

# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR



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Thursday, December 3, 2015

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## Lighting up the night

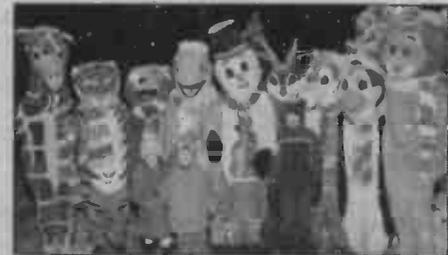
Niles brings in the holidays with annual Holly Jolly Market. **Page 4**



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo, center, in red scarf, watches the audience reaction as the fireworks continue after the official lighting of the village Holiday Tree in Niles Nov. 28.

GO



JIM SCHULZ

### Get in the spirit

Check out our guide to holiday entertainment and happenings. **Page 20**

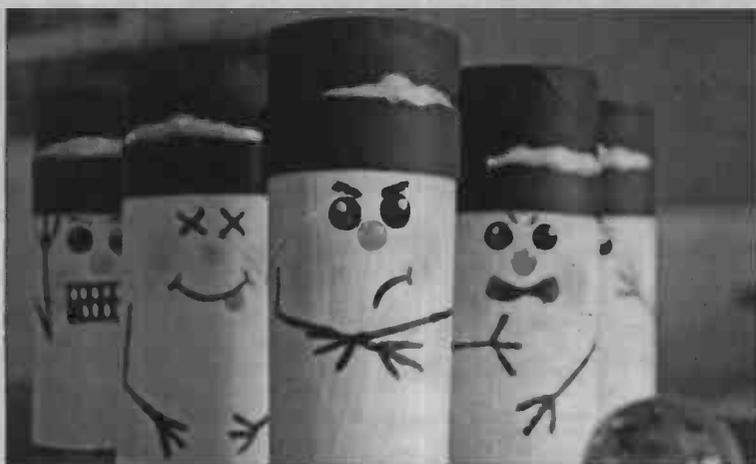
SPORTS



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

### Diversification

Ridgewood's Rzewnicki working to add new elements to his game. **Page 40**



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LIVING

## Winter games

This holiday season, Mommy on a Shoestring shares ideas for making family friendly games, such as these snowman bowling pins made from toilet paper rolls, that can be enjoyed for years to come. **INSIDE**

# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

nilesheraldspectator.com

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## SHOUT OUT

### Kristin Winter, executive director of the Skokie Community Fund

Kristin Winter has become a familiar face in Skokie as executive director of the Skokie Community Fund, which just completed its second grant cycle. Pioneer Press recently caught up with the Skokie resident to ask her a series of questions.

**Q: Where did you grow up?**

**A:** I grew up on the 8200 block in Niles and then our parents moved to the 8200 block in Skokie. I have lived in Skokie two times. After coming here in 1987, I moved away but came back to live in Skokie again in 2009.

**Q: What work in addition to being executive director of the Skokie Community Fund do you do?**

**A:** I work for an educational publisher in science in Evanston.

**Q: What did you want to do when you grew up?**

**A:** I wanted to be a veterinarian.

**Q: Do you have kids?**

**A:** No children. Every child in Skokie is my child. I'm very serious about that.

**Q: What is your favorite res-**

**aurant in Skokie?**

**A:** I love Larsa's on Dempster. Their rosemary potato pizza with feta cheese is amazing. It comes out of that pizza oven and it's thin. It's terrific.

**Q: What book are you reading and what book would you like to read next?**

**A:** I'm reading a book called "Fundraising For Social Change" by Kim Klein. I would like to re-read "Habibi." It's a graphic novel. It's densely packed with beautiful art and a heart-wrenching story, but it's also a deep cultural study, too.

**Q: What movie would you recommend?**

**A:** "Notorious" by Alfred Hitchcock. I love that movie. I never thought in my whole life that a camera panning across a bunch of wine labels would make my palms sweat.

**Q: What song best sums up Skokie for you?**

**A:** "Stand in the Place Where You Live" by R.E.M. ("Stand" is the official title).



PIONEER PRESS STAFF/PIONEER PRESS  
Kristin Winter

**Q: Do you have any words of Wisdom?**

**A:** Nothing matters more than being of service to others.

**Q: What is one interesting factoid about yourself?**

**A:** I started to get gray hair when I was 17 years old. You own it. You make your peace with it.

— Pioneer Press staff

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

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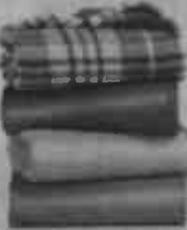
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# Tree lighting kicks off holiday season

## Third annual Holly Jolly Market event brings out crowds

By **KARIE ANGELL LUC**  
Pioneer Press

With the push of a button, Neil O'Shea, a reference librarian at the Niles Public Library District, illuminated the Holiday Tree Nov. 28 in Niles at the Holly Jolly Market and Tree Lighting Ceremony.

"It's a privilege," said O'Shea, who received the Niles Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Public Service Award last October at the annual Night of Roses civic awards banquet in Niles.

The holiday lighting celebration, in its third year, drew more than 500 people to the Niles Park District Oasis Water Park, at 7877 N. Milwaukee Ave., on Nov. 28.

The evening included children's craft activities, horse-drawn carriage rides, a petting zoo and a holiday market.

"It's fabulous," said Hadley Skeffington-Vos, Niles assistant village manager.

People sat at long tables enjoying fellowship and food. Fireworks took place right after the 5:30 p.m. tree lighting.

"That's what it's all about, making everyone feeling like family," said Hayley Garard, village of Niles community and multimedia coordinator.

While families waited inside to see Santa Claus in the pool building, they could listen to stories read aloud by Mrs. Claus.

Colleen DeWitt, a first-grade teacher at Washington Elementary School in Park Ridge, and her husband, Eric DeWitt, a 1991 Maine South High School graduate, brought their children Sean, approaching 2, and Grace, 4, to see Santa.

"I'm going to ask Santa for cowgirl boots," Grace said.

Special guests included 10 students from Pisa, Italy. The students, seven boys and three girls, plus two teachers, represented Pisa's Liceo F. Buonarroti High School.

The group, visiting the United States until Dec. 1, is part of a sister city student exchange program in its third year.

"Niles is a very nice village and a place where everyone can have a good life," said Matilde Santonocito, an instructor from Pisa.

Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo and others posed for photographs with the exchange students near the illuminated tree.

*Karie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.*



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo, far left, first row, with local dignitaries, and students from Pisa, Italy, visiting on a sister city program oversees the official lighting of the village tree in Niles on Nov. 28.



Sean DeWitt, 2, visits with Santa Claus while the No. 1 elf goes over the wish list of Sean's sister Grace, 4, at the Holly Jolly Market and Holiday Tree lighting ceremony in Niles on Nov. 28.



Vendor Chris Mostaccio, of Arlington Heights, welcomes Holly Jolly Market customers to try some roasted almonds on Nov. 28 in Niles.



ROB DICKER/NEWS-SUN

In this file photo, Sgt. Bryant Robertson of Cleveland, Ohio, right, hands toys to Sgt. Austin Demoney of Pekin, Ill. Local Marines chose \$20,000 of toys for its Toys-For-Tots drive.

## Niles gears up for food drive and Toys for Tots collection

By ALICIA RAMIREZ

Pioneer Press

As the weather gets colder and holiday decorations take over local stores, the village of Niles is yet again hosting its Community Food Drive and Toys for Tots Collection.

"We're part of the community and we feel a sense of community with the people we serve and that includes the kids," Robert Greiner, district chief of the Niles Fire Department, said. "And from my own perspective, I don't think it's fair because Christmas is a special time. It's a magical time for children, and none of them should feel a sense of deprivation during this time."

According to a village release, Niles residents helped provide toys for over 100 local children in 2014 as part of the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program. Throughout the life of the program, over 469 million toys have been distributed to 216 million children, the release said.

"It's really a complex process, but because we have some really dedicated people running it, it goes really smooth," Greiner said. "And I believe that the Niles Fire Department is one of the biggest collection hubs in the North Shore, outside of Chicago."

According to Greiner, Niles normally fills four 24-foot-long box trucks floor to ceiling each year that go to the Marines.

All toys donated to the program must be new, in the original packaging and unwrapped. Stuffed animals are not accepted for the program. The Marines pick up the toys, sort them into age appropriate categories and distribute them to families in the area.

### Drop-off Locations

**Niles Village Hall**, 1000 Civic Center Drive

**Niles Fire Department**, 8360 W. Dempster St. and 611 Jarvis

**Niles Teen Center**, 373 Golf Mill Center

**Niles Police Department**, 7000 W. Touhy Ave.

**Niles Senior Center**, 999 Civic Center Drive

**Niles Public Library**, 6960 W. Oakton St.

**Niles Chamber of Commerce**, 8060 W. Oakton St. Suite 101

**Niles Public Services**, 6849 W. Touhy Ave.

**Parkway Bank**, 7601 Millwaukee Ave.

Along with the popular Toys for Tots program, the village is also running a non-perishable food drive in conjunction with Niles Family Services.

"Our food drive should really be run year round because there is always a need for food, but we do it in conjunction with the Toys for Tots campaign," Greiner said. "It's an opportunity in the holiday season to make sure people have a little less struggle, and we do pretty good at that."

Non-perishable food items and new toy donations can be dropped off during regular business hours through Dec. 18 at locations around Niles.

"We're part of the community and we're an extension of the community," Greiner said. "So, if we can do something to help members of our community to make their lives a little better, why wouldn't we want to do that? Giving back always feels good."

*Alicia Ramirez is a freelance reporter.*

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ALICIA RAMIREZ/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Santa arrived at Golf Mill Shopping Center Nov. 21 officially kicking off the holiday season at the mall.

## Santa sets up shop at Golf Mill

### Shopping center rings in holiday season with variety of activities

BY ALICIA RAMIREZ  
Pioneer Press

The spirit of the holidays has once again descended upon shoppers at Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles. Santa arrived Nov. 21 with all of the pomp and circumstance locals could muster during the first snow of the season.

Face painters, balloon artists, men on stilts and even a juggler came out to entertain families before they took pictures with the big man himself.

"We worked with the Niles Fire Department to bring Santa into the mall today," Kyle Burcar, event and marketing manager of Golf Mill Shopping Center, said. "They drove him through this snowy cold day to get him here for a mini-parade and a party to kick off the holidays."

Along with all of the holiday festivities that in-

clude a breakfast with Santa scheduled for Dec. 5, Golf Mill is again participating in its Festival of Trees campaign. This year, six nonprofit organizations — Sister Cities, Leaning Tower YMCA, Mundelein Pregnancy Counseling Center, Maine Township Food Pantry, Chicago Pet Rescue and Honor Flight Chicago — decorated the trees that are spread out across the mall.

"We've gotten a lot of positive response from the shoppers about the trees," Burcar said. "We're working exclusively with nonprofits in the area, and people seem to be excited about that."

Burcar said that instead of donating non-perishable food items this year, shoppers vote for their favorite tree/organization using a simple ballot and have until Dec. 12 when the winner will be announced. The



Barb Kovacevich paints a face at Santa's Arrival Afterparty Nov. 21 at Golf Mill Shopping Center.

winning organization will receive a check from the shopping center from the funds raised during the Breakfast With Santa event.

Along with the trees, the mall also has a collection station for Toys for Tots. Anyone can drop off a brand new, unwrapped toy for a child of any age. The toys will then be sent to the Marines, who run the program, and will be distributed to children in need.

With all of the festivities going on throughout the season at the mall, it is sure to keep shoppers busy and in the spirit of the holiday giving back to those in their community.

"The holidays have been fun and we're really optimistic about what the holiday season has in store for us," Burcar said.

Alicia Ramirez is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

## Local vets honored at board meeting

BY LEE V. GAINES  
Pioneer Press

A lifelong Niles resident and U.S. Army veteran who served in two tours of duty in Afghanistan received a "Key to the City" from village trustees as a token of their gratitude for his service at a Nov. 17 board meeting.

Nicholas Giovannelli, a Maine South High School and University of Iowa graduate, said he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2007 and was deployed to Zabul Province in Afghanistan as a member of the 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment from 2009 through 2010, and again to a combat outpost in Logar Province with the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team.

Trustee George Alpogianis, while reading the proclamation officially awarding the Army veteran his "Key to the City," broke from his script to share his own story of gratitude for Giovannelli's service.

Alpogianis, a friend of Giovannelli and his family, said the Army veteran was stationed on the 38th parallel in South Korea with the 2nd Infantry Division, the same division his father had served in during the Korean War. When Giovannelli returned to Niles, Alpogianis said he gave him a camouflage patch from the 2nd Infantry to give to his father.

"It brought a tear to my father's eye," Alpogianis said.

Giovannelli's said the honor bestowed by the Village Board meant a lot to him because of his attachment to his hometown.

"Niles is the best community I've been in, and I've been around the world," he said. Giovannelli, who is also friends with Trustee Dean Strzelecki and Mayor Andrew Przybylo, praised the quality of leadership in the village and the services provided to residents.

The Army veteran said he has no plans to leave Niles.

The board also bestowed a "Key to the City" to Marine Corps veteran Edward Zawilla, son of Niles police Officer Marijo Zawilla, at their meeting in October. He served as an intelligence analyst stateside, and as part of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit, Zawilla supported operations in Libya, Djibouti, Somalia, Syria, Yemen, Kuwait and Iraq.

At the meeting, Alpogianis praised the "selfless acts" of all members of the military.

"We owe everyone that serves in our armed forces, whether abroad or here, a big debt of gratitude," he said.

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



LEE V. GAINES/PIONEER PRESS

Niles Trustees Dean Strzelecki and George Alpogianis, Army Staff Sgt. Nicholas Giovannelli and Mayor Andrew Przybylo display a village proclamation bestowing on Giovannelli a "Key to the City" as thanks for his military service.

# Smoke free: Housing Authority prepares for Skokie renovation

BY MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

Two years ago, Jay Kaplan, a resident of the Armond King Apartments in Skokie, gave up smoking after 31 years.

"I've never felt better," he said.

Kaplan said he hopes others in the building will also be inspired to quit smoking now that the Housing Authority of Cook County instituted a smoke-free policy at all 23 of its residential properties.

The Housing Authority held a news conference at Armond King on Nov. 30 to both champion the new smoke-free policy across the county and to celebrate significant renovation plans for this building and another in the village.

The Housing Authority's smoke-free countywide policy was scheduled to go into effect Dec. 1.

"Twenty-three housing developments will be smoke-free," Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle said on the eve of the policy. "This is an important step for the health of our residents."

Preckwinkle said she expects the policy to serve as an example for housing developments across the country.

For the first time, outside the main entrance of Armond King was a permanent sign declaring the building smoke-free and the property a "healthy hotspot."

Kaplan said the smokers he knows in the building have resigned themselves to the new policy.

"I like the new policy," he said. "Being a reformed smoker, I think smoking stinks."

According to the Housing Authority, more than 3,500 residents across the county were to begin living in smoke-free buildings.

Before the policy was developed, the Housing Au-



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

Dignitaries shovel dirt Nov. 30 to symbolize a major renovation of the Armond King Apartments in Skokie.

thority stated, surveys went to residents in 14 developments. More than 50 percent of them completed the survey and a majority supported going smoke-free, according to the Housing Authority.

Housing Authority Executive Director Richard Monocchio said that more than \$25 million will be invested in renovating Armond King and the Albert Goedke House in Skokie. Together, the local housing contains more than 200 units.

The plans were possible, he said, with the help of more than \$3 million in federal HOME Partnership funds.

According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the program provides grants to local governments to increase home ownership and affordable housing opportunities for low- and very-low-income Americans.

HOME funds have been used in Cook County in four housing buildings with more than 450 units of affordable housing for very-low-income seniors and disabled residents.

The Housing Authority stated it is extremely costly to refurbish a unit or dwelling with traces of cigarette smoke or fire damage. The cost could easily total up to \$10,000 for one unit, the Housing Authority stated.

At the Nov. 30 news conference, leaders lamented that the program is in jeopardy because they say there are national budget discussions about severe cuts to the program.

"HOME is on the chopping block right now in Congress," Monocchio said. "All of us have worked hard to save HOME. It's really important for people to realize that these programs just don't happen in a vacuum. These programs are huge to house our most vulnerable folks."

U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-9) said the program is "under attack" and vowed to fight for its survival.

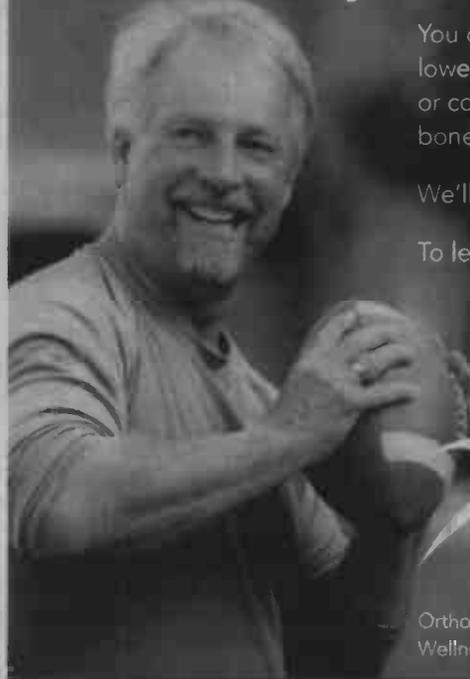
"What we're seeing right now is that the most vulnerable — people who really need the help that this program gives them — are now themselves on the chopping block," Schakowsky said. "It's wrong. It's immoral."

The Armond King 10-story high-rise building was one of the original apartment buildings dedicated for senior citizens in suburban Cook County, according to Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen.

"It's a major project for us," Van Dusen said. "It demonstrates investment from outside in the residents of the village of Skokie. It is no small thing."

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

## Niles

### BATTERY

■ Gustavo Cortes, 22, and Marco Cortez-Barreto, 22, both of the 3200 block of West Lake Avenue, Glenview, were each charged with battery and mob action on Nov. 22. According to police, four men reported that Cortes and Cortez-Barreto began punching them during an encounter inside a restaurant on the 9000 block of Milwaukee Avenue around 4:50 a.m. Police said an investigation determined that additional suspects were involved, but had already left the restaurant. Cortes and Cortez-Barreto have a Dec. 10 court date.

■ Gregory Cashler, 59, of the 8000 block of Foster Lane, Niles, was charged

with battery on Nov. 20. According to police, Cashler's neighbor, a 45-year-old man, accused him of striking him on the top of his head with an unknown object. The neighbor told police he had confronted Cashler about him smoking inside a common area of the apartment building. Cashler has a Dec. 10 court date.

### RETAIL THEFT

■ Juan Pinedo, 47, of Hickory Hills, was charged with retail theft on Nov. 20 after he allegedly stole four household cleaning items and a snow brush from a store on the 6100 block of Touhy Avenue. Police said the items were valued at \$72. He has a Dec. 22 court date.

■ A 15-year-old Des Plaines girl was charged with retail theft on Nov. 20 after she allegedly stole \$242 worth of items from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center.

■ Sarah Gamboa, 26, of the

200 block of Forest View Avenue, Wood Dale, was charged with felony retail theft on Nov. 21 after she allegedly stole cosmetics and beauty products valued at \$1,536 from a store on the 8500 block of Golf Road. According to police, Gamboa placed the items inside a tote bag, but paid for several other items at the store's self-check. She has a Dec. 22 court date.

■ Cheryll Wyller, 57, of the 1300 block of Rand Road, Des Plaines, was charged with retail theft on Nov. 23 after she allegedly stole food valued at \$30 from a store on the 8500 block of Golf Road. She has a Dec. 22 court date.

### ASSAULT

■ A 34-year-old driver told police that a man wearing a black hooded sweatshirt stepped in front of his car on the afternoon of Nov. 20 outside a gas station on the 5900 block of Touhy Avenue. When the driver told

the man to look where he was walking, the man allegedly yelled at the driver and pulled up his sweatshirt to reveal the top of a gun tucked into the front of his pants, police said. The driver then reportedly left the parking lot and called police.

### THEFT

■ Perfume valued at \$810 was reported stolen Nov. 23 from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center.

## Park Ridge

### BATTERY

■ David Neris, 61, of the 3600 block of North Oak Park Avenue, Chicago, was charged with battery on Nov. 18 stemming from an alleged incident at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, 1775 W. Dempster St., on Nov. 2, police said. Neris, a patient, was accused of touching a nurse inappropriately, according to police. He has a Dec. 22

court date.

■ David Bailey, 41, of the 2000 block of Irwin Avenue, Park Ridge, was charged with domestic battery on Nov. 19. He had a Nov. 23 court date.

■ Robert Valdez, 33, of the 1900 block of West Oakton Street, Park Ridge, was charged with domestic battery on Nov. 19. He has a Dec. 14 court date.

### RETAIL THEFT

■ William Murphy, 30, of Des Plaines, was charged with retail theft on Nov. 18. Police said he was identified as a suspect in the Sept. 23 theft of seven bottles of alcohol from an undisclosed business. He has a Jan. 11 court date.

### DUI

■ Roy Clausen, 66, of Park Ridge, was charged with driving under the influence and failure to reduce speed on Nov. 18. Police said Clausen was taken into custody following a car

accident on the 2000 block of South Newton Avenue. He has a Dec. 8 court date.

### BURGLARY

■ Tools were reported stolen on the morning of Nov. 18 from a construction site on the 500 block of North Northwest Highway.

### THEFT

■ A pair of shoes were reported stolen on the morning of Nov. 18 after they were left outside an apartment door on the first block of South Chester Avenue.

■ A machine used for treating sleep disorders was reported stolen Nov. 18 from Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, 1775 Dempster St. The machine was valued at \$1,500, police said.

### PROPERTY DAMAGE

■ Someone sprayed white paint on the side of a car on the 500 block of North Redfield Court on Nov. 17.



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# Oakton students brave the elements

## Overnight demonstration 'emulates homelessness' to raise awareness

BY MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

For five years, Oakton Community College students have pitched cardboard shelters on the grounds of one of its two campuses before spending a difficult night outdoors to raise awareness about homelessness.

This year, however, some bonus misery came along with the usual conditions. Bitterly cold weather was accompanied for the first time by snowy and wet grounds, providing students with another hurdle homeless people face during Chicago's brutal winters.

When students in OCC's Habitat For Humanity chapter last spent the night on Skokie's campus — in 2013 since the chapter alternates between Skokie and Des Plaines every year — the skies were clear and the temperature was mild.

So much so, in fact, that club adviser Marvin Borschlegl said then he thought the weather was a bit too nice. He had no such regret this year.

"I can sit in a classroom and lecture for hours and hours and hours about the plight of homelessness, but to experience it first-hand like this is something entirely different," Borschlegl said. "These students are going to be confronted with all of the elements tonight, and there is no better teacher."

Darkness fell on the campus early evening Nov. 23 as students gathered at their temporary homes, some rubbing their hands to keep warm, others wrapping their arms around themselves. They made finishing touches to cardboard shelters that dotted a small patch of grass adjacent to the campus' main entrance.

Habitat leaders thought they were going to have a record number of participants this year — as many as 27, they said — but a dozen or so dropped out after an unseasonable weekend of snow and colder temperatures.

Still, said chapter co-president Andrew Duback of Glenview,

there was no desire to call off the overnight demonstration.

"The project is very important because it emulates homelessness — especially at a time like this when there's snow on the ground and it's cold outside," he said. "People generally don't want to be outside right now. They'll walk to their cars as quickly as they can and turn on the heat."

Duback, who participated in his third year of "Shantytown," said Oakton's Habitat For Humanity chapter has about 20 active members. Shantytown gains good publicity every year, he said, but there are other important individual events in which the chapter participates.

On Black Friday, for example, members were scheduled to volunteer at the Habitat For Humanity's ReStore in Chicago. Over spring break next year, the chapter is heading to Springfield to help build or repair homes. The chapter regularly schedules this kind of spring break project, leaders say.

The Oakton chapter has also partnered with Maine East High School's geometry and construction program by transporting wall frames to designated locations where houses will be built, Duback said.

But no project is meant to raise general awareness about homelessness more than Shantytown.

"We're not doing this to harass anyone or to force anyone into donating," Duback said. "We're doing this to raise awareness about an actuality for many people."

Outside of each cardboard shelter on this cold night was a can for chapter donations for visitors should they stop by. Borschlegl acknowledged that the event doesn't raise a lot of money, though — just a lot of awareness.

He has always wanted to hold Shantytown closer to Thanksgiving. This year, he got his wish — but not by design. Borschlegl said he had been scheduled to help build homes in Nepal with former President Jimmy Carter, which necessitated moving back



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

Oakton Community College student Andrew Duback shows off the cardboard home he slept in the night of Nov. 23 as part of a demonstration by the college's Habitat For Humanity chapter to raise awareness about homelessness.

the date at Oakton.

The Nepal project was canceled because of civil unrest there, he said, but the Oakton Nov. 23 date remained. In fact, the chapter originally wanted to hold the demonstration the night before Thanksgiving; that plan proved impossible since Oakton was closing Thursday and Friday and there would have been no security.

Still, building Shantytown three days before the holiday — and with snow on the ground for the first time — was good enough, Borschlegl said.

"Holding this so close to Thanksgiving has always been my dream," he said. "You have that experience and then you sit there at Thanksgiving dinner — a nice meal, a warm home. I would love to be present for the conversations that are sure to take place."

Students say they experience more than just an uncomfortable night. Sometimes, they have to rebuild their homes because of the

wind. The next morning they don't have a place where they can quickly shower. They have to continue with their classes without recovery time. Other complications they may never have thought of come up, too, Borschlegl said.

Students tried to prepare themselves for the cold as best as possible Nov. 23 by wearing multiple layers of clothing.

"Last year, it wasn't as cold," said senior Ben Miller who has participated in all five Shantytowns. "We want everyone to know that homeless people are all around us. It can be your classmate even though he wears the same blue jeans and T-shirt as you do. For all you know, he can be sleeping in his car tonight."

His wife, Liz Miller, a sophomore, has also been in Shantytown all five years.

"Giving up a comfy bed and a warm house to sleep in our little homeless condo makes me feel happy because I can experience a

little bit of what homeless people feel every day," she said.

Unlike the Millers, sophomore Allie Barthel of Des Plaines was living in Shantytown this year for the first time.

"People should realize how much we do have and how much opportunity there is for people who have a home to help," she said.

Senior John Kang of Skokie, another first-time Shantytown one-night resident, said the project comes down to caring for other people who are not always foremost on our minds.

"Sometimes we take all that we have for granted," echoed Duback before his long night began. "We don't acknowledge the fact there are so many people living only miles from where we live that don't have anything and might have to go a night without anything."

# Niles West band to play at Sugar Bowl halftime show

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

The college football postseason bowl fever that takes over the country New Year's Day will take on a whole new meaning for a group of students at Niles West High School who were selected to perform at the halftime show of one of the most illustrious games of the year.

The Niles West marching band was selected along with a number of high school bands from across the U.S. for the honor of performing during the halftime show of the Allstate Sugar Bowl game Jan. 1 at Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans.

Director of bands for Niles West, Justin Johnson, broke the news to his students on the first day of rehearsal this school year. Sophomore Chris Witt said he was shocked to learn that he'd have an opportunity to play his clarinet in front of crowd of thousands of spectators.

**"What's really exciting for us will be wearing our Niles West uniforms on live TV."**

— Justin Johnson, Niles West director of bands

"I think this is a pretty big deal because it's an important football game," Witt said. "This will be the biggest audience I've ever played for."

About 35 Niles West students will make the trip down to the Big Easy during the week before the game, where they'll spend six days soaking in the New Orleans culture by exploring the French Quarter, visiting museums and tasting spicy Cajun cuisine.

Because New Orleans is the birthplace of jazz, the marching band will celebrate the city's musical heritage during the halftime performance, which will in



JUSTIN JOHNSON

The Niles West marching band at a competition in Sandwich, Ill., on Oct. 18.

part honor the 1920s-era jazz band singer and musician Louis Prima.

Members from high school marching bands from around the U.S. will attend the Sugar Bowl, and all will perform the same playlist, defined by classics like Prima's "Jump, Jive, an' Wail," and "Sing, Sing, Sing."

Johnson said group rehearsals for the halftime show haven't started yet because the band has been occupied with the upcoming

winter concert on Dec. 11, but they plan to shift into Sugar Bowl prep mode as soon as the concert passes.

Witt, however, admitted he's had trouble containing his excitement for the big day, and said he started teaching himself the songs at home months ago for about two hours a day after school when he's not in regular band rehearsal.

"I practice the music every chance I get," Witt said. "Music is a

high priority for me because when I'm able to dig deeply into the music, it becomes a way to express myself."

Johnson applied for a spot in the halftime show earlier this year by sending in a video of one of the band's performances to a company called WorldStrides OnStage, which places high school bands in high-profile performances across the U.S.

The honor of being chosen as a performer for the Sugar Bowl was particularly special for Niles West, Johnson explained, because the school's marching band is entirely volunteer-based, meaning kids don't have to try out to make the cut.

"For most of my students, this will be their first time performing outside of the state," Johnson said. "What's really exciting for us will be wearing our Niles West uniforms on live TV."

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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# Police chief: Red light cameras 'about impacting behavior'

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

In the five years since the village of Lincolnwood installed the town's first red light camera at eastbound Touhy and Lincoln avenues, more than a half-million dollars in fines have been issued to motorists, village financial records show.

Records show that Lincolnwood has brought in about \$535,000 from thousands of tickets issued since the camera went live in November of 2010. Of that, nearly half has gone to American Traffic Solutions, Inc., the company that leases the cameras to the village for \$4,400 per month and reviews the images caught on camera. The images are then sent to the Lincolnwood Police Department to determine if a violation has occurred.

According to the company's website, American Traffic Solutions, Inc. processes nearly "50 million toll transactions" and nearly "one million violations" every year. The company says it has "more than 3,500 installed red light, speed and school bus stop-arm safety cameras" throughout North America.

With another \$24,000 of the revenue from red light violations going toward administrative court costs and other internal expenses, the village of Lincolnwood has netted about \$273,000 from the camera during the past five years, according to Robert Merkel, finance director for the village.

The extra revenue is added to the village's general fund, Merkel said.

But Lincolnwood police Chief Bob LaMantia said safety should take priority above revenue when weighing whether the camera has added value to the community.

"It's about impacting behavior, and I think (the cameras) cause people to drive more safely," he said.

Since the camera was installed, accidents at Lincoln and Touhy have



NATALIE HAYES/PIONEER PRESS

In the five years since the village of Lincolnwood installed the town's first red light camera at eastbound Touhy and Lincoln avenues, more than a half-million dollars in fines have been issued to motorists, village financial records show.

dropped by roughly 25 percent, according to documents from IDOT.

Between 2005 and 2009, 108 total accidents were reported at the intersection, which averages roughly 40,000 motorists per day, according to IDOT. That number decreased to 81 total accidents since October 2010 when the camera went active.

Likewise, traffic-crash-related injuries reported at that intersection are also down. There were 31 injuries reported by IDOT between 2005 and 2009. There were 20 reported between 2010 and 2014.

No fatalities were recorded at the intersection during the past 10 years, according to IDOT.

LaMantia, who worked for the Wilmette Police Department for more than two decades before being

appointed as the police chief of Lincolnwood, said the red light camera has changed drivers' thinking patterns as they approach yellow lights. Before the cameras, he said, drivers would see a yellow light and think to speed up. Now, they more often think to stop or risk getting a ticket, he said.

The measure to install the camera was approved unanimously by the Village Board back in 2010. Trustee Jesal Patel, who voted in favor of the camera, said he was encouraged by the reduction in accidents at the intersection.

When asked whether he thought other intersections would benefit from red light cameras, Patel said he would await future traffic reports from the police before commenting.

LaMantia said drivers who regularly pass through

Touhy and Lincoln have become familiar with the camera's presence, which he said has caused motorists traveling in all directions through that intersection — not just through the direction the camera covers — to slow down and be more mindful of the traffic signal.

"I don't think every driver who passes through realizes which direction the camera is pointing, so the safety benefits extend beyond (eastbound) Touhy and Lincoln," he said.

LaMantia said the majority of violations are issued for one of two things: entering an intersection after the traffic signal has turned red, or making a right hand turn against a red light, but the police make case-by-case determinations of which violations to approve.

A driver who proceeds

lation."

Since Nov. 22, 2010, when the camera issued its first citation, 5,470 motorists have been ticketed for violations. LaMantia estimated that between 60 and 70 percent of people who receive violations end up paying their fines.

For those who decide to contest the violation, they can show up for a monthly administrative hearing held on the fourth Tuesday of every month at Village Hall. If the administrative hearing judge denies the request to overturn a ticket, motorists can then file an appeal through the Circuit Court of Cook County.

Unpaid violations double to \$200 after the appeal deadline expires, and collections are handled by American Traffic Solutions, which keeps 30 percent of any unpaid fines recovered through collection efforts, Merkel said. The village receives the remaining 70 percent.

With video footage and multiple still shots of the alleged violation captured on camera, most people choose not to contest their violations, LaMantia said. The village typically gets less than five appeals per month, he said.

Requests for three more cameras for the village of Lincolnwood were denied by IDOT, according to the village.

According to Lincolnwood's contract with American Traffic Solutions, several factors are considered when applying for a camera, including traffic volume and accident data at a given intersection.

LaMantia said the rejections from IDOT didn't mean the village wouldn't apply for an additional camera in the future.

"We're always evaluating our options, so I don't want to mislead the village into thinking we're never putting up another camera," LaMantia said.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

# Proposed Lincolnwood mosque gets building permit extension

By NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

Muslim leaders of a Chicago-based mosque planning to build an Islamic spiritual center that would open in Lincolnwood at 3900 W. Devon Ave. have been issued an extension for the permitting process.

The Lincolnwood Village Board accepted Nov. 18 a request from the builders of the mosque, Sacred Learning NFP, to extend the original building permit application deadline of Dec. 13 by an extra 180 days, to June 10.

Last summer, Sacred Learning NFP — a nonprofit Islamic religious organization that houses its operations in a building on the North Side of Chicago — cleared most of the village-mandated measures associated with its ability to start the construction process.



VILLAGE OF LINCOLNWOOD

A rendering of the proposed mosque to be built in Lincolnwood at 3900 W. Devon Ave.

Under the village's local laws, Sacred Learning NFP was required to comply with one last hurdle — either to apply for a certificate of occupancy or a building permit by mid-December.

