

# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR



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Thursday, February 2, 2017

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## Taking to the streets

More than 1,000 attend rally, demonstration in Morton Grove. Page 6



PATRICK GORSKI/PIONEER PRESS

More than 1,000 demonstrators turned out Jan. 29 for a rally at the Muslim Education Center in Morton Grove. The group was protesting the Trump administration's immigration policies.

GO



TONY CHURCHILL PHOTO

### Shows for less

Chicago Theatre Week offers discounted tickets for hundreds of city and suburban shows. Page 21

SPORTS



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### Benefit of hindsight

Five area seniors share their advice to younger football recruits. Page 38



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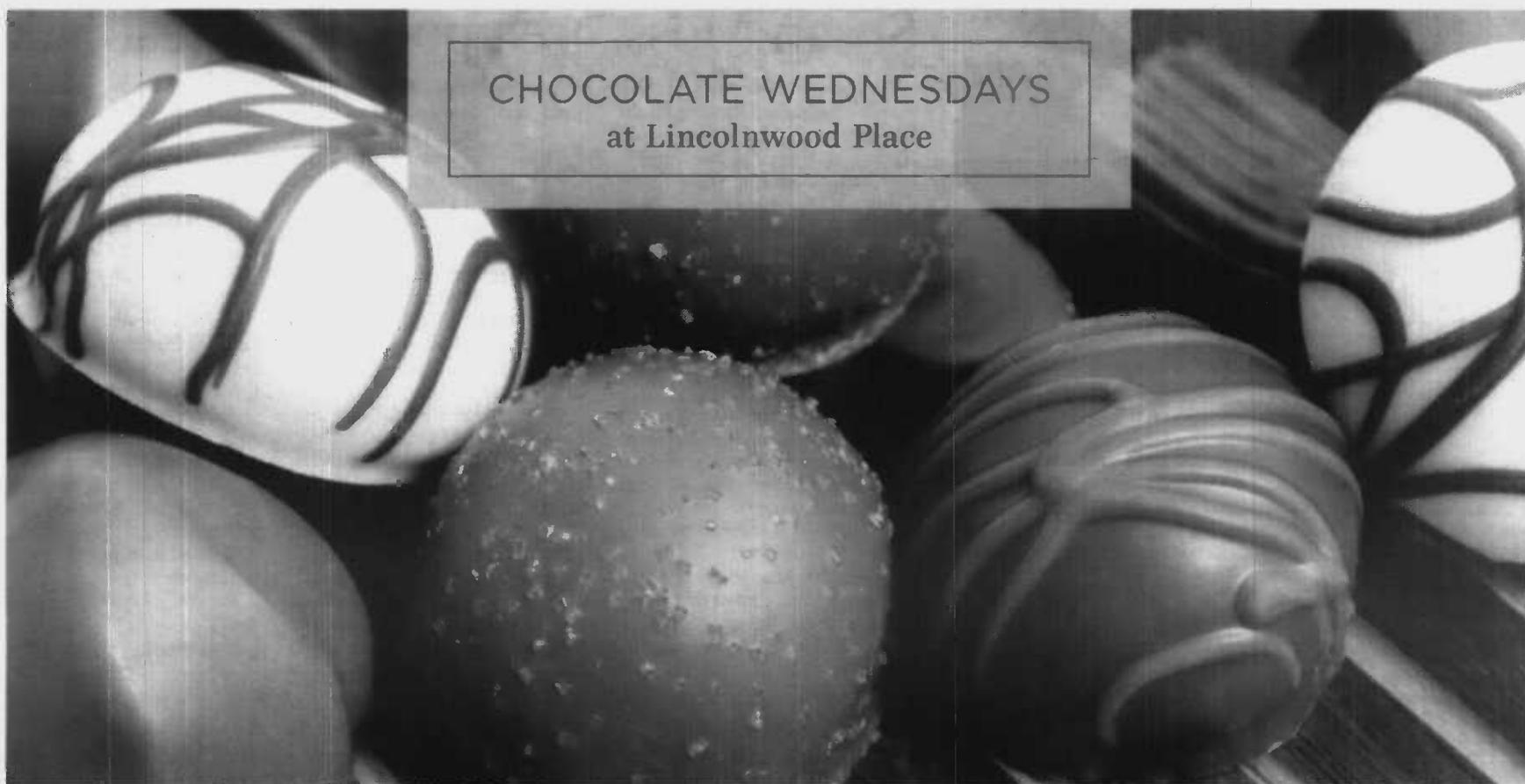
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**Sat-Sun:** 7 a.m.-12 p.m.

**MAILING ADDRESS**

435 N. Michigan Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60611

**PUBLICATION INFORMATION:**

Niles Herald-Spectator is published 52 issues per year by Chicago Tribune Media Group, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611. Single copy: \$1.50. One-year subscription: \$52.00. Includes Sunday Chicago Tribune. In-county only. New subscriber starts require email address. If for some reason you choose to cancel, please note that a refund processing fee may apply.

Vol. 68, No. 1

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## SHOUT OUT

# Susan Moss, area poetry contest judge

Poet Susan Moss will serve this year as a judge for Evanston Public Library's annual Jo-Anne Hirshfield Memorial Poetry Awards contest. The library is currently accepting entries for the contest, which is open to all adults and high school age youth in the Chicago area — including in Morton Grove, Niles and Lincolnwood — and to Evanston's elementary and middle school students. Moss, a former English teacher, has written two poetry books and is president of the Illinois State Poetry Society.



Moss

**Q: How do you come to write and enjoy poetry?**

I started writing poetry as a little girl when I was drawn by the full moon shining through my bedroom window. After standing on

my bed for a better view, I found a pencil and some paper to write a rhyming poem about this brilliant light that seemed so close I could have almost touched it. Since that first experience of recording an observation and response, I have kept writing over many years. Presently, I am working on a third book for future publication.

**Q: What are some of your inspirations for writing poetry?**

Poetic inspirations can come from anywhere and anyone or thing. I firmly believe that anything can be a poem, and in my writing career, that has proven to be true.

**Q: Who is your favorite poet?**

It would be very difficult to choose just one poet as my favorite one. So many poets, deceased and

living, have contributed to a wide-ranging body of work that serves to inform, entertain and evoke various responses in me. A few of the poets among many others and in no specific order that I read include Robert Frost, Mary Oliver, Grace Paley, W.S. Merwin, Jane Hirshfield, Galway Kinnell and Wendell Berry.

**Q: What makes you agree to judge the annual Jo-Anne Hirshfield poetry contest for the Evanston library?**

As a past award winner in the Jo-Anne Hirshfield Memorial Poetry contest and as current president of the Illinois State Poetry Society, I believe in encouraging and nurturing the creative process.

**Q: Is writing poetry your only profession?**

Presently, I am a full-time poet.

— Staff report

## CLARIFICATION

An article in the Jan. 5 edition about a local Lincolnwood company being approved for a liquor license incorrectly reported that the business owner was a liquor distributor. The owner is a liquor retailer.

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# Crowd rallies in support of Muslims

An estimated 1,500 marchers took to the streets of Morton Grove against Trump's actions

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER  
Pioneer Press

About 500 people packed the basement of the Muslim Education Center Jan. 29 while hundreds more spilled upstairs and outside the building, during an interfaith demonstration calling for sanctuary and support for Muslims and other minority groups against recent Trump administration actions.

In an event that was planned for 200 to 300 people, an estimated 1,500 people ended up leaving the center and marching about a mile around Morton Grove. The rally came a day after several people were detained at O'Hare International Airport following President Donald Trump's executive order banning travel to the U.S. for some immigrants from predominantly Muslim nations in the Middle East.

On a day when snow flurries swirled and temperatures hovered below freezing, the assorted headwear worn over bulky coats — from Jews in yarmulkes and Muslims wearing hijabs, women in pink “pussy hats” to men wearing Chicago Cubs baseball caps — illustrated the social and religious diversity of protesters as they marched in Morton Grove.

Voices joined together to sing “We Shall Overcome” as the event got underway.

“It really kind of mushroomed right in front of our eyes,” said Lesley Williams of Jewish Voice for Peace, which was one of the event organizers.

During planning, “we had no idea there would be political events affecting this,” Williams said.

The demonstration in the north suburb was billed as a show of interfaith solidarity and announced by the Jewish Voice for Peace organiza-



PATRICK GORSKI/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Approximately 500 people gathered in the basement of the Muslim Education Center in Morton Grove Jan. 29, as scores more were outside the building, all as part of a rally to protest the Trump administration's immigration policies.



More than 1,000 demonstrators turned out for a rally at the Muslim Education Center in Morton Grove to protest the Trump administration's immigration policies.



tion. Rally organizers called on area residents to support Muslims and for towns to adopt sanctuary ordinances.

One sign read “Love Trumps Hate” in both English and Arabic. Others advertised the names and support of churches in the near north suburbs.

Still others proclaimed support for the Black Lives Matter movement and the LGBTQ community, among others.

Imam Nazim Mangera with the Muslim Communi-

ty Center said he was “obviously” surprised with the turnout, which after the march packed the center's gym to capacity for speakers and a rally.

The Jan. 29 demonstration came a day after several people were detained at O'Hare Airport, following Trump's executive order.

Mangera said he wasn't aware of anyone from the Muslim Community Center congregation being detained or affected by the order, but said it's still early. About

2,500 people attend services between the center's two campuses each week, in Morton Grove and the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago.

“It's so sudden and the news is getting out,” Mangera said. “The community is surprised that Donald Trump, our president, went that far. This is not something we expected.”

On stage, leaders of different faiths gave their advice for supporters going forward.

Michael Nabors, senior pastor at Second Baptist Church in Evanston, said after the president's recent actions, Christians need to start speaking up.

“Christians have to allow their churches to be sanctuary churches,” welcoming to those of different backgrounds, citizenship and faiths, Nabors said.

“If they want Muslims to register, every single human being should register,” Nabors said.

Elected officials were

among those in attendance.

“As a Jew, how dare we go back to that, locking our doors to immigrants ... people who want nothing more than to be safe,” said U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky, D-Illinois, whose 9th District includes Evanston, Lincolnwood, Skokie and portions of Morton Grove.

Many protesters said they turned out to reinforce diversity and inclusiveness as American values.

“It's not about being a Muslim or any faith,” said Elyas Mohammed, 34, of the Rogers Park neighborhood.

He said Trump's recent order reminded him “of dictators.”

“These are not the laws the United States stands for,” Mohammed said. “You can't blame the whole religion for the bad doings of a few.”

Sally Ryan said she and her husband, Joe Boyle, both 70 of Glenview, marched in the rally because “our guts are churning over what's going on. It's overturning our values.”

Boyle carried a large banner reading, “Many Voices at St. Nicholas Evanston Call Justice for All.”

Others said current events are bringing together groups that might not otherwise mingle.

“People I thought didn't like me because of what I wear and my religion are saying they support me,” said Fariha Ahson, 17, of Lincolnwood. She marched wearing a hijab with an American flag print.

Speakers and others encouraged protesters to take their support to O'Hare International Airport later in the evening or in the week.

“This is a movement. It's not a one-day event,” said co-organizer Dilnaz Waraich.

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# Niles, Morton Grove switch to Evanston for water supply

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER  
Pioneer Press

Evanston could start providing Lake Michigan water to the villages of Niles and Morton Grove as soon as late 2018 after leaders from all three towns approved a long-awaited deal this week.

Evanston City Council members unanimously approved the agreement at their meeting Jan. 23. The Morton Grove village board also approved the proposal for its town the same night. Trustees on the Niles village board approved it Jan. 24.

The deal will increase the number of suburban customers using Evanston water from 400,000 now to about 450,000, according to city figures. Morton Grove and Niles users are expected to make up about 13 percent of those using Evanston water.

The deal is expected to earn Evanston an additional \$735,000 in revenue next year, rising to \$1.2 million in 2022, according to city reports. No water treatment plant improvements should be needed to accommodate the demand, Evanston officials said.

Reaching the agreement initially was a challenge, said

Evanston City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz, because the city needed to "convince communities who have had the same water source for 100 years to have a new water source."

But talks grew more serious after City of Chicago, which now supplies water to Niles and Morton Grove, significantly raised its rates over recent years, Evanston officials said.

Morton Grove residential water customers now pay \$10.81 and Niles customers pay \$8.44 per 1,000 gallons of water, per the villages' respective websites. One thousand gallons of water is enough for 20 to 40 showers.

Their rate with Evanston should not exceed \$.85 per 1,000 gallons in 2018 and \$1.01 per 1,000 gallons in 2020, according to the deal approved this week. Increases after that will be determined by a formula included in the agreement.

Morton Grove officials said at the Jan. 23 meeting that they expect to save \$90 million to \$100 million over the life of the 40-year contract, which locks in the suburb's water rates over that time period. The contract includes the option for two, 10-year extensions.

"Our rate will be somewhat within our control versus the aldermen of the City of Chicago, who can raise the rate whenever they want," said Morton Grove Mayor Dan DiMaria.

The two villages are expected to pay about \$90 million for a new water transmission main in Evanston at McCormick Boulevard and Emerson Street and other infrastructure needed to deliver water from that city, according to officials from all three towns. That construction is expected to be financed with bond sales.

Evanston already serves its own city water, and provides it to Skokie and members of the Northwest Water Commission. That group includes Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove, Palatine and Wheeling.

Efforts to expand Evanston's water customer base began in 2009, Bobkiewicz said, when Evanston officials realized the "city could be making more money if we had more customers."

Illinois towns applying to receive Lake Michigan water for the first time must first get state approval.

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# No injuries after SUV hits post office

BY MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

An elderly woman drove her SUV into the front of the Skokie Post Office building Jan. 27, crashing through glass and coming to a stop once inside, according to the Skokie Fire Department.

The incident occurred at 12:48 p.m. at Madison Street and Niles Center Road, said Skokie Fire Department Deputy Chief Bob Reichert. No one inside the building was struck and the woman was not injured, nor did she

need medical attention, he said. In addition to police and fire personnel, the village's building department also responded to the scene. Reichert said the building was found to be "structurally safe" and the post office was able to remain open after the incident.

"The driver was apparently attempting to park in the lot and crashed the vehicle into the front of the building," he said.

Skokie Police Officer Eric Swaback said the driver was issued a traffic citation for

improper lane usage and driving off the roadway.

"The driver stated she was parking and she believed she pressed the accelerator instead of the brake pedal," Swaback said.

Reichert said that before the post office resumed activity, fire personnel and the building department made sure the area was safe.

"We cleaned the area and removed the glass so there were not any hazards," he said.

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# Science park sold to former Willis Tower owner

MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

American Landmark Properties, which used to own Willis Tower in Chicago, has purchased the Illinois Science + Technology Park in downtown Skokie, the village announced Jan. 27.

The 24-acre property that is home to an open-campus biotech park near Searle Parkway and Niles Avenue had been up for sale by developer Forest City Enterprises for well over a year, officials said. The selling price was \$77 million, according to American Landmark Properties, which released information about the completed sale Jan. 26.

"The Illinois Science + Technology Park represented a rare opportunity to acquire one of Chicago's premier life sciences and technology campuses," said John Roeser, executive vice president of Skokie-based American Landmark Properties.

Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen called American Landmark Properties "a world-class developer from our very own community" in a written statement following announcement of the sale.

Van Dusen said it was Forest City's vision that established the property from the onset. He said the sale "(further) both the important scientific work that had occurred at the campus under prior owners and Skokie's stature as an important center of research and development in the state."

Once home to two pharmaceutical companies, the property was sold by Pfizer Pharmaceutical Co. to Forest City more than 10 years ago.

Forest City and the village had announced big plans for the park, including building it out to as many as 10 buildings as tenants came in.

Those plans never fully



AMERICAN LANDMARK PROPERTIES

Pictured is an aerial view of the Illinois Science + Technology Park located in downtown Skokie. The hub has been sold to Skokie-based American Landmark Properties, owner of the Willis Tower in downtown Chicago, Skokie officials announced Jan. 27.



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

materialized, in part because of the recession and the state budget crisis, which left the park without some state funding that was expected, officials said.

Van Dusen recently hinted that the sale was in the works and that the park could be expanded under

new ownership.

The mayor called the science park "a significant contributor to Skokie's employment base and economic growth."

According to the village, about 1,500 employees work at the park. It was earlier expected that the

park could have as many as twice that number once the build-out was completed.

The park currently has five buildings although a sixth building on the site remains a shell because state funding fell through, village officials said. There are no specific plans for that building, according to American Landmark Properties, but the company is looking for a tenant or tenants.

The building, which includes 136,000 square feet of space, would be constructed to the specifications of those who occupy it, the company said.

According to Roeser, three existing fully renovated lab and office buildings are currently 86 percent leased to "leading domestic and multinational

life science, energy and nanotech companies."

According to the new owners, the park includes 556,650 square feet of fully developed office, laboratory and amenity space. Other development opportunities, include up to 1.3 million square feet of new office and lab facilities on park property as well as 500,000 square feet of mixed-use retail and residential space, the company stated.

NanoBusiness Alliance, an organization that said it was about "creating a collective voice for the emerging small tech industry," was the first tenant of the park. Since then, the park has become home to major national and international companies such as New Zealand-based Lanzatech,

and Better Pharma Development Services USA, which is headquartered in Germany. It also leases space to NorthShore University Health Systems.

Leasing agents Scott Brandwein and David Saad, of Los Angeles-based real estate service giant CBRE, have been retained as the leasing agents for the park property, according to American Landmark Properties.

"We are seeing a lot of momentum in the market from science-based (research and development) companies encompassing a variety of industries, along with our Chicago-area research universities," Brandwein said.

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# Hamakor Gallery prepares to close after 40-year run

BY MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

Hamakor Gallery is scheduled to close its doors at 4150 Dempster St. in Skokie for the last time at 6 p.m. Feb. 6 — “the end of an era” as 16-year store manager Jason Schiff described it.

The owners point out that *hamakor* in Hebrew means “the source,” which is what they say their store has tried to be for all things Judaica for more than 40 years — the last 30 in Skokie.

Herschel and Naomi Strauss have owned and operated the store with help from their adult children and a dedicated team of employees.

“It’s a great place, great location, great community,” Herschel Strauss said. “To sign another long-term lease, though, just didn’t make sense. But it’s been a good business.”

The storefront windows at Hamakor Gallery appear mostly covered with signs announcing the store is going out of business and a significant sale on remaining items.

The Strausses say they will keep an online store running, but they also know it’s not the same.

Herschel Strauss pointed to some unique, curve-shaped candlestick holders inside the store.

“I have them in blue, black and confetti and other colors,” he said. “You come in and you touch and feel it and compare it. You can’t do all that online. I don’t care if you’re Amazon. You can’t see it in position or against 10 other items when you’re on the internet.”

To the Strausses, “the end of an era” began around last Passover when they discontinued their store catalog — a major draw for their business, they said.

But Herschel is 66, Naomi, 68, and they said they have plans to move to Israel,



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

Herschel Strauss, co-owner of Hamakor Gallery in Skokie, talks about the “bittersweet” feeling he has as he and his wife prepare to close the store Feb. 6.

where two of their three children and seven of their nine grandchildren live.

“I’m very excited about the next stage in our lives,” Naomi said. “We have an apartment in Israel and we want to live there. We want to spend time with the grandchildren.”

When Herschel was in rabbinical school in Cincinnati, according to his wife, a friend bought what he thought was primarily a Jewish book store on Lawrence Avenue. He moved it from Lawrence to Lincoln Avenue and renamed it Hamakor Judaica, she said.

“The friend decided this was not what he wanted,” Naomi said. “It was too much into the gifts, and he wanted just the bookstore. We bought it from him.”

The Strausses never imagined the purchase was going to amount to a 40-year career and a family run business in the truest sense.

“It was something Herschel wanted,” Naomi said. “He’s always been involved in selling things. He liked the whole concept.”

The store has sold all kinds of items over the years: religious items for all denominations, crafts, artwork, books, jewelry and much more.

It reached even more customers with the publication of a catalog — first in

black and white and then in color, the owners said. Items eventually were sold on a website the store developed, [jewishsource.com](http://jewishsource.com), which essentially expanded their market to Jews all over the world.

At its peak, the owners say on their website, the catalog circulation reached 1.5 million catalogs a year; more than 3,000 Judaica items including books and gourmet kosher food baskets and much more were for sale.

According to their parents, the Strauss children each played a role in the business — even though their oldest daughter, Ilana, was just an infant when they began running the store.

“It was part and parcel of our family,” Naomi said.

Ilana, who now lives in Israel, helped communicate with vendors in her country on behalf of Hamakor; Benjamin, before he became a lawyer, worked with his parents and set up the store website and more; Samuel, a rabbi and a teacher in Florida, worked with the Hamakor warehouse and its computer system.

“All through the years, it’s been a family project,” Naomi said. “That’s one of the things that has never changed.”

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

#### BATTERY

■ Eshaq Salaqa, 42, of the 8600 block of Milwaukee Avenue, Niles, was charged with domestic battery on Jan. 8. Salaqa was scheduled to appear in court Feb. 2.

#### DUI

■ Andrew J. Castillo, 28, of the 400 block of Hazelwood Lane, Glenview, was charged with driving under the influence on Jan. 9 after he was reportedly involved in a crash in the 9700 block of North Greenwood Avenue. According to police, a Glenview police officer reported seeing Castillo's car being driven without headlights, missing its front bumper and dragging what appeared to be a gate. The officer stopped the car and noted that both air bags had

been deployed, police said. Castillo was taken to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge after complaining of neck and back pain. Castillo is to appear in court Feb. 9.

■ Daniel Staufienbiel, 29, of the 7300 block of Honore Street, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence on Jan. 8 after police reportedly found Staufienbiel passed out behind the wheel of his car, which was parked and running in the 7000 block of Oakton Court. Staufienbiel is scheduled to appear in court Feb. 22.

#### FORGERY

■ Michael Jones, 25, of the 14000 block of South Marquette Avenue, Burnham, was charged with forgery, credit card fraud and possession of an altered driver's license on Jan. 6 after police said Jones attempted to open a membership at a retailer in the 7300 block of Melvina Avenue using an

altered identification card. According to police, while Jones was in custody, three fraudulent Illinois state ID cards were found in his possession, as well as 13 credit cards. There was also a warrant for his arrest out of Will County for driving on a suspended license, police said. Jones is scheduled to appear in court Feb. 6.

#### POSSESSION

■ Police ticketed a 30-year-old Chicago woman for possession of drug paraphernalia on Jan. 9 after a hypodermic needle was reportedly found inside her bag near the 200 block of Golf Mill Center. According to police, officers noticed the woman acting suspiciously and waited for her to exit a restroom, at which time she was questioned by the officers and admitted to being a drug user.

#### PROPERTY DAMAGE

■ Javed K. Noor, 36, of the

3600 block of West 63rd Place, Chicago, was charged with criminal damage to property on Jan. 8 after he was accused of forcing open his girlfriend's apartment door in the 8100 block of Dempster Street, causing the door frame to break, police said. Noor is to appear in court Feb. 6.

■ An air rifle appeared to have been used to damage multiple glass blocks in a garage window on the 7300 block of Carol Street between Jan. 9 and 11.

#### PUBLIC

#### INTOXICATION

■ A 30-year-old Des Plaines woman was ticketed for public intoxication on Jan. 12 after police reportedly found her falling down in the 8000 block of Waukegan Road. She was taken to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge for treatment.

#### THEFT

■ Erskine Williams, 20, of

the 10400 block of Mansfield Avenue, Oak Lawn; and Reginald Jackson, age not given, of the 4000 block of West 105th Street, Oak Lawn, were each charged with retail theft on Jan. 6 after allegedly stealing from a store on the 8200 block of Golf Road. Williams and Jackson are each scheduled to appear in court Feb. 6.

■ Patricia Korbel, 58, of the 9500 block of Terrace Place, unincorporated Maine Township, was charged with retail theft and criminal trespass on Jan. 7 after allegedly stealing two bags of cat treats from a store in the 200 block of Golf Mill Center. Police said Korbel had been previously warned not to return to the store after an alleged shoplifting incident in 2014. Korbel is scheduled to appear in court Feb. 17.

■ Vivian Bethshlimon, 27, of the 9000 block of West Terrace Drive, Niles, was charged with retail theft on Jan. 8 after police said she

stole from a store in the 200 block of Golf Mill Center. She is scheduled to appear in court Feb. 17.

■ A 1996 Honda was reported stolen Jan. 11 from a parking lot in the 8600 block of Milwaukee Avenue, police said. The car was later found by Chicago police parked in the 5900 block of Bernard Street.

■ A package containing boots was reported stolen Jan. 12 from outside a home in the 8100 block of Wisner Street. The theft is believed to have occurred Dec. 12, police said.

#### WARRANT

■ Nenab Givargis, 20, of the 8300 block of Kostner Avenue, Skokie, was taken into custody on a bond forfeiture warrant for a DUI charge on Jan. 5. While Givargis was in police custody, marijuana was found inside the pocket of his jacket and Givargis was ticketed, police said. Givargis was scheduled to appear in court Feb. 2.

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# ETHS students stage anti-Trump protest

BY GENEVIEVE  
BOOKWALTER  
Pioneer Press

Hundreds of Evanston Township High School students marched out of class for a rally in downtown Evanston Jan. 24 in protest of Donald Trump's presidency.

Evanston police blocked off streets and escorted the throng of marchers for their approximately one-mile walk from the school to Fountain Square. The students left ETHS at about 12:30 p.m. amid chants of "Hey hey, ho ho, Donald Trump has got to go."

About 200 students perched on railings, lined steps and stood on the base of the flag pole in the square as they listened to organizer Maya Madjar, 17, an ETHS senior.

"If you are not outraged, you are not paying attention," Madjar announced into a megaphone, to cheers from fellow students. "Protesting is only step one."

She recommended students get off social media and limit screen time, saying that liking and sharing their views online was only a small step in the bigger fight for justice.

Instead, Madjar said, "introduce yourself ... Seek out opposing ideas. Build bridges with people who do not share your perspective."

"People who don't agree with you are not disposable," Madjar said.

The crowd responded with whoops, cheers and chants of "Yes we can," among others.

The protest "feels a lot more like a family than a crowd," said organizer Sophie Hasty, 15, a sophomore.

The students who participated varied in age, grade level and social interests.

Neither Evanston Town-



GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Hundreds of Evanston Township High School students gathered at Fountain Square in downtown Evanston Jan. 24 for an anti-Trump administration demonstration. "We stand here as a free country and he's going to take that away from us," one protester said.

ship High School nor ETHS District 202 officials responded by press time to Evanston Review requests for comments on the student walkout and demonstration.

Freshman Emilyjane Solonka, 14, stood on a ledge at the square to watch the speakers. She said she cried for three days after Trump's election.

Solonka said she identifies as a pan-sexual non-binary person and came to the rally because she fears her rights will be threatened by the new administration.

"We stand here as a free country and he's going to take that away from us," Solonka said.

Others shared similar views.

"I'm not really a political man. But I've heard Trump, and he's not qualified to be president," said senior James Phillips, 17, as to why he participated in the rally.

"He's more focused on being on Twitter and arguing with people than being president. That's not OK," Phillips said.

Planning for the demonstration started about a month ago, organizers said, when Madjar posted a comment on Facebook asking who might be interested in helping to organize a rally. She pulled together a core group of 12 who met over snacks at a local restaurant and put it together.

The goal, organizers said, was to be as inclusive as possible with the rally. It also gave a voice to many who are not yet old enough to vote.

"We are scared and we are angry, but we are going to deal with it with knowledge and class," said organizer Elizabeth Nebel, 16, a junior.

The rally wrapped up around 2:10 p.m., as students sang "Lean on Me" in unison and began marching back to the high school.

The regular school day ends at 3:35 p.m., according to a schedule posted on the ETHS website.

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Twitter @GenevieveBook



An Evanston Township High School student carries a sign reading "An educated Latina is Trump's biggest threat." during a student-organized demonstration against the administration of President Donald Trump.

# Oakton to fund adult education without state funds

**MIKE ISAACS**  
Pioneer Press

Oakton Community College will continue to offer adult education programs in literacy, English as a second language, high school equivalency and more despite operating without its usual state grant due to the Illinois budget crisis, officials say.

The college's board of trustees approved a measure Jan. 25 to fund adult education for fiscal year 2017 even though Oakton usually receives \$14 million in state and federal funds for such programs, according to college officials.

"I think it is fortunate that we have the funds to be able to step up and provide this bridge," said board Chair Ann Tennes.

Officials said the school will use reserve funds to



JON DAVIS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Oakton Community College, pictured, will continue to offer adult education programs despite operating without its usual state funds due to the budget crisis, officials say.

replace grant funding "on a temporary basis" until the state budget situation is resolved.

"The constituents that are

served by these programs need the continuation of these services and the opportunities they provide," Tennes said.

Oakton adult education programs serve about 4,500 students annually and are supported by 16 staff members, eight of whom are fully

compensated through grant funding, according to college officials.

