

# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

\$1.50

Thursday, April 21, 2016

nilesheraldspectator.com

## An unexpected honor

Niles North history teacher wins 2016 Golden Apple Award. Page 6



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

Broadcast reporter Hosea Sanders, left, talks with Niles North High School teacher Pankaj Sharma April 13 after Sharma was told he had won the 2016 Golden Apple Award for Excellence In Teaching.

### SPECIAL SECTION



WE DAY ILLINOIS

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WE Day Illinois is a celebration of kids making a difference in their local and global communities. Organizers expect about 15,000 people will attend the concert, taking place April 28 at Allstate Arena. Look for the WE Day special section for an overview of the festivities and information about the WE Schools program along with other related content. Inside

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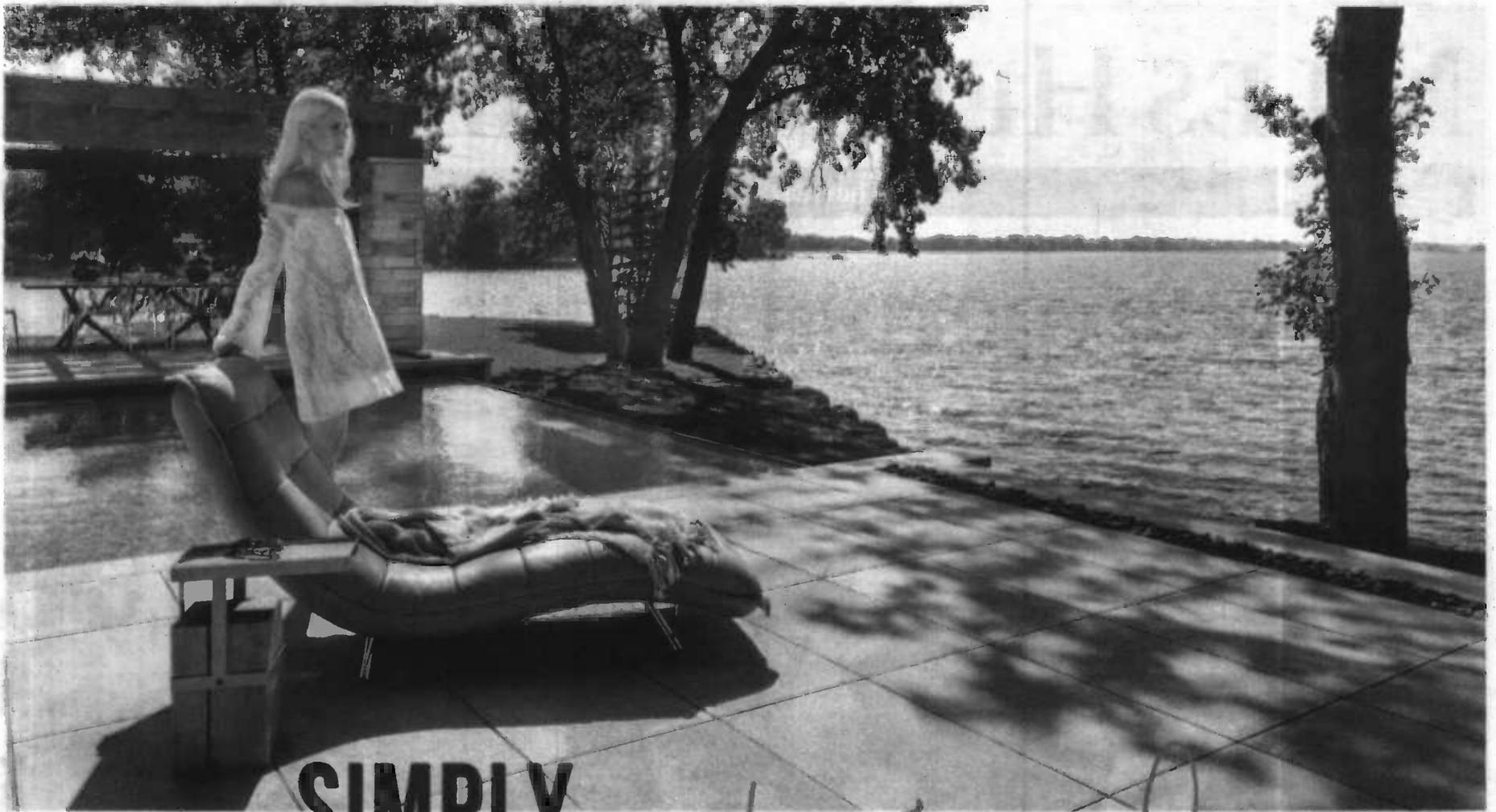
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**MAILING ADDRESS**  
 435 N. Michigan Ave.  
 Chicago, IL 60611

**PUBLICATION INFORMATION:**  
 Niles Herald-Spectator is published  
 52 issues per year by Chicago Tribune  
 Media Group, 435 N. Michigan Ave.,  
 Chicago, IL 60611. Single copy: \$1.50.  
 One-year subscription: \$52.00. In-  
 cludes Sunday Chicago Tribune.  
 In-county only. New subscriber starts  
 require email address. If for some  
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 apply.  
 Vol. 68, No. 12

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## SHOUT OUT

# Diddy Blyth, Cultural Arts Council president

Diddy Blyth is president of the Park Ridge Cultural Arts Council, which is now accepting applications for 2016 fine arts summer camp scholarship grants. According to Blyth, the grants help students pay for educational programs — locally or in other parts of the country — that focus on areas of visual art, music, drama, dance and writing. Applications are available at [www.parkridgearts.org](http://www.parkridgearts.org) and must be completed by May 1.

**Q: Who can apply for a Fine Arts Summer Camp Scholarship?**

**A:** Anybody who is in District 64 or District 207 schools between grades 3 and 11.

**Q: How many grants will be given out this year?**

**A:** It depends on how much money we have, but it averages between 11 and 15 or 16.

**Q: What determines whether an applicant would be a good recipient?**

**A:** Their interest and their talent. ... [The recipients are] determined by professional reviewers who are not members of the arts council.

**Q: How do you raise money**



DIDDY BLYTH PHOTO

Diddy Blyth

**for the scholarships?**

**A:** One of the ways was through our calendar. Last year, the calendar featured 12 early 20th Century artists. We can't charge anything, but if [donors] give us \$15 or more, we give them a calendar. We also have a website that takes donations ... [and] we go around and ask for money, too. We have different

angels in the community who are kind to us, especially if it's the end of the year. We have people who endow us, or they will say, "I'll give you a matching grant." We have our different art angels, so to speak, but we need a lot more.

**Q: Do you hear back from the scholarship recipients after they attend summer programs?**

**A:** We have a blog on our website. After they go to the camp, one of the requirements is that they participate in a blog. They talk about what they've done and hopefully include a picture.

**Q: What else is the Cultural Arts Council planning?**

**A:** The one segment of our population we feel is not being reached are those who are homebound. So we're working with the Center of Concern to identify some homebound people — we'll start at five — and a visitor will go in to help them write a memoir, create a collage or even read a play. It's called Arts for the Homebound, and it's in the very, very beginning stages.

— Jennifer Johnson, Pioneer Press

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# North's Sharma grabs top teacher prize

## Golden Apple award given to history teacher

BY MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

The night before educator Monica Gil helped surprise Niles North High School teacher Pankaj Sharma with the announcement that he won a Golden Apple award for 2016, she ran into some of his students, she said.

A Golden Apple evaluator who assessed Sharma during the process, Gil could not let on about what was to happen the following day.

"I was just engaging with some of the student leaders there and I asked them what high school they were from," she recounted. "They said, 'Niles North.'"

Then she asked them if they knew Mr. Sharma.

"These two students who didn't know me from anywhere said, 'Mr. Sharma? Yes. We love him.' They credited him for them being there."

"There" was a fund-raising event by Facing History and Ourselves, a nonprofit educational and professional development organization that "engages students" in the name of developing "a more humane and informed citizenry."

According to Sharma's students as well as his colleagues and now members of the Golden Apple evaluation team, this 14-year Niles Township High School District 219 teacher makes students want to make the world a better place.

"It was obvious that there was no one who wasn't positively impacted by him in some way," Gil said. "He had a positive impact it seems like on everyone."

Sharma, who graduated from Niles Township High School District 219 and has been an instructor at Niles North or sister Niles West his entire career, teaches U.S. History, government, civics and modern African and Latin American history.

"Sharma uses primary sources and discussion to imagine what the people during (earlier) times would have felt as events unfolded," the committee said in announcing him as a Golden Apple winner. "He has a genuine



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

**Above:** Niles North High School teacher Pankaj Sharma poses for a photo with his students and others after winning the Golden Apple award. **Left:** Niles North High School juniors Spencer Schwartz, left, and Uche Nwansi react when their teacher, Pankaj Sharma, won the 2016 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching.

enthusiasm for history and an authentic concern for his students, which is apparent in his classroom."

Sharma said many of his own teachers at District 219 inspired him to make a difference in his community, and he has wanted to pass that along.

"That was the most important thing I got from my education," he said. "What really made me want to become a teacher was to get students to see that they can have the power to make a difference in the world."

As is traditional with the announcement every year of the 10 winning teachers, Golden Apple representatives, the media and Sharma's family, colleagues and friends burst into his classroom. Students collectively screamed out and clapped when they learned why they were there; some even dabbed at their eyes.

"He's meant everything to me," said an overjoyed Spencer Schwartz, a junior in Sharma's class. "Mr. Sharma, in the classroom and out of the classroom, makes everything a fun educational experience."

The popular teacher oversees a student-run dance marathon every year that raises some \$80,000 for a different charitable cause; he sponsors Niles North's W.H.O. (We Help Others) Club, which aims to "address significant unmet needs of the community"; he arranges field trips that allow students real-world experiences beyond the classroom.

"This is not only an outstanding instructor, but he really motivates and inspires his students to be leaders — not only in the classroom but also in our local community," said Niles North Principal Ryan McTague. "He inspires them to be activists, to engage in issues

of social justice, really to look beyond their own back door."

McTague was the first one through Sharma's door April 13 to make the surprise announcement.

"Your very own Mr. Sharma has been named recipient of the 2016 Golden Apple Award," he proclaimed to a loud roar. "This is one of the most prestigious awards in teaching in all of Illinois, and we all know that he is so deserving."

The non-profit Golden Apple organization says it is committed to "celebrating and developing great teachers with the ability and passion to make life-changing differences in the lives of students."

Recipients of the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching come from a pool of more than 400 nominations throughout Chicago and the surrounding suburbs, according to Golden Apple.

Each Golden Apple Award win-

ner receives a tuition-free, spring quarter sabbatical to study at Northwestern University along with a \$5,000 cash award.

"Perhaps most importantly," Golden Apple says, "award recipients become Fellows of the Golden Apple Academy of Educators, giving them a stronger voice and a larger stage from which to make a difference within Illinois and nationally."

For Niles North students, the award could not have gone to a more inspiring teacher.

Schwartz made a special effort to have Sharma as a teacher this year, she said, but added he becomes "everyone's teacher" whether they are in his class or not.

"I really feel Mr. Sharma showed us a view on both sides of history," said junior Uche Nwansi. "Usually, you learn history from the side of the oppressors, but he really makes history fair."

And he has a special rapport with all of his students that makes a difference, she said.

"He cares about the little things, and that's the one thing I really appreciated this year," Nwansi said, adding that he asks about details of students' lives that she didn't even think he would remember. "I just love him so much."

Like Gil, educator Kevin Nohely observed Sharma in the classroom and interviewed students, parents, staff and administrators as part of the Golden Apple process. The testimonies of students even brought him to tears, he said.

"I've been in education for 24 years," Nohely said. "I've evaluated what I would consider the most exceptional instructional leaders. He rose above the top. If I could say one word: rockstar."

Sharma may have the popularity of a rockstar, but Nohely also used the word "humble" to describe him.

So did Sharma.

"It's a very humbling thing," the teacher said. "It's a very nice thing. It's a nice honor for our school and for our students. For me, it's very surprising. I never ever thought in a million years I'd be standing here today like this."



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

A new route system was approved by both the village trustees and the bus service company's board of directors. It will be implemented May 2.

## Officials: Streamlined Pace bus routes coming in May

BY LEE V. GAINES  
Pioneer Press

A streamlined set of routes will debut on the Niles Free Bus system May 2, according to a news release from Pace bus system.

The revised system is the result of a years-long modernization project and incorporates the results of a \$300,000 study initiated in 2014. Funding for the study was provided through a grant and the remaining cost was picked up by Pace, with no expense to the village of Niles, Pace officials said during a Village Board meeting last year.

The new system includes changes to existing routes 411 and 412, the elimination of route 413 and the creation of an all-new route 410, the release states.

The changes are cost neutral, meaning neither the bus company nor the village is expected to contribute any more money to fund the total \$1.5 million annual expense of the service, according to Pace officials.

The free bus service functions under an agreement between Niles and Pace; the bus company provides the

vehicles while the drivers are employed by the village. Riders are charged nothing to use the service.

Pace gathered information about where riders boarded and exited the buses to establish what destinations are highly frequented and which are relatively unpopular among customers, according to the release. Feedback from surveys and multiple public hearings combined with the data Pace gathered informed the design of the new system.

"It was pretty clear throughout this study that what we found was, over the past decades, the service hasn't changed substantially, but the village of Niles has," Alex Garcia, senior planner for Pace, told Niles trustees at a meeting late last year.

The brand new route 410, dubbed East Niles Local, will service areas of the village east of Milwaukee Avenue, replacing portions of the existing 411 and 413 Routes. The 410 route will operate between Golf Mill Shopping Center and Village Crossing Shopping Center, with stops at Notre Dame High School, the Niles Pub-

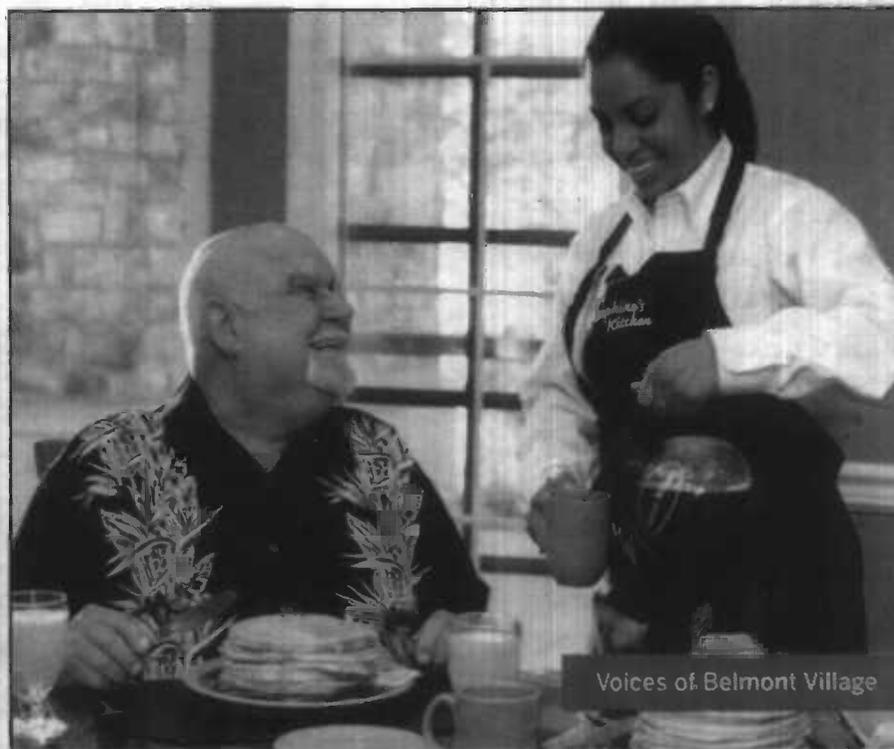
lic Library, Civic Center, Leaning Tower YMCA and Touhy Avenue Walmart.

Route 411, renamed West Niles Local, will provide coverage to areas west of Milwaukee Avenue and link Golf Mill and Village Crossing. Destinations along the restructured route include Dempster Plaza, Ballard Plaza, Oak Mill Mall, the Leaning Tower YMCA, the Walmart on Touhy and St. Andrew Life Center on select trips.

The revised 412 route, called the North Niles Circulator, will serve the area between Golf Mill and the Terrace Square Condominiums on Dee Road in addition to the Four Flags Shopping Center, Golf Road Walmart, Huntington Apartments and Maynard Road east of Greenwood Avenue on select trips.

Pace staff will ride the buses in the weeks leading up to the implementation of the new system to distribute information to riders. New route maps and timetables can be found at [PaceBus.com](http://PaceBus.com) and on the buses.

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



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# Firm suggests changes in reporting policies

## D219 to enact new rules in wake of investigation

BY LEE V. GAINES  
Pioneer Press

Staff at Niles Township High School District 219 are busy implementing the recommendations outlined in a report from a Chicago-based law firm that identifies a slew of questionable management practices with regard to spending by and compensation of district administrators, according to the district's director of strategic partnerships and community relations, Jim Szczepaniak.

The report, produced by Franczek Radelet, is the result of a monthslong investigation that began when the district's Board of Education placed two top administrators, Superintendent Nanciann Gatta and Chief Legal Officer and Assistant Superintendent for Operations John Heintz on leave last August.

Gatta and Heintz resigned in November under board-approved mutual separation agreements that stated neither the board nor the departing administrators "has done anything wrong."

The board has remained tight-lipped about the investigation, declining to answer questions about the findings of a team of attorneys and a forensic investigation firm.

The district recently released a partial response to a Freedom of Information Act request submitted by the Chicago Tribune. The response includes a summary of the investigation conducted by Franczek Radelet, a list of findings and 17 recommendations.

In a memo to the board dated March 9, Todd Faulkner and Dana Fattore Crumley of Franczek Radelet write in their summary of the investigation that the firm was hired to "investigate and develop appropriate



NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

NTHS District 219 board members listen to public comments during a meeting last September.

ate options to address certain management practices in the district that had been brought to the attention of the board by the president and another member of the current board and certain top-level administrators."

Attorneys from the firm interviewed at least 18 current and former District 219 staff members, former district board members and employees of vendors, in addition to reviewing tens of thousands of electronic and physical records, the memo states. The district's board "placed no restraints on the scope of the investigation or access by the investigators," according to the memo.

A Tribune investigation last fall revealed that the two former administrators at the high school district received \$450,000 worth of benefits, nearly \$300,000 worth of graduate school tuition at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. The administrators received these perks while the district struggled with cuts to staff and school programming in recent years.

Documents indicate Gatta's compensation also exceeded what was allowed by her contract. She cashed out nearly double the amount of unused vacation time she was allowed under her contract, and received \$73,000 worth of checks from the district directly rather than through a retirement fund per her contract, according to the records.

The report from Franczek Radelet identified "payment of compensation to, or for the benefit of, a top-level administrator which was inconsistent with the applicable provisions of the employment contract, including contributions to deferred compensation plans and for unused vacation time."

Gatta previously said any payments made to her were always done so with board approval. According to the report from Franczek Radelet, approval of these payments and expenditures were buried in "voluminous payroll and accounts payable reports."

"The expenditures and actions arguably received technical approval by the

board when it acted on the payroll and accounts payable reports, but for the most part the board's approval, in our opinion, was not adequately formed," the report states.

The report goes on to add that the expenditures and payments occurred within a "culture in which questioning of expenditures by employees was resisted and which readily accepted limited disclosure, documentation and oversight."

The Tribune investigation also revealed Heintz filed expense reports that appeared to double-bill for travel expenses. The district shelled out \$13,000 for airfare, conference registration fees and hotel stays on 10 trips the administrator took over two years. Records also indicate Gatta and Heintz exceeded reimbursement limits on several occasions while dining out locally.

The report from Franczek identifies "reimbursement for business expenses and equipment" that "appeared to be beyond that needed for business purposes" among the investiga-

tion's findings in addition to "frequent attendance by top-level administrators at out-of-district, and often out-of-state, conferences" and use of district credit cards for meals described as "working" lunches or dinner within close proximity to the district.

The report also notes "engagement of vendors utilizing close relatives of one or more administrators" and "engagement of a vendor which paid a top-level administrator as an employee/consultant."

Both Gatta's brother and husband, a fitness instructor, worked for the district, and ECRA-HYA, a firm founded by her father, also did business with the district, according to a Tribune story from 2012. Three school board members had relatives on the district's payroll during the same period.

Among the recommendations outlined by Franczek Radelet is the suggestion the district establish an "anti-nepotism policy" that would require "supervisors to stay out of employment decisions relating to spouses,

relatives, and significant others" in addition to providing for the disclosure of any relationships with vendors that the district contracts or is proposed to contract.

The vast majority of the recommendations detailed advise the district's board establish standards and procedures related to district credit card use and reporting, mileage and expense reporting, reimbursement, reporting of accounts payable, payroll, restricting the use of district-owned equipment, professional development, reporting of vacation and other leaves and legal review of contracts and discipline policies. The report also recommends the board strengthen and broaden its ethics policy, especially in regard to the board and administrators and the extension of that policy to vendors. Additionally, the firm advises that a mechanism for confidential reporting be established, which would include prompt review of reports of any "unethical and/or unlawful" conduct by board members, vendors or employees.

Szczepaniak wrote in an email that the district is "already taking action on some of these recommendations." He said the district's business office is working to "reinforce appropriate processes to follow for all purchasing and reimbursement requests" and that the board has revised the administrative procedures for travel expenses to require conference agendas and detailed receipts for travel reimbursements in addition to setting a maximum allowance for each meal.

Any recommendations that have not been implemented by the time the district hires its new top administrator will be "tagged as a priority for the new full-time superintendent," Szczepaniak wrote.

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

# Lincolnwood adjusts to increased police presence

BY LEE V. GAINES  
Pioneer Press

Jim Schejbal said he mistook the sound of gunshots near his Lincolnwood home this past Easter Sunday for firecrackers.

Schejbal, 50, who lives in the 3700 block of Columbia Avenue, said it wasn't until police cars pulled up outside Columbia park across the street from his residence that he learned it was a shooting.

A 23-year-old man was shot and injured on the afternoon of March 27 when a car pulled up and opened fire at another vehicle in the 6700 block of Hamlin Street.

Lincolnwood police Lt. Randy Rathmell said the department was not releasing any additional information and that the investigation was ongoing.

On April 11, Schejbal said residents in the quiet neighborhood met with police officials. He described the event as "a good meeting." Schejbal said police did not provide residents with any additional information

about the ongoing investigation.

Police found the victim after receiving a call from Evanston Hospital where he was being treated for non-life-threatening injuries. Lincolnwood Police say the man, who was sitting in the front passenger seat of a vehicle parked near his home along with two other people when he was shot, has since been released from the hospital.

Police described the incident as isolated, and said the victim and the other people in the car were likely targeted. They said the man was cooperating with an ongoing investigation.

Another Columbia Avenue resident, who declined to be named for fear of being targeted by those responsible for the shooting, said she's pleased with the response by police and said they've stepped up patrols of the neighborhood in the weeks since the shooting.

Joe Rodrigues, 61, a Columbia Avenue resident who was at Schejbal's home at the time the shooting oc-

curred, said he's seen members of the police force talking with kids at the park and participating in basketball games in the weeks since the March 27 incident.

"We've never had anything like this happen before," Rodrigues said. He said he believes the increased police presence will deter any similar incidents in the future.

All three residents interviewed said the park was packed with children shortly before the shooting occurred. Schejbal, who has six children — four of whom live with him — said it started raining around 4 p.m. and that's when all the kids came inside.

"They say God works in mysterious ways," said the neighbor who declined to be named. "Because of the rain, the kids came inside."

Schejbal said he's thankful the victim was not severely injured. He said he's seen the man playing basketball at the park but does not know him personally.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelancer.

# Cook County judge finds Chicago man guilty in 1992 Evanston murder

BY BOB SEIDENBERG  
Pioneer Press

A Chicago man accused of murdering a woman in her Evanston apartment nearly 24 years ago was found guilty by a Cook County judge April 14, police announced in a press release.

Cook County Circuit Court Judge Jeffrey Warnick found Jimmy Dunlap, 45, guilty in a bench trial at the Skokie Court House, Evanston po-



Dunlap

lice said in a release, with sentencing to take place May 24.

On April 23, 1992, Dendre Dawson was discovered brutally murdered in her apartment in the 600 block of Sherman Avenue from multiple stab wounds, said Cmdr. Joseph Dugan, department spokesperson.

Her 4-year-old son was discovered in the apartment unharmed, he said.

Evanston police detectives followed up on numerous leads, but they were unable to identify an offender in the incident, Dugan said.

In May of 2013 that changed, Evanston detectives were able to link Dunlap to the murder after resubmitting evidence to the Illinois State Police Laboratory for advanced DNA analysis, Dugan said.

Dunlap was charged with first degree murder on May 29, 2013, he said.

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

#### RETAIL THEFT

■ A 17-year-old Chicago boy was charged with retail theft April 10 after he allegedly stole a bag of merchandise from a store on the 6100 block of Touhy Avenue and concealed additional items in his pants. The value of the stolen items was \$139.24, police said. He has a May 24 court date.

#### DUI

■ Miguel A. Cruz, 38, of the 600 block of Dempster Street, Mount Prospect, was charged with driving under the influence April 7 after he was reportedly stopped for a traffic violation on Oakton Street. He had an April 12 court date.

■ Christopher Felcan, 21, of the 700 block of Medinah Road, Bloomingdale, was charged with driving under

the influence April 9. Police said an officer approached Felcan's car after Felcan was seen pulling into a parking lot on the 7200 block of Dempster and turning off his car's lights. He has a May 24 court date.

■ Stefano Bertelli, 34, of the 5100 block of Conrad, Skokie, was charged with driving under the influence April 13 after he was stopped for allegedly speeding on the 8100 block of Dempster Street. His court date was not available.

#### RUSE ENTRY

■ A box containing an unknown amount of money was reported stolen April 7 from a house on the 6800 block of Lexington Lane in what police said was a ruse entry scheme. According to police, the resident was approached by a man who offered to remove a dead tree from the backyard. The resident then followed the visitor to the back of the home. When the visitor left,

the man discovered a bedroom closet door open and his cash box missing, police said.

#### PROPERTY DAMAGE

■ A woman told police that on April 13 she was in a parking lot on the 8600 block of Dempster Street when a man made a comment about how she had parked her car and threw an unknown object at it. The man then allegedly kicked the front passenger door, causing damage to it.

#### ALCOHOL

■ A 44-year-old Chicago man was ticketed for public intoxication and cost of emergency services April 8 after he was reportedly found passed out on a sidewalk on the 6800 block of Milwaukee Avenue. Police said the man had a cut on his face and he claimed he had gotten into a fight with friends. He was taken back to the motel at which he was staying, police said.

■ Two juveniles, a boy and a girl, were cited for possession of alcohol by a minor April 13 at Golf Mill Shopping Center. Police said they were stopped by mall security who reportedly saw them drinking Red's Apple Ale, which the boy said he brought from his house and thought was apple juice. Both were released to their parents.

#### THEFT

■ An employee at a gas station on the 6900 block of Milwaukee Avenue reported that a woman stole candy and an unknown number of e-cigarettes April 8. According to police, the employee said he tried to stop the woman outside, but she became "extremely hostile," so he returned to the gas station and called 911.

■ A 2016 Honda CRV was reported stolen April 9 from a parking lot on the 8500 block of Golf Road. The owner told police she was unsure if she turned off the

car when she parked.

■ Cash, a wallet and an iPod were reported stolen April 9 from the storage room of a restaurant on the 9000 block of Milwaukee Avenue after a man was seen going inside the room.

■ A 75-year-old Des Plaines woman was issued a local ordinance ticket April 9 after she allegedly put on clothing valued at \$120 and walked out of a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center without paying.

■ A 22-year-old woman reported that her backpack was stolen April 9 after she left it in an unattended shopping cart inside a store on the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue. Police said a man and a woman tried to use a credit card from the backpack to buy gift cards at the same store, but the credit card was declined and the couple left.

■ A man allegedly filled a shopping cart with razors and walked out the door of a store on the 9000 block of

Golf Road without paying for them April 10.

■ On April 10, three people allegedly stole \$803 worth of over-the-counter cold medicine from a store on the 9600 block of Milwaukee Avenue. An employee reportedly tried to stop them, but they managed to get away, police said.

■ A woman allegedly stole \$400 worth of skin cream from a store on the 8000 block of Milwaukee Avenue April 11.

■ A store on the 8500 block of Golf Road reported losing \$800 in a "quick-change scam" April 13, police said.

■ A bicycle valued at \$700 was reported stolen April 12 after it was locked to a bike rack at Golf Mill Shopping Center.

■ A package containing a radar detector valued at \$690 was reported stolen April 12 after the owner said it was delivered to his home on the 8500 block of Clifton Avenue, but he never received it.

