A surprise visitor
World Series champion catcher stops by area hospital. Page 6

Chicago Cubs player Willson Contreras waits outside of a room before visiting a patient at Advocate Children's Hospital in Park Ridge Jan. 12 as part of the Cubs Caravan, an annual community outreach tour by the Chicago team.

Chinese culture
Kohl Children's Museum's new exhibit explores China with hands-on features such as riding a moped. Page 23

'She did it the right way'
Local baseball coaches remember Cubs scout, Loyola grad Stan Zielinski. Page 42

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Harold Gregor, landscape artist

Dubbed the “Dean of the Midwest Landscape,” Harold Gregor will host a gallery talk Jan. 24 at Oakton Community College's Koehnline Museum of Art. He will be discussing his traveling exhibition titled “Changing Perspectives: The Landscapes of Harold Gregor.”

Gregor, 87, is an esteemed artist and former Illinois State University art professor. The Bloomington, Ill., resident says he has the distinction of having a painting in the White House. The artwork hung for 14 months on the wall of the private dining room there, he said.

Gregor holds, among his stable of accolades, a lifetime achievement award from the National Watercolor Society and the Illinois Academy of the Arts.

Q: How long have you been painting landscapes and how did you get into the art form?
A: I painted most of my life, beginning in the 1st grade. I did some (landscape painting) in California, but became serious about it when I first arrived in central Illinois (1970). The dramatic contrast of the farmland and sky offered a powerful artistic challenge not visited at that moment by many artists.

Q: What did you teach at Illinois State University?
A: I came to Illinois to teach painting and art history at Illinois State University. I hold a doctorate in studio art from Ohio State University (1960). I retired from ISU in 1995 with the rank of distinguished professor of art.

Q: Describe briefly “Changing Perspectives: The Landscapes of Harold Gregor”
A: My favorite artist is San Francisco artist Wayne Thiebaud. He is famous for his confections and baked good depictions, but I enjoy him for his wonderful, colorful city landscapes. Of course, I like Picasso, Matisse and the amazing watercolorist Charles Burchfield.

Q: What can people expect to talk about during the upcoming museum gallery talk?
A: My upcoming museum gallery talk will offer further insights and ideas about the show, which is a retrospective of my 60-year career.

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A: My upcoming museum gallery talk will offer further insights and ideas about the show, which is a retrospective of my 60-year career.
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Cubs' Contreras pays visit to Advocate
World Series-winning catcher spends time with patients

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC
Pioneer Press

The Cubs produced a caravan of smiles at Advocate Children's Hospital on Jan. 12 in Park Ridge.
Representing the Cubs Caravan, the team's community outreach tour, Cubs catcher Willson Contreras, sporting jersey No. 40, spent an hour going room to room, visiting patients and their families.
"This is special, having a special moment with the kids," Contreras said in a hallway before entering a patient room.
With the Cubs winning the World Series for the first time in more than 100 years, anticipation is building as the 2017 season approaches.
"I was excited," said James Jodison of Shorewood, who shook hands with Contreras.
Resting in a bed, Nathan Jodison, 13, a Channahon Junior High School student, was responsive and elevated a right hand when Contreras said hello.
Contreras made contact with Nathan's fingers during the greeting. The patient offered a thumbs up while posing for a photo with his father and Contreras.
Nathan was in a car accident on Jan. 9, his father said.
Cubs hats autographed in person by Contreras were gifts.
The meet and greet was the Cubs' first visit of the new year to Advocate Children's Hospital.
"It means so much that they take time out of their busy schedule, especially being world champions now, to see our patients and families," said Kelsey Mora of Evanston, certified child life specialist at Advocate.
Were families, patients and staff a bit starstruck upon meeting a 2016 World Series Cubs player?
"Willson Contreras is my favorite player, so I'm having my own starstruck," Mora said with a laugh. "But I know the patients and families are as well."
Among the patients at the hospital Jan. 12 were those treated for respiratory distress and neuroblastoma.
"I think knowing that someone is taking the time to care for them when dealing with something tough, and knowing that the players probably had their own obstacles that they overcame to get where they are, it's inspiring," Mora said.
Karie Angell Luc is a freelancer for Pioneer Press.
Director of area substance abuse organization to resign

By Lee V. Gaines
Pioneer Press

The head of a local nonprofit drug prevention and treatment agency plans to step down from her leadership post this month to pursue another opportunity.

Kate Mahoney has spent more than 30 years working in prevention and treatment of substance abuse disorders for residents in Skokie and surrounding communities.

She has served as executive director of Evanston and Glenview-based PEER (Prevention, Education, Evaluation, Rehabilitation) Services since 1988. The program serves residents in Evanston, Niles, Maine, Northfield and New Trier townships.

She plans to leave her post this month to take on a job as executive director of The Naomi Ruth Cohen Institute for Mental Health Education at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology, where Mahoney said she'll work on reducing the stigma attached to substance abuse and mental health issues that often present a barrier to treatment for those in need.

Mahoney, a licensed clinical social worker, was hired as program director at PEER in 1985.

She said she came to realize that many people seeking mental health treatment also struggle with substance abuse disorders.

“I look at substance abuse as a mental health issue, and many of the people we treat initially they were trying to self-medicate depression and anxiety (with substances), and so it's a really closely connected field for me,” she said.

PEER Services was founded in 1975 as a small grass-roots, community-oriented organization aimed at tackling a heroin epidemic, said Monica Weed, chairwoman of the PEER Services board of directors. Over the years and under Mahoney's leadership, she said, the nonprofit has transformed to tackle issues beyond treatment of heroin addiction and has morphed into an organization aimed at preventing all kinds of substance abuse in addition to treatment.

“(Mahoney's) contributions to PEER since she's been aligned with the organization for over 30 years are immeasurable, frankly,” Weed said. “PEER has evolved significantly over the last 30 years, largely as a result of (Mahoney's) dedication to the issues that PEER addresses, and her dedication to the communities and clients.”

Mahoney said PEER works in collaboration with local school districts and parent and community groups to educate children and families about substance abuse prevention. Additionally, the organization provides out-patient and intensive out-patient treatment services to adolescents and young and older adults.

PEER Services treats about 600 individuals every year and reaches many more through its education and prevention work, Mahoney said.

“I've always had a special interest in trying to prevent and respond to heroin use,” Mahoney said. “We've done a lot of work on that. I never imagined it would grow to the extent it has right now.”

Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen said substance abuse is something that cuts across all socio-economic classifications.

“There isn't one community in this country, no matter what its socioeconomic makeup, that doesn't experience this kind of problem, and in a sense we're fortunate in Skokie to have had a network of organizations, of which PEER is one, that can help people,” Van Dusen said.

He said Mahoney will be missed and that local schools and the village's Human Services Division have routinely sought out her expertise.

Weed said PEER has hired a search firm to find Mahoney's successor.

Christine McCall, will serve as interim executive director until a replacement is chosen, according to Mahoney.

Mahoney praised her staff and said she's leaving the agency in very capable hands.

In her new role at the Cohen Institute, Mahoney said she hopes to change the way people think about substance abuse and mental illness with the aim of building the same levels of support for prevention work, treatment and funding that other diseases and health conditions receive.

“Addiction and other mental health issues can happen to anyone, any family, in any community, and we all need to put our arms around people who are struggling and support them through their process of recovery,” she said.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Evanston police release dashboard video

Officers arrest man accused of stealing the car he owns

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER
Pioneer Press

Evanston police released a dashboard camera video Jan. 11 showing the 2015 arrest of an African-American man suspected of stealing a car that turned out to be his own.

Lawrence Crosby, then 25, of Evanston, was arrested on Oct. 10, 2015, according to police reports. An engineering doctoral candidate at Northwestern University, Crosby was driving from his apartment to the science building on campus when police arrested him, according to his attorney, Timothy Touhy.

Crosby has since filed a lawsuit, still pending, against the city and arresting officers, citing false arrest and excessive force.

The video includes an audio recording of a 911 call from a woman who said she saw a black man wearing a black hoodie in a car. Officers responded by pulling over a man they thought was involved in auto theft.

The video shows Crosby exiting his car with both hands up, holding a cellphone in one hand. Officers approached with guns drawn. Police ordered Crosby to get down and when he does not comply, a group of officers rush him and bring him to the ground. He said that officers hit and knocked him.

According to a transcript of the encounter, provided by Touhy, one officer tells another, "I said, I didn't shoot you, [expletive], You should feel lucky for that!"

After learning that Crosby was the suspect, the officer says, "Let's take him to the station. Do whatever ordinance stuff we need to do with him. Mirandize him. Get a statement from him."

The arrest of an African-American man suspected of stealing a car that turned out to be his own.

Man charged in 2016 killing of son's mom

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

A Skokie man has been charged with murder and aggravated domestic battery in connection with the March 2016 slaying of a 31-year-old Skokie woman who was the mother of his child — inside her home.

The cause of death was relatively quickly determined, according to the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office.

Police said they then began a search for the woman's 10-month-old son, Joshua Powell, and the boy's father, Jermaine Powell. The boy was discovered unharmed after he was dropped off March 24 at a church near Halsted Street and Roosevelt Road in Chicago by his father, Jermaine Powell, police said.

Jermaine Powell was arrested March 27 in the 2700 block of West Jackson Boulevard and charged with first-degree murder and, with criminal trespass. He also had a warrant issued against him for a parole violation, according to authorities.

The investigation into Benyamin's death continued while Powell was in police custody.

It is possible that more charges will be filed upon Powell's appearance in court next month, police said.

"It was a horrific incident," Scarpelli said. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family. Although it took awhile to get to today, we're pleased there is at least some sense of closure."

The man charged in 2016 killing of son's mom.

Police: Evanston man robbed delivery driver

BY BRIAN L. COX
Pioneer Press

An Evanston man has been charged with felony armed robbery after he threatened a pizza delivery driver with a rock in an attempt to steal pizza, Evanston police announced Jan. 12.

Police said the driver was trying to make a delivery Dec. 10 in the 2100 block of Darrow Avenue when Corey J. Brownlee, 18, of that same block, and another man approached. The men said they ordered the pizza and tried to pay with a credit card, police said.

Brownlee is scheduled to appear in court Jan. 26 at the Skokie courthouse.
Zion DQ owner selling property as company wants

BY LUKE HAMMILL

International Dairy Queen Inc. expects Dairy Queen signage to be removed soon from a location in Zion following the company's decision to cancel its corporate franchise agreement with the local owner, who was accused of directing slurs at a biracial customer in front of her young children on Jan. 4.

"While we do not have specific information regarding immediate next steps, we anticipate that the signage will be removed from the Zion, Ill., location in the next few weeks," International Dairy Queen spokesman Dean Peters said in an email.

The business owner, James Crichton, said Jan. 12 that he is trying to sell the property at 1215 21st St. near Sheridan Road.

"What I'm working on will show up here in a few months," Crichton said, but he did not elaborate.

Crichton, a Lake Villa resident, said during a brief phone conversation that he had "nothing to say" about the incident that prompted a police response and ultimately lost him his Dairy Queen store.

The property was last sold in 2011, according to the Lake County Recorder of Deeds Office. JJC Holdings, which was organized in Colorado and has principal offices in Lake Villa, bought it for $200,000 from a now-dissolved corporation based in Waukegan.

The Dairy Queen was thrown into controversy after Delaneira Ford, 21, of Tinley Park, said Crichton called her and her children racial slurs after she did not receive her full order and asked for a refund.

Crichton, who is white, initially denied the accusations, but a Zion Police Department report issued the next day confirmed Ford's account. The responding officer wrote that Crichton "proudly admitted" to using the racial slurs and said he "would be happy to go to jail over the issue."

Ford posted on Facebook that when she asked Crichton his name, he first said it was "Bill Clinton" and then said, "Better yet, I'm Donald Trump." and told me to go back where I came from."

The responding officer also wrote that Crichton said he is "fed up with black people."

Under the terms of the agreement with International Dairy Queen, the restaurant will remain closed and won't reopen as a Dairy Queen unless ownership changes at that location.

Zion Mayor Al Hill said the city could not revoke Crichton's business license because of the incident, citing free speech protections.

Ford said on Jan. 12 she was doing "all right" and is "glad how the outcome came out."

"The main thing, really, that I got out of this whole experience is the fact that a lot of people, no matter the race, no one thought it was OK, and I had a lot of support from the community behind me," Ford said.

Amen said Jan. 13 that she and Ford weren't sure yet about their next step.

"We are still in the same place we were last week," Amen said. "Dairy Queen and I are still in talks."

News-Sun Reporter Frank Abderholden contributed.
The following items were taken from the Niles Police Department reports. An arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt.

**BATTERY**
- Emmanuel Leon Mays, 18, of the 7500 block of Waukegan Road, was charged with aggravated battery, resisting a police officer, obstruction and violating an order of protection Dec. 24 after police were called to his apartment. According to police, a 17-year-old girl, described as Mays' girlfriend, was present in the apartment even though there was an active order of protection prohibiting Mays from having contact with her. The 17-year-old girl, who was also charged with resisting a police officer, police said.
- Christopher Rodgers, 34, of the 7700 block of North Paulina Street, Chicago, was charged with domestic battery Dec. 29. Rodgers is scheduled to appear in court Jan. 20.

**DRUG POSSESSION**
- A 19-year-old man from Park Ridge was ticketed for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia, and a 19-year-old woman from Park Ridge was ticketed for possession of marijuana Dec. 23 after police began investigating a suspicious car parked in the 8200 block of Washington Street.

**DUI**
- Tatiana Olaru, 26, of the 3400 block of Hollywood Avenue, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence Dec. 23 after police said her car was involved in a crash at Oakton Street and Prospect Avenue. Olaru is scheduled to appear in court Feb. 8.
- Carlos Delgadillo, 27, of the 4900 block of West George Street, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence on Dec. 28 following a traffic stop at Milwaukee Avenue and Dempster Street, police said.
- Mary Tiones, 37, a resident of Morton Grove, was also charged with Resisting a police officer, police said.

**THEFT**
- Bryanna Hernandez, 19, of the 1700 block of Dewes Street, Glenview, was charged with retail theft Dec. 22 after police said she stole items from a store in the 200 block of Golf Mill Center. Hernandez was scheduled to appear in court Jan. 13.
- Two large, flat-screen TVs, valued at $996, were stolen Dec. 23 from a store in the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue.

**PROPERTY DAMAGE**
- Joseph Brewster, 24, of the 300 block of South Crescent Avenue, Park Ridge, was charged with criminal damage to property on Dec. 26 after he was accused of slashing a tire on a car belonging to a share ride driver. The driver reported that his tire was slashed after he dropped Brewster and four other occupants off at a gas station in the 8100 block of Oakton Street because they were becoming belligerent over the ride fare. A woman who was interviewed by police told officers that it was Brewster who cut the car's tire because he was upset.

**D65 lunchroom aide charged with battery involving student**

**BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER**

A lunchroom monitor at an Evanston middle school was arrested Jan. 9 on misdemeanor battery charges after he allegedly picked up a student by his coat collar and pulled his arm back as if to punch the child. The alleged incident happened at Nichols Middle School, which is part of Evanston/Skokie School District 65.

Wallace Darling, of the 3000 block of Stafford Drive in Markham, turned himself in at the Evanston police station on Jan. 9, said Cmdr. Joseph Dugan.

Darling faces misdemeanor battery charges after he allegedly threatened a 13-year-old who fell off him while they were playing basketball together on Dec. 23, Dugan said.

While Darling did not punch the child, the student told his parents about the incident. They told school officials, who reported it to Evanston police, Dugan said.

School District 65 spokeswoman Melissa Messinger said that Darling was placed on unpaid leave, "pending board action."

"The district takes the responsibility of ensuring the safety and well-being of our students very seriously," Messinger told Pioneer Press. "School and district leaders conducted an investigation of the incident and have worked cooperatively with the Evanston Police Department on their investigation."

Darling is to appear in court in Skokie on Feb. 27, Dugan said.

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Families turn out for MLK Day of Service

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

Like in previous years, classes were not in session Jan. 16 at Devonshire Elementary School in Skokie in celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

But this year, dozens of students and their parents — some 70 people in all — showed up at the Skokie elementary school for its first Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service.

"I really didn't know how many families to expect," said Principal Hal Schmeisser, who came up with the idea. "I had high expectations, and I can honestly say that I'm excited because the turnout seems to have met those high expectations."

Inside the school's multipurpose room, students and their families packaged donations that they collected for the Niles Township Food Pantry and Mary Lou's Place, a domestic violence shelter of the YWCA Evanston/North Shore.

Kindergartners donated toothbrushes, first graders toothpaste, second graders deodorant, third graders shampoo, fourth graders body wash and soap, and fifth graders shaving cream.

The students assembled packages of one of each and wrote messages of support that were added.

"These are lessons we want to teach kids and not just this time of year," Schmeisser said. "I know February is Black History Month, but this is just part of the wider conversation about being part of the community."

The event was held in partnership with Devonshire's Parent Teacher Association. In addition to donating and packaging useful items, students and their families were also encouraged to talk about issues of race, equity, and opportunity within schools, society and country, Schmeisser said.

Tables spread throughout the room included sheets with questions meant to encourage informal conversation: "To what extent do you believe Dr. King's vision has been fulfilled?" "What is an experience you have had that you feel was defined by what you look like?" "How do our differences make our school/community a more meaningful place for learning?"

Following the families' service work, Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream Speech" was shown on a screen at the front of the room.

"We live in such a diverse community here and we thought it would be a great idea to recognize such a great man," said Donna Parker, co-president of the Devonshire PTA. "It's very easy to just see this as a day off from school or work, so we thought it would be a wonderful idea to not just see this as a vacation day but a way to honor Dr. King's legacy."

PTA Vice President Nicole Neff said the PTA jumped on the principal's idea once it was presented to them.

"We all agreed that having a day of service was something that we wanted to model for the children," she said. "We want them to realize how good it feels to be of service to people in your community."