"Access to education for adults is fundamental to good citizenry and promotes participation in political, economic, cultural, artistic and scientific life," said Collette Hands, Oakton's associate vice president of continuing education, training and workforce development. "We are grateful to the board of trustees for their support and commitment to our students and community."

Oakton officials said the community college, which has campuses in Des Plaines and Skokie and serves residents in Evanston, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Skokie, Niles and other towns, has already adopted cost-reduction strategies in response to the state budget crisis. Among those strate-

gies, they said, are combining class sections, developing additional partnerships and deducting out-of-district travel for professional development. Those strategies will remain in place until state funding returns, they said.

Oakton received its state funding for last fiscal year at the end, said Oakton Director of College Relations Paul Palian.

"(That) allowed Oakton to reimburse itself for the investment in adult education," he said.

The college is hopeful that the same will happen for this fiscal year, he said.

"Based on past history, (we're hopeful) that the state dollars and federal pass-through money will once again be distributed," Palian said.

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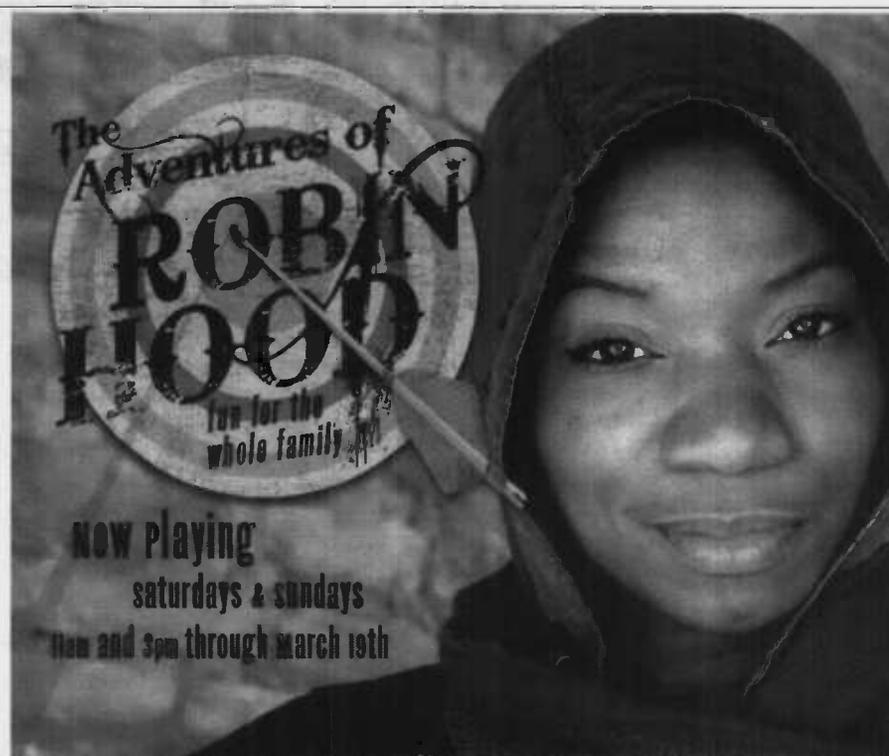
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# Skokie resident documents Ukraine roots

Preserving family history becomes passion project after mother's death

BY MIKE ISAACS  
Pioneer Press

Skokie resident Bena Shklyanoy remembers just what drove her to create a blog and website about her life in Ukraine — even if she didn't know at the time that it would consume her for years to come.

Her mother died in 2004, she said, and she went with her daughter to clean out her apartment on the North Side of Chicago.

"My mother was very stingy with what she allowed the family to know," said Shklyanoy, 71. "She didn't reveal a lot."

As she discovered photos and documents that were part of her own and her family's history, she realized her daughter was uninformed.

"My daughter would throw everything in the black bag and I'd say, 'What are you doing? Don't throw this out. This was the last dress my grandmother made for me.'"

After similar incidents during the process, Shklyanoy said, her daughter finally asked: "How would I know?"

"As soon as she asked that question, that's where it started," Shklyanoy said. "To me, I was always so totally immersed in the family and the stories my grandmother told me."

More than a decade later, Shklyanoy completed her blog and website, *The Apple Does Not Fall from the Tree. Ever.* Although she said the purpose was always personal — to leave behind a family history for future generations — she came to recognize "our story is the story of the Soviet Ukraine," as she says on the website.

"Four generations of an ordinary family that persevered in the face of the Pale of Settlement, the pogroms, the Bolshevik Revo-

lution and the resulting wannabe workers' paradise of the Soviet Union, two world wars, Stalin's purges and Khrushchev's Thaw and Brezhnev's morass, the communal apartments and shortages of everything, the habitual anti-Semitism and the Jewish emigration of the 1970s to the bewildering, the incomprehensible Free World," she said.

Her project began by writing down what she remembered and collecting photos and artifacts, she said. Like her mother, Shklyanoy said, she is meticulous and organized, which served the project and her website well.

She researched and remembered and reunited with relatives for 11 years before she could announce to herself the project was complete. Shklyanoy presented her website last year at the International Conference on Jewish Genealogy in Seattle.

"For some people, apple does not fall far," Shklyanoy writes on her blog. "But grandma said it does not fall at all — if you belong to a family, you don't need to see them, you don't even need to know them, you are always part of that family."

The site is unique, she said, not just because it reflects important history, but because that history is also personal and includes eyewitness accounts.

"All day long, the janitor sorted the garbage brought in pails," she writes. "She watched fragments of papers for duplicitous content, return addresses for ties with subversives or foreigners and food leftovers for rarities consumed by families that could not afford them."

The website is neatly categorized by family history, an extensive collection of images containing pictures of family, views of shtetls and cities where



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Skokie resident Bena Shklyanoy talks about her website and blog titled "The Apple Does Not Fall from the Tree. Ever." Shklyanoy spent 11 years creating the web project, documenting and describing her life in Ukraine.

Shklyanoy's family lived, a glossary explaining people, places, ideology, artifacts and more.

Shklyanoy grew up in Kiev, which was part of the Soviet Union. After earning a graduate degree in Russian language, she worked as a technical translator and editor, she said.

An only child, just like her future husband, who also was born in Kiev, she writes about life there, how she met her husband, dating and getting married.

The couple came to the United States in 1976 with two small daughters when there were about 500 Soviet Jewish immigrants, Shklyanoy said. Her parents followed a couple years later and were recorded as the 1,000th Soviet immigrants to arrive in Chicago.

Losing citizenship and assimilating into a new culture — leaving people they

knew and going to the other side of the world — are also well-documented on Shklyanoy's site.

"We had no idea of private property," she said. "Everything was novel. Every little thing. If I describe a day from morning to night, it was all discovery, discovery, discovery. People who came here at that time had to feel they had nothing to lose."

More than 40 years later, much has changed for Shklyanoy. She has adult children, her husband and parents have died and she is now retired, she said. When she first came to the United States, she worked as a caretaker for an older lady, and then as an interpreter. She eventually made a 30-year career in computer science and information technology, she said.

She admits her website became all-consuming as she worked on, it both



Shklyanoy shows the home page of "The Apple Does Not Fall from the Tree. Ever," in which she has documented her life growing up in Ukraine.

before and after she retired. She said she discarded the idea of writing a book because it was too limited. She had too much to present, too many photos and documents and words she wanted to incorporate from the beginning of her family story in 1852.

"First, I only wanted my

children to know their roots," she said about the project. "But as the research went deeper and deeper, I realized this was a window into the intricacies of Soviet reality that most are not aware of."

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# Author tells of rise of anti-Semitism before WWII

BY DANIEL I. DORFMAN  
Pioneer Press

When Peter Hayes speaks about the Holocaust and its causes, the retired Northwestern University professor has a simple — yet dark — conclusion.

“Everybody involved responded in a way that served their own self-interest, and this is one of the most dreadful aspects of the Holocaust,” Hayes said. “Under certain circumstances, human beings can rationalize almost anything.”

Hayes, author of the new book “Why? Explaining the Holocaust,” spoke at Glencoe’s North Shore Congregation Israel on Jan. 23 about the reasons that led to the Holocaust. Approximately 1,000 people attended the program, which was co-sponsored by NSCI and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Hayes noted anti-Semitism appeared locally, but not on a national level, in Germany in the 19th century. But when Germans began



DANIEL I. DORFMAN/PIONEER PRESS

Author Peter Hayes signs copies of his book following his Jan. 23 lecture on the Holocaust at North Shore Congregation Israel.

to feel the devastating economic impact of World War I in 1918 and the beginnings of the Great Depression a little more than a decade later, attitudes began to change.

“It led many Germans to think desperate times demand desperate measures,” Hayes said.

Since some Jews were perceived to be doing well in the eyes of the Germans, hatred started to rise, he said. The Nazi party, which received less than 3 percent of the vote in a 1928 German parliamentary election, got 37 percent of the vote in 1932.

Since no party garnered a majority in that election, the German president selected Adolf Hitler to be prime minister in 1933, thinking he could be controlled by other political forces, said Hayes, who previously taught Holocaust history at Northwestern. However, Hitler amassed power and used it to control public opinion as opposition voices were silenced.

“The problem in Germany in 1932 is there weren’t that many anti-anti-Semites,” Hayes added.

Anti-Semitism grew in Germany throughout the 1930s and, making matters worse, there was no unified thought on how to address the situation, even within the Jewish community, Hayes said.

“It would have required an

unimaginable degree of clairvoyance on the part of Jews to know what was coming toward them in the years leading up to 1939,” Hayes added.

Hayes contends that in the 1930s, the goal of the Nazis was just to drive Jews out of the country, but as the regime began to take over other European countries, it was invading nations with significant Jewish populations.

“Every time they expanded into the territory they wanted, they would gain (roughly) as many Jews as they had succeeded in driving out,” Hayes said.

Aided by the discovery that an inexpensive insecticide first used on Soviet prisoners of war in 1941 could be used as a weapon to kill mass numbers of people in addition to carbon monoxide, Nazis started murdering Jews.

Hayes, who was raised as a Catholic, also said the Nazis were aided by some German corporations not standing up to the government for economic reasons,

and part of the reason the Catholic church did not speak out was because the Nazis allowed their churches to stay open.

“That meant the (Catholic) church would not stand up to the Nazis when push came to shove,” Hayes said.

As the war got started and calls were made for bombing the camps, Hayes said most of the locations were not within reach of Allied air power. In addition, stopping the executions never seemed to be the Allies’ highest priority.

Hayes said that today, he is concerned about the criticism of the European Union and NATO in what he called the “architecture” of post-war Europe.

“These were all devices that were developed in response to that. They were the machinery of ‘never again,’ and we are watching people tearing this down, and I think that is a terribly alarming thing,” Hayes said.

Daniel I. Dorfman is a freelancer.

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# Evanston library to hire full-time social worker

BY BRIAN L. COX  
Pioneer Press

A growing number of the 640,000 people a year who use the Evanston Public Library and its two branches are homeless, according to library officials, and the library director said a social worker has been hired to assist them.

Library Director Karen Danczak Lyons said that funding cuts to other social service agencies and the services they provide has led to more homeless people accessing the library for shelter from frigid winter temperatures and summer heat waves, among other reasons.

She also said that in some circumstances, the homeless use the library's public bathrooms to simply get washed up.

"That's why I asked the [library] board and the city to support bringing on a full-time person to help with this," she said.

The director said the social worker is being hired through the city's current contract with Presence Health Care and is expected to start by the end of March.

Danczak Lyons said the social worker would be at the main branch and the one at Chicago Avenue and Main Street.

The Evanston library will be joining a growing number of public libraries across the country that hire a social worker to work with the their homeless patrons, Danczak Lyons said.

She said the library had previously brought into its main branch social worker interns on a part-times basis to the to deal with patrons identified as or believed to be homeless.

But that initiative was not enough to meet a growing need, she said.

"I wanted a skilled social

worker who is able to make an assessment, recommendations and referrals, open case files if necessary to truly help our patrons because they are gathering here," the library director said.

The service would be free to patrons and include public programs about health-related issues.

Danczak Lyons said the library is hoping to get grants to be able to provide the services.

The Evanston library's decision to hire a social worker is being hailed by those who work with the homeless population on a daily basis.

**"It's incumbent upon us to think about how we best serve the needs of our patrons and our residents."**

— Karen Danczak Lyons,  
library director

"There is a severe lack of affordable housing, especially in Evanston. And on the north shore, in general, there is this vast wage disparity," said Betty Bogg, executive director of Connections for the Homeless in Evanston.

She said her organization has noted what it considers an increase in poverty, and has seen an increase in people accessing its emergency overnight shelter.

"Poverty is on the rise," she said. "This year we've seen more folks coming to the emergency overnight shelter."

She said the uptick in that service is in conjunction with the impact of the

state budget which has led to decreased services.

Danczak Lyons said she first started thinking about hiring a full-time social worker after hearing that the San Francisco Public Library had done it.

"It's incumbent upon us to think about how we best serve the needs of our patrons and our residents," she said. "This is another tool in our toolbox."

The San Francisco Public Library was one of the first libraries in the country to tackle the issue of the homeless seeking refuge in local public libraries, said Leah Esquerra, a licensed therapist and social worker there.

She said that homelessness is growing nationwide and public libraries increasingly have social programs and are hiring social workers, including libraries in Denver, Brooklyn, Washington D.C. and Philadelphia.

"Other libraries became interested in what we did because they have the same homelessness issues all over the United States," she said.

"It's very difficult to access housing here. It's more difficult for people who are impoverished or on public benefits," Esquerra said about the Bay City.

Evanston Public Library's outreach to the homeless would not be its initial foray into social service.

According to the library's annual report for 2015, EPL helped 105 people enroll in the Affordable Care Act and state-funded Medicaid.

Also, the social worker interns aided patrons in finding mental health services, the report indicates.

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

# New Trier grad returns to area with job at The Score

BY DANIEL I. DORFMAN  
Pioneer Press

Twelve years ago, Danny Parkins was broadcasting at the New Trier High School radio station. His voice is still coming through, only now to a much bigger audience.

On Jan. 17, the Glencoe native premiered as co-host of the midday The Spiegel and Parkins Show at WSCR, better known as The Score, one of Chicago's sports radio stations. Parkins returned from Kansas City to Chicago, where he grew up loving the Cubs and Bulls and was a frequent visitor to Wrigley Field and the United Center.

"From the day I graduated from college," the 30-

year-old said, "I've had a singular goal to get this job and get back to Chicago."

Parkins arrived at The Score after longtime afternoon host Terry Boers recently retired and previous midday host Jason Goff moved to the afternoon, creating an open slot in the midday.

Parkins became intrigued with the idea of getting behind the microphone while at New Trier.

"I didn't know New Trier had a radio station (WNTH), but I was told about it, and I said I was interested," he said.

Soon he was doing play-by-play of New Trier sports, including football, men's basketball and women's volleyball.

Parkins had fun, but also

displayed a charitable side in the weeks following the late 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami that killed hundreds of thousands of people. Parkins and some friends stayed on the air for 15 consecutive hours as part of a radiothon that he said raised an estimated \$15,000. Parkins got, among others, Cubs legend Ryne Sandberg and then-Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich to appear on the high school airwaves.

"Danny has always had that nature in him to help other people, so he realized the strength of the platform even at WNTH and he thought of the idea to organize the first radiothon," his mother, Patti Levin, said.

His talents weren't limited to radio, as Parkins was also a state debate champ at New Trier, which he thinks also might have laid a foundation for being a sports

radio talk show host.

"I think the skills helped me today," Parkins said. "They help you craft arguments and think about things logically, and the thing about debate is knowing the points your opponent is going to make and how you are going to refute them."

His talent stood out to the faculty.

"To see where he is today in his career is no surprise to anyone who knew him well at New Trier because he was a successful debater, which meant he was always an engaged and lively participant in class discussions," recalled Susan Holderread, a New Trier social studies teacher.

Parkins attended Syracuse University, known for its broadcasting program.

After graduation in 2009, Parkins was hunting for his

first gig in the ultracompetitive radio market, with the economy still in the depths of the recession. Having no job offers, he returned to Chicago, moved into an apartment with some friends and tried his hand at being a professional poker player.

On a trip back east to a Syracuse basketball game, a friend offered him a radio job in Syracuse for \$9 an hour, six hours a day. With nothing better in the offing and wanting to get his first broadcasting job, Parkins signed up.

Less than a year later, he learned of a job opening at the KCSP, a sports radio station in Kansas City. The person who gave him the tip also provided advice on how to present himself on the voice mail of the station's program director.

"He liked people who

were cocky and aggressive, and I said I could do that," Parkins said. Parkins soon started what turned into an almost six-year run in Kansas City.

One highlight of his tenure came last year, when the Kansas City Chiefs selected a player in the NFL draft who pleaded guilty to choking his pregnant girlfriend.

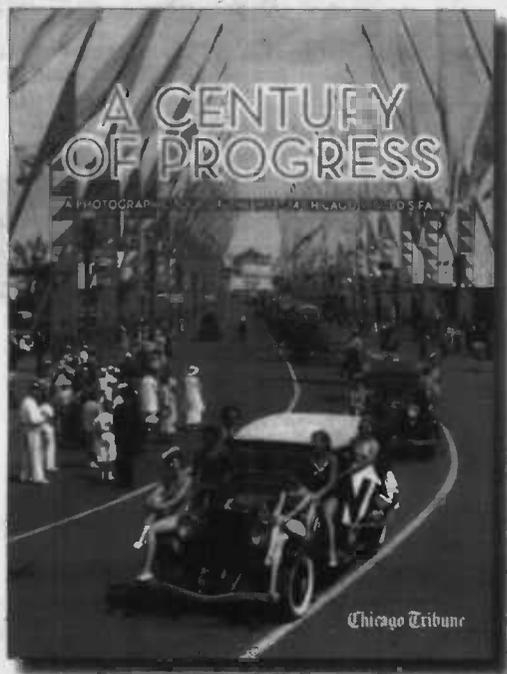
Parkins was outraged and encouraged his listeners to find a way to channel that anger, and helped raise \$17,000 for a local domestic violence shelter.

Always wanting to return to Chicago, his determination paid off when The Score was looking for a new host; Parkins got the nod to join co-host Matt Spiegel from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every weekday.

Daniel I. Dorfman is a freelancer for Pioneer Press.



Parkins



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Chicago Tribune

# Smylie Brothers expanding in Evanston

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER  
Pioneer Press

Smylie Brothers Brewing Co. is looking to expand the reach of its beer from taps in the company's Oak Avenue brewpub in Evanston to ones on the North Shore and the North Side of Chicago.

The expansion will be made possible with Evanston City Council's decision late last year to lease the city's former recycling center space to Smylie Brothers, allowing the local brewing company to expand capacity and start distribution, said owner Mike Smylie.

"We're going to recycle the recycling center," Smylie said.

The new space will allow Smylie Brothers to quadruple its total beer production, the owner said.

It also will include a 50-seat taproom and 50-100 seat patio.

The former recycling center, at 2222 Oakton St., sits adjacent to James Park, one of Evanston's largest public parks.

With easy access to McCormick Boulevard, it should allow Smylie Brothers to join a booming Midwest craft beer scene, Smylie said. First, he said, they plan to distribute between Highland Park and Chicago's Lincoln Square neighborhood.

"We're going to focus on our core demographic that is already coming to the brewpub," he said.

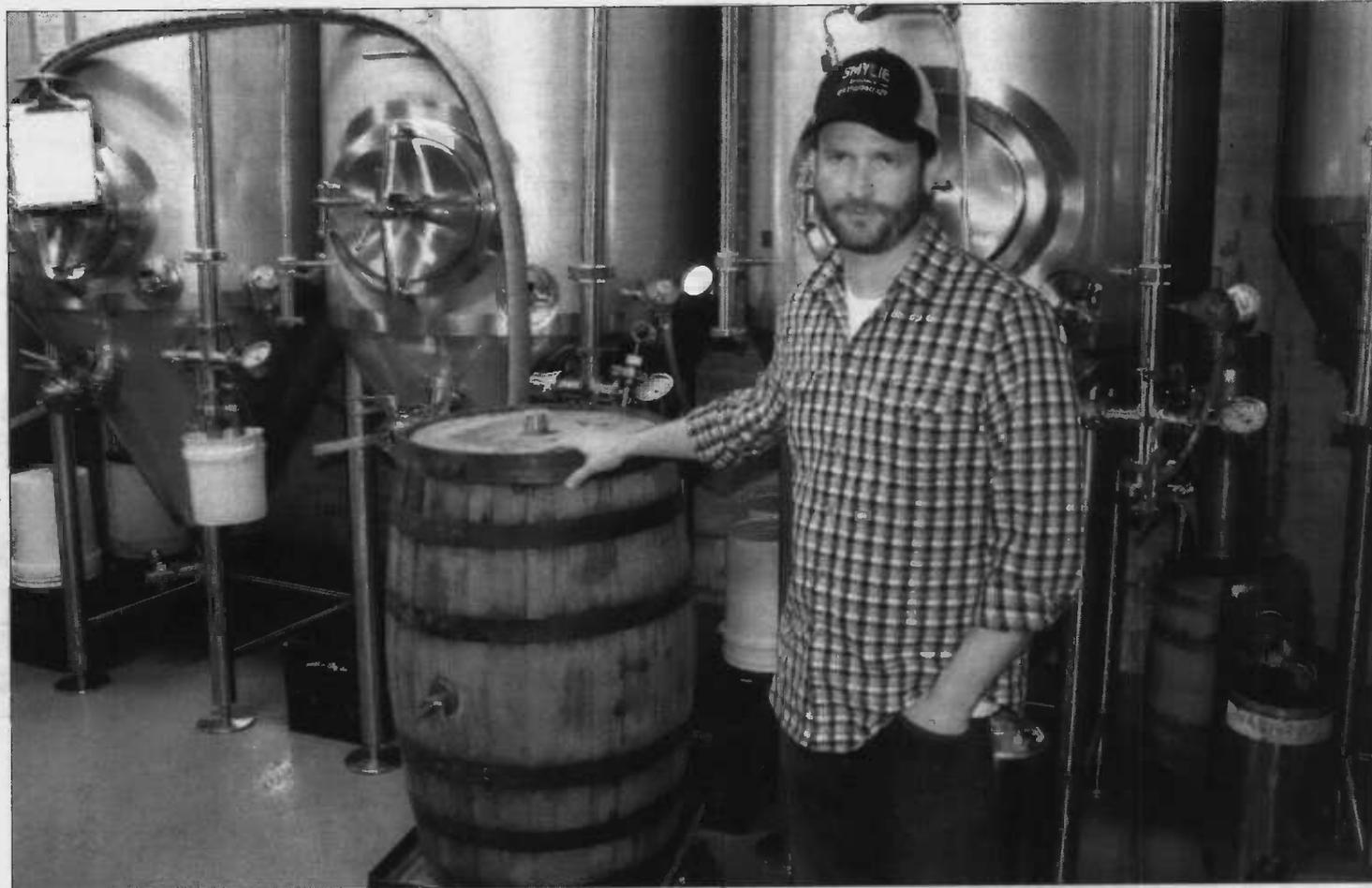
Smylie expects to brew the company's three top-selling beers for distribution in the new space: Farmhouse, a Belgian saison; Cali Common, a lager-ale hybrid beer; and Helles Lager, a light German-style beer, he said.

The beers eventually should be available in both kegs and 16-ounce cans, Smylie said.

Smylie Brothers' popular Purple Line beer — a summertime wheat ale with hibiscus, blueberry and blackberry — likely will not be distributed, Smylie said.

Moving production of the company's most popular beers to the old recycling center should then free up barrels at the Oak Avenue brewery for more experimental brews, Smylie said.

Those brews could include sour beers, fruity beers, and beers aged in old bourbon, gin, cognac and other alcoholic barrels, including



GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Smylie Brothers Brewing Co. owner Mike Smylie stands Jan. 16 surrounded by beer tanks and aging barrels at the company's Oak Avenue brewpub in Evanston. The brewery plans to expand to a former recycling center at 2222 Oakton St. in Evanston.

some from local distilleries.

"Once we have the facilities we can do more unique stuff like that," Smylie said.

The brewery won a silver medal at last year's Festival of Wood and Barrel-Aged Beers in Chicago for a rye saison aged in pinot noir barrels.

Ald. Ann Rainey, 8th, called Smylie Brothers' expansion "very exciting. We're waiting on pins and needles to see the signs go up."

Ald. Brian Miller, 9th, voted against the lease, saying the building should instead be used for recreation.

"It's on our biggest park," Miller said. "I just think it's short sighted."

The 10-year lease includes two five-year options to extend, and the opportunity to buy the building after the first 10 years is complete, according to city docu-

ments.

Rent will cost \$12.50 per square foot, or \$13,645.83 per month, according to city documents. The first 18 months will be rent free to allow for due diligence and construction. Rent will rise each year in line with the consumer price index.

Smylie Brothers has the option to exit the lease within the first four months if the project is found not feasible in the course of due diligence, according to city documents.

Down the road, Smylie said, he hopes the new facility will allow his brewery to distribute around the greater Chicago area.

"In 10 years would we like to be a regional producer?" Smylie said. "Yes. Why not?"



Smylie Brothers Brewing Co. beer ages in barrels from a local distillery company, pictured in this Jan. 16 photo.

# Nothing touches the snow storm of '67



**RANDY BLASER**

One of the most wonderful snow days of my life occurred some 50 years ago this past week.

It was a Thursday, Jan. 26, 1967, and it began like most days that winter, with a light snowfall. But by the time I was ready to leave for school, at about 7:30 a.m., the snow was falling heavier. The flakes were large and wet, and falling fast as the wind was blowing harder.

Figuring I would never walk the six blocks, my mom arranged for a neighbor to give me a lift to school before she left for work.

It was snowing harder by the time I got to school. I was fine stepping out of the car. But I was shocked by the appearance of my school friends who walked to school. They were soak-



TRIBUNE ARCHIVE PHOTO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Cars remain stranded and abandoned on South Lake Shore Drive near 12th Street in Chicago on January 29, 1967, after the city's worst snowstorm. More than 500 cars littered Lake Shore Drive after the storm.

ing wet. One girl, who lived half a block from school, was completely drenched.

Mention the great snowstorm of 1967 and I can still see her standing in a puddle of melted snow, her heavy coat soaking wet, her school uniform also dripping and her hand trying to comb her damp hair.

When it stopped snowing the next day, 23 inches had fallen on the city of the big shoulders.

It was a wonderland for a

kid like me. It was a nightmare for the adults in my family.

My mom worked in the Loop at a major bank on LaSalle Street. The bank closed early and sent employees home. What was about a 40-minute trip by El and bus for my mom turned into a five-hour trek thanks to a lift from a stranger.

My grandfather worked at a machine shop on the city's south side. His story

of the 1967 snowstorm was getting stuck in a snowdrift until a black man helped him out. That was a significant fact in 1967, when race relations were really bad.

But life and death was not a question for me and my friends in the neighborhood. This was the greatest snowstorm of our lives, which meant the greatest snow angels, the greatest snow forts and greatest snow tunnels ever. When we returned to

school, we walked between towering mounds of snow on either side of the sidewalk. It was as if we were walking through a maze of snow.

To get rid of the snow, the city dumped truck after truck load into Lake Michigan. In my neighborhood, mounds of snow were piled high in a small park we called Schwinn Park because it was across the street from the Schwinn bicycle factory.

Most winters the fire department put water down in the park to create an ice rink. But not this year. This year they just piled the snow in massive mounds where we played ball. Spring training would be delayed in our neighborhood.

In the aftermath of the storm, it became a ritual to walk to the park and climb the snow mounds well into the spring.

Officially, the storm was by far the greatest in Chicago history. It snowed from just after 5 a.m. on Jan. 26 until 10:10 a.m. on Jan.

27. During that 29 hours, 23 inches of snow fell on the city. Winds gusted up to 53 mph to whip the snow through the city.

Since then we've had other big snowstorms. There was the New Year's storm of 1999, which dumped 21.6 inches of snow over three days. We got socked by 21 inches of snow in 2011 between Jan. 31 to Feb. 2. Both of those were in recent memory when we were more prepared.

The fourth worst storm came Jan. 12-14, 1979. That's the storm that ended the career of Mayor Michael Bilandic and launched Jane Byrne, the first woman to become mayor of Chicago. I was supposed to catch a flight to Boston that morning, but ended up staying in Chicago another two days.

No matter. Whenever we get a big snow, I always think: "This is nothing compared to 1967?"

That's the yardstick, in every way.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

## A few alternative facts about myself



**PAUL SASSONE**

Having read my column over the years, you might wonder what I look like.

Well, I'm 6 feet 4 and I weigh 175 pounds. I'm 31 years old, have a full head of jet-black hair, I don't wear glasses and I have an IQ of 168.

That doesn't jibe with the photo that accompanies my column each week.

That's because I am lying. Well, not lying, exactly. I am presenting alternative facts about the way I look.

You've probably heard

those two words – alternative facts – a lot lately. President Donald Trump's press secretary Sean Spicer was caught by reporters telling a series of whoppers about the size of the crowd gathered to witness the president's inauguration ceremonies.