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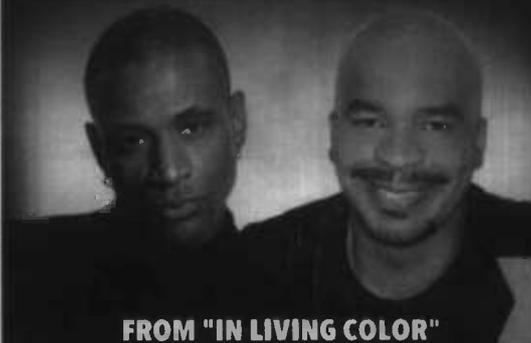
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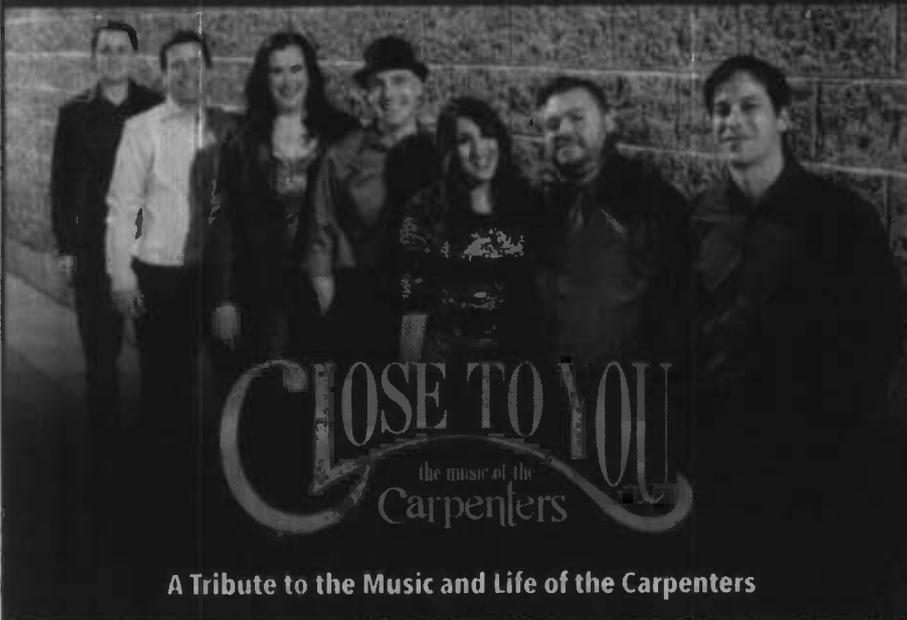


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# A hero's welcome home

Park Ridge man one of first Korea vets on Honor Flight

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

When John Gervase arrived home after his Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., last week, he got a hero's welcome right at his front door.

A crowd of neighbors, Park Ridge Kiwanis Club members and local police and fire personnel gathered on Gervase's front lawn with flashlights and American flags to greet the man known as the "block captain" of Good Avenue when he returned April 13 from a whirlwind tour of war monuments in the nation's capital.

It was Gervase's second celebratory welcome that night. As his Honor Flight Chicago plane landed at Midway Airport, he and other veterans were also treated like celebrities as they passed through a cordoned-off parade route of sorts, with a bagpipers marching behind, said Park Ridge fire Chief Jeff Sorensen, who accompanied Gervase to and from the airport.

"It was surprising to see how many people came out to greet us," Gervase, 87, said of the welcomes he received. "It meant so much that we were the fortunate ones, instead of being lost on the battlefield."

Gary Washburn, a volunteer with Honor Flight Chicago, said Gervase served in the U.S. Army from January 1952 to December 1953 and was stationed in Germany during the Korean War.

The flight Gervase was on was the very first Chicago Honor Flight to include veterans from the Korean War era, said Mary Pettinato, co-founder and CEO of the nonprofit organization, which began in 2008 as a provider of no-cost trips to Washington D.C. for World War II veterans.

As fewer World War II veterans are signing up to take part in flights, trips are now opening up to military veterans of the next war era,



ANTHONY TRIPP PHOTO

John Gervase of Park Ridge, seated, is joined by Park Ridge Police Sgt. Sgt. Michael Luehr, Officer Jim Novy, Officer Andre Moravet, Fire Chief Jeff Sorensen, Deputy Police Chief Duane Mellema and Officer Dan Lauria during a welcome home celebration on April 13. Gervase had just returned from participating in a Honor Flight Chicago.

she said.

On Gervase's flight, he was one of 62 Korean War-era veterans and 39 World War II veterans, Pettinato said. Military veterans do not need to have served in battle in order to qualify for an Honor Flight, she added.

Gervase explained that an injury he received during Army training sent him to Germany as a medic instead of to Korea in 1952. There, he cared for soldiers who were hurt during the war.

His one-day visit to Washington, D.C., included a tour of the Korean War Veterans Memorial, as well as the memorials to those lost in World War II and Vietnam, he said.

"To see the memorial for the Korean War was touching," said Gervase, speaking of the 19 stainless steel statues that represent mem-

bers of the armed forces standing within a walled, triangular space. "You could have sworn they were coming out of the wall it was so realistic."

Gervase's trip to and from Midway Airport was made possible through assistance from the Park Ridge Police and Fire departments, said Sorensen, who is also one of Gervase's neighbors. Washburn said he reached out to the city of Park Ridge after learning Gervase did not have any transportation.

"Four Kiwanis Park Ridge AM Club members, including myself, and one Park Ridge police officer escorted John to Midway at 4 a.m.," Sorensen said. "In the evening, myself and Dan Juris, Park Ridge Kiwanis AM Club, went to pick John up after his return flight into Midway."

Gervase laughed as he recalled the police officer joking with him on the road to Midway.

"He said, 'So John, is this the first time you're riding in a squad car when you did nothing wrong?'" Gervase recalled.

A group of on-duty police officers also escorted Gervase home from the Dempster Street exit of I-294, Sorensen said.

In an effort to get Gervase's neighbors involved, Sorensen sent out messages, encouraging them to come out and welcome the 40-year resident back home with fanfare. It was an invitation Jan Travis couldn't turn down.

"John's a big socializer, and he is known by everybody on the block," she said. "He tells jokes, he's funny and he's just a good guy.

He's got a lot of stories."

Travis said there were "at least five police cars," as well as a fire engine, that escorted Gervase back home.

"It was quite exciting," she said.

Travis and neighbor Jim Kapustiak both said Gervase is known for keeping an eye on the neighborhood.

"It's almost like he's a security guard because he watches the block," Kapustiak said. "He'll speak up if something suspicious is happening."

Gervase also helped organize block parties, Kapustiak said.

"I had a team with me who brought food," Gervase said. "Sometimes we had a rotisserie lamb on a spit going around. We would charge \$5 a family. We

didn't care if you had 10 people in the house or two. We were out there to have fun with all the people."

Gervase said he is thankful to the everyone who helped make his April 13 flight possible. Sorensen said witnessing the celebrations at Midway and on Gervase's block made him feel that many of the veterans were finally getting "the welcome home these guys deserved."

"It's one of those things that makes you feel really proud to be an American, and you also feel this is the homecoming most of these people probably never got," he said. "It's almost like we were making something right that was wrong for a long time."

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# Glencoe resident appointed to State Board of Health

BY DANIEL I. DORFMAN  
Pioneer Press

A Glencoe resident has been appointed by Gov. Bruce Rauner to the 17-member State Board of Health, the governor's office announced last week.

Jerrold Leikin, born in Skokie, has studied toxicology throughout his 30-year medical career and currently serves as the director of medical toxicology at NorthShore University HealthSystem-OMEGA in Glenview.

"Leikin is a leader in the field of toxicology, having written a number of textbooks that are used throughout the country and around the world," an April 15 statement from Rauner's office said. "In addition to toxicology, he is considered an expert in bioterrorism and is consulted nationally and



JERROLD LEIKIN PHOTO

Dr. Jerrold Leikin has been appointed to the State Board of Health.

internationally on this topic."

According to its website, the State Board of Health advises the Public Health Director on health needs assessments, statewide health objectives, policy development and assurance of access to necessary services.

Leikin said he is anxious to channel his energy, talents and experience in a new forum.

"I've been working with the Illinois Poison Center for about 30 years," Leikin said. "They are the ultimate public health entity, and that has given me the expertise on what the issues are in medical toxicology throughout the whole state."

Leikin said the position will require attending at least four meetings per year, and possibly other assignments.

"I'm very excited," Leikin said. "I always like to have new challenges. I like to practice medicine not only at the bedside, but through the Poison Center and other venues. That is what makes medicine challenging."

Leikin said he received a bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa and his

medical degree at the Chicago Medical School in North Chicago. His interest in toxicology grew during a three-year fellowship at Cook County Hospital and University of Illinois Hospital.

"My grandfather was a pharmacist, so I was interested in the biochemistry within the human body and how drugs eliminate disease," Leikin said. "While my training was primarily in emergency medicine, where poisonings first become apparent, it is very important to recognize and treat these exposures in the emergency department."

Leikin previously served as medical director of the Rush Poison Control Center in Chicago. During that time, he advocated for the placement of home carbon monoxide detectors, first in Chicago and later through-

out the state. According to both the city and state's websites, laws were subsequently passed to mandate the use of carbon monoxide detectors.

Leikin said he has written five books and multiple articles for medical journals on toxicology and bioterrorism. The 1995 nerve gas attack at a Tokyo subway and the 2001 anthrax attacks in the U.S. are two of his major areas of study, he said.

"He's a unique physician in that he pretty much invented his specialty at the medical school, and he is one of the few physicians affiliated with most of the (local) medical schools and with multiple health systems," said Marc Glucksmann, a fellow Glencoe resident and chairman of the Chicago Medical School's biochemistry department.

Leikin said he plans to

focus on issues pertaining to toxicology and bioterrorism, such as reducing lead poisoning and making the distribution and application of medical marijuana safer.

"I also want to prevent undue exposure of poisons as much as possible, especially illicit drug abuse," he said.

In addition to his Glenview practice, Leikin provides consultations to corporations on occupational drug testing.

A Glencoe resident since 1985, Leikin said he served on a drug abuse committee for about five years at New Trier High School in the mid-2000s, and was a member of the Glencoe Caucus' school board nominating committee. He and his wife, Robin, have two children.

Daniel I. Dorfman is a freelance reporter.



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# Kicking the tires of new field turf

## Health concerns have parks, schools seeking substitute

By JOHN KEILMAN  
Chicago Tribune

Rain had fallen steadily for hours, the kind of shower that turns grass fields to mush and forces young athletes to take the day off. But there they were, a squad of 9- and 10-year-old Oak Park soccer players practicing their skills on a damp but playable surface made of plastic and rubber.

"I got here and was super-excited because any other field, there would be standing water," said Todd Hover, the team's coach.

Rain-or-shine playability is a big reason thousands of schools and park districts around the country have turned to artificial turf, but increasingly, some parents worry that the convenience has come with a trade-off.

"Crumb rubber" — the particles of shredded tires that cushion the turf like simulated dirt — has been called a health hazard by critics. They point to testing that has found the material to contain a range of harmful substances such as lead and mercury.

The industry responds that dozens of studies have shown crumb rubber to pose no threat to human health. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has launched a research project aimed at providing better answers, but in the meantime, companies are offering alternative materials for their fields.

They include coconut fiber, plastic granules and, in the case of Oak Park's soccer field, minced sneaker soles. These materials are pricier than shredded tires, but some public officials conclude that the expense is worth it to ease the minds of parents and athletes.

"We wanted to make sure that the community will be comfortable using it," said Stephen Scholten, of the Arlington Heights Park District, which this spring will install two fields using cork as infill. "Even though no definitive study has found whether crumb rubber is harmful, we just took an extra-careful approach."



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Oak Park's AYSO soccer teams practice on a new artificial turf field, made of ground-up sneakers, at Brooks Middle School in Oak Park on April 6.

## Carpets to crumbs

The first generation of artificial turf came out in the 1960s, billed as a way to keep fields in good shape despite heavy use. The plastic carpets developed a reputation as an injury threat, and in the mid-1990s, companies introduced a version that took advantage of old tires.

Grinding them into crumbs to be sprinkled among blades of plastic grass produced a more forgiving surface. Today, more than 11,000 fields in North America are covered with artificial grass, according to the Synthetic Turf Council. But over the last decade, some activists, coaches and parents have expressed concerns about the possible risks of crumb rubber.

One leading critic is Nancy Alderman, of Connecticut's Environment and Human Health Inc. The nonprofit research and advocacy group has questioned the safety of crumb rubber for years and recently commissioned a Yale University study that found a dozen carcinogenic chemicals in the material.

Alderman said the rubber

breaks down over time, producing dust that can be inhaled, swallowed or absorbed through cuts and scrapes. Though the effects on human health remain unclear, Alderman and other critics point to a list, compiled by University of Washington women's soccer coach Amy Griffin, of 220 athletes who said they were stricken with cancer after long periods of practicing and playing on synthetic turf.

Griffin acknowledged that her list does not prove causation, but it has still prompted her to take precautions with her team. They practice on grass as often as possible, and when they do use an artificial field, the goalkeepers, the position that accounts for the most cancer cases on Griffin's list, are urged to wear long sleeves and pants.

Despite the cancer fears, Michael Peterson, a toxicologist who advises the Recycled Rubber Council, said many studies have failed to show a link between crumb rubber and health problems.

"(The) presence of a chemical does not mean that anyone will be exposed to it or that it would be

harmful, and does not necessarily mean it reaches levels above commonly accepted baselines," he said.

Such reassurances have not satisfied Chicago-area parents such as Nancy Perlman. She and a group of neighbors sued the Glen Ellyn Park District last year to stop the installation of a crumb rubber field at Newton Park, saying wind and rain would carry the particles to her property.

The district denied that the rubber would migrate via the elements or pose a health hazard, and it said the project had overwhelming public support. When a judge declined to issue an order to stop construction, Perlman and her neighbors dropped the suit and the field was completed.

Perlman said she doesn't know whether crumb rubber has gotten into her yard — the district said it has received no complaints about that from anyone — but she remains uneasy about the material.

"There are many carcinogenic chemicals in ground-up tires," she said. "It seems like doing research first would be the safer approach to protect people."

## New surfaces spread

FieldTurf, a company that says it accounts for about half of the artificial turf in America, used crumb rubber in almost every project five years ago. Today, 15 percent of its fields use other types of infill, from cork to plastic.

Batavia Public School District 101 decided to use a FieldTurf product, CoolPlay, on its new high school football field. The material includes a layer of cork particles atop a crumb rubber base, but Pat Browne, the district's director of building and grounds, said the rubber should not come into contact with athletes.

"We've been looking into the issue of whether the claims of rubber causing cancer have any merit," he said. "Research doesn't seem to indicate that at the moment, but we wanted to be prudent."

When Oak Park installed two fields late last year, it went with Nike Grind, which uses the shredded rubber soles of athletic shoes.

"It feels a little weird because it's so colorful," said 9-year-old Alexandra Ballinger.

Jan Arnold, of the Park District of Oak Park, which provided most of the funding for the \$1.6 million project, said the community appears satisfied with the choice.

"There hasn't been any concern expressed about tennis shoes," she said. "People were less concerned because there are regulations about apparel."

Contrary to crumb rubber, Nike Grind has not been the subject of much independent research. The company did not respond to questions about the chemicals it contains but said it is "routinely tested against safety standards" before being used on fields.

Alderman said the lack of detailed information on crumb rubber substitutes leads her to believe that the oldest a grass playing surface is still the best, even when it is treated with pesticides.

"We always promote grass," she said. "The problem with alternatives is that none of them have been independently tested, so we don't know the effects of any of them."

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# More than 50 years later, Skokie Blvd. hotel building demolished

BY MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

A small slice of Skokie history was in the process of becoming a memory along Skokie Boulevard during a recent few days.

On the 9300 block of the busy north-south street, where a hotel or motel has stood for some five decades now, the building was being demolished to make room for a new shopping plaza.

When last opened, it was home to the Rodeway Inn hotel, but it began its life as a Howard Johnson's, built in two phases, according to the Skokie Planning Department.

The village's planners say that the original two-story building was constructed in 1963, and the additional five-story building that housed an indoor swimming pool some seven years later.

Although the building changed

hands several times, it always remained a hotel or motel of one kind or another.

For the last several years, officials said, the Rodeway Inn site was owned by a development team that was looking to create new commercial uses for it. The hotel restaurant attached to the building had been vacant for a few years before the hotel closed its doors, they said.

Developer Edwin Vdovets, of Keeler Real Estate LLC, believes the area is viable for commercial success — especially since it falls within the trade area of Westfield Old Orchard, he said.

He called the project that will draw three new businesses to the area "advantageous to the village."

Under plans approved by the Skokie Village Board, the three businesses include a Chick-fil-A eatery, a Bank of America branch and a AAA Car Care Auto Service.

Project real estate lawyer Mark Gershon called the Rodeway Inn "old" and "a deteriorating use" of the property when the project went before the Skokie Plan Commission. He said it will be replaced with "a first-class development."

According to Skokie's Planning Department, the development will occupy about 2.5 acres and front Skokie Boulevard, Emerson Street and Gross Point Road. It will include three buildings and two drive-thru facilities — one for the restaurant and one for the bank.

The development is not the only future addition to the area. Next door to the site in the Jewel-Osco parking lot, a new Culver's restaurant is scheduled to be built as well.

[misaacs@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:misaacs@pioneerlocal.com)  
Twitter @SKReview\_Mike



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

For decades, this building on the 9300 block of Skokie Boulevard in Skokie has been home to one hotel/motel or another. A little piece of local history is now being erased as the building gets torn down to make room for a small shopping plaza.

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NEWS

# Local 'Beliebers' in disbelief about upcoming performance

Pop singer Justin  
 Bieber to perform  
 at Allstate Arena

BY RONNIE WACHTER  
 Pioneer Press

Country Meadows Elementary School 5th-grader Hannah Ohel felt the way most kids do when her teacher told her to go to the principal's office.

"I was nervous because I didn't think I did anything wrong," the 11-year-old Long Grove resident said. "I thought I was in trouble for something I didn't do."

As it turned out, though, Ohel and close friend Jordyn Shapiro, 11, of Highland Park had done something outside of school that needed to be addressed. The producers of pop singer Justin Bieber's world tour selected both students to be backup dancers during a concert stop next weekend in Rosemont.

"I don't know how to put it into words," Ohel said. "I was tearing up, crying."

Shapiro and Ohel, who both study at Soul2Sole Dance Inc. in Buffalo Grove and Highland Park, were selected for the appearance from hundreds of young dancers who sent in video applications to back up the Biebs for one song during his April 22 and 23 shows at the Allstate Arena.

"I cannot believe it," Shapiro said.

"A couple of years ago, I would have never thought something like this could happen," she said.

The two dance students will not perform together — Shapiro will be on the stage the night of April 22, followed by Ohel on April 23. But studio owner Debbie Kramer said she felt great satisfaction after learning two of her students were selected for the upcoming Bieber show.

"I am beyond thrilled that these girls have this recognition," Kramer said.



ERIC P. DAVIS/PIONEER PRESS

Jordyn Shapiro, center, will perform as a dancer for Justin Bieber after winning a video audition contest.

Since using YouTube to gain fame in 2009, Bieber has sold millions of records, toured the world, inspired boys' haircut styles and attracted numerous fans, who are known for their "Bieber Fever" for the pop star. In February, he won his first Grammy for best dance recording.

The set for his new tour includes the song, "Children." For each show, four young backup dancers, who are selected from communities near a particular show, perform with Bieber onstage.

Auditions for each tour stop were conducted via YouTube. Hopeful "Beliebers" sent in hours of clips of themselves working through the song's choreographed routine. Shapiro said the moves were simple compared to other dances she and Ohel have performed.

"It's fun, it's not meant to be challenging," she said. "It's kind of tiring."

Kramer and Alissa Deutsch, who teaches hip-hop and other dance moves at Soul2Sole, said both girls resonate a special charisma. Most dancers can perform a routine with technical pro-

ficiency, they said, but it takes a special skill to sell it to an audience.

"They're full of personality, both onstage and off," Deutsch said. "Your eye naturally goes to them when they perform."

Kramer said the girls' moxie sets them apart. And Ohel feared her moxie prompted the summons April 7 to Principal Kathryn Sheridan's office.

"The principal said I needed to call my mom right away," Ohel said, recalling how her fear turned toward her loved ones. "My mom said in a very huge voice, 'I got an email!'"

The email said Ohel was one of the eight selected for Bieber's two Rosemont shows. Shapiro received a similar message.

Ohel is looking forward to chatting with Shapiro after the Bieber show on April 22 and sharing their experiences about dancing to "Children."

"We will probably be so not believing we just did that," Ohel said. "Like trying to make sure it's not a dream."

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# Group wants midwives to be able to practice without nursing degree

BY DUAA ELDEIB  
Chicago Tribune

Facing opposition to a bill that would allow more midwives to practice legally in Illinois, advocates staged a protest complete with colorful signs, baby carriers and cozy blankets April 12.

The group gathered in front of the American Academy of Pediatrics' headquarters in Elk Grove Village after the academy's Illinois chapter came out against the Home Birth Safety Act.

The proposed legislation, which has yet to make it out of committee, would license midwives who did not attend nursing school. Currently, certified nurse midwives who have their nursing degree as well as additional midwifery training, are able to practice legally in Illinois. Officials with AAP's Illinois chapter said both groups of midwives should be held to the same standards of doctor su-

pervision.

But proponents of the bill contend there are far too few certified nurse midwives and that the certified professional midwives meet standards set by a national group.

Licensing certified professional midwives would meet the rising need of women who want to deliver at home while putting an end to the "black market of maternity care," said Michelle Breen, spokeswoman for the Coalition for Illinois Midwifery.

"We have a home-birth maternity care crisis in Illinois," said Breen, who estimated that 30 states license certified professional midwives.

The debate is not new, with different versions of the bill making their way to Springfield through the years.

Medical groups, including AAP's Illinois chapter and the Illinois State Medical Society, have opposed the bill.

Dr. Barbara Bayldon, president of the executive committee of the AAP's Illinois chapter, said the primary concern with this version of the proposed legislation is that it does not outline a formal collaboration between certified professional midwives and doctors.

"As pediatricians, we know firsthand that even a routine birth can unexpectedly become complicated putting both the infant and mother in danger," Bayldon said in a statement. "Physicians with experience in identifying high risk births, such as obstetricians, need to be an integral part of the midwifery team through a written collaborative practice agreement to provide guidance and support to (certified professional midwives) when needed to reach the mutual goal of a healthy birth, healthy mother and healthy infant."

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CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Kaitlyn Pocius, Joslyn Engnell, 5, Caley Kolb, and Amanda Pocius protest with other supporters of the Home Birth Safety Act on April 12.

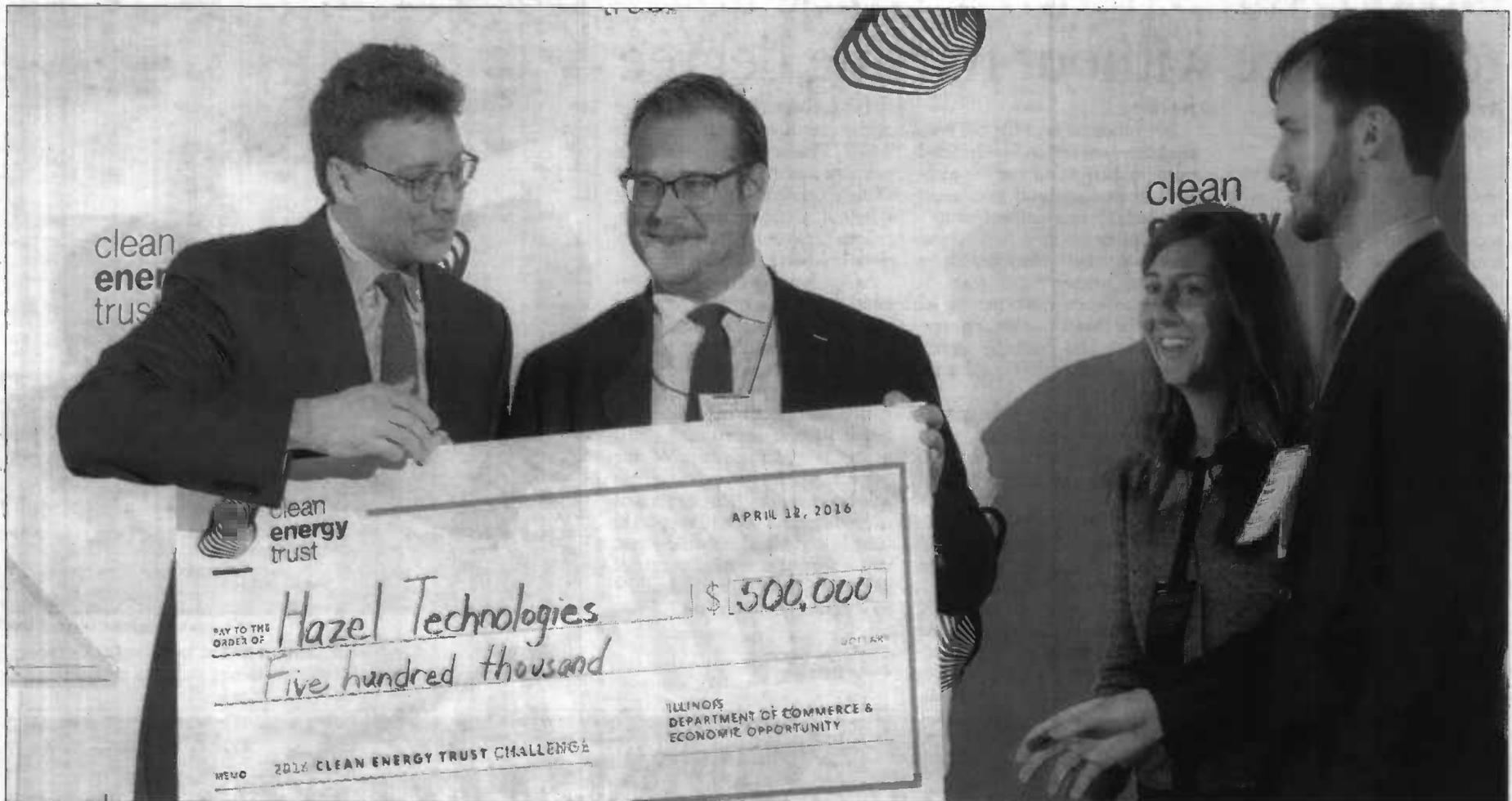
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KRISTEN NORMAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Erik Birkerts, left, CEO Clean Energy Trust, presents Hazel Technologies with the Illinois Clean Energy Fund Award during the Clean Energy Trust Challenge April 12, in Chicago.

# Skokie tech company wins top prize

## Hazel Technologies garners win at annual Clean Energy Trust competition for food container

BY ALLY MAROTTI  
Blue Sky Innovation

Hazel Technologies, a Skokie-based clean-tech startup working to reduce food waste, came away with the top prize at the Clean Energy Trust's annual business pitch competition April 12.

Hazel, which makes a biodegradable container to help prevent food from spoiling before it's sold, won the Illinois Clean Energy Fund Award at the sixth annual Clean Energy Challenge in Chicago. The award is for a startup with a market-ready product; it comes with a \$500,000 investment.

Aidan Mouat, CEO and co-founder of Hazel Technologies, said the company will use the

money to help grow the business and develop its product past the prototype phase.

"We've already identified a larger space to move into in the Illinois Science and Technology Park (and can) purchase the necessary equipment to scale up our product fourfold," he said. "Within a couple months, we should be production-capable on the commercial scale."

Hazel recently secured a \$100,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and several of its co-founders left April 13 to pitch at the Rice (University) Business Plan Competition in Houston.

"There's potential they'll be riding a high into that," said Clean Energy Trust CEO Erik Birkerts.

"We're going to set out some milestones for them to hit... It's a company CET can apply some elbow grease to and help them succeed."

The award represented half of the \$1 million handed out at the business competition. Fourteen clean-tech companies, all from the Midwest, completed a six-week accelerator program and pitched, vying for investment awards.

Hazel was the only Chicago-area startup to secure any investments. Three companies divided up the remaining seven prizes, all but one of which were in the form of convertible notes.

St. Louis-based Nexmatix swept up three awards for a total of \$310,000. The startup creates technology that recycles com-

pressed air, as well as products that detect air leaks to help improve efficiency.

Nexmatix won the \$240,000 Wells Fargo Award, the \$45,000 United Airlines and Boeing Sustainable Energy Award and the \$25,000 ComEd Female CEO Award.

"The real captivating thing about that company is compressed air is a big inefficiency in buildings, and they have a solution that fixes it," Birkerts said. "Boeing raised their hand and said we have a real problem with that in our warehouses."

NovoMoto, a Madison, Wis.-based company developing a micro-solar grid for use in Congo, also took home three awards. It won the \$20,000 Power Clean

Cities Award, the \$20,000 Hanley Family Foundation Award and the \$50,000 Department of Energy Cleantech UP Student Award.

That Department of Energy award was the only one given out as a grant, Birkerts said.

Detroit- and New York City-based ride sharing app SPLT won the \$100,000 Pritzker Foundation Award.

Clean Energy Trust has invested in 33 Midwest startups since 2011, including the four that received investments April 12. It secures funding mostly from private companies that view startup technology as part of research and development.

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# The state saves while you lose



PAUL SASSONE

The state of Illinois doesn't have money, so we shouldn't have it, either.

How else to explain the dirty trick the Illinois secretary of state's office played on us when it stopped sending out notices that auto emissions tests were due?

Oh, the state is stopping that stoppage, but the damage has been done.

It started back in October when the secretary of state announced (but not very loudly) that because of the lack of a state budget the state needed to save money. So, notices of upcoming auto emissions test would, temporarily at least, not be sent out to save on postage.

This would initially affect drivers who nor-

mally would receive a notice in December that they needed an emissions test before the end of March.

This was me.

But, like every car owner in the state, I didn't remember when my emissions test expired. The state would let me know. Only it didn't.

But the state slipped up in my case. Each year, I renew my license plate via email after receiving a computerized reminder. I received such a reminder in December. The reminder mentioned I could not renew my license plate until my car had passed an emissions test, which I had to do by the end of March.

I took my car to the emissions station I have been using for years, expecting the usual long wait. Turns out I was there all by myself. There is a small fine for missing the emissions test deadline. And, according to recent Chicago Tribune reporting, be-

tween January and March 2015, 111,200 late registration citations were levied for a total of \$2.2 million in fines. For the same time period this year, there were 247,913 citations for a total of \$5 million in fines.