Sayed Shariff, executive

vice president of the organization, cited delays in the project's building design phase as the reason for his request for an extension.

"Sacred Learning NFP is close to finalizing our civil engineering plans, which will enable us to construct

our proposed center," Shariff wrote in a letter to village staff. "There are a few peculiarities with the property we purchased, given its narrow dimensions."

Shariff said he expected to submit the civil engineering plans for the property to

the Illinois Department of Transportation by the end of the month, and would apply for a building permit with the village pending the state's approval.

The mosque won't open for at least a year and a half, Shariff said.

Plans for the facility show it hosting prayer and educational services to accommodate at least 400 people. According to the site plans submitted to the village, the Islamic center would host five prayer sessions per day beginning at dawn and ending 90 minutes after sunset. The building would have a worship space with room for 113 prayer mats that would double as a classroom, and would also include office space and a lecture area.

The Muslim group purchased the former Myron & Phil's site last year with plans to knock down the

shuttered steakhouse and build the mosque and accompanying education center in its place.

The property already had the proper zoning to house a religious center when it was purchased. Village trustees earlier this year gave Sacred Learning NFP approval to demolish the restaurant and approved a set of zoning variations to clear all other hurdles associated with the project.

The organization's website has a donation page that has so far raised \$1.5 million toward a total goal of \$2 million to help fund the new Lincolnwood mosque.

"The (Lincolnwood) building will serve as a location where people from across the country can come to develop themselves spiritually," the site says.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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STEVE JOHNSTON/PIONEER PRESS

Soren Johnston of Woodridge looks at "Star Wars" figures on display at Christian Church of Clarendon Hills.

## Minister brings 'Star Wars' into church

By **CHUCK FIELDMAN**  
Pioneer Press

The Rev. Matthew Rogers, senior minister at the Christian Church of Clarendon Hills, connected with a favorite movie series when he was looking for something new in telling a Christmas story in 2015.

"That's when the 'Star Wars' idea came to me," said Rogers, who has been at the church, 5750 Holmes Ave., for the past 18 years. "I'm a big 'Star Wars' fan; I saw the original when I was a kid, and there are parallels with major symbols with the Christmas story. The parallels came together really easily once I started thinking about it."

Rogers said while most people are familiar with the "Star Wars" saga, many don't know the true details of the Christmas story.

He is looking forward to the Dec. 18 release of "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," but decided to not wait until that time to use the parallels between "Star Wars" and the Christmas story in his

messages.

The Star Wars of Christmas theme began Nov. 29 and continues on Sundays through the end of 2015. Sunday worship services begin at 9 and 10:45 a.m. Stage design, movie clips, skits and costumed characters are being used to celebrate the movie series while also exploring a piece of the biblical story of Christmas. Along with Sunday services, "Star Wars" also will make its way into services at 7 p.m. Dec. 23 and at 4 p.m. Dec. 24.

"Along with the parallels with 'Star Wars' and the Christmas story, this also makes an easy invite to the church," Rogers said. "We want people who enjoy 'Star Wars' and are curious about the parallels with the Christmas story to come to our services and listen to the messages. It's an easy opportunity to invite the non-believer friend to church."

Rogers said about 750 people on average attend weekend services at the church.

Church member Jim Mu-

kite of Hodgkins is a longtime "Star Wars" fan and collector who approached Rogers after learning of the plans to incorporate aspects of the movie into worship through the end of the year.

"I was super pumped when I heard about it," Mukite said. "I have a lot of Star Wars stuff and thought it would be interesting if I brought some of it in for people to see."

Rogers agreed, and invited Mukite to bring in items that would enhance the message.

For some attending church services, Mukite believes having some of his memorabilia on display will offer an enjoyable trip down memory lane.

"It's a chance for them to see stuff from their childhoods, and people enjoy that," he said.

More information about Christian Church of Clarendon Hills and the "Star Wars" series is available online at [www.ccch.org](http://www.ccch.org).

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# Park District: Turkey Trot has highest turnout

By NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

An early-season snowfall and frigid morning temperatures didn't stop nearly 1,600 runners from turning out for Lincolnwood's 39th annual Turkey Trot race on Nov. 22 — making it the highest turnout in the race's history, according to the Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Department.

About 2,000 runners had signed up for the 5K and 10K races three days ahead of the race, forcing race organizers to close enrollment on Nov. 19, according to Linda Vering of the Parks and Recreation Department. She said there's typically enough space to let runners sign up the day of the race.

"Last year it was much warmer — I think it was in the 40s — and we had a much higher percentage of

runners come this year when it was in the 20s," Vering said.

One of those runners, Mike Lee of Northbrook, braved the cold morning to run the 5K with his teenage son and his three friends.

A Lincolnwood native, Lee has signed up for the Turkey Trot six or seven times since he first ran it as a teenager back in the 1970s, and said he enjoys coming back for the race to see how the community has changed over the years.

"It's always an overall positive experience, but Sunday's race — that was one of the coldest ones I can remember," Lee said. "When we kicked off at 8:30 a.m. it felt cold, but (volunteers) came in with huge warming tents and three or four fire pits, so it was those extra things they did that made it a nice experience."



STEVE LASKER PHOTO

Lincolnwood Mayor Jerry Turry used a cow bell to signal the start of the race after his air horn froze from the cold.

The morning of the Turkey Trot was so unexpectedly cold that the air horn Lincolnwood Mayor Jerry Turry had planned to use to signal the start of the races froze up. A cow bell was used in its place.

Because the route took runners through the village's major arterial streets, the

Public Works Department worked all weekend to clear the several inches of snow that fell Friday night, Vering said.

"They did an amazing job, and we had so many runners come to us to say how great the surface was," she said.

The community came together to help make the race

a success, she said. Newly opened restaurant 90 Miles Cuban Cafe set up a tent where hot soup and plantains were served, and Lou Malnati's handed out pizza slices to runners crossing the finish line.

"Everyone plays a role — it's a village- and community-driven race every year," Vering said. "People just love to be there — it's fun to see people wearing their old 'Turkey Trot' shirts and seeing how excited everyone gets."

Along with the record-breaking turnout, the popularity of the race is evidenced by the diverse array of states and foreign countries represented by participants.

Vering said runners came from 10 states and at least four different countries, including Finland, France, Mexico and Spain.

The 10K top female finisher was 31-year-old Veronica Laureano of Chicago, who ran the race in just under 39 minutes. For 10K top male, 20-year-old Nolan McKenna of Wheaton came in first with a finishing time of 35:12.

For the 5K race, the top female finisher was 36-year-old Columba Montes of Chicago who finished the race with a time of 18:36. The top male was Jonathan Roberts, 26, of Schaumburg, who finished with a time of 16:35.

There were 26 males and 10 women between the ages of 60 and 79 who ran the 10K. In the 5K race those age groups had 43 males and 15 females. Three male runners between 80 and 82 years old ran the 5K, according to data from the village.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

## ARE YOU FULL OF IDEAS?

Here's a thought: start a blog

chicagonow.com/pitch



# Crowds brave weather at Old Orchard

BY MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

Westfield Old Orchard was able to promote its biggest shopping day of the year Nov. 27 with new stores, a plethora of sales and promotions and some stores that opened super early to offer those famous door buster deals.

What the shopping center giant could not control, however, was the weather. Rain fell early that morning making Black Friday at Old Orchard Wet Friday as well.

Gayle Gleespen marketing director, said she did not believe the weather had a major impact in reducing shopping crowds, but she acknowledged shoppers started their day a little later than usual.

"We have a lot of people here now," she said early afternoon at the shopping center. "We're seeing a lot of people shopping now."

Some of those people carried umbrellas as they traversed the wet outdoor grounds.

"I thought it was going to be a little crazier," said Katlyn Buntjeski of Wilmette. "My mom was going to come with us but she went to Northbrook Court instead because of the rain. I think there were a lot of people like that."

Other shoppers also said they expected the outdoor mall to be more crowded. But the parking lot — at least on the busier east side of the shopping center — appeared to be near capacity by afternoon, and popular stores looked like they were generating solid business.

"The lines haven't been so long, and that's a good thing," said Jessica Pattner of Chicago. "You can hit a lot of stores today."

Some were spending their first Black Friday at Westfield Old Orchard, not knowing what to expect.

Peter Komlowski of Wilmette came with a friend to get his ears pierced at Claire's — not your typical Black Friday tradition.

"I'll plan on buying something today too," he said. "I'll do some Christmas shopping later. The crowd is not as bad as I expected it to be."

Tony Iusco of Skokie was also at his first Westfield Old Orchard Black Friday.

"I don't know if I'm going to buy anything today, but I might buy like two gifts if I find the right ones," he

said.

Gleespen said she was seeing brisk business at many clothes stores such as Eddie Bauer, Banana Republic and North Face, although she acknowledged this was an anecdotal observation from visiting stores during the day. The new Shake Shack restaurant was also doing well, and at noon or so, the ordering line nearly extended out the door.

Gleespen didn't only track business at the mall on Black Friday, she helped add to it. Late morning, she became a Black Friday customer by buying a pair of boots at Old Orchard's newest store, Sorel, which just opened a week earlier.

"I'm now prepared for the future weather," she said.

On Nov. 30, Gleespen reported that the weekend Black Friday traffic significantly outpaced traffic from last year although she did not have official numbers yet.

"We're hearing that after that slow start Friday, a lot of people were out and the numbers of customers was much higher," she said. "I think a lot of people wanted to get a head start on their shopping this year, and some of the new stores drew in more people."

In addition to Sorel, which sells boots and other outdoor shoes, the mall recently introduced Eddie Bauer (in a return to Old Orchard) and Build-A-Bear, which sells gifts for smaller children. This also was the first year the high-end Kate Spade store was at Westfield Old Orchard on Black Friday. Electronics and game stores such as Marbles appeared to have plenty of customers too — many of them trying out some of the brainy games on display in Marbles' small space.

One of the most popular Marbles products this year is BB-8, an "app-enabled Droid" from the "Star Wars" series.

"Based on your interactions, BB-8 will show a range of expressions and perk up when you give voice commands," the product information states.

Even with a rainy Black Friday at Old Orchard, there was one noticeable sign of success. A small pile of BB-8s had a message sitting on top that read: "Only 9 left!"

misaacs@pioneerlocal.com  
Twitter @SKReview\_Mike



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

A salesman works with a customer Nov. 27 at Sorel, the newest store to open at Westfield Old Orchard. Black Friday at the shopping center began with rain, but the crowds picked up toward afternoon.

## Long lines welcomed Lincolnwood shoppers

There wasn't an open parking spot in sight on Black Friday on Nov. 27 at Lincolnwood Town Center as deal-hungry shoppers swarmed Carson's and Kohl's and waited in lengthy lines for a one-day chance to score goods at a fraction of the regular price.

While plenty of shoppers decided to endure the long lines in exchange for deep discounts, Chicago residents Joela Kemp and Elisa Marcus' enthusiasm about Black Friday shopping wasn't enough for them to wait it out.

"The good part about the long lines is that they force you to prioritize and only buy what you really want," Kemp said. "Old Navy has 50 percent off at the store, but I wasn't willing to wait in a line that wrapped around to the back of the store."

As the biggest-name stores at Lincolnwood Town Center, Old Navy, Kohl's and Carson's were the hot spots for Black Friday shopping.

While some people waited until Friday to hit the sales, others headed straight from the Thanksgiving dinner table to the mall, which opened at 5 p.m. on Thanksgiving night.

"We've been constantly busy since last night," said Genelle Iocca, marketing director for Lincolnwood Town Center. "Quite a few of our stores stayed open all night, so we've had a steady crowd since then."

A line of more than 1,000 people had lined up outside of the main doors of Carson's by 5 p.m. on Thursday, according to the store's general

manager, Nev Savich. The discount department store offered gift cards between \$5 and \$500 to the first 200 people to enter the store.

But beyond the gift card promotion, it was uncertain whether early bird shoppers really did get the worm.

None of Carson's "doorbuster" items had sold out by the afternoon, although early shoppers at many stores scored deeper discounts.

The clothing store Express offered 50 percent off during the morning hours, but shoppers who showed up later got 40 percent.

Among Carson's "doorbusters" offered this year were sales on women's Rampage brand boots and down comforters, which were selling for under \$20 until 3 p.m. Savich said the store hadn't sold out of anything but would offer to order things for customers if it does.

To help kick off the holiday shopping season Thursday night, Carson's had a DJ spinning holiday music Thanksgiving night, and store employees sang Christmas carols. And the mall followed its annual tradition Friday night of treating shoppers to an abbreviated version of the Nutcracker as performed by Chicago-based dance school Performing Arts Limited.

"For some shoppers, it's more about the energy of being a part of Black Friday than it is about the shopping," Savich said. "People really like the experience."

— Natalie Hayes

# Will Christmas cards become a thing of the past?



**RANDY BLASER**

The week after Thanksgiving once was a time to set up your Christmas decorations — mini-twinkling lights, Santa and his eight tiny reindeer, or wreaths and evergreen boughs.

Clark Griswold of “Christmas Vacation” fame was taught everything he knew about outdoor illumination by his father, and you never see Clark decorating

the Griswold abode before Thanksgiving.

Alas, that’s not the way it goes anymore. My neighbor has had his twinkling lights up for about three weeks before Thanksgiving. Today, more and more people do their decorating before Thanksgiving.

That’s not how it goes for another beloved holiday tradition.

People are waiting longer and longer to send out their holiday cards, and it seems fewer and fewer people are sending them at all.

The Christmas card seems to be going away. A story in *The Guardian* last December considered

whether 2014 was the year the Christmas card died, citing rising postage costs and a younger generation devoted to social media as the main cause of death.

That rings true to me. In our little household, which once was stuffed with mail between Thanksgiving and Christmas week, grow emptier and emptier. The space we once pasted all the beautiful cards sent by family and friends grows more sparse every passing year.

As I think about it, the eventual death of the holiday card probably started with the family portrait

card. It used to be fun to see how family and friends have changed over the year when we would get the holiday portrait card.

“Oh, look how big Megan is now,” we’d say, or laugh at a new family addition, a shaggy dog given a prominent place in the family.

But with social media, a year’s growth spurt by a friend’s child is no longer a surprise. We’ve seen pictures of the kids all year, at summer camp, the first day of school or on the soccer team. No need to send an annual photo.

Sending cards is getting expensive. Postage for first class mail today is 49 cents.

That’s nearly \$1 for two cards. Send cards to family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, etc., and you’ve probably spent upwards of \$100 for the cards and postage.

The federal government might not be cutting back, but the average American family is, and \$100 can buy a lot of gifts for the kids, or make a generous donation for a family in need.

My kids might not know how to address an envelope and their penmanship stinks, so I have no faith in the future of holiday greeting cards.

But traditions die hard at our home. Every year, we say we are going to cut back.

And every year, we don’t. When fewer and fewer cards arrive in the mail, we mark who sent us a card and who didn’t. The intention is to drop them next year.

By the time next Christmas rolls around, it’s easier to send the card than to cross someone off a list.

So it will be all or nothing again this year. Clear the kitchen table, take out the list and hand-write good wishes.

And if you have a new picture of the family, do send it.

*Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.*

## Grocery store efficiency getting the better of me

“It all comes out in the wash,” my mother used to say.

And she was right. Many problems have a way of working themselves out.

For instance, you might remember a couple of years back when Jewel-Osco went through a phase when it required baggers to carry groceries to shoppers’ cars whether they wanted help or not.

I remember telling baggers I didn’t need help and they said they had to and then followed me to my car, watched as I loaded up and then took away my cart. I heard other shoppers — and employees — similarly gripe.

There were newspaper stories and TV news segments about the policy that generally went like this:

“How do you feel about the policy?”

“If I want help I’ll ask for it.”

Momentary hullabaloo,



**PAUL SASSONE**

then the world moved on.

And after a while, the issue just faded away.

I bring this up because since then, I have come to need some help shopping. And Jewel-Osco efficiency is making it hard for me.

If you shop at Jewel-Osco you know that the store has employees roving the parking lot to immediately recover and move inside any and all shopping carts.

This is a good thing since it cuts down on roll-away shopping carts ding-ding parked cars.

On the other hand, this isn’t so good for me and anyone else with mobility problems. Granted we are a minority. But the problem is real, nevertheless.

I use shopping carts for support. I’m not quite ready for those motorized carts. But I use a shopping cart as a support as I shop.

Trouble is, there never are any shopping carts in the cart returns in the store parking lot.

The roving employees do their work well.

I asked one of these cart rescuers if he could just leave a few carts in each cart return for use by people like me.

He replied that it was orders to get shopping carts out of the parking lot and back into the store as quickly as possible.

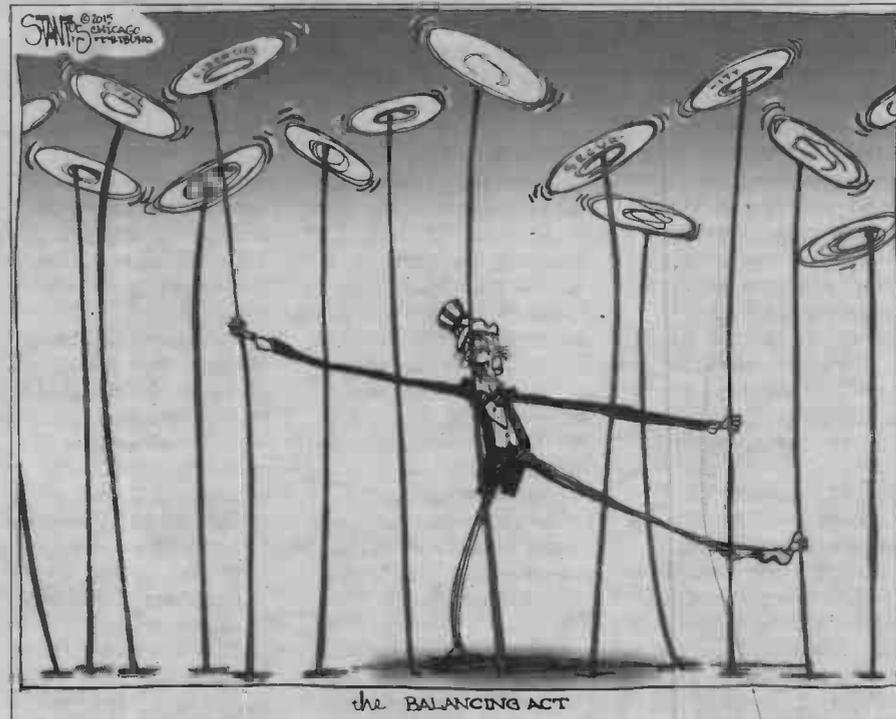
So, what I do is hope I get to the store between cart pickups.

And sometimes I go begging of exiting shoppers: “Buddy, can you spare that cart?”

Well, maybe, after a while, it will all come out in the wash.

*Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.*

### SCOTT STANTIS



THE BALANCING ACT

SCOTT STANTIS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

## Welcome December's holiday joy



**PAT LENHOFF**

It's time to freeze those leftovers for turkey tetrazzini. Thanksgiving has come and gone, and now we focus on all the joyous, amazing holidays in December.

Yes, I used that dirty word. **Holidays.** As in all aspects of fast-forward life today, the 'war on Christmas' troops fired early this year, attacking coffee giant Starbucks for their simple design of hot cups for the holiday season. Their gripe? No specific reference to Christmas, instead simply a bright red cup with the trademark green and white Starbucks logo. To me, there's no denying the Christmas theme inherent in that design. But to those who protested, the cups just don't carry enough symbolism for the holiday, and therefore are under attack for **undermining America's national holiday.**

Now, before branding me the Christmas Scrooge, let me establish that I have always loved Christmas, still do. Converting to Judaism 42 years ago didn't change that. Our extended family celebration on Christmas Eve is inked, not penciled, in my yearly calendar. That is an important part of my heritage that I will always share joyfully with my kids and grandchildren. In my early married life, I tried to recreate a Jewish Christmas in our Hanukkah home, until I realized that I made a choice and owed it to my family to be true to that choice. Luckily for me, our extended family gatherings every year on December 24th allowed me to recon-



SPENCER PLATT/GETTY

A new holiday Starbucks cup is viewed Nov. 12 in New York City. The coffee giant has come under criticism by some for leaving any Christmas or traditional holiday signage off of the red cup.

nect with a part of my life that will always be special. As my children have grown and married Christian partners, that blending of holiday tradition has become even more significant, as we all share the holidays, all of them, as one family.

In today's world, that's very common. Blended families, blended rituals, a sharing of and respect for different backgrounds. How that came to be a threat tantamount to the so-called 'war on Christmas' escapes me. In our democratic country, our mantra is equality for all, at least in theory if not always in practice. That's the goal we strive for, that's why our forefathers journeyed here to begin with. That means, no matter who might comprise the majority here, we are all equal. Along with our holidays and traditions. Even Hobby Lobby got that this year, having Hanukkah décor available for the first time ever.

That's why, in a month full of different celebrations, the most common, and appropriate, greeting is 'Happy Holidays'. It covers Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, New Year's Day, just about any holiday during those 31 days that people might observe, kind of a blanket wish that covers all bases for celebrating. Of course, it's completely appropriate to wish a Merry Christmas on Christmas Eve and Day, or Happy Hanukkah starting the eve of December 6, or Happy Kwanzaa on December 26th. The rest of the month, it seems most inclusive to simply wish everyone a happy holiday. And inclusion for all was what I was taught as making our country special. Let's not forget that.

Send email to Pat Lenhoff at: [viewfromvh@yahoo.com](mailto:viewfromvh@yahoo.com).

*Pat Lenhoff is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.*

## How to protect your home from break-ins

Last month, more than 40 Buffalo Grove residents attended a community meeting with representatives from the Buffalo Grove Police Department to discuss the problem with residential burglaries in our community. I'm a confessed news junkie and, while I've unfortunately become used to hearing stories of robberies in news reports, it is unsettling to hear a friend tell me of a home break-in and burglary that happened recently on their street.

According to information from the Buffalo Grove Police Department, evidence has shown that late afternoon to early evening is the most common time frame for a break-in and the rear sliding patio door is the preferred entry point. Jewelry and cash has been the main target of the thieves, but other small items have also been taken. You never think that these kinds of things can happen near you or to you but, sadly, they can. And all we can do is try to protect ourselves better by being a little more aware of our surroundings and a little more diligent with our home protection. Also, December is a popular month to travel in. If you are planning on leaving town for a little while, here are some suggestions from the Buffalo Grove Police Department and the Lake County Sheriff's



**AILEEN SIMONS**  
News and Schmooze

Office to help keep your home safe while you're away.

- Do everything you can to make sure that it looks like someone is still home. If there is snow on the ground, arrange to have someone shovel the sidewalks and driveway.
- Ask a neighbor, family member or friend to check on the house and to take in your newspaper and mail instead of suspending delivery service.
- Use outdoor light motion sensors and indoor light timers that are set to work on a varied time schedule.
- Don't broadcast that you're away on social media, like Twitter or Facebook.
- Don't change your voicemail messages to indicate you're out of town.
- Also, resist posting photos of your vacation until you're safely back home.
- Make sure all windows and doors in the house and garage are locked.
- Prevent damage if there is a power surge by unplugging your computers, televisions or stereos if they are not attached to a good surge protector.

- Don't leave any spare keys lying around outside of the house.
- Never leave valuables visible or easily accessible.
- Consider a home security system to deter potential offenders.
- Contact the police department if you would like a "vacation watch" placed on your house. If you live in Buffalo Grove, download a form from the village website at [www.vbg.org](http://www.vbg.org).

For extra year-round security, the police department encourages you to keep a watch on your neighbors' property as well and report any suspicious people or vehicles by immediately calling 911. Another idea is to establish a Neighborhood Watch program. If you would like to start a group in your neighborhood, contact as many of your neighbors as possible (usually a minimum of 10 households forms a group) and arrange a meeting at a home within the watch community. You can also contact a crime prevention officer to come to a meeting to help discuss safety strategies. More information is available at [www.vbg.org](http://www.vbg.org).

That's all for now; please keep in touch and send neighborhood news to Aileen Simons at [thewritetouch1@gmail.com](mailto:thewritetouch1@gmail.com).

*Aileen Simons is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.*

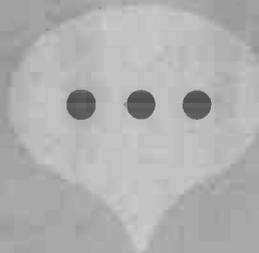
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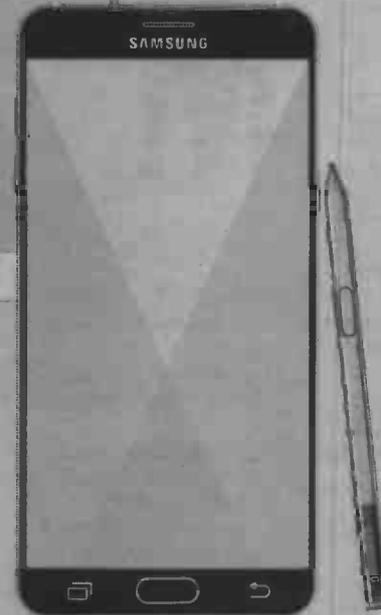
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# Festive fun: A guide to holiday entertainment

BY DEBORAH HOPPE  
Pioneer Press

Want to see the Sugar Plum Fairy float across the stage or Scrooge's joyful change of heart? Or are you looking forward to a concert of your favorite Christmas carols? Our guide lists the concerts, plays, dance productions and other activities for the holiday season.

## Concerts

**"Swingin' in the Holiday,"** 8 p.m. Dec. 4 and 5 featuring the Ladies at Pete's (Elaine Dame, Kimberly Gordon and Abigail Riccards on Dec. 4; Stephanie Browning, Amy Yassinger and Tammy McCann on Dec. 5) plus the Jeannie Tanner Quartet in Pete Miller's Steakhouse, 1557 Sherman Ave., Evanston. Admission is free. Call 847-328-0399 or visit [www.pete-millers.com](http://www.pete-millers.com).

**"Miracle on Thirty-Funk Street"** by the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus, featuring classic tunes from Pearl Bailey, James Brown and Donny Hathaway, 8 p.m. Dec. 5 at North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie. Tickets are \$25, \$30 and \$35. Information at 847-673-6300 or [www.northshorecenter.org](http://www.northshorecenter.org).

**Evanston Symphony "Holiday Concert"** 3 p.m. Dec. 6 featuring a Gospel Choir, the North Shore Choral Society, the Evanston Dance Ensemble, the Evanston Children's Choir and the ETHS A Cappella Choir in the Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for children in advance, \$30 for adults and \$10 for children at the door. Preferred seating tickets are \$40 for adults, \$15 for children. Call 847-864-8804 or visit [www.evanstonsymphony.org](http://www.evanstonsymphony.org).

**"Hanukkah Concert,"**



EDWARD MARSHALL

"Frozemont" makes the most of the chilly conditions with winter tubing, ice skating, a hockey series and more, all happening at Rosemont's MB Financial Park through March 2.

featuring the Maxwell Street Klezmer Band, 1 p.m. Dec. 6 in the Alsdorf Auditorium of the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Parking is extra. Call 847-835-5440 or visit [www.chicagobotanicgarden.org](http://www.chicagobotanicgarden.org).

**"We Wish You the Merriest"** featuring The Park Ridge Chorale, 7 p.m. Dec. 12 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 205 N. Prospect, Park Ridge. This year, for the first time, Santa will be on hand distributing candy canes and posing for photos. A split-the-pot-affle will go to a few lucky audience members. Purchase advance tickets online, \$16 adults/\$14 seniors, or at the door \$18 adults/\$16 seniors. Free for those under 18. Call 224-585-3403 or visit [www.parkridgechorale.com](http://www.parkridgechorale.com).

**"A Christmas Brass Concert,"** 2 and 4 p.m. Dec. 12 at the Alsdorf Auditorium of the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Tickets are \$17 in advance, \$20 at the

door. Call 847-835-5440 or visit [www.chicagobotanicgarden.org](http://www.chicagobotanicgarden.org).

**"Bel Sonore Chamber Ensemble Winter Holiday Concert,"** 2 p.m. Dec. 13 at Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Admission is free. For more information, 847-965-4220.

**Foiled Again "Holiday Concert,"** 7:30 p.m. Dec. 14 at SPACE Evanston, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Tickets are \$15 to \$30. Call 847-492-8860 or visit [www.evanstonspace.com](http://www.evanstonspace.com).

**Sons of the Never Wrong perform a Christmas CD release party** 7 p.m. Dec. 20 at SPACE Evanston, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Tickets are \$15 to \$35. Call 847-492-8860 or visit [www.evanstonspace.com](http://www.evanstonspace.com).

**"A Ceremony of Carols"** by Benjamin Britten, 3:30 p.m. Dec. 20 by the Bella Voce chamber choir at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 939 Hinman Ave., Evanston. Premium tickets are \$40, general admission \$35, students and children \$15. Call 312-479-1096 or



SALT CREEK BALLET

Salt Creek Ballet will present "The Nutcracker" at The North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie on Dec. 12 and 13.

visit [www.bellavoce.org/holiday](http://www.bellavoce.org/holiday).

**"The Magic of Christmas,"** presented by Kaylee Durow with accompanist John Hopkins, 7 p.m. Dec. 20 at Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave. Skokie, near the southwest corner of Lincoln Avenue and Oakton Street. Tickets are \$25, children under 12 are \$15.

847-677-7761 or [www.skokie-theatre.org](http://www.skokie-theatre.org).

**Evanston Children's Choir "Annual Holiday Concert,"** 3 p.m. Dec. 20 at the Alice Millar Chapel, 1870 Sheridan Road, Evanston. Admission is free but donations are accepted. Call 847-733-0814 or visit [www.evanstonchildrenschoir.org](http://www.evanstonchildrenschoir.org).

## Dance and theater

**"The Nutcracker"** 40th anniversary production, 7 p.m. Dec. 4 at Mary Seat of Wisdom School, 1352 S. Cumberland Ave., Park Ridge. The cast is made up of the entire 4th grade class. Admission is free. For more information, contact Geraldine Kubisova at 847-730-4056 or [gnkubisova@yahoo.com](mailto:gnkubisova@yahoo.com).

**"Oy to the World,"** an evening of holiday fun with Russ Goeltenbodt, Carla Gordon and Denise Tomasello, 8 p.m. Dec. 5. \$20. Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. 847-677-7761 or [skokietheatre.com](http://skokietheatre.com)

**"The Nutcracker,"** presented by the Studio North Academy of the Performing Arts, 2 and 7 p.m. Dec. 5 at Haven Middle School, 2417 Prairie Ave., Evanston. Tickets are \$15. Call 847-251-7627 or visit [www.studionorthacademy.com](http://www.studionorthacademy.com).

**"The Nutcracker,"** by The Ruth Page Civic Ballet, 7 p.m. Dec. 5 and 1 and 5 p.m. Dec. 6 at Northeastern Illinois University, 3701 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Chicago. This production, celebrating its 50th anniversary this holiday season, will feature guest artists from Cuba's Escuela Nacional de Ballet. Tickets are \$25 for general admission, \$20 for seniors and children under the age of 12 and \$10 for NEIU students, faculty and staff, one ticket per I.D. card. Also available is "Tea with Clara," a tea party where patrons can enjoy with their favorite Nutcracker characters 3:15-4:45 p.m. Dec. 6. Tickets for "Tea with Clara," which include admission to the tea party and either the 1 p.m. or 5 p.m. show, are \$85 for adults and \$50 for children under the age of 12. Performance tickets and "Tea with Clara" tickets at [www.ruthpage.org](http://www.ruthpage.org).

Turn to Holiday, Page 21



CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

The Maxwell Street Klezmer Band will play at the Chicago Botanic Garden's "Hanukkah Concert" on Dec. 6.

*Holiday, from Page 20*

"The Nutcracker" by the Salt Creek Ballet, 1 and 5 p.m. Dec. 12 and 2 p.m. Dec. 13 at The North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Tickets are \$20, \$32 and \$42. 847-673-6300 or [www.northshorecenter.org](http://www.northshorecenter.org).

"Clara & the Nutcracker," matinee and evening performances through Dec. 20 at the Piccolo Theatre, 600 Main Street, Evanston. Tickets are \$27, \$23 for seniors, \$15 for students and \$11 for children ages 2 to 10. Call 847-424-0089 or visit [www.piccolothatre.com](http://www.piccolothatre.com).

## Events

**The Wonderland Express**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. through Jan. 3 (closed Christmas Day) at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for children 3 to 12 and seniors 62 and older. Parking is extra. Call 847-835-5440 or visit [www.chicagobotanicgarden.org/wonderland](http://www.chicagobotanicgarden.org/wonderland).

**Breakfast with Santa**, 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Dec. 5 at the Golf Mill Shopping Center food court, 239 Golf Mill Center, Niles. In addition to a buffet breakfast, each child will receive a goody bag, make Christmas decorations with the help of Santa's elves and decorate cookies with Mrs. Claus. Tickets are \$5 and all proceeds will be donated to the

winning charity from our Festival of Trees event. Space is limited; tickets at the Mall Management Office. [www.golfmill.com](http://www.golfmill.com).

**Tenth Annual Holiday Open House and Food Drive**, presented by the Evanston History Center, 1-4 p.m. Dec. 6 at the Charles Gates Dawes House, 225 Greenwood St. Evanston. Donations of non-perishable food will be accepted for the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Call 847-475-3410 or visit [www.evanstonhistorycenter.org](http://www.evanstonhistorycenter.org).

**Hands On Hanukkah**, 10:30 a.m.-noon Dec. 6 at Westfield Old Orchard, Skokie Boulevard and Golf Road, Skokie. Interactive free Hanukkah celebration for families includes photos with Danny the Dreidel, dreidel spinning contests, olive oil sampling, and free raffle to win Mensch on a Bench. See [westfield.com](http://westfield.com).

**Santa Claus comes to Lincolnwood Town Center** this month — Pet Photo Night will run 6-8 p.m. Dec. 6; Train Ride with Santa at 9 a.m. Dec. 12; and The Santa Photo Experience through Dec. 24. Children ages 3-7 are invited to ride the train around Lincolnwood Town Center with Santa. For more information, call 847-674-9220 or visit [www.lincolnwoodtowncenter.com](http://www.lincolnwoodtowncenter.com).

