

# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

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Thursday, December 1, 2016

nilesheraldspectator.com

## Niles rings in holidays

Holly Jolly Market and Festival celebrates the season. **Page 7**



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

Evan Singer, 4, left, and his sister, Emily Singer, 5, of Edison Park chat with Santa Claus Nov. 26 at the Holly Jolly Market and Festival held at Oasis Water Park in Niles.

### LIVING

## In the spirit of giving

Teaching our children compassion and empathy is more important than ever, columnist Beth Engelman writes. This season, celebrate by finding ways to bring joy to families around the globe. **Inside**



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

### GO



JULIE WOOD PHOTO

## O Christmas Tree

Make a day of finding your perfect tree at these area tree farms. **Page 23**

### OPINION

## Letters to the editor

See what area residents have to say about the issues facing suburban Chicago. If you'd like to add to the conversation, send us your thoughts. **Page 20**

### SPORTS



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

## Above and beyond

Pioneer Press names all-area girls volleyball and boys soccer teams. **Pages 48-49**



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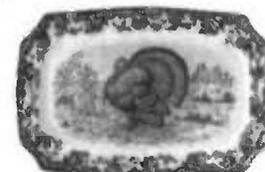
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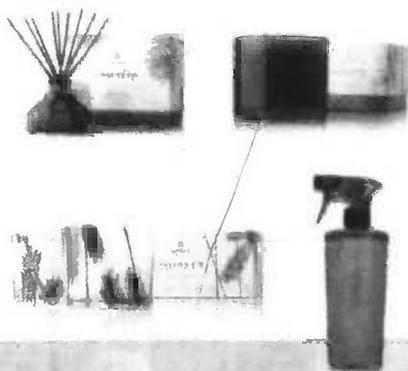


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## SHOUT OUT

# Mark Moran, antiques appraiser

Antiques appraiser Mark Moran will be at the Morton Grove Public Library Dec. 5 to help the community determine the value of old items — from fine art and furniture to glassware, souvenirs to vintage photos.

Items must be registered at the library in advance.

The Pioneer Press caught up with Moran before the event to learn more about his profession.

**Q: What's the most valuable antique you've appraised?**

**A:** Here are three examples: A woman bought a house in 1945 and the previous owners had left an old table lamp. She took good care of it for almost 70 years and brought it to one of my programs. Turns out it was a Tiffany Acorn lamp, circa 1910, worth about \$8,000.

A couple brought a pair of cloisonne elephants into a program. They had been inherited from an uncle. They later sold at auction for just over \$12,000.

Finally, on a house call after an appraisal event, a woman showed me a pair of bookends inherited from an aunt, who got them in the 1930s. They were bronze, marble and ivory images of storks. The last pair of these bookends that sold at auction in 2008 brought \$15,000.

**Q: How did you come to be an appraiser? When did your interest in antiques first begin?**

**A:** I was a newspaperman for 30 years at papers in Wisconsin and Minnesota. I first walked into an antique shop in 1973, became a part-time dealer in the 1980s, and started writing antique reference books in the 1990s. I quit the newspaper business to write antique reference books full time in 2002. I have 27 books to my credit. Along the way I've met hundreds of great folks in the antiques trade and learned from them as well.

**Q: Where do you do most of your appraisals?**

**A:** I am available to make home

visits for people with big things or fragile things (or a lot of things). I conduct community events that involve appraisal of antiques, collectibles and decorative arts in the Midwest. Since launching my antique appraisal events in the summer of 2011, the response has been very gratifying. Libraries, historical societies, senior communities and financial planners from around the Midwest have embraced the concept.

**Q: Tell me about the process to determine an item's value.**

**A:** This is appraisal as theater, so expect humor, anecdotes, tales from the road and just a lot of fun. I ask them what they know about the object, how they acquired it. Then I explain its history or intended use. ... Then I note any condition issues, how this affects value and suggest how they can have an object repaired or restored, if desired. Finally I give my opinion of value, and try to answer questions about how they might sell it, if that's their goal.

— Natalie Hayes, Pioneer Press



Moran

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64

- I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Community Consolidated School District No. 64, Cook County, Illinois, for 2016 will be held on December 12, 2016 at 6:45 p.m. at Jefferson School, 8200 Greendale, Niles, Illinois. Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Luann Kolstad, Chief School Business Official, 164 S. Prospect Road, Park Ridge IL, (847) 318-4324.
- II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2015 were \$ 62,350,430.  
  
The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2016 are \$ 65,347,542. This represents a 4.81% increase over the previous year.
- III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2015 were \$ 3,318,735.  
  
The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2016 are \$ 3,089,350. This represents a 6.91% decrease from the previous year.
- IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2015 were \$65,669,165.  
  
The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2016 are \$68,436,892. This represents a 4.21% increase over the previous year.

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# Veterans organization holds Thanksgiving dinner

American Legion Post 134 hosts annual event for Navy recruits

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC  
Pioneer Press

The American Legion Morton Grove Post 134 fed two dozen Navy recruits from Naval Station Great Lakes on Thanksgiving Day, as part of a holiday tradition the organization started a decade ago.

"We take it upon ourselves to give them that home feeling. What we want them to do is have a day of relaxing and to show them the hospitality of the American Legion," said Casey Bachara, who coordinates Navy Day for the American Legion post.

Early morning Nov. 24, members of Post 134 greeted the recruits as they stepped off buses and entered the Civic Center in Morton Grove where the event took place.

In addition to a buffet-style meal, there was entertainment — including a magician — provided for the Navy men and women.

"I really enjoy being here," said Apryl Banks, a seaman from West Point, Mississippi. "It's like a little bit of home and it feels great."

Many of the recruits took advantage of the opportunity to call home using a bank of phones set up for them as part of the day's program.

Sailors don't have regular access to cellphone usage during training, some said, and for many, Thanksgiving Day was the first time in weeks they had spoken to loved ones.

"That was the first time I've talked with my mom since I've been here," said Justine Buckner, who has been at Great Lakes for about six weeks.

Rear Admiral Stephen C. Evans, commander of the Naval Service Training



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Rear Admiral Stephen C. Evans, center, commander of the Naval Service Training Command at Great Lakes greets well-wishers at Navy Day on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24, in Morton Grove hosted by the American Legion Morton Grove Post 134.

Command at Great Lakes, was on hand to greet the service men and women, shaking hands as sailors entered the building.

Morton Grove Fire Department members were also there for the welcome.

"These young men and women are away from home at the holidays," Evans said. "For many of them, it's the first time."

There were several veterans on hand who volunteered to help with Navy Day, organizers said.

For Bruno Zawisza of Leyden Township, volunteering with his children honored the memory of his father, Wally Zawisza of

Morton Grove, who died last February.

Wally Zawisza, a longtime American Legion member, served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. The late Zawisza was a regular volunteer, his family said.

"Family was important to our grandpa more than anything else," said Amanda Riesterer of Northlake, Wally Zawisza's granddaughter.

"We're carrying on a family tradition," Bruno Zawisza said.

Karie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



Yancel Rivera of Puerto Rico, left, and Jessica Verdeflor Enano of Columbia, S.C., arrive at the Civic Center.



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Om Prajapati, 12, from left, Anthony Jdaldany, 13, both from Niles, and Sotirios Soteropoulos, 12, of Glenview perform with the Gemini Junior High School band Nov. 26 at the Holly Jolly Market and Festival in Niles at Oasis Water Park.

## Santa arrives, tree lit at Niles 'jolly' festival

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC  
Pioneer Press

Some 2,000 people were at the Holly Jolly Market and Festival event Nov. 26 in Niles, where the arrival of Santa Claus helped to kick off the yuletide season.

This year marked the first time the annual event was held at its new location, Oasis Water Park, and the free event offered food for purchase, entertainment and a variety of vendors.

"It's infectious and a good place to be," Cathy Spadoni, an administrative assistant for the village and Holly Jolly Market and Festival site coordinator, said of the town and the event.

Trackless train rides and a petting zoo were among the outdoor activities for families to take part in. Indoors, children could enjoy activities such as crafts and listen to stories read aloud by Mrs. Claus.

The Gemini Junior High School band of East Maine School District 63 played



Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo stopped by the Holly Jolly Market and Festival.

during the event.

"It's just another step toward building community, Niles pride," Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo said.

Once the sun set for the day, the large decorated evergreen tree facing Milwaukee Avenue was illuminated by a village resident.

Leo Szafraniec, 4, and his mother Julie Szafraniec, of Niles, waited 35 minutes to

be first in line for Leo to see Santa Claus.

The boy ran down his Christmas wish list to Santa, his mother said.

"It's very magical, we're very excited," Julie Szafraniec said about the holidays.

"We've been waiting for Santa all year!"

Karie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter.

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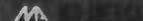
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# Morton Grove, Niles shoppers lament 'dead' Black Friday

BY PHIL ROCKROHR  
Pioneer Press

Black Friday morning was brisk and easy for shoppers in Niles and Morton Grove, but disappointing for a small sampling of business owners.

Lisa May of Des Plaines was among a few hundred shoppers who hit Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles, where several stores remained closed after 9 a.m. Nov. 25.

May and her daughters — Karli, 18, Jenna, 15, and Marie, 12 — began their day at 6:30 a.m. at a nearby home improvement store, but scored their biggest buys at Golf Mill, they said.

"It's just something I do with my daughters every year since they were little," May said. "It's mother-daughter bonding."

The Mays and other shoppers at Golf Mill were able to find almost everything they wanted, thanks to a rather small turnout across the mall, they said.

Natalia Koval of Palatine got flannel sheets and "a bunch of clothes," while her shopping partner, Amanda Swanson of Glenview, picked up a video game controller, clothes, leggings and

slippers.

"We got good deals," Swanson said.

"We're leaving here in a little bit and heading to Woodfield (mall)," Koval said. "We wanted to come here first because it's less crowded."

In neighboring Morton Grove, in Village Plaza, the parking lot was almost full, but shopping was easy, according to Ginny Pardo of Des Plaines, who went on the annual Black Friday pilgrimage with her mom, Agnes Krus, also of Des Plaines.

"We like this," Pardo said. "We don't want there to be a lot of people. We do this every year, but not the doorbusters. We've been doing this for a long time, long before the doorbusters."

Store owners were not as pleased with turnout, which they said has been gradually declining for the last three years, in particular after several stores began to open on Thanksgiving Day.

Shunail Ali of Des Plaines, whose family owns Cellular Express, a cellphone products stand inside Golf Mill, said he opened two hours later this year and may not open at all next year, due to declining sales.



PHIL ROCKROHR/PIONEER PRESS

Ginny Pardo, left, of Des Plaines, went on the annual Black Friday pilgrimage with her mom, Agnes Krus, also of Des Plaines. Pair are pictured at the Village Plaza in Morton Grove on Nov. 25.

"This mall is slow," Ali said. "Maybe we'll get more after 12 or 1 p.m. Last year I had 75 customers. I don't think that will happen this year. Black Friday is down, fading."

Ali attributed his drop in sales on Black Friday to online buying.

Manuel Chancoso of Chicago, who owns Cotacachi Handy Crafts, blamed the low traffic on stores that opened on Thanksgiving Day and siphoned shoppers from Black Friday.

"Today is quiet," Chancoso said. "I'm surprised. I think maybe it's because stores opened

yesterday. People have already shopped."

Mike Williams, a Golf Mill shopper from Chicago's Edison Park neighborhood, proclaimed Black Friday "dead." Instead of saving all the deals for Friday, stores have spread them across the entire week of Thanksgiving, Williams said.

"You could get the same deals online," he said. "It's totally ruined. It just got split between four days."

*Phil Rockrohr is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.*

# Black Friday not just for retail stores

BY PHIL ROCKROHR  
Pioneer Press

Consumers headed out to catch Black Friday bargains at big box and other prominent retailers often do so with a coffee, crumpet or other edibles in hand, helping give some smaller businesses a share in the financial frenzy.

At Cupitol, a coffee house and eatery in Evanston, business increases by an average of about 20 percent on the morning of the day designated as the kickoff to the holiday shopping season, said Sella Georges, an owner.

Fridays are typically very busy anyway at Cupitol, but Black Friday mornings are like Saturday or Sunday mornings, she said.

"In the morning, it's pretty busy," Georges said. "If you're a person who has coffee and breakfast, it's very busy."

Depending on the weather, business increases 8-15 percent throughout the day on Black Friday at Kaufman's Bagel and Delicatessen on Dempster Street in Skokie, said Betty Dworkin, an owner.

"It picks up not just because of shopping but because kids are in from school and they want their food from their youth," Dworkin said. "And people are visiting for the weekend, so that adds to business, too."

No particular time of day is more busy on Black Friday, she said. She said loyal customers return for some of the restaurant's most popular sandwiches all day long.

"People are shopping and sleeping in and then coming out," she said.

Business increases even on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, but Black Friday, in particular, is one of the busiest days of the year at Lou Malnati's Pizzeria in Lincolnwood, said Meggie Lindberg, spokesman for the parent company.

On Nov. 25, business jumped by 30 percent, she said.

"People are still celebrating with family," Lindberg said.

*Phil Rockrohr is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.*

# Consumers: Less frenzied Black Friday in Lincolnwood

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

Shoppers were out early to score the usual Black Friday deals, but stores at Lincolnwood Town Center were emptier than in past years, some shoppers said.

At one store, the line was still long enough, however, to irk Uli Sanabria of Chicago, whose wife Donna pulled a large cardboard box around the store all morning, filling it with discounted candles, a gaming system and other goodies.

"We do this every year, and the lines are always long," Uli said. "Imagine standing in line for two hours with only half a cup of coffee in your stomach, so I've

learned to avoid the misery by fueling up before we go out."

But if Sanabria had his way, he'd avoid the hassle of brick-and-mortar stores altogether and take care of all his shopping online, he said. He'd opt to be part of the 57 percent of shoppers surveyed by the National Retail Federation who reported plans to do most of their shopping online this year.

Lincolnwood Town Center's three major retailers — Carson's, Kohl's and Old Navy — opened Thanksgiving night at 6 p.m. and stayed open until 1 a.m. before reopening at 6 a.m. on Black Friday.

Although other mall retailers could choose to stay closed on

Thanksgiving, many of the smaller stores, including shoe store Mulan, took advantage of the opportunity to rake in extra revenue from Thanksgiving shoppers.

As shoppers circled the aisles of shoes for sales at discounts of up to 60 percent off on Nov. 25, store manager Janet Rodriguez said she employs a simple method to ensure Mulan stays competitive with larger stores.

"Good customer service and great discounts," Rodriguez said. "We greet every customer who walks in the door, and you don't always see that when you go shopping."

Consumers have said they'll shop around this year, with most

reporting plans to split their time almost evenly between department stores, online and in discount stores, according to Treacy Reynolds, a spokeswoman for the National Retail Federation.

"Most online shoppers said they'll take advantage of free shipping and conveniences such as in-store pick-up," Reynolds said.

The standard Black Friday scenario where deep discounts cause mall parking lots to fill up quickly didn't apply at Lincolnwood Town Center the morning of Nov. 25, where parking was plentiful.

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

## Police investigating defaced books about the Quran

Evanston Public Library reported incidents Nov. 21

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER  
Pioneer Press

Evanston police are investigating a report of defaced copies of the Quran and other books about the Quran at Evanston Public Library, officials said Nov. 22.

On Nov. 21, librarians discovered swastikas, homophobic slurs and other offensive graffiti defacing the books as staff prepared for a program that evening focusing on the Muslim holy book.

The graffiti appeared to be done in dark pencil and included references to the Muslim prophet Muhammad with a gay slur and included terms describing the Quran as a book filled with lies and hate, among other graffiti.

Librarians discovered the graffiti in seven books around 6 p.m. Nov. 21 when they were setting up for the evening's program about the Quran, said Evanston Public Library Director Karen Danczak Lyons.

"We will prosecute. If we catch you, we will prosecute," Lyons said Nov. 22.

Staff did not know when the books were vandalized, Lyons said.

Evanston police Cmdr. Joseph Dugan said his department is investigating the situation, but the time element could pose a challenge. The book most recently checked out was due back over the summer, both Lyons and Dugan said. Others were last checked out in 2014 and 2015.

"The big problem we face now is a time frame," Dugan said. Detectives will check library cameras to see if a suspect was caught on video, among other avenues of investigation, he said.



GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER/PIONEER PRESS

Evanston Public Library Director Karen Danczak Lyons holds books that were found to have been defaced, with vulgar language and swastikas.

Charges could include criminal damage to property and possibly felony hate crime, depending on the motive of a suspect, Dugan said.

Those would be decided if and when a suspect is identified, he said, and felony charges would be determined by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office.

The Nov. 21 program was held in partnership with Northwestern University's Middle East and North African studies program as part of the library's MENA Mondays series, Lyons said.

About 80 people attended the program, titled "Is the Quran a 'Good Book?'"

The vandalized books included copies of the Quran; books introducing and about the Quran, including "The Koran for Dummies;" and conservative commentator Glenn Beck's book "It Is About Islam: Exposing the Truth About Isis, Al Qaeda, Iran and the Caliphate."

The vandalized books are being held as evidence, Lyons said. The library

owns multiple copies of some of the books and will replace others as needed, she said.

Many Evanston residents and businesses have volunteered to replace the books, Lyons said. She encouraged others wanting to help to donate to the Evanston Public Library.

Going forward, Lyons said the Quran and books about the Quran will continue to be available to anyone perusing the library. Staff does not plan to require patron identification or install other security measures regarding the Quran or other religious books.

"I want to continue open access to all different ideas and information about all different faiths," Lyons said. "It's deeply troubling to me that someone, rather than come and listen to other points of view, would rather deface public property and come and spread these hateful messages that they wrote."

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

#### BURGLARY TO VEHICLE

Two cars were reported burglarized Nov. 14 in a parking lot in the 9200 block of Milwaukee Avenue. In both incidents, purses were stolen, police said.

Someone forcibly entered a cargo trailer parked in the 200 block of Golf Mill Center between Nov. 11 and 16 and stole a contraction tool valued at \$1,500, police said.

A briefcase was stolen Nov. 17 from a car parked in a lot in the 7700 block of Milwaukee Avenue, police said.

#### FRAUD

Stephanie Lebron, 19, of the 2600 block of West Haddon Avenue, Chicago, was charged with possession of a counterfeit credit card and identification on Nov. 11. Police said Lebron tried to use a fraudulent credit card at a store in the 7300 block of Melvina Avenue and had another

person's photo ID in her possession.

#### OBSTRUCTION

William Barkho, 30, of the 3400 block of West Bryn Mawr Avenue, Chicago, was charged with obstructing a police officer on Nov. 11 after he allegedly refused to exit his car during a traffic stop at Lyon Street and Washington Avenue at 12:20 a.m. Barkho's passenger, Ali Fahad, 32, of Cudahy, Wis., was later taken into custody on an outstanding warrant, police said.

#### RECKLESS DRIVING

A 16-year-old Niles boy was charged with reckless driving on Nov. 16 after his car reportedly struck a high voltage transformer box in the alley in the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue. The teen reportedly told police that he struck a curb while driving his grandparents' car in the alley around 7 p.m., causing him to lose control of the vehicle. Police said the teen admitted to driving more than 40 mph down the alley and that he only had a learner's permit. The teen is

scheduled to appear in court Jan. 3, 2017.

#### THEFT

Susie Bernadac, 26, of the 900 block of 21st Avenue, Melrose Park, was charged with felony retail theft on Nov. 11 after she allegedly stole \$540 worth of cosmetics from a store in the 200 block of Golf Mill Center. Bernadac is scheduled to appear in court Dec. 12.

Claudia Montoya, 25, of the first block of Waterfort Drive, Schaumburg, was charged with retail theft on Nov. 14. According to police, Montoya was accused of stealing nearly \$60 worth of cosmetics, clothing and food from a store in the 8500 block of Golf Road. She is scheduled to appear in court Dec. 9.

An American flag was reported stolen from a building in the 6800 block of Milwaukee Avenue on Nov. 14. Later, police were called to the area of Milwaukee and Touhy avenues for a report of a man seen waving an American flag while "flipping off traffic," police said. No person was located.

## Local man allegedly exposes himself outside of restaurant

By NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

A Lincolnwood man was charged with misdemeanor public indecency the same day police said he exposed himself to customers as they entered a Lincolnwood restaurant in the 6600 block of Lincoln Avenue on the afternoon of Nov. 9.

According to a police report, a manager working at the restaurant called police around 3 p.m. after a customer reported seeing a man police later identified as Ram Bhingradia, 58, of the 3900 block of Arthur Avenue, expose himself and begin to masturbate.

Bhingradia was standing near an entrance of the parking lot engaging in the lewd act as a woman walked toward the main entrance with her kids, police said.

A police officer who responded to the call reported arriving at the restaurant and seeing Bhingradia standing outside "rubbing his stom-

ach with both hands and placing one hand down his pants, where he proceeded to masturbate," according to the report from police.

The officer, who called for backup and was joined by another police officer, instructed him to stop, according to the report.

Bhingradia was taken into custody, where he explained his account of the incident, allegedly telling police he "had one drink, went outside for a smoke, placed my hand down my pants, and touched my penis," according to the report. He denied exposing himself.

Police said he showed signs of intoxication, including slurred speech and difficulty standing.

The restaurant manager told police Bhingradia had been drinking at the bar for about two hours, but left shortly before the incident.

Bhingradia is scheduled to appear in court Dec. 16.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter.

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# Interfaith addresses discrimination fears

BY LEE V. GAINES  
Pioneer Press

An employee of Chicago's Commission on Human Relations told a group of roughly 200 people gathered at a Morton Grove mosque recently that he's been bothered by some of President-elect Donald Trump's moves since being elected president Nov. 8.

Norman White, who works for the department focused on investigating civil rights complaints and advocating for victims of hate crimes, spoke as part of a panel of religious and civic leaders at an event dubbed "Empowering the Diverse Voice" held Nov. 20 at the Muslim Community Center. The event was convened in response to Trump's surprise victory earlier this month, said Sadiq, a member of MCC's Interfaith and Outreach Committee.

"The rhetoric coming out of the



LEE V. GAINES/PIONEER PRESS

Van Gilmer, a civil rights activist, was part of the panel hosted by the Muslim Community Center in Morton Grove Nov. 20.

administration and the appointments made by the president-elect has people concerned," Sadiq said.

He said the event was a means to brainstorm and strategize about

how best to move forward while taking into account the needs and concerns of communities in America like Muslims, the LGBTQ population and people of color.

White, who said he was born in Costa Rica, told the crowd that somebody asked him if he'd leave the United States if he could.

"And it made me think this is when I really need to stay, because these people we elected, we need to hold them accountable. The people out there spreading hate didn't just pop up, they've always been there and now they feel empowered," he said.

Sarwar Nasir, president of MCC, welcomed the diverse group of attendees by assuring them that MCC "is a safe place for you and for everybody."

Van Gilmer, an African-American civil rights activist, reminded those in attendance that "dis-

crimination, oppression, persecution is very old."

"And any of us who feel it feel pretty much the same way: It's a disgusting feeling," he said. "We need to do something because every time there is a crisis we come together and here we are in this room together, thank God, to start thinking about how we go forward and we must go forward."

Jewish Voice for Peace volunteer Lesley Williams challenged the event's white attendees to think about how many people of color they consider close friends, and if that list is scant or void of any names, she asked them to think about why that was.

"If you're not in regular conversation with people of color, you're not going to recognize the institutional racism we face," said Williams, who is also the head of adult services at the Evanston Public Library.

Dilnaz Waraich, a member of MCC's Interfaith and Outreach Committee, said "we're not going to live in fear because fear immobilizes us, but we are going to live in concern."

The panel speakers emphasized a need to stand together, despite differences in racial, religious and cultural backgrounds, in the face of acts of hatred or injustice.

The Rev. Liz Munoz, vicar of Iglesia de Nuestra Senora de las Americas in Chicago, said justice will ultimately prevail if diverse communities come together and demand it.

"Together we can do such great things that are unimaginable and scary — scary to those in power and scary to those who would profit from the dividing line between us," she said.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelancer.

## Lincolnwood to pay triple the cost to replace part of water treatment system

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

Lincolnwood's water treatment system will have to be replaced sooner rather than later, after it failed unexpectedly last month, forcing village workers to manually add chlorine to the water until new equipment is installed.

The city of Chicago sends chlorinated water to the village, but a chemical feed machine adds additional chlorine at Lincolnwood's water pumping station to help kill certain bacteria and other microbes found in tap water.

"Unfortunately, on Nov. 10, the system stopped automatically feeding chlorine, so we had to start manually feeding the chlorine to ensure we could maintain the proper levels we needed," said Public Works Director Ashley Engelmann.

The failure of the system hasn't threatened the quality or safety of the village's water supply, officials said.

But the urgency of the situation prompted village officials to ap-

prove the purchase of a new chemical feed system — the machine used to add chlorine to water to kill contaminants — for nearly three times the price the Public Works Department estimated a new system would cost.

"We're monitoring the system closely," Engelmann said.

"Our operators are using chlorine-residual sampling to make sure chlorine levels are at the proper level, and we'll keep doing it until (the new equipment) comes in."

During the Nov. 15 Village Board meeting, trustees voted 5-0 to purchase a new chemical feed system for \$58,888 from Arlington Heights-based contractor Dahme Mechanical LLC.

The approved contract is nearly three times the \$20,000 cost the village anticipated paying for the new equipment, according to village officials.

The Public Works Department first went out to bid for the equipment replacement project in October, but decided to rebid after receiving quotes from two companies, both of which exceeded the \$20,000 cost the

village had allocated in the water and sewer fund for the project.

The village had hoped to get offers closer to the \$20,000 mark by rejecting those bids and sending in late October a new request for proposals to 20 companies that install water treatment equipment.

Engelmann said that although the price quote was much higher than anticipated, Dahme Mechanical was the only company that replied to the request for proposals the village sent to the 20 companies.

Other contractors told public works officials that the higher-than-expected costs were due to the job being labor-intensive, Engelmann said.

The Village Board is typically required to approve a purchase that exceeds the budgeted cost, but the village manager's office signed off on the purchase ahead of the board meeting on the day after the system failed to ensure it would be replaced as soon as possible, officials said.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

## Lincolnwood sees key staff changes after departure

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

The village of Lincolnwood's longtime assistant village manager is leaving for a new job in a northwest suburb, and the current public works director has been tapped to replace him.

Douglas Petroschius will depart Dec. 9 to begin his new position as village administrator of Lake in the Hills on Dec. 12. His departure comes after 12 years with Lincolnwood working in different roles before he was promoted to assistant village manager eight years ago.

Petroschius' position, which is second in line behind the village manager, has already been filled by Ashley Engelmann, who was promoted to public works director of the village two years ago after the former director, Manuel "Manny" Castaneda, retired. Engelmann, who lives in Downers Grove with her husband and two

kids, started working for the village in 2008 as a management analyst for the Public Works Department.

"It's bittersweet to be leaving public works, and while I'm excited to start my new

role, I will miss the department I've called home for so long," Engelmann said. "Working for the village manager's office will give me an opportunity to be a part of projects and policies that touch every department within the organization."

Petroschius said he's confident in Engelmann's ability to fill his shoes. The top priority now is to fill the public works director vacancy, he said.

"The village will be undertaking a nationwide recruitment process for the public works director in coming weeks," village officials announced.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



Petroschius



Engelmann

# New nurse positions approved for all District 64 schools

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

Beginning next fall, all schools in Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 will have a registered nurse staffing the health office.

The Board of Education on Nov. 14 voted 5-2 to adopt a new "health services model" for the 2017-18 school year, replacing seven current health assistant positions with registered nurses who can administer medications and injections and will be responsible for basic patient care, according to the district.

"The level of medical assessment we can provide if an RN is in the building is significantly greater than if it's a health assistant," said Director of Student Services Jane Boyd.

The additional cost to the district has not yet been determined, board President Anthony Borrelli said.

Boyd said the cost is expected to be between \$100,000 and

\$200,000. She said the final amount should be known in the spring, when staffing for the 2017-18 school year will be in place.

Currently, the district has one traveling nurse, two certified school nurses who are trained as both registered nurses and educators and eight health assistants who work in the health offices of each school building. An RN was also recently added to Washington School because of a student's "unique medical condition," Boyd said.

Under the new model, District 64 will retain its two certified school nurses, but assign one to a school building as its full-time nurse. The traveling nurse will also remain, but will be assigned to a particular school.

Seven registered nurse positions will also be added to the staff, though it is possible that three current health assistants could be considered for the positions because they are already RNs, Boyd said. Remaining health assistants

will be reassigned to available teaching assistant positions in the district, she said, while the health assistant at Jefferson School will be elevated to full time.

Before the vote, Borrelli asked Boyd to provide "some basis for the escalating need for more health services than what we currently have."

Boyd responded by saying the increase of students with diabetes is significant, though she did not provide specific figures. She also spoke of students with seizure disorders who require a nurse to give them medication, and said having these students in school buildings where a nurse is not always present is a "challenging situation to be in."

Data provided to the school board in August shows that as of last spring, there were 42 students across the district taking medication regularly during the school day; 16 students making multiple health office visits each day because of diabetes; 164 students

with EpiPens, which are used for allergic reactions; 205 students with asthma inhalers and "as needed" medications; and six students who might require an emergency medication administered during a seizure.

A survey provided to the board in August showed that out of 16 suburban school districts, only two do not have a registered nurse in each school building.

Board members Vicki Lee and Tom Sotos voted against adopting the new health services model. Lee, who did not speak during the board's Nov. 14 deliberation, said there needed to be more discussion of the matter. Sotos said he would have liked to see more data from administration showing how the need for RNs has increased and how it might increase in the near future. He also said he wanted to know how many health assistants would be "forced to retire" because they don't want to change their position.

