

# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR



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nilesheraldspectator.com

## A cautionary tale

Mother tells story of daughter's battle with heroin addiction. Page 4



NATALIE HAYES/PIONEER PRESS

PJ Newberg speaks about heroin use and opioid abuse at Niles North High School on March 22 at a Parent Advisory Council.

GO



ROBERT J. MISKINS

### The leper priest

Broadcaster-singer Wayner Messmer steps back into role of Father Damien. Page 19

SPORTS

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CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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LIVING

### Another kind of March madness

Pioneer Press relationship columnist Jackie Pilossoph offers a not-so-sweet 16 real-life things that drive people mad about their significant other. **Inside**



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# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

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## SHOUT OUT

# Jim Robinson, president of Astellas Americas

Jim Robinson lived in Skokie for more than 20 years. Now living in Glenview, he will assume the position of president of Astellas Americas on April 1.

Based in Tokyo, Astellas Pharma Inc. is a global pharmaceutical research company focused on urology, oncology, infectious disease, immunology and cardiology and advancing new therapeutic areas and discovery research. The company's headquarters for the Americas (U.S., Latin America, Canada) and global development organization is based in Northbrook. The Astellas Research Institute of America (ARIA) is located at Skokie's Illinois Science + Technology Park.

#### Q: What will your new duties entail?

A: I will be responsible for the company's operations in North and South Americas.

#### Q: What did you do for a living before Astellas?:

A: I worked in various roles at Schering-Plough Corp., which merged with Merck in 2009.

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

A: I'm reading "Immortal Diamond" by Richard Rohr.

#### Q: What was your first job?

A: I cut grass in the neighborhood and then worked at the Skokie Park District.

#### Q: As a kid, what did you want to be when you



JIM ROBINSON PHOTO

Jim Robinson

#### grew up?

A: A professional football player with the NFL.

#### Q: A movie you'd recommend?

A: "Spotlight"

#### Q: Any words of wisdom you live by?

A: Treat others as you would like to be treated.

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

A: "My Hometown" by Bruce Springsteen.

#### Q: What is an interesting factoid about yourself?

A: I played rugby for 10 years with the Chicago Lions.

— Pioneer Press staff



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NATALIE HAYES/PIONEER PRESS

PJ Newberg speaks about heroin use and opioid abuse at Niles North High School on March 22 at a Parent Advisory Council. After her daughter became addicted to heroin, Newberg started a campaign to educate schools and anyone who will listen about the spread of the drug into the suburbs.

# ‘I felt shame and fear and helplessness’

## Mother shares cautionary tale of daughter's heroin addiction with Niles North parents

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

Heroin use and overdoses have skyrocketed in the U.S., and to the shock of many parents in communities like the North Shore area, the drug, as well as other opioids, have infiltrated the least likely of places — the suburbs.

At Niles North High School, principal Ryan McTague said painkiller abuse among students is now more rampant than any other drug, and kids have been caught trading or buying pills between classes.

“As a principal this is something I’m very concerned about, because (opioids) are accessible in a way we’ve never seen before,” he said. “Sometimes we think it’s in some back alley far away from here, but to kids of this generation, it’s no longer seen as taboo.”

Glenview resident PJ Newberg — who said her 21-year-old daughter has been battling a heroin addiction that started when she was a 16-year-old sophomore at Glenbrook South — has taken on a mission to educate North Shore parents about the drug.

According to a 2014 Chicago Tribune report, Newberg has held presentations at the Glenview library, Northbrook library, Deerfield Village Hall and with Wilmette and Skokie police departments.

“The big thing is, it’s a proactive approach,” said Skokie police Sgt. David Pawlak at the time. “It’s not reactive once you find out you have a problem.”

He told the Tribune that heroin abuse “cycles through all communities.”

Speaking to a small group of parents who gathered at Niles North High School

March 22 for the monthly meeting of the Parent Advisory Council, Newberg shared her story. Her daughter started using heroin with her boyfriend, a former football player at Glenbrook South who was three years older, she said.

Newberg’s daughter has been in and out of rehab more than 15 times, she said, and despite multiple stints in jail, she’s still using heroin.

A Roosevelt University study released in 2015 found that in Illinois, 25 percent of state-funded treatment admissions were for heroin, while nationally that figure was only 16 percent. In Chicago and the collar counties, 35 percent of those entering treatment reported heroin use as their reason for going, according to the study.

Newberg returned earlier this month from a trip to West Palm Beach, Fla.,

where she said her daughter was hospitalized to have part of her arm surgically removed due to complications with using syringes to inject heroin.

“It’s been a nightmare—she was hospitalized because she has no veins left,” she said.

Newberg said she doesn’t know where her daughter is now.

Days after returning to Illinois, her daughter left the hospital and was missing, she said.

Newberg’s daughter continued using, she said, even after her boyfriend died from an overdose and three of her close friends died after using heroin, all within a short period of time.

Fighting back tears as she told her story, Newberg said she did everything in her power to keep her daughter off the drug to no avail.

“The drug is so physically addicting that I equate it with the devil because it’s that evil of a drug,” Newberg said. “It steals your values, your morals, your family and

your self-esteem and you become a shell of yourself.”

She said she doesn’t know why her daughter started using the drug. She had never taken prescription pills like so many other addicts, and Newberg said she had educated her from an early age to avoid drugs and alcohol.

“The only thing she suddenly cared about was getting high,” Newberg said. “I felt shame and fear and helplessness and I didn’t know what to do.”

Newberg is hoping to expose what she says is the North Shore area’s growing problem with heroin use with a website she started called “North Shore Secret Heroin Problem,” where she lists statistics and resources for parents seeking help.

The Niles North parent council said the schools should be doing more to stop kids from taking opioids.

McTague, talking openly about the need to prevent kids from using drugs, admitted the school district

has not started pinpointing the severity of opioid and heroin abuse beyond general drug awareness efforts throughout the school district.

“We continue to educate our kids through the student services department, but targeted heroin use isn’t on our radar screen,” he said. “At the end of the day, this is something we want to continue talking about and make it known in our schools — there has to be a semblance of awareness.”

Like other concerned parents at the Parent Advisory Council meeting, Skokie resident Gail Paskead said she was surprised to learn that the stigma surrounding heroin had changed for this generation of teenagers.

“I asked my kids and they said no, they hadn’t heard of people using it,” Paskead said. “But I don’t think people are blind to this being a problem.”

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

# Woman killed when struck by open door on minivan

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A 79-year-old Niles woman was killed March 26 when an open door of a minivan struck her after she had asked her 13-year-old grandson to help put the vehicle into gear and it accelerated in reverse, Niles police said.

According to a news release March 27 from the Niles Police Department, Kuem S. Cho died of her injuries at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in

Park Ridge. The Cook County Medical Examiner's Office said Cho died of multiple blunt-force injuries and her death was an accident.

Police were called to a parking lot in the 9200 block of Maryland Street about 9 p.m. March 26, according to the release. Police learned that Cho had given the keys to her 2005 Chrysler minivan to her grandson "to assist her in placing the vehicle into gear."

According to police reports, Cho was walking up to the driver's side door, which was open, when "the teen shifted the vehicle into reverse with his foot accidentally on the gas pedal instead of the brake pedal." The vehicle went into reverse, and the open driver's side door struck Cho.

The Niles Fire Department transported her to the hospital. As of March 27, an investigation was continuing.

## POLICE BLOTTER

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

### Niles

#### DUI

■ Ivan Bastidas, of the 900 block of Roxbury Court, Hanover Park, was charged with driving under the influence on March 18. He was taken into custody at Milwaukee Avenue and Jonquil Terrace at 3:30 a.m. He has an April 19 court date.

#### DISORDERLY CONDUCT

■ Police ticketed a 41-year-old Niles woman for disorderly conduct on March 21 after she allegedly called 911 several times, but refused to say anything when an operator answered. Police said the woman admitted to making the calls because she was "bored" due to her son leaving. She "did not understand the severity of her actions," police said.

#### BATTERY

■ A 34-year-old maintenance worker told police that a 52-year-old tenant

struck him in the head with a metal pipe on March 19 inside an apartment building on the 7900 block of Caldwell Avenue. According to police, the worker had come to change the tenant's lock when the man opened his apartment door and hit the worker. The worker took the pipe away and the tenant refused to answer the door when officers arrived, police said. An investigation was pending.

#### RETAIL THEFT

■ Kimberly Sansone, 40, of the 500 block of Willow, Freeport, was charged with felony retail theft on March 19 after she allegedly stole baby formula valued at \$389 by hiding the cans in a baby carrier inside a store on the 6100 block of Touhy Avenue. She was given a March 29 court date.

■ Martese Petigree, 41, of the 13900 block of South Atlanta, Riverdale, was charged with retail theft on March 21 after he allegedly stole \$60 worth of clothing from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center. He has an April 19 court date.

#### DISTURBANCE

■ Police on March 17 were called to a pharmacy on the 9600 block of Milwaukee Avenue after a nurse re-

ported that a 48-year-old man became "irate" that the clinic inside the store did not accept Medicaid. He reportedly left before officers arrived.

#### THEFT

■ A woman reported that she discovered \$50 missing from her purse while attending bingo at the YMCA, 6300 Touhy Ave., on March 16.

■ A device used to help with verbal communication was reported stolen March 21 from a locker inside the YMCA, 6300 W. Touhy Ave. The device was valued at \$4,500, police said.

#### BURGLARY

■ Jewelry was reported stolen from a home on the 6800 block of Lexington Lane during a burglary that occurred on the afternoon of March 17, police said.

■ A house on the 8500 block of Normal Avenue was entered by force and ransacked on March 22, police said. An investigation was pending.

#### PROPERTY DAMAGE

■ All four tires were slashed on a van parked overnight between March 17 and March 18 on the 7300 block of Milwaukee Avenue, police said.

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# Cops: Carjacker drops woman at home, flees

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

A 14-year-old boy suspected of stealing a car with an elderly woman inside was in the custody of the Cook County Juvenile Detention Center March 24, facing a charge of aggravated vehicular hijacking, Park Ridge police said.

Deputy Police Chief Lou Jogmen said detectives are working with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office to bring charges against the teen, who is accused of stealing a 2015 Chevy Impala from the parking lot of Walgreens, 901 W. Touhy Ave., just before 7 p.m. March 23.

Jogmen confirmed that

the 14-year-old is the same Park Ridge boy suspected of stealing four other cars in the city between Feb. 21 and March 5. Three of the cars were left running and unattended and one was left unlocked while parked outside an elementary school, police said.

In the March 23 theft, an 88-year-old woman was in the back seat of the car at the time, and police say the teen dropped her off at her home before driving into Chicago.

Jogmen said the woman, who had been waiting in the car for a family member to return from the store, was frightened, but not physically harmed during the ordeal.

"There's nothing to lead us to believe she was hurt in any way, other than being very scared," he said.

It was the series of earlier car thefts in the city and the apprehension of three 14-year-old boys earlier this month that led investigators to suspect a connection between those crimes and the March 23 carjacking, Jogmen said. Following a lead, "the investigators headed down to the area of Belmont and Harlem (avenues) when they saw the (stolen) car and someone driving it," Jogmen said.

With assistance from Chicago police, the car was stopped on Austin Avenue near Lawrence Avenue and the 14-year-old boy was

taken into custody, police said.

The teen had been last arrested by Park Ridge police March 6 and charged with possession of stolen vehicles, possession of marijuana and fleeing from police, authorities said. He was released back to his parents after his arrest, according to police.

The boy had also been apprehended by Chicago police on Feb. 21 while driving a car that had been stolen from the Summit Mall in Park Ridge that evening, police said.

Police have not commented on the boy's motives.

Two other 14-year-old boys, one from Park Ridge

and the other from Buffalo Grove, were also arrested in connection with the car thefts, police said.

All three were students at alternative schools in the area, Jogmen said.

Believing the elderly passenger was still in the car when it was initially spotted, Jogmen said detectives, who were in an unmarked car at the time, "showed great restraint" in holding off on immediately attempting to stop the car until Chicago marked squads could arrive. There was a concern among the officers that the driver was a potential flight risk, which could have put the safety of others in jeopardy, Jogmen said.

Separately, a Park Ridge

police officer responding to the area March 23 to assist police was involved in a crash with another car on Gunnison Street in Chicago, but suffered only minor injuries and has been released from the hospital, Jogmen said. A 10-year-old passenger of the other car has also been treated and released from the hospital, he said.

The driver of the other car was ticketed for failure to yield to an emergency vehicle, police said. An internal investigation of the accident will also be conducted by the Park Ridge Police Department, Jogmen said.

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## Police respond to shots fired on east end of Skokie

MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

Skokie police responded to an emergency call of shots fired at 2:42 p.m. March 27 near Lawndale Avenue and Greenleaf Street, according to a statement issued by the department.

When officers arrived at the scene, they said, those involved in the incident had all fled the area. The case is still under investigation, they reported.

A short time later, Evanston police, one of the surrounding agencies initially notified about the incident, relayed to Skokie they located a vehicle that might have been involved in the incident, police said.

According to Cmdr. Joe Dugan, spokesman for the Evanston department, officers were dispatched at 2:56 p.m., to the area of Lake Street and Fowler Avenue in Evanston after a caller re-

ported seeing a gray Jeep with a window shattered and damage from several rounds of bullets.

At the scene, police talked to a man, 28, who said he was the lone driver of the vehicle when another vehicle, a white four-door vehicle with two occupants, pulled up next to the Jeep and began firing at it.

The victim refused any medical attention, Dugan said. He said Skokie arranged for the Jeep to be towed and brought the man in for questioning.

Skokie police are asking anyone with information or knowledge regarding the incident to contact the department at 847-982-5900. The automated Crime Tip Hotline is available all hours at 847-933-TIPS (8477).

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## Morton Grove library officials ban man charged with assault

BY MICHAEL JOYCE  
Pioneer Press

Morton Grove Public Library officials have banned a man for one year from the establishment after he was charged with assaulting a member of the library staff, officials announced.

According to the Feb. 26 police report, 27-year-old William Walsh of Chicago, was being loud and belligerent in the library, and "abusing staff in general."

Walsh was charged with assault and disorderly conduct.

Police said Walsh swung his open hand at a library employee, stopping short of hitting their face. Walsh also threatened to spit on the employee, according to the report.

Before the incident in the library, police said, Walsh was shouting racial slurs at the employees of a nearby McDonald's.

The Morton Grove Library Board director has



MICHAEL JOYCE/PIONEER PRESS

Morton Grove Public Library officials have banned a man for one year from the establishment after he was charged with assaulting a member of the library staff, officials announced at a recent library board meeting.

the power to ban an individual from the library for up to a year, which is the time Walsh has been banned for.

The board acknowledged that the ban may not be necessary, given the pending court case.

"Given this individual's history, I'm telling the board we will be banning him for a year," said Gray. "We've had numerous in-

stances with him in the past several months."

Also at the March 17 board meeting, the reports and finance meeting was postponed due to quorum, the board did run through the finance report.

Board Treasurer Mark Albers says according to the boards PMA report, cash on hand this time last year was \$1.1 million, it's now spent

down to \$132,000.

The cash statement this time last year stood at \$16 million, the library now has \$644,000 on hand, he said.

Albers described the number as "favorable," saying the library has only used 11 percent of spending budget for the year 2016.

Michael Joyce is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

# Police holding man for questioning in slaying

BY DEANESE WILLIAMS-HARRIS AND MIKE ISAACS  
Tribune Newspapers

A man sought in connection with the slaying of a 31-year-old woman found inside her Skokie home was arrested March 27 on the West Side.

Jermaine Powell had a warrant issued against him for a parole violation. Powell was arrested about 4:13 p.m. March 27 in the 2700 block of West Jackson Boulevard, said police. He was charged with misdemeanor criminal trespassing to property, he said.

Powell also was wanted for questioning in the slaying of his child's mother.

The victim, Catherine Benyamin, 31, had been strangled, according to an autopsy performed by the Cook County medical examiner's office. Her death was ruled a homicide.

Benyamin's body was found the morning of March 24 inside her apartment on the 8200 block of

Keating Avenue in the north suburb, authorities said. Police then began a search for her 10-month-old son, Joshua Powell, and the boy's father, Jermaine Powell.

The boy was dropped off later on March 24 at a church near Halsted Street and Roosevelt Road in Chicago, police said. He was taken to a hospital for observation. Police on March 25 continued to search for Jermaine Powell, who they say matched a description of a person who was seen dropping off the boy at the church.

Skokie Police issued a statement March 28 afternoon saying it is no longer seeking the public's assistance since Powell is in custody in Chicago for an Illinois Department of Corrections parole violation.

Skokie police officer Eric Swaback said charges have not been filed against Powell in the Skokie homicide, but he will be questioned as part of the ongoing investigation. The North Re-



SKOKIE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
Jermaine Powell

gional Major Crimes Task Force is continuing to assist the Skokie Police Department with the homicide investigation, he said.

Powell's criminal record includes convictions for aggravated battery to police officers, residential burglary, felony escape from a peace officer, aggravated robbery and drug possession, authorities said.

*Grace Wong, a Tribune reporter, contributed to this report.*

# Another conviction handed down in Rosner home-health fraud case

BY AMEET SACHDEV  
Chicago Tribune

A federal investigation into a bribery scheme at a now-shuttered Skokie-based home health care business resulted in another conviction on March 22.

A federal judge found Jenette George, 62, of Chicago, guilty of two counts of accepting kickbacks for referring elderly patients to Rosner Home Healthcare, according to the U.S. attorney's office. She also was convicted of conspiracy to defraud Medicare, the government insurance pro-

gram for the elderly.

George became the 11th defendant to be convicted in the Rosner home-health fraud. The others include the co-owners, physicians, nurses and marketers.

George and her attorneys could not immediately be reached for comment.

George operated Ttenej Senior Referral Agency, which provided senior citizens with referrals to home health care firms in the Chicago area, the U.S. attorney's office said. She received about \$500 from Rosner for each patient she referred. At her bench trial

in October, prosecutors showed undercover surveillance video of George counting cash she received from a Rosner employee who was cooperating with federal authorities.

She faces up to 15 years in prison, the U.S. attorney's office said. Her sentencing hearing is scheduled for Aug. 10.

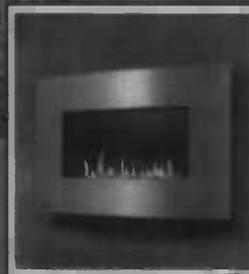
According to the FBI, Rosner received about \$13 million from Medicare between January 2008 and July 2012.

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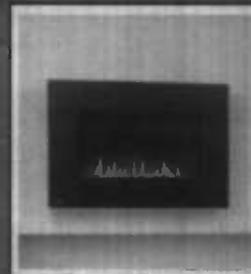
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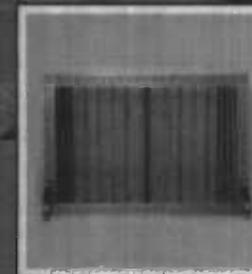
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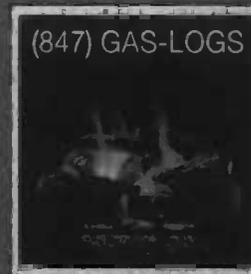
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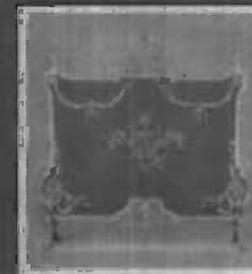


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# D64 struggles to balance security upgrades with price tag

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

Despite security gaps identified at all eight schools in Park Ridge-Niles School District 64, only one school will get upgraded security features this summer after the school board on March 21 rejected nearly \$7.1 million in bids for safety upgrades and other infrastructure work at the other schools.

The school board voted 4-2 in favor of spending approximately \$1.2 million to build a secure holding vestibule to retain Washington School visitors upon first entering the building. That cost will also cover various infrastructure improvements, including fire safety upgrades, according to the school district. Board members Mark Eggemann and Tom Sotos voted against the measure and Dathan Pa-

terno was absent from the meeting.

Despite a divided vote on how to address the need for safety upgrades across the district, board members all agreed that the cost — which had been fluctuating since talk of secured vestibules began last year — had grown out of control.

The projected costs to install new districtwide safety improvements over the summer had risen by \$807,000 from the \$6.9 million that was presented by District 64's construction management firm, Nicholas and Associates, at the most recent school board meeting on March 3. During that meeting, school officials had asked the firm and FGM Architects to prepare a more detailed cost analysis.

Extra costs identified by the contractors since the March 3 meeting include asbestos abatement, fire

shutters in line with fire code mandates and \$20,000 in "construction coordination" costs for three schools during the summer school period.

"I'm a bit taken back by the scope of the extras," board President Anthony Borrelli said. "I have to say I'm flummoxed by this — you had the designs and you made the proposals to us, so I feel everyone knew exactly what was involved in this."

That apprehension was shared by the majority of the school board, which rejected project costs for security and infrastructure upgrades totaling nearly \$8.9 million for the other schools after board officials grappled with whether the school district should spend up to \$10.1 million on a combination of infrastructure and security upgrades for all the schools.

The school board next

voted unanimously to re-bid critical infrastructure work for Carpenter, Franklin, Roosevelt, Lincoln, Jefferson and Hendee Educational Service Center, but security modifications were put on hold until the school board finds a way to finance the proposed upgrades.

The motions for the infrastructure projects passed 6-0. Emerson and Field schools weren't included in the rebidding list because project engineers had only suggested security upgrades at those schools, and no critical infrastructure work.

A final motion made at the March 21 meeting was to approve a lengthy list of bids from individual contractors for the Washington project. It passed with the same 4-2 vote. The \$1.2-million cost includes \$839,138 for security upgrades and \$428,120 for infrastructure work, according to the school district.

The schools' need for security upgrades was magnified early this year when the Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy in Glenview reviewed safety standards at District 64 and found none of the schools have a single control point where guests, students and staff enter the building.

"None of our buildings have that feature, and that makes administration uncomfortable," said Luann Kolstad, chief school business official. "Once someone is buzzed in, they have full access to all the staff, all the rooms, all the kids — and we don't think that's acceptable."

The school board will decide at an upcoming meeting (after the rebidding process) which schools will get infrastructure improvements this year.

The board has said it still plans to pursue security

upgrades at the other schools, but it might not happen this summer.

Discussions regarding the district's financial options are expected to continue in coming months, with the possibility of spending up to \$10 million from the existing operating fund balance, according to Bernadette Tramm, public information coordinator. The board could also vote to pay for the projects with non-referendum bonds, she said.

Board member Vicki Lee said she thought it was unacceptable for schools to be unequipped for modern safety demands.

"Based on the people I've talked to — most of who are educators — I don't know anyone who has students using a building without a secure vestibule," Lee said.

*Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.*

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# Housing crash still stings in suburbs

## Recovery chances especially bleak in blue-collar areas

BY KIM JANSSEN  
Chicago Tribune

Mitchell and Loria Versher say they were looking for one thing when they bought their first home in South suburban Markham: “Stability.”

They might have been better off buying swampland in Florida.

In retrospect, July 31, 2007, was a bad day to go shopping for property anywhere.

But the modest 900-square-foot Cape Cod-style home the Vershers bought that day for \$137,000, on the eve of the worldwide credit crunch, has fared especially badly.

Despite being well-kept, with a neatly trimmed lawn and hedges, four bedrooms and a two-car garage, it sits across the street from an abandoned home and was listed for sale in January for just \$29,500.

“After serving in Vietnam and working all my life, this just seems like a failure of justice,” said Mitchell Versher, 68, an Army vet and security guard. “We thought we were getting the American Dream and a measure of stability at this stage in our lives.”

Instead, the Vershers find themselves not so much underwater as buried in a cave beneath the ocean floor. Loria Versher was laid off from her job, and court filings associated with their two-year-old foreclosure case show that, with late fees and a 2013 loan modification, they owe Nationstar Mortgage \$180,000.

Their situation represents only an extreme version of a financial trap in which homeowners across predominantly African-American parts of the south suburbs and in pockets of mainly Latino and white ethnic suburbs just south of O’Hare International Airport continue to struggle, almost seven years after the official end of the Great Recession.

The housing crash might seem like old news, but for families left behind by the recovery, it remains a defining economic reality.

At the end of 2010, almost 31 percent of Chicago-area homeowners with a mortgage were underwater, owing more on their

loans than the properties were worth, according to housing analytics firm CoreLogic. Five years later, in 2015’s fourth quarter, the percentage of underwater local homeowners was nearly 17 percent.

While the median prices of homes in suburbs across the Chicago region continue to be below the inflation-adjusted prices they commanded pre-crash — even in Winnetka, the median home sold for 29 percent less last year than in 2005 — a map of house price changes over the last decade tracks closely with racial boundaries and shows that residents of blue-collar suburbs who were less well-equipped to absorb such a huge hit to their wealth are the worst affected.

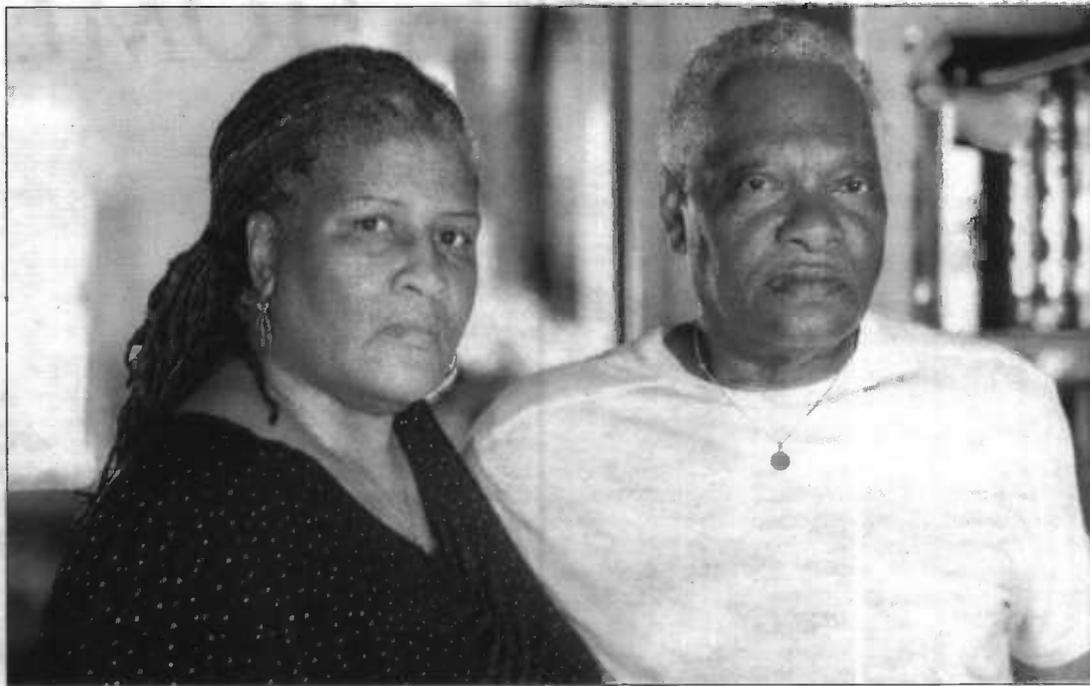
In a broad swath of 37 south suburbs from Burbank to Steger, median prices for existing single-family homes and condominiums last year remained at least 40 percent below where they were in 2005, after inflation, according to data collected by housing research firm Metrostudy.

Though median sales prices don’t always result in a reliable like-for-like comparison, since the type of homes sold in a town can vary over time, or be so small in number that they are statistically insignificant, the monumental drops in home values in these towns are replicated in studies that control for home size and condition.

For the calculations used in this story, the Tribune minimized the volatility in the quarterly data by taking the average of each town’s quarterly median sales prices in both 2005 and 2015.

In a handful of the poorest towns — Harvey, Ford Heights, Phoenix, Riverdale, Robbins and Sauk Village — more homeowners are foreclosed upon than obtain new mortgages, a surefire recipe for vacant homes, declining tax bases and blight.

But you didn’t have to buy at or near the fall 2006 peak of the Chicago area’s housing market, or in the worst affected town, to be hurt: prices stubbornly remain below where they were 20 years



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Loria, 58, and Mitchell Versher, 66, are seen March 8 at their home in Markham. The Vershers bought the 900-square-foot Cape Cod-style home for \$137,000 in 2007. It was listed for sale in January for just \$29,500.

ago across much of the region.

A smaller slice of the near western suburbs is similarly suffering. In Stone Park, the region’s worst-hit town, the median home sold last year for 69 percent less than it did in 2005. In Melrose Park, the median price was down 57 percent; in Schiller Park, it was down 51 percent, and in Franklin Park prices fell 55 percent.

Only in one Chicago-area town, Lisle, have inflation-adjusted prices risen modestly back above their pre-recession prices, to \$261,000.

“The housing market is a good reflection of the uneven recovery of the economy, overall,” and may help explain why consumer confidence lags so far behind other economic indicators, said Geoff Smith, executive director of the Institute for Housing Studies at DePaul University.

The disparity is evident in Chicago neighborhoods as well. Compared with a year ago, February median prices of nondistressed single-family homes were down 14.5 percent in McKinley Park, down 11.8 percent in Chatham, flat in Beverly, up 4.6 percent in Forest Glen and up 5.3 percent in Logan Square, according to Midwest Real Estate.

While boom times may have

returned to a handful of hip Chicago neighborhoods and well-to-do suburbs were not so badly affected, “a good half to two-thirds of the housing market is still trying to get back to where it was, and a third is still at pre-2000 prices,” Smith said.

Given how much of most homeowners’ wealth is tied up in their homes, that’s a serious brake on the Illinois economy. But without some widespread principal reduction program for underwater homeowners of the type being considered in a more limited form by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, Smith said, recovery will take a “a lot of patience” and “is not necessarily realistic for a lot of neighborhoods.”

John Petruszak, executive director of the South Suburban Housing Center, which helps homeowners with distressed mortgages, agreed that recovery in largely African-American south suburbs “is going to take a long time,” and that some form of debt forgiveness or other assistance for struggling homeowners is needed.

“Everybody seems to think we’ve recovered from the housing crisis, but for many communities of color that’s not the case,” Petruszak said.

Predatory lending practices in

predominantly black neighborhoods and towns where residents were sold “exotic and garbage mortgages” that could quickly be packaged up and sold as securities on Wall Street led to a huge number of foreclosures between 2008 and 2011, he said.

The number of lender-mediated sales in the Chicago area — short sales and foreclosures — accounted for 26 percent of existing home sales in February, compared with more than 50 percent just two years ago, according to Midwest Real Estate Data, the local multiple listing provider. But the long-term snowball effect of so many vacant, foreclosed properties in mainly black neighborhoods was exacerbated because banks took less care of the properties they owned there than they did in largely white communities, said Petruszak, who has helped bring national discrimination cases against six lenders.

But some observers go further. Urban planner Pete Saunders, a Naperville resident who has written on suburban issues, believes that languishing house prices are one sign that we may have passed “peak suburbia.”

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# Population shrinks in Illinois, Chicago

## Finances, taxes, lack of jobs cited

BY MARWA ELTAGOURI  
Chicago Tribune

By almost every metric, Illinois' population is sharply declining, largely because residents are fleeing the state. The Tribune surveyed dozens of former residents who've left within the last five years, and each offered their own list of reasons for doing so. Common reasons include high taxes, the state budget stalemate, crime, the unemployment rate and the weather. Census data released March 17 suggests the root of the problem is in the Chicago metropolitan area, which in 2015 saw its first population decline since at least 1990.

Chicago's metropolitan statistical area, defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, includes the city

and suburbs and extends into Wisconsin and Indiana.

The Chicago area lost an estimated 6,263 residents in 2015 — the greatest loss of any metropolitan area in the country. That puts the region's population at 9.5 million.

While the numbers fell overall, there were some bright spots in the Chicago area: Will, Kane, McHenry and Kendall counties saw growth spurts, according to census data.

The Chicago region's decline extended to the state. In fact, Illinois was one of just seven states to see a population dip in 2015, and had the second-greatest decline rate last year after West Virginia, census data show. While the state's population dropped by 7,391 people in 2014, the number more than tripled in 2015, to 22,194.

Illinois has a long-standing pattern of losing residents to other states, but the loss has generally been offset by births and

migration from other countries.

During the years after the economic recession of the mid-2000s, migration to those states slowed, but it's heated up again as states in the South and West have sunnier job opportunities and affordable housing.

Texas attracts the greatest number of Illinois residents, followed by Florida, Indiana, California and Arizona, according to 2013 IRS migration data.

More Illinois residents move to other Midwestern states than the number of Midwesterners moving to Illinois, said Michael Lucci, vice president of policy at the right-leaning Illinois Policy Institute. Job and business creation are simply stronger in neighboring states, he said.

