the same things they did.

"The Legion is veterans serving veterans," Trumbull said. "It's just a camaraderie that we have between each other and we can just talk about things that we can't talk about with other people."

Mayor Dan DiMaria was also in attendance.

"Thanksgiving is a day where we pause to give thanks for the things that we have," DiMaria said. "Veterans Day is a day where we pause to give thanks to the people who fought for the things that we have."

Alicia Ramirez is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



Tom Mann, a retired Army colonel, presents Casey Bachara with the medal he said he earned during his service in the Korean War.



LEE V. GAINES/PIONEER PRESS

Niles Public Library trustees and officials at a meeting last month.

## Niles library board to hold hearing on tax levy increase

BY LEE V. GAINES  
Pioneer Press

A majority of Niles Public Library District trustees agreed at a Nov. 5 special meeting to increase the 2015 property tax levy by \$800,000, according to library officials.

Library Board President, Linda Ryan, described the meeting as a “tough” one and the decision to increase the levy by a little more than 13 percent over last year’s property tax levy was “not a celebrated event,” but she said something was needed to keep the district out of the red in the coming years.

Trustees Carolyn Drblik and Danette Matyas disagreed with the decision to increase the levy from the just under \$6 million request filed last year to nearly \$6.8 million in 2015, the district’s business manager Greg Pritz said.

State law limits levy increases to either 5 percent over the previous year or the consumer price index, whichever is lower, but taxing districts that lowered their levy the previous year have the option to base

the following year’s increase on whatever the highest property tax levy was during the previous three years. In this case, the district was able to increase the levy by a little more than 13 percent over last year based on a 2012 property tax levy of roughly \$7.1 million, Pritz said. He said the district could have levied for as much as \$7.2 million.

Taxing bodies that increase their levy by more than 5 percent are required to hold a truth in taxation hearing prior to a vote on the figure. A hearing is scheduled for Nov. 18, Pritz said, the same night the board is scheduled to make a final decision on the levy.

He said the levy increase will add about \$39 to the annual property tax bill of a home valued at \$300,000 in the library district.

At a meeting in October, Pritz outlined several options for the board, including a decrease in the levy by \$500,000, a level levy, a slight increase of \$300,000 and a much larger increase of \$1 million. The only route that offered a deficit-free forecast for

the next five years was the million-dollar increase.

Ryan said if the board chose to file a levy request for anything less than the \$800,000, the library would be “in a vulnerable position.”

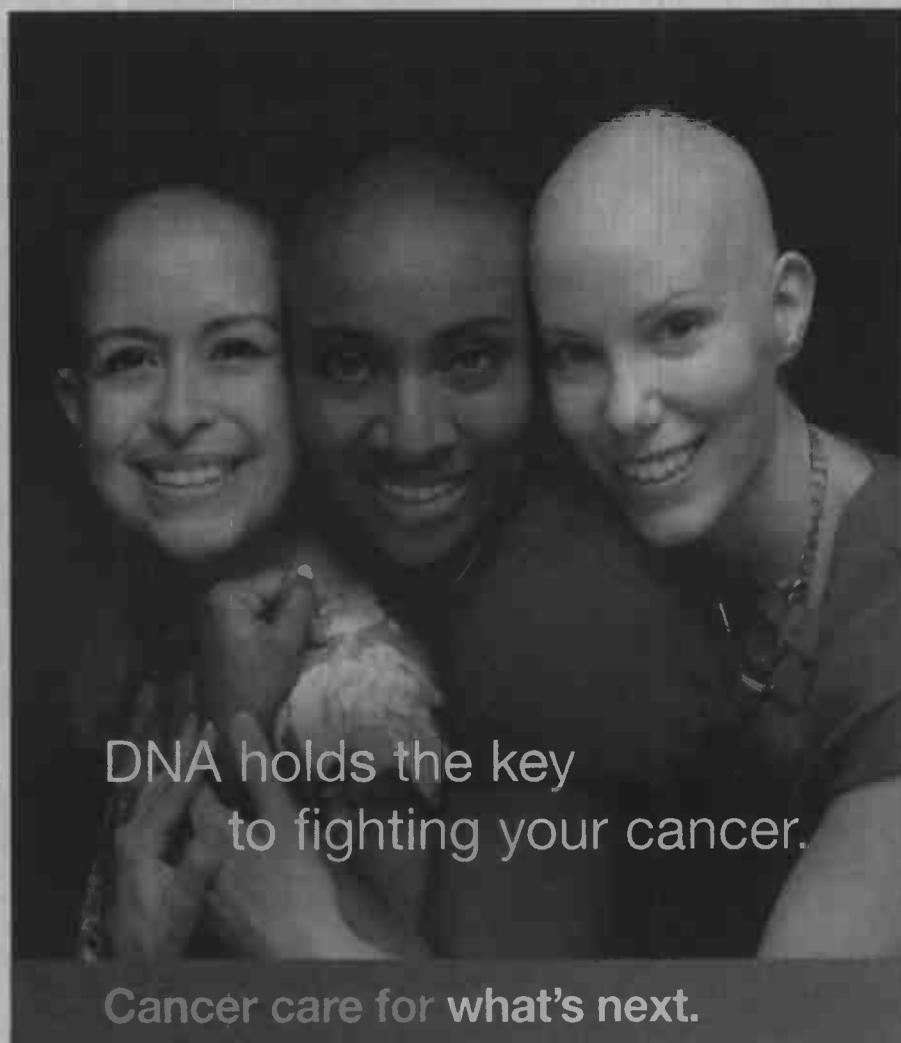
Staff and the board plan to embark on a strategic planning process in the coming year, she said, and a lower levy would prevent officials from even considering expending services.

“I don’t want to go into a strategic plan saying, ‘no, we can’t do anything,’” Ryan said. “I want to be able to have wiggle room to get the services to the community that they expect.”

Once staff and the board know the cost of the items and services they decide to include in the library’s new strategic plan, and the figures included in the fiscal 2017 budget, Ryan said, she is “hoping and praying, honestly, we can lower this levy to where it was.”

Drblik and Matyas did not immediately return a request for comment.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



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## American Legion prepares to host another batch of recruits

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

A group of naval recruits spending Thanksgiving away from their families for the first time this year will find some respite from the daily rigors of boot camp when they visit American Legion Post 134 for a Thanksgiving celebration hosted in Morton Grove.

On Thanksgiving morning at 6 a.m., school buses donated by Golf School District 67 will pick-up about 70 young naval trainees from the Naval Station Great Lakes. The recruits will be taken to the American Legion Post 135 building on Dempster Avenue, where for the next 10 hours or so they'll be pampered with a full-scale Thanksgiving feast and unlimited access to phones and television.

During the nine week-long boot camp period — which serves as the entry point to joining the U.S. Navy — the trainees endure long days designed to push the limits of their physical and mental endurance. That have no access to phones, television, or computers.

The "Adopt-a-Sailor" program began in the WWII era as a way to provide a home-away-from-home for recruits on Thanksgiving, and it continues today at American Legion posts all over Illinois, including Morton Grove's Post 134.

Veteran Casey Bachara brought the "Adopt-a-Sailor" program to Morton Grove in 2007, and each year he works with the community to pull together all the things needed to create a memorable home-away-from-home for the recruits.

That includes 16 phone lines, six computers, and about 20 turkeys with all the fixings.

Besides providing the recruits — most of whom are



RAY ARIAZ PHOTO

Naval recruits from Naval Station Great Lakes enjoy Thanksgiving at Morton Grove's American Legion Post 134 last November.

two weeks away from graduation — with the rare opportunity to call home, Bachara said the event bridges the gap between the young servicemen and older veterans, many of whom stop by throughout the day to chat and sing songs.

"Us old fogies went through different scenarios that were less welcoming when we came back from war," Bachara said. "We know these young men haven't had any outside contact since they started boot camp, so we make sure to show them a magical time."

After calling or Skyping with their families and enjoying a little time in front of the TV, Bachara said he only has one request of his guests — that they get together and sing "Anchors Aweigh," which is the fight song for the U.S. Naval Academy.

"It's about the old vets taking care of our future veterans," Bachara said. "We know what it is for these young kids to have this day."

Morton Grove's Kappy's Restaurant and Pancake House is one of about 15 businesses that pitch in to help put the event together each year. Kappy's supplies all 20 turkeys, along with the other sides to make a complete Thanksgiving meal.

Kappy's owner George

prep work that goes into the meal into a tradition of its own. Each year, a cooking frenzy starts at 6 p.m. on the night before Thanksgiving, when Alpogianis and a group of about 20 volunteers start preparing turkeys in the kitchen of the restaurant's longtime location on the 7200 block of Dempster Street in Morton Grove.

They work late into the night and return the next morning at about 6 a.m. to start cooking the green beans, mashed potatoes, and other sides.

"We've got it down to a science," Alpogianis said. "My mom always taught us to have an empty seat at the table, so I think it's nice to be able to put a little bit of good out there into the world."

Alpogianis drives the food over to the American Legion in a catering truck, and he sticks around for a few hours to spend time with the recruits.

"When the sailors start signing, it's just amazing," he said. "I really like to go out there and talk with them and just wish them good luck."

American Legion Post 134 is seeking donations for their annual "Adopt-a-Sailor" program and for the Wounded Warrior Project. For more information call 847-965-9503.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance

## Veteran, 87, recalls his Korean War experience

BY BRIAN L. COX  
Pioneer Press

When Gerry Deppe was drafted into the Army in 1950, he was handed one of the newest weapons in the U.S. arsenal: a typewriter.

Deppe, who lived in Winnetka for many years before moving with his wife to Evanston, said he was assigned to a new division in the Army called the First RB and L Group.

After receiving training in the District of Columbia, Deppe said he was shipped to Tokyo where he wrote propaganda leaflets, which were dropped from an aircraft over enemy territory during the Korean War.

Deppe said he had some experience at an advertising agency before being drafted in his mid-20s. He said after submitting a few writing samples to the military, he was assigned to write propaganda. He wrote leaflets and radio scripts, both of which were translated into Korean and Chinese, he said.

"They explained to us this was the newest weapon to be used," he said. "We wanted to get the enemy troops to lose heart [and] throw down their weapons. We played on their hearts with 'your sweetheart is waiting for you.' The old cornball stuff. They had evidence it was working."

Deppe, now 87, said he also wrote "a slanted side of the news" in phony newspapers as a way to convince the enemy they were losing the war. In addition, on the side he said he wrote movie reviews for the military newspaper, Stars and Stripes.

"We had expert interpreters," he said. "What I wrote sounded credible. They printed them and sent them to an airfield and they were dropped from aircraft over enemy territory."

"The radio broadcast worked along the same



BRIAN L. COX/PIONEER PRESS

Army veteran, Gerry Deppe, served in the Korean War writing propaganda that would be airdropped over enemy territory. Deppe went on to have a career in advertising in St. Louis before moving with his wife to Evanston, he said.

lines. It was an audio version of what the leaflets were trying to do," he said. "We had evidence the enemy did surrender or at least drop out. There were a lot of troops that just disappeared. We did this over China, too, because China was supporting North Korea."

He also said he was thankful that he did not have to pick up a weapon and meet the enemy face-to-face.

"I thought it was great because I didn't want to become cannon fodder," he said. "I was a bit too old and I had a girlfriend. I had a mother and sister. I wanted to come back, and this was certainly a safer way to get through the four years than going to the front."

Deppe said he went on to be promoted to the top writing job in the Army's Tokyo office. But he said that like many young soldiers his thoughts were still focused on his home and girlfriend thousands of miles away in St. Louis.

He said he called his girlfriend from Tokyo on Valentine's Day and pro-

posed. Three weeks later she arrived, and they were married.

"The oldest of my daughters brags she was made in Japan," Deppe chuckled.

He said today propaganda is recognized as a powerful weapon in war and politics. He also said he was recently contacted by the Korean War Museum in Springfield, Ill., asking him for some of his old Army files.

"I wasn't going to bother about it, but my wife got it all together," he said.

After the war Deppe worked for an advertising agency and eventually opened his own agency in 1962 in St. Louis where his wife also worked as an art director.

Deppe said he is proud of his military service because writing propaganda "was a means of making war less violent."

"Even today we see it in the news occasionally," he said. "They're still dropping leaflets."

Brian L. Cox is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

# Drug charges filed in death of NIU student

BY CLIFFORD WARD  
Chicago Tribune

Three west suburban men have been charged with selling the drugs that played a role in the death of a Northern Illinois University student killed in a September fall from his dormitory, according to the university.

Late last week, NIU said its campus police arrested the three men, two of whom were NIU students when Timi Okedina, 19, died in September after falling 11 stories from a residence hall.

The three charged are Michael Kielhack, 20, of Elgin; Michael Montgomery, 19, of Naperville; and Thomas Quirke, 19, of Aurora. All three were charged with two counts of unlawful delivery of a controlled substance by NIU police, according to the university.

Kielhack, who was ar-



Quirke



Montgomery



Kielhack

rested Nov. 6 at his dormitory, and Montgomery, who was arrested Nov. 5 at his home, were NIU students at the time of Okedina's death, NIU said. Quirke, who turned himself in to NIU police Nov. 7, was never a student at the school, according to the university.

Authorities said the three played a role in supplying the LSD that led in part to the accidental death of Okedina.

The sophomore geology student fell 11 stories from

one of the Stevenson Towers residence halls on the night of Sept. 26, and an autopsy later showed the presence of LSD and marijuana in his system. His death was ruled accidental.

Okedina, who came to the U.S. as child from Nigeria, was a former Des Plaines resident and a graduate of Maine East High School in Park Ridge.

All three of the men charged have posted bond and were released, an officer at the DeKalb County Jail said Nov. 9.

## Niles Historical Society set to host Afternoon Tea event

BY ALICIA RAMIREZ  
Pioneer Press

After not hosting the annual Afternoon Tea event last year, the Niles Historical Society is back at it again this year with the event set for 2 p.m. Nov. 21.

The event will have small sandwiches, cookies, biscuits and tea samplings with a talk by Sheila Duda, owner of Tea Lula in Park Ridge.

"She will share her knowledge of tea in a presentation," LaVerne Kozak, social events coordinator of the Niles Historical Society said. "Tea Lula will also be providing the teas."

Her topic for the afternoon will be, "Steeped in

### Afternoon Tea with the Niles Historical Society

**When:** 2 p.m. Nov. 21

**Where:** Niles Historical Museum and Cultural Center, 8970 N. Milwaukee Ave.

**Cost:** \$20 per person

**Information:** See [www.vniles.com/195/Historical-Society](http://www.vniles.com/195/Historical-Society) or call 847-390-0160

**History:** Tea's Journey to America," according to a release from the historical society.

The cost to attend the event is \$20 per person, and seating is limited. Gloves and other such clothing are encouraged for the event.

"I'm not really a big tea drinker, but it's fun to try the different little cookies, sandwiches and learning more about the tea," Kozak said.

*Alicia Ramirez is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.*

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**POLICE REPORT**

The following items were taken from Niles Police Department reports. An arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt.

**BATTERY**

■ Luis Hernandez, 22, of the 8800 block of Carleah Street, unincorporated Maine Township, was charged with domestic battery on Nov. 1. Hernandez has a Nov. 17 court date.

**RESISTING**

■ Chad Peplinski, 30, of the 200 block of North 91st Street, Milwaukee, was charged with four counts of resisting a police officer and one count of possession of drug paraphernalia on the night of Nov. 3. According to police, officers came into contact with Peplinski after leaving an unrelated call in the 7100 block of Milwaukee Avenue at 8 p.m. Police said Peplinski was "acting suspicious" and parked in a fire line. Officers later reportedly observed him throw items

over a fence, but when Peplinski was told to place his hands on the hood of a squad car, he allegedly tried to run from police and was accused of physically struggling with officers. Police said a stun gun was used on Peplinski's back and he was then taken into custody. According to police, a search of the area where Peplinski had been seen throwing items revealed nothing, but during a search of Peplinski's car, "items commonly used to ingest controlled substances" were found. Peplinski had a scheduled Nov. 9 court date.

**WARRANT**

■ Salvatore Arnold, 64, of the 7000 block of Newark Avenue, Niles, was taken into custody Nov. 2 on an unlawful use of a weapon warrant out of Chicago. Police came into contact with Arnold after responding to a call of a person who had fallen out of a wheelchair in the 7200 block of Harlem

Avenue. Arnold reportedly told police that he fell out of his chair while going up a small incline and that he was waiting for a taxi to take him home. He has a Dec. 3 court date.

**UNATTENDED CHILD**

■ Police responded to Golf Mill Shopping Center Nov. 4 after receiving a report of a young child crying and walking around the parking lot between Shop 'N Save and the Showplace theater. According to police, the child's 39-year-old mother said she left her sleeping 5-year-old daughter in the car while she went into the grocery store. A witness and a member of Golf Mill security both told police they had been with the child for at least 10 to 12 minutes. The child's mother was ticketed under a local ordinance and was not named by police. The Department of Children and Family Services was also contacted, police said.

**SCAM**

■ Police said a "self-proclaimed gypsy" admitted to scamming a 60-year-old woman out of \$10 in cash on Nov. 2 after pretending to be a domestic violence victim with no place to live. According to police, the suspect was asking customers for money outside a gas station in the 7600 block of Milwaukee Avenue. The woman who had given the suspect cash did not want to sign a criminal complaint, but did ask for her money to be returned, police said. The suspect, who reportedly told police that she has no job and "only knows how to scam for money," was issued a local ordinance citation for soliciting without a permit and was not named by police.

**THEFT**

■ An unknown man reportedly stole a case of whiskey, valued at \$178.69, from a store in the 8700 block of Dempster Street Oct. 31.

■ A taxi driver called police to the area of Dempster Street and Shermer Road around 3:20 a.m., Oct. 30, to report that a passenger had run away without paying the \$32 fare he owed. The driver told police he was driving two men in their early 20s and had dropped one of them off near Advocate Lutheran General Hospital before heading to the Dempster and Shermer area with the remaining passenger. The driver provided police with a phone number for the man who allegedly fled the cab, but when an officer called the number, the man who answered hung up, police said.

■ On the afternoon of Nov. 1, a woman allegedly attempted to buy items from a store in the 8200 block of Golf Road using a counterfeit \$100 bill. When the store's manager told the woman he was calling the police, she reportedly left the store.

■ A man allegedly stole

approximately \$60 worth of cold medicine from a store in the 8500 block of Golf Road on the evening of Oct. 30.

■ Tools and a briefcase containing a tablet computer were reported stolen Nov. 1 from a van parked in a lot in the 6200 block of Howard Street. A window was smashed to gain entry, police said. On Nov. 2, a sewer camera kit, valued at \$8,000, was reported stolen from a pickup truck parked on the same block.

■ A woman told police that \$1,115 in cash, as well as a debit card and credit cards, were stolen from her purse Nov. 3 while she was working in a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center.

■ Police said a woman's wallet was stolen by a customer waiting behind her in line inside a store in the 8500 block of Golf Road on the evening of Nov. 3. The woman had reportedly left the wallet on the store counter before it was taken.

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# ORT graduates hear a message of forgiveness

By MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

Karen Kaplan doesn't believe that making the sometimes difficult decision to forgive and move on in life is restricted to any one experience or geographic area.

That's why she was asked to speak to a recent graduating class of Skokie's Chicago ORT Technical Institute. At first glance, Kaplan may seem an unusual choice to be the keynote speaker at a school populated with students of diverse backgrounds and ages trying set a new course for themselves in life.

In her self-published book, "Descendants of Raj-grod," she talks about her father's horrific experiences as a Holocaust survivor and how that contributed to him being abusive to her. Before he died, however, Kaplan said she was able to forgive, which helped her successfully move on with her life.

Some of the students at ORT have had their own painful and difficult experiences with which to deal, Kaplan said before speaking at the school's 29th commencement ceremonies. Students have come to ORT from different parts of the world.

Chicago ORT Technical Institute is affiliated with World ORT, which trains more than 300,000 students worldwide each year, according to the nonprofit school. The school in Skokie operates in an unlikely location — in a small industrial area on Fargo Avenue just to the west of Niles Center Road.

Executive Director Michelle Movitz said about 100 students graduated from the Skokie school last month, one of two ceremonies held during the year.

ORT has an enrollment of about 300 students, she said.

Most of the Oct. 28 graduates earned English as a second language certificates. Degrees or certificates in applied science in accounting, computer and networking technology, digital graphics and web design, pharmacy technician study and medical assistant study were also handed out.

"We all have had wonderful and terrible childhood memories," Movitz told the graduating class. "However, it's undeniable that your experiences at home and at school impact who you are and how you deal with situations. In either case, remembering where we came from, building on the positives and discarding the negatives is a key for future success and happiness."

A Highland Park resident, Kaplan said she believes the message in her memoir resonates with these students — some of whom were even refugees from war-torn areas.

"Life provides us with people and experiences that challenge us," she told the graduates. "My father was brought into my life to teach me one of the most valuable lessons — the lesson of forgiveness. He became the greatest teacher in my life, and for that, I am indebted to him."

To Kaplan, forgiveness is "letting go of my past, not forgetting, not overlooking, but emotionally freeing myself from the anger, disappointment and resentment that permeated my being."

She hopes to inspire students along the same path, she said.

"For those of you who have been victims of war, for those of you who have

been abandoned, rejected, abused and wronged by relatives, friends and strangers, understand that we cannot change our past," Kaplan said. "What can be changed is our way of thinking, feeling and behaving. If we cling to life's bitter experiences, we will suffer."

Graduates last month adopted a similar philosophy, speaking more about the potential of a bright future than the memory of a difficult past.

"Life is hard my friends," said Noel Herrera who came from the Philippines four years ago and earned an English as a second language certificate from ORT. "Believe in yourselves and be positive."

Herrera's family sought "a better life" when they came to the United States, he said. He and his wife now work as caregivers and both have good employers. They have a 2-year-old child, he said, and their life is not always easy.

But Herrera also said it's important to remember that there are others who suffer, are hungry and face war.

"Continue to persevere, be patient and be persistent," he said. "Some day, somehow, we can all make it."

Mayra Barajas Zavala earned a degree as a medical assistant at Chicago ORT Technical Institute.

"Most of us are looking at the future and wondering what life may hold for us," she said, looking out over her fellow graduates. "But whether we continue to extend our education or we go a different direction, the satisfaction will derive from the life's work we choose."



**Above:** Students of diverse backgrounds graduated last month from Chicago ORT Technical Institute in Skokie. The graduating class is seen here with the school's executive director, Michelle Movitz (center) and author Karen Kaplan (next to her). **Left:** Noel Herrera speaks at a graduation ceremony last month at Chicago ORT Technical Institute in Skokie. About 100 students of diverse backgrounds graduated from the school with a degree or a certificate. **Below:** Author Karen Kaplan, the daughter of a Holocaust survivor who wrote a book about forgiveness, spoke last month at a graduation ceremony at Chicago ORT Technical Institute in Skokie.

MIKE ISAACS/  
PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

# D219 employees express concern over 'outsourced workers'

By BRIAN L. COX  
Pioneer Press

The use by Niles Township High School District 219 of "outsourced workers" is having a negative impact on everything from the classroom to the boiler room, unionized district employees told the school board during a recent meeting.

Dozens of teachers and district support staff were at the Nov. 3 School Board meeting in Skokie asking that the district rethink its use of outsourced workers in various positions within the district.

District 219 board president, Mark Sproat, said during the meeting the board was glad to be made aware of concerns over outsourced employees and encouraged the district's fulltime workers to keep the lines of communication open.

"Come talk to us," Sproat said. "We're human beings. We want to know what's going on in the community. We want to know what's going on with the teachers. We want to know what's going on with the support staff, everybody. Do not hesitate to speak."

Although teacher positions are not being outsourced, maintenance, secretarial and tech positions have been and that is becoming a problem, said Cameron Sweeney, president of support staff at Niles Township Federation of Teachers and Support Staff.

"Our goal is that we want to start a conversation," Sweeney said.

She said the union mobilized its members to attend the Nov. 3 meeting as a non-confrontational way to bring the issue of the district's use of "outsourced employees" to the forefront.

"We basically asked our members who had concerns throughout their departments," she explained. "We asked them to come forward to speak about how outsourcing has impacted their departments."

"We polled our membership and these were the people who felt their departments were impacted by outsourcing," she added. "Our members are always eager to get involved. They're so passionate about District 219 and serving the students. Everybody in our membership wants what's best for our schools, what's best for the students and what's best for the learning environment."

Like many school districts across the country, District 219 has turned to the outsourcing of some jobs as a potential way to save money. But many of the district employees who addressed

the School Board on Nov. 3 pointed out that the district pays a lot of money to the companies that supply the "outsourced workers" and said that the workers themselves are usually not well paid and are often not given any benefits.

"Our end goal is to make sure all the employees in the district are being treated fairly," Sweeney said. "We want what's best for each department to stay as productive as possible."

The exact number of "outsourced employees" working in the district was not made available but Hugh Flack, the lead maintenance mechanic at Niles North High School, said his department has been impacted.

He told the board that over the last several years the district has chipped away at the size of the maintenance staff in an effort to save money and

streamline the department even as the total square footage of the district has increased. He also said the district has failed to replace retiring employees and that "outsourced workers" are filling maintenance positions that were once held by fulltime district employees.

"As it turns out these outsourced employees have a lack of skills," said Flack. "The district's response was to try and train these people in the basics. These basics should already have been known by these people."

"This created a drop in productivity as well as an increased safety risk to the students and staff," he added. "It is because of this outsourcing that we have unlicensed people working in our electrical, mechanical and life safety systems. Would you want an accountant fixing your new car?"

He also said that a "con-

tract employee" recently botched a repair which ended up costing the district \$2,500 in new equipment and the cost of labor to fix the mistake.

"There are quite a few of these examples," Flack said. "If the district wants to make more with less, the answer is simple. Get the right people in the first place and make them district employees."

Sweeney said union representatives will be meeting with the board president on a monthly basis "to continue the conversation."

"I know the principals will be having these conversations with departments in their buildings," she said. "We will continue to have our biweekly meetings with administration. We're really hoping that we can start working some of this out."

Brian L. Cox is a freelancer.

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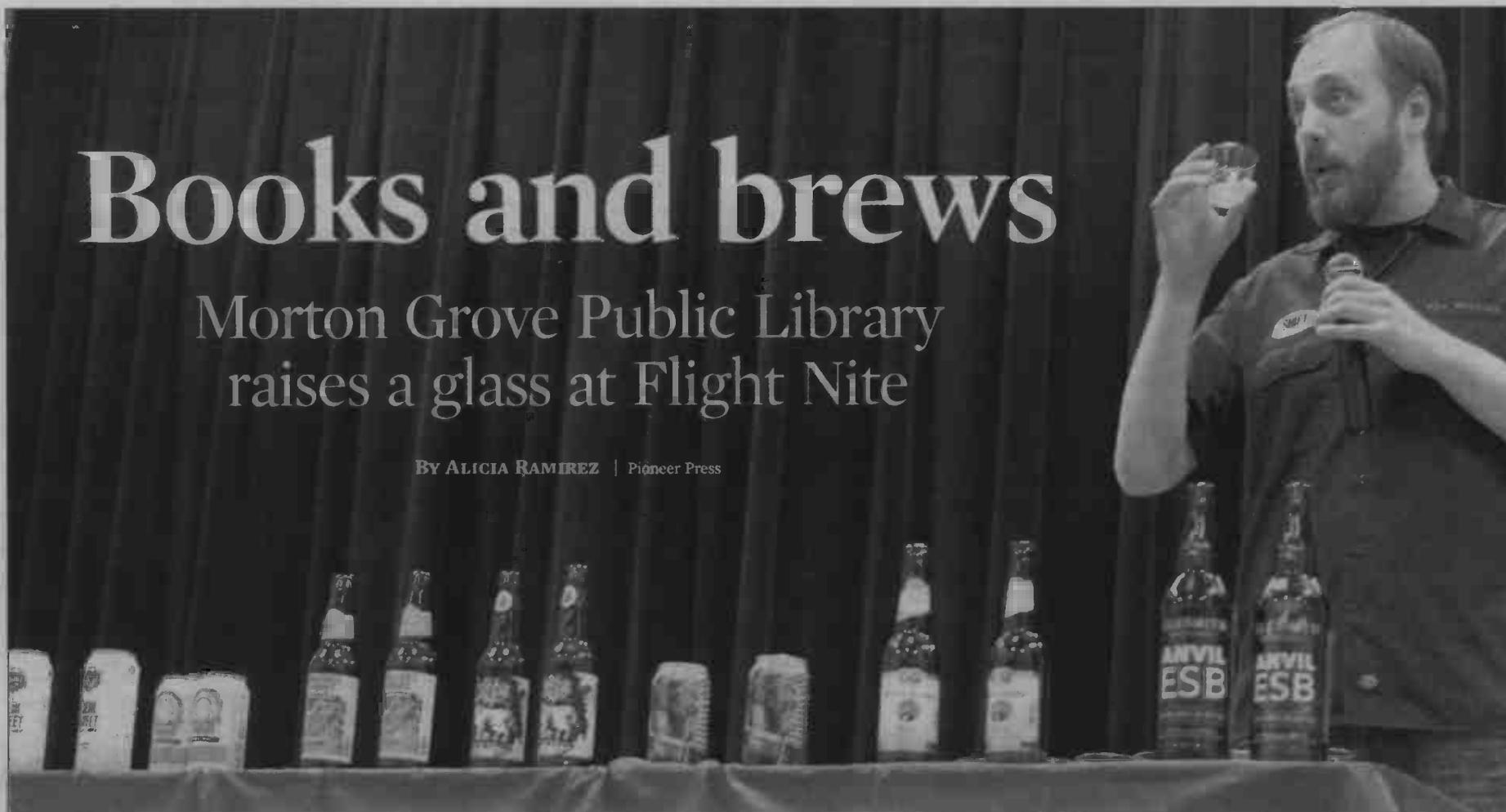
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# Books and brews

## Morton Grove Public Library raises a glass at Flight Nite

BY ALICIA RAMIREZ | Pioneer Press



ALICIA RAMIREZ/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Kevin Zimmermann, beer manager of Durty Nellie's In Palatine, talks the group through the tasting of a cider at the Nov. 7 Flight Nite at the Morton Grove Public Library.