Leaping to Spicer's defense was White House adviser Kellyanne Conway, who insisted Spicer was not lying. He was merely offering "alternative facts."

The reporter rightly pointed out that alternative facts are falsehoods; that is, lies.

The dictionary bears this out. It defines "fact" as "a piece of information presented as objective reality."

Since this dust-up, people

have been rightly wondering how they can believe anything the administration says.

That's a legitimate question. Do top Trump staffers not see or understand what is a fact and what is a falsehood?

Or, do they actually believe that what they want to be true is true?

I guess we'll just have to wait and see, judge the administration by its future relationship to facts.

But, beyond that, I'm perplexed, bothered really, by the circumstances that gave rise to "alternative facts" in the first place.

You'll remember it all started with an angered press secretary berating the press for allegedly under-

reporting the number of spectators at the inauguration.

Why so angry?

Why is the crowd estimate so important?

Estimates of the size of a crowd at big events always vary. It is difficult to accurately count crowds.

Why does it matter to the administration anyway?

An inauguration should make the inaugurated happy, not appear as enraged victims of a conspiracy.

It's an odd – and kind of scary – way to behave.

Not a fact. Certainly not alternative facts.

Just my opinion.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.



MATT MCCLAIN/THE WASHINGTON POST

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway attends a press briefing on Jan. 24.

## Readers share unique checkout line experiences

Earlier in the fall, I shared a ridiculous experience I had in a checkout line at a local grocery store. I then asked readers to send their own interesting checkout stories, whether good, bad or crazy. Here are a few of those responses.

### John from Park Ridge

As you may know, Costco has wholesale and business customers who buy in volume and then resell to retail customers. This guy in front of me, who appeared to own a restaurant, bought over \$1,200 worth of merchandise and then proceeded to pay in singles at the register.

The rest of us had to wait while he counted and then again while the checker counted out the singles.

### Chris from La Grange

I often use my lunch hour to replenish household supplies at Wal-Mart. On one occasion, the conveyor was full with another customer's items and the clerk was not finished checking out the customer before her.

Clearly, I had a few moments, so I grabbed a magazine. At this store, the checkouts have two lanes of customers next to each other and the adjacent lane was full, as well. As I looked through the magazine, I heard, "What (expletive) line are you in anyway?"

It took a moment for me to realize the voice was directed at me. I glanced at the still entirely full conveyor in front of me and turned.

"Are you talking to me?"

"Yeah, what (expletive) line are you in?"

I responded that I was waiting in the left line, where I was standing, for



SUSAN DUBIN

the clerk to begin ringing up the customer in front of me. Then she told me I should move over. As I looked at her, I was shocked to see she was with, what appeared to be, her daughter or daughter-in-law and a toddler.

I said, "You could have just said, 'Excuse me.'" She huffed and remained in the line behind me. I've thought about her rude, obnoxious, impatient behavior dozens of times.

It was absolutely unnecessary, but I thought primarily of the baby. Who speaks and acts like this in front of a small child? Is this what this child is going to think is normal? If she reacts like this over nothing, how does she behave when something actually happens?

### Paula from Skokie

I was in line behind a rather bedraggled woman who was — I thought — completing her purchase, so I emptied my items onto the conveyor belt. I had noticed this lady before in the dairy aisle when I was reaching for some cottage cheese. She was on her hands and knees removing every container of yogurt on the lower shelf to check the expiration dates.

After the clerk checked out the woman's complete order and told her the total, she tried to pay with cash but did not have enough. She looked for her credit card and couldn't find it, and immediately became dis-

traught.

"Oh no, where is my credit card. I wonder if I lost it. Maybe I left it at home. Oh no, where is it?" She repeated at least three times while rummaging through her purse, looking for the card.

She tells the checker her sister is in the store, she can get some money from her and pulls out her cellphone to call her. We hear her tell her sister the story about the no cash, no credit card and then (relays) how worried she is that she may have lost the credit card.

Finally, she asks her sister for some money to pay her bill. She hangs up and tells the checker, "My sister is still shopping. She says she'll be here when she's done."

While rolling her eyes, the checker told the lady that she was suspending her transaction and she would have to move to the service desk to pay for her groceries when her sister showed up because she cannot hold up the line.

The woman was not happy about this. She said, "But my sister is coming. She'll be here soon." The checker began to scan my groceries while pointing to the service desk. The lady begrudgingly walked over to it.

After I had paid my bill, I was walking out of the store when I noticed the bedraggled lady was still standing at the service desk waiting for her sister. I guess sis wasn't finished shopping!

Thanks to all the readers who submitted responses! See you in the checkout line!

Susan Dubin is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press. Reach her at [gabbin@susanadubin.com](mailto:gabbin@susanadubin.com).

## Good news for the new year — and beyond

BY ARTHUR I. CYR

"Nattering nabobs of negativism," is probably the most enduring of the many alliterative pronouncements of Spiro Agnew, vice president in the Richard Nixon administration until forced to resign because of corruption. This phrase, penned by Nixon speechwriter William Safire, derogatively denigrated diligent reporters for placing bad news above good.

Why, Agnew asked, did the media not put priority on the positive? He attacked "pusillanimous pussyfooters" allegedly allergic to America. Inspired by the positive points of the spirit of Spiro "Good News" Agnew, below is a list of developments that deserve dissemination and discussion. First, democracy is becoming the accepted way of life for the world's population overall, not just the privileged few. As recently as three decades ago, the people of Latin America lived almost uniformly in various degrees of authoritarian regime. Today, Castro's Cuba is literally the only remaining dictatorship in the Americas. Despite pervasive and ruthless state political control, the increasingly desperate need for foreign investment is forcing Havana's geriatric communists to loosen their iron grip. Re-establishing long-severed diplomatic ties with the U.S. is one result. Even autocratic Hugo Chavez of Venezuela had to face the voters, and near the end of his rule lost on occasion. Once tiny Costa Rica was a beacon of freedom. Now that light spreads throughout the Americas.

Likewise, honest and genuinely contested elections are spreading in Africa, Asia, the former Soviet Union and — at least on local levels — China. In global context, the tumultu-



DENNIS ODA/AP

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, seen here with former President Barack Obama in 2016, has displayed a personal commitment to the strong democratic alliance between Japan and the U.S.

ous "Arab Spring" overall is partly a manifestation of the worldwide drive toward fair representative government. Japan has largely remained out of the headlines, overshadowed by sometimes ominous news regarding China and other nations. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has responded to uncertain developments in the United States by reiterating strong personal commitment to our strong democratic alliance. Japan's economy continues to be one of the largest, most productive on Earth. Abe is giving priority to opening the economy. Indonesia, the world's largest Islamic majority nation, is important in strategic terms. The government is stable, a firm U.S. ally and effective in combating Islamic terrorism. By contrast, during the mid-1960s, apparent drift into the Soviet orbit encouraged U.S. military escalation in Vietnam.

Second, market economics is spreading, as alternative economic systems fail. Deng Xiaoping's 1992 declaration of "People's Socialism" for China has become a benchmark event for not only that nation but the vast Asia regions overall, and well beyond. The Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement between main-

land China and Taiwan is an historic result of the free market economic revolution. Most major economic barriers have come down. In consequence, Taiwan's role as a source of investment, trade and expertise has been expanding.

Third, global progress proceeds during extraordinary long-term growth in economic production. Yale Historian Paul Kennedy, in "The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers," notes total world industrial manufacturing rose from an assigned base level of 100 in 1900 to 3041.6 by 1980. In industrial nations, the average human life span doubled in the twentieth century. This transformation in quality of life is described in the CATO Institute's "It's Getting Better All The Time," by Stephen Moore and Julian Simon. Free competitive economies and open competitive elections are interconnected. Adam Smith's "The Wealth of Nations" appeared in 1776, the year the American Revolution began.

Arthur I. Cyr is Clausen Distinguished Professor at Carthage College and author of "After the Cold War."

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# Shows for less

## Chicago Theatre Week offers budget-friendly productions

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

Chicago is a fantastic theater town. You can discover how fantastic during the fifth annual Chicago Theatre Week, Feb. 9-19.

Area theater companies will offer more than 100 productions at bargain rates, with tickets selling for \$15 or \$30, and in some cases even less for everything from events at large performing arts venues to small theatres in the city and suburbs. And it's not just plays, but also dance and music. The event is presented by the League of Chicago Theatres and Choose Chicago.

Chicago Theatre Week benefits both theatergoers and theater companies.

"I think it's a good idea to make theater affordable for the masses occasionally so the masses can see what live theater is all about," said Wendy Kaplan, producer of MadKap Productions based at the Skokie Theatre.

Kaplan's company has been participating in the event nearly since the beginning because, "I thought we'd draw attention to the plays that we do and the quality," she said.

The result has been positive. "It gets people in the door who might not ordinarily walk in the door," Kaplan reported. "We've done a lot of business with it."

"Our theater is all about accessible and inclusive ticket prices," said Ann Filmer, artistic director of 16th Street Theater in Berwyn, which has been part of every Chicago Theatre Week.

Filmer noted that 16th Street Theater is unique in that they almost always sell out every performance in their 49-seat venue, partly because of a strong subscriber base and the dearth of theaters in their area. "We have no problem selling tickets," she said. "But we want to participate because it's always a good thing when we can open up our theater to some new people who don't know about us already."

Filmer reported that many people come to their theater for the first time during Chicago Theatre Week and that a number



LIZ LAUREN

Kyle Beltran (Miles), Ryan Spahn (Dean), Jennifer Kim, (Kendra) and Catherine Combs (Ani) in "Gloria" at Goodman Theatre.

of those people return for other productions.

Citadel Theatre Company in Lake Forest has also participated in Chicago Theatre Week since the beginning. "It gives us a bigger audience," Artistic Director Scott Phelps said. "Most of the people that are buying tickets now for 'Elemeno Pea,' which is the show that we're doing for Theatre Week, are newbies."

Liz Lach, marketing director of Metropolis Performing Arts Centre in Arlington Heights, said that they participate because Chicago has a great theater community, "and we love to be part of it in any way that we can."

Metropolis' Executive Director Joe Keefe noted that his theater regularly shares resources and personnel with other Chicago-area theater companies. "We're always trying to pitch in where possible," he said. "This gives us not just the ability to do that behind the scenes but also in front of the scenes by contributing to the overall experience of Chicago Theatre Week."

Keefe noted that the event

definitely draws new people to Metropolis.

Participating in the week affords his theater company the opportunity "to share our experiences with people who may not normally know of Metropolis but also to provide information to our dedicated patrons about experiences that they can share at other theaters in the Chicago area," Keefe concluded.

Here are some of the Chicago Theatre Week options:

- **16th Street Theater**, Berwyn, "Blizzard '67," \$15, [16thstreet-theater.org](http://16thstreet-theater.org)
- **The Actors Gymnasium**, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, Evanston, "Quest," \$15, [www.actorsgymnasium.org](http://www.actorsgymnasium.org)
- **American Theater Company**, Chicago, "Men on Boats," \$30, [www.atcweb.org](http://www.atcweb.org)
- **Buffalo Theatre Ensemble**, McAninch Arts Center, Glen Ellyn, "Good People," \$15, [btechicago.com](http://btechicago.com)
- **Citadel Theatre Company**, Lake Forest, "Elemeno Pea," \$15, [citadeltheatre.org](http://citadeltheatre.org)

- **Court Theatre**, Chicago, "Blues for an Alabama Sky," \$30, [www.courttheatre.org](http://www.courttheatre.org)
- **Goodman Theatre**, Chicago, "Gloria," \$30, [www.goodman-theatre.org](http://www.goodman-theatre.org)
- **Goodman Theatre**, Chicago, "Uncle Vanya," \$15, [www.goodmantheatre.org](http://www.goodmantheatre.org)
- **Highland Park Players**, Highland Park, "A Fairy Tale Adventure," \$10, [www.highlandpark-players.com](http://www.highlandpark-players.com)
- **Lookingglass Theatre Company**, Chicago, "Mr. and Mrs. Pennyworth," \$30, [lookingglass-theatre.org](http://lookingglass-theatre.org)
- **MadKap Productions**, Skokie Theatre, Skokie, "The Seven Year Itch," \$15, [www.skokieth-eatre.org/madkap.html](http://www.skokieth-eatre.org/madkap.html)
- **Marriott Theatre**, Lincolnshire, "Mamma Mia!," \$30, [www.marriotttheatre.com](http://www.marriotttheatre.com)
- **McAninch Arts Center**, Glen Ellyn, "The Five Irish Tenors," \$30, [www.atthemac.org](http://www.atthemac.org)
- **Mercury Theater Chicago**, "I Left My Heart: A Salute to the Music of Tony Bennett," \$30, [www.mercurytheaterchicago.com](http://www.mercurytheaterchicago.com)

■ **Metropolis Performing Arts Centre**, Arlington Heights, "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead," \$30, [www.metropolisarts.com](http://www.metropolisarts.com)

■ **Northlight Theatre**, Skokie, "Faceless," \$30, [www.northlight.org](http://www.northlight.org)

■ **Northwestern University Ethel M. Barber Theater**, Evanston, "Urinetown: The Musical," \$15, [www.communication.northwestern.edu/wirtz](http://www.communication.northwestern.edu/wirtz)

■ **Oriental Theatre**, Chicago, "The Bodyguard," \$30, [broadwayinchicago.com](http://broadwayinchicago.com)

■ **Paramount Theatre**, Aurora, "Sweeney Todd," \$30, [paramountaurora.com](http://paramountaurora.com)

■ **Porchlight Music Theatre**, Chicago, "The Scottsboro Boys," \$30, [porchlightmusictheatre.org](http://porchlightmusictheatre.org)

■ **Pride Films and Plays**, Chicago, "Priscilla, Queen of the Desert, The Musical," \$30, [pridefilmsandplays.com](http://pridefilmsandplays.com)

■ **Rembrandt Chamber Musicians**, Music Institute of Chicago, Evanston, "Romantic Duos," \$30, [www.rembrandtchamberplayers.org](http://www.rembrandtchamberplayers.org)

■ **Saltbox Theatre Collective**, Madison Street Theatre, Oak Park, "Almost, Maine," \$10, [www.saltboxtheatre.org](http://www.saltboxtheatre.org)

■ **The Second City**, Chicago, "Fantastic Super Great Nation Numero Uno," \$15, [www.secondcity.com](http://www.secondcity.com)

■ **The Second City**, Chicago, "The Winner...of Our Discontent," \$15, [www.secondcity.com](http://www.secondcity.com)

■ **Silk Road Rising**, Chicago, "Semitic Commonwealth—Staged Reading Series," \$7.50, [www.silk-roadrising.com](http://www.silk-roadrising.com)

■ **Steppenwolf Theatre Company**, Chicago, "Straight White Men," \$30, [www.steppenwolf.org](http://www.steppenwolf.org)

■ **Victory Gardens Theater**, Chicago, "A Wonder in My Soul," \$15, [victorygardens.org](http://victorygardens.org)

■ **Williams Street Repertory**, Raue Center for the Arts, Crystal Lake, "First Date," \$15, [wsrep.org](http://wsrep.org)

For additional listings and further details, visit [www.choosechicago.com/things-to-do/arts-culture-and-entertainment/chicago-theatre-week](http://www.choosechicago.com/things-to-do/arts-culture-and-entertainment/chicago-theatre-week).

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*\*Limited number of tickets. Reserve specific dining times. Proceeds benefit the Nature Center. Dinner includes vegetarian or turkey chili with toppings, cornbread, apple juice, coffee and dessert. Turkey hot dogs available for children. Call (847) 674-1500, ext. 2500 for dinner reservations and skate rental information.*

Admissions without dinner: \$6/person

Admission with dinner	Adult	Child under 10 years
Reserve By Feb. 10	\$11	\$8
Reserve After Feb. 10	\$13	\$10

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EMILY OAKS  
NATURE CENTER



## MUSIC

# PRCO founders to be honored in concert

BY DOROTHY ANDRIES

Pioneer Press

The Park Ridge Civic Orchestra is playing a program packed with music that is not only beautiful but significant. Each piece planned for the Feb. 8 Founders' Memorial Concert had special meaning to orchestra co-founders Edgar Muenzer and his wife Nancy Muenzer, who died less than a month apart last summer. They co-founded the 70-person orchestra in 1994 in their hometown and secured the Pickwick Theatre as its venue.

"Absolutely, this concert had to be done," said their son Victor Muenzer, who became music director and conductor after his father retired in 2014. "They definitely deserve a musical tribute."

Edgar served as music director for the Park Ridge Civic Orchestra from 1994 until 2014, when he stepped down and served as music director emeritus until his death. Nancy did everything but play in the orchestra herself. She handled marketing and press relations and was a dynamo at securing donors and underwriters for the orchestra's future.

The richly romantic program honoring Edgar and Nancy Muenzer, subtitled *Soulmates in Music*, begins with "Nimrod" from Edward Elgar's "Enigma Variations," which is one of the pieces played by an orchestra as a memorial when a musician has died. "My father played it with the Chicago Symphony many times over the years," Victor said. "It was a favorite of his."

Nancy Muenzer's all-time favorite film was 1985's "Out of Africa," which stars Robert Redford and Meryl Streep. "I think it was because of Redford," Victor joked. "But we're playing the main title music from John Barry's film score."

Next in the program is J. S. Bach and his Concerto for Two Violins, played by Chicago Symphony Orchestra's assistant concertmaster David Taylor and violinist Jenny Lind Jones. "Jenny is one my father's most successful students," Victor said.

David Taylor was Edgar Muenzer's colleague at the CSO, and served as concertmaster for Park Ridge while Edgar was conducting. "He was close friends with my parents and played at both their funerals," Victor said.

Nancy also liked the romantic epic "Dr. Zhivago," a 1965 film starring Omar Sharif in the title role and Julie Christie as Lara. So "Lara's Theme" from the score by Maurice Jarre is on the program. She was also fond of the music from the balcony scene in Sergei Prokofiev's score for the ballet



PARK RIDGE CIVIC ORCHESTRA

The late Nancy and Edgar Muenzer, co-founders of the Park Ridge Civic Orchestra, will be honored in concert Feb. 8.

## Park Ridge Civic Orchestra Founders' Memorial Concert

**When:** 7:30 p.m. Feb. 8

**Where:** Pickwick Theatre, 5 Prospect Ave., Park Ridge

**Tickets:** \$25 adults, \$20 seniors; \$5 age 20 and younger

**Contact:** 847-692-7726; [www.parkridgecivicorchestra.org](http://www.parkridgecivicorchestra.org)

"Romeo and Juliet," which concludes the first half of the program.

Edgar was a big fan of Dvorak's music and he promoted it whenever he could. Taylor will play the composer's Romance, Op. 11.

Tenor Matt James will sing the only vocal work on the program, "Che gelida manina" from Puccini's opera "La Boheme." "I can remember my father sitting on the couch listening to that opera," Victor said.

Victor has surely made the right choice to conclude this tribute to his parents — "Adagio" from Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 5. "Three years ago we played that movement. Later my father said to me 'I want this played at my funeral' and that's what we're doing."

## THURSDAYS IN FEBRUARY

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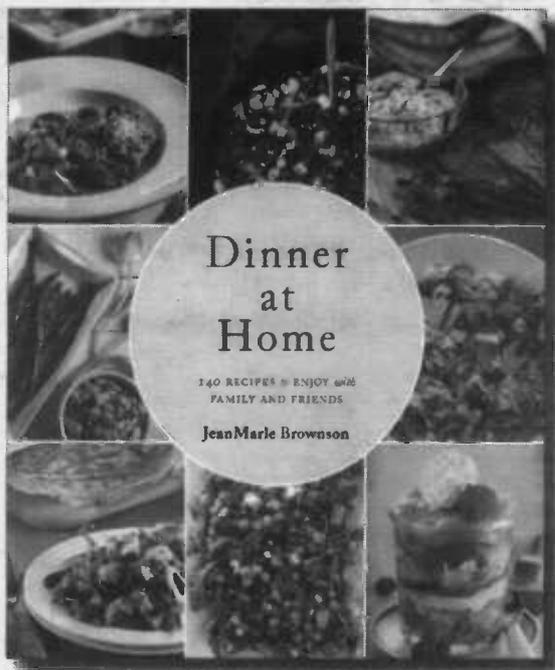
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Cooking at home doesn't have to be difficult, but it should always be delicious. Since 2007, JeanMarie Brownson, culinary director for Rick Bayless' Frontera Foods, has been helping readers put inventive, yet simple, dishes on the table through her Dinner at Home column for the *Chicago Tribune*. Her book includes everything you need to create spectacular food any day of the week, including sample menus and recipes for everything from prosciutto parmesan puffs to roasted chicken with tomato-olive relish.

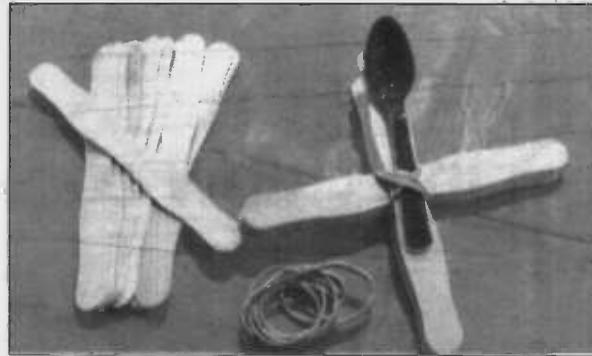
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Chicago Tribune

# Living

Thursday, February 2, 2017



**Mommy on a shoestring:  
Activities to  
cure cabin  
fever** Page 3

The bias against mothers in the workplace is widespread, according to experts and recent studies pointing to obstacles that others don't experience.

THOMAS\_EYEDESIGN/  
VETTA



## Are you facing mom bias at work?

Studies indicate that women with children are paid less, viewed as less competent Page 14

## SUBURBAN COOKS

# Home cook sings slow cooker's praises

Naperville resident shares advice for success

By Judy Buchenot  
Naperville Sun

Judy Jung's family and friends have always loved her chili, but it was time consuming to make and created a lot of dirty dishes. Then a few years ago, the Naperville resident started trying some slow cooker recipes and wondered what would happen if she made her beloved chili in the slow cooker. "So I tried it one day. Just tossed everything in the one pot and let it cook and it worked. The chili was just as good if not better."

She notes that to keep from getting too much fat in the mixture, she uses meat that is about 95 percent lean. To save time, Jung also uses seasoning packets for chili and tacos in her chili.

Jung was sold on the slow cooker and started trying other recipes. Although many recipes call for an extended cooking time, Jung has found it is "best to check after about four hours." She learned this the hard way when cooking a pork loin roast. "When I went to take it out the slow cooker, it just fell apart. So I just added some seasoning and barbecue sauce, cooked it a little longer and we had pulled pork sandwiches. Crock pot failure is pretty rare."

Now when she makes the pork loin roast, she starts checking the meat after about four hours. "If it is tender but still together, it will slice well." If the roast reaches the finished state too early, Jung just turns off the slow cooker and holds the roast in the juice. Then she can slice it and reheat it with the juice when she is ready to serve it.

Jung has tried everything from spaghetti sauce to beef stew in her slow cooker with success. She adds wine to all of her slow cooker recipes. "I think wine gives a richer flavor and also tenderizes meat," she said. She also likes to add a variety of seasonings. "I'm a flavor person. You have to add a little more than the usual amount of seasoning when you are cooking in the slow cooker," she said.

Jung, 48, spent several years working at Phillip's Flowers and Gifts, her family's Chicago area floral business, but decided to take a different career path and moved to Naperville about six years ago. Using her strong background in business, she ran a marketing and business consulting service. "I also did some fundraising with nonprofits because I believe in giving back to the community," she said. She is now working toward another career change with Mary Kay, the cosmetic company.



JUDY BUCHENOT/NAPERVILLE SUN

Judy Jung slices her pork roast cooked low and slow in a slow cooker.

Jung recommends slow cooker cooking to everyone from singles to families. "If you have kids and work, it is the best investment around. You can really save time. It is also great if you are just cooking for one because you can cook once and eat it several times." Jung said that there are many ways to vary slow cooker meals so that it doesn't seem like the same meal over and over. For example, she makes her chili into a salad by scooping a serving onto a bed of

lettuce and tortilla chips. She tops it with cheese, sour cream and onion for a delicious twist. Most slow cooker dishes can also be successfully frozen for a quick meal in the future.

"The best thing about slow cooker cooking is that about an hour after you start the slow cooker, your house smells amazing," Jung said. She invites others to try her bean-less chili recipe and her simple but delicious pork loin roast.

## Judy's Culinary Cue

If you open a bottle of wine and don't care for the taste, don't pour it down the drain. Simply save it for cooking over the next few days. The wine will tenderize and add great flavor to many dishes.

## Slow Cooker Chili

- 3 pounds lean (95 percent) ground beef
- 2 1-ounce packets of taco seasoning
- 2 1.5-ounce packets of chili seasoning
- 3 cups filtered/distilled water
- 1 1/2 cups dry red wine
- 28 ounces diced tomatoes
- 6 ounces tomato paste
- 3 medium size cloves of garlic, diced or crushed
- 1 large yellow onion
- 1 1/2 tablespoons cumin powder
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 2 bay leaves

1. Place raw ground beef, seasoning packets and water into slow cooker. Stir and cook for one hour on low. Depending on how lean the meat is, you may want to drain the fat. Add remaining ingredients and cook on low for 5 to 8 hours, checking two or three times and stirring. Taste chili. If you would like it to be spicier, add 1 tablespoon red pepper flakes, or Tabasco sauce. Serve with desired toppings including shredded cheese, oyster crackers, corn chips, chopped raw onion, tortilla chips or sour cream.

## Slow Cooker Pork Loin Roast

- 3-4 pound pork loin roast
- 3 garlic cloves, sliced
- 1 tablespoon smoked paprika
- 1 tablespoon pepper
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Fresh rosemary sprigs
- 2 cups dry white wine

2. Cut 12 small slits into the roast and place slices of garlic into each slit. Sprinkle paprika, pepper and salt over the roast. Cover top of roast with sprigs of rosemary. Place in slow cooker. Cook on low for about four hours. Add wine. Cook another hour and check meat. If it is tender and slices easily, it is ready. If it is not yet tender, cook on low for two or more hours until meat is tender but is not falling apart. Slice and season lightly with juice from cooking the roast.

# Cures for cabin fever



**BETH ENGELMAN**  
Mommy on a Shoestring

Although February is the shortest month, its cold, gray days seem to drag on forever. For kids especially, this is when cabin fever sets in. So, to beat the “there’s nothing to do” blues try these simple DIY activities.

## Get silly with putty

This squishy, slimy putty is easy to make and can keep kids busy for hours. With its high squeezability factor, putty also has been known to relieve stress and calm nerves.

### You need:

- Liquid starch, such as Stay-Flo, available at grocery stores
- Elmer’s Glue-All (I found this glue works best and makes your putty less goopy)
- Food coloring, optional

### Directions:

In a bowl, combine equal parts glue and liquid starch. Add food coloring if desired. Use hands to thoroughly combine mixture. Allow putty to firm up by setting aside, uncovered for 15 to 20 minutes. Dig in and play.

## Have a ball with DIY Bouncing Balls

The magic of this activity is watching a few household staples transform into a single bouncing ball that’s perfect for playing jacks or mini table tennis.

### For each ball you need:

- 1/2 teaspoon 20 Mule Team Borax
- 2 Tablespoons warm water
- 1 Tablespoon Elmer’s Glue-All
- 1 Tablespoon cornstarch
- Food coloring, optional

### Directions:

Pour Borax into a bowl. Add warm water and stir until Borax is completely dissolved. In a second bowl, mix glue, cornstarch and a few drops of food coloring.

Slowly add a 1/2 teaspoon of the water-Borax mixture and continue to stir until mixture becomes stiff. Scoop out mixture and roll into a ball. Set aside for a few minutes to ensure the ball firms up. If it’s too soft, your ball will get a dent when you bounce it.

Keep ball stored in an airtight container



Make your own colorful, bouncing ball from simple household ingredients.



Kids will love getting their hands on this squooshy silly putty.

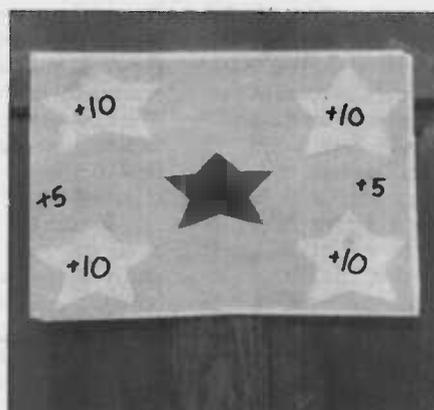


BETH ENGELMAN/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

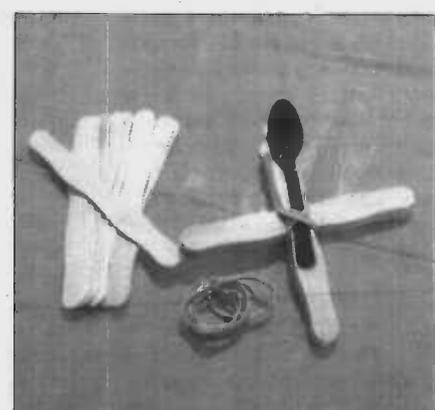
Jewelry, like this colorful bracelet could be the result of one Junk Drawer Challenge.



