

NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR



\$1.50

Thursday, February 23, 2017

nilesheraldspectator.com

Go jump in a lake

Niles police, village officials raise money for Special Olympics. **Page 6**



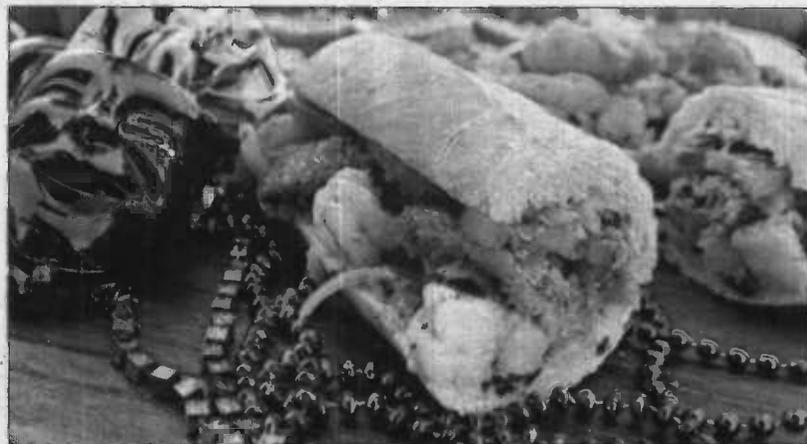
MICHAEL SCHMIDT/PIONEER PRESS

Niles Police Department personnel and village officials took the plunge into Lake Michigan Feb. 18 at Clark Street Beach in Evanston as part of the Special Olympics Illinois Polar Plunge fundraiser.

LIVING

A po' boy tribute to New Orleans

Melissa Elsmo shares her shrimp and fried oyster po' boy inspired by week of blissful bingeing. **Inside**



MELISSA ELSMO/PIONEER PRESS

GO



QUENTIN BACON

Barefoot Contessa

Ina Garten to talk about her life, cooking and start in the White House at Rosemont Theatre show. **Page 24**

OPINION

Immigration Law enforcement

The stress point now wearing on this American democracy is the idea of immigration. It is one we may not be able to resolve very easily for it has been a crisis unheeded for nearly 40 years, writes Randy Blaser. **Page 19**

SPORTS



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Diving in

Area swimmers attempt to qualify for state tournament. **Pages 43-44**

CHICAGO STATE
UNIVERSITY



The Most Affordable
Liberal Arts Education
in Illinois.

DIFFERENT IS
CREATIVITY

APPLY NOW csu.edu/different

BUILD YOUR PERFECT KITCHEN

Home remodeling by Airoom



Naperville kitchen designed
and remodeled by Airoom.

KITCHEN REMODELS ♦ HOME ADDITIONS ♦ CUSTOM HOMES ♦ BATHROOM REMODELS

Call or visit our website for a complimentary design/pricing consultation.

(847) 268-2178 | AiroomHome.com

AIRROOM 
ARCHITECTS · BUILDERS · REMODELERS
SINCE 1958

FINANCING AS LOW AS
2.750% (2.924% APR)**

** Loans are brokered by Lamb Financial, an Illinois Residential Mortgage Licensee #MB.6760662 / NMLS# 227278, located at 6825 N Lincoln Ave, Lincolnwood, IL 60712. Rate quoted is for 10 Year Fixed mortgage as of August 24, 2016, maximum 80% loan-to-value, minimum 720 FICO score. Interest rates are subject to change without notice and assume qualifying credit, income, equity and property type. Other loan types are available; your particular interest rate may be higher.

Visit Our State-Of-The-Art Home Design Showroom
6825 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, IL Mon-Sat: 9-5, Sun: 11-4

NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

nilesheraldspectator.com

Jim Rotche, General Manager

Phil Jurik, Suburban Editor

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

Georgia Garvey, Managing Editor

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

Local Sports Editor:
Ryan Nilsson, 312-222-2396
rnilsson@pioneerlocal.com

ADVERTISING
Display: 312-283-7056
Classified: 866-399-0537
Email: suburban.class@tribpub.com
Legals: suburban.legal@tribpub.com
Obituaries: 866-399-0537
or suburban.obit@tribpub.com

SERVICE & NEW SUBSCRIBERS
Phone: 847-696-6040
Email: circulation@pioneerlocal.com

Customer Service Hours
Mon.-Fri.: 6 a.m.-5 p.m.
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. 4

ADVERTISING TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Acceptance of ads by Publisher is expressly conditioned on and subject to the following terms. "Publisher" means this publication, its parent(s), subsidiaries and affiliates. Advertiser agrees that Publisher's liability in relation to any act, omission, failure to publish, or error in the publishing of any ad will not exceed the amount paid for such ad. Under no circumstances will Publisher ever be liable for any indirect, consequential or special damages, or any other costs arising out or related to any act, omission, failure to publish, or error in the publishing of an ad. It is the sole responsibility of the Advertiser to check the correctness of each insertion. Publisher reserves the right to limit the amount of advertising, to edit, or reject any copy, and to cancel any advertising at its sole discretion without notice. Advertiser agrees to indemnify and hold Publisher harmless from and against any liability, loss or expense (including reasonable attorneys fees) arising from any claims resulting from publication by Publisher of the Advertiser's ads.

SHOUT OUT

Donique McIntosh, founder of YWCA racial justice book group

The YWCA Evanston/North Shore has started a new program that explores the issue of racial justice through book discussions. Donique McIntosh, the Y's director of equity and inclusion has worked there for more than a year. She started the program called AfterWords. The racial justice book discussion program held its inaugural event Feb. 16 on the book "Nobody" by Marc Lamont Hill.

Q: What is the racial justice book discussion group and when did it start?

A: It is an opportunity for people from the community to come together to discuss a book that speaks to relevant contemporary issues. The book discussion is a new programmatic initiative at the YWCA that we just launched.

Q: What is your role with the book discussions?

A: I came up with the idea to do a book group discussion last fall as we were doing strategic planning for our department. My role is to choose the books, come up with

discussion questions and co-facilitate the discussion.

Q: Why was "Nobody" by Marc Lamont Hill chosen as the inaugural book for the discussion group?

A: I chose "Nobody" in part, to support the author's work because we went to grad school together. The other, and more important reason, that I chose the book is that Dr. Hill does an excellent job articulating how people of color and people with less economic resources (and others deemed "nobodies") have been disadvantaged by multiple systems of oppression over decades. That systemic oppression, coupled with a lack of community and a disregard for humanity have brought us to this particular moment in history, and we are using the moment to spur people on to action.

Q: What should participants get out of the racial justice book discussions?

A: The name of the book group discussion is AfterWords because



YWCA EVANSTON/NORTH SHORE

Donique McIntosh

we want people to be exposed to great books and also because we want people to be inspired to do something after we've read the books.

Q: How often will the book discussion events be held? And how many people can attend?

A: The book group discussions will likely be held once a quarter, and limited to 25 people.

Q: Are the racial justice book discussions free and open to the public?

A: They are open to anybody high school age and beyond and are free.

— Staff report

February Specials!

Superior
NUT & CANDY
Since 1982

Banana Chips \$1.99 lb

Dark Chocolate Malt Balls \$2.99 lb

Large Whole Cashews (Salted or Unsalted) \$6.99 lb

Milk or Dark Chocolate Almonds \$4.99 lb

Pumpkin Kernels (Salted, Unsalted, Raw) \$3.99 lb

Processors and Distributors of Nuts, Chocolates, Specialty Meats, Candy, Dried Fruit, Seeds, Yogurt

1111 W. 40th Street
South Location (773) 254-7900 Ext. #815
Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
(UPS Available)

6620 W. Irving Park Rd.
North Location (773) 282-3930
Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

OFFER GOOD UNTIL February 28, 2017

House of Cakes

PACZKI DAY - February 28th

Open Monday 9 am - 5 pm - Paczki's ONLY!

\$2⁰⁰ OFF
Your Purchase of \$10 or more
Expires 3/19/17. (Not to be used with any other offers.)

HOURS:
Tues.-Sat. 7-5
Sunday 7-12

6189 N. Canfield Rd.
Chicago, IL 60631
(773) 774-0440

\$5⁰⁰ OFF
Your Purchase of \$20 or more
Expires 3/19/17. (Not Good with Other Offers.)

YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP
for Chicago Collectibles and Sports Memorabilia

Chicago Tribune STORE

SHOP NOW at ChicagoTribuneStore.com or call 866-622-7721



Cardiovascular care for what's next.

We're not just performing leading-edge minimally invasive heart surgery. We're teaching it.

At **NorthShore Cardiovascular Institute**, we're leaders in minimally invasive alternatives to traditional open-heart surgery, offering innovative treatments and new hope for patients facing complex challenges. In fact, our specialists are leading clinical trials, and teaching transcatheter mitral valve and aortic valve replacement at some of the nation's top academic medical centers. Our team of nationally renowned interventional cardiologists and cardiovascular surgeons works together to create the best treatment plan for you. Right here, close to home.

At NorthShore, we're working to keep your heart strong for what's next.

 **NorthShore**
University HealthSystem

(847) 86-HEART
northshore.org/cardio

Cardiovascular Institute

Niles Police Department personnel and village officials took the plunge into Lake Michigan Feb. 18 at Clark Street Beach in Evanston as part of the Special Olympics Illinois Polar Plunge fundraiser.

MICHAEL SCHMIDT/PIONEER PRESS



TAKING THE PLUNGE

Niles police, village officials confront the chilly waters of Lake Michigan for Special Olympics Illinois

When officials with Special Olympics Illinois ask Niles police's deputy chief to go jump in the lake, for the last six years he has done just that.

Deputy Chief Vince Genualdi, Sgt. Ron Brandt and other police and village officials made up Team Niles Feb. 18 and participated in the Special Olympics Illinois' Polar Plunge fundraiser event at Lake Michigan in Evanston.

The money raised helps the nonprofit organization offer Olympic-style sports events and competitions for thousands of individuals — from youths to adults — who have intellectual disabilities, according to

the Special Olympics Illinois website.

"Without raising money for these athletes, there's no way" they could participate, Genualdi said.

In all, some 350 people — including law enforcement personnel, city or village officials and other community members — took part in the two-day event, officially called the Law Enforcement Torch Run Polar Plunge.

It kicked off Feb. 17 with a "super plunge," in which 60 individuals representing police personnel from around the state, including members of the Illinois State Police, jumped into the chilly waters every hour for a 24-hour period.

That event alone had a fundraising goal of \$200,000, said SOI spokeswoman Alexandra McMullan.

Then the next day, Niles and representatives from other North Shore area towns were at the Clark Street Beach in Evanston.

Proceeds are used to help coach, train and provide other support to participants who may compete in the statewide Special Olympics, officials said. This year's tournament will be held in downstate Bloomington in June, officials said.

"Special Olympics Illinois recognizes the struggles that many of our athletes and their families face

on a daily basis. Building your child's courage, strength and self-esteem should not add to this burden. That is why our programs are provided at no cost to the athletes, their families or caregivers," said Sandy Nash, director of the Law Enforcement Torch Run.

SOI officials have planned this year to host a total of 22 plunge events around the state, starting with the Feb. 17 kickoff through March 19. Each plunger, as the participants are called, have been asked to raise a minimum of \$100, officials said.

"The funds raised through the Super Plunge and the other 22 plunges

taking place in Illinois are essential to the success of our athletes and programs," Nash said. "Ultimately, the funds raised by our warm-hearted SUPER Plungers and Plungers help to provide our athletes with ... opportunities."

SOI officials said that more than 22,000 athletes statewide compete in the Special Olympics Illinois, and the organization offers 180 competitions throughout the year.

Genualdi said he takes the leap into the lake because he knows firsthand the impact the Special Olympics competition has on the participants. And Genualdi said he has volunteered for the past three

years with the summer games. He has been among the many police personnel at the finish line handing out medals to participants.

"The joy of (the participants) getting a medal from a police officer," he said, "they just love it."

The deputy chief said that Niles takes seriously its fundraising effort for the Special Olympics. The \$26,058 Niles raised last year, Genualdi said, ranked 18th overall among the 133 law enforcement agencies around the state that held fundraisers.

He said Niles set a goal again this year to raise \$30,000.

— Staff report

Local leaders study, mull over sanctuary city status

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

A rally last month at the Muslim Education Center in Morton Grove drew approximately 1,500 people in protest of President Donald Trump's immigration restrictions, and had rally organizers calling for municipalities to become sanctuary cities and villages.

Following the Morton Grove rally, a group of residents asked Skokie to adopt sanctuary or welcoming laws. Even though such laws were not on the books then, Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen said it is village policy never to ask about immigration status.

Community leaders in Skokie also recently created a campaign, Skokie Welcomes Everyone, under a newly formed group called Skokie Cares.

Unlike in nearby Skokie, Niles leaders have not experienced any such push to adopt sanctuary legislation, said Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo.

Still, Przybylo said, Niles will offer the community a chance to weigh in on the idea before the village's next board meeting. The mayor said he has called for community discussion at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 28 at Village Hall.

"We've made no plans to do one thing or another," Przybylo said. "Cook County is a sanctuary county so in some ways it doesn't matter what we do here. It's more about what the county does."

The mayor said he decided to hold the discussion after he received a media inquiry about the village's position following the Morton Grove rally. He said he doesn't have an opinion right now about how Niles should proceed.

Patricia Ballard, a one-year resident of Niles, said she is certain to show up for the meeting.

"As I was getting very



PATRICK GORSKI/PIONEER PRESS

An estimated crowd of more than 1,500 marched Jan. 29 in Morton Grove against immigration policies.

concerned about our government the other day," she said, "I wondered if Niles is a sanctuary city and if it's not, why not?"

Becoming a sanctuary village is also under study in Morton Grove, according to Village Administrator Ralph Czerwinski.

Czerwinski said the village has been contacted by about a dozen residents, some who support sanctuary status for Morton Grove and others who don't. In response, he said, the mayor asked him and the police chief to develop a report for the Village Board.

"We're kind of taking a watch-and-see situation here now, getting some information from our Police Department," he said.

"Generally, we don't ask people about their immigration status," Morton Grove police Chief Michael Simo said. "Nobody even has time to deal with that stuff."

Likewise, the village does not detain anyone on a civil immigration violation, but if it's a criminal immigration violation, the chief said, the village lets the proper immigration authorities know.

Czerwinski said there is no schedule as to when the report will be completed.

"We want to make sure any move we make is appropriate for the whole community," he said.

Lincolnwood Village Ad-

ministrator Tim Wiberg said the village has been contacted by one resident who supports sanctuary status for Lincolnwood. He said the resident was invited to address the Village Board at any future meeting.

"The subject has not come to our board yet," he said. "The board has not instructed me to put it on any agenda."

Lincolnwood police Sgt. Tim O'Connor said police generally do not explore immigration status during arrests.

"If we do arrest someone who wasn't born in America, one thing we do is ask them if they want to contact their consulate," he said. "They are given that option. Outside of that, we've never really had an issue with something like this."

If a warrant were issued by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, he said, the village would comply, although that is a rarity.

"we're not going out of our way to contact ICE when we've arrested someone," he said.

Some local state legislators have also said there is a push in Springfield for sanctuary status for Illinois. Although some legislation has been drafted, they said, the outcome is uncertain.

misaacs@pioneerlocal.com
Twitter @SEKReview_Mike



MARY, SEAT OF WISDOM

OPEN HOUSE

Tour Our School | Meet Our Teachers
Apply Online for the 2017-2018 School Year

March 13, 2017 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

April 27, 2017 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

June 22, 2017 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

- Preschool through 8th Grade
- 3 & 4 year-old Preschool Full and Half Day Programs | Full Day Kindergarten
- Accelerated Academic Programs
- Remedial Resource Program
- Before and After School Care 6:30 AM - 6:00 PM
- Computer Lab, Chromebooks, iPad and Laptop Carts, Interactive White Boards
- Blended Learning Classrooms | Brand New Library
- Athletic Teams Beginning in 4th Grade; Intramurals for Grades 1-4
- A U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

Call Us Today!

1352 Cumberland Avenue | Park Ridge, IL 60068

847-825-2500 | www.mswschool.org



maryseatofwisdom

Niles looks to expand arts, cultural offerings

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

Niles is in the process of creating a master plan to expand its arts and cultural offerings in significant ways, according to the village's Arts and Culture Advisory Council.

Niles residents were invited last week to consider various options for beefing up the arts and culture scene in Niles during an informal workshop organized by The Lakota Group, urban planners the village has hired.

"We want to first recognize what we have and find ways to expand so we can bring more people into the community," said Arts and Culture Advisory Council member Mary Dowd-Demas, an artist.

The Feb. 15 workshop did not include a presentation, but instead residents examined boards outlining different options for expanding culture and the arts. They included increasing public art programming; adding more special events, festivals and marketing; developing an arts center or an arts incubator space; building a performing arts center with entertainment space; and creating small-scale art projects and similar initiatives.

The Lakota Group officials said the final plan probably will be some combination of options.

Residents were encouraged to fill out surveys, and comment sheets were also available for input.

A number of residents who filtered into the workshop at various times said they either supported Niles' push for more arts and culture or were there to get information.

"I feel like I always have to go to another community for arts and culture," said Patricia Ballard, a one-year Niles resident. "I live right across from a park here that had about five Friday night

concerts that were all the same kind of music. I thought 'Why isn't there an orchestra one night? Why isn't there some ethnic music one night?'"

Residents Carol McManus and Julie List said they both love the Niles Public Library and would be excited if there was an expansion of the arts into other areas of the village.

"We're here really to get information because we haven't seen this," List said. "But we have a wonderful library that offers all kinds of programs. It's always busy."

Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo said he created the arts advisory council about 1½ years ago after the village completed its Niles 2030 Comprehensive Plan. According to village officials, the plan was meant as a vision for the future that included improving the community's overall appearance and image for the next 10 to 15 years.

"There were goals and initiatives that were part of the plan, and one of them was arts and culture," the mayor said. "The people in Niles didn't think we had enough of it."

The council has 13 members and includes representatives from the library, the Niles Historical Society, the chamber of commerce and other agencies alongside five local artists.

Council member Carol Luc, one of those artists, said the group would like to see Niles become more of a destination village.

"We want to put Niles on the map through arts and culture," she said. "Nobody comes to Niles with that in mind. It's kind of an underdeveloped area."

The cost of implementing an arts and culture expansion plan remains to be seen, officials said. The options presented did not include cost estimates, but each diagram board had dollar signs on the bottom

to indicate how expensive it would be compared with other options.

Building a performing arts center, for example, included three to five dollar signs on the bottom — the most expensive option — compared with creating more special events, which included one to three dollar signs.

According to The Lakota Group's Jon Pounds, improvements in the area of public arts in the village do not have to be too expensive.

"All it requires is a relatively modest amount of investment," he said. "With \$10,000, \$15,000, you get pretty great results when you have community members working with an artist who knows what he or she is doing and everybody shares in the creative responsibility."

Niles Village Trustee John Jekot said he supports building a performing arts center in Niles, one of the grandest options on the table.

"A performing arts center brings people in your community together," he said. "It's unique."

Jekot said he envisions the center as a place where adults and children in the community perform and see others perform. The center, he said, could be built in the "Touhy Triangle," an area bordered (roughly) by Touhy Avenue, Lehigh Avenue, Caldwell Avenue and Gross Point Road.

"This would be a great addition to Niles," he said. "If you're going to go through planning like this, you've got to think big."

The Lakota Group will work with the village to create a budget as the process moves forward, officials said. The goal, they said, is to have a final plan in place by late July or early August.

misaacs@pioneerlocal.com
Twitter @SKReview_Mike



Above: Niles Arts and Culture Advisory Council member Mary Dowd-Demas, left, and Nick Kalogeresis of The Lakota Group consider options for expanding arts and culture in Niles. The Lakota Group, a planning firm, held a community workshop Feb. 16 in the Niles Senior Center to gather community input. **Left:** Residents were invited to consider ways in which the village could beef up its arts and cultural offerings and looked at pictures of some art amenities in other municipalities. **Below:** Community stakeholders browse the diagrams presented at the workshop.

MIKE ISAACS/
PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

The Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center's new exhibition, "Operation Finale: The Capture and Trial of Adolf Eichmann," recreates the 1961 trial of the infamous Nazi war criminal. This Feb. 16 picture shows elements from the exhibit, which runs through June.

New exhibit details Nazi's capture, trial and execution

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

The Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center's new exhibition, "Operation Finale: The Capture & Trial of Adolf Eichmann," takes visitors chronologically through the operation that led to Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann's capture, trial and execution.

The exhibition opened Feb. 19 but the museum held a news media preview event three days before that. "Operation Finale" is scheduled to run through June 18 with a series of related programming slated at various times, museum officials said.

"It was essential for (Israeli Prime Minister David) Ben-Gurion that the youth of Israel heard the story of the Holocaust, and it was through this trial that they learned about the Holocaust," Arielle Weinger, the museum's chief curator of collections and exhibitions, said at the Feb. 16 media preview. The exhibit showcases how Mossad, the national intelligence agency of Israel, apprehended Eich-

mann and then smuggled the war criminal out of Argentina and to Jerusalem where he would come before the court. The filmed trial of the infamous Nazi Eichmann showed him protected in a bullet-proof glass booth as witnesses testified to the barbarous crimes for which he was found guilty.

The lead-up to his capture in Argentina is the stuff of riveting espionage and spy stories, museum officials said, but there is a much greater significance to it too.

"Much of the world learned about the Holocaust this way," said museum CEO Susan Abrams. "It was brought into their living room through radio and television."

"Operation Finale" grew out of the discovery of some of the original pre-digital artifacts used in the covert operation, said former Mossad agent Avner Avraham, exhibit curator. Among them are hand-forged documents, printed case files, a surveillance camera and photos to verify Eichmann's identity and goggles Eichmann was forced to wear so he never

knew his destination.

The exhibition takes visitors through the nuances of the operation and the team that targeted Eichmann. Exhibit artifacts, films and panels tell of how Eichmann remained hidden in captivity in Argentina longer than the Mossad agents had intended. A chilling highlight of "Operation Finale" is the recreation of the trial in Jerusalem using archival footage projected on three screens. Eichmann's response to the trial is seen straight ahead through the actual glass booth where he sat in court more than 55 years ago. On the right screen are prosecutors making their case against him, on the left the often anguished response of those witnessing the trial.

"Operation Finale: The Capture & Trial of Adolf Eichmann" is a co-production of the Mossad-Israeli Secret Intelligence Service; Beit Hatfutsot – The Museum of the Jewish People in Tel Aviv; and the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage in Cleveland, Ohio.

misaacs@pioneerlocal.com

NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR

Own your Neighborhood Advertising Package

- Front page newspaper ad
- One Day Front Page take-over of digital newspaper*



*Or 20K Geo Targeted Impressions

Contact Angel
today to get started:
Angel@chicagotribune.com
708-887-2973

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

media group



The following items were taken from local police department reports. An arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt.

Niles

BATTERY

■ Hitesh Thakore, 46, of the 7000 block of Jonquil Terrace, was charged with domestic battery Jan. 31.

DUI

■ Cedric Leonte, 31, of the 3700 block of Main Street, Skokie, was charged with driving under the influence Feb. 2 following a traffic stop at Milwaukee Avenue and Ballard Road. He is scheduled to appear in court March 17.

WARRANT

■ Steven B. Lindsey, 30, of the 100 block of North Broadway, Joliet, was taken into custody Feb. 3 on an outstanding warrant for criminal trespass. Police said the Will County warrant was discovered after police responded to a traffic-related complaint at Touhy and Central avenues involving Lindsey.

DRUG POSSESSION

■ A 22-year-old Des Plaines man was ticketed for possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia Jan. 30 following a traffic stop at Milwaukee Avenue and Dempster Street, police said. A 31-year-old man was also ticketed for marijuana possession Jan. 31 after police reportedly saw his car taking up two parking spaces outside a store in the 9600 block of Milwaukee Avenue.

PUBLIC INTOXICATION

■ A 55-year-old Mount Prospect man was ticketed for public intoxication Jan. 29 after police responded to a call for a man looking for a ride home from a gas station in the 8500 block of Golf Road. He was taken to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital for treatment, police said.

■ A 42-year-old Des Plaines woman was ticketed for public intoxication Feb. 2 after police responded to a complaint at a bar in the 9600 block of Milwaukee Avenue. An employee of the bar told police that the woman was continuously yelling at patrons and refusing to leave. After she was cited by police, the

woman was placed into a cab and sent home, police said.

INDECENT CONDUCT

■ A woman told police she saw a man with his hand down the front of his pants inside a store in the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue Jan. 30. Police said the woman reported that the man followed her inside the store, but later left the area.

SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT

■ A resident in the 9800 block of Lauren Lane told police that a man came to the resident's front door Jan. 29, talked about power washing and asked to come inside. The resident closed the door and the man left in a white car, which was occupied by two other men, police said.

BURGLARY

■ A home in the 6800 block of Oakton Street was reported burglarized Feb. 3, police said.

■ Construction tools valued at \$400 were reported stolen Feb. 3 from a van parked in the 8200 block of Ozark Avenue.

THEFT

■ A woman told police that \$900 was stolen from her wallet while she was working inside a restaurant in the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue.

■ A woman reported that her wallet, containing \$1,300 in cash, was stolen from her purse while she was shopping inside a store in the 8900 block of Milwaukee Avenue.

■ Fifty wooden pallets were reportedly stolen between Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 from behind a store in the 5700 block of Touhy Avenue.

■ A wallet containing approximately \$150 was reported stolen Feb. 3 from a locker inside a fitness center in the 9200 block of Milwaukee Avenue.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

■ The window on a trailer was smashed out overnight between Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 at a construction site in the 7000 block of Milwaukee Avenue, police said. A door was also reportedly pulled open.

■ Graffiti was discovered Jan. 29 on the rear of a building in the 8700 block of Shermer Road.

Skokie

BURGLARY

■ George Dicklet Shamoun, 29, of the 8700 block of Keystone Avenue, Skokie, was charged with aggravated battery Feb. 11 in the 7300 block of Niles Center Road.

DRUGS

■ Shehreen R. Siddiqui, 25, of Chicago, was charged with possession of marijuana more than 30 grams, possession of marijuana with the intent to deliver, possession of a controlled substance and possession of a controlled substance with the intent to deliver Feb. 6 in the 4800 block of Oakton Street.

THEFT

■ Evamarie N. Lewis, 37, of Elk Grove Village, was charged with identity theft Feb. 10 in the 4800 block of Sheridan Road, Chicago.

■ Saeed Merza, 18, of the 8200 block of Bronx Avenue, Skokie, was charged with retail theft Feb. 12 at a retailer in the 4900 block of Old Orchard Road.

SILENT OAKS IN ST. CHARLES

3 lots left

Homes from \$1.25m to \$3.5m

GROVE ESTATES OF OSWEGO

Luxury you deserve

Homes from \$649,000

HIGHLAND WOODS IN ELGIN

Homes available now

Homes from \$475k to \$850k

Your dream home is waiting.



JOHN HALL
CUSTOM HOMES

630.618.2470

johnhallhomes.com

2020 Dean Street, Suite A.
St. Charles, IL 60174

Dream MORE
Build SMARTER
Live BETTER

John Hall Homes has perfect communities with the quality, unique style and luxurious ambiance to match. Come visit our model homes and uncover the lifestyle you've been looking for.

EFFORTLESS BATHROOM REMODELING

by Revive



Call for a complimentary consultation

(847) 268-2195 | ReviveDB.com

Revive[®]
designer bathrooms

Visit Our Bathroom Design Showroom

6919 N. Lincoln Ave, Lincolnwood, IL • Open Monday - Friday: 10-5, Saturday: 10-4

Serving Cook, Lake, Dupage, Kane and Will Counties



EDUCATION

Local teachers named Golden Apple finalists

Niles and Morton Grove instructors among 34 chosen for teaching award

By **MIKE ISAACS**
Pioneer Press

Two local grade school teachers who say they have worked their entire teaching careers at schools in Niles and Morton Grove are among 34 announced finalists for the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Tina Daskalopoulos, an art teacher at Viola H. Nelson Elementary School in Niles, and Jim O'Malley, a fourth grade teacher at Thomas A. Edison Elementary School in Morton Grove, were named finalists from a pool of more than 600 fourth-through-eighth-grade teachers, according to Golden Apple officials.

"Golden Apple has championed for decades the belief that superior teaching quality directly improves every child's educational experience," Golden Apple Foundation CEO Dominic Belmonte said in a news release announcing all of the finalists. "These finalists are shining examples of the transformative power excellence in teaching plays in improving students' lives."

The 34 teachers will have a final round of review

and classroom observations before 10 Golden Apple winners are announced in the spring, officials said.

Golden Apple officials said 2017 marks the 32nd year of handing out the awards. The nonprofit Golden Apple organization aims to celebrate and develop great teachers who make life-changing differences in the lives of students, according to Golden Apple's news release announcing the finalists.

Daskalopoulos, a Nelson School art teacher for nearly 30 years, admits she never expected to be on the list of finalists. A family friend nominated her, she said, and then she went about submitting her application even if she wasn't optimistic about her chances.

"I was always under the impression that Golden Apples mostly went to math and science teachers," she said. "I have confidence in the things that I've accomplished in my career, but I still thought this was a long shot."

Daskalopoulos said winning a Golden Apple would mean "everything" to her.

"On a broader level, it would make me very, very happy to know that educa-



TINA DASKALOPOULOS PHOTO

Tina Daskalopoulos has been an art teacher at Nelson Elementary in Niles for nearly 30 years.

tors place learning art and teaching art in a category that deserves recognition," she said. "For a very long time it was perceived as fluff and as non-essential. I've always known that it's vital to a complete education."

Daskalopoulos said she loves her job — in part because of the variety of ages she teaches, which includes kindergartners through sixth graders.

"Art is my passion," she said. "I have known that all my life. I really love sharing what I know and helping children have a place for art in their lives."

Daskalopoulos said she has a degree in art education and an advanced degree in art history. Before



JIM O'MALLEY PHOTO

Jim O'Malley is a fourth grade teacher at Edison Elementary in Morton Grove.

working at Nelson School, she said she was employed for a short time at the Terra Museum of American Art before it closed.

But it was always high school art where she figured she'd wind up, she said.

"I was quickly amazed by how much more I enjoyed teaching the younger ages," she said. "I have high expectations for the kids and myself. I want to see how much can be learned and accomplished for each assignment and how much the (students) can meet the challenge. They amaze me."

Like Daskalopoulos, O'Malley's teaching career has been confined to one school. He is serving his

23rd year at Edison — the first two as a science specialist and the last 21 as a fourth grade teacher, he said.

"No two years are ever the same," said O'Malley. "That's the thing about teaching. The kids are different and have different needs. Curriculum changes and so there's never a dull moment. These 23 years have been engaging and gratifying and I just love what I do."

The last few months have been especially rewarding for O'Malley, he said.

In September, he went to Washington, D.C., as winner of a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, he said.

Then, four months later, he learned he was a finalist for a Golden Apple.

"You just go about your job and look out for kids," he said. "You never want or crave something like this. What's really important is the opportunity to positively influence kids and be a part of so many amazing families in our community."

O'Malley said he also teaches future teachers at Southern Illinois University and College of Lake County and teaches children of all ages at the Chicago Botanic Gardens

over summers.

He is a board member of an Evanston nonprofit called the Childcare Network in Evanston, which, he said, is dedicated to early childhood learning.

He also continues to volunteer as an education leader for Oasis for Orphans and he has been to Kenya three times in that role.

Who nominated O'Malley for the Golden Apple remains a mystery, he said, because the person wants to remain anonymous. He was nominated years ago, but was not named a finalist, he said.

Known as "Dr. O" by his students, O'Malley said winning the Golden Apple would be a great and unexpected honor.

Golden Apple winners receive a tuition-free, spring quarter sabbatical to study at Northwestern University, \$5,000 in cash and become Fellows of the Golden Apple Academy of Educators, according to Golden Apple officials.

"I would be able to meet with other teachers and people with a similar mindset," O'Malley said about the sabbatical. "As a teacher you can never stop learning. You always have to adapt. You always have to change and grow."

msaacs@pioneerlocal.com

Teachers union, PTOs host D64 candidate night in Park Ridge

By **JENNIFER JOHNSON**
Pioneer Press

The Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 teachers union and parent-teacher organizations are hosting a public event featuring candidates running for the Board of Education in the April 4 election.

The "Meet the School Board Candidates" forum is scheduled to take place

March 14, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the auditorium of Roosevelt School, 1001 S. Fairview Ave. in Park Ridge.

According to the organizers, the event will be moderated by Gail Haller, executive director of the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce, and there will not be an opportunity for the public to ask the candidates questions.

"Candidates will be available to talk individually with audience members after the event," a press release for the event says.

Seven candidates are running for four, four-year terms on the District 64 school board. They are Rick Biagi, a trademark attorney with the firm of Neal and McDevitt and a Park Ridge Park Board commissioner; Greg Bublitz, director of

student services in neighboring East Maine School District 63; Norman Dziedzic Jr., a systems chief engineer with CMA/Floydne/Hydradyne, an industrial distribution company; Larry Ryles, a retired U.S. Army command sergeant major and retired sales director for Boston Mutual Life Insurance Company; Fred Sanchez, an attorney with the Social Security

Administration; Michael Schaab, director of customer service at Instant-whip Foods; and Eastman Tiu, a science teacher at Willowbrook High School.

Biagi, Bublitz, Ryles, Sanchez, Schaab and Tiu each have at least one child currently enrolled in a District 64 school, according to questionnaires they answered for the Park Ridge Herald-Advocate. Dziedzic

said he is the father of two former District 64 students who are now in high school.

School board members with terms ending this spring are Vicki Lee, Robert Johnson and Scott Zimmerman. Dathan Paterno resigned before the end of his term.

jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com
Twitter @Jen_Tribune

D219 moves a step closer to getting bus storage facility

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

Niles Township High School District 219 recently cleared a major hurdle in its quest to deal with a storage of school buses.

The village of Niles Planning and Zoning Board voted to approve the school district's special-use request to build a bus terminal and maintenance facility on property the school district owns in the 6000 block of Howard Street.

"The Planning and Zoning Board forwarded our requests to the Board of Trustees with no recommendation, and we are hopeful that the Niles Village Board will approve the three variance requests," said Eric Trimmerger, District 219 assistant superintendent for business.

Planning and Zoning

Board approval came Feb. 6, after months of pushing the school board's request to future meetings. Planning officials had repeatedly expressed apprehension over the district's planned project and tabled consideration of a special-use permit for the bus terminal and maintenance facility multiple times.

"The village's Planning and Zoning Board was concerned that the proposed bus storage facility would impact traffic, particularly because most of the buses will be crossing over the railroad tracks each way at Leigh every day," said Bruce Sylvester, a Niles Economic Development Department senior planner.

Now, though, the seven-member board's unanimous approval means the issue could go before the Village Board at its Feb. 28 meeting.

A special-use permit for

the maintenance and bus storage facility planned for 6119 Howard Street was first considered at a meeting in June 2016.

At a meeting of the board last October, village officials expressed concerns over the impact the facility might have on traffic in the area and the village's ability to take action if the site and the way it's operated negatively affects the health and safety of residents.

Sylvester said the school district needed a special-use permit for the storage facility because of village code related to outdoor storage of equipment, including vehicles. He said the village ordinance, he presumes, "enable(s) the village to provide more scrutiny of such proposals and to impose conditions to minimize the impact of such uses on adjacent property owners,

such as for noise, unsightliness or impacts on traffic."

If trustees give final approval next week, the maintenance facility and terminal would be built to service buses that transport approximately 7,300 students in NTHS District 219, Niles Elementary School District 71, Morton Grove School District 70 and Lincolnwood School District 74.

District 219 would retain ownership of the property and oversee the service, which will be run by bus contractor First Student Inc., according to school district officials.

Unsatisfied with their prior bus service contractor, Trimmerger said the district began looking for a property to house a bus maintenance and terminal facility in September 2014 and ultimately purchased the Howard Street property for \$2.5 mil-

lion in August 2015.

In March 2015, the district's Board of Education authorized the purchase of 55 school buses for \$4.9 million, he said.

Trimmerger said the district initially believed it would be able to receive a building permit from the North Cook Intermediate Service Center for the project. But the agency declined to issue the permit because of a recent lawsuit involving Crystal Lake High School and a set of bleachers the school installed without permission from city officials. The lawsuit led to an Illinois Supreme Court decision and a new state law that requires school districts to comply with local zoning laws.

Trimmerger said the district initially proposed parking 75 buses at the Howard Street site, including 20 buses owned by First Stu-

dent. After Niles officials expressed concern about the plan, the district reduced that number to 55 buses and worked with Niles staff on a traffic plan, Trimmerger said.

He said negotiations between the district and the village were initially hung up on a number of conditions, including staggering bus departure times and a clawback mechanism for Niles officials to revoke the special-use permit.

"The village is aware that District 219 is working on a permanent solution for the location of their bus operation," said Pete Peyer, community development director for Skokie. "The village will be flexible on a time schedule with District 219 until a permanent location is found in Niles, Skokie or elsewhere."

Lee V. Gaines is a freelancer.

Area Houses of Worship
Call 312.283.7023 to place your ad

Christian Church
St. Luke's Christian Community Church
9233 Shermer Rd., Morton Grove
Sunday Worship & Sunday School - 10 AM
<http://www.stlukeecc.org/>
Handicapped-Accessible
Rev. Elizabeth Jones

Jewish
Devar Emet Messianic Synagogue
7800 Niles Ave., Skokie 847-674-9146
www.devaremet.org
Join Us for Shabbat Services at 10 am
"A Community of Jews who believe and teach that Yeshua (Jesus) is the Promised Jewish Messiah"

KOL EMETH
Conservative Egalitarian Congregation
Rabbi Barry Schechter
5130 W. Touhy - 847-673-3370
www.kolmethskokie.org

**TO ADVERTISE
PLEASE CALL
312-283-7023**

The North Shore Choral Society
W. Season
PSALMS, NEW AND OLD
Julia Davids, Music Director
Including Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*
and Tarik O'Regan's *Dorchester Canticles*
Nathan Ward, tenor
2016 Donald Chen Young Artist Award Winner
William Lewis, treble
Featuring Ben Melsky, harp and Shosh R. Peterson, organ

Sunday, March 5, 2017 - 3:00 p.m.
Saint John Brebeuf Church
8307 N. Harlem Avenue - Niles, Illinois

TICKETS:
Season subscriptions: \$60 - regular, \$50 - senior, \$40 - student
Single tickets: \$25 - regular, \$22 - senior, \$15 - student

For tickets call 773-956-8400 or visit www.northshorechoral.org | MasterCard and Visa Accepted

The North Shore Choral Society is partially funded by the City of Evanston in partnership with the Evanston Arts Council and the Illinois Arts Council, and by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.
North Shore Choral Society | Box 103 | Evanston, IL | 60204-0103

Students, local volunteers join forces

Somme Woods restoration day in Northbrook draws more than 60

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC
Pioneer Press

About 18 months ago, Eriko Kojima of Glenview chose to volunteer with the North Branch Restoration Project and the Forest Preserves of Cook County. It was a natural fit, she said.

"I am so happy," said Kojima, an apprentice steward. "It's really changed my life. Every time a new volunteer comes, I really look at that person and say, 'That could be me, a year and a half ago.'"

Kojima and colleagues with the Friends of the Somme Preserves mentored more than 60 volunteers on Feb. 19 during a Somme Woods Restoration Workday in Northbrook at Somme Woods, 1714 Dundee Road.

Under blue skies approaching 60 degrees on a Sunday morning, Kojima passed out work gloves in a parking lot so volunteers' hands were protected during the three-hour shift at the far north end of the Somme Woods East loop trail. Approximately a dozen teen volunteers represented Evanston Township High School in Evanston, officials said, and there were also nearly 50 college and high school volunteers who arrived via charter bus as part of a Midwest philanthropy tour.

Volunteers cut woody invasive plants such as buckthorn, tossing trunks and twigs into one of seven controlled brush fires.

"It gets to be kind of fun to cut these trees down," Kojima said. "You feel like, 'Well, I'm serving the ecosystem!'"

"And you look up and you see a patch of sky and that means dappled sunlight on the floor of the woods," she said. "That's what we're after."

Clearing out trees such as basswood assists wildflow-

ers such as the shooting star to return in improved air circulation, she said.

"You will look up at some places and you don't even see any sky," Kojima said. "If you imagine all of the trees leafed out, it will be 100 percent shadow which means that the understory plants, the wildflowers, the grasses and the sedges of the oak woodland, will not grow. They require light."

But things were looking up when Kojima pointed out a red-tailed hawk perched on a wiry treetop.

"We've lost a lot of these birds but the good news is, they're coming back," she said. "Last spring, we were very happy because we saw a mated pair (red-headed woodpecker) and they had a baby."

In his signature brim hat, Stephen Packard of Northbrook, site steward and also a volunteer with the Friends of the Somme Preserves, fanned a brush fire.

"There are over 50 wonderful students who are seeing the righteousness of restoring health to the ecosystem," Packard said. "It's inspiring."

Kelsey Miller of Duluth, Minn., also attended. Miller is college core leader with Students Today Leaders Forever, which mentored the Minnesota students at the event.

"We teach leadership through service," Miller said. "They learn more about communities outside of their own."

The High School Pay It Forward Tour 2017 began on Feb. 16 and concluded on Feb. 20.

Joanna Hart, 18, and Danielle Becker, 17, both seniors from Chanhassen High School, used a pruner in T-shirt weather.

"It's really nice outside," Becker said. "I just think this is a great experience for all of us, to get outside and enjoy



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Eriko Kojima of Glenview, left, apprentice steward, hands out gloves to Students Today Leaders Forever volunteers from Minnesota Feb. 19, at Somme Woods Restoration Workday in Northbrook.



Joanna Hart, 18, a volunteer and senior from Chanhassen High School of Chanhassen, Minn., cuts invasive wood.



Rett Donnelly of Glenview, site steward, right, mentors Ellie Loehrer, from left, and Alondra Neunsinger, both 16.

nature, but at the same time to help out the environment."

Hart agreed that many preserve locations nationwide lack volunteer muscle or resources for forest restoration maintenance.

"It's kind of disappointing

and sad to think about because there's so much to do," Hart said. "It's really hard to get it all done."

Other volunteers included Jack Mahr, 18, a senior, also at Chanhassen High School.

"To do this is kind of a

treat," he said. "If one person does it, other people will be inclined to do it."

Nearby, young native plantings were encouraged with philanthropic foresight. Wire cages protected preferred plants under patches of sunlight.

"You get to know yourself more and creates a cycle of good, a mindset," Mahr said, of volunteerism. "You really grow."

Karie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Committee not ready to give Clinton honor

By JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

The Park Ridge Heritage Committee isn't quite ready to move forward with a suggestion that Hillary Clinton's name and accomplishments be added to the last granite block of city milestones displayed at Hodges Park.

Meeting at City Hall on Feb. 14, a majority of the seven members in attendance appeared to support a motion that the committee "consider" devoting a plaque to Clinton, but agreed not make a formal decision at this time.

A draft proposal shared by committee member Otto Kohler recommended the block be engraved with "Hillary Rodham Clinton," followed by her positions as first lady, U.S. senator, U.S. secretary of state and candidate for president.

"I personally would like to see Hillary's name on that plaque... (but) I do think the political climate is such that this is not the time to pursue that," Heritage Committee member Nancy Pytel said.

Another member, Patricia Adlaf, agreed that the committee can keep the idea "at the back of our minds," but also said the timing is not right, as the group needs to concentrate on selling Heritage Committee Chairman Milton Nelson's book, "Park Ridge: Milestones of History."

The book, which was published last year, dedicates three full pages to Clinton, touching on her childhood and high school years in Park Ridge, her time as first lady and her run for president as the Democratic Party's 2016 nominee. Clinton's photo appears on the cover of the book.

Nelson said consideration

of adding Clinton's name to the series of granite blocks circling the Campfire Girls fountain at Hodges Park dates back to 2008.

"We talked about this nine years ago, when Hillary was running for president the first time," Nelson said. "We said, 'Maybe someday we'll devote this plaque to her.'"

There was also discussion among members about whether individuals must be deceased in order for their names to appear among the milestones.

Kohler, a retired Maine South High School teacher who knew Clinton as a student, said she was the "only person we've talked about for that blank spot."

"If nothing else, the fact that she was a strong, (female) candidate for president says something," Kohler said. "She was the first in American history, and I think she deserves this."

Kohler pointed out that in Park Ridge, Clinton received more votes than Donald Trump in the 2016 presidential election. But he also acknowledged that there will likely be "objections" within the community if Clinton's name were to be engraved.

Joan Mattingly, another committee member, indicated that leaving the last milestone blank is not necessarily a bad idea.

"I don't have a problem with an empty plaque," she said. "There are generations of Park Ridgeans yet to come, and one of them might be something equally awesome, if not more awesome."

Only committee member Warren Wade said he was not in favor of Kohler's motion to consider Clinton for the final milestone.

"She's become controversial," said Wade, mentioning that he is a Republican. "It's



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton waves to supporters May 19 during a visit to Park Ridge.

not the right time, and it may never come to be the right time."

Clinton received recognition from District 64 shortly after the November election when it was announced the learning resource center at Field School, which Clinton attended in the 1950s and 1960s, would be renamed for her.

Clinton also appears on alumni walls of honor at

Maine East and Maine South high schools.

The milestones around the Campfire Girls fountain were completed in 2007. According to Park Ridge Park District spokeswoman Margaret Holler, the Heritage Committee raised money for the project, though the Park District is in charge of maintenance.

jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com
Twitter @Jen_Tribune

COUNTRY FINANCIAL

PRESENTS:

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

VOTE AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM/ATHLETES

Get stories
by the week
and hour

Visit us online for more community
news to help you make informed
decisions around the clock.

Chicago Tribune

chicagotribune.com/suburbs

NEWS

Islamic groups say man made bomb threat at area mosque

BY LEE V. GAINES
Chicago Tribune

Representatives of a Des Plaines mosque reported Feb. 16 that a man entered the building the previous day and made a comment that was interpreted as a possible bomb threat.

The man, who was on roller blades and was wearing fatigues and carrying a backpack, entered the Islamic Community Center of Des Plaines on the morning of Feb. 15, went into its basement and, when asked by a janitor what he was doing there, "responded by saying on Friday everything will go boom, making a bomb sound," Ahmed Rehab, executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations-Chicago, said at a news conference Feb. 16.

The man was asked to leave and did so, the group said.

Friday is traditionally a day when Muslims gather for communal prayers, and the Islamic group cited a recent, deadly attack on a mosque in Quebec City as one reason for heightened

concern about security.

It's "really sad to say this is not the first incident and will not be the last at other houses of worship," said Bassam Osman, chairman of the Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago, who also spoke at the press conference.

Des Plaines Police Chief William Kushner said several hours went by before someone at the mosque contacted his agency, contradicting a statement at the news conference that authorities were alerted "immediately."

Based on the description provided by a mosque representative, Kushner said authorities identified the trespasser as someone who'd had prior contact with police, had a history of mental illness and who, earlier that morning, had entered City Hall on roller blades and caused a disturbance.

After receiving the report from the mosque, the chief said, an officer was dispatched to the man's residence, and he was taken to a hospital for a psychiatric evaluation.

The chief said the man is

"well known to us" and has in the past been deemed not to be threat to himself or others.

Kushner said no one from the mosque had indicated an intention to sign a complaint against the man or requested additional security from police.

Rehab said he has encouraged members of the mosque to seek criminal charges against the man to make sure the situation is fully investigated.

"The idea that someone who is mentally unstable will perform an act of violence is problematic ... so is the notion that by being mentally unstable, you cannot possibly commit an act of violence," Rehab said. "Nothing can guarantee such a person cannot do good on his threat unless he is properly vetted."

The situation prompted the mosque's school to cancel classes temporarily. Azhar Usman, a comedian and actor whose child attends the school, also spoke at the press conference.

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

Skokie police: Man charged with burglary of two local businesses

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

A Skokie man was recently charged in connection with two burglaries of Skokie businesses in the 4700 block of Oakton Street, according to Skokie police.

Police said Sargon Marcos, 37, of the 4800 block of Hull Street, was charged with felony burglary stemming from break-ins Feb. 11 at Sahara Hookah, 4726 Oakton, and A & J Nails and Spa, 4730 Oakton.

Police said they respond-



Marcos

ed to an activated burglar alarm at 3:03 a.m. Feb. 11 at Sahara Hookah. Police saw a broken

front glass door to the business and a male suspect inside, they said.

According to officers, the suspect, later identified as Marcos, turned and ran out the back door of the business upon seeing police on

the scene. Police said they apprehended Marcos, who matched the description of the suspect from inside Sahara Hookah, a short time later in a nearby residential area.

Police said that upon further investigation, they learned that A & J Nails and Spa, two doors down from Sahara Hookah, had also been burglarized.

According to police, bail for Marcos was set at \$25,000.

misaacs@pioneerlocal.com
Twitter @SKReview_Mike

Students exercise political muscles with march

Junior high kids protest against Betsy DeVos

BY KATHY ROUTLIFFE
Pioneer Press

The assemblage of Wilmette Junior High School students who gathered on Feb. 18 in front of Wilmette Village Hall was small, but their chants against President Donald Trump and Betsy DeVos, his new education secretary, were loud and enthusiastic.