"I just need a little bit more

information before I can actually vote 'yes' for it," Sotos said.

Some school health assistants also addressed the board in opposition to the changes. In tears, Terry Dieschbourg, employed by District 64 for 26 years, accused district officials of making plans "behind our backs."

"My heart is broken," she said. "I have given everything to this district."

Franklin School health assistant Karen Nicolopoulos, who said she is a registered nurse, suggested that the shift to RNs should only occur at schools that need the services the most.

"This is a job that takes more than a year to learn everything that goes into it," she said.

Borrelli said the vote to change the health services model was not an easy one. "Our intent is simply to provide the best possible care to our children," he said.

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# New center to focus on black church experience

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER  
Pioneer Press

A new center opening at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston seeks to both preserve and advance worship music unique to the black church, an opportunity supporters said will capture the church's characteristic songs while allowing musicians to polish their skills.

The Center for Music and Worship in the Black Church Experience will begin educating students Jan. 22 with four-day classes of intense study, designed for church musicians who want to advance their skills but don't always have the time or finances to enroll for a full semester, officials said.

The Rev. Cynthia Wilson, assistant vice president of student life and dean of students at Garrett-Evangelical, said she expects the inaugural class to come from the Chicago area and throughout the Midwest. Students can choose from a variety of disciplines, including dance, choral development, liturgy and "worship and holy hip-hop," among other courses. Some students might take one intensive course to build on existing skills and contribute more to their home churches, Wilson said. Others might return for multiple courses to meet continuing education requirements. Others could take two consecutive courses and complete an independent project to earn a certificate from the center. Eventually the center could offer a degree program.

"The idea is the seminary gets outside the walls and into the community," said Wilson, who is also director of the center, which is housed on the Northwestern University campus. "The idea is to meet them where they are."

Over time, Wilson said, she hopes to see the center expand into satellite locations around the United States. Staff is also working on marketing and fundraising opportunities.

Wilson is an ordained deacon with the United Methodist Church, and grew up the daughter of a Baptist pastor in a musical family in New Orleans. As an adult she was nominated for one Grammy as a soloist and awarded



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Various groups combined to dance during a Center for Music and Worship in the Black Church Experience program held at Evanston High School on Oct. 29. The center is part of the Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and is starting a new program to preserve and advance music of the black church.

another for her work on a United Methodist documentary that aimed to preserve music of the black church. She holds a doctorate in liturgical studies from Garrett-Evangelical.

"I can't think of anyone in this nation who is more suited to doing this work," said Stephen Ray, Fisher professor of systematic theology at Garrett-Evangelical who first proposed the center.

He cited Wilson's "long and significant involvement with the performance, teaching and development of black music traditions" as qualifications for the job. As for Wilson, the opportunity to lead the center "is like fire shut up in my bones."

And the chance to do it just north of Chicago, with its rich history of gospel music?

"A lot of the stuff that was happening here in the black churches influenced my ministry," said Wilson, who never lived in the Chicago area until she enrolled at Garrett-Evangelical. "It's the place that formed my

ministry and here I am trying to teach. What? It's amazing."

Garrett-Evangelical professor of worship Ruth Duck said she looks forward to teaching hymn and song writing in the new center. A prolific hymn writer herself — "just the text, not the tune" — Duck said her challenge is helping students phrase and express their own lyrics.

"We don't need hundreds of thousands of people writing songs like we've done before," Duck said. "What my task will be is to help them find their voice."

Ray said the center will not only preserve black church music through a new and detailed archive, but expand its reach for cultures around the globe to tap for inspiration and support.

"It speaks to people who are seeking hope in the midst of suffering," Ray said. "One of the things gospel music helps to do is give voice to a sense of hope and human resistance."

That's important, Ray said, as other Christian denominations



Choirs combined to perform at the kickoff event for the Center for Music and Worship in the Black Church Experience, held at Evanston High School on Oct. 29.

grapple with a changing world that no longer puts some branches of Christianity at the forefront of society. The black church was "always on the margins." Other

Christians, Ray said, can look to the black church and "learn how to inhabit that space."

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## Bill seeks fingerprints with FOID, carry applications

BY BRIAN L. COX  
Pioneer Press

A bill sponsored by State Sen. Ira Silverstein, D-Chicago, would require those applying for concealed carry licenses or firearm owner identification cards to provide fingerprints, something he said would close a loophole that allows convicted felons who change their names to obtain the documents.

With little time left before the end of the Illinois General Assembly's session and a powerful gun rights lobby in Springfield, Silverstein's bill stands a slim chance of becoming law, but he said it's a matter that should be addressed.

"This is a major loophole that the Legislature missed," said Silverstein, whose 8th District includes Lincolnwood, Mor-

ton Grove, Niles and Skokie. "There's a person who got away with it pretty good. I was trying to close a loophole. We hear about all this gun violence ... it's another way for people to get more guns."

He said he decided to sponsor the law after hearing about a Chicago convicted felon involved in a self-defense shooting. That man, he said, was convicted 15 years ago of a felony but he later changed his name and successfully received a FOID card and concealed carry permit under his new legal name.

Members of the Illinois Rifle Association and the National Rifle Association, which advocate for gun rights, did not respond to requests seeking comment on the bill. But the IRA opposes five other gun-related bills Silverstein has introduced, including

those calling for gun owners to carry liability insurance, according to the organization's website.

Fingerprinting currently is not required to own or carry a firearm in Illinois, Silverstein said, and convicted felons are not allowed to legally carry guns in Illinois.

Silverstein said Illinois should ensure permits are only issued to those proven eligible through a background check that includes fingerprinting.

"I can't see the gun community opposing something like this," Silverstein said. "If you're opposing it, you're hiding something. If they want transparency they want to represent their members they should allow this to happen. It's just common sense."

Silverstein said the legislation, Senate Bill 3448,

may be considered during the last week of the General Assembly's veto session, which began Nov. 29.

In 2013, Illinois enacted concealed carry legislation. State law allows an applicant to submit fingerprints to expedite the FOID process but does not require it, officials said. Silverstein's proposal would require fingerprints be submitted for every application and would check the fingerprints against Department of Corrections records to ensure a felon doesn't acquire either a conceal carry license or an FOID card, according to text in the bill.

"I'm trying to see if we can get it passed before the end of the week ... or reintroduce it next year," Silverstein said.

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

## Police: Mother charged with child endangerment

BY BRIAN L. COX  
Pioneer Press

An Evanston woman was charged with misdemeanor child endangerment after police say she left her two young children home alone recently, authorities said Nov. 22.

Natalia Gorjatschew, 32, of the 300 block of Custer Avenue, was charged following her arrest at Evanston Hospital on Nov. 14, police said.

They said that at around 2:30 p.m. on Nov. 14, Gorjatschew was brought to Evanston Hospital by ambulance after she was found intoxicated and locked out of a vehicle near the intersection of Isabella and 14th streets in Wilmette. At around 9 p.m. that night, Gorjatschew told hospital staff she had to leave the

hospital because she had left two young children at home alone, police said.

Police said hospital staff called Evanston police, who went to the woman's apartment in the 300 block of Custer Avenue where they found a girl, 3, and a boy, 4, home alone, police said. The boy had a minor burn to his finger from trying to heat up food in a microwave oven, according to police.

The Department of Child and Family Services was notified but it was unclear as of Nov. 22 if the agency had taken custody of the children, police said.

Gorjatschew was scheduled to appear in court Nov. 30 at the Skokie courthouse. Gorjatschew could not be reached for a comment Nov. 22.

Brian L. Cox is a freelancer.

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## NEWS

## Hinsdale class teaches proper manners for holiday gatherings

BY **KIMBERLY FORNEK**  
Pioneer Press

The conversation will be flowing around dinner tables this holiday season, especially if children in the family attended a holiday etiquette class with Bette Schieber.

Schieber, an etiquette consultant, taught two classes at the Community House in Hinsdale Nov. 20, a two hour-class for children 8 to 12 and a shorter one for 5- to 7-year-olds.

The etiquette rules for the holidays are the same as the ones she covers in the classes she offers year round, except she tends to "step it up a bit."

"Manners are pretty much standard," Schieber said.

But during the holidays, there are more social gatherings and dinners tend to be more elaborate, so "you want to make a better impression."

One of the most important lessons is the art of conversation.

"We talk about how to initiate a conversation," Schieber said. "The best way is to ask a question."

The children suggest appropriate topics, such as sports, school or a favorite

movie. The question should be open-ended, so the response will be more than yes or no, she said.

"I tell them adults like to have a conversation. I use the analogy of playing catch. If you throw the ball to someone and they take the ball and do nothing with it, then you can't play catch," she said. "Conversation should be back and forth like that, requiring two people to cooperate, not just with the talking, but with the listening."

Most of the children in the classes at the Community Center did not know each other, so they had an opportunity to practice conversation with each other.

The older children also learned how to write a thank-you note. Sometimes a child will ask if it's OK to say thank you via a text message, Schieber said.

"In a few circumstances, that is probably OK," she said. "But I tell them to think about the time it took someone to shop for a gift and a card, to wrap it and give it to you. A text does not match the effort put into the gift."

Schieber reminds the children thank-you notes also are appreciated for a thoughtful gesture or a con-

siderate action, such as for the mom who drives you to soccer practice all the time.

She sent a guideline for writing thank-yous home with the younger children, so their parents could help them compose one.

The etiquette class includes table manners. Schieber served a slice of pound cake to the older children and told them to eat it with a knife and fork and pretend it's piece of meat or other food. The younger children practiced with juice and cookie. The children are reminded to not start eating until everyone has been served.

"I realize it's not easy, (especially for) the poor child who gets their pound cake first and has to wait for everybody else," she said.

Schieber asks the class why manners are important and suggests they imagine what it would be like to eat with people did not have good table manners.

"A hundred percent of the time, someone will say, 'it's gross,' or 'it's kind of disgusting,'"

"They get it," Schieber said. "They really do get it."

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## Peapod spin-out ItemMaster raises \$7.5 million for smarter food packaging

BY **AMINA ELAHI**  
Chicago Tribune

ItemMaster, which creates product information tools for food brands and retailers, has raised \$7.5 million in Series A funding, its investors announced Tuesday.

The company will use the funding to nearly double its staff and invest in its technology, said CEO Michael Murray.

ItemMaster was incubated inside Skokie-based

grocery delivery company Peapod since 2009, before spinning off as an independent company this past March. ItemMaster and Peapod still share the same Skokie address, but Murray said neither Peapod nor its parent company, Ahold Delhaize, owns a part of ItemMaster.

ItemMaster offers tools for food brands to create detailed and accurate product labels. It also offers a platform through which food brands can update

product information online, so that retailers can better categorize products.

Through 2017, ItemMaster will focus on the "packaged goods" market in the United States, which includes items found in most grocery stores, such as manufactured foods, dry goods and health and beauty products, Murray said. He hopes to expand into over-the-counter pharmacy and pet products, as well as international markets, in the future.

# ComEd, Exelon scale back controversial bill, again

BY ALLY MAROTTI  
Chicago Tribune

A week after ComEd and Exelon dropped some of the most contentious provisions of a controversial energy bill making its way through the Illinois legislature, the power companies say they are paring the bill even further.

The most recent changes would trim below 25 cents the average monthly increase customers would see on their bills if the legislation passes, Tom O'Neill, senior vice president of regulatory and energy policy and general counsel at ComEd, said Nov. 28 during a meeting with the Chicago Tribune Editorial Board.

A third amendment to the bill was filed Nov. 28. ComEd previously estimated the entire proposal, presented earlier this month, would cost consum-



NANCY STONE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Thomas O'Neill, Senior Vice President ComEd answers questions from the editorial board. Representatives from ComEd and Exelon speak to the Chicago Tribune editorial board Nov. 28 to talk about new legislation.

ers an extra 25 cents a month.

"It's going to be substantially less" with this newest amendment, O'Neill said, although ComEd does not know exactly how much

less. Opponents, however, still disagree with ComEd's math. The changes aren't enough nor as much as the utility companies say, said Dave Lundy, director of Bet-

ter Energy Solutions for Tomorrow, or the BEST Coalition, a nonprofit organization made up of business and consumer groups who oppose the legislation.

The coalition estimated the original legislation would cost ComEd ratepayers \$6.23 more per month on average. That number drops only to \$4.20 per month with the changes.

"This enterprise began as a nuclear bailout and it will end as a nuclear bailout," Lundy said.

The 446-page version of the bill introduced earlier this month touched on many aspects of energy policy in Illinois, such as the state's renewable energy standards and education for ratepayers on changes. Provisions that drew some of the harshest criticism — a new system for charging customers based on average

peak usage instead of overall electricity use and a subsidy for downstate power plants that burn coal — were dropped after Gov. Bruce Rauner's administration criticized parts of the bill.

Much of what remained after last week's reduction has been scaled down again, O'Neill said, though its main purpose remains keeping afloat two struggling nuclear power plants owned by parent company Exelon. The company has threatened to close the plants in downstate Clinton and the Quad Cities if the state government doesn't help, putting 1,500 people out of work.

Under the newest version of the bill outlined Nov. 28, the utility companies would collect about \$235 million annually from customers for the nuclear power plant subsidy, instead of the \$285 million called for in the

previous version, O'Neill said.

A provision that would allow ComEd to pay for energy efficiency investments on behalf of customers also will be scaled back, O'Neill said.

The adjustment would allow ComEd to spend about \$400 million annually on energy efficiency investments, he said, down from the original \$500 million.

The company currently spends about \$240 million annually, O'Neill said.

"When you come to Springfield, a lot of these ornaments get put on the Christmas tree," O'Neill said. "Some of those ornaments are getting peeled off."

Proponents of the bill hope for a vote before the veto session ends Dec. 1.

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**LIFE+**  
**STYLE**  
Sunday

# New divorce laws affect those of modest means

Change in policy intended to increase equity

BY ROBERT MCCOPPIN  
Chicago Tribune

For better or for worse, when it comes to divorce “for richer or for poorer” helps determine how much one spouse pays the other.

In an ongoing divorce trial due to resume in mid-December, the multimillionaire founder of Cancer Treatment Centers of America, Richard Stephenson, and his ex-wife Alicia Stephenson are battling over whether she needs more than \$400,000 a month to maintain her living expenses.

While the superrich duke it out over a standard of living most people will never experience, a shift in Illinois divorce law aims to reduce conflicts in dissolving marriages and establish better equity for former spouses with more modest incomes.

The policy changes are driven by attempts to correct past injustices that often left ex-wives with little money and no viable way to support themselves after years of raising children, divorce attorneys said. They mark the first major revamp of Illinois divorce law in almost 40 years.

“If you’re in a difficult relationship, nothing will eliminate the fact that people don’t get along,” prominent divorce attorney Pamela Kuzniar said. “But because there’s a template for agreement, it helps somewhat to resolve the issues.”

In the wake of the women’s liberation movement, divorce law in Illinois underwent major revisions in 1977, in particular to provide for divorcing wives with little or no education or who dropped out of careers to help their spouses advance. Before that, husbands typically kept most of a divorcing couple’s assets and paid sometimes negligible alimony.



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Alicia Stephenson heads into divorce court at the McHenry County courthouse in Woodstock on Oct. 17.

The first comprehensive changes to the law since then took effect this year and reflect other cultural shifts. The new version, for example, swaps out the language “husband and wife” with the gender-neutral “spouses” because of the legalization of same-sex marriage. It also reduces the previous two-year separation period to six months.

But perhaps the biggest change is that the old grounds for divorce — like adultery, bigamy and cruelty — have largely been eliminated, moving Illinois to a no-fault divorce system that generally streamlines the process because no party has to prove fault. Wait time has been reduced to six months in cases where one spouse opposes the dissolution.

The new law also eliminated the words “custody” and “visitation,” replacing them with “parental respon-

**“It’s hard for the breadwinner to understand why they have to pay a substantial portion of their income to their spouse.”**

— Alan Hoffenberg, attorney

sibilities” and “parenting time.” That means parents must propose and accept an agreement on who will have the kids when, and how the parents will jointly make decisions about their children’s education, religion, health and extracurricular activities.

In addition, for the first time, Illinois’ divorce laws have set a formula for determining maintenance, or what used to be called alimony. Previously, divorce attorneys said, there was little consistency in how such payment levels were set, and some downstate judges tended to not award maintenance at all.

Now, for couples making a combined gross income of less than \$250,000, the payer — generally the spouse with the higher income — must pay 30 percent of his or her income minus 20 percent of the recipient’s income.

So if a husband earns \$100,000 a year and his wife \$50,000, he would pay her \$30,000, minus \$10,000, for a total of \$20,000.

The duration of maintenance was left to the judge’s discretion before; now it depends on the length of the marriage.

There’s a minimum payment of \$40 per month per child, and a maximum of 40

percent of combined income, and judges may still decide whether maintenance is appropriate, or may deviate from the guidelines if they see fit.

Not only has the new law made maintenance more predictable, courts are more willing to grant maintenance, and it goes on for a longer time, divorce attorney Roman Seckel said.

And rather than setting the amount of child support first and then the maintenance to get the desired overall split in income, now judges often set the maintenance by formula, then adjust child support, often downward, to reach the

desired balance of income, Seckel said.

But a new formula is due to be set for child support next year as well. Currently, the guidelines call for 20 percent of the noncustodial parent’s net income for one child, 28 percent for two children, 32 percent for three and so on.

In the future, support is expected to be based on the concept of shared income, which some 38 other states use. The formula estimates the amount of money needed to raise a given number of children, then determines what share parents must pay based on their income.

Parents may reduce the amount of support they pay by increasing the amount of parenting time, which may become an even more contentious issue, lawyers warned.

For all the attempts at uniformity, though, the maintenance guidelines apply only to those who toil for combined incomes below \$250,000.

That means the rich, such as the Stephensons, still must either settle or fight out everything in court.

Divorcees and attorneys still complain about some aspects of the law, but the Illinois State Bar Association called it “improved” overall.

Wealthy spouses fighting over riches attract media attention, but it’s far more common for poor couples to wrestle with the increased expense of maintaining two households instead of one, said attorney Alan Hoffenberg, past president of the Illinois chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers.

“It’s more than a rude awakening. It’s sometimes devastating,” he said. “It’s hard for the breadwinner to understand why they have to pay a substantial portion of their income to their spouse. That’s why blue-collar cases are so difficult, because there’s just not enough money to go around.”

# An old friend, gone too soon



**RANDY BLASER**

X-Acto knife pasting pages together and drew cartoons on the side.

Those long nights we spent creating newspapers followed by beers and entertaining talk created a bond that wouldn't be broken. Everyone has a friendship that goes on as if no time passes no matter how long between conversations.

Charley was one of those rare friends. And lately Facebook kept us connected, especially on topics we cared about and loved to talk about whenever we shared a beer - politics, both national and local, baseball, especially the White Sox, and music.

Charley liked to delve deeply into those subjects and always came up with an insight on a topic that no one else even considered.

A fleeting example: One night the subject of all-time-great outfielders came up. Everyone pitched their favorite - Mantle, Mays,

DiMaggio, Ruth, Cobb, etc. Finally, Charley pipes up and reminded us: No one here has mentioned Hank Aaron, who at the time was the game's all-time home run hitter.

Of course, Charley would remember Aaron. And his career was a lot like Hammerin' Hank's. I doubt anyone would mention Charley in a discussion of all-time-great cartoonists in American journalism. But like Aaron, Charley plugged away week in and week out creating a legacy of cartooning that is amazing. His list of state and national awards for his cartoons attest to that.

The news and politics, of course, were standard fare, but he also drew cartoons on music, baseball, the Bears and the Blackhawks, and the local community scene. He never stopped, creating his last cartoon about the Cubs just days before he died.

I'm thankful for the great

*Everyone has a friendship that goes on as if no time passes no matter how long between conversations.*

times we shared as friends at White Sox double-headers, Blackhawks games at the old Chicago Stadium watching Denis Savard, late nights at the old print shop putting the paper together as reports from high school basketball games came in, following the local music scene at the clubs.

Over the last few years, I got to know that Charley was a great diarist, expounding on events of the day with his Facebook posts. His insights into daily life showed me why he was able to make such great connections with his cartoons.

Here's an eloquent post about longing for winter during a sweltering Chicago summer:

"The First Frost cannot get here soon enough for me. I like the cold. I like bundling up and heading out to walk to the pub in wintertime, getting the fireplace seat and enjoying a pint. Or staying home warm and cozy with music or books and tea."

On the Blackhawks' Andrew Shaw (now with the Montreal Canadiens):

"I also do not know who he compares to in Hawks lore, as Shaw was an effective king-mixer and physical presence who could also score a timely goal ... unlike somewhat similar guys who came before like Reggie Fleming or Keith Magnuson, both colorful NHL legends of yore. He was amongst my favorites of the current roster and

Shaw will rate somewhere on my own All Time Blackhawks List (yeah I still conjure up stuff like that)."

On new music by Eric Clapton, Bob Dylan and Bonnie Raitt:

"It's interesting to 'grow' alongside these artists to hear their approach or 'take' on life at this moment. All three captured their times pretty well in the past. They are a bit older than me. In that it kinda prepares one for the changes of perspective and attitudes ahead."

How can you not love a guy who thinks and expresses those thoughts like that?

He used to like to say that old friends are the best. He was definitely one of the best.

I'm so glad to have known him. Thanks for allowing me to remember him today.

*Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.*

# America enters wait-and-see phase with President-elect Donald Trump



**PAUL SASSONE**

OK, it's safe to come out for now.

The presidential election has been over for a while.

Everyone has had his or her shout of joy or outrage at the outcome. Protests continue, but are becoming a part of the landscape.

So, while the rest is not exactly silence, there seems to be a hush, a quiet to see what actually will happen when Donald Trump becomes president of the

United States.

I was reminded of this expectant mood while I was standing in the grocery check-out line recently. The woman in front of me picked up a magazine to browse while she was in line. On the magazine's cover was a picture of Trump and his family smiling.

"He sure makes good-looking children," she said to me. I agreed they were a handsome group.

"Maybe he'll do what's right," the woman mused. "We can only hope he does. But I went and got my passport. Don't know where I'd go, though. Canada won't take us."

She was smiling when she said all this. So, I don't think she really is planning on fleeing the country. But, she did get a passport.

I'm not getting a passport. I'm going to wait and see like everyone else in America.

Trump did not get my vote. And I have grave fears about what he might do to our country. Might do:

He hasn't done anything yet.

I - we - will wait and see. What choice do we have, really?

We can yell and scream. But what good will that do? And if people want to protest, fine.

I'm not the ranting kind,

anyway.

Though, there is one group of my fellow citizens I would very much like to yell and scream at.

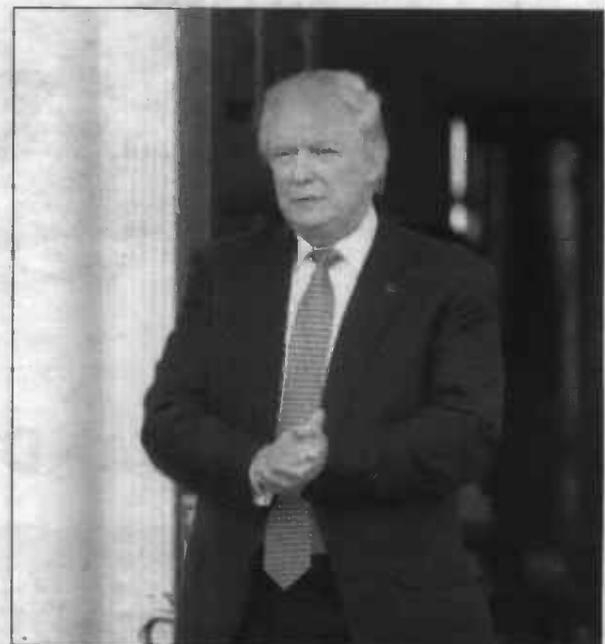
More than 90 million Americans qualified to vote did not vote in this year's presidential election.

I saw one of these non-voters interviewed on TV. He was carrying a "Not My President" sign at a protest.

He said he hadn't voted because both political parties are alike, blah, blah, blah. These non-voters are the villains of this election.

They deserve nothing but contempt.

*Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.*

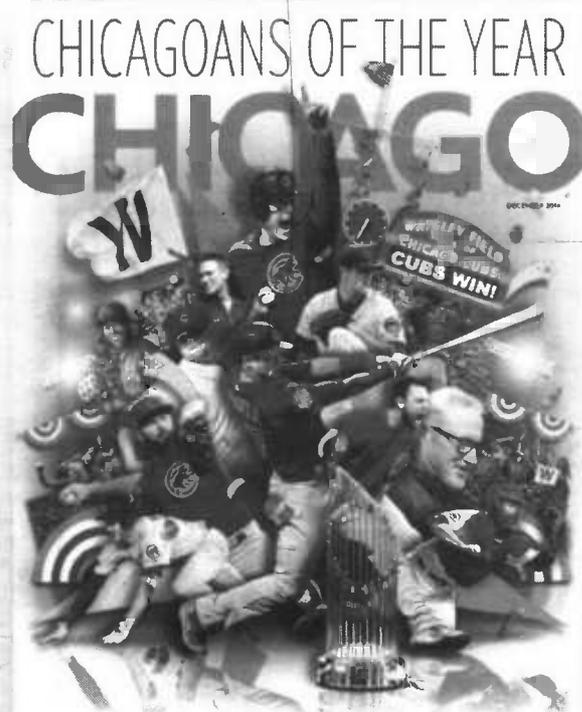


CAROLYN KASTER/AP

Donald Trump is the president-elect, in part, because of the millions of people who did not take the time to vote in the Nov. 8 presidential election.

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## OPINION LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

### Stevenson High School student stands with Israel

Recently, I attended AIPAC's (American Israel Public Affairs Committee) Schusterman Advocacy Institute High School Summit to learn about the state of Israel and the Middle East from foreign policy experts and analysts. The conference was an amalgamation of 400 high school students from all across the country, disparate in race, ethnicity and beliefs; yet, we were all unified in our ardent support for America's staunchest ally. As we began our development into the next generation of effective pro-Israel activists and leaders, we explored our own personal reasons for supporting Israel.

Regardless of one's political or religious affiliation, everyone has a direct stake in the U.S.-Israel relation-

ship. For me, as a co-founder and president of Stevenson High School's feminism club, it is important to me that my country supports the only liberal democracy in the Middle East; the only country in the Middle East where women, religious and ethnic minorities, and those of the LGBT community enjoy complete and utter equality.

Israel is our partner in business, security and technology, jointly working on industry-leading, life-saving projects to reciprocally protect our countries. For example, as California's water supply is dwindling, Israeli water technology, which has effectively spurred the creation of metropolitan cities in the midst of a previously uninhabited barren desert, is

being employed to satiate the growing demands for water within the United States. Whatever your passion, whether you're interested in food, fashion, music, science or any other field of inquiry, the cutting-edge nation, roughly the size of New Jersey, is guaranteed to have made advances that warrant your attention. I urge you to explore your own personal connection to Israel. Being American means supporting Israel since Israel supports us. Today, my belief in a strong state of Israel has never been more fervent, and I am proud to proclaim that I stand with AIPAC and Israel.

— Rachel Aranyi, Stevenson High School class of 2018, Buffalo Grove

### Time for president-elect to address promise of unity

Dear President-elect Donald Trump,

During your presidential campaign, you said that you wanted to be the president of all the people. The time has come for you to address the nation regarding your promise. Many sectors of the country are downright frightened by what they see and hear in all quarters of the media. It is time to assuage those people who are assaulted, threatened and ridiculed by some of those who

voted for you. It is intolerable that people in our country have to live in fear — fear for themselves and fear for their children.

Soon you are going to occupy the highest office in the land and what you say and do has great impact upon all of us. You must be aware of those segments of our society that need a large dose of reassurance: These are the African-Americans, the Muslims, the gays, the Jews, the Hispanics and other minorities who are feeling left

out of the mainstream.

You must denounce those whose mission is to divide and not unify us. There are dark forces among us and they should not be able to undermine our republic. You should come before the nation now and not wait until you have taken the oath of office. We are at a critical time in our history and we look to you to be a leader for all Americans.

— Sam Solomon, Deerfield

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We want to hear from you! Send your letters to the editor to [suburbanletters@tribpub.com](mailto:suburbanletters@tribpub.com). Letters should not exceed 250 words and should include your name, phone number and address (only your name and town will be published).

# Is the Electoral College the best we can do?

Recent cracks in system suggest the need for an update



PAT LENHOFF

As we enter December, two things are for certain. One is that the big holidays are drawing very near and with them comes shopping, parties and festive events that will fill the appointment book all month. The second is that the inauguration of a new president is just over the horizon next month.

With that has come a barrage of press, media interviews and talking heads sounding off about the upcoming state of our union and resigning to the fact that no matter how much it might be wished otherwise, the name Trump will dominate headlines for at least the next four years.

In most elections, the sound and fury die down after the votes are counted and a winner declared. Not in this case. People seem anxious to rehash the campaigns, assessing who did what right and who erred in their campaign management. They want to determine who misjudged voters' positions and who read the true pulse of America.

All in all, as one of my favorite friends once quipped to her dad at age 10 during an attempt at discipline, "It's over, all right?"

But in a way, it's not over. Serious questions have arisen, not for the first time, about the Electoral College and accompanying its effectiveness and fairness



JAY LAPRETE/GETTY-AFP

Donald Trump will win the Electoral College, but Hillary Clinton will end up with more overall votes.

when one candidate gets far more votes, but the other wins more states and therefore the election.

