

NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

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Thursday, January 7, 2016

nilesheraldspectator.com

Pizza Wars continue

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



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

Makayla Amarin, of Skokle, noshes on pizza at Niles North High School at last year's Pizza Wars.

GO



MORTON ARBORETUM

Cabin fever cures

A lineup of fun activities to beat the winter blues. Page 15

SPORTS



CARLOS OSORIO/AP

Bowl mania

Local athletes kept busy over the holidays playing in college football bowl and playoff games. Inside



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LIVING

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

NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

nilesheraldspectator.com

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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."



PIONEER PRESS STAFF/PIONEER PRESS

Don Gayle

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 charity?

A: Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. We have a granddaughter with Type I 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 factoid about yourself?

A: I hated yard work as a kid but as a homeowner and Chicago Botanic Garden volunteer, I have come to love it.

– Pioneer Press staff

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

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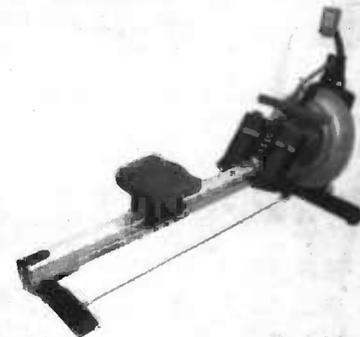
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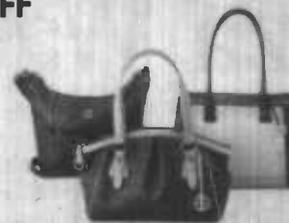
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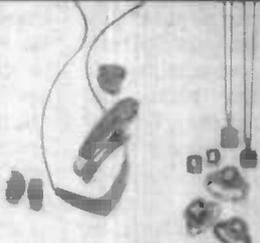
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KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

At the 2015 Pizza Wars "Mayors table," from left, Morton Grove Mayor Daniel DiMaría, Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen, Lincolnwood Mayor Jerry Turry and Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo compete. Mark Collins, of Skokie, is emceeing in the background.

Pizza Wars: D219 Foundation awakens

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

One night every January the Niles Township School District 219 community indulges in a massive pizza party to support a good cause.

About 1,000 Pizza lovers of all ages are expected to flock to Niles North High School on Jan. 20 for Pizza Wars 6, an annual fundraiser and contest highlighted by a pizza-eating competition that pits the mayors of four towns served by the school district against one another.

Now in its sixth year, the highly anticipated Pizza Wars will bring 11 local pizzerias together in the Niles North gymnasium, where guests will pay an entrance fee to sample each restaurant's best pies and cast a vote for their favorite.

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.

As guests roam around the gym sampling slices from the different vendor booths, pizza owners usually find themselves scrambling to keep up with the demand.

Randy Miles, owner of Skokie's Village Inn, has been bringing about 50 of his signature thin-crust cheese-only pizzas to Pizza Wars every year since 2010.

"We usually start with 30 or 35 pizzas," he said. "If we run out, we go back to the store and ask them to fire up another 10."

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.

"We got involved with the two high schools early on, so Pizza Wars is a way to say thanks to our customers, many of who go to the high schools," O'Donnell said.

Ask most pizza shop owners, like Dino Karageorgis, of Chicago-based Gulliver's Pizza & Pub, and they'll say that having the chance to contribute to the charitable aspect of Pizza Wars overrides the urge to be competitive.

"I think I have great pizza, but the fact that I've never won doesn't bother me," Karageorgis said. "The truth is that it's for charity, so the essence of what we're doing isn't to win."

Pizza Wars has helped raise more than \$50,000 during the past six years to help local students pay for things like school trips, supplies, college application fees, and other initiatives to support their learning.

With 32 percent of Niles Township District 219 families considered low-income, the school district's numbers are still well below the

state average of 54 percent. But Burman said there's a great need for financial assistance among students in Niles Township.

"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."

The state categorizes a student as low-income when their family receives public aid or their family's income is low enough to qualify them for free or reduced-price school lunches, according to the Illinois State Board of Education.

The number of low-income students enrolled in the school district in 2015 has dropped to its lowest point since 2012, according to state data, which shows a

6 percent decline in the 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 ethnic 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.



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Coca-Cola workers picket Dec. 3 outside of the Coca-Cola Refreshments plant in Niles.

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 union, which previously accused Coke of offering wage increases that would be mostly offset by hikes in health care costs, said the improvements "will translate to significant out-of-pocket cost savings for workers." The contract pro-

posal 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 spokeswoman Kathleen Strand said 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.

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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.

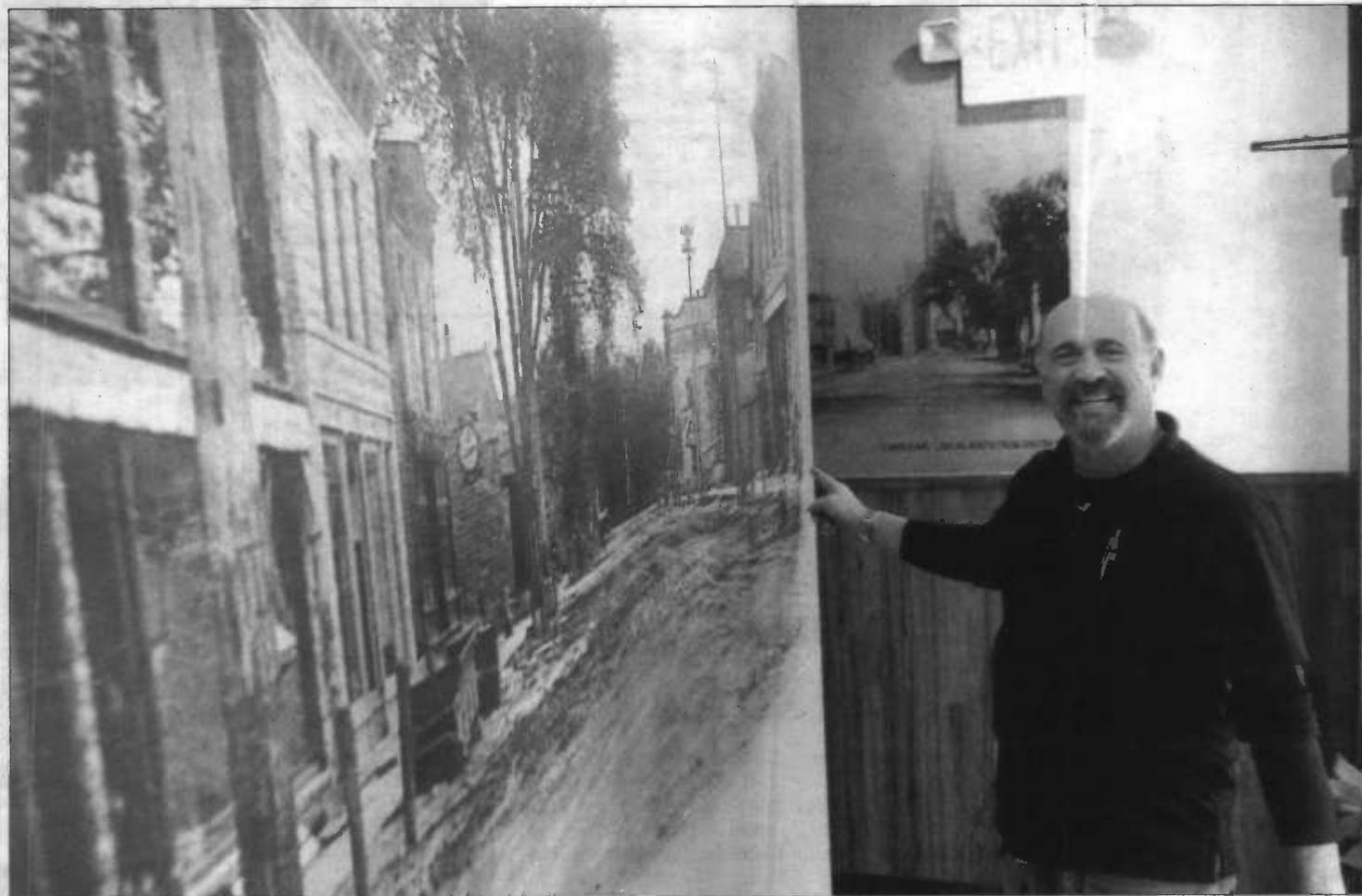
Roughly the size of a large sheet of plywood — 4 by 8 feet or so — the black-and-white photos take up a good amount of wall space along the Village Inn's new narrow hallways and also in the new backroom.

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



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Village Inn owner Randy Miles has added some seldom-seen historic photos of downtown Skokie to a new hallway at his restaurant and tavern.

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. Witry 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."

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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 a permeable 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



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Illinois Holocaust Museum in Skokie

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.

A steel beam attached to the wall with the name would mesh with Stanley Tigerman's museum architecture, which incorporates a look of industrial technology, Swibel 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.

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POLICE REPORT

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

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 37-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 they 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**
Pioneer Press

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.

Police said no one else was injured in the crash.

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.

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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.

Susan Fagan, a librarian at the La Grange Park Public Library, said she began skating as a child at the Westmont Roller Rink. After a 25-year break, she returned to skating with a Derby Lite class in Lombard two years ago and then tried out and made one of the Outfit's three teams a year ago, she said.

"You get to be really close with people really fast when you share the same sweat," she said.

Fagan, who lives with her husband and three sons in La Grange Park, said she enjoys the variety of women attracted to roller derby.

"We have a ton of librarians and teachers. There are a lot of artists, people into crafts, a PhD, MBAs and engineers, from college age to late 40s," she said. "It's a very empowering sport with a lot of camaraderie."

Jen Leban from La Grange Park, who made the team in November, said she was seeking to challenge herself after mastering Derby Lite sessions.

"This was the first thing in life I looked forward to as far as exercising," she said. "I skated in my parents' basement as a kid on white boot skates with glittery wheels."

The art and technology teacher at Sandburg Middle



STEVE JOHNSTON/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Members of The Chicago Outfit roller derby team practice skating backward at the Fleetwood Roller Rink.



Members of the Chicago Outfit perfect on their footwork during practice at the Fleetwood Roller Rink.



Chicago Outfit's co-coach Jenni Davids from Aurora, aka "Lethal Dose," leads practice.

School in Elmhurst said roller derby is a good outlet for releasing aggression and gets her "street cred" with her students. Her derby name is Ronnie Maims Dio, a play on late Black Sabbath

singer Ronnie James Dio. "I'm kind of an introvert, too. It pulls me out of my shell," she said. "You have to just do it. I am so surprised at what I can do, like skating backward in packs and ma-

neuvering"

Leban said she broke her elbow and had two screws inserted six weeks after starting the Derby Lite program, but she persevered, overcoming a fear of injury.

"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."

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State Supreme Court ruling means casino owes \$3 million

By LEE V. GAINES
Chicago Tribune

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 a gambling tax approved by the Cook County Board of Commissioners in late 2012. The high court denied Midwest Gaming's petition to appeal an earlier ruling by an appellate court.



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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 county lost in circuit court and won in appellate court. The appellate court's decision was upheld when the state's high court declined to hear the case.

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 pro-

vide 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 \$1 million in annual tax revenue.

Video gambling opera-

tors, 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 2015 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.

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KAREN BERKOWITZ/PIONEER PRESS

Highland Park resident Barbara Vahlkamp with the wallet that a public works crew recovered from a snow mound outside the public library, where she had lost it.

Snow crew recovers library patron's wallet

BY KAREN BERKOWITZ
Pioneer Press

Highland Park resident Barbara Vahlkamp felt embarrassed to be calling her city's Public Works Department about her missing wallet the morning of Dec. 30.

And she wasn't really sure what they could do about it anyway.

But after retracing her movements, and ruling out other explanations, Vahlkamp had a strong suspicion she had dropped her wallet near her car outside the Highland Park Public Library the night of Dec. 28, shortly after she had paid some overdue library fines. She recalled leaving the library with three books, three DVDs and the wallet in hand.

When she and her husband, Nicholas, returned to the library with flashlights the following evening, they noticed the mounds of snow created by the plows clearing the parking spaces in front of the library on Laurel Avenue.

"I figured if I'd dropped my wallet, it could be in the snow piles," Barbara Vahlkamp said.

She knew her wallet hadn't been turned in at the library or left inside her car. Nor had there been any fraudulent use of her credit and debit cards.

So she called the Public Works Department Dec. 30 to explain the circumstances, hoping not to come across as audacious.

"Do you think anyone could help me?" she dared to ask.

To her surprise, she received a call back a few hours later. The caller informed her that three employees were, in fact, heading over to the library to look for her wallet. She offered to meet them there, as she was only a few minutes away.

"I told them at the beginning that this

could be a total long-shot, but the man said, 'We are just here to help,'" she said.

Vahlkamp was particularly impressed by the care taken by the plow operator as he scooped away small quantities of snow.

"He would stop every few seconds, so it could fall down and we could examine the snow," she marveled.

Still, with each successive scoop, Vahlkamp's fears mounted that she was wasting their time.

"I was a little embarrassed," she said. "We were getting to the last, little teeny pile, and I said to the guy, 'This isn't going to happen.'"

But then acting snow foreman Azel Lakes spotted Vahlkamp's soaked wallet.

