

NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

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nilesheraldspectator.com

Going back to court

Proposed Niles gun range will go before a judge in February. Page 4



LEE V. GAINES/PIONEER PRESS

A proposed gun range in Niles is back in court at the Richard J. Daley Center in Chicago.

GO



PETER DERVIN

Political parody

The Capitol Steps poke fun at drama surrounding the 2016 presidential primaries. Page 21

SPORTS



TIM BOYLE/PIONEER PRESS

Narrow losses

Maine East boys and girls basketball teams swept by Glenbrook North. Page 43

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SHOUT OUT

Julie Burt Nichols, mom and singer

Julie Burt Nichols grew up in Skokie, and although she now lives in neighboring Morton Grove, she still finds plenty of reasons to return to town. She recently took time to answer a few questions.

Q: What do you do for a living?

A: I teach childbirth and newborn classes for parents expecting twins and higher-order multiples through Twiniversity, where I serve as the dean of parents. I curate all the articles for Twiniversity.com, manage giveaway promotions from our sponsors, and I handle most of the day-to-day business needs for the company. I've been working part time for Twiniversity for the past two years, and I went full time in September.

Q: What was growing up in Skokie like?

A: I attended East Prairie (School) from kindergarten through eighth grade and then Niles North High School. I was very active in the choir and theater programs at Niles North. I just loved performing, and I made it into a career for a while, too. I was a professional musical theater ac-



JULIE BURT NICHOLS

Julie Burt Nichols

triss in Chicago up until I got pregnant.

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

A: I'm reading "Fat Girl Walking" by Brittany Gibbons. She's hilarious and so real — a woman's woman. My next read is "How to Be a Woman," by Caitlin Moran. I'm kind of into funny feminists, can you tell?

Q: What was your first job?

A: Corner Bakery at Old Or-

chard. I will forever have sympathy for fast-food workers.

Q: As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?

A: I wanted to be a Broadway actress. I never made it to Broadway, but Chicago is pretty darn close — even better in my opinion — so I feel like I can check that off my bucket list.

Q: What is your favorite charity?

A: Niles North Vocal Jazz Alumni Foundation. I'm the veep, so I have to say that. Just kidding. I and two of my girlfriends started this alumni organization, so we could raise money for the vocal jazz program.

Q: What is an interesting factoid about you?

A: Besides holding a full-time job and raising twins with my husband, Michael, I'm also a member of the Skokie Concert Choir. I love having a weekly outlet to perform, and the choir members are very supportive and friendly. Come see our concert Jan. 24.

—Pioneer Press staff report



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Proposed Niles gun range back before judge

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

A ruling in favor of a lawsuit that aims to prevent a proposed gun shop and range in Niles from locating within five miles of several schools would violate the Second Amendment, an attorney for the owners of the facility argued during a recent court hearing on the case.

In a hearing Jan. 6 at the Richard J. Daley Center, Cook County Circuit Judge Franklin Ulyses Valderrama considered the arguments made by an attorney for the plaintiff in the case, Skokie-base advocacy group People for a Safer Society, and lawyers for the defendants named in the lawsuit, which include the gun shop owners and the village of Niles.

An additional hearing is scheduled for Feb. 9.

Valderrama dismissed a



ERIN CHAN DING/PIONEER PRESS

In this file photo, protesters against a proposed gun range gather outside Niles Village Hall.

lawsuit filed by People for a Safer Society against the village in June. Like the initial lawsuit filed in October 2014, the amended complaint filed in July seeks to annul a special-use permit for the gun shop and range dubbed the Sportsman's Club and Firearms Training and bar any other gun-

related business from opening at 6143 Howard St. The Niles Village Board approved a special-use permit for the business in July 2014, and the board voted again last summer to extend the permit by an additional six months.

To address the concerns outlined by Valderrama in

his June ruling on the case, Tony Hind, an attorney for People for Safer Society, named 6143 Howard Partners, the company that plans to open the gun shop and range as a defendant in the amended lawsuit alongside the village. Attorneys for the village and gun shop owners then filed motions to dismiss the complaint.

Jim Argionis, an attorney for 6143 Howard Partners, told Valderrama on Wednesday that the advocacy group "is seeking unconstitutional relief" by asking the judge to bar any gun-related business from the property. He added that it wasn't the place of the court to "step into the shoes of Niles and come up with legislation."

Argionis said People for a Safer Society did not have "the proper standing to bring this type of action" because none of the members of the group owned any

adjoining property. He also said the harms alleged in the complaint were "hypothetical and potential."

In response, Hind said the lawsuit did not violate the Second Amendment because the group wasn't seeking to bar anyone from bearing arms but was asking the judge to review a legislative decision that allowed the creation "of a singular gun mecca" in an area surrounded by schools. Hind added that several members of the advocacy group, including NewHope Academy, a school for students with emotional disabilities, and three facilities owned by Lifeway Foods were in close proximity to the site.

"The idea we have to wait until a harm is visited upon a plaintiff or, God forbid, a child, is wrong," he said.

Mike Connelly, an attorney for the village, said the amended lawsuit is es-

entially "the same complaint" the judge previously dismissed.

The lawsuit alleges that the existence of the gun shop and range would result in decreased enrollment at NewHope Academy and endanger the current and prospective student body. The lawsuit also alleges employees of Lifeway Foods would be endangered by the presence of the business "more extremely than the public at large."

Connelly said these allegations are "not factual" but instead are conclusions drawn without any supporting evidence.

Hind said the lawsuit outlines the harms posed by the business and the way in which they become more extreme given the proximity of the plaintiffs involved.

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

Gun-control group, Skokie see joining lawsuit differently

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

Two days before People for a Safer Society was scheduled to appear in court over its amended lawsuit trying to stop a gun shop from being built in Niles, leaders continued to try to pressure Skokie to join their fight.

For the third consecutive Skokie Village Board meeting, on Jan. 4, representatives of the local gun-control group appeared before the board — this time specifically trying to counter the village's stated reasons why it remains reluctant to become a co-plaintiff in the ongoing lawsuit.

The back-and-forth between the two sides has continued for months — even as Skokie leaders have said they are sympathetic to the group's cause and emphasized actions the village has taken in the name of gun

safety.

"I'm proud of our record," Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen said at last month's meeting. "We don't take second place to anybody in our leadership, not just locally but across the state, when it comes to gun safety."

That record, which includes enacting restrictions against assault weapons last year and becoming the first municipality in the state calling for licensing firearms dealers last month, has been praised by People for a Safer Society.

But it isn't enough, they say.

"It is disappointing that it appears politics trumps people when the Niles gun shop is concerned," said Laura Williams, a Skokie teacher. "This issue affects Skokie residents in a much more direct way than gun dealer licensing does."

Unlike previous meetings

at which People for a Safer Society and its supporters spoke out, village leaders Jan. 4 did not respond, but they have communicated their position to the group both publicly and privately in recent months.

This week, Skokie Corporation Counsel Michael Lorge vowed the village will "continue to be proactive in its approach to gun safety" regardless of the standing of the lawsuit against Niles.

The gun-control advocates asked Skokie to join the lawsuit not long after it opposed the Niles Village Board's approval last year of a special use permit allowing Sportsman's Club and Firearms Training Academy to be built at 6143 Howard St. After the lawsuit was initially dismissed, the group filed an amended lawsuit to try to stop the project.

The gun-control group says that Skokie should join the action because the loca-

tion of the gun shop would be close to its border and a few of its schools.

Among key reasons stated by the village for not joining the lawsuit is its belief that a municipality's home rule authority should allow it to govern on certain matters without interference.

According to the Illinois Municipal League, home rule provides authority for local governments to self-govern unless the state explicitly limits that power or maintains exclusive authority in a specific area.

The Illinois Constitution states that municipalities with a population of more than 25,000 people automatically have home rule status. Those with a smaller population can gain home rule authority through referendum.

"A home rule unit may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and

affairs including, but not limited to, the power to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety, morals and welfare; to license; to tax; and to incur debt," the Illinois Constitution reads.

Both Skokie and Niles have home rule powers. Van Dusen has repeatedly said that if the village were to join the lawsuit, it would have difficulty taking a legal position in court supporting home rule authority and then saying, "except when someone is passing something we don't like."

People for a Safer Society, which is represented by legal counsel and includes lawyers on its board, has argued that the village's home rule authority should not prevent it from joining a fight that has such a direct effect on the community.

"The operative issue here is what is home rule," said Elliot Fineman, CEO of the

National Gun Victims Action Council and a People for a Safer Society board member.

Home rule, he said, is "to protect the public's interest and reflect what the public wants." People for a Safer Society has collected nearly a thousand signatures opposing the Niles gun shop, which clearly indicates what people want, he maintained.

According to Van Dusen, Skokie has a long history of cooperating with fellow municipalities on a regional basis on important issues including transportation and water.

People for a Safer Society President Denyse Stoneback maintained that one municipality joining a lawsuit against another municipality, though, would not be unprecedented — not even in Skokie.

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FILM FRAME/AP

This undated file photo provided by Disney shows Daisey Ridley as Rey, left, and John Boyega as Finn, in a scene from the film, "Star Wars: The Force Awakens."

'Star Wars' Monopoly to include Rey after Evanston girl joins campaign

BY MICHELLE R. SMITH
Associated Press

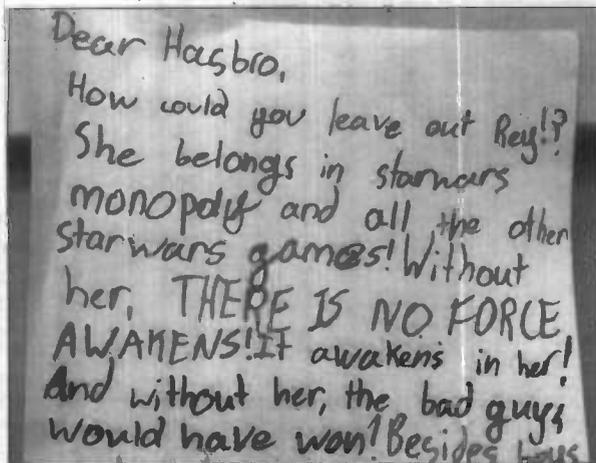
PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — The "Star Wars" version of Monopoly will add a game piece based on the female character Rey after social-media users, including an Evanston eight-year-old, complained to Hasbro about the omission and telling them: "Girls matter."

Carrie Goldman, of Evanston, posted a letter on Twitter last week written by her daughter, Annie Rose, asking why Hasbro left out Rey when she is a main character of the latest movie in the series, "Star Wars: The Force Awakens."

The letter begins by asking the company why it would exclude the heroine of the story.

"Without her THERE IS NO FORCE AWAKENS! It awakens in her! And without her, the bad guys would have won! Besides, boys and girls need to see that women can be as strong as men!" she wrote. "Girls matter!"

The original game includes just four pieces, all modeled on male characters: Luke Skywalker, Darth Vader, Finn and Kylo Ren. The decision to exclude Rey led to a social media debate, with many fans tweeting under the hashtag #WheResRey.



CARRIE GOLDMAN/AP

This January 2016 photo provided by Carrie Goldman shows a letter sent to Hasbro by her daughter, Annie Rose.

Goldman, an author who has written about toys and gender issues, included the hashtag as she tweeted a picture of her daughter's letter to Hasbro.

Hasbro responded to Goldman in a tweet of its own two days later.

"We love your passion for Rey and are happy to share that we are including her in the Monopoly: Star Wars game, available later this year," it said.

Julie Duffy, a spokeswoman for the Pawtucket, R.I.-based company said Jan. 6 that it did not include Rey in the game to avoid revealing a key plot line. The game was released in Sep-

tember, months before the movie was released.

Goldman said the response to Annie Rose's letter shows she struck a nerve, and people are ready for a change.

"A huge number of the messages I'm getting are from men. This is not a women's issue. It's about representing the hero of this film," she said.

She also wonders whether Hasbro will send Rey tokens to people who have already bought a Rey-less Monopoly set.

Duffy did not immediately return an email asking whether that would happen.

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Niles North Vocal Jazz alumni form new foundation

By MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

It's been some time since three Niles North High School alumni performed with the school's award-winning Vocal Jazz program, but they remain deeply committed to keeping the group singing on a high note.

Remembering just how meaningful artistic director Dan Gregerman's ensemble was to them, and recognizing the program's need for additional funding, the alumni have created the Niles North Vocal Jazz Alumni Foundation.

"Now more than ever, there is a growing need to raise money to help students afford the annual retreat, our stage outfits, travel, and the annual Vocal Jazz Night," Gregerman says on the new foundation website. "It is tough to decide where to trim such a great program and still give students the same amazing experience."

Cue the alumni.

Foundation Board President Hilary Osler, Vice President Julie Nichols and Treasurer Apryl Schlueter graduated from Niles North in the 1990s — each in consecutive years from 1996 through 1998.

They formed the foundation last August, but preparations first began over summer, they said. At that time, the founders were not aware of serious budget cuts that would soon be coming.

"Even when we were in high school in the '90s, there were parents who lost their jobs or families who found it very difficult to buy the extra outfit or the extra pair of shoes for a show or to travel," Osler said. "So from the start, one of the goals of the foundation was to raise funding."

Now a resident of Virginia, Osler said she sings in three different choirs. The idea for a foundation came to her because one choir she helps oversee makes important contributions such as providing scholarships to



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

Niles North Vocal Jazz Alumni Foundation Treasurer Apryl Schlueter and Niles North Vocal Jazz artistic director Dan Gregerman recently discussed a new foundation launched by three Niles North alumni.

young women for voice lessons, she said. "Why couldn't we do that?"

The Niles North Vocal Jazz Program is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. Students — both current and former — will be performing in a big concert April 16 to mark the occasion. The three alumni founders thought this special year was an ideal time for the beginning of a foundation.

Since Gregerman first launched Niles North Vocal Jazz, he has seen the program grow in popularity and become recognized well beyond Skokie.

In 2014, Gregerman won the John LaPorta Jazz Educator of the Year award, which honors "an outstanding elementary, middle or high school educator with a focus on jazz education." Gregerman became the first vocal jazz educator and the first public school teacher to win the award, according to previous Pioneer Press coverage.

The program has been recognized in other ways as well — especially Take One, which is the



NILES NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

Three former Niles North High School students have created the Niles North Vocal Jazz Alumni Foundation to benefit the award-winning and renowned program at their former high school: Niles North Vocal Jazz includes three ensembles under artistic director Dan Gregerman.

top tier of the program's three ensembles. Student musicians in the program continue to perform at festivals and concerts across the country and beyond.

"As the program has done well, there's been a greater need for money — money for guest artists, clinicians, money to repair equipment or to replace it," Gregerman said. "But we've seen budget cuts from year to year and are looking at a bigger cut this year."

Compounding the challenge, he said, has been changes in the socio-economic condition of the student population. For this year's annual fall retreat for Niles North Vocal Jazz, for example, eight of the program's 50 students needed financial help to attend, Gregerman said.

All three program ensembles used to perform in Millikin Uni-

versity's Vocal Jazz Festival in Decatur, Ill.

This year, however, that festival had to be sacrificed because of other priorities. Take One and Niles West's counterpart are scheduled to perform in February at the second annual Puerto Vallarta Jazz Festival in Mexico, which is expensive, Gregerman said.

The three alumni founders have been removed from their high school days for some 20 years now. But they say they never have forgotten what Niles North Vocal Jazz meant to them.

"It's just amazing to see how much the program has grown," Schlueter said. "The fact that there are three groups now and there are 50 people who are part of the program says it all — especially since this is a pretty

rigorous program."

Osler said the program taught her life lessons that still matter — about professionalism, showing up on time, giving your best, taking risks and working hard.

"The experiences that we had by being a part of this group are so unique and so bonding that it's just very, very special and almost hard to articulate," she said.

"We are a Vocal Jazz family," Gregerman agreed.

"When people graduate, it's no different than in some ways being a dad and your kid goes off to college or goes off to the next life. Our family is constantly branching out and going on to the next thing, and yet I always envision them remembering home."

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Niles North teacher rallies with pro-union educators

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

A Skokie teacher left for Washington, D.C. Jan. 11 to attend a rally at the start of the U.S. Supreme Court case on state-mandated collective bargaining fees.

Union supporters like Niles North High School teacher Pankaj Sharma claim the fees are necessary because all teachers benefit from union-bargained contracts regardless of whether they're active members, he said, and therefore should have to pay their "fair share" of the cost for representation.

The Supreme Court began proceedings in *Friedrichs vs. California Teachers Association*, a labor case that started when nine California teachers sued their union claiming that they should not be constitutionally compelled to join and financially support it.

The case asks the court to decide whether unions can continue charging non-member fees to all teachers in states that have "fair share" laws, including Illinois.

As it stands, Illinois is one of 22 other states that require state employees and all public school teachers to pay union fees — more commonly known as "fair share dues," regardless of whether the employee chooses to be in the union.

When he's not in the classroom teaching history, Sharma is an active voice in the North Suburban Teachers Union Local 1274. The former president of the Niles Township Federation of Teachers and Support Staff, Sharma is the only teacher in the state who will travel to D.C. and represent the Illinois Federation of Teachers at a rally scheduled on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court.

"His visit was coordinated through the American Federation of Teachers, as he's a well-respected teacher who has done a lot of social justice work with his students over the years," said Aviva Bowen, communications director for the Illinois Federation of Teachers.

The rally is expected to draw a few hundred teachers and others from states where the Supreme Court decision puts longtime "fair share" collective bargaining policies at risk.

"I think it's exciting," Sharma said. "Our goal isn't to influence the justices in any way but to let people know that this is an attack on working people."

Sharma was one of six people on a union-backed community group named Progress219 that endorsed four school board candidates running in Niles Township School District 219 during the April election last year. Three of those union-supported candidates were elected to the board.

Progress219 faced criticism when some former school board members claimed the group did not openly identify its affiliations



MARK WILSON/GETTY IMAGES

People wait in line to enter the U.S. Supreme Court building Jan. 11 in Washington, D.C.

with the teachers unions when it announced its endorsements a year ago.

Sharma said the endorsements were simply part of the democratic process.

"The voters were looking for new voices on the school board because there was an unusual situation where you had some members of the board sitting there for years and years," he said. "I think they were open to something new."

Gov. Bruce Rauner's office filed an amicus brief in support of the plaintiff in the *Friedrichs* case.

The conservative nonprofit Illinois Policy Institute also filed an amicus brief, according to Jacob Hubert, senior attorney for the Liberty Justice Center, the legal arm for the Illinois Policy Institute.

There are currently no teachers in Niles Township High School District 219 that pay reduced union fees under the "fair share" laws, according to Sharma. He said that if teachers weren't required to pay dues, newer, younger teachers might be more inclined to opt out of the union in the future if they aren't required to make the financial commitment.

"If you can get something for free, then why would you pay for it?" he said. "Eventually the union's resources are diminished and there's no way to keep it sustainable."

Hubert said that fighting for higher paychecks and better benefits isn't on the agenda for all teachers, and they shouldn't have to conform to the agendas held by teachers unions.

"Many teachers care about the financial health of their community and the state, and not everyone is focused on only looking out for what's best for their short-term financial interests," Hubert said.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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POLICE REPORT

The following items were taken from the Niles Police Department reports. Readers are reminded that an arrest by police does not constitute a finding of guilt. Only a court of law can make that determination.

Niles

THEFT

■ Christopher Johnson, 28, of the 5600 block of West Ohio Street, Chicago, was charged with felony theft on Dec. 29. Police said Johnson was accused of taking items off shelves inside a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center and then returning them for a total of \$740 in cash, even though he had never purchased them.

■ Michelle Arce, no age given, of the 5200 block of North LeClaire, Chicago, was charged with felony retail theft on Dec. 31 after she allegedly stole 18 pieces

of merchandise from a store in the 6100 block of Touhy Avenue. The items were valued at \$465, police said. Arce has a Jan. 24 court date.

■ Altanbaatar Chund, 32, of the 10300 block of Dearlove, Glenview, was charged with felony retail theft on Jan. 1 after he allegedly stole 68 cosmetic and beauty items from a store in the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue. Police said the value of the items was \$512. He has a Jan. 24 court date.

BATTERY

■ Bernard Berg, 49, of the 6300 block of Touhy Avenue, Niles, was charged with domestic battery and violating an order of protection on Dec. 31. He had a Jan. 11 court date.

BURGLARY

■ A snow blower was stolen Dec. 30 from an unsecured garage in the

8300 block of Osceola Avenue, police said.

■ A business in the 5700 block of Touhy Avenue was burglarized overnight between Jan. 3 and 4, police said. About \$200 was stolen from a cash register and \$400 was taken from an ATM machine owned by the business.

DECEPTIVE PRACTICE

■ A 21-year-old Niles woman told police on Jan. 6 that she was sent a check for \$2,700 in advance of beginning work as a caretaker and told to send a \$1,200 money order to a person in Chicago and another \$1,300 money order to an address in Nigeria. When the woman attempted to send the money orders, she learned the \$2,700 check she had initially received was fraudulent, police said. Neither the victim nor the bank lost any money in the at-

tempted scam, according to police.

■ A 36-year-old Park Ridge man told police on Jan. 5 that he was contacted by a caller who identified himself as a ComEd representative. The caller reportedly told the man that he had an overdue balance of \$500 and if he did not pay, his electricity would be shut off. The man was then advised to pay the money he owed by purchasing prepaid gift cards and providing the caller with the card numbers, police said. After sharing the numbers with the caller, the man realized he was the victim of a scam and put an immediate stop on the gift cards, according to police.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

■ Two tires were slashed on a car Dec. 31 while it was parked in a lot in the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue.

■ A 48-year-old man told police on Dec. 30 that he

discovered scratches on the front and rear passenger side doors of his car about an hour after he became involved in an argument with another driver outside a store in the 6100 block of Touhy Avenue. According to police, the man believed the other driver, a woman, thought he had stolen her parking space and became upset.

THEFT

■ Shortly before 1 a.m., Dec. 31, two men were seen stealing two pallets, valued at \$40, from behind a store in the 7900 block of Milwaukee Avenue.

■ A woman reported that her cellphone was stolen from her purse on Jan. 3 while it was hanging on the back of a chair inside a restaurant in the 9000 block of Milwaukee Avenue. The phone was tracked to a home in Prospect Heights where it was later located and returned

to the woman, police said.

■ A purse was reported stolen from an unlocked car parked in a lot in the 9600 block of Milwaukee Avenue on the morning of Jan. 3.

■ A 32-year-old Skokie woman allegedly bought a car from a dealership in the 9400 block of Milwaukee Avenue after writing checks that were later determined to have come from an invalid account. A representative of the dealership told police that repossession efforts have begun, but the car has not been located at the woman's home or work.

■ A speaker and a Wi-Fi router were reported stolen Jan. 4 from a store in the 8500 block of Golf Road. The items were valued at \$348.

■ Wallets were reported stolen from four lockers inside a fitness center in the 9200 block of Milwaukee Avenue between Jan. 4 and 6, police said.



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Woman to bring hidden story to life

Author to talk about family's escape from Nazis and Soviets

BY RONNIE WACHTER
Pioneer Press

Sept. 11, 2001 was a Tuesday morning. After the Twin Towers fell, many of the businesses in New York City spent the rest of the week closed. Dust from the wreckage spread for miles, giving midtown Manhattan an appearance that Aleena Rieger had never seen before: a ghost town.

Days after the terrorist attacks, Rieger and her daughter, Randi, were walking through the empty streets. Thousands of people who had been in or near the World Trade Center were still considered "missing" — maybe in a hospital, maybe huddled somewhere in shock, maybe lost forever in the rubble.

"There were no bodies; there was no one to be found," Rieger recalled.

And there was no Internet as we know it today — no Facebook group to centralize photos of the missing, no hashtags to comb through. Instead, people printed fliers with the loved one's picture and name, and posted copies everywhere.

So Manhattan seemed to Rieger to be devoid of living people, and populated instead with images of missing people.

Somewhere along that walk, the mother realized that she had seen this before. She never talked about it; her children intentionally never asked about it. But, a mystery they all figured was best left in the past had just found, its way out.

"I stopped in the middle of the street and told my daughter, 'Oh my God, this is like Germany after the war,'" Rieger, 74, recalled. "It flooded me. The history was coming back."

And now, the personal history that Rieger brought to the surface that day is bringing her back to the



Rieger



ALEENA RIEGER PHOTO

Aleena Rieger, Chicago native and memoirist, will speak on Jan. 14 in Buffalo Grove

"I always knew that I would be the last witness to my family history."

—Aleena Rieger, Chicago native and memoirist

Chicago area that raised her.

Rieger turned the mystery that had been her post-war childhood into a memoir, "I Didn't Tell Them Anything: The Wartime Secrets of an American Girl." Since self-publishing the story 10 months ago, Rieger said she has been on a "mini-book tour," which will include a stop at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 14 at Congregation B'nai Shalom in Buffalo Grove.

"I Didn't Tell Them Anything" begins with her parents' tale, and becomes her own. Her father was studying at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland, and en-

gaged to her mother when the Nazis invaded, Rieger said. Her parents both fled, she said, but separately, and had to find each other while on the run.

The story turns into captivity in Siberia, escape to the United States and the birth of Rieger, she said. She had always been told that she was born in Poland, but Rieger — now an attorney in New York — said she has long known that the timelines did not match.

Especially not with her own memories of post-war Germany, she said. Rieger said she could recall homemade posters with

photos of Nazi-abducted Jews covering trees, bulletin boards and exterior walls. Just as distraught families clinging to hope filled the streets of New York with fliers after the terrorist attacks, so Germans had after the fall of Hitler.

"I always knew that I would be the last witness to my family history," Rieger said. "I knew the story, but none of my younger cousins did."

Rieger said she set out to research her family's history, and the quest for obscure documentation took her through Europe and Kazakhstan. After completing "I Didn't Tell Them Anything," she said she found a literary agent and prospective publisher, but decided to pull the manuscript back, revise it and self-publish instead.

Her cousin, Alan Gans, works at Congregation B'nai Sha-

lom and helped bring her tour here. Her parents raised her in Chicago's West Side, and she said she comes back for visits "irregularly."

"The suburbs, I don't remember them being as developed as they are now," she said. "I just love Chicago. I'm not crazy about coming there in January, though."

But regardless of the weather and traveling, Rieger said that piecing her family's history together, writing the story and now talking about it had been a therapeutic process.

"I thought 'Oh, I have to write this for my grandchildren,'" she said. "I was always very reticent about talking about my childhood, because there were so many secrets."

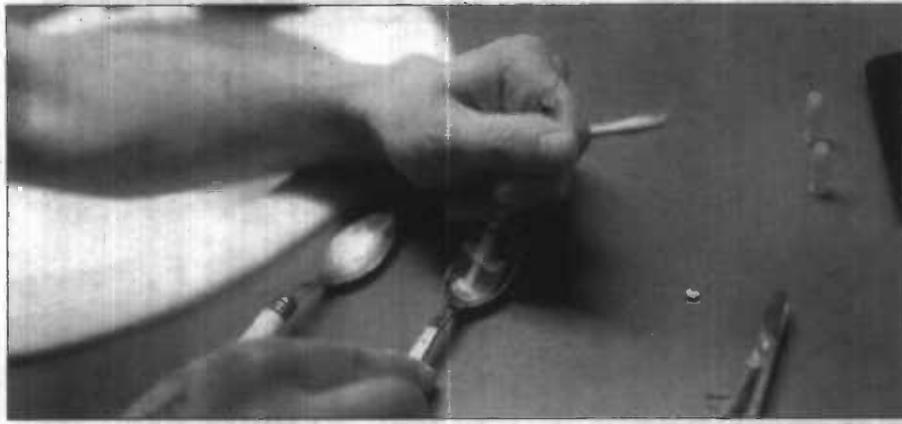
Wilmette Police Department to discuss heroin at forum

By KATHY ROUHLIFFE
Pioneer Press

Wilmette Police Department officials who announced an upcoming forum on heroin use in the area said it's meant to educate about the drug's use locally — something they said can be especially helpful for parents of young people — and provide resources for people who are dealing with the effects of heroin and its abuse.

Police Chief Brian King said Jan. 5 that his department has seen a continuing increase in heroin use among young adults over the last three to four years.

"Our experience is consistent with municipalities all around the Chicago metropolitan area," he said in a news release earlier this month announcing the forum. "Frankly, heroin is cheaper and more readily



SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

A Jan. 19, Wilmette Police Department forum on heroin use among young adults in the area is meant to provide educational tools, particularly for parents of young people, to recognize and prevent heroin use problems in loved ones.

available to our youth now than in any time in our recent history. Perhaps more significantly, young adults do not comprehend the destructive nature of the drug."

The forum is set for 7 p.m. Jan. 19 at the Wilmette

Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave.

