

# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

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## What is the next step?

Religious leaders ask big question in wake of presidential election. Page 6



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

Berlenda Hubbard, left, on piano, of Oak Park, is among those at the 8 a.m. service at Second Baptist Church in Evanston Nov. 13.

### LIVING

## Layers of leftovers

Turn the remains of your Thanksgiving feast into a comforting casserole. Inside



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### GO



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## Towns offer many ways to celebrate

A guide to holiday entertainment from Nutcrackers to sing-along Messiahs. Page 23

### OPINION

## Holiday season time for thanks

Randy Blaser identifies the traits he hopes families recognize and celebrate as they gather this Thanksgiving: gratitude, cooperation and unity. Page 19

### SPORTS



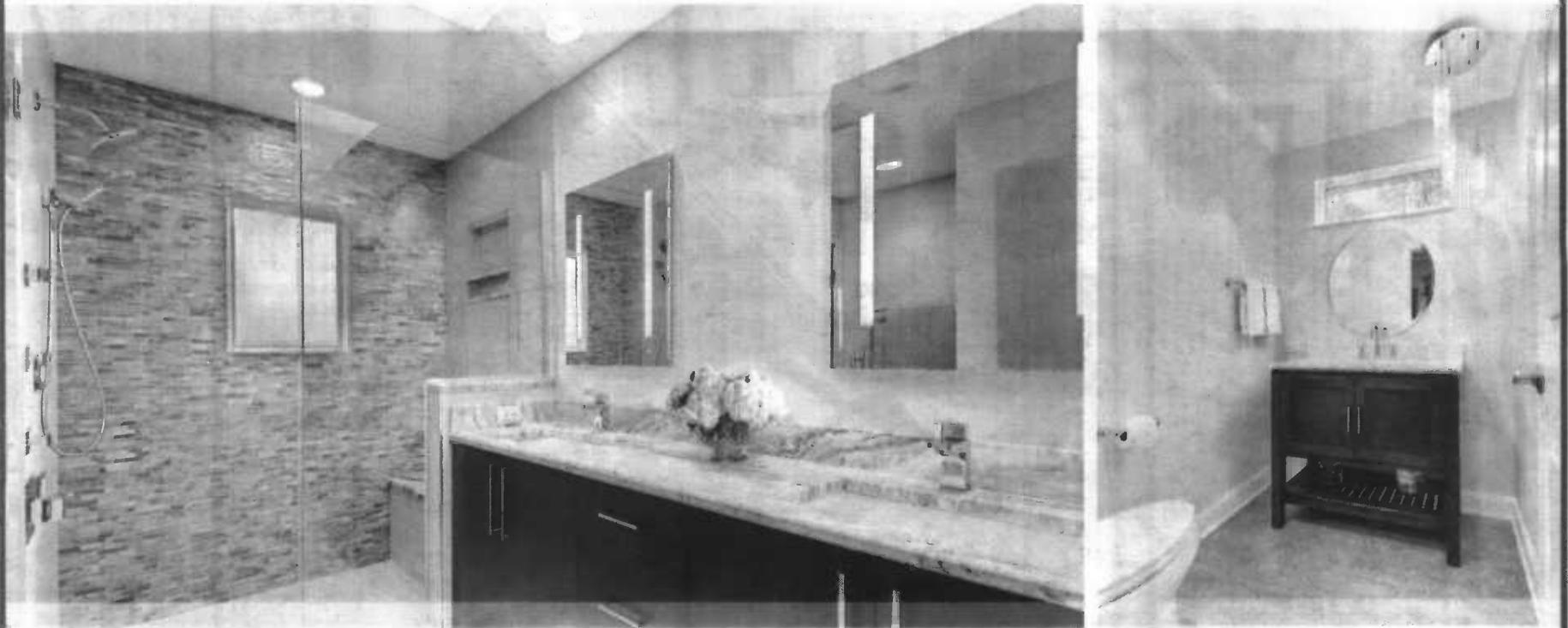
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## Full-court press

Pioneer Press previews the area's boys basketball teams. Page 42

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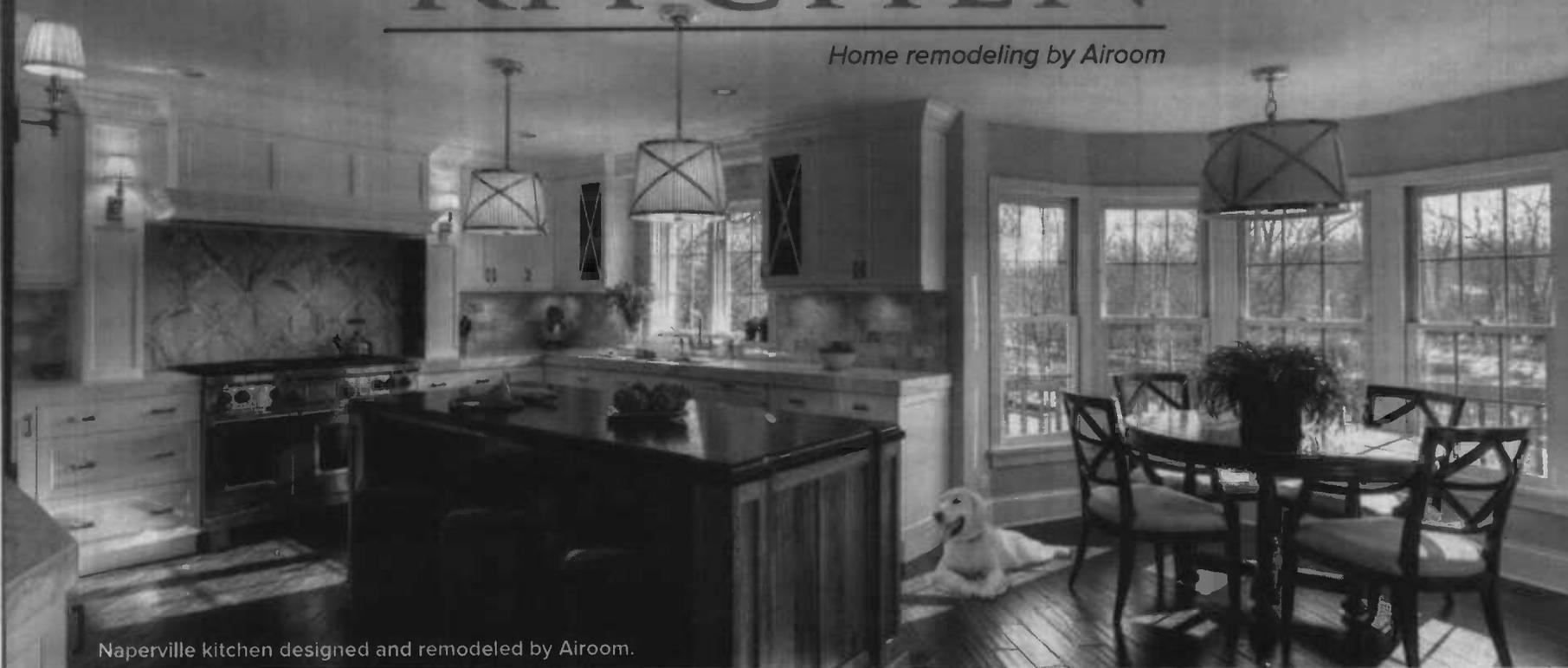
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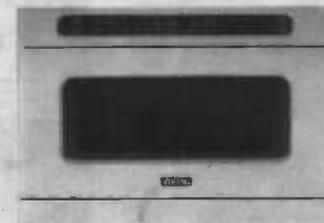
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Jim Rotche, General Manager

Phil Jurik, Suburban Editor

John Puterbaugh, Pioneer Press Editor:  
 312-222-2337; jputerbaugh@tribpub.com

Georgia Garvey, Managing Editor

Matt Bute, Vice President of Advertising:  
 advertising@chicagotribune.com

**Local Sports Editor:**

Ryan Nilsson, 312-222-2396  
 rnilsson@pioneerlocal.com

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**SHOUT OUT**

## Linda Vering, Turkey Trot organizer

The Pioneer Press caught up with Linda Vering at Lincolnwood Village Hall recently, where she was helping to hand out participant packets for this year's Lincolnwood Turkey Trot, scheduled for Nov. 20. This is her third year organizing the event. She works as community outreach and marketing coordinator for Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Department.

**Q: Can you tell me more about the Lincolnwood Turkey Trot?**

**A:** The Lincolnwood Turkey Trot is one of the oldest turkey trots in the country. It started in 1976, so we're celebrating our 40th anniversary.

**Q: How many people are participating this year?**

**A:** For the registered runners we have right around 2,000. We cap at 2,000. We also have many friends and family come out to cheer them on.

**Q: What do you expect the weather to look like?**

**A:** This year should be in the 40s, so not too bad. Last year there was snow on the ground.

**Q: Where do runners come from to participate?**

**A:** Fourteen states are represented, both coasts and all over in between. International runners also sign up, and this year home countries include Israel and Great Britain, among others. People come in for Thanksgiving and this is part of the tradition.

**Q: What can runners look forward to at the finish line?**

**A:** For some reason in Lincolnwood after Turkey Trot you have pizza. For the 40th anniversary we'll have pumpkin pie and cider. Also, a disco ball. They're going to try to make it really groovy and extra special for the 40th.



GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER/PIONEER PRESS

Linda Vering

**Q: What are the ages of the oldest and youngest runners?**

**A:** We have a couple drumstick dashers who are under 1 year old, so I'm not sure how that's going to work. (Drumstick Dash is a 50 or 100 yard race for kids 6 and younger.)

**Q: What about the oldest?**

**A:** Over 80

— Genevieve Bookwalter, Pioneer Press



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# ‘What is the next step?’ Religious leaders ask in wake of presidential election

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER  
Pioneer Press

As the results of the Nov. 8 presidential election sank in last week, some north suburban spiritual leaders said they're stressing love, faith and community as congregants confront a president-elect whose campaign was marked by controversial and divisive rhetoric.

"I'm not sure I can ever remember a moment when there was so much despair that seemed to fill the room," said Michael Nabors, senior pastor with 134-year-old Second Baptist Church in Evanston, which has about 2,000 members. The church, along with the NAACP and a black sorority, hosted a watch party Nov. 8 where members saw Republican candidate Donald Trump elected president.

Trump, who was endorsed by a former leader of the white supremacy group Ku Klux Klan, had a low approval rating among African-Americans throughout the campaign.

"We are in significant trouble," Nabors said. "What is the next step?"

Nabors said they hosted a prayer vigil at the church Nov. 9, at which congregants were able to reflect on the campaign and the days ahead.

At the Unitarian Church of Evanston, senior minister Bret Lortie said he has heard an outpouring of emotion from congregants who were surprised and shocked by the results. He said many in his congregation supported Hillary Clinton. He said they too planned a prayer vigil for Nov. 9.

"How we're going to respond to this is as we always have: by standing with love," Lortie said.

For example, the church will continue its support of immigrants, Black Lives Matter activists and other communities at risk of mar-



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

Matthew Hunter of Evanston, a 2005 Evanston Township High School graduate, performs in front of the altar in the sanctuary of Second Baptist Church in Evanston Nov. 13.

ginalization and discrimination. But members should reach out to those who voted differently than they did and listen to the concerns those citizens have for the nation, he said.

"This is also a moment to develop some empathy," Lortie said. "It's an opportunity for us to go, 'what are we hearing in the lives of people?'"

At Dar-us-Sunnah Masjid and Community Center in Evanston, president Mohammed Saiduzzaman said he's seen people in tears over the election.

Muslim women and children, especially, talk of the harassment they suffered during the run-up to this presidential election. School kids were bullied

and women were belittled and had things thrown at them on the street, he said.

On the campaign trail, Trump proposed banning Muslims from entering the United States and criticized Muslim Gold Star parents who spoke at the Democratic National Convention.

"It's not easy. Tears is a powerful outpouring of people's hearts," Saiduzzaman said.

Saiduzzaman spoke of the confidence he has in the checks and balances of American government, and his belief that this discrimination will pass. He encouraged his congregation not to judge others based on the bad actions of a few. It's a situation those in his faith know all too well, he said, as

some terrorists say they are committing extreme violence in the name of Islam.

"Morals are still there. People are still nice. At the end of the day, good will prevail," Saiduzzaman said.

At St. Martha Catholic Church in Morton Grove, the Rev. Dennis O'Neill said his is the most racially diverse parish he has ever seen, and represents the community it serves. He has led there for 16 years, and the church shares facilities with a Korean-Presbyterian church, an Indian Catholic congregation and a Greek Orthodox school.

O'Neill said he hasn't heard "a word" from congregants about the election. He doesn't mention the topic during services, but

did preach last week on the value of humility.

"People respect each other here," O'Neill said. "We have people who feel very strongly on both sides. They're too polite to say anything."

At Harvest Bible Chapel, senior and founding pastor James MacDonald was a member of Trump's spiritual advisory team during the campaign but stepped down after a video was released in October that showed Trump talking in vulgar terms about sexually assaulting women.

MacDonald said members of his church's suburban Chicago campuses — including one in Niles — also are diverse and politically divided, but overlook their

differences to come together in worship. He said he's praying Trump keeps the civil and inclusive tone he struck in his speech after meeting with President Barack Obama Nov. 10, as opposed to the divisive rhetoric that marked his campaign.

"I just don't think Christians should be divided over politics," MacDonald said. While he was appreciative of Trump's pro-life stance during the campaign, he also admired Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton's passion for helping the poor.

"There isn't one party who was offering a saint and one who was a devil," MacDonald said.

Turn to Election, Next Page



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

The Rev. Dr. Obery Hendricks of New York offers a guest sermon, "Where Do We Go From Here?" at the 8 a.m. service at Second Baptist Church in Evanston Nov. 13.

**Election,**  
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Like Saiduzzaman, Rabbi Jeffrey Weill of Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation in Skokie, said he has confidence in the American system of checks and balances.

While many reached out to discuss the election with him, Weill said his congregation is split as to which candidate members support. He said he has not experienced anti-Semitism during the campaign.

As before the election, "the challenge of any society is to protect the dignity and the rights of the other, no matter what the other might be," Weill said.

He said his temple did not hold a prayer service Wednesday night. Instead, he attended a service with about 1,000 other people to mark the 78th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the "night of broken glass," where Nazis smashed windows and vandalized thousands of Jewish establishments in Germany and Austria. The event marked an escalation of violence against Jews by German leader Adolf Hitler in the run up to World War II.

gbookwalter@tribpub.com  
Twitter @GenevieveBook

## Seven tips to help deal with the election

Mark Reinecke, professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Northwestern University, offers the following advice for managing anxiety and distress:

**1.** "Keep a sense of perspective." Hold off on predicting the worst. Instead, stay calm and wait to see what happens.

**2.** "View events in their context." This was one of the most polarizing elections in recent history. Candidates typically present a dire forecast of the future. Keep that in mind.

**3.** "Maintain a sense of how you can influence outcomes in your life and your community." Reach out to friends and family. Stay involved.

**4.** "Take the long view." The United States is a resilient nation that has been through difficult times before.

**5.** "Attend to 'safety cues.'" The checks and balances built into our government typically control wild policy swings. As such, our worst fears will probably not come true.

**6.** "Don't ruminate on negative events." Turn off Fox News or MSNBC. Limit your time on social media. Be around others. Exercise. Remember that elections have little effect on our day-to-day lives.

**7.** "Live wisely." Get involved with issues you care about. Work to make your community a supportive and hopeful place.

—Genevieve Bookwalter

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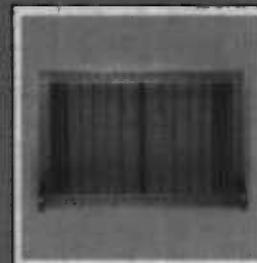
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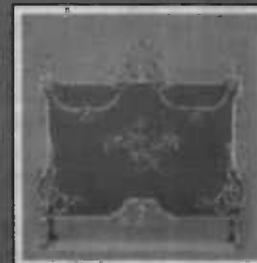
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# CTA rider alert: No fare increases in 2017

BY MARY WISNIEWSKI  
Chicago Tribune

The CTA board approved its 2017 budget Nov. 16, which spares riders a fare increase for the eighth year in a row and does not cut service.

The transit agency's \$1.52 billion spending plan retains the \$2.25 base fare for rail service and \$2 fare for bus services, the same base fare structure in place since 2009, for the 1.6 million rides taken daily. The CTA raised daily, monthly and weekly pass rates in 2013.

The Civic Federation, a nonpartisan government research group, praised the budget for the nation's second-largest transit agency as "sensible."

"Rather than increase fares, cut service or resort to the use of shaky financial practices to respond to decreased fare revenue, the CTA has presented a sensible, measured plan that prudently manages expenses and leverages non-fare revenues to make important investments in the system," Civic Federation President Laurence Msall said in a statement.

"CTA's budget demonstrates our commitment to enhancing bus and rail service and the community experience for our customers, while continuing to operate in a financially sound manner," Chicago Transit Board Chairman Terry Peterson said in a statement.

Operating expenses for the CTA are \$49 million or 3.3 percent higher than last year, due largely to higher labor and material expenses. CTA officials said they were able to balance the budget without raising fares or cutting service through operational cost savings, including pre-purchasing diesel and electricity at historically low rates and the continued modernization of the agency's fleet, which reduces

maintenance costs.

Though the CTA was able to hold the line on fares, it is facing challenges. Reflecting national trends, ridership has fallen at a rate of 2 percent per year over the past three years. It also still has no capital plan from the state and has not been receiving full state reimbursement for the mandated free and reduced-fare rides it provides to students, seniors and other eligible riders.

Labor costs could also go up. Contracts with bus and rail unions have expired, and ongoing negotiations could result in higher expenses. Labor is the agency's biggest cost, at 69 percent of the 2017 budget.

The Metra board last week approved an average 5.8 percent fare increase for 2017, its third hike in three years.

The CTA board also on Nov. 16 OK'd a five-year, \$3.5 billion capital improvement plan, which includes the \$2.1 billion first phase of modernization of the Red and Purple lines.

The capital plan assumes that the Chicago City Council by the end of the month will approve a tax increment financing district, permitted under a new state law, that would help pay for the Red-Purple Line project. This would include major renovations to four Red Line stations and the construction of the Belmont Bypass, a controversial project that would run Brown Line trains over Red and Purple Line trains just north of Belmont, to ease congestion at the Belmont station.

The bypass proposal has been met with some opposition from community members, who say it would be disruptive to the Lakeview neighborhood.

The board also approved the acquisition of more Lakeview properties for the modernization project — 13 condominium apartments at

3252 N. Wilton Ave., for \$6.8 million, and the historic graystone Vautravers building at 947-949 W. Newport Ave. for \$1.75 million, which the CTA intends to move 30 feet west to preserve it.

The agency has previously agreed to purchase the other condo unit at 3252 N. Wilton, one other residential building on Wilton Avenue and two commercial buildings on North Clark Street, for a total cost of \$11.9 million. The cost of the building acquisitions is part of the budget for the modernization project.

Also at the Nov. 16 meeting, Kasey White, 25, an advocate for homeless youth, told the board how the Ventra fare system has created challenges for social service agencies. Social service providers say the increased cost of single-ride fares under Ventra has cut into their ability to provide rides to help poor and homeless people get to school, doctors and work.

"One of the main problems is having enough bus cards ... it's first-come, first-serve, or we can only get a bus card when we have a set schedule, which stops us actually from going out to find a job," White said. She also said sometimes when providers order passes in bulk, not all the passes work.

Social service providers have asked the CTA to waive the 50 cent surcharge for single-ride paper passes for social service agencies; facilitate online bulk purchases of Ventra tickets to replace the current, antiquated paper order system; and implement high-capacity vending machines for Ventra purchases. All of these changes would save money and administrative work for agencies already hit hard by state and federal budget cuts, providers say.

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PIONEER PRESS

More than 2,000 runners participated in Lincolnwood's 40th annual Turkey Trot race Nov. 20.

## Runners in Turkey Trot met with coldest temps of season

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

Runners in 40th annual Turkey Trot 5K and 10K races in Lincolnwood Nov. 20 were greeted by some of the coldest temperatures of the season.

For Chicago couple Nick Diaz, 31, and Karina Lopez, 27, the event marked the 13th one they have finished together. The couple finished the Ditka Dash 5K at Soldier Field the day before, they said.

"We thought it was cold at the Ditka Dash yesterday, but this was one of the coldest race days," Diaz said. "The cold just makes you run faster—it's just you against the cold pavement."

Some Turkey Trot runners like Lopez weren't keen on being outside with wind chills in the 20's when the 10K kicked off shortly before 9 a.m. She bundled up in five shirts she wore under her coat and two pairs of socks, she said.

The unofficial race results showed the top three runners in the 5K were 26-year-old Fernando Cervantes of Chicago with a time of 15:49, followed by Brandon Nguyen, 17, of Skokie with a finishing time of 18:25. Chicago resident

Jose Lopez, 45, finished the race in third place, a second behind Nguyen with a time of 18:26.

The 10K unofficial results showed that a trio of Chicago residents took the top three spots. Kristen Smith, 27, finished first with a time of 32:37, followed by Jaime Marcos, Jr., 18, with a time of 35:04 and Brett Winters, 29, finished third at 35:30.

Officials from the Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Department, which hosted the event, said the official results would be published Nov. 21.

Race sponsor Liberty Bank distributed hand warmers to the crowd of 2,000 participants who Linda Vering of the Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Department said sold out the 5K and 10K races.

The most common complaints from runners, according to Nathan Hawley, a physical therapist on scene at the race, was tight muscles and difficulty breathing.

"Muscles act the same way in the cold as if you put a rubber band in the freezer—they turn still and it's not healthy so you have to warm them up," Hawley said.

To pay homage to the race's 40th year, touches of the 1970s (the Trot premiered in 1976) were hard to miss. A DJ stationed near a disco ball spun 70s music as runners crossed the finish line and were handed sparkly medals inspired by the era. The first 1,500 runners who showed up received headbands with a plush turkey on top.

While the majority of Turkey Trot participants come from the Chicago area, the race attracted runners from 13 states and three countries this year, including Finland, Israel and the U.K.

All the way from Manchester, England, Nick Plant and Nick Webb decided to extend their business trip in Chicago this week so they could enter the Turkey Trot 10K.

As they made their way across Lincoln Avenue after the race, Plant, who was wearing shorts, admitted he regretted his choice of running wear.

Webb said his face had turned numb by the fourth mile.

"It was great fun," Webb said.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

# Cops report 2nd incident of a needle-wielding couple stealing drugs from CVS

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER AND BILL BIRD

Tribune Newspapers

For the second time this week, a suburban police department has reported that a man and woman wielded hypodermic needles in a threatening manner while stealing over-the-counter medications from a drug store.

The incident happened Nov. 14 at a CVS store at 9640 Milwaukee Ave., Niles police said Nov. 18.

A similar incident took place at a CVS store in Naperville on Nov. 15, police in that town reported earlier.

Niles police Sgt. Robert Tornabene said the incidents are possibly related, and that they are working with Naperville police to compare the two incidents.

"Based on the photos/videos, it appears they may be (related,) but nothing is certain at this time," Naperville police Cmdr. Jason Arres said.

In the Niles incident, a man and woman were seen removing over-the-counter medications from store shelves and concealing them inside bags they had brought

with them, police said.

When they attempted to leave, a store employee approached them and instructed them to put the items down. According to police, the man then pulled out a hypodermic needle from his pants pocket, pointed it at the employee and said, "You don't want what I have."

The couple left the store and entered a light-colored vehicle. Police said about \$600 worth of medications were taken.

Tornabene said if the two are caught they will be charged with felony retail theft and felony aggravated assault.

Tornabene said Niles police were working with numerous other law enforcement agencies in the area to identify similar crimes, and that he had contacted CVS with regard to preventing another incident from occurring at another location.

Mike DeAngelis, senior director of corporate communications for CVS Health in Woonsocket, R.I., said Nov. 18 company officials "have made our stores in the (Chicago) market aware of these incidents, and we are cooperating with local police."

The man in the Niles incident was described as 5-foot-5 to 5-foot-9 and 155 to 175 pounds with dark hair. He was wearing sunglasses. The woman was described as 5-foot-5 to 5-foot-9 and 135 to 145 pounds with light-colored hair.

Anyone with information is asked to call Niles police at 847-588-6500.

In the Naperville incident, a man and woman robbed a CVS store brandishing a syringe they claimed was contaminated with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

The robbers reportedly stole numerous medications from the business before leaving, Arres said.

Arres said the man was described as being about 50 years old, with dark hair.

The woman was described as about 40 years old with dark hair.

Arres asked that witnesses to the robbery or those with information about the case call Naperville police at 630-420-6666, and ask for the investigations division.

*Genevieve Bookwalter is a reporter for Pioneer Press. Bill Bird is a reporter for the Naperville Sun. Chicago Tribune staff contributed.*

# Early-morning crash injures two

BY MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

Two people were listed in critical condition after an early-morning collision between a vehicle and semi-tractor trailer truck on Nov. 17 on the 4200 block of Golf Road, Skokie police said.

Skokie police said the crash occurred at 3:51 a.m. and its impact caused the semi-tractor trailer to overturn.

The two patients were taken to Evanston Hospital following the crash, officials said, and no update on their condition has been announced.

According to Skokie police, the North Regional Task Force Major Crash Assistance Team was called and is assisting police. Authorities said the cause of the crash still is being investigated.

Golf Road was closed for

hours in both directions the morning of Nov. 17 between Gross Point Road and Crawford Avenue.

The closure impacted bus routes and morning commuters, police said, but PACE and the CTA were notified about the road closure.

More information can be found at [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org).

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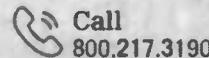
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The following items were taken from the Niles Police Department reports. An arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt.

#### BATTERY

■ Police responded Nov. 4 to a report of men throwing chicken nuggets to a group of other diners at a restaurant in the 7900 block of Milwaukee Avenue.

■ An employee of a company in the 6300 block of Gross Point Road told police another female worker "attacked" her Nov. 9.

#### BURGLARY TO VEHICLE

■ A purse was stolen from a car parked in a lot in the 6800 block of Milwaukee Avenue between Nov. 5 and 6, police said.

■ A woman told police that cash and paperwork was stolen from her car between Nov. 4 and 5 while it was parked in the 6500 block of Ebinger Drive.

#### DISPUTE

■ Officers were called to an apartment in the 8600 block of Milwaukee Avenue Nov. 9 after a couple got into a verbal dispute over the election, police said.

#### DUI

■ Darek Rafalko, 35, of the 8400 block of Johanna Drive, Niles, was charged with driving under the influence Nov. 6 after he was reportedly involved in a crash at Cumberland Avenue and Clara Drive.

■ Deweryn Szczotarski, 33, of the 9500 block of West Lawrence, Schiller Park, was charged with driving under the influence and driving on a revoked license Nov. 9 in the 8600 block of Milwaukee Avenue.

#### SPEEDING

■ Tabitha Harrison, 22, of the 4300 block of West Cortez, Chicago, was charged with speeding Nov. 5 in the 7100 block of Dempster Street.

#### THEFT

■ Henry Younan, 36, of the 8300 block of Oak Avenue, Niles, was charged with retail theft Nov. 8 in the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue.

■ David Jimenez, 26, of the 6300 block of North California Avenue, Chicago, was charged with retail theft Nov. 9 in the 8600 block of Dempster Street.

## Police stepping up holiday enforcement

By PHIL ROCKROHR

Pioneer Press

Illinois State Police and municipal law enforcement departments statewide including Morton Grove and Evanston have announced plans to step up enforcement of seat belt and other traffic safety laws in the days before and after Thanksgiving.

The Morton Grove police department will have the 2016 Impaired Driving and Occupant Protection Mobilization program in effect, according to a written statement issued by the police department. In conjunction with the Illinois Department of Transportation, Morton Grove police will conduct aggressive seat belt and DUI enforcement.

"The Morton Grove Police Department's goal is to save lives, prevent severe injuries and achieve a higher percentage of safety belt compliance through aggressive safety belt and DUI enforcement," the release stated.

Evanston police will focus simi-

lar efforts on seat belts and sober driving, Cmdr. Joseph Dugan said in a prepared statement.

The risk of a serious or deadly vehicle crash increases with the number of travelers on the roadways, and the long Thanksgiving weekend is one of the busiest travel times of the year, said Evanston Police Sgt. Tracy Williams, supervisor of the department's traffic unit.

Quoting figures provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Dugan said when a front-seat occupant of a passenger vehicle wears a seat belt properly, the risk of fatal injury declines by 45 percent.

"Yet many people still choose to not buckle up, and roughly half of our state's and nation's roadway fatalities involve unbelted drivers and passengers," he said.

Dugan said Illinois drivers should be aware of a law that took effect in 2012 requiring everyone, no matter the age or seating position, to wear a seat belt. Children are required to ride in a

car seat or booster seat until at least age 8, he said. Advocates recommend that children use such seats beyond that age, until regular seat belts fit properly as designed for adults, Dugan said.

Matt Boerwinkle, spokesman for the Illinois state police, said the department will increase patrols on major thoroughfares and interstates throughout Illinois from Wednesday through Sunday during the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

"We'll be looking for distracted driving, speeding, DUI and seat belt compliance," Boerwinkle said.

After examining seat belt use and recent crashes, IDOT recently identified a "significant decrease" in seat belt use that has contributed to fatalities, he said.

"For that reason, we will be stepping up seat belt enforcement during the holiday," Boerwinkle said.

Phil Rockrohr is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Secretary of State Jesse White was at the Evanston Public Library Nov. 17 as the state librarian to read aloud to children as part of the statewide Family Reading Night program that his office sponsors.

## Jesse White reads a classic at Evanston library's family night

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC  
Pioneer Press

Secretary of State Jesse White stepped into his role as the state librarian Nov. 17 as he sat in the storyteller's chair at the Evanston Public Library for family reading night.

"I'm honored to be here at this wonderful library where I know that teaching is taking place and learning is in the equation," White said before reading P.D. Eastman's "Are You My Mother?"

Children were in their pajamas — some brightly colored or even holiday-themed — and sat at White's feet as he read.

His office sponsors family reading night annually on the third Thursday of November, according to information on the Secretary of State website.