**T**he Morton Grove Public Library offered more than just its normal array of services this past weekend at Flight Nite hosted by the Morton Grove Public Library Foundation.

The library was transformed with shelves that normally feature best-sellers now featuring books about craft beer, home brewing and the history of craft beer in America. The service desk that is normally staffed to help people find their way around was instead manned by a bartender serving up beer and wine. The tops of shelves and tables were filled with pizza, fruit and veggie dishes and small snacks. And the meeting room in the library was transformed into a tasting room where guests were able to sample six beers and one cider while hearing from beer expert Kevin Zimmermann, of Schaumburg, the beer manager at Durty Nellie's in Palatine.

"Even if you don't know anything about beer, hopefully you will learn something tonight," Brenda Ross, librarian, said at the beginning of the tasting. "It is a library and we need to learn."

With Zimmermann at the helm, the group learned about different beer types such as porters, stouts, India pale ales and an ESB and what makes each of these beers



Pizza, fruit and vegetables were served before the beer tasting.

what they are.

"I had certain things that I wanted to do because I knew this was going to be more entry-level, so I wanted to show off just some of the starter parts of craft beer," he said of the flight. "I wanted to focus on

those three major players in the ingredients that when you change them just a little bit, it changes the entire experience and that allows people an opportunity to try some new things."

For Morton Grove Trustee John Thill,

he learned that he is not a fan of beer.

"The cider was definitely more my taste," he said. "I came out to support the library. It's just a great thing to have people backing the library."

The event, while getting more people into the library who wouldn't usually come out, was also a fundraiser to help the library pay for the matching part to a \$50,000 grant it received for renovation work.

"The work has already been done," Ross said. "We got a wheelchair lift in (the auditorium) and some other cosmetic improvements, so the bills are coming due for that, and we redid the entire first and second floor of the library, too."

Ross was pleased with the turnout noting roughly 80 tickets were sold before the event and even more sold at the event.

Maria DeLeon, of Morton Grove, was one of the many people at the library that night enjoying the unique event and learning more about craft beer.

"It's never been done, especially at the library," she said. "It brings the community together, and what brings people together better than alcohol."

Alicia Ramirez is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

# Prospective patients tour Evanston's soon-to-open pot dispensary

BY BOB SEIDENBERG  
Pioneer Press

Evanston resident Nancy Schwartz had talked to a friend in Colorado before attending an open house Nov. 9 for the Evanston's first medical marijuana dispensary, which is slated to open soon.

A mixture of residents, including some potential patients like Schwartz, who said she suffers from lupus, checked out PharmaCannis Health & Wellness Center, at the ground floor space in the city's Maple Self Park garage, at 1804 Maple Ave.

Schwartz said her friend in Colorado had talked about the wide selection of marijuana and cannabis-based products available at the state's dispensaries, including chocolate bars and gummie bears.

"This is not that," Schwartz said, after getting

her first look at the Evanston dispensary.

Tana Francello, an Evanston resident who serves as the general manager of the new facility, said the Oak Park-based company that runs the facility, PharmaCannis, intended it to look like a pharmacy.

"It's definitely a change of perception of how we want it here," Francello told Schwartz. "It's all about medicine and care for the patient."

The dispensary is not yet open for business, said Teddy Scott, co-CEO of PharmaCannis, at the open house. He said the facility passed its final inspection on Nov. 7 but still has a few minor permit signoffs needed from the city.

Once the dispensary is open, access will be limited to those with state registration cards, "so this is the one opportunity for the pub-



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Co-CEO Teddy Scott talks with some of the people attending the "Pre-Opening Party" at the PharmaCannis Health & Wellness Center in Evanston, Nov. 9.

lic to see it," he said.

The facility is laid out so that patients have to progress through several checkpoints before they receive their product.

Patients progress from the front desk to a waiting room, to a special consultation area. Francello hands the product, contained in an

opaque package, from the dispensary room through a window to the patient.

The opaque bag is placed in another a zipped bag that the patient can keep and bring in the next time, she said. "It's very efficient," she added.

Some patients at the open house spoke of their jour-

neys to this long-awaited moment in a medical marijuana facility.

Jeffrey Allen, a 69-year-old Evanston resident, said he has been waiting for months for the dispensary to open after being diagnosed with prostate cancer in August of last year.

"I went through a stage just before I was diagnosed — I was taking a pound of aspirin a day and it didn't work," said Allen.

He said he's been keeping track of the program online and decided to come to the open house after receiving a notice in the mail.

"I can go to another (dispensary) that is on the list; there are five to seven," he said. "I don't drive. This is my place, this is where I'll be."

Schwartz told Francello she has been frustrated with the state program's signup process. She said she has had

to resubmit her photographs and fingerprints multiple times.

She also said she has received help from a small company in Chicago, Good Intentions Medical Marijuana Services, in filling out the papers and documentation needed for the program.

As of Nov. 7, she said, she is still waiting for the state to accept her registration.

As to whether medical marijuana will help in her case, "I have no clue," she responded.

"I have taken all kinds of medications prescribed for pain and the symptoms of lupus. However, I have extreme reactions to all the medications. Any contraindications on any medicine I get to the extreme."

"I don't want to get high," she stressed. "I just want some relief."

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## NEWS



JERRY DALIEGE/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Children chase their pumpkins down the sled hill during the annual Pumpkin Smash Nov. 7 at Centennial Park.

# Park Ridge pumpkin event a smash hit

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

With hammers, baseball bats and even a slingshot in hand, area children found a new use for their old Halloween pumpkins last weekend.

The Park Ridge Park District's Pumpkin Smash and Bash drew a crowd of families to Centennial Park Saturday for what has become a community tradition. The event, now in its fifth year, began with a contest to see whose pumpkin could make it to the bottom of the Centennial Sled Hill first, with ribbons awarded for first, second and third place, said Jenny Clausen, supervisor of the Park District's Wildwood Nature Center, which hosts the Pumpkin Smash.

Once the competition was done, the smashing began. Hammers, baseball bats, mallets and even some foot stomping reduced former jack-o-lanterns to pieces that will be turned into compost, Clausen said.

Some kids had a chance to fling pieces of their smashed pumpkins back



Connor Klehr prepares to roll his pumpkin down the sled hill.

up the sled hill using a sling shot held by staff.

"It's basically a fun way to recycle your pumpkin," Clausen said.

Each year, the compost formed by the smashed pumpkins is delivered to a local garden center, she added.

"It's just a fun family event and the parents have as much fun smashing the pumpkins as the kids do," Clausen said. "It's something they don't get to do all the time."

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## Donated painting captures Holocaust sculpture

Like many people, Skokie artist Michael Latala felt the power of the Holocaust monument that is seen every day in Village Green between Skokie Village Hall and the Skokie Public Library.

The monument, which captures a Jewish family during the 1943 Warsaw Ghetto uprising, was installed in 1987, a gift to the village by the Sheerit Hapleitah of Metropolitan Chicago on behalf of the local community of Holocaust survivors.

According to the village, Skokie has been home to 7,000 such survivors.

Latala said he wanted to donate his own gift, a painting of the sculpture that will hang in a prominent yet-to-be-determined place, Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen assured.

Latala, a member of the Skokie Art Guild along with

his wife, said he has always been taken with the monument.

"I always liked that structure being bronze and granite against the trees," he said. "From an artistic standpoint, I always wanted to do a painting of it."

This summer, Latala submitted his painting in a show at the Skokie Festival of Cultures and it won first place. "I just thought it was a beautiful piece of sculpture," he said about his reason for drawing it.

The Holocaust monument was designed by Bert J. Gast; sculpted by Edward Chesney, a Detroit-based artist, and the contractor was Fred Kornick of Kornick Monuments of Chicago.

Latala works in oils and pastel, including landscapes, figures and still life. According to his biography, he studied at the American



PIONEER PRESS

"Courage" by Michael Latala

Academy of Art in Chicago, the Palette and Chisel Academy.

In addition to the Skokie Art Guild, he is a member of the Chicago Pastel Painters and the Wilmette Arts Guild.

"I enjoy trying to capture the beauty of the world

around me as I see it, whether it be a landscape, figure or still life," he said in a statement on his website. "Painting my subject in oils or pastels from life has become my passion."

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## 3 Students get perfect score on ACT exam

BY BRIAN L. COX  
Pioneer Press

Niles North High School students Emi Kanda, Martin Wiviott and Meital Hoffman all scored a perfect score on their ACT.

The three students were each presented with a plaque during the Nov. 3 Niles Township High Schools District 219 board meeting. Niles North principal, Ryan McTague said that less than 0.1 percent of students who take the test nationally earn a perfect composite score of 36.

"What's truly remark-

able is that...we have three students in the same year do it at Niles North," McTague said. "This is an amazing individual accomplishment. All three students worked so hard academically in all of their classes."

He commended the students accomplishments as a service to the school and the community.

"They make our classes stronger. They lead by example. They're always there to help their teachers and fellow students," McTague said.

Brian L. Cox is a freelancer.

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# Possible e-cigarette tax worries vape businesses

BY LEE V. GAINES  
Pioneer Press

Ben Ventura is worried about his business.

Ventura owns VapeCity Chicago, a small chain of stores specializing in e-cigarettes and the liquids that fuel them, with locations in Skokie, Mount Prospect and Lincoln Park in Chicago. He said he's concerned about the impact a possible 20-cent per milliliter tax on e-cigarette liquid included as part of Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle's proposed 2016 budget may have on the health of his business. The tax, if approved, is estimated to generate about \$1.5 million in revenue for the county.

"We're all pretty upset about it," Ventura said, referencing other vape shop owners he's spoken to about the proposed tax.

He said his business in Lincoln Park may be hardest hit by the tax. Chicago aldermen recently passed a budget that included an e-cigarette tax estimated to generate \$1 million in revenue for the city, and Ventura said a Cook County tax on top of that would increase the cost of e-cigarette liquid so much that it would be in line with what customers could expect to pay for traditional cigarettes in the city.

Vape shop owners and users alike have criticized the proposed tax during a series of public hearings on the budget.

Opponents to the tax claim e-cigarettes, which contain a battery, a heating element, and a cartridge holding nicotine, other liquids and flavorings, are a healthy alternative to traditional cigarettes.

But experts say the long-term health effects of e-cigarettes are still unknown and data indicate adolescents using the devices are more likely to eventually smoke traditional cigarettes than those who don't.

Ben Reyes, owner of Colossal Vape in Des Plaines, told Cook County commissioners at a hearing in Skokie late last month that he'd move his business out of the county if the tax was approved as part of next year's budget. Reyes told commissioners he was "a sick, degenerate smoker" before he opened his business and switched entirely to inhaling only the nico-



LEE V. GAINES/PIONEER PRESS

"We're all pretty upset about it," Ben Ventura, owner of VapeCity Chicago, a small chain of stores specializing in e-cigarettes and the liquids that fuel them, said of a possible 20-cent per milliliter tax on e-cigarette liquid included as part of Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle's proposed 2016 budget. Vape shop owners and users alike have criticized the proposed tax during a series of public hearings on the budget.

***"There's really not much we can do at this point except to see ... how it's going to affect our customers. ... It's our customers who keep us alive."***

— Ben Ventura, VapeCity Chicago owner

tine vapor produced by e-cigarettes, and his physical health has improved as a result.

"I think your argument about people moving to vaping and moving away from cigarettes; we haven't heard enough about that," said Cook County Commissioner Timothy Schneider, 15th.

Ventura said e-cigarettes have also helped him avoid using traditional cigarettes for the past three years, and he said the majority of his customers have similarly made the switch.

But Andrea King, a professor of psychiatry and director of the Clinical Addictions Research Laboratory at the University of Chicago, said only about 5 or 6

percent of e-cigarette users avoid smoking traditional cigarettes altogether.

"Most people who use e-cigarettes are dual users," said King. "They'll go back and forth between e-cigarettes and combustible cigarettes."

She said an experienced e-cigarette user's exposure to nicotine "can be two to five times higher than with a regular cigarette."

The higher nicotine consumption, she said, continues the addiction rather than curbs it and increases the risk for liquid nicotine poisoning.

"We can say e-cigarettes are almost certainly lower risk than

traditional cigarettes, but you can say that about just about anything because combustible cigarettes are the leading cause of preventable death worldwide," said Amanda Mathew, a postdoctoral research fellow at Northwestern University's Department of Preventive Medicine.

Both King and Mathew said one of the biggest concerns is the devices' appeal to adolescents, especially given the variety of fruity and sweet e-cigarette liquid flavors available for purchase.

A study funded by the National Institutes of Health recently concluded that adolescents who have used e-cigarettes before ninth grade are more likely than those who haven't to start smoking traditional cigarettes within a year.

"The concern is, it is hooking people who otherwise would not be e-cigarette or tobacco users," Mathew said.

Another worry stems from a current lack of regulation of e-cigarette products by the U.S. Food

and Drug Administration.

Without regulation, consumers have "no way of knowing for sure what (they're) going to get — the products are highly variable," Mathew said.

Ventura said he welcomes regulation by the FDA, but he says adolescent use of e-cigarettes as a justification for taxing the products "is a lame excuse." He said local laws prevent sales of the product to anyone under the age of 18.

If county commissioners ultimately vote to tax e-cigarette liquid, Ventura said moving his business out of the county and Chicago is "the last thing we'd want to see happen."

"There's really not much we can do at this point except to see what happens and how it's going to affect our customers," he said. "At the end of the day it's our customers who keep us alive."

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



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# Tough to tell good guys from bad guys anymore



**RANDY BLASER**

Last week, I saw the excellent new movie "Bridge of Spies," which tells the story of the lawyer who brokered a deal in the early 1960s with the Soviet Union trading a Russian spy for captured U2 pilot Francis Gary Powers.

One scene in the film was a scene very recognizable to me: Young school kids were watching a movie about how to survive an atomic blast and were told to "duck and cover."

It was a maneuver I had learned back in those crazy Cold War days. We practiced ducking under our desks and covering up. We practiced going into the hallway and sitting cross-legged against the wall with our hands behind our heads. We were told not to look up because the brightness of the blast would

blind us.

All that remembering made me think: That's a crazy way for a kid to grow up, thinking that you could be vaporized in an instant at any moment.

In a way, it explains a lot about the Baby Boomer generation and why we seem so hedonistic, so "anything goes," so "going for the gusto."

Carpe diem isn't just a slogan; it's a way of life.

What other way is there to behave when you could be blown away with little or no warning and there was nothing you could do about it?

It made me miss those good-old days of the early 1960s, when the battle lines were so clearly drawn and it was so easy to distinguish the good guys from the bad guys.

Americans were the good guys. The godless commies were the bad guys.

Life was never that simple. But it is lovely to think so.

After all, today you just



DREAMWORKS-20TH CENTURY FOX

Brooklyn lawyer James Donovan (Tom Hanks) is an ordinary man placed in extraordinary circumstances in DreamWorks Pictures/Fox 2000 Pictures' dramatic thriller "Bridge of Spies," directed by Steven Spielberg.

can't tell the good guys from the bad guys.

The shifting sands of today's politics often paints America as the land of the bad guys and everyone else a potential good guy, no matter how bad their be-

havior.

The Middle East is awash in violence and injustice, but who are the good guys and who are the bad guys? Israel? The Syrians? The Syrian refugees pouring into Europe? The

Muslim Brotherhood? The Palestine Liberation Organization? Hezbollah, or Iran?

What about our old nemesis, the Russians? In the film, the character played by Tom Hanks asks

that, in order to save time, they just be called the Russians rather than the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Are today's Russians, quickly displacing the United States on the world stage, our friends or our enemies?

Does it make any difference whether they're godless commies, or just our adversaries?

These questions seemed so simple during the Cold War.

Our engagement in the world back then was difficult and full of danger. But today, Berliners are not shot trying to get over a wall.

The question today, as we examine the lessons of history, is this: In a more complex and dangerous world, does our engagement or withdrawal make it less so?

Perhaps that is the complexity that drives our Cold War nostalgia.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

## Should Oak Park get noise walls along I-290?



**PAUL SASSONE**

In his poem, "Mending Wall," Robert Frost wrote: "Good fences make good neighbors."

Some Oak Parkers are being asked to vote on erecting a fence along portions of the Eisenhower Expressway that would reduce traffic noise.

The Oak Leaves reports that the Illinois Depart-

ment of Transportation will send ballots to certain residents who live near the expressway, asking them to vote on whether they think these noise-muffling walls should be built.

Bill McKenna, Oak Park village engineer, told the village board recently that Oak Park could receive up to 12 sections of noise walls along the Ike. The walls could be between 11 and 17 feet high, and could reduce noise by up to eight decibels.

The noise wall proposal is part of IDOT's project to widen the expressway and

move Oak Park exit and entrance ramps to the highway's right side.

Only those homes and businesses along the Ike that IDOT believes could benefit from noise walls will be able to vote when ballots are mailed, which should be soon.

At its Oct. 26, meeting members of the village board said the walls looked too bland, going by the drawings IDOT submitted.

Aesthetics are nice. But that wouldn't be my first concern. Physics would.

I suppose IDOT could paint a facsimile of the



IDOT

A rendering shows what Eisenhower Expressway noise walls could look like if Oak Park voters approve their installation during a November vote.

Sistine Chapel on the proposed walls. But what I would want to know is whether noise-reducing walls reduce noise.

I know the village engineer was quoted in the Oak

Leaves as saying the walls could reduce highway noise by eight decibels.

How significant a reduction is that? To the common ear, will the walls reduce noise by a lot or a

little?

It's the aural aesthetics I would worry about. The level of noise a person must live with is an important quality-of-life issue.

Will the installation of noise-muffling walls improve the quality of life for those Oak Parkers who live along the Eisenhower Expressway?

That is the question.

I don't think I live close enough to the Ike to have a vote.

But, the village board should have an answer to the quality-of-life question and communicate it to Oak Parkers before those who can vote do vote.

Good fences make good neighborhoods.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

## UPGRADE BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS



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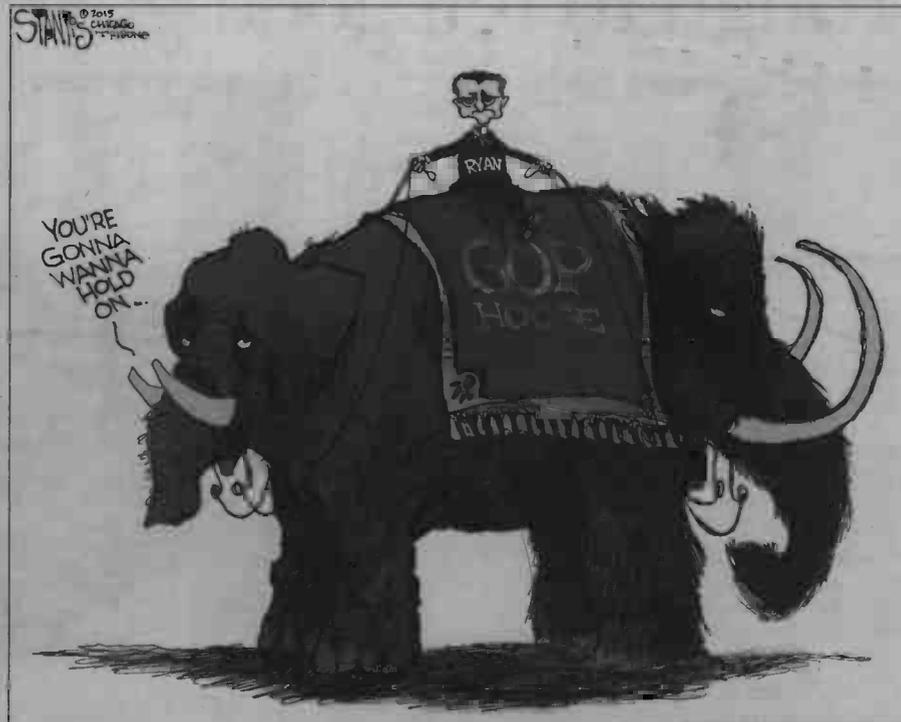
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ADDITIONS

BATHROOMS

## OPINION

SCOTT STANTIS



SCOTT STANTIS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

## No touch screen? No problem



**LYNN PETRAK**  
*Home on LaGrange*

I saw someone doing a newspaper crossword puzzle the other day and I thought, "Isn't that cool?"

I say "cool" and not "quaint" because in this age of mobile devices, I think it's pretty awesome that a printed copy of the newspaper still plays a role in both information and entertainment in daily life.

You may well be reading this column online. Many articles are posted on newspaper websites and on associated social media feeds, after all. I get a lot of my own news this way.

If you're reading a printed page right now, though, think about how a newspaper is really a microcosm of society.

Up front, you keep up-to-date with national, interna-

tional and/or local news. In addition to a factual recounting of events and happenings, newspapers play a pivotal role in uncovering and investigating a host of truths and trends. From Watergate to local water quality, reporters find out and share things people want and need to know.

Beyond the big-print headlines, newspapers provide other crucial information. Should you take an umbrella today? What's it looking like for your vacation next week? The weather page lays it all out, and it won't freeze up on your device's screen.

Editorial pages are another bonus of newspapers, because even if it's the writer's opinion, it's an analysis worth reading for a point of view.

Those of us who follow sports also appreciate a newspaper's sports pages, not just for a reporting on the game or match, but for an analysis of strengths, weaknesses and potential.

For entertainment, a

newspaper is another treasure trove of information. I read the calendar section of this newspaper all the time to help find fun things to do on the weekend or in the month ahead, and I appreciate movie and theater reviews and roundups.

A local newspaper, to me, is particularly special. There is a genuine sense of excitement when you read about your friend's son or daughter in the sports pages after a good game or see a photo of your own child at a special event in town.

Newspapers are a rite of passage right up until the end. As with birth notices, death notices in a newspaper are a way to celebrate those who come into our lives and make an impact and show that in a community, we all matter.

A few pages of paper, printed with letters, photos and illustrations folded together into a neat rectangle.

A newspaper may not have a touch screen, but it sure as heck is a touchstone.

# The kids in the class of 1985 are all right



ERIC SCOTT

Dear Mr. Vernon,  
We accept the fact that we had to sacrifice a whole Saturday in detention for whatever it was we did wrong. But we think you're crazy to make us write an essay telling you who we think we are. You see us as you want to see us... in the simplest terms, in the most convenient definitions. But what we found out is that each one of us is a brain ... and an athlete ... and a basket case ... a princess ... and a criminal. Does that answer your question?

Sincerely yours,  
The Breakfast Club

Savvy teen defiance immersed in self-discovery wrapped a colorful bow around writer-director John Hughes' iconic film "The Breakfast Club." The movie debuted in February 1985, about three months before my Maine East High School classmates and I walked onto our football field stage and received our diplomas — not far from the former Maine North High School where John Bender (Judd Nelson) pumped his fist in a lonely walk across its empty football stadium to shoot the movie's final scene.

Fast forward to late last month when the Maine East Class of 1985 celebrated our 30-year reunion. Not a bad turnout, considering many of us hadn't seen each other since the Reagan administration. I knew that some familiar friends I've been fortunate to keep in touch with would be in the house, but it was the overall "inclusiveness vibe" that really made this Saturday night



JAMES CARRERA

The Maine East High School Class of 1985 poses for a photo at its 30th reunion celebration.

special.

This wasn't like those school reunions you see in the movies. Lisa Kudrow and Mira Sorvino didn't pop out of "Romy and Michele's High School Reunion" and try to convince everyone that they invented Post-its. No one-opping, no "I'm such a rock star" pronouncements and I didn't come across any group chatter that came anything close to accomplishment comparisons.

The party atmosphere was more like, "Hey you made it here to 'Check-point 30!' Great to see you and what's been going on?"

We've all followed separate paths after leaving our daily gathering point in Park Ridge, and every so often we find our way back through the maze we all keep building to reconnect at our planned pit stop for updates and feedback. It's more about comparing notes on the amazing journey — not so much seeing if you caught an earlier career flight than someone else on "The Amazing Race."

We '85ers are also part of a shrinking pool of high school classes that graduated before the Internet became a thing — Nintendo and the Sony Discman were about as high-tech as it got back in the day. Three decades later, this class reunion would pretty

much come together through its own Facebook page and become a critical bond for tying us together. In fact, the post-reunion cyber traffic among the 260-plus members of Maine East Class of 1985's Facebook page has been nothing short of explosive.

If Mark Zuckerberg only knew how many high school friendships he's played a part in strengthening and re-connecting — maybe he tracks "Likes" for those too?

So what would our reply to Mr. Vernon's Saturday detention essay be if it was due on reunion night? Sure, each one of us is also a brain, an athlete, and so on, in our own way. We also found out that many of us are fathers or mothers and even grandparents — I'm still trying to comprehend that one.

We've become professionals in dozens of different fields covering all corners of the world, and each of us is carving our own niche while riding this post-graduation bus together. And the best part? Everyone in the group respects how we're all making the most of our opportunities.

Does that answer your question?

Eric Scott is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @viberider18

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# A MESSAGE FROM MIKE DITKA AND THE SALVATION ARMY.

Dear Friends,

*This winter, all across our wonderful city, there is great need—22 percent of Chicagoans live in poverty. Nearly 14.2 percent aren't sure where their next meal will come from. As temperatures drop, the streets become an even colder reality for thousands of homeless. And sadly, Chicago is a major hub for human trafficking.*

*That's the bad news. But thanks to you, there is plenty of good news too.*

*The Salvation Army red kettles are set to hit the sidewalks tomorrow, which means your generous donations, as they do every Christmas, are about to make a major impact in the lives of those in desperate need.*

*We're pleased to inform you that the iconic kettles and bell ringers won't be the only place you'll see The Salvation Army's presence this year. All throughout the city, you will see fliers, posters, and other messages— not asking for donations, but reaching out directly to the most vulnerable people in Chicago, offering them help and hope.*

*These messages will invite the hungry to our feeding programs, the addicted to our alcohol and drug rehabilitation centers, the cold to our warming centers, and those enslaved by human trafficking to a safe place to get help. We are reaching out to them, directly, so they will know where to turn.*

*So as you give—this Christmas and throughout the year—be assured that The Salvation Army is here to serve. For good.*

*Thank you for helping us as we continue Doing the Most Good.*

God bless you,



Lt. Colonel Charles H. Smith  
Divisional Commander



Mike Ditka  
2016 Christmas Campaign Chair

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DOING THE MOST GOOD

# Tips to writing a novel from local pros

BY PIONEER PRESS  
Staff Report

November is National Novel Writing Month, a campaign that challenges would-be authors to write at least 50,000 words by Nov. 30. We asked local authors to share their No. 1 tip on writing a novel. For more information on NaNoWriMo, visit [www.nanowrimo.org](http://www.nanowrimo.org).

## Raymond Benson

"Read a lot of other novels, especially the kind you want to write. Reading other works teaches you, almost subliminally, how to structure a plot, build suspense and tell a story. Sometimes it teaches you what not to do as well."



Benson

Raymond Benson of Buffalo Grove is the author of more than 30 books, including the "Black Stiletto" saga.

## Jay Bonansinga

"I always tell fledgling writers to write for yourself, and I know it sounds like a cliché but it's the numero uno most important tip you can give, because if you don't please yourself you will please no one. If you chase a market or write like somebody else because you think it's cool... you're doomed. Tell yourself the story you've always wanted to hear. Write the book you would buy for yourself but can't find on the shelf. In fact, always ask yourself before you start, 'Would I buy this?' If the answer's a resounding yes... rock on!"

Jay Bonansinga of Evanston is the New York Times bestselling author of "Lucid," "The Walking Dead: Invasion" and "Self Storage."



Bonansinga

## Meg Waite Clayton

"Continue to believe in yourself long beyond the point when any normal person would feel ridiculous, after even your own mother has given up on you. Most writers arrive at the publication of their first novel with thick, and often decades-old, writing scars, but we share in common that we keep writing. My No. 1 tip for the craft of novel-writing



Waite Clayton



POPIO STUMPF PHOTOGRAPHY

Best-selling author Elizabeth Berg of Oak Park has written more than 20 books, including "Durable Goods," "Open House" and "The Last Time I Saw You."

comes from Tim O'Brien (who is from Minnesota, but don't hold that against him) — your characters should take extraordinary, unexpected, and even startling actions to illuminate ordinary, universal emotions."

Northbrook native Meg Waite Clayton is the author of five novels, including "The Race for Paris" and "The Wednesday Sisters."

## Peter Ferry

"Don't sit down. I don't have a single place I work. In fact, I don't want a single place to work. I would rather write at the kitchen table or on a park bench or a picnic table or a bar top or the arm of an easy chair in someone else's house. This is because what I need to write is movement. I walk, I jog, I ride my bike, I drive my car. I compose in my head and then find a place to sit down or pull over and write it all down. Not great volumes. Sentences or a paragraph. Sometimes I sit down or pull over often. But I need movement to make my juices flow."

Peter Ferry of Evanston is the author of the novels "Travel Writing" and "Old Heart."



Ferry

## Libby Fischer Hellmann

"Join a writers group. You have to be careful to join the right one...where the

members don't have an ax to grind, but if you can find the right group, it will raise your craft enormously. It did for me. I've been in the same group for 16 years. And they'll take me out of it feet first. In fact, we now meet at my house, every week."

Northbrook resident Libby Fischer Hellmann is the author of 11 novels. "Jump Cut," her latest Ellie Foreman Mystery, will be out in the spring.

## Jennifer E. Smith

"Don't be afraid to fail, because even failure can be useful when it comes to writing. Every word, every sentence, every chapter — it's all getting you to the next word or sentence or chapter, which might be the one that ends up working. Everything you write is a stepping stone. So for now, just focus on getting the words down on the page, and you'll find your way to the right ones eventually."

Lake Forest native Jennifer E. Smith is the author of "Hello, Goodbye, and Everything In Between," "The Geography of You and Me" and "This Is What Happy Looks Like."