King said Jan. 5 that members of his department will discuss current data on local heroin and opiate use. They will be on hand to talk about the signs and symptoms of heroin addiction, he

said. The department's social work and substance abuse counselors will also talk about resources available to individuals and families affected by heroin, King said.

Additionally, a parent whose child has become

addicted to heroin will be present to talk about the family's experience, he said.

The Wilmette department held an initial educational forum on local and suburban heroin use in January 2013.

Since that time, King said, his department has dealt with heroin overdose deaths, one each in 2013 and 2014, as well as nonfatal overdoses in 2015.

Heroin also plays a part in some forms of criminal activity, King said.

"We're still seeing a baseline of incidents where people are still being arrested for crimes undertaken to support opiate or heroin addiction," he said.

King said the forum, like the 2013 effort and a second forum organized in 2014, is meant to educate area residents, especially parents of teens and young adults.

The number of young

adults experimenting with heroin may reflect what King called a relatively small percentage of community residents, but the drug's use devastates their lives and those of their families, he said.

"An addicted user in a recovery program was quoted as saying that she was simply not aware of the danger," King said. The forum is meant to provide parents with tools to begin talking with their children about

"We're not trying to spread fear. We would just like to provide information for an informed community," he said. "I think our message for parents that are wrestling with this dilemma is that you do not walk alone. There are people who can help."

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Cupich affirms respect for all life at St. Cletus

Abortion, justice issues addressed at Mass

BY KIMBERLY FORNEK
Pioneer Press

Archbishop Blase Cupich celebrated the Chicago Archdiocesan Mass for Life Saturday at St. Cletus Church, the second year the La Grange parish has hosted the event.

"It's always an honor when the archbishop comes," said the Rev. Ken Baker, associate pastor at St. Cletus.

Dorothy Callahan of Countryside brought her elderly mother to the Mass, even though her mother was reluctant because she uses a walker and it was snowing.

"I told her I would bring her in a wheelchair," Callahan said. "This is kind of a special Mass. It's a special feeling that the archbishop is here."

Cindy Hess of La Grange, who came with her father, Frank Niwa, said the liturgy and performance of the choir, accompanied by musical instruments, were the kind usually reserved for Christmas or their Fourth of July service honoring veterans.

"It was a beautiful, beautiful Mass," Hess said.

Many were drawn to the Saturday service because of its emphasis on respect for life, and the life of the unborn, in particular.

The Mass for Life, along with other Catholic Respect Life activities, takes place in January, because the U.S. Supreme Court issued its decision upholding a woman's right to have an abortion in the Roe vs. Wade case Jan. 22, 1973.

Marianne Gillaspie, who regularly attends St. Catherine of Alexandria Church in Oak Lawn, attended,

sharing that she had an abortion years ago.

"It was something I said I would never ever do," Gillaspie said.

But she was in a relationship that, at the time, she thought was more important than having another child.

"I understand the choice I made," she said. "I could have said, 'no,' but I didn't. I go to a service or memorial at least once a year to honor the child I willingly gave up."

She thought Cupich's sermon confirmed she is on the right road.

Cupich started with an anecdote about his first year in the seminary. He told his spiritual director then that he was concerned he could not stay focused on his studies and his prayers. He was easily distracted and would start daydreaming about the future, he said.

His spiritual director told him what was important was that he know the difference between reality and his daydreams. That advice still applies, Cupich said.

Advertisers and the entertainment industry market a fantasy life, Cupich said. Escapism is fine, but sometimes people need a reality check to face the problems in their personal lives and the social problems of the world, he said. He mentioned the status of 60 million refugees, half of whom are children, gun violence in the cities, and the unborn.

News articles about the abortion debate talk about the rights and freedom of the mother to choose, but not about the unborn child, Cupich said.

Whether it is a child in the womb or a person on



STEVE JOHNSTON/PIONEER PRESS

Archbishop Blase Cupich celebrates the Mass for Life at St. Cletus Church in La Grange.

death row, both deserve human dignity, Cupich added.

John Gallagher of Indian Head Park, a member of St. Cletus, said it was appropriate Cupich delivered an all-encompassing homily about respecting life, because people outside the parish attended the service.

People should not have an out-of-sight, out-of-mind approach to moral issues, Gallagher said.

But others, such as David Dornbos of La Grange, who will attend the March for Life in Chicago Jan. 17, wished the archbishop did not group the various issues together. Cupich talked about abortion, but "prob-

ably not as strongly and boldly as I would have liked," said Dornbos.

"Too often they put dignity and sanctity of life on a par with other social justice issues," Dornbos said. "That's incorrect. I'm not saying those issues are not important, but life is more important. I know life begins at conception."

Dornbos, who wore a cap with the words, "Life is Good" on it, is a member of St. Cletus Parish, but also attends Mass at St. Francis Xavier Church in La Grange, St. John the Cross Church in Western Springs and St. Isaac Jogues Church in Hinsdale, depending on his schedule.

George Zykan of La Grange said Cupich really connects with the people and his sermon was to the point. But his wife thought the archbishop could have gone a little further against abortion.

"He could have pushed the reality part more," Barbara Zykan said.

The unborn don't have rights because they are not given them, she said.

"I don't preach about issues — I preach the Gospel," Cupich said at a reception following the Mass. "That's number one."

And, Cupich said, the bishops and the pope have said the church should protect and respect the sanctity

of life in all ways.

"Our agenda begins with the unborn, but it doesn't end there," Cupich said. "We have a consistent ethic of life. Wherever human life and dignity is threatened, we need to speak out."

"There's a lot of people who want to be singular in their views, about abortion or euthanasia," Cupich said. "But the more we unite in that relationship, the more powerful we are going to be."

Jon O'Brien, president of Catholics for Choice, said the Catholic Church has been pushing an anti-abortion agenda since the Conference of Catholic Bishops 45 years ago.

"They have very little to show for it," O'Brien said, adding that Catholic women use birth control and get abortions, the same way as non-Catholic women.

"Pope Francis has made it clear the church is concerned about social justice issues," O'Brien said, but said some bishops are wrapping the pro-life movement around those issues to give legitimacy to something that doesn't resonate with the lives of Catholics today.

Seminarians from St. Joseph College Seminary will lead a prayer service at 7 p.m. Jan. 20, at St. Cletus Parish, at 600 West 55th St., for the people from the Archdiocese of Chicago headed to the March for Life 2016 in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 22. Over 250 pilgrims will travel by bus immediately following the prayer service, Archdiocese officials said.

Marianne Hamilton, coordinator of St. Cletus' Respect Life Committee, said the church asked for years to host the Archdiocesan Mass for Life, before the parish finally was chosen.

Cardinal Francis George was scheduled to celebrate the Mass last year, but then retired due to his declining health as he battled cancer. The parish was happy to welcome the new archbishop who filled in for George in 2015, Hamilton said.

Evanston facility aims to help young adults with mental illness

By LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

An Evanston mental health facility has launched a program designed to help young adults suffering or recovering from mental illness develop the necessary skills that will allow them to live and thrive safely in an independent setting.

The Core Competence Home Healthcare Services program offered by Yellowbrick, a facility that works exclusively with young adults, will service those ages 17 to 30 living within 10 miles of the Yellowbrick facility.

Occupational therapists, dietitians, and career and educational specialists will work with young adults attempting to live on their own on a college campus or apartment to help them develop life skills in four key areas. These include health

and wellness, independent living skills, cognitive skills and career and education, said Dana Bender, director of the new program.

The program serves as a support for those transitioning from intensive mental health treatment and for young adults struggling to make the leap to independent living, said Dr. Jesse Viner, CEO and chief medical officer at Yellowbrick.

"Let's say a young person who tried to go to college, got depressed, started using drugs, made a suicide attempt and was in a hospital for five days, and then what?" he said. "Let's say that person is going to go back on campus, and for them to have the kind of support that helps them feel connected, get their schedule down and make sure their sleep and wellness patterns are in shape, they may need help with various

things to keep them in school."

Bender said these patients generally need continued support even after initial hospitalization. Part of the job of occupational therapists and the other professionals assigned to work with these young adults, she said, is to help them regain a lost sense of optimism for the future.

"The patients themselves become quite hopeless," she said. "Our goal is to be able to focus on their strengths and what they've been able to accomplish to gain back that lost hope and confidence."

Yellowbrick has provided mental health treatment services to young adults in the Chicago area and beyond since the facility was founded in 2006, Viner said. Those who come to Yellowbrick "share the experience of having some type of

emotional psychiatric difficulty that has disrupted or derailed their development and for some of them threatened their safety and their life," he said.

Most who receive treatment at Yellowbrick live for a period of time at the facility in "supportive housing," Viner said. After participating in an intensive treatment program at the center, the patients migrate to apartments in the community or on school campuses, where they continue to receive core competence services from Yellowbrick providers.

The new program is simply an expansion upon what is already offered to those who undergo intensive treatment at the facility by offering the service to young adults who may be working with other psychiatric professionals in the community, Viner said. De-

pending on their individual needs, he said, some patients may benefit from several weeks or months in the program, while those with persistent mental illness may require indefinite ongoing support.

Prospective participants in the program will undergo an initial assessment by a Yellowbrick occupational therapist or psychiatrist at a cost of \$500, and the ongoing home visits cost between \$125 and \$200 per hour, according to a release from the facility.

Viner said "there is really no psychiatric home health care services available within Chicagoland" aside from what Yellowbrick is now providing.

Without such services, he said, vulnerable young adults making the transition to independent living run a gamut of risks, including impairment or disability,

maladaptive coping patterns like substance abuse and eating disorders, costly psychiatric hospitalizations and suicide.

"There are many risks and costs in not providing this kind of foundational support people need to become responsible, productive and self-sustaining young adults," he said. "There is also the cost of suffering to the families who are really worried about these vulnerable young people."

According to both Bender and Viner, the time it takes for all young adults to move from adolescence to established adulthood has lengthened dramatically in recent decades.

"They can falter and need support along the way," Viner said.

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

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NEWS

Light Opera Works looks for a new name

Company seeks audience input

BY GINA GRILLO
Pioneer Press

The Light Opera Works' 35th season came to a close recently with the December performances of the musical "Guys and Dolls," and officials announced that the Wilmette-based company will begin the process of selecting a new name starting with getting ideas from audience members.

General manager Bridget McDonough and artistic director Rudy Hogenmiller have put out the call for audience members to participate in the renaming, asking that ideas be emailed and otherwise shared between now and Jan. 31.

Officials said the name change is tied to the company's reassessment of how its name and mission coincide and how the changing relationship between the two can be more fully represented.

"After 35 years, we've decided to make a change," McDonough said. "Light Opera Works' has been a wonderful name for a long time, but we feel it no longer tells the full story of who we are and what we do."

Theater officials said there has been confusion over the current name, saying the term "light opera" is no longer fully understood or meaningful to contemporary audiences.

"People unfamiliar with the company often ask if we perform short 'light' versions of grand operas. There's nothing 'light' about our productions," Hogenmiller said. "We pride ourselves on full-scale stagings of musical theater classics. Everything from Gilbert and Sullivan and Franz Lehár to Lerner and Loewe and Jerry Herman, with big

casts and full orchestras. We need a name that gives people a sense of that."

McDonough, one of the 1980 co-founders of Light Opera Works, along with founding director Philip Kraus, said their vision was to create a nonprofit musical theater company that would produce fully staged operetta productions with a full orchestra while creating opportunities for local artists working in the genre.

"At that time, nobody was doing operetta," McDonough said, who describes operetta as containing classical-style singing (unlike the "Broadway belt") with spoken dialogue and lighter, often comedic and romantic themes.

**"After 35 years,
we've decided to
make a change."**

— Bridget McDonough,
general manager

She said Light Opera Works evolved from the Student Gilbert and Sullivan Guild at Northwestern University, which operated from 1967 to 1984, and all Light Opera Works' founding members were originally students at Northwestern.

"When we started LOW, our focus was to create a professional theater company dedicated to operetta," McDonough said. "We wanted to keep this musical heritage alive at a time when the theater-going public had limited exposure to these productions and familiarity with only a handful of primary operetta composers."

She said things changed in 1999, when audiences were beginning to shift their preferences toward musical theater.

"We had to refocus and include more productions

of classic musicals such as 'Man of La Mancha,' 'Fiddler on the Roof' and the first full Chicago-area production of 'Ragtime' in 2003," McDonough said.

While the upcoming Light Opera Works season will feature "My Fair Lady" (June 4-12), "Mame" (Aug. 20-28) and "Let Me Entertain You," with songs from "Gypsy," "Funny Girl" and more (Oct 7-16), according to McDonough, the company will remain a home for light opera. For example, she said, Johann Strauss II's "Die Fledermaus" is also on the 2016 season.

For 35 years, the Cahn Auditorium on the Northwestern campus in Evanston has served as the home for Light Opera Works productions.

"We are also the home of Broadway classics, 'Great American Songbook' concerts and popular educational programs for young people," McDonough said. "We would like our new name to reflect the diversity of our repertoire and programs."

McDonough and Hogenmiller asked for input from the Light Opera Works audience at a recent performance of "Guys and Dolls" and said that, so far, they've been pleased with the response.

"Suggestions have begun pouring in," Hogenmiller said. "Our audience is not shy."

Submissions for a new name will be accepted at info@lightoperaworks.org through Jan. 31, and McDonough and Hogenmiller plan to announce the new name at the company's annual gala April 16 at the Sunset Ridge Country Club in Northfield. The new name will become official in the company's 2017 season, they said.

Gina Grillo is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Avenues clients showcase original art in exhibit

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Four clients of Park Ridge-based Avenues to Independence are adding "artist" to their list of accomplishments.

Denise Hacke, Jeff Jones, Cindy Krupski and Brian Ray have work on display — and for sale — during "Lift Off," the first artists in residence exhibit at Brickton Art Center in Park Ridge. The exhibit is taking place through Jan. 16 at the gallery, 306 Busse Highway, with a special reception on Jan. 15 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Avenues provides housing, employment and programs for adults with developmental disabilities. The weekly two-hour art sessions with Brickton have given Avenues clients who demonstrate greater artistic abilities a place to hone

their skills, said Alyssa Kulak, outreach director at Brickton.

"We've been working with Avenues for about five years, doing a monthly art class for their clients," Kulak explained. "I noticed there were students in the class who showed more of an interest and ability in art and I felt they could be pushed a little bit further."

The four artists, who have been meeting at Brickton since October, work largely with acrylic paints and mixed media, Kulak said. Much of their work is created on canvas or paper, but they have also painted on recycled materials, like old windows and pieces of wood.

"We're trying to make use of materials we could get," Kulak said.

On some pieces, the artists work collaboratively,

she added, but all are encouraged to come up with their own ideas for a piece.

"This is helping them discover their own creativity," Kulak explained.

Colorful paintings of birds, fish, flowers and shapes fill the exhibit. Using an old window as her canvas, Hacke painted white and purple snowflakes before covering the background in yellow.

"This is fun," Krupski said, smiling as she painted fish shapes based on a drawing Kulak provided.

Nearby, Jones was putting the finishing touches on a multi-textured mural using pieces of cardboard with yarn strung across it. Jones painted the yarn and then pressed the disk on to the canvas, making a series of blue lines. Paint spread across on bubble wrap had also created

circular impressions on the piece.

"I like everything," Jones said, when asked what his favorite project has been.

Elaina Kray, a home-based support services facilitator with Avenues to Independence, said the clients have shown enthusiasm for their work and about participating in their first art exhibit.

"It's a sense of pride for them," she said. "They are really excited to know they are creating these pieces of art that they get to show off to everybody."

Kray noted that the program also provides a positive social benefit to the clients.

Half of the proceeds from any pieces sold during the exhibit will go to the artist, with the other half supporting the artists in residence program, Kulak said.



JENNIFER JOHNSON/PIONEER PRESS

Cindy Krupski, Denise Hacke and Jeff Jones of Brickton Art Center work on art as Alyssa Kulak, right, looks on.

"I wanted them to be celebrated as artists and build their confidence," she said.

Kulak added that she would like to continue the program, possibly adding ceramics, if an ongoing funding source — like donations and grants — can be

identified.

"I'm hoping the show will get people excited about [artists in residence] and see the potential of it," she said.

For more information, contact Brickton.

jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com

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Harwood Heights fighting 'worst Chicago suburb' label

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC
Pioneer Press

Harwood Heights residents and officials are fighting back after a website named the town the worst Chicago suburb.

The article, posted Jan. 5 on RoadSnacks.net, lists Harwood Heights at the top of a list of the "10 Worst Chicago Suburbs."

"It's a joke," said George Assimakopoulos, a Harwood Heights Public Works Department employee who went to Ridgewood High School and Union Ridge School. "You have no clue how upset I am."

Nearly 800 miles away in Durham, N.C., the article's author, Nick James, defended America's freedom of speech in a phone interview.

"I do have a right," said James, who says he co-founded RoadSnacks last April. "People need to take what's on the Internet with a grain of salt."

"This article is an opinion based on facts and is meant as infotainment, don't freak out," begins the piece, which James said had more than 168,000 Internet views as of Jan. 10 at www.roadsnacks.net/worst-chicago-suburbs.

"We used science and data to determine which Chicago suburbs are the real pits," the article says, just above a snapshot of the corner of Harlem Avenue and Gunnison Street.

Elmwood Park also made the list at No. 9. Other suburbs included Lyons, Worth, Hickory Hills, Oak Lawn, Palos Hills, Westchester, Brookfield and Riverside.

The website claims its goal is to "start a conversation." But some locals say the article has caused tears, heated debate, outrage and concerns a bad reputation could swallow economic development opportunities.

"How would he know what the neighborhood is like?" said John Kritikos, owner of Family Palace restaurant in Harwood Heights. "That's not how you start a conversation! That's irresponsible and disrespectful for the people in the community who work so hard to build it."

Assimakopoulos, a Harwood



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Family Palace restaurant owner John Kritikos discusses an online article that called the village of Harwood Heights the "worst Chicago suburb." Harwood Heights residents Ed Fedash and Darlene Oldenburg are at right.

"They tagged their friends and for them, the people of Harwood Heights, to act like victims — they need to take responsibility for spreading the message too."

— Nick James, author of the online story

Heights Public Works Department foreman and project coordinator, became tearful describing the village.

"A family is a family and neighbors take care of each other," said Assimakopoulos, who worries that for children among the village's more than 8,000 residents, "a scar stays forever."

Publicity spiraled after other Chicago news outlets reported on the list.

"Harwood Heights has reached new heights when it comes to being a sub-par place to live," James wrote. "It has the second-worst education scene for children. It also has the second-lowest

population density, so there's less to do when you decide to skip school."

Angry Harwood Heights elected officials wrote letters to residents and businesses about "negative Internet activity."

"The Village Board and staff are deeply upset," they wrote.

Union Ridge School District 86 Superintendent Michael Maguire also fought back.

"We are focused on making the community better," Maguire said during an interview at Union Ridge School alongside Harwood Heights Mayor Arlene Jezierny and Pennoyer School District Superintendent Brad Voehringer.



Imane Zaari, 11, seated from left, and Lila Shabaro, 10, of Harwood Heights and Union Ridge School District 86 fifth-graders, compose letters on laptops at the school Jan. 8. Union Ridge School District 86 Superintendent Michael Maguire, standing from left, and Pennoyer School District 79 Superintendent Brad Voehringer watch the girls write.

"This will not deter our course," Maguire said.

"We're going to look at this as a positive," Jezierny agreed. "We're making lemonade out of lemons."

Voehringer cited Pennoyer and Union Ridge schools' higher-than-average scores on the new Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers test.

"We're outperforming," Voehringer said. "This is a nice community — they don't need their town maligned."

James said his findings are based on available, unbiased data.

"I don't want to hurt people's feelings," he said. "We're not saying the schools are horrible, we're saying the factors are below average across the board," James said.

Bad news gets more readership with viral circulation potential, James said, adding his website is "a small site."

To prove his point that good news isn't as popular, James is

posting a 10 best Chicago suburbs list this month to demonstrate the likelihood of fewer website hits.

He also said Chicago news outlets and other people sharing the piece "helped to make this (story) so big."

"I take responsibility that I wrote it, but everybody spread the message, whomever shared it," James said. "They tagged their friends and for them, the people of Harwood Heights, to act like victims — they need to take responsibility for spreading the message too."

Though James said he's never visited Harwood Heights, the owner of Family Palace restaurant extended an offer to the author.

"Come on in," said Kritikos, inviting James to meet Harwood Heights residents. "The coffee's on me and I'll even buy breakfast."

Karie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Gov. Rauner is Illinois' real-life Waldo

Where's Waldo?

You probably know, particularly if you have kids.

"Where's Waldo?" is a series of books for children by Martin Handford. The books include double-page spreads of illustrations in which a great many people are pictured doing a variety of amusing things.

Hidden in this group of people is Waldo. He wears a red and white striped shirt, a bobble hat and glasses. The challenge for readers is to find Waldo amid all the other people pictured.

Hence - where's Waldo?

We Illinoisans have our own version of Where's Waldo?

Where's Bruce?

Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner doesn't like the public or press to know where he is, or even what he is doing.

Rauner is stingy about publicizing his schedule.

On a recent Christmas vacation, for example, the governor went on a two-week vacation to some foreign land. His staff ini-



PAUL SASSONE

tially declined to let reporters know where he and his family were going. They contended that the governor's schedule is not public information.

Upon his return this week, Rauner told of his trip to Spain and Morocco, where he spent time riding a camel in the Sahara.

This has happened on more than one occasion. In September, the Illinois Times newspaper sued to have the governor's whereabouts made public.

The complaint reached the public access bureau of the Illinois Attorney General, which said the governor's schedule is public information and should be released.

The question could end up in court.

What I can't figure out is why an elected governor would want to keep his whereabouts secret.

A public official receives many perks. Part of the cost is a certain diminution of privacy.

The people the governor serves have a right to know



SETH PERLMAN/AP

Gov. Bruce Rauner listens to Illinois Emergency Management Agency officials warn of the dangers of driving through high water of the south fork of the Sangamon River on Jan. 3 in Kincaid, Illinois. At least two teenagers were killed while crossing a road crossing the river.

where their governor is and what he is doing.

My hunch is that coming to the governorship as a fabulously wealthy former CEO, Rauner views being a public official as another CEO position in which

he tells his employees (us and the legislature) what to do. And where he is and what he does is none of our business.

Well, the governor came back from wherever he was to tour flood-ravaged areas.

It may seem that he should have returned a few days earlier.

But who knew how to reach him?

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

The rise and fall of baby names over the years

Is a baby in your future? Have you thought of a name?

If it is and if you have, odds are you are thinking of Noah or maybe Olivia, two of the

most popular new baby names in 2014 in the United States, according to the Social Security Administration.

Or how about a real up and comer, like Muhammad?

That's right, the name Muhammad is one of the hottest new baby names in the country, having seen a big increase over the years. According to a Center for Immigration Studies analysis of Social Security data, just 29 baby boys were born with the name Muhammad - or a variant of the



RANDY BLASER

name - in 1964. In 2014, 2,931 baby boys were born with the name.

It makes me wonder: Has anyone told Donald Trump about this? Can't he stop

it somehow?

I mentioned this to a friend, who quickly informed me that in some countries, take Iceland for instance, the state must approve new baby names. Why? To keep cultural heritage, for one. And to make sure there is no gender confusion from the get-go.

Somehow, that just doesn't seem right. I know left-winger Hollywood types think America stinks and places like Iceland are great, but I bet Gwyneth Paltrow wouldn't be playing with baby

Apple if they lived in Reykjavik.

Such a law would be hard to regulate here in the good-old U.S. of A., don't you think?

Names as American as apple pie, like Madison or Kennedy or Roosevelt, probably wouldn't pass the gender test if we took up like Iceland. So they would be out. And in the great melting pot that is America, within a generation or two, everyone's name is Americanized. Giuseppe becomes Joe, or Tadeusz is now Ted.

There was a time, for the Great Generation, at least, when Americans preferred nicknames rather than their given name.

I always knew my grandmother's brothers as Uncle Skippy, Uncle Smuds and Uncle Jappy, not Frank, John and Steven. In turn, they called my grandfather Gandy. I don't know why. But

Times change, and names go in and out of fashion.

never Ted, which wasn't his given name anyway. But is there anything more American than a funny nickname?

Those names have long gone out of fashion.

The most popular boys names in 2014, again according to the Social Security Administration, are, in order: Noah, Liam, Mason, Jacob, William, Ethan, Michael, Alexander, James and Daniel.

Not a Tom, Dick or Harry in the bunch.

For girls, the most popular names were Emma, Olivia, Soph-

ia, Isabella, Ava, Mia, Emily, Abigail, Madison and Charlotte. Where's Kathy, Sue and the versatile Elizabeth (Liz, Beth, Betty, Lizzy)?

Times change, and names go in and out of fashion. Go back 100 years, to 1914, and you find Mary (my grandmother) and John (her brother) topping the list.

As a matter of fact, I see most of my aunts and uncles on the list, including Aunt Gladys, who I always thought, had one of the oddest names ever. Turns out she just lived long enough to go out of fashion. Aunt Gladly (back to the nickname thing) sounds kind of nice.

No matter. As we all know, a rose by any other name ...

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

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OPINION

Hinsdale church program urges talk about race, diversity



SARA CLARKSON
Dateline

My kids are young adults now, and if you were to ask me, "Sara, how did you talk to your kids about race and diversity?" I would probably hem and haw trying to buy a few moments to collect and gather my thoughts.

I know how I spoke to them about sex and drugs and alcohol and our views on religion, but I can't recall any specific or even general discussions about race and diversity. I am not going to go all mea culpa here and berate myself for being a bad parent — parenting is tough work and we all do the best we can — but I am curious about the topic, which is why I attended the recent Union Church of Hinsdale discussion Talking to Kids about Race and Diversity.

In general, there is this idea that if white parents avoid talking about race and diversity, they implicitly ignore differences and encourage color blindness. That statement made a certain amount of sense to me. There is this idea that the kids won't notice the differences if the parents don't point them out, according to Bromleigh McCleneghan, Union Church's associate pastor for Ministry with Families, who led the discussion.

Parents are also uncertain about what exactly to say to their kids and when to say it, and parents forget that kids don't know about race and diversity. Sometimes we as parents do forget that our kids don't know what they don't know. For example, when my son was 18 months old and he got a hold of some finger paints, he didn't know that he



Bromleigh McCleneghan

SARA CLARKSON/PIONEER PRESS

wasn't supposed to put those paints on the rug and on the walls. Well, how would my child know how to discuss and absorb differences and similarities among people?

Another reason parents may avoid the race and diversity discussion is that they are sometimes embarrassed to be having that talk in front of an audience. Younger kids, preschoolers especially, may bring up differences loudly in public: "Why is that person in a wheelchair?" or "Why does that person always cover their hair?" At those times we may be embarrassed and not prepared to answer the questions.

McCleneghan, herself the mother of three girls ranging from an infant to an 8-year-old, said she has found that it is better to be ready and prepared to answer the questions and queries as they arise instead of waiting to bring up topics on a parents' timetable. There is a teaching opportunity and immediacy when younger children ask questions. Hopefully, parents are having constant conversations with their kids about a variety of subjects, so that you can be available when they ask.

Be sure your kids are experiencing diversity. She said that babies are naturally curious about everything and that they notice differences. She held up a big board picture book called "Global Babies," a

book the Global Fund for Children publishes, which features pictures of an international assortment of babies in native dress. Start with books like that which display both differences and similarities in our worlds: babies can be different looking and yet all deserve love and lots of attention and care, for example.

Another book she recommended was "The Children of God Storybook Bible" by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Find protagonists in books, movies and TV shows who are minority characters or people of different background and religions but necessarily represent struggle or hardship. "The Snowy Day" by Ezra Jack Keats is an example of a good child's storybook. The message should always be that "God created all people and loves the diversity of all people," McCleneghan said.

The Union Church has hosted a number of interesting conversations as of late. In the fall, it featured social and economic inequality. Mental Health Challenges and Resources in Hinsdale, a panel discussion, will be held from 11:15-12:30 p.m. on Jan. 17 at the church. Resources and treatment in the greater Hinsdale/Clarendon Hills area as well as area experts will be featured. The panel discussion is free and open to the public.

For more information, visit www.uchinsdale.org or call 630-323-4303.

Family vacation quiz

I was fortunate enough to enjoy a multigenerational family vacation. Herewith is a brief accounting of mine. I can't make this stuff up, so I won't. Good luck with the quiz.



SALLY HIGGINSON

the box claims that "Even if you're a dumb ass you can win," how many matriarchs deem the game "impossible?" (Hint: The answer is the same no matter how many times the rules are repeated.)