This year marked the 25th anniversary of the event, and White's office partnered with the Illinois Literacy Foundation to also provide children with free books.

The Illinois Literacy Foundation donated more than 200 smaller-sized books to benefit young



Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White takes his seat in the rocking chair in front of the crowd.

learners, ages 2 through 9.

"I want to encourage all parents to read to their children because it helps them to become better educated, better informed," White said.

Parents, library officials and others in the library offered praise for the family event.

"It's a really good thing," said Cheyenne Reid of Evanston, who attended with her 2-year-old daughter, Elizabeth Clayton. "It's good to show he's involved with kids and that

he's not different than anyone else."

Brian Wilson, the children's librarian at EPL, wasn't quite in pajamas but he did have on his shoes off as he participated with White and the patrons.

"We're very excited," Wilson said about White. "We're bringing in a person who loves libraries, who loves families, who loves children."

Karie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

## Advocate, NorthShore to keep fighting for merger

BY LISA SCHENCKER  
Chicago Tribune

Hospital systems Advocate Health Care and NorthShore University HealthSystem will continue fighting for their merger, they said Nov. 16, despite a recent federal appeals court decision against them.

A three-judge panel of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals sided late last month with the Federal Trade Commission and the state of Illinois, which are seeking a preliminary injunction to temporarily stop a merger between the two systems. The FTC has argued that a union between the two systems would harm competition, leading to higher prices.

The appeals court judges in October sent the case back to a lower court to reconsider whether to issue the injunction.

Writing for the court, Judge David Hamilton last month called the lower court's reasoning behind its original decision not to

grant the injunction "clearly erroneous."

Many had wondered whether the systems would drop their quest to merge following that October decision. But the systems affirmed Nov. 16 that they plan to continue with their case for now.

The systems have said that a marriage between them will lead to consumer savings and higher quality care.

"We remain steadfast in our belief that bringing our organizations together is the right thing to do for consumers and therefore we are choosing to move forward with our case," according to a statement from the two systems. "We are confident that Judge Jorge Alonso made the right decision in our favor this past summer, reaffirming the competitive realities of the Chicago market. We look forward to a positive resolution — paving the way for an innovative care delivery model to further advance quality and lower costs."

The systems have pledged, if they merge, to offer an insurance product 10 percent less expensive than the next-lowest-price comparable product available, saving consumers at least \$210 million a year.

The FTC, however, has said the deal would lead to an 8 percent, or \$45 million, price increase at the systems' hospitals.

An Advocate/NorthShore combination would create the 11th largest health care system in the country. Advocate has a two-campus children's hospital and 11 other hospitals, including Condell Medical Center in Libertyville. NorthShore has four hospitals in Cook and Lake counties including Highland Park and Glenbrook hospitals.

Two Pennsylvania hospital systems recently abandoned their merger plans after a federal appeals court ruled against them in a similar case in September.

lschencker@chicagotribune.com  
Twitter @lschencker

## Plans for security cameras at Niles Central, School District 219 office

BY BRIAN L. COX  
Pioneer Press

School District 219 officials on Nov. 15 put on hold plans to install dozens of security cameras at Niles Central High School and the district office, opting for more time to study a proposal that forecasts the total cost of buying and putting in the devices at about \$172,000, officials said.

The Board of Education took the matter up at its monthly meeting and instead of signing off on the

proposal, board members asked staff to gather more information, said Jim Szczepaniak, the school district's director of strategic partnerships and community relations.

"They were questioning the expense and basically the number of cameras, particularly the number of cameras externally," he said. "It was more a matter of getting more information from the (facilities) committee."

The District 219 Facilities Committee recommended

that the district purchase 26 security cameras to be installed on the buildings' exteriors and 31 cameras for use inside of them, as well as a server with a 64-terabyte storage capacity. That would provide a minimum of 30 days of video storage, according to the committee's recommendation.

The board is expected to discuss the issue again at its Dec. 13 meeting.

Brian L. Cox is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

# Evanston to revisit city's 2008 'sanctuary' resolution

BY LEE V. GAINES  
Pioneer Press

Evanston officials will consider over the coming months what it means to be a sanctuary city for undocumented immigrants, according to City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz.

Municipalities around the country, including Chicago, have reaffirmed their status as haven cities in the wake of Donald Trump's victory in the presidential election. In a news release issued Nov. 13, Mayor Rahm Emanuel's administration indicated that Chicago 311 operators had received "special instructions" to assist callers worried about their immigration status in Chicago and the country.

Bobkiewicz said Evanston staff and City Council members plan to take a look at Evanston's current sanc-

tuary city resolution, which was adopted in 2008, and potentially update it to reflect what the city is prepared to do given present circumstances. He said the renewed look at the issue was prompted by comments from community members who told city officials they were worried about what would happen to their undocumented immigrant family members once Trump takes control of the White House. Trump repeatedly employed anti-immigrant rhetoric while on the campaign trail, vowing to build a wall along the U.S. southern border and have Mexico pay for it and promising to halt Muslim immigration into the country.

"This is something that is hitting home just within municipal government here and we are a tiny, tiny

microcosm of all this. This is an issue many communities will face," Bobkiewicz said.

Bobkiewicz said his understanding of the resolution passed eight years ago is that it was the city's way of saying "our community values many people and immigrants as an important part of the community."

"What Evanston has to do now is come back and take a fresh look in very particular terms for what it means in 2016 (to be a sanctuary city)," he said.

He said staff will share with aldermen at their next several City Council meetings what steps other cities have implemented to cement their status as towns supportive of undocumented immigrants and any repercussions those places faced as a result. Bobkiewicz said staff will also try to

get a sense of what actions the federal government may take in regards to immigration enforcement once the Trump administration assumes control.

On the campaign trail, Trump told an audience in Phoenix in September that "cities that refuse to cooperate with federal authorities will not receive taxpayer dollars, and we will work with Congress to pass legislation to protect those jurisdictions that do assist federal authorities."

While researching the issue, Bobkiewicz said he learned "there are some communities that have taken policy positions that are now contrary to state and federal laws and (those communities) are prepared to deal with the consequences. That is not a conversation that the (Evanston) City Council had."

In the coming months, he said, city officials will have to decide what actions they're comfortable taking in the face of possible push-back from the federal government.

The process will start Nov. 28 "and take us well into the new year," Bobkiewicz said.

Evanston Police Cmdr. Joe Dugan said the city's police officers do not investigate or inquire about a person's immigration status "for the sole purpose of determining if they are in violation of any immigration laws."

"We pretty much treat everybody the same," he said. "We practice equal enforcement of the law regardless of immigrant status."

Dugan estimated the last time the department worked with U.S. Immigra-

tion and Customs Enforcement to detain someone was over a decade ago. He said the department has limited contact with immigration enforcement officials and they will continue to operate under the auspices of the sanctuary cities resolution passed in 2008 until the council takes any further action on the issue.

When asked if the department was concerned that undocumented immigrants may now be hesitant to call police when in need of service, Dugan said, "I hope not."

Bobkiewicz said the meeting in 2008 in which council members passed the resolution included an extremely lengthy discussion and lasted well into the early hours of the next day.

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



At the November 15 Niles Park District board meeting, Commissioner Czarnik, O'Donovan, Zalinski, Genualdi & Byrne, presented Tony Hollenback from Niles Family Services with a donation from the 5K Harvest Hustle proceeds. A check for \$2,055 and 500 food items will benefit the Niles Food Pantry and residents in need.

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# Garden 'sprites' to decorate parks in child's memoriam

Kate Babich, 7, passed away in June at a camp

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

During a trip to Phoenix last spring, Kate Babich was drawn to the geometric, concrete fairies on the grounds of the resort where her family was staying.

The statues of the Arizona Biltmore were reproductions of the "sprites" that once stood at Midway Gardens, a Frank Lloyd Wright-designed park and entertainment complex built in Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood in 1914. Created by Park Ridge-based sculptor Alfonso Iannelli, the concrete, art deco-style fairies with crossed arms and tilted heads were familiar to Kate, a first-grader at Field School, because she had just learned about them during an art class she took at Iannelli's former studio on Northwest Highway.

"She immediately recognized the sprites and got excited about them," Jennifer Babich, Kate's mother said. "She just loved them."



JENNIFER BABICH PHOTO

Kate Babich poses in Phoenix, Ariz. earlier this year.

Smaller replicas of the original statues are now on their way to public spaces in Park Ridge — part of a project undertaken by the Babich family in remembrance of their daughter.

Kate Babich passed away in June from a rare heart defect while attending a summer cheerleading camp. She was 7 years old.

Using some of the donations that poured in from the community in the days and weeks following the tragedy, the Babich family plans to donate 41-inch-tall garden sprites to three Park Ridge parks, and possibly to

additional locations in the city as well, Jennifer Babich said. They will be accompanied by plaques that identify them as reproductions of the Midway Gardens sprites, donated in memory of Kate, she added.

"One of the things we wanted to do was something that everyone in the community could see," Jennifer Babich explained.

Gayle Mountcastle, executive director of the Park Ridge Park District, said the donated statues will be displayed near the Camp Fire Girls fountain at Hodges Park, on the grounds of the Wildwood Nature Center, and on a raised planter east of the splash pad at Prospect Park.

"I hope people will appreciate them like Kate did," Jennifer Babich said. "She was so proud of the fact that [Iannelli] was from Park Ridge and that she was from Park Ridge. I hope maybe we can spread a little bit of that pride."

The statues are being sold by the Kalo Foundation, which owns and operates Iannelli Studios. Just before her death, Kate had asked her mother to buy a

statue.

"She saw they were selling them in the gift shop, and she got really excited and wanted to get one for our house," Jennifer Babich said. "Our house was under construction, so we said that when it was done, we would get one for the garden."

Staff members at Field School, pooling their money together, ultimately bought the family a statue, explained art teacher Michaela Ruff, who also taught Kate's classes at Iannelli Studios and was there when the little girl asked her mother for the sprite.

"Almost all the staff was able to help donate in order to give that special gift to the Babich family," Ruff said.

Donations that were left over were given to the Field School Parent-Teacher Organization, which plans to buy a sprite for the school's reading garden, also as a memorial to Kate, in addition to a redbud tree, which blooms in purple flowers, Kate's favorite color, Ruff said.

In the days following Kate's death, residents



JENNIFER JOHNSON/PIONEER PRESS

Smaller reproductions of a Midway Gardens sprite statue are expected to appear in at least three Park Ridge parks and in the reading garden of Field School in celebration of the life of Kate Babich, a 7-year-old who died in June.

across the city of Park Ridge tied purple ribbons around their trees in a show of support for the Babich family and in remembrance of Kate.

The Kalo Foundation will also place a sprite outside the entrance to Iannelli Studios, 255 N. Northwest Highway, said Judy

Barclay, co-president of the foundation.

"I think it's going to be a wonderful thing in memory of Kate, and it's good for the community to know what's part of their history and heritage," Barclay said.

*jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com.  
Twitter @Jen\_Tribune*

## Niles Township food pantry seeks help to meet increased demand

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

Niles Township food pantry officials say they've watched the number of people the pantry serves skyrocket from 3,500 in November 2015 to 5,000 a year later, prompting the organization to look to the community for more help.

Officials who work with the food pantry said the increased demand at the food pantry, located at 5255 Main Street in Skokie, so far has been met with a combi-

nation of holiday food drives and an influx of individual donations from the public and the Greater Chicago Food Depository, the parent of the Niles Township Food Pantry.

Organizations from across Niles Township—which includes the villages of Skokie, Lincolnwood, Golf and sections of Morton Grove, Niles and Glenview—have pitched in to help gather donations for the holiday season, officials report.

Donations for the holiday

season help ensure families who depend on the food pantry will have enough food to set their Thanksgiving tables, according to Tony Araque manager of the Niles Township Food Pantry. But by January and February, the food bank risks being in a shortage, he said.

"We serve clients all year and people tend to forget us after the holidays," Araque said. "The demand is rising because food is expensive and people either aren't working or their salaries aren't rising with inflation."

The food pantry passed out 95,500 pounds of food to 5,000 people in October, Araque said, and expects to pass out additional meals in November and December for the holidays, including a supplemental Thanksgiving dinner complete with a frozen turkey and all the fixings.

Thanksgiving meals were supplied by the Greater Chicago Food Depository, but the food pantry also must meet an increasing demand for food during the six-week stretch of the holiday season,

officials said.

The Niles Township government purchased a new 1,800 square-foot walk-in refrigerator and freezer to store fresh produce and meats, which officials said allows the food pantry to offer families healthier options than the canned and boxed foods usually distributed.

Local grocery chains provide much of the fresh produce stocked in the food pantry, Araque said, and in warmer months volunteers and staff harvest fruits and

veggies from a community garden planted on the property.

"The offering of the types of food we have has definitely changed, and before we had the walk-in freezer we couldn't even store this stuff," he said. "Now we have fresh everything."

The food pantry is open four days a week with morning and afternoon hours, as well as additional evening ours on Tuesdays.

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

# Skokie displays mural on Oakton Street

BY MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

Skokie's Public Fine Arts Advisory Committee Chairwoman Barbara Meyer said the committee has had its collective eye on enhancing village spaces with wall murals for years.

"It's just taken this long for it to happen," she said.

Now a completed wall mural in Skokie, a collection of interlocking playfully animated characters created by San Francisco artist Lauren Asta, pops out on the elongated east-facing wall of the Miishkooki Art Space, 4517 Oakton St.

Earlier this month, Asta sat, brush in hand, on an upside-down bucket in the parking lot of the Oakton site, creating the pop-oriented characters.

Asta said she has been in Chicago most of the year

and has created a dozen murals in the area.

What helped make what officials are calling Skokie's first wall mural a reality was the village's collaboration with Miishkooki Art Space, committee members say. The mural cost about \$8,000, but that cost was shared with Skokie resident John Maloof, who opened his gallery in the late summer.

"I wanted a space to make my own art and I thought it would be a great place to start showing work that I like," Maloof told the Skokie Review upon the opening of his gallery.

Asta said Maloof contacted her a few months ago about the opportunity to create art on an empty wall facing a small parking lot.

"The way I work is free-style and freehand, so I don't typically have a pre-

drawn-out sketch," she said on day six of her work on the mural. "I have enough work in my portfolio that when people approach me to do murals, they trust that I can pull off the job."

Asta said the ideas for her murals come to her while she paints. It took her about a week to complete the Skokie mural, she said.

"Each character — each line — kind of connects like a puzzle to the next thing," she said. "It's very free-flowing. I read my surroundings. The wall has a personality of its own."

The Skokie Public Arts Advisory Committee was created in 2008 with the purpose of "integrating public arts in Skokie that reflects the diversity of the community," according to the village.

Before the committee was formed, the Skokie Vil-

lage Board approved an ordinance incorporating a 0.1 percent fee for each building permit where construction is valued at \$10,000 or greater.

Revenue from the tax has been earmarked for an "appearance and arts fee," a funding mechanism to pay for public art throughout Skokie. Leading up to the new wall mural, the committee had sponsored more than a dozen sculptures installed throughout the village, according to its website.

Meyer said she had been looking to add wall murals to the village's public art mix ever since she saw a textured mural on Bryan Mawr Avenue in Chicago. Every time she drove by it, she said, she became inspired to bring the same kind of art to Skokie.

"It was hard to find a



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

The Skokie Fine Arts Commission sponsored its first wall mural in Skokie, hiring artist Lauren Asta to complete the playful art piece on an empty wall outside Miishkooki Art Space, 4517 Oakton St.

building owner who would join with us," Meyer said, adding that she hopes this project will inspire more Skokie wall art in the future.

This is the beginning and not the end, she said. Additional wall murals are planned for the Euro Echo Cafe and Al's Cycle Shop, both in downtown Skokie,

she said.

"It's not as if I'm an art connoisseur or anything like that," Meyer said. "I just think it's a pretty neat idea to have these kind of spaces filled with art. It's a great way to enhance the village."

misaacs@pioneerlocal.com  
Twitter @SKReview\_Mike

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## NEWS



Evanston Township High School

PIONEER PRESS FILE PHOTO

## Parents want ETHS to bring back Hebrew class

BY LEE V. GAINES  
Pioneer Press

A few Evanston Township High School parents and others appealed to school board members at a board of education meeting last week to continue to offer an entry-level Hebrew language class at the school.

"Here at ETHS, we have a rich and diverse tapestry of world languages and yet one program is on the brink of being extinct," said Jeff Schoenberg during the public comment portion of the meeting.

But district officials said they were not able to offer Hebrew I this year because they have been unable to find a state-certified teacher to teach the class.

The district's longtime Hebrew teacher, Semadar Siegel, resigned in April 2015 after teaching at the district for 17 years, according to Pete Bavis, assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction for Evanston Township High School District 202.

"While enrollment has declined in Hebrew at ETHS and across the north shore, the real issue is that we have been unable to find a highly qualified, certified Hebrew teacher," Bavis wrote in an email.

According to a document dated Nov. 9 and posted on the district's website, high school officials offered a part-time Hebrew language teaching position to Anna Raiber, who also teaches part-time at Niles North High School. Raiber teaches a combined Hebrew II and III class and a combined Hebrew IV and advanced Hebrew one. According to the district, Hebrew I will not be advertised to incoming freshmen next year due to continued staffing issues with the program. Upper-level Hebrew classes will likely continue to be offered to support students already studying the language, the document states.

"This year we have only been able to find a Hebrew teacher that is able to teach two periods a day," Bavis wrote.

Caroline Glasser, who said she had four children go through the Hebrew language program at ETHS, said the classes "made a huge impact on my kids' life and our life."

"This is very important to us and I know we're not going to be quiet about this," she said, adding that because the entry-level class no longer exists, she believes the entire Hebrew

language program at ETHS will soon be eliminated.

Miriam Davidson, a mother of three Evanston Skokie District 65 students, said Hebrew I is not only the one high school class she's heard her children talk about with the most excitement, but "it's also a core part their identity."

Davidson began to cry as she addressed the board.

"It provides a community within a larger school of students who care and are interested in the study of Hebrew and Israeli culture," she said.

Schoenberg encouraged the district to explore its options, to share a Hebrew I instructor with Niles North or to collaborate with instructors at Oakton Community College.

"My two kids came (to ETHS) from a day school and really looked forward to Hebrew. It made a big place small," said Nina Kavin.

Bavis said "there's always a chance" the class will be reinstated, but the challenge for the district is finding "highly qualified people" to teach it per state requirements.

"We'll try again and see what we can do," he said.

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

# Lincolnshire approves settlement on right-to-work ordinance

BY RONNIE WACHTER  
Pioneer Press

Lincolnshire trustees approved a settlement agreement Nov. 14 on two of three lawsuits filed over the town's controversial right-to-work ordinance aimed at organized labor.

The Liberty Justice Center, which had agreed to represent Lincolnshire pro bono in all three lawsuits, said under the agreement, it would pay \$10,000 total to the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150 and its individual plaintiffs. After that, the union has agreed to drop two lawsuits they filed in state courts after village officials passed the ordinance, according to officials with the Liberty Justice Center, the legal arm of the Illinois Policy Institute, a Chicago-based conservative think tank.

Jacob Huebert, senior attorney at the Liberty Justice Center, said the group prioritized the settlement of the two state cases to focus on the remaining lawsuit filed in federal court. A spokesman with Local 150 said they wanted to move past the two lawsuits because the federal lawsuit has larger implications.

"The settlement is certainly not a concession that the village did anything wrong," Huebert said. "These lawsuits were totally meritless. We've all agreed to settle this and just move on."

Ed Maher, communications director for Local 150, said a victory in the federal lawsuit would make the other two state lawsuits a moot issue.

"The (National Labor Relations Board) has weighed in on this. The

Illinois attorney general's office has weighed in on this," he said. "The right-to-work law will be dismissed or pre-empted by federal labor law."

So-called right-to-work legislation lets individuals work for a company in union-protected positions without having to join the union or pay the full share of union dues. In a zone designated right to work, non-union employees also get benefits negotiated by a labor union with company management. The Lincolnshire ordinance, approved late last year, only applied to private companies within the village and not to public-sector employees, such as police officers.

The two lawsuits questioned procedural matters in connection with the meeting at which Lincolnshire Village Board members approved the ordi-

nance. One of the lawsuits filed in state court alleged an Open Meetings Act violation, arguing officials prohibited two union supporters from speaking during public comment at the meeting at which the ordinance was approved.

Depending on the outcome, the lawsuit could have nullified trustees' approval of the ordinance, Huebert said.

The other lawsuit pertained to email exchanges involving village officials following the meeting at which the ordinance was approved, he said.

Mayor Liz Brandt said the village was prepared for the legal challenges, explaining how officials pushed for the right-to-work zone after they knew they would have pro-bono representation from the Liberty Justice Center.

"We had nothing to lose,"

Brandt said. "But it frustrates me, with all the litigation and time taken up, when we could be doing other things."

Village Manager Brad Burke said Lincolnshire officials were pleased at the possibility of reaching a settlement on the lawsuits at no cost to taxpayers.

"It has been a commitment of the board not to have any expenses incurred," Burke said.

The legal challenges from the labor union came after trustees voted to make Lincolnshire a right-to-work zone.

Since taking office, Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner has promoted right-to-work zones.

Several of the states that border Illinois — including Wisconsin — have passed similar legislation, and Rauner has asked Illinois municipalities to take up

the cause within their own borders.

When Lincolnshire met to approve the ordinance, union members packed Lincolnshire Village Hall to protest the move. Following the passage of the right-to-work ordinance in Lincolnshire, the local labor union also called on members to boycott non-union businesses in Lincolnshire and asked the public to do the same.

A lawsuit filed in federal court by the AFL-CIO challenging the ordinance remains unresolved.

The lawsuit, filed Feb. 18 in Chicago by the local AFL-CIO chapter and three other labor unions, contends that a municipality in a non-right-to-work state cannot declare itself a right-to-work town.

[rwachter@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:rwachter@pioneerlocal.com)  
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# Winterfest returns to Park Ridge Nov. 25

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

Reindeer, trolleys, carolers and, of course, Santa Claus himself will return to Park Ridge for the city's annual kickoff to the Christmas season, Winterfest.

Winterfest will take place Nov. 25, beginning at 5:45 p.m. with performances by the Maine South Marching Band in front of the Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce announced.

At 6 p.m., Santa, riding in on a fire truck, will arrive at the library to officially kick off Winterfest. After greeting Park Ridge acting Mayor Marty Maloney, Santa will head inside the library, where he will meet with children and hear their Christmas lists.

As Santa arrives, student carolers from the Willows Academy Chamber Choir (dressed in Renaissance-style costumes) and Emerson Middle School are expected to perform at locations in Uptown.

Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce Director Gail Haller said visitors can again ride trolleys between Up-



PATRICK GORSKI/PIONEER PRESS

Santa greets kids and adults as he makes his way to the library during Park Ridge's annual Winterfest in this photo from 2015.

town and South Park, in addition to a trolley that circles the Uptown area.

The cross-town trolley stops are located on Vine Street at Hodges Park; at 11 S. Fairview Ave. in Uptown; and on Prospect Avenue between Talcott Road and Devon Avenue in South Park. The Uptown only trolley stops are across from the train station on Summit Ave-

ue; Summit of Uptown, 10 N. Summit; Raffia Gifts, 141 N. Northwest Highway; Orangetheory Fitness, 10 N. Northwest Highway; Northwest Highway and Euclid Avenue; Holt's, 43 S. Prospect Ave.; and the Park Ridge Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave.

Local businesses in both Uptown and South Park will be distributing free refreshments during Winterfest as

well, Haller said. "It's a community event that's fun for families and the merchants, and it's been going on for more than 50 years," Haller said of the pre-Christmas tradition. "It hasn't always been called (Winterfest), but it's been a big holiday open house."

Other Winterfest events include the following:

- Open house at the Park Ridge Public Library, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. According to the library, the following events will take place: Celtic music by the Dooley Brothers in the first-floor meeting room; caroling by the Willows Academy and Emerson Middle School singers on the first and second floors; ornament making in Children's Services, led by the Washington School Girl Scouts; a green screen photo booth on the second floor; holiday flower arranging by Kiko's Flowers and Gifts from 7 to 8 p.m. on the second floor; and cookie decorating in the teen loft.

- Live reindeer and Santa's elves in the parking lot of PNC Bank, 607 W. Devon Ave., from 6 to 9 p.m.
- Open house at the Park Ridge Fire Station, Cumberland and Devon avenues, from 6 to 9 p.m. Visitors can tour the station, see fire vehicles up close and enjoy refreshments.

Luminaries, set up by local Boy Scouts and the Park Ridge Public Works Department, are expected to line Prospect and Courtland avenues between Uptown and South Park. Homes on both streets are also invited to again participate in a

holiday decorating contest, in which judges from the Park Ridge Garden Club will select the best lit house, Haller said. The winner will receive a \$100 chamber gift certificate, she said.

Winterfest will also mark the start of the chamber's "Elf on a Shelf" contest with Twinkle the elf. Twinkle will appear inside various participating businesses between Nov. 25 and Dec. 16, and those who find her, take a selfie, post the picture to Facebook and tag the business will be entered into a drawing to win a \$100 gift certificate to chamber businesses, Haller said.

"We bought her a new strapless gown, and she has a pet reindeer named Noel," Haller said of Twinkle the elf.

Shoppers can find clues to Twinkle's whereabouts by visiting the chamber's Facebook page, "Shop Park Ridge."

Winterfest is sponsored by the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce, South Park Merchants Association, city of Park Ridge and the Park Ridge Public Library.

*jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com*  
*Twitter @Jen\_Tribune*

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## Park Ridge talks traffic signal study near Maine South

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

Park Ridge officials are questioning whether to pay for a study that would determine if a traffic control signal should be installed near Maine South High School.

For years, the issue of students crossing at the "Talcott gate" — located at the school's rear driveway on Talcott Road — has been a topic among elected officials. In August, after viewing a video of a truck that reportedly almost struck a student in the crosswalk, aldermen asked city staff to come back

with information about the likelihood of a getting a stoplight installed at the location.

On Nov. 14, Public Works Director Wayne Zingsheim told the City Council that the Illinois Department of Transportation would require the city or Maine Township High School District 207 to hire a consultant to perform a traffic study before considering if it would install a signal. Such a study could cost between \$7,000 and \$10,000, Zingsheim said.

"We've looked into this ourselves several times," he

told the council. "It seems to be a very hard place to have a traffic [signal]. I don't think a study would warrant it."

Zingsheim pointed out that the crossing is not located where two roadways intersect and that he does not believe the number of pedestrians who use it would warrant a traffic light under IDOT guidelines.

Still, aldermen asked Zingsheim to reach out to District 207 and see if officials there are interested in traffic signal as well — and if the district is willing to help pay for the traffic study.

Principal Shawn Messm-

er told the Park Ridge Herald-Advocate on Nov. 18 that he had not spoken to anyone from the city yet, but added that the school would "not be opposed" to the consideration of a traffic signal. As for helping to pay for a traffic study, Messmer said such a proposal would need to be reviewed by administration and brought to the school board.

"We've worked now for a very long time with city and police department to try and ensure there's a safe crossing for students there," Messmer said.

In response to students

crossing the busy Talcott Road — and one student being struck by a car — the city painted a crosswalk on Talcott in 2006. A crossing guard is currently stationed there before and after school, Messmer said.

"We've had an overwhelmingly positive response to the fact that there is a crossing guard there — especially when we spent a year or two without one," he said, adding that he is not aware of any accidents or "near misses" involving pedestrians there, other than the video of the one incident that was shot by a parent.

Messmer said one way to keep students safer would be to lower the speed limit around Maine South to 20 mph while students are in session.

"Until that happens, we do need something there, such as a crossing guard — or more," he said.

In August, the City Council also discussed a proposal from Police Chief Frank Kaminski to install a flashing beacon light at the Talcott gate to make drivers more aware of the crosswalk.

*jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com*  
*Twitter @Jen\_Tribune*

# County soft drink tax is just another bully tax



PAUL SASSONE

Bully taxes.

That's what I call taxes and fees that hurt middle class and poor people disproportionately.

Government always needs money. But at the same time, government officials don't want to annoy the wealthy and powerful by, say, making them pay their fair share of income tax. To do so might damage our officials' chances for re-election.

So, government officials come up with taxes and fees that the wealthy don't care about. These bully taxes will be a hardship for middle class and poor people.

But, so what? They have no clout.

The latest bully tax is the soft drink tax in Cook County narrowly passed recently by the Cook County Board.

A good argument can be made for decreasing consumption of soft drinks as contributors to tooth decay and diabetes. But county officials instead tried to garner public support for the tax by a TV commercial campaign of half-truths and whole untruths.

These commercials implied (but didn't quite actually say) this tax would somehow stop the violence in Chicago, that passing the tax was a public safety issue.

The full untruth was that the tax would only be one penny.

That's the whopper.

The tax is a penny an ounce on soft drinks.

So, a 12-ounce can of soda will cost 12 cents more. The cost of a two liter bottle of soda will go up by 68 cents. And a 12-ounce case of 24 soft drinks will go up \$2.88.

That's peanuts to some people, but not to many middle class and poor county residents. Sure, they can stop drinking soft drinks. But that should be an individual decision, not one forced on people by extravagant taxation.

Also, there is the foul odor of hypocrisy about the soda tax.

County officials boast of the revenue the soda tax will bring in. The tax will go into effect in July.

So, contrary to what county officials say, they are not hoping residents will drink less soda. They are betting (hoping?) consumption of soft drinks contin-



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Customers buy sugary drinks, including bottled juice and soda products at a Walgreens store on State Street in Chicago in September 2015.

ues. More money for the county if it does.

Hey, maybe the same truth-twisters who came up with the pro-soda tax com-

mercials can launch a campaign urging people to guzzle more soda. The more you drink the more money the county gets.

And it will only cost you a penny.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

# Thanksgiving is a time to recapture our American character



RANDY BLASER

In looking for a quote about Thanksgiving for my club newsletter, I came across this one by former President Ronald Reagan: "Perhaps no custom reveals our character as a nation so clearly as our celebration of Thanksgiving Day."

Does it?

What is that character that according to Reagan is so clearly revealed in celebrating Thanksgiving?

In the aftermath of one of the most divisive and bitterly fought elections, are remnants of that char-

acter still evident?

