

# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

\$1.50

Thursday, December 10, 2015

nilesheraldspectator.com

## No more empty bowls

Annual event sells ceramics to raise money for food pantries. Page 4



LEE V. GAINES/PIONEER PRESS

Attendees at the 12th annual Empty Bowls at Oakton event examine the hand-crafted ceramic bowls on display Dec. 5 at the Oakton Community College campus in Des Plaines. All proceeds from the event benefit five food pantries and one soup kitchen located within OCC's boundaries.

GO



MARRIOTT THEATRE

### Backstage helpers

Child supervisors help care for the kids cast in local theater, dance productions. Page 20

SPORTS



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## SHOUT OUT

# John Schuman, music director

John Schuman, music director at First United Methodist Church of Park Ridge, is the founder of the Christmas Cantata, an ensemble of volunteer singers from the congregation. This year, the group will sing for residents of Bella Terra nursing home in Morton Grove Dec. 12, and during the morning worship service at First United Methodist, 418 W. Touhy Ave., Dec. 13.

Schuman also directs the church's adult and student choirs, which perform throughout the year during Sunday services.

#### Q: What is the Christmas Cantata?

A: For the music program at my church, it's a means of getting many people involved in music and as easily as possible. We use a lessons and carols format. We have nine traditional Bible readings for the telling the prophecies and story of the birth of Jesus. Typically, different families of the congregation will share one of these readings.

#### Q: What are some of the songs the group will perform?

A: Favorite and familiar carols,



JOHN SCHUMAN PHOTO

John Schuman

including "Silent Night," "Away in a Manger," "Angels We Have Heard on High," "Go Tell it on the Mountain."

#### Q: What are the ages of the singers?

A: We start with first-graders, so we have some who are 6 years old. And we'll have some who are getting close to 90. It's intergenerational.

#### Q: How long has the group been performing?

A: This is our third year.

#### Q: What inspired you?

A: It was based on my own experiences and judging what works for a small congregation in an effort to get broad participation and serve the community. We put something together that requires limited commitment. People can join this special group with just two rehearsals and then sing with us.

#### Q: Why is the group important to you?

A: This is always an enjoyable time of year for a church musician. For older people, these are our oldest and happiest memories. Even at a nursing home where someone is nonverbal, they will sing along with you on an old German hymn and we're making a connection. Everything we do here is human connection, finding a sacred moment with other people.

—Jennifer Johnson, Pioneer Press

Shout Out is a weekly feature in which we get to know and introduce our readers to their fellow community members and local visitors. Check out more online at [ChicagoTribune.com/ShoutOut](http://ChicagoTribune.com/ShoutOut).

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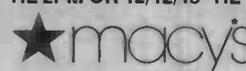
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LEE V. GAINES/PIONEER PRESS

Attendees at the 12th annual Empty Bowls at Oakton event examine the hand-crafted ceramic bowls on display Dec. 5 at the Oakton Community College campus in Des Plaines. All proceeds from the event benefit five food pantries and one soup kitchen located within OCC's boundaries.

## Empty Bowls raises cash for food pantries

By LEE V. GAINES  
Pioneer Press

Brushing shoulders as they meandered around several long tables laid out in a large rectangle, the dozens of attendees at the Dec. 5 Empty Bowls at Oakton event intermittently grabbed one of the hundreds of hand-crafted ceramic bowls of varying shapes, sizes, textures and colors on display at the Oakton Community College campus in Des Plaines.

Professor of art at OCC, Lou Pierozzi, one of the main organizers of Empty Bowls at Oakton, said the most committed attendees of the annual charitable affair line up before doors

open at 10:30 a.m. to select the best of the best.

By about 1 p.m., an hour before the official end of the of the 4 1/2-hour event, most everything has been picked over, and even so, "we usually sell out," he said.

Attendees selected as few or as many bowls, priced at \$15 each, as they liked. Some purchased raffle tickets for donated pieces of ceramic artistry or chose from a selection of other items on sale at the event. This year, which marked the 12th annual iteration of Empty Bowls at Oakton, the event brought in more than \$29,000, all of which will be donated to five food pantries and one soup kitchen within OCC's boundaries,

Pierozzi said. Last year, he said, more than \$31,000 was donated to the charities.

As an added bonus, attendees who purchased at least one bowl were offered a bowl of soup served in a Styrofoam container, their choice of bread and a cup of either water or lemonade.

With their bowls wrapped in newspaper and tucked away in bags or cardboard boxes, the crowd gathered at this year's event enjoyed the simple meal at long tables, each one adorned with a red sign directing diners to "imagine this is your only meal today."

"I do love that sign," said Rhonda Fried, co-chairwoman of the event. With attendees on the hunt for

the best bowls, busily knocking items off their holiday gift lists and enjoying the generally festive atmosphere, which included a musical performance, Fried said it's easy to forget the ultimate purpose of Empty Bowls, which is to benefit organizations helping those in need. The signs, she said, are a reminder.

After learning about a national, grass roots movement dubbed "The Empty Bowls Project" roughly 14 years ago, Fried said she convinced the members of Oakton's Ceramics Club to host their own local iteration.

Attendance has swelled over the years, but only about 20 club members

made the majority of the bowls on display, she said.

Fried said she hosts a "bowl-a-thon" each month to encourage club members to make the bowls, a process that varies depending on whether the clay is thrown on a potters wheel or is hand-built.

"The ongoing battle is to make as many good-looking bowls as possible," she said.

Katie Susko, an Evanston resident and a member of the club, estimated she made about 150 bowls for this year's Empty Bowls at Oakton event. After tallying the time it takes to complete each stage in the process, she estimated each bowl took about 45 minutes to an hour to complete.

A seven-year veteran of Empty Bowls at Oakton, Susko said she has no plans of dropping out of the charitable effort any time soon.

"I'm going to continue. Even if I can't be at the event, I'll always donate bowls," she said.

Sharon Lau, director of volunteers for Empty Bowls at Oakton, said it's a rewarding feeling when she sees the bowls she built by hand disappear from the table at each event.

"It strokes your ego," she said. "But the whole process is just a pleasure. You don't see people here who are unhappy."

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

# Niles Library Board votes to increase tax levy by \$800K

BY LEE V. GAINES  
Pioneer Press

Following four meetings worth of debate and push-back from community members, the Niles Library District Board of Trustees voted at a recent meeting to increase the district's property tax levy by \$800,000, according to library officials.

Two board members — Carolyn Drblik and Danette Matyas — who have repeatedly expressed opposition to the increase since it was first proposed by their colleagues on the board in early November, maintained their position and voted against the more than 13 percent increase over last year's levy figure, said library Director Susan Lempke. The other five members of the board voted in favor of the increase, she said.

Board President Linda Ryan said during a public hearing on the levy on Nov. 18 that the increase was necessary because such an increase in tax revenue would be impossible next year under state law, and without the increase, the library risks running a deficit in a few years. She also

highlighted the \$1.2 million decrease in the levy over the past two years.

Ryan said the \$800,000 levy increase would add about \$37 to the average resident's annual tax bill.

Drblik said in a recent interview, that she could not justify the increase given a recent audit presentation that indicated the district's cash and investments on hand total \$8.9 million. The district's approved budget for fiscal 2016 includes \$6.5 million worth of expenditures.

A significant portion of those funds are either already committed to capital projects or specific expenditures, and some of the funds are earmarked for current expenditures, Greg Pritz, business manager for the district, said in a recent interview.

He said the library has about \$5 million in reserve in the general fund, which is below the target of 100 percent of a full year's worth of expenditures.

"We do need to collect a little bit more than we spend every year or we won't have money to make repairs or replace technology items,"

Lempke said.

During last month's public hearing, Ryan also noted the district's plan to embark upon a new strategic planning process. She said the process might call for expanded library services, particularly in the north end of the district, which includes unincorporated areas of Des Plaines and Glenview. But Drblik said the district has no current plan as to what it intends to do with the additional funds generated by the higher levy.

"How can I take money from taxpayers when I don't know what I'm going to do with it?" she said. "Something just seems off."

Lempke said she's relieved the board ultimately decided to increase the levy, though staff refrained from making any recommendation to elected officials.

If the board had chosen to maintain a level levy or reduce it, Lempke said she would have had to consider cost-cutting measures including reducing staffing hours at the library next year.

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

## FROM THE COMMUNITY

# Skokie's hidden Hanukkah angels

BY MENACHEM POSNER  
From the community

They're called the "Hanukkah angels," the six fellows who spent the better part of Dec. 6 night erecting 16 giant menorahs all over Skokie. With just 24 hours to go before the onset of the Hanukkah holiday, they needed to move fast. In fact, working in three pairs, they perfected a system to build each menorah in less than eight minutes.

Led by Rabbi Yochanan Posner of Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, the other angels

are a lawyer, a plant manager, a home inspector, a history teacher and a student.

At each location, teams unloaded the giant menorahs, placed them on wooden bases held down by sandbags, screwed in the light bulbs, fastened the menorahs with wire and cable-ties, and took a moment to step back and admire their handiwork before zipping off to the next menorah site.

"We go out in the cold night because we are inspired by the Hanukkah

lights," said Posner, who refurbished his first giant menorah when he was in seventh grade and placed it on the playground of Cheder Lubavitch Hebrew Day School on Howard Street. "They teach us so much: that a little light dispels a lot of darkness and that [God] makes miracles when we do our part."

To request a free menorah starter kit email of: [fice@skoklechabad.org](mailto:fice@skoklechabad.org).

Menachem Posner is a rabbi at Lubavitch Chabad in Skokie.

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# Stepping down | Open Communities leader reflects on long journey as she ends run

By MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

Inside her cozy Skokie living room, Gail Schechter takes her clarinet from its case and plays a few harmonious notes from it before packing it away again.

She wants to have more time to play music, she says, but that is not the real reason she is resigning next month as executive director of Open Communities. The organization's self-proclaimed mission is to "educate, advocate and organize to promote just and inclusive communities in north suburban Chicago."

"This isn't easy for me to leave although I have been itching to really get back and do organizing," she said. "I love community organization as well. I just feel like it's time for somebody to take the baton."

When Schechter became executive director of the nonprofit more than 20 years ago, the organization was called the Interfaith Housing Center of the Northern Suburbs. A few years ago, it changed its name to Open Communities to reflect its expanded goals.

"Over the years, we were finding that we were getting involved in issues that were beyond housing by popular demand," she said.

One example she gave is when the Rev. James Meeks, a former Democratic member of the Illinois House, staged a boycott of Chicago Public Schools around the issue of Illinois education funding.

Meeks announced he was coming to New Trier High School with Chicago students; Interfaith helped pave the way for the protest, she remembered.

## Community organizer

Schechter grew up in New York City and attended Oberlin University



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

Open Communities Executive Director and Skokie resident Gail Schechter is resigning from her job after 22 years. In reflecting back, she holds up a button from a project in Morton Grove that involved closing down a motel.

in Ohio before returning after college to work as a tenant organizer in Brooklyn.

At 23, she had a staff of five organizers in Brooklyn, she said. She later was leading a city-wide task force on housing court.

Schechter returned to school, earning an advanced degree in urban and environmental policy from Tufts University. She followed her then-husband to the Chicago area where she knew she would continue working for fair housing and justice.

"I grew up in the neighborhoods of Brooklyn and Queens," she said. "My formative years were in this big middle-income high rise."

She wanted to live in a real community where it didn't take 10 minutes just to get out the door, she said.

Aside from her urban upbringing, Schechter also

said she was greatly impacted by her mother being a Holocaust survivor, her grandfather having been killed in Auschwitz. Her mother and grandmother survived only because they were taken in by others, she said.

"I wouldn't be around today if there hadn't been this amazing large Catholic farm family that protected them," she said. "I feel my life is a gift and that its purpose is to make sure that I'm useful."

## In Chicago

In Chicago, Schechter initially worked as part of a team for the Center For Neighborhood Technology. She helped administer a loan and grant program for the Amoco Foundation around affordable housing, credit unions and economic development.

Wanting to work closer

to her home, she later volunteered for the Interfaith Housing Center for the Northern Suburbs.

Posing as a potential tenant, Schechter looked at apartments to document any discrimination to use as evidence for complaints.

Following a test on the Evanston side of Howard Street, Schechter said she had an epiphany about "white privilege." A landlord regularly charged an application fee, but he said he would waive it for her, she recalled.

"I remember leaving that test, walking out the door, and saying to myself, 'Would he have said that to me if I was black?'"

Schechter became executive director of Interfaith Housing at the end of 1993.

When Interfaith first got off the ground, she said, there was blatant discrimination that drew a response from people who united

from Skokie to Highland Park. Now, the discrimination wasn't so blatant, but it still needed to be addressed, she said.

"I learned that the unique thing about Interfaith as a fair housing agency is income," she said. "Here we are on the North Shore where income is as much a barrier to moving here as actual acts of discrimination."

What became clear to Schechter early on, she said, is that the agency could not talk about fair housing without talking about affordable housing.

Open Communities under Schechter's leadership has been involved in many different projects. The organizations' advocacy has revolved around fair housing, foreclosure prevention, landlord and tenant advice, home-sharing, general advocacy and community organizing.

Schechter has worked with many people and government agencies in the Open Communities area, making a lasting impression on many.

"She is someone who is not afraid to speak her mind and is a true advocate for the powerless," said Skokie Village Trustee Randy Roberts in an earlier interview. "Stable, affordable housing is the foundation for individual and family well-being and life opportunities," said Highland Park attorney Betsy Lassar. "Gail has pursued that for all people regardless of race, income, ethnicity or gender."

In 1998 and 1999, the agency advocated for tenants who lived in the Admiral Oasis Motel on Waukegan Road in Morton Grove, Schechter remembered. The village was set to tear down the motel, which they considered blight, she said.

Schechter keeps a pin that Open Communities created for tenants and their advocates at the time — it reads "I'm not blight." She said she considers the agency's advocacy on those tenants' behalf to be one of the more memorable projects in which she was involved.

Another was last year's 50th anniversary celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech on Winnetka's Village Green during the civil rights movement. That speech was a galvanizing event that helped give rise to Open Communities.

But for Schechter, it isn't just the projects undertaken by Open Communities that account for why she remained its leader for 22 years.

"There is one thing that has kept me going all along at Open Communities," she said. "You have people who care about justice, and not just for themselves, but for everyone. There is nothing more inspiring than that."

# Niles home struck by fire twice in one day

BY LEE V. GAINES  
Pioneer Press

Two fires broke out within one single-family home in the 9200 block of North Callero Drive in Niles on Dec. 1, according to Niles Fire Department officials.

The Fire Department was notified of the first incident around 9 a.m. by an employee of a business on North Milwaukee Avenue, located near the home, who spotted smoke in the area, said Niles Fire District Chief Orlando Diaz.

He said fire crews found the home and forced their way into the residence. The homeowner was not in the home when fire crews arrived, he said.

The fire was confined to an upper-level bedroom in the rear of the house and

crews were able to put it out in a matter of minutes, he said.

Diaz said the homeowner and her son-in-law returned to the residence later that morning. Shortly after Fire Department personnel left the scene, the resident called 911 around noon to report smoke coming from the attic, he said.

A second fire, Diaz said, was found in the attic above the bedroom where the first had been extinguished earlier the same day.

The blaze was put out within a matter of minutes, he said.

The homeowner was transported to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital after informing paramedics on scene that she did not feel well, Diaz said.

Niles Fire District Chief

Martin Feld said the resident's medical issue was unrelated to the fire incident.

When fire crews responded to the first fire in the bedroom of the home, Diaz said the attic was examined but nothing was found.

"Unfortunately, it's not uncommon for rekindling to occur, but that's not what we want to happen," he said.

Feld and Diaz said the cause of both fires is still under investigation.

The state fire marshal is assisting with the case, Feld said.

The upper level of the home suffered extensive water damage as a result of both blazes, he said.

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

# Man claiming to have gun steals from Niles store

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

Niles police are looking for a man who stole two video game systems from a Milwaukee Avenue store after telling an employee he had a gun.

Police said the suspect, a man between 35 and 45 years old, entered GameStop, 9639 N. Milwaukee Ave., shortly before 12:30 p.m. Nov. 28 and began speaking with an employee about different gaming systems. When other customers left the building, the man asked the employee for two video game systems, an Xbox One and a PlayStation 4, police said.

After the employee got the video game systems for the man, "he said, 'I'm taking



NILES POLICE DEPARTMENT

Niles police say this man claimed to have a gun and stole two gaming systems from a store Nov. 28.

these' and then grabbed them," said Niles police Sgt. Robert Tornabene.

When the female employee told the man not to take the games, he reportedly

pushed her and said he had a gun. Police said the man never displayed a weapon, but ran out of the store with the two video game systems.

The systems are believed to be valued at more than \$400 each, Tornabene said.

Store surveillance video captured an image of the suspect, which police are sharing in an effort to identify and apprehend him. He is described as thin, white and about 6-feet, 2-inches tall. He was wearing a gray jacket, baseball cap and sunglasses at the time of the theft, police said.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Niles Police Department at 847-588-6500.

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## POLICE REPORT

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

**RECKLESS DRIVING**

■ A 17-year-old Glenview boy was charged with reckless driving on Dec. 1 after police said he drove a car that had known mechanical problems, including wheel alignment issues, and crashed into a concrete safety pole behind a building in the 8500 block of Golf Road. He and his passenger sustained injuries in the accident, police said. The teen has a Dec. 22 court date.

**RETAIL THEFT**

■ Karen Jameson-Chavez, 43, of the 9600 block of Golf Terrace, unincorporated Maine Township, was charged with retail theft on Dec. 1 after she allegedly stole makeup and two sets of headphones from a store in the 9000 block of Golf Road. She has a Dec. 22 court date.

■ Rooyia Hakimi, 37, of the 2600 block of West Hunt, Chicago, was charged with retail theft on Nov. 27 after she allegedly stole

clothing, a water bottle and holiday cards from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center. Police said the value of the items was \$202.

**BATTERY**

■ A 59-year-old Northbrook man told police he was standing outside a restaurant in the 9000 block of Golf Road around 1:15 a.m., Nov. 25, when he was confronted by a group of four to five men. Police said the victim claimed not to know the men and that he was pushed, causing an injury to his shoulder. An investigation was pending.

**THEFT**

■ Police said a 65-year-old Niles woman on Nov. 23 sent a \$1,756 money gram to a caller who claimed her personal information had been compromised and that she needed to pay to have a new Social Security number issued. The caller identified himself as an immigration service employee, police said. A woman also reportedly joined the conversation, speaking the victim's language of Gujarati. An

investigation was pending.

■ A \$740 smartphone was stolen from a store display at Golf Mill Shopping Center on Nov. 24, police said.

■ Employees of a business in the 7000 block of Dempster Street told police that a coin purse, cosmetic bag and wallet were stolen from a back room on the afternoon of Nov. 28.

**BURGLARY**

■ A resident of the 9200 block of Callero Drive told police that he returned home on the night of Nov. 23 to find his front door lock broken. The man did not find anything disturbed, police said.

■ A \$500 lawn mower was reported stolen from an unlocked garage overnight between Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 in the 8200 block of Osceola Avenue. A snowblower, bicycle and generator were also reported stolen from an unlocked garage in the 8200 block of Olcott Avenue.

■ Someone attempted to break into a car parked on the Milwaukee Avenue side of Golf Mill Shopping Center on Nov. 28.

## Cops: Caregiver stole credit card info from cancer patient

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

A woman charged with felony aggravated identity theft Nov. 4 allegedly charged thousands of dollars to a credit card belonging to a cancer patient she was hired to care for.

Jane Munir, 30, of the 1900 block of Chambery Court, Wheeling, was employed as a caregiver with Compassionate Care Inc., of Des Plaines, and was sent to work in the home of a Morton Grove woman with advanced-stage cancer in 2014, police said.

According to a police report, the theft victims were the first family Munir was assigned to work with through Compassionate Care.

Sue Ahn, owner of Compassionate Care, confirmed Munir left the company in September 2014.

Munir was fired by the family after just three days because the woman's husband said Munir hadn't fulfilled her job respon-

sibilities, according to the police report.

The following month, the patient's husband noticed suspicious charges on his wife's credit card statement and called police. He signed a complaint on his wife's behalf because she was too sick to do so, police said.

A yearlong investigation ensued, police said. Police arrested Munir at her home on Nov. 4, and she allegedly admitted to writing down the Discover card information belonging to the victim while she was employed at the home. Police said Munir allegedly used the card at Verizon, Groupon, Zappos, Expedia, and several local restaurants.

The Cook County State's Attorney's office alleges Munir used the card to charge more than \$6,200.

Munir did not return call seeking comment. She is due in court Jan. 5 at the Skokie Courthouse.

Natalie Hayes is a freelancer.

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# Exploring with Google Expeditions

## Skokie students take grand field trips without ever leaving the classroom

By MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

Hillel Torah North Suburban Day School students recently experienced what many would consider field trips of a lifetime — only they never physically left their familiar classrooms in Skokie.

Simply by donning a viewing device, inside of which was a cellphone running just the right free app, they suddenly were transported.

They experienced 360-degree panoramic views of underwater coral life in the Galapagos, remote caves well off the beaten track, gorillas inside the deep forest that is part of their habitat in Borneo.

The new Google Expeditions Pioneer Program is not the first virtual reality technology conceived with learning in mind, but what educators say is so enticing about it is the relatively little cost.

"This is the first piece of technology I've seen that has the real potential to bridge the technology divide," said Beth Burke, coordinator of instructional technology at Hillel Torah.

That's why Burke wanted the private school to be selected by Google to pilot the Expeditions program. Her persistence in signing up for the one-day teaching event ultimately paid off.

"When I saw the technology at an educational technology conference, I just fell in love with it," said Burke. "I saw so much that could be done in the classroom with this."

A Google technician came to the school early morning Nov. 24 to briefly train teachers; then for the next few hours, the adults led students on virtual reality journeys few had ever experienced.



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

Hillel Torah North Suburban Day School teacher Samantha Toljanic takes her students on a virtual field trip.

### Hillel Torah

Hillel Torah North Suburban Day School is a private modern Orthodox Jewish school. Students from second through eighth grades participated in the Google pilot program.

"This is so amazing," one student said, echoing the sentiment of many in the room who were exploring a 360-degree view of a gorilla in the mist.

Rabbi Menachem Linzer, principal, smiled as these students collectively shrieked in excitement at what they were seeing with their special viewers. Upon returning from the conference, he said, Burke gave him one of the headsets to try out, and he knew this was something special.

"It's amazing because the headset is made of cardboard," Linzer said. "Look what can be accomplished, and it won't cost a lot."

For demonstration purposes, some of the students were given plastic viewing devices and others were provided the cardboard ones that will be standard once the program is released, Google said. There is no announced date yet when Google Expeditions will be available for all schools.

Burke said she wants to collect at least 50 cellphones for Hillel Torah so that when Google Expeditions becomes available, the school will be ready to use it.

An advantage, she said, is that an older cellphone can run the program. That makes donated cellphones a

more valuable commodity.

A Google representative at Hillel Torah on Nov. 24 said she was not authorized to speak to the media about the Expeditions program. But Google, through its own online information, said that the Expeditions Pioneer Program is still looking for schools to apply for a trial.

"Expeditions teams will visit selected schools around the world, including the United States, Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Brazil, Canada, Singapore and Denmark," Google states on its Expeditions website. "Each team will bring a complete Expeditions kit with everything the teachers need to take their students on journeys anywhere. The team will show teachers how Ex-

peditions works and help set it up before class."

According to Hillel Torah, the Chicago area is one of only 20 or so currently piloting the technology.

### Teachers lead field trips

An important factor in Google Expeditions is not just the exotic field trips students can go on, but that teachers are taking them there.

Standing in front of the class on demonstration day, teachers had control of what students were seeing through their viewing devices. The teachers paused the program through their tablets at various times, discussing the subject at hand and eliciting input.

The teacher's master image of the virtual field trip also included tiny emoji faces showing exactly where each student was looking on the image.

In sixth-grade social studies, teacher Samantha Toljanic told students how the Google photography team was able to get so close to the gorilla.

"It took them three hours to walk to this location," Toljanic said.

In another class, a virtual field trip allowed the teacher to guide students in a discussion about elephants and how they are hunted just for their tusks.

"Expeditions is a virtual reality platform built for the classroom," Google said. "We worked with teachers and content partners from around the world to create more than 100 engaging journeys."

Linzer said his school's fifth-grade social studies class is studying the first people who came to Antarctica. On the day of the demonstration, he said, they were able to take a virtual field trip to augment what they were learning.

"Through virtual reality, the kids can actually go there," he said. "That's the potential of this program."

The Hillel Torah educators see the Google app as having the highest potential for what technology can achieve in a school setting.

"A lot of developers are creating the same kind of apps these days," Burke said. "There's a lot of zombie-killing apps and things like that. There's not a whole lot of educational content. What's so cool about this is that Google has created all of these virtual field trips. Kids will never forget what they see when they go on them."

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# Out-of-district family ordered to pay \$12,731 to District 64

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

A family will have to pay more than \$12,700 to Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 after an investigation allegedly found their children were attending school in the district unlawfully.

The Board of Education on Nov. 30 unanimously approved a motion declaring that the two children were not legal residents of District 64 and that the family must pay tuition for each day the children attended school during the fall 2015 term.

That tuition was assessed at \$78.59 per day per child, for a total of \$12,731.58, according to the motion that was read.

The school board discussed the matter entirely in closed session before the

vote. The children were not identified by the district.

District 64 Superintendent Laurie Heinz said this is the first family to be assessed a tuition charge since the district adopted a new residency re-verification process in February. The board's action required that residency be verified by all students before the start of the 2015-16 school year.

Heinz said a private investigator is used if district officials believe a student is not living in the district and, in this particular case, a hearing officer was called upon to make a residency determination. It was determined that the children lived in Des Plaines, Heinz said.

The cost of hiring a private investigator and hearing officer is borne by the

district and not included in the tuition assessment, Heinz said. For this case, the investigator cost the district \$5,522.50 and the hearing officer cost an additional \$900, she said.

Heinz said the children, who were found to live outside the district, cannot return to District 64 schools even if their families agree to pay a tuition charge for the remainder of the school year.

"We have a board policy that says you're not allowed to attend District 64 schools if you are a non-resident," she explained. "Some districts allow families to pay out-of-district tuition, but our board policy does not allow for that."

In September, Heinz told the board that seven to eight residency cases were under



JENNIFER JOHNSON/PIONEER PRESS

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 headquarters, 164 S. Prospect Ave.

examination by the district.

A verification checklist provided to parents by the district indicates that documentation is required to prove the family physically resides at the home that is on file. Such documentation includes paid property tax bills with a home-

owner's exemption stated, a signed lease agreement, a notarized letter of residence from a landlord with proof of the most recent rent payment, a new homeowners HUD statement or a Section 8 housing letter. Families must also provide two of the following: the

most recent cable or telephone bill, gas or electric bill, water bill, homeowners or renter's insurance policy, bank or credit card statement and Medicaid or LINK card.

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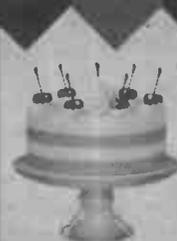
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# Food for the soul | Park Ridge church provides meals, friendship for needy

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

As the guests start to arrive, Heather O'Reilly greets them like friends, calling many by name.

For some, there are hugs; for others, there is joking, laughter and small talk about the day.

O'Reilly, and the other volunteers who staff Sunday Suppers at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Park Ridge, admit they know very little about the regulars who gather with them each week for a free, hot meal.

"There are no questions asked," said Janet Hoiberg, another regular volunteer who coordinates the church and civic groups that donate the meals. "Just come and enjoy."

This "no questions" policy helps guests feel comfortable about coming to the dinners, volunteers believe.

"You try to make this a highlight of their week," O'Reilly said as preparations took place Nov. 1 for a dinner of roast pork, potatoes, peas and carrots, bread and salad provided by parishioners of Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Niles.

Blue tablecloths, autumn flowers and handwritten notes with uplifting messages ("Gather here with thankful hearts," read some) covered tables in the church's Henderson Hall, which hosted about 70 guests that night.

Sunday Suppers were started by the Park Ridge Ministerial Association in 2009 following community backlash against a proposed weekly homeless shelter in the city. The meals were originally served at St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church — where the Public Action to Deliver Shelter site was to have been located — but moved two years ago to St. Luke's at 205 N. Prospect Ave.

The suppers were open "to anyone in need of a meal," organizers said at the time, and that philosophy still stands today. No one has to prove economic hardship or be homeless to receive a free meal, offered every Sunday night at 6 p.m. from Labor Day weekend through Memorial Day weekend. Residency in Park Ridge is also not required.

The guests who come, said Cindy Nommensen, another St.



JENNIFER JOHNSON/PIONEER PRESS

Volunteers from Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Niles make salads for a Nov. 1 Sunday Supper at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Park Ridge.

Luke's volunteer, are "people who need food, but who also need companionship and fellowship. Some are friends; they know other people. Some are in more severe need than others. I think some are hungry. And a couple may be homeless, but we don't know for sure."

"You'll find there are proportionally more older people on fixed incomes, and there are also a significant number of men who come," Hoiberg said, explaining that many are probably widowers just looking for someone to prepare a meal for them.

"What we've observed over time is this becomes their community," Hoiberg said. "People tend to sit together week after week and check in with another."

"They care a lot about each other," O'Reilly added. "They'll point out to us if someone is not around."

Dee Hardesty, a senior who lives in Park Ridge, said she began coming to Sunday Suppers after hearing about them through a posting at the Maine Township Town Hall. The weekly meals serve not only an economic need, but a social one as well, she said.

"I don't have anything but a hot plate and it's hard to cook," she acknowledged during the Nov. 1 meal. "I'm not exactly homeless, but that's the next step."

Hardesty said she, too, tries to give back. Receiving nutritional assistance from food pantries, Hardesty said she donates to other pantries the canned goods that she is given but cannot use. This way, she said, they can go to someone else in need.

"Every little bit helps," she said. Lee Duet, of Chicago, said his neighbors told him about Sunday Suppers after his wife passed away. He has been coming for several months.

"It's a nice social thing," he said. "I'm a widower, I live by myself. I do have family, but everybody is working. All these people are strangers, and yet it's a nice thing because it's very social. You talk to them about things you wouldn't talk to your family about."

"I've got friends over here, camaraderie and nice, home meals," said John Gora, also of Chicago.

The dinners also draw families with small children, though they make up a relatively small number

of the guests, said St. Luke's volunteer Carolyn Callahan. But those who do come make an impact.

"I said to my son, 'I can't imagine you going hungry,'" Callahan said. "I think when people bring their kids here, they really do need the food."

For volunteer Patty Gomez of Our Lady of Ransom Church, one moment stood out: a mother of four children who was grateful to receive leftover milk after a supper earlier this year.

"When she runs out of food stamps, they have to wait until they can get milk," Gomez said, explaining that the family's government food assistance had been cut, which led them to Sunday Suppers. "So this was extra-special for them, because they were able to have a meal and then she had extra milk to take home with her. ... She was so happy. She said, 'I can give them breakfast tomorrow.'"

Sometimes, Hoiberg said, making a difference doesn't even involve food.

"Heather gave a man a hug and he stepped back in tears. She asked what was wrong and he said, 'My wife died 15 years ago and that's

the first hug I've gotten since then,'" Hoiberg shared.

"We don't know the effect (we have)," Nommensen added. "It's like Jesus said, 'If you do it for the least of these, you do it for me.'"

More than 20 churches and organizations from Park Ridge, Chicago's Northwest Side and a few other suburbs help serve meals throughout the year, according to St. Luke's website. Some volunteers cook their own meals, other raise money to buy catered foods, and Whole Foods provides loaves of bread, volunteers say. Any leftover food from the night is distributed to the guests.

"It is always good to remind ourselves that we are called to serve one another in any way we can," said the Rev. Mark Augustine, who helped serve the Nov. 1 meal with parishioners. "Feeding the hungry is one of the great ways we can give of ourselves, give of our time and talent to help others."

Those interested in volunteering for the 2015-16 season can go to [www.stlukespr.org/Sunday-night-supper](http://www.stlukespr.org/Sunday-night-supper).

# It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

Santa Claus made another early visit to Park Ridge during the city's annual Winterfest last week.

The 2015 festival brought crowds to the city's Uptown and South Park neighborhoods for live music and carolers, Christmas lights, visits with Santa, trolley rides and treats from local businesses.

The event also launched the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce's Elf on a Shelf contest.

Twinkle, the Chamber's toy elf, is appearing inside Park Ridge businesses through Dec. 19 — and moving to a new location each day. The Chamber is inviting the public to take a picture with Twinkle and post where she was found on the Shop Park Ridge Facebook page in order to be entered into a drawing for a \$100 Chamber gift certificate.

Daily clues about Twinkle's location can be found on the Shop Park Ridge web page.

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PATRICK GORSKI/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Christmas lights are on outside the Park Ridge Public Library on Nov. 27 during the city's annual Winterfest event.

## Holiday Worship

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**Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve:**

Early Evening Masses at 3:00 and 5:00 p.m.

11:00 p.m. Solemn Mass of Christmas

{Preceded by a special program at 10:30 p.m.}



**Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Christmas Day**

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**Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

Thursday, Vigil Mass at 5 p.m.

Friday Masses 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

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5pm Family Service featuring a special children's message

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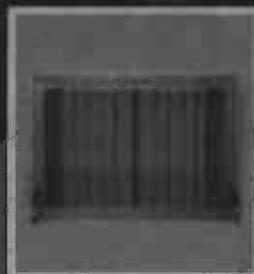
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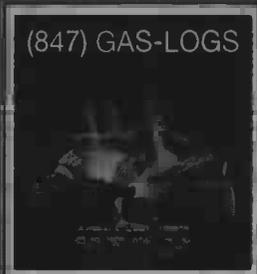
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## NEWS



CHRIS CHRISTO/AP

In this Nov. 18 photo, Katje O'Connor and Marcus Ohanesian pose in their apartment that they list on Airbnb in Worcester, Mass. Ohanesian and O'Connor list their apartment on Airbnb.

## Lincolnwood's Plan Commission talks potential Airbnb regulations

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

Lincolnwood's Plan Commission is weighing whether the village should impose regulations on short term rentals, which have grown in number during recent years since Airbnb launched its popular service that lets homeowners rent out their properties for as little as a day at a time.

Airbnb and other similar short-term rental services like Vacation Rentals by Owner first got their footing in urban areas when they were launched a few years ago, but the trend is now moving into the suburbs, prompting municipalities to react in some cases.

Lincolnwood is the latest town to consider a zoning ordinance change that would regulate short-term rentals in an effort to keep transitory renters out of its neighborhoods.

Under a proposal that was moved forward by the plan commission on Dec. 2, the village would ban all property rentals offered to guests for less than 30 days. "We're trying to protect our residents by guarding against that very short-

term time frame because it can be destructive to the neighborhood, said Paul Eisterhold, chair of the Plan Commission. "The whole point is to stop people from using Airbnb — it's not a bad thing, but we don't want different people coming in and staying for just a week."

Other municipalities in the Chicago area, including the villages of Lincolnshire and Wilmette and the city of Evanston, have either passed or have started considering similar measures to place local regulations on short-term rentals.

In Evanston, people renting out their living spaces for a period of less than a month are required to get a license, according to the city's planning department.

Lincolnwood isn't considering a licensing requirement, however, according to Eisterhold, who said the Plan Commission decided it should be dealt with under a zoning ordinance instead of opting for what he called a more "bureaucratic process" through the village code, which regulates licensing.

Planning director for the

village of Glenview, Jeff Brady, said Glenview officials haven't considered adopting new regulations for short-term rentals because there hasn't been a threat to the peace of its neighborhoods.

"We've been monitoring the situation, but there's nothing pending in the near future," Brady said. "It might need to be addressed later on, but we don't have many issues right now."

In Lincolnwood, complaints from residents regarding Airbnb rentals have also been few, according to Eisterhold, who noted the village has, however, received several calls recently about one home that has been rented out on Saturday nights for parties.

"Right now, there's not a lot we can do to regulate disruptive rentals," he said. "We're not in the same sphere as resort towns, or in the same category as downtown Chicago — we're kind of on the periphery."