"Down with DeVos!"

"No Trump!"

Leading the group of almost a dozen seventh and eighth grade students on a brief march around the village hall was Wilmette resident Nicholas Wilson, a seventh grader who had planned the rally and

march.

"I'm anti-Trump. When he won, I freaked out," Nicholas said before the march. "I felt that the teen community needed to talk about it."

Sitting to one side, making it clear that she was only an observer, albeit a proud one, mom Amy Wilson watched the proceedings.

"Since he was able to talk, he's always felt as if he's been 40," she said of her son. "He's so wise - he's an old soul. And he has what I like to call a human rights gene."

Nicholas started an Instagram account under the name Teen Protest Union, at https://www.instagram.com/tpu_riseup/?hl=en and slowly gathered followers. When the U.S. Senate narrowly confirmed DeVos as the country's education secretary, Nicholas decided it was time for the

little community to show its opposition.

By that time, Wilmette Junior High eighth grade student Jonathan Schayngesicht, who knows Nicholas through a band they're both in, had come on board to manage the Instagram account.

Jonathan's twin sister Grace, who had attended the Women's March on Chicago last month, was at the Feb. 18 Village Hall event as well: "I know we had supported resistance that day. We need to do more, and so I came today."

Pam Levitt, Jonathan's and Grace's mother, sat with Amy Wilson and watched the students.

"To me, it's important that John's involved. The fact that he recognizes that kids will be hurt by what's going on, by this new education secretary, is important,"

Levitt said.

The marchers weren't without opponents. Three eighth graders with a bullhorn came to voice support for the new president's administration.

None of the trio appeared to bear any animus toward their philosophical opposites, even chatting briefly with them before occasionally using the bullhorn to announce their views.

After roughly 40 minutes, the Trump-DeVos opponents disbanded, but Nicholas said he was happy with the event and hoped the rally shows adults that teens are paying attention, and are plugged in to their country's political issues.

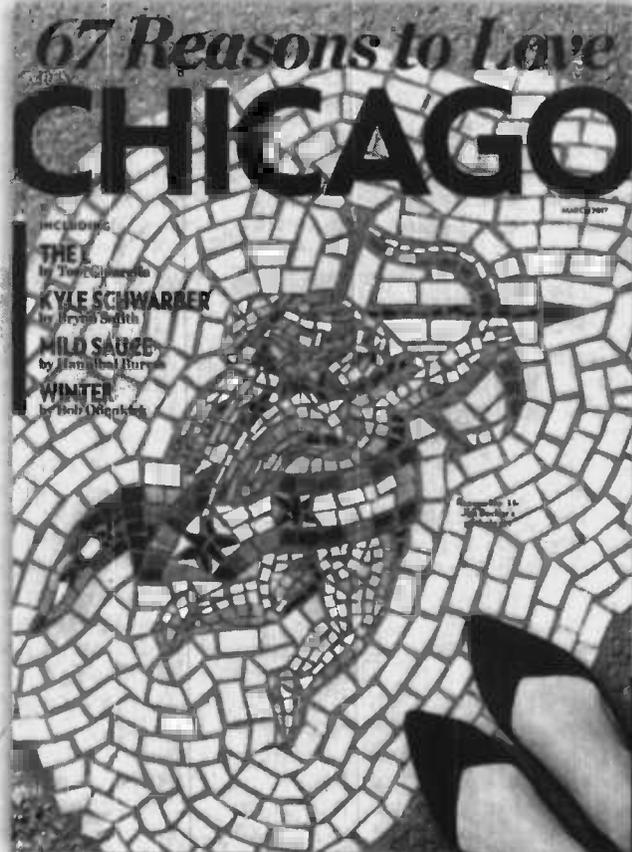
"I was very concerned last night, but it's a good turnout," he said.

kroutliffe@pioneerlocal.com
[Twitter @pioneer_kathy](https://twitter.com/pioneer_kathy)



ERIC P. DAVIS/PIONEER PRESS

Wilmette Junior High eighth grader Grace Schayngesicht protests newly appointed Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos in front of Wilmette Village Hall Feb. 18.



ON NEWSSTANDS NOW

We're tired of our city getting knocked around. So we decided to punch back with 67 heartfelt and humorous contributions by our best writers, artists, poets, scholars, and entertainers.

Subscribe at 800-999-0879
or chicagomag.com/access

Skokie homeowner files HUD complaint

Staff report

A Skokie homeowner wanting to sell his house for use as a group home for those with special needs, he said, has filed a discrimination complaint against the village with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

In the complaint filed last fall using HUD's online filing process, Mark Goldberg said the village is "discriminating by not allowing a house to be used (as) a group home, even though the property meets village criteria."

Located at 4229 Lee St., the house sits on a narrow one-way street facing a golf course not far from Elizabeth Meyer School near Main Street and Crawford Avenue.

It includes five bedrooms and three-and-a-half bathrooms, Goldberg said.

HUD spokeswoman Gina Rodriguez acknowledged that the federal housing agency received Goldberg's complaint.

In an email sent to the Skokie Review, she said the agency is "in the process of determining the jurisdiction of (Goldberg's) claim and obtaining additional information."

Village attorney Michael Lorge, however, said the village has not been notified by HUD about any complaint.

He added that no discrimination was involved, on the village's part, in the potential sale of Goldberg's home to The Libenu Foundation.

The Libenu Foundation is a nonprofit organization that provides opportunities for Jewish adults with developmental disabilities to live independently, according to its website.

Goldberg said he began having conversations in June 2016 with The Libenu Foundation in conjunction with Clearbrook — another nonprofit — about selling his home. Arlington Heights-based Clearbrook



PIONEER PRESS PHOTO

Mark Goldberg, owner of this house at 4229 Lee St., Skokie, has filed a complaint with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development against the village of Skokie. Goldberg maintains the village prevented a sale of the house for use as a group home from moving forward. The village denies the charge and says it has not been notified about the federal housing complaint.

bill itself on its website as a leader in creating innovative opportunities, services and supports for people with disabilities.

The two organizations, working together, were looking to operate a home for residents with special needs, he said.

The Libenu Foundation, based in Skokie, was to buy the home and Clearbrook was to provide services for the residents who would live there, according to Clearbrook President Carl La Mell.

But Goldberg believes that talks with the organizations — mostly The Libenu Foundation — broke down after village officials, he said, signaled that a needed special permit would not be approved.

Village code states that the sponsoring agency for a group home must obtain an "administrative occupancy permit" from the village before establishing a con-

gregate living facility. Libenu would have been the sponsoring agency.

The village code also indicates that not all occupancy permit applications are subject to a public hearing and village board approval.

But in this case, however, a public hearing before the Skokie Plan Commission and Skokie Village Board approval were necessary because of the number of bedrooms in the house, according to the village's planning department.

"Any facility with more than (four) bedrooms in a residential unit, (two) or more residential units in a building, or (two) or more buildings on a lot or abutting lots operated by the sponsoring agency must receive site plan approval," according to village code.

Goldberg said when he first contacted the village about the potential sale, he was informed about the

process without any objections being raised during a preliminary review by the planning department.

He said his house met all other village regulations including being at least 800 feet from another group home. He accused the village of trying to stop the sale, saying officials did not want a group home there.

His Oct. 18, 2016 online HUD complaint alleges that some nearby residents complained that making the house a group home would "reduce property values and increase property taxes."

Goldberg said it was then that Lorge indicated to the agencies that the group home would not be approved by the Village Board.

He said the home sale to The Libenu Foundation was contingent on village approval, and the agency backed out before the case went before the Plan Com-

mission or the Village Board.

HUD has not made a determination as to whether or not its Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity office has jurisdiction to investigate the complaint, the spokeswoman said.

Lorge denies that neighbor complaints caused the village to steer the agencies away from moving forward with buying the property. While concerns were raised through the review process, which is standard, he said, the agencies were not told the site plan would be voted down.

"There were concerns raised but there was no question that if they had chosen to pursue the process, they would have had a full opportunity to make it work," said Lorge.

Libenu did not return repeated calls from the Skokie Review seeking to find out why the organization

backed out of the sale talks.

Goldberg, however, said he received a copy of a letter that Lorge sent to a lawyer representing Libenu. The letter, dated Oct. 14 and shared with the Skokie Review, states that Lorge said, "I hold out no expectation that the site plan approval required for this facility will be approved. I reach this opinion for many reasons, but the most critical factors are the size of the street and the operations which will be under the auspices of Clearwater."

In the same correspondence, however, Lorge says "this letter does not in any way determine what the board may decide."

It also says "your client is welcomed to continue the site plan approval process and some factors could possibly be worked out. It will take at least another 150 days."

Goldberg said issues raised in the letter are not legitimate and the 150 days of waiting is unnecessarily long and mentioned to make it difficult to proceed.

La Mell, president of Clearbrook, said he believed the project should have gone forward with approval from the village.

"I'm disappointed," he said. "I think it's unfortunate but we'll be back."

Goldberg, who now lives in San Diego, declined to say what the selling price of the home was because he said it currently remains on the market.

When he first went to sell his home, he said, he contacted Libenu because he heard there was some interest in establishing a group home in the area.

Lorge said Skokie continues to be home to dozens of group homes and will welcome more in the future.

"I think HUD would immediately look and say, 'Skokie, it's the most forthcoming community in the area,'" he said. "It would be ridiculous to think there was any discriminatory action."

Why must it be all or nothing with immigration law enforcement?



RANDY BLASER

The stress point now wearing on this American democracy is the idea of immigration. It is one we may not be able to resolve very easily for it has been a crisis unheeded for nearly 40 years.

As a nation of immigrants, this issue tugs at the heartstrings of almost every American. We believe in immigration. Immigration has made us strong. Immigration has made us who we are. We are a nation of immigrants.

It is written in our hearts and on our most sacred tablets. "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled

masses yearning to breathe free."

The seed for the thicket we find ourselves in right now was planted more than 50 years ago with the Immigration Act of 1965. It was meant to make the flow of immigrants coming into the United States, which mainly came from western Europe, more diverse and more fair.

But within 15 years, the unforeseen consequences were raising alarm bells across the country. By 1980 there was a concern about the tide of immigration, both legal and illegal, flowing into the nation.

It was clear that the immense poverty of the people to the south, in Mexico and other nations of Central America, would never relent. No country in the south had the wherewithal to create the number

of jobs needed to provide for their people or the willingness to transform their societies.

This immense poverty in the south combined with the desire for cheap labor here in America, in the farm fields and at the construction sites of the city, created the alliance that made it easy, even desirable, to turn away from a crisis of migration that has never before been seen in world history.

As Theodore H. White wrote in his book "America in Search of Itself" in 1982 that the "United States has lost one of the cardinal attributes of sovereignty - it no longer controls its own borders. Its immigration laws are flouted by aliens and citizens alike, as no system of laws has been flouted since prohibition."

White warns that this



JIM WATSON/GETTY-AFP

Temporary agricultural workers return to the Port of Entry in San Luis, Ariz., on Feb. 15.

issue would be a central debate in the 1980s. It was, and this led to the Immigration Reform Act of 1986, which granted amnesty to an estimated 3 million residents here illegally.

That number seems quaint today. As I said, there will never be enough jobs created in the countries of the south to alleviate the crushing poverty that exists there. And the U.S. will forever be a beacon for those yearning to breathe free.

But how much immigra-

tion can one country absorb? That issue should be decided by Congress, the people's representatives, which has the power to set immigration limits and terms, and to fund border patrol.

But as we have seen again and again, Congress refuses to take up this issue.

And the president has the power to enforce the nation's immigration laws. But over the last eight years, the previous president has drawn widespread criticism for his enforcement (or lack

thereof) of the nation's laws. The Obama administration even sued the state of Arizona over the state's own strict immigration law.

The current president is poised to unleash the power of the federal government to find and deport people here illegally. And to build a wall.

Those are the choices? No enforcement or total enforcement? An open border or a wall? No one can speak for common sense compromise?

So it seems, since we've avoided this issue for so long.

I for one believe this nation or any nation has the right to protect its borders. But it is fact that many people are here living the American dream and contributing greatly to our nation in the grand tradition of a country built by immigrants. It would be unusually cruel to uproot those members of our society.

So I also feel that if you are here - congratulations! You made it. Roll up your sleeves and get busy.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

What 7 cents a bag really gets Chicago shoppers



PAUL SASSONE

You've seen it in movies lots of times: The con artist lets the mark win a little money and then takes him for every cent he's got.

That's kind of how I view a tax on disposable grocery bags now in Chicago and perhaps coming to your town too.

Chicago officials were in such a rush to save us from plastic grocery bags it initially banned them altogether.

Well, that didn't work. Nobody used the thicker

bags provided by the city. And those bags cost three times as much to make as regular plastic grocery bags.

So, Chicago officials tried, tried again and came up with the disposable check-out bag tax that went into effect Feb. 1.

The tax applies to all retailers for plastic and paper bags. The tax is a hefty 7 cents per bag. Retailers can decide whether to pass the tax along to customers or absorb the cost themselves, so many customers indeed will be footing the bill. At least they'll get the satisfaction of helping to protect the environment?

Will the tax work? A reader was kind enough to

write me she has heard many shoppers in towns that about Chicago say they will grocery shop in the suburbs to avoid the tax. And shoppers are buying less because they didn't bring enough bags from home.

Now, here comes the con game.

We have a new administration in Washington. A more conservative administration you could not imagine. Conservative these days means doing whatever it takes to maximize corporate profits.

And what cuts into corporate profits?

Regulations, rules, laws. The Trump administration has said over and over again it is going to

scrap regulations, change rules and pass laws that will lower the cost of doing business.

In practice, this means pulling the teeth of laws and regulations that protect our water supply, halt global warming, preserve and improve the quality of the air we breathe.

Republicans control the White House and both houses of Congress, so there is no reason why this gutting of the environment will not happen.

But, look on the bright side. We have the disposable check-out bag tax in Chicago and maybe in some other communities, too.

Surely that's something to savor as you drink lead-



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Aallyah Johnson, 22, bags groceries at Mariano's grocery store on the 3000 block of North Broadway Avenue in Chicago on Jan. 26.

laced water and inhale carcinogen-contaminated air.

And all it cost you was 7

cents a bag.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.



HOME CHEF

www.homechef.com.

\$30
in free
meals

*Home Cooking
Made Simple*

Everything you need to prepare
home-cooked meals in about
30 minutes.



Start Today!

Redeem **\$30** in Home Chef meals at
homechef.com/LSS230

Limited to one per household. New customers only. Not eligible in all states. Free delivery with order of \$45 or more. See the Home Chef website for additional details.

OPINION

Americans turning to 'Saturday Night Live' to escape politics



ERIC SCOTT

Weekday chatter at work and school lately has had to go from, "Hey, was there anything good on 'Saturday Night Live?'" to "OMG, did you see SNL?!"

Throughout the presidential campaign and especially during the last month, SNL has enjoyed its highest TV ratings in years.

The show has lampooned presidents and politicians since Chevy Chase stumbled around stage acting as Gerald Ford.

Making fun of current politics is nothing new for SNL. What is new is that because so many viewers are turning to SNL's biting political humor for comedic refuge, SNL now owns a part of the weekly White House news cycle.

Sundays and Mondays now bring social media posts and morning-show video clips of Alec Baldwin as a clueless, buffoonish President Donald Trump, along with Melissa McCarthy as his Segway-podium-rampaging press secretary.

Show segments then play out during the week, creating a big buildup to the next, "Live from New York, it's Saturday Night!"

With so many issues swirling around the White House — way too much to list in this space — it's difficult to keep track of all the moving parts, no matter what your politics might be.

Much of what's going on in Washington, D.C. is of a serious, high-level nature and after a while, you need



WILL HEATH/ASSOCIATED PRESS

This Feb. 4 photo released by NBC shows Alec Baldwin impersonating President Donald Trump in an opening sketch of "Saturday Night Live."

It's a much-needed decompression from a long week of political turmoil.

to back away from the TV along with your Twitter feed and Facebook page ... and just laugh.

That's where SNL comes in.

It's a much-needed decompression from a long week of political turmoil.

Too much political news to wrap your arms around? Then tune in for the funny version of what has become amazingly serious and laugh out loud.

Every Sunday morning talk show, nightly network newscast and cable news show, featuring Brady-Bunch-style video boxes

with people who shout, would love to have the title of news cycle leader.

But it's those shows that are airing recent SNL segment clips — not the other way around.

It seems like the crazier things get in Washington, D.C., the more people need to take a break from reality and laugh about it all.

It's more like comic release than comic relief.

And with no signs suggesting that the current tone and pace of activity on both sides of the political aisle will change any time soon, SNL might qualify for being named "America's Official TV Show."

But that title, of course, can't happen without a fight in Congress, an executive order and a funny sketch to make fun of the whole process.

Eric Scott is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

La Grange couple showcases town on home improvement show



LYNN PETRAK
Home on LaGrange

Last weekend, my husband implored me to go in the basement and clean out some things to make room for new shelving units.

It shouldn't have come as a surprise to him that it took me three hours to go through two boxes. Yep, I spent more time poring over the kids' preschool drawings, my own college papers and piles of photos than I did actually helping him.

Contrast our usual "Why aren't you doing that?" and "Why are you doing that?" approach to joint home improvement projects with Sherry and Frank Fontana of La Grange, who not only work together efficiently and look great doing it, but are able to transform often-challenging spaces into amazing rooms and homes.

See for yourself in airings of "Downtown Shabby" on the FYI Network, now on demand. The Fontanas worked and starred in eight one-hour episodes that premiered last fall, renovating and remodeling historic homes based on the interests and needs of the current homeowners.

Sherry Fontana grew up in the Chicago area helping her family renovate and flip homes. Frank, who moved to this area several years ago, built a successful renovation business and was featured on HGTV's "Design on a Dime" show.

When I watched the first episode of "Downtown Shabby" in October, I was geeked out because it was



FRANK FONTANA

Sherry and Frank Fontana of La Grange on a set of their home improvement show "Downtown Shabby."

set in our town and featured a historic La Grange home. When the reveal came and the homeowners saw their new space, I gasped along with them.

"It was an amazing experience in our first season, and we were able to do things in and around La Grange," says Frank Fontana, adding that several homes in our community made the cut after the production company put out a call among homeowners throughout the Chicago area. "With the concept of the show being a vintage home makeover show, La Grange certainly lends itself well, with so many historic Victorians."

Frank and Sherry, who have two young children, embarked on a busy schedule, renovating eight homes in four months.

"They were full-blown demos and renovations and it was fun and challenging," he says. "With a lot of those homes, you can come across a slew of troubles, because you never know what's behind the wall. We found everything from lead paint to 100-year-old rotted

mice families."

He notes that one La Grange renovation revealed long-ago damage from a fire. While Frank and Sherry wait and see if "Downtown Shabby" is greenlit for a second season on the FYI Network, the couple hasn't put down their power tools, paint rollers or fabric swatches.

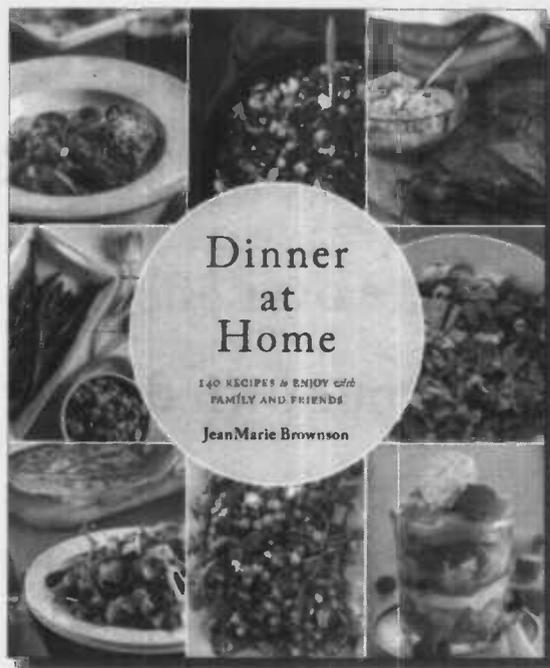
"We're doing a lot of work through our design and build company, Fontana Design and Development, and we're driving projects through design, working with amazing licensed contractors," Fontana reports.

He is also working on restaurant design at some places in the city. From 1-3 p.m. Sundays, Fontana hosts his own show on WGN Radio. Meanwhile, he and Sherry have become friends with homeowners featured in "Downtown Shabby", too, and have had local viewers come up to them and tell them how much they enjoy the show.

"It's nice to see your work in a community and see how people appreciate it," Fontana says

Trib Books

LIBRARY

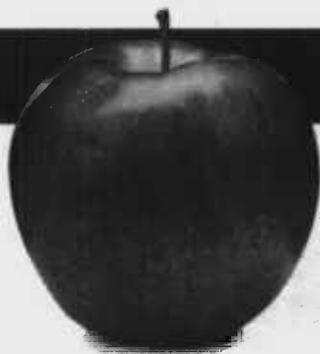


Cooking at home doesn't have to be difficult, but it should always be delicious. Since 2007, JeanMarie Brownson, culinary director for Rick Bayless' Frontera Foods, has been helping readers put inventive, yet simple, dishes on the table through her Dinner at Home column for the *Chicago Tribune*. Her 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. Dinner at home has never been better.

GET IT TODAY AT
CHICAGOTRIBUNESTORE.COM/BOOKS

Chicago Tribune

DENTAL Insurance



Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

**A less expensive way to help get
the dental care you deserve**

- ✓ If you're over 50, you can get coverage for about \$1 a day*
- ✓ Keep your own dentist! NO networks to worry about
- ✓ No wait for preventive care and no deductibles – you could get a checkup tomorrow
- ✓ Coverage for over 350 procedures – including cleanings, exams, fillings, crowns...even dentures
- ✓ NO annual or lifetime cap on the cash benefits you can receive

FREE Information Kit

1-800-789-4854

www.dental50plus.com/chicago


Physicians
Mutual

Here's the information
you requested on Dental insurance

FIRST-CLASS



Your Name Here

*Individual plan.

Product not available in MN, MT, NH, RI, VT, WA. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, NY; call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E; PA: C250Q); Insurance Policy P150(GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P150OK; TN: P150TN)

6096C

MB16-NM001Gc

VEGAN SUPPER CLUB

Purple Sprout Cafe wants people to get excited about plant world's flavors

BY SAMANTHA NELSON
Pioneer Press

Purple Sprout, a café and juice bar serving organic and vegan fare, opened in Wheeling in November 2015, but co-owner Irina Raimbekov said some people are still nervous about dining there.

"We get a lot of people who come in and they say 'This is our first time eating vegan' and I say 'Really? I'm sure that you ate an apple without bacon on it before,'" Raimbekov said. "There's nothing scary about vegan food. It's things that people eat all the time."

The restaurant is hoping to introduce more people to plant-based eating and build a community of people who enjoy it by running a vegan supper club series.

"We want to create this fun environment, private community-style dining, and introduce people to conscious food, plant-based, organic, non-GMO — all the good things that are good for people and the planet and the environment," Raimbekov said.

The series launched on Jan. 29 with American Favorites with a Healthy Twist, which featured hempburger sliders, sweet potato fries and pizza.

For the next event, which runs at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 26, the restaurant is marking the Slavic holiday Maslenitsa, or

Butter Week.

"Winter is about more dense foods," said Raimbekov. "To stay warm the blood needs to be thicker. Butter Week signifies the end of winter, before people start spring cleanses."

Irina and her husband, Karim Raimbekov, are from Kazakhstan and speak Russian as their first language. They thought bringing a taste of home their native cuisine to the restaurant would be exotic, particularly in a vegan context. The menu will focus on crepes including a version made from sprouted and fermented lentils, brown rice and red rice, and dehydrated crepes incorporating mango and coconut. While the couple won't be cooking the dishes in front of attendees, they'll discuss each one, sharing what went into preparing it, why they made it, and its health benefits.

"Healthy food is delicious," Raimbekov said. "Hopefully they'll be inspired to start cooking at home and incorporating healthy recipes and they'll be inspired to come back here whether it's for the supper club or otherwise. We're really hoping to create buzz with this."

The owners hope to bring in about 30 people for each event. They'll all be seated at a long table to foster community and served six to seven small



ROMAN LIUFA/PHOTOS

A raw, gluten free cashew basil pizza is one of the items featured in Purple Sprout Cafe's vegan supper club series.

Vegan Supper Club Series

When: 6:30 p.m. Feb. 26
Where: Purple Sprout, 341 E. Dundee Road, Wheeling.
Admission: \$40
Information: 224-223-7133; www.purplesprout.com

portions along with a drink, which will be beet kombucha for February.