We'll all find out this Thanksgiving as families gather at the Thanksgiving table. The word has already gone forth from the boss of the household - no talking politics this year.

I'm sure politics will come up, just as sure as it came up in November 1863 when President Abraham Lincoln called for a national day of Thanksgiving in order to give thanks for the Union victories earlier in the year at Gettysburg and Vicksburg.

And politics has probably always been a topic of discussion at Thanksgiving feasts of years past.

Our code phrase for when a relative wanders into controversial territory is "It's a Johnny Cash Thanksgiving."

That phrase comes from the biopic, "Walk the Line" and refers to the scene when the Cash and Carter families gather at Johnny's new house for Thanksgiving, and Johnny confronts his father about a long past tragedy.

The discussion essentially ends the day Johnny was trying to create.

So it may happen that politics comes up this day. That's OK.

Just don't have a Johnny Cash Thanksgiving.

Instead, seek to discern what the holiday reveals about our national character.

The first and most obvious trait is gratitude.

We gather around the Thanksgiving table in gratitude. No matter where we are, or what is happening in

## Just don't have a Johnny Cash Thanksgiving.

our lives, we take time out to be grateful.

We are grateful for family and friends. We are grateful for the bounty that we have before us. We are grateful for all that has been given to us in the past and what we hope for in the future.

This gratitude is given to the Almighty.

It has gone out of fashion in 21st century America to give thanks to God these days, except when your team wins the World Series, which certainly did seem miraculous this year.

However, it has been an

American tradition that we give thanks to the Almighty on this day, no matter what faith any one American family practices.

For as a nation, we have many blessings, so many that early on we realized God must be at work here.

First and foremost among our many blessings is freedom. When we stop to give thanks for all the freedoms we enjoy, we pray that all our people will also enjoy them.

It has been nearly 400 years since the Pilgrims at Plymouth stopped to give thanks for their survival, even though nearly half of those who set out from England did not survive (including my ancestor Thomas Rogers), and they were joined by their benefactors - the American-

Indians who helped them that first harsh year.

It was celebrated at a time of fear, worry and antagonism about what had transpired in the past and what was hoped for in the future.

The feast not only celebrated gratitude, but also cooperation and unity despite the differences between the Pilgrims and the native Wampanoags.

I think those are the character traits Reagan was talking about. Those are the traits we need to recognize and celebrate as we gather for this great national tradition - gratitude, cooperation and unity.

Let's not lose that.

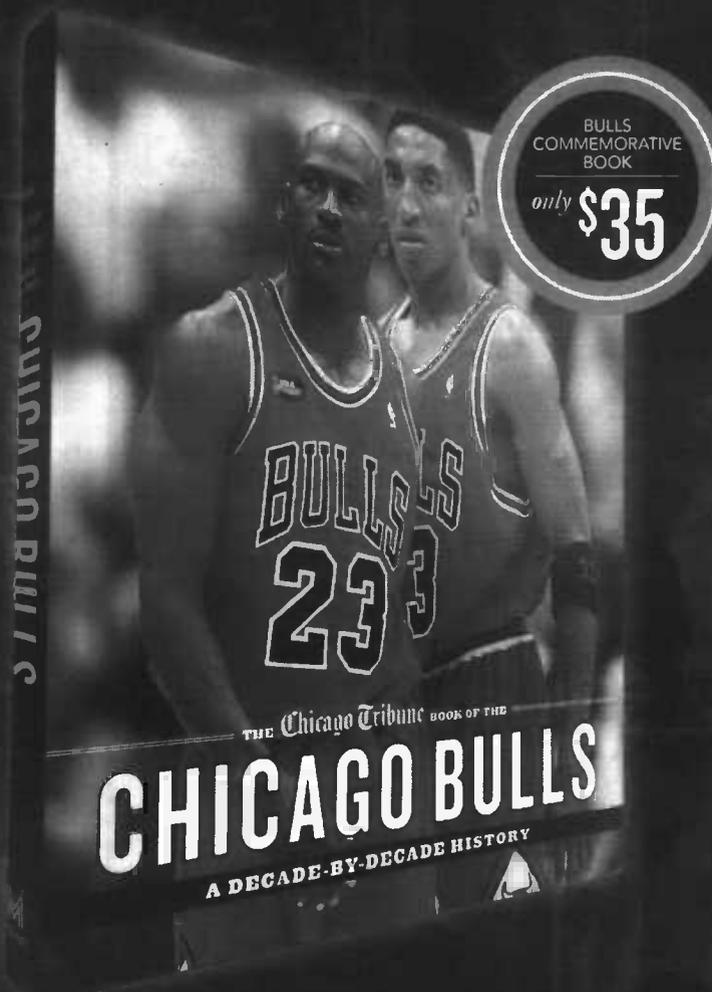
Let's own it.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

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## OPINION

# Voting in this country needs a makeover



ERIC SCOTT

41.8 percent.

That's the total percentage of eligible voters who decided not to cast ballots on Election Day, based on estimates from the United States Elections Project. The more widely reported number has been 58.2 percent — the estimated number of registered voters who did go to the polls.

Good for them. But 41.8 percent bugs me for a number of reasons.

It's hard to imagine that nearly four out of every 10 voters nationwide decided to sit out this election. That's actually on par with the last presidential election in 2012, but that campaign looked like a tea party compared to the knock-down-

drag-out verbal slugfest between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump.

It seems like the bitter divide forged by these two candidates drove slightly more voters away than the total number who voted four years ago. Granted, neither Hillary nor Donald appealed to a lot of voters.

It's troubling that even with an election so volatile, with so much at stake and with more get-out-the-vote messages delivered in more ways than ever before, the circumstances didn't budge the voter-turnout needle.

I hope that after this election, the powers that be take a long look at how we stage elections and recommend some changes.

Instead of hoping everyone can vote before, during, or after school or work on a Tuesday in November, we should maybe make Election Day during presidential years a once-every-four-year national holiday? Make

it clear that by clearing out the day, eligible voters have little, if any, excuse not to vote.

In the future, secure online voting might become the way more people cast ballots. But we need to first, make sure that only one ballot is being cast for each living, eligible voter.

Comprehensive steps need to be taken to make it easier for those with time limitations, physical disabilities and other conditions to put voting at the top of their to-do lists — at least on the occasional Tuesdays in November.

For those content on not voting because it's not worth your time or you think your vote won't really make a difference, I kindly ask you to reconsider.

Surely, you don't want to be thrown into anyone's "basket of deplorables."

*Eric Scott is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.*

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Will you choose to react or respond to 2016 election?

The cascade of news stories that have flooded the media after Donald Trump shocked most of us and won the 2016 presidential election is concerning to me.

I can understand the disappointment, frustration and even anger of those who found themselves on the losing side early in the morning on Nov. 9. What I don't understand is why anyone feels as though the pain and frustration of this year's presidential election is any greater than the pain and frustration of past elections? 1960: Kennedy vs. Nixon? 1992: Clinton vs.

George H. W. Bush? Or in 2000: George W. Bush vs. Gore? Dare I even mention President Obama's elections in 2008 and 2012?

The real question is whether you choose to react or respond? What's the difference, you ask? In this specific case, I think it is an authentic love of country.

Those who lack the true understanding of our representative democracy seem to react with violence, hate and numerous other unspeakable actions. The fact of the matter is we have a tremendous amount of work to do and yes, there is

a lot that needs fixing. The best solutions will require a lot of rigorous debate and certainly some compromise. Sitting around and complaining on Facebook doesn't seem very productive.

Additionally, blocking traffic, vandalizing private property and assaulting those who didn't vote the same way you did is nothing short of pathetic. It will be interesting to see how people choose to respond in the coming weeks. Then again, maybe not.

*John Powers, Lake Forest*

## Holidays are a great time to record family's oral history



SARA CLARKSON  
Dateline

My sisters, cousins and I would listen in rapt attention when our aunt and our father would recall stories about their growing up, about the grandmother they called "Sticky Lips" and the time they set an upstairs bathroom on fire while the adults were enjoying the sacred cocktail hour down below.

Then their father went off to World War II and our father at age 11 was sent to a Canadian boarding school, where he learned to play hockey. Their family life was never the same afterward.

That aunt is now 86, and our dear dad passed some time ago. If we had done an oral history, my sisters and I and our children would still hear his voice, the joy that always pervaded his speech and the glee with which he recounted his stories. We would also be able to hear firsthand his thoughts about going off to the Korean War — how he stoically thought he would not come back but was committed to something much greater than himself and how his mother sobbed with relief when he returned.

Naturally I was interested in the Hinsdale Historical Society's recent program "Oral Histories: Crafting Family Narratives." Marie Scatena, a professional oral historian — who even knew this could be a profession? — gave the talk and the presentation. The timing was absolutely intentional. Thanksgiving was upon us, starting off the family gatherings season, the time when we share stories



STEVE ARENS PHOTO

Marie Scatena leads a recent oral history workshop at the Hinsdale Historical Society.

around the dinner table and, of course, create many new ones.

Oral history is our most ancient tradition, and today we have the technology to make oral history more permanent and enduring. Consider the iPhone for example. You can record up to 50 minutes of video on it and can record almost unlimited amounts of audio using the Voice Memos app. It is unobtrusive and, using a flexible little tripod Scatena showed the group, can be easily set up to record.

Once you have your technology figured out, Scatena recommends doing research on your subject. If it is your grandmother, for example, maybe pull out some old family photos, be prepared with what you want to ask her and more important, be prepared to let her talk. To be an effective oral historian, listen actively and embrace what happens. Be accepting and open.

During the course of the interview, try to have the person provide some historical context. Prompt your subject with questions like, "Tell me a story about..." and conclude your interview with, "How do you want to be remembered?" Scatena recommended a number of resources and technologies, but she particularly empha-

sized Chicago's Newberry Library, which has its own genealogical librarian. Two books she highly recommended were "Recording Oral History: A Guide for the Humanities and Social Sciences" by Valerie Raleigh Yow and "Doing Oral History" by Donald A. Ritchie. The sophisticated handheld audio recorder that Scatena uses is a Tascam recorder.

A website she highly recommends is [www.storycorps.org](http://www.storycorps.org), which will collect your oral history. Family Tree Maker is a program she mentioned.

Here's an idea: take a panoramic picture of the dinner table this holiday, and then invite each member to step aside for a short private interview. Be sure to ask them to identify themselves (name and age, date of the interview) and ask them something specific. End with "How would you like to be remembered?" Start with a teenager, perhaps, as a way of getting the group ready.

"What would you like us to know about you?" could be an opening question. Guaranteed that teenager will want to hear his or her response 20 or 30 or 50 years hence. Guaranteed, that same teenager who rolled his or her eyes and sighed deeply, will be interested in Grandma's responses too.

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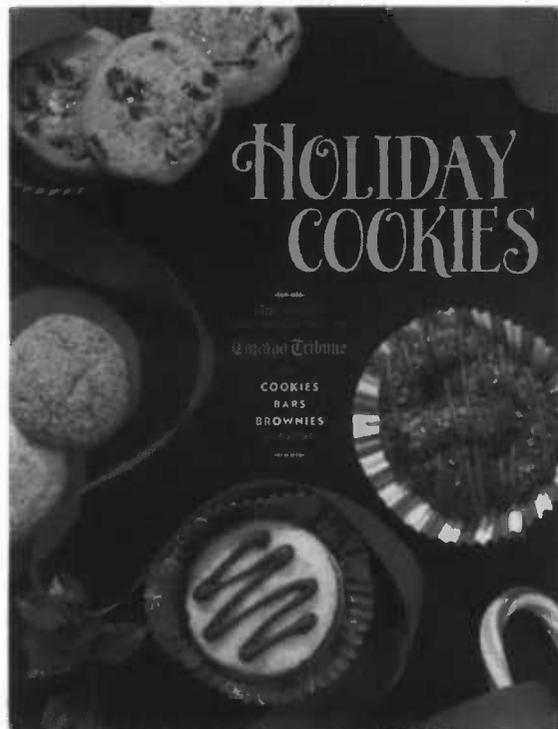
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Chicago Tribune

# Feeling festive?

Your local guide to holiday entertainment

BY DEBORAH HOPPE  
Pioneer Press

Celebrate the joys of the holidays with a sleighful of concerts, plays, dance productions and other festive family events to help make the season bright.

## Concerts

**"The Most Wonderful Time of the Year,"** David Edelfelt sings holiday songs at 8 p.m. Dec. 2 at the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave. Skokie. \$25. Call 847-677-7761 or [www.skokietheatre.org](http://www.skokietheatre.org).

**"Swinging in the Holidays,"** concert by SHE: Sisters Helping Elevate the Arts features jazz and swing music at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 3. A portion of proceeds will benefit Chicago Survivors. \$35. Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave. Skokie. Call 847-677-7761 or [www.skokietheatre.org](http://www.skokietheatre.org).

**"Home for the Holidays,"** the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus sings holiday hits from your favorite divas at 8 p.m. Dec. 3, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie. \$25-\$40. Go to [www.cgmc.org](http://www.cgmc.org), [www.northshorecenter.org](http://www.northshorecenter.org) or call 847-673-6300.

**"Come Celebrate!"** with the Northwest Choral Society's concert of holiday music at 4 p.m. Dec. 4 at St. Raymond de Penafort



EDWARD MARSHALL PHOTO

"Frozemont" makes the most of the chilly conditions with activities Nov. 25-Feb. 28.

Church, 301 S. Oka Ave., Mount Prospect. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for students, available [www.nwchoralsociety.org](http://www.nwchoralsociety.org), by calling 224-585-9127 or at the door.

**"Do-It-Yourself Handel's Messiah,"** 7 p.m. Dec. 6, at St. John Brebeuf Church, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles. Features the Niles Metropolitan Chorus and the Musica Lumina Orchestra. Free will donation. Call 847-966-8145 or go to [www.sjbrebeuf.org](http://www.sjbrebeuf.org).

**"Unforgettable Holiday Concert"** by the Park Ridge Civic Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 7, at the Pickwick Theatre, 5 South Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, features traditional Christmas carols and popular holiday songs including "Unforgettable," written in 1951 to honor Pearl Harbor Day. \$25 adult; \$20 senior 62+; \$10 veteran; \$5 youth under 12. Call 847-692-7726 or see

[www.parkridgecivicorchestra.org](http://www.parkridgecivicorchestra.org).

**"Gloria"** featuring The Park Ridge Chorus, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 205 N. Prospect, Park Ridge. Advance tickets online, \$16 adults/\$14 seniors, or at the door \$18 adults/\$16 seniors. Free for those under 18. Call 224-585-3403 or go to [www.parkridgechorale.com](http://www.parkridgechorale.com).

**"Melissa Etheridge's Holiday Trio,"** 7:30 p.m. Dec. 13, at Center Theatre, at North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie. Etheridge performs songs from her 2008 holiday album, "A New Thought for Christmas." \$70-\$90. Call 847-673-6300 or go to [www.northshorecenter.org](http://www.northshorecenter.org).

**Mannheim Steamroller** in concert on the 32nd Anniversary of their Christmas



MICHAEL COURIER PHOTO

Notlight Theatre is performing "Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley," which picks up three years after the events of "Pride and Prejudice."

Tour. 8 p.m. Dec. 17. \$31-\$225. Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. See [www.rosemonttheater.ticketoffices.com](http://www.rosemonttheater.ticketoffices.com).

**"The Magic of Christmas,"** presented by Kaylee Durow with accompanist John Hopkins, 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18 at Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave. Skokie. \$25, children under 12 are \$12. Call 847-677-7761 or [www.skokietheatre.org](http://www.skokietheatre.org).

## Dance & theater

**"The Nutcracker,"** 41st annual production, 7 p.m. Dec. 2 at Mary Seat of Wisdom School, Barry Gym, 1352 S. Cumberland Ave., Park Ridge. Cast includes 4th grade class. Admission is free. Call 847-825-2500.

Turn to Holiday, Page 24

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GARY WARD PHOTO

Chicago Gay Men's Chorus performs "Home for the Holidivas" in Skokie Dec. 3.

Holiday, from Page 23

**"Father Zamboni's Holiday Telethon,"** Dec. 3-11, at The James Downing Theatre, Edison Park United Methodist Church, 6740 N. Oliphant Ave., Chicago. Father Tony Zamboni hosts a Christmas Telethon to raise the funds to rebuild the steeple and roof of Our Lady of the Unclean Church. 3 and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 3 and Dec. 10; 1:30 p.m. Dec. 4 and Dec. 11. \$20; \$15 seniors and students and \$10 for children under 12. See [www.eventsfy.com](http://www.eventsfy.com) or call 224-725-3696.

**"The Great Russian Nutcracker,"** the Moscow Ballet performs the classic ballet with a 60-foot growing Christmas tree and spectacular Russian-made costumes and sets. Shows at 1 and 5 p.m. Dec. 4 at the Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. Tickets \$45-\$120. See [www.rosemonttheater.ticketoffices.com](http://www.rosemonttheater.ticketoffices.com).

**"The Nutcracker"** by the Salt Creek Ballet, 1 and 5 p.m. Dec. 10 and 2 p.m. Dec. 11 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Tickets are \$20-\$42. 847-673-6300 or [www.northshorecenter.org](http://www.northshorecenter.org).

**"Tidings of Tap!"** presented by Chicago Tap Theatre, featuring dances celebrating the winter holidays, at 3 p.m. Dec. 18, at North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie. \$24-\$40. Call 847-673-6300 or go to [www.northshorecenter.org](http://www.northshorecenter.org).

**"Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley"** through Dec. 18 at Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie. In this world premiere follow-up to "Pride and Prejudice," middle sister Mary Bennet tries to find her own match. \$30-\$57 adults and seniors, \$15 students. Call 847-673-6300 or go to [www.northshorecenter.org](http://www.northshorecenter.org).

## Events

**"Winterfest 2016,"** 5:45-9 p.m. Nov. 25 in Park Ridge. Events 6-9 p.m. in the South Park Shopping Area include Open House treats, live reindeer, Santa's elves and trolleys, and Fire Station #35 at Cumberland and Devon open house. Uptown Park Ridge events include: 5:45-6:15 p.m. Maine South Marching Band, 6 p.m. Santa arrives on a fire truck at the Park Ridge Library, 20 S. Prospect, with the Willows Academy Chamber Choir in Renaissance costumes caroling; 6-8:30 p.m. Santa visits the library; 6-9 p.m. Call 847-825-3121 or go to [www.parkridgechamber.org](http://www.parkridgechamber.org).

**The Wonderland Express,** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 25 through Dec. 15, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Dec. 16-Jan. 3 (closed Christmas Day) at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Tickets for adults are \$11 for members and \$13 for non-members, for children 3 to 12 and seniors 62 and older \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members. Parking is extra. Call 847-835-5440 or go to [www.chicagobotanicgarden.org/wonderland](http://www.chicagobotanicgarden.org/wonderland).

**"Frozemont,"** attractions include ice carving completion, ice skating, a hockey series and more, Nov. 25 through Feb. 28. Rosemont tree lighting ceremony starting at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 25. All events at MB Financial Park, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont. For schedule, go to [www.mbparkatrosemont.com](http://www.mbparkatrosemont.com).

**Village of Norridge Lighting Ceremony,** 4:40-6 p.m. Nov. 26 at Norridge Village Hall, 4000 N. Olcott. Trees and municipal buildings will light up for the holidays. Santa will be on hand and will lead a sing-along. New toys collection for Toys for Tots. See [www.villageofnorridge.com](http://www.villageofnorridge.com).

Turn to Holiday, Page 25

# Living

Thursday, November 24, 2016



**Mel's kitchen: Turn the remains of your Thanksgiving feast into a comforting casserole** Page 3

CN

THANASIS ZOVOILIS/GETTY



## The benefits of parenthood

Parenthood forces our brains to shift from a world mainly consisting of 'self' to one consisting of both 'self and other' Page 14

# Christkindlmarket heads for Naper Settlement

By Judy Buchenot  
Naperville Sun

The Christkindlmarket is coming to Naperville.

This holiday tradition began in the mid-1500s, when seasonal markets were set up in Germany where food, goods and crafts were sold. One of the most popular markets was the Christkindlmarkt in Nuremberg, Germany.

Merchants would set up decorative booths to sell their wares and were a welcome diversion during the cold, dark days of winter. The tradition grew in part to religious reformer Martin Luther, who suggested that children receive gifts from the Christ Child or Christkind on Christmas rather than on the Dec. 6 celebration of St. Nicholas Day.

People visited the holiday markets to buy gifts for children and others. The popularity of the markets grew and continues today throughout Germany, Europe, Chicago and now in Naperville. This year, a Christkindlmarket will be set up at Naper Settlement, 523 South Webster, in Naperville. The market opens Nov. 25 and will be open Thursday through Sundays, then daily Dec. 19-24.

Among the vendors coming to the market is Gaby Bauer of the Austrian Lodge. Bauer lives in Austria, where these outdoor markets also abound. "They are very popular in Vienna. Many villages in Austria and Germany have markets. They are always outdoors and very romantic," Bauer said.

"They set up in mid-November and continue through Christmas. Some of them have stages with dancing and entertainment. Last year we set up in Oak Brook and this year, we will be in Naperville," Bauer said.

Bauer explained that Christmas traditions are different in Germany and Austria than in the United States. "We celebrate Christmas on the 24th. We don't put up a Christmas tree until the 24th and the children don't see it until then. They get gifts from Christkind on December 24."

Interestingly, the traditional



AUSTRIAN LODGE PHOTO

Austrian Gaby Bauer, of the Austrian Lodge, will be selling sausage and other goods at this year's Christkindlmarket in Naper Settlement.

## Gaby's Culinary Cue

To pound meat to be thin enough for wiener schnitzel, first slide the meat inside a plastic bag. Then pound the meat to the desired thickness. The bag holds the splatters from the process, making for an easy clean-up. Slide the meat out of the bag and cook.

## Christkindlmarket

**Where:** Naper Settlement, 523 South Webster, Naperville

**When:** Thursday through Sunday, Nov. 25 through Dec. 24. Thursday: 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday: 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. Sunday: 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. Open Dec. 19 to Dec. 23 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. and Dec. 24 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

**Admission:** Free  
**Information:** [www.christkindlmarket.com/naperville/](http://www.christkindlmarket.com/naperville/)

meal on Christmas Eve is fish, usually a fried carp called *gebackener karpfen*. This meal is linked to Catholics who considered Christmas Eve to be a holy day when meat was not to be eaten. Bauer says that some people have strayed from this tradition, however, and *weihnachtsgans* or roast goose along with roast turkey are

becoming more popular.

Many unique decorations and gifts will be sold at the Christkindlmarket, and authentic foods will also be available. "We will have many sausages at the Austrian Lodge," Bauer said. "My favorite is the kielbasa stuffed with cheese. For a very traditional dish, people should try the *leberkase*. It is pork and beef that is ground very fine and shaped in a loaf — sort of like a German meatloaf."

The Austrian Lodge will also serve *gulaschsuppe*, or goulash, as it is known in the United States. *Sauerkraut*, potato pancakes and other authentic foods fill the menu.

Sweets are also part of German and Austrian Christmas meals. "There are many cookies," Bauer said. *Vanillekipferl* are crescent-shaped cookies made with a dough rich in ground almonds or hazelnuts and rolled in powdered sugar. *Linzer* are two cookies sandwiched together with jelly. *Zimtsterne* or cinnamon stars are ground nut cookies topped with meringue.

Another holiday favorite cookie is *kokosbusserl*, which is a coconut macaroon that is crunchy on the outside and soft in the middle.

A very traditional dessert is the *Sachertorte*, which was created in 1832 to please a prince with a sweet tooth. "It is important to use a very good quality apricot jam for this cake — something that is not too sweet and very filled with fruit," Bauer said.

The jam is spread between the layers of the chocolate cake and on the sides and top as well before the entire cake is covered in a rich chocolate. It can be served plain or with a generous dollop of whipped cream.

Bauer invites everyone to try some authentic dishes at the Austrian Lodge and to enjoy the many shops at the Christkindlmarket. She shares a recipe for *wiener schnitzel*, a common Austrian dish.

She also shares a simple version of the *Sachertorte* for others to try on their holiday sweet table.

Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer.

## Wiener Schnitzel

Serves four.

- 4 veal cutlets
- salt to taste
- flour
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 2 tablespoons water
- 2 cups plain bread crumbs
- Canola oil for frying
- Lemon wedges

1. Pound cutlets until about 1/4 inch thick and lightly season with salt. Set up three shallow bowls and fill one with flour, one with beaten eggs and water and the third with bread crumbs. Dip cutlets into flour to coat. Next, dip them into egg mixture and then finally, press them into the bread crumbs. Make sure the entire cutlets are covered with the breadcrumbs.

2. Pour oil into a frying pan that is deep enough to cover schnitzel and heat. Fry breaded cutlets for about 3 to 4 minutes on each side until golden brown. Drain cutlets on paper towel. Garnish with lemon slices and serve with potato salad if desired. Thin sliced boneless pork chops or boneless, skinless chicken breast can be used in place of veal.

## Sachertorte

### CAKE

- 7 ounces semi-sweet chocolate
- 2/3 cup softened butter
- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla
- 7 egg yolks
- 7 egg whites
- pinch of salt
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 1/3 cups flour
- butter and flour for the spring form pan
- Good quality apricot jam

### GLAZE

- 9 ounces semi-sweet chocolate
- 3 ounces whipping cream

1. Lightly butter an 8-inch spring form pan and dust with flour. To make cake, melt chocolate slowly and allow to cool. Cream butter, confectioner's sugar and vanilla. Gradually stir in the egg yolks. Set aside. In a separate bowl, beat egg whites with a pinch of salt and sugar until stiff and glossy. Stir the melted chocolate into the egg yolk mixture. Fold in the egg whites and flour in small amounts, alternating between flour and egg whites. Spread mixture into the prepared spring form pan. Bake at 350 degrees for about 1 hour or until cake is set. Allow cake to cool and remove from the pan. Cool completely.

2. Cut cake in half, crosswise. Cover the base with jam. Place top back on cake. Coat the top and sides with apricot jam. If jam is too thick, heat it briefly and stir until smooth.

3. To make the glaze, melt chocolate over a double boiler or in a small saucepan. Stir into melted chocolate. Cool slightly, stirring often, until the chocolate reaches a spreadable consistency. Set the cake on a cooling rack over a cookie sheet or waxed paper.

4. Pour the glaze on top of the cake and spread around the edges. Allow chocolate to cool and then refrigerate until firm.



MELISSA ELSMO/PIONEER PRESS

Turn your Thanksgiving leftovers into a cozy casserole — here one with layers made of sour cream mashed potatoes, mesquite grilled turkey, Balsamic roasted carrots, lemon scented green beans and apple, sage and sausage bread stuffing.

# LAYERED LEFTOVERS

Turn the remains of your Thanksgiving feast into a comforting casserole



MELISSA ELSMO  
Out of Mel's Kitchen

I always set my Thanksgiving table the night before the big feast. I pull out all my grandma's antique dishes and platters, arrange a modern selection of flowers for my centerpiece and place new candles in the holders. I iron my French tablecloth, wash the tortoise water glasses and check all of my silverware for water spots. I have even been known to

label my dishes to ensure there are enough to go around for each of my side dishes. I genuinely enjoy setting the stage for my annual Thanksgiving feast and I never set the same table twice. I also always take a quiet moment to appreciate the unique hodgepodge of decorative details that go into making up my version of a memorable holiday meal.

On Thanksgiving Day, my focus is rightly on transforming a vast array of ingredients into a festive and bountiful feast for my guests. If all goes well a bowl of citrus-spiked green beans should land on the table just after a massive mesquite

grilled turkey takes its place of honor on the buffet. A batch of Ras el Hanout roasted cauliflower serves to complement a traditional cornbread stuffing while roasted beets and goat cheese rest on a platter alongside a bowl of smashed rutabaga. Just like my table, my Thanksgiving menu is a hybrid between tradition and innovation and the resulting symphony of flavors makes up one of my favorite annual food memories.

My approach to leftovers is no different; I advocate for mixing all of the remnants of your holiday feast into one delicious mess. Transforming the menu from one of

the coziest days of the year into a lovely layered leftover casserole is the definition of comfort food to me. Just as a wholesome turkey sandwich or pot of turkey soup is a common use for Thanksgiving leftovers, this type of oven casserole is by no means a new way to enjoy those lingering bits of your holiday bird, but this classic dish is made unique by what your holiday recipes bring to the table.

Believe me, you'll be able to taste the love in every layer of this holiday casserole dish.

Wishing you all a Thanksgiving filled with love, laughter and delicious things.

## Layered leftover casserole

Alternatively you can assemble this casserole in a disposable pan, seal it tightly and transfer it to the freezer for safe keeping. That way you can thaw it out and enjoy a little authentic Thanksgiving flavor later this winter. Makes 12 servings.

- 4 cups leftover mashed potatoes
- 1 egg
- 2 cups leftover Thanksgiving turkey, shredded
- 1/4-1/2 cup leftover gravy
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley, plus extra for garnish
- 1/2 teaspoon coarse black pepper
- Generous pinch of kosher salt
- 1 1/2 cups chopped leftover Thanksgiving veggies
- 1/2 cup shredded Parmesan cheese
- 3 cups leftover Thanksgiving stuffing
- Cranberry sauce for garnish (recipe follows)

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Lightly spray a 9-inch by 13-inch (or equivalent oval baking dish) glass baking dish with non-stick cooking spray and set aside. Whip the cold potatoes with the egg with an electric mixer until well blended. Spread the potatoes evenly on the bottom of the prepared dish.
2. In a medium bowl combined the shredded turkey, gravy, parsley, black pepper and salt. Pour the turkey mixture evenly over the potatoes.
3. Sprinkle the chopped vegetables over the turkey mixture and sprinkle with the Parmesan cheese. Press the leftover stuffing over the cheese to cover the entire casserole. Cover the casserole with aluminum foil and bake in the preheated oven for 30 minutes. Uncover and continue baking for an additional 30 minutes until the casserole is piping hot and the stuffing is beginning to crisp on top.
4. Garnish the casserole with parsley and serve with cranberry sauce on the side.