The Plan Commission will continue its review of the proposed ordinance at its January meeting.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

# Workers at 2 Coca-Cola plants go on strike

BY ALEXIA  
ELEJALDE-RUIZ  
Chicago Tribune

Coca-Cola workers at two Chicago-area production plants went on strike Dec. 3 to protest unfair labor practices including stall tactics and intimidation as they try to hash out a new contract with the beverage giant.

"They haven't given us any respect," said Carl Maxwell, a nine-year veteran of the company who was among about three dozen workers waving picket signs as the sun rose outside Coke's facility in Niles. "We don't want to be here, but we have no choice."

Teamsters Local 727, which represents 319 production and warehouse workers at Coca-Cola plants in Niles and Alsip, has negotiated with Atlanta-based Coca-Cola Refreshments

since October for a new three-year contract in which the union seeks improvements in wages, health insurance, retirement benefits and scheduling practices. Their contract expired at midnight Dec. 1.

The union has encouraged workers to spend their eight-hour shifts picketing outside the plants and expects 100 picketers throughout the day in Niles and 50 to 75 in Alsip, said Will Petty, communications director for Teamsters Joint Council 25.

"We'll be here as long as it takes," Petty said. "It's up to Coca-Cola to come back with reasonable proposals."

The last time Chicago-area Coca-Cola workers went on strike was 1985, Petty said.

Coca-Cola said in a statement that it is "prepared to continue production and de-

liver our quality products to our customers and consumers throughout the region." It has contingency plans in case of a work stoppage that include using its existing workforce to ensure its production lines operate at both facilities.

Union members had authorized an unfair labor practices strike to begin after the contract expired but the union agreed to a one-day delay at Coca-Cola's request to continue bargaining.

Maxwell, who works at the Niles plant prepping Coke's vending machines and is a member of the bargaining team, said proposals the company put on the table Dec. 2 were "insulting." Proposed pay raises would be offset by increases in health insurance costs, he said.

"We're just asking for our fair share of the pie," Max-

well said. "Get us in the middle class, and we'll keep helping you make your billions."

Maxwell declined to say how much he earns, but members of Local 727 make, on average, \$12-19 an hour, Petty said.

"Everything on the planet goes up: eggs, milk, Cook County taxes; you can't go anywhere and park for less than a quarter every five minutes," said Charles James, who supplies Coke products to ballparks and fast-food restaurants and has worked for the company for 21 years. "Everything is going up but what we make."

Coca-Cola, which reported 2014 revenue of \$45.93 billion and net income of \$7.1 billion, said it presented a proposal Wednesday that included pay increases every year, new signing bonuses, a

health care package with more plan choices and additional contributions to retirement plans.

"It is unfortunate that the union's leadership abruptly left the discussion and chose not to continue to work toward an agreement," a spokesperson said in a statement Dec. 2. "We were ready to work as long as it took to find a solution."

"The union leadership chose misleading rhetoric and false attacks instead of finding common ground. We hope to reach a resolution in the near future and will continue to negotiate in good faith with the union leadership."

Coke added that it has reached out to a federal mediator for help.

Petty, who said the union has met with Coke 12 times since Oct. 28, said "they've already had so much time."

Teamsters Local 727 filed charges with the National Labor Relations Board last week, alleging Coke engaged in bad-faith "surface" bargaining and that managers intimidated workers by walking the shop floor casually carrying baseball bats while asking how contract negotiations were going. The union also alleges the company solicited contract proposals directly from workers and refused to fulfill multiple information requests from the union.

In addition to pay and benefits, the union wants the new contract to address "mandatory overtime," Petty said. Some workers go into work not knowing if they will be instructed to stay several hours after their regular shift ends, he said.

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# Begyle Brewing Co. tap room, brewery approved

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

When a pair of bearded, industrious beer brewers in their early 30s from Chicago's North Side approached the Lincolnwood Village Board last week with plans to open a new tap room and brewery in the village, one official questioned whether a brewery has a place in a town that has no bars but plenty of seniors and single-family homes.

The Village Board on Dec. 1 approved a request from Brendan Blume and Kevin Cary, co-owners of Begyle Brewing Co., to open a 24,000-square-foot brewery and tap room at 7005 N. Central Park Ave.—in an empty building tucked inside of an industrial area known as Town Center.

Aside from the occasional visit from a food truck, the tap room won't serve food.

"I'm just wondering, in this area, is there enough of an alcohol-drinking demographic without serving food?" Trustee Larry

Elster asked during the Dec. 1 Village Board meeting.

Cary's answer managed to illicit a few chuckles from the Village Board.

"Our main demographic is 21 and up—I don't know if we could come up with an exact demographic, but we kind of appeal to all," he said. "We think it will be a destination for Lincolnwood residents as well as tourists."

After outgrowing the 4,500-square-foot warehouse that houses their brewery on a quiet residential street on the 1800 block of West Cuyler Avenue in Chicago's North Center neighborhood, Blume and Cary started searching for industrial areas with empty warehouses all over Chicago before choosing the Lincolnwood spot, they said.

Four years after Begyle brewed its first beer, the demand for its locally-made craft beers has skyrocketed, with retailers like Whole Foods, Binny's and Mariano's now selling six-packs of some of the 11 craft beers and two

ciders it produces.

The new Lincolnwood brewery, Cary said, would allow Begyle to more than triple its 1,700-barrel-a-year production rate to roughly 5,000 more barrels per year.

"So many breweries are opening up, and that makes it hard to stand out," Cary said, "but I think we underestimated the amount of beer we'd be able to sell in Chicago."

Plans for the Lincolnwood brewery show a 2,000-square-foot tap room with an outdoor patio.

The production side will include brewing, packaging, tours and private events, according to plans approved by the village.

The proposal for the brewery passed both the village's Plan Commission and the board of trustees by unanimous votes.

Begyle will next have to apply for building permits and a liquor license, according to Tim Clarke, community development director for Lincolnwood.



CHRIS WALKER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Kevin Cary, co-owner of Begyle Brewing Co., tests a batch of Tripel Stamp, a Belgian style beer, April 23, 2014, before bottling begins.

The village will also have to design a new liquor license class to accommodate a brewery, according to village attorney Steven Elrod.

Blume and Cary said they hope to open sometime next year.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

## Lincolnwood approves special-use permit for Binny's Beverage Depot

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

The Lincolnwood Village Board last week cleared hurdles for Illinois-based liquor store giant Binny's Beverage Depot to expand its chain of stores to include a new location in Lincolnwood, in the space formerly occupied by Lincolnwood Produce.

Binny's owner Michael Binstein, a native of Lincolnwood, is planning to build out a 31,000-square-foot space at 7175 N. Lincoln Avenue and open the store by spring of 2015, he said following a Dec. 1 Lincolnwood Village Board meeting.

The Vineyards of Lincolnwood, a liquor store that opened next to Lincolnwood Produce in 2014, will close under Binstein's plans for the new Binny's location, which will occupy the entire

building adjoined to CVS, including the former New Century Bank.

Village Trustees on Dec. 1 unanimously approved Binstein's request for a special-use permit and certain sign variations that will allow him to start renovating the property.

"The building won't change much from how it looks now," said Mike Pagan of Bridgeview-based Milford Company, the architect heading the project. "People who drive by won't see much of a difference."

Binny's will be the third alcohol-based retail business to be open in the village once the Vineyards of Lincolnwood closes, according to the village. Three other chain stores within Lincolnwood also sell liquor—the Walgreens on North Lincoln Avenue and the CVS store on West

Devon Avenue and the CVS next to the new Binny's.

Among the Village Board's approvals was a request from Binstein to erect a nearly 12-foot-tall wine bottle-shaped sign, which will appear along Touhy Avenue. The village's zoning code requires special permission for ground signs that exceed eight feet, according to the village.

Binstein made his case for the sign variation to the village's Plan Commission on Nov. 4 by noting the property's irregular location, which is set back from the street on a triangular piece of land bordered by North Lincoln, Kostner, and West Touhy avenues.

The Plan Commission concurred with Binstein's claim that the location of the property would make it difficult for motorists traveling westbound on Touhy

Avenue to notice the store.

Before the store opens, the village plans to install a stop sign at the driveway exit at Kostner Avenue and a "right-turn-only" sign at the other exit on Lincoln Avenue, according to the village. Binstein is also required to submit a security plan for the store to the Police Department.

The village will also have to issue a liquor permit before Binny's can start selling alcohol.

"I grew up here and it's wonderful to be home," Binstein said following the board's approval.

Although the board voiced no qualms about the store coming to the village, not everyone is pleased about the big-name liquor store chain moving to town.

Family-owned Miska's Keystone Liquors has been open for more than 20 years, according to Jay Patel, an employee of the store

in the 6400 block of North Cicero Avenue.

Patel, who said his sales started decreasing when Walgreens and CVS started selling alcohol, said he was worried Binny's would take up even more of his business. He said it's impossible for Miska's to compete with the liquor store chain because they don't buy in bulk, and therefore miss out on discounts the bigger stores get when they buy more product from distributors.

"Everyone wants a cheaper price—I've heard it a lot before, and I'm afraid sales are going to go down for the smaller store," Patel said. "(Binny's) has more space to stock shelves, and the more they buy, the cheaper they get it for—they do 10 cases, I'm doing two."

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

# Heroin a growing problem in suburban Chicago



RANDY BLASER

When the police chief of a leafy, idyllic suburb like Northbrook stands up and says heroin use is a significant driving factor behind crimes in the suburbs, it might be wise to listen.

Northbrook Police Chief Paul Wernick made the pronouncement at a forum on heroin use at the North Suburban YMCA Nov. 17. At the forum, he said 44 crime reports committed in Northbrook since 2013 included the word "heroin."

Wernick said most of the Northbrook crime is shoplifting, and most of those crimes are committed by junkies, according to a recent Pioneer Press report. But he added that heroin use leads to more serious crimes.

It's a lesson I learned early as a young reporter. One of the first violent crimes I covered as a reporter was the murder of

**A study found that 15.7 percent of people arrested in Cook County reported using heroin within three days of their arrest.**

an 80-year-old Berwyn man on Halloween night who was the grandfather of our paper's lone photographer.

Grandpa liked to go to bed early. In order to not be disturbed by trick-or-treaters throughout the night, he decided to shut out all the lights and make it look like no one was home.

Tragically, an empty home was just the thing two junkies were looking for. As the police later told me, they needed money to feed their habit, and wanted an easy burglary, some place they could get in and out of fast with a TV and other items they could sell on the street.

So they picked grandpa's home. He heard a noise, went to investigate and



IRV LEAVITT/PIONEER PRESS

Northbrook Police Chief Chuck Wernick talks about heroin addiction Nov. 17 at a North Suburban YMCA presentation.

surprised the junkies who were there to rob him.

A struggle ensued. One of the burglars picked up a lamp and hit the old man on the head, crushing his skull and killing him.

But crime is just the

symptom of a growing problem in the region, a problem that needs to be acknowledged and then addressed.

A Roosevelt University study cited in the recent story found that 15.7 per-

cent of people arrested in Cook County reported using heroin within three days of their arrest.

Those users need to get into readily available health programs to get off the junk. But treatment is hard,

long and prone to failure.

Like the user, we need to acknowledge that it is a growing problem here in the suburbs.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

# Columnists don't eavesdrop, they observe



PAUL SASSONE

You probably call it eavesdropping.

I'm a newspaper columnist, so I get to call it research.

You know what I mean — listening to the conversations of complete strangers in a public place.

This used to be consid-

ered — and still may be by many — bad manners and rude.

But I don't eavesdrop. Eavesdropping is creepy. I am a columnist. I observe. I people watch to learn about human nature, which makes me a better columnist.

What is it I observe? Hard to say completely because I almost never hear a complete conversation.

What I get are tantalizing bits and pieces, much like the Gene Hackman character hears in the clas-

sic movie, "The Conversation," though without the deadly results, at least up until now.

People argue, boast, coo, complain about family members, cut up friends, condemn their boss, mock politicians and slap their kids.

Observing people has become almost too easy in recent years with the ubiquity of cellphones.

It's as if everyone wants you to know what they are saying, thinking and doing.

This really screws up

people watching.

People watching is watching people when they don't think they are being watched, and therefore are their real selves really living and doing.

Cellphone behavior is public performance. It's people through loud public talking trying to create an image or impression of themselves in the minds of strangers. Maybe this public performance has morphed into real life, which is a chilling thought. But there still can be

edifying people watching.

At the grocery store two days before Thanksgiving, I overheard one woman tell another she had invited her adult children over for a turkey dinner on Thanksgiving.

The kids, she said, hemmed and hawed.

"OK, I said to them we won't have turkey. We'll have steak. We'll have 'steaksgiving,'" she told her friend. Her kids accepted pronto.

Other than witnessing the birth of a new holiday,

though, I am not sure what I learned about the human condition, other than I am not the only person who doesn't like turkey, and that even a mother's love can use an assist from a good cut of beef.

But that's the chance you take when you pursue the calling of observer of human nature.

The non-creepy kind of observing, I mean.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

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## OPINION

SCOTT STANTIS



SCOTT STANTIS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Thanks to those who made movie night 'Wonderful'

The Park Ridge Community Fund benefit of the annual Christmas movie "It's a Wonderful Life," which was sponsored by Liberty Bank, had record attendance yesterday.

Thank you to Liberty Bank for sponsoring the movie and donating an Apple iPad Air as the grand raffle prize. The second prize in the raffle was a \$100 VISA gift card plus lunch, donated by The Summit of Uptown with much appreciation. And the final prize, donated by Barton Marketing Group, were two tickets to Star Wars on Dec. 17 (the night before the premiere), plus a

\$40 Pickwick Theatre gift card. Thank you to all three organizations for their generous contributions to this benefit for the Park Ridge Community Fund.

Between the donations received at the door and the raffle ticket sales, the PRCF cleared over \$4,000.

Since 1958, the Park Ridge Community Fund has been the easiest way to help neighbors of all ages and with a wide array of critical needs, right here at home. The Park Ridge Community Fund is here to assess the needs of our community, and then raise and allocate funds to help meet those needs. Volun-

teers — who live or work in Park Ridge — control all aspects of PRCF's activities. With one convenient gift to PRCF, you help nearly two dozen service organizations and care providers make life better, neighbor to neighbor.

For more information, contact the Park Ridge Community Fund at [PRCommunityFund.org](http://PRCommunityFund.org), [info@prcommunityfund.org](mailto:info@prcommunityfund.org), or call 847-825-5311. Donations can be made securely online at the website.

Gail Haller  
Executive Director, Park Ridge Community Fund

### 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).

# 'Shark Tank,' U. of I. coaching version



ERIC SCOTT

Fortunately for the University of Illinois, appearing on the hit TV show "Shark Tank" is not required for hiring a head football coach. But based on recent events, here's how this week's episode might go if that was the case. Illini Nation, it's best to keep the sharp objects away before continuing.

**OPENING SCENE:** An energetic, hoarse-voiced man wearing a sun visor (even though we're indoors) walks into a TV studio where two sharks sit. One represents the University of Illinois and the other the University of Southern California.

**COACH:** Hello sharks, I am a long-time assistant coach with years of experience in big time programs. I was recently promoted as interim head coach under some really chaotic circumstances and I'd like to hold onto this highly coveted gig.

I could be Bill Cubit, the guy one of you named interim head coach after dumping your previous coach only a week before the season started.

I could also be Clay Helton, the guy one of you named interim head coach after dismissing your previous coach midseason. Whoever I am, I proved that I could notch some impressive wins when even our most die-hard fans thought we should throw in the towel and redshirt the entire team. I am asking for a 100 percent investment in me as your permanent (unless Notre Dame or the NFL calls) head coach.

**SHARK 1 (USC):** Excel-



ANTHONY SOUFFLE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bill Cubit gives a hug to Fighting Illini running back Josh Ferguson before a game between Northwestern and Illinois on Nov. 28 at Soldier Field.

lent presentation coach, and OK if I call you Clay? We want you to know that we really respect what you've done and we want you to lead our program into the future.

Our athletic director will offer you a guaranteed five-year contract and will promote your hiring among our fans, boosters, recruits and everyone else by releasing a statement saying, "After weeks of searching the collegiate and pro ranks, interviewing candidates and speaking with head coaches, athletic directors, NFL executives, and very knowledgeable football people... it became abundantly clear that what we were searching for in a coach was right here in front of us."

**SHARK 2 (U. of I.):** Wait until you hear this, Bill. Is it OK if I call you Bill, at least temporarily?

As the representative of our interim chancellor who oversaw the midseason booting of our athletic director who hired, investigated and fired the football coach who brought you into the program, I've got a deal for you that'll knock the wind out of your sails — if state budget cuts haven't forced us to take back that interim boat we

might have promised you.

We'll offer you a two-year deal that our new AD will have to inherit and will make it virtually impossible for you to woo any blue chip recruits who will have no idea if you'll be around when they finish up sophomore year.

You see, we need a new AD because our interim newbie likes to fire up our fan base by telling the Chicago Tribune highly motivational things such as "it would be best for a permanent AD to make a decision of their choosing, whether it's Bill or someone else. This will get us to where we need to be to make this decision. Obviously, it's not ideal. For now, I don't think it will put a dagger in the heart of the program."

C'mon Bill, you're our Cinderella story, at least until we find a new athletics boss who hopefully likes pumpkin orange as much as you do.

**COACH:** Actually, I think I'd look better in USC Trojan red. Oh and Illinois, as one of the usual sharks on this show likes to say — you're dead to me!

*Eric Scott is a freelance writer for the Pioneer Press.*

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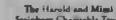
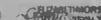
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# Keeping track of kids in the cast

Child supervisors handle young performers' loose teeth, stage fright and backstage homework

BY DOROTHY ANDRIES  
Pioneer Press

Children are a common sight on theatre and dance stages this time of year. The Joffrey Ballet alone has 120 young dancers in its holiday production of "The Nutcracker."

And along with children comes the role of the young performer supervisor, an adult tasked with looking after all the young people in the show. Actors Equity rules require that the supervisor have no other job or performance duties in the show, said Maria Somma, Equity's national director of communications.

"Their whole task is to make sure the children are where they should be, whether on the stage or out of the way backstage, so that they are not getting in the way of people coming and going in the wings," Somma said.

The good young performer supervisor can establish a bond with the children. "They see her the first day of rehearsal and she is with them through the whole production," Somma concluded. "I've seen children hugging their supervisors. Their work is definitely an integral part of the production."

With that in mind, we spoke to some of the young performer supervisors about the role they play.

## 'ELF,' MARRIOTT LINCOLNSHIRE

There are four children in Marriott Lincolnshire Theatre's production of the musical "Elf," and Adrienne Bader is in the role of the show's young performer supervisor.

"We used to be called child wranglers," Bader said, laughing. "The nomenclature has changed, but that's really what we do. We keep track of the kids in the show."

Keeping track, though, doesn't begin to describe the supervisors' duties. "We have to make sure the children get their rehearsal breaks," she explained, "that they are not taken advantage of, that

they have some snacks. And we have to make sure they do their homework."

She paused, then added, "It's more like being a mom, a nanny." Indeed her litany of little woes is decidedly domestic. "Teeth fall out, kids get bloody noses," she said. "Occasionally there are tears, but we handle it."

Bader, a graduate of Northwestern University's Department of Theatre, has worked backstage with numerous theaters, including as a child supervisor on "The King and I" at Marriott; "The Little Mermaid" at Chicago Shakespeare Theater; and "Les Miserables" and "Billy Elliot," both at Drury Lane Oakbrook.

"There aren't a lot of people in Chicago who do this," Bader said. "I enjoy being backstage and I enjoy being with the kids."

## 'A CHRISTMAS STORY,' PARAMOUNT THEATRE IN AURORA

Carlee Beth Fields is one of two women supervising 13 children in "A Christmas Story — The Musical," on stage through Jan. 3 at Paramount Theatre.

Fields, who has been a child supervisor for less than a year, majored in Spanish and theater at North Central College in Naperville. After spending some time as an au pair in Spain, she supervised six children in Paramount's "Les Miserables." "We did a lot of drawing during breaks," she said. "At one point we completely ran out of paper."

After that, she was a substitute supervisor on "Billy Elliot" and "Beaches" at Drury Lane. "Children are not as difficult as you might think," Fields said. "They actually support each other on stage."

Sharing child supervision duties with Fields is Somer Benson, who is working at the Paramount for the first time. She called child supervising "a marriage of my love of acting and my love of children."

Before each performance, Benson gathers the kids into a "pow-pow circle" to "help them



THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE

The cast of "A Christmas Story" at the Paramount Theatre in Aurora includes 13 children from ages 8 to 14.

focus, get a sense of purpose." "They have to sing and dance and act. That's a lot for a child, but when they are on stage, but they are so joyful," she said. "I say to their parents, Hug your kids tonight, because they are making magic happen."

In case either child supervisor has a question, company manager Kaylee Oost, who started her career as a child supervisor in 2011, will be there with answers.

Oost's most nanny-like episode took place at Drury Lane when she was supervising 22 children in "Oliver!" "One boy lost a tooth on stage," she said. "I was in the wings and he threw it into my hand!"

## 'A CHRISTMAS CAROL,' GOODMAN THEATRE IN CHICAGO

Maggie Ward is making her debut as a young performer supervisor in "A Christmas Carol" at Goodman, where she brings her experience as a director and instructor at children's theatre, a summer drama camp instructor and children's choir director.

Working with children can be unpredictable, she said. The other day, she heard the boy playing

Tiny Tim calling for her from the dressing room. "I came in, and he had fallen backwards into the round laundry basket and was stuck with his arms and legs sticking out," she said.

Ward clearly enjoys being with the young cast members. "The boys really love learning and performing magic tricks," she said. "I bought a couple packs of cards at the beginning of the rehearsal process, and they now have a whole slew of tricks that they show to the other cast and crew members."

Maintaining an even keel is mandatory for the role. "It is so important to stay cool, especially because the kids look to you to see how you're reacting to something," she concluded.

## 'THE NUTCRACKER,' JOFFREY BALLET OF CHICAGO

Ballerina Suzanne Lopez, who retired after 20 years as a Joffrey dancer, now teaches at the Joffrey Academy and for the first time is serving as the company's children's ballet master.

About 120 young dancers were chosen for the Joffrey's "Nutcracker," and the company has special rules for children. "We



MARRIOTT THEATRE

Young performers supervisor Adrienne Bader with three of the kids cast in Marriott Theatre's "Elf." (From left) Emily Zimmerman of Highland Park, Will Anderson of Libertyville and Isabelle Roberts of Glencoe.

rehearse by roles," Lopez said, "and a rehearsal with our children is never more than two hours. We don't want them to get tired."

But the experience is priceless, Lopez said. "I was in different 'Nutcracker' productions since I was seven," she said. "Every dancer has his or her own Nutcracker story. We all remember our first encounter with it so vividly."

## DANCE

# 'Nutcracker' dances onto North Shore Center stage

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

Dancing the role of Clara in "The Nutcracker" is the dream of most young ballerinas. That dream is coming true for Ingrid Pearson of Glen Ellyn and Audrey Giltner of Hinsdale. The two share that role in Salt Creek Ballet's production, with performances Dec. 12 and 13 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie.

Ingrid, an 11-year-old sixth-grader at Wheaton Christian Grammar School, said that when she learned she would play Clara, "I actually started crying."

Ingrid has been studying dance for five years — the last two at Salt Creek Ballet.

She noted that the role of Clara involves "a lot of dancing, but it's also a lot of acting, so you have to have both of those strengths to make it look good."

The young dancer described the ballet as "so joyful — a perfect dream."

Twelve-year-old Audrey, a seventh-grader at Clarendon Hills Middle School, said that when she was chosen to play Clara, "I was so excited because it's been a dream of mine since I was 2. My family always takes me to see it."

Audrey has been studying dance since she was 3. This is her fifth year in Salt Creek's "Nutcracker" and her first as Clara.

The role is enjoyable for Audrey. "The little girls always look up to you and it's fun to inspire them to be a better dancer," she said.

Salt Creek Ballet's Executive Director Christina Salerno of Clarendon Hills appeared in five Salt Creek "Nutcrackers" when she was a child. "I never did the dancing role of Clara, and it was something I always wished I had done," Salerno said. "But I ended up



KEITH GERLING PHOTO

The Mirlltons in Salt Creek Ballet's production of "The Nutcracker."

## Salt Creek Ballet presents 'The Nutcracker'

**When:** 1 and 5 p.m.  
Dec. 12 and 13

**Where:** North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie

**Tickets:** \$20-\$42

**Contact:** 800-514-3849;  
www.northshorecenter.org;  
www.saltcreekballet.org



SARAH MILLS PHOTOGRAPHY

Vivian Sweeney dances the role of a mouse.

being a professional dancer and doing the role of the Sugar Plum Fairy."

A scholarship student at the San Francisco Ballet School, Salerno had a 15-year professional dance career, performing with the Boston Ballet, Zurich Ballet and Royal Ballet in London before returning to Salt Creek in an administrative position in 2008.

A "Nutcracker" family tradition is emerging. Salerno's daughter Vivian Sweeney, 9, and her son Quentin Sweeney, 6, are both performing in this year's production.

For her second year in

"The Nutcracker," Vivian is dancing the roles of a Mouse and a Bon Bon.

Dancing in the show "is a lot of fun," Vivian said. "You don't really notice that everyone's staring at you. You just feel like you're acting the part."

Quentin, a first-grader is appearing in the show for the first time. "I'm going to be the boy that falls asleep at the end," he explained.

Salerno praised Salt Creek Ballet's "Nutcracker" as "a really top-level performance and we get some international stars for leading guest roles. I also think our sets and costumes are amazing."

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APR 8

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-Steven Wright



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## GO

### MUSIC

# Singers get a kick out of honoring Frank Sinatra

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

The impresario of anniversaries is at it again. Daryl Nitz celebrated Billie Holiday's centennial, Elaine Stritch's 90th and John Lennon's 75th at the Skokie Theatre with shows that featured some of Chicago's top cabaret artists. Nitz's next extravaganza, on Dec. 18, is "It Was A Very Good Year: a centennial birthday concert for Frank Sinatra." It's a reprise of a show that was a big hit at the theater in June, with a slightly different cast.

The impressive lineup of cabaret performers includes Mark Madsen, Bob Moreen, Daryl Nitz, Bob Solone and Denise Tomasello, with musical direction by Johnny Rodgers.

"Sinatra is representative of the American Songbook because he not only championed the old songs, he looked for composers that he could help along the way," Nitz said. In creating this show, "I went with the songs he recorded the most."

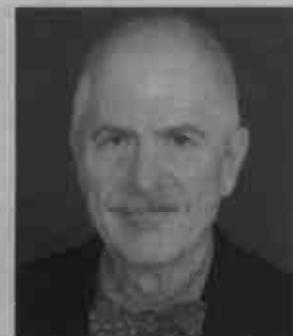
"He probably had more influence on popular music than anybody else in this century," said Bob Moreen, a lifelong Sinatra fan. "Without him, the world would have been very different as far as pop music is concerned."

Moreen will primarily perform music from the 1950s, including "Love and Marriage," "The Tender Trap," "Young at Heart" and "You Make Me Feel So Young."

Buffalo Grove resident Denise Tomasello has a special connection to the Sinatra legend — she dated Frank Sinatra Jr. in the early '90s and they remain friends. Tomasello has also had a long-time connection to the music.



Daryl Nitz



Bob Moreen

## 'It Was a Very Good Year: A Centennial Birthday Concert for Frank Sinatra'

When: 8 p.m. Dec. 18

Where: Skokie Theatre,  
7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie

Tickets: \$28

Contact: 847-677-7761;  
www.skokie theatre.com



Denise Tomasello



Johnny Rodgers

"My mother and father had all the Frank Sinatra albums and I grew up with that music," Tomasello said. "He stands out more than any other entertainer. He was a phenomenal talent."

Tomasello will sing, "Witchcraft," "I Get a Kick Out of You" and "Nice and Easy."

"I love paying tribute to Frank Sinatra. He embodies the American Songbook," Johnny Rodgers said. "I can't think of a singer in the world who hasn't been influenced by him in some way."

Rodgers also has an indirect but strong connection with Sinatra. "I feel like the luckiest guy in the world because I got to tour and train with Liza Minnelli for many years," the singer/pianist related. "And Liza did a concert with

Sammy Davis Jr. and the man that she reverently called Uncle Frank. They toured with that. To be taken under the wings of someone who's a part of that lineage of show business is one of the greatest blessings I ever had in my life."

Rodgers will perform "The Best is Yet to Come" plus several other numbers. "I don't want to ruin the surprise," he said playfully.

Nitz's selections will include "Luck Be a Lady" and "The Lady is a Tramp."

# fitness! FIRST!

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www.SkokieParks.org

GO

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A Chicago Tribune Publication | Thursday, December 10, 2015 NHS



NILES PARK DISTRICT

Parents can take advantage of great photo ops at Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 12 at Howard Leisure Center's Banquet Room, 6676 W. Howard St., Niles.

### FAMILY FRIENDLY

## Santa and his sleigh come to breakfast in Niles

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

The jolly guy in red is going to be even rounder after attending Breakfast with Santa, Saturday, Dec. 12 at Howard Leisure Center's Banquet Room, 6676 W. Howard St., Niles. He will be greeting guests and taking requests during three seatings — 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

"Each one is an hour. It's for kids and families up to third grade," said Julie Jentel, director of marketing for Niles Park District. "We'll do breakfast and a craft. There's a free picture with Santa in his sleigh. We have a Christmas fairy that walks around." The sleigh is a new addition this year.

The breakfast buffet will include pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausages, fruit and hash browns, plus beverages. Each child will have a chance to speak with Santa and pose with him.

"It's a good kickoff to the holiday season," Jentel said.

The cost is \$10 per resident; \$12 per nonresident. Register early because

spaces fill quickly.

For details, call 847-967-6633 or go to [www.niles-parks.org](http://www.niles-parks.org).

### It's a toss up

Juggler Jason Kollum will entertain families at Temple Beth Israel's Hanukkah Party, 11:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m. Dec. 13 at 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie. Lunch and the performance is \$5 per child; \$10 per adult. The charge without lunch is \$5 per person. Reservations are required.

For details, call 847-675-0951 or go to [www.tbiskokie.org](http://www.tbiskokie.org).

### Class act

You and your kids will dance along with Dancing with Class during a Second Sunday Family Program: Dance Around the World! 2-2:45 p.m. Dec. 13 at Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St. Pick up free tickets in KidSpace starting at 1:30 p.m. that day.

For details, call 847-663-1234 or go to [www.nileslibrary.org](http://www.nileslibrary.org).

### All aboard

Make your reservations now for a fabulous family experience with the Interactive Polar Express, 7-9 p.m. Dec. 18 at Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Kids are encouraged to wear pajamas to this event for pre-kindergartners through fifth-graders and their families.

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

### Answer for curious kids

Families are invited to meet actress Amanda Peet and Andrea Troyer, co-authors of "Dear Santa, Love, Rachel Rosenstein," 4 p.m. Dec. 11 at Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. Peet wrote the book in response to questions that her kids — who are being raised as Jewish — had about Christmas. The authors will autograph copies of the book.

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

## December Specials!



Raw Pecans (Halves or Pieces) \$8.99/lb	Walnut (Halves & Pieces or Chopped) \$4.99/lb
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Double Dipped Chocolate Peanuts \$3.49/lb	Dried Apricots \$4.99/lb
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## COMPUTER STUDENTS CELEBRATE DIVERSITY



H. B. ZHAO/COMPUTER SYSTEMS INSTITUTE

Students from Algeria performed a dance from their country that was part traditional but also included techniques of modern Arabic performance at the International Student Festival hosted by Computer Systems Institute, Skokie, at the DoubleTree Hotel, Skokie, on Oct. 31. Students from the school's Skokie, Chicago and Lombard campuses came out to celebrate the many cultures they represent. Visit [www.csinow.edu](http://www.csinow.edu).

## GALA RAISES \$33K FOR REMBRANDT CHAMBER PLAYERS



LEE A. LITAS/PIONEER PRESS

John O'Kieffe of Skokie, from left, Charles "Jack" O'Kieffe of Evanston, board member, and Patsy O'Kieffe of Skokie were among 82 supporters at the 2015 Rembrandt Chamber Players gala at the at the Sunset Ridge Country Club in Northfield on Nov. 8. The event, which honored Ann Sherby Cole for her decade-long dedication to the organization, raised more than \$33,000 for the Rembrandt Chamber Players. See more at [rembrandtchamberplayers.org](http://rembrandtchamberplayers.org).



PARK RIDGE CHORALE PHOTOS

Adrienne Dimopoulos of Park Ridge, left, and Rhet O'Neill, Des Plaines, performing at the Park Ridge Chorale's "Come to the Cabaret" fundraiser.

## Park Ridge Chorale's 'Cabaret' raises more than \$2,000

The Park Ridge Chorale raised \$2,000 at its first-ever fundraiser held Nov. 7 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church.

**Event:** 'Come to the Cabaret'

**Benefiting:** The Park Ridge Chorale

**Location:** St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Park Ridge

**Date:** Nov. 7

**Attended:** 100+

**Raised:** \$2,000+

**Upcoming:** "We Wish You the Merriest," holiday concert, St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 205 N. Prospect, Park Ridge, 7 p.m. Dec. 12.

**Website:** [parkridgechorale.com](http://parkridgechorale.com)



Kyle Cartwright of Park Ridge, left, and Jamie Arvizu of Skokie, perform at "Come to the Cabaret."



Julianne Arvizu of Skokie, sings during the Park Ridge Chorale's "Come to the Cabaret."

We want to publish your photos. To submit, visit <http://community.chicagotribune.com> or email [community@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:community@pioneerlocal.com).

# REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

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322 W Miner St, # 3B, Arlington Heights	Adam Blieberg	Judith Anne Sullivan	11-04-15	\$101,000
215 N Ridge Ave, # 2E, Arlington Heights	Kei Han Yeung	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	11-05-15	\$105,000
2423 N Kennicott Dr, # 4H, Arlington Heights	Michael Motzny & Cynthia Motzny	Nitash Patel	11-10-15	\$119,500
1615 E Central Rd, # 208A, Arlington Heights	Krzysztof Kullig & Wioletta Kullig	Grzegorz Niewola	11-04-15	\$138,000
1601 W Portsmith Ln, # 121, Arlington Heights	Roman Shakhnazarov & Elizabeth Koksharova	Diane J Shafer	11-05-15	\$195,000
1705 W Portsmith Ln, Arlington Heights	Kari L Lee	Gretchen E Jorbin	11-10-15	\$203,000
1673 N Courtland Dr, Arlington Heights	Laurie Kirchen	Leff Trust	11-09-15	\$228,000
2605 E Bel Aire Dr, # 2605, Arlington Heights	Christine Alspaugh	John Fisher	11-02-15	\$235,000
733 W Happfield Dr, Arlington Heights	Alex M Park & Jin H Park	Fang Bai	11-09-15	\$243,000
44 N Vall Ave, # 40B, Arlington Heights	Marion Menze & Camelia Joan Parker	Leslie J Kroll	11-05-15	\$265,000
506 N Derbyshire Ave, Arlington Heights	Ryan M Trembath & Caroline E Trembath	John A Poster	11-10-15	\$274,500
1227 S Mitchell Ave, Arlington Heights	Christopher R George & Jennifer K George	Charles Stempien	11-10-15	\$285,000
2012 N Elizabeth Dr, Arlington Heights	Heather Garrard & James Garrard	Justus Midwest Group Llc	11-10-15	\$285,000
1 S Highland Ave, # 406, Arlington Heights	Judith Sullivan	Benjamin John Von Bruenchenhein	11-02-15	\$286,500
811 N Gibbons Ave, Arlington Heights	David Lundgren & Mndi Turf	Brynn E Nordmark	11-06-15	\$316,000
77 S Evergreen Ave, # 1004, Arlington Heights	Neha B Soni & Pinakumar D Soni	Susan Offutt	11-03-15	\$333,000
606 E Lynden Ln, Arlington Heights	Paul A Kuzlich	Jennifer L Bowyer	11-09-15	\$340,000
2062 N Coldspring Rd, # 62, Arlington Heights	James P Etchingham & Mary E Etchingham	Frank J Cassidy	11-10-15	\$340,000
111 S Pine Ave, Arlington Heights	Natalie Jimenez & Lee Jimenez	Matthew Knight	11-10-15	\$362,500
207 W Plum Grove Cir, Arlington Heights	Loi N Nguyen & Stephanie Y Huynh	Susan Rappaport	11-03-15	\$370,000
36 N Lincoln Ln, Arlington Heights	Anna D Naj	M I Homes Of Chicago Llc	11-10-15	\$447,000
520 S Highland Ave, Arlington Heights	Benjamin John Von Bruenchenhein & Courtney Malone	Kjholdings Llc	11-03-15	\$498,500
3 N Lincoln Ln, Arlington Heights	Alexander Savitski & Natalie Savitski	M I Homes Of Chicago Llc	11-06-15	\$513,000
1929 Harrison St, # 3F, Evanston	Robert Abrams & Teri Abrams	Ann M O Hara	11-05-15	\$51,500
526 Michigan Ave, # 1N, Evanston	Michael Perrin & Mary Anne Perrin	Margaret A Henningsen Estate	11-05-15	\$80,000
238 Lee St, # G, Evanston	Vincent P Ziolkowski & Graham D Ziolkowski	Deutsche Bank Natl Trt Co Ttee	11-03-15	\$136,000
2229 Greenwood St, Evanston	Tynon J Arthurs	Nettie Johnson	11-05-15	\$150,000
2505 Prairie Ave, # 2K, Evanston	Sandra Tang	Katrina Klever	11-02-15	\$151,000
2752 Hampton Pkwy, # 13, Evanston	Ashlee Hoffman	Deborah S Taber	11-02-15	\$152,500
2766 Hampton Pkwy, # AA3, Evanston	Fei Yeh & Heidi Yeh	Jeffrey L Barkley	11-03-15	\$152,500
9221 Drake Ave, # 206N, Evanston	Jonathan Bloomberg & Debra Bloomberg	Champion Mortgage Co Inc	11-02-15	\$156,500
2316 Sherman Ave, # 1B, Evanston	Jerome T Schmahl	Charlize S Wing	11-04-15	\$185,000
1918 Hartrey Ave, Evanston	Jasmin J Vorabutr	Gaslight Management Llc 1918 H	11-04-15	\$187,000
208 South Blvd, # D, Evanston	Jennifer Rusk	Allison L Spring	11-04-15	\$195,000
1903 Dobson St, Evanston	Stephanie J Stahl & Sara Arnold	Adrian Lopez	11-10-15	\$220,000
143 Dodge Ave, Evanston	Victor H Cardoso & Juan C Cardoso	Deutsche Bank Natl Trt Co Ttee	11-03-15	\$225,000
820 Oakton St, # 4F, Evanston	John Lightfoot & Anne Lightfoot	Nader Forouzi	11-06-15	\$230,000
1572 Maple Ave, # 305, Evanston	Mary Dibiasio	Steve McClellan	11-03-15	\$230,000
2951 Central St, # 307, Evanston	Holly Katherine Martin	Nancy J Compton	11-10-15	\$235,000
319 Dodge Ave, Evanston	Elizabeth A Hawes & Jason Ng	John W Day Estate	11-10-15	\$255,000
2001 Sherman Ave, # 204, Evanston	Trudi Davis	Saul Cordero	11-05-15	\$280,000
1031 Cleveland St, Evanston	Jade Bartley & Elizabeth Huff	Pepera Mikhail	11-04-15	\$280,000
605 Custer Ave, Evanston	Mark J Wilder	Joseph Clay Fulks	11-02-15	\$280,000
1720 Maple Ave, # 1680, Evanston	Mohamed Amin Khan & Ail Amin Khan	Harrison Garo	11-05-15	\$310,000
1619 Greenwood St, Evanston	Joseph Clary & Clare Laplente	Citibank Na Trustee	11-04-15	\$310,000
928 Judson Ave, # 2, Evanston	Peter Dessain & Nicole Dessain	R Douglas Grant	11-03-15	\$315,000
331 Custer Ave, Evanston	Amy L Wells & Sean T Kelley	Rose Mary Turman	11-04-15	\$331,000
1640 Maple Ave, # 1104, Evanston	Regina C Nash	Todd Schwier	11-09-15	\$343,000
1736 Keeney St, Evanston	Judith Cieslak & Jean Prebis	Jeffrey W Krol & Assoc Ltd	11-02-15	\$355,000

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
2436 Prairie Ave, Evanston	Mark L Bishop & Jill Bishop	Jensen Trust	11-04-15	\$385,000
516 Keeney St, Evanston	Mitchell Elliot Jones & Martha Ann Caldwell	Bryce Z Johnson	11-02-15	\$413,500
304 South Blvd, Evanston	Teresa A Cortas & Deborah Amore	Helinda Martello	11-10-15	\$440,000
516 Elmwood Ave, Evanston	Donald Monroe & Sarah Monroe	Crisafulli Trust	11-05-15	\$443,000
1119 Wesley Ave, Evanston	Carlos Larruscain & Jill Gunter	Robert R Lockwood	11-05-15	\$469,000
1402 Dempster St, Evanston	William James Kurth & Jennifer Lee Tackett	Jeremy J Green	11-02-15	\$545,000
2512 Central Park Ave, Evanston	Karissa J Marcello	Jennifer Davis	11-10-15	\$554,000
9459 Drake Ave, Evanston	Jeremy C Waits & Katherine K Waits	William R Westwood	11-05-15	\$589,000
2718 Asbury Ave, Evanston	Lindsay Anderson & Sean Hills	Matthew B Roberts	11-02-15	\$615,000
2604 Payne St, Evanston	Jonathan Samuels & Kathleen Samuels	Ad Restorations Llc 2604 Payne	11-09-15	\$860,000
1244 Dryden Pl, Evanston	Binbin Deng	Dryden Partners Llc	11-10-15	\$1,075,000
2360 Orrington Ave, Evanston	David Cella & Kimberly Webster	North Shore Builders Inc	11-09-15	\$1,490,500
6733 N Lawndale Ave, Lincolnwood	Shaheen Ahsan	Judicial Sales Corp	11-09-15	\$150,000
4601 W Touhy Ave, # 605, Lincolnwood	Freddy Cohen & Gertrude Cohen	Matz Trust	11-03-15	\$179,000
3309 W Arthur Ave, Lincolnwood	Rogelio Aquino	Gibas Trust	11-05-15	\$260,000
6739 N Minnehaha Ave, Lincolnwood	Ronald L Treiber	Nancy B Silverman	11-05-15	\$275,000
7152 E Prairie Rd, Lincolnwood	Sadik Metovic & Mirsada Metovic	Nelcar Gadrinab	11-04-15	\$490,000
6737 N Knox Ave, Lincolnwood	Vincenzo Chirchirillo & Leonarda Chirchirillo	Carini Trust	11-05-15	\$537,500
6500 N Kenton Ave, Lincolnwood	Jaroslav B Dzwinyk & Maria A Dzwinyk	Nancy Gavlin	11-03-15	\$571,000
7047 Emerson St, Morton Grove	Wojciech Szczypta & Agnieszka Giza Szczypta	Sosnowski Trust	11-09-15	\$215,000
9238 Oak Park Ave, Morton Grove	Najeeb Eseed & Nabeel Eseed	Patricia C Bandstrom	11-09-15	\$240,000
9423 Ozanam Ave, Morton Grove	Yingnan Zhao & Jiakun Zhu	Fannie Mae	11-04-15	\$286,500
5908 Cleveland St, Morton Grove	Ludwig Herard & Kathy Herard	Lindley Wisniewski	11-04-15	\$325,000
4952 Hull St, # 2W, Skokie	Abraham Mathew	Synergy Property Holdings Llc	11-09-15	\$66,500
8161 Niles Center Rd, # 2B, Skokie	Ahmer S Khan & Sofia S Khan	Svetlin Stalinov	11-09-15	\$123,000
10081 Frontage Rd, # C, Skokie	Mehvish Ali	Wells Fargo Bank Trustee	11-09-15	\$130,500
9200 Niles Center Rd, Skokie	Oana Croitoru	Samer Mustafic	11-09-15	\$152,000
9221 Drake Ave, # 306N, Skokie	Mary L Glosniak	Roman Fridman	11-04-15	\$222,000
5430 Foster St, Skokie	Jon Novi	Faye J Wells	11-04-15	\$232,000
9506 Lorel Ave, Skokie	Johan S Lazo & Wilfredo Borjas	Fannie Mae	11-06-15	\$244,000
3500 Lee St, Skokie	Hassan A Abdullah & Munira J Abdullah	Nalin M Guruj Estate	11-04-15	\$245,000
10055 Bronx Ave, Skokie	Maria Chapman & Tiana Gaa	Rosalinda Rodriguez	11-04-15	\$250,000
4345 Church St, Skokie	Marios Meshko	Myung Sun Koo	11-09-15	\$255,000
5200 Greenleaf St, Skokie	Darrol Alan Merritt	Shun I Chang	11-09-15	\$265,000
9556 Kedvale Ave, Skokie	Alphonso I Riddick & Tia Riddick	Bong Y Choi	11-04-15	\$273,000
5215 Wright Ter, Skokie	Ifram Shahbaz & Nahreen Temanos	Vasant T Patel	11-04-15	\$282,500
8649 Avers Ave, Skokie	Anamaria Guebert & Paul T Guebert	Teresa A Cortas	11-04-15	\$295,000
5145 Conrad St, Skokie	Stefano Bertelli & Olga Belyaeva	Thomas F Davidson	11-05-15	\$330,000
8512 McCormick Blvd, Skokie	Asatha Henderson & Noreen Yap	Cheryl Tam	11-02-15	\$350,000
6838 Laramie Ave, Skokie	Michael Iacobelli & Jeanie Stamatopoulos	Suzanne Kemp	11-04-15	\$430,000
3217 Wilmette Ave, Wilmette	Rajesh A Kumar & Amisha R Kumar	Faour M Matar	11-02-15	\$475,000
928 Cambridge Ln, Wilmette	Michael D Yaccino III & Irene M Yaccino	Thomas A Weyhrich	11-02-15	\$590,000
1314 Isabella St, Wilmette	Fred Watson & Pamela D Watson	Lee G Blair	11-03-15	\$600,000
2233 Kenilworth Ave, Wilmette	Matthew B Ward & Caitlin McGill	Marchetti Construction Inc	11-09-15	\$775,000
2000 Beechwood Ave, Wilmette	Shane Eisenhauer & Denise Eisenhauer	Sindin Andrew Jobs	11-09-15	\$1,025,000
610 Greenleaf Ave, Wilmette	Steven Ostrowski & Cristina Ostrowski	Kent Meyers	11-02-15	\$1,040,000
1514 Central Ave, Wilmette	Allison Becker & Jeffrey Becker	Wardrop Trust	11-10-15	\$1,050,500
939 Ashland Ave, Wilmette	Patrick Gammons & Christine L Gammons	Northern Trust Co Trustee	11-09-15	\$1,280,000
1628 Highland Ave, Wilmette	Fabio A Lievano & Etel C Villanueva	Magic Touch Builders Llc 1628	11-04-15	\$1,645,000
1320 Greenwood Ave, Wilmette	Meredith F Gainer & Brian P Gainer	Mark T Lancaster	11-09-15	\$1,725,000

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

**MUNDELEIN**

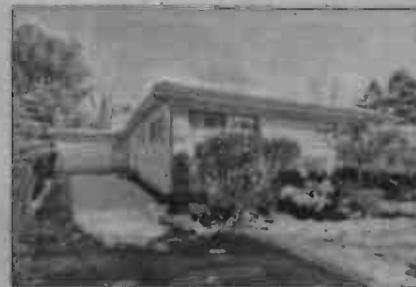
Four bedrooms, three baths. Living room opens to dining room. Chef's kitchen has updated cabinetry, granite counters, stainless steel appliances. Family room has exterior access to patio/fenced yard. 2nd-floor master suite has updated bath with heated tile flooring and walk-in closet. Finished basement has rec room, full bath and laundry. Recent updates include roof, hot water tank, furnace & AC, and windows.

**Address:** 203 W. Hawley St.  
**Price:** \$245,000  
**Schools:** Mundelein High School  
**Taxes:** \$3,769  
**Agent:** Leslie McDonnell/RE/MAX Suburban

**SKOKIE**

Two-story brick home built in '05 features 5 bedrooms, with possible sixth in basement, and 4.5 baths. Kitchen has maple cabinets and stainless steel appliances. Family room with fireplace. Hardwood floors throughout. 2nd-floor master suite with sitting room, dual-sink bath, shower with Jacuzzi tub, and two walk-in closets. Basement features high ceilings, rec room, laundry, bedroom and full bath. Two-car attached garage and brick patio.

**Address:** 7528 Keystone Ave.  
**Price:** \$715,000  
**Schools:** Niles North High School  
**Taxes:** \$12,540  
**Agent:** Joanne Toyama/Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Evanston

**WILMETTE**

Three bedroom, two bath ranch home on quiet cul-de-sac. Hardwood floors in living and dining rooms. Kitchen features Woodmode cabinets, stone counters, stainless steel appliances. Family room with wood-burning fireplace. Master suite with hardwood floor. Hall bath with furniture-style vanity and whirlpool tub. Lower level has rec room, game room, storage and laundry.

**Address:** 2115 Parkview Court  
**Price:** \$495,000  
**Schools:** New Trier Township High School Winnetka  
**Taxes:** \$7,366  
**Agent:** Marla Schneider/Coldwell Banker Glenview

**PARK RIDGE**

Rehabbed 4-bedroom, 3-bath bungalow. Neutral decor with crown molding and hardwood floors throughout. Rear sunroom. Full bath on each level. Side yard, 2-car garage off alley and concrete drive doubles as patio space. Rec area, full bath, 4th bedroom, laundry and bonus room downstairs. Second floor saved for master suite with sitting area, walk-in closet, walk-in shower and dual sinks.

**Address:** 106 Gillick St.  
**Price:** \$529,900  
**Schools:** Maine South High School  
**Taxes:** \$6,494  
**Agent:** Sue Hall/Century 21 Elm Realtors

Listings from Homefinder.com

# ARE YOU FULL OF IDEAS?

Here's a thought: start a blog

chicagonow.com/pitch



# Living

Thursday, December 10, 2015



Warm up your belly with some chili

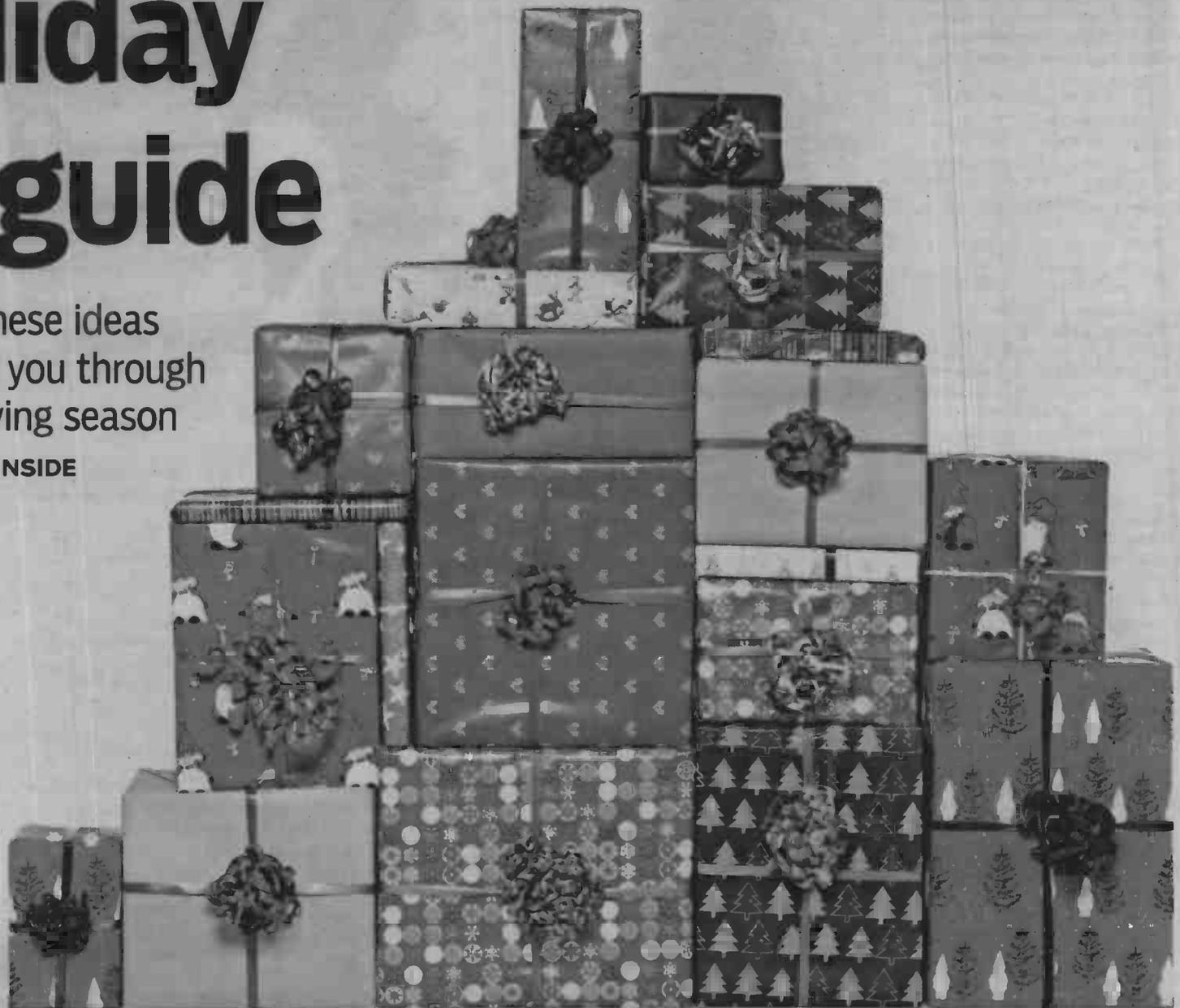
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2

# Holiday gift guide

Let these ideas help get you through the giving season

INSIDE



GETTY

# Warm up your belly with some chili

By Judy Buchenot  
Beacon-News

I have always wondered what Santa eats before he embarks on his long journey on Christmas Eve to deliver gifts to good little boys and girls around the world, but arranging an interview with the jolly old elf is not easy.

But then I remembered Denny Wowra, an Aurora resident who has been on Santa's favorite list for years. Not only has Wowra led a busy life of service to others, he has also helped hundreds of boys make good life choices through decades of work with area Boy Scouts.

I asked Wowra if he could help me contact Santa.

"Well you are in luck," said Wowra. "Santa is in town cooking for Boy Scout Troop 889 as they get ready to start their 23rd year of selling Christmas trees."

It seems that Santa enjoys surprising hardworking young people with a hearty meal. He made 12 pots of chili cooked in Dutch ovens, the Boy Scouts' preferred culinary vessel. When the nearly 100 boys and leaders finished setting up the tree sale at Wheatland Salem Church in Naperville, they were treated to a steaming bowl of Santa's finest chili.

Wowra talked with Santa and arranged an interview for me at Wowra's Aurora home. When I walked into the house, I couldn't see Santa anywhere.

"Oh, Mr. Claus," I ventured, deciding to go with a respectful approach. Then suddenly I heard it.

"Ho, ho, ho."

I turned around quickly and what to my wondering eyes should appear but Santa Claus standing before me in his traditional red coat trimmed in white and full beard that was, yes, white as snow.

"So, Judy Buchenot," he said, unfurling an incredibly long list entitled "Naughty."

I first was surprised that he knew my name but then I realized that he knows everyone's name. Thankfully, he did not find my name on the naughty list, and his eyes, how they twinkled, as he asked, "What can I do for you, my dear?"



JUDY BUCHENOT/BEACON-NEWS

Santa takes a taste of his hearty chili, his favorite quick meal for Christmas Eve.

I suppressed an urge to blurt out a list of all the things I wanted for Christmas and asked instead, "Mr. Claus, do you cook?"

Santa broke out into a grin, then began a hearty round of "Ho! Ho! Ho!" that shook his stomach like a bowl full of jelly.

"Do I cook? Well, you can tell that I do like to eat, can't you?" he said patting the ample girth beneath his shiny black belt with a gold buckle. "I love to cook but I don't always have too much time. It is my busy season you know," he said with a knowing nod.

"I have been visiting with boys and girls all over to make sure I have their lists. Sometimes when I am lucky, two of my elves, Blizzard and Snowflake, come with me to help. I just get so many requests for visits. One place I try to visit each year is Narnia Pet Behavior. I pose for pictures with the puppies but honestly, dogs are afraid of me. I think it might be my laugh. Ho! Ho! Ho! They always start barking when I start laughing. But I really can't help it. Cute animals make me jolly. I also

## Santa's Culinary Cue

Start with a mild mix of chili but keep the chili powder and spices on the serving table. After tasting their bowl, your guests can spice it up if they wish.

## Boy Scout Troop 889 Christmas Tree Sale

**When:** Monday-Friday, 6-9 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.-9 p.m. though Dec. 18

**Where:** Wheatland Salem Church, corner of Book Road and 95th street, Naperville

**Why:** To raise funds for troop activities

try to visit the charities. We should all be thinking about giving to our favorite charities this holiday season. That's the kind of behavior that keeps you on my nice boys and girls list."

Santa paused for a moment as if something just popped into his head.

"Now, there, I just found out that Sydney and Harper have been being very good kids. Oh, I have something special for them this Christmas. I hope all boys

and girls are being good not just for me but for their parents. Moms and dads love their kids so much and work so hard to care for them. Children need to show them how much they appreciate it by doing all of their homework, cleaning their rooms and helping with their brothers and sisters. I really should get going. I have so much to do."

"Wait, Santa, can you give me a recipe to share with my readers," I pleaded as the plump old man

## Santa's Chili Recipe

- 2-3 pounds ground chuck
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 2 1/2 cups diced onion
- 1 large green pepper, diced
- 1 large red pepper, diced
- 4 cups canned tomatoes, crushed
- 2 cloves garlic
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon basil
- 1 teaspoon celery salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2-3 bay leaves
- 2 teaspoons crushed cumin
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 5-6 cups water
- 2 15-ounce cans dark red kidney beans

1. In a 12" Dutch oven, brown ground chuck. Remove, drain and set aside. Add oil to Dutch oven and saute the onion and peppers in oil until golden. Return meat and add tomatoes, garlic, salt, basil, celery salt, cayenne pepper, bay leaves, cumin, chili powder and water. Stir gently and bring to a boil. Lower the heat to simmer and cook uncovered for 3 hours. Add beans a half hour before serving.

started walking toward the chimney.

"Ho! Ho! Ho! Of course, my dear. Look! It is in your notebook already. It's my chili recipe. I always have a pot simmering on Christmas Eve. I do love all of those cookies that children leave for me, especially chocolate chip. And the reindeer as so happy when children leave a few goodies for them also. But when I need a quick boost, I swing by and pick up a big bowl of steaming chili from Mrs. Claus. It keeps me warm and toasty from the inside out."

Santa climbed into his sleigh and to his team gave a whistle.

"Happy Christmas to all and to all a good night!"

*Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer.*

Find more suburban cooks on Page 4.

# A tasty batch

## 10 of the year's best cookbooks

By Tom Witom | Pioneer Press

Publishers worked overtime in 2015 to respond to the home cook's voracious and seemingly insatiable appetite for interesting new cookbooks.

As always, the subject matter is broad, ranging from a focus on fundamental techniques for grilling, baking and pasta making, to preparing ethnic specialties and favorite regional delicacies. Others directed attention to vegetarian dishes, homemade ice cream and artisanal cocktails.

Here are some standout contenders vying for shelf space:

### "The Food Lab: Better Home Cooking through Science" (W.W. Norton & Co.)

Self-described food nerd and active blogger (SeriousEats.com) J. Kenji Lopez-Alt puts his education at MIT to work in this weighty (11-pounds!) yet down-to-earth 958-page volume. He provides hundreds of appetizing recipes along with an understanding of what's behind their appeal — all the while helping home cooks determine parts essential to the quality of the finished product and which parts are merely decoration. Dishes are analyzed by flavors, ingredients and steps to achieve the desired end result.

### "Le French Oven" (Gibbs Smith)

Hillary Davis' latest book, a follow-up to "French Comfort Food," is further proof that elegant, French-inspired dishes can easily be created in any American kitchen. Davis provides instruction on preparing tantalizing and accessible dishes in a cocotte, the French version of a Dutch oven. Readers can expect to find new but familiar comfort food, including classic bistro fare such as French onion soup gratinee, duck breasts with black cherry sauce, one-pot Nicoise pasta and Alsatian pork chops with gingersnap gravy.

### "More Mexican Everyday" (W.W. Norton)

In his eighth book, popular Chicago restaurateur and chef Rick Bayless offers further insights into the unique fare being cooked by our neighbors south of the border. This collection of recipes explores topics that include ways to create dynamic flavors, vegetables at the heart of the Mexican kitchen and daily inspirations for busy cooks. Look for step-by-step guidance on building tasty, nourishing meals quickly and with few ingredients.

### "V Is for Vegetables" (Little Brown)

Michael Anthony, executive chef at New York's Gramercy Tavern, focuses attention

on home cooking in this new tome co-authored by Dorothy Kalins. The splashy book is vegetable-centered from artichokes to zucchini, but it's not vegetarian or vegan, since meat and fish often play supporting roles. Recipes and techniques cover composed salads, fresh herb sauces, hot gratins, thick flavored soups and sauteed greens over a bowl of grains.

### "Pasta by Hand: A Collection of Italy's Regional Hand-Shaped Pasta" (Chronicle)

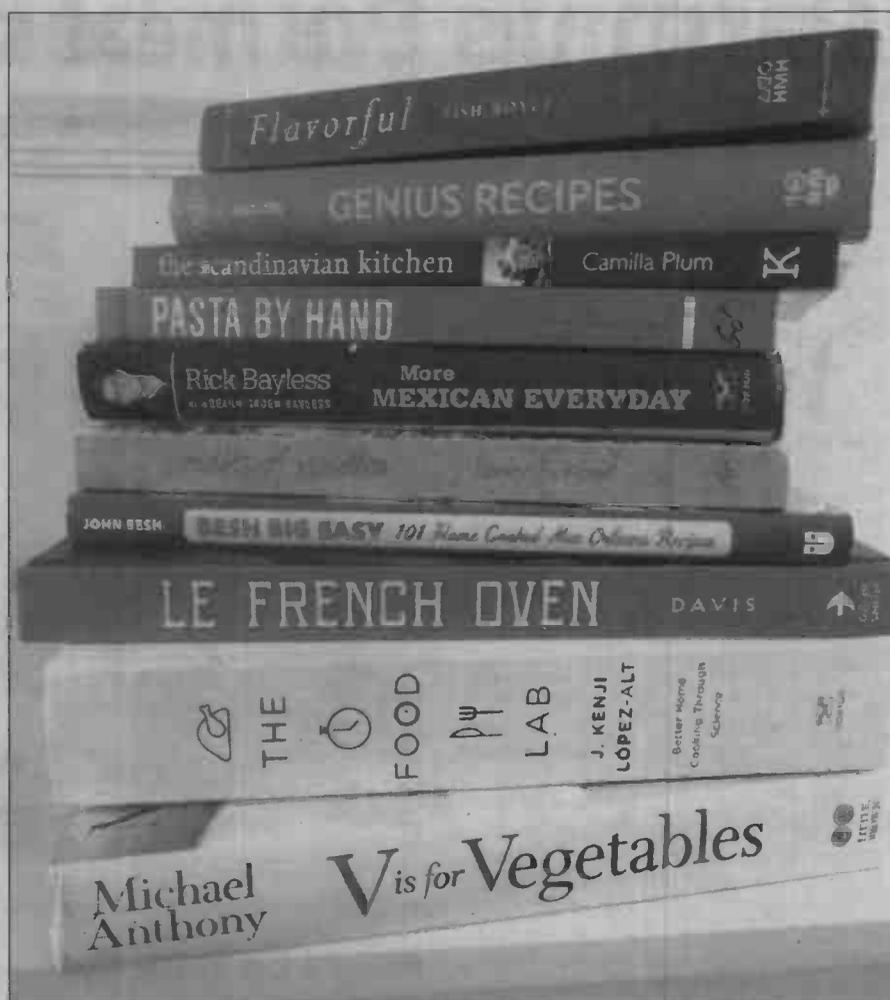
Portland, Ore.-based restaurateur Jenn Louis sheds light on what may be the ultimate comfort food: fresh hand-shaped pasta. Her book, inspired by research in Italy, is an ode to regional specialties: gnocchi, orecchiette, gnudi and spatzli, among others. Louis tells readers how to create more than 65 pasta shapes by hand; she also devotes a chapter to classic Italian sauces.

### "The Scandinavian Kitchen" (Kyle Books)

Camilla Plum, co-owner of an organic farm near Copenhagen, Denmark, shares her knowledge of Scandinavian cooking in this concise, well-documented guide. She highlights the importance of Nordic ingredients to the cuisine, from cloudberry to certain local dairy products, and provides alternatives American cooks may use as substitutes, if necessary, in her recipes. Lush food photography sprinkled throughout is a bonus.

### "Flavorful" (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Readers will find many irresistible temptations in food writer/chef Tish Boyle's latest cookbook. Its 150 taste-tempting desserts will delight the most jaded palate. Chapters cover vanilla, citrus, chocolate, coffee, nuts, sweet cheese and berries, among others. Smart home



TOM WITOM/PIONEER PRESS

A look at 10 top cookbooks from 2015, including ones focusing on French-inspired dishes, hand-shaped pasta and traditional New Orleans dishes.

cooks undoubtedly should consider adding the recipe for Two-Tone Milk Chocolate Mousse with Sweet-and-Salty Almonds to their repertoire.

### "Food52: Genius Recipes" (Ten Speed)

Ready to change the way you cook? This impressive volume, by Kristen Miglore, executive editor of the food52.com website, may pave the way. Miglore's book houses foolproof, game-changing recipes from food writers, chefs and bloggers who made them legendary. Included are Jim Lahey's no-knead bread, Marcella Hazan's tomato sauce with onion and butter, Nigella Lawson's dense chocolate cake, legendary restaurateur Alice Waters' ratatouille, Julia Child's zucchini gratin and Barbara Kafka's secrets to roasting everything.

### "Besh Big Easy" (Andrews McMeel)

In his fourth book, chef/restaurateur John Besh shares 101 home-cooked recipes that showcase traditional New Orleans flavors. His easy-to-follow authentic include secrets for mastering staples like making a roux or getting the perfect crispy crust on skillet cornbread.

### "Oodles of Noodles" (Ryland Peters & Small)

Prolific cookbook author Louise Pickford capitalizes on the popularity of noodles in her latest work. She calls noodles versatile, healthy and lively on the plate — the perfect ingredient for a quick midweek supper. Her 70-plus recipes draw inspiration from Japanese chilled soba noodles and Vietnamese beef pho to traditional Chinese pot stickers and Korean kimchee noodle dumplings.

**Worth a look:** With so many cookbooks hot off the presses in 2015, some great ones risk being lost in the shuffle. "Lidia's Mastering the Art of Italian Cuisine" (Alfred A. Knopf) by Lidia Bastianich; "The Everyday Rice Cooker" (Chronicle) by Diane Phillips; "Paleo Planet" (Harvard Common Press) by Becky Winkler; "Baking with the Bass Sisters" (St. Martin's Press) by Marilyn and Sheila Bass; "Make It Ahead" (Clarkson Potter) by Ina Garten and "Healthy Greek Cooking" (Pelican) by Anna Naltsatzian Bourla.

# Christmas Eve meal starts family tradition

By Judy Buchenot  
Naperville Sun

Christmas cooking and baking can be a lot of work.

If you have ever wondered whether it is worth your time to chop and stir and do it all again, consider the tale of the Krauss family Christmas. The story of this Naperville family begins years ago when Jim Krauss was an art student living his dream of studying a year abroad in Italy.

"I fell in love with Italy," Jim said. By the time he returned to the United States, panoramas of Italian villages had been permanently etched in his mind and became the inspiration for numerous paintings.

He also fell in love with Italian food, especially carbonara, a dish he frequently enjoyed at a small trattoria outside of Rome.

"The name carbonara refers to charcoal in Italian. It was a dish favored by peasants but especially coal miners because it didn't need tomatoes. It was inexpensive to make and could be made quickly," he said. He tried to duplicate the dish several times until he finally came up with a recipe that offered the comforting familiar flavors of the meal he enjoyed at the small trattoria.

The story skips ahead a few years to when Jim has married Kelly and the couple were raising five children. Jim was an art professor at Oakton Community College in Des Plaines and Kelly was a Chicago Public Schools teacher.

The couple traveled together to Italy thanks to a generous gift from Kelly's parents after Jim recovered from a serious bout with cancer. "When I went to Italy, I finally understood his need to paint Italy. It was beautiful," Kelly said.

She began to share his passion for the lovely country as well as the unique cuisine. So when the couple was trying to come up with a quick dish to enjoy with their family on Christmas Eve after Mass, they decided to make spaghetti carbonara, the flavorful dish which they had feasted upon in Italy. It quickly became the meal to enjoy on Christmas Eve.

A few more years pass and the children have grown up and are pursuing their own lives. "It is hard when your children leave," Kelly said. "But when I was growing up, my mother was always happy when we left the nest because she knew it was the only way we would be happy. So I was happy for them when they left. There is no reason for them to feel guilty. We are happy for them because they are happy."

Two of the children ended up in California, one in Wisconsin, one in London, and one relatively close in Chicago. There are also seven grandchildren.

Although Kelly and Jim were happy to



JUDY BUCHENOT/NAPERVILLE SUN

Kelly and Jim Krauss do the final step of a batch of spaghetti carbonara.

## Kelly's Culinary Cue

Bacon creates less mess and comes out flat and even when baked in the oven instead of being fried. Place bacon on foil lined sheets and bake at 400 degrees until crisp, about 15 to 17 minutes. Drain on paper towels.

see their children starting lives of their own, there was the moment on Christmas Eve when it was time to enjoy the spaghetti carbonara without all of their children sitting around the table.

The couple made the dish after Mass and sat down to eat alone. And then, a message popped up on the phone. It was a picture of spaghetti carbonara made by one of the children, who was enjoying the Christmas Eve traditional meal with her family. Other photos followed.

"They were all making spaghetti carbonara," Kelly said. Jim nods in agreement with tears filling his eyes over the memorable moment. The photos came at different times since the children live in different time zones.

"So even though we were not together, we were sharing the same meal," Kelly said. "Sometimes they are able to be here but if they aren't, they send us a photo of their meal. Food is a way of connecting families across the miles." So it is worth the effort to make those traditional foods, maintains the couple.

Kelly and Jim have both retired and are

spending their last Christmas in their current home with plans to downsize to a smaller home next year. To make the event more memorable, they volunteered their home to be part of the annual Naperville Garden Club Cup of Cheer House Walk last week.

Their home featured Kelly's 30-plus-year collection of Santas, Jim's original artwork and many other decorations artfully displayed. "We plan to do some traveling," Kelly said. "The kids are so busy with careers that it is hard for them to visit us. It is easier for us to visit them."

A return to Italy will most likely show up on the travel list again.

Jim and Kelly share their recipe for spaghetti carbonara as well as caramelized bacon, a deliciously decadent holiday treat. "When we take this to a party, it is gone in minutes," Kelly said of the salty, smoky and sweet combination. They invite others to try their holiday favorites and perhaps find a new family food tradition.

Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer for the Naperville Sun.