Fourth-grader Makayla Valentine said she was feeling good about being there for just this reason.

"I love it that they're doing this," she said. "I think it's good that they're honoring (Dr. King). He was a great man so that's a good thing to do."

Parent Amy Engstrom, who has a third grader at Devonshire and another child at Old Orchard Junior High, said it was important for her child to be there.

"Last year we went to the library and did something related to Martin Luther King," she said. "It's so important to give back and to teach kids about such a great man."

Parent Eric Parker said he believes days like this one teach children how fortunate we are compared to other people in need.

"They get to realize that some people don't have basic things like deodorant and soap," he said. "Children don't always have an idea how some other people live."

Students at the special event were also invited to write down their own dreams for the world on a large poster.

Many listed world peace, and others dreamed of an end to racism and homelessness. Parker's sixth-grade son, Dylan, also said world peace but he couldn't help but add a Bears Super Bowl championship to his dreams as well.

Schmeisser said he hopes Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service becomes an annual staple and expands to other districts.

"Today is two-fold," he said. "One is just to bring people together - to build a space for us to talk, to build relationships and to get to know one another. The second is doing something positive to make a difference in our community."

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press
Niles high schools to pay tribute to MLK

By Lee V. Gaines
Pioneer Press

Students at Niles North High School plan to speak about the ongoing fight for racial equality in America this week while honoring the legacy of civil rights activist Martin Luther King Jr.

Niles North teacher Pankaj Sharma, who organized the after-school event, said the special Jan. 19 event is part of a nationwide day of action campaign spearheaded by the American Federation of Teachers and The Alliance to Reclaim Our Schools.

AFT is a labor union that represents teachers in Niles Township High School District 219 and in other districts across the country. The Alliance to Reclaim Our Schools is a group of various pro-public education organizations. Adult and youth speakers at the event will discuss King's legacy and his contributions to public education, Sharma said.

Niles North students Bella Levavi, 17; Maggie Lavengood, 17; and Mina Mari, 16, are scheduled to speak. All three said they got involved in the event through the school's Immigration Rights Club.

Levavi, a junior at the high school, said she'll speak on the importance of youth activism and employing King's strategies for nonviolent, peaceful protest. She said the timing of the event — a day before President-elect Donald Trump's inauguration — is significant.

"I think the reason why we picked that date is so we can have an event talking about how to be politically active and try to be empowered when right now, and back when Martin Luther King Jr. lived, these were both times when people felt alienated and like they didn't have a voice," she said.

In addition to honoring King's legacy and learning what they can from it, Mari, a junior, said the event is an opportunity to come together for a show of unity.

"The unity piece is really important to help show people in America when we have a leader that's really divisive, that young people and students of any color, sexuality and gender can be united together," said Lavengood, a junior, who will speak about how to be a white ally in the fight for racial justice and equality.

Sharma said the event will be an opportunity for students and staff to reflect on the progress that has been made since King's assassination and "the areas where progress still needs to be made," particularly when it comes to racial segregation in schools.

Students and staff at Skokie's Niles West High School would also honor King during double assemblies dubbed "Honoring King's Legacy Through Youth Activism," according to District 219's interim director of equity, Alana Laury.

The event featured spoken word pieces from two students, a poem written and performed by a teacher, performances by the Niles West Orchesis Dance Company and the Niles West Master Singers and Choir and a speech about the importance of youth activism by the school's athletic director, she said.

Laury said students are "really captivated" by the speakers and performances and the aim "is to celebrate King's legacy."

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Waukegan Road development moves forward

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

A seven-story residential and commercial building is scheduled to be built on Waukegan Road in Morton Grove now that a long-time existing building has been torn down, Morton Grove officials say.

An obsolete office building existed there for more than 50 years even though there still had been a few remaining tenants in the building as late as August, said Morton Grove Village Administrator Ralph Czerwinski.

The development project, however, had been in the works for some two years, he said, so occupancy in the building, located in the 8700 block of Waukegan Road, had been dwindling, knowing what was coming.

Demolition of the building occurred in November and December to clear the way for construction of the new development, he said.

The torn-down building was once home to a Ford diagnostic center and then a bank, but it had been a skeleton of its old self in recent years, Czerwinski said.

"This is a major project for the village and hopefully it will spur other development in the (Waukegan Road Corridor)," Czerwinski said.

Estimated to cost $55 million, the new development will include seven stories with 184 luxury apartment units along with 14,000 square feet of commercial space, according to the village.

"The redevelopment of this property with these amazing luxury apartments and new commercial space is one of, if not the largest redevelopment projects within the village of Morton Grove in the past several years," Morton Grove Mayor Dan DiMaria said during a ceremony last year before the demolition took place.

The project is being overseen by Heartland Real Estate Partners, which DiMaria said has "an incredible track record for building and managing highly desirable residential and commercial developments."

Village leaders anticipate that the project will generate nearly $900,000 per year in new real estate taxes as well as new sales tax revenues. In addition to improving the streetscape along Waukegan Road, they said, it will create 150 jobs during construction and 20 new permanent ones.

"In my 60 years of building projects all over the United States, I've never had the kind and good reception that we've had in Morton Grove, and I really appreciate that," Heartland Real Estate Partners President David Husman said at the same ceremony.

According to Heartland Real Estate Partners, the construction will be performed in phases, with the residential structure to be built first.

Czerwinski said the next step is creating architectural drawings and securing proper permits for the construction phase.

Heartland Real Estate Partners estimated groundbreaking for construction to begin in May and occupancy of the building in fall of 2018.

Landscaper gives gardening tips

BY DANIEL I. DORFMAN
Pioneer Press

Even as snow can be found on the ground, some people are still looking for gardening tips.

In an hour-long program on Jan. 11, native plant landscaper Monica Buckley, the owner of Chicago's Red Stem Native Landscapes, spoke about the types of plants that will not only thrive in shade, but are native to the region and thus beneficial to the environment.

During the program, sponsored by the Friends of the Green Bay Trail and held at the Glencoe Park District's Takiff Center headquarters, Buckley ticked off a number of possibilities for the aspiring shade gardener such as wild geranium, merry bells or spring beauty.

"They are part of the native habitat, which means they co-evolve with bees and butterflies in the region and thus support increasingly threatened species, such as the monarch butterfly," Buckley said.

Buckley said some flowers that used to be abundant and thrived in shade are now being crowded out by invasive species, such as garlic mustard.

She cautioned against using ground covers, or plants that are low growing, such as English ivy and winter creeper, which are commonly found at garden centers.

"You see green earlier in the season than is normal for the area's plants," Buckley said, noting that the buckthorn shades out other species.

Removing buckthorn is an aim for the FGBT as the organization seeks to restore Glencoe's portion of the Green Bay Trail.

FGBT board member Diane Greening said talks such as the one featuring Buckley bring out a larger point.

"We want to restore the Green Bay Trail, but we also want to have that bigger view that it all matters," she said. "What you do in your own yard matters."

Among those in the audience was Glencoe's Anne Frank.

"I got excited about the idea of growing more native plants in my yard. I have a few and I want to help support the environment," Frank said.

Also in the crowd was Glencoe's Eileen Sirkin, who has a shade garden.

She came away with ideas for different options when she starts to plant again.

"I'm always looking for different plants that you can plant in your garden," Sirkin said.

Despite the January chill, the talk served as a reminder that spring would eventually come.

"The weather will get better," Sirkin said. "We will be able to enjoy our garden."

Daniel I. Dorfman is a freelancer for Pioneer Press.
Area residents attend Obama's farewell event in Chicago

Staff report

Jan. 19 marks the last full day of Barack Obama's two-term presidency, but several people from the north suburbs joined scores of others last week to bid farewell to Obama at a special event held at McCormick Place.

"My fellow Americans, it has been the honor of my life to serve you," he said in his Jan. 10 final address to the nation.

Kristen Gibert, 32, was standing shoulder-to-shoulder in a packed, gated off section of the venue when the president spoke. The Evanston restaurant manager had stood in line starting at 5:30 a.m. the Saturday before to get a ticket to hear the speech live.

"I was there for 2012...and wanted to be here to say goodbye," said Gibert, a manager at Bluestone restaurant in the north suburb.

Gibert praises Obama for his handling of the economy over the course of his administration.

It "has improved significantly," she said.

Katie Shactman, 34, said she, too, didn't want to miss the opportunity to be in the same room with Obama one last time. A friend gave her a ticket to attend the event, and Shactman, who works at NorthShore Skokie Hospital, could easily see Obama from jumbo screens hoisted overhead where she was standing.

"I've been an Obama fan since Day One," she said. "He gives me a sense of hope."

She said she is concerned about the fate of the Affordable Care Act passed during Obama's administration. The controversial plan, among other things, made health insurance available to millions of people who were previously under- and uninsured.

"And of course I had to be here tonight," she said.

The Indonesia native became emotional recalling the part of Obama's speech where he said, "I reject discrimination against Muslim Americans, who are just as patriotic as we are."

Kertayuda said she came to the U.S. from her predominantly Muslim homeland when she was 4. Now, she is a case worker for the Illinois Department of Human Services.

"I'm an immigrant, my family came here as immigrants and it's hard," a tearful Kertayuda said. "He inspires me to know there is a better future for myself and for all of the others that are just trying to make a better life for themselves and their children."

The president's farewell address was billed as call to action.

Sheila Hickey of Evanston said she heard the call and plans to heed it.

She got an emailed invitation to attend the farewell because she had previously volunteered for Obama's election campaigns.

Hickey called it "bittersweet" listening to Obama address the nation this final time.

This is a man who has spoken to us intellectually and emotionally," she said. "I'm fired up and ready to go."
NEWS

Driver of stolen SUV killed in single-vehicle crash

BY KATHY ROUTLIFFE
AND FRANK
ABDERHOLDEN
Tribune Newspapers

A Spring Grove woman is dead following a single-vehicle crash on the Edens Expressway in Northfield on Jan. 11.

Illinois State Police said Amy Michelle Keel, 33, was driving south on I-94 in a 2003 Chevrolet Tahoe that had been reported stolen in Waukegan that morning. Waukegan police could not confirm if Keel stole the SUV.

According to Trooper Woodrow Montgomery, the vehicle was traveling at a high rate of speed when the driver attempted to change lanes and instead drove off the road and onto an embankment near the Willow Road interchange in Northfield at about 12:15 p.m.

Keel wasn't wearing a seatbelt when the Tahoe hit a fence and then a light pole, Montgomery said. She was taken to Evanston Hospital, where she was pronounced dead, he said.

According to Montgomery, the middle and far right lane of the southbound Edens was temporarily closed after the crash. Northfield police provided support to the state police during the investigation. Police Chief William Lustig said Jan. 12.

Commander Joe Florip of the Waukegan police said the vehicle was stolen from the Speedway at Route 120 and Green Bay Road. The owner of the vehicle had left the keys inside it while going inside the station, he said;
when the owner returned, the vehicle was gone.

According to Waukegan police, there was no vehicle chase by the department. Montgomery said Jan. 13 that to his knowledge, no other police department gave chase either.

According to Lake County court records, Keel had arrests in the county for possession of a controlled substance, DUI, possession of paraphernalia, theft and possession of stolen property.

Kathy Routliffe is a Pioneer Press reporter. Frank Anderholden is a Lake County News-Sun reporter.

Twitter@pioneer_kathy

Police: Niles grocery store owner arrested for battery

BY BRIAN L. COX
Pioneer Press

A Niles grocery store owner is scheduled for a February court date after he was charged with weapons offenses and battery for allegedly assaulting a customer following an argument over a purchase, authorities said.

Linn Alexander, 37, of the 9200 block of Luna Avenue in Morton Grove, was charged with battery, criminal damage to property and unlawful use of a weapon last month after he allegedly hit a customer in the face following an argument in his grocery store, located in the 9000 block of Golf Road in Niles, according to a police report.

The alleged victim, 49, and from Glenview, told police he went into the store to buy some items but
then decided to leave without buying anything because he thought the taxes were too high, the report said.

According to the police report, Alexander "lost control" and hit the customer after the two squabbled over the 73 cents tax on what the customer wanted to purchase, according to the police report.

Alexander told police the customer made derogatory comments to the store owner and pushed him as the customer exited the door Alexander was holding open for the customer. Alexander said he had asked the customer to leave, the report states.

Further, according to police, Alexander followed the man outside, struck him in the face multiple times and stepped on and broke the victim's glasses.

Alexender then fled the scene in his car, the police report indicates.

He eventually returned to the store where police placed him under arrest and searched his vehicle, according to police. A loaded Glock 43 was found in the glove compartment of Alexander's car, police said.

The alleged victim was treated for his injuries at Luther General Hospital in Park Ridge and released, the report said.

Alexander is free on bond and is scheduled to appear in court Feb. 6 at the Skokie courthouse, court records show.

Reached by phone, the alleged victim declined to comment on the incident and Alexander did not return calls seeking comment.

Brian L. Cox is a freelancer.
Mom to remove girl over racist phone message

Staff report

The mother of an African-American student at Elm Middle School said she is pulling her daughter out of the Elmwood Park school after a note was left in the girl's locker telling her to call a phone number that led to a racist message.

In a phone interview Jan. 10, Shonerka Howard said there had been previous incidents at the school, but none that rose to the level of Jan. 9, when she said her daughter, who is 12 years old and in 7th grade, returned to school after winter break and opened her locker to find the note.

"I made the decision to take her out of school when that happened," she said. "That's enough."

She said she was concerned for her daughter's well-being after getting the message.

"To me, if someone could do that, I don't know what other kids in school (might) do," Howard said.

Elmwood Park police Chief Frank Fagiano said a police report was made, "and it is currently being investigated."

Saying they first heard about the incidents from the family on Jan. 10, school officials say they have launched an investigation. School officials are reviewing footage from video cameras in the hallway to see whether anyone was around the student's locker, Superintendent Kevin Anderson said.

Howard said her daughter, in her first year in the Elmwood Park school system, texted her after finding a note inside her locker advising her to call a certain phone number. She said that her daughter then called the number and heard a pre-recorded message that claimed to come from the Ku Klux Klan and contained offensive language and a white-power message.

Anderson said school officials were unsure when the note was placed in the girl's locker.

"So it's very possible it was put in yesterday morning," he said Jan. 10, "but it also could have been put in before we left (for winter break after) Dec. 22."

Officials have more reviewing to do tracking back to that date, Anderson said.

He said school officials had not received any reports of past bullying incidents involving the student "and are trying to learn more who could have done this."

On Jan. 12, Anderson said that students at the school had put up Post-It notes on the student's locker expressing support for the girl. He said students said they were angry "anybody would do this against the girl."

The investigation will include a social worker interviewing friends of the students and others to learn more about the incidents, Anderson said. On Jan. 12, he said officials had not yet found out who had left the note that caused the girl to leave the school.

"We're very appalled any one of our kids would put such a (note) in another student's locker," Anderson said. "It obviously was intended to make her feel bad. ... The message was very nasty, and we don't want anything like that in our schools."

Howard said her daughter had experienced previous incidents with racial overtones at the school, at 7607 W. Cortland St., but more along the level of what "you would expect kids at that level to do."

The message on the phone "had a whole political thing to it," she said, raising the level of her concerns.

"This is just a hateful message for a child who really was just basically attending school and not bothering anybody," she said. "She's basically there for her education."

Anderson said the girl has been a good student, involved in school activities, according to reports, "and we're sorry to see the child go."

Freelance reporter Alex V. Hernandez contributed to this report.
Some people might go skiing or head to a warm weather climate for the holidays. But one Glencoe family spent their winter break traveling to another continent to donate goods to charity, and then to another unconventional destination for their son's bar mitzvah.

Toting duffel bags filled with more than 1,000 pounds of medical supplies, clothing, shoes and sports equipment, husband and wife Mike Rosenthal and Annice Moses, along with their four children, traveled to Ethiopia in late December. The family had traveled to the African nation twice before.

"It is easy to feel Ethiopia is so far away, but when you know there is a kid in Ethiopia that needs vitamins or a pair of shoes and you can bring that bottle of vitamins and supply the pair of shoes, it connects you to a child that initially felt so far away," Moses said.

Moses and Rosenthal have made charitable efforts part of their lives for the past two decades, even before they were married, volunteering in Chicago's Englewood neighborhood.

Today, after 20 years of marriage and now with four children in tow, the call to help others remains the same.

"What is the point of being alive if you don't make the world a better place for other people," Moses asked. "I want my kids to think about that, too."

To prepare for the 2016 Ethiopia trip, Moses collected goods from friends, family and strangers for several months, storing the items throughout the house and garage.

The family was met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia's capital, by representatives of the aid groups receiving the goods. The family then traveled to an orphanage in Addis Ababa, where son Ryder, who about to have his bar mitzvah, was struck by the dilapidated nature of the community home's basketball hoop.

Ryder decided to send all the gift money he would receive for his bar mitzvah to pay for a new hoop. "They really wanted a basketball hoop," Ryder said. "It's perfectly fine for me to give up my money to people who are less fortunate."

His mother was thrilled with her son's decision. "It was wonderful for me, as a parent, that Ryder came back and he recognizes there is more work to be done in the world," Moses said.

After three days in Ethiopia, which included a trip to a wildlife rescue refuge, the family took off for Israel, where Ryder would celebrate his bar mitzvah.

It was a low-key affair, as the family was joined by a small group of friends and relatives. It was a similar path taken by his older brother, BJ, two years ago.

"Your child is going through this transitional experience and where else would it be more transitional than Israel? It is a special place," Moses said

Over the next few days, there was some sightseeing throughout Israel before flying back to the U.S.

While still fighting off jet lag, Moses said she hopes her children remember what they did in Ethiopia for the rest of their lives.

"You have to make the world a better place," she said. "It is not going to happen on its own."

Daniel I. Dorfman is a freelancer for Pioneer Press.
Why do we report some suicides but not others?