Belatedly, the state has realized withholding emissions notices is a bad idea.

On April 6, the secretary of state started mailing emissions notices to drivers whose emissions test expire in March, April and May, retroactive to March.

And starting June 1, the system of mailing notification notices will go back to normal.

But — and there always is a but or two — the state will not mail notices that license plate stickers are about to expire.

And we drivers still must pass an emissions test before we can renew our license plates.

So there.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.



NANCY STONE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White, seen here on Sept. 16, 2015, warned that the power at the state Capitol and driver facilities across the state could be shut off because of the state budget impasse.

# Do long lost family members have all the answers?



RANDY BLASER

One of the greatest epic stories in myth is Homer's "Odyssey," the tale of Odysseus' long journey from the Trojan War back home to Ithaca.

Yet this great story begins not with main character Odysseus, but with his son Telemachus, lost at home among the suitors seeking to replace Odysseus and left wondering where his father could be.

He even begins to doubt if Odysseus is his father:

"Mother has always told

me I'm his son, it's true, but I am not so certain. Who, on his own, has ever really known who gave him life?" Telemachus asks in Robert Fagles' great translation of the tale.

So begins his search for the father. It is a universal tale, an ancient myth that taps right into the heart of man's most basic questions. Where do I come from? Who is my father? Who am I?

Not many people bother with ancient myth anymore to explain this basic human quest, but there is a new show on TLC that taps into this deep longing.

The show is called "Long Lost Family" and aims to connect an adopted child — now a grown adult — with

his or her birth parents. It's a fascinating look at the longing and heartbreak and eventual joy these adoptees experience at finding their long lost family member.

The emotion is raw and riveting and the roller coaster ride these people take on the way to finding where they came from is breathtaking.

The show begins with a researcher meeting with an adult adoptee who discovered later they were adopted.

Sometimes their adopted family tells them the truth of their birth. Sometimes they find out by accident, stumbling upon a letter or a family member who somehow spills the beans.

This discovery leads

them to question everything they know about themselves, or thought they knew.

They wonder about the circumstances that caused their birth parent to give them up. They wonder if they were wanted. Were they loved? Is the parent still alive?

If I met them, would it explain the mysteries about me? Who am I? Where did I come from?

Like Telemachus in the myth, they begin to search for the long lost parent. Often, their search is futile. It leads to dead ends. Sometimes they never stop searching or sometimes they give up.

But they never stop wondering.

Telemachus also needed help in his search for his father. He obtained that help from Mentor (that's right, that's where the term mentor comes from), who guided him on his search.

So, too, our characters in today's TV show searching for their birth parents get help from a guide, or professional researcher.

Sometimes the search is amazingly easy, and they find the parent right away.

Sometimes the search is difficult. Sometimes the parent has died.

Finally, the adopted child and parent are reunited. If the parent has died, they find a lost sibling and connect them to their family.

The reunion is powerful and emotional for both.

Together, parent and child attempt to answer the most basic question, and there is a measure of solace in every case.

This modern retelling of an ancient myth has a lesson for us today that we ignore at our peril.

The longing for parent and family lies deep in the human heart.

When the bond of family is broken, the wound is deep and permanent. What can heal it?

In the great tale by Homer, Telemachus' reunion with his long lost father is what finally restores order to the chaos and finally peace to Ithaca.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

# Family values tied up with family finances

When our kids were younger, there were lots of questions like: "Why don't we have a summer house?" with the emphasis on the pronoun "we." There were questions about why "we" didn't take the same vacations as a certain family or drive a car like another family's or have televisions in every room like another family does.

Questions like these, which really have to do with money and making choices about how we spend it, pose opportunities for parents to share their values with their children. Do not shy away from talking about money, finances, savings and planning and the choices that you make.

This is the main message I took away from Ron Lieber's excellent talk, "The Opposite of Spoiled: Raising Children Who are Grounded, Generous and Smart about Money," which is also the title of Lieber's best selling book published last year.

Lieber was the last of The Community Speakers Series speakers for the year, the group of parent education talks that High School District 86, Elementary District 181, the District 181 Foundation and The Community House sponsored during the school year. Lieber's name may be familiar because he has written the "Your Money" column for the New York Times since 2008 and before that the "Green Thumb" personal finance column for The Wall Street Journal.

He grew up in Chicago and attended the private school Francis W. Parker. His life was fine, he said, until his parents divorced and the family was thrown into financial uncertainty and need. He became a scholarship student at Francis W. Parker and later attended Amherst with



**SARA CLARKSON**  
Dateline

financial aid and loans to attend. This is important because Lieber continues to support those schools and scholarships — one of Lieber's values and he shares it with his children.

What we can all agree on, Lieber said, is that no one wants to raise a spoiled child. Instead, we want to raise children who have values and virtues, whose traits include modesty, prudence, thrift, patience, perseverance, curiosity, generosity and grit.

Instead of saying "That's none of your business," when children ask questions like "why don't we have a summer house?" find out why they are asking the question. What has he or she been hearing in the playground on around the lunch table? What you will find, he said, is that kids are really asking "are we OK?" and "am I normal?" and if I am not and if our family is not, then whose "fault" is that.

When you answer their questions, do so without criticizing or demonizing other people, he said. We never know who has exactly how much in assets, and a lot of people do live exclusively on credit.

Answer the question truthfully: "We choose not to put our money in a summer house" or "we are saving for college" or "we would rather do something different with our summers" or "we can't afford one. We chose careers to do something that we liked and enjoyed knowing that the salaries were lower, but we

love our jobs and the work is important to us."

Conversations about money convey and teach your values. Money is family business. Revenues and expenses impact your kids, and if we are going to cut off discussion on something as important as money, then how are we going to be able to talk about sex, drugs, feelings and mental health, Lieber said.

Lieber absolutely believes in giving children an allowance and then teaching the children to divide that allowance into three clear jars marked Spend, Save and Give. Deciding how they want to spend their money will teach thrift, prudence and modesty. Learning to save is learning to delay gratification and learn patience. Giving is about being generous and learning to give back.

For Lieber, supporting the schools which gave him scholarships is important as is supporting breast cancer research and Holocaust survivors. These are issues that have meaning in his family, and he and his wife share their thoughts with their daughters and thus share their values.

Children need to be taught the difference between want and needs. All financial decisions involve trade offs.

"This is something grown ups struggle with too," Lieber said. "What you save and spend and give away equates to your values."

Lieber has a website and sends out a newsletter a few times a year. Go to [www.ronlieber.com](http://www.ronlieber.com) for more information.

Thank you to the many people and organizations which put together The Community Speaker Series this year. It was very good, and this last presentation was particularly useful.

## MAMA'S GOTTA MOVE

# Help me conquer mom guilt

Here are a few things I've felt guilty about in the past few days: Working too much, spoiling my kids too much, giving my kids cookies because I was too lazy to cut up fruit, hiding the cookies so I wouldn't have to argue about cookies, not playing Legos with my 4-year-old, telling my 4-year-old I had to work so I couldn't play Legos (when really I just wanted to mess around on Facebook) ... the list goes on.

If you follow me on Facebook, you'll notice I preach against mom guilt all the time. But it's not because I've got it all figured out—in fact, quite the opposite is true.

I decided to reach out to Kelley Kitley, LCSW, owner of Serendipitous Psychotherapy, LLC, in Chicago. Kitley, an Oak Park mom of four, specializes in helping women with issues from postpartum depression to eating disorders to parenting. We spoke about parenting, guilt and the importance of time for yourself. Here's an excerpt:

**Me:** Before I became a mom, I don't remember having guilt about anything. Now I feel it every day. What is it about having kids that makes women feel guilty?

**Kitley:** When you're raising little people, it's an awesome, scary responsibility. What we need to realize is that we're not fully responsible for how our kids turn out. Part of what causes the guilt is we take ourselves too seriously—we think it's all on us. We don't have that much power; we are only one aspect of our children's development. So many other people and factors have an influence.

**Me:** I totally know what you mean. I'm always putting the blame on myself if my kids aren't behaving—as if I'm a failure



**NICOLE RADZISZEWSKI**

because they won't sit still in church, stuff like that. I guess I feel like if I don't do everything I possibly can to raise good kids, I might regret it later. My boys are 4 and almost 2 years old. All of these books talk about these being the crucial years for development—it's a lot of pressure!

**Kitley:** Take them with a grain of salt. We have lots of time to form our kids' foundation, and we can also undo things. Nothing is permanent. I don't think our day-to-day activities necessarily impact our kids as much as we think we do. And I've worked with parents who actually regret having spent their kids' entire childhood worrying about whether they were making the right decisions.

**Me:** That's a good point. I'm pretty bad at being in the moment. I'm always thinking about whether I'm doing the right thing. How can I calm down the voices in my head?

**Kitley:** This inner dialogue you're describing can be insightful but also exhausting. Sometimes it helps to do things that can calm your anxiety, like deep breathing, journaling and meditation. I also teach intuitive parenting: Turn off your brain and think about what feels right in the moment. We have expectations to always be present with our kids. That's not the real world. Sometimes your kids just have to sit on the floor and play by themselves. You don't have to justify not playing with them. You can say, "That's just boring to me and I

don't want to do it right now." And it's OK.

**Me:** Haha, totally! I know the feeling.

**Kitley:** Sometimes I'll even say to my kids, "Mom needs to take 10 minutes and I'll be right back." That's modeling—you're not punishing yourself, you're just giving yourself some space.

**Me:** That's awesome. I want to give myself a time-out! Speaking of time out, I know self-care is important, so I force myself to do it. But sometimes it still doesn't feel good. Any tips to help me feel better about taking time for myself?

**Kitley:** The other day my kids asked if I'd be home when they got home from school. I knew I could be home, but I also needed a workout. I fast-forwarded in my mind: What's better: Get what I needed done and be fully present with my family, or come home right away and feel agitated because I didn't do anything for myself? Think of me-time as your chance to recharge. Otherwise the likelihood of projecting your irritability on kids is a lot higher.

**Me:** This is all so helpful! Do you have any mantras that you like to help remind women of these things?

**Kitley:** I love mantras. I recommend writing them on Post-it notes and putting them around the house, because often it's hard to come up with them when you're in the moment. I remember when one of my kids had colic, I wrote, "You are a good mom," and just posted it everywhere.

*Nicole Radziszewski is a freelance columnist. She lives in River Forest and is a certified personal trainer and mother of two. Check Nicole out on Facebook at [Facebook.com/mamasgottamove](https://www.facebook.com/mamasgottamove)*

# Vintage bands join forces for rock show

## Chicago 'garage rock' showcased at Skokie event

BY BRUCE INGRAM  
Pioneer Press

Personally and professionally, veteran Chicago manager, concert promoter and now theater owner Ron Onesti is still enamored, not only by the pop music of the 1960s and '70s he grew up with, but by the entertainment icons of his parents' post-World War II-era household.

That's why Onesti, who got around to the entertainment industry after starting in business at a very young age with printing shops, sporting-goods stores and the like, tended toward acts like Monkees veterans Micky Dolenz and the late Davy Jones and other '60s/'70s pop and rock stars when he promoted concerts. And it's also why, as the owner of the Arcada Theatre in St. Charles, a vaudeville-era entertainment palace he saved from being transformed into an office building 10 years ago, he tends to book heritage acts such as Pat Boone, Frankie Avalon, Paul Anka, Shirley MacLaine and Mickey Rooney.

"I enjoy all of these performers personally, tremendously," Onesti said. "I've been able to combine being a fan with being behind-the-scenes backstage. And it's worked out well because it just so happens there are a lot of people out there who like what I like."

Right now, what a lot of people like is the "Cornerstones of Rock: American Garage" group concert Onesti has been booking as a spinoff of the WTTW-TV concert series featuring great Chicago "garage rock" bands including The Buckingham, The Cryan Shames, The New Colony Six, The Shadows of Knight and the Ides of March. After selling out the Arcada twice with the show, Onesti is bringing it to the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie May 1. He has also booked another Arcada show in September and has a tour of Midwest cities in the works.

Onesti's connection to all of



LUCIANO J BILOTTI PHOTO

Jim Peterik, lead singer of Ides of March.



THE CRYAN SHAMES

The Cryan' Shames, from left, Gerry Stone, Tom Doody, Jim Pilster, Jim Fairs, Dennis Conroy and Dave Purple in 1966.

those bands goes back to his earliest day as a concert promoter, when he got started booking shows in neighborhood festivals.

"I've been working with these groups forever — at least 30 years," Onesti said. "They were some of the first groups I booked when I started. I can't even remember the number of shows I've produced with them over the

years."

So, when a group concert benefiting an original member of the Buckingham with cancer morphed into a WTTW-TV special guided by "Soundstage" creator Joe Thomas and then into a series, it was only natural that Onesti would become involved. In fact, in addition to producing the off-camera concert tour, he

## 'Cornerstones of Rock: American Garage' concert

**When:** 5 p.m. May 1

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

**Tickets:** \$59, \$69 and \$89.

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

has appeared several times as an on-camera host of the show.

Onesti said that while all of the bands in the lineup — who together put Chicago on the musical map in the '60s and '70s — have kept on playing all these decades, they have naturally experienced lean times over the years. So he's particularly happy to see them receiving the appreciation they deserve, wowing sell-out crowds with five or six songs each, most of them major hits.

Nostalgia certainly seems to be a factor in the success of the shows, Onesti said, but he also noted that there's something favorable going on in the zeitgeist.

"People tend to latch onto anything that will take them back to their childhood years, their formative years," he explained. "That's only natural. But we also happen to be in a very retro cultural period right now. The last decade or so, people are getting into martinis and the swing-band scene and '50s and '60s and '70s rock. One of the cool things you'll see at a show like this is a dad walks in with a 12-year-old who's wearing a Who or a Zeppelin T-shirt."

"I happen to have an 11-year-old daughter who listens to classic rock."

For those who were there listening to the radio when songs like "Vehicle" and "Kind of a Drag" were brand new, the music has a special appeal.

"I hear stories from people after every single show about how important the experience was for them," Onesti said. "It's music they enjoy, it's music they're comfortable with and it's music that takes them back to their youth. And I think that's something with a lot of value as we all get a little older."

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Photo credit: St. John Lutheran Church & Early Learning Center

## GO

### COMEDY

# Matt Griffo's musical show has a little bit of everything

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

Matt Griffo thinks women have as much right to go topless as men. So he wrote a song about it.

That's one of the tunes audiences will hear when the songwriter, musician and comic entertains and amuses audiences for two weekends at Edison Park's The WIP Theater. He will be joined by cellists Marilyn Eguchi and Leyla I. Royale, plus a percussionist.

The comic described Marilyn as "a chill pothead. She is a blast to perform with." He noted that Leyla "loves terrifying people. She will make really loud noises. We have to try and hold her back."

Griffo declared that audiences benefit from that combination of personalities — and so do the performers. "Our dynamic is really great together," he said.

Griffo's concise description of what you can expect at his upcoming WIP shows is that, "It's just a bunch of music but the music makes you laugh." The majority of the songs will be original Griffo numbers, but there will also be two Monty Python covers.

Most of Griffo's songs deal with social issues like that "Free the Nipple" number which advocates for equal undress rights. His group will also sing "Racist Grandpa," which is actually based on the songwriter's grandmother, and "Flaky Friends," about friends who don't show up when they're expected.

"Some of the subjects are intense, but it all makes me happy," Griffo said. His tunes espouse the message, "How can we make the world a better place and how can we enjoy ourselves while doing it?"

Griffo comes by his



MATT GRIFFO

Songwriter, musician, comedian Matt Griffo will perform his musical comedy at WIP Theater in Edison Park.

**Black Box Comedy presents  
Matt Griffo music comedy**

**When:** 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, April 22-30

**Where:** The WIP Theater, 6670 N. Northwest Highway, Edison Park

**Tickets:** \$15

**Information:** 312-692-9327; [www.wiptheater.com](http://www.wiptheater.com)

musical talent naturally. "My family are musicians. My father trained me by ear," said Griffo, who plays piano and ukulele. He has been writing songs for around 18 years.

A former teacher at Second City, Griffo toured with one of its companies as a music director. He has performed at a number of comedy festivals across the country, and composed the music for the Chicago hit, "Jersey Shore: The Musical."

Timmy Whitzell, co-owner of The WIP Theater and director of Black Box Comedy which is present-

ing the show, is a big fan of Griffo. "His show is very unique," Whitzell said. "It's musical comedy, which a lot of people have kind of shied away from, but once they see it, they absolutely love it. It's not just stand-up. It's not just a play. It's not just a musical. It's kind of a little bit of everything. It's really fun."

Griffo added that audiences enjoy his group's shows because, "We're just a bunch of weirdos that love performing and making people laugh. I'm so excited to make people happy and to just be wacky."

## THEATER

# Noted storyteller steps into shoes of 'Miss Jean Brodie'

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

Jean Brodie is not your run-of-the-mill teacher. She has a unique way of interacting with her students at the Marcia Blaine School for Girls in 1930's Scotland. Some of the topics she shares with her students would not be found on any standard curriculum.

You'll meet the eccentric, exciting educator when MadKap Productions presents "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie," April 22-May 8 at the Skokie Theatre. Wayne Mell directs Jay Presson Allen's 1966 play based on Muriel Spark's 1961 novel. Maggie Smith won an Academy Award for her portrayal of the title character in the 1969 film.

"Everybody's got this idea of Jean Brodie as this free spirit, unconventional teacher who tries to buck the system," Mell said. "That was a very '60s kind of message — anti-establishment, do your own thing, think outside the box. But there really is this very dark undertone to this story that deals in issues like fascism and inappropriate conduct towards young girls from authority figures that is much more relevant in today's world than it was back in the '60s."

Mell chose Megan Wells for the title role because, "Megan is magnificent. Very few people have a love of literature and the romantic as Megan does," he said. Wells is a critically-acclaimed actor, director and storyteller who has performed her one-person adaptations of "Dracula" and "The Great Gatsby" at the Skokie Theatre.

She was excited to be cast in this role. "My very first performance as a



MADKAP PRODUCTIONS

Megan Wells, center, portrays the title character in MadKap Productions' version of "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" at the Skokie Theatre.

## MadKap Productions presents 'The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie'

**When:** April 22-May 8

**Where:** Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie

**Tickets:** \$34; \$28 seniors; \$24 students

**Information:** 847-677-7761; [www.skokie theatre.org](http://www.skokie theatre.org)

Chicago actress was as Sandy (a student) in "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie," Wells revealed. That was 26 years ago. Taking the lead role gives her "this bookend feeling to be on both sides of the play."

Wells described Jean Brodie as "gifted and wounded in equal measure. Like many charismatic personalities, there's a risk for narcissism unless you're very grounded — and she lost her primary love in the war. So she becomes amplified — more theatrical. The play captures the time when this wounded flam-

boyancy goes too far."

Director Mell promised, "We're going to go on a journey with this woman. We're going to fall in love with her and we're going to watch it crumble."

"Will she rise above it and learn?" Wells pondered. "It's possible that Brodie might become somebody else after this. I like to leave that hope in the audience because I think we all need hope for ourselves."

Although the play tackles some serious topics, Wells emphasized, "It's perfect for American audiences because it's so funny."

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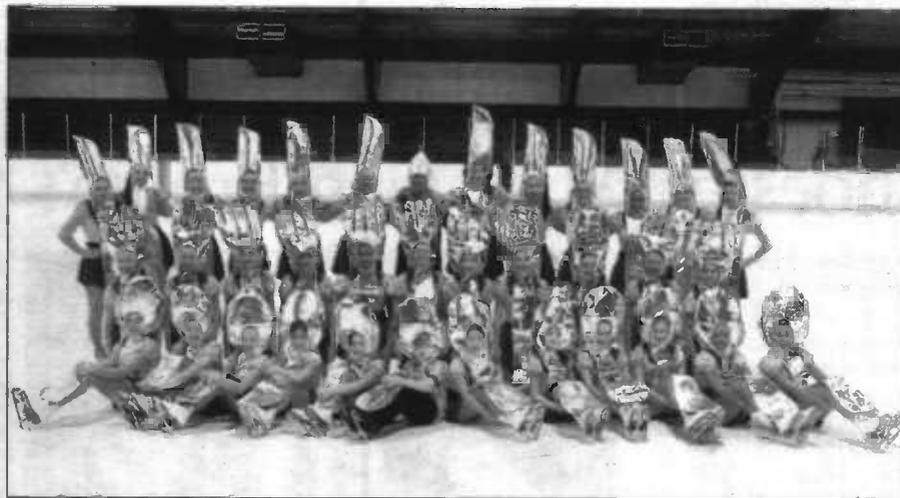
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## GO



PARK RIDGE PARK DISTRICT

Skaters will perform to "Be Our Guest" from Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" during 'Frozen Magic,' April 22-24 at the Oakton Ice Arena.

### FAMILY FRIENDLY

## 'Frozen Magic' showcases Park Ridge ice skaters

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

About 225 skaters, ages 4-adult, will create a weekend of "Frozen Magic" during four Oakton Ice Shows at Oakton Ice Arena, 2800 W. Oakton, Park Ridge.

"It's a Disney theme this year," said skating director David Santee. Skaters will perform group numbers and solos to music from "Beauty and the Beast," "Aladdin," "Frozen," "Tangled," "Cinderella" and other Disney favorites.

The lavish shows will feature colorful costumes, sets and spotlights. "It's a production," Santee declared. "There's entertainment for everybody. You'll see little ones, who are cute to watch. And then you'll see a lot of skilled dance skaters who compete regionally."

He added that the shows are fun for anyone who loves skating "or anybody who wants to be entertained for a couple of hours on a weekend."

Performances are 7-9 p.m. Friday, 1:30-3:30 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Saturday, and 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, April

22-24. Tickets are \$8 for general admission; \$15 for reserved seats.

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

### A little bit country

Kids will be singing, dancing, laughing and learning when they visit Miss Jamie's Farm, 11 a.m. April 23 at WIP Theater, 6670 N. Northwest Hwy., Edison Park. The popular children's entertainer always engages her audience members. Tickets are \$10.

For details, call 312-692-9327 or go to [www.wiptheater.com](http://www.wiptheater.com).

### Kids will dig this

Children will plant a keepsake herb garden with a landscaper during Kids Club: Earth Day, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. April 23 at Golf Mill Shopping Center, Golf Road and Milwaukee Ave., Niles. They will also learn about recycling and composting. There will be balloon artists, music, goodie bags and more at this free event.

For details, go to

[www.golfmill.com](http://www.golfmill.com).

### Party hearty

That's what Georgie plans to do but first he has to determine, "Where's the Party?" Children will hear the latest book in Ruth Chan's Georgie and Friends Series and then do related activities, 11 a.m. April 23 at Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie.

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

### Rapt(or) attention

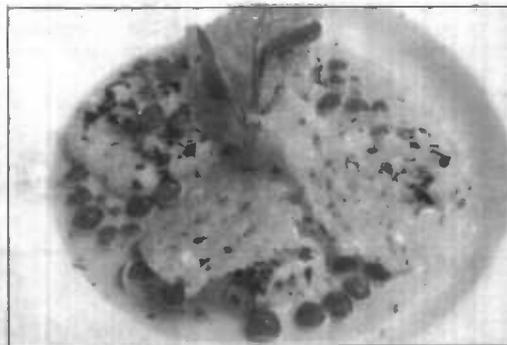
A live raptor will be brought to the Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave. 2-3 p.m. April 23 when River Trail Nature Center Presents: Birds of Prey. They will also bring bird artifacts, including feathers and bones, to demonstrate how these predators survive. Families will learn about native hawks, owls and eagles, and how they help preserve our environment.

For details, call 847-965-4220 or go to [www.mgpl.org](http://www.mgpl.org).

Section 2

# Living

Thursday, April 21, 2016



**Chefs sprucing up  
spring menus with  
green ideas** Page 3

CN  
★

GETTY



## Going it alone

More women facing decision as they age of having a child opting for solo motherhood Page 14

## SUBURBAN COOKS

## Naperville garden club president offers tips

By Judy Buchenot  
Naperville Sun

Rod Beary says that he is a "foodie" who likes to cook his own food from start to finish.

But unlike most cooks, when he says start, he includes growing his own ingredients.

After living in Naperville for 20 years, Beary and his wife had a home built on multiple acres in Oswego. An avid gardener, Beary still has ties with Naperville Community Gardeners and recently took over as president of the group.

He has been living in Oswego for 20 years and over the years has downsized his lot to a more manageable 17½ acres, where he has several gardens, as well as orchards.

At the age of 71, Beary has had many successes and even a few failures with his gardening. "Some years, the tomatoes are great and some years, they are a failure. Sometimes things just don't work out. But if you want more success, then plant more. You learn new things each time," says the seasoned gardener.

Beary encourages others to consider starting a garden. "I'm big into organic gardening," he notes. "The key to growing vegetables in this area is building your soil. When they build subdivisions, they strip off the top soil and leave heavy clay. I have found that the ideal soil pH for a garden is about 6.5."

He also says the garden needs to be in a sunny, well-drained location.

He suggests locating plants in the garden by family since each plant family thrives on similar conditions. For example, the solanacea family of plants includes tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, potatoes and tomatillos, so try to plant them near each other. He noted some plants need lots of space, like cucumbers and pole beans.

"Sometimes you can save on space by going up. I have used tomato cages to hold my cucumber vines with success."

He also recommends doing successive plantings of crops that grow quickly, like lettuce and beans. "Since you can have lettuce in 30 days, plant it every few weeks and you can have lettuce all season," he explains.

He recommends planting what you think the family can consume unless the vegetable is something that can be preserved like beans or tomatoes. Plant more of those vegetables to can or freeze for winter use.

Beary tries to save seeds each year for planting in the spring. He has started many plants under grow lights. He pays attention to seed names and has a few favorites.

"For a general purpose tomato, I like celebrity. It is prolific with a good flavor.



JUDY BUCHENOT/NAPERVILLE SUN

Rod Beary starts seeds indoors to get ready to plant his summer vegetable garden.

For more of Rod's recipes, visit <http://trib.in/22FLn2f>.

For beans, I like maxible which is a haricot vert, a longer and thinner French bean. Ideally, you want them to be no thicker than a pencil."

Over the years, Beary has come up with some interesting ways to keep his plants going. He has a bay leaf plant and rosemary plant that he digs up every fall and places under grow lights for the winter. He also has found a way to trick artichokes into producing yearly.

"They usually only produce every other year but if I grow it, then place it in the cold garage for six weeks and then put it back where it is warm, it produces because it thinks it is in the second year of growth."

One of Beary's favorite crops are potatoes. He has a root cellar where he stores potatoes over the winter and still is eating some of last fall's harvest. He also has several potatoes to use as seed potatoes for this year.

"I am big into potatoes. When I was in Ireland, I visited the Famine Museum and learned that people used to live a diet of mainly potatoes. They are a perfect food with lots of nutritional value." Beary is signed up at [potatogoodness.com](http://potatogoodness.com) and receives a new potato recipe each week to try.

Beary likes pickled vegetables and keeps

a steady supply in his kitchen over the summer. "I set up a crock on the counter with one gallon water, one cup of salt and one cup of vinegar and some dill. Then I put in carrots, broccoli, cauliflower, cucumbers. After a few weeks, I have pickled vegetables to eat."

A good home vegetable garden should have beans, tomatoes cucumbers, squash and "whatever else you like to eat," Beary said.

"I wouldn't put in corn because it takes a lot of space and needs to be planted in a square for wind pollination. It also needs a lot of nutrients. I also would stay away from exotic varieties. It is best to stay with things that are tried and true."

One great source for tried and true vegetables will be the annual Naperville Community Gardeners plant sale May 7. Members bring in plants they have started for sale.

"Quite often the members are right there with their plants and they are very knowledgeable. Many are master gardeners. They can share all sorts of information about gardening."

Beary shares a few recipes that are favorites among community garden members. He encourages others to consider growing their own ingredients by starting a garden.

Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer.

## Raw Beet and Sweet Potato Salad

Makes 4 to 6 servings

- 5-6 fresh beets
- 2 large sweet potatoes
- 4 scallions
- ½ cup toasted pepitas (pumpkin seeds)
- 2 limes
- 1 clove garlic
- ⅓ cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 2 tablespoons heavy cream
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon pepper

**1.** Clean and peel the beets and potatoes. Use a vegetable spiralizer to cut the sweet potatoes and beets into long curly ribbons. If you do not have a spiralizer, use a vegetable peeler to shave thin short ribbons of beet and sweet potato. Cut scallions diagonally into thin pieces.

**2.** Toss shavings and scallions with pepitas in a bowl. To make the dressing, zest one lime and set aside the zest. Squeeze juice from both limes to make ¼ cup juice. Mince the garlic clove.

**3.** In a jar with a lid, mix together lime juice, zest, garlic, olive oil, honey, cream, salt and pepper. Seal jar and shake until smooth and creamy. Refrigerate until ready to serve. When ready to serve, pour dressing over beets, sweet potato and onion. Toss and serve.

## Rod's Culinary Cue

Potato salad does not have to be just potatoes and mayonnaise. It can be a celebration of your whole garden. Start with potatoes and add cucumbers, zucchini, squash and whatever else you think might taste good in the salad. Throw in some sausage, mustard, pickles or olive oil, and make your own custom recipe.

