Pizza Wars continue
Sixth annual fundraiser expected to bring 1,000 to Niles. Page 4

Makayla Amarlin, of Skokie, noshes on pizza at Niles North High School at last year’s Pizza Wars.

Use the force
Bring the excitement of the “Star Wars” films into your home by mastering these themed crafts with your young Padawans. Or try building them (Han) solo. Inside
SHOUT OUT

Don Gayle, retiree and volunteer

Don Gayle has lived in Skokie for 48 years. Now retired, he remains an active volunteer including his work at the Chicago Botanic Garden in Highland Park as well as a twice-weekly visitor to Skokie’s Middleton School. Pioneer Press recently asked him a series of questions.

Q: What do you or did you do for a living?
A: I was a technical writer for Shure, Inc. - the microphone people - for 27 years. I retired in 1999.

Q: Where did you grow up?
A: Uptown, Chicago.

Q: Do you have any pets?
A: We almost always had dogs - miniature schnauzers, except for a parakeet in our early married years. Now we visit our daughters’ three grand-Dobermans.

Q: What book are you currently reading and what book would you like to read next?
A: I’m plowing my way through Tolkien’s “Fellowship of the Ring.” I made myself a long-ago promise to do so. Next in line is Billy Crystal's “Still Foolin’ ’Em.”

Q: What was your first job?
A: As a kid, I delivered Lerner papers door to door. Post-college, my first job was as a specifications writer for Chicago Rawhide in Elgin.

Q: As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?
A: Something heroic. I admired my brother who was in World War II.

Q: Do you have children?
A: Three children and four grandchildren.

Q: What is your favorite local restaurant?
A: Skokie Club, definitely.

Q: What is your favorite local charity?
A: Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. We have a granddaughter with Type 1 and have been raising money since 1999.

Q: Do you have any words of wisdom?
A: Polonius’s advice to Laertes: “To thine own self be true.”

Q: What song best sums up Skokie for you?
A: How about Sinatra’s “The House I Live In”?

Q: What is your favorite local restaurant?
A: Skokie Club, definitely.

Q: What is an interesting fact about yourself?
A: A retired yard work as a kid but as a homeowner and Chicago Botanic Garden volunteer, I have come to love it.

PIONEER PRESS STAFF/PIONEER PRESS

See the complete line of Life Fitness products.

We Honor All Competitors’ Sale Prices – Pleasing People Since 1936
CLEARANCE & SALE

50% to 80% off

REG. & ORIG. PRICES.

FREE SHIPPING ONLINE & FREE RETURNS
Free shipping with $99 purchase. U.S. only. Exclusions apply; see macys.com/freereturns

65% OFF CLEARANCE SELECTIONS
Reg./Orig. $49-$1650.
Now 17.32-$227.50.
Sweaters, sportshirts, suits, sport coats, dress pants, knit tops & more.

75% OFF CLEARANCE
Reg./Orig. *$28-$4950.
Now $7-1738.
Sportswear & activewear: tops, vests, sweaters, pants & more. Misses. Women's prices slightly higher.

50% OFF CLEARANCE
Reg./Orig. *$10-$599.
Final cost: 1.80-$44.55.
Clearance sleepwear & intimates.

50% OFF CLEARANCE
Orig. *3.98-$14.98.
Final cost: 2.98-$11.98.
Clearance sweaters, tees, sets & dresses.
Boys' 2-20; girls' 2-16; infants' 0-24 mos.

60% OFF CLEARANCE
Orig. *$69-$320.
Sale/Now 24.15-$128.
Suits & dresses. Misses & petites. Women's prices slightly higher.

60% OFF CLEARANCE
Orig. *$20-$228.
Final cost: 6-$136.80.
Clearance handbags: satchels, totes, wallets & more.

50%-75% OFF CLEARANCE
Orig. *$300-$5,000.
Final cost: 120-$3,200.
Clearance fine jewelry: diamonds, gemstones & more.

60% OFF CLEARANCE
Orig. *$199-$1,000.
Final cost: 50-$375.
Home clearance: cookware, luggage, sheets, towels, dinnerware & more.

REG./ORIG. PRICES ARE OFFERING PRICES, AND SAVINGS MAY NOT BE BASED ON ACTUAL SALES. SOME ORIG. PRICES NOT IN EFFECT DURING THE PAST 90 DAYS. SALE PRICES & EXTRA SAVINGS IN EFFECT 1/6-1/10/2016. *Intermediate price reductions may have been taken. Extra savings are taken off already reduced prices; final cost prices reflect extra savings. Jewelry photos may be enlarged or enhanced to show detail. Fine jewelry at select stores; log on to macys.com for locations. Almost all gemstones have been treated to enhance their beauty and require special care, log on to macys.com/gemstones or ask your sales professional. Clearance items are available while supplies last. Advertised items may not be at local Macy's and selection may vary by store. Prices & merchandise may differ at macys.com. Luggage shown carry warranties; to see a manufacturers' warranty at no charge before purchasing, visit a store or write to: Macy's Warranty Dept., PO Box 1026 Maryland Heights, MO 63043, attn Consumer Warranties. N5120127.

OPEN A MACY'S ACCOUNT FOR EXTRA 20% SAVINGS THE FIRST 2 DAYS, UP TO $100, WITH MORE REWARDS TO COME. Macy's credit card is available subject to credit approval; new account savings valid the day your account is opened and the next day; excludes services, selected licensed departments, gift cards, restaurants, gourmet food & wine. The new account savings are limited to a total of $110; application must qualify for immediate approval to receive extra savings; employees not eligible.
Pizza Wars: D219 Foundation awakens

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

Pizza Wars is the signature yearly fundraiser for the District 219 Foundation, a nonprofit started by Skokie resident Alyse Burman to help support low-income kids in Niles Township, including the eight elementary and middle school districts that feed into the high schools.

Village Inn has won first prize three times, and Miles said his basic cheese pizza can hold its weight against other pizzerias that serve up pies with lots of toppings, or offer the ever-popular Chicago-style deep dish pizza.

"I was brought up on plain cheese pizza, and that’s what pizza is for me,” Miles said. “Pizza is not a salad on bread that’s put into the oven.”

Jet’s Pizza franchisee Kevin O’Donnell sees things differently. His barbecue chicken pizza won over hearts during Pizza Wars back in 2011, shortly after he opened his restaurant on Dempster Street and Crawford Avenue in Skokie.

“Last year, someone came to us because they were being evicted, and needed help paying the rent,” Burman said. “Everything is given on an anonymous basis, and we try to expand our tentacles out there to see who needs the help.”

But Burman said there’s a poverty rate from last year.

Beyond the diverse financial backgrounds represented by its students, Niles Township schools are also known for being ethnically diverse.

"You sometimes run out of common denominators when you have such great diversity, but everyone likes pizza," Miles said. "It seems to be the glue that ties us all together.

Last year’s Pizza Wars was attended by 850 people and raised about $18,000, according to Burman, who said this year the foundation hopes to raise $20,000.

Tickets for Pizza Wars are $12 in advance, and $15 at the door. To purchase tickets, visit www.219foundation.org.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Teamsters reach tentative pact with Coca-Cola, end strike

BY ALEXIA ELEJALDE-RUIZ
Chicago Tribune

Coca-Cola workers who have been on strike for nearly a month are heading back to work after their union reached a tentative three-year contract with the company.

Teamsters Local 727, which says it represents 319 production workers at Coca-Cola plants in Niles and Alsip, announced Dec. 29 the bargaining committee recommended ratification of what it called a "fair" contract offer by Coke. The tentative pact includes transferring members to a new health and welfare plan previously available to Coke management. Members must vote on the proposal supported by the bargaining committee but no date for the vote has been set.

The proposal includes annual wage increases and employer-matched 401(k) contributions.

"These hardworking men and women walked the picket line for 27 days fighting for respect and a fair contract from their employer, and they've achieved both," John Coli, secretary-treasurer of Local 727, said in a news release. "Our members should be extremely proud of themselves for taking a stand to change the culture at Coca-Cola. This tentative agreement is a strong step forward for hundreds of workers whose collective demand for respect has been heard loud and clear by their employer."

The proposal includes a 3 percent wage increase the first year and a 2.5 percent increase the second and third years, said union spokesman Will Petty. The management health care plan reduces employees' premiums by nearly $7 a week for employee-only coverage and more than $40 a week for coverage including unlimited children.

Workers walked off the job Dec. 3 after their contract expired to protest unfair labor practices. The union a week earlier had filed charges with the National Labor Relations Board alleging Atlanta-based Coca-Cola was bargaining in bad faith and that managers were spotted intimidating workers with baseball bats.

Local 727 planned to withdraw the charges "as a result of good-faith bargaining on Tuesday that made this tentative agreement possible," Petty said.

Coca-Cola spokesman Kathleen Strand in a statement: "We are pleased Coca-Cola Refreshments and Teamsters Local 727 have tentatively agreed to the terms for a new three-year contract. The tentative agreement must still be ratified by the associates represented by Teamsters Local 727 who work at our Alsip and Niles production facilities."

Strand said production at the facilities continued throughout the strike.

aelejalderuiz@tribpub.com
Twitter @alexiaer
Village Inn displays historic Skokie photos

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

Like any good sports bar and restaurant, downtown Skokie’s popular Village Inn showcases all kinds of sports memorabilia on its walls — photos and banners, team logos and autographs of athletes.

But a new hallway addition built by owner Randy Miles takes a turn away from the normal playing field and toward some unique local history.

Large black-and-white photos of downtown Skokie — taken from various points of view many decades ago — are now displayed on narrow walls leading to new bathrooms and a room in the back.

If the photos seem museum-worthy, that’s for good reason. They were the property of the Skokie Heritage Museum although not regularly on view until Miles took them off the museum’s hands.

According to the museum, the switch to a smaller storage locker meant it needed to downsize a bit. It came to Miles, who is also the president of the Independent Merchants of Downtown Skokie, to see if he wanted them or had any ideas.

"Their new locker wasn’t as big as the old one, and they really didn’t have a place to store the photos," Miles said.

Roughly the size of a large sheet of plywood — 4 by 8 feet or so — the black-and-white photos take up a good amount of wall space along the Village Inn's new narrow hallways and also in the new backroom.

As Miles showed them off, he pointed to where the Village Inn would be located years later. (It was originally named Alberti’s Italian Restaurant).

"I immediately knew I wanted them because I've been trying to figure out what am I going to do with those long walls anyway," he said, laughing. "The museum had no idea I would even have room for them here."

Although the years these photos were taken are not precisely identified, Miles said he believes most of them were shot around 1907 — at least the four displayed along the hallways.

Two additional photos, including one of the old Village Hall — then identified as "Municipal Building" — are more recent, from the '50s, Miles said.

Those who have a copy of the 2010 "Images of America: Skokie," written and compiled by Amanda J. Hanson and Richard J. Witty of the museum, are likely familiar with similar historic photos of downtown Skokie.

But the photos on display at the Village Inn are much larger, of course, and not the same ones that appear in the book. Even though some of the photos may have been shot a century ago, it is impossible not to recognize what evolved into the downtown Skokie of today.

A photo looking from Oakton Street north down Lincoln Avenue shows the very same St. Peter's Catholic Church at the intersection of Niles Center Road and Lincoln.

That made it pretty easy for Miles to locate exactly where his would be some five-plus decades later.

Miles said this is not the first time he has seen these historic photos.

As a kid growing up in Skokie, he remembers them hanging in the First National Bank of Skokie in the heart of downtown, he said.

"I so clearly remember the bank and those pictures being displayed behind the teller line there," he said.

Now they have become the Village Inn's new "conversation piece," according to Miles. They have been up for only a short time, but there has already been some real buzz from locals, he said.

"If you really look at these pictures, you can see how this area developed from the late 1800s on with the church and the general store there," Miles said. "The rich history of our downtown can get kind of lost in today's Internet world. I'm very proud to have that history hanging on my walls now."

misaacs@pioneerlocal.com
Twitter @SKReview_Mike

The photos — most of them shot in the early 20th century — formerly were in storage at the Skokie Heritage Museum, and before that, hung in the First National Bank of Skokie.
Holocaust Museum looks to build new parking lot

By Mike Isaacs
Pioneer Press

Those who visit the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center in Skokie face two options once parking quickly fills up next to the building - the gravelly, unfinished lot across the street or an auxiliary lot that is part of the Optima housing complex down the block.

The museum recently came before the Skokie Plan Commission with a proposal to rebuild and reconfigure the gravelly lot at 9625 Woods Drive as well as build a new lot nearby.

According to the museum, the lot currently accommodates 101 automobile and six bus spaces. The rebuilt lot, to be made of porous pavement, would hold 127 automobile spaces only, the museum said.

Bus parking would be moved south to the new lot on vacant land between Woods Drive and Golf Road, according to the museum. That lot would provide parking for 15 buses or 54 automobiles when the lot was not being used for bus parking.

"The new lot will make it easier and safer to bring children from buses to the museum building without crossing Woods Drive," the museum said in its application to the village. "Both lots will be fully developed to village standards."

For the museum's revamped parking plans to move forward, the Village Board must sign off on a site plan for the new lot and vacate a portion of Long Avenue between Woods Drive and Golf Road to accommodate it. The two measures were recommended by the Plan Commission in December.

Howard Swibel, an Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center trustee, said the museum uses 80 to 90 spaces in the Optima lot. But he said that parking is not ideal.

"It's about a quarter-of-a-mile from the museum itself," he said. "Many of the times people are using it, it's very cold or it's dark. Some of the people are older. It's really not very convenient."

Swibel said the museum has also been told that the Optima lot may not be available for museum use much longer.

The reconstruction of the gravelly lot would mean an additional 26 car spaces. When the new lot is not used for bus parking, that would add another 54 car spaces, totaling 80 additional spaces close to the building, Swibel said.

"In essence, we're replacing the spaces a quarter-of-a-mile away," he said.

The parking lot is not restricted to Holocaust Museum parking and would remain a public lot, Swibel said. People using the nearby Cook County Forest Preserves, for example, can use the lot as well.

Property for the new lot also belongs to the forest preserves and is subject to an intergovernmental agreement between the forest preserves and the village, according to Swibel.

He said the museum initially had interest in building a new lot to the west, but the county did not allow it. The museum has been working with the village for the last few years to come up with a plan that includes property the county is making available, he said.

"We have six parking spaces for buses," Swibel said. "We have 75,000 students come in per year with their schools for field trips. Sometimes, there are a dozen buses clogging the parking lot making it unusable."

Swibel also said the museum plans to build a 100-foot retaining wall because of project land being uneven. A sign along the top of the wall would read Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, he said.

If approved, the project is estimated to cost the museum about $1 million, he said. The museum, he said, hosted around 100,000 visitors last year.
The following items were taken from the Niles Police Department reports. An arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt.

**BATTERY**
- Joon Kim, 53, of the 10300 block of Dearlove Road, Glenview, was charged with battery on Dec. 26. An employee of a bar on the 8500 block of Golf Road told police that Kim struck her in the head and face and began kicking her in the leg after she refused to serve him alcohol because he appeared intoxicated when he entered the establishment. According to police, the woman said she felt pain in her head and reported losing a tooth, as well. Kim has a Jan. 29 court date. He was also ticketed for public intoxication, police said.
- Jason Lau, 39, of the 6700 block of Hamlin Avenue, Lincolnwood, was charged with battery on Dec. 28 after he was accused of shoving a 73-year-old man to the ground in a parking lot on the 6100 block of Touhy Avenue. The victim told police that he was walking through the lot when a car drove by, splashing him and another man with snow and ice. The victim admitted to yelling at the driver to slow down when Lau, the passenger, exited the car, approached both men and asked, “Do you want some of this?” police said. According to police, surveillance video captured the incident. Lau has a Jan. 27 court date.

**BURGLARY**
- Jeremy Hampton, 27, of the 3200 block of West Douglas Boulevard, Chicago, was charged with felony burglary on Dec. 27 after police said he burglarized a van parked in a driveway on the 7000 block of Seward Street. According to police, two men reported seeing Hampton taking tools out of the van and then chased him down the street before restraining him and bringing him back to the Seward Street address. Another man reportedly asked the pair to let Hampton go, but when they refused, he left the area in a minivan, police said. Hampton was taken to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital after complaining of shortness of breath and saying he was asthmatic, according to police. He has a Jan. 12 court date.

**RETAIL THEFT**
- Ahmed Dzananovic, 20, of the 8200 block of Central Avenue, Morton Grove, was charged with retail theft on Dec. 24 after he allegedly stole $160 worth of merchandise from a store on the 8500 block of Golf Road. Police said Dzananovic ran from the store, but was apprehended by police after he was seen getting into a blue BMW. He has a Jan. 27 court date.

**THREAT**
- A Niles man told police he received a threatening phone call on Dec. 21 in which the caller said he was going to kill the man and then stab him in the eyes. A woman has also reportedly called the man, telling him to “watch his back,” police said.

**RUSE ENTRY**
- Police said $800 in cash was stolen Dec. 23 from an 84-year-old man’s home after he invited a man inside to discuss roofing work.

**THEFT**
- Two thefts were reported Dec. 21 inside a residential facility on the 8900 block of Golf Road. An 82-year-old woman reported cash was taken from a bedside table, while a 91-year-old man said money and jewelry was stolen from his bedroom. An investigation was pending, police said.
- A wallet was stolen Dec. 28 from a locker inside a fitness center on the 9200 block of Milwaukee Avenue.
- Two air conditioning units valued at $4,000 were reported stolen Dec. 28 from a house on the 8100 block of Oketo Avenue. The owner of the home told police that the same type of theft occurred in August, as well.