Through the 1990s and 2000s, Illinois saw what demographers consider normal rates of exodus for the state, about 50,000 to 70,000 more residents moving away from the state than moving in. But in 2015, the number spiked

to about 95,000, and in 2015 it reached more than 100,000 people, according to census data.

The loss of residents over the last 20 years translates to about \$50 billion in lost taxable income, and about \$8 billion each year in lost state and local tax revenues, Lucci said.

The main factors in Chicago's population dip are diminished immigration, the aging of the Mexican immigrant population that bolstered the city throughout the 1990s as well as an exodus of African-Americans, experts say.

More than any other city, Chicago has depended on Mexican immigrants to balance the sluggish growth of its native-born population, said Rob Paral, a Chicago-based demographer.

After 2007, falling Mexican-born populations became a trend across the country's major metropolitan areas. But most of those cities were able to make up for the loss with the growth of their native populations, Paral said.

Chicago couldn't.

Some experts also attribute the decline to the city's African-American population, in part because of historically black communities hit hard by the foreclosure crisis, making houses cheap and easy to buy for Hispanics and whites who were willing to move for a bargain.

The 2010 census reported a 17 percent drop in the city's black population over the previous decade. That number declined an additional 4 percent through 2014, to 852,756.

Chicago residents leaving the state have cited the Chicago Public Schools' financial crisis and the city's red light camera controversy as motivating factors. The greatest concern, however, seems to be safety.

Chicago Tribune's Bill Ruthhart contributed.

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IRV LEAVITT/PIONEER PRESS

This 4201 Lake-Cook Road building is the proposed home of a new Northbrook psychiatric hospital. Northbrook trustees on March 22 said they were uncomfortable with the location and the strain the hospital might put on local emergency services. Proponents say the hospital would bring Northbrook 15 full-time jobs.

## Northbrook discourages planned hospital

BY IRV LEAVITT  
Pioneer Press

Northbrook trustees told representatives of a proposed psychiatric hospital on March 22 that they didn't want it in the village because it would put too much stress on Northbrook emergency services at a time when demand for them is increasing due to new development.

Some trustees also said they were uncomfortable with the location of the planned Northbrook Behavioral Hospital, at 4201 Lake-Cook Road, just north of the Northbrook Montessori School.

"I can't see putting that right next to a school," Trustee James Karagianis said.

Every Village Board member said there was a need for a psychiatric hospital in the area to handle

patients in crisis. But only one trustee said he favored the 75-bed hospital proposal by US HealthVest, a New York company.

"I think on all of us it's something of a moral imperative to see how we can overcome these challenges," Trustee Bob Israel said. "I think a need is there, and to say 'not in my backyard' to something like this is not something that I can do."

Northbrook Fire Chief Jose Torres, in a Jan. 22 memo to trustees, had estimated there would be 69 to 78 annual service calls — mostly for ambulances — to the hospital, based on the experience of another US HealthVest facility, Des Plaines' Chicago Behavioral Hospital. Northbrook police reported that Des Plaines officers responded to 70 calls from that hospital in the second half of

2015.

Northbrook Trustee A.C. Buehler said that in about 30 years on the Village Board and Plan Commission, it was only about the fifth time that such memos actually indicated a significant impact by a proposed development. He added that the police contribution in Northbrook would likely be much higher than in Des Plaines, because Northbrook police accompany ambulances, unlike Des Plaines police.

Buehler, the head of the board's Public Safety Committee, said the location on the far northwest edge of Northbrook was a factor, because "you cannot find a more difficult or longer run for police or fire in the village."

He said that while US HealthVest had a right to submit formal applications for zoning variations to the

Plan Commission, it would likely have a tough time seeking eventual Village Board approval.

"That's your right under the code, but those types of concerns I have, bear in mind when making that determination," Buehler said.

Current property owner Michael Nortman said he would be willing to discuss minimizing the need for emergency services and paying for some of their costs. US HealthVest Vice President Martina Sze told the board that the hospital would bring Northbrook 15 full-time jobs.

"We look forward to having the opportunity to go through the process and address the concerns you have on the service calls, and we look forward to seeing how our services and our hospital can serve your community," Sze said.

But that was before most of trustees' comments, and before Village Attorney Steve Elrod reminded them of the legal covenant put on the land when it was annexed in 1985, in the wake of a lawsuit that forced the village to allow the property to be developed, mostly for homes or offices. The covenant forbids several other uses, including medical, Elrod said.

Elrod told trustees that when altering the covenant, "you may exercise sole and absolute discretion."

"It's very different from zoning cases, in which you have to be reasonable."

In a straw poll of the board, only Israel and Trustee Todd Heller said they would consider altering the covenant, with Heller saying, "You're going to have to sell me on how this hospital is not

going to tax Northbrook services."

After the meeting, Sze said, "We'll have to see" what the company's next step will be.

If the project is submitted for Plan Commission review, US HealthVest might receive more challenges. Administrators of the Montessori school, and residents of townhouses west of the hospital site, said after the meeting that they planned to fight the project because of safety concerns and possible noise from sirens.

Support for the hospital might be in evidence during public hearings, however. Nortman sent in 30 letters backing the facility from representatives of local agencies dealing with mental health issues.

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# Dog missing for three years reunited with owner

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

A dog that disappeared from a family's backyard three years ago was reunited with her owner last week at a Morton Grove animal shelter after she was found wandering near Midway Airport.

Honey, a four-year-old Pekingese, was brought to Wright-Way Rescue by a good Samaritan who found the dog on March 16 as it walked around an airport parking garage trying to find warmth from the cold, according to Wright-Way employees Jason Abbas and Chris Norris.

Most animal shelters in the area had already closed for the night by the time the dog was found, but Wright-Way was still open, so the woman — who asked employees at the shelter not to



JASON ABBAS

Karina Garcia, of Lyons, is reunited with her Pekingese, Honey, after three years.

use her name — drove Honey to Morton Grove, where she was reunited with her owner, Karina Garcia of Lyons.

"My phone rang, and they said 'We found your dog — do you want her back?'" Garcia recalled.

"My brother was fixing the truck in the driveway and I ran out and yelled for him to get out of my way so I could get into my car, and I just couldn't stop crying."

The happy reunion, Abbas said, might never have come to be if Garcia

hadn't decided to microchip Honey when she bought the dog from a pet store in Lyons in 2012.

The microchip is about the size of a grain of rice and implanted into a pet's neck. The chip contains information about the pet and the owner, she said.

Abbas and Norris met Garcia near the front doors of the shelter when she arrived to pick up Honey around 8:30 p.m., and the dog bounded toward her car and jumped into the driver's seat.

"As soon as the owner pulled up, she started yelling 'Honey bunny, I missed you!' and the dog seemed to remember her," Norris said. "It was so heartwarming to be a part of it because everyone was so happy."

Honey was barely one year old on Feb. 14, 2013 when Garcia believes she

was stolen, she said, after she left the dog unattended in the family's fenced-in backyard for a few minutes.

The dog, which she had bought for her then 13-year-old daughter as a gift, had vanished by the time she went back outside. Heartbroken, the Garcia family filed a police report and posted fliers with Honey's photo on telephone poles and in store windows, but no one called.

"I had knitted some booties for her to wear the day she went missing," Garcia said. "I was crying for weeks and weeks."

Rumors had surfaced around town that Honey had been snatched by a coyote. Eventually, the family gave up hope, Garcia said. They planned on starting their search for a new dog on the upcoming Saturday before Honey sud-

denly resurfaced.

Garcia believes she was cared for because she was well-fed — a little too well fed, actually. Her body weight had more than doubled to 14 pounds.

"She's different because she likes to bite a lot now and she's more aggressive," Garcia said. "But otherwise she's still the same and she still remembers us."

Honey has shown other odd behavior during her first week back at home, Garcia said. She refused to eat dog food at first and kept jumping up on the kitchen table — a habit Garcia said she would never allow.

A visit to the veterinarian gave Honey a clean bill of health, aside from a minor ear infection, according to the family.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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## NEWS

# Todd Hall students build bench to foster positivity

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

Recess can sometimes be isolating for a kid who doesn't fit into a clique, so a group of students at Todd Hall in Lincolnwood took it into their hands to foster more playground positivity.

Two years ago, teacher Maureen Cook's class read an article about a concept known as the "buddy bench." The article talked about a Pennsylvania 2nd grader who in 2013 helped bring a bench to his school as a special place on the playground for kids to find comfort when they feel out place.

A buddy bench, the article explained, is a place where kids can sit if they're feeling lonely or too shy to ask their classmates if they can join in. If another student sees someone on the bench, they're supposed to approach them and ask them to join their group.

A group of five students in Cook's class decided Todd Hall could use a buddy bench of its own, so they started working toward bringing the concept to School District 74.

"They just ran with it—they said 'we need to figure out how we can get one of those here at Todd Hall,'" Cook said.

The students—Emma Bennett, Lillian Flood, Gabriel Mandal, Brandon Pleczka, and Max Spector—wrote a proposal and started meeting with principal Ellen Shankar on a weekly basis to plan their bench project by identifying costs, choosing designs, and setting a timeline.

After summer break when their 3rd grade year began, the students presented the plan to the school board, and the school's administration offered to fund the purchase of six benches.

"They had the passion and I let them run with it,"



NATALIE HAYES/PIONEER PRESS

Fourth-graders Lillian Flood, Emma Bennett, Gabriel Mandal, Brandon Pleczka and Max Spector March 22 on one of two "Buddy Benches."

Cook said. "This group of kids was more passionate than most of my kids—they turned a small reading lesson into something bigger."

Today there are two benches at each Todd Hall and Rutledge Hall, and two more will be installed at Lincoln Hall when an ongoing construction project wraps up, according to Rutledge Hall principal Beth Carmody.

The benches look like your average, ordinary wooden bench, except for a small gold plaque in the center that reads "Buddy Bench."

School officials have told students about the bench's purpose, Carmody said, but if anyone forgets and mistakes it for a regular bench, the kids are there to help remind their classmates that visitors of the buddy bench should have a purpose.

"If someone gets tired, I've seen them just lie down on the bench, but that's not why it's here," Max said. "Sometimes kids get into a group and someone ends up having no one to play with, so they can come here and someone will come up to them."

During one recent afternoon recess period at Rutledge Hall, the kids gathered on a buddy bench to

discuss whether it has impacted social dynamics at the playground.

The consensus was that the bench is fulfilling its mission by helping kids become more empathetic toward their classmates, but Brandon said the buddy bench has helped him realize an important life lesson.

"I've told my friends all about it, because when you see someone who's not happy—well they should be because everyone deserves to be happy," Brandon said. "I also learned that kids are more important than money."

The buddy bench project was recently recognized by chain restaurant Meatheads, which awarded \$500 to the school district in February as part of a program to honor people who make a difference in their local communities.

Keeping in line with the bench initiative's anti-bullying message, District 74 administrators said they used the money to pay for a visit from former Harlem Globetrotter Seth Franco, who works as an anti-bullying activist using his basketball routine as a platform to encourage kids to develop positive relationships.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

# Glenview temporarily lowers fees for permits filed online

By PHIL ROCKROHR  
Pioneer Press

Glenview trustees have lowered fees for building permits filed through electronic applications by 10 percent for the next three months to encourage users to apply for them online.

Village staff sought the discount, available in April through June, to promote a new electronic system that lets applicants file their entire application online, including any necessary paperwork.

The Village Board approved the proposal by a unanimous vote at its March 15 meeting.

"Staff is really excited about this because we really believe it will be a useful tool for our residents and customers," said Joe Kenney, community development director for Glenview.

"This is exciting." Village



PIONEER PRESS

Glenview trustees have lowered fees for building permits filed online for the next three months.

President Jim Patterson said.

The policy is intended to increase convenience for applicants, reduce the need for administrators and further streamline the village's permit process, Kenney said.

"Residents and customers often have to come in to the building permit counter one, two, three times," he said. "With what we're rolling out, they will never have to come in to secure a permit, or they could limit the amount of times they have to

do that."

Previously, applicants were able to apply only for permits that did not require additional paperwork, such as building plans, Kenney said.

Currently, Glenview receives an average of 3,500 permit applications each year, he said. Only about 35 are filed electronically each year, Kenney said.

Officials hope the 10 percent discount, which will be limited to a total reduction of \$250 per application, will

increase that number, he said.

"We want folks to try this and see what the issues are," Kenney said. "We hope (the discount) provides incentive for folks to use it and break the habit of coming in over the counter. For fence and roof contractors, folks that receive a lot of permits, we want to show them how easy it is."

Kenney provided the board with a demonstration of the process at the March 15 meeting.

"It has an easy popup menu, similar to other applications folks use," he said.

Contractors currently operating in Glenview are already entered into the village's electronic database and need only enter their names to generate much of the rest of the required information, Kenney said.

Trustee Paul Detlefs asked if applicants not in-

cluded in the database are not licensed with the village.

"It means they have not done business here over the last six or seven years," Kenney said. "If they do not have a license, they would have to come in and get one."

Kenney completed the entire application process in a few minutes before trustees.

"It did not take too long right in front of you," he said. "I have successfully applied for a permit. As with other online applications, I have the ability to check the application and submit."

Submission triggers an automated email providing a link the applicant can use throughout the application process to check permit status and request an inspection, Kenney said.

Applicants can also use their application portal to check comments and review needed information, he said.

"Instead of waiting for village hour and village information, folks can track and check this at home," Kenney said. "They can pay online as well."

Village staff will still be available to serve any applicants who wish to complete the process in person, he said.

Glenview plans to begin promoting the service heavily in April, Kenney said.

During the remodeling of her bathroom, Trustee Deborah Karton said, contractors told her they appreciate how easy it is to deal with Glenview in the application process.

"They like how easy it is to apply at night during off-hours," Karton said. "It's great we're making ourselves available and it's useful to them."

Phil Rockrohr is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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# City backs off ban of bakers

Officials previously planned to exclude farmers market bakers from outside Evanston this year

BY BOB SEIDENBERG  
AND LEE V. GAINES  
Pioneer Press

Evanston will back off plans to exclude non-Evanston bakers from its 2016 farmers market, city officials said in an email March 22, while continuing to evaluate whether the rule should be implemented in the future.

"Evanston Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director Lawrence Hemingway has worked with the bakers and (Friends of Evanston Farmers Markets) to rescind this rule change for 2016," City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz said in the email. "The 2016 market will have nine bakers included as vendors. Section 3-22-7 of the Evanston City Code allows bread as the only baked good to be sold at the market despite the fact that other baked goods have been regularly sold by bakers at the market."

Prior to the Tuesday reversal, more than half a dozen bakers said the initial decision by the city to bar them from setting up shop at the coming Evanston farmers market because they don't operate brick and mortar businesses in the city would have had a devastating impact on their bottom lines and severely limit the choices available to consumers at the market.

"This change was agreed to internally by city staff in summer 2015 to be implemented in 2016 based on complaints from some Evanston-based bakeries that there were too many out-of-town bakers represented at the market," Bobkiewicz wrote.

Vikki Proctor, president of the Friends of Evanston

Farmers Market nonprofit group, said she discovered last week that eight of a total of 10 bakers who had been vetted by the city and paid for licenses from the Evanston Health Department would not be allowed to participate in the market, which is slated to begin May 7.

She said Bobkiewicz made the initial call to ban non-Evanston bakers from the market, which was then

*"Last year was the first year it was an issue. We discovered all these baked goods were coming from outside municipalities."*

— Jory Downer, owner of Bennisson's Bakery

reversed by city officials on March 22.

"Our position is that the city's action is wrong and violates the (farmers market) ordinance," she said just prior to the city's announcement. Proctor said she met with Bobkiewicz to discuss the change and with Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl this week with hope the decision would be reversed. Following the meeting, Proctor said Tisdahl would advise Bobkiewicz and the parks and recreation director, Lawrence Hemingway, what she would like to see done.

Bobkiewicz said the change in the market makeup "should have happened months ago because we had talked internally about it last spring ... we didn't want

to make the change during the 2015 market; we wanted to make the change during this market ... with the change in parks and rec staff there was apparently a breakdown in communication."

Bobkiewicz said the farmers market "isn't really a farmers market, it's a community market" that includes produce, baked goods, cheeses and prepared foods. He said the city's ordinance has not evolved with the changing nature of the market.

"Upon inquiry, I learned this change in rule was not shared in a timely manner with the bakers or the Friends of the Evanston Farmers Market," Bobkiewicz wrote in the email. "Bakers had already applied for the 2016 market and would have no ability to make other arrangements for the 2016 season when many learned of this change."

Proctor and several bakers interviewed for this story said they believe the owners behind two Evanston bakeries, Bennisson's Bakery and Great Harvest Bread Co., urged Bobkiewicz to ban outside bake shops from the annual market.

Jory Downer, owner of Bennisson's Bakery, said he and Great Harvest Bread Co. owner Dave Schaps urged city staff last year to abide by the farmers market ordinance. The ordinance states that "the sale of bread shall be allowed by vendors that are food establishments licensed by the city of Evanston."

"Last year was the first year it was an issue," Downer said. "We discovered all these baked goods were coming from outside mu-



TIM BOYLE/PIONEER PRESS

Shoppers at the farmers market in Evanston in May of 2015.

nicipalities."

Downer said he isn't opposed to outside bakers coming to the city's market because he also attends markets outside of Evanston. He said, however, some outside bakers bring "inferior products" to the market and that Evanston's vetting process for vendors isn't as robust as it should be.

Schaps declined to comment on the allegation he and Downer encouraged the recent change.

Dusan Katic, of Aurora-based Katic Breads, said he learned late last week of the rule change. Katic said he participated in the market last year.

Local Evanston bakeries already have a presence in the city and he said he

doesn't "see why it's necessary for them to control the street and farmers market venue when it comes to baked goods."

Katic said any local business worried about the outside competition should "use their craft, the quality of the product they're making to win this battle."

One of the owners of Skokie-based Sweetie Pies Bakery, Jason Davidson, said his business was invited to participate in the Evanston market four years ago. The market now makes up "20 percent of my business," he said.

"I am really worried; it seems like a very arbitrary and capricious action," said Terra Brockman, a former Evanston resident whose family owns and operates

Henry's Farm out of Congerville, Ill., before the announcement of the reversal. She said the farm has sold produce at the Evanston market for close to a quarter-century.

Bobkiewicz said in the March 22 email the city is left with more questions to answer before settling on a permanent stance regarding bakers in the farmers market. While considering the merits of what vendors make sense for the farmers market, he also expressed a reluctance on the part of the city to become the "pastry and pie police."

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

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Twitter @evanstonscribe

# Strangers shouldn't be automatic enemies



PAUL SASSONE

Presidential campaigns have been pretty unpleasant lately.

And it's only going to get worse.

All the name-calling and mud slinging of the Republican and Democratic primaries could soon be winding down.

And all the name-calling and mud slinging of the general election season is about to begin.

This ugly primary season

has showed us how divided we are, how stupid – if not downright evil – the other candidates are.

We're angry, so the political pundits gleefully keep telling us.

So, maybe now is a good time to ponder Blanche Dubois' famous line from "A Streetcar Named Desire," about how she had always depended on the kindness of strangers.

People we don't know aren't just election enemies.

They are people we rely on every day of our lives.

We all depend on the kindness of strangers.

Let me explain:

While driving, we depend on the kindness of the stranger on the cross street,

that we can proceed safely on the green light because he will stop on the red and not smash into us and kill or maim us.

We depend upon the kindness of the stranger who sells us a TV set that it will run.

We depend on the stranger walking next to us on the street that he will not punch us – or pull a gun and shoot us.

We depend upon the stranger who serves us our bacon and eggs that he/she didn't poison it.

And on and on. You get my drift.

There are millions of strangers who haven't hurt us.

At least not yet.

Maybe we should have a more upbeat attitude toward our friend the stranger.

And perhaps that attitude could carry over to the upcoming general election.

Because, remember, we depend upon the strangers – no matter for whom they vote – but who nevertheless abide by the election results.

In some countries, people who don't like an election's outcome revolt and start shooting their opposition.

Now, that's really unpleasant.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.



RONALDO SCHEMIDT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A dummy made by Mexican craftsman Felipe Linares representing U.S. presidential candidate Donald Trump is seen at his workshop in Mexico City on March 24.

# White Sox' Adam LaRoche situation troubling on several counts



RANDY BLASER

One of the great things about the great game of baseball is this: No one ever knows what's going to happen.

You could spend a lifetime watching the game and, at some point, you will see something no one has ever seen before. It may be a great catch, three home runs on three consecutive swings or three strikeouts on nine pitches in an All Star game. Or it might be some weird confluence of plays that can only happen in baseball.

This anticipation of the unexpected that can leap out at any moment during the repetitive mundane that is a nine-inning baseball game played out over a 162-game schedule makes baseball so great. Unfortunately, our beloved team on the South Side has taken



JOHN LOCHER/AP

In this Feb. 28, 2015, file photo, Chicago White Sox's Adam LaRoche, left, and his son Drake walk to the White Sox's clubhouse spring training workout in Phoenix.

the humdrum of a spring training season and turned it into one of those bizarre "I've never seen this before" moments. Because of this event, even casual observers were calling the team anti-family.

They're not. They're just anti-baseball.

How else can one explain the weird saga of one Adam LaRoche, who decided to quit playing baseball and forego \$13 million a year because White Sox management told him to cool it with his 14-year-old son spending so much time with the team. I know

we've had some time now to sleep on this story, but no matter how you slice it, the issue, its resolution and the players' reaction to it, is just creepy.

First, the event.

I love my kids and try to spend as much time with them as I can. But when

I'm working, they are a distraction. At work, you talk about your kids with coworkers over coffee. Your coworkers don't strategize with them on how to break out of an oh-for slump at the plate.

Then there is the idea of a teenager in a Major League Baseball clubhouse. It should come as a surprise to no one that baseball players curse. Why put a kid in that environment? Would you give your 14-year-old a copy of "Ball Four" and tell him to have at it? Case closed.

Next up, the resolution.

When your boss asks you to do something at work, something that is standard practice throughout the industry, most employees acknowledge the directive and move on. Not LaRoche. He responded by saying what many want to say deep down: "Take this job and shove it!"

Don't most people wait until they are reprimanded before quitting?

Third: Player reaction. I understand the players

rallying around another player. That's what you do in baseball. You stick up for your teammate, even if it is a guy you hate, who leaves his wet shower shoes laying around the clubhouse and plays country music real loud. But here is the bizarre part. White Sox center-fielder Adam Eaton defended the whole thing by telling the press the kid is a great leader in the clubhouse.

That's right. A grown man, a professional baseball player in the major leagues, looks to a 14-year-old kid for leadership. I don't know what the kid could possibly be telling the White Sox players. Maybe "Go get 'em," or "keep at it," or "don't give up," or "you can do it, kid," or "You know, when I was in Little League, I struck out, too."

Perhaps what the White Sox have needed to be told – at least last season – is this:

"You stink at baseball."

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

## FLYING UNDER THE RADAR

# Why all your friends are watching 'House of Cards'



ERIC SCOTT

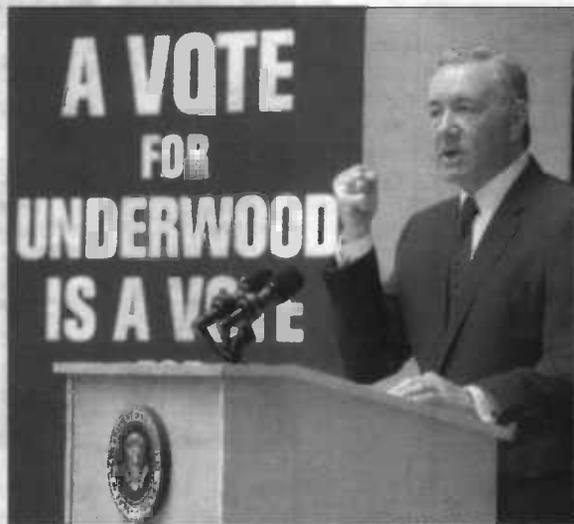
With the exception of rifling through a box of Lemonheads as if they were going out of style, I've never really been a "binge consumer" of anything. Binge watching TV shows on streaming services for hours on end is now about as popular as breathing.

Chances are you know someone who already has watched the entire new season of the Netflix series "House of Cards," which dropped earlier this month.

Arguably, it's the series that put Netflix on A-list viewing radar and rightly so. House of Cards is part of a rare breed of television that reaches through the screen, grabs you by the collar, pulls you up close and says, "I dare you to find something better to watch. I own your attention and you know it!"

The loud, constantly revving motorcycle engine of the series is President Frank Underwood, ultra-convincingly played by Oscar-winning actor Kevin Spacey. Now in its fourth season, the series has taken viewers through Underwood's meteoric political rise from South Carolina congressman to Vice President and to Commander-in-Chief. Along the way, he has clawed, threatened, decimated and has even killed anyone standing in his way. I really wonder if in real life Spacey can walk onto a crowded rail platform and wait for the train to arrive without people running away in fear?

Of course, President



DAVID GIESBRECHT/TNS

Kevin Spacey as Frank Underwood in season 4 of "House of Cards."

Underwood couldn't do it alone. Robin Wright plays the cold and conniving First Lady, Claire Underwood. As season four begins, she amps up fake exterior charm to turn husband Frank's 2016 election campaign upside down — raising the show's intensity level to a place higher than could be imagined.

It's worth pointing out how confrontation in HOC context differs from run-of-the-mill mindless drivel confrontation found on most reality shows. Unlike the rapid concerns showcased on the table-flipping, rose-distributing, dance teacher-erupting programming — akin to gapping at a car wreck happening in slow motion — HOC doesn't need to yell. It's strategic, precise and impressively direct in its ability to demonstrate how few words and minimal actions can destroy egos. Toward the end of season 3, we see President Underwood even the score with his election opponent who threatened to release damaging information about Claire. In a calm,

dulcet tone over the phone, the president politely tells his opponent to contort her body into an anatomically impossible position, before looking into the camera and admitting that felt good. Definitely an "ooh!" moment.

Why is a show about politics so gripping, regardless of your political views? Because it both subtly and dramatically cuts right to the core of how we'd sometimes like to get things to go our way. In the Underwood administration, there's little time for diplomacy or appeasing political opponents. When POTUS says jump, you already should be in mid-air or his right-hand hatchet man, actor Michael Kelly as Doug Stamper, may pay you an unwanted visit.

A favor to ask of those who've already binge watched all of season four; no spoilers please for the rest of us. I need to stock up on Lemonheads before tuning back in.

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

# Keeping up appearances and other sexist distractions

Is it fair to judge Clinton on how often she smiles?



DONNA VICKROY

Headbands. Remember them? Remember when Hillary Clinton's use of headbands was a topic of discussion? Nationwide?

After she ditched them, public attention turned to her bangs and pantsuits.

Good thing in addition to that law degree and mile-long resume, the Democratic front-runner has a sense of humor.

Her Twitter bio reads: "Wife, mom, grandma, women+kids advocate, FLOTUS, Senator, SecState, hair icon, pantsuit aficionado, 2016 presidential candidate."

Perhaps one day she'll add "working on that smile."

Meanwhile, we have Republican front-runner Donald Trump calling women bimbos, picking fights with just about everybody and describing breastfeeding women as "disgusting."

Trump's multiple marriages, not to mention crass sexual overtures, hardly are pause for consideration, yet the fact Clinton stayed with her philandering husband makes her somehow seem less credible.

And while crude comments continue to come from Trump's mouth, we can't help but wonder why Clinton doesn't smile more. Maybe, in fact, she'd do well to bring her voice down an octave or three.

Kinda makes you wonder if this is truly 2016, doesn't it?

Clearly, there are legitimate reasons to dislike Clinton politically, the old

Democratic regime and the whole Benghazi thing among them, but the "shrillness" of her voice? Really?

Right, because Bernie Sanders doesn't look like he's about to blow a gasket half the time. And Trump's encouraging rally participants to muscle a protester off the premises doesn't seem shrill or bullying.

So, why? Why, America? Why are we here?

The answer must be that a whole lot of people think it's OK for a man to be mean and brutish, but it's not OK for a woman to even come across as more serious than nice.

We all know that emotional outbursts tend to work in men's favor. Makes them seem stronger, more serious. When a man doesn't smile, he means business. Even when a man cries, like former Speaker of the House John Boehner, the world is impressed.

But when a woman doesn't smile, she seems angry. When a woman cries, she seems weak. The world does not like angry weak women, and its judgment of them tends not to be pretty.

Regardless of which candidate you favor in this election, it's easy to see that Clinton is being held to a — I won't say higher — "different" standard, simply because of her gender. No one's talking about how frequently Sanders smiles or whether or not Trump should consider voice lessons, let alone manners class.

So let us imagine for just a moment a world where all presidential candidates are anonymous, but for their platforms.

Voters don't know their gender, their weight, how they work a pantsuit or how often they whine, cry, pound their fists or smile.

No hairdos to distract, no clothing choices to question and no body size issues to muddy each contender's message.

All we know about them is where they stand on the issues.

We read the platforms. We file off questions. We analyze the answers.

And then we vote.

Ridiculous? Not more ridiculous than some of the topics coming out of this year's contest.

However way you lean politically, you must agree that devoting valuable energy to inconsequential things, such as one particular candidate's appearance, is wasteful, and at a time when Americans should be embracing frugality.

There are so many pressing issues to be addressed, time really is of the essence.

Whether or not she wins this election, I do hope, like the many brave female pioneers who came before her, Clinton is able to open doors — not to mention minds — for future women leaders.

That, at least, would be a positive to come from this highly negative election year that never seems to hit rock bottom.

Like the recent attack on candidates' spouses. Just when you thought things couldn't go any lower, we turn to Twitter.

Last week Donald Trump tweeted a warning to rival Ted Cruz after Trump said a racy photo of his wife, Melania, was the subject of a Cruz attack.

Trump blamed Cruz personally and warned "to spill the beans" on Cruz's wife, Heidi.

But what next? Candidates' pets get thrown into the ring? Are grandmas off limits?

Yes, it is ridiculous. It is distracting. And it is only likely to continue.

That said, if this election comes down to a battle of the spouses, with props going to the most political savvy among them, my money's on Clinton.

*dvickroy@tribpub.com*

# Actor's priest portrayal a 'personal ministry'

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

The story of Father Damien, known as the leper priest of Molokai, has fascinated Wayne Messmer since he was a child.

"I was first drawn to it in grade school," said Messmer, a singer, actor and broadcaster, well known for singing the National Anthem for Chicago sports teams. "I was taught by the Franciscan nuns. They had helped father Damien over on Molokai. They were very proud of Mother Marianne, who's now been canonized as Saint Marianne."

In the early 1990s, Messmer's interest in the work of the priest was rekindled when he discovered "Damien," a one-man play written in 1977 by Aldyth Morris.

Messmer decided, "I'd like to take a stab at this because I resembled this guy." He first took on the role of Father Damien in 2002 at the Raue Center in Crystal Lake and has performed it dozens of times since, including twice in Hawaii. He will next perform the show on April 10 at Our Lady, Mother of the Church Parish on Chicago's far northwest side.

Messmer has done intensive research into the life of Father Damien, including visiting, with his wife Kathleen, the area in Kalaupapa, Molokai Hawaii where the priest toiled in the late 1800s. Messmer was astounded to discover, when he stood next to a life-sized statue of Damien, how much he resembled the priest.

"The topography of the island of Molokai is very interesting," he said. "It's an underdeveloped island — intentionally — no stoplights, small family restaurants. They don't want tourism. There's almost 3,000-foot cliffs and then this peninsula sticks out into the sea. That's where they literally dumped everyone that had leprosy. It was less than humane. There was no way out."

He noted that as soon as someone was diagnosed as a leper, all their possessions were taken



ROBERT J. MISKINS PHOTO

Wayne Messmer portrays Father Damien, who cared for lepers in Hawaii, in the show "Damien."

## Wayne Messmer in 'Damien'

**When:** 2:30-5 p.m. April 10  
**Where:** Our Lady, Mother of the Church Parish, 8701 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago  
**Tickets:** \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door  
**Contact:** 773-625-3369

away and they were declared dead. "They were sent off, never to be seen by their family again," he said.

Messmer was stunned that "all of it was happening in such a magnificent, paradise-like set-

ting." He believes that Father Damien's ultimate mission was to "help these people understand that God has not forgotten them." He attended to their spiritual needs as well as building homes, providing water and food for them, and burying the dead. He cared for the people in the colony for 16 years until he died of leprosy.

Messmer said that people seeing the play are always touched by Father Damien's story. Doing the play "has become kind of a personal ministry to expose a relatively modern day saint — someone who did something so tremendously unselfish," he explained.

# 12 cabaret singers to bring Judy Garland show to life

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

Fifty-five years ago Judy Garland performed a thrilling concert at Carnegie Hall that has lived on because it was recorded live. Daryl Nitz Entertainment will re-create that April 1961 concert on the Skokie Theatre stage on April 10. "Judy at Carnegie" features a dozen of Chicago's finest cabaret artists performing over 25 classic Garland tunes.