Use up all those old photographs by making puzzles that kids will enjoy putting together.



Kids can sharpen their math skills while keeping score during a Ping Pong Catapult contest.



A Ping Pong Catapult will test everyone’s skills at bombarding your colorful, hand-made target.

to ensure the outer coating doesn’t crack.

## Hit a bulls-eye with a Ping Pong Catapult

I love this activity because it incorporates engineering and math into highflying fun.

### You need:

- 15 craft sticks or Popsicle sticks
- 6 Rubber bands
- 1 Plastic spoon
- Ping pong balls
- Construction paper
- Glue stick or tape
- Markers

### Directions:

Create the catapult base by stacking two sticks on top of each other and wrapping a rubber band around one end.

Stack remaining sticks into one pile and wrap rubber bands on each end.

Slide the large stack of sticks in between the original two sticks, which will create a lever.

Place a plastic spoon on top and secure with two rubber bands, wrapped in a criss-

cross pattern.

Make a target with construction paper, markers and tape or a glue stick.

### To play:

Hang target in an open area, such as a basement or playroom. Players take turns launching the balls from the catapult and adding up their score until someone reaches 100.

## Picture Puzzles

Simple and sentimental, making picture puzzles encourages families to reminisce.

### For each puzzle you need:

- 2 Duplicate photos (at least one should be color copied and enlarged)
- Card stock
- Glue stick or spray mount
- Scissors
- Plastic bag or small box

### Directions:

Glue large, color copied photo onto card stock and set aside to dry.

Once dry, cut the photo into small, unique pieces.

Create a container for the puzzle by gluing the original photo on a bag or box so everyone can see what the picture should look like. Place pieces inside the container. If desired, continue the process until you have made several puzzles and then take turns putting the puzzles together. To make it more challenging, jumble up all the pieces and ask your kids to put multiple puzzles together at one time.

## Take the Junk Drawer Challenge

Encourage ingenuity and creative thinking while cleaning out your cluttered junk drawer. Help the kids gather those extra buttons, stray dice, old coupons, ticket stubs, mystery screws and other odds and ends.

Place the items on a table along with craft materials, such as glue, ribbon, construction paper, markers, etc. Encourage your kids to get to get creative while transforming the “junk” into functional pieces, such as bracelets, trinket boxes, bookmarks and fantastical sculptures.

## PETS/ANIMALS

## MY PET WORLD

# Only by being diligent will get your cat to modify his behavior

By Marc Morrone  
Tribune Content Agency

**Q: We have a 5-year-old red and white neutered male indoor cat named Charlie. He is very vocal and cries for something to eat whenever we are in the kitchen. He does not stop until we give him something. This has become very annoying and we have tried to teach him not to do this by squirting him with water from a water pistol when we are in the kitchen. He does run away as soon as we show him the water pistol — we do not have to squirt him anymore, but a minute later he comes right back again. Is there any other way that we can deter him from doing this?**  
— Jane Garcia, Las Vega, NV

**A:** The problem is you are using punishment to stop the behavior of an animal and punishment works best in humans. In animals, punishment causes fear, stress or sometimes even aggression. It is hard for the animal to understand what the punishment is for. Your cat has no idea why you are spraying it with water. It only has learned to fear the water pistol and has attributed it to just another inexplicable thing that the humans do.

The best way to modify such

behaviors in animals is with extinction and that is done by showing the cat the conditioned stimulus — being in the kitchen — without the reward — being fed.

You just have to withdraw all interactions with the cat whenever he yowls for food when you are in the kitchen as this will eventually lead to extinction of the behavior. The reason it works is because the cat decided for itself that there is no point in wasting his time by yowling for food when it does not get him what he wants.

I would even advise you to feed the cat in a different room of the house so there is no confusion. Of course, this all sounds fine in print, but it is very hard to do in real life. The whole family has to join together to ignore the cat when he yowls and it takes many weeks to accomplish this.

If you ignore the cat for 10 days and on the 11th give in, then you are back to square one as the cat has learned that if he continues to pester you, he will eventually be rewarded.

**Q: We have three cats that are always indoors. They all get along well — one is 5 years old, and we got two kittens over the summer. The cat we got first seems to be teaching the other two kittens to open the drawers in our bedroom dress-**



MARY ALTAFFER/AP

Your cat has no idea why you are spraying it with water. It has learned only to fear the water pistol — not modify its annoying behavior.

**er. He always did this and we thought it was cute, but now we see the younger cats opening the drawers themselves and they pull out all the clothes and scatter them across the floor. The drawers do not slide very well and we cannot imagine that they learned this through trial and error. We have had cats for the last 50 years and never saw a cat do this before and it seems odd that we now have three. Could the older cat have shown the kittens how to do this and is there anything we can do to stop this?**

— Roberta McDonald, Chicago, IL

**A:** I doubt that the older cat consciously taught the younger ones to open the drawers but the kittens did learn for themselves through what I call observational learning and what a scientist would call social learning.

This always fascinates me as it is not a behavior that is taught or

learned through trial and error. The behavior is performed spontaneously in its complete or near complete form after the animal has observed it being performed by another member of its social group. The original cat learned it by watching you and the kittens learned by watching the older cat.

I am not sure if this is mimicry or actual problem solving — dogs have been proved in laboratory situations to mimic human actions but to my knowledge this has yet to be proven with cats.

But the problem is that your clothes are all over the floor and what can you do about it. Well the same kind of locks that you put on cabinets to keep babies out of them are about all you can do.

I would also give the cats some kind of other enrichment that mimics the fun they have by going through the dresser so they do not miss doing it so much. A big cat tree with those carpeted tunnels on them is great and even a

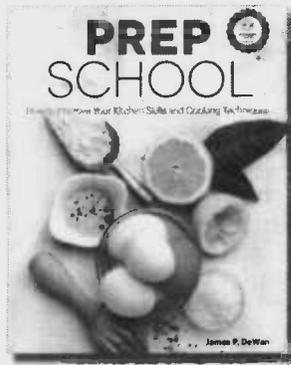
simple thing like a few cardboard boxes with holes cut in the sides and half filled with the crumpled newspapers is a great substitute for playing in clothes draws.

**Q: We got a baby guinea pig for Christmas for my son, and we are very happy with him, but we have a question about his feet. On his back feet he has three toes that seem fine but on each foot is a very small toe that is loose and floppy and does not seem to work at all. We were wondering if this was a big problem or not?** — Judy Miller, Orlando, FL

**A:** Guinea Pigs typically have four toes on the two front feet and only three on the back. So those extra toes on the back feet that you see are vestigial toes that we call dew claws. You usually see them on dogs and cats, but I have seen them on guinea pigs from time to time.

Dew claws that occur on the back legs of any animals serve no purpose at all and usually cause few problems. You do have to keep a close eye on the nail, which tend to overgrow quickly and need to be trimmed periodically by a person proficient in claw trimming such as a groomer or vet.

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



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# Sears customer experiences the fine print

I could really use your help. In December 2016, my 90-year-old mother's 30-year-old washing machine stopped working. She has a Sears protection plan that covers it. The plan will repair or replace all covered products, with no deductible. Two weeks after it was "fixed" for \$184.74, it stopped working again. When the repair person came to look at the machine a second time, I asked if it could be replaced because it is 30 years old. Instead the tech wrote up a parts list totaling \$811.29. Why would Sears waste over \$900 to repair a 30-year-old machine? For 30 years, my mother faithfully paid Sears close to \$600 a year for this protection plan.

*Lyn, Montgomery*

When I asked Lyn for copies of the work order, invoice and protection plan, she provided them, along with the following: "I asked Sears why they couldn't replace the 30-year-old machine. They told me it was because I had to have at least four service visits in a calendar year before it would be considered replaceable. Then two weeks later, in January, the machine stopped

working again. When Sears came to service the machine in January, we were into the new year, so this would only be the first service call for 2017. The tech blamed his supervisor for why he couldn't replace the machine and ordered parts to fix it. Now we have a non-working machine."

I turned to my regular, reliable Sears source, Dana Shoulders, Sears Regulatory Complaints Team Manager. Because I had many questions about the very long-term Sears extended warranty Lyn's mother had bought into, she put me in touch with PR Director Larry Costello.

As Lyn's current yearly bill for coverage of seven major appliances - ranging in age from two to 30 years - is \$593.99, I posed the following question:

Parts and labor for Mrs. Campbell's machine is \$996.03, and the machine is not yet repaired. Would it not be more cost effective to replace the machine with a new one? Hasn't (Lyn's mother) more than



**CATHY CUNNINGHAM**  
*Help Squad*

paid for such a replacement over 30 years?

Costello replied via email: "In certain circumstances, we authorize replacements because a product is 'uneconomical to repair.' While (Lyn's mother's) repairs were extensive, they were not prohibitively expensive.

However, we are pleased to offer (her mother) a replacement model due to the large number of parts, the time required to install them and the age of the product. We hope she remains a loyal Sears customer ..." He additionally forwarded me a link to Sears' Protection Agreement "No Lemon Guarantee," which explains, "If your product needs more than three repairs in a year, we'll replace it."

Needless to say, Lyn was thrilled to hear the washer would be replaced. She informed me that her mother was offered a washer valued at \$750.

"I took my mother to pick out her new washing machine. It will be delivered and installed on Friday and they will take away

the old machine free of charge! ... I am so pleased with the outcome of my problem."

Though I'm pleased things worked out for Lyn and her mother, it is clear from the math that the extended warranty her mother paid into for 30 years is not a good deal. Not only did she pay for her new washer many, many times over, but per Sears' "No Lemon Guarantee," such an appliance would not be replaced until repairs had been attempted four times in a calendar year - regardless of its age.

Rather than investing in an extended warranty, I'd suggest instead following Consumer Reports' simple recommendation: "(Put the money) into a savings account or dedicated product repair and replacement fund. If something needs repair or maintenance, pay for it out the fund, without having to negotiate any fine-print limitations or other nonsense."

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

*Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.*

CN

**COUNTRY FINANCIAL**

**PRESENTS:**

**HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETE OF THE MONTH**

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## BOOKS

# Scraping enough words together to make a living

By John Warner

Chicago Tribune

As a kid, when I would ask my dad how much money he made, he'd say it was "none of my beeswax."

I think he took some pleasure in this, and like any good Midwestern boy, I learned that money talk is impolite. My dad was a successful lawyer, and I only had to look around our four-bedroom house with two-car garage and pool (in Northbrook) to know we were doing fine.

Better than fine, actually, but because money was not something to be talked about, it wasn't until much later in life, probably too late, that I came to understand realities about money.

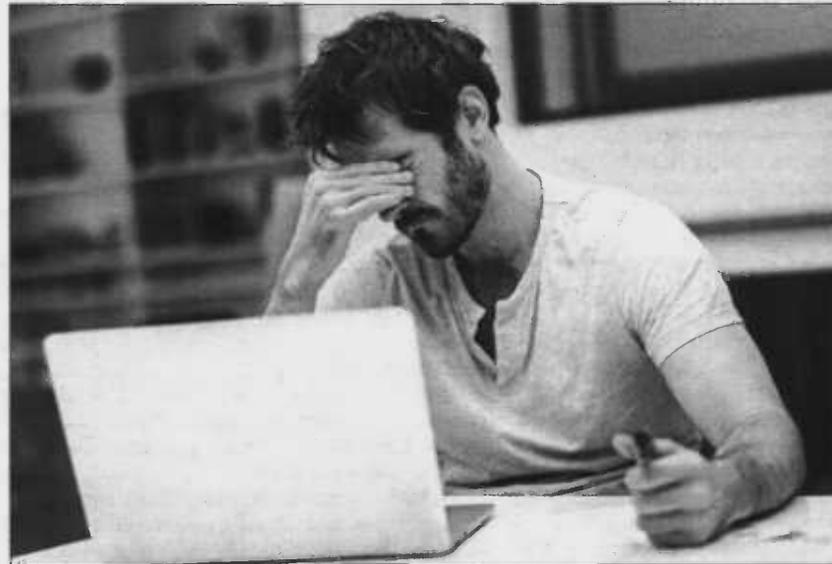
Thankfully, because I was raised to be frugal (read: cheap) by my parents, I never got myself into any trouble, but I've long felt it would be a service if society were a little bit more open about the intersection between work and money. We need not be unseemly, but a little knowledge can go a long way.

A new anthology, "Scratch: Writers, Money, and the Art of Making a Living," edited by Manjula Martin, aims to pierce the silence about commerce in the writing life. The biggest-name contributors are Jonathan Franzen, Jennifer Weiner, Cheryl Strayed and Nick Hornby, all of whom are hugely successful, but not even Weiner approaches the "mega" best-seller club of having moved more than 100 million books. That category is reserved for the Clancys, Browns, Cornwalls, Crichtons, Kings and Rowlings of the world.

All but the most fortunate authors will have a tale or two of their early years of artistic struggle. Stephen King famously had to go without a phone to afford heat in his Maine home as he worked on his early novels. J.K. Rowling was "as poor as it is possible to be in modern Britain, without being homeless."

But "Scratch" has a different focus, instead exploring what it's like to live and write when the struggle is never going to end, which is true for the vast majority of writers.

The essays and interviews in "Scratch" are indeed primarily geared toward writers, and many of them are sobering. Even after "Wild" became a best-seller, Strayed lived in fear of bouncing a check because of past



ANDRESR/E+

"Scratch: Writers, Money, and the Art of Making a Living" explores what it's like to live and write when the struggle is never going to end, which is often the case.



MICHAEL LOCCISANO/HBO



HARMONY GERBER/GETTY

Authors Jonathan Franzen, left, and Cheryl Strayed contributed to "Scratch."

debts. The subtext of many of the essays is that the writing life is inherently precarious, the ability to keep at it one minor hiccup away from falling apart entirely. Even those with a big book behind them can't guarantee security.

This puts most writers in a similar position as lots of other Americans: working in the "gig" economy. A majority of the on-demand workers have other jobs. I wonder what percentage of Uber drivers have published novels?

Speaking from personal experience, it is a privilege to be able to spend one's time doing work you believe in. We should all be so lucky.

But I also know that I wrote 120,000 words for publication last year and another 65,000 on book projects that

have not yet come to fruition. As a writer, I make the living of an elementary school teacher, a category of worker that is, in my opinion, criminally underpaid.

I am not asking for sympathy or calling for a workers revolution, but maybe it's useful to know that writers struggle as much as anyone.

If you are tempted to consider people with a byline in a newspaper or on a book spine comfortable or "elitist" — whatever that means — please know that they are hustling day to day, just like you.

John Warner is the author of "Tough Day for the Army." Follow him on Twitter @biblioracle.

## Book recommendations from the Biblioracle

John Warner tells you what to read next based on the last five books you've read.

1. "Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk" by Ben Fountain
  2. "War Porn" by Roy Scranton
  3. "Moonglow" by Michael Chabon
  4. "Grief Is the Thing With Feathers" by Max Porter
  5. "We Are Not Ourselves" by Matthew Thomas
- Nathan P., Chicago

Some heavy stuff in this list. I want to lean into something with emotional resonance, but perhaps a little leavening of humor is also called for: "How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia" by Mohsin Hamid.

1. "The Handmaid's Tale" by Margaret Atwood
  2. "The Seven Storey Mountain" by Thomas Merton
  3. "Satin Island" by Tom McCarthy
  4. "The Baron in the Trees" by Italo Calvino
  5. "A Sport of Nature" by Nadine Gordimer
- Mary P., Glencoe

"The Handmaid's Tale" and Phillip K. Dick's "The Man in the High Castle" seem to be suddenly more prominent in our day-to-day reading. Sure, they've both been recently adapted into television shows, but methinks it also has something to do with people searching for art that may speak to the times we're living through. For Mary, I think she'll enjoy Almee Bender's "The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake."

1. "Euphoria" by Lily King
  2. "Slade House" by David Mitchell
  3. "Homegoing" by Yaa Gyasi
  4. "Love Medicine" by Louise Erdrich
  5. "Born to Run" by Bruce Springsteen
- Kay M., New Orleans

For Kay, I'm recommending one of my recent reads that I can't seem to shake: short, but haunting, "The Vegetarian" by Han Kang.

## Get a reading from the Biblioracle!

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



# puzzle island

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

1/29

## FOR YOU, NO CHARGE: With something small in common

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

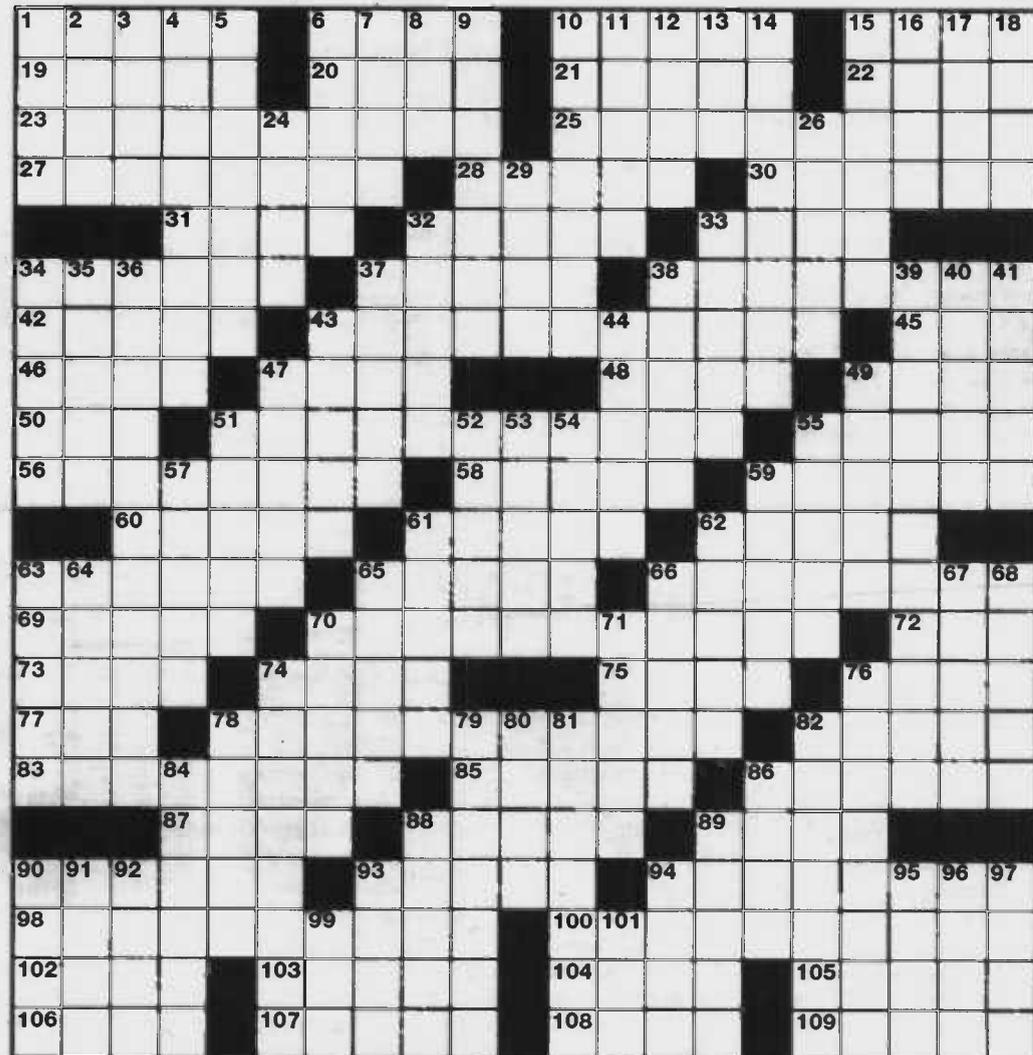
### Across

- 1 1990s Second Family  
6 Disparage  
10 Sudden light  
15 Sky blue, to Depardieu  
19 San Antonio landmark  
20 Racer of fable  
21 Only inanimate zodiac sign  
22 Kid-vid explorer  
23 Italian custardy dessert  
25 Diner side dish  
27 Satisfaction seekers  
28 Flat hat  
30 Hit a homer  
31 Nonstandard negative  
32 Venom, for instance  
33 Japanese video-game maker  
34 Sounded harsh  
37 Spoke in jest  
38 Start of a supposed Louis XV line  
42 Call attention (to)  
43 Rogue  
45 Words of commitment  
46 Liquid in some batteries  
47 Jazz accompaniment  
48 Idyllic spot  
49 Narrow opening  
50 Bub  
51 Church member  
55 Raft wood  
56 Malcolm X director

- 58 Senator Hatch  
59 Customary ways  
60 Where the blissful walk  
61 Of bees  
62 Two-number stat  
63 WWII five-star general  
65 What a cuff covers  
66 Hot stuff  
69 Animal park barriers  
70 Very brave  
72 Hardwood tree  
73 Beginning blossoms  
74 Wet lowlands  
75 Difficulties  
76 Call attention to  
77 It's all about me  
78 Labor Day marchers  
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87 Hourly pay  
88 Foolish talk  
89 Brontë heroine  
90 Disharmony  
93 — Rupert Murdoch  
94 Financial outlays  
98 Trailblazing  
100 Thing with strings  
102 Reverberated  
103 Serration  
104 *Exodus* novelist  
105 Congo's former name  
106 Oxen harness  
107 Online message  
108 Religious faction

### Down

- 109 Went awry  
1 Mideast port  
2 Norwegian royal name  
3 Broccoli — (green veggie)  
4 Gave off  
5 More like slush  
6 Jersey, e.g.  
7 Vietnam neighbor  
8 Caterer's machine  
9 Some sneakers  
10 Orange Bowl's home  
11 See 53 Down  
12 Minimally  
13 Sign of seatlessness  
14 Human parasite  
15 Some sneakers  
16 Sector  
17 Try to convince  
18 Frog in the throat  
24 Impart  
26 Wozniak in *Steve Jobs*  
29 Higher-up  
32 Big name in baseball cards  
33 Nosy one  
34 Nutrition measures  
35 Summing-up  
36 Enthusiasts  
37 Artist Wyeth  
38 Longfellow's timid suitor  
39 Certain game-show winner  
40 Wordsworth, for one  
41 Merest traces



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

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- 43 Less common  
44 1910s revolutionary  
47 In force  
49 Polio vaccine guy  
51 Reverberates  
52 Roadside offer  
53 With 11 Down, fine dish-towel fabric  
54 Give a speech  
55 Held back, as breath  
57 Nautical speed measure  
59 Grant successor  
61 Came to pass  
62 Appraises  
63 Color of honey  
64 Cheek application  
65 Verbose  
66 Partner in crime  
67 Perfumery compound  
68 Discards  
70 Take short-term  
71 Left dreamland  
74 Incomplete sentence  
76 Approached  
78 Poke fun at  
79 Compact piano  
80 Well-groomed  
81 Geographical neck  
82 *Città in Toscana*  
84 Regretful feeling  
86 Printed "Teh," almost certainly  
88 Debater last October  
89 Be real  
90 Energetic  
91 82 Down farewell  
92 Hit a horn  
93 Thing on a string  
94 Clapton of rock  
95 Ruckus  
96 French 101 verb  
97 Gardener's purchase  
99 Ruckus  
101 English 101 verb

## Quote-Acrostic

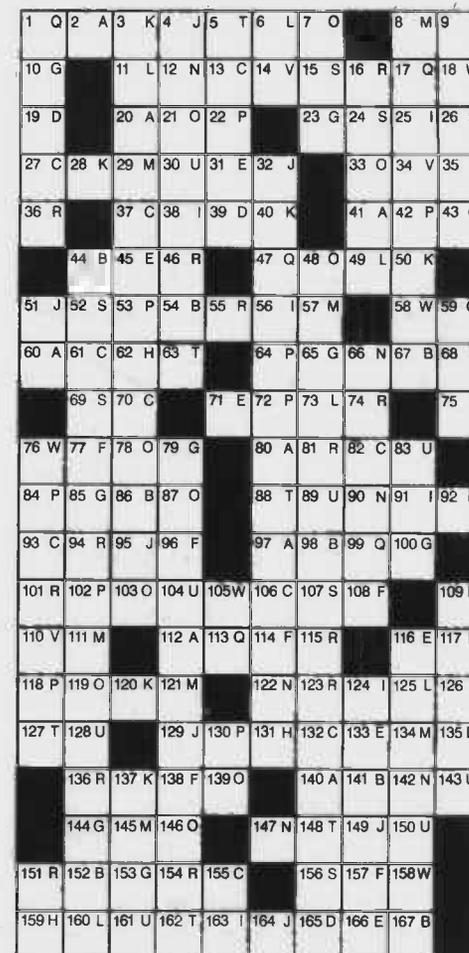
1. Define clues, writing in Words column over numbered dashes.
2. Transfer letters to numbered squares in diagram.
3. When pattern is completed, quotation can be read left to right. The first letters of the filled-in words reading down form an acrostic yielding the speaker's name and the topic of the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

## Clues

## Words

- A. Lots of stars, our sun included: 2 wds. 140 60 97 80 2 112 20 41
- B. Total worth: 2 wds. 44 86 67 167 54 141 152 117 98
- C. Frat gala attendee: 2 wds. 37 132 106 70 13 93 61 27 82 155
- D. Skinned 165 19 109 135 39 92
- E. Bone breakage, e.g. 45 31 116 166 133 71
- F. Get close to finish: 3 wds. 96 77 114 108 126 35 138 157 68
- G. Egg production site 79 10 23 144 85 65 100 153
- H. Run down 62 159 131
- I. Rush: 2 wds. 9 25 56 91 124 163 38
- J. Traveler's bane? 4 164 129 51 149 95 32

- K. Blue flowered herb 137 50 3 28 120 40
- L. Thirty-two-card game 49 73 125 11 6 160
- M. Ready to go home?: 2 wds. 8 57 134 29 145 121 111
- N. More of a chance 26 90 147 142 66 12 122
- O. Shop at a haberdashery: 3 wds. 33 103 139 59 21 146 48 119 87 78 7
- P. Over the boundary: 2 wds. 72 130 102 64 53 84 42 118 22
- Q. Was a pugilist 17 1 43 99 113 47
- R. Be a ham: 3 wds. 81 154 46 136 16 94
- S. Write a certain book, e.g. 156 69 15 107 24 52
- T. Reno river 75 63 162 88 148 127 5
- U. Teenager status?: 3 wds. 30 150 104 83 89 161 128 143
- V. Orr's Assoc. 110 34 14
- W. Map 58 18 105 158 76



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

By Pat Bitterman.  
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.  
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## Am I Blue?