**Holiday Cheers! Seasonal Tasting of spirits**, wines and winter brews, 6-8 p.m. Dec. 9 at the Wonderland Express Exhibition at the Chicago Botanic Gar-

den, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Tickets are \$30 in advance, \$33 at the door. Call 847-835-5440 or visit [www.chicagobotanicgarden.org](http://www.chicagobotanicgarden.org).

**"FROZEMONT,"** a plethora of attractions including winter tubing, ice skating and a hockey series will run through March 2, 2016. A two-story Polar Peak tubing run will kick off Dec. 11 and end Jan. 31; ice skating will take place at The Chicago Wolves Ice Rink every day through Jan. 2, then Sundays from Jan. 3 through Feb. 28; an ice carving competition will be held 2-5 p.m. Dec. 12; and Winter Frost Face-Off hockey series will run Jan. 7 through March 2. All at MB Financial Park, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont. Polar Peak tubing is \$1.50-\$3. Ice skating admission is free, skate rentals \$8. For more information, [www.mbparkatrosemont.com](http://www.mbparkatrosemont.com).

**Breakfast with Santa**, 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Dec. 12 at Resurrection High School, 7500 W. Talcott Ave., Chicago. Includes Breakfast with Santa, face painting, Christmas arts and crafts and a theater production by Resurrection High School drama students. Children can have their photos taken with Santa and each child will receive a special gift. Tickets are \$10 per child in advance; \$12 per child at the door; \$6 per adult. For more information, contact Kristin at 773-777-6616, Ext. 140 or [keven@reshs.org](mailto:keven@reshs.org); tickets at [www.reshs.org](http://www.reshs.org).

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## PEOPLE

## Kids bring 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' to Skokie

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

Deciding that their home-schooled children needed a high-quality outlet for performance, Evanston resident Eileen Hand and Paula Sjogerman formed Thin Ice Ensemble Theater.

That was 15 years ago. Hand's children have since outgrown the program, and Sjogerman is no longer involved, but Artistic Director Hand — who's performed with Apple Tree Theatre, Light Opera Works and other companies — is still enthusiastic about the theater company.

Fifty to 60 children, ages 6-18, currently perform with Thin Ice. Rehearsals are at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Evanston, but the company always performs in Skokie.

Hand has planned an exciting four-play season, starting with "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" by C.S. Lewis, dramatized by Joseph Robinette, Dec. 4-6 at Mayer Kaplan JCC in Skokie.

"It's going to be a little bit different than how it's typically done," Hand revealed. "The set is going to be more sparse because I'm really more interested in having space on the set for the battles," which were designed by professional fight instructor Orion Couling.

Hand also wanted to highlight the costumes. "I have amazing costumers and we have this huge costume collection that we acquired from people in Lake Forest," she said.

The fourteen members of the cast, ages 11-14, are eager to perform in the upcoming show.

"It's really exciting when you get onstage and everybody's watching you," said 12-year-old Sara Yen-



THIN ICE ENSEMBLE THEATER

From left: Ada Grey as Lucy, Peyton Mueller as Susan, Kevin Gee as Edmund and Daniel Phillips as Peter.

### 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'

When: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 4 and 5, and 3 p.m. Dec. 6

Where: Mayer Kaplan JCC, 5050 Church St., Skokie

Tickets: \$12; \$10 students

Contact: [www.thinicetheater.org](http://www.thinicetheater.org)

ter-Briars of Glenview, who has been in three other Thin Ice shows.

Yenter-Briars plays the Witch, which she enjoys because "I get to be very mean and cruel — which is not my personality. It gives me a challenge to be her."

11-year-old Ada Grey of Chicago has been in "a bunch of different shows" with the company, she said. "I love having a bunch of experiences with all these different roles."

Grey describes her character, Lucy, as "very energetic. She really has a mind of her own and she stands up for herself and she stands up for what she thinks is right. She tries to make the best of all the situations."

The season continues in January with high school

students performing "The Servant of Two Masters" by Carlo Goldoni, Jan. 8-10 at Devonshire Playhouse in Skokie.

"I like the idea of having them learn how to do improvisation because it's commedia del arte," Hand said. "I wanted to challenge them with that."

High school students will also perform in Brian Friel's "Dancing at Lughnasa," March 18-20 at Mayer Kaplan JCC in Skokie.

"It was a show that we worked in my scene study class and everybody seemed to respond to it and like it," Hand said.

The season closes with Meredith Willson's "The Music Man, Jr.," May 6-8 at Mayer Kaplan JCC. Kids 8-14 will perform.

# Living

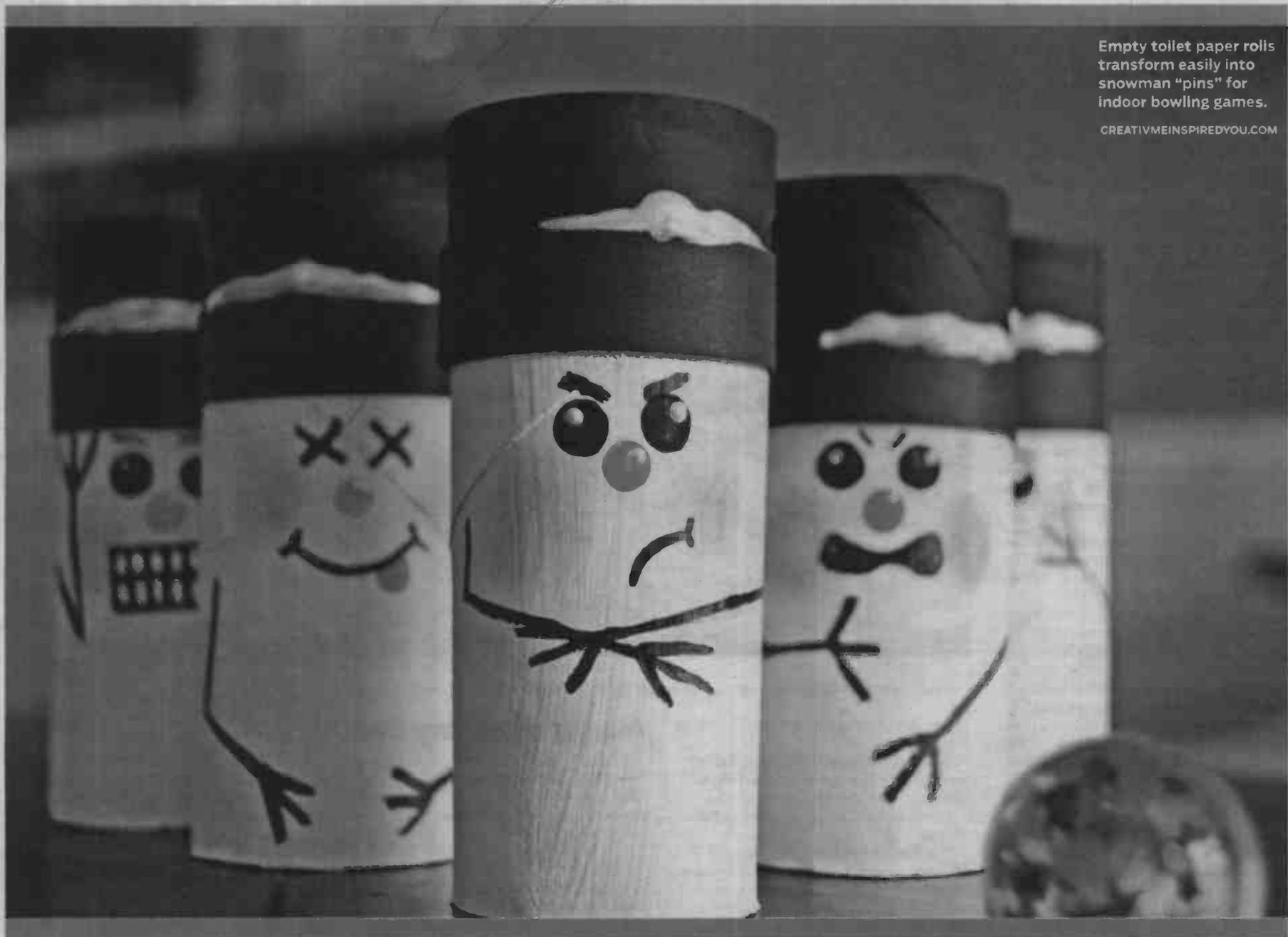
Thursday, December 3, 2015



Love essentially:  
Holidays a popular  
time for popping the  
big question ◀ Page 7

2

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## Strike up some family fun

These homemade games combat chorus of 'I'm bored.' Page 3

# Painless tips to cut fat, sugar in holiday food

By Judy Buchenot  
Beacon-News

A major part of holiday celebrations is sharing food, from clove-studded hams to steaming sweet potato puddings to heavenly whipped cream desserts. Although we want to have it all, most of us know that all of it is often too much.

Aurora resident Alanna Troyer, 25, says that there are ways to cut out a few calories here and there to make your holidays a little lighter. Troyer, a dietitian and nutritionist, is the Edward outpatient dietitian and helps people rethink the way they prepare their favorite dishes. She offers a variety of tips for cutting out calories and fat in holiday dishes.

When planning a holiday meal, begin with a wise meat choice, Troyer said. "Choose the leanest meat possible. Turkey or chicken breast is great." The fatty prime rib may be delicious but so is leaner beef tenderloin.

Bulk up on the vegetables for the meal.

If you are making stuffing, go heavy on the vegetables in the stuffing and lighten up the amount of bread. Instead of using only white bread in the stuffing, mix in some whole grain bread for extra fiber.

Roast vegetables or lightly steam and season them instead serving them swimming in cream soups or butter sauces.

Try using a mix of half mashed potatoes and half mashed cauliflower to save on some calories.

When making gravy from pan juices, take the time to refrigerate the juices first. "The bad saturated fat will rise to the top. Skim that off and get rid of it," she said.

Try using part or all whole wheat flour instead of only white flour in baked goods.

"The whole wheat flour adds fiber that slows the release of sugar into the blood stream. It helps you avoid that spike and crash from lots of sugar," Troyer said.

When making chocolate brownies, puree a can of black beans and use in place of the flour cup for cup to add protein and reduce starch.

Replace sugar with applesauce or mashed banana.

"They can be used cup for cup and will sweeten without the calories. One cup of applesauce has about 100 calories but 1 cup of sugar has about 800 calories so there is a big difference," said Troyer.

Splenda sweetener can also be used in place of sugar but "the baked goods may not brown so watch them carefully so you don't over bake them," she said.

Reduce sugar in a recipe by 1/2 cup and substitute about 4 teaspoons of vanilla extract in its place.

"The vanilla sweetens the mix and you save about 400 calories," said Troyer.

Applesauce, mashed banana or Greek



JUDY BUCHENOT/BEACON-NEWS

Alanna Troyer cuts beans for a light green bean casserole perfect for holiday entertaining.

yogurt can all replace butter or oil in recipes cup for cup.

Soak two to three tablespoons of chia seeds in water for 20 minutes and use in place of all or part of the butter and fat.

Use skim milk instead of regular milk in recipes.

Top desserts with meringue instead of whipped cream or frosting to reduce calories and fat.

Use two egg whites or 1/4 cup egg substitute in place of one egg.

Use cocoa nibs in place of chocolate chips for less sugar and increased antioxidants.

Exercise for 20 to 30 minutes before a meal to bump up your metabolism.

Finally, when enjoying Christmas spirit, Troyer reminds everyone that the higher the alcohol content, the higher the calorie count.

"A common mistake it is to think that

## Alanna's Culinary Cue

The issue is not solely what you eat but how much you eat. Portion control is very important when trying to control holiday overeating. A portion of meat is about the size of a deck of cards.

using fruit juice instead of soda for a mixed drink will save calories but juice has just as many calories. Choose low calorie or no calorie mixers. Light beer will be fewer calories than regular beer and craft beers are often very heavy on calories," she said.

To get everyone started on a healthier holiday, Troyer offers her recipe for a green bean casserole that is much lighter than the traditional mushroom soup option.

Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer.

## Lightened up green bean casserole with shallot breadcrumb topping

### CASSEROLE

- 2 pounds fresh green beans
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/3 cup shallots, minced
- 1 pound sliced mushrooms
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1 cup reduced sodium chicken stock
- 1 cup skim milk
- 1/4 cup grated Pecorino Romano cheese

### TOPPING

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 cup shallots, diced
- 1/2 cup seasoned breadcrumbs
- 1 tablespoon grated Romano or Parmesan cheese
- pepper

1. Lightly spray a 13 x 9 inch baking dish with nonstick spray. Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Add green beans and blanch for 6 minutes. Drain and rinse under cold water to stop them from cooking. Set aside.

2. Heat oil in a large saute pan over medium-high heat. Add shallots and saute 1-2 minutes. Add mushrooms, season with pepper to taste and saute 6-8 minutes, stirring occasionally. Sprinkle flour over the mushrooms and stir constantly for about a minute. Slowly add chicken stock and stir. Add milk and stir. Bring to a low boil, and cook stirring occasionally until thickened, about 3 minutes.

3. Stir in Romano cheese and cooked green beans; pour into prepared baking dish.

4. To make the topping, heat oil in a medium-sized skillet over medium heat. Add the shallots and saute about 3-5 minutes, stirring occasionally until golden brown. Reduce heat to medium-low, add breadcrumbs, grated cheese and saute until golden brown, about 5-6 minutes, stirring frequently so mixture does not burn.

5. Sprinkle topping over green bean mixture and bake for about 30 minutes at 375 degrees.

Find more suburban cooks on Page 4.

# Double dip into family fun

These games combat chorus of 'I'm bored'



**BETH ENGELMAN**  
Mommy on a Shoestring

Holidays are coming, and soon. That means we get to hit the pause button on homework, carpool and early morning alarms. Free time with the kids is something parents relish, but none of us looks forward to hearing the "I'm bored and there's nothing to do" refrain. This year, banish those complaints with these activities that involve making family friendly games that can be enjoyed for years to come.

## DIY Popsicle Stick Charades

Charades is often called the "ultimate party game" because it's easy to play and can be enjoyed by all ages. I love the idea of personalizing it with your family's favorite topics, which will make the game more meaningful and accessible for everyone.

### You need:

Popsicle Sticks  
Markers  
Empty jar (washed and dried)  
Paper, ribbon and tape (for decorating the jar)

### Directions:

- Make a list of family favorite movies, books, TV shows and songs.
- Write one item on each Popsicle stick
- Use ribbon, paper and tape to decorate the jar as desired.
- Place Popsicle sticks in the jar and your homemade charades are ready. Let the first player pull out a charade, and start playing.

## Family Jenga

Like charades, Jenga is a great game for kids of all ages. Personalizing it with the names of each family member adds a fun twist, especially for kids who will love knocking their own name off the tower first. Family Jenga is also a great gift for grandparents who can play the game whenever their grandchildren visit.

### You need:

Jenga blocks or wooden blocks (1 x 3 inches)  
Permanent markers  
Empty jar (washed and dried)  
Paper, ribbon and tape (for decorating the jar)

### Directions:

- Write family member names on each block. You can either write the same name

on all four sides or mix up the names as desired.

- Use ribbon, paper and tape to decorate the jar.
- Place blocks in jar and get ready to play.

## Table Top Bowling

Don't toss those toilet paper rolls! Turn them into bowling pins instead. Your kids will have a blast making the pins and knocking them over. Thank you to Kris at "Creative Me, Inspired You," [www.creativeinspiredyou.com](http://www.creativeinspiredyou.com), for sharing this activity.

### You need:

6 toilet paper rolls  
Markers  
Paint (white, black, orange)  
Black cardstock  
Glue  
Pink chalk  
White fabric paint (optional)

### Directions:

- Paint the toilet paper rolls with 2 to 3 coats of white paint.
- Give each snowman a black hat by painting the top 1/4 of the roll black.
- Glue a small strip of black cardstock as a brim to the edge of each hat.
- Add personality to each snowman by using pink chalk for the cheeks and a dot of orange paint for the nose. Use markers to create eyes, mouth and any additional features.
- If desired, you can add white fabric paint "snow" to the brims of the hats and the snowmen's faces.
- Once dry, set snowmen in a pyramid, grab a bouncy ball and get ready to roll!

## Indoor Fishing and Matching Game

The weather outside might be frightful, but indoor fishing is delightful, and best of all, no worms required! Thank you to Paula at Frog Prince Paperie, [www.frogprincepaperie.com](http://www.frogprincepaperie.com), for sharing this creative idea.

### You need:

Fish Printables — Download them for free at the Frog Prince Paperie website.

### Yarn

Paper clips  
Dowel rod

### Directions:

- Print and cut fish printables (save the scraps which can be used to stuff the fish).
- Taking two printables at a time, place one on top of the other, printed side out. Carefully punch holes along the perimeter of the fish.
- Use yarn to thread the paper together, leaving a small opening so you can easily stuff the fish with several scraps of paper.
- Sew the opening close and tie a short



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Go fishing right in your own home with colorful fish that are easy for kids to make.

loop at the end, which will be used for hooking the fish.

- To make the fishing rod, bend a paper-clip into the shape of a hook and use yarn to attach it to a dowel rod. The shorter the string the easier it will be to control, which is helpful for younger children.

**Note:** The printables were designed with pairs of color and shaped fish. If just catching the fish is too easy, try hooking matching pairs of fish to make it a little more challenging.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and fun-filled holiday!

## SUBURBAN COOKS

# Lower-calorie alternatives keep off weight

By Judy Buchenot  
Naperville Sun

We all would like to be as jolly as Santa, but we don't want to look like Santa with his round little belly that shook when he laughed like a bowl full of jelly.

With the holidays approaching, even the most devoted dieter may have trouble avoiding dancing sugarplums and other treats. As the Edward Medical Group Weight Loss Clinic and Lifestyle Under Construction dietitian, Toni Havala has some tried-and-true advice for people wondering if they can avoid gaining a round little belly this month.

To begin, Havala, a Naperville resident, suggests setting some realistic goals.

"The holidays are not the time to start dieting. It will just set you up for failure. Aim to maintain your weight for the holidays instead," she said. It is very easy to put on a few pounds during the holiday. Havala says that simply eating 500 extra calories a day for seven days in a row means a gain of one pound of fat.

"And 500 calories is easy to do," she said. For example, a grande egg nog latte made with 2 percent milk, a slice of pie or even a seemingly simple party snack of two slices of Swiss cheese and three slices of salami are each 500 calories.

One popular but ineffective strategy of avoiding the holiday weight gain is to starve yourself the day before a party with the rationale that you will spend the saved calories at the party.

"Skipping meals before an event is a mistake," Havala said. "You arrive starving and are more likely to overeat. It is better to have a light snack so you can control of your appetite."

Havala also suggests wearing an outfit for the party that may be a little snug.

"Fitted clothing helps you remember that you don't want to eat so much that you get bloated," she said.

The main holiday downfalls are consuming too many fats from fried treats, cheese and sauce laden dishes and too many refined carbohydrates from sweetened beverages, pastas, breads and rice. Most people do not get enough fruit and vegetables during the holidays because they are too busy eating other things. Havala suggests surveying your options before starting to eat anything. For example, look over the appetizer spread and choose three ounces of shrimp which has 90 calories, instead of three ounces of salami which has 357 calories. Look for vegetables and fruit and lean meats like chicken.

Holiday buffets and sumptuous meals are challenging, Havala said, so choosing wisely is important. Avoid things that you have all year around like bread or mashed potatoes and treat yourself to those things that you



JUDY BUCHENOT/NAPERVILLE SUN

Toni Havala adds the ingredients for her low calorie Mediterranean Cheese Spread.

enjoy less often like a sweet potato or a scoop of stuffing.

"You don't need to eat everything on the table," she said. If you don't really like green bean casserole, don't take a scoop.

"Avoid your trigger foods," she said, referring to foods that you tend to overeat, like salty chips or nuts. Don't stand next to the buffet table or bowl of chips. If you have to walk across the room to get something to eat, it is a little easier to think before you eat. She also suggests using a small plate and placing just two or three things on it at a time instead of piling it high.

"Focus on your friends and family. Socialize an hour before you eat anything," she

said. When you decide to eat, don't gobble your food. Take a bite, set down the fork, savor the flavors and take a break before the next bite.

Havala notes that some social events can be stressful.

"When you are feeling social anxiety, don't use food to calm yourself down. Figure out another way to deal with your feelings," she said.

She also stresses the importance of "taking charge of your own glass." A well-meaning host that keeps filling your glass with hot buttered rum can add hundreds of calories to your evening.

"Always have food with your alcohol," she

## Mediterranean Cheese Spread

- 8 ounces whipped cream cheese
- 1/2 cup plain nonfat Greek yogurt
- 3 tablespoons pine nuts
- 2 tablespoons fresh basil, chopped
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 7 ounces low fat feta cheese, crumbled
- 1/3 cup oil packed sun dried tomatoes, drained

1. Place cream cheese, yogurt, pine nuts, basil and garlic in a food processor. Pulse on and off until combined. Add feta cheese and sun dried tomatoes and pulse until combine but still chunky. Can be made three days ahead and refrigerated. Serve with baked whole wheat pita chips or crackers.

## Salmon Coulis

- 8 ounces smoked salmon, diced fine
- 1/2 cup finely diced and seeded cucumber
- 1 tablespoons finely diced chipotle peppers
- 1/2 cup finely diced red onion
- 1/4 cup spicy tomato juice pepper

Combine ingredients and chill at least four hours. Serve with crackers, toast points or Belgium endive. Chipotle peppers are optional.

## Toni's Culinary Cue

When entertaining, always include some healthy, low-calorie options for your guests. They will appreciate having a healthy choice.

said. "When you have an empty stomach, the alcohol gets absorbed faster. When you absorb calories faster, it turns into fat faster." Have a holiday drink but then switch to water for the rest of the evening to remain in control.

When a hostess brings you a thick slice of her cheesecake, it can be hard to say no.

"Take a few bites, praise her and ask for the recipe," said Havala. "But then share it with someone else."

Havala shares her recipe for a Mediterranean Cheese Spread that has half the calories and saturated fat of traditional cheese spreads. She also offers a recipe for salmon coulis that can be a healthier option than some other holiday fare.

Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer.

# Fight over charges to stolen cards

Dear Help Squad,  
Chase and Visa advertise a "zero-liability" fraudulent charge policy, stating your credit card liability is limited provided you report fraudulent activity within 60 days. My experience is that this policy in fact does not protect me much at all.

On Aug. 7, I was on vacation in Istanbul when I realized I was no longer in possession of my wallet containing my credit cards and IDs. I called Chase promptly. The agent read a few charges I identified as fraudulent. She canceled my card and sent a new one to my home. So far so good.

The next morning, I saw Chase had emailed me a fraud alert that included two charges from a hotel, one for almost \$10,000, which was denied, and a subsequent one for \$5,611.12, which was accepted.

A few days later, I completed

and returned a Chase form asking me to identify unauthorized charges, including the \$5,611.12 charge. The charge was removed, and for 45 days I heard nothing. Then Chase reinstated the charge. I thought this was an error, but after calling, I learned that Chase had ruled the charges were valid because the merchant produced a receipt with my forged signature and photocopies of my stolen IDs!

I am the victim and I am being treated like the perpetrator. Help Squad, what recourse do I have?

*Francois, Naperville*

I made contact with Chase spokesperson Paul Hartwick, who said he would look into the situation. I didn't hear from Hartwick again for five days, but during that time, Francois received a Chase statement removing the \$5,611.12 charge from his account.



**CATHY CUNNINGHAM**  
Help Squad

Francois mentioned that his Citibank MasterCard had also been stolen, with \$8,996.04 in fraudulent charges initially charged to, then removed from, his account simply because he reported the card stolen.

But then I heard this from Francois: "Yesterday, I received an email from Citibank. They decided to reinstate the almost \$9,000 in fraudulent charges from the same hotel as my Chase fraud case — more than 60 days after they issued me a credit. Citi claimed they tried to contact me

on Oct. 15."

I was put in touch with Jennifer Bombardier, VP of North America Consumer Banking Public Affairs. Within a day Francois' \$8,996.04 charge was reversed.

I asked Hartwick and Bombardier to provide me a list of the steps that should occur from the point a card is lost or stolen to the time a fraudulent charge is permanently removed or reinstated.

1. Cardholders should contact their provider immediately via phone.
2. Recent transactions will be reviewed for potential fraud.
3. Fraudulent charges will be suspended pending investigation.
4. Customers will provide supporting documentation or sign an affidavit.
5. Evidence may be provided by a merchant resulting in reinstatement of charges.

6. Customers will be notified of the dispute's status, often via phone, and can appeal a reinstatement.

Both Chase and Citi often call cardholders to confirm receipt of evidence from a merchant — unfortunately for leery customers, typically from an unidentified 800 number — and if cardholders don't answer or return this call, they are back on the hook for the charges.

Lessons learned: When traveling abroad, don't carry credit cards and identification together. If you're suspicious of a caller claiming to be your credit card provider, dial the number on the back of your card to confirm.

Send your questions to [HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com).

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.



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# NBC's 'The Wiz Live!' debuts 2 senior dogs

By William Hageman  
Chicago Tribune

A star will be born — well, actually two stars — on Dec. 3 when NBC airs “The Wiz Live!”

The cast of the three-hour musical includes some familiar faces, such as Queen Latifah, Mary J. Blige, David Alan Grier, Common and Stephanie Mills. But in a supporting role, playing Toto, are two newcomers, Ralphie and Scooter.

They're 10-year-old Cairn terriers who earlier this year were in a shelter. But thanks to trainer Bill Berloni, Ralphie and Scooter are ready for the big time.

“In the early summer NBC called and asked if I'd be interested in training two Cairn terriers for the show,” Berloni said recently by phone. He agreed.

“They called me a week later. They'd found two blond boys in Sacramento whose owners could no longer keep them. ... We flew out to St. Louis. They were spry, in good health, giving kisses. So I adopted them.”

Berloni, who has been training dogs for 40 years, has had more than 200 dogs, and he estimates 10 to 15 percent of them were seniors. He has a fondness for older animals, and a good number of the 30 living at his Connecticut home are seniors.

“I'm a senior dog myself now. I'm 59. Bending down isn't as easy.”

When Berloni needs a dog for a role — all the animals he trains are homeless — he looks for the best animal, not the youngest.

“There is nothing I look for



JASON DECROW/PURINA PRO PLAN

Bill Berloni trained ex-shelter dogs Ralphie and Scooter for NBC's “The Wiz Live!”

that's different in a senior dog than a young dog. They have to be outgoing, people-friendly, want to interact. We never force our animals to work. You can't take a couch potato, 1 or 1 1/2 years old, and turn it into a performer. You look for their aggression factor. You don't want a snappy puppy or a grumpy old man. You want outgoing, friendly and willing to work.

“Quite frankly, senior dogs are easier to adopt. They've been

around. When you meet them, that's who they are. They're ready to move in. With younger ones you have to work.”

Ralphie and Scooter turned out to be good choices for “The Wiz Live!”

“We had seven weeks of training before the first day of rehearsal,” Berloni said. “We've been in rehearsal for a month; tomorrow we move out to the sound stage. So in total, about four months of training.”

On the set, he said, the dogs were great. It probably helped that the rest of the cast members are dog lovers.

“Stephanie Mills likes dogs. David Alan Grier has four dogs at home. Shanice Williams (Dorothy) loves dogs. All the actors are encouraging, so the dogs are just gravitating toward them.”

After Ralphie and Scooter were cast, Berloni said he got a call from Purina, which pitched him on a line of food that's designed to

help keep older dogs mentally sharper, improving areas such as memory, learning, awareness and decision-making.

“They said November is senior pet month, ‘The Wiz’ is coming out in December, would you be a spokesman?”

Purina Pro Plan Bright Mind Adult 7+ is designed to counter the effects. It's based on Purina research that showed enhanced botanical oils provided a fuel source for the brain in older dogs. It worked for Berloni.

“Our dogs get the best of everything, so we're always looking at nutrition,” Berloni said. “They sent me a bag, and we checked the ingredients. ... I put three of my retired dogs on the food. No lie, I started to see a change. You think gimmicks, but two 12-year-olds and a 14-year-old who didn't get off the couch — now they want to train again.”

He put Ralphie and Scooter on the food two weeks after he got them.

“The transition into the city and working situation was seamless. It's amazing stuff.”

After the telecast, Ralphie and Scooter will head back to Berloni's home for their next role: family dogs. No more training sessions?

“Nope. I'm not a trainer who wants to exploit them, work them like crazy. They dig holes, bark, roll in the mud. They're dogs. They feel loved. ... Unless a dog is being prepared for a specific project, we don't put them through any paces. We let them live their lives.”

bhageman@tribpub.com

## PET OF THE WEEK



Luna

Meet Luna. She is a large 5-year-old spayed white tabby. She is reserved and calm, but friendly. She enjoys sitting in the window and watching the outside world.

For more information, visit [www.nawsus.org](http://www.nawsus.org).

## chicagotribune.com/pets

Visit us daily for the latest pet and animal news from the suburbs, city and beyond, plus:

- 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



# Holidays a popular time for popping Champagne and the big question

I don't normally spend Saturdays watching college football. So, had I not been on an elliptical machine at my gym with a TV right in front of me on a recent Saturday afternoon, I would not have seen Clemson offensive lineman Daniel Stone pull out a diamond ring and ask his girlfriend to marry him on-air, right before the start of the Clemson-Wake Forest game.

I have to say, seeing Stone in full uniform on one knee while his girlfriend stood there shaking and crying, her hand over her mouth in disbelief, brought joyful tears to my eyes.

It was as if I was watching a romantic movie with a fairy-tale ending. It got me thinking two things: Why do women love romantic, heart-stopping engagements? And why do some men plan elaborate marriage proposals while others keep it simple and just ask?

To help answer these questions, I reached out to Claudia Bongiovanni, a Glenview jeweler who has seen her share of men who are getting ready to pop the question and shopping for engagement rings.

Bongiovanni, who owns Raphael Jewelers with her brother, Joe Raphael, said that while her customers are purchasing a ring, she always asks her them how they plan to propose.

"Every client is different," said Bongiovanni, who has been working at the jewelry business for almost three decades. "Some have all the details planned out, some have a general idea of what they are going to do, and some ask, 'How should I do this?'"

Bongiovanni said of the holidays: "'Tis the season for engagements."

"It's a perfect time to share such a joyous moment and show your ring to your family and friends at holiday parties," she said. "Everyone celebrating the holidays can also join you in celebrating your engagement."

So, do you need some ideas to give your sweetie a proposal she'll never forget? You could get in touch with Stone. He's got



**JACKIE PILOSSOPH**  
*Love Essentially*

**What really matters the most in an engagement is not the setting or even the ring, but the words.**

some credibility. Or, you could pop the question like one of these celebrities did:

- "The Apprentice" winner Bill Rancic to E! News anchor Giuliana DePanda — in a helicopter over Chicago;

- Tom Cruise to Katie Holmes — at the Eiffel Tower in Paris;

- Matthew McConaughey to model Camila Alves — at a family Christmas party, with the ring wrapped in multiple boxes;

- Pink to motocross rider Carey Hart — holding up a sign while he was racing;

- Ben Stiller to Christine

Taylor — in her home, which he decorated with rose petals and candles;

- Prince William to Kate Middleton — on vacation in Africa;

- Seth Rogen to Lauren Miller — in their closet while she was changing;

- Brad Pitt to Angelina Jolie — in front of their six children; or

- George Clooney to Amal Alamuddin — at his home after cooking her dinner.

There really is no bad place to ask someone to marry you, in my opinion, and whether you're up for an elaborate plan isn't a big deal. What really matters the most in an engagement is not the setting or even the ring, but the words. They are what make the engagement special and unforgettable.

When asking someone to marry you, a memorable proposal might include:

- What made you fall in love with her;

- What she brings to your life;

- The kind of husband you are going to be;

- Why you know the marriage will last; or

- Where you see yourself (and her) in the future.

Being nervous is normal. After all, getting on one knee and asking someone to spend the rest of his or her life with you is a huge moment. Just speak from the heart, with love and sincerity, and you'll probably get the answer you've always dreamed of.

*Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.*

## Share your suburban events on Metromix.com

1) Start at [chicagotribune.com/calendar](http://chicagotribune.com/calendar).

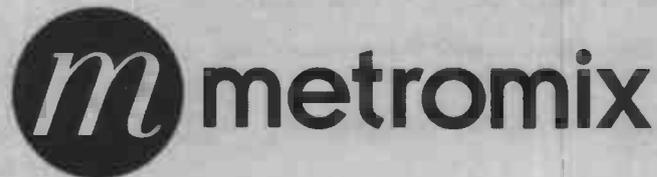
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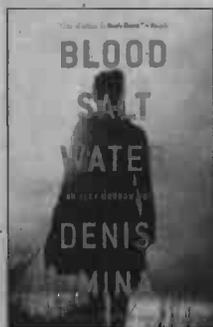
3) Confirmation: Metromix will notify you via email when your event is posted.

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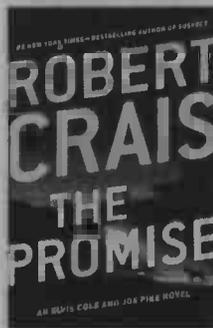


## ROUNDUP | CRIME FICTION

**Blood Salt Water**

By Denise Mina, Little, Brown, 298 pages, \$26

One of the qualities that sets Denise Mina apart is her ability to find what we used to call "human interest" in even the most dastardly characters. She recognizes them as products of a corrupt culture, of the "black economy" that drives her homeland of Scotland. Mina's powers of empathy have never been tuned more sharply than in "Blood Salt Water," her beautifully constructed fifth novel featuring Glasgow detective Alex Morrow. That could be because Morrow, now the happily married mother of twins, sees the world — even the one inhabited by her detested half-brother Danny, a gangster serving time for murder conspiracy — with greater sensitivity. Called to investigate the bludgeoning of a woman in the dozy seaside town of Helensburgh, Morrow turns her progressive vision on two other females: Roxanna, a beautiful Spanish divorcee who is being investigated for the unexplained \$7 million in investment money in her possession and Susan, a middle-aged widow who has returned from a long stint in the U.S. with mysterious motives. There's plenty of violence, but it's almost incidental. Iain, the thug who commits the opening murder, think he hears his victim utter his mother's name with her dying breath and spends the rest of the novel believing his chest pains are being caused by her inhaled spirit. Morrow "shouldn't feel sad for him, but she did," she thinks to herself. It's the abusers of power for which Morrow, and Mina, reserve their fierce hatred.