Nitz was able to create that show because around 2004 a remastered two-CD set was released that included all the songs and dialogue from that concert in order. "I figured people wanted to hear that," said Nitz, who has produced the concert three times before at Chicago venues.

The cast includes Jen Chada, Laura Freeman, Kimberly Gordon, Sophie Grimm, Ester Hana, Tecora Rogers, Jeannie Tanner, Denise Tomasello, Honey West and Melissa Young. Music director Johnny Rodgers leads a quartet that includes Mike Torti on horns, Jim Cox on bass and Phil Grateau on drums. Director Nitz and Rodgers will also sing selections from the concert.

"Judy Garland is an icon, and that Carnegie concert was wonderful," said Ester Hana, who performed in all the previous stagings of the concert. Once again, Hana will sing "Who Cares?" by George and Ira Gershwin, and Irving Berlin's "Puttin' on the Ritz." The performer said that she changes that second selection, revealing, "I make it a little bit funky."

"Judy Garland is one of my favorite singers of all time, because she was such an all-around fantastic entertainer, as well as having such a beautiful voice," Jeannie Tanner said. "She always made you believe what she was singing because it seemed to always come from her heart. It was an honor to be asked by Daryl to be a part of this show."

Tanner will sing "How Long Has This Been Going On?" by George and Ira Gershwin and "Just You, Just Me" by Jesse Greer and Raymond Klages.

Honey West will perform



Ester Hana



Jeannie Tanner



Honey West

"Rock-a-Bye Your Baby" by Jean Schwartz, Sam M. Lewis and Joe Young, and "Over the Rainbow" by Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg.

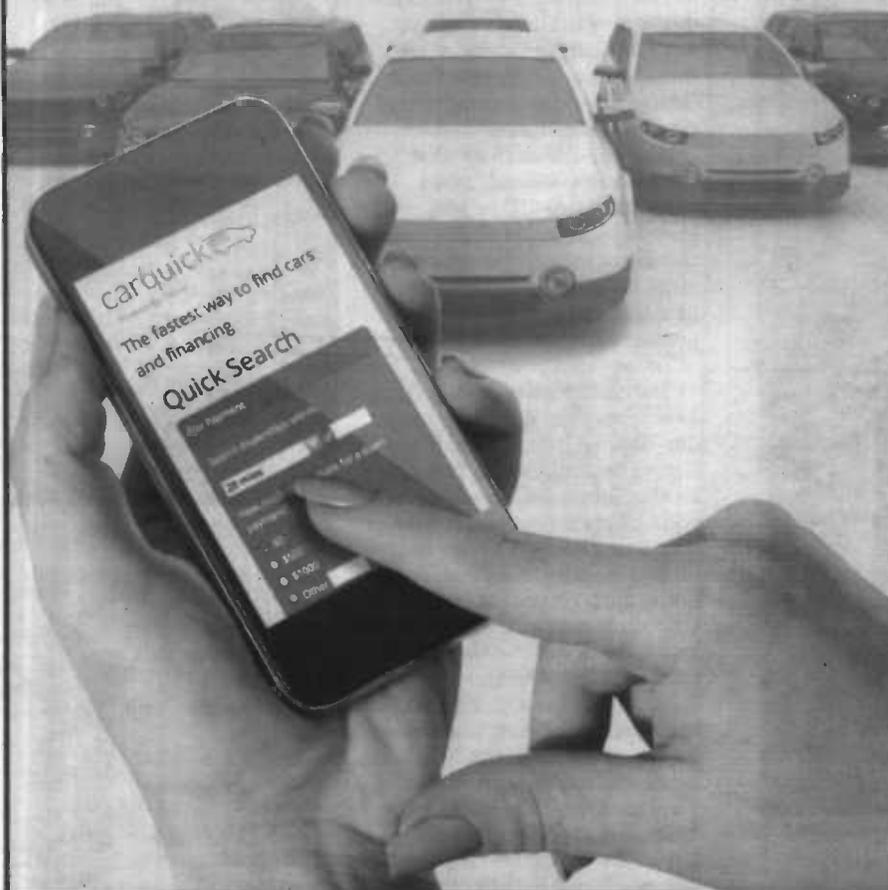
West admitted that she has a partially-selfish motive for wanting to be in the "Judy" show again. "I get to see the entertainers that I really adore that I don't get a chance to see," she said.

"But also, I know if I'm working with Daryl, it's going to be fun and a great show and I'm in good hands."

West is drawn to Garland's story. "There was a lot of struggle and tragedy in her life," the performer said, which was reflected in her performances. "She sings from her heart and beyond."

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## COMEDY

# Standup Steven Wright keeping it strange at 60

BY JAY GENTILE  
Pioneer Press

Steven Wright's lethargic vocal demeanor and nearly catatonic comedic delivery is no act. And if observing him perform his uniquely deadpan style of comedy lazily laced with non-sequiturs, one-liners and off-the-wall observations about lint over the past 37 years isn't enough proof, 30 minutes on the phone with the comic provides more than enough evidence.

"Abstract is how I think. This is how I talk," says Wright from the phone in New York City. "Comedy, not just my comedy, everyone's comedy, is from noticing the world and moving things around. There was never any, 'if I talk like this' 'if I do it like this' 'if I tell abstract jokes, it'll be different.'"

Wright brings his unclassifiable (yet often mimicked) brand of standup to the North Shore Center of the Performing Arts on April 8. Instead of topical jokes about Donald Trump, you can expect zingers like "I bought a cordless extension cord" and "It doesn't matter what temperate a room is, it's always room temperature."

"Right from the beginning I didn't talk about whoever the president was, I didn't talk about the popular TV shows, I didn't talk about some big news event," explains Wright. "I made up these four rules when I started in like the first six months, and one of them was to not talk about anything that was big. I don't know why. I'd rather talk about physics, the speed of light, lint, shadows, you know, stuff that's not attached to time."

Wright was inspired to become a comedian at age 16 sitting in front of the TV watching Johnny Carson and comics he had on "The Tonight Show" like George Carlin and Richard Pryor. He started performing standup at age 23 and, as fate would have it, was discovered by a Tonight Show producer who saw Wright performing at a Chinese restaurant/comedy club in his hometown of Cambridge, Mass.

Wright recalls his 1982 appearance on "The Tonight Show" as both his career high as well as a moment of sheer terror.

"I wanted to do standup and I didn't want to be up there like nobody wants to be up there but I made myself, I forced myself," he recalls. "Then I was so scared, I was so afraid, that led to why I had such a blank face because I was scared out of my mind. And then that ended up working for me."

Carson was so impressed he asked the comic to come back the next week, and



JORGE RIOS PHOTO

Comedian and actor Steven Wright brings his offbeat, deadpan humor to the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts.

## Steven Wright

**When:** 8 p.m. April 8

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

**Tickets:** \$45-\$65

**Information:** 847-673-6300;  
[NorthShoreCenter.org](http://NorthShoreCenter.org)

Wright's career took off from there.

Soon after Wright began to expand into film and television, playing small roles in dozens of movies and TV shows from "Half Baked" and "Natural Born Killers" to playing himself in "The Simpsons." Most recently, he worked as a producer on Louie C.K.'s hit FX show "Louie."

"It was amazing," says Wright of his time working on the show. "Standup, you do it all yourself. But working with [Louie C.K.], we would talk about what he was doing, we'd talk about the script, the story, we'd talk about how the filming is going, then the editing."

The 60-year-old Wright currently appears as one of the regulars at the bar where C.K.'s new show, "Horace and Pete," is set. The boundary-pushing show deals in some heavy themes for a comedy show like politics and abortion — topics Wright has spent a career steadfastly avoiding.

"It's a lot of stuff I wouldn't talk about," says Wright, "but I feel no pressure. It's kind of fun actually to be involved in these subjects that I would never really talk about on stage. It doesn't make me uncomfortable at all."

## THEATER

# Review: 'Butler' makes the most of a Civil War moment

By **CHRIS JONES**  
Chicago Tribune

"Butler" is, if we are being frank, a comedy about slavery, an original sin of the United States of America.

The notion sounds offensively absurd in the extract, but the focus of the playwright, Richard Strand, is on the genuinely absurd, if ultimately judicious, machinations of one Benjamin Franklin Butler, a general in the Union Army who was largely responsible for formulating the legal notion of slaves being defined as contraband.

In 1861, Butler, played in Northlight Theatre's production by Greg Vinkler, found himself commanding Fort Monroe in the battleground state of Virginia. Three asylum-seeking slaves from nearby Norfolk County, which was Confederate territory, made their way to Fort Monroe, presenting Butler with an ethical dilemma. Having been a lawyer on civilian street, and a Union officer for about 30 seconds, he took seriously the legal obligation to return property to its rightful owner, as required by the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850. But then, of course, that meant either A), likely returning a man to his death or B), assuming that man would be allowed to live, returning a man who would then be forced to try to kill Union soldiers. Neither was ethically satisfying to Butler.

So Butler's wily mind came up with notion of walking contraband — a dehumanizing term, most certainly, but also one that likely saved the lives of Shepard Mallory, Frank Baker and James Townsend, the three slaves who found themselves so defined. Some historians would go further, assigning



MICHAEL BROSILOW PHOTO

Tosin Morohunfola, left, and Greg Vinkler in "Butler," by Richard Strand, at Northlight Theatre.

## Northlight Theatre's 'Butler'

**When:** Through April 17  
**Where:** North Shore Center for the Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie  
**Tickets:** \$25-\$79  
**Information:** 847-673-6300; [www.northlight.org](http://www.northlight.org)

to Butler and his legal mind a central role in the end of slavery in America.

Only one of the slaves, Mallory, played by Tosin Morohunfola, is actually in Strand's play, perhaps because the author was mindful of regional theaters and cast sizes, but also likely because Strand conceived the drama as a debate between Mallory, a smart and literate man who knew how to work on the margins, and Butler, no fool either. He adds in one Lt. Kelly (the very amusing Nate Burger) as the third military wheel who brings these very different men together, and he also includes Maj. John Baytop Cary (Tim Monsion), the Confederate officer who shows up at Fort Monroe to get his slaves back.

We all know how the

war ended. So at no point in "Butler" are you thinking that Mallory is headed back South. So the appeal of this Civil War play, mostly comes from feeling superior to Cary (Monsion happily plays into this) while siding with Butler and Mallory and enjoying their complicated verbal dance.

"Butler" is no "Hamilton." I wouldn't say that Strand fully fleshes out all the complexities of his title character, or the slave who changed the world, and although Vinkler is funny and honest, he's a bit too professorial and diffident for a historical figure who was very close to President Abraham Lincoln and regarded by some peers as that great man's equal when it came to political strategizing and campaigning.

But Vinkler's wacky sherry-sipping guy always is fun in director Stuart Carden's fast-moving Northlight production, and he's well matched with Morohunfola, playing a realist who actually has to lead his man by the nose to come up with his own salvation — and, well, change the course of history.

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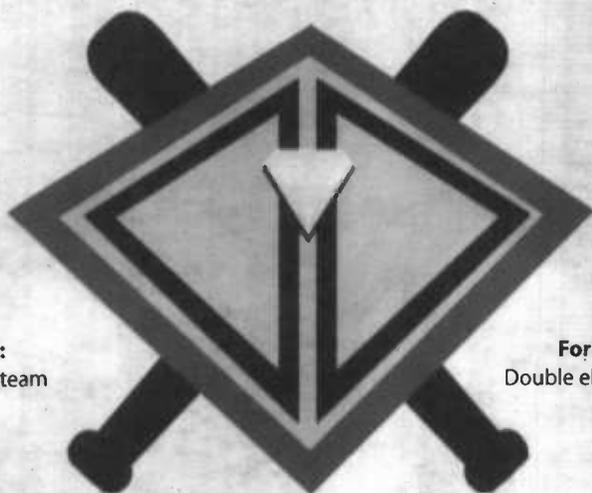
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## #HUMANATURE

Songs of Fire, Love, Water, Grief and Whirlwinds

Tickets to all performances: \$35 adults, \$25 seniors/students and \$10 children under 12, 847-382-5085 or at [www.lakesidesingers.com](http://www.lakesidesingers.com). Group prices are available. Discount to members of Grace Church. Preferred seating for \$45.00 at MIC and The Fourth Presbyterian Church. Tickets are available at the door.

Celebrating music from renaissance to rock



WILD KRATTS

Kids will learn about preserving animals and habitats with "Wild Kratts Live" at the Rosemont Theatre.

### FAMILY FRIENDLY

## 'Wild Kratts Live' shenanigans comes to Rosemont Theatre

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

Little kids are big fans of the animated PBS Kids television show, "Wild Kratts." They can watch the adventures of the real life Martin and Chris Kratt in "Wild Kratts Live," 1 p.m. or 4:30 p.m. April 10 at Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont.

As usual, the Kratts will be saving animals in, "To the Creature Rescue!" The Kratt Brothers will don their Creature Power Suits to retrieve their favorite invention from a comic villain in order to keep the animals of the world safe. In the process, there will be pratfalls galore but kids will also learn some interesting facts about animals.

The Kratts are known for their silliness but there's a serious message behind this show and the television series. Their not-for-profit Kratt Brothers Creature Hero Society has created nature reserves to protect critical wildlife habitats.

So this show is about safeguarding endangered

animals as well as entertaining and educating.

Tickets are \$27.75-\$97.75. For details, call 847-671-5100 or go to [www.rosemont.com/theatre](http://www.rosemont.com/theatre)

### Inward bound

A little girl's feelings about changes in her life are explored in the acclaimed animated film, "Inside Out." It will be screened at 1:30 p.m. April 2 at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Afterwards, Turning Point Behavioral Health Care Center will lead a discussion for parents while children work on a craft project.

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

### Pay attention to this dimension!

Kids will learn how to use the free online software Tinkercad during 3D Printing for Families, 6-7 p.m. April 7 at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St. The event is for kids in kinder-

garten and up and their families. Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required.

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

### Suit up and save

Anyone who wears a Blackhawks jersey saves \$1 off the public skate daily fee during the Hawks Day Public Skate, 1-2:30 p.m. April 9 at Oakton Ice Arena, 2800 W. Oakton, Park Ridge.

For details, call 847-692-3359 or go to [www.prparks.org](http://www.prparks.org).

### Outdoor treat with Pete

Join the Storywalk StoryMob, 11 a.m. April 9 at Little Bear Garden in Gallery Park, 2001 Patriot Blvd., Glenview. You will take a hike as you read the tale of "Pete the Cat and His Magic Sunglasses."

For details, call 847-729-7500 or go to [www.glenviewpl.org](http://www.glenviewpl.org).

# Benefit raises \$215,000 for Avenues to Independence

**Event:** 'A Night in Old Havana' Love Affair Gala  
**Benefiting:** Avenues to Independence, Park Ridge, which provides homes, jobs, and social opportunities to hundreds of adults with disabilities  
**Location:** Loew's Chicago O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont  
**Date:** Feb. 20  
**Attended:** 350  
**Raised:** \$215,000  
**Website:** [www.avenuestoindependence.org](http://www.avenuestoindependence.org)



JOHN J. BEUSSE/AVENUES TO INDEPENDENCE PHOTOS

Nadine Henich of Niles, from left, Jill Smith and Shlomo Bar-Sheshet of Skokie



John and Beth DiMeo, Love Affair Co-Chair, from left, with Chair Sara and John McKittrick, all of Park Ridge



Michele Shoolln of Glencoe, from left, Jerome Dribin of Lincolnwood, and Laura Dribin of Chicago



Avenues' Executive Director Robert Okazaki and his wife, Judy, of Barrington



Brian Murphy of Melrose Park, from left, Alice Murphy of River Forest, and Nancy Mallk of Arlington Heights

## Share your event

Want to see your event in Trend? Debbie Hoppe, Trend editorial assistant, will send you guidelines. Email her at [dhoppe@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:dhoppe@pioneerlocal.com).

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### **MORTONAIRE BEAUTY!**

Morton Grove...Price Reduced! Beautiful, updated & expanded 8 room Raised Ranch in great location! Sensational updated kitchen with hardwood floors, island, Corian counters & recessed lites opens to family room with 2 skylights leads to sliding doors that open to deck with fenced yard & Paver brick patio. Huge living rm with WBFP. Lower level rec area w/ brick FP wall, recessed lites & room for another br and/or 2nd kitchen. Paver brick driveway. New C/A & furnace. 2 ½ car att'd garage .... **\$409,000**



### **HURRY BEFORE IT'S GONE!**

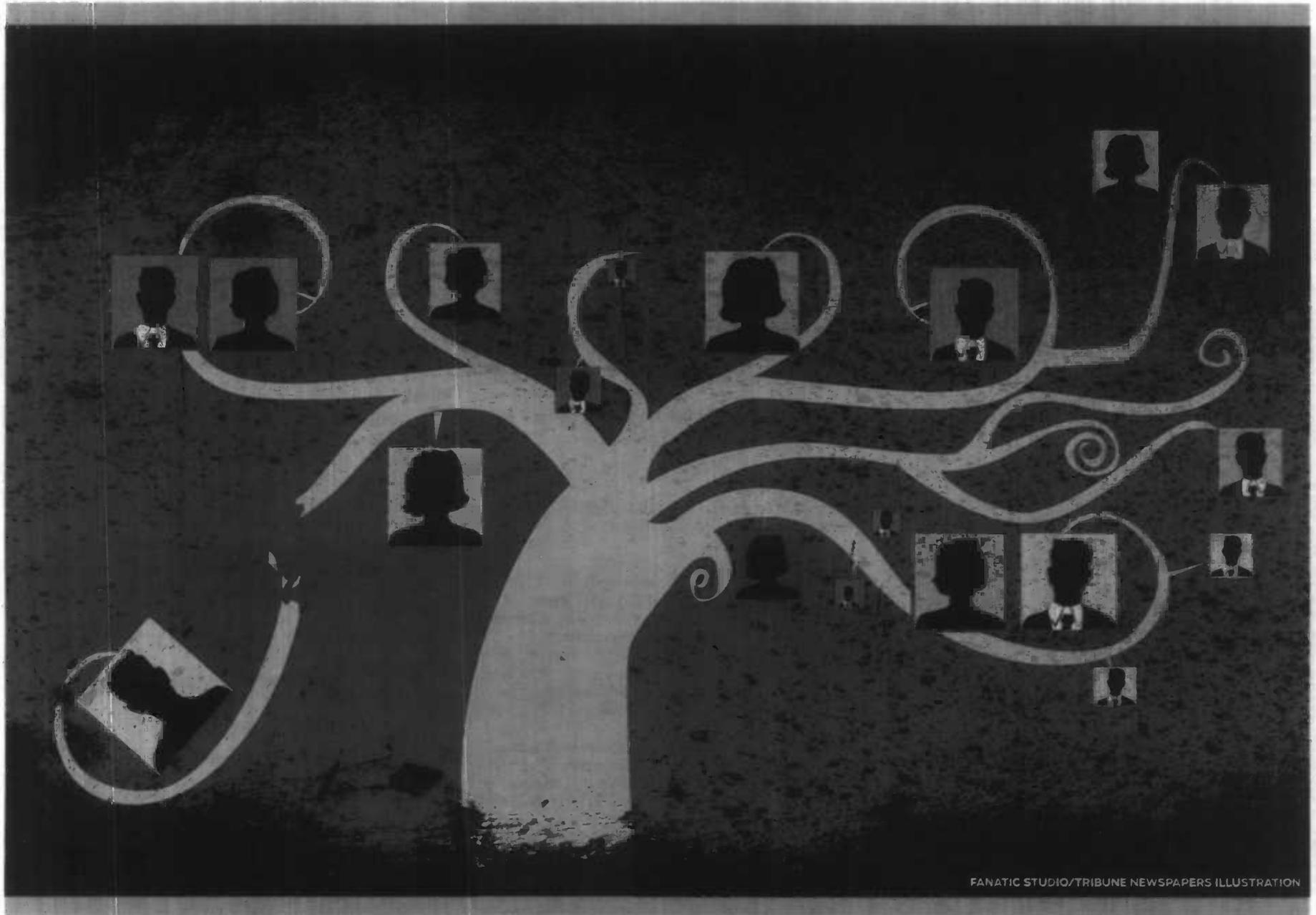
Niles...Price JUST SLASHED to sell! Sparkling clean solid brick custom 10 room Ranch lovingly cared for by long time owners. Hardwood floors. Large living room. Lovely kitchen with large separate eating area. 3 brs & 2 updated baths. Huge finished basement with 23' family room + bonus workshop/hobby rm. New Roof 2010; New Furnace 2015; New Windows 2014; New Driveway 2014. Convenient Location near Golf Mill Shopping, Schools, Park, Bus, I-294 & O'Hare. Move right in & enjoy!..... **\$299,900**

# Living

Thursday, March 31, 2016



Love essentially:  
March madness not  
the only thing driving  
people mad Page 11



# When to cut family ties

Breaking up with a relative may be hard to do, but sometimes it's for the best Page 3

## SUBURBAN COOKS

# Here's something to do with all that leftover ham

## Plano cook repurposes Easter dinner staples

By Judy Buchenot  
The Beacon-News

Now that Easter is over, it is time to do something with that basket of hard boiled eggs and the enormous platter of leftover ham filling up all the available space in your refrigerator.

Hilary Hawkinson, a Plano resident and East Aurora High School teacher, enjoys cooking and has recipes that are ideal ways to repurpose those Easter leftovers. Although she loves to cook, Hawkinson doesn't always have time to pull out the pots and pans after a full day of teaching.

"I try to cook in bulk," she said. She often makes a large batch meal that she packages and freezes to eat in the weeks to come.

One of her go-to recipes is ham and corn chowder. Although it is a perfect way to use up leftover ham, it can also be made using a ham steak.

"It is one of those recipes that actually tastes better the next day," she said. She often doubles the recipe and then places single servings in Ziploc bags. After freezing them flat, she can stack the bags in the freezer.

Her recipe includes cinnamon and turmeric.

"I like to add cinnamon to this chowder because it brings out the sweet, smoky flavor," she said. "I also like to add turmeric mainly because it is good for you. Turmeric doesn't change the flavor a lot but it helps improve your brain function, so I add it to things."

Since the soup can be made in advance, Hawkinson says it is a great dish to serve at parties.

"Everyone who tries it really loves it," she said.

For people who are getting tired of using those hard boiled eggs for traditional mayo and mustard deviled eggs, Hawkinson suggests kicking things up a notch with her bacon and Serrano pepper filled deviled eggs that include a few drops of hot sauce for excitement.



JUDY BUCHENOT/BEACON-NEWS

Hilary Hawkinson adds corn to a batch of her ham and corn chowder, a great crowd-pleasing meal.

## Hilary's Culinary Cue

When cooking any type of meat from chicken to pork, add some vegetable broth which will keep the meat moist and add great flavor.

"The egg and mayonnaise kind of soften the heat. It doesn't hit you at first but you taste it later," she said.

To make these devilish eggs, Hawkinson mixes the yolks from a dozen hard boiled eggs with a cup of mayonnaise, 1 1/2 teaspoons rice vinegar, 3/4 teaspoon ground mustard and 1/2 teaspoon sugar. She folds in six slices of bacon that have been fried crisp and crumbled along with two Serrano peppers that have been seeded and chopped. For the final touch, she adds a few drops of hot sauce.

"My favorite is Ghost Pepper," she said. The mixture is scooped back into the egg white halves, sprinkled with paprika and turmeric and then is ready to serve.

Hawkinson has been trying to expand her culinary skills into the great outdoors since she got engaged to Jake Stott, who she calls "an adventure guy." Last summer, the couple went canoeing in the Boundary Waters Wilderness in Minnesota.

"It is amazing how long a day becomes when you don't have all the

things you usually do in it. There were no outside lights there. No sounds from cars. It was really different," said Hawkinson.

Although they were far from fast food, the couple ate very well. Steaks were on the menu the first night with leftover steak and eggs the next day.

They also made an interesting sausage and quinoa stew that can be completely prepared in one pot.

"It was really good and so easy to do," said Hawkinson. The recipe calls for hard apple cider but can be made with regular apple cider.

"I have used both kale and spinach in the recipe," she said. "Either works but kale has to be chopped really fine. I like spinach better." The recipe makes a small amount that can feed three to four people which reduces leftovers. The recipe is also a quick and easy meal that can be made at home as well as on the trail.

Hawkinson shares her recipes for ham and corn chowder and sausage and quinoa one pot for others to try.

Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer.

## Ham and Corn Chowder

Makes six to eight servings. Can be doubled.

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 3 thick-cut slices of bacon
- 1/2 cup white wine
- 1 medium yellow onion
- 2 cloves garlic
- 1 pound ham steak
- 3 10-ounce cans of corn
- 6 large red skin potatoes
- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 1 can condensed cream of celery soup
- 2 tablespoons Herbs de Provence
- 2 vegetable bouillon cubes
- 3 bay leaves
- salt and pepper to taste
- 3-4 cups water
- cinnamon to taste (optional)
- turmeric to taste (optional)

1. Melt the butter in a two-quart pot over medium heat. Cut bacon into small pieces and place in the pot. Cook until bacon is rendered. Add white wine and scrape bits of bacon from bottom of the pot.

2. Peel and chop onion and add to the pot. Mince or press garlic and add to the pot. Cook and stir for two to three minutes.

3. While it is cooking, cube ham and drain cans of corn. Add ham and corn and cook while stirring for two to three minutes. Cut potatoes into cubes. Add cubed potatoes, cream cheese and canned soup. Stir well.

4. Reduce heat to low. Add herbs de Provence, bouillon cubes, bay leaves, salt and pepper. Stir and add enough water to get desired thickness.

5. Cover and simmer for one hour. After 30 minutes, taste and adjust seasonings. About five minutes before soup is done cooking, add cinnamon and turmeric if desired.

## Sausage and Quinoa One Pot

Makes three to four servings.

- 1 pound smoked sausage or kielbasa
- 1 yellow onion
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh sage
- 1 cup quinoa
- 1 cup hard cider
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup water
- 2 cups chopped and packed kale or spinach

1. Cube sausage. Peel and chop onion. Place sausage, onion and sage in a large pot and cook over medium heat for 10 minutes or until lightly browned.

2. Rinse and drain quinoa. Add to pot with cider, cranberries, salt and water. Bring to a boil. Cover and reduce heat to medium low. Simmer until liquid is absorbed, about 25 to 30 minutes.

3. Stir in kale or spinach. Cover and allow to sit off heat for five minutes. Stir to fluff up mixture before serving.

# When to cut family ties

Breaking up with a relative may be hard to do, but sometimes it's for the best

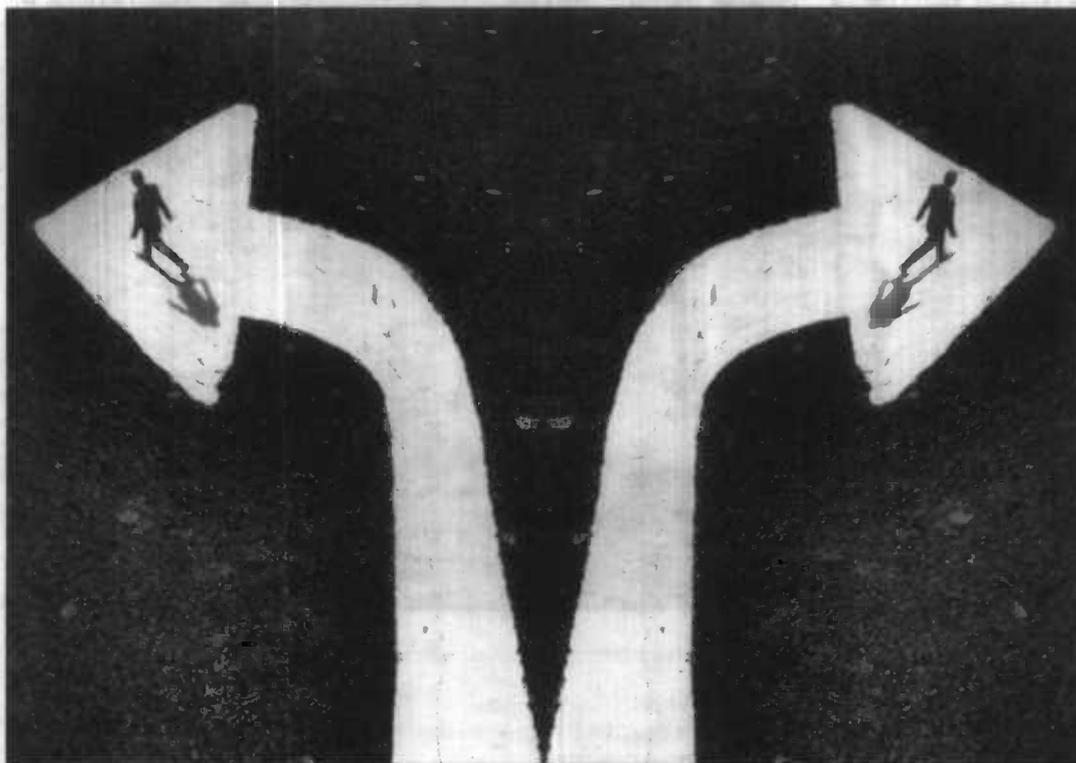
By Tamekia Reece  
Prevention Magazine

As the song goes, breaking up is hard to do. Especially when the person you're kicking to the curb isn't a love interest or pal but a family member. Sure, we all have daydreams about finally telling off our overbearing mother-in-law or blocking an annoying aunt's phone number. But actually working up the nerve to do so? Not easy.

"Growing up, we all hear 'blood is thicker than water,' and 'when all else fails, you'll always have your family,' which instills the message that family ties aren't supposed to be broken," says Jamye Waxman, author of "How to Break Up With Anyone: Letting Go of Friends, Family, and Everyone In-Between." Add to that, she says, women tend to get put into roles of martyr and savior, the one who is supposed to sacrifice and make peace, which makes it even more challenging to break up with a relative.

Still, sometimes saying goodbye is for the best. Stressful relationships, including those with relatives, can increase the risk of high blood pressure, weaken your immune system, cause headaches and stomachaches, lead to sleep problems, lower self-esteem, and cause depression and anxiety. So ditching that toxic family member can be good for your health (if you need another excuse). Here's what to do when you're thinking about unraveling the ties that bind.

Generally, when a family relationship ends, it's on the heels of a huge blowup — a heated argument, one too many critical remarks or a tiff over an unpaid loan. Before you write off a relative, cool down. Don't make impulsive, hasty decisions about family members you've had conflicts with because you may say or do something you'll regret, says Steven J. Hanley, a clinical psychologist in Southfield, Mich. A better choice, he says, is to take a breather, let it all sink in and then decide how you want to proceed.



LIAM LARKIN/GETTY

If a relationship has you so stressed or angry that it's having a negative effect on other parts of your life, like your job performance or sleep habits, it may be time to walk away.

Take some time to think about why you're considering ending it. Is whatever that has pushed you to the limit something new? Or has the behavior been ongoing for a while? In addition to the downsides, are there any positives to the relationship? If so, do they outweigh the bad? Will ending the relationship with this person affect the ones you have with other family members?

Deciding if a relationship is worth keeping or not can be tough, but here are some signs that it's time to call it quits.

- There's abuse. Any physical, verbal or emotional abuse is reason to terminate the relationship immediately. Don't worry about any possible fallout from others in the family. Your safety and well-being are what's most important.
- It's affecting other areas of your life. If the situation has you so stressed or angry that it's having a negative effect on other

parts of your life, like your job performance or sleep habits, it may be time to walk away.

- Your interactions are mostly negative. All relationships have ups and downs, but if your dealings are negative more often than not — your sister criticizes you, nitpicks or starts an argument every time you're in her presence — it's time to check out.

- The relationship is one-sided. Healthy relationships are a balance of give and take. If your cousin calls only to borrow money or vent about her problems but never reciprocates, she may be using you (or not being a good friend, at least).

- It's affecting your immediate family. Hanley says if maintaining the relationship is harmful to your spouse or children — for instance, your mom clearly favors one of your children while neglecting others — you may need to take a step back for your family's

sake.

- There's substance abuse or criminal behavior. Yes, family support is important when someone is battling addiction; however, that doesn't mean that you have to allow the substance abuse to have a negative impact on your own life. The same goes for any criminal behavior. Don't let a relative's misdeeds put you or your family at risk.

"Even though you may think the other person is the problem, it takes two to tango," Waxman says.

Step back and look at some of your own actions too. For instance, do you always assume your dad is going to say something negative, which causes you to go on the defensive (and he, in turn, to do the same)? Or is it possible that your younger sister goes against everything you say because she feels you treat her like a child? Once you have clarity and see things you could possibly

do differently, you may realize it's possible to salvage the relationship.