BY CHARLES PRESTON

## Across

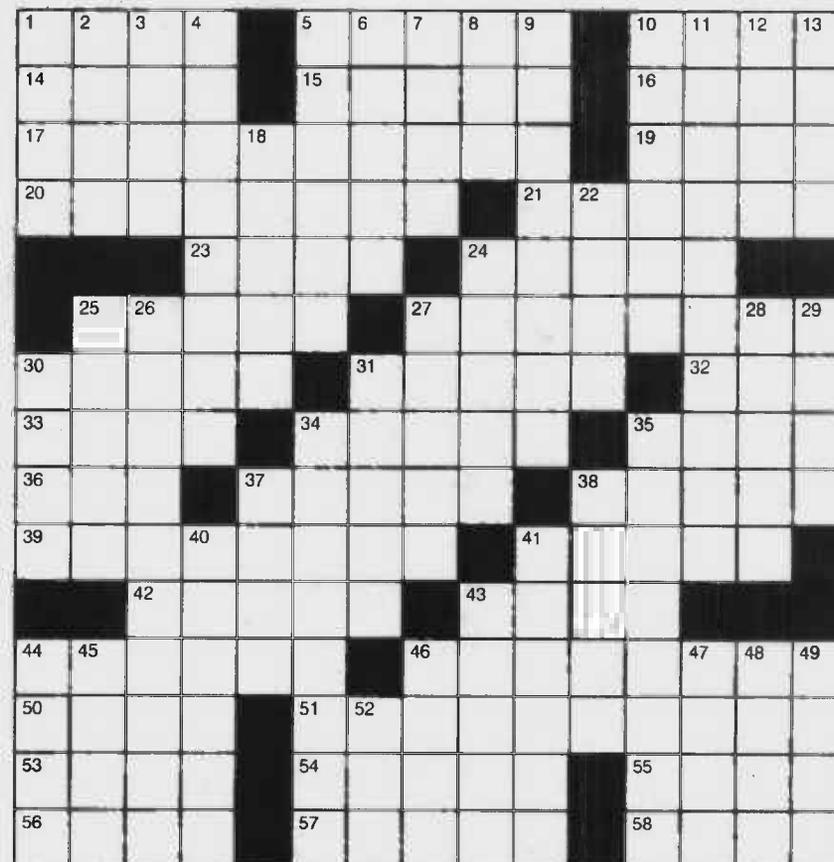
- 1 Kid  
5 Salad ingredient  
10 In the distance  
14 African succulent  
15 White oak  
16 Pilaf base  
17 Winner's token  
19 Spoken  
20 Smorgasbord dish  
21 Reliable  
23 Enters.  
24 Creature  
25 Garbo, e.g.  
27 Ideas  
30 Semblance  
31 Shopper's concern  
32 Charlotte \_\_\_  
33 Camera element  
34 Aspect  
35 Rivulet  
36 \_\_\_ Amin  
37 Everyday language  
38 Jewelry feature  
39 Cites  
41 Instances  
42 Mountain ridge

- 43 Fashioned  
44 Watch out for  
46 Ghetto building  
50 Facial shape  
51 Winner's token  
53 Vex  
54 Retinue  
55 Knowledge  
56 Miss Sommer  
57 Certain beans  
58 Mr. Slaughter

## Down

- 1 Boxing blows  
2 Paella pot  
3 Bar concoction  
4 Rash  
5 Cower  
6 Apparel  
7 Low tides  
8 School sign: abbr.  
9 Judge's determination  
10 Animate  
11 Winner's achievement  
12 "\_\_\_ in Paris" (2012 animated film)  
13 Depend

- 18 \_\_\_ Janeiro  
22 Indy, e.g.  
24 Idaho's capital  
25 Glove stuff  
26 Outstrip everyone  
27 Insensitive  
28 Recitals  
29 Be persuasive  
30 Lamplight  
31 Give Ma Bell the business  
34 Provides refuge  
35 Look like  
37 Harbor sight  
38 Famed spa  
40 Kerry's county seat  
41 Precepts  
43 TV and radio  
44 Ennui inducer  
45 Bad  
46 Salver  
47 North Carolina college  
48 Sleuth Wolfe  
49 Calendar abbr.  
52 \_\_\_ y plata

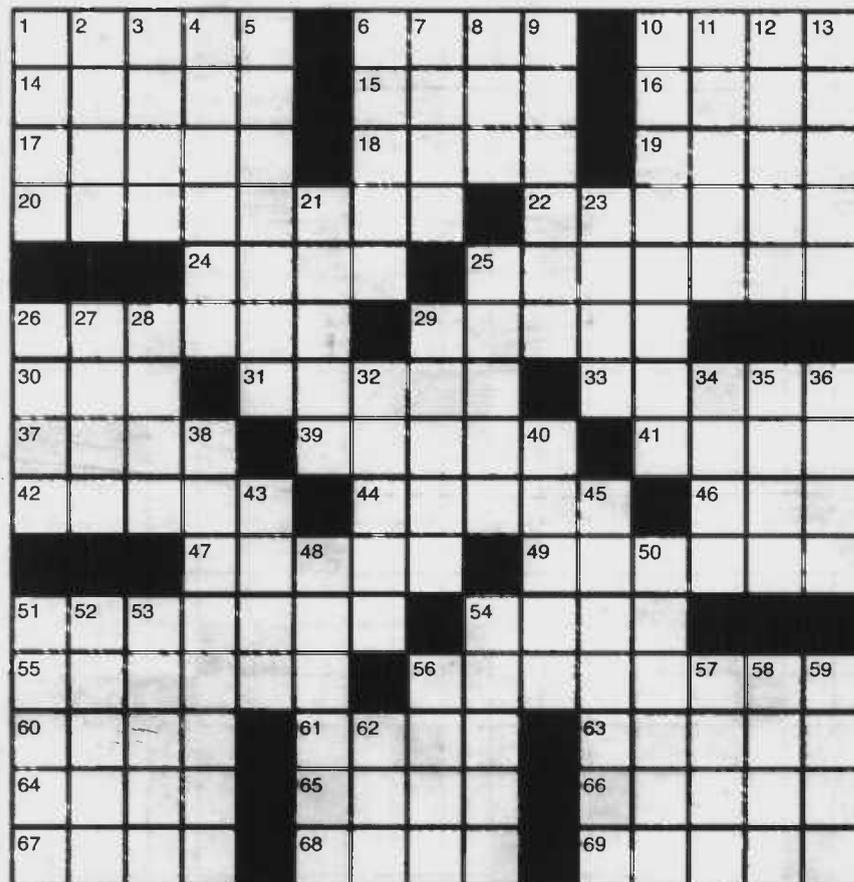


Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

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# Crossword



By Jacqueline E. Mathews. © 2017 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

2/1/17

## ACROSS

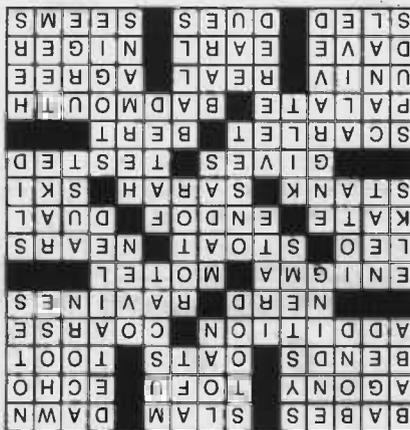
- 1 Disney's "\_\_\_ in Toyland"  
 6 Grand \_\_\_; four-run homer  
 10 Daybreak  
 14 Terrible pain  
 15 Health nut's lunch, perhaps  
 16 Resound  
 17 Is flexible  
 18 Cheerios ingredient  
 19 \_\_\_ one's own horn; brag  
 20 Building annex  
 22 Like very rough sandpaper  
 24 Bookish fellow  
 25 Narrow valleys  
 26 Conundrum  
 29 Traveler's stop  
 30 Zodiac sign  
 31 Brown ermine  
 33 Gets closer to  
 37 Mum to George and Charlotte  
 39 At the \_\_\_ the day; ultimately  
 41 Twofold  
 42 Reeked  
 44 Alaska's Palin  
 46 Zoom down snowy slopes  
 47 Donates  
 49 Tried out

- 51 Shade of red  
 54 Lahr or Parks  
 55 Roof of the mouth  
 56 Speak ill of  
 60 UTEP or UCLA  
 61 Authentic  
 63 See eye to eye  
 64 Actor Annable  
 65 Holliman or Warren  
 66 African nation  
 67 Winter toy  
 68 Club member's payments  
 69 \_\_\_ to be; looks like

## DOWN

- 1 Rum cake  
 2 No longer young  
 3 James \_\_\_; 007  
 4 Conclusion  
 5 "All \_\_\_ go!"; signal to proceed  
 6 \_\_\_ for; represented  
 7 Mortgage, e.g.  
 8 Fore and \_\_\_  
 9 Oman's capital  
 10 Point-by-point  
 11 \_\_\_ squash; winter veggie  
 12 TV's "\_\_\_ Line Is It Anyway?"

## Solutions



- 13 C-sharp and A-flat, e.g.  
 21 In a rage  
 23 Kiln  
 25 Turning piece in a motor  
 26 Forest animals  
 27 \_\_\_ as a pin  
 28 Tiny amount  
 29 As \_\_\_ a hornet  
 32 Beginning  
 34 Smallest continent: abbr.  
 35 Gather leaves  
 36 Went down smoothly  
 38 Etched  
 40 Destined  
 43 Scottish skirt  
 45 "\_\_\_ Hermits"; British band  
 48 Swerved  
 50 Slender cigar  
 51 Taters  
 52 Erie or Panama  
 53 Still breathing  
 54 Formal dances  
 56 Not covered  
 57 Egg on  
 58 Abound  
 59 His and \_\_\_  
 62 Water: Fr.



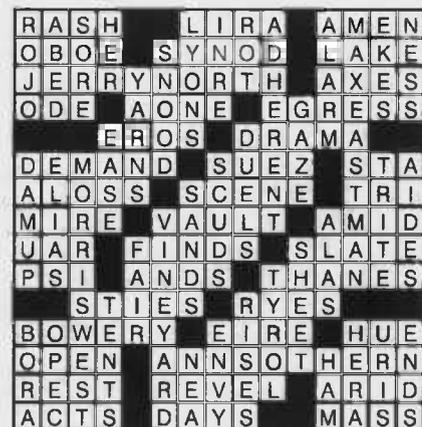
# puzzle island solutions

## Last week's crosswords

### "FILLING YOUR HOME"



### "West, as in Mae"



### "Dropping In"



## Last week's Quote-Acrossic

GEORGE WILL: (The Art of) GOOD WRITING: Good writing style includes clarity and economy deriving from a sensibility that recoils from blurry words in our current feel-good lexicon that carry deplorable thinking like mosquitoes carry malaria.

## Last week's Sudoku

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

## This week's Jumble

DEFUSE SPLASH BUMMER  
 POLLEN COOKIE SPIRAL

After knocking out his opponent in the first round, the boxer was —

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 AS PUNCH

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Interactive puzzles and games

# 8 things to know if you're in a new relationship

On a recent Saturday night, three couples had dinner together at a restaurant in Glenview. One couple has been happily married for 16 years. The second couple was my boyfriend and myself. We have been together for over a year. The third couple is the topic of this column. They have been dating for nine weeks, and yes, they are still counting it in weeks.

Gazing into each other's eyes and giggling as they told us all how they met, I found myself soaking up the warmth of my friends' fairy tale, and enjoying it like a romantic comedy movie or a good Jennifer Weiner novel.

We've all been where my nine-week friends have been. After months and months (sometimes years and years) of dating weirdos and creeps and men or women who broke your heart or let you down or disappointed you or made you feel hopeless that you would ever find romantic happiness again, you meet someone and something magical happens — a powerful connection that takes on a life of its own and takes the two of you on a whirlwind of romance.

You see each other every possible chance you get, you talk on the phone for hours when you're not together, you send cute texts to each other every half hour, you gush to your friends about him or her until they are nauseous, and if there's a holiday with gift-giving involved, look out. It's a major production.

The site of him or her makes your heart pound. The two of you can't do enough for each other. The chemistry you feel is indescribable, and frighteningly perfect. Things can't get any better. Your new guy or girl can do nothing wrong. You are seriously pinching yourself because you can't believe how lucky you just got and you're afraid it might all be a dream.

But all that said, one tiny little bit of the older and wiser you is waiting for the shoe to drop. Only a tiny bit, though. It would take a lot to change the hue of those rose-colored glasses you're wearing. But the reality is, the newness will wear off. That isn't a bad thing. In fact, the relationship could turn deeply meaningful, loving, committed and blissfully long-term, which could last the rest of your life. Or, it could crash and burn next week and you could end up saying to yourself, "What the heck was I thinking?"

Whichever way the relationship goes, it can't stay where it is today. Romantic



**JACKIE PILOSSOPH**  
*Love Essentially*

relationships are ever changing, which is both good and scary. A relationship changes because with time we continue to get to know more and more about our partner, and it can change our opinion of that person, positively or negatively in different

degrees. Even after decades together, couples still find there are things they never knew about each other. Add to the mix outside factors that can affect the relationship, i.e. stuff happens. It is during the most difficult times that we find out a lot about what we have (or don't have) in our partner.

New relationships are exhilarating. Everything is fresh. It's untainted and pure and easy and it just feels so darn good. For those who are divorced or widowed or who haven't dated or been in a relationship in a long time, a new relationship is often delightfully unexpected. Why? Perhaps because the bar has been set so low because of the hurt the person has faced in the past. So when love hits, it's kind of shocking.

Whatever ends up happening in the new relationship — whether it ends in happily ever after or it blows up after two weeks or it turns out to be something in between, just knowing you still have the capability to feel sexy and attractive, and to give and receive love and affection is a huge gift, which should be cherished and appreciated, and never, ever regretted.

## 8 tips for new couples:

1. If you are worried the shoe is going to drop, don't. Just enjoy now. You deserve it.
2. Be your true authentic self right from the start.
3. It's OK to show vulnerability. It actually makes the relationship better.
4. Remember that you deserve all this nauseating happiness, especially if you've been through hurt and heartbreak.
5. Don't ignore red flags.
6. If you stay together for a long time, try to always treat each other the way you are treating each other now.
7. Have protected sex until you both get tested for all STDs.
8. Take a minute every day to think about your gratitude for the relationship and to pray that these happy times together continue.

*Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.*

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## HEALTH

## ASK THE DOCTORS

# Optimism, hopefulness are keys to better health

By Dr. Robert Ashley  
Ask the Doctors

**Dear Doctor: Does outlook really matter when it comes to life span, as a recent study suggested? I'm not a wet blanket, but I don't have a relentlessly sunny disposition either.**

Dear Reader: Let's say it's a gray, cloudy Monday morning. You're stuck in traffic, listening to the news of another atrocity in some distant land. Such a scenario would not in itself arouse feelings of optimism. Instead, an optimistic person might focus on feeling excited about his or her job, realize that the traffic is going to get better, and take solace in the fact that humanitarian efforts will be made to stop further atrocities.

In my own experience, I've seen pessimistic, unhappy people lead very long lives, and I've seen optimistic people's lives cut short by illness. That doesn't mean that, in the aggregate, optimism has no effect on life span.

Specific studies have looked for correlations between an optimistic outlook and cardiovascular disease, finding mortality benefits among those who had a more optimistic attitude. These studies used different scales to judge a person's level of optimism, with one common approach using a questionnaire about a person's approach to life. Some, for example, asked people to respond in either agreement or disagreement to statements such as, "Overall, I expect more good things to happen than bad."

A combined evaluation of many studies assessing the connection between optimism and physical



SAM EDWARDS/GETTY

A good attitude may lead to better health.

health was reported in the *Annals of Behavioral Medicine* in 2009. Researchers measured physical health outcomes by rates of cancer, heart disease, infection rates, pain, diabetes and kidney failure. In the combined evaluation, the authors found a small correlation between better physical health and optimism, and an even smaller correlation between lower death rates and optimism.

A more recent study published in 2016 in the *American Journal of Epidemiology* followed 70,000 nurses and judged levels of optimism by how they responded to a questionnaire called the Life Orientation test. The women responded to 10 different statements such as, "In uncertain times, I usually expect the best," "I rarely count on good things happening to me," and "I'm always optimistic about my future."

The researchers ranked women into four quartiles, from lowest to highest, and found that those who were most optimistic had a 26 percent decrease in the death rate over the study period compared to those who were the least optimistic. This was after adjusting for depression,

because some people who aren't optimistic may actually be depressed. The decrease in death rates was seen for deaths caused by cancer, strokes, heart attacks and infections.

One problem with the study is that women who were the most optimistic had lower smoking rates, were more physically active, had more education and were more likely to be married. Each of these factors is associated with greater longevity. The authors say they adjusted for these factors, but fully adjusting for them is difficult. Another problem with the study is that the study might not reflect correlations within the general population, in that 97 percent of the women identified themselves as white.

Overall, the study found what appears to be a correlation between optimism and a better cholesterol level, higher blood levels of antioxidants and improvements in one's immune system.

My own feeling is that optimism is less about sunniness than about hopefulness. This hopefulness helps people get through the bad times, because they realize that good times are ahead. And, overall, such people seem to have healthier habits that can help lead to greater longevity.

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

Send your questions to [askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:askthedoctors@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 PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

# Popular dry-eye product can cause blurred vision

By Joe Graedon  
and Teresa Graedon  
King Features Syndicate

**Q: I have been bothered with dry eyes for a number of years. Recently, I asked my optometrist if I could use Restasis, which I'd seen advertised on TV. He wrote the prescription, and I've been using it for 10 weeks, one drop in each eye twice a day. Quite honestly, I've noticed no improvement in the dry-eye problem, but there is a disturbing side effect, blurred vision, which is getting worse by the day. Because of the blurred vision, I've decided to stop using Restasis.**

**A:** Restasis contains cyclosporine, an immunosuppressing drug. It was first approved in 1983 to keep people from rejecting transplanted organs. The eyedrops are modestly effective at increasing tear production. Side effects include blurred vision, burning, pain and itching.

Your eye doctor needs to know that you are having difficulty with Restasis. There are other approaches to dry-eye syndrome.

**Q: I saw your article about putting Vicks VapoRub on the soles of the feet to stop a nighttime cough. Then I was listening to NPR's "Wait Wait ... Don't Tell Me!" radio show. It is often a fun source for the latest wacky science studies.**

**A show included a story about tasting garlic with your feet. Scientists associated with the American Chemical Society performed a cool experiment. They reported that if you put a freshly cut clove of garlic in a plastic bag, rub it on the sole of your foot and then tie the plastic bag around your foot, you will taste and smell garlic**



JOHN STILLWELL/PA WIRE

Restasis eyedrops can increase tear production but also can cause blurred vision, burning, pain and itching.

after about an hour.

**Could Vicks have a similar compound that can be absorbed through the skin to calm the cough response?**

**A:** We love this experiment. It demonstrates that garlic penetrates the skin and circulates through the bloodstream until it eventually reaches the taste buds. There are two possible ways that menthol and the other herbal ingredients in Vicks VapoRub might be working to calm a cough. One is absorption through the skin into the bloodstream, as with the garlic. We would expect that it would take a similar amount of time to exert its effect.

Most readers report that smearing Vicks on the feet eases a cough within 10 minutes. A different mechanism might explain that. Your skin contains nerve endings that react to heat and cold. They do this through TRP channels in nerves that also are sensitive to compounds like menthol and eucalyptol, found in Vicks VapoRub. We suspect that stimulating these TRP receptors sends a message to the cough center at the base of the brain and calms the cough.

**Q: I take Synthroid for a long-standing hypothyroid condition. My insurance company wants me**

**to take generic levothyroxine instead. It is much more affordable, but the generic is not as effective for me. I have heard similar comments from others.**

**It would be less costly to buy my Synthroid from a Canadian drugstore. Is this safe?**

**A:** Purchasing brand-name prescription drugs from Canada is often much less expensive. Using [www.pharmacychecker.com](http://www.pharmacychecker.com), we found that Synthroid costs between \$30 and \$40 for 90 pills. In the U.S., a similar supply could cost more than \$100.

The Food and Drug Administration discourages Americans from buying their medications from Canadian online pharmacies. Some unscrupulous websites sell counterfeit drugs, so you should verify that any pharmacy you use is legitimate. To help you better understand this complicated system, we offer our "Guide to Saving Money on Medicine," available online at [www.peoplespharmacy.com](http://www.peoplespharmacy.com) for \$2.99.

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

**"ONCE YOU STOP LEARNING,  
YOU START DYING."**

- Albert Einstein

**Chicago Tribune**

PRESENTS



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# Are you facing mom bias at work?

## Women with children often paid less, studies show

By Nara Schoenberg  
Chicago Tribune

The owner of a Chicago-based consulting and research firm, Arin Reeves has a law degree, a doctorate in sociology and a client list that includes Fortune 500 companies.

But that wasn't what an interviewer decided to focus on when considering her firm for a big project.

"Are you nervous about your brain?" the man asked Reeves, who was six months pregnant at the time. "Every time my wife has a child, I swear she's gotten 10 percent dumber."

The bias against moms in the workplace doesn't get as much attention as sexual harassment or the glass ceiling, but it's a widespread problem, according to experts and recent studies, which point to obstacles and penalties that fathers and people without children don't experience.

In a 2007 study at Cornell University, students evaluating equivalent resumes rated mothers as less competent than women who weren't mothers, recommended them for the job less frequently, and recommended starting salaries that were \$11,000 lower.

Other research has shown that motherhood is associated with a 4 percent decrease in earnings per child, and a 2016 report by the Society of Women Engineers and the Center for WorkLife Law found that while almost 80 percent of male engineers surveyed said having children did not change their colleagues' perceptions of



ARIN REEVES PHOTO

Arin Reeves, president of a research and consulting firm, says progress is coming, but slowly.

their work commitment or competence, only 55 percent of female engineers said the same.

"We know how strong this bias is," said Joan C. Williams, a distinguished professor at the University of California Hastings College of the Law and director of the Center for WorkLife Law. "It's an order of magnitude stronger than glass-ceiling bias" or bias against women in the workplace. "It's extraordinarily strong."

In interviews with the Tribune, local women, most of whom said they didn't want to be identified by name because they feared career fallout, described employers who seemed to assume that motherhood and a drop in career commitment go hand in hand. A Chicago real estate agent said that while she was on maternity leave at a former sales job, her commissions were cut drastically, even though she'd already landed the accounts and her assistant was handling the follow-up. At the time, she said, she was the No. 1 salesperson in the office,

but her supervisors somehow convinced themselves that she wasn't going to come back to work.

"I gave them no reason to believe that — except that I had a baby," she said.

Another woman said she was in the running for a big promotion at work two months after she got married. That was when a vice president at her company told her that the candidates had been narrowed down to two people, her and a male employee, but he had a question that would influence the decision: Was she planning on having children anytime soon?

"I was shocked," the woman said. She quit her job soon after. In her current job, she said, moms are appreciated and accommodated with policies such as flexible work hours.

It's not illegal to ask a female employee if she plans to have children, said Cynthia Calvert, a senior adviser at the Center for WorkLife Law, but it would likely violate sex discrimination laws if an employer asked only female employees about their plans to



JOAN C. WILLIAMS PHOTO

Joan C. Williams, director of the Center for WorkLife Law, says bias against moms is stronger than glass-ceiling bias.

have children or made personnel decisions based on the answer. In addition, some cities, including Chicago, prohibit making employment decisions based on parental status.

On average, women do reduce work hours, at least temporarily, after having kids, according to a 2014 report by University of Massachusetts at Amherst sociology professor Michelle Budig. But by Budig's calculations, the reduction in work hours account only for about one-third of the reduction in wages that women experience when they have kids. Similarly, men do, on average, increase their work hours after becoming dads, but that only accounts for, at most, 16 percent of the earnings increase associated with becoming a dad.

Even when factors such as reduced hours and seniority are taken into account, fatherhood is associated with an increase in earnings of over 6 percent, while motherhood is tied to a 4 percent decrease in earnings per child, according to Budig's research.

Reeves, who advises companies on how to achieve inclusion and maximize the potential of women and minorities, says the "baby brain" comment was the most blatant example of mom bias that she's personally experienced.

In that case, she responded directly to the question.

"I'm not worried about my brain, but I am worried about yours," she said. "Because the fact that you think you're qualified to measure exact increases and decreases in IQ in any correlation with childbirth concerns me greatly. So let's talk about that. What was the evidence (you used) to reach that conclusion?"

"I was just being sarcastic," the man said.

Reeves didn't expect to get the job after that exchange, she didn't and she was OK with that: "I'd rather stand up to him and miss an assignment than wonder if anyone's ever going to stand up to him."

Experts say that mom bias is tough to address for a range of reasons, among

them that it's built into the deeply held assumption that the ideal employee — male or female — has no family responsibilities and is always available for work. Mothers fare particularly poorly when judged against that standard, but anyone caring for an ill relative will take a hit.

"The entire workplace is designed as an affirmative-action program for people without daily caregiving responsibilities," Williams says.

Kristin Rowe-Finkbeiner, executive director of the advocacy group MomsRising, is excited about growing support for measures such as paycheck transparency laws, which seek to ensure the salary is determined by the job, not the employee's gender or parental status. The Paycheck Fairness Act has passed both the House and the Senate, she said, although not yet in the same session.

"Passing policies like paid family leave, access to affordable child care, access to health care, those are critically important too, and those policies are on fire," Rowe-Finkbeiner said. "We just did exit polling in this presidential election, and we saw massive support by Democrats and Republicans alike for these policies."

Reeves said she does see progress, but it's coming slowly.

"Unfortunately, like a lot of things with gender equity, it takes women figuring out how to do it in spite of the barriers for the barriers to slowly come down," she said. "There are a lot of women who have scorch marks all over their bodies from blazing trails, and now we can say there are paths available."



VHT STUDIOS PHOTOS



# Glencoe home with loft: \$1.08 million

ADDRESS: 385 Washington Ave. in Glencoe

ASKING PRICE: \$1,075,000

Listed on Nov. 7, 2016

Highlights include a kitchen with lounge area, backyard deck and extensive landscaping. The exterior was restored with new stucco and paint. Interiors are updated with new crown molding and designer paints. French doors and arched windows bring in an abundance of light throughout. Finished basement with mud room, full steam bath and large playroom. Bonus studio/office above the 2-car garage. Close to train, schools, parks and Glencoe beach. Agents: Taylor Lindstrom and Daniel Levy of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage's Lincoln Park Plaza office, 847-404-8900 and 312-953-1462 respectively



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

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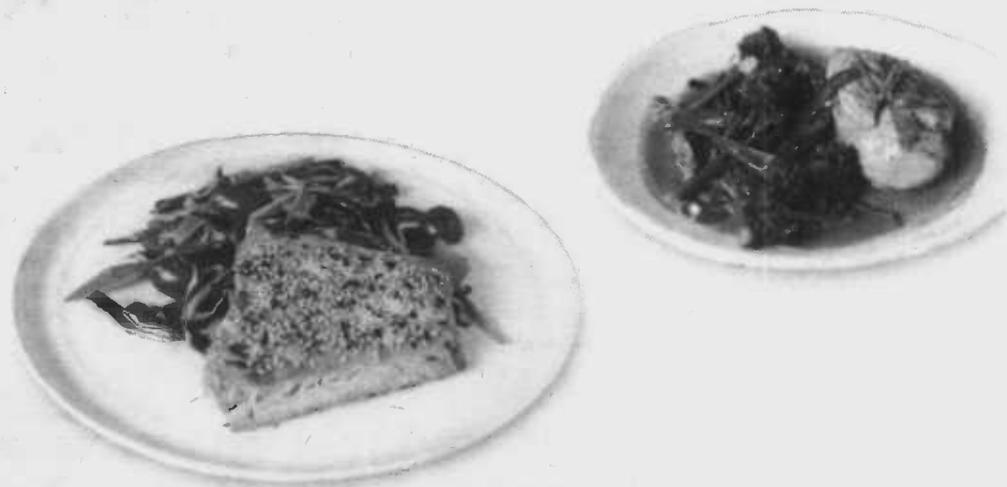


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UNIVERSAL

Jimmy Stewart and Kim Novak in Alfred Hitchcock's "Vertigo." The movie will be shown at the Pickwick Theatre Feb. 9.

## MOVIES

## Pickwick goes for dark romance with 'Vertigo'

BY BRUCE INGRAM  
Pioneer Press

Sure, you can always play it safe for Valentine's Day (chocolates, roses, etc.) or you could try something somewhat unexpected.

That's the sort of thing Pickwick Classic Film Series founder Matthew Hoffman had in mind when he decided to book Alfred Hitchcock's dark tale of obsessive love, "Vertigo," as he says, "Just in time for Valentine's." The 1958 classic will be screened at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 9 at the Pickwick Theatre in Park Ridge.

"Admittedly, it's kind of a twisted choice," Hoffman said with a laugh. "But the fact that it's a Hitchcock film should bring in a lot of people and lots of people love Jimmy Stewart — and I also think the film's reputation, which has really skyrocketed over the past 50 years, will help.

"For me, though, it's mainly an excuse to see the film that's often considered Hitchcock's masterpiece on the big screen. I plan to watch both screenings."

Often considered one of Hitchcock's most personal films, "Vertigo" is a reality-twisting psychological thriller featuring a fine latter-day performance by Stewart as a San Francisco detective forced to retire when narrowly escaping a fall leaves him with a crippling fear of heights. After becoming a private detective and reluctantly agreeing to shadow the wife (Kim Novak) of an old friend, he falls in love with her and becomes ensnared in a deadly plot.

After establishing itself in season one, the Classic Film Series averaged roughly 500 people per film in seasons two and three.

### Alfred Hitchcock's 'Vertigo'

**When:** 2 and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 9

**Where:** Pickwick Theatre, 5 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge

**Tickets:** \$6 for the matinee; \$10 (\$8 in advance) for the evening screening

**Contact:** 847-825-5800; [www.parkridgeclassicfilm.com](http://www.parkridgeclassicfilm.com)

Bad weather and a gamble with the Bruce Lee film "Enter the Dragon" that didn't pay off as well as he hoped has lowered the season four average, so far, to roughly half that amount for his first five monthly offerings — after a whopping premiere with "The Searchers," featuring guest star Lana Wood. But Hoffman is confident that's about to change.

After "Vertigo," Hoffman has booked "Sunset Boulevard" March 16, "Singin' in the Rain" April 20 (perfectly timed for a tribute to Debbie Reynolds) and a 50th-anniversary screening of the James Bond movie "You Only Live Twice" May 18.

"Sunset Boulevard" and "Singin' in the Rain," are designed to dovetail with another classic film series Hoffman has programmed as part of his day job at the Park Ridge Public Library. Entitled "Movies about Movies: Hollywood Projects Itself," the series will feature free screenings in the library at 7 p.m. Thursdays March 2 through May 25, with titles including "What Price Hollywood?," "A Star is Born," "Boy Meets Girl," "Sullivan's Travels" and "In a Lonely Place."