BY JOHN PUTERBAUGH
Pioneer Press

In any given week, at least a handful of deaths throughout the Chicago area are determined to have been suicides. The majority of these deaths are never reported in the news. That's not to say these suicides aren't significant, or that the stories of the people and lives behind them aren't worth telling. Generally, when these suicides are committed at home or in another private place, journalists will weigh the privacy interests of these individuals' family and friends over the newsworthiness and interest among the general public. But every once in a while, circumstances align in a way that moves journalists to report that an individual took his or her own life. Such was the case with last week's reporting on a Northwestern University women's basketball player who was found dead in her room, with the cause of death yet unknown.

When I think about how rarely our readers see us report on the common occurrence of suicide, I wonder if there might be an opportunity to share a bit more on the process taking place on our side of things. Our Pioneer Press readers simply aren't aware of or reading about most suicides that take place and deserve some insight into why that's the case.

In the Northwestern case, the woman's death was reported on a Monday, with the cause of death yet unknown. When a college athlete for a notable school like Northwestern dies, that's going to be deemed newsworthy and worth reporting for our readers, even while we pursue more information about the circumstances of the death.

The following day, we learned via ruling by the medical examiner's office that this young woman's death had been deemed a suicide. At that point, having already reported that she'd been found dead the day before, we had to decide whether to follow up and report that she'd in fact committed suicide, or leave her cause of death unknown to a great many readers who already showed strong interest in the story.

As a prominent college athlete, we'd already decided this young woman's death was newsworthy and merited reporting. With that in mind, and weighing the public interest against her family's reasonable expectation of privacy, we decided it was appropriate and newsworthy based on the overall public nature of the situation to publish the manner of her death.

Reporting on a suicide, or any other death for that matter, is never simple. Reporters and editors talk these situations over extensively. Some factors we look at in considering the newsworthiness of a suicide or death include whether the person was well-known or the circumstances of the death were of public interest, and the impact on the person's family.

It's important we always remember that the decisions we make have the potential to cause emotional pain. Some of us have experienced our own pain from losing a family member to suicide. Six years ago, my uncle took his own life. Our family was shocked, and I can't imagine how much tougher it might have been for my cousins, dad and grandparents had the situation been reported in the news. But as a private citizen with no prominent public involvement or reputation, my uncle's suicide was likely viewed as a private family situation rather than a newsworthy story by any journalists who might have come across it.

I do think this personal experience informs my view of these situations as an editor for Pioneer Press, along with my ongoing journalistic training and experience. It helps me think about how I'd talk to the mom or brother of someone whose suicide we reported if they called me after reading a story we published. I'd want to know I was thoughtful about the actions we took that potentially added to someone's pain.

Though we do not report most suicides we see every day on the medical examiner reports, they each strike me with a sadness that gets me thinking about those they left behind. No matter the broader circumstances of any one suicide, I think about missed chances to save someone's life. From my own experience, I also know there might not have been any clear chances at all.

Most of all, I wish I just saw fewer suicides on the reports.

For more information on suicide prevention, visit suicidepreventionlife line.org. For the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, call 1-800-273-8255.

John Puterbaugh is the editor of Chicago Tribune's Pioneer Press local news network. You can reach him at jputerbaugh@chicagotribune.com or 312-322-3333.

Free speech protects your right to be a jerk

PAUL SASSONE

It can be painful, running into your own principles.

But good principles must be able to endure a little pain now and then. These collisions don't happen a lot. But, there are times when principles and the world smack right into each other.

Like on a recent Sunday. I've always believed freedom of thought and expression are among the greatest of principles. Tolerance for different, or even "wrong" opinions of others may be Western civilization's best gift to the world.

But, as I entered the grocery store that Sunday I wasn't thinking about principles. I needed American cheese, Coke, doughnuts and other such health foods.

It was there I ran into my principles.

The guy was young, barely in his 20s. He was walking toward me so I could see what was stamped on the front of his baseball cap. The cap's message was something I can't repeat here. There were two words. The last word was "you."

Now, there were families in the store. There were children in the store. The guy must have known there would be before selecting his store-going ensemble.

What was the point of flaunting such aggressive obscenity? Perhaps aggression is the point. Perhaps he gets a jolt from being offensive. Who knows?

What I knew was that his in-your-face offensiveness made me angry.

I wanted to say something to this guy. I really wanted to tell him off. But, he probably would have launched into an obscene tirade, maybe even knocked me on my aging butt.

I merely mumbled to myself that there ought to be a law against such hats.

Mid-mumble, though, I realized there actually shouldn't be such a law.

I remembered that tolerance of "wrong" beliefs and ugly expression applies to me, too.

Don't mistake me. I still think this guy is a nasty jerk and a shame to the parents who raised him.

That he offends me is not reason enough for a law against his choice of wardrobe. If people weren't allowed to say or do things that offended someone else, no one would be able to say or do anything.

Better too much freedom of expression than not enough.

So, enjoy your obscene hat.

Jerk.

Oh, and I apologize to anyone offended by my use of the word "butt."

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.
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Is anyone else concerned that Americans are getting played?

RANDY BLASER

Don't you get the feeling we're being played? I'm talking about the revelations of Russian involvement in the 2016 election and now the revelations before Donald Trump's inauguration that there could be a dossier of information that might be used to compromise or blackmail him. As I watch the drama unfold, I keep thinking of my old journalism professor at Boston University, Larry Martin, who taught international journalism there in the 1970s and 1980s.

That was his second career. His first career was as a communist spy. But more on that later.

For now, the conventional wisdom is that Russian hacking sought to influence the election in Trump's favor, supposedly because it would be for their benefit. Now we learn it's possible they have material that could be used to blackmail Trump. Is it for Trump and against Trump? What's going on?

First, the election was not hacked. If anything, the Russians hacked the Democratic National Committee, which led to the release of very unflattering emails between party officials. Now we have the revelations against Trump, which has his enemies gleefully saying they knew it. It all smacks to me of a massive disinformation campaign aimed to mislead us, distract us, plant doubt in our public institutions and to basically weaken the United States going forward. I'm not saying that any or all of what we've heard so far is false. Some of it could be.

But I am saying that what's going on could be orchestrated to damage America, and Clinton and Trump and their willing supporters are just tools of the campaign.

Which brings me back to Professor Martin. I wonder what he would have to say about this. As a former Czech spy, working for the Czech arm of the KGB, Martin's specialty was disinformation. He defected during the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968 and years later began teaching would-be reporters that spies often relied on journalist to spread misinformation campaigns. He taught us to be wary of documents, especially those damaging to western diplomats and actors, because they could be forged. He had forged many such documents himself as a Czech spy.

He told us the tale of what was known as Operation Neptune, where documents listing supposed Nazi collaborators were doctored to look as if they were from the 1940s and submerged for 20 years, placed in a chest and dumped in a lake in Czechoslovakia. Oh, and he helped journalists find it. He told us of a book he wrote that named all the CIA agents working as supposed diplomats in embassies across Europe. But they weren't CIA agents. They were really U.S. diplomats, now compromised.

He laughed about finding an English translation of the expose in a used bookstore in Cambridge years after he came to the United States. These things can have long shelf life, he said. So I am proceeding with caution and reserving judgment as we hear about all these revelations. It sounds so much like the disinformation campaigns the former spy turned professor told us about.

Do I dismiss all of it? Certainly, not. In an academic journal called Per-

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.
Intelligence agencies go public

By Arthur I. Cyr

"Success cannot be advertised; failure cannot be explained. In the work of intelligence, heroes are underrated and unsung, often even among their own fraternity."

That was how President Dwight D. Eisenhower summed up the challenge, the frustration and the duty of intelligence professionals. He was speaking on Nov. 3, 1959, at the ceremony to lay the cornerstone of the new Central Intelligence Agency headquarters in Langley, Va. In that era, there was no significant debate about the need for intelligence pros to operate in secret.

Shortly after New Year's Day, the heads of the CIA, FBI, NSA and James Clapper, director of National Intelligence, launched a public relations offensive to argue Russia, including President Vladimir Putin, hacked into email from the Hillary Clinton presidential campaign. With great fanfare, a meeting was held with President-elect Donald Trump to present evidence behind the conclusions. With equal hype, Clapper and friends testified before the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee.

Welcome to the latest reality TV show.

Why did this happen? Certainly not primarily because of focus on United States national security. If the security of the nation were paramount, the agency heads should have said as little as possible publicly beyond confirming Russian involvement.

In the future, the top spooks could help political campaigns to grow up and be discreet. Clinton emails are filled with arrogance, entitlement and gossip. Did the leaks affect the 2016 presidential election? Perhaps, but if so, that is because of the contents of the emails. Shrewd politicians avoid putting potentially damaging statements in writing.

The most plausible reason why the officials went public with lights, cameras and media melodrama has to do with self-protection in the political warfare of Washington. Politicians want to score points with anxious voters, and Putin is one scary bear. Agency directors are defending their turf. Clapper's post of National Intelligence director was created in 2004 to coordinate intelligence agencies across the board.

In 2013, he denied before Congress that our agencies collect data on Americans. The next year, WikiLeaks released information from Edward Snowden showing data was collected.

Domestic surveillance is hardly new. In 1967, amid civil rights and anti-Vietnam War protests, Army Gen. William P. Yarborough, assistant chief of staff for intelligence, sent an unprecedented request to the NSA to collect intelligence on the rapidly escalating domestic unrest. This sparked extensive domestic surveillance involving the Army and CIA as well as the NSA. In the following decade, the illegal program was exposed by Congress and stopped. Also in 2013, the U.S. was shown publicly to have been spying on foreign leaders. This time, Clapper aggressively defended the practice rather than saying as little as possible. Powerful Sen. Diane Feinstein, D-Calif., the chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee, was sufficiently outraged to demand a review of all intelligence agencies. Minor changes followed. In earlier periods, intelligence work involved electronic and human surveillance.

Today, our government de-emphasizes human agents. In World War II and the Cold War, that dimension was vital. It still is, as our British partners well understand.

U.S. Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., a successful tech entrepreneur, has been an insightful and effective critic of current inertia. Last year, he strenuously opposed FBI legal efforts to try to force Apple to decrypt the iPhone.

Arthur I. Cyr is Clausen distinguished professor at Carthage College and author of "After the Cold War." acyr@carthage.edu

TASOS KATOPDIS/GETTY/AFP

James Clapper, Director of National Intelligence, testifies during a Jan. 10 Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on Russian Intelligence Activities.

The money raised provides life-changing programs that offer tutoring and mentoring for kids, a supportive place to go when coping with domestic abuse, and job training and literacy classes so the unemployed can find jobs. It's a great way to

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TASOS KATOPDIS/GETTY/AFP

James Clapper, Director of National Intelligence, testifies during a Jan. 10 Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on Russian Intelligence Activities.
“ONCE YOU STOP LEARNING, YOU START DYING.”
- Albert Einstein

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Children see China
Panda reserve, tea ceremony part of new museum exhibit

BY SAMANTHA NELSON
Pioneer Press

Kohl Children's Museum president Sheridan Turner said she'll never forget the morning she opened "Japan and Nature," their first culturally specific exhibit. She was at the museum early for a TV interview and asked a woman who had come with her family for help pronouncing the name of a town spotlighted in the exhibit.

"She said 'That's the town that I was born in and I am so thrilled that you have this exhibit because it gives me the opportunity to share my culture and where I grew up with my children since we can't afford to all go to Japan.'"

Now the Glenview museum is giving more families the chance to share their culture or to team about an entirely new one through the exhibit "Children's China: Celebrating Culture, Character and Confucius" which runs from Jan. 20 through April 25.

The space is divided into six immersive environments: a home, market, restaurant, park, school and panda reserve. Quotes from Confucius are presented throughout, such as "young people should honor their parents and respect their elders" in the home section. "An underlying moral thread that runs through the whole exhibit is the story of Confucius, the great inspirational teacher and moral leader that is still highly regarded in China today," Turner said.

Each space is full of interactive activities for kids. At the restaurant they cook in a wok using bamboo tools, learn about the tea ceremony and try picking up fake food using chopsticks. It exposes kids to traditional Chinese spoons and bowls that are very different from Western counterparts, and teaches the importance of a healthy meal by making kids think about what they're eating.

"It keeps very much in theme with what we love to do, to teach children or expose children to the fact that we're all the same in many, many ways," Turner said. The market is similar to the museum's permanent Whole Foods Market exhibit, letting kids shop for fish, fruits and vegetables. It teaches role playing, sharing and the math skills employed in counting, sorting and weighing.

"What the children are seeing is that this is like going to the grocery store they've got, except that it's set up differently and has different produce," Turner said.

At the school section, kids learn how Chinese words are created by combining characters that each have their own meaning — like the characters for tree and wood coming together to form forest. They can try to write Chinese characters and match them to English words. Turner's favorite section is the panda reserve, which compliments the museum's permanent Pet Vet and Baby Nursery areas. Kids don a veterinary jacket, weigh and feed stuffed panda cubs, and assign them names using the Chinese characters.

Another component that's sure to be popular is a Chinese dragon costume, which kids can don with the help of staff and go on parade. The museum is working with the Chicago Chinese American Council and Chinese Consulate to come up with appropriate activities to celebrate the Chinese New Year on Jan. 28.

"It's a gorgeous exhibit," Turner said. "It's very rich in its activities with all the elements we look for with the richness of language, math, social-emotional learning, role playing. It's really beautifully done."
The Chicago Gargoyle Brass and Organ Ensemble will perform at St. John Brebeuf Catholic Church in Niles Jan. 29.

Chicago Gargoyle Brass and Organ Ensemble presents “French Symphonies and Tales from Space”

When: 3 p.m. Jan. 29
Where: St. John Brebeuf Church, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles
Tickets: No admission charge; donations will be accepted.
Information: 847-966-8145; www.sjbrebeuf.org

Audience members will be taken on a musical journey from France to the far reaches of the universe when Chicago Gargoyle Brass and Organ Ensemble presents “French Symphonies and Tales from Space” Jan. 29 at St. John Brebeuf Catholic Church in Niles. The concert is part of the Musica Lumina series organized by the church’s music director, Marek Rachelski. Rachelski’s recording engineer, Hudson Fair at Atelier HudSonic, recommended the group to him.

“I like their sense of adventure because they commission people to write arrangements of music for brass and organ,” Rachelski said. “Their collective sound is excellent.”

The group will perform some innovative pieces from their most recent CD, “Flourishes, Tales and Symphonies: Music for Brass and Organ,” as well as selections that will be recorded on their next CD, which will focus on French music.

“Almost everything we do, we commission to be either composed anew or transcribed from other literature for brass and organ. That’s what defines us,” said Rodney Holmes, artistic director and tuba player of the ensemble formed in 1992 by faculty and students at the University of Chicago. It has since been transformed into a group of classically trained musicians specializing in symphonic music. Six or seven members of the 15-musician group will perform at St. John Brebeuf.

The concert will begin with C.M. Widor’s “Salve fac populum tuum,” followed by Henri Mulet’s “Tu fac populum tuum,” followed by C.M. Widor’s “Salve fac populum tuum,” followed by C.M. Widor’s “Salve fac populum tuum.”

The concert will feature Marsyas, the young bride of Pluto, the Roman ruler of the underworld.

For Eris, the Greek goddess of strife and discord, the composer created an organ solo in which dissonances keep increasing. Makekame reflects a dangerous race that occurs among the Rapa Nui people of Easter Island.

The program will contain each of the stories.

The second half of the concert will feature Maurice Ravel’s “Pavane for a Dead Princess,” arranged by Craig Garner. “It was famous for being played at Princess Diana’s funeral,” Holmes noted.

The concert will conclude with Alexandre Guilmant’s “Symphony No. 1 for Organ and Orchestra, Op. 42,” arranged by Craig Garner, who converted the piece for organ and brass.
Joys, challenges of winter camping

While it's less crowded, getting back to nature during the coldest months of the year comes with challenges.
Creativity and ease

Tips for cooking dinner for friends

By Judy Buchenot
Naperville Sun

While attending Glenbrook South High School in Glenview, Debbie Cebold had a close friendship with three of her classmates. After graduation, though, everyone went their separate ways.

Cebold and her husband ended up moving away from the area for a few years but when they moved back to Illinois, she contacted her old friends.

"It all started when one of us would call the other and say, 'What are you doing this weekend?' and the other one would say, 'Nothing. We're losers.' We started calling ourselves the Losers Club and began to get together regularly.

The Losers Club has been meeting quarterly for more than 30 years. "We each take a turn hosting," said Cebold, who now lives in Downers Grove. "We bring out the crystal and fine china for each other. The host takes care of dinner and then one person brings wine, another brings an appetizer and another brings dessert."

Cebold said that said none of them are gourmet cooks, but they're all good cooks. She enjoys cooking for her friends because getting together is "more than just doing something." For the December get-together, Cebold said she'd never done before, a goat cheese-stuffed chicken breast. "The great thing about it is that if it turns out badly, it will be OK if we just order pizza," she said. "That's what it means to have great friends."

When Cebold is having friends over for dinner, she likes to pick dishes that don't require last-minute preparation. "I don't want to be stuck in the kitchen so I do everything ahead of time," she said. When she makes the salad recipe she got from her friend Linda, she has all the ingredients ready to be tossed with a dressing she also makes ahead of time.

Debbie Cebold's Culinary Cue

When rolling out a pie crust, sprinkle water on the counter. Place a sheet of plastic wrap on the damp counter. The drops of water help keep the plastic wrap from moving. Roll out the pie dough on the plastic wrap. Lift the plastic wrap to move the pie crust to the pie pan and easily flip the crust over into the pan.

"The salad has almonds in it and I have found that it is worth the time to toast them," she says. "I do toss them into a frying pan and cook them over low heat until they turn a golden brown. I shake the pan and flip them so that they brown evenly." The crisp texture complements the chow mein noodles that are also in the salad.