"Nobody's walking away hungry, but the idea is not to overfeed people since it's supposed to be healthy," Raimbekov said. "We're seeing a lot of community support."

Only 50 percent of Purple Sprout's customers are vegan or vegetarian, but some of those who aren't still come in several times a week.

"Some people are in transition, some people just enjoy how they feel after eating our food," Raimbekov said.

The menu offers a few



Purple Sprout Cafe's sugar and gluten free marble cheesecake.

meat substitutes like seitan and tofu, but the owners prefer to emphasize the diverse natural flavors of the plant world.

Along with serving a highly customizable menu, Purple Sprout also has a juice bar, a bakery stocked with sugar-free desserts including several varieties of

vegan cheesecake, and a coffee bar with hot drinks including chicory coffee and tea loaded with fresh ginger and lemon. Most of the menu is gluten free, some of it is raw and everything is served in biodegradable packaging.

Purple Sprout also sell frozen dumplings and pies

plus sauces, kombucha and vegan cheese products so that the growing number of people who want to change their diets have an easier time eating vegan at home.

"People are talking more and more about why it's good, the different health benefits for people," Raimbekov said.

“Elegantly staged and acted...
the cast works in high style”

—CHICAGO TRIBUNE

“Zesty & fun...a winning comedy”

—MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL



WILLIAM.
SHAKESPEARE'S

LOVE'S
LABOR'S
LOST

directed by
MARTI MARADEN

NOW PLAYING

30 **chicago**
shakespeare theater
on navy pier

312.595.5600

chicagoshakes.com

PRODUCTION
SPONSOR

Barbara and
Richard Franke



BMO Harris Bank



BOEING

ComEd

DOVER

FOUNDATION

ELIZABETH MORSE

FOUNDATION



Land O'Lakes

MacArthur
Foundation

ROBERT S.
MCCORMICK
FOUNDATION

NORTHERN
TRUST

PRITZKER
MILITARY

FOUNDATION

The Harold and Mimi
Steinberg Charitable Trust

THE HAROLD AND MIMI
STEINBERG CHARITABLE TRUST

GO

SHOW

Ina Garten went from White House to Barefoot Contessa

BY MYRNA PETLICKI

Pioneer Press

Talk about an unusual career path. Ina Garten journeyed from the White House Office of Management and Budget to her own highly-rated Food Network show, “Barefoot Contessa.”

Garten will share elements of that story during an onstage interview at the Rosemont Theatre on March 9. She will also talk about her life in the Hamptons, the filming of her show, entertaining and other topics. Author Deborah Davis will lead the discussion, which will be followed by a question and answer session.

During a phone conversation with Garten, we found her to be as genuinely warm and natural as she seems to be on her television show.

“When Jeffrey and I got married, he was in the military. Then he went to graduate school in Washington. That’s how I ended up in Washington,” Garten said.

After four years working at the White House, Garten was ready for a change. She recalled telling her husband, “I really want to do something more fun than this.”

Her very supportive spouse told Garten, “Pick something you think will be fun. If it’s fun, you’ll really be good at it.”

That very day, she saw an ad in the New York Times about a specialty food store for sale in the Hamptons. Jeffrey told her, “Let’s go look at it.”

They liked what they saw and immediately made the owner a low offer. To their surprise, he accepted. That’s how a person with no business background and no formal training as a chef became the owner of a specialty food store.

The business, called Barefoot Contessa, earned a reputation for its style and great food but after 18 years, Garten needed a new challenge. She sold the business to two of her employees and built an office upstairs from the shop. Then she waited a year for inspiration.

“That was the hardest year of my life,” Garten revealed. “I felt my professional life was over. I couldn’t think of something I thought would be interesting.”

Garten decided to write a cookbook while she pondered what her new career would be. Jeffrey talked her into turning that project into a business. “We ended up spending more money than anybody should ever invest in a cookbook,” she said. “It worked out as the best investment we ever made.”

She thought her new venture would be a solitary, lonely pursuit but that’s not how it turned out. “I have a team of people that



QUENTIN BACON

Food Network star Ina Garten will discuss her life and career at a show at the Rosemont Theatre.

Ina Garten: Barefoot Contessa

When: 7:30 p.m. March 9

Where: Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont

Tickets: \$49-\$70

Information: 847-671-5100; www.rosemont.com/theatre/events

retest the recipes that I’m doing. I adore them. I see them every day,” Garten said.

“The Barefoot Contessa Cookbook” came out in 1999. Garten’s 10th cookbook, “Cooking for Jeffrey,” was published last October. It’s in honor of her husband because, “Cooking for him is what created my career,” Garten said. “I love cooking and he encouraged it.”

Garten was working on her third cookbook, “Barefoot Contessa Family Style,” when she was approached by Food Network executives. “They came to me and said they wanted me to do a cooking show and I said, ‘Absolutely not,’” she said. “Every couple of months they’d come back and make me a better offer.”

Garten tried to convince them that she wasn’t negotiating — she just didn’t want to do it. Finally, they wore down her resistance, talking her into doing one 13-show season. “That was almost 15 years ago,” Garten laughingly noted.

Living

Thursday, February 23, 2017



Mel's kitchen: A po' boy tribute to New Orleans Page 3

CN
★



Naomi Levine used to complain about everything from work to parenting to cleaning. But she stopped after her son, Mikey, asked her to.

KRISTEN NORMAN/
FOR THE CHICAGO
TRIBUNE

Stop complaining

Stanford study shows airing gripes shrinks hippocampus. Experts offer tips to resolve issues more productively Page 14

SUBURBAN COOKS

Chef de cuisine making the most of mead

Cook at B. in Oak Brook talks oldest alcoholic beverage

By Judy Buchenot
Naperville Sun

He may be only 26 years old but Jose Valdez already understands that history repeats itself. As the recently promoted Chef de Cuisine at the Oak Brook restaurant, B., he has been working to get ready for an upcoming mead pairing dinner.

Reported to be the world's oldest alcoholic beverage, mead was called "ambrosia" by the ancient Greeks.

"I had never heard of it before but now I know it is basically honey and water that is fermented," Valdez said. "It is sometimes called honey wine. It is a different flavor than wine though — lighter and sweeter." In recent years, the beverage has experienced a resurgence in popularity. The American Mead Makers Association reports that in 2003, there were only 30 meaderies, the term for the place where mead is made. At the end of 2013, there were 300 meaderies in the United States with plans to open more.

Mead is a perfect progression for B., a restaurant that takes pride in producing its own honey from hives on the grounds of its location in the Oak Brook Hills Resort. "The bees here really like the mint that we grow. We try to get them to visit the other herbs but they favor the mint. This gives our honey a faint mint flavor," Valdez said. Wild Blossom Meadery in Chicago is using the honey to create a custom mead for the restaurant.

The signature mead for B. will have a cherry flavor added to it that will give it a bluish red color instead of the typical pale golden color. Valdez has been experimenting with cooking with mead. "It is similar to cooking with wine but can be challenging. When you reduce wine, it gets a little thicker. If you reduce mead, it gets thicker also but if you reduce it too much, it turns into a syrup. I really like using mead when working with lamb. It goes very well with lamb."



JUDY BUCHENOT/NAPERVILLE SUN

Chef de cuisine Jose Valdez puts the finishing touches on a plate of Parisian gnocchi with beets.

When Valdez was a child in Mexico, he worked at his father's restaurant in Jalisco, Mexico. "Every Sunday, we would go to the market and buy from the farmers everything we would need to cook at the restaurant that week," he recalls. "My grandpa, he had a produce stand and he would also show me how to pick out the best. When I met Chef Sean (B. executive chef Sean Curry), he treated produce the same way. He reminded me of my grandfather who knew so much."

Valdez moved to the United States and first began to pursue a degree in architecture. "But I felt like something was missing," he said. "My father suggested that I try cooking. I went to Joliet Junior College for the culinary program." He then began working for various restaurants including the Four Seasons in Chicago.

Valdez shares a recipe for Parisian gnocchi with beets that uses mead and invites everyone to attend the March 10 mead dinner at the restaurant.

Mead Pairing Dinner

What: B. Aware Dinner, a 5-course culinary mead pairing experience

When: 6:30 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner Friday March 10

Where: B. located inside the Oak Brook Hills Resort, 3500 Midwest Road, Oak Brook

Cost: Cost for meal is \$70 a person with a portion of the proceeds donated to the Bee Conservancy. All guests receive a bottle of mead to take home.

Reservations: www.blocalbfresh.com/

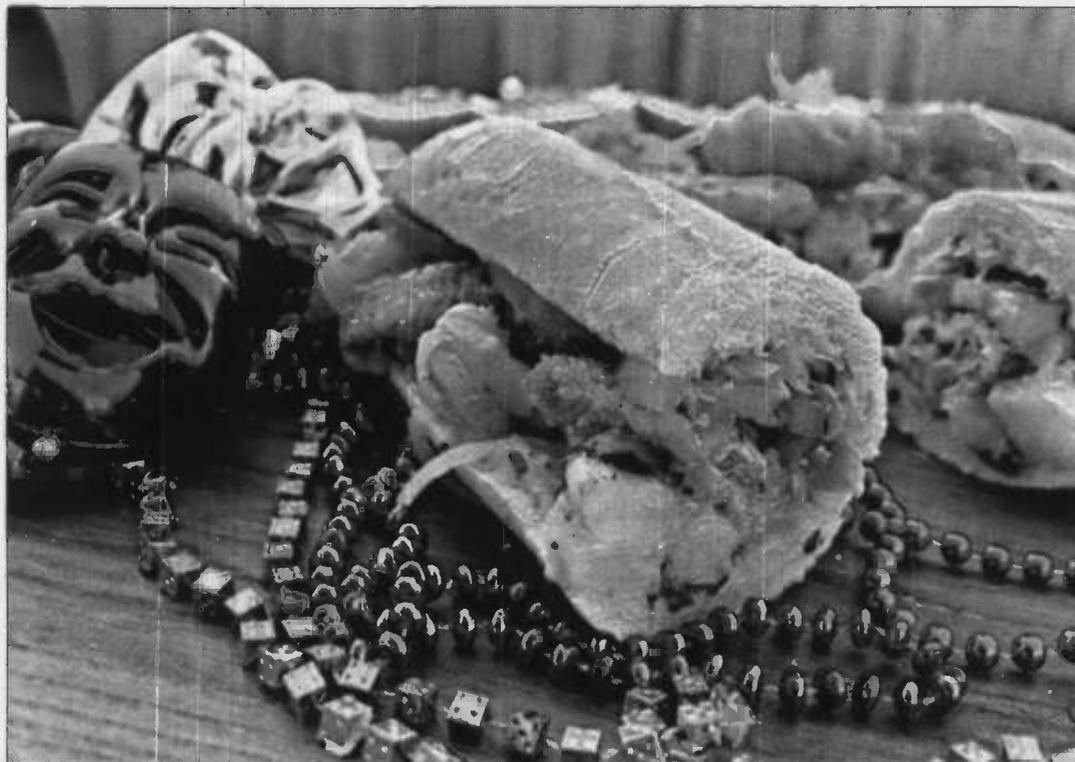
Parisian gnocchi with beets

- 10 baby beets
- 1 cup water
- 8 tablespoons unsalted butter, divided
- $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon kosher salt
- $1\frac{1}{4}$ cup flour
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- 3 large eggs
- 2 tablespoons finely sliced chives
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup honey mead (or white wine)
- 3 tablespoons butter
- Juice of one lemon
- olive oil

1. Cut the tops of the beets off, rinse and save in cold water to use for a garnish. Make a layer of salt on rimmed cookie sheet. Place beets on top of salt. Cover with foil and bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes or until tender. Remove from oven and slip off beet skins while still warm. Rinse with warm water and cover to keep warm while making gnocchi.

2. Bring water, unsalted butter, and salt to a boil in a medium saucepan over high heat. Add flour all at once and stir with a wooden spoon until a smooth dough forms. Reduce heat to medium-low and continue to stir, beating dough forcefully and rapidly to prevent it from sticking to the pot. Continue cooking until dough pulls away from sides of pot leaving a thin layer and steams slightly. Remove pot from heat. Add mustard and cheese and beat with wooden spoon until blended. Add eggs, one at a time, beating vigorously with each addition to prevent eggs from curdling and allowing dough to fully incorporate egg before adding the next one. When final egg has been added, add herbs and beat to combine.

3. Transfer mixture to a gallon-sized resealable bag or a pastry bag fitted with a $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch tip. Let mixture rest 15 to 25 minutes at room temperature. Meanwhile, bring a large pot of salted water to a simmer and have a rimmed baking sheet ready. If using a zipper-lock bag, cut off a $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch opening in one corner. Holding the bag or pastry bag over the boiling water, squeeze the mixture out of the bag, cutting it off with a paring knife into 1-inch lengths and letting them fall directly into the simmering water. Continue cutting off as many as you can in one minute, then stop. When all gnocchi have floated to the top, continue cooking until gnocchi are fully cooked to the center, about 3 minutes longer. Lift gnocchi with a fine mesh strainer and transfer to rimmed baking sheet. Heat a saute pan and add olive oil. Add gnocchi and sear them. Add mead and butter. Add the beets being careful not to smash the gnocchi and saute until liquid has reduced and thickens. Once the wine and the butter have coated the gnocchi and the beets, season with salt and pepper to taste. Place the gnocchi on serving platter, garnish with reserved beet tops and drizzle with olive oil and lemon juice.



MELISSA ELSMO/PIONEER PRESS

A pickled shrimp and fried oyster po' boy.

A po' boy tribute to New Orleans

Shrimp and fried oyster po' boy inspired by week of blissful bingeing

My husband and I just spent a week traipsing through New Orleans to celebrate our 20th wedding anniversary. We walked for miles and explored as many neighborhoods as we could on our anniversary adventure. We wandered through the French Quarter, meandered through the Garden District, saw a jazz show at Snug Harbor on Frenchmen Street and even took a couple of rescued pit bulls for a stroll around the 9th ward. We went on a ghost tour, rode the street cars and bought a fine piece of art.

And we ate. And ate. And ate. Because, let's face it, food in New Orleans totally lives up to the hype. As a result, our week in New Orleans was a blissful sort of binge.

We enjoyed chicory coffee and



MELISSA ELSMO
Out of Mel's Kitchen

beignets on a sunny afternoon at the iconic Cafe Du Monde, stepped back in time for a little high-end Creole fare at Commander's Palace, and had our minds blown by a bacon and oyster sandwich at Cochon. We savored sausage jambalaya, crawfish etouffee, and black pepper barbecued shrimp and even belied up to the counter at the famous Camellia Grill. We ate oysters more than once a day and

sipped more than a few cocktails along the way.

Even though we made many marvelous food memories all over New Orleans, traveling to Parkway Bakery for one of the best-loved po' boys in all of New Orleans was a highlight of our trip. With Mardi Gras season in full swing and Fat Tuesday less than a week away it seems only appropriate to whip up a New Orleans style po' boy to take me back to the Big Easy.

My take on a po' boy features a batch of quick pickled shrimp and pile of crunchy fried oysters. Slathered with a savory sauce and dressed with a traditional trio of lettuce, tomatoes and pickles this po' boy delivers rich flavor. Just like any good po' boy, mine is a messy to eat Mardi Gras treat.

Dressed Pickled Shrimp and Fried Oyster Po' Boy

Containers of fresh shucked oysters can be found in the fish department of finer grocery stores. Look for East Coast oysters as they are the perfect size for frying for a po' boy. Makes four servings.

FOR THE PICKLED SHRIMP:

- 1 1/2 pounds 10-15 count shrimp, peeled, deveined, and tails removed
- 1 tablespoon Old Bay or Mesquite Blend seasoning
- 1 teaspoon mustard seeds
- 1 teaspoon celery seeds
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon chili flakes
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 small sweet onion, thinly sliced
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/4 cup chopped Italian parsley
- Salt and pepper to taste.

FOR THE COCKTAIL TARTAR SAUCE:

- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup ketchup
- 1/4 cup parsley
- 1-2 tablespoons prepared horseradish
- 2 tablespoons diced dill pickle
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/4 teaspoon smoked paprika

FOR THE FRIED OYSTERS:

- Canola oil for frying
- 1 8-ounce container of fresh sucked oysters (about 8)
- 1/2 cup flour seasoned with salt and pepper
- 2 eggs beaten with 2 teaspoons hot sauce
- 1 cup panko bread crumbs

FOR ASSEMBLY:

- 1 French baguette, cut in half and halved through the middle horizontally
- Shredded lettuce
- Sliced tomato
- Bread and butter pickle slices

1. To prepare the pickled shrimp: Fill a large saucepan with water. Add the Old Bay, mustard seeds, celery seeds, salt, chili flakes and bay leaves. Bring the water and seasonings to a rolling boil. Add the shrimp to the pot, cover, turn off the heat and allow to sit for 6 minutes. Drain the shrimp and allow to cool to room temperature. Toss the shrimp with the sliced onion, lemon zest, lemon juice, olive oil and parsley. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Set aside and stir occasionally.

2. To prepare the cocktail tartar sauce: Combine the mayonnaise, ketchup, 1 tablespoon horseradish, dill pickle, lemon juice and smoked paprika in a small bowl. Taste the mixture and add up to 1 tablespoon of additional horseradish according to your personal tastes. Set the sauce aside until ready to assemble the sandwich.

3. To fry the oysters: Pour the canola oil into a high-sided skillet to a depth of 2 inches and heat over medium-high heat until a bread cube sizzles on contact. Meanwhile, set up a three step breading station. Drain the oysters and toss in the seasoned flour to coat. Shake off the excess and dip each oyster into the egg mixture to coat. Roll the egg coated oysters in the panko breadcrumbs and drop into the hot oil. Fry the oysters, turning occasionally, until the coating is golden brown and crispy — about 2-3 minutes. Transfer the oysters to a paper towel-lined plate and season with salt.

4. To assemble the po' boys: Pull the fluffy middle out of the center of the four bread halves and discard. Slather each section of the baguette with the cocktail tartar sauce. Distribute the pickled shrimp with the onions over the sauce on the bottoms of the baguette halves. Top the shrimp with the fried oysters. Fill the top half of the bread halves with shredded lettuce, tomato slices and bread and butter pickles. Place the top halves on the bottoms and cut in half to yield four po' boy sandwiches.

PETS/ANIMALS

MY PET WORLD

How positive reinforcement and a spray bottle can help train cats, dogs

By Marc Marrone

Tribune Content Agency

Q: We have a male Siamese cat that we got when he was 12 weeks old from a private breeder. He is almost 2 years old. He seems to be more attached to me than anyone else, following me around the house and often sitting near or on me. He can be very sweet one minute, sitting on my lap as I scratch his head and neck. He'll be purring away and then suddenly turn on me and start biting my feet. Another thing he does is randomly attack me or my daughter while we're walking around, biting and scratching our ankles and lower legs. I am covered with scratches. He doesn't do this to my husband or son. I thought maybe this was his way of being playful, but he really seems angry and ferocious when he does this. I've had cats all my life, both male and female, and I've never had this problem. Can you help me understand and deal with this behavior? — Terry Torres, Las Vegas, NV

A: At this point in my life I have learned enough about cats to realize that I actually know much less than I thought I did years ago. I really cannot tell you why your cat is treating you so harshly and your relationship has become so toxic.

Some people would say your cat was isolated from other cats at early an age and is regarding you as a play toy, but that does not seem to be the case here. You got him at 12 weeks of age and he does not lash out like this to all the other members of your family. To me it just seems like some cats just have too much time on their hands and they just come up with these weird games

to amuse themselves.

At any rate I can offer these suggestions. First of all do not allow him to become overly stimulated when you are petting him. It seems that some cats — especially Siamese — go into some kind of "red zone" when you pet them with a lot of pressure at end of their spine or around the glands on their chin. When he chooses to sit next to you on the couch just pet him a couple of times and then spend the rest his visit talking about current events. Just stay calm around him with as little stimulation as possible and if he pushes the issue and starts to rub himself against you then just get up off the couch and walk away. Do not grab him or push him off the couch as that will just create drama.

For his ambush attacks you have to try a different approach. Go to the dollar store and buy a great many plastic misting bottles and fill them up with water and leave them all over the house so that one always is nearby. When he is rushing toward you to slash at you, just grab a mister and spray the water at him in as calm a manner as possible. You do not want him to think that you are doing this in response to his behavior. That would be a punishment and cats do not react well to punishment. You just want him to think that when he decides to scratch you then out of nowhere all this water rains down on him and that makes the situation less entertaining for him.

When he himself realizes the behavior is no longer fun then he will choose to stop doing it of his own accord. However the spraying of the water has to happen every time he rushes out at your legs — that is why you need to have the spray bottles all over the house. If you have to run about the house looking for a bottle with the cat

running after you then this just adds to the drama and makes the situation worse.

Q: We have a Maltipoo and two Pomeranians and every time our doorbell rings all of them rush to the door barking hysterically. We have to pick them all up before we can open the door. We had a professional trainer come in to show us what to do, but he could not do anything and we are at our wits end and wondered if you had any advice. — Ellen Rosenberg, Chicago, IL

A: This is not an easy problem to solve in a house of multiple dogs. If you have only one dog then it is a simple situation to fix because all you need to do is stand in front of the door and block the way until the dog calms down. Obviously this is not possible with a pack of them.

There was a time in my life when I had eight dogs and as the pack grew in size, the drama that occurred when the doorbell rang increased geometrically. Guests that looked in could not believe their eyes at the sight as it ranged from my big dog Garfield, who looked like a cross between a German Shepherd and a donkey, down to little Dixie, the Dächshund who actually had the loudest bark of the whole crew. I finally solved the problem by keeping a candy jar full of dog treats by the front door that was out of Garfield's reach.

When the doorbell rang and the pack sprang into action, I would wade through them to get to the jar and grab a handful of treats and throw them to the other side of the room. Then, of course, they would all rush there and start to snuffle about and vacuum them up.

I did this as a temporary fix but soon the



OLI SCARFF/GETTY

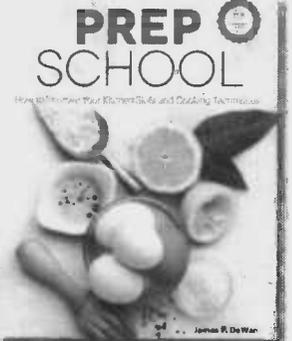
Marc Marrone says a spray bottle filled with water can be a good tool to use when it comes to training your pets.

dogs figured out that when the doorbell rang it meant treats were going to appear on the other side of the living room. The first dog there ended up getting the most treats, so the whole pack then would run to that spot in as soon as the bell rang. They no longer focused on the door at all.

That situation taught me how with positive reinforcement you could teach an animal to do just about anything you wanted. However, this method does not work with all dogs.

In your case you have little dogs and they can be fussy eaters and may prefer barking at the door rather than sniffing around the carpet for dog treats. In such a case, a spray bottle kept by the door may be just the thing to distract them enough to allow you to back them out of the way and allow your guests to enter.

Marc Marrone 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.



TribBooks

Tribune columnist James P. DeWan teaches you how to:
Slice, Dice, Whip, Poach, Carve, Roll, Roux, Braise,
Brine, Stuff, Spatchcock And more!

NOW IN PAPERBACK!

GET IT TODAY AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM/PREPSCHOOLBOOK

Chicago Tribune

chicagotribune.com/pets

Visit us daily for the latest pet and animal news from the suburbs, city and beyond, plus:

- Our adoptable animals blog featuring photos and descriptions of Chicagoland pets in need of homes.
- Our suburban and city pet events calendar
- Photo galleries, videos, more



Warranties can make or break a purchase

I read your column and never thought I would have to contact you, but I'm at my wit's end. In April 2016 I bought a sofa and love seat from Bob's Discount Furniture in Skokie. Almost immediately after it was delivered, the fabric began to fray and crease. When I contacted the store, they sent replacement covers, which were received in July. But they weren't any better than the originals. Now it's January and the problem is just getting worse. The store sent an inspector who agreed the fabric had degraded. He also said he has seen this frequently. Bob's has agreed to give me a store credit, but the store has nothing that will work in my home as a replacement. So I'm faced with having to buy something at another store and forgo my credit to Bob's bank account.

Bob's told me if I hadn't accepted the furniture when it was delivered, they would have issued me a refund. Maybe I'm dense, but when it was delivered in April, how was I to know that it would hold up so poorly? Only my husband and I sit on the furniture, which I thought was the purpose of a sofa and love seat. Is there any hope for

resolving this problem?