## Naperville Community Gardeners Plant Sale

**What:** Annual plant sale of both commercially and home grown plants, flowers, vegetables, and hanging baskets  
**When:** 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 7  
**Where:** In the gravel parking lot at the north end of the West Street Garden Plots, west of Naperville Central High School  
**Information:** [www.napervillecommunitygardeners.org](http://www.napervillecommunitygardeners.org)

# Chefs sprucing up spring menus with green ideas

Popular items include ramps, fava beans and leeks

By Veronica Hinke  
Pioneer Press

New green recipe ideas are springing up in time for Earth Day on Friday. Fava beans, ramps, sorrels, peas, leeks and asparagus are some of the ingredients popping up on plates everywhere.

In celebration of Earth Day, Michael Paulsen will relinquish his car for 24 hours. And he'll also be up to his elbows in bulbous, leafy green ramps. Paulsen, executive chef and owner of Abigail's American Bistro in Highland Park, has a new recipe for ramp gnudi.

Gnudi are gnocchi-like dumplings. Instead of potatoes, ricotta cheese is the stuff of these little bundles. Paulsen blends the cheese with sauteed ramps for a pretty green color and a fresh taste of spring. He boils the gnudi, just like a pasta, and serves it with a truffle Parmesan broth, plenty of fresh English peas and Parmesan crisps.

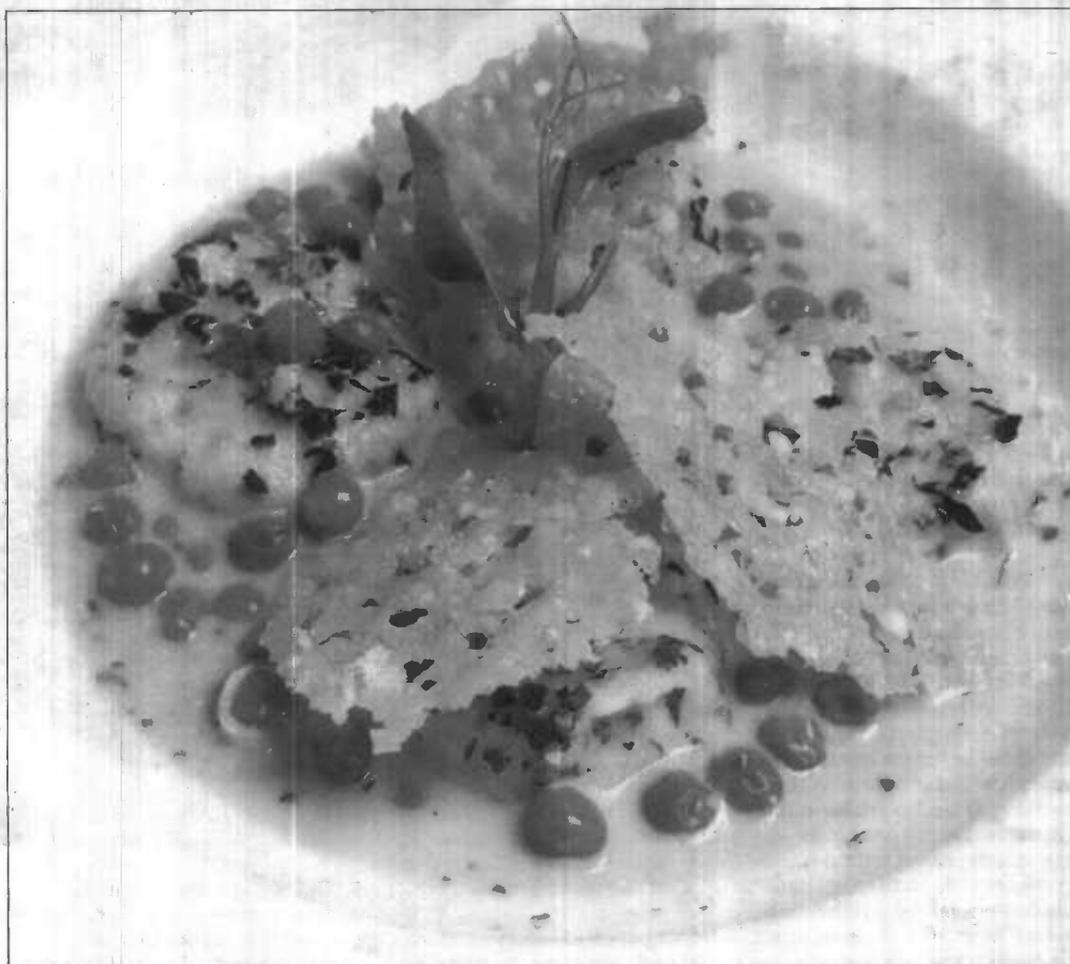
"The ramp gnudi has hints of acid with subtle garlic flavor from the ramps and a nice salty note from the Parmesan," Paulsen said.

Sorrel is a key ingredient in Jean-Marc Loustaunau's new grilled asparagus appetizer at Cafe Pyrenees in Libertyville.

"It's where garden and sea merge," Loustaunau said. The asparagus is dressed with a vermouth beurre-blanc sorrell sauce, creamy Brie cheese and a smoked salmon flower.

"The recipe was developed with the idea to bring fresh garden vegetables and herbs together with a creamy cheese and a twist of the sea shaped into a flowering bud," Loustaunau said.

Fava beans bring a touch of spring to Mark Newman's new salmon recipe for spring at Ballaro in Highwood. Newman, who is chef, owner and partner, introduced the new recipe in time for Earth Day. It brings together salmon, artichoke hearts, barigoule, fava beans, barigoule puree, lemon vinaigrette and pickled mustard seed oil.



ABIGAIL'S AMERICAN BISTRO

English peas sparkle in the ramp gnudi at Abigail's American Bistro in Highland Park.

Leeks star in one of the most popular quiches at Delightful Pastries, which has a store in Chicago's Jefferson Park neighborhood. "I lived in France and fell in love with the savory quiches," said pastry chef Dobra Bielinski. When she returned to the United States she wanted to make something similar. She tried with onion and sun-dried tomatoes but they didn't quite remind her of the quiches she had in France. "So I did a little bit of research and found the leek quiche recipe," she said. "After tinkering with the recipe to my satisfaction I came to the final version of this quiche that features Gruyere and leeks. The recipe has a wonderful flaky crust that is filled with a savory custard mixed with smothered leeks and Gruyere. It is a creamy quiche with little nuggets of Gruyere and

leeks that come together so they just melt in your mouth."

Eric Hammond, executive chef at Convito Cafe & Market in Wilmette, will debut a new menu May 1. Fava beans will be prominent. "Preparing fava beans is one of our favorite springtime rituals," Hammond said. They are a key ingredient in his bruschetta with fava beans and ricotta, which is a new menu item for spring.

Other spring items are on the new menu as well, including leek and pea risotto, spaghetti with basil pesto, zucchini and goat cheese and asparagus milanese. These and other menu items will be offered as specials on Earth Day.

"Living in Chicago with the extended winter I'm looking forward to anything green," said Brian Huston, chef and owner of Boltwood in Evanston. "Ramps

are usually the first to pop up, followed by onions, spinach and asparagus."

Huston is making a special spring pasta primavera. "Peas, asparagus and leeks make it taste like spring," Huston said. "It's bumped up with farro pasta and finished with bright lemon zest and salty pecorino. It's fresh, light and a little salty."

Huston will mark Earth Day by unveiling his spring lunch menu.

Fava beans never looked as good as they do in the pretty, vibrant-colored mash and on the plate alongside a slender chunk of Skuna Bay salmon, pretty pink roasted heirloom radishes and a light drizzle of coconut coriander sauce at Topaz Cafe in Burr Ridge. The fava beans are coarsely mashed and the color is bright from the fresh herb oil and a little splash of lemon juice.

## Ramp Gnudi

- 18 ramps (finely diced bulbs and julienne the leaves)
- 1 pound fresh ricotta cheese
- 1 egg
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup Parmesan cheese
- Salt and pepper (to taste)
- Lemon juice (to taste)

1. Sauté ramp bulbs, then ramp leaves. Mix ricotta, egg, flour, Parmesan, salt, pepper and lemon. Add ramps when cool.
2. Form gnudi into small balls with flour. Let rest, and then boil for three minutes.
3. Heat a favorite sauce. Add sauce and peas to the gnudi and serve. Garnish with Parmesan crisps.

Executive Chef Michael Paulsen,  
Abigail's American Bistro

"The radishes lose some of their peppery bite after you roast them, which transforms them into something almost fruity and floral," executive chef Julian Ross said. "The micro radishes on top reintroduce the fresh radish flavor."

Gide Merriman, the executive chef at Bistro Bordeaux, is also working with salmon, but a Scottish salmon with a leek bechamel, garlic mashed potato stuffed leeks, sautéed rappini, a roasted leek quenelle, fried leek tops and salmon roe.

"This dish really showcases all the rich and in-depth flavor of leeks," Merriman said. "The leek bechamel is creamy and subtle, while the roasted leeks have a more smoky flavor. The fried leeks have a nice crunch that creates a great texture."

Merriman also is doing a West Coast Dover sole with English pea puree, sautéed spinach with beach mushrooms, garlic confit and lemon, pea shoots, orchid and mushroom duxelle beurre blanc.

"This dish just screams spring-time to me," he said. "The bright green English pea puree and spring beach mushrooms are perfectly in season."

MY PET WORLD

# No pet is guaranteed allergy free

By Marc Morrone  
Tribune Content Agency

**Q: My son is allergic to cats and dogs and wants a pet. We were thinking of a hedgehog since they do not have fur. My son has researched them on the Internet and they seem cute and easy to care for, and we wanted your opinion on this matter. — Roberta Sims, Hollywood, FL**

**A:** I appreciate your faith in my knowledge, but there is no way I can say what animal anybody can be allergic to. This answer can only be obtained by asking a doctor who specializes in allergies. The majority of pet related allergy information is not presented by a medical professional and must be taken as just urban legend.

Hedgehogs are indeed delightful pets, but they actually do have fur. They have a very fine layer on their face and underside and the protective spines that cover their heads and backs are just very stiff modified fur. Plus hedgehogs do lick themselves all over and are covered with dander

and allergens just like any other mammal.

The best way for you to determine what species of pet your son can have would be to take him to an allergist and explore the options that are presented based on the testing results obtained by a medical professional.

**Q: What is your opinion on how old a puppy needs to be before you no longer need to keep it in a training crate? Our Labrador/pitbull is 12 months old and we tried to allow him to sleep through the night outside of his crate but we still find "gifts" on the floor in the morning. If we keep him in the crate then he can hold it in through the night with no problem at all. Before we had this dog we raised a yellow lab and we were able to do without the crate when the dog was 6 months old and we wonder why it is taking our current dog so long to mature. — Steve Adams, San Francisco**

**A:** That is a question that has no black or white answer, as every dog is different. I have



CHUCK BERMAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Hedgehogs are indeed delightful pets, but they actually do have fur.

raised puppies for 50 years now and each one is unique and matures at a different pace.

Just like children, they all have issues in their development and some are more ahead of others in one respect and behind others in a different area of training and maturity.

Just keep on doing what you are doing and the day will come when the dog can sleep through the night out of the crate and your floor will be clean in the morning — when that will be I cannot say — at this point only your dog knows for sure.

*Marc Morrone has kept almost every kind of animal as a pet for the last half-century. Although he cannot answer every question, he will publish many of those that have a general interest. You can contact him at [petxperts2@aol.com](mailto:petxperts2@aol.com); include your name, city and state.*

PET OF THE WEEK



Sir and Mee Mee

Sir and Mee Mee are house-trained and professionally obedience trained.

Sir is 4 years old and playful. He's affectionate and does well with new people. He may be overwhelming for children. Mee Mee is 8 years old. She is a bit more reserved. Because of her arthritis, she is not as active.

For additional information, go to [www.saveapetil.org](http://www.saveapetil.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
- Photo galleries, videos, more



# Direct Auto states no cooperation so no claim payment

Dear Help Squad,  
Last October, my motorcycle was hit by an insured from Direct Auto Insurance Company. ... I called Direct Auto, provided all the information they asked for and had the bike taken to a shop instructed by them.

A few weeks passed with no contact from Direct Auto. Then I called for three days until someone picked up ... I got a letter from them instructing me to fill out what happened, which I mailed, along with another copy of the police report.

Another few weeks passed. Again, I left many voicemails and again no calls back.

I faxed estimates to them; still no answer. So I called again. Finally, someone picks up and tells me my claim was denied because their client failed to assist in the investigation. I tell them ... he was insured at the moment of the claim and I expect to get my claim processed. I contact their client and he states when he calls Direct Auto no one answers, no one calls back.

I started a case with the Illinois Department of Insurance in January and I'm still waiting for an answer.

It is not fair to have a claim denied when

you do everything you are asked and follow their instructions.

Hope you can help,  
Daniel, Cicero

After forwarding Daniel's email and supporting documentation to Direct Auto claims manager Cary Loseau, he and I spoke by phone.

"I had our personnel run phone records to see if we ever received any calls from the insured," Loseau said. "I didn't find anything at all until about three months later, in January. So this individual never reported this loss."

"When we got our first report from the claimant, we sent an accident report to the insured and a claimant report to the claimant. We never received anything back from anyone; never got any phone calls ... On Jan. 8, 2016, since there was no contact by the insured, we issued our second letter (to Daniel), which basically indicates there was no proper notice by the insured — a breach of policy conditions."

Loseau then read me Direct Auto's re-



**CATHY CUNNINGHAM**  
Help Squad

sponse to the Illinois Department of Insurance complaint, which concluded with: "If the claimant and insured do send the needed information, Direct Auto will reopen the loss and advise on whether this is a covered loss." At which point he added, "Honestly,

most companies would stick with breach of the policy contract at this juncture ... But we'll set up an inspection of the claimant's vehicle."

When I asked Daniel if he'd been informed by Direct Auto that his paperwork had not been received, he replied: "No one mentioned any missing documents. The first I heard of this was last week with you. I was simply told by (a representative named) Daniel that my claim was denied and I should forward it to my insurance company."

I then called the insured — named Margarito — to hear his side of the story.

"I never got anything from anybody," said Margarito. "And I called Direct Auto like every chance I had. I just kept getting

voicemail. I got no name, no nothing. And I never got a call back. My broker said I never filled anything out. I said how can I fill something out when I don't have anything to fill out? They don't even have anything to fill out online."

In my Feb. 10 column, "Direct Auto says claim can't be paid," I wrote that Direct Auto is currently under active monitoring by the Illinois Department of Insurance as a result of a disciplinary order it was issued for noncompliance activities — the result of numerous consumer complaints.

Following Direct Auto's appraisal of the motorcycle, Loseau called to say: "We still haven't gotten any accident report from our insured ... But in an effort to be of service to the claimant and the insured, we will agree to the claimant estimate of \$3,664.65 as a full and final settlement." Daniel received his check two weeks later.

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

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.



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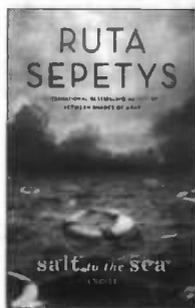
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## ROUNDUP | YOUNG ADULT

**Salt to the Sea**

By Ruta Sepetys, *Philomel*, 391 pages, \$18.99, ages 12 and up

The casualties of war include not only the dead but the living. As recent global events make clear, war displaces civilians from their homes, often sending them on dangerous treks into the unknown. Emilia, one of four narrators in Ruta Sepetys' latest riveting historical novel, compares the invasion of her homeland, Poland, by Germany and Russia in 1939 to "girls fighting over a doll. One held the leg; the other the arm. They pulled so hard that one day, the head popped off." Now it's 1945, and as German forces crumble against the Russian advance, thousands of refugees, Emilia among them, flee toward the Baltic Sea and the promise of ships to carry them to safety.

In her author's note, Sepetys, the child of a Lithuanian refugee, talks about choosing to give voice to the most vulnerable participants in this mass exodus: children and teenagers "forced to battle the beast of war on their own, left with an inheritance of heartache and responsibility for events they had no role in causing." Fifteen-year-old Emilia's perspective alternates with that of a caring young Lithuanian nurse, a disillusioned East Prussian soldier deserting his post, and a buffoon of a German naval officer whose low rank belies his self-importance. All four narrators are separated from their loved ones. All four of their fates intertwine in a saga that is by turns harrowing, tender, surprising, tragic and hopeful, even though it culminates in a real-life maritime disaster — the sinking of the passenger ship *Wilhelm Gustloff* by Russian torpedoes, which killed nine thousand people. "Salt to the Sea" is a timely reminder that behind every tragedy are names and faces. Behind every statistic, there are stories.

**Peas and Carrots**

By Tanita S. Davis, *Knopf*, 288 pages, \$17.99, ages 12 and up

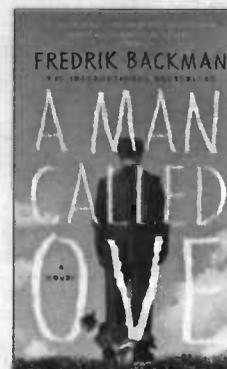
In young adult fiction, foster parents tend to be portrayed about as sympathetically as stepmothers in fairy tales. Tanita S. Davis forgoes that stereotype and instead depicts a safe, supportive foster care environment without glossing over the complications involved in blending families, especially families that are racially mixed.

"Speak with kindness or choose not to speak. Act with kindness or choose not to act." Those are 15-year-old Hope's parents' main house rules, and she's never had a problem being kind to the foster siblings, all young children and babies, who've come and gone from their home over the years. But now she has to share space, even share a bathroom, with Dess, a girl her own age, who seems supremely uninterested in getting along. Told from both Hope and Dess' points-of-view, the novel allows readers to understand both

girls and feel for them in situations where outsiders might judge, as when Dess has a panic attack at a coffee shop because she thinks she sees a member of her abusive biological father's motorcycle gang. Or when Hope snoops through Dess' paperwork for information on her background. Davis addresses issues of class and race with honesty and humor. Dess is white and has always been poor. The Carters are black and upper middle-class. In a drugstore parking lot, a white male bystander sees Dess walking toward the Carters' van and grabs her shoulder, thinking he's preventing her from mistakenly getting in with the "wrong" family. But of course he's the one who's wrong, because, as "Peas and Carrots" deftly articulates, "family" is about much more than color of skin.

## CHICAGOLAND BEST-SELLERS

1. "The Nest" by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney (Ecco, \$26.99).
2. "A Man Called Ove: A Novel" by Fredrik Backman (Washington Square, \$16).
3. "The Rainbow Comes and Goes: A Mother and Son On Life, Love, and Loss" by Anderson Cooper and Gloria Vanderbilt (Harper, \$27.99).
4. "Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania" by Erik Larson (Crown, \$17).
5. "The Little Paris Bookshop: A Novel" by Nina George (Broadway, \$16).



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

**The Sympathizer: A Novel**

By Viet Thanh Nguyen, *Grove*, 403 pages, \$16  
As the Vietnam War winds down, a group of South Vietnamese people are given passage to Los Angeles in 1975. Included is a half-French, half-Vietnamese undercover operative tasked with monitoring the group and reporting back to the communist government. When life — and love — get in the way, he is forced to contemplate violent acts in order to avoid suspicion.

**One of Us**

By Asne Seierstad, translated by Sarah Death; Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 532 pages, \$17  
Seierstad examines the 2011 Norwegian terrorist attacks committed by Anders Behring Breivik, who killed 77 people in Oslo and Utøya, including 69 at a youth camp. Seierstad looks at the lives of his victims, Breivik's path of destruction and subsequent trial, and how Norway responded in the aftermath of the attacks.

**Independence Lost**

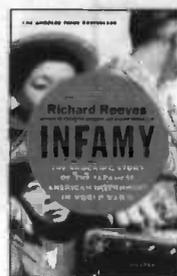
By Kathleen DuVal; *Random House*, 437 pages, \$18

DuVal explores the history of the American Revolution as experienced by women, slaves, natives and Loyalists. DuVal details the likes of slave Petit Jean, who organized militias to fight the British at sea, and Creek leader Alexander McGillivray, who sought to protect indigenous interests.

**We Believe You**

By Annie E. Clark and Andrea L. Pino; *Holt*, 352 pages, \$17

Clark and Pino, co-founders of End Rape on Campus, collect the stories of women and men from colleges and universities across the United States who have been the victims of sexual assaults. "We Believe You" also includes a resource guide and how to seek help after suffering a sexual assault.

**Infamy**

By Richard Reeves; *Picador*, 342 pages, \$18  
Reeves offers an account of Japanese-American internment during World War II, looking at how some Japanese-Americans joined the military of the country that imprisoned their relatives, how some took their fight to the Supreme Court, and how the likes of FDR, Earl Warren and Edward R. Murrow played roles in internment policies.

— Jeremy Mikula



### 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

A. Lacking

65 12 147 138 154 127 108

B. Rust

23 144 86 119 151 13 43

C. NYC Theater district: hyph.

41 18 96 101 22 145 75 165  
133 117 64

D. Ignominy

121 26 39 47 10 146 103 60

E. Indecisive: hyph.

28 91 78 98 5 81 139 58 106 123

F. Honest and open

38 161 71 90 48 124 102 56 21 141

G. Coaster or skate

140 8 157 114 25 73

H. Scarcity

61 31 160 82 150 129

I. A delight

105 125 69 34 84

J. Footstool or empire

126 30 97 50 4 149 74

K. That ends it: 4 wds.

35 2 89 70 136 113 62 152 20 49

L. Prodigious antagonist: N.T.

107 15 155 77 137 148 32 51 94 130

M. Ascertain

24 120 156 135 87

N. Depart suddenly: 2 wds.

122 99 128 7 153 45 72 63

O. NE Ohio university city

159 17 59 52 33 80 1 132 93 118

P. Warlike act

29 40 16 68 92 100 162 143 19 112

Q. Carefree

57 158 14 46 116 36

R. Abridge

110 37 54 88 79 3 27

S. Nonrational

163 142 53 66 83 42 104

111 134 11

T. Government aid

164 67 9 109 85 55

U. Smoked tobacco plug

131 95 44 6 76 115

	1	O	2	K	3	R		4	J	5	E	6	U	7	N	8	G		
9	T	10	D	11	S	12	A	13	B	14	Q	15	L	16	P		17	O	
18	C			19	P	20	K	21	F		22	C	23	B	24	M	25	G	
		26	D	27	R			28	E	29	P	30	J	31	H	32	L	33	O
34	I	35	K	36	Q			37	R	38	F	39	D			40	P	41	C
42	S	43	B			44	U	45	N			46	Q	47	D	48	F		
49	K	50	J	51	L	52	O	53	S			54	R	55	T			56	F
57	Q	58	E	59	O	60	D	61	H	62	K	63	N	64	C			65	A
66	S	67	T	68	P	69	I			70	K	71	F	72	N	73	G	74	J
75	C	76	U	77	L	78	E	79	R	80	O			81	E	82	H	83	S
84	I	85	T			86	B	87	M			88	R	89	K	90	F	91	E
92	P	93	O	94	L			95	U	96	C			97	J	98	E	99	N
100	P			101	C	102	F	103	D	104	S			105	I	106	E	107	L
108	A			109	T			110	R	111	S	112	P	113	K	114	G	115	U
116	Q	117	C	118	O	119	B	120	M	121	D	122	N	123	E			124	F
125	I	126	J	127	A	128	N	129	H	130	L			131	U	132	O	133	C
134	S			135	M	136	K	137	L	138	A	139	E	140	G	141	F		
142	S	143	P	144	B	145	C	146	D			147	A	148	L	149	J	150	H
		151	B	152	K			153	N	154	A	155	L	156	M	157	G	158	Q
159	O			160	H	161	F	162	P	163	S	164	T	165	C				

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

By Max Engle.  
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.  
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## Truth Will Out

BY CHARLES PRESTON

#### Across

- Elemental
- Harvest
- Dennis, at times
- Printer's measure
- Frog genus
- City on the Tiber
- Near-legendary tale-teller
- Curve
- Character in *Rain*
- Work quota
- Can't carry
- Subbase of a column
- beam
- Fixed proportions
- Vent
- Female 61 Across of the Bible
- Caucasian language
- Straighten: var.
- Zero
- Fled
- Turning, as a press
- Was without
- Fades
- Grinders
- Weariness

- Certain Arabian
- Come to terms
- Part of Italy
- 17 Across, to some
- Malay palm
- Girl in an old song
- Consumers
- News agency
- Obstruction
- Peace preservers

#### Down

- Little cake
- Seaweed product
- Cutting
- Japanese statesman
- Criticize
- Less refined
- Indian title: var.
- Not often
- Exclamation
- Beastly
- Tree product
- Catkin
- Commandment
- British island
- In need of bailing

- Communication meth.
- Pickle-picker's surname
- Flamboyant
- French river
- Out of the way
- Shade of brown
- Records
- Silly remarks
- Ha-ha, in Le Havre
- Variant of Alice
- Was at the fore
- Husband of 33 Across
- Worth
- Admitted
- Greek letter
- The Kaiser's fixation
- Horse
- vincit amor
- Eyes
- Born
- Greek contest
- Festive
- Galley power
- Limerick lingo
- Officeholders
- Omaha Beach officer: abbr.

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20						21					22			
		23	24							25				
26	27						28	29	30					
31						32		33				34	35	36
37						38	39					40		
41				42	43					44	45	46		
				47					48		49			
50	51	52						53	54					
55							56	57				58	59	60
61							62					63		
64							65					66		
67							68					69		

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

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# A Storm is Brewing\*

BY MATT MCKINLEY

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

**Across**

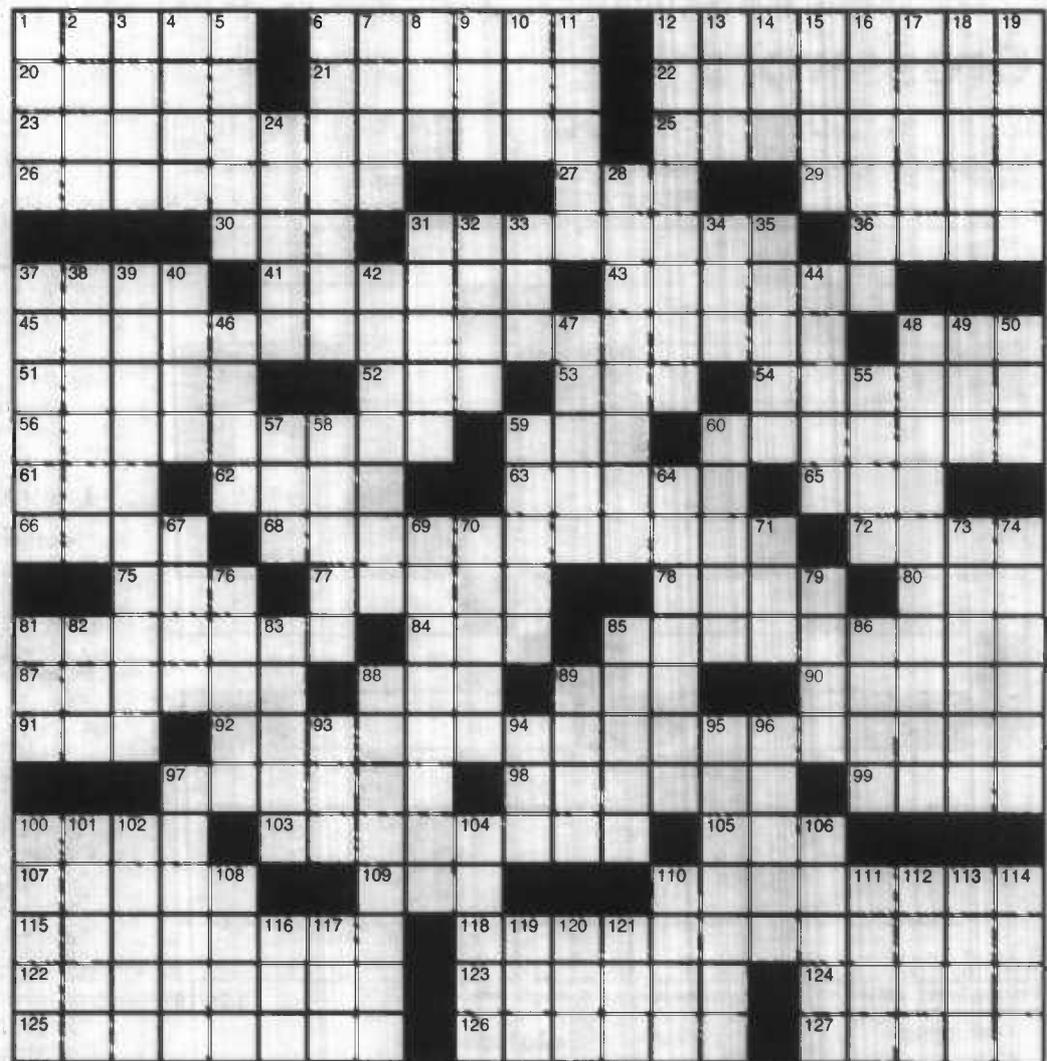
- 1 Office alerts
- 6 Lubricate
- 12 Golfer for whom the original web.com Tour was named
- 20 Vols' school
- 21 Family reunion attendees
- 22 Baja tourist city
- 23 \*Vegas visitor's hope
- 25 \*Seemingly impromptu public performance
- 26 Brief and on point
- 27 Corn serving
- 29 Buffalo NHLer
- 30 Director Jean-\_\_\_ Godard
- 31 Formal opening
- 36 Troon turndowns
- 37 Greek earth goddess
- 41 Caught in \_\_\_
- 43 Frisbee golf starting point
- 45 \*Classic 1974 sports contest
- 48 Word to a restaurant host
- 51 Barcelona bye
- 52 Chargers linebacker Manti\_\_\_
- 53 Unusual
- 54 "Honest!"
- 56 Sales chart, e.g.
- 59 Sales chart metaphor
- 60 Attic function
- 61 Reputed UFO fliers
- 62 Arcade no-no
- 63 Where to find "The Blacklist"
- 65 "Mr. \_\_\_ Passes By": Milne play
- 66 Time fraction: Abbr.
- 68 \*Solution for a forgotten combination
- 72 USAF noncom
- 75 Driver's lic. info
- 77 Aired for binge-watching, say
- 78 Film princess
- 80 Screened leader?
- 81 Nestlé candy with a white covering
- 84 "Another thing ..."
- 85 Old-style delivery man
- 87 Exotic pet
- 88 Bermuda hrs.
- 89 Word in discount store names

- 90 Long-eared critters
- 91 Base bed
- 92 \*Historic 20th-century disaster
- 97 "Frankenstein" genre
- 98 Cause to be
- 99 Old Roman road
- 100 Word from a doll
- 103 Extreme folly
- 105 120-Down source
- 107 2003 NBA Rookie of the Year
- Stoudemire
- 109 Brian of ambient music
- 110 Fish pond treatment
- 115 \*Bama rallying cry
- 118 \*Arrange hastily
- 122 It established Congress
- 123 Ancient serfs
- 124 Dental treatment
- 125 Box for bags
- 126 Plant swellings
- 127 Best Game and Best Upset

- 39 Rueful words about an opportunity
- 40 "\_\_\_ Ben Adhem"
- 42 Give the right
- 44 Legendary storyteller
- 46 Future D.A.'s hurdle
- 47 Like some custody
- 48 It may be affected by a tough loss
- 49 Tail movement
- 50 Salem home: Abbr.
- 55 Lawyer's petition
- 57 Women's \_\_\_
- 58 Then, in Toulouse
- 59 Egyptian currency
- 60 Hardware fastener
- 64 Cherished
- 67 Half a soft drink
- 69 Place for deleted files?
- 70 Spanish song
- 71 Offense
- 73 "The Quiet American" author
- 74 Not so wordy
- 76 Baccarat call
- 79 Sore
- 81 [Originally shown this way]
- 82 Park \_\_\_: airport facility
- 83 Saga opening
- 85 Like a lion's coat
- 86 Hindu royal
- 88 "In my opinion ..."
- 89 Editor's mark
- 93 Master Kan portrayer on "Kung Fu"
- 94 Part of TGIF: Abbr.
- 95 Disappointing result
- 96 "Perry Mason" lieutenant
- 97 Spaghetti sauce staple
- 100 Corday victim
- 101 Luigi's love
- 102 European island nation
- 104 Night in Nogales
- 106 Composition
- 108 Engrave
- 110 "\_\_\_ boy!"
- 111 Part of CDC: Abbr.
- 112 Rooty Jr. server
- 113 \_\_\_-eyed
- 114 Sea eagles
- 116 Key for Ravel?
- 117 \_\_\_ Moines
- 119 Played the first card
- 120 Scottish \_\_\_
- 121 Fluffy toy, briefly

**Down**

- 1 Disarray
- 2 Words to a traitor
- 3 Grand Marquis, for short
- 4 100 smackers
- 5 Mail modifier
- 6 Ristorante dumplings
- 7 Break
- 8 Anago or unagi
- 9 Start to pressure?
- 10 Champagne label word
- 11 Glacial ridge
- 12 Get close to
- 13 Photo lab svc.
- 14 DOD intel arm
- 15 Company with toy trucks
- 16 Available
- 17 Viola da \_\_\_
- 18 Cherish
- 19 Theaters in the area, briefly
- 24 Immortal coaching name
- 28 Dean's list topper
- 31 Not exactly new
- 32 Repeat
- 33 Picked at, say
- 34 Coffee order: Abbr.
- 35 Breakup
- 37 Second Commandment word
- 38 Annual reviews



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.