Hellmann



Smith

*"This may sound glib, but I'm utterly sincere in saying that I think you should let the book tell you, not vice versa. If I try to force something on what is a fragile, dreamy thing, it doesn't work. I work best when I get out of my own way, when I relax, when I feel like I'm just the typist, and the words are coming from elsewhere."*

— Elizabeth Berg, Oak Park

## Christine Sneed

"When writing a novel, don't give up if the story seems to be going somewhere you don't expect after the first chapter or two. If this happens, remind yourself that you can revise (and should). Often, the most interesting work occurs during the revision process."

Evanston resident Christine Sneed is the author of "Portraits of a Few of the People I've Made Cry," "Little Known Facts" and "Paris, He Said."



Sneed

## Scott Turow

"The No. 1 tip which I learned more than 40 years ago was from my teacher at Stanford, Wallace Stegner — you need to put your butt in the chair and try to write every day. It's true that there will be good days and bad days, but you can't wait for the muse. Instead you need to give her a chance to find you, planted in your writing space. Stegner used to make himself write two pages every day. At the end of a year, he said, you'd have 730 pages and there'd have to be something worth saving in there."

Evanston resident Scott Turow is the author of 10 bestselling works of fiction including "Innocent," "Presumed Innocent" and "The Burden of Proof."



Turow

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SHOW

Playwright enters the mind of  
German psychic in 1930s BerlinBY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

Who was psychic Erik Jan Hanussen? Playwright Neil Tobin takes audiences back to 1933 Berlin in an attempt to answer that question in his one-person show, "Palace of the Occult." The Eclectic Full Contact Theatre production opens Nov. 20 at Prop Thtr.

Hanussen's feats were astonishing but some questioned whether his skills were genuine or if he was a charlatan. Other mysteries surrounding the man are whether he was a Nazi or a Jew, and whether he was a traitor or a martyr.

The play offers a unique interactive experience because Tobin, who grew up in Morton Grove and Skokie, is an award-winning member of the Society of American Magicians and the Psychic Entertainers Association.

Tobin said he created this piece to introduce audiences to "this incredible, larger-than-life, almost Barnum-like personality who has been inexplicably forgotten by popular history, and give them the opportunity to hear his stories, participate in examples of his psychic performance repertoire and decide for themselves how they feel about him."

"It's such a different and unique theatrical experience I couldn't pass up the opportunity to produce it," said David Belew, artistic director of Eclectic Full Contact Theatre, who is directing the show. "From reading about this guy, he was incredibly famous in Europe through the '20s and early '30s. The combination of his life story and the illusions that Neil is planning for this show makes a really exciting evening of theater."

The audience will be a part of the show, Belew stressed. "The entire audi-



NEIL TOBIN PHOTO

Performer Neil Tobin presents a show on psychic Erik Jan Hanussen.

Eclectic Full Contact Theatre  
presents 'Palace of the Occult'

**When:** 8 p.m. Fridays, 4 and 8 p.m. Saturdays,  
7 p.m. Sundays, Nov. 20-Dec. 20; previews begin Nov. 13

**Where:** Prop Thtr, 3502 N. Elston, Chicago

**Cost:** \$25-\$35. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center.

**Info:** 800-838-3006; www.palaceoftheoccult.com

ence are guests at the grand opening at the Palace of the Occult," he said. "(Tobin) will be using audience volunteers through the evening for several of the illusions."

In preparation for writing this play, Tobin read the two English language books that were written about Hanussen. "Both passed pretty harsh judgment on him," Tobin noted. He contacted each author "and found out information that didn't make it into publication," Tobin said.

He noted that, "Both of those books were written by people who were not psy-

chic performers, so when they made presumptions about him and his method, their perspective might have been a little bit off base."

In addition, Tobin read material that Hanussen wrote, which had been translated into English.

Tobin worked on the piece for five years and finally had time to finish it when he ended his 10-year engagement of the show "Supernatural Chicago" at Excalibur in 2014.

"This is a part I've been in training to play my whole life," he said.

# Living

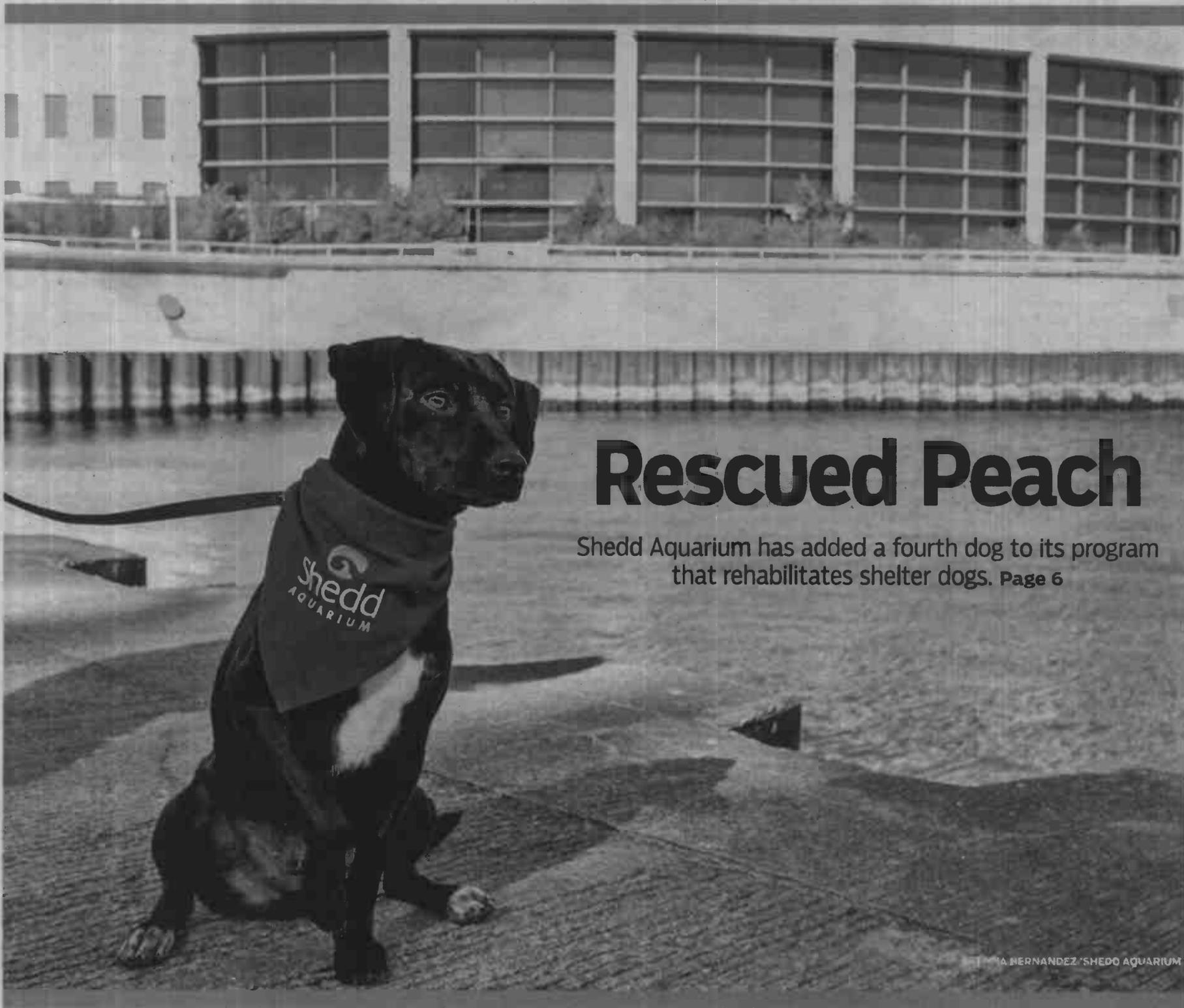
Thursday, November 12, 2015



**Mel's Kitchen:  
Chicken apple  
sausage, the  
perfect break  
from bacon**

◀ Page 3

2



## Rescued Peach

Shedd Aquarium has added a fourth dog to its program that rehabilitates shelter dogs. Page 6

PHOTO BY ANA HERNANDEZ / SHEDD AQUARIUM

# Scout leader talks turkey

By Judy Buchenot  
The Beacon-News

Imagine cooking a turkey without your huge enamel roasting pan with nesting rack or your well-regulated oven or your tidy countertops.

It might sound impossible unless you are part of Boy Scout Troop 63 in Oswego. About 19 years ago, the leaders of the troop decided to get together for a campout featuring a Thanksgiving dinner.

"Some of the leaders in the troop are sportsmen, and some are fishermen, and we were deep into living with the bare necessities while eating like kings," explained Ed Haagenson, an Oswego resident who has been a Boy Scout leader for 24 years.

That first camp out was at Waa Kee Sha Park in Oswego. Seven families participated for a total of around 25 people. "We had moose, elk, venison, turkey, pickled fish. We had so much fun that year that we decided we should do it every year."

The turkey camp out became an annual event. After a few years, Troop 31 joined in the event and a friendly cooking competition between troops began. Over the years, other leaders and Webelos looking for a troop to join were invited to participate.

"We average between 80 and 100 people for dinner," said Haagenson. For the past several years including this year, the event was at Maple Lane Farm in Yorkville.

Creativity is the king when cooking turkeys outdoors. The scouts have cooked turkeys eight different ways over the years. Perhaps the most offbeat method is what Haagenson called "the garbage can turkey."



JUDY BUCHENOT/BEACON-NEWS

Ed Haagenson and fellow leader Shane Hornbeck get ready to lower the garbage can over a turkey to bake it.

Haagenson first fashioned a turkey stand that could be driven into the ground and hold a turkey vertically. The ground is covered with aluminum foil and the stand goes in the middle. The turkey is lowered onto the stand, wrapped in foil and a clean garbage can is then lowered over the turkey. Hot coals are then placed on top of and around the garbage can. "It becomes a large reflector oven," said Haagenson.

"After about four hours, we put on welding gloves to take the garbage can off. We have to keep the foil on the turkey until we get it to a platter because the turkey just falls off the bone."

Another unusual method used by the Scouts is the cardboard box turkey.

"We line a box with aluminum foil and then put the turkey in a roasting pan on a rack over charcoal. The box then goes over it. As long as the temperature doesn't go above 451 degrees, the box doesn't start on fire," said Haagenson.

The Scouts have also buried a turkey to cook it.

"We dig a pit, line it with corn husks that have been soaked in water. Then we put in hot coals, more corn husks, a foil wrapped

bird, more corn husks, coals and then bury the whole thing — sort of like a luau," said Haagenson.

"We also bubble a turkey," he said, referring to the use of a deep fryer. "I inject the bubble birds with garlic butter and sew them up. My wife is a surgical tech and she gets me real sutures," said Haagenson.

Deep fryers are very popular with the Scouts.

"If you can dip it in pancake batter, we will bubble it," Haagenson said, recalling bubbled candy bars, potatoes and vegetables.

Some leaders bring out smokers to make smoked turkeys while others set up rotisseries to slowly cook the birds over hot pits of coal. The group also has placed turkeys in Dutch ovens fitted with extensions. And finally, there are the emergency turkeys.

"We sometimes put a turkey in the oven at home just in case more people show up than we expected," said Haagenson. "If there is a big crowd, we bring in the emergency turkey."

The supporting cast for the turkey includes pumpkin pie, green bean casserole, corn bread, candied yams, mashed potatoes and desserts baked in Dutch ovens as well as various specialty

## Ed's Culinary Cue

When cooking outdoors with a Dutch oven in mild weather, estimate that each hot coal equals 25 degrees. Therefore, heating a Dutch oven to 350 degrees requires about 14 hot coals.

items, including a bacon explosion.

"This is a side dish," Haagenson said. "We wrap chorizo or Italian sausage in bacon and cheese and bake it. One time we also did a bacon turkey where we wove a blanket of bacon to go on top of the turkey. The four pounds of bacon cost more than the turkey."

In addition to being cooked in creative ways, the turkeys are often stuffed with other meats. At the most recent turkey camp out Oct. 24, Haagenson stuffed a turkey with a duck.

"I guess it makes it a turkuck or maybe a duckey," he said. After stuffing the entire duck into the turkey, there was still some room.

"Get me some of that ham," he called to a fellow leader. The chunk of ham filled up the cavity completely to create a sort of turkuckam.

## Frisco Sauce Chops

- 4 pork chops 1/2 to 3/4 -inch thick
- vegetable oil
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 4 tablespoons chicken or beef broth
- 4 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- 2 tablespoons water

1. Heat thin layer of oil in a skillet. Add chops and brown on both sides.

2. Remove and add a little more oil to cook garlic for one minute.

3. In a bowl, combine 2 teaspoons oil, broth, Worcestershire sauce, brown sugar and red pepper flakes. Return chops to skillet. Pour sauce over chops.

4. Cover skillet tightly and simmer over low heat for about 35 minutes, turning once. If sauce is too thick while cooking, add one to two tablespoons water.

5. When chops are tender, remove from skillet. In a small bowl, dissolve cornstarch in water. Add to skillet and cook until thickened. Pour thickened sauce over chops and serve.

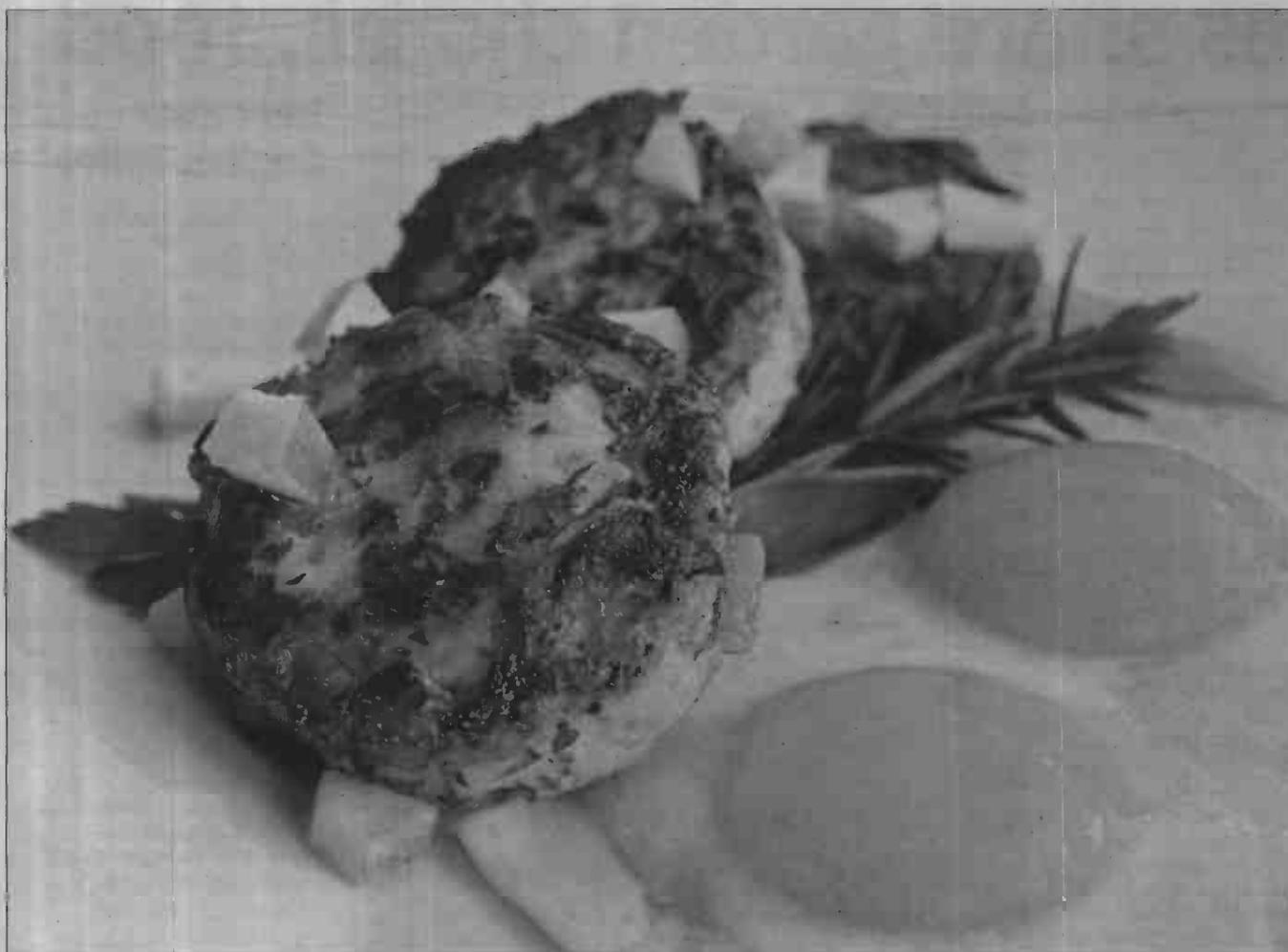
The turkeys started coming off grills in the early afternoon, and everyone scrambled to taste the different varieties along with the many side dishes. Haagenson, 47, is still involved in Scouting although his sons are adults.

"A lot of scouting is passed down from generation to generation," he said. "The Scout masters from the '60s started using Dutch ovens, and we have just continued. It is a heritage that is passed down."

Haagenson has many recipes from past campouts. One of his favorites is his Frisco sauce which is great to serve with pork chops, venison or elk. He shares this recipe for others to try.

Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer.

Find more suburban cooks on Page 4.



MELISSA ELSMO/PIONEER PRESS

Chicken apple sausage patties are garnished with rosemary, sage and diced apple, and they are a perfect pair for a side of eggs.

# Chicken apple sausage, the perfect break from bacon



MELISSA ELSMO  
Out of Mel's Kitchen

The World Health Organization dealt a mighty blow to bacon and sausage lovers all over the world last week. Their report detailing a possible link between the regular consumption of processed meats and a future cancer diagnosis, in particular colorectal cancer, might make even the most die-hard breakfast meat lovers rethink what's on their plate.

Sure, when you're blinded by the beauty of bacon — the supermodel of meats — it's easy to dismiss such unsavory news in favor of culinary bliss. Ignoring such a warning, however, seems silly when we all know anything that tastes as good as a greasy sausage link is bound to have ill effects on your long term health. So why not explain away eating a smattering of cured pork now and then by indulging in a little moderation?

As a passionate pork lover, I have been known to snub my nose at flimsy turkey bacon and so called "healthy" sausage alternatives, but I've always had a soft spot for chicken apple sausage.

Bursting with fruit, herbs and sweet spices, they may be lower in fat, but they never seem to be trying to be something

they're not. And that makes me love them.

My simple version of chicken apple sausage comes together with ease and shaping them into uniform patties ensures they will be piping hot and on a plate in no time.

Freshly ground chicken breast is enhanced with gala apples, cinnamon and brown sugar for a touch of sweetness while the addition of rosemary, sage and fennel offer a savory balance in this breakfast side.

Serve these chicken patties with a drizzling of maple syrup, a sprinkling of raw fresh apple and a smile. After all, they are a delightful partner for eggs and serving them up on a regular basis will make room to savor a little bacon in your diet every so often.

## Cinnamon Sugar Chicken Apple Sausage Patties

This recipe can be cut in half for a lower yield or half of the chicken mixture can be frozen and thawed for cooking at a later date. Makes about 16-18 patties.

- 2 tablespoons canola oil, plus additional for cooking sausage patties
  - 1 cup minced yellow onion
  - Pinch of salt
  - 1 Gala apple, peeled, cored and finely chopped
  - 1 teaspoon fennel seeds
  - 1 tablespoon chopped fresh rosemary
  - 2 teaspoons chopped fresh sage
  - 2 pounds raw chicken breast, diced into 1-inch cubes
  - 1 teaspoon salt
  - 1/2 teaspoon pepper
  - 1/4 cup brown sugar
  - 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
  - 1/2 cup chopped Italian parsley
- Garnishes: Maple syrup, rosemary, sage and diced fresh apple

1. Heat the canola oil over medium heat until hot. Add the minced onion and a generous pinch of salt to the pan and allow the onion to cook until it begins to soften, but does not brown (about 5 minutes). Add the diced apple and fennel; cook stirring occasionally until onions and apple are soft (about 5 more minutes). Add the rosemary and sage to the pan and allow to cook until herbs are fragrant (about 1 minute). Remove the pan from the heat and allow the apple mixture to rest while you prep the chicken.

2. Place the diced chicken into the bowl of a food processor fitted with a metal blade. Process the chicken until just finely ground. Transfer the ground chicken to a large mixing bowl. Add the salt, pepper, brown sugar, cinnamon and parsley and mix thoroughly.

3. Fold the cooled apple mixture into the chicken mixture and make sure the onions and apples are evenly distributed throughout the chicken. Shape 2 ounces (a scant 1/4 cup) of the chicken mixture into 3/4-inch thick rounds until all the chicken mixture is used up.

4. Heat about 2 tablespoons canola oil in a well-seasoned skillet over medium-high heat. Cook the sausage patties in batches for 4-5 minutes per side until well browned and cooked through. Serve as part of a full breakfast drizzled with maple syrup and diced fresh apple.

## SUBURBAN COOKS

## Weed Ladies share garden chores, food

By Judy Buchenot  
Naperville Sun

Since 1967, there has been a group of women who manage to see beauty in all of nature's creation, including weeds. Dubbed the "Weed Ladies" by an anonymous husband, this creative group puts together floral arrangements using dried flowers, grasses, silk flowers and roadside beauties like cattails and milk weed pods to raise funds for educational and preservation programs at Naper Settlement.

"Originally the arrangements were sold at the annual antique show in Merner Field House in Naperville," said Naperville resident Nancy King, who said she is in charge of the garden and serves as the official mouse catcher for the group.

The group meets in the Daniels House on the grounds of Naper Settlement. The garden is near the house and is the source for nearly half of their dried flowers used in arrangements. The flowers are hung to dry in the basement of the Daniels House.

As one might expect, a group of women who have the vision to see a milk weed pod as part of a stunning floral arrangement have an abundance of creativity that spills over into the kitchen. The group meets at the Daniels House every Monday and Wednesday to work on flower arrangements and enjoy a potluck lunch together.

Barb Smart, who has been part of the Weed Ladies since 1992, takes care of setting out a wonderful spread of food from the dishes that show up each meeting. "We have baked beans, soups, salads, crackers, hummus, fruit and desserts," she says. There is a sideboard on one wall of the tiny kitchen in the Daniels house that is used to set out the potluck lunch.

The group works for a few hours and enjoys the fellowship and food during lunch. They enjoy trying each other's dishes. "But everyone just wants a taste," said King. "If there is a doughnut, we cut it in eight pieces because everyone just wants a little bit."

One dish that is a favorite for all of the Weed Ladies is Smart's English Toffee. "It isn't my recipe," Smart said. "I got the recipe from Vera Boyer who used to live

on the corner of Eagle and Jefferson in that stone house. We always had a church bazaar at our church — Naperville Congregational Church — and Vera made this toffee that was so good.

"I asked her for the recipe and she gave it to me. I made it but sometimes it turned out and sometimes it didn't. So I finally figured out that the key was to make sure that the sugar was fully incorporated into the melted butter. So what I started to do was to mix it together with the electric mixer until it looked like yellow cake batter. Then it turned out every time."

Smart used to make several batches of toffee, popcorn balls and apple leather to send to her relatives for Christmas. "To make the apple leather, I made apple sauce and dehydrated it until it was dry but soft," she notes. "I made it all and sent it out for 46 years. But in 2004, I took everything to the post office and it cost almost \$300 to mail the packages. I decided that was enough and I just sent everyone the recipes and told them to make their own."

Smart makes the toffee for her fellow Weed Ladies to snack on during busy sale days. "It helps the gals keep a good attitude during the sale," she said. "Sort of like an English Toffee Energy Bar."

A newcomer to the Weed Ladies potluck lunch table is King's miniature pumpkin cheesecakes. "I make these starting on Halloween and through the holidays. They are perfect little one-bite desserts," said King. Instead of having to make a crumb crust, these mini-cheesecakes simply use a small ginger snap cookie on the bottom of a cupcake liner.

"I found ginger snaps at Trader Joe's that fit the bottom of a cupcake liner perfectly," said King. She noted that there are several variations of these bite-sized cheesecakes. "At Christmas, I make one that has a chocolate cookie on the bottom and a cappuccino filling." These mini-desserts transport easily and can be mixed with cookies to create a dessert tray.

King and Smart invite everyone to attend this year's Winter Floral Design Sale on Nov. 12-15. They share their recipes for sweet



JUDY BUCHENOT/NAPERVILLE SUN

Barb Smart, left, and Nancy King, two of the Weed Ladies, pop out a batch of mini-pumpkin cheesecakes to serve for a potluck lunch.

### Nancy's Culinary Cue

Although multilayer cakes and whipped cream pies look tempting, Nancy says that she has found that many guests prefer miniature tasty treats to a thick slab of pie or cake, especially following a large meal. Come up with ways to make your desserts bite-sized and your guests will appreciate the effort.

### Naperville Weed Ladies Winter Floral Sale

**Where:** Daniels House at Naper Settlement, 523 S. Webster Street, Naperville

**When:** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 1-4 p.m. Sunday

**Information:** [www.napersettlement.org/weedladies](http://www.napersettlement.org/weedladies)

treats for others to try during the coming holiday season.

Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer for the Naperville Sun.

### Best Ever English Toffee

- 1 pound butter
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 tablespoon vanilla
- 2-3 ounces slivered almonds
- 8 ounces milk chocolate
- 12 ounces semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 tablespoon liquid lecithin\* finely ground walnuts or pecans

**1.** Melt butter over medium heat in a heavy saucepan. When hot and bubbly, remove from heat and add sugar. Beat with an electric mixer until mixture turns a creamy yellow and no melted butter is seen. You cannot over beat so be sure the sugar is dissolved and mixed into the butter. Return pan to medium heat and cook, stirring constantly.

**2.** Place a candy thermometer into the mixture and continue to heat and stir until the temperature reaches 250 degrees. Add vanilla. Break almonds slightly and add.

**3.** Continue cooking and stirring until mixture reaches 300 degrees. This can take up to 30 minutes. Divide mixture into four 8-by-8-inch flexible aluminum pans and spread evenly in each pan. Allow mixture to harden.

**4.** When mixture is firm, melt milk chocolate and semi-sweet chocolate chips in a double boiler. When melted, stir in lecithin. Carefully removed hardened candy from pans. Sprinkle ground nuts in the bottom of the pans.

**5.** Frost one side of each candy slab with chocolate mixture and place back into pan on ground nuts, pressing lightly so nuts will adhere to chocolate. Frost top side and sprinkle with nuts. Allow chocolate to harden. Break into bite-sized pieces and enjoy.

\*Lecithin is available at health food stores. It helps the chocolate spread more easily.

Find more of Nancy's recipes at <http://trib.in/110xAWZ>.

# Direct Auto reluctant to pay following car accident

Dear Help Squad,  
I was involved in a car accident in February. A police officer came and completed an accident report where I was listed as "unit 2," deeming the woman who hit me "unit 1" and at fault. That same day (and for weeks after) I was in contact with the woman's insurance company, Direct Auto, to make a claim. They told me to fill out and return multiple sets of paperwork, which I did, along with the requested accident report and damage estimate. Months later, I received a letter stating Direct Auto was unable to settle my claim. I called Direct Auto for an explanation. During these calls I was ignored, talked down to and hung up on by the representative handling my claim. I then filed a claim with the Illinois Department of Insurance and was eventually told Direct Auto could deny my claim because their client never reported

the accident she caused. Through this frustrating process, I learned there is an Illinois law that states both parties involved in an accident must report it for the incident to be settled. My last resort was to file a civil lawsuit. I sent the woman two certified letters requesting she settle before I took her to court. Both were returned as undeliverable. At that point, I realized that without a valid address for a Cook County sheriff to serve court documentation to, I was unable to file suit.

I am asking for your help.  
*Nicole, Justice*

My first call was to the Illinois Department of Insurance, where I was put in touch with Jim Stephens, the department's chief deputy director. Stephens explained: "She's dealing with a company that falls into the category of nonstandard auto, which means they are usually more



CATHY CUNNINGHAM  
Help Squad

reluctant to pay claims. They will argue they don't put much weight in police reports." Stephens suggested that Nicole "go under her own coverage and pay a deductible, then her company will go after Direct Auto. If they get reimbursed, they'll pay her back her deductible." But unfortunately, Nicole carried just basic liability coverage, so her insurer — State Farm — would only subrogate on her behalf if she incurred bodily injury or carried collision insurance.

Stephens said he would review Nicole's Illinois Department of

Insurance complaint, then contact Direct Auto.

Next, I called Direct Auto and received a call back from claim manager Cary Loseau. His response when asked why Direct Auto was not paying Nicole's claim was: "According to the police report, this was a lane change; more of a finger-pointer. There is a fact pattern dispute and it is my understanding that no one received a ticket." However, he agreed to look over all the documentation Nicole had sent.

Loseau called to say he would assign a field appraiser to assess the car's damage. This is when I learned from Nicole that her car had been sold for parts two months prior (for \$200). Photos were sent to Loseau instead.

After the photos were reviewed, Loseau had this to say: "We never got any cooperation from our insured so we have just one version of how this loss oc-

curred, but we will go with that statement. We'll take a look at everything, evaluate it and try to reach an amicable conclusion, and get rid of this thing."

A few days later, I heard from Loseau again. He told me that Direct Auto had determined the actual cash value of Nicole's car to be \$1,550, and because she had already received \$200, they would offer her a net payment of \$1,350. "This was an effort to be of service to you, the Department of Insurance and Nicole," Loseau explained.

Nicole expressed her relief: "Thank you so much for your help! I appreciate it more than I can thank you."

*Send your questions, complaints, injustices and column ideas to HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com.*

*Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.*

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## COVER STORY



MANCHUL KIM/HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

One of the dogs gives the rescue team a wary look.

## Last dogs pulled from South Korean meat farm

By William Hageman  
Chicago Tribune

Back in September, Humane Society International rescued more than 100 dogs from a South Korean dog meat farm that the organization shut down.

Last week, the organization removed the last animals from the farm — nine puppies that had been too young to bring to the U.S. and their two mothers — and demolished the cages and bulldozed the land at the facility. That brought to 114 the number of dogs rescued and flown to the States.