"The good deed of recovering the lost wallet in a pile of ice snow in the library parking lot was performed by public works staff Azel Lakes, Mike Walters and Jereme Olsen," said Ramesh Kanapareddy, director of public works for the city of Highland Park. "The public works staff started plowing and hand shoveling through the hard-packed, icy snow pile. After a few minutes, Azel noticed the wallet on the back side of the pile. Barbara was thrilled to have recovered her wallet and was very appreciative of the public works staff."

When Vahlkamp arrived home, she emptied out her wallet from Brighton Collectibles and began drying out the contents, which included a few checks, a gift certificate, \$20 in currency, membership cards and other items.

"This is really a story about how a little suburban city takes care of its residents," said Vahlkamp, who has lived in the Ravinia neighborhood since 1989.

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FROM THE COMMUNITY

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 Dimaria, village officials, and department members

■ AT&T (free phone service all day long) Lanel Clay and Linda Gavin

■ Golf School District 67 (for the school bus) and Superintendent Beth Flores and Ted Anton

■ Kappy's (caterer for a full turkey dinner) – George D. Alpoglanis

■ Sweet Table – various merchants, donations from legion families, friends, guests, and volunteers

■ Costco (Niles) pies – Kevin Gilbert

■ Costco (Randhurst, Mt. Prospect) red bull – Cherise Schaffner

■ Costco (The Glen) Red Bull-Michael Anderson

■ Maler's Bakery (Morton Grove) – Antenella Salvo

■ Produce World (Morton Grove) fruit tray – Hector, George

■ Village Creamery (Niles) Ice cream – Arin and Lito Valèroso

■ Dean's Food (Franklin Park) milk – Maureen Dohoney

■ Eli's Cheesecake - (Chicago) – Erin Arceo

■ Jewel Foods (Elk Grove) milk and pop – Manager: Jim Brejcha

■ Jewel Foods (Fox Lake) water and pop – Manager Jim Pugliese

■ Mariano's (Glenview) coffee – Manager Jeff Swanson

■ St. John's United Church of Christ (Arlington Heights) cookies – Dee Koontz

■ Magician entertainment – Bill Cook

■ Abt (Glenview) Xbox 360 – Carl Boyk

■ Family Video (Glenview) DVD movies and Xbox 360 games – Brianna

■ RAC Rentals (Niles) computers – Jackie

■ Minstrel Music Ltd. (Niles) guitars – John Sizos

■ Minuteman Press (Morton Grove) programs – Ken and Bea Lipski

■ Numerous monetary donators

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



NATALIE HAYES/PIONEER PRESS

Naval recruits from Naval Station Great Lakes enjoy Thanksgiving at Morton Grove's American Legion Post 134 Nov. 26.



ROBIN L. MARSHALL/GETTY IMAGES FOR SONY PICTURES

Dr. Bennet Omalu, Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje and Ludacris attend a screening of "Concussion" at Cinebistro Town Brookhaven in Atlanta on Dec. 17.

College football has lost its allure

I hate to be a spoilsport as we enter the revelry of the college football play-offs, 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.



RANDY BLASER

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.



PAUL SASSONE

'Stay until the last dog is dead'

A few columns back, I used the phrase, "It'll all come out in the wars," as a way of saying many problems have a way of solving themselves.

I wrote "wars" instead of "wash" because I was quoting my mother, and that added "R" is the way people from Missouri talk.

In a it's-a-small-world bolt from the blue, I received an email from Lisa Morrison, who authored a blog titled "inthewarsh."

Her family is from Ohio, and her mother and uncles used to say, "It'll all come out in the wars," meaning, in her evocative description, "Those seven words draw a picture of the hard labor and daily drudgery that are sometimes necessary to make things clean, and they inspire us to trust that things will work out for the best."

These wonderful localisms and colloquialisms are fast disappearing from our language. And that's a pity.

I still remember some of my mother's local expressions and words from her youth in St. Louis.

Here are a few of them you might enjoy:

- "Not saying A, I, or nothing." Use this when you don't want to comment, yet leave the impression that you could say a lot if you wanted to. For instance, if someone asked Tom Cruise for secret information about Scientology, he might reply, "I'm not saying A, I, or nothing."
- "Whether school keeps or not." This is a way of saying that someone is stubbornly persisting in a course of action. Say, "The president is standing by his tax cuts whether school keeps or not."

- "You have to put your oar in." This means to give an unwanted opinion. Such as, "We already had decided where to have dinner, then Paul had to put his oar in."

- "Stay until the last dog is dead." My favorite. This describes staying somewhere for a very long — most likely too long — time. For instance, "The party was over two hours ago, but Paul just had to stay until the last dog was dead."

Over the years, I've used these phrases in my conversation, to the delight and amusement of friends, who in turn have used them to add some spice to their speech.

Feel free to help yourself.

Know of any localisms or colloquialisms from your own family?

I'd love to hear them.

Paul Sassone 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 pretty used to eating “wake cakes.”

It was around the time many of my great aunts, 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

Baddist 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.

The spring market (starting right after the Super Bowl) will be extremely busy — buyers will need to be aggressive, especially in the entry level single family homes, said Lawrence.

“Inventory will continue to be low in tri-village area, giving properly priced sellers an advantage during the spring market,” he said.

Interest rates will finally rise, 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. “The last few springs have been a little bit better than the previous.

“The creeping interest/mortgage rates will probably have some effect on pricing, but overall I still think we will see an increase — as long as the rates don’t make drastic increases,” said Gagliardo.

“I’m very optimistic overall and expect good things from the market in 2016.”

— 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.

Forecasting a “flat” 2016 in the industry is Jonathan Zivojnovic, 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 Zivojnovic. “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 Zivojnovic. “This same diluted 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.”

The one bright side in 2016 will be new construction, said Zivojnovic. In an area like Elmwood Park, where the housing stock is dated and room for new development sparse, any new construction activity is going to draw a lot of attention, he said.

“With several new construction homes sold in 2015 and several more slated for 2016, it should continue to be a strong sector of the local market,” said Zivojnovic. “Another interesting characteristic is the luxury rental market, where new construction buildings in Elmwood Park will be ready for delivery in early spring. The demand for these units will likely set the tone for future luxury rental developments that has proven to be in high demand in the surrounding towns.”

Felicia Dechter is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press. Got a story idea? Email writel2@comcast.net.



"Frozemont" offers outdoor ice skating, a sled run and ice carving competitions.

FROZEMONT

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.

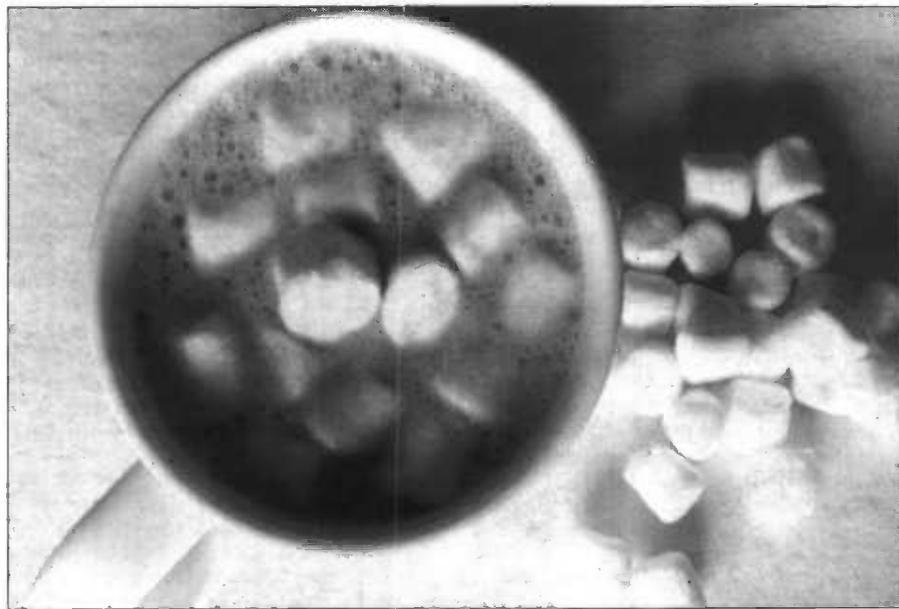
Four local storytellers share tales spanning topics such as moving out after a marriage ends to surviving high school at

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.wilmettetheatre.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 1-2:30 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

Turn to **Winter events**, Page 16



ROBERT CRONKLETON/TNS

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 "Sono's Journey," which tells the story of Japanese-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 Patty Turner Center, 375 Elm St., in Deerfield. Tickets are \$27-\$40 and can be purchased by calling 847-945-0650 or visiting 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

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.

tion to the Jews who fled Spain in the late 15th century, at 8:30 p.m. March 12 at Ravinia Festival's Bennett Gordon Hall, 201 St. Johns Ave., in Highland Park. They'll share the stage with the Avalon String Quartet. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by calling 847-266-5100 at www.ravinia.org.

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/1miFWZn.

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.



LARRY HERRICKS/20TH CENTURY FOX

Hugh Jackman, left, and Taron Egerton in "Eddie the Eagle."

"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 unnervingly intimate stop-motion animation feature about a customer service expert who looks up an old flame in Cincinnati and then meets another woman. It's the strangest, wittiest film I've seen in months.

"Son of Saul," Jan. 29. 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.

"Eddie the Eagle," Feb. 26. In 1988, Eddie "The Eagle" Edwards became the first competitor to represent Great Britain in Olympic ski jumping. How it all went down gets the impish docudrama treatment. The cast includes Hugh Jackman and Christopher Walken.

"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 supernatural, with a story of a father (Michael Shannon) and a son (Jaeden Lieberher) 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 Wedding 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 gabby, hopped-up edition of Lex Luthor; and judging by the trailers, director Zack Snyder unloads another round of his pummeling, gargantuan action.



MORTON GROVE PARK DISTRICT

Magic by the Great Boodini will be a highlight of T.G.I.F. Family Night on Jan. 15 presented by the Morton Grove Park District.

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.org/devtickets.html.

Unconditional love

That's what kids will learn about at a storytime devoted to Smiriti Prasad-Halls' "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 LEGOs 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.

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FACES & PLACES

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



NATIONAL HELLENIC MUSEUM PHOTOS

Sam Sianis and Tom Sianis of Park Ridge



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



Ted and Stacy Paros of Inverness



Lori and George Voutirltsas, from left, of Inverness and Connie Mourtopalas of Chicago

WINTER MUSIC FROM QUINTET ATTACCA



ST. JOHN BREBEUF CHURCH

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.



N.SHORE-BARRINGTON ASSOCIATION REALTOR

HONORS FOR REALTOR MARILYN D. GLAZER

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. 18, 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