## Spaghetti Carbonara

- 1 pound bacon
- 3-4 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 6 tablespoons salted butter
- 6 egg yolks
- 16 ounces heavy cream
- 2 cups grated Parmesan cheese, divided
- 1 pound spaghetti or linguine fini
- 1 shot of dry vermouth or white wine
- freshly ground pepper
- 1/4 cup fresh parsley, chopped

1. Cook, drain and cut bacon into chunks, reserving bacon grease. Set aside bacon.

2. Brown garlic in bacon grease. Melt butter in the pan with bacon grease and garlic. Set aside. In a bowl, beat egg yolks, cream and 1/2 cups of Parmesan cheese. Cook pasta until al dente and drain. Return spaghetti to the pot. Add cream and egg yolk mixture, the bacon, garlic and butter mixture, most of the cut bacon pieces and a shot of vermouth. Lightly toss and stir until the sauce thickens and the pasta is coated, about three to five minutes. Place in serving bowl. Sprinkle remaining Parmesan cheese, black pepper to taste, parsley and remaining bacon pieces over the top of pasta. Serve immediately.

## Caramelized bacon

- 1/2 cup light brown sugar
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 tablespoons grade A real maple syrup
- 1 pound of thick sliced bacon

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees and place rack in broil position. Cover a baking sheet with sides with aluminum foil. In a food processor, combine brown sugar and pecans. Add salt, pepper and maple syrup and mix.

2. Cut bacon strips in half and lay flat on prepared baking sheet. Spoon brown sugar mixture onto bacon strips, dividing evenly. Pat lightly onto bacon strips. Bake for 30 to 40 minutes until the bacon is crispy. Check often so that bacon does not burn. Transfer to paper towels to drain. Cool. Cut bacon into smaller, bite-sized pieces if desired.

# Confused by the health insurance marketplace?

Are any of you currently attempting to purchase insurance through the state health insurance marketplace – aka Get Covered Illinois? If so, are you feeling overwhelmed? Or perhaps even slightly defeated?

Speaking from recent personal experience, finding health insurance through the exchange is no easy task. My family is currently in the position of choosing between coverage through COBRA (the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, which allows workers to continue their group health coverage for 18-36 months following a qualifying event, such as leaving a job) and the purchase of insurance through the Affordable Care Act's health insurance marketplace.

I began my insurance quest by visiting [GetCovered.Illinois.gov](http://GetCovered.Illinois.gov) and "Explore Your Health Coverage Options." My goal was to find a plan that includes the same

benefits and doctors as our current policy. After completing several screens worth of information and plugging in the names of all our doctors, I was shocked to discover there were close to a hundred policies to evaluate, and none of the initial 20+ I reviewed categorized all of our doctors as in-network. There had to be a better way!

At this point, I contacted the Illinois Department of Insurance's public information officer, Alissandra Calderon, to request assistance in navigating the process. Calderon put me in touch with Michele Thornton, a licensed broker with Thornton Powell Insurance Financial Services of Oak Forest, who is also a member of the Get Covered Illinois (GCI) training team.

When Thornton and I met, I provided her with the following requested information: the details of our COBRA package, the



CATHY CUNNINGHAM  
Help Squad

names of our doctors and their affiliated hospitals and a list of our prescriptions. After telling her the two hospitals with which our doctors are affiliated, she quickly informed me, "I can tell you right off the bat that in terms of individual plans, you will have three choices."

She then explained next steps: "I'll put some plans together side by side from each of the companies and get your reaction. We'll then discuss and narrow things down and refine the choices further. [Once your decision is made], the application process is

super quick and easy. It can be done online or over the phone."

When I inquired if I should apply via the online exchange, Thornton explained, "If you are subsidy-eligible (based on your income), we will put you on the exchange because there can be a huge difference price-wise. However, base pricing is the same whether you purchase your policy on or off the exchange."

I asked Thornton how the common person looking for assistance with the online marketplace would find someone like her. She explained that there are three assistance options available, all of which can be found on the GCI site. These options consist of licensed health insurance brokers who are paid a commission by insurance companies; navigators who are funded by federal or state grants and are available only during open enrollment; and certified application counselors,

individuals such as hospital employees, who are trained the same as navigators. All can be located using the "Find In-Person Help" button on the GCI site. A more robust resource for locating a health insurance broker or agent, in her opinion, is the National Association of Health Underwriters, at [NAHU.org](http://NAHU.org).

"It's almost impossible for the average person out there to make the right call," said Thornton when I noted that the plethora of information results in a selection process that can be overwhelming. "Getting good information about how to make that decision is really hard."

Open enrollment for the health insurance marketplace runs through Jan. 31.

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

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.



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CTC/NC-SFF/H

## GIFT GUIDE

## Presents for pets, people who love them

By William Hageman  
and Wendy Donahue  
Tribune Newspapers

Wood floors can take their toll on dogs. Bruno, a 10-year-old wheaten terrier we know, used to happily careen down the hall to greet his owners. Then he began refusing to leave the living room rug for fear of slipping.

A Google search led to Dr. Buzby's ToeGrips.

"Because wall-to-wall carpet is no longer the norm, dogs slipping on hard-surface floors is a common problem," said Julie Buzby, a veterinarian who launched ToeGrips. "Dogs use their nails for traction. On earthen terrain, they flex their paws and dig in their nails like cleats. On hard floors, their nails can't get a grip."

Young dogs compensate, she said. But due to muscular weakness, joint disease and slower reflexes, older dogs often struggle.

Available in seven sizes from XS to XXXL, the toe grips (\$29.99 per set of 20, [www.toegrips.com](http://www.toegrips.com)) consist of rubbery colored rings that you soak in alcohol, then shimmy over each nail.

This isn't easy and shouldn't be, Buzby said. If the ToeGrips are loose, they fall off or slide up the nail, losing contact with the tip and serving no purpose. At worst, they ride up to the nail bed and harm the dog's paw. Correctly placed, each ToeGrip fits snug.

As for Bruno, the ToeGrips were applied over the course of a few nights. They have stayed put for nearly two months. Coaxed with treats to try his paws on the wood floor, he kept his footing. Now he crosses the wood floor, hesitating only when he first wakes in the morning. (Owners need to check the ToeGrips occasionally, as directed, to make sure they're not wandering.)

The ToeGrips head a list of interesting animal-related holiday gifts. Here are a few more:

### The AirMaster

The AirMaster, Homedics' new air purifier, is aimed at pet owners. Whether it's that wet-dog smell, litter-box odor, or the dander and fur that's floating around, the AirMaster is designed to clear the air. A HEPA filter removes 99.97 percent of airborne contaminants, according to the manufacturer.



DR. BUZBY'S TOEGRIPS

Dr. Buzby's ToeGrips fit over a dog's nails to help the animal gain traction on slippery surfaces:

Cuddle Clones are customized stuffed replicas of beloved pets. Pet owners simply submit a photo and choose such options as eye color and the position of the pet's ears and tail, for instance. Then the company creates the stuffed replica.



CUDDLE CLONES



PET LIFESTYLE AND YOU

PLAY dog beds are filled with recycled materials, and a majority of the beds use 100 percent natural cotton.

The AirMaster, which stands 28 inches tall, has three air-cleaning speeds and runs almost silently. Available for about \$180 from Bed Bath & Beyond online.

### PLAY pet bed

A comfy pet bed with some attractive features, the PLAY (Pet Lifestyles and You) bed is sold through Belle & June. The beds come in five sizes and are machine washable. There are interchangeable covers, allowing a pet owner to choose different designs and colors. The majority of beds use 100 percent natural cotton, and the fillers are made with recycled plastic bottles and packaging from recycled paper. Prices start at \$85.

### Cuddle Clones

This Kentucky-based company will make a customized stuffed animal replica of your pet. Submit a photo (more than one, if possible) and choose options for things such as eye color and ear and tail position — then the Cuddle Clone folks do the rest. Priced from \$179 and available at [cuddleclones.com](http://cuddleclones.com).

### Paws Jawz

This handy plastic device works with the PawZ line of rubber dog boots (although the two companies are not related), which can be a bit challenging — nails, dew claws, pudgy feet — to get on a dog's foot. With Paws Jawz, the boot is attached to the tool, and

the user squeezes the handle with one hand, widening the boot opening. It slips right on, you release the Paws Jawz and little Grover can go splash happily in the mud. Paws Jawz come in three sizes, priced at \$10.99-\$11.99. To order or for more information, go to [pawsjawz.com](http://pawsjawz.com).

### Treatibles

Made with hemp extract, each of these dog treats contains 1 milligram of cannabidiol, derived from the nontoxic cannabis hemp plant, which has been shown to help with a variety of health issues, including cancer, pain, mood disorders, heart issues and inflammation. Check out the supporting research and order at (can be shipped to all states). Priced at



PROJECT ONWARD

The nonprofit Project Onward offers handmade ornaments of people's pets, hand-painted by artist Fernando Ramirez.



PAWS JAWZ

Paws Jawz is a plastic grip that works with the PawZ line of rubber dog boots, helping the pet owner put the boots on a dog's feet.

\$24 a bag for small dogs and \$32 a bag for large ones.

### Project Onward ornaments

Project Onward, a nonprofit studio and gallery for professional artists with mental and developmental disabilities, sells handmade ornaments starring people's pets. The ornaments are hand-painted by artist Fernando Ramirez and cost \$50 each. Orders can be placed by emailing a photograph to [ornaments@projectonward.org](mailto:ornaments@projectonward.org). Expect two weeks for delivery. (More information on the artist can be found at the Project Onward website.)

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

# Online business does dirty work for you

While technology can be amazingly helpful and enjoyable, I think the world is dealing with a double-edged sword when it comes to communication in dating and relationships.

Having just returned from a weeklong family vacation where I FaceTimed my boyfriend several times and thoroughly enjoyed seeing his cute face pop up on my iPhone, I find myself a huge fan of the technology. But, there is a downside to having so many communication options that take the place of face-to-face meetings. Technology has made it very easy to relay a difficult or uncomfortable message without actually having to say it to someone's face. This includes a breakup.

I cringed when I recently heard about The Breakup Shop, a new online business that will break up with someone for you via text, email or a phone call.

Imagine this. You are sitting in your office hard at work, motivated by the fact that you have a great weekend planned with the guy you've been seeing recently.

You get a text, which reads something like:

*Hi Stephanie,  
We are sending you this message on behalf of Danny.*

*We regret to inform you that Danny is breaking up with you. Although you've had a good run and shared some memories along the way, it's time to move on.*

*We offer you our deepest sympathies, and wish you all the best in the future.*

*Kindly,  
The Breakup Shop*

How much colder and more insensitive can a person get than to hire a company to end a relationship? And, are people such wimps that they can't actually find the guts or the consideration to personally break up with someone?

Feeling like I myself needed some therapy after reading the breakup messages available via The Breakup Shop, I reached out to David Klow, a Chicago-based marriage and family therapist, who said breakups are so difficult, they are often the catalyst that bring men and women into therapy.

"Breakups are one of the hardest experiences in life," said Klow, a faculty member at the Family Institute at Northwestern University, who has been practicing for 10 years. "It's the ending of an attachment or a bond, and sometimes that attachment can be more powerful than love.



JACKIE PILOSSOPH  
Love Essentially

The disruption of something you are familiar with or comfortable with can be heartbreaking."

In my opinion, hiring the The Breakup Shop is rubbing salt in the wound or twisting the knife. Thinking someone could be so coldhearted as to hire

someone to send a text on their behalf, or worse, get some other guy or girl to call and do their dirty work, is beyond upsetting to me. It takes a selfish, wimpy and cruel person to hire The Breakup Shop.

But, since most people don't aim to be selfish, wimpy and cruel, there has to be some appeal to The Breakup Shop, right? I asked Klow why he thought someone might use such a service.

"Many people don't have the communication skills to face the challenge of a breakup discussion head on," he said. "But if they learn how to communicate, and how to put their thoughts and feelings into words — which is often done in therapy, they are more likely to have an easier time. Communication takes practice."

Klow offered these tips to breaking up with someone in person:

- Avoid using "I." Instead of saying "I don't think we are compatible" or "I need to move on," try "We come from very different places" or "This doesn't feel like a love connection."

- Be genuine and honest. Although difficult, most people end up appreciating a straightforward breakup. Men, in particular are sometimes conditioned to try not to cause pain, but they end up causing more pain and hurt by being indirect, vague and even dishonest.

I did find a redeeming feature of The Breakup Shop: a "gifts for ex's" section, which includes gift options like wine glasses, the movie "The Notebook," chocolate chip cookies, Netflix gift cards, and even a bouquet of daisies and carnations. If someone broke up with me, I really do think a nice gift might soften the blow.

Writing this column, I recalled the famous Post-it note episode in season six of "Sex and The City," when Carrie's boyfriend, Jack Berger, broke up with her on a Post-it note that read, "I'm sorry. I can't. Don't hate me."

Had people been texting in the '90s, Berger's little yellow sticky note would most likely have been a text, which in my opinion is still better than hiring The Breakup Shop.

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## GIFT GUIDE

A version of these stories ran previously in Printers Row Journal, Tribune Newspapers' premium Sunday book section. For more or to subscribe, visit [www.printersrowjournal.com](http://www.printersrowjournal.com).



George Orwell and Virginia Woolf finger puppets double as magnets (philosophersguild.com).



Unemployed Philosophers Guild photos (philosophersguild.com).

## Sensing a theme

Gifting a book to a book lover for the holidays is kind of like giving your dad a tie for Father's Day, but these bookish gifts might surprise, delight

— Jeremy Mikula



Cassia/Redbubble photo

Typing "books" into the search at Redbubble yields a plethora of bookish results. If you've got an eclectic collection of books, this "Bookworm" iPhone case fits the bill. Available for iPhones 4 through 6s Plus. (\$24.16 and up, [redbubble.com](http://redbubble.com))



WWW.KLEVERCASE.CO.UK PHOTO/



Kurt Vonnegut's "Slaughterhouse-Five" features the phrase "so it goes" more than 100 times after one character after another meets his or her demise. Fortunately, this necklace requires no such prerequisites to be worn. (\$30, [outofprintclothing.com](http://outofprintclothing.com))



Fred Studio photo

But, soft! what light through yonder cutting board breaks? This solid beechwood (and cleverly named) cutting board from Fred & Friends is shaped like a book and features a cutting area of 9.5 by 6.09 inches. (\$16, [fredandfriends.com](http://fredandfriends.com))



# puzzle island

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

12/6

## Dig It: Which you'll understand early on

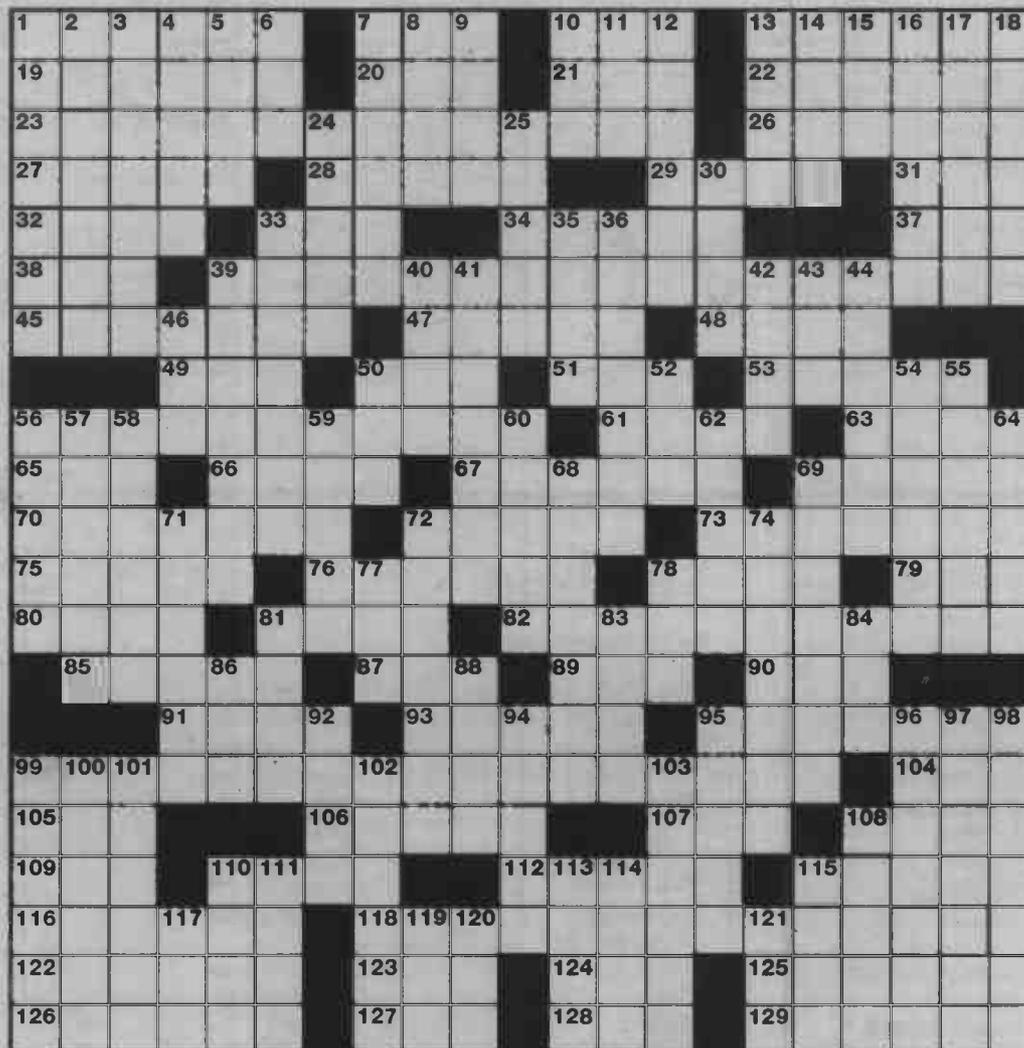
By GAIL GRABOWSKI | Edited by STANLEY NEWMAN  
(stanxwords.com)

### Across

- 1 Wouldn't share  
7 Federal start-up helper: Abbr.  
10 Midbody joint  
13 Defeated  
19 Preprogrammed, perhaps  
20 Driver's document: Abbr.  
21 Bovine sound  
22 Reduced in price  
23 Carefully considered  
26 Premier Khrushchev  
27 Nabisco cookie brand  
28 Shoe measurement  
29 Mimicked  
31 Portable bed  
32 Nest eggs held at S&Ls  
33 Chest muscle, for short  
34 Overplay a part  
37 Charlemagne's realm: Abbr.  
38 Swindle  
39 Very knowledgeable person  
45 Menu listing  
47 Has an \_\_\_ mystery (is secretive)  
48 Chronicle  
49 Taxing agcy.  
50 Suffix for expert  
51 Facebook posting, for short  
53 Bedding, tablecloths, etc.  
56 In an incisive way  
61 Feel concern  
63 Shredded cabbage dish  
65 Female lobster
- 66 Hollandaise ingredient  
67 Risktaker's challenge  
69 Pool measurement  
70 Musically lively  
72 Tailor, often  
73 Fit to be tied  
75 Commotion  
76 Bit of broccoli  
78 Screen image  
79 Catch sight of  
80 Novelist Vonnegut  
81 Big name in elevators  
82 Cut classes  
85 Monarch's domain  
87 Early afternoon  
89 Japanese dramatic form  
90 Stayed out of sight  
91 Collarless tops  
93 Owl in Harry Potter novels  
95 Nation on the Arctic Circle  
99 Butch Cassidy and associates  
104 Sushi selection  
105 Suffix for press  
106 Eroded  
107 Drilling equipment  
108 Tbsp. and tsp.  
109 Storage container  
110 Highly attentive  
112 Deplete  
115 Like a lot  
116 Markdown marker  
118 Popular pet  
122 Quantity consumed  
123 Altar avowal  
124 Director Brooks  
125 Ogle  
126 Mall tenants  
127 Short break of a sort  
128 Some HP products  
129 Collar extensions

### Down

- 1 "That's kind of you"  
2 Golf club with a nearly vertical face  
3 Chivalrous  
4 Shore birds  
5 Soul singer James  
6 Outburst from Homer  
7 Water channel  
8 Nickname for Dallas  
9 German eight  
10 Ins. plan with copays  
11 Bettor's note  
12 Stew ingredient  
13 Off-white shade  
14 Oklahoma's "Queen Wheat City"  
15 Show curiosity  
16 Meditative exercise  
17 Matador's opponent  
18 Spruce up  
24 Olympics legend Jesse  
25 Possessive pronoun  
30 Sassy  
33 Specialty bakery  
35 Alphabetic quartet  
36 Any service academy graduate  
39 "Heavens!"  
40 Brewer's oven  
41 Shortstop, e.g.  
42 Rooster or stallion  
43 *Arabian Nights* prename  
44 Not as relaxed  
46 — Tin Tin  
50 Publicity, informally  
52 Rotating machine part  
54 City on the Rio Grande  
55 *Life Below Zero* ailer, familiarly  
56 Verb sung by the Scarecrow



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

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- 57 Decant again  
58 Unabbreviated  
59 Far above the ground  
60 Deviated from a course  
62 Clinton's labor secretary  
64 Deal partner  
68 Form of vitamin A  
69 Activity in most musicals  
71 Opulent residence  
72 "Isn't that adorable!"  
74 Raiding the fridge  
77 Ignited  
78 Einstein's "I"  
81 Warning sign  
83 Causeway fee  
84 The "good" cholesterol: Abbr.  
86 Maui memento  
88 "You pass — pay" (test-prep guarantee)  
92 Instructions part  
94 Grammy category, for short  
95 Barely visible  
96 Large wardrobe cabinet  
97 Imaginary  
98 Places for oases  
99 Excessive pride  
100 Point in the right direction  
101 Furnish with temporarily  
102 Bonnet securer  
103 Patio appliances  
108 Mag's salesperson  
110 Toothed tool  
111 Quite a while  
113 Beef cut  
114 Actor Baldwin  
115 Neck of the woods  
117 Paving supply  
119 12 Down source: Abbr.  
120 Outdo  
121 90-degree turn



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**Judicial Sales - Real Estate**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION  
NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC  
Plaintiff,

WALDEMAR H. MAZUR, MIROSLAWA GORALCZYK, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR AMERICA'S WHOLESALE LEASER  
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. 10-27-316-025-0000. 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 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, between the hours of 3 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 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 TJS#C: 35-16665 1676391  
11/26/2015, 12/3/2015, 12/10/2015 3773091

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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 WACHOVIA MORTGAGE, FSB SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WORLD SAVINGS BANK, N.A.  
Plaintiff,

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. 09-13-321-020-0000. 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 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, between the hours of 3 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 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 TJS#C: 35-16655 1676386  
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**Judicial Sales - Real Estate**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION  
FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION  
Plaintiff,

-v-  
YOUKHANA D. SLAW A/K/A YOUKHANNA DANIEL SLAW A/K/A YOUKHANNA SLAWA, KHANA SLAW, GEORGE Y. DANIEL, CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A.  
Defendants

12 CH 033492  
9254 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 9254 LOWELL AVENUE, SKOKIE, IL 60076 Property Index No. 10-15-223-047. 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, between the hours of 3 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 PA1225377. 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 for a 7 day status report of pending sales. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300 CHICAGO, IL 60602 (312) 476-5500 Attorney File No. PA1225377 Attorney Code. 91220 Case Number: 12 CH 033492 TJS#C: 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

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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. AS 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 TOWNHOME 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, between the hours of 3 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 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 TJS#C: 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  
**BAYVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
**CITY OF CHICAGO, PETER C. KOMBIS AKA PETER KOMBIS, TOM C. KOMBIS AKA TOM KOMBIS, SOPHIA APOLOGIANNIS AKA SOPHIA C. KOMBIS AKA SOPHIA ST. PIERRE, WILLIAM BUTCHER, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ESTATE OF PETER C. KOMBIS, DECEASED, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF CONSTANTINOS KOMBIS, IF ANY, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS** Defendants  
**12 CH 11917**

**4000 WEST MORSE 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 October 13, 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 4000 WEST MORSE AVENUE, LINCOLNWOOD, IL 60712. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate is improved with a split level, single family home with 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/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(a)-(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 p.m. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorney, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300, CHICAGO, IL 60602. Tel No. (312) 476-5500. Please refer to file number PA1205639. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-5ALE 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. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300 CHICAGO, IL 60602 (312) 476-5500 Attorney File No. PA1205639 Attorney Code. 91220 Case Number **12 CH 11917** TJS#C#: 35-14975  
**1677661**  
**12/10/2015, 12/17/2015, 12/24/2015 3801564**

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 AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR WAMU MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2007-OAS TRUST**  
 Plaintiff  
 vs.  
**SUDABEH NADAR YEGANEH A/K/A SUDABEH NADAR YEGANEH A/K/A SUDABEH N. YEGANEH A/K/A SUDABEH NAMDAR-YEGANEH; DISCOVER BANK; KHALLI CHAVOSHI A/K/A K. CHAVOSHI; SIMA CHERAGHI; JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS ASSIGNEE OF FEDERAL RESERVE INSURANCE CORPORATION AS RECEIVER FOR WASHINGTON MUTUAL BANK, MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS**  
 Defendants  
**12 CH 3322**  
 Property Address: 7104 NORTH KEATING AVE. LINCOLNWOOD, IL 60712  
**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**  
 Shapiro Kreisman & Assoc. file # 11-052483  
 (It is advised that interested parties consult with their own attorneys before bidding at mortgage foreclosure sales.)  
**PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered on March 20, 2015, Kallen Realty Services, Inc., as Selling Official will at 12:30 p.m. on January 13, 2016, at 205 W. Randolph Street, Suite 1020, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real property.  
 Commonly known as 7104 North Keating Avenue, Lincolnwood, IL 60712  
 Permanent Index No.: 10-34-100-037-0000  
 The mortgaged real estate is improved with a dwelling. The property will NOT be open for inspection.  
 The judgment amount was \$723,432.78. Sale terms for non-parties: 10% of successful bid immediately at conclusion of auction, balance by 12:30 p.m. the next business day, both by cashier's check, and no refunds. The sale shall be subject to general real estate taxes, special taxes, special assessments, special taxes levied, and superior liens, if any. The property is offered "as is," with no express or implied warranties and without any representation as to the quality of title or recourse to Plaintiff. Prospective bidders are admonished to review the court file to verify all information and to view auction rules at [www.kallens.com](http://www.kallens.com).  
 For information, Sale Clerk, Shapiro Kreisman & Associates, LLC, Attorney # 42168, 2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301, Bannockburn, Illinois 60015, (847) 291-1717, between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m., weekdays only.  
**1677670**  
**12/10/2015, 12/17/2015, 12/24/2015 3801560**

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**Judicial Sales - Real Estate**

Public Notice Network Pierce & Associates File Number # 1202776  
 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 WOOD SAVINGS BANK, FSB**  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
**JULIE A ODISHO A/K/A JULIE ANN ODISHO; EDWARD ODISHO; PNC BANK, N.A., S/B/M TO NATIONAL CITY BANK; ASSET ACCEPTANCE, LLC,**  
 Defendants  
**12 CH 7606**

**PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause on April 10, 2013, Interco Judicial Sales Corporation will on Friday, January 8, 2016, at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property.  
 P.I.N. 10-33-307-026-0000.  
 Commonly known as 6607 NORTH DOWAGICK AVENUE, LINCOLNWOOD, IL 60712.  
 The mortgaged real estate is improved with a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: 25% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale which will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the premises after confirmation of the sale.  
 For information, visit our website at <http://service.atty-pierce.com>. Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only, Pierce & Associates, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602. Tel.No. (312) 476-5500. Refer to File Number 1202776.  
**INTERCO JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION**  
 Selling Officer, (312) 444-1122  
**1677399**  
**12/10/2015, 12/17/2015, 12/24/2015 3801537**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION  
**CITIZENS BANK, N.A./FKA RBS CITIZENS, N.A.**  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
**RYTA S. BLASZCZAK, CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE U/T/A DATED MARCH 2, 1992 A/K/A TRUST NUMBER 1681, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND LEGATEES OF CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION U/T/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(a)-(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) 236-5ALE 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. CODILUS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-9876 Attorney File No. 14-13-29585 Attorney ARD Code. 21762 Case Number: 12 CH 025535 TJS#C#: 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**

**1673691**  
**12/10/2015, 12/17/2015, 12/24/2015 3801515**

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,  
 vs.  
**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. 10-20-101-017-004. 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(a)-(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) 236-5ALE 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. CODILUS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-9876 Attorney ARD Code. 21762 Case Number: 14 CH 017748 TJS#C#: 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.  
**1676355**  
**11/26/2015, 12/3/2015, 12/10/2015 3773043**

**1676355**  
**11/26/2015, 12/3/2015, 12/10/2015 3773043**

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**Judicial Sales - Real Estate**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF Cook County, Illinois, County Department, Chancery Division.  
**Nationstar Mortgage LLC**  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
**Larry Muffett aka Lary Muffett aka Larry D. Muffett; Cheryl Weissman aka Cheryl J. Weissman aka Cheryl M. Weissman; The United States of America; Unknown Owners and Non Record Claimants**  
 Defendants.  
**13 CH 16915**  
**Sheriff's # 150434**  
**F13070086 NSTR**

Pursuant to a Judgment made and entered by said Court in the above entitled cause, Thomas J. Dart, Sheriff of Cook County, Illinois, will on January 20, 2016, at 1pm in room L06 of the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction the following described premises and real estate mentioned in said Judgment.  
 Common Address: 8331 Central Avenue, Morton, Illinois 60053  
 P.I.N: 10-21-300-025-0000, 10-21-300-026-0000  
 Improvements: This property consists of a Single Family Home.  
 Sale shall be under the following terms: payment of not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount of the successful and highest bid to be paid to the Sheriff by cashier's check or certified funds at the sale; and the full remaining balance to be paid to the Sheriff by cashier's check or certified funds within twenty-four (24) hours after the sale.  
 If the sale is not confirmed for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale may be entitled to at most only a return of the purchase price paid.  
 The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee's attorney, or the court appointed selling officer.  
 Sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments. Premise will NOT be open for inspection.  
 Firm information: Plaintiff's Attorney  
**ANSELMO, LUNDBERG OLIVER LLC**  
 1771 W. DIEHL, Suite 120  
 Naperville, IL 60566-7228  
 foreclosureoffice@aol-illinois.com  
 866-402-8661 fax 630-428-4620  
 For bidding instructions, visit [www.fai-illinois.com](http://www.fai-illinois.com)  
 This is an attempt to collect a debt pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.  
**1673691**  
**12/10/2015, 12/17/2015, 12/24/2015 3801515**

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,  
 vs.  
**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. 10-20-101-017-004. 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(a)-(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) 236-5ALE 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. CODILUS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-9876 Attorney ARD Code. 21762 Case Number: 14 CH 017748 TJS#C#: 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.  
**167661**  
**12/10/2015, 12/17/2015, 12/24/2015 3801549**

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**Judicial Sales - Real Estate**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION  
**FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION ("FANNIE MAE"), A CORPORATION ORGANIZED AND EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,**  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
**CZESLAW DUSZEWSKI, TERESA DUSZEWSKI, JADWIGA A. DAVIDSON,**  
 STATE OF ILLINOIS  
 Defendants  
**14 CH 04070**  
**5839 CHURCH 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 October 1, 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 5839 CHURCH STREET, Morton Grove, IL 60053. Property index No. 10-17-402-039-0000 VOL 0115. The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The judgment amount was \$277,732.41. 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(a)-(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, JOHN SON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC, 230 W. Monroe Street, Suite #1125, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 541-9710 Please refer to file number 13-8575. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-5ALE 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. JOHN SON, BLUMBERG & ASSOCIATES, LLC 230 W. Monroe Street, Suite #1125 Chicago, IL 60606 (312) 541-9710 Attorney File No. 13-8575 Attorney ARD Code. 20942 Case Number: 14 CH 04070 TJS#C#: 35-14624 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.  
**1677661**  
**12/10/2015, 12/17/2015, 12/24/2015 3801549**

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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 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, 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 (f)-(2), 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(5), and 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g)-(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 (g)-(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 ARD 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

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**Judicial Sales - Real Estate**

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(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 Mortgagee, 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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**Judicial Sales - Real Estate**

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

**FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION**  
Plaintiff,  
-v-  
**KEMAL 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 Mortgagee, 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: 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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**LEGALIS**

**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 CWAIF INC, ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2005-83CB, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-83CB**  
PLAINTIFF  
-v-  
**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**  
Priority Address:  
1445 W Touhy Ave. Apt. 7B  
Park Ridge, IL 60068  
CAL 61

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION AS TO UNKNOWN OWNERS, GENERALLY, 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. 2697742, AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, TOGETHER WITH ITS UNDIVIDED PERCENTAGE INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS IN SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 41 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK, ILLINOIS.

PLN: 09-35-100-028-019  
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 Mortgagee(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 a judgment after that day and any time entered in accordance with the prayer for relief in said Complaint.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT:  
Kluever & Platt, LLC  
65 E. Wacker Place, Ste. 2300  
Chicago, Illinois 60601  
(312) 201 6679  
Attorney No. 38413  
Our File #: SMSF0097  
12/3, 12/10, 12/17/15  
3762267

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**Legal Notices**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM PUBLIC HEARINGS**

The Village of Skokie has scheduled a series of meetings to solicit public input on the Year Action Plan for the Village's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Public hearings are conducted to determine Skokie's request for funding to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Hearings will be held at the end of the Village Board of Trustees meetings on December 21, 2015, and January 4 and February 1, 2016. A review of the current year's projects, CDBG program objectives, and program priorities for the 1-year Action Plan will take place on Monday, December 21. All new proposals for CDBG funding will be reviewed on Monday, January 4. Funding decisions will be made at the final public hearing on Monday, February 1. Board meetings begin at 8:00 p.m.

HUD provides CDBG funding to qualified local communities annually under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act. These funds are used for physical improvement projects, housing programs, social services, and other activities that are consistent with local planning goals and CDBG regulations. Eligible projects must meet national objectives by principally benefiting the low- and moderate-income people from the community, or aiding in the prevention or elimination of blighting conditions. All projects must be approved by HUD before funds are released. Skokie expects to receive approximately \$450,000 for the coming fiscal year.

For more information on the CDBG Program, please contact Carrie Haberstick, Planner/CDBG Administrator, at 847-933-8447, 12/10/17/2015 3798479

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE INTENT OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE PARK RIDGE PARK DISTRICT, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, TO SELL \$610,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION LIMITED TAX PARK BONDS, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WILL BE USED FOR THE BUILDING, MAINTAINING, IMPROVING AND PROTECTING OF THE PARKS AND EXISTING LAND AND FACILITIES OF THE DISTRICT AND FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE EXPENSES INCIDENT THERE TO**

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Park Commissioners of the Park Ridge Park District, Cook County, Illinois (the "District") will hold a public hearing on the 17th day of December, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. The hearing will be held in the Board Room at the Maine Park Leisure Center, 2701 W. Sibley Street, Park Ridge, 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 \$610,000, the proceeds of which will be used for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the parks and 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 Park Ridge Park District, Cook County, Illinois.

Dated the 10th day of December, 2015.

/s/ Richard Brandt

Secretary  
Board of Park Commissioners  
Park Ridge Park District  
Cook County, Illinois  
12/10/2015 3806808

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**Public Hearings****LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Skokie Plan Commission, Thursday, January 7, 2016, Village of Skokie, 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077, at 7:30 P.M., to consider the following:

**2015-50P - Zoning Chapter Amendment, Storefront Windows and Entry Doors**

The Skokie Village Manager requests to amend Sections 118-144 and 118-184 of the Skokie Village Code regarding storefront windows and entry doors and any other necessary modifications to the Village Code related to this request.

**2015-51P -Zoning Chapter Amendment, Demonstration Projects**

The Skokie Village Manager requests review of demonstration projects and recommends amendments to Chapter 118 of the Skokie Village Code and any other necessary modifications to the Village Code related to this request.

**2015-52P - Complete Streets Policy**

The Skokie Village Manager requests review of Skokie's draft Complete Streets Policy. This presentation is for informational purposes only.