5. True or False: It is possible to apply zinc oxide to one's lips and still look normal.

6. Assume that on seven consecutive days, a three-generation family from Des Moines shares the same shallow-end of the pool as the rest of the resort guests. Please identify the genders of the following grandchildren from Iowa:

- a) Keller, Hadley and Tate
 - b) Emory and Nolan
 - c) Gage, Reid and Greyson
- (Trick question. No one knows.)

7. If one sister is willing to walk at 7:30 a.m., and another sister suggests walking at 7:45 a.m., presuming that their goal is to walk five miles together before it gets too hot, how many of their collective children will ask for a fully cooked breakfast at the exact moment of their departure?

8. How many grown-ups does it take to figure out how to turn on the TV? (Trick question. Grown-ups can't turn on TVs.)

9. If Person A is reading "Theodore Rex" on a Kindle, and if Person B is reading "I am Malala" in an old-fashioned book, and if Person C can't find her copy of "Our Spoons Came from Woolworths," how long before all three fall asleep?

The Answers: Yes, some, a million, no, and who cares? The sun is setting, and it's time for an adult beverage in the hot tub. Final assessment: I'm lucky.

Sally Higginson is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

1. On a vacation where everyone wears swimsuits during the day, which items were deemed appropriate for dinner the night it was cooked in the condo?

- a) Stilton cheese
- b) duck pâté
- c) short ribs
- d) prime rib

2. On this same vacation, how many of the family members currently take statins?

3. In a single extended family, assume the following is true: There is a matriarch, three adult women and five young women. If each woman arrives on the island with five swimsuits, how much time will elapse before half of them shop for new suits?

4. Given that the board game Smart Ass claims to be suitable for players "Ages 12 and Up," and given that

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

'Citizens for a Safer Society' needs to find a new cause

I saw the recent story about "Citizens for a Safer Society" wanting the Skokie Village Board to join them in trying to stop a gun shop from opening in neighboring Niles. The bottom line is "Citizens for a Safer Society" has succeeded so far in shutting down a legal, legitimate business before it has a chance to open. Their reasoning appears to be they don't like firearms, with the final objective of confiscating them. They want all firearms dealers to have additional licenses. The politicians will love revenue enhancement and we will have more government interference where

none is needed.

They keep pointing out the dealership would be close to schools, etc. Whether the distance is one block or 10 miles, so what? Do they believe children would wander over after lunch to buy a gun and ammo, and come back and shoot up the school? Dealers will not allow anyone to even touch a firearm unless they have a FOID (Firearm Owners Identification) card. Having a FOID card means you have been checked out by the Illinois State Police. What other establishments can come close to this? Nothing is 100 percent, but it's hard to do

better. The clerks are all armed, as well as most of the customers. Hard to be safer in an urban environment.

I very much resent the charge by "Citizens for a Safer Society" that this type of business invites unsavory elements, like myself. The cross-section of customers include people who simply enjoy target shooting. The noise is contained and the air filtered; so no environmental impact. "Citizens for a Safer Society," please find another cause where you can actually do some good.

— Harold G. Cohon, Morton Grove

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Warriors and planets

A 2016 Chicago museum guide

BY STEVE JOHNSON
Chicago Tribune

Fortunately, as they always do at this time of year, the area's museums stand ready to draw visitors in with a series of intriguing exhibitions. Here are the 10 new shows I'm most looking forward to from January into spring:

1. "China's First Emperor and His Terracotta Warriors": Those who've seen the terra-cotta warriors in China come away awestruck, to judge by the email I received after writing about this show. That experience condensed into a museum exhibition, with 10 of the life-sized clay figures rather than multitudes, probably won't be so breathtaking.

But surround those figures with contextual information and another 160 artifacts relating to the transformative reign of the emperor Qin Shihuangdi more than 2,000 years ago and you've got the makings of something pretty potent. *March 4 to Jan. 8, 2017, at the Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive; 312-922-9410 or fieldmuseum.org*

2. "Van Gogh's Bedrooms": This groundbreaker promises to be a feast for fans of Impressionism in general and of Vincent Van Gogh in particular. The Art Institute owns, and proudly displays, one of the Dutch artist's renowned "The Bedroom" paintings, depicting his spartan *chambre* at Arles, in the south of France, in memorably vivid colors. For the first time, this second image in the series, painted while at an asylum, will be displayed with the other two versions of the painting: the first one to be painted, from the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam and the smaller, third one, from the Musee D'Orsay in Paris. *Feb. 14 to May 10 at the Art Institute 111 S. Michigan Ave.; 312-443-3600 or artic.edu*

3. "Dressing Downton: Changing Fashion for (spoiler alert) Changing Times": This costume exhibit ranks high on this list mostly out of what I presume to be a collective curiosity to see more things related to "Downton Abbey," the hit TV series. As the series' final season plays currently on U.S. TV, this exhibition displays several dozen costumes used in the show. These garments touched by celebrity will be presented here in the Driehaus Museum, located in a downtown mansion once inhabited by people of similar social status during the same time period. For an extra charge, the museum is also serving British style tea several times daily. *Feb. 9 to May 8 at the Driehaus Museum, 40 E. Erie St.; 312-482-8933 or driehausmuseum.org*



PBS/PHOTOFEST

An exhibit of clothes from "Downton Abbey" is coming to the Driehaus Museum.



ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

Vincent van Gogh's "The Bedroom" (1889, oil on canvas).

4. "Civil War to Civil Rights: African American Chicago in the Newberry Collection": Exhibitions at the Newberry Library hark back, heartily, to a time before the bug of "interactivity" bit museums. The Newberry is a place of documents, of maps and letters and books and photographs. This one sounds especially enticing, showcasing such Chicago touchstones as the 1919 race riot, the heyday of the Bronzeville neighborhood and the Great Migration. Stretching the limits of their exhibition title, curators will also include materials on



SHAANXI CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER

"China's First Emperor and His Terracotta Warriors" runs at Chicago's Field Museum.

the 2015 protests. *Jan. 15 to April 2, 60 W. Walton St.; free; 312-943-9090 or newberry.org*

5. "Here's Johnny: The Making of the Tonight Show, Starring Johnny Carson": It's hard to fathom in this era of Colbert, Fallon, Kimmel, Corden, Meyers- and seemingly constant late-night flux, but once there was one late-night host, and his name was Johnny, and it was good. This show, organized by a California museum, pledges to bring us "costumes, stage props, video, cue cards, and production materials"

illuminating the reign of Carson, who presided over a peaceable kingdom from 1962-1992. *Jan. 12 to Oct. 15 at the Museum of Broadcast Communications, 360 N. State St.; 312-245-8200 or museum.tv*

6. "First Folio! The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare": This is the only Illinois appearance of the Folger Shakespeare Library's barnstorming exhibition showcasing copies of the First Folio, the 1623 work that was the first collection of Shakespeare's plays, some of which had not been printed before then. Hie thee hence to Lake County to have a gander. *Feb. 3-28 at the Lake County Discovery Museum, 27277 N. Forest Preserve Road, Wauconda; free; 847-968-3400 or lcfdp.org/museum*

7. "Brick by Brick": The Museum of Science and Industry developed and is premiering this showcase for the remarkable powers of interconnectable plastic. Lego brings engineering, creativity and a sort of fussy, but satisfying, Northern European precision into packages that can be relentlessly marketed to adoring kids or, here, assembled into a museum-floor playground covering thousands of square feet. *Opening March 10 at the Museum of Science and Industry, 5700 S. Lake Shore Drive; timed-entry ticket required; 773-684-1414 or msichicago.org*

8. "Kerry James Marshall: Mastry": In touting the show, the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago notes Marshall's "interrogations of art history" and his "defiant assertions of blackness in a medium in which African Americans have long been 'invisible men.'" It sounds not only contemporary, but timely. *April 23 to Sept. 25 at the MCA, 220 E. Chicago Ave.; 312-280-2660 or mcachicago.org*

9. "What Is a Planet?": This exhibition promises to dig into the question of what scientists do as new information changes our body of knowledge. Adler Planetarium will also, in late spring, be premiering a new sky show showcasing the New Horizons spacecraft and the quest for a true ninth planet. Sorry Pluto. *March 19 to Jan. 8, 2017, at the Adler Planetarium, 1300 S. Lake Shore Drive; 312-922-7827 or adlerplanetarium.org*

10. "Patios, Pools & the Invention of the American Backyard": What better exhibition to mount at a suburban museum? This traveling show, organized by the Smithsonian Institution, also ought to have something to offer to fans of mid-century modern design as it explores the American backyard of that era. *March 18 to May 29 at Elmhurst Historical Museum, 120 E. Park Ave., Elmhurst; free; 630-833-1457 or elmhursthistory.org*



PETER DERVIN PHOTO

The Capitol Steps perform "76 Unknowns" about lesser known presidential candidates.

SHOW

Capitol Steps having field day with 2016 election

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

It's hard to imagine a better time to be a member of The Capitol Steps. The race to the White House offers a wealth of material for the group which has prided itself on putting the "mock" in democracy since 1981.

The Capitol Steps, which began as a group of Senate staffers spoofing their employers, will share their wit and wisdom at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts for five performances, Jan. 21-24.

"I don't know that we've ever had a time in our history where people haven't said to us, 'Gosh, you must be having a field day,'" related co-founder Elaina Newport. "But this really is beyond anything we've ever had."

Donald Trump has, of course, been a rich source of material. "For a while, every time he'd come out with an outrageous quote, we would update the show," Newport revealed. "The next day, he was on to insulting somebody else. We finally had to zero in on his major insults."

Newport noted that they have written songs that

The Capitol Steps

When: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday, 5 and 8 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 21-24

Where: North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, 9501 Skokie Blvd.
Tickets: \$32.50-\$49.50
Contact: 847-673-6300; www.northshorecenter.org

include 11 or 12 of the candidates for president. The rest are covered in a little ditty called, "76 Unknowns."

Some of the selections on the program will be from "Mock the Vote," the latest of more than 35 albums the group has recorded.

The majority of the material is created by Newport and Mark Eaton in the group's main office.

"I call it our world headquarters," Newport said. "If something happens in the news that's really huge and we have to deal with it right away, it goes off to the performer. They may have four to six hours to learn it before the show that evening."

Surprisingly enough, the targets of the Capitol Steps

have never complained about being satirized. In fact, Newport revealed, "We've gotten invitations from four presidents over the years — five if you count Hillary (Clinton)."

One politician did complain.

"One senator was mad that we didn't have a song about him," Newport said.

The shows are constantly changing.

"We'll add about a song a week on average," Newport said, adding that about two-thirds of the show has changed since they performed at the North Shore Center last year.

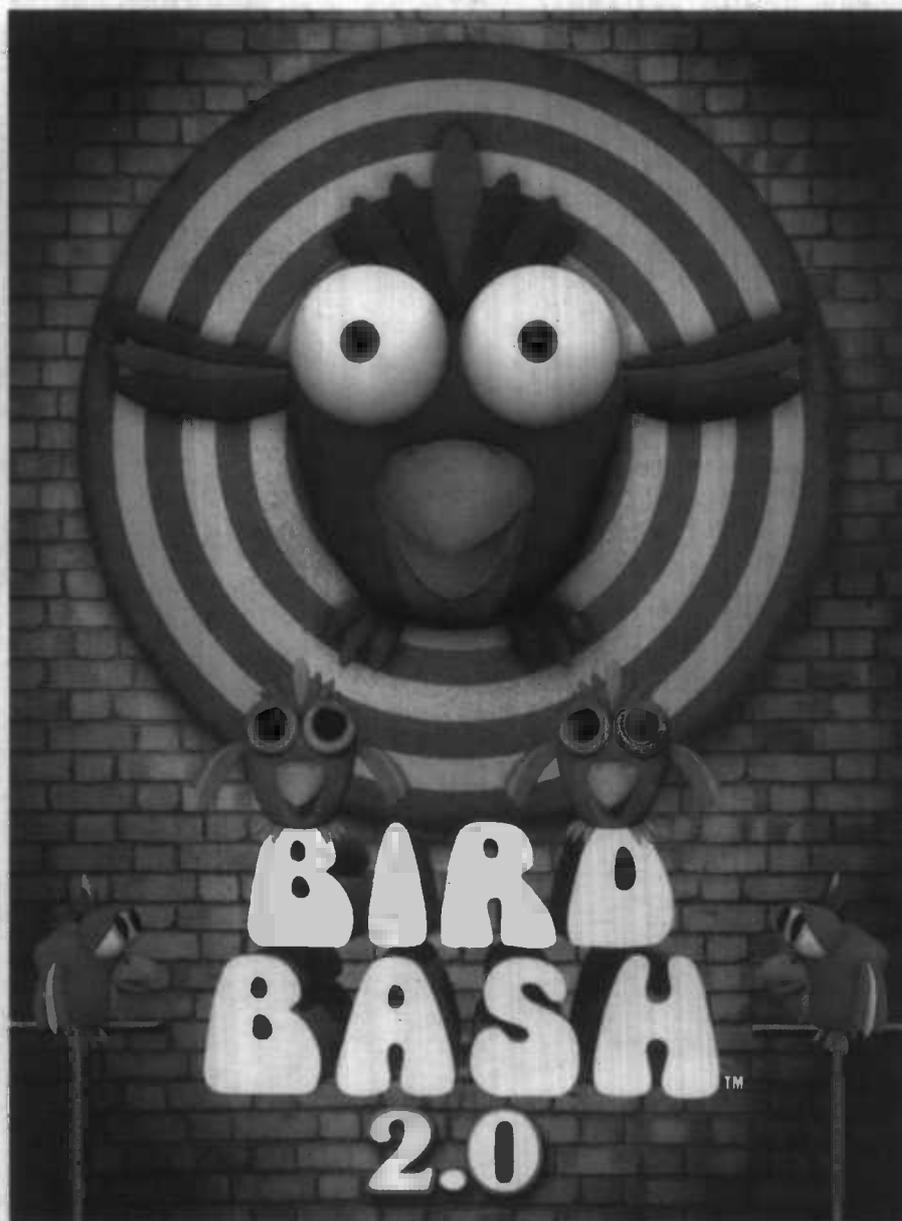
"Some things stick in the news," he said. "The great fiscal crisis actually got bigger this year."

This time around, the election is keeping the performers busy.

"That takes a lot of the show right now," Newport said.

But they aren't ignoring incumbents or international affairs.

Newport advised, "If you've ever wanted to see Barack Obama sing a show tune and Joe Biden sing a rock song and Vladimir Putin dance shirtless, this is the show for you."



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GO

PEOPLE

Spotlight: What people in the arts are up to

Comedy festival,
documentary are
among highlights

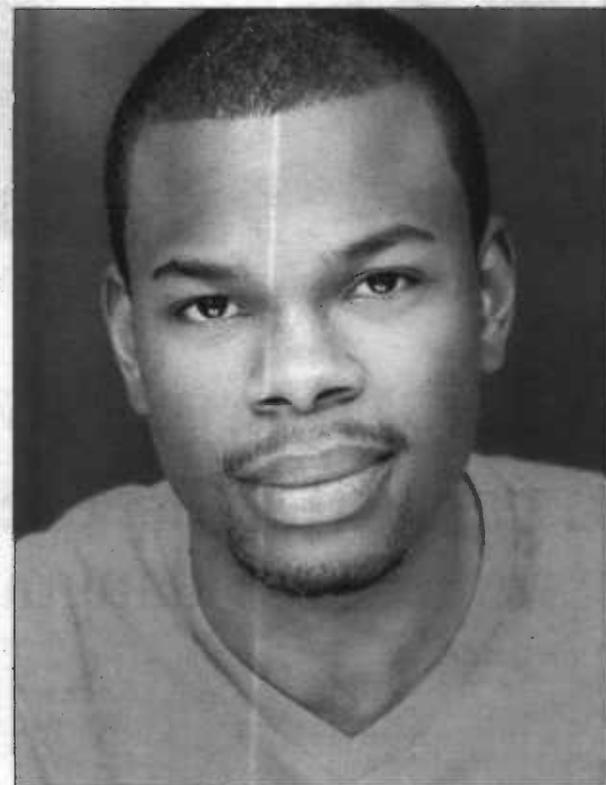
BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Here's a look at the latest
news on suburban authors,
actors, artists, musicians
and more.

Sketchy trio: Three people with suburban connections are participating in the 15th Annual Chicago Sketch Comedy Festival, through Jan. 17, at Stage 773. Evanston native Ted James performs with SassySquatch, which is featured at 2 p.m. Jan. 17. The group prides itself on offending every religious, political and social organization on the planet. Niles native Atra Asdou performs with The Perm. She and Amy Haeussler do what they call "Performance Art," including mediocre musical numbers. The duo performed Jan. 7. Paul Roshanger of Skokie makes his Sketchfest debut with the group The Gravy Boys at 6 p.m. Jan. 17. They will present the sketch show, "I'll Believe It When I Feel It." For tickets, visit stage773.com/chicagosketchfest.

Good grief: A divorced couple meets because of a tragedy, leading to laughter as well as tears, in William Donnelly's "No Wake." Evanston native Lia D. Mortensen plays the ex-wife Rebecca and Evanston resident Kimberly Senior directs the Route 66 Theatre Company production through Feb. 7 at Chicago's Greenhouse Theater Center.

This is the Route 66 debut for Mortensen who has performed at numerous Chicago theaters, in-



TYRONE PHILLIPS

Tyrone Phillips of Skokie is focusing on racial tensions in a small Southern town as director of "Byhalia, Mississippi" for The New Colony theatre company at Chicago's Den Theatre.

cluding Chicago Shakespeare, Goodman and Steppenwolf. Director Senior has many area, regional and New York credits, including directing the 2013 Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Disgraced" by Ayad Akhtar. For "No Wake" tickets, visit greenhousetheater.org.

Girl power: For four years, girls ages 12-16 have discovered new career possibilities at the GADgET program (Girls Adventuring in Design Engineering and Technology) at Triton College in River Grove. Oak Park filmmaker Rise Sanders-Weir created a documentary about the girls' experiences, which was screened at the school on Dec. 10.

Don't miss "Mississippi!": Skokie native and resident Tyrone Phillips is focusing on racial tensions in a small Southern town as director of "Byhalia, Mississippi" by Evan Linder for The New Colony. The coproduction with Definition Theatre Company is part of a unique project with simultaneous openings in four U.S. and Canadian cities, and staged readings in three other U.S. cities, followed by an online talkback on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Phillips is founding artistic director of Definition Theatre Company. "Byhalia, Mississippi" runs through Feb. 14 at Chicago's Den Theatre. For tickets, visit www.thenewcolony.org.



LINCOLNWOOD PARKS

Dads and their daughters will create memories of "Sweet Moments," a Lincolnwood Park District dance set for 6 to 9 p.m. Feb. 5 at Monastero's Ristorante in Chicago.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Dancing and games promise fun at Dad-daughter evening

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Fathers and their girls, ages 5-15, will spend "Sweet Moments" at a Daddy Daughter Dance, 6-9 p.m. Feb. 5 at Monastero's Ristorante, 3935 W. Devon Ave., Chicago. The annual event is presented by the Village of Lincolnwood's Parks and Recreation Department.

"It's a beautiful room. We decorate it with balloons and heart-themed decorations," said Linda Vering, community outreach and marketing coordinator. "The girls dress in their finest party dresses. Some of them wear corsets. It's one of the sweetest things I have ever seen."

The dads and daughters dine from a buffet that includes both fun foods for the kids plus pasta and chicken for the adults. A DJ provides music for dancing and leads games.

The cost by Jan. 15 for residents is \$65 per couple; \$20 per additional daughter; \$80 per couple and \$25 per additional daughter for nonresidents. After Jan. 15, prices are \$75 and \$25 for

residents; \$90 and \$30 for nonresidents.

For details, call 847-677-9740 or go to www.lincolnwoodil.org.

Food for thought

More than 50 students in the District 219 area are homeless. You can help them by attending the District 219 Education Foundation's Pizza Wars 6, 6-8:30 p.m. Jan. 20 at Niles North High School's main gymnasium, 9800 Lawler Ave., Skokie. You'll sample pizzas from local restaurants and watch the mayors of Skokie, Morton Grove, Lincolnwood and Niles compete in a pizza-eating contest. The cost is \$12 in advance; \$15 at the door.

For details, go to www.219foundation.org.

Skate with Skates

The Chicago Wolves mascot, Skates, will be the guest of honor at an Oakton Open House, 11 a.m.-12:50 p.m. Jan. 18 at Oakton Ice Arena, 2800 W. Oakton, Park Ridge. The school holiday event is for all ages

and abilities. Admission will be half price and skate rental \$1.

For details, call 847-692-3359 or go to www.prparks.org.

Cultural connection

Celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day by watching Soli Performing Arts Company's Dances from Africa, 2-3 p.m. Jan. 18 at Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave. There will be dancing, drumming and stories.

For details, call 847-965-4220 or go to www.mgpl.org.

Helping hands

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. urged people to help others. Your family can spend his holiday doing that at Make a Difference Day, noon-5 p.m. Jan. 18 at Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. There will be activities for all ages in the central lobby.

For details, call 847-673-7774 or go to www.skokielibrary.info.

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Living

Thursday, January 14, 2016



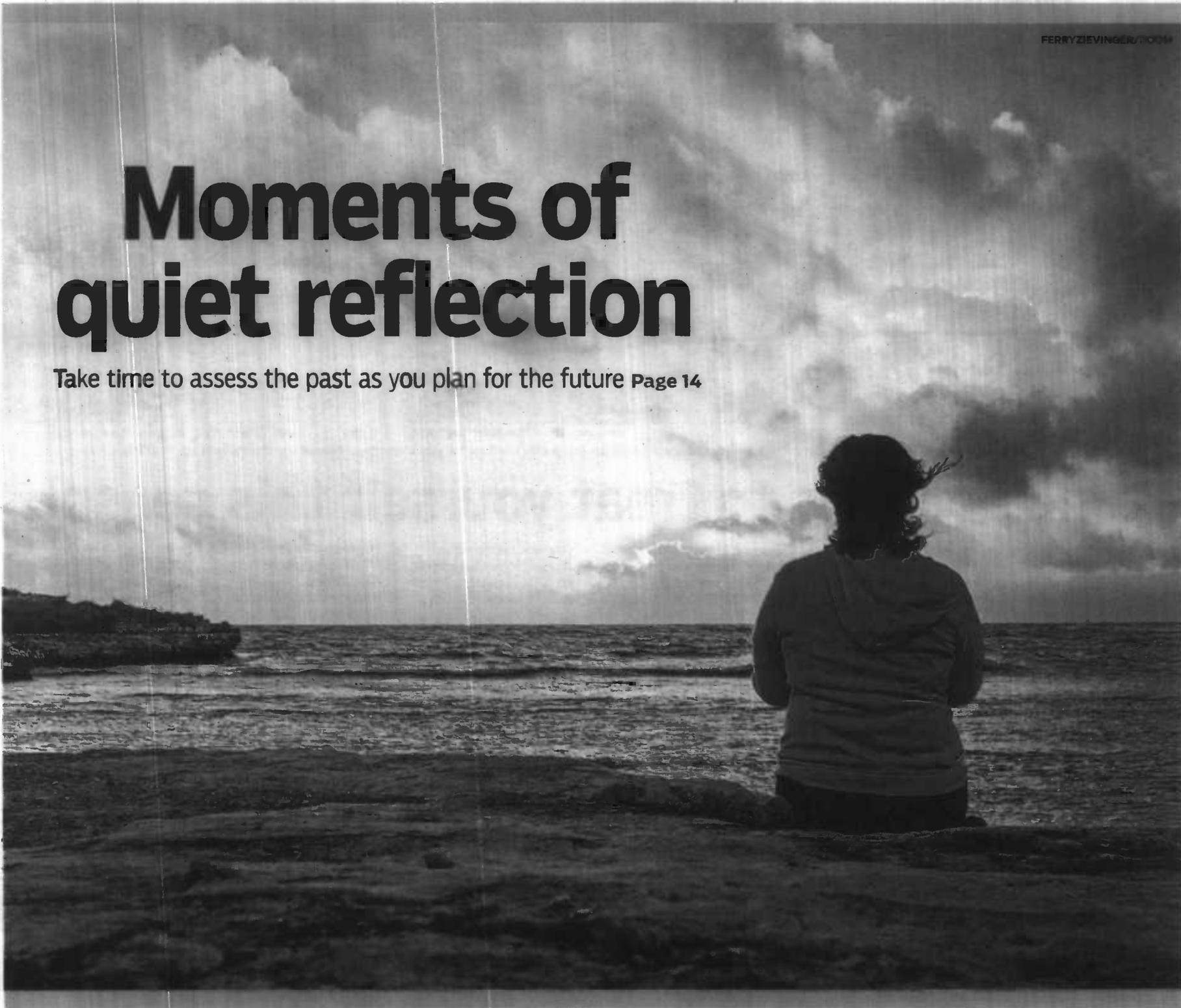
**Love essentially:
Bulls rookie's
insight on game
transcends
sport** Page 11

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FERRYZIEVINGER/ISTOCK

Moments of quiet reflection

Take time to assess the past as you plan for the future Page 14



HOME



KATE JACKSON INTERIOR DESIGN PHOTOS

Painting a room is affordable, but the joy you may get from professionally installed, luxurious wallpaper can last for years.

Soft, crisp sheets and fluffy towels can be expensive, but the difference in quality and comfort can be surprising.

Home splurges to treat yourself this season

By **Melissa Rayworth**
Associated Press

So many of our home-improvement and design choices are practical ones: Which sofa will stand up over the years? Which paint color matches the furniture?

But what about changes that could really elevate our happiness at home?

Sometimes the smallest things can make home life easier and more joyful: Interior designer Kate Jackson says that starting each day using her sterling silver spoons makes the morning feel more special for her whole family.

And once the holiday madness has passed, it's high time to re-evaluate our homes, and make changes that can make our lives better. We've asked

Jackson and two other designers — Sarah Fishburne, director of trend and design for the Home Depot, and New York-based Danielle Colding — about home innovations and splurges that you can give yourself.

Warm floors all winter

Colding had a client with a large house that was often filled with friends. The kitchen was the most-used room, and “he just wanted the luxury of that room feeling really good,” Colding says, but “it just felt cold.” So they found a creative solution: Adding a heated floor.

The key to these kinds of investments, Colding says, is knowing which ones will really improve your daily life. Although expensive, a heated kitchen floor is a

feature you can use every day in the fall and winter.

“It’s like when people spend \$300 on jeans and it sounds crazy,” Colding says, but they wear those jeans constantly and treasure them.

Upgrading your closet

“There’s something about a really well-organized, decked-out closet,” Fishburne says, that improves the start of every day.

When you get dressed, she says, “you’re not rushing, going ‘Where did I put this?’” And you wear more of your clothes because you can actually see them.

Technology has made closet planning simpler and more fun: Home Depot and other

companies offer online planning tools that let you sketch out different configurations. And the range of storage solutions and styles of closet interiors has been expanding.

The sound of music

Jackson, who is based in Rhode Island, says clients who have invested in good sound systems installed in the walls are always glad they did.

“Sounds can obviously set a mood and have a really powerful effect on how we feel through the day,” she says. Few things impact an entire home so powerfully, she says. And unlike a piece of furniture that you might get tired of, easy access to great sound is “the gift that keeps on giving.”

High-end linens

Treating yourself to soft, crisp sheets and fluffy towels can be expensive, Colding says. But the difference in quality and comfort can be surprising, and for some people the enjoyment is worth the investment.

And on a practical level, “they last forever,” she says, and “they wash really well.”

Touch faucet

One less expensive treat that Fishburne has “kind of fallen in love with” is a high-tech touch faucet. These switch on with just the lightest pressure — even a quick tap from an elbow or fingertip. So if you’re cooking and have your hands full, you can turn on the water without putting down a hot pot or heavy colander.

There is a health benefit: If you’re cooking with raw meat or eggs and need to turn on the water, you don’t need to risk transferring germs from your hands to the tap. And many models have an ingenious safety feature: A light shows blue or red, depending on the water temperature.

Beautiful wallpaper

Painting a room is an affordable and easy do-it-yourself choice, Jackson says. But the joy you may get from professionally installed, luxurious wallpaper can last for years.

While decorating the bathrooms in a client’s home, Jackson suggested striking wallpaper that “made these ‘vanilla’ rooms sing.”

Keep traditions with handed-down recipes

Frolick says every good recipe has a story behind it

By Judy Buchenot
Beacon-News

"Every good recipe has a story," said Naperville resident Sharon Frolick.

It may be the pineapple carrot salad your mom made whenever she served ham or the slow cooked brisket that was the one dish your dad ever made, but the story behind a recipe often adds an interesting flavor, contends Frolick.

In 2006, she put together "Naperville Family Recipes," a cookbook filled with both time-honored recipes and the stories behind them. She enjoyed hearing the many stories behind recipes. Frolick encourages storytelling when she teaches creative writing in North Central College's continuing education program.

"It is always fun when the creative ideas leap onto the page," she said.