GEDDER  
 SIRPMH  
 WAASLY  
 STIRCP  
 CONANY  
 SLIPHO



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**

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

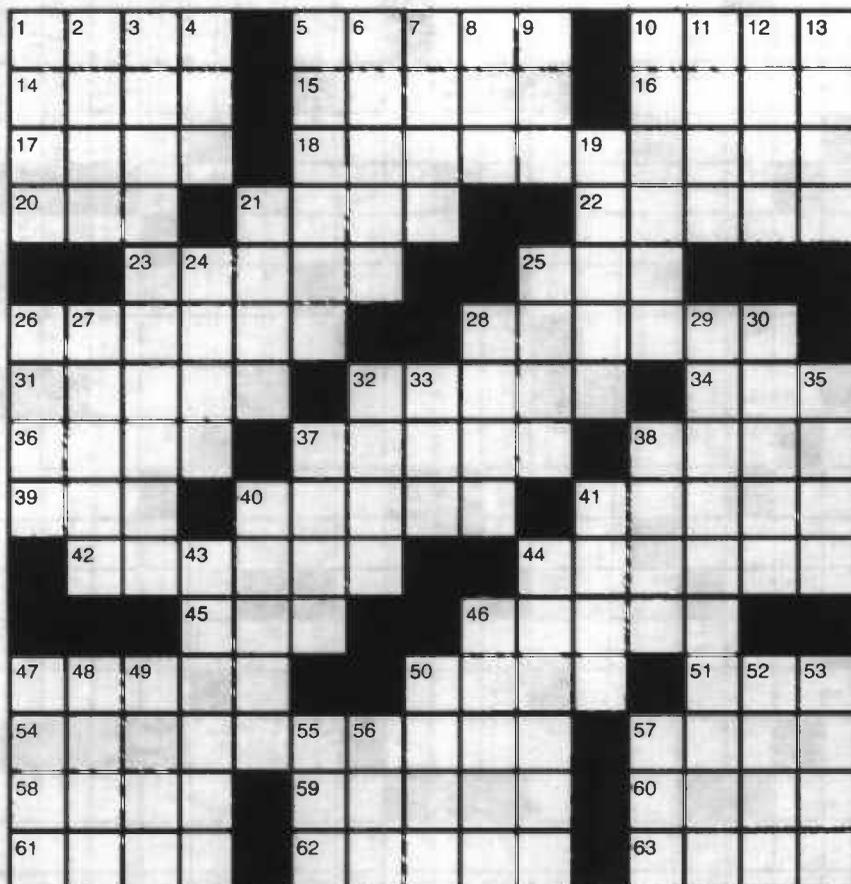
Level: **1 2 3 4**

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

Last week's answers appear on the next page

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# Crossword



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4/20/16

## ACROSS

- 1 Joke around  
5 Alaska's Palin  
10 Wooden shoe  
14 Hawaiian island  
15 Maximum allowed or minimum required  
16 "\_\_\_ you lost your mind?"  
17 Puncture  
18 Skeptic  
20 Truman's monogram  
21 Large tubs  
22 Provide with fresh weapons  
23 Bleacher levels  
25 Apple computer  
26 Giggle's sound  
28 Wood-shapers' machines  
31 Mistake  
32 Thin sugary coating  
34 \_\_\_ tree; cornered  
36 Make a tiny cut  
37 Halted and didn't move  
38 Read quickly  
39 Cheap metal  
40 The Chicago Tribune, e.g.  
41 "Beauty and the \_\_\_"

## DOWN

- 42 Pompousness  
44 Misgivings  
45 Calico or pooch  
46 Wood hole filler  
47 Valuable thing  
50 Golfer's pegs  
51 Greek Letter  
54 Usurers  
57 Mix in a bowl  
58 Theater box  
59 Blockhead  
60 Hockey disk  
61 Asterisk  
62 Sulks  
63 \_\_\_ for; requests
- 1 Actor \_\_\_ Brolin  
2 Sups  
3 Breaking into tiny bits  
4 Bather's spot  
5 1 of 64 on a checkerboard  
6 Dad's sisters  
7 Steals from  
8 Passion or affection suffix  
9 Actor Holbrook  
10 \_\_\_ and Chong; comedy duo  
11 Molten rock  
12 Finished; done  
13 Bit of bacteria  
19 Enraged  
21 Swerve

## Solutions

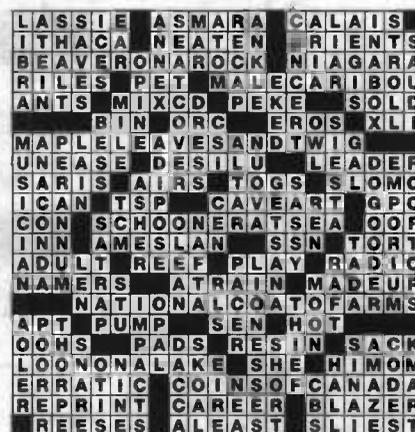


- 24 Pancake house  
25 Labyrinth  
26 Exam  
27 Bert's buddy  
28 Sluggish  
29 \_\_\_ leaves; koala's dinner  
30 Charley horse, for one  
32 Somber; unsmiling  
33 Texter's laugh  
35 Social insects  
37 Eat nothing  
38 Chair or bench  
40 Counts calories  
41 "No ifs, ands or \_\_\_"  
43 Key  
44 Searches  
46 Tea variety  
47 "\_\_\_ well that ends well"  
48 Chimney residue  
49 Long tale  
50 Journey  
52 Not well  
53 Irritates  
55 That fellow  
56 Commotion  
57 Hot tub

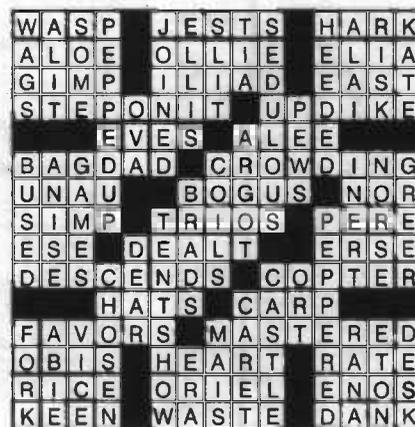


## Last week's crosswords

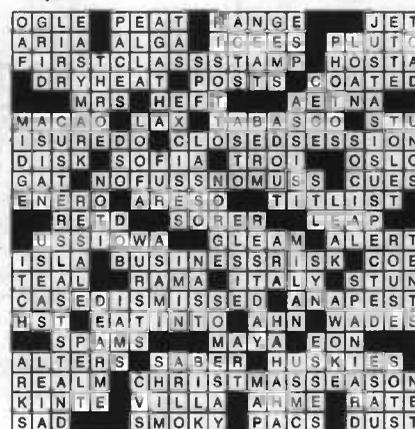
### "Northern Exposure"



### "Up and Down"



### "Squad"



## Last week's Quote-Acrostic

JASON GAY: THAT ODD FEELING:  
Success anxiety or euphobia, the fear of good news, is found in fans of sports franchises with generations of suffering, Inured to disappointment and unable to embrace positivity. See Chicago Cubs junkies.

## Last week's Sudoku

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

## This week's Jumble

DREDGE ALWAYS CANYON  
SHRIMP SCRIPT POLISH

To compete in the poker tournament, her husband would need to —

PLAY HIS  
CARDS RIGHT

chicago  
tribune.com  
/games

Interactive  
puzzles and  
games

# Men, women opposites when talking relationships

On the night of April 15, I had the pleasure of sitting on the panel of experts for "The Great Love Debate," a national touring show that had a Chicago stop at the Greenhouse Theater Center in Lincoln Park.



**JACKIE PILOSSOPH**  
*Love Essentially*

Facilitated by the show's host and producer, Brian

Howie, along with four other panelists, a crowd of men and women discussed and debated dating, relationships and love. To say there were a few noteworthy differences in the way men and women viewed things is putting it mildly.

After the show, I sat down with Howie, the Los Angeles-based producer of "The Great Love Debate" and author of his book, "How to Find Love in 60 Seconds," to find out what drives such opposing gender opinions and perspectives.

Howie — who said he interviewed 2,000 women to prep for "The Great Debate," which has made stops in 78 cities over the past two years — cited five major philosophies in which he finds guys and girls differ greatly.

## 1. Women want men to try harder, men want women to make it easier

"This is the crux of the disconnect between men and women," Howie said. "Over the last 20 years, the biggest change in our society has been the ramping up of the female masculine energy, which is a good thing in every aspect of life except for dating. At the same time, men have become more sensitive, more introspective and more vulnerable, which is more valuable in society with the exception of the early stages of dating. That's why we hide behind dating apps and Facebook."

Howie claims technology isn't the problem, but rather the reaction to the actual change, which is the blurring of the gender roles.

## 2. Women look for red flags, men look for green lights

According to 49-year-old Howie, who has never been married, men are fundamentally more optimistic and romantic when it comes to dating.

"When a guy asks a woman out, he believes he is going to like her," he said. "Women are skeptical. They look for an out."

## 3. Men are afraid of rejection, women are afraid of being hurt

Howie said that to men, rejection

means "I won't even get the opportunity of a date," and that women are afraid that if they let a man into their life in a romantic way, he will eventually hurt them, whether it is in three days, three months or three years.

## 4. Men fall in love with who she is, women fall in love with the possibility of who he can become

"We are OK with who you are from day one," said Howie, who calls himself "America's No. 1 dating enthusiast."

## 5. Processing heartbreak and pain

Men don't process heartbreak or pain well, while women build up an immunity to heartbreak and bounce back quicker. According to Howie, men hold onto the pain of a breakup longer than women.

"A breakup can sometimes manifest itself into 'I'm scared or angry with women,' which can lead men into a bad dating pattern," he said. "Women build up an immunity with each heartbreak and can therefore process the end of a relationship more easily."

I don't think anyone will argue that men and women can be as different as night and day when it comes to the way we think, not just about love and relationships, but about anything. And that's OK. Having opposing views is healthy, and keeps a relationship challenging, exciting and lively.

But let's face it. How many times have you been on a date or with your spouse and thought to yourself, "What planet is he or she on?" Probably too many to count. The key to staying amicable and happy (and sane) together is understanding and respecting your spouse's feelings, no matter how silly or strange they might seem, and communicating with each other constructively to manage and resolve disagreements.

I'll be honest, some of the comments I heard at "The Great Love Debate" drove me nuts, and at one point, I seriously wanted to shout at this one guy, "You're the reason I'm still single at 50!" But I didn't. Instead, I took a deep breath, attempted to be open-minded and thought maybe men really are from Mars, but women are not from Venus. That's too close. They are from an entirely different solar system.

*Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.*

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Chicago Tribune



[chicagotribune.com/nominate](http://chicagotribune.com/nominate)

# Mediterranean diet may protect brain, heart



**DR. ANTHONY KOMAROFF**  
Ask Doctor K

**Dear Doctor K: I know that the Mediterranean diet is supposed to improve heart health. Recently I heard it also improves brain health. Is that pretty well established? Of all the organs I want to protect, my brain is "numero uno."**

Dear Reader: I agree with your priorities regarding organs: My brain is "numero uno," too. And I do think the evidence is strong that the Mediterranean diet does protect the brain. This diet emphasizes fruits, vegetables, grains, beans, nuts, fish, poultry, olive oil and wine.

Most of the evidence about the health benefits of the Mediterranean diet comes from observational studies. In such studies, large numbers of people are followed for many years. Information about their lifestyle and any diseases they may have developed is collected. Most such studies have found that people who follow the Mediterranean diet have a lowered risk of developing Alzheimer's disease.

However, observational studies that link a lifestyle behavior to a disease (or to protection against a disease) can't prove causation. That is, it may be true that people who follow a Mediterranean diet do have a lower risk of Alzheimer's, but that doesn't mean that the diet is the reason for the lower risk. Something else about people who follow the Mediterranean diet may protect them



GLENN KOENIG/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS

Most of the evidence about the health benefits of the Mediterranean diet comes from observational studies.

from Alzheimer's.

To prove causation, scientists must conduct randomized controlled trials. Such studies are not often done to test the effect of lifestyle on health; they are very expensive and impractical. To prove that the Mediterranean diet reduced the risk of Alzheimer's, scientists would need to have thousands of people assigned at random to either follow the Mediterranean diet or not — for 20 to 30 years. And the scientists would need to ensure that those tens of thousands of people really were eating the way the study told them to eat.

Smaller and shorter randomized trials are more practical, but less likely to provide definite answers. One such study was reported in 2013. About 300 people in Spain were assigned to follow either the Mediterranean diet or a low-fat diet for about four years. Intensive tests of thinking were performed at the start of the study and after four years. The people who followed the Mediterranean diet had a modest improvement in several measures of thinking.

Those who followed the low-fat diet had a slight deterioration.

In 2015, a novel observational study was reported. About 700 people, with an age range of 65 to 90, had magnetic resonance imaging performed to examine their brains. Those who followed the Mediterranean diet had larger brains, or brains that had shrunk less since they were young, compared with people who did not follow the diet. The specific factors in the diet that seemed most closely tied to larger brains were eating lots of fish and little red meat.

I'm not arguing that the Mediterranean diet has been proven to protect the brain. But the evidence is strong enough that I have long since adopted the diet myself.

*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

# Mothballs not the answer to mice problem; try cats

By Joe Graedon and Teresa Graedon  
King Features Syndicate

**Q: I have a problem with mice, and I've been using mothballs to get rid of them. I may have used too much because I have symptoms like headaches, nausea and eye irritation. How can I detox from mothballs? Something natural would be appreciated. I'd also like a natural way to combat the mice.**

A: Mothballs don't work against mice, so we suggest you get them out of your house immediately. The pesticide in most mothballs, para-dichlorobenzene, can cause the symptoms you describe of eye irritation, nausea and headaches, as well as shortness of breath and dizziness. Eliminating your exposure is the best way to protect yourself from this possibly carcinogenic chemical. As far as we can tell, there are no herbs that will reverse the symptoms.

As for natural ways to get rid of mice, a cat or two might work. There also are mousetraps, both ones that kill mice and those that trap them alive so they can be released very far away.

**Q: I have a question about aspirin. I had a serious heart attack 15 years ago and have been carrying a packet of BC Powder (845 mg aspirin and 65 mg caffeine) in a plastic bag in my pants pocket ever since. There also is a note to put the powder under my tongue in case of a heart attack.**

I just looked at the BC packet for the first time in a while. It was past its expiration date. I also found instructions to store it below 77 degrees. Is it safe to keep this drug in my pants pocket



ZSV3207/ISTOCKPHOTO

Cats are an effective solution to ridding a home of mice, as are mousetraps. Mothballs don't work and are unsafe.

**even though it is over 77 degrees? I have replaced it with a fresh packet. BC Powder seems perfect for this purpose otherwise.**

A. BC Powder was created more than 100 years ago to provide fast pain relief. Customers often poured the powder on their tongues and washed it down with water.

This is a quick way to get aspirin into your system in the event of a heart attack, but the dose is higher than recommended, and the extra caffeine might strain the heart. Keeping it in a pants pocket might speed deterioration. You could be better off with a small container of chewable low-dose aspirin.

**Q: I am in my 50s and don't consider myself a senior citizen, but my memory has been getting worse and worse. I take amitriptyline and oxybutynin for a urinary problem, along with Metamucil and Imodium for irritable bowel syndrome. My name recall is poor, and I sometimes feel like brain fog interferes with my ability to think clearly. I think I read in your column that some of these drugs could cause mental confusion. Please provide**

some perspective.

A: Anticholinergic drugs interfere with the brain's ability to react normally to the neurochemical acetylcholine. Classic symptoms of such medications include dry mouth, eyes and nose; constipation; urinary retention; dizziness; drowsiness; disorientation and memory problems. You are taking only one drug without anticholinergic activity: psyllium (Metamucil). All the rest could be affecting your ability to think clearly.

Even though you are not a senior citizen, we are sending you our guide "Drugs and Older People" with a list of anticholinergic medications that could impact cognitive function. 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. O-85, P.O. Box 52027, Durham, NC 27717-2027. It also can be downloaded for \$2 from [www.peoplespharmacy.com](http://www.peoplespharmacy.com).

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

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# CAREERFAIR

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# Single mothers by choice

As women age, decision looms on starting family

By Danielle Braff  
Tribune Newspapers

Nina Davenport always wanted to be a mother. And she believed that after age 42, it would be nearly impossible to become pregnant.

So after dating throughout her 20s and 30s, all the way up to her self-appointed deadline, she asked a male friend to be a sperm donor, and she became pregnant.

"I was 41 when I started the process," said Davenport, a New York-based documentary filmmaker who created "First Comes Love" to record the experience of having her son, Jasper, who is 7 now. "If you find someone and have a great relationship, and that works out, that's great and that's the ideal, but the ideal rarely exists," she said.

Technology is available for having a baby without a romantic partner, including freezing eggs, sperm donation and adoption. But the most agonizing part of all may come down to giving up the hope of having a partner to share it all.

That's one of the reasons Jane Mattes founded New York-based Single Mothers by Choice in 1981.

"The first difficulty is usually that they need a support system, because it's not built in," said Mattes, a psychotherapist and author of "Single Mothers by Choice." "There's no husband, no in-laws, and they're not necessarily near a family," she said.

Mattes became a single mother by choice 35 years ago. Her organization has over 2,000 online members and provides a support system through local chapters and get-togethers in most large cities.

George Sachs, a 47-year-old clinical child psychologist in New York, is attempting to gain a support system by co-parenting with strangers.

He posted a profile on Modamily, a website founded in 2012 that helps match people interested in co-parenting but not necessarily looking for a romantic relationship. The site has 20,000 members worldwide, the majority in the United States. Many connections have been made, with at least 50 babies born.



MIKKI MORRISSETTE PHOTO

Mikki Morrisette was 35 and living in New York when her relationship with the man she thought she would have children with ended, so she decided to start a family on her own. She lives in Minneapolis with her two children.

Sachs is hoping to co-parent with an educated woman or with a lesbian couple in New York because, he said, although he isn't against marriage, he doesn't see it as a prerequisite to having a child.

"I see many divorced clients in my practice that struggled to find common ground on raising their child," Sachs said. "This co-parenting process removes many of the mysteries of how your child will be raised."

Sachs wants to share custody with his co-parent 50-50, and he desires a friendly, respectful and communicative relationship.

While Sachs found a creative solution to the support dilemma, Mattes said it still might be tough.

"It's really difficult to co-parent when you're madly in love with somebody, so it's more complicated when you don't have that bond," she said.

But when time is running out biologi-

cally, it might be time to start thinking of alternative options. Mattes recommends that women begin considering the idea of single parenting by the time they're 32 or 33.

"If you don't start around then, you're really up against a clock," she said. "A lot of women used to say that they wished they had done it earlier because they wanted two (kids). These days, a lot of women are doing exactly that."

Mikki Morrisette was 35 when her relationship with the man she thought would be the father of her children ended.

"I had a well-paying job in New York City publishing, owned my own apartment there and was ready financially and emotionally to go ahead and have a child on my own, rather than wait to find a new partner and the X number of years before we might be ready to consider children," Morrisette said. "My daughter was born just after my

**"Co-parenting ... removes many of the mysteries of how your child will be raised."**

— George Sachs, a 47-year-old clinical child psychologist in New York, who is a member of Modamily, a website founded in 2012 that helps match people interested in co-parenting but not necessarily looking for a romantic relationship.

37th birthday."

Her biggest fears, other than a one-night meltdown when she was in her first trimester, occurred after her daughter was born and included learning how to use a diaper genie and how to give her a bath without breaking her.

Losing regular contact with her single, childless friends and colleagues was daunting, too, she said.

And losing her job was another thing she did not expect.

"My employer job eliminated me while I was on maternity leave, which was a major financial wrinkle that I did not anticipate," said Morrisette, who is the founder of Choicemoms.org and owner of Be-Mondo Publishing.

Morrisette transitioned into a more flexible lifestyle, decided to have a second child and relocated to Minneapolis. She now lives in a seven-bedroom house and makes extra income by renting out her spare bedrooms.

But being a single parent of two isn't all rainbows and unicorns.

"Compared to peers with a spouse, my self-employment life as a writer means I have a very precarious financial life," Morrisette said. "I wish I had a second wage earner and someone to help me with the upkeep of this large house." Nonetheless, she says, "My kids are doing great."

Those who are on the fence about becoming a single parent need to talk to people on both sides, said Mary Casey Jacob, professor of psychiatry, obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine.

"Talk with single parents by choice; talk with childless single people," she said.

There are also practical factors to take into consideration. Jacob said to look into the costs of becoming a parent and the costs of being a parent, and see if you can manage those costs. She said to also think about who will help you if you are sick or need other assistance with your child.

Jacob said there's one key question to ask when you're considering making this step: "Will I regret it if I proceed? Or if I do not?"

Danielle Braff is a freelancer.



MEGAN CHAFFIN PHOTOS



# Newly-built contemporary home in Wilmette: \$1.689M

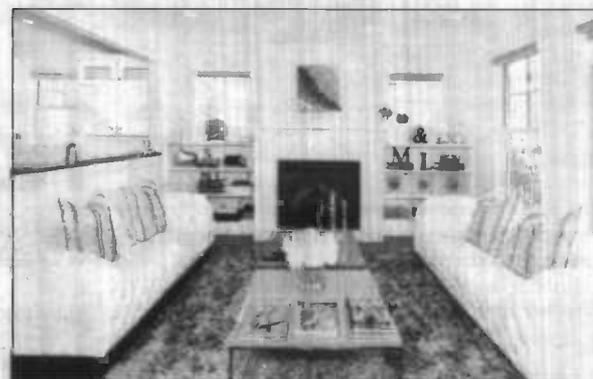
Address: 1030 Greenleaf Ave. in Wilmette

Asking price: \$1,689,000

Listed on April 11, 2016

A foyer with views leading straight through to the back of the home paves the way to the formal living and dining rooms complete with moldings and wainscoting. The all-white kitchen has granite counter tops, a 6-burner cook top with two ovens, two dishwashers, fridge/freezer and a microwave. A family room opens off the kitchen and is anchored by the gas-starter fireplace. Upstairs, three additional bedrooms and two full baths complement the master suite with two walk-in closets and a bath with heated floors. Fully-fenced back yard and two-car garage with alley access.

Agent: Katherine Harris of The Hudson Company, 847-446-9600



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

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Linda Glnzel / University of Chicago Booth School of Business  
*Faculty Excellence Award*

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## 'Field of Dreams' gala raises \$270,000 for girls' programs

**Event:** "Field of Dreams," the Girls in the Game's 21st Anniversary Gala  
**Benefiting:** Sports, health and leadership programs and scholarships for area girls

**Honoring:** Israel Idonije, former Chicago Bear and founder of the Israel Idonije Foundation, the Leo Burnett team behind the #likeagirl campaign and John W. Rogers, Jr., of Ariel Investments

**Location:** Marriott Magnificent Mile, Chicago

**Date:** Feb. 25

**Attended:** 580

**Raised:** \$270,000

**Website:** [girlsinthegame.org](http://girlsinthegame.org)



ALLY GAWRYS/GIRLS IN THE GAME PHOTOS

Wendy and Scott Farabee of Naperville, from left, with Matt and Amy Mahoney of Park Ridge



RAY DOUD AND GREGORY METZLER/AVENUES TO INDEPENDENCE PHOTOS

Avenues Executive Director Robert Okazaki of Barrington, from left, John Krause and Ed Rawski and Mel Thillens, all of Park Ridge

## Irish Fest raises \$42,000 for Avenues to Independence

**Event:** Irish Fest

**Benefiting:** Avenues to Independence, Park Ridge, which helps people with developmental disabilities lead fulfilling lives.