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
2628 N Wlndsor Dr, # 203, Arlington Heights	Nikolas G Kotrotsios	Leonid Vainshtein	12-02-15	\$80,000
330 W Miner St, # 1A, Arlington Heights	Paresh Vipani & Aarati Vipani	Kimberly A Sussman	12-03-15	\$101,000
1226 S New Wilke Rd, # 109, Arlington Heights	Plamen Dobrev	Pnc Bank Na	12-02-15	\$125,000
1510 E Jane Ave, Arlington Heights	Marcin Stachyra & Agnieszka Stachyra	David M Baumann	12-02-15	\$189,000
434 S Dryden Pl, Arlington Heights	Joseph Leffelman & Jessica Lynn Leffelman	Brian K Woodland	12-04-15	\$275,000
505 S Gibbons Ave, Arlington Heights	James D McIntyre Jr	Christopher McGowan	12-02-15	\$290,000
1312 S Fernandez Ct, Arlington Heights	Gerald F Benda Jr & Candice S Cherwin Benda	Gerald L Cherwin	12-03-15	\$300,000
1120 N Phelps Ave, Arlington Heights	Roman Podolsky & Maryna Ursullak	Rosemary Stone Estate	12-02-15	\$315,000
405 S Dryden Pl, Arlington Heights	Steven J Altheide & Danielle C Altheide	Patricia Jacobsen	12-02-15	\$375,000
512 E Burning Tree Ln, Arlington Heights	Daniel W Smith & Jennifer Mark Smith	Baldwin M Wong	12-04-15	\$425,000
207 N Lincoln Ln, Arlington Heights	Ashton Arnold	Owb Reo Lic	12-04-15	\$589,000
50 Lake Blvd, # 670, Buffalo Grove	Wonkyu Cho & Kelko Tamai	Stone Capital Investments Lic	12-04-15	\$124,000
121 Mary Lu Ln, Buffalo Grove	Zyanya Montes Ocampo & Jesse Pacheco	Frank Panzek	12-03-15	\$130,000
1101 Beechwood Rd, Buffalo Grove	Jon D Llaguno	Sasidhar Naidu	12-03-15	\$248,500
523 Harris Ct, Buffalo Grove	Claire Mata	Emil P Dicker	12-01-15	\$308,000
230 Manor Dr, Buffalo Grove	Ilhwa Hong	Bradley C Foss	12-02-15	\$320,000
905 Knollwood Dr, Buffalo Grove	Mark J Friedman	Ronald Rotstein	12-02-15	\$336,000
2421 Chambour Dr, Buffalo Grove	Murali M Yakkall & Pavananaga Shilpa Noone	Lisa Maddox	12-01-15	\$575,000
9320 Hamilton Ct, # 1E, Des Plaines	Jayant Parekh & Kalpana Parekh	Tsoukas Trust	12-04-15	\$86,000
9429 Bay Colony Dr, Des Plaines	Roula Jamal	William J Yates Jr	12-02-15	\$89,000
9205 Bumble Bee Dr, # 1G, Des Plaines	Sunny C Kochuveettil & Daisy S Kochuveettil	Seenamol Jacob	12-02-15	\$98,000
8923 Knight Ave, # 106, Des Plaines	Sanju Mathew & Sindhu George	Fannie Mae	12-04-15	\$100,500
9463 Bay Colony Dr, # 2N, Des Plaines	Sangwoo Baek	Teresa Bors	12-03-15	\$107,000
9355 Bay Colony Dr, # 3S, Des Plaines	Sylwester Truskowski	Agnes H Colella	12-02-15	\$110,000
1568 Woodland Ave, # C, Des Plaines	Louis E Burdett	Phoenix Management Services	12-02-15	\$162,000
8660 Gregory Ln, # C, Des Plaines	Rajeshkumar H Desai & Shitalben R Desai	Pankaj N Shah	12-02-15	\$164,000
446 E Thacker St, Des Plaines	Marcin Biela & Anita Pakrasi	Fannie Mae	12-03-15	\$177,000
2066 Sunset Dr, Des Plaines	Miroslaw Maglinski & Elzbieta Maglinska	Martin C Vistain Estate	12-03-15	\$195,000
1646 E Walnut Ave, Des Plaines	Eva Kowaczew Reagan	Dawn M Gilfillan	12-02-15	\$220,000
9160 W Oaks Ave, Des Plaines	Biju B Jacob	Benny Joseph	12-04-15	\$224,000
813 S Wolf Rd, Des Plaines	Audrey J Pak	Thomas A Almanzo	12-02-15	\$277,500
1321 Henry Ave, Des Plaines	Angelo Surmaj & Courtney Reed	Kb Homes Llc	12-03-15	\$345,000
691 Beau Ct, Des Plaines	Sebahat Alka & Muhamed Alka	Linda Melody	12-04-15	\$385,000
1006 Dodge Ave, Evanston	Janice Green	Corbella Llc	12-04-15	\$199,000
1716 Seward St, Evanston	Donna Marie Ward	Us Bank Trust Na Trustee	12-02-15	\$205,000
1228 Emerson St, # 604, Evanston	Lingling Zhang & Nlandi Xiang	Grandbend Llc	12-03-15	\$296,000
807 Davis St, # 2110, Evanston	Warren Steven Riley Sr & Kathryn Elizabeth Riley	Daniel A Rodriguez	12-03-15	\$320,000
1631 Church St, Evanston	Jamilah Wool	Titling Trust	12-04-15	\$326,000
2025 Sherman Ave, # 507, Evanston	Pavel Fishkin & Nellie Fishkin	Donald Ellis	12-03-15	\$360,000
801 Hlnman Ave, # 1, Evanston	Chloe Thurston & Daniel Egel	Elizabeth M Pettit	12-03-15	\$395,000
2831 Harrison St, Evanston	Michael E Hevner & Melissa Hevner	Peter J Prommer	12-02-15	\$645,000
4202 Central Rd, # 1 F, Glenview	Yury Sirochinsky & Vera Shkundina	Fannie Mae	12-02-15	\$0
10389 Dearlove Rd, # 2A, Glenview	Dong Won Lee & Yang Soon Lee	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	12-02-15	\$125,000
910 Shermer Rd, Glenview	Sarah A Knaus & Robert Floss II	Chango Trust	12-03-15	\$397,500
2319 Indian Ridge Dr, Glenview	Matthew Wilkinson & Harini Wilkinson	Donna M Bhatia	12-04-15	\$640,000
829 Lenox Rd, Glenview	Ray Naugle & Holly Naugle	Srdjan A Ostric	12-02-15	\$912,500
7 Overlook Dr, Golf	Lance Costello & Bridget Costello	Thomas Carrington	12-02-15	\$425,000
31 Seneca Ave E, Hawthorn Woods	Sergey Podrez	William Dixon	12-01-15	\$445,000
24 Beverly Ln, Hawthorn Woods	Nayin Johri & Anita Johri	Pulte Home Corp	12-01-15	\$525,500

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
20 E Peter Ln, Hawthorn Woods	Matthew J Kovalsky & Ashley M Kovalsky	Taylor Morrison Illinois Inc	12-02-15	\$712,000
1497 Shire Cir, Inverness	Andrea Donovan	Allen Trust	12-04-15	\$387,500
13088 W Mulr Ave, Lake Bluff	Cary A Nevinski	Dietmar M Wagenknecht	12-02-15	\$269,000
925 E Illinois Rd, Lake Forest	Jonathan A Bancroft	Robert A Bancroft	12-02-15	\$1,300,000
23391 W South Lakewood Ln, Lake Zurich	Aleksandr Dmitrievich Fedorov	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	12-01-15	\$106,000
331 Red Bridge Rd, Lake Zurich	Sylvia Solbut	Michael Witzel	12-01-15	\$240,000
195 Rosehall Dr, Lake Zurich	Zhu Chun & Su Shuca	Jeffrey J Czarnota	12-01-15	\$250,000
163 Finstad Dr, # 163, Libertyville	Lisa M Maddox	Prairie View North Llc	12-02-15	\$364,000
102 Rivershire Ln, Lincolnshire	Sanjay Vazhapully & Betty Vazhapully	Richard G Maxen	12-01-15	\$459,000
4497 Hamelton Ct, Long Grove	Brian J Terry	Us Bank Na Trustee	12-02-15	\$624,750
5506 Lincoln Ave, # A115, Morton Grove	Nina Ritter	Senad Martinovic	12-04-15	\$152,000
8649 Callie Ave, Morton Grove	Mohammed I Makda	Dolores R Dolan	12-03-15	\$279,000
1808 E Maya Ln, Mount Prospect	Theodore Kouretsos & Alexandra T Kouretsos	Jacques Salibian	12-03-15	\$295,000
916 S We Go Trl, Mount Prospect	Nermin Plavulj & Arsema Plavulj	Terrance J Maloney	12-03-15	\$320,000
1300 N Pima Ln, Mount Prospect	Jacob Joseph Chacko & Gissy James	C&K Llc	12-03-15	\$320,000
12 N Maple St, Mount Prospect	Ryan York & Jaclyn M York	Pawel Stec	12-04-15	\$392,000
6917 W Fargo Ave, Niles	Richard E Kathe & Cynthia M Kathe	Helen C Kurr Estate	12-03-15	\$112,500
7861 N Nordica Ave, Niles	Adifa Saher & Mohammed Shabbir	Us Bank Na Trustee	12-03-15	\$138,000
8853 N Washington St, # D, Niles	Nareshbhai Patel & Kajavatiben Patel	Sheryl Purcell	12-03-15	\$179,000
8413 W Madison Dr, Niles	Przemyslaw Laski & Monika Laski	Casey Lechowicz	12-03-15	\$267,000
2506 Steven Ln, # 45, Northbrook	Rafiq Basaria	Bank Of America Na	12-02-15	\$175,000
2028 Avalon Ct, Northbrook	Alrick M Goltra	Estrella Novales	12-02-15	\$249,500
1632 Walters Ave, Northbrook	Patrick A Wetter & Katy L Wetter	Bank Of America Na	12-02-15	\$535,000
1889 Bosworth Ln, Northfield	Margaret A Mccallum	Kimberley A Ribordy	12-03-15	\$605,000
294 Wagner Rd, Northfield	Craig Coupe & Erin Coupe	Beth Durkin	12-02-15	\$618,000
1170 N Sterling Ave, # 209, Palatine	Asta Rytel	Bank Of America Na	12-02-15	\$58,000
1434 Carol Ct, # 3A, Palatine	Kifayat Haider Raja	American Capital Holdings Llc	12-03-15	\$86,000
916 E Tower Ct, # 1, Palatine	Alfredo Parra	Mark E Blakey	12-03-15	\$147,500
1008 N Knollwood Dr, Palatine	Margaret T Boylan	Mary Murphy	12-02-15	\$165,000
1023 N Goldengate Ln, Palatine	Keith J Henry & Connie S Frost	Zerrien Trust	12-04-15	\$265,000
783 N Coolidge Ave, Palatine	Ronald S Dicola & Diana L Dicola	Steven Williams	12-02-15	\$318,000
197 W Brentwood Dr, Palatine	Lisa Kim Jerome	Jason R Kerr	12-02-15	\$380,000
1168 N Arbor Ln, Palatine	Brian E Smith & Besa Sadiku	John Walser	12-02-15	\$407,500
1563 E Olive St, Palatine	Maria L De Paula Arias & Lilliam De Paula Arias	K Hovnanian T&c Homes At Ill	12-04-15	\$592,500
1515 S Cumberland Ave, Park Ridge	Stanislawa Lelo	Virginia Ellen Marano	12-02-15	\$271,000
193 Michael John Dr, Park Ridge	Adam Rybka & Joanna Zajac	Fannie Mae	12-04-15	\$404,000
1131 Cove Dr, # 156 A, Prospect Heights	Kate Magnuson	Wells Fargo Bank Trustee	12-02-15	\$95,000
508 Aberdeen Ln, Prospect Heights	Gary A Nowickas & Ellen M Nowickas	Brian S Lowy	12-04-15	\$240,000
227 Mandel Ln, Prospect Heights	Jessica Lenser & Jonathan Wong	Vicki M Spagnola	12-03-15	\$275,000
408 W Willow Rd, Prospect Heights	James Kiefer	Alfredo P Papa	12-02-15	\$303,000
920 N Lakeside Dr, # 2 D, Vernon Hills	Liang Yang	Yolanda I Lambert	12-02-15	\$95,500
249 W Ct Of Shorewood, # 2B, Vernon Hills	Xiaoli Zhang	Christine L Gremore	12-02-15	\$101,000
760 Keystone Ln, Vernon Hills	Jen Fue Maa	Rg Ventures Llc	12-02-15	\$270,000
116 Indian Meadow Ln, Vernon Hills	Bitha Balakrishnan & Pramod Sreehari Vellat	Ignacy Green	12-02-15	\$410,000
655 Dorset Ct, # 3, Wheeling	Julian Nae	David K Estrada	12-02-15	\$79,000
852 Colonial Dr, Wheeling	Jerry Galinsky & Virginia Galinsky	V Mortgage Reo 1 Llc	12-02-15	\$85,000
1430 Sandstone Dr, # 209, Wheeling	Alla Tsoy	Olga Palchik	12-03-15	\$118,000
192 George Rd, Wheeling	Ignacio Carvajal	V Mortgage Reo 1 Llc	12-02-15	\$145,000
810 Redbud Ln, Wilmette	Hajdar Dako Sabovic	Fannie Mae	12-02-15	\$390,000
145 Sunset Dr, Wilmette	Ramsey Famacion & Maria Rosa Perey Famacion	Sandra Vergara	12-02-15	\$420,000
314 Walnut St, Winnetka	Nicole Steel & Tyler Steel	Kevin M Witkowski	12-02-15	\$1,500,000

This list is not intended to be a complete record of all real estate transactions.

Data compiled by Record Information Services ■ 630-557-1000 ■ public-record.com

**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

Agents: 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

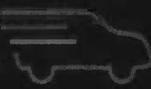
Agent: Pamela Raia/Baird & Warner Edgebrook

Listings from Homefinder.com

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Section 2

Living

Thursday, January 7, 2016



Mommy on a Shoestring: Soar into a galaxy of fun with 'Star Wars' crafts Page 3

2



Technology's silencing effect

Researcher explains how our phones are halting and inhibiting the way we talk to each other. Page 14

SUBURBAN COOKS

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. Although their methods may be traditional, the couple updates their products to meet customer demands, especially when it comes to wedding cakes.

Gone are the days when wedding cakes were strictly multiple round tiers of white cake with white frosting topped with a pristine bride and groom. "Couples come to us today with all kinds of ideas. It is the age of Pinterest and Food Network where they see so many different things. Our job is to combine all of the things they like into a cake," said Kevin.

The Tyschpers usually invite the bride and groom to come to the bakery for a "deconstructed tasting" where they can taste cubes of two different flavors of cake coated with different combinations of frostings and fillings. "White cake is actually the least chosen flavor today," said Kevin.

Couples can try the cake squares with a variety of fillings like chocolate mousse or Bavarian cream paired with different types of frosting, including the popular butter cream. "We can do anything the bride and groom want. We are finding that most of them want a sort of shabby chic look rather than the traditional cascading flowers," said Morgan.

"White frosting is still popular but most couples want texture instead of the ultra smooth frosting," Morgan said.

Tiers are still popular, but round is not the only shape



JUDY BUCHENOT/NAPERVILLE SUN

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.

requested. There are some requests for square tiers and others want a mix of square and round. Some couples ask for metallic highlights in silver or gold.

"These usually have to be hand painted or piped on," Morgan said.

"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.

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 Packer's 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.

"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 couple are wearing down their own rolling pins making fresh baked goods and look forward to many years of baking.

They share a favorite recipe for a winter breakfast treat for others to try for a taste of "homemade goodness." Challah, a rich bread similar to brioche, is used in the recipe and can be purchased at DeEtta's bakery as well as many ethnic grocery stores.