Frolick likes to instill creativity in all parts of life, including exercise. She leads the Ageless Grace program at the Naperville Park District. Billed as "timeless fitness for the mind and body," this class focuses on 21 simple exercise tools that help in joint mobility, spinal flexibility and coordination for the mind and body connection.

Frolick is a certified instructor for the well-known program and has been leading classes for five years.

"The exercises are fun and simple," she said. "Like the spelling bee where we write words using different body parts like your elbow. There is a strong group connection within the class and everyone leaves feeling energized, relaxed and happy."

Cooking is another creative outlet for Frolick. One of the dishes she likes to take to potlucks is noodle kugel.

"Kugel means pudding," she said. "There are many varieties like noodle kugel or potato kugel. Although pudding sometimes makes you think of a sweet dish, a kugel does not have to be sweet. Some are sweet and some aren't."

Noodle kugel is easy to make and traditionally is served during holiday meals in Frolick's family.

"The recipe is from my Aunt Bea, who was actually my cousin but we called her Aunt Bea," Frolick said. "Aunt Bea grew up



JUDY BUCHENOT/NAPERVILLE SUN

Sharon Frolick layers egg noodles into a casserole dish to make her no-cook noodle kugel. The noodles do not need to be boiled first, making the dish easier to get ready for baking.

in Skokie but then got married and moved to Maryland where I grew up. When she moved there, she taught me how to make it. Then I moved here to the Midwest and make it for people here once again like she did."

Frolick said other ingredients can be easily added to the recipe.

"You can add chopped apples or fresh peaches. It is a great luncheon dish served with a salad."

To make the recipe even easier, Frolick came up with a way to avoid precooking the noodles.

"I call it no-cook noodle kugel because you can just layer in the noodles without cooking them first," she said.

Another one of Frolick's easy yet delicious recipes came from her cousin Ethyl. "She gave me this recipe for one pot

spice squares when I went off to college because it was something that could be made easily in just one pot. You know how in college you don't have a lot of dishes, so it was perfect. It's made with things that I usually have in the pantry." Frolick has made the recipe since her college days and shared it with her college roommate.

"She tells me that she still makes it all of the time," Frolick said.

A few years ago, she learned that Ethyl's daughter was putting together a cookbook of her mom's recipes.

"I asked her if she had the spice squares recipe and she didn't, so I sent it to her to put in the cookbook. It is interesting how some recipes just get passed around."

Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer.

No Cook Noodle Kugel

- 8 ounces flat egg noodles
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 8 ounces small curd cottage cheese
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 1/4 cups milk
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 cup raisins

1. Grease a 9 by 12 baking dish. Layer noodles into the bottom of the dish. Mix together butter, eggs, vanilla, cottage cheese, sugar, milk and cinnamon until blended. Stir in raisins. Pour over noodles. Bake at 350 degrees for 55 to 60 minutes.

One-pot spice squares

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup butter
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground allspice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 tablespoons tepid water
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 cup powdered sugar

1. In a heavy pot, mix together sugar, water, raisins and butter. Cook and stir over medium heat until butter is melted. Add cinnamon, allspice and salt and mix.

2. Cook and stir until mixture comes to a boil. Remove pot from heat and cool for 30 minutes.

3. Then add flour, baking soda and water and mix. Spread mixture into a greased 9 by 12 pan. Bake at 400 degrees for 25 minutes. Cut into squares while still warm. Mix together lemon juice and powdered sugar and stir until smooth. Pour over warm cut squares to glaze them. When cool, store in a tightly covered container. Squares freeze well.

Sharon's Culinary Cue

When using garlic, cut it up and allow it to sit out for 10 minutes. By allowing the garlic to rest, alliin, an anti-inflammatory substance, will be released, providing a healthy boost to your dish.

PETS/ANIMALS

Aging boomer dog lovers choosing pint-size pooches

By Jackie Crosby
Minneapolis Star Tribune

MINNEAPOLIS — Sue Bohlmann always loved big dogs. Golden retrievers, especially. Then she and her husband added a Bernese mountain dog to the mix.

"Big dogs have such a presence," she said. "They like you to bury your head in their big chests or ram their big bodies into you. They're just so comforting."

But when their 4-year-old Bernese died suddenly and they had to put down their aging golden shortly thereafter, Bohlmann, 69, took a serious look at downsizing her dogs. "I wanted to make sure I was diligent in my choice, because I would be moving into my 70s with whatever breed we chose," she said.

She and her husband, Pete, now share their Minnetonka, Minn., home with a couple of tiny tail-waggers: an energetic and agile 11-pound Havanese named Mateo and a 6-pound papillon-Maltese mix named Gretel.

More than half of U.S. households own a dog that weighs less than 25 pounds, according to the marketing research firm Packaged Facts. The trend toward pint-size pooches has been documented since 2000 but has accelerated in recent years, in part

because of an aging population of baby boomers.

As these dog lovers head into their golden years, the notion of scaling down becomes more pressing. Bodies are aging, strength is waning and occasionally we are less sturdy on our feet.

"If you're concerned about falling, having a big, boisterous puppy in your household could be challenging," said Cindy Johnson of the Minnesota Animal Humane Society.

In addition, many senior high-rises and assisted-living communities have size restrictions, which make it difficult to bring larger breeds with you if you need or want to move.

Depending on the breed, more petite dogs also may be less demanding.

"One of the big concerns seniors have is being able to walk with their dogs," said Carol Martin, owner of Tails of 2 Cities, a pet-sitting and dog-walking company. "It's healthy for everyone to get outside, but the smaller ones are fine in the backyard, just chasing squirrels."

But a dog's energy levels and temperament can be just as important as size.

If you have young grandchildren who visit often, an easygoing Lab or retriever mix might be a better fit than a high-strung Jack



DAVID JOLLES/MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE

Sue Bohlmann, 69, used to have big dogs. But now she and her husband share their home with tiny tail-waggers.

Russell terrier that might not like having its tail tugged.

Age — of the dog, not just the owners — also plays a role.

Rescue groups and animal shelters encourage older dog lovers to consider adopting an adult dog or even a white-muzzled senior. Adult dogs have outgrown their rambunctious puppy stage, and there are fewer surprises when it comes to their health and personalities.

"Many of us remember what it was like to get our first dog in our 20s or 30s when we first set out on our own," said Johnson of the

Humane Society.

"You get 55 or older, you might say, 'No, thank you. I want a nice adult dog, easygoing, where I don't have to worry about training and destroying the house.'"

Older dogs can be a better fit "energy-wise," said Jean Beuning, who runs Top Dog Country Club in New Germany, Minn.

No matter what breed an aging dog lover settles on, it's important to consider the dog's future too.

"I know people who've set aside money in their will to care for their dogs," Martin said. "At least you have a better chance of

having someone help out if you go first."

Beuning bought long-term care insurance.

"This way nobody tells me I have to move to assisted living and my dogs can't follow," she said. "We can all stay at home."

As for Bohlmann, she has no regrets about downsizing. She ended up needing neck surgery that would have made walking and caring for a big dog more difficult.

"A companion is a companion," she said, "no matter what size."

PET OF THE WEEK



Laffy

To find me, no need to look down, I am the type of cat that loves to be up and high, the higher the more fun, even on top of cabinets in the kitchen. So if you prefer a cat that sticks to the floor and couch, I am not your girl. I get along great with other cats and even dogs unless they are too hyperactive. Would love to move in with you, especially if you have high shelves or cat trees but don't worry, I also love relaxing in your lap or next to you.

For additional information, go to www.saveapetil.org.

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New car warranty started before purchase

Dear Help Squad,
A major automaker representative informed me that my new car's three-year warranty started the day the factory released the car, as opposed to six months later when I purchased it as "new" with 20 miles from the dealership.

That is the first time I have ever heard of this. Have you ever heard that from anyone?

Eric, Park Ridge

No, I had not heard of this before, but I was sure I could track down someone who had. I started with a quick search of the Internet and came upon a post titled "New Car Warranties Don't Always Start From Date of Purchase", by Benjamin Hunting of autobytel.com.

From Hunting's post: "The idea that the starting point for a warranty is tied in to the date which a new owner takes delivery of the car, truck or crossover in question is a logical connection to make. Unfortunately for some buyers this is not always the case, leading to the surprise termination of warranty coverage months or even

years prior to the expected end date."

The reason for this is that "many car companies set the warranty wheels in motion on the date when a vehicle is first marked as being put 'in service' by the dealer. ... An automobile can be marked as 'in service' for a number of different reasons" including being used as a demo car or being classified as sold so a dealer can benefit from a limited-time manufacturer's incentive. "This can often be the case when looking at leftover inventory from a previous model year."

I asked National Automobile Dealers Association spokesperson Charles Cyrill about this and he emailed the following statement: "Auto manufacturers — not the dealers — provide vehicle warranties. But when an issue occurs, it's the local dealers who advocate on behalf of their customers. When purchasing a demo or loaner vehicle from a dealership, car buyers should review the warranty paperwork carefully,



CATHY CUNNINGHAM
Help Squad

talk to the dealer, or contact the auto manufacturer if they have any questions or concerns prior to the sale."

Then, to come full circle on the subject of new car warranties, I contacted a manufacturer — GM — to see what they had to say.

Director of communications Patrick Morrissey explained, "The warranty starts when a vehicle is put into service. On a new vehicle, this will be the day it's delivered to the owner. The only exception to this is if the vehicle goes into some other service before getting sold to a customer — a company car, for example, or a dealer courtesy car. In these very rare cases, the warranty starts when the vehicle goes into its initial use." He concluded, "The specific details of the warranty should be communicated to the customer at the time of sale."

The four most common new car warranties, to which the combination of initial in-service date and mileage will apply, are the following:

- Basic or bumper-to-bumper coverage pays to repair defects in factory-installed parts — typically everything but tires, as tires come with their own manufacturer's warranty.

- A powertrain or drivetrain warranty covers problems with the engine, transmission and transaxle, and typically lasts longer than basic coverage.

- Corrosion coverage addresses metal parts such as doors and side panels that have rusted through completely.

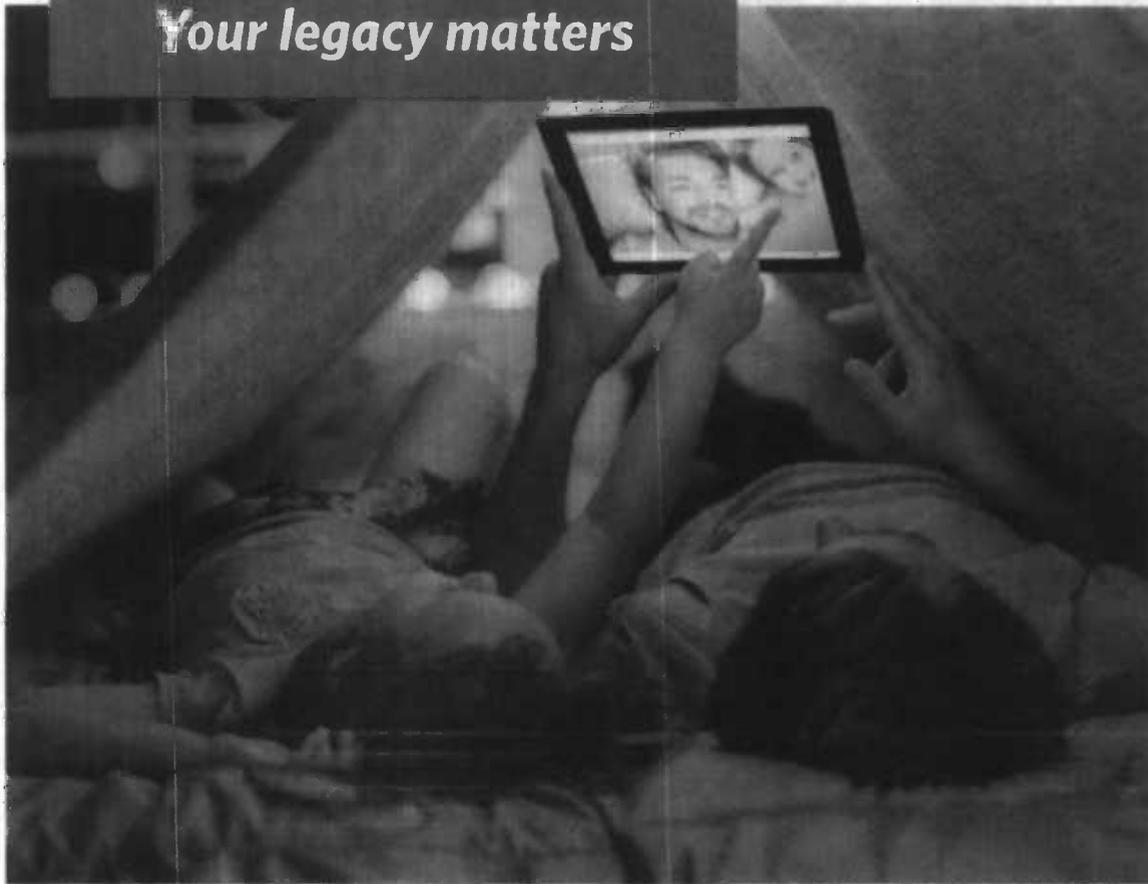
- Roadside assistance provides towing, tire-changing, locksmith and jump-start services should the vehicle experience issues while traveling.

Bottom line: Prior to signing any sale documents, be sure to thoroughly read a car warranty's fine print, as well as any disclaimers, such as those detailing previous use as a demo car.

Send your questions to helpsquad@pioneerlocal.com.

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

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ROUNDUP | CRIME FICTION

**Silver Bullets**

By *Elmer Mendoza*, MacLehose Press, 222 pages, \$24.99

Celebrated Mexican writer Elmer Mendoza doesn't indulge in the niceties of narrative fiction. He shoves together lines of dialogue, without quote marks, into run-on paragraphs, leaving the reader to figure out who's saying what and where one scene stops and another begins. It takes a while to get the hang of his prose, but once you do, his acid wit and blunt noir style take you for a ride. In "Silver Bullets," first published in Mexico in 2008, Det. Edgar "Lefty" Mendieta, a '60s rock-loving intellectual with a cynical (read: realistic) streak, investigates a pair of killings in the city of Culiacán. The victims are Bruno Canizales, a high-profile bisexual attorney, and Paola Rodriguez, his tempestuous female lover. Both were shot with silver bullets; the assumption is that Paola killed him and then turned the gun on herself. But what about Bruno's other hot-tempered squeeze, dancer Frank Aldana? And in narco country, where any investigation is guaranteed to take you down a trail of depravity and doom, it's never safe to assume a shooting death

isn't drug-related. That Lefty is being treated for depression, *a la* Tony Soprano, adds an unlikely wrinkle to the story. Did his abusive father buy him popcorn at the movies, asks his shrink. "It could be an active element in your bag of poison," the shrink says. When Lefty seeks escape in a showing of "Capote," he has no chance of relaxing. "He tried to buy popcorn, but a shiver ran down his spine."

**Hour of the Wolf**

By *Håkan Nesser*, Pantheon, 320 pages, \$25.95

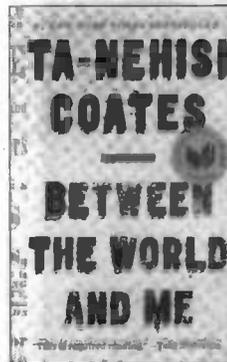
"I'd like you to know that I was a normal human being two months ago," says the killer in Swedish favorite Håkan Nesser's seventh Van Veeteren novel. Two months ago, he hadn't accidentally run over a kid on a bike or started fatally bashing people — including Van Veeteren's troubled son — to cover his tracks. Two months ago, the killer didn't have the retired chief inspector's dedicated team — Reinhart, Münster, Moreno and the gang — putting together the pieces of his serial crimes. Is it possible the innocuous killer, whose name isn't revealed until late in the story, would have led a "normal" life had he not had too much to drink one fateful night? Though Nesser is a bit generous in allowing a couple of key clues to fall out of the sky, the pleasures of "Hour of the Wolf" (first published in Sweden in 1999) have as much to do with the philosophical musings of the cops as the increasingly twisted first-person narration of their prey. "Why did something like this have to happen?"

wonders Münster. "What's the point? He knew they were futile questions, but the fact that they always cropped up might indicate something even so. Something to do with hope and positivism. A sort of refusal to surrender to the powers of darkness? Perhaps that was a way of looking at it, perhaps that was how one should interpret that eternal why." You wonder how any good investigator could not think that way.

CHICAGOLAND BEST-SELLERS

1. "Between the World and Me" by *Ta-Nehisi Coates* (Spiegel & Grau, \$24).
2. "My Brilliant Friend" by *Elena Ferrante* (Europa Editions, \$17).
3. "The Martian" by *Andy Weir* (Broadway, \$15).
4. "Thing Explainer: Complicated Stuff in Simple Words" by *Randall Munroe* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$24.95).
5. "The Nightingale" by *Kristin Hannah* (St. Martin's, \$27.99).

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

**World Gone By: A Novel**

By *Dennis Lehane*, William Morrow, 312 pages, \$16.99

Ten years after the death of his wife and the destruction of his crime empire, Joe Coughlin finds himself working for the Bartolo crime family, interacting with the underworlds of pre-revolution Cuba and American social elites and military intelligence. His newfound success, however, cannot protect him from his past lifetime of sin.

**The Train to Crystal City**

By *Jan Jarboe Russell*, Scribner, 405 pages, \$18

Russell details the family internment camp in Crystal City, Texas, which housed Japanese, German and Italian immigrants and their U.S.-born children. Russell looks also at how the camp served as a "quiet passage" prisoner exchange program in which hundreds were traded for American diplomats, businessmen and soldiers behind Japanese and German lines.

**What Was Mirie: A Novel**

By *Helen Klein Ross*, Gallery, 328 pages, \$16

Twenty-one years ago, Lucy Wakefield made a snap decision to kidnap baby Mia from a shopping cart to raise as her own child — a secret she kept from everyone. After Mia discovers the horrible truth, Lucy flees to China to avoid prosecution, creating a ripple effect that impacts everyone.

**Ten Million Aliens**

By *Simon Barnes*, Marble Arch, 480 pages, \$17

Barnes examines the animal kingdom, offering fun facts and unique tidbits about a variety of species, from mollusks the size of buses to bdelloid rotifers, which have reproduced asexually for millions of years. In detailing the animal kingdom, Barnes seeks what unites animals and humans, and explores animal references in the works of James Joyce and more.

**The Devil You Know: A Novel**

By *Elisabeth de Mariaffi*, Touchstone, 321 pages, \$15.99

Rookie crime reporter Evie Jones is still haunted by the unsolved murder of her best friend when they were both 11 years old. Obsessed with finding the killer, Evie and her friend David Patton begin the hunt, but with every clue comes an unimaginable conclusion — and the realization that the killer is coming back for Evie.

— *Jeremy Mikula*



puzzle island

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

The "In" Crowd: Both first name and last

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

Across

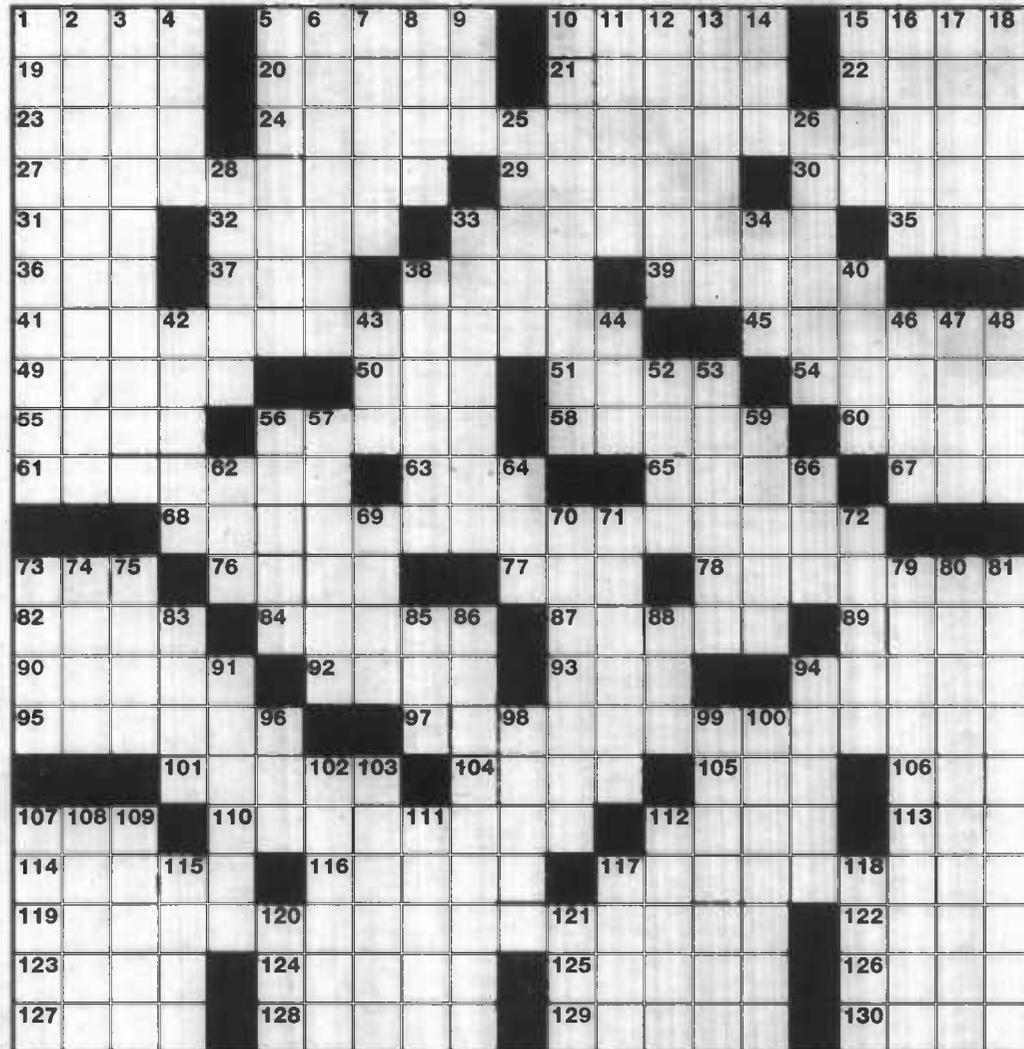
- 1 Wearsome one
5 Mean-spirited
10 Embellish
15 Get clean
19 State with conviction
20 Prestigious schools
21 Triple trio
22 Sailor's patron saint
23 Analyze
24 *Doctor Zhivago* actress
27 Timberland limits
29 Keep occupied
30 Cornfield stem
31 Street often near Maple
32 Some Wall St. traders
33 Puts up a fuss
35 "May I help you?"
36 Rip off
37 "The Bells" writer
38 Toronto team, for short
39 *Washington Journal* airer
41 *Uncivil Liberties* author
45 Mall booths
49 Lone Ranger's farewell
50 Back in time
51 School session
54 Holy See official language
55 Cliffs of Dover county
56 Final authority
58 Playthings with strings
60 Sainly symbol
61 Narrowly defeat
63 Alias preceder
65 Dazzled

- 67 Show of respect
68 '50s R&B legend
73 *The Office* receptionist
76 Enticement
77 Course standard
78 French porcelain center
82 Miss Hannigan in the *Annie* remake
84 Port authority's concerns
87 Drive home
89 Port authority's concern
90 Fess up to
92 Gin flavoring
93 ___ manner of speaking
94 Vessel of 1492
95 Washington airport
97 2016 Wimbledon doubles champ
101 Dubliners, for example
104 Sounds at shearings
105 Little guy
106 Earth-friendly prefix
107 *Ragtime* author's monogram
110 Fence feature
112 Incantation starter
113 ___ Faire (reenactment venue)
114 Boot camp nickname
116 Key above G
117 Where the other side resides
119 *The Hateful Eight* director
122 Earnest appeal
123 Celestial bear
124 Incessantly

- 125 Stay home for supper
126 Monocle, essentially
127 Toward Turkey
128 Relinquishes formally
129 Expressionless, as a stare
130 Air France retirees of '03

Down

- 1 Flapjack
2 Stuffed and then some
3 A la
4 Alphabet Suite artist
5 Steel precursor
6 50-50 chance
7 Tuckers (out)
8 Brewed beverages
9 Fashion initials
10 Bad blood
11 Sugary ring
12 "I'll be right with you"
13 Nook
14 Ultimate degree
15 Was visibly upset
16 Set to rest
17 Be visibly delighted
18 Sounds heard in jams
25 Actress Hannah
26 Besiege
28 ___ lazuli (blue mineral)
33 Hapless boxer
34 Rd. with tolls
38 Picture puzzle
40 *Daily Show* host
42 Picked a ticket
43 Line of light
44 Opposite of paleo-
46 Shot in the dark
47 Metric weight



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

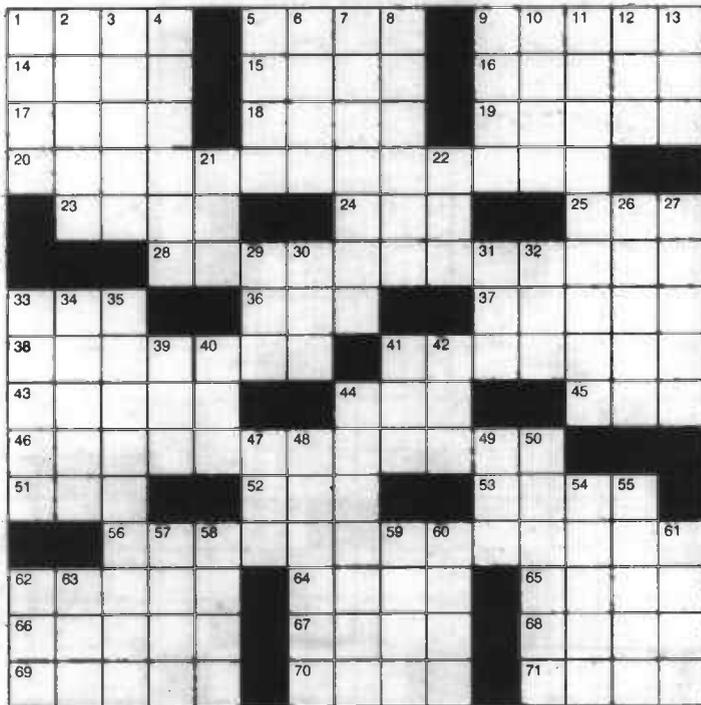
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- 48 Deceive
52 Clancy hero
53 Kipling character
56 First light
57 Some of the oldest video games
59 Became prevalent
62 Fossil fuel
64 Pharaoh's snake
66 Perignon's title
69 Bread end
70 Ecological abode
71 Farsi speakers
72 Futile
73 iPhone ancestors: Abbr.
74 Helper
75 One of the Bears
79 Bar mixers
80 Incentive
81 Theme-park offering
83 Elbows alternative
85 CD follower
86 Coastal regions
88 Neutral color
91 Walmart competitor
94 3/14, to Princetonians
96 52 Down's employer
98 Dreadlocks wearer
99 *Iberia* composer
100 Music Department course
102 Mother of the Madonna, for short
103 Hoisted in one's hands
107 Ending like -ish
108 Ashley the designer
109 Ashley design
111 Wood shaver
112 Novelist Brookner
115 Mosquito cousin
117 Citation abbreviation
118 Some NCOs
120 Winter Games org.
121 Ion descriptor: Abbr.