I posed the scenario during post-election discussions that perhaps the process could be tweaked by assigning a percentage of electoral votes based upon the vote total percentages in each state. That seemed a reasonable way to gently move away from an all-or-nothing challenge without completely abolishing the Electoral College.

According to post-election press coverage, this is the fifth time a candidate who won the popular vote has not won the election. The most recent of course was Al Gore, an election that we all remember for the Florida issues and rumored shenanigans that held up a final decision for quite some time. It surely seems an imperfect system of election.

Add to that the original concept behind the Electoral College, which according to historical reports was initiated for a few reasons. Communication in the late 18th century was obviously not what it is

today; therefore, the voting constituency commissioned a number of more well-traveled and informed men as their electoral representatives and to this day, they do have the right to change their vote.

In addition, among the other reasons for the college to exist was that voters in states that practiced slavery were concerned about equitable representation. A system came into play in which free persons were counted as a whole and each slave was counted as three-fifths in census numbers, the sum of all those determining the state's population and correspondingly, electoral votes. When we examine that kind of thing today, it's heinous and inhuman. It is unrepresentative of the people's will and archaic on so many levels.

It seems that a change in how we vote for president is warranted. If any good came out of this brutal election, that could be it. Time will tell.

Pat Lenhoff is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press and can be reached at viewfromvh@yahoo.com.



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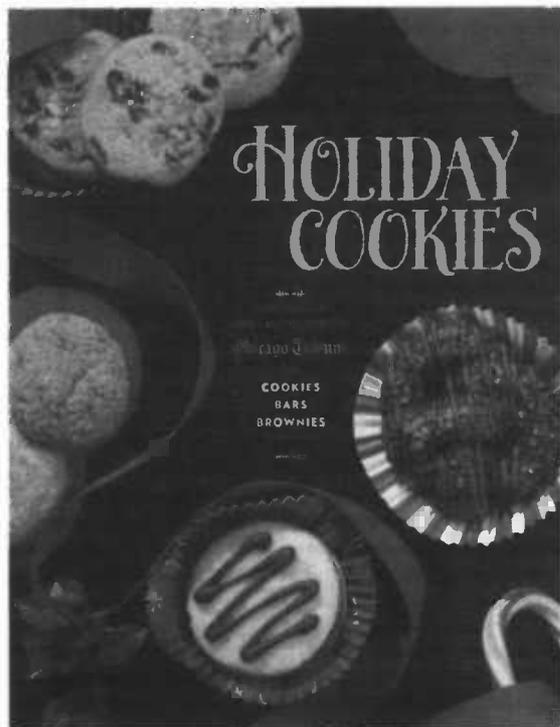
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**Chicago Tribune**

# Spruce up the house this season

Find the perfect tree at one of these area farms

BY ANNIE ALLEMAN  
Pioneer Press

Chris Czarnowski, whose family owns Ben's Tree Farm in Harvard, said that thanks to the rain and warm weather, they have a great looking crop of Christmas trees this year.

The late Ben Czarnowski opened the tree farm in 1986. Today, it's run by his three sons. There are also two grandsons named Ben, so the future of the farm looks bright.

"We have customers who are second generation — they came as kids and now they're married and are bringing their kids," he said.

Tree farms offer that once-a-year experience of combing the fields for that perfect spruce and cutting it down yourself.

"People tell me it's not even so much the tree, it's the experience," Czarnowski said. "You can buy a tree close to your house pretty much anywhere nowadays, but it's harder to find family time. I have three kids myself and I know how it is. It's just a time to get everybody in the car and spend the day together. You're literally talking a walk for half an hour to find a tree together."



A family finds a Christmas tree at Richardson's Tree Farm in Spring Grove.

VISIT MCHENRY COUNTY

Many farms provide free use of hand saws plus free shaking and baling, as well as hayrides out to the fields, hot chocolate and bonfires. Many offer pre-cut trees for sale as well.

It's a good idea to call the farm first or check their websites for rules, regulations and special events. And maybe bring your own hand saw and ropes, just in case.

Here's a list of area tree farms.

## Cary

**Pine-Apple Farm**, 309 Three Oaks Road, Cary. 847-639-3248; [www.pine-applefarm.com](http://www.pine-applefarm.com).

Hours are 9 a.m. to dusk Nov. 25 and Saturdays and 11 a.m. to dusk Sundays until Dec. 18. Ten acres of you-cut Black Hill and Colorado blue spruce; Scotch pine;

Douglas and Canaan fir, from \$65. Pre-cut Wisconsin Fraser fir. Saws, shaking and baling provided. \$65 for pines; \$85 for spruces and firs. Pre-cut \$75 and up. Cash and check only.

## DeKalb

**Camelot Christmas Tree Farm**, 16380 S. Somonauk Road, DeKalb. 815-756-6599; [www.camelottrees.com](http://www.camelottrees.com).

Open noon to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and Nov. 25 through Dec. 18. Free shaking and baling. All trees cost \$60. Cash or check only.

**Craig/Cinnamon Christmas Tree Farm**, 13579 Howison Road, DeKalb. 815-757-0717;

Turn to Trees, Page 24

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## GO

Trees, from Page 23

**www.craigcinnamonchristmastrees.com.** Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 25 and then weekends only through Christmas, or call for appointment. Scotch and white pines cost \$40; spruces, firs and balsams cost \$60. Free use of hand saws plus shaking and baling. Cash or check only.

### Harvard

**Ben's Christmas Tree Farm,** 7719 Ryan Road, Harvard. 630-279-0216; **www.benstreefarm.com.** Open 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays Nov. 25 to Dec. 18. Nine varieties of organically grown trees from 6 to 14 feet tall. Pine varieties cost \$6 per foot; firs and spruces cost \$9 per foot. Free extras include wagon rides, children's play areas; plus assistance cutting down trees and tying them to vehicles. Leashed pets welcome. Cash and checks only.

### Lake Villa

**Gengel Tree Farm,** 38614 N. Fairfield, Lake Villa. 847-356-5661. **gengeltreefarm@yahoo.com.** Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 25 and weekends through Dec. 18. They offer Balsam and Fraser firs 6 to 12 feet tall as well as handmade wreaths, decorated swags and mixed garlands. Twine and tree netting are provided. Cost begins at \$35.

**Sullivan Family Christmas Tree Farm,** 23774 W. Petite Lake Road, Lake Villa. 847-989-3092 or 847-949-0172; **eosullivan.dvm@aol.com.** Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 27 and weekends through Dec. 18 or by appointment. They offer Scotch pine, white pine and white spruce for you-cut. All sizes and varieties of choose and cut trees cost \$45. Fresh balsam wreaths and roping are also available. They have an antique sled and 1873 barn good for photo ops. Free hayrides.

### McHenry

**Pioneer Tree Farm,** 4616 Pioneer Road, McHenry. 815-385-8512; **www.pioneertreefarm.com.** Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 25 and weekends through Dec. 18. Organically grown pine, juniper, spruce and fir trees available for you-cut. Free shaking, baling and tractor-drawn wagon rides. Leashed dogs welcome. Trees cost \$50; cash and check only.

### Peotone

**Bengtson Tree Farm,** 10919 W. Wilmington Road, Peotone. 708-258-9610; **www.treefarmusa.com.** Open 9 a.m. to 4:30 daily Nov. 25 to Dec. 22. Cost is \$8 a foot on trees up to 10 feet and \$10 a foot on trees taller than 11 feet, plus tax. Shaking and baling cost \$3 each. They will retrieve your tree from the field for free and bring it up to the warming building. Live reindeer on the farm. Cash or check only; an ATM is available on site.

### Sandwich

**Larson's Family Farm,** 4404 Somonauk Road, Sandwich. 815-786-2249; **www.larsonfamilyfarm.com/index.html.** Open 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 25; after that 2 to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday to Friday; 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekends through Dec. 18. Closed Mondays. They sell Canaan fir, concolor fir, Douglas fir, Norway spruce, Scotch pine and white pine in all different sizes. They provide saws, shaking and baling and sell fresh evergreen wreaths and roping. All trees cost \$38. Cash or check only.

### Spring Grove

**Richardson Tree Farm,** 9407 Richardson Road, Spring Grove. 815-675-9729; **www.richardsonadventurefarm.com.** Open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily Nov. 25 to Dec. 23. They have more than 50,000 trees of many varieties and sizes spread over 75 acres,

including Scotch and white pine, spruce; and Fraser, concolor and Canaan fir. Fresh fudge and free coffee and cocoa daily in the heated barn with wreaths, garlands, decorations and indoor restrooms. Tractor-drawn wagon rides on weekends. Free shaking and baling. Trees cost \$68; select trees \$29; pre-cut trees up to 12 feet priced per foot. Cash, check and credit cards accepted.

### Tammen Tree Berry

**Farm,** 37131 Essex Road, Wilmington. 800-892-5989; **www.tammentreeberryfarm.net.** Open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily Nov. 25 to Dec. 18. Spread over 160 acres, they have Douglas fir, Fraser fir, Canaan fir, white pine and Scotch pine available for you-cut. Cost is \$50 per tree; shaking and baling cost \$7. Cash, checks, credit and debit cards accepted.

### Woodstock

**Grandpa's Christmas Tree Farm,** 13616 Ill. Route 176, Woodstock. 815-337-2682; **www.GrandpasTreeFarm.com.** Open 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Nov. 25-27 only due to the need to re-populate the farm. Most trees are in the five-foot range and cost \$56. Free cocoa and coffee, tractor-drawn wagon rides, free shaking and baling. Cash and check only.

### Oney's Tree Farm and

**Nursery,** 16608 U.S. 14, Woodstock. 815-338-4108; **www.oneystreefarm.com.** Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily Nov. 25 to Dec. 11. There are more than 60,000 trees and nine different varieties at this farm. On the weekends, take a horse-drawn wagon ride through the fields or take a pony ride. Mrs. Claus is available for visits in her North Pole house. Pine trees under 9 feet cost \$55 plus tax; spruce and fir under 9 feet cost \$65. Trees under 5 feet cost \$30; trees over 9 feet cost \$100-\$150. Includes shaking and baling. Major credit cards, cash and checks accepted.

## EVENT

# Skokie playwrights create new writers workshop

BY BRUCE INGRAM  
Pioneer Press

One nice thing about belonging to a writers group is that it pretty much forces you to write.

That's certainly one of the main reasons longtime playwrights Dan Zellner and Diane Berz recently founded the Skokie Playwrights Workshop — as group leaders, it would look kind of silly if they didn't show up to meetings with work to share. But there was also an altruistic aspect to their decision. While Chicago has plenty of playwriting groups, ranging from informal workshops to the formal, classroom settings of Chicago Dramatists, there are few, if any, comparable opportunities in the suburbs.

Until now, that is. Skokie Playwrights Workshop has already had its first two meetings in October and November, attracting roughly half a dozen writers. The third meeting will take place the evening of Dec. 1 at the Skokie Public Library.

"There's also a lot of support in Skokie for cultural activity," Zellner added. "You have the Skokie Public Library doing events, the Village doing events and Devonshire Playhouse. There's a lot going on here."

Both Zellner and Berz, who are married (and Skokie residents) have a long history of writing plays, though they've each been less active in recent years. Berz began as a child and continued as an adult before switching to screenplays in the '90s, an activity she found so frustrating that she gave up writing altogether for a time.

"With playwriting, it's a little easier to get things done," she said. "If you want, you can mount your own show. You're not wait-



SKOKIE PLAYWRIGHTS WORKSHOP  
Diane Berz and Dan Zellner have launched the new Skokie Playwrights Workshop.

## The Skokie Playwrights Workshop

**When:** 7 p.m. Dec. 1

**Where:** Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie

**Tickets:** Admission is free.

**Information:** [skokieplays@gmail.com](mailto:skokieplays@gmail.com).

ing on a producer who's going to read your work and change everything anyway."

Zellner has more of a formal theatrical background, training first as an actor at UCLA, where he earned an MFA degree, and then beginning to write plays after forming his own Studio Z theater company in Chicago, which closed in 2005. He produced several of his own plays at Studio Z and one at the Rough Theatre company in Los Angeles (which he also founded) and at the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco.

In addition to writing, the pair also share a background in improvisational theater. Berz was affiliated with the now-defunct Players Workshop before meeting Zellner at the Second City Training Center. As that might suggest, both of them have a penchant for comedy, though Zellner, who counts Samuel Beckett as an influence (along with David Mamet and Shakespeare) has more of a taste for the experimental than his wife.

"I don't like Beckett and I'm lukewarm about Shakespeare," Berz said.

Although they've been married a long time and writing a long time during their marriage, the pair have never collaborated.

"No," said Zellner, a bit emphatically.

"That's how we've been able to stay married," Berz said with a laugh.

And they're both bringing their own projects to their Playwrights Workshop, which is free and open to all skill levels, including beginners. The workshop members simply bring scenes to the monthly meetings, which are read and critiqued. Eventually, Zellner and Berz plan to add additional meetings for staged readings of scenes and even entire plays.

"Right now our main goal is to keep it running," Berz said. "People can stay as long as they want and leave anytime they want, but if we can develop a core group, we should be able to get some interesting work done — including, we hope, some of our own."

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-HEDY WEISS, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES



# KING CHARLES

WRITTEN BY  
MIKE BARTLETTDIRECTED BY  
GARY GRIFFIN

CHARLES. CAMILLA. WILLIAM. KATE. HARRY.  
ONE FAMILY HOLDS THE FUTURE OF  
GREAT BRITAIN IN ITS HANDS. BUT WHAT WILL IT BE?

THE QUEEN IS DEAD. THE “KING-IN-WAITING”  
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PERFORMER'S SCHOOL

Brody LaForce, 13, of Highland Park, front and center, hones his dance skills at a rehearsal with Ensemble at the Performer's School for their production of "Footloose."

**FAMILY FRIENDLY**

## Young actors gear up for 'Footloose' at Skokie Theatre

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

Ren's life is turned upside down but music helps set it back on track in "Footloose."

Brody LaForce, 13, of Highland Park stars in the Ensemble at the Performer's School's production of the Tom Snow (music), Dean Pitchford (book and lyrics) and Walter Bobbie (book) hit musical.

"Ren lives in Chicago and then he comes to the town of Bomont after his father abandons his mother and him," Brody related. "He figures out that dancing is illegal there and he wants to change the law."

The ban was instituted by the local preacher so when Ren hangs posters opposing it, "He uses quotes from the Bible," Brody said.

Brody, who started acting at 5, loves the show's opening number and finale which feature the title tune.

Performances are 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8 and 9; 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 10; and 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Dec. 11, at Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Tickets

are \$18.

For details, call 847-677-7761 or go to [www.skokie-theatre.org/footloose.html](http://www.skokie-theatre.org/footloose.html).

**Help trim him**

With all those breakfasts, lunches and dinners, there's a chance Santa might get stuck in a chimney. Your family can help him out at the IceLand Santa Skate, 2:30-4 p.m. Dec. 4 at 8435 Ballard, Niles. Everyone is invited to skate with Santa and his elves to holiday music. The cost is \$5; \$3 for skate rental.

For details, call 847-297-8010 or go to [www.niles-parks.org/facilities/ice-land-skate](http://www.niles-parks.org/facilities/ice-land-skate).

**Magical trip**

Travel to Narnia with Evanston Dance Ensemble's, "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe." Performances are 7 p.m. Dec. 8 and 9, and 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Dec. 10 and 11, at Josephine Louis Theater, Northwestern University, 20 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. Tickets are \$24; \$16 for

children, students and seniors; \$15 for the Dec. 8 preview performance.

For details, call 847-491-7282 or go to [www.evanstondanceensemble.org](http://www.evanstondanceensemble.org).

**Go watch the glow**

Watch the 4th annual Lincolnwood Lights Celebration, 5 p.m. Dec. 5 at Village Hall Promenade, 6900 N. Lincoln Ave. The holiday lights will be turned on, hot chocolate will be served, music will play and St. Nick will drop by for a visit.

For details, call 847-673-1540 or go to [www.lincolnwoodil.org](http://www.lincolnwoodil.org).

**Rogers revisited**

It will be a beautiful day in the neighborhood of the Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St. during Neighbor Time, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Dec. 6. Kids ages 2-6, with an adult, will watch, play, talk and sing in the style of a classic children's television show.

For details, call 847-663-6625 or go to [www.nileslibrary.org](http://www.nileslibrary.org).

Section 2

# Living

Thursday, December 1, 2016



**Mommy on a shoestring: Celebrate the holidays with service** Page 3



Experts say social networks have made it easier for people who are of a mind to cheat to do so with partners familiar and previously unknown.

IZUSEK/E+

## Social media and cheating

Experts say the internet opens up opportunities for those inclined to be unfaithful Page 14

## SUBURBAN COOKS

# Tradition fuels Christmas Cheer Luncheon

By Judy Buchenot  
Naperville Sun

After taking in the annual Cup of Cheer House Walk, anyone could use a little nosh.

For the past 41 years, the women at Wesley United Methodist Church have been hosting a Christmas Cheer luncheon on the same weekend as the Cup of Cheer House Walk sponsored by the Naperville Garden Club.

"We started offering the luncheon because there weren't very many restaurants in town for the people coming for the House Walk, and we wanted to offer them a lunch option. But now there are lots of restaurants. We still have the luncheon but don't have as many people as we did in the past," said Mary Lou Miller, a Naperville resident who chairs the Christmas Cheer luncheon.

The first luncheon featured cold salads but within a few years, the group changed to hot turkey almonidine at the suggestion of Jerry Anderson, a church member who has since passed away. The turkey casserole has been a popular dish that has brought people back to the event each year. Although the menu has stayed the same, the methods have had to change.

"We used to be able to roast the turkey one day and make the casserole the next," said Marjorie McIntosh, a Naperville resident who is president of the United Methodist Women's group at the church.

"But the health department says we have to cook the turkey on the same day we serve it." This means that dedicated church members show up at the church at 3 in the morning to get three turkeys into the ovens.

"The reason the casserole is so good is that we use all fresh ingredients," says Linda Osanka, a Naperville resident who is the vice president of United Methodist Women. "We take the turkeys out of the oven, let them cool a little and start taking the meat off the bones." A team of women assembles around 160 servings of the casserole in large 24-by-36-inch baking pans.

Although they can't make the main dish until the day of the



JUDY BUCHENOT/NAPERVILLE SUN

Linda Osanka, from left, Marjorie McIntosh and Mary Lou Miller work together to make a batch of their Orange Pineberry Salad, one of the dishes they serve at their annual Christmas Cheer Luncheon. The luncheon held on Dec. 2 will be the 41st year for the event.

## Christmas Cheer Luncheon Crew's Culinary Cue

When cooking for a large group, come up with ways to control portions. Prepare Jell-O in a rectangular pan and cut into uniform squares. Use measuring cups or uniform ladles to portion out other items.

event, there are many other things which can be done in the days before the event. "Wednesday is the day we cut up things like celery and such," Miller said. "On Thursday, we make the Jell-O and pasta salads and decorate the room."

After more than four decades of presenting the luncheon, everything from the shopping list to the order of preparation is written down to be followed.

"Marge (Marjorie) makes sure everything is getting done," Osan-

## Christmas Cheer Luncheon and Cookie Sale

**When:** 11:30 a.m. Dec. 2  
**Where:** Wesley United Methodist Church, 21 East Franklin Ave., Naperville  
**Tickets:** Luncheon \$10, cookies \$10 per pound.  
**Information:** 630-355-1834

ka said. "We have about 30 volunteers who help over the three days. Some are here all three days and some are just here for a few hours."

There have been a few tense moments over the years, like the time the oven accidentally got turned off before some of the casseroles were done. "They were the takeout orders so we were able to delay the pickup time and it all worked out," McIntosh said. For the most part, the luncheon runs smoothly.

The menu has remained the same for many years, including the Orange Pineberry Salad. "The Jell-O salad adds color to the plate so it looks nice," Osanka said. The recipe has jellied cranberry sauce that needs to be melted before being added to the Jell-O. "We have found the microwave works really well for that," she said.

In addition to the lunch, the church hosts a cookie walk where customers can select their own cookies sold by the pound or purchase prepackaged assortments. The community is invited to attend and tickets are available at the door.

The group shares its tried-and-true recipe for hot turkey almonidine for others to try. It is a great recipe for using up leftover turkey. Members also share the recipe for Orange Pineberry Jell-O, which goes well with any kind of poultry.

Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer.

## Hot Turkey Almonidine

- 4 1/2 cups chopped cooked turkey
- 4 cups chopped celery
- 1 cup blanched sliced almonds
- 3/4 cup chopped green pepper
- 1/4 cup chopped pimento
- 1/4 cup chopped onion
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 8 ounces (about 11 slices) Swiss cheese
- 1/2 cup butter
- 2 cups cracker crumbs

1. Combine turkey, celery, almonds, pepper, pimento, onion, salt, lemon juice and mayonnaise. Mix well and spread into a greased 9-by-13-inch pan.
2. Top with sliced cheese. Melt butter and mix with cracker crumbs. Sprinkle buttered crumbs over the cheese.
3. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes.

Makes 16 servings.

## Orange Pineberry Salad

- 1 20-ounce can crushed pineapple
- 1 14-ounce can jellied cranberry sauce
- 2 3-ounce boxes orange Jell-O
- 2 cups boiling water
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts

1. Beat cranberry sauce in a bowl in microwave until melted. Set aside.
2. Place Jell-O in a large bowl and add boiling water. Stir until dissolved.
3. Add melted cranberry sauce and stir until well blended.
4. Add pineapple with the juice, celery and nuts. Stir to combine. Pour into a 9-by-13-inch pan. Refrigerate until firm.

Makes 12 servings.

# Celebrate the holidays with service



**BETH ENGELMAN**  
Mommy on a Shoestring

As a parent, one of my greatest holiday joys is seeing my son's face, happy in the glow of colorful decorations, good cheer and in our house, lots of tinsel. For us, it's also a time to reflect on our good fortune and the abundance the holiday brings. I know I'm not alone in feeling a need to help those who are less fortunate. Teaching our children compassion and empathy is more important than ever. This season, celebrate by finding ways to bring joy to families around the globe.

## Feed My Starving Children

According to the United Nation's World Food Programme, nearly 3.1 million children die of poor nutrition each year. Feed My Starving Children is dedicated to eradicating this problem by providing nutritious meals to children in over 70 countries. The organization partners with non-government organizations across the globe to ensure meals go directly to the intended children. Last year 99.6 percent of all meals were delivered to children.

Feed My Starving Children is always looking for new volunteers to help weigh, pack and process the meals.

To volunteer, go to [m.fmssc.org](http://m.fmssc.org) to register and choose a facility near you. The minimum age for volunteering is 5 years old, which makes it a great activity to do with your school-aged children. Several sites are currently looking for volunteers to help during that last two weeks of December, so if you are home with the kids during winter break, consider making it a "working holiday." Volunteering is fun, upbeat and requires only a few hours of your day.

## Bernie's Book Bank

When former golfing profes-



BERNIE'S BOOK BANK PHOTO

Even young children will be able to help in some way as volunteers at Bernie's Book Bank.

sional Brian Floriani founded Bernie's Book Bank, he had one goal in mind: to get books into the hands of "at-risk" children. "Reading is one of the most important skills a child can learn," Floriani told me during a phone interview. "But many children in low-income homes have never even touched a book." Bernie's Book Bank set out to pour books into the communities that needed them most.

Since 2009, Bernie's Book Bank has delivered over 5 million books to children in underserved communities. "We are proud of our accomplishments, but we can do more. Our goal is to serve every at-risk child in Chicago and its surrounding suburbs, and then expand to other major cities in America. We believe you can build a better life with books."

You can help Bernie's Book Bank by helping to process books and prepare them for distribution. Volunteers typically come for 2-hour time slots throughout

the week and weekend. Visit the website to learn more about their volunteer times, requirements and location. There is no age minimum, so families with little ones are welcome.

Another great way to help Bernie's Book Bank is to donate books. Have your kids help you go through their books, placing gently used books in a "donate to Bernie's Book Bank" pile. It's a great way to clean house and do some good in the process. For information see [berniesbookbank.org](http://berniesbookbank.org).

## Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook Holiday Gift Program

Help make a child's holiday wish come true through the Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook's Holiday Gift Program. Donors can sponsor one or more children, or an entire family by providing gifts from their wish

list. Last year, over 800 individuals were able to enjoy a happy holiday season.

YSGN recommends sponsors spend around \$35-\$50 per individual, but that is just a suggested amount. Whatever sponsors are able to provide is greatly appreciated. Be sure to go to [www.youthservices-gn.org](http://www.youthservices-gn.org) to find out more information about the program, including wish lists and drop off locations. YSGN is also looking for wrappers. Join the fun Dec. 8-Dec. 11, and tape, wrap and tie the gifts, getting them ready for distribution. Space is limited so contact YSGN for reservations. Email [holiday.gift@ysgn.org](mailto:holiday.gift@ysgn.org) or call 847-724-2620.

## How do you give back during the holidays?

We asked our Facebook followers to share ways they give back during the holiday season.

■ "My sister and I host a skating



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN PHOTO

School-age children can be a big help measuring and packing meals for Feed My Starving Children.



CJ SULTZ PHOTO

Glenview resident Kathy Johnson and her granddaughter Julla Sultz show off the squares they created for Knit-a-Square.

party and canned food drive every year. We rent out a skating rink and invite friends and family to join the fun. We also ask guests to bring canned foods to the party, which we then donate to local food pantries. It's my favorite way to celebrate the holidays." — MJ Foreman Daitch, Deerfield

■ "We help cook and serve meals with Fight2Feed (see [fight2feed.org](http://fight2feed.org)) on Thanksgiving and Christmas." — Alston Groen, Arlington Heights

■ "My daughter and mom are knitting squares for Knit-A-Square (see [Knit-A-Square.com](http://Knit-A-Square.com)) that will eventually be made into blankets for AIDS orphans in South Africa. You get a lot of joy from doing something you love that also helps others!" — CJ Sultz, Glenview

Happy Holidays!

## PETS/ANIMALS

### MY PET WORLD

# How do breeders control the color of quaker parrots?

By Marc Morrone  
Tribune Content Agency

**Q: In the park not far from me lives a large flock of those noisy green quaker parrots. My nephew has one as a pet for a few years and he just bought a mutation blue color quaker parrot as a friend for his green one. He says he is saving his money to buy a mutation yellow colored one next year. I was curious what the breeders of these birds have to do to them to cause the colors to mutate like this? — Dee Smith, Westport, CT**

**A:** I can assure you breeders of animals do not do anything to the animals to create a mutation; the mutation itself occurs naturally. The mutation is just a random mixing of genes that happens during development of the embryo that causes the resulting baby to be different from either parent.

Space does not allow me to go into scientific details, but in the case of these parrots, any artist will tell you that green is a combination of the primary colors blue and yellow. So if a quaker parrot hatches out without the yellow gene, then it will be a blue color, and conversely if one is missing

the blue gene, then it will be a yellow color. So you see, we humans have no say at all in the process.

Now, if a blue or a yellow quaker parrot hatched in one of those nests in the park by your house, then that bird would not survive very long as it would stand out in the flock. This would attract the attention of a predator such as a hawk. To survive in the wild a quaker parrot needs to be green.

However, if a blue quaker parrot was hatched out in the controlled aviaries of a bird breeder, then the breeder would keep the blue bird alive and protected.

When that bird grew up and had babies then it would pass down the gene for the blue color to the next generation.

Then through the selective breeding of naturally occurring random mutations, we have been able to breed our domesticated pets of all species to look different from their ancestors that live in the wild.

**Q: There is a feral cat in my backyard that had two litters of kittens this past year. I have found homes for the kittens, but now I want to trap the mother and get her spayed so that this cycle stops. However,**



GERARD JULIEN/GETTY-AFP

Quaker parrots are usually green, but natural genetic mutations can cause them to be different colors.

**she is very wild and never allows us to approach more than 20 feet. I bought a live catch raccoon trap from Lowes and baited it with a can of cat food and set it out for her. However, it has been a week now and she will not go in the trap. We watch her in the backyard at night from a window and we have seen her sitting right in front of the trap looking at the food but she refuses to go in. Is there anything else we can try? — Hugo Grant, Allentown, PA**

**A:** She sounds much more cautious than most feral cats. If you just leave things the way they

are now she may try to enter the trap in such a slow manner that it may try to close prematurely and then she will never go into it.

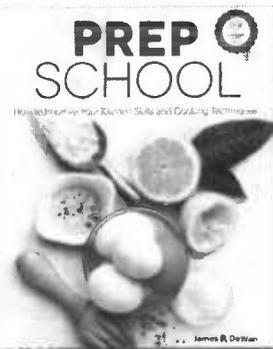
I would advise you to wire the trap open so it cannot close for now and just leave it out with food just in front of it. When she is eating the bait in front of the trap then you can gradually move it further into the trap until she is confident that she can go in and out of it with no hesitation.

This should take about two weeks. Then you take off the wire that is preventing the trap to close and leave it set out and most likely you will catch her the first night.

Since she will likely panic,

please be sure that you cover the trap with a water proof tarp securely before you start this process. That way if she gets trapped in the middle of the night at least she is protected from the elements and if it is dark in the trap she will feel a little less anxious.

*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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# Retiree loses HRA payment after open market buy

Dear Help Squad,  
I saw your May 2016 column "Widow owed payout from husband's health reimbursement account." I am an Allstate Insurance Company retiree, and for the past year and a half my wife and I have been receiving \$140 monthly (health reimbursement arrangement, or HRA) checks from OneExchange (Allstate's private Medicare exchange provider). In September, I was notified that we would no longer be receiving these monthly checks. I contacted OneExchange customer service and was advised it was because we had changed health insurance carriers at the beginning of 2016.