Judy Buchenot is a freelancer.

Baked French Toast

- 12 slices thick-cut challah
- 6 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 4 teaspoons cinnamon, divided
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 2 cups milk
- 2/3 cup maple syrup
- 6 eggs
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 2 teaspoons 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 18-20 minutes or until egg mixture is set.

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.

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



BETH ENGELMAN
Mommy on a Shoestring

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 marshmallow. Add a lollipop stick and your Stormtrooper is ready.



WILL JAMES

R2-D2 crafted from a trash can by Will James.

'Star Wars' Snowflakes

These breathtaking snowflakes come courtesy of Anthony Herrera of anthonyherreradesigns.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.

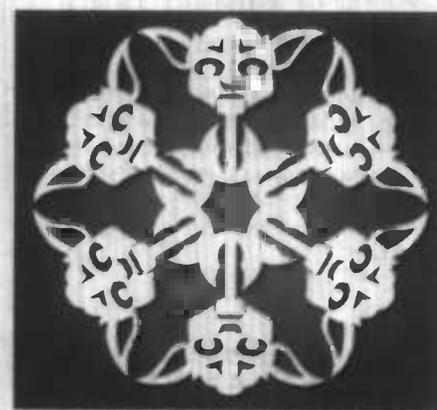
You need:

- White, swing-lid garbage can (James used a can by Umbra)
 - Permanent markers (such as Sharpies)
- Directions:**
- Use markers to draw geometric shapes



CATCHMYPARTY.COM

Marshmallow pop Stormtroopers



ANTHONYHERRERADESIGNS.COM

Yoda as snowflake, by Anthony Herrera



A PERFECTEVENT.COM

Princess Leia cupcakes

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.

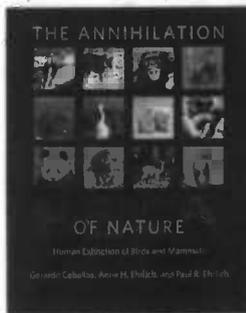
Want more "Star Wars" fun? The folks at Disney have generously created a free, "Star Wars"-themed family fun pack, filled with mazes, games and projects. Visit mommyonashoestring.com to download and print your free family fun packet.

PETS/ANIMALS

Books on animals deliver array of adventures

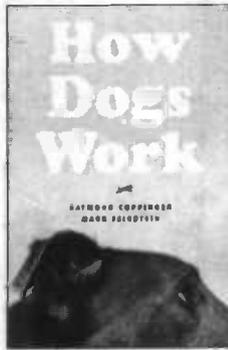
By William Hageman
Tribune Newspapers

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.



"How Dogs Work" by Raymond Copplinger and Mark Feinstein (University of Chicago Press): Copplinger, professor emeritus of biology at Hampshire College, and Feinstein, a professor of cognitive

science at Hampshire, take a scientific look at dogs and other canids, such as wolves and coyotes. They explain why dogs do what they do — why they play, why they bark, how they forage — as well as how they have evolved into the animals they are.



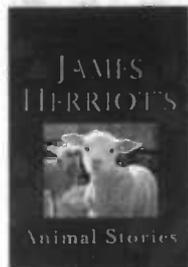
"Catify to Satisfy: Simple Solutions for Creating a Cat-Friendly Home" by Jackson Galaxy and Kate Benjamin (Tarcher Penguin): Whether you're considering getting a cat or just want to

upgrade your feline's home — you know, the home that used to be yours — Galaxy and Benjamin's book is the place to start. They explain how to design your home to be not just cat-friendly, but also conducive to making your pet's life full and happy.



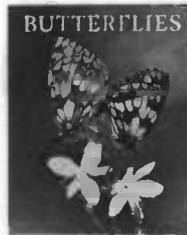
"The Teachings of Shirelle: Life Lessons From a Divine Knucklehead" by Douglas Green (Cavallier Press): Green, a psychotherapist specializing in kids

and teenagers, says that early on, he saw the dog he'd adopted as something of a goof. But soon he realized that Shirelle was "my greatest teacher, a guru of the deeper truths of life." As the dog went about living her life to the fullest, she opened his eyes. Their lives meshed to the point that she helped him in his counseling. Green has taken what he learned and now imparts Shirelle's lessons to the rest of us.



"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 re-

gales his followers with 10 charming tales featuring some of the animals he encountered during his decades as a vet. Wonderfully illustrated by Lesley Holmes.



"Butterflies" by Thomas Marent and Ronald Orenstein (Firefly): Writer Orenstein and photographer Marent have teamed up to produce a magnificent book on some of the most

interesting and beautiful creatures on Earth. Readers will see the diversity of butterflies and learn their history and ecology.



"Bird Love" by Lella Jeffreys (Abrams): Fine art photographer Jeffreys offers some 80 color plates — beautiful portraits — of birds from her native Australia and North America. Songbirds, budgies, parrots

and birds of prey are among her lucky subjects.



"A Friend for Lakota: The Incredible True Story of a Wolf Who Braved Bullying" by Jim and Jamie Dutcher (National Geographic Kids): The

Dutchers spent six years living with a pack of wolves in Idaho, resulting in three documentary films and three Emmys. Their research now gives young readers this book about Lakota, a wolf pup who learned to stand up to bullying.

PET OF THE WEEK



Ralphie

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

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■ Our suburban and city **pet events calendar**

■ Photo galleries, videos, more



Spirit Airlines refunds passenger who is too ill to fly

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: Trying to resell your ticket raises fares for everyone, so we don't give refunds if



CATHY CUNNINGHAM
Help Squad

your plans change. Insurance is available to protect you from the unexpected.

I tracked down Stephen Schuler, Spirit Airlines media relations manager. When asked about someone being 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 opportu-

nities to purchase or decline travel insurance. We get many requests for exceptions to our refund policy every day. Saying yes to them would increase costs for all — so we've instead added affordable insurance options. Our contract of carriage policy is available right on our website. Our policies are created to offer the lowest possible fares; on average 40% less than other airlines according to the DOT. When a customer cancels, trying to resell their ticket raises fares for everyone, so we don't offer refunds."

Schuler concluded: "According to our customer service records, our agents never offered (Glen's dad) any type of refund and their responses stayed consistent with our policies."

When I asked if perhaps Glen had mistaken "refund" for "credit," Schuler emailed back: "I apologize for the confusion regarding the \$101.20 credit authorized to

(Glen's father). After reviewing this case and realizing the credit wasn't issued as promised, we will make an exception and offer (Glen's father) a full refund of \$257.18. Again, we apologize for the inconvenience."

Glen's dad did receive his refund — four days before he died from his illness. However, refunds are definitely not the Spirit norm. Typically, if a reservation is not canceled within 24 hours of booking, a change fee of \$120, plus a fee of \$17.99 per leg, is charged. The remaining credit must be used within 60 days and is nontransferable. To obtain an actual refund — for any reason — customers must purchase travel insurance.

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

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

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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) me."

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 Evan "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 crackling 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

1. "Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up: The Japanese Art of Decluttering and Organizing" by Marie Kondo (Ten Speed, \$16.99).

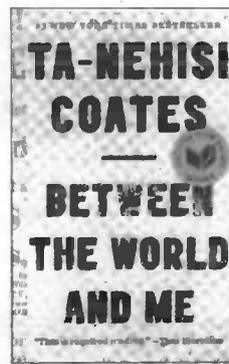
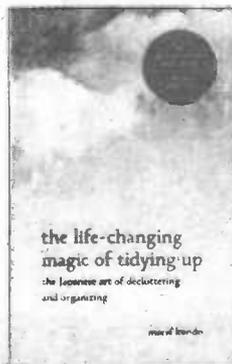
2. "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates (Spiegel & Grau, \$24).

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

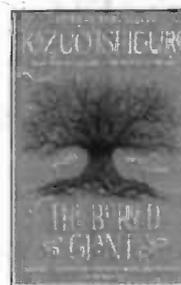
4. "Thing Explainer: Complicated Stuff in Simple Words" by Randall Munroe (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$24.95).

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

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



NEW IN PAPERBACK



The Burled 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.



West of Sunset: A Novel

By Stewart O'Nan, Penguin, 290 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 Sheilah Graham while attempting to maintain something of a family life with Zelda and Scottie.



Man at the Helm: A Novel

By Nina Stibbe, Back Bay, 324 pages, \$14.99

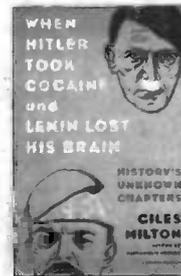
When the father of 9-year-old Lizzie Vogel abandons the family, they move to an English countryside where residents disapprove of divorce and fatherless children and are horrified by Lizzie's drinking, pill-popping, playwriting mother. When Lizzie and her sister decide to find a new patriarch, their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



The Daylight Marriage: A Novel

By Heidi Pitlor, Algonquin, 260 pages, \$15.95

After an explosive argument with her husband, Hannah vanishes, leaving Lovell and their two children to think about the woman they once knew as they wait for word from the police. Meanwhile, Hannah moves from hastily made decision to hastily made decision, the consequences of which could prove irrevocable.



When Hitler Took Cocaine and Lenin Lost His Brain

By Giles Milton, Picador, 261 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 Tsutomu Yamaguchi, 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



puzzle island

For interactive puzzles and games go to chicagotribune.com/games

1/3

CN

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

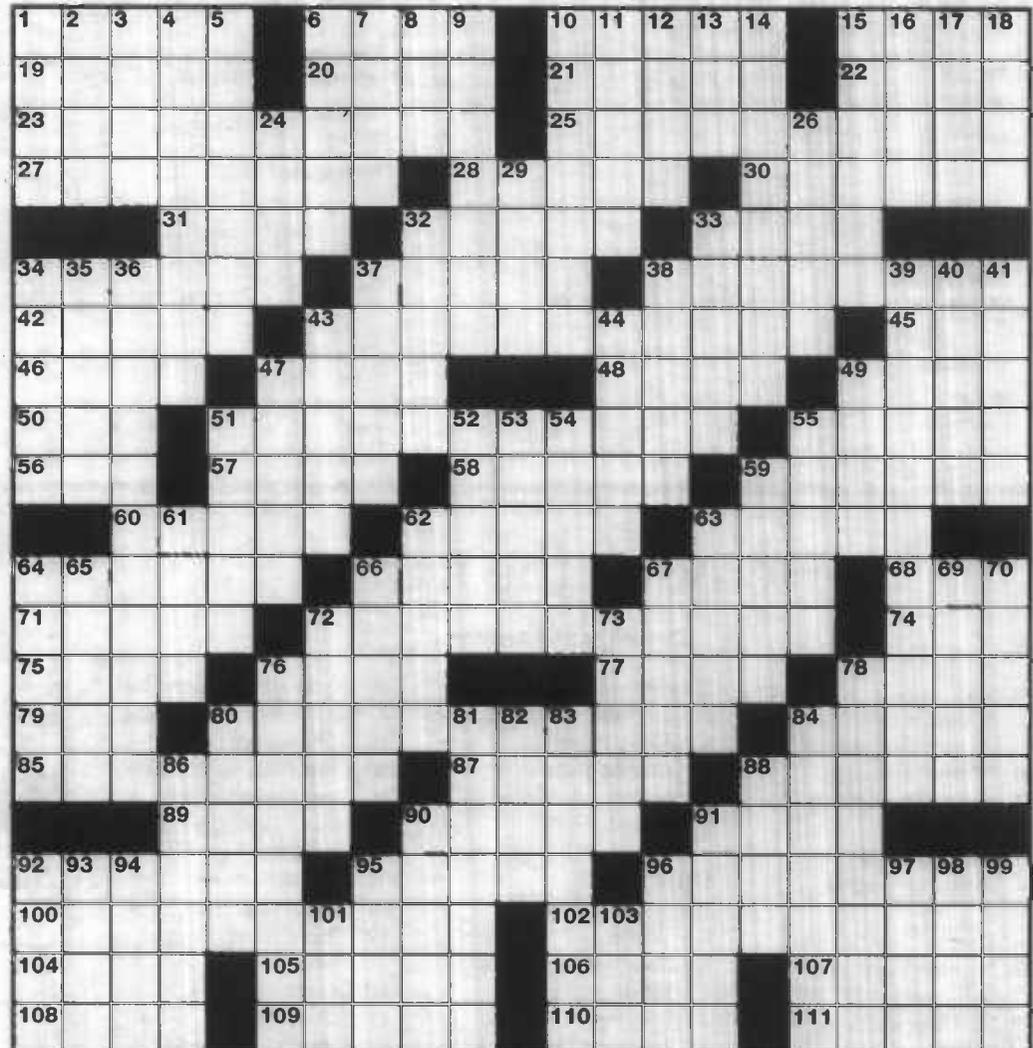
- 59 Sewed loosely
60 Musically accurate
62 New Zealanders, informally
63 Happy tune
64 Large-sheath knives
66 Tablecloth material
67 Slightest amount
68 Pine product
71 Headlights
72 See 36 Down
74 *Game of Thrones* ailer
75 Hula instruments
76 Related
77 Evidence of debts
78 As of
79 — *culpa*
80 Composer 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
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 Churns up
12 Rapper — Azalea
13 Dismissive outburst
14 Spellbind
15 Three-horse carriage
16 Ill-gotten gains
17 Creole staple
18 Take a breather
24 Goes bad
26 Impetuosity
29 EPA concern
32 Take the mound
33 Japanese comics
34 Bishops of Rome
35 Word of farewell
36 Baseball novel by 72 Across
37 Feature of some sweaters
38 Server on *Cheers*
39 Electoral vote margin for President Wilson in the election of 1916