**PROPERTY DAMAGE**
- A woman told police that between Oct. 31 and Dec. 24, someone put sugar in the gas tanks of three family cars on the 8600 block of Merrill Street.

---

**Cops: Morton Grove man, 80, killed in accident**

By Lee V. Gaines

An 80-year-old Morton Grove man was struck and killed Dec. 29 by a snowplow clearing his driveway in the 9200 block of Ozark Street, police said.

Morton Grove police responded to the residence near the corner of Ozark and Church streets about 9:20 a.m. and they found an injured Agostino Comella, a 2007 GMC Carryall snowplow and the driver of the vehicle in the driveway, according to a news release from the department. Police said Comella fell before he was struck by the plow. He died from his injuries at the scene.

The crash remains under investigation by members of the North Regional Major Crimes Task Force's Major Crash Assistance Team, police said.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter.
THE GENESSEE THEATRE

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE AT THE GENESSEE THEATRE!
GENESEETHREATER.COM • TICKETMASTER: 800-982-2787

Thursday, March 10 7:30 PM
"2016 Next Women of Country Tour"
JENNIFER NETTLES
SPECIAL GUESTS
Brandy Clark
Lindsay Ell and Tara Thompson

Friday, January 15 8:00 PM
Emmy Award Winning Chef
LIDIA BASTIANICH

Friday, January 22 7:30 PM
THE STATE BALLET THEATRE OF RUSSIA

Swan Lake

Saturday, January 23 7:30 PM
American English as
THE BEATLES TRIBUTE NIGHT!
Brandon Bennett as
ELVIS

Friday, February 19 7:30 PM
HERMAN'S HERMITS
FEATURING
PETER NOONE
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
The Buckinghams

Saturday, February 6 8:00 PM
MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET's
Multi-talented Entertainer
VICKI LAWRENCE

THE GENESSEE THEATRE
201 NORTH GENESSEE STREET, WAUKEGAN, IL
BOX OFFICE HOURS: TUE-FRI 12-6 PM, SAT 10 AM-4 PM, PH 847-263-6300
Roller derby skaters go for fun, fitness

Teachers, librarians among those playing rough-and-tumble sport in Chicagoland

BY JANE MICHAELS
Pioneer Press

With names like Lethal Dose, Killer Zee and Dixie Buttkix, they shelve their day jobs as librarians, teachers and flight attendants in favor of raising a little nighttime hell on wheels.

Members of the Chicago Outfit Roller Derby League practice up to four evenings a week at the Fleetwood Roller Rink in Summit during their competitive season, which begins in March.

The tight-knit group of 67 women from the western suburbs and Chicago take their sport seriously, but bear little resemblance to the trash talking, mean-girl stereotype.

"Some teams do trash talk, but I don't see the point," said Casey Buchanan, who goes by Casey Mace 'em. "I do this for fun. I pay to do this, and I don't have time for a grown person to be mean to me."

Instead, Buchanan, 35, of Chicago, said she and her teammates generally make friends with their opponents on the starting line talking about their families or what kind of music they like.

Being tough involves "owning your space," rather than being a jerk, and that attitude is a challenge for many women, as well as the close physical contact, Buchanan said.

"I'm not a touchy, feely person in real life, and when you're blocking, there's no space in between you and the next blocker," she said.

In competition, the object is for a jammer to push through a clump of four opposing team blockers seemingly cemented at the hip, usually with one blocker skating backward to control the group.

The Chicago Outfit, founded in 2007, has competed since 2010 at a rink in Chicago's Logan Square as members of the Women's Flat Track Derby Association. Outfit members are divided into three teams, based on ability levels, to compete against other teams from the Midwest.

Buchanan said she wasn't involved in sports while growing up, but discovered Derby Lite at age 30, when she also completed a 100-mile bike ride. The fitness skating program stresses conditioning and proper technique in falling and blocking, but without the physical contact essential to derby bouts, now called games.

"Some people sky dive or bungee jump. I roller derby," she said. "It scares the heck out of me but I do it anyway. It's fun."

jmichaels@pioneerlocal.com
Twitter @janemichaels22
A recent decision by the Illinois Supreme Court will allow Cook County to collect about $3 million in unpaid taxes from Des Plaines' Rivers Casino.

The decision also will allow the county to continue to collect another $1 million in yearly tax revenue from Midwest Gaming, the casino's owner and operator. A separate recent state appellate court decision also upheld the county's legal right to tax gambling machines.

The Supreme Court decision effectively ends a three-year legal battle over the Cook County Board of Commissioners' whether the county's legal right to tax gambling machines.

The Supreme Court decision also was upheld when the county's Department of Revenue and the municipality. He said the tax revenue the city receives from Rivers Casino is remitted by the state.

As a result of the decision, the county's Department of Revenue anticipates receiving an about $3 million one-time payment for outstanding taxes from 2013, 2014 and 2015.

“We are pleased with the Supreme Court's decision confirming our long-held belief that the county's tax on video gaming machines is legitimate and lawful,” said Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle in a news release. “The revenue generated from the gambling tax will help provide important funding for critical public safety services to county residents.”

Rivers Casino spokesman Dennis Culloton offered a different opinion. “We respectfully disagree with the court's ruling, and we are considering our options,” he said in an emailed statement.

When asked about the issue, Des Plaines City Manager Michael Bartholomew said the city was aware of the lawsuit but that it had little bearing on the municipality. He said the tax revenue the city receives from Rivers Casino is remitted by the state.

State Rep. Marty Moylan, D-Des Plaines, said in an emailed statement that he opposed the 1 percent sales tax increase passed by the Cook County Board last year and would “continue to oppose any tax increase that hurts our local economy and middle-class families,” but did not specifically mention the county's gambling machine tax.

After approval of the tax, Midwest Gaming filed suit against Cook County in circuit court. An agreement reached during the hearing process stipulated the county would not enforce the tax or issue citations while the case was still being fought. Midwest Gaming also agreed to pay any unsettled taxes after a final decision by the court.

Tax decals for gambling machines found in casinos in Cook County cost $1,000, while those for video poker machines in bars and restaurants cost $200 per the county ordinance. Based on the number of gambling machines at Rivers Casino, the county expects to receive $3 million in annual tax revenue. Video gambling operators, unlike Midwest Gaming, have been paying the tax since it was approved three years ago. The tax on video gambling machines is expected to generate roughly $350,000 in tax revenue for 2013 and about $400,000 for this year.

Michael Gelatka, president of the Illinois Gaming Machine Operators Association, said the $200 tax decal is too much for video gambling operators to pay given that many already are required to cover the cost of licensing fees imposed by municipalities.

The Illinois Coin Machine Operators Association also filed suit against Cook County, but a recent decision by a state appellate court found that the tax is within the county's powers.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for the Chicago Tribune.
American Legion Post 134 thanks supporters

**SUBMITTED BY CASEY BACHARA**

On Thanksgiving, the American Legion Post 134 celebrated its ninth annual Navy Day. The Post entertained 32 Navy recruits from Naval Station Great Lakes. The Thanksgiving Committee wants to thank all the volunteers, friends, guests, organizations and businesses who made the day a very successful event.

- American Legion Post members, auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, and Legion Riders
- Village of Morton Grove Mayor Dan Dimarria, village officials, and department members
- AT&T (free phone service all day long)
- Kappy's (caterer for a full turkey dinner)
- Golf School District 67 (for the school bus) and Superintendent Beth Flores and Ted Anton
- Kappa's (caterer for a full turkey dinner)
- Oscar's (for gift certificate, $20 in currency, membership)
- Collectibles and began drying out the contents, which included a few checks, a gift certificate, $20 in currency, membership cards and other items.

**Casey Bachara is the Thanksgiving Committee Chairman at the Morton Grove American Legion Post 134.**

Naval recruits from Naval Station Great Lakes enjoy Thanksgiving at Morton Grove's American Legion Post 134 Nov. 26.
College football has lost its allure

I hate to be a spoilsport as we enter the revelry of the college football playoffs, office pools and alumni boosters writing donation checks to their alma maters, but I have to ask, is any of it worth it?

I'm inclined to say no, I don't think so. The gridiron has become strewn with too much damage to continue to care about it. But now the collateral damage suggests maybe it is time to do something about it.

What am I talking about?

Let's take a quick look at the statistics. As we all know, football is an inherently dangerous sport. And I'm not even talking about the cuts, bruises and bone breaks that happen on any given game day.

I'm talking about the chronic back and knee injuries, the lifelong pain that football players endure and, finally, the seemingly common brain damage that comes with playing football throughout high school, college and the pros.

The new film "Concussion" focuses on the doctor who discovered chronic traumatic encephalopathy, the brain injury commonly suffered by former players. As seasons progress, we hear of more football stars who suffered the effects of the disease — Junior Seau, Dave Duerson and Frank Gifford, for example.

Then there is the enormous amount of gambling that takes place on game day. I don't like to gamble, and it matters little to me if people want to wager on the outcomes of sports. But gambling addiction is a serious problem in this country.

The latest news is the most revolting of all.

A new study reports the incidence of rape increases at Division I schools on college football game days.

The National Bureau of Economic Research is reporting its results of a study that suggests reports of rape by 17- to 24-year-olds climbed by 28 percent on game day.

The growing incidence of sex assaults on college campuses has been in the news all year. Obviously, the party atmosphere that surrounds college football games would seem to contribute to this problem.

And that's not even addressing the problem of star student athletes being treated like demigods on the college campus, and the others like so many interchangeable parts. It's enough to make the players think they're employees of the school and should unionize.

Northwestern football players tried that earlier this year and failed. But at the University of Missouri, a threatened strike by the football team eventually helped force the school's president, Tim Wolfe, to resign over his response to a racial incident at the school.

With stats like that, college football just doesn't seem to be as entertaining as it used to be.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.
Countryside funeral home notes changes in how we mourn

LYNN PETRAK

When I was about 9 or 10, I got really used to eating "wake cakes." It was around the time many of my great aunts and great uncles and grandparents' friends were passing away. I spent a lot of time in reception rooms of funeral homes, hanging out with cousins and second cousins and nibbling on coffee cakes and drinking water out of Styrofoam cups. The next day, I'd don another dark dress for the funeral Mass, which was typically followed by a luncheon at a reception hall or country club.

Today, the way we cope, mourn and remember the deceased has changed.

You might have read recent news reports about a north suburban funeral home that just got a liquor license. Although I've been to my share of lively Irish wakes after which family and friends gathered at a local tavern to toast the deceased, I'm not sure how I feel about walking around a funeral parlor with a bottle of beer or glass of wine.

Meanwhile, I read earlier this week about another new idea in the transition between life and death: a biodegradable urn with seeds that, when combined with cremated ashes, grows into a tree.

The evolution in the way people remember their recently lost loved ones is noted by Howard Eggert, location manager and licensed funeral director at Hallowell & James Funeral Home in Countryside.

"People are choosing to do what they want and what they think the deceased would want, and we try to accommodate that whenever possible," he said. And though what I call "wake cakes" remain a staple of reception rooms, food has also changed somewhat in remembrance events.

"For some reason, the food is becoming more popular and a focal point. When I sit down with a family to make arrangements, I'll tell them they don't have to feel they have to feed everyone, but people want to help and that's one way they do it," Eggert said.

I would guess that the comfort factor of food has a lot to do with that, the same way that there is a greater personalization of memorials for loved ones. Ultimately, if you only get one go-round in life, I think it's nice that the final send-off is a thoughtful one.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

'Twas the month before caucus

A poem, in advance of the 2016 Iowa caucus on Feb. 1:

'Twas the month before caucus With all pols on the stump Badass mouth of all was clearly D Trump The vote we would hope would be cast with care Unfortunately, though, it seems hate is in the air The voters need to soon decide who is best This year more than ever it is quite a test We have always been a country for all that is open and free Let's hope folks won't forget our special Lady Liberty While on the campaign trail there has been bad chatter Allowing refugees and immigrants' rights does really matter So does choice for women and help for the poor and reasonable gun control too Many of the comments from the R's clearly merit a boo Twelve remaining R's makes it quite mucky Let's hope the numbers dwindle soon and the better ones get lucky For the Dems only three that all stand tall But it looks clear only one will prevail long before fall In the months ahead we will all have to pick A president with whom we will have to stick We will vote for candidates whom to all our states came On commercials and ballots we will see and often hear each name Now Santorum, Huckabee, Paul and Fiorina will likely soon fall And Rubio, Christie, Kasich and Bush will fight to see who will stand tall To fight Trump, Cruz and Carson in a real free-for-all Though O'Malley has been diligent and Bernie giving quite a fight It will most likely be Hillary engaged on election night Now it is time for you to vote for your choice Don't forget we all have a voice Let's hope that the worst candidates soon will be out of sight And to all let's hope for a good election night.

-Elliott Hartstein, Buffalo Grove

HEART OF THE HOME

Real estate agents bullish on 2016

FELICIA DECHTER

Despite the threat of rising interest rates, local real estate agents are confident that 2016 will be a busy year for buying and selling homes.

"I'm very optimistic overall and expect good things from the market in 2016," said John Lawrence, broker/owner of Oak Park-based Weichert Realtors, Nickel Group.

"We have always been a country for all that is open and free. Let's hope that the worst candidates soon will be out of sight. And to all let's hope for a good election night."

- John Lawrence, broker/owner of Oak Park-based Weichert Realtors, Nickel Group

Along with all of the aforementioned, there are a lot of millennials coming to the marketplace and it seems like the job market is opening up — so that helps housing too, said Barry Paoli, owner of Century 21 McMullen Realty, which borders Harwood Heights.

"This year is going to be a very good year, with interest rates being reasonable and the need for housing — it's big out there," said Paoli.

FELICIA DECHTER is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press. Got a story idea? Email write2@comcast.net.

Interest rates will finally increase, creeping toward 5 percent by the end of the year, predicted Lawrence.

"I don't think that this will have a negative impact on the market, as these rates are still historically low," he said. "If anything, it will make the spring market crazier with people who want to get in at lower rates.

Median prices will continue to continue to rise, reaching 4 to 5 percent as the market sees fewer distressed homes in the area (like short sales and bank-owned homes), said Lawrence.

Over at Gagliardo Realty Associates in River Forest, owner/broker Andy Gagliardo is looking even past 2016 with his predictions.

"I look for great things next spring and beyond for next year," said Gagliardo.

"This year is going to be a very good year, with interest rates being reasonable and the need for housing — it's big out there," said Paoli.

Forecasting a "flat" 2016 in the industry is Jonathan Zivoinovic, owner and managing broker at River Elm Properties in Elmwood Park.

"There is much speculation on what type of impact the interest rate increase is going to have on the real estate market — my answer is no effect at all," said Zivoinovic. "The reason being is the days of an interest rate affecting the power of someone to purchase a home are all but gone, as lending rules and legislation have pretty much eliminated any buyers who had a marginal chance of being approved for a mortgage from ever even applying.

"Secondly, there's a lack of supply in regards to inventory, causing many non-first time homebuyers to stay put instead of trying to buy and sell," said Zivoinovic. "This same dilute pool is also bad for first time homebuyers, as the prices of homes have increased due to the short supply, knocking them right out of the game."
Beat the cold weather blues

Ideas to keep you active and upbeat this winter season

BY SAMANTHA NELSON
Pioneer Press

Now that the holidays are over, the wait for spring can seem interminable, especially when the weather's cold and gray. Luckily, we've got the cure for your cabin fever. From plays to museum exhibits to classes and clubs, we've put together a selection of fun options to get you through the dead of winter.

Build your child's passion for reading at the Kid Lit Fest from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jan. 9 at the Highland Park Public Library, 494 Laurel Ave. Young readers can meet children's authors, use a photo booth to get a picture showing them on the cover of one of their favorite books and make a bookmark to take home. Storyteller Linda Gorham performs at 10:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Admission is free.

"Frozemont" continues its run at MB Financial Park, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, through Feb. 28, with outdoor ice skating, tubing down the Polar Peak and ice carving competitions. Visit www.rosemont.com/mbfinancialpark/frozemont.

See the Tony Award-winning musical "Spring Awakening," which follows a group of teenagers exploring their sexuality in the unforgiving society of 19th-century Germany, at The Marriott Theatre, 10 Marriott Drive, in Lincolnshire. The show runs at 2 and 8 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday, 3 and 8 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday Jan. 14-31. Tickets are $50 and can be purchased by calling 847-634-0200 or at www.ticketmaster.com.

The Kohl Children's Museum, 2100 Patriot Park, in Glenview, celebrates the season from 5:30-8 p.m. Jan. 15 with train rides through the holiday lights on display at its Habitat Park. The evening will also include a concert with Wendy & DB, live ice sculpting, the chance to get a photo taken with a "Frozen" character and a meet and greet with the star of PBS Kids' animated show "Nature Cat." Tickets are $24.

Both floors of the Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, 40 Arts Circle Drive, in Evanston, will be devoted to the life and career of musician and festival organizer Charlotte Moorman from Jan. 16 through July 17. The space hosts a pair of exhibits, "A Feast of Astonishments: Charlotte Moorman and the Avant-Garde, 1960s-1980s," which incorporates photos, audio recordings, performance props, costumes and film clips, and "Don't Throw Anything Out," which shows off items from Northwestern University's Charlotte Moorman Archive. Admission is free. The museum is open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and Tuesday and 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday through Friday.