When it comes to time in the kitchen, Cebold most enjoys baking. "I love to make cookies and desserts," she said. "My mom passed away when I was 19 so I didn't have a lot of recipes from her. I used to look for new cookie recipes each year at Christmas and try a few. If my family liked them, I would make them again. One that I have made over and over is Buckeye Balls. They are so simple but so good. I got a video last week of my 2 1/2 year old grandson Sam learning how to make them."

The no-bake treat is made with peanut butter. "You have to use regular peanut butter, though. It doesn't work with the organic brands," she said.

Cebold has also found that the recipe works better with margarine instead of butter. The mixture is shaped into balls and dipped in melted chocolate chips. "Dipping them is easier if you have a deep, narrow container like a tea cup," she said.

The Buckeye Balls are gluten-free and can be kept for several weeks in the refrigerator. Cebold usually places them on a platter with other sweets when entertaining guests. Cebold shares both no-fuss recipes for others to try.

Linda's Salad

Makes 8 servings.

1 cup sliced almonds
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1/4 cup sugar
2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
2 dashes pepper
2 dashes hot sauce (Cebold uses Tabasco)
15 ounces mandarin oranges, drained
1 cup chow mein noodles
3/4 cup raisins or craisins
3 6-ounce packages of butter lettuce

1. Toast almonds in a frying pan over low heat until golden brown. Cool and place in an airtight container until ready to use. Place salt, vegetable oil, sugar, parsley, vinegar, pepper and Tabasco sauce in a blender. Mix until smooth. When ready to make salad, toss oranges, chow mein noodles, raisins, almonds and lettuce in a bowl. Drizzle on dressing to taste. Toss and serve.

Buckeye Balls

Makes about 60 balls depending on the size.

1 1/2 cups creamy peanut butter
1/2 cup margarine
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 pound (about 2 1/4 cups) powdered sugar
9 ounces semi-sweet chocolate chips
2 tablespoons Crisco shortening

1. Mix peanut butter, margarine, vanilla and powdered sugar until smooth and creamy. This can be done by hand or with a mixer. Form into 1 inch balls and place on a tray lined with waxed paper. Refrigerate for about 1 1/2 hours or until firm.

2. Melt chocolate chips and shortening in a double boiler or in the microwave. Stir to combine. Place in a deep container. Dip each ball about three-quarters of the way into the chocolate mixture. Place on waxed paper and refrigerate until firm. Remove from wax paper and store in a covered container in the refrigerator.
Sunday supper goes glam with modern-day roasting

By Veronica Hinke
Pioneer Press

There's nothing like a comforting pot roast on a chilly winter day. Just the smells and heat from an oven with food roasting inside can evoke memories of cozy Sunday suppers.

But modern chefs are going beyond the classic Sunday roast menu to introduce newer, fancier ways to showcase roasted foods. From scrumptious, colorful medleys of diced, roasted squash and gently caramelized Brussels sprouts, to jumbo shrimp stuffed with roasted red bell peppers, the art of roasting is being applied to more and more exciting recipes.

"Roasting is a great way to cook a wide variety of foods from fruits and vegetables to meat and fish," said Glenview House Executive Chef Jeff Modica. "You get a wonderful golden caramel texture on the outside and a moist juicy inside."

That caramelization and light crunch is created because water is absorbed in the roasting process, encouraging sugars to concentrate.

Pan-roasted chicken and roasted duck breast are on Modica's menu at Glenview House. "Both the duck breast and pan chicken begin with a hot seal in the pan with some oil and they are seasoned with some salt, skin side down. They are then placed in the oven and allowed to roast. Halfway through the cooking process they are turned over on the other side and roasted till they are done," he said.

Modica said carry-over cooking is important with roasting. This is the time immediately after food is removed from the heat when it will continue to cook in residual heat for a while. The resting portion of the process is essential to allow the food to retain its juices and moisture. To prevent food from overcooking, pull the meat out of the oven sooner than when you think it is completely done to account for the carry-over cooking.

For seasoning, Modica suggests Italian herbs and some olive oil on roast beef, while something with a more unique flavor profile, like a duck breast, may only need salt and pepper.

Kim Buchanan, culinary manager with Lyfe Kitchen in Evanston, said her key to roasting success is in not over-crowding the pan. "Too much food will cause steam and things can't caramelize and roast properly," she said.

Buchanan also said it's very important for the oven to be properly heated. "Patience is a virtue. You can't hurry it along by raising the temperature. The heat needs to be consistent. No peeking in the oven; it cools the temperature down."

She said roasting is ideal for foods that contain a lot of water, like mushrooms, but roasted Brussels sprouts are her favorite. "Roasting them gives them a sweet and crispy flavor and texture and removes the cabbage-like bitterness."

"At Steak + Vine in La Grange, Chef and Owner Michael Wilson roasts red bell peppers over an open flame and uses them to make a filling for jumbo stuffed shrimp. Wilson roasts the peppers at 400 degrees and turns them constantly while roasting them. "This method is a little bit tedious," he said, "but it brings out the deep flavor of the pepper more than if it were just roasted in the oven."

Wilson slow-roasts short ribs and lamb shanks at 225 degrees for six to eight hours, depending on the size of the meat. "When meat is exposed to high heat, it will shrink faster, causing it to be tough and chewy. Low temperatures and longer cooking time will make the meat tender and juicier," he said.

This winter, Chef Michael Lachowicz has Roast Breast of New York State Squab and Long Island Duckling on his winter menu at George Trois in Winnetka.

"When roasting any meat, I always follow one exact method," Lachowicz said. He starts with a high temperature (425 to 450 degrees). He stays at this temperature for 20 to 25 minutes for larger cuts and 6 to 8 minutes for smaller cuts. Then he reduces the temperature to 350 to 375 for the duration of the cooking time in the recipe.

"By following this roasting technique, it allows for a more intense sear which will caramelize the surface of the meat and allow for a gentle cooking of the entire cut after the temperature is reduced," he said.

He lets the meat rest for 15 to 20 minutes before slicing or serving. "It's a must for juices to redistribute to the entire cut of the meat," he said.

Jumbo Shrimp Stuffed with Roasted Red Bell Peppers

1. Lightly oil the red bell pepper and roast it over medium flame until charred on all sides. Place roasted peppers in a plastic bag and let sit 10 minutes to sweat. This will allow the charred skin of pepper to be easily removed.
2. Peel and devein shrimp, and then slice from top almost through the bottom and open shrimp. Put shrimp on plastic wrap and gently pound out to make shrimp flat (as thin as possible without breaking up meat).
3. Remove top plastic then season shrimp with salt and pepper. Roll cream cheese into cylinder about four inches long, and place on top of flattened shrimp. Put water chestnuts evenly around cream cheese, and do the same with roasted red bell pepper.
4. Roll the shrimp using the bottom of the plastic wrap to guide. Lightly flour shrimp. Coat completely with egg. Coat entire shrimp with panko breading. Sauté breaded shrimp over medium-high heat until golden brown then bake in 350 degree oven for 8 to 10 minutes.

Serve whole or sliced over roasted red bell pepper aioli.

Roasted Red Bell Pepper Aioli

1. Puree all ingredients in blender until smooth.

--- Adapted from Michael Wilson, Steak + Vine, La Grange
How to treat an old cat that won't eat

By Marc Morrone
Tribune Content Agency

Q: We have a nearly 19-year-old cat in very good condition. Recently she's become a rather fussy eater. It's not her teeth - they've been checked out by our local vet and she'll still occasionally eat dry cat food. She used to like certain flavors of canned cat food, but lately she wants only Gerber's baby food - the various meat varieties. Our concern is whether there is sufficient nutrition in the baby food. We do try to coax her to eat deli roast beef or low-sodium ham, and I'll poach a chicken breast, but she tires of that very quickly. She'll invariably hold out for the baby food, which she seems to love. Our vet says to give her whatever she wants at this point but we wanted your opinion as well even though we know you are not a vet. - Rod Wells, Chicago, IL

A: Well at 19 years of age your cat does not need to explain anything she does and it is obvious that she likes baby food to the exclusion of everything else. However, you are correct that the baby food manufactured for human babies does not have the vitamins and minerals that a cat would need.

Pet stores do sell vitamin and mineral supplements for cats in various forms and if she would accept that then the problem is solved.

However, if she is as fussy as you are describing here then I doubt that she would accept them.

I think the best solution is for you to take some of the dry food that you say that she will eat occasionally and grind some of it up into a fine powder with a food processor. Then just mix a bit of the resulting powder with the baby food and if you do not add too much of it at first then most likely she will not suspect any subterfuge.

As time goes on you can gradually add more of it to the portion of baby food that she is eating - the operative word here is gradually - and that bit of dry cat food that she is ingesting with the baby food will round out her diet.

Q: We have two dogs. One is a silky terrier who weighs about 15 pounds. The other is a maltipoo, also about 15 pounds. They are both about three years old, neutered and healthy. The silky was an only dog in our house and the maltipoo is our son's, but circumstances have forced him and his family to live with us. The two dogs got along fine for a month and then something happened - we cannot figure out what - and now they both hate each other. We converted our home to a two family since then and now we have an ongoing problem that we can't seem to fix. We have a gate that separates the two units. The dogs will charge at each other and then fight at the gate. The fights that happen when someone leaves the gate open are quite fierce. Can you give us any clues or advice.

Neither dog is overly friendly with the other animals, but both love humans. - Ben Sanders, Saint Paul, MN

A: A question like this is a brutal reminder that no matter how much we love our dogs, they are still animals and sometimes they act like animals. Some animals just do not like each other and cannot achieve conflict resolution when they are evenly matched and forced to live together.

In a state of nature, two such animals would go their separate ways, but this cannot happen in a home situation. A professional dog behaviorist may be able to help by putting muzzles on the dogs and allowing them to interact together doing fun things in a neutral setting over a long course of time.

If the dogs do enough fun things together, and do not have the opportunity to confront each other, and all the triggers that start the confrontations are removed, then an uneasy truce may result.

However, the situation will always be rather delicate and you and your family will always be walking on eggshells around the dogs as a fight can yet still erupt. There may be those who disagree with me, but you asked for my opinion and I think this is one of those petkeeping situations where you just wave the white flag of defeat and either resign yourself to the situation and keep the dogs apart, or do your best to re-home one of them.

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 petexperts2@aol.com; please include your name, city and state.
Top tips for getting your consumer complaints heard

Last week's column about Char-Broil's responsiveness to online complaints inspired this week's column on how to effectively make your consumer issues heard.

Social media: As I mentioned last week, social media sites are always good outlets for venting consumer frustrations. You can go directly to a company's Facebook or Twitter page to lodge your complaint, or you can post to your own account. The reason the latter is effective is because many companies utilize social media monitoring software in combination with dedicated customer service agents to scan not only Facebook and Twitter but also YouTube, Instagram, blog posts and review sites for company and product mentions. When posting, don't forget to hashtag the offending company's name so it can easily be searched.

Better Business Bureau: The Better Business Bureau is also an effective resource for lodging customer service and product complaints. By submitting a grievance via the BBB's website, you are enlisting the assistance of the bureau in facilitating a resolution with the company on your behalf. Most companies respond to this intervention because they care about their BBB rating.

User communities: Another online venue that often results in successfully attracting a company's attention is that of the user community. Companies like Comcast, Verizon and Apple (to name just a few) create these forums for customers to post questions, assist one another and, of course, share their grievances.

Consumer Finance Protection Bureau: As of 2010, consumers have an advocate to assist them with financial product and service issues. The Consumer Finance Protection Bureau is "a U.S. government agency that makes sure banks, lenders and other financial companies treat you fairly ... [It] is focused on one goal: watching out for American consumers in the market for consumer financial products and services." Much like the BBB, the CFPB enables consumers to easily submit their complaints via the agency's website. Once a complaint and supporting documentation is submitted, "We'll forward your complaint to the company and work to get a response. [T]he company has 15 days to respond to you and the CFPB. Companies are expected to close all but the most complicated complaints in 15 days. You'll be able to review the company's response and will have 60 days to give us feedback about the response."

Phone tree tricks: If you are interested in simply making a phone call to speak with a customer service agent — without having to navigate a multi-branched phone tree — Dial A Human could be your answer. This site lists a plethora of companies and their customer service numbers, with directions on which buttons to push and what words to say to quickly reach a live person. Dial A Human additionally suggests eight tricks to try should you find yourself in phone tree purgatory with no escape in sight.

Professional problem solver: Should you reach the point where you've simply had it and are willing to pay a professional to tackle your customer service issue for you, there is actually a website for that. It's called GetHuman, and for a fee of $5 to $25, the site offers three resolution options: a written instruction guide; a list of the best contact info, shortcuts and wait times for more than 10,000 companies; or a "personal problem solver" who will work through the customer service maze to obtain a resolution on your behalf.

And don't forget, there's always Help Squad.

Need help?
Send your questions and complaints to HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com.

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist.

CAMP GUIDE

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Publishes on March 2, 2017
Space deadline: February 10, 2017
The few dollars you may save at the Amazon bookstore coming to Chicago's Southport Corridor will come at a cost.

Don't open the door to Amazon

By John Warner
Chicago Tribune

I have a favor to ask: When Amazon opens its retail store in the Southport Corridor area of Lakeview this year, please do not shop there.

It will be tempting, because the store will seem shiny, and the merchandise will interact with your smartphone, informing you of prices and additional recommendations. You will be offered discounts on Echo, Amazon's "digital assistant"; Prime memberships; and access to streaming content.

And the books will be less expensive than at your local independent store. But those few dollars saved will come at the expense of something more important: our community, our values.

Amazon is not evil, but it is a corporation, and corporations do what corporations do: whatever it takes to maximize profits and shareholder value. In the case of Amazon, in the past, that's meant subjecting warehouse workers to inhuman conditions and their corporate employees to a kind of white-collar "Hunger Games."

Discounts are not free. They are financed with your privacy, as Amazon harvests and monetizes every last tidbit of information it can gather about you in order to sell you more stuff.

Amazon is not concerned about your welfare, and it is not in the business of protecting anyone's rights. Take that Amazon Echo, the cute little cylinder that will tell you the weather forecast or play Miles Davis or order new socks at your command. That device is always listening to everything said within its range. As of now, unless the Echo is activated, it does not record the information or send it to Amazon's servers, but as part of a murder investigation, police in Bentonville, Ark., have subpoenaed data collected by an Echo present in the home at the time of the alleged crime.

An ever-present listening device is something out of a "1984"-like dystopia, and yet many are inviting this intrusion into their lives.

Beyond the privacy issues, Amazon also is unconcerned with quality of life in local communities. We have seen entire towns crash on the shoals after giving in to the siren song of Wal-Mart's low, low prices.

Wal-Mart moves in, bringing not just those low prices but low-paying jobs too. Unable to compete, the existing local businesses fail, putting communities into a death spiral, until so many people leave that Wal-Mart also pulls up the stakes.

Instant ghost town.

Obviously, Chicago isn't going to become a ghost town, but we should be very aware of the cultural and community riches we have in our many independent bookstores.

The vitality of places like Women & Children First, Quimby's, Unabridged Bookstore, City Lit Books, Roscoe Books and a dozen others I could name are part of what make Chicago a vibrant city. That vitality is also why I am not overly worried about an Amazon store colonizing Lakeview.

Chicago is better than this. But we must be vigilant in the face of these threats and remind ourselves that the people who own and work in the local stores are our neighbors, are here to stay and are invested in ways a corporation could never match.

We've seen how easy it is to let something meaningful slip through our fingers. Chicago's literary culture should not be trusted to one man in Seattle.

John Warner's most recent book is "Tough Day for the Army."