**The Promise**

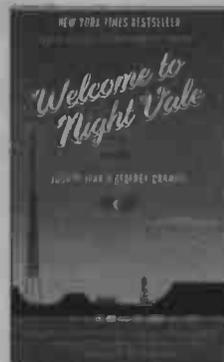
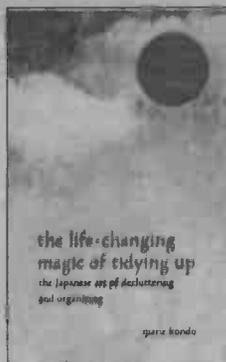
By Robert Crais, Putnam, 402 pages, \$27.95

In "The Promise," Robert Crais' latest L.A. mystery, brash P.I. Elvis Cole is joined by K-9 cop Scott James (from the 2013 standalone, "Suspect") on the case of a government chemical engineer, Amy Breslyn, who absconded with nearly \$500,000 of company money. Armed with a newly purchased gun, she went in pursuit of local arms dealers hoping they could lead her to information about the suicidal bombers responsible for her son's death in Nigeria. Cole first encounters James when they are independently drawn to a house on a quiet residential street that's full of explosives — not to mention the body of a man who has been gruesomely beaten to death. Like the cops Elvis loves to antagonize, James thinks his new partner may be dirty. But Cole has plenty of other backup support in the form of his stoic partner, Joe Pike, and his enigmatic mercenary friend Jon Stone. And then there's Maggie, James' heroic, dearly loved, Afghanistan-traumatized German shepherd. At times, with all these Crais regulars crowding the case, "The Promise" seems like a greatest-hits collection. But though he has written more cutting and cohesive thrillers, this one works on its own terms. For all its predictable moments — Maggie's brush with death is a given — the book is full of surprises involving false identities and the author's ability to enter the thoughts of the dog. "I strove to present Maggie's world as accurately as our current understanding of canine behavior allows," he writes. I'll let others judge the accuracy.

## CHICAGOLAND BEST-SELLERS

1. "The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up: The Japanese Art of Decluttering and Organizing" by Marie Kondo (Ten Speed, \$16.99).
2. "Welcome to Night Vale: A Novel" by Joseph Fink and Jeffrey Cranor (Harper Perennial, \$19.99).
3. "Hunger Makes Me a Modern Girl: A Memoir" by Carrie Brownstein (Riverhead, \$27.95).
4. "Rookie Yearbook Four" by Tavi Gevinson (Razorbill, \$29.95).
5. "The Good Girl: A Novel" by Mary Kubica (MIRA, \$14.95).

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

**Unbecoming: A Novel**

By Rebecca Scherm, Penguin, 309 pages, \$16  
A woman calling herself Julie lives on the outskirts of Paris, but in reality her name is Grace, a native of Garland, Tenn., where two men have been paroled for an art heist Grace planned — and escaped from. As Grace's deceptions begin to unravel, she assumes the identity of another young woman in attempt to avoid impending justice.

**The B Side**

By Ben Yagoda, Riverhead, 312 pages, \$16  
Yagoda examines the death and legacy of the Great American Songbook filled by composers such as Irving Berlin, Duke Ellington, George and Ira Gershwin, and Rodgers and Hammerstein, and the musical trends that altered the genre, such as the revolution in jazz after World War II, the impact of radio and television, and more.

**Ugly Girls: A Novel**

By Lindsay Hunter, FSG Originals, 232 pages, \$14

Perry and Baby Girl spend their time sneaking out, stealing cars and sleeping through classes, all to escape the boredom of a world that pays them little attention. But when they meet a dangerous stranger on the Internet, they must decide if their friendship is worth more than the attention they never knew they desperately craved.

**The Smith Tapes**

Edited by Ezra Bookstein, Princeton Architectural, 416 pages, \$24.95

"The Smith Tapes" collects 61 interviews with major cultural newsmakers from the late 1960s conducted by Howard Smith, radio host and author of the "Scenes" column in Village Voice between 1969 and 1972. Interviewees include Jane Fonda, Allen Ginsberg, George Harrison, Abbie Hoffman, and John Lennon and Yoko Ono, among others.

**Isabella: The Warrior Queen**

By Kirstin Downey, Anchor, 520 pages, \$17.95  
Downey details the life of Isabella I of Castile and the major mileposts of her reign: The completion of the Reconquista, the Inquisition, sponsoring Columbus' journey to the New World, and laying the groundwork for the unification of Spain. Downey explores Isabella's impact as a powerful woman ruling an era when women rarely held power.

— Jeremy Mikula



# puzzle island

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

11/29

## Elementary? Not exactly

By S.N. | Edited by Stanley Newman  
(stanxwords.com)

### Across

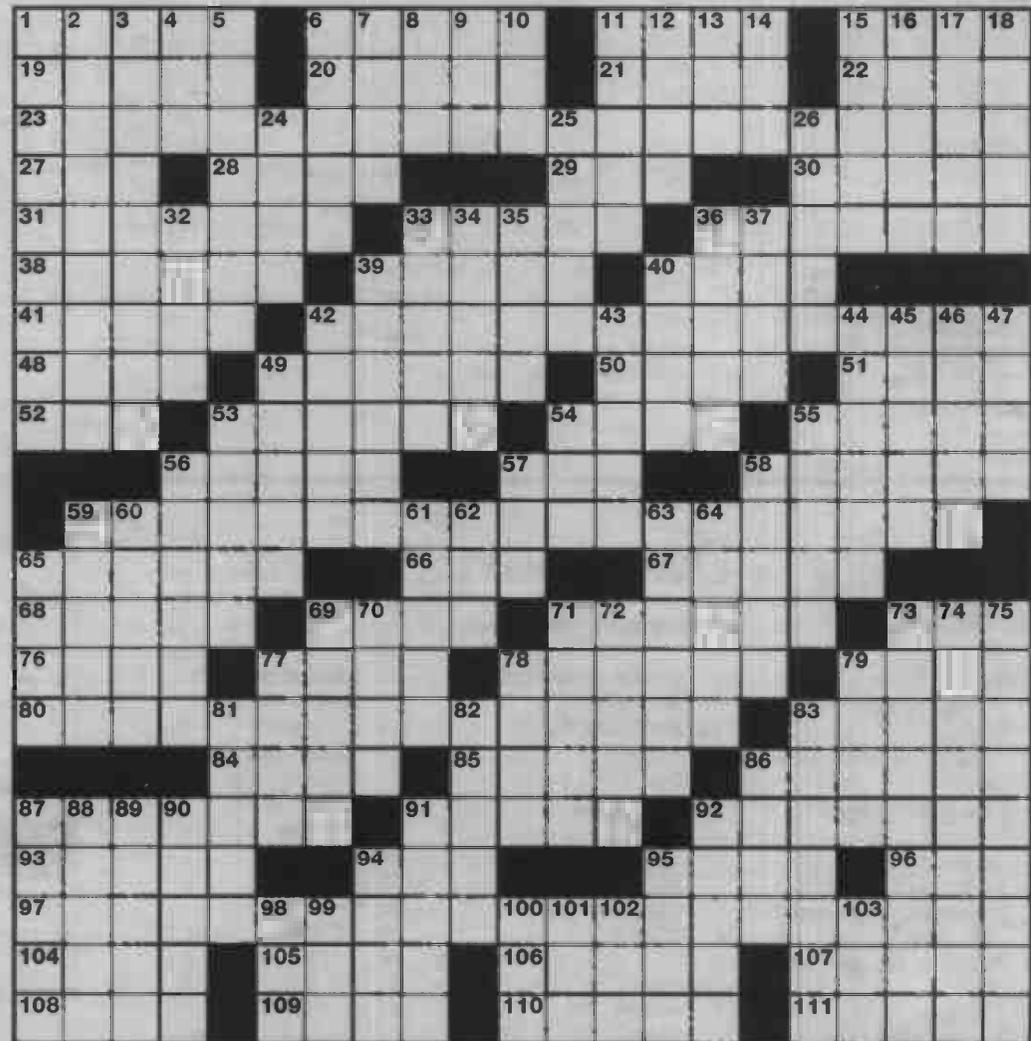
- 1 Video gaming pioneer  
6 Small-minded  
11 Ill-gotten gains  
15 Crescent point  
19 Serbian tennis great  
20 It's west of Wyoming  
21 Snack in a shell  
22 Hold 'em ritual  
23 Rarely aired  
27 Undivided  
28 Stretched out  
29 Part of a Sherlock costume  
30 Board, as a bus  
31 Cost for a bus  
33 London suburb  
36 With no basis  
38 Metal bars  
39 Is totally full  
40 Shakespearean schemer  
41 Well-coordinated  
42 Fancy wooden tiles  
48 Ready to drive  
49 Lapsed  
50 Spot of Spanish land  
51 Brand once bought by Reebok  
52 Right-angle shapes  
53 Upgrade electrically  
54 Altar exchanges  
55 Time periods  
56 Subtle glows  
57 NASA spacewalk  
58 Gossip, so to speak  
59 "Everything's coming up roses"

- 65 Chinese dumpling  
66 Tulane rival  
67 Sounds of rain  
68 Start for lock or line  
69 Ring results  
71 Conqueror's pride  
73 Boor  
76 *The King and I* star  
77 "This is bad!"  
78 Protest  
79 Motor sound  
80 "Don't hold any benefits for me"  
83 Midler or Davis  
84 Pivotal point  
85 Taking after  
86 \_\_\_ Mae (college funding source)  
87 Nightclothes, informally  
91 Conjecture  
92 Certs alternative  
93 On the horizon  
94 Robin Hood's drink  
95 Elevator arrangement  
96 Extreme fan  
97 Have no patience for falderal  
104 Besides that  
105 Foal's father  
106 French landscape painter  
107 Best possible  
108 WWII turning point  
109 Corp. bigwigs  
110 How some like their pizza crust  
111 \_\_\_ Haute, IN

### Down

- 1 Colleague

- 2 Sha Na Na sang it at Woodstock  
3 Sneezin' reasons  
4 Blushing  
5 Set apart  
6 Little trickster  
7 Idyllic place  
8 *The Joy Luck Club* author  
9 Still, for short  
10 Way over there  
11 Quaint power source  
12 Poet Whitman  
13 Virtuoso  
14 End of Utah's URL  
15 Law school studies  
16 Amalgamate  
17 Saloon seating  
18 Minimal change  
24 Where Curiosity landed  
25 That and that  
26 Snow hut  
32 Put a crease in  
33 Gaffe  
34 Annoyed state  
35 Plant fungus  
36 Fast-moving water  
37 Juan's water  
39 Exile  
40 In that event  
42 Handle clumsily  
43 Of ebb and flow  
44 Fast-moving water  
45 Trump ex  
46 Foolish person  
47 "Calm down!"  
49 Second showing  
53 Bit of gossip  
54 Creeping plant



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- 55 Microsoft's calling company  
56 Toward the rudder  
57 Aussie bird  
58 Culottes cousin  
59 Gaffe  
60 Opening comments  
61 Family bond  
62 Snaky shape  
63 Increasing  
64 Static attraction  
65 User-edited website  
69 G's  
70 Gold-filled fort  
71 Image on a 2015 Forever stamp  
72 Reservoir conduits  
73 Alien  
74 Of the joints  
75 Sort of swim meet  
77 Brute  
78 Speak (up)  
79 Hit with snowballs  
81 Etching fluids  
82 *Today* cohost  
83 Illuminated from behind  
86 Do a number  
87 Tired of it all  
88 Get \_\_\_ of (grasp)  
89 Brainy group  
90 Pirate's pal  
91 Places into a scrapbook  
92 Flavorful  
94 Big hairdo  
95 Squander  
98 Pac-12 sch.  
99 Fabrication  
100 TV regulator  
101 Express amazement  
102 Raw metal  
103 Suffix for stock

## Quote-Acrossic

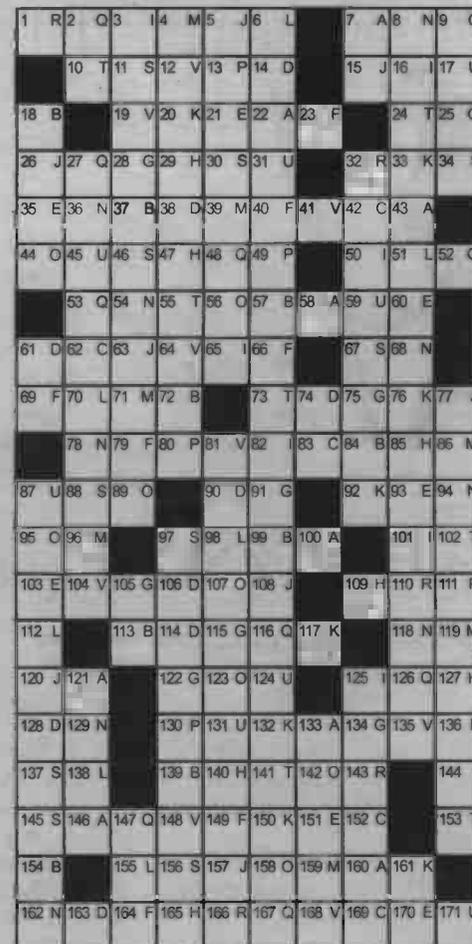
- Define clues, writing in Words column over numbered dashes.
- Transfer letters to numbered squares in diagram.
- When pattern is completed, quotation can be read left to right. The first letters of the filled-in words reading down form an acrostic yielding the speaker's name and the topic of the quotation.

## Clues

## Words

- A. Do your own thing  
146 22 58 160 7 121 133 100 43
- B. 'Howards End' author  
84 99 154 37 18 113 72 139 57
- C. Lends  
83 62 42 169 152
- D. Give advance notice  
114 74 38 14 106 163 90 61 128
- E. Problem prop plane  
151 103 60 170 35 93 21
- F. Karsavina's partner  
40 164 69 149 79 23 136 66
- G. Lack of enthusiasm  
122 105 134 75 52 115 91 28
- H. Ululating  
85 47 109 165 29 140 127
- I. Clanton & McLaurys met their end here: 2 wds.  
16 82 101 3 65 125 50 144

- J. Battle royal  
157 5 26 77 15 63 108 120
- K. Inspire  
132 150 92 33 117 161 20 76
- L. Olympic Committee site  
112 155 70 34 98 51 138 6
- M. Placed, as a tax  
119 159 4 39 71 86 96
- N. Reversion  
129 8 68 54 118 162 94 36 78
- O. Standard  
25 142 158 56 123 89 44 9 95 107
- P. Robust  
111 80 130 13 49
- Q. Spamalot creator  
2 48 126 53 167 27 116 147
- R. Insolent  
166 110 32 1 143
- S. Fourth most populous nation  
137 97 88 67 30 46 156 145 11
- T. Bill of goods: 2 wds.  
24 55 153 10 141 102 73
- U. Queen Beatrix's home: 2 wds.  
59 45 171 131 87 31 17 124
- V. Pulsating  
135 19 12 148 168 104 64 41 81



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

By Robert O'Neill.  
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.  
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## Descriptives

BY CHARLES PRESTON

## Across

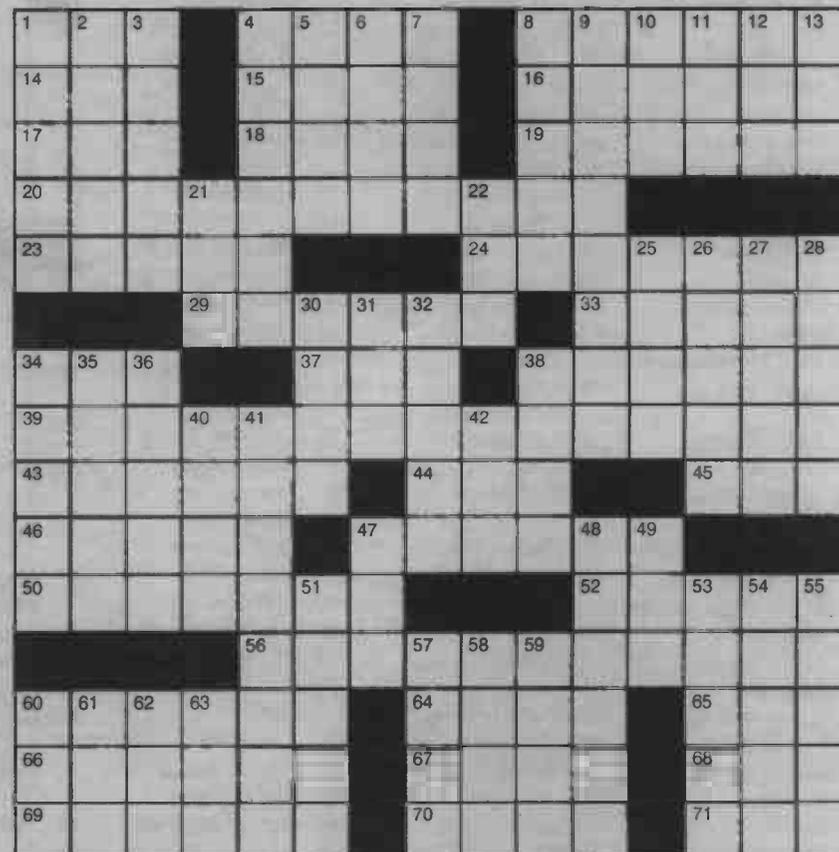
- 1 Alumns to be  
4 Happy  
8 "The Beale Street Blues Boy"  
14 Slangy name for a stranger  
15 \_\_\_ Ridge  
16 Sick  
17 Timetable abbreviation  
18 "The doctor \_\_\_"  
19 Removes a diaper, old style  
20 Chicken  
23 Trustworthy  
24 Gastropods  
29 Son of Tantalus  
33 Pang  
34 \_\_\_ rule  
37 Lawyers' org.  
38 Military command  
39 Bashful one  
43 Two of a well-known threesome  
44 \_\_\_ Paulo  
45 Old Tokvo  
46 Mature  
47 Book in a pew  
50 Schedule again  
52 Numbers game

- 56 Overly optimistic  
60 Just talk  
64 European capital  
65 Exist  
66 Tell, e.g.  
67 \_\_\_ Cassini  
68 Old NYC subway line  
69 Hair preparation  
70 Rational  
71 Orchestra-leader Brown

## Down

- 1 Aroma  
2 Proportion  
3 Squamous  
4 Auto front  
5 Actress Virna \_\_\_  
6 Tel \_\_\_  
7 Hamlet, e.g.  
8 More depressed  
9 Marauders  
10 Olympic-champion Keino  
11 \_\_\_ Amin  
12 Sister  
13 Certain AMA members  
21 Chatter  
22 Some NFL linemen  
25 Kojak, to friends

- 26 Clerical garment  
27 Beat at the wire  
28 Look after  
30 Ladd costar, in *This Gun for Hire*  
31 Sash  
32 Mammy Yokum  
34 \_\_\_ Is Born  
35 Specter  
36 Certain cloud  
38 Stratford's river  
40 "\_\_\_ be a cold day ..."  
41 Deposition takers  
42 Shapely leg  
47 "... \_\_\_ a jolly good fellow"  
48 Aver  
49 London john  
51 NL MVP in '71  
53 Follow  
54 \_\_\_ Haute, IN  
55 *The Country Girl* author  
57 Cupid, to the Greeks  
58 Soft drink  
59 Portent  
60 Deli favorite  
61 Spanish gold  
62 Coll. in Fort Worth  
63 Sighs of relief



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**Extra Wide Electric Wheelchair** - never been used, strongly built, asking \$13,500, price negotiable, 708-333-8406

**Furniture** - 2 coffee tbls, Antio dresser, 3 tbl lamps, 1 fir lamp, sofa tbl, & Full sz Boxspring/Mattress. All good cond. \$10-\$50, negot. 708-704-4996

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**Furniture** - Bedroom, dining room, & living room furn. Excellent cond. Call from 11/26 - 12/22 between 9:30 am - 4 pm 708-253-5983

**Holiday Toy Show** - Dec 6th. Tinley Park HS, 6111 S 175th St. For info call 262-366-1314

**Mobile Home** - \$8,500. 2 Bd/1ba, central air incl. All appl. stay 91st and Cicero. 708-857-4765 ask for Vicky.

**GARAGE SALE DIRECTORY**

**Skokie** - 8708 East Prairie. Saturday December 5th, 10am-4pm. Dining room set with buffets, two pine armoires, small couch, wing chair, women's clothes (WAL), home decor items, kitchenware.

**Stuff for Sale**

**Riding Lawnmower** - Craftsman, 42 in. cut w/ snowplow

**Estate Sales**

**LaGrange Park** - 710 Robinhood Ln. Dec 4-5, 9a-3p. Vintage items from every era, furniture, sterling, dishes, artwork, flatware, marble items, Christmas decor, jewelry, half-priced Sat.

**Don't Miss This Sale**

**Oriand Park** - Dec. 4-5th, 8a-3p. 15215 Lawrence Ct. Furniture, household items, clothes, shoes, books, purses, & much more.

**Oriand Park** - 7630 W McIntosh. Huge estate sale. Dec 3,4,5 from 9-3. Way too much to list. Don't miss it! Carol.

**Wanted to Buy**

**Wanted** - Radio/TV tubes, Ham/CB radios, tube testers, high end 70s stereos, tube type stereos, old radios, misc. elec., No TVs. 708-536-8823

**WHEAT CENTS** - Pennies before 1959 A & R PENNY SHOP 847-772-2682

**PETS**

**Dogs**

**Labrador Retriever** - Chocolate, AKC, available around 12/12, starting \$700. 574-952-8893

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**Residential for Rent**

**Crestwood Apt 2BR/1BA**, kitchen, living room, dining room, heating inc., \$875/mo, 708-417-5983

**Elmwood Park** Apt for rent, 5 1/2 rooms, \$950 + sec dep & credit check. Gar. avail. No smoking, no pets. 708-456-2007

**Elmwood Park 2BR** Garden apartment. Appliances, laundry, facility, AC, \$950 + Sec. No smoking or pets. 708-456-4381

**Evanston 3br/1ba**, 2nd fl. 1029 Dewey. \$1375 heat incl. One small pet. 847-905-0612

**Gary Very nice 2BR/1BA** home with full basement and new carpeting \$550/mo + \$350 sec dep. No Sec 8 Call 219-928-8769

**Hickory Hills Lrge 1BR** balcony, AC, carpet, appls incl. \$700/mo. Pets add \$25. 708-642-2470

**Mldlothian 3BD** apartment, 1BA, freshly painted, \$1200, 1.5security, 708-254-3967.

**Naperville 2BR**, 2 blocks from downtown & train, heat, water & appls, furnished 630-355-1670

**Norridge Studio and 1BR** Newly decorated, all appliances, laundry, parking, no pets, no utilities included. \$675-5785. 708-453-4988.

**Park Ridge 2BR, 1BA** Apt For Rent, \$975/mo, ht/water included. Car port & parking. Near Metra & I-294. Avail. Jan 2016. 630-363-7108

**Park Ridge House**, 5 Rooms up, 2 BR up, 2 BR in finished basement, garage, large yard, dishwasher, 1.5BA, W/D, near train. \$1650/month. 312-203-4890

**Schiller Park 2 apts**, 6000/month, no pets, no smoking, available now, 847-664-9951

**Commercial for Rent**

**Schiller Park Office** 480 sq. ft. \$650/month available now, no pets, no smoking. 847-664-9951

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**Judicial Sales - Real Estate**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION GREEN TREE SERVICING LLC Plaintiff, -V- AURELIA L BUTNARU, GRIGORE ALEXA, LASALLE BANK NA Defendants 10 CH 09720

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 8, 2015, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on January 11, 2016, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 9254 LOWELL AVENUE, SKOKIE, IL 60077 Property Index No. 10-121-105-032-0000. The real estate is improved with a brick house; no garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/ or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in 'AS IS' condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information: Visit our website at [service.atty-pierce.com](http://service.atty-pierce.com), between the hours of 9 and 5 pm. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300, CHICAGO, IL 60602. Tel No. (312) 476-5500. Please refer to file number PA0938360. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at [www.jscc.com](http://www.jscc.com) for a 7 day status report of pending sales. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300 CHICAGO, IL 60602 (312) 476-5500 Attorney File No. PA0938360 Attorney Code. 91220 Case Number: 10 CH 09720 TJSC#: 35-14796 1677108

12/3/2015, 12/10/2015, 12/17/2015 3790926

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA MORTGAGE, FSB SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WORLD SAVINGS BANK, N.A. Plaintiff, -V- WALTER DZIEDZIC AS TRUSTEE OF THE WALTER DZIEDZIC LIVING TRUST DATED 6/4/98. UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF THE WALTER DZIEDZIC LIVING TRUST DATED 6/4/98, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants 11 CH 39773

7655 WEST SUFFIELD STREET MORTON GROVE, IL 60053 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on February 3, 2015, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 21, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 7655 WEST SUFFIELD STREET, MORTON GROVE, IL 60053 Property Index No. 09-131-221-020-0000. The real estate is improved with a tan, brick, split level, single family home with a two car attached garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/ or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in 'AS IS' condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information: Visit our website at [service.atty-pierce.com](http://service.atty-pierce.com), between the hours of 9 and 5 pm. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300, CHICAGO, IL 60602. Tel No. (312) 476-5500. Please refer to file number PA1117942. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at [www.jscc.com](http://www.jscc.com) for a 7 day status report of pending sales. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300 CHICAGO, IL 60602 (312) 476-5500 Attorney File No. PA1117942 Attorney Code. 91220 Case Number: 11 CH 39773 TJSC#: 35-16655 1676386

11/26/2015, 12/3/2015, 12/10/2015 3773070

**Judicial Sales - Real Estate**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, -V- YOKHANA D. SLAW/ A/K/A YOKHANNA DANIEL SLAW/ A/K/A YOKHANNA SLAWA, KHANA SLAW, GEORGE Y. DANIEL, CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A. Defendants 12 CH 033492

7254 LOWELL AVENUE SKOKIE, IL 60076 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on September 24, 2015, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 29, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 7254 LOWELL AVENUE, SKOKIE, IL 60076 Property Index No. 10-145-223-047. The real estate is improved with a single family residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/ or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in 'AS IS' condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information: Visit our website at [service.atty-pierce.com](http://service.atty-pierce.com), between the hours of 9 and 5 pm. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300, CHICAGO, IL 60602. Tel No. (312) 476-5500. Please refer to file number PA1200847. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at [www.jscc.com](http://www.jscc.com) for a 7 day status report of pending sales. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 1300 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-9876 Please refer to file number 14-12-25377. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at [www.jscc.com](http://www.jscc.com) for a 7 day status report of pending sales. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 1300 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 Attorney File No. 14-12-25377 Attorney AROC No. 00-468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 12 CH 033492 TJSC#: 35-14536 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. 1676270

12/3/2015, 12/10/2015, 12/17/2015 3791155

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC Plaintiff, -V- WALDEMAR H. MAZUR, MIROSLAWA GORALCZYK, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR AMERICA'S WHOLESALE LENDER Defendants 09 CH 48088

7225 NORTH KILPATRICK AVENUE LINCOLNWOOD, IL 60712 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on July 22, 2015, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 21, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 7225 NORTH KILPATRICK AVENUE, LINCOLNWOOD, IL 60712 Property Index No. 10-277-316-025-0000. The real estate is improved with a brick single family home with an attached 1 car garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/ or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in 'AS IS' condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information: Visit our website at [service.atty-pierce.com](http://service.atty-pierce.com), between the hours of 9 and 5 pm. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300, CHICAGO, IL 60602. Tel No. (312) 476-5500. Please refer to file number PA0915024. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at [www.jscc.com](http://www.jscc.com) for a 7 day status report of pending sales. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300 CHICAGO, IL 60602 (312) 476-5500 Attorney File No. PA0915024 Attorney Code. 91220 Case Number: 09 CH 48088 TJSC#: 35-16665 1676391

11/26/2015, 12/3/2015, 12/10/2015 3773091

**Judicial Sales - Real Estate**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA MORTGAGE, FSB AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WORLD SAVINGS BANK, FSB Plaintiff, -V- SUNYOUNG CHUN A/K/A SUN Y CHUN, TRAFALGAR SQUARE TOWN-HOME CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Defendants 12 CH 03806

6158 WASHINGTON COURT MORTON GROVE, IL 60053 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 1, 2015, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on January 5, 2016, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 6158 WASHINGTON COURT, MORTON GROVE, IL 60053 Property Index No. 10-20-305-018-1093. The real estate is improved with a brown brick, two story, single family home with a two car attached garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/ or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in 'AS IS' condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information: Visit our website at [service.atty-pierce.com](http://service.atty-pierce.com), between the hours of 9 and 5 pm. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300, CHICAGO, IL 60602. Tel No. (312) 476-5500. Please refer to file number PA1200847. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at [www.jscc.com](http://www.jscc.com) for a 7 day status report of pending sales. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300 CHICAGO, IL 60602 (312) 476-5500 Attorney File No. PA1200847 Attorney Code. 91220 Case Number: 12 CH 03806 TJSC#: 35-14450 1676812

12/3/2015, 12/10/2015, 12/17/2015 3790914

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## Judicial Sales - Real Estate

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION  
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WELLS FARGO HOME MORTGAGE, INC. Plaintiff,  
-v-  
JUDI MALANTIS, FERRIS POINT CONDOMINIUM ASSOC., BMO HARRIS BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF ROBERTA ROSE, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, RICHARD KUHN, AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR ROBERTA ROSE (DECEASED), RICHARD ROSE  
Defendants.  
14 CH 017748

8650 FERRIS AVENUE UNIT #204 MORTON GROVE, IL 60053  
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on September 3, 2015, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 30, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 8650 FERRIS AVENUE UNIT #204, MORTON GROVE, IL 60053 Property Index No. 10-20-101-017-1004. The real estate is improved with a condo/townhouse. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300. In certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(e-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILUS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-14-20140. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION, One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILUS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 Attorney File No. 14-14-20140 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code: 21762 Case Number: 14 CH 017748 TJSC#: 35-13417 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.  
1676335  
11/26/2015, 12/3/2015, 12/10/2015 3773043

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## Judicial Sales - Real Estate

## Judicial Sales - Real Estate

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION  
CITIZENS BANK, N.A. F/K/A RBS CITIZENS, N.A. Plaintiff,  
-v-  
RITA S. BLASZCZAK, CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE U/I/A DATED MARCH 2, 1992 A/K/A TRUST NUMBER 1681, UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION U/I/A DATED MARCH 2, 1992 A/K/A TRUST NUMBER 1681, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS  
Defendants.  
13 CH 025535

4440 N. REDWOOD DRIVE NORRIDGE, IL 60706  
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on September 30, 2015, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on January 4, 2016, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 4440 N. REDWOOD DRIVE, NORRIDGE, IL 60706 Property Index No. 12-14-215-013. The real estate is improved with a residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(e-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILUS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-13-29585. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION, One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILUS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 Attorney File No. 14-13-29585 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code: 21762 Case Number: 13 CH 025535 TJSC#: 35-14821 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.  
1676336  
11/26/2015, 12/3/2015, 12/10/2015 3773033

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## Judicial Sales - Real Estate

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION

BENEFICIAL FINANCIAL I, INC. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO BENEFICIAL ILLINOIS, INC. DBA BENEFICIAL MORTGAGE CO. OF ILLINOIS Plaintiff,  
-v-  
VICKY LEE HEUER AKA VICKY L. HEUER AKA VICKY L. SNYDER, ARROW FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC  
Defendants

13 CH 20903  
635 PARKWOOD AVENUE  
Park Ridge, IL 60068

## NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 31, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 21, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 635 PARKWOOD AVENUE, Park Ridge, IL 60068

Property Index No. 09-27-132-003-0000

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

The judgment amount was \$188,582.98.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in AS IS condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, or a unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). In accordance with 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(C)(1)(h-1) and (h-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(e-1), you are hereby notified that the purchaser of the property, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by subsections (g)(1) and (g)(4) of section 9 and the assessments required by subsection (e-1) of section 18.5 of the Illinois Condominium Property Act.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact the sales department. ANSELMO LINDBERG OLIVER LLC, 1771 W. Diehl Road, Suite 150, NAPERVILLE, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960 For bidding instructions, visit www.fal-illinois.com. Please refer to file number F13080389.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION  
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE  
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

ANSELMO LINDBERG OLIVER LLC  
1771 W. Diehl Road, Suite 150  
NAPERVILLE, IL 60563  
(630) 453-6960  
E-Mail: foreclosurenotice@fal-illinois.com  
Attorney File No. F13080389  
Attorney ARDC No. 3126232  
Attorney Code: 26122  
Case Number: 13 CH 20903  
TJSC#: 35-16737

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.  
11/26, 12/3, 12/10/15 3772696

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION

MTGLQ INVESTORS, L.P. Plaintiff,  
-v-  
RONNIE PIRO, SOMAR BRIKHA  
Defendants

13 CH 08914  
6557 N Knox Avenue  
Lincolnwood, IL 60712

## NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on July 6, 2015, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on January 13, 2016, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 6557 N Knox Avenue, Lincolnwood, IL 60712

Property Index No. 10-34-317-027-0000.

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

The judgment amount was \$635,678.13.

Sale terms: 25% of the bid amount, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, shall be paid in certified funds immediately by the highest and best bidder at the conclusion of the sale. The certified check must be made payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in AS IS condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(e-1).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC, 111 East Main Street, DECATUR, IL 62523, (217) 422-1719

If the sale is not confirmed for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the purchase price paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION  
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE  
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC  
111 East Main Street  
DECATUR, IL 62523  
(217) 422-1719  
Attorney Code: 40387  
Case Number: 13 CH 08914  
TJSC#: 35-16763

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.  
12/3, 12/10, 12/17/15 3772938

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION

FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION  
Plaintiff,

vs.  
KAMAL ORMAN, MIRELA ORMAN, AKA MIRELLA ORMAN, MORTON GROVE ESTATES BUILDING NO. A-2 ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, CITIBANK (SOUTH DAKOTA), N.A. Defendants

10 CH 19015  
8640 N. Waukegan Road, Unit 423  
Morton Grove, IL 60053

## NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on September 3, 2015 and amended on November 9, 2015, an agent for the Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on January 14, 2016, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 8640 N. Waukegan Road, Unit 423, Morton Grove, IL 60053

Property Index No. 10-19-109-049-1039.

The real estate is improved with a residential condominium.