State Your Name

BY CHARLES PRESTON

1/10



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

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Across

- 1 Seaweed substance
- 5 Landon, et al.
- 9 Cause horror
- 14 Michael's *Disclosure* costar
- 15 Potential measure
- 16 Cite
- 17 Wings
- 18 Operatic prince
- 19 Marry
- 20 Gleason role in *The Hustler*
- 23 Fog
- 24 Poitier role
- 25 Choose
- 28 "Lost Ark" seeker
- 33 ___-fi
- 36 Banking convenience: abbr.
- 37 Clarence's accuser
- 38 Leather-producing plant
- 41 Convinced
- 43 Heated offense?
- 44 Swiss river
- 45 Age units: abbr.
- 46 Sweet woman of song
- 51 Rams' home: abbr.
- 52 Powerful D.C. lobby
- 53 Berlin composition

- 56 *A Room of One's Own* author
- 62 Match site
- 64 Probability
- 65 Blackthorn
- 66 Kind of dressing
- 67 Food fish
- 68 Greek letters
- 69 Legends
- 70 Draft classification
- 71 Collectors' goals

Down

- 1 First man
- 2 Very cold
- 3 Name in freezers
- 4 Wagner opera
- 5 Budget competitor
- 6 Golden Arches, e.g.
- 7 Driftwood, e.g.
- 8 Push to the limits
- 9 Greenish blue
- 10 Usual fourth-down play
- 11 Calamine lotion target
- 12 Bar member: abbr.
- 13 *To Kill a Mockingbird* author
- 21 Dusk, to Browning
- 22 Monk's title
- 26 Diminish, with out
- 35 Not quite bankrupt
- 39 Postal-creed word
- 40 Part of the UK
- 41 Struggle
- 42 Pizarro's quest
- 44 Give up
- 47 Participle suffix
- 48 Song-like passage
- 49 Opposite of ENE
- 50 Rope loops
- 54 *The Prince of Tides* star
- 55 Act self-satisfied
- 57 Move at a snail's pace
- 58 Stadium approvals
- 59 Inactive
- 60 On the briny
- 61 Admit, colloquially, with up
- 62 Pitcher's asset
- 63 *Everything Is Beautiful* singer

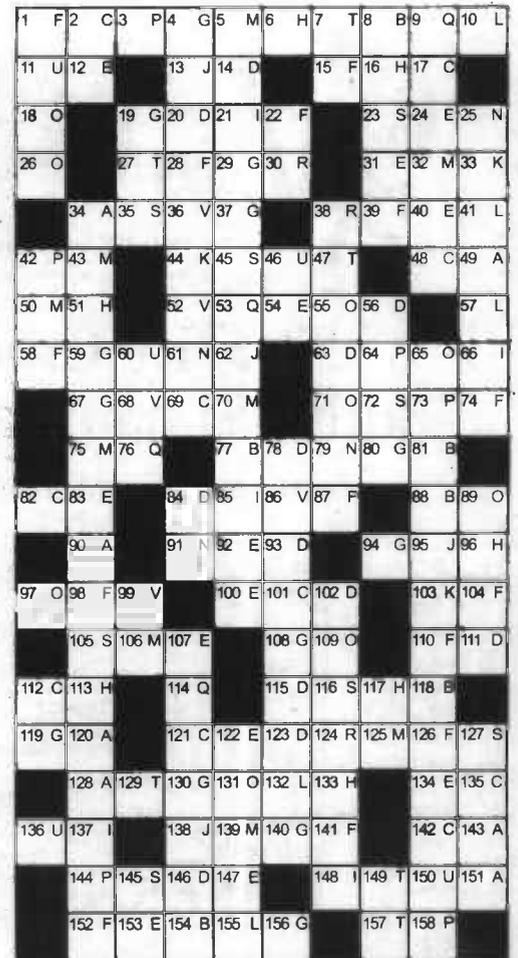
Quote-Acrossic

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

Clues

- A. Become an item; 2 wds. 128 90 49 151 143 34 120
- B. Measurer 77 88 154 81 118 8
- C. Asea; 3 wds. 101 142 82 135 112 48 121 17 69 2
- D. Ptolemaic era stele; 2 wds. 123 20 14 146 93 115 63 84 102
78 111 56
- E. Ecological disaster 107 12 122 92 54 153 147 40 31
134 24 83 100
- F. Ask for lunch; 3 wds. 58 28 141 39 98 74 104 126 15
- G. Hourglass-like: hyph. 22 87 110 1 152
80 108 140 37 119 59 19 67 130
4 94 29 156
- H. Pennsylvania town 133 113 6 51 16 117 96
- I. Soil 148 66 21 137 85
- J. Dream 138 13 62 95
- K. Go off course 33 103 44
- L. Not hidden 132 57 10 155 41
- M. Umbrella alternates 43 106 75 32 125 139 70 50 5
- N. Veto 25 79 91 61
- O. Simple; 3 wds. 26 18 131 97 71 109 89 65 55
- P. Covered a house 64 3 144 158 42 73
- Q. Fish for eggs 76 53 114 9
- R. Smooth the way 30 124 38
- S. Old-time institution term; 2 wds. 23 45 35 145 116 105 72 127
- T. West Indies magic 149 157 27 47 129 7
- U. Delete 150 46 136 11 60
- V. Travel plan 68 86 36 52 99

Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island
By Pat Bittermann. Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.
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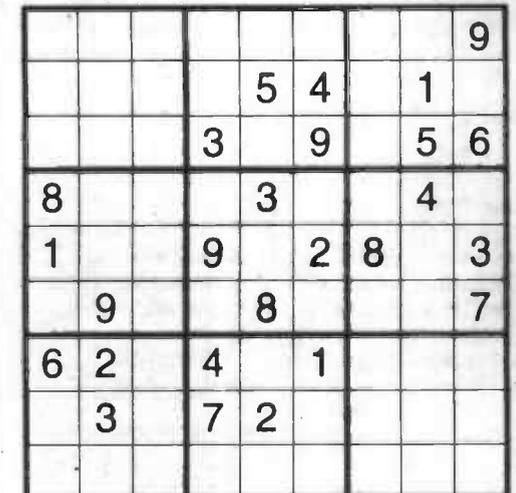


Sudoku

1/10

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

Level: **1 2 3 4**



Last week's answers appear on the next page

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Mixed Doubles

1/10

BY MATT SKOCZEN

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

- 1 Holiday dinner choices
 9 Happen
 15 Bond villain with a "great football of a head"
 20 "1984" superstate
 21 Bibliography catchall
 22 Pop singer — Marie
 23 Georgia native
 24 Dinner and a movie?
 26 Equine shade
 27 World's first independent credit card company, initially
 29 Compound with a fruity aroma
 30 Shades
 31 Rotten luck in Rotterdam?
 36 Cast out
 38 Cyclist's obstacle
 39 Genesis setting
 42 Patty Hearst alias
- 46 Abbr. under a dotted line
 47 Ceremony for the Jetsons?
 50 Org. concerned with whistleblower laws
 54 SeaWorld splasher
 57 20 Mule Team brand
 58 Within: Pref.
 59 Couch potato's acquisition, perhaps
 61 Many hits
 63 Masters
 65 In a way, casually
 66 Unisex designer fragrance
 67 Floor
 69 Kind of milk
 70 Citations from an underwriter?
 74 CBS-owned cable sta.
 77 Heraldic shield borders
 78 Grammar topic
 79 Ultimately become

- 83 Harbor
 85 Canadian author and environmentalist Farley —
 86 Piece of poetry
 87 54-Across, e.g.
 88 TV golf analyst Nick
 91 "No big deal"
 93 Sandcastle maker's aid
 94 Earthquake?
 97 Street cred, say
 99 Tests, with "out"
 100 Mozart's "— fan tutte"
 101 Food coloring and such
 107 Real stinker
 110 Lenscrafters employee?
 112 Alaskan island closer to Russia than to the Alaskan mainland
 115 Doesn't let go of
 118 Massage site
 119 Chocolate craving, e.g.
 120 Answering in the form of a question?
 123 Millard Fillmore's birthplace
 127 Cage or Penn
 128 Honey
 129 Mini follower
 130 River through Lake Geneva
 131 Approval
 132 Figure that includes returns

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.

GENCAL
 DOUTIS
 PANYCO
 FRYMIL
 SARCOE
 ZEHEWE



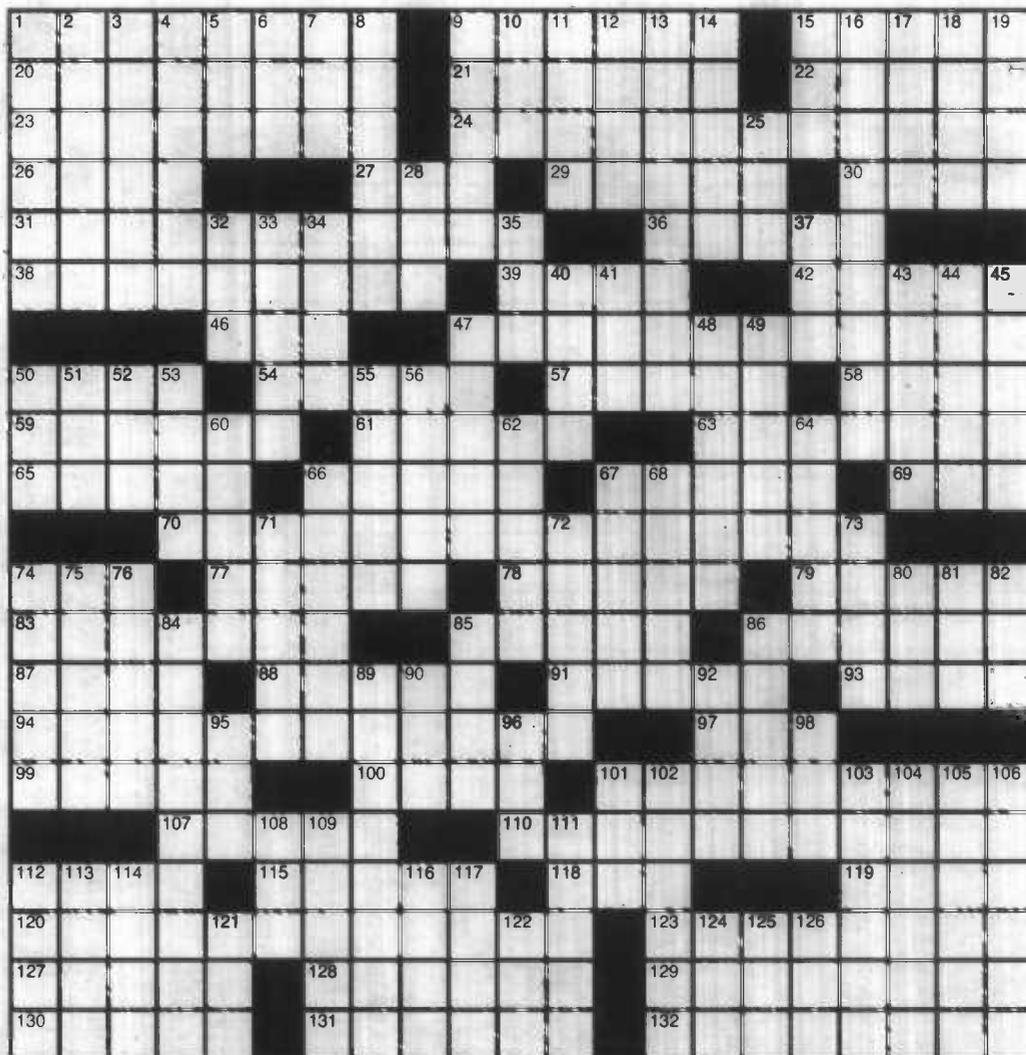
Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app.

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

"O O O O O" O O O O O O O O O O

This week's answers appear on the next page

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



Last week's answers appear on the next page

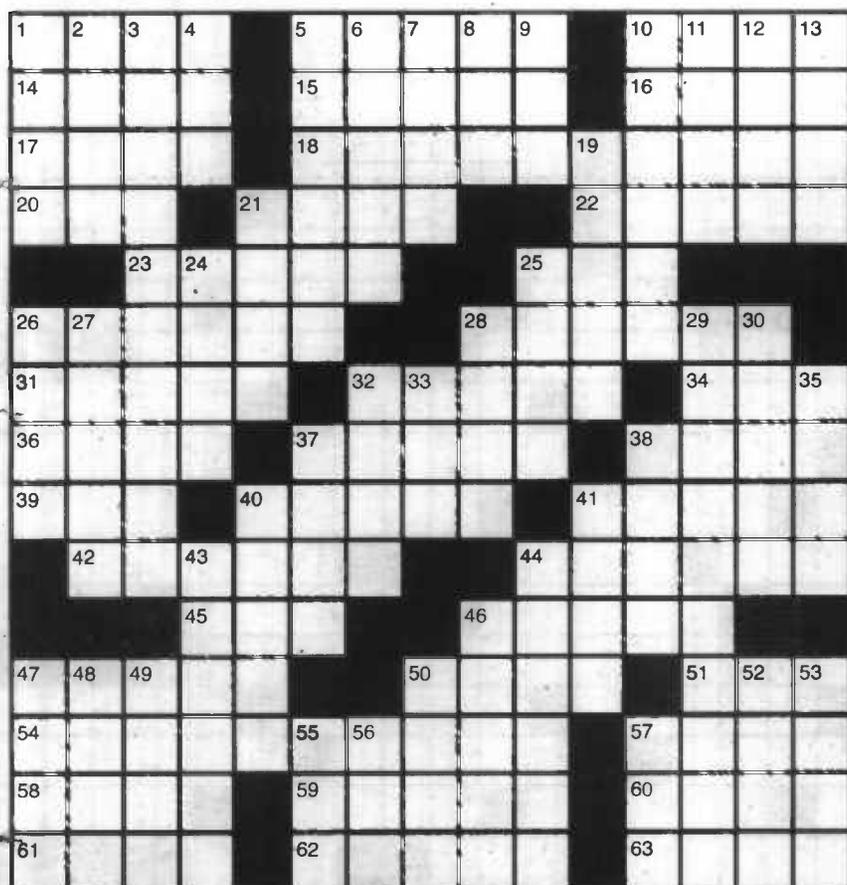
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Down

- 1 Features common to Yosemite Sam and Uncle Sam
 2 Squeal on
 3 Runs behind
 4 Position
 5 National Teachers Hall of Fame state: Abbr.
 6 Educ. guess
 7 Spanish relative
 8 Summer footwear
 9 Make murky
 10 Touchdown letters
 11 The way it goes
 12 Pale orders
 13 Talk radio fan
 14 Swim cap material

- 15 Any of Colorado's fourteeners: Abbr.
 16 Like Anne of Green Gables
 17 Suitor
 18 About, in memos
 19 Traipses
 25 Former press secretary Fleischer
 28 Roman 950
 32 Some printers
 33 Sibilant sound
 34 Word with seas and spirits
 35 "You betcha!"
 37 Inc. kin
 40 Small applications
 41 Friendly opening?
 43 Benito's boys
 44 Parted
 45 Intense feeling
 47 Branch of Islam
 48 Fast tropical swimmers
- 49 More than demand
 50 Special —
 51 Common word on Brazilian maps
 52 "Ben-—" —
 53 Opponent
 55 Information desk sign
 56 Titania and Oberon, e.g.
 60 Craft pointed in two directions?
 62 "I can't — ...": Stones lyric
 64 Sport invented by hunters
 66 Wine holder
 67 Thicket
 68 Searches
 71 Breeze
 72 "That hurts!"
 73 Breeze
 74 Thumb one's nose (at)
- 75 Greek goddesses of the seasons
 76 When to enter
 80 Type of profiling
 81 Arm of Israel
 82 — around with
 84 Requires
 85 Crowds around
 86 V-formation group
 89 Connect across the room
 90 Thelma and Louise, e.g.
 92 Novus — seclorum: dollar bill phrase
 95 "How disappointing!"
 96 Two-time Oscar nominee Ullmann
 98 School gp.
 101 Curtains for Cleopatra?
 102 Access via phone
- 103 Tropical lizard
 104 Spoken
 105 It purrs when it's cared for
 106 Gregg users
 108 Largest country entirely in Eur.
 109 Silvio's lover in "Pagliacci"
 111 "The best — to be": Browning
 112 Not quite shut
 113 Apple worker
 114 Baum canine
 116 Smartphone ancestors
 117 Unwavering
 121 "— we okay?"
 122 Altoids holder
 124 Not shut, poetically
 125 Figured out
 126 Fixed-term investments: Abbr.

Crossword



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1/13/16

ACROSS

- 1 High-ranking British noble
5 Shoulder bag's feature
10 "___ well that ends well"
14 Strong ___ ox
15 Ruth's mother-in-law
16 Jeff Bridges' brother
17 Crooked
18 Wipe out
20 Twelfth-graders' abbr.
21 Barble, for one
22 Lassos
23 Astound
25 Feathery scarf
26 Suppose beforehand
28 Common sense
31 Treaties
32 Hush money
34 Rollaway bed
36 Way out
37 Chains of rocks at water's edge
38 Sign of an old wound
39 "Ready, ___, go!"
40 Charming
41 Sudden and sharp, as pain
42 Solar ___; sun and planets

DOWN

- 44 Go by, as time
45 Owns
46 Play
47 Up and about
50 Singing pairs
51 Edison's initials
54 ___ with; write to
57 Shipshape
58 Captain in "Peter Pan"
59 Therefore
60 Seep out
61 Finales
62 Loathes
63 Singles

Solutions



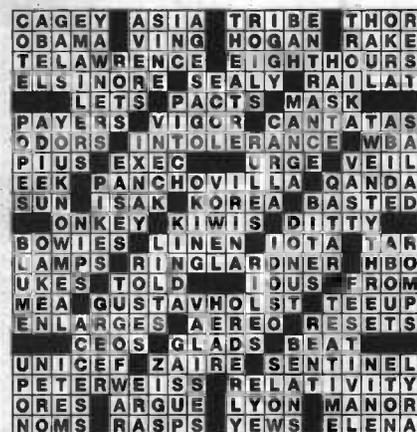
- 24 Mongrel dog
25 Baby's eating accessories
26 Primates
27 Woodwinds, for short
28 Married woman
29 Job
30 Castle trenches
32 Smile broadly
33 Gun the engine
35 Pine or palm
37 Regrets
38 Con game
40 Gaze fixedly
41 Word of lament
43 ___ one's duty; is irresponsible
44 Wears away
46 Dummy
47 Prolonged pain
48 In just a bit
49 ___ on; trampled
50 Start of a warning
52 Shaping tool
53 Peepers
55 "Be quiet!"
56 Tiny vegetable
57 Also



puzzle island solutions

Last week's crosswords

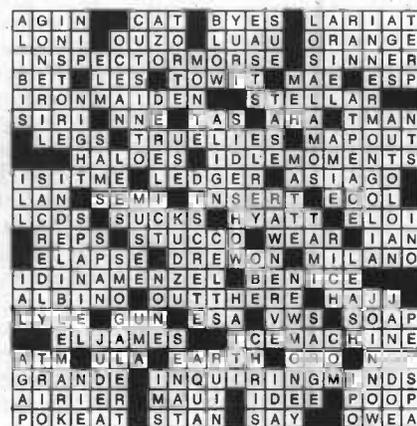
"One Century Ago"



"Home of the Range"



"Online Chat"



Last week's Quote-Acrossic

EDWARD ABBEY: DESERT WONDER:

Delicate Arch — like rock, sun, wind and wilderness — ably reminds us that out there a world older, greater and deeper by far sustains this little world of men just as sea and sky surround and sustain a ship.

Last week's Sudoku

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

This week's Jumble

GLANCE CANOPY COARSE
STUDIO FIRMLY WHEEZE

When the young author sold his first book, he and other authors celebrated his —

"WRITE" OF
PASSAGE

chicago
tribune.com
/games

Interactive puzzles and games

Bulls rookie's insight on game transcends sport



JACKIE PILOSSOPH
Love Essentially

My love for the Chicago Bulls runs deep, with a special place in my heart for my faves, Taj Gibson, Joakim Noah and Jimmy Butler. But after a recent game against New York, there's an addition to that list: rookie Bobby Portis.

The 6-foot-11 forward played amazing, scoring 16 points, grabbing 10 rebounds and handing out two assists. But aside from his skill and cute face, something else caused me to fall for Portis — what he said in an interview after the game.

"If you love the game of basketball, it will love you back."

I found this remark inspiring, to the point where I felt like jumping off the couch and going to the gym.

The thing is, I felt like Portis was speaking to me and saying, "If you are passionate about something, you will succeed," or "Jackie, if you get your butt on an elliptical machine and stop eating Christmas cookies, your body will love you again."

Portis' quote could apply to anything in life, which can include health and wellness, your professional life and of course, love.

"If you love your significant other, he or she will love you back." In other words, like basketball, you get back what you give in romantic relationships.

I can't count the number of men and women who write to me explaining that they are unfulfilled in their marriages. "He's driving me crazy," "She's so critical of me," "We fight all the time," "We fell out of love," "I fantasize about sleeping with someone else," "I am sleeping with someone else," and "We've grown apart," are some statements they make.

It's sad because I get the impression most people feel they have two choices: stay in the bad relationship or leave, and although frustrated and unhappy, they are too fearful for the latter.

Newsflash: there is a third option! Follow Bobby Portis' advice and LOVE your spouse. Then, he or she will love you back. Sound simple? Want to hit me right now for being nauseatingly optimistic? Let me be more specific.

No relationship is like a romance novel. After several years, a few kids, stressful jobs, keeping romantic love alive in a rela-



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bulls rookie forward Bobby Portis made inspiring remarks after an inspiring performance against the Knicks.

ationship is challenging. What sometimes happens is people put those things on the bottom of their list of priorities. They stop date nights, they forget to appreciate the other, they fail to say thank you, and mostly, they don't show respect, affection or love.

Eventually, one or both feels unloved, leaving the couple vulnerable to cheating, splitting up or staying together unhappily, with resentment built up as high as Willis Tower. How can you be kind and giving and loving to someone who doesn't give it back to you? You can't. No one can. But if your spouse does something remarkable, generous or kind, that fosters more of the same type of behavior. A cycle can be created one way or the other.

If two people want to fall back in love, one person has to make the first move, whether it is a kind gesture, a gift, a suggestion to go to couples counseling, a sincere apology, or a letter that basically says, "Please don't give up on us."

I'm not saying a new bottle of perfume, a fancy dinner, a one-time talk or one therapy session is going to miraculously turn a marriage around. But, it is the first step in healthy communication, forgiveness and loving your spouse, so that he or she will love you back.

What if you make a move and your spouse is unresponsive? You have lost nothing. You have actually gained insight to how deep your marriage issues run. My advice is keep trying until you know in your heart you've done everything to fix your damaged relationship.

The bottom line is, in life, you get back what you are willing to put in.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist for Chicago Tribune Media Group. She is also the creator of her divorce support website, Divorced Girl Smiling. Pilossoph lives in Chicago with her two children.

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Ongoing research seeks effective treatments for Alzheimer's



DR. ANTHONY KOMAROFF
Ask Doctor K

Dear Doctor K: My mother has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. Can you tell me about medications that are available to treat this disease? What can and can't they do?

Dear Reader: Alzheimer's disease is a form of dementia. It often affects short-term memory early on. It then progresses to impair other cognitive functions such as thinking and judgment. As the disease advances, it can affect a person's mood and behavior. Eventually, most people lose their ability to do normal daily activities.

Currently, no treatment prevents or stops the cognitive decline from Alzheimer's disease. Medications can improve symptoms only temporarily.

Four drugs are FDA-approved in the U.S. to treat Alzheimer's: donepezil (Aricept), rivastigmine (Exelon), galantamine (Razadyne) and memantine (Namenda). (I've put a table with more details about these medications on my website, AskDoctorK.com.) These drugs make modest improvements in memory and cognitive function in some people with the disease.

The first three of these drugs are in a class called cholinesterase inhibitors. Only about 30 to 50 percent of the people who take them show benefits. Even then, the effects last only an average of six months.

Memantine is an NMDA antagonist. It is most effective



DIGITAL VISION.

tive for people with moderate to severe Alzheimer's disease. Again, it usually provides only a modest benefit that might be apparent for six months or less. It's not clear whether taking memantine with a cholinesterase inhibitor provides more benefit than taking each alone.

Medications can also help with behavior problems, such as agitation or outbursts of anger. Brain damage influences the way people act and react. As comprehension falters, behavior problems can soar. When the environment seems confusing and overwhelming, someone with Alzheimer's disease may become angry or even violent.

Strategies such as simplifying the environment and establishing a routine can help. But if behavior problems continue, a doctor may prescribe psychiatric medications.

Three classes of drugs may be used to treat emotional and behavioral problems. They are antidepressants, mood stabilizers and antipsychotics. Try not to expect immediate results. Doctors usually begin with

a low dose and increase it gradually.

Research is ongoing to find new, effective treatments. The goal of future therapies is to prevent the loss of neurons in the areas of the brain involved in memory and cognition. Only then can scientists slow or stop the worsening of the disease. Researchers are investigating several compounds that intervene in this destructive process.

When I attended medical school, medicine knew what the brain of a person with Alzheimer's disease looked like under the microscope. But we didn't know why it looked that way, or what was causing the brain to malfunction.

In the past 30 years, medical research has identified several molecules that clearly are involved in producing the brain damage of the disease. I'm optimistic that targeting these molecules with conventional (pharmaceutical) and unconventional treatments (even types of immunization) will someday prove to be effective. When will that day come? I'd guess within 25 years.

Male brain vs. female brain? Research says they're unisex

By Randy Dotlinga
HealthDay

There's no such thing as a distinctly male or female brain, new research suggests.

An analysis of more than 1,400 MRI scans suggests that biologically unmistakable sex differences don't extend to the brain. Instead, the brain is home to a mix of so-called "masculine" and "feminine" characteristics, the researchers found.

"This is the first study to look at the brain as a whole and ask whether brains are of two types. The answer is no," said study lead author Daphna Joel, a psychologist and professor at Tel-Aviv University in Israel.

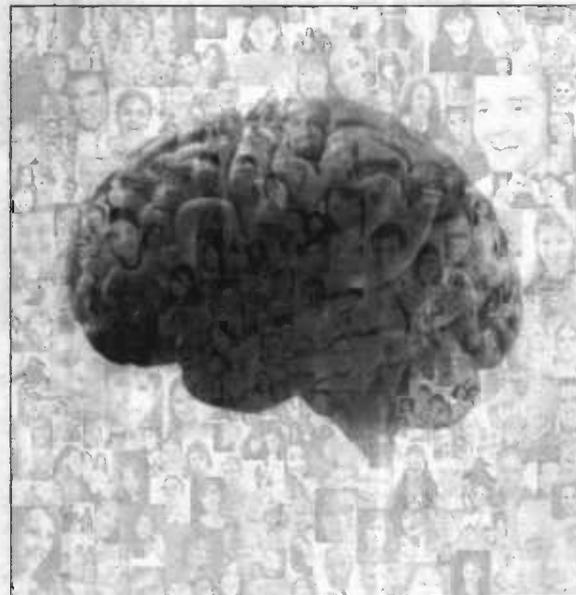
"Each person possesses a unique mosaic of characteristics: some more common in females compared to males, some more common in males compared to females, and some common in both," Joel said.

The question has been debated throughout the ages: Are human brains as gender-specific as chromosomes and sexual organs are in most people? Or are things more complicated?

To gain more insight, Joel and colleagues analyzed MRI brain scans of 1,400 people. They found that the brains of males and females tended not to stand apart in terms of gray matter, white matter and connections inside the brain. (Gray matter refers to brain cells known as neurons; white matter connects neurons to one another.)

The findings revealed that "many more brains" included both traits that are more common in females and traits more common in men, Joel said.

The researchers also analyzed three previous studies of personality traits, actions and attitudes



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involving more than 5,500 people. Again, they found that it's rare for people to be consistently masculine or feminine in the way they act. Instead, people tend to have a mix of "male" and "female" traits.

Still, Joel said the new study doesn't address how your actions reflect your gender. "We did not deal at all with the questions where differences in brain and behavior come from — nature or nurture — nor did we attempt to link differences in brain structure to differences in behavior," she said.

However, the findings suggest people shouldn't be treated differently based on their sex, she said.

"For example, single-sex education is often advocated on the basis of the claim that such schools can specifically cater to 'boy brains' and 'girl brains,'" she said.

"Our results undermine the entire concept of boy/girl brains. Who has a boy brain? The few boys who are consistently at the male end?" Joel said. "And if these boys have a 'boy brain,' then what type of

brain do the other boys have?"

In general, she added, any argument "that builds on the assumption that girls' brains are like this and boys' brains are like that — or that girls are like this and boys are like that — is in trouble."

Dr. Meng-Chuan Lai, an assistant professor of psychiatry at the University of Toronto, agreed.

"Over the decades, scientists have already learned that most features of the brain and mind between male and female animals, including humans, are not categorically distinct," Lai said. It's akin to body height in humans, he said. "On average, males are taller, but there are many female individuals who are taller than male individuals."

How does this new research fit in? "This paper strengthens this common scientific view," said Lai, who wasn't involved in the study.

The study was published in the Nov. 30 issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

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Reflect on past year, think about new one

By Amy Elsinger

Greatist.com

Maybe 2015 was shiny, bright and amazing. Maybe it was 12 months you'd rather forget. But as a new year begins, regardless of how this past one went, reflecting can be helpful, and not in a "learn from your mistakes" way.

"Looking back on the year is not about beating yourself up and seeing what you need to do better," says Lodro Rinzler, meditation expert and teacher at MNDFL in New York. "It's about rejoicing." Even if you have plenty to rejoice about — a job, good friends, daily meals — it can be tough to know where to start. Or it can feel all too easy to dwell on disappointments.

"We tend to spend a lot of time and attention watering the weeds," says Emily Fletcher, founder of Ziva Meditation. "And then we're growing the weeds. So this is a moment to water the flowers and pay attention to those."