**Location:** Cotillion Banquets, Palatine

**Date:** March 13

**Attended:** 350

**Raised:** \$52,000

**Website:** [avenuestoindependence.org](http://avenuestoindependence.org)



Avenues participant Lenore Sierzega of Park Ridge, from left, Jeanne Doheny of Barrington and Barclay Marcell of Chicago



John Mahal of Skokie



Marysue Redmann of Skokie, left, with Barbara Holland of Chicago



From left: Ruth Miller of Deerfield, Ellsa Helford of Glenview, Nancy Gurny of Skokie, Beth Primer of Chicago, Renee Friedman of Glenview



From left: Michelle Sperzel of Evanston, CEO/President Girls in the Game; Shannon Coomes of Elmhurst, "Field of Dreams" co-chairman; Janette Outlaw of Oak Park, Board of Directors, chairperson



Marlon Brooks of NBC and Honoree John W. Rogers, Jr. of Ariel Investments

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Skokie... Price Reduced! The Best of "Devonshire!" Sparkling Clean & Absolute "Move In Condition!" New décor/painting + newly refinished oak floors throughout. Huge living/dining room with custom Plantation shutters. 3 brs & 2 full updated baths on main floor. Large eat in contemporary white kitchen with 2 ovens & ceramic tile backsplash. Exceptionally large lower level family room (35x13 + 18x11). Huge laundry room + storage area. Large rear yard (60' x 132' lot). Super convenient to Devonshire Park/Pool & The Award Winning Devonshire School! ..... **\$309,000**



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Morton Grove... Impeccable "Woodlands" Townhome in convenient & outstanding location! Built in 2006! Large living room + separate dining room. Corian kitchen with cherry cabinets & high-end appliances. 3 bedrooms & 3 1/2 baths. 2nd floor laundry. Finished bsmt with family room, BR, full bath/whirlpool + bar area. Loads of storage space. 2 car attached garage + loft storage (19x7). Near Metra, Forest Preserves, Bike/Bridle Trails, Harrer Park/Pool & Park View School!! ..... **\$330,000**



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# REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
2210 S Goebbert Rd, # 327, Arlington Heights	Arturo Ramirez & Diyana Strundzheva	Wilmington Sav Fund Soc Ttee	03-16-16	\$80,500
2912 S Briarwood Dr W, Arlington Heights	Mark Borgardt & Sara Borgardt	Fannie Mae	03-08-16	\$279,000
224 S Forrest Ave, Arlington Heights	Rafal J Morys & Katarzyna Morys	Pilch Trust	03-15-16	\$280,000
2422 S Shag Bark Trl, Arlington Heights	Gary Bergman	Gregg Walters	03-15-16	\$308,000
34 N Donald Ave, Arlington Heights	Scott A Argentine & Kristy S Argentine	Tony Babos	03-08-16	\$450,000
209 S Evergreen Ave, Arlington Heights	Douglas J Berndt & Queena Thai	Jerzy Trzeciak Inc	03-16-16	\$469,000
428 S Evanston Ave, Arlington Heights	Ross A Priestler & Lara E Priestler	Douglas Espinal	03-16-16	\$685,000
230 Old Oak Dr, #168, Buffalo Grove	Stephen Hoffman & Marilyn Hoffman	Igor Meltser	03-15-16	\$119,000
226 S Buffalo Grove Rd, Buffalo Grove	Mohammad Ammar Iqbal & Sairah Mushtaq	Michael Kleinstub	03-16-16	\$200,500
451 Town Place Cir, # 409W, Buffalo Grove	Yi Yang Huang & Hongbo Li	Viktor Markoski	03-15-16	\$224,000
106 Willow Pkwy, Buffalo Grove	Subba Rao Moganti & Swetha Kotamreddy	Dawn Solideo	03-10-16	\$225,000
2528 Live Oak Ln, Buffalo Grove	Rajesh Ratnala & Meenarva Senapathy	Scott Sladek	03-15-16	\$261,500
512 Park View Ter, Buffalo Grove	Victor Petrovsky & Olena Petrovska	Vikram Mhetre	03-15-16	\$291,000
601 Harris Dr, Buffalo Grove	Yu Mao & Xue Wang	Estes Trust	03-03-16	\$325,000
367 Satinwood Ter, Buffalo Grove	Kalyan Boggavarapu	Michael D Smith	03-15-16	\$342,000
884 Knollwood Dr, Buffalo Grove	Mochik M Teboul & Susan Teboul	Richard Goldberg	03-14-16	\$342,000
304 Indian Hill Dr, Buffalo Grove	Sean A Perlman & Mary Perlman	Steve Kovacs	03-16-16	\$360,000
8923 Knight Ave, # 110, Des Plaines	Mohammed Mudessir	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	03-08-16	\$88,500
9335 Landings Ln, # 304, Des Plaines	Abdul R Monti & Rahchel Moti	Domlnlk Okladlo	03-16-16	\$130,000
1651 Greenleaf Ave, Des Plaines	Cla Giovenco & Isabella Giovenco	Joseph Pehar	03-15-16	\$183,000
370 S Western Ave, # 208, Des Plaines	Andrew Vinleratos & Efigenia Vinleratos	Timothy J Harrison	03-08-16	\$204,500
251 S Wolf Rd, Des Plaines	Jacqueline R St Clair	Samuel Robert Howard	03-16-16	\$205,000
390 S Western Ave, # 408, Des Plaines	Gregory Amato & Rachel Kinard	Katherine L Scholten	03-08-16	\$209,500
2288 Westview Dr, Des Plaines	Fausto Martinez & Reyna Martinez	Us Bank Na Trustee	03-15-16	\$275,000
1895 Locust St, Des Plaines	Malgorzata T Dee	Stanley J Rebacz	03-08-16	\$287,000
750 Pearson St, # 404, Des Plaines	Anthony C Siragusa & Joyce A Siragusa	Lopez Jr Trust	03-15-16	\$322,000
1233 Center St, Des Plaines	Jennifer S Arauz & Bonnie J Swanson	Kyle Roach	03-16-16	\$485,000
135 Ridge Ave, # 2E, Evanston	Alexis J Lopez & Judy D Lopez	Kirby Kirchoff	03-16-16	\$120,000
140 Ridge Ave, # 2W, Evanston	Sharon Waring	Kathy Y Gao	03-16-16	\$227,500
800 Elgin Rd, # 1518, Evanston	Michael J Zichterman & Karen J Zichterman	Hussain Tejanl	03-15-16	\$293,000
1228 Emerson St, # 404, Evanston	Kartik Manchanda & Sumedha Mehta	Grandbend Llc	03-16-16	\$300,000
2544 Wellington Ct, Evanston	Prateek R Mathur & Fabiana N Correa	Anthony R Miner	03-16-16	\$480,000
711 Colfax St, Evanston	Vladimir L Rasin & Deborah M Rasin	North Shore Bullder S1 Llc	03-16-16	\$1,350,000
715 Colfax St, Evanston	Matthew Alberico & Maria Alberico	Northshore Builders I Llc	03-16-16	\$1,516,500
616 Cobblestone Cir, # B, Glenview	Eugene Bledsoe	Veronica Perkins	03-08-16	\$110,000
243 Nora Ave, Glenview	Sean Delaharty & Kristin Delaharty	Cartus Financial Corp	03-16-16	\$382,500
2001 Linneman St, Glenview	Thomas L Harte	Stuart A Reid	03-16-16	\$420,000
2300 Linden Leaf Dr, Glenview	Marta Kontowicz	Cynthia K Huston	03-16-16	\$465,000
1864 Admiral Ct, Glenview	Earl Schneider & Stevhanie Howard	Bradley J Stevenson	03-16-16	\$800,000
2 Acorn Dr, Hawthorn Woods	Kenneth Stauffer & Kristen Stauffer	Wilmington Sav Fund Soc Ttee	03-07-16	\$364,000
8 Princeton Ln, Hawthorn Woods	Floyd Gilnsey & Toni Gilnsey	Sanjay Luthra	03-14-16	\$425,000
225 North Trl, Hawthorn Woods	Robert Noga & Angela Noga	Patrick G Briesemeister	03-03-16	\$472,000
12 Melrose Pl, Hawthorn Woods	Robert J Abbott & Donna A Abbott	Pulte Home Corp	03-02-16	\$531,500
15 N Alder Ct, Hawthorn Woods	Himanshu Deoskar & Ashwini Deoskar	Ibg Hawthorn Trails Llc	03-15-16	\$700,000
33 N Empress Dr, Hawthorn Woods	Aashish Manohar & Anita R Bhardwaj	Ibg Hawthorn Trails Llc	03-02-16	\$824,500
23630 N Sanctuary Club Dr, Kildeer	Brock Hancock & Brooke Burnside	Brookfield Relocation Inc	03-14-16	\$510,000
21362 W Long Grove Rd, Kildeer	Mark Troth & Erin Troth	Jonathan Bellamy	03-11-16	\$650,000

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
13200 W Heiden Cir, # 2302, Lake Bluff	Michael Gregory & Susan Benes	George Cibon	02-29-16	\$97,000
3317 Stratford Ct, # 2E, Lake Bluff	Blpin Shah & Swetal Mehta	Us Bank Na Trustee	03-02-16	\$106,000
301 N Waukegan Rd, Lake Bluff	Frank Montalto	Dmf Realty Llc	03-07-16	\$185,000
315 Forest Knoll Rd, Lake Bluff	Iain Boomer & Taryn Swart	Jorge Delannoy	03-04-16	\$400,000
217 Hancock Ave, Lake Bluff	Corinne Stagen Torkelson	Jimmy Turner	03-16-16	\$400,000
717 Birch Rd, Lake Bluff	Alex Aldridge & Nicole Aldridge	Andover Lake Properties Llc	03-10-16	\$765,000
511 Lansdowne Ln, Lake Bluff	Kenneth G Pollard	Lansdowne 1 Llc	03-04-16	\$778,000
1350 N Western Ave, # 309, Lake Forest	Graham Mitchell & Nancy Mitchell	Constantin Loghinov	02-26-16	\$340,000
470 College Rd, Lake Forest	Douglas Marquis & Stacey Marquis	Gregory P Allard	02-29-16	\$940,000
1230 W Deerpath Rd, Lake Forest	Douglas Green & Andrea Green	Brian M Waszak	03-16-16	\$1,013,500
350 Bridle Ln, Lake Forest	Karl M Lorenz & Jennifer L Lorenz	Douglas A Green	03-15-16	\$1,132,000
1165 Edgewood Rd, Lake Forest	Christian Iantoni & Elizabeth Lantz	Timothy Knight	03-11-16	\$1,350,000
33 Terrace Ln, # F, Lake Zurich	Tomasz Bielak & Magdalena Bielak	Fannie Mae	03-03-16	\$133,900
37 Evergreen St, Lake Zurich	Adam Frank	Susan Hughes	03-07-16	\$190,000
120 Mohawk Trl, Lake Zurich	Byan Wachta	Riordan R Henry	03-14-16	\$221,000
21256 W Starry Ln, Lake Zurich	Bogdan O Sopterean	Christopher L Green	03-14-16	\$262,000
121 Lorraine Dr, Lake Zurich	Bradley S Enders & Melissa J Enders	Bryan Simon	03-16-16	\$365,000
920 N Milwaukee Ave, # B, Libertyville	Lindsay Mckinnon & Robert Stahl	Jim Ryan	03-07-16	\$182,000
17089 W Cunningham Ct, Libertyville	Marichu G Ross	Teresa C Maraviglia	02-29-16	\$213,000
647 Meadow Ln, Libertyville	Ronald B Brount	Joseph B Smith	03-11-16	\$250,000
514 Dawes St, Libertyville	Morgan Allgeyer & John Allgeyer	Sundberg Trust	03-02-16	\$257,000
328 Kenloch Ave, Libertyville	Kevin D Murray & Meridith B Murray	Robert A Hutchens	03-03-16	\$267,000
1404 Ruidoso Ct, Libertyville	James H Fehling & Carol J Culberso	Walden Lane Llc	03-04-16	\$350,000
700 Stonegate Rd, Libertyville	Matthew Siegel & Ashley Siegel	Patrick Patterson	03-02-16	\$450,000
815 Liberty Bell Ln, Libertyville	Sara Van Duzer & Christopher Van Duzer	Stephen N Weber	03-04-16	\$460,000
325 Mckinley Ave, Libertyville	Rockrey W Hudson & Jill A Hudson	American International Relocat	03-03-16	\$975,000
10 Story Book Ln, Lincolnshire	Robert Sturms	William V Reichert Iii	03-02-16	\$363,500
31 Melrose Ln, Lincolnshire	Tyler McClain & Kristen McClain	J&I Homes Llc	03-02-16	\$480,000
7521 Arcadia St, Morton Grove	Muhammad Fazil & Yasmeen Majeed	Dorothy M Zimmerman	03-16-16	\$240,000
7502 Lyons St, Morton Grove	Kevin C Hill & Molly M Hill	3fcb Iii Llc Holdings 4	03-16-16	\$293,000
311 S Main St, Mount Prospect	Muriei Gunawardana	Arlp Reo I Llc	03-16-16	\$130,000
139 Hill St, Mount Prospect	Francist Vincze & John Veleclco	Michael L Swiatowy	03-16-16	\$140,000
1518 E Lowden Ln, Mount Prospect	Cindy Ludovico & Ranier H Callimil	2004 Re Series Llc 1518 E Lowd	03-15-16	\$350,000
925 Spring Hill Dr, # 303, Northbrook	Laura W Chwa	Aleksandr Mandel	03-08-16	\$165,000
1829 Koehling Rd, Northbrook	Debra M Coe & Benjamin Shulman	Kevin Shiglik	03-08-16	\$288,000
2506 Windsor Ln, Northbrook	Frederick H Lee & Chong Soon Hong	Daniel Heungjong Lee	03-08-16	\$345,000
89 Andover Cir, Northbrook	Anthony Asaad & Irene Nader Asaad	Carlos Pereira	03-15-16	\$475,500
251 Riverside Dr, Northfield	Justin Kohl & Kay Kohl	Richard Ciccione	03-08-16	\$407,500
5A E Dundee Quarter Dr, # 308, Palatine	Francisco Gonzalez	Hsbc Bank Usa Trustee	03-15-16	\$53,000
245 N Hale St, Palatine	Dennis Rusin	Judicial Sales Corp	03-16-16	\$97,000
263 S Clubhouse Dr, # 102, Palatine	Francis J Plunkett & Constance D Plunkett	James H Haffey	03-15-16	\$118,000
924 E Coach Rd, # 2, Palatine	Michael H Chun & Jennifer Lee	Yan Bekker	03-16-16	\$122,000
622 N Glenn Dr, Palatine	Eileen P Mcdonnell	Luke Martino	03-15-16	\$225,000
104 N Plum Grove Rd, # 503, Palatine	Marjorie Rose Plisch	Richard M Parenti	03-15-16	\$234,000
1043 W Sutton Ct, Palatine	Scott Pecora	Fannie Mae	03-16-16	\$265,000
1124 N Perry Dr, Palatine	Mathew Cater & Nicole R Cater	Ronald Brockner	03-16-16	\$385,000
421 W Kenilworth Ave, Palatine	Molly Gorsky & Michael Gorsky	William L Burns Iii	03-08-16	\$390,000
1271 N Northwest Hwy, Park Ridge	Dulo Dragovic & Kimberly L Dragovic	Jose Carambot	03-15-16	\$252,000
1104 S Lincoln Ave, Park Ridge	Anthony J Parker & Anna J Lamar	Paul B Bailey	03-15-16	\$487,500
111 N Lincoln Ave, Park Ridge	Daniel J Murphy Iii & Daniel J Murphy Jr	Pawel Olechno	03-16-16	\$667,000

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



### PALATINE

Three-bedroom, two-bath renovation features 42" custom all-wood cabinets, granite countertops and high-end stainless steel appliances. Main bath totally new, with new tub, new vanity with granite tops, custom shower with custom class door. Both baths have water-saver toilets. No-maintenance pre-finished hardwood floors. New concrete patio and sidewalk, and driveway with finished garage.

**Address:** 1 N. Ashland Ave.  
**Price:** \$289,000  
**Schools:** Palatine High School  
**Taxes:** \$3,738  
**Agent:** Arthur Dusenbury, Ideal Location Chicago Re, LLC



### LIBERTYVILLE

Home has four bedrooms and 2.5 baths with hardwood floors, newer kitchen. Kitchen has bay window seat eating area and built-in washer and dryer surrounded by upgraded cabinets. Family room. Finished lower level with new carpet and wet bar area. Storage area with double utility sink. Exterior newer windows, siding, gutters, driveway, porch and sidewalk. Near shopping, trails and restaurants.

**Address:** 621 Paddock Lane  
**Price:** \$489,000  
**Schools:** Libertyville High School  
**Taxes:** \$11,859.66  
**Agent:** Debra Dunn, @Properties



### WINNETKA

Five-bedroom, 3.5-bath home with hardwood floors on the main, second, and third level and a fully finished basement. Separate family, dining, and living area, large windows, spacious yard and back porch. Granite counters and stainless appliances in the eat-in kitchen, with long breakfast bar. Asphalt driveway leads to two-car garage.

**Address:** 389 Ridge Ave.  
**Price:** \$699,000  
**Schools:** New Trier Township High School Winnetka  
**Taxes:** n/a  
**Agent:** John Oertel, Dream Town Realty



### PARK RIDGE

Four-bedroom, 2.5-bath home with park-like lot on dead-end street. All-brick ranch with zoned HVAC, heated floors, stone fireplace, vaulted ceilings, porcelain tile and hardwood in living area. Courtyard patio in front, brick paver driveway.

**Address:** 828 S. Broadway Ave.  
**Price:** \$749,999  
**Schools:** Maine South High School  
**Taxes:** \$9,113  
**Agent:** Melissa Ryzy, CONLON/Christie's International Real Estate

Listings from Homefinder.com



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MORTGAGE GUIDE

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			15 yr fixed	3.000	0.000	\$895	20%	3.078		
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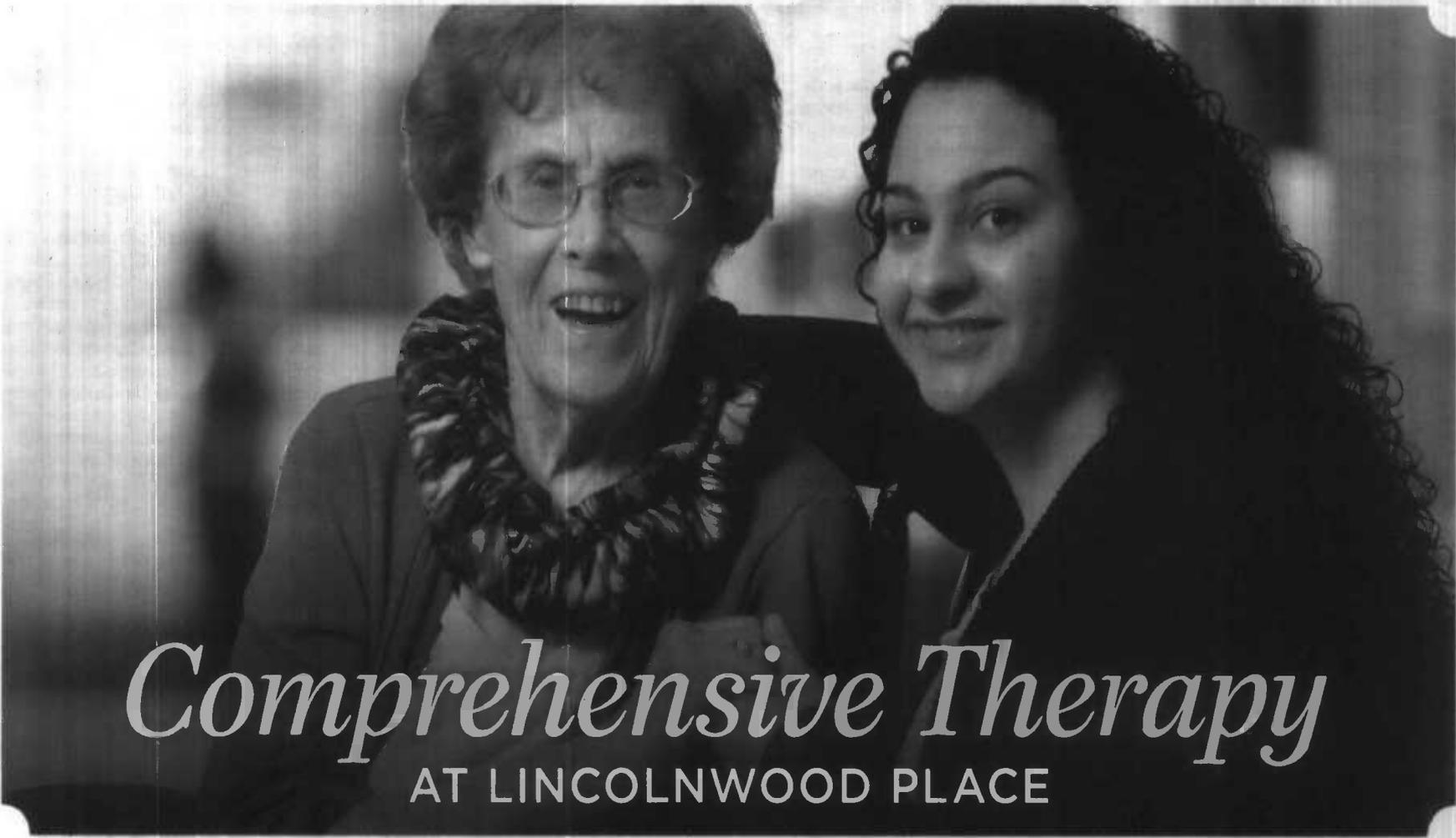
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*Listings are subject to change.  
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## Thursday, April 21

**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 meets twice weekly. Classes are conducted by Oakton Community College in the library's Community Room West. Call 847-635-1426 for details. 9:15 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Spark Park Grades K-2:** Young Einsteins needed for hands-on explorations of STEAM topics. Glenview Library card is preferred and register by calling or going to the website. 4:30 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Art in the Library A New Slant on the Old West:** The artist Karen Barrie displays her works, showing during regular library hours. In Karen's words, "I love the moments: tooled saddle creaking with the horse's rhythm; glints of pink and gold on a sorrel's glossy shoulder" "impressions like these become a blast furnace of unexpected color in my brain that pulls the rug out from under my urban experience. Also attend the Gallery Talk at 6:15 p.m. on May 3. 9 a.m. Thursday and 1 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Twitter:** What's a hashtag, anyway? Get acquainted with this social networking service that has everyone talking. Please sign up for a Twitter account before class. A Glenview Library card is required when registering by phone or at the website. 2 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Special Spring Book Discussion: Infinite Jest:** Have you never had the gumption to read the critically acclaimed novel "Infinite Jest" by David Foster Wallace? Inspired by the GLENVIEWINGS screening of the Wallace biopic "End of the Tour" (Feb.19), AV Librarian Michael White invites you to give this book a shot. This encyclopedic novel about a zany, intellectual and dysfunctional family toggles between fascinating, incongruous settings. 7 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**StoryWalk Pete the Cat and His Magic Sunglasses:** Stroll, bounce,

hop, or better yet, bike along the path to read about Pete the Cat and his friends. Learn how awesome a positive outlook can be. The StoryWalk Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and was developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle and Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. 9 a.m. All week long, Gallery Park, 2001 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Build It at Kohl Children's Museum:** The popular temporary exhibit "Build It!" allows children to explore their creativity while learning about architecture, science, storytelling and much more. Children may grow using 10 different varieties of building blocks, all in one exhibit space. 9:30 a.m. All week long, Kohl Children's Museum, 2100 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, \$11 children and adults; \$10 senior citizens; free for members and children under 1, 847-832-6600

**Senior Resource Specialist:** Stop by and find out information regarding the selection of appropriate retirement benefits, picking the right health insurance and Medicare programs, determining housing needs, identifying supportive resources and much more. Hosted by Kathy Gaeding from CJE SeniorLife. Located near the Reference desk. 10:30 a.m. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Books and Bites Offsite for Grades 5 to 8:** Read each individual book selection and join in a casual, fun book discussion once a month (snacks provided). The book discussion is about "Etiquette & Espionage" by Gail Carriger. 4 p.m. Meatheads, 6734 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Everybody Move Offsite:** This seven-week session runs Thursdays for ages birth through two years with a caregiver. Registration is required. Celeste Cifala Roy, from Evanston's program Everybody Move!, has planned an hour of activities and exploration including scarves, balls, hoops and instruments to get your child up moving, singing and dancing. Weekly attendance is encouraged. 9:30 a.m. Lincolnwood Community Center, 6900 N. Lincoln Ave, Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Mother-Son Bingo Night at the Lincolnwood Fire Station:** Come to the hottest place in town, the Lincolnwood Fire Station. Boys ages 4-12 and their moms or a caregiver are invited enjoy bingo, pizza, refreshments and more. Advance registration is required and online registration is available. 6 p.m., Lincolnwood Fire Station, 6900 N.

Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood, \$15 resident couple; \$19 non-resident couple, 847-677-9740

**Between the Line: Without You, This Is No Us:** 10 a.m. April 21 and 7 p.m. April 26, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-9050

**The Big Short:** Four finance workers predict the credit and housing bubble collapse of the mid-2000s, and decide to take on the big banks for their greed and lack of foresight. 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-5090

**Great Chicago Beer Riot:** Authors John Hogan and Judy Brady present an illustrated lecture, based on their recent book explaining "How Lager Struck a Blow for Liberty" in 1855. 7 p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Wonder Ground Open Lab:** Look, touch, tinker and play with an intriguing array of science-oriented curiosities in this new space designed especially for kids. A drop-in visit is meant to last about 15 minutes. Activities are repeated each week from Tuesday to Thursday. The Wonder Ground is a STEAM playground for kids. 4 p.m. April 21 and 4 p.m. April 26, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**St. Haralambos Spring Bake Sale:** The Ladies Philoptochos Society of the church announces their Spring Bake Sale in the Community Center. Featured are: Sweet Tsourekhi Bread, Koulourakia, Greek pastries, red eggs and Easter candles. There is free admission and parking and purchases vary. 9 a.m. Holy Taxiarchi-St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church, 7373 N. Caldwell Ave., Niles, free, 847-647-8880

**Karaoke:** A's Karaoke Bar has karaoke every day from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m., A's Karaoke Bar, 8751 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, free, 224-534-7158

**Park Ridge Fly Tying Club Meetings:** Chicago Fly Fishers Club meet at 7 p.m. Thursdays from October through May. 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. Park Ridge Community Church, 100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-3164

**Legends of Laughter II: The Comedy Teams Film Series:** This ten-film

series showcases the great movie comedy teams of the 1930's, '40s and '50s. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for patrons of all ages to enjoy. 7 p.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave, Park Ridge, free, 847-720-3209

**Sausage Fest at Hofbrauhaus Chicago:** Hofbrauhaus Chicago is celebrating springtime with its first ever Sausage Fest. This April, guests can enjoy a variety of sausage specials available at Hofbrauhaus Chicago including grilled kielbasa sausage, classic knockwurst, blood sausage and more. Every Friday at 8:30 p.m., Hofbrauhaus will host sausage-eating contests throughout the month of April. 11 a.m. All week long, Hofbrauhaus Chicago, 5500 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-671-2739

## Friday, April 22

**Celebrate Passover at Wildfire:** Wildfire offer the Passover with three course dinner menus and traditional variety dishes including matzo ball soup, chopped liver, braised brisket of beef, matzo crusted fresh fish and coconut macaroons. 4 p.m. April 22 and April 23, Wildfire, 1300 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, \$40.95 per person, \$17.95 for children under 12, 847-279-7900

**Minecraft Meet Up grades 4-8:** Come get pixelated with us. Use your own account or play on one of the library's. Space is limited, so register by calling. 6 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, 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. The instructor is Drew Surinsky, an exercise physiologist. 10 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, \$10-\$15, 847-502-0630

**Passover at L. Woods:** The Passover dinner includes chopped liver, gefilte fish, matzo ball soup, choice of chicken, beef or whitefish and choice of dessert. Reservations recommended. 4 p.m. April 22 and April 23, L. Woods Tap & Pine Lodge, 7110 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood, \$39.95 plus tax and gratuity, 847-677-3350

**Share The Warmth:** Volunteers wanted. Join a group of warm, friendly, supportive women (men welcome) to prepare one-of-a-kind fleece blankets

Turn to Calendar, Next Page

Calendar, from Previous Page

for chemotherapy patients. Add a crocheted edge to fleece and send free blankets to new adult 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. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-293-6755

**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. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road., Northfield, \$95 NSSC member; \$115 non-member, 847-784-6030

**Duplicate Bridge:** The senior center offers a friendly bridge game every Friday morning. 9 a.m. 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. 1:30 p.m. Park Ridge Park District-Centennial Activity Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, \$63 member; \$69 guest, 847-692-3597

**Women In Business Fitness Expo:** Fitness members may participate in a fitness expo for the Women in Business networking group. Breakfast is served. Park Ridge Park District Fly Girl Dance & Fitness, TriPilates, LLC, Pure Barre Park Ridge, MBD, Martial Arts Academy, Orangetheory Fitness, Tone Up and more are expected to exhibit. In order to exhibit, one must be a current chamber member. Fees are: \$10 member; \$15 prospective member; \$20 exhibitor. 8:30 a.m. Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce, 720 Garden St., Park Ridge, \$10, \$15, \$20, 847-825-3121

**Craig Campbell at Joe's Live Rosemont:** Craig Campbell broke through the Country music scene with the release of his self-titled debut album (2011), which delivered the hits "Family Man," "Fish" and "When I Get It." Acclaimed as one of the genre's most neo-traditionalist singers, Campbell's Top 15 debut single "Family Man" was featured on HBO's True Blood and the top-selling fan-favorite "Fish" has sold nearly

400,000 digital downloads. 8:45 p.m. Friday, Joe's Live Rosemont, 5441 Park Place, Rosemont, \$13, 847-261-0392

**Justin Bieber:** 7:30 p.m. April 22 and April 23, Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Road., Rosemont, \$49.50-\$125, 847-635-6601

**Saturday, April 23**

**Evening of Wine and Laughter:** Please join to support the Influencing Youth Scholarship and Charity Fund. Partake of wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres, comedy-club style entertainment and also a raffle and a silent auction. Casual dress is appropriate. All proceeds going toward college scholarships for underprivileged youth. 6 p.m. Influencing Youth Scholarship & Charity Fund, 50 W. Oakton St., Des Plaines, \$100, 773-340-1211

**Spring Rave Recognizing Artistic Vision and Excellence:** This spring benefit highlights the high caliber music-making expected from the faculty and collaborative artists from the Lyric Opera Orchestra. 7:30 p.m. The Musical Offering, 743 Custer Ave., Evanston, \$40, 847-866-6260

**Money Smart Week Life Size Monopoly:** Just in time for Money Smart Week, register the family, decide who gets to play as the top hat and enjoy a life-size version of this classic board game. To register, call or visit website. Noon. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Wills and Trusts offsite:** Learn about wills, trusts, powers of attorney probate and guardianship. Attorney Jacob K. Ehrensaf explains how to ensure your final wishes can be protected. 10 a.m. Liberty Bank, 6666 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Family Movie The Good Dinosaur:** Drop-in at 2 p.m. on the fourth Saturday of the month for a big movie and a little snack. 2 p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Money Smart Week Save with the Illinois State Treasure:** Drop-in and learn about the State Treasurer's programs, including 529 Bright Star College Savings and I-CASH. 10 a.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**16 Candles at Joe's Live Rosemont:** 16 Candles makes it their personal duty and pleasure to bring all the great '80s songs you love to life in full force. Their attention to detail and commitment to entertainment captivates audiences and

inspires new ways of dancing and thinking (not to mention drinking). The members are five fun-loving guys with a simple love for the music of years gone by and a mission to fuse nostalgia and style to create a sight/sound spectacular unlike any other. 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Joe's Live Rosemont, 5441 Park Place, Rosemont, \$10, 847-261-0392