The judgment amount was \$251,782.03.

Sale terms: 10% of the bid amount, including the judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, shall be paid in certified funds immediately by the highest and best bidder at the conclusion of the sale. The certified check must be made payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC, 111 East Main Street, DECATUR, IL 62523, (217) 422-1719

If the sale is not confirmed for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the purchase price paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION  
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE  
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at [www.tjsc.com](http://www.tjsc.com) for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC  
111 East Main Street  
DECATUR, IL 62523  
(217) 422-1719  
Attorney Code: 40387  
Case Number: 10 CH 19015  
TJSC#: 35-16749

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.  
12/3, 12/10, 12/17/15 3772912

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## NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64

- I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Community Consolidated School District No. 64, Cook County, Illinois, for 2015 will be held on December 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at Jefferson School, 8200 Greendale, Niles, Illinois. Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Luann Kolstad, Chief School Business Official, 164 S. Prospect Road, Park Ridge IL, (847) 318-4324.
- II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2014 were \$61,870,894.15.  
The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2015 are \$64,670,000.00. This represents a 4.53% increase over the previous year.
- III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2014 were \$ 3,326,331.33.  
The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2015 are \$3,160,700.00. This represents a 4.99% decrease from the previous year.
- IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2014 were \$65,197,225.48.  
The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2015 are \$67,830,700.00. This represents a 4.04% increase over the previous year.

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### LEGALS

#### Foreclosures

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CVALT, INC. ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2005-83CB, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-83CB  
PLAINTIFF  
VS.

CATHALYNE RESTIVO AKA CATHALYNE J. RESTIVO, JOSEPH SPINA, CITIBANK, FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK, 1445 TOUHY AVENUE HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION, UNKNOWN OWNERS, GENERALLY AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS  
DEFENDANTS

NO: 15 CH 15129  
Property Address:  
1445 W. Touhy Ave Apt. 7B  
Park Ridge, IL 60068  
CAL 61

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION AS TO UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to UNKNOWN OWNERS, GENERALLY, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants in the above-entitled action, that a Complaint for Foreclosure and Other Relief has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Cook County, by said Plaintiff against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of certain mortgages conveying the premises legally described as follows:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:  
UNIT 7B IN THE CONDOMINIUM, AS DELINEATED AND DEFINED IN THE DECLARATION RECORDED AS DOCUMENT NO. 269774, AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, TOGETHER WITH ITS UNDIVIDED PERCENTAGE INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS, IN SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 41 NORTH, RANGE 12 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK, ILLINOIS.

P.L.N.: 09-35-100-028-1019  
COMMON ADDRESS:  
1445 W. Touhy Ave. Apt. 7B, Park Ridge, IL 60068

And which mortgages were made by Cathalyne Restivo aka Cathalyne J. Restivo and Joseph Spina, as Mortgagor(s), and given to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Guaranteed Rate, Inc. as Mortgagee to wit: that certain "Mortgage" dated October 31, 2005, and recorded as Document No.0534255059, that Summons was duly issued out of said court against you as provided by law, and that the said Complaint is now pending for foreclosure of said mortgages and for other relief.

Now, therefore, unless you UNKNOWN OWNERS, GENERALLY, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, file your Appearance and Answer to the Complaint in said action in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Chancery Division, on or before the 4TH day of JANUARY, 2015, default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer for relief in said Complaint.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
Kliever & Platt, LLC  
65 E. Wacker Place, Ste 2300  
Chicago, Illinois 60601  
(312) 201 6679  
Attorney No. 38413  
Our File #: SMSF.0097  
12/3, 12/10, 12/17/15  
3762267

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### Foreclosures

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO BANK OF AMERICA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR BEAR STEARNS ASSET BACKED SECURITIES I TRUST 2004-HE4, ASSET BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-HE4  
PLAINTIFF  
VS.

MAURILIO BERNAL JR., GREAT WESTERN BANK F/K/A WORLD SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, AMELIA FLORA SOTO, CYNTHIA SUTHERIN AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR ELIZABETH SOTO (DECEASED), UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF ELIZABETH SOTO UNKNOWN OWNERS, GENERALLY AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS  
DEFENDANTS

NO: 15 CH 3818  
Property Address:  
7011 N. Crawford Ave.  
Lincolnwood, IL 60712

CAL 64

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION AS TO UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to: Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Elizabeth Soto, UNKNOWN OWNERS, GENERALLY AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants in the above-entitled action, that a Complaint for Foreclosure and Other Relief has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Cook County, by said Plaintiff against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of certain mortgages conveying the premises legally described as follows:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:  
LOTS 25 AND 26 IN CRAWFORD LUNT SUBDIVISION IN THE WEST 1/2 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 41 NORTH, RANGE 13 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN ACCORDING TO THE PLAT RECORDED AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 9345310 IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

P.L.N.: 10-35-110-042-0000  
COMMON ADDRESS:  
7011 N. Crawford Ave., Lincolnwood, IL 60712

And which mortgages were made by Elizabeth Soto, as Mortgagor(s), and given to People's Choice Home Loan, Inc. as Mortgagee to wit: that certain "Mortgage" dated February 12, 2004, and recorded as Document No.0408349047, that Summons was duly issued out of said court against you as provided by law, and that the said Complaint is now pending for foreclosure of said mortgages and for other relief.

Now, therefore, unless you Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Elizabeth Soto, UNKNOWN OWNERS, GENERALLY, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, file your Appearance and Answer to the Complaint in said action in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Chancery Division, on or before the 21TH day of DECEMBER, 2015, default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer for relief in said Complaint.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT  
Kliever & Platt, LLC  
65 E. Wacker Place Ste 2300  
Chicago, Illinois 60601  
(312) 201 6679  
Attorney No. 38413  
11/19, 11/26, 12/3/15  
3750283

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## Foreclosures

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWTAL, INC. ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2006-14, MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-14 PLAINTIFF

VS. ARMANDO T. TOLENTINO, ANA TOLENTINO, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, TRAFALGAR SQUARE TOWNHOME CONDOMINIUM, UNKNOWN OWNERS, GENERALLY, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS DEFENDANTS

NO: 15 CH 15213  
Property Address:  
8319 Concord Drive  
Morton Grove, IL 60053

CAL 56

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION AS TO UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to: UNKNOWN OWNERS, GENERALLY, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS in the above-entitled action, that a Complaint for Foreclosure and Other Relief has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Cook County, by said Plaintiff against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of certain mortgages conveying the premises legally described as follows:

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:**  
MORT 9-714 IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE TOWNHOME CONDOMINIUM AS DELINEATED ON A SURVEY OF A PORTION OF LOTS 1-24, INCLUSIVE IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE, BEING A RESUBDIVISION OF PARTS OF SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 41 NORTH, RANGE 13, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, AS ATTACHED AS EXHIBIT "C" TO THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM RECORDED 01-18-2006 AS DOCUMENT 0601819080. TOGETHER WITH AN UNDIVIDED PERCENTAGE INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

PLN.: 10-20-305-018-1034  
COMMON ADDRESS:  
8319 Concord Drive, Morton Grove, IL 60053

And which mortgages were made by Armando T. Tolentino, as Mortgagor(s), and given to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Universal American Mortgage Company, LLC as Mortgagee, to wit: that certain "Mortgage" dated March 13, 2006, and recorded as Document No.0612849085, that Summons was duly issued out of said court against you as provided by law, and that the said Complaint is now pending for foreclosure of said mortgages and for other relief.

Now, therefore, unless you UNKNOWN OWNERS, GENERALLY, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, file your Appearance and Answer to the Complaint in said action in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Chancery Division, on or before the 21ST day of DECEMBER, 2015, default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer for relief in said Complaint.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Kluver & Platt, LLC  
65 E. Wacker Place, Ste. 2300  
Chicago, Illinois 60601  
(312) 201-6679  
Attorney No. 38413  
Our File #: SMSF0091  
11/19, 11/26, 12/3/15  
3752592

## CAR OWNERS

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## Foreclosures

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION

HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF THE DEUTSCHE ALTA SECURITIES, INC. MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2007-0A1 Plaintiff,

-VS- BASHAR AWDISH, ATOR AWDISH, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR COUNTRYWIDE BANK, N.A., INVESTMENT RETRIEVERS INC ASSIGNEE OF WELLS FARGO BANK NA Defendants

13 CH 25393  
8910 MERRILL STREET  
Niles, IL 60714

## NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on September 24, 2015, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on December 28, 2015, at the Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

LOT 50 IN NILES TERRACE-FIFTH ADDITION, A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE EAST 473.53 FEET OF THE WEST 1,016 FEET OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 13, TOWNSHIP 41 NORTH, RANGE 12, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as 8910 MERRILL STREET, Niles, IL 60714

Property Index No. 09-13-301-032-0000.

The real estate is improved with a single unit dwelling.

The judgment amount was \$490,529.12.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds or wire transfer within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in AS IS condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-1.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: KOZENY & MCCUBBIN ILLINOIS, LLC, 105 WEST ADAMS STREET, SUITE 1850, CHICAGO, IL 60603, (312) 605-3500. Please refer to file number 12-0021.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION  
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE  
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

KOZENY & MCCUBBIN ILLINOIS, LLC  
105 WEST ADAMS STREET, SUITE 1850  
Chicago, IL 60603  
(312) 605-3500  
Attorney File No. 12-0021  
Attorney Code. 56284  
Case Number: 13 CH 25393  
TJSC#: 35-14286

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is informed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.  
11/19, 11/23, 12/3/15 3751793

## Legal Notices

## Legal Notices

**NORRIDGE PARK DISTRICT PUBLIC NOTICE**  
LISTED BELOW ARE THE 2016 DATES FOR REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS FOR THE NORRIDGE PARK DISTRICT:

January 20	May 18	September 21
February 17	June 15	October 19
March 16	July 20	November 16
April 20	August 17	December 21

Norridge Recreation Center 4631 North Overhill Avenue Norridge, Illinois 60706 - 4595  
7:00 p.m.  
THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO ATTEND ANY OF THESE MEETINGS. Posted At: Norridge Recreation Center  
Any individual requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act should contact the Director at the District's administrative office, 4631 North Overhill Avenue, Norridge, Illinois 60706 by mail, telephone (708) 457-1244, fax (708) 457-8385, Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Requests should be made at least 48 hours prior to the meeting if possible. Requests for a qualified interpreter require at least five (5) working days advance notice.  
12/3/2015 3749687

## Legal Notices

**Legal Notice**  
**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** - THE MORTON GROVE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 21, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board of Trustees Chambers, Richard T. Flickinger Municipal Center, 6101 Capulina Avenue, Morton Grove, Illinois to consider the following cases:

**CASE ZBA 15-16**  
Requesting a variation from Section 12-4-2D of Ordinance 07-07 (Village of Morton Grove Unified Development Code) to construct an attached carport.

The parcel is located in the R2 "Single Family Residence District" district and is commonly known as 5613 Theobald Road. The applicant is Mr. Dilawarbhai Mansuri.

**CASE ZBA 15-17**  
Requesting a variation from Sections 12-2-6, 12-2-5, and 12-4-2D of Ordinance 07-07 (Village of Morton Grove Unified Development Code) to construct a detached garage.

The parcel is located in the R2 "Single Family Residence District" district and is commonly known as 8541 Major Avenue. The applicant is Mr. Amer Mirza.  
12/3/2015 3792486

**Legal Notice**  
**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** - THE MORTON GROVE PLANNING COMMISSION will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 21, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board of Trustees Chambers, Richard T. Flickinger Municipal Center, 6101 Capulina Avenue, Morton Grove, Illinois to consider the following case:

**CASE PC 15-09**  
Request for a Planned Unit Development Special Use Permit per Title 12 of Ordinance 07-07 (Village of Morton Grove Unified Development Code). The proposed mixed-use PUD would be comprised of two buildings: a 7 story 124 unit residential structure and a single story commercial structure on a 2.8 acre parcel at 8700 Waukegan Road.  
12/3/2015 3792535

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AUDIT REPORT**  
THE AUDIT FOR THE EISENHOWER PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015 PERFORMED BY KNITTLE AND ASSOCIATES, P.C., WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AT THE EISENHOWER PUBLIC LIBRARY, 4613 N. OKETO AVE. HARBINGWOOD HEIGHTS, IL 60706-4690, FROM 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M. MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, 9 A.M.-5 P.M. FRIDAY-SATURDAY, AND 1 P.M.-5 P.M. SUNDAY.  
12/3/2015 3780464

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## Probate

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, PROBATE DIVISION

Estate of SHIRLEY C. OLSON  
Case No. 2015 P 6751  
Deceased.

## CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Shirley C. Olson, of 495 Alcoa Lane, Hoffman Estate, IL 60169 in Cook County. Letters of Office were issued on November 9, 2015 appointing Steven Larry Olson, as Independent Executor, whose mailing address is 975 Marblynn Drive, Elgin, IL 60120, and whose attorney is Michael J. Moran, 121 S. Wilke Road, Suite 501, Arlington Heights, IL 60005.

Claims must be filed on or before May 26, 2016, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Every claim filed must be in writing and state sufficient information to notify the representative of the nature of the claim or other relief sought.

Claims must be filed with the representative of the Estate of in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of this Court, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602, if filed with the Court, the claimant, within ten (10) days after filing her claim with the Court; (1) shall cause a copy of the claim to be mailed or delivered to the representative and to her Attorney of record, unless the representative or her Attorney has in writing, either consented to the allowance of the claim or waived mailing or delivery of copies in writing, and (2) shall file with the Court proof of any required mailing or delivery of copies.

DATED: November 12, 2015  
MICHAEL J. MORAN, Attorney for The Estate of Shirley C. Olson  
Attorney J. Moran, Atty. No.: 25946  
Michael J. Moran & Associates, P.C.  
121 S. Wilke Road, Suite 501  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005  
(847) 372-8555  
11/19, 11/26, 12/3/2015  
3754889

## Public Hearings

## BOND ISSUE NOTIFICATION ACT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please take notice that the Skokie Park District will hold a public hearing before the Board of Park Commissioners of the District on December 15, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. The hearing will be held at the Weber Leisure Center, 9300 Weber Park Place, in the Village of Skokie, Illinois. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive public comments on the proposal to sell general obligation limited tax park bonds in the amount of not to exceed \$350,000 for the purpose of financing capital improvements for park purposes.

/s/ John V. Ohrlund  
Secretary  
Skokie Park District

12/3/2015 3767519

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Education of School District #219, in the County of Cook, State of Illinois, that the Tentative Amended Budget for said School District will be on file and conveniently available for public inspection and at the District Business Office located at 7700 Gross Point Road, Skokie, Illinois in this School District and on the District's website at www.nites219.org. Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said budget will be held at 7:00 p.m. on 12th day of January, 2016 at the District Office at this School District 219, in the County of Cook, State of Illinois.

Mark Sprout, President  
Brian Novak, Secretary  
12/3/2015 3783188

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## Public Hearings

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE INTENT OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE MORTON GROVE PARK DISTRICT, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS TO SET A \$2,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION LIMITED TAX PARK BONDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Morton Grove Park District, Cook County, Illinois (the "District"), will hold a public hearing on the 16th day of December, 2015, at 6:30 P.M. The hearing will be held in the Prairie View Community Center, 6834 Dempster Street, Morton Grove, Illinois. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive public comments on the proposal to sell bonds of the District in the amount of \$2,000,000 for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto.

By order of the President of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Morton Grove Park District, Cook County, Illinois.  
DATED the 18th day of November, 2015.  
Jeffrey Walt  
Secretary, Board of Park Commissioners,  
Morton Grove Park District,  
Cook County, Illinois  
12/3/2015 3769420

## Storage - Legal

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE TO BE HELD AT: THE LOCK UP SELF STORAGE**  
3850 W. Devon  
Lincolnwood, IL 60712  
DATE: Dec. 29th, 2015 BEGINS AT 10:00 A.M.  
CONDITIONS: All units will be sold to the highest bidder. Bids taken only for each unit in its entirety. Payments must be made by cash, credit card, or certified funds. No personal checks accepted. All goods must be removed from the unit within 24 hours. Payment due immediately upon acceptance of bid. Unit availability subject to prior settlement of account.

Unit 1108, Ion Vanciu  
Unit 1132, Louise Waxman  
Unit 2104, Ion Vanciu  
Unit 3335, Johnathan Sison  
Unit 1109, Ion Vanciu  
Unit 3356, Phil Seidemann  
Unit 3129, Marhesh Sharma  
Unit 4313, Smartmed Corporation  
Unit 3257, Desiree Vasquez  
Unit 4258, James Wheeler  
Unit 2209, Christine Gray-Rodriguez  
Unit 3401, Christine Sunogan  
12/3, 12/10/15 3779496

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE TO BE HELD AT: THE LOCK UP SELF STORAGE**  
12/29/2015 BEGINS AT: 11:30am  
CONDITIONS: All units will be sold to the highest bidder. Bids taken only for each unit in its entirety. Payment must be made by cash, credit card, or certified funds. No personal checks accepted. All goods must be removed from the unit within 24 hours. Payment due immediately upon acceptance of bid. Unit availability subject to prior settlement of account.  
Unit 2637 Tenant Theresa Burton  
Unit 2009 Tenant Bernard Berg  
Unit 4212 Tenant Phil Fisher  
12/3, 12/10/2015 3771731

## AUTOMOTIVE

## Autos for Sale

Snow Tires with wheels, for Hyundai Genesis, 5600 OBO.  
312-401-0771

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**Annual Statement of Affairs Summary for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015**

Copies of the detailed Annual Statement of Affairs for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015 will be available for public inspection in the school district administrative office by December 1, 2015. Individuals wanting to review this Annual Statement of Affairs should contact: Union Ridge School District 86, 4600 N. Oak Park, IL 60706, 708-867-5822 Office Hours 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Also, by January 15, 2016 the detailed Annual Statement of Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015 will be posted on the Illinois Board of Education website @ www.isbe.net. Summary: The following is the Annual Statement of Affairs Summary that is required to be published by the school district for the past fiscal year.

**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS as of June 30, 2015- Union Ridge School District 86**

	Educational	Operations and Maintenance	Debt Service	Transportation	Municipal Retirement/Social Security	Capital Projects	Working Cash	Tort	Fire Prevention and Safety
<b>REVENUES</b>									
Local Sources	\$4,557,270	\$610,130	\$141,522	\$71,379	\$265,800	\$0	\$76,890	\$99,231	\$0
State Sources	903,944			13,899					
Federal Sources	350,825			0					
<b>TOTAL DIRECT REVENUES</b>	<b>5,812,039</b>	<b>610,130</b>	<b>141,522</b>	<b>85,278</b>	<b>265,800</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>76,890</b>	<b>99,231</b>	<b>=</b>
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>5,964,567</b>	<b>713,554</b>	<b>136,250</b>	<b>122,105</b>	<b>266,911</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>76,760</b>	<b>=</b>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES & (USES)	0	100,000	0	0	50,000	0	(150,000)	0	0
<b>FUND BALANCES - JULY 1, 2014</b>	<b>1,493,203</b>	<b>169,076</b>	<b>68,677</b>	<b>103,293</b>	<b>85,529</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,388,900</b>	<b>81,032</b>	<b>52,708</b>
OTHER CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>FUND BALANCES - JUNE 30 2015</b>	<b>\$1,340,675</b>	<b>\$165,652</b>	<b>\$73,949</b>	<b>\$66,466</b>	<b>\$134,418</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,315,790</b>	<b>\$103,503</b>	<b>\$52,708</b>

**GROSS PAYMENTS FOR CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

LESS THAN \$25,000: C. Auriemma; Z. Asimos; R. Bago; S. Battaglia; D. Bartello; L. Bergstrom; R. Blumenfeld; K. Corcoran; P. Czerwicz; K. Dreyer; P. Ferrentino; S. Haddad; J. Holmes; N. Iannotta; H. Kim; E. Liu; O. Leiby; K. Martin; S. Musial; T. Raczyla; M. Sheehan; S. Stare; S. Sosin; M. Young  
 \$25,000-\$39,999: T. Corrigan; D. Marino; S. Pietrzyk; M. McFadden; R. Weber  
 \$40,000-\$59,999: J. Burke; A. Dirks; C. Gillespie; J. Grazioso; J. Hanson; H. Paar; A. Milner; H. Mroski; N. Swantek; M. Skidmore S. Volpe  
 \$60,000-\$89,999: R. Bonfiglio; S. Brown; D. Chambers; M. Grzeskiewicz; C. Haller; S. Jenkinson-Cope; K. Johnson-Russ; M. Kyne; K. Ligas;  
 G. Magnelli; E. Malicki; N. Manning; S. McCormick; J. Mensik; N. Musial; L. Pace; C. Panos; J. Price; P. Pukstza P. Richardson; J. Rooney; I. Santana; M. Struhar; A. Trowbridge; E. Tenglin; J. Walsh; J. Wilk; E. Zgardzinski  
 Over \$90,000: K. Dawson; L. DeLeonardis; J. Kosirog; D. Kubiniec; C. Lenzini; K. MacLuba; M. Maguire; B. Rudek; S. Schoenfuhs

**GROSS PAYMENTS FOR NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

LESS THAN \$25,000: B. Abdel-halim; D. Ayres. R. Bien-Alme; J. Bilek; L. Bohman; S. DeBacker; R. DeGrazia; M. Favela; D. Feldiorean; A. Giannini; R. Grimaldi; E. Grodzki; A. Hardy; P. Hinman; W. Hinman; D. Jorgensen; M. Kelly; A. Lostumbo; F. Malicki; P. Mocarska; N. Mohamad A. Mueller; M. Orrico; S. Pearson  
 \$25,000-\$39,999: M. Kacprzynska; S. Marchalafava; J. Petrocelli  
 \$40,000-\$59,999: K. Borgardt; E. Constantin; L. DiVito; L. Kosydar; M. Marsh; C. Martin; M. Treia  
 \$60,000 and over: C. Casteel; A. Feldiorean; J. Gilley; T. SImmons

**VENDOR'S OVER \$2,500**

A & B BUS SERVICE 24,446.95; ADDISON SCHOOL DIST 4 9,744.66; AL HAUT AGENCY, INC 2,837.50; ALL COVERED 9,063.61;  
 AMALGAMATED BANK OF CHICAGO 4,100.00; APPLE COMPUTER INC. 6,207.92; APPLE COMPUTER, INC. 19,743.95; ARLINGTON HEIGHTS DIST 25 9,744.66;  
 ASSOCIATED PROPERTY COUNSELORS LTD 2,854.00; AT & T 9,273.46; BLICK ART MATERIALS 2,547.62; BMO HARRIS BANK, N.A. 22,522.15; BOBS DAIRY SERVICE 15,315.04;  
 BR BLEACHERS 6,107.00; BUCKEYE CLEANING CENTERS 2,856.92; C J ERICKSON OLUMBING CO 8,201.42; CENTRAL LAKES CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. 11,105.00;  
 CENTRAL LAKES CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. 40,000.00; CONSTELLATION NEW ENERGY GAS DIVISION, LLC 16,047.37; COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION FOR 7,795.59; CORPORATE COACH 2,700.00;  
 DE LAGE LANDEN PUBLIC FINANCE 4,225.00; DE LAGE LANDEN PUBLIC FINANCE 5,070.00; ECRA GROUP INCORPORATED 18,210.00; EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT CO-OP 535,243.43;  
 ESSCOE THE ENGINEERED SYSTEMS COMPANY 4,706.30; FLOORING RESOURCES CORP 10,962.00; FOLLETT EDUCATIONAL SERVICES 3,708.28;  
 FOOD SERVICE PROFESSIONALS 142,652.73; FRANKLIN PARK DISTRICT 84 3,000.52; FRANKLIN PARK SCHOOL DIST. #84 8,085.76; GE CAPITAL 28,673.02;  
 GMB CONSTRUCTION 4,415.00; GORDON FOOD SERVICE 2,646.78; GRAPHIC EDGE 3,540.81; GROOT RECYCLING & WASTE SERV. 6,462.44; HARLEM AVE SEWING CENTER 2,670.00;  
 HARWOOD HEIGHTS WATER DEPT 3,607.86; IL DEPT. OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY 3,247.35; ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF 3,073.00; ILLINOIS PAPER CO 10,161.53; JIM TEETERS 3,584.00; KNUTTE & ASSOCIATES 10,000.00;  
 LAUREATE DAY SCHOOL 10,182.39; LEYDEN AREA SPEC ED COOPERATIV 123,033.96; MANNHEIM DISTRICT 83 SCHOOLS 132,604.33; MIDLAND PAPER 7,039.50;  
 NEXTERA ENERGY SERVICES 53,960.71; NORRIDGE SCHOOL DIST 80 3,254.22; OTTOSEN BRITZ KELLY COOPER & GILBERT, LTD. 2,553.00; PENNOYER SCHOOL DIST 79 10,064.59; QUILL CORPORATION 2,923.28;  
 RAMROD DISTRIBUTORS INC 13,439.66; RENAISSANCE LEARNING 2,657.38; RICHLEE VANS 29,099.08; RIVER FOREST DIST 90 9,744.66; ROBBINS SCHWARTZ NICHOLAS LIFTON & TAYLOR LTD 3,739.74;  
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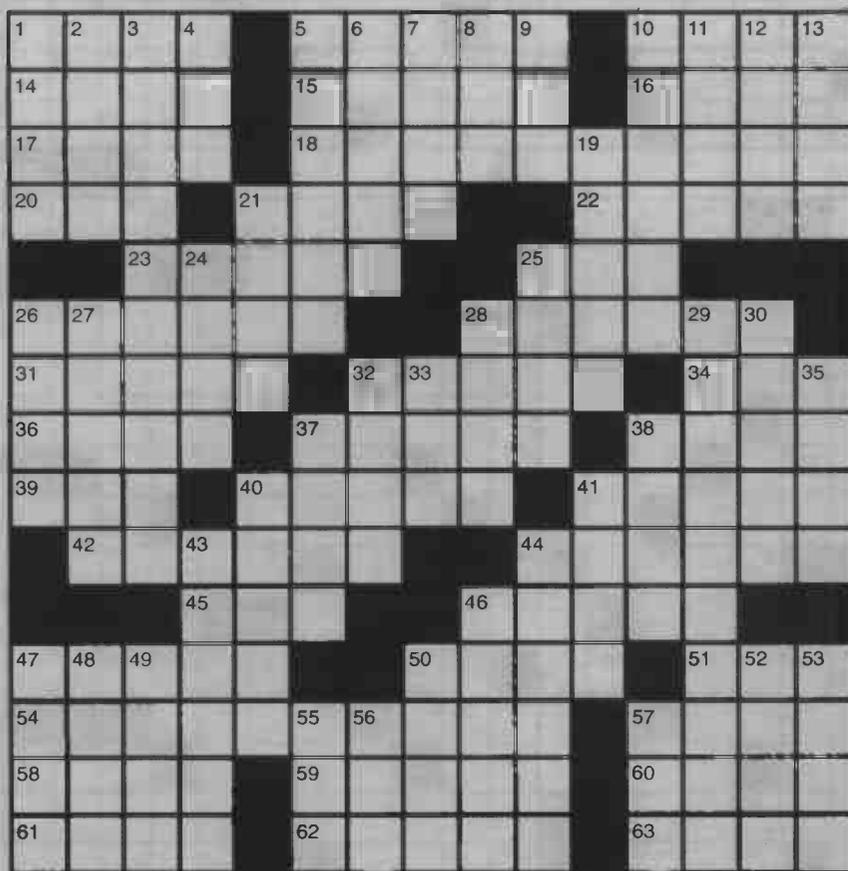
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CTCHNC-SFTF



# Crossword



By Jacqueline E. Mathews. © 2015 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

12/2/15

## ACROSS

- 1 Join metals by heating; fuse  
5 Fourth month  
10 Male deer  
14 Enthusiastic  
15 Male bee  
16 Ship framework  
17 Rescue  
18 Open to attack  
20 Greek letter  
21 Grape bearer  
22 \_\_\_ a hard drive; clear all data  
23 Female relative  
25 A-E connection  
26 MBA or PhD  
28 Criticizes  
31 Mistake  
32 Comic \_\_\_; "Peanuts," e.g.  
34 Curved bone  
36 Crazy as a \_\_\_  
37 Inexpensive  
38 Roy's riding companion  
39 Wedding words  
40 Bush or tree  
41 Main field of study  
42 Insignia  
44 Trustworthy  
45 Clumsy fellow  
46 Purple shade  
47 Sir \_\_\_ Newton  
50 Close at \_\_\_; within reach

- 51 Afternoon hour  
54 Tyrannizing  
57 \_\_\_ rage; driver's anger  
58 \_\_\_ up; bound  
59 Portion  
60 Encourage  
61 No ifs, \_\_\_ or buts  
62 Donkeys  
63 Optometrist's concerns

## DOWN

- 1 Stingling insect  
2 Longoria and her namesakes  
3 Parlor  
4 Ike's Initials  
5 Counsel  
6 Dried plum  
7 \_\_\_ model; one to be imitated  
8 Traveler's stop  
9 General Robert E. \_\_\_  
10 Slivers of glass  
11 Largest brass instrument  
12 Know-it-\_\_\_; smart alecks  
13 Joy  
19 Summarize  
21 Swerve  
24 Anemia sufferer's need

## Solutions



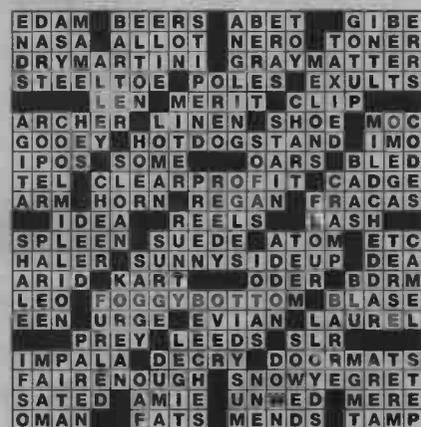
- 25 Radar screen image  
26 Sandwich shop  
27 Wear away  
28 Unruly child  
29 Rocket's curved path  
30 Buildings for stored fodder  
32 Pretense  
33 Reasonable bedtime  
35 Ernie's buddy  
37 Treble \_\_\_; musical symbol  
38 Comic Carvey  
40 Location  
41 Shape; form  
43 Planks  
44 Doorhanger's metal pieces  
46 Knight's spear  
47 Smidgen  
48 Whirl  
49 Mimicked  
50 Hurries  
52 Salary  
53 Elegant poems  
55 Hot tub  
56 Venus, to Serena  
57 Regret



# puzzle island solutions

## Last week's crosswords

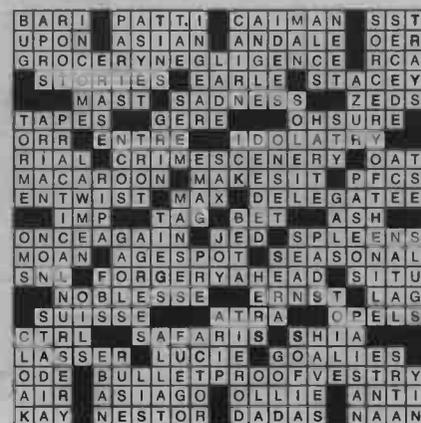
### "In the Forecast"



### "Bloomers"



### "Forced Re-Entry"



## Last week's Quote-Acrostic

DAVE BARRY: FUNNIER TIMES: A sense of humor is a measurement of the extent to which we realize that we are trapped in a world almost totally devoid of reason. Laughter is how we express the anxiety we feel about this knowledge.

## Last week's Sudoku

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

## This week's Jumble

AUTHOR GROUCH DRIVER  
FINITE TUNNEL WEAKEN

The offense was so successful because the coach was —

FORWARD  
THINKING



# How to talk to children about violence in the news

By Collin Binkley  
Associated Press

The deadly attacks in France left schools and parents around the world grappling with what to say to children and how to say it. Now, much closer to home, the release of the 2014 video of the fatal police shooting of Laquan McDonald in Chicago has spurred widespread protests.

Discussing with children violent events and the often complex history behind those events is a recurring challenge for parents.

Experts recommend addressing your children's concerns about the events and asking open-ended questions about their feelings.

"It is normal for people to try to make sense of things when a serious loss occurs. Allow your child to share his or her ideas and speculations," Donna Quan, the Toronto school district's director of education, said in guidelines set after the Paris attacks. "Help them to separate what they know from what they are guessing about."

Experts say parents should avoid talking about violent events with children younger than 6. For older children, parents should invite them to watch the news as a family and then discuss it, said Dr. Steven Berkowitz, a child and adolescent psychiatrist at the University of Pennsylvania.

"For a lot of kids, this is part and parcel of the world they've grown up in," Berkowitz said. "Often, kids may have less of a reaction to these events than we do as adults, and sometimes we're surprised by that, and we shouldn't be."

Berkowitz said parents should take care to avoid passing their own anxiety



BLEND IMAGES/BRAND X

When violent events in the news overwhelm children, parents need to discuss them in an age-appropriate way.

on to their children.

"A lot of adults are pretty overwhelmed and scared by this, and they have to be aware of their own feelings," he said. "If you're feeling that way as an adult or caregiver, which is understandable, it's important that you get support from somebody else and not put it onto the kids."

Berkowitz offers these tips:

#### Do:

- For children younger than 6, tell them that it's something adults will take care of and that they're safe.
- Watch or read the news with older children and ask them open-ended questions about their thoughts.
- If teenagers won't open up, ask them what their peers are saying about the news.
- For younger children, say that there are people who do bad things and

sometimes there's no good explanation why.

#### Don'ts:

- Don't let children younger than 6 watch TV coverage. Repeated coverage can make them think it's happening over and over again.
- Don't pass your anxiety on to your children; instead talk about your worries with other adults.
- Don't offer an answer you don't believe; it's OK to say it was a horrific event and everyone is stunned.
- Don't hesitate to correct children's misconceptions about the news.
- Don't be surprised if children don't react as strongly as adults; many children have grown up surrounded by coverage of violent events.

Associated Press writers Lori Hinnant in Paris, Charmaine Noronha in Toronto and Colleen Barry in Milan contributed.

# Study reveals the best, worst opening lines for online daters

By Lisa Bonos  
The Washington Post

One of the hardest parts of online dating is coming up with things to say to strangers.

And before you send a generic "Hey, what's up?" try to think of something more unique.