Tina, Northbrook

I asked Tina to send me her Bob's invoice and warranty information. In her sales paperwork, under the header "Service Policy," I found the following:

"You may report any factory defects to our customer care team within one year of possession ... [A] service technician [will] inspect the item and service it to factory standards at no cost to you. If the service technician determines the factory defect is not serviceable, we will replace the item, one time."

Tina additionally bought Bob's Five Year Goof Proof Plus plan for \$99. This extended warranty covers "unlimited in-home service. When a covered incident occurs, a professional service technician will come to your home ... and restore the stained/damaged area back to factory standards at no cost to you. ... If a stain/damage cannot be restored to factory standards, the damaged piece of furniture



CATHY CUNNINGHAM
Help Squad

will be replaced, at full value, without any additional cost to you!"

Note there is no mention of a refund in either of these paragraphs. However, in light of Tina's predicament, I was optimistic Bob's might offer a refund as a goodwill gesture to ensure customer

satisfaction. With this hope, I called and spoke to Bob's Skokie operations manager, Kevin Pressin.

Pressin had this to say about Tina's situation: "Once merchandise is accepted into the home, we cannot offer a refund. She knows our policy. She signed the contract when she came in here, and it was the same thing that we tell every other customer. If something goes wrong, you have the right to re-select and we will give you a store credit. But there is no refund."

Searching for other possible solutions, I asked Pressin if there was another fabric that might be an option for Tina's replacement covers. I was told no. I then asked if Tina could get the cushions reupholstered

and receive reimbursement from Bob's. Again no.

When I asked Pressin for more details about Bob's Five Year Goof Proof Plus Plan, he explained that customers receive five years unlimited service calls with no extra payment. When I inquired if that also meant Tina could request replacement cushion covers as many times as she wanted during those five years, Pressin replied yes.

As Tina didn't want to continually replace her cushion covers with covers of the same quality.

The obvious lesson from the above unfortunate situation is this: Whether buying a piece of furniture, an article of clothing, or something in between, it's always best to investigate up-front a store's refund and warranty policies.

Need help?

Send your questions, complaints, injustices and column ideas to HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com.

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

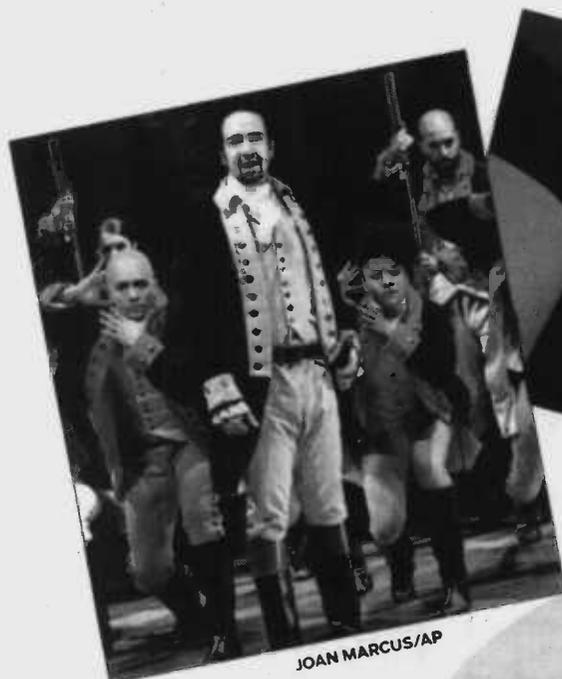
Dear Chicago, Will you send us your proposal video? We're asking on one knee.



POWERED BY: **Chicago Tribune**

Enter for a chance to share your special moment.

BOOKS



JOAN MARCUS/AP

MARIA BIERNIK/
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT
FOR THE HUMANITIES

ALYSSA POINTER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

By John Warner
Chicago Tribune

Given the chaotic nature of the first weeks of the Trump presidency, when the likely inevitable announcement comes of his intention to defund the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, the news will barely register.

Defunding the NEA and NEH would be on the agenda of just about any Republican president. The party has long objected on philosophical grounds to this kind of use of taxpayer money, as well as on cultural grounds to art produced using government funds that some conservatives believe is beyond the bounds of decency.

But I hope we still have some capacity for outrage left, because when it comes to bang for the buck, the NEA and NEH deliver tremendous good to broad swaths of the country.

The NEA and NEH each receive just under \$148 million per year. The bucks at stake might sound like a lot, but that's about two one-hundredths of 1 percent of federal discretionary spending.

Just about any major theatrical production or musical likely has an NEA grant woven somewhere into its DNA, often through grants to theaters that nurture the development of the material while it's getting ready for the big stage. An NEA grant helped fund the festival that staged the first performances of what would become the Tony-winning musical "Hamilton."

The NEA has been particularly impor-

NEA: \$148 million NEH: \$148 million American culture: Priceless

tant for Chicago. Both the Steppenwolf and Goodman theaters have received generous grants in recent years that allowed them to put on productions that otherwise wouldn't have happened. The Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Lyric Opera, the Chicago International Film Festival have all received NEA money.

The NEH covers a wide swath of activities in education and the humanities, but is especially important when it comes to preserving and promoting popular history at the state and local level.

For example, the Public Scholar grant program provides stipends that allow historians to do the time-consuming research necessary to complete their projects. Erik Gellman of Roosevelt University received one last year to help to complete a book on postwar Chicago, featuring images by photographer Art Shay.

State humanities councils are signifi-

Above from left: An NEA grant helped fund the festival that staged the first performances of what would become the musical "Hamilton"; the NEH's National Humanities Medal honors individuals or groups whose work has deepened understanding of the humanities; Lyric Opera has benefited from NEA money.

cantly funded by the NEH. The Illinois Humanities Council received over \$1 million in 2016.

Given the passion of recent protests, if the president acts to defund the NEH and NEA, it's tempting to think people will rally and give money to arts organizations. After all, the ACLU received \$24 million in online donations — more than six times its normal yearly total — in just one weekend following the recent executive order on immigration.

But passions tend to cluster as we engage in our natural herding tendencies. Remember the guy who asked for \$10 on Kickstarter to make potato salad and wound up with \$55,000?

That was fun and all, but one of the reasons oversight organizations like the NEA, NEH and state-level arts councils are necessary is to distribute money in a way that benefits projects that have yet to achieve prominence.

If the agencies are killed, they're never coming back. Think about American culture without Steppenwolf or "Hamilton." That's what we're facing.

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

Book recommendations from the Biblioracle

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

1. "Hidden Figures" by Margot Lee Shetterly
2. "Leviathan Wakes" by James S.A. Corey
3. "Caliban's War" by James S.A. Corey
4. "Carve the Mark" by Veronica Roth
5. "1984" by George Orwell
— Robert P., Lawrence, Kan.

I'm going to guess that Robert is pretty versed in classic science fiction, but maybe he hasn't yet found his way to Ursula K. Le Guin's "The Left Hand of Darkness."

1. "Even the Dogs in the Wild" by Ian Rankin
2. "Broken Harbor" by Tana French
3. "Before the Fall" by Noah Hawley
4. "The Crossing" by Michael Connelly
5. "The Keeper of Lost Causes" by Jussi Adler-Olsen
— Mitchell N., Chicago

Mitchell should start in on the Jackson Brodie series from Kate Atkinson. The first volume is "Case Histories."

1. "Salvage the Bones" by Jesmyn Ward
2. "The Sympathizer" by Viet Thanh Nguyen
3. "Heat & Light" by Jennifer Haigh
4. "Imagine Me Gone" by Adam Haslett
5. "The Vegetarian" by Han Kang
— Lilly B., Champaign

Our trying times have me going back to books that illuminate struggles the nation has survived. One of those is James McBride's "The Good Lord Bird," which also happens to be plenty entertaining.

Get a reading from the Biblioracle!

Send a list of the last five books you've read to printersrow@chicago.tribune.com. Write "Biblioracle" in the subject line.



puzzle island

For interactive puzzles and games go to chicagotribune.com/games

FIRST AND LAST: Presidentially speaking

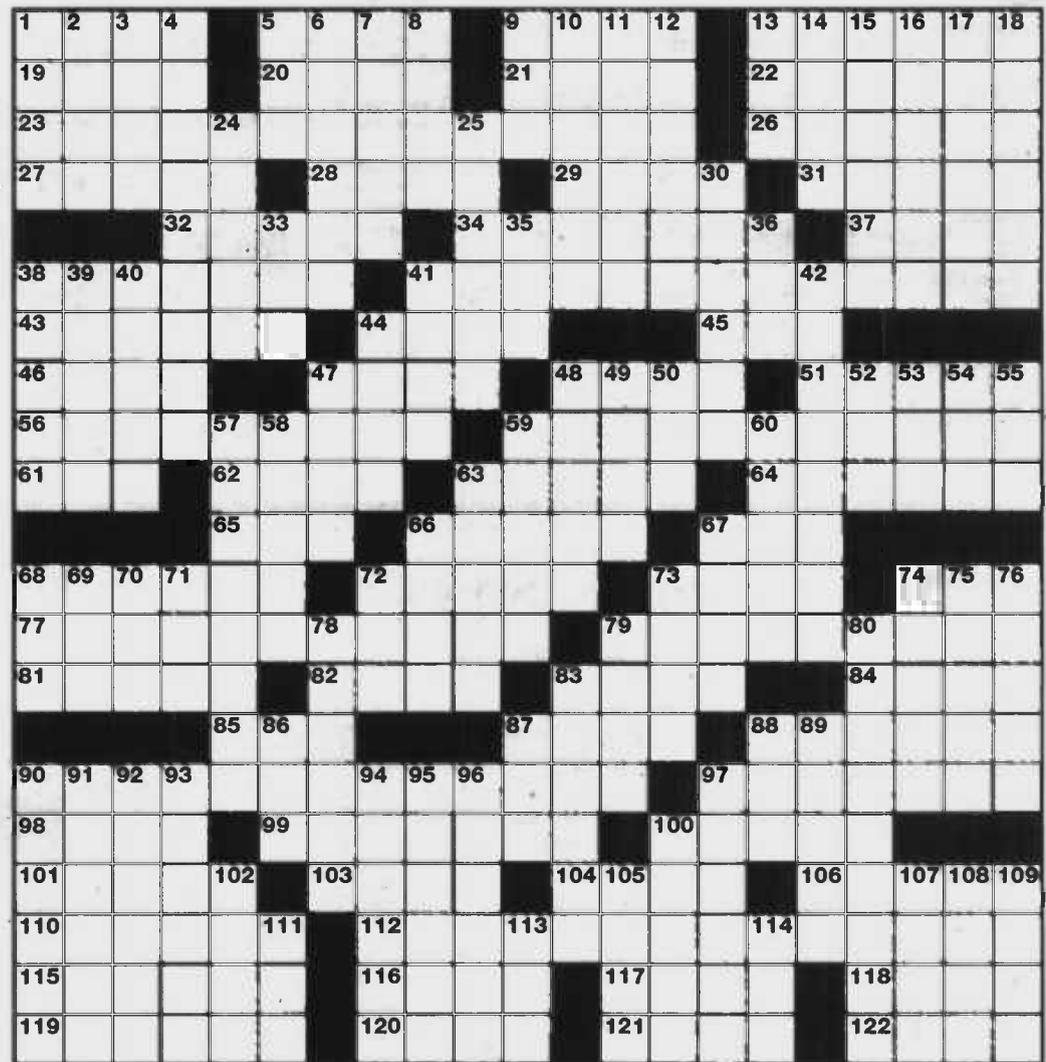
BY MARK MCCLAIN | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN
(stanxwords.com)

Across

- 1 Source of new USN ensigns
5 Poetic spheres
9 Apple on a desk
13 Senses, in a way
19 Melville's second book
20 Angular in physique
21 ___ speak (as it were)
22 Tried to rip open
23 First to be born an American citizen
26 Rock layers
27 Slapstick bit
28 Even once
29 Clumsy ones
31 Ran out of patience
32 Brought about
34 Courteous assent
37 Manner of speaking
38 RSVPs
41 Last to be born in the 18th century
43 Most Greenlanders
44 List of dishes
45 Sigma follower
46 Approximately
47 Last Masters stroke, usually
48 "Superfood" veggie
51 Handles roughly
56 First to live in the White House
59 Last of the Founding Fathers
61 "___ luck?"
62 Party regulars
63 Doughnut order
64 Orlando's county
65 Starter like ante-
66 Canon rival
67 Bush 43 aide
68 Fleischer
69 McKinley's other name
72 Star's walk-on
- 73 TV spots for charities
74 Gen. Grant's opponent
77 Last (so far) to earn a living from farming
79 First to complete another's term
81 Express disdain
82 Contends
83 Columbia Pictures owner
84 Countess' husband
85 Dash's mileage meter
87 Low-pH compound
88 Civil
90 Last (so far) born in Virginia
97 Israeli violin virtuoso
98 Zenith
99 Maximally hostile
100 *Dancing with the Stars* step
101 Impolite looks
103 Seem to go on forever
104 *Moonstruck* star
106 "That's too bad!"
110 Chopper's activity
112 First Republican
115 Sets loose
116 *True Grit* remake surname
117 Bone ___ (study)
118 Suitable for cacti
119 Book after Job
120 Struck (out)
121 Olivier title
122 Mrs. Truman
- 4 Formal ball
5 Rent-to-___
6 Girder handler's supply
7 "Well done!"
8 Seasonal song ender
9 Terre Haute sch.
10 Gloomy
11 Starting squads
12 Casual talk
13 Figueroa and Vine, in L.A.
14 Night flier
15 Slip-up sheet
16 Deceive
17 J.Lo, e.g.
18 ___ Island, NY
24 Wrap up a win
25 Retired Lakers star
30 Prepares, as scampi
33 *Boulevard ___ Capucines* (Monet painting)
35 Six-foot-tall bird
36 Erstwhile media conglomerate
38 Spanish red wine
39 Ill-fated energy giant
40 Overbearing
41 Airbus products
42 Keillor or Twain
44 Some pram pushers
47 Ale descriptor
48 Device for a hummer
49 "You said it!"
50 Thriller writer
52 Santa ___, CA
53 Decorative vase
54 Activity record
55 Realize
57 Seek actively, as a post
58 Column style
59 Deck extra

Down

- 1 Tomato for paste name
2 Yemen neighbor
3 Wrongful act



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

© 2017 Creators Syndicate. All rights reserved.

- 60 Capone rival
63 Torch-bearing change
66 Online statistician Silver
67 Grayish
68 Wedding entertainers
69 German article
70 Abbr. for two-name people
71 Bowling center builder
- 72 Dernier ___ (latest thing)
73 The Atlantic, to Brits
74 Assert
75 Simmons alternative
76 "Over the Rainbow" composer
78 Declared
79 Sign up
80 Often-seen urban ride
- 83 Stamp out
86 Perignon title
87 Burro
88 Barnyard enclosure
89 Cathedral fixture
90 Eschew escalators
91 Vast amounts
92 Puzo novel
93 Deflect from a plan
94 Air Force hero
95 *Green Eggs and Ham* phrase
- 96 Stowe villain
97 Quaint living room
100 Speed for a score
102 Flower support
105 "Long" distance
107 Author Vidal
108 Yale Bowl hosts
109 Extremities
111 Part of RSVP
113 "___ your point is ...?"
114 Non-party regular: Abbr.

Quote-Acrostic

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

Clues Words

A. He has a pallium	102	76	168	33	93	121	57	136	14	83
B. Schmo	63	94	21	46	34	160				
C. Tough-to-take Instagram	98	72	89	110	144	142	23	45	59	
D. Comaneci coach	139	84	115	29	61	161	97			
E. Highest western peak	164	138	65	113	50	125	9	88	38	
F. Aka Carroll	108	10	47	64	173	128	146			
G. Church togetherness	26	39	91	53	172	141	103	70	119	
H. Isle of Man for one: 2 wds.	153	123	171	40	49	155	90	107		
I. Me and you, in Dogpatch	158	135	15	122	44					
J. Very welcome: hyph.	36	137	71	7	111	48	86	20		

K. Shuffle and waddle
126 145 37 66 118 104

L. Gangsta rap legend
6 152 68 105 51 17 133

M. Erstwhile Arabian kingdom
35 156 67 99

N. Impression
56 148 85 132 167 42 12

O. Nickname for Mila Kunis: 2 wds.
54 101 13 43 27 143 109 162 124

P. Cagey and canny
16 95 55 2 130 69 116 78 147 28 166

Q. Won only U.S. gold at Grenoble
75 18 114 87 154 8 129

R. Electra's brother
112 150 58 165 127 81 24

S. Preceder of your boat: 3 wds.
134 106 30 25 77 96 11 170 1

T. Believed to be world's richest city
31 169 52 3 80 120 157 140

U. Reuben and Gad: 2 wds.
159 100 5 74

V. The future: 2 wds.
163 151 131 22 73

149 117 41 60 19 82

79 62 92 4 32

1	S	2	P		3	T	4	V	5	U	6	L	7	J	8	Q			
9	E	10	F	11	S	12	N	13	O	14	A	15	I	16	P		17	L	
18	Q	19	U	20	J	21	B	22	V	23	C	24	R		25	S	26	G	
27	O	28	P	29	D			30	S	31	T	32	V	33	A	34	B	35	M
36	J			37	K	38	E	39	G	40	H	41	U	42	N	43	O	44	I
		45	C	46	B	47	F			48	J	49	H	50	E	51	L	52	T
53	G	54	O			55	P	56	N	57	A	58	R	59	C	60	U	61	D
62	V	63	B	64	F			65	E	66	K	67	M	68	L	69	P	70	G
		71	J	72	C	73	V	74	U			75	Q	76	A	77	S	78	P
		79	V	80	T	81	R			82	U	83	A	84	D	85	N	86	J
		87	Q	88	E	89	C	90	H	91	G	92	V			93	A	94	B
95	P			96	S	97	D	98	C	99	M	100	U	101	O			102	A
103	G	104	K			105	L	106	S	107	H	108	F	109	O	110	C	111	J
112	R	113	E	114	Q	115	D	116	P			117	U	118	K	119	G	120	T
121	A	122	I			123	H	124	O			125	E	126	K	127	R	128	F
129	Q	130	P	131	V	132	N	133	L	134	S			135	I	136	A	137	J
138	E	139	D	140	T	141	G	142	C	143	O	144	C			145	K	146	F
147	P	148	N	149	U	150	R	151	V	152	L	153	H	154	Q	155	H	156	M
		157	T	158	I	159	U	160	B	161	D			162	O	163	V	164	E
165	R	166	P	167	N	168	A			169	T	170	S	171	H	172	G	173	F

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

By Robert O'Neill.
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.
© 2017 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

Tourist Spots

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across

- 1 Poet Khayyam
5 Cigar city
10 Vertical pole
14 Gertrude Stein's flower
15 Circa
16 Presumptuous glance
17 Extorted money from
18 Denmark's Victor ___
19 Russian river
20 Vacation retreat
22 Adorned
24 Acquire by labor
25 Composition for two
26 Controversy
29 Sweets, Darling, etc.
33 Go astray
34 Fixed look
36 Frontlet
37 Exclamations of dislike
39 Save
41 Near S. Dak.
42 Let's bake ___
44 ___ and lonely
46 Peer Gynt's mother
47 ___ chances: playing it safe

- 49 Apples, in Paris
51 Variety of chalcedony
52 Inca country
53 Actress Ritter.
56 City of trunk fame
60 Othello's antagonist
61 Freshet
63 Tel ____, Israel
64 Pitfall
65 Fire stirrer
66 Narrative
67 Inactive
68 Whirls
69 Building additions

Down

- 1 Spherical bodies
2 Breakwater
3 Voyaging
4 Its waters parted
5 Small stools
6 ___ liar: chronic fibber
7 Additional
8 Fighter
9 Dined in a café
10 Great mass
11 Tourist spot in India
12 Venetian blind part

- 13 Far: comb. form
21 Toques
23 Schism
25 Supposes
26 Treat, as in skimming milk
27 Heath
28 Fracture
29 Boxer Carnera
30 Form of address
31 Expunge
32 Japanese wines
35 Two of ___
38 Winter sports spot
40 Room decorators
43 Hindu land grant
45 Little Dorothy
48 Clutches
50 Alter
52 Church plate
53 Southern US tree
54 Difficult
55 Equal, in Nice
56 H. H. Munro
57 Egg-shaped
58 Small liquid measure
59 Class of vertebrates
62 Cork sound

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

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

© 2017 Creators News Service.

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION: This section was produced by Chicago Tribune Media Group



WE DAY

I am WE

On March 1, 2017, we celebrate youth making a difference in their local and global communities. Join the WE Movement by taking the pledge at WE.org.

Watch WE Day Illinois at WE.org/watchWEDay

f WEMOVEMENT @ WEDAY @WEMOVEMENT # WEDAY @WEMOVEMENT

Shaken by violence, students press on for unity

Students from Parker Community Academy are heading to their second WE Day Illinois after their Dreams of Peace Week

There is a stigma to Englewood. One of the most violence-stricken neighborhoods in Chicago, it presents a challenge to educators and parents trying to motivate young people and, above all, keep them safe.

While some in the city worry shootings have become just another part of life, many see reason for hope.

Arielle Thompson, a teacher and guidance counselor at Parker Community Academy, founded her school's Student Council last year and initiated WE Schools, a free service-learning program that transforms classrooms and empowers students to give back. This year they've ramped up their WE service activities, reaching beyond their K-8 school into the wider community.

Joining the group isn't easy though. Thompson uses it as an opportunity to teach real-life skills students will need once they've graduated. To apply, they have to dress in business attire, complete an essay and an interview.

But once they're in, the group is theirs to direct. They elect leadership, set agendas, discuss issues, and decide on campaigns and actions.

"I got involved because I noticed issues inside the school that students said they couldn't control," explains seventh-grader Innocentia Eweyeju, now the Student Council secretary. "I felt that if I joined, I could help students have a voice."

They started the year with a food drive as part of WE Scare Hunger, addressing the homelessness and hunger they see every day by collecting meals for nearly 2,000 people.

At their meeting in December, riding high from their food drive, they decided on their next issue. Last year was a particularly tough year in Chicago, and it was little surprise to Thompson the students were immediately drawn to ending gun violence.

"I've lost a lot of people," admits Student Council president and eighth-grader Aneas Potts, with

frustration in his voice. "I'm tired of it, I just want to be able to have an impact and actually do something to create change."

What started with plans for one peace rally soon grew into the Dreams of Peace Week as students came up with new ideas to get people in the community involved to promote unity.

An open mic night featuring poetry and music about peace was added. Then a forum, bringing together police officers, community leaders, parents and students to talk about hurdles. Finally, at the end of the week, a student versus staff basketball game was arranged to celebrate unity.

With all the planning complete, tragedy struck.

On Jan. 19, around the corner from the school, an eighth-grader was shot and killed.

Violence is a reality for too many young people in Chicago, but rarely had it hit this close to home. Thompson said it was a dark time for the school and her students — but still, they pressed on.



Parker Community Academy's Student Council poses after a WE skills-building workshop.

"It really charged them up," she reflects, with pride. "They are so excited to make a difference. And to see their passion and hard work, no matter the adversity or challenges, inspires me."

Just 11 days after the shooting, at the opening assembly for Dreams of Peace Week, students and teachers gathered to hear the Student Council share hopes for the community.

"Peace is earned, and we can earn it together with positivity, education, unity and love. That was the message," recalls Innocentia.

The energy from the week is already translating.

"When I started, I didn't think I'd get people to listen to me," admits Aneas. "Now, kids come up to me and tell me I'm their role model. They all want to join."

That excitement will find a home at WE Day Illinois on March 1 as students from Parker Community Academy return for a second year, joining 15,000 other young people from across Illinois who have taken action on causes in their community. Students earn their way to WE Day as a celebration of everything they've done to lead change with WE Schools.

For Aneas and Innocentia, WE Day remains a highlight of the year.

"Seeing (ME to WE motivational speaker) Spencer (West) on stage, even though he went through everything he had, he didn't let it affect him," says Aneas, thinking back to the moment from WE Day 2016 that's stuck with him at his darkest points. "It's like us. Like everything we've been through."

— Jesse Mintz

Chicago Allstate agent challenges students to take volunteer efforts to new heights

When DeVry University Advantage Academy teacher Yvette Vazquez found five students hanging out in the hallway after the final bell one day in 2011, she gave them a challenge: Put your heads together and find a meaningful way to pass the time.

A little more than five years later, the decision of those students to funnel their energy into making a difference in their community has blossomed into a full-fledged movement at DUAA. Today, more than a third of the small Northwest Chicago high school's students are members of a club — started as a result of that challenge — that's tackling some of society's toughest issues, including domestic violence, homelessness, hunger and access to education.

Aptly named the Service Learning Leadership Club, the group now has trouble finding a space in the school big enough to host the 70 students who attend its weekly meetings.