They're now in San Francisco, where the San Francisco Society for the

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is caring for them. The dogs will soon be available for adoption.

The farm where the dogs were being raised, in Chungcheongnam-do, is the third that Humane Society International has shut down as part of the group's campaign to stop the dog-meat trade in South Korea, China, Vietnam and other countries in Asia. South Korea is the only country where dogs are farmed for their meat. Elsewhere, many dogs that end up as food are stolen pets or strays picked up on the streets.

More information on Humane Society International's campaign is at [www.hsi.org](http://www.hsi.org)

# Shedd Aquarium rescues another dog

Peach getting daily training in rehab program

By William Hageman  
Chicago Tribune

Shedd Aquarium has added a fourth dog to its program that rehabilitates shelter dogs.

Peach, a 20-pound, 10-month-old dachshund-terrier mix, was found tied to a dumpster in the South. She wound up in a shelter and eventually was brought to Chicago's Anti-Cruelty Society. Anti-Cruelty assessed her and thought she'd be a good fit for Shedd's program.

Peach joins Dory, a female shepherd mix; Marlin, a male Labrador mix; and Kobe, a 3-year-old male Dogo Argentino mix at the aquarium, which started rehabilitating dogs in 2013. Peach is the sixth dog to enter the program, and like her predecessors is named after a character in "Finding Nemo."

Peach has already shown promise. Despite large scars on her back, possibly from sun exposure or burns



BRENNNA HERNANDEZ/SHEDD AQUARIUM

Shedd Aquarium trainer Lana Vanagesem greets Peach, a 10-month-old dachshund/terrier mix at The Anti-Cruelty Society in Chicago.

from being underneath the hot dumpster, Peach is sweet and interactive with people and playful with toys. Like her three program mates, she hangs out at Shedd's dog lounge, where daily training occurs. As is the case with all animals at Shedd, Peach will

be trained through positive reinforcement.

A Shedd spokesman says Peach has shown a fondness for squeak toys, chew bones and tennis balls and is being trained in basic commands such as "sit" and "seat" and name recognition and is walking nicely

on a leash.

She could end up in Shedd's "One World" presentations, which focus on the connection between animals and humans and encourages people to become rescue families.

[bhageman@tribpub.com](mailto:bhageman@tribpub.com)

## PET OF THE WEEK



Speckles

Speckles is an energetic pup who is always on the go. He would do best in an active household who could take him on daily walks and runs as well as fun activities such as agility courses. He will also need plenty of mental exercise such as treat puzzles and kongs to keep his mind busy. Speckles could also benefit from continued obedience training. Speckles is friendly and playful with most other dogs but is too exuberant for a cat. Children should be at least 12 years old because he is still learning his manners. It would be best if Speckles' new owners had experience with his breed.

For more information, go to [www.napervillearea.humanesociety.org](http://www.napervillearea.humanesociety.org).

## [chicagotribune.com/pets](http://chicagotribune.com/pets)

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- Our adoptable animals blog featuring photos and descriptions of Chicagoland pets in need of homes.
- Our suburban and city pet events calendar
- Photo galleries, videos, more



# Evanston play offers insight into the divorced man

Although it has been 22 years, John N. Frank still remembers how painful his divorce was.

"There's a sense of failure, and 'How do I ever come back from this?'" said Frank, a father of two who had been married for 16 years before he got divorced. "Everyone you know stops talking to you, married people distance themselves, and I felt invisible and rejected and lonely."

Driven by the need to help other men and women facing divorce, Frank is telling his story in his new Evanston play, "Boys In The Basement," which opened Friday.

I recently talked with Frank, a former business journalist turned playwright who remarried in 2007, about the "dramedy," in which he is also playing a major role and co-producing.

**Q: What is "Boys In The Basement" about?**

**A:** It takes place in a suburban apartment building where mostly divorced guys live, and there's a group that gets together at night in a storage room in the basement to drink and talk. Into the group comes this newly separated guy, and he is in denial, saying this is just temporary. He doesn't know how to cope with the fact that his marriage is really over."

**Q: In your opinion, what are some characteristics of divorced men?**

**A:** The divorced man is in denial, and he doesn't want to talk about it. He feels rejected and is trying to figure out how he is still a man. Often times, he is angry. Divorced men are also struggling mightily with how to be a father when they don't see their kids as much.

**Q: How do men cope with divorce differently than women?**

**A:** Men banter, and women talk about feelings. Men shut down. We have been trained all of our lives not to show emotion and not to cry. Men are pretty simple. They think, 'I've been rejected, and I need to prove I'm a man.' They might do that by drinking heavily, turning to casual sex or coping in other unhealthy ways.

**Q: What advice do you have for men going through divorce?**



**JACKIE PILOSSOPH**  
Love Essentially

**A:** There is hope, and you can rebuild your life and find happiness again. You do that by not pushing so hard. I went through a frenzy of dating for two years straight, and it was fun, but I realized I had to get used to being alone and just being me. You have to

be comfortable with who you are and gain the courage to open yourself up again to someone. Therapy helped me.

Frank said he hopes the play — through humor and heartfelt dialogue — will give men hope and help them realize they can get through it. He also said he thinks "Boys In The Basement" will help women understand the mindset of a divorced man.

Funny he brought that up. I have been divorced for eight years and have met, dated or become friends with many divorced men. While every person is unique, I have my own take on most of the divorced men I've met through the years.

I think many are fragile and scared for a long time. They want to be loved, but not smothered, creating a fine line when it comes to the affection they crave. Divorced men almost have a look of being tired — tired of fighting with their ex, missing their children, going through the divorce process and stressing about finances. That is why they don't want confrontation or any added anxiety producing stress and quickly end relationships that remotely cause these things. For example, I know a divorced man who just ended a relationship because he said the woman "picks a fight with me every two weeks."

Newly separated men tend to date a lot of different women, but I will say this: When it comes to love, much like the divorced woman, the divorced man is very committal and loyal if the situation is right. When he feels loved, you can see true happiness and gratitude behind his genuine smile. In other words, life really does go on.

For more information on "Boys in the Basement," visit [www.evanston2ndactplayers.com](http://www.evanston2ndactplayers.com).

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.

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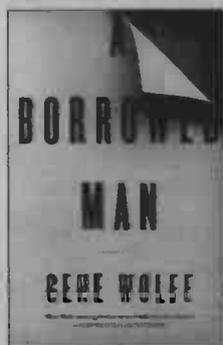
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## ROUNDUP | SCIENCE FICTION

**A Borrowed Man**

By Gene Wolfe, Tor, 302 pages, \$25.99

Gene Wolfe novels are often like those ingenious Japanese puzzle boxes — familiar, elegant surfaces that slide apart in unexpected ways. “A Borrowed Man” begins like a conventional mystery, as a wealthy heiress checks out a former mystery writer to help solve her father’s disappearance and the apparent murder of her brother. Only she literally checks him out — he’s actually a clone of the long-dead writer and lives on a shelf in a public library, along with a few other such clones, who carry all the memories of the original but have no more civil rights than a book. As they search for clues in the heiress’ family estate, with its mysterious locked rooms, they are attacked and tied up by tough guys apparently looking for the same thing. But as is common in a Wolfe novel, the tough guys aren’t exactly who they first appear to be, and neither is anyone else.

As these revelations emerge, so does a tantalizing picture of the oddly dystopian future they live in. World population has somehow shrunk to less than a billion, the country of New America is dotted with ruined towns and starving children but otherwise resembles the familiar Midwest, with bus stations, public libraries, and unpolluted skies — except for the many robots, clones, hovercabs and other signs of a high-tech tomorrow. Aided by a fellow library clone and a couple that the writer meets on a bus trip, they uncover layers of secrets about her family and those locked rooms. By this point the novel has spiraled outward into pure science fiction, and yet Wolfe knits it all together in the end with his characteristic grace and ingenuity — and his trademark sense that there is a good deal more lurking just outside the edges of the frame.

**Weighing Shadows**

By Lisa Goldstein, Night Shade, 318 pages, \$15.99

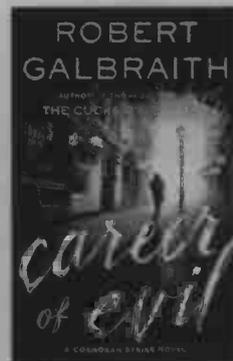
Lisa Goldstein began her career winning a National Book Award (during the short time it was relabeled American Book Awards) for her 1982 Holocaust novel, “The Red Magician,” and since has produced elegantly written novels ranging from literary magic realism to high fantasy. With “Weighing Shadows” she takes on the familiar science-fiction theme of time travel, and the novel’s core appeal lies in showing us odd corners of history from the viewpoint of a contemporary visitor.

Ann Decker is rescued from her dead-end job in computer repair when she receives an offer from a well-funded company called Transformations, which seems to know a lot about her but which doesn’t reveal its true purpose until she starts working there: They’ve developed time travel and have set about “fixing” the past by sending agents on apparently trivial assignments — moving a lamp, delaying someone from getting to

work — which will supposedly lead to larger “butterfly effect” changes over time. What they’re really out to do, though, only becomes apparent later. While the time-travel thriller plot is clever enough, the novel’s fascination derives from its evocation of the times and places Ann visits — ancient Crete, medieval France and classical Alexandria, where she befriends the legendary teacher Hypatia. A feminist subtext runs throughout these visits to the past, during which Ann discovers a secret society of women and, in a surprisingly poignant ending, sets out to find if it could possibly have survived into the present. In the end, it’s her story of self-discovery that engages us even more than the time travel sequences.

## CHICAGOLAND BEST-SELLERS

1. “The Martian” by Andy Weir (Broadway, \$15).
2. “Career of Evil” by Robert Galbraith (Mulholland, \$28).
3. “Rogue Lawyer” by John Grisham (Doubleday, \$28.95).
4. “M Train” by Patti Smith (Knopf, \$25).
5. “All the Light We Cannot See: A Novel” by Anthony Doerr (Scribner, \$27).



Participating bookstores: Barbara’s Bookstores (Chicago), The Book Cellar (Chicago), Seminary Co-op Bookstore and 57th Street Books (Chicago), Anderson’s Bookshop (Naperville), The Book Stall at Chestnut Court (Winnetka), Women & Children First Bookstore (Chicago), The Book Table (Oak Park), The Bookstore (Glen Ellyn), The Book Bin (Northbrook).

## NEW IN PAPERBACK

**How to Be Both: A Novel**

By Ali Smith, Anchor, 322 pages, \$15.95  
Shortlisted for the 2014 Man Booker Prize, “How to Be Both” offers two different versions of the same story. In one half, a 16-year-old girl named George who lives in modern-day Cambridge is mourning the death of her mother. In the other half, Renaissance painter Francesco del Cossa, imagined as a woman, watches over George and remembers scenes from her own life.

**The Unspeakable**

By Meghan Daum, Picador, 256 pages, \$16  
Daum reflects on aspects of midlife in 10 different essays, including a look at parental death, her decision to not have children and an illness Daum suffers a year after her mother’s death that temporarily renders her incapable of speaking. Daum also takes a light-hearted look at the modern notion of having the “best experience possible.”

**No Hero: The Evolution of a Navy SEAL**

By Mark Owen with Kevin Maurer, New American Library, 291 pages, \$16  
The follow-up to Owen’s best-seller “No Easy Day: The Firsthand Account of the Mission that Killed Osama Bin Laden,” “No Hero” examines Owen’s career as a Navy SEAL Team Six operator, including a look back at his most meaningful missions that didn’t capture headlines.

**Final Chapters**

By Jim Bernhard, Skyhorse, 296 pages, \$14.99  
Bernhard examines the deaths of more than 100 famous authors, from the classical age to the present, and how their deaths frequently came in surprising ways, such as playwright Aeschylus being killed by a tortoise shell falling from the sky. In addition to the details surrounding their deaths, “Final Chapters” also explores the attitudes of each of the authors toward mortality.

**The Big Book of Sherlock Holmes Stories**

Edited by Otto Penzler, Vintage Crime/Black Lizard, 789 pages, \$25  
“The Big Book of Sherlock Holmes Stories” collects 83 Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson short stories that have been published over a span of more than 100 years, from stories written by Arthur Conan Doyle, parodies written by the likes of A.A. Milne and O. Henry, and more recent works by authors such as Neil Gaiman.

— Jeremy Mikula



# puzzle island

For interactive puzzles and games go to [chicagotribune.com/games](http://chicagotribune.com/games)

11/8

## Small Caps: Per the 2010 census

BY MARK McCLAIN | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN  
(stanxwords.com)

### Across

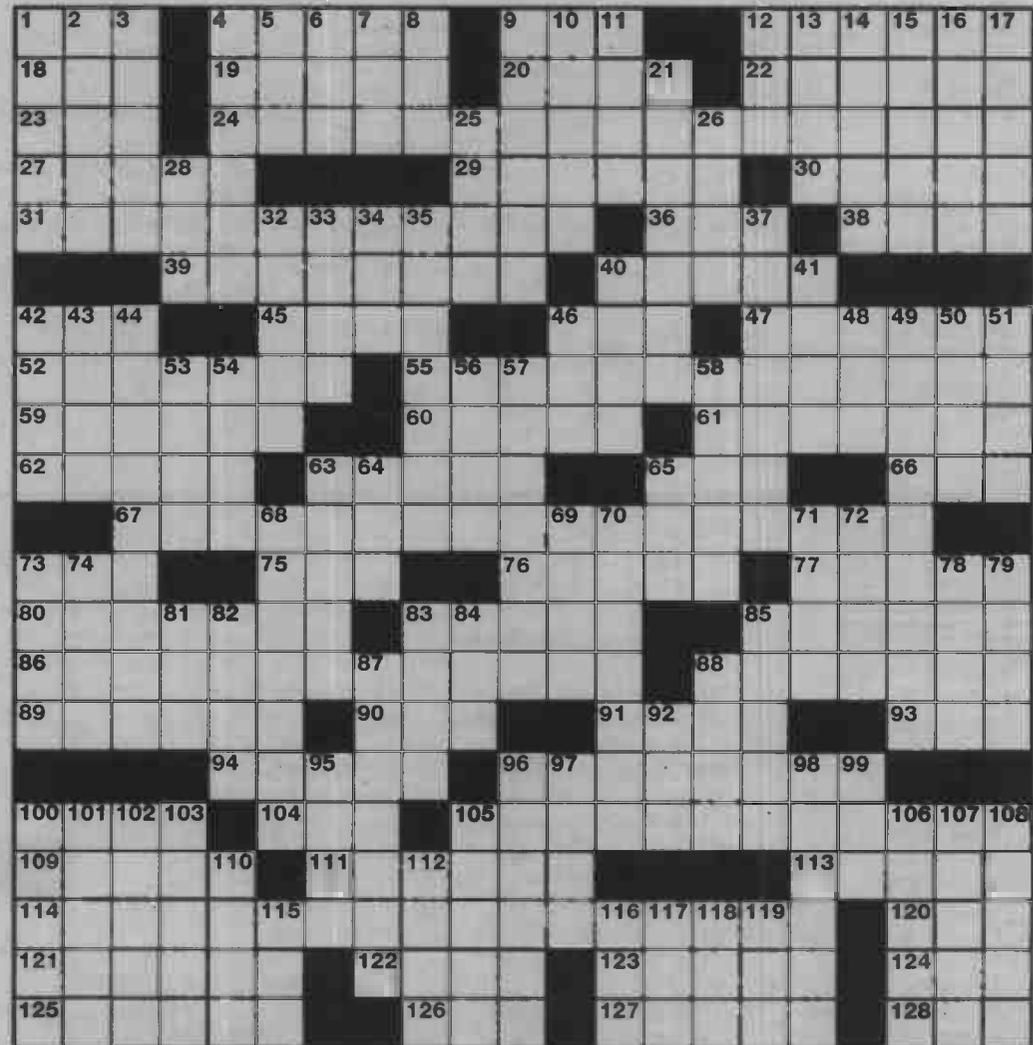
- 1 Prosecutors, for short  
4 Needing a good airing  
9 Roll of turf  
12 Cut corners  
18 Long fish  
19 Pointless  
20 Each, so to speak  
22 And others: Lat.  
23 Lucy of *Elementary*  
24 7,855 people (50th place)  
27 Depp role of 2013  
29 Madison successor  
30 River barrier  
31 19,136 people (48th place)  
36 Kin: Abbr.  
38 Ending like -icity  
39 Clothing  
40 Trattoria fare  
42 Unprincipled guy  
45 Informal negative  
46 Part of a Santa costume  
47 Signals one's arrival, perhaps  
52 Opposite of COD  
55 28,190 people (46th place)  
59 Consent to  
60 Wipe off  
61 Cast off  
62 Casts off  
63 Tanks' exterior  
65 "\_\_\_ matter of fact ..."  
66 Garden visitor  
67 13,646 people (49th place)  
73 CIA operative  
75 Cologne conjunction  
76 Scares off

- 77 Land north of Libya  
80 City near the Blixen Museum  
83 \_\_\_ buddies (close pals)  
85 "White Christmas" composer  
86 36,047 people (44th place)  
88 Rainy-season wind  
89 Despicable  
90 Before, in poems  
91 Spots in *la mer*  
93 GI hangout  
94 Once had  
96 Formally permitted  
100 Ole Miss team, in headlines  
104 Cutting-edge  
105 31,275 people (45th place)  
109 Dome home  
111 Sweet wine of Spain  
113 Prayer closings  
114 25,527 people (47th place)  
120 Sinbad's bird  
121 Indy Jones topper  
122 Garment worker  
123 Pallid  
124 A couple of  
125 Tennis great  
Edberg  
126 Online update format: Abbr.  
127 Tan tone  
128 \_\_\_-Man (one of the Avengers)

### Down

- 1 Triangular shape  
2 Wheel purchase options

- 3 Catapulted  
4 Brunch cocktail  
5 Numero \_\_\_  
6 \_\_\_ Juan, PR  
7 Blasting material  
8 Oater affirmative  
9 Where dos are done  
10 Express a view  
11 Industrious one  
12 Have a look  
13 PC combo key  
14 Japanese soup staple  
15 "\_\_\_ New York" (state song)  
16 Diamond sources  
17 Tops of heads  
21 Fairly shared  
25 Cast off  
26 Aviation formations  
28 Sharp pull  
32 Innate quality  
33 Mixed in with  
34 Chaps  
35 Patriotic music  
37 Savalas TV role  
40 Glass in a sash  
41 Last Stuart monarch  
42 Audit pros  
43 Foot feature  
44 Misleading  
46 Chaps  
48 Nonprescription: Abbr.  
49 Jane Fonda comedy Western  
50 Low joint  
51 "Smooth Operator" singer  
53 Prefix meaning "foot"  
54 Cathedral area  
56 Switch finish



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

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- 57 Hall of Fame manager Tony \_\_\_  
58 Southwest high spots  
63 PGA legend's nickname  
64 Ketchup-colored  
65 Fuss  
68 Post-exercise ritual  
69 Odin's son  
70 Joe Louis Arena, for the Red Wings  
71 Sign from on high  
72 Performs some road repair  
73 Added details  
74 London lockup  
78 *Familia* guys  
79 Part of AD  
81 Irish actor Stephen  
82 Minestrone morsels  
83 Versifier  
84 Be liable to  
85 \_\_\_ nova (Brazilian dance)  
87 Downwind  
88 Course listing  
92 Grazing area  
95 Lost fish of film  
96 Some Winter Olympians  
97 \_\_\_ uproar (raucous)  
98 Comic Boosler  
99 Water barrier  
100 Jazz phrases  
101 Wetlands wader  
102 Leaf of a lawn  
103 Sequel title starter  
105 *North and South* novelist  
106 Simmons alternative  
107 In the public eye  
108 Fancy scarf  
110 Gumbo staple  
112 About 6 trillion mi.  
115 Faithful follower  
116 Kind of can opener  
117 Practical purpose  
118 Greek X  
119 Beer holder

### Quote-Acrostic

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

Clues	Words
A. Scooter bike	157 30 67 92 139
B. Responsible	111 152 155 47 99 91 3 13 136 64 32
C. Give a new surface	160 118 48 129 75 59 103 84
D. Fatal move: 3 wds.	79 41 61 4 46 26 93 16 127 104 114
E. Formal Indian sash: var.	1 63 158 112 50 28 15 145 128 97
F. Apathetic	162 31 19 8 107 146 85 94 138
G. Cool, indifferent	100 125 70 161 53 39 137 21 116 88
H. Of the tongue	76 9 35 82 44 95 164

I. Indecisive: hyph.	113 149 45 89 14 52 135 40 6 69
J. Rising above others	34 62 2 24 115 51 81
K. Whip material	142 147 17 72 102 110 117
L. Head or carrier: start	37 20 65 134 86 154
M. Modulations	49 143 150 106 78
N. French chicken breed	73 140 10 124 151 55
O. Oddball	41 108 83 159 119 42 144 74 56
P. Biblical mountain	29 66 126 133 80
Q. Crash	101 156 132 68 23 120 54
R. Made better	87 38 131 27 122 98 60 148
S. Involved with an inscription	121 58 43 25 96 153 36 105 77 5
T. Formal sanction	163 33 18 109 57 7 90 141
U. Water or musk	12 123 22 71 130

1	E	2	J	3	B	4	D	5	S	6	I	7	T	8	F	9	H		
10	N	11	O			12	U	13	B	14	I		15	E	16	D			
17	K	18	T	19	F	20	L	21	G	22	U	23	Q	24	J	25	S		
26	D	27	R	28	E			29	P	30	A	31	F	32	B		33	T	
34	J	35	H	36	S	37	L	38	R			39	G	40	I		41	D	
42	O		43	S	44	H		45		46	D		47	B	48	C			
49	M	50	E	51	J			52		53	G	54	Q	55	N		56	O	
57	T	58	S	59	C	60	R	61	D			62	J	63	E	64	B	65	L
66	P	67	A	68	Q	69	I			70	G	71	U	72	K	73	N	74	O
75	C	76	H			77	S	78	M			79	D	80	P	81	J	82	H
83	O	84	C	85	F	86	L	87	R			88	G	89	I	90	T	91	B
		92	A	93	D	94	F	95	H	96	S	97	E		98	R	99	B	
100	G	101	Q	102	K	103	C			104	D	105	S	106	M		107	F	
108	O	109	T	110	K	111	B	112	E			113	I	114	D	115	J	116	G
		117	K	118	C	119	O	120	Q	121	S	122	R	123	U	124	N		
125	G	126	P			127	D	128	E			129	C	130	U	131	R	132	Q
133	P	134	L	135	I	136	B	137	G	138	F		139	A	140	N	141	T	
142	K		143	M	144	O		145	E	146	F	147	K	148	R				
149	I	150	M		151	N		152	B	153	S	154	L		155	B			
156	Q	157	A	158	E	159	O	160	C	161	G	162	F	163	T	164	H		

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

By Max Engle.  
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.  
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## Pie-Eyed

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across		Down	
1 Department of Labor div.	48 Palindromic principle	13 To be, to Henri Link	19 Link
5 Dazed	50 Nashville-to-Knoxville direction	21 Trojan War god	25 Ike's father
9 Stock unit	52 Highway hazard	27 Baker's promise?	29 Bowling button
14 Noah's son	56 Auto club letters	31 Joan of art	32 Gray's subj.
15 Bailiwick	59 Haberdashery items	33 ___ -majeste	34 Chumps
16 Psychic's tool	62 <i>Happy Days</i> treat	35 Elvis' ___ <i>Stung</i>	36 ___ Linda, CA
17 Singer J. J.	65 Hindrance	38 Retire	41 Rudd Weatherwax's trainee
18 Pirate Hall of Famer	66 Invalidate	45 Group of badgers	47 Crib item
20 Unprincipled	67 Regatta sight	49 Wouk works	51 Laconic
22 Ship's backbone	68 Pueblo room	53 Bird	54 Split
23 Schiller's ___ to <i>Joy</i>	69 Calvin, of the links	55 <i>Wuthering Heights</i> character	56 Pronto
24 Part of AARP	70 Greek Discordia	57 Clearasil's target	58 First-rate
26 Pink, for one	71 North Sea feeder	60 Practice pugilism	63 Diamond decision
28 Labor leader Chavez		64 Sundial time	
30 <i>Stalag 17</i> role			
34 Paul's pal			
37 Ed Norton's wear			
39 Mozart serenade start			
40 Stravinsky ballet			
41 Illinois Benedictine College site			
42 Cleopatra's handmaiden			
43 Grandeur			
44 "Zip ___ Doo Dah"			
45 Till bill			
46 Elevator alternative			

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20				21			22					23		
24						25		26			27			
			28				29		30			31	32	33
34	35	36				37		38			39			
40					41						42			
43					44					45				
46				47			48		49					
			50			51		52				53	54	55
56	57	58		59			60		61					
62			63					64			65			
66						67					68			
69						70					71			

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# Short Changes

By JIM HOLLAND

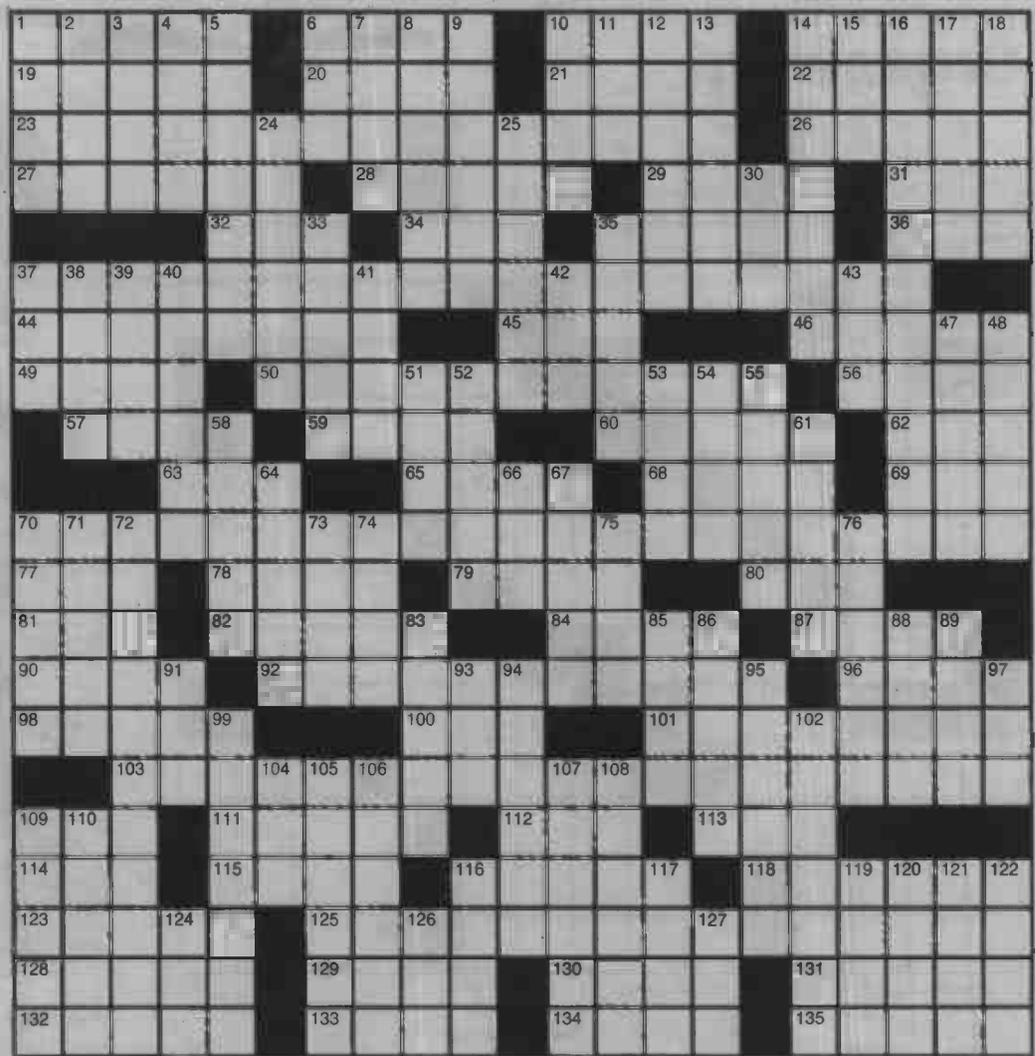
Edited by RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

## Across

- 1 Perennial '90s-'00s presidential candidate  
 6 Artist van —  
 10 Pear type  
 14 Fairylike  
 19 How two hearts may beat  
 20 Fencing tool  
 21 Choral part  
 22 Transitional point  
 23 Trio in a leather factory?  
 26 Start of a historic B-29 name  
 27 Car user, perhaps  
 28 Techie on "24"  
 29 "You said it!"  
 31 Witticism  
 32 Pub. VIPs  
 34 Tout's territory, initially  
 35 Mixes  
 36 Farm sound  
 37 Riffraff lacking direction?  
 44 Take advantage of, in a way  
 45 Org. with an online Patriot Index  
 46 Deli pockets  
 49 Nitwit  
 50 Place to raise simians?  
 56 Aria, for one  
 57 Religious faction  
 59 Coll. prep test  
 60 Song of praise  
 62 "... o'er the dew of — high eastward hill": Shak.  
 63 Common batteries  
 65 SEC overseer  
 68 Bend at a barre  
 69 Game-winning combination  
 70 "Leave tiny bugs alone!"  
 77 "Gotcha!"  
 78 '90s Saturn maker  
 79 Put-ons  
 80 Biblical verb ending  
 81 Slight amount  
 82 Counts' equals  
 84 Former "formerly"  
 87 Appear to be  
 90 Silver sources  
 92 Encouragement for a sailing maneuver?  
 96 Fires  
 98 Gobs  
 100 Expressions of pleasure  
 101 Most sylvan
- 103 Swap headgear with the priest?  
 109 Loan letters  
 111 Colorful marble  
 112 Controversial war zone, briefly  
 113 Entrepreneur-helping gp.  
 114 DI doubled  
 115 Succumb to flattery  
 116 Word in many music genres  
 118 More than concerns  
 123 Open, in a way  
 125 Moderate building expansion?  
 128 Engraved pillar  
 129 Joyce's home  
 130 Election lead-in  
 131 Coal —  
 132 Made less harsh  
 133 Deli call  
 134 Barrie's bosun  
 135 Homebound student, perhaps
- 51 "Critique of Pure Reason" author  
 52 Sketch opening  
 53 California tourist area near Santa Rosa  
 54 Block component  
 55 Ethiopia's Selassie  
 58 Calais cup  
 61 Fits one inside the other  
 64 Word before pants, shirts or socks  
 66 Former nuclear agcy.  
 67 — in the right direction  
 70 Extinct birds  
 71 Catherine of "Best in Show"  
 72 Awards since 1901  
 73 Indian shrine site  
 74 Powder source  
 75 New car letters  
 76 Up in —: uncertain  
 83 Glide along  
 85 Planted  
 86 NFL analyst Aikman et al.  
 88 Corp. VIP  
 89 Colorado's —Verde National Park  
 91 Actor Erwin  
 93 Sound of silence?  
 94 Web discussion venue  
 95 "Sorry that didn't work out"  
 97 Auto performance brand  
 99 Ended for good, with "out"  
 102 Believer in a pair of opposed eternal principles  
 104 Mature  
 105 Cast out of heaven  
 106 Getup  
 107 Some critics  
 108 Introduction to a madam?  
 109 Entertain  
 110 1492 vessel  
 116 Hotel pillow topper  
 117 Make more potent, in a way  
 119 Westernmost Aleutian island  
 120 Million laughs  
 121 Game play  
 122 Bygone blade  
 124 —-de-France  
 126 Cookbook direction  
 127 Sandra who played Gidget

## Down

- 1 N.L. part: Abbr.  
 2 Court icon Arthur  
 3 Bucks' partners  
 4 "The Lord of the Rings" race  
 5 Cobbles, in a way  
 6 Whiz start  
 7 Cartel acronym  
 8 Really start selling  
 9 — insurance  
 10 Undoing  
 11 Corrida cheer  
 12 Layers  
 13 Kind of ray or dust  
 14 Ties, as a score  
 15 Author Deighton  
 16 Beatles' title lyric that follows "With love"  
 17 Northern abode  
 18 "Cool!"  
 24 Exchange for cash  
 25 Nary a soul  
 30 Big band, for one  
 33 Descend suddenly  
 35 One may be over your shoulder  
 37 Kid  
 38 Wally of cookie fame  
 39 Org. with antlers on its logo  
 40 Maneuverable tractor brand  
 41 Lodging locales  
 42 Syr. and Eg., once  
 43 Family nickname  
 47 Above it all  
 48 Ibn, in Arabic names



Last week's answers appear on the next page

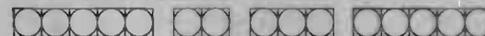
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## Jumble

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

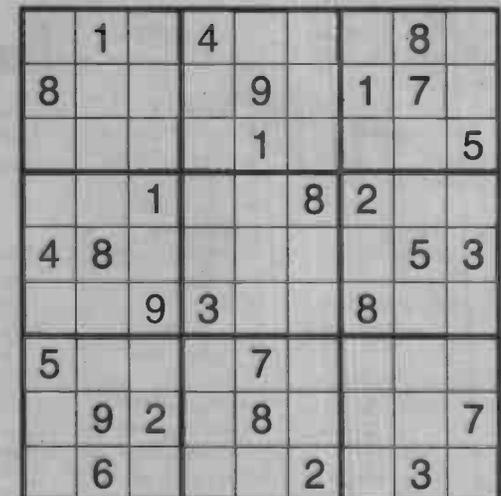
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## Sudoku

11/8

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders contains every digit 1 to 9.