I contacted Allstate and was informed that they had nothing to do with the change and that it was a decision by OneExchange.

In addition to no longer receiving the monthly payments, OneExchange is now asking for the return of \$1,400 (the year-to-date total), which they claim was paid in error. Repeated calls to OneExchange customer service have only provided the same response: I shouldn't have changed health insurance providers. However, I have never

been provided any documentation that explained options available or rules for changing providers.

Any assistance you could provide to resolve this issue is greatly appreciated.

Regards,  
Howard, Twinsburg, Ohio



**CATHY CUNNINGHAM**  
Help Squad

Because I had previously assisted another Allstate retiree with a different OneExchange issue, I knew just who to contact for assistance. I presented both John Barkett, director of exchange solutions policy affairs for Willis Towers Watson (parent company of OneExchange), and Meghan Sporleder, Allstate's senior corporate relations manager, with Howard's predicament.

After investigating Howard's complaint, Sporleder called me that same afternoon to inform me Howard would receive an over-nighted letter, but she couldn't share the content. Howard could do so the next day if he so chose.

Howard called the next morning.

"They are going to forgive the \$1,400,"

Howard said. "However, they aren't going to forgive the (monthly) \$140 for October, November, and December because we went out of bounds and signed up for a carrier that didn't go through OneExchange."

Howard added that when he first learned of his HRA revocation, he and his daughter thoroughly reviewed his initial sign-up information. "The way we read the booklet, it says it's advisable, but not mandatory, that we go through OneExchange to get another health insurance carrier," Howard said. "It did not say we would lose our benefit if we didn't do that."

To clarify, I asked Sporleder if she could identify where Howard might find this requirement in his paperwork. She pointed to two pages in Howard's Jan. 1 "Summary Plan Description." However, this simply listed who is eligible for coverage. She then told me that due to confusion experienced by other retirees, Allstate now mails a letter in the fall that more explicitly lays out re-

quirements for maintaining OneExchange benefits.

Howard called OneExchange's enrollment line and was able to find an HRA-reimbursable plan that meets his and his wife's needs for 2017.

Barkett provided the following advice for retirees enrolled in private Medicare exchanges who might consider leaving to purchase Medicare on the open market:

■ Know the rules. Every employer is different. For example, you may lose your contribution toward your insurance if you are no longer buying Medicare through the exchange.

■ Ask if there is a penalty for switching.

■ Ask if you can come back into the exchange in the future if you leave.

■ If you do leave an exchange, make sure you call your former employer as well as inform them in writing. It will assure a smooth transition.

**Need help?**

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

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist.



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youth to stay in-school, succeed and graduate

**PROTECT**  
children and families from domestic abuse

**EMPOWER**  
unemployed individuals with job training and literacy skills



## BOOKS

# Missing the mark? Writers never the Twain shall meet

By John Warner  
Chicago Tribune

Bob Dylan will not be in Stockholm to personally receive the honor for his Nobel Prize in literature on Dec. 10.

I am agnostic as to whether Dylan is an appropriate choice for that particular prize, but there is a literature-related award that has been perpetuating an injustice for nearly 30 years, the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor.

Credit for identifying this injustice belongs to novelist, former radio personality and cultural gadfly Garrison Keillor, who remarked on this year's award in *The Washington Post*, "Giving a prize named for the author of 'The Innocents Abroad' to Bill Murray is like awarding the Heisman Trophy to a bowler. Wrong sport."

Wrong sport, indeed, which is why I'm happy to join Keillor's cause.

The Mark Twain Prize for American Humor is given by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, which is one of those cultural outfits that hands out cool-looking medals to cool people and then broadcasts the ceremony on PBS during pledge week. It is hard to impossible to argue with the quality of the comedy produced by the previous winners, including such legends as Richard Pryor, Carol Burnett, George Carlin, Lily Tomlin and Steve Martin.

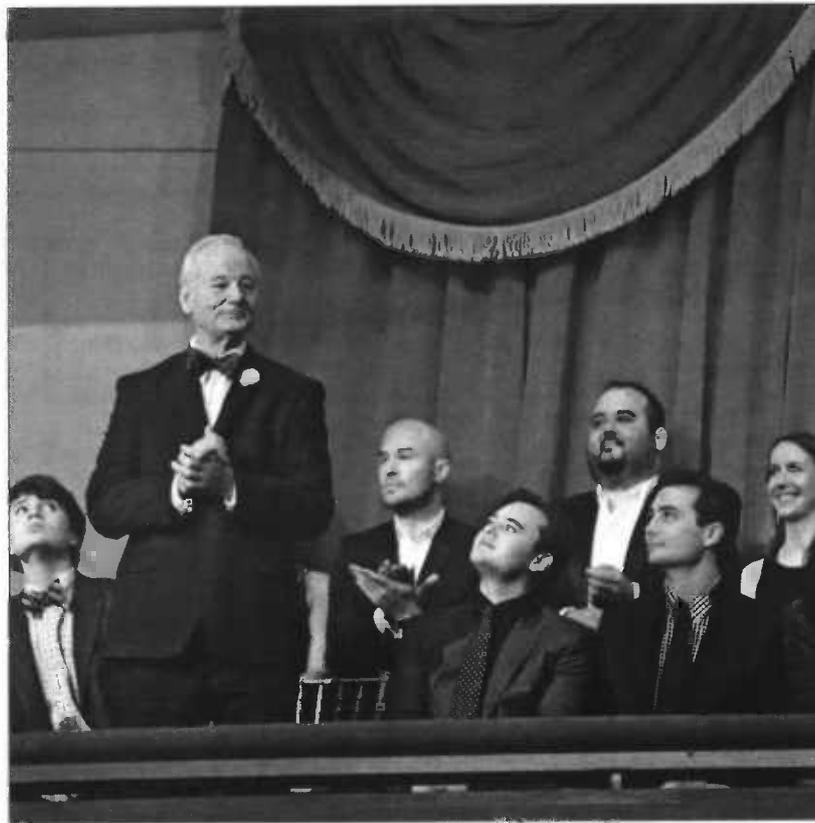
But only one time since the award was initiated in 1998 has it gone to a writer: Neil Simon in 2006.

Sure, many of the recipients have published books, and Martin has written a couple of more-than-credible novels, but they are primarily performers, not writers, and while Twain did make a good portion of his living as a barnstormer (the touring stand-up comedian of his day), his books are the things that matter.

Martin will be remembered as the guy who wore a fake arrow through the head and made "The Jerk," not as the author of the — again, very good — novel "An Object of Beauty."

If we're going to give a humor prize named for a writer to actual writers (which we aren't, but still ...), whom do we give it to?

Keillor nominates Carl Hiaasen for the prize, which is hard to argue with.



OWEN SWEENEY/INVISION

Bill Murray, standing, is honored with the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on Oct. 23.

It is unseemly to watch a grown man giggle, but that's what Hiaasen's most recent novel, "Razor Girl," did multiple times to your humble correspondent. Like Twain, Hiaasen is a puncturer of societal hypocrisies. He'd be a worthy choice indeed.

I'd add David Sedaris to the list. He has become the most enduring present-day purveyor of humorous essays, and, like Twain, he's something of a barnstormer, touring year after year, visiting some of our more out-of-the-way places. (I've seen him in both Roanoke, Va., and Greenville, S.C.)

If Fran Lebowitz, the closest thing we have to Dorothy Parker, promises to finish her long-awaited, much-anticipated next book, "Progress," I'd be happy to see her get one of those fancy medals placed around her neck.

It's a shame that Nora Ephron isn't still with us. Erma Bombeck died

before the prize was started, but if she hadn't and the humor prize named after a writer went to writers, she'd have been a shoo-in.

Younger writers such as Jenny Lawson, Sloane Crosley and Joshua Ferris, presuming they continue to write, would eventually be on the list for a humor prize named after a writer — if it went to writers, that is.

But a big deal like the Twain Prize will likely never go to a writer because writers since Twain's time rarely become the kind of celebrities that cause people to sit up and take notice and send money to PBS when they're feted on TV.

Fame, not words, is the allure. Just ask the folks in Sweden.

*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. "The Underground Railroad" by Colson Whitehead
2. "Hitler: Ascent, 1889-1939" by Volker Ullrich
3. "Cover Her Face" by P.D. James
4. "The Cuckoo's Calling" by Robert Galbraith (J.K. Rowling)
5. "A Man Called Ove" by Fredrik Backman — Flora P., Chicago

Mysteries, history and one feel-good story. Not a feel-good story, but a compelling mix of the other elements in this list, "Life After Life" by Kate Atkinson.

1. "A Game of Thrones" by George R.R. Martin
2. "The Whistler" by John Grisham
3. "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes
4. "The Burgess Boys" by Elizabeth Strout
5. "Homegoing" by Yaa Gyasi — Eve T., West Lafayette, Ind.

This is a bit more in the vein of the last two books than the first three, and it's a bit heavy, but it'll get under the skin and stay there for a long, long time. "Open City" by Teju Cole.

1. "A Confederacy of Dunces" by John Kennedy Toole
2. "Lucky Jim" by Kingsley Amis
3. "The Nix" by Nathan Hill
4. "The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hosseini
5. "The Man in the High Castle" by Philip K. Dick — Steve P., Naperville

Based on the first three books on the list, Steve should check out the latest book from another writer who could be a future Twain Prize recipient if the Twain Prize went to writers, "Today Will Be Different" by Maria Semple.

## 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)

11/27

## THEY'RE EASY: And in last place only

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

### Across

- 1 Slip-ups
- 6 Really long time
- 10 Storage area
- 15 Eat in style
- 19 "No need to remind me"
- 20 Dante or Dickinson
- 21 Singer Krall
- 22 Cognac designation
- 23 Gotham City VIP
- 25 Youngest of a literary trio
- 27 St. Peter's, for one
- 28 St. Peter's roster
- 30 Combat flight
- 31 Trash bag closer
- 32 Fabric bundles
- 33 "Right back \_!"
- 34 Blooms from bulbs
- 38 Escape from
- 39 Theater facility
- 43 Extremely cold
- 44 Notre Dame coaching great
- 46 "It's my turn"
- 47 Chief Norse god
- 48 Tight-lipped one
- 49 \_ Gold (pretzel brand)
- 50 Minor anomaly
- 51 Unenviable grade
- 52 1930s tennis star
- 56 *Beauty and the Beast* girl
- 57 Rather resonant consonant
- 59 Egg-shaped
- 60 Avenging spirits of myth
- 61 Crop up
- 62 Breakfast serving

### Down

- 63 Core group
- 64 Glasgow girls
- 66 Hungarian sheepdogs
- 67 Lazy one
- 70 Choir contingent
- 71 Half of an "Unforgettable" duet
- 73 GI hangout
- 74 Think ahead
- 75 *Sesame Street* roommate
- 76 Sail supporter
- 77 *Alphabet Suite* artist
- 78 Call for help
- 79 Title character of King's first novel
- 83 Architect
- 84 Attractive stuff
- 86 Hilarious skits
- 87 Works a banquet
- 88 Nettles
- 89 Becomes tiresome
- 90 Title given to Gielgud
- 91 Key akin to C
- 94 Robust
- 95 Cannon ancestor
- 100 Christie sleuth
- 102 First two-Nobel recipient
- 104 Place for protons
- 105 Princeton athlete
- 106 Leap on a rink
- 107 High points of South America
- 108 Bonus, in ads
- 109 Quaint oath
- 110 Broadcast network staple
- 111 Attempt for attention

### Down

- 1 Bee Gees' surname
- 2 Cajun staple
- 3 Unpleasant task
- 4 Central points
- 5 Feel the heat
- 6 At full speed
- 7 Big name at the Prado
- 8 Burns' nighttime
- 9 Leave for a bit
- 10 Electrical accessory
- 11 Pitchfork parts
- 12 Neutral colors
- 13 Ending for nectar
- 14 Train station adjunct
- 15 *New World Symphony* composer
- 16 Fails to be
- 17 Curt denial
- 18 Dull sword
- 24 Nintendo consoles
- 26 Partner of Charles Rolls
- 29 Shoppe descriptor
- 32 Kid-lit author Judy
- 33 Spot for a bracelet
- 34 Walkman successors
- 35 Western exhibition
- 36 1970s tennis star
- 37 Japanese honorific
- 38 Pass, as legislation
- 39 Lace into
- 40 Glinda portrayer
- 41 Fleet of foot
- 42 35 Down equipment
- 44 Actor Kevin
- 45 Lunar landing prelude

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
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43						44				45					46				
47					48					49					50				
51					52				53	54	55				56				
57			58						59					60					
			61					62					63						
64	65						66				67					68	69		
70							71				72					73			
74						75					76					77			
78					79				80	81	82				83				
84				85					86					87					
				88					89					90					
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100								101				102	103						
104								105				106						107	
108								109				110							111

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

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- 48 Reunion group
- 63 Right around the corner
- 77 Have a meal
- 92 Cartoonist
- 50 Yogi of the Yankees
- 79 Billiard bounce
- 80 Art school supplies
- 93 "Are you \_ out?"
- 52 Sign before Taurus
- 64 Oversight
- 81 Lose crispness
- 94 Women's tour org.
- 53 Cash
- 65 Metallic mixture
- 82 Bishop or lama
- 95 Entourage
- 54 Be of use to
- 66 Ward off
- 83 Band rattlers
- 96 Fourth-down play
- 55 Martini's partner
- 67 Scurries away
- 85 Place for pictures
- 97 Language of Pakistan
- 56 Barely move
- 68 Organic compound
- 87 Make mention of
- 98 Financial claim
- 58 Sci-fi author \_
- 69 Industrious ones
- 89 Whined
- 99 Try out
- 60 Seismology
- 72 Gives off
- 90 Shoves off
- 101 Tractor-trailer
- 62 \_-frutti
- 75 Mortgage lender's stat
- 91 Trojan War warrior
- 103 Chop down

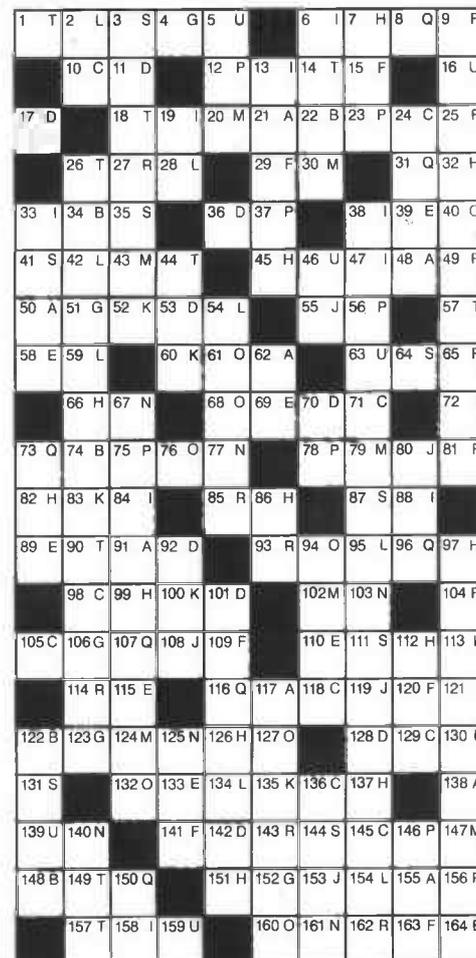
## Quote-Acrossic

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

## Clues

- Words**
- A. Ingratiate oneself with: 3 wds. 21 138 50 117 91 48 62 155
- B. Young cow 22 34 148 74 122 164
- C. Subsequently 129 145 10 136 24 98 105 71 118
- D. From LA to NY and back: 2 wds. 92 11 70 17 53 101 142 36 128
- E. In an approximate manner 39 69 58 115 133 110 89
- F. Go slowly: 3 wds. 15 141 109 65 9 120 163 25 29 81
- G. Ashcan School artist 106 152 51 4 123
- H. Difficult situation: 3 wds. 112 126 97 45 137 82 32 151
- 86 66 7 99

- I. Promising: comp. wd. 6 38 47 88 84 72 13 33 19 158 121
- J. Boost 119 153 55 80 108
- K. A second time 83 60 100 52 135
- L. Kind of sausage 130 95 154 113 2 28 59 134 54 42
- M. Of great size 20 102 30 124 79 43 147
- N. Aptitude 103 161 140 77 67 125
- O. Keen-sighted: comp. wd. 94 40 160 132 76 68 61 127
- P. Working well 49 56 75 78 12 146 23 37 104
- Q. Snorting sound 31 116 73 96 107 150 8
- R. Rice dish 156 114 93 27 143 162 85
- S. Discharge 3 131 144 41 35 111 87 64
- T. Go with 149 44 1 90 14 18 157 26 57
- U. Point in space 5 139 159 63 16 46



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By Erv Kaczmarek.  
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.  
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## Name Dropping

BY CHARLES PRESTON

## Across

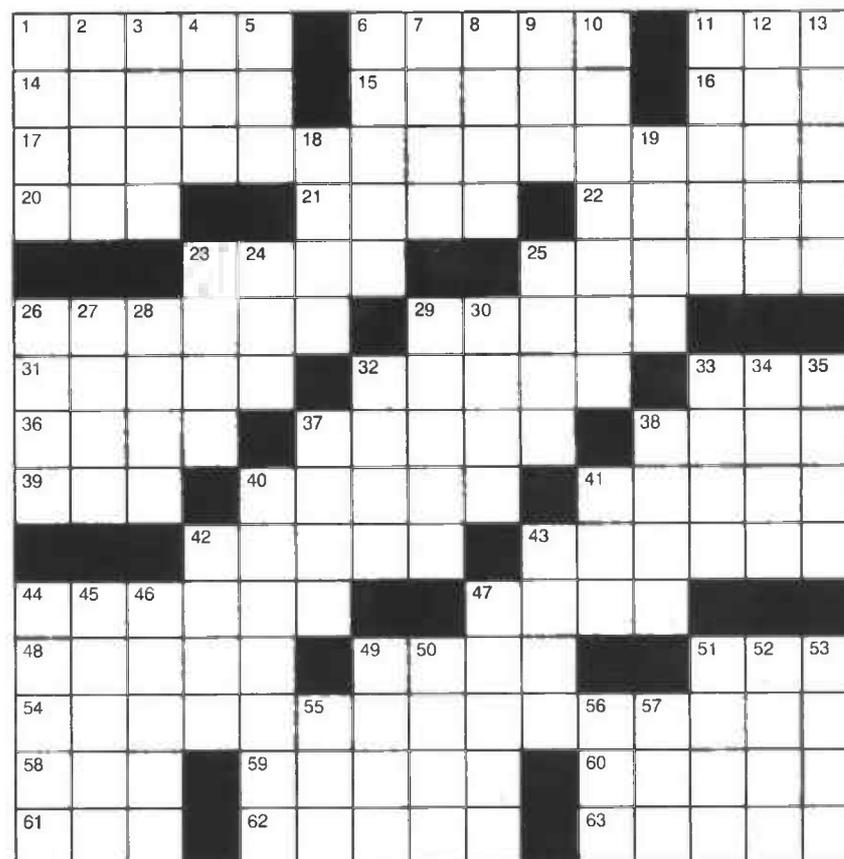
- 1 Underwater treasure  
6 Red Sea port  
11 \_\_\_ Maria  
14 Tea party guest  
15 Embellish  
16 *L'état, c'est \_\_\_*  
17 Distinguished son of Jönköping  
20 Yellow bugle  
21 Cordage herb  
22 Sudden thrust  
23 Courts  
25 Mendicant  
26 Outstrips  
29 Darts  
31 Science fiction pioneer  
32 Cheap double-crossers  
33 Resort  
36 Tennysonian heroine  
37 Russian farmer  
38 Entrance  
39 San Francisco's \_\_\_ Hill  
40 Unsure  
41 Belorussia's capital  
42 Ancient manuscript  
43 Boats  
44 Harmony  
47 Forwarded  
48 Fasten

- 49 Greek letter  
51 Dixie power project  
54 Former White House resident  
58 Before: poet.  
59 Used *terza rima*  
60 Amalgamate  
61 Woman's nickname  
62 Waitress's call  
63 Baths: Sp.

## Down

- 1 Islamic judge  
2 Norwegian king  
3 Latvia's capital  
4 Frau's exclamation  
5 Meadow  
6 Author Henry \_\_\_  
7 Dutch cheese  
8 Hamlet  
9 Healers: abbr.  
10 Short sox  
11 Surrounded by  
12 River to Caspian Sea  
13 Sea duck  
18 Units of electrical conductance  
19 Nightingale notes  
23 Go one's way  
24 Chihuahua cheer

- 25 Defraud  
26 "\_\_\_ as you and I"  
27 Foreign: prefix  
28 Nursery item  
29 One of *The Odd Couple*  
30 Precede  
32 Scottish philosopher  
33 Ballad  
34 Attitude  
35 Clumsy boats  
37 Notorious privateer  
38 Gossip  
40 Cigar-shaped shell  
41 Fortify  
42 \_\_\_ *fan tutte*  
43 Legume  
44 Pinnacles  
45 Silent screen's Miss Bow  
46 Bactrian beast  
47 Control  
49 Tie up  
50 Prominent name in Italian history  
51 Double  
52 Interdiction  
53 War god  
55 Audience  
56 Center  
57 Fugian Indian



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

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# Do Stuff

BY GAIL GRABOWSKI

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

11/27

9 Living | Section 2 | Thursday, December 1, 2016

CN

## ACROSS

- 1 Udon cousin
- 5 Not at all
- 11 Poker pro's concern
- 15 Weather the storm
- 19 Latin 101 verb
- 20 Albéniz piano work
- 21 Petty of "A League of Their Own"
- 22 Mind matter
- 23 Breakfast item
- 25 Lackluster
- 26 Let it all out
- 27 Blade holder
- 28 Heavy ref.
- 29 Ancient manuscripts
- 31 Gridiron figure
- 33 Bus station compartment
- 39 Bar menu heading
- 41 Zilch
- 42 "Do...?"
- 43 Decorative outdoor fixture
- 49 TV awareness-raiser
- 52 Action film props
- 53 Cookie shaped like two of its letters
- 54 Throw a feast for
- 55 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner
- 56 Handled bag
- 57 Started war?
- 59 Serious trend
- 60 Category including spacing and margins
- 62 Like some speeches, it seems
- 64 Ruffle feathers, so to speak
- 65 Tells
- 66 Musical with the song "Willkommen"
- 69 Collie collar danglers
- 74 Fugitive
- 76 Left hanging
- 77 Vehicle usage record
- 81 Coil on a reel
- 84 "That's a fact!"
- 85 Comparison words
- 86 Room access
- 87 Masonry mixture
- 89 Streamlet
- 90 "Leaving Las Vegas" co-star
- 91 Decorates mischievously, for short
- 92 Curbside check-in freebie
- 94 Yankee manager before Girardi
- 96 Sports statistic
- 97 One way to get dinner

- 98 Broadway director's concern
- 104 Not just bargain
- 109 How many raises are given
- 110 Anger
- 112 Mason of "The Goodbye Girl"
- 113 Restrain
- 116 Cause to fluctuate
- 117 "American Graffiti" director
- 119 Kolkata's locale
- 120 Paddock parent
- 121 Mental wherewithal
- 122 Construction site sight
- 123 Mannerless sort
- 124 Till stack
- 125 "He loves me" pieces
- 126 Hot times abroad

## Down

- 1 Fresh
- 2 Home of Heartland of America Park
- 3 Outdoor clothing entrepreneur Eddie
- 4 Mideast president elected the same year as the younger Bush
- 5 Overdrive
- 6 Presidential nickname
- 7 Transfer to a new city, briefly
- 8 Sits on the line
- 9 Godiva alternative
- 10 Shaggy-haired bovine
- 11 Lifetime chum
- 12 Biker's headgear, maybe
- 13 Sun blocker
- 14 Legendary prophet
- 15 Serving on a jury, e.g.
- 16 Elevated lines?
- 17 Waterman product
- 18 Work on a course
- 24 Early gaming name
- 30 French royal
- 32 Craftsman outdoor tools
- 34 Generous offer
- 35 Swindle, in slang
- 36 Instrument that doesn't need tuning
- 37 "Un Ballo in Maschera" aria
- 38 Zero out, say
- 40 Sonic Dash publisher
- 43 They may be cracked
- 44 Sports venue
- 45 Prepared
- 46 Big wheel's wheels

- 47 Internet connectivity annoyance
- 48 IPA component
- 49 Sound of the Northwest
- 50 Champagne flute feature
- 51 Café order
- 55 Leave, with "off"
- 58 Colorful pet store purchase
- 60 Something to shoot for
- 61 Supplement
- 63 Looked for
- 64 National Bike Month
- 66 Heads and tails
- 67 Illegal mil. status
- 68 Paper or plastic
- 70 Irish lullaby start
- 71 Surprise in a skit
- 72 Duplicity
- 73 Period of time
- 75 Minimum-range tide
- 76 Poseidon, e.g.
- 77 Ketch pair
- 78 Seemingly can't lose
- 79 Linney of "The Savages"
- 80 Athlete's supplement
- 81 Fail to share
- 82 AA or AAA
- 83 "College GameDay" number
- 87 Short bond?
- 88 Training routines
- 92 Hammered
- 93 From around here
- 95 Big shoes to fill?
- 96 "But of course!"
- 99 Catcher on the range
- 100 Director Allen who was dubbed the "Master of Disaster"
- 101 Look daggers (at)
- 102 Birthday card rack subsection
- 103 Tiling job supply
- 105 Mutual agreement
- 106 Site of the Princess Margaret Stakes
- 107 Macbeth, when the play began
- 108 Alleviates
- 111 "At Wit's End" author Bombeck
- 113 Zin kin
- 114 "Always by their side" org.
- 115 River in Spain
- 117 Lack of continuity
- 118 Styling product hidden in eight long puzzle answers

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
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90					91			92						93				
94				95				96					97					
98						99	100	101		102	103		104		105	106	107	108
					109					110		111		112				
113	114	115				116				117				118				
119						120				121					122			
123						124				125						126		

Last week's answers appear on the next page

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96 Sports statistic

97 One way to get dinner

## Jumble

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

BLINEM  
RIJNEU  
HYRUGN  
NRIEWN  
TPRIMO  
GUDHEG



PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

This week's answers appear on the next page  
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2016 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

## Sudoku

11/27

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

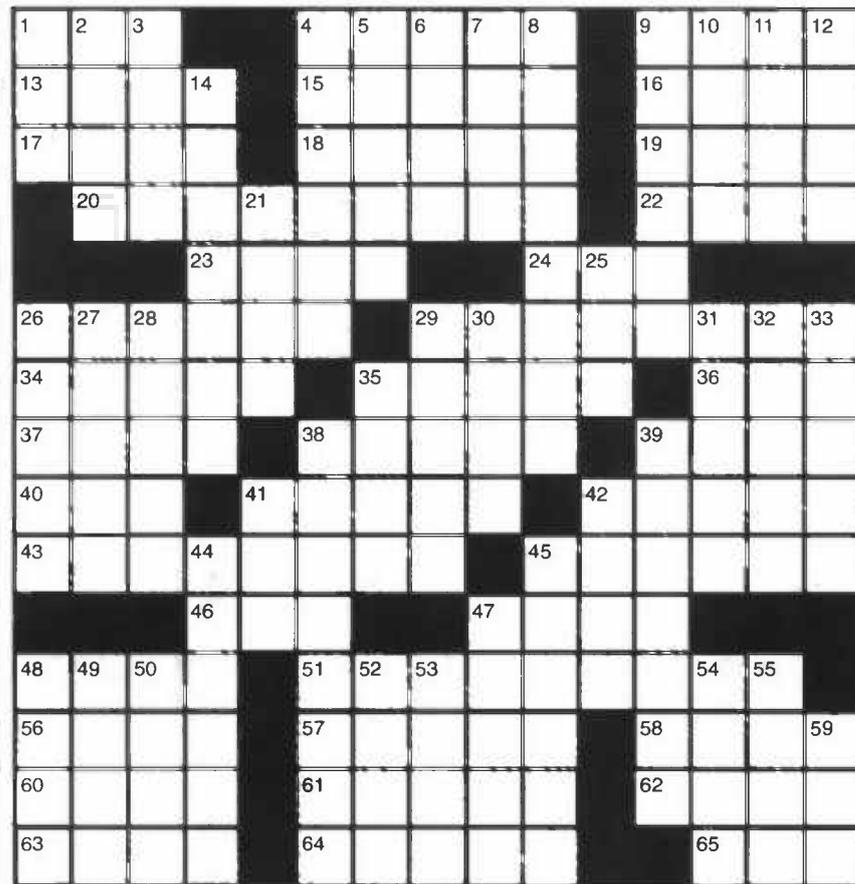
Level: **1 2 3 4**

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

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# Crossword



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11/30/16

- ACROSS**
- 1 Show \_\_; entertainment industry  
4 "Get lost!"  
9 Decays  
13 Western state  
15 Choctaw or Cherokee  
16 Chain of family restaurants  
17 Excavation site  
18 Irritates  
19 Coffin stand  
20 Word divisions  
22 Corpse  
23 Baby dogs  
24 Wedding words  
26 Bits of parsley  
29 Rather emerald in color  
34 Sax great, to fans  
35 Disgusting  
36 Jacuzzi  
37 Engagement symbol  
38 Browned bread  
39 Actor Scott \_\_  
40 Fall month; abbr.  
41 Very small  
42 Dangerous fish  
43 Most annoying  
45 Actor Kevin \_\_
- 46 Egg producer  
47 Twofold  
48 Greek cheese  
51 Taking into custody  
56 Chess piece  
57 Objectives  
58 "Old King \_\_"  
60 "Nay" voter  
61 Upper crust  
62 Big birds from Australia  
63 Utilizes  
64 Take it easy  
65 Napoleon or Hirohito: abbr.
- DOWN**
- 1 \_\_ knee (injury)  
2 It's or 'tis  
3 Crazy  
4 Sandal parts  
5 Beds for babies  
6 Small brook  
7 As busy as \_\_  
8 Least tidy  
9 Gift bow material  
10 Sandusky's state  
11 \_\_ the line; obeyed  
12 Lively  
14 Lending a hand  
21 Olympic sled  
25 \_\_ Moines, IA  
26 Razor sharpener

## Solutions



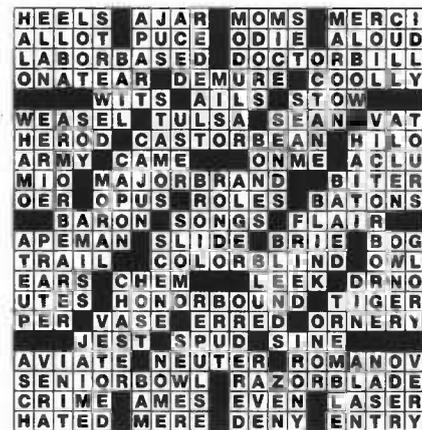
- 27 TV's "The \_\_ Is Right"  
28 Talks wildly  
29 19th-century U.S. president  
30 Pinkish, as a complexion  
31 Newton or Stern  
32 Tire in the trunk  
33 \_\_-panky; underhanded activity  
35 \_\_ into; enters  
38 Adolescent  
39 Sacred cup
- 41 Even score  
42 Quarrel  
44 Military pants  
45 West \_\_; English county  
47 Actress Burke  
48 Berlin señora  
49 Very long times  
50 Carry  
52 Actor's part  
53 Metal bar  
54 City in Alaska  
55 Sad  
59 Uncanny sense, for short



# puzzle island solutions

## Last week's crosswords

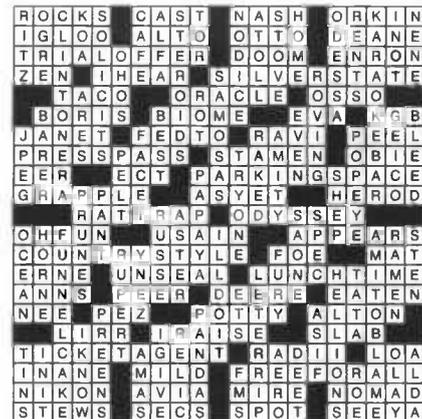
### "HIDDEN BALL TRICK"



### "Coming and Going"



### "Melee"



## Last week's Quote-Acrostic

LEWIS MUMFORD: LIFE AS ART: Life is the only art (that) we are required to practice without preparation, and without being allowed the preliminary trials, the failures and botches, that are essential for the training of a mere beginner.