Sometimes, despite our best efforts, a relationship is unsalvageable or we don't want to repair it. Unless there's abuse (or you're ending things with a second cousin you only see once a year at the family reunion), you should have a conversation when giving someone the boot. Yes, it's easier to fade away, but that doesn't allow closure for either of you. Also, if you try the route where you keep saying you're busy until the person gets the hint, that can cause even more resentment to build because you may feel as though you're being forced to lie, says Mark Goulston, a clinical psychiatrist and author of "Talking to Crazy: How to Deal with the Irrational and Impossible People in Your Life."

Fortunately, the "it's over" conversation doesn't have to be long or dramatic. It can be a five-minute conversation in which you say, "I've realized our actions together have not been healthy. I don't want to do this anymore," says Waxman. Answer any questions but don't get reeled back in. If the person gets overly accusatory or starts acting crazy, don't let the situation escalate. Goulston advises saying, "Why don't we stop the conversation here." Then end it.

Breaking up with a family member can be freeing, but it also causes a lot of emotional upheaval. It's normal to feel anger, guilt, resentment and loneliness.

"You're sort of mourning the loss of someone that, presumably, you loved or felt loved by, or wanted to feel loved by, which can be very tough," Hanley says.

Look for sources of support. Talk to your spouse or a trusted friend (not family members, to keep down drama) about what you're feeling or join a support group. If you're having difficulty working through the harm the relationship caused or coping with the dissolution of the relationship, Hanley recommends seeking professional help.

# Your cat is a lot deeper than you think

By Karin Bruillard  
The Washington Post

What's better than an online personality test? An online cat personality test.

Researchers in Australia are now administering them, and they've found something interesting: Cats are not too different from us.

Many psychologists subscribe to the theory that all people have five broad personality traits, known as the "Big Five": extroversion, agreeableness, openness to experience, conscientiousness and neuroticism. And cats, the team at the University of South Australia has found, have their own Big Five.

They drew this conclusion after administering personality tests to about 2,800 domestic cats in Australia and New Zealand. Needless to say, the tests were completed by the felines' owners, who ranked their pets on a scale of 1 to 7 for each of 52 behaviors and traits, including "clumsy," "reckless" and "vocal."

By aggregating the responses about those micro-traits, a computer analysis revealed five broad feline personality dimensions, and it gave the cats scores for each one. Three of the "Feline Five" traits correspond to those in humans, said Philip Roetman, who leads "citizen science" projects for the university, including the cat research.

Here are the Feline Five:

**Skittishness:** This one's akin to neuroticism in people. Cats that



LIZ COLEMAN/AP

Highly outgoing cats are curious and active according to an Australian study that identified five feline traits.

earned high skittishness scores are more anxious and fearful; calm and trusting cats had low scores.

**Outgoingness:** This is the equivalent of extroversion in humans. Highly outgoing cats are curious and active; those with low scores are aimless and "quitting," according to the test.

**Dominance:** This one belongs just to felines. Cats that are bullying and aggressive to their peers

got high scores; cats that are friendly and submissive to other felines scored low.

**Spontaneity:** Another one that's cat-specific. High scores indicate impulsive, erratic cats; low scores went to predictable, constrained cats.

**Friendliness:** This is akin to agreeableness in people. Highly friendly cats tend to be affectionate, while those with low scores

are solitary and irritable.

Previous research using feline personality tests focused on wild and shelter cats, but the Australia study is the first to analyze personality test results from a large number of domestic cats. Most of the participants fell somewhere in the middle for each trait, Roetman said.

Older cats tended to be slightly more dominant and less outgoing than younger ones, Roetman said. But there were no significant

variations between genders, or between cats in New Zealand and Australia.

And most important to Roetman, the results revealed no major personality differences between indoor and outdoor cats. He said that finding could be helpful in cat "management," which is a huge topic in Australia, where politicians have declared "war" on the predatory feral cats they accuse of driving out native species.

Some Australians worry that keeping their cats inside will negatively affect their personalities, Roetman said. But most cats rank as typical whether they're behind closed doors or roaming the streets, which is "really good news for people who keep their cats indoors," he said. "The research suggests that it's actually OK to cats."

Cat owners received charts showing where their cat fell on the spectrum for each trait and suggestions about how to interpret them. Highly skittish cats would benefit from hiding spots at home, it might note, and cats with low spontaneity scores "may enjoy routine."

"What I've found talking to cat owners about these results is that they intuitively make sense," Roetman said.

The study is only open to cats in South Australia at the moment. But there's good news for U.S. cat lovers who like online personality tests (and we assume there must be a decent overlap): Researchers in North Carolina are planning to expand the study to include American cats, Roetman said.

## PET OF THE WEEK



Catarina

Catarina is everything you could ask for in an office assistant. She greets people when they walk in, checks over your emails, and will even answer the phone! She is generally pretty calm, but when the mood strikes, she likes to chase little mouse toys. Catarina doesn't mind some other cats, but is not a big fan of dogs. Children in her new home should be at least 8 years old.

For more information, visit Catarina at the Naperville Area Humane Society or online at [napervilleareahumanesociety.org](http://napervilleareahumanesociety.org).

## [chicagotribune.com/pets](http://chicagotribune.com/pets)

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- Our adoptable animals blog featuring photos and descriptions of Chicagoland pets in need of homes.
- Our suburban and city pet events calendar
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# Another former Rosen customer denied reimbursement

Dear Help Squad,  
I am another customer of Rosen (now Muller) Honda who was told I would get a reimbursement of my service contract (purchased in July 2009 when I purchased the car) if I did not use it. I called in May 2015 and someone told me they would get back with me, however I have not heard anything. Now I am told that they are not responsible. My contract was for 72 months, 75,000 miles. I have 25,700 miles. I paid \$1,100 for this contract.

I faxed the contract and the letter verifying I did not (use) the warranty to (attorney) Steve Bloomberg (Rosen's registered agent). He stated I did not have the paper that said the warranty would be refunded, so he may not be able to refund my money. I couldn't find that letter, however that is how it was sold to me: If I never used the warranty, I would be fully refunded. So I purchased it.

Other persons were in the room and heard the salesman offer the warranty to me with those conditions. So far it sounds like I have been duped and purchased a warranty under false pretenses for \$1,100.

Oswald, Mundelein

I received the above correspondence from Oswald in November 2015. Over the course of three months, Oswald (without my involvement) provided documentation each time Bloomberg requested it. Unfortunately, the one piece he was missing was the signed Purchase Price Reimbursement Guarantee (evidence of which, ironically, is not listed as one of the five requirements for obtaining a refund). When it became clear that Rosen was not going to provide Oswald his refund, I decided to reach out to Bloomberg directly.

In response to my inquiry, Bloomberg informed me: "I requested that a former employee of my client (Rosen Motor Sales) search the files of prior vehicle sales and was advised that they could not locate this particular file. I have no explanation as to why ..."

Five days later, following several email exchanges, Bloomberg concluded: "Without the written contract as to reimbursement,



CATHY CUNNINGHAM  
Help Squad

no payment will be made."

At that point, I reached out to Zeigler Auto Group CFO Dan Scheid, with whom I had spoken about a separate Rosen reimbursement quagmire in October. Zeigler purchased Rosen's Gurnee Nissan dealership in September 2014.

Said Scheid: "I believe we covered one that we are still chasing Rosen for. I'm not surprised (Muller is) having issues for the same reasons we had issues with Rosen." Shortly thereafter, Bloomberg called to say: "(W)hen you publicized the issue concerning Rosen, it could have created a lot of people wanting this reimbursement ... and I have to be diligent on behalf of my client." Granted, this was possible. (Why some customers were offered reimbursement guarantees while others were not is another question.) In this particular case, however, Bloomberg's argument didn't hold water.

Oswald began contacting the former Rosen Honda a full five months before anything appeared in Help Squad, and he

was clearly aware of the guarantee's terms at that time. This seemed to point to two possibilities: 1) The salesperson provided Oswald the Purchase Price Reimbursement Guarantee -- a signed copy of which would be in Rosen's files, or 2) Oswald was orally informed he would get his money back if he bought the service contract and didn't use it. Either way, there would have been no reason for Oswald to decline the offer.

Bloomberg admitted it was possible Oswald had been orally presented the guarantee, stating: "This is a fraud action. This is not a contract action ... (Oswald) can pursue any legal remedy he wishes."

Lessons learned: 1) Always get it in writing. 2) Service contracts on new cars can be redundant to manufacturer's warranties and should be considered relative to the manufacturer's warranty.

**Need help?**

Send your questions, complaints, injustices and column ideas to [HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com).

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

## ONE DAY UNIVERSITY FOUR AWARD-WINNING PROFESSORS ONE AMAZING DAY OF LEARNING

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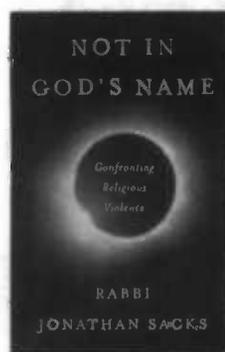
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9:30am to 10:40am	<b>Why Some People Are Resilient, and Others Are Not</b> Andrew Shatte / University of Arizona <i>Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching</i>
10:55am to 12:05pm	<b>The Five Most Powerful People in the World</b> William Burke-White / University of Pennsylvania <i>Levin Award for Excellence in Teaching</i>
<b>LUNCH BREAK - 12:05pm - 1:25pm</b>	
1:25pm to 2:35pm	<b>Five Essential Negotiation Skills For Everyday Life</b> Linda Ginzel / University of Chicago Booth School of Business <i>Faculty Excellence Award</i>
2:50pm to 4:00pm	<b>Five Films That Changed America</b> Marc Lapadula / Yale University <i>Outstanding Teaching Award</i>

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## ROUNDUP | SPIRITUAL



## Not in God's Name: Confronting Religious Violence

By Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, Schocken, 320 pages, \$28.95

"When religion turns men into murderers, God weeps."

So begins this urgent and authoritative exploration of the roots of religious violence from Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, one of the world's great contemporary theologians, chief rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth from 1991 to 2013.

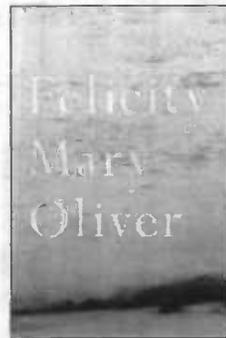
From Sacks' first gut-wrenching sentence, the reader has a solid sense that what follows are the deeply thought, carefully weighed words of an impeccable scholar. His reading of the Hebrew Bible is astute, illuminating layers of meaning too often missed.

Sacks traces the secularization of the last four centuries and lays bare the mis-readings of the Bible that have led not only to the horrors of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust, but to atrocities across the globe, all fought blasphemously — and sinfully — in the name of God.

What will save us, writes Sacks, is a Theology of the Other, the extraordinary exercise of empathy that allows humans to imagine how it is to be the Stranger, the Victim, the Disenfranchised. Could there be a more urgent imperative than to begin to understand Sacks' definition of faith, "God's call to see his trace in the face of the Other"?

It's not every day that the reader can so deeply trust the scholarship of the trail guide. Sacks is a clear-eyed and compelling illuminator, and his is a methodical deconstruction that routs out flawed understandings of the Bible, one that drives us emphatically toward hope, toward a theology that lets go of hate.

"It is our task," Sacks writes, "to be a blessing to the world." And then he points the way.



## Felicity: Poems

By Mary Oliver, Penguin, 96 pages, \$24.95

If you, like Emily Dickinson, for instance, find your religion in plain-spoken words that emerge from the everyday, then Mary Oliver's latest collection of poetry, titled simply "Felicity," might knock you to your knees, or make your reading nook feel suddenly like a prayer pew.

There's this line a few pages in, at the bottom of a poem titled, "Moments":

"There is nothing more pathetic than caution / when headlong might save a life, / even, possibly, your own."

Or this, from "The World I Live In":

"I'll just / tell you this: / only if there are angels in your head will you / ever, possibly, see one."

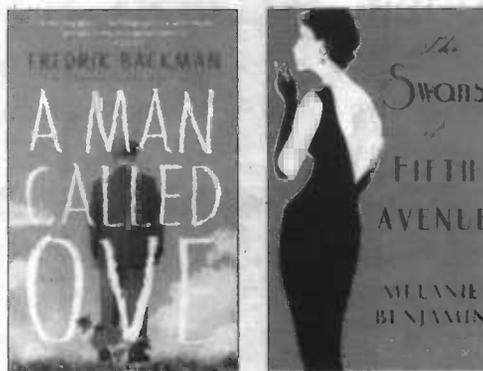
And this, from "Leaves and Blossoms Along the Way":

"God, or the gods, are invisible, quite / understandable. But holiness is visible, / entirely."

Oliver might be called "America's best-selling poet," but there's power in her accessibility and in her capacity to draw the reader into her meditative practice of paying attention, seeing the sacred and revealing the otherwise overlooked. Hers is the poetry — and prayer — of life lived through a lens that sees what most of us miss. And therein lies what makes her work's holiness visible, entirely.

## CHICAGOLAND BEST-SELLERS

1. "A Man Called Ove: A Novel" by Fredrik Backman (Washington Square, \$16).
2. "The Swans of Fifth Avenue: A Novel" by Melanie Benjamin (Delacorte, \$28).
3. "The Nightingale" by Kristin Hannah (St. Martin's, \$27.99).
4. "Me Before You: A Novel" by Jojo Moyes (Penguin, \$16).
5. "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates (Spiegel & Grau, \$24).



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), Lake Forest Book Store (Lake Forest).

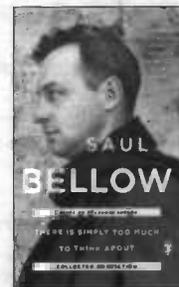
## NEW IN PAPERBACK



### Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania

By Erik Larson, Broadway, 454 pages, \$17

Larson details the events leading up to the May 7, 1915, sinking of the Lusitania as it embarked on a New York-to-Liverpool journey, switching narratives between the British luxury liner captained by William Thomas Turner and the German Unterseeboot-20 captained by Walther Schwieger. Larson reveals also how British intelligence secretly tracked the U-20 but told no one.



### There Is Simply Too Much to Think About

By Saul Bellow, edited by Benjamin Taylor, Penguin, 532 pages, \$22

"There Is Simply Too Much to Think About" is a collection of Saul Bellow's nonfiction work, from his criticism and essays to his lectures and interviews. Bellow's topics include fellow writers, such as Philip Roth and J.D. Salinger, travel writing and takes on Chicago.



### The Diver's Clothes Lie Empty: A Novel

By Vendela Vida, Ecco, 216 pages, \$14.99

While checking into her hotel during an already mysterious business trip to Casablanca, Morocco, a woman is robbed of her wallet and passport. The crime doesn't just rob the woman of her money, it robs her of her identity, coincidentally liberating her to become anyone she wants to be.



### The Reason I Jump

By Naoki Higashida, translated by K.A. Yoshida and David Mitchell, 167 pages, \$15

Subtitled "The Inner Voice of a Thirteen-Year-Old Boy with Autism," "The Reason I Jump" is a memoir written by a Japanese boy who was diagnosed with autism at age 5, giving an insight into the way the mind of an autistic child thinks, feels and responds to situations.



### Sweet as Sin

By Susan Benjamin, Prometheus, 320 pages, \$18

Benjamin details the history of candy, reaching as far back as the ancient Egyptian harvesting of the marshmallow plant to the modern, mass-produced and niche candy of today. Benjamin offers fun facts throughout the history of candy, such as the many uses of chocolate and the invention of the chewing gum industry.

— Jeremy Mikula



# puzzle island

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

3/27

## Wise Women: Reaching the same conclusions

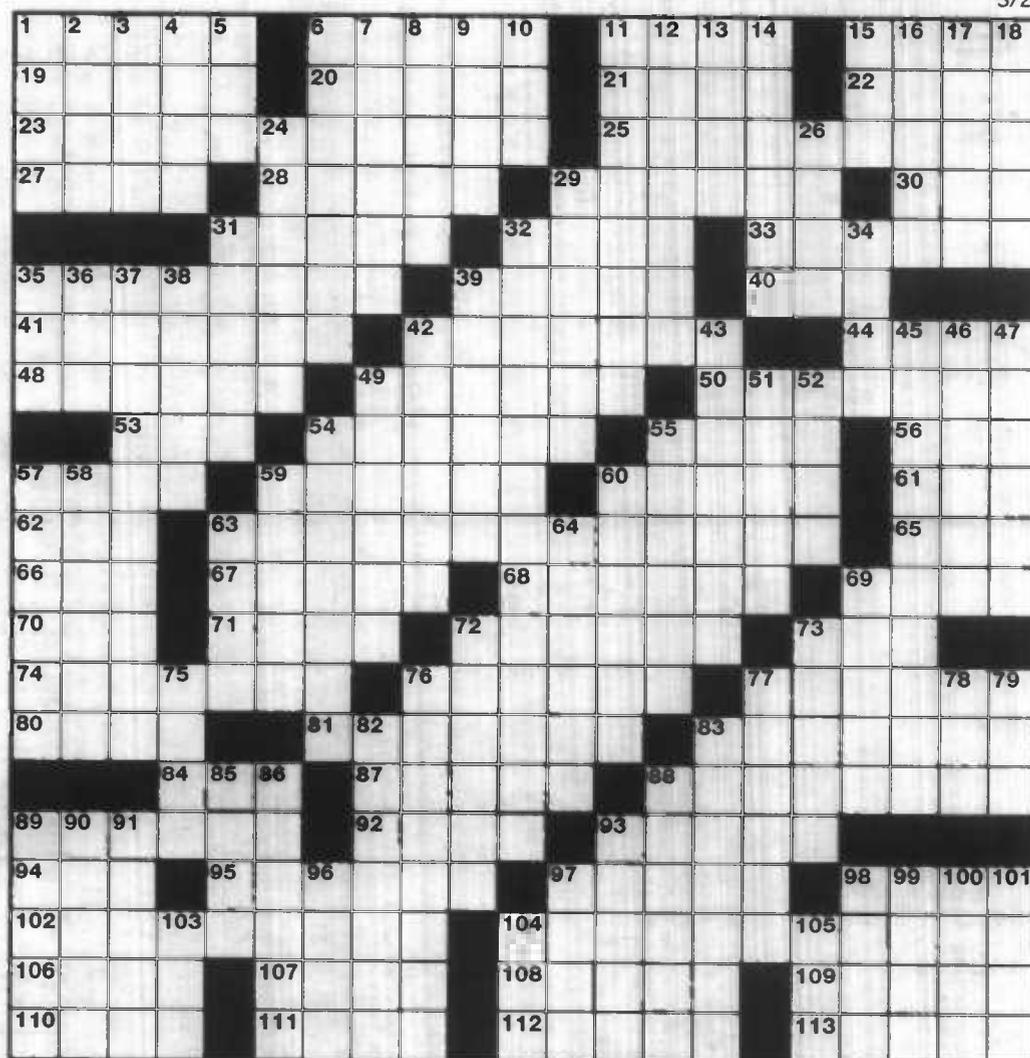
By S.N. | Edited by Stanley Newman  
(stanxwords.com)

### Across

- 1 Measure off  
6 “\_ Mia” (15 Across tune)  
11 Pastel shade  
15 Swedish singing group  
19 Present one’s case  
20 Sci-fi staple  
21 Winning streaks  
22 Sheltered waters  
23 Victorian Era actress  
25 Pop singer superstar  
27 Remarks  
28 Tenth of a thou  
29 Conditional release  
30 Essence of some sushi  
31 Moves a bit  
32 Diamond tactic  
33 Pressing  
35 Eliot Ness nemesis  
39 Not overly vocal  
40 Ten times CCV  
41 Nautical course  
42 Cautions  
44 Throw off  
48 Apparel  
49 *Ten Commandments* transportation  
50 Term of endearment  
53 Groundbreaker  
54 Shade of yellow  
55 Stewart’s *Daily Show* successor  
56 Letters on tachs  
57 Motivations  
59 Person in servitude  
60 One of the environmental Three R’s  
61 Talk nonstop  
62 Every other hurricane  
63 “Goldfinger” singer  
65 Whopper of a tale  
66 NL West team  
67 Casual shirts  
68 At an angle  
69 Bunch of buffaloes  
70 Bylaw, for short  
71 Storage rental  
72 — *Adventures in Wonderland*  
73 Bygone bird  
74 Big name in eggs  
76 Hilary Swank  
77 Speak to sharply  
80 Mythical river  
81 Danced at Carnival, quite possibly  
83 1993 Peace Nobel  
84 Half a figure eight  
87 Far from convinced  
88 Had a conference  
89 Cherbourg’s region  
92 Modest comment  
93 *Back to the Future* hero  
94 Before now  
95 Unconcern  
97 Havana’s — Castle  
98 Disconcert  
102 *The Lady Vanishes* star  
104 Celebrity biographer  
106 Sporting sword  
107 Isn’t up to par  
108 Murkiness  
109 Tenancy document  
110 Audition, for instance  
111 Proofreading mark  
112 City north of Turin  
113 Forgoes food

### Down

- 1 Square dance partners  
2 Diva’s performance  
3 Hostile, as a crowd  
4 Square dance partners  
5 Essence of some sushi  
6 Quarterback brothers’ surname  
7 Dan Quayle successor  
8 Hands, so to speak  
9 Unimportant  
10 Vague amount  
11 Huckabee’s home state  
12 15 Across, e.g.  
13 Biblical preposition  
14 Sanctuary  
15 Prez on a penny  
16 Ballet rail  
17 “Love will find a way” poet  
18 Up to now  
24 Overture follower  
26 Durable hairdo  
29 100%  
31 Tapered tip  
32 *Leave It to Beaver* novelist  
34 — plaid (woolen fabric)  
35 Epiphanic, as a moment  
36 Permit  
37 Gymnast at the 1968 Olympics  
38 Francisco’s farewell  
39 Tex-Mex fare  
42 Gondolas’ routes  
43 Brides and grooms  
45 British anthropologist



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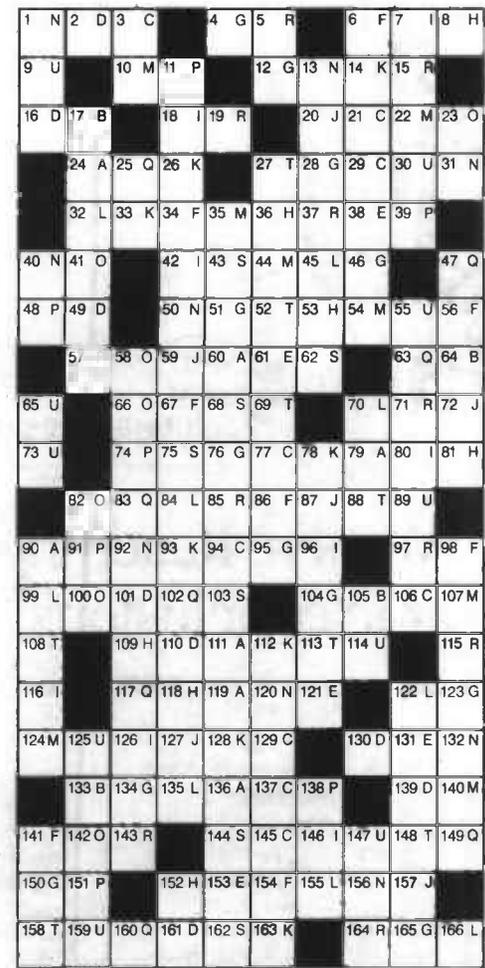
- 46 Hamper  
47 Was a sub at the office  
49 Enticement metaphor  
51 Mitigated  
52 People in general  
54 Tex-Mex fare  
55 Snapple competitor  
57 Mooring places  
58 Because of this, in legalese  
59 Sandal part  
60 Bad, as butter  
63 Egg on  
64 “Greatest Show” surname  
69 Multitude  
72 Lager descriptor  
73 Two-fisted  
75 Member of the board  
76 February birthstone  
77 Hungarian composer  
78 Brewery product  
79 Wee bit  
82 See 83 Down  
83 With 82 Down, Sondheim revue  
85 Persian ruler  
86 Old photo tints  
88 Dollywood host  
89 *American Buffalo* playwright  
90 Visibly amazed  
91 “The Highwayman” poet  
93 Rototiller part  
96 Take a crack —  
97 Pedometer measure  
98 Leaping bug  
99 Ancestor of “D’oh!”  
100 Hearty enjoyment  
101 Peering pair  
103 Drizzly  
104 Putin’s 1980s employer  
105 Tolkien creature

## Quote-Acrossic

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

Clues	Words
A. Verbally pressure	119 24 90 79 111 136 60
B. 'That's too bad!'	17 105 133 64
C. Forgetful	29 145 21 129 94 137 77 3 106
D. Precede in time.	130 110 16 2 49 161 139 101
E. Bitter buttons	61 153 131 38 121
F. Wallop	86 98 56 154 67 6 141 34
G. Jackie Robinson of tennis'	123 150 12 134 28 51 46 165 104 76 4 95
H. Requisite	118 109 81 8 152 53 36
I. Common DC activity	80 116 126 18 42 7 146 96

J. Brawl	20 59 87 72 127 157
K. Cinch: 2 wds.	163 128 33 78 26 112 14 93
L. Overview	99 32 84 70 122 45 135 155 166
M. Shawnee chief	10 22 107 44 35 124 54 140
N. Track for two-wheelers	50 13 156 40 132 92 120 1 31
O. Baseball's 'The Bird'	58 142 23 41 82 66 100
P. Supervised	91 11 57 74 39 151 138 48
Q. Hardly chubby	102 47 63 149 83 25 117 160
R. Novice	85 19 5 15 37 143 97 164 71 115
S. Unity	43 68 62 162 75 103 144
T. Crude and rough	69 108 88 52 113 148 158 27
U. Indian Ocean islands	147 125 65 30 114 73 89 55 159 9



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

BY CHARLES PRESTON

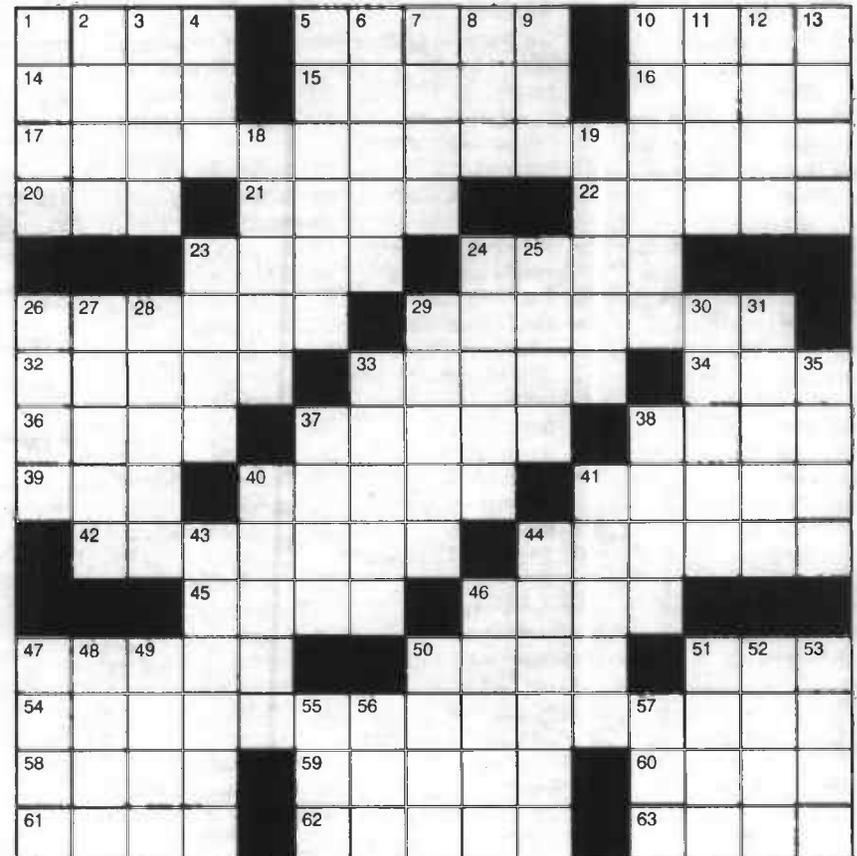
## Across

- Watery defense
- Weight unit
- Booted
- \_\_\_ mater
- Electrical terminal
- Popular sandwich
- Famous Italian
- Actress Myrna
- Track event
- Poker stakes
- Dowries
- River deposit
- Watery
- Natural resources
- Oriental prince: var.
- TV test film
- Mutineer
- Building beam
- Large couch
- Element
- Conducted
- Silver seeker
- Desire
- Portrays
- Swiss abode
- Pub orders
- Close

## Down

- Shopping center
- Bread spread
- Chinese island
- Color
- Proofreading marks
- Mighty mountains
- Square \_\_\_
- Do arithmetic
- Beverage
- Limits
- Search
- Formerly
- Platform
- French love
- Butler
- Active person

- \_\_\_ system
- Shackle
- Leave the harbor
- Imprint in the memory
- English novelist
- Basketball teams
- \_\_\_ by combat
- Play tennis
- Capacity units
- Vegetable
- Decorated cubes
- Winnie the Pooh creator
- Agitate violently
- Louisiana county
- Carriage
- Small amounts
- LA's health hazard
- Biblical miracle village
- Miracles
- Hollywood notable
- Greek portico
- At the summit
- Diamonds
- Behind
- Born
- Hardwood



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# C Battery

BY MARK MACLACHLAN

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

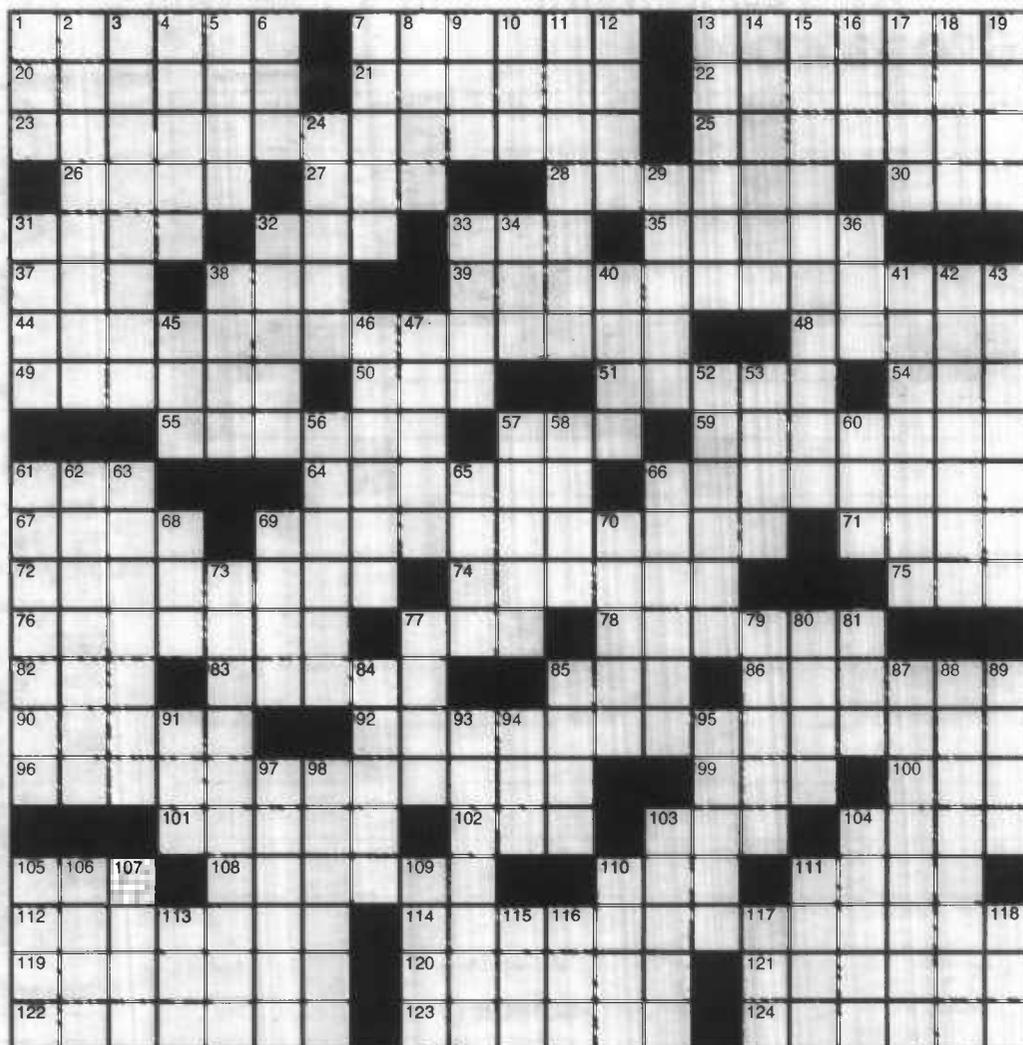
## Across

- 1 Fads  
7 They were introduced to Western pop music during the British Invasion  
13 Quantities like mass and volume  
20 Earth pigment  
21 Slow movement  
22 Hamlet's friend  
23 Film monster at a construction site?  
25 Subject for Dumbledore  
26 Plane staff  
27 Kitchen top  
28 Unrestricted ruler  
30 Govt. intel org.  
31 Co-star of "Suspect" (1987)  
32 Author Rand  
33 Spanish eye  
35 Confine, as on a farm  
37 — Fáil: Irish coronation stone  
38 Civil War prez  
39 Peat moss heist?  
44 Double without a seatbelt?  
48 Sticks often with curved tops  
49 Ones having a bite.  
50 Former "Daily Show" correspondent Samantha  
51 Recipe words  
54 Vietnam's last emperor Bao —  
55 Update the machinery  
57 Bagel topper  
59 Apprehensive of  
61 Art opening?  
64 Reason to call the landlord  
66 Something in the air  
67 "Return of the Jedi" dancer  
69 Exclusive editing websites?  
71 Adored speaker  
72 Gerard Trenité poem about eccentricities of English pronunciation  
74 Not dressy  
75 Part of PST: Abbr.  
76 Historic metropolitan district  
77 Miss piggy?  
78 Astronomer Celsius  
82 Time, e.g., briefly  
83 Iraqi port