Four local storytellers share tales spanning topics such as moving out after a marriage ends to surviving high school at Short Story Theatre at Miramar Bistro, 301 Waukegan Ave., in Highwood. The show starts at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 21 but you can come early for dinner and drinks to secure the best seats. Tickets are $10. Call 847-433-1078 for dinner reservations.

Catch a mix of music and heartfelt tales when songwriter Stephanie Rogers plays host to four storytellers at Story Jam at 8 p.m. Jan. 23 at Wilmette Theater, 1122 Central Ave. Tickets are $25-$30 and available at www.wilmette theatre.com.

Learn about a winter classic at a hot chocolate class for kids ages 4-10 and an adult class offered from 9:30-11 a.m. or 1-3 p.m. Jan. 23 and 31 at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Participants will examine the parts of the South American cacao tree and mix several historical varieties of the drink. You'll also get a chocolate mint to take home.
The Chicago Botanic Garden is offering hot chocolate classes for kids and adults.

Winter events, from Page 15

home. Tickets are $24 per child and registration is required. Call 847-835-6801 or visit www.chicagobotanic.org.

Thodos Dance Chicago's performance "Chicago Revealed" features works inspired by the city, including the piece "So- no's Journey," which tells the story of Japa- nese-American dancer Sono Osato and how an audition at Chicago's Auditorium Theatre at age 14 put her on the path to international stardom. The show runs at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 20 at the North Shore Center of the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Tickets are $28-$50 and can be purchased by calling 847-673-6300 or at www.northshorecenter.org.

Dads can share a special night out with their kindergarten- through 5th grade-aged daughter with a Hollywood-themed dinner dance from 5:30-8 p.m. Feb. 21 at the Patry Turner Center, 375 Elm St., in Deerfield. Tickets are $27-$40 and can be purchased by calling 847-945-0650 or at www.deerfieldparks.org.

Moms and sons ages 4-10 get their own night out from 6:30 to 8:15 p.m. March 11, where they can wear their favorite team's jersey and team up to play games and sports and enjoy some open gym time at the Sachs Recreation Center, 455 Lake Cook Road, in Deerfield. Tickets are $14-$21 and include a treat and prizes. Sign up by calling 847-572-2600 or at www.deerfieldparks.org.

Flutist Eugenia Moliner and guitarist Denis Azabagic of the Cavatina Duo present the world premiere of their "Sephardic Journey" project, which is inspired by the folk music they discovered when researching their personal connec-

Wendy & DB will perform a concert as part of The Kohl Children's Museum's seasonal celebration Jan. 15 with live ice sculpting and the chance to get a photo taken with a "Frozen" character.

Shop for fruit, vegetables, eggs, meats, cheeses, breads, salsas, pet treats, jam, honey and more from 15 vendors at the indoor farmers market at the Evanston Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd. The market runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday through April.

When snow or extreme cold makes leaving the house seem like a terrible idea, it's a perfect time to grab a blanket and curl up with a good book. Get inspiration for reading material and a place to discuss your reactions with others by joining one of these local book clubs, www.trib.in/imFWZn.

WINTER MOVIE PREVIEW

Greek weddings and guys in capes highlight the season

By Michael Phillips
Chicago Tribune

I drove by a four-screen neighborhood theater the other day, and the marquee said, simply: STAR WARS. Playing on all four screens. There was a time, before the Force awakened, when other movies existed. Friends, that time has returned. It is early 2016, and while "The Force Awakens" will be around for a while, other promising options are coming our way, in all sorts of genres.

"Anomalisa," Jan. 8. This was my second-favorite for 2015 (behind "Spotlight"), though I suppose I should recommend it advisedly. It's not for kids, or for adults who need unabashedly happy endings rather than profoundly bitter-sweet ones. "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" screenwriter Charlie Kaufman directed this unnerving intimate stop-motion animation feature about a customer service expert who looks up an old flame in Cincin- nati and then meets another woman. It's the strangest, Wittiest film I've seen in months.

"Son of Saul," Jan. 19. This feature film debut from Hungarian writer-director Laszlo Nemes is set in 1944 Auschwitz, where a member of the Sonderkommando (Jewish prisoners forced to work for the Nazis) decides to rescue one boy's body from the ovens.

"Hall, Caesar!" Feb. 5. In Hollywood's era of sword-and-sandal epics, MGM studio fixer Eddie Mannix (Josh Brolin) must locate an AWOL movie star (George Clooney) and deal with various studio assets (Scarlett Johansson, Channing Tatum, et al.) in this comedy from Joel and Ethan Coen.

"Pride and Prejudice and Zombies," Feb. 5. The literary sensation, combining Jane Austen, petticoats and a fetching collection of the undead, comes to the screen starring Lily James, Lena Headey, Sam Riley and Charles Dance.

"Where to invade Next?" Feb. 12. Michael Moore travels around the world, stealing socially progressive ideas about health care, gun control, public school lunches and the like. Gone is the screechy tone of "Fahrenheit 9/11" and, for the most part, the factual elisions of his lesser work; this movie proves Moore has much to say and a big heart.


"Whiskey Tango Foxtrot," March 4. Tina Fey stars in this adaptation of Kim Barker's 2011 comic memoir "The Taliban Shuffle." Barker spent seven years covering the conflicts in Afghanistan and Pakistan for the Chicago Tribune. (She now works for Pro Publica.)

"Midnight Special," March 18. Writer-director Jeff Nichols ventures into the realm of the super-natural, with a story of a father (Michael Shannon) and a son (Jaeden Lieber- her) fleeing authorities who are very, very interested in the boy's special powers. Kirsten Dunst, Adam Driver and Sam Shepard add support.

"My Big Fat Greek Wed- ding 2," March 25. People change; Greeks don't. That's the sell line for this sequel to the monster 2002 hit "Nia Vardalos wrote and stars in this screen reunion of the Portokalos clan.

"Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice," March 25. Ben Affleck is the new Batman; Henry Cavill returns for his second shot at Supe; Jesse Eisenberg plays a gappy, hopped-up edition of Lex Luthor; and judging by the trailers, director Zack Snyder unloads another round of his pummeling, garganu- an action.
FAMILY FRIENDLY

The Great Boodini performs at T.G.I.F. Family Night

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

The weekend will start on a high note for you and your children at Morton Grove Park District's T.G.I.F. Family Night, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Jan. 15 at Prairie View Community Center, 6834 Dempster St.

From 7:15-8:15 p.m., families will be entertained by a magician, The Great Boodini. His original shows combine magic, illusion, comedy and music and include audience participation. Several children are likely to be called onstage to help with tricks. The Great Boodini has performed on "The WGN Morning News Show."

"We're going to have a craft going on and we're going to have some snacks for the kids," said Recreation Supervisor Jeanette McNichols. "The Hot Shots program is going to be in the gym downstairs playing sports with everyone." There also will be storytelling and a tot play area.

The event will have activities for children of all ages. Parents must accompany their kids.

The cost is $3 per child; free to parents.

For details, call 847-965-1200 or go to www.mortongroveparks.com.

Double trouble

Zany Truffaldino discovers he has taken on more than he can handle when he becomes "A Servant of Two Masters." Thin Ice Ensemble Theater will perform the Carlo Goldoni play at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 8-10, at Devonshire Playhouse, 4400 Greenwood Ave., Skokie.

Tickets are $12; $10 for students.

For details, call 847-674-1500, ext. 2400 or go to www.skokieparks.gov/devtickets.html.

Unconditional love

That's what kids will learn about at a storytime devoted to Smriti Prasad-Halle's "I'll Never Let You Go," the Picture Book of the Month, 11 a.m. Jan. 9 at Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. The book teaches that when you love someone you stand by them.

For details, call 847-676-2230 or go to www.barnesandnoble.com.

The (little) people's choice

Children will hear four books and choose their favorite at a Second Sunday Special: Monarch Award Mania, 2-3 p.m. Jan. 10 at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St. Kids will also draw a self-portrait from a strange perspective, build with LEGO and enjoy treats.

For details, call 847-663-1234 or go to www.nileslibrary.org.

Pleasing plants

Kids ages 4-10, with an adult, will examine parts of the cacao tree and mix chocolate drinks at Hot Chocolate, 9:30-11 a.m. or 1-2:30 p.m. Saturdays, Jan. 23 or Jan. 31 at Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. The cost is $24 per child for nonmembers; 20 percent less for members.

For details, call 847-835-6801 or go to www.chicagobotanic.org/familyprograms.
More than 500 enjoy Hellenic Museum's 'Kouzina'

Event: National Hellenic Museum's annual "Kouzina"
Celebrating: The food, wine and culture of Greece
Attended: Record-crowd of more than 500 supporters
Benefiting: Funds raised support museum programs
Date: Nov. 5
Location: National Hellenic Museum, Chicago
Website: www.nationalhellenicmuseum.org

Steve, from left, Theml, Teddi and John Galanis of Glenview

Ted and Stacy Paros of Inverness

Lori and George Voutsitsas, from left, of Inverness and Connie Mourtoupalas of Chicago

The Quintet Attacca will perform "Winter Winds — A Romantic Soundscape," at St. John Brebeuf, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles, at 3 p.m. Jan. 17. The concert, part of the Musica Lumina 2015-16 concert series at the church, will showcase the quintet's innovative programming that reflects both the Classical and Romantic eras. A free-will offering will be taken, but there is no admission charge. For more information, call 847-966-8145 or see www.sjbrebeuf.org.

Keith Hancock, president of the North Shore Barrington Association of Realtors congratulated Marilyn D. Glazer at a ceremony dedicating the NSBAR boardroom to her as winner of the organization's 2015 Distinguished Service Award. Colleagues, friends and family were on hand for the dedication of the "Marilyn D. Glazer Boardroom and Conference Center" Dec. 16, at NSBAR's Northbrook office. Glazer, owner of her own real estate brokerage company, Marilyn D. Glazer, Realtor, also serves as supervisor of Niles Township government and as treasurer of the Niles Township Food Pantry Foundation. Glazer is a 30-year resident of Skokie.

We want to publish your photos. To submit, visit http://community.chicagotribune.com or email community@pioneerlocal.com.
### REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>SELLER</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2638 N Windsor Dr, #203, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Nicholas Kotrotsios</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>330 W Miller St, #1A, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Parek Vipani &amp; Ani Vipani</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$101,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1226 S New Wilke Rd, #310, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Plamen Dobrev</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1510 E Lake Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Marcin Stachura &amp; Agnieszka Stachyra</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$189,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>843 S Dykstra Pl, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Joseph Leffelman &amp; Jessica Lynn Leffelman</td>
<td>12-04-15</td>
<td>$275,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>505 S Gibbons Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>James McMillan Jr</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$290,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1312 S Fernandes Ct, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Gerald F Benda Jr &amp; Candice S Benda</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1120 N Phelps Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Roman Podolinsky &amp; Maryna Ursukh</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$315,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1190 N Dryden Pl, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Steven J Althelde &amp; Danielle C Althelde</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$375,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>512 B Burling Tree Ln, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Daniel W Smith &amp; Jennifer Mark Smith</td>
<td>12-04-15</td>
<td>$425,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>207 N Lincoln Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Ashton Arnold</td>
<td>12-04-15</td>
<td>$589,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 Lake Blvd, #767, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Zyanne Montalbano &amp; Jesse Pacheco</td>
<td>12-04-15</td>
<td>$124,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>121 Mary Lu Ln, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Zyanne Montalbano &amp; Jesse Pacheco</td>
<td>12-04-15</td>
<td>$130,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1101 Beechwood Rd, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Jon D Lugo</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$246,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931 S Thacker St, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Claire Matta</td>
<td>12-01-15</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230 Manor Dr, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Ilhwa Hoon</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$320,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>906 Knollwood Dr, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Mark Al Friedman</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$336,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2421 Chambord Dr, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Murali M Vakkal &amp; Pavanantha Shilpa Noone</td>
<td>12-04-15</td>
<td>$375,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9320 Hamilton Ct, # 10, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Jayanti Parelk &amp; Kalpana Parelk</td>
<td>12-04-15</td>
<td>$86,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9497 Bay Colony Dr, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Rouda Jamil</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$98,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9255 Bumbie Ave, #10, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Sunny C Kochveitell &amp; Dolly S Kochveitell</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$98,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8923 W Lake Ave, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Sanja Mathew &amp; Suhita George</td>
<td>12-04-15</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9431 Bay Colony Dr, #26, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Sangwoo Bae</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$107,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9395 Bay Colony Dr, #35, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Sylwester Tuszewski</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$110,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1506 Woodland Ave, # C3, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Louis E Burdett</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$162,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8600 Gregory Ln, # C, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Rashid M Arslan &amp; Shalimar R Desai</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$184,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>446 E Thacker St, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Marchie Bele &amp; Alita Prakash</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$177,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2066 Sunset Dr, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Miroslav Mangariler &amp; Elizabeth Magrile</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$195,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1634 S Almond Ave, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Eva Kozickezian Reagen</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$220,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9160 W Oaks Ave, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Biju Jacob</td>
<td>12-04-15</td>
<td>$224,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>853 W Ford Rd, Des Plaines</td>
<td>John Pizzi</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$277,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1321 Henry Ave, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Angelo Surmaja &amp; Courtney Reed</td>
<td>12-04-15</td>
<td>$369,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>616 Beau Ct, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Sevakul Al &amp; Muhammad Alka</td>
<td>12-04-15</td>
<td>$385,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1006 Dodge Ave, Evanston</td>
<td>Janiec Green</td>
<td>12-04-15</td>
<td>$399,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1716 Seward St, Evanston</td>
<td>Donna Marie Ward</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$306,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1228 Emerson St, # 604, Evanston</td>
<td>Linghapp Zhang &amp; Hanilia Xiang</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$296,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>807 Davis St, # 2110, Evanston</td>
<td>Warren Steven Luly &amp; Kathryn Elizabeth Luly</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$320,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1631 Church St, Evanston</td>
<td>Jamiya Woll</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$326,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2057 Sherman Ave, #507, Evanston</td>
<td>Pavel Fischtik &amp; Nenita Fischtik</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$380,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>801 Milan Ave, #1, Evanston</td>
<td>Chloe Thussin &amp; Daniel Egel</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$375,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2383 Harrison St, Evanston</td>
<td>Michael E Hever &amp; Melissa Hever</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$455,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4202 Central Rd, # 1F, Glenview</td>
<td>Yuri Sirochiakos &amp; Vera Skaunina</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1039 Dearlove Rd, # 2A, Glenview</td>
<td>Dong Won Lee &amp; Yang Soon Lee</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>910 Shermer Rd, Glenview</td>
<td>Sarah A Knaus &amp; Robert Floss III</td>
<td>12-03-15</td>
<td>$397,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2319 Indian Ridge Dr, Glenview</td>
<td>Matthew Wilkinson &amp; Harin Wilkinson</td>
<td>12-04-15</td>
<td>$540,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>829 Lenox Rd, Glenview</td>
<td>Ray Nagle &amp; Holly Nagle</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$512,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Overlook Dr, Golf</td>
<td>Lance Costello &amp; Bridget Costello</td>
<td>12-02-15</td>
<td>$425,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Nona Ave, Hawthorn Woods</td>
<td>Sergey Podrez</td>
<td>12-01-15</td>
<td>$445,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Beverly Ln, Hawthorn Woods</td>
<td>Nygyn Johr &amp; Anita Johr</td>
<td>12-01-15</td>
<td>$525,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This list is not intended to be a complete record of all real estate transactions. Data compiled by Record Information Services. Public Records. This list is not intended to be a complete record of all real estate transactions.

Data complied by Record Information Services.
Evanston

Bright, sunny Colonial brick home with spacious rooms, wood-burning fireplace in living room, formal dining room, newer eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, high ceilings and lots of windows. Four bedrooms on second floor. Family room on lower level. Screened porch overlooks back yard. Newer cedar sided three-car garage.

Address: 1321 Monroe St.
Price: $550,000
Schools: Evanston Township High School
Taxes: $8,788.06
Agent: Carol Prieto/Jameson Sotheby's International Realty

Buffalo Grove

Home offers custom pillars and crown molding, gourmet granite kitchen with built-in oven, stainless appliances. Eat-in kitchen opens to family room. French doors to patio. First floor office. Four bedrooms each with large closet. Finished basement. Lot has mature trees and nice backyard views.

Address: 1816 Brandywyn Lane
Price: $599,000
Schools: Stevenson High School
Taxes: $17,986
Agent: Karen Danenberg/RE/MAX Experts - Buffalo Grove

Northbrook

Historical Mediterranean-style home with gorgeous contemporary updates. Newer kitchen with Viking oven/range, granite counters, custom lights and cabinetry. All bathrooms have been renovated. Dramatic living room with vaulted ceilings and centerpiece fireplace. Family room addition offers view of expansive yard.

Address: 983 Shermer Road
Price: $624,000
Schools: Glenbrook North High School
Taxes: N/A
Agent: C Bryce Fuller/Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Northbrook

Lincolnwood

Home had new room installed in 2015. Four bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms over 3,500 square feet of living space. Extra-large lot. Separate entrance to pool house, with access from home. In-ground pool and Jacuzzi. Newer water heater. Updated electrical panels, also in 2015.