**BlackJack Ball for Northfield Community Nursery School:** Northfield Community Nursery School is hosting a casino night fundraiser. A \$75 ticket includes open bar, hors d'oeuvres, \$25 in chips blackjack, craps, roulette, disc jockey, and raffle prizes. 7:30 p.m. Fields Volvo, 770 Frontage Road, Winnetka, \$75, early bird pricing, \$85, 847-446-1116

**Sunday, April 24**

**Aberrant Alterations:** The Evanston Art Center welcomes a unique collaboration between local artists, Jacqueline Moses and Kathy Weaver. From April 24 through May 29, the Art Center showcases a multitude of two-dimensional work. 5 p.m. Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300

**Inspire Excellence:** Symphony Orchestra Midwest Young Artists presents Inspire Excellence. Tickets are available online at [mya.org/store/tickets.php](http://mya.org/store/tickets.php). 6 p.m. Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, \$30 adults, \$15 students, 847-926-9898

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

**Spring Flute Concert:** Spend a beautiful spring afternoon at The Grove's Redfield Pavilion listening to world flutist, Jonny Lipford. He is an award-winning instrumentalist specializing in music produced with the Native American style flute. 2 p.m. The Grove, 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, free, 847-299-6096

**GlenVIEWINGS features "Bridge of Spies":** The Oscar-nominated "Bridge of Spies," is the selected film for GlenVIEWINGS. Just drop in for a casual audience-led discussion following matinee screenings. 1:30 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Wondrous Boccaccio:** Set against the backdrop of a 14th century, black plague-stricken Florence, 10 young men and women escape to a country estate where they spend their days telling stories of love, fate and resurrection. 2

p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-929-5090

**St. John Brebeuf Do-It-Yourself Messiah Concert:** The Musica Luminata 2015-16 concert series continues with this commemorative concert given in honor of the legacy of the Rev. Stanley Rudcki, the former chair of the Niles College Department of Fine Arts, who founded the Niles Concert Choir and the Niles Symphony Orchestra in the 1960's. Music from the Slavic World on May 15. For more information, call 847-966-8145 or go to the website. To inquire about sponsorships on individual concerts or the series, call 847-720-4495. 3 p.m. St. John Brebeuf Parish Church, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles, free, 847-966-8145

**The Power of Glamour - Hollywood Goddesses:** Actress Roberta Randall in "The Power of Glamour" Roberta Randall in her "One Woman Theater" of famous acting legends in "The Power of Glamour." It evokes a unique Hollywood era and five of the goddesses: Joan Crawford, Greta Garbo, Katherine Hepburn, Tallulah Bankhead and Marlene Dietrich, who enchanted the world and left their legacy. 2 p.m. The Niles Historical and Cultural Center, 8970 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, free, 847-390-0160

**Hear My Prayer: The Choral Music of Henry Purcell:** The acclaimed Music of the Baroque Chorus takes center stage for an intimate evening of expressive music by Henry Purcell. 7:30 p.m. North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, \$27-\$75, 312-551-1414

**Yellow Flowers On the Green Grass:** Asian Pop-Up Cinema presents a vivid and breathtaking coming-of-age drama about two brothers from a poor Vietnamese village. Directed by Victor Vu. The film will be screened in Vietnamese with English subtitles. 2 p.m. Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$10; \$7.50 (students/seniors); \$70 (Group of 10), 312-315-6393

**Asian Pop-Up Cinema Series, Season 2:** A revolving film screening program showcasing a series of Asian movies and titles (primarily in Cantonese, Mandarin, Japanese and Korean languages) with English subtitles. 2 p.m. Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$10, 847-251-7424

**Monday, April 25**

**Book Bables:** Songs, games, story time and free play for babies ages 2 and

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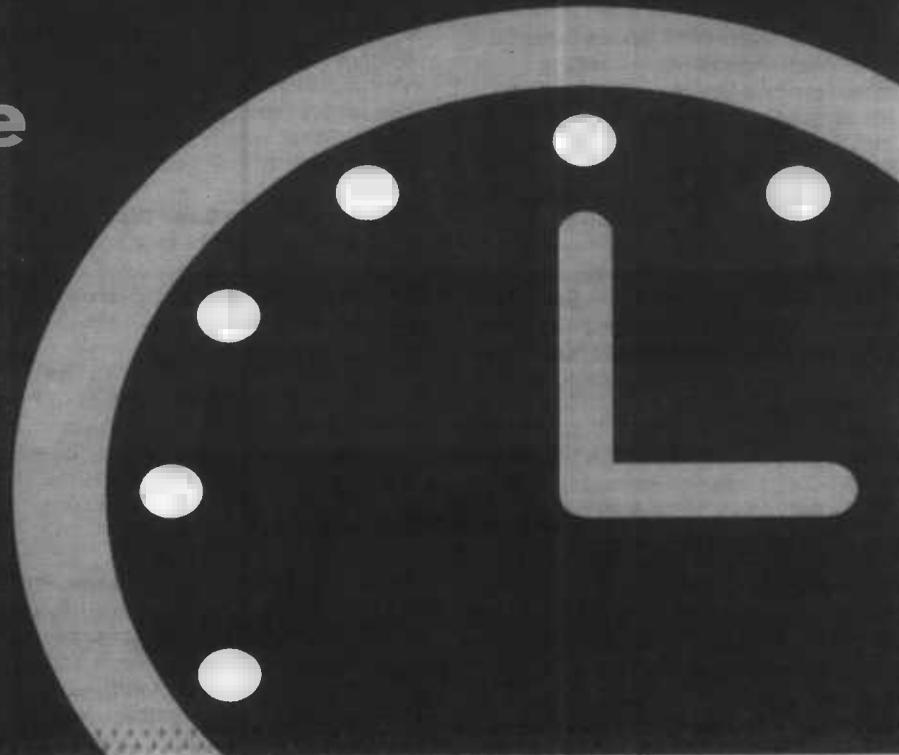
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Calendar, from Previous Page

younger with a caregiver. 10:15 a.m. Evanston Public Library - North Branch, 2026 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-448-8600

**The Mudflapps live every Monday:** The Mudflapps sing and play their hearts out every Monday in the pub from 8 p.m. until 12 a.m. Food and drink served late. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

**Money Smart Week Telephone and Utility Bill Clinic:** Citizens Utility Board (CUB) staff will review your telephone, electric and natural gas bills and recommend ways for you to cut costs. Call or visit website to register. 1 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Hoopla, MyMediaMall and Zinio Individual Appointments:** Meet with trained Library staff for a 45-minute one-on-one session and learn how to download ebooks, audiobooks, magazines, movies, TV shows or music to your portable device. Visit or call the Reader Services Desk at extension 7600 for questions, to register and for appointment locations. A Glenview Library card is required. 10 a.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Yarn Gang:** Kids in grades one and up are invited to try their hand at knitting, crocheting or other yarn crafts. 4 p.m. 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. Call 847-929-5102 or visit [mgpl.org](http://mgpl.org) for more information. 10:30 a.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

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

**Lego Club:** For students in kindergarten through eighth grades to join in this club on the fourth Monday of each month to create masterpieces at this new Lego Club. No registration is necessary. 4:30 p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**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. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$19 (NSSC member); \$25 (non-member), 847-784-6030

**Seven Wonders of the Modern World:** See the most remarkable architectural achievements over the past 2,300 years. Bill Helmuth, world traveler, shares his pictures and commentary on these monumental examples of man's genius. Register in advance by calling the Centennial Activity Center. 1:30 p.m. Park Ridge Park District-Centennial Activity Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, \$10 member; \$13 guest, 847-692-3597

**Estate Planning to Make Your Legacy Last:** Navigating through a complex world of tax laws and loopholes is difficult and confusing. Gain fresh insights into estate planning and protecting your assets for loved ones for generations. Presented by Financial Advisor Richard Little of Kingsview Asset Management. 7 p.m. Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave. Wilmette, free, 847-256-5025

Tuesday, April 26

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

**Supervision Group:** Chicagoland's credentialed music therapists are invited to this networking event. 6:30 p.m. Dempster Street Theatre, 2008 Dempster St., Evanston, \$5, 847-448-8337

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

**Tuesday Morning Music:** Garden visitors can enjoy free hour-long meditative musical performances on Tuesday mornings in the McGinley Pavilion overlooking Evening Island. Music varies from string quartets to Native American flutes, and are focused toward an older crowd. After the concert, visitors can board a 25-minute narrated tour on the Bright Encounters Tour, a close-up view of the gardens on the main island, or the Grand Tram Tour, an overview of the Garden's history and highlights. Tram tickets may be purchased in the Heritage Garden or any ticket location. 10 a.m. Chicago Botanic

Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

**Clean Up Your Diet, The Money Smart Way:** Certified Health Coach Evely Schweig tells how to spend your organic dollars wisely, stock your pantry cost-effectively and navigate a restaurant menu with a healthy diet in mind. Call or visit website to register. 7 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Beginning Genealogy:** Learn the basic steps and resources to start researching your family history. A Glenview Library card is required when registering by phone or at the website. 2 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Movies, Munchies & More: Presentation: Property Tax 101:** Taxpayer advocates explain how to lower property taxes, get tax exemptions and refunds, understand market value reassessment notices and more. 11:30 a.m. 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. Call 847-929-5102 or go to [mgpl.org/kids](http://mgpl.org/kids) for more information. 4:45 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Mozart's Requiem:** Niles Metro Chorus performs Mozart's Requiem this spring. New singers are welcome, and for more information, please call. Rehearsals are weekly, every Tuesday. 7 p.m. St. John Brebeuf Parish Church, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles, free, 702-806-8421

**Money Smart Week Making Your Investments Last:** Learn how to make investments last from Patrick L. Doland, Certified Financial Planner (TM) from Reason Financial Advisors, Inc. 10 a.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Pajama Stories for Families:** Put on your coziest pajamas and join at the library for a half hour of stories and fun. 6:30 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Yoga for the Rest of Us:** This class is uniquely designed for individuals of all fitness levels to relax and unwind. Their certified yoga instructor, Areta Kohut, accommodates individual needs through the use of chairs, blocks, bolsters and other props to help attendees develop a more mindful awareness of their bodies and a sense of overall well-

being. 9 a.m. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$75 NSSC members; \$89 non-members, 847-784-6030

**Building Healthy Habits:** To achieve permanent weight loss, an individual must develop a lifestyle of healthy habits. Take part in movement exercises in this class as well as work from "Building Healthy Habits" book. (Book sold on the first day of class.) Register in advance by calling the Centennial Activity Center. 2:30 p.m. Park Ridge Park District-Centennial Activity Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, \$50 member; \$55 guest, 847-692-3597

**Life Transitions Group:** A support group for men and women who have been widowed for one to four years. The group is volunteer-facilitated and held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. 7 p.m. Park Ridge Nonprofit Center, 720 Garden St., Park Ridge, \$5 per session, 847-720-4170

**Backyard Composting:** Put those grass clippings and kitchen scraps to good use through backyard composting! This class is for those 18-year-olds and older to learn different methods of how to build or buy a compost bin, how to maintain odor-free compost and how the finished product can enrich your garden soils. 7 p.m. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, \$14 Skokie resident; \$18 non-resident, 847-677-7001

**How to Use Morningstar Investment Research Center:** Join a representative from Morningstar for an overview of the company's database. This is an easy-to-navigate database to help both novice and veteran investors reach their investment goals. 1 p.m. Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-256-5025

Wednesday, April 27

**David Lindley:** 7 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$17-\$32, 847-492-8860

**From Learners to Leaders Supporting Literacy:** Improving literacy is one of the pillars of Rotary's effort to change lives. The Rotary hosts a panel of experts on engaging communities in improving the quality of literacy. 5:15 p.m. Rotary International, 1560 Sherman Ave., Evanston, free, 866-976-8279

**Live Music Wednesdays with the Josh Rzepka Trio:** Hear the music of Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk and other classics of the era played by the Josh Rzepka Bebop

Turn to Calendar, Next Page

*Calendar, from Previous Page*

trio. Reservations can be made online or by calling. 6:30 p.m. Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-868-8945

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

**New Hours and Programs:** The museum is doubling the hours it is open to the public, including Thursday evenings and first and third Saturdays. New programming for students and collectors, access to research library and collection, a blog and special exhibits are in the making. See website for hours. 10 a.m. American Toby Jug Museum, 910 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 877-862-9687

**Money Smart Week Investment Strategies for Retirement:** Certified Financial Planner Patrick Doland presents various investment strategies for retirement. Call or visit website to register. 7 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Pinterest Basics:** Learn what Pinter-

est is, how to create boards, and attach material to this virtual bulletin board. A Glenview Library card is required and attendees need to sign up for a Pinterest account before class. Register by calling or at the website. 2 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road., Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Money Smart Week The Financial Aid Process:** High School Students and Parents: A representative from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) gives advice and tips to families on how to pay for college. Register by phone or online. 7 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Friends of the Lincolnwood Public Library:** The group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. 7:30 p.m. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Free Film South Pacific:** Based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning book by James Michener, this movie features the music, "Some Enchanted Evening," "Younger Than Springtime" and "Bali Ha'i." It spins a romantic tale of love and loss on a tropical island naval base during the Second World War and is pre-

sented in Todd-AO and DCP. 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Money Smart Week Save with the Illinois State Treasure:** Drop in and learn about the State Treasurer's programs, including 529 Bright Star College Savings and I-CASH. 3 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Chess Club:** Whether you're a skilled player looking for a challenge or a beginner interested in learning new skills, all are welcome at this new, weekly Chess Club. Chess sets and clocks provided. No registration is required. 7 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Maximizing Your Brain Health With Dr. Len Lecci:** An expert on brain health, Dr. Len Lecci explains how to improve the health of your brain, at any age, with easy lifestyle choices. For reservations, call or visit website. 10 a.m. Covenant Village of Northbrook, 2625 Techny Road, Northbrook, free, 877-816-5668

**Knitting Studio and Workshop:** Each Wednesday afternoon, certified knitting

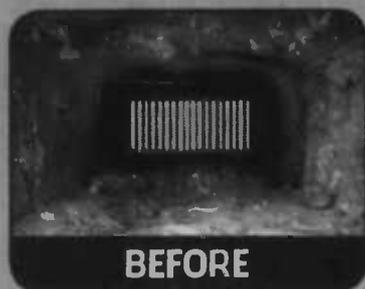
instructor Mary Staackmann provides personalized instruction, answers any questions about knitting, and perhaps gets you started on a new project. Bring your supplies or project in progress. Brush up on your skills, learn new techniques, or just spend an afternoon knitting with others. 1:30 p.m. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6060

**Bingo and Pizza:** Treat yourself to hot slices of Spuntinos cheese, sausage and veggie pizza. Afterward, play several games of bingo. Please register in advance by contacting the Centennial Activity Center. 12:30 p.m. Park Ridge Park District- Centennial Activity Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, \$8 member; \$10 guest, 847-692-3597

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

Have an event to submit? Go to [chicagotribune.com/calendar](http://chicagotribune.com/calendar)

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## Now playing

**"The Boss" ★ 1/2**

R, 1:39, comedy

Melissa McCarthy's films don't have to be good to find an audience. Michelle Darnell (McCarthy) is a finance titan who loves her bling and likes her helicopter pilots shirtless. She's also an ethical corner-cutter. Nailed for insider trading, Darnell does a few months' white-collar jail time and, broke and desperate, re-enters life in Chicago. She persuades her former assistant, Claire (Kristen Bell) to go in on a start-up company selling

Claire's brownies, as a for-profit rival to the so-called Dandellons (aka the Girl Scouts). Is that much on which to hang a movie? Not really. When Darnell crashes into a wall, or takes a tumble down the stairs, it's alarming and painful as opposed to funny. — *Michael Phillips*

**"Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" ★ 1/2**

PG-13, 2:33, action

Having killed thousands of innocent bystanders at the end of "Man of Steel," high-flying alien Superman (Henry Cavill) is now considered a pariah by many. Batman (Ben Affleck) has hardened into a boozy sociopath who wants to murder the alien invader. Crucially, there's a new headliner in town: Gal Gadot's Wonder Woman. Long before she actually suits up, though, you're good and sick of waiting for Gadot to hijack all the rage-y,

steroidal, bone-crushing smackdowns setting the tone. "You don't owe this world a thing," Lois Lane tells Superman at one point. Maybe so. But at this point in the twinned mythologies of two extremely hardy DC heroes, humankind deserves a better blockbuster. — *M.P.*

**"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. As strange as this combination might seem, it works. 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. One of the strongest messages is about discrimination and not judging someone by a

stereotype like "sly fox" or "dumb bunny." — *Katie Walsh*

**"My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2" ★★**

PG-13, 1:34, comedy

Back in 2002, "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" became a bona fide cultural phenomenon, a romantic comedy that mined the cultural specificities of the Greek heritage of unknown writer and star Nia Vardalos. Fourteen years later, Vardalos and gang are back again for another wedding, but this time, it's to drastically diminished returns. The screenplay feels as if it was written the year after the first film's success, just with a few jokes about

Facetime inserted for 2016 topicality. The rest of the jokes either don't land or feel about as fresh as a two-day old spanakopita. — *K.W.*

**"Hardcore Henry" ★★**

R, 1:30, action

"Hardcore Henry" delivers its herky-jerky story of a souped-up bionic man on the run using a point of view that's reminiscent of a first-person-shooter video game. Head evildoer Akan (Danila Kozlovsky) wants Henry for his army of half-human, half-machine cyber-goons. The rest of the movie consists of Henry trying to rescue the woman he has been told is his wife (Haley Bennett) from Akan's thugs. Henry dispatches myriad malefac-

tors in gruesome and creative ways, with the victims' blood often spattering the lens of the camera, as in an M-rated video game. — *Michael O'Sullivan*

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## DEATH NOTICES

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

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### Death Notices

#### Scanlan, Jeanne L.

Jeanne L. Scanlan, nee Des Enfants. Born December 18, 1926; passed away peacefully, April 14, 2016, at home. Beloved wife of the late Edward; loving mother of Patrick, CPD retired (Kathleen, CPD retired), Norene, and Timothy (Laura); cherished grandmother of Patrick (Karen), Kevin, Brenna CPD, Matthew CPD (Diana), Michael (Rachel), and Brian; dear great-grandmother of Kayla, Matthew, William, Kevin, Aiden, Liam, Sophia, Colin, Finnian, Jackson, and Maxwell; fond sister of Marilyn (the late Charles) Flaherty, Maryellen (the late William) Gavin, and the late Francis and Ernest. She was a St. Peter, Skokie, parishioner since 1949. Visitation was Sunday, April 17, 2016, at **HABEN Funeral Home & Crematory**, 8057 Niles Center Rd, Skokie. Funeral Mass was celebrated Monday, April 18, at St. Peter Catholic Church, Skokie. Interment followed in St. Peter Catholic Cemetery, Skokie. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Mercy Home for Boys & Girls, 1140 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL, 60607 ([www.mercyhome.org](http://www.mercyhome.org)). Funeral info: 847.673.6111 or [www.habenfuneral.com](http://www.habenfuneral.com).



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#### Zurek, Ellen M.

April 13, 2013 Ellen M. Zurek, 92, Scottsdale, AZ. Ellen was born in Bedford, England on June 10, 1923 to Charles and Ethel Diemer. She met William T. Zurek while he was stationed in England during WWII. They were married in Bedford in 1945 and lived in Park Ridge from 1946 until 2013. Ellen was active in St. Mary's Episcopal Church, St. Mary's Altar Guild, and the Director of St. Mary's Treasure Chest. She was a member of the Episcopal Church Women, American Legion Auxiliary Post 247, and PEO.

She is survived by her children Susan (Phillip) Hund, Davenport, Iowa; David (Kathleen) Zurek, Park Ridge, Illinois; and William (Roxanna) Zurek, Paradise Valley, Arizona. Grandchildren Cory (Carrie) Hund, Elk River, Minnesota; Kevin Zurek, Park Ridge, Illinois; Kelly (Robert) Nowak, Des Plaines, Illinois; Joseph, San Diego, California, and Brian and Elena Zurek, Paradise Valley, Arizona. Great Grandchildren Sam and Jordan Hund, and Madison Nowak.

A Celebration of Life will be held on June 18th at 1:00 PM at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 306 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. In lieu of flowers memorials made be made to St. Mary's Altar Guild.

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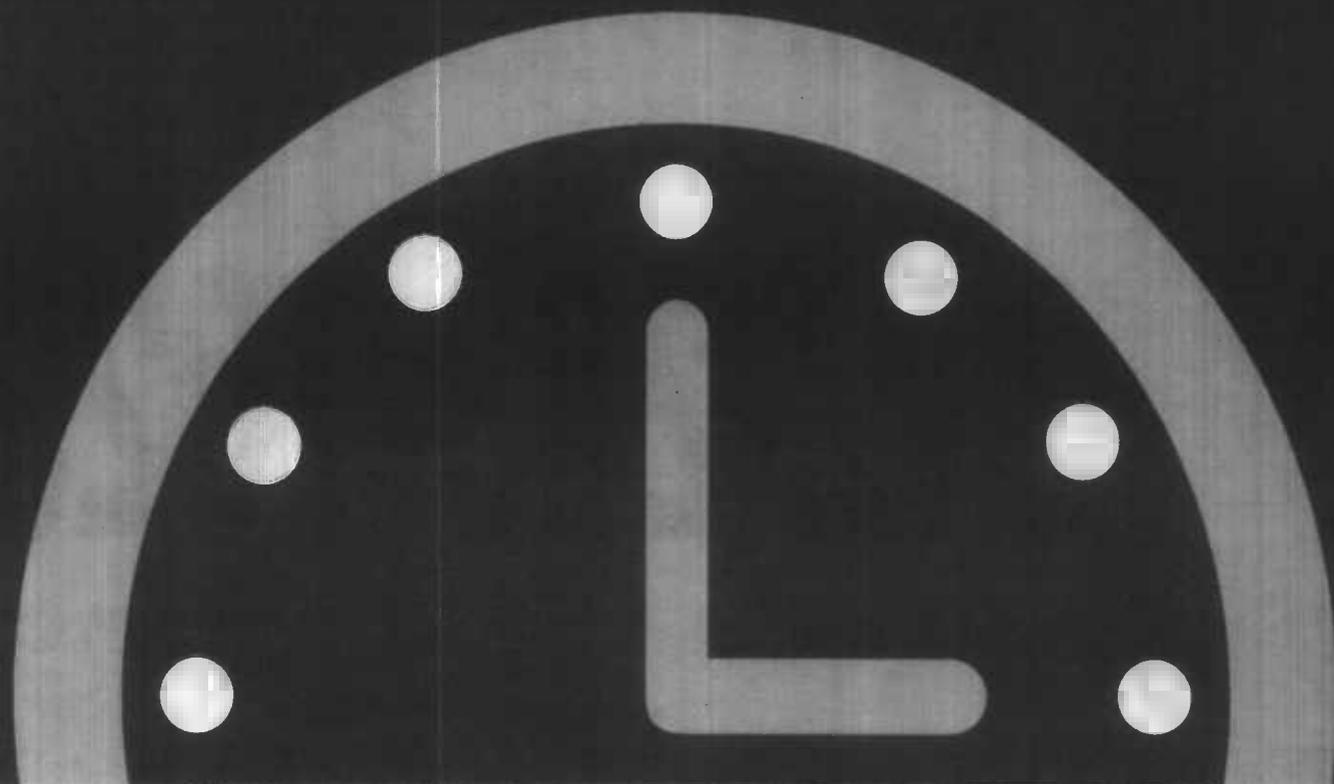
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# Teslamania hits fever pitch

Buzz about the affordable Model 3 shocks even carmaker

BY ROBERT DUFFER  
Tribune Newspapers

In the first 24 hours of the Model 3, over 115,000 customers lined up in stores March 31 to reserve the right to buy the affordable Tesla. By the end of Saturday, when the \$1,000 reservation could be made online, Tesla CEO Elon Musk reported deposits from 276,000 people worldwide.

"No one at Tesla thought it would be this high before part two of the unveil," Musk tweeted Saturday, adding that Tesla expected "maybe 1/4 to 1/2 of what happened."

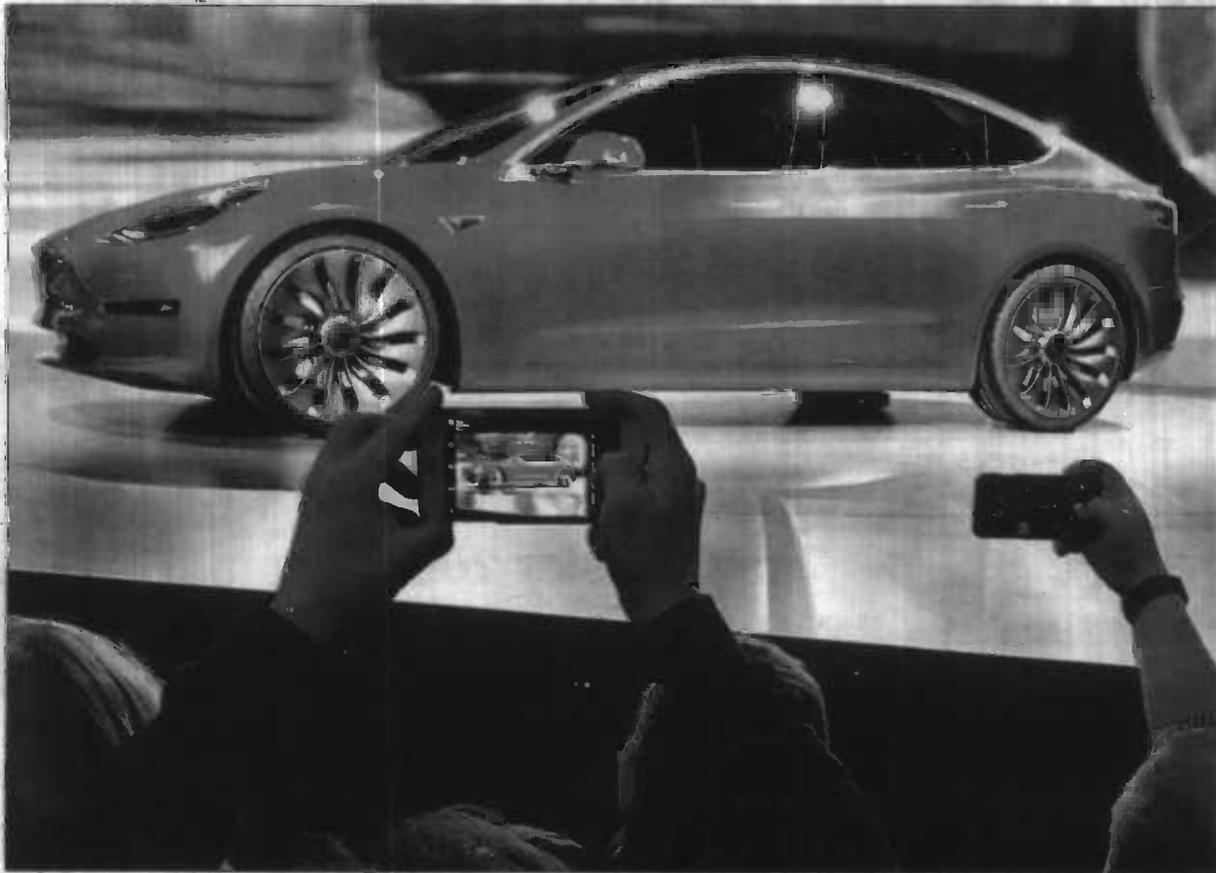
Observers compared the hype to the tech frenzy more associated with an iPhone launch than a car.

"This has to be a first for the automotive industry: lines of people waiting to place an order for a car that won't be available for over a year," said Jessica Caldwell, analyst for Edmunds.com. "This is the type of buzz that you see with 'Star Wars' movies or new iPhones or even cronuts."

At this rate, and with Musk tweeting "definitely going to need to rethink production planning" and adding that Tesla will need to open a factory in Europe, customers likely won't take delivery of their order until 2018. The Model 3 starts at \$35,000.

To put the affordable Tesla in context, consider that the best-selling electric car in the world, the \$29,000 Nissan Leaf, has sold 211,000 units since its launch in late 2010.

Tesla has sold 110,000 electric cars since it started doing business in 2008 and has yet to turn an annual profit despite being the



JUSTIN PRICHARD/AP

Tesla Motors unveils the new, lower-priced Model 3 at the Tesla Motors Design Studio in Hawthorne, Calif., on March 31. It doesn't go on sale until next year, but in the first three days, Tesla reported 276,000 people reserved the right to buy one.

darling of NASDAQ, with a stock price of \$254. Three years ago at this time it was \$41.

The \$1,000 reservations, or deposits, make a nice quarter-billion influx of cash to ramp up production. But they are refundable, were limited to two per customer, and no one knows if they'll translate to orders.

## What is it?

In short, the base Model 3 electric vehicle is a five-seat compact with a conservatively estimated 215-mile range. It has competition with the all-electric Chevrolet Bolt, in pre-production with delivery expected this year and has a 200-mile range.

Analysts believe that a 200-mile range is the tipping point for customers to

buy electric vehicles in volume. EVs make up less than 1 percent of auto sales annually in the U.S.

Despite the Bolt's head start and GM's proven commitment to electrification, the Model 3 has tech swagger with widespread appeal, such as over-the-air updates that add features to the car, same as smartphone updates.

The Silicon Valley technology company that happens to make electric cars will fit the entry-level Model 3 with Autopilot hardware standard. Activating the software so the car can drive itself at highway speeds will cost extra.

Supercharging is included, and by the time the Model 3 hits roads, the number of Tesla-exclusive superchargers will have doubled and destination chargers quadrupled

worldwide. Superchargers along interstates and other well-traveled routes enable fast charging of about a 150-mile range with 20 minutes of charging.