"Every teacher's goal is to provide experiences outside of a textbook, outside of a classroom," says Vazquez, a Spanish teacher at DUAA since 2011 who now heads the club. "Students want that experiential learning. They want to broaden their horizons from what they know, talk about provocative topics, learn how to work together in collaborative teams. That's what I remember from high school — not that test in the history class I hated."

Thanks to their participation in WE Volunteer Now, students in the club have a chance to take on even bigger challenges, such as supporting a local women's shelter with a month-long donation drive during February. WE Volunteer Now is an initiative of WE made possible by The Allstate Foundation. The program chal-



Allstate agency owner John Tunnell (upper left) and teacher Yvette Vazquez (lower left) celebrate with the DeVry University Advantage Academy Service Learning Leadership Club after packing lunches for a local food pantry as part of WE Volunteer Now, an initiative by The Allstate Foundation.

lenges youth to team up with friends to brainstorm, plan and lead volunteer activities that make a positive impact in their communities.

The support of the women's shelter took root after local small business and Allstate agency owner John Tunnell came to speak to the club in November as part of the national WE Volunteer Now speaking tour. The tour pairs local Allstate agents and WE speakers with high schools to encourage and facilitate youth volunteerism, helping students pinpoint social causes in their own backyard and providing the resources to identify actionable solutions.

Tunnell, a volunteer at DUAA since April 2016 when he helped students pack bag lunches for a local food pantry, jumped at the chance to participate in the speaking tour. But Tunnell quickly realized he was going to be the one taking notes.

"It was amazing to see what those students already had within them. I didn't think about volunteering until after college," says Tunnell, an Allstate agency owner since 2007. "They taught me a lot about the spirit of being a volunteer, and how that can

start at a really young age. It reassured me the future is in good hands. There were a lot of leaders in that classroom, and it was cool being a part of that."

Thanks to Tunnell's commitment to volunteering at DUAA, the school is in line for a \$1,000 Allstate Foundation Helping Hands in the Community grant to put toward more student-led volunteer projects. And because of The Allstate Foundation's support of WE, nearly half of the students in the service learning club will attend WE Day Illinois next week.

Vazquez says Tunnell, who owns multiple agencies in the city, has been instrumental as a real-world influence who listens and offers advice — and makes sure the students know their voices and actions can create real change beyond their school.

"Kids just need a chance — to have more people listen and just take the time to be with them," Vazquez says. "Half of the stuff I learn in the classroom that's innovative and awesome, students teach me that. They don't teach me because they know how to teach me — I just pay attention to them, and am constantly amazed at what they have to say."



Each Track Your Impact product supports sustainable development in a WE Villages partner community.

Track Your Impact connects products with purpose

Walk down the aisle of a store — any aisle, take your pick — and you're inundated with choices. From shampoos to notebooks, there are dozens of options. To the everyday shopper, these products can all look the same, and making a decision can be difficult.

But what if purchasing a particular product meant you could make a positive difference in someone's life?

That's where social enterprise ME to WE comes in — taking cause marketing one step further by showing you the exact impact you're making with your everyday purchases.

They have pioneered Track Your Impact — a way for a purchase to provide a life-changing gift (called an "impact") — to a community where WE Villages' holistic, sustainable development program operates.

Every Track Your Impact product has a unique code on the back of the packaging that shows a

helps show consumers that even the smallest purchase decisions can have a large-scale social impact. Consumers not only contribute to the cause through their purchases, but also can track the impact to see how their actions contribute to the donation goal.

This is not simply one-to-one, where a purchase by someone in the West triggers the giving of a similar object in the developing world, whether shoes or backpacks.

ME to WE and WE Charity focus on the necessities such as education, water, health and food, instead of things. And the majority of the staff working to deliver these impacts are from the countries where WE works. WE also takes care of each impact from start to finish, instead of handing off delivery of the impact to other organizations.

So how does this look in practice? Take, for example, the shampoos. It's not just the promise of additional volume that makes

"Track Your Impact makes it easy for our customers to take part and help make a difference around the world with their everyday choices. Our partnership with ME to WE is proof that small actions, like making a simple purchase, can add up to a big difference."

— Alex Gourlay,
co-chief operating officer for
Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc.
and Co-Chair of WE Day Illinois

hear directly from people in the communities they're affecting, see how their impact fits into the bigger picture of community development and continue to follow their impact with

It takes a village to untie a knot

Chicago youth lend a hand to help unravel complex challenges

Our world faces enormous and complex challenges, from climate change to inequality. Addressing these challenges will require more than political solutions and technological fixes.

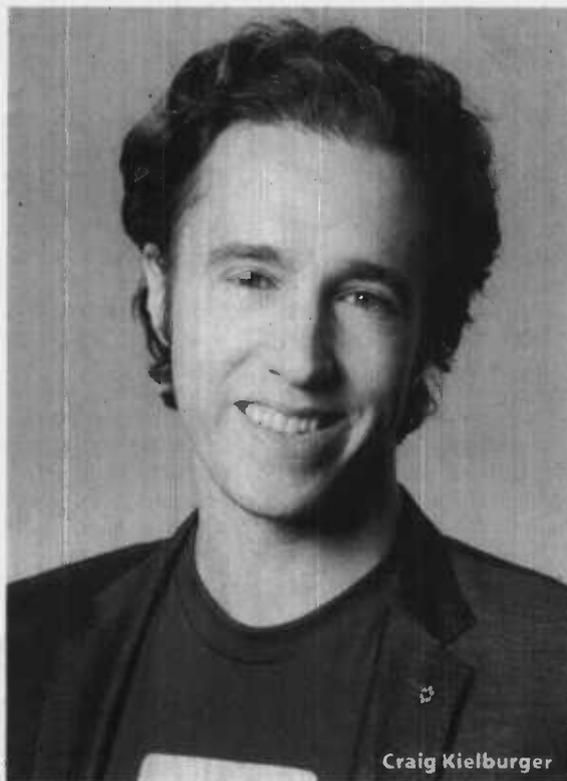
When WE set out to change the world 20 years ago, it quickly learned an important lesson: big problems aren't made up of a single thread. They are the product of many threads, twisted together.

Ending child labor didn't just mean rescuing kids from sweat shops and sending them back to school. Education was knotted up with such issues as poverty, hunger, access to clean water. To unravel the knot, we must pull all the threads. If we want children to get an education, we must empower their communities with economic opportunity, food, water, and health. But one organization doesn't necessarily have all the right tools to pull on every different thread.

Although Chicago faces very different challenges, that idea applies as much here as in a village in India. The threads are just as tightly interwoven, however, organizations largely pull at them individually and separately. Here a center supporting homeless youth, there a charity raising funds for college scholarships, next door is an organization trying to reduce violence through mentoring and internships.

All of this matters. But to unravel the knot, we are most effective when businesses, foundations, government and community groups pool their skills, knowledge and coordinate resources, such as after-school programs working with mental health services, working with zoo animal therapy programs, and so on.

That's why WE puts such a strong emphasis on partnership — not just among organizations



Craig Kielburger



Terry Mazany

that serve youth, but with youth themselves. WE brings together diverse groups of youth to tackle the city's and the world's challenges, incorporating service into schools and coursework. Through collaboration they learn to combine their skills and ideas to solve problems.

After just two years, 700 schools across the state of Illinois provide training and opportunities for over 100,000 students to work together on common causes. To cite just a few examples:

- Last fall, WE introduced the Common Ground Foundation and M.U.R.A.L. to the Kenyan Boys Choir and hosted a performance and discussion on the power of hip hop and the arts to be a mechanism for positive change.

- WE contributes its expertise in service learning to support the already incredible work of the Chicago Public Schools' After-School

WE brings together diverse groups of youth to tackle the city's and the world's challenges, incorporating service into schools and coursework.

All-Stars program.

- City Year Chicago joined WE to ensure youth who felt inspired to make a difference could receive training and mentoring on how to be a leader in their school.

At WE Day, all those causes come together in a hothouse of inspiration. Young Illinoisans make new connections and learn about emerging issues; and how those issues connect with the causes they are already passion-

ate about. Most importantly, they come to understand they are a part of something bigger — members of a movement that thinks and acts "WE."

With so many challenges, the stakes are high and time is short. Our youth will have to accomplish feats at a scale and speed that make achievements like the polio vaccine or putting a man on the moon look like trivial technical exercises.

This is why the WE movement is so important. Shifting our thinking from ME to WE means working together, caring together, and inspiring each other to unravel the knot of challenges and make a better Chicago, and a better world.

— By Craig Kielburger, co-founder WE; and Terry Mazany, president and CEO for The Chicago Community Trust

WE Day Illinois lineup

Some big names are coming to WE Day Illinois, aimed to inspire youth to make a difference locally and globally. Buzz Aldrin and Jordan Smith are among a star-studded cast of performers scheduled to take the stage at the WE Day celebration at Allstate Arena on March 1.

For the full list of performers and speakers, visit WE.org.



Buzz Aldrin

On July 20, 1969, Buzz and Neil Armstrong made their historic Apollo 11 moonwalk, becoming the first two humans to set foot on another world.



Jordan Smith

Republic Records artist and winner of "The Voice," season 9. Jordan now shares his message through his songs.

Since 2007, youth involved in WE Schools have achieved remarkable results



Nearly 658,000 youth earned their way to WE Day



27.6M hours volunteered for local and global causes



\$79M raised for more than 6,500 local and global organizations



9.8M pounds of food collected by youth for local food banks



3.4M Facebook supporters

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Track Your Impact connects products with purpose, page 2

- The Allstate Foundation challenges communities to give back, page 2

- Illinois students lead change in their communities with WE Schools, page 3

THE SOCIAL NETWORK MORE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE JOINING EVERY DAY



It's called volunteering.

To celebrate and support these young champions of good, The Allstate Foundation helped create WE Volunteer Now. This nationwide program gives young people the tools and resources they need to make a real difference in their communities. If you think young people are just stuck to their screens, think again.

Learn more at
we.org/wevolunteernow



Allstate
Foundation

where their impact — like school supplies, clean water, healthy food — is making a difference. It's a model made possible by ME to WE's partnership with WE Charity.

"We're proud to deliver each impact in WE Villages communities around the world, through our partner WE Charity," says Roxanne Joyal, ME to WE CEO. "It creates a genuine connection between consumers and the impact they're making. People are able to see exactly how and where their impact is being given, and how it fits into the bigger picture of sustainable change."

For retailers, Track Your Impact provides a unique opportunity to tie giving into shoppers' everyday actions. With current partnerships like shampoos made by Unilever, available exclusively at Walgreens,

popular. This past summer, purchases of select Caress, Suave, Axe, and TRESemmé shampoos provided clean water to families in Kenya, in a community that can be visited virtually through Track Your Impact.

"Track Your Impact makes it easy for our customers to take part and help make a difference around the world with their everyday choices," says Alex Gourlay, co-chief operating officer for Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc. and co-chair of WE Day Illinois. "Our partnership with ME to WE is proof that small actions, like making a simple purchase, can add up to a big difference."

The Track Your Impact platform gives consumers even more opportunity to connect to their impacts around the world. Through video and blog content, consumers can

"Track Your Impact is unique," says Jonathan Atwood, North American vice president of Sustainable Living and Corporate Communications for Unilever. "It's an exciting methodology — a very interesting way forward with the ability for consumers and shoppers to create a deeper connection to the product and campaign. It's also a consumer behavior change."

So when you're walking down the aisle, there's no need to feel overwhelmed by all the options or skeptical about the realities of cause marketing. You can leave the store confident that your purchase is making a difference. And, most importantly, you can track your impact so you know the products you've purchased are delivering on their promise to do good.

On March 1st, watch WE Day
Illinois at WE.org/watchWEDay



WEMOVEMENT



#WEDAY @WEDAYMOVEMENT



#WEDAY @WEDAYMOVEMENT



TOGETHER WE CHANGE THE WORLD

ME TO WE RAFIKIS. BRACELETS THAT CHANGE THE WORLD.

Amazonian artisans inspire new global youth volunteer fellowship

New DHL award gives youth a chance to volunteer in Ecuador

DHLExpress U.S. CEO Greg Hewitt listened as 64-year-old Elena Clarita Mamallacta Cerda told her story in a bustling artisans' hut a stone's throw from the Amazon's Napo River.

Surrounded by children playing and women braiding necklaces from leaf fibers, the community leader and grandmother told Hewitt how she had left behind her work as a farmer to become the oldest working member of the ME to WE Artisans program in Ecuador.

Even into her 60s, she had been doing strenuous work in the fields. With ME to WE, she earned money making bracelets and necklaces at home using seeds and fibers harvested from the rainforest. She spent her earnings on school supplies and books for her granddaughter and extra food for the household.

Hewitt was struck by Cerda's story. It was 2014, and he had already traveled to Kenya and seen how ME to WE was employing hundreds of artisans after only four years. In the Amazon, the program was just taking its first steps, and already it was changing women's lives.

For Hewitt, whose company is the official logistics partner of WE, the trip was an emotional one. He volunteered alongside community members to build a new health clinic and met artisans from women's circles in two communities. His company would later



In 2014, DHL Express U.S. CEO Greg Hewitt met Elena Clarita Mamallacta Cerda, a 64-year-old Ecuadorian artisan who had begun creating jewelry to support her granddaughter's education.

provide free shipping to bring their wares to the global market.

When he returned home, Hewitt knew he wanted young people in North America to have the chance to see the impact of WE's programs in Ecuador.

Two years later, DHL is launching the DHL Global Youth Volunteer Fellowship. Young service leaders can apply to have their volunteer efforts recognized with an award that includes a free ME to WE Youth Volunteer Trip. Five recipients will travel

to rural Ecuador to work alongside local families on a development project like a school, well or hospital.

DHL considers empowering and celebrating young volunteers an essential part of making a global impact.

"Social responsibility

today is about more than just writing a check," says Hewitt. "It's about using our expertise and reach as the world's largest logistics provider to help create a better world."

WE and DHL will also provide the five fellowship winners with mentorship

opportunities to use the inspiration from their service trip to take action on issues they're passionate about.

Applicants can apply at WE.org/dhl. The fellowship is available to U.S. citizens ages 12 to 18.

Illinois students lead change in their

WE DAY

IL

THANK YOU PARTNERS!

FOR HELPING EMPOWER, EDUCATE AND CELEBRATE YOUNG PEOPLE CHANGING THE WORLD

MADE POSSIBLE BY OUR INCREDIBLE TITLE SPONSOR



Allstate
Foundation

PRESENTING PARTNERS



THE CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST
AND AFFILIATES

FOUNDING SUPPORTERS

WILSON GARLING
FOUNDATION

JANET CROWN &
STEVE ROBINSON

FOUNDING FOUNDATION



CROWN FAMILY PHILANTHROPIES

PLATINUM PALS

DAVIDSTEAM



OFFICIAL HEALTHY
EATING PARTNER



GOLD COMPANIONS



ROBERT R.
MCCORMICK
FOUNDATION

EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL PARTNER



Educational Tours

PATRON FOUNDATIONS & SUPPORTERS

ZAID & MARIAM ALSIKAFI
THE BRINSON FOUNDATION
SEGAL FAMILY FOUNDATION
KEVIN & MARGIE STINEMAN

TONY & LAURA DAVIS
JIM GORDON, THE EDGEWATER FUNDS
ANDREW MCKENNA
BO CROWN

communities with WE Schools

WE Day is more than a one day event. Jam packed with inspiring speakers and jaw-dropping performances, it's the celebration of a year of actions. Working with 700 Illinois schools, reaching 150,000 students across the state, WE Schools is a free service learning program that provides curriculum resources to educate and inspire, and campaigns to help students create real change in their community and around the world. From holding read-a-thons fundraising for books, to tackling racism, bullying and mental health issues, students across Illinois are taking action on the causes they care most about. Here's some of what they've been up to.

Belding Elementary School

Students at Belding Elementary School are passionate about ending hunger. After learning about the issue in their WE Schools



Illinois schools participating in WE Schools include Belding Elementary School (left) and James Wadsworth STEM Elementary School (right).

class, they led an awareness campaign to educate their peers. Awareness transformed into action as they collected more than 1,225 items for their local food bank, Irving Park Food Pantry. From the local to the global, they volunteered at Feed My Staving Children, packing 126 cases of food — supplies that will feed 74 children more than 27,000 meals.

James Wadsworth STEM Elementary School

When the school broke ground on a new playground in November, stu-

dents at James Wadsworth STEM Elementary School noticed an unused plot of land. With nowhere in their community to get fresh produce, they suggested a school garden. They researched the project, lobbied the administration, wrote letters to the alderman, and found community members to help with the irrigation system. After setting up the garden, they went classroom to classroom, teaching younger students the science behind gardens, and speaking to health and cooking classes about the benefits of fruits and vegetables.

Become a **WE Family**

By joining the community receive free family resources to raise caring and compassionate children.

Learn more
at WE.org



WE DAY

Thank You!

to our generous Co-Chairs for their support in empowering young people from over 650 WE Schools across Illinois to change the world through service.

The movement continues at WE Day Illinois!



Thomas J. Wilson
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Allstate Corporation and Allstate Insurance Company
WE Day IL & Natl Co-Chair



Alex Gourlay
Co-Chief Operating Officer, Walgreens Boots Alliance
WE Day IL Co-Chair



Arne Duncan
Managing Partner, Emerson Collective and former U.S. Secretary of Education
WE Day IL Co-Chair



Daisy Garcia
Senior at DeVry Advantage Academy and a member of the WE Youth Council
WE Day IL Youth Co-Chair



Griffen Saul
Senior at Lincoln Park High School and Founder of We Are Able
WE Day IL Youth Co-Chair

WE.org

WITH THANKS TO

PACSUN

NORDSTROM

THANK YOU!

TO OUR IN-KIND SUPPORTERS FOR ALL THAT YOU GIVE,
TO OUR PROGRAM PARTNERS FOR ENRICHING OUR CONTENT,
AND TO OUR MEDIA PARTNERS FOR SPREADING THE WORD.

SPORTS PARTNERS



EDUCATIONAL CONTENT & PROGRAM STUDY BUDDIES



HOTEL HOSTS



OFFICIAL LOGISTICS PARTNER



OOH MEDIA PARTNER



REGIONAL NEWS PARTNER



NATIONAL MAGAZINE PARTNER



REGIONAL TELEVISION PARTNER



RADIO SENSATIONS



WE.org

WE

Between the Covers

BY DEREK BOWMAN

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE-NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

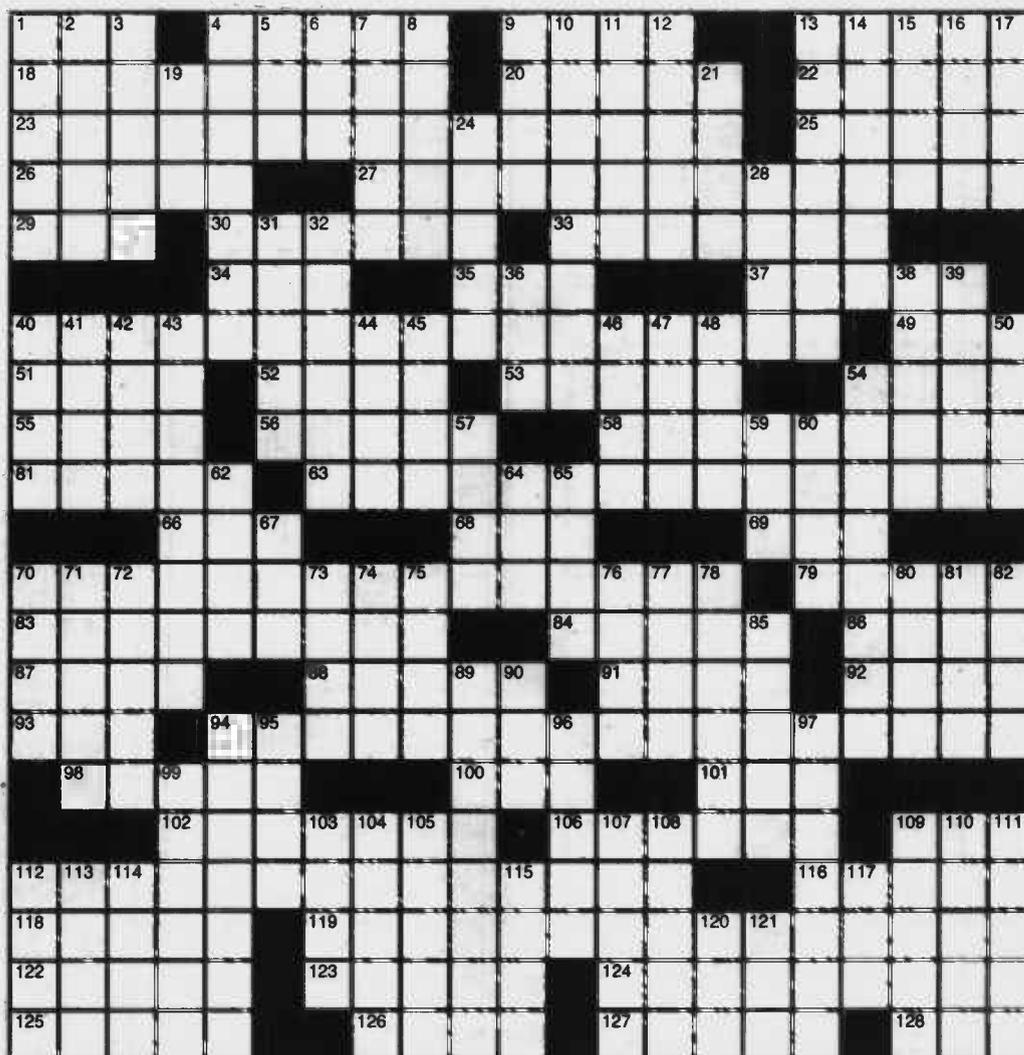
- 1 Mouth Healthy org.
4 Lineal beginner
9 Gibbons, e.g.
13 — palm
18 Long and drawn-out, say
20 Meredith Grey's half sister on "Grey's Anatomy"
22 14th-century Russian ruler
23 Some pool English?
25 "Save Me the Waltz" writer Fitzgerald
26 Vote in
27 Ballet phenom?
29 "The Fountainhead" author Rand
30 More agile
33 Two by two
34 Shoebox letters
35 Chess pieces
37 Holds (up)
40 Regular stockings, as opposed to fishnets?
49 Old DJs' assortment
51 Same, for starters
52 Military wear, for short
53 Courted
54 Logan of "60 Minutes"
55 One in a rib cage
56 Sends out
58 Shone
61 "Fuller House" actor
63 8 or 9, e.g.
66 Word for a lady
68 PC file extension
69 "Wish Tree" artist
70 Snowfall during the Olympics?
79 "It's the Hard-Knock Life" soloist
83 Vulcans, for one
84 Biker's invite
86 Skip it
87 Gentle
88 Territories of a sort
91 Writer — Neale Hurston
92 Samarra's land
93 Use (up)
94 Doghouses and scratching posts?
98 White choice, familiarly
100 Deli option
101 Texting qualifier
102 Nickname in satirical music

- 106 Transferred to computer memory
109 — tai
112 Goal for a teacher's pet?
116 DVD player-option
118 Paragon
119 Subscription deal promos ... and a hint to this puzzle's seven other longest answers
122 Punk, e.g.
123 Bologna bride
124 Cry from Poirot
125 Jane Austen specialty
126 Cabinet dept. with an atom on its seal
127 Cabinet dept. first led by Hamilton
128 Op—

Down

- 1 Hopelessly lost
2 Tatted covering
3 Eve who played the principal in "Grease" films
4 Exuberant review term
5 Dadaist Jean
6 Paris pronoun
7 Show for quick feedback
8 Val d'— French ski resort
9 Two before Charlie
10 Sneak a look at
11 Former pen pal?
12 Exercise done from a supine position
13 Unusually strange
14 Yet
15 Powder source
16 Köln closing
17 Defense attorney's challenge
19 Gumshoe
21 "Como —?"
24 Eponymous physicist
28 Potluck fare
31 What "p" may stand for
32 Completely make over
36 "TMI!"
38 Hatched backup
39 Jag
40 Comes together
41 Cyan relative
42 Tolled
43 Took in
44 "The Kite Runner" boy
45 Unleavened Indian flatbread
46 Hindu mystic

- 47 Place of control
48 Jon Arbuckle's dog
50 — City: Baghdad suburb
54 Tangy treat
57 Pirate shipmate of Starkey
59 — Cat
60 Sushi offering
62 At that point
64 "All My — Live in Texas": George Strait hit
65 Support pro
67 Blunder
70 Waterskiing hurdle
71 Hipbone-related
72 Closers often open it
73 Post-WWII commerce agreement
74 "... o' kindness ...": Burns
75 Only
76 Exude
77 Each
78 Like some love affairs
80 DEA agent
81 Attends
82 Law office abbreviations
85 Supermodel Campbell
89 Empty storefront sign
90 Secret agent
94 "Are You Lonesome Tonight?" singer
95 Blue-pencil
96 "Vive —!"
97 Generic trendsetters
99 "Oh, shucks"
103 Super Bowl XXXIV champions
104 Hang
105 Incandescent bulb gas
107 Young partner
108 "Be — ..."
109 Haggard of country
110 Didn't procrastinate
111 Chorused "Who's there?" response
112 1958 winner of nine Oscars
113 Polish-German border river
114 Fallon's predecessor
115 Kingpin
117 Bush in Florida
120 Curling surface
121 Second Amendment org.