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:** Plans and related documents are available at the Village's Community Development Department, Planning Division, (847) 933-8447, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

**SPECIAL AID:** Available upon request for the disabled. Call (847) 673-0500 or email info@skokie.org.

Interested parties are invited to attend this meeting. This notice is for information purposes only. Published in the Skokie Review on December 10, 2015. Paul Luke, Chairman 12/10/2015 3808541

**Public Hearings****Notice of Lincolnwood Public Hearing**

Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, December 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., the Traffic Commission will conduct a Public Hearing on the matter below in the Council Chambers Room of Village Hall, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, Illinois:

**Street Vacation:** Morse Ave. between East Prairie Rd. and Crawford Ave.

Consideration of a request by Lincolnwood School District 74 for a Street Vacation of Morse Ave. between East Prairie Rd. and Crawford Ave. (The street bisects the School District 74 campus property and has not been used as a roadway for more than 40 years.)

At this Public Hearing, the Traffic Commission will accept and consider all testimony and evidence pertaining to this request. Persons desiring to comment or present evidence or testimony on any of these matters should appear at this Public Hearing or submit written comments in advance for consideration at the Hearing.

Written comments, addressed to the Village Traffic Commission in the Police Department of Village Hall, 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, Illinois 60712, must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on the day of the Hearing.

Information concerning these requests is available for inspection in the Police Department during normal business hours.

Dated: December 2, 2015  
12/10/2015 3787813

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**Public Notices****SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS VILLAGE OF NORRIDGE 2016**

THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS ARE ALL HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE NORRIDGE VILLAGE HALL, 4000 N. OLCOTT AVENUE.

REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE SECOND (2ND) WEDNESDAY OF THE FOLLOWING MONTHS:

JANUARY 13  
FEBRUARY 10  
MARCH 09  
NOVEMBER 09  
DECEMBER 14

AND ON THE SECOND (2ND) AND FOURTH (4TH) WEDNESDAY OF THE FOLLOWING MONTHS:

APRIL 13 & 27  
MAY 11 & 25  
JUNE 08 & 22  
JULY 13 & 27  
AUGUST 10 & 24  
SEPTEMBER 14 & 28  
OCTOBER 12 & 26

REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL COMMENCE AT 6:30 PM

THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS COMMITTEE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT 7:00 P.M. AND PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD AT 7:30 P.M. ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH, EXCEPT FOR THE FOLLOWING DATES: JULY 4, SEPTEMBER 5 and NOVEMBER 7. THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS WILL MEET ON THE SECOND MONDAY IN JULY, SEPTEMBER AND NOVEMBER.

MEETINGS OF THE ADVISORY REVIEW COMMITTEE ARE HELD AT 6:15 P.M. ON THE THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, \*IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM.

INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

PUBLISHED by me this 10 th day of December 2015 in the Pioneer Press/Norridge and Harwood Heights News. Debra Budnik, Village Clerk 12/10/2015 3807757

**Storage - Legal****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

**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 Sunogon  
12/3, 12/10/15 3779496

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# Second Shift

BY GAIL GRABOWSKI

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

## ACROSS

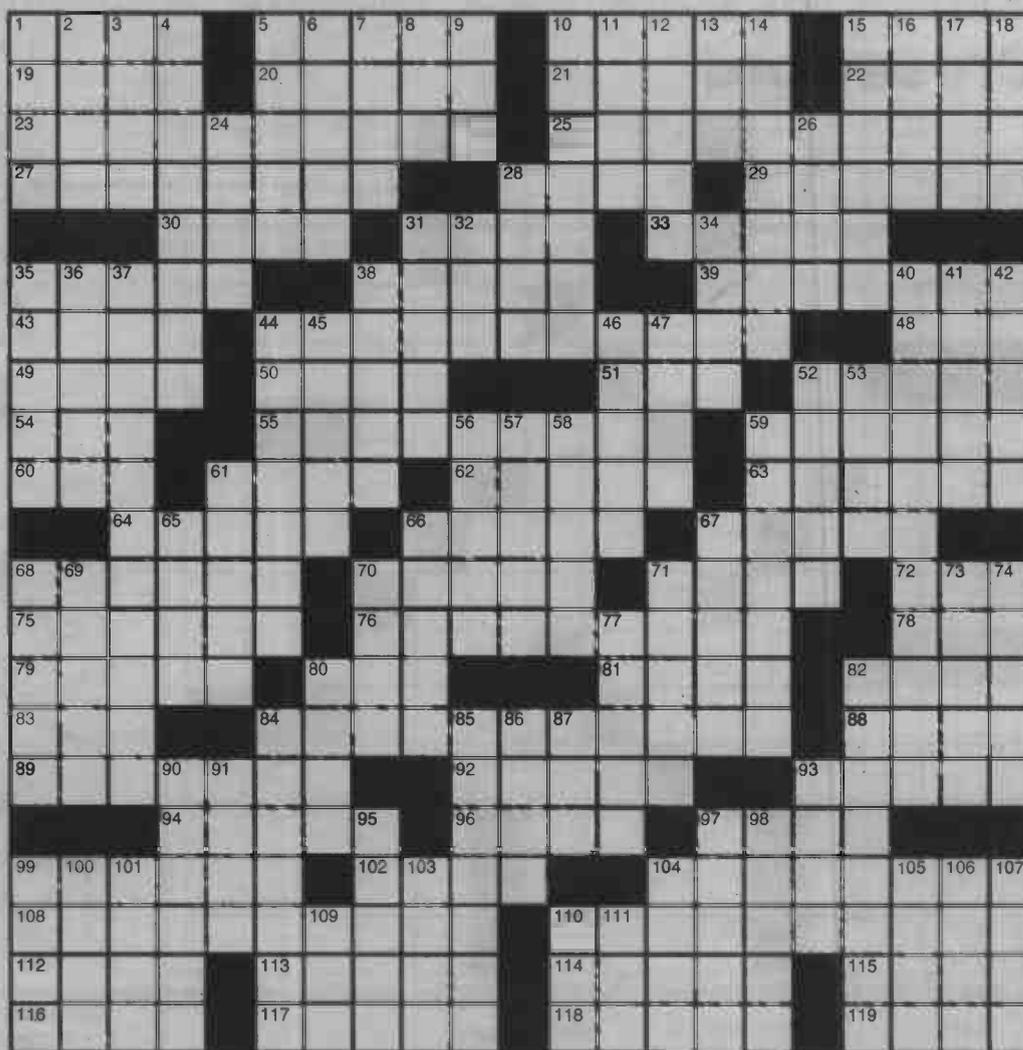
- 1 "SOS" group  
 5 Race site for more than 300 years  
 10 Traffic stoppers?  
 15 Goes on and on  
 19 Tradition born under King Kamehameha II  
 20 The "It Girl" Bow  
 21 Youngest of three dramatic sisters  
 22 Inner: Pref.  
 23 Gust that rattles the blinds?  
 25 Humor among buddies?  
 27 No longer used  
 28 Tweeting source  
 29 "Trés sexy!"  
 30 Rich deposit  
 31 Nouveau-Mexique, e.g.  
 33 Put away  
 35 Plumbing piece  
 38 1983 Indy 500 winner Tom  
 39 Sprint, for one  
 43 Colorado tributary  
 44 Where mixologists learn the ropes?  
 48 Genetic info carrier  
 49 Heaps  
 50 "Rubáiyát" rhyme scheme  
 51 Rare indication?  
 52 Peanuts, say  
 54 Gere title role  
 55 Commonplace ballet technique?  
 59 Steadfast  
 60 NYSE regulator  
 61 Cancellation of a kind  
 62 "... we all?"  
 63 Tracks down  
 64 Made judgments on diamonds  
 66 Winner of 82 PGA Tour tournaments  
 67 Pipe cleaner  
 68 Zen enlightenment  
 70 "That sounds bad!"  
 71 Chiefs coach Andy  
 72 Short lines at the register?  
 75 Garfield, e.g.  
 76 Holiday season store statistic?  
 78 PX customer  
 79 Start of an attorney's conclusion  
 80 Masters gadget  
 81 Kiddie-lit monster  
 82 D-Day city  
 83 Round fig.  
 84 Buzzers that can't be seen?

- 88 Split-resistant lumber  
 89 "Whatever you say, honey"  
 92 Sends  
 93 Cheap shots  
 94 Greenery-covered, as walls  
 96 Liable to snap  
 97 Heath-covered wasteland  
 99 Captivate  
 102 Mystery writer Buchanan  
 104 Solitary sort  
 108 Ordinary dolt?  
 110 Termite?  
 112 Generous offer  
 113 Backspace over  
 114 Did some whittling, say  
 115 Hindu melody  
 116 American-born Jordanian queen  
 117 Trifled (with)  
 118 Tips off  
 119 Keycard receiver

## Down

- 1 "One more thing ..."  
 2 Light source  
 3 They're heard in herds  
 4 Bank offering  
 5 Had a yearning  
 6 Political list  
 7 Encrust  
 8 Smelter raw material  
 9 Carwash challenge  
 10 Line at the beach?  
 11 LAX postings  
 12 Real cards  
 13 "Inside Politics" ailer  
 14 Repeat  
 15 Start of a quaint business sign  
 16 "Diana" singer  
 17 Co. known for music compilations  
 18 Former Cubs slugger  
 24 Brake  
 26 "Piano Man" pianist  
 28 "Avatar" race  
 31 Room-size computer unveiled in 1946  
 32 Jack's value, sometimes  
 34 Somewhat  
 35 "Holy moly!"  
 36 Bath quantity?  
 37 Tools for removing reputation stains?

- 38 Clog cousin  
 40 Complaint department?  
 41 Rouen relative  
 42 Fabricates  
 44 Mom's mealtime encouragement  
 45 Critiqued  
 46 Drudgery  
 47 Veggie sometimes pickled  
 52 High-end violin  
 53 Tandoori bread  
 56 She adopted Tigger  
 57 Hospital holding area, briefly  
 58 Principal roles  
 59 Big steps  
 61 Fat-shunning fellow  
 65 Hang-around-the-house wear  
 66 Scintilla  
 67 Mower handle?  
 68 Highly seasoned  
 69 High-altitude home  
 70 Was in the hole  
 71 First host of "America's Got Talent"  
 73 High-tech classroom  
 74 Concocts, with "up"  
 77 Tom Sawyer's aunt  
 80 Lose energy  
 82 Sci-fi film classic  
 84 Do cover  
 85 Fixed  
 86 Zip, in Zaragoza  
 87 Pudding fruit  
 90 Romantic evening switch  
 91 Rachael Ray sautéing initialism  
 93 Transvaal settler  
 95 Hold up  
 97 Item sold in a kit  
 98 How music may be sold  
 99 Business sch. subject  
 100 Prohibition  
 101 It's used in rounds  
 103 Shot contents  
 104 Lounge around  
 105 Mirror shape  
 106 Component of some small Ferraris  
 107 Kegger venue  
 109 HUN neighbor, to the IOC  
 110 It may be dry or sparkling  
 111 Laudatory verse

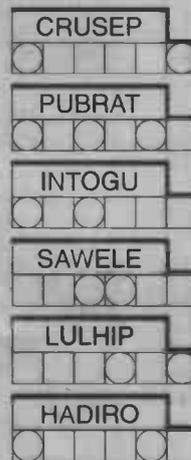


Last week's answers appear on the next page

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## Jumble

Unscramble the six Jumbles, one letter per square, to form six words. Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by this cartoon.



PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW



This week's answers appear on the next page

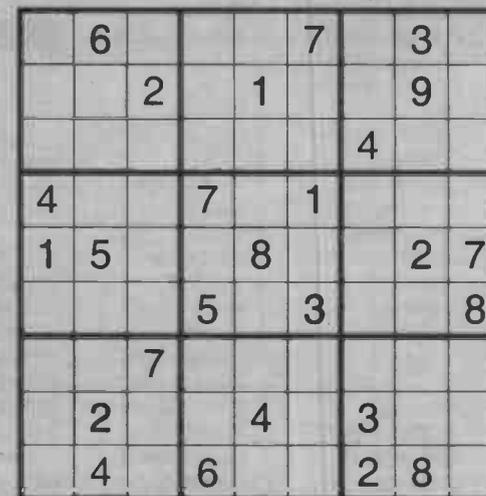
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2015 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

## Sudoku

12/6

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

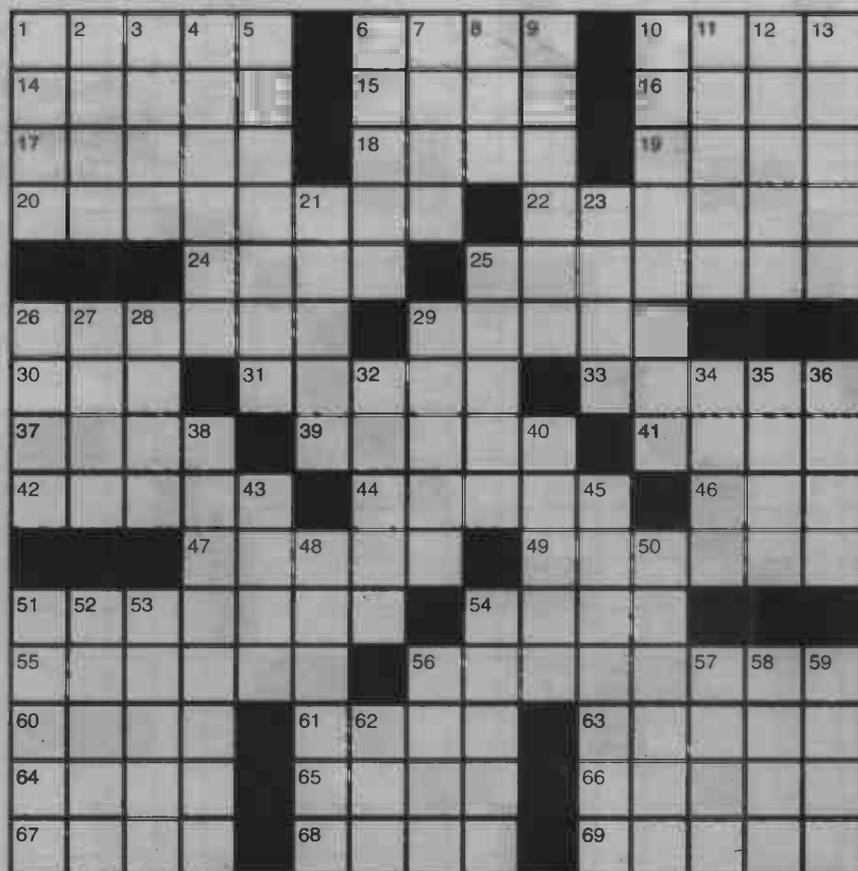
Level: **1 2 3 4**



Last week's answers appear on the next page

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# Crossword



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

12/9/15

## ACROSS

- 1 Frequently  
6 Eve's man  
10 Lion's neck hair  
14 On one's own  
15 Evans or Robertson  
16 Skunk's defense  
17 \_\_\_ firma; dry land  
18 Leave out  
19 Hideaway  
20 Elected officials  
22 Go by, as time  
24 Trait transmitter  
25 Lifted up  
26 Sign of affection  
29 Deserves  
30 \_\_\_ dos, tres...  
31 \_\_\_ on; reveals the offenses of  
33 J. Paul or Estelle  
37 Celebrity  
39 Cup-shaped flower  
41 As \_\_\_ as a boil  
42 Yearned  
44 Happen again  
46 Habit wearer  
47 Compare  
49 Joshes with  
51 \_\_\_ around; commanded  
54 Gigantic  
55 Bawl out

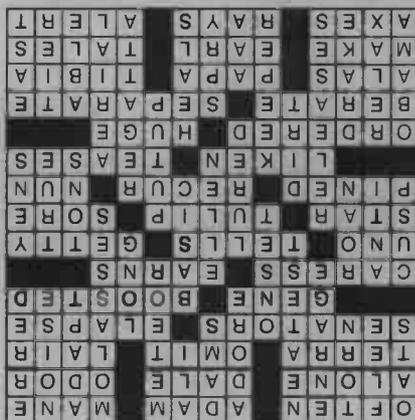
- 56 Go different ways

- 60 "Woe is me!"  
61 Family member  
63 Leg bone  
64 Create  
65 Jimmy Carter's middle name  
66 Sagas  
67 Chopping tools  
68 Charles and Romano  
69 Give a heads-up to

## DOWN

- 1 Dobbin's dinner  
2 Escape  
3 Feeling mixed emotions  
4 Infuriate  
5 Most orderly  
6 Venerate  
7 Aswan and Hoover  
8 Heavyweight Muhammad \_\_\_  
9 Shooting star  
10 Ingredient in baked beans  
11 Alter to fit  
12 Racket  
13 Miscalculated  
21 Beginning  
23 "So \_\_\_!"; casual farewell

## Solutions



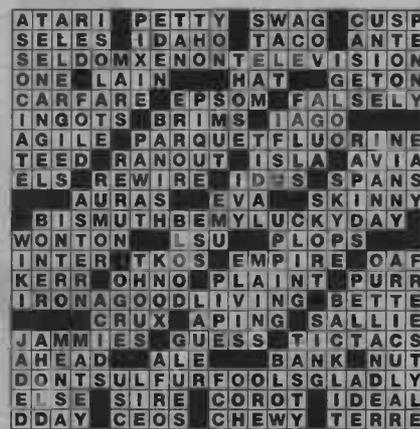
- 25 \_\_\_ training; boot camp  
26 Part of a tooth  
27 "Nay" voter  
28 Reddish horse  
29 Actress Burstyn  
32 Enticed  
34 Truck scale divisions  
35 \_\_\_-blue; loyal  
36 Strong desires  
38 Sets free  
40 \_\_\_ with; tolerate  
43 Soil  
45 Boat race  
48 Big enough fish  
50 Antenna  
51 2012 winner  
52 Kick back  
53 Male duck  
54 Gets well  
56 Agile  
57 Qualified  
58 Layer of a wedding cake  
59 "Krakatoa, \_\_\_ of Java"; film for Maximilian Schell  
62 Motorists' assn.



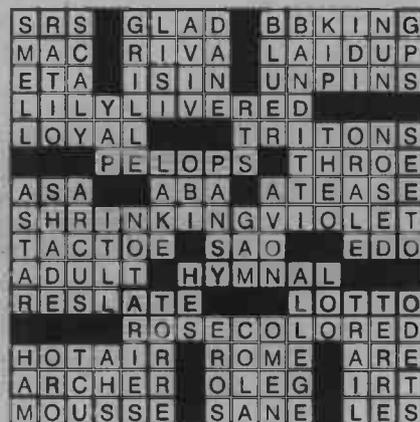
# puzzle island solutions

## Last week's crosswords

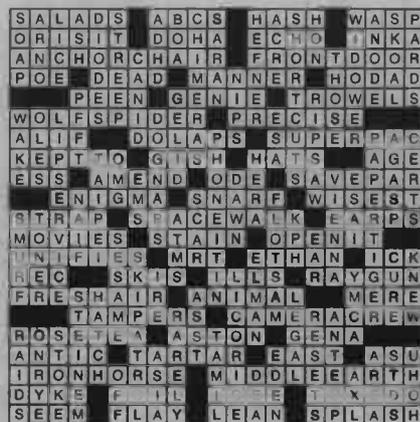
### "Elementary?"



### "Descriptives"



### "Man to Man"



## Last week's Quote-Acrossic

(Eric) FELTEN: THOSE LITTLE LISTS: People who waste four years studying postcolonial theory and concrete poetry or just being knuckleheads at brand name colleges will still, with the 'right' sheepskin, enjoy lifetimes of assumed brilliance.

## Last week's Sudoku

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

## This week's Jumble

SPRUCE OUTING UPHILL  
ABRUPT WEASEL HAIRDO

She had problems with her sink, but luckily she had a plumber —

AT HER  
DISPOSAL

chicago  
tribune.com  
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# Gifts from the suburbs

This year, give them something from home

By Annie Alleman  
The Beacon-News

Face it, no one on your gift list wants a food dehydrator or one of those singing fish.

Be the hero this year and give the special people in your life something super useful and yet totally unique.

Here are some ideas to help you win Christmas this year.

**Season passes. Six Flags season passes.** No one — no one — would hate this gift. Even a bad day at Six Flags is better than a normal day anywhere else. There are options, too. And it doesn't have to be just Six Flags — you can get season passes to Brookfield Zoo, Raging Waves Waterpark in Yorkville or even Indiana Beach. "The season pass is an incredible value ... and it's really a great gift for all ages," said Tess Claussen, communications specialist at Six Flags Great America. "We pride ourselves on providing the most thrills for all ages," Claussen said. "Tickets cost \$68.99 each when you purchase four, and you have until March to pay it off. You can also pay it off in monthly installments. A season pass has a lot of different perks to it," she said. "You get free admission to Hurricane Harbor, free Fright Fest, three 'bring a friend' free tickets, plus \$300 worth of special discounts. We also have Coaster After Dark events, where they come to the park after it closes and get exclusive coaster time." There's also the All-Season Dining Pass for \$79.99, which gets you lunch, dinner and a snack every time you come to the park, she said.

**DuPage Children's Museum.** Along the lines of season passes, how about a membership to the newly renovated kid spot in downtown Naperville? After a pipe burst during the night al-

most a year ago, causing about \$2 million in damages, the museum opened its doors in September after giving the place a complete makeover. Memberships range from \$90 to \$250. [dupagechildrens.org](http://dupagechildrens.org).

**Portillo's.** You know what a staple Portillo's is in the Chicago area. From its Italian beef sandwiches to the chocolate cake, the food is legendary. Not only can you do gift cards ranging from \$5 to \$100, but you can ship Portillo's to friends and family unfortunate enough to live not within driving distance. What a hero you'll be when your uncle in Duluth opens up a box of tamales, barbecued ribs, hot dogs or Italian beef sandwiches. Now that's a great gift. [portillos.com](http://portillos.com).

**A tour of local breweries.** There are a lot of breweries in the area, from Three Floyds Brewpub in Munster, Ind., to Two Brothers Brewery in Warrenville, to Penrose Brewing Company in Geneva, to Mickey Finn's Brewery in Libertyville. Hockey fans should definitely take note of Light the Lamp Brewery in Grayslake, with beers like Red Line Ale, Sin Bin Stout and the Hattrick Hefeweizen. Treat the craft beer lover in your life the gift of a brewpub tour, a six of his favorite brew or some merch.

**Gift certificates to Hollywood Palms in Naperville or Hollywood Boulevard in Woodridge.** These high-end movie theaters combine the restaurant and bar experience with movie watching. The chairs are luxe, the bar is fully stocked and the menu is on point. These theaters also do events like the Hollywood Classic Film Series and "The Rocky Horror Picture Show." [hollywoodpalmscinema.com](http://hollywoodpalmscinema.com) [hollywoodblvd cinema.com](http://hollywoodblvd cinema.com).



SIX FLAGS

Tickets to Six Flags Great America in Gurnee make a nice holiday gift, and they remind us of warmer weather.

## Five great places to get locally made chocolates in the suburbs

1. **Long Grove Confectionery**, 220 Robert Parker Coffin Road, Long Grove. [longgrove.com](http://longgrove.com).
2. **Graham's Fine Chocolate and Ice Cream**, 302 S. 3rd St., Geneva. [Grahamschocolate.com](http://Grahamschocolate.com).
3. **Anderson's Candy Shop**, 128 E. Main St., Barrington. [Andersonscandyshop.com](http://Andersonscandyshop.com).
4. **Dan's Homemade Candies**, Joliet. 1003 Plainfield Road, Joliet. [Danshomemadecandies.com](http://Danshomemadecandies.com).
5. **Le Chocolate du Bushard**, 127-129 S Washington St, Naperville. [Lelechocolatedubouchard.com](http://Lelechocolatedubouchard.com)

**The Russian Gift Shop in Lisle.** Also known as the Maison Russe ("Red House,") the Russian Gift Shop specializes in folk art, tea sets, Russian porcelain, nesting dolls, Christmas figurines and more. You can also buy a gift certificate online. [Therussianshop.com](http://Therussianshop.com).

**Oberweis Dairy products.** Headquartered in North Aurora, Oberweis Dairy has stores throughout northern Illinois and

Northwest Indiana. Why not give the gift of some "Moola" gift cards, a stuffed Bessie the Cow or Oberweis fleece blanket? You can also order ice cream and have it shipped to a loved one, or give the gift of home delivery service. [oberweisdairy.com](http://oberweisdairy.com).

**Holiday High Tea at the Pickwick Society Tearoom, Frankfort.** Here's a gift for the classy folks in your life. Every Wednesday through Saturday in Decem-

ber, you and your friends can take tea at this quaint tea shop in Frankfort. Seatings are at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. by reservation, \$30 per person. Tea includes soup, hot and cold tea sandwiches, freshly baked scones served with clotted cream and lemon curd and desserts. [pickwicktearoom.com](http://pickwicktearoom.com).

**Chicagoland Popcorn.** This mom-and-pop shop in Merrillville, Ind., is brand new, but is already making a big impression, having served nearly 100,000 bags, tins and baskets of popcorn in their first year of business. For starters, they offer a ridiculous variety of popcorn flavors — 250, to be exact. "Crab Legs" flavor was featured in the June 2015 issue of Food Network magazine. Loaded Baked Potato, Keoke Coffee and Peanut Butter and Jelly are other flavors. Take the popcorn lover in your life to this place and buy him or her a bag. They also ship tins and gift boxes. [chicagolandpopcorn.com](http://chicagolandpopcorn.com).

Annie Alleman is a freelance writer.

# The naughty list

These are the toys kids may crave, but parents dread

By Annie Alleman  
The Beacon-News

Every year, consumer groups release their lists of best and worst toys. Usually, the best toys are educational and provide children with hands-on learning. The worst toys pose some sort of safety hazard.

For example, the consumer watch dog group World Against Toys Causing Harm is warning parents about the potential choking, strangulation and bodily harm certain toys can inflict. This year, the group targeted toys such as a folding trampoline, an electronic sword and some dinosaur claws that tie in with the latest "Jurassic Park" movie.

Safety is important. We all care about safety. But you know what else we parents care about? Stupid toys that tick us off.

With that, here are 10 toys that will probably appear on your kids' wish lists this Christmas, when it's your wish that they would just disappear.

**Shopkins.** This is my No. 1 with a bullet, and naturally my kids are clamoring for them. Shopkins are tiny, squishy grocery story items that are meant to be collected and traded with friends. They are sold by the pair in baskets for about \$3 (in my day, these things would have cost 25 cents in a gumball machine). Plus, they sell play sets, vehicles and many other accessories. They come in series, so of course early sets are already irritatingly valuable. Maybe what really grinds my gears is when I tell my kids they can see the real live Shopkins when they go to the store with me, and they just laugh condescendingly like I'm the crazy aunt who drank too much at Thanksgiving dinner.

**Bunchems.** These brightly colored plastic balls with little spikes sticking out all over them — picture a palm-size, neon pink Phantasm — seem like a cute idea. Bunch them together to make shapes. Trouble is, they've been getting stuck in girls' hair with disastrous results. Read the reviews on Amazon sometime. It's

the stuff of nightmares.

**Hot Huez.** While we're talking about hair, let's talk about hair chalk. This product took a great idea — temporary hair color — but executed it poorly. You clamp a chunk of hair in a compact-like thing and pull it down toward you. What actually happens is you pull your kid's hair out — and I'm speaking from personal experience.

**Pie Face.** There is a board game that the whole intent is to knowingly, willingly, take a pie in the face. It's like a very messy but nonlethal Russian roulette. The instructions suggest putting either whipped cream or a wet sponge in the hand to keep things exciting. Then you turn the handle and cross your fingers — the handle could go off at any time. You score a point for every time you turn the handle without getting pie-faced, and the one who scores 25 points wins. It's a win for Hasbro and a loss for humanity that this game has four and a half stars on Amazon and is a best-selling board game.

**Furbacca.** Along with the roughly 8 million "Star Wars"-themed toys released this season comes a Wookiee-themed Furby, titled Furbacca. You can find it at Walmart and Amazon, retailing for \$65-80. The body says "hug me," but the eyes say, "You will obey me."

**Poo Dough.** Yep, this is exactly what it sounds like. The kit comes with a disturbingly realistic plastic mold and three colors of modeling dough: dark brown, light brown and yellow. I can see kids and dads alike wanting this particular toy.

**Imaginext Ultra T-Rex.** This thing is huge and, frankly, terrifying. He is two and a half feet tall, plus he walks, roars, and his eyes and spikes light up via LED lights. Oh, and he fires projectiles from his mouth and launches boulders from his chest. I realize now I just

spelled out exactly why little kids (and grown men) want this thing so much. See also: Poo Dough.

**SWAT Police Force Electric Battery Operated Toy Gun.** This thing has a moving slide, silencer, aiming scope and blue LED flashlight. From the reviews on Amazon, this seemed to be the prop of choice for Lara Croft cosplay, but kids who actually

wanted to play with it were disappointed with how fast it fell apart.

**VTech KidBeats Kids Drum Set.** Does this come with a pair of earplugs for Mom and Dad, too? Actually, this looks like a pretty cool toy for budding musicians. As long as I don't have to hear it.

**Wubble Bubble.** Parents on

Amazon hate this. I mean, they really hate this, to the tune of 2.2 out of 5 stars from 750 reviewers. They complained about how hard it was to inflate it and that the sticky surface picked up every single piece of flotsam it touched. Most of all, they complained that it popped almost immediately.

Annie Alleman is a freelancer.



MOOSE TOYS

Above: This Shopkins play set comes with four exclusive Shopkins and two exclusive handbags.

Far left: The interactive Furbacca toy reacts to motion and touch.

Left: Poo-Dough is a "poo mold" and three cans of brown "Poo-Dough compound."

STAR WARS

SKYROCKET TOYS

# Top toys: 5 under \$50

Joy for your favorite kids at prices your wallet also will like

By Danielle Braff | Tribune Newspapers

If you're feeling overwhelmed by the sheer number of toys on the market this year, use our quick guide to find some of the top toys for every age group for less than \$50.

Danielle Braff is a freelance writer.



◀ **Monopoly: Here and Now:** In the latest version of the classic game, Hasbro teamed up with BuzzFeed and invited fans to vote (nearly 4 million cast a ballot) for their favorite cities. The top 22 cities are featured as property spaces. For ages 8 and up. Buy it for \$19.99 at [www.hasbrotoyshop.com](http://www.hasbrotoyshop.com).

HASBRO



FATBRAINTOYS.COM

▲ **SmartMax Start Plus:** Kids can make 2-D and 3-D shapes by stringing magnetic bars and balls together. This is an open-ended construction set that works for multiple age groups and grows with your child. For ages 1 and up. Buy it for \$49.95 at [www.fatbraintoy.com](http://www.fatbraintoy.com).

▶ **Spaceflix:** You can be the director of your own space-theme, stop-motion film. Each kit comes with all you need to film your own masterpiece — except for an Apple or Android device you need to download the free stop-motion animation app. Buy it for \$16.99 at [www.marblesthebrainstore.com](http://www.marblesthebrainstore.com).

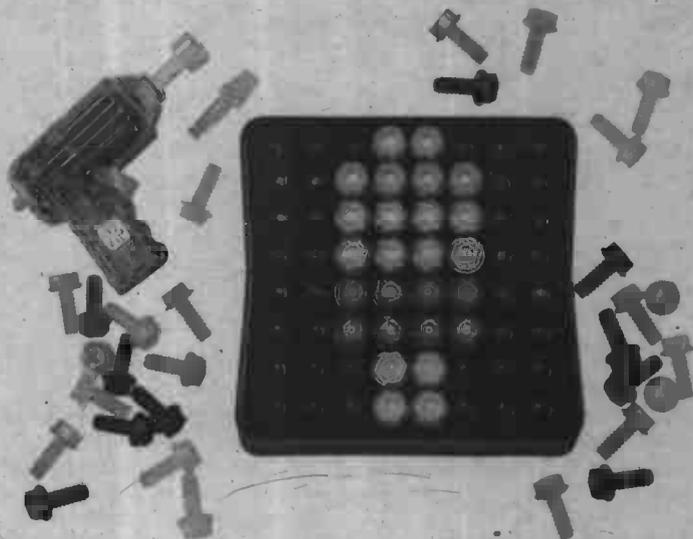


MARBLES: THE BRAIN STORE



ALEXTOYS.COM

▲ **Learn to Dress Monkey:** Children will learn how to zip, to snap, to button, to loop, to tie — and hopefully shortly after playing with this little monkey, they'll be able to dress themselves without your help. For ages 18 months and up. Buy it for \$46.99 at [www.alextoys.com](http://www.alextoys.com).



◀ **Design & Drill Brightworks:** This is a Lite-Brite type toy for which a child uses a realistic power drill to place plastic pegs in a light-up base. The peg placements can follow one of the 12 patterns included or be placed in any design that strikes a child's fancy. Buy it for \$39.99 at [www.educationallnsights.com](http://www.educationallnsights.com).

EDUCATIONAL INSIGHTS

# ALWAYS GIVING ADVICE?

Here's a tip: start a blog

If you can dish it out, we want to take it. Simply pick a topic you're passionate about and send us your pitch. If chosen, you'll join ChicagoNow, a network of hundreds of local bloggers. No worries if you're a newbie – we'll help you build and launch your platform. So get going, Chicagoland's waiting for your words of wisdom.

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



CHICAGO  
NOW

# What to get the gamer on your list

By Joe Fourhman | Tribune Newspapers

## FOR KIDS

**"Super Mario Maker" \$59.99, rated E (Wii U)**

It's easy to create your own Mario levels, dropping in props and baddies from his classic games while testing everything on the fly. You can change the visuals to match the original 1980s look or take it all the way up to the smooth-looking modern Mario of 2015. "Mario Maker" encourages experimentation, allowing you to break the rules in subtle ways to create unexpected challenges.



NINTENDO OF AMERICA

**"Disney Infinity 3.0" \$64.99, rated E10+ (PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, Xbox 360, Xbox One, Wii U)**

"Star Wars" arrives in Disney's virtual theme park in grand fashion, with a "Clone Wars" play set and a pile of aliens and starships for the game's anything-goes Toy Box mode. A revamped hub area helps organize your adventures, and the new farming and sidekick options bring a lot of new value to the Toy Box. Additional modes are available through \$19.99 expansions.



DISNEY INTERACTIVE

**"Splatoon" \$59.99, rated E10+ (Wii U)**

This fashionably messy game is about trendy squid kids who love paintball battles just as much as dressing in brand-name couture. Your weapons are super soakers, paint rollers and water buckets, and your goal is to cover the battlefield with as much color as you can. "Splatoon" provides the same online team-based action as dozens of other games, without the gore and violence.



NINTENDO OF AMERICA

**"Minecraft: Story Mode" \$4.99-\$29.99, rated E10+ (iOS, Android, PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, Xbox 360, Xbox One, PC)**

Gaming's biggest phenomenon in recent memory digs in a new direction in this episodic "Minecraft" adventure. Imagine a playable TV show set inside the familiar world of "Minecraft," and you've got the idea. Even though "Story Mode" doesn't play like regular "Minecraft" — instead it's more about solving puzzles and choosing what characters say — the fans in your house will love it.



TELLTALE GAMES

**"Yo-Kai Watch" \$39.99, rated E10+ (Nintendo 3DS)**

Similar to "Pokemon," this new creature-collecting game focuses on capturing mischievous spirits that hide all around us. You're introduced to the secret world of "Yo-Kai" by a friendly ghost butler and given a fancy watch to capture and train them. "Yo-Kai Watch" includes plenty of "Pokemon"-style battles, but it is just as comfortable coaxing spirits to help townspeople in need.



NINTENDO OF AMERICA

## FOR ADULTS

**"The Witcher 3: Wild Hunt" \$49.99, rated M (PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, Xbox 360, Xbox One, PC)**

This medieval masterpiece turns you into a monster-killing hero for hire with a gigantic world to explore. Lead character Geralt has an understated sense of humor, and the game's expansive options for customization let you make him your own. Don't overlook the built-in collectible card game, one of the many optional side missions that are developed way beyond being mere distractions.



CD PROJEKT RED

**"Armello" \$19.99, rated E10+ (PlayStation 4, PC)**

A beautiful, intricate board game, "Armello" lets players compete for the fate of their country and poisoned king. The cartoon animals strike a balance between serious and silly as they battle and scheme across a hexagonal map. "Armello" offers the experience of a nicely complicated tabletop game without having to worry about setting up lots of little pawns and card decks.