Address: 6601 N. Monticello Ave.
Price: $589,000
Schools: Niles West High School
Taxes: $10,168
Agent: Pamela Raia/Baird & Warner Edgebrook

Listings from Homefinder.com
Technology’s silencing effect

Researcher explains how our phones are halting and inhibiting the way we talk to each other. Page 14
DeEtta's rolls with wedding cake trends

Couple runs 'good, old-fashioned bakery'

By Judy Buchenot
Naperville Sun

In many ways, DeEtta's Bakery is "a good, old-fashioned bakery," according to Kevin Tyschper, who runs and owns the Naperville bakery with his wife, Morgan Tyschper. "Everything is made from scratch. No mixes, no preservatives and real butter."

Kevin left a career in management, and Morgan left a career as a pediatric dietitian to pursue their passion for baking. The bakery opened in 2014 is named in memory of Morgan's mother, DeEtta, who passed along her love of baking to her daughter.

"Gone are the days when wedding cakes were strictly multiple round tiers of white cake with white frosting topped with a ding cakes were strictly multiple round is not the only shape comes to wedding cakes," said Kevin.

"White cake is actually the least chosen flavor today," said Morgan.

"When couples ask for color on the cake, we suggest adding color with real flowers because the colors of real flowers pop more than adding frosting flowers. The cake becomes more like a canvas to showcase the colors of the real flowers," said Kevin.

Kevin and Morgan Tyschper top off a box of freshly baked cookies for a customer at DeEtta's, their Naperville bakery. They use the display of rolling pins as a symbols of artisan quality at the bakery.

Kevin and Morgan Tyschper.

Another relatively new trend in weddings is a groom's cake that reflects the personality of the groom. DeEtta's baking team has fashioned a cake that looked like a wedge of cheese for a Packers fan, a duck cake for a hunter and one shaped like Lego bricks for a groom who loved the plastic bricks. Sweet tables filled with numerous desserts also have become a frequently requested item.

The bakery supplies favors for guests also. "We did a wedding where each guest got a doughnut and a Sunday paper to take home as a favor," Kevin said.

"A rolling pin is a symbol of homemade goodness," said Morgan. Some rolling pins on the display are worn from use.

"If that board could speak and tell us about all the things those rolling pins have made, it would be amazing," Morgan said.

The Tyschpers recognize the tradition of saving the top wedding cake tier in the freezer to eat on the first wedding anniversary but offer an alternative to their brides and grooms. "We make couples a complimentary top tier on their first anniversary instead so they can have a freshly made cake that tastes good instead of one that has been in the freezer for a year," said Kevin.

Another relatively new trend in weddings is a groom's cake that reflects the personality of the groom. DeEtta's baking team has fashioned a cake that looked like a wedge of cheese for a Packers fan, a duck cake for a hunter and one shaped like Lego bricks for a groom who loved the plastic bricks. Sweet tables filled with numerous desserts also have become a frequently requested item.

The bakery supplies favors for guests also. "We did a wedding where each guest got a doughnut and a Sunday paper to take home as a favor," Kevin said.

Today's brides and grooms are not tied to traditions and often make unusual requests. Kevin and Morgan supplied pies instead of a cake for a wedding and get requests for cheesecake wedding cakes.

Although the bakery has only been opened two years, the Tyschpers have been baking for many of their customers for about seven years.

"There are some families that we have done their engagement cake, a bridal shower cake, a wedding cake, a baby shower cake and then their kid's birthday cakes. It has been fun to be a part of all those celebrations," said Kevin.

The Tyschpers will be part of the annual Bridal Showcase at Naper Settlement on Friday and Saturday and are ready to fill requests of new brides and grooms. Kevin, 44, and Morgan, 43, enjoy being a local bakery "where we know the names of our customers," said Morgan. They have a display of vintage rolling pins on one wall of the store that Morgan put together.

Kevin and Morgan's Culinary Cue

Never refrigerate bread because it will become dried out. If you want to prolong the shelf life, freeze the bread and thaw slices as needed.

Baked French Toast

12 slices thick-cut challah
6 ounces cream cheese, softened
4 teaspoons cream cheese, divided
1/2 cup butter, melted
2 cups milk
1/3 cup maple syrup
6 eggs
tablespoons sugar
tablespoons vanilla

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Spread cream cheese on top of the slices of challah. Place bread in two greased 9-by-13-inch pans. Sprinkle bread with 1 teaspoon cinnamon.

2. Mix together remaining cinnamon, melted butter, milk, maple syrup, eggs, sugar and vanilla until blended. Pour over challah slices. Bake 15-20 minutes or until egg mixture is set.

Naper Settlement Bridal Showcase

When: 5:30-9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday
Where: Pre-Emption House and Century Memorial Chapel at Naper Settlement, 523 S. Webster St., Naperville
Admission: free
More Information: www.napersettlement.org
Soar into a galaxy of fun with ‘Star Wars’

Kids and crafts bring the Force fun home to stay

Bring the “Star Wars” movie fun home. Make these crafts with your mini-Jedi Knights or try them (Han) solo. Just grab a seat, gather a few materials and “May the crafting force be with you!”

Princess Leia Cupcakes

These regal treats were created by party and entertaining guru Debi Lily of A Perfect Event, aperfectevent.com. By attaching the Oreos, Lily creates a perfect shape for Princess Leia’s hair.

You need:
- Vanilla cupcakes with white frosting
- Dark chocolate frosting
- Chocolate chips
- Pink sugar sprinkle flowers (available in the baking aisle)
- Chocolate Oreos (chocolate-filled Oreos work best)
- Toothpicks

Directions:
Create Leia’s face with chocolate chips eyes (flat side up) and pink sugar sprinkle flower lips. Use toothpicks to attach Oreo side buns to each side of the cupcake, and dab some chocolate frosting on the cupcake between them to complete her hairdo.

Stormtrooper Pops

These pops, like their namesakes, make a big impact especially when presented en masse. Fun to make on a lazy weekend or snowy day. Simply give your kids a big bag of marshmallows, a few edible-ink markers, some lollipop sticks and let their imaginations do the rest.

Thank you to Jillian from catchmyparty.com for this creative, delicious craft.

You need:
- Marshmallows
- Lollipop sticks
- Edible-ink marker (in the baking aisle and at most craft stores)

Directions:
- Use edible-ink marker to draw a face on the marshmallow. Add a lollipop stick and your Stormtrooper is ready.

Star Wars’ Snowflakes

These breathtaking snowflakes come courtesy of Anthony Herrera of anthonyherrera designs.com. A “Star Wars” aficionado, Herrera creates new snowflake designs each year that can be downloaded for free on his site. Herrera includes an easy to follow video that demonstrates the steps to achieve snowflake brilliance. Please note, although Herrera’s patterns do require a sharp x-acto knife, so adult assistance is necessary (but trust me, once you start making the snowflakes it will be hard to stop).

You need:
- Snowflake pattern (printed on white paper)
- Scissors
- X-acto knife
- Cutting board

Directions:
- Trim paper if necessary (some snowflake patterns are round, while others are square).
- Fold paper according to pattern’s guidelines. Watch Herrera’s video to ensure you fold the paper correctly.
- Place the pattern on a cutting board and use scissors and a craft knife to carefully cut the details (the pattern’s shaded gray area). Unfold the paper and voila! An intergalactic snowflake!

R2-D2 Garbage Can

One person’s trash can is another person’s droid. Just ask GeekDad.com contributor Will James, who transformed an ordinary swing-lid garbage can into R2-D2.

You need:
- White, swing-lid garbage can (James used a can by Umbra)
- Permanent markers (such as Sharpies)

Directions:
- Use markers to draw geometric shapes and panel lines directly onto garbage can. James suggests having using images of R2-D2 as a reference.
- Once the marker ink dries, the ink should remain permanent. However, if desired, you can add a coat or two of Mod Podge for a glossy sheen and to keep R2-D2 looking good.

Want more “Star Wars” fun? The folks at Disney have generously created a free, “Star Wars”-themed family fun pack, filled with mazes, games and projects. Visit mommyonashoestring.com to download and print your free family fun packet.
Books on animals deliver array of adventures

By William Hageman

Who’s on the bookshelves this month? Dogs, wolves, birds and cats. And butterflies. Beautiful butterflies. Here are some of the new animal-related books that have hit the market.

**“The Annihilation of Nature: Human Extinction of Birds and Mammals” by Gerardo Ceballos, Anne H. Ehrlich and Paul R. Ehrlich (Johns Hopkins University Press):** Three eminent conservationists show how humans have driven thousands of animal populations into extinction and how, in turn, humanity itself is threatened. It’s an important topic underreported by the media and worthy of public discussion. This book serves as a wake-up call.

**“James Herriot's Animal Stories” (St. Martin's Press):** In the third book of Herriot's stories republished in recent months by St. Martin’s (the other two focused on dogs and cats, respectively), the late author regales his followers with 10 charming tales featuring some of the animals he encountered during his decades as a vet. Wonderfully illustrated by Lesley Holmes.

Ralphie is a year-old, happy-go-lucky, husky/shep mix. He gets along with other dogs and people. We think he is good with kids and cats, but that may need more testing. He has a wonderful personality. He is active and high energy, so he will need a family that will work with him, play with him and get into training with him. To ensure he finds his forever family for good, we are looking for a family that is active but has time to work with him, will have a fenced backyard to play with him and will take him out for walks. His breed mix will require someone that will challenge his mind and fulfill his energy needs.

For more information, visit www.alsiptotherescue.org.

chicagotribune.com/pets
Visit us daily for the latest pet and animal news from the suburbs, city and beyond, plus:

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

My dad booked a round-trip flight from Chicago to Fort Meyers on Spirit Airlines in February. He was supposed to leave Dec. 6. Unfortunately, on Nov. 3, my father was diagnosed with metastatic lung cancer and is now much too sick to fly.

After I talked to Spirit Airlines' customer service on the phone, I was offered a refund of $101.20 on a ticket priced at $257.18 - a $155.98 cancellation fee! The gentleman on the phone directed me to send a letter with documentation of my dad's illness to their offices in Miramar, Fla., or through their website. So I mailed a letter and also went through their website, attaching the doctor's explanation. Here is an excerpt from the email Spirit Airlines sent back:

"We know that unforeseen situations arise such as your case. Although we are empathetic to your circumstances, our company has found that consistency in the enforcement of the rules surrounding our business policies is the only way to be fair and equal to all our valued customers. Regrettably, we are unable to waive fees, or amend our terms and conditions based on illness; even with a doctor's or hospital's note. If there's anything else that you need, just let me know."

Needless to say, they are not doing a full refund. I am wondering if there is anything you can do to refund my dad the full $257.18 ticket price.

Glen, Skokie

If the airline's policy really is no refunds - even in the case of critical illness - then surely it would clearly state this on the company's website. I was able to find the following:

"If someone is unable to fly, as well as why Glen's dad was first offered a partial refund, then subsequently told he would receive nothing, Schuler emailed: "While we would love to offer refunds to those impacted by unexpected illness ... our policy is very clear ... During the booking process at www.spirit.com, we give customers two opportunities to purchase or decline travel insurance. We get many requests for exceptions to our refund policy. While we would love to offer refunds to those impacted by unexpected illness ... our policy is very clear ... During the booking process at www.spirit.com, we give customers two opportunities to purchase or decline travel insurance."

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Send your questions to HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com.

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.
ROUNDUP | YOUNG ADULT

Calvin
By Martine Leavitt, Farrar Straus Giroux, 192 pages, $17.99, age 12 and up

"Maybe the loneliest feeling in the world, Bill, is the feeling you get when you see something no one else can see, or hear something no one else can hear, or believe something no one else can believe." That's 17-year-old Calvin writing about his schizophrenia to Bill Watterson. For reasons beyond the obvious one of his name, Calvin has always felt a connection to the cartoonist, starting with the fact that he was born in 1995 on the day Watterson's last "Calvin and Hobbes" comic strip appeared in newspapers. On a darker note, the first manifestation of Calvin's disease is when his long-lost plush tiger — Hobbes, of course — reappears in hallucinations and begins talking to him. He knows this isn't "normal," and he's afraid. As he writes to Bill, he used to be scared of the monsters under the bed, but now he's "scared of the monster in the bed, which (is) m'"

Canadian author Martine Leavitt's impressive list of unique and beautifully crafted novels include "Keturah and Lord Death" and "My Book of Life by Angel." In "Calvin," she continues to push the boundaries of young adult fiction in challenging new directions. Large sections of the text read as a screenplay, a record of conversations between Calvin and characters who may or may not be there. Even more atypical is the circumstances under which many of these conversations occur — during Calvin's trek across a frozen Lake Erie, with Hobbes and his former close friend (who else?) Susie, to find Watterson and implore him to draw a strip that will make Calvin well. Yet Calvin is more than a physical survival story. It's the story of a boy figuring out how to accept, perhaps even embrace, his illness without disappearing inside of it.

The Emperor of Any Place
By Tim Wynne-Jones, Candlewick, 327 pages, $17.99, age 14 and up

Evan doesn't know much about his grandfather except that he's a murderer. Clifford "Griff" Griffin was a young Marine sergeant during World War II who, according to Evan's father, went on killing after the fighting ended. But his father's sudden death from a heart attack forces Evan to call on Griff, now 90 and his only known relative. The resulting intergenerational confrontation brings long-dormant bitterness, suspicion and anger cracking to life, especially after Evan discovers a book in his father's study — the diary of a Japanese soldier named Isamu Oshiro who was stranded on a deserted Pacific island with an American soldier in 1944 — that could hold the key to it all.

Shifting back and forth between Griff and Evan's standoff and the events in the diary, this ambitious novel maintains a harrowing yet dazzling intensity. Wynne-Jones combines the hyper-reality of war with mystical beasts and spirits, dipping into Japanese folklore to populate Oshiro's island with corpse-eating jikininki, a savage unpredictable Tengu, and the ghosts of children yet to be born. Is it possible that Evan was actually there on the island witnessing what really happened in his "preincarnated" state? If all of this sounds strange and complicated, it doesn't feel that way as it unfolds. As in a dream, the disparate pieces from past and present, from fantasy and reality, seem to fall together effortlessly, forming both a suspenseful mystery and a meditation on loyalty, sacrifice, family and understanding between supposedly mortal enemies.

CHICAGOLAND BEST-SELLERS


2. "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates (Spiegel & Grau, $24).

3. "All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr (Scribner, $27).


5. "The Martian" by Andy Weir (Broadway, $15).

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

NEW IN PAPERBACK

The Buried Giant: A Novel
By Kazuo Ishiguro, Vintage, 336 pages, $16

In post-Arthurian Britain, the lengthy wars between the Saxons and the Britons have finally ceased. As elderly couple Axl and Beatrice set out to visit their son, an amnesia-causing mist has infected the land, causing them to remember little about him. Joined by a Saxon warrior, his ward and a knight, Axl and Beatrice slowly begin to remember the dark past they all share.

The Daylight Marriage: A Novel
By Heidi Pitlor, Algonquin, 260 pages, $15.95

After an explosive argument with her husband, Hannah vanishes, leaving her two young children to think about the woman who survived icy waters by warming himself with a bottle of whiskey.

Man at the Helm: A Novel
By Nina Stibbe, Back Bay, 324 pages, $14.99

When the father of 9-year-old Lizzie Vogel abandons the family, they move to an English countryside where residents disapprove of divorce and fatherless children and are horrified by Lizzie's drinking, pill-popping, playwriting mother. When Lizzie and her sister decide to find a new patriarch, their list of candidates includes a con artist, a vicar and several already-married men.

West of Sunset: A Novel
By Stewart O'Nan, Penguin, 260 pages, $16

A fictionalized account of the last three years of F. Scott Fitzgerald's life, "West of Sunset" follows Fitzgerald as he struggles to create a new career as a Hollywood screenwriter. His literary successes over and his health poor, Fitzgerald falls for gossip columnist Sheila Graham while attempting to maintain something of a family life with Zelda and Scottie.

When Hitler Took Cocaine and Lenin Lost His Brain
By Giles Milton, Picador, 281 pages, $16

The first book in Milton's "History's Unknown Chapters" series, "When Hitler Took Cocaine" sheds light on forgotten or little-known moments from history, such as Tsurutani Yamauchi, the man who survived both the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings, and Charles Joughin, the chef aboard the Titanic who survived icy waters by warming himself with a bottle of whiskey.