## Homemade cranberry sauce

Makes about 2 cups

- 16 ounces fresh cranberries
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh rosemary
- 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

1. Combine the cranberries, brown sugar, white sugar and water in a medium saucepan. Bring to a boil and reduce heat to simmer. Simmer the berries until they begin to pop — about 8 minutes. Stir in the minced rosemary and vanilla; remove from heat and allow to cool before refrigerating until ready to use.

## MY PET WORLD

# Should you make your dog a vegetarian?

By Marc Morrone  
Tribune Content Agency

**Q:** I am a vegan who has lots of pets but it seems like every pet I have, except for my bunny, needs to eat meat. I know you can feed a dog a vegetarian diet but my vet advised me that it was not a good idea. I feel sad when I read the ingredients on the dog food and see chicken as the first one. I know you love animals and I was wondering how you deal with the issue of some of the pets that we keep needing to eat other animals? — *Bonnie Williams, Hartford, CT*

**A:** This is not an easy question to help you with as there is no right or wrong answer. You are correct about dogs — some can live on a vegetarian diet but not all of them can. Cats, ferrets, most birds and reptiles need to have a diet either entirely of animal protein or at least supplemented by it. There is even animal protein in goldfish food.

It is the natural order of things that some animals eat others, and if you ever see this happen in nature it is an extremely cruel and wretchedly unfair process.

In a perfect world we humans would do better than animals in the procurement of our food. The same respect and consideration we show a pet dog or parrot should be given to a pig or a turkey that we are going to kill for us or our pets to eat.

Why is a dog more worthy of



DAMEDEESO/GETTY

Some dogs need animal protein in their diet and cannot live a vegetarian lifestyle.

humane treatment than a pig or a turkey? We justify it by saying that pigs and turkeys are dirty and stupid, but they are just as smart and nice as a pet dog or parrot. It turns out they just taste better to our palates, so we have to create some sort of justification for our treatment of them.

However, to raise animals that we eat or feed to our other pets in a humane manner and to end their lives with dignity and respect costs a lot more money than

we want to spend. This cannot happen until we as a society evolve enough to realize that the animals we eat are worthy of the same care as the animals we share our homes with.

So as you see I cannot give you any answer that may help you here. Perhaps if the animal rights groups would use their resources to petition laws to ensure the humane care of animals that we eat then it may do a lot more good than just preaching to other peo-

ple not to eat meat at all.

However, you as an individual who chooses not to eat other animals have helped to end the suffering of a few chickens and turkey and cows. It may not be many but it is a start and you should be proud of it.

You should not judge other people who choose to eat meat or your pets that need to eat meat to survive, as it is the natural order of the world we live in. And truth be told, sometimes the world is

just not as nice a place as we would like it to be. The important thing is to be aware of it and do the best you can.

**Q:** We have two parakeets and they are both 4 years old and seem just fine. However one does not chew on its cuttlebone or the toys that we have in the cage and his beak seems much longer than the other bird. How can we encourage him to chew more so that his beak gets worn down to the same length as his partner's?

— *Wendy Montalbano, Portland, OR*

**A:** This situation actually has nothing to do with chewing on the cuttlebone or the toys in the cage. Some mature parakeets will suffer from a metabolic disorder that causes a rapid abnormal growth of the beak. This means the beak gets long and slender and has a pithy feel to it.

This situation will not go away by itself, and you need to take the bird to an avian vet to determine the cause. The vet will be able to trim the beak down to its proper length.

*Marc Morrone has kept almost every kind of animal as a pet for the last half-century and he is happy to share his knowledge with others. 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); please include your name, city and state.*

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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



# Customer claims misapplication damaged trees

On Aug. 5, TruGreen did insect and disease control service to my trees and shrubs. The next day I noticed all the leaves on my Japanese maple tree were wilted. My apple tree also looked damaged. I sent an email to TruGreen and received a voicemail from the technician, stating the leaves on the maple tree wilted due to "excessive heat of summer" and the apple tree was suffering from root shock from being transplanted. I responded that it was not an excessively hot summer, and the apple tree had been in the same spot for three years.

No other trees on my block were damaged. None of my neighbors have TruGreen's service. I've sent several emails, and finally received a phone call from Mark, manager at the Park Ridge office — one month after my trees were damaged. I mentioned that I Googled the insecticides listed on my receipt and found that if improperly applied they will cause leaves to shrivel and wilt. Mark stated the Japanese maple was not treated, as this is TruGreen's policy. I asked for a copy of the policy. He stated this was the Park Ridge office's

policy. I feel this is an attempt to deny responsibility.

I have sent emails requesting a response from corporate customer service. No one has replied. Whenever I try to call the Park Ridge office, my call goes to a national call center. I feel TruGreen should replace my trees.

*Rose, Glenview*

Rose sent me photos of her damaged trees. I then called Jim Fizzell, president of a horticulture consulting firm and author of 38 gardening books.

After reviewing Rose's photos, Fizzell told me, "My suspicion is it is probably a chemical problem. What chemical? I couldn't begin to hazard a guess. It could be a herbicide, but it could be something else."

Fizzell told me even the best landscape contractors and custom applicators occasionally make mistakes. "TruGreen's spray



CATHY CUNNINGHAM  
Help Squad

applicators are all licensed," he said, "but accidents happen. They could have used a tank that had something else in it at one time and didn't realize it."

If the misapplication of a pesticide is suspected, he said Rose needs to contact the Illinois Department of

Agriculture's Bureau of Environmental Programs. "The Department will actually come out and take samples, and they have a lab where they can test to find out what was applied to the plant. That's the best thing to do. In fact, if this is going to go into litigation, that's the only thing to do."

Fizzell said it's a free service provided by the state that's paid for by the federal government to enforce the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act.

Upon reaching TruGreen, spokesperson Amy Simpson initially said, "[T]he damage to [Rose's] trees does not appear to be consistent with damage due to an application or misapplication of the products we use ... None of the other plant material on

the property or any other neighboring properties treated the same day for either application sustained any damage ... We have had multiple conversations with [Rose] explaining our assessment, and because of our satisfaction guarantee policy, have credited [Rose] for \$96.48 and remaining balances."

When I shared with Simpson Fizzell's hypothesis regarding the situation and indicated that he suggested Rose contact the IDOA to open an investigation, she responded, "While our diagnosis is inconsistent with results from a misapplication, we would like to offer to replace [Rose's] Japanese maple and apple tree at no cost as a sign of goodwill. Given the upcoming weather, we will replace the trees in spring 2017."

Said Rose: "Thank you! I'm sure I could not have done this without your assistance."

#### Need help?

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

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist.

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## BOOKS



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Tuition for an in-state student at the University of Illinois has increased from \$2,070 in 1988 to at least \$15,698 in 2016.

## The problem of college tuition

By John Warner  
Chicago Tribune

In 1988, the year of my matriculation to the University of Illinois, my annual tuition as an in-state student was \$2,070.

If the tuition I paid my freshman year was indexed to inflation, 2016 students would be paying \$4,224.

Instead, in-state tuition for the current academic year ranges from \$15,698 to \$20,702, depending on the choice of major.

Nearly 70 percent of graduates from public and nonprofit colleges have student loan debt. In Illinois, the average post-graduate debt is nearly \$30,000.

In my lifetime, we have moved from college education being broadly, almost universally affordable to something that virtually requires signing up for a future of penury.

What happened? What should we do about it?

Two new books help answer these questions: "Paying the Price: College Costs, Financial Aid, and the Betrayal of the American Dream" by Sara Goldrick-Rab, and "The Great Mistake: How We Wrecked Public Universities and How We Can Fix Them" by Christopher Newfield.

These issues are personal to me, having spent the past 15 years teaching at four colleges and universities, including a year at the University of Illinois in 2001, when tuition was still a relatively affordable \$4,410. During my career, I've seen the pressure the increased cost has placed on students during and after college, and it isn't pretty.

The common wisdom over increased college costs is that universities need to be run more like businesses and compete their way to efficiency and improvement. Unfortunately, the reality is that we've been acting on this theory for better than a generation, which has resulted in the dismal state in which we find ourselves.

As Newfield, a professor at the University of California at Santa Barbara, argues, the move to "commercialize" our public universities is not the solution but the problem as we've retreated from the notion of education as a public good, which triggered a "cycle of decline." As public funding

has shrunk, requiring both injections of private funds and increases in tuition, we have seen resulting inefficiencies, such as bloated administrative structures that primarily serve those private interests that now get to sup from both public funds and student monies.

The effective privatization of public universities has, in reality, resulted in tremendous inefficiencies where corporations use schools as resources that create public costs but private windfalls.

"Paying the Price" by Goldrick-Rab, a onetime professor at the University of Wisconsin at Madison who has since migrated to Temple, illustrates what the cycle of decline looks like from the perspective of students engaging with the incredibly byzantine financial aid system that has sprung up in an effort to make college achievable, at least for some. "Paying the Price" is a detailed look at short-sighted and insufficient policies and the specific havoc they wreak on specific students.

The sheer complexity of the system as Goldrick-Rab illuminates it is enough to make you tear your hair out while reading about it. Imagine being inside it, as a young person. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid practically requires a doctorate to understand it. Goldrick-Rab calls it a "small American bureaucratic tragedy."

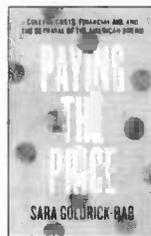
The maximum Pell Grant available at the end of that process (\$5,815) covers less than a third of average four-year university tuition, never mind the expenses of everyday living.

As both books make clear, the current state of things is rooted not in inevitabilities but a series of choices dating back more than 30 years when we collectively decided that when it comes to education, it's going to be every-one for themselves.

Those choices haven't served us well, but both books make it equally clear that the solutions aren't complicated.

It's really just a matter of remembering what once was a commonplace, reasonable opportunity for all.

John Warner is a freelance writer whose most recent book is "Tough Day for the Army."



## Book recommendations from The Biblioracle

Readers list the last five books they've read — and John Warner suggests a sixth.

1. "Let Me Be Frank With You" by Richard Ford
2. "A Gambler's Anatomy" by Jonathan Lethem
3. "Homeward Bound: The Life of Paul Simon" by Peter Ames Carlin
4. "City of Glass" by Paul Auster
5. "The Annotated Lolita: Revised and Updated" by Vladimir Nabokov  
— Tom P., Chicago

I think there's a decent chance that Tom has read this suggested book, in which case I'm happy to issue a redo (email me, Tom), but if he hasn't read this book, it needs to be on his bucket list, so he may as well cross it off: "Underworld" by Don DeLillo.

1. "Born Standing Up" by Steve Martin
2. "Secondhand Souls" by Christopher Moore
3. "Even Cowgirls Get the Blues" by Tom Robbins
4. "Men Explain Things to Me" by Rebecca Solnit
5. "Giovanni's Room" by James Baldwin  
— Jasper P., Madison, Wis.

I guess I'm in the mood for the classics this week. Jasper should go to the nearest library or bookstore and get started on "A Confederacy of Dunces" by John Kennedy Toole.

1. "It" by Stephen King
2. "11/22/63" by Stephen King
3. "Doctor Sleep" by Stephen King
4. "The Girl on the Train" by Paula Hawkins
5. "Under the Dome" by Stephen King  
— Marcus W., Chicago

Someone is on a Stephen King jag, which is definitely a thing that happens. Here's a book that offers some similar psychological spookiness, "You Came Back" by Christopher Coake.

## What should you read?

Send a list of your last five books to [printersrow@chicagotribune.com](mailto:printersrow@chicagotribune.com). Write "Biblioracle" in the subject line.



# puzzle island

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

## HIDDEN BALL TRICK: But not very hard to find

11/20

BY FRED PISCOP | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN  
(stanxwords.com)

### Across

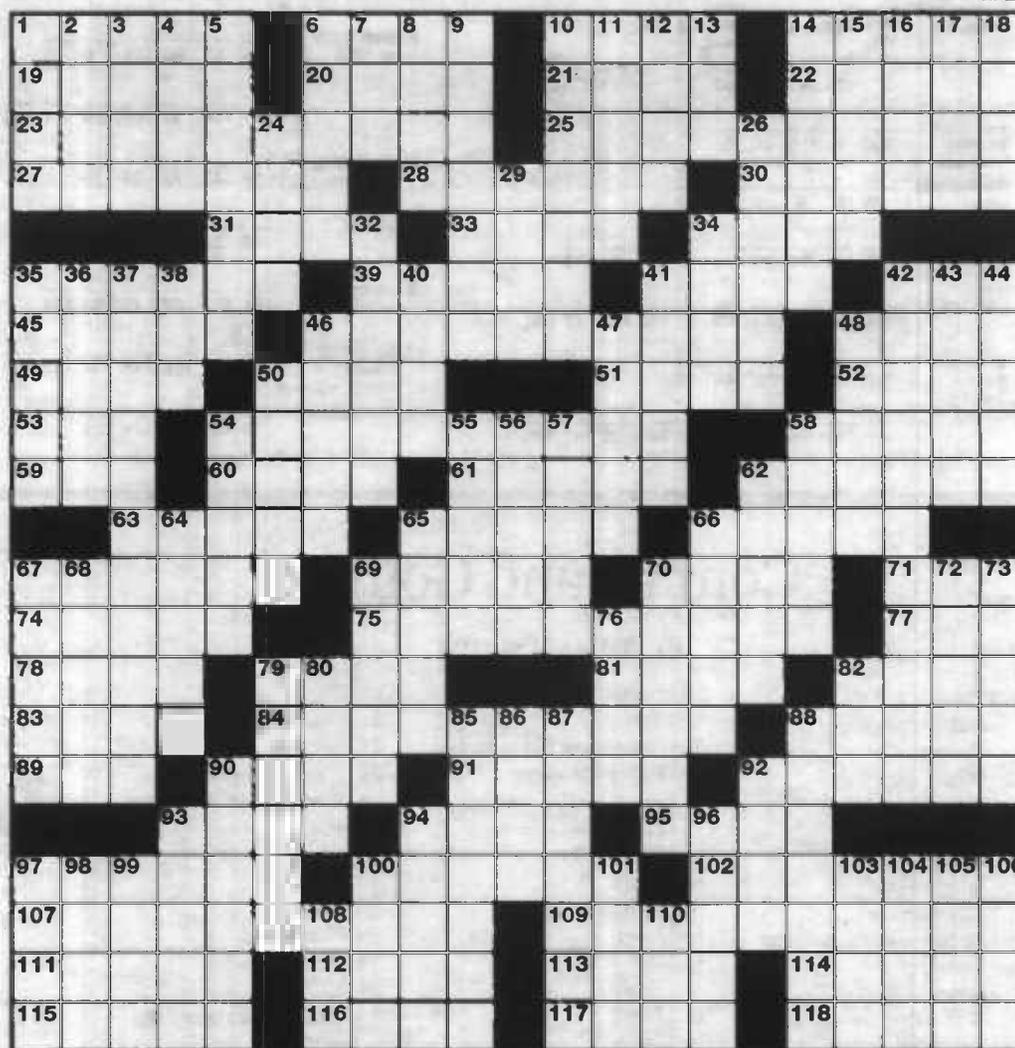
- 1 Shoemaker's supply  
6 Open a bit  
10 May honorees  
14 "— *beau coup!*"  
19 Mete out  
20 Dark purple  
21 Comics dog  
22 For all to hear  
23 Dependent on manual work  
25 Health-care invoice  
27 Winning steadily  
28 Quiet and modest  
30 Without nervousness  
31 Clever ones  
33 Has a bug  
34 Pack overhead  
35 Popper of rhyme  
39 Oklahoma city  
41 Actor Penn  
42 Dyer's vessel  
45 Judean king  
46 Source of a classic medicinal oil  
48 Big Island port  
49 Green Berets' service  
50 Tagged along  
51 Tab taker's phrase  
52 Rights org.  
53 "O Sole —"  
54 Big-budget advertiser  
58 Terrier, at times  
59 National Anthem contraction  
60 Musical composition  
61 Credits listings  
62 Relay-race gear

- 63 Important industrialist  
65 Musical compositions  
66 Special talent  
67 Tarzan nickname  
69 Playground fixture  
70 Creamy cheese  
71 Cranberries source  
74 Place to bike  
75 Having red-green difficulty, perhaps  
77 Predator of 12 Down  
78 Dumbo's wings  
79 HS lab class  
81 Onion cousin  
82 007's first film foe  
83 Salt Lake City athletes  
84 Morally obligated  
88 Chinese zodiac animal  
89 Part of mph  
90 Posy holder  
91 Was incorrect  
92 Ill-tempered  
93 Kid around  
94 Tuber, informally  
95 — qua non  
97 Paraglide, say  
100 Like "it," grammatically  
102 Peter the Great's house  
107 Post-season college football game  
109 Part of a box cutter  
111 Police matter  
112 Iowa State city  
113 Make uniform  
114 Powerful beam  
115 Couldn't stand  
116 Insignificant

- 117 Declare false  
118 Sweepstakes submission

### Down

- 1 Symbol of sanctity  
2 Flamboyant style  
3 Italy's third-largest island  
4 Stolen goods  
5 Scattered about  
6 In pieces  
7 Roast beef au —  
8 Scored 100 on  
9 Started the hand over  
10 Like prefab houses  
11 Telltale signs  
12 Furry pets or pests  
13 Unwavering  
14 Dark red  
15 Plumbing piece  
16 Muddy up  
17 Gather selectively  
18 Without purpose  
24 Take off  
26 Pump figure  
29 Sushi-bar soup  
32 John of *Full House*  
34 Coal deposit  
35 Frisbee maker  
36 Spine-chilling  
37 Shield carrier of old  
38 Nondairy milk source  
40 Tech-support caller  
41 Fires off  
42 Danish musical humorist  
43 Microsoft partner of Gates  
44 Trips with a guide  
46 Spicy cuisine



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

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- 47 What aren't found in filets  
48 Part of Hispaniola  
50 Certain roaster  
54 Aesopian ending  
55 Toaster oven setting  
56 Sonata movement  
57 Rags-to-riches writer  
58 Protested a shearing  
62 Flash on and off  
64 Off-target  
65 Vid-playback option  
66 Cooked in oil  
67 Thoroughly enjoyed  
68 Talk nonsense  
69 Public to-do  
70 Homogenizes  
72 Name on a pet tag  
73 Great distinction  
76 Bummed out  
79 Person in pursuit  
80 Parasite's home  
82 Big racket  
85 Force back  
86 Wine specification  
87 Sent away for  
88 Show fright  
90 Shot down  
92 — about (circa)  
93 Actress Pressly  
94 Thread puller  
96 Literary twist  
97 Novelist Sholem  
98 Wang of fashion  
99 — for the long haul  
100 City of 1899 Gold Rush  
101 High praise  
103 Codebreaker Turing  
104 GOP elephant creator  
105 Czech/Polish river  
106 Selfsame  
108 Emeril exclamation  
110 Introspective sect

## Quote-Acrostic

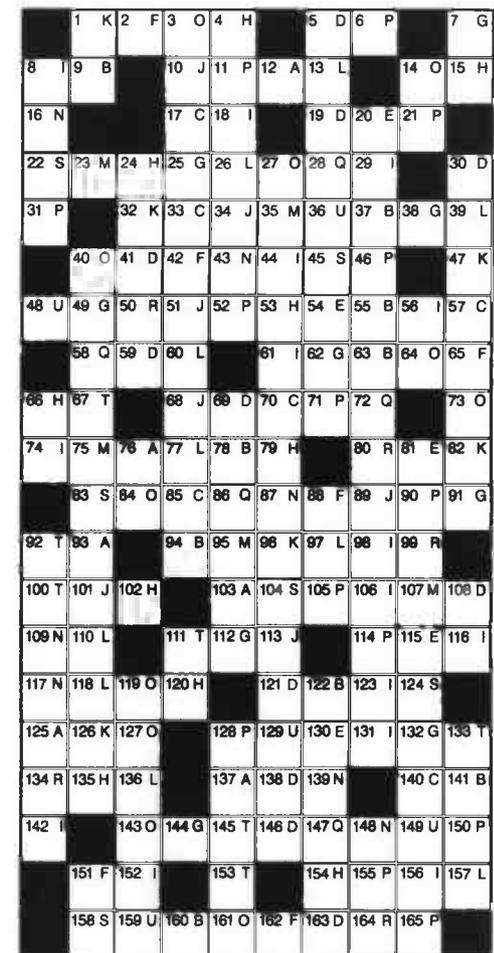
1. Define clues, writing in Words column over numbered dashes.
2. Transfer letters to numbered squares in diagram.
3. When pattern is completed, quotation can be read left to right. The first letters of the filled-in words reading down form an acrostic yielding the speaker's name and the topic of the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

## Clues

## Words

- A. Dismiss, temporarily: 2 wds. 12 125 93 76 103 137
- B. Octogenarian's birthday 9 55 160 141 63 37 78 94 122
- C. Hibernation period 17 70 57 140 85 33
- D. Concert tour travel, e.g. 146 30 5 59 69 108 19
- 121 41 138 163
- E. \_\_\_ shrift: careless treatment 130 81 115 20 54
- F. Carsickness cause 88 151 42 2 65 162
- G. Touch-and-go 25 132 38 49 144 7 91 62 112
- H. Disguise 154 53 120 24 66 4 15 135 79 102
- I. Children's game: 3 wds. 152 56 74 106 44 61
- 116 8 131 98 18 123 29 142 156

- J. Old Testament prophet 10 68 34 113 89 51 101
- K. Small wave 126 96 32 47 1 82
- L. Typewriter/printer part: 2 wds. 60 97 26 110 13 77 118 39 157 136
- M. Riches, to some 75 107 35 95 23
- N. More restless 148 16 117 43 87 109 139
- O. Like some friends: hyph. 3 73 161 84
- 40 127 14 143 64 119 27
- P. Best Actor of 1955 155 52 90 128 6 46
- 114 31 165 150 11 105 71 21
- Q. Viewpoint 58 147 72 86 28
- R. Malice 99 50 134 80 164
- S. Unexpected 104 158 22 45 83 124
- T. Knocking sound: comp. wd. 92 111 100 145 67 153 133
- U. Shorebirds 36 159 48 149 129



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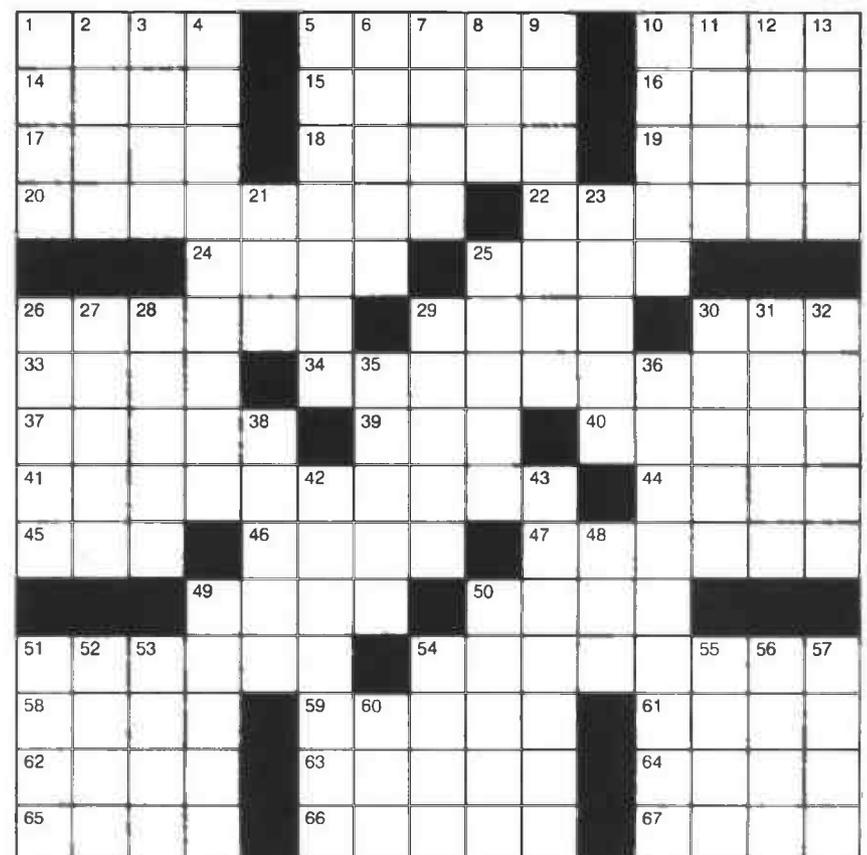
By Erv Kaczmarek.  
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.  
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## Coming and Going

BY CHARLES PRESTON

## Across

- 1 Not a truth sayer
- 5 Thong
- 10 Minor quarrel
- 14 Monastery head
- 15 Stadium
- 16 Prong
- 17 Singing star
- 18 Pullman car
- 19 Recorded proceedings
- 20 Lengthy
- 22 Loud singer
- 24 Fort Knox need
- 25 Early president
- 26 Scold
- 29 Reputed
- 30 Professionals: abbr.
- 33 Dill seed
- 34 Rickety vehicle
- 37 Pens
- 39 Destiny
- 40 Lasso
- 41 Corrupt urban district
- 44 Bearing
- 45 Hesitations in speech
- 46 Plantain
- 47 Corrects
- 49 Refute
- 50 Pertaining to the ear
- 51 Tenor
- 54 Coarse cotton material
- 58 Paper measure
- 59 Final and perfected state of an insect
- 61 Soviet city
- 62 Canal
- 63 American actor
- 64 Inlet
- 65 Retreats
- 66 Profits
- 67 Joint
- 13 Sign of sorrow
- 21 Negative
- 23 Senior
- 25 Early coloratura
- 26 Lash with the tongue
- 27 Post
- 28 Checks
- 29 Endured
- 30 Conduit
- 31 Estimated
- 32 Reaches across
- 35 Kind of marble
- 36 Device for recording arrival
- 38 Waste channel
- 42 Leasing
- 43 Countries
- 48 Wire measure
- 49 Cupolas
- 50 Musical instrument
- 51 Angered
- 52 Only
- 53 Ache
- 54 Modern painter
- 55 Fe
- 56 Glacier snow
- 57 Mirth
- 60 Extinct bird



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

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# *Holiday* **GIFT GUIDE**



Pioneer Press

## Holiday GIFT GUIDE



# Something for everyone

**E**veryone has had to scurry around to find a last minute holiday gift at some point, whether you procrastinated, you were searching for the perfect gift or you forgot to add someone to your gift list, but don't let these scenarios cause you stress.

The discount experts at Dollar General are offering advice to help you find something for everyone this holiday season.

### Those who have everything ...

For the family and friends who have everything, consider purchasing small decorative items for them to use around their homes. Blankets, candles, picture frames and even holiday decorations are great last-minute items recipients will enjoy. Food baskets with delicious snacks and holiday candy placed in a decorative canning jar are simple, affordable and use-

ful items that are sure to make loved ones smile this season.

### Great go-to gift items

For recipients who are hard to shop for, gift cards and technology items are great go-to gifts. Consider headphones, DVD players and TracFones. Gift cards to favorite restaurants, retail stores and coffee shops are always a great choice, giving them freedom to choose exactly what they want.

### Gifts for Mom and Dad

Don't forget about mom and dad this holiday season. For Dad, save on Emerson men's gifts like outdoor lanterns, portable tools for camping and winter clothing. You can also find sleepwear, scarves and handbags that are sure to make Mom happy this holiday.

Happy holidays and happy shopping.

StatePoint

# Imaginative gift ideas for toddlers and preschoolers

**S**ome of the best holiday gifts for toddlers and preschoolers are those that inspire imaginative play.

"Gift-giving for this age group should reflect the tremendous opportunity that play time offers for supporting early childhood development," says Dr. Lise Eliot, early brain development expert and member of the Expert Panel at VTech, a world leader in age-appropriate and developmental stage-based electronic learning products for children.

With that in mind, here are some fun gift ideas that will add value to children's play time.

### Arts and crafts

Inspire creativity and foster fine motor skills with gifts for budding young artists. Watercolor sets, finger paint, stencils and markers are great age-appropriate selections. Just be sure any art supplies are non-toxic and washable. A great gift set idea? A blank smock and fabric paint — kids can design their own artist's smock, which will inspire them to do even more art projects in the future. Offer to hang or frame your children's favorite creations so they can proudly see them on display.

### Thoughtful toys

Choose toys that are safe, fun and engaging. For example, the Go! Go! Smart line of toys from VTech features its innovative technologies that bring the toys to life, letting children explore cause and effect relationships while teaching first words, letters and more.

Consider the Go! Go! Smart Wheels Treasure Mountain Train Adventure, which allows kids to discover spatial play by building train tracks, and features its first motorized train that can climb hills on its own. When the train is placed over one of the nine "SmartPoint" locations on the playset, it will respond with lights, sounds and music.

Toddlers can create a whole kingdom featuring princesses, princes, fairies and unicorns with Go! Go! Smart Friends playsets, encouraging children to discover through imaginative play while building motor and language skills. Even more stimulating activity is encouraged with the turning telescope, swinging hammock, and secret trap door found in the Go! Go! Smart Animals Happy Paws Playland. For more information, visit [vtechkids.com](http://vtechkids.com).



"The vehicles, animals and characters spark children's imaginations while keeping them engaged, promoting listening skills and encouraging their fine motor and cognitive development," says Dr. Eliot.

### Learning experiences

The big wide world offers plenty of opportunities for fun and learning, so consider

gifting an experience. Whether it's a puppet show, a day of exploration at the zoo or aquarium, or hands-on learning workshop at a children's museum, the experience will not soon be forgotten.

For young children, make the holidays count. Great gifts can be both educational and fun.

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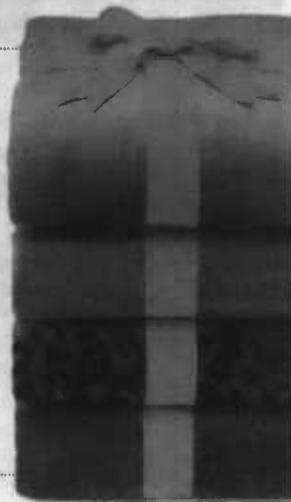


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with the purchase of any shoe or slipper\*. Color may vary. a \$20 VALUE

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with the purchase of any boot\*. Color may vary. a \$40 VALUE



# Holiday GIFT GUIDE

## Books for everyone on your list this holiday season

**N**o matter who is on your list this holiday season, great books make for great gifts.

Here are five titles to consider giving knowledge-seekers to enjoy during the season, or as stocking stuffers:

### Gem lovers

Produced in association with the Smithsonian Institution, "Gem" is a visual guide to precious and semiprecious stones, organic gems, and precious metals, and features over 1,000 specially commissioned images. "Gem" reveals the science, natural history, mythology, and true stories behind the most celebrated gems and jewel-laden artifacts, including the Hope Diamond and Queen Elizabeth's pelican brooch.