In other words, if negative thoughts start to creep in as you think about the past year, it's OK to sit with them for a moment, but then bring your attention back to the positive. "Remember to be gentle with yourself" says Ellie Burrows, a personal development coach and one of the founders of MNDFL. For these exercises, it's important to let your thoughts flow freely rather than scrutinizing them, Burrows says.

With that in mind, we've outlined two approaches for reflecting on your year: One involves a month-by-month breakdown, and the other looks at the different areas of your life. Pick the one that feels most approachable. After that, we've included a few easy (and fun) steps to help focus your year ahead.

Month by month

1. Find a quiet place and block off about 30 minutes.

Do whatever you need to relax (maybe make yourself a cup of tea or take a few deep breaths), free yourself of distractions, and get out a pen and some paper.

2. Deep dive into 2015 month by month.



HERO IMAGES/GETTY IMAGES/HERO IMAGES

Write down one thing you can rejoice in from each month, Rinzler says. And don't be afraid to have your calendar or iPhone nearby to refresh your memory. "It can be any number of things," Rinzler says. "Nothing is too small, and nothing is too big."

Think a summer weekend outdoors, that time your boss complimented your work, your birthday, trying a new workout class that you loved or your friend's wedding.

3. Name one quality you appreciate about yourself.

In an effort to be thankful for the year you just had, Rinzler suggests taking a few moments to sit quietly with your own breath and think about one quality you enjoy or one quality you're working on.

"It could be something I'm currently enjoying in my work, or it could be one aspect of my body," Rinzler says. And that doesn't mean you need to be in peak physical condition either. You could delight in your hearing and all the great music you get to listen to, or the use of your legs and the long walks you've taken.

4. Practice a mini-review each morning.

This last step might not be for everyone (what is this, homework?), but it can be very helpful to take a few moments each morning in the new year to think about everything on your plate. "What are you tackling? What qualities do you need to cultivate to accomplish the day?" Rinzler says.

Then again in the evening, reflect on your day. Did you accomplish what you wanted? If so, be happy about it, Rinzler says. And if not, remind yourself that tomorrow is a new day. By making reflection a (quick) daily practice, you'll also make your next end-of-year review much more manageable, Burrows says. "Think of it as crawling before walking — easy and approachable," she says.

Life area review

1. Go somewhere quiet and block off about 20 minutes.

As in the first approach, make this one feel a little sacred, Fletcher says. And, yes, that means closing your laptop. (If you're following along with this story, close all other windows and disable any pop-up notifications).

2. Let your imagination wander.

For the first few minutes, simply let your mind wander back on the year. Fletcher asks: What were the happy moments? The sad moments? What was the best part of your vacation? Did you start a new job? When did you cry the loudest? Laugh the hardest?

3. Ask yourself: What type of movie would 2015 be?

Would the film be a documentary because you learned a lot? Was it a hapless rom-com of failed Tinder dates and hilarious friends-only nights? Was it an action film filled with exciting adventures? A drama because, well, the year made you sad?

4. Write down one accomplishment from each area of your life.

On a piece of paper, write down something you're proud of from your personal life (this includes family), professional life, romantic life, physical life (for instance, sleeping more or drinking more water — not necessarily something related to fitness), spiritual life and financial life.

Go one step further

1. Plan for next year.

Close your eyes again, and this time play what you want your 2016 life to look like. "You're not limited by time or finances or anything really," Fletcher says. "The point of this exercise is to get clear on what you want."

After a few moments, begin to zero in on some of the bigger aspects of 2016: your birthday or a vacation you're planning. As before, pick a new film genre for 2016. "Once you feel like your imagination has kicked in, you can stop," Fletcher says. "But the most important thing is that the things you're thinking of bring a smile to your face."

2. Write down one goal for each area of your life.

Similar to your review of 2015, now it's time to write down one goal for each area in the coming year. Pick something for your personal, professional, romantic, physical, spiritual and financial lives. They can be simple. Maybe it's building a profile for yourself on Match.com. Or reading a book. If a big idea doesn't jump out, pick something small and concrete.

3. Pick one word to help guide you in 2016.

Don't get bogged down trying to come up with the perfect word, Fletcher says. Think of one quality you're looking to cultivate. Some ideas include discipline, compassion, patience, drive, joy and bravery.

The takeaway

After you've taken time to get clear on your past year and where you're headed, it's equally important that you put your notes away, Fletcher says. Hide them in the bottom of a drawer, put them under your bed — don't have them in a place where you see them every day.

"Get clear on your intentions and then take inspired action," Fletcher says. "But don't stay too rigidly attached to how you think it should be." Translation: If you get to June and things aren't shaping up exactly how you envisioned, don't beat yourself up, it's simply time to re-evaluate and pivot your goals.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency



MEGAN CHAFFIN PHOTOS

Brick manor in Kenilworth: \$2.495M

ADDRESS: 547 Roslyn Road in Kenilworth

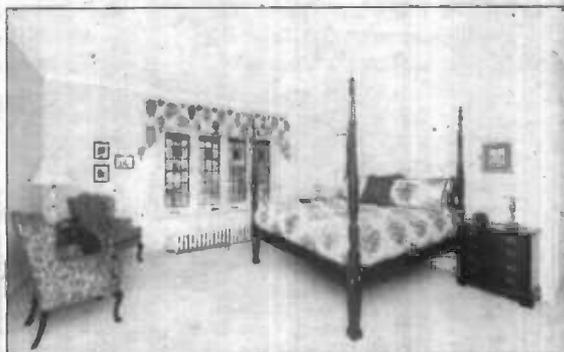
ASKING PRICE: \$2,495,000

Listed on June 15, 2015

Seven-bedroom manor on premier East Kenilworth street. Architectural details include: reception hall with elegant staircase and fresco ceiling, leaded windows throughout, extensive millwork and skylights. Grand rooms with vistas and old-world details. Open, bright gourmet kitchen with fireplace, breakfast area and screened porch. Master suite with private rooftop patio. Three-car attached garage on landscaped grounds with stone patio. Walk to K-12, train and beach.

Agent: Paige Dooley of The Hudson Company, 847-609-0963

At press time this home was still for sale.



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Underpass hosts party for food pantry

Event: Annual Christmas Eve Party
Benefiting: Leyden Township Food Pantry, which receives food donated by party guests
Hosted by: Underpass Restaurant and Lounge, Franklin Park
Date: Dec. 23
Website: underpasslounge.com



Bottom row from left: Angela Geitz of Leyden Township, and Cathy Cundiff of Franklin Park; top row from left: Cheryl Holmes and Carmella Casclo, both of Franklin Park



MARYANN PISANO/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Donna Celof of Norridge, left, and Diane Guerlin of Buffalo Grove



Gina Leder and Brock Leder of River Grove and their children Peyton Leder, left, and Brody Leder



John Bjorvik, left, and Underpass owner Dave Guerlin, both of River Grove



Sarah Mueller of Harwood Heights and Michael Sacuta of Franklin Park

OPRF SYMPHONY PERFORMS AT RIDGEWOOD



THOMAS MOHR/OPRF SYMPHONY

The Symphony of Oak Park and River Forest will present a free concert at Ridgewood High School, 7500 W. Montrose Ave., Norridge, 4 p.m. Jan. 17. The public is invited to attend. The program will feature Evelyn Cappelli playing the first movement of Grieg's piano concerto and Brahms Symphony No. 1. Dr. Maurice Boyer of Concordia University will conduct. The Symphony of Oak Park and River Forest has been recognized several times in recent years by the Illinois Council of Orchestras. For more information, call 708-218-2648.



BIG NOISE THEATRE

BIG NOISE STAGES 'LOVE, LOSS AND WHAT I WORE'

Big Noise Theatre presents "Love, Loss and What I Wore," Jan 15-31 at Prairie Lakes Theater, 515 E. Thacker St., Des Plaines. Actors include, top row, from left: Beverly Coscarelli and Carmen R. Lawrence, both of Chicago, and Julie Stevens of Deerfield; bottom row, from left: Hannah Williams of Chicago, Nicola Howard of Glenview and Becca Duff of Oak Park. Performances of the comedy, written by Nora and Delia Ephron, at the are 8 p.m. Jan. 15, 22, and 29; 8 p.m. Jan. 16, 3 and 8 p.m. Jan. 23 and 30, and 3 p.m. Jan. 17, 24 and 31. A special matinee will be at 3 p.m. Jan. 20. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$25 for seniors and can be reserved at 847-604-0275 or purchased online www.bignoisetheatre.org.

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REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
1615 W Hawkes St, # 5, Arlington Heights	Anna Chalupczak	Glafianza Trust	12-09-15	\$115,000
100 E Lillian Ave, # 1B, Arlington Heights	Jessica C Haskett & Jennifer E Haskett	Erica Allman	12-10-15	\$125,000
701 W Rand Rd, Arlington Heights	Donna M Bhatia	Sharon Castillo	12-10-15	\$230,000
720 S Vail Ave, Arlington Heights	Justin M Shook & Kathryn A Shook	Thomas J Keefer	12-10-15	\$236,000
4000 N Galena Ave, Arlington Heights	Jeffrey Krotky	Richard Novak	12-08-15	\$238,000
10 S Dunton Ave, # 405, Arlington Heights	Sang Youn Ahn & Sun Ha Ahn	Arlington Lofts Llc	12-07-15	\$245,000
2566 N Ridge Ave, Arlington Heights	Demetra Raschillo	Seeberger Trust	12-09-15	\$257,000
44 N Vail Ave, # 607, Arlington Heights	Lynn A Rogner	Wes Bank	12-08-15	\$260,000
619 E Olive St, Arlington Heights	Debra Incopero	In H Moon	12-08-15	\$278,000
1401 N Yale Ave, Arlington Heights	Luis Gambini	Stephanie Lamonica	12-08-15	\$283,333
3847 N Galesburg Ct, Arlington Heights	Sherri Wrobell	Gilbert Restrepo	12-08-15	\$284,000
1213 N Dunton Ave, Arlington Heights	Satish Degala & Yeulanda Degala	Our Saviours Evangelical Luthe	12-10-15	\$285,000
2235 N Kennicott Dr, Arlington Heights	Rafal Stachurski & Julie Stachurski	Michael J Kaczmarczyk	12-09-15	\$286,000
2726 N Greenwood Ave, Arlington Heights	Jeffrey Bergen & Donna Bergen	Jhalak D Josphipura	12-08-15	\$290,000
1624 W Cambridge St, Arlington Heights	Robert Holthouse & Margaret Holthouse	James D Graham	12-08-15	\$295,000
817 N Wilshire Ln, Arlington Heights	Nicholas W Larsen & Jill M Larsen	Andrew C Baum	12-08-15	\$360,000
1219 S Vail Ave, Arlington Heights	David M Turkiewicz & Magdalena Turkiewicz	Elizabeth Wolff	12-08-15	\$378,000
352 S Beverly Ln, Arlington Heights	Michael Pohl & Jacqueline Johnson	James Hall	12-08-15	\$380,000
444 S Lincoln Ln, Arlington Heights	Bernadette G Knight & Lacy A Knight	Sean C Ryan	12-08-15	\$400,000
1008 N Kaspar Ave, Arlington Heights	Ryan Kavalauskas & Christina Kavalauskas	Corey Dunne	12-09-15	\$428,500
2613 N Chapel Hill Dr, Arlington Heights	Peter Lei & Dorene Lei	Mackerella Trust	12-08-15	\$494,000
28 N Lincoln Ln, Arlington Heights	Shirley J Auer	M I Homes Of Chicago Llc	12-08-15	\$497,000
44 N Vail Ave, # 506, Arlington Heights	Timothy Rachke & Jacalyn Rachke	Grund Trust	12-11-15	\$497,000
1527 N Haddow Ave, Arlington Heights	Arnab Sarkar & Deepalakshmi Raju	Bogdan R Krzysik	12-08-15	\$520,000
1007 N Wilshire Ln, Arlington Heights	Sean Smith & Grace Sullivan	Matthew H Boucek	12-08-15	\$735,000
815 N Kaspar Ave, Arlington Heights	Jeffrey W Bittner & Kari Gina Bittner	E & J Builders Inc	12-07-15	\$785,000
200 Lake Blvd, # 458, Buffalo Grove	Steven S Koo	Krzysztof Krawczyk	12-11-15	\$155,000
417 Saint Marys Pkwy, Buffalo Grove	Adela Mizrachl	Us Bank Na Trustee	12-09-15	\$155,000
191 Old Oak Ct W, Buffalo Grove	David C Siemiaszko	Margaret T Boylan	12-08-15	\$168,000
1207 Ranch View Ct, Buffalo Grove	Qiao Zhang & Shiyu Chang	Jae Chung	12-09-15	\$174,000
240 Raupp Blvd, Buffalo Grove	Yan Bekker	Fannie Mae	12-08-15	\$180,000
1253 N Wellington Ct, Buffalo Grove	Michelle Lynn Osorio	Phillip C Stavropoulos	12-07-15	\$195,000
1105 Mill Creek Dr, Buffalo Grove	Bryan Tylkowski & Sarah Tylkowski	Randall K Schwabacher	12-11-15	\$272,500
2406 Palazzo Dr, Buffalo Grove	Vijay Wani & Preeti Wani	Aleksandr Podolskiy	12-03-15	\$298,000
17 Columbus Pkwy, Buffalo Grove	Leszek K Stadnik & Marta Kuczewski	Ondrej Krempasky	12-04-15	\$310,000
761 Heatherdown Way, Buffalo Grove	Yun Ma & Zhru Fel	Ronald Gold	12-09-15	\$340,000
391 Burnt Ember Ln, Buffalo Grove	Jason S Lewis & Danielle S Lewis	Sol Snyderman	12-10-15	\$350,000
526 Crown Point Ct, Buffalo Grove	Anthony Cho & Viviane Cho	Michael Zlotnik	12-09-15	\$365,000
1205 Dannel Ct, Buffalo Grove	Robert L Dzike & Allison M Dzike	Hpnt Investments Inc	12-07-15	\$405,000
1974 Jordan Ter, Buffalo Grove	Sanjay C Panchal & Neeta C Mistry	Pulte Home Corp	12-03-15	\$750,000
1993 Wright Blvd, Buffalo Grove	Yi Shen	Pulte Home Corp	12-03-15	\$805,000
9994 Holly Ln, # GN, Des Plaines	Paulina Plewa	National Home Investors Llc	12-09-15	\$40,000
1113 Holiday Ln, # 18, Des Plaines	Ali Aljanagi & Rasha Al Sabbagh	Mieczyslaw Gosciminski	12-07-15	\$40,000
1109 Holiday Ln, # 17, Des Plaines	Magdalena Wenc	Bank Of America Na	12-10-15	\$42,000
9444 Bay Colony Dr, # 2N, Des Plaines	Renginar Isufova	Vesttech Series Llc	12-08-15	\$66,500

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
9581 Dee Rd, # 2B, Des Plaines	Nileshkumar M Patel & Krishnaben N Patel	John Milan	12-10-15	\$75,000
9335 Landings Ln, # 202, Des Plaines	Jan Zjawinski	Faith Properties Llc	12-07-15	\$80,000
9460 Dee Rd, # 1D, Des Plaines	Azeez A Mirza	Samprati Shah	12-07-15	\$80,000
9331 Landings Ln, # 605, Des Plaines	Kazimierz Potok & Elzbieta Potok	Krzysztof Misiura	12-11-15	\$110,000
905 Center St, # 503, Des Plaines	Noreen Gallagher	Brian M DeFilippo	12-10-15	\$125,000
1702 Mill St, # 303, Des Plaines	Radoslaw Chudy	Mary Nesci	12-07-15	\$126,000
9346 Landings Ln, # N10, Des Plaines	Daniel Greco & Christina Gozalez	Ilija Kesic	12-07-15	\$145,000
8910 Robin Dr, # C, Des Plaines	Ana Buclo Sallnas	Senan Abdul Karim Al Harbi	12-09-15	\$156,000
361 N 4th Ave, # A, Des Plaines	Monika Piekarz	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	12-11-15	\$159,000
905 Center St, # 507, Des Plaines	Kristian Konstantinov & Diana Todorova	Ming Kang	12-09-15	\$175,000
1454 Ashland Ave, # 403, Des Plaines	Arlene M Tillotson	Lillian Papienski	12-08-15	\$175,000
370 S Western Ave, # 405, Des Plaines	Jakob Boloz & Lindsay M Piagentini	Brendan Smaha	12-10-15	\$184,000
900 Lee St, # 508, Des Plaines	Ryan M Irwin	Ortmann Trust	12-08-15	\$200,000
770 Pearson St, # 303, Des Plaines	Luke Y Cho	Ruth D Stockhammer	12-08-15	\$210,000
1465 S 6th Ave, Des Plaines	Jerick Vesilino	Staudt Trust	12-08-15	\$218,000
190 E Walnut Ave, Des Plaines	Omar Velasco	Guadalupe Maldonado	12-09-15	\$220,000
1769 Campbell Ave, Des Plaines	Guiyun Lang & Yan Li	Basim Dihu	12-11-15	\$236,000
1730 Central Ave, Des Plaines	Katarzyna Rek	Malgorzata Zawada	12-08-15	\$237,500
701 S Warrington Rd, Des Plaines	Jan Raymond Gravino & Maria Roxanne Agduma	Benedict A Periaswamy	12-09-15	\$250,000
1826 Circle St, Des Plaines	Joseph R Neubauer & Jacquelyn Marie Podkowa	Ryan S Paulsen	12-11-15	\$256,500
2005 Grey Ave, Evanston	Maya Maslarova	Wheeler Financial Inc	12-11-15	\$22,500
621 Case Pl, # 621 3, Evanston	Gregory Alan Brown	Sylvia Duval	12-08-15	\$75,000
7730 Dempster St, # 206, Morton Grove	Andrew C Tapas & Elene A Tapas	Michael J Piazza	12-08-15	\$180,000
9125 Austin Ave, Morton Grove	Sokratis Koutelidakis & Efthimia Gziki	Thomas Nakic	12-11-15	\$229,000
5724 Keeney St, Morton Grove	James Mahoney Ili	Damir Heljo	12-10-15	\$275,000
9233 Nagle Ave, Morton Grove	Yingjie Zhang Kielb & Leslaw Kielb	Shahid 786 Llc	12-11-15	\$375,000
302 Callie Ct, # 11 1, Morton Grove	Charles Yi & Katherine Yi	Keval Mehta	12-10-15	\$380,000
8837 Oswego Ave, Morton Grove	Arshad A Khan & Faiz S Khan	Kmak Llc Series J	12-08-15	\$387,500
7246 Foster St, Morton Grove	Tamar Narinian & Christopher Arslanian	V & T Investment Corp	12-10-15	\$620,000
8650 N Shermer Rd, # 302, Niles	Maria G Go & Haixia Luo	Jaklin Pnour Pavell	12-09-15	\$178,000
9500 N Washington St, # 211, Niles	Iurie Popovici	Alan L Beasley	12-11-15	\$182,500
8058 W Lyons St, # A, Niles	Shameran Gorgees	Yasir S Aleemuddin	12-11-15	\$185,500
7120 N Milwaukee Ave, # 206, Niles	Iir Nanaj	Smith Trust	12-11-15	\$187,000
6980 W Touhy Ave, # 307, Niles	Ashwin S Bhatt & Vasishtha Majmundar	Gilbert J De Bouver	12-09-15	\$190,500
8721 W Park Ln, Niles	Magdalena Kolodziej Rivas	Jennie M Scuirba	12-08-15	\$230,000
8554 W Betty Ter, Niles	Odle Kivarkis & Rachel Kivarkis	Radomir Slicic	12-08-15	\$345,000
9100 N Washington St, Niles	Joe Sclafani & Maureen Sclafani	Menasce Trust	12-10-15	\$490,000
2460 W Talcott Rd, # 320, Park Ridge	Jennifer Janesak & Patrick J Hallihan	Eilsabeth Adam	12-09-15	\$167,500
636 N Northwest Hwy, Park Ridge	Jessica Ann English	Grundeman Trust	12-10-15	\$228,500
2012 Woodland Ave, Park Ridge	Dimitra Maroulis & Constantina Sweeney	Russell L Schreiner	12-08-15	\$305,000
208 N Knight Ave, Park Ridge	Rosalba Marpe	Marian Skulski	12-10-15	\$358,000
727 Wesley Dr, Park Ridge	Michael Macek & Monika Meres	Kadlec Trust	12-08-15	\$375,000
1300 Granville Ave, Park Ridge	Thomas Staunton & Bernadette Staunton	Daniel M Miller	12-07-15	\$375,000
709 Austin Ave, Park Ridge	Conrad Skiba & Agata Skiba	Hianik Trust	12-09-15	\$391,500
449 Stewart Ave, Park Ridge	Henry W Austin Jr & Belinda Chandler	Janice B Simpson	12-10-15	\$412,000
1 N Dee Rd, # 3D, Park Ridge	Richard M Colletti & Laura J Colletti	Donald A Petkus	12-08-15	\$529,000
930 Peale Ave, Park Ridge	Jeffrey S Katz & Tara R Katz	Richard F Rouse	12-08-15	\$532,500
801 S Clifton Ave, Park Ridge	Brendan Honan & Annette Honan	Ef Portfolio Properties Llc	12-10-15	\$675,000
1625 Newton Ave, Park Ridge	Rene Haase & Theresa Ranta	Michael J Thill	12-10-15	\$693,000
432 N Prospect Ave, Park Ridge	Stephen C Stephens & Monica M Stephens	Henry P Gruss	12-09-15	\$857,000

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.

REAL ESTATE HOMES IN YOUR AREA



WINNETKA

This 3-bedroom, 2 1/2-bathroom colonial features a formal living room with fireplace, a formal dining room and first floor office. The bedrooms are located on the second floor along with two updated bathrooms. Hardwood flooring is installed throughout the home along with granite counter tops and stainless steel appliances in the kitchen. The home offers third floor and basement storage.

Address: 1149 Willow Road
Price: \$569,000
Schools: New Trier Township High School
Taxes: \$12,724
Agent: Laura McCain/The Hudson Company



LAKE FOREST

This home situated on a 1.6-acre lot features five bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. The kitchen boasts a large center island, cherry cabinets, granite counters and stainless steel appliances. The family room features a fireplace, while the master suite has a dressing area and updated bath with steam shower. Electrical, plumbing, windows, roof, gutters, furnace, humidifier, water heater and sump pump have all been recently updated.

Address: 1028 West Old Mill Road
Price: \$829,900
Schools: Deerfield High School
Taxes: \$16,948
Agent: Marco Amidei/RE/MAX Suburban



DES PLAINES

This 4-bedroom, 4-full and 2-half bath home features hardwood floors, custom trim work and window treatments. The kitchen includes a butler pantry, built in range top, island with breakfast bar and eating area that opens to the family room. Second floor bedrooms feature bathrooms with granite counters. The master suite features a walk-in closet, double sinks, jetted bathtub, separate shower and private water closet.

Address: 1651 Greenleaf Ave.
Price: \$549,000
Schools: Maine West High School
Taxes: \$11,106
Agent: Joseph Marella/Keller Williams Realty Partners



MORTON GROVE

This 4-bedroom, 3 bathroom home features a separate living room, dining room and office on the first floor. The kitchen boasts granite countertops, stainless steel appliances and built-in wine cooler. The master bedroom offers two walk-in closets, a marble bath, double vanity, Jacuzzi tub and separate shower. Finished basement features extra bedroom.

Address: 7425 Arcadia St.
Price: \$668,900
Schools: Maine East High School
Taxes: \$13,595
Agent: Val Laborevitch/Unique Realty LLC

Listings from Homefinder.com

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MORTGAGE GUIDE Check rates daily at <http://pioneerlocal.interest.com>

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			20 yr fixed	3.750	3.500	0.000	\$1395	20%	3.596		NMLS# 66247
Sebonic Financial	3.804%		15 yr fixed		3.000	0.000	\$1195	20%	3.105	866-723-1989	MB 6760960
			10 yr fixed		2.875	0.000	\$1295	20%	3.040	http://bankrate.sebonic.com	
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Thursday, Jan. 14

Des Plaines Art Guild Show: Featured artists include Beverly Beckman, Dolores Kenney, Stan Kotecki, Kathy Passi, Liz Pawlik, Rhonda Popko, Dee Schuster, Thelma Spain, Willard Strassburger, John Taylor and Elaine Tejcek. 10 a.m. Tuesdays-Fridays; 1 p.m. Sundays, Des Plaines History Center, 781 Pearson St., Des Plaines, free, 847-391-5399

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

Sights of Evanston art exhibition: Enjoy a visual art exhibition featuring works by 16 local artists. 3 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, free, 847-448-8260

Nature preschool open house: Early childhood staff at the Chicago Botanic Garden host an open house introducing the Nature Preschool, a nature- and play-based preschool. 10 a.m. Thursday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

Meditation Healing Circle: The Wellness Source hosts a Guided Meditation Healing Circle with Katherine Trinity, a life-long student of mystical arts and sciences. Call for reservations. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, The Wellness Source, 1245 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, \$20, 224-413-3500

Art in the Library Exhibit Opens: The Call of the Shore: Artist Cherie Piatt creates water colors of the seascapes and landscapes she finds so inspirational. Close your eyes, leave winter behind and imagine the soothing sound of the waves on a sultry summer day. 9 a.m. Daily, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Books n' Bites: Join a casual, fun book discussion once a month (snacks provided). his book discussion features 2016 Bluestem Nominee: Glory Be by August Scattergood. For students grades 3-5. Registration required. 4 p.m. Thursday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Niles Songwriters Group: Local songwriters meet on the second Thursday of the month on the Lower Level to discuss their craft and play their music. Acoustic instruments are welcome. 7 p.m. Thursday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234.