We learned that months ago from stand-up comic and actor Aziz Ansari and his book about dating, "Modern Romance," but in case you were still starting your chats that way, there's even more evidence as to why you should avoid it. According to a recent study by Hinge, an online dating app that relies heavily on matching you with the friends of your Facebook friends, specific prompts are more likely to increase your response rate.

For a month, Hinge fed users sample opening lines that they could copy with one click and then edit before sending to a match.

"About 22 percent of Hinge's user base received a mix of sample opening lines they could use," says Karen Fein, Hinge's vice president of marketing. Hinge's in-house copy writers and data science and product team wrote the sample messages, Fein said; in response, Hinge measured whether these opening lines got responses and how quickly, but the app didn't study the content of those responses.

Results varied by gender, age and location. Men, for example, were 98 percent more likely to respond when a match sent "an assertive match," such as an invitation to drinks; women are 40 percent more likely to respond to messages about food.

Men have shorter attention spans than women. "If you don't message a guy within 6 hours, the likelihood he'll respond drops by 25 percent," the report found. Within that same



MARTIN DIMITROV/E+

According to a study by dating app Hinge, a specific opening salvo will get more attention than a generic one.

## Reeling them in

The OKCupid.com dating site offers pointers for online daters' first messages. Some findings:

**Be literate.** Grammar and spelling count.

**Avoid physical compliments.** Although people usually like compliments, the site notes, saying someone is "beautiful" or "sexy" is off-putting — "when they're used as pickup lines, before you've even met in person, they inevitably feel ... ew."

**Use an unusual greeting.** Reread the accompanying article.

**Bring up specific interests.** "Talking about specific things that interest you or that you might have in common with someone is a time-honored way to make a connection," OKCupid notes.

time frame, women's response rates dropped just 5 percent.

Daters ages 18 to 23 were more likely to write back when fed conversation starters Hinge deemed "novel" ("you're having your portrait painted — what's your backdrop?"); those ages 24 to 28 preferred questions relating to lifestyle or activities, such as "Better adventure: rock climbing or scuba diving?"

Daters ages 29 to 34 responded well to personal questions ("two truths and a lie; ready, set go!"); and those over 35 did well with pop culture prompts ("Katy Perry or Taylor Swift?").

When examining certain cities, Hinge found that San Francisco is obsessed with youth. Conversation starters such as "What movie scared you the most when you were little?" and "What was the first CD you ever bought yourself?" did much better there than elsewhere. Daters in Los Angeles liked talking about entertainment (no surprise there).

New York daters wanted to escape reality (popular questions there were "How was your 2004?" and "Choose: adult treehouse or the ability to talk to animals?"); and 1990s references did well in Chicago.

If you're going to be straightforward, you might have better luck with that in Boston — "hey, what's up?" did well there, as did "Please confirm you're not one of those people who claps when the plane lands." And in Washington, D.C., daters liked talking about cheese. "Do you string your string cheese or bite it?"

But here's my question: Isn't it a turnoff when an opening line was obviously written by someone else? Try coming up with some great ones, all on your own.

## During holiday season, protect against online shopping scams



**CAROLYN BIGDA**  
Getting Started

With more people buying gifts online over the holidays, the potential for fraud is high.

"Scammers know people are looking for good deals and trying to fulfill their holiday wish lists, often without a lot of time," said Michael Kaiser, executive director of the National Cyber Security Alliance.

A lot is at stake. On Cyber Monday alone — the Monday after Thanksgiving when retailers tend to run big promotions on the Web — as many as 183.8 million people will shop online, according to the National Retail Federation.

If you will be among the many surfing for deals, consider these steps for keeping your transactions and personal info safe.

Beware the \$20 iPad. Be cautious if you stumble upon a website or get an email with an eye-popping sale.

One way that scammers lure shoppers into handing over credit card information is by advertising super-low prices. If a promotion seems too good to be true — say, a new iPad for about the same cost as a box of Legos — it probably is.

"If most retailers are selling a product within a certain range (of prices), and then one site is significantly less, that should be a clue," Kaiser said.

**Look for the lock.** Experts suggest using a credit card instead of a debit card when shopping online. With a credit card, you are protected if your account number is stolen



ARIEL SKELLEY/BLEND IMAGES

or if a purchase turns out to be not as advertised (or nonexistent).

Before entering your card number, though, check that the website will encrypt your information. Encryption ensures that only authorized parties (you and the store) can see your personal details.

You can tell that a site is encrypted if the letters "https" or a lock icon appear along with the website's URL. If you see a lock, but it has a warning symbol such as a question mark or red line through it, that suggests the website is only partially encrypted. Abandon cart.

**Use third-party payments.** Millions of people have had their information stolen because of database breaches at retailers. So it's understandable if you're not comfortable using even a credit card online.

As an alternative, Shaun Murphy, chief executive of PrivateGiant, which is developing an app for encrypted messaging and file sharing, recommended using third-party payment tools such as Amazon Payments, Apple Pay or PayPal.

By using these services, your credit card and billing information lives in only one database, rather than at multiple stores.

"The retailer doesn't get your credit card

information, and your data is stored with a trusted third party," Murphy said.

**Check reviews.** That unique gift for Aunt Sue may lead you to shop at an unfamiliar website or vendor.

In such cases, it is an especially good idea to use PayPal or other third-party payment services. And before you click "buy," read reviews about the seller or look for ratings based on feedback from multiple shoppers, not just one or two.

"This is where community policing and voting come in handy," said Bruce Snell, cybersecurity and privacy director at Intel Security.

**Sign up for alerts.** Finally, if someone does manage to nab your credit card info, make sure you know about it quickly. At many banks and credit unions, you can sign up to receive texts or emails any time your card is used.

Along the same lines, it's a good idea to check your bank and credit card accounts regularly this shopping season and look for purchases you don't recognize.

Said Snell, "During the holidays, you want surprises to be good."

[yourmoney@tribpub.com](http://yourmoney@tribpub.com)

## Clearing up confusion over spousal Social Security benefit



**JANET KIDD STEWART**  
The Journey

**Q:** When I qualified for Social Security I asked about my ex-husband's benefit and they said I was only entitled to it after he died. Yet everything I read about does not say he has to have died. Could you please clarify when I qualify for his benefit? Do I get the full amount or half? Do I get mine plus the amount that would bring it up to his amount? I look forward to your response because when I look on Social Security's website it's unclear and like a foreign language.

**A:** The general rule is that you are eligible for a spousal benefit to the extent that your own benefit is not greater than half of your ex-spouse's benefit at the ex-spouse's full retirement age, said Joe Elsasser, a financial planner, author and creator of Social Security planning software. (You also have to have been married at least 10 years, be at least 62 and be unmarried, though there are some minor exceptions, according to the Social Security Administration website.)

"One place where SSA offices get this wrong is that they will tell people their own benefit is higher than half of their ex's, so they don't qualify for a spousal benefit," Elsasser said. But if you were born before Jan. 2, 1954, that's not correct, he said. Under new rules within the recent federal budget legislation, people born before that date still have the option to file a restricted application at full retirement age and request only



STURTI/ISTOCK

their spousal benefit, he said, switching to the benefit associated with their own work record when they reach age 70.

**Q:** I'm 60 and got my earnings report from Social Security a few months ago. It shows an eight-year stretch that is incorrect, shorting my earnings by around \$175,000. This will reduce my monthly income about \$300 a month for the rest of my life. Social Security said it's on me to show proof with W2s. I've tossed records after seven years as a practice and realize now that's bad advice. Got any ideas?

**A:** Workers generally have a two-year window to make sure their earnings record is correct, Elsasser said. Try going to your former employer to see if they still have the payroll records, and go back to Social Security and ask what kind of documentation you might be able to pull together to prove your earnings history.

**Q:** My husband, turning 63 in January, recently was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. I am 53, work full time, and we have a 14-year-old son. As I understand it, SSA Disability cannot be applied for until my husband has been out of work for five months. But because he

is already 62, he could apply for regular SSA benefits now. My question is about timing. We have no prognosis, but his condition is serious and requires oxygen 24/7. I have historically been the higher income earner. What could I expect if we filed for benefits for him now, versus waiting until his next birthday?

**A:** The key factor here isn't about a few months' difference in filing now versus his next birthday, Elsasser said. You are the higher wage earner, and his life expectancy has been cut short, so maximizing your own benefit in the long run will benefit your family most, he said. "I would go ahead and file for his benefits now and see what they qualify for," he said. Depending on the size of your husband's benefit, he may be able to claim a disability benefit, along with a disability benefit for your son, he said. Meanwhile, your benefit won't be affected if he claims early, Elsasser said. "None of the new Social Security claiming rule changes affect widows' benefits, so her strategy if he dies should be to take a widow's benefit at age 60, then claim her own benefit at age 70," he said.

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

# 3 ways to splurge on a budget

Use rewards, research prices and think small

By Debbie Anderson  
GOBankingRates.com

You've been great about saving and not going on a spending spree. But every now and then, it'd be nice to loosen the budget belt a little, don't you think?

You should; it's healthy. In fact, some experts say that splurging or spending freely on something you don't need can be good for you. Financial expert Kyle Winkfield put it this way: "When you splurge responsibly, it's like a successful diet with built-in cheat days. With any great budget that's successful, you build in a splurge. It's your cheat day."

So, can you cheat with a splurge and not blow your budget completely? If you plan to splurge with a "fun money" account and stay within budget limits, it's doable. Everyone has the urge to splurge, especially as the holidays approach. Nevertheless, smart spending is still within your grasp. Read on to find out how to splurge on a budget.

**Use credit card rewards.** Using the money you've already spent to buy a little something extra is genius. "If your credit card offers rewards, check your statement and add up the available rewards points," said Kevin Gallegos, vice president of sales and Phoenix operations for Freedom Financial Network. "Visit the rewards website — your splurge area — to see what you can get by converting rewards into gifts, cash or gift cards."

People with cash-back credit cards typically earn about \$25 a month in rewards, estimated one 2010 study. And if you use your card for reimbursed business travel and



ALEX GARCIA/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS

If you can't afford a big-ticket purchase, buy small items that feel splurge-worthy like a bar of handmade soap, a quality chocolate or a craft beer.

expenses, you might earn a nice-sized reward for your purchases.

Especially nice are the cards that offer discounts to your favorite stores, like Chase's Amazon.com Rewards Visa Card. It rewards you 3 percent cash back at Amazon.com. Redeem your points, and you can fund some holiday shopping and pick up a little something extra for yourself too.

But don't go into credit card debt by getting a credit card for the sole purpose of earning points; only get a new cash-back credit card if you don't have any credit card debt, and you can pay off the monthly balance.

**Go big after a little re-**

**search.** If you've saved your splurge money for a big-ticket item like a TV or laptop, practice smart spending. "You'll be able to score the best deals on major items with good research," Gallegos said. "If you are choosing a high-dollar item, check reputable online review sources like Amazon and CNET. Then, use comparison-shopping sites such as PriceGrabber, Pronto or Shopping.com to find the best online prices. Finally, search for coupon codes online at sites, including RetailMeNot, FatWallet and DiscountCodes."

Comparison shopping alone can save you significant dollars.

PriceBlink, a browser add-on, alerts you as you shop online if there's a lower price available elsewhere on the Web. Sites such as Offers.com track product pricing over time, which "can help you decide if the splurge is a good one," said Offers.com's Kerry Sherin. Add a coupon code, and you could save even more on your splurge. Coupon code offers can range from free shipping to 25 percent or more off purchases. For purchases more than \$100, that 25 percent can add up to significant savings.

To really amp up the savings, however, fill your virtual shopping cart with your intended purchase and abandon the sale. Many

online retailers will email you a discount offer for the abandoned items to nudge you to make the purchase.

**Spend money on small items.** Control the urge to splurge on items you can't afford by buying small items that feel splurge-worthy. "To gain the feeling of purchasing something special, do so on little things," Gallegos said. "Maybe it's purchasing a \$5 bar of handmade soap, a small amount of an expensive spice for holiday baking, a top-quality chocolate bar or a craft beer."

Benjamin Glaser, features editor at DealNews.com, added: "Smaller luxuries can still make a big

difference in how you feel. Fine cosmetics, bed linens, good razor blades and yes, quality toilet paper are all affordable treats that will leave you feeling like a million bucks."

When you're working toward achieving long-term budgeting goals, splurging can take a back seat. But buying a little something that makes you feel special can diffuse the feeling of "I never have any fun!" that could lead to a big budget blowout later.

Personal finance guru Dave Ramsey agrees. "When buying stuff that you really need, it's OK to spend a little extra to avoid financial, or even physical, pain in the long run," Ramsey wrote on his blog.

# GREAT STORY- TELLER?

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**CHICAGO  
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# MIT discovers 'sneeze cloud' envelops room

Study says it only takes minutes for expelled germs to take over vicinity

By Robert Preld  
HealthDay

Just in time for cold and flu season, a new study finds the average human sneeze expels a high-velocity cloud that can contaminate a room in minutes.

Researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology came to that conclusion by analyzing videos of two healthy people sneezing about 50 times over several days.

It's well known that sneezes can spread infectious diseases such as measles or the flu, because viruses suspended in sneeze droplets can be inhaled by others or deposited on surfaces and later picked up as people touch them.

But it wasn't clear how far sneeze droplets can spread or why some people are more likely to spread illness through sneezes than others.

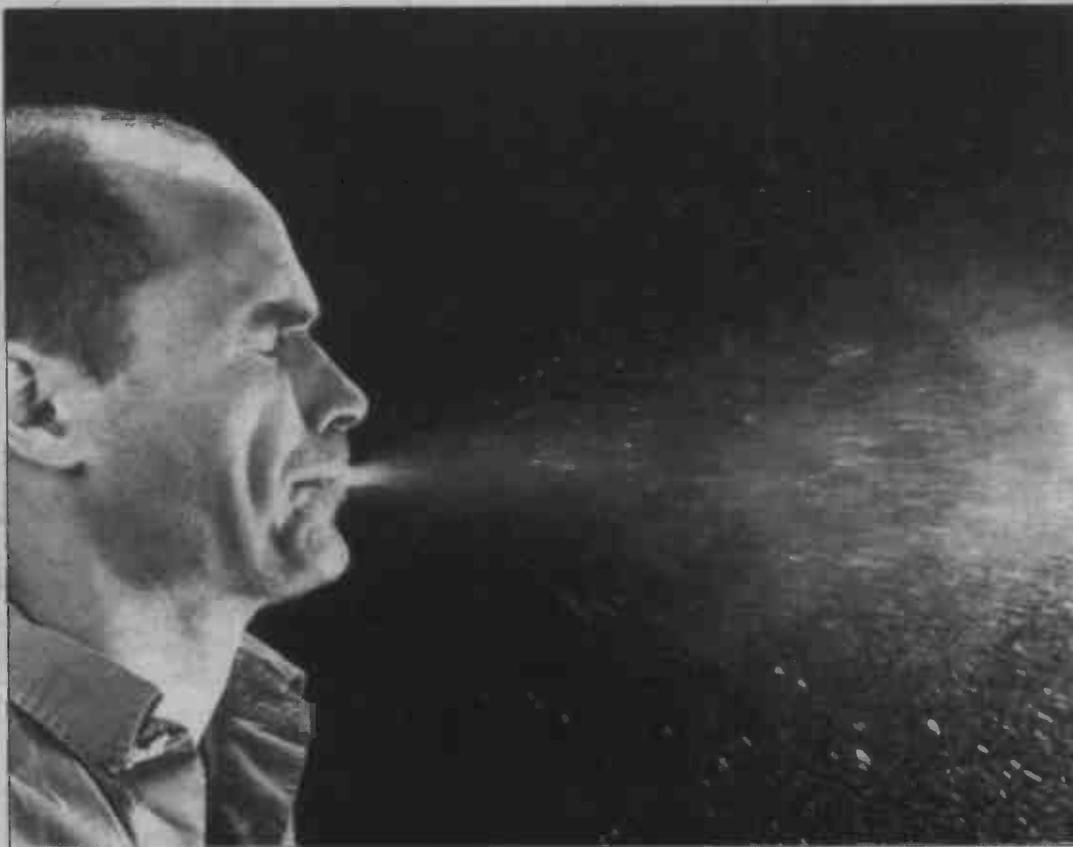
In a prior study, the team led by MIT's Lydia Bourouiba found that, within a few minutes, sneeze droplets can cover an area the size of a room and reach ventilation ducts at ceiling height.

In their latest new study, they discovered how sneeze droplets are formed within what they called a "high-propulsion sneeze cloud." The findings are slated for presentation Monday at the annual meeting of the American Physical Society in Mobile, Ala.

"Droplets are not all already formed and neatly distributed in size at the exit of the mouth, as previously assumed in the literature," Bourouiba said in a society news release.

Rather, sneeze droplets "undergo a complex cascading breakup that continues after they leave the lungs, pass over the lips and churn through the air," said Bourouiba, who is head of MIT's Fluid Dynamics of Disease Transmission Laboratory.

Learning more about the dynamics of sneezing could lead to new ways to prevent the spread of diseases, especially during epidemics or pandemics, she said.



CHRIS ROGERS/PHOTOLIBRARY

A "high-propulsion sneeze cloud" can contaminate a room in minutes.

# Flushing brain of waste material may be one reason we sleep



DR. ANTHONY  
KOMAROFF  
Ask Doctor K

**DEAR DOCTOR K:** A friend told me that the reason we sleep is to "flush out" our brain. What is this all about? Is this the reason we sleep?

**DEAR READER:** Many readers have written asking why we sleep, and we discussed it in yesterday's column. Today we will talk about the recent study that you are asking about, which

suggests that one reason we sleep may be to flush out the brain.

For those who didn't read yesterday's column, a quick summary. There is evidence that during sleep, our mind and body benefit in several ways. Perhaps most obvious, our muscles get a rest. The fortunate exception is the special muscle that is our heart. We don't want it to quit pumping — ever!

Do our other organs need a rest? Most of them keep working while we sleep. But they all sustain some wear and tear from their work, during both the day and night. Therefore, they may well need to repair certain injuries that have occurred during the day. During deepest sleep, hormones are released that stimulate tissue growth and mus-

cle repair. And your immune system becomes primed to defend itself against infection the next day.

Does our brain need the rest? Brain waves are very active during sleep, but our brain is doing different things during sleep than when awake. For example, it dreams. Which raises the question of why we dream. Sigmund Freud thought dreaming was our way of dealing with hidden conflicts, desires and fears. He thought we needed to sleep because we needed to dream.

In the past 10 years, scientists here at Harvard Medical School and elsewhere have published a great deal of evidence that dreaming (and, hence, sleeping) is important in memory and learning.

Now to your question. A truly

remarkable study was published two years ago. To explain what was found, I first need to explain some concepts. Our brains are filled with billions of different kinds of cells. Between those cells is space through which fluid passes. It's as if there are little rivers running through the brain.

The study was of mice, whose brains are not terribly different from ours in many respects. (Granted, their brains couldn't come up with the theory of general relativity. But their brains are much better than ours at smelling cheese.) The study found that during sleep, the little rivers that run between brain cells increase greatly in size. As a result, many substances made by brain cells (including cell waste material) get flushed out of the brain much

more efficiently.

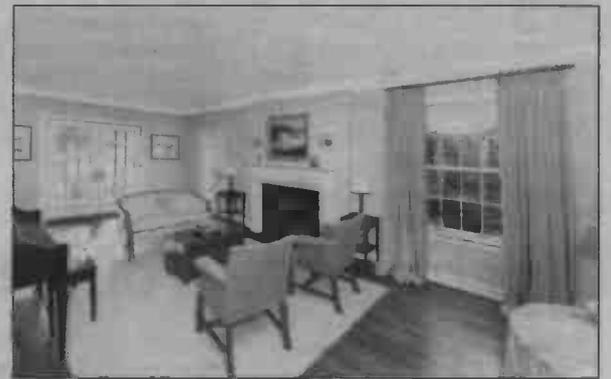
For example, two molecules called beta-amyloid and tau are flushed out of the mouse brain more efficiently during sleep. These two molecules build up in the brains of people with Alzheimer's disease.

So maybe your friend is right. One important purpose of sleep may be to clear potentially toxic material out of the brain. And perhaps we feel restored in the morning for that reason. It is an arresting, and plausible, possibility.

*Dr. Komaroff is a physician and professor at Harvard Medical School. To send questions, go to AskDoctorK.com, or write: Ask Doctor K, 10 Shattuck St., Second Floor, Boston, MA 02115.*



MEGAN CHAFFIN PHOTOS



## Winnetka home nestled in Hubbard Woods: \$1.299M

**ADDRESS:** 925 Forest Glen East Dr. in Winnetka

**ASKING PRICE:** \$1,299,000

**Listed on Sept. 14, 2015**

Beautiful home in the heart of Hubbard Woods in the Forest Glen neighborhood near town, train, schools and parks. Home features renovations, proportioned rooms and privacy. First-floor formal entrance foyer leads guests to large living room opening to bluestone terrace and screened porch, formal dining room, renovated kitchen with breakfast room, eating island and fireplace all opening to family room with three sets of French doors opening to backyard oasis. Also on this level is the office, mudroom and attached two-car garage. The second-floor master suite features en suite bath, four bedrooms and two large updated baths. Second-floor laundry closet plumbed for washer/dryer. Lower-level recreation room includes fireplace, bedroom/office and laundry/storage room.

Agent: Joanne Hudson of The Hudson Company, 847-971-5024

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



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# Tips on staying safe during the holidays

By Danielle Braff  
Tribune Newspapers

The holidays are the best time of the year ... except when they're the worst.

Between 2009 and 2013, fire departments responded to an average of 210 house fires per year that started with Christmas trees, which caused an average of seven deaths, 19 injuries and \$17.5 million in direct property damage annually, according to the National Fire Protection Agency.

And one out of every 31 reported home fires that began with a Christmas tree resulted in a death — compared with an average of one death per 144 total reported home fires.

"In November, December and January, we're the busiest of all the months," said Tom Olshanski, spokesman for the U.S. Fire Administration in Washington.

By the time families set up their Christmas trees in their homes, those trees tend to be a few weeks old — and they can catch fire and spread that fire much faster than fresh trees, said Bill Kish, president of Ohio-based No-Burn Inc., which produces Christmas Tree Fireguard (\$17.99 at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)).

The product, once sprayed on the tree, is intended to prevent the tree from burning should it catch fire.

Kish recalled a family of 11 in Ohio who died in a large, older home after the Christmas tree went up in flames.

"It was after Christmas, and they hadn't taken the tree down, and it was all dry," Kish said. "The flames lit up everything in the room."

The prevalence of holiday fires means manufacturers stay busy trying to come up with safety products aimed at the dangers posed by decorations.



JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY

Most Christmas trees are a few weeks old by the time families set them up, so they can catch fire faster than fresh trees.

**"In November, December and January, we're the busiest of all the months."**

— Tom Olshanski, spokesman for the U.S. Fire Administration in Washington

TreeSafe (information at [www.sooneralarms.com](http://www.sooneralarms.com)) has sensors that detect the heat at the source of the fire, and they send a wireless signal to a remote alarm to tell you about it immediately, rather than waiting for the room to fill up with smoke — which is when a regular smoke alarm would work.

"Traditional smoke detectors cannot be placed where a fire is most likely to occur, because they'll melt before they are effective — the homeowner is not alerted by the alarm until the fire has spread and the room has filled with smoke," said Marc Toland, founder and CEO of Sooner Alarms, which makes Tree-

Safe.

Menorahs also cause their fair share of fires — whether a pet tips them over or someone places them too close to the drapes or a stack of newspapers.

Designer Josh Owen created an iron menorah called simply Menorah, (\$100 at [www.areaware.com](http://www.areaware.com)) that has a tray built into it to catch the wax drippings and the used, hot match. Since the menorah is made out of solid cast iron, it's very heavy, so it's less likely to be haphazardly tipped.

But while there's nothing wrong with holiday-specific

safety products, it's more important to cover the basics: Each home still needs a smoke alarm — in case of any kind of fire, at any time of year.

And it's crucial that these work.

Three out of five home-fire deaths resulted from fires in properties without working smoke alarms, according to the NFPA. And, unlike special holiday precautions, you set up your smoke alarm and forget it until it's time to change the battery.

Even that routine maintenance is being eliminated by newer models. The Kidde Worry-Free Living

Area Sealed Lithium Battery Power Smoke Alarm (\$28.97 at [www.kidde.com](http://www.kidde.com)) doesn't need its battery replaced for 10 years — which is the life of the alarm.

Another safety item that could reduce safety hazards during this time of year is the Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupter outlet (\$35.99 at [www.store.leviton.com](http://www.store.leviton.com)), which interrupts power to prevent arc faults that could potentially lead to a fire. These are ideal for holiday lights or any other electrical plugs.

Fire isn't the only issue that can take the joy out of the holiday season, however.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates that 15,000 injuries involving holiday decorating were handled by emergency departments nationwide during November and December 2012 — and it was the fourth consecutive year that those numbers increased. The injuries ranged from falling from a ladder to stepping on a broken ornament.

This isn't surprising to Michael Peters, an emergency medicine physician and EMS medical director at Northwestern Medicine. Lake Forest Hospital in Illinois, who usually has more patients in the winter months.

"In December, people are celebrating, spending time with family and friends, and unfortunately, being healthy is not always a top priority," Peters said. "For example, we see falls from people using dangerous ladders to put up trees and lights. It's best to avoid ladder climbing and to be especially cautious when walking outside on snow and ice."

In other words, don't let common sense take a holiday this year.

Danielle Braff is a freelance writer.



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PERFORMER'S SCHOOL

The Ensemble at the Performer's School will dance to a four-piece band in production of "Legally Blonde The Musical, Jr." at the Skokie Theatre.

#### FAMILY FRIENDLY

## Young Performers stage 'Legally Blonde The Musical, Jr.'

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

Appearances can be deceiving. "She's not a dumb blond. She's smart. She's got a heart of gold," asserted Stacey Flaster. The co-founder with Liz Fauntleroy of the Performer's School is referring to Elle Wood, the lead character in The Ensemble at the Performer's School's production of "Legally Blonde The Musical, Jr."

The musical is based on one of Flaster's favorite movies and she believes the 38 fifth-through-eighth graders in The Ensemble are up to the challenges the show presents.

"The kids are so strong," declared Flaster, who directs the musical. "We push them to the next level. We have a professional choreographer. We have a four-piece band. My partner is the music director. We have a professional accompanist at every rehearsal. We have costumes professionally done and a beautiful set"

Flaster concluded, "It's a sweet show and it's fun and

it's fast."

Performances are Dec. 9-13 at Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Tickets are \$18.

For details, call 847-677-7761 or go to [www.skokie-theatre.com/legally-blonde](http://www.skokie-theatre.com/legally-blonde).

#### Opposites attract

A princess of darkness falls for a sweet, smart man from a respectable family, to her father's horror, in the Actors Training Center's, "The Addams Family Musical," 1 and 4:30 p.m. Saturdays, and 7 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 5-13, at Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette. Tickets are \$15.

For details, call 847-251-8710 or go to [www.wilmettetheatre.com](http://www.wilmettetheatre.com).

#### It's a dream

The SNAP Dance Companies of Studio North Academy of the Performing Arts, LLC will present "The Nutcracker Ballet," 2 and 7 p.m. Dec. 5 at Haven Middle School, 2417 Prairie Ave., Evanston. The bian-

nual production features six graduating seniors in lead roles. Tickets are \$15. For details, call 847-251-7627 or go to [www.studio-northacademy.com](http://www.studio-northacademy.com).

#### There's one in every crowd

That famous grumpy guy will be featured in a special, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas!" storytime, 11 a.m. Dec. 5 at Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. Kids will hear the story, color and participate in activities.

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

#### Music and munchies

The entire family is invited to a Holiday Open House, 2-4 p.m. Dec. 6 at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St. Diva Montell will perform holiday favorites from 2-3 p.m. and refreshments will be served.

For details, call 847-663-1234 or go to [www.nileslibrary.org](http://www.nileslibrary.org).

Add some sparkle to your holiday season with this "wildly literate, wildly funny, wildly stylish comedy!"

-THE HUFFINGTON POST

# The HEIR Apparent

written by  
**David Ives**  
adapted from *le légataire universel* by  
Jean-François Regnard

directed by  
**John Rando**

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## “Wines in the Wild” raises \$130,000 for Brookfield Zoo



**LEE LITAS**  
Social Studies

**The Event:** More than 325 guests enjoyed a spirited evening at the Chicago Zoological Society and Brookfield Zoo's 14th annual 'Wines in the Wild' benefit held at the zoo's Discovery Center Nov. 7. Hosted by the Society's Women's Board, the evening allowed VIP guests to meet animal ambassadors while sampling vintages and liquors from around the world, and enjoying gourmet chasers.

**Cause Celebre:** “We use this event as a way to bring people in who may not have had a chance (previously) to learn about the zoo and what we do,” said Vicki DeMar of Winnetka, event co-chairman.

Proceeds from Wines go to support the zoo's educational and outreach programs.

“Three times a year we bring underserved communities into the zoo and give them a chance to have a day here, and we provide scholarships to students studying in related fields,” explained DeMar.

“Community outreach events (are what I absolutely love to do,” said event co-chairman, Roxann Giovannini of Park Ridge. “This is a wonderful organization to be a part of.”

**Bottom Line:** “Wines in the Wild” raised more than \$130,000 to support Brookfield Zoo animals, as well as conservation and education programs. See [www.czs.org](http://www.czs.org)



LEE A. LITAS/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Roxann Giovannini of Park Ridge, left, and Vicki DeMar of Winnetka, event co-chairmen



Katie MacMillan of Oak Park and Dr. Stuart Strahl of Westmont, president/CEO Chicago Zoological Society



Laura Matthys of Kildeer with husband Michael Matthys, governing ambassador



Angelica Castellanos of Colombia and Jason Federico of Burr Ridge



MIKE SANTOS PHOTOGRAPHY/CHILDSERV PHOTOS

George Sheldon, director, Illinois Department of Child Children and Family Services, left, and Dan Kotowski, ChildServ president and CEO fo Park Ridge

## ChildServ Founder's Day Gala raises \$90,000

**Event:** Annual Founder's Day Gala

**Benefiting:** ChildServ, one of Chicago's oldest child and family service non-profit organizations that offers programs to help underserved children and families in Cook, DuPage, Kane and Lake counties

**Attended:** 225

**Location:** University Club of Chicago

**Raised:** \$90,000+

**Date:** Nov. 6

**Honors:** ChildServ's retired president and CEO, James C. Jones, was recognized for his 21 years of service

**Gala Chair Couple:** Elliot and Sherri Richardson of Highland Park

**Website:** [childserv.org](http://childserv.org)



Ann Kotowski and Dan Kotowski, ChildServ president and CEO, of Park Ridge



John Gotschall, emcee and ChildServ Board member, and April Redzic, ChildServ VP of Resource Development of Park Ridge



Angela Prokopios of Morton Grove and Dan Kotowski, ChildServ president and CEO, of Park Ridge