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## GO

### FAMILY FRIENDLY

# Dancers take a magical, mystery tour of imagination

BY MYRNA PETLICKI  
Pioneer Press

Fourteen young dancers, all in seventh and eighth grade will bring magic to the Skokie Public Library when ede2 presents, "John Lennon's Piano and Other Tales of Magical Thinking," 3 p.m. Feb. 4 at 5215 Oakton St.

The original work is based on John Lennon's world tour to areas where tragic events had occurred to perform "Imagine" on the piano on which he composed the song. The piano was said to calm people.

This dance concert addresses magical thinking in many forms. "Things like when you cross your fingers or when you hold your breath when you drive past a cemetery or blowing dandelion seeds to make a wish," said Allison Kurtz Volkers, artistic director of Evanston Dance Ensemble's youth company. "We have a little moment that's about the Cubs' world series in there."

The dancers will perform in a diverse range of styles. "We have a hip-hop piece, modern, ballet and jazz all represented within the show," Volkers said.

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

### Chinese connection

A variety show of dance, music, martial arts and more will launch the 2017 Coming Together in Skokie & Niles Township program which this year focuses on Chinese culture. There will be performances and demonstrations, 6 p.m. Feb. 11 at North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, 9501 Skokie Blvd. The event is free.

For details, call 847-673-

1234 or go to [www.nileslibrary.org](http://www.nileslibrary.org).



MATT GLAVIN/SKOKIE LIBRARY

Lucy Gallun, an eighth-grader at Nichols School is one of the dancers who will perform "John Lennon's Piano and Other Tales of Magical Thinking," 3 p.m. Feb. 4 at the Skokie Library.

6300 or go to [www.comingtogether.in](http://www.comingtogether.in).

### A slice would be nice

A free piece of Home Run Inn pizza will be given to the first 200 people who visit the new I Love Pizza exhibit at the Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St., during a Kick Off Event, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Feb. 3. All ages are welcome.

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

### Dog days

While the family is away, dogs will play. Find out what they do at a screening of "The Secret Life of Pets,"

7-8:30 p.m. Feb. 3 at the National Park Fieldhouse, 9325 Marion, Morton Grove. The Indoor Movie Night is free.

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

### Imagine that

Inspiring kids' imaginations is the goal of Disney Reads Day, 11 a.m. Feb. 4 at Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie.

Youngsters will hear popular Disney stories, do related activities and receive giveaways, including stickers, bookmarks and mini-posters, while supplies last.

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



ROBERT F. KUSEL/JUF YOUNG LEADERSHIP DIVISION PHOTOS

Amy Siegel, from left, and Noam Siegel, both of Skokle, Liz Wiznitzer and Jason Wiznitzer

## Key & Peele comedy raises \$209,000 for JUF

**Event:** Key & Peele Comedy Show: Big Event Fundraiser  
**Hosted by:** Jewish United Fund Young of Metropolitan Chicago Young Leadership Division  
**Locations:** Show took place at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel; preceded by a Ben-Gurion Society VIP reception and followed by an after-party, both at the Loews Chicago Hotel. DineAmic Group hosted a pre-party, at Public House.

**Date:** Dec. 10  
**Attended:** 2,000  
**Raised:** \$209,000, to support work of JUF  
**Website:** [www.juf.org](http://www.juf.org)



Matt Shicker of Lincolnwood and Rachel Miller



Ezra Hilton of Evanston, and Orly Henry of Highland Park, YLD President



Katlie Berger, campaign chairman, from left, Keegan-Michael Key, Orly Henry of Highland Park, Jordan Peele and Bryan Rosenberg, 2016 YLD campaign chairman

### KIWANIS CLUB-NOON HOSTS 30TH SPAGHETTI FEAST



KAREN LARSEN/BMG MEDIA SERVICES

Gwynne Chovanec, director of Older Adult Services at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital and past president of the Park Ridge Kiwanis Club-Noon, will be helping at the annual spaghetti dinner, 4:45-7:30 p.m. Feb. 3, at Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, 1300 W. Crescent Ave. Tickets: \$12.50 for adults, \$6 for children 6-12 and free for children under six. Proceeds support Kiwanis projects. Call 847-692-9077.

### RESTAURANT MONTH SERVES UP DINING DEALS



NORTH SHORE CV BUREAU

Chocolate chip cookies from Skokle's Sweetie Pies bakery, along with anything else in a regular order, will be 17 percent off during 2017 North Shore Restaurant Month, hosted by the North Shore Convention and Visitors Bureau. From Feb. 1-28, a variety of special dining deals and discounts will be available at almost 100 eateries. For a list of restaurants and their special offers, or to print a dining certificate that can be used at all of them, see [www.NorthShoreDiningDeals.com](http://www.NorthShoreDiningDeals.com).

### Share your event

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

**GLENVIEW**

Five-bedroom, 3.5-bath masonry/frame design home built in 1964. Kitchen has new cabinets, fireplace, slider doors to yard. Master bedroom suite as walk-in closet. Finished basement has rec room. Newer windows, heating, electrical, roof and hot water heater. Four-zoned sprinkler and intercom systems, brick paver walkway and patio.

**Address:** 1401 Sequoia Trail

**Price:** \$675,000

**Schools:** New Trier High School Northfield

**Taxes:** \$12,173

**Agent:** Cheryl O'Rourke, Coldwell Banker Glenview

**LINCOLNSHIRE**

Three-bedroom, two-bath ranch home built in 1959. Vinyl flooring, white cabinetry in kitchen. Living room is open to the dining area and includes a beamed, vaulted ceiling, Jotul wood-burning stove fireplace and windows overlooking backyard. Family room features skylight, sliding glass door and office access. Near parks, schools and I-94.

**Address:** 42 Wiltshire Drive

**Price:** \$419,000

**Schools:** Stevenson High School

**Taxes:** \$10,437

**Agent:** Leslie McDonnell, RE/MAX Suburban

**WINNETKA**

Four-bedroom, 3.5-bath renovated brick design built in 1930. Circular, open floor plan, Family room, eat-in kitchen, patio. Master suite on second floor, home office, laundry room. Sitting room has built in office nook, playroom, and utility/storage rooms, two-car attached garage, landscaped yard.

**Address:** 1405 Scott Ave.

**Price:** \$1,199,000

**Schools:** New Trier Township High School Northfield

**Taxes:** \$29,209

**Agent:** Laura McCain, The Hudson Company

**PALATINE**

Four-bedroom, 2.5-bath split-level home built in 1965. Open floor plan has living/dining room with gleaming hardwood floors. Kitchen also offers hardwood floors and access to backyard, lower level offers full bath and dry bar, two-car heated garage, new roof.

**Address:** 414 N. Willow Wood Drive

**Price:** \$264,900

**Schools:** Palatine High School

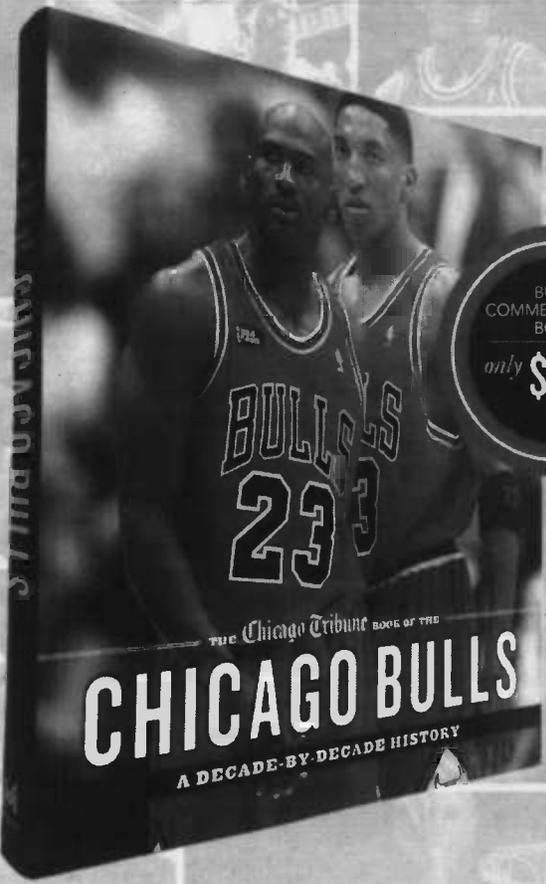
**Taxes:** \$7,376

**Agent:** The Stick with Steve Team, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

Listings from Homefinder.com

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## HOME REMEDIES

# Give appliances some TLC

**ELIZABETH MAYHEW**  
The Washington Post

For me, the new year prompts a cleaning frenzy. In addition to the areas of my home I clean regularly, such as the kitchen sink, toilets and floors, I also focus on my appliances, which typically get overlooked. Here are six appliances you should clean regularly, as well as advice on how to do so and how often.



CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Don't overstuff your refrigerator. Make room to let cool air circulate, which will keep food at a safe temperature.

**Dishwasher:** Clean your dishwasher monthly to prevent a buildup of germs and maintain the efficiency of the machine. Pour distilled white vinegar into a dishwasher-safe cup (I usually use a two-cup Pyrex measuring cup), and place the cup upright on an empty dishwasher's top rack. Run a full cycle, using the hot-water setting. Next, deodorize the machine by sprinkling a cup of baking soda on the bottom of the tub and running the dishwasher on a half-cycle with hot water. Afterward, leave your dishwasher open for a few hours to air it out.

**Coffee maker:** Give your coffee maker a thorough cleaning once a month. Hard-water minerals can build up in its inner workings, which can not only affect the taste of your joe but also slow down its brewing time. Again, distilled white vinegar does the trick. Fill the machine's reservoir with equal parts vinegar and water and place a paper filter in the machine's basket. Brew the solution halfway. Turn off the machine and let it sit for 30 minutes. Turn the machine back on and finish brewing. Pour out the solution, replace the filter and run clean water through the machine two more times.

**Refrigerator:** Remove everything from your refrigerator quarterly so you

can wipe down the inside. Toss anything past its prime. Wipe and deodorize shelves with a solution of warm water and baking soda (1 tablespoon baking soda mixed with 1 quart warm water). If you can, pull the refrigerator away from the wall and vacuum dust and dirt that has collected.

When you go to refill your refrigerator, don't overstuff it. You need room to let cool air circulate, which will keep food at a safe temperature. (Refrigerators should be set at 37 to 40 degrees, and your freezer at zero degrees.) Conversely, don't leave your refrigerator empty. Refrigerators need to have some items in them to maintain low temperatures. Those items will absorb the warm air that enters when you open the door.

Store vegetables in the drawer labeled "high humidity," and store fruit in the "low-humidity" drawer, sometimes called the crisper.

**Washing machine:** Washing machines can be breeding grounds for salmonella and other germs. When you wash items in hot water, your machine is being cleaned as well, but once a month you should still run an empty load with

hot water and about a cup of distilled white vinegar to sanitize the basin and wipe out any lingering germs. If you have a front-loading machine, leave the door open between washes to let the machine's interior dry.

**Garbage disposal:** To clean your disposal, drop in a cut-up lemon, a couple of tablespoons of salt and a few ice cubes. The lemon deodorizes, and the ice and salt clean away residue. You should do this about once a month or, if there is a strong odor emanating from your disposal, more frequently.

**Microwave:** Fill a microwave-safe cup with about one cup of water. (Again, I use a Pyrex measuring cup.) Add several slices of lemon or several tablespoons of distilled white vinegar. Place the cup in the microwave and turn the microwave on high for about three minutes, or until the water is very hot and the window is covered in steam. Open the door and wipe down the interior with a clean cloth. I do this about once a month, but I suggest doing it more frequently if you regularly heat up anything that has the potential to splatter.

*Elizabeth Mayhew is a freelancer reporter.*

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
2222 S Goebbert Rd, # 151, Arlington Heights	Anatoli Varabei & Sviatlana Varabei	Robert Michael Horak Jr	01-04-17	\$74,000
707 E Falcon Dr, # 110, Arlington Heights	Mahendra Patel	Hsbc Bank Usa Trustee	01-03-17	\$95,000
2315 E Olive St, # 4A, Arlington Heights	Jia He	Michael A Swanson	01-03-17	\$130,000
1346 S Dunton Ave, Arlington Heights	Jadwiga Kowal & Lukasz Szymon Kowal	Jca Fund 11 Llc	01-03-17	\$270,000
1516 E Arbor Ln, Arlington Heights	Sung Min Kim & Hyung Sook Kim	Rsd Arbor Lane Llc	01-03-17	\$296,000
809 N Vail Ave, Arlington Heights	Nicholas Konieczko & Desiree Konieczko	National Residential Nominee S	01-03-17	\$344,000
517 S Banbury Rd, Arlington Heights	Timothy Phillips & Jamie Phillips	Brian E Grant	12-30-16	\$425,000
918 S Walnut Ave, Arlington Heights	Eugene S Kang & Kelly Y Kang	John P Behof	01-03-17	\$475,000
210 Old Oak Dr, # 164, Buffalo Grove	Svetlana Stepina	Jeannine L Roberts	01-03-17	\$80,000
11 Oak Creek Dr, # 1120, Buffalo Grove	Wojciech Adam Wargacki & Terry Britt	Richard G Magsombol	12-30-16	\$95,000
3 Villa Verde Dr, # 208, Buffalo Grove	Yakov Lvovich & Galina Sheynzon	Jocelyn Jimenez	01-04-17	\$99,000
322 Gardenia Ln, Buffalo Grove	Diana Olex & Gene Olex	Marina Feldman	12-13-16	\$310,000
830 Twisted Oak Ln, Buffalo Grove	Anna M Wolf & Emin M Soyugenc	Roni Demell	12-14-16	\$330,000
403 Town Place Cir, Buffalo Grove	Srinivasa Rao Rajagiri & Soumya Garre	Eugene Zilbergleyt	12-13-16	\$347,000
3100 Indian Creek Dr, Buffalo Grove	S M Samrat Mukherjee & Modhurima Mukherjee	Jay N Kumar	12-12-16	\$517,000
1969 Jordan Ter, Buffalo Grove	Arul Senapathi & Kavitha Ganapathi	Pulte Home Corp	12-12-16	\$727,000
8923 Knight Ave, # E 305, Des Plaines	Marek Jarzabek	El Dave Maikon	01-03-17	\$82,500
9354 Golf Rd, # 3A, Des Plaines	Ivelina Angelova	Adam R Bolur	01-04-17	\$109,500
1363 Perry St, # 3C, Des Plaines	Joshua Santana & Lena Levy	Ja Capital Management Llc	12-30-16	\$135,000
650 Murray Ln, # 302, Des Plaines	Stefan Stefanov	Daniel P Triplett	01-04-17	\$144,000
1862 White St, Des Plaines	Karen M Morales	Nancy Schneider	01-03-17	\$150,000
1704 E Algonquin Rd, Des Plaines	Rasool M Shnayen & Sarah Al Hashemi	Andrew Kassaraba	01-03-17	\$168,500
370 S Western Ave, # 310, Des Plaines	Lukasz Grabowski & Sylwia D Kutec	Wendelin E Askew	01-03-17	\$187,000
435 Alles St, # 201, Des Plaines	Kelly Devine	Todor Vasilev Dinev	12-30-16	\$200,000
390 Western Ave, # 605, Des Plaines	Seema Trivedi	Stone Gate Of Des Plaines Llc	01-04-17	\$210,000
2040 E Touhy Ave, Des Plaines	Osvaldo R Delgadillo	Amf Investments Llc	12-30-16	\$218,000
2591 Parkwood Ln, Des Plaines	Luay A Dibato & Lwanda A Dibato	Marilyn H Ciero	01-03-17	\$226,000
435 N 6th Ave, Des Plaines	Andrea Nowacki	Lewis Trust	01-03-17	\$235,000
8964 Lyons St, Des Plaines	Tom Vanchivanathu Thomas & Renu Philip	Sanju Mathew	01-04-17	\$243,500
2893 Eisenhower Dr, Des Plaines	Ell J Korner	Sung Min Kim	01-03-17	\$268,000
242 Birch St, # A, Des Plaines	Phillip J Laury & Alana Laury	Jim Michael L Rabino	01-03-17	\$288,000
1091 E Algonquin Rd, Des Plaines	Syed Adeel Ali & Raheel Ali	John Power	01-04-17	\$375,000
1918 Keeney St, Evanston	Peter M Everds & Whitney A Everds	June D Belly Estate	12-30-16	\$185,000
820 Dobson St, # 3E, Evanston	Farrokh Yassan	Daniel Sokalski	01-03-17	\$190,000
732 Hinman Ave, # 2E, Evanston	Rafael E Lazaro & Marie A Cabiya	Q & L Investments Llc	12-30-16	\$215,000
1727 Lyons St, Evanston	Laura S Williams	Carmen Watson	12-30-16	\$253,500
9205 E Prairie Rd, Evanston	Sadaf Ghauri	Irynn Williams McClain	01-03-17	\$275,000
9134 Ewing Ave, Evanston	Dionisio Perez & Anacany E Higuera	Consuela D Martin	12-30-16	\$325,000
811 Chicago Ave, # 808, Evanston	Paul A Dicke & Patricia L Dicke	Embrescia Trust	12-30-16	\$350,000
525 Elmwood Ave, Evanston	Daniel W Cauthorn & Anne M Cauthorn	Megan Agnes Finnegan	12-30-16	\$380,000
1570 Elmwood Ave, # 701, Evanston	Jonathan D Cook	Michele L Gerber	01-03-17	\$555,000
942 Maple Ave, Evanston	Imtiaz Musaliar & Felicia Zusman	Linda M Bechtle	01-03-17	\$575,000
2205 Mcdaniel Ave, Evanston	Shufang Yu & Jenny Yang	Christopher J Lewis	01-03-17	\$710,000
4202 Central Rd, # 1D, Glenview	Volodymyr Shpenyuk & Halyna Shpenyuk	Hsbc Bank Usa	01-03-17	\$115,000
408 Warren Rd, Glenview	Radu Deac & Radu Deac	Reina Trust	01-04-17	\$274,500
4736 Lilac Ave, Glenview	Vasilij Soupos & Joanna Soupos	Kristin M Mahoney	01-03-17	\$309,000
4531 E Larch Ave, Glenview	Thomas A Thompson & Ewelina A Thompson	2004 Re Series Llc	01-03-17	\$335,000
2813 Virginia Ln, Glenview	Brent Goff & Jamie Goff	Renato Natividad	01-04-17	\$345,000
2527 Happy Hollow Rd, Glenview	Zbigniew Pawlik & Estera Pawlik	Gail Sikevitz Carleton	01-04-17	\$468,000
2120 Dauntless Dr, Glenview	Shan Hussain & Nazia Hussain	Vorachai Tejapaibul	01-03-17	\$481,000
2110 Shermer Rd, Glenview	Alhong Yu	Development Solutions Gln Llc	01-03-17	

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
Countless Dr, Glenview	David Ko & Jeanus Tang Ko	Development Solutions Gln Llc	01-03-17	\$706,000
712 Elmgate Dr, Glenview	Robert Malek & Mona Malek	Peter B Kaldis	12-30-16	\$1,133,000
16 Falkirk Rd, Hawthorn Woods	Robert S Rubin & Arlene Rubin	Philip A Reaune	12-13-16	\$371,500
7 Shearwater Ct, Hawthorn Woods	Edgar Garcia & Natalie L Garcia	Rg Ventures Llc	12-13-16	\$500,000
22 Beverly Ln, Hawthorn Woods	Bhushan Rao Adgal & Sudeeptha Adgal	Pulte Home Corp	12-12-16	\$550,760
1301 N Western Ave, # 207, Lake Forest	Lucia A Shelton & George Shelton Iii	Frederick W Lenn Jr	12-13-16	\$120,500
581 Ivy Ct, Lake Forest	Jonathan M Rigoni & Julia A Rigoni	Gregory L Elfering	12-13-16	\$493,000
700 S Waukegan Rd, Lake Forest	Jan Jorfald	Simon Trust	12-13-16	\$627,500
1393 S Estate Ln, Lake Forest	Jeffrey J Corso & Jill Corso	John E Madigan	12-13-16	\$769,000
825 Woodbine Cir, Lake Zurich	Song Jung Kim & Son Hui Kim	Rabindra Ghimire	12-13-16	\$250,000
150 Rosehall Dr, Lake Zurich	Narendra Pothineni & Radha Pothineni	Chris N Kartsunes	12-13-16	\$253,000
287 Hickory Rd, Lake Zurich	Sara J Woitel & Michael S Woitel	Kevin Davis	12-12-16	\$595,000
17153 W Cunningham Ct, # 12B, Libertyville	Sampson Chau	Bertram Belmontes	12-13-16	\$169,000
16268 W Arlington Dr, Libertyville	Consuelo M Perkihs	Michael Mansfield	12-13-16	\$209,900
540 Dawes St, Libertyville	Abigail C Hayden	Adam C Willey	12-13-16	\$325,000
921 S 4th Ave, Libertyville	Christine E Schild	Jose Irizarry	12-13-16	\$370,000
634 S Dymond Rd, Libertyville	Lawrence J Gregory & Jennifer L Gregory	Jennifer L Bentley	12-14-16	\$380,000
1115 Margate Ln, Libertyville	Keith Whisenand & Brei D Whisenand	Coulson Trust	12-13-16	\$851,000
8842 Oak Park Ave, Morton Grove	Andres Jacob	Rauch Trust	01-04-17	\$210,000
5717 Reba St, Morton Grove	Felipe Juarez & Teresa Juarez	Edward C Gross	12-30-16	\$285,000
9439 Overhill Ave, Morton Grove	Christopher Slagg & Heather Slagg	Oksana Lexell	01-03-17	\$340,000
9225 Sayre Ave, Morton Grove	Abubakr Meah & Nilofer Kadiwala	Shahid 786 Llc	01-04-17	\$445,000
1727 W Crystal Ln, # 102, Mount Prospect	Jolanta Grzeda	Mary Kay Graves	01-04-17	\$125,000
240 N Woodland Dr, Mount Prospect	John Szymanek	Penelope A Weaver Estate	01-04-17	\$140,000
20 S Main St, # 508, Mount Prospect	Eydoxia Zarogiannis & Demetra Zarogiannis	Suzanna M Biasi	01-04-17	\$240,000
201 S Owen St, Mount Prospect	Zachary T Hines & Lindsay Lebeau Hines	Paul E Knoppel Trust	01-03-17	\$267,000
1105 S Sprucewood Dr, Mount Prospect	Sureshkumar Patel & Kantaben Patel	Thomas F Leahy Jr	01-03-17	\$293,000
511 S Wille St, Mount Prospect	Timothy M Valin & Randall E Heyde	Judith Spielmann	01-04-17	\$298,000
1703 N Mura Ln, Mount Prospect	Timothy J Barry & Hannah S Barry	Hyung Sang Park	12-30-16	\$315,000
302 S Meier Rd, Mount Prospect	Teofil Ardelean & Florence Ardelean	Phyllis C Moliere	01-04-17	\$327,500
105 Berkshire, Mount Prospect	Mindy M Maggio	Razco Properties Llc	12-30-16	\$400,000
7555 N Waukegan Rd, # 8, Niles	Mehmedalija Karic & Selma Halilic	Mcinerney Trust	12-30-16	\$210,000
8809 N Elmore St, Niles	Hussen Al Husseny & Salwa Abood	Dimitre Koldanov	12-30-16	\$307,000
8332 N Oconto Ave, Niles	Thomas G Panek	Jtb Investments Llc	01-04-17	\$335,000
2813 Brindle Ct, Northbrook	Kenneth Walden	Marilyn Drucker Estate	01-03-17	\$287,500
2022 Walnut Cir, Northbrook	Robert L Nemmer & Maureen A Nemmer	Carl R Ritz	01-04-17	\$317,500
879 Winchester Ln, # 879, Northbrook	Gary Willis	Hyunjung Kim	01-04-17	\$400,000
1748 Seton Rd, Northbrook	Toshi Kumar & Anku Kumar	Redman Trust	01-04-17	\$470,000
3938 Rutgers Ln, Northbrook	Helineh Madroosian & Austin McMackin	Armineh Madroosian	01-03-17	\$500,000
3245 Prestwick Ln, Northbrook	Ryan Murphy & Christa Murphy	Edward H Lee	01-03-17	\$525,000
2299 Woodlawn Rd, Northbrook	June Yeon Cho & Seng Hea Sung	David B Tuchler	01-03-17	\$920,000
804 Cedar Ln, Northbrook	Daniel E Pinchuk & Lindsay Pinchuk	Weekley Homes Llc	01-03-17	\$1,220,000
1473 N Winslowe Dr, # 204, Palatine	Shuo Li	Susan Vazzano	01-04-17	\$75,000
3100 Bayside Dr, # 5, Palatine	Sergey Borisov	Daniel Nejman	01-03-17	\$76,000
1263 Wyndham Dr, # 108, Palatine	Yu Zheng	Rref Ii Bhh Ii Mii Llc	01-04-17	\$83,000
121 N Delphia Ave, Park Ridge	Thomas Eugene Pedersen & Lauren Vana Pederson	Robin Forrest	12-30-16	\$325,000
44 Meacham Ave, Park Ridge	Nathan Service & Kristin Magierski	Hinkley Park Development Llc	12-30-16	\$665,500

This list is not intended to be a complete record of all real estate transactions.

Data compiled by Record Information Services ■ 630-557-1000 ■ public-record.com

## Expert advice on selecting right neutrals for walls, trim

BY JURA KONCIUS  
The Washington Post

"White on white when done right can be one of the most beautiful and versatile paint color combinations," says Washington, D.C., designer Kiera Kushlan.

But for the untrained eye, picking out a good white out of hundreds of choices is a tough-enough task. Coordinating a perfect trim color to go with it can be even more challenging.

"Neutrals are difficult to select because thought needs to be given to whether a warm or cool tone best suits the project," says Josh Hildreth, a Reston, Va., designer. "Natural light and lighting conditions need to be considered."

Charles Almonte, a Silver Spring, Md., designer, says it's always helpful to test your paint colors before you paint a room.

He advises painting a 2-foot square of your wall, along with a piece of trim adjoining it, in the colors you're considering. Then look at them "in different times of day and see how they react to the light," he says. "It will help you see whether it's the right combination."

Craving more insider tips? Consider these designers' go-to combinations:

**Lauren Lless of Lauren Lless & Co. in Great Falls, Va.:**

"For a look where the trim is slightly darker than the walls, I love Swiss Coffee (for walls) and Seashell (for trim). It's beautiful in historical homes where the woodwork is worth being played up, or in newer homes to add a sense of age and permanence."

Both colors are from Benjamin Moore.



MATTHEW KLEINROCK PHOTO

For a penthouse project in Chevy Chase, Md., designer Stuart Nordin painted Benjamin Moore's Sail Cloth on the walls and Chantilly Lace on the trim.

**Kiera Kushlan of Residents Understood in Washington, D.C.:**

"Ice Mist (for trim) is a wonderful pure white, and when done in a high gloss can make trim and woodwork really pop. Decorator's White (for walls) has a cool undertone, which pairs nicely with the cool undertones in Ice Mist, making rooms feel fresh and bright."

Both colors are from Benjamin Moore.

**Stuart Nordin of Stuart Nordin Home & Design in Alexandria and Richmond, Va.:**

"Neutral doesn't mean boring! I love a neutral paint color on walls to allow for art and furnishings to make the statements in a room. The key is choosing a neutral with the right level of pigment. White on white can often be too cold, so I frequently opt for just a touch of light gray or light khaki on walls."

Nordin likes Sail Cloth for walls and Chantilly Lace for trim. Both colors are from Benjamin Moore.

**Josh Hildreth, of Josh Hildreth Interiors in Reston, Va.:**

"White Tie (for trim) is a perfect soft white that avoids looking cream, and Slipper Satin (for walls) is a wonderful neutral white that has a warm cast. This is a foundation for a warm, layered room. It is a great choice if you are moving into a home and have not sorted out where everything will go, and works in both traditional and contemporary spaces."

Both colors are from Farrow & Ball.

**Charles Almonte, of Charles Almonte Architecture/Interior Design in Silver Spring, Md.:**

"Balboa Mist (for walls) is in the light gray family, with almost a hint of purple. That slight hint of color is what gives it a sense of warmth. I like a sharp, contrasting white against that, such as White Dove (for trim). This gives the walls definition, while the semigloss sheen highlights the profiles and details of moldings."

Both colors are from Benjamin Moore.