Twitter @biblioracle
### GEOGRAPHICALS:
**Of five syllables**

**BY DEBRA HICKOK | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN**

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*Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island*
Quote-Acrostic

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

Clues Words

A. An instant 117 128 53 96 148 69 35
B. Thoroughly unappealing 156 99 44 78 108
C. Strong public protests 152 33 91 21 60 135 10 49
D. Not at all trustworthy 145 39 55 72 151 28 64 7 103
E. Imperfection 157 68 138 27 120
F. Date 126 94 67 74 115 107 25 36 56 146
G. Made happen: 2 wds. 1 52 62 13 95 30 121 129 136
H. Soon after beginning: 2 wds. 2 66 102 116 46 144 87
I. Pallor 75 11 43 143 31 23 101 149 123

J. Provided that: 3 wds. 86 38 99 109 118 4 22 153
K. Virile: hyph. 9 26 106 112 155 51 58 41 19 88
L. Go to a restaurant: 2 wds. 76 133 17 119 104 154
M. Raise a nap on cloth 63 160 3 140 84 98
N. Unsentimentally practical: hyph. 124 80 34 15 89 47 24 6 70
O. Gofer: 2 wds. 73 81 111 158 40 127 132 90 57
P. Refresh one's skill: 2 wds. 65 85 130 16 45 110 137
Q. Strong feeling of joy 77 48 100 92 125 142 71
R. Fit for flying 114 83 131 42 147 20
S. Understand: 2 wds. 134 79 61 97 32
T. Singing the praises of 5 105 141 54 93 14 150
U. Terrestrial 113 8 159 50 18 82 37

Valuables

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across

1 Little masterpieces 59 Set down hastily
2 Shapes of some jewels 61 Renowned vocalist
3 Perry's creator 66 After a while
4 Bitter plant 68 Ordeal
5 W. Indies volcano 69 Wear to a frazzle
6 Take ___! 70 Power; comb. form
7 Apartment number 71 Religious society
8 In reference to 72 Kiln
9 With luck, he receives riches 73 Certain signatures
10 Where the Yellow Brick 74 Parts of song refrains
11 Road ends 75 ___ of silver and gold have wet"
12 Diamonds 82 ___ is an island
13 Gold fever, perhaps 83 ___ Crown, in London
14 "Inside" vocabulary 84 "Inside" vocabulary
15 Jungle ___ 87 With 46 Across, treasure
16 With 46 Across, treasure 88 ___ me tangere
17 ___ out of the stem of Jesse": Is. 11:1 89 "___ out of the stem of
18 ___ is an island" 90 "___ out of the stem of
19 Jeezebel singer 91 ___ out of the stem of
20 Olive tree genus 92 ___ out of the stem of
21 "Open sesame!" object 93 ___ out of the stem of
22 Sumac of Peru 94 ___ out of the stem of
23 Diamonds 95 ___ out of the stem of
24 Gold fever, perhaps 96 ___ out of the stem of
25 ___ is an island" 97 ___ out of the stem of
26 Late cartoonist 98 ___ out of the stem of
27 ___ Crown, in London 99 ___ out of the stem of
28 Diamond ___ et al. 100 ___ out of the stem of
29 Bombers dodge it 101 ___ out of the stem of
30 Of the birds 102 ___ out of the stem of
31 "Inside" vocabulary 103 ___ out of the stem of
32 Hydrogenated edible oil 104 ___ out of the stem of
33 Gem-encrusted coronet: ___ out of the stem of
34 ___ jing-jing-jing!" 105 ___ out of the stem of
35 Food element in calves' liver 106 ___ out of the stem of
36 Wilkie Collins novel, with ___ out of the stem of
37 ___ jing-jing-jing!" 107 ___ out of the stem of
38 ___ jing-jing-jing!" 108 ___ out of the stem of
39 Treasure ships often wrecked here 109 ___ out of the stem of
40 ___ me tangere 110 ___ out of the stem of
41 ___ out of the stem of Jesse": Is. 11:1 111 ___ out of the stem of
42 Phshaw! 112 ___ out of the stem of
43 Jeezebel singer 113 ___ out of the stem of
44 Olive tree genus 114 ___ out of the stem of
45 "Open sesame!" object 115 ___ out of the stem of
56 Take hastily

Down

1 Golden ___ Park, San Francisco 2 Golden ___ Park, San Francisco
2 Varnish resin 3 Varnish resin
3 Painter of Bassin d’Argenteuil 4 Treasure hunt, e.g.
4 Treasure hunt, e.g. 5 Many-colored semiprecious stone
5 Many-colored semiprecious stone 6 Peddle one's wares
6 Peddle one's wares 7 Actor Guiness
7 Actor Guiness 8 Passenger to the Finland Station
8 Passenger to the Finland Station 9 Fracas
9 Fracas 10 Selassie's land: abbr.
10 Selassie's land: abbr. 11 Treasure stolen by the Nibelungs: Ger.
11 Treasure stolen by the Nibelungs: Ger. 12 Of the congregation
12 Of the congregation 13 Non ___ French nonentity
13 Non ___ French nonentity 14 Cries, upon finding gold
14 Cries, upon finding gold 15 Gold or silver Japanese coins
15 Gold or silver Japanese coins 16 Has not, in old England
16 Has not, in old England

Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island © 2017 Creators News Service.
LOVE ESSENTIALLY

Is single married person unhappy or seeking fun?

I know a guy who has been married for about 15 years. I don’t know him well enough to say if he is happily married, but I do know that the seven or eight times I have seen him out over the years — either at bars or at parties — the guy is alone, meaning his wife is not with him.

Known by his friends as the party guy — the fun, gregarious guy who always knows where the best parties are — this guy likes to have a few drinks and laughs and enjoys hanging out with his divorced bachelor buddies. I asked a friend of mine if she thought he ever cheated on his wife and my friend said “definitely not.”

So, what I am wondering is, if he isn’t looking to cheat, then why is this married guy socializing on a frequent basis with single people and without the woman who is supposed to be his life partner?

He is what I call “a single married person” — someone who lives their social life like someone who is single, when technically they are either married or in a long-term, committed relationship.

One could argue that as men and women get older, our friends get divorced and that just because they are single, it doesn’t mean we aren’t allowed to remain friends with them. In fact, maybe those friends who do get divorced need us more now than ever. That said, there is a part of me that thinks being a single married person runs deeper than trying to be there in support of your newly single buddies.

To discuss the single married person, (because let’s be honest, we all know one) I reached out to Anita Chlipala, a licensed marital and family therapist whose Chicago-based practice offers individual and couples coaching and counseling.

Chlipala said there are many possible reasons for this issue, including:

- The single married person’s needs aren’t being met, and he or she is searching outside the relationship for fulfillment.
- The person is avoiding their relationship. In other words, they don’t want to go home and face the problems present. They aren’t in the mood to argue or fight, so being apart is the easier solution.
- The single married person doesn’t want to break up because the reality of the relationship seems too sad or scary, so they stay in it.
- The person might be insecure and need the ego boost of going to a bar and getting hit on.
- The person is planning on ending the relationship, so they want to test the waters and behave like a single person to reassure themselves they are doing the right thing.
- The person wants freedom and independence. He or she might feel trapped or controlled by their spouse, so they want to show they have the right to do whatever they choose.
- I can think of other single married people I know. One includes a friend of mine who for years would attend girls nights out and parties solo. I never met her husband. They recently got divorced.
- I also behaved like a single married person at one time. In a former relationship, I would go to social events and parties either with my girlfriends or by myself, and no one even knew I was in a monogamous relationship. Technically, I never cheated, but I won’t lie and say I didn’t flirt. It didn’t even cause tension in the relationship, but I now realize I was semi-committing, using one foot up against the door to keep it propped open.

I asked Chlipala how someone should handle the situation should a spouse start behaving like a single married person.

“Gentle communication is the best way,” said Chlipala. “You want to try to get to why the person is behaving that way. If the answer seems sincere — that they just want time with friends — then at least it is on the table and you can work together to compromise and get both your needs met.”

Chlipala said that being vulnerable and admitting that the behavior makes you uncomfortable and anxious is healthy.

“Women need to speak up for what they need,” she said. “But many women won’t because they are afraid to come across as too desperate or needy or crazy. Maybe the guy will say, ‘I didn’t know you felt this way. What can I do to make this better for you? That would be ideal.’

My opinion is that the single married person is almost always unhappy or unfulfilled in their relationship, otherwise he or she would be home more, or doing fun things with the spouse. Don’t get me wrong. I’m a huge fan of girls nights out and guys hanging with their buddies on occasion. Everyone deserves freedom and independence. But marriage means commitment and that means enjoying time together: having and holding, not texting ‘I’ll be home later, don’t wait up.’

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.
**Ask the Doctors**

**Too much video-gaming may have adverse effects on teens**

By Dr. Robert Ashley

Ask The Doctors

Dear Doctor: My son is obsessed with electronic gaming. He spends hours a day doing this. Is this unhealthy?

Dear Reader: I have a teenage son as well, so this is a question with which both you and I struggle. When I was younger, in the infancy of computer games, the games were of low resolution and the goal was simply to develop enough skill to master them. To me, this was a fun activity, often separating me from the mundane and stressful activities of everyday life.

Today's games are more complex, requiring a variety of skills in complex reasoning and hand-eye coordination. Proficient players record their techniques on YouTube, and the truly elite compete in auditoriums, watched online by hundreds of thousands of people. Is there a downside to this? Definitely — if parents don't manage it properly.

The first potential problem with these games is the prolonged sitting. This type of sedentary behavior can lead to obesity.

A 2004 study performed in Switzerland compared obesity rates and the hours that people spent either playing electronic games or watching television. Researchers found a significant correlation between playing electronic games and obesity, with a connection especially likely among people who spent more than two hours a day playing games. On the plus side, the obesity rates were not as high among game-players as among people who watched television, supposedly because of the passive nature of watching television and the greater amounts of unhealthy food consumed while watching it.

In a study by the American Academy of Pediatrics in 2009, children and teens who said they played more than 45 minutes of video games per day were more likely to report poorer health and increased psychological distress than those who played less than that amount. Those gamers also were found to have more behavior problems.

And consider this: In an Australian survey study of 3,000 adolescents ages 11 through 17, those who had the highest levels of psychological distress were those who spent the most time playing electronic games or roaming the internet. It may be that gaming itself is not the full problem. Rather, the gaming may be an outlet for children with emotional issues.

However, the biggest problem with gaming is that it can be addictive. The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM 5) identifies Internet Gaming Disorder as a condition that warrants further studies.

My feeling is that electronic games can have benefits for children and adolescents, but exposure to them must be limited.

I recommend that you watch for addictive behavior in your son in connection to these games and that you limit the amount of time he spends with them each day. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends no more than two hours of screen time per day. If your son is playing these games and in addition watches television, he may have an increased risk of obesity, poorer health and behavior problems.

When it comes to activity, keep two other pieces of advice in mind. One, encourage your son to substitute more active video games over the more passive variety and, even better, encourage him to pursue sports and other forms of exercise.

Robert Ashley, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Send your questions to askthedocs@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o Media Relations, UCLA Health, 924 Westwood Blvd., Suite 350, Los Angeles, CA, 90095.

**People's Pharmacy**

**Get correct blood-pressure reading by following ‘rules’**

By Joe Graedon and Teresa Graedon

King Features Syndicate

Q: I recently had a doctor's appointment, and the nurse measured my blood pressure while I was sitting on the exam table with my arm dangling at my side. It was 153 over 95, and that was entered into my chart. At home it was 138 over 82. The doctor is talking about starting me on a diuretic to lower my blood pressure. I'm not convinced I really need it.

A: Proper blood-pressure measurement requires the patient to be seated in a chair with back support and both feet on the floor. The arm should be supported at heart level, the cuff should be the right size and there should be no talking. Otherwise, the reading could be inaccurate.

We are sending you our Guide to Blood Pressure Treatment with instructions on proper measurement techniques and ways to control hypertension with and without drugs.

Anyone who would like a copy, please send $3 in check or money order with a long (No. 10), self-addressed envelope to: Graedons' People's Pharmacy, No. B-67, P.O. Box 52027, Durham, NC 27717-2027. It also can be downloaded for $2 from our website: www.peoplespharmacy.com.

Q: After a 13-hour surgery, it took weeks before I could read the newspaper again. My brain simply wouldn't work well enough. I think that anesthesia scrambling the neurons. I had insomnia, inability to concentrate and vivid dreams. This also happened many years ago when I was younger. I believe that rest, good nutrition and brain training exercises can help speed recovery.

A: General anesthesia represents one of the great advances in medicine because it allows for pain-free surgery. Surgeons have been using medications to induce a temporary coma for 165 years, but we still don't know exactly how they work and what else they might be doing to the brain.

Postoperative cognitive dysfunction is not unusual, particularly in older people (Annual Review of Nursing Research, January 2017). Most patients recover their cognitive function with time, though it may take several months. There is ongoing debate about the benefits and risks of inhaled anesthetics compared with intravenous anesthetics when it comes to recovery.

Q: I suffered from cluster headaches for decades. Each headache would typically last 30 minutes, and I'd get up to five a day for six to eight weeks. Then they would go away for a year or two. I took every medication available, and nothing helped. I saw a pain specialist, who suggested I use 100 percent oxygen as soon as I felt the start of a headache. It worked great, and the headache never took hold.

I explained to him that my headaches always started around the nasal area on the right side, and he prescribed lidocaine hydrochloride topical solution. If I couldn't get oxygen, I would spray the solution up my right nostril. The pain would subside within a few minutes, and the headache would be stopped instantly.

A: Inhaled oxygen is an established treatment for cluster headaches. We weren't familiar with lidocaine treatment for this painful condition, but we found a case study of successful treatment (Journal of Medical Case Reports, Feb. 15, 2012).

A review of research concluded that there isn't sufficient evidence to recommend it (Emergency Medicine Journal, September 2013).

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Send questions to them via www.peoplespharmacy.com.
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Joys, challenges of winter camping

Modern clothing and gear remove much of the hardship

By Sheryi Jean
Chicago Tribune

The clarity of a winter sky filled with stars. No reservations needed.

These are the joys of winter camping. Sure, it might snow or rain, and temperatures could drop below zero, but some people say the pluses outweigh the negatives.

Interest in winter camping and outdoor training appears to be growing. While it's less crowded, getting back to nature during the coldest months of the year comes with challenges: unpredictable weather, wildlife and fewer daylight hours.

Brett Stoffel, who teaches wilderness skills through his company, OutdoorSafe Inc. in Washington near North Cascades National Park, sees the increased demand.

"Winter camping is not difficult, but it's also not routine," Stoffel said. "People are actually surprised at how comfortable they can be with a little extra preparation."

Winter camping takes many forms, from a bivy sack to a cabin. It's available at many national and state parks and private campgrounds from Maine to Washington. The cost is minimal - and even free at some places - but the parks may have limited services, and fires may be banned.

At Yellowstone National Park, for example, just one of 12 campgrounds (Mammoth, $20 a night) and one road for regular traffic (the northeast entrance) are open, with few park services in winter. Still, park rangers lead such programs as snowshoe walks and geology talks, and visitors can backcountry camp with a permit ($3 per person per night).

"Winter camping in the cold is mostly tent camping," said Jeffrey Olson, a spokesman for the National Park Service. "The RV crowd tends to avoid snow."

Winter is not the busiest time of year at Illinois state parks, but camping, cabins and lodges at more than 100 parks are open, though there's no water and other buildings are closed, said spokesman Ed Cross. Some parks offer popular winter programs, such as guided winter hikes and sled dog demonstrations at Starved Rock Lodge in Oglesby (about two hours southwest of Chicago).

Several years ago, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in Michigan changed its rules to make winter camping easier, said park ranger Bill Smith. For novices, the staff takes extra time to make sure they have the right gear, he said.

"Something is working. The number of backcountry campers and overnights January through March at Pictured Rocks more than doubled from 2009 to 2014. Winter campers are mostly local college students wanting a weekend getaway and people looking to climb ice columns as high as 200 feet or cliffs along Lake Superior, Smith said.

Last winter, Eli Latham and a group of friends backpacked into the snowy Colorado wilderness, becoming lost after about 3 miles. "The trail was a lot harder to see than we thought it would be because of the snow," said Latham, 25, who lives in Charleston, S.C. When they stopped to camp on a mountainside, there wasn't enough room for all the tents, so Latham and a friend had to sleep outside. The tarp they set up didn't work, so they rigged up hammocks.

"We didn't get much sleep," he said.

"It's important to be prepared for any situation. REI has seen participation in its nationwide winter programs such as Winter Camping Basics more than double in the last two years, to 6,785 people in 2016. "Everyone's looking for more to do in the winter," said Travis Brown, an REI Outdoor Programs instructor in the Minneapolis area who is an avid winter camper. "Winter camping isn't a new thing people have been doing it for thousands of years. With all the gear we have today, it's easy to stay warm when it's cold outside."

Sheryi Jean is a freelancer.

Winter camping tips

Communicate: Don't go solo. Tell the park and a family member or friend where you're going.

Orienting: GPS might not work, so carry a map and compass.

Weather: Always check the weather forecast and park conditions before heading out.

Clothing: Wear warm, quick-drying layers and a waterproof, windproof outer layer. Avoid cotton. After activity, replace wet clothing with dry gear. Sleep with clothes - even hiking boots and a water bottle - inside your sleeping bag to keep them warm overnight.

The campsite: Choose a site with wind protection and away from dead trees. Pack down snow before setting up a tent. Position RVs and tents facing east.

Kids: Involve children; teach them to read a compass or a map. Don't let them wander off alone.

Sleeping: Bring a warmer sleeping bag than you think you'll need. Use a sleeping pad for cushioning and warmth.

Food: Eat plenty, because your body burns more calories in the cold to maintain normal body temperature. Don't cook in your tent vestibule.

Hydration: You can become dehydrated in winter, so drink plenty of water or hot drinks.

Skin protection: Bring sunglasses, lip balm, sunscreen and/or Vaseline for sun and wind protection.

Extras: Pack extra money, clothing, food, batteries and cooking fuel (it burns faster at higher elevations), just in case.

Sources: Travis Brown, National Park Service, Bill Smith, REI, Brett Stoffel
Colonial-style home in Barrington: $1.05M

ADDRESS: 633 Prairie Ave. in Barrington
ASKING PRICE: $1,045,000
Listed on Dec. 31, 2016

An expansive front porch and wide center entry hall lead into this home, which features five bedrooms, four full baths, a finished basement and first-floor home office. Kitchen has custom white cabinetry, large center island, quartzite and granite countertops and Viking appliances. The family room has built-ins flanking a gas fireplace, hardwood floors, plantation shutters, millwork including wainscoting, coffered ceilings and crown molding. The home also includes zoned HVAC, new professional exterior lighting, landscape by Doering and new sport court with partial fencing.

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

At press time, this home was still for sale.

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Skokie musician bringing jazz to Tommy Nevin's

Bi-monthly shows set to start Jan. 22

By MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Contemporary jazz is coming to Tommy Nevin's Pub in Evanston thanks to Skokie resident Dave Flippo. He will be bringing his quartet, Jazz From Planet Flippo, to the popular restaurant and performance venue twice a month starting Jan. 22.

Audiences will hear original pieces by pianist and composer Flippo as well as his arrangement of tunes by such artists as David Bowie, Jimi Hendrix, Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell, Stevie Wonder and The Beatles. These artists are featured on the group's most recent album, "Life on Mars."

In addition, Jazz From Planet Flippo members will play more modern tunes by such artists as Amy Winehouse and Jason Mraz. "But they're jazz versions of them," Flippo said. "And I'm writing some originals that are exploring new directions. I'm trying to get things that are more cosmic and spiritual, and then some things that are more fun."

Flippo has been playing jazz since he was about 14 years old. "I was classically trained and I did a doctorate in music composition and theory, but I always played jazz on the side," he said. "Miles Davis was the main guy that I really liked. At first it sounded like noise to me and then I started appreciating it."

Flippo has led a jazz ensemble since 1992. "I mainly put it together to play my music, because I'm a composer, but we've gotten into some other projects lately," Flippo said. Saxophone player Dan Hesler has been with Flippo from the beginning. His quartet also includes drummer Heath Chappell and Donn De Santo on acoustic and electric bass.