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ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
4085 N Newport Ln, Arlington Heights	Zoran Lukovic & Dijana Lukovic	Barry Hinkeldey	10-27-15	\$187,500
1525 N Arlington Heights Rd, # D, Arlington Heights	Brian W Krall	Vicki Bauer	10-29-15	\$228,000
319 N Wilshire Ln, Arlington Heights	Jeanne L Morris & David A Eagan	Jeffrey C Phillips Estate	10-27-15	\$285,000
415 N Pine Ave, Arlington Heights	Christopher J Smith & Whitney M Smith	Shon M Boggs	10-29-15	\$415,000
2421 E Walden Ln, Arlington Heights	Braulio A Sanchez & Allison M Sanchez	Michael J Folan	10-27-15	\$577,000
122 Autumn Ct, Buffalo Grove	Jin Cho	Bearj A Ohanian	10-28-15	\$190,000
472 Weidner Rd, Buffalo Grove	Yuji Hayashi & Ryoko Manabe	Daniel A Ruch	10-29-15	\$265,000
439 Trinity Ct, Buffalo Grove	Alan L Lopez & Sarah L Lopez	Julius B Tabang	10-28-15	\$315,000
890 Providence Ln, Buffalo Grove	Holly L Seese	Robert E Pohn	10-27-15	\$335,000
1103 Holiday Ln, # 6, Des Plaines	Anh Le	Steven Yellen	10-29-15	\$52,500
1101 Holiday Ln, # 16, Des Plaines	Jason Velen	Jan Slowakiewicz	10-28-15	\$55,000
677 S River Rd, # 3E, Des Plaines	Maher Nahlawi	Us Bank Na Trustee	10-30-15	\$65,000
680 Caravan Ln, Des Plaines	Ron Nishimoto & Mary Nishimoto	John Theodoropoulos	10-29-15	\$78,000
1243 E Washington St, # C 202, Des Plaines	Anna Soja	Magdalena Krzyzanowska	10-28-15	\$86,000
960 S River Rd, # 205, Des Plaines	Sean M Krone	Phyllis Vongarlem Estate	10-29-15	\$92,000
901 Center St, # 503, Des Plaines	Sara N Schroeder	Donald J Albrecht	10-27-15	\$105,500
9386 Landings Ln, # 305, Des Plaines	Mike Antonijevic & Lilly Antonijevic	Alla Astratova	10-30-15	\$107,000
9449 Bay Colony Dr, # 1N, Des Plaines	Ewelina Ropa	Dariusz Radzik	10-29-15	\$125,000
1055 Webster Ln, Des Plaines	Holly Coughlin	Champion Mortgage Co Inc	10-30-15	\$134,000
711 S River Rd, # 303, Des Plaines	Brian T Hizek & Monika A Kowal	Mike Fernandes	10-28-15	\$141,000
395 Graceland Ave, # 301, Des Plaines	Debra L Gianopoulos	Katie L Winer	10-30-15	\$150,000
2383 S Scott St, Des Plaines	Mariya Pencheva	Acharon Voslian	10-30-15	\$160,000
337 E Washington St, Des Plaines	Keith Q Jensen	Michael L Labib	10-30-15	\$185,000
312 E Golf Rd, Des Plaines	Daniel Robert Stanley	Robert A Stanley	10-29-15	\$200,000
1766 Greenleaf Ave, Des Plaines	Dale M Storce & Marilyn D Storce	Brian J Glavanovits	10-29-15	\$240,000
32 N 6th Ave, Des Plaines	Gregory R Eklund	Dilawarbai H Mansuri	10-30-15	\$245,000
2010 Morse Ave, Des Plaines	Ryan E Deady & Evan Deady	Maria Skretkowski	10-30-15	\$267,500
131 E Millers Rd, Des Plaines	Russell Anzalone	Christiana Trust	10-30-15	\$280,000
1094 E Algonquin Rd, Des Plaines	Daniel Dietrich & Sharon L Hamilton	Richard G Heisler	10-28-15	\$290,000
1139 Fowler Ave, Evanston	Donald Y Phillips Sr & Patricia Ann Gregory Phillips	Intercounty Judicial Sales Co	10-30-15	\$180,000
121 Callan Ave, # 1S, Evanston	ChuanKul Du	David V Reed	10-27-15	\$182,000
1714 Leland Ave, Evanston	Melissaa Mattson & Patrick L Cash	Delfino Rojas	10-27-15	\$200,000
622 Sheridan Sq, # 3, Evanston	David Graves & Jant Lee Graves	Anthony De Bartolo	10-27-15	\$220,000
822 Dobson St, # 3W, Evanston	Cory D Witt & Diane M Witt	Michael Hill	10-30-15	\$221,000
2004 Foster St, Evanston	Nezih Altay & Ozge Gunay Altay	Thelma Figueroa	10-30-15	\$290,000
1720 Maple Ave, # 1880, Evanston	Mohamed Amin Khan & Farhat Khan	Chirag Saraiya	10-27-15	\$311,000
2200 Dodge Ave, Evanston	Michael K Baer & Megan M Baer	J Blair Trueblood	10-29-15	\$340,000
1821 Lincoln St, Evanston	John Steenbergen & Saiying Steenbergen Hu	Neu Trust	10-30-15	\$386,000
9337 Crawford Ave, Evanston	Jason R Bower & Amy K Heinz	Howard Miller	10-30-15	\$399,000
9233 Ewing Ave, Evanston	Jonathan C Levell & Natalie J Gillespie	John Craig Nash	10-30-15	\$401,000
1207 Elmwood Ave, # A, Evanston	Gary T Peterson & Katherine A Peterson	North Shore Holdings Ltd	10-28-15	\$415,000
2615 Prairie Ave, # 202, Evanston	Michael Abbadesa & Kathleen D Abbadesa	Douglas A Moon	10-28-15	\$425,000
1036 Monroe St, Evanston	Jose M Urquialaga & Ellen R Urquialaga	Leonard J Williams III	10-29-15	\$429,000
521 Chicago Ave, # 521D, Evanston	Scott Sowerby & Wayne Y Huang	Jesse Viner	10-30-15	\$485,000
1500 Lincoln St, Evanston	Herbert M Goodman	Timothy J Miller	10-27-15	\$500,000
1124 Maple Ave, Evanston	Scott H Robbin & Julia Robbin	Renslow Drew Sherer Jr	10-29-15	\$700,000
604 Cobblestone Cir, # E, Glenview	Sally Lee	Wells Fargo Bank	10-30-15	\$80,000
3925 Triumvera Dr, # 6G, Glenview	Carla J Contreras	Angela Castillo	10-30-15	\$105,000
4116 Cove Ln, # A, Glenview	Cyriac Abraham & Mary Cyriac	Hae Ok Lim	10-27-15	\$160,000
1623 Palmgren Dr, Glenview	Maria Marini	Laura A Sabino	10-30-15	\$219,000
1868 Grove St, # E, Glenview	Kathy M Gavin	Justine Hood	10-27-15	\$252,500
625 Shermer Rd, Glenview	Soya Babu & Joseph Babu	Santos Trust	10-30-15	\$287,000
2700 Summit Dr, # 207, Glenview	Joseph Tardi & Patricia Tardi	Barbara Smullk	10-30-15	\$355,000
809 Wedel Ln, Glenview	Nives Horacek	Templique Llc 809 Wedel Lane S	10-29-15	\$365,000

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
1431 Huntington Dr, Glenview	Dennis Casimiro	Sivakumar Chinniah	10-27-15	\$463,000
2118 Trowbridge Ct, Glenview	Patricia A Johnson	James L Haderer	10-30-15	\$465,000
4261 Linden Tree Ln, Glenview	Charles J John	Christopher Long	10-28-15	\$477,500
1698 Patriot Blvd, # 49, Glenview	Lindsay Sohn	Toll II Iv Lp	10-27-15	\$486,500
1922 Dauntless Dr, # 3001 001, Glenview	Arthur Kopec & Angelika A Zima	Development Solutions Gln Llc	10-27-15	\$502,000
4334 Ivy Dr, Glenview	Joseph Perna & Vicky Perna	Timothy A Mazzaferri	10-27-15	\$502,500
3330 Winchester Ln, Glenview	Brijesh Shah & Saritha Jagga	Steven A Yukel	10-28-15	\$785,500
1010 Golfview Rd, Glenview	Peter G Haracz & Laura M Haracz	Berkenfield Trust	10-28-15	\$1,150,000
2137 Dewes St, Glenview	Jeremy D Franklin & Victoria A Franklin	Danko Group Inc	10-28-15	\$1,220,500
6 Wooded Ln, Hawthorn Woods	Sean Booth	Merle Robert Long Jr	10-28-15	\$479,900
22 Foxtail Rd, Hawthorn Woods	Randall Todd Swansen & Holly Dawn Swansen	Larry J Ferguson	10-27-15	\$492,000
22345 N Prairie Ln, Kildeer	Pankaj Patel & Surabhi Patel	Greg Hansen	10-27-15	\$806,500
1055 Beverly Pl, Lake Forest	Theodore Basil Hadjis & Stephanie Lynne Poulos	William E Boyle	10-27-15	\$752,500
1850 S Ridge Rd, Lake Forest	Brian J Deutsch & Kelley G Deutsch	Morgan N Herron	10-26-15	\$1,145,000
172 W Laurel Ave, Lake Forest	William Kirsch & Dawn Kirsch	Gbm Developers Llc	10-28-15	\$2,900,000
31 Miller Rd, Lake Zurich	Erig Cruz	Marlene Leavitt	10-28-15	\$174,500
1033 Aspen Ct, Lake Zurich	James Herchenbach & Bailie Herchenbach	Atri Chatterjee	10-27-15	\$245,000
505 Surryse Rd, Lake Zurich	Jill C Kelly & Sean A Kelly	Zenit Consulting	10-26-15	\$245,000
1140 Brittany Rd, Lake Zurich	Sean Woodmansee & Caroline Woodmansee	Joshua S Reinking	10-28-15	\$335,000
1420 Conrad Ln, Lake Zurich	Alka Kanwar & Narendra K Chandala	Nagaraja Reddy Kamireddy	10-27-15	\$685,000
303 E Park Ave, # 13, Libertyville	Carlos Angarita & Sandra Angarita	Gordon J Wilkinson	10-27-15	\$80,000
605 S Stewart Ave, Libertyville	Jeffrey B Crabtree & Stefania Crabtree	Richard L Matheus	10-28-15	\$270,000
2551 N Jensen Ln, Libertyville	Mary Gibson & Gary Gibson	Valerie Higgason	10-28-15	\$585,000
515 Burdick St, Libertyville	Ilija Panov & Caterina Panov	Phillip J Cutting	10-28-15	\$822,500
27 Beaconsfield Ct, Lincolnshire	Velma Echols & Zelma Echols	Anna Trunova	10-28-15	\$435,000
5213 Hilltop Rd, Long Grove	Christian Dallman	Us Bank Trust Na Trustee	10-28-15	\$450,000
5506 Lincoln Ave, # 117, Morton Grove	Stanislav K Bogdan	Tomasz Wadowski	10-30-15	\$125,000
8333 Concord Dr, Morton Grove	Valrie V Barrett	David Callan	10-29-15	\$250,000
5725 Keeney St, Morton Grove	Rosa Martinez & Carlos G Aquino	Nak Hong Kim	10-28-15	\$275,000
8909 Meade Ave, Morton Grove	Emilo Spasojevic & Stanka Spasojevic	Karen Zawrazky	10-28-15	\$280,000
5846 S Park Ave, Morton Grove	Mohammad Shafiq	Jay W Collier	10-28-15	\$285,000
7212 Beckwith Rd, Morton Grove	Kashif Anwar	Tarkesh Patel	10-29-15	\$320,000
9415 Natchez Ave, Morton Grove	Wasim Chowdhury & Muntaha Chowdhury	Barbara Feinstein	10-28-15	\$520,000
760 Dempster St, # 210, Mount Prospect	Jaineshkumar D Shah & Nirali Shah	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	10-29-15	\$47,500
250 W Parliament Pl, # 318, Mount Prospect	Adam Kieta & Katarzyna Sommer Kieta	Timothy G Robinson	10-30-15	\$85,000
919 N Boxwood Dr, # 402, Mount Prospect	Stanislav Maximov & Galina Zhukova	Dominic E Noia	10-30-15	\$90,000
1717 W Crystal Ln, # 703, Mount Prospect	Michael Hall & Mark B Jolliffe	Dennis A Salgado	10-29-15	\$100,000
701 W Huntington Commons Rd, # 101, Mount Prospect	Pius Coelho & Joyce D Coelho	Rocio Espino	10-30-15	\$109,000
500 W Huntington Commons Rd, # 356, Mount Prospect	Grazyna Drozdziak	James C Sineni	10-28-15	\$115,000
1105 S Busse Rd, Mount Prospect	Miriam G Arevalo	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	10-28-15	\$187,500
132 E Bonnie Brae Ave, Mount Prospect	Darlene Johnson & Nita Johnson	Doris M Knight	10-27-15	\$240,000
8650 N Shermer Rd, # 103, Niles	Cora S Dionisio	Arendt Trust	10-28-15	\$185,000
8120 W Park Ave, # 402, Niles	Ronen Polinovsky	Sfr Venture 2011 1 Reo Llc	10-27-15	\$207,000
8657 N Oketo Ave, Niles	Jack Achille & Joanna Achille	Margaret M Schultz	10-28-15	\$230,000
7332 N Nora Ave, Niles	Michael J Sullivan	Edward J Mcfadden	10-27-15	\$280,000
2300 W Talcott Rd, # 2F2, Park Ridge	Deborah Nowak	Richard Parisi	10-28-15	\$175,000
504 N Redfield Ct, Park Ridge	Lucia Digiola	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	10-28-15	\$283,000
104 S Dee Rd, Park Ridge	Carmelo Luna & Julieta J Luna	Park Ridge Place Llc	10-29-15	\$402,000
205 Gillick St, Park Ridge	Jennifer G Mackowiak & Kent W Mackowiak	Wells Fargo Bank	10-27-15	\$408,000
3008 Edgemont Ln, Park Ridge	James Reddish & Caroline Reddish	Klug Trust	10-28-15	\$505,000
9514 Glenlake Ave, # 125, Rosemont	Leticia Cortez	Yelena Lugina	10-29-15	\$70,000

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

**WINNETKA**

Traditional home close to parks, schools and town. Open first floor includes bright living room with fireplace and views of large backyard plus dining room with hardwood floors, which opens to sun room/family room. Newer kitchen with breakfast bar. Mudroom off 1.5-car attached garage. First floor office with built-in book shelves. Master bed and bath with three additional bedrooms and two baths upstairs. Basement has rec room, storage and laundry room.

**Address:** 1518 Edgewood Lane

**Price:** \$648,000

**Schools:** New Trier Township High School

**Taxes:** \$15,887.42

**Agent:** Sara Sullivan/The Hudson Company

**LIBERTYVILLE**

Home has open floor plan and sits on .66 acres. Walls of windows bring light to great room with two-sided stone fireplace. Kitchen has granite counters, 42-inch maple cabinets, double oven, cooktop, stainless subzero. First floor master bedroom. Master bath has Jacuzzi, dual sinks, walk-in closet, separate shower and linen closet. Second level features Jack and Jill rooms. First floor den with French doors and laundry. Large finished basement offers fifth bedroom, full bath and storage area.

**Address:** 6601 White Pine Way

**Price:** \$599,900

**Schools:** Warren Township High School

**Taxes:** \$21,090

**Agent:** Sheryl Allen/Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Libertyville

**PALATINE**

Five-bedroom, four-bath home is nestled on cul-de-sac site. Dramatic two-story foyer. First floor library with built-in bookcase. Soaring two-story family room with stone fireplace. First floor bedroom with full bath. Chef's kitchen with maple cabinets, planning desk and sliders to lovely patio. Beautiful finished lower level with new carpeting and full bath.

**Address:** 720 S. Oak St.

**Price:** \$625,000

**Schools:** William Fremd High School

**Taxes:** \$13,121

**Agent:** Sheila Morgan/Re/Max Unlimited Northwest

**GLENVIEW**

Colonial home has four bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Features a remodeled kitchen with granite counter tops and prep island. Family room with charming fireplace and coffered ceiling, hardwood floors, skylights plus all new windows. Master bedroom with vaulted ceiling, walk-in closet and expanded master bath. Finished basement with full bath for added living space.

**Address:** 2220 Greenwood Road

**Price:** \$639,000

**Schools:** Glenbrook South High School

**Taxes:** \$9,197

**Agent:** Cindy Fine/Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Glenview

*Listings from Homefinder.com*

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## Thursday, Dec. 3

**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 per person

**Des Plaines Art Guild Show:** Featured artists include Beverly Beckman, Dolores Kenney, Stan Kotecki, Kathy Passi, Liz Pawlik, Rhonda Popko, Dee Schuster, Thelma Spain, Willard Strassburger, John Taylor and Elaine Tejcek. 1 p.m. daily, closed Saturdays and Mondays, Des Plaines History Center, 781 Pearson St., free, 847-391-5399

**Alfonso Ponticelli and Swing Gitano:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$12-\$22, 847-492-8860

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

**All My Relations: A Seneca History:** This exhibit introduces the history of the Seneca culture. 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:** The 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

**Wonderland Express:** Features 750,000 outdoor lights and an indoor exhibition with garden-scale trains. 10 a.m. daily, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, \$12 for adults, \$10 for children and seniors, 847-835-5440

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

**BookBites: reading social:** Discuss "The Husband's Secret" by Liane Moriarty. 7 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Adult Literacy Classes: Fall Session:** A small group led by a teacher and volunteer tutors. 9:15 a.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Internet searching: basics:** Learn how to find and evaluate useful websites. 2 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Everybody Move:** This six-week session is for ages birth through two years with a caregiver. Registration is required. 9:30 a.m. Thursdays, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Mall Merge with Word 2010:** Must be experienced and comfortable with computer, keyboard and mouse. Registration required. 7 p.m. Thursday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Wonder Ground Open Lab:** A STEAM playground for kids. 4 p.m. Thursdays and Tuesdays, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Ray Graham Association's Fall Speaker Series:** The distinguished speakers Ali Alfoneh and Dr. Emanuele Ottolenghi speak on "What is the Deal with Iran? The Iranian Threat to Regional and Global Security." 8 p.m. Thursday, Congregation Beth Shalom, 3433 Walters Ave., Northbrook, free, 847-498-4100

**Village of Northfield holiday tree lighting:** Enjoy caroling, hot cocoa and a grand entrance by the jolly man in red. 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Northfield Village Center, 300 Happ Road, Northfield, free, 847-446-4451

**Park Ridge Fly Tying Club Meetings:** Chicago Fly Fishers Club meet. 7 p.m. Thursdays, Park Ridge Community Church, 100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-3164

**Book Discussion:** 1 p.m. Thursday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-5127

**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:** 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. daily, Park Ridge Police Department, 200 Vine Ave., Park Ridge

**Visits with Santa Claus:** Reserve the date and time for your photo online. 10 p.m. daily, Fashion Outlets of Chicago, 5220 Fashion Outlets Way, Rosemont, \$17 and up, 847-928-7500

**Pete Lee:** The semi-finalist on "Last Comic Standing" performs stand-up. 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 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

**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. Daily, Walgreens, 3945 W. Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

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

**German Stammtisch:** Practice German and learn about German culture. For all experience levels. 1 p.m. Thursday, Oakton Park Community Center, 4701 Oakton St., Skokie, free

**The Language of Business:** All students must pass an English language test to enroll and must call to set up an interview. 6 p.m. Thursday, 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. 10 a.m. daily, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4835

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

## Friday, Dec. 4

**Jolly Old St. Nicholas Concert:** Celebrate Elmhurst's German heritage and the holiday season with an appearance by Jolly Old St. Nicholas and traditional German carols performed by Elmhurst's Damenchor (Women's Chorus). Warm up with a delicious hot cocoa bar including a tempting array of delectable toppings. Children are encouraged to wear pajamas. 7 p.m. Friday, Yorkfield Presbyterian Church, 1099 S. York St., Bensenville, free, 630-833-1457

**Holiday Bazaar & Ladles Night Out:** Mini spa services, boutique shopping, a DJ, drawings, demonstrations and a welcome glass of champagne. 6 p.m. Friday, White Pines Golf Club, 500 W. Jefferson St., Bensenville, \$10, 630-766-0304 ext. 2

**Harken Health Des Plaines Open House:** Complimentary fitness classes, Health Center tours and more. 10 a.m. Friday, Harken Health, 1535 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines, free

**Judith Owen and Harry Shearer's Holiday Sing-a-long:** 7:30 p.m. Friday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$20-\$70, 847-492-8860

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

**The Lakeside Singers Holiday Concert Series:** Including an audience sing-a-long. 8 p.m. Friday, Nichols Concert Hall, Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$35 adults; \$25 seniors and student; \$10 children under 12, 847-382-5085

**Swingin' In The Holiday:** The Jeanie Tanner Quartet featuring: Elaine Dame, Kimberly Gordon and Abigail Riccards Friday and Stephanie Browning, Amy Yassinger and special guest Tammy McCann on Saturday. 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Pete Miller's Seafood & Prime Steak, 1557 Sherman Ave., Evanston, free, 847-328-0399

**Winter Arts and Crafts Expo:** The 13th annual expo features original, handmade arts and crafts by over 100 selected artisans. 10 a.m. daily, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300

**Wilmette Community Band Annual Holiday Concert:** 7:30 p.m. Friday, Trinity Lutheran Church, 3637 Golf Road, Evanston, free, 847-421-2243

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**"Clara and the Nutcracker":** This Panto-retelling of the classic has all the magic and fantasy of the original fairy tale, except absolutely no tutus. 7:30 p.m. Friday-Sunday, 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Piccolo Theatre, 600 Main St., Evanston, \$11-\$27, 847-424-0089

**5Rhythms Dance:** 7:30 p.m. Friday and Tuesday, Foster Dance Studios, 915 Foster St., Evanston, \$15; \$10 for students and seniors, 847-869-0250

**10th Annual All Aboard! Party:** The Woman's Board of the Chicago Horticultural Society presents this year's theme: "A Holiday Journey to the World's Ancient Trees." 6:30 p.m. Friday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, \$425 per person and up, 847-835-6833

**Drop-In Chess Club for up to eighth grade:** Volunteer chess instructor Steve Levenson teaches fundamentals and strategy. If possible, please bring one's own chess set. Children ages eight and under must be accompanied by a parent. Register by calling. 7 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Gentle Yoga:** 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Fridays, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**The Creation of "Guys and Dolls":** Learn how Frank Loesser and book writer Abe Burrows adapted Damon Runyon's stories of New York gamblers into a comic masterpiece. 10 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$12 members; \$15 non-members, 847-784-6030

**Share The Warmth:** Prepare one-of-a-kind fleece blankets for chemo patients. 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

**Asian Pop-Up Cinema series: "Polson Berry In My Brain":** This film is directed by Yuichi Sato. In Japanese with subtitles. 7 p.m. Friday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$15, 847-251-7424

**Village of Winnetka Tree Lighting Ceremony:** There will be visitors from the North Pole and festive carolers in Victorian costumes, as well as hot cocoa. The switch will be flipped at 6 p.m. 5:45 p.m. Friday, Metra Park, 754 Elm St., Winnetka, free, 847-446-4451

Saturday, Dec. 5

**Farmside Christmas:** Take a hayride around the farm, then come in and warm up with hot chocolate and deserts. Gather in the parlor and enjoy the sounds of the holiday season with instrumental and vocal music provided by local student ensembles. 2 p.m. Saturday, Fischer Farm, 16W680 Old Grande Ave., Bensenville, free, 630-834-3152

**Polyglots Toastmasters meeting:** Meetings in German. 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines, free, 847-827-5551

**Empty Bowls at Oakton:** Choose your favorite bowl from over 1,600 hand crafted soup bowls made by local potters, enjoy lunch and hear live music for a \$15 donation. Larger art pieces are also available via raffle or purchase. 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines, 847-635-1699

**Joe Pug:** 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Saturday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$20-\$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 Saturdays, Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston, free, 847-448-8600

**Building Strong Relationships: A Workshop for Adoptive and Foster Families:** Join in this interactive all-day workshop. Adoption and attachment expert Dafna Lender shares practical techniques to help parents respond to behavior, attachment and trauma issues. 9 a.m. Saturday, The Therapy Institute, 1840 Oak Ave #320, Evanston, \$95; \$150 for two, 847-256-7334

**Ecology Center Winter Market:** 9 a.m. Saturdays, Ladd Arboretum, 2024 McCormick Blvd., Evanston, free, 847-448-8045

**Overeaters Anonymous:** Newcomer meeting on the last Saturday of the month. 9 a.m. Saturdays, St Matthews Episcopal Church, 2120 Lincoln St., Evanston, free, 773-996-0609

**Signature Entertainment Presents: LOL Saturday:** Adult Comedy hosted by Comedy legends Tony Sculfield and Mark Simmons. 9 p.m. Saturdays, Chicago's Home of Chicken & Waffles, 2424 W. Dempster St., Evanston, \$15 adult advance; \$20 at the door, 847-521-6434

**Native American Fine Arts Holiday Market:** Artists demonstrate their technique, speak about their culture and art and answer questions. 10 a.m. Saturday, noon Sunday, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-1030

**Immanuel Lutheran Church Winter Market:** 8 a.m. Saturday, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 616 Lake St., Evanston, free, 847-864-4464

**Weekend Family Class: Joyful Gingerbread:** Take home a future ginger plant, decorate cookies and mix up a batch of gingerbread. For children ages 4 to 10, accompanied by an adult. 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, \$24 per child, 847-835-6801

**Jolly Old St. Nicholas Holiday Faire:** Greek cuisine available for eat-in or take-out from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Shop new vendors and favorite returning artisans. Saturday, Saints Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 1401 Wagner Road, Glenview, \$2; free for children and students, 847-729-2235

**Mug Cakes (Ages 13-18):** Celebrate the holidays by creating a festive "mug" cake. Call to register. 2 p.m. Saturday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**North Shore & Western Model Railroad Club:** Just drop in. 9 a.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Silver Screen Series: "To Kill a Mockingbird":** 2 p.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Holiday Wine Tasting:** Noon Saturday, Knightsbridge Wine Shoppe, 824 Sunset Ridge Road, Northbrook, free, 847-498-9300

**Golden Age of Hollywood Show:** This quarterly show features rare DVDs and video, movie posters, lobby cards, movie stills, sheet music, press books, autographs, animation cels, comics, collectible toys, film books, film scripts, 16mm films, movie magazines and more. 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Holiday Inn North Shore, 5300 W. Touhy Ave., Skokie, \$5; children free, 773-350-1714

**Miracle on Thirty-Funk Street:** Celebrate with Chicago Gay Men's Chorus as they raise their 150 voices in song and dance to their six-piece band. 8 p.m. Saturday, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, \$20-\$35, 773-296-0541

**Preserving Survivor Stories:** Ask Holocaust Survivor Pinchas Gutter any question you would like and "natural language" technology software will respond as if Pinchas were in the room. 10:30 a.m. Saturdays, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800

**"The Addams Family: The Musical":** 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$15-\$18, 847-251-7424

**Chicago Youth Dance Exhibition 2015:** A portion of the proceeds benefit the Rory David Deutsch Foundation for pediatric brain tumors. 6 p.m. Saturday, Regina Dominican High School, 701 Locust Road, Wilmette, \$22 in advance; \$25 at the door, 847-997-1317

**Saturday Night Ballroom - Holiday Party:** Join host Vito Magrone for a special community dance event. Includes dinner. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Just Dance Studios at Georgetown West, 301 S. Prospect Ave., Wood Dale, \$10, 630-542-7644

Sunday, Dec. 5

**Pat Martino Trio:** 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Sunday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$18-\$38, 847-492-8860

**Annual Evanston Symphony Orchestra Holiday Concert:** Joining the ESO are the North Shore Choral Society, the Evanston Dance Ensemble, the Evanston Children's Choir, and new this year, an 80-voice gospel choir organized by Rev. Kenneth Cherry. 3 p.m. Sunday, Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, for pricing visit the website or call, 847-864-8804.

**Holiday Baroque:** Rembrandt Chamber Players performs J.S. Bach's Brandenburg Concertos. 3 p.m. Sunday, Alice Millar Chapel, Northwestern University, 1870 Sheridan Road, Evanston, \$38 general admission, \$10 student, 312-360-3145

**Single Sword Combat Certificate:** Single Sword is a theatrical style of sword play. Particular attention is paid to the safety. 10 a.m. Sunday, Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$415, 847-328-2795

**Wonderland Express Holiday Market:** Vendors offer locally made jams, soaps, honey and more. 10 a.m. Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

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**Hanukkah Concert:** Enjoy a performance by the Maxwell Street Klezmer Band. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, \$15 advanced, \$20 day of, 847-835-5440

**Gingerbread House Decorating:** Children under eight years old must be with a caregiver. The library provides one pre-assembled gingerbread house per team. Registration is required. 2 p.m. Sunday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Fine Arts Fall: Concert:** Come each Sunday for a new performer. 2 p.m. Sunday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Hanukkah Helper Prep Class for Interfaith Families:** Enjoy festive traditional food, learn the true origins of Hanukkah and more. All family configurations and participants are welcome. For more information, contact Mandy Herlich at mherlich@templebeth-el.org. 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Temple Beth-El, 3610 Dundee Road, Northbrook, free, 847-205-9982 Ext. 212

**"It's a Wonderful Life":** Enjoy live music starting at noon and the movie at 1 p.m. Sunday, Pickwick Theatre, 5 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-5800

**Chanukah Wonderland:** Families can celebrate Chanukah with a dreidel bounce, a baby/toddler zone, face painting, make-your-own donut, Chanukah loom bracelets, duct tape crafts, wood etching and more. 11 a.m. Sunday, Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster St., Skokie, \$10 in advance, and \$12 at the door, 847-677-1770

**Skokie Synagogue Chanukah Party:** There are Shriners clowns, a bouncy house and holiday songs to highlight this gala Chanukah party. 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

**Hands-On Hanukkah:** Take a photo with Danny the Dreidel and bring your own for a spin. Outdoor event for the family with raffles and prizes. 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Westfield Old Orchard, 4999 Old Orchard Center, Skokie, free, 847-673-6800

**Chanukah Story Time at Barnes & Noble:** Enjoy the holiday festivities and get in the spirit with Chanukah Story Time, a craft and more. 2 p.m. Sunday, Barnes & Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie, free, 847-677-1770

**Chicago YIVO Society: Fifth Annual Sarah Lazarus Memorial Concert:** Celebrating the memory of beloved music teacher Sarah Lazarus. 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, \$10 (in advance); free to Museum members, 847-967-4800

**21st annual Wilmette Warming House Bowl-A-Thon:** Attendees can bowl and mingle, enjoying light refreshments. Proceeds will benefit the Warming House. 3 p.m. Sunday, Wilmette Bowling Center, 1903 Schiller Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-830-9580

**Some Assembly Required - Third Annual Winnetka Community Sing-along:** A family-oriented holiday sing-along to benefit the Winnetka Community House. Free refreshments. 2 p.m. Sunday, Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka, \$10 per family; \$5 individuals, 847-446-0537

## Monday, Dec. 7

**Jamison Ross:** 7:30 p.m. Monday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$26, 847-492-8860

**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

**hoopla, MyMediaMail & Zinio Individual Appointments:** Meet with trained Library staff for a 45-minute one-on-one session and learn how to download media to your portable device. 10 a.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Tech talk:** A monthly Q&A for exploring websites, social media, online searching and the library's electronic resources. 7 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Page turners:** Discuss "A Land More Kind Than Home" by Wiley Cash. 1 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Knitting Roundtable:** Come work through knitting projects and socialize. 2 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 to introduce young children to the library in a low-key, unstructured session. 10:30 a.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

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

**Knitting Roundtable 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

**Community Menorah Lighting Ceremony:** Watch as the largest Menorah in Northbrook is lit. 6 p.m. Monday, Lubavitch Chabad of Northbrook, 2095 Landwehr Road, Northbrook, free, 847-564-8770

**Ancient Greek Art from Agamemnon to Alexander the Great:** Take a once-in-a-lifetime journey through more than 5000 years of Greek culture from their Neolithic origins to the expansion of Greek culture into Asia and Africa under Alexander the Great. Drawing from the collections of 23 Greek museums, it will be the largest exhibition on the ancient Greeks in North America in 25 years. 10 a.m. Monday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$10 (NSSC members); \$13 (non-members), 847-784-6030

**A Christian Response to Attacks on Israel:** Dr. Michael Wechsler, Professor of Bible at the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, gives his perspective on the historical, legal and religious attacks on Israel. 7 p.m. Monday, Christian Heritage Academy, 315 Waukegan Road, Northfield, free, 312-560-5680

**Money Matters Discussion:** 10 a.m. Monday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-3597

**Alliance Francaise du North Shore Cafe-Conversation du Matin:** Meet fellow Francophones for relaxed, mid-morning conversation in French. 10 a.m. Monday, Panera Bread, 1199 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-328-9516

**Exploring Grief:** 7 p.m. Monday, Kenilworth Union Church, 211 Kenilworth Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-251-4272

## Tuesday, Dec. 8

**Rotary Club of Evanston Lighthouse:** 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 performance. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

**Smile and Rhyme Storytime for ages two and up with adult:** Stay for a snack and to chat after the program. 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Heinen's Grocery Store, 1020 Waukegan Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Frosting on the Cake: Sugar & Spice Holiday Delights:** Chef Sarah Kurysz hosts a no-stress holiday sweet buffet demonstration. Call to register. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Career counseling:** Six 30-minute appointments are available. 9 a.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Northern Lights Homework Help Center (grades 1-8):** High School volunteers conduct thirty-minute sessions for homework. Just drop in. 6 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Cookles and Crafts:** Registration required; grades PreK-2. 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Movies, Munchies, & More: Frank Sinatra: The Life and Loves of America's Greatest Entertainer:** Historian Hy Speck presents Sinatra's career from the streets of Hoboken, New Jersey, to Hollywood and Las Vegas. 11:30 a.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

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**Introduction to Windows 10:** Advance registration requested. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Hanukkah Dinner Party:** A gala Hanukkah dinner party is hosted by North Boundary Hadassah. 6 p.m. Tuesday, Hadassah Offices, 60 Revere Drive #800, Northbrook, \$36, 847-205-1900

**Religion Update 2015:** Over 2 weeks, Jim Kenney offers a detailed assessment of world religions over the past 12 months. 1 p.m. Tuesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$20 (NSSC members); \$25 (non-members), 847-784-6030

**Chanukah Comedy Lounge:** The annual event features an open bar, live entertainment and dinner stations. Reserve via website or call. 7:15 p.m. Tuesday, Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster St., Skokie, \$22 adult, \$42 couple, 847-677-1770

**Great Books Discussion Group:** For more information on joining, call 847-673-1814. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie, free

**Wednesday, Dec. 9**

**Mike Zito and The Wheel:** 8 p.m. Wednesday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$27, 847-492-8860

**Live Music Wednesdays with the Josh Rzepka 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

**Home for the Holidays:** Join in this festive evening of wine, hors d'oeuvres and dessert and help Open Communities. 6 p.m. Wednesday, Ten Thousand Villages, 719 Main St., Evanston, \$10-\$20, 847-501-5760

**Feeder Frenzy for fourth to eighth grades:** Join in constructing backyard bird feeders. Register by calling. 4 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Digital Demos in the Lobby:** Explore the Library's digital movie, TV show, music, ebook, audiobook, and magazine collections. 2 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Art Helsts in Art History:** 7 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Finals Study Cafe:** All teens ages 13-18 are welcome. 5 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**ESL Conversation Group:** 3 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Chess Club:** Chess sets and clocks provided. No registration required. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Classics on Wednesday Film Series:** Free weekly screening of classic films. 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Xo, G Wine: Giullana Rancic Meet and Greet:** Meet Giullana and pick up a signed bottle of Xo, G Wine. 5 p.m. Wednesday, Mariano's Northbrook, 784 Skokie Blvd., Northbrook, free, 773-971-0282

**The Art of Cartooning:** 10 a.m. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$19 member; \$25 non-member, 847-784-6030

**Twenty-first Star Chapter NSDAR Meeting:** Luncheon served at noon with a meeting and program to follow. 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Park Ridge Country Club, 636 No. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, \$22, 847-328-6946

**LitLounge: "Little Failure" by Gary Shteyngart:** 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, The Curragh Irish Pub Skokie, 8266 Lincoln Ave., Skokie, free, 847-675-9600

**Senior High Youth Group:** For grades 9 to 12 to engage in service learning opportunities. The evening starts with dinner. 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, First Congregational Church of Wilmette, 1125 Wilmette Ave., free, 847-251-6660

Have an event to submit? Go to [chicagotribune.com/calendar](http://chicagotribune.com/calendar)



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## MOVIES

# Now playing



### "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay — Part 2" ★★½

PG-13, 2:17, sci-fi

"The Hunger Games: Mockingjay — Part 2" brings the four-film saga of Katniss Everdeen and her revolutionary war to a dutiful, fairly satisfying if undeniably attenuated conclusion. In the first and best "Hunger Games" film four years ago, Jennifer Lawrence was like Peggy Sawyer, the Allentown, Pa., hooper in "42nd Street." With bow, arrow and hawklike gaze of destiny, she went out there a youngster, but she had to come back a star, and she did. Put another way, Lawrence brought home the bacon and fried it up in a pan. In "Mockingjay 2," it's more a case of her saving the movie's bacon, period. — *Michael Phillips*



### "The Night Before" ★★½

R, 1:41, comedy

It's sort of astonishing that Seth Rogen can still wring laughs out of a character stoned/coked/shroomed out of his gourd, pretending to be under control even as he's sweating up a storm and mugging like the lost Ritz Brother. For contrast, get a load of Michael Shannon, who plays the protagonists' dope dealer and unlikely guardian angel. Shannon gently steals the movie out from under the top-billed stars — Rogen as imminent father

Isaac, Joseph Gordon-Levitt as lovelorn Ethan and Anthony Mackie as steroidal football player and mama's boy Chris, reuniting for the final round of their annual, debauched Christmas Eve get-together. — *M.P.*



### "The Peanuts Movie" ★★½

G, 1:33, animation

Beloved, neurotic cartoon kid Charlie Brown hits the biggest screen possible (and in 3-D) in the warm "The Peanuts Movie," directed by animation vet Steve Martino. "The Peanuts Movie" is extremely faithful to the original source material, which will please longtime fans, but this is aimed at bringing in a new, youthful audience. While Charlie Brown is the definition of an insecure worrywart, the feature film not only redeems him in his

failures but also rewards the way he reacts to disappointments and challenges. The optimism in Charlie Brown's persistence is at the core of why "Peanuts" stands the test of time. — *Katie Walsh*



### "Secret in Their Eyes" ★★

PG-13, 1:51, drama

In the languid remake "Secret in Their Eyes," the awkward missing "The" in its title poses a more intriguing mystery than anything on the screen. If you've never seen the 2009 original from Argentina, do. It's extremely high-grade pulp, satisfying as a romance and a crime drama. Writer-director Billy Ray's Americanized redux isn't a disaster, exactly. But nothing quite gels or clicks. The locale is now Los Angeles. FBI agent Ray Kasten,

played by Chiwetel Ejiofor, and district attorney investigator Jess Cobb (Julia Roberts), work on a joint counterterrorism task force with the deputy DA, Claire Sloan (Nicole Kidman). Next door to an LA mosque suspected of harboring a terrorist sleeper cell, the body of a young woman turns up in a dumpster. She is Jess' daughter, and for 13 years Ray devotes his spare time to solving this murder. — *M.P.*



### "Spectre" ★★★

PG-13, 2:30, action

"Spectre" cost nearly \$300 million to make, and I suppose it was worth it. It's a good Bond movie, which will be good enough for many millions of fans. It's also the longest Bond movie in existence, clocking in at just under 2½ decadent, carefree, flamboyantly destructive hours. This time Ian Fleming's well-dressed assassin changes clothes from Mexico City to Rome, from London to the Austrian mountains, from Tanglewood back to London,

where terrorists-entrepreneurs carrying the familiar handle of Spectre are doing dirty work on a large scale. Of the Daniel Craig 007s, director Sam Mendes' follow-up to "Skyfall" is not quite up to "Skyfall" or my favorite, "Casino Royale." — *M.P.*

**Adair, Ruby C.**

Ruby Coleen Lemke Adair, 93, passed away peacefully in Glenview, November 26, Thanksgiving evening following a long illness. She was a lifelong resident of the North Shore. Born in Lake Forest in 1922, she graduated Evanston Twp. High School in 1940. An early resident of Skokie, Ruby lived in her personally designed house since 1950 over 65 years.