-Jeremy Mikula
One Century Ago:
What happened in 1916

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

Across
1 Shrewd
6 Where most people live
10 Survivor side
15 Valhalla VIP
19 President with two Grammys
20 Actor Rhames
21 Golf great Ben
22 Tool with teeth
23 Brit who led an Arab revolt against the Turks in 1916
25 Workday length in a 1916 federal law
27 Hamlet castle
28 Rival of Serta
30 Vituperate
31 "Sure we should"
32 Formal accords
33 Conceal
34 Bill settlers
37 Vitality
38 Bach choral works
42 Telltale signs
43 DW Griffith masterpiece that premiered in 1916
45 Pugilists' org.
46 Name of twelve 34 Down
47 Board member, for short
48 Egg on
49 Conceal
50 Comics cry of fright
51 Mexican who invaded New Mexico in 1916
55 Press session, briefly
56 "Green" energy source
57 Author Dinesen
58 '50s war zone

60 Musically accurate
62 New Zealanders, informally
63 Happy tune
64 Large-sheath knives
66 Tablecloth material
67 Slightest amount
68 Pine product
71 Headlights
72 See 36 Down
74 Game of Thrones ailer
75 Hula instruments
76 Related
77 Evidence of debts
78 As of
79 — calpa
80 Composer whose The Planets was completed in 1916
84 Begin a round
85 Magnifies
87 Correo ... (Spanish airmail)
88 Starts over
89 Board members: Abbr.
90 Tall flowers, for short
91 Exhausted
92 Halloween charity
93 Electrical appliance... (Spanish)
94 Lookout
95 Tanzania neighbor, formerly
96 Lookout
100 Marat/Sade playwright born in 1916
102 "General" topic of a 1916 Einstein book
104 Mined material
105 Have it out verbally
106 Interpol's French headquarters
107 Estate home
108 Names, in 106 Across
109 Speaks hoarsely
110 Some evergreens
111 Justice Kagan

Down
1 Place for pigeons
2 Fourth person
3 Women in westerns
4 Spam sources
5 Tiresome stuff
6 States firmly
7 — qua non
8 Entrepreneur's mag
9 Way in the past
10 West End playhouse
11 Charms up
12 Rapper ... Azalea
13 Dismissive outburst
14 Spellbind
15 Three-horse carriage
16 Ill-gotten gains
17 Creole staple
18 Take a breather
19 Goes bad
20 Impetuosity
21 Women in westerns
22 Place for pigeons
23 Yoga practice
24 Get wind of
25 Workday length in a 1916 federal law
26 Impetuosity
27 Hamlet castle
28 Rival of Serta
29 EPA concern
30 Vituperate
31 "Sure we should"
32 Formal accords
33 Conceal
34 Bill settlers
37 Vitality
38 Bach choral works
42 Telltale signs
43 DW Griffith masterpiece that premiered in 1916
45 Pugilists' org.
46 Name of twelve 34 Down
47 Board member, for short
48 Egg on
49 Conceal
50 Comics cry of fright
51 Mexican who invaded New Mexico in 1916
55 Press session, briefly
56 "Green" energy source
57 Author Dinesen
58 '50s war zone

91 Slightest amount
92 Speak hoarsely
93 Infamous Roman
94 News article
95 Turns sharply
96 Off-ramp sign
97 Top baccarat score
98 School that expelled James Bond
99 Veggie's constellation
100 Marat/Sade 
101 Historical interval
102 "General" topic of a 1916 Einstein book
103 Watch closely

Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island © 2016 Creators Syndicate. All rights reserved.
Home on the Range

BY CHARLES PRESTON

ACROSS
1. Stared in wonder 59. Romances
6. Now, at present 60. La Bamba actor Morales
10. Winnebagos, e.g. 61. Move furtively
13. Yemen's neighbor 62. Author Yutang
14. Lest 63. Saga
15. Hull backbone 64. Softens
16. Pressing matters
19. Ponder
20. Utopia
21. It goes in a setting
22. Salt peter
23. Building manager, for short
26. ___ right turn
29. Tense situations
35. Wells or Lupino
36. Cafe offering
37. Milne marsupial
38. Apply force, in police jargon
43. Road-map feature
44. Napped leather
45. Railroad switch
48. Wife of Saturn
49. Subtitles
53. Interchange Goodyears
57. Pending
59. Romances

DOWN
1. Fossil-rich desert
2. Within
3. Congressional aide
4. Meshes, as gears
5. They try to lose
7. Undergarment
8. Greek peak
9. Baseball-player's rep
10. Overhaul an apparatus
11. Limerick
12. More wily
15. Alaskan island
17. Everybody Hurts rock group
18. Latin dance
19. Polish partner
24. Pakistani tongue
25. Prickly ___ cactus
26. Journalist/novelist Ben
27. Suffer from a migraine
28. Ark skipper
30. Calls balls and strikes
31. Repetition
32. Noted Harper's Bazaar illustrator
33. Crucifix
34. Sound unit
39. There are three in a third
40. Disentangle
41. Advocate
42. Freud's homeland
43. Glover
44. Capital on the Red River
47. The Jungle author Sinclair
48. Sphere
49. Do as asked
51. Shuttle org.
52. Lasting impression, of a sort
54. Conjunctions
55. Intro for cast or market.
56. Tu: 1974 song
58. Family
The candy bar's buzz of recalled childhood pleasures.

Last week's Quote-Acrostic

S(ve) ALMOND: THE CANDY MAN

CAN: At times of economic turmoil, palates crave the cheap luxury of sweets. The financially insecure get soothed by the candy bar's simultaneous sugar highs and nostalgic buzz of recalled childhood pleasures.

Last week's Sudoku

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This week's Jumble

MYSTIC CLEVER HYPHEN OUTLAW UNIQUE UTOPIA

When you say words like “I,” “he,” “she,” “him” and “her,” you —

PRONOUN-CE THEM

chicago tribune.com/games

Interactive puzzles and games
Middle-aged dating – what’s new and what hasn’t changed

It would be impossible to count the number of articles I read in Cosmo and Glamour when I was in my 20s on the subject of dating and relationships. “Twenty Ways To Get a Man To Fall in Love With You,” “Six Mistakes Women Make on First Dates,” “Seventeen Reasons Women Are Still Single After 30” All good examples of the pieces I thought might help me meet and marry the man of my dreams.

While I cannot determine if the articles (and quizzes, of course) directly played a role, I did get married, and the nightmare of having to navigate the dating scene was over. So I thought.

Divorced at 41 and thrown back into the pack of wolves, I felt like I had outgrown articles like, “10 Secrets That Will Drive Your Guy Crazy In Bed.” What I really wanted to know was whether dating as a middle-aged woman would be even remotely similar to what it was 20 years prior? Today, nine years later, the answer to that question is very clear: Yes and no.

What’s new?

It all begins with technology. Nowadays, when you are dating someone, forget talking on the phone. Instead, you’ll have short, to-the-point conversations (which include making plans) via Facebook messaging, texting or email. It might seem impersonal or cold and distant at first, but you’ll get used to it.

There is one exception: FaceTiming. This is big. If your guy (or girl) is cool with you, he or she might be into having a conversation while seeing your face. This took me a little while to get used to because of self-consciousness. Plus, the FaceTime picture isn’t very flattering: You’d think the technology would have been able to make people look more attractive, but whatever. Once you get over it, I have to say it’s pretty fun.

In addition, the way single people meet is completely different now. Online dating sites have become a primary way men and women meet and find love, and dating apps like Tinder, JSwipe and Bumble are exploding, as they offer a chance to meet someone you find attractive, who happens to be in your vicinity at that very moment. I am amazed at how many people I see sitting at bars swiping!

Despite the fact that all this technology is widely accepted by young people, it truly makes sense for older, single parents. Why? One, it helps us manage our limited time in juggling kids, work and our social lives.

Another big difference in dating as a middle-aged person versus as a youngster is physical intimacy. It isn’t uncommon for men and women to initially have anxiety about sleeping with someone new after a divorce. Reasons include insecurities that come both with past relationship experiences and aging. Getting naked with someone new isn’t taken as lightly as it might have been when we were young and untainted. The good news is, anxiety about sex usually goes away after meeting someone you really trust.

What’s the same?

True love.

Ask anyone older than 40 and divorced with kids why they are dating, and he or she will probably answer “companionship,” “friendship,” “fun” or “something to do.” That’s why I think it’s funny that I can’t count the number of divorced men and women who say they unexpectedly met “the one” and that they felt the same intense excitement and passion (maybe even a stronger connection) than they had in the past.

Falling madly in love at an older age is almost a feeling of disbelief, accompanied by immense gratitude and a sense of peace that this is where you truly belong. It’s amazing how the heart can bounce back like that.

The bottom line is, loving someone feels the same at any age, whether you are a teenager, a young adult, a middle-aged person or even a senior. Your heart beats fast, you light up when he or she walks into a room and that person is buried inside your core every minute of every day. Are those feelings really that different from the ones you experienced when your high school boyfriend handed you a note that said you were the prettiest girl?

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.
Avoiding troublesome foods helps irritable bowel syndrome

**DR. ANTHONY KOMAROFF**

Ask Dr. K

Dear Doctor K: I have irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), and I hear there is a diet to help that. Can you tell me about it?

Dear Reader: Unfortunately, IBS is pretty common. Symptoms include cramping, diarrhea, gas and bloating. But you are right: Research has identified certain foods that tend to trigger IBS, and avoiding these foods can help you reduce your symptoms.

The new diet for IBS targets and eliminates certain types of carbohydrates that the small intestine has trouble absorbing. We’ll call it the "IBS diet," even though its official name is the "low FODMAP diet." (Please don’t ask what "FODMAP" stands for; you don’t want to know, and I don’t want to try to remember.)

Research has found that certain carbohydrates increase the amount of fluid in the bowel and create more gas. This leads to bloating and changes the speed at which food is digested. The result is gas, pain and diarrhea. Avoiding these foods reduces IBS symptoms in most people with IBS.

These are the foods to avoid:

- **Dairy:** cow’s milk, yogurt, pudding, ice cream, cottage cheese and ricotta cheese.
- **Fruits:** apples, apricots, blackberries, cherries, nectarines, pears, peaches, cherries, mangoes and watermelon.
- **Vegetables:** artichokes, asparagus, Brussels sprouts, broccoli, beetroot, cauliflower, garlic, mushrooms, onions and snow peas.
- **Grains:** wheat and rye.
- **Legumes:** chickpeas, lentils, kidney beans and soy products.
- **High-fructose corn syrup.
- **Sweeteners** such as honey, agave nectar, sorbitol, mannitol, xylitol, maltitol and isomalt found in sugar-free gum and mints.

Since you are avoiding the foods mentioned above, you may want to eat more of these foods, to compensate:

- **Dairy:** lactose-free milk; rice, almond and coconut milk; lactose-free yogurt; hard cheeses.
- **Fruit:** bananas, blueberries, cantaloupe, grapefruit, honeydew, kiwi, lemon, lime, oranges and strawberries.
- **Vegetables:** bamboo shoots, bean sprouts, bok choy, carrots, cucumbers, eggplant, ginger, lettuce, olives, parsnips, potatoes, spring onions and turnips.
- **Protein:** beef, pork, chicken, fish, eggs and tofu.
- **Nuts/seeds:** almonds, macadamia nuts, peanuts, pine nuts and walnuts.
- **Grains:** oat, oat bran, rice bran, gluten-free pasta, white rice, corn flour and quinoa.

Don’t misunderstand me: People are different, including people with IBS. Not all of the foods I advise you to eat less of will negatively affect your IBS. And some that will make your symptoms worse will not do so for another person with IBS. Likewise, eating only the foods I advise you to eat more of won’t guarantee you freedom from IBS. But they are a good place to start in reducing the symptoms of IBS.

You need to limit only those foods that you know are problematic for you. And if you’re not sure about some, try what’s called an elimination diet. That involves removing all foods from the "eat less" list from your diet, and then reintroducing one food at a time, noting whether it worsens your symptoms. If not, add it back to your diet. The IBS diet really can help you.

**Ross Hailey/MCT**

Almond milk is an alternative to dairy milk, which may increase symptoms for people who have Irritable bowel syndrome.

**Study: Concession is top injury among cheerleaders**

By Maureen Salamon

HealthDay

Concussion tops the list of injuries suffered by high school cheerleaders as the once- tame sideline activity becomes more daring and competitive, a new U.S. study finds.

But cheerleading still ranks near the bottom of high school sports in terms of overall injury rate, according to the research, published online Dec. 10 in the journal Pediatrics.

"Anecdotally, it’s pretty clear to me that over the past few decades that cheerleading has shifted from a sideline activity to a competitive sport itself. This may have resulted in an increase in injury," said study author Dustin Currie, a doctoral student in epidemiology at Colorado School of Public Health at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

"We only have five years of data ... but I don’t know whether to say it’s better for cheerleading to become a more competitive sport," he added. "It’s getting more children to participate in athletics, it’s probably a net positive."

About 400,000 students in the United States participate in high school cheerleading each year, including more than 123,000 involved in competitive "spirit squads" that incorporate stunts, pyramids, tosses and jumps, according to the U.S. National Federation of State High School Associations.

But states classify cheerleading in various ways, with some defining it as a sport and others lumping it with other nonathletic extracurricular activities, Currie said. The distinction is important because defining it as a sport requires stricter rules regarding safety measures, as well as coaching certification requirements, he said.

The new study is the first to compare injury rates of high school-sanctioned cheerleading to other sports. Using a large sports injury database, Currie and his colleagues found that, while overall injury rates among cheerleaders were lower than most other high school sports, the injuries that do occur are more severe.

Cheerleading ranked behind only gymnastics in the percentage of injuries resulting in an athlete being benched for at least three weeks or even the entire season, according to the new research.

"These dangers were also underscored in a 2012 policy statement by the American Academy of Pediatrics noting that cheerleading has accounted for about 66 percent of all catastrophic injuries in high school girl athletes over the past 25 years."

The new study shows that concussions were the most common cheerleading injury, for 31 percent of all injuries, but that concussion rates were significantly lower in cheerleading.

"There’s been a pretty strong rise in concussion rates over the last decade in pretty much all high school sports," Currie said. "I think that’s partially due to the increased awareness and diagnosis of concussions occurring. So I wouldn’t say I’m surprised by the more important thing to point out is that concussion rates are still lower in cheerleading than other sports."

More than half of cheerleading injuries occurred during stunts, with pyramid formations constituting 16 percent and tumbling accounting for 9 percent. Most stunt- and pyramid-related concussions resulted from contact with another person, most commonly an elbow, the study said.

Cheerleaders at the base of formations for stunts and tumbling sustained 46 percent of all injuries, followed by fliers (36 percent) and spotters (10 percent).

Dr. Cynthia LaBella, medical director of the Institute for Sports Medicine at Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago, said more research is needed, not only into what kinds of injuries occur among cheerleaders but whether certain safety measures are effective.

"I don’t know that it’s a bad thing that cheerleading has changed," said LaBella, also an associate professor of pediatrics at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago. "It has evolved, but we just need to make sure the procedures on how we monitor injuries and athletes’ skills... evolve with it."

Currie said one way to potentially reduce cheerleading injuries would be for all states to consider cheerleading a sport and recognize the “fast majority of high school cheerleaders are athletes,” requiring the support of athletic trainers and other appropriate medical staff.

"States need to think about it in terms of cheerleaders being athletes, as they are now, rather than some recreational activity on the sidelines," he said.
We remember when you partied like it was 1999

Reintroducing Chicago's original entertainment guide

Experience the new Metromix.com, now on all of your devices. With entertainment listings that cover the city and the suburbs, we're your go-to source so you can spend less time planning, and more time doing.
Technology’s silencing effect

Researcher explains how our phones are halting and inhibiting the way we talk to each other

By Lisa Bonos
The Washington Post

When was the last time you were at dinner with a friend or loved one, and your phone was on the table? Last night? The night before? Even if it's face-down, that phone is disrupting your conversation, says Sherry Turkle, a psychologist and director of the MIT Initiative on Technology and Self. I spoke to Turkle about her new book, “Reclaiming Conversation: The Power of Talk in a Digital Age” — and about what texting, social media and ghosting are doing to our relationships.

The following is an edited version of our conversation.

Q: Your book talks a lot about the effects cellphones have on our in-person conversations. What's going on in those situations?
A: One of the things we do is that we pick up our phone while we’re with our friends and our romantic partners, and we text in their presence. In a recent Pew report, 89 percent of adults said that in the last social encounter they were in, they used a phone to reach another person. And 82 percent said that it deteriorated the conversation.

A solo person relies ... on that web of friendships and family and connections. If you're using your phone while you're with these people, you're not necessarily maintaining those connections in the best way. For example, I tell a story of a woman who's with one of her best friends, and she's talking about a breakup. The friend is trying to help her, and while they're talking about the breakup, she starts to text other people about the breakup and get support from her social network available to her on the phone.

Q: When there's a real live connection in front of her.
A: For the friend who's with her...

... the sentiment is: What does that make me? Do I not have any privileged position as the friend not on the phone? There are things that the friend not on the phone really can give us.

Q: I'm more likely to be looking at my phone if I'm with friends than if I'm on a date. The date might be this bastion of keeping the phone away.
A: But as people become comfortable in relationships and start to feel that they're not on a date ... the phones come back out. In a way, it's a marker of the transition (from a date) to a person in your life who's integrated into the rest of your life.

There's a line in my book that's my favorite: 'Technology makes us forget what we know about life.' We've decided that it's OK to have a constant social media stream interrupt our conversation with our lovers, friends, family, children, parents because it's become a social norm. (When phones are out) you talk about things where you don't mind being interrupted ... you keep it light.

Q: With romantic relationships, how does technology make us forget what we know about life?
A: In the romance chapter of my book, I talk about a couple (Adam and Tessa) who have a lot of their relationship go on via text. Adam felt that he was a better self online because he could edit himself. And then she broke up with him. I went over a lot of their texts; he had missed so much. He was busy looking at how much she was texting him — not the content and not the signs of vulnerability, not the hesitation and the pauses. He was reassured by the volume. Somebody's texting you 20 times a day, you feel you're good. We can lose our perspective on what's happening in a relationship if we don't take the time to sit with each other and say, 'What's happening?'