LEAGUE OF GEEKS

**"Batman: Arkham Knight" \$59.99, rated M (PlayStation 4, Xbox One, PC)**

Batman returns to the streets of Gotham City to fight a mysterious new enemy named the Arkham Knight. Naturally, plenty of his friends and foes join in the chase, as the story winds around the superhero's familiar supporting cast. While the "Arkham" games are famed for spotlighting both the detective's gear and his combat skills, this release adds Batman's ultimate gadget, the Batmobile.



WARNER BROS. INTERACTIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**"Until Dawn" \$59.99, rated M (PlayStation 4)**

Featuring motion-captured performances by actors from such shows as "Mr. Robot," "Nashville" and "Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.," "Until Dawn" is a teen horror movie where you control the characters' fates. An evolving script can turn film cliches into interesting character development depending on how you play it, but it is ultimately up to you who makes it through the night alive.



SONY COMPUTER ENTERTAINMENT AMERICA

**"Metal Gear Solid V: The Phantom Pain" \$59.99, rated M (PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, Xbox 360, Xbox One, PC)**

Kiefer Sutherland is the voice of battle-worn hero Snake in this latest installment of "tactical espionage operations." Set mostly in Africa and the Middle East, you'll infiltrate enemy compounds while building a private army. The big twist for this "Metal Gear" is that its world is open to be explored at your leisure, rather than being limited to specific structured missions.



KONAMI DIGITAL ENTERTAINMENT

## GIFT GUIDE

# Tips for picking out the perfect gift card for giving

By Elana Dure  
Tribune Newspapers

Nearly 6 in 10 consumers celebrating the holidays say they would like to receive gift cards as gifts this year, according to the National Retail Federation's 2015 Holiday Consumer Spending Survey. This makes gift cards the most requested gift for the ninth year in a row.

"The appeal of a gift card over cash or a prepaid card is that you're not giving a physical item, yet you still give a sense of understanding the person and what they would like," said Eric Berger, director of growth strategies for CardCash, an online platform that allows patrons to buy and sell gift cards.

Last year, holiday spending on gift cards reached an all-time high with the average person spending \$172.74 on gift cards, totaling about \$32 billion nationwide, according to the National Retail Federation.

Gift cards are extremely popular because they remove the burdens and stresses that come with holiday shopping. More than half of the buyers surveyed in the retail trade group's November 2014 Consumer Survey said they preferred to buy gift cards to allow the recipients to select their own gifts. A quarter of customers said they choose to buy gift cards because they are easier and faster to buy than traditional gifts.

The only issue: How do you know which gift card to buy? Here are a few suggestions that can point you in the right direction.

**For mom.** Remember all those times mom stayed up late trying to keep the house in order? Cooking, cleaning and taking care of the kids sure is a full-time job (not to mention the additional hours she spends working at her



MARK LENNIHAN/AP

When shopping for someone special, a gift card is often the go-to gift. But choose the card wisely.

actual full-time, 9-to-5 office job). Consider treating mom to a stress-free weekend with a gift card to a resort, salon or spa. Facials, massages, manicures — what more can a mom ask for? She deserves the relaxation time.

**For dad.** About 29 percent of dads said their gift of choice would be a new set of tools, according to research released by Ebates in June. Instead of buying dad the wrong kind of hammer or screwdriver, why not just give him a gift card to a home improvement store? This way, dad can select the tools of his choice. Or he can skip the tools altogether and go straight for the barbecue equipment.

**For college students.** Berger said CardCash data indicates people ages 18 to 34 spend more money on fast-food gift cards than any other demographic. "It kind of makes sense," he said. "College students don't really care about what type of food, they are just going for speed." No doubt they will be grateful the next time they have a late-night study session.

**For her.** Almost 3 out of 4 women said they wanted to receive clothing as a holiday gift, according to CreditDonkey's 2013 holiday survey. Of course, it's never smart to guess what outfit she'd want to wear

(or what size, for that matter). Give her a gift card to her favorite clothing shop instead.

**For him.** More than 4 out of 5 men said they wanted to receive electronics as a gift, according to the CreditDonkey survey. But electronics come in a wide variety of types and styles, ranging from large flat-screen TVs to sleek video game consoles. Don't guess what he wants this holiday season. Give him a gift card to a big-box electronics store or online retailer and let him choose his own tech toy.

**For that friend you don't know so well.** We all have that person. The one we are obligated to give a gift, yet have no idea what he or she likes. How do we maneuver that roadblock? With a gift card for a large department store that offers a multitude of goods. "If you're looking to just give an overall gift to make the person happy and you know that they will be able to use it for basically anything they want, then you may want to focus on a broad brand," Berger said. "(Focus on) something that covers a whole slew of different types of products. That way, you cover as many bases as possible."

Elana Dure is a freelance writer.

# Gifts that keep on giving, in more ways than one

By Danielle Braff  
Tribune Newspapers

This holiday, consider giving a gift to your family and friends that keeps on giving — to you and others.

Studies have found that people derive more satisfaction from experiences than from material gifts, said Amit Kumar, postdoctoral research fellow who studies consumer behavior and happiness. When these experiences also benefit others, such as charities or nonprofits, you may find that your happiness will grow even more.

Here are a few gifts that offer experiences and benefit others.

## Public garden membership

**Best for:** Families and individuals who love spending time outdoors.

**Details:** A membership to the Reciprocal Garden program from the American Horticultural Society — or a membership to one of its participating gardens — will offer entry to a network of 300 gardens throughout the country, plus a few in Canada, the Cayman Islands and the Virgin Islands.

**Price:** \$35 for an individual, \$50 for two, \$100 for four; [www.ahs.org](http://www.ahs.org). Prices vary for individual botanical gardens or arboretums.

## Classical youth concerts

**Best for:** Households with budding music lovers.

**Details:** Classical music isn't just for those who can keep quiet in their seats for more than an hour. Most major orchestras now have concerts for pint-size audience members.

**Price:** Fee varies by orchestra, but ticket prices are typically \$10 to \$20.

## Canstruction

**Best for:** Anyone with a



BOSTON SYMPHONY

A young patron tries out the baton with Thomas Wilkins at a Boston Symphony Orchestra event.

creative mind and a competitive spirit.

**Details:** Canstruction is a charity that hosts competitions worldwide in which competitors build something — such as dogs, robots and cruise ships — out of full cans of food. When the competition is over, all of the cans are donated to local hunger relief organizations. Families can work as teams, and they're responsible for providing the cans used for their project (they can get sponsors).

**Price:** Each chapter of Canstruction charges its own entry fee — though some are free to enter. [canstruction.org](http://canstruction.org)

## Working farm vacation

**Best for:** City families and urban dwellers.

**Details:** Many farms are starting to allow individuals and families to stay on extended visits and help with the chores. Recipients might be collecting eggs, milking goats and cows, picking fruits and vegetables, feeding pigs, and eating the fresh farm food. Since it's a vacation, none of the farm work is mandatory, and nobody is expected to wake up at the crack of

dawn. Farms around the country participate, and these working vacations are very family-friendly.

**Price:** Each farm charges its own price, but they tend to be around \$200 per night per family, which includes all activities (food is usually extra). [farmstayus.com](http://farmstayus.com), [farmvacationfinder.com](http://farmvacationfinder.com)

## Museum sleeper

**Best for:** The family that wonders what happens inside its favorite museum after dark.

**Details:** Nearly all museums and aquariums host family sleepovers that begin as soon as the doors close to the public.

Families have adventures together holding flashlights in the dark with like-minded patrons before plopping sleeping bags down next to their favorite exhibits.

**Price:** This ranges by museum but is typically about \$75 to \$150 per person. Visit the prospective museum's website for details.

## Fun run

**Best for:** Active individuals and families.

**Details:** There are plenty of races that run the gamut in terms of distance — not to mention mud runs, glow runs, relays and other creative obstacle courses that can be tailored to individuals, couples or entire families. (Walkers are almost always welcome at these events too.) Many fun runs benefit nonprofit organizations and charities. Thousands of races are offered year-round.

**Price:** The price of each run varies; some are donation-only. Participants often receive, in addition to race entry, T-shirts and other items. Find races at [active.com](http://active.com).

Danielle Braff is a freelance reporter.



POSITIVE IMAGE PHOTOS

## Burr Ridge home overlooking pond: \$1.299 million

**ADDRESS:** 1003 Burr Ridge Club Drive

**ASKING PRICE:** \$1,299,900

**Listed on Aug. 26, 2015**

Burr Ridge club home with spectacular water views. Floor plan offers choice of first- or second-floor master suites. Large dining room overlooking pond opens to family room addition with paneled vaulted ceiling and windows. White kitchen with granite counters and sunny breakfast room with private courtyard patio and gardens. First-floor office addition, spacious living room with fireplace, newer first-floor master bedroom with cathedral ceiling, fireplace, master bath and closet. Second-floor master bedroom includes private bath. Other features include finished lower level, bluestone patio with tranquil views, parking near clubhouse, heated pool and tennis courts.

Agent: Beth Burt of Brush Hill Realtors, 630-204-8090

At press time this home was still for sale.



## Offering a helping hand can be the best gift of all

By Elana Dure  
Tribune Newspapers

When Avital Schwartz was about 9 years old, she teamed with her four siblings to give her parents a memorable gift in honor of their wedding anniversary. The children didn't have much money of their own, so they decided to use creativity and wits to craft a unique yet inexpensive present they knew their parents would appreciate: a homemade coupon book.

"We put in things we were willing to do like help clean the bathroom or help mom cook," said Schwartz, a University of Maryland senior. "It was all these different, cute things."

The average person celebrating Christmas, Kwanzaa or Hanukkah will spend \$805.65 on presents, according to the National Retail Federation's 2015 Holiday Consumer Spending Survey. However, some of those gifts most likely will never be used by the recipients.

"It seems like you wasted your money on something that maybe I'll use, maybe I won't," Schwartz said. "I think (a homemade coupon book) is clever, especially since I appreciate not throwing away money on gifts."

Homemade presents are also more personal than store-bought gifts and, if crafted with care and forethought, can be more meaningful as well.

"It probably really stems from the principle that it's the thought that counts," Schwartz said, noting carefully decorated homemade gifts show the recipients that the givers actually took their interests into account. "Putting it into a written form is almost like a minicontract, and it shows that you really have a commitment to the other person that you're giving it to."

Matt Leopold, of West



KRAIG SCARBINSKY/GETTY

Helping with chores around the house sometimes makes a better gift than something bought at a store.

Chester, Pa., said he believes the value of hand-crafted coupon books and certificates lies in the sentiment behind the gifts.

"I didn't cash them all in," he said, referring to the coupons his 14-year-old daughter made for Father's Day five years ago. "But I have this (coupon book), and I can look at this. ... It's not about how big the gift is. It's about the thought behind it."

Leopold said his daughter provided him with coupons for a mixture of home-related activities ranging from vacuuming the stairs to raking the leaves and cleaning the basement.

Of course, child-made coupon books are not the only creations worth sharing. The misspelled words and stick-figure drawings may be heartwarming, but adult-made coupons are just as valued.

Home improvement expert and contractor Danny Lipford of the TV show "Today's Homeowner with Danny Lipford" said the best gift you could probably give a family member or friend is your willingness to help him or her complete the difficult or strenuous chores throughout the house.

"To have someone that shows up with the tools and a good, positive attitude? Man, what a good

present that is," he said.

If the roles were reversed and somebody offered to maintain his home, Lipford said he'd ask for help with some of the deep-cleaning chores that most people tend to do only once a year. This includes cleaning the ceiling fan blades, blinds, upper windows and skylights.

"Those are the things that you usually neglect, so they are usually quite a chore to clean," he said. "Anything that requires a ladder and a little extra effort would be something I would love for someone to clean up."

Lipford also said he'd appreciate if someone offered to do his simple yet mundane tasks, including cleaning the gutters and installing curtains or blinds.

The great thing is you don't have to be close to someone to give them a homemade coupon. Lipford said he'd accept the present from anyone as long as they do the handiwork safely and correctly.

Here are some more good deeds you can offer to do throughout the home: shovel snow, wash the car, mow the lawn, wash and fold a load of laundry, empty trash bins, and walk, feed and groom the dog.

Elana Dure is a freelancer.

[chicagotribune.com/homes](http://chicagotribune.com/homes)

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Morton Grove...New Listing! Exceptional Location only 4 blocks to Park View School & park/pool. Solid built 7 rm brick Ranch, fireplace in living room. Double closets in 3 brs. Main floor family rm. New windows 2011; New roof (house & garage) 2011; New aluminum gutters/soffits/ fascia 2011; New fence in rear yard 2011. 25' x 14' concrete patio. Convenient to I/94, Old Orchard Shopping, Library, Village Hall, Forest Preserve, Golf Course, Canoe Launch, Running/Biking/Bridle Trails. Garage.....\$265,000



### NATURE LOVER'S DREAM!

Morton Grove...Just Listed! One in a million! See & believe this 7 rm Ranch located on a quiet dead end street abutting Forest Preserves. Oak floors, 20' granite kitchen w/SS appliances + breakfast rm overlooking picture perfect & serene wooded opens lands. Recently remodeled bath w/36" Corian vanity. 3 season glass enclosed porch opens to a raised 15' x 14' Lannon stone patio & natural stone landscaped yard adjacent to Forest Preserves. Full finished bsmt & bar. New furnace.....\$249,500



### A TRUE 10+ CONDO!

Skokie...Spectacular 6 room deluxe condo located in "Siena" at Old Orchard! 2 garage spaces + 2 storage rooms next to garage spaces! Perfection + décor, design & view. Exquisite kitchen & baths upgrades, hardwood floors & numerous extras! 2 bedrooms - 2 baths. Master bedroom with full bath. Superb "In-Town" location near Old Orchard Shopping, Theatre, Restaurants, Bus, Train, I-94 & much more. Like new move right in - Must see to believe!.....\$399,000



### WON'T LAST AT \$189,900!

Niles...Hurry before it's gone!! Very affordable 5 rm Ranch with huge 28' living rm/dining rm combo has built-in shelves. Updated kitchen with brand new stove. Full bath has separate tub & stand up shower. Complete tear off roof + gutter & soffits-2011. Oversized 2 car garage built in 2005. Some windows replaced 2007. Home "Air Sealed" - new chimney liner & power vent kit for the new HW heater. Couple of blocks from Grennan Heights Park. Niles offers free bus. Very clean!.....\$189,900

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

## Thursday, Dec. 10

**Des Plaines Art Guild Show:** Take some time out of your busy schedule to immerse yourself in the beauty of the paint strokes and the soul of a photographer. Featured artists include Beverly Beckman, Dolores Kenney, Stan Kotcki, Kathy Passi, Liz Pawlik, Rhonda Popko, Dee Schuster, Thelma Spain, Willard Strassburger, John Taylor and Elaine Tejcek. 1 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Sunday and Tuesday-Wednesday, Des Plaines History Center, 781 Pearson St., Des Plaines, free, 847-391-5399

**Griffin House:** With Lee Coulter. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$18-\$30, 847-492-8860

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

**Winter Arts and Crafts Expo:** The 13th annual expo features original, handmade arts and crafts by over 100 selected artisans, featuring original, handmade works of jewelry, ceramics, fiber, metal, glass, painting, photography, mixed-media and more. 10 a.m. Daily, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300

**All My Relations: A Seneca History:** In collaboration with visual artist and dancer Rosy Simas (Seneca), this exhibit features traditional and modern Seneca artifacts, which span various generations. 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 year long exhibit celebrates the history of Native American high fashion features garments that showcase American Indian artistry and expertise in tanning, weaving, embroidery, beadwork and tailoring. 10 a.m. Daily, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-1030

**Material View Art Cloth exhibit:** Showcasing work by members of the Art Cloth Network, a nationwide organization of professional textile artists. 10 a.m. Daily, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, free, 847-571-1385

**Wonderland Express:** The annual festive event features 750,000 outdoor lights and an indoor exhibition where garden-scale trains wind past miniature replicas of more than 80 Chicago-area landmarks, nestled among evergreens, poinsettias and many other holiday-themed plants. 10 a.m. Daily, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, Admission is \$12 for adults, and \$10 for children ages 3 to 12 and seniors ages 62 and older., 847-835-5440

**Much Ado About Mysteries:** Discuss Too Many Cooks: Culinary Mysteries. Advance registration recommended. 7 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Alliance Francaise du North Shore Cine-Club:** Participate in a showing and post-screening discussion in French of films. 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-328-9516

**Internet searching: Intermediate:** Spend less time searching and more time finding exactly what you need. 10 a.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Books n' Bites:** Students in Grades 3-5 are invited to join a casual, fun book discussion with Youth Librarian Sharon. 4 p.m. Thursday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Niles Songwriters Group:** Acoustic instruments are welcome. 7 p.m. Thursday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

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

**Financing a 4-Year College Degree:** Find out how obtaining a four-year college degree can be financially possible for you and your family. All are welcome. 6 p.m. Thursday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Park Ridge Fly Tying Club Meetings:** Demonstrations of fly tying are performed by an experienced demonstrator. The members have an opportunity to tie the same pattern using tools and materials provided by the club. 7 p.m. Thursday, Park Ridge Community Church, 100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-3164

**Chair Yoga:** Increase your flexibility, strength and balance in this weekly class. 10:30 a.m. Thursday, 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, all over-the-counter and pet medications, vitamins, liquids and creams. 9 a.m. Daily, Park Ridge Police Department, 200 Vine Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-579-1300

**Food Drive in Skokie:** Requesting donations of canned goods and dry food products to fill the shelves of the Niles Township Food Pantry. These foods to be given to the hungry in the community. Daily, Walgreens, 3945 W. Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

**Free Menorah Lighting Kit Available:** Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie is providing free menorah lighting kits for this Hanukah season. 9 a.m. Thursday-Sunday, Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-677-1770

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

**Public Outdoor Menorah Lighting with Skokie Trustee:** Celebrate Hanukkah with Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie for their yearly outdoor menorah lighting with Skokie Trustee Michele Bromberg. 6 p.m. Thursday, Skokie's Site of Civic Pride at Krier Plaza, 5127 Oakton St., Skokie, free, 847-677-1770

**The Language of Business:** This new free class helps attendees improve their reading, writing and math skills as they learn the language of business ownership and management. 6 p.m. Thursday and Tuesday, JVS Chicago, 5150 Golf Road, Skokie, free, 855-463-6587

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

**National Human Rights Month Lecture: Accidental Holocaust Fiction:** Dr. Danny M. Cohen discusses the surprising process of writing his historical novel. Set in 1943 Berlin, Train follows six teenagers who witness and try to escape the Nazi round-ups. 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free with Museum admission, 847-967-4800

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

**Wilmette Fiber Arts Group:** Sponsored by the Wilmette Public Library, this group of people is interested in all aspects of fibers arts: knitting, crocheting, needlepoint and more. 10 a.m. Thursday, Panera Bread, 1199 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-293-6755

## Friday, Dec. 11

**Christmas Carol the Radio Play:** This is a delightful and fresh spin on the traditional Dickens holiday classic. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 3 p.m. Sunday, Leela Arts Center, 620 Lee St., Des Plaines, \$15-25, 847-220-2919

**Marcia Ball:** 8 p.m. Friday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$20-\$45, 847-492-8860

**Distress and Danger in the Treatment of Young Adults:** A conference for mental health professionals focuses on the treatment of young adults ages 17-30. Featured are two guest speakers, as well as a panel discussion and dialogue about treating young adults. 8 a.m. Friday, Yellowbrick, 1560 Sherman Ave., Evanston, \$25, 866-364-2300

**Clara and the Nutcracker:** Nothing says ballet like The Nutcracker, and this Panto-retelling of the classic has all the magic and fantasy of the original fairy tale, except for one thing - absolutely no tutus. 7:30 p.m. Friday; 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Piccolo Theatre, 600 Main St., Evanston, \$11-\$27, 847-424-0089

**Estate planning:** Learn about the benefits of an estate plan and how to protect your financial interests while providing a smooth transition to the next generation and creating a lasting legacy. 1 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Teen Game Night for ages 13-18:** Play on big screens with the library's game systems and collections. Pizza is generously donated by Giordano's Pizza. Please register by calling. 5 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

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**Bibblop Dance Party:** Bring your family and friends as the tunes are cranked up and boogie down in the library. It's fun for the whole family to dance with your little ones. 10 a.m. Friday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Amlings Toy Ride:** The 10th Annual Amlings Toy Ride leaves Amlings Cycle, with bikers traveling 10 miles with a police escort pulling gift-filled trailers going to Mystic Celt. Register online. 6:30 a.m. Friday, Amlings Cycle, 8140 N Milwaukee Ave., Niles, Bring at least one unwrapped toy, 847-692-4240

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

**Share The Warmth:** Join a group of warm, friendly, supportive women (men welcome) to prepare one-of-a-kind fleece blankets for chemo patients. A basic crochet stitch can be taught if needed. 9 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-293-6755

**Behind the Doors of Downton Abbey:** This presentation will feature many behind-the-scenes anecdotes and fascinating hidden details, as well as highlight the historical context of these captivating characters and stories. 10 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$10 NSSC members; \$13 non-members, 847-784-6030

**The Senior Stompers Concert and Luncheon Event:** Enjoy lunch and an afternoon of great music in the company of friends. 11:30 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$19 (NSSC members); \$25 (non-member), 847-784-6030

**Hanukkah Happening:** 6 p.m. Friday, Temple Judea Mizpah, 8610 Niles Center Road, Skokie, \$12 adult (13 and older); \$5 child, 847-676-1566

**Saturday, Dec. 12**

**Santa's Brunch at White Pines:** Kick off the holidays with brunch featuring an appearance by good ol' St. Nick. Children can visit and have a photo taken with Santa, join in holiday craft activities and play games. Reservation required. 11 a.m. Saturday, White Pines Golf Club, 500 W. Jefferson St., Bensenville, \$14.99 (adults); \$7.99 (children ages 5-11); \$4.99 (children 4 and under), 630-766-0304

**Iris DeMent:** 8 p.m. Saturday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$24-\$48, 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. Saturday, Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston, free, 847-448-8600

**Ecology Center Winter Market:** 9 a.m. Saturday, Ladd Arboretum, 2024 McCormick Blvd., Evanston, free, 847-448-8045

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

**ETHS Choirs Benefit Concert:** Several student ensembles from Evanston Township High School and a guest adult chorus join together to present this benefit concert. Proceeds benefit the ETHS Choral Scholarship Program. 2 p.m. Saturday, Lake Street Church of Evanston, 607 Lake St., Evanston, \$12, 847-424-7130

**Wonderland Express Christmas Concert:** Enjoy traditional holiday musical favorites in the Alsdorf Auditorium. 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Saturday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, \$0-20 plus parking, 847-835-5440

**Melkin Puppets presents The Night Before Christmas & The Shoemaker and the Elves:** Cozy up with two heartwarming family tales for the season, as performed by Chicago's premiere puppeteers. Please call to register. 11 a.m. Saturday, 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Exam Cram at Lincolnwood Library:** We have snacks, WiFi, outlets, laptops you can check out, reference librarians on hand and some relaxing activities you can do to take a breather. Grades 9-12. Registration required. noon Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Meet Local Mystery Authors - Author Panel and Book Signing:** Join in a discussion with three award-winning writers from the Chicagoland area, Lori Rader-Day (Little Pretty Things), Susanna Calkins (The Masque of a Murder) and Lynne Raimondo (Dante's Dilemma), to learn about their newest books and their writing process. 1 p.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Get Hooked: Adult Crafts: Winter Card Making:** For those age 13 years or up to use layering techniques, stamps, paper punches and other fun embellishments to create fun and unique greeting cards. Materials are provided, but registration is required. 10 a.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Second Saturday Bingo Breakfast:** Kids and families are welcome to enjoy some breakfast treats as we play Bingo. Enjoy a kick start to your weekend with a morning of family fun at the library. 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Niles Garden Club: Winter Container Project:** Gardeners create the annual winter arrangements for the Library entrance containers and the Underground window well. This is an "in the dirt" garden experience. Dress for the weather. 10 a.m. Saturday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Teen Gingerbread Houses:** Teens create a gingerbread house using graham crackers, royal icing and tons of tasty treats. 2 p.m. Saturday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Celebrate Star Wars:** Join in celebrating "Star Wars" and the upcoming release of "Episode VII." Come in costume and enjoy treats in our cantina, crafts, a trivia contest, lectures, BB-8 maze, live music and the showing of "Plastic Galaxy." 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Advent Christmas Concert - On This Day:** The Ascension Choir and Orchestra perform Christmas carols which are medieval, traditional and new works written/arranged by John Rutter. Celebrate the season with a renewed sense of wonder and awe with the glorious sounds Rutter brings to these treasured gems. 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Lutheran Church of the Ascension, 460 Sunset Ridge Road, Northfield, free, 847-446-8335

**Park Ridge Chorale: We Wish You the Merriest Holiday Concert:** This jam-packed holiday concert is for the whole family and this year, for the first time, includes Santa on hand distributing candy canes and posing for photos. The selected music is upbeat, familiar and beautiful, but with a fun new twist: two accompanists playing on one piano at the same time. 7 p.m. Saturday, St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 205 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, \$0-18, 224-585-3403

**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. Saturday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800

**The Addams Family: The Musical:** Enjoy this musical comedy about everyone's favorite creepy and kooky family. 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday; 7 p.m. Sunday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$15-\$18, 847-251-7424

**Breaking Into the Business Workshop:** Actors Training Center Founder and Director, Carole Dibo hosts this one-day workshop, primarily for parents of budding starlets as well as professional actors interested in hearing from industry pros directly. 9 a.m. Saturday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$75 adult; \$50 student 12 to 17 years, 773-398-6154

**Corlolls Holiday Concert:** Holiday a cappella concert featuring works by Biebl, Lauridsen, Chilcott, Gjeilo, Vaughan Williams, Applebaum and others. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Christ Church Winnetka, 784 Sheridan Road, Winnetka, \$20; \$10 under 18, 847-869-0223

**Sunday, Dec. 13**

**Gary Gulman:** 7 p.m. Sunday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$20-\$25, 847-492-8860

**Do Not Submit: A Storytelling Open Mic:** Local event that is pressure free night for storytellers from zero to decades of experience to connect, share stories and hone their craft. 5:30 p.m. Sunday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

**Single Sword Combat Certificate:** Single Sword is a theatrical style of sword play dating back to the golden age of Hollywood, featured in the classic swashbuckling movies of the 30's and 40's and contemporary classics like "The Princess Bride." Influenced by modern sabre fencing, this is one of the most useful sword techniques to master. 10 a.m. Sunday, Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$415, 847-328-2795

**Study for Finals Week (Grades 9-12):** Meeting rooms will be open for individual or group drop-in study. 1 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

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**Swing Into the Season: Jingle Jazz.:** Add some zest to your holidays with the Suenos Latin-Jazz Quintet. Let your spirit soar with this lively repertoire of seasonal music infused with a distinctive Latin flair. 2 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Lincoln Hall Holiday Concert:** Get in the holiday spirit with an afternoon of seasonal tunes performed by Lincoln Hall Chorale. 2 p.m. Sunday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Bel Sonore Chamber Ensemble Winter Holiday Concert:** The Bel Sonore Chamber Ensemble of flute, oboe and bassoon with soprano voice performs a repertoire ranging from early Baroque to Jazz standards. 2 p.m. Sunday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Dance Around the World:** Put on your dancing shoes and get ready to move for an interactive performance of dances from around the globe. 2 p.m. Sunday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Hanukkah Party at Temple Beth Israel:** Enjoy the Annual Brotherhood Hanukkah Party featuring Jason Kolum, Juggler Extraordinaire. 11:15 a.m. Sunday, Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, \$5 lunch fee for kids, \$10 per adult. Charge without lunch is \$5 per person, 847-675-0951

**Chanukah Craft Booth at Westfield Old Orchard:** Visit the Chanukah booth to enjoy Chanukah crafts, kosher refreshments, Jewish holiday spirit and lighting of the Menorah. 11 a.m. Sunday, Westfield Old Orchard, 4999 Old Orchard Center, Skokie, free, 847-673-6800

**Architecture Tour: Symbolic By Design:** Learn how renowned Chicago architect Stanley Tigerman infused every space in the Museum with historical and emotional symbolism. 11 a.m. Sunday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free with Museum admission, 847-967-4800

**Second Sunday Survivor Presentation:** Take advantage of the unique opportunity to hear a Holocaust survivor tell their story and answer questions. Adele Zaveduk, who survived in hiding in rural France, is the speaker. 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800

**Gifts of the Magi:** This year's annual concert celebrates the gifts of the three kings and the King of Kings who received their offerings. 4 p.m. Sunday, Winnetka Presbyterian Church, 1255 Willow Road, Winnetka, free, 847-446-7777

## Monday, Dec. 14

**Folled Again:** 7:30 p.m. Monday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$30, 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

**Alliance Francaise du North Shore Program:** The program will be Haiti: Its cultures, its people and its roots. This presentation will offer a brief description of Haitian life as it reflects its culture, people and history. 1 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-328-9516

**hoopla, MyMediaMall & Zinio Individual Appointments:** Meet with trained library staff for a 45-minute one-on-one session and learn how to download ebooks, audiobooks, magazines, movies, TV shows or music to your portable device. 10 a.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Community Service Club:** Make placemats for Meals on Wheels or create coloring books for children in need. Complete projects for the community while earning community service hours. Grades 6-8: registration required, drop-ins welcome. 4 p.m. Monday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Book Discussion features The Hundred Year House and Author:** Rebecca Makkai, author of "The Hundred Year House" will give a short presentation followed by Q&A. 11 a.m. Monday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**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

**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

**Knitting Roundtable:** Come work through knitting projects and socialize with fellow knitters. Don't forget your current knitting projects and needles. 2 p.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Homework Help:** The library is hosting area high school students to offer a little homework help Monday nights. Enthusiastic teens are available to help your kindergarten through fifth grade students work on their weekly homework assignments. 6:30 p.m. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Brush Up Your Shakespeare:** High school students receive professional coaching from actors with The Shakespeare Project of Chicago. Get guidance on selecting and presenting the Shakespeare monologue/sonnet that is right for you. 6:30 p.m. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Minecraft Monday:** Students in grades 3-5 are welcome to register to try their hand at this monthly MineCraft Monday challenge. The group meets in the new computer training lab on the lower level. 4:30 p.m. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Ballroom Dancing Classes:** Not only is ballroom again one of the most popular forms of dance, it has been proven to promote keeping the mind active and healthy. 6:45 p.m. Monday, Bernard Weinger JCC, 300 Revere Drive, Northbrook, \$10, 224-406-9257

## Tuesday, Dec. 15

**Rotary Club of Evanston Light-house:** 7:15 a.m. Tuesday, Hilton Garden Inn Chicago North Shore/Evanston, 1818 Maple Ave., Evanston, free

**Lightsaber Workshop: Fight Like a Jedi:** Come and learn the basics of lightsaber combat used in the epic film series. Using the same types of lightsabers used on the film sets, the basics of Jedi attack and defense with the lightsaber are covered, as well as the tactics of the evil Sith. 8 p.m. Tuesday, Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$100, 847-328-2795

**Tuesday Morning Music:** Garden visitors can enjoy free hour-long meditative musical performances on Tuesday mornings in the McGinley Pavilion overlooking Evening Island. Music varies from string quartets to Native American flutes, and are focused towards an older crowd. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

**Power Employment Workshop: Secret Strategies to Land a Job in 90 Days:** Discover proven strategies to land a job, as Illinois WorkNet Center speakers share what's working and what's not in today's job market. 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Financial planning:** Schedule a free one-hour consultation with a Certified Financial Planner. 9 a.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**DIY Tuesdays:** Roll up your sleeves and get creative with bimonthly STEAM crafts and projects. Choose one of these to make during this session: bouncy balls, silly putty or stress balls. Grades 3-8: registration required. 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Movies, Munchies, and More: Mr. Holmes:** The story is of an aged, retired Sherlock Holmes, who looks back on his life and grapples with an unsolved case involving a beautiful woman. 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

**Tablet Tuesdays:** Drop in to learn the basics of your iPad, Android tablet or Kindle Fire, as well as ways to customize your device and install apps. 3 p.m. Tuesday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Religion Update 2015:** Over two weeks, Jim Kenney offers a detailed assessment of world religions over the past 12 months. It's about good news (Pope Francis) and very bad news (religious violence). But the analysis will be thoughtful and often uplifting. 1 p.m. Tuesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$20 (NSSC members); \$25 (non-members), 847-784-6030

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## Wednesday, Dec. 16

**Christmas Bingo:** Comedienne Vicky Quade brings her hilarious holiday favorite 'Christmas Bingo' to the Leela Arts Center. Help her save a local parish by playing along with her in a rousing evening of bingo where attendees have a chance to win prizes. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Leela Arts Center, 620 Lee St., Des Plaines, \$20-30, 847-220-2919

**Dave Specter's Adventures in Guitar with Guy King:** 8 p.m. Wednesday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$12-\$22, 847-492-8860

**ETHS Booster Board Meeting:** Held in Room S-214. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, free, 847-424-7000

**Live Music Wednesdays with the Josh Rzepka Trio:** Hear the music of Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk and other classics of the era played by the Josh Rzepka Bebop trio. 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

**All Things Spanish:** Both native and non-native Spanish speakers can practice their language skills. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Facebook basics:** Get started with the basics, including signing up, creating a profile and adding friends. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Scrabble for Adults:** Exercise your brain and enjoy friendly games of Scrabble with other word lovers. 2 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-4220

**Book Discussion: The Rosie Effect by Graeme Simsion:** Join us for a book discussion of The Rosie Effect by Graeme Simsion. 1 p.m. Wednesday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Classics on Wednesday Film Series:** 1 p.m. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Chess Club:** Whether you're a skilled player looking for an opponent or a beginner interested in learning new skills, join our new weekly chess club. No registration required. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Storytime and Snacks for ages two and up with adult:** Just drop in and join Mrs. Schmitt for stories, fun and a tasty snack in the Lifestyle Center. Younger siblings are welcome, but all children must be accompanied by an adult. 10:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Wednesday, Whole Foods Market, 840 Willow Road, Northbrook, free, 847-729-7500

**Happy Birthday Beethoven:** Join Jim Kendros in celebrating the 245th birthday of Ludwig van Beethoven. Explore timeless gems including Symphonies #5 and #7, Moonlight Sonata, Piano Concerto #5 (Emperor) and much more. 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$10 (NSSC members); \$13 (non-members), 847-784-6030

**Michael Palascak:** The local comedian, as seen on "Letterman" and "Leno," headlines a stand-up showcase. Featuring Larry Reeb. 8 p.m. Wednesday, Zanies Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont, \$22-\$25 plus a two-item food/drink minimum, 847-813-0484

**Home and Personal Safety Tips:** Officer Tammy Jacobsen, Crime Prevention Officer with the Skokie Police Department, is the guest speaker. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

**Senior High Youth Group:** For all youth Grades 9-12 to enjoy fun and friendship while engaging in meaningful discussions and service learning opportunities. 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, First Congregational Church of Wilmette, 1125 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-251-6660

**World War II Veterans' Roundtable:** Vets gather for lively conversation and coffee. Newcomers are welcome. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free

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## Now playing

**"Creed" ★★½**

PG-13, 2:12, drama. In 1976 the nation yearned for a red, white and blue plate special piled high with corn. Then, up those Philadelphia Museum of Art steps, backed by the Bill Conti theme, that something arrived. Nobody went to the first "Rocky" for the finesse of the filmmaking. They went for the underdog rooting, for Rocky and Adriañ, for the unexpected sweetness, for the redemption angle, for the reconstituted boxing movie cliches that tasted not new but new-ish. It was simply time for "Rocky," written by and starring

Sylvester Stallone, directed by John Avildsen. So, "Creed," a seventh "Rocky" movie? Apollo Creed, Rocky's old nemesis turned best friend, had a son who grows up a scrappy fighter in the Los Angeles foster care system? Moves to Philly, connects with Rocky, who's tending the restaurant and still wearing that hat? Rocky trains him for a big fight? That's how it goes, yes. And "Creed" is easily the best "Rocky" movie since "Rocky." — *Michael Phillips*

**"The Good Dinosaur" ★★**

PG, 1:40, animation. Work by multiple writers was cobbled together for this story of a world where the meteor that hit the Earth and wiped out all dinosaurs actually missed. The dinosaurs have evolved to the point where they live in houses, plant crops and herd bison. For some reason, humans have only progressed slightly more than canines. Production was halted early in the process of making "The Good Dinosaur" because it had some dinosaur-size problems.