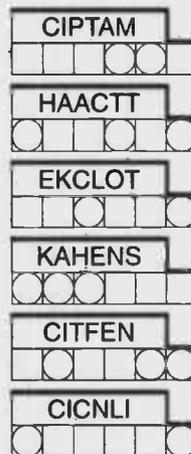


Last week's answers appear on the next page

© 2017 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Jumble

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



PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW



This week's answers appear on the next page

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2017 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

Sudoku

2/19

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

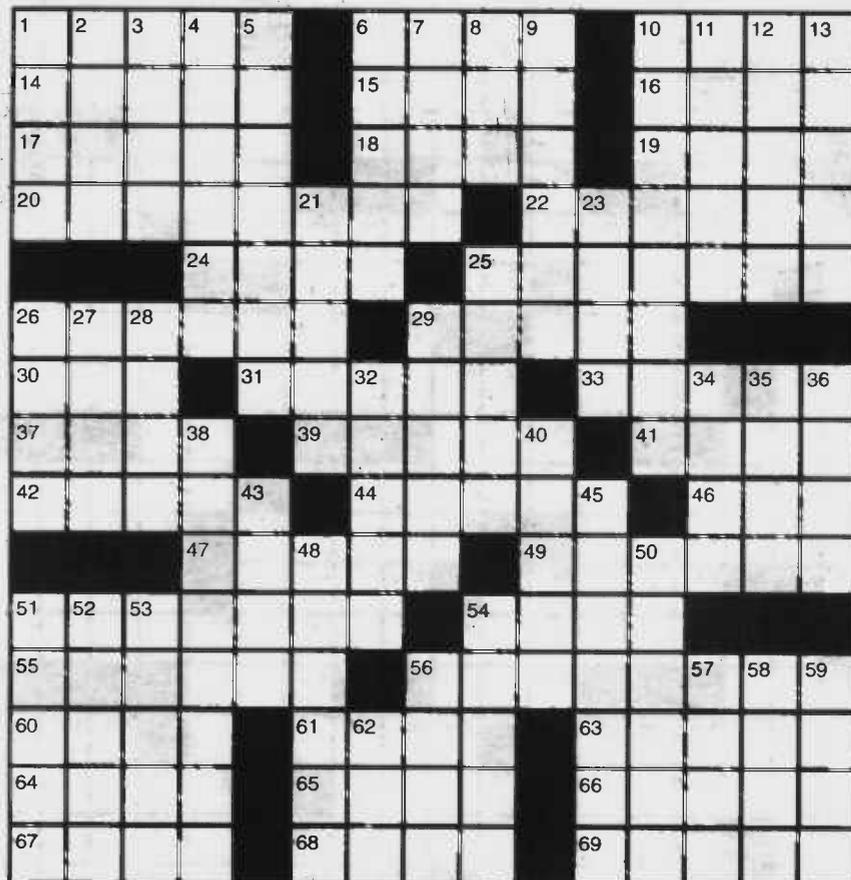
Level: **1 2 3 4**



Last week's answers appear on the next page

By The Mephram Group © 2017. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

Crossword



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

2/22/17

ACROSS

- 1 Takes a nap
6 Slightly open
10 Jacuzzi
14 Win by __; eke out a victory
15 Actor Wilder
16 Movement of the waves
17 Tango or twist
18 Ruby & scarlet
19 __ against; criticize harshly
20 More cunning
22 __ No. 5; classic perfume
24 Forest tree
25 Devastating
26 Go higher
29 Actress Sally
30 Scrooge's word
31 __ up; quits
33 Hose problems
37 USC or BYU
39 Went public with
41 Sand mound
42 Lukewarm
44 Xenon & argon
46 Barbie's beau
47 Burnett or Channing
49 Prejudiced
51 Overindulgent parent, often
54 Canisters

DOWN

- 1 Fathers
2 __ even keel
3 TV's "The Twilight __"
4 Get away
5 Looking for
6 Concur
7 Yell derisively
8 Salt __ pepper
9 Save from peril
10 Deserted
11 Liberate's instrument
12 French farewell
13 __ out; betrays
21 Neighbor of Pakistan

Solutions



- 23 Over-the-__; no longer young
25 Gets up
26 Border on
27 Of sound mind
28 Chocolate __ cookies
29 Wild
32 Energy
34 Diving birds
35 Leg joint
36 " __ in the Clowns"
38 Neighborhood
40 Left-hand ledger entry

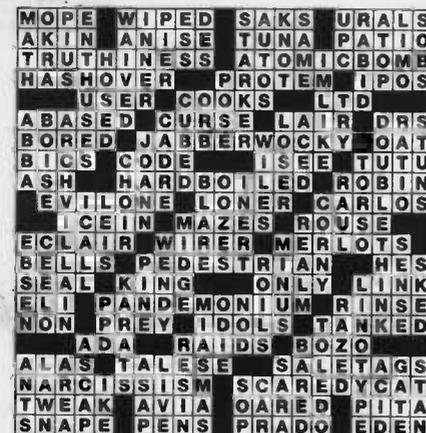
- 43 Valley
45 Nasal cavity passages
48 Baggage porter
50 On an incline
51 Ending for land or sea
52 Window pieces
53 Ready to be poured
54 Crates
56 Baseball's Ruth
57 Bump __; meet
58 Ladder rung
59 "Red planet"
62 Wide sash



puzzle island solutions

Last week's crosswords

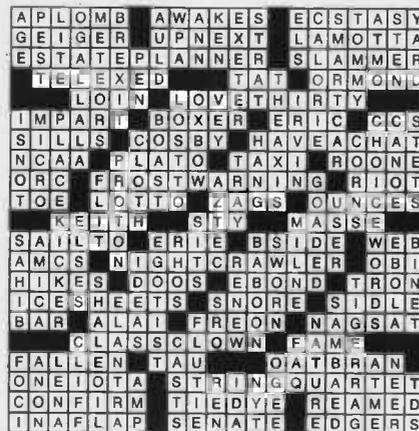
"COIN COLLECTION"



"Language Lesson"



"First Things First"



Last week's Quote-Acrossic

J(eanne): NAKAMURA: GOOD MENTORING: Good mentoring is not just about advancing a protege's career. Good mentoring also involves passing on the practice of good work, including the capacity to be a good mentor when one's own turn comes.

Last week's Sudoku

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

This week's Jumble

IMPACT LOCKET INFECT
ATTACH SHAKEN CLINIC

The fishermen didn't have fishing poles and they lacked proper bait, so it was —

CATCH-AS-CATCH-CAN

chicago
tribune.com
/games

Interactive puzzles and games

Will an exercise a day keep the divorce away?

"We used to be best friends."

"We don't really talk anymore."

"We've had sex three times in six years."

"We argue all the time."

These are some of the most common complaints that couples therapist

Anita Chlipala hears from clients. These and other grievances of unhappy couples are what led the Chicago-based licensed marital and family therapist to write her newly released relationship self-help book, "First Comes Us: The Busy Couple's Guide To Lasting Love."

"I was tired of seeing couples going through unnecessary divorces and break-ups; couples who didn't have deal breaker problems, but who had gotten to a place where they felt disconnected," said Chlipala, who has been in practice for over a decade. "A simplified explanation of divorce is money or lack of sex or cheating, but that misses the bigger picture, which is that somewhere along the line the couple lost their connection. This book is meant to help fix or prevent that disconnection."

According to Chlipala, the main reasons couples can become disconnected are because they don't spend enough quality time together and/or they fail to prioritize the relationship.

"When you first start dating, there is this whole world of things to talk about and discover about each other," she said. "After familiarity sets in and time goes by and the couple might have children, the focus becomes on day-to-day conversation and logistics and schedules, and the couple might forget about the importance of connecting on a deeper level. If the couple doesn't make spending quality time together a priority, that's when the negativity comes in, perhaps the lack of sex and an increase in arguments."

Chlipala said "First Comes Us" is not meant to be a quick fix for relationship problems or a substitute for couples therapy, but rather a tool to help couples get into the habit of connecting every single day, even if it's only for a few minutes.

Focusing on the relationship areas of friendship, positivity, conflict resolution, love, emotional management, fidelity, novelty and self, the book consists of 365 exercises. Couples are encouraged to do one exercise together each day for a year. The exercises are designed to spark conversation, expose vulnerability and ignite or reignite passion and closeness.



JACKIE PILOSSOPH
Love Essentially

"I looked at other books on the market and there are a lot out there for married, Christian, heterosexual couples but that's not the only clientele I serve."

Chlipala said. "How about couples who are dating, living together or same-sex couples? Other books

require a lot more time than my book. My book is about taking action and doing things to foster healing and connecting."

"First Comes Us," in my opinion, is a great book not just for couples who might be in trouble, but for new parents, those in a relationship after divorce or even young, newly engaged couples.

Said Chlipala: "I'm not just offering super positive, cheesy tips. That's not enough." Some of the exercises will make you uncomfortable, with discussions coming up about infidelity and preventing affairs. My book is about practical, realistic conversations and actions that couples can take to maintain a healthy, happy relationship."

A sneak peak at some of the exercises in "First Comes Us:"

■ Day 16: Cheating can happen in 3 ways: emotionally, sexually and a combination of the two. People often assume monogamy without clearly defining what it is. What do you both consider to be cheating? Discuss concrete examples.

■ Day 19: Contempt is a predictor of divorce. Forms of contempt include: rolling your eyes, name-calling, hostile humor, mockery and sarcasm. Pay attention to when you use these behaviors toward your partner and eliminate them.

■ Day 61: A key ingredient to a happy sex life is the ability to talk about sex. Without becoming reactive (watch so you don't take things personally,) what does sex mean to you? How important is it? When do you feel the most connected to each other? What can make your sex life better?

■ Day 157: How does your partner try to get your attention? Do you think you are giving them the attention they desire? What do they say? If there is a discrepancy, identify 1 to 2 ways you can give your partner the attention they want.

■ Day 177: Schedule sex this week. Do what you need to do to get yourself in the mood by this day.

■ Day 255: Find 5 things that your partner said/did in the last 24 hours that you enjoyed and appreciated. Tell them.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.

MARK AND MICAH

MARK SUPPELSA

MICAH MATERRE

WEEKNIGHTS

CHICAGO'S VERY OWN

WGN⁹NEWS

HEALTH

ASK THE DOCTORS

No known link between vitamin D and cancer or Alzheimer's

By Dr. Robert Ashley
Ask the doctors

Dear Doctor: I had my thyroid removed because of papillary cancer, and my surgeon has advised me to take high levels of vitamin D. He says there may be a correlation between low vitamin D levels and the development of cancer and Alzheimer's disease. If I remember correctly, the normal blood range for vitamin D is between 30 and 60 nanograms per milliliter. I take 8,000 units a day, which keeps my blood level near 60 ng/ml. What's the evidence for higher levels of vitamin D?

Dear Reader: You and I share the same past cancer diagnosis — and the same search for answers. When I was 26, I also was diagnosed with papillary thyroid cancer. At the time, I racked my brain for why I developed this cancer. I was healthy, had a good diet and exercised regularly. I also was outdoors a lot, so my vitamin D levels were good.

As with so many cancer diagnoses, I ultimately couldn't find any factor that would have increased my risk. True, there is a definite link between papillary thyroid cancer and radiation exposure, which can come from radiation fallout because of nuclear accidents, as well as excessive X-ray radiation to the neck and oral area.

I haven't stopped looking for connections, however, between a diagnosis of disease, risk factors and possible preventive measures.

That brings us to your current question. The normal blood level for vitamin D is between 20 and 50 ng/ml. This level is recommended by the In-

stitute of Medicine, which conducted a review of studies on the topic. Some organizations, such as the National Osteoporosis Foundation, recommend 30 to 50 ng/ml as the normal range. But both of these recommendations are about good bone health, not the prevention of cancer and Alzheimer's disease.

The World Health Organization looked at multiple retrospective studies evaluating a potential connection between vitamin D levels and colon cancer. They did find a link between low vitamin D levels and colon cancer, specifically that people with blood levels of 20 ng/ml or less had significantly higher colon cancer rates.

However, retrospective studies look at disease after the disease has happened, and it can be difficult to make a solid correlation that way. A prospective study assessing vitamin D concentrations before the diagnosis of colon cancer did not find any evidence that vitamin D levels had any relation to colon cancer.

Studies focused on prostate cancer have shown both benefit and increased risk among people with higher levels of vitamin D. With regard to breast cancer after menopause, an analysis of nine prospective studies showed a decrease in breast cancer rates among women with higher levels of vitamin D, but this decrease was not seen in women whose levels were above 35 ng/ml.

In summation, there may be slight benefit to minimal supplementation in women after menopause to get their levels to 35 ng/ml to decrease the incidence of breast cancer. But in men, the benefit of

reduced cancer risk has not been shown.

In relation to cognitive decline, a study published in the journal *Neurology* in 2012 showed a slight increase in Alzheimer's disease in people whose vitamin D levels were lower than 20 ng/ml. The authors concluded that more studies are needed to evaluate the potential connection.

Let's say that there is a benefit to vitamin D supplementation in lowering the risk of cancer and Alzheimer's disease. To reach a level of 20 ng/ml, you probably would not need to take more than 400 units of vitamin D a day. For a postmenopausal woman to reach the benefit needed for a possible reduction in the risk of breast cancer, she probably would not need to supplement with any more than 800 units a day.

In light of the evidence, 8,000 units of vitamin D daily seems too high. The blood serum level of 60 ng/ml also may be too high. Although the topic needs to be studied more, higher amounts of vitamin D could potentially lead to greater bone turnover and possibly weaker bones.

Ask your doctor if you can reduce the amount of vitamin D that you are taking.

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

Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o Media Relations, UCLA Health, 924 Westwood Blvd., Suite 350, Los Angeles, CA, 90095. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

Deep breathing may help lower your blood pressure

By Joe Graedon
and Teresa Graedon
King Features Syndicate

Q: I'm a 41-year-old woman with hypertension. I watch my salt intake, but stress sometimes gets the better of me.

When I saw my doctor recently, he found my blood pressure was 160/98. That is high enough to require medication. He started me on metoprolol, but in two weeks I was a sobbing, tearful mess with despair and depression.

I was switched to lisinopril, but now I feel tired and dizzy. The prospect of changing to yet another blood-pressure drug is daunting.

Are there any natural alternatives to address high blood pressure?

I've always been hyper-reactive to medicines, so I'd really appreciate learning some natural ways that may help me.

A: Relieving stress through deep breathing, meditation or exercise may help.

A home blood-pressure monitor may be useful in tracking which tactics work best for you.

A diet rich in vegetables, fruits and low-fat dairy lowers blood pressure. You also might want to consume foods such as beet juice, dark chocolate and pomegranate juice.

You will find details on these recommendations in our "Guide to Blood Pressure Treatment." Anyone who would like a copy, please send \$3 in check or money order with a long (No. 10), stamped (70 cents), self-addressed envelope to: Graedons' People's Pharmacy, No. DJL-24, P.O. Box 52027, Durham, NC 27717-2027. It



BRIAN VAN DER BRUG/LOS ANGELES TIMES

also can be downloaded for \$2 from our website: www.peoplespharmacy.com.

Q: I have been sleeping with soap under my bottom sheet for years and have had no leg cramps since I began doing so.

I also suffered for years from a terrifying condition known as laryngospasm, during which the vocal cords suddenly seize up and close when taking in a breath, blocking the flow of air. Although the spasm only lasts for a minute or two, the time seems to move so slowly that death feels imminent. Once during an episode of laryngospasm, I rubbed soap onto the base of my throat. I hoped it would end the spasm, and it did. The laryngospasm eased within two seconds after I rubbed soap directly onto my neck.

Ever since then, I've worn a silver chain around my neck with a net pouch containing a small piece of soap. Because I made the pouch with pretty netting, I get compliments on my necklace. I always explain what it is and why I take it off only when I shower or go swimming.

A: Thank you for sharing your amazing story. For years, people have laughed about soap for leg-cramp prevention. Your story suggests that there is something in soap that actually can stop muscle spasms quickly.

Q: I was very congested with a nasty cold. The cough was so bad that I thought I had bronchitis.

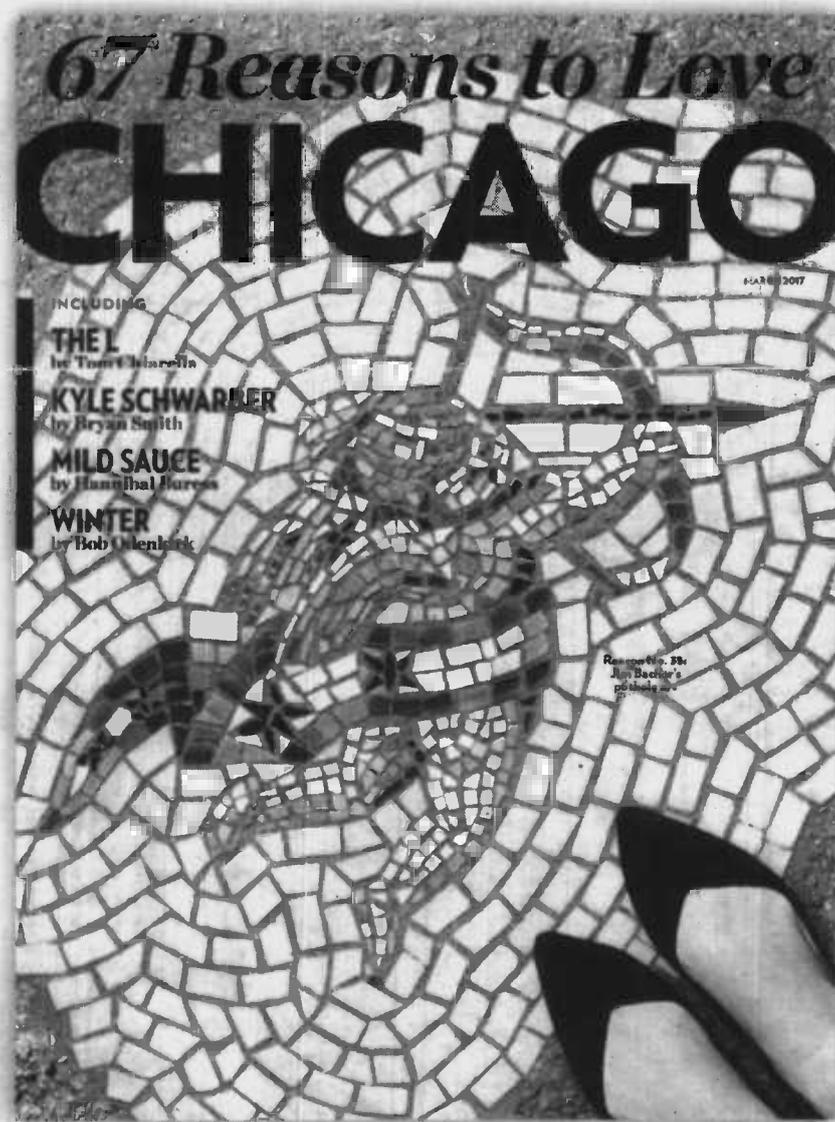
I tried over-the-counter cough medicines, but nothing worked. At the end of the week, my son gave me a cup of hot water with cayenne pepper in it at bedtime.

The next morning when I woke, I was not at all congested. My cough was gone.

A: Inhaled capsaicin, the hot stuff in cayenne and other hot peppers, triggers the cough reflex. So how did a cayenne infusion soothe your cough?

Scientists found that people who took capsaicin powder orally had reduced cough symptoms (*Respiratory Medicine*, January 2015). We appreciate you sharing your remedy.

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



ON NEWSSTANDS NOW

We're tired of our city getting knocked around. So we decided to punch back with 67 heartfelt and humorous contributions by our best writers, artists, poets, scholars, and entertainers.

Subscribe at 800-999-0879 or chicagomag.com/access

Stop complaining

By Danielle Braff
Chicago Tribune

Kelley Pulkrabek loves to vent. She'll complain about everything from the political climate to the broccoli selection at the supermarket.

The problem: Pulkrabek's husband can't stand it.

"I would say it's the biggest source of our arguing, which is frustrating because, when I do it, I'm already frustrated — but then he gets angry, so I get more frustrated," said the Illinois woman. "He gets upset, and he wants to be able to fix it."

But sometimes, she just wants to have a good vent. The problem has escalated so much that they've gone to couples counseling to try to work out their communication styles, Pulkrabek said.

A 2016 study by Stanford researchers found that complaining shrinks your hippocampus, which is the part of your brain critical to problem solving. It's also one of the central areas in your brain that Alzheimer's destroys. Complaining also releases cortisol, the stress hormone, which raises your blood pressure and blood sugar. Frequent complaining can lead to heart disease and diabetes.

But the more immediate effect is complaining's ability to erode a healthy relationship, said Gwendolyn Seidman, associate professor of psychology at Albright College in Reading, Penn.

"Complaining can be annoying to the person who is listening to the complaints, especially when the complainer seems unwilling to do anything to resolve the issues about which they're complaining, and rejects help and advice about how to solve the problem," Seidman said.

And even when people think they're generally positive, complaining can make them appear to be otherwise.

Research has shown that negative events psychologically outweigh positive events, Seidman said. "For example, losing \$20 affects us more than gaining \$20,

Stanford study shows airing gripes shrinks hippocampus. Experts offer tips to resolve issues more productively



KRISTEN NORMAN/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Naomi Levine used to complain about everything from work to parenting to cleaning. But she stopped after her son, Mikey, asked her to.

even though the two events are equivalent in weight," she said. "Research on how couples discuss conflicts shows that for every one expression of negativity — contempt, criticism — you need five positive expressions to outweigh it."

That's because negativity of any sort reduces your energy level and is depleting, said Susan Heitler, a Denver-based psychologist and the author of "The Power of Two."

Try saying, "I don't like candy," followed by "I love bread," Heitler suggested.

"Some people can feel the difference right away," she said. "Any sentence with the words 'no,' 'not' or 'but' conveys negative energy and is depleting."

Complaining is also contagious. If one partner tends to complain more than the other,

there is a significant risk that he will bring the other person down with him, Heitler said.

"It's just like how enthusiasm is contagious," she said. "Emotions are contagious."

But if your partner is constantly complaining while you're responding by giving her the positive outlook on the situation, then you're also going to have a conflict. She simply won't feel supported, and neither of you will feel heard.

Heitler said the better response to a complainer would be: "Yes, and at the same time ..."

For example, if your partner is complaining that your son is lazy and plays video games all day, you could respond by saying, "Yes, and at the same time, when it's cold, it's pretty hard for him to go outside."

Still, there's no need to refrain

from complaining altogether.

Adam Smithey, a licensed marriage and family therapist in Greenwood, Ind., said complaining to your partner can be a constructive, healing and reparative act that can foster a deeper connection within the relationship.

When you get home from work and need to vent about your boss, it's healthy to know that you can turn to your partner. Or when you both can vent about politics, it's refreshing.

"In terms of trust within a relationship, little is more important than knowing that your partner is there for you," Smithey said. "However, if the pattern of complaining becomes exhausting, and the listening partner is unable to stay tuned, the complaining partner often cites 'not feeling supported, listened to,' or the dreaded 'You don't care about

me.'"

When the conversation tips in this direction, complaining becomes more harmful than helpful, he said.

It's not just romantic partners who are feeling the heat of the grumbles.

Naomi Levine, owner of City Epicurean Events in Illinois, used to complain about everything from business to parenting to cleaning. But two years ago, her 8-year-old son had a complaint of his own: He desperately wanted his mother to stop her constant venting.

So she stopped.

"It helped my relationship," Levine said. "I focus on being more cheery and happy and positive without being fake — and he sees me as an inspiration."

Finding a solution to your real issues is key, said Will Bowen, author of "A Complaint Free World."

So if your problem is that your boss is late for every meeting — but demands that you show up on time — you should try to solve the problem rather than complain about it. You can take some work to do while you wait, for example, Bowen said.

"We need to speak directly and only to the person who can resolve the issue, and to do so with sweetness and tact," he said.