Jazz from Planet Flippo has performed at numerous jazz festivals, including Taste of Chicago, South Shore Jazzfest, Around the Coyote Art Festival and Navy Pier World Jazz Festival. They have also performed at many clubs, including Pete Miller's, Beat Kitchen and Hot House, and frequently perform at colleges and libraries. Special public performances have included Jazzin' at the Shedd, After Hours at the Field Museum, Brookfield Zoo Summer Concert Series and Chicago Cultural Center Concert Series.

Flippo plays solo piano a couple of times each month at Mariano's grocery stores in New City and Ravenswood.

Flippo said that what makes his ensemble unique is the diverse influences of his original music. "I'm into world music, I'm into Indian and African, I'm into historical classic music like Bach and Beethoven and Renaissance, and I'm into jazz," he said. The most recent of his group's five albums, "Life on Mars," reflects some of those influences. "I arranged a bunch of rock classics and pop classics from the '60s and '70s," he explained.

Flippo, who earned a bachelor of arts from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, a master of musical arts in music composition from the Eastman School of Music and a doctorate of musical arts in music composition from the University of Michigan, has been teaching in this area since 1987. He currently teaches music, jazz and classical piano at Triton College and the College of Lake County, as well as giving private lessons.

Flippo is looking forward to bringing his group to Tommy Nevin's for several reasons. "I have a lot of students in this area," he noted, adding, "Evanston's a cool town. It's a nice club and it has a nice room to play in."
A compelling journey of family and the primal need to understand those who came before

WORLD PREMIERE BEGINS JANUARY 29

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directed by BARBARA GAINES

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GO

Disney on Ice showcases favorite characters, songs

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Characters from some of the most beloved Disney tales are featured in “Disney on Ice presents Follow Your Heart,” Jan. 25-29 at Allstate Arena, 6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont.

Fans of “Finding Dory” will watch the title fish and her pal Hank “swim” across the ice in their quest to locate her parents. A big hockey game should cheer Riley from Disney-Pixar’s “Inside out” as she deals with her various emotions, including joy, sadness, anger, fear and disgust. The ice show also travels to Arendelle where Olaf and Kristoff help to unite princesses Anna and Elsa from “Frozen.”

Little girls will see some other favorite Disney princesses — Cinderella, Rapunzel and Ariel — demonstrate bravery and perseverance. Little boys will probably favor watching the friendship between Buzz Lightyear, Woody and the “Toy Story” gang. Longtime Disney favorites, including Mickey and Minnie Mouse, will also glide across the ice during this colorful show.

Tickets are $20-$79.79. For details, call 847-635-6601 or go to www.rosemont.com/allstate/events/disney-on-ice-presents-follow-your-heart.

Hit parade

You and your children will hear “Billie Jean,” “Beat It,” “Black and White” and many other Michael Jackson hits when the MJ Live band and dancers perform at Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 21. Kids and grownups will want to sing along. Tickets start at $22. Last year’s concert sold out.

For details, call 847-671-5100 or go to www.rosemont.com/theatre/event/mj-live.

Nurture nature

Family games, crafts and educational activities will focus on the theme of nature during a Playdate with Nature, 9-9:45 a.m. Jan. 21 at Wildwood Nature Center, 529 Forestview Ave., Park Ridge. The event is free but registration is required.

For details, call 847-692-3570 or go to www.prparks.org.

Preschool planning

You can discover the best setting for your youngster at a Preschool and Enrichment Fair, 10 a.m.-noon Jan. 21 at Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave. There will be representatives from more than thirty area preschools and daycare facilities, as well as information about museums, dance studios and other programs that offer educational opportunities. For details, call 847-625-3123 or go to www.parkridgelibrary.org.

Something special

Children age 3-8 with special needs, and their families, are invited to Club Wonder: CATS Music, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Jan. 21 at Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. They will sing, play games, move to the beat and use props when they are lead in English and Spanish songs by Tricia Sebastian, founder of Creating Arts Together with Songs (CATS). Registration is required.

For details, call 847-673-7774 or go to www.skokielibrary.info
NILES LIBRARY PATRONS HELP WARM UP WINTER

Grace Antar, a member of the Teen Advisory Board at the Niles Public Library District, recently dropped off nearly 50 pairs of gloves, mittens and hats as a donation to Niles Family Services. The donation was accepted by Tony Hollenback, Director of the Niles Family Services, who is holding the overflowing box. During the month of December, the library placed a tree in the main lobby for residents to decorate by putting warm mittens, gloves or hats on it. After Christmas all the articles were donated to Niles Family Services.

BROADWAY REVUE AT SKOKIE THEATER

"New Faces Sing Broadway 2001," a second musical revue of hit tunes produced by Porchlight Theatre's Michael Weber and, like the first one pictured, featuring new young Chicago talent, will take the stage at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 23 at Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie, and 7:30 p.m. Jan. 24 at the Uptown Underground, 4707 N. Broadway, Chicago. Hosted by Keely Vasquez, the songs will be showcased against a multimedia presentation of photos and films of the era they salute. Tickets are $22, with no drink minimum and are available at www.porchlightmusictheatre.org.

LANDSCAPE ARTIST SPEAKS AT OAKTON

Harold Gregor, the "Dean of the Midwest Landscape," will give a gallery talk at 2:30 p.m. Jan. 24 at his exhibit in Oakton Community College's Koehnline Museum of Art, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. Gregor will discuss his exhibition "Changing Perspectives: The Landscapes of Harold Gregor," as well as his 50 years of work that interprets the Illinois farmlands surrounding Urbana-Champaign where he lives and works. The exhibit runs 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, through Feb. 17. More at 847-635-2633, or www.oakton.edu/museum.

20TH CENTURY CLUB CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS

Hawaiian songs and dances by Na Kapuna, a Ukelele Club, were the entertainment highlight at the Park Ridge 20th Century Club's Christmas Luncheon held Dec. 6 at the Park Ridge Country Club. Nearly 180 members were welcomed by President Helen Ideno. Music chairwoman for the event was Stephanie Ammon. The holiday festivities were organized by Lynn Rogers and Sue Carlson. The club, which has been serving the community for over 100 years, provides scholarships to students and help to adults and children in need. More at www.pr20cc.org/ClubHome.

Share your event

We want to publish your photos. To submit, visit community.chicagotribune.com or email sburrows@pioneerlocal.com.
GLENCOE

Brand new five-bedroom, 4.5-bath home with stone exterior. Hardwood floor throughout, millwork in living and dining rooms. Kitchen has stainless steel appliances, granite island and custom cabinets. Family room with fireplace, pergola covered patio, mudroom. Rec room, game room, three-car garage.

Address: 950 Skokie Ridge Drive
Price: $1,699,000
Schools: Glenbrook North High School
Taxes: $11,068
Agent: Susan Meyers, The Hudson Company

GLENVIEW

Three-bedroom, 2.5-bath home built in 1960. Hardwood floors, living room with fireplace, kitchen with island seating. Family room with entrance to custom deck, which has a fire pit, and professional landscaped yard. Office on lower level. Rec room also has fireplace and surround sound. Third bedroom has above-grade windows. Updated full bath, storage space. Two-car garage.

Address: 3106 Bellwood Lane
Price: $449,000
Schools: Glenbrook South High School
Taxes: $8,361
Agent: Sharon Dolezal, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

LINCOLNSHIRE

Four bedroom, two and a half bath open floor plan design built in 1968. Hardwood floor, new gourmet kitchen, dining room. Family room with brick fireplace, private patio, master bedroom has luxury master bath. Skylight, basement with rec room, office and laundry room. New room, doors and furnace, garage, landscaped yard.

Address: 11 Essex Lane
Price: $624,900
Schools: Adlai E. Stevenson High School
Taxes: $13,987
Agent: Julianne Spilotro, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

WHEELING

Four-bedroom, 2.5-bath wood exterior design home built in 2001. New carpeting on first floor, formal dining room, family room. Master suite has vaulted ceilings, second-floor loft, private bath with dual sinks, first-floor laundry, three-car garage, fire sprinklers, landscaped yard.

Address: 1742 Charles Drive
Price: $409,900
Schools: Wheeling High School
Taxes: $13,016
Agent: Herb Grunst, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

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Mail to: Chicago Tribune Charities 38971 Eagle Way, Chicago, IL 60678-1389
Adding touches of gold can create instant glam

BY CATHY HOBBS
Tribune Content Agency

Every now and then, a home can benefit from a bit of glam. Enter gold.

Once the finish of choice in the 1980s, it fell out of favor in the '90s, often considered to be gaudy. Now, gold dominates the shelves of home decor retailers and remains one of the hottest finishes for accessories and accents. When looking for ways to incorporate gold into your home, try these tips:

1. Choose a gold finish for fixtures like faucets and cabinet or door handles.
2. Yellow and yellow-based tones can be used to evoke gold.
3. Bookshelves serve as great spaces to incorporate interesting golden accents.
4. Choose gold or gold-trimmed accessories for a touch of shine. For instance, consider agate, a hot stone in home decor, on a gold stand.
5. Don't shy away from mixing different shades of gold in a space.
6. Reflective elements such as gold mirrors can add an instant touch of glam.
7. Use gold when looking for opportunities to create a bold design statement.
8. Consider color mapping, a technique in which you can repeat gold accents throughout an area to help make the space feel connected and cohesive.
9. Incorporate lighting with gold tones.
10. Add gold to an accent wall.

Gold tones and accents, which have made a major comeback, perk up this sitting area.

Accent pieces in brass or gold can add an interesting pop of color.
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### COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>BUYER</th>
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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

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### HOME REMEDIES

#### It's time for an annual checkup

**By Staci Giordolfo**

It's that time of year when we resolve to make our lives better. From eating healthier to getting more sleep, now is when we declare our intent to step it up a notch. Would it surprise you, then, to hear your house has a thing or two of its own to resolve in the new year? This is a list of tasks you only need to tackle on an annual basis.

**DIY energy audit:** Lowering the thermostat and swapping out your incandescent lightbulbs for LEDs and CFLs is a great start to reducing your energy bill, but what other steps can you take to make your house more energy efficient?

- **Start by checking windows, doors, chimneys and electrical outlets for air leaks.** If the draft isn't obvious, use a lit candle or stick of incense to detect unwanted air flowing into your house. Resolve by using caulk around windows, a sweep seal on doors, draft plug in the chimney and foam insulated pads behind outlet covers to help eliminate the drafts.

- **Also, unplug unused appliances and devices to prevent phantom energy sapping.**

**Review insurance policy:** An annual review of your homeowners insurance policy is a must. Fingers crossed you'll never need to use it, but you want to make sure you have adequate coverage on both the structure and your belongings.

- It's important to understand what's covered and what isn't, as well as whether you have replacement value coverage (doesn't account for depreciation) or actual cash value coverage (allows for depreciation), which is typically less desirable. If you've remodeled or added a pool or storage shed, make sure that's noted on your policy.

- If you're interested in saving money on your homeowners insurance, ask your agent for a higher deductible, which should lower your payments.

**Flush the water heater:** Draining the water heater is something we all need to do on a regular basis, especially if yours makes a banging or clanking noise every time it kicks on (which is the sound of water percolating through calcium and lime deposits). Sediment buildup at the bottom of the tank means it takes longer for the flame to heat the water, preventing the unit from working efficiently. Sediment also causes cracks in a water heater, and with enough buildup the tank might stop working altogether.

- The best way to remove the sediment is to flush everything out of the tank. While this can be a DIY project, licensed plumbers are at the ready to help you as well. On average, most flushing jobs will cost between $80 and $100.

---
LARGE PUBLIC LAND
10 ACRE
HORSE BARN &
MACHINERY
AUCTION

Real Estate, Farm Equipment, Tractors,
Trucks, Tools, Quad, Household
3094 E 22nd Rd, Ottawa, IL 61350
Saturday, February 18th, 2017 9AM Start
Real Estate offered @ 2:00PM
WATCH FOR SIGNS
There will be two auction rings!

Directions: Take I80 in Ottawa, IL to Rt 71 North. Go to 31st Rd turn Right and go 2 miles to sale.
Or From Newark, IL. Take Rt 71 South of Rt 52 to 22nd Rd, turn left and go 2 miles to Farm

Owner: Louise Penn

Note: Louise is retired and selling her real estate & equipment and moving. This is a complete
farming CLOSE OUT! Louise's farm is very clean and very nicely landscaped. Her tractors &
equipment have been well maintained and cared for. She is also selling her collection of
4x4 trucks and vehicles that are well maintained. Please try to attend this Auction!

Content Terms: Cash or good check w/ proper ID. Everything sold as is. Everything paid for day
of sale. Not responsible for accidents or items after sold. All equipment sold AS IS condition.
No buyer premium! Please try to attend this quality sale. Announcements day sale
take precedence over all printed and verbal communications.

Real estate Terms: $10,000 down cash or equivalent day of sale. Balance at closing on or
before March 2nd 2017. This property is being offered AS IS condition day of sale.
The owner has the right to accept or reject final offer made.
For real estate inspection or open house dates please call with any questions.

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www.deboltauctionservice.com
Thursday, Jan. 19

**A Night of Warren Zevon:** 8 p.m. Thursday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $15-$22, 847-492-8860

**"Steel Magnolias":** 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, First Congregational Church of Evanston, 1445 Hinman Ave., Evanston, $10-$25

**Lobster Festival 2017:** Enjoy 1.25 pound whole Maine Lobster with drawn butter and side dishes for only $24.95. Prairie Moon's Lobster Festival 2017 features various other lobster dishes including its famous Lobster Bisque and is sponsored by Ommegang.

**Witte Beer pints for $5.50:** A perfect dish including its famous Lobster drawn butter and side dishes for only $22.95. The Wonder Ground is a family-friendly activity designed especially for kids. A drop-in visit is meant to last about 15 minutes. Activities are repeated each week from Tuesday to Thursday. The Wonder Ground is a STEAM playground for kids. 4 p.m. Thursday and Tuesday, Niles Public Library, 6600 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

*Storytime for Twos with Adult:* Stories and songs specially chosen for two-year-olds and an adult. Siblings are welcome. 9:30 a.m. Thursday and Wednesday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

*Busy Bees Playgroup for Birth to 4 with adult:* Join us for a story, a song and lots of playtime. Siblings welcome. 11 a.m. Thursday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

*Storytime for Threes with Adult:* Stories, songs, and fun for three-year-olds. Siblings are welcome. 10:15 a.m. Thursday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S Prospect Ave, Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

*Karaoke Thursdays:* Enjoy some great pizza and sing a tune or two. 7 p.m. Thursday, Perry's Pizza and Ribs, 711 Devon Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-4422

*Chicago Wolves Professional Hockey:* The four-time champion Chicago Wolves deliver top-flight hockey and top-notch, live entertainment from October through April at Allstate Arena. The fun starts with the pre-game show that features fireworks and pyro. Go to the website for the team's schedule. 7 p.m. All week, Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Road, Rosemont, Tickets start at $11, 847-843-9658

*Skokie Photographic Society:* The group meets on the third Thursday of each month. All levels of photographic skill are welcome. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton St., Skokie, free, 847-677-8324

*Friday Night Meltdowns:* This is a great night out for teens to join in an awesome skate and dance party. A DJ plays today's hits, disco lighting shines on the ice throughout the night. Call for more information, 8:15 p.m. Friday, Glenview Ice Center, 1851 Landwehr Road, Glenview, $8 per person; $4 for rental skates, 847-724-5670

*Florenc Foster Jenkins:* With a marriage defying all societal norms, an unconventional New York heiress dreams of becoming an opera singer with a solo performance at Carnegie Hall. Meryl Streep and Hugh Grant portray two rebellious souls in the Manhattan classical music scene. Just drop in. 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Duplicate Bride:** 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

**STEAM Starts Ages 2-6 with adult:** Join us in the children's department for self-guided exploration of science, technology, engineering, art, math and, of course, reading. 10 a.m. Friday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S Prospect Ave, Park Ridge, free, 847-843-5127

**The Luminaires:** 7:30 p.m. Friday, Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Road, Rosemont, $29+, 847-635-6601

**Signature Entertainment Presents:** Signature Entertainment Presents: LOL Saturday: Adult Comedy every Saturday night hosted by Comedy legends Tony Scullfield and Mark Simmons. National headliners with movie and television credits on stage. Awesome venue with full bar and dinner menu. 9 p.m. Saturday, Chicago's Home of Chicken & Waffles, 2424 W. Dempster St., Evanston, $15 adult advance; $20 at the door, 847-521-6434

**Animal Arts and Seasonal Stories:** "Animal Arts & Seasonal Stories" are recommended for children ages 5 and up, but there is no minimum age requirement. Activities are offered at varying levels of difficulty and interest to engage the entire family. An adult must accompany participants. 10:30 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, $3 kids, $5 adults, 847-475-1030

**Kader Attia: Reflecting Memory:** The Block Museum will present an exhibition of newly commissioned work by the internationally acclaimed French-Algerian artist Kader Attia, based in part on the artist's research in the collections of Northwestern University's Herskovits Library of African Studies and interviews with university faculty across disciplines. 10 a.m. Saturday-Wednesday, Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, free, 847-467-4602

**North Shore Jazz Fest:** Glenbrook South High School holds its 40th annual North Shore Jazz Fest. The event is a day-long musical celebration, as well as a regional competition with student ensembles performing on four different stages. 8 a.m. Saturday, Glenbrook South High School, 4000 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, Tickets are $10 per adult, $5 for children and seniors, and $25 for the family package (two adults and two children) to come and listen to jazz music all day long, 847-729-2000

**Anime and Manga Club:** Gather with fellow fans to watch and discuss anime and manga, draw fan art, make cosplay costumes. 2 p.m. Saturday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

**Embrace the New Year with Med:**

*Turn to Calendar, Next Page*
Calendar, from Previous Page

**Retirement: Long-time mediator Michael Ribet teaches practical strategies to help reduce stress and create a healthier, more positive lifestyle. 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224**

**Old Town Family Jam Karen Banks-Lubitz Band: Start your Saturday with music. Join Karen from the Old Town School of Folk Music and her musical trio for a dynamic morning of songs and smiles. 10 a.m. Saturday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224**

**Attracting and Feeding Winter Birds:** Tim Joyce of Wild Birds Unlimited in Glenview offers effective strategies on how to attract a wide variety of songbirds during the winter months, along with simple solutions for deterring unwanted guests such as squirrels and raccoons. 2 p.m. Saturday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Havdallah Dinner and a Movie:** Get your ticket today for Havdallah, dinner and a movie. Join the discussion with leader and author, Dr. Miriam H. Gilmore, as she reviews the film, “The Band’s Visit” (director Eran Kolirin, 2007), watch the film, and join for dinner, movie snacks and Havdallah. The fee includes film and dinner and snacks: $18 for Beth Shalom Members, $25 for non-members. 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Congregation Beth Shalom, 3433 Walters Ave., Northbrook, $18-$25, 847-498-4100

**Preschool and Enrichment Fair:** Representative from over thirty area preschools and daycare facilities will assist you in choosing the best setting for your child. Parents can also learn about educational opportunities at museums, dance studios and other enrichment programs. 10 a.m. Saturday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

**Chicago Travel & Adventure Show:** Explore vacation options and meet travel celebrities including Rick Steves and Samantha Brown and get tips from travel professionals. 10 a.m. Saturday, Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 N. River Road, Rosemont, $11 or more.