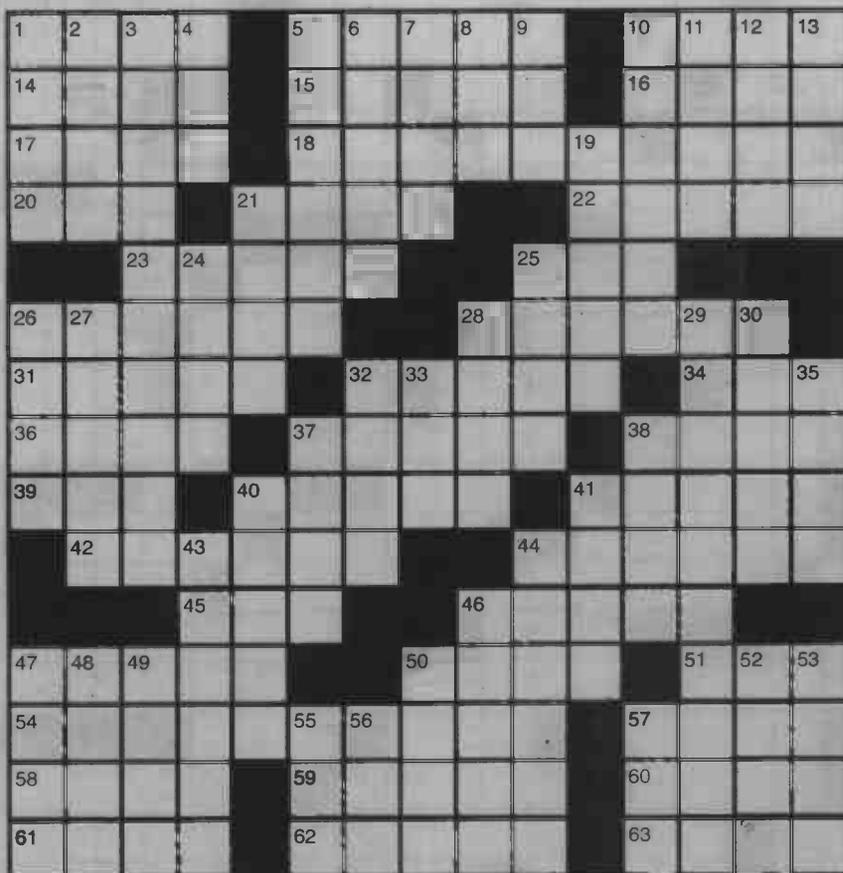
Level: **1 2 3 4**



Last week's answers appear on the next page

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# Crossword



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11/11/15

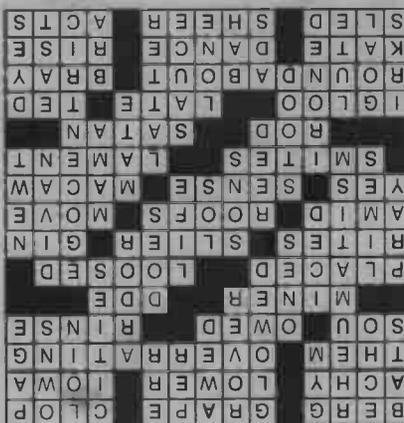
### ACROSS

- 1 Broken-off part of a glacier
- 5 Juice flavor
- 10 Clippety-\_\_
- 14 Sore
- 15 Berth nearest the floor
- 16 Dubuque, \_\_
- 17 Those folks
- 18 Thinking too highly of
- 20 Old French coin
- 21 Was in the red
- 22 Wash off soapsuds
- 23 Ore seeker
- 25 HST's follower
- 26 Came in second, in a horse race
- 28 Released; untied
- 31 Ceremonies
- 32 More devious
- 34 \_\_ rummy; card game
- 36 Surrounded by
- 37 Housetops
- 38 Pull up stakes
- 39 Affirmative
- 40 Taste or sight
- 41 Colorful parrot
- 42 Hits hard
- 44 Regret
- 45 Thin stick
- 46 Hell's ruler

### DOWN

- 47 House of snow
- 50 Overdue
- 51 One of JFK's brothers
- 54 Indirect
- 57 Hee-haw
- 58 Ms. Mulgrew
- 59 Hora or hula
- 60 Get up
- 61 Toboggan
- 62 Transparent
- 63 \_\_ of God; earthquakes, floods, etc.
- 1 Cave dwellers
- 2 Canyon sound
- 3 Arthritis
- 4 P.E. building
- 5 Radiated
- 6 Classic name for a dog
- 7 Floored
- 8 \_\_ person; apiece
- 9 Blunder
- 10 Dallas, Seattle, Chicago, etc.
- 11 Cut of pork
- 12 Possesses
- 13 Leaf of a book
- 19 Passion
- 21 Dollar bills
- 24 \_\_ tea
- 25 Bucks' mates

### Solutions

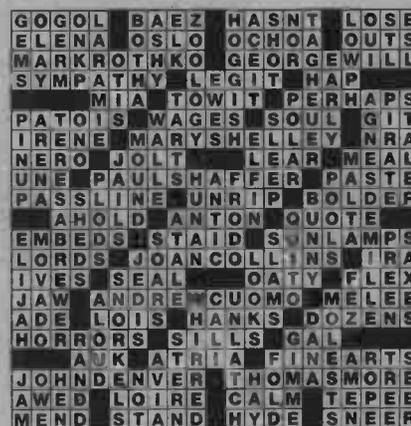


- 26 Say the rosary, for example
- 27 Citrus fruits
- 28 Cold cereal name
- 29 Focused only on oneself
- 30 Couch
- 32 Male children
- 33 \_\_ Angeles, CA
- 35 Mr. Gingrich
- 37 Rex or Donna
- 38 Family member
- 40 \_\_ for; symbolized
- 41 Partner
- 43 Pressed, as clothes
- 44 Second of two
- 46 Hollândaise or Tabasco
- 47 Makes angry
- 48 Hockey score
- 49 Early guitar
- 50 "The \_\_ Ranger"
- 52 Vane direction
- 53 Coloring liquids
- 55 Commercials
- 56 "Nonsense!"
- 57 Two-cup item

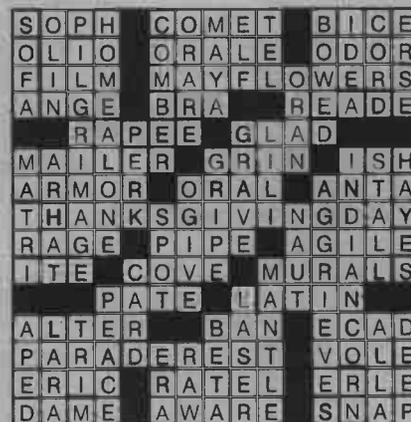


### Last week's crosswords

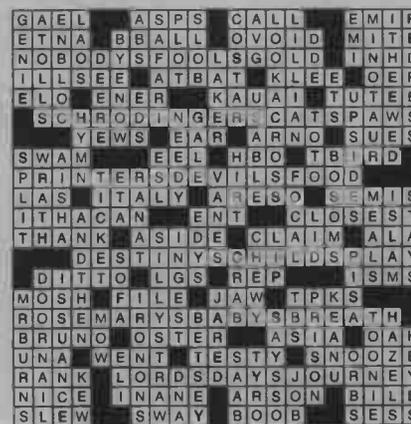
#### "All Saints Day"



#### "Puritanical"



#### "Repossessed"



### Last week's Quote-Acrostic

(Elizabeth) GORSKI: OPUS INTERRUPTUS: Until further notice the company will continue conducting daily employee meetings and weekly time management seminars. Mandatory attendance for every session until we determine why productivity is down.

### Last week's Sudoku

8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	6	2	5	9	7	4	8	1
5	7	4	1	8	6	9	2	3
1	2	7	3	5	9	6	4	8
6	3	5	7	4	8	2	1	9
9	4	8	6	2	1	3	7	5
4	8	3	9	7	2	1	5	6
2	1	9	8	6	5	7	3	4
7	5	6	4	1	3	8	9	2

### This week's Jumble

OXYGEN RADISH HIDDEN  
CELERY UNTOLD MOTION

They thought people would like the new coin with the queen's portrait, and they were —

**RIGHT ON  
THE MONEY**



# Piecing together feelings through collage

Regular habit traces mom's life journey

By Megan Ritchle Jooste

The Philadelphia Inquirer

The glue stick rarely gets eaten anymore. These days, one or two tiny licks and the goo gets put to task, adhering a cut-out photo of a dog, a giggling baby or a posing celebrity onto a piece of paper taped to my daughter's high-chair tray.

My daughter now knows that the glue doesn't taste all that good anyway. It's more fun to juxtapose a photo of Vin Diesel with a toaster.

Many of our late afternoons are spent this way: me preparing dinner (sorting the takeout menus) and my daughter, in her high chair, assembling her next artistic oeuvre.

Collage has been my go-to artistic medium since I discovered at a very young age that my drawing skills didn't extend far beyond remembering the feet on a stick figure. But I still needed a creative outlet. We all do.

**Soul-saving discovery:** I stumbled on collage in a training weekend for residence assistants in college. I loved it from the get-go. I found each step of the process cathartic, therapeutic: the meditative browsing through catalogs, magazines and newspapers in search of a word or an image that caught my eye, the deliberate assembling process. My more intricate collages could take days to complete and are an accurate gauge of my feelings about the world, and my place in it, at the time I created each one.

One of my early pieces included a cartoon rendering of Jodie Foster as depicted in "The Panic Room," looking behind her



FOTOLIA

A mother who has found therapeutic value in creating photo collages is passing the practice along to her young daughter.

frightfully. Below her, Curious George is paused thoughtfully atop a photo of the Market-Frankford Line traveling across West Philadelphia. "Thou shall not talk to yourself on the bus," read the words at the top of the page.

I was a recent college graduate at the time, living alone in a mouse-infested studio apartment. A map of Philadelphia hung on my wall, my route from home to work highlighted in pink.

In my late 20s, I was diagnosed with uterine fibroids. The resulting collage was a violent clash of serene images of fertility: babies and swollen pregnant bellies, with all sorts of weaponry: a

bull's-eye, an arrow, a machine gun. It was impossible for me to express the pain I was feeling, both physical and emotional, without assembling others' imagery into a new composition.

Collage gave my feelings a voice. It helped me sort through them, package them, and move on with my life. Collage saves me from being mute, even when I have no words to describe how I'm feeling.

So it was natural that I would want to share this hobby with my developing child.

**For now, puppies:** We got past the glue-eating phase faster than I thought. Now, I

begin our afternoon collage sessions by cutting out about two dozen images and placing them on the table next to her. She chooses the ones to stick onto a piece of paper.

Almost immediately, she started calling our sessions "puppy paper." That's because, while I enjoy collage because it allows me to choose from an almost infinite set of imagery and typography in order to express my most complicated emotions, I limit her options. I'm too afraid to let my daughter work with anything that I deem too sad, or too scary. So a lot of puppies make their way from my scissors to her tray.

A typical collection will include at least five dogs of varying ages, two or three smiling celebrities posing on the red carpet (full disclosure: I subscribe to People magazine), three or four babies from a Gerber or Pampers ad, and a few (only a few!) photos of smiling Prince William. (I am, after all, a product of my generation.)

The resulting collage reflects none of my daughter's budding personality. Nor mine. I am essentially asking her to choose one dog over another, and practice her fine-motor skills with a stick of glue while I figure out if we're having Chinese or pizza for dinner.

Certainly as a kid living on South Street in Philadelphia she is witness to a wider range of violent confrontation and drunken revelry than I ever was at her age, and I am certain she thinks nothing of it. It is just a part of her world, alongside her morning couch sessions with a bottle and Daniel the Tiger, and waving to the tourists in the double-decker buses as they drive past our window.

So while my maternal instincts implore me to protect, to hide, to bury the worst of what I see, I realize that too-aggressive censorship of the materials I set in front of her will do nothing but bore her, and perhaps even eventually lead her to lose interest altogether in our activity, which I want to rely on as sacred time together as she grows and matures.

Next time, I promise, I will include a scowling Robert De Niro among the images I give her. I will cut out a photo of a FEMA-tagged house in New Orleans. Next time, I'll replace at least two puppies with an alligator or a shark. I'll throw in a frowning Britney Spears, a Nick Jonas or a Duggar. Because, I realize, there is no keeping her from the world, or the world from her.

But as long as she's tucked safely into her high chair with a stick of nontoxic glue in her hand, I can be there as she negotiates her true feelings about her surroundings. The bad and the good will eventually weave together to become "just the way it is."

Besides, it's good she learned early that there's not much a photo of an adorable puppy won't make better.

Megan Ritchle Jooste is a freelance writer.

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## Automatic 401(k)s boost savings for millennials



**CAROLYN BIGDA**  
*Getting Started*

Much has been made about the effect that the 2007-09 bear market has had on the investing habits of today's 20-somethings. The theory goes that coming of age during a severe market downturn will put you off stocks, and the risks they entail, for good.

But a recent study by the Vanguard Center for Retirement Research finds that technology can help us overcome past experiences.

According to the report, the median allocation that millennials had in stocks in 2003 was 82 percent. In 2013, the allocation actually increased to 89 percent.

Millennials are defined as those 18 to 34. Vanguard's study was based on 393 employer-sponsored retirement plans that were available in 2003 and 2013, and encompasses as many as 1 million plan-eligible employees.

So what happened? According to Vanguard, the answer is automation.

In 2003, less than 1 percent of the plans in Vanguard's study offered automatic enrollment, a feature in which employees are automatically enrolled in their workplace retirement plan, no signing up required.

A decade later, the figure had jumped to 40 percent.

On top of that, more young people are taking advantage of all-in-one funds, like target-date funds, that hold a balance of stocks, bonds and other investments.

As the author of the Vanguard study, Jean Young, noted in the report, "millennials are more risk-



M-IMAGEPHOTOGRAPHY/ISTOCK

averse than both Gen Xers and late boomers." But, she added, "The data suggest that automatic enrollment and the rise of target-date funds have played substantial roles in changing saving and investment behavior."

What if you're automatically enrolled in your employer's retirement plan? Here's what you can expect.

The Vanguard study found that, typically, the default contribution rate for those who are automatically enrolled in a workplace retirement plan is 3 percent.

While that's better than not participating at all in your 401(k), it's a long way from the 10 percent or more that most financial advisers suggest putting away for retirement each year.

The good news is that the majority of 401(k)s with auto enrollment also have an auto-increase feature for contributions. In fact, according to Vanguard, 70 percent of auto-enroll plans automatically raise workers' contribution rates annually.

Keep in mind, too, that by starting to save early in your 401(k) you get to take advantage of any matching contributions from your employer.

As such, in 2013, millennials who had automati-

cally been enrolled in their company retirement plan were saving an average of 7.6 percent of their annual salary when the employer match was included.

Auto enrollment not only helps you get started saving for retirement, it can also lead you to smart investment choices. In many auto enrollment plans, target-date funds, which hold a balance of stocks, bonds and other age-appropriate investments, are the default investment option.

For 20-somethings, a target-date fund will invest mostly in stocks, which are riskier than cash and bonds but usually produce higher returns over long periods of time.

So in 2013, the median allocation to stocks among millennials who had been automatically enrolled in their 401(k) was 89 percent. In 2003, the median allocation, whether a young person was auto-enrolled or not, was 82 percent.

And thanks to target-date funds, fewer young people now have portfolios with zero or 100 percent stocks.

In 2003, 42 percent of millennials had extreme portfolios. A decade later, the percentage had dropped to just 3 percent for those auto-enrolled.

[yourmoney@tribpub.com](mailto:yourmoney@tribpub.com)

## Civic engagement can help boomers find their 2nd act



**JANET KIDD STEWART**  
*The Journey*

During a long career in the arts after graduating from Dartmouth College, Jim O'Connell worked in New York, Phoenix, Des Moines and, finally, Wausau, Wis., a county seat near the center of the Dairy State with a population of about 39,000 and several other small cities nearby.

So one might expect that when he transitioned away last year from directing a performing arts foundation, he might gravitate back to an urban center rich in cultural amenities.

Instead, at 65, he's teaching a course on arts management at the nearby state university extension campus and enjoying the performing arts center he helped create.

"I come up for tenure at 70, and I'm going for it," the assistant professor said.

A survey of 3,638 adults by Merrill Lynch and Age Wave this year found that most pre-retirees (60 percent) intend to stay in their current state or region in retirement.

Transitioning to a "second act" career later in life using contacts from a previous career could be part of what's keeping some baby boomers in their current cities (along with proximity to family), but O'Connell sees a larger trend playing out as rural areas begin to link together to attract local investment in public projects.

He was recently part of a panel discussion on civic vitality and special business improvement districts around his state. The dis-



CHARLESWORTH

**"When we're no longer coming together, and our exchanges are mostly virtual, it leaves us with little in common."**

— Jim O'Connell

tricts are typically formed by coalitions of businesses that want to share costs for revitalization programs, such as downtown lighting or green space projects.

What keeps O'Connell from moving back to an urban area is a sense that he can have a voice in shaping what's around him, he said.

"I love medium-sized cities," he said. "In a medium-sized city, no level of decision-making is out of reach. If you need to see the mayor, you just call his assistant and set it up. If you need to see the head of the hospital foundation, you can do that."

When he was raising money for the performing arts center, community discussions centered on how to get more use out of

the facility during the summer months, when the theater schedule slowed.

That led to building in a multiuse lobby that could be used for nontheater events, such as weddings, he said.

"Having multiple uses was a catalyst in the development of the project," O'Connell said. "Using facilities in nontraditional ways makes the whole space more vital."

To be sure, not all baby boomers are picking up the mantle of civic engagement that the demographers foresaw for this generation as it heads into retirement. Plenty of retirees are still decamping for warmer climates and golf courses. Or they're moving back to cities to enjoy the same cultural vibe that's compelling companies to get out of the suburbs and create urban hangouts for young tech workers.

But for O'Connell — and others like him — there may be something to this quest for community building in later life.

"Creating space isn't enough," he said. "You have to continually populate spaces with activity and bring people together physically" to create the kind of vibrancy and mutual respect that gets all groups of people, not just retirees, excited about living in a particular place, he said.

"When we're no longer coming together, and our exchanges are mostly virtual, it leaves us with little in common," he said during the panel discussion. "If the only thing we have in common is our property tax bill, is it any wonder civility is in decline?"

Share your journey to or through retirement or ask a question at [journey@janetkiddstewart.com](mailto:journey@janetkiddstewart.com).

# Money habits Americans struggle with most

Emergency savings, building a nest egg often shortchanged

By Jonnelle Marte  
The Washington Post

The rules that financial pros say you should follow if you want to build wealth are usually straightforward: pay your bills on time, have cash on hand for a rainy day and invest money for your future.

Sounds easy enough, but for many people these milestones can feel out of reach. The slow wage growth we've seen since the recession means that for many workers there isn't much left from the paycheck after covering essentials such as housing, child care and food. Then there are goals such as paying off debt and saving for retirement that can take a back seat, particularly for people struggling with student loans, day care expenses and high rent.

A slew of surveys and economic reports released recently shed light on how well Americans are handling their money. Wondering where you stand? Take a look.

**Debt payments.** Consumers have become much better about paying their bills on time since the recession, with delinquencies for major loan types dropping nearly across the board. This is good news because one of the easiest ways to improve your credit score is to pay your bills on time. The share of closed-end loans, such as car and personal loans, that were late by 30 days or more dropped dramatically in the second quarter to 1.36 percent of accounts, far below the 15-year average of 2.27 percent, according to new data from the American Bankers Association. Closed-end loans are for a set amount, unlike credit cards or lines of credit, which allow balances to change from month to month.

Credit card delinquencies rose slightly to 2.52 percent in the second quarter but were still below the long-term average of 3.74 percent. And the share of people with federal student loans who failed to make loan payments within three years of leaving



BLEND IMAGES

school is down as more people take advantage of flexible payment options.

**Housing costs.** Financial advisers generally recommend that consumers not spend more than a third of their total pay on housing, to free up cash for saving, paying down debt and spending on other necessities. But whether you rent or own, chances are you are struggling to stay under that threshold. About 20.7 million rental households, or about half of all renters, spent more than 30 percent of their income on housing in 2013, according to a report from the Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies. For about 11 million of those households, the rent bill ate up more than half of their paycheck.

The situation is a little different for people who own homes. For homeowners, monthly mortgage payments, including property taxes, mortgage insurance and home insurance, took up about 36.5 percent of the average national wage in the first quarter of 2015, down from 37.4 percent a

year earlier, according to a report from RealtyTrac and Clear Capital.

**Emergency savings.** If you have any savings, you're ahead of the game. Some 62 percent of Americans have less than \$1,000 in their savings account, according to a survey of 5,000 consumers by GoBankingRates. That includes 21 percent of those surveyed who said they didn't even have a savings account. The findings are in line with a similar study by Bankrate.com, which found that 29 percent of people don't have an emergency fund.

Despite the steady job growth of recent years, many Americans are struggling to save. Financial advisers and economists blame low wage growth, which might make it difficult for families to keep up with rising rent costs and child care expenses. Not surprisingly, people who make more money save a bigger percentage of their pay. People in the bottom 90 percent of the income scale save almost none of their pay each year, while those in

the top 10 percent save close to 15 percent of their pay, according to an analysis by Emmanuel Saez and Gabriel Zucman, economists with the University of California at Berkeley.

But it's not too late to establish the habit. Financial advisers say people who save with a specific goal in mind — a vacation, a new car or to buy a home, for instance — may be more motivated to stick to their plan. Open a separate saving account and have the money funneled into the account automatically on a weekly or daily basis.

**Retirement savings.** People are getting better about saving for retirement. For the first time, the average amount that employees and employers contributed to 401(k)s topped \$10,000 this year, according to Fidelity Investments. The numbers show that both sides are putting more funds toward retirement, an important shift as companies continue to move away from pensions and the future of Social Security remains uncertain.

But despite the improvement, many workers are not saving enough. Many young workers are putting off saving until they're older and making more money, a mistake that cuts down on how much time their savings have to grow and requires them to save much more later to catch up.

Some workers who were automatically enrolled into retirement plans also make the mistake of thinking that the default contribution amount chosen by their employer, which is often as low as 3 percent, is enough. The average worker saves 8 percent of their pay in a 401(k) plan, according to Fidelity. But financial advisers say people should strive to save up to 10 percent of pay in their 20s, about 15 percent in their 30s and make the maximum contribution, which is \$18,000 this year for 401(k) plans, in their 40s.

If you aren't there yet, increase your savings rate as much as you can and then sign up to have your contributions increase automatically by one or two percentage points each year.



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# Junk food isn't to blame for obesity, researchers say

By Steven Reinberg  
HealthDay

Despite their bad reputation, junk food, fast food and soda aren't the root causes of America's obesity epidemic, Cornell University researchers contend.

While these sugary and salt-laden foods may not be good for your health, the scientists found no significant difference in how much of these foods either overweight or normal weight people consumed.

The real problem, according to the researchers: Too many Americans eat too much.

"These are foods that are clearly bad for you, and if you eat too much of them, they will make you fat, but it doesn't appear to be the main driver that is making people overweight and obese," said lead researcher David Just, co-director of the Cornell Center for Behavioral Economics, in Ithaca, N.Y.

"For 95 percent of the country, there is no relationship between how much fast food and junk food they're eating and their weight," Just said. "Because of the bad habits we have, with all our food, just eliminating junk food is not going to do anything."

But that doesn't mean it's OK to eat junk food. "These foods aren't good for you," he said. "There is no good argument for soda in your diet."

Just said a broader approach is needed to fight the obesity epidemic. "We are eating too much generally. We need to cut back on our total consumption. We need to be better about exercising," he recommended.

Diet and exercise are the keys to losing weight, Just said. "There is nothing flashy about that advice," he said. "It's not magic;



JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY

Although soda and junk food aren't healthy choices, the researchers said, it's simply eating too much that is the culprit in obesity.

there is no silver bullet here."

The report was published Nov. 5 in the journal *Obesity Science & Practice*.

For the study, Just and his colleague Brian Wansink, director of the Cornell Food and Brand Lab, used the 2007-2008 National Household and Nutrition Examination Survey to analyze a sample of about 5,000 adults in the United States.

The researchers found that consumption of soda, candy and fast food was not linked to weight gain for 95 percent of the population. The exceptions are people who are on the extreme ends of the weight spectrum — those who are very underweight and those who are severely obese. These folks ate more fast food and fewer fruits and vegetables, the study revealed.

Samantha Heller, a senior clinical nutritionist at New York University Medical Center in New York, said, "One must be careful not to misinterpret the findings of this study to mean that eating fast food, candy and soft drinks does not affect the health of

children and adults."

Research has linked fast food, candy and sugar-sweetened beverages with heart disease, weight gain, Type 2 diabetes and an increased risk of dying from heart disease, she said.

"Anecdotally, the diets of the patients I see who are struggling with being overweight or obese are often high in fast and junk foods and sugar," Heller said.

Highly processed foods tend to trigger cravings for more of the same because of their chemical makeup and the body's physiological response, Heller explained. These kinds of diets can result in a vicious cycle of eating and craving less healthy foods, she added.

"As a registered dietitian, my goal is to encourage people to be healthy, not skinny," Heller said. "So instead of only recommending cutting calories, we want to also focus on making healthy and affordable food choices, creating strategies for eating out and on the go and enjoying less processed foods."

# Race gap in life expectancy narrows to less than 4 years

By Amy Norton  
HealthDay

Black Americans are catching up to whites in life expectancy, largely due to declining rates of death from heart disease, cancer and HIV, a new federal government study finds.

Researchers said the study can show only what the trend is and not the reasons for it. But it's likely that better access to medical treatments has played a role, they added.

Americans' life expectancy at birth has risen steadily over the last century, reaching an all-time high of 79 years in 2013. The life expectancy for black people, however, has always lagged behind that of whites, according to the researchers.

That gap still exists. But it is narrowing, shrinking from a six-year difference in 1999 to a less than four-year difference in 2013, the study found.

And it appears that blacks are living longer because their death rates from heart disease, cancer, HIV and accidents are dropping, the new research found.

"Those causes of death are going down for everyone. But they're going down faster for African-Americans," said lead researcher Kenneth Kochanek, of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics.

"The next step," Kochanek said, "is to figure out why. It could be access to health care; it could be lifestyle improvements. We can't tell from our data."

Diane Sperling Lauderdale, an epidemiologist at the University of Chicago, agreed that the reasons are unclear.

"You can't know if there's been a change in the number of people



DAVID JAKLE/IMAGE SOURCE

Declining rates of death from heart disease, cancer and HIV are behind an increase in black life expectancy in the United States, according to researchers.

getting these diseases, or changes in the treatment," said Lauderdale, who studies health care inequalities.