## Down

- 85 French pen name  
86 Research  
90 "... —, mean, fightin' machine!": John Candy in "Stripes"  
92 Marx feature?  
96 Garden center bulk purchase?  
99 Carbohydrate ending  
100 "Dinosaur Train" watcher  
101 WWII German minesweeper  
102 6, on a phone  
103 — instinct  
104 Riot squad spray  
105 Munich lament  
108 Tree in a tray  
110 Breakfast morsel  
111 Prying  
112 Go before  
114 Be tearfully grateful about comfy shoes?  
119 Ursa Minor star  
120 Interfere  
121 "Real love — me through": Steve Winwood lyric  
122 Matching tops worn together  
123 Franklin writings  
124 Large furniture chain

- 33 Fairy tale opener  
34 Summer mo.  
36 Org. for marksmen  
38 43,560 square feet  
40 Junk food, in ads  
41 Dyes used for blue jeans  
42 Most Grinch-like  
43 Digitally endorsed  
45 Bard's "always"  
46 Nook downloads  
47 Home of Humayun's Tomb  
52 Off the beaten path  
53 Puts in rollers  
56 Dip ingredients  
57 Award-winning courtroom drama  
58 Elevator innovator  
60 Hold up  
61 Chesapeake Bay feeder  
62 "C'est magnifique!"  
63 Telethon commitments  
65 Maker of Cage golf shoes  
66 Subtlety  
68 Be on a role?  
69 Trumpet sound  
70 "Brokeback Mountain" actor  
73 Schmoozers  
77 1986 Starship chart-topper  
79 Spew out  
80 Obi-Wan's attire  
81 Title of honor  
84 Tax audit needs: Abbr.  
85 Smooch from Sofia  
87 Absolutely no one  
88 Type of engine or oil  
89 Bone: Pref.  
91 Fizzy prefix  
93 Looks up to  
94 — garden  
95 What "comes but once in a lifetime": Longfellow  
97 "Jamie" reader  
98 Most stable  
103 Defense secretary before Panetta  
104 Transform, in sci-fi  
105 iCal entry  
106 Bad avian omen in much mythology  
107 Prefix with port  
109 Peak  
110 Just  
111 Sgts. and cpls.  
113 Discharge  
115 NFL stat  
116 "Ghost" psychic — Mae Brown  
117 Greek vowel  
118 Cagey



Last week's answers appear on the next page

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## Jumble

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



PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW



This week's answers appear on the next page

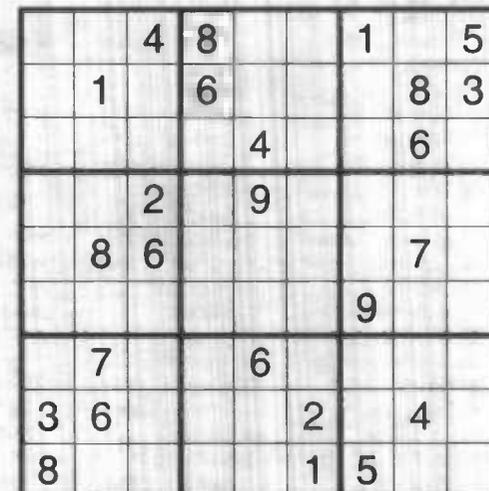
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2016 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

## Sudoku

3/27

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

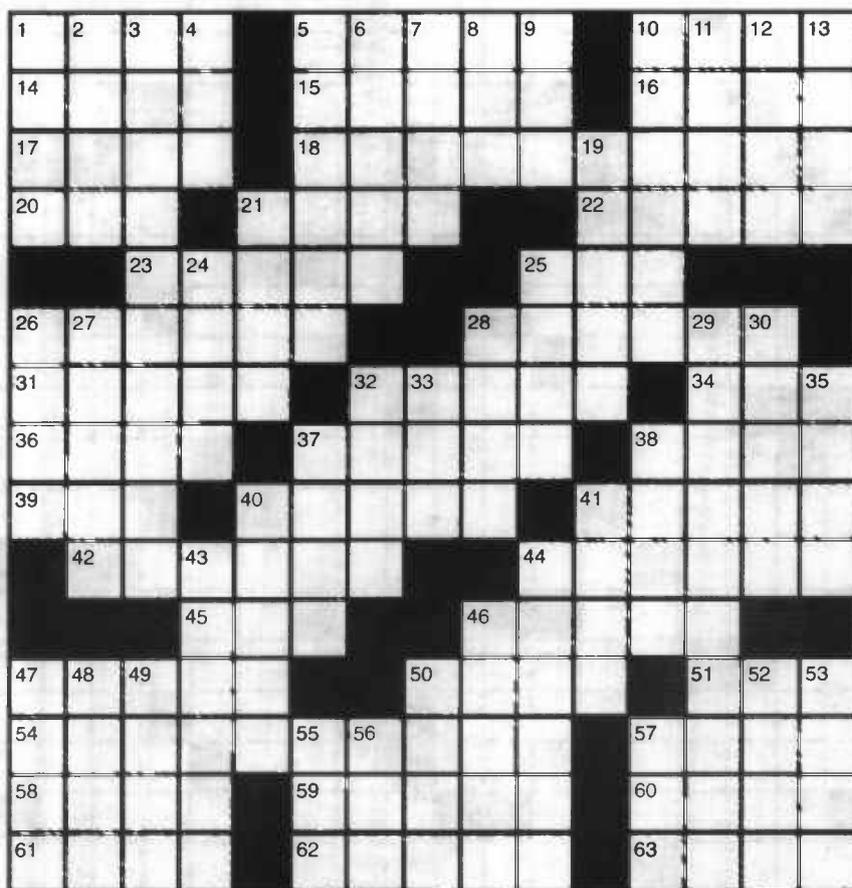
Level: **1 2 3 4**



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# Crossword



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3/30/16

## ACROSS

- 1 Set of playing cards  
5 Up and about  
10 Glasgow native  
14 Muscle cramp  
15 Horned beast, for short  
16 Threesome  
17 Other \_\_; besides  
18 Very small  
20 Long, long time  
21 In the \_\_; winning, so far  
22 Birds of prey  
23 Sneezing or Sleepy  
25 Womanizer  
26 Actress Ally \_\_  
28 Unwanted nasal growths  
31 Beaver's brother  
32 Cunning; deceit  
34 Groove  
36 Very eager  
37 Overeat  
38 Just; equitable  
39 Foot digit  
40 Deserves  
41 \_\_ beans  
42 Bed for a baby  
44 Wearing a disguise  
45 Compete  
46 \_\_ a fishhook; attaches a worm
- 47 Montezuma, for one  
50 Obey  
51 Fight result, for short  
54 Going in again  
57 Kitten's cry  
58 Rugged cliff  
59 Dive forward  
60 Press clothes  
61 Donut's center  
62 Prefix for net or action  
63 \_\_ for; requests

## DOWN

- 1 Go out with  
2 Canyon sound.  
3 Dining room light, often  
4 Actor Berry  
5 Blood vessel  
6 Bundle of grain  
7 Fit to be \_\_; furious  
8 Hostel  
9 Rogers or Clark  
10 Not wobbly  
11 Rowing team  
12 Sty cry  
13 Stocking  
14 Stuffers, often  
19 Blue \_\_; largest mammal  
21 Woman  
24 Unite with heat

## Solutions

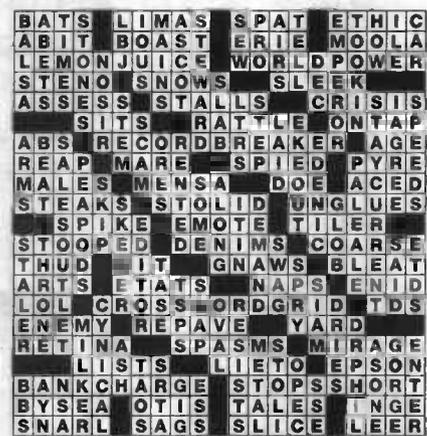


- 25 Nat King \_\_  
26 Slap  
27 Chaos  
28 Greedy people  
29 Folks who play practical jokes  
30 Hotel booking for a big family  
32 VP Al \_\_  
33 Cappuccino container  
35 \_\_ on; trampled  
37 Hurricane wind  
38 Clenched hand  
40 Royal decree  
41 \_\_ for; bought  
43 Get even for  
44 "Away in a \_\_"  
46 Shopping \_\_; buyer's spree  
47 Part of the foot  
48 Two minus two  
49 Greenish-blue  
50 Make coins  
52 Nutcase  
53 Possesses  
55 Actor Wallach  
56 \_\_ away; flee  
57 Sinatra's third wife

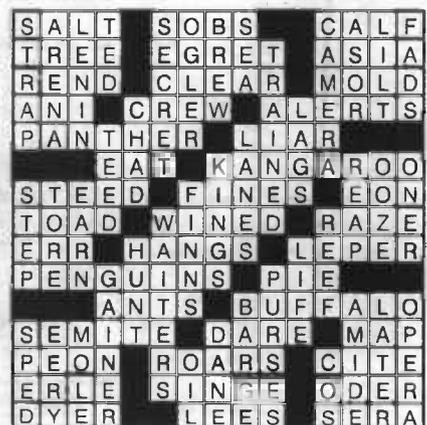


## Last week's crosswords

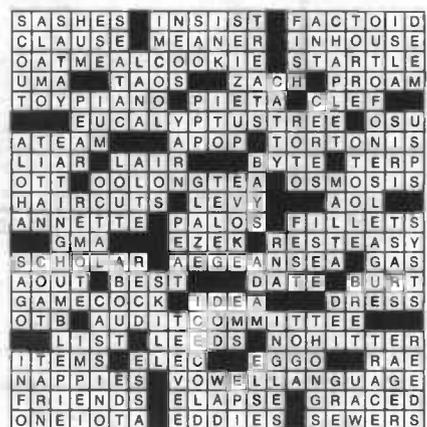
### "Electric Company"



### "Birds and Animals"



### "Border Pairs"



## Last week's Quote-Acrossic

FRANK BRUNI: EAT OUTDOORS: Among the many reasons to suspect that Europeans are much more gifted than Americans at enjoying urban life is this: They eat outdoors because it's pretty. We New Yorkers eat outdoors even though it's not.

## Last week's Sudoku

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

## This week's Jumble

HARDLY BEHIND LEVITY  
EXPAND VIRTUE RANCID

The rabbit and his family got all the Easter eggs delivered on time because —

"EVERY-BUNNY"  
HELPED



# March madness not the only thing driving people mad

I don't know too many men who seemingly aren't spending every free minute they have these days watching the NCAA tournament. Putting aside the fact that early upsets messed up anyone's chance to win their bracket contests and pools, the games really are exciting and fun to watch.

But some women say March Madness is driving them mad! The idea for this column stemmed from a friend of mine who told me she is tired of cleaning up pizza boxes, bags of chips and beer cans from her living room, and that the NCAA tournament is maddeningly frustrating.

It made me wonder, what else causes madness when it comes to a relationship? I asked a few hundred men and women on social media: What drives you mad about your spouse? Now remember, something really wonderful can cause madness, too, which is why I specifically added that it can be positive or negative.

In honor of the NCAA Sweet 16, here are 16 responses I got.

1. The thing that drives me crazy about my spouse is that I get more respect in daily conversations with good friends than with him. The derisive attitude can be a negative in a marriage. It's easy to be less than respectful to a spouse but it takes toll on the relationship.

2. She makes me handle all difficult conversations, confrontations and negotiations, even though research shows women get better results in almost all of these situations (except for car repairs).

3. He is so, so messy! He leaves clothes everywhere and is a borderline hoarder. But, he is also very loving and a great parent.

4. It's maddening when you get mad at your spouse and then they turn around and get angry with you for being mad. WTF!?

5. She has bad personal hygiene and smokes.

6. She overreacts to conversations and we end up in a fight. It's almost always over nothing.

7. He always gets up a few minutes before I do, so when I get up and go into the bathroom to brush my teeth, he has my toothbrush laid out for me with the toothpaste already on it. It is a daily reminder of what a thoughtful person he truly is.

8. She blames me for lack of sex when it's really her who always says she's not in



JACKIE PILOSSOPH  
*Love Essentially*

the mood.

9. My wife never dresses, does her hair or wears makeup when we go out. When I mention it, she just says, "We've been married for over 30 years. Too bad!"

10. He seems to believe that toilet tissue and paper towels replenish themselves.

11. She always says or does what she thinks is expected of her instead of being honest about what she wants.

12. His chest hair is so sexy that every time I see him without a shirt on, I go crazy.

13. It's the way he treats our daughters. He spoils them in a good way that hopefully will give them a high standard and great understanding of how a boyfriend/husband should treat them.

14. She thinks I know what she is thinking without telling me, like I'm a mind reader.

15. She blames me over and over. She says she will forgive and forget, but it never happens.

16. My boyfriend is a good man. He is the kindest and best human being I have ever known.

What I found disturbing was, with almost 100 responses there were only a few positive comments. Does that mean that in long-term relationships, people drive each other crazy? Maybe. That said, a little madness doesn't mean the relationship isn't working or that the couple isn't happy.

What most people don't realize is if you care enough to open the lines of communication, you might be surprised at what your spouse is willing to change.

The key to successful communication is in the delivery. No. 1 might change her situation by sitting her husband down and with calm and kindness in her voice, say, "I love you and I appreciate you, but sometimes you don't talk to me with the respect I feel I deserve and it is upsetting. It makes me sad and frustrated, and I am hurting."

No. 6 is failing to realize that maybe his wife's issues aren't a big deal for him, but they are significant to her. With more open-mindedness, their fights might become more infrequent.

I can't resist telling Nos. 7, 13 and 16 that they are with keepers! In other words, their relationships sound like slam dunks.

*Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.*

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## HEALTH

# Sleep laboratory testing can reveal sleep apnea



**DR. ANTHONY KOMAROFF**  
Ask Doctor K

**Dear Doctor K: My doctor thinks I may have sleep apnea, and he wants me to go to a sleep lab to be tested. What will happen during the testing?**

Dear Reader: Sleep apnea is a serious health condition in which breathing stops or becomes shallower. In the most common form, obstructive sleep apnea, the tongue or throat tissues temporarily and repeatedly block the flow of air in and out of your lungs. This can happen hundreds of times each night. Laboratory sleep tests are the most reliable way to diagnose this problem.

When you spend the night in a sleep laboratory, you'll wear your own nightclothes, and you can use a pillow from home. You can take your regular medications, but the clinicians will need to know what they are. The lab usually provides a regular bed in a private room with a bathroom attached. The room is kept as quiet as possible.

A technician will first set up the sleep-monitoring equipment. Then you'll be left alone to relax until bedtime. Throughout the night, laboratory staff will monitor you from a nearby control room. Procedures used to diagnose sleep apnea usually include a test called polysomnography, as well as audio and video recording.

■ **Polysomnography:** In this procedure, small electrodes and other sensors are pasted on specific parts of your body to take a



NICOLE S. YOUNG/E+

A man sleeps wearing a sleep apnea mask.

variety of readings during the night. Some things they may track include your brain waves, muscle tension, eye movements, airflow, heart rate and rhythm, breathing, and the amount of oxygen in your blood.

The readings are collected on a printout called a polysomnogram. This is analyzed by a technician and physician.

If a breathing problem is detected early on during testing, you may be awakened and given treatment during the second half of the night. This allows the sleep experts to monitor how well the treatment works for you. Sometimes this process requires two nights.

■ **Audio and video recording:** Audio equipment may be used to record snoring, talking during sleep or other sounds. A video may also be taken to compare with the polysomnogram. This may show, for example, that you snore (a sign of sleep apnea) only when in a certain position, as when you're lying on your back instead of on your side or stomach.

The American Academy

of Sleep Medicine has a listing of more than 2,500 accredited sleep disorder centers and more than 5,600 board-certified sleep specialists. Staying overnight in a sleep laboratory usually costs between \$800 and \$1,500. In advance of the test, ask your health insurance company if it will pay for the test. Reimbursement varies, and may depend on your diagnosis.

If not properly diagnosed and treated, sleep apnea can cause problems with a person's mood and ability to think clearly. These, in turn, can cause serious problems both at work and at home. In addition, by interrupting deep sleep, sleep apnea may increase the risk of obesity, diabetes and other diseases.

Sleep laboratory testing is a painless procedure, and I wouldn't hesitate to have the testing done.

*Dr. Komaroff is a physician and professor at Harvard Medical School. To send questions, go to AskDoctorK.com, or write: Ask Doctor K, 10 Shattuck St., Second Floor, Boston, MA 02115.*

## PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

## Some narcotic medications are unsafe for the elderly

By Joe Graedon and Teresa Graedon  
King Features Syndicate

**Q: My 83-year-old mother recently fell on the ice and broke a rib. She was treated at urgent care and given a prescription for hydrocodone, but only a week's worth.**

When that ran out, she went to her primary doctor, who gave her a month's worth. She only took one a day, even though the prescription was for as much as four pills per 24 hours.

One day in her apartment, her legs just went out on her. She fell down, and she didn't have the ability to get back up. The next day, I was concerned that she wasn't calling me back, so I went to her place and found her like a beached whale on the ground.

The hydrocodone was so sedating for her that she could barely move. I had to call the paramedics to get her up from the floor, and they took her to the hospital. Thank goodness the doctor there has seen many older patients, because he said, "I am pretty sure the hydrocodone is the reason she fell down." He told her the safest pain medicine for the elderly to take is Tylenol if the liver is working well.

A: Narcotic pain relievers containing hydrocodone (Lorcet, Lortab, Norco, Vicodin) or oxycodone (OxyContin, Percocet, Tylox) can cause sedation, lightheadedness and dizziness. Such reactions are especially dangerous for older people, as they can lead to falls.

This can make pain management challenging. Some physicians prescribe tramadol as an alternative, but it, too, can trigger diz-



TOBY TALBOT/AP

Narcotic pain relievers containing hydrocodone can cause sedation, lightheadedness and dizziness.

ziness and drowsiness.

Acetaminophen doesn't have these sedating effects, though liver function should be monitored to prevent harm.

**Q: I read your article on PPI drugs causing kidney trouble. I have been on Prilosec for years, so this definitely caught my attention. I was diagnosed with gastroesophageal reflux disease — just too much acid. I want to get off Prilosec, but I need to know what replacement to try.**

A: Researchers reported that proton-pump inhibitors are linked to kidney disease (JAMA Internal Medicine, February 2016). These powerful acid-suppressing drugs include dexlansoprazole (Dexilant), esomeprazole (Nexium), lansoprazole (Prevacid), omeprazole (Prilosec), rabeprazole (Aciphex) and pantoprazole (Protonix).

Other complications of long-term use can include mineral deficiencies, an increased risk for fracture, C. diff infections and pneumonia. Getting off such medications can sometimes be difficult.

We are sending you our Guide to Digestive Disorders, which includes tips

on getting off PPIs. Anyone who would like a copy, please send \$3 in check or money order with a long (No. 10), stamped (71 cents), self-addressed envelope to: Graedons' People's Pharmacy, No. DJL-24, P.O. Box 52027, Durham, NC 27717-2027. It also can be downloaded for \$2 from our website: [www.peoplespharmacy.com](http://www.peoplespharmacy.com).

**Q: I suffered for many years with irritable bowel syndrome. At my annual physical, my cholesterol was a little high, so my doctor put me on fenofibrate to see if that would help. Within a week, I no longer had IBS symptoms.**

After two years, I still have no IBS. My doctor was surprised but said she would mention it to other doctors.

A: An online search uncovered a patent application for giving a fibric acid derivative such as fenofibrate to alleviate symptoms of IBS, so evidently others also have had benefit.

*In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Send questions to them via [www.peoplespharmacy.com](http://www.peoplespharmacy.com).*

• 2016 •

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# Growing trend: Hot plants for 2016

By Beth Botts

Tribune Newspapers

Gotta have it! That's what many gardeners say when they see the word "new" on a plant. And that's why breeders introduce so many varieties each year.

There's no guarantee that a new plant is better; it may just be an excuse to label something "new." Still, it's fun to try a new plant or two every year. It's always possible that you'll be one of the first to grow a plant that turns out to be a classic.

Here are some promising new plants for 2016 (or maybe new-to-you plants or plants that make for good news). Some of these plants will be widely available in garden centers and online; others are just breaking into the market. It's not possible for us to know which plants retailers will be selling this spring. So if you see a plant you've just got to have, ask at your local garden center if it's going to be available there or if you can order it.

Beth Botts is a freelance writer.



TERRA NOVA NURSERIES

Coral bells are mainly about the foliage, and this foliage is a party. Heuchera 'Champagne' has new leaves that unfold in peach and shift to gold and then paler gold as they mature, forming a 1-foot-tall mound. The dainty flowers are light peach on maroon stems in midsummer. Coral bells do well in part shade in well-drained soil. Perennial, zones 4 to 9; Introduced by Terra Nova Nurseries ([terravanurseries.com](http://terravanurseries.com)); available from Wayside Gardens ([waysidegardens.com](http://waysidegardens.com)) and Klehm's Song Sparrow Farm and Nursery ([songsparrow.com](http://songsparrow.com)).



OLD HOUSE GARDENS

Old plants can be treasures too. For example, consider planting Mexican tuberose (Polianthes tuberosa) in a container this year. It was domesticated by the Aztecs and introduced to Europe in 1530; now it's believed to be extinct in the wild, surviving only in gardens. The plants will grow stalks up to 6 feet tall topped with fragrant, exotic white blooms. Plan to pot up the tubers and give them several weeks' head start indoors before moving them outdoors in late May. Tender bulb; from Old House gardens ([oldhousegardens.com](http://oldhousegardens.com)).

## Big bloomer

'Berry Awesome' hybrid rose mallow (Hibiscus x 'Berry Awesome') is a shrub that will light up a garden all summer long with huge lavender-pink ruffled flowers the size of salad plates. Though the blooms look tropical, the 4-foot-tall upright shrub is a hybrid derived from North American species. It will need full sun. Shrub, Zones 4 to 9; from the Spring Meadow Nursery Summerific series and introduced by Proven Winners ([provenwinners.com](http://provenwinners.com)).

## Monarch news

The delightful news this spring is that monarch butterfly populations are starting to increase after years of decline. They depend on native milkweeds for their annual migration, so while we enjoy new plants, let's keep planting species such as common milkweed (Asclepias syriaca), butterfly weed (Asclepias tuberosa) and swamp milkweed (Asclepias incarnata). Milkweeds feed monarch caterpillars and provide nectar to many kinds of butterflies.



ALL-AMERICASELECTIONS.ORG

If you're up to try something new, why not try this cabbage relative? It's odd enough to be edgy, but really quite delicious. 'Konan' kohlrabi is a new hybrid variety from Bejo Seeds, with a fat, bulbous stem that grows up to 6 inches in diameter and upright foliage. It would be dramatic in a container, and the bulb can be sliced thinly for salads or cooked. Cool-season annual; 'Konan' is a 2016 winner in the All-America Selections trial program ([all-americaelections.org](http://all-americaelections.org)).



STAR ROSES

Peachy Keen shrub rose (Rosa 'Radgor') will have pink blooms with yellow centers from late spring until frost on a mounded 3-foot-tall plant. From Bill Radler, of Milwaukee, who also bred the Knock Out rose, it has proved to have outstanding disease resistance. Shrub, zones 5 to 8; introduced by Star Roses and Plants ([starrosesandplants.com](http://starrosesandplants.com)).



HGTV HOME PLANT COLLECTION

A new ornamental onion, Allium x 'Windy City', has whimsical lavender balls of bloom in summer. It's a compact plant for full sun, just 15 to 18 inches high, and like other alliums it's drought tolerant and deer resistant. It has a burdensome trademark name: Sweet Alliums Lavender Lollipop ornamental onion. Perennial, zones 4 to 9; introduced by breeder Brent Horvath of Intrinsic Perennial Gardens and released through HGTV Home Gardens ([hgtvhomeplants.com](http://hgtvhomeplants.com)).



ROB CARDILLO PHOTOGRAPHY

The Baby Boomer hybrid tomato (Solanum lycopersicum 'Baby Boomer') is a new hybrid variety bred to have an extra-large crop of cherry tomatoes. It's a determinate variety, so it will bear all its fruits over a period of a few weeks. More bushy than viney, it would be a good plant for a large container, but still will require caging. Tender annual; available from Burpee Home gardens ([burpee.com](http://burpee.com)).



VISIONS BY

Perfect for a container or a small garden, this is an extra-compact hybrid version of coneflower, with abundant flowers over a long season. The blooms are the color of orange sherbet when they open and age to raspberry pink. Perennial, zones 4 to 9; introduced by Plants Nouveau ([plantsnouveau.com](http://plantsnouveau.com)) and available from Jung Seed ([jungseed.com](http://jungseed.com)).



VHT STUDIOS PHOTOS



# All-brick home in Wilmette: \$1.2M

Address: 1034 Pontiac Rd. in Wilmette

Asking price: \$1,200,000

Listed on Feb. 27, 2016

This all-brick home has 4+ bedrooms, 4.1 baths and is situated on a tree-lined street in Indian Hill. Enter through courtyard and foyer to a large formal living room, formal sunlit dining room, expansive cook's kitchen with island, adjacent family room with fireplace and private, rear yard. The second floor offers three new bedrooms including a master suite with walk-in closet, sitting room and cathedral ceiling in quiet master bedroom. Third-floor retreat has office area or optional 5th bedroom. Finished basement, fenced-in yard and 2-car garage.

Agent: Frank Capitanini of Coldwell Banker Residential, 847-652-2312

*At press time, this home was still available for sale.*



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# REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
2405 E Brandenberry Ct, # 1F, Arlington Heights	Adrian Soltescu & Lulia Soltescu	Firstmerit Bank Na	02-24-16	\$85,000
100 N Regency Dr E, # 203, Arlington Heights	James K Upshaw	Weiss Trust	02-25-16	\$139,000
704 E Hlntz Rd, Arlington Heights	Ruslanas Misinas	Arlp Reo I Lic	02-23-16	\$221,000
2614 N Stratford Rd, Arlington Heights	Zachary R Doubek & Katrina Doubek	Scott A Severson	02-24-16	\$410,000
1010 N Stratford Rd, Arlington Heights	Michael E Hill & Emily Hill	Jeffrey B Wolford	02-23-16	\$808,000
1082 Courtland Dr, Buffalo Grove	Yelena Straight	Urszula Rzeplen	02-19-16	\$120,000
250 Willow Pkwy, Buffalo Grove	Kaleb Christopher Reents	Us Bank Na Trustee	02-22-16	\$165,000
400 Bentley Pl, Buffalo Grove	Santosh Shinde	Davd A Kukral	02-22-16	\$266,000
940 Burgess Cir, Buffalo Grove	Byung C Sohn & Yoohyun Lim Sohn	Keith A Lemon	02-19-16	\$290,000
1159 Brandywyn Ln, Buffalo Grove	Laura Pleskatchev & Illa Pleskatchev	Us Bank Na Trustee	02-19-16	\$342,000
9995 Linda Ln, # 2E, Des Plaines	Lan Saengmany & Cristine Saengmany	Deutsche Bank Natl Trt Co Ttee	02-25-16	\$44,000
9434 Bay Colony Dr, # 2W, Des Plaines	Sawsen Kubba	Hsbc Bank Usa Trustee	02-24-16	\$94,500
303 Dover Dr, Des Plaines	Jagdish Patel & Dineshkumar J Patel	Us Bank Trust Na Trustee	02-24-16	\$131,500
1703 Wicke Ave, Des Plaines	Daniel Nykiel	John Nykiel	02-25-16	\$160,000
2098 Sherwin Ave, Des Plaines	Hasan Isakovic	Tammy L Rice	02-23-16	\$173,500
1856 Illinois St, Des Plaines	Pauline M Salgado & Bethany S Salgado	Mary D Golden	02-24-16	\$185,000
865 Mason Ln, Des Plaines	Martin G Ramos	Thomas Mulvenna	02-24-16	\$197,000
770 Pearson St, # 203, Des Plaines	Amy Serpe	Robert Tolzien	02-24-16	\$220,000
675 Cordial Dr, Des Plaines	Jonathan J Monserrate & Consigma Monserrate	Michael L Freeman	02-24-16	\$260,000
1672 Lunt Ave, Des Plaines	Basile Tchouanga Slewe	Russell R Zdeb	02-24-16	\$265,000
650 Westmere Rd, Des Plaines	Richard T Adamski & Sheryl L Adamski	Christopher T Fester	02-23-16	\$280,000
138 Columbia Ave, Des Plaines	Matthew Dutz & Anne K Dutz	Peter Stanislaw Hyc	02-23-16	\$425,000
606 Birchwood Ave, Des Plaines	Ramazan Becoja & Servette Becoja	Waldemar Wyszynski	02-24-16	\$550,000
1314 Main St, # 2A, Evanston	Sherry Lindbak	Elliot Burlingtonham	02-23-16	\$225,000
1002 Pitner Ave, Evanston	Tracy Y Fulce	Fannie Mae	02-25-16	\$230,000
1420 Fowler Ave, Evanston	Francisco G Rivera & Alicia A Gonzalez	John G Jacobs	02-23-16	\$300,000
1514 Monroe St, Evanston	Ben Kaplan & Elodie Kaplan	Stephen Ross	02-23-16	\$392,000
3506 Lake St, Evanston	Caitlin L Robinson	Gabriel Varga	02-23-16	\$400,000
1142 Noyes St, Evanston	William Baglia & Elissa Foster	Denis B Pierce	02-24-16	\$465,000
1217 Madison St, Evanston	Dana Deane	Curtin Trust	02-23-16	\$470,000
10381 Dearlove Rd, # 1K, Glenview	Jeongsun Chun & Eric Chun	Fannie Mae	02-24-16	\$125,000
1758 Greenwood Rd, Glenview	Nahida Kerimli & Shahla Kerimli	Us Bank Trust Na Trustee	02-23-16	\$130,000
1707 Longmeadow Dr, Glenview	Gallina Royshteyn	Michael Schiewe	02-25-16	\$495,000
2157 Mint Ln, Glenview	Yelena Sokolova	Us Bank Na Trustee	02-25-16	\$500,000
2017 Saipan Dr, # 304, Glenview	Byong K Klim	Development Solutions Gin Lic	02-24-16	\$505,000
1130 Raleigh Rd, Glenview	Brian D Bunker	Andrew R Friedman	02-23-16	\$535,000
1969 Dauntless Dr, Glenview	Glen A Johnson & Lori Johnson	Development Solutions Gin Lic	02-24-16	\$607,000
23100 N Sanctuary Club Dr, Kildeer	Sergel Topchian & Kozeta Topchian	Woodleaf At Sanctuary Club Lic	02-19-16	\$752,000
746 Greenview Pl, Lake Forest	Alyse Barrera & Jason Kyle Green	Jeffery M Lazzaro	02-19-16	\$416,000
736 E Old Elm Rd, Lake Forest	Todd Alan Stock & Emily Jane Stock	Mark F Anderson	02-19-16	\$530,000
70 Rue Foret, Lake Forest	Charles J Ryan & Sharon J Ryan	Dule M Mlianes Fuentes Estate	02-22-16	\$765,000
14030 Maplewood Ct, Libertyville	Srinivasa Trilochan Inkollu & Lakshmi Sannala	Gordian Fund Lp	02-19-16	\$381,000
4582 W Gavin Ln, Libertyville	Farzan Mahmood & Sarah Ali	Kristy Johnson	02-19-16	\$385,000
1009 Crestfield Ave, Libertyville	Andrew G Tate & Rose M Tate	Charles V Holmberg	02-19-16	\$466,900
1220 Deer Trail Ln, Libertyville	Brett Gregory Stark & Mary Beth Stark	National Residential Nominee S	02-22-16	\$549,900
9026 Mansfield Ave, Morton Grove	Gabriel Adler	Karlyn D Anderberg	02-24-16	\$236,000
8716 Georgiana Ave, Morton Grove	Anne W Burghard	William Davis	02-24-16	\$415,000
1454 N Elmhurst Rd, # 101, Mount Prospect	Jason A Taus & Lisa M Sroka	Residential Solutions Inc	02-25-16	\$134,000
20 S Main St, # 209, Mount Prospect	Ryan J Hayes & Merissa R Hayes	Timothy Nalepka	02-24-16	\$255,000
605 N Windsor Dr, Mount Prospect	Shen Youn Chang & Chin Chao Chang	William M Schultz	02-23-16	\$290,000
106 S Elm St, Mount Prospect	Denny Sam Abraham & Samantha Rose Bissell	Maoney Trust	02-24-16	\$420,000
8100 W Foster Ln, # 408, Niles	Pericles Prezas	Robinson Trust	02-24-16	\$135,000