Wonder Ground Open Lab: Look, touch, tinker and play with an intriguing array of science-oriented curiosities in this new space designed especially for kids. The Wonder Ground is a STEAM playground for kids. 4 p.m. Thursday and Tuesday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

CJE Senior Life Counseling: Take advantage of a private session with a Resource Specialist from CJE SeniorLife, trained to counsel adults age 60 and over, their families and caregivers. 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

SCORE Small Business Counseling by appointment only: Take advantage of private one-hour sessions of business coaching. Counselors from the Chicago Chapter of SCORE are at the library to advise small business owners and startups with planning, marketing or financial solutions. 9 a.m. Thursday and 5 p.m. Tuesday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Volunteer Information Session: Registration required. If you're considering volunteering at the library, this discussion and brief tour of what volunteers do might help. 2 p.m. Thursday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Medieval Masterpieces: Rich intellectual and technical achievements distinguish the art of the Middle Ages. By live streaming, the Cleveland Museum of Art Curator takes attendees on a virtual journey throughout Europe to view manuscript illuminations, architecture, sculpture, and metalwork; and encounter splendid liturgical objects. 1 p.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$10 NSSC member; \$13 non-member, 847-784-6030

Amsterdam: The World's Most Liberal City: Jim Kenney explores Amsterdam's transformation from a backward agrarian region into a global hub of wealth and power, followed by its long descent to its current status as a charming capital city. 10 a.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$40 NSSC members; \$52 non-members, 847-784-6030

Tai Chi: Practice the ancient, healing art of Tai Chi, which is the practice of controlled, relaxed body movements. Increase your understanding of the mind-body connection, breathing techniques, flexibility and all other healthy benefits of Tai Chi. Wear loose clothing. 9 a.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$75 NSSC members; \$89 non-member, 847-784-6030

Park Ridge Fly Tying Club Meetings: Demonstrations of fly tying are performed by an experienced demonstrator. The members have an opportunity to tie the same pattern using tools and materials provided by the club. 7 p.m. Thursday, Park Ridge Community Church, 100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-3164

Friday, Jan. 15

Comic Jeff Allen for two nights only: Considered the funniest comedian on tour today, Jeff Allen brings his great observational comedy back for two nights only. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Leela Arts Center, 620 Lee St., Des Plaines, \$15-25, 800-838-3006

Glen David Andrews: 10 p.m. Friday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$27, 847-492-8860

Jarekus Singleton: 7:30 p.m. Friday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$12-\$24, 847-492-8860

Ring 43 Magic Club Meeting Evanston: Members compete in a magic contest. 7:30 p.m. Friday, Presence Saint Francis Hospital, 355 Ridge Ave., Evanston, \$5 which may be applied to a Ring 43 membership, 847-272-3850

Meeting of the MINECRAFTers (grades 4-8): Build, craft, mine, farm and explore the mammoth world of MINECRAFT. Come with your favorite servers, your own account, or play on one of the library's. 6 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Introduction to MyMediaMall Downloading eBooks and Audiobooks: Discover the library's collection of free, downloadable ebooks and audiobooks. Learn how to access MyMediaMall, browse the library's collection of digital materials, and check out/download ebooks and audiobooks to your computer, eReader, tablet or mobile device. 10 a.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Love and Mercy: An unconventional portrait of Brian Wilson, the mercurial singer, songwriter and leader of The Beach Boys. 2 p.m. Friday, 6:30 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Wendy and DB at Winter Wonderland: Enjoy a children's concert at Winter Wonderland, which includes a magical train ride, winter crafts and more. 6:30 p.m. Friday, Kohl Children's Museum, 2100 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, \$14-\$24, 847-832-6600

Family Forts After Hours: Bring the whole family for an after hours storytime, campfire snack and fort building in the library. Families should bring blankets, pillows and a flashlight. 6:30 p.m. Friday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Rise and shine storytime: Children ages 2-6 are welcome to drop in for a 30-minute storytime where children and caregivers will listen to stories, share in some songs, and get out some wiggles. 10 a.m. Friday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Shakespeare Project of Chicago: The Winter's Tale: A Sicilian king becomes consumed by the belief that his best friend has committed adultery with his wife and this passionate jealousy ignites a series of events that takes us on an adventure where we witness several miracles. 6:45 p.m. Friday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Shakespeare Project of Chicago: Discussion: Join in a discussion after the performance. 9:30 p.m. Friday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Gentle Yoga: Yoga instructor Olga Rudiak leads a series of yoga sessions for improved physical strength, relaxation and mental clarity. Exercises are done in a chair or standing not on the floor. 9:30 and 11 a.m. Friday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Festival of Spirituals: This concert of spirituals and songs is presented by The Village Presbyterian Church's choirs and musicians. The event commemorates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and raises funds for PADS. 7:30 p.m. Friday, The Village Presbyterian Church of Northbrook, 1300 Shermer Road, Northbrook, free, 847-272-0900

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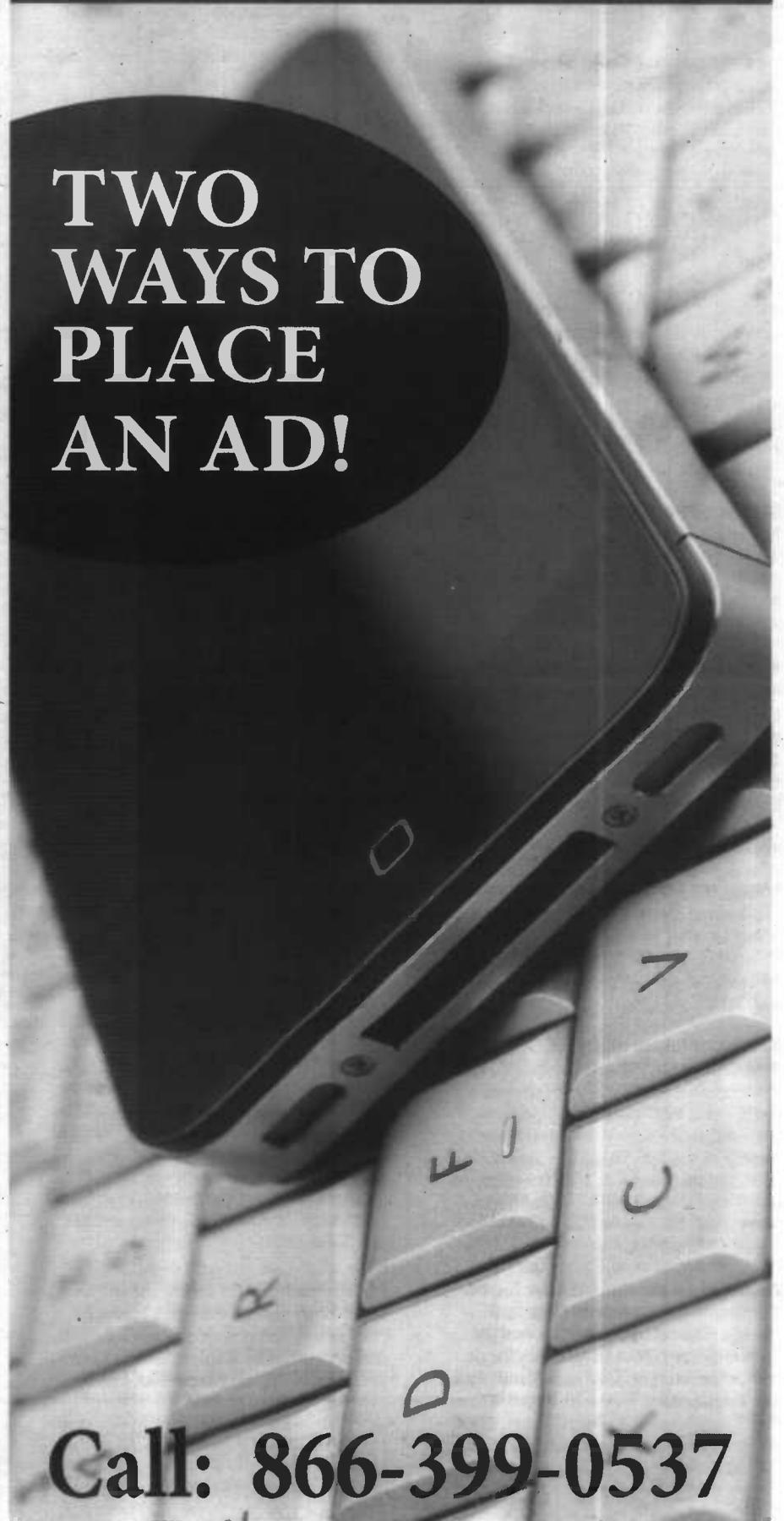
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CALENDAR

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Shabbat with a Twist: Join in Chalah making, stories and song with the clergy. This is for families with children up to pre-kindergarten. All are welcome, free of charge. 11 a.m. Friday, Congregation Beth Shalom, 3433 Walters Ave., Northbrook, free, 847-498-4100

Share The Warmth: Join a group of warm, friendly, supportive women (men welcome) to prepare one-of-a-kind fleece blankets for chemo patients. Add a crocheted edge to fleece and send free blankets to new adult chemotherapy patients. 9 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-293-6755

Duplicate Bridge: The senior center offers a friendly bridge game. 9 a.m. Friday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-5127

Saturday, Jan. 16

Polyglots Toastmasters meeting: Polyglots is the only Toastmasters International Club in the United States that conducts its meetings in German. If you speak German or want to keep it fresh or improve it, visit this club. 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines, free, 847-827-5551

Tim Reynolds: 8 p.m. Saturday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$22-\$38, 847-492-8860

Udumbara Zen: winter poetry open mic: Special Guest Poet Charlie Rossiter and Special Guest Writers from the Family Focus Second Chance Grandparents Group with Udumbara Zen Sangha welcome you to an afternoon of sharing tea and poetry. Bring found or written poems and hear what is being written in the community. All ages welcome. 2 p.m. Saturday, Unitarian Church of Evanston, 1330 Ridge Ave., Evanston, \$10 suggested donation, 847-475-3264

Music Institute presents: Kate Liu, piano: After capturing the Bronze Medal at the prestigious 2015 Fryderyk Chopin International Piano Competition, Kate Liu, an alumna of the Music Institute of Chicago, makes her first Chicago concert appearance since the win. Program Works by Chopin, including the Sonata No. 3 in B Minor and Mazurkas, Op. 56. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nichols Concert Hall, Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$30 adults; \$20 seniors; \$10 students, 800-838-3006

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

Ecology Center Winter Market: Learn about the benefits of eating fresh and locally grown foods. Shop for a variety of seasonal and artisan products. 9 a.m. Saturday, Ladd Arboretum, 2024 McCormick Blvd., Evanston, free, 847-448-8045

Immanuel Lutheran Church Winter Market: Learn about the benefits of eating fresh and locally grown foods. Shop for a variety of seasonal and artisan products. 8 a.m. Saturday, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 616 Lake St., Evanston, free, 847-864-4464

The Mark Cleveland Band: 9:30 p.m. Saturday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

Genealogy Research Day: Join in the Technology Lab where the genealogy experts can help you with your research, or visit the Genealogy Room to use the print collections. 1 p.m. Saturday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Family Movie: Minions: Minions Stuart, Kevin and Bob are recruited by Scarlett Overkill, a super-villain who, alongside her inventor husband Herb, hatches a plot to take over the world (IMDb). (PG, 1 hr. 31 min.). 2 p.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Manage Your Photos Online: You've got lots of photos on your camera, phone and computer...so now what are you supposed to do with them? This class will show you all the best options for backing up and sharing photos in the cloud as well as the coolest apps for fun and easy photo editing. Mike Gershbein of 'Very Smart People' returns to help you get a handle on your photo overload. 10 a.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Free, Full-Length ACT Practice Test: Prepare yourself for taking the ACT, the three-hour college entrance exam, by completing the practice test published and proctored by Kaplan. You receive your scores within two weeks, leaving plenty of time to practice, study, and improve before the big day in April. Registration is required. 10 a.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

The Music and Influence of Hank Williams: Known as the "Hillbilly Shakespeare," Hank Williams music and influence is truly amazing in its heartfelt messages of the human experience. Join us as Steve Justman performs the music that made Hank Williams famous. 1 p.m. Saturday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Fandom Club YouTube: Anime and Manga Club has expanded to include all fandoms. Gather to discuss your pop culture favorites, make fan art and eat themed food. 2 p.m. Saturday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Old Town Family Jam: Little Miss Anne: Little Miss Anne from the Old Town School of Folk Music performs upbeat, down-to-earth tunes your kids will love. 10 a.m. Saturday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

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

Sunday, Jan. 17

Eddie Holstein and Steve Dawson: 2 p.m. Sunday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$25, 847-492-8860

Evanston Art Center student show: Students exhibit their work. 10 a.m. Sunday-Jan. 22, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300

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

Study for Finals Week at Your Library for grades 9-12: Meeting rooms are open for individual or group drop-in study. 1 p.m. Sunday-Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

The Barefoot Hawaiian: The Barefoot Hawaiian dancers have been sharing the Aloha spirit and the cultural heritage of their island state through dance and song for 32 years and over 500 performances. Experience a little piece of paradise. Register by calling the library. 2 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Speaker Series on Spirituality: Name the Grace: Part of a Speaker Series on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola. Topic: Building a habit of gratitude: strength for the challenging times. noon Sunday, St. Catherine Labouré, 3535 Thornwood Ave., Glenview, free, 847-826-4704

Liberty Brass Quintet: For an afternoon of fun with brass, come see, hear and enjoy the Liberty Brass Quintet. 2 p.m. Sunday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

St. John Brebeuf Do-It-Yourself Messiah Concert: The Musica Lumina 2015-16 concert series continues with this commemorative concert given in honor of the legacy of the Rev. Stanley Rudcki, the former chair of the Niles College Department of Fine Arts, who founded the Niles Concert Choir and the Niles Symphony Orchestra in the 1960s. 3 p.m. Sunday, St. John Brebeuf Parish Church, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles, free, 847-966-8145

The Children of Lahlille: Hear the unique story of 100 Jewish children who hid from the Nazis in a French chateau, told by one of their own, Holocaust Survivor Walter Reed. Mr. Reed emigrated to the U.S. and then returned to Europe to fight the Nazis. There is a book signing to follow. 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, Free with Museum admission, 847-967-4800

Monday, Jan. 18

School Day Off program at Des Plaines History Center: Children learn some history about this American Baptist minister and Civil Rights Movement leader of the 1950s and then create a colorful collage. 1 p.m. Monday, Des Plaines History Center, 781 Pearson St., Des Plaines, \$3 per child, 847-391-5399

Book Babies: Songs, games, story time and free play for babies ages 2 and younger with a caregiver. 10:15 a.m. Monday, Evanston Public Library - North Branch, 2026 Central Street, Evanston, free, 847-448-8600

hoopla, MyMediaMail and Zinio Individual Appointments: Meet with trained library staff for a 45-minute one-on-one session and learn how to download ebooks, audiobooks, magazines, movies, TV shows or music to your portable device. 10 a.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

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iPad 2: This class builds on skills learned in iPad 1. We will cover topics such as: installing and deleting apps, organizing the home screen, and using Siri. Students must provide their own iPad that has gone through the initial set-up process and is running iOS9. iPhone users are also welcome to attend. Registration required. 7 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. Expert knitters can show you how to solve knitting challenges. Don't forget your current knitting projects and needles. 2 p.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

MGPL Kids: Monday Morning Playgroup: Drop-in play time for preschoolers with a parent or caregiver to introduce young children to the library in a low-key, unstructured session. 10:30 a.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Yarn Gang: Kids in grades one and up are invited to try their hand at knitting, crocheting or other yarn crafts. 4 p.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Yoga for Kids: Stretch, Bend, Breathe: Kids ages four through eight can learn yoga poses and breathing techniques and feel relaxed and energized afterward. There is no experience needed. Bring a large bath towel or yoga mat and wear comfortable clothes. 4:30 p.m. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Service project for families: Help others in need and practice basic machine sewing skills. 2 and 6 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 grownup, to drop in. This is the library's year-round short program of stories, songs and rhymes followed by playtime. 11 a.m. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Evening family storytime: Families with children ages 2-6 enjoy stories, songs, and activities. Come in pj's or not, as you wish. 7 p.m. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service: Make a day off school, a day of service. Join in for crafts, a special story time and a book drive project. All ages are welcome. 9 a.m. Monday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

WW II: Africa, Europe, and the Pacific: More than 70 years after the end of WW II, we have a much clearer picture of what went on behind the scenes: the leverage Churchill had over European strategy; the problems posed by MacArthur for Roosevelt; the problems posed by Montgomery for Eisenhower; the firebombing we used in both theaters of war. 10 a.m. Monday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$19 NSSC member; \$25 non-member, 847-784-6030

Tuesday, Jan. 19

Red Baraat: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$18-\$34, 847-492-8860

Rotary Club of Evanston Lighthouse: This community leadership group boasts 80 members and meets every Tuesday. 7:15 a.m. Tuesday, Hilton Garden Inn Chicago North Shore/Evanston, 1818 Maple Ave., Evanston, free

Tuesday Morning Music: Garden visitors can enjoy free hour-long meditative musical performances on Tuesday mornings in the McGinley Pavilion overlooking Evening Island. Music varies from string quartets to Native American flutes, and are focused towards an older crowd. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

Financial Planning Appointments: Need a financial tune-up? Schedule a free one-hour consultation with a Certified Financial Planner. Please register by calling the library. 9 a.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Word 2010: Basics: This is an overall introduction to this popular word processing software. A Glenview Library is required and please register by calling the library. 2 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Northern Lights Homework Help Center (grades 1-8): High School volunteers to the rescue. 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

Veteran Center Services: An informational table about readjustment services available to eligible veterans and their families in the form of counseling, benefits info, job referral and employment assistance. Hosted by the Evanston Vet Center. noon Tuesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Movies, Munchies, and More: Film: The Blind Side: The movie, "The Blind Side" is the story of Michael Oher, a homeless and traumatized boy who became an All American football player and first round NFL draft pick with the help of a caring woman and her family. The cast includes Quinton Aaron and Sandra Bullock. 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Tablet Tuesdays: Have a tablet and need some help getting started? Learn the basics of your iPad, Android tablet, or Kindle Fire, as well as ways to customize your device and install apps. 3 p.m. Tuesday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Preschool Storytime: Stories, songs and action rhymes for children. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Book Discussion: A Man Called Ove: Nancy Buehler leads a discussion of "A Man Called Ove," by Fredrik Backman. The storyline is about a grumpy old man who lost his wife and his job. He decides to end it all, but his attempts are constantly interrupted by his annoying neighbors. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

The Brothers: Allen and John Foster Dulles: Drawing on the work of Stephen Kinzer, author of "Overthrow," Jim Kenney presents a compelling study in American hubris as it was embodied in John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State, and his brother Allen, Director of the CIA. Over four weeks, Jim presents powerful new insights into many of the problems faced by the U.S. today. Tuesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$40 member; \$52 non-member, 847-784-6030

The History of Collecting in America and Chicago: Christine Benoodt, an art curator, art collection manager, and Master Docent for Loyola University Museum of Art explains the history of art collection in the U. S. and Chicago. 1 p.m. Tuesday, Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, 1300 W. Crescent Ave., Park Ridge, free for members; \$2 guest fee, 312-391-6788

Wednesday, Jan. 20

TCD Community Open House: Technology Center of DuPage invites interested students, parents, alumni and the community at large to attend its Community Open House. TCD is the advanced, elective Career and Technical Education (CTE) campus for 24 high schools in DuPage County and Lyons Township, offering both high school and college credit. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Technology Center of DuPage, 301 South Swift Road, Addison, free, 630-620-8770

Book group to walk through history of homes: The book is discussed at the History Center with adults and high school students welcome. Bryson's book takes readers on a tour through his own house and offers seemingly limitless knowledge and insight. 6 p.m. Wednesday, Des Plaines History Center, 781 Pearson St., Des Plaines, free, 847-391-5399

ETHS Booster Board Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, free, 847-424-7000

Live Music Wednesdays with the Josh Rzepka Trio: Hear the music of Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk and other classics of the era played by the Josh Rzepka Bebop trio. Reservations can be made online or by calling. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-868-8945

Preschool Story Time: Stories and songs for children ages 3-5 and a caregiver. 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston, free, 847-448-8610

All Things Spanish: This group meets monthly and both native and non-native Spanish speakers are invited to just drop in. Participants practice their language skills and expand their love for Spanish/Latino culture. A meeting may include reading a short story in Spanish, watching a Spanish film, discussing hot topics, and more. New members are always welcome. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Literary Latte Hour: Join in in this informal setting where you can relax with a hot beverage and tell others what you've recently enjoyed (or not enjoyed). Staff librarians are also available to talk about hot new titles and selections. 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Glenview Grind, 989 Waukegan Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

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TedxLincolnwoodLibrary: TED Talks (short for Technology, Entertainment, and Design) are "devoted to ideas worth spreading," that inform, inspire and entertain people around the world. Come to Lincolnwood Library and watch a screening of TED Talks by experts and innovators and then join the conversation: Does design define us? Registration requested, drop-ins welcome. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Scrabble for Adults at Morton Grove Public Library: Exercise your brain and enjoy friendly games of Scrabble with other word lovers. 2 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Converting Your VHS Home Movies: Bring your old home movies on VHS to convert to a DVD or digital format in the library's new Digital Media Lab. Registration is limited to four and Morton Grove residents have priority. 2 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

ABD: Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng: Join us for a book discussion. 1 p.m. Wednesday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Toddler Time: Stories, songs and rhymes for children 20 months to 3 years old, with an adult caregiver. Thirty-minutes storytime followed by 30-minutes of free-play. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Facebook 101: Learn how to set up a Facebook account, set privacy settings and connect with family and friends. Prerequisites: Must be comfortable using the keyboard, the mouse, the Internet and be curious about online social networks. Email address required: bring your email address and password to class. 2 p.m. Wednesday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Chess Club: Whether you're a skilled player looking for a challenge or a beginner interested in learning new skills, all are welcome at this new, weekly Chess Club. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Film Screening: Dinner at Eight: This movie from 1933 is a comedy/drama about Millicent Jordan (Billie Burke), who is pre-occupied with the plans she is making for a dinner party. Her husband Oliver (Lionel Barrymore) is worried because someone is trying to buy up the stock in his shipping business. As dinner approaches, it appears that the hosts and the guests have plenty on their minds. 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-7082

Knitting Studio and Workshop: Certified Knitting Instructor Mary Staackmann provides personalized instruction. Bring your supplies or project in progress. Brush up on your skills, learn new techniques, or just spend an afternoon knitting with others. 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6060

The Cellac Project Documentary Screening: The film screening starts at 6:30 p.m. followed by a panel discussion. This is intended for those who want to learn more about celiac disease and about living gluten free. 6 p.m. Wednesday, Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, 1775 Dempster St., Park Ridge, free

Movie - Unlikely Heroes: "Unlikely Heroes," is a film about Jews saving other Jews during the Holocaust. This film is the answer to those who ask "Why didn't Jews fight back," says Cy Jablo, president of the Men's Club of Ezra-Habonim. "They did and not just in the Warsaw Ghetto. People who see this film will understand." 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

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

World War II Veterans' Roundtable: Vets gather for lively conversation and coffee. Newcomers are welcome. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free

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MOVIES

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 into the plans. In so doing, they manage to unleash a crowd of animals onto a plane;

play a honky tonk saloon in Texas; and join a Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans; it's standard learning-to-love-your-enemy stuff, with lessons about friendship, loyalty and learning to say sorry, packaged in adolescent humor. — *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. 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 and gets a little silly. Surprisingly sweet, "Daddy's Home" will pleasantly surprise you when it lets loose. — *K.W.*



"The Hateful Eight" ★★

R, 3:07 (and 2:47), Western

"The Hateful Eight" is an ultrawide bore. If you have the option, you should see Quentin Tarantino's latest in one of its limited-release "roadshow" screenings, projected on film, complete with overture. Writer-director Tarantino has described his post-Civil War picture, set largely in a Wyoming roadhouse with a blizzard raging outside, as an Agatha Christie Western. It's not so much a shoot-'em-up as a guess-'em-up. I'm all for the old-school, 70 millimeter whomp of "The Hateful Eight." I just wish the results didn't feel like 70

minutes of viable story taffy-pulled out to a brazen length. — *Michael Phillips*



"Sisters" ★½

R, 1:58, comedy

Tina Fey and Amy Poehler are amazing, multidirectional comic talents. Their co-hosting of the 2015 Golden Globes was funnier than every single comedy nominated. They can write, produce, perform and develop talent. 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

So: Where were we? Let's skip past the prequel trilogy "The Phantom Menace," "Attack of the Clones" and "Revenge of the Sith," apparently written and directed by droids. In chronological story terms we last saw Luke Skywalker, Han Solo, princess-turned-queen Lela, Chewbacca, R2-D2 and C-3PO whooping it up at the Ewok luau back in 1983, in "Return of the Jedi." 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.*

DEATH NOTICES

*We extend our condolences to the families
and loved ones of those who have passed.*

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Death Notices

Gazel-Ballard, Christine Elaine

Christine Gazel Ballard of Studio City, CA died January 2, 2016 at the age of 68. Christine was born Aug. 13, 1947 in Chicago, IL to Neil and Betty Gazel of Park Ridge, IL. She attended Maine South High School and Indiana University. In 1973 she moved to California, where she began a career in TV, directing episodes of *The Golden Girls*, *Benson*, *Night Court*, and *Alice*. She also worked in production on *Everybody Loves Raymond* and *According to Jim*. In May, 1994 she received an Emmy for creating a local TV special entitled "Women Pioneers." A memorial service is scheduled for Sunday January 17 at 2:30 p.m. at, Forest Lawn Memorial Park, 6300 Forest Lawn Dr., Los Angeles. In lieu of flowers donations may be sent to Childreach International, 155 Plan Way, Warwick, RI 02886

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The good, the bad and the diesel

We look back on the top automotive stories of 2015

BY ROBERT DUFFER
Tribune Newspapers

With automotive sales expected to break a record in 2015, it would be easy to conclude that it has been a great year for autos.

Americans had been hanging onto their cars for a record 11.4 years before 2015, and the perfect cocktail of sustained employment, economic growth, rock-bottom fuel prices, pent-up demand and long-term financing options prompted people to head out to dealer lots and buy an estimated 17.5 million units, which surpasses the record set in 2000, according to Edmunds.com.

If there is one clear takeaway from 2015, it is that the automotive industry is in the midst of major upheaval on how drivers operate and own vehicles.

The strongest trend — and greatest irony — of 2015 is how little we'll be driving in the near future.

Self-driving cars

The advent of self-driving or autonomous cars dominated headlines and trending feeds throughout the year, with every major automaker from Mercedes to Hyundai accelerating plans for semi-autonomous and fully self-driving vehicles.

Premium trim lines in current models offer everything from adaptive cruise control, which reads the car in front of you and slows down or speeds up accordingly, to lane-keep

assist, which reads the lines in the road to keep the car centered, to front- and side-collision avoidance, which can stop or swerve the car in imminent danger.

The self-parking features we've tested do a better job than the vast majority of parallel parkers, which supports the argument that self-driving cars will be safer, smarter and more efficient than human drivers.

Despite not being a car company, Google has one of the most advanced self-driving car programs, logging nearly a million miles in California.

Google's driverless cars were in 11 minor accidents, though Google says human drivers of other cars were at fault.

A hotbed for both the technology and legislation necessary for self-driving cars, California is requiring much greater transparency on accident reporting, which should come as a relief to the police officer who had the bizarre experience of ticketing a car with no driver.

Even though most automakers say fully autonomous vehicles won't be on roadways until 2020, there are plenty of unresolved legal and moral issues of driverless cars. One of the thorniest issues is how such road drones should be programmed in the case of an accident, and whether it should sacrifice the life of the nondriver passenger, or take out a pedestrian to save the driver's life.

Such issues made it seem



ZANDR MILEWSKI/AP

A California police officer pulls over a self-driving car designed by Google that was being tested on a road in Mountain View, Calif., on Nov. 12. The officer told the passenger that the vehicle was impeding traffic, but didn't give out a citation.

that the self-driving car was more 2020 than 2015, until we tested Tesla's autopilot feature, which ended up being our most read and shared story of the year.

We logged a few hundred miles on the highway without using our hands or feet, and in stop-and-go traffic, autopilot was a joy.

Performance

Excluding the mania induced from Tesla's all-electric luxury performance sedan hitting 0-60 mph in 2.8 ludicrous seconds, the Model S P90D represents the future of cars because of over-the-air software updates that let the automaker update the car as you would a smartphone.

Despite the Tesla buzz, many initial owners reported enough technological problems with the Model S to cause Consumer Reports to pull its recommendation.

Other power trends in 2015 included the return of crazy performance cars. Enthusiasts rejoiced for Cadillac's 640-horsepower CTS-V, Dodge's 707-horsepower Hellcat, the return of the Ford GT supercar and the latest iteration of the

Z06 super-Corvette, but the vast majority of new car buyers were eyeing crossovers.

Crossover craze

The most popular segment in America birthed a subsegment in 2015.

The subcompact crossover segment includes familiar cars that previously defied categorization, such as the Subaru Crosstrek, Nissan Juke and Kia Soul, along with new tall hatches, such as the Buick Encore, Chevy Trax, Mazda3, Fiat 500X and Honda HR-V.

Offering smaller cars doesn't mean Americans are buying them. Our penchant for bigger, less fuel-efficient vehicles, despite continued improvements in efficiency on the internal combustion engine, has led to a drop in average fuel economy.

The corporate average fuel economy, which has an adjusted sales target of about 40 mpg by 2025, was 25.0 mpg in November 2015, down from a high of 25.8 mpg in August 2014, according to researchers Michael Sivak and Brandon Schoettle of the University of Michigan's Transportation Research Institute.

Plug-in vehicles

Due to the long product development cycle, automakers have to forecast trends, which is why you'll see many more plug-in hybrids coming in the immediate future, with BMW rolling out a plug-in variant of every model, Mercedes launching up to 10 plug-in variants by 2017 and GM set to launch the 200-mile all-electric Bolt, which may be on sale by the end of 2016.

One of our most popular stories wasn't about what's new and hot, but rather about the old myth of idling cold engines.

Letting the engine run for half a minute to get the fluids cycling is a good idea, but the cold-weather tendency of letting the car warm up for 10 to 15 minutes is a waste of resources, and a convenience that only serves the driver, not the car.

Recalls

While the number of recalls was down in 2015 from the record 63.5 million recalled in 2014 — four cars recalled for every new one sold — the handling of recalls continues to strain consumers' trust in both

automakers and regulators.

The GM ignition switch fiasco concluded its chapter by paying out \$594.5 million on 399 claims.

Customers continue to wait on Takata airbag replacements, as 34 million vehicles covering nearly a dozen makes from more than a dozen model years, are affected.

The most egregious recall involves Volkswagen deliberately cheating EPA emissions standards by selling "clean diesels" that in fact emitted 10 to 40 times the allowed amount of carbon dioxide emissions.

Nearly four months after the scandal broke, and spread from California to all over the world, VW has yet to come up with a solution, other than to throw its executives into its sooty exhaust.

In recent years, the market has proved indifferent in the long term to recall scandals but we'll see what new problems arise when consumers buy into cars loaded with technological sophistication and complexity that increasingly take the driving out of our hands.

rduffer@tribpub.com
Twitter @DufferRobert



TOM SNITZER/PHOTO FOR TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS

The redesigned 2016 Lexus ES300h is nice, but other automakers offer more for less.

Lexus value absent in hybrid

BY ROBERT DUFFER
Tribune Newspapers

Some words just sound right. To say “smile” turns up the corners of the lips into the very thing it defines; to say “love” is to open up, then embrace that which was once parted. The perfect word transcends the object it defines into something more.

“Lexus” is one of those words. The subtle flow of “luxury” into “success” may be the perfect automotive marketing non-word to define a brand. It must be the word “Lexus” that bothers me more than the product.