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

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- 40 Put up with
41 Course of greens
43 Informal denial
44 Game-box sheet
47 Abates
49 Very spacious
51 Toll roads
52 Vouching for
53 *Wheel* buy
54 One of Chekhov's *Three Sisters*
55 Persian Gulf land
59 Tastes spicy

- 61 Tastes of liquor
62 Not exactly, casually
63 Cruller kin
64 Judy of kid lit
65 Descriptor for some casks
66 Happy tunes
67 Emphatic assertion
69 More or less
70 Easy wins
72 Derby winner's prize

- 73 Infuriates
76 Beach contest
78 Cultural event
80 Actress Garson
81 Hand luggage
82 Get wind of
83 Well-organized
84 British ritual
86 All— pass
88 Office expense
90 Fill the tank
91 Slightest amount
92 Conversant with

- 93 Infamous Roman
94 News article
95 Turns sharply
96 Off-ramp sign
97 Top baccarat score
98 School that expelled James Bond
99 Vega's constellation
101 Historical interval
103 Watch closely

Quote-Acrossic

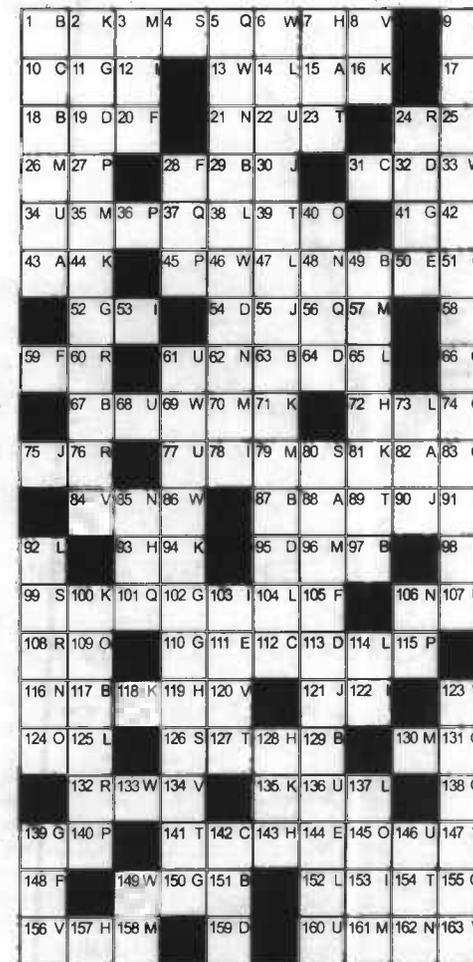
- Define clues, writing in Words column over numbered dashes.
- Transfer letters to numbered squares in diagram.
- When pattern is completed, quotation can be read left to right. The first letters of the filled-in words reading down form an acrostic yielding the speaker's name and the topic of the quotation.

Clues

Words

- A. Actress Sommer 88 43 15 82
- B. Oppressed 151 117 67 29 129 97 18 87 1
63 49
- C. Sausage, in Salzburg 31 142 10 51 112
- D. Ancient ornament, e.g. 159 64 113 32 95 9 19 54
- E. Eliminates 144 111 50 98
- F. 'Sorcerer's Apprentice' composer 148 59 20 28 105
- G. New Zealand seaport city 41 52 11 139 110 102 150 74
- H. ___ fashion: shipshape 93 143 157 128 7 72 119
- I. Scrub conflagration 42 17 153 53 12 122 103 78 91

- J. Hebrew vestment 75 90 55 121 30
- K. Beatles' hit 44 2 100 81 16 118 71 135 94
- L. Radio talk show host 137 38 104 125 14 152 47 25 73
114 65 92
- M. Green Mountain boy 79 57 161 130 158 96 70 3 35 26
- N. July 15, Day of St. ___ 21 116 162 106 62 48 85
- O. Exxon, formerly 124 40 109 145
- P. Actress Winona 36 140 27 115 45
- Q. Engages in business deals 101 83 56 37 131 66 5 155 138
- R. Between hand and arm 24 76 108 132 60
- S. Seance board 58 99 4 126 80
- T. Centaur enemy of Hercules 23 89 141 39 127 154
- U. Cops' favorite 34 68 22 77 107 136 146 61 160
- V. Tasty turnover: Sp. 8 123 163 84 147 156 120 134
- W. Genuine article: 2 wds. 69 133 149 33 86 46 6 13



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By Doris Clarke.
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.
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Home on the Range

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across

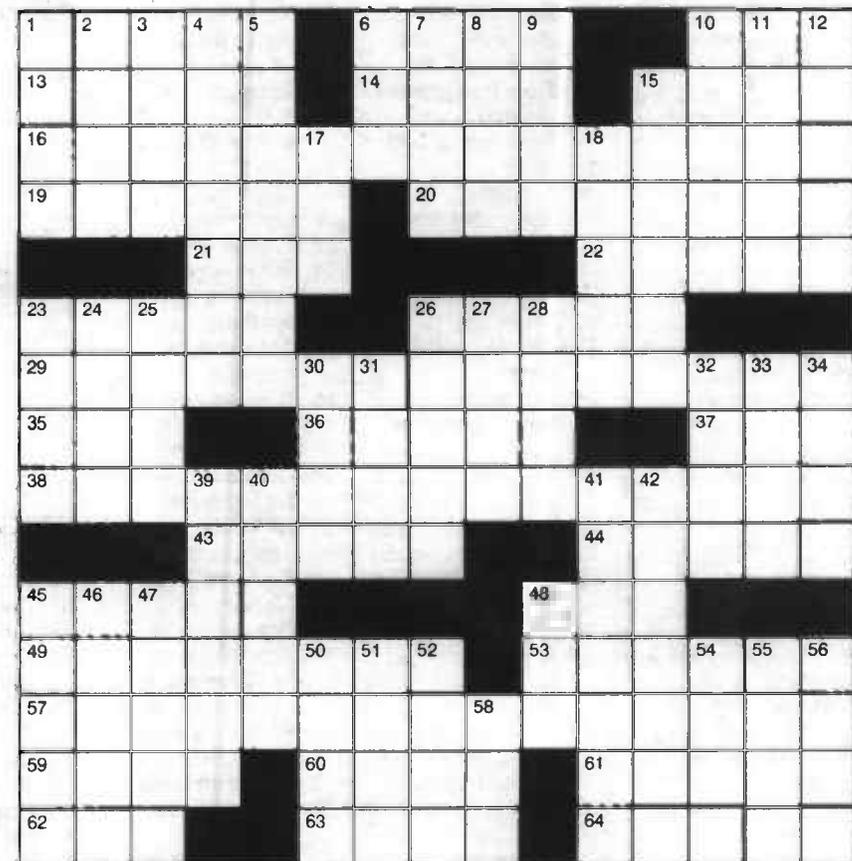
- 1 Stared in wonder
6 ___ now: at present
10 Winnebagos, e.g.
13 Yemeni's neighbor
14 Lest
15 Hull backbone
16 Pressing matters
19 Ponder
20 Utopia
21 It goes in a setting
22 Saltpeter
23 Building manager, for short
26 ___ right: turn
29 Tense situations
35 Wells or Lupino
36 Cafe offering
37 Milne 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
60 *La Bamba* actor Morales
61 Move furtively
62 Author Yutang
63 Saga
64 Softens

Down

- 1 Fossil-rich desert
2 Within
3 Congressional aide
4 Meshes, as gears
5 They try to lose
6 Pershing's troops: abbr.
7 Undergarment
8 Greek peak
9 Baseball-player's rep Donald
10 Overhaul an apparatus
11 Limerick
12 More wily
15 Alaskan island
17 *Everybody Hurts* rock group
18 Latin dance
23 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 Glower
46 Capital on the Red River
47 *The Jungle* author Sinclair
48 Sphere
50 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



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Online Chat

By C.C. BURNIKEL

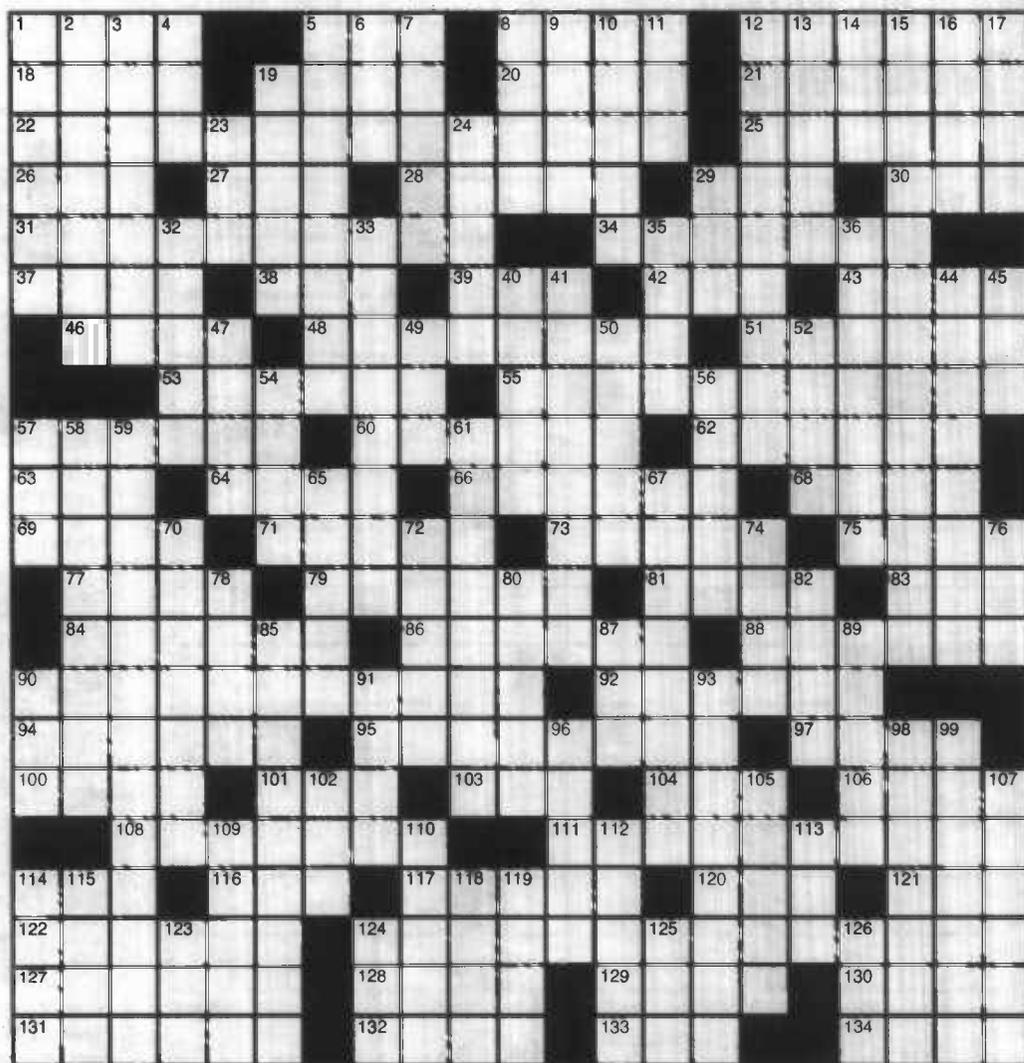
EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

- 1 Fightin' with
5 Avid bird watcher?
8 Tournament passes
12 Dogie collar?
18 Anderson of "WKRP in Cincinnati"
19 Anise-flavored aperitif
20 Place to have poi
21 Fall color
22 Fictional detective whose first name is Endeavour
25 Reprobate
26 "Wanna ___?"
27 Guitarist Paul
28 Namely
29 Fannie ___
30 Paranormal power
31 "Somewhere in Time" band
34 First-rate
37 Apple Watch assistant
38 Wichita-to-Duluth dir.
39 Jobs for grad students
42 "Now I see!"
43 Counterfeit watchdog, for short
46 Staying power
48 1994 comedy with an oxymoronic title
51 Plan in detail
53 Celestial circles
55 Times for reflection
57 Self-reflective musing
60 Record book
62 Cheese in some bagels
63 PC hookup
64 Interstate giant
66 Magazine extra
68 Sci. concerned with climate change
69 Digital readouts, briefly
71 Uses a straw
73 Hotel with a Gold Passport loyalty program
75 Fruit-eating fictional race
77 Exercise units
79 Decorative plaster
81 Fray, say
83 Golfer Poulter
84 Go by
86 Tapped into
88 Chocolate-filled cookie
90 Best Actress Tony winner in "Wicked"
92 "No bickering!"
94 Like some rats
- 95 Unconventional
97 Fifth pillar of Islam
100 Pitcher Sparky
101 Throw hard
103 That, to Juanita
104 Bugs with horns
106 Afternoon TV fare
108 "Fifty Shades of Grey" author
111 Motel convenience
114 Casino convenience
116 Form attachment?
117 Mother ___
120 Cortez's gold
121 Dot follower, at times
122 Slightly larger than tall, at Starbucks
124 Knowledge seekers
127 Less stuffy
128 Molokai neighbor
129 Nice concept?
130 Skinny
131 Nudge
132 "American Dad!" dad
133 Express
134 ___ debt of gratitude
- 49 Put to work
50 The king of Spain?
52 De Beauvoir, to Sartre
54 Wranglers alternative
56 Lipstick characteristic
57 Not up to par
58 With reverence
59 Sharpie output
61 Unconnected
65 ___ du Louvre
67 Sensitive thing to touch
70 Lady in a 1955 film
72 Intrusive vine
74 "Dust to Dust" author Hoag
76 Rescuer of Odysseus
78 Bridge measure
80 TD Garden NBA team
82 High in calories
85 Environmental warning
87 2008 honor for Joe Cocker: Abbr.
89 Spot check?
90 Potent ending?
91 Squat
93 Uninherited wealth
96 Creole-speaking island nation
98 Icon after "Not a member?"
99 Anonymous one
102 She played Fantine in "Les Misérables" (1998)
105 Boot camp nickname
107 Upscale boarding facility
109 Roman province governed by Pontius Pilate
110 96-Down governing group
112 Rock of comedy
113 Dot follower, at times
114 Thing to fill or bridge
115 Rush or Cream
118 Water color
119 Downfall
123 Never, to Nietzsche
124 GroupMe exchanges, briefly, and a hint to this puzzle's eight longest answers
125 Where I-86 and I-15 meet
126 2015 Etsy milestone, initially