## Last week's Sudoku

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

## This week's Jumble

NIMBLE HUNGRY IMPORT  
INJURE WINNER HUGGED

His lack of success dieting and exercising was —

WEIGHING  
ON HIM



# Six tips for those facing a rough holiday season

Synonymous with gratitude, the holidays are a time when people are traditionally supposed to feel and show appreciation to friends and family members (while sitting around watching football, eating turkey and going to holiday parties, of course).

But what if this particular holiday season is a rough one for you and you're just not feeling the gratitude? Maybe a loved one recently died. Or maybe you and your spouse are newly separated. Perhaps you just lost your job or you recently got diagnosed with an illness. Maybe your kids decided not to come home for the holidays this year and you are alone for the first time during the holidays.

All of these scenarios can cause emotions that include sadness, bitterness, anger and hopelessness, which makes it difficult to conform to the pressure of the happiness you know you're supposed to feel but just can't.

So, how do you get through a rough holiday season, not fall apart, and possibly even end up enjoying it? For answers to these questions, I reached out to Lisa Kaplin, Psy.D., a certified life coach and the founder of her North Shore-based practice, Smart Women Inspired Lives. Kaplin said if you're not feeling thankful or celebratory this holiday season, don't sweat it.

"The first step is to accept your feelings and allow yourself to experience the emotions," said Kaplin, who has been in practice for 17 years. "If you are feeling bitter, resentful or depressed, acknowledge it. People might try to talk you into not being sad because they care about you, but remember that it's OK to feel what you are feeling."

Here are six tips to tackling a rough holiday season:

■ **Take care of yourself.** Ask yourself, "What do I need to do to feel better right now?" Go for a walk? Call my best friend? Have some alone time? It is OK to be selfish and do what you can to shift your energy to a better place.

■ **Don't force gratitude.** If you don't feel it, that's OK. You are entitled to your feelings, whatever they may be, regardless of an expected tradition.

■ **Don't feel guilty for not feeling gratitude.** In addition to the fact that any guilt is unproductive and a total waste of energy, feeling guilty for not feeling thankful will only make you feel worse



**JACKIE PILOSSOPH**  
*Love Essentially*

about the situation and about yourself. Remember that your problem, no matter how small it is to others, is important and meaningful to you.

■ **Try to focus on little things that bring you happiness.** A beautiful baby

who might be at a holiday celebration, a cup of really warm, delicious coffee, a cute dog, a funny dinner table conversation. Getting just a little bit of enjoyment in small, simple things might help you find your smile during the day.

■ **It's OK to go home early.** People will understand that you are doing what you feel is best for you right now.

■ **Look ahead.** Realize that you will get through this, and that the holiday season could be completely different next year. Positive thoughts like this might be helpful in feeling hopeful.

For those who are spending the holidays with someone going through a rough time, Kaplin said to remember that the best thing you can do is to hear, acknowledge and validate that person's feelings.

"Often times, people want to fix it and they will say, 'Don't be sad,' but that actually doesn't help at all," Kaplin said. "What helps is to accept their feelings and ask, 'How can I support you?' People usually respond by saying, 'Just be yourself.'"

One thing that never fails to make the holidays fun is humor. My family has a Thanksgiving tradition that consists of drawing names out of a hat and imitating the person whose name you picked. Everyone then guesses who you are imitating, and each person's act never fails to light up every face in the room and cause laughter that is so hard it is often accompanied by tears. The game fosters endearing conversations and trips down memory lane: two things I have no doubt promote feelings of gratitude, no matter how rough the holidays might be.

A situation might seem like it will never, ever get any better. I will leave you with two pieces of advice. One, realize what you can and cannot control, and do your best to work on the aspect you can control. And secondly, if you dig deep you can always find some kind of gratitude, even if you don't realize you are feeling it.

*Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.*

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## HEALTH

# Goodbye and thank you



**DR. ANTHONY KOMAROFF**  
Ask Doctor K

Dear Readers: Elton John sang that "Sorry Seems to Be the Hardest Word," but for me the hardest word is "Goodbye."

Every goodbye is an ending. Long before life ends, individual pieces of that life end. Many of those little endings are the close of something you cherish—something that brought meaning or pleasure to your life.

Today's column will be my last. I've been writing this column for over five years. At age 75, I've decided to slow down. The time required to write a column six days a week, 52 weeks a year, makes that hard.

Even though this is the right decision for me, I regret having to make it. Your questions have been interesting and remarkably wide-ranging: "Is it safe to swaddle a baby?" "How does Alzheimer's wreak so much havoc in the brain?" "When we lose memories, do we lose them forever?"

I doubt you assumed I was an oracle who could just write the answer to every question off the top of my head. Indeed, I leaned heavily on the knowledge of many colleagues at Harvard Medical School, and I did my homework. I learned a lot, and I hope I was helpful to you.

Above all, I love the process of trying to clearly explain things that can be pretty complicated. I tried to do that for the more than 1,500 columns I wrote. Each one gave me pleasure. And your letters and emails

thanking me for my efforts added greatly to that pleasure.

Were there any themes that ran through my columns? There were at least two. The first is that, through the lifestyle we choose, we can do more to improve our health than anything our doctor can do for us. For example, through lifestyle we can reduce our risk of getting Type 2 diabetes (the most common kind) by nearly 70 percent. No medicine yet invented can do that.

The second theme is that we need to do more to support biomedical research. Most of that support comes from our federal tax dollars. Biomedical science has progressed so rapidly in the past 50 years that we have the power to make major advances. Yet there is not enough money in the budget to fund many worthy projects, slowing progress. Who decides how much money is spent on medical research in our democracy? We, the people.

Although today's column is my last, I'm pleased that three members of the faculty at the UCLA School of Medicine will be starting a new column, "Ask the Doctors," which will appear in the many papers where my column appears. This closes a circle for me, since I grew up practically next door to that prestigious institution.

I want, in particular, to thank Urmila Parlikar, who has helped me to gather and organize information for this column with remarkable skill and dedication. In addition, Alan McDermott and Shena Wolf, the column's editors, have added elegance and clarity to every column.

I will miss you, and miss writing for you. Thank you again for all of your kind words over the years. And goodbye.

## PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

# Foiling heart attack takes more than low cholesterol

By Joe Graedon  
and Teresa Graedon  
King Features Syndicate

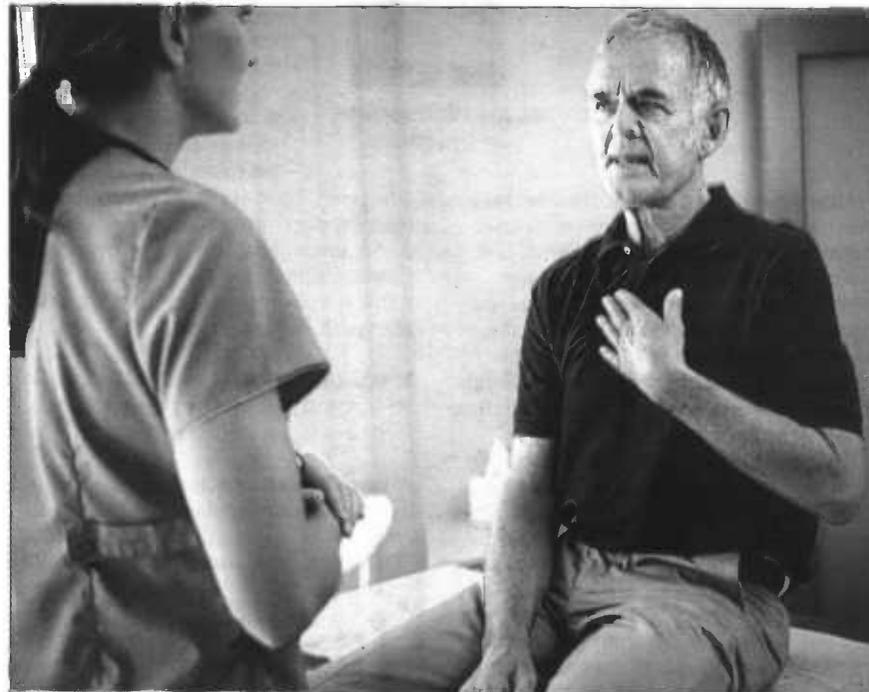
**Q: My father recently died unexpectedly from a heart attack. He had seen his doctor shortly before this event and had been given a clean bill of health. His cholesterol levels were naturally low—under 170—and his doctor said there were no signs of heart disease.**

**I do not understand how my father could have died with no advance warning. I want to avoid his fate. What should I do? Do you have a booklet that talks about diet and other strategies to avoid heart disease?**

**A:** It has been estimated that roughly half of people with heart attacks have normal LDL cholesterol levels (American Heart Journal, January 2009). That helps explain why the American Heart Association has abandoned specific target goals for LDL cholesterol and instead has gone to a risk calculator that considers other factors as well.

We are sending you our Guide to Cholesterol Control and Heart Health with a list of risk factors and recommendations on anti-inflammatory foods and other strategies to lower your likelihood of heart disease. Anyone who would like a copy, please send \$3 in check or money order with a long (No. 10), stamped (68 cents), self-addressed envelope to: Graedon's People's Pharmacy, No. C-8, P.O. Box 52027, Durham, NC 27717-2027. It also can be downloaded for \$2 from our website: [www.peoplespharmacy.com](http://www.peoplespharmacy.com).

Psyllium, niacin and magnesium are supple-



NATALIE FAYE/IMAGE SOURCE

The American Heart Association has abandoned specific target goals for LDL cholesterol.

ments that may be helpful. Ask your doctor whether aspirin is appropriate, given your family history.

**Q: What is kratom used for around the world? Here it is a supplement, but the DEA is planning to ban it and list it as a Schedule 1 drug. Apparently, though, it has some beneficial effects. Can you help bring this kratom supplement into the light?**

**A:** Kratom (*Mitragyna speciosa*) is native to Southeast Asia, where its leaves are used as a mild stimulant and pain reliever. It appears to have a calming effect that most people find pleasant.

Recently, Americans have tried using it to manage chronic pain or to help overcome narcotic addiction. It has not been extensively studied, though, so the benefit/risk balance is

not well-established.

You are correct that the Drug Enforcement Administration planned to classify kratom as a Schedule 1 drug, like LSD and heroin. Such compounds are considered very dangerous and without medicinal use. The agency feared that this plant could be abused.

The DEA is delaying this action for the time being, however, because it received so many messages from the American public asking that kratom not be banned. According to a report in *Scientific American*, a DEA spokesman said the agency is listening: "We don't want the public to believe we are simply a group of government bureaucrats who don't care about their safety and health."

**Q: I started taking cod-liver oil 10 years ago and have only had one**

**cold over that time. I am convinced that, together with parsley and cinnamon, cod-liver oil has strengthened my immune system.**

**A:** Cod-liver oil has a long-standing reputation for warding off winter colds. Most of the studies of this supplement have been done in young children. Cod-liver oil seems to reduce the number of upper respiratory tract infections in kids (*Journal of the American College of Nutrition*, December 2010; *Annals of Otolaryngology and Laryngology*, November 2004).

We couldn't find any research on cod-liver oil to prevent colds in adults.

*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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# Social media and cheating

Experts say the internet opens up opportunities for those inclined to be unfaithful

By Matt Lindner

Chicago Tribune

Social networks such as Facebook and Twitter have put a world of interpersonal connections quite literally in our hip pocket.

Experts say those same social networks have made it easier for people who are inclined to cheat on their significant other to do so with partners both familiar and previously unknown.

"Social media seems to have added fuel to the fire of infidelity," says Joyce Marter, a licensed psychotherapist and the CEO of Chicago-based counseling practice Urban Balance. "Former flames are just a click away. Appropriate relationship boundaries can become blurry. For example, when does casual messaging cross the line into an emotional affair?"

"For people who are morally willing to and motivated to, social media offers an unprecedented opportunity to engage in unfaithful behavior," adds Benjamin Karney, a professor of social psychology at the University of California at Los Angeles who has extensively studied interpersonal relationships and marriage.

"You don't even have to find somebody who is in your neighborhood," Karney continues. "You can flirt and exchange sexual communication with anyone who is willing to do it on planet Earth who is holding a smartphone."

That's something Anthony Weiner, the disgraced politician who has become the de facto poster boy for cheating in the digital age, knows all too well.

Weiner repeatedly used social media, including Facebook and Twitter, to engage in affairs, getting caught in 2011, 2013 and again this year. The first time cost him his seat in Congress. The second cost him any chance he had of becoming the mayor of New York



DREAMSTIME/TNS

Experts say social networks have made it easier for people who are inclined to cheat on their significant other to do so with partners both familiar and previously unknown.

City and any chance of reclaiming his once promising political career, period. The most recent time cost him his marriage to Huma Abedin.

"The negative costs of being caught again, for Anthony Weiner, were high and very humiliating," Karney says. "For him to engage in this behavior suggests that he feels unable to stop."

So why would someone whose spouse has cheated, on multiple occasions, stay in the marriage?

Relationship experts say there are a number of reasons.

"The history and bond built between couples doesn't just go away when a partner cheats," says Tyler Fortman, a licensed clinical psychologist with Chicago-based relationship counseling provider Couples Counseling Chicago. "Most of the time it's that loving bond, and either continued love or hope that love will be rekin-

dled, that keeps relationships together."

But marriages are about more than just loving each other, experts say, and love isn't the only reason people stay with a partner who has been unfaithful.

"Some people are afraid of negative consequences of possibly losing the relationship, such as financial instability, impact on children or change in social status or network," Marter says. "Some people look at all they have invested in their relationship, such as time, money, creating a home, family and social network. Some people have cultural or religious beliefs that motivate them to stay in the marriage."

"Even though, initially, you may feel like getting out, after time passes and there's space for reflection, people often change their minds and want to work on it," adds Anne Malec, a licensed clinical

psychologist and the founder of Chicago-based Symmetry Counseling.

The partner who was cheated on may also look beyond the personal impact when deciding whether to end a relationship.

"If my partner betrays me because my partner does not love me enough or does not care about me and the family, that's pretty hard to get over," Karney says. "If my partner betrays me because my partner has an illness or an addiction, then you may be able to look beyond that."

Relationship experts say that, for couples to stay together, both parties have to put in effort, and the partner who cheated has to do what it takes to be trusted again.

"It takes a lot of conversation," Malec says. "It's hard because, for the hurt partner, they are often devastated because the person they thought was always on their

side, they feel betrayed. It takes transparency. It takes the unfaithful partner's willingness to answer a lot of questions. Sometimes the same questions over and over."

"The unfaithful partner must demonstrate actions that (they) can be trusted, over and over again," Fortman adds. "The cheating partner must also work to demonstrate their understanding of the harm that they caused the relationship and their partner. Both partners must choose to forgive, either the other and/or themselves."

There haven't been any studies directly linking increased usage of social media sites like Facebook and Twitter to an increased likelihood to cheat. That being said, experts say social media could lead to marital erosion, and not just because it provides an outlet where partners could kindle a flame outside of the marriage.

"Social media has added tremendous pressure in relationships," says Mikki Meyer, a New York-based licensed marriage and family therapist. "Friendships are judged by the actions which are displayed on the internet, and information allows strangers to impose their views about what might be going on. No one really knows what happens behind closed doors, and information is often skewed depending upon the source or their perception and judgment."

What's displayed on the internet isn't always reality, which is why couples shouldn't necessarily benchmark themselves against the happy images portrayed by their friends and family online.

"People can look on Facebook and compare their own marriage negatively to the marriages they see on Facebook, because people only post the good stuff on Facebook," Malec says. "Sometimes, people just assume that everyone else's marriage is much better than their own."

Matt Lindner is a freelancer.



VHT STUDIOS PHOTOS



# Tudor home in South Barrington: \$1.1M

**ADDRESS:** 34 Liberty Dr. in South Barrington

**ASKING PRICE:** \$1,095,000

Listed on Nov. 1, 2016

Features include a large heated in-ground pool, marble and hardwood flooring, four fireplaces and a three-car heated garage. Main floor includes foyer with two-story bridal staircase, formal living and dining rooms, library, gallery, gourmet kitchen and a first floor bedroom. Luxury master suite includes fireplace, tray ceiling, sitting room, balcony and private bath with separate shower, jetted tub and dual vanity. The finished walk-out lower level, boasts recreation and game rooms, bar area, wine and cedar closets and an ensuite bedroom.

Agent: Tara Kelleher of @properties, 847-826-2178

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



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## Arts and Carafes party raises \$15,000 for Kalo Foundation

**Event:** Arts and Carafes

**Benefiting:** Projects of the Kalo Foundation that further its mission of preserving the artistic heritage of Park Ridge

**Location:** Park Ridge Country Club

**Attended:** 160

**Date:** Oct. 14

**Raised:** \$15,000

**Website:** [www.kalofoundation.org](http://www.kalofoundation.org)



Katie Franz of Park Ridge, president of Park Ridge Art League, and sculptor/artist Ken Marcuccilli and Janelle Marcuccilli, both of Park Ridge



Carol Wootton of Evanston, left, and Alice Heyden of Park Ridge



GINA GRILLO/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Chris Provost, from left, Peggy Sherman and Maria Kozelka, all of Park Ridge



Tracy McEachern of Park Ridge, a Lifetime Kalo member, with Christina and Steve Sak of North Barrington



Debbie and Jim DeCola of Park Ridge. Jim DeCola, owner of Northwood Renovations, handles renovations of Iannelli Studios, Kalo Foundations headquarters



Amanda and Steve Judge of Park Ridge



Sue Ann Samuelson of Chicago, from left, Marla Hrycelak, Co-President of Kalo Foundation, and JoJean Brandl of Park Ridge, a Lifetime Member.

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**DES PLAINES**

Three-bedroom, 2.5-bath Cape Cod built in 1952. Fully fenced backyard and newer detached two-car garage. Exposed oak hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen with vaulted ceilings, sky lights and a dumb-waiter. First-floor master suite with whirl-pool tub and separate shower with steam. Second floor features two bedrooms, loft/office area and full bathroom. Fully finished basement has rec room, bath, storage and laundry area. Custom deck off of kitchen.

**Address:** 1271 E. Oakton St.  
**Price:** \$269,899  
**Schools:** Maine West High School  
**Taxes:** \$2,989  
**Agent:** Joseph Marella, Keller Williams Realty Partners



**WHEELING**

Four-bedroom, 2.5-bath Windsor model built in 1984. Upgraded brick exterior, hardwood floors, custom tile in foyer, kitchen and breakfast room. Family room with gas fireplace, stainless steel appliances, first-floor laundry room. custom storm front and patio doors, fenced yard, and extra wide concrete driveway.

**Address:** 580 Cherrywood Drive  
**Price:** \$334,900  
**Schools:** Wheeling High School  
**Taxes:** \$4,059  
**Agent:** Connie Hoos, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage



**VERNON HILLS**

Four-bedroom, 2.5-bath Traditional design built in 1998. Views of golf course. Features garage, two-story foyer. Gourmet kitchen opens to family room. Two staircases, first-floor den and master suite with luxury bath, second-floor laundry. Finished basement has rec room, office, bar and additional storage space.

**Address:** 332 Congressional Court  
**Price:** \$575,000  
**Schools:** Vernon Hills High School  
**Taxes:** \$17,152  
**Agent:** Susan Burmeister, Baird & Warner Libertyville



**LAKE BLUFF**

Three-bedroom, three-bath bungalow on a double lot built in 1925. Move-in condition with large living room with separate dining room. Kitchen that opens up to family room, full basement with bedroom and bath, two-car garage with storage, screened porch and large deck off back of home.

**Address:** 706 W. North Ave.  
**Price:** \$319,000  
**Schools:** Lake Forest High School  
**Taxes:** \$4,503  
**Agent:** Christopher Yore, Griffith, Grant & Lackie Realtors

*Listings from Homefinder.com*

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## HOME REMEDIES

# Safe options for adding outlets to an older home

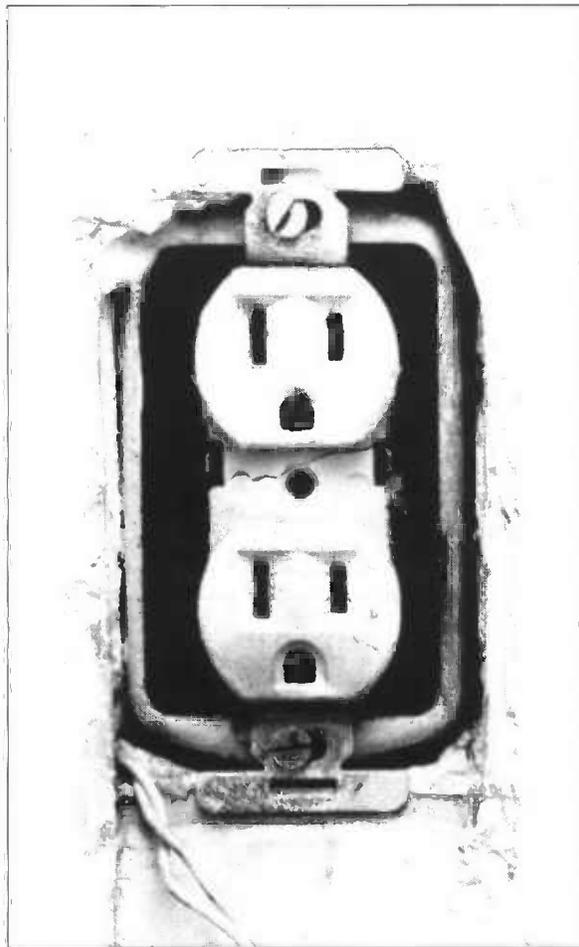
By C. DWIGHT BARNETT  
Tribune News Service

**Q:** After purchasing a beautiful 1936 two-story home, I found there were too few outlets in the home. I hired a person to add outlets, but he wanted to cut out slots in the walls to run wires. Can outlets be added without damaging the walls?

**A:** Two things to think about when working on an older home: One is that a handyman cannot add electrical service to your home. The work needs to be performed by a licensed electrician. Two is the health concern. A plaster home will have lead-based paint on the walls that should not be disturbed, and the plaster may contain asbestos fibers. Before cutting into a wall or ceiling, have a certified environmental contractor test the area and provide guidelines for the electrician to follow.

There may be other ways to add wiring without cutting slots into the walls. The home has either a basement or a crawl space where wiring can be fished up and into the hollow wall space to add outlets. Fishing is a process where a strip of stiff metal tape called "fish tape" is pushed through the wall cavity to an opening that has been cut for a future outlet. Wiring is attached to the fish tape and pulled back to where the electrician can connect the wires to the electric panel.

Older homes have wood blocks in between each wall stud, usually one-third the way up from the bottom and one-third down from the ceiling. If there were a fire, the blocks were intended to



METROMETRO/E+

Cutting new outlets into the walls of an older home can lead to exposure to asbestos fibers and lead-based paint.

slow the fire from spreading inside the wall cavity. It's the blocks that are a problem when trying to fish a wire from the attic or second floor. I have seen older homes with surface-mounted outlets on surface-mounted metal or plastic-covered raceways that contain the wiring. The raceways extend from the original outlets to all the added outlets in each room. In a few homes, I have seen a plastic crown molding added to the ceiling that contained the wiring in the cavity of the crown molding.

Where possible when adding outlets, the older wiring should be upgraded

to modern wiring that has a hot, a neutral and a ground wire, so the new outlets can be properly and safely grounded. If the wiring cannot be upgraded, add ground fault circuit interrupter protection for the added outlets. Don't forget to add a smoke alarm in each bedroom, one in the hallway outside each bedroom and at least one on each floor level.