Q: In talking to these couples, did you find any who were balancing digital communication and in-person communication in an admirable way?
A: The ones who balance it are the ones who when they're together, they're together. People use technology in very creative, very meaningful ways. The problems came when ... instead of showing respect for other people when they're ending a relationship, they just stop. That came up so much.

Q: The "nothing" response, as you call it in the book, also known as "ghosting" (when someone stops texting or answering calls)?
A: It made people crazy. In these romantic relationships, people have invested in each other, whether or not they've slept together; they've extended themselves emotionally to each other. And there is just nothing! People feel that's OK because it's just online. It's not OK. It's becoming more common because we're becoming desensitized.

Q: Desensitized to what?
A: Desensitized to how our behavior affects other people. There's a 40 percent drop in all the markers for empathy among college students in the past 20 years, with most of the change in the past 10. That really points to devices being a big part of the story. It doesn't happen by magic; it happens through something like this nothing response. You somehow convince yourself: Well, it's just texting.

Q: I'm wondering what role digital communication is playing in our memories of how our relationships go. Are we remembering the breakup emails and "I love you" texts more than things that were said out loud, in person, of which there is no digital record?
A: I have data on how important and how focused people are on the digital record. The digital record becomes, in some cases, the relationship. People show their friends and ask their opinions and have people vote on who was right and who was wrong. What did he mean? Did I say this wrong? People become very involved in the idea that if they had done it right, it would have worked out right.
Spacious Hinsdale home: $1.425 million

ADDRESS: 918 Ailmen Ave. in Hinsdale
ASKING PRICE: $1,425,000
Listed on Dec. 19, 2015

Stately red brick, fresh white trim and blue stone covered front porch. One and a half blocks to Madison Elementary and Hinsdale Central High. The wide 85-foot lot offers a broad shouldered interior design. Large foyer with arched doorways to living room, dining room and office. Family room opens to sunny chef's kitchen with full views of yard, which includes a paver patio and walkways. Second-floor layout lends itself to privacy among the spacious four bedrooms; fifth bedroom suite is located on third level. Attached three-car garage.

Agent: Lisa Gaynor of Brush Hill Realtors, 630-920-0666

At press time this home was still for sale.

Visit us online for exclusive Home of the Day photo galleries, plus views of other featured homes and real estate stories.
Build some character: start a blog

We're all ears. If you want to blog, 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 don't delay because everyone loves a great story.

chicagonow.com/pitch
COMMTTUR'S DREAM!

Morton Grove...Impeccable "Woodlands" Townhome in convenient & outstanding location! Built in 2006! Large living room + separate dining room. Corian kitchen with cherry cabinets & high-end appliances. 3 bedrooms & 3 ½ baths. 2nd floor laundry. Finished bsmt with family room, br, full bath/whirlpool + bar area. Loads of storage space. 2 car attached garage + loft storage(19x7). Near Metra, Forest Preserves, Bike/Bridle Trails, Harrer Park/Pool & Park View School!!...$325,000

ONE OF OUR FINEST OFFERINGS!

Glenview...Impeccably maintained 9 room Split-level with sub-basement on huge corner lot! Cathedral ceilings in living rm/dining rm. Hardwood floors. 4 bedrooms & 3 full baths. Updated eat-in kitchen. Formal dining room with sliding doors to brick paver patio. Master Bedroom with bath. Lower level family room, bedroom & bath plus bonus rec room in finished sub basement. 2 car detached garage + 1 car attached garage. Beautifully landscaped corner lot. Newer appliances, furnace & central air......$389,500

A TRUE 10+ CONDO!

Morton Grove...Amazing 6 room- 4th floor luxurious Condo in convenient location! Over 1950 square feet. Oak floors in foyer, hallways & fabulous 16' family room. Custom décor throughout. 2 bedrooms & 2 full baths. Spacious living/dining room combo with sunset views! All stainless steel appliances in eat-in kitchen. Master suite has huge walk-in closet & whirlpool tub. All new windows. In-unit washer & dryer. Huge balcony with beautiful view! 1 car heated garage. Mint Condition!.............$225,000

WHY PAY RENT???

Niles...Great Opportunity to own this 5th floor - 4 room Condo in super convenient location near shopping, restaurants, shopping, theatre & I-294 expressway! Nice cozy, clean and ready to move right in! Spacious living room/dining room combination. Large bedroom with large closet. Fabulous balcony with fabulous 5th floor views grilling and outdoor enjoyment! Loaded with amenities that include exercise room, party room, pool and sauna. This will not last long at this price.............$79,500
COUNTRY FINANCIAL

PRESENTS:

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

Find out more at CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM/ATHLETES
**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

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

**Thursday, Jan. 7**

**Gallery Art Show:** Features the works of ceramic artist Tim Pfiffner and photographer Kyle Flubacker. 10 a.m. Mondays-Fridays, 9 a.m. Saturdays. Kaleidoscope School of Fine Art, 316 W. Main St., Barrington, free, 847-381-4840

**Unplugged: A Survivor's Story in Scenes and Songs:** Through original songs and spoken-word performance, author Paul McConias and singer Maya Kuper tell the inspiring story of Dayna Clay, a fictional 27-year-old black musician and survivor of sexual assault. 8 p.m. Thursday, Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $10 at the door, 847-668-8945

**Adult Literacy Classes: Spring Session Registration:** Native and non-native English speakers can improve their reading and writing skills in a small, friendly group. 9:15 a.m. Thursdays and Tuesdays. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-635-1426

**New Beekeepers Invited To Club Meeting:** The Lake County Beekeepers Association encourages those with an interest in bees to attend the January meeting: "Getting Started Keeping Bees: What Equipment is Needed and How Much Will It Cost." 7 p.m. Thursday, State Bank of The Lakes-Grayslake, 50 Commerce Drive, Grayslake, annual membership $20, 847-223-7249

**Free yoga night:** 6 p.m. Thursday, Ami Ami Boutique in Highland Park, 668 Central Ave., Highland Park, free

**Thursday Night Emotions Anonymous:** A 12-Step organization composed of people who come together for the purpose of working toward recovery. 7 p.m. Thursdays, Christ Church of Lake Forest, 100 N Waukegan Road, Lake Forest, free

**Wildlife Visitors:** 10 a.m. Thursday, Lake County Conservation Commission, 100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-3164

**Book Discussion:** 1 p.m. Thursday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-5127

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

**Muskal Kabbalat Shabbat Service:** Once Shabbat following services, 6:30 p.m. Friday, Congregation B'nai Tikvah, 1550 Wilmot Road, Deerfield, free, 847-945-0470

**Linda Solotare Quartet:** 9:15 p.m. Friday, Pete Miller's Seafood & Prime Steak, 1557 Sherman Ave., Evanston, free, 847-328-0399

**Drop-In Chess Club (up to grade 8):** Volunteer chess instructor Steve Levenson teaches fundamentals and strategy. Bring your own chess set. Children under age 8 must be accompanied by a parent. 7 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

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

**GLEnergy presents Benefit Programs and Taxes:** Bette Vitale, L.C.S.W., North Shore Senior Center Red Tape Cutters Coordinator, discusses these programs for seniors and adults with disabilities. Call to register. 1 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Art in the Library Exhibit: The Call of the Shore:** Artist Cherie Piatt creates water colors of the seascapes and landscapes. 9 a.m. daily, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Minions! Minyan: Young Family Shabbat:** Welcome Shabbat with fun, music, and a story. Tots (and adults) are welcome to wear their PJs. Membership not required. 6 p.m. Fridays, Har Shalom at Lakeside, 1221 Lake Cook Road, Highland Park, free, 847-814-7456

**Out of Low Back Pain:** Allison Wilmes incorporates therapeutic yoga, somatics and an understanding of anatomy and alignment to eliminate pain. Call to register. 1 p.m. Friday, Fremont Public Library, 1170 N. Midlothian Road, Mundelein, free, 847-916-3225

**Bibliobop with Wendy & DB:** 10 a.m. Friday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-635-1234

**World Language Storytime: Spanish:** Share stories and songs in Spanish (with a bit of English). Craft and snack included. For ages 3 and up with a parent or caregiver. 6 p.m. Friday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-635-1234

**Parisian Salon Concert - Consuelo Lepauw:** Violinist Consuelo Lepauw plays a rarely performed full rendition of Johann Sebastian Bach monumental Six Sonatas and Partitas for Unaccompanied Violin, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**German Stammtisch:** Practice German and learn about German culture. For all experience levels. 1 p.m. Thursday, Oakton Park Community Center, 4701 Oakton St., Skokie, free

**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, 9623 Woods Drive, Skokie, 847-967-4835

**Food for Fines:** Donate a canned food item during January and receive $1 off toward overdue fines. Does not apply to fees for missing, damaged items or lost materials. 9 a.m. daily, Indian Trails Library District, 355 Schoenbeck Road, Wheeling, free, 847-459-4100

**Art Exhibit by Kathy Kathrein:** Kathrein's oil paintings portray nature against the backdrop of Chicago architecture, 9 a.m. Monday, Indian Trails Library District, 355 Schoenbeck Road, Wheeling, free, 847-459-4100

**Navigating Today's Marijuana Reality:** with Dr. Michael J. Bradley: Part of Loyola Academy's Courageous Conversations book and speaker series. 7 p.m. Thursday, Loyola Academy, 1100 Laramie Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-256-1100

**Alliance Francaise Cour de Conversation:** The class discusses current events, reads articles of general interest to Francophiles. Contact alliance@yahoo.com with questions or to join midsession. 7 p.m. Thursday, St John's Church, 1235 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, $164, 847-328-9516

**Quilt Lecture:** This month's speaker is Erica Jarrett and her lecture is entitled "50 Doll Quilts." Doors at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m. Thursdays, Beth Hillel Congregation B'nai Emunah, 3220 Big Tree Lane, Wilmette, $5 for guests, 847-480-9777

**Friday, Jan. 8**

**Musical Kabbalat Shabbat Service:** Once Shabbat following services, 6:30 p.m. Friday, Congregation B'nai Tikvah, 1550 Wilmot Road, Deerfield, free, 847-945-0470

**Linda Solotare Quartet:** 9:15 p.m. Friday, Pete Miller's Seafood & Prime Steak, 1557 Sherman Ave., Evanston, free, 847-328-0399

Turn to Calendar; Next Page
Overeaters Anonymous: 9 a.m. Saturdays, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 2120 Lincoln St., Evanston, free, 847-996-0609

11th anniversary party: Eat, drink and be cherry as The Celtic Knot celebrates its 11th anniversary with modern Irish folk band One of The Girls. 9:30 p.m. Saturday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

Hoodown - Square Dancing 101: All ages welcome. Register by calling. 2 p.m. Saturday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview free, 847-729-7500

Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts Meeting: The Free Help Desk for one-on-one help is open to the public for an hour. Meeting follows from 12:30. The topic: “Show and Tell and Ask the Guru.” 11:15 a.m. Saturday, Grayslake Area Public Library, 100 Library Lane, Grayslake, free for visitors, 847-623-3815

Pilates Group Reformer Classes: Tuesdays. Stretch class at noon. Wednesdays: Group Mat at 10 a.m. and Group Reformer, 11 a.m. Saturdays: Group Reformer at 10 a.m. and Group Mat, 11 a.m. Preregister by calling. Pilates Center North Shore, 1898 1st St., Highland Park, $10-$35, 847-266-1512

Kid Lit Fest: Meet children’s authors throughout the day. Books will be available for sale and authors will sign copies. 9 a.m. Saturday, Highland Park Public Library, 494 Laurel Ave., Highland Park, free, 847-681-7030

Men’s Fellowship Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. Saturday, St. Peter United Church of Christ, 47 Church St., Lake Zurich, free, 847-438-6441

Monthly DAR meeting: Monthly Meeting Ansel Brainerd Cook Chapter, NS Daughters of the American Revolution, Program on the Junior American Citizens. 10 a.m. Saturday, Libertyville Township Office, 300 Merritt Court, Libertyville, free, 847-367-0148

The Challenges and Rewards of Foster Parenting: Jewish Child and Family Services Foster Care is a contractor for DCFS. 2 p.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Special screening of “Food Patriots” and “A Midwestern mother whose son nearly died from contaminated food embarks on a journey to understand the food industry. 10 a.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Crafting for Charity: Looking for knitters and crocheters who are willing to make scarves and/or hats for charity. Completed items made are to be donated to the Niles and Maine Township Food Pantries. 10 a.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Movie Matters: "He Named Me Malala": Looks at the events leading up to the Taliban’s attack on Pakistani schoolgirl, Malala Yousafzai. 2 p.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

World Language Storytime: Russian: Come one and all to share stories and songs in Russian (with a bit of English). 11:30 am. Saturday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Second Saturday Breakfast Bingo: 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Film showing: "The Martian": 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-372-6224

Second Sunday Special: Monarch Award Mania: The Monarch Award is Illinois’ own kids’ choice award for kindergartners through third graders. This is a special interactive story time followed by activities, snacks and a chance to cast a vote for your favorite book on this year’s list. 2 p.m. Sunday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Monday, Jan. II

Anime Club: Each week the group delves into Japanese culture through the art form and through other activities. 4:30 p.m. Monday, Antioch Public Library, 757 Main St., Antioch, free, 847-395-0874

Senior Lunch and Activity Program: Bingo begins at 11 a.m. and lunch is served at noon for this weekly meeting sponsored by the Barrington Council on Aging. Registration and prepayment required by calling 847-381-5300. 10:30 a.m. Monday, Barrington Park District, 235 Lions Drive, Barrington, $5

Deerbrook Park Toastmasters Meeting: 6:45 p.m. Monday, Deerfield Public Library, 200 Waukegan Road, Deerfield, free, 847-677-1905
CALENDAR

Live Bluegrass, Roots and Folk: The Mudflaps perform. 8 p.m. Monday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

Alliance Francaise du North Shore Monthly Program: Participate in moderated, smaller conversation circles with fellow Members on various pre-selected topics. All fluency levels welcomed. 1 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free

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

Evening family storytime: Families with children ages 2-6 enjoy stories, songs and activities. Come in pairs or not. 7 p.m. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6950 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Babytime Storytime: This is for ages newborn to two years old, with a grown up to drop in. 11 a.m. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6950 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Minicraft Monday: Students in grades 3-5 are welcome to register to try their hand at this monthly Minicraft Monday challenge. 4:30 p.m. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6950 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Ballroom Dance Classes: Basic Class at 6:45 p.m., Intermediate class at 7:45 p.m. Monday, Bernard Weinger JCC, 3000 Revere Drive, Northbrook, $10 per class, 847-757-2227

Spoolin Around American Sewing Guild Neighborhood Meeting: 7 p.m. Monday, Shawoodire Church, 190 Hicks Rd., Rolling Meadows, free, 847-253-0324

iPad and iPhone Basics: If you are interested in bringing your own Apple device, make sure you have activated your iTunes and iCloud accounts. Registration is required. 7 p.m. Monday, Indian Trails Library District, 355 Schoenbeck Road, Wheeling, free, 847-459-4100

Tuesday, Jan. 12

Rotary Club of Evanston Lighthouse: 7:15 a.m. Tuesday, Hilton Garden Inn Chicago North Shore/Evanston, 1818 Maple Ave., Evanston, free

Irish music session: 7 p.m. Tuesday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

Tuesday Morning Music: Garden visitors can enjoy free hour-long meditative musical performances. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

Smile and Rhyme Storytime for ages two and up with adult: 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Heinen’s Grocery Store, 1020 Waukegan Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Northern Lights Homework Help Center (grades 1-8): Thirty-minute sessions for homework, reading and math skills provided on a first-come, first-serve basis. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

LEGO Club (grades 1-2): 4 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Career Counseling: Consult with a career expert for resume help and job search strategies for any stage of one’s career. Register by calling 9 a.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Craft Supply Swap: Donate supplies you don’t need. Choose from a wide variety of donated craft supplies and take them home. 10:30 a.m. Tuesday-Jan. 15, 5 p.m. Jan. 14, Lake Bluff Public Library, 123 E. Scran ton Ave., Lake Bluff, free, 847-234-2540

Tuesday Afternoon Book Club: “The World Undone” by local author Mary Driven-Thiel, who will attend. 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Lake Bluff Public Library, 123 E. Scran ton Ave., Lake Bluff, free, 847-234-2540

Camera Club: Share an interest in photography of any level with programming that includes speakers, friendly contests and field trips. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Lake Forest Place, 1100 Pembroke Drive, Lake Forest, free, 847-744-0610

Northern Lights Homework Help Center (grades 1-8): Thirty-minute sessions for homework, reading and math skills provided on a first-come, first-serve basis. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Fremont Writers’ Group: Share ideas, get inspired and network at this newly formed writers’ group. 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Fremont Public Library, 1170 N. Midlothian Road, Mundelein, free, 847-918-3225

Palatine Kiwanis Meeting: Noon Tuesday, Emmett’s Tavern & Brewing Company, 110 N. Brockway, Palatine, free, 847-438-4769

Avenue Care Act Informational Drop In (Branch): Receive help with questions and registration regarding the Affordable Care Act. No registration required. 5 p.m. Tuesday, Indian Trails Public Library District - Branch, 99 E. Palatine Road, Prospect Heights, 847-459-4100

Seminario para la Certificación de Manipulador de Alimentos: Come to this program and learn everything you need to know before taking the required food handler test. No registration is needed. 6 p.m. Tuesday, Indian Trails Public Library District - Branch, 99 E. Palatine Road, Prospect Heights, 847-459-4100