Down

- 1 Courtroom vouchers?
2 Sister of Cordelia
3 Coming up
4 Playful bite
5 Affects adversely
6 ___ dye: food-coloring compound
7 Calorie-laden dessert
8 Botch
9 Cold War KGB chairman Andropov
10 Bridge positions
11 Take to court
12 County bordering Santa Fe County
13 Disney mermaid
14 Sought a seat
15 Xanadu locale, now
16 Years and years
17 U. of Maryland player
19 Mermaid's home
23 Spreading tree
24 Spanish peak
29 "Whatever"
32 Time to see stars
33 Remiss
35 Stun with a gun
36 Resting easy
40 Make true
41 Circus attraction
44 Car owner's obligation
45 Some Windows systems
47 Popular buying club



Last week's answers appear on the next page

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Jumble

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



PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW



This week's answers appear on the next page

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2016 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

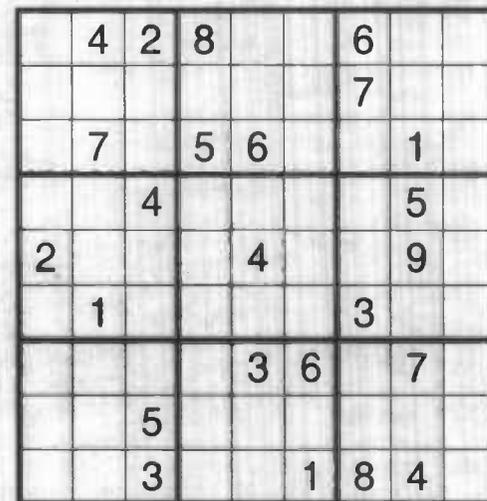


Sudoku

1/3

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

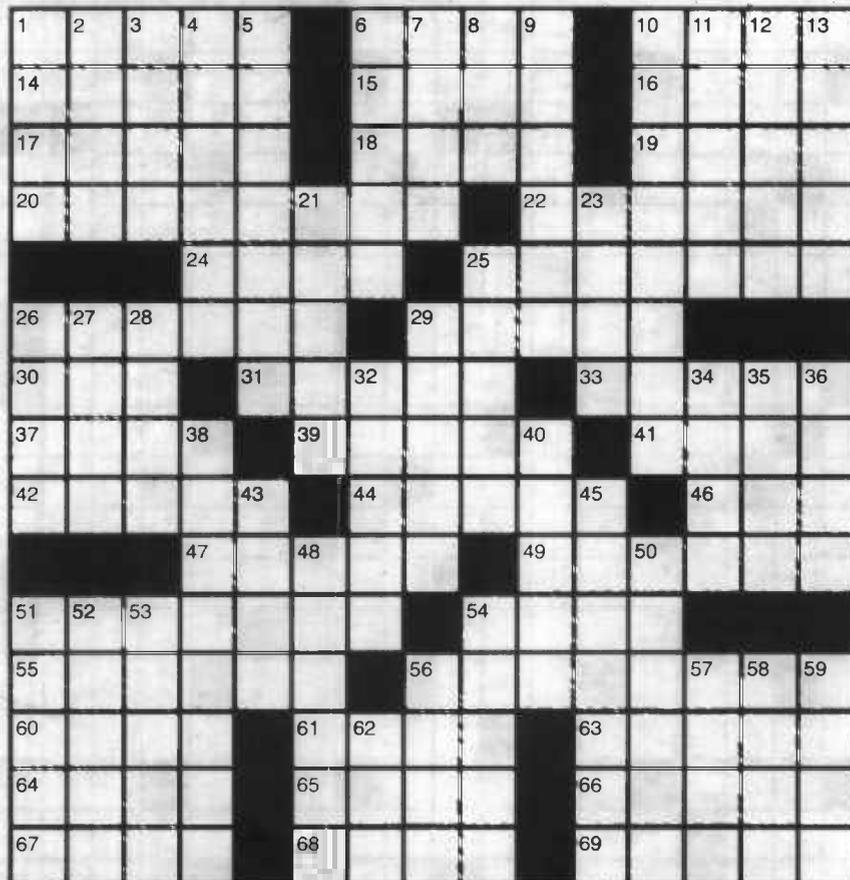
Level: **1 2 3 4**



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Crossword



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1/6/16

ACROSS

- 1 Applauds
6 Bridge
10 Read over quickly
14 Opponent
15 Midwest state
16 Arrived
17 Blazing
18 Soil
19 King toppers
20 Of King Arthur's time
22 Tilted
24 Abbrs. in some street addresses
25 Camera stands
26 May honoree
29 Perhaps
30 TV's "___ Got a Secret"
31 Derisive smile
33 Narrow boards
37 500 sheets of paper
39 Praise highly
41 Trade
42 Boo-boo
44 ___ to; indulge the whims of
46 ___ out a living; get by
47 Written slander
49 Covered with a thin gold layer
51 Rolo candy's center

- 54 Palm tree fruit
55 Major Ukrainian seaport
56 Worth having
60 Boo-hoos
61 Lean-to
63 Once more
64 Undeniable
65 ___ up; tethered
66 Tempted
67 ___ off; causes to explode
68 Lively
69 Grains planted

DOWN

- 1 Pack in like sardines
2 Board game
3 Passionate
4 Social outcast
5 Coat parts
6 Soft drinks
7 Donahue or Mickelson
8 Walking on ___; elated
9 Document signer's official witness
10 Surgical tools
11 Pod used to make chocolate
12 Turn over a new leaf
13 Cozy homes

Solutions



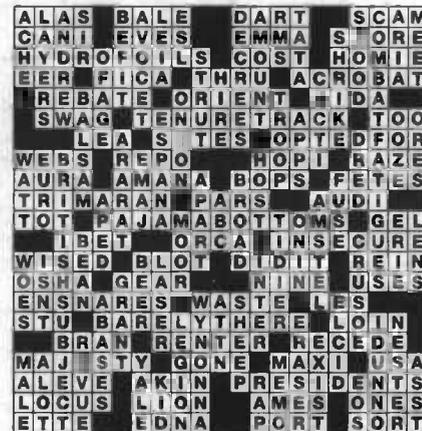
- 21 Author Jules ___
23 Bro and sis
25 Fortune-teller's deck of cards
26 Deep mud
27 Take ___; assume control
28 ___ apart; shred
29 Iron or gold
32 Surpass others
34 Blown away
35 Accept
36 Drove too fast
38 Ingredient in baked beans
40 Allowed by law
43 Curved edges
45 Ceremonies
48 Animals
50 NFL or NHL
51 Expenses
52 Venerate
53 Counter an argument
54 Family member
56 Go off course
57 Uncovered
58 Was dishonest
59 Says no more
62 Fashionable



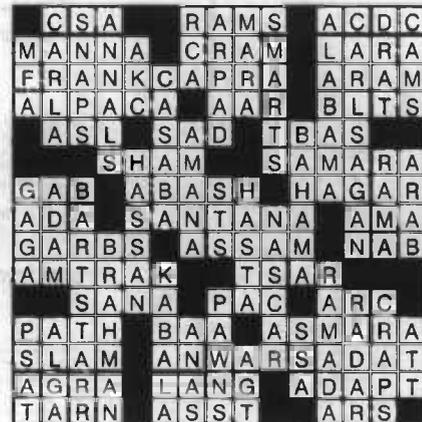
puzzle island solutions

Last week's crosswords

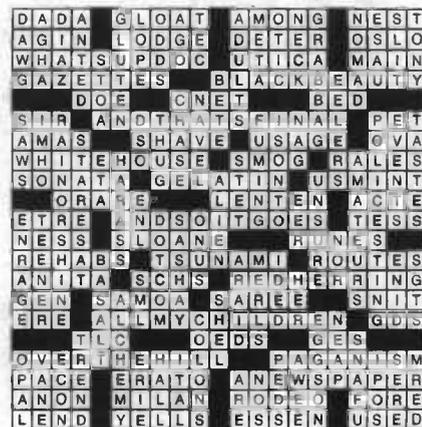
"Back in Office"



"Men of A-chievement"



"Extral Extral"



Last week's Quote-Acrostic

S(teve) 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

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

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



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 gaga over 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



JACKIE PILOSSOPH
Love Essentially

sitting at bars swiping!

If you think about it, 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,

and two, it is key in maintaining privacy. No one wants their kids listening in on their personal conversations, right?

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.

Despite the fact that all this technology is widely accepted by young people, it truly makes sense for older, single parents.

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.

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HEALTH

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,



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

ROSS HAILEY/MCT

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.

Study: Concussion 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 most people 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 not become a more competitive sport," he added. "If 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 practice location and other

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 latest report from the National Center for Catastrophic Sport Injury Research, covering cheerleaders from 1982 to spring 2013, showed four deaths and 57 disabilities as a result of injuries, so damage can be far more serious than concussions.)

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 ... and 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 pyramids represented 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 that the "vast 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

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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



PETER URBAN PHOTO

Sherry Turkle says texting can make us lose perspective about a relationship.

... 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

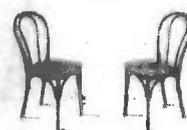
life." We've decided that it's OK to have a constant social media stream interrupt our conversation with our lovers, friends, family, children, parents because it's become a social norm. (When phones are out) you talk about things where you don't mind being interrupted ... you keep it light.

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 this 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

Reclaiming Conversation

The Power of Talk
in a Digital Age



Sherry Turkle

MOVING BY ALOHY TURKLE

"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."

— Sherry Turkle

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 only 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.



HOME EXPOSURE PHOTOS



Spacious Hinsdale home: \$1.425 million

ADDRESS: 918 Allmen 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.



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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 McComas and singer Maya Kuper tell the inspiring story of Dayna Clay, a fictional 27-year-old rock musician and survivor of sexual assault. 8 p.m. Thursday, Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$10 at the door, 847-868-8945

Thursday murder mystery book club: Enjoy discussion, coffee and donuts. 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Fox Lake District Library, 255 E. Grand Ave., Fox Lake, free, 847-587-0198

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

Lyric Opera of Chicago Lecture Series: This discussion is on "Nabucco" by Giuseppe Verdi. Lectures are moderated by former Lyric Opera of Chicago docents. Register by calling. 7 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

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 it Will 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. Thursday, Christ Church of Lake Forest, 100 N. Waukegan Road, Lake Forest, free

"Botanic Garden": A widow faces the daunting prospect of her first date since the death of her husband. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays; 8 p.m. Fridays; 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays; 3 p.m. Sundays; 1 p.m. Wednesdays, Citadel Theatre Company, 300 S. Waukegan Road, Lake Forest, \$25, 847-735-8554

Everybody Move: This six-week session is for ages birth through two years with a caregiver. Registration is required. Celeste Activities and exploration include scarves, balls, hoops and instruments. Weekly attendance is required. 9:30 a.m. Thursdays, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Wonder Ground Open Lab: Look, touch, tinker, and play with an intriguing array of science-oriented curiosities. Those in kindergarten through fourth grades are welcome. 4 p.m. Thursdays and Tuesdays, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Movies in the Underground: "Me and Earl and Dying Girl": Pizza and Kleenex are served at "intermission." 4 p.m. Thursday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Happy New Year, but what year is it really?: Calculating the A.D. chronology, a medieval monk's mistake led to a 12-centuries-long conspiracy. Historian and writer Eugene Finerman guides attendees through the politics and intrigues lurking behind the calendar as we know it. 7 p.m. Thursday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Tai Chi: Wear loose clothing. 9 a.m. Thursdays and Mondays, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$75 NSSC members; \$89 non-member, 847-784-6030

Rhythm and Rhyme-Palatine: A musical story time for preschoolers and their parents. 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Thursday, Palatine Public Library, 700 N. North Court, Palatine, free, 847-358-5881