Readers can learn about the exquisite jewelry of cultures around the world, find out what characteristics are needed for a record-breaking gem, and follow the history of the world's most famous jewelry houses and designers.

### Star gazers

Chart the wonders of the cosmos with "The Stars." Packed with three-dimensional artworks of each constellation and new imagery from the Hubble Space Telescope, ground-based observatories and more, this guide features fascinating objects like glittering star-birth nebulae and supermassive black holes.

The position, size and color of every night-sky object are revealed and a three-dimensional model of the celestial sphere that surrounds Earth charts all 88 constellations. From the Big Bang to the search for extraterrestrial life, astronomy and cosmology topics are covered in an easy-to-digest visual format.

### Automotive enthusiasts

Classic car collectors and enthusiasts will enjoy "Classic Car," a visual guide created in association with the Smithsonian Institution. Featuring the most iconic classics of every decade from the 1940s to the 1980s from the Aston Martin DB5 to the Chevrolet Corvette, the book offers detailed profiles

of trademark models, as well as the famous designers and manufacturers behind them, featuring more than 1,300 photographs and two prints suitable for framing.

### Inventors

Readers can build and explore 28 kid-safe experiments, crafts and activities with "Maker Lab." Created in association with the Smithsonian Institution and supporting STEAM education initiatives, the book will get young inventors' wheels turning, making science fun.

Explaining science through photographs, facts and real-world examples, each activity is appropriate for kids ages 8-12 years old. Requiring only household materials, young makers can build an exploding volcano, make bath fizzies, construct a solar system and more.

### Budding builders

Encourage builders to look at their LEGO bricks in new, creative ways with "365 Things to do with LEGO Bricks," an interactive book



featuring imaginative play and building ideas, from projects that take just a few minutes to those that keep one occupied for hours.

Activities include building a LEGO pet, challenging friends to make the tallest tower while working against the clock, and organizing a LEGO bricks treasure hunt.

### American Girl fans

Offer American Girl fans a treasured bookshelf addition with "American Girl: Ultimate Visual Guide," which includes images of every BeForever and Girl of the Year doll, an expanded section on the TrulyMe dolls and a detailed timeline of the company. Readers can learn about favorite dolls, historical eras, outfits, pets, accessories and more.

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## Holiday gifts that won't be forgotten

If your holiday shopping list is focused on all the latest trends, remember, the hottest items are not always the most cherished. Sometimes it's the warmest gifts that are the most unforgettable.

"The holidays are times of nostalgia and remembrance, from stories of when we were children to the smell of cookies baking in the oven," says Christopher Warnack, vice president of marketing and visual at Things Remembered, a leading personalized gift retailer. "Likewise, the gifts you give are not just objects to enjoy now; they should create a joyful memory that can be cherished for years."

To this end, Warnack recommends personalizing gifts with a loved one's name, a monogram, a shared memory, a thoughtful message or an inside joke. "Something that makes it just for them, and only from you," he says.

For a seasonal gift to mark the passing years, consider a personalized ornament or snow globe. Your gift recipient can look back on the ornaments received each year and be reminded of those holiday memories.

Above all, remember to take into consider-

ation the style, hobbies and favorite colors of your gift recipient. You can customize a gift for anyone on your list.

Scarves or jewelry personalized just for her can be enjoyed for years, and with her monogram, become a real statement piece. For him, consider mugs, apparel and other gear that commemorates his favorite sports team, and are sure to become part of his game-day traditions and celebrations. Personalized toys, stuffed animals and other snuggly gifts are great for kids.

Seek out gifts at retailers that specialize in customized items, such as Things Remembered, which can create one-of-a-kind gifts in an about an hour (and a little longer for embroidery and other specialized techniques). For more unforgettable gift inspiration, visit [ThingsRemembered.com](http://ThingsRemembered.com).

"Everyone remembers the best gift they ever received," says Warnack.

Make someone's season by giving gifts that create new and happy memories with the people you care about the most.

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<b>GIFT PACK #3</b> ..... \$154.00	
6 - 8 oz. ea.	PRIME FILLET MIGNON
6 - 10 oz. ea.	PRIME BONELESS STRIP STEAKS
<b>GIFT PACK #4</b> ..... \$96.00	
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<b>GIFT PACK #7</b> ..... \$104.00	
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4 - 10 oz. ea.	PRIME BONELESS STRIP STEAKS
<b>GIFT PACK #8</b> ..... \$102.00	
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6 - 8 oz. ea.	BONELESS SKINLESS CHICKEN BREASTS
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## Holiday GIFT GUIDE



# Holiday gifts that can reduce stress

**O**n top of the everyday stress of life, the holiday season can be one of the most hectic times of year. Unfortunately, all this additional stress can take its toll on the body, mind and soul.

For those you love, make the holidays and beyond brighter with these gift ideas that help promote rest and relaxation, while alleviating tension, stress and anxiety.

### Yoga class

Yoga is associated with a wealth of health benefits, including stress reduction. For seasoned yogis, consider assisting loved ones with their practice. Great yoga accessories and gear, or a gift certificate to a favorite studio would be much appreciated.

For newbies, you might want to start smaller with a pass to one or two classes.

### Any time massage

"The medical community increasingly views massage as a necessary tool for achieving optimal health, not just as an extravagance," says Randi N. West, a licensed massage therapist. "And everyone — from desk workers to active individuals to moms who often report back pain from lifting children — can benefit from massage therapy in terms of injury prevention and improved exercise performance."

Research suggests the benefits of massage include reduced muscle tension, stress and pain; and an increase in serotonin and dopamine.

But regular massage therapy can be expensive and time-consuming. Give a gift that keeps on giving with an at-home massage cushion that can be used daily as a self-care tool. For a stylish option that won't get buried in the closet and forgot-

ten, check out M Cushion, which looks like a stylish designer pillow, but actually offers four shiatsu massage nodes, soothing heat and comforting memory foam.

"I use it to relieve my body aches after a busy day providing massage services to my clients," says West. More information can be found at [mcushion.com](http://mcushion.com).

### Meal-kit service

Busy work weeks can mean scrambling around in the evening to put dinner on the table. Your gift recipients may find themselves resorting to pizza delivery more often than they like. To help take the stress out of healthy weekday dinners, consider gifting a meal-kit plan to someone you love.

This holiday season, look to healthy gifts that can help reduce stress in the lives of people you care about.

StatePoint

# Holiday GIFT GUIDE

## Ideal gifts this holiday season

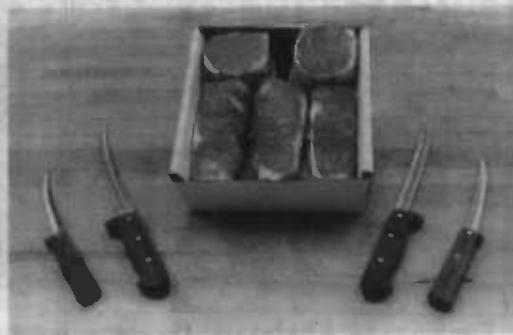
### Milwaukee Repertory Theater's "A Christmas Carol"

Milwaukee Repertory Theater presents the family holiday favorite, "A Christmas Carol," Nov. 29 to Dec. 24. Be transported to the heart of Victorian London for a magical immersive experience on an elaborate set with spectacular special effects. Your family can enjoy a Milwaukee getaway with theater and hotel packages starting at \$214. For more information, visit [MilwaukeeRep.com](http://MilwaukeeRep.com)



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## HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Chicago Tribune Media Group

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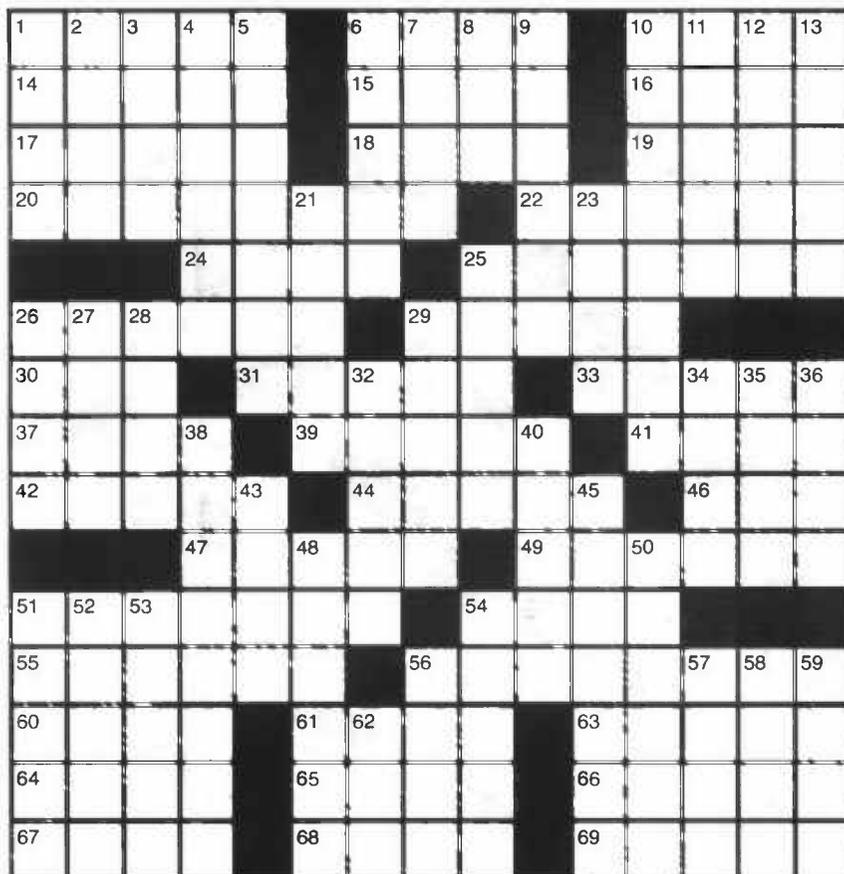
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# Crossword



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11/23/16

## ACROSS

- 1 Fork part  
6 As comfortable  
\_\_\_ old shoe  
10 Mimicked  
14 Classic name for a dog  
15 Roy Rogers and \_\_\_ Evans  
16 Indian prince  
17 Greek letter  
18 Hooters  
19 Ukraine's capital  
20 Marco Rubio & Barbara Boxer  
22 In a \_\_\_; hypnotized  
24 Movement of the waves  
25 Jupiter & Mars  
26 Stand up for  
29 "The Raven" and "Trees"  
30 Cochlea's place  
31 Autry & Wilder  
33 Walks the floor  
37 Get ready, for short  
39 Cowboy competition  
41 \_\_\_ as; for example  
42 "Guilty" and "Not guilty"  
44 Tie the knot  
46 Fraternity letter

## DOWN

- 47 Make off with  
49 Shout with a deep voice  
51 Hot dog topper  
54 Longest river  
55 Whole  
56 Survives longer than  
60 Eden resident  
61 \_\_\_ in; wearing  
63 Boise's state  
64 Racing sled  
65 Ripped  
66 At no time  
67 Observes  
68 Impudent talk  
69 Say "Hi" to
- 1 \_\_\_ and cons  
2 Italy's capital  
3 Large kitchen appliance  
4 Nullify; make ineffective  
5 Shredding cheese  
6 Worship  
7 Cutting tools  
8 Laundry soap  
9 Settle snugly  
10 "The Natural State"  
11 Patriot and pamphlet writer  
Thomas \_\_\_

## Solutions

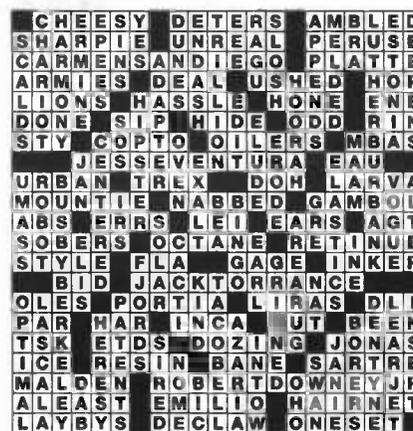


- 12 DVD player remote button  
13 Annable and Barry  
21 Stranger  
23 Freeway exit  
25 Baffling question  
26 Actor Johnny  
27 British noble  
28 On the house  
29 Ride a bike  
32 Wanderer  
34 Ringlet of hair  
35 Resound  
36 Exhibition
- 38 Hobbies  
40 Planet's path  
43 Night twinkler  
45 \_\_\_ at; berating  
48 Builds  
50 Guide; director  
51 Lunch & dinner  
52 Excessive  
53 Theater part  
54 Some paintings  
56 Rowers' items  
57 Keep for later  
58 You, biblically  
59 Type; variety  
62 Mauna \_\_\_



## Last week's crosswords

### "GOLDEN STATERS"



### "Sporting Chance"



### "Jam Session"



## Last week's Quote-Acrossic

F. CLINE: POSTMODERN TIMES:  
Clueless, crude cellphone jabberers who shove details of romantic misadventures, family dysfunctions or personal plumbing problems into nearby ears are life's most hated phenomenon, after airport security.

## Last week's Sudoku

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

## This week's Jumble

AFFECT ANYONE FINISH  
NATIVE ENGAGE OUTAGE

The light bulbs didn't always get along. Their relationship was —

**ON-AGAIN,  
OFF-AGAIN**



## 6-minute date has newly single guy doubting apps

A friend of mine said he had heard some horror stories about internet dating, but decided to keep an open mind and give it a try. Recently out of a three-year relationship, Mark Kulczak, a 47-year-old Denver-based mortgage broker said at his age, online dating seemed to make sense.

After noticing a Facebook post he made about a less-than-ideal date he recently had, I talked with him a bit about his experience with online dating.

"For the past few years, I've been in a committed relationship and haven't been out there, so I don't really have a social life anymore," Kulczak said. "Everyone I know is married, and I don't have a group of friends I can call to go out on a Friday or Saturday night."

Apprehensive but optimistic, Kulczak braced himself and set up an account on Bumble, a dating app that differs from Tinder as women make the first move.

A few days after joining, Kulczak swiped right on a woman he found attractive and they began emailing each other.

"Emailing is difficult because it's hard to get a read on the energy level, but she sounded great. She was 42, athletic, and lived near me," he said.

The two agreed to meet at a quaint restaurant in their area. What happened next wasn't good.

"I walked in and saw her sitting at the bar. She was very attractive," Kulczak said. "I sat down next to her, turned and said with a smile, 'Hi, I'm Mark.' She looked up at me for a second and turned back to face the bar."

Surprised at her cold demeanor, Kulczak said he decided to give her the benefit of the doubt. Maybe she was nervous. Maybe she'd had a bad day.

"I started small talking with her, asking her questions. 'How was your day?' She was giving me three-word answers and wouldn't even look at me," he said. "After 10 questions with three-word answers, I decided, 'I don't have time for this.' I need electricity, confidence, warmth, and no matter how pretty she was, it didn't matter. She seemed insecure and cold. I knew there was no way this thing was going to turn around."

Kulczak said he stood up, gave her a gentle pat on the shoulder and said, "This isn't going to work for me, I'm sorry." But Mark still felt badly about the situation.

"When I got to my car, I jumped on Bumble to send her a message, but she had



**JACKIE PILOSSOPH**  
*Love Essentially*

already deleted me," he said.

When asked why he didn't confront the date and ask her what was wrong, Kulczak said he wasn't sure of the right way to handle the situation.

"This is all new to me.

But I do know that whatever was wrong, the person I want to be with would have given me some kind of explanation," he answered. "It's hard not to take things personally."

How did the six-minute date affect this newly single guy for the future?

"It's not just her. I don't think I can do this," he said. "I've emailed about 30 women on Tinder and Bumble and it just seems impersonal. I believe in the old-fashioned way of meeting women. I need to meet women in person and have eye contact. I don't want to make a decision on whether or not I like someone based on a photo."

Kulczak said he still isn't planning on hitting the bars to try to meet women, but that he is considering going to more parties, events and fundraisers.

I'm sure the six-minute date is one of countless nightmares that men and women experience in online dating. That said, it is still one of the top ways men and women meet, connect and fall in love.

But, if you feel the same way as Kulczak, and you can't stand swiping right or left anymore, here are 10 other ways to meet single people:

- Sporting events
- Volunteering
- Coffee places or juice bars
- Restaurant outdoor patios
- Concerts
- The grocery store — especially in the prepared foods section
- Car washes
- The Apple or AT&T store
- Through your married friends — ask them if they have any single friends
- Church or synagogue

I don't view Kulczak's six-minute date as a disaster. I see it as a learning experience, or perhaps even something to giggle about down the road. But even more so, the date is another meeting that will bring Kulczak closer to finding his dream girl.

Like looking for a job, dating is a numbers game. If he continues to put himself out there, whether online or offline, the odds of finding Ms. Right will continue to increase. Good luck, Mark!

*Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.*

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## HEALTH

# Healthy behaviors improve your odds for longer life



**DR. ANTHONY KOMAROFF**  
Ask Doctor K

**Dear Doctor K: Eat right. Don't smoke. Stay active. Can you give me some motivation to keep up these healthy behaviors?**

Dear Reader: I think I get your message. This column frequently presents information from scientific studies about healthy lifestyle. But information alone may not be enough to change behavior — and it's hard to change behavior, particularly when you enjoy it. Information doesn't equal motivation.

I'm not an expert on how to motivate people, but here's how I motivate myself. I ask myself what I want from life. In terms of health, I want to live as long as possible, free of suffering and with my faculties intact. Then I'll be able to love and be loved, and to enjoy the things I most enjoy, for as long as possible.

So the next question is: How do I get there? And I don't mean how do I guarantee I'll live a long life, free of suffering and decrepitude. Because there are no guarantees in life, only odds. You want to know what the odds are that you'll achieve your goals, and what you can do to improve your odds. At least that's what I want to know.

How do I find out what my odds are, and how to improve them? I believe in science. I don't believe that any single scientific study is infallible, no matter how impressive it seems. But I believe that the collective



PAUL BRADBURY/GETTY

Many studies have shown that healthy lifestyle practices, such as regular exercise, improve odds for a longer life.

information from many well-done studies is the best, and maybe the only, way I'll ever learn what I need to know.

For example, in a recently published study, a research team followed nearly 17,000 men and women, aged 17 years and older, for 18 years. They meticulously collected information on the lifestyle, the illnesses, and the life or death of the study participants. In other words, they studied more than 300,000 years of human experience.

They compared study participants who ate a healthy diet, got enough physical activity, drank alcohol in moderation and never smoked to those who engaged in none of these healthy behaviors. The first group lived an average of 11 years longer. It's just the latest study that says that the lifestyle we call "healthy" really is good for our health.

There's more good news. The same healthy lifestyle practices that

cause you to live longer make those extra years healthier. Healthy lifestyle does not just prolong your decrepitude.

Even more good news: You don't have to banish all unhealthy practices from your life, always and forever.

What matters is your usual behavior. Take me, for example. Does Doctor K always follow the healthy lifestyle advice he gives in this column? Some questions answer themselves.

Information motivates me — and so does emotion. If family and friends encourage me along the path I've chosen, and if I don't want to disappoint them, I'm more likely to follow that path. I hope this advice will help you find the motivation you need to stay healthy.

*This column ran originally in November 2014.*

*Dr. Komaroff is a physician and professor at Harvard Medical School.*

## PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

# Caffeine in Diet Coke could cause sleep trouble

By Joe Graedon and Teresa Graedon  
King Features Syndicate

**Q: I was addicted to Diet Coke for decades. I drank one 12-ounce can every single day.**

**I've had insomnia for decades as well. For the past nine years, I took Seroquel each night to be able to sleep.**

**I quit Diet Coke cold turkey in June, and by August I was able to sleep without Seroquel. I could even take an afternoon nap, which was never possible before.**

**I always assumed my insomnia was a result of bad brain chemistry, but perhaps it was due to caffeine at lunchtime. Have you heard any similar stories?**

**A:** You might be especially sensitive to caffeine, explaining why a lunchtime soft drink would affect your nighttime sleep. Some people metabolize caffeine slowly. Caffeine can make it harder to get to sleep and may interfere with sleep quality (Sleep Medicine Reviews online, Jan. 29).

Quetiapine (Seroquel) is approved for treating serious psychiatric conditions, not insomnia. It has a number of potentially dangerous side effects.

**Q: I had blood work done a few months ago for thyroid function. My primary care physician said my TSH is normal at 12.9.**

**Is 12.9 really normal? From what I'm reading, it seems a bit high.**

**I have been dealing with hair loss, dry skin, fatigue and depression.**

**A:** TSH (thyroid-stimulating hormone) is often considered the gold standard for evaluating thyroid function. There is considerable controversy about the



HOWARD KINGSNORTH/STONE SUB

Caffeine in soft drinks can make it harder to get to sleep and may interfere with sleep quality.

normal range, however. Many endocrinologists use a reference level from 0.4 to 4.2, which puts your value well above normal.

When TSH is high, it means that the thyroid is underperforming. Symptoms like yours are typical for hypothyroidism.

You might need to consult a thyroid specialist. To prepare you, we are sending you our Guide to Thyroid Hormones. It tells you about other important thyroid tests and a variety of treatments. This 25-page guide is available as a \$3.99 download at [www.peoplespharmacy.com](http://www.peoplespharmacy.com).

**Q: I have had arthritis for years and had been taking diclofenac. However, my doctor took me off it because it started to affect my kidneys.**

**When the joints in my thumbs started to swell, I started looking for some help. I found MSM. After taking it for three days,**

**the swelling in my thumbs went down. It's been a few months, and I am now able to walk 3 miles a day. I know that this won't cure arthritis, but it seems to have slowed its progression.**

**A:** MSM (methylsulfonylmethane) is a natural compound that is marketed as a dietary supplement. There is limited research on its use for arthritis. A recent review indicates that it may be of benefit (Mayo Clinic Proceedings, September 2016).

Another study found that MSM combined with the herb boswellia was helpful in treating knee arthritis (International Journal of Immunopathology and Pharmacology, March 2016).

*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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# The benefits of parenthood

Having children makes us better, if not happier

By Sheril Kirshenbaum  
The Washington Post

Not long ago, my toddler, Atlas, bounded into the kitchen exclaiming, “Mommy, come see the river!”

I cringed, recognizing that a river might have several meanings to a 3-year-old who loves playing with faucets and still hasn’t perfected potty training. When he pointed toward the hallway where we have a map, a wave of relief washed over me. Maybe I ought to trust this kid more.

Then I saw it two long black wavy lines of indelible marker coursing down the wall.

“I made a river,” he announced sweetly, “just for you!” as I realized I now had a new painting project.

Parenthood isn’t easy, but lately it seems to be getting an unnecessarily bad reputation. One widely cited study of 22 countries recently reported that parents tended to be unhappier than nonparents. And they attributed this “parenthood gap in happiness” to the financial and other stress of raising children “in countries that do not provide public assistance,” such as subsidized day care and paid parental leave.

The Department of Agriculture estimates that Americans spend an average of \$245,000 per child between birth and age 18. And then there’s the stress of small stuff like sharing my house with a 3-foot-tall graffiti artist.

Children can be exhausting, isolating and expensive. So if they truly make us unhappy, why do we keep having them?

Our ancestors required



KIRSHENBAUM FAMILY PHOTO

Sheril Kirshenbaum holds her firstborn, a son, Atlas, who now is 3. She is expecting her second child.

big families for hunting and farming, but that’s not necessary in the 21st century. As a mother, I know I wouldn’t trade the experience for the world, but my years as a scientist made me curious about what research can tell us. I dug into the findings, and it turns out there’s a lot of evidence for how children affect the physical and emotional life of their parents and myriad ways in which they can boost both our health and happiness.

Parenthood certainly doesn’t start as a cakewalk: Friends and I jokingly refer to the first three months as “100 days of darkness” while on call 24/7 in an endless cycle of feed, wipe, bathe, repeat. Yet we persevere, and that’s in part because of the way that nature tricks parents into adoring their tiny new minion.

Early on, we enjoy a kind of natural high by staying close to and caring for a baby. A newborn’s scent triggers an increase in a mother’s brain of dopamine,

a chemical associated with anticipation and reward. This neurotransmitter brings about feelings of intense pleasure and is associated with addiction. Dopamine essentially makes us crave being with the baby. Long after infancy, moms can experience the same dopamine-reward response simply by seeing their child smile. In a sense, when our kids are happy, we feel it.

Dopamine isn’t the only chemical working on parents. Yale University scientists have found that both mothers and fathers experience a rise in levels of oxytocin when a baby enters the family. Often called “the love hormone,” it promotes attachment, a sense of euphoria and intense love, while decreasing stress. It also helps to buffer against challenges like sleep deprivation.

The first months can be tough, with aches and pains, bleary eyes and the baby blues — or worse — for some women.

But hormones and neurotransmitters usually fool us into believing that our baby is the most wonderful creature in the world. Yes, we may be temporarily delusional, but this naturally occurring chemical cocktail helps us make it through the exhaustion and even forget enough of that period so that we’re often willing to do it all over again. Fortunately, there are major perks for going through the struggle.

A study of nearly 140,000 postmenopausal women found that those who had breast-fed their baby for at least a year had a lowered risk for several serious health conditions, including Type 2 diabetes. They also had a lower incidence of high blood pressure, heart disease and breast and ovarian cancer. We often hear that “breast is best” for baby, but while it can be a pain for moms — quite literally — it appears to lead to long-term health benefits.

In the shorter term, of course, kids can, and frequently do, make us sick. Comedian Louis C.K. once aptly noted, “Kids are like buckets of disease that live in your house,” which seems to be my day-to-day reality.

When my son comes down with a bug, I’m not just exposed to germs, I’m usually elbow deep in them. On multiple occasions he has managed to cough directly into my mouth. My husband recently shared our son’s bout of hand, foot and mouth disease, timed perfectly for a job interview.

However, the data suggest that parenthood actually offers some protection from illness. Scientists at Carnegie Mellon found that mothers and fathers exposed to a cold virus are less likely to get sick compared with nonparents.

But while health and happiness are strongly correlated in many studies,

that doesn’t necessarily translate for parents. When Princeton and Stony Brook universities scientists surveyed 1.8 million Americans, they found that while “parents and nonparents have similar levels of life satisfactions,” parents often had more emotionally intense lives: They expressed higher highs and more joy than nonparents, although they also reported feeling more worry, stress and anger.

In other words, parenthood fundamentally changes us, often in surprising ways. Being a mother or a father tends to require that we become less self-involved and more generous with others — that is, with our kids. It provides a strong sense of purpose while fostering lasting social connections, two of the most important qualities, according to a growing body of research, for a happy life.

Some of the changes may be physical. Psychologists Kelly Lambert and Craig Kinsley concluded that raising children leads to changes in the brain that make mothers more empathetic and nurturing. Evolutionarily speaking, these qualities can help give kids the best possibility of survival.

Parenthood forces our brains to shift from a world mainly consisting of “self” to one consisting of both “self and other.” The rules for how we act change when a baby enters the picture. New situations and experience rewire brain circuitry, neuroscientists find, which helps us adjust to life as a mother or a father.

When psychologists at Michigan State University analyzed data on the origins of parenting behavior from 20,000 families around the world, they concluded that genes affect how we express warmth, control and nega-

tivity toward kids.

From an evolutionary perspective, parents who are best able to understand and meet the needs of their children are generally most likely to pass on their genes. In this way, evolutionary experts say, the most nurturing qualities may have been promoted to persist in humans over subsequent generations.

Of course, parenthood isn’t for everyone, and it certainly is not required to live a fulfilling and purposeful life. Without supportive social policies to ease work-life balance, it can be a financial and emotional drain.

Still, becoming a mom or a dad forges one of the most significant bonds that we can experience, and studies have found that long-term happiness often stems from these kinds of important relationships established throughout our lives.

It’s true that those who choose to have kids are saddled with relentless responsibility and little free time. And parenthood also comes with physical transformations such as stretch marks, weight gain and the classic “dad bod” that might not always lift our spirits.

But a review of the research reveals that the return on investing years and energy into having children can’t be tallied in terms of a net gain or loss of happiness. It’s just not as simple as a one-size-fits-all equation. What data do reveal is that under the right circumstances, kids have the capacity to bring out our best selves, emotionally, chemically and biologically, even when it comes with scribbled hallways and sleepless nights. And I find that re-assuring, especially as I embark on the adventure for a second time.

*Sheril Kirshenbaum is a freelance writer.*



J. BARA PHOTOGRAPHY PHOTOS

# English manor in Winnetka: \$6M

ADDRESS: 35 Indian Hill Road in Winnetka

ASKING PRICE: \$5,995,000

Listed on Nov. 5, 2016

This home has a slate roof and grand courtyard entrance featuring bluestone and red-brick paving. The living room, great room and custom pine library all have fireplaces. Other spaces include a media room with bar, dining room, butler's pantry, de Guilio chef's kitchen and conservatory. Master suite has his and hers dressing rooms, sitting room with fireplace and a bath with a separate steam shower and soaking tub. Property features professionally maintained grounds, fountain, gardens and terrace.

Agent: Tamara Casey, 312-888-5120

At press time, this home was still for sale.



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

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PATRICK GORSKI/PIONEER PRESS

Park Ridge's Winterfest takes place Nov. 25 in Uptown and the South Park area.

*Holiday, from Page 24*

**Holly Jolly Market and Festival, 3-9 p.m. Nov. 26** at Oasis Water Park, 7877 Milwaukee Ave., Niles. Free fun includes live music, stories from Mrs. Claus, children's crafts, carriage rides, a petting zoo and a holiday market. Tree lighting at 5:30 p.m. followed by fireworks. Food and drinks available, cash only. More at [www.niles.com](http://www.niles.com).

**"Frozen Sing-a-Long," 2 p.m. Nov. 26,** North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie. Sing along to the film on screen as the words scroll by. Tickets are \$12.50. Call 847-679-9501 x3100. 847-673-6300 or go to [www.northshorecenter.org](http://www.northshorecenter.org).