Superchargers might be more necessary than Autopilot since the Model 3 will hit 0-60 mph in less than 6 seconds.

"At Tesla, we don't make slow cars," Tesla CEO Elon Musk said at the reveal in the Design Studio in Hawthorne, Calif., late March 31. "There will be versions of the 3 that go much faster."

Rear-wheel drive comes standard, while dual-motor all-wheel drive is optional. Musk, ever the carnival barker, tweeted part two of the unveil, "which takes things to another level, will be closer to production."

Unlike its larger family members — the Model S performance sedan and

Model X three-row SUV — the affordable compact Tesla is built on its own platform. It looks like a cross between a fastback and a sport hatch, with a familiar Tesla roofline and rounded rear. The blank nose has a short overhang, and the wheelbase is pushed to the edges like the Model S.

It can fit five adults comfortably, or two adults and three child safety seats if "you buy slim seats," Musk tweeted. Two should fit fine. Tesla moved the front seats up and compacted the dash area, while the rear area gets a continuous pane of glass for "amazing headroom and a feeling of openness."

Tesla did something similar on the front windshield of the Model X, and it is like being in a helicopter. Evidently, the interior

can fit a 7-foot surfboard.

## Why it matters

It's not all about hanging loose for Tesla and Musk, who comes off as much a playboy as he does a fanboy.

"It's very important to accelerate the transition to sustainable transport," Musk said, before citing record carbon dioxide levels that shade just how fun these cars are to drive.

Making an affordable mass-market electric vehicle has been the goal since the company's inception 13 years ago, even in 2008 when the boutique upstart released the limited-run Roadster, which sold under 2,500 units worldwide by the end of production in 2012.

Musk wants the Model 3 to push Tesla to producing 500,000 units by 2020.

"With any new technology, it takes multiple iterations and economies of scale before you can make it great and affordable," Musk said.

The superlative Model S, the brand bell cow launched in 2012, averages about \$100,000; the X, with mechanically complex falcon-wing doors blamed for delays that have been Tesla's bother if not bane, launched late last year and costs a bit more, on average.

The affordable Tesla will cost \$35,000 before federal tax credits of up to \$7,500, though Musk estimates an average transaction price of \$42,000, with some bells and whistles. The federal tax credit of \$7,500 begins to phase out once an automaker sells 200,000 electric vehicles, so the hype might be justified financially for earlier adopters.

It's "going to be probably the most profound car that we make," Musk said in January.

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ROBERT DUFFER/TRIBUNE NEWSPAPERS

The redesigned 2017 Hyundai Elantra owes its brawnier look to a big hexagonal grille, 17-inch alloy wheels, high-intensity headlights and vertical daytime running lights.

## Redesigned Elantra packs more tech than compact competition

BY ROBERT DUFFER  
Tribune Newspapers

The fully redesigned 2017 Hyundai Elantra pushes advanced technology, but it also pushes the price tag at a time when the compact segment has never been better. The base model is a bit cheaper than the outgoing model at \$17,150, but the top-of-the-line Limited trim is \$650 more than 2016, starting at \$22,350. It's less expensive than the winning 2016 Honda Civic Touring and the performance-leaning 2015 Volkswagen Golf. And it's loaded with everything from heated front seats to blind-spot detection and worry-free warranties.

The sixth-generation Elantra looks more advanced on the outside too. It sports Hyundai's big hexagonal grille and vertical daytime running lights similar to the Toyota Avalon, which along with new high-intensity headlights and standard 17-inch alloy wheels make the Elantra's extra inch of width and length look brawnier and more filled out.

Like the new Civic, four adults fit comfortably, and there is ample trunk space for a hockey bag, baseball gear and groceries.

### 2017 HYUNDAI ELANTRA LIMITED Compact sedan

Price as tested:

**\$26,875**

Base price: \$22,350

Mpg: 28 city, 37 highway

Engine: 2-liter four-cylinder

Transmission: six-speed auto with Shiftronic

Parting shot: One of the best-valued compacts gets more tech, costs more.

For driving feel, the Elantra has a tough time competing with the Golf, Civic and Mazda3. The Elantra's new 2-liter dual-overhead camshaft four-cylinder engine works hard to make 147 horsepower and a pokey 132 pound-feet of torque. In sport mode, those dual cams let the engine rev to 6,000 and 7,000 rpm before the six-speed automatic transmission kicks in.

The Elantra scored big

with 45.3 mpg averaged over a few commutes at a 43 mph sweet spot, evidently. The EPA estimate is 37 mpg highway.

The 2017 Elantra beats the Civic and Golf in the driver's main source of interaction, the connected-car cockpit.

The tester came with the tech package, which includes navigation and an 8-inch touch screen that is one of the better ones at this price point. Buttons and knobs complement the touch screen in a center-stack design that is conventionally familiar but not out of date. Hyundai's redundant steering wheel controls use toggles in the middle for volume and tuning, with buttons on top and bottom.

For \$2,500, the tech package includes such other goodies as power sunroof, heated rear seats, a better sound system, Apple CarPlay and Android Auto.

It's a pretty good deal for shoppers that see connected-car tech as a key convenience, and a distinct advantage over the Civic and Golf in a class packed with capable competitors.

rduffer@tribpub.com  
Twitter @DufferRobert

## Warranty covers Ford F-150 misfire



BOB WEBER  
Motormouth

**Q: I floored my 2011 F-150 pickup to pass another vehicle, and my truck started missing and bucking big time. It continued to sputter and miss as we went down the road; also, the check engine light was on. I pulled into a parking lot, turned the truck off, then restarted it. The check engine light was now out, and the truck ran smooth as silk. I was afraid of any heavy acceleration the rest of the trip home, but it seemed fine. My local shop found that the No. 5 cylinder had misfired but couldn't find anything wrong at this time. I searched the F-150 online forum, and it seems there is a problem with condensation with the turbos. Have you heard of a (technical service bulletin) that addresses the problem? If so, is this a warranty issue? I have only 40,000 miles on the truck, but the five years is almost over, so I really need to know.**

— B.B., Lansing, Ill.

**A:** Yes, there is a bulletin. It states: "Some 2011-2012 F-150 equipped with a 3.5L gasoline turbocharged direct-injection (GTDI) Ecoboost engine may exhibit an intermittent stumble and/or misfire on hard acceleration after an extended drive at highway speeds during high humidity or damp conditions." The fix is to replace the catalytic converter on the left side of the engine. If the turbo system's charge air cooler (aka intercooler) has fins, they must also be removed, and a cover must be installed at the bottom of the intercooler. The job is covered under the emissions warranty and the standard vehicle warranty.

**Q: I have three vehicles that I own free and clear. I'd like to trade in one and upgrade my ride! One is a 1999 Honda Civic with 67,000 miles. Next is a 2009 Hyundai Sonata with 74,000 miles. Finally, a 2008 Toyota RAV4 with 124,000 miles. I think we should get rid of the RAV4, but my husband thinks we should get rid of the Honda Civic. Any advice would be welcome.**

— E.P., Bucks County, Pa.

**A:** Sell the vehicle that brings you the most money! Or keep the one that fits

your needs the best. Or keep the one in which you look your best arriving at the club. All of them will easily go 200,000 miles.

**Q: I went to buy replacement wiper blades and I cannot find anyone who makes or sells just the rubber refills. You have to buy the entire metal frame. It has been a couple of years since I bought refills, but it seems something has changed. I realize this is a small dollar issue, but I hate to buy the whole wiper assembly when I just need the rubber part. Can you shed any light on this?**

— E.S., Allentown, Pa.

**A:** It has been a long time since we have seen replacement squeegees for wiper blades. (The cleaning edge part is called the squeegee.) The proliferation and variety of wiper blades has made choosing them almost as difficult as choosing tires. And some blades are almost as expensive. We just spent \$50 for a pair for Mrs. Motormouth's car.

Send questions along with name and town to *Motormouth, Rides*. Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Fifth Floor, Chicago IL 60611 or *motormouth.trib@verizon.net*.



FORD

Ford has issued a technical service bulletin about misfiring cylinder problems for 2011-12 F-150 pickups with a 3.5L gasoline turbocharged direct-injection Ecoboost engine.

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## SPORTS



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/DAILY SOUTHTOWN

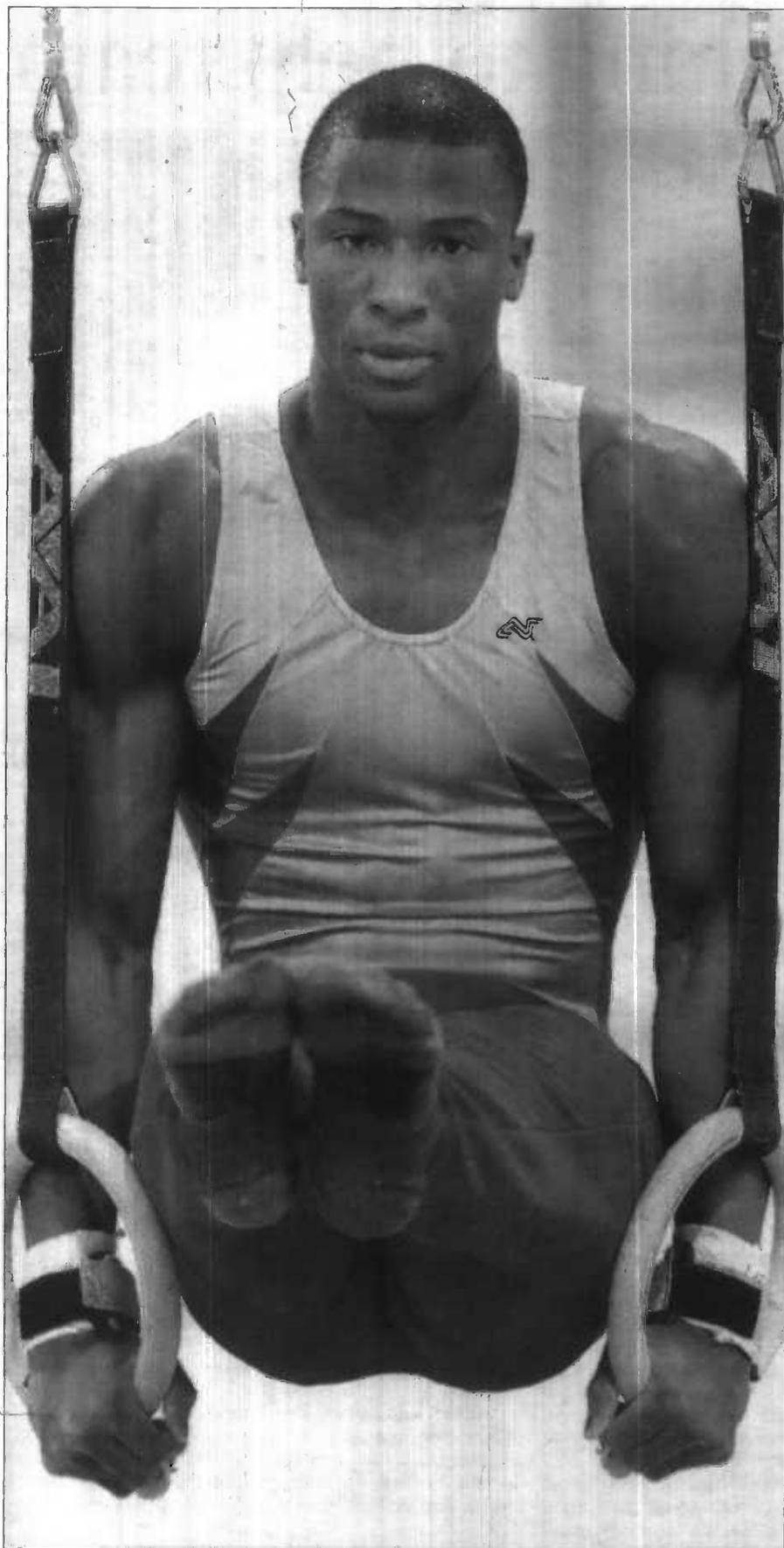
# Congratulations to the winner!

## Martin Barr, Niles North

Martin Barr, a senior on the Niles North track and field team, won the 3,200-meter run at the Illinois Top Times indoor invitational in 9 minutes, 22.22 seconds.

He beat Young sophomore Clayton Mendez by 1.31 seconds. Barr's sophomore teammate Conor Perreault took eighth (9:32.79).

**CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM/ATHLETES**



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Maine East's Ritcheal Balthazar performs on the still rings during the Bob Bohl Invite on April 8.

## After injury, Balthazar contends for spot at state

BY DAN SHALIN  
Pioneer Press

In the coming weeks, Maine East senior Ritcheal Balthazar is hoping to become the school's first boys gymnast to qualify for the state meet since 2004.

But a little over a year ago, he was facing a very different challenge.

It all started during a practice at the beginning of the 2015 season when Balthazar was working on vault moves on a mat. Fueled by what he said was his own misplaced pride, he attempted a dive roll full. Balthazar soon realized he was not yet ready to do the maneuver without proper assistance. He landed on his neck and heard a crack.

"I was terrified," he said. "For a split second, I thought I had paralyzed myself. I couldn't move my legs and my right arm felt like it was on fire."

Balthazar quickly regained movement, but he said he then began to worry the injury would be serious enough to end his junior season.

Trainers initially diagnosed the injury as a stinger, but Balthazar visited a physical therapist at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital who determined the injury was to the right rotator cuff.

Balthazar said he felt weakness in his arm and stiffness in his neck, the latter a result of neck muscles compensating for the weakness in his rotator cuff. Those symptoms persisted, and as he had feared, Balthazar missed the entire 2015 season.

"I always hoped to come back and every day I asked the trainers if I could work on a move," Balthazar said. "By the end of the season, I could tell I was starting to annoy them."

Balthazar, who also plays football and wrestles, said

his lengthy rehab period continued through last summer and featured light exercises to build back damaged muscles.

During the ordeal, Balthazar said he was scared he might not return to full health, and he began to think about giving up gymnastics, which he considers his prime sport.

Balthazar, who is Seventh-day Adventist, said his religion helped give him strength during that tough time.

***"I always hoped to come back and every day I asked the trainers if I could work on a move. By the end of the season, I could tell I was starting to annoy them."***

—Senior Ritcheal Balthazar

Midway through the football season, Balthazar returned to the field and played several different defensive positions for the Blue Demons. During the winter, the 6-foot, 185-pounder was one of the school's better wrestlers.

Balthazar was seeded fourth at 182 pounds entering the Class 3A Maine East Regional. The top three finishers in each weight class advance to the sectional. However, the regional fell on a Saturday afternoon, which is observed as a time of rest in his religion. Balthazar chose not to compete.

"Religion had helped me so much during the tough times, and I felt I would be betraying it (if I chose to compete on a Saturday

afternoon)," he said.

By the time gymnastics rolled around, Balthazar said he was surprisingly ready to jump back into the sport.

"I was scared that I wasn't going to want to do vault, and it turns out that it's now my best event," he said.

In recent weeks, Balthazar has turned in some of the top performances of his career. At the Bob Bohl Invite in Mundelein on April 8 he scored a then career-high 40.800 in the all-around, breaking 40.000 for the first time. On April 15, Balthazar scored a 41.500 in the all-around at the Ed Raymond Invite at Conant.

Balthazar, who is planning to attend Illinois-Chicago next year and might join the men's gymnastics team as a walk-on, is hoping his high school gymnastics journey ends at next month's state meet.

"Vault is (Balthazar's) best chance and he's on the cusp of where the cutoff line (for state) was last year," Maine East coach Erick Noriega said. "He's also got a shot on high bar and parallel bars. He'll have to nail the tricks when it really matters. But (Balthazar) is up for the challenge every time."

Balthazar will get his chance to qualify for state at the Palatine Sectional at 7 p.m. May 7. Due to the evening start, Balthazar said he is not scheduled to miss the competition for religious reasons.

Should Balthazar qualify, he'll be the first Blue Demons boys gymnast to do so since Matt Honsa, who reached state on vault 12 years ago.

Dan Shalin is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer\_Press

# Gunartt takes up pitching to help team

BY BEN ROSS  
Pioneer Press

Niles West junior Michael Gunartt is proving he doesn't need a bat in his hands to help the Wolves baseball team win games.

Gunartt, who already has private workouts scheduled with a couple Major League Baseball teams, went 2-for-3 with three RBIs in Niles West's 7-2 home win against Niles North on April 14. He also threw a runner out at home from right field to end the game.

The Wolves coaches are attempting to put his arm to even more use this season.

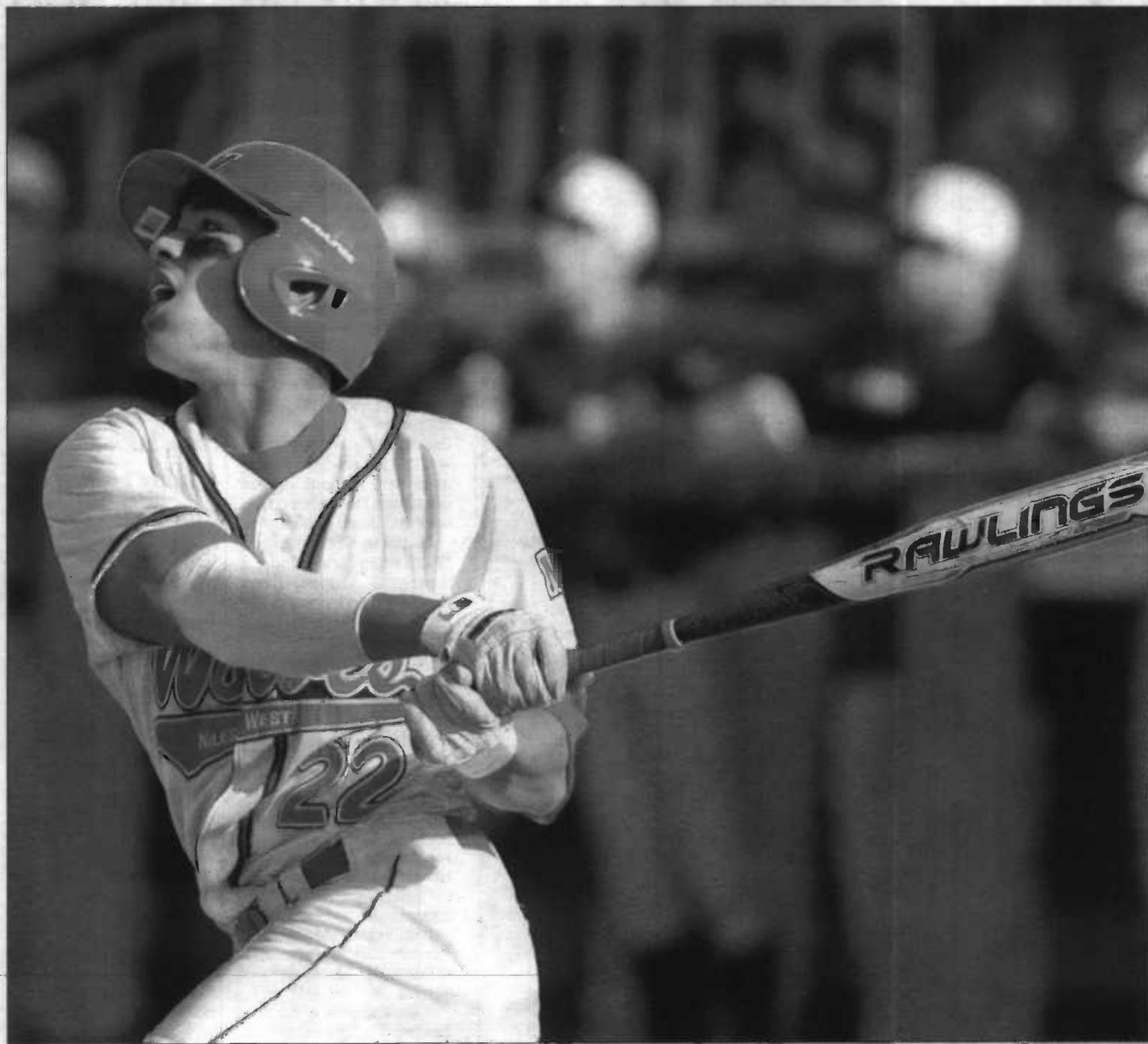
"We looked at ourselves and said, 'How do you have a kid who throws this hard and not give him a shot on the mound?' " assistant coach Mitch Stern said. "He could probably play anywhere on the field if he really trained at it. He's been an outfielder/first baseman for us. We haven't needed him in the infield but he could be a good shortstop or third baseman."

Niles West coach Garry Gustafson said Gunartt is able to hit mid to high-80s with his pitches, and has even touched in the low 90s on the radar gun. Niles West lost nearly its entire pitching staff on last year's team to graduation, opening the door for Gunartt to pitch.

"Wherever the team needs me, I'm willing to go," said Gunartt, who has been a fixture in the Niles West lineup since he was a freshman. "If they need me in the field or on the mound I'm going to go there and do my best and give it my all."

Even though Gunartt hadn't pitched in about two years, he says the learning curve isn't that large because he pitched some in Little League.

"Honestly, I knew I was going to have to step on the mound since we lost a lot of older guys," Gunartt said. "In the winter I felt I belonged in that spot. Over



TIM BOYLE/PIONEER PRESS

Niles West's Michael Gunartt flies out during the Wolves' game against Niles North on April 14 in Skokie. Gunartt helped the Wolves win 7-2.

time I knew I was going to have to step up. Going to those bullpen sessions helped me a lot. The assistant coaches work with me a lot with quality control and hitting my spots, being confident and not trying to overpower anyone."

Wolves pitching coach John Nasshan has been

tasked with molding Gunartt into a force, but the former Niles West standout and Bradley pitcher says turning Gunartt into a hurler hasn't been a project at all.

"I could tell he had a base of how to pitch, but I don't think he's done it much," Nasshan said. "I just started

him off and gave him the ball and told him to throw and see how it goes. His mechanics looked good without me saying a word.

"He has a pretty good curve, and he's been able to throw strikes with three pitches — fastball, curveball, and slider. ... The sky's the limit for Mike."

Gunartt said he can see a future for himself as a pitcher, but added he's reluctant to give up hitting duties. And understandably so.

"I've been in this business 30 years, and he's been as talented a kid as we've ever had," said Wolves coach Garry Gustafson,

who coached San Francisco Giants reliever George Kontos. "He's only a junior and is without a doubt one of the top outfielders and hitters in the area."

Ben Ross is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer\_Press

# PEACE AND STRENGTH

Yoga helps Notre Dame left fielder recover from surgery, become big contributor

By ERIC VAN DRIL  
Pioneer Press

In the offseason between his junior and senior baseball seasons, Notre Dame's Matt Krogstad was both mentally and physically broken.

Krogstad first injured his knee in Notre Dame's final JV game of the 2015 spring season. Krogstad, then a junior, was at the plate. He swung and hit the ball, then collapsed in pain at home plate as he tried to run to first.

The patella, also known as the kneecap, in Krogstad's right leg had popped out of place.

Krogstad's first kneecap dislocation was followed by a second later in the year, then surgery and a rehabilitation process that lasted about five months. The Chicago resident is healthy now and has become an impact player for the Dons as a senior. Krogstad began this season with what he called the best stretch of his life, hitting .643 with four doubles in Notre Dame's first five games.

Krogstad's healthy return and hot start to this season — he entered this week with a .476 average, five RBIs and six walks — can be traced to yoga.

It has allowed Krogstad to clear the mental and physical hurdles he has faced over the last year. He used yoga to accelerate his recovery post-surgery. It built strength in his lower body and helped him trust that his kneecap won't pop out of place when he swings.

Krogstad said he was terrified to swing a bat again after the surgery. But Notre Dame coach Nelson Gord described Krogstad's mental approach at the plate as fearless during the opening weeks of this season.

"I think that's all because of yoga, honestly," said Krogstad, a left fielder. "Without yoga, I would just mentally break down in baseball. ... It just makes me feel so much more confident with my knee."

Krogstad has also used yoga, which Krogstad said he has loved ever since he attended his first class with his mom about three years ago, to help transform his

body and mind.

Yoga has helped Krogstad control what he called a horrible temper.

"When I fail, I'll take that as a good thing because of (yoga)," Krogstad said. "I'll relax, take a deep breath."

Yoga, weightlifting and a mostly-vegan diet helped Krogstad put on 30 pounds of lean muscle between his junior and senior seasons. Krogstad said yoga helped him maintain his flexibility and keep his joints healthy as he put on so much muscle so quickly.

"When you're lifting, you're (constantly) tearing muscle fibers and rebuilding them," Gord said. "The two together — doing yoga or Pilates, along with a strict and intense weightlifting program — multiplies the effect of lifting weights."

Gord added: "A lot of kids in high school, they'll lift weights and want the beach muscles. They'll want to get stronger. But without pairing those two things together, you're not going to get nearly the same results. That's where the mental advantage comes from — just understanding your body. He has so much better body awareness."

Krogstad's physique has made him an intimidating presence when he steps into the batter's box, Gord said. He's also become much faster. Krogstad's dropped his time in the 60-yard dash from 7.2 seconds to 6.8 seconds. As a result, he's become better at chasing down fly balls in the outfield, stealing bases, turning singles into doubles and beating out ground balls.

Even in the midst of baseball season, Krogstad has continued to attend yoga classes about four or five times per week. He said his go-to class is Hot Power Fusion, which is a mixture of meditative yoga and power yoga done in a room where the temperature rises above 100 degrees.

"It's my favorite because when I come back from baseball practice, I'm stiff," Krogstad said. "It just helps me release."

Earlier this year, Krogstad became a certified yoga instructor at



JUDY FIDKOWSKI/PIONEER PRESS

Notre Dame baseball player Matt Krogstad teaches a Yoga Sculpt class at CorePower Yoga in Glenview on April 14. He has transformed his body over the last year through weightlifting and yoga.

CorePower Yoga. The process took about 90 days for Krogstad. He attended classes every Wednesday night from 7:30-10:30 p.m. and every Saturday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at CorePower Yoga in Oak Park. He can now teach yoga at any CorePower location.

Krogstad doesn't have a permanent class he teaches during the baseball season, but he substitutes often. On April 14 he led a Yoga Sculpt class at the CorePower Yoga in Glenview.

Krogstad has only been a certified yoga instructor for about a month — he had to turn 18 before he could become an instructor — but he led the Yoga Sculpt class with confidence and energy. Krogstad's class included about 25 people. He began it with a normal flow — poses like child's pose and

downward-facing dog — to loosen up the participants' bodies.

After that, Krogstad led the class through an intense, high-energy Yoga Sculpt session that included cardio and the use of free weights. He was energetic and positive throughout, sprinkling in shouts of "Great job!" and "Keep pushing!" Krogstad kept the energy flowing through the warm yoga room with a playlist that included upbeat country and hip-hop tracks — songs by Shania Twain, The Notorious B.I.G. and Drake & Future were all part of it — and a Hannah Montana tune Krogstad sang along with at times.

"He was challenging, entertaining, knowledgeable," said Janis Pragovich, one of the members of the class. "I enjoyed the music. The music is important to the

workout. He was motivating. It looked like people around me felt the same way I did. They responded well."

Pragovich, a Glenview resident who does yoga 5-6 times per week, added: "He's awesome. He was subbing tonight, but I think if he has his regular classes, he'll fill the room. Easily."

For Krogstad, yoga has become much more than just a way to recover from injuries and build muscle mass. It's become a passion in his life — something he said he intends to continue doing, and teaching, in college at Saint Mary's in Minnesota and after it.

"It's something I'm addicted to," Krogstad said.

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Notre Dame senior outfielder  
Matt Krogstad is a certified yoga  
instructor at CorePower Yoga.

JUDY FIDKOWSKI/PIONEER PRESS



# FINDING HIS CENTER

Notre Dame baseball player 'addicted to' yoga. Page 45

# Chicago Tribune

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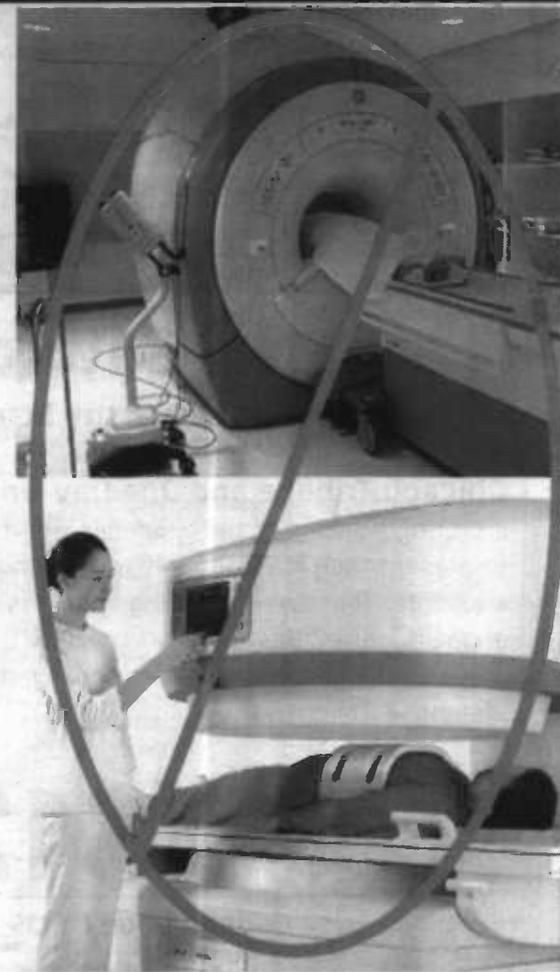
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