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

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

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, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 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: Kathy Kathrein's oil paintings portray nature against the backdrop of Chicago architecture. 9 a.m. daily, 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 Cours de Conversation: The class discusses current events, reads articles of general interest to Francophiles. Contact alliancefn@yahoo.com with questions or to join mid-session. 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: Oneg Shabbat following services. 6:30 p.m. Friday, Congregation B'nai Tikvah, 1558 Wilmot Road, Deerfield, free, 847-945-0470

Linda Solotaire 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, LCSW, 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' Mlnyan: 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, 847-918-3225

Bibliobop with Wendy & DB: 10 a.m. Friday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

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, 847-663-1234

Parisian Salon Concert - Consuelo Lepauw: Violinist Consuelo Lepauw in 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

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

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

Warm Yin Yoga: 7:45 p.m. Fridays, JAI Yoga Studio, 37 E. Northwest Highway, Palatine, free, 224-567-0838

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

Happy Birthday Elvis - Viva Las Vegas Matinee: Celebrate Elvis' birthday with his popular 1964 film "Viva Las Vegas." No registration is required. 2 p.m. Friday, Indian Trails Library District, 355 Schoenbeck Road, Wheeling, free, 847-459-4100

Saturday, Jan. 9

Pipe Organ Recitals: Followed by refreshments. 11 a.m. Saturday, United Methodist Church of Antioch, 848 Main St., Antioch, free, 847-395-2864

Steve March-Torme's "Snap, Sizzle, Pop": Torme sings familiar songs backed by a quartet. 3 p.m. Saturday, Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, 111 W. Campbell St., Arlington Heights, \$30; stage tables \$35, 847-577-2121

Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society Meeting: "Solving Genealogical Mysteries with Facebook's 5,000+ Genealogy Groups" is presented via live webinar by Katherine Willson. 9 a.m. Saturday, Arlington Heights Senior Center, 1801 W. Central Road, Arlington Heights, free, 847-253-5532

Linda Solotalre and James Sander's Phoenix Project: 8 p.m. Saturday, Pete Miller's Seafood & Prime Steak, 1557 Sherman Ave., Evanston, free, 847-328-0399

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

Ecology Center Winter Market: 9 a.m. Saturdays, Ladd Arboretum, 2024 McCormick Blvd., Evanston, free, 847-448-8045

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

11th anniversary party: Eat, drink and be cheery 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

Hoedown - Square Dancing 101: All ages are 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 at 12:30. The topic: "Show and Tell and Ask the Gurus." 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, 359 Merrill 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": 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 a.m. 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, 847-272-6224

Monthly meeting of Essential Tremor Group of Northbrook: Individual people who have been diagnosed with Essential Tremor meet. 10 a.m. Saturday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-564-1777

Congregation Beth Shalom hosts Pastor Chris Harris: Pastor Chris Harris, spiritual leader of Bright Star Church of Chicago, addresses the congregation on the topic: "Jews and African Americans: Our Mutual Interests." He also addresses the community's youth during a breakout session and shares in a Q&A session with the entire community. 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Congregation Beth Shalom, 3433 Walters Ave., Northbrook, free, 847-498-4100

Tefila Tot Shabbat: Stories, songs, prayers and games are part of a special prayer service for children ages two to five in the Chapel. Playtime and Kid-dush luncheon with the whole congregation follows the service. 11:15 a.m. Saturday, Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

Preserving Survivor Stories: Ask Holocaust Survivor Pinchas Gutter any question and "natural language" technology software will respond as if Pinchas were in the room. 10:30 a.m. Saturdays, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800

Sunday, Jan. 10

Do Not Submit: A Storytelling Open Mic: Local event that is pressure free night for storytellers from zero to decades of experience to connect, share stories and hone their craft. 5:30 p.m. Sunday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

John Williams' Sunday music session: 3 p.m. Sundays, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

Handicap This - Making Minds Handicap Accessible: Gather your inspiration for 2016 from Glenview resident Mike Berkson (born with cerebral palsy) and Tim Wambach (his one-time aide). Register by calling. 2 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Unity Youth Fellowship: This group is for youth in ninth through twelfth-grades, meeting for an evening of fellowship and learning. For more information contact Rev. Emily Mitchell by emailing PastorEmily@stpeterlz.org. 7 p.m. Sundays, St. Peter United Church of Christ, 47 Church St., Lake Zurich, free, 847-438-6441

Second Sunday Special: Monarch Award Mania: The Monarch Award is Illinois' own kids' choice award for kindergarten 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. 11

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 847-381-5030. 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, 920 Waukegan Road, Deerfield, free, 847-317-1905

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

Alliance Francaise du North Shore 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, 847-328-9516

hoopla, MyMediaMall and Zinio Individual Appointments: Call 847-729-7500 Ext. 7600 for questions, to register and for appointment locations. A Glenview Library card is required. 10 a.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free

Rotary Club of Highland Park/Highwood: 11:30 a.m. Monday, Highland Park Country Club, 1201 Park Ave. West, Highland Park, 847-562-1099

The Life Story of Anne Frank: Historian Jim Gibbons presents the life story of a young girl of faith, hope and wisdom beyond her years. 7 p.m. Monday, Lake Bluff Public Library, 123 E. Scranton Ave., Lake Bluff, free, 847-234-2540

Monday Night ACoA Group: Adult Children of Alcoholics is a support group for adults who were part of alcoholic and other dysfunctional families while growing up. 7 p.m. Monday, St. Lawrence Episcopal Church, 125 W. Church St., Libertyville, free, 847-362-2110

Book Discussion: "Station Eleven": By Emily St. John Mandel. 11 a.m. Monday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Community Service club: Each meeting counts for one volunteer hour, please bring volunteer sheet to verify hours. For students grades 6-8. Registration required. 4 p.m. Monday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Knitting Roundtable: Come work through knitting projects and socialize with fellow knitters. 2 p.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-5101

MGPL Kids: Monday Morning Playgroup: Drop-in play time for pre-schoolers to introduce young children to the library in a low-key, unstructured session. 10:30 a.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-5102

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 pj's or not. 7 p.m. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6960 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, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Minecraft Monday: Students in grades 3-5 are welcome to register to try their hand at this monthly MineCraft Monday challenge. 4:30 p.m. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6960 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, 300 Revere Drive, Northbrook, \$10 per class, 847-757-2227

Spooln Around American Sewing Guild Neighborhood Meeting: 7 p.m. Monday, Shorewood Bible Church, 1900 Hicks Road, 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 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 Appointments: 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. Scranton Ave., Lake Bluff, free, 847-234-2540

Tuesday Afternoon Book Club: "The World Undone" by local author Mary Driver-Thiel, who will attend. 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Lake Bluff Public Library, 123 E. Scranton 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

Rotary Club of Long Grove-Kildeer-Hawthorn Woods: 7:15 a.m. Tuesday, The Grove Country Club, 3217 Rfd, Lake Zurich, free

Yu-Gi-Oh! Tournament: Don't have your own deck? We've got you covered. Winner will receive a prize. For students in grades 5-12. Registration required. 4 p.m. Tuesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Make Your Movie with iMovie: Get an up-close tutorial in the Digital Media Lab on how to use Apple's iMovie program to import, edit, and share your own movies. Registration is limited to four, and Morton Grove residents have priority. 2 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Teen Tech Green Screen Madness: You can be a star in your favorite movie with the help of the library's new green screen and digital media software. 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Movies, Munchies, and More: Film: "Spy": 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

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

Affordable 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, free, 847-459-4100

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

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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

Essential Oils for Travel: To register, contact the library. 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Fremont Public Library, 1170 N. Midlothian Road, Mundelein, free, 847-918-3225

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

Kindle Book Club and Pizza: Eat pizza and chat about the newest books on the Battle of the Books list. 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Story Time: Children's librarian John Heideman leads this kids' story time. 10 a.m. Wednesday, North Chicago Public Library, 2100 Argonne Drive, North Chicago, free, 847-689-0125

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

Chess Club: Chess sets and clocks provided. No registration required. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Book Discussion: "Little Failure": Benjamin Goluboff leads a discussion of "Little Failure" by Gary Shteyngart. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Knitting Studio and Workshop: Certified Knitting Instructor Mary Staackmann provides personalized instruction. Bring your supplies or project in progress. 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6060

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

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Now playing

**"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 teenage 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. — *M.P.*

**"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. — *M.P.*

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Wolves focus on individual improvement

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
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.

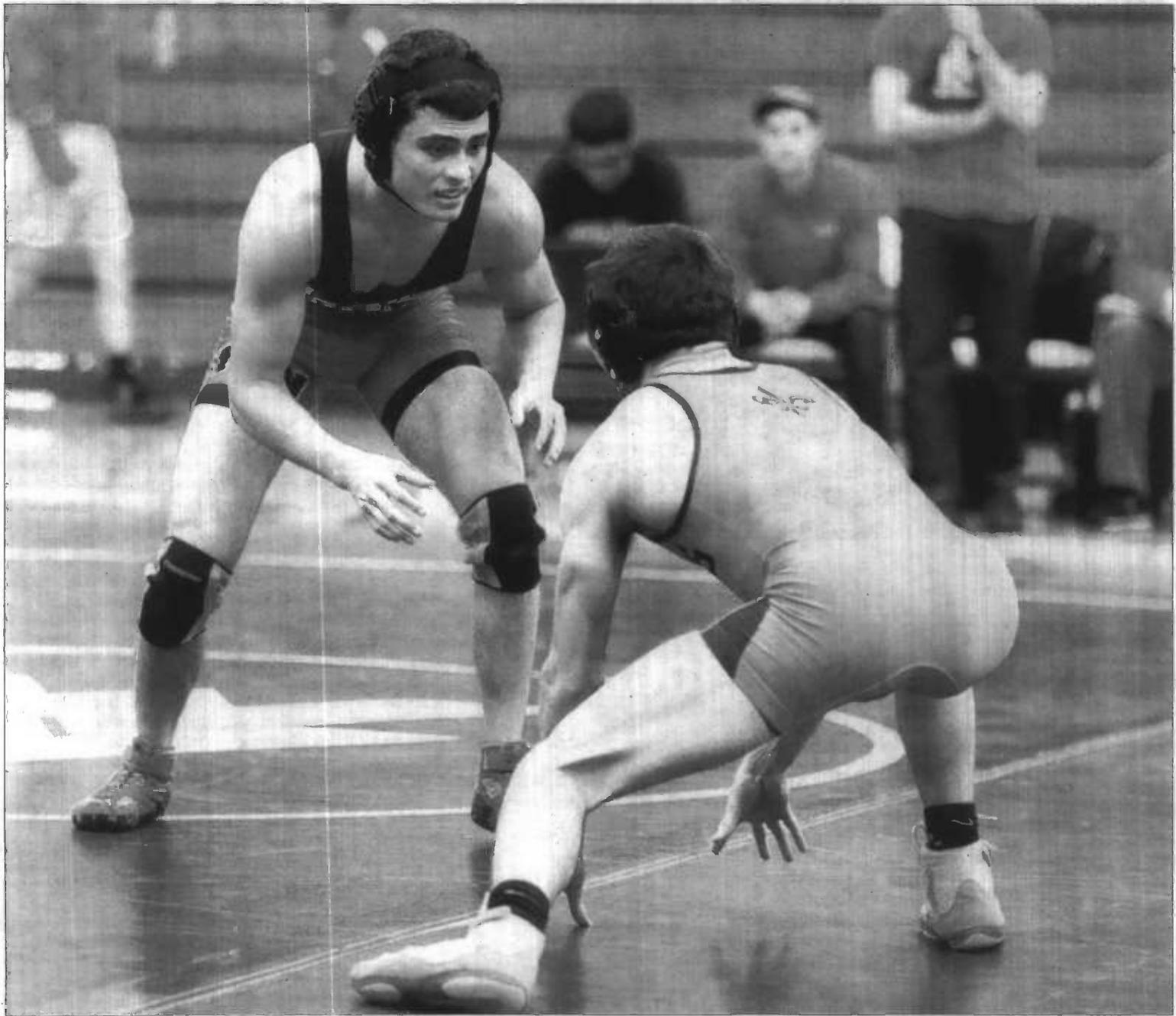
"We've had holes," said Genovesi, whose team's lone victory was a 26-16 win against Waukegan on Dec. 4. "You can't expect to win when you're forfeiting as many weights as we are."

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



SEAN KING/PIONEER PRESS

Niles West's Scott Pechter, left, wrestles St. Charles East's Jack Martino during the Waubonsie Valley Quad Tournament on Jan. 2 in Aurora.

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] matchups," 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 Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @VanDrilSports



OTTO KITSINGER/AP

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.

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COLLEGE NOTES: FOOTBALL, BOWL GAMES EDITION

Local players well-represented in postseason

BY NICK BULLOCK
Pioneer Press

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 Bahama 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



JOE SKIPPER/AP

Toledo cornerback 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 Jacqui 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.

College, from Previous Page

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 Voltz**, was a redshirt junior offensive lineman for the Wisconsin Badgers that defeated Southern California 23-21 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 Odell** and freshman offensive lineman **Adam Lemke-Bell** are all from Oak Park-River Forest. Barrington's **Daniel Kubiuk** 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 team fell 44-28 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 Tax-slayer Bowl. Carmel's **Joe Berg** was a sophomore safety, Maine South's **Brendan Brosnan** was a sophomore tackle and Barring-

ton'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 Zovnic** and sophomore defensive back **Mark Arnick** both hail from Carmel.