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
7041 W Touhy Ave, # 610, Niles	Brigid Patek	Zenaida J Briones	02-23-16	\$160,000
8120 W Park Ave, # 401, Niles	Sotirios Radaios	Christos A Grigoriou	02-25-16	\$245,000
2100 Valencia Dr, # 116B, Northbrook	Abhik Bhattacharya & Saswati Bhattacharya	Daniel M Kaup	02-23-16	\$95,000
671 Helen Dr, Northbrook	Piotr G Jewusiak & Marta Jewusiak	Whalen Trust	02-24-16	\$375,000
4021 Radcliffe Dr, Northbrook	Ashley Caleel	4021 Radcliffe Llc	02-23-16	\$600,000
1045 Dell Rd, Northbrook	Paul Tsupin	Pennymac Loan 2010 Np1 Trust	02-23-16	\$650,000
1895 Willow Hill Ct, Northfield	Abraham Dankha & Joseph Dankha	Chett L Shallenbarger	02-23-16	\$160,000
1507 Winnetka Ave, Northfield	Michael P Wells	Yoda Investments Lic	02-24-16	\$275,500
235 E Palatine Rd, # 1D, Palatine	Marcia L Gerould	Sabina A Mcmanamon Estate	02-23-16	\$50,000
169 E Palatine Rd, # Q, Palatine	Peter Debartolo & Lucia S Debartolo	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	02-25-16	\$82,000
761 E Whispering Oaks Dr, # 2LR, Palatine	Anna Sobien	Gueoroul Bojinov	02-25-16	\$129,500
1455 N Waterbury Cir, Palatine	Nabil Ail	Judicial Sales Corp	02-25-16	\$161,500
55 S Hale St, # 105, Palatine	Nolan Fenton	Martin Gonzalez	02-24-16	\$183,500
410 S Oak St, Palatine	Umesh Kumar Javvaji & Chaitanya Cherukur	Susan M Corbett	02-23-16	\$193,500
781 W Misty Dr, Palatine	Mechelle A Parra	Lucas Astle	02-24-16	\$194,000
1160 W Colfax St, Palatine	Alayan Jordan & John Jordan	Wiktor Wanelik	02-24-16	\$312,000
751 N Winchester Dr, Palatine	James A Donohue	Lexington Oaks Llc	02-25-16	\$343,000
809 N Winchester Dr, Palatine	Albert Zaucha & Yufen Wang	Lexington Oaks Llc	02-24-16	\$373,000
912 N Greenwood Ave, Park Ridge	Salvatore Grimaldi	John T Anderson	02-24-16	\$273,000
800 S Prospect Ave, Park Ridge	Shawn P Mcgurn & Sarah E Mcgurn	Margaret E Murnighan	02-24-16	\$455,000
150 Boardwalk Pl, Park Ridge	James Dorrans & Sue A Dorrans	Susan B Hughes	02-25-16	\$460,000
40 N Wildwood Dr, Prospect Heights	Andrzej Leszek & Teresa Z Leszek	Jean B Bestvina	02-23-16	\$229,500
400 Tomah Ave, Prospect Heights	Zbigniew Zielinski & Anna Zielinski	Edward W Gorecki	02-23-16	\$245,000
466 Tyler Ct, Vernon Hills	Nikolay Nikolov	William I Swidler	02-19-16	\$128,500
190 N Milwaukee Ave, # 601, Wheeling	Leonid Chichelnitskiy & Yelena Chichelnitskyaya	Nataly Krutik	02-24-16	\$142,000
311 Wheeling Ave, Wheeling	Yogesh Shah & Nayanaben Shah	Intercounty Judicial Sales Co	02-24-16	\$261,000
805 Laramie Ave, Wilmette	Ed Lowenbaum & Sean Henrick	Robert D Boden	02-23-16	\$300,000
917 Westerfield Dr, Wilmette	Karen Wingels & Robert Wingles	Linda T Bruemmer	02-23-16	\$738,000
521 Lake Ave, Wilmette	Peter Grimm & Eve Anderson	Us Bank Na Trustee	02-24-16	\$912,000
706 Linden Ave, Wilmette	Abby Marie Mollen	Anis Honmin Ha	02-23-16	\$1,155,000
744 Sheridan Rd, Wilmette	Richard Thomas Hossfeld & Taylor Hossfeld	Nancy S Santi Trust	02-25-16	\$1,825,000
916 Seminole Rd, Wilmette	Gregory E Brown & Jami L Brown	Bryan C Sansbury	02-24-16	\$2,025,000
4633 Madison St, # 304, Skokie	Huong T Hua	Nhu T Vo	02-24-16	\$147,000
4807 Davis St, Skokie	Javed M Khan & Naveed M Khan	Syed Afzal Kidwai	02-23-16	\$175,000
8651 Crawford Ave, Skokie	Magdalena Hernandez & Cynthia Hernandez	Saleem Mohammed	02-25-16	\$225,000
9644 Tripp Ave, Skokie	Erwin C Yasukawa & Elleen A Yasukawa	Kamish Trust	02-23-16	\$232,500
9655 Woods Dr, # 1211, Skokie	William Gillen & Claudine Gillen	Jun H Oh	02-24-16	\$330,000
4841 Lee St, Skokie	Cosmin I Avram	Young S Kim	02-25-16	\$340,000
8243 Keystone Ave, Skokie	Fouzia Bano	Sylvia S Shapiro	02-24-16	\$342,500
7734 Kilbourn Ave, Skokie	Ali Mohamed Yafai & Ail Nasser Yafai	Daniela Toma	02-24-16	\$350,000
4815 Main St, Skokie	Tipo A Khan & Susanne S Radivojevic	Maria Cristina Galicla	02-25-16	\$480,000
7649 Kostner Ave, Skokie	Mohammed Jaffer Khan & Amina Khan	Larry Gertzfeld	02-24-16	\$517,000
9038 Tamaroa Ter, Skokie	Moshe Herman & Andrea B Herman	Walter J Orihuela	02-23-16	\$750,000
1230 Park Ave W, # 235, Highland Park	Michael Slotky & Alex Seaman	Margot Peters	02-22-16	\$190,000
959 Marion Ave, Highland Park	Jason Wolfe & Deana D Wolfe	Kevin M Pogary	02-22-16	\$485,000
846 Stonegate Dr, Highland Park	Timothy M Ravich & Sara A Feinstein	Arthur J Nasso	02-19-16	\$667,000
827 Kimballwood Ln, Highland Park	Darren Schwartz & Lena Schwartz	Joseph H Wein	02-19-16	\$1,158,000

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

**LIBERTYVILLE**

Three bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Living room features bay window with adjacent dining room. Eat-in kitchen overlooks family room, wood-burning fireplace, sliders to patio and backyard, most of which is fenced. Large outdoor shed. Located in High School District 128. Near shopping, restaurants, schools and main transportation arteries.

**Address:** 1030 Rosewood Terrace  
**Price:** \$320,000  
**Schools:** Libertyville High School  
**Taxes:** \$9,036  
**Agent:** Linda Vyborny/Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Libertyville

**VERNON HILLS**

Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Hardwood flooring, custom millwork, updated bathrooms and kitchen with cabinetry with crown uppers, granite counters, stainless steel appliances and sliding glass door leading to the patio. Lower level includes a family room, laundry room and a door leading to the attached garage. New roof, furnace, windows, hot water tank, siding, appliances, washer & dryer.

**Address:** 10 Bedford Drive  
**Price:** \$389,000  
**Schools:** Vernon Hills High School  
**Taxes:** \$7,752  
**Agent:** Leslie McDonnell/RE/MAX Suburban

**WINNETKA**

Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Move-in ready home with recent kitchen renovation including Amish cabinets. First floor has flexible floor plan. Kitchen opens up to either dining or family room. Fenced yard, two-car brick garage. Near lake, train, park, playground and downtown shopping.

**Address:** 256 Woodlawn Ave.  
**Price:** \$929,000  
**Schools:** New Trier Township High School Winnetka  
**Taxes:** \$13,390  
**Agent:** Caponi And Karabas Team/Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Winnetka

**ARLINGTON HEIGHTS**

Three bedroom, 2.5 baths. Updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances, hard-surface countertops, walk-in pantry, island and breakfast bar. Full basement, private backyard with custom brick paver patio. Close to restaurants, shopping, schools, train and parks.

**Address:** 110 S. Belmont Ave.  
**Price:** \$499,925  
**Schools:** Prospect High School  
**Taxes:** \$7,741  
**Agent:** Maria Del Boccio/Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

Listings from Homefinder.com

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### Questions?

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			20 yr fixed	3.500	0.000	\$795	20%	3.555		
			15 yr fixed	3.000	0.000	\$895	20%	3.078		NMLS# 66247
			10 yr fixed	2.875	0.000	\$995	20%	3.001		MB.6760960
<b>Sebonic Financial</b>	<b>3.684%</b>		5/1 ARM,	3.125	0.000	\$1595	20%	3.238	<b>866-723-1989</b>	
			30 yr Jumbo Conforming	4.000	0.000	\$0	20%	4.001		
			30 yr FHA	3.250	0.000	\$1295	3.5%	3.313	<a href="http://bankrate.sebonic.com">http://bankrate.sebonic.com</a>	
			30 yr VA mtg	3.250	0.000	\$1295	5%	3.313		
			7/1 ARM,	3.500	0.000	\$895	20%	3.501		

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

## Thursday, March 31

**Shemekia Copeland:** 8 p.m. Thursday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$22-\$42, 847-492-8860

### Project Space: Curatorial Vision Series:

The Art Center invites three curatorial practice students from the School of the Art Institute to present an exhibition and public programming that engages audiences in meaningful ways while fostering the Art Center's relationship to its community. Young curators are selected during the spring/summer of 2015. 10 a.m. Daily, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300

### Connecting Cultures: 40 Years at the Mitchell Museum:

The exhibit celebrates four decades of thought-provoking exhibits, lectures and performances through photographs and memorabilia. There is also a dazzling display of 45 objects donated by key collectors and Native artists who have presented at the museum. 10 a.m. Daily, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, \$3 children, seniors; \$5 adults; Tribal Members Free, 847-475-1030

### Matisyahu In Concert and Conversation:

An acoustic musical performance by acclaimed, Grammy-nominated Reggae, hip-hop and rock artist Matisyahu and a discussion about his artistic and Jewish journeys. 7 p.m. Thursday, Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, Public \$10, NU student, \$5, 847-467-4000

**Arcadia:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday, Tuesday and Wednesday; 3 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday; 2 and 6 p.m. Sunday, Writers Theatre, 325 Tudor Court, Glencoe, \$35-\$70, 847-242-6000

**Proof:** The story is about Catherine, a troubled young woman, who has spent years caring for her brilliant but unstable father, a famous mathematician. How much of her father's madness or genius will she inherit? 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 3 p.m. Sunday, Oil Lamp Theater, 1723 Glenview Road, Glenview, \$35, 847-834-0738

### Spring Break Make-It and Take-It:

Children, with parents or caregivers, are invited to stop by to create a travel-inspired craft to take home. 10 a.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free,

847-729-7500

**Internet Essentials:** Learn about browsers, search engines, basic vocabulary, searching strategies and finding your way around a website in this hands-on class. A Glenview Library card is required to register by calling or going to the website. 2 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**A New Slant on the Old West:** Karen Barrie, artist, blends her artistic talents and professional training into a multifaceted career as an author, freelance writer and healthcare consultant. Karen's western series is inspired by girlhood TV Westerns and grown-up cowgirl days on ranch vacations. 9 a.m. Daily, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

### Adult literacy classes: spring session:

For native and non-native English speakers to improve their reading and writing skills. A small, friendly group led by a teacher and volunteer tutors. 9:15 a.m. Thursday and Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

### Spring Break Craft Closet Blowout (grades K-8):

Please...we need your help to clean out the craft supply closet and cabinets. Bring your creativity and see what you can make with the assorted supplies and different materials left over from years of projects. 1 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

### Introduction to Word 2010:

This is a hands-on workshop to format, proof, print and save documents. The prerequisite is that attendees must be experienced and comfortable with computer, keyboard and mouse. 7 p.m. Thursday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-5090

### Family Film: Labyrinth:

The movie is about 15-year-old Sarah, who must reach the center of an enormous, otherworldly maze to rescue her infant brother who has been kidnapped by Jareth, the Goblin King. The cast includes: David Bowie and Jennifer Connelly. 2 p.m. Thursday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-5090

### 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

**Super sweet science:** Find out what makes sour candy so sour, analyze the colors that make candies bright, harness the gassy power of Pop Rocks and more. 2 p.m. Thursday, 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Crafternoons:** We'll be making recycled T-shirt crafts and friendship bracelets. For grades 3-8. 2 p.m. Thursday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

### Wee Play (Birth to 24 Months):

Music, rhymes, giggles and books for the caregiver and baby. 10 and 11 a.m. Thursday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

### Total Memory Workout:

This is a unique and innovative educational series designed to enhance every day memory in cognitively intact adults of all ages. This six-week wellness series focuses on brain-healthy lifestyle habits and practical memory techniques to promote memory fitness. 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Bernard Weinger JCC, 300 Revere Drive, Northbrook, \$59 for six week series, 224-406-9257

### 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. Participants should wear loose clothing. 9 a.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$75 NSSC members; \$89 non-members, 847-784-6030

### Poetry Sharing Circle:

Do you enjoy poetry? This small group reads poetry aloud, sharing poems each has written as well as published poems and is open to poets of all skill levels. Center membership is required to participate. 1 p.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6030

### The New American Political Map:

This workshop devotes one week to each of the four zones of a new political map (Liberal, Conservative, Libertarian, Tea Party), but each week attendees explore how the group under scrutiny relates to the other three. 10 a.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$30 member; \$39 non-member, 847-784-6030

### Apple's iPad: An Overview:

Find out

how to organize your iPad and use basic apps for browsing, email, calendars, eBooks, photos and more. Discover what applications (apps) are standard and learn how to download both free or fee-based apps using your wireless connections. 1 p.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$25 member; \$30 non-member, 847-784-6030

### Queen Elizabeth II:

Rarely granting interviews, Queen Elizabeth is a symbol, a paradox, a mystery and a source of great pride for many in Great Britain. Barry sheds light on her public achievements as well as her private character. 1 p.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$10 member; \$13 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

### Silver Screen 101:

For those who would like to make a movie, come join in this class, where participants come away with a three to five minute short film project. Learn what a writer, a director, a director of photography and many other key positions contribute to the movie making process. 6 p.m. Thursday, Park Ridge Park District-Centennial Activity Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, \$100, 847-692-3597

### Legends of Laughter II: The Comedy Teams Film Series:

This 10-film series showcases the great movie comedy teams of the 1930s, '40s and '50s. 7 p.m. Thursday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-720-3209

### Free Movie: Woman in Gold:

This is the true story of a woman's fight to regain art stolen from her family by the Nazis. The movie is open to the public and free popcorn is always available. Featuring the award-winning Helen Mirren, as Maria Altman, the movie tells the step-by-step legal effort to regain the famous "Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer." 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

**Butler:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday; 2:30 and 8 p.m. Saturday; 2:30

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and 7 p.m. Sunday; 1 and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, \$15-\$74, 847-673-6300

## Friday, April 1

**Chicago Doo Wop Dreams:** Music, Chicago, Live brings their hit show "Chicago Doo Wop Dreams" to the historic Leela Arts Center in Des Plaines for a limited run beginning Friday, Feb. 19. 7:30 p.m. Friday, Leela Arts Center, 620 Lee St., Des Plaines, Tickets are \$15 to \$25, 800-838-3006

**Aoife O'Donovan:** 8 p.m. Friday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$17.50-\$30, 847-492-8860

**Opera Idol "Junior" Competition:** Opera Idol "Junior" invites young, aspiring singers to showcase their talent and compete for a \$500 scholarship to apply toward tuition for the CAMP VOICE for Teens, directed by opera star Sherrill Milnes, or toward continued vocal studies of winner's choosing. 7:30 p.m. Friday, The Merion, 1611 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-570-7895

**The Misanthrope:** With its fierce argument between conformity and non-conformity, Moliere's masterpiece is reworked in this blistering contemporary version by Martin Crimp. Set in modern London, the writing is cool sharp and ferociously funny as the world of theatre is scrutinized. 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 3 p.m. Sunday, Piccolo Theatre, 600 Main St., Evanston, \$15-\$27, 847-424-0089

**Glenview Credit Union's Money Jar Guessing Game:** Test your Money Smart skills at the Youth Services Desk by guessing how many pennies are in the jar. The closest guess, without going over, wins it all. 9 a.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Pixelated Self-Portraits Grades K-8:** Create an 8-bit version of yourself. 1 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Spring Break Pixelated Self-Portraits (grades K-8):** Create an 8-bit version of yourself. 1 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd., Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Parkinson Wellness Recovery Brain-Body Training:** Brain-Body Training/PWR! is Parkinson-specific exercise, scientifically designed to target symptoms of PD. It includes boxing training for endurance, agility and stability. 10

a.m. Friday, Monday and Wednesday, Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, \$10-\$15, 847-502-0630

**Ninth Annual Low Vision Fair:** Featured speaker Dr. Jack Cohen, Illinois Retina Associates, S.C., speaks about new developments in macular degeneration. Also, vision screenings, along with diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma screenings. 1 p.m. Friday, The East Wing Glenview Senior Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**DIY teen craft: magnetic poetry chalkboards:** Celebrate National Poetry Month by creating a magnetic poetry set. Use a magnetic chalkboard, special paint and primer and words to make your own portable poems. 3:30 p.m. Friday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-5090

**Harvey:** A whimsical middle-aged man in thought by his family to be insane due to his insistence that he has an invisible six-foot rabbit for a best friend, but he may be wiser than anyone knows. 2 p.m. Friday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-5090

**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

**Parisian Salon Concert - Ann and Ron Surace:** "Pinocchio" Chamber Opera for two pianos and two voices is performed. The songs and music are composed by Ron Surace and performed and sung by Ann and Ron Surace. 7:30 p.m. Friday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Great Decisions In Foreign Policy:** Gary Midkiff facilitates this discussion group that meets every other week to explore in-depth the topics featured in the year's 2016 Great Decisions Briefing Book, including: the Middle East, the rise of ISIS, the future of Kurdistan, migration, the Koreas, the United Nations, climate change, and Cuba and the U.S. 9:30 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$95 NSSC member; \$115 non-member, 847-784-6030

**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. A basic crochet stitch can be

taught if needed. Bring lunch. Attendees often gather until 2 or 3 p.m. Donations are welcome to this 501(c)3 non-profit organization. 9 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-293-6755

**Illegal Slots, the Gov & Secret State Police Raids:** On May-12, 1950, Governor Adlai E. Stevenson ordered the Illinois State Police to conduct the first unannounced and unprecedented raids on illegal slot machine gambling in Illinois. Throughout the state, local law enforcement officials, many on the payrolls of organized crime, couldn't "see" illegal gambling. National publicity about the "crime busting Governor of Illinois" and the raids, which continued through 1951, helped fuel the draft that made Stevenson a 1952 presidential candidate. 10 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$10 nssc member; \$13 non-member, 847-784-6030

**Hollywood Horsepower: Cars In the Movies:** With horsepower under the hood, Hollywood has given us some of the most memorable scenes on film: races, chases, crashes and good old cruising. So buckle up and relive some of the thrills, burning rubber, and romance of America's cinematic highway. 1 p.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$10 member; \$13 non-member, 847-784-6030

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

**Tai Chi for Arthritis and Chronic Conditions:** Tai Chi is a gentle, low impact approach to fitness that can help ease the pain and stiffness of arthritis, increase flexibility, muscle strength, heart and lung activity, posture and help balance to prevent falls. Enjoy the class at your own pace standing or seated. Register in advance and note, no class takes place on March 25. 1:30 p.m. Friday, Park Ridge Park District- Centennial Activity Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, \$63 member; \$69 guest, 847-692-3597

**Joe Steiner Recent Work Art Gallery Opening:** Come to this opening reception for figurative painter Joe Steiner, held until 9 p.m. Steiner, a Skokie resident. His subjects are primarily people from the area surrounding his studio, which is located in Chicago's West Ridge neighborhood. 6 p.m. Friday, Nixie Gallery, 7925 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie, free, 847-367-3686

**Friday Funnies at the Wilmette Theatre:** This monthly comedy series

hosted by media veteran and author Jennifer Weigel, features several comedic talents. Come laugh with some of Chicago's hottest local comedians. 8 p.m. Friday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$15; 2 for \$25; 847-251-7424

**Scholar In Residence:** Rabbi Sharon Brous is the guest Scholar-in-Residence. Rabbi Brous has been recognized as one of the nation's leading rabbis by Newsweek/The Daily Beast and among the 50 most influential American Jews by The Forward. 6 p.m. Friday; 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emunah, 3220 Big Tree Lane, Wilmette, Dinner fees: \$25 adults; \$18 children 12 and under, 847-256-1213

## Saturday, April 2

**All Around the House Quilt Show at Fischer Farm:** A fun weekend with amazing quilts of all sizes, colors, and ages (some antique). The barn will be full of items for sale, including books, patterns, and fabric. 10 a.m. Saturday-Sunday, Fischer Farm, 16W 680 Old Grande Ave., Bensenville, \$4 for 18 and older, \$1 for 5-17, 630-834-3152

**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. This is not a language school, but a place where you can speak and listen to German and, above all, have a good time with those at all levels and ages. 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines, free, 847-827-5551

**KIMOCK:** 8 p.m. Saturday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$30-\$50, 847-492-8860

**FUSE: Studio:** Drop in with friends to wire LEDs, compose a ringtone, build an amp, mix chemicals to make gel beads, navigate a robot obstacle course and more. For grades six to 12. 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

**Overeaters Anonymous:** Overeaters Anonymous meets Saturdays. Newcomer meeting on the last Saturday of the month. No dues, fees or weigh-ins. 9 a.m. Saturday, St Matthews Episcopal

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Church, 2120 Lincoln St., Evanston, free, 773-996-0609

**Animal Arts and Seasonal Stories:** Activities are offered at varying levels of difficulty and interest to engage the entire family. An adult must accompany participants. 10:30 a.m. Saturday-Sunday, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, \$3 kids, \$5 adults, 847-475-1030

**Good News - Learning about a Course in Miracles:** Focusing on the spiritual teaching, Barret Hedeem and Charlie Roberts guide participants to see that fear has no real benefit. For anyone interested in learning more, or those who have studied the Course for a while, it's a great opportunity to explore together with fun and laughter. 10 a.m. Saturday, Good News with Barret and Charlie, 1800 Dewes St., Glenview, \$20 in person; \$10 for online streaming, 847-951-6328

**Stories, Songs and Surprises, Historias, Canciones y Sorpresas:** Have fun with Spanish-themed storytime fun, then immerse yourself in Spanish with games and activities with Language Stars of Wilmette. 10:30 a.m. Saturday, The Book Market at Hangar One, 2651 Navy Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Storytime with Construction Abe:** Stop in for a storytime and see the construction in progress. 10 a.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Walk and Talk Book Group: Born to Run:** Register today to discuss this story about McDougall, who reveals the secrets of the world's greatest distance runners--the Tarahumara Indians of Copper Canyon, Mexico. 10 a.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-5090

**Light It Up Blue for Autism Awareness:** Join the library and Autism Speaks to shine a light on autism. Visit the Youth Services department for information, a craft and to take your #LIUB selfie. Then, join in the evening as the library building is lit up blue. 9 a.m. Saturday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Sensory Friendly Family Movie Inside Out:** Sensory-friendly screenings are designed for children with special needs. The films have quieter volume and turned-up lights. The environment is welcoming for kids who need to move around, talk and sing during the screen-

ing. This showing is Pixar's hit movie "Inside Out." 2 p.m. Saturday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Scott Urban And The Parody Lingers On:** A concert and CD release party for Scott Urban's latest collection featuring an evening of original songs and parodies. CD with admission. 8 p.m. Saturday, Skokie Theatre, 7924 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie, \$32, 847-677-7761

**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, April 3

**Jeffrey Foucault:** With Dusty Heart. 7 p.m. Sunday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$25, 847-492-8860

**Triumph and Transcendence:** Chicago's own Lincoln Trio display their exquisite artistry of the works of Tchaikovsky: "Symphony No. 4"; Beethoven: "Triple Concerto"; Earnest: "Chasing the Sun." 7 p.m. Sunday, Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, \$25-75; \$10 student tickets available, 312-957-0000

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

**Old Town Family Jam Animal Singdom:** The Northbrook Public Library and the Old Town School of Folk Music welcome Animal Singdom. Wiggle, bounce and clap during this show that celebrates the animal world with music, puppetry and joy. 3 p.m. Sunday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Laughing Matters: The Life and Laughs of Carol Burnett:** Take a stroll into that famous little circle of light as Hilary Ann Feldman, guides you on a tour of Carol Burnett's life and laughs. 2 p.m. Sunday, Skokie Theatre, 7924 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie, \$22, 847-677-7761

**Kids' Art Workshop's Renaissance Superheroes:** Kids ages 9 to 12, will learn the art and architecture of four famous Renaissance artists and namesakes of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, as well as create their own inspired masterpieces. 2 p.m. Sunday, Wilmette Historical Museum, 609

Ridge Road, Wilmette, \$5 for members, \$10 nonmembers, 847-853-7666

## Monday, April 4

**Blue Mondays:** Featuring Mississippi Heat. 8 p.m. Monday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$8, 847-492-8860

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

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

**hoopla, MyMediaMall and Zinio Individual Appointments:** Meet with trained Library staff for a 45-minute one-on-one session and learn how to download e-books, 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

**Page Turners:** "The Husband's Secret," by Liane Moriarty. 1 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Tech Talk:** Join this Internet user discussion group, a monthly Q&A for exploring websites, apps, social media, online searching, and the library's electronic resources. Bring your mobile device with you to learn how to access library resources on the go. 7 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Knitting Roundtable for Adults:** Ronnie Rund, an expert knitter, shows attendees how to knit or how to solve knitting challenges. Bring one's current project(s) and needles. 2 p.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**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

**Looking for Fungi Above and Below:** Orchids at an early stage of development lack nutrients and require mycorrhizal fungi for development. As adults, it is uncertain if orchids frequently associate with mycorrhizal fungi. Lynnaun Johnson presents his research on fungal communities within the roots of vanilla orchids from Mexico. 7:30 p.m. Monday, The Niles Historical and Cultural Center, 8970 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, free, 847-432-8255

**Monday Movers:** Enjoy a morning at the Library's Story Corner with your little one. For walkers up to 24 months of age. 10:30 a.m. Monday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Munch a Bunch of Books:** Listen to new books, munch on a snack and have fun with activities and crafts. 4 p.m. Monday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Ballroom Dance Classes:** Monday evening dance classes: Basic Class at 6:45 p.m., Intermediate class at 7:45 p.m. Monday, Bernard Weinger JCC, 300 Revere Drive, Northbrook, \$10 per class, 847-757-2227

**Floral Arrangements:** Learn about the favorite blooms, tips and tricks with a demonstration from the store's floral experts. Participants get to try their hand at arranging colorful blossoms and then take home their arrangement to brighten the day. 1 p.m. Monday, Whole Foods Market, 840 Willow Road, Northbrook, \$30 member; \$40 non-member, 847-784-6030

**Tips for Android Phone Users:** Confused about your Android phone? Attend this workshop to do more on your phone with less frustration. Learn the top 10 tips and tricks, and the four annoying features you should switch off. Finally, we will cover the top applications for older adults. 10 a.m. Monday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$15 nssc member; \$20 non-member, 847-784-6030

**Drawing Lines in the Sand: The Making of the Middle East:** After WW I and the fall of the Ottoman Empire, the Allies had to decide how to divide up the Ottoman lands. What were the driving forces in the decision-making process? How did those decisions impact us today in the continuing wars in the Middle East? And what does that mean for us and the rest of the world in the future? Joyce Witt will explore

Turn to Calendar, Next Page

Calendar, from Previous Page

these questions from several points of view including Arab, British, and Jewish perspectives. 1 p.m. Monday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$19 nssc member; \$25 non-member, 847-784-6030

**American Politics and Current Events:** Come to actively contribute to the moderator-led discussion as we cover a wide variety of topics, or come just to listen and learn from the opinions of others. 9 a.m. Monday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$19 (NSSC member); \$25 (non-member), 847-784-6030

**Money Matters Discussion:** 10 a.m. Monday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-3597

Tuesday, April 5

**Andy Kindler:** 8 p.m. Tuesday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$12-\$18, 847-492-8860

**Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation:** Ethan Hunt and his teammates reunite for this pulse-pounding sequel, in

which they attempt to take down a secret international organization known as the **Syndicate** - highly skilled ex-IMF agents who are intent on bringing down their former outfit. 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-5090

**MGPL Kids: Listen Up!** Drop-in story and play time for preschoolers with a parent or caregiver. 4:45 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**ACT study cafe:** Study for the ACT with others. 4 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-5090

**TEDxNorthbrookLibrary The Power of Youth:** View the screening of three pre-recorded TED Talks and have a discussion afterward. Video presenters include: Child prodigy Adora Svital, "What Adults can Learn from Kids," blogger and fashion icon Tavi Gevinson, "A Teen Just Trying to Figure It Out," teen activist McKenna Pope, "Want to Be an Activist? Start with Your Toys," and architect Takaharu Tezuka, "The Best Kindergarten You've Ever Seen." 7 p.m. Tuesday, Northbrook Public Li-

brary, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Wednesday, April 6

**Chicago Bigcommerce User Group (eCommerce):** Bigcommerce is an eCommerce Software product designed to allow merchants to sell online. This meetup at their corporate office is for users of Bigcommerce to get to know one another and for local businesses who are looking to sell products online meet with other retail merchants and discuss Bigcommerce. Food and beverages are provided. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Americaneagle.com, Inc., 2600 S River Road, Des Plaines, free, 847-699-0300

**Sarah Neufeld, The Ridge with Eartheater:** 8 p.m. Wednesday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$25, 847-492-8860

**Civic Center Book Talks: Cozy Mysteries:** Let's skip all the gore and violence and be charmed and entertained by cozy mysteries featuring a rich variety of settings and themes. 1 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Civic Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-5090

**MGPL writers workshop:** This workshop is for writers who want to share their works in progress and support other writers in drafting, revising and finishing manuscripts, essays, poems or any other type of writing. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-5090

**Magic Class:** Children can learn an assortment of fascinating tricks from the Magic Team of Gary Kantor to amaze family and friends with cards, ropes, coins and mindreading. Each child (ages 5-12) receives a magic kit to take home. 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Park District Leisure Center, 3323 Walters Ave., Northbrook, \$20 Northbrook Park District residents; \$25 non-residents, 847-291-2995

**Beginning Bridge Classes:** This series of lessons with a certified Bridge Master is for those who have never played bridge or haven't done so in a long time, and have forgotten how to bid and play. 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Park Ridge Park District- Centennial Activity Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, \$79, 847-692-3597

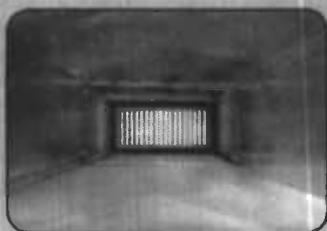
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## MOVIES