But, she added, the past decade has seen advances in therapies for heart disease, various cancers and HIV. "So, I think it's likely that there's been improved access to those therapies (for blacks)," Lauderdale said.

There is research to support that notion. Last year, a study in the *New England Journal of Medicine* found that across U.S. hospitals, racial disparities in access to recommended treatments narrowed or disappeared between 2005 and 2010.

For example, many more minorities were getting angioplasty within 90 minutes of arriving at the hospital with heart attack symptoms.

For the current study, the CDC team used death certificate data to track national trends in mortality between 1999 and 2013.

The researchers found that for black people, life expectancy at birth rose from age 71 in 1999 to 75.5 by 2013. By comparison, white people's life expectancy increased from age 77 to 79.

When the researchers

dug deeper into causes of death, they found that black men were seeing larger declines in deaths from HIV, cancer, heart disease and accidental injuries, versus white men. Among black women, deaths from heart disease, cancer and HIV dropped at a faster rate.

The decline in heart disease deaths was the single biggest contributor to improved life expectancy for black people, and especially for black women.

"That was really striking," Kochanek said. "Everyone knows that heart disease deaths have been going down in the U.S. But it looks like there's been a big impact for African-Americans."

The news was not all good, however. Black people saw faster increases in rates of death from certain other diseases — including Alzheimer's disease, aortic aneurysm, high blood pressure and complications related to pregnancy, the study found.

Lauderdale noted another limitation of the study: It included deaths at any age. So it's not clear whether black people of all ages, or only certain age groups, are seeing improvements, she said.

## DREAM HOME



MARK DEVANE PHOTOS

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*At press time this home was still for sale.*



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LEAGUE OF GEEKS

## 'Armello' brings a fantasy board game to your screen

By Joe Fourhman  
Tribune Newspapers

Featuring animal clans warring over the fate of their poisoned king, "Armello" is the work of programmers who started by imagining the project as a board game before developing it for TV and computer screens.

Each game of "Armello" puts four players on a map of randomized forests, swamps and towns, with the king's castle at the center. The playable avatars — ranging from noble wolves to sneaky rats — all have various strengths and weaknesses that lean into the game's mechanics of die-rolling, card-playing and moving around the board. Zosha the rat is a ninja, so she can hide from others, for example, while Amber the rabbit is better at locating treasure.

The goal of each game is to improve your character's abilities in fighting and spell casting, and then make a play at defeating the computer-controlled king. There are four victory conditions, but the most common is to simply have the highest Prestige — a numerical count earned by defeating other players

**'Armello'**  
**Platform:** PS4, PC  
**Rated:** E10+  
**Cost:** \$19.99  
**Released:** September 2015  
**Verdict:** You want this.  
★★★★ (out of 5)

and completing quests — when the king dies. The other victory conditions are a bit more complicated, and the ticking clock provided by the king's impending demise does not provide much time to make them happen.

"Armello" struggles with that balance between deep strategy and speedy turns. In a video game, there's a need for fast gameplay since you do not have "table talk" to fill in the gaps, as you would while playing board games. The death of the king puts a reasonable time limit on each "Armello" match — pinning games around 45 minutes in length — but results in a frantic end-game if your plans are not already in place.

The game's greatest miss is that you can only play multiplayer online, rather than taking a stab at solving the puzzle of how

to do a deep, detailed board game for video gamers sitting in the same room. Of course, you can always play against AI critters without going online to look for opponents. Their turns will be faster than human players, but they'll make weird choices like sacrificing themselves so another AI player can win.

Where "Armello" really stands out isn't in the gameplay, but in the gorgeous artwork and dramatic presentation. The real reason "Armello" is a video game and not a board game is that this form allows the game to come to life. The animal cast is full of personality, and each card you draw is like a beautiful moving painting. That attention to detail helps "Armello" weave a narrative as you play, building your turns into a living medieval saga.

"Armello" is available for both PlayStation 4 and PC. If you have the choice, you might want to go with PC, since the game's reliance on tiny on-screen text makes playing on the PS4 somewhat less appealing.

Joe Fourhman is a freelancer.

## Gaming icon 'Metal Gear' marches back onto battlefield

By Joe Fourhman  
Tribune Newspapers

Set in the 1980s, "Metal Gear Solid V: The Phantom Pain" sees legendary soldier Snake rebuilding his private army after spending nine years in a coma. Playing as either Snake or one of his agents, you can explore locations in enemy-occupied Africa or the Middle East while chasing the machinations of rival military commander Skull Face.

Unlike previous "Metal Gear" games, "Phantom Pain" offers an open world where you can take on smaller-scale missions or just wander at your leisure. Although both regions are emptied of civilians, there are plenty of enemy bases to infiltrate, animals to capture and equipment to steal. Snake's army, the Diamond Dogs, is primarily built by appropriating resources and kidnapping soldiers from the opposing forces.

Because "Metal Gear" is often as silly as it is serious, you snatch up people, animals and whatever else you want by attaching homing balloons to them. The balloons rocket your target into the sky for a

**'Metal Gear Solid V: The Phantom Pain'**  
**Platform:** reviewed on PS4  
**Rated:** M  
**Price:** \$59.99  
**Released:** September 2015  
**Verdict:** You need this game.  
★★★★★ (out of 5)

white-knuckle flight back to your secret base in the Indian Ocean. A good portion of the game is spent sending jeeps, goats and prisoners up and away, and it never gets old.

But what does wear thin is the game's assortment of missions, which mostly boil down to "sneak into the base and sneak out with file A, operative B or prisoner C."

The good news is that infiltrating enemy compounds is exactly where "Phantom Pain" excels, but when you're spending most of the game in only two environments, it can feel repetitive. It is often unclear exactly what you have to do next to move the story along, so you just putter around on sidebar missions — or listen to the game's many audio recordings — until something triggers it. By the game's

end, "Phantom Pain" starts asking you to replay earlier storyline missions under more difficult conditions, which ought to be illegal for all video games.

"Phantom Pain" also allows you to go online and attack other players' Diamond Dogs bases to steal from their collected assets. It's another wrinkle to consider in the sub-game of micromanaging your private army, as your troops can automatically defend your base should you find yourself under attack. This mode can easily be switched off, however, if you are not interested in opening yourself up to those risks and rewards.

Despite a few disappointments, "Phantom Pain" remains impressive. This latest "Metal Gear" game is a master class combination of smart and stealthy, framed with a slightly-less-bonkers-than-usual storyline (goat balloons notwithstanding.) The open world sprawl is a blast to explore, despite the game's unnecessary padding.

Joe Fourhman is a freelance writer.



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## THEATER

# Marriott's 'Elf' opens holiday theatrical assault

By **CHRIS JONES**  
Chicago Tribune

Christmas 2015 arrived for me with a jolt, one day after Halloween, in the shape of Roger Mueller. As the actor and patriarch of a stable of musical theater stars barreled into the Marriott Theatre in Lincolnshire on a tricked-out golf cart in the guise of Santa Claus — despite it being close to 70 degrees outside — well, let's just say I could feel the turning of the years.

Buddy the Elf is here for your holiday pleasure.

Since Christmas shows are like catnip for producers when they work, there's a perennial interest in creating new traditions, as the oxymoronically immune marketing people like to say. Of all the movies-into-holiday-musicals rolled out over the last few years, I've only really liked "A Christmas Story" (which opens soon at the Paramount Theatre in Aurora) and, to a lesser but not inconsiderable extent, "Elf" a show that got mixed reviews on Broadway in 2010 but redeemed itself in my eyes during a 2013 national tour that was packed with crackling Broadway character actors who brought out the best in the witty book by Thomas Meehan and Bob Martin. The Marriott has snagged the first local rights to the show — and director Marc Robin has turned in a very genial and likable production that's fully competitive with that previous tour and, in places, rather more textured and warm.

Although based on the 2003 Will Ferrell movie and concerned with a human who grew up elf at the North Pole and has a certain emptiness inside,



LIZ LAUREN

Alex Goodrich (Buddy) and Dara Cameron (Jovie) star in "Elf" at the Marriott Theatre in Lincolnshire.

## "Elf"

**When:** Through Dec. 31

**Where:** 10 Marriott Drive, Lincolnshire

**Running time:** 2 hours, 20 minutes

**Tickets:** \$50-\$55

**Info:** 847-634-0200;  
[www.marriotttheatre.com](http://www.marriotttheatre.com)

"Elf" is part of that genre of shows desiring to rehabilitate the struggling American family. Like the stage musical version of "Mary Poppins," "Elf" is about a dad who works too much, has forgotten the importance of his long-suffering loved ones, and the desirability of a little goofiness at Christmas. In "Mary Poppins," it's the nanny with lessons to impart. In "Elf" the teacher is a hitherto unknown son from far away (the product of a college fling with a now-deceased young woman). The moral of the show is stop working and enjoy the holiday with the family.

Alex Goodrich, an actor who occupies that young-Tom-Hanks niche, has a lot more discipline as a performer now, and his Buddy

is thoroughly charming — sweet, guileless, just like Hanks in "Big," which surely was the model for the character. His appeal is matched by Dara Cameron, who is approaching the peak of her powers and plays Jovie, the cute, lonely-heart love interest who falls for this man-child.

Add in Kevin Gudahl, a big-hearted grump, and Mueller's backslapping Santa, and you've got a warm bath of bonhomie. The show's best moment, though, occurs in a duet between Susie McMonagle, playing the Elf's kind stepmom, and Cam Ezell, playing Buddy's stepbrother. McMonagle clearly is delighted to be paired with a kid who can really sing, and the two rock it out deliciously on "There is a Santa Claus."

The Matthew Sklar score (lyrics are by Chad Beguelin) to "Elf" is not exactly overstuffed with timeless ditties, but it's serviceable and you'll likely leave humming "A Christmas Song." "Elf" is a solid start to the season of jollity.

*Chris Jones is a Tribune critic.*

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## GO



LITTLE MISS ANNI

### FAMILY FRIENDLY

# Everyone sings with Little Miss Ann!

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

Make a plan to see Little Miss Ann! The popular children's entertainer will be at the Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., 10-10:45 a.m. Nov. 14.

"We are going to have a family-friendly, interactive concert," Little Miss Ann said. "I will be joined by Carolyn Ou. She will be at keyboards and fiddle. There'll be lots of clapping, singing, dancing, jumping — general participation."

Little Miss Ann will sing some audience favorites, including "Three Little Pumpkins" and "Clap for Love." The long-time teacher at the Old Town School of Folk Music will also perform selections from the latest of her four children's CD's, "Follow Me." Tunes on that recording include, "Can You Make a Circle" and "I Love the Mountains."

"I try to teach about inner strength, individuality, hope and love," the entertainer said. "Those are big themes but yet it's fun,

uplifting and inspiring for both parents and kids."

Registration is required. For details, call 847-677-5277, ext. 234 or go to [lincolnwoodlibrary.org](http://lincolnwoodlibrary.org).

### Long time

Kids will dance the Croaky Pokey when they Meet the Author: Ethan Long, 7-8 p.m. Nov. 20 at Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Families will learn what it takes to create books for children. Light refreshments will be served at this drop-in event.

For details, call 847-673-7774 or go to [skokiellibrary.info](http://skokiellibrary.info).

### Turkey time craft

You and your children, ages 6 or older, will create something great at Family Thanksgiving, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 21 at Brickton Art Center, 306 Busse Highway, Park Ridge. The cost is \$35 per family of up to four people for nonmembers, \$29.75 for member families. Registration is required.

For details, call 847-823-6611 or go to [bricktonart](http://bricktonart)

[center.org](http://center.org).

### Pop over

Life gets exciting for a financially challenged couple with the arrival of "Mr. Popper's Penguins." Lifeline Theatre is presenting the world premiere of Robert Kazalric's adaptation of the Richard and Florence Atwater novel, with music and lyrics by George Howe, through Dec. 13. Performances are 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, plus 3 p.m. Nov. 21 at 6912 N. Glenwood Ave. Chicago. Tickets are \$15.

For details, call 773-761-4477 or go to [lifeline-theatre.com](http://lifeline-theatre.com).

### Moving story

...moving snow that is at "The Little Snowplow" storytime, 11 a.m. Nov. 14 at Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. Kids will hear Lora Koehler's new book and do related activities.

For details, call 847-676-2230 or go to [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com).



LEE A. LITAS/PIONEER PRESS

From left: Ilyce Glink of Glencoe, event co-chairman, Barbara Bowman of Chicago, honoree, Keith Decker of Wilmette, honoree, Hillary Scott of Glencoe, event co-chairman, and Rob Brown of Park Ridge, UNICEF Chicago chairman of the board

## UNICEF honors local humanitarians at awards luncheon



**LEE LITAS**  
Social Studies

**The Event:** 450 guests filled every seat at the fifth annual Chicago Humanitarian Awards luncheon, held by the Chicago office of the U.S. Fund for UNICEF at the Ritz-Carlton on Oct. 23.

Created to celebrate UNICEF's work of protecting children around the globe, the event honored two Chicago humanitarians: Barbara Bowman, founder of the Erikson Institute and its Irving B. Harris Professor of Child Development; and Keith Decker of Wilmette, one of the founders of La Casa Norte.

Susan Bissell, Director Ad Interim of the #ENDViolence Partnership at UNICEF, highlighted UNICEF's work with grassroots organizations and governments around the world to keep children safe. Attendees were also given a first-hand look at UNICEF Kid Power, a new initiative which encourages kids to save lives while getting active through purchases of the organization's 'wearable-for-good' bracelets.

**Cause Celebre:** "We get a chance to honor leaders in our community who really embody UNICEF's commitment towards improving the lives of children," is how Rob Brown of Park Ridge, chair-



Nancy Maldonado of Wilmette, from left, Carmen Maldonado of Skokie, Martha and Bob Ruschman of Skokie, Alan Portnoy of Wilmette

man of the board, described the event.

"The simple truth is that no humanitarian organization on earth has saved more children's lives than UNICEF. And no one has done it in as efficient a way as we (have)."

UNICEF's aid stretches across 190 countries and territories, focusing on health, education, access to clean water, sanitation, child protection and a host of other critical relief efforts. More than 90 percent of the money the organization raises goes into active programs in the field, according to Charity Navigator.

Still, Casey Marsh of Chicago, UNICEF Midwest Regional Director stressed: "We can't do this work alone.

"We need help, we need volunteers, we need donations."

**Bottom Line:** This year's luncheon raised more than \$110,000 for UNICEF's programs first.

## Glenview gala raises \$700K for Kohl Museum

**Event:** An Evening to Imagine  
**Benefiting:** Kohl Children's Museum, Glenview

**Celebrating:** 30th anniversary of the founding of Kohl Children's Museum of Greater Chicago

**Sponsored by:** Women's Board  
**Co-chairs:** Erin and Brandon Beavers of Hinsdale and Sarah Alshouse and Bethany Crocker, both of Winnetka

**Honoring:** Founders Circle, eight individuals and families whose passion and vision helped secure the success. They are: Thomas Donahoe, the Farley Family, Nancy Firfer, Dolores Kohl Kaplan, Diana Mendley Rauner, Fritz Souder, and Estelle Walgreen

**Attended:** 450

**Raised:** \$700,000

**Location:** Kohl Museum, Glenview

**Date:** Oct. 17

**Website:** kohlchildrensmuseum.org



GINA GRILLO/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Liz Martin, Women's Board, and Brad Martin, Kenilworth



Sheridan Turner, President and CEO of Kohl Children's Museum, of Glenview with Jeanine Raquet, Board member, of Long Grove



Carl and Kathleen (K.C.) Simon of Winnetka



Danielle Goggin of Winnetka, from left, Tiffany Erickson of Wilmette, Colleen Daugherty, Chrissy Taylor and Maxie Clarke, all of Winnetka

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1210 N Dale Ave, # 11, Arlington Heights	Brenda Frederick & Ashley Hamm	Kathryn I Wirth	10-08-15	\$90,000
1415 E Central Rd, # 312B, Arlington Heights	Rafael Kostecki & Mark Kostecki	Ardith L Ritter	10-05-15	\$92,500
1126 S New Wilke Rd, # 202, Arlington Heights	Halina Pecak	Jeffrey M Bugajski	10-09-15	\$105,500
1505 E Central Rd, # 202A, Arlington Heights	Jennifer Franco & Refugio Acevedo	Camielle Jones	10-08-15	\$122,000
25 E Palatine Rd, # 306, Arlington Heights	David Hanik	Andriy I Kartelyan	10-05-15	\$125,000
1030 S Fernandez Ave, # 2L, Arlington Heights	Piotr Pilat	Beatrice Obrien	10-08-15	\$125,000
1850 W Surrey Park Ln, Arlington Heights	Bigyan Shrestha	Campion Trust	10-06-15	\$132,000
2407 S Goebbert Rd, # 102, Arlington Heights	Angelica Calderon Pena	My Group Llc Series	10-07-15	\$134,000
9253 Clancy Dr, Des Plaines	Andrzej Armitys & Marta Armitys	Fannie Mae	10-08-15	\$0
1855 White St, Des Plaines	Ramiro Alanis & Ariana Trujillo	Fannie Mae	10-08-15	\$0
526 S Lyman Ave, Des Plaines	Stefaniya Senyk	Lidia B Greszta	10-08-15	\$36,000
9446 Dee Rd, # 1D, Des Plaines	Ashour Sadeq & Nahain Dimkha	Samprati Shah	10-13-15	\$86,000
8920 David Pl, # 2H, Des Plaines	Iliana Arias & Marta Arias	Greg Martin	10-05-15	\$104,000
1842 Illinois St, Des Plaines	Carl J Marella & Molly A Facer	Mario Juarez	10-13-15	\$123,500
9356 Landings Ln, # 205, Des Plaines	Mariza Cabel Torres	Mathew J Chemmarappally	10-07-15	\$125,500
8809 Robin Dr, Des Plaines	Gojko Radanovic	Pnc Bank Na	10-06-15	\$131,000
861 Walter Ave, Des Plaines	Scott Sareny	Deutsche Bank Natl Trt Co Ttee	10-07-15	\$142,000
8710 Gregory Ln, # F, Des Plaines	Rocky Camarillo	Yolanda Camarillo	10-06-15	\$145,000
1365 Ashland Ave, # 205, Des Plaines	Ronald Jeloalca & Ionela Lazarescu	Kevin M Capps	10-05-15	\$150,000
9348 Noel Ave, # C, Des Plaines	Pinesh Sheth & Uma P Sheth	Fannie Mae	10-09-15	\$152,000
820 Graceland Ave, # 205, Des Plaines	Lisa B Tozke & David J Hall	Joanne Braun	10-13-15	\$155,000
711 S River Rd, # 505, Des Plaines	Malik Asif Hussain	Jack Y Blaylock	10-07-15	\$157,000
820 Graceland Ave, # 302, Des Plaines	Slavey Kukov	Timothy J Dix	10-06-15	\$160,000
852 S 2nd Ave, Des Plaines	Kristian Petrov	Nationstar Mortgage Llc	10-09-15	\$177,500
9442 Greenwood Dr, Des Plaines	Olga Kravitz	Richard Ewald	10-05-15	\$180,000
943 S 6th Ave, Des Plaines	Modesto C Velazquez & Beverly J Velazquez	Michael A Malek	10-08-15	\$183,000
1098 Walter Ave, Des Plaines	Michael B Prace & Kristi S Prace	Charles J Giuliani	10-13-15	\$185,000
845 Rose Ave, Des Plaines	Kristyn A Gresham	Robert J Rosengrant	10-09-15	\$210,000
1375 Campbell Ave, Des Plaines	Christopher Springer	Jerome G Springer	10-06-15	\$210,000
881 Margret St, Des Plaines	Ashley Kessler	Shawn Killkevice	10-05-15	\$212,000
1655 Wicke Ave, Des Plaines	David Bloxson	Richard H Limp	10-07-15	\$215,000
1670 Mill St, # 505, Des Plaines	Jill A Jacob	Michael P Jaworski	10-08-15	\$217,000
748 Sandy Ln, Des Plaines	Marek Urbanski & Jan Kanty Kubajak	Urban Financial Of America Llc	10-06-15	\$225,000
1675 Mill St, # 401, Des Plaines	Linda Myers	Ruchi Garg	10-08-15	\$225,000
435 Alles St, # 510, Des Plaines	Kacie Walters	Adrian Radosav	10-09-15	\$239,000
370 S Western Ave, # 306, Des Plaines	Nadina I Bradescu	Dan Ciupuliga	10-05-15	\$242,000
2157 Westview Dr, Des Plaines	Adolfo Melendez Jr	Jerry J Dvoracek	10-08-15	\$248,000
2878 Curtis St, Des Plaines	Carmen Shamoun	John J Romano	10-05-15	\$250,000
1451 Marshall Dr, Des Plaines	Juanita Cortes	Stanley C Rishel	10-13-15	\$252,500
474 Lillian Ln, Des Plaines	Geetaben Patel & Mitul Patel	Ingrid N Silva	10-08-15	\$263,000
1061 Alfini Dr, Des Plaines	Risto Danailov & Bertha Danailov	Paul A Marino	10-05-15	\$269,000
455 Ardmore Rd, Des Plaines	James McCallion & David McCallio	Linda Sue Pianetto	10-06-15	\$275,000
8655 W Davis St, Des Plaines	Eve Bulava	Jean B Collier	10-05-15	\$285,000
2670 S Craig Dr, Des Plaines	Alla Oleksiyenko	Ewelina Sydo	10-05-15	\$305,000
276 Diamond Head Dr, Des Plaines	Sylvia Ibarra Humann	Jurate Vaitkeviciute	10-08-15	\$306,000
9403 Clancy Dr, Des Plaines	Manu Simon	Dennis Petrospour	10-09-15	\$329,000
9415 W Central Rd, Des Plaines	Lenny Anyollina Malek & Eric Malek	Laura C Schwarz	10-13-15	\$475,000
5500 Lincoln Ave, # 109, Morton Grove	Mahrukh Agha	Us Bank Na Trustee	10-09-15	\$89,000
7421 Churchill St, Morton Grove	Marek Splrczak & Annette Stoszel	Michael Hanuskewsky Estate	10-08-15	\$164,000
8305 Mango Ave, Morton Grove	Armaghan M Rana	Gary Mlyake	10-08-15	\$192,000
7100 Emerson St, Morton Grove	Robin K Brown	Ramond I Foley	10-13-15	\$215,000

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
9355 Osceola Ave, Morton Grove	Nathan Buth & Bonita Lamondi	Virginia A Kargl	10-08-15	\$247,000
9031 National Ave, Morton Grove	Sebastian Wegrzyn	Judicial Sales Corp	10-08-15	\$251,000
7443 Arcadia St, Morton Grove	Sandy Younan	Stone Trust	10-05-15	\$264,000
7646 Maple St, Morton Grove	Mihir Shah & Mukund Shah	Lydia Hodai	10-06-15	\$268,000
6807 Prairie St, Morton Grove	Margarito Suarez & Aaron P Altonaga	Karen J Wonders	10-07-15	\$310,000
7647 Suffield St, Morton Grove	Christopher M Woppel & Katherine L Corrigan	Roy Thomas	10-09-15	\$315,000
7840 Beckwith Rd, Morton Grove	Barbara Ann Eastman	Blake Eastman	10-07-15	\$350,000
8937 National Ave, Morton Grove	Khairunnisa Shaikh	George Thomas	10-05-15	\$360,000
7725 Beckwith Rd, Morton Grove	Bhavika Darji & Ritesh Darji	Cesar D Hoyos	10-09-15	\$367,500
6020 Crain St, Morton Grove	Andrew Sriwatt & Pasinee M Sriwatt	Deutsche Bank Natl Trt Co Ttee	10-13-15	\$430,000
9042 Austin Ave, Morton Grove	Li Ma & Zi Wang	Flynns Contracting Llc	10-07-15	\$559,000
9369 Oak Park Ave, Morton Grove	Lawrence Peterson & Amy Falasz Peterson	Daniel Lozovatsky	10-05-15	\$585,000
9078 W Heathwood Dr, # 6B, Niles	Anna M Freudenreich	Marek Rafalo	10-08-15	\$117,000
7720 N Harlem Ave, Niles	Aileen Estrera	Fannie Mae	10-06-15	\$173,200
9049 N Grace Ave, Niles	Edison Azlzeir	Mayuree Charunet	10-08-15	\$202,500
8297 N Wisner St, Niles	Bashar Awdish	James R Lobitz	10-08-15	\$203,500
8238 N Ozark Ave, Niles	Jeremy C Farmer & Mary Caputo	George C Eckart	10-05-15	\$235,000
6944 W Niles Ter, Niles	Michael T Palick & Mlnerva Glancy	Cecilia Kamienicki	10-07-15	\$235,000
7156 W Niles Ave, Niles	Sanaa Zaya & Samira Zaya	Irina Tseger	10-08-15	\$235,000
6955 W Niles Ter, Niles	Jeremy C Foszcz & Eileen Foszcz	Organic Realty Inc	10-13-15	\$250,000
8540 W Roseview Dr, Niles	Ramon Castaneda & Rowena Castaneda	Lila Kowalkowska	10-07-15	\$285,000
8047 N Ottawa Ave, Niles	James D Lange	Laure L Kosey	10-06-15	\$292,500
7811 N Octavia Ave, Niles	Jovan Anicic & Milica Anicic	Joseph R Wilkins	10-13-15	\$295,000
6932 W Birchwood Ave, Niles	Kyle D Schoenhofen & Caitlin E Schoenhofen	Shoko Namba	10-09-15	\$299,000
8152 N Chester Ave, Niles	Charleen M Alexander	Angela L Heath	10-07-15	\$320,000
7645 W Grennan Pl, Niles	Vasyl Drab	Sami Khaili	10-09-15	\$326,000
8635 W Sunset Rd, Niles	Jacob P Abraham & Anita Abraham	Tomy N Phillip	10-05-15	\$590,000
7326 N School St, Niles	Juan Hernandez & Mariela Hernandez	Victor J Grandinetti	10-06-15	\$640,000
701 Busse Hwy, # 3C, Park Ridge	Piotr Siwula & Magdalena Siwula	Jesse Kullik	10-13-15	\$120,000
2420 N Talcott Rd, # 315, Park Ridge	Christine M Leahy	Bucaro Lp	10-06-15	\$162,500
107 N Chester Ave, Park Ridge	Kellie Starmann	Uttenweller Trust	10-09-15	\$200,000
1213 Lois Ave, Park Ridge	Peter A Dykas & Agnes Z Dykas	U S Bank Na	10-05-15	\$250,000
1226 Good Ave, Park Ridge	Oskar Wielgus	Grace M Di Bella	10-08-15	\$270,000
1731 Pavilion Way, # 507, Park Ridge	Alan J Wise	Matthew Schoenholtz	10-07-15	\$275,000
1313 Elliott St, Park Ridge	Vladimir Kltcenluk & Nataliya Kushnir	Jorge Martin	10-09-15	\$278,000
23 N Hamlin Ave, Park Ridge	Gregory Broyles & Shelby Broyles	Jerry Zanayed	10-09-15	\$350,000
606 S Washington Ave, Park Ridge	Shane Dickenson & Christine M Dickenson	Wlmam J Smith	10-09-15	\$355,000
1932 De Cook Ave, Park Ridge	Thomas Grace	Sandra Shafernich	10-07-15	\$425,000
1281 N Northwest Hwy, Park Ridge	Pavel Lyubashenko	Claireen L Herting	10-13-15	\$430,000
245 N Redfield Ct, Park Ridge	Michael G Magee & Caroline Magee	Degrazio Trust	10-08-15	\$432,000
510 Hamlin Ct, Park Ridge	Helen Despotopoulos	Mark Hendee	10-13-15	\$475,000
518 S Vine Ave, Park Ridge	Timothy J Curry & Erin F Curry	Claran D Obroin	10-13-15	\$480,000
104 Belleplaine Ave, Park Ridge	Christopher A Sewall & Tiffany D Kurtz Sewall	Sergio Pribaz	10-13-15	\$485,000
816 S Crescent Ave, Park Ridge	William Cowan & Grace Cowan	Vincenzo Lombardo	10-13-15	\$507,500
100 N Seminary Ave, Park Ridge	Gina Rossi	Joseph Wnek	10-05-15	\$552,000
600 W Touhy Ave, # 407, Park Ridge	Nancy G Cowen	William Bonetti	10-13-15	\$559,000
1225 S Fairview Ave, Park Ridge	Richard G Grubek & Julie S Grubek	Osafumi Takizawa	10-09-15	\$590,000
808 East Ave, Park Ridge	James M Kerrigan & Rita F Kerrigan	Ally Bank	10-09-15	\$600,000
1003 Harrison St, Park Ridge	Lindsey Terrell Malone	David J Perry	10-07-15	\$630,000
624 N Merrill St, Park Ridge	Sanjib K Sah & Louisa M Murphy	Jeffrey Zilberstein	10-08-15	\$800,000
1029 Prairie Ave, Park Ridge	Michael J Cass & Sarah L Cass	Jonathan M Bashir	10-07-15	\$7,800,000

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



**DOWNERS GROVE**

This 5-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom home was built in 2006. The home offers a two-story entryway, open floor plan, formal living room and dining room. The kitchen has a breakfast bar that opens to a breakfast room and the family room, which has a fireplace. The home has Brazilian cherry hardwood floors, crown molding, high baseboards, and recessed lighting throughout.

**Address:** 225 8th St.  
**Price:** \$750,000  
**Schools:** Downers Grove North High School  
**Taxes:** \$9,562.16  
**Agent:** Julie Mara/Baird & Warner Downers Grove



**HIGHLAND PARK**

This Highland Park Victorian-style home has three bedrooms and three bathrooms in a location just steps away from the heart of town, the train station, schools, the beach and parks. The kitchen has newer Bosch stainless steel appliances and the living room has a custom fireplace. The home offers a separate dining room, family room with built-ins, hardwood floors, original stained glass, first-floor laundry, front porch and two-car garage.