**Winter Solstice Fireside:** Celebrate the Winter Solstice and learn how nature played a role in the origin of many holiday traditions. Join us for a craft and a short hike to Wassail (sing and wish health) to the forest, followed by warm spiced apple cider by the indoor fireplace while we tell the myth of the Oak King and Holly King. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Please pre-register to avoid cancellation due to low enrollment. Ages 3 and older. 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, $5, 847-677-7001

**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

**Winding Your Way Through the Web: Genealogy Sites:** The internet can be an overwhelming place for beginning genealogists. To learn which websites are reliable and which help you discover when great-grandpa was born or how he came to the United States, come hear genealogist Ginger Freze introduce novice genealogists to several websites. 1 p.m. Saturday, Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-256-6935

**Concert Honoring Cantor Roytman:** Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emunah presents a concert honoring its cantor, Pavel Roytman, for his many accomplishments, as well as creating Beit Musica - a music center at the synagogue. The concert, in song and cabaret style, is designed by The Maxwell Street Klezmer musicians, who are known for their use of traditional Jewish music to bring people together. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emunah, 3220 Big Tree Lane, Wilmette, $36 per person, 847-256-1213

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**Sunday, Jan. 22**

**American English Beatles Tribute:** 6 p.m. Sunday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $16-$36, 847-492-8860

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

**Swingin’ with the Recession Seven:** Jazz vocalist Petra Van Nuis is joined by a six-piece band (horns, drums, bass, and guitar) to fill the Community Room with the sounds of the golden age of swing. Leave your winter blues at the doorstep and enter your library’s up-and-coming jazz club, with traditional jazz talent, The Recession Seven. Please register at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling. 2 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Public Library, 1300 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

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**Monday, Jan. 23**

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

**Robbie Burns Night:** Come join in this Robbie Burns night which features a traditional buffet with Scotch eggs, Haggis, Tatties, Neeps, Smoked Salmon, Shortbread and much more. Also enjoy live music, poetry readings, highland dancers, bagpipers, and singers. Scotch flights are available for $12. 7 p.m. Monday, Peckish Pig, 623 Howard St., Evanston, $35 plus tax and gratuity, 847-491-6778

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CALENDAR

Calendar, from Previous Page:

months: Join in for a half hour of moving, singing, reading, and fun. This is for
toddlers with a caregiver. 10:30 a.m.
Monday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free,
847-272-6224

Storytime for All Ages: Enjoy stories,
songs and fingerplays for the whole
family. 1:30 p.m. Monday, Park Ridge
Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park
Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

Teddy Bear Time Ages 12 to 24
months with adult: Come take part in
stories, songs and fingerplays for children
from 12 through 24 months with an
adult. Siblings welcome. 9:30 a.m.
Monday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S.
Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-
825-3123

Going Into Business: Evaluate Yourself:
This workshop helps you assess
your prospects, giving you the initial
direction needed and the inspiration
to move forward to realize your dream.
This is presented by SCORE Chicago. 7 p.m.
Monday, Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free,
847-256-6935

Tuesday, Jan. 24

Rotary Club of Evanston Light-
houses: This community leadership
group boasts 80 members and meets
every Tuesday, 7:15 a.m. Tuesday, Hilton
Garden Inn Chicago North Shore/
Evanston, 1818 Maple Ave., Evanston,
free
Tuesday Morning Music: Garden
visitors can enjoy free hour-long medita-
tive musical performances on Tuesday
mornings in the McGinley Pavilion
overlooking Evening Island. After the
concert, visitors can board a 25-minute
narrated tour on the Bright Encounters
Tour, a close-up view of the gardens on
the main island, or the Grand Tram
Tour, an overview of the Garden's his-
tory and highlights. 10 a.m. Tuesday,
Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake
Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

Drop-In Homework Help Center for
Grades K through 8: Thirty-minute help
sessions for homework, reading, and
math skills with High School vol-
unteers. This help is provided on a
first-come, first-served basis. Children
may be grouped by subject and grade
level, 6 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public
Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview,
free, 847-729-7500

CJE Senior Life Counseling Appoin-
tments: Counseling includes topics
such as selecting appropriate retire-
ment benefits, picking the right health
insurance and Medicare programs,
determining housing needs, and identi-

fying supportive resources. 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930
Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 773-
508-1054

Beginning Square Dance Classes:
Have fun and learn to square dance; be-
ginner lessons are sponsored by the
Glenview Square Dance Club and Glen-
view Park District. No experience nec-
necessary. No partner required, dress casu-
ally, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Park
Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview,
free first lesson, Registration for 9-week
session $46/$54, 847-724-5670

MGPL Kids: Listen Up! Drop-in story
and play time for preschoolers with a
parent or caregiver. Call 847-929-5102
or go to www.mgpl.org/kids for more
information. 4-45 p.m. Tuesday, Morton
Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave.,
Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Niles Metropolitan Chorus J.S.
Bach's St. John Passion: Rehearsal
days take place beginning Jan. 3, from
7-9 p.m. and every week on Tuesdays
prior to the performance. Their spring
concert of J.S. Bach's "St. John Passion"
is presented on Sunday, April 2, 2017 at
3 p.m. in the St. John Brebeuf
Parish Church, 8307 N. Harlem Ave.,

Niles, suggested free will donation,
702-806-8421

The Castles and Lochs of Scotland:
Join us for an armchair tour of central
Scotland to see its intriguing cities, regal
castles, untamed highlands, and spec-
tacular lochs and glens. Visit Edin-
burgh, Dufftown, Inverness, the Highlands,
and Stirling and hear about ancient
monsters, literary figures, fierce battles,
and Scottish royalty. 2 p.m. Tuesday,
Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar
Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Two-year-old Storytime with Care-
giver: Children ages 2 and 3 are wel-
come to enjoy this free storytime. 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, Northbrook Public Lib-
ary, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook,
free, 847-272-6224

Chicago Wolves Player Visit
(Grades K-8): Meet a Chicago Wolves
hockey player. After a brief talk, the
player will take questions and select one
lucky audience member to dress up in
Chicago Wolves gear. 4 p.m. Tuesday,
Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar
Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Preschool Storytime for ages 3 to 5:
Children ages 3 to 5 are welcome to
enjoy this free storytime. 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, Northbrook Public Library,
1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free,
847-272-6224

Camera Club: The club meets on the
fourth Tuesday of each month. 10 a.m.
Tuesday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100
S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free,
847-692-3597

Get Your Paperwork In Order: Gather
key information so you can effectively
advocate for an elderly parent or your-
self when unexpected change occurs.
Be better prepared to communicate
with healthcare providers and mem-
bers of your support team, before an
emergency arises. The fee is $15 per
person per session, when registering at
the door. There is a $5 discount when
signing up for two or more sessions.
11 a.m. Tuesday, Park Ridge Presbyterian
Church, 1300 W. Crescent Ave., Park
Ridge, $15 per person per session, 847-
951-3365

Baby Bounce Storytime for Birth to
12 months with adult: Join us for
storytime just for babies. Enjoy stories,
songs, rhymes and a playtime at the
end. 9:15 a.m. Tuesday, Park Ridge Pub-
lic Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park
Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

Teddy Bear Time: Stories, songs and
fingerplays for children from 12
through 24 months with an adult. Si-
bings welcome. 11 a.m. Tuesday, Park
Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave.,
Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

Brownie & 4-H Club: for girls age
7-10: Program is planned by the
Brownies. Brownie Bulletin Board is
displayed each week. Please visit
Brownie Bulletin Board at the Library.
For 4-H Club, call 847-272-6224 for
information. For registration, please
call 847-272-6224

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

Lehrhaus Confirmation Class: Post
Bar/Bat Mitzvah teenagers are invited
to participate in this program which
focuses on Jewish values and the
understanding of our heritage.
This class will help students understand
and celebrate their Jewish identity
while preparing for Confirmation.
This 12-session class takes place
from 7-9 p.m. on Tuesday evenings at
1703 Orrington Ave.
Norton School of Character Award. Be-
ginning Square Dance Classes:
Be better prepared to communicate
with healthcare providers and mem-
bers of your support team, before an
emandemic arises. The fee is $15 per
person per session, when registering at
the door. There is a $5 discount when
signing up for two or more sessions.
11 a.m. Tuesday, Park Ridge Presbyterian
Church, 1300 W. Crescent Ave., Park
Ridge, $15 per person per session, 847-
951-3365

Wednesday, Jan. 25

Chely Wright: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday,
SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston,
$25, 847-449-8610

Live Music Wednesdays with the
Josh Rzepka Trio: Hear the music of
Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, Theo-
lonomous Monk and other classics of the
era played by the Josh Rzepka Bebop
trio. Reservations can be made online or
by calling 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Found
Kitchen & Social House, 1613 Chicago
Ave., Evanston, free, 847-868-8945

Preschool Storytime: Stories and
songs for children ages 3-5 and a care-
giver. 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Evanston
Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave.,
Evanston, free, 847-449-8610

BOOKit Nonfiction Book Group:
"Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the
Lusitania" by Erik Larson is discussed.
This group meets bimonthly. Just drop
in. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public
Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview,
free, 847-729-7500

Knitting Circle: If you want to learn to
knit or are working on a knitting or
crochet project, come drop-in. Share
tips, show off your work and converse
with fellow needle arts enthusiasts.
11 a.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public
Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincoln-
wood, free, 847-677-5277

Embers Elementary Open House:
Come learn at Embers Elementary
Prekindergarten through Fifth Grade
Open House about their family of stu-
dents and educators, tour the school
and see how Embers is creating a new
standard in Catholic education. Dis-
cover why Embers received the Na-
tional School of Character Award. Be-
ginning at 8:45 am is registration and
coffee; from 9-11 a.m. is the presenta-
tion and tours. Contact: info@embers-
elementary.org. 9 a.m. Wednesday,
Embers Elementary School, 8340 N.
Greenwood Ave., Niles, free, 847-518-
1185

Preschool Storytime for ages 3 to 5:
Children ages 3 to 5 are welcome to
enjoy this free storytime. 10:30 a.m.

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Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

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

The Devil Wears Prada: Meryl Streep and Anne Hathaway stars in this Library's Classics on Wednesdays Film Series choice. 1 p.m. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Two-year-old Storytime with Caregiver: Children ages 2 and 3 are welcome to enjoy this free storytime. 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Community Wednesdays: Community Wednesdays begins Jan. 18, at Bernard Weinger JCC. We will host three, one-hour lectures/classes throughout the day, along with our fitness class offerings at the Marvin Lustbader Center. 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Bernard Weinger JCC, 300 Revere Drive, Northbrook, $10 per day for nonmember, 224-406-9257

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

Park Ridge Fly Tying Club Meetings: Chicago Fly Fishers Club meet at 7 p.m. Wednesdays, from October through May. An experienced demonstrator does demonstrations of fly tying, with members tying the same pattern using tools and materials provided by the club. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Park Ridge Community Church, 100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge, free, 947-823-3123

Flights Around the World - Portugal: Your seat has been reserved for a special flight around the world. Your flight crew expertly pilots you through each destination as you experience new wines from across the globe and gain more knowledge and better palate. 6 p.m. Wednesday, WineStyles Park Ridge, 105 S. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, $15-20, 847-518-9463

Storytime for Threes with Adult: Stories, songs and fun for three year-olds. Siblings are welcome. 10:15 a.m. Wednesday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

Pokemon Club Grades Kindergarten through Sixth: Play Pokemon at the library. Bring your own cards and meet up with fellow Pokemon fans. 4:15 p.m. Wednesday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123.

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

Wednesday Night Church Activities: Their Wednesday night all-church family nights begin with dinner at 5:45 p.m., followed by singing and skits for all ages together. Then, afterward, youth programs and adult studies are broken out by age. Dinner cost is $5 per adult, $3.50 for children 5-12, under five are free. A family pays a maximum of $12. 5:45 p.m. Wednesday, Winnetka Covenant Church, 1200 Hibbard Road, Wilmette, $5-$12, 847-446-4300

Go Green Winnetka screens "Before the Flood": Join Go Green Winnetka for a screening of "Before the Flood," a documentary that looks at how climate change is truly changing our world and what communities and individuals can do in response. The movie follows Leonardo DiCaprio as he travels the world witnessing the effects of climate change. Along with DiCaprio, the documentary's subjects also include Barack Obama, Pope Francis, and Sunita Narain among others. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Winnetka Congregational Church, 725 Pine St., Winnetka, free, 000-000-0000

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Chicago Tribune
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NOW PLAYING

“Rogue One: A Star Wars Story” ★★★
PG-13, 2:13, action/adventure
“Rogue One,” the tale of a controversial Death Star and those who loathe it, operates as a prequel to the 1977 movie that became a flexible, malleable religion (with ray guns!) to millions. The new movie is a little bit “Guardians of the Galaxy,” a little bit “Dirty Dozen” in its mass warfare slaughter, and a pretty good time once it gets going. “Rogue One” takes its name from the U-shaped spaceship whisking Alliance fighters to the tropical planet Scarif for the big showdown against Empire forces. The movie’s pretty violent. Deliberately, director Gareth Edwards’ effort is rough around the edges, hectic in its cross-cutting but increasingly effective as kinetic cinema. — Michael Phillips

“Hidden Figures” ★★ ½
PG, 2:07, drama
“Hidden Figures” is a fairly entertaining gloss of a docudrama elevated by its cast. It takes place mostly in 1961 and early 1962, three years into the life of NASA. With Russia’s successful launch of Sputnik, America had to play catch-up in the space race. “Hidden Figures” focuses on three African-American female mathematicians working behind the scenes, and behind a long wall of white colleagues, at a stubbornly segregated NASA in Jim Crow-ruled Hampton, Va. The bigotry and sexism these women endured cries out for a tougher-minded movie. But there’s no doubt that many will respond to this easygoing picture and be grateful for something that at least deals with subjects overdue for some of the space-race glory. — M.P.

“Sing” ★★ ½
PG, 1:48, animated
Talking, dancing, singing creatures great and small mash up with the wildly popular phenomenon of singing competition reality shows. The result, “Sing,” is an amusing riff on genres, a “Zootopia Idol.” But while the film takes its introductory cues from shows like “American Idol,” “The Voice” and “X Factor,” with an all-too-brief audition montage that is jam-packed with truly wonderful moments, it transforms into an old-school backstage musical that celebrates the magic of putting on a show. — Katie Walsh

“Underworld: Blood Wars” ★★
R, 1:32, action/adventure
With four previous films under its weapons-packed belt, “Underworld: Blood Wars” hasn’t lost any of its predecessors’ lust for blood. This film is as big, dumb and loud as one of its Lycans in wolf form, though it’s no worse than the rest of the series. Vampire Selene (Kate Beckinsale) hides from both the Lycans (aka werewolves) and her own estranged tribe, but soon the vampires ask for her help. Joined by David (Theo James), Selene continues the interspecies war. Half the script from Cory Goodman is endless expository dialogue explaining this film and its predecessors’ plots, and the rest is grunts and roars from supernatural creatures that are fighting. — Kimber Myers, Los Angeles Times

“La La Land” ★★★★
PG-13, 2:08, musical comedy
At its best, “La La Land” is a little bit “Three, four, five bells at once,” reminding us of the multilayer satisfaction a musical can provide. Ryan Gosling stars as a stubbornly idealistic jazz pianist and aspiring club owner. More crucial to the film’s success, Emma Stone co-stars as a striving, occasionally employed Los Angeles actress. Stone is spectacular, and she’s reason enough to see “La La Land.” Damien Chazelle is a born filmmaker, and he doesn’t settle for rehashing familiar bits from musicals we already love. He’s too busy giving us reasons to fall for this one. — M.P.
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Chicago Tribune
chicagotribune.com/suburbs
Sport utility valentine
Most anticipated vehicles of 2017 dominated by SUVs, not cars

BY MARK PHELAN
Detroit Free Press

SUVs rule; cars drool. That's the story in the auto industry these days, and it's not likely to change in 2017. Sales of traditional cars are down, while consumers can't get enough SUVs. High seating, good sightlines, all-wheel drive and looks that conjure images of rugged, capable off-roaders have made vehicles like the Honda HR-V, Ford Escape, Chevrolet Equinox and Toyota RAV4 the hottest things on wheels.

Cheap gasoline helped the trend, but this SUV boom is less reliant on low oil prices than previous market swings. Modern SUVs like the 2017 Honda CR-V frequently get better fuel economy than midsize sedans like the Honda Accord and Ford Fusion.

Sedan will never disappear, but whether you're shopping, selling, or designing and developing new vehicles, the action in 2017 will be on the SUV side of the ledger.

So it's no surprise that many of the most interesting and important vehicles going on sale this year will be SUVs. Here's a look at some.