**"Holiday Magic," Dec. 3-4, 10-11, 17-18 and 26-31** at Brookfield Zoo, 3300 Golf Road, Brookfield. Zoo's annual event features more than one million twinkling LED lights, caroling to the animals, ice carvers, a magic show, live entertainment, model railroad display and more. \$17.85; \$12.50 seniors and ages 3-11; free to children under 3 and members. Information at 708-688-8000 or [www.czs.org/events](http://www.czs.org/events).

**"Golf Mill Shopping Center Breakfast with Santa," 239 Golf Mill Center** in Niles, 9-11 a.m. Dec. 3 in the Food Court. Event tickets are \$5 per person and are available at the Customer Service desk located near Entrance 8 (cash only). Tickets required for children and adults. Space is limited. All proceeds will be donated to Toys for Tots. See [www.golfmill.com](http://www.golfmill.com) for a complete listing of holiday activities.

**"Holly Days Festival," 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Dec. 3,** at Harrer Park, 6250 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Features winter farmer's market, dog sled demo, ice sculptor demo, holiday tractor rides. Santa arrives at 11:30 a.m., food, drink and tree sales. Interfaith ceremony and tree lighting event at the gazebo, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 2. Free. Call 847-965-1200 or go to [www.mortongrove.com](http://www.mortongrove.com)

**parks.com.**

**"Animated Holiday Light Show"** presented in Center Court, Randhurst Village, intersection of Rand Road and Elmhurst Road in Mount Prospect. Nightly from 6-8 p.m. every half hour, Dec. 3-17. Kickoff festivities starting at 2 p.m. Dec. 3. Drives to benefit the annual Toys for Kids and local food pantry. Donation bin at 148 Randhurst Village Drive (between Charming Charlie and Smokey Bones). Toys will be collected from Nov. 25-Dec. 9. Food items will be collected from Nov. 25-Dec. 25. 847-259-500 or go to [www.randhurstvillage.com](http://www.randhurstvillage.com).

**"Lincolnwood Lights,"** the fourth annual Village Holiday Tree Lighting celebration at Village Hall, 6900 Lincoln Ave., 5 p.m. Dec. 5. Hot chocolate, treats and a visit from St. Nick. 847-677-9740 or go to [www.lincolnwoodil.org](http://www.lincolnwoodil.org).

**Ugly Christmas Sweater Pub Crawl,** sponsored by the Edison Park Chamber of Commerce, 6:30-10:30 p.m. Dec. 15. Registration/check-in is at The Mecca Supper Club, 6666 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago. The pub crawl visits Emerald Isle, Moretti's and Edison Park Inn. Admission is \$10 and includes food along the crawl, drink specials and raffles. There will also be an Ugliest Christmas Sweater Contest. Must be 21 and older to attend. Visit <http://bit.ly/2fxCDNO>.

**Dreidel House at the Mall,** Dec. 26-Jan. 1, at Westfield Old Orchard Mall, 4999 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. Presented with the Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, these events will include menorah lightings, crafts for children, complimentary refreshments and festive music. See [www.westfield.com](http://www.westfield.com).

Did we miss your event? Send your information to Jennifer Thomas at [jthomas@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:jthomas@pioneerlocal.com) and we'll add it to our online listings. Also check out our guide to local holiday bazaars and craft fairs at <http://trib.in/2dVbvVh>.

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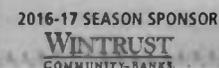


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GO

## FAMILY FRIENDLY

# Morton Grove's first Holly Days Festival is Dec. 3

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

Four hours of free family fun are planned for Morton Grove's first Holly Days Festival, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 3 at Harrer Park, 6250 W. Dempster St. "It's our hope that it will get bigger and better each year," said Kathy Herrmann, marketing manager for the Morton Grove Park District, which is co-sponsoring the event with the Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce, Morton Grove Days Commission, Morton Grove Public Library and village of Morton Grove.

"We are excited to kick off the holiday season and give back to the community," Herrmann said.

Free activities will include a dog sled demonstration, an ice sculptor demonstration, holiday tractor rides, live entertainment, crafts and children's activities. Santa Claus will arrive at 11:30 a.m.

There will also be a Winter Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., in addition, there will be a tree sale.

Food will be available for purchase.

"It's a day filled with fun activities," Herrmann declared.

For details, call 847-965-1200 or go to [www.mortongrovecparks.com](http://www.mortongrovecparks.com).

## Chills and thrills

Anna, Elsa, Kristoff and Olaf are coming via screen to the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, 9501 Skokie Blvd., for a "Disney's Frozen" sing-along, 2 p.m. Nov. 26. This is a new full-length version of the hit musical comedy that is sure to delight all of the movie's young fans and their parents, too. Tickets are \$12.50. For details, call 847-679-



MORTON GROVE PARK DISTRICT

Santa will be a special guest at the very first Morton Grove's Holly Days Festival on Dec. 3 at Harrer Park.

9501, ext. 3100 or go to [www.northshorecenter.org/events/frozen-sing-a-long](http://www.northshorecenter.org/events/frozen-sing-a-long).

## A bright idea

Come to the gazebo at Harrer Park, 6250 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove, the night before the Holly Days Festival for an interfaith ceremony and tree lighting. The free event will begin at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 2. For details, call 847-965-1200 or go to [www.mortongrovecparks.com](http://www.mortongrovecparks.com).

## Warm welcome

Everyone is invited to celebrate at a holiday open house, 6-8:30 p.m. Nov. 25 at the Park Ridge Public

Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave. The library promises there will be refreshments, entertainment and fun for all ages.

For details, call 847-825-3123 or go to [www.parkridgelibrary.org](http://www.parkridgelibrary.org).

## Aiming high

Stars Within Reach Productions will take families on a journey through major eras in American culture during Celebration USA! America Sings, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Nov. 26 in the Petty Auditorium at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Pick up tickets for this review starting at 2 p.m. performance day.

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



ANGEL EYES PHOTOGRAPHY/PARK RIDGE CHAMBER PHOTOS

Gall Haller of Park Ridge, Park Ridge Chamber Executive Director and Park Ridge Community Fund Executive Director, from left, Linda Russo of Schaumburg, Retail Committee chairman, Dymphna Fay-Hart of Park Ridge, Emily Wilderman of Chicago, Retail Committee chairman

# Park Ridge Chamber celebrates Ladies' Night

**Event:** Ladies' Night  
**Hosted by:** The Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce's Retail Committee  
**Location:** Park Ridge Country Club  
**Date:** Sept. 20  
**Attended:** 240 guests, 40 vendors  
**Raised:** \$3,000, with \$700 going to the American Cancer Society and the balance to the Park Ridge Chamber's Retail Committee which supports local businesses and community-wide events  
**Website:** [www.parkridgechamber.org](http://www.parkridgechamber.org)



Peg Murtas of Lyons, from left, Marie Kapst and Anna Coakley, both of Park Ridge, Cathy McDonough of Chicago



Gerry and Margaret Waller of Park Ridge, owners of Cruise Planners of Park Ridge



Christina Guthrie, owner of Eastern Vitality Acupuncture of Park Ridge

## MAINE TOWNSHIP SALUTES CROP WALK



ALEX BARTON PHOTO

Peter Gialamas, front, from left, Pantry Coordinator Carol Langan, Crop Walk Coordinator Lynda Santrella, Supervisor C. Teschky, Rev. Lee Joesten of the Crop Walk Committee, Laura Morask, and Highway Commissioner Walter Kazmierczak, and back row, from left, Kimberly Jones, Kelly Schafer, Assessor Susan Moylan Krey and Gary K. Warner gathered on Oct. 25 to celebrate a proclamation presented Niles/Park Ridge Crop Walk representatives in recognition of 25 years of hosting the annual food drive. Since 1992, the Niles/Park Ridge Crop Walk has raised about \$500,000 with \$100,000 going to the Maine Township Food Pantry. This year's walk was on Oct. 16.

## COPS FOR COATS MARKS FIFTH SUCCESSFUL DRIVE



DICK BARTON PHOTO

Des Plaines Police Officer Mike Heldkamp, from left, Park Ridge Police Dept. Citizen Patrol Joan Hutchinson, PRPD Citizen Patrol Leslie Wolf, Des Plaines Officer Mike Meyer, Supervisor Carol A. Teschky, Niles Police V.I.P.S. M. Pistorius, PRPD Citizen Patrol Jean Trnka, Niles Police Officer April Rider, PRPD Citizen Patrol Don Tyre, PRPD Officer Ben Peterson, the lead coordinator of the drive, and PRPD Explorer Gary Lynch at Maine Township Town Hall on Nov. 5 celebrated the success of the fifth Coats for Cops drive, a combined effort of the Park Ridge, Niles and Des Plaines Police departments that this year collected over 300 coats and winter accessories.

### Share your event

We want to publish your photos. To submit, visit [community.chicagotribune.com](http://community.chicagotribune.com) or email [sburrows@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:sburrows@pioneerlocal.com).

**PALATINE**

Four-bedroom, two-bath frame/masonry design built in 1963. Updates include custom fireplace with detailed brickwork inside and out, siding, roof, furnace, tankless water heater. Refinished hardwood floors, security system, refurbished kitchen and deck with gas grill, fenced backyard. Family room and fourth bedroom has ceramic tile.

**Address:** 1109 E. Pratt Drive  
**Price:** \$299,900  
**Schools:** Palatine High School  
**Taxes:** \$5,669  
**Agent:** Kim Suhanek, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

**MUNDELEIN**

Four-bedroom, 1.5-bath home built in 1962. Kitchen has white cabinets, quartz counters, custom backsplash, breakfast bar & open layout to dining area, family room, & outdoor patio. Completely remodeled bathroom (2016), hardwood floors, crown molding, custom wall decor, new light fixtures and natural light throughout.

**Address:** 436 N. Ridgemoor Ave.  
**Price:** \$227,500  
**Schools:** Mundelein High School  
**Taxes:** \$6,151  
**Agent:** Maria Fricano, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage The Groves

**NORTHBROOK**

Four-bedroom, 2.5-bath Classic mid-century modern design built in 1967 on a cul-de-sac. Natural sunlight, hardwood floors under carpeting, custom closet in kitchen and master bedroom, newly installed hardwood floor in the dining room, and wood laminate floor in the kitchen. Walk from family room onto a stone patio. Fenced, professionally landscaped yard. Newer roof with warranty, Carrier air conditioner installed in 2014 and in 2015 a new Premier gas furnace.

**Address:** 1252 Alleghany Lane  
**Price:** \$499,900  
**Schools:** Glenbrook North High School  
**Taxes:** \$9,542.88  
**Agent:** Diane Mockenhaupt, Baird & Warner Northwest Suburban

**HIGHLAND PARK**

Five-bedroom, 5.5-bath home built in 2002 has three-car attached, heated garage. Pool, hot tub, sauna and changing room. First-floor walk-in closet, hardwood and stone floors, fenced and landscaped yard, high ceilings. Island kitchen with eating area that opens to family room. Laundry on first and second floors.

**Address:** 807 Bronson Lane  
**Price:** \$1,495,000  
**Schools:** Highland Park High School  
**Taxes:** \$37,869  
**Agent:** Linda Rosenbloom, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Glencoe

*Listings from Homefinder.com*

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**NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR**

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



POTTERY BARN

Chimneys should be cleaned before using a fireplace, which also should be checked out.

HOME REMEDIES

# Keeping the home fires burning safely always

BY ALAN J. HEAVENS  
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Santa Claus uses your fireplace only one night a year to provide that old holiday cheer.

It's likely you use it much more often to keep your home and family cozy.

Here are some safety tips from Napoleon Fireplaces:

■ Have your chimney cleaned before starting to use a wood-burning fireplace, stove or insert.

The leading cause of fires from wood-burning appliances is creosote — unburned fuel — that has accumulated in the chimney.

■ Have any gasket material in the fireplace unit inspected and replaced as required, such as the gasket sealing the door, the door glass and, in some

cases, the ash dump.

■ Replace any broken or deteriorated brick lining in a wood-burning unit.

If the brick lining is deteriorated to the point that the steel body is exposed, heat from the fire can cause permanent damage.

■ Have gas-burning fireplaces serviced, using a qualified technician. Even the glass must be cleaned annually to keep it looking clear.

■ Clean the blower if the unit is equipped with one. Blowers do not have filtering systems to prevent buildup of dust and hair. As dust accumulates on the blower blades, the balance of the blower will change, causing premature wear of the bearings.

Dust also insulates the motor, preventing it from being cooled, and can eventually cause the motor

to seize up.

■ Clear the airways. Combustion systems are affected by dust, too, and even insects can impair their performance.

The airways of both the pilot and the main burners should be regularly cleaned to ensure that they are operating correctly, and a general inspection of the entire system, including the safety controls, is also beneficial.

■ Replace the batteries in any optional remote transmitters and, in some cases, in the receiver, as well. Even when the fireplace is not being used, the power held in a battery is slowly depleted.

■ Check and replace the batteries and test any smoke or carbon monoxide detectors you have in your home to ensure that those defense monitors are operating properly.

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
835 S Dwyer Ave, # A, Arlington Heights	Thomas Rucker & Susan Rucker	Kathleen M Bass	10-25-16	\$101,000
1505 E Central Rd, # 412B, Arlington Heights	Robert E Mccarthy & Debra A Mccarthy	Hartman Trust	10-24-16	\$118,000
1505 E Central Rd, # 112B, Arlington Heights	Annemarie Mueller	Laura Cooke	10-21-16	\$127,000
2230 S Goebbert Rd, # 141, Arlington Heights	Alok Saxena & Rangoli Saxena	Patrick Wang	10-24-16	\$130,000
416 N Kennicott Ave, Arlington Heights	Eva Singh	Daniel Sents	10-24-16	\$165,000
1329 S Old Wilke Rd, Arlington Heights	Artur Akinzhely	Pei See Audrey Orlega	10-19-16	\$185,000
3216 N Carriageway Dr, Arlington Heights	Natasha Orlik	Julian Orlik	10-21-16	\$189,000
1656 N Douglas Ct, Arlington Heights	Yelena Pochepkn	William B Odell	10-25-16	\$207,500
301 Dwyer, Arlington Heights	Thomas Cullg	Joanna Diguglielmo	10-24-16	\$250,000
2064 N Coldspring Rd, Arlington Heights	David H Pawlan & Luz M Pawlan	Young Trust	10-21-16	\$276,500
3 E Grove St, Arlington Heights	Nicole Martin	Nurre Trust	10-24-16	\$286,000
3113 N Daniels Ct, Arlington Heights	Lora Nickelson	Matthew Feloni	10-20-16	\$294,000
806 S Mckinley Ave, Arlington Heights	Matt Manglaris & Sarah Manglaris	Francis T Warzecha	10-20-16	\$296,000
1010 W Maude Ave, Arlington Heights	Christopher G Ried & Christine R Ried	Shishir A Patel	10-25-16	\$326,500
344 S Derbyshire Ln, Arlington Heights	Paul B Miller & Emily R Miller	Kevin D Burns	10-25-16	\$345,000
1635 S Highland Ave, Arlington Heights	John D O Neal & Melissa A Schultz	Roberta M Nicosia	10-18-16	\$350,000
121 S Chestnut Ave, Arlington Heights	Jonathan Morse & Ashley M Morse	Frey Trust	10-19-16	\$355,000
418 S Lincoln Ln, Arlington Heights	Eric N Renouf & Sarah O Neill	418 S Lincoln Lane Llc	10-19-16	\$440,000
226 W Tanglewood Dr, Arlington Heights	Robert J Bushek & Elizabeth M Bushek	Keith T Brennan	10-25-16	\$465,000
1010 N Chicago Ave, Arlington Heights	Nathan Johnson & Ellen Metzger	Weekley Homes Llc	10-20-16	\$767,000
214 S Phelps Ave, Arlington Heights	Matthew C Wagner & Nicole M Wagner	Michael R Donner	10-21-16	\$885,000
761 Weidner Rd, # 801, Buffalo Grove	Yunsun Nam	Carolynn Wojtowicz	10-21-16	\$167,500
860 Weidner Rd, # 206, Buffalo Grove	Yeon Joo Lee	Iris H Jun	10-20-16	\$184,500
39 Buckingham Ln, Buffalo Grove	Alla Barbon	Fernando A Godoy	10-12-16	\$255,000
1339 Devonshire Rd, Buffalo Grove	Jacek Wysocki	National Residential Nominee S	10-11-16	\$290,000
11 Katherine Ct, Buffalo Grove	Carolyn Taylor & Raymond Taylor	Shed Goldstein	10-19-16	\$307,500
593 Saint Marys Pkwy, Buffalo Grove	Justin D Patton & Amber M Patton	Ludmila Levin	10-21-16	\$310,000
684 Saint Marys Pkwy, Buffalo Grove	Daniel F Espinoza & Sandler Espinoza	Michael Topps	10-21-16	\$320,000
810 Prairie Ln, Buffalo Grove	Lin Li & Tao Xu	Svetlana Gilkin	10-11-16	\$352,000
351 Town Place Cir, # 508, Buffalo Grove	James J Steiner & Joan M Steiner	Richard F Dye	10-13-16	\$366,000
590 Cobblestone Ln, Buffalo Grove	Ashok Reddy Kolagatla & Anitha Gajjala	Myriam Riboh	10-14-16	\$415,000
2240 Avalon Dr, Buffalo Grove	Prasad Nuthalapati & Indira Kanala	Timothy O Connor	10-14-16	\$590,000
9988 Holly Ln, # 2S, Des Plaines	Gulzar Qureshi	Sathiesh Ranganathan	10-19-16	\$55,500
463 Alles St, # 3D, Des Plaines	Agnieszka Banasik	S D Shastri	10-18-16	\$70,000
9581 Dee Rd, # 2G, Des Plaines	Anna M Rodriguez	Jan Kowalczyk	10-25-16	\$82,000
9009 Golf Rd, # 91, Des Plaines	Aneetta George	Sara Aynehsazan	10-20-16	\$86,000
9588 Terrace Pl, # 2H, Des Plaines	Ivan Cano Gomez & Kenneth M Mok	Teresa Nowosielska Kludka	10-18-16	\$87,000
1441 E Thacker St, # 506, Des Plaines	Christine Mrozek	Frederic G Turley	10-24-16	\$98,000
8852 Robin Dr, # E, Des Plaines	Dhruv Patel	Olajide Okedina	10-25-16	\$106,000
332 Alles St, Des Plaines	Pina Iacovella	Dhimetri A Cina	10-19-16	\$161,000
395 Graceland Ave, # 301, Des Plaines	Dawn M Yost	Dera L Gianopoulos	10-25-16	\$162,000
900 Lee St, # 405, Des Plaines	James Brooks & Lillian Lor	Us Bank Na Trustee	10-18-16	\$173,500
9471 Sumac Rd, # H, Des Plaines	Pushpakkumar Panchal	Green Realty Llc	10-18-16	\$174,000
1625 E Lincoln Ave, Des Plaines	Octavio Santos Merino	Fannie Mae	10-18-16	\$175,000
848 Mason Ln, Des Plaines	Harold Schnell & Michael Schnell	M&T Bank Corp	10-21-16	\$182,500
2933 Sycamore St, Des Plaines	Slawomir Swiatek & Anna Swiatek	Michael A Noto	10-25-16	\$190,000
1646 Lunt Ave, Des Plaines	Robert J Sloma & Margaret A Sloma	Sandra Sloma	10-20-16	\$200,000
505 S Lyman Ave, Des Plaines	Macie Raczka	Wojciech Stykowski	10-21-16	\$205,000

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
2080 Halsey Dr, Des Plaines	Angelica Medina & Moises Medina	Fannie Mae	10-21-16	\$213,000
570 S Westgate Rd, Des Plaines	Scott Grider & Nadezhda Grider	Steven Milazzo	10-25-16	\$217,000
9034 Terrace Pl, Des Plaines	Warda Hawel & Daddy Toma	Anna Sandler	10-21-16	\$220,000
570 Orchard Ct, Des Plaines	James Robert Leigh & Allison M Leigh	Ann L Androff	10-24-16	\$220,000
9244 Barberry Ln, Des Plaines	Suhail M Iqbal & Husna Tabas-sum	Igor Shuster	10-19-16	\$242,500
531 Cambridge Rd, Des Plaines	Robert P Hanson Jr	Bruszewski Trust	10-19-16	\$252,000
896 Mason Ln, Des Plaines	Francisco Soto & Matilde Soto	Susan Jung Hamilton	10-18-16	\$264,000
204 Wildflower St, Des Plaines	Christina M Moritz	Mark D Scheuer	10-25-16	\$264,000
2231 Pine St, Des Plaines	Julius Kaizer C Floresca	Robert R Naccarato	10-24-16	\$278,000
1405 Susan Dr, Des Plaines	Alice T Benemerito	John E Rolfe	10-25-16	\$282,000
1194 Evergreen Ave, Des Plaines	Jackie Lou C Martinez & Jennie C Martinez	Taylor Morrison Illinois Inc	10-20-16	\$289,500
346 S Western Ave, Des Plaines	Stasia Koccon	Taylor Morrison Illinois Inc	10-21-16	\$311,000
680 Cordial Dr, Des Plaines	Tadeusz Czykieta & Danuta Czykieta	Marcin Krason	10-18-16	\$340,000
760 Yorkshire Ln, Des Plaines	Robert J Cressy	John Fassl	10-21-16	\$411,000
1734 Greenleaf Ave, Des Plaines	Sajan Abraham	Us Bank Na	10-20-16	\$451,000
9215 N Western Ave, Des Plaines	Jamsheed H Khan & Farah M Iqbal	Wally Baginski	10-18-16	\$600,000
9401 Greenwood Dr, Des Plaines	Shahid Pervaz & Iram Shahzadi	Jim Papastergiou	10-25-16	\$619,000
1112 Main St, # 1E, Evanston	Katherine O Neill & Wil Burns	Stephen Wu	10-18-16	\$22,500
1829 Simpson St, Evanston	Rita Kats & Vira Yenakly	Flepspace Llc	10-25-16	\$70,000
830 Mulford St, # 1N, Evanston	Kelli Ann N Alcott & Cassandra V Walters	Erica S Stoecker	10-20-16	\$137,500
1933 Harrison St, # 2A, Evanston	Natalie Leisinger	Lawrence Feis	10-24-16	\$159,000
2100 Brummel St, Evanston	Lal Bhattarai & Parbati Timsina	City Capital Holdings Llc1	10-24-16	\$174,500
3349 Church St, Evanston	Adriana Hollins	Bank Of New York Mellon Ttee	10-19-16	\$230,000
1222 Isabella St, Evanston	Mark C Maranto	Julie Crawford	10-21-16	\$245,000
1500 Dobson St, Evanston	Alexandra Nelson	Michael A Winfield	10-21-16	\$245,000
1620 Mulford St, Evanston	Zenaida Elena Del Real	Elita Lerner	10-21-16	\$250,000
713 Case St, Evanston	Rachel Joseph	Alliance For Revitalized Commu	10-21-16	\$310,000
1627 Mcdaniel Ave, Evanston	Michael B Given	James Hunter	10-24-16	\$310,000
1700 Madison St, Evanston	Keith D Jacobson & Joni A Lamb	Marilyn Faith Garnder Estate	10-20-16	\$313,500
880 Forest Ave, # A, Evanston	Daniel J Urban & Jessica F Urban	Wilson E Merchan	10-24-16	\$329,500
2536 Mcdaniel Ave, # 301, Evanston	Craig J Wolens & Elizabeth Wolens	Susan S Cherry	10-25-16	\$362,000
6401 Lincoln Ave, # 507, Morton Grove	Zumreta Duric	Tina Nielsen	10-18-16	\$205,000
7526 Palma Ln, Morton Grove	Touma O Ochana & Seham Malko	Durga Banerji	10-21-16	\$265,000
8925 Harms Rd, Morton Grove	Keely Finnegan & Brenden Giffel	Exodus 1 Llc	10-24-16	\$305,000
8319 Concord Dr, Morton Grove	Jonathan J Maravilla & Rosalin Trespases	Right Residential Ii Fund I	10-21-16	\$315,000
8234 Central Ave, Morton Grove	Brent Roman & Anh Van Pham	Randell Blackburn	10-20-16	\$371,000
8838 Parkside Ave, Morton Grove	Ninos Youkhana & Jessica Youkhana	Steve Koo	10-18-16	\$395,000
8844 Major Ave, Morton Grove	Kang Han & Minghui Sun	John M Kokron	10-20-16	\$428,500
7061 W Touhy Ave, # 707, Niles	Vincent T Griffin	Jori Bonner	10-21-16	\$176,500
7011 W Touhy Ave, Niles	Halina Zygiel & Sylwia Zygiel	Joanna Ziajor	10-21-16	\$200,000
8728 N Olcott Ave, Niles	Eugenia Burian	William F Hamilton Jr	10-25-16	\$250,000
7462 W Jonquil Ter, Niles	Miroslaw Herdzik & Jolanta Herdzik	Pnc Bank Na	10-24-16	\$265,000
8159 W Greendale Ave, Niles	Sotirios Vergakis & Fotini Vergakis	Keith J Coleman	10-24-16	\$384,000
7455 W Monroe St, Niles	Stev Auweshwa	Besim Jakupovic	10-24-16	\$396,500
9260 N Maryland St, Niles	Sampath Patchikura & Nagaraja Lakshmi Savarinath	Right Residential Ii Fund 3	10-21-16	\$400,000
9220 N Ashland Ave, Niles	Ajomon Joy	Thomas P Mathew	10-21-16	\$475,000
8128 W Oak Ave, Niles	Isabel Lazar & George Y Yacoub	Bronislaw Mietus	10-18-16	\$600,000
70 S Dee Rd, # 70E, Park Ridge	Steven M Tass & Nicole Marie Spencer	Anne M Drougas	10-24-16	\$290,000
1412 Grove Ave, Park Ridge	Kathy Barcham	Fannie Mae	10-24-16	\$345,000
1701 S Prospect Ave, Park Ridge	Britton Berek & Anita Giuntoli	Jeffrey A Starecheski	10-21-16	\$417,500
12 Berry Pkwy, Park Ridge	Lee Muench & Gaily Muench	Depaul Trust	10-25-16	\$450,000
2254 Parkside Dr, Park Ridge	Luis C Salinas & Delia Q Salinas	Mohammed I Subhani	10-19-16	\$575,000
3035 Nw Hwy, # 1, Park Ridge	Diane Marie Klein	Brighton Mews Venture Llc	10-24-16	\$608,000
36 Meacham Ave, Park Ridge	Kenneth Gillen & Carol Gillen	Hinkley Park Development Llc	10-18-16	\$726,500
913 Granville Ave, Park Ridge	Nenad Osmanovic & Dinan Tulewicz	Vitold Stawierej	10-18-16	\$850,000

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

## Bright idea: Clean chandelier ahead of the holiday season

By KATHRYN WEBER  
Tribune Content Agency

Hotels and restaurants know that nothing makes an impression quite like a glistening chandelier. The twinkle of those crystal-encrusted fixtures casts a beautiful glow over the room like no other lighting.

The same goes at home. When it comes to holidays or special occasions, nothing beats a beautifully set table with crystal, china, silver and linen. And nothing brings that to life quite like a gleaming chandelier (or brings it down if it's dusty, and the crystal is dull).

Many chandeliers suffer from neglect. Because of their intricacy, homeowners often resist cleaning them until it's absolutely necessary. If your chandelier is coated with dust and cobwebs, it's time to clean it before the deluge of holiday meals. By cleaning ahead of time, your chandelier will be ready when you are.

You have two choices for cleaning a chandelier: hire a service or try cleaning it yourself. If you have an ornate chandelier or one that's too high to clean, you may end up having to hire a specialty chandelier cleaning service. If you have a particularly fine chandelier, contact your favorite lighting center or the place where the fixture was purchased to inquire about proper cleaning. No matter who is cleaning your chandelier, it's important to note that electricity should be turned off at the breaker before the cleaning process begins. And the electricity should remain off until your chandelier has completely dried.

One method of cleaning involves covering all the bulbs with small plastic bags and securing them with a rubber band, then



DANIEL RAUSTADT/TCA

An ornate crystal chandelier or one that is too high may require hiring a professional cleaner to do the job.

spraying the chandelier with glass cleaner and letting the excess cleaner drip onto a plastic liner. However, this approach is messy and may not create the desired effect of a perfectly polished chandelier.

Dry cleaning that's done by hand is always better, safer and more thorough. Hand cleaning enables you to individually polish the arms of the chandelier, bulbs and all the crystals. Before undertaking cleaning, move the table away from the chandelier and place a soft, washable cloth or blanket underneath. This way, if you dislodge a crystal, it'll fall on something soft.

Dry cleaning a chandelier involves having two cloths: one to for cleaning and the other for polishing. Spray one cloth with enough cleaner to make it thoroughly damp. Next, wipe each crystal clean with the damp cloth. Fol-

low up with a dry cloth to polish and dry each crystal.

This is a tedious, time-consuming process, but you'll know that it's done properly and safely. Another option is to remove all the crystals that are easily removable and put them into hot soapy water. With this done, you can completely wipe down the entire fixture before returning your washed-and-dried sparkling crystals to their original positions.

If you have small lampshades over the bulbs, remove them and wipe with a dry microfiber cloth to clear any dust. Use an extender wand duster to go up and down the chandelier chain to clean excess dust or dirt particles. Let the fixture dry for one to two days before turning the light on again.

Now you'll have a sparkling chandelier waiting for your next special meal.

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

## Thursday, Nov. 24

**Adopt a Sailor Navy Day:** On Thanksgiving Day, the Morton Grove American Legion Post 134 hosts 50 recruits from Great Lakes. Legion members, village officials, friends, and all who wish to thank them for their service can greet them and thank them. The day's events include: a full Thanksgiving dinner is served to the recruits; phone service and computers are made available to recruits all day long to talk and/or email their loved ones; a remembrance DVD is made of these events and sent to their families. To make a donation, please make checks payable to: Sailor Fund at this American Legion Post 134 address. 8:30 a.m. Thursday, The American Legion Post 134, 6144 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove, free

**Thanksgiving Brunch and Dinner:** Brunch held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. featuring over 100 decadent items including unlimited champagne and mimosas, roasted turkey, honey baked ham, chef carved beef, oysters on the half shell, snow crab legs and desserts. Dinner is from 6 to 8 p.m., offering a three-course meal with the choice of turkey, salmon or pork loin. 10 a.m. Thursday, Hilton Northbrook Hotel, 2855 Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook, buffet \$40 adults; \$18 children 4-10 years, 847-664-7999.