*C. Dwight Barnett is a certified master inspector with the American Society of Home Inspectors.*

*Distributed by Tribune Content Agency*

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
3350 N Carriageway Dr, # 214, Arlington Heights	Vladislav Dimitrov	Wigod Trust	10-27-16	\$113,000
3350 N Camageway Dr, # 214, Arlington Heights	Vladislav Dimitrov	Weitzman Trust	10-27-16	\$113,000
1318 S New Wilke Rd, # 1C, Arlington Heights	Roberta Nicosia	Robert F McMahon	10-27-16	\$115,000
1603 N Windsor Dr, # 302, Arlington Heights	Aurelio Carranza	Maria Bueno	10-27-16	\$125,000
506 W Eastman St, # 2B, Arlington Heights	Kacey Jean Valentine	Scott Christian	11-01-16	\$152,000
10 S Dunton Ave, # 509, Arlington Heights	Sheryl Marsella	Lauren J Stelmach	11-01-16	\$175,000
1528 E Lillian Ave, Arlington Heights	Nicole Bailey	William Wayne Gahart	10-26-16	\$245,000
2208 S Crambourne Way, Arlington Heights	Kwok K Chan & Winnie T Chan	James K Lee	10-27-16	\$258,000
2814 N Greenwood Ave, Arlington Heights	Srinivas Kumar Puram & Veera Naga Devisetty	Gigy Sam Mammuruppallil	10-27-16	\$312,500
1614 N Yale Ave, Arlington Heights	Dipa T Mehta & Satya Mehta	Luigi Picicco	11-01-16	\$340,000
2226 N Burke Dr, Arlington Heights	Louis Vena & Joelle Vena	Firstfruits LLC	11-01-16	\$462,000
504 S Allen Ln, Arlington Heights	Howard E Firestone & Anne S Firestone	Troy M Landoch	11-01-16	\$675,000
1377 Bristol Ln, Buffalo Grove	Nicole M Masri	Jamie S Simunaci	10-19-16	\$250,000
1074 Crofton Ln, Buffalo Grove	Robert Lichorobiec	Sastry K Ganti	10-26-16	\$298,000
301 Ronnie Dr, Buffalo Grove	Achila Jayasuriya & Lakmini S Widanapathirana	Walter J Mrozinski	10-21-16	\$352,000
18 Cheston Ct W, Buffalo Grove	Hal Lipshutz & Ellen Lipshutz	Oleksandr Gyryk	10-20-16	\$450,000
1937 Beverly Ln, Buffalo Grove	Krishna Movva & Swati Akkineni	Irene Kalusetsky	10-17-16	\$530,000
1986 Jordan Ter, Buffalo Grove	Shantanu Chakraborty & Swarnali Chakraborty	Pulte Home Corp	10-18-16	\$727,000
10069 Linda Ln, # 1W, Des Plaines	Zubair Pira	Salim Arbi	11-01-16	\$40,000
9205 Bumble Bee Dr, # 2B, Des Plaines	Joby Mathew	Samuel Huicochea	10-27-16	\$115,000
1595 Ashland Ave, # 404, Des Plaines	Laura J Currie	Mccarthy Trust	10-27-16	\$125,000
978 Graceland Ave, Des Plaines	Ezzieh Younes	Chicago Lic	11-01-16	\$129,000
545 S River Rd, # 706, Des Plaines	Leida Yokhana	Antoinette Bean Estate	11-01-16	\$150,000
700 Graceland Ave, # 508, Des Plaines	Linda Fruhauf	Michael J O'Brien	10-26-16	\$172,500
545 S River Rd, # 706, Des Plaines	Rebecca Hutchinson	Leida Yokhana	11-01-16	\$205,000
1207 Webster Ln, Des Plaines	Ryan V George	William Patrick Mcgeean Jr	11-01-16	\$215,000
1378 Perry St, # 304, Des Plaines	George Gary Weinberg	US Bank Trust Na Trustee	11-01-16	\$225,000
2685 S Craig Dr, Des Plaines	Lori A Puca	Conchita Z Mamalio	10-26-16	\$250,000
421 Lillian Ln, Des Plaines	Robert B Su & Laura E Su	Agnieszka Panek	11-01-16	\$285,000
179 Harvey Ave, Des Plaines	Salim Khamo & Basila Khamo	Casey Burgraff	11-01-16	\$386,000
2764 Hampton Pkwy, # Y2, Evanston	Samgel Hadden & Elizabeth Hadden	Jeffrey C Hadden	10-26-16	\$88,000
2503 Prairie Ave, # 1J, Evanston	Nancy Vazquez & Octavio Vargas	John M Garza	10-26-16	\$167,500
820 Oakton St, # 5A, Evanston	Stacey Brown	Brown Trust	10-26-16	\$198,000
604 Sheridan Rd, # 3W, Evanston	Dori Taxy	Gabrielle Kelly	11-01-16	\$210,000
1509 Maple Ave, # 1, Evanston	Renee Engeln	Jillian Marie Drauss Estate	11-01-16	\$343,000
807 Davis St, # 2108, Evanston	Christine Grene	Liam Page	10-26-16	\$357,000
1622 Main St, Evanston	David Liano & Laura E Liano	City Capital Holdings Lic5	10-26-16	\$365,000
1810 South Blvd, Evanston	Shazel Gharbi	Mosbah Gharbi	10-26-16	\$418,000
1229 Central St, # B, Evanston	Martin Antonetti & Nina Antonetti	Virginia M Russell	10-27-16	\$430,000
81 Hinman Ave, # 5, Evanston	Bruno Carlucci Pontes & Angelica Pontes	Aaron W Fink	11-01-16	\$450,000
100 Greenwood St, Evanston	David Abraham & Susan Abraham	Marc A Bushala	11-01-16	\$1,700,000
4201 Quinlan Rd, # 102B, Glenview	Neil Oshana & Hanan Tchyko	Mayo Ip	11-01-16	\$158,000
3237 Ronald Rd, Glenview	Mihai Lancu	Tae Hwa Lee	10-27-16	\$260,000
3417 Bellwood Ln, Glenview	William Mak & Jenny Mei	Christian A Corbo	10-27-16	\$392,000
3287 Coral Ln, Glenview	Lynn E Ludwig	James L Petterson	11-01-16	\$392,500
3031 Knollwood Ln, Glenview	Amy B Rushkewicz & Yuichi Hasegawa	Jib Real Estate Investments	11-01-16	\$475,000
2731 Langley Cir, Glenview	Sunhee Christina Choe	Matthew R Whipple	11-01-16	\$507,000
3906 Brett Ln, Glenview	Kathleen Whitman	Elizabeth Zetley	10-26-16	\$530,000
2101 Robincrest Ln, Glenview	Steve Gordon & Julie Rouland	Robert T Jacobsen	11-01-16	\$540,000
1439 Crown Ln, Glenview	Kevin J Carr	Eric Howitt	10-26-16	\$595,000
2141 Dauntless Dr, Glenview	Michael Manson & Bianca Lynn Manson	Development Solutions Gin Lic	10-27-16	\$664,500
1345 Canterbury Ln, Glenview	Matthew Donner & Mary Donner	Robert K Cohen	10-26-16	\$698,000
3711 Knollwood Ln, Glenview	Jordan Zmick & Megan Zmick	Jonathan T Stamm	11-01-16	\$860,000

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
26301 N Fairfield Rd, Hawthorn Woods	Andrei Sarev	Ronald A Serva	10-18-16	\$370,000
184 Bluebird Ct, Hawthorn Woods	Jamie S Akin & Derek D Akin	Leonid Katsnelson	10-19-16	\$475,000
8 Saddle Ridge Ct, Hawthorn Woods	Paresh Patel & Daksha Patel	Taylor Morrison Illinois Inc	10-19-16	\$660,000
862 Chase Ln, Inverness	Matt Gorecki	Lexington Chase Llc	11-01-16	\$386,500
847 Chase Ln, Inverness	Umair Ashraf & Nosheen Ali	Lexington Chase Llc	10-26-16	\$410,000
706 Milton Rd, Inverness	Jerome V Bock	Robert Blajda	10-26-16	\$550,000
689 Thompsons Way, Inverness	John Straley & Martha Straley	James F Goedken	11-01-16	\$555,000
567 King Muir Rd, Lake Forest	Domenico Mucerino	Guowel Fang	10-20-16	\$465,000
381 Stafford Ct, Lake Forest	Stanley J Solowski & Dinna Kem Yap	Judith E Donnelly	10-17-16	\$535,000
1111 S Estate Ln, Lake Forest	Renee Ann Dickman & Robert Dickman	Martha J Anstett	10-19-16	\$537,000
425 N Ahwahnee Rd, Lake Forest	Randall Rich & Mary J Rich	Seaway Bank & Trust Co	10-20-16	\$800,000
1485 Christina Ln, Lake Forest	Thomas Barnes & Catherine A Barnes	Christopher Baker	10-20-16	\$1,157,500
166 Kimberly Ln, Lake Forest	Robert C Gohsman & Kristine A Gohsman	Domenico Mucerino	10-19-16	\$1,225,000
650 Waterford Ct, Lake Zurich	Richard T Leavitt	Gloria Lynn Fields Estate	10-18-16	\$220,000
430 Hobbie Bush Dr, Lake Zurich	Mira Lee & Youn Mo Lee	Sean Vucic	10-18-16	\$293,000
195 Red Bridge Rd, Lake Zurich	Daniel J Tanner & Stephanie A Tanner	Kimberly A Butkus	10-18-16	\$295,000
1011 Partridge Ln, Lake Zurich	Stuart A Fullett & Jane E Fullett	Katarzyna Missock	10-20-16	\$299,500
1420 Deerpark Rd, Lake Zurich	Jeffrey R Leist & Kevin C Wiczek	Kathy V Vlahos	10-17-16	\$319,000
158 W Harbor Dr, Lake Zurich	Vrej Sazian & Katherine L Anderson	Robert J Gleich Jr	10-17-16	\$337,500
291 Sandy Point Ln, Lake Zurich	John Peter Farquhar & Deborah D Farquhar	Natalie D Sponsler	10-21-16	\$347,000
101 Lucy Ct, Lake Zurich	Neal Malow & Monica Malow	Melissa A Mounce Mithal	10-21-16	\$612,000
1615 N Milwaukee Ave, # 3A, Libertyville	Jordan Bradford & Jenna Tranel	David J Cugler	10-17-16	\$114,000
17116 W Cunningham Ct, # 4A, Libertyville	Tommy L Buchta	David A Kochenash	10-17-16	\$163,600
310 E Church St, # 103, Libertyville	Caryn L Willis	Kevin Sullivan	10-20-16	\$335,000
403 Burdick St, Libertyville	Sally Kirkpatrick	Lazzaretto Construction Co	10-19-16	\$349,000
228 W Lincoln Ave, Libertyville	Raymond Raffin & Carrie Raffin	Gina D Lijja	10-17-16	\$485,000
15680 W Timber Ln, Libertyville	Robert Schaffner & Carol Schaffner	David Lingard	10-19-16	\$499,000
324 Carter St, Libertyville	Jason C Grindel & Kari Grindel	Jeffrey S Blake	10-19-16	\$795,000
203 Rivershire Ln, # 102, Lincolnshire	Anthony Michael Perrozzi & Xiao Cui	Lun Hsu	10-19-16	\$190,000
23617 N Kingston Row, Lincolnshire	Kenneth Beirne & Sayaka Beirne	Paul Vosters	10-19-16	\$570,000
5111 N Arlington Heights Rd, Long Grove	Aleksandra K Kadamova & Hristo Zlatanov	Matthias Manhardt	10-19-16	\$372,500
4101 Robert Parker Coffin Rd, Long Grove	Francis Nunez & Nathalie Nunez	Robert C Stranges	10-18-16	\$500,000
5566 Brookbank Ln, Long Grove	Kevin Ramirez & Kristi M Ramirez	James F Wood	10-17-16	\$515,000
1379 Manassas Ct, Long Grove	Steve T Syreggelas & Vickie Syreggelas	Gary Donowitz	10-17-16	\$720,000
8600 Waukegan Rd, # 504E, Morton Grove	Yukta A Mehta & Aditya Avinashi	Kia R Wheeler	10-27-16	\$161,000
6024 Capulina Ave, Morton Grove	Michael A Leichenko & Eleanor R Leichenko	Right Residential II Fund I Llc	11-01-16	\$375,000
8819 Olcott Ave, Morton Grove	Mathew B Capitaio & Mngzhu Liu	S&I Construction & Mgmt Llc	10-27-16	\$397,500
1038 N Boxwood Dr, # A, Mount Prospect	Mallory Blackburn & Lukas Reini	Magdalena Kozlowski	11-01-16	\$160,000
1900 W Estates Dr, Mount Prospect	Artur M Kawa & Miriam T Kawa	Rosina Synylo	10-27-16	\$267,000
7348 W Oakton St, Niles	Tahir Ahmad	John Kopinski	10-26-16	\$280,000
8023 N Wlsner St, Niles	Michael A Marsh & Leslie S Marsh	Terrence T Lauesen	10-27-16	\$327,500
8631 W Stolting Rd, Niles	Yiannis Siavellis & Eleni P Stefanopoulos	Soon Ki Bae	10-26-16	\$360,000
8408 W Johanna Dr, Niles	Paul T Blalobrzewski & Jaclyn M Blalobrzewski	Warren R Zaug	10-27-16	\$440,000
8051 N Oketo Ave, Niles	Besim Jakupovic & Irfeta Jakupovic	Nadea Na	10-27-16	\$522,000
504 Courtland Ave, Park Ridge	Ryan P Meccool & Lesley C Meccool	Leonardo Riccardi	11-01-16	\$583,000
524 S Delphia Ave, Park Ridge	Erin K O Hara & Beau O Hara	Eugene Freeman	11-01-16	\$699,000
500 Courtland Ave, Park Ridge	Nicholas E Tarant & Alexandria A Rantisi	Shlomo Y Crandus	10-27-16	\$937,500

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

## Tips to transform your first house into a home

BY CATHY HOBBS  
Tribune News Service

You just decided to purchase your dream home. Now what? Whether you are flying solo, part of a newly married couple or one half of a duo who decided to simply live under the same roof, designing and decorating a home can be an overwhelming task.

### Kitchens and bathrooms

Bathrooms are very personal and can often be a key selling point for potential buyers. Kitchens remain the heart of the home. Here are some basic rules for picking finishes:

- Go neutral, not trendy. This will help when it comes time to sell your home.
- Purchase high-quality appliances. They will outlast inexpensive ones and also add value.
- Consider mixing finishes, from pairing different types of tile to mixing woods.

### Bedrooms and living rooms

Start with each person determining his or her own personal design style. This may mean walking the floors of local furniture stores, scoping out flea markets or ripping images from magazines for inspiration. The key is the home needs to appeal to all occupants of the space.

Nearly everyone's design style falls into one of these four categories: traditional, contemporary, modern and global. There are also sub-sections within these categories. After selecting your personal design category, narrow it down a bit more and define each person's style more specifically.

Then try these tips:

**Select a signature piece.** Each person should select one piece that de-



MCT

When designing a kitchen or bathroom, opt for finishes that are neutral, not trendy.

finishes his or her style. It can be an area rug with a big, bold graphic pattern, a fabulous piece of artwork or a gorgeous chandelier. Whatever piece you choose will serve as the anchor for the room and help fill in decor blanks. Selecting a signature piece that is special to each person helps ensure harmony and serves as the foundation to build a design palette.

Next, purchase your largest pieces before accessorizing. Your furniture enhances the space, and the accessories enhance the furniture.

### Use universal artwork.

Instead of allowing photos of one person's family to dominate the space, purchase pieces of art. Great art doesn't need to be expensive. Consider purchasing artwork from street artists, small galleries and even art students.

### Consider professional design help.

When looking to hire an interior designer, be sure to do your homework. Start with a professional organization such as the American Society of Interior Designers. You will find a host of professionally trained interior designers in your local area. Other places to look include the International Interior Design Association, the U.S. Green

Building Council and American Institute of Architects.

Interview three designers. Ask to see samples of their work. You may also wish to see their work in person. Don't be afraid to ask an interior designer about his or her education and credentials. These credentials can also be confirmed through sites like [www.asid.org](http://www.asid.org) and [www.ncidq.org](http://www.ncidq.org).

Beyond a designer's credentials and portfolio, consider personality and whether or not you feel you can trust and would enjoy working with this professional for a lengthy period. Design work could take up to a year or possibly longer.

**Understand design costs.** Most interior designers charge a flat design fee or bill hourly. Hourly fees typically range from \$100 to \$300 per hour, based on the designer's experience. In addition to a design fee, designers also charge a percentage for items that are sourced or purchased through them, typically between 10 and 35 percent. Expect a professional interior designer to also charge for extras such as drafting services, creating construction drawings or renderings, shopping, phone calls and overseeing construction management.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

## Thursday, Dec. 1

**Walk A Mile In My Shoes: Otis Clay Tribute:** 8 p.m. Thursday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$17-\$25, 847-492-8860.

**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 Street, Evanston, free, 847-475-5300.

**Wonderland Express at Chicago Botanic Garden:** Chicago Botanic Garden hosts its annual Wonderland Express presented by ComEd, with 750,000 lights illuminating the entrance of this 100 percent LED exhibition. Tour the magical landscape of model railroads winding through Chicago landmarks. Redeem buy one, get one free admission voucher at the Visitor Center Information Desk. Visit [ComEd.com/HolidayLights](http://ComEd.com/HolidayLights) for special offers. 10 a.m. daily, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, \$11-\$13, 847-835-5440.

**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. Thursday, The Grove, 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, Free, with reservations, 847-299-6096.

**"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. Thursday, 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. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$12 NSSC members: \$15 non-member, 847-784-6030.

**Summit Program offers help for Memory Care Decisions:** Meaningful Moments with Dementia is presented by Maggie Greenberger and Isabella Losurdo. Hot and cold snacks are served. Reservations are requested by calling Josephine Bernero at 847-825-1161 extension 131 or by emailing her at: [jbernero@arborcompany.com](mailto:jbernero@arborcompany.com). 6 p.m. Thursday, The Summit of Uptown, 10 N. Summit Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-1161.

**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. Thursday, Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce, 720 Garden St., Park Ridge, \$25-\$30, 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. 11 a.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. Friday-Sunday, Fashion Outlets of Chicago, 5220 Fashion Outlets Way, Rosemont, \$34.99, 847-928-7500.

**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.

**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.

Thursday, 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, go to the website. 9:30 a.m. Thursday, 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.

## 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. Friday, Yorkfield Presbyterian Church in Elmhurst, 1099 S. York St., Bensenville, free, 630-833-1457.

**Joe Pug:** 7 p.m. Friday, 10 p.m. Friday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$20-\$35, 847-492-8860.

**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.

**GLEnergy presents What Is Integrative Medicine?:** Leslie Mendoza Temple, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor, Family Medicine Medical Director, Integrative Medicine Program, North Shore University HealthSystem explains integrative medicine and how it can help with chronic disease and maintaining health. Register at [glenviewpl.org/register](http://glenviewpl.org/register) or call. 1 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

**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.

Friday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

**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.

**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. Friday, 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:** The 104.3 K-HITS '80s Wonderland concert stars four '80s acts that have never played together before — Eddie Money, Wang Chung, Naked Eyes and Tommy Tutone — that had a combined 22 songs reach the top 40 charts. Some of those popular hits songs include "Take Me Home Tonight," "Two Tickets To Paradise," "Shakin'," "Think I'm In Love," and "Baby Hold On," by Eddie Money, "Everybody Have Fun Tonight," Let's Go," "Dance Hall Days," "To Live and Die in L.A.," from Wang Chung, "There's Always Something There To Remind Me," and "Promises Promises," by Naked Eyes, the classic hits song "867-5309/Jenny," from Tommy Tutone and many more. Tickets are on sale now at [Ticketweb.com](http://Ticketweb.com). For any show related questions, email [promotions@khit-schicago.com](mailto:promotions@khit-schicago.com). 6:30 p.m. Friday, Joe's Live Rosemont, 5441 Park Place, Rosemont, \$45.

## Saturday, Dec. 3

**Empty Bowls at Oakton:** Choose your favorite bowl from over 1,500 hand crafted soup bowls made by local potters for you to enjoy a simple lunch and hear live music. All proceeds go to six local food pantries. 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines, free, 847-635-1699.

**Signature Entertainment Presents: LOL Saturday:** Adult 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

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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, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, \$3 kids, \$5 adults, 847-475-1030.

**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. Saturday, 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. Saturday, Saints Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 1401 Wagner Road, Glenview, \$2; children and students free, 847-729-2235.

**Restoration Work Day:** Help collect seeds and remove non-native, invasive plants to make way for wildflowers, grasses and trees. Just bring your work gloves if you have them. Work parties may be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. For more information, call 847-724-5670. 9 a.m. Saturday, The Grove, 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, free, 847-299-6096.

**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. Saturday, 1 p.m. Saturday, 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 mos. to 17 years \$27/\$33; Ages 18 years and older \$34/\$41. 1:14 p.m. Saturday, 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. Saturday, 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 Harrer 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. Saturday, Harrer Park and Pool, 6250 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-1200.

**Holiday Family Photos:** Bring your family to have a festive holiday picture taken in The Creative Studio. Each family receives one print and the digital file. Note, to avoid wearing green or you will blend in with the screen. Call 847-663-6606 to register. 10 a.m. Saturday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234.

**YMCA Holiday Extravaganza:** Enjoy a day of family fun to welcome the holiday season while helping your community at the North Suburban YMCA's "Making Spirits Bright" Holiday Extravaganza. Bring your camera for pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus from noon to 3 p.m. Also, shop for the perfect tree or wreath for your home in the Y's expansive tree lot, enter to win fun raffle prizes, enjoy delicious treats, and more. Proceeds benefit the Y's services and programs that support stronger families and communities. Noon Saturday, North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road, Northbrook, free, 847-272-7250.

**Breakfast With Santa:** Enjoy a

scrumptious breakfast buffet at All-gauer'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. Saturday, Hilton Northbrook Hotel, 2855 Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook, \$12.95, 847-664-7999.

**Pound and Ounce Pop-Up Dinner Series:** These intimate events accommodate 24 guests per seating. During each dining experience, guests are treated to six seasonally-driven courses made with the highest quality meats and hyper-local produce. In addition, guests can expect a fun, casual atmosphere and lots of interaction with Sean Hofherr and Chef Bisioulis. Cost: \$75 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. 7 p.m. Saturday, Hofherr Meat Co., 300 N. Happ Road, Northfield, \$75, 847-441-6328.

**Jake Johannsen:** Jake Johannsen performs original stand-up. 7 p.m. Saturday, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Zanies Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont, \$25 + 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. Saturday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800.

**"The Space Within — Inside Great Chicago Buildings":** Author Patrick F. Cannon, who has lived and worked in Chicago and its suburbs for more than 60 years, and photographer James Caulfield lead a visual tour into both the intimate and grand interiors of the Chicago area's finest buildings, which are also showcased in their new book. Copies are available for purchase. 2 p.m. Saturday, Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-256-6935.

**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. Saturday, Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka, \$25 per person, and free for children under 2, 847-446-0537.

**Chicago Choral Artists - Candlelight Concert Winnetka:** Chicago Choral Artists, in collaboration with the Grammy-nominated Kontras Quartet, offer a capella and concerted selections

by Sweelinck, Buxtehude, Handel, Rutter, and Willcox in a candlelight Christmas concert. The program includes Lauridsen's O Nata Lux and Frode Fjellheim's Song of the Earth adapted for the film Frozen. Guest artists are Dmitri Pogorelov and Francois Henkins, violins; Ben Weber, viola, Jean Hatmaker, cello; with oboist Meg Busse. Michael D. Costello conducts. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Christ Church Winnetka, 784 Sheridan Road, Winnetka, \$25; \$20 (Senior); \$10 (Student), 773-658-9799.

**Saturday Night Ballroom Holiday Dance Party 2016:** Saturday Night Ballroom takes place on the first Saturday each month. It is a fun and festive ballroom and Latin dance party that is open to dancers of every skill level, from newcomer to advanced, as well as both couples and singles. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Just Dance Studios at Georgetown West, 301 S. Prospect Ave., Wood Dale, \$10, 630-542-7644.

Sunday, Dec. 4

**Let There Be Light: a Pre-Chanukah Concert:** Kol Zimrah, the Jewish Community Singers, conducted by Pavel Roytman, will present a pre-Chanukah concert featuring Chicago-area cantors and a special surprise guest. 4 p.m. Sunday, Beth Emeth Synagogue, 1224 Dempster St., Evanston, \$25 (adults); \$18 (seniors); \$10 (students and children), 847-869-4230.

**William Fitzsimmons:** With special guest Laura Burhenn. 7:30 p.m. Sunday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$25-\$35, 847-492-8860.

**"Mozart Joy of Music":** This varied and exciting All-Mozart program includes arias from some of his most beloved operas, string quartets and duets, as well as the great clarinet quintet featuring Stephen Williamson, the principle clarinetist of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston, General Admission \$30; VIP Seating \$40, 847-272-7003.

**An Evanston Symphony holiday concert:** Fun-filled family holiday event featuring Evanston Symphony joined by Evanston Dance Ensemble, Evanston Children's Choir, North Shore Choral Society, Festival Gospel Choir singing madrigals and of course, Santa and his elves. Start the holidays right with this Evanston Tradition. You'll be singing all the way home. 3 p.m. Sunday, Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, \$25; \$10 (Children); Family packages available, 847-864-8804.

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**Holiday Open House:** Stores and businesses along the 1800-2100 blocks of Central Street celebrate the Holiday Season with discounts, raffles, refreshments and holiday surprises. Noon Sunday, Central Street shopping district, 1800-2700 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-864-5565.

**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. Sunday, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-1030.

**Holiday Family Photos:** Bring your family to have a festive holiday picture taken in The Creative Studio. Each family receives one print and the digital file. NOTE: Avoid wearing green or you will blend in with the screen. Call 847-663-6606 to register. 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234.

**Winterpalooza:** Enjoy sweet treats and make a winter craft. From 1:30-2:30pm, meet and take a photo with Elsa from Frozen. From 3-4pm, enjoy holiday classics performed by your favorite barber-shoppers, The Convertibles. 1 p.m. Sunday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234.

**Fine Arts Fall George Lepauw:** George Lepauw represents the ideal 21st century musician, intensely focused on his art and wholly engaged with the world. George began piano studies at the age of three in Paris with Aida Barenboim, mother of Daniel Barenboim, and began concertizing at the age of ten. 2 p.m. Sunday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224.

**Northfield Holiday Festival Lights and Family Fun:** This festival, which is centered in Northfield Village Hall, features a full range of holiday activities to appeal to families: horse-drawn sleigh rides, performances from the Storybook Mom, a quartet from the New Trier Jazz Ensemble and the North Shore Music Institute, plus dance, crafts and food. Parking is available at the large municipal lot off Orchard Lane, across from the library. 3 p.m. Sunday, Northfield Village Hall, 361 N. Happ Road, Northfield, free, 847-446-9200.

**Holiday Sing-Along with Lepskaya's School of Music:** Come sing along to holiday favorites like "Jingle Bells,"

"Frosty the Snowman," and "Winter Wonderland." Lepskaya's School of Music will lead with piano and voices. All ages are welcome to join in this special intergenerational holiday event. 2 p.m. Sunday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123.

**77th Annual Candelight Service of Lessons and Carols:** 4 p.m. Sunday, St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 205 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-6659.

**Marc Anthony:** 7 p.m. Sunday, Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Road, Rosemont, \$59-\$179, 847-635-6601.

**Giving Back Concert Series:** The students of North Shore Guitar Academy in Wilmette give back by performing an acoustic series of rock and classical rock songs at three community senior centers — Sunrise Senior Center in Wilmette; Lieberman Center in Skokie; and Three Crowns in Evanston. Sunrise Senior Center is at 615 Ridge Road in Wilmette. Lieberman Center for Health and Rehabilitation is at 9700 Gross Point Road in Skokie. Three Crowns Park Retirement Home is at 2323 McDaniel Ave. in Evanston. Noon and 3 p.m. Sunday, free, 847-256-5400.

**Asian Pop-Up Cinema Series: Closing Night at the 'Mette:** Enjoy a screening of "Round Trip Heart" (Japanese film with subtitles). Director Yuki Tanada will be in attendance for an introduction and Q&A. This romantic comedy follows a woman who sells food and drinks on a train push cart ends up touring a mountain resort with a failed movie producer who tried to steal from her cart. 4 p.m. Sunday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, \$25; \$18 (seniors and students), 847-251-7424.

**Holiday Boutique:** This Holiday Boutique features vendors with unique and creative merchandise for all ages — jewelry, clothing, craft items, toys, books and much more. 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emenah, 3220 Big Tree Lane, Wilmette, free, 847-256-1213.

## Monday, Dec. 5

**Empty Bowls:** Local artists have created handmade bowls and other gift items. Choose your favorite bowl then share in a meal of soup and bread as a reminder of those who are in need. 10:30 a.m. Monday, Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines, \$15, 847-635-1600.

**The Chicago Moth StorySLAM: "Risk":** 8 p.m. Monday, SPACE, 1245

Chicago Ave., Evanston, Tickets available 1 week before show, 847-492-8860.

**Antique Appraisal Event:** Expert Appraiser, Mark Moran joins this event, for three hours similar to the Antiques Roadshow on PBS. Patrons are invited to bring in one portable item that they would like appraised. No weapons, traps, Nazi memorabilia, coins and paper money, fine jewelry or beanie babies, please. The program is open to all but registration is required for people who'd want to bring items for appraisal. See the list of items you can bring: [www.mgpl.org/assets/1/7/Antique\\_Appraisal\\_Event.pdf](http://www.mgpl.org/assets/1/7/Antique_Appraisal_Event.pdf). 2 p.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

**Mushrooms The Year In Review:** The December meeting is when the Illinois Mycological Association celebrates the end of the year. Scientific adviser Patrick Leacock gives a short overview of the interesting mushrooms found this year on the forays. Members may bring photos on a flash drive, but please limit photos to your best 10 for the year. A laptop and projector are set up, and attendees are asked to bring goodies to share. 7:30 p.m. Monday, The Niles Historical and Cultural Center, 8970 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, free, 847-432-8255.

**Pluto Flyby The Final Dowlod:** The unmanned NASA probe New Horizons flew past Pluto in July of 2015. Sixteen months later, the last of its data is arriving on Earth. When the spacecraft was launched in 2006, Pluto was considered to be a planet. By the time it arrived, Pluto had been reclassified as a dwarf planet. Scientific data from the probe may provide the best evidence yet about the origins of our solar system. Lawrence Boyle discusses Pluto. 1 a.m. Monday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$10 NSSC member; \$13 non-member, 847-784-6030.

**Science vs. Religion Is Not What It Used to Be:** Rabbi Bronstein explores the ideas such as the conflict between the scientific account of Evolution versus the Biblical story of Creation going back to the 19th century. 10 a.m. Monday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$19 NSSC members; \$25 non-members, 847-784-6030.

**Ye Olde Madrigal Feaste Welcomes the Christmas Season:** You are hereby invited to the Castle to celebrate the season as Lords and Ladies are dressed in their finest medieval garb. Sit amidst the flurry of his majesty's performers: singers, dancers, instrumentalists, and even a court jester. Enjoy a string quartet while feasting. Music, artistry, and

comedy will fill the Great Hall with laughter and joy. 6 p.m. Monday, 6 p.m. Tuesday, Northfield Community Church, 400 Wagner Road, Northfield, \$35; \$10 (12 and under), 847-446-3070.

**Money Matters Discussion:** The group meets on the first Monday of each month. 10 a.m. Monday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-3597.

**Exploring Grief:** 7 p.m. Monday, Kenilworth Union Church, 211 Kenilworth Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-251-4272.

## Tuesday, Dec. 6

**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. Starting at 10 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Little Beans Cafe, 430 Asbury Ave., Evanston, \$55; Free for infants under 12 months, 847-807-3731.

**Let's Talk @ Lunch:** At this drop-in program, participants can talk through the issue of racism, and practice honest conversation skills by looking at our own experiences in light of what we're learning about how racism affects us all. 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, YoFresh Yogurt Cafe, 635 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-864-8445.

**Mindful Eating Seminar:** Do you rush through your meals, or snack unconsciously? Mindful eating is eating with intention and attention. This innovative program led by the North Suburban YMCA's professional wellness staff shows you how to reconnect with your food. Lunch is included, where participants practice mindful eating. Registration is required. For more information, contact Marlo Leaman, [mleaman@nsymca.org](mailto:mleaman@nsymca.org). 11:15 a.m. Tuesday, North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road, Northbrook, \$15 NSYMCA members; \$20 non members, 847-272-7250.