Alfa Romeo Stelvio: This fast and elegant SUV is the key to Fiat Chrysler's plan to turn Alfa into a leading luxury brand and a major moneymaker. It's Alfa's first SUV, so attention will focus on how the Italian brand's performance and handling translate.

Expectations are high. The Giulia compact sport sedan, which uses the same new architecture and drive-trains as the Stelvio, delighted critics in early tests.

BMW 5-series: The seventh-generation 5-series sport sedan looks like a chance for BMW to get it right after some of its recent models grew a bit heavy.

The new 5-series is up to 137 pounds lighter but also longer, wider, stiffer and stronger.

A turbocharged 248-horsepower 2.0-liter 4-cylinder engine is standard equipment, while the top M550i xDrive model gets all-wheel drive, a twin-turbo 456-horsepower 4.0-liter turbo V8, and hits 60 mph in 4.0 seconds.

The plug-in hybrid 530e iPerformance model reaches 60 mph in 6.2 seconds and can cover 15 miles on battery power, farther when its 4-cylinder engine engages.

Prices start at $51,200, excluding destination charges.

Buick Enclave: The new Enclave family-carrying SUV is the long-awaited replacement for the model that began Buick's American resurgence. Expect the new model to lose substantial weight but remain big and roomy, unlike its showroom mate, the GMC Acadia, which shrank considerably when the new model arrived in 2016.

The Enclave should be Buick's flagship, so expect the brand to pull out all stops on style, luxury and technology.

Chevrolet Equinox and Traverse: Chevrolet is primed to reap dividends from the SUV boom with these two crossovers.

The 2018 Equinox will offer three turbocharged engines — 1.5L and 2.0L gasoline and a high-mpg L6L diesel — linked to a new nine-speed automatic transmission.

The Equinox is about 400 pounds lighter than its predecessor, but Chevy's promise of room for up to eight people indicates it will not shrink much, if at all. Chevrolet claims the Traverse will have class-leading third-row legroom and cargo space, key bragging points when competing with vehicles like the Ford Explorer, Honda Pilot and Toyota Highlander.

Honda Odyssey: America's best-selling minivan will get more dynamic styling when the fifth-generation model debuts at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit on Jan. 9.

Expect Honda to load up on safety features and emphasize fuel economy, connectivity and kid-friendly features as it squares off against the revitalized Pacifica for minivan leadership.

Jeep Compass: The second time had better be the charm for Jeep's compact SUV. The original Compass, developed under DaimlerChrysler's styling management, was a mess, launching with a poor engine and transmission, impoverished interior materials and styling that was consciously intended to appeal to European buyers, not Americans.

The all-new Compass wears Jeep's American heritage like a flag lapel pin, despite the fact that Fiat Chrysler plans to build it around the world, but not in the U.S.

It looks like the Grand Cherokee's precocious kid brother and offers upscale interior materials and features.

Jeep Wrangler: The iconic vehicle that created the Jeep look and heritage is in for the biggest change in its 75-year history in 2017. The all-new Wrangler is expected to make extensive use of aluminum to save weight and improve fuel economy.

It will be the first Wrangler not built in Jeep's historic home of Toledo, Ohio, moving to a plant outside Chicago.

Jeep fans are intensely protective of the Wrangler. They'll rebel if the new Wrangler's looks and performance don't meet or exceed their demands. That's especially true considering there's a good chance prices will rise substantially.

Kia Niro: What do you get when you combine the hottest trend on wheels — small SUVs — with a 50-mpg hybrid-electric drivetrain? A hit, if Kia has anything to say about it.

The Niro hybrid promises an enjoyable driving experience thanks to a quick-shifting six-speed dual-clutch automatic transmission. At 171.5 inches long, the Niro is a foot shorter than the Toyota RAV4, but its 106.3-inch wheelbase is 1.6 inches longer, a combination that can contribute to sporty handling.

Unlike most SUVs, though, the Niro will offer all-wheel-drive, potentially a significant blank spot on its spec sheet. Kia will add a plug-in hybrid Niro in the future.

Volkswagen Atlas: Volkswagen's long-awaited three-row SUV powers the German brand's hopes of winning American family buyers.

The Atlas' conservative styling encloses an eight-speed automatic transmission and a choice of V6 or turbo 4-cylinder gasoline engines. No diesel. No surprise.

The third row of seats claims room for two adults. Other interior features include Apple CarPlay and Android Auto for smartphones and 480-watt Fender audio.

The Volkswagen Atlas, a long-awaited SUV, claims room for two adults in its third row.
Genesis has modest luxury

BY ROBERT DUFFER
Chicago Tribune

Thick, wet snow shrouded visibility and parallel ruts formed in the white stuff, serving as lanes. Traffic slowed to 20 mph, except for trucks and our Genesis G90 full-size sedan. We had full confidence at double the speed, and the heavy car stayed planted even while sloshing through rutted lane changes onto the off-ramp. We braked to a stop without much sliding, and turning onto snow-quiet unplowed side streets kept us going in the direction we intended.

It's not the kind of all-wheel-drive excellence you expect from a luxury sedan, but the G90 is not the kind of luxury sedan you'd expect from Hyundai.

To be clear, the flagship is made by Genesis, the new stand-alone luxury brand by Hyundai. It shows how far Hyundai has grown from the budget cars it launched on the U.S. market in the late 1980s; the Genesis brand — or at least the first of six models planned by 2020 — is more impressive than Ford's Lincoln, Toyota's Lexus, Honda's Acura, and more distinctive than Nissan's Infiniti and GM's Cadillac.

The G90 does not match the German full-size sedans, and it doesn't need to. It makes all the refinements of luxury cars accessible without the pretense, price or piecemeal options. The G90 comes fully loaded with advanced cruise control, power sunshades, leather everything and a 365-horsepower twin-turbo V-6 for $70,600. The options listing on the Monroney label is a thing of simplistic beauty: The nearly three-dozen features are all "included."

That superlative handling in snow is in part thanks to the H-Trac AWD system, which shifts torque depending on the conditions, and the heavy weight of 4,784 pounds.

The advanced safety features help make it a highest-rated Top Safety Pick+ by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. It's a soft, quiet ride that doesn't feel ungainly or motorboatish, thanks to the active suspension and responsive steering.

The weight is a drag on acceleration, however. Even in sport mode the G90 isn't going to take your breath away, yet it hits 60 mph in 5.3 seconds, according to Car and Driver. The driver's seat is plenty luxurious, featuring what Genesis calls a class-leading 22-way adjustable seat position. Like the German makes, there's a controller dial in the center console for the excellent 12.3-inch color display screen, but audio and climate functions can be accessed through buttons for traditionalists, or on redundant steering controls for those who like to keep both hands on the wheel.

The notion of modest luxury is where the G90 stands out. It's luxurious without being ostentatious, capable without being obnoxious, refined without being too soft and loaded with helpful technology at a justifiable price.

"Snarky" response draws complaints from readers

Some American car buyers are baffled by a blizzard of new technologies that vary from model to model. I have disagree with your response to C.P. from Elmhurst, Ill. All he was stating is not everyone wants or needs some of the features that are now on new vehicles. I appreciate the technology that now offers anti-lock brakes, collision avoidance, etc. In fact my last new car was ordered with manual transmission and no air conditioning. That was fine with me.

- K.S., Mokena, III.

Your response to the aging baby boomer, C.P., was as if you were channeling Jim Mateja. I liked it. Not far from 65 myself.

- J.C., Homer Glen, Ill.

You did not answer part of C.P.'s question. Specifically, you did not answer "are any car manufacturers building any vehicles without all this high tech stuff?" It's a fair question that deserves some attention, especially from the manufacturers. I have a 2012 Buick LaCrosse, which has so much stuff on the dashboard, I do not think I have ever used one-tenth of it.

- R.G., Chicago

I have to agree with the irate baby boomer who wrote in asking for a basic car without all the bells and whistles. I think there would be a huge market for this and will congratulate the automaker that addresses the need for a basic vehicle. All of this unnecessary electronic mumbo-jumbo just adds cost and distraction. How about something for auto-disabling text on phones or impaired-driver detection?

- N.S., Wethersfield, Conn.

From online posts:

"Driving a car is a task that is fun because it puts the driver in control of a large and fast machine. Operating it properly and competently is a task that, once learned, gives the operator a feeling of accomplishment that can't be matched by merely being a semi-passenger in a machine that does the steering and stopping for you. If people don't like to drive or can't learn the skill, admit it and just use Uber."

- bjagan Chicago

I think Weber's reply was at least as worthwhile as the question from C.P., who complained that millennials go for "self-parking cars, pedestrian avoidance systems, collision avoidance systems, etc." It is a comment that completely overlooks the middle-aged and seniors out there who appreciate those features. "When I was their age" is not a valid criticism.

- @ebchickey

A: Many thanks to readers who took the time to write. We took the liberty of editing your responses for space. Yeah, maybe we were a bit snarky. Even Mrs. Motormouth said so, and she is married to this boomer. You can still find vehicles without all of the electronic wizardry. Just shop the lower-end models. You will get what you need, without much of the stuff you don't want. Don't let the salesperson sell you up to the most expensive car. They will try. According to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration statistics, the semi-autonomous safety features are responsible for fewer traffic deaths, and we would never advocate removing them. Yet, we agree that the most important components are still the drivers: that they can and should avoid the infotainment distractions. Focus on the responsible task of driving. Finally, to the reader that accused us of channeling Jim Mateja, we consider it a compliment.

Send questions along with name and town to Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Fourth Floor, Chicago, IL 60611 or motormouth@tribverizon.net.
Local coaches have fond memories of late Cubs scout

BY STEVE REAVEN
Pioneer Press

As a Major League Baseball scout for 38 years, including a tenure with the Cubs since 2001, it was Northbrook native Stan Zielinski's job to identify and recommend prospects who would eventually shine on the sport's biggest stage.

Among the players he helped the Cubs identify and sign were slugging Kyle Schwarber and current frontline National League starting pitchers Jeff Samardzija and Rich Hill.

Zielinski, who died at age 64 at his home in Winfield on Jan. 5, was most comfortable in the background, where he was quietly left to effectively do his job.

In the time since his passing, the behind-the-scenes Zielinski has been top-of-mind to the legions of coaches, players and colleagues whose paths he crossed over the years on the local baseball scene.

Zielinski most recently served as the Cubs area scout for Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

"Not a lot of people knew who he was, but that's exactly how he wanted it to be," said Notre Dame baseball coach Nelson Gord, who first met Zielinski when we was a player at Illinois-Chicago from 2000-04. "I would see him throughout the fall and summer travel games, and you'd see Stan standing there holding court. He had a knack for connecting with people."

Besides his keen eye for identifying and evaluating talent, those who knew Zielinski were struck most by how he routinely went out of his way to help a prospect find a suitable college or a way to improve his skills. Assisting in those manners went above and beyond his official job duties but spoke to Zielinski as a person.

"He did those things without any form of compensation or notoriety," Gord said.

In this June 6, 2009, photo, Chicago Cubs baseball scout Stan Zielinski jots down notes prior to an NCAA college baseball super regional game in Baton Rouge, La.

His colleagues took notice of his work. Zielinski was named the Cubs' scout of the year last January and he was inducted into the Midwest Scouts Association Hall of Fame on Dec. 10 at Kauffman Stadium in Kansas City, Mo.

Longtime New Trier baseball coach Mike Napoleon first met Zielinski in the late 1980s. He came to appreciate the professional manner in which Zielinski, a 1970 Loyola graduate, interacted with him. Zielinski also was instrumental in helping Napoleon tap into an email and text system devised to alert members of the Midwest Scouting Bureau of any practice, game or workout at a respective high school.

"He was always open and honest with me and made it a point to be complimentary about what we did well as a program," said Napoleon, whose contact with Zielinski spiked in 2011 when current White Sox outfielder Charlie Tilson was a New Trier senior.

Zielinski's generosity spread into other areas as well. When his usually-reliable Cubs' ticket sources ran dry during the 2015 National League Championship Series with the Mets, Napoleon called Zielinski. Napoleon bought a pair of coveted "scout" seats only rows behind home plate at Wrigley Field that Zielinski secured for him.

Other area high school coaches also spoke highly of Zielinski's no-nonsense, conscientious approach.

"He would always call you to tell you he was coming out and find time to talk before a game," Niles West coach Gary Gustafson said. "He was always organized and very prepared."

Maine South coach Bill Milano recalled an instance in the spring of 1997 when Zielinski was scouting for the Florida Marlins. Zielinski came to a game to watch a pitching prospect who was slated to close the game if the Hawks were ahead.

In the early innings, the prospect was playing first base and he waited a while before throwing the ball to second base to force out the runner in an attempt to showcase his arm strength for the scouts. Milano was not impressed and pulled him from the game.

Zielinski gave Milano an earful after realizing he wouldn't be able to see the prospect pitch, but the two laughed about the situation in subsequent years.

"The baseball community will miss Stan," Milano said. "He did it the right way and will be dearly missed."

Steve Reaven is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Notre Dame principal Tully joins IHSA board

BY HEATHER RULE
Pioneer Press

High school activities and athletics help students build up a variety of skills like time management, leadership and teamwork, according to Notre Dame principal Dan Tully. They also provide an opportunity to build camaraderie, he said.

"It's really about not just educating the mind but also the heart," Tully said.

Tully is the newest member of the IHSA Board of Directors. The board voted at its Jan. 9 meeting to appoint him to the vacant at-large seat. His seat is reserved for a principal from a non-boundaried school. Fenwick principal Peter Groom resigned from the board, vacating the seat.

Tully is in his 10th year as principal at Notre Dame. Prior to that, he attended the school as a student, and worked as a teacher, director of student activities and assistant principal at the school. He's also been an assistant baseball coach, pep club moderator and student council moderator.

"He has an interest in everything that goes around with the school," Notre Dame athletic director Mike Hennessey said. "He has a great understanding of where athletics fits into the school picture."

According to the IHSA website, the board "approves IHSA policies, interprets the rules and employs an executive director and staff to administer the programs of the IHSA."

Tully knows he's one of 10 voices on the board, so he said his initial role will be to listen and learn to find out all there is to know. Listening, he said, will be key.

Board members are principals who are elected to three-year terms, but Tully will be finishing out Groom's term, which ends this year. He will then have the option to run for a three-year term of his own. IHSA spokesperson Matt Troha said.

Tully said he hopes he can contribute something, leadership and teamwork, according to Notre Dame athletic director Mike Hennessey said. "He has a great understanding of where athletics fits into the school picture."

Tully said he hopes he can contribute something, leadership and teamwork, according to Notre Dame athletic director Mike Hennessey said. "He has a great understanding of where athletics fits into the school picture."

"I think it's important that we have a voice on the board," Tully said. "We're just looking for an even playing field."

One item that he thinks is worth digging into is the success factor for non-public schools. The success factor, which is only applied to non-public schools, means that if a school has success in a particular sport over a certain period of time, it will be moved up to a higher classification.

"I think it's time that we take a look at that to see if that's equitable and fair for the student athletes in Illinois," Tully said.

Getting involved with decision-making regarding high school athletics and activities is nothing new for Tully. He served on the IHSA legislative commission in 2013 and 2014. During that time, Tully said he learned about the issues facing Illinois schools, plus he was there to speak up on behalf of the schools in his region along with the non-public schools. It was a reminder of how large and diverse the state is, and there are a variety of interests from schools around the state, he said.

He's also been part of the Interscholastic Council of Private Schools, a group that discusses issues pertaining to athletics and non-public schools in Illinois.

"So I think from that range of his experiences and expertise... he has good information in his hands," Hennessey said.

O'Brien nets career high for Southern Illinois

BY SAM BRIEF
Pioneer Press

Mundelein graduate Sean O'Brien (left) is a senior forward on the Southern Illinois men's basketball team.

Trinity graduate Mikayla Leyden, a senior guard on the Saint Xavier (NAIA Division II) women's basketball team, broke the 1,000-point mark for her career on Jan. 3 against Judson. Leyden, who entered the game with 999 career points, scored 19 points, dished out eight assists and grabbed six boards in Saint Xavier's 101-58. In 18 games, she was averaging 11.6 points and team-leading 5.4 assists per game.

DePaul's 96-65 win at Seton Hall on Jan. 8. In 28 minutes, Grant scored a career-high 23 points and a team-best 7.8 rebounds per game for a 14-4 Blue Demons team ranked No. 21 in the Jan. 9 AP poll.

Bennett-Swanson and Trinity graduate Lauren Prochaska are also on the Blue Demons roster.

Diveris makes early impression for Penn diving

In an Ivy League tri-meet with Cornell and Princeton on Nov. 19, Penn junior diver John-Michael Diveris, a Lake Forest graduate, placed first on the 3-meter board with a score of 289.20. Diveris also finished second for the 3-meter dive with a score of 293.90. Diveris' efforts helped guide Penn to its first win over defending Ivy League champion Princeton since 1989, while also defeating Cornell.

Penn's most recent tri-meet, against Yale and Dartmouth on Jan. 7, Diveris finished third on the 1-meter dive with a score of 252.95.

Have a suggestion for College Notes? Email Sam Brief at briefsam@gmail.com.
Maine South's Jim Nuzzo, left, wrestles Niles North's Peter Govis at 138 pounds on Friday in Park Ridge.

Niles North's Peter Govis, right, won a 5-0 decision over Maine South's Jim Nuzzo at 138 pounds.

Govis, Ramirez provide bright spots in loss

**BY GARY LARSEN**
Pioneer Press

Govis won a 5-0 decision over Maine South sophomore Jim Nuzzo while Ramirez pinned Maine South junior Nikko Lorusso. Govis improved to 16-5 with his win, while Ramirez improved to 22-2 this season.

Gary Larsen is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
TOUGH LOSS

Maine South’s Ryan Pena, left, wrestles Niles North’s Donny Kern in the 132-pound match during their meet on Friday in Park Ridge.
TIM BOYLE/PIONEER PRESS

Niles North wrestlers fall to Maine South 67-9.
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