**Prairie Grass Cafe hosts Thanksgiving Dinner:** Chef/owners Sarah Stegner and George Bumbaris offer their famed Thanksgiving menu featuring fresh, homemade Thanksgiving favorites with produce sourced from local farmers where possible. Early reservations are strongly recommended. 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Prairie Grass Cafe, 601 Skokie Blvd., Northbrook, Prices Vary, 847-205-4433.

**Restaurant Michael's Family-Style Thanksgiving Dinner:** A deposit of \$13 per guest will hold your reservation. Menu includes Chef Michael's Sweet Potato Gratin as pictured above. See the full menu on the Restaurant Michael website. Noon Thursday, Restaurant Michael, 64 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, \$53 (children under 10 will be half price), 847-441-3100.

## Friday, Nov. 25

**14th Annual Winter Arts and Crafts Expo:** This event features works by 140 artists and includes original, handmade

works of jewelry, ceramics, fiber, metal, glass, painting, photography, mixed media, and more. All proceeds from the Expo benefit the ongoing exhibition, education, and outreach programs at the Art Center. 10 a.m. daily, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300.

**Piccolo Theatre "The Snow Queen":** Piccolo's 16th annual Panto brings back the smash hit of 2013. Best friends Kai and Gerda are separated by the enchanted broken mirror of the fierce Snow Queen. With colorful comrades Erick, Derick, and Dame Grandmother, the shy Gerda must find the hero within as she quests across a wintry wonderland to save Kai, facing trolls, pesky snowflakes, and other magical obstacles. This holiday classic will warm your heart, thaw your toes, and tickle your funny bone. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 3 & 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 3 & 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Piccolo Theatre, 600 Main St., Evanston, \$10-\$25, 847-424-0089.

**WERQ It off and Shop it up:** Kick off Black Friday with a complimentary WERQ class at Sweet Buddha and rev up for some power shopping at Loree's Closet/We Buy Lulu and Sweet Buddha. Specials are offered all day long, so check out trunk shows by The Wrapped Wrist & T Co's Custom Clothes. It's the 12 Tanks of Xmas - Show us you follow WeBuyLulu on Instagram to be entered to win a tank a month for a year. The WERQ class size is limited, so email: staci@loreescloset.com to hold your spot. 10 a.m. Friday, Loree's Closet We Buy Lulu and Sweet Buddha, 660 Vernon Ave., Glencoe, free, 847-786-4193.

**Holiday Store at The Grove:** Escape the mall and find the holiday spirit at The Grove. Discover unique gift items for all those special people on your list, including personalized ornaments, home accessories, gifts and crafts. Proceeds from the sale benefit The Grove. 10 a.m. Friday and Wednesday-Saturday, The Grove, 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, free, 847-299-6096.

**Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale:** Dress up your home and yard for the season with Wagner Farm's beautiful selection of cut holiday trees and wreaths. Sales help to feed and support the animals on the farm. midnight Friday, Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview, Sales benefit the Farm, 847-657-1506.

**Gentle Yoga:** Due to high demand, two yoga sessions are now offered. Space in each session is limited to the first 50 people. Yoga instructor Olga Rudiak leads a series of yoga sessions for improved physical strength, relaxation and

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

**YMCA Tree Lot Opening:** The North Suburban YMCA's annual Tree Lot fundraiser opens with a wide range of trees and wreaths in sizes and prices to fit every home. Proceeds benefit the Y's programs that build stronger families and communities for all. Tree Lot hours (while supplies last.): Fridays, 5 to 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sundays, noon to 5 p.m. Also, don't miss the new "Making Spirits Bright" Holiday Extravaganza on Dec. 3 from noon to 5 p.m. North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road, Northbrook, free, 847-272-7250.

**Share The Warmth:** Volunteers wanted - Join a group of warm, friendly, supportive women (men welcome) to prepare one-of-a-kind fleece blankets for chemo patients. Add a crocheted edge to fleece and send free blankets to new adult chemotherapy patients. A basic crochet stitch can be taught if needed. Bring lunch. Attendees often gather until 2 or 3 p.m. Donations are welcome to this 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. 9 a.m. Fridays, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-293-6755.

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

**Winterfest Park Ridge:** Come to this traditional Park Ridge holiday celebration, between the Uptown and South Park shopping areas of Park Ridge. Trolleys load and unload on Prospect at Devon for a ride to Hodges Park (Uptown) and back to South Park. Trolleys stop running at 9 p.m. sharp. 6 p.m. Friday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3121.

**Santa HQ at Fashion Outlets of Chicago:** Fashion Outlets of Chicago has partnered with HGTV to introduce Santa HQ: a thoroughly modern, extraordinarily experiential visit with Santa for shoppers to enjoy this holiday season. The new Santa HQ invites families to experience the wonder of Santa's workshop utilizing digital tools to offer an augmented reality environment and a new and enhanced social media experience. 9 a.m. Friday-Sunday, 11 a.m. Monday-Thursday, Fashion Outlets of Chicago, 5220 Fashion Outlets Way, Rosemont, \$34.99, 847-928-7500.

**Michael Palascak:** Michael Palascak performs original stand-up comedy. 8 & 10:30 p.m. Friday, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Zanies Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont, \$22 plus two-item food/beverage minimum, 847-813-0484.

**Brush with Nature 2016 Exhibition:** Come to enjoy the artworks on display. Local artists include: Adrienne Aaronson, Stephanie Rose Bird, Tiger Lily Cross, Jan Flapan, Steve Johnson, Mary Longe, Debra Nichols, Fred Polito, Naomi Pollak, Amanda Roman and Ray Vlcek. 8 a.m. daily, Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, free, 847-674-1500.

## Saturday, Nov. 26

**Deacon Blues: Tribute to Steely Dan:** 8 p.m. Saturday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$18-\$34, 847-492-8860.

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

**Signature Entertainment Presents: LOL Saturday:** Comedy every Saturday night hosted by Comedy legends Tony Sculfield and Mark Simmons. National headliners with movie and television credits on stage. Awesome venue with full bar and dinner menu. 9 p.m. Saturday, Chicago's Home of Chicken & Waffles, 2424 W. Dempster St., Evanston, \$15 adult advance; \$20 at the door, 847-521-6434.

**Animal Arts and Seasonal Stories:** "Animal Arts & Seasonal Stories" are recommended for children ages 5 and up, but there is no minimum age requirement. Activities are offered at varying levels of difficulty and interest to engage the entire family. An adult must accompany participants. 10:30 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, \$3 kids, \$5 adults, 847-475-1030.

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

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4800.

## Sunday, Nov. 27

**Cathy Richardson Band:** With Maisie Bull. 8 p.m. Sunday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$22-\$35, 847-492-8860.

**Bittersweet Drive:** 7 p.m. Sunday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$12-\$20, 847-492-8860.

**Country Christmas and Dessert with Santa:** Get into the holiday spirit with a real country Christmas at The Grove National Historic Landmark. Decorate the Christmas tree, make crafts and take a pleasant walk to the Redfield Estate to enjoy refreshments, decorate cookies and visit with Santa. Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday, multiple times, The Grove, 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, free, with reservations, 847-299-6096.

**Critic's Choice: "Gloria":** A vibrant Chilean divorcee falls for a handsome ex-naval officer, but finds any chance for lasting happiness hinging on her willingness to confront a painful chapter from her past. 2 p.m. Sunday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

**NaNoWriMo Weekly Write In:** Write your novel at the library. Join in this-weekly National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) meeting each Sunday in November. Snacks are provided. 2 p.m. Sunday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224.

## Monday, Nov. 28

**Marvel Universe LIVE Tour - Chicago Auditions:** Feld Entertainment is seeking male and female action performers, martial artists, gymnasts, acrobats, trickers, and aerialists for the touring arena stunt spectacular, Marvel Universe LIVE. All candidates must be at least 18 years of age to audition. 9:30 a.m. Monday, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, free, 847-328-2795.

**World of Yiddish Adult Lecture Series Program:** Join Stewart Figa in a three-part lecture series on Yiddish appreciation. Yiddish songs, poetry, literature, history, lore, and more are discussed at each session. 7 p.m. Monday, 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 project(s) and needles. 2 p.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

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

**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. Monday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234.

**2016 Congressional Election Results:** Julie Strauss will review the results of the House and Senate races, and explore how the presidential selection affected the Congressional seats. She will have some predictions on how Congress and the White House with its new inhabitant will interact in the coming years. 1 p.m. Monday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$10 (NSSC member); \$13 (non-member), 847-784-6030.

**The Golden Age of Television:** Revisit beloved TV performers such as Milton Berle, Burns and Allen, and Lucille Ball, along with some of the most popular Broadway performers and artists of the day. In this live-video feed presentation, a Paley Center educator recalls how people excitedly tuned in to see what the new technology called television, would bring into their living rooms. 11 a.m. Monday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$10 NSSC member, \$13 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

**"New Faces Sing":** Porchlight Music Theatre and Artistic Director Michael Weber announce the 2016-17 season of Chicago's hit musical revue series, "New Faces Sing" returning to Uptown Underground, 4707 N. Broadway and debuting at Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave. in Skokie. In tribute to the original New Faces series that ran on Broadway and on film from 1934 — 1968, Porchlight Music Theatre created this musical series as a showcase for the best emerging talent. 8 p.m. Monday & Tuesday, Skokie Theatre, 7924 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie, \$22, 847-677-7761.

**Music Fun with Wendy Morgan:** Wendy Morgan loves to get kids singing, wiggling, jumping, dancing and just having a great time. Her original songs

encourage children to use their imaginations, teach musical basics like melody and rhythm, and show kids how to have fun with words. 10:30 a.m. Monday, Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-256-5025.

**Free Walking Clinic:** Learn to get the most benefit out of walking as exercise in Gillson Park. A certified, personal trainer teaches the class, which includes a warm-up, stretching, inclines, steps, balance and coordination. All fitness levels welcome. 5:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays, Gillson Park, Lake Ave & Michigan Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-251-6834.

## Tuesday, Nov. 29

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

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

**Santa's Magical Trolley Express:** Enjoy a trolley ride while listening to Mrs. Claus read the classic Christmas story, "The Polar Express." Be greeted at the North Pole with songs & games by the elves, cookies & cocoa with Mrs. Claus, and a special personal visit with Santa. 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday & Wednesday, Little Beans Cafe, 430 Asbury Ave., Evanston, \$55; Free for infants under 12 months, 847-807-3731.

**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. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440.

**Lego Club for Grades 1 to 2:** Calling all Master Builders to join in this-monthly free-build. The Lego pieces are supplied, but space is limited, so register at [glenviewpl.org/register](http://glenviewpl.org/register) or call. 4 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

**"TR: The Man in the Arena":** Actor and scholar Derek Evans performs a rousing celebration of the life and exu-

berant personality of Theodore Roosevelt. Register online or call. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

**Park Center Preschool Scholastic Book Fair:** Stop by Park Center to shop a great selection of books for all ages as well as craft, activity and gift items. A portion of all sales benefit Park Center Preschool Programs. Read all about it and buy your holiday gifts. 9 a.m. Tuesday-Thursday, Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670.

**Hamilton: The Man the Myth the Musical:** Historian Barry Bradford offers a unique look at the true story of Alexander Hamilton, a fascinating background to the production, and an introduction to this wildly popular musical. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224.

**Jeff and Janis debut new show at Temple Beth Israel:** A new show, "The Jewish Journey: The Great American Songbook," with Jeff and Janis, will debut Nov. 29. Join us at 6:45 p.m., for a nosh with the concert starting at 7 p.m. at Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, \$4 suggested donation, 847-675-0951.

**WTTW's Jay Shefsky's Stories about Everyday Chicagoans:** Jay Shefsky is senior producer of "Chicago Tonight" and the host of "Jay's Chicago." He's a 30-year veteran of the station and has made an award-winning career of telling stories of human spirit, passion, and creativity. He shows several examples of his work, shares some behind-the-scenes stories of life at WTTW, and talks about the importance of listening to our neighbors around the Chicago area. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-256-6935.

## Wednesday, Nov. 30

**Liz Vice:** 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$12-\$22, 847-492-8860.

**Lego Club for Grades 3 to 6:** Calling all Master Builders to join in this-monthly free-build. The Lego pieces are supplied, but space is limited, so register at [glenviewpl.org/register](http://glenviewpl.org/register) or call. 4 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

**NaNoWriMo Write-In:** Set your own writing goal for the month and chal-

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lunge yourself to write a little daily. Meet up with fellow writers in the Teen Underground biweekly to share your work and get constructive feedback. 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234.

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

**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. Wednesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6060.

**Park Ridge Fly Tying Club Meetings:** Chicago Fly Fishers Club meet at 7 p.m. Wednesdays, from October through May. An experienced demonstrator does demonstrations of fly tying, with members tying the same pattern using tools and materials provided by the club. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Park Ridge Community Church, 100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-3164.

**Bubbles Tasting:** Join us for one of our favorite and most popular events — Holiday Bubbles Tasting. RSVP requested. 6 p.m. Wednesday, WineStyles Park Ridge, 105 S. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, \$15-\$20, 847-518-9463.

**Pokemon Club Grades K-6:** Bring your own cards and meet up with fellow Pokemon fans. 4:15 p.m. Wednesday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123.

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

**Wednesday Night Church Activities:** Wednesday night all-church family nights begin with dinner at 5:45

p.m., followed by singing and skits for all ages together. Then, afterward, youth programs and adult studies are broken out by age. Dinner cost is \$5 per adult, \$3.50 for children 5-12, under five are free. A family pays a maximum of \$12. 5:45 p.m. Wednesday, Winnetka Covenant Church, 1200 Hibbard Road, Wilmette, \$5-\$12, 847-446-4300.

## Thursday, Dec. 1

**Walk A Mile In My Shoes: Otis Clay Tribute:** 8 p.m. Dec. 1, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$17-\$25, 847-492-8860.

**Northbrook Woman's Club Holiday Boutique and Luncheon:** There is no charge to shop the Boutique which runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch and entertainment by Glenbrook High School's Express Show Choir begins at noon. To make a reservation for the luncheon, visit the event website. Reservations are due by Nov. 22, 2016. 10 a.m. Dec. 1, Skokie Country Club, 500 Washington Ave., Glencoe, \$50, 847-835-0600.

**BookBites: Reading Social:** Drop in for this monthly reading social event featuring "All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr, and co-sponsored by the Niles Public Library. Go to [facebook.com/nilesglenviewbookbites](http://facebook.com/nilesglenviewbookbites) for details. 7 p.m. Dec. 1, Hackney's Glenview, 1514 E. Lake Ave., Glenview, free, 847-724-7171.

**Opera Lecture Series: "The Magic Flute"** (Die Zauberflote) by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart offers tales of intrigue, love, and death this 2016/17 Lyric Opera of Chicago season. Register at [glenviewpl.org/register](http://glenviewpl.org/register) or call. 7 p.m. Dec. 1, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

**"Fred and Ginger and Beyond":** Fred Astaire is the greatest dancer in the history of the movies. While most often associated with Ginger Rogers, Fred Astaire had many fabulous partners including Cyd Charisse, Judy Garland, and Rita Hayworth. Berry Bradford offers this charming presentation that looks at his extraordinary life and legacy. The film clips are priceless and the story is delightful. 1 p.m. Dec. 1, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$12 NSSC members; \$15 non-member, 847-784-6030.

**Cole Porter's Top Ten List and Lust Songs:** If you are wondering what a List song is, come find out when Charles Troy shares his selection of Porter's Top Ten. The songs are played chronologically and you'll learn about Porter's extraordinary private life along the way. And then Troy covers Porter's

love ballads, characterized as Lust Songs. This Top Ten list includes many of his greatest standards. 10 a.m. Dec. 1, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$12 NSSC members; \$15 non-member, 847-784-6030.

**Quench Your Palette:** Sip your favorite beverage and create a masterpiece with Brickton Art Center instructors available to help. Art supplies are provided to craft a beautiful work of art. BYOB to go with the snacks offered. Please register, as the fees are: early bird discount \$25 per person if registered by Nov. 28; \$30 per person thereafter. 7 p.m. Dec. 1, Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce, 720 Garden St., Park Ridge, \$25-\$30, 847-825-3121.

**German Stammtisch:** The group meets on the first and third Thursday of each month in the community center to practice German and learn about German culture. For all experience levels, from native speakers to beginners. 1 p.m. Dec. 1, Oakton Park Community Center, 4701 Oakton St., Skokie, free.

**Branding:** An interactive workshop designed to teach you how to differentiate yourself from the competition, how to discover your unique value, and how to sell what an employer is buying. To register for Career Moves workshops, visit the website. 9:30 a.m. Dec. 1, Goldie Bachmann Luftig Building, 5150 Golf Road, Skokie, Workshop fees: Career Moves Clients: \$10 per workshop and non-clients: \$20 per workshop, 847-745-5460.

**Trinity Church Nursery School Observation Days:** The nursery school holds three Observation Days for prospective parents to get more information and go on a tour. To attend one of the days offered or for more information, please RSVP to the director Sue Gaertner at 847-251-0479 or email [sue@trinitywilmette.org](mailto:sue@trinitywilmette.org). TCNS is a non-denominational preschool. 9:15 a.m. Dec. 1, Trinity United Methodist Church, 1024 Lake Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-251-2333.

**Wilmette Public Library Fiber Group at Panera:** Join us as we knit, crochet, needlepoint or any type of fiber art. We share ideas, have knit-alongs, group projects and occasional lessons. New members welcome. 10 a.m. Dec. 1, Panera Bread, 1199 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-859-6356.

## Friday, Dec. 2

**Jolly Old St. Nicholas Concert:** Before there was Santa Claus, there was St. Nicholas, the "bearer of gifts." The Elmhurst History Museum celebrates

this tradition and the city's German roots with a concert of German carols and performance by Jolly Old St. Nick. 7 p.m. Dec. 2, Yorkfield Presbyterian Church in Elmhurst, 1099 S. York St., Bensenville, free, 630-833-1457.

**Joe Pug:** 7 p.m. Dec. 2, 10 p.m. Dec. 2, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$20-\$35, 847-492-8860.

**Silver Screen Series: "It's a Wonderful Life":** An angel helps a compassionate but despairingly frustrated businessman by showing what life would have been like if he never existed. 2 p.m. Dec. 2, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

**Women In Business Holiday Luncheon:** Linda Liberatore discusses being bold enough to take big steps, to persist and persevere during tough times, and to find out how to combine business sense with life skills. Start channeling energy in a way that helps you thrive in any career or new business. Enjoy a lunch and networking. Please register. 11:30 a.m. Dec. 2, Park Ridge Country Club, 636 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, \$25 members; \$30 prospective members and walk-ins, 847-825-3121.

**K-HITS '80s Wonderland:** We're excited to announce the 104.3 K-HITS '80s Wonderland concert, taking place at Joe's Live in Rosemont. Start your holiday season with four 80s acts — Eddie Money, Wang Chung, Naked Eyes and Tommy Tutone — that had a combined 22 songs reach the top 40 charts. Tickets on sale at [Ticketweb.com](http://Ticketweb.com). 6:30 p.m. Dec. 2, Joe's Live Rosemont, 5441 Park Place, Rosemont, \$45

**Music Fun with Wendy Morgan:** Wendy Morgan loves to get kids singing, wiggling, jumping, dancing and just having a great time. Her original songs encourage children to use their imaginations, teach musical basics like melody and rhythm, and show kids how to have fun with words. 10:30 a.m. Dec. 2, Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-256-5025.

**Winnetka Tree Lighting Festivities:** The annual Winnetka Tree Lighting is orchestrated by the Winnetka-Northfield Chamber of Commerce, The Village of Winnetka and the Winnetka Park District at Metra Park across the street from Winnetka Village Hall. Visitors from the North Pole make appearances and festive carolers in Victorian costumes lead the singing. Enjoy hot cocoa after the lighting ceremony. 5:45 p.m. Dec. 2, Metra Park, 754 Elm St., Winnetka, free, 847-446-4451.

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## Saturday, Dec. 3

### Native Fine Arts Holiday Market:

Native American artists will be selling their art directly to the public at the Mitchell Museum's annual Native Fine Arts Holiday Market. The two-day event will be held during regular museum hours. 10 a.m. Dec. 3, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-1030.

### Sts. Peter and Paul Jolly Old St. Nicholas Holiday Faire:

The Ladies Philoptochos Society of the church hosts its holiday faire in the church community center. A luncheon of homemade Greek cuisine is served from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (carry-outs are available). Many vendors and local artisans offer: personalized ornaments and stationery, hand-crafted women's jewelry, handmade soaps, decorative handbags, knitwear, and Greek items, along with icons, books and other religious items. The Candy Cane Room is open from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for memorable photos with Santa. 10 a.m. Dec. 3, Saints Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 1401 Wagner Road, Glen-

view, \$2; children and students free, 847-729-2235.

**Gingerbread Jubilee:** Come decorate a unique gingerbread barn while listening to holiday music, sipping hot chocolate and enjoying cookies. Price is per barn decorated. 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Dec. 3, Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview, \$50 per barn; Registration is required. For more information, call 847-724-5670, 847-657-1506.

### Winter Wonderland Train Ride:

Board the Winter Wonderland Train bound for the Libertyville Train Station. Along the way, enjoy reading a holiday story. Once in Libertyville, savor a meal at Egg Harbor Cafe. Santa joins the group on the way back to Glenview and he has a special gift for each child. Spots fill fast. Register at [glenviewparks.org](http://glenviewparks.org). Resident and Non-resident fees: Ages 3 months to 17 years: \$27/\$33; Ages 18 years and older: \$34/\$41. 1:14 p.m. Dec. 3, North Glenview Metra Train Station, 3000 Old Willow Road, Glenview, \$27-\$41

### Get Hooked Craft That's a Wrap:

Registration is required for this event to learn fun and easy tips for unique wrapping. Also, create small paper boxes and personalized gift tags, with materials

provided. Celebrate the end of the year and the holiday season by getting creative with your gift wrapping. 10 a.m. Dec. 3, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

**Holly Days Festival:** Presented by Morton Grove Park District, Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce, Morton Grove Day Commission, and the Village of Morton Grove. Morton Grove kicks off the holiday season with a day of family activities, like free entertainment, a visit from Santa, food and tree sales at Harrier Park. All are welcome to an interfaith ceremony and tree lighting event at the gazebo, Dec. 2, the night before beginning at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free and costs vary for food and tree sales. 11 a.m. Dec. 3, Harrier Park and Pool, 6250 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-1200.

**Breakfast With Santa:** Enjoy a breakfast buffet at Allgauer's on the Riverfront's annual Breakfast With Santa. Kids are able to decorate their own holiday cookies and meet Santa Claus. Make reservations by calling for one of the Saturday morning seatings. 8:30 a.m. Dec. 3, Hilton Northbrook Hotel, 2855 Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook, \$12.95, 847-664-7999.

**Jake Johannsen:** Jake Johannsen performs original stand-up. 7 p.m. Dec. 3, 9:30 p.m. Dec. 3, Zanies Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont, \$25 plus two-item minimum food/beverage purchase, 847-813-0484.

**Preserving Survivor Stories:** Ask Holocaust Survivor Pinchas Gutter any question you would like, and "natural language" technology software will respond as if Pinchas were in the room. 10:30 a.m. Dec. 3, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800.

**Breakfast With Santa:** While enjoying a scrumptious breakfast buffet, families will meet and greet Santa, have a complimentary photo taken, create personalized crafts and then take home a book from Mrs. Claus' library. Register early — this event is expected to sell out. 8:30 a.m. Dec. 3, Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka, \$25 per person, and free for children under 2, 847-446-0537.

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

**COUNTRY FINANCIAL**

**PRESENTS:**

**HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETE OF THE MONTH**

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## NOW PLAYING

**"Doctor Strange" ★★★**

PG-13, 1:55, action/adventure

"Doctor Strange," starring Benedict Cumberbatch as a neurosurgeon who learns to bend time, space and his workaholic, narcissistic ways, can't escape all its Marvel Universe corporate imperatives and generic third-act battles for control of the planet. But you know? This latest in the ever-broadening Marvel movie landscape is fun. I wish Rachel McAdams had a couple of additional scenes as Strange's fellow doctor, but some of her

screen time, no doubt, went instead to sight gags featuring the Cloak of Levitation. That cloak is a pleasure, a supporting player of wit and distinction, emblematic of the best of "Doctor Strange." — *Michael Phillips*

**"Trolls" ★★ 1/2**

PG-13, 1:32, animated

Branch (Justin Timberlake), a misanthropic and maudlin troll, just doesn't fit in with his dancing, singing troll brethren. It's easy to see where he's coming from. His foil, Princess Poppy (Anna Kendrick), bursts with a weaponized sense of joy, forcing her subjects into an oppressive regime of colorful, glittery glee. When Branch and Poppy team up to save some of their troll friends captured by the evil Bergen Chef (Christine Baranski),

they have to meet in the middle. Once these two get on the same level, the joy outbursts become far more tolerable and a lot less grating. When "Trolls" finds its balance, universal if simple truths abound. — *Katie Walsh, Tribune News Service*

**"Arrival" ★★★**

PG-13, 1:56, sci-fi

The alien spacecraft in "Arrival" arrive by the dozen, looking like the latest in KitchenAid gadgetry writ large. Director Denis Villeneuve is one sleek craftsman: every subtle camera crawl, each darkness-shrouded visual composition in "Arrival" conspires to unsettle us and hold us in a state of dread or wonder, without being cheap about it. Louise (Amy Adams), a linguistics professor, is brought in to translate the otherworldly beeps and

pops and guttural somethings emitted by the inhabitants of the spacecraft. Shot under gray skies and in artful shadows by cinematographer Bradford Young, "Arrival" will cast a spell on some while merely discombobulating others. — *M.P.*

**"Almost Christmas" ★★ 1/2**

PG-13, 1:52, comedy

If there is any reason, besides an annual craving for cinematic Christmas cheer, to see "Almost Christmas," that reason is Mo'Nique. The film is a bit scattered, jumping from comic set piece to comic set piece that seem to come standard issue in the holiday movie genre. Someone falls off the roof fixing decorations? Check. Church spectacle? Check. Christmas dinner debacle? Check. But for all the over-the-top operatic moments,

there's something about the wild tonal shifts and chaos of "Almost Christmas" that rings true about the holiday season. — *K.W., Tribune News Service*

**"Hacksaw Ridge" ★★ 1/2**

R, 2:18, action/adventure

"Hacksaw Ridge" takes its name from a forbidding 350-foot cliff on the Island of Okinawa, the 1945 scene of some of the worst carnage of World War II. The script creates a solemn, extraordinarily bloody account of the trials by fire met by real-life Medal of Honor recipient Desmond Doss (Andrew Garfield), a Seventh-day Adventist and medic who was the first conscientious objector to receive that honor. The limitation of "Hacksaw

Ridge," for all its gut-punch viscera, comes from director Mel Gibson treating Doss not as exceptional, but as a messiah. — *M.P.*

**COUNTRY FINANCIAL**

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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

#### Sullivan, Mary Ann

Mary Ann (Wilson) Sullivan, 75, formerly of Evanston, died on Nov. 12, after a long struggle with cancer.

Married for 54 years to James A. Sullivan, who survives her. She has 6 siblings and 3 children, Kate (Matt) Barrett, John (Courtney) Sullivan, Martha (Mark) Rode, and eleven grandchildren: Kevin, Sam, Elle, Wilson, Reilly, Luke, Walker, Elizabeth, Erik, Maggie and Griffin.

Her Catholic faith was very important to her throughout her life, shaped by family and parish communities including St. Athanasius, Evanston.

There will be a private service in Indiana. Details of a memorial mass will be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her honor to the Readiness Center, 347 Catalpa Ave, Benton Harbor, MI 49022, or the Women's Care Center, 360 N. Notre Dame Avenue, South Bend, IN 46617.