Peter Sohn was brought in as the new director and he started the process over two years ago. The second attempt ends up so flat it would have been smart to scrap it and try a third time. The only aspect worthy of high praise is the background work, which is so stunning it keeps the movie from heading for a tar pit. — *Rick Bentley*

**"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. 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. — *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 disappoint-

ments and challenges. — *Katie Walsh*

**"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 Tangle 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." But it's a considerably better evil-quelling instruction manual than "Quantum of Solace." — *M.P.*

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### Block, Steve

Steve Block, age 53, of Park Ridge; dear son of the late George and Madeline Block; loving brother of Jeff Block, Linda (Kevin) Misselbrook and the late Nancy Block. Visitation Saturday, December 12 from 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. with a Celebration of Life Service beginning at 5:00 p.m. at Nelson Funeral Home, 820 W. Talcott (at Cumberland), Park Ridge. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, please direct memorial contributions to the Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund (PDJF), P.O. Box 803, Elmhurst, IL 60126 or [www.pdjf.org](http://www.pdjf.org). For more information 847.823.5122 or [www.nelsonfunerals.com](http://www.nelsonfunerals.com).

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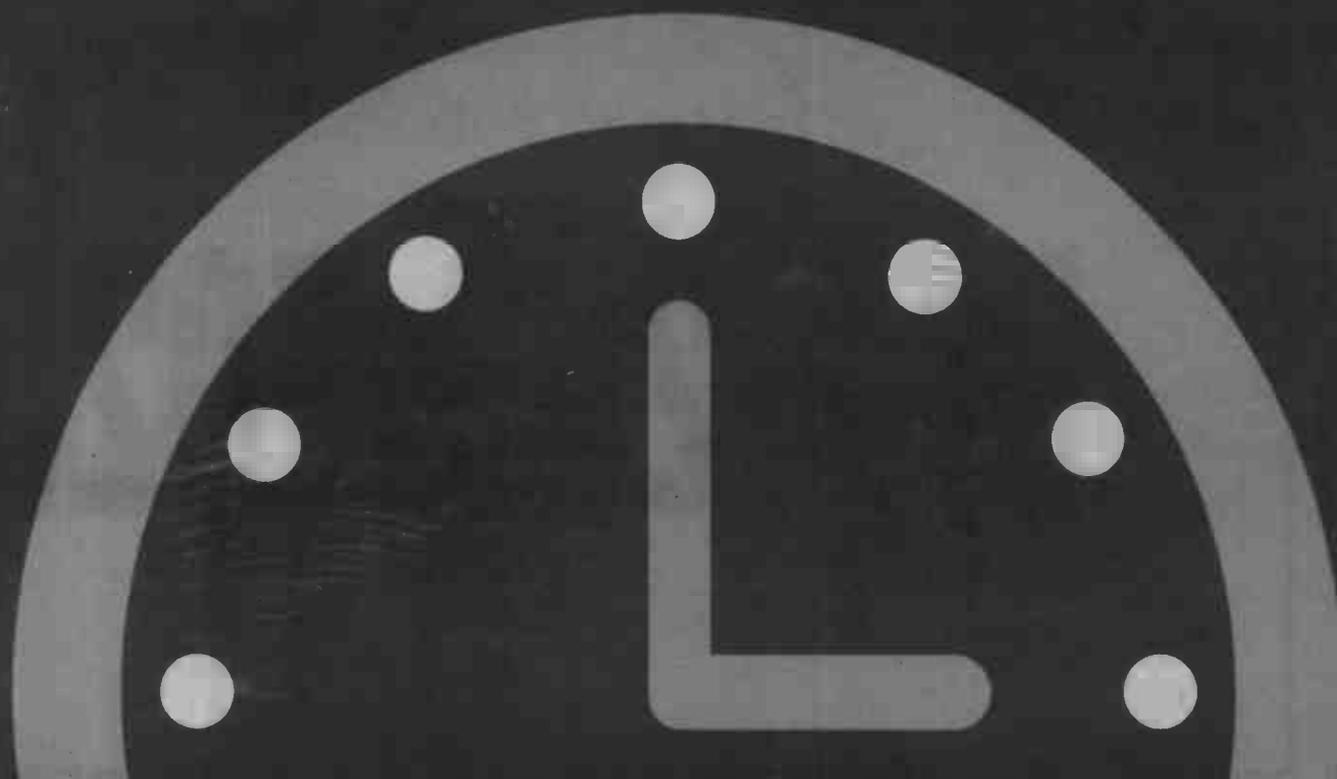
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# The Italian job

Fiat Chrysler must shake reliability issues with return of daring models

BY CHARLES FLEMING  
Tribune Newspapers

In debuting two ambitious new automobiles at the Los Angeles Auto Show in mid November, Fiat Chrysler is trying to capitalize on a decadeslong American love affair with Italian design.

The carmaker faces an uphill battle, the result of an equally long American distrust of Italian engineering.

The automaker showcased the 2017 Fiat 124 Spider convertible and 2017 Alfa Romeo Giulia sedan, two new Italian-flavored offerings from the company that also controls the Maserati and Ferrari nameplates.

Anticipation is high. The Fiat Spider is a return to soft-top glory for the company, whose 1960s and '70s 124 Spiders were beloved. The Alfa Romeo Giulia is a grand-touring four door with sports car specifications and luxury appointments.

Skepticism is high too. Fiat Chrysler's Italian brands suffer from U.S. consumer doubts about durability.

Fans of the Italian automobiles believe that the Fix-It-Again-Tony suspicion is ill-founded.

"You can't win the race if you don't finish the race, and Ferrari has been dominant at long, hard races at Le Mans, Sebring and Daytona," said car collector and Ferrari lover Bruce Meyer, who has owned a 1967 Ferrari 275 GT/B for 45 years. "Mine has never let me down. The reliability issue is an urban myth."

Consumer Reports takes a different attitude. It has judged Fiat among the worst of the worst. In a recent reliability study, the publication found Fiat finishing dead last, ranked 28th out of 28 cars tested.

"The problem with Italian car companies has been quality and reliability," said Jake Fisher, director of auto testing of the car-quality publication. "It's not fair to judge them by their reputation of 20 or 30 years ago, but it is fair to look at the recent data. Fiat models are the absolute worst, and Chrysler is not far behind."

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles has experienced strong sales with the relaunch of the Fiat brand, which began in 2007 with reintroduction of the once-ubiquitous Fiat 500, a bubbly subcompact.

Research provided by the online auto sales and data company TrueCar shows the company sold more than 40,000 Fiats in the U.S. each year from 2012 to 2014, with 2015 totals likely to hit that number too.

That's considerably more business than the company did with the higher-priced Maseratis and Ferraris.

The company moved 12,942 of the former and 2,145 of the latter last year, though the profit margins on those vehicles are believed to be considerably higher than on the Fiats.

Analysts and others agreed that the Fiat problems of old were more severe than the reliability issues of today, which may involve customer dissatisfaction with navigation



BRIAN VAN DER BRUG/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS PHOTOS

The two-seat, soft-top 2017 Fiat 124 Spider marks the Italian automaker's attempt to return the model to its beloved days of the 1960s and '70s. Most of the underplinnings of the new Spider, including its engine, come from Mazda

systems or long-term performance problems rather than vehicles simply breaking down.

"It's relative, because the worst car in 2015 is probably better than the best car in 1982," Kelley Blue Book analyst Karl Brauer said. "The spectrum is so much narrower now that a bad cup holder can torpedo a car's popularity. Nobody is buying Fiat 500s and being stuck by the side of the road. But 30 years ago, they were."

What has not changed, in far more than 30 years, is the excellence in Italian coach building and design. Leslie Kendall, chief curator of the Petersen Museum and an unabashed Fiat admirer — he once owned a 1961 Fiat 1200 roadster — said no other country has produced so many beautiful automobiles.

"Since World War II, Italy has been making cars that are taut, lithe, concise and muscular, with a genuine sculptural quality to them," Kendall said. "And a lot of designers took their inspiration from what the Italians were doing. No one knows what the Italian secret is: What it is or how

to define it, or what makes the country home to so many creative people. Maybe it's something in the tomato sauce."

The new Fiat 124 Spider will try to bring back some of that sauce. The two-seat soft-top is actually a Mazda Miata in an Italian suit. Most of the mechanics of the car, from the engine on up, are the result of a partnership between FCA and Mazda, which for 2016 redesigned the Miata MX-5, the best-selling roadster in history.

The Miata has won fans with its return to simple, stripped-down, sports car essentials.

Critics of Fiat engineering say the Mazda underpinnings and Italian styling could be a potent combination and produce a car that looks great and performs reliably at the same time.

"The Miata is almost flawless; a dynamic ride experience at a price that's right," KBB's Brauer said. "If Fiat can take that combination and add some Italian flair and not mess-up the performance, they could have an extremely effective brand builder."

FCA has high hopes for

its 2017 Alfa Romeo Giulia too. Built in Italy and featuring a 505-horsepower engine "derived" from Ferrari, the Giulia will pair high-end sedan luxury with sports car performance, including a promised 3.8-second zero-to-60 mph time and a top speed of 191 mph. FCA says it's the "most powerful Alfa Romeo production car ever."

The Chrysler connection may not ultimately be helpful in putting more Italian cars on U.S. roads, since Chrysler, too, has found itself nearer to the bottom of reliability studies than the top.

But the Fiat Chrysler marriage has borne interesting fruit. Chrysler cars are being rebadged as Lancias in some European markets, bringing that historic brand back to life. And the new Dodge Dart and Chrysler 200 are both large versions of the Alfa Romeo Guilletta.

But without a better, longer track record for the two brands, the combination of good looks and good performance may not be enough to guarantee stronger sales for either.

"There are so many good

choices out there among sports cars that it's very hard to win on style and a nice driving experience," Consumer Reports' Fisher said. "With Alfa, these are terrific, highly styled, fun-to-drive vehicles with reliability issues. It would be great if they launched a vehicle that could dispel that. But there's no data to support it."

Fisher and Brauer said the real challenge for FCA is to get reliable cars onto U.S. roads and keep them there. The company could take a page from the Hyundai and Kia playbook, recently echoed by Jaguar, and offer consumers a deeply extended warranty.

"The burden is on them to build incredibly good product with incredibly good dealer and service experiences, not for one year with one car but for five or 10 years, with 90 percent of the vehicles performing well," Brauer said.

"It's a cliché, but it's amazing what good product can do. That's always the fix for a brand that's suffering."

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MYUNG J. CHUN/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS

Lincoln's luxurious 2016 MKX includes a suite of sophisticated driving aids.

## Lincoln piles on the luxury

BY CHARLES FLEMING  
Tribune Newspapers

The crossover segment is hot and the competition is fierce.

Lincoln's 2016 MKX will be vying for buyers against a whole batch of "X" sport utility vehicles: the BMW X5, Acura MDX, Cadillac SRX and segment leader Lexus RX. Complicating things for Lincoln, Lexus is coming out with a brand-new version of that SUV, a fourth generation of its top-selling vehicle.

To score, Lincoln will have to attract two kinds of buyers. First, it will need to appeal to the loyal Lincoln customer who wants to move up in size — and price — from an MKC or MKZ, or down from a full-size Navigator. But it'll also need "conquest" sales, luring customers away from the other automakers.

To do that, the company is slathering on the luxury.

Some of it is real. The front row of this two-row, five-seat SUV seems devoted to comfort. The dash and instrument panel are all soft, swooping lines. The soft, wide seats are adjustable in 22 ways — Lincoln says that's a new high for this class of vehicle — and are also heated and cooled. And they'll give you a massage.

The top-of-the-line MKX also includes a suite of sophisticated driving

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Parting shot: A European style domestic premium SUV

aids normally associated with expensive European models. It has keyless ignition, hill hold, electronic power-assisted steering, and parallel and perpendicular park assist. The rear seats are heated and fitted with small entertainment screens and individual reading lamps.

But some of it is marketing. The MKX is available in themes called "Modern Heritage," "Indulgence," "Thoroughbred" and "The Muse," and in Premiere, Select, Reserve and Black Label trims. The one I drove was a Black Label Muse, and though there was no Johnnie Walker in the electronically operated glove compartment, it was very, very comfortable.

The driving experience is one of silence — that most valuable of luxuries. The MKX is equipped with an active sound-dampening system. Microphones in the headliner pick up unwanted or intrusive noises in the cabin, and the system programs sound waves to cancel them. On the freeway, there's almost no engine noise, tire noise or wind noise. Just the quiet whir of the air conditioning.

The MKX produces its own light show, too. The headlamps glimmer to life when the key fob is activated, and a vision of the Lincoln logo is beamed onto the ground beside the doors.

Lincoln, owned by Ford, has begun offering MKX buyers the choice of its parent company's new 2.7-liter EcoBoost V-6 engine — used in the F-150 pickup trucks — in addition to a larger, less efficient 3.7-liter V-6. The smaller engine gets better gas mileage, Lincoln says, while producing more horsepower (335) and torque (380 pound-feet).

The MKX — priced right in the middle of the somewhat crowded MK series of MKC, MKZ, MKS and MKT — starts at \$38,000, but it goes up fast, and far. The version I drove goes out the door at almost \$70,000.

charles.fleming@tribpub.com

## Dealer refuses to service car



BOB WEBER  
Motormouth

**Q: In July, I purchased a 2014 Ford Escape. For 30-plus years, I have purchased my vehicles from our local dealer. This vehicle I purchased from a different Ford dealer. My local dealer got very upset about this and has refused to service this car, although he will service our other Fords purchased from him. I have contacted other dealers and asked if I could receive service if the vehicle was not their sale, and all responded definitely. I love the service department and would like to continue using it but feel that this has been made a personal matter. Any ideas on how to proceed would be appreciated.**

— B.Y., Chicago

**A:** We are aware of no law or Ford policy forcing a dealer to accept your business. However, as a legitimate Ford franchisee, the dealer is required to perform any and all warranty work, but it can make it rough on you by giving its own customers priority scheduling and then accept

your car for an open appointment, which can have you cooling your heels for a long time. The dealer from whom you bought the car will be happy to service it and maybe your other cars too.

**Q: I own a 1998 Nissan Quest and am the original owner. I took the van to the garage that I do business with in January because the smell of gasoline permeated inside the vehicle every time I put the heater on. The mechanic replaced the coolant, injectors and manifold gasket. The smell never went away in spite of my bringing the van back a couple of times as well as taking it to a different garage. Eventually I gave up on it as the warmer weather replaced the cold. However, the smell is back. Do you have any idea as to what the cause might be?**

— N.P., Hartford, Conn.

**A:** This was a frequent problem for Nissans of that vintage. Fuel hoses and fuel vapor hoses would eventually deteriorate. There was even a recall for some model years. Discuss this with the service manager at your dealership to see if your car's VIN is on its list. If not, the source of the leak must be hunted down, not only for your safety, but also for the

environment.

**Q: My 2008 Dodge Charger developed a front wheel "thunk" noise at 23,000 miles. A Dodge dealership worked on it (dealership has since gone under), but the work lasted only about 5,000 miles. I took it to a couple of other mechanics. After \$1,600, the thunk remained. I did get new brakes out of it, though. It doesn't affect steering or braking, nor is there any feedback in the brake pedals or steering wheel. It is just annoying.**

— C.J., DuPage, Ill.

**A:** Most likely, there is a problem with the front struts' rods, or more precisely, the strut rod bushings. We have been unable to find replacement bushings, so it looks as if you may have to replace both struts. We would suggest an aftermarket brand such as Moog that uses a different type of bushing material than the original equipment struts.

Bob Weber is an ASE-certified master mechanic and freelance writer.

Send questions along with name and town to Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Fifth Floor, Chicago IL 60611 or motormouth.trib@verizon.net.



DAVID PAUL MORRIS/BLOOMBERG NEWS

There is no policy that requires a dealer to service a car bought from another dealer.

# Egofske resigns after leading Niles North to 7A quarters

BY ERIC VAN DRIL  
Pioneer Press

Niles North is looking for a new football coach following Mark Egofske's resignation.

A year ago, Egofske led the Vikings to their first playoff berth since 1992. Niles North returned to the postseason this year, and it won two games before falling 28-17 to Bradley-Bourbonnais in the Class 7A quarterfinals. It was the deepest any team has advanced in the history of the program. It also was the first time the Vikings, who finished 7-5 in 2015, made the playoffs in consecutive seasons.

Egofske nearly wasn't a part of that run, however, due to lingering issues with his right hip.

"They asked me to be the

varsity coach four years ago. I said, 'All right, it's going to be a year or two,'" Egofske said. "I really wanted to step down [after last season]. I did not want to do this year. I've got a hip I'm trying to get replaced."

Egofske said he was told he needed to have his right hip replaced in July. Due to football, Egofske pushed the surgery back. He scheduled his hip replacement for after the season.

Or so he thought.

Egofske's hip replacement was scheduled for the week of the Bradley-Bourbonnais game. Because the Vikings won their first two games of the Class 7A playoffs, he was forced to reschedule the surgery for January 2016. Most patients resume normal activities six to eight weeks after hip replacement surgery,

according to [www.mayoclinic.org](http://www.mayoclinic.org), but patients typically continue to recover for six to 12 months.

The second reason Egofske said he resigned was the desire to watch his daughter, Julienne Egofske, during her final season of high school softball. Julienne Egofske, who's a senior at Warren, signed with Bucknell last month.

"She's got one more spring left as a senior, and I'm just one of these guys... I've got to be around," Mark Egofske said. "If I'm going to do something, I'm not going to say, 'OK, this coach do it. OK, that coach do it.' I felt like this past year, with the assistants, I



Egofske

wasn't around as much as I like to be. I like to be around 100 percent of the time. If I'm not going to be around 100 percent of the time, I think it's not fair to the kids. That's what it boils down to. I want to be able

to watch my daughter, and not feel guilty [about] not being at a weightlifting session... If you're going to be competitive, you've got to be with these kids."

Mark Egofske added that he's very proud of everything that Niles North was able to accomplish over the last two years. He credited that to the quality members of the Vikings' coaching staff, as well as the hard-working nature of his team's players.

Mark Egofske plans on continuing to teach at Niles North. He said that he is open to coaching football at the school next season, possibly at the lower levels, where he could try to help continue the momentum Niles North built during his four years as its head coach. He went 19-21 during that time, according to [www.IHSA.org](http://www.IHSA.org).

Only one other coach, Paul Giambeluca, has guided Niles North to the playoffs.

The next Vikings coach will be confronted with a challenge Egofske never faced — playing in the Central Suburban South against 2015 playoff qualifiers Maine South, New Trier and Evanston. Niles North is scheduled to leave the Central Sub-

urban North after this academic year and switch divisions.

Egofske previously served as the coach at Niles West, going 32-26 with the Wolves from 2000-05. He qualified for the Class 8A playoffs in four of those six years and had a winning record all but one season.

At both schools, Egofske had the good fortune of coaching talented running backs. Niles North senior Barrington Wade has verbally committed to Iowa and Rashard Mendenhall, who played for the Pittsburgh Steelers and Arizona Cardinals from 2008-2013, played for Egofske at Niles West.

*Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.*

*Twitter @VanDrilSports*

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**COUNTRY**  
FINANCIAL

PRESENTS:

**HIGH SCHOOL**  
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OF THE MONTH

# Congratulations to the winner!

Who was named December Athlete of the Month? Visit [chicagotribune.com/athletes](http://chicagotribune.com/athletes) to find out, and stay tuned for a feature on the winner next week!

**FOOTBALL**

**EMMETT CLIFFORD**

QB, Loyola, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** Passing: 191-for-271 (70.5 percent), 2,552 Yds, 33 TD, 6 INT; Rushing: 59 Att, 295 Yds, 4 TD  
**College:** Undecided

**JOHN CLARK**

RB, Glenbrook North, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 173 Att, 1,578 Yds, 9.1 Avg, 25 TD  
**College:** Undecided

**JORDAN ROWELL**

RB, IC Catholic, Jr.  
**2015 stats:** Rushing: 201 Att, 1,682 Yds, 8.4 Avg; Receiving: 32 Rec, 458 Yds, 14.3 Avg, 29 TD  
**College:** Undecided

**ERIC ESHOO**

WR, Loyola, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 30 Rec, 528 Yds, 17.6 Avg, 6 TD  
**College:** Northwestern

**RAVON JOHNSON**

WR, Hinsdale South, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 50 Rec, 1,088 Yds, 21.8 Avg, 17 TD  
**College:** Undecided

**JON ARENAS**

WR, Maine South, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 59 Rec, 894 Yds, 15.2 Avg, 10 TD  
**College:** Undecided

**MATT PRENDERGAST**

OL, Nazareth, Sr.  
**College:** Lehigh

**DANIEL KURKOWSKI**

OL, Loyola, Sr.  
**College:** Undecided

**JACOB MOECKLER**

OL, Deerfield, Sr.  
**College:** Undecided

**ALEX SERRANO**

OL, Barrington, Sr.  
**College:** Undecided

**SEAN O'MALLEY**

OL, Libertyville, Sr.  
**College:** Undecided

**FRANCIS FAY**

KR, New Trier, Jr.  
**2015 stats:** Rushing: 72 Att, 509 Yds, 7.1 Avg; Receiving: 15 Rec, 112 Yds, 7.5 Avg.; 153 return yards; 7 total TD  
**College:** Undecided

**SEAN MCCORMACK**

ATH, Hinsdale South, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 175-for-282 (62.1 percent), 3,041 Yds, 35 TD, 11 INT  
**College:** Undecided

**OWEN ENNIS**

K, Evanston, Jr.  
**2015 stats:** 31-for-32 PATs, 6-for-9 FG  
**College:** Undecided

—Matt Harness, Pioneer Press

**FOOTBALL — DEFENSE**

**ALLEN STALLINGS IV**

DL, Oak Park-River Forest, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 40.5 Total tackles, 14.5 TFL, 5.5 Sck, 1 FF, 1 Rec fumble  
**College:** Undecided

**IBRAHIM NASIR**

DL, Maine South, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 42 Tackles, 14 TFL  
**College:** Undecided

**NAQUAN JONES**

DL, Evanston, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 37 Total tackles  
**College:** Michigan State

**VINNY SCALETTA**

DL, Ridgewood, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 100 Total tackles, 11 TFL, 5 Sck, 2 FF, 2 Rec fumble  
**College:** Undecided

**BOBBY DESHEROW**

DB, Loyola, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 96 Total tackles, 5 TFL, 8 Pass break-ups, 2 Int, 1 FF, 2 Rec fumble  
**College:** Undecided

**ANTHONY ROMANO**

LB, Loyola, Jr.  
**2015 stats:** 125 Total tackles, 8 TFL, 3 Sck, 2 QB hurries, 7 Pass break-ups, 2 FF, 1 Rec fumble  
**College:** Undecided

**COLIN CASAS**

LB, New Trier, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 52 Total tackles, 7 TFL, 5 QB hurries, 2 Pass break-ups, 1 Rec fumble  
**College:** Undecided

**LUKAS KERSTEIN**

DB, Deerfield, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 90 Total tackles, 2 TFL, 13 Pass break-ups, 2 Int, 1 FF  
**College:** Undecided

**CHRIS SIMMONS**

DB, Nazareth, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 23 Total tackles  
**College:** Undecided

**PATRICK TATA**

P, Loyola, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 39.2 Avg  
**College:** Undecided

**BRAD HUTH**

PR, Hinsdale Central, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 69 Rec, 834 Yds, 12.1 Avg, 2 TD, 400 Return Yds  
**College:** Undecided

**MATT CLIFFORD**

ATH, Lake Forest, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 79 Total tackles, 8 Pass break-ups, 2 Rec fumble  
**College:** Undecided

**JALAN JENKINS**

LB, Evanston, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 66 Total tackles  
**College:** Undecided

**DIMITRIJE MILUTINOVIC**

DL, Glenbrook North, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 64 Total tackles  
**College:** Undecided

—Matt Harness, Pioneer Press

**BOYS SOCCER**

**JIMMY ALLEN**

F, Timothy Christian, So.  
**2015 stats:** 35 goals, 3 assists  
**College:** Undecided

**KEVIN REILLY**

M, Libertyville, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 7 goals, 7 assists  
**College:** Dayton

**AUSTIN EHREN**

F, Carmel, So.  
**2015 stats:** 28 goals, 8 assists  
**College:** Undecided

**ERICK BALTHAZAR**

F, Evanston, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 20 goals, 8 assists  
**College:** Undecided

**RYAN MCKERNAN**

D, Carmel, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 9 goals, 4 assists  
**College:** Undecided

**LIAM O'CONNELL**

M, Libertyville, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 3 goals, 22 assists  
**College:** Undecided

**BEN POTTER**

M, North Shore Country Day, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 32 goals, 15 assists  
**College:** Middlebury College (Vermont)

**ALFREDO RECENDEZ**

GK, Leyden, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 109 saves, 10 shutouts, 16 goals allowed  
**College:** Undecided

**ZANE KASHNER**

D, Evanston, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 1 goal, 6 assists  
**College:** Does not plan on playing soccer in college

**NICK ECONOMOU**

D, Lyons, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 3 goals, 2 assists  
**College:** Does not plan on playing soccer in college

**TUCKER GOEBELER**

M, Libertyville, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 8 goals, 2 assists  
**College:** Cornell

—Eric Van Dril, Pioneer Press

**GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**

**NIKI AHLSTRAND**

MH, Maine East, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 243 kills, 42 aces, 92 blocks, 50 digs  
**College:** Undecided

**GRACE BUTLER**

S, Carmel, Jr.  
**2015 stats:** 687 assists, 45 aces, 131 kills, 185 digs, 47 blocks  
**College:** Central Michigan

**CHRISTINA REED**

OH, Loyola, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 237 kills, 26 aces, 30 blocks, 196 digs  
**College:** Brown

**ALLIE NELSON**

L, Oak Park-River Forest, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 295 digs, 19 aces  
**College:** Kansas

**SARAH ROSE**

S, York, Jr.  
**2015 stats:** 849 assists, 66 kills, 37 aces, 246 digs  
**College:** Undecided

**MAEVE GRIMES**

S-OH, Nazareth, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 218 kills, 36 aces, 29 blocks, 180 digs, 413 assists  
**College:** Ferris State (Mich.)

**DANI VAN LATEN**

S, Timothy Christian, Sr.  
**2015 stats:** 749 assists, 114 kills, 51 blocks, 45 aces, 228 digs  
**College:** Undecided

—George M. Wilcox, Pioneer Press

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## PLAYER OF THE YEAR ADAM MASTERS, EVANSTON

# Expecting success

Wildkits entered every game confident they'd post a shutout

BY ERIC VAN DRIL  
Pioneer Press

In the Evanston boys soccer team's first game of the regular season, Conant scored two goals against goalie Adam Masters.

Masters, the Pioneer Press All-Area Boys Soccer Player of the Year, allowed just one goal during the rest of the regular season. The Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-state selection allowed just six goals and had 21 shutouts during his senior campaign. He shut out Central Suburban South champion Maine South, Central Suburban North champion Deerfield and Class 3A state champion Libertyville.

Masters' 21 shutouts are tied for the fifth-best single-season total in state history, according to the IHSA. Masters and the Wildkits' defense — it primarily featured Josh Klier, Henry Honzel, Henry Young and Zane Kashner in the back, and Adam Trujillo, Christyan De La Cruz and Dylan Ter Molen in the midfield — led the program to the Class 3A Glenbrook North Sectional title. The following is an edited transcript of an interview between Masters and Pioneer Press freelance sports reporter Eric Van Dril.

**Q: You had shutout streaks of nine games and 12 games. When you start compiling shutouts, especially right in a row, do you as a goalie feel like you're going to get scored on? Where is your confidence level?**

**A:** For me, personally, confidence doesn't necessarily carry over. As a goalie, you always have to be confident. Even if you get

### Adam Masters

GK, Evanston, Sr.  
2015 STATS: 21 shutouts, six goals allowed

**COLLEGE:** Undecided  
The Pioneer Press All-Area Boys Soccer Player of the Year had separate shutout streaks of nine and 12 games during his fantastic senior season. Masters, an Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-state selection, helped the Wildkits win their first sectional championship in more than a decade.

**COMMENT:** "We anticipated Adam Masters having a great year," Evanston coach Franz Calixte said last month. "This good? We didn't think it was going to be [this] good."

scored on, the next game you've got to be just as confident as you were. For me, it depended on the team. Some games, I went in thinking it wouldn't surprise me if they got a goal, they're a good team — a Libertyville, a Warren. Other games, it was more of an expectation. But ... we always expected [a shutout]. We knew that our defense was solid and we could stack up against any offense in the state. We knew if we really did play as a team and stick to the gameplan, we were all confident that we'd get a shutout every game.

**Q: What is it like when you concede a goal? Walking away from the game, do you look back on it and think, "What could I have done better?" Or are you able to immediately move on from conceding a goal?**

**A:** Short-term, the best thing I've found over my years of playing is just forget about it. You've got to



Evanston goalie Adam Masters (middle) punches a ball away from his goal during the first half of the Class 3A Barrington Supersectional game against Libertyville on Nov. 3.

BRIAN O'MAHONEY/  
PIONEER PRESS

continue playing the game, no matter if you're up five or down five. You've just got to move on to the next play. The more you think about it, the worse it's going to be the rest of the game. ... For me, after the game, I always analyze my performance. Even if I don't get scored on, [I] think about what I could have done better, how I could have helped more. Especially when I do concede a goal, [I] think about where could I have been positioned, how could I have told my defense to stop it, could I have used a different technique,

etc. ... But that [analysis] I save until after the game. Or at least I try to.

**Q: Did you go through the same process after the second Libertyville game — after Nate Edmunds had basically a perfect shot to score [with 2 minutes, 52 seconds remaining, to win the Class 3A Barrington Supersectional 1-0]?**

**A:** Yeah, absolutely. As you said, it was a pretty perfect shot. ... Most of the time after a game, I feel like I could have done something better. I could have helped my team in a

better way. But honestly, against Libertyville, I feel like I did my part. I made a couple big saves, and a couple breakaway saves. Watching the replay, I was pretty close to saving it, but I really don't think there was much more for me to do on that play. I had the technique right. I was in the right position. I mean, hats off to Nate because that was a great shot.

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @VanDrilSports

## FIRST TEAM



Ben Lodewyk

D/ME, Timothy Christian, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 11 goals, 14 assists  
**COLLEGE:** Undecided

Lodewyk played a variety of positions for the Class 1A state champions this year. He was dangerous in all of them. Lodewyk scored one goal and assisted on another in Timothy Christian's 2-1 win over Latin in the 1A Benedictine Supersectional. Lodewyk had three assists in a 4-1 victory over previously unbeaten Urbana U-High in the state semifinals. He then scored the Trojans' first goal in the state championship game, a 4-1 victory over Anna-Jonesboro.

**COMMENT:** "He has incredible composure on the ball. That makes him a great defender in the back, but it also makes him strong up top," Timothy Christian coach Stephen Fernandes said.



Nash Pirie

D, Barrington, Jr.

**2015 STATS:** 2 goals, 12 assists  
**COLLEGE:** Undecided

It's not typical for a left back to be the most instrumental part of a team's offense, but that was the role Pirie had for Barrington this year. Pirie's speed allowed him to get by defenders with regularity and send crosses into the penalty box. Pirie, an Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-state selection, was also a very solid defender.

**COMMENT:** "He's kind of a freak athlete. He can run all day and never, ever get tired," Barrington coach Scott Steib said. "He's got pace and stamina and it really gives him a foundation to change games, because he's relentless with it."



David Aniol

D, Maine South, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 0 goals, 1 assist  
**COLLEGE:** Undecided

Little was expected from Maine South this season, following an almost complete turnover of its starting lineup. The Hawks finished with 15 shutouts, however, and won the Central Suburban South. They did so by using just three defenders. Aniol's physicality, intelligence and leadership at center back proved to be invaluable.

**COMMENT:** "He's done a great job back there for us," Maine South coach Dan States said following a 1-1 draw against Glenbrook North on Wednesday, Sept. 9. "He's been very consistent. He's very [good] at stepping forward and controlling the run of play."



Nate Edmunds

M, Libertyville, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 14 goals, 3 assists  
**COLLEGE:** Butler

Edmunds finished his senior season as an Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-sectional selection and a Class 3A state champion. He scored twice in a 3-1 victory over Highland Park in the Stevenson Sectional semifinal. He also recorded the game-winner against Evanston in a 1-0 victory in the Barrington Supersectional. Edmunds' superb touch, technical ability and finishing was the difference against the Wildkits that night.

**COMMENT:** "He's a difference maker," Libertyville coach Andy Bitta said of Edmunds after his team's win over Evanston. "[If he has a sliver of space], he's going to [score]."



Rigoberto Rojas

F, Hinsdale Central, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 18 goals (10 game-winners), six assists  
**COLLEGE:** Undecided

The Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-state selection returned to high school soccer this season and helped the Red Devils finish 18-2-1 and win the West Suburban Silver. Rojas was named the MVP of the West team in the High School Soccer All-American Game in North Carolina on Saturday, Dec. 5. He's also one of three Illinois high school players named an All-American by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

**COMMENT:** "He's a special player," Hinsdale Central coach Mike Wiggins said. "He has that unique ability to play at a very high level and come up in big moments."



Nick Klabjan

M, Deerfield, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 13 goals, 11 assists  
**COLLEGE:** Wisconsin

Klabjan was an Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-state midfielder in his lone season of high school soccer. Klabjan not only used his great touch to create opportunities for his teammates, he also led the Warriors in scoring. Deerfield won the Central Suburban North and ended its season with a 1-0 loss to eventual state champion Libertyville.

**COMMENT:** "He's clearly just such a skilled player," Deerfield coach Elliott Hurtig said. "He brings a lot of intensity and passion to the game. He's immediately, the moment he starts playing, just a natural leader on the field."



Louis St. John

M, Hinsdale Central, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 6 goals, 21 assists  
**COLLEGE:** Dayton

St. John set a school record for assists in a single season. He, like teammate Rigoberto Rojas, earned Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-state and National Soccer Coaches Association of America All-American honors.

**COMMENT:** "What Louis brings is just a great mind for the game [and] really strong vision. He's got a work rate that carries him on both sides of the ball," Hinsdale Central coach Mike Wiggins said. "He's technical enough on the ball to get himself out of trouble in tight spaces, and he's capable of hitting a 50-yard ball on the fly and putting it on a kid's foot."



Albert Arabik

F, Leyden, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 17 goals, 17 assists  
**COLLEGE:** Undecided

Arabik finished his career with 48 goals and 28 assists in three varsity seasons. His return to high school soccer provided the Eagles with a Division I talent and a player who was willing to create opportunities for his teammates. Arabik was an Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-sectional selection this year.

**COMMENT:** "Teams knew who he was. They geared their defense, and their marking, towards him," Leyden coach Mark Valintis said. "The unselfish player that he is, he was able to find the open guys and they were able to finish because so much of the defense was focused on Albert."



Konrad Malinowski

F, Elmwood Park, Jr.

**2015 STATS:** 30 goals, 12 assists  
**COLLEGE:** Undecided

The Tigers won their first sectional title in program history, and Malinowski's goal-scoring ability was a big reason why. Malinowski scored seven goals as a sophomore. Elmwood Park coach Martin Blake attributed Malinowski's development to his mental and physical maturation, hard work and experience.

**COMMENT:** "Knowing Konrad could score at any time really made the entire team play more loosely," Blake said via email. "He took a lot of pressure off the defense — knowing that even if we fell behind, we were always in the game."