**Address:** 385 Park Ave.  
**Price:** \$649,000  
**Schools:** Highland Park High School  
**Taxes:** \$9,357  
**Agent:** Debbie Scully/@Properties



**MUNDELEIN**

This contemporary 5-bedroom, 4.5-bathroom home is located on almost 3-acres of land with a lake behind the home. The home features skylights, decks, and spacious closets. The family room opens to a grand patio that leads to a secluded backyard. The home offers two kitchens, two attached garages, a gazebo, walls of sliding widowed doors and a new roof installed in 2011.

**Address:** 26804 N. Countryside Lake Drive  
**Price:** \$720,000  
**Schools:** Mundelein Cons High School  
**Taxes:** \$24,386  
**Agent:** Margie Smigel/The Margie Smigel Group, Llc



**PARK RIDGE**

This brick and stucco 4-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom home offers a two-story foyer with open floor plan that leads to the living and dining room areas. The living room has a full floor to ceiling stone fireplace. Kitchen has cherry cabinets, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances and breakfast bar with butler's area. Open staircase leads to the second floor featuring a master suite.

**Address:** 2603 Woodland Ave.  
**Price:** \$699,900  
**Schools:** Maine East High School  
**Taxes:** \$15,020  
**Agent:** Sohail Salahuddin/@properties

Listings from homefinder.com

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ITEMS INCLUDE: Sterling and gold estate jewelry; Sterling bowls, plates, whiskey set, trays, candlesticks, creamer and sugar set; Silver and foreign coins; Lighters; Watches incl. 14K Baume & Mercier, Nautica, Lucien Piccard, Gregory, Geoffrey Beene; Collection of British military badges; Nazi rings and pins; US belt buckles; Arrowheads; Silver Crest box; Hummels; Victorian boxes; Wood carved nut crackers; Doctors medical tools; Oriental collection; Bronze lamp; Famile Rose vase and lamp; Foo dog incense; Cloisonne; Jade porcelain figures; Song Ge Yao planter; Stoneware; Teapots; Hand painted wooden ware; Tin types; Samurai sword; Japanese block prints; Weller pitcher; Large Higgins glass platter; Bronze wall sconces; Trade stimulator; Deco Fan; RR wall lights; Mechanical alarm box; Swing arm figural clock; Jugendstil art nouveau lamp; Filigree panel lamp; Handel lamp base; Victorian sewing box; Glass Christmas ornaments; Vintage toys incl. iron baseball bat, battery operated toys, lead soldiers and animals, glass candy containers, tin wind ups, marbles, poker chips, postcards, Atomic disintegrator gun Structo truck, iron Big Bang Boat, shooting gallery, Lionel boat, Mickey Mouse puppets, Corona typewriter, Cootie games, 1997 Back to Future car, Erector set, Lionel transformer and trains, Frankenstein tin toy; Royal Dux figurines; 3 Zanl wall plaques; Bronze and marble clocks; Advertising signs; Animal traps; Oil lamps; Compass and nautical sextant; Optometrist lenses in shadow box; Tin minnow trap; Dummy cannon; Large vice; South American painted bar; Oriental rugs; Biedermeier chest; Oriental floor vases; Oak folding high chair; 2 door mahogany bookcase; Coin-op pool table; Chrome framed sofas; Gong stand; Venetian mirror; Kentucky Derby glasses; Indian pottery; Majolica; Belleek; R.S. Prussia; Horse weathervane; Autographs and photos incl. Marcel Marceau, Samuel Sotheby, Thomas Carlyle, Sir Walter Scott, Julia Ward, Lord Curzon, Nicholas Romanov, Carl Sandburg, Queen Emma; Vlasaty portrait of Lincoln; Signed Lichtenstein print; Picasso, Dali, and Cezanne prints; Robert Owens paintings; Collection of Lautrec prints; W. Black oil painting; Dorothy Anderson oil painting; Downail oil painting; Plus too much more to list.

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## Thursday, Nov. 12

**DOA Room Escape:** See if you can escape criminal mastermind HH Holmes' basement using clues, riddles and codes to find your way out. 6 p.m. daily, D.O.A. Room Escape, 1450 W. Fullerton Ave., Unit A, Addison, \$29.50

**Musician's ghost songs:** Entertainer and historian Lee Murdock narrates a concert that features songs of supernatural legends and spooky tales of ghost ships and haunted lighthouses. 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Des Plaines History Center, 781 Pearson St., Des Plaines, \$3 suggested donation, 847-391-5399

**Ellen Jewell:** 8 p.m. Thursday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$22-\$32, 847-492-8860

**Diabetes month by month:** Learn how to prevent, manage and take care of your diabetes in order to prevent complications. Class is bilingual (English and Spanish). 5 p.m. Thursday, Erie Family Health Center Evanston/Skokie, 1285 Hartrey Ave., Evanston, free, 847-666-2346

**Budgeting: A Mission Support Approach:** Facilitator Tim O'Brien speaks on the role of budgeting in addressing operational planning. 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Rotary International, 1560 Sherman Ave., Evanston, \$40 per workshop, 847-492-0990

**"The Adventures of Tom Sawyer":** Appropriate for all ages. 4 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 7 p.m. Saturday, Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, \$3, \$5, \$7, 847-424-7130

**Found Launches Live Music:** The Josh Rzepka jazz trio performs. 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-868-8945

**All-State Exhibition:** Features art that has been created all across Illinois. 10 a.m. Thursday-Sunday, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300

**All My Relations: A Seneca History:** Introduces the history of the Seneca culture through milestones in the lives of visual artist and dancer Rosy Simas and her relations. 11 a.m. daily, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, Free-\$5; \$10-\$12 for talk, 847-475-1030

**Native Haute Couture:** This exhibit celebrates the history of Native American high fashion from pre-contact to today. 10 a.m. daily, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-1030

**Evanston Legend: The Art of Peggy Lipschutz:** The paintings and drawings of Peggy Lipschutz. 10 a.m. daily, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, free, 773-816-4716

**Actors Gymnasium Winter 1 Classes:** Registration is open for Winter 1 classes. The session runs Nov. 9-Jan. 24. Daily, Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$185-\$260, 847-328-2795

**150th Anniversary of the End of the Civil War:** Living history in an encampment with living Civil War soldiers on site. 9 a.m. daily, Glenview History Center, 1121 Waukegan Road, Glenview, \$5 suggested donation, 847-724-2235

**Adult Literacy Classes: Fall Session:** Native and non-native English speakers can improve their reading and writing skills. 9:15 a.m. Thursday and Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Art in the Library: My Museum Year:** Glenview fine artist Elisa Boughner shares several of her museum-quality pieces. 9 a.m. daily, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Alliance Francaise du North Shore Club:** Participate in a showing and post-screening discussion in French of "La Haine," a 1995 French drama. Send your RSVP to alliancefn@yahoo.com. 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-328-9516

**Finding Your Ancestors Is Easy:** Mark Dunn talks about the changes in genealogical research. Includes refreshments. Call for reservations. 7 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, \$20, 847-456-2376

**Women's Health seminar:** Strategies that can help solve problems, plan for the future, alleviate the need for litigation and resolve healthcare and estate planning issues. 5 p.m. Thursday, Whitehall of Deerfield, 300 Waukegan Road, Glenview, free, 847-580-8198

**Introduction to Windows 10:** Advance registration requested. 2 p.m. Thursday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Wonder Ground Open Lab:** Look, touch, tinker and play with an array of science-oriented curiosities. 4 p.m. Thursday and Tuesday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Niles Songwriters:** Local songwriters meet to discuss their craft and play. Acoustic instruments are welcome. 7 p.m. Thursday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Park Ridge Fly Tying Club Meetings:** Demonstrations of fly tying are performed by an experienced demonstrator. 7 p.m. Thursdays, Park Ridge Community Church, 100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-3164

**Park Ridge Garden Club Meeting:** Speaker Mari Mackenbach shares how to assemble one's own holiday arrangements using an array of materials. All are welcome. 7 p.m. Thursday, Park Ridge Park District-Centennial Activity Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free

**Chair Yoga:** 10:30 a.m. Thursdays, Park Ridge Park District-Centennial Activity Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, \$76 member, \$84 guest, 847-692-3597

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

**Karaoke Thursdays:** 7 p.m. Thursdays, Perry's Pizza and Ribs, 711 Devon Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-4422

**Greg Schwem:** He debuts his new book "The Road to Success Goes Through the Salad Bar." 8 p.m. Thursday, Zanies Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont, \$22 plus a two-item food/drink minimum, 847-813-0484

**Food Drive in Skokie:** Requesting donations of canned goods and dry food products to fill the shelves of the Niles Township Food Pantry. All foods can be dropped off at Walgreens. Business hours, Walgreens, 3945 W. Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

**Veterans History Project:** Veterans can have their stories of military service video taped and sent to the United States Library of Congress. 9 a.m. Thursday-Friday, Unity Hospice, 4101 Main St., Skokie, free, 618-954-6114

**Brush with Nature Art Exhibition:** Plein air painters display their artworks. 10 a.m. daily, Emily Oaks Nature Center 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, free, 847-674-1500

**The Language of Business:** All students must pass an English language test to enroll and must call to set up an appointment for an interview. 6 p.m. Thursday and Tuesday, JVS Chicago, 5150 Golf Road, Skokie, free, 855-463-6587

**You Can't Take It With You:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday, 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, \$15-\$68, 847-673-6300

**Three Years, Eight Months, and Twenty Days: The Cambodian Atrocities and the Search for Justice:** Learn about the Cambodian genocide and the current trials to bring the perpetrators to justice, 40 years later. 10 a.m. daily, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4835

**Birth of Baha'u'llah:** The anniversary of the birth of Baha'u'llah, founder of the Baha'i Faith, will be celebrated. 4:45 p.m. Thursday, Baha'i House of Worship, 100 Linden Ave., Wilmette, free

**Wilmette Fiber Arts Group:** For people interested in all aspects of fibers arts: knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, etc. 10 a.m. Thursdays, Panera Bread, 1199 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-293-6755

## Friday, Nov. 13

**"The Zoo Story":** Recommended for mature audiences only. Talk back after each performance. 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Leela Arts Center, 620 Lee St., Des Plaines, \$15-\$25, 847-220-2919

**Suzanne Vega and Duncan Shelk:** 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Friday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$28-\$74, 847-492-8860

**Nia: Holistic dance fitness:** 11 a.m. Friday, Monday and Wednesday, Raydiant Day, 1400 Greenleaf St., Evanston, \$11 drop-in, 847-869-6477

**"Clara and the Nutcracker":** 7:30 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Piccolo Theatre, 600 Main St., Evanston, \$11-\$27, 847-424-0089

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# Thanksgiving Holiday Worship

## Community Thanksgiving Service

Tuesday, November 24 at 7pm

Park Ridge

Presbyterian Church

1300 West Crescent Ave., Park Ridge, IL

**OPEN TO ALL!**

[www.parkridgepresby.org/thanksgivingsservice](http://www.parkridgepresby.org/thanksgivingsservice)

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# ARE YOU FULL OF IDEAS?

Here's a thought: start a blog

[chicagonow.com/pitch](http://chicagonow.com/pitch)



CHICAGO  
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**SRhythms Dance:** A movement meditation to music. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Tuesday, Foster Dance Studios, 915 Foster St., Evanston, \$15; \$10 for students and seniors, 847-869-0250

**"Boys in the Basement":** A play about men coping, badly, with divorce. 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Piven Theatre Workshop, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$20, 847-571-0235

**Rock and Roll Kidz with Wendy Morgan:** 10:30 a.m. Friday, Glencoe Public Library, 320 Park Ave., Glencoe, free, 847-835-5056

**Game Night (Ages 13-18):** Play with the library's game systems and collections on big screens. Pizza is served. Register by calling. 5 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Family Reading Night: Camp Out With a Good Book:** Stop in to check out books for Family Reading Night and enter the drawing for a gift pack of books. 9 a.m. Friday-Nov. 19, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Gentle Yoga:** Exercises are done in a chair or standing, not on the floor. 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Friday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Share The Warmth:** Prepare one-of-a-kind fleece blankets for chemo patients. A basic crochet stitch can be taught. Bring lunch. 9 a.m. Fridays, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-293-6755

**Duplicate Bridge:** 9 a.m. Fridays, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-5127

**"The Magic Flute: A Space Opera":** Suitable for all ages. 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 4 p.m. Sunday, Petite Opera, 306 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, \$5-\$27, 847-553-4442

**Bunko Partles to Benefit the Center of Concern:** "Bunko and Lunch" for men and women will be held from 12:15 to 2:45 p.m. Later, "Ladies' Night" takes place from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, Park Ridge Country Club, 636 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, \$30, 847-823-8755

**Eddie Brill:** The warm-up act and regular guest on the "Late Show with David Letterman" performs stand up. 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Zanies Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont, \$22 plus a two-item food/drink minimum, 847-813-0484

**"The Lion In Winter":** Set in England during Christmas in 1183, aging King Henry II must choose an heir to the throne from among his three sons. 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Skokie Theatre, 7924 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie, \$24-\$34, 847-677-7761

**Maz Jobrani:** 8 p.m. Friday, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, \$35-\$60, 847-673-6300

**"Oilver":** 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Wilmette Park District Auditorium, 3000 Glenview Road, Wilmette, \$14-\$16, 847-256-9686

**Band Together Concert:** All proceeds go to Operation Warm, an organization working to provide new winter coats to impoverished children. 7 p.m. Friday, Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka, \$7, 847-446-0443

## Saturday, Nov. 14

**Making Miracles Happen:** St. Mary's Services hosts its annual fundraising event with a cocktail hour, passed hors d'oeuvres, silent auctions, raffles, dinner and entertainment. 6 p.m. Saturday, Cafe la Cave, 2777 Mannheim Road, Des Plaines, \$125, 847-870-8181

**MUGS & Moustaches:** A fundraising event for the Movember Foundation. Buy a mug for admission and fill it with beer from Sketchbook Brewing Company. Moustaches encouraged. 6 p.m. Saturday, The Pot Shop, 1224 Chicago Ave., Evanston, Most mugs are \$25, 847-864-7778

**Nelle McKay:** 7 p.m. Saturday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$35, 847-492-8860

**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. Noon Saturday, Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston, free, 847-448-8600

**Anxiety and Depression In Adopted Children:** Learn how to recognize and begin to address anxiety or depression in your adopted child. 10 a.m. Saturday, The Theraplay Institute, 1840 Oak Ave #320, Evanston, \$20; \$10 for additional attendees; \$5 child care fee, 847-256-7334

**Overeaters Anonymous:** 9 a.m. Saturday, St Matthews Episcopal Church, 2120 Lincoln St., Evanston, free, 773-996-0609

**LOL Saturday:** Adult Comedy. 9 p.m. Saturday, Chicago's Home of Chicken & Waffles, 2424 W. Dempster St., Evanston, \$15 adult advance; \$20 at the door, 847-521-6434

**Matlisse Exhibit Opening Party with Eve J. Alfille:** Includes a live musical performance and refreshments. 1 p.m. Saturday, Eve J. Alfille Gallery and Studio, 623 Grove St., Evanston, free, 847-869-7920

**"Secrets, Lies, and Super Spies: Fall Youth Circus":** 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$15 adults; \$12.50 students, seniors, children under 12, 847-328-2795

**Glenview Community Church Nursery School Fall Fun Fair:** This family-friendly event includes games, balloon artist, raffle, arts and crafts. All proceeds benefit the GCCNS early childhood programs. 10 a.m. Saturday, Glenview Community Church, 1000 Elm St., Glenview, \$5 children ages 2 and up; free for adults

**Select the Right Gadget to Buy:** The resident gadget guru offers some tips and tricks. 2 p.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free

**Little Miss Ann:** Registration is required for ages birth through five years with a caregiver. 10 a.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free

**Crafting for Charity:** Looking for knitters and crocheters who are willing to make scarves and/or hats for the Niles and Maine Township Food Pantries. 10 a.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Second Saturday Breakfast Bingo:** Kids and families are welcome to enjoy some breakfast treats as everyone plays Bingo. 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free; 847-663-1234

**The Devonshire Playhouse: "Jesus Christ Superstar":** 7 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Devonshire Playhouse, 4400 Greenwood St., Skokie, \$13-\$16, 847-674-1500 ext. 2400

**In Search of Sandhill Cranes:** Hundreds of Sandhill Cranes fly in large skeins along the shores of Lake Michigan during the seasonal migration. Enjoy a trip by van to one of the Sandhill's stopping areas - the Jasper Pulaski Wildlife Refuge in Indiana. 8 a.m. Saturday, Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, \$45-\$56, 847-677-7001

**Ryan de Ryke and Brandon J Acker Franz Schubert: "A Wanderer's Guitar":** CD release. 8 p.m. Saturday, Ethical Humanist Society of Chicago, 7574 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie, \$8-\$12 suggested donation, 847-677-3334

**Jazz Documentary Filmmaker:** "Lady Be Good: Instrumental Women in Jazz" with a post-screening talkbackled by filmmaker Kay D. Ray. 3 p.m. Saturday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$10-12, 847-251-7424

**Light and Noir Film Festival - "Ni-notchka":** screening discussion is led by Ron Falzone of Columbia College. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$10, 847-251-7424

## Sunday, Nov. 15

**Martin Sexton:** 7 p.m. Sunday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$32-\$68, 847-492-8860

**Step Up for Recovery:** PEER Services' charity stair climb. 8 a.m. Sunday, 1603 Orrington Ave. Plaza, Evanston, \$25 for single climber

**Chicago Philharmonic presents "Turning Points" - Schubert, Brahms, Kilar:** 7 p.m. Sunday, Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, \$25-75; \$10 students, 847-467-4000

**Le Titi de Paris: A Culinary Retrospective:** Chef Michael Maddox demonstrates a selection of his favorite recipes. Tasting included. Call to register. 2 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Chicago North Suburbs Myasthenia Gravis Support Group:** Learn about the neuromuscular disorder and find friendship and support. Friends and family are welcome. 1 p.m. Sunday, Glenbrook Hospital, 2100 Pflugsten Road, Glenview, free, 800-888-6208

**American Girl Afternoon Tea:** This is for ages six through eleven with a caregiver present with those children who are under eight. Proper tea etiquette is taught. Enjoy playing American Girl-themed crafts and games. Registration is required and favorite dolls or stuffed animals are welcome. 2 p.m. Sunday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free

**Petra van Nuls and Andy Brown:** An afternoon of familiar songs. 2 p.m. Sunday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free

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**National Novel Writing Month Weekly Write-In:** Snacks provided. 2 p.m. Sunday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Fine Arts Fall: Concert:** 2 p.m. Sunday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Mother and Daughter Book Club Tea for mother:** For mothers (or grandmothers or aunts) with daughters in kindergarten through third grades, to spend time together reading a Rebecca Rubin book in the "American Girl" series at home and join together for a discussion, craft and snack. 11 a.m. Sunday, Congregation Beth Shalom, 3433 Walters Ave., Northbrook, free, 847-498-4100 ext. 34

**Author Jessica Fechter:** In honor of National Jewish Book Month, hear from Jessica Fechter, author of "Stir: My Broken Brain and the Meals that Brought Me Home." 11 a.m. Sunday, Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-0951

**Transgender and Jewish: from Tradition to Today:** Rabbi Becky Silverstein shares thoughts of the journey and teaching texts. 7 p.m. Sunday, Temple Judea Mizpah, 8610 Niles Center Road, Skokie, free, 847-676-1566

**Light and Noir Film Festival – "Hangmen Also Die" and "Mildred Pierce":** 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$10, 847-251-7424

**Cantor's Concert:** Cantor Pavel Roytman joins Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues. 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emenah, 3220 Big Tree Lane, Wilmette, \$25 in advance, \$29 at the door, 847-256-1213

## Monday, Nov. 16

**Book Bables:** Songs, games, story time and free play for babies ages 2 and younger with a caregiver. 10:15 a.m. Monday, Evanston Public Library - North Branch, 2026 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-448-8600

**Live Bluegrass, Roots and Folk:** The Mudflapps perform. 8 p.m. Monday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

**Power of Attorney Workshop:** Registration is required. 6:30 p.m. Monday, Evanston Public Library CAMS Branch, 900 Chicago Ave, Evanston, free, 847-905-0764

**hoopla, MyMediaMail and Zinio Individual Appointments:** Meet with trained library staff for a 45-minute one-on-one session. 10 a.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Job Searching Basics:** ReferenceUSA representative Nancy Spidle demonstrates how to find employment using the library's online resource. 7 p.m. Monday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free

**Books In the Woods: "Deep Down Dark":** Registration is required. 7:30 p.m. Monday, L. Woods Tap & Pine Lodge, 7110 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-3350

**Classical Concert by Evanston Music Club:** 1 p.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**MGPL Kids: Monday Morning Playgroup:** Drop-in play time for preschoolers with a parent or caregiver. 10:30 a.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Knitting Roundtable for Adults:** Ronnie Rund, an expert knitter, shows attendees how to knit or how to solve knitting challenges. Bring one's current project(s) and needles. 2 p.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

**Yoga for Kids: Stretch, Bend, Breathe:** No experience needed. Bring a large bath towel or yoga mat and wear comfortable clothes. Parents need to stay in the room with children through second graders. 4:30 p.m. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Exploring Grief:** 7 p.m. Monday, Kenilworth Union Church, 211 Kenilworth Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-251-4272

## Tuesday, Nov. 17

**Rotary Club of Evanston Light-house:** 7:15 a.m. Tuesday, Hilton Garden Inn Chicago North Shore/Evanston, 1818 Maple Ave., Evanston, free

**Irish music session:** 7 p.m. Tuesday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

**Tuesday Morning Music:** Garden visitors can enjoy free hour-long meditative musical performances. Music varies from string quartets to Native American flutes, and are focused toward an older crowd. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

**Smile and Rhyme Storytime:** Miss Fran shares stories, rhymes, and songs. Stay for a snack and to chat after the program. Bring a towel or blanket for ages two and up with an adult. Just drop in. 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Heinen's Grocery Store, 1020 Waukegan Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Financial Planning Appointments:** Register by phone. 9 a.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Come Write In:** Registration requested, drop-ins welcome. Join a small group of aspiring writers of all levels to get creative juices flowing by writing and sharing prompts. 11 a.m. Tuesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**An Introduction to QuickBooks Accounting:** This lecture/demo gives participants a broad overview of what they can do with Intuit's QuickBooks software program from an accounting and business management prospective. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**MGPL Kids: Listen Up!** Drop-in story and play time for preschoolers with a parent or caregiver. 4:45 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**NaNoWriMo Write-In:** Find a cozy spot and get writing in the company of fellow November scribes. 6 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Movies, Munchies, and More: Film: "Age of Adaline":** A young woman, born at the turn of the 20th century, is rendered ageless after an accident. After many solitary years, she meets a man who complicates the eternal life she has settled into. 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**TEDxNorthbrookLibrary: The Power of Limits:** Join in as three prerecorded TED Talks are screened and have a discussion afterwards. Refreshments will be served. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Benjamin Franklin - A Man For All Ages:** At the November meeting of the 20th Century Club, "Ben" reminisces about his writings and scientific inventions. Refreshments are served. 1 p.m. Tuesday, Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, 1300 W. Crescent Ave., Park Ridge, \$2 non-member guest fee, 312-391-6788

**Asian Pop-Up Cinema series: "Cold Eyes":** Korean w/subtitles. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$10, 847-251-7424

## Wednesday, Nov. 18

**History Center book group to discuss "Comanches":** Copies of "Empire of the Summer Moon" by S.C. Gwynne are now available at the readers services desk on the third floor, at the Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood Street. Call the History Center to register. 6 p.m. Wednesday, Des Plaines History Center, 781 Pearson St., Des Plaines, free, 847-391-5399

**ETHS Booster Board Meeting:** 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, free, 847-424-7000

**Live Music Wednesdays with the Josh Rzepka Trio:** Hear the music of Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk and other classics of the era played by the Josh Rzepka Bebop trio. Reservations can be made online or by calling. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-868-8945

**Preschool Story Time:** Stories and songs for children ages 3-5 and a caregiver. 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston, free, 847-448-8610

**EXCEL 2010 Basics:** Learn the layout of the EXCEL spreadsheet, how to input data and the basics for writing formulas. Registration and Glenview Library card required. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**All Things Spanish:** Read a Spanish short story, watch a Spanish film, or discuss hot topics. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Baby Signs (ages birth-23 months):** Pre-readers learn sign language with their families. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

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**BOOKIt! Nonfiction Book Group:** "Same Kind of Different As Me: A Modern-Day Slave," by Ron Hall. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Hunger Games:** For sixth through twelfth grades. Participate in a reaping and several activities. Registration is required. 6 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free

**App Serles: Travel Apps:** Join in getting suggestions for apps on these fun themes. 2 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free

**Scrabble for Adults:** Exercise your brain and enjoy friendly games of Scrabble. 2 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**ESL Conversation Group:** Practice speaking English in an informal and friendly group setting. 3 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Chess Club:** Chess sets and clocks provided. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Classics on Wednesday Film Series:** 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Storytime and Snacks:** For those ages 2 and up with an adult to join Mrs. Schmitt for stories, fun, and a tasty snack in the Lifestyle Center. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Just drop in. 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Whole Foods Market, 840 Willow Road, Northbrook, free, 847-729-7500

**Michael Somerville:** The comedian performs standup. 8 p.m. Wednesday-Nov. 20, James Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont, \$22 plus a two-item food/drink minimum, 847-813-0484

**Senior High Youth Group:** For all youth grades 9 to 12 to enjoy fun and friendship while engaging in meaningful discussions and service learning opportunities. The evening starts with a tasty dinner. 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, First Congregational Church of Wilmette, 1125 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-251-6660

**World War II Veterans' Roundtable:** Vets gather for lively conversation and coffee. Newcomers are welcome. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free

## Thursday, Nov. 19

**2015 Ladles Who Launch - Get It Done:** This inspirational workshop provides attendees with the tools needed to launch and grow a profitable business. Also, networking opportunities connect participants with like-minded entrepreneurs and potential partners, service providers, advocates and clients. 1:30 p.m. Nov. 19, The Garage at Northwestern University, 2311 Campus Drive #2300, Evanston, \$75, 847-570-4140

**Digital Demos in the Lobby:** Explore the Library's digital movie, TV show, music, ebook, audiobook, and magazine collections. Learn how to download items to a portable device using hoopla, MyMediaMall and Zinio. No registration required, just drop in. 6 p.m. Nov. 19, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Hot Ticket: "Jurassic World":** Rated PG-13. 2 p.m. Nov. 19, 6:30 p.m. Nov. 19, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Between the Lines: "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes:** Taking a job as an assistant to extreme sports enthusiast Will, who is wheelchair bound after a motorcycle accident, Louisa struggles with her employer's acerbic moods and learns of his shocking plans before demonstrating to him that life is still worth living. 10 a.m. Nov. 19, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Mythbusters: Jamie and Adam Unleashed:** Watch on stage experiments, behind the scenes tales and lots of audience participation. 7:30 p.m. Nov. 19, Akoo Theatre at Rosemont, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont, \$25-\$150, 847-671-5100

**Skokie Photographic Society:** All levels of photographic skill are welcome. 7:30 p.m. Nov. 19, Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton St., Skokie, free, 847-677-8324

Have an event to submit? Go to [chicagotribune.com/calendar](http://chicagotribune.com/calendar).

# ALWAYS GIVING ADVICE?

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## MOVIES

# Now playing



### "The Martian" ★★★½

PG-13, 2:21, sci-fi

A highly enjoyable, zestily acted team-building exercise, with Matt Damon playing the team of one, director Ridley Scott's "The Martian" throws a series of life-or-death scenarios at its resourceful botanist-astronaut, stranded on Mars but making the most of it. It's one of the most comforting science fiction films in years. — *Michael Phillips*



### "Goosebumps" ★★★

PG, 1:43, fantasy

Silly, spooky monster mashup "Goosebumps" doesn't have to be as good as it is. Slyly smarter and more entertaining than it appears, adults might have just as much fun as the kids, who will undoubtedly gobble up this Halloween treat. A sort of PG version of "Cabin in the Woods," this adaptation of R.L. Stine's series of young adult horror novels is bolstered by a stellar comedic cast, headed up by the inimitable Jack Black in the role of the author. — *Katie Walsh*



### "Bridge of Spies" ★★★½

PG-13, 2:15, drama

Adapted freely from the historical record, like any good fact-based but not fact-bound docudrama, "Bridge of Spies" honors the righteous underdog, triumphant. Tom Hanks stars as James Donovan, a Brooklyn insurance claims lawyer and former Nuremberg trials prosecutor. Not that many knew about it at the time, but Donovan negotiated a tricky exchange of a Soviet and American spy. On his own initiative, Donovan rolled a third man into the trade. Could the right negotiator pull off such a lopsided trade? "Bridge of Spies," which takes its title from the Glienicke Bridge linking West Berlin with Potsdam, answers that question in due course. The movie plants one foot in Hollywood myth-making and the other in American history and American values. — *M.P.*



### "Hotel Transylvania 2" ★★★

PG, 1:27, animation

There was nothing particularly wrong with the 2012 "Hotel Transylvania." Adam Sandler voicing Dracula, a blood-drinking dad who is concerned about the love life of his daughter Mavis (Selena Gomez), was the only thing that stood out. The action picks up with Mavis making Dracula a new vampa (grandpa and vampire). Everyone is waiting to see if Dennis will be like his mom and sprout fangs or end up like his dad and be human. If Dennis doesn't get his fangs by the time he turns 5, it will be too late. Dracula plans to scare the monster into the infant. It's as rare as vampires on a beach to have a movie sequel be better than the original. But vampires might start looking for some sunglasses because the spookiest thing about "Hotel Transylvania 2" is how much funnier, colorful and more original it is this second time around. — *Rick Bentley*



### "Burnt" ★★

R, 1:50, drama

In "Burnt," playing a brilliant, tormented American chef clawing his way to the top of the London culinary scene, Bradley Cooper throws more tantrums than a season's worth of "Rugrats." The movie is devoted three ways: to the character's reckless past as an apprentice in Paris, drink and drugs and women strewn in his wake; to his lust for the validation of a coveted third Michelin star rating; and to an artery-clogging number of close-ups, frenetically edited by Nick Moore, of the film's real stars, potatoes and filets and mackerel sizzling in hot lakes of butter or lounging just so on an obscenely well-arranged dinner plate. — *M.P.*

## DEATH NOTICES

*We extend our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.*

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### Deibel, Barbara Klein

Barbara Klein Deibel, nee Garland, of Skokie, died November 5, 2015 in Chicago, from complications following a stroke. She was 78. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Thomas Deibel and parents, Jerry and Hannah Garland. She is survived by sisters, Saralee (Wayne Phillips) Stark and Leslie (John) Jamieson; sons, David Klein and Richard (Diane) Deibel, and daughter, Cathy Deibel. Barbara was a lifelong Chicago area resident and lived the past 49 years in Skokie. She loved gardening, collecting carnival glass, and helping animals. She and Tom were avid supporters of animal welfare organizations, especially Dachshund rescues. Donations in their memory may be made to the Evanston Animal Shelter Association, 2310 Oakton St, Evanston, IL, 60202, [www.evanstonanimalshelter.net](http://www.evanstonanimalshelter.net).