**"Mrs. Charles Dickens: The Best of Times":** Charles Dickens, author, playwright, actor, and social activist was indeed a master of characters, many drawn from life. Meet Catherine Dickens, his long-suffering wife and mother of ten children. Mrs. Dickens introduces the audience to such women as Nancy from "Oliver Twist," Miss Havisham from "Great Expectations," Betsey Trotwood from "David Copperfield." Jessica Michna portrays fascinating women in history. 1 p.m. Tuesday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road,

Turn to Calendar, Next Page

Calendar, from Previous Page

Northfield, \$10 NSSC member; \$13 non-member, 847-784-6030.

**Long Shadows Winery Spotlight:** Recently, the WineStyles team toured and tasted at Long Shadows Winery in Washington state. We're excited to share the winery experience at our next Winery Spotlight. 6 p.m. Tuesday, WineStyles Park Ridge, 105 S. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, \$20-\$25, 847-518-9463.

**The Breakfast Club at Lola's Diner:** Join the Park Ridge Chamber and start your day right at The Breakfast Club. This event is hosted by Chamber Ambassador Dave Donovan. 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, Lola's Diner, 920 Busse Highway, Park Ridge, \$11 members; \$15 prospective members, 847-825-3121.

**Resumes: Hands-on workshop** that provides resume best practices so you can begin constructing an effective, branded, customizable, and focused resume that highlights your unique value. To register for Career Moves workshops, go to [https://jvschicago-syhum.formstack.com/forms/career\\_identity](https://jvschicago-syhum.formstack.com/forms/career_identity). 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, 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.

**Wednesday, Dec. 7**

**CAT Council of Awesome T(w)eens Meeting:** This is a meeting of the Council of Awesome T(w)eens (CAT), a group of enthusiastic, motivated, and bookish Lincolnwood students. This group, through various activities, promotes and represents the library to their peers and wider community. If interested in joining for the spring term, please visit the library for an information packet and application. 5 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

**Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce Annual Holiday Party:** This annual meeting brings together the members of the MGCCI and the entire community to enjoy the holiday spirit and welcome our new directors. Two raffles, wine and split the pot add to the fun with proceeds going to the Niles and Maine Township food pantries. Refreshments combined with entertain-

ment make this one of Morton Grove's most popular holiday traditions. 6 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove American Legion Civic Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove, \$10 donation at the door, 847-965-9503.

**A Look Behind the Scenes of "Miss Bennet":** Join members from Northlight Theatre's artistic team as they discuss the production of "Miss Bennet" by Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon. 11 a.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

**Teen Science Lab: LED Glowing Throwies:** Make and take your own throwie, a cluster of tiny, multi-colored LED lights with a magnetic base that can be thrown on metal surfaces to make it glow. The colorful, conductive contraptions are super fun to make and perfect for the holiday season. 4 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

**Park Ridge Community Emergency Response Team Class:** The City of Park Ridge hosts this class for the Winter/Spring 2016. The class is held Feb. 3 through March 16 on Wednesday nights until approximately 10 p.m. Interested

persons should contact Phil Falson, Director Park Ridge CERT, who can be reached at [parkridgecert@gmail.com](mailto:parkridgecert@gmail.com) or by calling. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Park Ridge Public Works Center, 400 Busse Highway, Park Ridge, free, 847-774-4231.

**Award-Winning Documentary: "Every Face Has a Name":** Sisterhood Temple Beth in Association with the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) of Chicago presents "Every Face Has a Name." Join us at 6:45 p.m. for coffee and sweets. The film starts at 7 p.m., followed by a discussion. 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-0951.

**Skokie Synagogue's Hanukkah Party:** A Hanukkah party and lunch, complete with latkes, is hosted by the Sisterhood of Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation. Entertainment provided by the musical duo of Jeff and Janis. 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, \$18 for members, \$23 for nonmembers, 847-675-4141.

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

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## NOW PLAYING

**"Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" ★★★**

PG-13, 2:13, action/adventure

In handsome, generally diverting fashion, "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them," directed by Potter alum David Yates and adapted by J. K. Rowling from her 2001 book, takes us not to Hogwarts but to 1920s America. Eddie Redmayne, costumed like the winner of a Jazz Age "Doctor Who" contest, plays shy, sweet Newt Scamander, a "magizoologist" by training and a Hogwarts-bred wizard who devotes his life to the collection,

care and feeding of a wide variety of beasties. Potter fans will likely enjoy this first of a planned quintet of "Fantastic Beasts" outings. — *Michael Phillips*

**"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. But this latest in the ever-broadening Marvel movie landscape is fun. For an effects-laden franchise launch, it's light on its feet, pretty stylish and full of tasty, classy performers enlivening the dull bits. 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." — *M.P.*

**"Trolls" ★★½**

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. — *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. Louise (Amy Adams), a linguistics professor, is brought in to translate the otherworldly beeps and pops and guttural some-

things emitted by the inhabitants of the spacecraft. "Arrival" will cast a spell on some while merely discombobulating others. Right there, I'd say that indicates it's worth seeing. — *M.P.*

**"Almost Christmas" ★★½**

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*

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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

#### Briars, Kenneth C.

Kenneth C. Briars, age 93, on November 19, 2016.



Loving and beloved husband of Marica J. (Geyer) Briars for 54 wonderful years, father of Diane Briars (James Staszewski), Nancy (Mark) Weksler, James Briars, and Joyce (Kelly) Browning; proud grandfather of Daniel and Aaron Weksler; brother of Eugene (Annette) Briars and brother-in-law of Margot (William) Briars. He was predeceased by brothers Leroy, Alvin and William. Ken graduated from Lane Technical High School (1941) and served proudly as a Navy aviation mechanic in World War II. He had a long career as a pipefitter, retiring from the Metropolitan Sanitary District in 1990. A long-time Park Ridge resident, Ken was an active member of both the Park Ridge and Maine Township Senior Centers and the Des Plaines Elks Lodge No. 1526. He was an avid bowler, a superb ballroom dancing partner for Marcia, and a lifelong fan of both the Chicago Cubs and Chicago Bears. His smile and upbeat attitude will be remembered always. He will be missed deeply by his family and many friends. Contributions may be made to the Macula Vision Research Foundation, One Tower Bridge, 100 Front St #300, Conshohocken, PA 19428 or the Starkey Hearing Foundation, 6700 Washington Ave. South, Eden Prairie, MN 55344.

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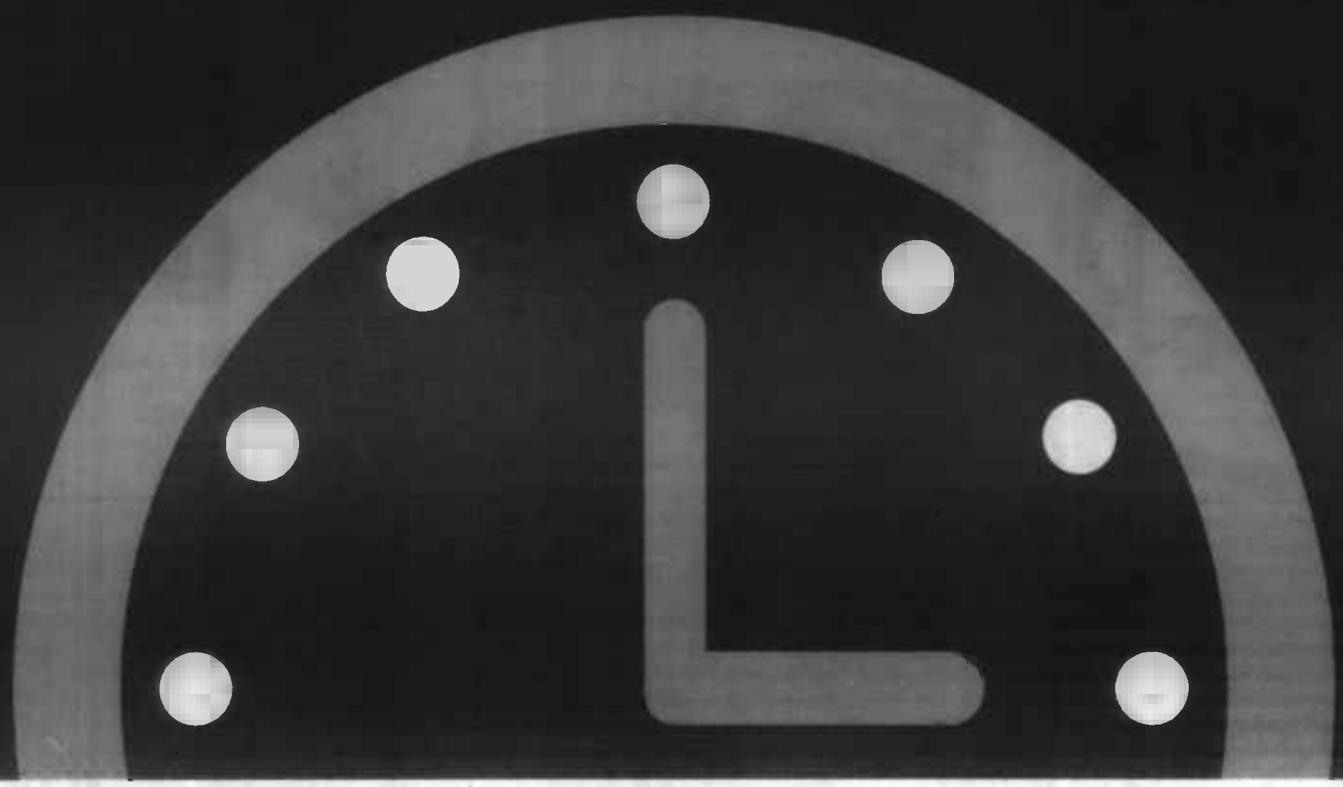
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## HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

# Ideas for car lovers and everyday drivers

BY ROBERT DUFFER | Chicago Tribune

Most car lovers would most love a new car for their holiday gift, but we're not as well off as Scrooge and thus live with the Gifts of Christmas Reality.

Still, there are plenty of reasonably priced gifts that appeal to any car owner, from the everyday driver who could benefit from more car conveniences to the racing enthusiast with record-setting track dreams. Even the youngest car lovers still a decade away from their first license are included in our guide, and track experiences can be shared by the whole family.

## AAA Excursion Road Kit, \$54.99, [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

There are as many types of problems you can encounter on the road as there are roadside assistance kits on the market. The best ones incorporate jumper cables, utility tools, flares or triangles, and a first aid kit. The most complete kits top \$150 and include everything from tow ropes to fleece outfits. The Excursion Road Kit by AAA is a pretty good compromise for most drivers who don't foresee relying on a stranger to help tow them from a ditch. It comes with bungee cords, emergency whistle, duct tape, screwdrivers, air compressor with AC adapter, and 8-gauge booster cables. A can of Fix-A-Flat, a small fire extinguisher and a collapsible shovel would really round out the package, but the Excursion Road Kit is sufficient for all but the most dire needs on the road.

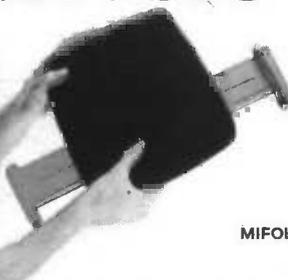


AAA



K1 SPEED

**K1 Speed, \$49, [www.k1speed.com](http://www.k1speed.com).** Give the gift of laps at this indoor electric go-karting facility with 35 locations nationwide. Two tracks, including a Juniors-only track for kids with a minimum height of 4 feet, are complemented by a race-themed lobby and upstairs bar and restaurant where the whole family can watch the action in the warehouse-sized racetracks. Junior karts are limited to 20 mph, while adult karts top out at 45 mph. Helmets are included, exhaust emissions are excluded and party packages are available. The best value is the K1 Speedpass, which includes two 14-lap races (12 laps for juniors), a mandatory license and a T-shirt.



MIFOLD

**Mifold portable booster seat, \$49.99, [www.mifold.com](http://www.mifold.com).** What is smaller than a breadbox and as simple as sliced bread? The Mifold portable booster seat. Ten times smaller than a traditional booster seat, the 1.6-pound Mifold is a collapsible, pocketable, dishwasher-safe child safety seat that actually lowers the height of the seat belt rather than boosting the child up to seat belt height. Designed for children between 40 and 120 pounds, Mifold has narrow clasps securing the lap belt. Its lightweight portability makes it ideal for car sharing, cabs, air travel or car-pooling. Available in six colors.



## Black and Decker Auto Flex Vac, \$39.99, [www.blackanddecker.com](http://www.blackanddecker.com).

You don't need a new Honda Odyssey minivan to access an easy-to-use car vacuum. Black + Decker's Auto Flex Vac has a 4-foot bendable hose, a brush and a crevice tool attachment for between the seats and behind the pedals. It weighs just over 3 pounds, and the 16-foot cord connects to the car's 12-volt power socket. There is no power cord for your garage's 120-volt socket, so you'll need to turn on the car's accessories switch. But if you're cleaning the car, the radio will probably already be on, so you can rock out with your mats out.

BLACK AND DECKER



JOE MARTINEZ JR./RADIO FLYER

**Radio Flyer Tesla Model S, \$499, [tesla.radioflyer.com](http://tesla.radioflyer.com).** Now kids can drive their own mini performance electric vehicle down the sidewalks of suburbia. Made in partnership with Radio Flyer, the Tesla Model S for Kids is made for ages 3 to 8 with a weight limit of 81 pounds, including soccer gear, sippy cup and aviator shades that Junior might want to store in the frunk. It has working headlights, a horn and a 3.5-millimeter phone jack for rocking out to smartphone tunes. Just like the big Model S, there are plenty of available options, including two different battery sizes topping out at 6 mph, which is on the safer side of ludicrous mode. Charge time is about three hours.



EPICEMBLEM

**Car lover's cuff links and tie clip gift set, \$44.99, [www.etsy.com/listing/475415779/](http://www.etsy.com/listing/475415779/).** Play off the classic necktie gift cliché with this stylish and sophisticated gift set for the driver who likes to look as good in a car as he does in a suit. Epic Emblem offers brass metal alloy cuff links with a black button showing a five-speed manual gearbox. Pair it with a 2.75-inch long tie bar centered with a steering wheel. Subtle is sexy. #Giveashift.



HAMMACHER SCHLEMMER

**Automatic Cordless Tire Inflator, \$89.95, [www.hammacher.com/Product/81925](http://www.hammacher.com/Product/81925).** It's a cordless battery-powered tool shaped like a drill. That alone qualifies it as a cool gift, but Hammacher's tire inflator replaces the air pump of yore with the push of a button. It can be used with the lithium ion battery or plugged into the car's 12-volt AC socket via an 11-foot cord. Weighing just under 4 pounds, it's about a foot tall and 5 inches wide, so it can fit under most car seats.



ROBERT DUFFER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The new Chevy Cruze Hatch is sportier than a crossover, more versatile than a compact.

## Cruze Hatch opens up options

BY ROBERT DUFFER  
Chicago Tribune

The argument for the hatchback is best illustrated by the amount of stuff hauled in a given weekend. A portable hockey locker, basketball bag, small cooler and a backpack can't fit in a compact sedan as easily as a hatch. Neither can a bike or two.

What is the argument then for the hatchback over the taller, bigger crossover? There are so many crossovers that they are distinguishable as black socks. The hatch is smaller, sportier, just as versatile, and appealing more to customers (according to Chevy).

Cruze Hatch comes with one engine, a pokey turbo four. It's not as sporty as the Mazda3, Volkswagen Golf, or the rival Ford Focus, but it pushes at the edge of the premium segment with a host of technologically advanced standard equipment and a refined-but-versatile cabin.

The turbocharger in the four-cylinder is more for economy than performance, eking out nearly 35 mpg in combined commutes. The shifting from the six-speed automatic is quick and smooth, and turning can be fun, which is the sportiest advantage over a crossover.

What it lacks under the

### 2017 CHEVROLET CRUZE HATCHBACK PREMIER Compact hatch

Price as tested:  
**\$25,600**

Base price: \$23,945

#### Mpg:

28 city, 37 highway

#### Engine:

1.4-liter turbo four-cylinder

#### Transmission:

Six-speed automatic

#### Parting shot:

An appealing alternative to the bland compact crossover

hood it makes up for inside the well-appointed cabin.

The Cruze hatch has an excellent dash design with spartan center stack that reminds us of how simple cars once were, yet doesn't compromise any of the modern conveniences.

There is a volume dial under the touch screen, knobs and familiar buttons for climate control, and below that a storage area with USB ports and a 12V jack. In the center console is a phone holder that can only fit smartphones vertically. The rubber holder won't let go at hard stops or over rumble strips.

It's far better than the Golf and less cluttered than the Focus, more intuitive than the Mazda3.

Rear legroom is above average, but the Golf feels much roomier. Total cargo space with the rear seats down is 47.2 cubic feet, about 5 feet smaller than the Golf but roomier than the Focus and Honda Civic. Some hatches can lead to more road noise, but the Cruze Hatch is a quiet and smooth ride.

The only knock on the interior was the weak phone speaker. We could only hear our caller when we were stopped. We tried changing the settings to no avail. Hopefully it was just a glitch on our tester.

Outside the Cruze Hatch has a subtle European style distinct from the cookie-cutter crossover. It has the Mazda's longer nose, but is distinguished with a split-front grille that is both wide and tall.

The rear wheels are tucked close to the tail, and the spoiler at the top of the hatch gives it an edge. The Premier trim level comes upgraded with unremarkable 18-inch wheels.

There are sportier hatchbacks, but the advanced technology and stylish cabin give the Cruze Hatch a competitive edge at this price point.

rduffer@chicagotribune.com  
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## Notice of software update not rip-off; get car fixed



BOB WEBER  
Motormouth

**Q: I received a letter saying that I need to have the software on the powertrain control module updated ASAP. I know this seems strange, but I do not believe this letter. My car runs perfectly. I think this is a ploy to get me to bring the car to the dealership. If this was a service issue or a recall, it would get more publicity. Is this a real problem? How is the PCM software updated? Is the software accessed from under the hood or under the dashboard? Thank you for your assistance.**

— C.S., Chicago

**A: Of course you should have the car repaired. Honda is offering this voluntary recall to make a correction to the transmission control program and even replace the transmission if necessary. Free. If you ignore this offer, you may have to pay for repairs later. The PCM is updated just like any other software patch. It is quick and easy and done through the data link under the dash. This is not a ploy to separate you from your money.**

**Q: I've read several articles recently indicating that gas containing ethanol is a risk for damage to four-stroke motorcycle engines. Is this true? Is there a safe additive to reverse the impact of ethanol if, in fact, it does cause damage? Finally, are there gas stations that still offer non-etha-**



VOLKSWAGEN

The "Check Engine" light on a Volkswagen indicates a fault in the engine management system. Engine lights and service notices should be heeded, says Motormouth.

### no! fuel in Illinois?

— B.R., Crystal Lake, Ill.

**A: According to the American Motorcyclist Association, "None of the estimated 22 million motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles in use in the United States is certified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to operate on fuel containing more than 10 percent ethanol. Inadvertent use of E15 in vehicles not designed for its use can damage fuel system and engine components and void manufacturer's warranties." Ethanol can lead to corrosion of metal parts, including carburetors and fuel pumps, and may degrade plastic and rubber components. The damage cannot be reversed. Corrosion is more likely when motorcycles are stored over the winter, so use a fuel stabilizer. To find stations pumping 100 percent gasoline, go to [www.pure-gas.org](http://www.pure-gas.org).**

**Q: I read the question about the 2006 Toyota Sienna where the car sits for long periods and the battery goes dead. I had the same problem with both a Jaguar and an RV. I simply installed a knife**

**switch (which you can get at most parts stores) on the positive terminal. When I wasn't going to use the vehicle for a while, I simply opened the switch and then closed it when I was ready to use the vehicle again. Once I did this, I never had a dead battery. Of course the downside is that radio station presets, clocks, etc., have to be reset.**

— M.G., West Chester, Pa.

**A: We have heard this suggestion numerous times over the years. Besides knife switches, there are rotary switches and racing kill switches. Your suggestion works with older cars, but many newer automobiles will require extensive reprogramming (re-initializing) if power is lost. That is why technicians install a keep-alive device prior to battery removal and replacement. Hence, we do not advise kill switches.**

Send questions along with name and town to Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Fourth Floor, Chicago, IL 60611 or [motormouth.trib@verizon.net](mailto:motormouth.trib@verizon.net).

# PIONEER PRESS ALL-AREA BOYS SOCCER FIRST TEAM

Central Suburban League nets five of area's top 11

BY DAN SHALIN | Pioneer Press

## Adam Szymaszek

G, Hersey, Sr.

**Key stats:** 15 goals against in 19 games (.79 GAA), 8 shutouts

**College:** Richmond International Academic & Soccer Academy (Leeds, England)

The 6-foot-5 Szymaszek was voted the No. 1 goalkeeper in the state by the Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association, according to Hersey coach Darren Llewellyn. Szymaszek led Hersey, which finished the season 14-2-3, to a Class 3A regional title. Szymaszek is dominant in the air, catches the ball well, plays the ball at his feet like a field player, is a vocal leader of his defense and is excellent in one-on-one situations. "He possesses all the skills to play at the highest levels," Llewellyn said.

## Joshua Klier

D, Evanston, Sr.

**Key stats:** 3 goals, 9 assists

**College:** Undecided

Klier's combination of speed, strength, work rate, endurance and offensive skill made him a top-class fullback. He was one of two starters who returned from last season's team that reached the Class 3A supersectionals, and he was a major reason the 2016 Wildkits (19-2-4) again got within a victory of the state semifinals. Klier was named all-state by the Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association. "Klier knew he had to step up (offensively), and he (did)," Evanston coach Franz Calixte said.

## Seth Grossman

D, Glenbrook North, Sr.

**Key stats:** 1 assist

**College:** Undecided

The 5-foot-9 Grossman is undersized for a center back, but his athleticism, tenacity and ability to read the game make up for it. Grossman, who was a team captain, embraced the challenge of marking the opponent's best player, Glenbrook North coach Paul Vignocchi said. He was named all-state by the Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association and helped the Spartans to the most wins (22) in program history. "He's the best defender I've coached," said Vignocchi, who has been the head coach since 2004. "He has strong leadership and an incredible work rate."

## Isaiah Nieves

M, Lyons, Sr.

**Key stats:** 13 goals, 10 assists

**College:** Undecided

Nieves was the captain and go-to guy for a Lions team that went 17-4-1 (6-0 West Suburban Silver) and reached the Class 3A Morton Sectional final. Lyons' only losses were to powers Morton (twice), Glenbrook North and New Trier. The Lions also tied eventual Class 3A state champion Naperville North. In addition to earning Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-sectional honors, the 5-foot-7 Nieves was named all-conference. "Nieves' ball skill is extremely good, and his vision is amazing," Lyons coach Paul Labbato said.

## Timmy Iscra

M, Glenbrook North, Sr.

**Key stats:** 19 goals, 10 assists

**College:** DePaul

Iscra's decision before the season to leave the Sockers FC Chicago academy team in favor of high school soccer was a boon to the Spartans, who finished 22-2-1 and earned the top seed in the Class 3A Maine East Sectional. The 6-foot-3 Iscra was a strong presence in the middle of the field, winning balls, controlling tempo, taking on opponents and distributing the ball to teammates. Iscra was an Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-state selection. "He is one of the best two-way midfielders (offense and defense) I've ever coached," Glenbrook North coach Paul Vignocchi said.

## Nash Pirie

D, Barrington, Sr.

**Key stats:** 4 goals, 13 assists

**College:** Undecided

A marauding left back with pace, skill and vision, Pirie is adept at taking on one or more players, serving in crosses or playing through balls into space. Pirie was instrumental in Barrington (23-4-1) reaching the Class 3A state championship game, which the Broncos lost 3-1 to Naperville North. Pirie was named an Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-state player. Prospect coach Paul Elkins said: "(Pirie) was almost unstoppable on the left wing. Best attacking fullback we played all season." A Division III coach reportedly recommended him to a Big Ten colleague.



TIM BOYLE/PIONEER PRESS

Senior midfielder Timmy Iscra helped lead Glenbrook North to the Class 3A sectional finals.

## Angel Lopez

M, Leyden, Sr.

**Key stats:** 6 goals, 9 assists

**College:** Undecided

While Lopez's stats might not jump off the page, Eagles coach Mark Valintis said the 5-foot-5 attacking midfielder played a major role in 85 percent of the team's goals and created many other chances that were missed. "He is technically superior, and that enables him to be a threat to create or score a goal every time he touches the ball," Valintis said. Lopez has speed and quickness, great skill and is a fine one-on-one attacker. An Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-state selection, Lopez helped Leyden finish 14-6.

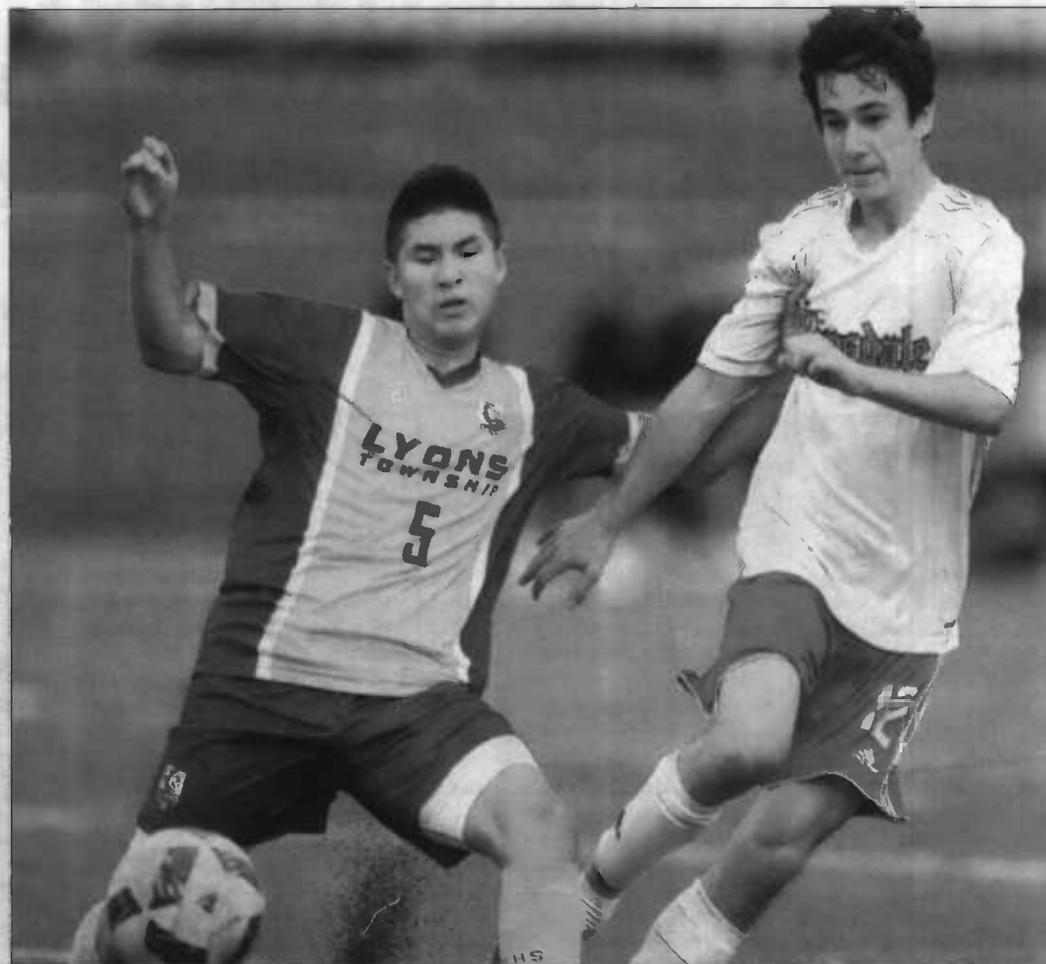
## Chris White

F, Vernon Hills, Sr.

**Key stats:** 21 goals, 10 assists

**College:** Undecided

White led Vernon Hills to a memorable season as the Cougars (15-8) won the program's first sectional title. He became only the second player in program history to earn Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-state honors. With his size, technical ability and tenacity, White put defenders under constant pressure. He was also a willing defender. "One of the hardest working players I have ever coached in my 19-year coaching career," Vernon Hills coach Mike McCaulou said. "He also makes every player around him better."



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Lyons senior midfielder Isalah Nieves (left) is a Pioneer Press All-Area First Team selection.

## Ryan Wittenbrink

F, Libertyville, Jr.

**Key stats:** 19 goals, 11 assists

**College:** Undecided

What would Wittenbrink do for an encore after scoring twice in the Wildcats' 2015 Class 3A state championship game victory? Plenty. The striker played alone up top and occasionally dropped back into the midfield as he led the Wildcats to a 15-4 season and an upset of top-seeded Hersey in the Class 3A sectional semifinals. Wittenbrink, a captain and the team leader in assists, was named to the Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-state team. "(Wittenbrink) is very skillful and technical and a true goal scorer," Libertyville coach Andy Bitta said.

## Al-ameen Salako

M/F, New Trier, Sr.

**Key stats:** 8 goals, 2 assists

**College:** Undecided

A native of Nigeria, the 5-foot-6 Salako thrived while the Trevians (11-7-4) played what MaxPreps rated as the toughest schedule in the state. A strong, technically gifted player who loves to take on opponents, Salako also tracked back and defended. He scored four times in three playoff games, including the game-winning goal in the 2-0 victory over Maine South in the Class 3A New Trier Regional final. Evanston coach Franz Calixte called Salako the most dangerous player his team faced in the postseason, including Nash Pirie, Klaus Pallan and Timmy Iskra.