Joseph Lee

M, Vernon Hills, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 8 goals, 15 assists  
**COLLEGE:** Brown

Lee's quickness and technical ability in the middle of the field was an important reason why the Cougars reached a Class 2A sectional final this season. Lee was an Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-state selection. In addition to that, Lee's GPA is above a 4.25, according to Vernon Hills coach Mike McCaulou.

**COMMENT:** "He's just a special person," McCaulou said. "I think the thing that most stands out about Joseph, to be honest, is he's just so humble. ... He's a phenomenal student. He really embodies what a true student-athlete is."

—Eric Van Dril, Pioneer Press

## PLAYER OF THE YEAR KATIE RANDOLPH, LOYOLA

# Striking the right balance

Loyola's Randolph has 4.0 GPA,  
plans to attend Ivy League school

BY GEORGE M. WILCOX  
Pioneer Press

Katie Randolph was confident in her abilities and wanted to be Loyola's only setter.

Knowing Loyola has a tradition of running two-setter offenses, Randolph approached coach Mark Chang after her freshman season hoping to change Chang's mind.

"I like to attack at the net," Randolph said. "I just asked him. I tried to show him I could do it. A lot of times people don't think I can because I'm short. I'm 5-foot-6, 5-7 with shoes."

Randolph's talk with Chang worked.

"The more I looked at her hands and her defensive ability, you could watch her and see how much ball control she had," Chang said.

As the lone setter, Randolph directed Loyola to three consecutive 27-win seasons and back-to-back Class 4A sectional championships. For her efforts, Randolph was named the Pioneer Press All-Area Girls Volleyball Player of the Year.

Randolph has a 4.0 GPA. She plans on playing volleyball at an Ivy League school, but is waiting to hear where

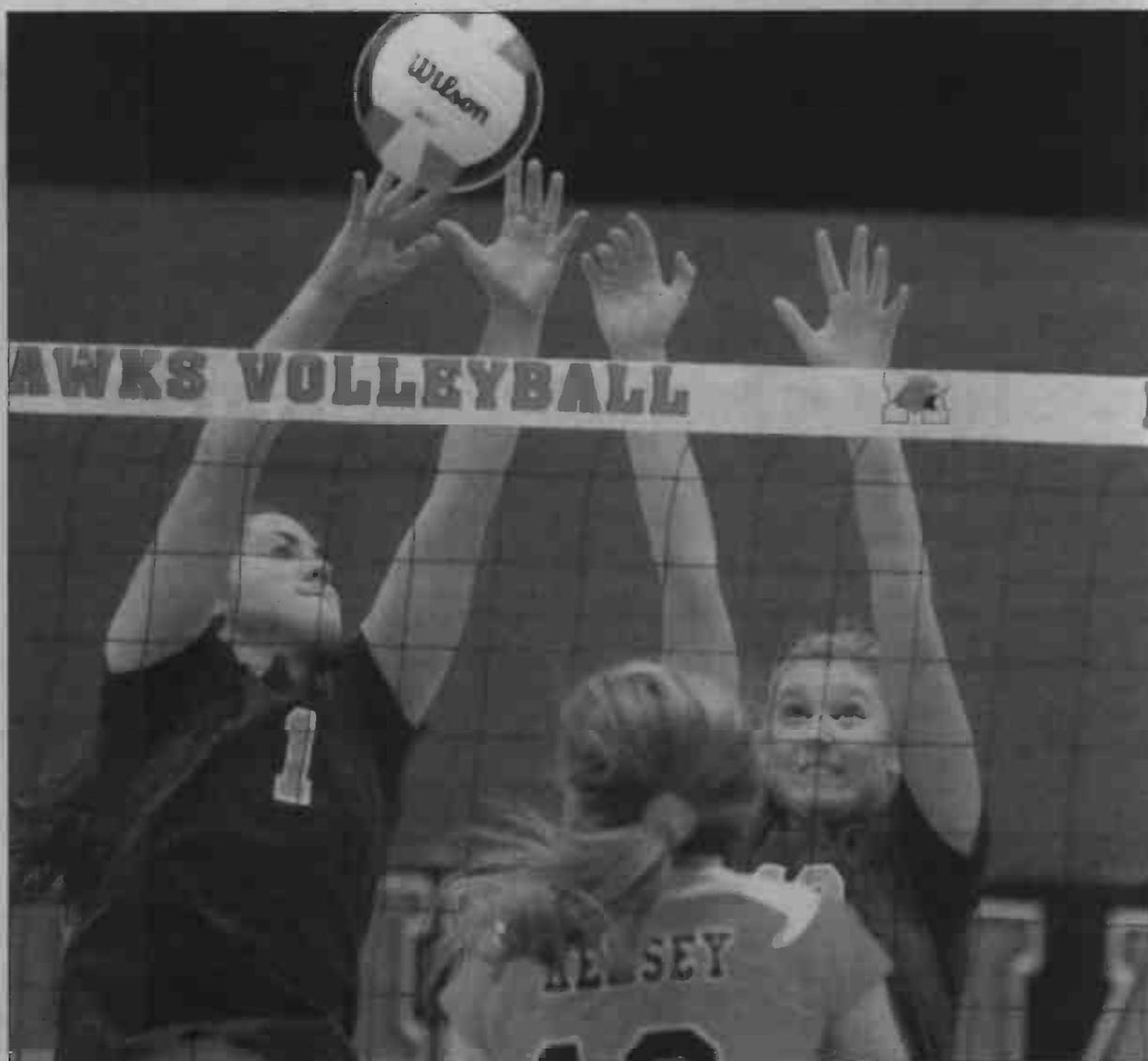
she has been accepted.

Pioneer Press sports reporter George M. Wilcox talked to Randolph about being a student at Loyola and fitting volleyball into her schedule.

**Q: Has the time commitment in volleyball taken away academic pursuits you might have had at Loyola?**

**A:** It has a little bit. But not enough where I resent it. There were definitely clubs I would have joined if I was not in volleyball. We have a Philosophy Club that meets Monday after school so I can't do that because I have practice. For the most part, I've been able to participate. I'm in Clavius, which is an honors program for math and science-inclined students. I'm in a service learning class. Doing service is part of the class. Every Sunday I work at Friedman's Place [in Chicago], which works with the visually impaired. I go there every Sunday for two hours. It's my faith class. I go to the class during school and we read different things and then we do service on the weekends or during the week. When we come into class, we reflect on it and discuss it.

**Q: What do you like most about school?**



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Loyola's Katie Randolph, left, and Natasha Borkowski team up for a block against Hersey during the Class 4A Maine South Sectional semifinals on Nov. 3.

**A:** I've had amazing teachers. When you've had teachers that are very passionate about their subject and love to share, I really like that. I've had really good teachers that made me want to come to class. They made me learn better. That's been the biggest impact.

**Q: What has your class load been like this semester?**

**A:** I'm in three AP courses this semester: Language and Composition, AP Psychology and AP Biology. Then I'm in theater. We needed a fine art to graduate so I decided to take theater and I'm in regular pre-calc and Justice Seminar, my faith class.

**Q: Are you enjoying**

**your theater class?**

**A:** We do a lot of theater games and then we did monologues. We had to memorize a performance a couple of weeks ago. Right now we have a partner and picked our scenes yesterday. We are working on our scenes right now.

**Q: For what play?**

**A:** Mine is from "Reckless" [by Craig Lucas]. It's four or five pages with three monologues. It's about this lady whose husband hires a hitman to kill her and then she runs away. She runs to a gas station. She has nowhere to go. This man invites her over to Christmas with his family.

gwilcox@pioneerlocal.com  
Twitter @geomwilcox

## Katie Randolph

S, Loyola, Sr.  
**2015 stats:**  
642 assists, 66  
kills, 26 blocks,  
193 digs  
**College:** Un-  
decided  
The Pioneer  
Press All-Area  
Volleyball  
Player of the



Katie Randolph

Year was a four-year starter and in 2015 became the first setter to lead the Ramblers (27-9) to back-to-back Class 4A sectional championships. Loyola lost to Glenbard West in a supersectional. Randolph

steered Loyola to fourth place in the state in 2014. The Ramblers went 101-41 in her career. **Comment:** "She lives and dreams about volleyball,"

coach Mark Chang said. When Randolph was a freshman, "we needed a setter at the varsity level. There was not anyone doing it better than she was. We gave her a shot and it worked out beautifully."

## FIRST TEAM



## Grace Crue

OH, Glenbrook North, Sr.  
2015 STATS: 248 kills, 23 aces, 225 digs

**COLLEGE:** Undecided  
The Spartans went undefeated in the Central Suburban North to win the conference championship behind their 5-foot-9 leader in kills. Crue was named team MVP and the co-Player of the Year in the

CSL North.

**COMMENT:** "They are not in competition out there, whether it's a practice or a game," coach Chris Cooper said of Crue's ability to play alongside younger sister Mary Clare Crue. "They both can be successful without going against one another."



## Jori Radtke

OH, Stevenson, Jr.  
2015 STATS: 374 kills, 45 aces, 320 digs

**COLLEGE:** Northern Illinois  
Expectations for next season might even be higher for the 5-foot-10 Radtke after she led the Patriots (31-9) in kills this season. Radtke guided Stevenson to its first sectional championship

since 2011 and its fifth 30-win season in six years.

**COMMENT:** "Jori's desire to compete and mental toughness sets her apart from other athletes," coach Tim Crow said. "She is willing to put her team on her back to get the victory. Teams would gameplan for her and she still wound up with big numbers."



## Morgan O'Brien

L, Libertyville, Jr.  
2015 STATS: 538 digs, 52 aces

**COLLEGE:** Illinois  
O'Brien's digs this season ranked third all-time among Libertyville defensive players for a single season. She was second on the team in aces and led Libertyville in serving percentage (96 percent) while also excelling on

the serve-receive. O'Brien was a starter for Libertyville's Class 4A state runner-up team in 2014.

**COMMENT:** "On a team that lacked superstars, Morgan anchored a stingy defense for a team what was only pushed to three sets six times," coach Greg Loika said. "I feel we have the best defensive player around."



## Alexandra Preuss

OH, York, Sr.  
2015 STATS: 508 kills, 43 aces, 31 blocks, 266 digs.

**COLLEGE:** Lewis  
The 5-foot-9 Preuss powered the Dukes (32-7) to a West Suburban Silver title before they lost to conference co-champion and Class 4A state runner-up Glenbard West in a sectional final. The four-year varsity starter was named

all-tournament at Benet and had more than 1,000 career kills.

**COMMENT:** "Alex is a versatile player who will attack or dig wherever she is needed and a wonderful teammate who is ready to listen," coach Patty Iverson said. "She is also a fierce competitor who accepts nothing less than her best as success."



## Emma Decker

S-OH, Nazareth, Sr.  
2015 STATS: 394 assists, 229 kills, 61 blocks, 37 aces, 179 digs

**COLLEGE:** Villanova  
Nazareth switched to a two-setter offense this season to take advantage of Decker's 6-foot-3 height and allow her to hit regularly. The four-year starter became this season's only three-time all-East Suburban Catholic selection and was

named all-tournament at the Asics Challenge and at events hosted by Glenbrook North and Bradley-Bourbonnais.

**COMMENT:** The two-setter formation "allows her to impact the game with her hitting and blocking as well as her running of the offense," coach Wayne Saunders said. "Her presence on and off the court will be missed greatly."



## Isabelle Tashima

L, New Trier, Sr.  
2015 STATS: 452 digs, 38 aces, 53 assists

**COLLEGE:** Harvard  
Tashima proved how valuable she was to the Central Suburban South champions by being named the conference Player of the Year despite playing libero, a defensive position, rather than a more glamorous offensive position. Tashima led

New Trier to a Class 4A sectional final.

**COMMENT:** "Isabelle was a consistent player and a responsible captain for New Trier girls volleyball," coach Hannah Hsieh said. "She works hard and her consistency allows us to run our offense."

—George M. Wilcox,  
Pioneer Press

## PLAYER OF THE YEAR BEN LEROY, LOYOLA

# Ending on a high note

BY MATT HARNESS | Pioneer Press

With the Loyola football team's 41-0 win over Marist in the Class 8A state final at Northern Illinois' Huskie Stadium, Ben LeRoy captured his first football championship since he started playing the sport in fourth grade. For Loyola (14-0), it was the school's second state title and the fourth time in 107 seasons that the Ramblers went undefeated.

LeRoy, the Catholic Blue's most outstanding defensive player, was an integral part of the success. The senior lineman was the lone defensive starter back for the 2015 season, and the 6-foot-3, 265-pounder was the most dominant player on a unit that produced six shutouts and surrendered an average of 8.8 points per game.

After such a strong season, LeRoy is the Pioneer Press All-Area Football Defensive Player of the Year. LeRoy, a Glencoe resident, spoke with Pioneer Press sports writer Matt Harness about his memorable season.

**Q: You have committed to play football for Northern Illinois in DeKalb. Was it extra special for you to win a state title at Huskie Stadium?**

**A:** During the game, I didn't think about that at all. But it sunk in after the game. After I left the press conference and went back to the locker room, that's when it hit me. On the walk out of the stadium, I took my time to look around. I had been [to Northern Illinois] before, but this was the best time I had there. This was the best possible outcome I could have imagined. We always talked about bringing a state championship to Loyola. It's a dream ending to my high school career.

**Q: You were sitting close to Loyola coach John Holecek at the postgame press conference when he called you one of the best, if not the best, defensive lineman he's coached. Did you hear him say that?**

**A:** Yes, I did. That was my favorite quote of his about me. It meant so much coming from him because he's someone I look up to.

**Q: Holecek once described this year's defense as nasty. Would you agree?**

**A:** Yes. That's the proper adjective. We were all tenacious and always played with an edge. We played angry and with a point to prove. I played with a chip on my shoulder. I felt like I had to show people who I was as a player. I tried to remember that every play.

**Q: What was your favorite football moment off the field**

### Ben LeRoy

DL, Loyola, Sr.

2015 stats: 83 Total tackles, 17 TFL, 12 Sck, 6 QB hurries, 3 FF

College: Northern Illinois

LeRoy, the Pioneer Press All-Area Football Defensive Player of the Year, helped the Ramblers win the Class 8A state title and finish the season 14-0. He was named to the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association's Class 8A all-state team

**Comment:** "His best attribute is his size and strength," Loyola coach John Holecek said. "He battles every play. He's a solid player who has the ability to play at the next level."

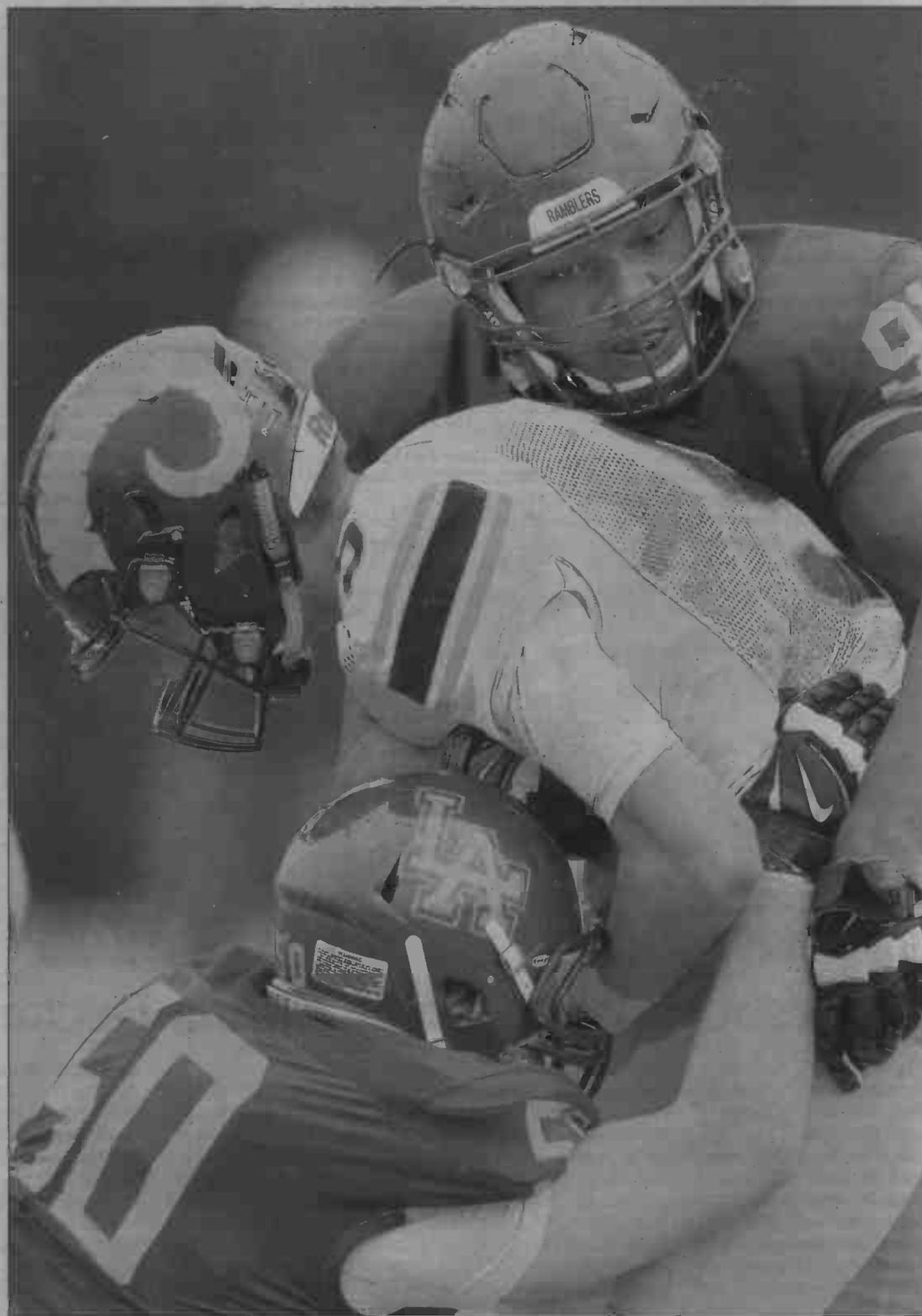
**this season?**

**A:** After we beat Brother Rice [28-0] and started 3-0, we all got burritos [from Chipotle] at one of the practices and ate them in the cafeteria together. That definitely was a fun day. Everybody was in high spirits.

**Q: This Loyola team should go down as one of the best in the program's 107-year history. How do you want to be remembered?**

**A:** As someone who always gave his all for the team. I was willing to do anything for this team, and I always put them before me.

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Twitter: @harnesspreps



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIIONEER PRESS

Loyola's Ben LeRoy and Jack Hough (50) sack Marquette's Jack Dwyer on Aug. 29 in Wilmette.

## FIRST TEAM

### Ben Kimpler

DL, Libertyville, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 77 Total tackles, 7 TFL, 9 Sck

**COLLEGE:** Miami (Ohio)

An explosive player in the trenches, the 6-foot-6, 235-pounder anchored a Class 7A runner-up defense that allowed 15.4 points per game. Kimpler earned a spot on the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association's Class 7A all-state team.

**COMMENT:** "He is very athletic for his size and has a tough demeanor," Libertyville coach Mike Jones said. "He excels at rushing the passer, but he is equally tough against the run."

### Josh King

DL, Hinsdale South, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 39 Total tackles, 11 TFL, 8 Sck, 9 QB hurries

**COLLEGE:** Michigan State

Among the more intimidating figures in the area, the 6-foot-6, 255-pound King helped the Hornets to one of their best seasons in program history with a trip to the Class 6A semifinals. For his efforts, he was named to the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association's Class 6A all-state team.

**COMMENT:** "He dominates the line of scrimmage despite being double-teamed the majority of the time," Hinsdale South coach Mike Barry said.

### Richard Azunna

DB, Niles North, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 51 Total tackles, 3 TFL, 1 Sck, 18 Pass break-ups, 3 Int, 3 FF, 2 Rec Fumble

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

The 5-foot-10, 190-pound Azunna showed his cover skills in the team's Class 7A quarterfinal contest by taking away Bradley-Bourbonnais' best receiver, Camron Harrell, early in the game. He helped the Vikings have the best season in program history.

**COMMENT:** "Richard was our best coverage cornerback," Niles North coach Mark Egofske said. "He could take our opponent's best receiver and shut him down. This was evident in the quarterfinal game against Bradley-Bourbonnais as he shut down one of the state's fastest receivers while playing mainly man technique."

### Frank Doherty

LB, Loyola, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 54 Total tackles, 15 TFL, 7 Sck, 4 QB hurries, 2 Pass break-ups, 2 FF, 4 Rec Fumble

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

Doherty is not the biggest linebacker around, but he was one of the toughest, according to Loyola coach John Holecek. The 5-foot-11, 195-pound Doherty was a one-man wrecking crew for a team that recorded six shutouts, allowed an average of 8.8 points and won the Class 8A state title with a 41-0 victory over Marist.

**COMMENT:** "He had a monster game [against Palatine in a state semifinal Nov. 21]," Holecek said. "He was knocking people around that were 75 pounds heavier than him."

### Thomas Schaffer

DL, Lake Forest Academy, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 65 Total tackles, 10 TFL, 3.5 Sck, 3 FF

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

The 6-foot-7, 255-pound Schaffer is a highly-ranked defensive end with offers from Oregon, Stanford and Wisconsin. Lake Forest Academy coach Robin Bowkett called the all-Catholic League Red selection "relentless, physical, mean."

**COMMENT:** "Just a force to be reckoned with on the defensive side," Bowkett said. "Great get-off, good pass rush, good use of hands."

### Tim Simon

PR, Notre Dame, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 39 Rec, 814 Yds, 20.9 Avg, 11 TD

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

The 6-foot-2, 185-pound Simon "never left the field," according to Notre Dame coach Mike Hennessey, whose Dons won the East Suburban Catholic championship. Simon — the team MVP and all-conference selection — was a receiver, defensive back, kicker, kick returner and punter. He returned a punt 73 yards for a touchdown in a 48-21 win over Evanston.

**COMMENT:** "He managed the defense through intelligence and leadership," Hennessey said.

### Max Rosenthal

LB, New Trier, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 59 Total tackles, 6 TFL, 2 Sck, 3 QB hurries, 1 FF

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

Rosenthal returned to football last season after taking two years off to focus on baseball. With the 6-foot-3, 220-pounder on the field at both linebacker and running back, the Trevians won three playoff games and went 19-4 over the last two years.

**COMMENT:** "Every play Max played was with intensity and love for the game," New Trier coach Brian Doll said. "He made others around him excited to play."

### Riley Buncic

LB, Libertyville, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 63 Total tackles, 2 TFL, 2 Sck, 1 Int, 1 Rec Fumble, 2 Defensive TD

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

According to Libertyville coach Mike Jones, Buncic is not only strong but fast for his size, enabling him to cover lots of ground. The all-North Suburban Lake selection returned an interception 99 yards for a touchdown.

**COMMENT:** "Riley has an outstanding skill set for a linebacker and has a knack for making the big play," Jones said.

### Johnny Davidson

P, Barrington, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 40.5 Avg

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

In addition to being one of the area's best punters, Davidson started at quarterback for the Broncos, totaling 3,128 yards and 39 touchdowns with his arm and legs. He was a Class 8A all-state selection by the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association.

**COMMENT:** "He is a winner," Barrington coach Joe Sanchez said.

### Daniel Joseph

LB, Lake Forest Academy, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 71 Total tackles, 8 TFL, 2 Sck, 2 Int, 4 Rec Fumble, 4 Blocked kicks

**COLLEGE:** Penn State

Although he played at a small private school in Lake Forest, the 6-foot-3, 245-pound Joseph is known around the nation as one of the top recruits. He was selected as the Catholic League Red's Most Outstanding Defensive Player.

**COMMENT:** "He has one of the best highlight films you will see as he did everything for us," coach Robin Bowkett said.

### Tray Banks

DB, Evanston, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 44 Total tackles, 3 Int, 1 Rec Fumble

**COLLEGE:** Miami (Ohio)

One of the most electric players in the area, the 6-foot-1, 175-pound Banks often was the best athlete on the field. Not only was he the Central Suburban South's Offensive Player of the Year, he was a lockdown cornerback. He was selected to the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association's Class 8A all-state team.

**COMMENT:** "You can put him anywhere on the field and he's going to make plays," Evanston coach Mike Burzawa said.

### Robert Hall

DB, Hinsdale South, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 75 Total tackles, 3 TFL, 10 Pass break-ups, 2 Int, 1 FF

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

A three-year starter, the 5-foot-9, 195-pound safety was an invaluable member of the defense, which helped the Hornets reach the Class 6A semifinals. Hall leaves the program as the all-time leader in interceptions.

**COMMENT:** "His stats are solid, but to watch his physical style of play is even more impressive," Hinsdale South coach Mike Barry said.

### Mitch Schermerhorn

ATH, Glenbrook North, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 73 Total tackles

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

The fastest player on the Central Suburban North champion Spartans, Schermerhorn played all over the field, including free safety. The 5-foot-8, 160-pounder was named the conference's Co-Defensive Player of the Year.

**COMMENT:** "We use him in a lot of different ways," Glenbrook North coach Bob Pieper said. "He's a kid who can do so many different things for us. He does whatever we ask of him."

—Matt Harness, Pioneer Press

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## PLAYER OF THE YEAR JULIAN LOVE, NAZARETH

# Notre Dame recruit led Naz to state twice

BY MATT HARNESS | Pioneer Press

No football player in the area had more of an impact in all three phases of the game than Julian Love, a senior who led Class 5A Nazareth to a 12-2 season and its second consecutive state championship. He was a three-way player on last season's Class 6A title team.

A Notre Dame recruit and Class 5A all-state selection by the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association, the 6-foot, 185-pound Love ran the ball, caught the ball, returned kicks and started in the secondary for Nazareth. He totaled 1,729 offensive yards, averaging 14.1 yards per touch, and scored 25 touchdowns. Love's longest run was 99 yards, and his longest reception was 83 yards for an offense that scored 40.8 points per game.

That versatility is part of what makes Love the Pioneer Press All-Area Football Offensive Player of the Year. He spoke with Pioneer Press sports writer Matt Harness about his championship season.

**Q: How have you spent the week after winning your second state title?**

**A:** I have been working as an assistant to the [Nazareth] athletic director [Duane Buturusis]. I started the Monday after we won. I have been helping out with basketball games. I take care of the officials, making sure they have everything they need, take care of opposing teams, making sure everything goes well for them. It's been a learning experience for me to see how everything works, how everything is organized.

**Q: What was your favorite non-game moment this season?**

**A:** The night before the state title game, coach [Tim] Racki gave us an opportunity to talk, say whatever was on our minds. I talked about taking care of the underclassmen, making sure they know we want them to succeed in the future. Then, some of the underclassmen talked and thanked me for helping them out. I didn't think much of it at the time because I was just doing what I thought was right. But hearing them say those things was special to me. They thanked me for being kind, generous and a role model.

**Q: Nazareth went 14-0 and won the Class 6A state title last season. Was it harder to win the second one?**

**A:** It was more challenging than last year. Teams targeted us. Every game we played it felt like it was their state championship game. I got double- and triple-teamed a lot. There was no element of surprise for us, no David versus Goliath. We were Goliath. But losing two games helped us. It helped our team develop an identity. I was grateful for them. If I had to do it over again, I wouldn't change a single thing. Those losses are what gave us

### Julian Love

RB/WR, Nazareth, Sr.

**2015 stats:** Rushing: 104 Att, 1,067 Yds, 10.2 Avg, 18 TD; Receiving: 29 Rec, 662 Yds, 22.8 Avg, 7 TD

**College:** Notre Dame

Love demonstrated his versatility and value to the Roadrunners yet again in the Class 5A state championship game. He ran the ball nine times for 53 yards (a 5.8-yard average), caught three passes, returned one punt, made four tackles and intercepted a pass in a 42-21 win over Lincoln-Way West.

**Comment:** "There is no one in the state more versatile than Julian," Nazareth coach Tim Racki said.

our momentum.

**Q: You were the Pioneer Press Offensive Player of the Year as a junior. At this time last year, you had offers from Illinois and Illinois State. How did you end up committing to Notre Dame?**

**A:** I was always hoping to go to Notre Dame. I've been a fan and gone to games since I was young. One of my best friends is [Providence graduate and Notre Dame freshman Miles Boykin], and he kept dropping my name to the coaches there. Notre Dame then came into the picture in March. I visited them that month, got an offer and committed March 21. I wished for this and worked hard for this, but I didn't think it was possible.

mharness@pioneerlocal.com



JIM BOYCE/PIONEER PRESS

Julian Love, the Pioneer Press All-Area Football Offensive Player of the Year, totaled 1,729 offensive yards, averaging 14.1 yards per touch, with 25 touchdowns for Nazareth in 2015.

## FIRST TEAM

### Riley Lees

QB, Libertyville, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** Rushing: 211 Att, 2,404 Yds, 11.4 Avg, 33 TD; Passing: 115-for-204 (56.4 percent), 1,770 Yds, 8.7 Yds/Att, 24 TD, 6 INT

**COLLEGE:** Northwestern

The 6-foot-1, 190-pound Lees was the engine of an offense that averaged 39.9 points per game. He helped the Wildcats win the North Suburban Lake and place second in Class 7A. He was selected to the Class 7A all-state team by the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association.

**COMMENT:** "Riley is a fierce competitor who makes people around him better because of the example he sets," Libertyville coach Mike Jones said. "He has shown younger players what it means to commit to being a better football player in the weight room and on the field."

### Barrington Wade Jr.

RB, Niles North, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 231 Att, 2,045 Yds, 8.9 Avg, 17 TD, 6 Rec, 88 Yds, 14.7 Avg, 2 TD, 6 2-point conversions

**COLLEGE:** Iowa

Despite defenses knowing he would get the ball, the 6-foot-1, 220-pound Wade carried the Vikings to the best season in the 52-year history of the program. Niles North advanced to the Class 7A quarterfinals, where it lost to Bradley-Bourbonnais 28-17.

**COMMENT:** "Nobody in the CSL conference was more valuable to his team than Barrington Wade was for the Niles North Vikings," Niles North coach Mark Egofskje said.

### Dara Laja

RB, Loyola, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 278 Att, 1,833 Yds, 6.8 Avg, 22 TD

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

Laja added speed and size in the offseason and turned himself into a go-to offensive option for the pass-heavy Loyola offense. Although he only played a few fourth quarters during the Ramblers' run to the Class 8A state title, the 5-foot-9, 180-pounder and all-Catholic League Blue selection ended the season as Loyola's all-time leading rusher (2,995 yards).

**COMMENT:** "The way he sees the field and cuts back isn't taught," said Loyola assistant coach Pat Naughton, the former program record-holder for career rushing yards. "That's instinct. It comes to him naturally."

### Ivory Kelly-Martin

KR, Nazareth, Jr.

**2015 STATS:** 190 Att, 1,972 Yds, 10.4 Avg, 33 TD

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

Called a game-changer by Nazareth coach Tim Racki, the 5-foot-11, 185-pound Kelly-Martin was part of a dynamic offense that helped the Roadrunners win the Class 5A state title. In a 42-21 win over Lincoln-Way West in the final, Kelly-Martin ran 13 times for 170 yards and four touchdowns, including a 96-yard score. It broke the all-class record for longest run in a championship game.

**COMMENT:** "A running back with breakaway speed on the perimeter and also a power runner between the tackles," Racki said. "The intangible many do not see is his ability to block."

### Jack Sorenson

ATH, Stevenson, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** Passing: 123-for-209 (58.9 percent), 1,832 Yds, 8.8 Yds/Att, 14 TD; Rushing: 475 Yds, 9 TD

**COLLEGE:** Miami (Ohio)

After playing receiver on Stevenson's Class 8A state title team as a junior — a position he's pegged to play in college — the 6-foot-1, 190-pound Sorenson filled a need by playing quarterback this year. He earned Class 8A all-state honors from the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association this season.

**COMMENT:** "He is a multi-threat player that can beat you with his arms and legs," Stevenson coach Bill McNamara said. "However, it is his mind and decision-making that makes him a consistent winner."

### Thomas Smart

WR, Loyola, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 59 Rec, 776 Yds, 13.2 Avg, 11 TD

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

The sure-handed Smart, an all-Catholic League Blue pick, was Loyola's primary receiving target. The 6-foot-3, 195-pounder had numerous clutch catches, but perhaps none was as big as his 25-yard reception on third down with less than two minutes to go in the Class 8A semifinal against Palatine. The catch allowed the Ramblers to run out the clock.

**COMMENT:** "The fact that he doesn't have a Division I scholarship is crazy," Loyola coach John Holecek said.

### Kevin Jarvis

OL, Maine South, Jr.

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

At 6-foot-5 and 320 pounds, Jarvis cleared the way for the Hawks to average 35.3 points a game and was the Central Suburban South's Lineman of the Year. Jarvis, who had 42 pancake blocks, has offers from Illinois, Tennessee and Rutgers.

**COMMENT:** "He will be the second-best lineman to ever come out of Maine South [after former NFL All-Pro Dave Butz]," Maine South coach Dave Inserra said. "He's a mauler with very good feet and explosiveness."

### Sam Badovinac

OL, Loyola, Sr.

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

Badovinac, a 6-foot-2, 250-pound center, was the most experienced player back on Loyola's line this year after playing both guard positions and center as a junior. He was part of an offense that averaged 39.9 points a game and 6.7 yards per play. **COMMENT:** "He plays with the intensity that coaches love," Loyola coach John Holecek said. "Every play is the most important play of his life. He's extremely mobile, and he's smart, too."

### Bryan Behrendt

OL, Nazareth, Sr.

**COLLEGE:** Wisconsin-Whitewater

In his first season as a starter, the 6-foot-6, 330-pound right tackle was a road-grader for the Roadrunners, who averaged 8.3 yards per play and scored 40.8 points a game. Nazareth had two runners who totaled more than 1,000 yards and averaged more than 10 yards per carry.

**COMMENT:** "He dominated his position for 14 games," Nazareth coach Tim Racki said.

### Matt Allen

OL, Hinsdale Central, Sr.

**COLLEGE:** Michigan State

Before following the lead of his two older brothers — Brian and Jack Allen — and joining the Michigan State football team, the 6-foot-3, 275-pound Matt Allen closed out his prep football career with another standout season in the trenches.

**COMMENT:** "He physically mauled people and was consistent with his snaps," Hinsdale Central coach Dan Hartman said. "He didn't give up a sack or have a bad snap."

### Jonah Isaac

KR, Loyola, Sr.

**2015 STATS:** 32 Rec, 478 Yds, 14.9 Avg, 6 TD, 10 Kick returns, 374 Yds, 37.4 Avg, 2 TD

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

Players dream of the game Isaac had in Loyola's 49-21 win over Mount Carmel, which clinched the outright Catholic League Blue championship for the Ramblers. The 5-foot-9, 175-pounder had a 99-yard kickoff return for a touchdown and another one for 97 yards.

**COMMENT:** "He's fearless," Loyola coach John Holecek said. "He's got great acceleration, great vision, great hands."

### Sean McNulty

K, Maine South, Jr.

**2015 STATS:** 44-for-46 PAT, 9-for-12 FG

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

McNulty has been a consistent kicker for two seasons, but he made a name for himself with his 33-yard field goal with 1.2 seconds left in the fourth quarter that gave the Hawks a 34-31 win over Evanston. Maine South clinched its 15th consecutive Central Suburban South championship with the victory.

**COMMENT:** "He's tough," Maine South coach Dave Inserra said. "He's a big weapon for us."

### Sean Foster

OL, Carmel, Sr.

**COLLEGE:** Undecided

The 6-foot-7, 285-pound Foster once again became one of the most sought-after offensive linemen in the Midwest when he recently de-committed from Minnesota. A three-year starter and two-time all-East Suburban Catholic selection, Foster has more than two dozen offers.

**COMMENT:** "Sean is an amazing blocker," said Carmel junior running back Rondel Jamison. "He's a big role model for the team."

—Matt Harness, Pioneer Press

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PATRICK GORSKI/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



Julian Love (right)

NIC SUMMERS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



Adam Masters

# Celebrating success

Pioneer Press announces its all-area teams for football, girls volleyball and boys soccer. *inside*

KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS



Katie Randolph

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Ben LeRoy (right)



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