Ruby worked for several years at IIT in Chicago, two private dental practices and was a co-owner with her late husband of 60 years, Claude Adair, of Crystal Lake Toyota. Throughout her life, she loved travelling to the American Southwest, and supported many Native American Indian charities and organizations. An avid gardener, Ruby designed her home and grounds in a Southwest motif. In later years she traveled frequently to Asia; including Hong Kong, Bangkok, and Phuket, Thailand. Ruby is survived by her only child Jay Adair, nephews Tom Lemke and Ken Lemke, nieces Carolyn Lemke Niemerg and Patricia Lemke Tarvin, and family in Dallas TX. Visitation Wednesday, 10 a.m. until 11:30 am at the N.H. Scott & Hanekamp Funeral Home 1240 Waukegan Rd, Glenview. Graveside Service 12 noon at Memorial Park Cemetery, 7700 Grosse Point Rd, Skokie. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to JourneyCare, 2050 Claire Ct. Glenview, IL 60025. Funeral Info 847-998-1020.

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**Urban, George F.**

George F. Urban - beloved husband of Annamae (nee Wehmeyer); loving father of George (Margaret) Urban and Ann (Harry) McCollum; proud and cherished grandfather of Bryan and Michael Urban and Harry and Joseph McCollum; dear brother of Sylvia (the late Tex) Glod, Dolores (the late Bernie) Chicci and the late Ralph (the late Millie), Eugene "Swede" and Evelyn (the late George) Dicks; fond uncle of many. Korean War Army Veteran. Visitation Friday 3-9 p.m. at Cooney Funeral Home 625 Busse Hwy Park Ridge. Funeral Saturday 9:30 a.m. to Mary Seat of Wisdom Church for 10:00 a.m. mass. Interment All Saints. Info 847-685-1002 cooneyfuneralhome.com

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**Wold, Andrew T.**

Andrew T. Wold, age 68, of Manitowoc and Islamorada, Florida, passed away peacefully Monday, November 23, 2015 at his home with his niece Kimberly at his side.

Andy was born on June 13, 1947, son of the late Marvin and Alice (Madsen) Wold. He graduated from Lincoln Junior High School in 1961 and Niles West High School in 1965, both in Skokie, Illinois. He graduated from the Tool and Die Institute in 1970 and served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves from 1971-1977. He was a career firefighter with the Morton Grove, Illinois, Fire Department from January 1974 to January 1998, retiring with the rank of District Fire Chief.

Andy enjoyed a wonderful life in the Florida Keys with Joy. They had a real love for fishing, beginning on Lake Michigan and evolving to fishing the Atlantic Ocean. With the help of good friends, they became very successful in that sport. He was passionate about hunting, fishing, auto racing, and enjoyed building many types of cars, i.e., street rods, drag cars, sprint cars, and a car that later established a land speed record.

Andy is survived by his sister: Donna (Chuck) Smith, his niece: Kimberly Smith and nephew: Charles Smith, plus his Uncle: Wayne Vandervort and cousins: Dan, Greg, Ron and Kirsten Vandervort. He was preceded by his soul mate and beautiful wife: Joy, and his parents: Marvin and Alice Wold.

A Memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 5, 2015 at the Jens Family Funeral Home & Crematory, 1122 South 8th Street, Manitowoc. Rev. David Beaudry will officiate. Scattering of his cremated remains will take place in the Florida Keys at a later date. Relatives and friends may call at the funeral home on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until the time of service at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to "Firefighters Association of Morton Grove" Morton Grove Fire Dept. Station #4, Attn: 2015 Holiday Food Drive, 6250 Lincoln Avenue, Morton Grove, IL 60053. (Sponsored by the Firefighters Association of Morton Grove IAFF Local 2178) Online condolences may be expressed at [www.jensreinboldandpfeffer.com](http://www.jensreinboldandpfeffer.com)

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# Truck wars intensify for 2016

Best pickups still do the dirty work but also ride well and come loaded with technology

BY CASEY WILLIAMS

Tribune Newspapers

Trucks are no longer the gas-thirsty roughnecks from yesteryear. Today's best full-size and midsize pickups are packed with more technology than your media room, ride more comfortably than a private jet and can still do dirty work. From aluminum bodies to Wi-Fi hot spots and new diesels, here's what's new for 2016 trucks.

## Full-size

According to Automotive News, Ford F-Series is No. 1 among full-size trucks with 35 percent share, but GM's combined Silverado/Sierra take 38 percent. Ram slides in with 21 percent, followed by Toyota Tundra at 6 percent and Nissan at 0.6 percent. This could change.

"I'm not sure Ford has touted its aluminum body and efficiency enough," said Jessica Caldwell, senior analyst with Edmunds.com. "Chevy has come out with commercials and a high-strength steel body message. Ford's message hasn't come through as much. Ram is such a good value, with diesel, but people just don't know about it."

Then there's the all-new Nissan Titan XD.

"Nissan is entering a space in the market the Detroit Big 3 have left largely open. It aims to fill the void in capability between the traditional half-ton and ¾-ton pickups," said Jason Gonderman, editor, Truck Trend Magazine.

### The noob: Nissan Titan XD

Nissan exploits the gray area between light- and heavy-duty with the all-new Titan XD that uses a 5-liter Cummins turbo-diesel V-8 engine delivering 310 horsepower, 555 pound-feet of torque and 12,000-pound towing capacity.

"Partnering with Cummins was the best thing that Nissan could have done for the Titan XD," Gonderman said. "Their partnership with Ram for the past 26 years will give the Titan XD instant credibility."

The exterior of the Titan XD



FORD

The 2016 Ford F-150 adopts the Sync 3 infotainment system. Engine options include a 385-horsepower V-8.

has an uncanny resemblance to Ford's, but interiors feel Infiniti-like with Zero Gravity seats, Rockford Fosgate audio, and heated and cooled seats.

Base price (estimated): \$45,000.

### The champ: Ford F-Series

Having convinced brawny truck drivers that aluminum body panels won't crumple and turbo engines aren't feeble, F-Series advances from its 2015 overhaul.

Joining King Ranch and Lariat luxury models are appearance packages on XLT and Lariat with sinister 20-inch dark-painted wheels, smoked headlamps and Alcantara seat inserts with red stitching.

The F-150 adopts Ford's Sync 3 infotainment system with more intuitive controls and adds Pro Trailer Backup Assist, a knob-controlled backing system that semi-automatically adjusts steering and vehicle speed. Engines range from a 325-horsepower 2.7-liter EcoBoost V-6 engine to a 365-horsepower 3.5-liter EcoBoost V-6 engine and 385-horsepower V-8 engine.

Base prices: \$27,510-\$59,175

### Step up: GMC Sierra 1500

Quieting critics who moaned about the truck's boring design, styling is updated with a more sculpted hood, signature LED driving lights, LED tail lamps and available HID headlamps.

Sierra's newest member is the Elevation Edition that flashes 20-inch wheels, body-color trim and all-terrain tires. GMC's gentrified Denali line returns with 20-inch wheels, Bose audio, wireless phone charging and heated steering wheel. Corvette-derived Magnetic Ride Control tames all roads.

CornerStep rear bumpers, LED cargo lighting and EZ Lift-and-Lower tailgate improve utility across the range while 4G LTE Wi-Fi and Apple CarPlay or Android Auto ensure connectivity. Powertrains range from a 285-horsepower V-6 engine to 355-horsepower and 420-horsepower V-8 engines, connected to six- and eight-speed transmissions.

Base prices: \$27,275-\$50,015

### Closing In: Chevy Silverado 1500

Sierra's blue-collar sibling, and essentially the same truck, is redesigned with a sexier hood, bolder horizontal grille and LED

driving lights. Projector beams and LED tail lamps illuminate luxury LTZ and High Country models. High Country is further distinguished by power steps, saddle leather, Bose audio and 22-inch wheels. Eight-speed transmissions join 5.3-liter V8-equipped LTZ and High Country models.

Base prices: \$26,520-\$48,615

### Contender, not pretender:

Ram 1500 Big-rig styling is the foundation for two new models: Laramie Limited and Rebel. Laramie Limited spoils passengers with Argento wood accents, premium leather, air suspension and blinged chrome grille with "RAM" spelled in large font.

That grille is the new face of Ram, which looks even better in black on the Rebel off-road special that employs an air suspension, increased ride height, skid plates, and tow hooks.

Underpinning Ram's tough truck reputation are engines that range from a 29 mpg diesel to a 305-horsepower V-6 engine and 395-horsepower Hemi V-8 engine. All come with TorqueFlite 8-speed transmissions.

Base prices: \$25,865-50,880.

### The Texan: Toyota Tundra

Tundra's bigger-than-Texas persona is fortified with freshened front styling on SR5 and 1794 Editions, but Toyota devotees will covet the TRD off-roader with its old school TOYOTA grille, aluminum skid plate, black trim, 18-inch black alloys and suspension lift. Fuel tanks increase from 26.4 to 38 gallons on 1794/TRD Pro editions.

Powertrain choices are a 310-horsepower 4.6-liter V-8 or 381-horsepower 5.7-liter V-8.

Base prices: \$28,640-\$49,080.

## Midsize

Don't need the hauling capacity of a full-size truck, or want something more garage-friendly? One of these midsize trucks could be an excellent alternative.

### MPG king: Chevy Colorado/

GMC Canyon Resurrected for 2015, GM's midsize twins play like big boys with the addition of a diesel and upgraded infotainment options. The 2.8-liter turbodiesel engine delivers 181 horsepower and 369 pound-feet of torque that, at 31 mpg highway, gets the best fuel economy of any pickup. Diesels tow up to 7,700 pounds and come standard with integrated trailer brake controllers and exhaust braking. Drivers will also appreciate the addition of Apple CarPlay for smartphones, 4G Wi-Fi hot spot, lane departure warning and forward collision alert systems. Look for a Canyon Denali to debut next year.

Base prices: \$20,100-\$38,675

### Hey McFly: Toyota Tacoma

Marty McFly's pickup arrives in the future with a beefier design and bicycles/gear bed attachments. Gadgets include a GoPro mount under the rearview mirror, app-based Entune infotainment system, JBL speakers and wireless phone charging. Turn wheels with a 159-horsepower 2.7-liter I-4 engine or 278-horsepower 3.5-liter V-6 engine for up to 6,800 pounds towing.

Base prices: \$23,300-\$37,820.

Casey Williams is a freelancer.

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## COLLEGE NOTES

## Leonard paces Dayton cross country team

BY NICK BULLOCK  
Pioneer Press

Led by Maine South's **Emily Leonard**, the Dayton women's cross country team took 20th of 31 teams at the NCAA Great Lake Regional Championship Nov. 13 in Madison, Wis. Leonard, a sophomore from Park Ridge, finished in 39th place individually with a time of 21 minutes, 27.9 seconds in the 6K race.

Earlier this season, Leonard set career bests in both the 5K — at the Atlantic 10 Championship with a time of 17:34.2 — and in the 6K — at the Bradley Classic with a time of 20:54.6. She was also twice named Atlantic 10 Performer of the Week, initially for her first-place finish at the 2015 Rich Davis

Flyer 5K Challenge and then for a first-place finish at the Friendship Invitational.

### McCoy motors Duke

As has been the case all season, Duke women's soccer player **Kayla McCoy**, a Lincolnwood native who attended Christian Heritage Academy, was a force on the field for the Blue Devils in the team's NCAA Women's Soccer Championship First Round match, a 5-0 victory over James Madison on Nov. 13 in Durham, N.C.

McCoy, a freshman forward, recorded a goal and an assist in 65 minutes for the Blue Devils, helping the team move on to the tournament's second round.

In the regular season, McCoy helped Duke (13-5-5, 4-3-3 Atlantic Coast Conference) by playing in all 20 games, starting 10. Her seven goals led the team and her 15 points tied for second.

Duke advanced on Nov. 27 to the NCAA semifinals with the 3-2 shootout victory over top-seeded Stanford. The Blue Devils will play the tournament's No. 1 overall seed Florida State in the NCAA semifinals Friday in Cary, N.C.

### Radtke named all-MAC

Stevenson's **Jenna Radtke**, a junior middle blocker for the Northern Illinois women's volleyball team, was recently named

First-Team All-Mid-American Conference after helping the Huskies (18-10) to the MAC regular-season championship.

The Buffalo Grove native ranked first on the team in blocks (74) despite missing nine games with an injury. Her attack percentage of 42.8 was also tops among players with at least six total attempts.

### Elliot is Groza finalist

**Jake Elliot**, kicker for the Memphis football team, is one of three finalists for the Lou Groza Collegiate Place-Kicker award. He plans to be in attendance when the winner is announced Dec. 10 at the Home Depot ESPN College



ERIK SCHELKUN

Dayton's Emily Leonard, a Maine South graduate, is a top runner on the Flyers women's cross country team.

Football Awards.

Elliot has proved to be the top kicker in the American Athletic Conference this season, ranking first in total points (128) and pushing the Tigers (9-3, 5-3) to third place in the AAC West.

The Lyons alumnus hit all 62 of his extra-point attempts and 22 of his 26 field-goal attempts.

Have a suggestion for the College Roundup? Email Nick Bullock at [bullockpioneerpress@gmail.com](mailto:bullockpioneerpress@gmail.com).

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Visit [chicagotribune.com/athletes](http://chicagotribune.com/athletes) through noon on Dec. 10 to cast your vote. You may vote once every 12 hours.

### Francesca Figlioli

Maine South senior  
**Sport:** Swimming. Senior at Maine South.  
**Best result:** Competing in the athletes with disabilities portion of the state meet, Figlioli took second in the 100-yard breaststroke. She also placed third in the 200-, 50- and 100-yard freestyles.

### Mia Piljevic

Niles West sophomore  
**Sport:** Swimming  
**Best result:** Piljevic set the school record in the 100-yard backstroke at the Glenbrook North Sectional, touching the wall in 58.94 seconds. At state, she took 36th.

### Barrington Wade

Niles North senior  
**Sport:** Football  
**Best game:** In the final game of his high school career, The Iowa recruit rushed for 100 yards and one touchdown on 12 carries in a 28-17 loss to Bradley-Bourbonnais in the Class 7A playoffs.

# Preparation pays off for Notre Dame's Stritzel

BY ERIC VAN DRIL  
Pioneer Press

The showdown between Evanston and Notre Dame was one of the most high profile games of the first week of the 2015-16 boys basketball season. It featured a high-major Division I prospect in Evanston junior guard Nojel Eastern, four returning starters for reigning East Suburban Catholic champion Notre Dame and a near-capacity crowd at DePaul Prep.

Notre Dame's lone first-year starter on Nov. 27 in the Battle of the Bridge Thanksgiving Tournament final was junior guard Matt Stritzel. It was Stritzel's first big game starting for the Dons, but he wasn't intimidated and his confidence didn't wane.

"I've worked hard. I'm prepared to be in this spot," Stritzel said. "I think I prepare myself for these types of games."

Stritzel was in the gym constantly during the offseason. He'd arrive at Notre Dame before the Dons had their open gyms to work on his shooting, for instance.

Stritzel likes to use the school's shooting machine. Its features include a big net around the hoop — in order to collect any errant attempts — and a machine the net funnels balls into. The machine passes basketballs to the person, or people, using it.

Stritzel used the shooting machine to get up about 500 shots per session, he said. He preferred to shoot free throws in order to work on his form.

"I'm always on the shooting machine," Stritzel said. "The muscle memory [it develops] is unbelievable. It's the best for muscle memory."

Stritzel added that working on his shooting in quiet sessions like that supplied him with confidence to play against the state's best teams, like Evanston.

That was clear throughout the Wildkits' 71-64 victory.

Stritzel scored Notre Dame's first basket of the game on a reverse lay-up. He led the team

with eight points at halftime, but arguably the Dons' best 3-point shooter was 0-for-3 from behind the arc in the first half.

Stritzel kept shooting, however.

The Wildkits turned a five-point lead into a 20-point advantage during the first seven minutes of the third quarter. Stritzel hit a 3-pointer with 52 seconds remaining in the third quarter. He then hit two straight 3s in the fourth. The first cut Evanston's lead to 57-46. The second, on which he came off of a screen and fired without hesitation, made it 57-49. Stritzel finished with 18 points.

"He's shooting the ball better [than last year]," senior guard Lucas Simon said of Stritzel. "The biggest thing is confidence. [Against Evanston], he was really confident going to the basket, shooting the ball. He really helped us in that big fourth-quarter run."

Notre Dame got within four points of Evanston during the fourth quarter. The Dons made it 63-59 on a play where Stritzel found senior center Anthony D'Avanzo for a layup off of a pick-and-roll.

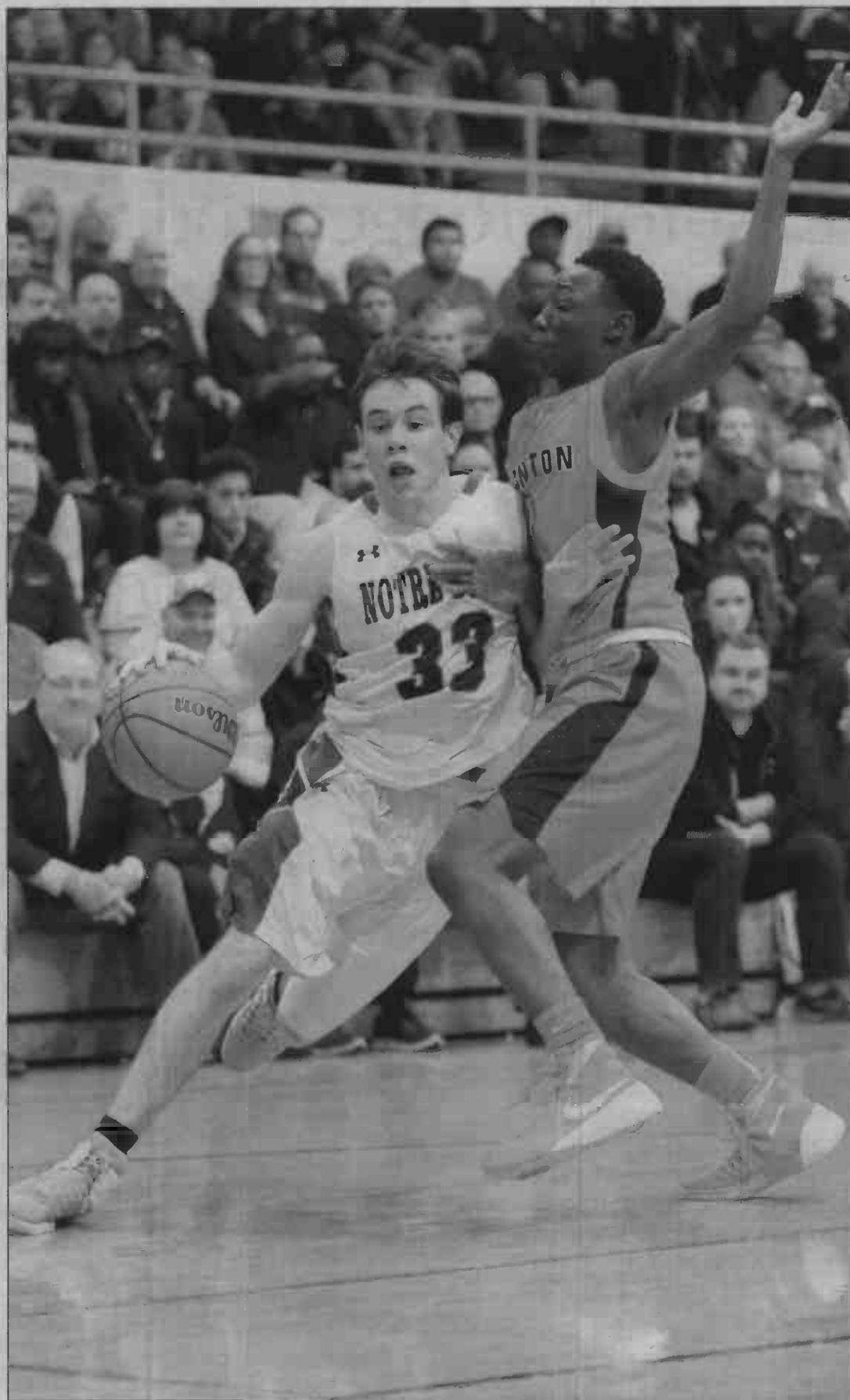
Stritzel showed he can make plays in the pick-and-roll, but his value for the Dons during most of the season figures to be off the ball.

Notre Dame wants to play inside-out, taking advantage of the size and ability of the 6-foot-8 D'Avanzo and 6-5 senior forward Ammar Becar. That should leave Stritzel with open opportunities from behind the arc.

If he continues to shoot the ball confidently and accurately, the Dons' offense figures to be very difficult to stop.

"If they're trying to deny our bigs inside, kicking it out to a shooter like Matt really opens things up for us," Simon said. "It creates driving lanes, and opportunities for the big guys. It really spreads out the defense. He's been a big part [of the offense]."

*Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.*



PATRICK GORSKI/PIONEER PRESS

Notre Dame's Matt Stritzel drives past Evanston's Trevon Marshall during the Battle of the Bridge final on Nov. 27 in Chicago.

# Driven to show improvement, Maine East tops Ridgewood

BY ERIC VAN DRIL  
Pioneer Press

The Maine East boys basketball team extended its lead to eight points with a little less than five minutes remaining against Ridgewood, but the Rebels' nine-point run that followed conjured up a very distinct memory.

Junior Zac Rzewnicki knocked down his first 3-pointer of the game to spark the run at the Battle of the Ridge Tournament game. The Rebels proceeded to score six straight points on Nov. 24, including a free throw by Rzewnicki that put Ridgewood ahead for the first time since early in the second quarter.

Maine East coach Dave Genis called a timeout immediately after Rzewnicki's free throw. There was 2:26 remaining in the game, which the Blue Demons won 57-50. Maine East senior guards Milan Grover and Ashoor Doushow took control of the huddle.

"What we said in that timeout was, 'No Maine West repeat,'" Grover said. "Last year, we were up 12 points and there was like three minutes left in the game, and we lost

to them [66-64] in our Pack the Place [game]. I've never experienced a [worse] feeling than I did on that [night]. I told them, 'No Maine West repeat. We're not letting it happen. It's a choice.'"

Doushow added: "Me and Milan, we said that. Like, 'This is not happening again. ... This is a new Maine East team.'"

Doushow got the ball and drove on the Blue Demons' first offensive possession after the timeout. He drew a foul and hit two free throws. Rzewnicki (22 points, eight rebounds) then spun in the lane, and got a contested shot to roll in to put the Rebels back in front.

Doushow answered with a confident 3-pointer from the wing to put his team ahead 52-50 with 1:29 remaining.

The Rebels (1-1) didn't score after that.

After a Ridgewood turnover, Grover was fouled and sent to the line with his team up

two. His two free throws were pure. They put Maine East ahead by four with 33.7 seconds left.

"It's all about senior leadership," Grover said. Grover and Doushow "have been on varsity since sophomore [year]. Both of us. It's about experience."

The Blue Demons (4-0) went on to win the Battle of the Ridge Tournament, beating Wheeling 47-43 in the final on Nov. 28.

The boys basketball season is less than two weeks old, but that undefeated record is very significant for the Blue Demons. In recent years, they have followed a trend to start their seasons, Genis said in the preseason. They would go 0-4 or 1-3 at the Battle of the Ridge Tournament, and then continue their slow start until turning things around at the Luther North Holiday Tournament.

This year, Maine East has been determined to change that trend.

"It's a new culture, man. I'm telling you," Grover said. "We're a new Maine East team. This is not the old Maine East team. We're 13 seniors on this team, and we're the team to beat. This is a message to the CSL. It's a message to everybody."

The senior-laden Blue Demons are extremely close this year. They love each other like family, Doushow said, and they're not going to be satisfied easily.

"This is just one win," Doushow said after the Ridgewood game. "We have much more to go."

## Game notes

■ Maine East senior forward Calvin Jean Louis finished with nine points and six rebounds. Junior guard Jordan Irving and senior guard Wilson Noriega scored eight points apiece.

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @VanDrilSports



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Maine East's Ashoor Doushow (23) drives around Ridgewood's Alex Rice (5) during the Blue Demons' 57-50 win on Nov. 24 in Norridge.

# High energy key to Wolves' success

BY ERIC VAN DRIL  
Pioneer Press

The end result was a loss in double overtime, but the Niles West boys basketball team's 56-55 setback against Glenbrook North featured several encouraging elements for the Wolves.

For one, senior forward Evan Hines was fantastic in his first game of the season.

The Minnesota State-Moorhead signee didn't play in Niles West's first two games of the season due to a violation of team rules, Niles West coach Bob Williams said. Hines was the fourth player off of the bench against the Spartans on Nov. 25 at the Kurland-Schnurr Thanksgiving Tournament in Skokie. He entered the game with 2:32 remaining in the first quarter, and almost immediately scored on a turnaround jumper where he backed down a smaller defender and shot over him. Hines followed that with a 3-pointer.

Hines tallied five points in his first 90 seconds of the season. He finished the game with 20 points on just 10 field-goal attempts. He finished 3-for-5 from behind the arc.

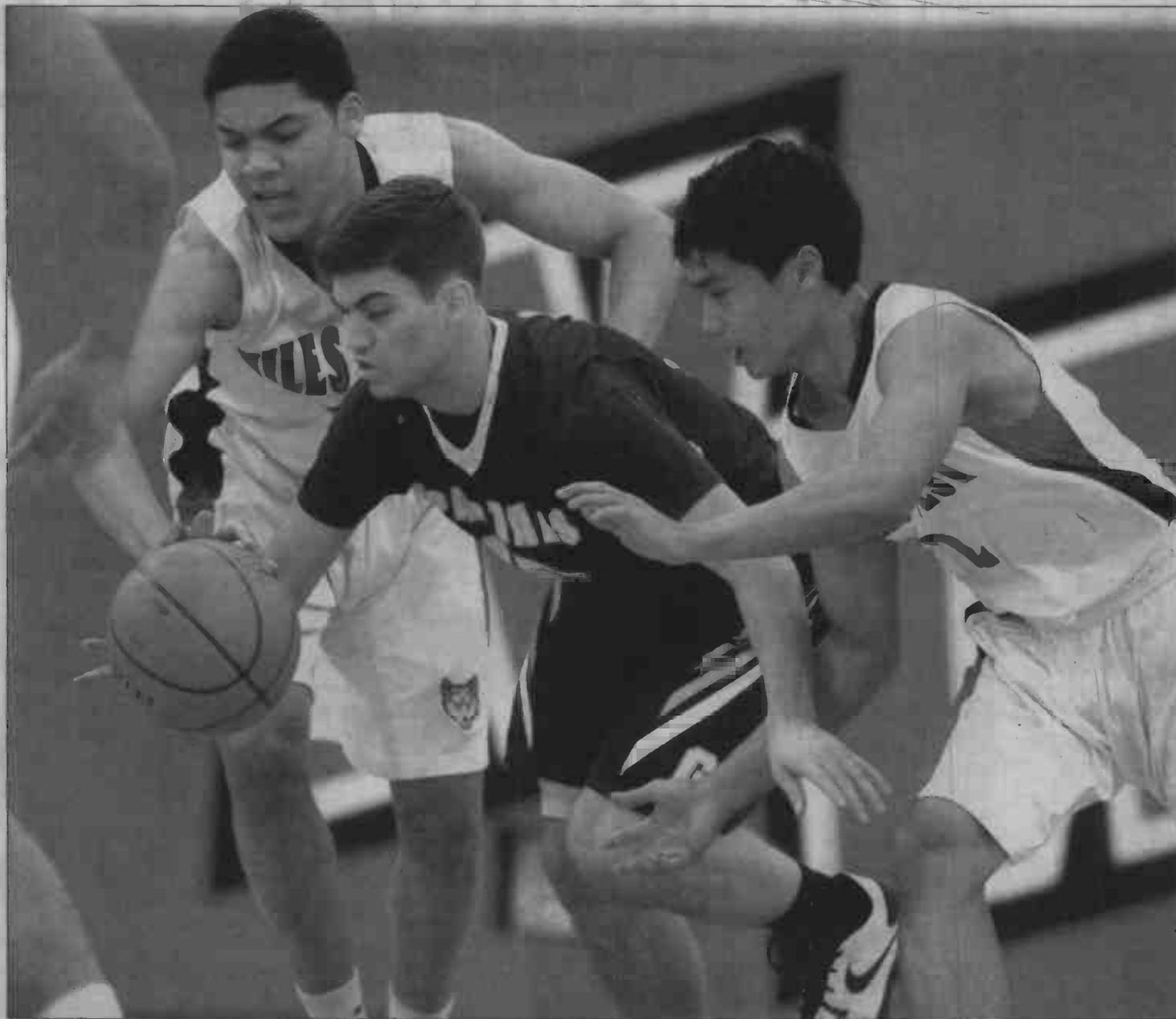
Hines' 3-point shooting has been a constant during his varsity career, but it's the other things — a steal in the second overtime period, the five defensive rebounds he snared for an undersized squad — that showed his development over the last eight months.

"I think he's really become more well-rounded," Williams said. "He's become more well-rounded, as far as doing all the little things. Defensively, he was more of a factor. ... I think he's understanding he's got more to his game than shooting 3s. I think last year, he thought it was just that. Now, he's doing a whole lot more for his team."

Williams added: "The second thing is he's really growing, in terms of being a good teammate. He's doing more things that really give our team energy and enthusiasm. I was very happy with that."

Energy was the word mentioned most often by Williams and junior guard Don Asuncion following Niles West's loss to Glenbrook North.

The Wolves' energy level was very high in their victories in the



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Glenbrook North's James Karls, center, gets to the loose ball ahead of Niles West's Aaron Flowers, left, and Don Asuncion, right, during the Spartans' 56-55 double-overtime win on Nov. 25 in Skokie.

first two nights of the season — a 42-point win over Kelvyn Park on Nov. 23, and a 15-point win over Hersey on Nov. 24. The Wolves' high-pressure, man-to-man defense helped force 22 turnovers against Glenbrook North on Nov. 25, but their energy level dipped slightly against the Spartans.

Niles West finished with only four offensive rebounds, for example, against a squad that Glenbrook North coach David Weber called a team full of guards.

"I think today we just lacked energy," Asuncion said. "And we weren't really that prepared, like we were [on Nov. 24]. We were more pumped up [against Hersey]."

Niles West was without junior point guard Octavius Parker II for all four games during the Kurland-Schnurr Tournament due to an eligibility issue, Williams said. Parker was slated to return against Wheeling on Dec. 1.

The fact that Niles West played

so well without both Parker and Hines was also encouraging.

The return of Parker, who led the team in scoring (13.1 ppg) a year ago and plays club basketball for the Mac Irvin Fire, figures to give Niles West a dynamic, one-two scoring punch that most teams don't have. But it's the team's energy level — especially when playing a full-court, man-to-man defense that has the potential to overwhelm opposing teams and lead to easy points— that could

determine its ceiling.

"Moving forward, there's really a positive side to this [loss to Glenbrook North]," Asuncion said. "We work hard. Everyone works hard. We push each other. I think it's really clicking right now. We've just got to keep the energy up, and keep moving forward."

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @VanDrilSports

# Learning experience

Notre Dame, ranked No. 7 by the Chicago Tribune, lost to No. 6 Evanston in tournament final. Page 39



Notre Dame's Matt Stritzel goes up for a shot while guarded by Evanston's Nojel Eastern during the Battle of the Bridge final on Nov. 27 in Chicago.

PATRICK GORSKI/PIONEER PRESS

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