### Now playing



#### "Zootopia" ★★★

PG, 1:48, animated

Somehow, Disney has managed to pull off a hard-boiled police procedural thriller about political corruption starring an adorable, large-eyed bunny. Judy Hopps (Ginnifer Goodwin) is a plucky bunny who sets her sights on life in the big city of Zootopia, making the world a better place as a police officer. In Zootopia, the predators and prey are civilized, clothes-wearing city dwellers. Judy throws herself headlong into an investigation of missing mammals, specifically one Emmet Otterton, with the aid of wise-cracking fox Nick (Jason Bateman). One of the strongest messages is about discrimination and not judging someone by a stereotype like "sly fox" or "dumb bunny." — *Katie Walsh*



#### "The Divergent Series: Allegiant" ★ 1/2

PG-13, 2:00, Action

You know how it is. A franchise must eat and make hay while the sun shines and the customers still give a rip. So here we are with the third installment in "The Divergent Series," from the thin-to-begin-with Veronica Roth trilogy set in post-apocalyptic dystopian rathole Chicago. It's a pretty dull picture, I must say, because it's my duty to say it. Tris is once again portrayed by Shailene Woodley; Theo James has perfected his sullen glower as Four, who is so much more than a number to Tris. The only wild card remains Miles Teller, stuck in supporting-underminer duty but extracting a laugh or two simply by turning his boredom with the material into sly commentary. — *Michael Phillips*



#### "Miracles From Heaven" ★★ 1/2

PG, 1:49, drama

"Miracles From Heaven" is based on a true story. Jennifer Garner is Christy Beam, mother to Anna (Kylie Rogers), who suffers from a debilitating, incurable intestinal disorder. One day Anna is climbing a tree and falls, headfirst, 30 feet inside the dead tree trunk. When firefighters pull her out, not only is she unharmed, but she's miraculously cured. Garner is compelling as the dedicated mom questioning everything she believes while fighting for her daughter's life, and young Rogers gives an impressive performance as Anna struggling to maintain her sunny outlook while coping with pain and suffering. — *K.W.*



#### "10 Cloverfield Lane" ★★★

PG-13, 1:43, drama

After surviving a terrible car crash, Michelle (Mary Elizabeth Winstead) awakens with an IV in her arm and her leg chained to the wall. Her abductor/captor Howard (played by John Goodman) claims to be her savior. In his fully furnished underground lair, this paranoid survivalist has also confined a handyman neighbor (John Gallagher Jr.). Howard claims that there's been an attack, either by the Russians or space invaders, and the air outside is no longer breathable. Goodman's very good, taking care of job one, which is to keep us guessing at Howard's intentions. And Winstead is even better. — *M.P.*



#### "Deadpool" ★★★ 1/2

R, 1:48, comedy

"Deadpool" is a movie about an unkillable wisenheimer who never shuts up. Showcasing a character born in a 1991 Marvel Comics "New Mutants" installment, the routine revenge fantasy positions itself as the outsider Marvel franchise wannabe. Early on, Wade Wilson, played by Ryan Reynolds, learns he has late-stage cancer and hooks up with a sadistic scientist who subjects him to a series of torture sequences. He's immortal and the cancer's gone. But so is his face and skin, and the sociopath Deadpool is born. But at least Reynolds is entertaining. — *M.P.*

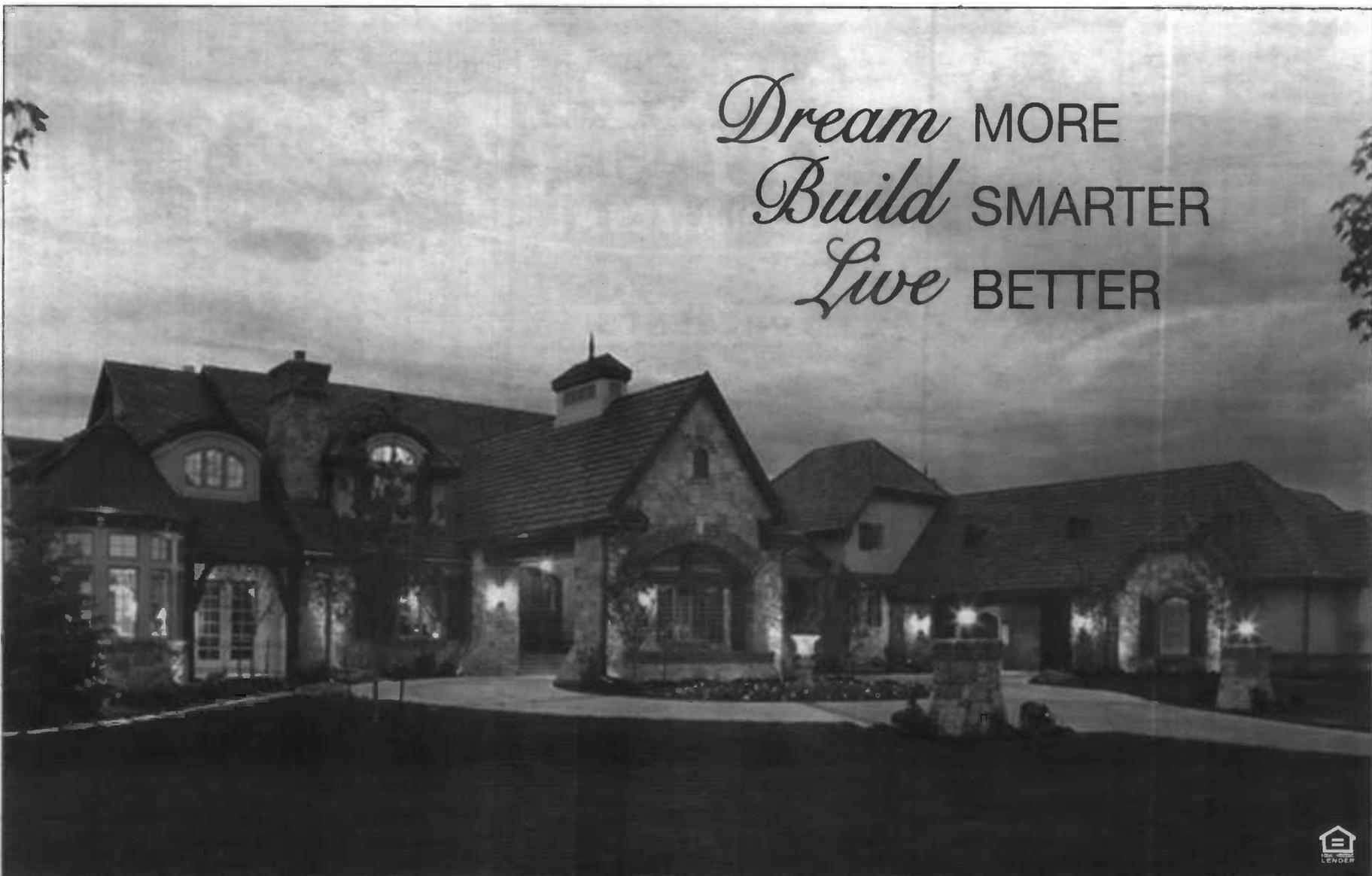
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# Millennials start their engines

Young adults in U.S. are finally buying cars in big numbers, reshaping industry

BY DEE-ANN DURBIN  
Associated Press

DETROIT — Millennials were once a source of panic in the auto industry. Dubbed the “go nowhere” generation, they weren’t getting driver’s licenses, never mind buying cars. Headlines declared it was “The End of Car Culture.”

New data suggest at least some of that worry was misplaced. Millennials, especially the oldest ones, these days are buying cars in big numbers. They just had a late start.

Now the largest generation in the U.S., millennials bought 4 million cars and trucks in the U.S. last year, second only to baby boomers, according to J.D. Power’s Power Information Network, which defines millennials as those between 21 and 38 in 2015. Millennials’ share of the new-car market jumped to 28 percent. In the country’s biggest car market, California, millennials outpaced boomers for the first time.

Industry watchers say it’s been hard to get a read on millennials because the generation is big and diverse, ranging from recent college graduates to settled-down suburbanites. Automakers were also unsure about the impact of new transportation choices, like Zipcar and Uber, which helped millennials delay car buying.

But as they got jobs and started families, millennials headed into car dealerships just like previous generations.

“This whole idea that they’re not going to need cars is absolutely ridiculous,” said Steven Szakaly, the chief economist for the National Automobile Dealers Association. “The new-car buyer age is just happening much later.”



DAMIAN DOVARGANES/AP

Lucy Mueller, 26, of Los Angeles, bought her first car, a slightly used 2015 Fiat 500, last summer. Millennials purchased 4 million cars and trucks last year, second only to baby boomers.

It’s a very different story from 2010, when millennials, who make up about 30 percent of the population, bought just 17 percent of new cars. Auto executives wondered aloud if the trend would be permanent.

In 2011, a University of Michigan study showed a steady decline in the number of young people getting their driver’s licenses. In 1983, the survey found, 87 percent of 19-year-olds had a license. By 2010, that had fallen to 69 percent. Millennials told the study’s authors that they were too busy to get licenses and were happy to hitch rides from others.

But there was more to the story. The advent of graduated licensing laws, which make teens practice

driving in stages before granting a full license, was one reason millennials were getting their licenses later. An even bigger reason? The economy.

For many millennials, the Great Recession hit just as they were getting their first job or graduating from college. By 2010, millennials’ unemployment rate reached 13 percent, four percentage points higher than the national average, according to a report by the White House Council of Economic Advisers. For teens, things were even worse. The teen unemployment rate rose from 15 percent to 26 percent between 2006 and 2012.

Millennials’ unemployment rate has improved to about 8 percent. Add low

interest rates and low gas prices to the mix, and the car market suddenly looks more enticing to young buyers.

Lucy Mueller, 26, lived in Los Angeles for eight years without a car. She took buses and trains, hitched rides with friends and used ride-sharing services like Lyft. Her commutes lasted more than an hour each way. Finally, in July, she bought a slightly used 2015 Fiat 500.

“Now that I have a car, it’s almost bewildering to me. I feel like a grown-up,” said Mueller, a project manager and video producer for financial software maker Intuit.

Several things kept Mueller out of the car market. She didn’t have a credit

card until a year ago; without any credit history, financing a car would have been difficult. Also, like many recession-weary millennials, Mueller wanted to avoid accruing debt, so she saved enough for a substantial down payment.

Szakaly says it will take millennials another four to five years to match the spending power of boomers. According to government data, the median household income for people ages 25-34 is \$54,243. For those ages 55-64, it’s more than \$60,000. In addition, the average 25-year-old has more than \$20,000 in student debt, according to Goldman Sachs. That’s enough to buy a new Kia Optima sedan.

Bret Hyde, a cameraman with Access Hollywood in New York, waited until he was 37 to buy his first car. He and his wife used to rent Zipcars or take buses to visit friends and family. It was tiresome and expensive, he said, but there wasn’t much parking in their old neighborhood. After moving to a new neighborhood and renting a garage last spring, the couple bought a 2015 Nissan Rogue SUV.

Sheryl Connelly, a futurist with Ford Motor Co. who studies buying trends, said even as millennials start buying cars in bigger numbers, their attitudes are different than previous generations. Owning a car and getting a driver’s license aren’t the milestones they once were, and that may be a permanent change.

“The sense of freedom and independence that used to come with getting a vehicle has been arguably displaced by the cell-phone,” she said.

Automakers have taken note. They’re improving in-car technology to make it easier for young drivers to stay connected to their friends and music while they’re driving. They’re forming partnerships with ride- and car-sharing services and conducting mobility experiments of their own. And they’re ditching things that don’t appeal to millennials. Toyota Motor Corp. is axing its youth-oriented Scion brand, for example, after finding that millennials prefer the Toyota brand.

“Millennials are going to be the main generation we will cater to as an industry,” said John Humphrey, J.D. Power’s senior vice president of global automotive operations.

# Q&A: Iowa State's Abdel Nader

BY BOB NARANG  
Pioneer Press

Iowa State redshirt senior Abdel Nader had a non-stop parade of cameras and reporters visit him during a 15-minute media session on Thursday, March 24, at the United Center.

Nader is a former standout at Niles North and the Cyclones men's basketball team (23-12) advanced to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament. They lost to Virginia 84-71 on Friday, March 25, at the United Center in Chicago.

The 6-foot-6 starting forward was the third-leading scorer for the Cyclones, averaging 12.9 points and 5.0 rebounds per game and he has made 52 3-pointers. Nader was a starter in all of Iowa State's games this season. Amid the crush of reporters, Nader talked with Pioneer Press about his career at Iowa State, Northern Illinois and Niles North, where he

averaged 23.8 points, 8.6 rebounds and 2.8 assists during his senior year. Nader also played at Maine East.

**Q: How much does it mean to you having your family watch you play at the United Center?**

A: It means so much to me to come back here. It's amazing to be in Chicago. It's a great feeling to be here among my family and friends and people I've grown up around.

**Q: What's your sister, Sheri, like as a fan?**

A: She's my best friend and is big-time in my life. I don't know if I would be here without her because she raised me. It's a great feeling to have her here.

**Q: Who is a better dancer between Fred Hoiberg or Steve Prohm?**

A: That's a tough one. Both are pretty bad, but I will go with Fred.

**Q: A lot of people say this is the best Iowa State team ever, do you agree with that?**

A: I wouldn't disagree with

that. We have embraced this season and are taking advantage of every season.

**Q: How much fun are you having?**

A: I'm having so much fun and am very loose and enjoying this opportunity.

**Q: What was it like shooting at the United Center today?**

A: It was amazing, especially growing up in this area and being able to watch guys like Derrick Rose and Jimmy Butler. This is the house that Michael (Jordan) built. I have never played here. Anyone who says they have played here, it certainly is a big deal.

**Q: How strange is it to be playing in the NCAA tournament after what you experienced at Northern Illinois. You won just five games in her your freshman season at NIU?**

A: I'm glad to be here, but I'm focused at the task at hand and winning.

**Q: What did you learn from**

**your experience at Northern Illinois.**

A: I had to grow up. I touched down on campus at NIU when I was 17 years old. I'm 22 now. I learned a lot and how to be a man and things like that. It's been a journey.

**Q: What was your fondest memory from your days at Niles North High School?**

A: Going to the Elite Eight in my senior year and just going there. I was driving around the city Wednesday and just remembering times I had growing up and it was just amazing.

**Q: What did you learn playing basketball at Niles North?**

A: I was pretty good at basketball (laughing a lot). Coach (Glenn) Olson was a big-time influence in my life, a father figure for me. He means a lot to me.

**Q: If you have the time, what restaurant are you most looking forward to eating at in Chicago?**



NAM Y. HUH/AP

Iowa State's Abdel Nader, a Niles North graduate, had four points and five rebounds against Virginia on March 25.

A: Definitely Portillo's. That's my spot. I think I'm going to get something after it, probably an Italian Beef and a hot dog.

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



## Ready to vote?

Athlete of the Month returns next week! Visit [chicagotribune.com/athletes](http://chicagotribune.com/athletes) April 7 at 9 a.m. to see the April finalists and vote for your favorite.

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## KAITLIN AYLWARD

F, Trinity, Sr.

**Key stats:** 16.9 ppg, 8.5 rpg  
**College:** St. Francis (Illinois)

**Calling card:** A tough inside enforcer despite being an undersized post player at 6-feet, Aylward did most of the dirty work in the paint for the Blazers. Her superior footwork and ability to find good post position kept opposing defenses honest, opening up the outside for teammate Annie McKenna to shoot perimeter jumpers. Her ability to handle tougher players inside on the defensive end and score inside or grab offensive rebounds was a key element in Trinity's run to the Class 4A state semifinals.

"Kaitlin was the rock of our team this year," Trinity coach Mike Valente said. "She anchored the post and was a leader to the younger kids and was our most consistent player. She dominated girls a lot bigger than her. She had a lot to do with how successful we were this year."

**Season highlight:** Aylward said her favorite memory this season was beating Montini 60-53 in overtime in the Class 4A Hoffman Estates Supersectional. Aylward scored 20 points and grabbed six rebounds in the win.

"When we beat Montini for the second time this season to finally get downstate for my first time ever was amazing," she said. "Since it was my last year, all I wanted to do was get downstate, and to be able to have done that was just amazing."

—Bob Narang

## LIZ SATTER

F, Loyola, Sr.

**Key stats:** 17.0 ppg, 7.9 rpg, 1.2 apg,  
1.0 spg, 54 3-pointers  
**College:** Pennsylvania

**Calling card:** While Satter stands 6-foot-2, she was one of the best outside shooters in the area. That's what separates Satter from other players, according to Loyola coach Jeremy Schoenecker.

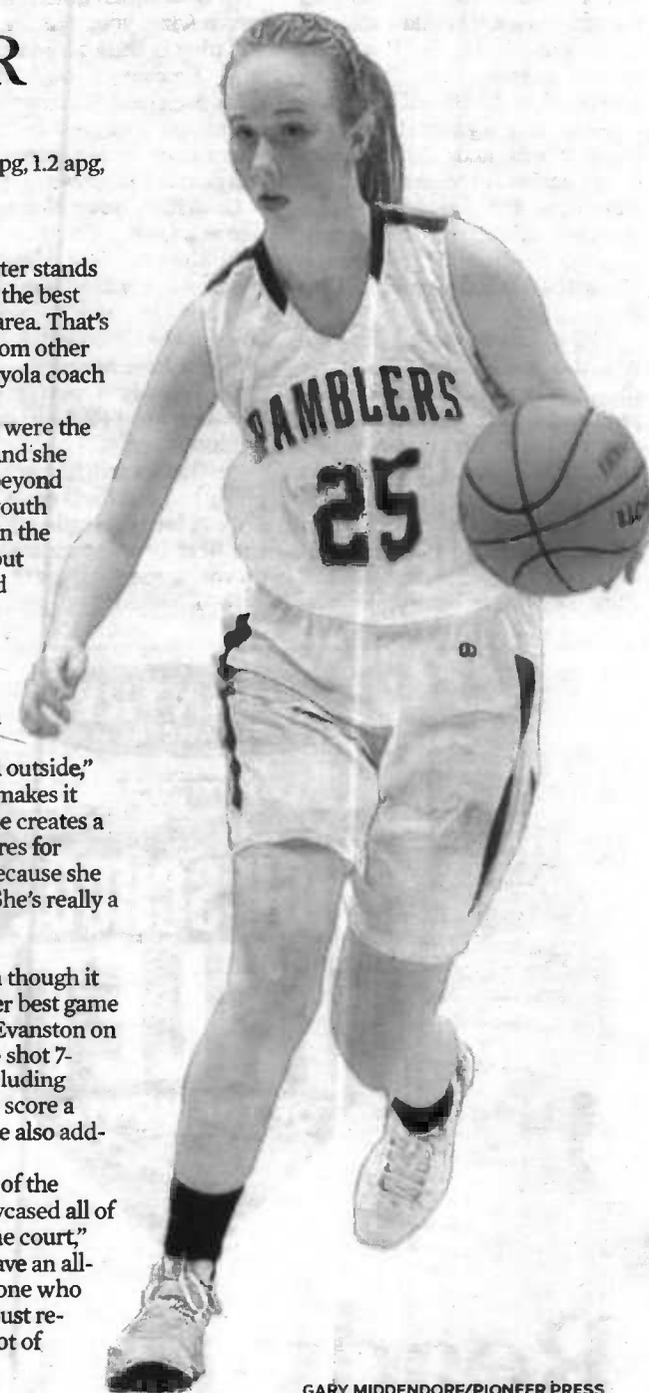
Satter's 54 3-pointers were the most on the Ramblers, and she shot 36.1 percent from beyond the arc. Satter said her youth coaches would put her in the post due to her height, but Schoenecker recognized her versatility after she transferred to Loyola from New Trier before her sophomore year.

"She's what you call a stretch four, someone who can play inside and outside," Schoenecker said. "Liz makes it very tough on teams. She creates a lot of matchup nightmares for opponents, especially because she shoots the ball so well. She's really a rare combination."

**Season highlight:** Even though it was a loss, Satter said her best game came in a 56-50 loss to Evanston on the road on Dec. 22. She shot 7-for-14 from the field, including 2-for-5 on 3-pointers, to score a team-high 22 points. She also added nine rebounds.

"I think that was one of the games that I really showcased all of the things I can do on the court," she said. "It showed I have an all-around game, not someone who can just score inside or just rebound. I played with a lot of energy that game."

—Matt Harness



GARY MIDDENDORF/PIONEER PRESS

**INSTANT REPLAY** Go to [chicagotribune.com/suburbs](http://chicagotribune.com/suburbs) to check out highlight packages and video interviews with the men and women who coached our All-Area Boys and Girls Basketball First Team players.

## ANNIE MCKENNA

**G, Trinity, Sr.**  
**Key stats:** 14 ppg, 5 apg, 2.5 spg  
**College:** Dartmouth  
**Calling card:** The 5-foot-5 McKenna, a four-year starter, was the ideal point guard in Trinity's offense. The Blazers often relied on McKenna to break full-court pressure defenses, and she deftly handled the duties despite the Blazers playing a tough schedule against talented, guard-based offenses. Her intelligence allowed her to understand the gaps in a defense and her court vision opened up the offense for the underclassmen.

"The great thing about Annie is that she makes everybody on the court better," Trinity coach

Mike Valente said. "That's a complete point guard. Her court vision is phenomenal. She's like having a coach on the court. Her basketball IQ is off the charts. Her steadiness and consistency made us the team that we are."

**Favorite memory:** After losing to Homewood-Flossmoor in overtime in a Class 4A supersectional last season, Trinity defeated Montini for the second time this

season at the Hoffman Estates Supersectional to end a 10-year state drought for the Blazers. McKenna made all 10 of her free-throw attempts in overtime to finish with 20 points against the Broncos.

"My favorite memory of this season is winning supersectionals and advancing to state," McKenna said. "It has always been my goal to

compete for a state championship.

This was the furthest the school has gone in history, and it was an experience that I will never forget."

—Bob Narang

## MEGAN TALBOT

**C, Barrington, Sr.**  
**Key stats:** 13 ppg, 87 FT%, 33 3P%  
**College:** Illinois State  
**Calling card:** The 6-foot-2 Talbot knew she'd be the object of her opponents' focus all season, but she still managed to produce in multiple ways. Talbot reached double digits in points and rebounds in 11 of 26 games this year.

In particular, rebounding became Talbot's defining strength over the course of her four-year career. Talbot finished with 920 total

rebounds, third-best in Barrington girls basketball history.

"I think rebounding has been the biggest mark she's left on the program," Barrington coach Babbi Barreiro said. "We've had a few pretty great basketball players come through our program, so that's a pretty nice statistic to have behind her name."

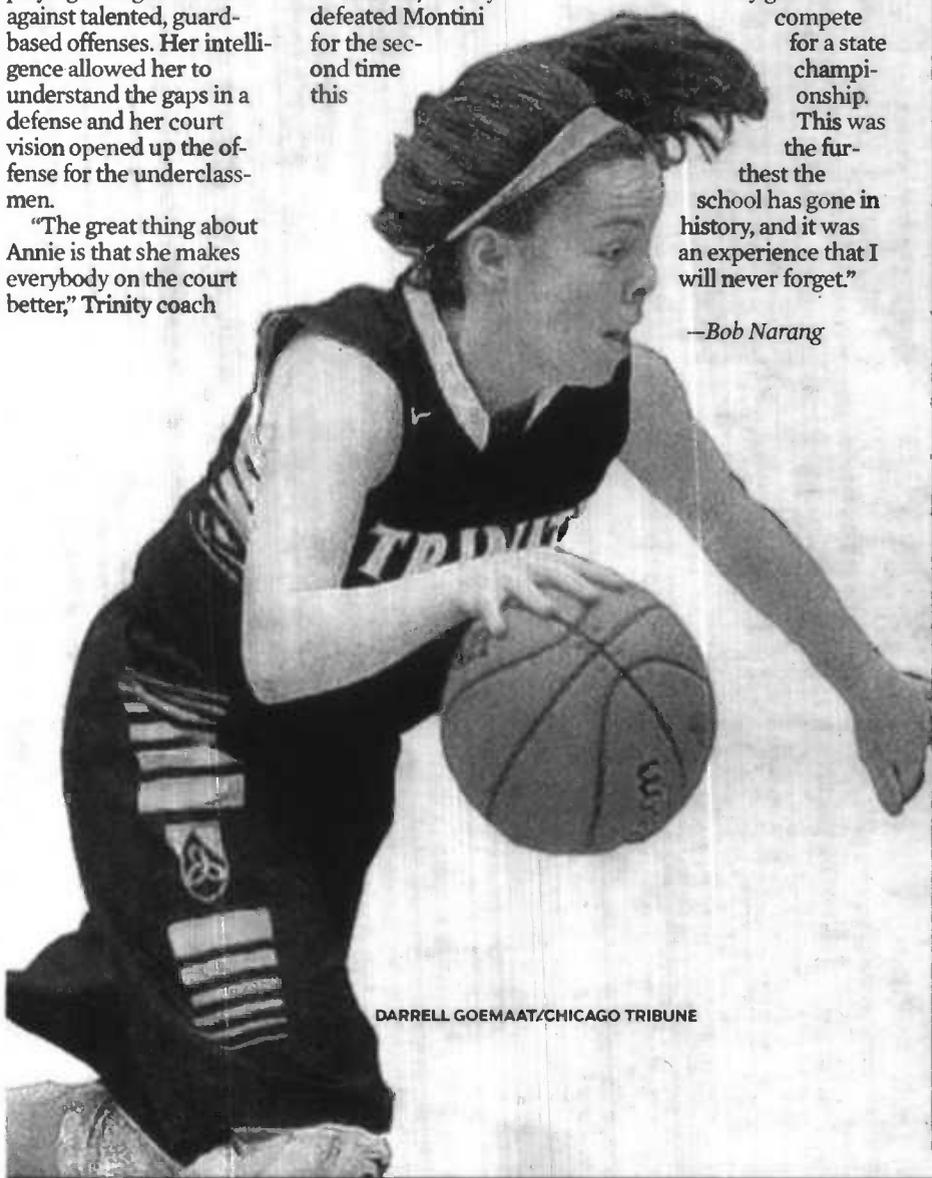
**Season highlight:** Talbot finished with

950 points in her career, a number she reached in part because she developed a 3-point shot. She said she remembers a game against Maine South at Buffalo Grove's Thanksgiving tournament as a turning point. Talbot found herself with the ball in the left corner, just beyond the 3-point line.

She fired a shot.

"It went in. I surprised myself," Talbot said. "The team was like, 'Did she just hit a 3?' From the get-go I had more confidence and shot better than in previous years."

—Jon J. Kerr



DARRELL GOEMAAT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



MARK UKENA/PIONEER PRESS

## SECOND TEAM

GEORGE M. WILCOX  
 Pioneer Press

## Frannie Corrigan

F, Lyons, Sr.  
**Key stats:** 11.0 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 1.8 apg  
**College:** Illinois State

## Sydney Kopp

G, Hinsdale South, Sr.  
**Key stats:** 25.7 ppg, 5.6 rpg, 3.0 spg, 3.3 apg  
**College:** Undecided

## Maia Marshall

G, St. Joseph, So.  
**Key stats:** 17.0 ppg, 2.4 rpg, 1.3 apg  
**College:** Undecided

## Carie Weinman

G, Glenbrook South, Jr.  
**Key stats:** 15.6 ppg, 3.2 rpg, 4.2 spg  
**College:** Undecided

## Leighah-Amori Wool

G-F, Evanston, Jr.  
**Key stats:** 13.8 ppg, 5.8 rpg, 2.2 apg, 1.9 spg  
**College:** Undecided

## GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

JEANNIE  
BOEHM

BY MATT HARNESS | Pioneer Press

New Trier senior Jeannie Boehm, a 6-foot-3 forward and Harvard recruit, was a four-year varsity starter and two-time selection to the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association's Class 3A/4A first team. Her highest honor came when she was named to this year's McDonald's All-American team. Boehm finished her career with 1,872 points and 1,169 rebounds. She helped the Trevians to their fourth consecutive Class 4A regional title this season.

Pioneer Press sports writer Matt Harness covered a wide range of topics with Boehm, the suburban publication's girls basketball player of the year.

**Q: You were recognized at the March 7 Chicago Bulls game for your selection to the McDonald's All-American team. Was that one of your more amazing basketball moments?**

**A:** They had us on the (United Center) court before the game for a picture. That was really cool. I have been to plenty of Bulls games, but I had never been on the floor until that day. It's something I will always remember.

**Q: You played varsity basketball for four years at New Trier. What would your advice be to an incoming freshman girl who wants to play basketball in the program?**

**A:** You can expect it to be tough. Practices are not always easy, especially in the preseason. Be prepared to work your hardest and push yourself. But be prepared to be a lot better player when you are done. I would also tell them to make the most out of every

opportunity they get, whether it's in a practice, a summer league game or high school game. It's going to go by really fast.

**Q: Who were some of your favorite players to play against while at New Trier?**

**A:** My freshman year I got to play two games against (Maine South graduate and DePaul junior) Jacqui Grant and three games against (Evanston graduate and Arkansas junior) Alecia Cooley. I only got to play against them for one season, but it was great to get that chance. I will also say Glenbrook South (senior) Caitlin Morrison was a tough one to play against. I know her from AAU basketball and we are friends, but I always hated to play her. She was long and tough.

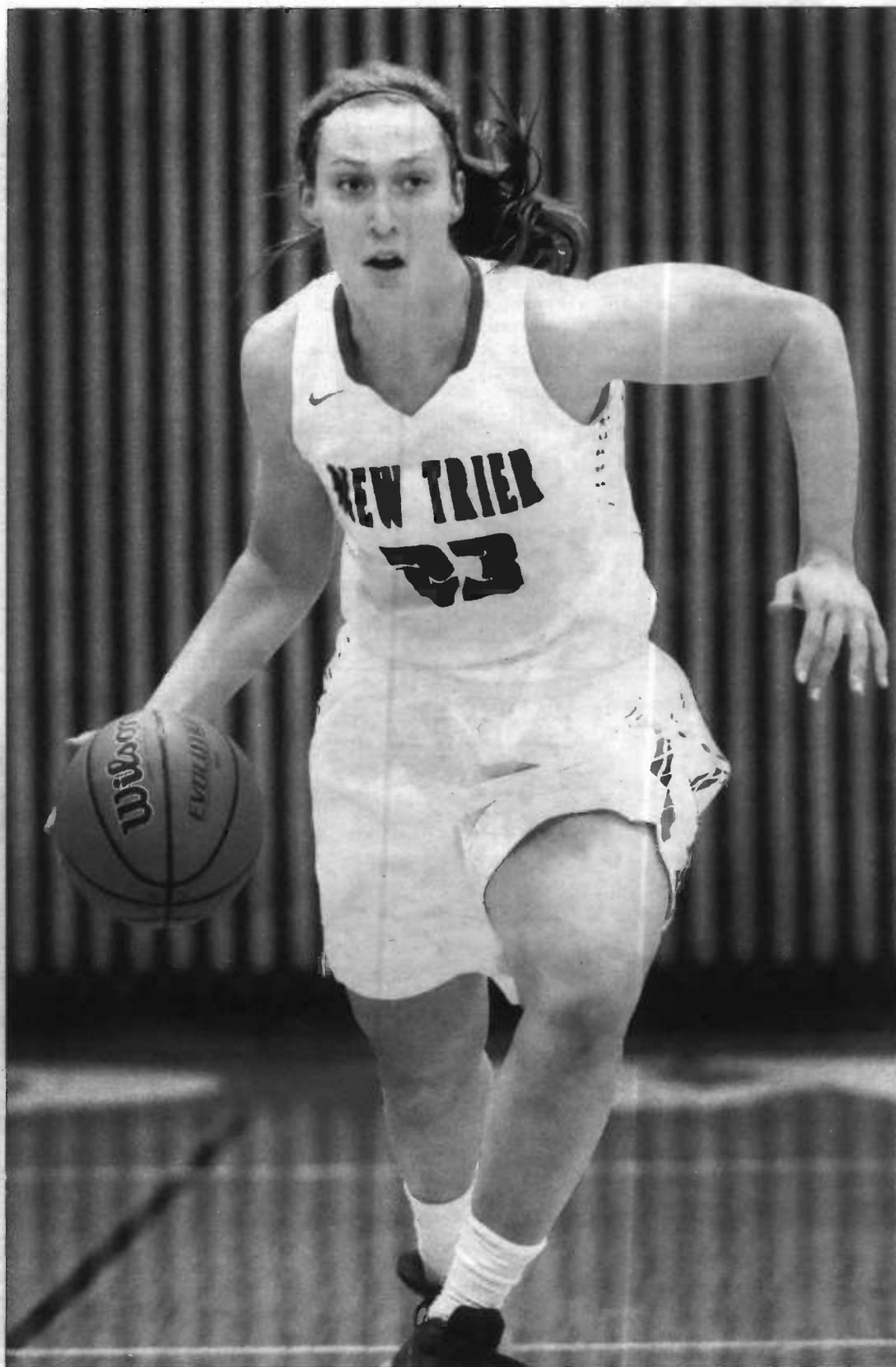
**Q: What was the hardest road game, year in and year out?**

**A:** Definitely Evanston. Their gym is very unique because the floor is removed from the seats. It was not easy to play there. They always had a ton of screaming fans and always a good team. It was never that much fun. But when I look back on it, I will be glad I got that chance.