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

## Thursday, Feb. 2

**Happy hour at Famous Dave's:** Enjoy \$3 BBQ tacos, onion strings and sweet and spicy bacon, \$4 BBQ nachos, chili cheese fries and rib tips, \$5 Buffalo'd bones and wings and various drink specials, such as half-price draft beer on Tuesday, half-price wine bottles on Wednesday and craft beer pints for \$5 on Friday. Food specials are 3-6 p.m. and 8 p.m. to close Monday-Friday and all day Sunday. 11 a.m. Famous Dave's, 1631 W. Lake St., Addison, Prices vary, 630-261-0100

**New Escape Room in Des Plaines:** Escape Rooms are real life immersive games in which your team has 60 minutes to complete a mission and escape. This is not a haunted house and there are no actors. It is up to you and your team to find all the clues, complete the challenges and solve all the puzzles within one hour. Will your team complete the mission and save millions of lives. 11 a.m. All week, Escape Brigade Escape Room, Suite 12, 2720 S. River Road, Des Plaines, \$28, 847-553-4582

**Photos wanted for art project in Des Plaines:** The public is invited to participate in a community photo project in Des Plaines called On the Street Where You Live, Work, and Play. Submit photos of your house, favorite building, or other interesting structure located in Des Plaines. Community members can upload as many as three photos to [desplainesmemory.org](http://desplainesmemory.org). Once uploaded, the photos are posted online. Photos can also be scanned at the History Center if needed. 10 a.m. All week, Des Plaines History Center, 781 Pearson St., Des Plaines, free, 847-391-5399

**BookBites: Reading Social:** "Along the Infinite Sea" by Beatriz Williams is the selection. This is co-sponsored by the Niles Public Library and meets monthly, so just drop in. Go to [face-book.com/nilesglenviewbookbites](http://face-book.com/nilesglenviewbookbites) for details. 7 p.m. Thursday, Hackney's Glenview, 1514 E. Lake Ave., Glenview, free, 847-724-7171

**Adult Literacy Classes: Spring Session:** This is a unique opportunity for native and non-native English speakers to improve their reading and writing skills. A small, friendly group is led by a teacher and volunteer tutors, who meet twice weekly. Classes are conducted by Oakton Community College in the Glenview Library's Community Room West. Call 847-635-1426 for details. 9:15

a.m. Thursdays and Tuesdays, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Last Lectures of the Season Opera Lecture Series:** Moderated by former Lyric Opera docents, this lecture is on: "Carmen" by Georges Bizet, for tales of intrigue, love, and death from the 2016/17 Lyric Opera of Chicago season. Please register at [glenviewpl.org/register](http://glenviewpl.org/register) or by calling. 7 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Park Center Winter Art Show:** Stop by Park Center to see the great artwork submitted by visual art class students for this annual art show. View art by students of all ages and levels. 9 a.m. All week, Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

**Parkinson Wellness Recovery Brain-Body Training:** Parkinson Wellness Recovery/PWR! is Parkinson-specific exercise, scientifically designed to target symptoms of PD. It includes boxing training for endurance, agility, and stability. The instructor is Drew Surinsky, is an exercise physiologist. 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. Thursday, 1 p.m. Friday and Monday, Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, \$12-\$17, 847-502-0630

**Meatheads 10th Anniversary:** This year marks the 10th business anniversary for Meatheads, a Chicago-based fast-casual family restaurant. To celebrate, Meatheads is announcing an \$8 meal option on its menu, which will consist of a burger, regular fries and a drink. This is the same menu price CEO/Founder Tom Jednorowicz used in his first location in downstate Illinois (Bloomington) a decade ago. 11 a.m. All week, Meatheads, 6734 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood, Menu Prices Vary, 773-580-9726

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

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

**Book Discussion:** This group meets on the first Thursday of each month. 1 p.m. Thursday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-5127

**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

**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, 800-843-9658

**Food Drive in Skokie:** Requesting donations of canned goods and dry food products to fill the shelves of the Niles Township Food Pantry. These foods to be given to the hungry in the community. All foods can be dropped off at Walgreens. For further information, call Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation office at 847-675-4141. Midnight, All week, Walgreens, 3945 W. Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

**Skokie Synagogue Re-Opens Gift Shop:** The chairperson of the Gift Shop, Marcy Feinberg, says the gift shop opens to the public with "Beautiful gifts to bring at Passover as well as crystal glassware, books, photo albums, spice boxes and yads, challah covers, challah boards and kiddush cups for Shabbas." 10:30 a.m. All week, Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

**Faceless:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, \$30-\$81, 847-673-6300

**Special Exhibition Three Years, Eight Months, and Twenty Days: The Cambodian Atrocities and the Search for Justice:** Learn about the Cambodian genocide and the current trials to bring the perpetrators to justice, 40 years later. 10 a.m. All week, Illinois

Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4835

## Friday, Feb. 3

**Ronnie Baker Brooks:** 8 p.m. Friday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$35, 847-492-8860

**5Rhythms Dance:** Come explore the 5Rhythms Dance - a movement meditation to music. 7:30 p.m. Foster Dance Studios, 915 Foster St., Evanston, \$15; \$10 for students and seniors, 847-869-0250

**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 and 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

**2017 Medicare Update:** Melissa Versch, LCSW, North Shore Senior Center Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) Coordinator and Clinical Supervisor discusses Medicare and the changes in 2017. This is for those new to Medicare, as well as for those who have been enrolled for many years. Please register at [glenviewpl.org/register](http://glenviewpl.org/register) or by calling. 1 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Silver Screen Series- "Ocean's Eleven":** "Ocean's Eleven" from 1960 is the story of Danny Ocean who gathers a group of his World War II compatriots to pull off the ultimate Las Vegas heist. Together the 11 friends plan to rob five Las Vegas casinos in one night. The cast includes: Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin. 2 p.m. Friday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**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, 847-825-3123

**STEAMagination Ages 6-12:** We'll provide the materials: you provide the curiosity in this self-guided exploration of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) concepts. 4 p.m. Friday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

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## Saturday, Feb. 4

### Polyglots Toastmasters meeting:

Polyglots is the only Toastmasters International Club in the United States that conducts its meetings in German. If you speak German or want to keep it fresh or improve it, visit this club. This is not a language school, but a place where you can speak and listen to German and, above all, have a good time with those at all levels and ages. Go to their website at [www.polyglotstoastrmasters.org/](http://www.polyglotstoastrmasters.org/) and their meetup at [www.meetup.com/Polyglots-Toastmasters-German-speaking/](http://www.meetup.com/Polyglots-Toastmasters-German-speaking/). Please email [andrew.weiler.uiuc@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.weiler.uiuc@gmail.com) for the current location, as sometimes they meet at places other than the Des Plaines Library. 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines, free, 847-827-5551

**Cold Days, Warm Kitchens Cooking Series:** Learn some fun and inventive cooking projects to get you through the winter. Each class focuses on a specific food/beverage. Advance registration required. All skill levels are welcome. 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview, various, go to registration site, 847-724-5670

**ACT Prep Test for grades 9-12:** Professional tutors from College Nannies and Tutors of Glenview guide attendees through a practice ACT test. This is a great way to gain testing experience in a relaxed environment. The time frame includes: three hours to complete the test and one hour to review the answers. Bring pencils and a calculator. Please register at [glenviewpl.org/register](http://glenviewpl.org/register) or call. Noon, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Live Music Winter Reading Kick-Off Event: Kevin Farrils:** Rock into the weekend and sign up for the Love Your Library Winter Reading Program at this interactive, all-ages concert. Register at [glenviewpl.org/register](http://glenviewpl.org/register) or call. 2 p.m. Saturday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Flight-to-Fun Kids Club for Ages 2-6 with family:** Chill out with Vito from Ben & Jerry's and celebrate cold, creamy delights with stories, a craft, and a yummy treat. This is co-sponsored by The Glen Town Center. Register at [theglentowncenter.com](http://theglentowncenter.com). 10:30 a.m. Saturday, The Book Market at Hangar One, 2651 Navy Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-904-7304

**Get Hooked Crafts: Cross Stitch Heart:** Create a heart design using the

basic technique for counted cross-stitch. Materials are provided. Registration is required. 10 a.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Presentation: Unlocking Social Security:** Argentina Niner and Joanne Kilkelly from Transamerica Corporation explain how to make the benefits of Social Security work for you and how to make them fit into your retirement plan. 2 p.m. Saturday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Snowshoe Ramble to Lake County:** Snowshoe the trails at VanPatten Woods and Independence Grove, both along the DesPlaines River, trekking through woodlands and around large lakes. We'll snowshoe or hike at these Lake County Forest Preserves as conditions permit. Snowshoes and van transportation provided; lunch at The Shanty restaurant is not included in the fee. Dress in layers and wear warm, sturdy hiking boots. Ages 18 and older. 9 a.m. Saturday, Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, \$35 (Skokie resident); \$44 (non-resident), 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

## Sunday, Feb. 5

**"Sully" Is Screened: Just Drop In:** The film, "Sully" is rated PG-13. In January 2009, the whole world witnessed the Miracle on the Hudson when Captain Chesley Sullenberger (Tom Hanks) guided his crippled plane onto the Hudson River's frigid waters, saving the lives of all 155 aboard. However, as Sully was heralded for his heroic feat, an investigation was unfolding. No registration is needed so just drop in. 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Super Bowl Party at The Cafe at Glenview Park Golf Club:** Calling all football fans to come celebrate the big game with family and friends and leave the cooking and cleaning to us. The fee covers four hours of open bar, appetizers and a spread of food at halftime, including pizza, wings, salads and more. 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Glenview Park Golf Club, 800 Shermer Road, Glenview, \$75 per person, 847-724-0250

**Concerts on 3: Calumet Chamber Musicians:** The Calumet Chamber Musicians (flute, oboe and piano) perform works by Martinu and others. This is part of the library's free annual concerts on three series. 2 p.m. Sunday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Skating in the Park:** The parks' great lawn has been transformed into an NHL-sized, outdoor skating rink where visitors can skate under breathtaking lights for a magical experience this holiday season. Admission to the ice rink is free. Skate rentals are \$8. 2 p.m. Sunday, MB Financial Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-349-5008

## Monday, Feb. 6

**Operation TASTE:** Join over 20 of Chicago's top culinary stars at Cafe la Cave in Des Plaines to support Operation North Pole. Every December, this charity hosts a day of festive fun for families who have a child battling a life threatening illness by hosting a fantasy trip to the North Pole. Operation TASTE helps that day come true for so many children. 6:30 p.m. Monday, Cafe la Cave, 2777 Mannheim Road, Des Plaines, \$125 per person, 847-827-7818

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

**Tech Talk for Non-Techies:** This is a Q&A discussion to explore websites, apps, social media, smart devices, email, and more. The topics vary monthly. A library card is not required, so just drop in. 7 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Page Turners:** "Inside the O'Briens" by Lisa Genova is the selection. This group meets monthly, so just drop in. 1 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Knitting Roundtable:** Come work through knitting projects and socialize with fellow knitters. Expert knitters can show you how to solve knitting challenges. Don't forget your current knitting projects and needles! Call 847-929-5101 or go to [www.mgpl.org](http://www.mgpl.org) for more information. 2 p.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Monday Movers for walkers up to 24**

**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

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

**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

## Tuesday, Feb. 7

**Albert Lee:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$18-\$34, 847-492-8860

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

**Tuesday Morning Music:** Garden visitors can enjoy free hour-long meditative 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 history 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 volunteers. 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

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**ages:** Format documents and learn how to work with pictures and clip art. Basic Word skills is required. Glenview Library card is required. Please register at [glenviewpl.org/register](http://glenviewpl.org/register) or by calling. 2 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Career Counseling Appointments:** Four, 30-minute appointments are available. Consult with a career expert for resume help and job search strategies for any stage of your career. Call 847-729-7500 extension 7700 to register. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Beginning Square Dance Classes:** Have fun and learn to square dance; beginner lessons are sponsored by the Glenview Square Dance Club and Glenview Park District. No experience necessary. 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

**Drop-In Storytime:** Ages birth to 5-years-old with caregiver. Space is limited to the first 20 drop-ins with caregivers. Drop in for preschool storytime at the library this winter. This fun, interactive storytime emphasizes letters, numbers, shapes, colors and other concepts to provide a language-rich experience. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

**Movies, Munchies and More with Film "Mr. Holland's Opus":** "Mr. Holland's Opus" is rated PG, and is the story of Glenn Holland. He is a frustrated composer who finds fulfillment as a high school music teacher. The cast is: Richard Dreyfuss, Glenna Headly, Jay Thomas. 11:30 a.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:** Singers invited, with rehearsal 7-9 p.m. 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. 7 p.m. Tuesday, St. John Brebeuf Parish Church, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles, suggested free will donation, 702-806-8421

**North Suburban NeedleArts Guild February Lecture:** North Suburban NeedleArts Guild's February lecturer is Lisa Binkley. Her lecture is entitled, "Bead Embellishment Design for Fiber Art." 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 1133 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, free, 847-272-0400

**Up for Discussion: Parental Expectations:** Join in a panel discussion on parental expectations, based on Ron Fournier's "Love That Boy." Reading the book is optional; drop-ins are welcome. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Expand Your Resource Network:** Changes in health can impact a person's ability to stay connected to others. Have greater access to people, places, and resources to support you as a family caregiver with ways to stay healthy and happy. 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 Public 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. Siblings welcome. 11 a.m. Tuesday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

**The Breakfast Club:** Start your day right at The Breakfast Club! Network over breakfast at Lola's Diner This is hosted by Chamber Ambassador, Dave Donovan. 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, Lola's Diner, 920 Busse Highway, Park Ridge, \$12 members; \$15 prospective members, 847-825-3121

**Lehrhaus Confirmation Class:** Post Bar/Bat Mitzvah teenagers are invited to participate in this program which teaches young people how to utilize Jewish resources when faced with making a decision. This is a fascinating three-year program. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, \$420 for entire year plus book fees, 847-675-4141

**Scientists in Synagogues:** Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emunah, offers a three session Scientists in Synagogue program - How Free is Free Will? The Neuroscience of Moral Decision Making exploring how what we know about the brain aligns with traditional Jewish ideas about autonomy and self determination. Takes place on Tuesday evenings. 8 p.m. Tuesday, Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emunah, 3220 Big Tree Lane, Wilmette, free, 847-256-1213

## Wednesday, Feb. 8

**LOLO:** 8 p.m. Wednesday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$12, 847-492-8860

**Found's Salon Series Featuring Nicholas Barron:** Found Kitchen and Social House are featuring a new collective of interactive events dubbed the Salon Series. As a part of this series, Evanston's own Nicholas Barron is set to perform every Wednesday night. 8 p.m. Wednesday, Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$10, 847-868-8945

**Live Music Wednesdays with the Josh Rzepka Trio:** Hear the music of Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk and other classics of the era played by the Josh Rzepka Bebop trio. Reservations can be made online or by calling. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-868-8945

**Equity Sewing Circle with Artist Marie Watt:** Join to meet Seneca artist Marie Watt, connect with neighbors, add to a new collaborative work of art, and take part in conversations around the theme of equity. Marie Watt, whose work is featured in an upcoming exhibition at the Block Museum, makes many of her pieces with community participation, notably in sewing circles. 6 p.m. Wednesday, The GYM at Art Theory & Practice, Northwestern University, 640 Lincoln St., Evanston, free, 847-467-4602

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

**Presidents Day Event- George Washington:** George Washington and the Constitution is at 10 a.m. or noon, in the Lakeview Room. Come experience a historical reenactment performed by Dale Fellows. Sponsored by Glenview Women of Today. 10 a.m. Wednesday, The East Wing Glenview Senior Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-724-4793

**Introduction to Excel 2010:** At this hands-on workshop, attendees learn simple formatting and entering/editing data. Registration is limited to six and the prerequisite is that the participant must be experienced and comfortable

with computer, keyboard and mouse. Registration is required. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**ESL Conversation Group:** Practice speaking English in an informal and friendly group setting. Discussions focus on a variety of practical, everyday and general interest topics. All skill levels are welcome to attend. Registration is required. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Teen Tech Lab: Chibitronics Fun:** All teens ages 13-18 are welcome to use Chibitronics circuit stickers to create fun light-up cards. The materials are provided, but registration is required. 4 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**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

**Preschool Storytime for ages 3 to 5:** Children ages 3 to 5 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

**Pajama Storytime All Ages:** Wear your PJs and bring your favorite stuffed friend for a cozy bedtime storytime. 7

Turn to Calendar, Next Page

*Calendar, from Previous Page*

p.m. Wednesday, Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

**Storytime for Twos with Adult:**

Stories and songs specially chosen for two year-olds and an adult. Siblings are welcome. 9:30 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

**LitLounge: A Map of Betrayal by Ha Jin:**

LitLounge is a book discussion held at the Village Inn Pizza. Registration is not required. This is a tale of espionage and conflicted loyalties that spans half a century in the entwined histories of two countries--China and the United States--and two families. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Village Inn Pizzeria Sports Bar & Grill, 8050 Lincoln Ave., Skokie, free, 847-965-4220

**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

**Thursday, Feb. 9**

**Diabetes month by month:** Learn how to prevent, manage and take care of your diabetes in order to prevent complications. Class is bilingual (English and Spanish). 5 p.m. Erie Evanston/Skokie Health Center, 1285 Hartrey Ave., Evanston, free, 847-666-2346

**Meditation Healing Circle:** The Wellness Source hosts a Guided Meditation Healing Circle with Katherine Trinity, a life-long student of mystical arts and sciences. Call for reservations. 7:30 p.m. The Wellness Source, 1245 Milwaukee Ave, Glenview, \$20, 224-413-3500

**Spark Park for Kindergarten to Second Grades:** Curious Curies and Tiny Teslas are needed for STEAM explorations. Space is limited, so register at [glenviewpl.org/register](http://glenviewpl.org/register) or by calling. 4:15 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Excel 2010 Intermediate:** Learn several intermediate skills including tables and charts, conditional formatting, and absolute/relative cell references. A Glenview Library card is required and the class is limited to 16. Please register at [glenviewpl.org/register](http://glenviewpl.org/register) or by calling. 1:30 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Niles Songwriters:** Local songwriters meet on the Second Thursday of the month at the library's Lower Level to discuss their craft and play their music. Acoustic instruments are welcome. 7 p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oak-

ton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

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

**Rock Talk Grammy Smackdown:** Join in a discussion and to listen to this year's Grammy Award nominees. Registration is required. 7 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**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. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

**Park Ridge Toastmasters Meeting:** This is the Park Ridge Toastmasters Bi-Weekly meeting. All are welcome to join for impromptu speaking, prepared speeches, jokes and much more. 7:30 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 418 Touhy Ave., Park Ridge, free, 224-715-5128

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

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## NOW PLAYING

**"Split" ★★★**

PG-13, 1:57, suspense/thriller

In the multiple-personality psycho-thriller "Split," James McAvoy sinks his teeth into the role of Kevin, a troubled young man with dissociative identity disorder who kidnaps three young girls. While McAvoy is known for his dramatic roles, he's delightful when allowed to show off his loud, campy, unhinged side. But director M. Night Shyamalan retreats to the tried-and-true formulas for this genre. It's tiresome to see yet another movie where yet more young women are stripped and locked in a basement. Kevin meets his match in Casey (Anya Taylor-Joy). She's thoughtful, quiet and composed, thinking rather than acting impulsively out of their predicament. — *Katie Walsh, Tribune News Service*

**"xXx: The Return of Xander Cage" ★★ 1/2**

PG-13, 1:47, action/adventure

Vin Diesel has hit on a formula that just works for him: muscles, babes and feats of vehicular derring-do performed alongside a mix of diverse global superstars. Former special ops agent Xander Cage (Diesel) is coaxed out of retirement to pursue a group of bandits who have stolen a "Pandora's Box" device with the capability of dropping satellites out of orbit, making them crash into the earth like bombs. The appeal of this film lies in its outlandish action, innovative stunt spectacle to the extreme, defying all laws of nature, physics and logic. But despite Diesel's best efforts, wushu master Donnie Yen swipes this movie right out from under his prodigious peccs. — *K.W.*

**"Hidden Figures" ★★ 1/2**

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 launch of Sputnik, America had to play catch-up in the space race. The film focuses on three African-American female mathematicians working behind the scenes and behind a long wall of white colleagues, at a segregated NASA in Jim Crow-ruled Hampton, Va. The bigotry and sexism these women endured cries out for a tougher-minded movie. But 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. — *Michael Phillips*

**"Sing" ★★ 1/2**

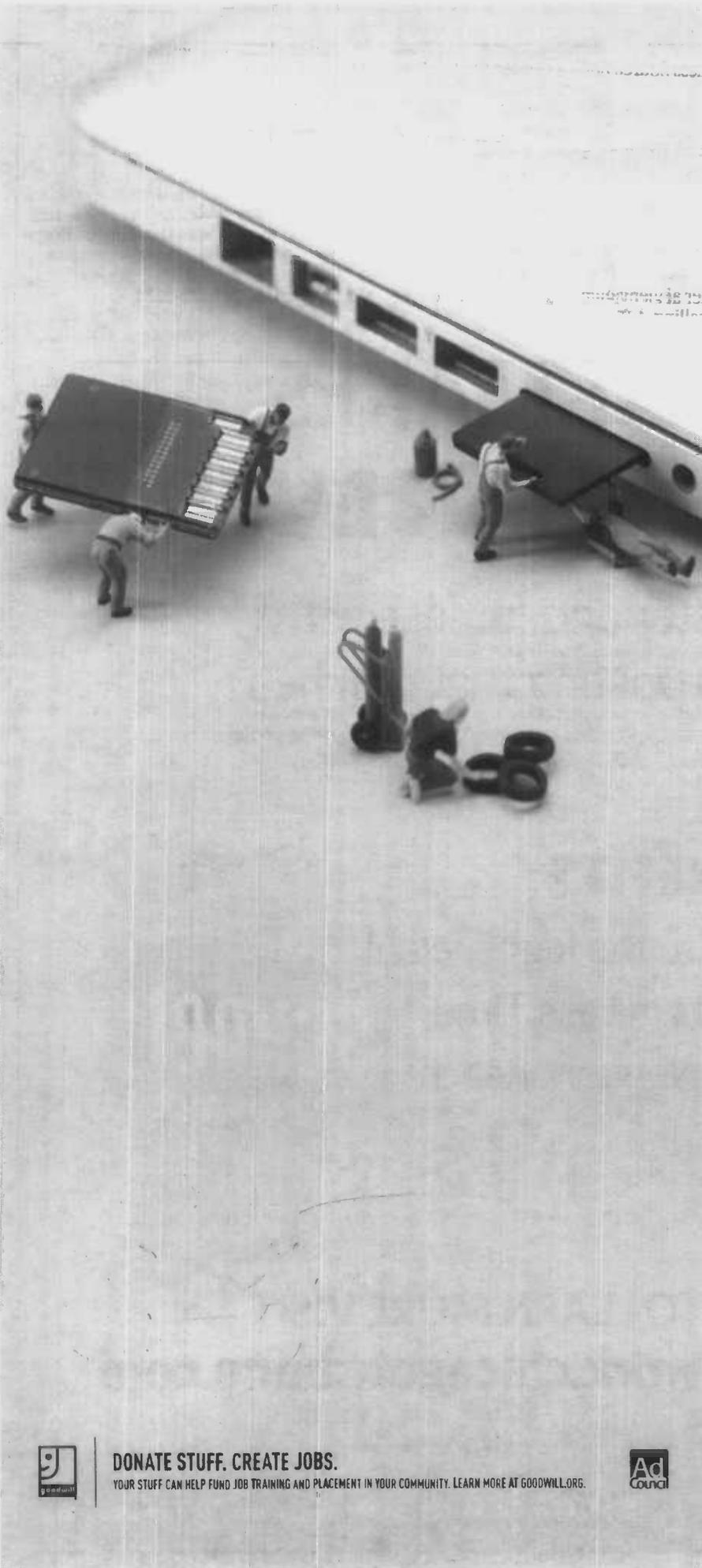
PG, 1:48, animated

Talking, dancing, singing creatures mash up with the 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," with an audition montage that is jam-packed with truly wonderful moments (Twerking bunnies?), it transforms into an old-school backstage musical that celebrates the magic of putting on a show. Matthew McConaughey, John C. Reilly, Nick Kroll, Reese Witherspoon, Scarlett Johansson, Seth MacFarlane are among the celebrity voices belting their hearts out. — *K.W.*

**"La La Land" ★★★★★**

PG-13, 2:08, musical comedy

How to write about "La La Land" without making it sound like nostalgic goo? At its best, "La La Land" hits 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. 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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# In hindsight

Five area football seniors share recruiting tips

BY BRETT CHRISTIE  
Pioneer Press

On the Feb. 1 national signing day, high school football recruits across the country will sign with the program of their choice.

Pioneer Press caught up with five area seniors who will be signing with a variety of different programs and asked them to pen letters to their younger selves, offering advice in hindsight based on what they've learned from the recruiting process.

## Cole Kmet, St. Viator

*Kmet, a tight end from Lake Barrington, committed during his junior season to Notre Dame in October 2015.*

Dear sophomore Cole,

It's going to get hectic with all the coaches calling you and stuff. You think you know how hectic it's going to be, but you don't yet realize the magnitude of it.

Stay open-minded and pick a school you like — not just a coach — but pick a school you like.

Sincerely,  
Cole

## Ian Swenson, Loyola

*Swenson, a defensive back from Evanston, committed to UConn in July 2016.*

Dear sophomore Ian,

Patience is definitely key. It's a long process, and you have a lot of time to make your decision.

Sincerely,  
Ian

## Tyler Jost, Libertyville

*Jost, an offensive tackle from Libertyville, originally committed to Iowa State in April 2016. He decommitted in November, writing on Twitter that the Cyclones coaching staff had asked him to join the team in January 2018, a semester late. On Jan. 9, Jost committed to Yale.*

Dear sophomore Tyler,

Make sure you look at everything with an open lens and take things slow. Make sure the school



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

*Hinsdale South linebacker Deontae Curry committed to Eastern Illinois on Sunday after decommitting to Winona State.*

you plan on committing to checks every box, and that you're truly happy with the decision. Follow your gut and your heart when making your decision.

Explore absolutely all options. There's a lot of really fantastic schools out there.

Sincerely,  
Tyler

## Devonte Dunn, Nazareth

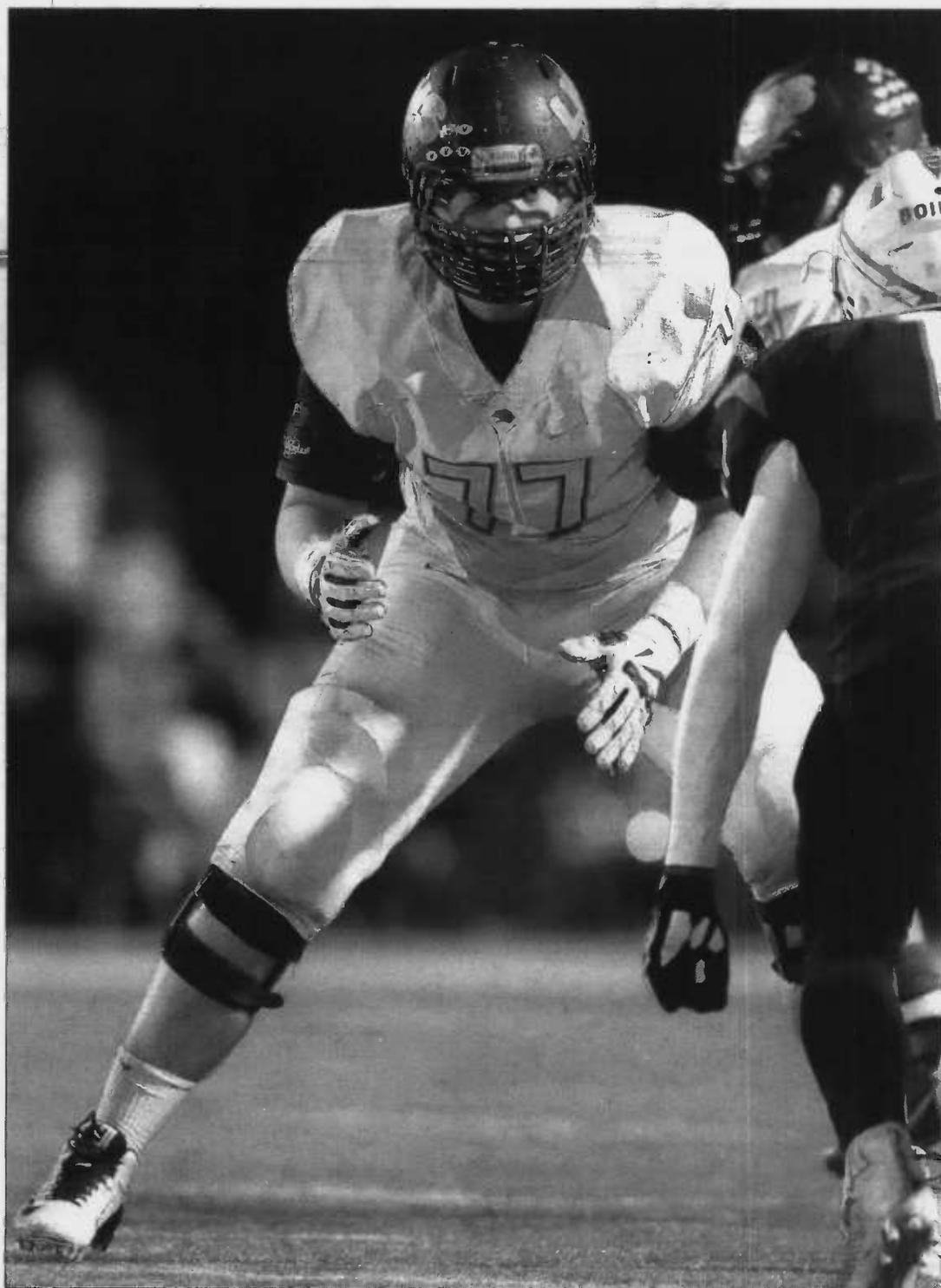
*Dunn, a defensive tackle from Plainfield, committed to Toledo in April 2016.*

Dear sophomore Devonte,

Don't be shy. Go up to coaches and have a small conversation with them. Once they know your face, they'll remember you next time. Go to as many camps as you can and get your name out there.