Great Books Discussion Group: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie, free, 847-673-1814

Chris Hogan Retire Inspired Book Signing: Come meet Chris Hogan and celebrate the launch of his new book “Retire Inspired.” noon Tuesday, Barnes & Noble Westfield Old Orchard, 55 Old Orchard Shop Center East Ring Road, Skokie, free, 888-227-3223

Digital Connections Boot Camp 1: Learn mouse techniques and basic computer skills. No computer knowledge is necessary, but registration is required. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Indian Trails Library District, 355 Schoenbeck Road, Wheeling, free, 847-459-4100

Barbershop Quartet: Enjoy a wide variety of songs starting from back in 1910 up to the 1960s. All music is sung by the Chordmasters Barbershop Quartet. Registration is required. 2 p.m. Tuesday, Indian Trails Library District, 355 Schoenbeck Road, Wheeling, free, 847-459-4100

Movies, Munchies, and More: Film: "Spy" is a comedy about a desk-bound CIA analyst who volunteers to go undercover to infiltrate the world of a deadly arms dealer and prevent diabolical global disaster. 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Turn to Calendar, Next Page
CALENDAR

Wednesday, Jan. 13

Chair Yoga: 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 1234 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, $3 donation, 847-255-8700

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

Books and coffee club: Those in their 20s and 30s can enjoy an informal discussion of the book of the month. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Fox Lake District Library, 255 E. Grand Ave., Fox Lake, free, 847-587-0198

The Music Room Quarterly Listening and Music Discussion Group: The Beach Boys: Join Rian Murphy of Drag City Records and AV Librarian Michael White for an exploration of the early discography of the legendary Beach Boys. The movie "Love & Mercy" is shown. Call to register. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Digging Deeper with Ancestry.com: A Glenview Library is required. Call to register. 2 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

LEGO Club (grades 3-6): 4 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Quilting and More: Join friends for quilting and discussion. 9 a.m. Wednesday, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 29700 N. St. Marys Road, Libertyville, free, 773-523-3838

Chicago Wolves Read to Succeed player visit: Meet Chicago Wolves' defenseman Jordan Schmaltz. Following the presentation, Schmaltz will have a brief Q&A session, dress a lucky kid in hockey gear and sign autographs. 4 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

ESL Conversation Group: Practice speaking English in an informal and friendly group setting. 3 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Once I Had an Old Banjo: Award-winning singer/songwriter Mark Dvorak performs a concert packed with songs and interesting stories about the origin and evolution of the banjo. To register, contact the library. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Fremont Public Library, 1170 N. Midlothian Road, Mundelein, free, 847-918-3225

Film Screening: "A Star is Born": This film marked Judy Garland's return to movies after a four-year absence. 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-7082

Senior High Youth Group: For all youth grades 9 to 12 to enjoy fun and friendship while engaging in meaningful discussions and service learning opportunities. The evening starts with a tasty dinner. 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, First Congregational Church of Wilmette, 1125 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-251-6660

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

---

a heartfelt
THANK YOU

to our 2015 sponsors

---

NorthShore University HealthSystem
Evanston Subaru
Whole Foods
North Shore Community Bank & Trust Company
Village Inn
Chicago Motors
Renewal by Andersen
Joseph Mullarkey Distributors
Skokie Park District
Leeper Motors
Northside Pizza
Modern Fencing
"Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip" ★☆½
PG, 1:26, animation
The plot for "Road Chip" follows the Chipmunks from LA to Miami. Their "dad," Dave (Jason Lee), is getting serious with lady doctor Samantha (Kimberly Williams-Paisley), who comes with a nightmare of a teenager son, Miles (Josh Green). Suspecting a proposal, and not wanting to unite their families, the Chipmunks and Miles set off to throw a monkey wrench in the plans. In so doing, they manage to unleash a crowd of animals onto a plane, play a honky tonk saloon in Texas, join a Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans, and finally make it to Miami, where they wreak even more havoc. It's standard learning-to-love-your-enemy stuff. —Katie Walsh

"Daddy's Home" ★★★
PG-13, 1:36, comedy
It's OK If you're skeptical about this Will Ferrell vs. Mark Wahlberg vehicle. The trailers have showcased obvious, lowest common denominator humor that doesn't look too promising. But the reality is that the film, directed by comedy vet Sean Anders, is much funnier than it appears. Ferrell is at his best when he's playing a buffoonish naif. That's exactly what "Daddy's Home" delivers. The story is essentially a masculinity face-off between stepdad Brad (Ferrell) and biological dad Dusty (Wahlberg). The film's resolution comes when the two men finally get over themselves and come together for the sake of the kids. It's a joyful and heart-swelling moment where everyone lets their guard down. —Katie Walsh

"Joy" ★★
PG-13, 2:00, drama
The marketing campaign for the new David O. Russell film "Joy," starring Jennifer Lawrence, has been extremely nervous about bringing down the party with the word "mop." But mops are central to the narrative in "Joy," and there's no way around it. Miracle Mop inventor and entrepreneur Joy Mangano, a working-class Long Island striver who is now a multimillionaire in the realm of Home Shopping Network infomercials, serves as the subject of the film. Russell's previous three pictures, "The Fighter," "Silver Linings Playbook" and "American Hustle," were remarkable. "Joy" breaks the streak. —Michael Phillips

"Sisters" ★½
R, 1:58, comedy
Tina Fey and Amy Poehler are amazing, multidirectional comic talents, showcased indelibly by "Saturday Night Live," recently coming off the classy observational grooves of "30 Rock" and "Parks and Recreation," respectively. Seven years ago Fey and Poehler teamed for the feature film "Baby Mama," which found an audience even though it was formulaic. Alas, "Sisters" is far worse. While offering two giant talents a chance to cut loose with broader, rougher material than usual, at least for them, the jokes are cheap, the technique's pushy and you end up waiting patiently for the end-credit bloopers. —MP

"Star Wars: The Force Awakens" ★★★
PG-13, 2:16, fantasy
In chronological story terms we last saw Luke Skywalker, Han Solo, princess-turned-queen Leia, Chewbacca, R2-D2 and C-3PO whooping it up at the Ewok luau back in 1983, in "Return of the Jedi," celebrating the massive global popularity and merchandising sales of George Lucas' bright idea. The idea was simple: The world, Lucas figured, might enjoy a whiz-bang riff on the old "Flash Gordon" serials. Now, minus the Ewoks, the gang's back. And it is good. Not great. But far better than "not bad." Solidly, confidently good. Good is the most accurate adjective for this Disney-owned product launch. —MP

---

**Chicago Tribune Charities Holiday Giving**

**Help those in need this holiday season...**

Donate today to Chicago Tribune Charities Holiday Giving

With your support we can...

- Help at-risk kids succeed in school and graduate
- Empower the unemployed with new job skills
- Improve reading skills for kids and adults
- Provide safe havens from domestic abuse

All donations help those in need

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Every dollar donated is matched</th>
<th>Taken for campaign expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Give Now. Here's How.**

CLICK chicagotribune.com/holidaygiving

CALL 800.217.3190

MAIL Return the coupon

#WeMatchHalf

---

**Make a difference. Please give today.**

- **Name**
- **Address**
- **City**
- **State**
- **ZIP**
- **Telephone**
- **E-mail**
- **Enclosed is my donation for**
  - [ ] $25
  - [ ] $50
  - [ ] $75
  - [ ] $100
  - [ ] Other
- **One-time gift**
- **Monthly gift (credit card only)**
- **Payment Options:**
  - [ ] Visa
  - [ ] MasterCard
  - [ ] American Express
  - [ ] Discover Card
- **Card #**
- **Expiration Date**
- **Signature**

- **Your name and donation may be listed in future publications or online. Donor names for gifts of $100 or more received before 12/31/15 will be published in the Chicago Tribune. To be included, check Yes below.**
  - [ ] Yes
  - [ ] No, I would like to remain anonymous.

- **Mail to:** Chicago Tribune Charities, 38971 Eagle Way, Chicago, IL 60678-1389

---

- **Expirahon Date**
- **Signature**
PRESENTS:

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETE

OF THE MONTH

Find out more at
CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM/ATHLETES
We're all ears. If you want to blog, 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 don't delay because everyone loves a great story.

chicagonow.com/pitch
Call 312.283.7023 to place your ad

TO ADVERTISE

PLEASE CALL

312-283-7023
Wolves focus on individual improvement

BY ERIC VAN DIJL
Pioneer Press

Entering the week, the Niles West wrestling team had won just one of its 19 dual meets.

The Wolves went 0-3 at the Waubonsie Valley Quad on Jan. 2, losing 69-3 to St. Charles East, 52-19 to Waubonsie Valley and 69-6 to Notre Dame.

Several of Niles West's duals have had similar scores because of forfeits. The Wolves forfeit about 4-6 matches in a typical dual, coach Anthony Genovesi said. They forfeited nine matches in their duals against St. Charles East and Notre Dame because multiple wrestlers were out with a skin condition, according to senior 132-pounder Scott Pechter. Junior 138-pounder Neil O'Shaughnessy didn't wrestle against St. Charles East or Notre Dame due to an ankle injury.

Given the number of forfeits — and the fact they're worth six points apiece, the same number as a pin — Niles West wrestlers begin the majority of their dual meets knowing the Wolves won't win.

"We've had holes," said Genovesi, whose team's lone victory was a 26-16 win against Waukegan on Dec. 4. "You can't expect to win when you're forfeiting as many weights as we are."

Three seasons ago, Pechter was a freshman on a Niles West team that won a share of the Central Suburban South title.

The Wolves' numbers have dropped in the ensuing years, as seniors have graduated. This season, Pechter and his teammates have had to learn to ignore the team standings during dual meets.

"It was pretty bad in the beginning of the season, getting used to it, but you've just got to keep everybody motivated and work with the people that you have," Pechter said.

"We do see [wrestling] as a team still, but we don't really care about the team score. We look at everybody individually, and we just want to see improvement. That's really all you can do when you're giving up I don't even know how many forfeits."

Genovesi echoed that sentiment.

"Each kid's just got to battle," he said, "and wrestle their own match."

Pechter added that he, as a senior, has tried to maintain a positive attitude and make sure his teammates don't get down about losing as a team. The Wolves' best wrestler looks at his matches through a long-term lens, he explained, so the focus is on constantly improving and getting ready for the postseason.

Genovesi also has tried to see the positive when reflecting on duals against Niles North and Glenbrook South.

The Wolves lost 36-31 to Niles North on Dec. 29. Genovesi pulled up a couple of wrestlers from the lower levels to ensure the Vikings didn't get as many free points in the biggest dual meet of both teams' regular seasons.

"We did really well in [the matches]," Genovesi said. "But we lost because we forfeited three weights."

Forfeits helped Glenbrook South beat Niles West 46-27 on Dec. 11, even though the Wolves won six out of eight contested matches that night, according to Genovesi.

In total, Niles West has about 30 wrestlers in its program, Genovesi estimated, which is down from about 45 to start the year. He said some of the attrition can be attributed to wrestlers who lacked the necessary commitment. Genovesi said he has elected to keep some wrestlers at the lower levels, because they don't yet have the mentality needed to wrestle on varsity.

Eric Van Drill is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Akron safety Jamal Baggett, left, and defensive back Jordan George celebrate after their win over Utah State in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl on Dec. 22.

It's not just a house, it's your home.

It's more than walls and floors. It's a place to enjoy and share with the people you love. Over the years you've filled your home with memories. Protect what you've worked so hard for with home insurance from COUNTRY Financial®.

Call us today at 1-866-COUNTRY to find out more.

Policies issued by COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company® and COUNTRY Casualty Insurance Company®, Bloomington, IL.

Local players well-represented in postseason

BY NICK BULLOCK

Student-athletes from all over the Chicago area made their mark on the college football season, with a lucky few having the opportunity to play in a bowl game or another postseason contest.

Oak Park-River Forest alumnus Jamal Baggett was a redshirt freshman safety for the Akron football team that stunned Utah State 23-21 in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl.

Highland Park graduate Josh Pollack was a redshirt freshman kicker and punter and a member of Arizona, which defeated New Mexico 45-37 in the New Mexico Bowl.

Chase Murdock, a Barrington graduate, was part of the Toledo defense that shut down Temple in a 32-17 win in the Boca Raton Bowl. The senior linebacker led the team in total tackles with 11, including a shared tackle-for-loss. Murdock paced the Rockets in both solo (51) and assisted tackles (38) this season.

Although the Northern Illinois football team fell to Boise State 55-7 in the Poinsettia Bowl, a number of local athletes helped the Huskies reach the postseason.

Nazareth Academy's Nolan Dean was a freshman tailback for the Huskies.

Lyons' Tommy Fiedler was a walk-on freshman quarterback and started the Mid-American Conference championship game. Loyola Academy's Cody Sullivan was a redshirt sophomore linebacker. Buffalo Grove's Kevin Tennenbaum was a redshirt senior tight end. And Evanston's Maalik Todd was a redshirt freshman tailback for the Huskies.

Scott Miller, a Barrington alumnus, was a freshman wideout for the Bowling Green Falcons that lost to Georgia Southern 58-27 in the GoDaddy Bowl. Miller caught one pass in the game.

Western Michigan took care of Middle Tennessee 45-31 in the Bahamas Bowl, with a number of Chicago-area athletes participating. Fenwick's Robert Spillane was a sophomore linebacker for the Broncos. Zach Novoselsky, from Stevenson, was a redshirt freshman offensive lineman. Barrington graduate James Kristof was a senior guard.

Aaron Garland, a freshman cornerback from Fenwick, was a member of the Connecticut football team.

Toledo corner Juwan Haynes, left, intercepts a fourth-quarter Temple pass as linebacker Chase Murdock also supplies coverage in the Boca Raton Bowl on Dec. 22.

CORRECTIONS

The sports article "Top 10 local stories of 2015" in last week's paper incorrectly stated that former Maine South girls basketball standout Jacquie Grant is redshirting this season at DePaul. The school announced on Nov. 25 that she was "granted immediate eligibility by the NCAA based upon the appeal DePaul submitted." Grant has played in all 10 games since then and made eight starts.

The story about Niles North wrestler Cameron Cichowicz that appeared in the Dec. 24 edition misspelled the name of the Glenbrook South tournament. It's called the Rus Erb Tournament, not the Russ Erb Tournament.
that fell 16-10 to Marshall in the St. Petersburg Bowl.

Despite an impressive performance by Simmie Cobbs Jr., a sophomore wideout from Oak Park-River Forest, the Indiana football team fell to Duke, 44-41, in overtime in the Pinstripe Bowl. Cobbs finished with six receptions for 121 yards, including a 55-yard grab.

Lake Zurich's Jack Lynn, a senior linebacker for Minnesota, recorded four tackles and 1 1/2 tackles-for-loss in the Gophers' 21-14 victory against Central Michigan in the Quick Lane Bowl. Lynn finished the season fourth on the team in total tackles with 76.

Jake Elliot, a junior from Lyons, was the kicker on the Memphis football team that lost to Auburn 31-10 in the Birmingham Bowl. Following one of the more dominant seasons in college football, he was one of three finalists for the 2015 Lou Groza Award for the top collegiate placekicker.

Barrington's Brendan Lowery was a freshman long snapper for the Louisville football team that defeated Texas A&M 27-21 in the Music City Bowl.

Another Barrington alumnus, Dan Volk, was a redshirt junior offensive lineman for the Wisconsin Badgers that defeated Southern California 25-21 in the Holiday Bowl.

The Michigan State football team advanced to the College Football Playoff and fell in the semifinals to Alabama, 38-0, in the Cotton Bowl. The Spartans were able to amass 12 wins with the help of senior center Jack Allen and his younger brother Brian, a sophomore guard, who both are from Hinsdale Central. Matt Morrissey, a redshirt freshman safety, graduated from Stevenson.

Eight local football players were on listed on the roster for Northwestern, which lost to Tennessee, 45-6, in the Outback Bowl. Lyons' Matthew Harris, a junior cornerback, recorded three tackles and a pass breakup. Maine South's Matt Alviti was a sophomore quarterback. Freshman quarterback Lloyd Yates, sophomore safety Tommy O'Call and freshman offensive lineman Adam Lemke-Bell are all from Oak Park-River Forest. Barrington's Daniel Kubiak was a redshirt freshman quarterback. Junior kicker and punter Matt Micucci and freshman wideout Cameron Green both hail from Stevenson.

With three area players on the roster, Notre Dame fell 44-25 to Ohio State in the Fiesta Bowl. Lake Forest alumnus Connor Cavalaris was a graduate student cornerback, Hinsdale South's Robert Regan was a freshman quarterback and Hinsdale Central's Jimmy Thompson was a freshman linebacker.

Lake Forest's Bo Dever and Hinsdale Central's Brad Anlauf and Ian Bunting were all on the Michigan team that defeated Florida, 41-7, in the Citrus Bowl. Bunting, a sophomore tight end, caught one pass for 17 yards. Dever and Anlauf were both senior wide receivers.

Lake Forest Academy alumnus Wesley Annan, a freshman defensive tackle, was on the Stanford team that defeated Iowa, 45-16, in the Rose Bowl. Three local athletes were on Penn State, which fell to Georgia, 24-17, in the TaxSlayer Bowl. Carmel's Joe Berg was a sophomore safety, Maine South's Brendan Brosnan was a sophomore tackle and Barrington's Colin Castagna was a freshman defensive end.