## Klaus Pallan

F, Barrington, Jr.

**Key stats:** 31 goals, 5 assists

**College:** Undecided

Pallan equaled Barrington's single-season goal mark. His record-tying tally came in the 3-1 loss to Naperville North in the Class 3A title game. Pallan scored in 22 of the 23 games in which he played, including 16 game-winning goals. He never scored more than two goals in a game, which meant he did not pile up goals in lopsided victories. Pallan was an Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-state selection. "(Pallan's) goals have been the biggest reason we have been successful this year," Barrington coach Scott Steib said.

*Editor's note: All nominations and comments were submitted via email by area coaches.*

*Dan Shalin is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.*

*Twitter @Pioneer\_Press*

*See who was an All-Area honorable mention in boys soccer at [chicagotribune.com/suburbs](http://chicagotribune.com/suburbs).*

## SECOND TEAM

### Brennan Reback

G, Vernon Hills, Sr.

**Key stats:** 10 shutouts, 1.0

goals-against average

**College:** Undecided

### Ethan Butler

D, Mundelein, Sr.

**Key stats:** 1 goal

**College:** Undecided

### Cameron Zwick

D, New Trier, Sr.

**Key stats:** Team had 7 shut-

outs in his 12 appearances

**College:** Will not play

### Julian Hilpuesch

M, Loyola, Sr.

**Key stats:** 15 goals, 9 assists

**College:** Undecided

### Grady Bruch

D, Glenbrook South, Sr.

**Key stats:** 4 goals, 8 assists,

team surrendered program-low

17 goals

**College:** Undecided

### Edin Galvez

M, Nazareth, Sr.

**Key stats:** 16 goals, 5 assists

**College:** Undecided

### Rob Rao

M, Carmel, Jr.

**Key stats:** 20 goals, 12 assists

**College:** Undecided

### Christian Castro

M, Hersey, Sr.

**Key stats:** 6 goals, 13 assists

**College:** Illinois (Possibly club)

### Emmanuel Lopez

M, St. Joseph, Sr.

**Key stats:** 23 goals, 14 assists

**College:** Undecided

### Philip Mierzwa

F, Maine South, Sr.

**Key stats:** 14 goals, 12 assists

**College:** Undecided

### Devin Ekstam

F, Lyons, Sr.

**Key stats:** 13 goals, 3 assists

**College:** Undecided

*Dan Shalin is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.*

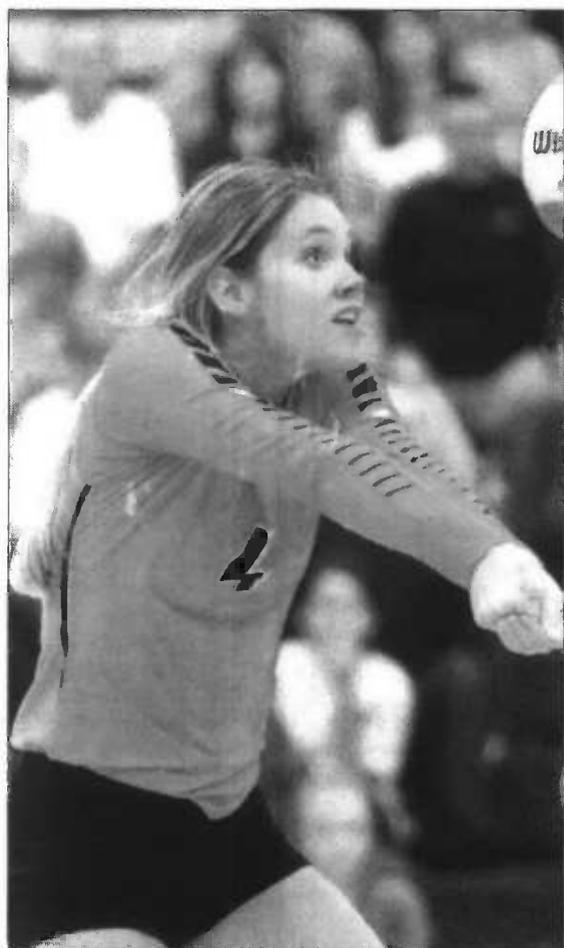
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# PIONEER PRESS ALL-AREA

## GIRLS VOLLEYBALL FIRST TEAM

Meet the all-area first team, including 4 players from North Suburban Conference

BY GREGG VOSS | Pioneer Press



MARK KODIAK UKENA/LAKE COUNTY NEWS-SUN

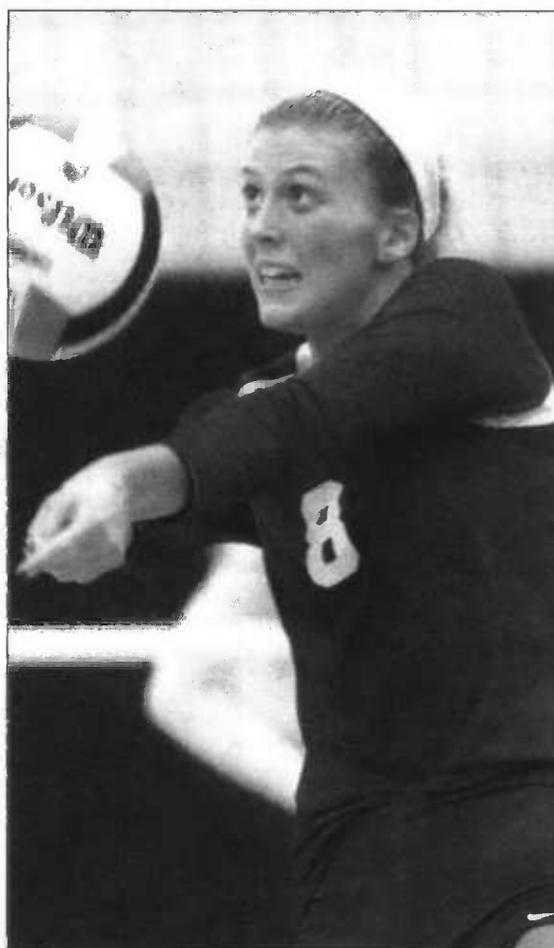
### Morgan O'Brien

*L, Libertyville, Sr.*

**Key stats:** 637 digs, 57 aces, 38 assists

**College:** Illinois (preferred walk-on)

O'Brien, an all-North Suburban Conference selection, was named an honorable mention to the 11th annual Under Armour Girls High School All-America teams. Her 637 digs this year gave her 2,163 for her career, a school record, surpassing former Libertyville all-state player Kristen Webb (2,054). O'Brien led Libertyville to a 27-12 overall record, a 7-0 mark in the North Suburban Conference and a Class 4A sectional championship berth, where the Wildcats fell to Stevenson. "She works harder than anyone I've ever coached possibly," Libertyville coach Greg Loika said via email. "She simply gets after it every day, trying to perfect her craft." O'Brien is a Libertyville resident who plays club volleyball for Sky High Volleyball.



MARK KODIAK UKENA/LAKE COUNTY NEWS-SUN

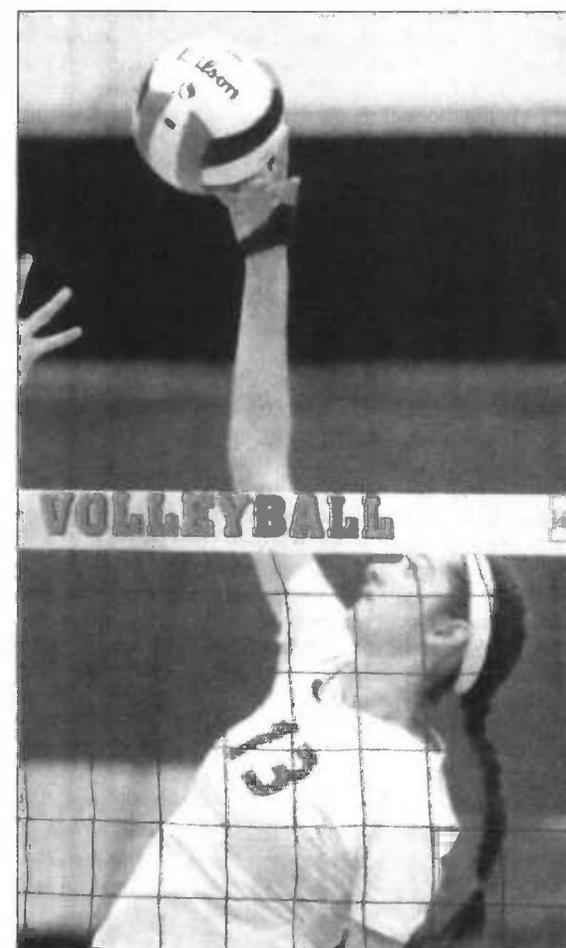
### Emma Patlovich

*S, Lake Forest, Sr.*

**Key stats:** 741 assists, 199 digs, 80 aces, 64 kills

**College:** New Hampshire

Patlovich led a Lake Forest team that went 33-4 and 5-2 in the North Suburban Conference and advanced to the Class 4A sectional semifinals, where it lost to Stevenson. According to her coach, Molly Grzesik, Patlovich is dangerous because she is a setter who can play defense, as evidenced by her 22 blocks this season. "Emma is the setter that every coach wants to work with," Grzesik said via email. "She listens, she's coachable, and most importantly, she delivers. She's the quarterback of the team and one that everyone can look to during matches." The Lake Forest resident was named the Scouts' most valuable player and was an all-conference selection. She plays club volleyball for Sky High Volleyball.



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

### Callie Fautleroy

*MH, New Trier, Sr.*

**Key stats:** 224 kills, 78 digs, 21 solo blocks (69 block assists), 20 aces

**College:** George Washington

The Trevians posted a 25-10 overall record and were co-champions of the Central Suburban South with an 8-2 record thanks in large part to the efforts of Fautleroy, a Wilmette resident. She led her team in kills, kill percentage (46.2 percent), kill efficiency (38.1 percent) and blocks, and was named co-CSL South player of the year with Glenbrook South's Sarah Wojick. She also served as a veteran presence on a team with 11 new varsity players. "She's a fast, aggressive middle blocker who can move from pin to pin," New Trier coach Hannah Hsieh said via email. Fautleroy plays club volleyball for 1st Alliance.



TRACY ALLEN/PIONEER PRESS

## Sarah Wojick

*OH, Glenbrook South, Sr.*

**Key stats:** 293 kills, 143 digs, 34 solo blocks (12 block assists), 25 aces

**College:** Miami (Ohio)

Wojick, co-player of the year in the Central Suburban South, led the Titans to a 26-10 record and an 8-2 conference mark. Glenbrook South shared first place with New Trier. "Sarah is the most dynamic player in the CSL," Glenbrook South coach Kelly Dorn said via email. "Not only is she a threat in the front row, but her back-row attack percentage is over .500. She is a main serve/receive passer and defender and handles the pressure of being a captain with ease." The Glenview resident plays club volleyball for 1st Alliance.



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/LAKE COUNTY NEWS-SUN

## Jori Radtke

*OH, Stevenson, Sr.*

**Key stats:** 552 kills, 253 digs, 124 blocks, 68 aces

**College:** Northern Illinois

Radtke led the Patriots to their first state semifinal in school history this fall, capped by a third-place victory against Niles West. A Buffalo Grove resident, Radtke paced Stevenson to a 33-8 overall record. Stevenson coach Tim Crow praised Radtke's leadership. "She really took the leadership role seriously," he said. "She was good at holding herself accountable and holding other people accountable, and she kind of grew the mental toughness of our team." In playing collegiately at NIU, she'll follow in the footsteps of her sister, Jenna. Jori Radtke plays club volleyball for Rolling Thunder.



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

## Hannah Sweetwood

*OH, Lake Zurich, Sr.*

**Key stats:** 406 kills, 128 digs, 40 blocks, 39 aces

**College:** Illinois (student only)

Sweetwood led Lake Zurich in kills and kill percentage (48.4 percent). She was also second on her team in digs and was an all-North Suburban Conference selection. She led Lake Zurich to a 25-11 overall record and a 5-2 conference mark. "Hannah was so successful as both a hitter and a passer," Lake Zurich coach Rachel Wiatrowski said via email. "She is a very determined and serious athlete with an awesome academic background as well." The Lake Zurich resident plays club volleyball for Sky High Volleyball.

## SECOND TEAM

### Madisen Werdell

*L, Maine South, So.*

**Key stats:** 413 digs, 71 assists, 33 aces

**College:** Undecided

### Sarah Rose

*S, York, Sr.*

**Key stats:** 692 assists, 285 digs, 85 kills, 36 aces

**College:** Marquette

### Maggie Reisel

*S, Hersey, Sr.*

**Key stats:** 765 assists, 217 digs, 51 kills, 26 aces

**College:** Undecided

### Samantha Heyman

*MH, Glenbrook North, Sr.*

**Key stats:** 233 kills, 69 digs, 11 solo blocks, 24 aces

**College:** Undecided

### Ava Venema

*MH, Timothy Christian, Sr.*

**Key stats:** 247 kills, 71 blocks, 47 digs, 30 aces

**College:** UNC-Asheville

### Kaila Johanson

*OH, Niles West, Sr.*

**Key stats:** 365 kills, 178 digs, 40 blocks, 40 aces

**College:** Undecided

By Gregg Voss, a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer\_Press

Check out the Pioneer Press all-area honorable mention team online at [www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs](http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs).



## It's time to vote!

The polls are open for the December Athlete of the Month challenge! Go to [chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes](http://chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes) through noon on Dec. 8 to cast your vote. You may vote once every 12 hours. Winners will be featured in print and online, receive a commemorative plaque, and his or her school will receive \$250, presented by Country Financial.



KEVIN TANAKA/  
PIONEER PRESS

### Natalia Pehar

**Year in school:** Sophomore  
**School:** Niles West  
**Sport:** Girls volleyball  
**Position:** Outside hitter  
**Best game:** Pehar recorded a team-high nine kills and added four digs and an ace, but it wasn't enough as the Wolves lost 25-13, 25-15 to Mother McAuley in the Class 4A state semifinals in Normal on Nov. 11. The Wolves finished fourth in the state.



BRADLEY LEEB/AP

### Sean McNulty

**Year in school:** Senior  
**School:** Maine South  
**Sport:** Football  
**Position:** Kicker, punter, place kicker, offensive tackle and linebacker  
**Best game:** McNulty did a little bit of everything in the Class 8A state final, helping the Hawks beat Loyola 27-17. He played every down on offense, punted six times for an average of 41.5 yards — including four that were downed inside the 20-yard line and a long of 66 yards — and kicked field goals of 25 and 18 yards.



KEVIN TANAKA/  
PIONEER PRESS

### Olivia Klafta

**Year in school:** Junior  
**School:** Niles North  
**Sport:** Girls swimming  
**Best game:** Klafta qualified for the state meet in the 500-yard freestyle by touching the wall in 5 minutes, 8.15 seconds at the Deerfield Sectional on Nov. 12. She finished fifth. At state, Klafta took 34th (5:12.99).



BILL BARRETT PHOTO

Rolling Meadows graduate Jackie Kempf, a junior guard on the Saint Louis women's basketball team, led the Billikens in scoring through six games this season.

### COLLEGE NOTES

## Rolling meadows grad Kempf leads Billikens in scoring

BY SAM BRIEF | Pioneer Press

Rolling Meadows graduate **Jackie Kempf**, a junior guard on the Saint Louis women's basketball team, was named the Atlantic 10 player of the week on Nov. 14 based on the first week of the season. Kempf, a native of Arlington Heights, led the Billikens through six games in points (16.7 per game) and assists (6.8). Entering the week, Kempf was fifth in the A-10 in scoring and tied for first in assists.

The Billikens (5-1) also feature Rolling Meadows graduate **Jenny Vliet** in the starting lineup. Vliet, a junior guard, was averaging 7.2 points per game entering the week.

### Bund paces Wolverines at NCAA Regional

Lake Forest graduate **Billy Bund** helped lead the Michigan men's cross country team to a fifth-place finish in the 10,000-meter NCAA Great Lakes Regional on Nov. 11. Bund finished 11th with a time of 30:34.0. Bund was also honored among 11 others for the Big Ten Cross Country Sportsmanship Award.

Bund is joined by York graduate **Matthew Plowman** and Niles North graduate **Micah Beller** on the Michigan roster.

### Fenwick graduate honored for academics

**Jim Krecek**, a Fenwick graduate from La Grange, is a senior long snapper on the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute football team. Along with six teammates, Krecek was named to the CoSIDA Football Academic All-District Division III Team.

Krecek is also a private pilot who worked as aerodynamics engineering intern at Boeing over the summer.

### Borcia makes impression for UW-Parkside

Libertyville graduate **Joe Borcia** scored 16 points and snagged eight rebounds for the Wisconsin-Parkside men's basketball team in the Rangers' 101-70 win over Trinity International on Nov. 19. Borcia, a 6-foot-9 center, red-shirted last season. Entering the week, Borcia was averaging 5.6 points and 3.6 rebounds per game off the bench.

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.

[CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM/SPORTS](http://CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM/SPORTS)

# Let's work together to help keep our kids safe out there.



Keeping your teen safe is your top priority. When they get their license, talk to them about ways they can minimize distractions while they are driving like:

- Follow the law: put away the smartphone and limit the number of passengers
- Create a playlist for driving around town or use preset radio stations
- Eat at a table, not in your car

We have a free driving course for your teenager at [simplydrive.com](http://simplydrive.com) that can help you talk to your teen about safe driving and possibly save you money at the same time. If your teen completes the course, they may qualify for our Teen Driver Discount which can save you up to 10% on your auto insurance. Our goal is simple, provide a tool that will help reduce accidents among teen drivers.



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## GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

## PLAYER OF THE YEAR

## JORI RADTKE

BY RYAN NILSSON | Pioneer Press

Following her older sister, Stevenson senior outside hitter Jori Radtke has committed to play for the Northern Illinois women's volleyball program next season.

While her sister has generated numerous headlines — Jenna Radtke was named the 2016 MAC Player of the Year and led the Huskies to the NCAA Tournament as a senior — Jori Radtke is making a name for herself.

Jori Radtke led the Patriots to the girls volleyball state semifinals for the first time in program history this fall, and Stevenson finished third in Class 4A. She also ended the season with a team-high 552 kills. As a result of her accomplishments, Jori Radtke is the 2016 Pioneer Press All-Area Girls Volleyball Player of the Year.

Jori Radtke sat down for an interview with Pioneer Press sports editor Ryan Nilsson on Nov. 23 to talk about her standout season.

**Q: Can you tell me a little bit about your relationship with your sister?**

**A:** We're very close. We talk about everything. We do everything together. We just are real sisters. I really am lucky. I'm one of the lucky ones to be able to say I have such a close bond with my sister. We share the love for volleyball, which is just one of the things we share. But I think that's why we both love volleyball so much, because we can share it with each other.

**Q: You probably learned a lot from Jenna. Is there anything that really stands out?**

**A:** My sister is a great person, and the thing I learned most from her from volleyball is to just be a great team player. And be a great leader. And I think that has really helped me throughout all my years — just to be a great teammate, to want to get my teammates better, to lead my teammates and to just be a great leader on the court.

**Q: Can you give me an exam-**

**ple of how you make your teammates at Stevenson better?**

**A:** Mainly at Stevenson, obviously it's a new team every year for varsity, kinda just bringing the newer people in and trying to make them comfortable, and pushing them harder, to work harder. I think I'm very good at that. I'm a very loud person. Very vocal. I'll say what I think. If someone's not working hard, I'm gonna be like, "Hey, you need to pick it up." Accountability is huge for a leader, and I definitely hold people accountable and I hold myself accountable, too.

**Q: Can you tell me a little bit about what your routine is like right now? Can you elaborate on having sixth, seventh, eighth ... period off and what you're doing when you're not here.**

**A:** In the mornings I come to school from about 7 to 1 o'clock. I go home, I eat lunch. I don't really have much time. I go work out with my (club) coach. Sometimes it's lifting. Sometimes it's volleyball. Whatever I need to work on. Since club just started it will become more elaborate as we go on. Then, three times a week I have practice for three hours. Then on our off days we'll lift. So, my day is just super busy with volleyball and me trying to get better.

**Q: I know you are very passionate about volleyball, but is there an additional passion or something you're interested in?**

**A:** I'm actually really interested in fishing. I know it's kinda weird. But I really like the outdoors and the quiet. Just being outside. I really enjoy fishing. ... Nature is my thing.

**Q: Who do you go fishing with?**

**A:** Usually my dad (Jeff). He has a lake in his backyard. That's the main place we go.

**Q: When you're with your dad, what do you talk about?**

**A:** Me and my dad talk about everything. We're a really close



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Senior Jori Radtke led Stevenson to a third-place finish in the Class 4A girls volleyball playoffs.

***"I'm a very loud person. Very vocal. I'll say what I think. If someone's not working hard, I'm gonna be like, 'Hey, you need to pick it up.' Accountability is huge for a leader, and I definitely hold people accountable and I hold myself accountable, too."***

— Pioneer Press volleyball player of the year Jori Radtke

family, like I said earlier. Me and my dad have a really close bond. We talk about everything from volleyball to social life to what's going on with our family. We really just like to talk about what's going on in each other's lives because we don't get to see each other every day.

**Q: If you could change places with a celebrity for one day, who would you be and what would you do?**

**A:** I would probably switch places with Luke Bryan. Just because he has so many fans. He has so many fans from so many different places. People who don't

even like country and they like Luke Bryan. So I just think that his life would be kinda cool. He's a huge country singer. He has a cool country accent. If I was Luke Bryan, I would just go out and try and live a normal life.

**Q: Is he your favorite musician?**

**A:** No, he's not.

**Q: Who is?**

**A:** His name is Jon Pardi. I actually just went to a concert (Nov. 18) in Peoria to see him. I drove three hours.

**Q: Can you tell me a little about him?**

**A:** He's a country artist. He's not

very well known. I love his songs. I love his voice. He just came out with a new album. It's called "California Sunrise." And every single song on there is just awesome. I don't not like any of his songs. He just has a really good country twang that I really enjoy.

**Q: What would you listen to before a match?**

**A:** Country music. I think it just gets me in a better mood before a match. It just makes it seem like everything is going well. And it just really made me happy.

milsson@pioneerlocal.com  
Twitter @Ryan\_Nilsson

## BOYS SOCCER

# PLAYER OF THE YEAR

# NASH PIRIE

BY MICHAEL STAINBROOK | Pioneer Press

**N**ash Pirie is a senior defender on the Barrington boys soccer team, though that description is slightly reductive. As a left back, Pirie showed the poise of a midfielder and the soft-touch skill and speed of a forward.

Pirie was the best player on the area's best team this fall, and his versatility for the Class 3A runner-up made him the Pioneer Press player of the year.

Assistant sports editor Michael Stainbrook sat down with Pirie for an interview about soccer, college and life as a Cubs fan in 2016.

**Q: You had a lot of accomplishments this season: Four goals and 13 assists as a defender, 15 shutouts as a team, second place in the state. Which accomplishment are you most proud of?**

**A:** Definitely getting second in the state this year. I think that combines everything we accomplished overall, brining it all together and allowing our team to succeed at the next level. Just being second in the state, it's a team accomplishment, and that's my favorite part of it, and that's why it takes over the rest of the accomplishments.

**Q: I don't think very many soccer players grow up dreaming of being defenders. How did you become a defender, and how long did it take you to accept that role?**

**A:** I played forward up until eighth grade, and then when high school started I had more opportunity in the back. That's when I made the transition over, and I really started getting comfortable in my position



*"I realize I won't be playing soccer for the rest of my life, so I want a school to help me excel after my college years."*

— Nash Pirie

around sophomore year when I first made varsity. I had a great role model, Tyler Anderson, who also played right back. We clicked well together, and he helped teach me how to become a successful left back, and it really took off from there.

**Q: Your chemistry with Klaus Pallan (31 goals, 5 assists) seemed to be a staple all season. What helps the two of you work together so well?**

**A:** Klaus and I had a terrific season. We've been playing with each other for two years now. Definitely his positioning and his runs off the ball help make it easy for me. I know where he's going to be, and I can usually slip the ball to him, and he's fantastic at finishing. He never really misses. That was super suc-

cessful for us all season long.

**Q: Who was one opposing player you faced this season who really earned your respect?**

**A:** A player that I faced this year that I have a lot of respect for is Jonathan Sanchez at Wheeling High School. He's a terrific player. His ball movement and foot skills are top-notch. He's difficult to defend against, and he can finish very well.

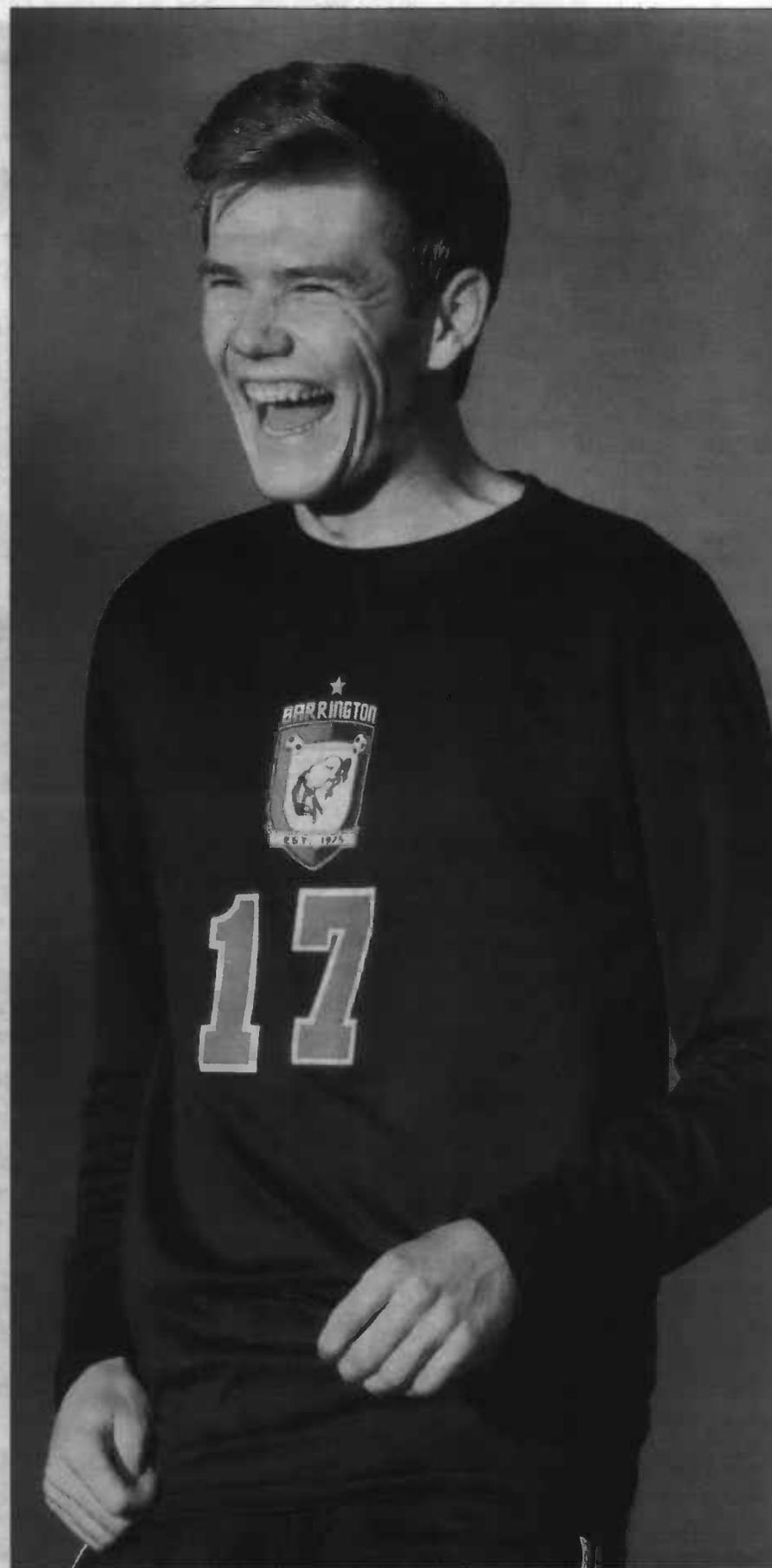
**Q: You haven't made your college choice yet. What are some of the schools that you are considering?**

**A:** Some of the schools right now are Michigan, the University of Denver and Loyola in Chicago. I'm hoping to make my decision in the middle of December, possibly early January. I'm really looking for just a great team-bonding experience, how well the team gets along, and also the soccer aspect of it. But not only that: I realize I won't be playing soccer for the rest of my life, so I want a school to help me excel after my college years.

**Q: Where were you when the Cubs won the World Series?**

**A:** When the Cubs won this year, I was at my soccer banquet. We watched half the game during the banquet, actually, kind of hiding our phones beneath the table. When the banquet was over, I went home to watch it with my family. As soon as they won, everyone went berserk. My neighbors were outside shooting fireworks. It was just a huge party, and it was a blast.

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BRIAN O'MAHOONEY/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Nash Pirie played left back for Barrington, but he often got involved in the Broncos' offensive attack. He finished with four goals and 13 assists.

# ABOVE & BEYOND

Pioneer Press names its all-area boys soccer and girls volleyball teams. *Inside*



Nash Pirie, the Pioneer Press boys soccer player of the year, helped lead Barrington to a state runner-up finish in Class 3A.

BRIAN O'MAHONEY/  
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