**Q: Describe your relationship with New Trier's Gates Gym. It's almost like a second home to you.**

**A:** I don't even know where to begin. I mean, I grew up watching my brothers play in that gym. Peter (Boehm) was on varsity when I was 5 years old. I also saw Jack (Boehm) and Connor (Boehm) play there. When you're young, those varsity players seem like celebrities to you. That gym was

Turn to Boehm, Next Page



NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Jeannie Boehm finished her four-year New Trier career with 1,872 points and 1,169 rebounds.

## ADDITIONAL COVERAGE

Visit [chicagotribune.com/suburbs](http://chicagotribune.com/suburbs) to see the list of players named All-Area Boys and Girls Basketball Honorable Mention



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

New Trier's Jeannie Boehm (23) smiles as she hugs teammate Haley Greer after a win over Stevenson on Dec. 30.

Boehm, from Previous Page

such a big part of my youth. I really liked the homey, old-fashioned feel of it, too.

**Q: Which college or professional player do you admire the most?**

A: I would have to say (Golden State Warriors guard) Steph Curry, even though he doesn't play my position. It's just awesome watching him play. He's so fun. He makes handling the ball and shooting 3-pointers from halfcourt look so easy.

**Q: Who is your favorite pro team?**

A: Even though I like Steph, the Bulls are my team.

**Q: Your parents both went to Harvard Business School and your brother, Peter, played basketball at Harvard. Do you feel like it will be an easier transition for you because of your familiarity with the Cambridge campus?**

A: For sure. Between visiting Peter at Harvard and watching Connor, who played at Dartmouth, play games at Harvard, it does kind of feel like I know it, kind of like a second home. I do feel comfortable there, and it's a big reason why I chose to go there. I know



NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

New Trier's Jeannie Boehm is the Pioneer Press All-Area Girls Basketball Player of the Year after averaging 19.9 points and 10.7 rebounds during the 2015-16 season.

Harvard Square well and how to get around Harvard Yard, where the freshmen live.

**Q: What do you plan on studying in college?**

A: Economics. I am taking two math classes and an AP economics class right now, and those classes should get me prepared to be an

economics major. I know that makes me sound super nerdy, but I enjoy math a lot. Peter was an economics major at Harvard, so I've talked to him about it. I don't know exactly what I want to do with it, but I'd like to do something with marketing. That would be pretty cool.

## Quick hits

**Q: Favorite bands?**

A: I like country music, so I'll say Kenny Chesney, Brett Eldredge and Luke Bryan.

**Q: What was your pregame meal?**

A: My mom made me apples and peanut butter before every game for four years. She would always have it ready for me at the house before I left. I don't know what it was about that combination, but it worked.

**Q: Do you have a favorite piece of clothing?**

A: Probably my Harvard sweatshirt. I got it a few years ago, maybe Peter got it for me, but it's been washed so many times that it's soft and falling apart.

**Q: Favorite shoe company?**

A: Definitely Nike. My AAU team used adidas, and I didn't like them. Nikes are the best.

**Q: Favorite TV show?**

A: "Keeping Up with the Kardashians."

**Q: Favorite movie?**

A: I really like the "Hunger Games" movies.

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*"That gym was such a big part of my youth. I really liked the homey, old-fashioned feel of it, too."*

—Jeannie Boehm, on New Trier's Gates Gym

## Jeannie Boehm

F, New Trier, Sr.

**Key stats:** 19.9 ppg, 10.7 rpg, 3.4 bpg, 2.3 apg, 1.6 spg

**College:** Harvard  
**Calling card:** What impresses New Trier coach Teri Rodgers the most about the 6-foot-3 Boehm — Pioneer Press' All-Area Girls Basketball Player of the Year — is her ability to affect the game at both ends of the floor.

"Sometimes, people forget how phenomenal of a defensive player she is," Rodgers said. "She rebounds. She blocks shots, but she also changes shots. She changes the way people play against us. That's a rare quality for a high school player."

In 31 games, Boehm had 19 games in which she scored at least 10 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, including 10 games in which she had at least 20 points and 10 rebounds. On the defensive end, Boehm had at least five blocked shots in seven games.

**Season highlight:** Boehm scored a season-best 35 points, shooting 15-for-21 from the floor, to go with 20 rebounds and seven blocks in a 71-57 win over Springfield (Mass.) Central on Dec. 19 in the Nike Tournament of Champions in Phoenix.

"It was game that I played well on offense and offense," Boehm said. "It was one of those games where my shots were falling. There had been a stretch of games where they weren't falling, so I was due for a game like that."

—Matt Harness

# BOYS FIRST TEAM

## NOJEL EASTERN

G, Evanston, Jr.

**Key stats:** 14.9 ppg, 6.5 rpg, 4 apg, 2 bpg, 2 spg

**College:** Undecided

**Calling card:** A three-year varsity starter and one of the state's top recruits for the Class of 2017, Eastern is a talent rarely seen at the high school level.

The 6-foot-6 point guard is a skilled ball-handler and shooter on the perimeter, but he's big enough to battle in the post, too. Eastern's inside-outside game also extends to the defensive end of the floor. Evanston coach Mike Ellis said that Eastern's versatility is what sets him apart from his peers.

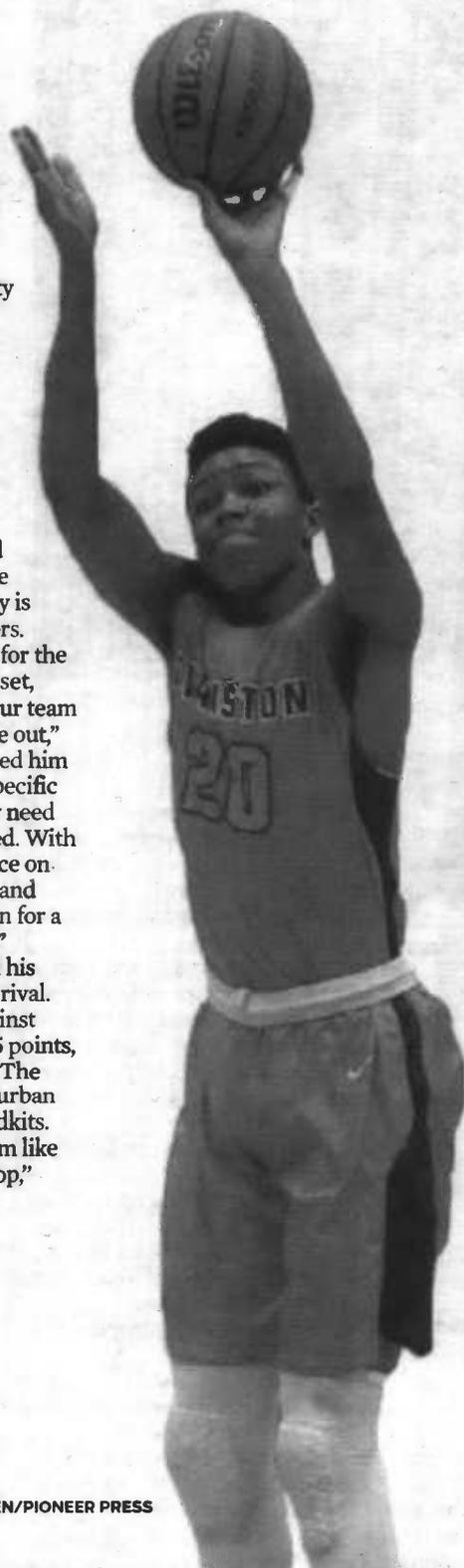
"With his knowledge and feel for the game, coupled with his vast skill set, Nojel does what is required for our team to have success every single game out," Ellis said. "One night, we may need him to step up his scoring against a specific matchup. Another night, we may need him to get his teammates involved. With his size, he also gives us a presence on the boards. His all-around game and style of play allow us to game plan for a multitude of paces and schemes."

**Season highlight:** Eastern saved his best game for Evanston's biggest rival.

In a 53-39 win on the road against New Trier on Feb. 5, he put up 25 points, nine rebounds and seven assists. The victory clinched the Central Suburban South championship for the Wildkits.

"When Nojel gets into a rhythm like that, he's almost impossible to stop," Ellis said.

—Matt Harness



TRACEY ALLEN/PIONEER PRESS

## NICK RAKOCEVIC

C, St. Joseph, Sr.

**Key stats:** 19.8 ppg, 14.4 rpg, 4 blocks per game

**College:** Undecided

**Calling card:** At 6-foot-11, Rakocevic was often the tallest player on the court, helping him become a force on the offensive and defensive boards. Rakocevic's ability to extend offensive possessions with rebounds or putback baskets gave his younger teammates freedom to attempt more shots.

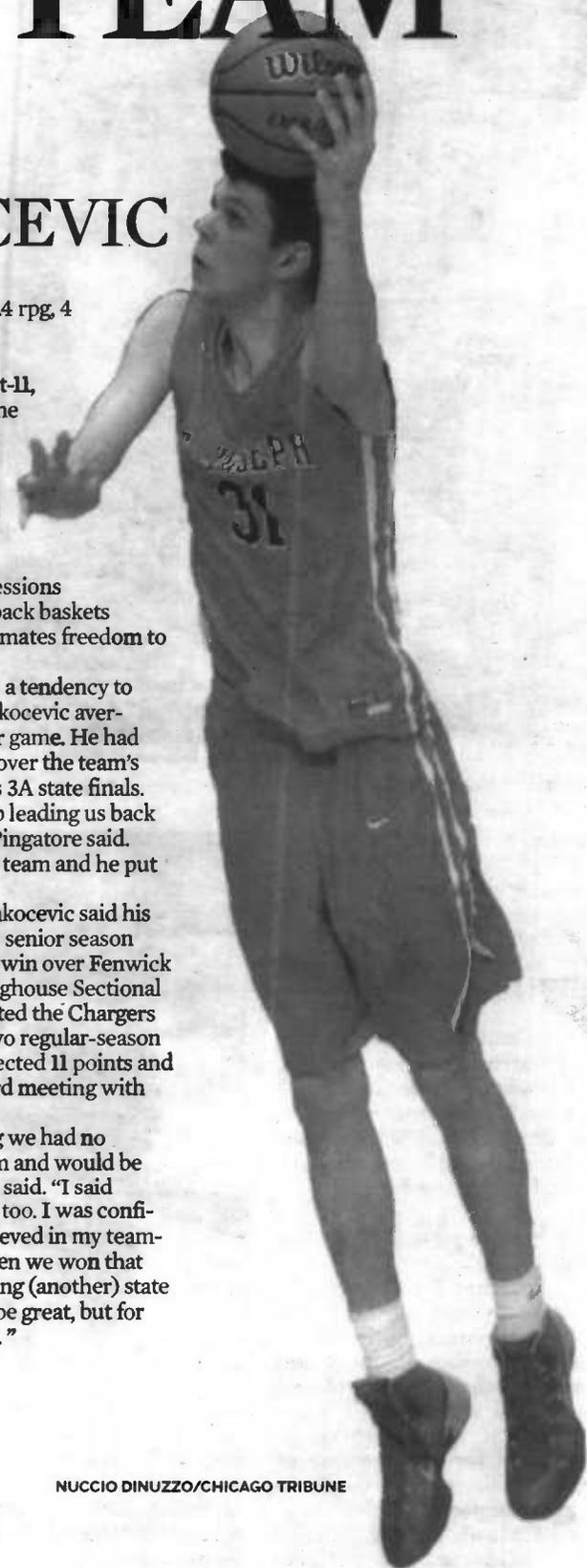
With long arms and a tendency to stay near the paint, Rakocevic averaged 14.4 rebounds per game. He had 11 offensive rebounds over the team's two games at the Class 3A state finals.

"Nick did a great job leading us back to state," coach Gene Pingatore said. "We had such a young team and he put them on his back."

**Favorite memory:** Rakocevic said his fondest memory of his senior season was St. Joseph's 59-55 win over Fenwick in the Class 3A Westinghouse Sectional final. The Friars defeated the Chargers by double figures in two regular-season games. Rakocevic collected 11 points and 13 rebounds in the third meeting with the Friars.

"People were saying we had no chance of beating them and would be blown out," Rakocevic said. "I said something on Twitter, too. I was confident in my team. I believed in my teammates and myself. When we won that game, obviously winning (another) state championship would be great, but for me, that was the game."

—Bob Narang



NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

## FILM STUDY

Ever wonder what makes our All-Area Boys and Girls Basketball First Team players the best in their sport? We have video breakdowns of each player's greatest strengths at [chicagotribune.com/suburbs](http://chicagotribune.com/suburbs).



JOE SHUMAN/PIONEER PRESS

## JUSTIN SMITH

**F, Stevenson, Jr.**

**Key stats:** 19 ppg, 9 rpg, 1 bpg

**College:** Undecided

**Calling card:** After spending his sophomore season in a supporting role to Jalen Brunson and Connor Cashaw on Stevenson's Class 4A state championship team, the 6-foot-7 Smith was the focal point of the Patriots this season.

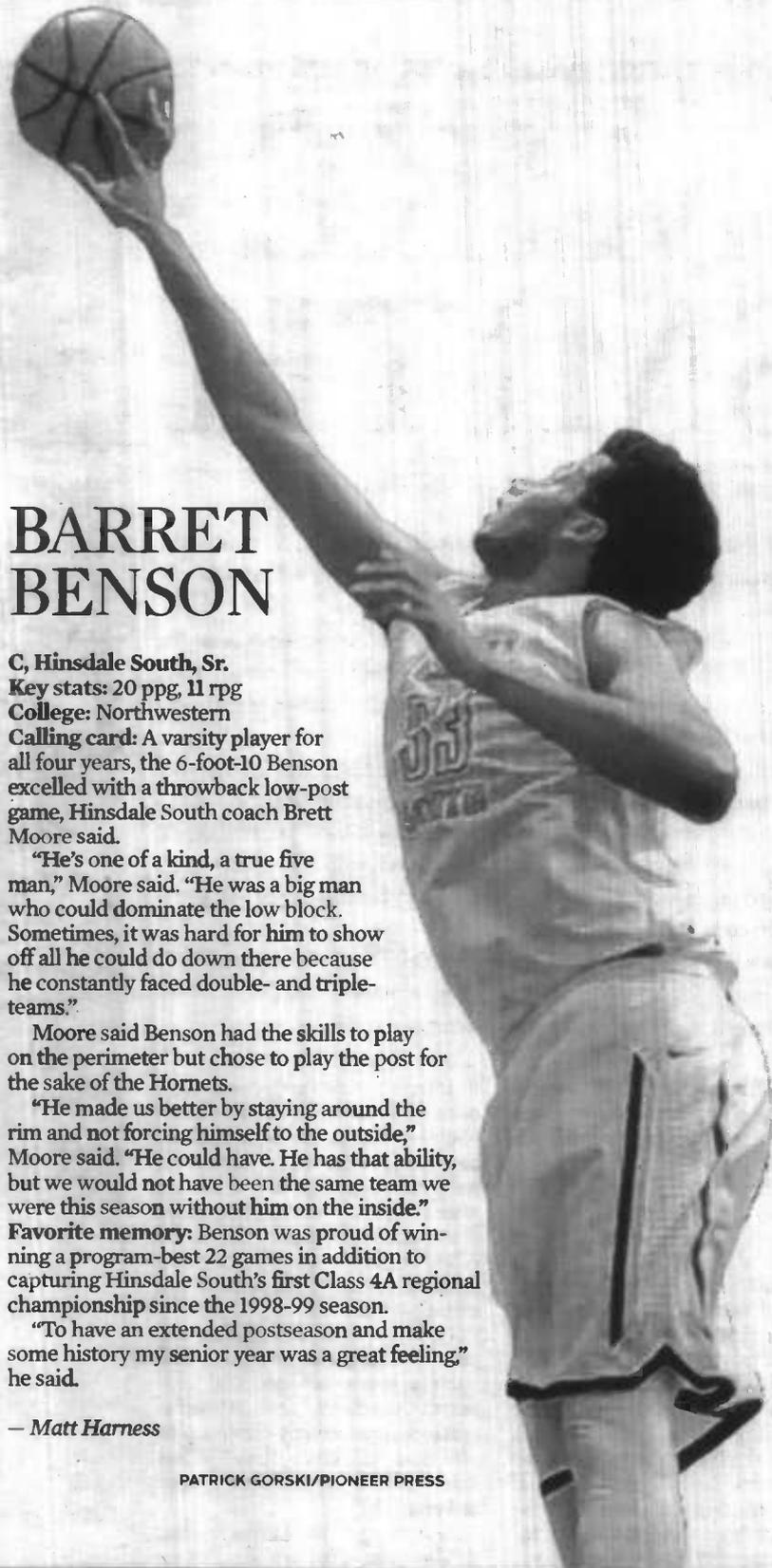
The increased role enabled Smith to show off his well-rounded game, and he became one of the state's top players in the Class of 2017.

"Justin is just so versatile," Stevenson coach Pat Ambrose said. "He can shoot, attack, defend, pass and certainly rebound. His intelligence and skill set are very high, so he can do so, so much. He dominated games this year on both ends."

**Season highlight:** Smith signaled his status as a big-time player in an 80-69 come-from-behind win over Downers South on Jan. 16 at Wheaton Warrenville South. He scored 32 points, shooting 12-for-17 from the field, and had 12 rebounds and three blocked shots. Among his highlights were three dunks and two 3-pointers.

"I took it upon myself to get us back into the game," Smith said. "This was one of the first times I felt like I needed to take over to ensure us a win. That set the tone for the rest of the season."

—Matt Harness



## BARRET BENSON

**C, Hinsdale South, Sr.**

**Key stats:** 20 ppg, 11 rpg

**College:** Northwestern

**Calling card:** A varsity player for all four years, the 6-foot-10 Benson excelled with a throwback low-post game, Hinsdale South coach Brett Moore said.

"He's one of a kind, a true five man," Moore said. "He was a big man who could dominate the low block. Sometimes, it was hard for him to show off all he could do down there because he constantly faced double- and triple-teams."

Moore said Benson had the skills to play on the perimeter but chose to play the post for the sake of the Hornets.

"He made us better by staying around the rim and not forcing himself to the outside," Moore said. "He could have. He has that ability, but we would not have been the same team we were this season without him on the inside."

**Favorite memory:** Benson was proud of winning a program-best 22 games in addition to capturing Hinsdale South's first Class 4A regional championship since the 1998-99 season.

"To have an extended postseason and make some history my senior year was a great feeling," he said.

—Matt Harness

PATRICK GORSKI/PIONEER PRESS

## SECOND TEAM

BY MATT HARNESS  
Pioneer Press

### Jordan Baum

G, Deerfield, Sr.  
**Key stats:** 15 ppg, 5.8 rpg, 5.6 apg, 2.5 spg  
**College:** University of Chicago

### Ammar Becar

F, Notre Dame, Sr.  
**Key stats:** 15 ppg, 4 rpg, 78 FT%  
**College:** Undecided

### Crishawn Cook

G, Niles North, Sr.  
**Key stats:** 15.7 ppg, 5.3 rpg  
**College:** Southern Illinois (walk on)

### Lorenzo Edwards

F, Lake Forest, Sr.  
**Key stats:** 19.5 ppg, 11 rpg, 4 bpg  
**College:** Undecided

### Nick Meyer

F, Lake Zurich, Sr.  
**Key stats:** 17 ppg, 5 rpg, 4 apg  
**College:** Carthage (Wisconsin)

## BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

# MIKE SMITH

BY ERIC VAN DRIL | Pioneer Press

This year, senior point guard Mike Smith and his teammates lifted the Fenwick boys basketball team to heights it hadn't experienced since the late 1990s.

The Friars matched a school record with 28 wins. They won the Chicago Catholic League's regular season and tournament titles, defeated Simeon in one of the best games of the 2015-16 season and reached a Class 3A sectional final.

Smith, the Pioneer Press All-Area Boys Basketball Player of the Year, was a major reason why. The 5-foot-9 point guard finished second to Morgan Park senior Charlie Moore in voting for Illinois Mr. Basketball. Smith, a Burr Ridge resident, ended his career with more than 1,800 career points — second-most in school history behind Corey Maggette, who played 14 years in the NBA.

Pioneer Press freelance sports reporter Eric Van Dril caught up with Smith on Monday, March 28. They discussed Smith's recent commitment to Columbia, his NBA aspirations and more.

**Q: After losing to St. Joseph in the sectional final, how much time passed before you got back into the gym?**

**A:** The next day, I trained. The next day I just went into the gym for three hours and trained (by myself at Burr Ridge Middle School). I was upset, but I've got to just look at it like, 'We did so much for Fenwick' — our whole team. I left it all out on the court versus St. Joe's. But I just felt like, 'I have no time to waste because I want to do something special at Columbia next year. There's no time to sit here and sob and think about what we could have done better.' ... So the next day, I went to the gym for about three hours and worked out. The next day, I worked out again.

Now I'm on spring break, and my parents told me, 'No more basketball. Don't even touch a basketball,' down here in Florida.

Just have fun and enjoy your time because as soon as you come back, you're going to go right back to basketball because you have to go back to Columbia like a month after school is over. You have to be ready. If I really want to play in the NBA, or play overseas, I'm going to have to work hard. And I'm already a hard worker.

**Q: What was school like this year at Fenwick? You guys had such a great season. Did students, teachers and administrators consistently come up to you and talk basketball? What was it like to be the star player at Fenwick?**

**A:** It was actually a great feeling. ... The time after we lost (to St. Joseph), that Monday, everybody, all the teachers were like, 'You've done so much.' I got at least 100

Turn to Smith, Next Page



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Mike Smith helped Fenwick win 28 games this season, which tied a program record.

## High praise

"Usually every person that meets Mike (Smith) will remember that first meeting," Fenwick assistant coach Staunton Peck said in a video interview. "He's very engaging, smiling, charismatic." To see the interview, and videos about the other All-Area Boys and Girls Basketball First Team players, visit [chicagotribune.com/suburbs](http://chicagotribune.com/suburbs).

Smith, from Previous Page

text messages from alumni that I don't even know, telling me what I've done for Fenwick and all these things. I'm down here (in Marco Island, Fla.) with all my friends and their parents (are) just like, 'You guys had a great season. The outcome might not have been what you wanted it to be, but you guys put Fenwick back on the map for basketball.'

Our athletic director (Scott Thies) was telling me how many alumni were calling in to see where I'm going to school next year, how we're doing (and) coming to see the games from all over the country. It was just a great feeling to have, to put Fenwick back on the map. ... That was the ultimate goal, to show that Fenwick isn't just a water polo school. It took four years to do it.

**Q: I talked to coach (Rick) Malnati, and he talked about your recruiting a little bit. After you scored 38 points against Simeon, he said the interest skyrocketed. But was it important for you to pick a school that you felt comfortable with and that you had a long-standing relationship with? When Minnesota reached out, was it kind of like, 'It's nice that they're showing interest, but I'm going to stick with people that I've known for a long time?'**

**A:** It was kind of like that. I felt like I had a good summer. I got invited to the adidas (Uprising) All-American Camp. I think I did OK there because you're playing against people that are going to Duke and all these big schools. You're playing against Frank Jackson (Duke), Dennis Smith Jr. (North Carolina State), Kobi Simmons (Arizona). You're playing against the top point guards in the country, and I held my own.

I come to Fenwick and I'm having a great season, and then all of a sudden I have a breakout game against Simeon. Now South Carolina wants to call, Vanderbilt wants to call, Saint Louis wants to call, Minnesota wants to call. All these big-name schools are trying to call, and I'm like, 'Well, where were you guys earlier?' It's like, 'I'm maybe your fourth, third or second option. So then if I get (on campus), how am I supposed to know that you're really being real with me because you guys weren't there the whole time?'

I was just scared of going (to



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Fenwick's Mike Smith, center, celebrates with coach Rick Malnati after he scored 38 points in the Friars' win over Simeon on Jan. 18 in Oak Park.

one of those schools) because some people do it and it works for them. And some people, (it doesn't). It's just a matter of, do you want to try that? If it works out, then you can be successful in basketball and you have an easier shot of going to the (NBA) from a Vanderbilt or a Minnesota because it's a bigger-name school (and) you get more TV time. Or you could just try something new, get a great education and try to go to the league from an Ivy League school, which is more common now.

**Q: You kind of touched on this earlier, but is your goal to make it to the NBA? Is that what you're striving for, at this point?**

**A:** Yes. I'm working to go to the NBA. And if I can't, I have a great degree and I have so many connections. I'm already in New York City. (The NBA) is not the long-term goal. The long-term goal is just to be successful in life. I think, with a Columbia degree, I can do that. The short-term goal is to make it to the NBA or play overseas because I want to keep playing basketball. It's something I love to do.

*Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.*

Twitter @VanDrilSports



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Fenwick's Mike Smith (21) averaged 19.3 points and shot 42 percent on 3-pointers on his way to being named the Pioneer Press All-Area Boys Basketball Player of the Year for 2015-16.

## Mike Smith

G, Fenwick, Sr.

Key stats: 19.3 ppg, 4 apg, 2.9 rpg, 1.7 spg, 42.3P%

College: Columbia

**Calling card:** Because of his exceptional quickness, Smith — the Pioneer Press All-Area Boys Basketball Player of the Year — has an answer for almost anything, offensively.

If a defender plays him tight, Smith, at 5-foot-9, can blow by him and get into the lane. If a defender respects his speed and plays off him, Smith — a 42-percent shooter from behind the arc as a senior — can knock down a 3-pointer.

"A lot of people don't understand when you're small, it's harder to be guarded," Smith said. "You look at Tyler Ulis at Kentucky. It's just really hard for people to guard him. (Boston Celtics guard) Isaiah Thomas is an All-Star, and he's (5-9). It's so hard to guard somebody so quick, and (Ulis and Thomas) are able to shoot, get to the rim and pass the ball."

Smith, who won the Tony Lawless Award as the top player in the Chicago Catholic League North, can do all of those things.

"Watch his speed and quickness in the full court," Fenwick assistant coach Staunton Peck said. "He is a one-man fast break."

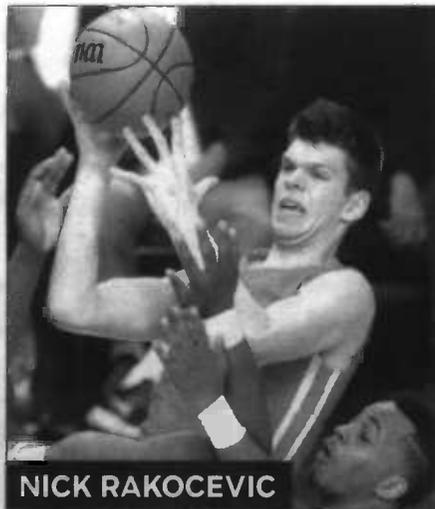
**Favorite memory:** The Friars accomplished so much during Smith's senior season, but a 71-68 victory against Simeon on Jan. 18 is a game that still stands out. Smith had 38 points that day.

"I think if you asked most of the people that were there that day — there were alumni that hadn't been to a game in 10 years at Fenwick, they came back to Simeon that day — they would say that win for Fenwick was one of the greatest wins they've ever had," Peck said. "And most of them would say Mike Smith's performance against Simeon that day was one of the most impressive performances they've ever seen by a Fenwick athlete."

—Eric Van Dril



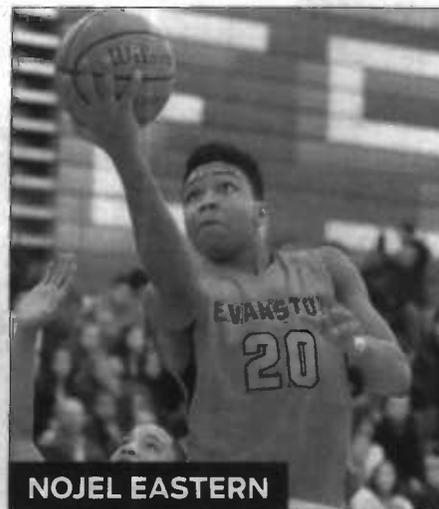
BARRET BENSON



NICK RAKOCEVIC



JUSTIN SMITH



NOJEL EASTERN



JEANNIE BOEHM

# WITH HONORS

Jeannie Boehm and Mike Smith lead the Pioneer Press All-Area Girls and Boys Basketball Teams. *Inside*



MIKE SMITH



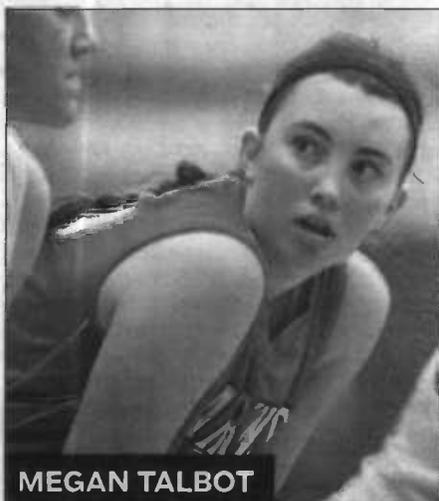
ANNIE MCKENNA



KAITLIN AYLWARD



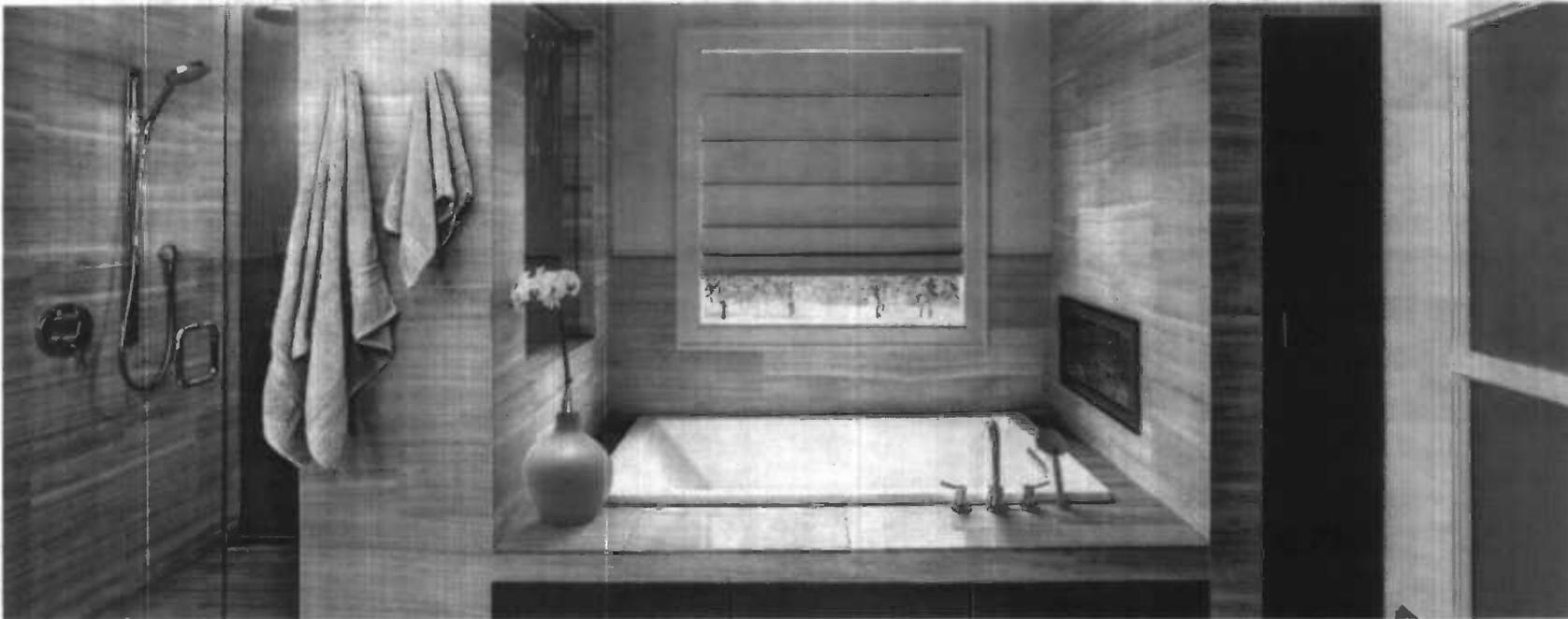
LIZ SATTER



MEGAN TALBOT

# Look forward to *bath time*

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