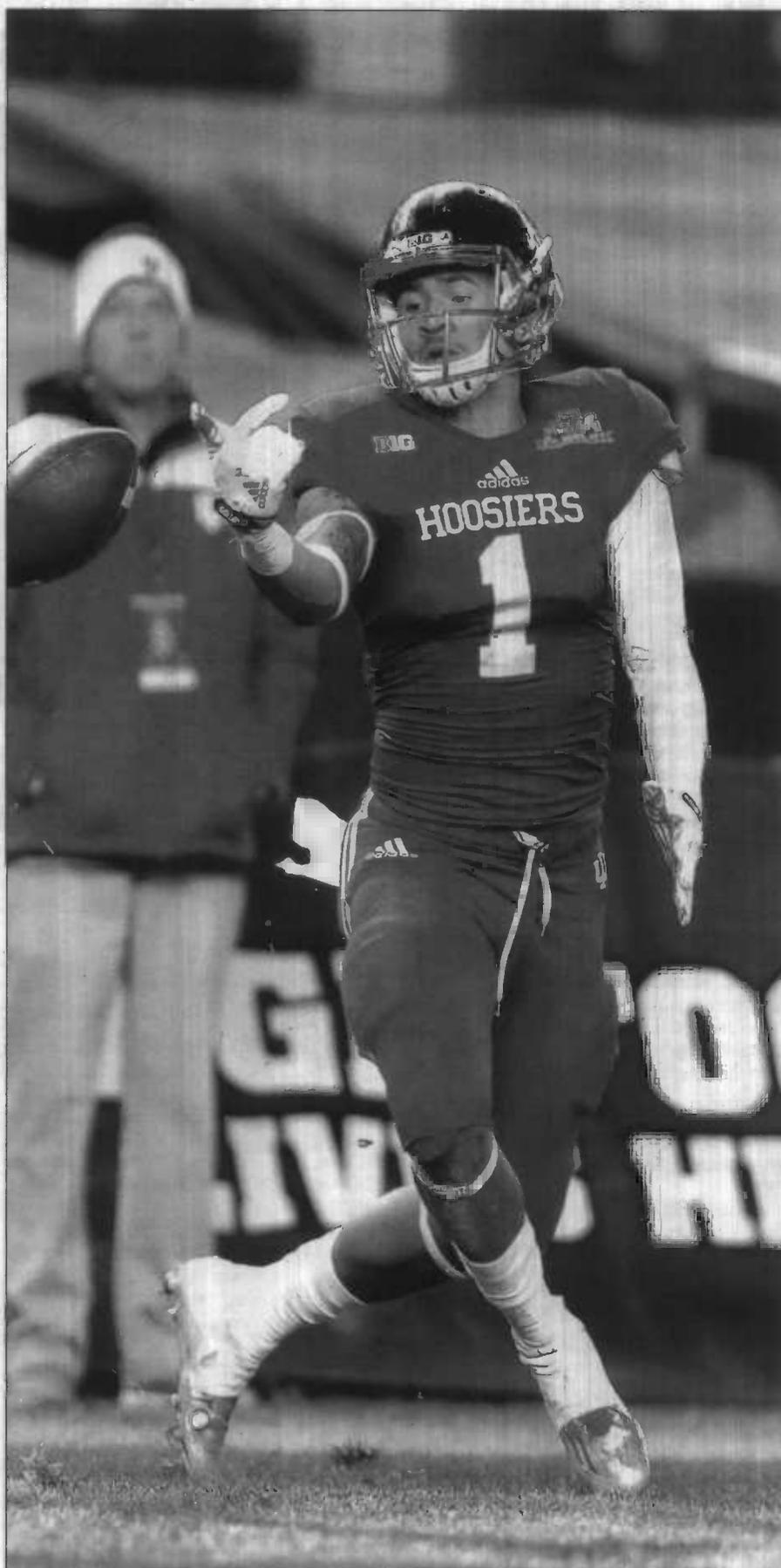
Northwestern Missouri took home the Division II crown with a convincing 34-7 victory against Shepherd. Mundelein's **Emanuel Jones** was a freshman running back for the Bearcats.

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

Nick Bullock is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



Michigan State linemen Donavon Clark (76), Jack Allen (66), Brian Allen (65) and Jack Conklin (74) take the field before the Cotton Bowl against Alabama on Dec. 31.



Indiana receiver Simmie Cobbs Jr. stretches for a pass in the end zone during the New Era Pinstripe Bowl at Yankee Stadium on Dec. 26.

ADAM HUNGER/GETTY IMAGES

LM OTERO/AP

Barzowski brothers push each other to succeed

By ERIC VAN DRIL
Pioneer Press

Wrestling is an individual sport by nature, but it's one brothers 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 at Notre Dame.

The Barzowskis, 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's also a little bit more laid-back, Notre Dame coach Augie Genovesi said.

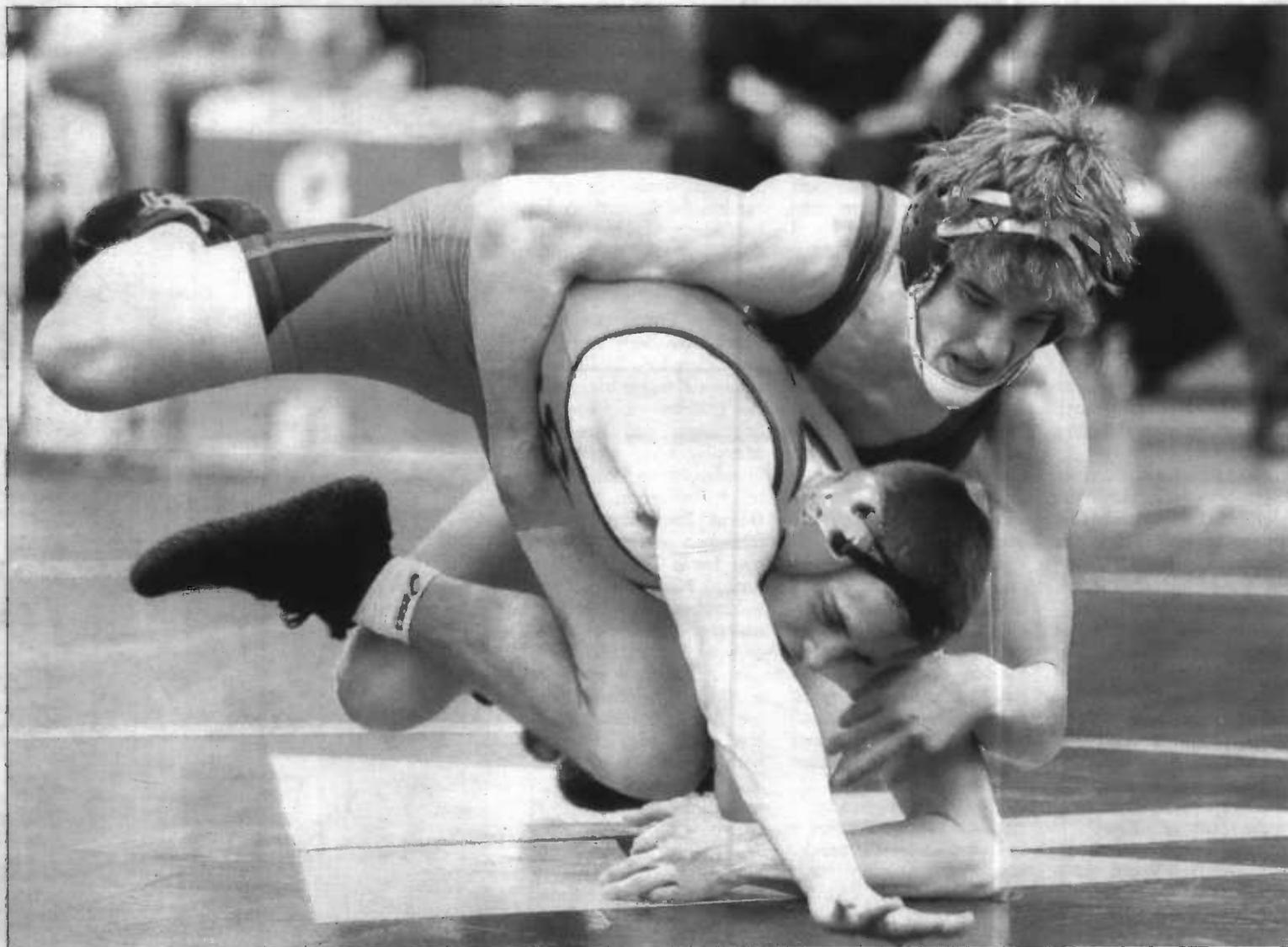
Josh Barzowski, a junior, is ranked No. 10 at 152 pounds by www.illinoismatmen.com. He won a Greco-Roman state championship in the Cadet division in April 2015. He's a little bit more outgoing than his older brother. Josh Barzowski is more willing to razz his teammates, Genovesi added.

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 foot-



SEAN KING/PIONEER PRESS

Notre Dame's Josh Barzowski, top, wrestles in a 152-pound match against St. Charles East during the Waubonsie Valley Quad Tournament on Jan. 2 in Aurora.

ball and baseball, as well as in video games like Madden.

"It gets heated," Josh Barzowski said when asked about their games of Madden.

But the Barzowski brothers' competitiveness is most evident on the mat.

"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.

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Glenbrook South's Sarah McDonagh puts up a shot in front of Downers North's Aida T. Green on Dec. 26 in the final of Wheaton North's Bill Welsh Classic.
 BRIAN O'MAHONEY
 PIONEER PRESS



STATUS REPORT

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Where do area teams stand at the start of 2016?

BY MATT HARNESS | Pioneer Press

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. "Every-

one 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."

Turn to Girls, Next Page.

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 Fluegge.

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

"We are starting to hit our stride," Fluegge 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

Senior guard Olivia Schaps and senior guard/forward Stephanie Donado — both of whom are four-year varsity players — are back from last year's team that won the Central Suburban North championship; however, the Vikings have relinquished the top spot. Maine West beat Niles North 62-39 on Dec. 11 in Des Plaines.

Niles West

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.

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JERRY DALIEGE/PIONEER PRESS

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



TRACY ALLEN/PIONEER PRESS

In this Feb. 19, 2015, photo, Loyola's Liz Satter goes up for a shot in the Maine West Regional final in Des Plaines.

STATUS REPORT

BOYS BASKETBALL

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



TRACY ALLEN/PIONEER PRESS

Evanston's Malik Jenkins drives past New Trier's Collin Winchester on Dec. 16 in Evanston.

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

Boys, from Previous 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 Niles 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 Octavius 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 finished 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

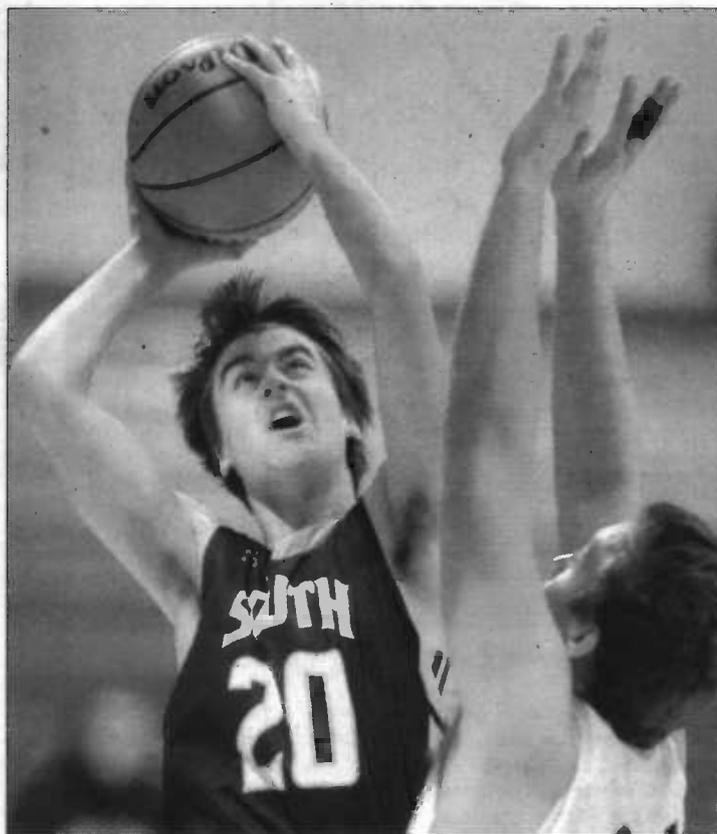
Prior to the 2015-16 season, coach Rashid Smith said he envisioned the Raiders finishing around the middle of the Independent School League. That's where North Shore (7-4, 1-2) is entering this week. U-High and Parker currently lead the conference at 2-0.

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.

Twitter @VanDrilSports



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/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.



ROB HART/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Maine South's Brad Perry (42) puts back a rebound against Crespi Carmelite (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/PIIONEER PRESS

LOOKING AHEAD

Find out what's likely in store for the area's boys and girls basketball teams. **inside**

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