The product is reliable, nice and retains its value but is not in the category of true luxury cars that make you feel like something more than a corporeal being destined to die.

The Lexus ES300 hybrid, which costs \$40,920, epitomizes this divide between marketing promise and product delivery. The redesigned midsize hybrid sedan is nice, but the trim lines of other automakers have surpassed what was once the status symbol of near luxury, and they cost less.

The ES300 hybrid, Camry hybrid and full-size Toyota Avalon hybrid share the same 2.5-liter in-line four-cylinder engine with an electric motor and electronic continu-

2016 LEXUS ES 300H

Midsize hybrid sedan

Price as tested:

\$40,920

Base price: \$40,920

EPA mpg: 40 city,
39 highway

Engine: 2.5-liter
in-line four-cylinder with
electric motor

Transmission: Electronic
CVT

Parting shot: With similarly performing midsize hybrids, the Lexus badge isn't worth the upcharge in the ES sedan.

ously variable transmission. They're all front-wheel drive, and the same hybrid power plant generates 200 horsepower and 156 pound-feet of torque.

Luxury and convenience features listed on the Monroney sticker include power windows, power moon roof and 10-way power seats.

Infotainment features are controlled by redundant steering controls or a center console dial, which is much preferred to the belt-buckle shaped mouse in other models. The Lexus Enform suite of connectivity isn't the simplest to

intuit, but owners will understand its logic with experience supplemented by a video demonstration or a trip through the owners manual.

The powertrain is seamless and quiet, with the electric motor quietly powering the vehicle at low speeds, and the Atkinson-cycle 2.5-liter engine taking over under more throttle. Even at highway speeds, when the gas engine is at its most efficient and doing all the work, the ES300 remains quiet.

The hybrid gets an EPA estimated 40 mpg combined, though we averaged 38 mpg at an average speed of 21 mph, while the ES350 with the 3.5-liter V-6 gets only 24 mpg combined. The hybrid premium is about \$3,000 more, so hybrid buyers should recoup the premium in money saved on gas in about five years, depending on how they drive. That does not include the more subjective valuation of limiting one's carbon footprint.

The top-of-the-line trims of some mainstream models have Lexus levels of luxury. They may not carry the same reputation of reliability and longevity, but is the Lexus brand worth 25 percent more when it comes to midsize hybrids?

In a word free from marketing glau, no.

TPMS makes spare obsolete



BOB WEBER
Motormouth

Q: I recently purchased a 2015 Hyundai Elantra. This model did not come with a spare tire. A co-worker of mine purchased a 2014 Chevy Camaro. It too has no spare tire. They do provide this huge foam molding where the spare and jack would be. They give you this little motor and pump in there instead. The pump is a joke. In an emergency, do you really wish to wait for so-called roadside assistance? I thought that this equipment was mandatory on all cars. One is truly helpless without a spare and accessories. Do you agree?

— R.M., Park Forest, Ill.

A: We do not agree. Most flats today are the slow-leak type that you discover in the morning or when you get off work. Before the tire gets flat enough to need to be re-inflated, the tire pressure monitoring system will have illuminated the warning light. The sealant and pump kits are adequate to drive your vehicle to a

service facility. By the way, when was the last time you saw someone stranded along the side of the road with a flat tire?

Q: You're my last hope. How do I manually put down the headlights on my 1972 Corvette? I'll worry about getting the problem fixed at a later time. I know it's a vacuum problem, but for now I just want to get the headlights down.

— F.B., Orland Park, Ill.

A: The vacuum system that raises and lowers the headlights on the C3 generation of Corvettes is a labyrinth of hoses, actuators, controllers and even the headlight switch that doubles as a vacuum switch. From under the car, you may be able to reach the piece that attaches to the back of the headlight housing and pull it down.

Q: I drive a 2007 Pontiac Torrent that has 186,000 miles with most of the original parts that will need to be replaced as they wear out. I estimate the cost to replace the parts as between \$3,000 and \$5,000. Should I continue to drive the car and replace the parts, when needed, or buy a certified used car?

— Mark Nagel, Michigan City, Ind.

A: Most experts apply a basic rule of thumb: If the cost of repairs exceeds the value of the vehicle, sell the vehicle. Selecting a certified used vehicle is wiser than just buying something from an unknown seller.

Q: I have a 1999 Chevy Prizm with about 110,000 miles. My oil light came on a couple of times in the last few years. I was told the crankshaft main seal is rubber and hardens over time, and this causes oil leaks because the oil gets past the seal. The mechanic put in an additive, which softens the seal and prevents oil leakage. I was wondering if I can buy an additive myself and have it put in if this happens again. What additive is good for this?

— K.M., Chicago

A: Ask your mechanic what product he used. You could try some the next time the seal begins to leak, but don't bet any money on it working. Additives can only soften and swell the seal for so long.

Bob Weber is an ASE-certified master mechanic and freelance writer. Send questions along with name and town to Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Fifth Floor, Chicago IL 60611, or motormouth.trib@verizon.net.



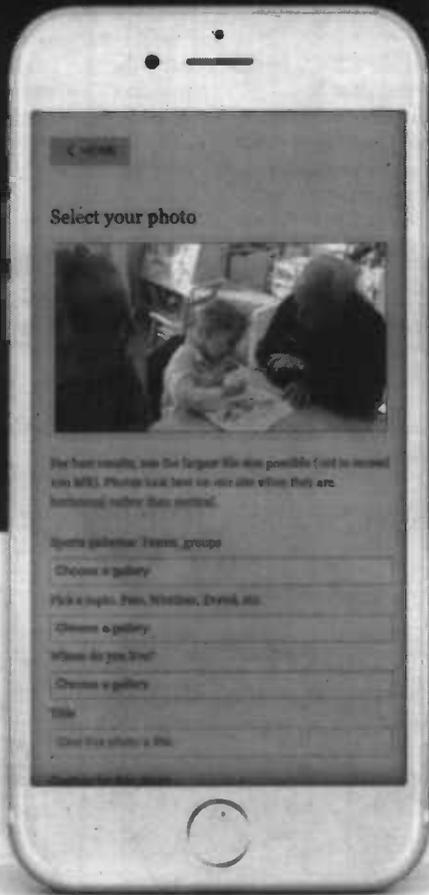
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Nearly 4 in 10 new cars are sold without what was once a basic feature — the spare tire.

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NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

Becar hopes to gain college interest with perimeter skills

BY MATT HARNESS
Pioneer Press

Ammar Becar isn't a prototypical basketball player.

The Notre Dame senior, who is listed at 6-foot-6 and 225 pounds, looks more like someone who can rush a quarterback than someone who can knock down a jumper from the elbow. Although listed as a forward, he doesn't fit neatly into any of the positions on the court.

But Becar said he embraces being different, even if it's led to no offers to play college basketball as of Jan. 11.

"It does bug me when people say, 'Oh, he's so big and bulky. He can play inside, but can he play Division I?'" Becar said. "I think people underrate what I can do."

Because of his size, Becar has been a force in the post throughout his four seasons. Last season, he averaged 17 points and nine rebounds a game, scoring 21 points in a 78-77 loss to eventual Class 4A state champion Stevenson in the Waukegan Sectional semifinals.

"He's so strong with the ball, and he's confident around the basket," Notre Dame coach Tom Les said. "He's able to either get a quality shot down there or get fouled and go to the free-throw line."

But in an attempt to cater to what he's heard from college coaches, Becar said he spent the offseason developing his perimeter offense, which includes both his shot and his ball-handling. His range now extends to the 3-point line, and he credited the overall improvement to Chuck Demas, a Chicago-area instructor.

"He used to use his sheer size to back people down," said Fenwick coach Rick Malnati, whose Friars beat the Dons 61-52 on Jan. 6.

"There's no question he's going to be undersized in college. But you can't measure a kid's heart or his toughness."

—Fenwick coach Rick Malnati

"This year, he's much more effective from the outside."

What's more, Malnati, a former men's basketball assistant coach at Loyola University of Chicago, said Becar owns one shot that is rare to see in high school, or even college.

"That fadeaway of his is something else," Malnati said after Becar scored 17 points against the Friars, the No. 4-ranked team by the Chicago Tribune. "He gets you on your heels with his brute strength and then backs off. That's a shot he can shoot over a player who is 6-8. It's a pro move."

Becar said he got the idea to add the fadeaway jumper while watching a documentary on Dirk Nowitzki with his dad, Nihad Becar, this summer.

"I saw how much separation he was able to get from a defender, and I thought I would like to put that into my game," Ammar Becar said. "I shot them non-stop throughout the summer, 100s of them a day."

Once the Notre Dame season started, though, Ammar Becar said he was not sure if the shot was ready for the varsity game. But he said he made three of them in the Dons' 58-33 win over Lake View in the Nov. 23 opener. He said he attempts the fadeaway from as far out as the 3-point line, but it's most commonly used around 12 feet.

"It's all situational," he said. "I feel out my defender, and I see when it will work. It's definitely in my repertoire. I probably shoot it two or three times a game, at least."

Perimeter defense remains a work in progress with Ammar Becar, Les said. That's something college coaches also would want to see for someone with his body type, according to Malnati.

"We've asked him to defend more on the outside, matching him up with guards," Les said. "He's become better at it, more active, more smooth."

While he lacks the foot speed of a guard, Ammar Becar said he has to out-think his opponent. He has to trust his instincts to anticipate a player's next move, he said.

"I am not a player who can pick up a guard at full court, but I think I am a player who can contain guards in the half court," Ammar Becar said. "I am focusing on improving my lateral quickness."

Whatever his shortcomings may be, Ammar Becar has enough upside to warrant playing at a high level next season, according to Les and Malnati. So far, he's been in some form of contact with Division I programs DePaul, Lehigh and Western Illinois.

Malnati said some players succeed on the next level simply because they won't settle for anything less.

"There's no question he's going to be undersized in college," Malnati said. "But you can't measure a kid's heart or his toughness. Some kids find ways to be successful. I like his game. I mean, he was the No. 1 option of theirs we had to stop."

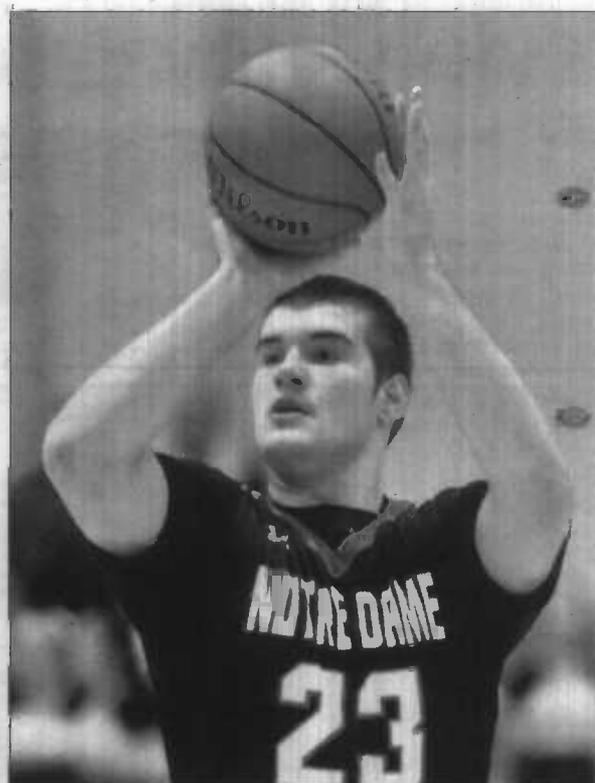
After watching Ammar Becar play for four seasons, Les said the college team that gets his star player won't be sorry.

"The bigger the game, the better he plays," Les said. "He's more comfortable when there is more on the line. I don't know where he will play next year, but he has such a good game and such good intangibles that he will find a place."

Ammar Becar has another tough test on Jan. 14, when the No. 13 Dons (11-3) play at No. 12 Benet.

"What college teams will get from me is someone who wants to win and will do anything it takes to win," he said.

mharness@pioneerlocal.com



JON LANGHAM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Notre Dame's Ammar Becar shoots a 3-pointer against Fenwick on Jan. 6 in Oak Park.

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Irving showcases shooting skills in tough loss

BY ERIC VAN DRIL

Pioneer Press

The Glenbrook North boys basketball team stormed out to a 14-point lead in the first quarter against Maine East, but Blue Demons coach Dave Genis was confident his team would fight back.

"I told them, 'Look, this is just a blip. They're a good team, but they're not good enough to maintain this on you. You just keep chipping [the lead] away. One play at a time,' " Genis said. "And we did."

Maine East ended up losing 48-47 on a buzzer-beater by Glenbrook North junior James Karis on Jan. 8, but the senior-laden Blue Demons used their resilience and the shot-making of junior Jordan Irving to rally.

Maine East trailed Glenbrook North by 12 at the end of the first quarter in the Central Suburban North game. The Spartans (10-4, 3-1 entering the week) scored the first basket of the second quarter.

Maine East (10-3, 2-2 entering the week) closed the quarter on a 15-4 run, however, which included a pair of 3-pointers from the wing by Irving. He scored seven points in the third quarter, including a one-handed floater and another 3-pointer despite a defender shadowing him.

The third quarter showed Irving's offensive versatility.

"I can drive to the basket," said Irving, who finished with 16 points. "I can come off of screens, of course, [and shoot] at the 3-point line. Anything. You name it, I can do [it]."

Irving saved his best shot for last.

The Blue Demons trailed Glenbrook North 45-44 when Genis called a timeout with 21.4 seconds remaining. In the huddle, Genis called "Rub," Irving said. The play's first option was senior forward Calvin Jean Louis (11 points) on the low block. The second option was Irving, coming off of a screen at the top of the key.

The ball was inbounded, and the Spartans took away Jean Louis. Irving came off of the screen, caught the ball behind the 3-point line and — like Genis reminded him during the timeout — shot it.

"I told him, 'Just make sure that you shoot it. Don't throw it,'



TIM BOYLE/PIONEER PRESS

Maine East's Jordan Irving dishes the ball while defended by Glenbrook North's Zach Hoffman on Jan. 8 in Park Ridge.

because sometimes when he gets in a bad state shooting the ball, he's throwing it," Genis said. "That's the only thing I said to him: 'Just make sure you shoot it. Follow through.'"

Irving's attempt was smooth and on line, but strong. It flew over the rim, bounced off of the backboard and went in.

"It felt like the best [shot] I released all year," Irving said.

Maine East's large "Pack the place" crowd erupted when Irving's 3-pointer fell. It put the Blue Demons ahead by two. Glenbrook North called a timeout with 8.5 seconds remaining.

Irving didn't end the night as the hero of the game, however. That was Karis, who made a 3-pointer from about 25 feet at the buzzer.

But Irving's offensive performance against the Spartans was an

encouraging sign as the Blue Demons move forward in a wide-open Central Suburban North race. Maine East entered the week a game behind Deerfield, Niles North and Glenbrook North, who are all tied for first.

Irving's shooting display came after an offseason of hard work. Irving said he shot as much as he could. He shot at Maine East, Feldman Recreation Center in

Niles and Washington Terrace Park in Niles.

Irving's 3-pointer was a particular point of emphasis during those shooting sessions.

"Over the summer, [I worked on it] non-stop," Irving said.

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Maine East plays smart fourth quarter, still falls short

BY ERIC VAN DRIL

Pioneer Press

The Maine East girls basketball team trailed Glenbrook North by 14 points with 4:46 remaining, when the game turned suddenly.

The Blue Demons played inspired, high-pressure defense during the final five minutes of their 43-40 loss on Jan. 8.

Janelle Alba Garner also came alive. The senior, who started the game 0-for-9 from the field, scored all 11 of her points in the fourth quarter. She was aggressive with the ball, and her monstrous block of Glenbrook North sophomore guard Jordan Davison sent Maine East's sizable "Pack the Place" crowd into a frenzy as the Blue Demons continued to rally.

Alba Garner's first points of the game came with 4:07 remaining when she attacked Glenbrook North's 2-3 zone and scored an and-one bucket near the rim. Alba Garner sunk the ensuing free throw to make it 40-29.

Maine East then hit two-straight 3-pointers — one by junior guard Angie Apostolou, and a wide-open shot by Alba Garner from the corner — to cut a 14-point lead to five in less than 90 seconds.

Maine East coach Karol Hanusiak "told us to be aggressive, and penetrate more, because we were just passing around on the outside [earlier in the game] and nothing was going on," said Maine East junior guard Lauryn Alba Garner, Janelle Alba Garner's younger sister.

The Blue Demons missed a go-ahead 3-point attempt on their final offensive possession. It came off of a drive.

"That made a huge change, when we actually penetrated and went to the basket," said Lauryn Alba Garner, who finished with nine points, three rebounds and eight steals.

Three-pointers were vital during the Blue Demons' late comeback attempt, and they've been a strength of this year's team.

Maine East's six-person rotation includes one true post player, 5-foot-11 senior Maddie McTague, and five capable 3-point shooters. All five — the Alba Garner sisters, Apostolou and her sister, freshman Caya Apostolou, and senior Marian Ismail — made at least one 3-pointer against the Spartans.

The key for Maine East, Hanu-



TIM BOYLE/PIONEER PRESS

Maine East's Lauryn Alba Garner (1) drives through the Glenbrook North defense during their game on Jan. 8 in Park Ridge.

siak said, is how the Blue Demons (10-7, 3-2 after the loss) generate their 3-point opportunities. In the fourth quarter, all but one came via good ball movement or a drive and kick.

That wasn't the case during the first three quarters, especially during a first half in which Maine East was 3-for-17 from behind the arc.

"They sat back in a zone, which we knew they would, and we just didn't attack the zone the way we knew we had to," Hanusiak said. "I don't mind them taking the 3, as long as it's in the flow [of the offense]. But we had too many one-pass-and-chuck-up-the-3 [possessions] ... and they don't shoot well like that. If we can get it in the flow of the offense and they

get that 3-point shot, we're more likely to make it."

Game notes

■ Caya Apostolou finished with eight points. Ismail and Angie Apostolou scored six apiece.

■ Glenbrook North was led in scoring by senior guard Ilana Malman (17 points). The Spartans'

post tandem of senior Miranda Weber (10 points, 12 rebounds) and sophomore Samm Carsello (10 points, eight rebounds) was excellent.

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Cook shines on offense, defense

BY TIM FROEHLIG
Pioneer Press

Senior guard Crishawn Cook has been a consistent force for the Niles North boys basketball team all season — his scoring average was up to 19.7 points per game entering the week — and he had yet another big game on Jan. 8, as the Vikings routed Central Suburban North rival Deerfield 67-40.

Cook shot 9-for-12 from the field en route to 23 points in Skokie as Niles North handed Deerfield its first division loss. It also avenged the Vikings' 62-55 loss to the Warriors at the Wheeling Hardwood Classic on Dec. 26.

"Crishawn has scored 23 points three other times this season, too," Niles North coach Glenn Olson said. "So this effort tied his season-high, again. We're a work in progress, but this win was a huge boost for our team's confidence.

"We studied a lot of film on Deerfield to see what we did wrong the first time we played them. We got hammered on hi-lows. We allowed a lot of flash cuts to the basket. To the kids, seeing is believing. I think tonight, they learned how critical it is to make adjustments and study your opponent. We didn't allow flash cuts tonight. We didn't get destroyed on hi-lows. And we played really good team defense."

Cook was a big part of that. He had five of Niles North's 12 steals, and seemed to have a sixth sense in the passing lanes at times.

"A big reason I was able to force so many turnovers was how much I studied and prepared for this re-

match," Cook said. "But the other reason was just effort. I felt like I was trying harder out there, hustling more, doing everything I could to make the end result different this time."

The 6-foot-2 Cook guarded 6-4 Deerfield reserve forward Joshua Maize man-to-man in the lane in small spurts. He also drew the challenge of going up against Deerfield's best player, Jordan Baum, during other parts of the game. Baum was limited to just six points, a team-high, and five assists.

"When I looked at film of myself the last time we played Deerfield, I wasn't happy with what I saw," Cook said. "I got beat too many times. I wasn't about to let that happen again."

The Vikings (11-4, 3-1 after the win) fell behind 5-0 to start the game, but went on a 17-4 run the rest of the first quarter. They took a 10-point lead into the locker room at halftime.

The Vikings then outscored the Warriors 26-8 in the third quarter. Niles North's dominance eventually ballooned into a 31-point lead midway through the fourth.

Sophomore guard Damaria Franklin and freshman guard DaMone Williams-Gray helped the Vikings limit their turnovers to single digits (nine). The Vikings shot 56.5 percent (26-for-46) from the field. Franklin scored 16 points and Williams-Gray added six rebounds. Niles North also finished with a 33-17 edge in rebounds against Deerfield.

Niles North's big win against Deerfield came on the heels of a 70-64 victory over Prospect on Jan. 5. It



ERIC P. DAVIS/PIONEER PRESS

Niles North's Crishawn Cook drives on the Deerfield defense. Cook finished with 23 points in the Vikings' 67-40 win on Jan. 8 in Skokie.

was the first time since Dec. 11 and 12 that Niles North won back-to-back games. After starting the season 7-1, the Vikings went 4-3 in

their next seven games.

"Until recently, we haven't handled success well," said Olson. "We've won some games, then let it

go to our heads a little bit a few times. But that's changing quickly, and Crishawn's senior leadership on a roster that's loaded with new-

bies is a big reason why. We're maturing in a hurry."

Tim Froehlig is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Belpedio helps U.S. win bronze at world juniors

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
Pioneer Press

When Skokie native Louie Belpedio reflects on the International Ice Hockey Federation World Junior Championship and how he helped the United States capture the bronze medal, two games stand out.

One is the Americans' first game of the tournament. The U.S. was unproven heading into its game against Canada on Dec. 26. The U.S. had only played two exhibitions prior to the world juniors, and had the unenviable task of facing the 16-time world junior champions in its first game of group play in Helsinki, Finland.

"I wasn't really sure what kind of team we had," U.S. head coach Ron Wilson said. "What they proved to me was they were a lot better than they showed on paper."

The U.S. outplayed Canada in just about every facet, Wilson added, yet the game was tied 2-2 late in the third.

Belpedio changed that. The alternate captain received a pass from Will Borgen, his defensive partner, and walked in with the puck. He fired a quick wrist shot toward goal. It deflected off the stick of a Canadian defenseman and into the net to put the U.S. ahead 3-2.

Forward Auston Matthews made it 4-2 less than a minute later, and that's how the game ended. Belpedio's goal was the game-winner.

"I'll never forget that moment," the 19-year-old Belpedio said. "Not even just the fact that I scored that goal. ... It turned out to be one of the most fun games I've ever played [in]."

The U.S. victory over Canada proved the team's potential.

"That just showed us we can truly play with anyone," Belpedio said.

The Americans proved that in their ensuing games. Belpedio served as one of



RONI REKOMAA/AP

USA's Louie Belpedio skates away after scoring the game-winning goal against Canada at the World Junior Championship on Dec. 26 in Helsinki, Finland.

the team leaders, and a dependable defenseman, during the tournament.

"Off the ice, he provided some valuable leadership that we needed. ... He was one of the vocal guys in the [locker] room, and he said all the right things at the right times," Wilson said. "On the ice, he was just a steady defender."

The U.S. followed its win over Canada with a 1-0 loss to Sweden in group play. The Americans rebounded with victories over Switzerland (10-1) and Denmark (4-1) to finish group play.

They crushed the Czech Republic 7-0 in the quarterfinals.

However, the U.S. lost 2-1 to Russia in the semifinals on Jan. 4.

That loss meant the Americans would play Sweden in the third-place game the following day. Bronze-medal games are unpredictable in practically every sport, as there are often mental and emotional let-downs when the possibility of winning a gold medal is removed.

Wilson didn't know how his team would play against

Sweden.

"The way a North American thinks, the only thing that you really care about is the gold medal," Wilson said. "Who knows [how players will respond] when you get to those third-place games?"

In the hours after the semifinal loss to Russia, Belpedio said he and the other U.S. leaders didn't make any speeches or call a team meeting.

Instead, the players got over the semifinal loss individually and shifted their focus to beating Sweden.

The Americans proved to be extremely motivated on Jan. 5. They not only wanted to avenge their 1-0 loss to Sweden, Belpedio explained, but they wanted prove that they were good enough to play in the gold-medal game.

The U.S. crushed Sweden 8-3 to win bronze. It was Belpedio's other favorite game from the World Junior Championship.

"You really wish you were playing for the gold medal, but at the same time, a bronze medal is something to come home with

and something to be proud of," Belpedio said. "We regrouped really well, and came out and played our best."

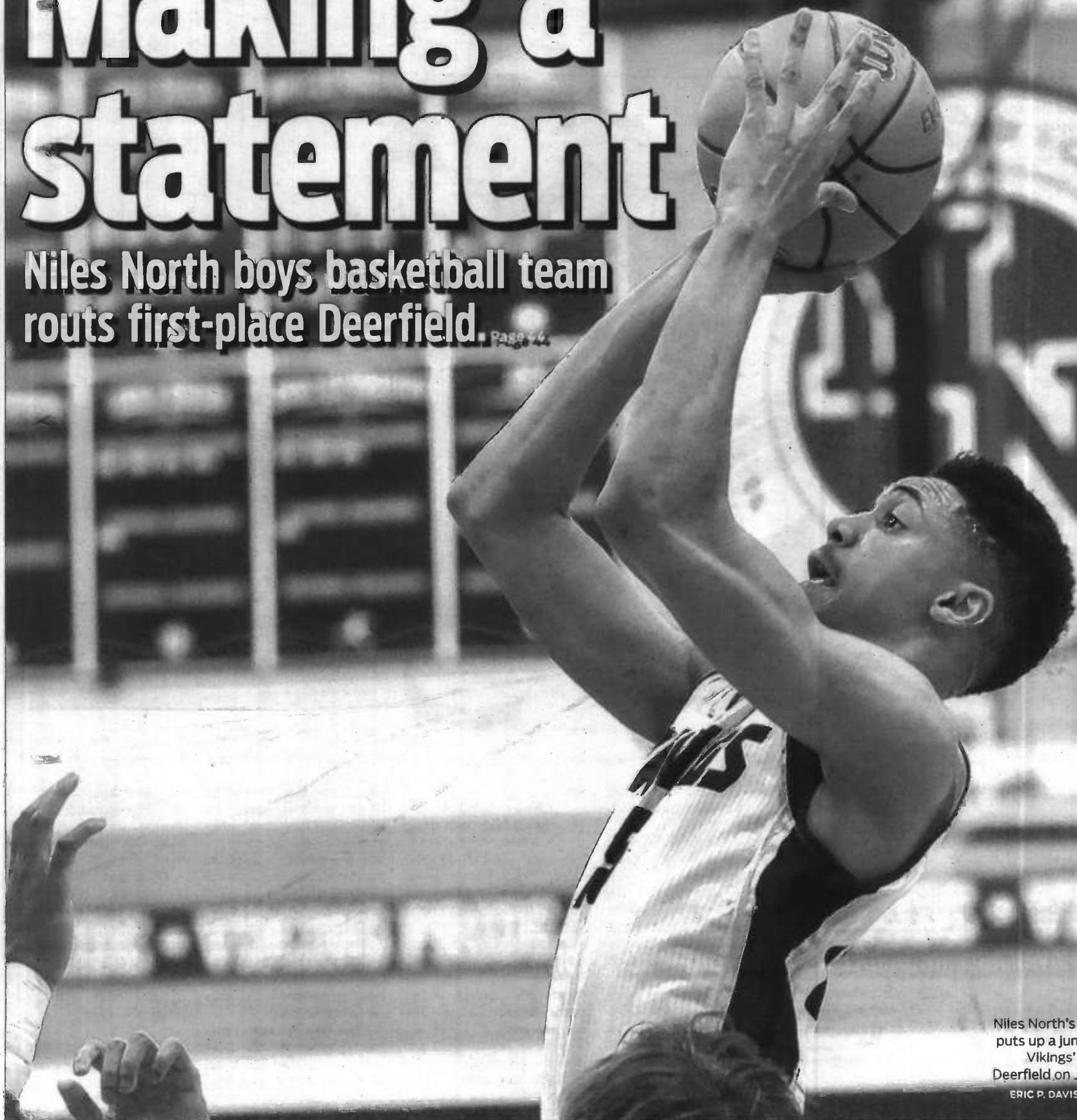
Now, Belpedio's bronze medal hangs on his wall at Miami (Ohio), where he's a sophomore. It's one of just two awards he said he displays. His gold medal from the 2014 IIHF U18 Men's World Championship is the other.

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Making a statement

Niles North boys basketball team routs first-place Deerfield. Page 46



Niles North's Saveion Shadd puts up a jumper during the Vikings' 67-40 win over Deerfield on Jan. 8 in Skokie.

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