Focus in the classroom because the first thing college coaches ask you is 'How are your grades?' They look for a good kid, too. They'll ask your high school coaches what type of kid you are and what your grades are like. So as long as you get your name out there, are a great student and a great person, if you have those three qualities, you're most likely going to be one hell of a football player at the next level.

Sincerely,  
Devonte



ALLEN CUNNINGHAM/PIONEER PRESS

*Libertyville lineman Tyler Jost, who committed to Yale after decommitting to Iowa State, would advise younger recruits to "explore absolutely all options."*

## Deontae Curry, Hinsdale South

*Curry, a linebacker from Bolingbrook, originally committed to Winona State, a Division II program, on Jan. 8. He changed his commitment Sunday, opting to play for Eastern Illinois, a Division I FCS program.*

Dear sophomore Deontae,  
Be aware that a lot of schools,

even though they might talk to you, it doesn't necessarily secure you a spot with them. They might come and visit you, but things might change very quickly. Go to a lot of camps and get your name out there before the season starts so coaches know to watch your film.

It's one of the most difficult and life-changing experiences that you have to go through,

because you're pretty much deciding on not only where you're going the next four years, but also how far that place can take you the next 20 or 40 years after you graduate.

Sincerely,  
Deontae

*All letters are based on interviews with Brett Christie, a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.*

# Service academies see spike in interest from Chicago

BY BOB NARANG  
Pioneer Press

Blake Holley remained committed to his long-held belief until it was time to commit.

The Barrington senior linebacker had been adamant that he didn't want to play college football for one of the Division I service academies — Navy, Army or Air Force.

"I always grew up saying I would never serve in the military. It just wasn't for me," Holley said. "I didn't want to risk my life."

His teammate, senior defensive end Jackson Perkins, had a similar attitude, and that view became even more solidified upon an in-school visit by a Navy assistant coach Chris Culton last spring. Perkins, a Barrington resident, had his sights set on playing in the SEC, arguably the best football conference in the country.

"When Coach Culton gave us the whole spiel and the benefits about going to Navy, I'm like, 'All right, I'm not going to Navy, whatever,'" Perkins said.

Time and research soon changed Holley and Perkins' perceptions of playing for a service academy. Holley said he became more intrigued after receiving his offer from Navy and by following the career of Keenan Reynolds, a former Navy quarterback who now plays wide receiver for the Baltimore Ravens.

After taking an unofficial visit of the Annapolis, Md., campus in July, Holley and Perkins committed to Navy later that same day.

"Navy kept sending me stuff, called and offered me and I became really intrigued about it," Perkins said. "Once you scratch more into the surface, it shows you how much of a great opportunity it is. Once I visited (Navy), it was no-brainer."

Throughout the Chicago area, football players from the Class of 2017 have been



JON CUNNINGHAM/PIONEER PRESS

After initial skepticism toward service academies, Barrington linebacker Blake Holley (42) committed to play at Navy.

saying yes in higher-than-usual numbers to playing college football for one of the three Division I service academies.

In all, six players from the Chicago area have committed to Army, four to Navy and two to Air Force, according to the EdgyTim.com recruiting website. Among the Army recruits are Maine South kicker Sean McNulty and Libertyville defensive tackle Ryan O'Malley.

The Midshipmen, like Army and Air Force, don't limit themselves geographically in recruiting. Navy's 2016 roster included players from 29 states, but not a single player from Illinois.

Army had five players from Illinois on its 2016 roster. Air Force had three Illinois players on its roster.

"For me, the No. 1 reason for going to Army was the coaching staff, atmosphere at the football games and I loved the campus," said New Trier senior quarter-

back Clay Czyzynski, a Winnetka resident. "The football is very good, and you get to play some of the best competition."

"Edgy" Tim O'Halloran, in his 22nd year running the eponymous website, which is part of the Rivals network, said the many Class of 2017 recruits from the Chicago area fit the demanding requirements to play for a military academy this year.

"They are looking for academic kids, kids with good character and who can play football," O'Halloran said. "They got that this year. It's definitely been an up year in that regard."

The appeal of playing for one of the service academies is high for potential recruits, partly because all three programs are coming off strong seasons.

Air Force (10-3) defeated Colorado State and Boise State during the regular season before beating South Alabama in the Arizona Bowl. Navy (9-5) knocked

off Houston, Memphis, Notre Dame and Tulsa during the regular season before losing to Louisiana Tech in the Armed Forces Bowl. Army, which ended a 14-year series losing streak against Navy this season and played in its first bowl game since 2010, beat Temple and Wake Forest during the regular season and North Texas in the Heart of Dallas Bowl. Army finished 8-5.

The schools also offer a top-tier education and a career after college.

St. Viator senior linebacker Austin Ruetsche committed to Air Force in July. He fell in love with the campus, scenic location just north of Colorado Springs, Colo., and the idea of setting in motion a plan for his after-school life. Due to strict academic entry guidelines, Ruetsche plans to attend and play football for the Air Force Academy Prep School for a year. After the 2017-18 academic year, he

plans to enroll in the Air Force Academy. His commitment, though, will be for 10 years. After attending school for five years, Ruetsche is obligated to serve for five more years.

"Obviously, it's going to be an experience," he said. "I'm basically signing away 10 years of my life. I don't mind because it really sets a plan for me ahead and nice knowing what I'm getting myself into even though I know it's going to be tough."

## Not an ordinary football commitment

Aside from recruits agreeing to active military service after college and the potential to serve in a wartime situation, the service academies have strict guidelines and procedures for admission. Many local recruits talked extensively of the grueling paperwork that is required — including

a congressional nomination and written recommendations from multiple teachers — and maintaining a conditioning regimen in order to survive basic training and boot camps upon arrival.

Also, a strenuous six-part fitness test must be completed in high school. The assessment includes a basketball throw, pull-ups/flexed arm hang, a shuttle run, modified situps (crunches), pushups and a one-mile run.

Ruetsche, who is 6-foot-2 and 215 pounds, admitted he's not much of a long-distance runner, but said he was told he should be able to run six miles before he arrives for basic training.

"You have to train for the physical part," Czyzynski said. "You also have to get your grades in shape and ACT scores up and get your paperwork ready for the application process because it's a long one."

Numerous player indicated the potential drawbacks — 24/7 military lifestyle with a structured schedule, early morning wake-up calls, basic training and mandatory summer service — were far outweighed by the positives.

"I'm blessed to have the opportunity to serve my country and play alongside some of the best men in the country," Perkins said. "It's going to be a fun ride."

Holley reflected on how much his views on the service academies have changed.

"Once I learned more about Navy and what it had to offer and benefits, it was a simple choice for me," Holley said. "It's a special place that's not for everyone. The military academies are a big brotherhood, the camaraderie is really special and serving in the military is something I'm looking forward to."

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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# Baltsas makes immediate impact at Maine East

BY STEVE REAVEN  
Pioneer Press

It was a birthday party for a family friend, but Afroditi Baltas came home with a gift.

What the Maine East freshman gymnast received that day almost a decade ago at the since-closed International Gymnastics Gym in Mount Prospect was her initial exposure to a sport that is now a central part of her life.

Baltsas was immediately hooked on gymnastics and in subsequent lessons she proved to be someone with natural skills and a desire to excel.

"After a couple of months, I started gaining skills pretty quickly," Baltas said. "I realized that gymnastics would be my main sport and that I needed to stick with it. I've been loving it ever since."

Baltsas has made a very smooth transition to high school competition and she's eager to see how she stacks up against the state's best over the next couple of weeks.

Baltsas began the season's stretch run in impressive fashion at the Central

Suburban North conference meet on Saturday, finishing second in the all-around with a score of 34.700 at Glenbrook North in Northbrook. Deerfield's Sam Edelstein won with a score of 34.900.

Maine East and Highland Park tied for fourth at the six-team meet with 118.075 points.

Baltsas was particularly pleased that she landed her dismount on the bars. It was one of the only times she's done so this year. That landing helped her earn an 8.600 and finish second. She also took second on vault (9.000). Baltas was the meet's only competitor to finish in the top four in all four events. She took third on floor exercise (8.875) and placed fourth on beam (8.225).

"I just wanted to do as well as I could," Baltas said of her effort at the conference meet. "It gives me confidence moving forward, especially in an event like bars, which I've been struggling with. I know now that I can keep progressing."

Maine East coach Neil Adamson was aware of Baltas' deep well of experience before she joined the

team and her proficiency was visible from the onset of practice.

She's made an immediate impression on her mostly-older teammates.

"Almost from the first day, she helped elevate the team," Adamson said. "Not just in her scores but by inspiring others to get better as well. Everyone wanted to keep up with her."

Beam has always been a strength of Baltas, and Adamson said he believes that she's capable of qualifying for the state girls gymnastics meet on the beam. The state meet is scheduled for Feb. 17-18 at Palatine.

"Beam is one of those events where it takes a while to perfect," said Baltas, who resides in Niles. "You definitely need great balance, and once you get it, it's a really good feeling."

To reach state, Baltas will have to navigate through the regional and sectional meets, which are piled into a five-day period in early February.

Despite her years of experience, Baltas admitted to being nervous before many routines. How effectively she casts those butter-



ERIC P. DAVIS/PIONEER PRESS

Maine East's Afroditi Baltas performs on the balance beam during the Central Suburban North girls gymnastics meet on Saturday at Glenbrook North.

flies aside will help define her freshman campaign.

"I know there are some big meets coming up, but I'm pretty good about keep-

ing calm once I'm out there," she said. "My major goal is making it to state. That would make the year end on a pretty high note."

Steve Reaven is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer\_Press

# Maine East places 17th at state dance competition

BY DAN SHALIN  
Pioneer Press

Maine East's trip to the Class 2A competitive dance state finals over the weekend may not have gone exactly as the team had hoped: The Demon Squad scored an 84.16 and finished 17th out of 30 teams in Bloomington.

"The girls did awesome, but the bright lights and magnitude of it all was overwhelming for a young team with all of its members who had never been to state

before," coach Sue Kawecki said.

Despite the mild setback, Maine East still has an unexpected sectional title to show for the season. Plus, with just one senior on the squad, the team's future appears bright.

Not much was expected of the young, 12-member squad entering the school year. But Kawecki said she and long-time assistant coach Amanda Loerzel realized they'd hit on something special in November, when four members of the

squad performed a new routine at a charity event in Wisconsin.

The routine — which has been described by members of the team as military-style, hard dancing — was soon expanded to include the entire squad. Set to a series of sound effects, the routine was designed to play to the strengths of Maine East's team members who, unlike many of their counterparts at other schools, are not classically trained dancers.

The Demon Squad entered the Jan. 21 Huntley

Sectional just hoping the routine was enough to earn a top-six place, which would qualify them for their first trip to the state tournament since 2013.

Not only did Maine East qualify, but they won, scoring an 89.47.

"We didn't expect to win," said senior tri-captain Amy Ganzorig, who lives in Des Plaines. "It was a complete surprise. It was so emotional and everybody was crying. It was the best experience in the world."

Ganzorig said she was

pleased by the way the Demon Squad performed at state, which was held at U.S. Cellular Coliseum, given that the team had no prior experience performing at that event.

"I think we did pretty well, it's just that it was the first time (members of the current squad) had gone to state and we didn't know what to expect. We were just happy to go to state," said Ganzorig, who served as a captain alongside juniors Joselle Portillo and Parisa Abesteh.

Ganzorig added: "I'm very happy I got to go (to state) before I graduated and am looking forward to the upcoming years and seeing what the dancers will accomplish."

Kawecki said expectations will be high next year.

"Next year, we will be top 12 (in the state) for sure," she said.

Dan Shalin is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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## BOYS BOWLING NOTEBOOK

# Notre Dame's Kelleher rolls perfect game at state

BY JON J. KERR  
Pioneer Press

In the high school boys bowling season's most important tournament, Notre Dame junior Connell Kelleher achieved perfection.

In the fourth game of the state tournament's second day at St. Clair Bowl in O'Fallon, Kelleher knocked down 300 pins on Saturday. The 12-strike performance secured Kelleher's second consecutive all-state (top-12) finish at the state tournament as he placed sixth with a score of 2,671.

Kelleher finished seventh at the 2015-16 state tournament.

"Incredible," Dons coach Miguel Sanchez said. "To do that (bowl 300) and to be top-10 two years in a row is quite remarkable."

The 300 score is a career first for Kelleher. Several times he had come close, but was not able roll a strike in the 12th and final frame.

In his fourth game Saturday, Kelleher did as he'd done before, rolling 11 strikes in 11 frames. Clutching his bowling ball with his dominate left hand, Kelleher prepared his approach for the 12th and final frame. But then he broke his routine and paused.

"I was getting shaky so I had to step away," Kelleher said. "I put my ball down and had to regroup."

At that time of day, according to Kelleher, lane conditions were not as fresh, the ball was not hooking as sharply as it had earlier in the day. So as he had all game, he held onto the bowling ball just a bit longer before releasing it off his hand and onto the lane.

"I lofted it into the air and when it hit the floor, it started farther down the lane," he said.

As the ball approached the pins, Kelleher said he knew he had rolled a good



NOTRE DAME PHOTO

From left, Notre Dame coach Miguel Sanchez, Connell Kelleher and assistant coach Steve Bronkema pose for a photo.

ball. When all 10 pins went down he had the 12th strike and perfect score. His teammates and Sanchez immediately greeted him with congratulations.

Sanchez, in his first year as coach, held the previous Dons school record of 299 set in 2003-04.

"I told him, 'I'm proud of you beating me.' For us, it was a cool coach-player moment," said Sanchez, a 2006 graduate of Notre Dame. "One guy has to bowl 300 and break my record. It's an amazing feat and I had the best seat in the house for it."

Notre Dame participated in the state tournament as a team. The Dons placed 13th, just missing the top-12 cut to qualify for the tournament's second day. It's the fourth year in a row the Dons have competed in the state tournament.

Senior Robert Van Houghton was the Dons second-highest individual finisher, placing 47th with a score of 2,480.

## Niles North

Vikings junior Avery Wolf bowled both days at the state tournament, finishing 31st for a four-round, 12-game score of 2,552.

It's the second season in a row Wolf competed in the state tournament. He tied for 51st in 2016.

"He learned from last year and it paid dividends," Vikings coach Richard Lee said. "He handled the pressure, he was focused and performed really well."

The 2016-17 season was the first boys bowling season where Niles North competed as a stand alone school (it participated as a co-op with Niles West from 2012-2016). The Vikings did not make the state tournament as a team.

Jon J. Kerr is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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# It's time to vote!

The polls are open for the February Athlete of the Month challenge! Go to [chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes](http://chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes) through noon on Feb. 9 to cast your vote. You may vote once every 12 hours. Winners will be featured in print and online, receive a commemorative plaque, and his or her school will receive \$250, presented by Country Financial.



MICHAEL SCHMIDT/  
PIONEER PRESS



ERIC P. DAVIS/PIONEER PRESS



DAVID KRAUS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

## Dylan Ramirez

**Year in school:** Senior  
**School:** Niles North  
**Sport:** Wrestling  
**Best game:** Ramirez finished first at 285 pounds at the Central Suburban League meet. In the final, Ramirez pinned Glenbrook South senior Alex Balabanos in 1 minute, 45 seconds. He won his semifinal match 4-2 in overtime against Glenbrook North senior Jacob Weingardt.

## Afroditi Baltas

**Year in school:** Freshman  
**School:** Maine East  
**Sport:** Girls gymnastics  
**Best game:** Baltas finished second in the all-around at the Central Suburban North meet on Jan. 28 at Glenbrook North with a score of 34.700. She was the only gymnast to finish in the top four in all four events at the meet.

## Caleigh Pistorius

**Year in school:** Sophomore  
**School:** Maine South  
**Sport:** Girls gymnastics  
**Best game:** Pistorius placed third (36.500 points) in the all-around competition at the Central Suburban South meet on Jan. 27 at Evanston. She took second on the vault with a score of 9.650 and fourth (9.400) on the floor.

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# O'Shaughnessy, Blumenthal exemplify value of hard work

BY STEVE REAVEN  
Pioneer Press

While some local wrestlers get pegged as can't-miss prospects at an early age, there are countless others like Niles West seniors Neil O'Shaughnessy and Bruce Blumenthal.

They were never on the fast track.

And despite being under the radar during their formative years, both are enjoying a large measure of success in the latter stages of their prep careers. That's due largely to unbowed resolve and a refusal to be counted out.

"I've already gotten a lot further than I ever thought I would," Blumenthal said. "We're both beating some pretty good kids."

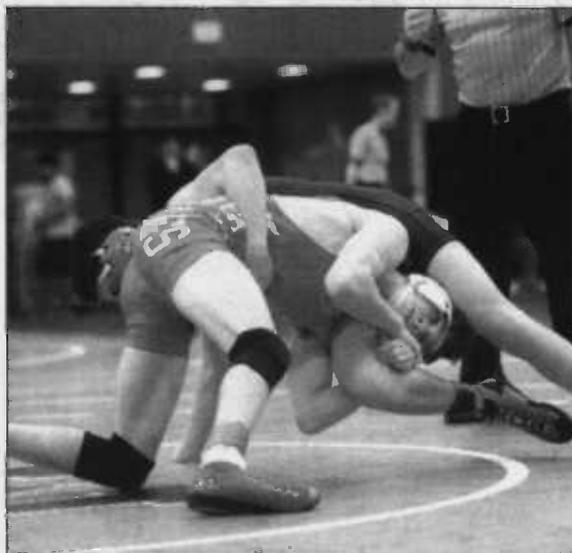
That wasn't always the case.

Blumenthal, a 160-pounder, wasn't a known commodity as recently as his sophomore year. As a junior he crossed the 20-win threshold and after his runner-up finish at the Central Suburban League conference meet on Jan. 21 at Maine South, he had a record of 22-7.

O'Shaughnessy's journey has been even more improbable. He had to put a 1-19 record as a freshman on the Wolves' varsity squad behind him. The 145-pound CSL conference title he won on Jan. 21, which raised his record to 26-5, and trips to the sectional tournament the last two years would have been difficult to envision three seasons ago.

"My freshman year, I was just trying to survive," O'Shaughnessy said. "Most guys would have quit after that. But it's awesome to go from losing almost every match to where I am now."

Both O'Shaughnessy and Blumenthal independently arrived at a point where they realized their only path to sustained success would be via hard



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Niles West's Neil O'Shaughnessy, left, wrestles at 145 pounds during the Central Suburban League wrestling tournament on Jan. 21 at Maine South in Park Ridge.

work.

Blumenthal admits that wasn't always his top priority.

"I only started wrestling because my friends said for me to try it," he said. "I was there to have a good time. I wasn't sure I wanted to stay in it, but after sophomore year, I started taking it seriously."

His surge on the mat also coincided with him moving away from playing football, where he was a third-string, 120-pound cornerback and receiver as a freshman.

O'Shaughnessy simply got tired of losing.

As a sophomore, that drove him to undertake a new routine after each match.

"I made sure after every match to go up to a (Niles West) coach and ask what I did wrong, even if I won," said O'Shaughnessy, a Niles resident. "It gave me immediate feedback and I still do that today."

The two prepped for their senior seasons by traveling anywhere they could find extra instruction or matches last summer, including tournaments in Kalamazoo,

Mich., and southern Illinois.

Blumenthal drove and O'Shaughnessy was the co-pilot.

The extra practice was fruitful for Blumenthal because he gleaned additional pointers on how best to use his 6-foot-1 frame while being exposed to wrestlers of varying abilities.

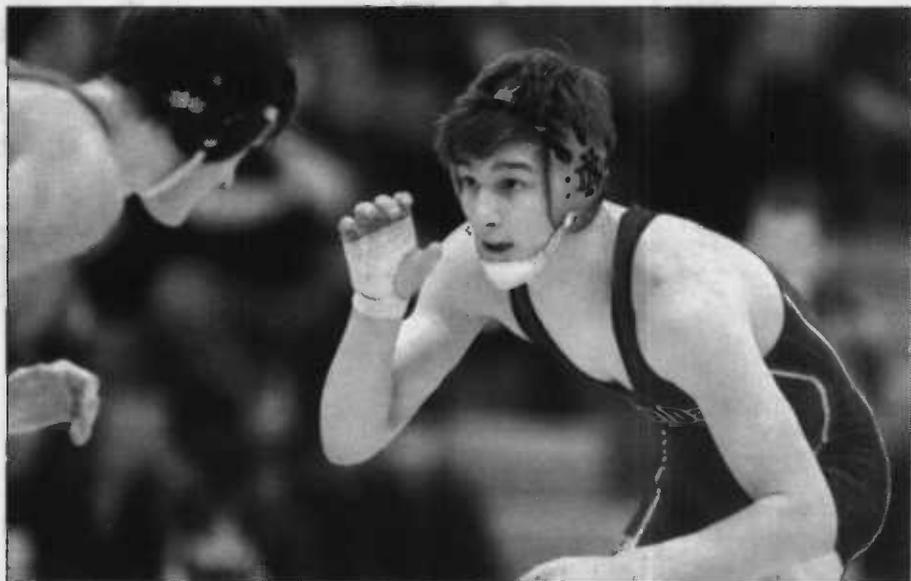
"I'm a lot longer than most wrestlers and I've gotten much better at using my length to my advantage," said Blumenthal, who resides in Lincolnwood. "I use a lefty lead-leg-in stance and a lot of guys aren't used to being attacked that way."

The excursions benefited O'Shaughnessy as well, mostly because of the extra repetitions they provided.

"I got pretty lucky finding a partner who wanted to get better and has a car," O'Shaughnessy said. "What we've done just shows that hard work pays off."

Steve Reaven is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Notre Dame's Josh Barzowski finished first at 160 pounds during the East Suburban Catholic meet on Friday in Mundelein.

## Improved confidence helps Barzowski win ESCC title

BY GARY LARSEN  
Pioneer Press

Notre Dame senior Josh Barzowski can trace the East Suburban Catholic wrestling title he won on Friday to a single quality.

"Confidence," Barzowski said. "Last year, even though I made it downstate, I didn't have the confidence I needed. This year, I have it."

"Without confidence I was too timid, I didn't shoot and I would wrestle their style. Now that I'm confident, I go out and wrestle my style."

Barzowski pinned Marist's Scott Bauer on the title mat at 160 pounds at the conference championships, which were hosted by Carmel in Mundelein. Barzowski improved to 32-3 by winning the first conference title of his career. He is currently ranked sixth in Illinois in Class 3A at 160 pounds by Illinois Matmen.

Barzowski went 33-9 at 152 pounds last season, and 1-2 at the state tournament. Notre Dame coach Augie Genovesi has seen the change in Barzowski.

"He didn't believe in himself enough for a little while.

It's just mental maturity," Genovesi said. "And now our younger guys see that confidence from him and they feed off of it."

"He's a great kid and he's probably one of the best athletes we've ever had. He can dunk a basketball, probably throw a baseball 85 miles an hour — he's just a great athlete. But he's an even better kid."

Barzowski won by fall in his semifinal match before facing Bauer (22-14). Barzowski led 4-1 after one period, but Bauer earned a takedown to start the second.

Barzowski led 5-4 in the third and with Bauer pressing for a late takedown, Barzowski pinned him with four seconds left in the match.

"I came out aggressive like I wanted to and I kind of slipped, and he took me down," Barzowski said. "I stayed calm, kept working my stuff and pushing him, and once I got to an outside carry, that was it. You just have to stay calm in those situations."

Marist won the ESCC team title and Marian Catholic placed second. Notre

Dame finished third and also got an individual title from Andy Poniatowski, who improved to 23-4 with a pin of Marist's Frank Doyle on the title mat at 126 pounds.

Notre Dame's Sam Grillo (170 pounds), Nick Prozanowski (182) and Conor Flaherty (195) placed second. Teammates Vince Genualdi (113) and Augie Whittington (145) took third.

### End of an era

After 35 years as either the co-head coach or head coach at Notre Dame, Genovesi is stepping down at season's end. He plans to remain as an assistant coach with the program.

"It's been fun but it was time to step back," Genovesi said. "Our support from our athletic director, Mike Hennessey, has been great and the kids have been fantastic."

"If we don't have the best wrestlers or the best athletes, we definitely have the best kids. It's like a family. It's a brotherhood."

Gary Larsen is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

# Faith-filled Niles West senior wins Evans Scholarship

BY STEVE SADIN  
Pioneer Press

As the oldest of six children, Niles West senior Elijah Lancaster said he felt a responsibility to at least partially pay for his college education so his parents could use more of their resources for his siblings.

Lancaster doesn't have to worry about the cost of college anymore, though. Late last year he was awarded a Chick Evans Scholarship, which covers the full cost of tuition and housing. The scholarship, which takes into account financial need, is given to golf caddies.

"It was a huge burden lifted off me," said Lancaster, who caddies at Evanston Golf Club. "I wouldn't have been able to go to college without it. At least not like this."

Without the scholarship, Lancaster said he would have likely attended a less prestigious four-year college in the area and worked as a caddie from the time the course opened in the spring until it closed in the fall to help pay for his education.

Lancaster has three biological siblings, and two of his siblings are adopted. Mary, who is now 6, was adopted from Ethiopia when she was 1 and Dereon, 5, was adopted after living with the Lancaster family in foster care for three years. Dereon was 6 months old when the Lancasters became his foster family.

"It teaches me so much patience, love and compassion that I hope will spill over to my own family one day," Elijah Lancaster said of growing up in a family of eight.

One of the most influential experiences of Elijah Lancaster's life came when he was 12 and accompanied his father, the lead pastor at the Evanston Bible Fellowship, to Ethiopia to bring his little sister back to the family's home in Skokie.

"For our church and our family, we believe God has adopted us into His family and in turn we now love and care for orphans," Elijah Lancaster said. "Ethiopia was chosen because there is a real sense of need in that country."

When he was in Ethiopia, Elijah Lancaster saw a lifestyle that is far different from the one he's accustomed to in the northern suburbs.



ELIJAH LANCASTER PHOTO

The Lancaster family, from left to right, Melissa, Karis, Roman, Jordan, Dereon, Jason, Mary and Elijah, poses for a photo.

"There were kids 10 years old out in the streets shining shoes and washing cars," Elijah Lancaster said. "They were the primary wage earners for their families. It made me realize how much we have and fortunate we are."

Jason Lancaster, Elijah Lancaster's father, said he took his son on the trip to Ethiopia because he thought he was "old enough and mature enough to help."

"He helped by watching her when I had to figure out some visa issues and airline issues," Jason Lancaster said. "He was able to play with her and watch her in the room while I did that. It was very helpful."

Elijah Lancaster said he has been accepted to Illinois, Purdue, Indiana and Colorado. The final choice will depend on the Evans Scholars Foundation, said Amy

Fuller, an organization spokesperson.

"The recipients will find out their schools by March 1," Fuller said in an email. "In determining which school they will be awarded to, the (foundation) selection committee takes into consideration things like student preference, acceptance into the school and other factors."

While he would prefer to attend Colorado because of the area's natural beauty, Elijah Lancaster said he will be happy with any of the schools. He plans to study business, but insists his sense of social justice, which he said stems from his faith, will be part of his business ethics.

"I'm not going to just focus on profits," Elijah Lancaster said. "I will be thinking about how it will help the community."

Teachers and classmates have both noticed Elijah Lancaster's moral fabric. Ashweita Ajith, another Niles West senior and Evans Scholar who caddies at Evanston, could sense his personality from the start.

"He was the first caddie I met at Evanston," Ajith said. "I didn't know he went to Niles West. He's kind and a very good caddie. He's very responsible and pretty smart too."

Elijah Lancaster started caddying at Evanston in the spring of his eighth-grade year to earn money and have something to do in the summer. He said he took an interest in golf and started learning the game almost immediately. He picked it up in part by "trial and error" and by watching golfers whose bags he carried negotiate shots. He went out for the

Wolves golf team as a freshman and played on the JV his first two years. He was a member of the Niles West varsity team as a junior and senior.

Mitch Stern, the Niles West golf coach, said Elijah Lancaster has a natural swing with the ability to be an outstanding golfer, but Stern was even more impressed by his character. He said Elijah Lancaster won the team's sportsmanship award at the end of the 2016 season.

"We just don't give it to any kid," Stern said of the award. "He does everything right and expects everyone else to do what's right too."

Steve Sadin is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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New Trier's Clay Czyzynski (Army) is one of many local players who have committed to play college football at a military academy.

BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS



# PLEDGING ALLEGIANCE

Service academies a popular option for local football recruits. *inside*

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