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### Garrison, William George

William George Garrison, age 85, passed away October 30, 2015. He was born on March 2, 1930 in Lancaster, PA. Beloved husband of Barbara (nee Vursell), loving father of William Grant; fond brother of Jane Spackman, the late Helen Hostetter, the late Paul R. Garrison Jr., and the late Mary Roalman Betts; cherished uncle and cousin to many. Memorial service Saturday, November 21, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. at Northminister Presbyterian Church, 2515 Central Park Ave, Evanston, IL 60201. Info: 773-774-3333

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### Papienski, Lillian

Lillian Papienski (nee Kier), beloved mother, wife, and grandmother, passed away peacefully on Friday, September 4, 2015 in Des Plaines IL. Born in Chicago, IL on February 26, 1931, she was the child of the late John and Helen Dadej Kier. Lillian graduated from Marie Sklodowska Curie Metro High School in Chicago. Lillian married Vernon Papienski on May 21, 1950, and celebrated 62 years of marriage. A consummate mother and homemaker, Lillian was an exceptional cook, dressmaker and cultivator of roses; she was also an avid fan of crime fiction. Lillian created a loving, welcoming home for family, neighbors and friends. Lillian is survived by her children, Patricia (William), Cheryl (Robert), Kathy (Todd) and Tim (Linda); grandchildren Eric and Lily Marie. Lillian is preceded in death by her husband Vernon, and first-born son Jeffrey. Lillian will be interred alongside Vernon at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, in Elwood, IL. Lillian will be remembered in prayer during worship service on Sunday November 15th, 9:00 am at All Saints Cathedral 9201 W Higgins Rd, Chicago, IL.

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# A case for diesel

New generation of pickup trucks handle towing and hauling more efficiently

By ANDY MIKONIS | Tribune Newspapers

Diesel engines have never caught on in the U.S. like they have in other countries. Factors like a higher purchase price, fluctuating fuel costs and dirty reputations from a bygone era can make diesel a tough sell. It's only gotten worse by Volkswagen cheating U.S. emissions standards with diesel engines that were polluting up to 40 times the legal limit.

Despite the recent bad press, diesel engines are favored for towing and hauling due to their efficient nature and high torque characteristics. Diesel truck engines in particular tend to be built to more rugged standards, mak-

ing them practical for high-mileage commercial applications.

There are several new diesel choices in light duty trucks for 2016. Heavy-duty buyers are not likely to be dissuaded from buying diesel by the VW situation, but shoppers who are new to the segment shouldn't be turned off either.

Recent and upcoming light duty models from Ram, General Motors and Nissan use a selective catalytic reduction system to control emissions, something the Volkswagen engines do not have.

Andy Mikonis is a freelance automotive writer.



## Ram 1500 EcoDiesel

Ram started the light-duty diesel revival with the Ram 1500 EcoDiesel for the 2014 model year. Also offered in the Jeep Grand Cherokee, the EcoDiesel is a 3-liter V-6 engine producing 240 horsepower and 420 pound-feet of torque, coupled to an eight-speed automatic transmission.

The Ram 1500 EcoDiesel has captured the fuel mileage crown among pickups with up to 29 mpg, depending on equipment. Not just a boutique offering to rake in headlines, the EcoDiesel has proven quite popular, now comprising 15 to 20 percent of Ram 1500 production, according to Nick Cappa, Ram Truck spokesman. Cappa said the EcoDiesel is also driving a lot of luxury truck sales, though it is available right on down to the work truck Tradesman trim level.

The engine comes from VM Motori in Italy. Though the chain of ownership has changed on both ends, Chrysler has sourced engines for its European products from VM Motori since 1992.

A Ram 1500 with the diesel can tow up to 9,200 pounds.

The EcoDiesel is 50-state emissions compliant, but will the VW debacle cast any doubt in the minds of light-duty truck buyers?

"The short answer is no," said Cappa. "Our buyers are still looking for the best fuel economy and nothing gets better than Ram EcoDiesel — not even a smaller truck."

## Nissan Titan XD

Nissan has employed a different tactic with the Titan XD pickup with a diesel engine rolling out this December as part of the redesigned 2016 Titan lineup. Since Nissan does not offer heavy duty pickups, this truck is intended to increase the capability of the Titan with a higher towing capacity while promising a lower price point and better fuel economy than a typical heavy duty.

"We expect the buyers for Titan XD to be people looking for the middle ground between half-ton and three-quarter ton pickups," said Wendy Payne, Nissan spokesperson. Nissan estimates 150,000 buyers per year are looking for this middle ground pickup.

Indiana-based Cummins will supply the 5-liter V-8 engine with 310 horsepower and 555 pound-feet of torque. Nissan promises a high level of refinement from this new engine featuring lightweight construction and a new two-stage turbocharger engineered to reduce turbo lag.

The frame of the Titan XD is strengthened compared to other Titans, and it has a longer wheelbase. Suspension components are reinforced and it rides on larger axles. Exact figures will be announced closer to launch, but Nissan speculates a towing capacity of over 12,000 pounds and 20 percent higher fuel economy over a gasoline V-8 while towing.

Sales of the Titan XD start in late 2015.

## Chevrolet Colorado Diesel/GMC Canyon Diesel

Two smaller trucks hitting showrooms later this fall are the Chevrolet Colorado and sister GMC Canyon with a new Duramax diesel option for 2016. General Motors revived their midsize truck offerings with these all-new models that launched with gasoline engines for model year 2015.

The Duramax 2.8-liter turbocharged four-cylinder diesel is built in Thailand, according to Colorado chief engineer Anita Burke, and it has already been in service in the "global" version of this truck in overseas markets. With 181 horsepower and 369 pound-feet of torque, it bumps towing capacity up to 7,700 pounds from a high of 7,000 with the 3.6-liter gas V-6. Chevrolet spokesman Otie McKinley predicts a range of customers "from small business buyers looking for a more fuel efficient offering to those buyers that need the capability of a diesel engine to tow their toys, yet don't have a need for a full-size truck."

Environmental Protection Agency fuel economy estimates are not yet available as diesel vehicles will be subject to additional testing due to the VW scandal.

"Diesel truck buyers are generally purpose-driven, and we don't expect that to shift," McKinley said about the potential impact of the VW scandal. "There continues to be strong early interest from both dealers and customers about this Colorado."



TOM SNITZER/SNITZERPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

The BMW i8 plug-in hybrid is a high-priced gas-electric sports coupe with scissor doors.

## BMW i8 hybrid passes, fails

BY ROBERT DUFFER  
Tribune Newspapers

They called it a Batmobile. A transformer. A mid-life crisis. Whatever you call it, the BMW i8 plug-in hybrid sports coupe with scissor doors was the most talked about car in the neighborhood. Kids pointed, adults scoffed and people took pictures of this futuristic-looking supercar out of central casting in the inevitable "Blade Runner" reboot.

But if BMW's technology showcase portends the future of autos, then I'll pass. The i8 is overpriced, impractical and outgunned by other performance vehicles.

On the upside, it looks like no other car on the road. The car is a bird of prey grounded by 20-inch alloy wheels.

The i8 is a contrast of opposing forces, a supercar made of lightweight materials meant to optimize fuel economy. The frame is made of aluminum, the tub is made of carbon fiber and the accent strips on the interior are made of recycled materials.

Yet fine light gray leather swaddles the seats, door panels and center consoles. Indulgences such as a bespoke sports steering wheel and BMW's head-

**2015 BMW i8**  
Plug-in hybrid sports coupe

Price as tested:  
**\$139,500**

Base price: \$136,500  
MPG: 28 mpg gas only combined, 76 miles gas and electric

Engine: 1.5-liter turbo 3-cylinder with direct injection, paired to 129-horsepower electric motor

Transmission: 6-speed automatic gas only; 2-speed automatic in electric only

Parting shot: Stunning technological showcase looks far better than it performs.

up display, a lower windshield projection of vehicle information so your eyes never stray from the road, is the clearest on the market. And the design screams speed.

At nearly \$140,000, the selling point greater than the eco-mindedness of the i8 is the advanced powertrain. But as far as sports coupes go, its performance is not mind-blowing. It has the sudden pickup of elec-

tric cars, where the max torque is ever-present. From a stop it can lift you out of your seat and throw you back, but the Tesla Model S on the electric side, and the Chevy Corvette on the gas side, do it much better.

The i8 is remarkably stealthy for a car that is so flashy.

Until you notch the gear stick into sport mode.

The dash lighting goes from cool blue to hot red. The three-cylinder engine begins to bark, and when the gas is hit it amplifies a strange but lovely melody of a warbling gas engine mixed with a turbo whir, all underscored by the thrum of the electric motor. It is sonorous. It is the sound of the future.

The i8 is more impressive from an intellectual than performance standpoint. There's no doubt BMW has the capability to make a plug-in performance beast, but the i8 is not it. It is more a halo car for its electrification program and, while undeniably cool, leaves \$140,000 a bit unfulfilled.

Instead of the Batmobile, let's call it the future, where there's always room for improvement.

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## Xenon lights expensive to replace



BOB WEBER  
Motormouth

**Q: My son bought a used 2010 Mazda CX-9 a year and a half ago. One of the headlights burned out, and the dealership wants \$600 to replace it. Really? The bulb goes for about \$200 online. What's so special about this bulb? Can something else be used? I find it hard to believe that one light is out on a 5-year-old car. My 14-year-old Saturn hasn't had a headlight bulb replaced yet. Can you shed some light on this replacement?**

— D.S., Chicago

A: Allow us to illuminate. The vehicle is equipped with high-intensity discharge headlamps using a D2S bulb. They are sometimes called xenon lights. About 25,000 volts passes through the bulb socket, making this a dangerous job for anyone unfamiliar with how to do it.

Often, the headlight control module is replaced along with the bulb, since it is vulnerable to internal damage and may have to be replaced soon after bulb replacement. May as well have it replaced now. Yeah, it is expensive, so don't buy cheap replacements. Maybe you should leave this one to a pro.

**Q: I have a remote opener for a 2009 Toyota Camry that no longer works, and I assume that I need a new battery. I understand that it will also require expensive programming at the dealer. My question is, can I get both of my openers reprogrammed for one price?**

— T.M., Bethlehem, Pa.

A: Not only can you get all of your remote keyless entry fobs reprogrammed at once, it is advisable to do



Changing xenon headlights and control modules might be best left to professionals, Motormouth advises.

so. This will avoid the possible issue of the RKEs having differing settings.

**Q: I am sure you are familiar with the smartphone app called Waze that informs drivers of police, traffic obstructions, detours to take and so on. Do you know if the navigation systems in the newest vehicles have this Waze technology? If so, could you please tell me which vehicles have it?**

— R.H., Chicago

A: For our readers who may be unfamiliar with Waze, it is a social network for motorists to post information for other members to see. It can be quite helpful in areas with lots of members, not so much out in the boonies. This is an app that you can download and install on your portable devices, but we know of no vehicles that come with the app preloaded.

**Q: I am 82 years old and own a 2003 Honda sedan with 150,000 miles. Occasionally, when the transmission is in park, I am not able to move the button that controls the gear shift to put it in drive or reverse. This**

**past weekend it happened while I was at the ATM.**

**This has happened off and on in the past six months. My Honda dealer has not heard of the problem and did not have an answer for me. Do you?**

— E.M., Oglesby, Ill.

A: The shift interlock prevents the driver from moving out of park unless the brakes are applied. Sometimes the problem is operator error because the brake pedal is not pushed far enough.

Another cause is a bad brake light switch, which controls the interlock system. In descending order of probability are problems with the shift interlock solenoid, a bad neutral safety switch on the transmission or an electrical problem in one of the circuits.

Bob Weber is an ASE-certified master mechanic and freelance writer.

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.

## COLLEGE NOTES

# Allen brothers pave the way for Michigan State's offense

BY NICK BULLOCK  
Pioneer Press

Two brothers from Hinsdale Central deserve a significant portion of the praise for the then No. 6-ranked Michigan State football team's 8-0 start to the season. **Brian** and **Jack Allen** are both starting offensive linemen for the Spartans, helping pave the way for an offense that, through eight games, ranked second in the Big Ten in points per game (33.4), fourth in total offense (413 yards per game), fourth in sacks against (1.4 per game), third in first downs (22.8 per game) and first by a wide margin in third-down conversions (50 percent).

Jack Allen, a senior center, is a four-year starter and was named to the preseason Outland Trophy watch list for the nation's most outstanding interior lineman. Last season he was named first team All-Big Ten and first team All-American.

Brian Allen, a sophomore left guard, was a preseason All-Big Ten selection by Athlon Sports. Last year he was named first-team Freshman All-American by the Football Writers Association of America and Scout.com. He also earned third team All-American honors from Athlon Sports and was named to the ESPN.com and BTN.com Big Ten All-Freshman Teams.

## Chavez helps UIC win conference crown

Lake Forest Academy graduate **Manny Chavez** led the Illinois-Chicago men's soccer team to its second regular season Horizon League title in three years. The senior midfielder scored his fifth goal of the season in the Flames' 4-1 victory against Belmont to seal the conference crown. The win improved the Flames to 9-4-3 and 6-0-2 in the Horizon League.

Chavez's goal kept him tied for the team lead in goals scored. His six assists through 16 games not only gave him the team lead in points (16), but also the Horizon League lead. He sports a phenomenal .185 shot percentage and a .444 shots-on-goal percentage, while also recording a team-high three game-winners.

Three other area athletes are also on the team. Niles West alumnus **Thomas Villamil** is a redshirt senior back. He played in each of the team's first 16 games, recording three goals. Oak Park-River Forest's **Elias El Metennani** is a sophomore back who had appeared in 10 games. Maine South's **Stefan Magazin** is a redshirt sophomore goalkeeper.

With one game remaining on the regular-season schedule, the Flames ranked second in the conference in goals scored (23). Villamil and El Metennani contributed to a solid defense, as well, holding opponents to



MICHIGAN STATE ATHLETIC COMMUNICATION

Hinsdale Central grad Brian Allen is a starting lineman for Michigan State.

a 0.83 goals-against average (second in the Horizon League) and recording seven shutouts (tied for first in the conference).

Have a suggestion for the College Round-up? Email Nick Bullock at [bullockpioneerpress@gmail.com](mailto:bullockpioneerpress@gmail.com).

Nick Bullock is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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# Thank you for voting!

Congratulations to our winner! Visit [chicagotribune.com/athletes](http://chicagotribune.com/athletes) at noon on Nov. 12 to find out who was named November Athlete of the Month, and stay tuned for a feature on the winner next week!

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## GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY STATE NOTEBOOK

## Niziolek helps Maine South finish 12th in 3A

BY MATT HARNESS AND ERIC VAN DRIL  
Pioneer Press

Maine South girls cross country coach Jeff Downing said he started to see what sophomore Olivia Niziolek could do as a runner toward the end of the season.

A hip injury slowed Niziolek on the track last spring, and it wasn't until the latter part of the fall that she was at full strength. At the Class 3A state meet on Nov. 7, she finished 69th in a personal-best time of 17 minutes, 53 seconds at Detweiller Park in Peoria.

"She had an awesome track season, but that hip problem derailed her," Downing said. "She almost couldn't run at sectionals and missed the [Class 3A] state meet. She just had to rest, and she took six to eight weeks off. She finally was pumping up the miles at the end of [the cross country] season."

Despite her setbacks, Niziolek was one of the top runners for the Hawks during the state series. She finished third on the team at the Niles West Regional, second on the team at the Lake Park Sectional and second on the team at the state meet.

"It's only a matter of time before she shines and becomes an all-stater," Downing said.

Including Niziolek, six out of the seven Maine South runners at the state meet set a career-best mark, helping the Hawks to 12th place with 334 points. It was the program's best finish since taking 10th in 2012.

Four of Maine South's seven runners from the state meet are expected to return, including junior Maddie Dingle, who placed 59th in 17:46 and paced the Hawks.

## New Trier

This season could be considered one of John Burnside's best coaching jobs.

Although the New Trier girls cross country coach didn't have a superstar or even a true front runner, the Trevians finished fourth with 192 points at the Class 3A state meet on Nov. 7 at Detweiller Park in Peoria.

"There is a such a group mentality with this team," Burnside said after capturing the Lake Park Sectional title on Oct. 31. "There is no individual who is carrying all the weight. They all share the load."

When the Trevians were first in 2011 and fourth in 2012, they had Courtney and Jessica Ackerman and Mimi Smith in the lineup. All three of them went on to run for Division I college programs. Smith won the state title in 2013 and led the Trevians to a third-place finish.

But the Trevians found a formula to get it done this fall.



GARY MIDDENDORF/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

New Trier's Caroline Trukenbrod (1779) and Oona Jung-Beeman (1772) stick together while running at the girls cross country Class 3A state meet on Nov. 7 at Detweiller Park in Peoria.

Junior Caroline Fix was the lead runner for New Trier at Detweiller Park after placing 27th in 17 minutes, 18 seconds. Freshman Caroline Trukenbrod followed in 39th (17:36), senior Kelli Schmidt finished 56th (17:44), junior Molly Schmidt took 62nd (17:49) and senior Oona Jung-Beeman was 63rd (17:49).

The Trevians' top runner from the Lake Park Sectional, junior Grace Fagan, came in 71st (17:55), but she was out of the scoring five. Sophomore Savannah Noethlich rounded out the top seven by finishing 119th (18:21).

## Loyola

There aren't scoreboards or clocks stationed across Detweiller Park for runners at the state cross country meet to monitor their times or positions, but Loyola senior Kathryn House knew she was near her goal of earning all-state honors in Class 3A.

"Throughout the whole race, my coaches and other coaches — and just kind of random people — [were] shouting out places," House said. "Like, 'You're in 30th.' Or, 'You're in 28th.' Or I [could] hear people around me, and their coaches, telling them what place they're in. I knew I was always in the top-30. I knew I was right there,

pretty much throughout the entire race."

With about 800 meters remaining, House was just barely on the outside of the top 25, which is the all-state cut. Someone shouted to a runner two spots in front of House that she was in 25th.

When she heard that, House said she "focused in on [the top 25] and just went after it"

House, who committed to Michigan on Nov. 2, passed both runners in front of her to move from 27th to 25th, which is where she finished.

As she neared the finish line, House said she knew she was going to leave Peoria with an all-state medal. What she didn't know, however, was that she was about to smash her personal-best time.

House crossed the finish line in 17:16. Her previous personal best was the 17:40 she ran at the Class 3A state meet as a junior.

"I didn't feel like I was going that fast," House said. "I was definitely very tired, but I wasn't thinking in my head that, 'Oh, this is definitely a PR,' until about [those] final 50 meters when I could see the clock. I was like, 'Oh my gosh. I'm all-state, and I'm going to PR.'"

"It was a great feeling, just knowing that all of my hard work has paid off."

## North Shore Country Day

The Class 1A state meet was full of firsts for Katie Glew.

Glew crossed the finish line in 17:54, which the first time she's ever broken 18 minutes. The junior finished in eighth place overall, which was the first top-10 finish in the history of the North Shore Country Day girls cross country program, according to IHSA.org.

"I think it was pretty cool, just at the end of the season, to look back and say, 'Wow, I accomplished my goals,'" Glew said.

The Class 1A state meet was also Glew's first time competing at the state meet. A year ago, Glew was part of New Trier's extremely deep cross country team.

But Glew transferred to North Shore Country Day because of its small-school environment, she said. That decision altered how Glew has raced this season. Her strategy — to start conservatively, and then pick off people during the second and third miles — was similar to the one she used when running for the Trevians, but the move to from Class 3A to Class 1A forced Glew to become more self-reliant.

"In a lot of 3A meets ... when I was running with the pack and [with] a lot of girls on my team, it ended up being more in the middle of a group," Glew said. "You were always running with around 50 other people. Now, at a 1A school, it's kind of different, just because of where my times are. I'm usually at more of the front of the pack. It's harder because there's not a lot of people to race against."

Glew said she also had to learn how to pace herself during a race this year, given that she was North Shore Country Day's top cross country runner all season. She seemed to have figured it out, as evidenced by her postseason meets. Glew won an ISL championship, finished second at the sectional and finished in the top 10 in Class 1A.

## Evanston

Junior Emma Dzwierzynski finished 77th overall (17:59) at the Class 3A state meet.

## Niles West

Senior Nicole Camburn was 82nd (18:02) in the final cross country race of her high school career.

## Regina

Sophomore Helena Walo finished in 174th (20:08) in Class 2A.

## BOYS CROSS COUNTRY STATE NOTEBOOK

# Blood poised to be top Trevians runner

BY MATT HARNESS AND  
ERIC VAN DRIL  
Pioneer Press

Warren Blood wouldn't come out and say it, but it's clear the New Trier junior is in line to take over the No. 1 spot on the school's boys cross country team.

With the impending graduation of senior Josh Derrick, who placed 15th with a time of 14 minutes, 42 seconds at the Class 3A state meet on Nov. 7 at Detweiller Park in Peoria, Blood is the logical replacement.

"He's the future of our program," New Trier coach Dave Wisner said. "We're always reloading, and Warren will be looked at to take that top spot next year."

Blood showed his potential by finishing 48th with a career-best time of 15:05 at the state meet. He was the team's second runner. New Trier took 10th with 280 points.

"I think I ran a good race," Blood said. "I went out aggressively, but I didn't finish as well as I wanted to. It was a good effort."

Wisner said the pace of the state meet doesn't suit Blood's strengths right now. It's a race that starts fast and never slows down. According to Wisner, Blood is more comfortable getting out at a gradual rate.

"Warren wasn't ready to handle a super fast pace," Wisner said. "It stung him, and he never quite recovered."

But with some extra strength training and more miles under his feet, Blood can be a factor at next season's state meet, Wisner said. While he was reluctant to claim he's in line for the No. 1 role, Blood said he accepts the challenge.

"I am ready to step up," Blood said. "But I have a lot of ways I can improve. The best thing for me is to focus on each day and see what happens."



GARY MIDDENDORF/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Northridge runners Joe Barisas (560), Patrick Moore (567) and John Madigan (566) stay together during the early stages of the boys cross country Class 1A state championship on Nov. 7 at Detweiller Park in Peoria.

## Maine South

If not for the encouragement of a neighbor, senior Brian Sodaro said he never would have been one of the best cross country runners in the state.

But Sodaro took the advice of classmate Vince Leonard — the younger brother of 2014 Maine South graduate Emily Leonard, a four-time all-state cross country runner — and joined the team as a sophomore. Prior to running, Sodaro played soccer in the fall, swam in the winter and played baseball in the spring.

"He asked me during my freshman year about trying to build a team," Sodaro said of Vince Leonard's sales pitch. "He got a bunch of guys together."

At the Class 3A state meet

on Nov. 7 at Detweiller Park in Peoria, Sodaro placed 35th in a career-best time of 14 minutes, 56 seconds. Sodaro, the team captain, was first Hawks runner to finish. The team took 13th with 382 points.

"He came to us as a sophomore, and I was convinced he had the potential to be a runner," Maine South coach Greg Nordahl said. "We had to get him running year round."

Sodaro wasn't the only senior to run one of his best races of his prep career at state. Zack Fishman's time of 15:42 (133rd) was a career best, while Ralph Patejunas' 15:03 was his best at Detweiller Park.

"Looking back, I never would have guessed [cross country] would end up being my best sport," Sodaro said.

## Niles North

There are two ways to view senior Martin Barr's 37th-place finish at the Class 3A state meet.

Barr, who emerged as one of the state's elite cross country runners this season, completed the course at Detweiller Park in 14:57 on Nov. 7. His time was slightly slower than the 14:42 he ran at the First to the Finish Invitational at Detweiller Park on Saturday, Sept. 12.

The hope, for Barr and Niles North coach Dave Shafron, was to match the 14:42, or run a little bit faster at state.

"I think we left a little bit out there," Shafron said. "Not in terms of effort, but I know there were probably hopes of being a little bit higher."

Shafron's view of Barr's first and only state cross country race shifts, however, when looking at the amount of progress Barr has made over the last 15 months.

Just last year, Barr's times were well behind 2015 graduate Dhruvil Patel's during the cross country season.

"That whole perspective has not been lost whatsoever," Shafron said. "He's made incredible growth over the past year, and he's done it through a lot of his own motivation and his own desire."

Barr has improved significantly, in large part due to his work ethic. He runs seven days a week, Shafron said. He logs high mileage during the summer. He also doesn't take weeks, months or seasons off.

"I think what Martin understands is having one 70-mile week doesn't really do anything for you," Shafron said. "But having consistent weeks like that over a long period of time, spread out over multiple seasons, that's going to yield a lot of great results."

That's proved to be true. Barr trained throughout the winter of his junior year. He improved rapidly. For instance, Patel finished first (9:21.47) in the 3,200 meter run at the Class 3A Loyola Sectional and Barr was right behind him (second, 9:21.86).

Barr continued to build on that success this summer by logging nearly 70 miles per week, Shafron said. At the First to the Finish Invitational this fall, he bettered his time from his junior year by 54 seconds. He also edged Highland Park senior Brett Davidson to finish first (14:46.53) at the Central Suburban North Championships on Oct. 17.

So even though Barr didn't run a season-best time at the Class 3A state meet, Shafron expects him to remain very motivated this winter.

"I can tell already without him saying it, I think he's pretty fired up [to train this winter]," Shafron said. "He's kind of looking at track now for a little bit of revenge here, for not ending the cross country season quite the way that he had envisioned."

## Northridge

With six juniors and a sophomore, the Knights placed 21st with 470 points at the Class 1A state meet at Detweiller Park in Peoria. Junior Peter Conroy was the team's top runner, taking 56th in 16:07.

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# Defense, Wade lead Vikings into state quarters

BY TODD MARVER  
Pioneer Press

The Niles North football program added to its list of firsts with a 35-20 victory over Eisenhower in the second round of the Class 7A playoffs on Nov. 7 in Skokie.

The Vikings won two playoff games in the same season for the first time and advanced to their first state quarterfinal contest, which is scheduled for 5 p.m. Nov. 14 at 23rd-seeded Bradley-Bourbonnais. This came after 31st-seeded Niles North won its first playoff game since 1992 with a 39-14 victory over second-seeded Young on Oct. 30 at Lane Stadium in Chicago. The Vikings' playoff appearances in 2014 and 2015 mark the first time that the program has qualified for the postseason in consecutive seasons.

"We're just super excited to be playing another week in November," Niles North coach Mark Egofske said. "When you can play this deep, it's a validation that you are an elite program. We're honored and we want to go down to Bradley and put it together."

For the second consecutive week, the defense led the way for Niles North. The 20 points that Eisenhower put on the board were tied for the second-lowest total that the Vikings have allowed this season. Maine East, which finished 0-9, also scored 20 points against the Vikings this season. The Niles North defense picked off Eisenhower quarterback Cortez Jackson three times, and two of the interceptions were returned for touchdowns. Freshman Myles Davis recorded a third-quarter interception and senior Romario Gayle had two picks in the fourth quarter.

"Since the beginning of the season we were low on guys, so we had to bring someone up," Gayle said. "So our coach told us we were going to bring up a



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Niles North's Romario Gayle (2) celebrates with Thomas Gaul (42) after returning an interception 41 yards for a touchdown against Eisenhower on Nov. 7 in Skokie. Niles North won the Class 7A second-round playoff game 35-20.

freshman, Myles Davis. From day one and the first game, he's been a big player for us. So him moving up has turned our team around a lot. He's made a lot of big plays for us and we're glad to have him.

"On my two interceptions, I was just doing my job, just reading what I had to read and the quarterback. I saw the pass was coming my way, so I was just doing what coach told me to do. In

practice we worked all week, so I was just doing what I had to do to get the job done."

Davis' 50-yard interception return for a touchdown extended Niles North's advantage to 21-0 with 9:58 left in the third quarter. Gayle's 41-yard interception return for a score put the Vikings ahead 28-6 with 11:39 remaining in the contest.

Niles North senior run-

ning back and Iowa commit Barrington Wade (25 carries, 174 yards) accounted for the Vikings' two other touchdowns on the afternoon. Wade's 67-yard touchdown run and junior wide receiver Jordan LaBelle's 2-point conversion catch gave Niles North an early 8-0 lead. Senior Matt Naranjo then kicked a pair of field goals to extend the Vikings' lead to 14-0. Wade's 8-yard run for a score put

Niles North ahead 35-6 with 9:45 left in the game.

"Barrington has had quite a few injuries that he's dealt with throughout his career," Egofske said. "He's beat up right now, but when game time comes, he's a pro and he's there and plays hard."

The Cardinals rattled off 14 unanswered points at the end of the game as senior running back Rayshawn Graham scored a pair of

rushing touchdowns (46 and 5 yards). Niles North has now won five out of its last six games after opening the season 2-3.

"The difference is we've been taking no days off by practicing and taking things seriously and focusing more on what we're doing," Wade said.

Todd Marver is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Niles North's Barrington Wade (22) holds off Eisenhower's Antonio Rankin during the Vikings' 35-20 win on Nov. 7 in Skokie.  
KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS



# quite a run

Niles North wins second-round playoff game for first time in program history. Page 45

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