Division I Football Bowl Subdivision teams weren't the only squads competing for trophies. A number of local athletes also made headlines for Division II and Division III football programs.

Loyola's Charlie Dowdle, a senior tight end for St. Thomas, hauled in three catches for 31 yards and a touchdown in his team's 49-35 loss to Mount Union in the Stagg Bowl Division III championship.

Fellow Loyola graduates Mark Dowdle, a freshman linebacker, Eric Bielinski, a senior defensive back, Brian O'Brien, a freshman linebacker, and Brendan Murphy, a junior offensive lineman, were also on the team. Barrington graduate David Danhauer was a freshman defensive lineman for St. Thomas. Libertyville's Nick Rossetti was a freshman wide receiver. Maine South's Greg Ebacher was a sophomore defensive lineman. Sophomore linebacker Mitchell Zovnica and sophomore defensive back Mark Amick both hail from Carmel.

Northwestern Missouri took home the Division II championship with a convincing 34-7 victory against Shepherd. Mundelein's Emanuel Jones was a freshman running back for the Bearcats.

Have a suggestion for the College Roundup? Email Nick Bullock at bullockpioneerpress@gmail.com.

Nick Bullock is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Barzowski brothers push each other to succeed

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
Pioneer Press

Wrestling is an individual sport by nature, but it's one brother Jake and Josh Barzowski have done together for the better part of the last decade.

The Barzowskis began wrestling at the same time, while they were still in elementary school. In the years since, the Park Ridge residents have developed into state-ranked wrestlers.

The Barzowski brothers, however, are different in many ways. Jake Barzowski, a senior, is ranked No. 5 in Class 3A at 138 pounds by www.illinoismatmen.com. He won a freestyle state championship in the Junior division in May 2015. On the mat, he's lighter, shorter and slightly quicker than his younger brother. He also has a little bit more laid-back, Notre Dame coach Augie Genovesi said.

Josh Barzowski, a junior, is ranked No. 10 at 152 pounds by www.illinoismatmen.com. He won a Greco-Roman state championship in the Cadet division in April 2015. He's a little bit more outgoing than his older brother. Josh Barzowski is more willing to razz his teammates, Genovesi added.

The Barzowskis are equally competitive, however, especially with one another.

"There's always competition between us - older brother, younger brother - so we're always pushing each other," Jake Barzowski said.

Josh Barzowski added: "We're very close, but very competitive - practice, video games. Anything, really."

Jake Barzowski is a twin - the Barzowskis' sister, Taylor, is a senior at Maine South - but he tried to outdo his younger brother much more often than Taylor Barzowski, growing up. Jake and Josh Barzowski tried to get the better of one another in sports like football and baseball, as well as in video games like Madden.

"It gets heated," Josh Barzowski said when asked about their games of Madden. "They're fun to watch in the [wrestling] room," Genovesi said. "Sometimes we have to separate them in the room because they'll cheap shot each other and they'll take it to the next [level]. ... But they respect each other. They really do."

Because the Barzowskis began wrestling at the same time and have improved at similar rates, they've served as each other's primary practice partner.

There are days during the offseason when Jake and Josh Barzowski don't practice together, Jake Barzowski said, but those days are rare.

"They've always paid their dues," Genovesi said. "They've always wrestled in the spring and summer. ... They both worked their butts off."

Jake and Josh Barzowski's work ethic has set an excellent example at Notre Dame, Genovesi added, because the Dons' other wrestlers have seen the benefits of wrestling in the spring and the summer. About half of Notre Dame's wrestlers compete in the summer, Genovesi estimated.

Jake Barzowski's hard work resulted in a state berth at 138 pounds as a junior. Josh Barzowski was his brother's practice partner at the state meet in Champaign last season, but he is aiming to join him downstate this year. Jake Barzowski's year-end goal is to win a state championship, he said.

Jake Barzowski's hard work paid off again, prior to his senior season, when he committed to St. Cloud (Minn.) State. The Huskies are the defending Division II national champions.

This winter is the third and final season the Barzowskis will spend wrestling together at Notre Dame, but Josh Barzowski hopes it isn't their last time representing the same school.

"I'd like to wrestle at St. Cloud State, where he's going," Josh Barzowski said. "That would be awesome."

Genovesi reaches 500

Notre Dame's victory over Waubonsie Valley on Jan. 2 was the 500th win of Genovesi's career as a head coach. Genovesi has spent 38 years coaching at Notre Dame, he said, including 32 as the Dons' head coach.

After Genovesi picked up his 501st victory with a win over Niles West later that day, he was asked what reaching the personal milestone meant to him.

"It's nice, but I'd rather see these guys [Notre Dame's wrestlers] have success, because that's what it's all about," Genovesi said. "It's more about them than it is about anything else. That's why you keep on [coaching]."

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @VanDrilSports
Contending

Evanston
The Wildkits (13-3) went 3-1 and finished fifth at Montini's 16-team tournament, arguably the best one in the state, proving they have what it takes to contend for championships later this season.

Evanston last won a sectional title in 2013 and the school made its lone appearance at the state tournament in 1991. The Wildkits are at the Class 4A New Trier Sectional, along with the host Trevians, Glenbrook South and Loyola.

Glenbrook South
Senior forward Caitlin Morrison, junior guard Carie Weinman and senior forward Sarah McDonagh carried the Titans (14-2) to the championship at Wheaton North's tournament on Dec. 26.

Morrison and Weinman are leading the way on the offensive end, while McDonagh is the team's lockdown defender, according to Glenbrook South coach Steve Weissenstein.

But Weissenstein said the Titans' success is the result of a team effort.

"One reason we are playing so well is that we do a great job of handling the ball," he said. "Everyone on the floor is an excellent ball-handler and passer, and we don't turn the ball over very much."

Loyola
The Ramblers (9-4) hit the road for the holidays and returned home with a tournament title.

Loyola finished first at the Red Mountain Holiday Classic in Mesa, Ariz., with its 33-29 win over Orange Lutheran (Calif.) on Dec. 31.

Loyola is led by senior forward Liz Satter, an all-tournament selection. Satter is averaging a double-double.

The most impressive part of the Ramblers so far, according to Loyola coach Jeremy Schoenecker, has been their play on defense.

"We are really getting after it defensively," said Schoenecker, whose team generally plays man.

"We are limiting teams to one shot, which is good for us because we aren't that tall."
Girls, from Previous Page

New Trier
It's Redbird Arena or bust for the Trevians.

After taking third in Class 4A last season, New Trier has the look of a team that can get back to the state tournament. The Trevians (14-3) captured the championship at Dundee-Crown's tournament to punctuate a 13-day stretch in which they played eight games.

"It's been a lot of basketball," New Trier coach Teri Rodgers said after her team's 58-42 win over Stevenson on Dec. 30. "I'm proud of our kids and our coaching staff. The players really learned over this break, and they didn't get tired. They kept with it."

A concern for the Trevians, though, is the health of senior starting point guard Haley Greer, a Colgate recruit who missed the final five games of 2015 with a back injury. Rodgers didn't put a timetable on her return. But senior Autumn Kalis played well at the point in her absence, earning all-tournament honors at Dundee-Crown.

"We will keep her out until she feels 100 percent," Rodgers said of Greer.

Competing

Maine East
The Blue Demons (10-5) enter 2016 with designs on winning the Central Suburban North championship for second time in three years. They already are in the hunt at 3-1 in the conference. Their lone loss was a 63-50 defeat to league-leading Maine West, a game the Blue Demons were winning by eight points late in the third quarter. The two teams play again Jan. 22 in Des Plaines.

"It was a good first half, and we are happy with what we are doing," Maine East coach Karol Hanusiak said. "Hopefully, we will continue to play hard. But more importantly, we want to be able to sustain leads that we have and finish games. We want to finish what we start."

Maine South
Despite the disappointing 14th-place finish at Dundee-Crown's 16-team tournament, the Hawks still control their own outcome in the Central Suburban South. Maine South (8-7, 3-1) already have a win over Glenbrook South and travel to play 4-0 New Trier on Jan. 8. Maine South, which has four players who started on last season's team that won a regional title, will host a regional as part of New Trier's sectional.

Regrouping

Glenbrook North
Now that the Spartans (4-16) have a full roster of healthy players, they should be more competitive in the second half of the season, according to Glenbrook North coach Danielle Fluege.

Senior forward Miranda Weber became a force on the floor in December, averaging double figures in points and rebounds, Fluege said.

"We are starting to hit our stride," Fluege said. "We want to build on what we have started to see over the past two weeks and continue competing at that level."

Niles North
The Wolves will do well to keep their Central Suburban South games closer in 2016 than they did in 2015 when they lost all three by an average of 27.7 points.

North Shore Country Day
The Raiders ended 2015 on a two-game winning streak, but they didn't play a tournament over the break. Rust could be an issue for a team that hasn't played since Dec. 17. North Shore was scheduled to play on Jan. 5.

Regina
Kerry Durham is high on her team, but the Panthers, who have no seniors on the varsity roster, might be a season away from becoming a player in the postseason.

Ridgewood
According to coach Amanda Timothy, the Rebels (6-8) are playing their best basketball of the season heading into the new year.

Ridgewood, behind the strong play of senior forward Lexie Crotty, went 3-1 at the Guerin Yuletide Classic and took third place. Crotty was named to the all-tournament team. Juniors Frankie Annunzio, Katherine Rasche and Catherine Spanola also have been factors this season, Timothy said.

mharness@pioneerlocal.com Twitter @harnesspreps

Ridgewood's Monica Zygula and Katherine Rasche (24) defend Timothy Christian's Nicole Terpstra on Dec. 18 in Elmhurst.

In this Feb. 19, 2015, photo, Loyola's Liz Satter goes up for a shot in the Maine West Regional final in Des Plaines.
Sorting out area teams at the start of 2016

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
Pioneer Press

Now that the holiday tournaments have wrapped up, Pioneer Press freelance sports reporter Eric Van Dril looks at the area's boys basketball teams as they near the midway point of the 2015-16 season. The contending teams are the three most likely to win a sectional title. The competing teams are just that — squads that are competitive within their conference, and could challenge for a regional title later this year.

Contending

Evanston
The deep, talented Wildkits are the favorites to win the Class 4A Glenbrook South Sectional. Evanston, which is 10-2 overall and 3-0 in the Central Suburban South entering the week, is tied atop the conference standings with Maine South. The two teams are scheduled to meet on Thursday, Jan. 14, in Evanston. During winter break, the Wildkits went 3-1 to finish in fifth at the King of the Bluegrass Holiday Classic. Arguably their most impressive victory in Kentucky was a 77-75 win in overtime against Miami (Florida) Senior. The Stingarees led by 13 points in the fourth quarter, but Evanston came back and senior Malik Jenkins sent the game to overtime with a 3-pointer at the buzzer.

Notre Dame
One of the most memorable moments of the season thus far was when St. Patrick junior Jalen Nelson made a game-winning 3-pointer at the buzzer against Notre Dame on Friday, Dec. 18, in Niles. Nelson's shot hit the front rim, bounced up, then fell into the hoop, to hand the Dons their first East Suburban Catholic loss in more than a year. Still, Notre Dame (11-2, 1-1 entering the week) is in position to repeat as conference champions. The Dons, who won the Wheeling Hardwood Classic and are Evanston's biggest competition to win a sectional title, host Marian Catholic and St. Viator on consecutive Friday nights in February. The Spartans, Lions and St. Patrick are all 2-0 in conference.

Maine South
Maine South, which is 11-2 overall and 3-0 in the Central Suburban South entering the week, has used its disciplined, patient, defensive style to remain a sectional title contender. Center Brad Perry and guard Jon Arenas have both been outstanding throughout the season. Perry scored the game-winner at the buzzer for the Hawks in their 48-46 victory over defending Class 4A state champion Stevenson in the third-place game at the Hinsdale Central Holiday Classic.

Turn to Boys, Next Page
Competing

Maine East
One of the area's biggest surprises, the Blue Demons entered 2016 with a 9-2 record and a 2-1 mark in the Central Suburban North. Their two losses were a 53-50 defeat to conference front-runner Deerfield, and a 49-37 loss to Brother Rice in the Luther North Holiday Tournament's championship game.

"We're a new Maine East team," senior point guard Milan Grover said earlier this year.

Niles North
The Vikings had two narrow losses — a two-point defeat against Nues West and a one-point loss to Maine East — prior to the Wheeling Hardwood Classic, where they went 2-2. Niles North, 9-4 overall and 2-1 in the Central Suburban North entering the week, fell 62-55 to Deerfield in the fifth-place game at Wheeling. The teams will meet again on Friday, Jan. 8, in a crucial conference game in Skokie.

Glenbrook North
The Spartans, who are 8-4 overall, finished sixth at the Chuck Dayton Holiday Tournament in DeKalb. The next two Friday nights will be very important for Glenbrook North, as it travels to Maine East on Jan. 8 and plays at Niles North on Jan. 15. The Spartans, Blue Demons and Vikings enter the week 2-1 in the Central Suburban North, and are chasing 3-0 Deerfield.

Loyola
The Ramblers (7-8) went 0-4 at the VisitMesa.com Basketball Challenge in Arizona. They've proved they can play against some of Illinois' better teams, however. Loyola beat Lake Forest by two, lost at the buzzer to Maine South and hung with defending Class 3A state champion St. Joseph before losing by seven points.

Niles West
The Wolves, who are 5-8 overall and 0-3 in the Central Suburban South entering the week, haven't lived up to their preseason expectations — they were ranked No. 22 by the Chicago Sun-Times at the start of the season — yet there is reason to be optimistic as they enter the second half. Niles West lost to a talented Oak Park-River Forest squad 75-71 in overtime at the Pontiac Holiday Tournament. The Wolves then beat Warren 51-47 as junior guard Octavious Parker II set a tourna-

ment record with nine made 3-pointers.

Glenbrook South
While Glenbrook South entered the week 5-7 overall and 1-2 in the Central Suburban South, a third-place finish in the conference is within reach. The Titans, who are led by the trio of Jim Martinelli, Dan Jenkins and Matt Giannakopoulos, have already defeated New Trier in a nonconference game and Niles West in a conference game.

New Trier
The Trevians defeated 1-2 at the Proviso West Tournament, including a 25-point victory over Von Steuben on Wednesday, Dec. 30. Colin Winchester has blossomed into a versatile, reliable scorer for New Trier. The 6-foot-6 senior forward led the Trevians, who enter the week 6-8 overall and 1-2 in the Central Suburban South, in scoring in two of their three games at Proviso West.

Ridgewood
Zac Rzewnicki has been the Rebels' clear-cut No. 1 scoring option this year. The junior was named to the all-tournament team at the Chuck Dayton Holiday Tournament, where Ridgewood went 2-2 and finished seventh. For the second year in a row, Rzew-

nicki hit a game-winning 3-pointer against Elmwood Park in Metro Suburban East play. That shot kept the Rebels (6-6, 2-1 entering the week) one loss behind Chicago Christian (12-2, 4-0).

North Shore Country Day
Prior to the 2015-16 season, coach Rashid Smith said he envisioned the Raiders finishing around the middle of the Independent School League. That's where North Shore (7-4, 1-2) is entering this week. U-High and Parker currently lead the conference at 2-0.

Northridge
The Knights' overall record took a hit at the Glenbard West Tournament, with losses to Willowbrook, St. Francis and undefeated Glenbard West. Northridge lost the three games by a combined 43 points. Northridge began this week in fourth place in the Independent School League, after replacing four starters from a team that advanced to a Class 2A sectional final last season. The Knights are 4-7 overall and 1-1 in conference.

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Glenbrook South's Dan Jenkins (20) puts up a shot over Libertyville's Ben Kimpler on Dec. 21 at the Wheeling Hardwood Classic.

Maine South's Brad Perry (42) puts back a rebound against Crespi Carmelit (Calif.) in the Hinsdale Central Holiday Classic semifinal game on Dec. 29.
Evanston's Malik Jenkins is introduced before the Battle of the Bridge final against Notre Dame on Nov. 27 in Chicago.

PATRICK GORSKI/PIONEER PRESS

LOOKING AHEAD

Find out what's likely in store for the area's boys and girls basketball teams. Inside
0% APR Financing For 75 Months!

JEEPS - R- US!

Quality Pre-Driven Vehicles!

2012 Toyota Camry SE
Stock #80164
$13,993

2015 Dodge Journey SXT
Stock #150583
$17,593

1997 Chevy Camaro
Stock #140071
$17,993

2007 GMC Yukon Denali
Stock #99053
$18,793

2014 Chevy Express HD
Stock #18926
$21,993

2013 Lincoln MKZ Base
Stock #15059
$23,593

2010 Toyota 4Runner V6
Stock #88054
$24,793

2014 Jeep GL Cherokee Laredo
Stock #140573
$26,993

2014 Dodge Durango LTD
Stock #14053
$30,993

2014 Dodge Challenger SE
Stock #112453
$38,793

Financing Available Regardless of History! No Credit - Bad Credit - All Applications Accepted!

200 W. Grand Ave. in Elmhurst
888-912-1333
www.driveroesch.com

*With approved credit, $13.33 per $1000 financed on select models. Add tax, lic, title & $168.43 Doc. Fee. No prior sales apply. Offer ends 1/31/16.