Sign Guestbook at [chicagotribune.com/obituaries](http://chicagotribune.com/obituaries)

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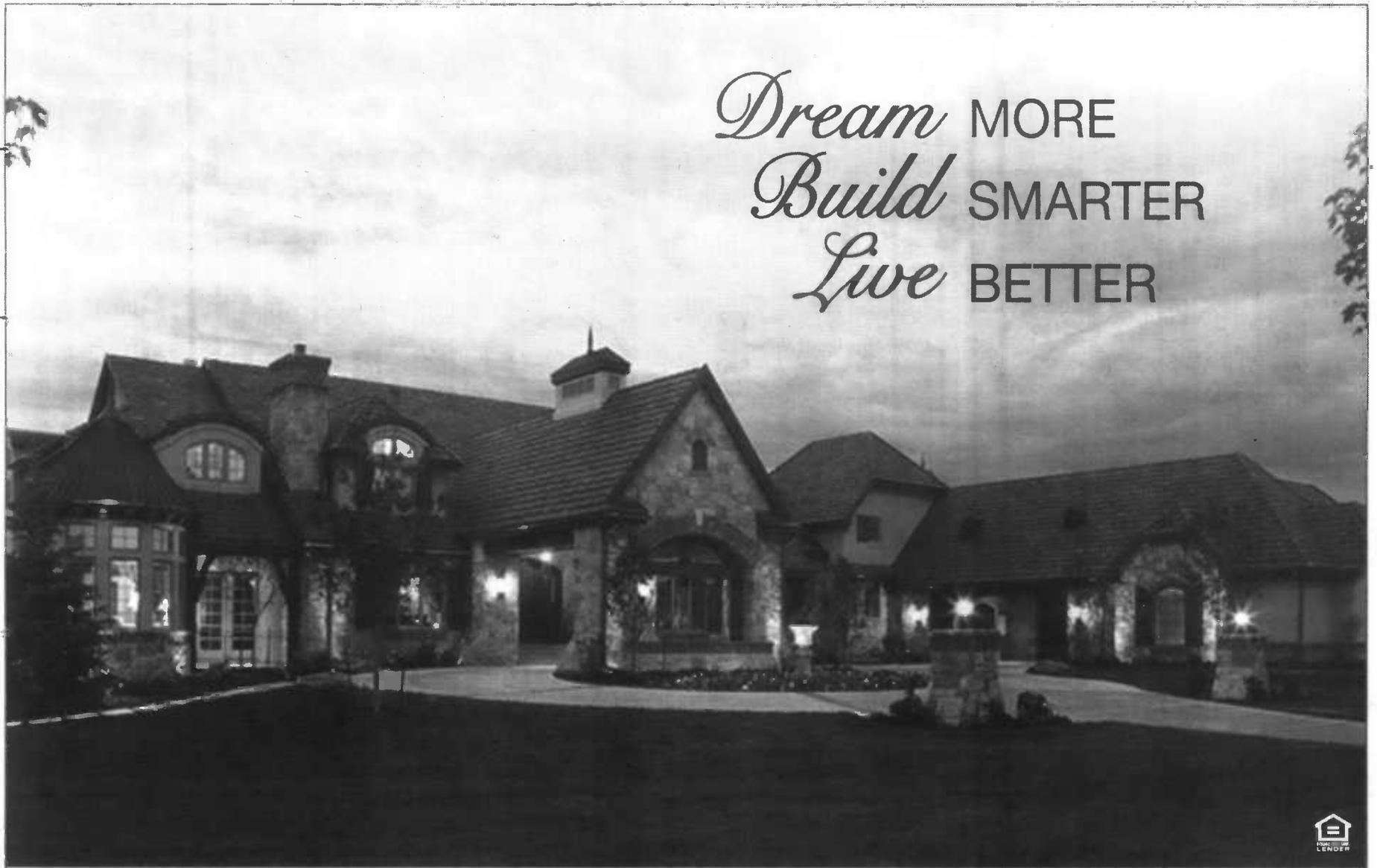
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# Amid concerns, football numbers steady at largest schools

By STEVE SADIN  
Pioneer Press

With a national spotlight shining on football-related injuries, ranging from torn knee ligaments to concussions and long-term brain damage, participation in area high school varsity programs has remained relatively constant over the last five years.

A survey of the high school football programs in the Pioneer Press coverage area showed increased participation at some schools over the last five years and a decline at others, but only one coach thought that concern about concussions or other ailments led to a decrease in roster size.

With 28 of the 40 schools responding to the survey, programs averaged 53.7 players on the varsity roster in 2012, 55.6 in 2014 and 55.9 in 2016. Schools with the largest enrollments often saw growth in football participation, whereas smaller private schools were more likely to see a drop in roster size.

North Shore Country Day in Winnetka, which has a co-ed enrollment of 218 students, went from 31 varsity players in 2012 to 16 in 2015. That was the season North Shore dropped 11-man football and joined the Great 8 League, an eight-man football conference based in Wisconsin.

"This is the best thing I've done as athletic director," said North Shore's Patrick McHugh, who has held the job since 1994. "I was able to keep a 98-year tradition of football here. We didn't have to drop the sport."

On Nov. 11, Lake Forest Academy announced it also will end its 125-year tradition of 11-man football in favor of joining the Great 8 League. According to a press release from the private boarding school, the decision came after five years of football participation in the high-20s and 30s. The press release said the Caxys needed 40 players to sustain an 11-man football program.

LFA football coach Robin Bowkett said concerns about head injuries are a primary reason for the decrease in participation — he said it "worries a lot of parents" — though he would not speculate whether this might be a trend for larger, public schools.

"It's the right move for smaller, tuition-based schools like ours," he said. "There are a few smaller



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

North Shore Country Day, which had 16 players on its roster the last two seasons, plays in an eight-man football league. Lake Forest Academy has petitioned to join the same Wisconsin-based conference.

Catholic schools struggling with numbers that may be open to a change. It's a way for us to maintain football and have a great experience for the players."

Another private school with low participation is Guerin in River Grove. The Crusaders started the year 0-6 and had been shut out five times when first-year coach Mark Morgan was relieved of his duties. At that time, Morgan said Guerin's program was varsity-only and had no more than 17 players.

Much larger public schools, such as Stevenson in Lincolnshire, have no problems with participation. Stevenson has an enrollment of 3,934 students and a varsity roster size that has ranged from 63 to 70 since 2012.

Students who live in the Lake County portion of Buffalo Grove attend Stevenson, and the Cook County residents go to Buffalo Grove High School, which has an enrollment of 1,945. The Bison had 58 players this year under

first-year head coach Jeff Vlk, who's also the wrestling coach and had served as an assistant under the school's last three head football coaches. The last two seasons, Buffalo Grove's roster was in the 40s.

Vlk said he does not know if the greater numbers will last.

"I recruited players around the school," he said. "I talked to kids in class and spread the word around school."

Despite the overall consistency in varsity participation, local teams have changed their approach in practice and how they communicate with parents.

Loyola coach John Holecek, who played at Illinois and in the NFL, said he limits the contact his players have in practice. York coach Matt Monken said his players only put on full pads once a week in practice, and even then contact is limited to prevent injuries. He's put greater emphasis on film study.

"It's not just head injuries,"

Monken said of the prevailing safety concerns. "It's knees and shoulders and ankles."

York's enrollment is 2,643, and the Dukes' roster size has ranged from 56 to 76 in the last four years. But Monken said he's does not suspect injury concerns to be a reason for the roster's fluctuation. Rather, he said York's roughly 30 other sports are drawing athletes instead.

With 1,695 students, Lake Forest High School is comparatively small but has had a roster averaging 49 players from 2012-15 with a spike to 69 this season. Coach Chuck Spagnoli said the recent surge is because of a series of winning seasons. He discounts the impact of concussions on participation.

"I think it's been blown way out of proportion," Spagnoli said. "We have not seen a decrease over the last four or five years."

Bill McNamara, who stepped down as the Stevenson head coach last week after seven years at the

## By the numbers

**28:** Number of schools that responded to the Pioneer Press survey.

**12:** Teams with fewer varsity football players than five years ago. North Shore (minus-15) had the largest five-year drop.

**15:** Teams with more varsity players than five years ago. Lake Forest (plus-16) gained the most players since 2012.

**1:** Team with the same participation since 2012 (Notre Dame, 60 varsity players).

**91:** Players on Loyola's varsity roster, the most in the area.

**16:** Players on North Shore's roster, the least in the area. The Raiders play eight-man football.

**112:** Players at all levels of Mundelein's football program. In 2012, the Mustangs had 26 varsity players.

helm, said he deals with concerns about head injuries by communicating with his players' families.

"The negative media has taken hold of some, so we educate our families," McNamara said before he resigned. "They trust us and are comfortable with what we do in the Stevenson football program."

While high school rosters have remained constant locally, the number of players in some youth football programs has been shrinking, and that could carry over to high schools in years to come.

Jerry Miller, the president of the Bill George Youth Football League in the west and northwest suburbs, said there were 190 teams in 2015 and 168 this season. Players can start in kindergarten and play through eighth grade. He said the circuit feeds high schools in the West Suburban Conference, DuPage Valley Conference and Mid-Suburban League.

Miller said more young athletes are playing soccer and lacrosse, but he also said there is a change in family dynamics when it comes to football.

"At one time, the father would sign their boys up," Miller said. "Now when I ask them, they say, 'You have to talk to my wife.'"

Steve Sadin is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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GEORGETOWN ATHLETICS

Notre Dame Prep graduate and Evanston native Rodney Pryor was named Big East player of the week after a 32-point debut as a graduate transfer with Georgetown.

## COLLEGE NOTES

## Radtke named volleyball player of the year in MAC

BY SAM BRIEF  
Pioneer Press

Jenna Radtke, a senior middle blocker on the Northern Illinois volleyball team, was named player of the year in the Mid-American Conference. The Buffalo Grove native averaged 2.70 kills per set with a .384 hitting percentage, also notching 1.15 blocks per set which ranked best in the conference. Throughout the season, Radtke was named MAC West defensive player of the week and offensive player of the week three times, respectively. The Huskies were 23-5 (15-1 MAC) during the regular season.

### Watson Jr. breaks out for Nebraska

St. Joseph graduate Glynn Watson Jr. got off to a strong start in his sophomore basketball season at Nebraska. Watson Jr. tallied a career-high 23 points in the Huskers' season-opening win over Sacramento State on Nov. 13. As a freshman last year, Watson Jr. averaged 8.6 points per game for the Cornhuskers.

Watson Jr. led St. Joseph to a state title during his senior season alongside Jordan Ash, now a sophomore at Northwestern, and Nick Rakocevic, a freshman at USC.

### Barrington grad stands out as fencer

Len Grazian, a 2013 Barrington graduate and a fencer at Brandeis, was named the University Athletic Association men's fencing athlete of the week earlier this month. At the 2016 New England Fall Collegiate Invitational, Grazian earned a bronze medal in the men's foil after placing as a quarterfinalist in previous years. In the direct elimination bracket of the tournament, Grazian won 15-1, then 15-10, 15-9 and 15-13 to reach the semifinals, where he fell to Brown's Umar Masood, who went on to win the invitational.



SPORTSPIX.COM

Barrington graduate Len Grazian is a fencer at Brandeis.

Grazian is joined by freshman Chris Armstrong, a Highland Park graduate.

### Pryor nabs Big East honor

Notre Dame Prep alumnus Rodney Pryor, a graduate transfer at Georgetown, was named Big East men's basketball player of the week on Nov. 14. Pryor, an Evanston native who transferred to the Hoyas from Robert Morris, scored 32 points in Georgetown's season-opening win over USC Upstate, including 26 in the first half and six three-pointers. Pryor followed that up with a 14-point, six-rebound effort in a loss to Maryland.

Have a suggestion for College Notes? Email Sam Brief at [briefsam@gmail.com](mailto:briefsam@gmail.com).

Sam Brief is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



Notre Dame's Matt Stritzel goes up for a layup in front of Curie's Allante Pickens during the Class 4A Northwestern Supersectional on March 15.

DAVID BANKS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

## BOYS BASKETBALL SEASON PREVIEW

# Starting lineup

Pioneer Press opens the season with a look at local teams  
**Notre Dame**

**Coach:** Tom Les

**2015-16 record:** 25-7 (6-3 East Suburban Catholic), lost to Curie in a Class 4A supersectional

**Backcourt:** Les said senior guards Matt Stritzel and Jeameril Wilson, as well as senior forward Chris Heinrich, have a significant amount of experience from last season. At 6-foot-1, Stritzel will be the Dons' shooting guard. Wilson has shown flexibility to handle the ball, but also play in the frontcourt if needed. He said those three give the Dons scoring, ball handling and size with rebounding.

**Frontcourt:** Notre Dame's two tallest players — 6-8 senior Sean Johnson and 6-8 junior Dusan Mahorcic — don't have a lot of game experience, but Les said they are progressing. "We have to see how they do when the bright lights are on," he said.

**Did you know:** For the last two years, Notre Dame has lost to the eventual Class 4A state champion in the playoffs. In 2015, the Dons lost to Stevenson and last season they lost to Curie. They lost the two games by a total of four points. After reaching the supersectional last year, Les said his team talked about how much fun the game can be. "They learned that hard work pays off," Les said.

— Matthew Paras

## Northridge

**Coach:** Will Rey

**2015-16 record:** 14-14 (8-4 Independent School League), lost to DePaul Prep in a Class 2A regional final



TIM BOYLE/PIONEER PRESS

Northridge's Kiko Maso looks to pass around Uplift's Demarius Jacobs during the Class 2A Northridge Sectional final on March 6, 2015.

**Backcourt:** Two guards who saw significant minutes last season are back. Seniors Kiko Maso and Sam Thornton both earned an all-conference Honorable Mention last season. Maso returns as the team's leading scorer. He can put up points in a variety of ways, from going to the basket to jump shots and 3-pointers. Maso is also excellent defensively, Rey said. Thornton is a go-to shooter from beyond the arc. "They know our system well... and they can teach it to the younger players," Rey said.

**Frontcourt:** Forward Joe Thursby, a 6-foot-4 junior, also spent a lot of time on the court in 2015. He will be counted on for rebounds. "For a guy his size, (he) handles the ball well," Rey said. One key injury: Junior Dan Strenk, who was slated

to be a starting center, fractured his right patella on the third day of practice and is expected to be out for eight weeks. "That was a disappointing loss," Rey said. Jon Evans, a 5-11 sophomore, will step in as a replacement at that position.

**Did you know:** The Knights can always count on their "superfan" section during their games this season. The spirited group of students dresses up according to each game's unique theme. "For a small school, we got a lot of fan support," Rey said. "They do all kinds of goofy things. They really get into it."

— Heather Rule

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## Maine East

**Coach:** Dave Genis  
**2015-16 record:** 15-14 (3-7 Central Suburban North), lost to Deerfield in a Class 4A regional semifinal  
**Backcourt:** The Blue Demons graduated 13 seniors from last year's team and 6-foot-2 senior guard Jordan Irving is their lone returning varsity player. Irving averaged 13.8 points per game last season and Genis is counting on him to guide Maine East. "He can score," Genis said. "And he plays with fire and passion. There will be many times when you'll be hard-pressed to say he's not the best player on the floor." Sophomore Ali Sabet and senior Dariusz Jozwiak lead a cast of guards and players aiming to gain varsity experience quickly.

**Frontcourt:** Genis sees the potential for athletic 6-4 senior Mustafa Becoja to alter shots, defend and rebound as his offensive fuel for the game continues to develop. Junior Kyle Gilani is 6-4 and a "true back-to-the-basket player," Genis said. He added: "We're more athletic than we have been and we'll have several good athletes on the floor at the same time."

**Did you know:** Becoja, Gilani and all of Maine East's post players benefited greatly from summer camp, where new freshmen coach Brad Block worked to teach all of them the finer points of playing in the paint. "He did a phenomenal job with those guys," Genis said of Block. "(Becoja) is a high jumper for our track team and I don't know if anyone in the gym is going to out-jump him, and (Block) helped him start to figure out the basketball balance part of the game."

— Gary Larsen

## Niles North

**Coach:** Glenn Olson  
**2015-16 record:** 21-10 (7-3 Central Suburban North), lost to Evanston in a

Class 4A regional final

**Backcourt:** Junior Damarla Franklin returns after a breakthrough sophomore campaign. Franklin scored 20 points to beat Libertyville in a Class 4A regional semifinal last season. "He does a lot for us in terms of scoring, rebounding and all that kind of stuff," Olson said. "You have to start there." In addition to Franklin, Olson said junior point guard Dravon Clayborn will be the primary ballhandler and has looked "real solid" on both ends of the court. Senior guard Jordan LaBelle will be another player to watch for Vikings.

**Frontcourt:** The starting center position is up for grabs this year, with three players vying for the role. Sophomore Dailen Suduth, junior Lamar Nicholson Jr. and junior Philip Wilson are in competition for the spot. "It's been kind of fun to watch them compete at practice right now," Olson said. None of the three have a lot of size, but Olson said they each have a different skill set that could help the team.

**Did you know:** Niles North has only four seniors on its roster and Olson said the Vikings are a young squad this season. "Some guys are thinking they have a chance to be pretty competitive, especially next year it can translate to something special," Olson said. "The kids want to be part of that."

— Matthew Paras

## Niles West

**Coach:** Bob Williams  
**2015-16 record:** 11-14 (2-8 Central Suburban South), lost to Highland Park in a Class 4A regional quarterfinal

**Backcourt:** According to Williams, senior point guards Kosta Hatzopoulos and Don Asuncion will be counted on for leadership and defense. Guard Mirsad Mackic is a captain who will begin his fourth year on varsity. John Lazar, who didn't play much as a junior, is a shooting threat and a 3-point specialist. Williams



MICHAEL SCHMIDT/  
PIONEER PRESS

Niles North's Damarla Franklin soars to the basket in front of several Evanston players on March 4.

said. "I think we have a lot of guys who can play, and we're looking for a lot of effort (from) those guys to create pace," Williams said.

**Frontcourt:** Senior forward Johnny Pabst returns after starting every game last season. Senior forwards Aaron Flowers and Matthew Metz also saw playing time last season, with Flowers starting a majority of games. Senior center Dino Perocevic is a newcomer, but at 6-foot-5 he adds size to the frontcourt. "Our strength throughout our whole team is quickness," Williams said. "I think you'd describe our team as scrappy. We're really going to go out there and make (an) effort for 32 minutes," Williams said. Pabst and Flowers, along with Mackic, could be the leading scorers in an "equal opportunity" offense, according to Williams.

**Did you know:** Perocevic also played football this year. Williams said Perocevic went through a growth spurt his sophomore year and has a lot of close friends on the basketball team. Pabst also is a multi-sport athlete, playing football and baseball.

— Matthew Paras

Matthew Paras, Gary Larsen and Heather Rule are freelance reporters for Pioneer Press.

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KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Maine East's Jordan Irving scores in front of Niles North's Craig Dawkins on Feb. 5

### CORRECTION

A story in last week's newspaper about the Niles West girls volleyball team enjoying its trip to state misspelled the first name of a Wolves player. She is Eleni Balourdos, not Elani. The story also misstated the number of state titles Mother McAuley has won due to an error on the IHSA website. It's 15, not 14.

## BOYS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

## DOUBLE BONUS

For high school athletes, hoops-only approach is hit-or-miss

BY BOB NARANG

Pioneer Press

Libertyville junior guard Drew Peterson played quarterback and wide receiver in seventh and eighth grade before electing to play only basketball in high school.

Now with five college offers as a basketball recruit, Peterson sometimes ponders his decision to give up the pigskin but likely will remain a one-sport athlete next year.

"I've always laughed that my plan is to come out next year (for football)," Peterson said. "I used to be pretty good at football, but I wanted to focus on basketball because I liked it a lot more. I wish I could play football, but I wouldn't want the risk of getting injured."

Peterson is part of a growing trend of high school and youth athletes specializing year-round in one sport. Basketball is especially susceptible to this trend due to the numerous options available to play the sport 12 months a year. Players can suit up for their high school teams from November to March, then for their AAU teams in the spring. AAU season leads into summer leagues for high school teams in June, then back to the AAU circuit in July, before high

school fall leagues begin.

The NBA and USA Basketball recently issued a joint statement to promote their first set of youth basketball guidelines. The statement included recommendations such as delaying single-sport specialization in basketball until age 14 or older and avoiding high-density scheduling.

St. Joseph basketball coach Gene Pingatore said the trend of all-day, everyday hoops is disturbing. Pingatore said he encourages his players to try different sports, especially early in their careers, or even take drama or be on student council.

"Expanding their horizons socially is important," said Pingatore, the state's winningest boys basketball coach. "You like to see kids involved in multiple things in school because they become more well-rounded, and that will help them in their future. Playing one sport has to affect their personality and social ability."

Burnout is one of the biggest concerns about sport specialization. Peterson, who is being recruited by multiple schools from the Big Ten and Missouri Valley, admitted playing basketball all year does take a toll.

"It's definitely a workload, but I do it because I

love it," Peterson said. "I do take a few breaks. It helps to get those breaks. The pro is you can focus on one sport because you can maximize your abilities."

Injuries are a concern for potential Division I athletes who play multiple sports, but sport specialization can also lead to injuries from continuous stress on certain bones and muscle groups. Evanston guard Nojel Eastern, a Purdue recruit, fractured two bones in his left ankle during an AAU game in Kentucky during the spring of his sophomore season.

Timothy Christian junior guard Jimmy Allen, who's also a standout in soccer and baseball, wondered whether he should let his body rest this winter. Allen, who scored 31 goals and tallied 11 assists in soccer this season, elected to stick with basketball. Allen said playing three sports pushes his body to new limits and helps avoid sport-specific muscle-group fatigue.

"Playing all three sports uses all different kinds of muscles in your body and helps in the long run with your other sports," Allen said.

New Trier boys basketball and girls golf coach Scott Fricke is a big proponent of athletes playing multiple sports. Fricke, a

former three-sport athlete at Riverside-Brookfield, said two of his sons are three-sport athletes at Buffalo Grove, and he encouraged former center David Ashmore to play football.

"The research out there shows that other sports will help you with whatever sport you are more serious with, and it helps with burnout," he said. "Our coaches at our school work well together."

St. Viator senior tight end Cole Kmet didn't let the injury factor affect his decision to play baseball. Kmet orally committed to play football at Notre Dame early in his junior season, but in the spring, he finished with a 10-1 record as a pitcher and smacked 11 home runs to lead the Lions to a Class 3A fourth-place trophy.

"Before I committed, a lot of (college) coaches thought it was awesome that I played two sports because when I got to college, I wouldn't be worn out by one specific sport," Kmet said.

Loyola sophomore lacrosse player Najee Taylor, who gave a verbal commitment to Notre Dame last week, decided not to play football this season to concentrate on lacrosse. He plans to play football again next season.

"I think it's important to



SEAN KING/PIONEER PRESS

**"Playing all three sports uses all different kinds of muscles in your body and helps in the long run with your other sports."**

— Timothy Christian's Jimmy Allen, pictured above, was a standout on the soccer team this fall and also excels in basketball and baseball

play other sports to avoid burnout," Taylor said. "I try and take a break from lacrosse and play basketball (just for fun). Injury is definitely a concern when I play other sports, but I try to avoid some situations."

Nazareth basketball coach Sean Pearson can see both sides of the issue. He gave up his first love — baseball — in high school to concentrate on basketball. Pearson played four years at Kansas.

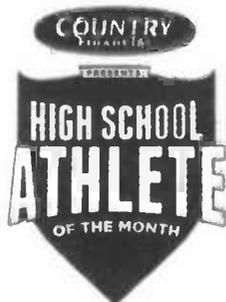
"I was a better baseball player when I was younger," Pearson said, "but I knew I wanted to try and go to college and play basketball. At a young age, you

should give yourself as many opportunities as you can because you never know what you will be good at or fall in love with.

"I feel kids have to do other things to enjoy being a teenager to avoid the burnout factor. But at some point, you need to focus on one sport, maybe on the college level. Up until then, you maybe should play more sports to give yourself a break, and your mind a break from just thinking about basketball."

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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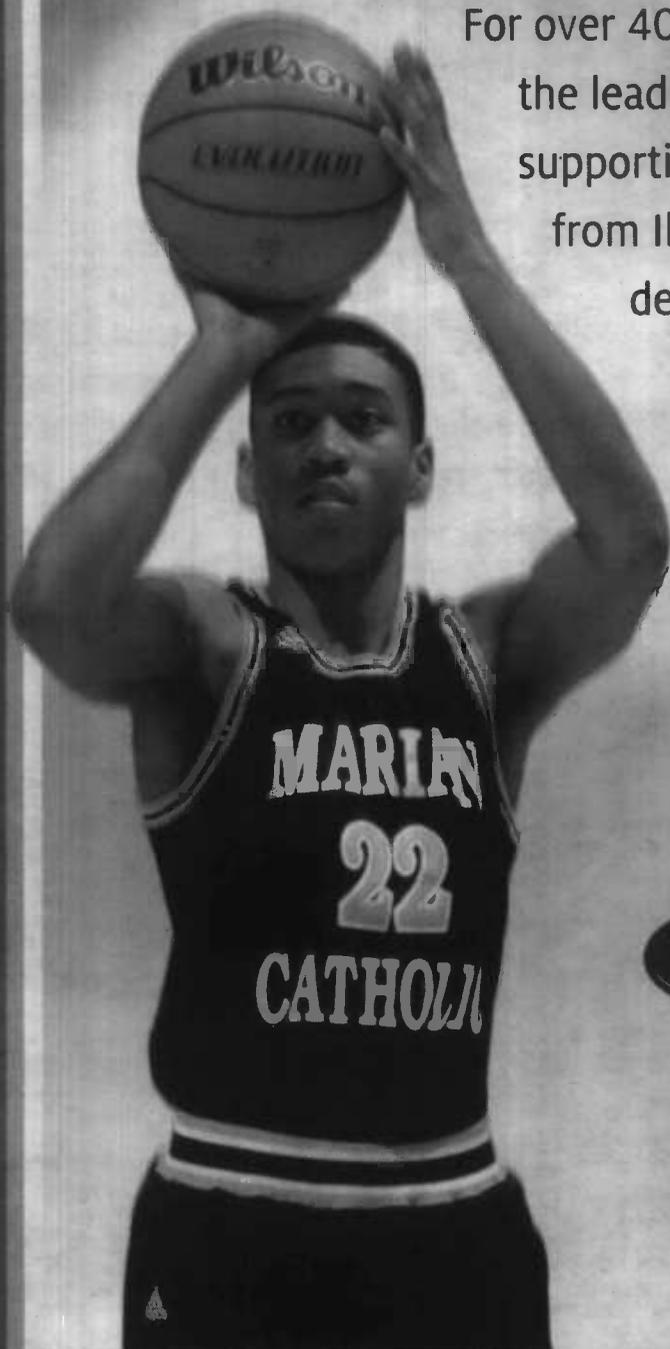
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Check back next week to see who our finalists are for the December Athlete of the Month challenge. Voting begins at 9 a.m. on Dec. 1 at [chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes](http://chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes). Thank you to everyone who voted in November!

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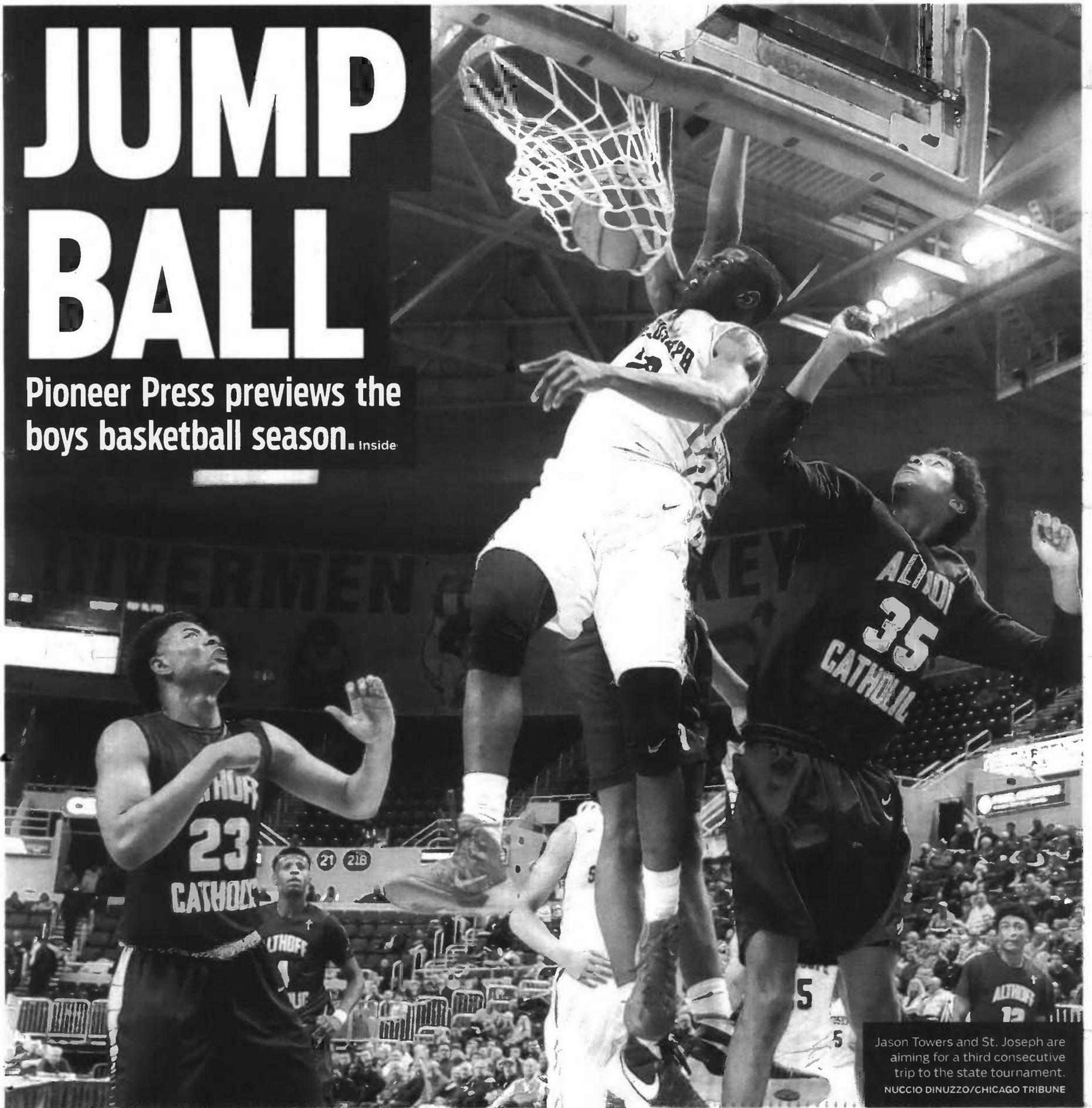


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# JUMP BALL

Pioneer Press previews the boys basketball season. Inside



Jason Towers and St. Joseph are aiming for a third consecutive trip to the state tournament.  
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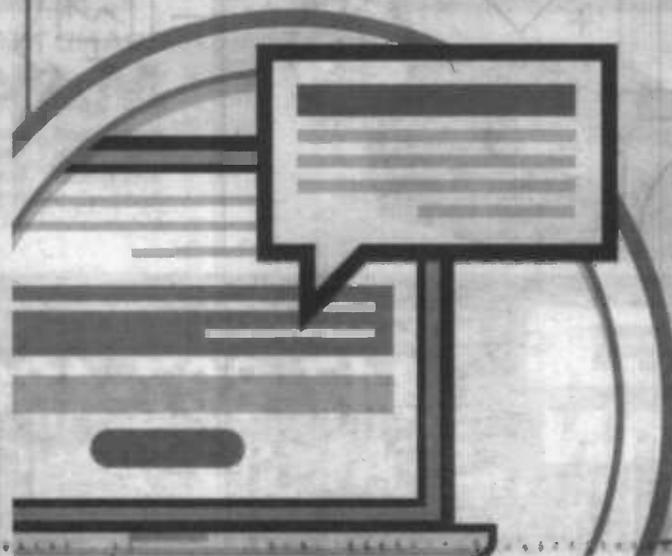
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