People, on average, complain 15 to 30 times a day but don't even notice that they're doing this, Bowen said, and don't reach a resolution because they're venting to a partner or a friend most of the time. So in 2006, he started handing out bracelets as part of a complaint mindfulness exercise. Every time someone complains, the person is supposed to move the bracelet from one wrist to the other to build awareness.

To date, he's distributed more than 11 million bracelets in more than 180 countries.

Bowen is tackling one complainer at a time, and you won't hear any complaints about it from him.

Danielle Braff is a freelancer.



VHT STUDIOS PHOTOS

American-style home in Wilmette: \$1.065M

ADDRESS: 734 9th Street in Wilmette

ASKING PRICE: \$1,065,000

Listed on Feb. 13, 2017

Features include an updated eat-in kitchen with quartz countertops, family room with beamed ceilings, formal living and dining rooms and a formal sitting room with fireplace. The master spa bath has Carrera marble flooring, an oversized glass-enclosed shower and double vanities with quartz countertops. There are three additional bedrooms on the second floor and a third-floor bedroom with high ceilings. The lower level includes a large recreation room, storage and laundry room. The fenced-in rear yard features landscaping, a deck with built-in seating and a gazebo.

Agent: Frank Capitanini of Coldwell Banker's SFC Team, 847-652-2312

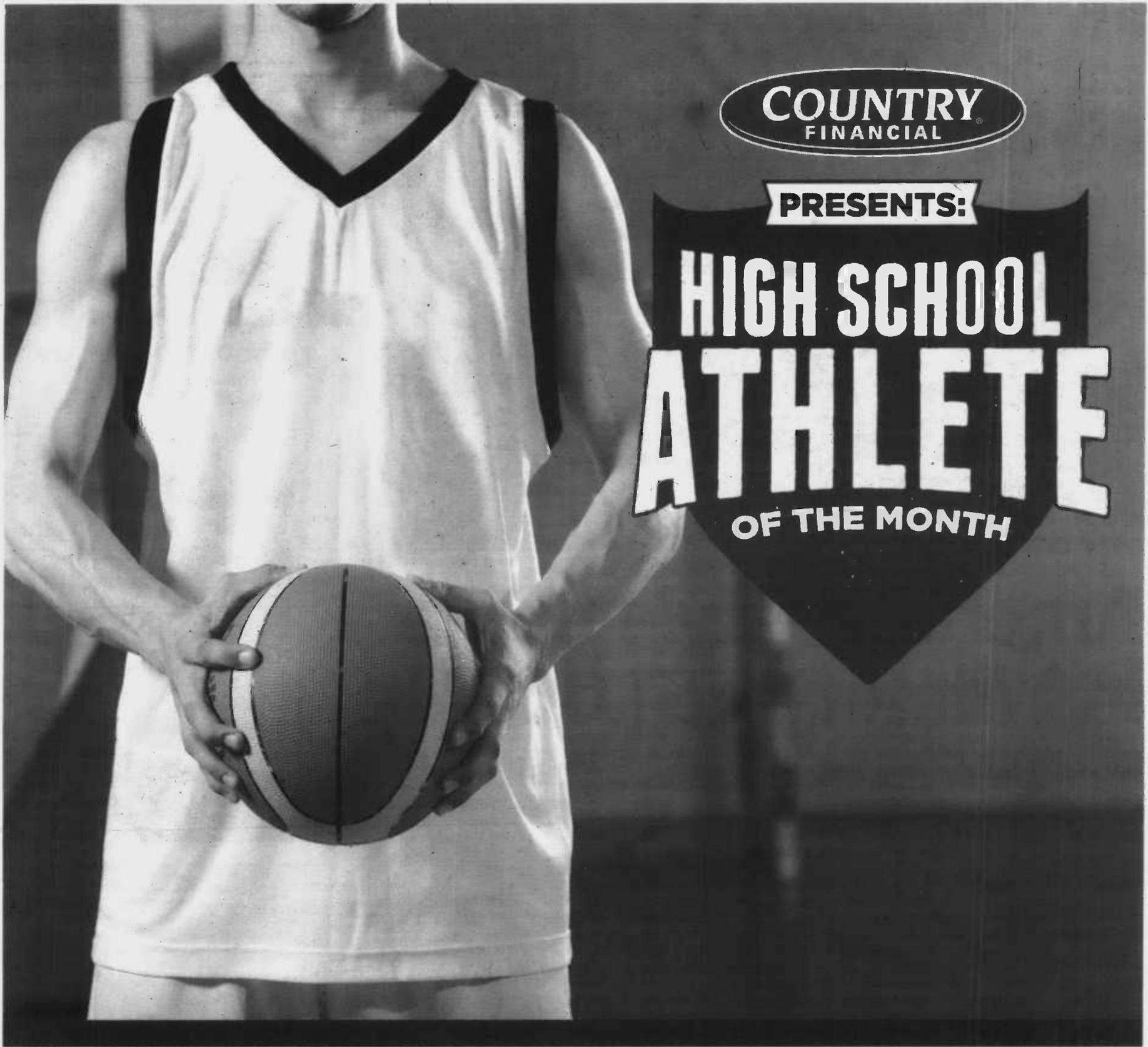
To feature your luxury listing of \$800,000 or more in Chicago Tribune's Dream Homes, send listing information and high-res photos to ctc-realestate@chicagotribune.com.

At press time, this was still for sale.



chicagotribune.com/homes

Visit us online for exclusive Home of the Day photo galleries, plus views of other featured homes and real estate stories.



COUNTRY
FINANCIAL

PRESENTS:

**HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETE
OF THE MONTH**

Vote at

CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM/ATHLETES

MOVIES

One Earth Festival digs into environmental issues

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Pioneer Press

One Earth, the Chicago area's homegrown environmentalist film festival, is back for its sixth incarnation, bigger and presumably greener than ever.

The all-volunteer fest, running March 3-12, will present 30 films (all of them documentaries) in 47 screenings in categories including conservation, climate change, health and environment, waste and recycling and social justice. Screenings and post-screening discussions will be held at 39 venues in Chicago and the suburbs. Venues include Old St. Patrick's Church, Haymarket Pub and Brewery, the Adler Planetarium, Peggy Notebaert Museum, the Garfield Park Conservatory, the Museum of Science and Industry and the Chicago Cultural Center, all in Chicago; Triton College in River Grove; Dominican University, Good Earth Greenhouse and Thatcher Woods Pavilion, all in River Forest; St. Giles Catholic Church, Lake Street Theater and the Oak Park Public Library in Oak Park; Elmhurst College; the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn; Northwestern University; and the Wilmette Theatre.

"Films have such an emotional impact," said Tari Delisi, an organizer for the Oak Park/River Forest area where the fest began in 2012, as an offshoot of the Green Community Connections grass roots environmentalist organization. "Films as a vehicle provide the opportunity to tell environmental stories in a way that educates people, touches them emotionally and inspires them to take action. The idea is to inspire to make positive changes to care for the planet."



ONE EARTH FILM FESTIVAL

"In *Growing Cities*," the filmmakers take a road trip to meet the men and women who are challenging the way this country grows and distributes its food, one vacant city lot, rooftop garden and backyard chicken coop at a time.

One Earth Film Festival

When: March 3-12

Where: numerous venues in Chicago and the suburbs

Admission: Free for most screenings (except movie theaters) with a recommended donation of \$6.

Information: www.oneearthfilmfest.org

Delisi has become inspired in recent years to raise chickens and keep bees, among other measures she's adopted after watching more than her share of environmentally themed films. She was an audience member when the festival debuted, but by the second year she had begun serving on the film selection committee. This past year, she was part of the team that winnowed down more than 300 entries including films that had been screened at Sundance and other top festivals, to the 30 that made the final cut.

Delisi's favorite festival film this year is Oscar-nominated director Josh Fox's "How to Let Go of the World and Love All the Things Climate Can't Change."

"It helps us understand how we can use moral imagination to take moral action as a means of solving problems involving wind energy, solar energy, wave

energy and permaculture," she said.

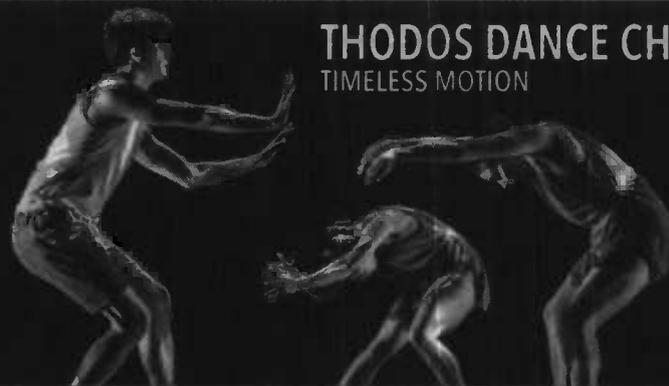
The fact that you'll have the opportunity to learn about all those strategies in greater detail after the screening is one of the attributes that makes One Earth stand apart from other regional festivals of this type.

"Our festival's No. 1 distinction is that we always offer a program with the film, one that provides concrete, tangible actions audience members can take here and now to make a difference," Delisi said.

Apparently, that's a strategy that appeals to an ever-growing audience. Five hundred people showed up for the first One Earth fest in 2012 while 3,460 people attended last year.

"I think people find it appealing that they can be informed about these crucial issues at the festival and then learn ways they can participate and take practical action," Delisi said.

THODOS DANCE CHICAGO
TIMELESS MOTION



FEB 25 Don't Miss this Final Full-Company Thodos Performance Featuring Two World Premiere Pieces!

JELLY & GEORGE

Aaron Diehl with
Cécile McLorin Salvant



CELEBRATING THE MUSIC OF JELLY ROLL MORTON & GEORGE GERSHWIN

MAR 03 Timeless Classics Are Elevated by These Modern Masters!

ODD SQUAD - LIVE!



MAR 04 The Emmy Award-winning PBS Kids Series Comes Alive on Stage!



MAZ JOBRANI

MAR 11 A Night of Stand-up Comedy with the Iranian-American Comedian, Actor & Writer!

NORTHSHORECENTER.ORG

847.673.6300



Helping you prepare for



TODAY

&



TOMORROW

Sign up for Chicago Tribune's newsletters to stay informed on news, business, entertainment, food and dining, sports and more.

Chicago Tribune

chicagotribune.com/newsletters

NORTHLIGHT
THEATRE

"SMART AND UNRELENTING."

— *Splash Magazine*

"FILLINGER IS A WHOPPING TALENT."

— *Chicago Tribune*

"YOU WILL BE TALKING ABOUT THIS SHOW LONG AFTER YOU LEAVE THE THEATRE"

— *Performink*

"THIS BLISTERING WORLD PREMIERE BOASTS AN A-LIST CAST"

— *Daily Herald*

• • •
FÄCELESS

by **SELINA FILLINGER** • • •

directed by **BJ JONES**



NOW PLAYING TO MARCH 4

northlight.org | 847.673.6300

9501 Skokie Boulevard | Free Parking



AMERICAN EAGLE PRODUCTIONS

American Eagle Productions presents "Charlotte's Web" at the Morton Grove Public Library, 2-3 p.m. Feb. 25.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

'Charlotte's Web' on stage at the Morton Grove Library

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

A pig and a spider weave a wonderful friendship in "Charlotte's Web." American Eagle Productions will bring its musical adaptation of the beloved book by E.B. White to Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave. 2-3 p.m. Feb. 25. The Children's Literature Association named the source book, "The best American children's book of the past two hundred years," according to the theater company's website.

The tender tale tells how Charlotte saves the life of her porcine friend Wilbur by weaving messages into her web praising the pig, who got off to a rough start in life because he was the runt of the litter.

"What we really present is adult theater for children. That makes it an overall family event," said producer Linda Madonia. "The message of 'Charlotte's Web' is that this 60-year-old classic American novel has the meaning of friendship. That appeals to any age." American Eagle has

been producing shows for 24 years.

For details, call 847-965-4220 or go to www.mgpl.org.

You'll love this, yea, yea, yea

Your family can see a free preview of an exciting upcoming dance show when FAB 2.0!, Evanston Dance Ensemble Dances the Beatles, comes to the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., 3 p.m. Feb. 26. A variety of dance styles will be performed in this all new show.

For details, call 847-673-7774 or go to www.skokie-library.info.

What's up, Doc?

Join the Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss celebration with Megan Wells, 10:30-11:30 a.m. March 4 at the Book Market at Hangar One, 2651 Navy Blvd., Glen Town Center, Glenview. There will be stories, crafts and other fun activities with the always enchanting Wells. Register early for this Flight-to-Fun Kids Club

event for kids ages 2-6 and their families.

For details, call 847-729-7500 or go to www.theglentowncenter.com.

Party on!

The popular children's author will also be saluted at a Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss Storytime, 11 a.m. Feb. 25 at Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. Kids will hear, "The Cat in the Hat" and "What Pet Should I Get?," color and participate in activities.

For details, call 847-676-2230 or go to www.barnesandnoble.com.

Presidential pick

A Big Friendly Giant is an outcast among his peers because he won't eat children. The kind-hearted guy is befriended by a young girl in "The BFG," which will be shown at 2 p.m. Feb. 25 at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St. The BFG was chosen by children as Library President for a Day.

For details, call 847-663-1234 or go to www.niles-library.org

SHORT SHAKESPEARE!
A 75-MINUTE ABRIDGED PRODUCTION

ROMEO AND JULIET

adapted and directed by **MARTI LYONS**

5 PERFORMANCES ONLY! BEGINS SATURDAY
SATURDAYS AT 11:00 AM • TICKETS \$22-\$34

chicago shakespeare theater
on navy pier theater

312.595.5600
chicagoshakes.com

LEAD TEAM SHAKESPEARE PARTNER

DOVER FOUNDATION

A.N. and Pearl G. Barnett Foundation

KPMG

ART WORKS

MAJOR SUPPORTERS OF TEAM SHAKESPEARE

POLE BROS FOUNDATION

The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust

Over 552 Hitchcock fans enjoy 'Vertigo'

Event: 'Vertigo' screening and program

Hosted by: Matthew Hoffman, director of Park Ridge Classic Film Series

Location: Pickwick Theatre, Park Ridge

Date: Feb. 9

Attended: 552

Upcoming: "Sunset Boulevard," on March 16 and "Singing in the Rain" on April 20

Website: www.parkridgeclassicfilm.com



Bryant Guy of Glenview and Nicole Corrigan of Skokie



Tom Di Pietro, from left, Kathy Di Pietro and Kristen Di Pietro, all of Park Ridge



Chris Podgorski of Park Ridge, left, Kristen Dohnal of Chicago



LEE A. LITAS/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Shannon Foy of Des Plaines, ticket taker/assistant, from left, Elizabeth Rye of Harvard, series assistant, Matthew Hoffman of Park Ridge, Series director, Allison Chaplin of Park Ridge, assistant to Hoffman, Monica Johnson of Park Ridge, series assistant



Max Jokinen, from left, dad Jeremy Jokinen and older brother Owen Jokinen, all of Park Ridge



Sarah Surisook and Jack Surisook of Park Ridge

Share your event

We want to publish your photos. To submit, visit <http://community.chicagotribune.com> or email sburrows@pioneerlocal.com.

COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE HOMES IN YOUR AREA



DES PLAINES

Three bedroom, two bathroom brick home built in 1954. New kitchen cabinets and counter tops, stainless steel appliances. Hardwood floors on first floor. Lower floor has rec room with projector screen and surround sound. Wet bar with refrigerator and ice machine. Carpeted bonus room is 12 by 12. Two and a half car garage. Close to schools.

Address: 1475 S. Fifth Ave.
Price: \$297,000
Schools: Maine West High School
Taxes: \$3,819
Agent: John Schmalbach, Re/Max Properties Northwest



LIBERTYVILLE

Four bedroom, three and a half bath stone home was built in 2006. Hardwood floors on first floor. Large family room with fireplace. Dining room with butler's pantry. Kitchen has eating area and island. Large bedrooms with walk-in closets. First floor den has walk-in closet, too. Princess bedroom and upstairs loft. Fenced yard with brick paver patio and three-car garage. Within walking distance to schools, parks, shopping and downtown Libertyville.

Address: 607 Ames St.
Price: \$799,000
Schools: Libertyville High School
Taxes: \$22,038.99
Agent: Marilyn Mackinney, Century 21 Kreuser & Seiler



WINNETKA

Four bedroom, three full and two half bathroom English brick Colonial built in 1926 is on a private cul-de-sac. Arched doorways, wide plank oak floors and leaded glass windows. Newer kitchen with center island breakfast bar, desk area and high-end AGA stove. Family room with fireplace has access to living room, kitchen and screened porch. Master bedroom has whirlpool tub and separate shower. Near lakefront.

Address: 147 Birch St.
Price: \$1,399,000
Schools: New Trier Township High School
Taxes: \$26,079.20
Agent: Frank Nash, Baird & Warner Winnetka



WHEELING

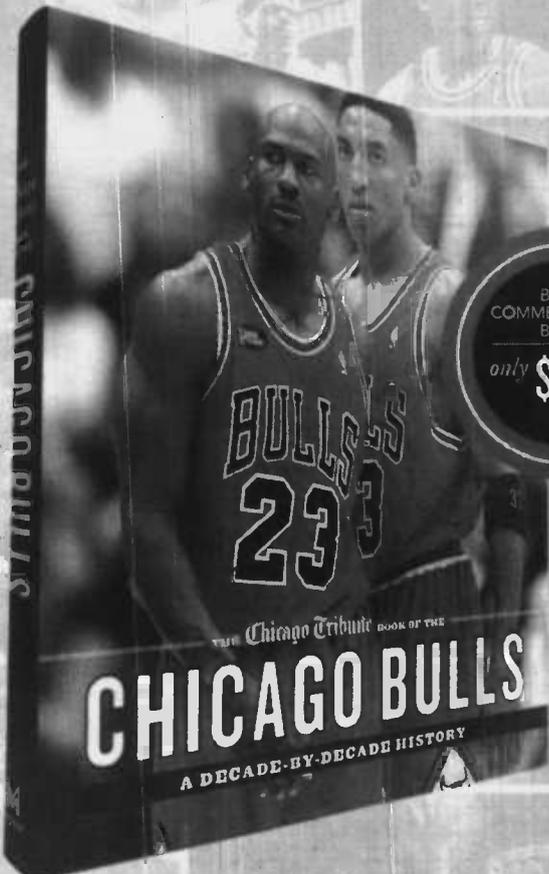
Two bedroom, two bath brick home was built in 1961. Third bedroom has been converted to first floor laundry room. Updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances and remodeled baths. New AC and electric done in 2016. Newer furnace, hot water tank, roof and driveway. Newer windows throughout. Fenced yard and brick paver patio.

Address: 908 Wilshire Drive
Price: \$229,900
Schools: Buffalo Grove High School
Taxes: \$6,242
Agent: Valerie Domain, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage The Groves

Listings from Homefinder.com

Chicago Tribune

Celebrate 50 Years of Bulls History



Celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Chicago Bulls with five decades of stories and photos taken by Chicago Tribune journalists.

This beautiful coffee-table book documents every era in the team's history as only the Chicago Tribune can. A must-have for any sports fan.

Original reporting | Archival photos | Timelines
Rankings | Profiles

Order today at ChicagoTribune.com/BullsBook

Also available in this series: "The Chicago Tribune Book of the Chicago Bears"

BULLS COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

only **\$35**

HOME REMEDIES

Beware: Deadly radon gas can build up in your home

BY C. DWIGHT BARNETT
Tribune News Service

Q: I've heard of radon, but I don't really know what it is. What is radon gas, and how do I know if it's in my home?

A: Radon is a known carcinogen. The gas is undetectable by sight, smell or taste. Radon is a by-product of the natural, radioactive decay of uranium in soils and rocks and can sometimes be found in well water. The gas is naturally found in the air we breathe, but can also enter a home or building through drains, cracks or holes in the foundation or basement.

The radon gas can then become trapped inside the home or building and build up to dangerous levels. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer deaths among nonsmokers in the U.S., and it claims the lives of about 21,000 in the U.S. each year per Environmental Protection Agency estimates.

Do-it-yourself radon test kits are available at major home and hardware stores or can be ordered online, although a test by a certified radon professional using an active or continuous radon monitor can give you results in as little as 48 hours and can be much more precise.

Q: When changing my furnace filter, I noticed a small pool of water on the floor. The furnace is a 12-year-old high-efficiency model used to heat the home through metal ducts. I did not see water during the summer, only after the furnace has been on for a few months. Is this something to be concerned about?

A: What you are describing is a condensing furnace. Older, less-effi-



BANKSPHOTOS

A continuous radon monitor often is used to detect if the odorless carcinogenic gas is present in a home.

cient furnaces simply burned fuel to produce heat inside a heat exchanger. The products produced by combustion, including gas and water vapors, were then sent up and out through a chimney or flue.

A condensing furnace utilizes a second heat exchanger to capture heat from the combustion products. The extra heat from the exhaust is then released to the home before being vented to the outside. When the exhaust loses so much heat, some of the byproducts are condensed back into a liquid and are drained away from the furnace. Sometimes they are drained through the same drainpipe as the air conditioner coil if you have one.

If you see any liquid in or around the furnace during the heating season, the furnace is not draining the condensate properly. Turn the furnace off at the main service switch or at the main electric panel. Remove the front cover of the burner compartment. (The gas pipe enters the furnace at the burner area.) If you notice water, do not touch it, as it can be acidic.

There should be rubber hoses, a draft inducement fan and one or two larger

plastic PVC or ABS pipes for venting and for the combustion air intake. Wearing protective rubber gloves and without touching any of the hoses, wires or pipes, use paper towels to soak up the condensate water. Properly dispose of the wet paper towels.

Close and seal the furnace cover and turn the electric service to the furnace back on. You have now done all that can be done by a homeowner to one of these complicated high-efficiency units. Call a licensed heating, ventilation and air conditioning technician for assistance to clean, service and replace any damaged equipment.

If the water you found appears to be leaking from the PVC condensate drainpipe outside of the furnace, you will want to make sure all joints in that pipe are secure and sealed against leakage. If there are any leaks in the condensate drainpipe, you may be able to repair them yourself with PVC cement.

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

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
2234 S Goebbert Rd, # 115, Arlington Heights	Anatoli Varabel & Sviatlana Varabel	Ann Kalas Kling	01-24-17	\$77,000
1511 N Windsor Dr, # 207, Arlington Heights	Besjan Kumria	Bank Of America Na	01-20-17	\$117,500
1030 S Fernandez Ave, # 4F, Arlington Heights	Margarita V Gladich	Patricia B Finnerty	01-20-17	\$140,000
502 W Miner St, # 2C, Arlington Heights	Osamu Sakurada & Baohong D Sakurada	August Prikosovich	01-23-17	\$140,000
816 W Saint James St, # 2NE, Arlington Heights	Migena Meta	Weir Trust	01-20-17	\$157,000
1808 E Park Pl, Arlington Heights	Avni Mankodi	Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp	01-24-17	\$185,500
1118 N Dryden Ave, Arlington Heights	Christopher R Holt & Carissa A Holt	Donald Lester Kratz	01-17-17	\$292,500
2804 N Greenwood Ave, Arlington Heights	Nicole N Cotelea & Inga Repida	Suneela Kantamaneni	01-24-17	\$310,000
1105 E Park St, Arlington Heights	Sean Tuite & Laura Tuite	Ruebe Trust	01-23-17	\$329,000
2134 N Cherry Hill Dr, Arlington Heights	Frank Cobo	David W Schroeder	01-23-17	\$343,500
203 N Oak Wood Dr, Arlington Heights	Alex Noudel & Maria Noudel	Bank Of New York Mellon Ttee	01-25-17	\$360,000
1950 N Maple Ln, Arlington Heights	Arthur George Rumpf	Michael T Katsenios	01-23-17	\$367,500
2705 N Windsor Dr, Arlington Heights	Sameer M Zai & Nagina Suitana	Saleem Mohammed	01-20-17	\$375,000
1917 E Waverly Ln, Arlington Heights	Jason Carpenter & Joohee Carpenter	Borland Trust	01-24-17	\$385,000
234 S Leonard Ln, Arlington Heights	George Jordan & Kristina Jordan	Justin R Wyatt	01-23-17	\$440,000
2566 N Douglas Ave, Arlington Heights	Richard S Wells & Stella Wells	Theresa A Bronk	01-19-17	\$462,000
1321 E Christina Ct, Arlington Heights	Tobby Matthew & Tecnika Roshani Matthew	K Hovnanian At Christina Court	01-25-17	\$774,500
1228 N Yale Ave, Arlington Heights	George Lykourazos	George Stevenson	01-17-17	\$1,015,000
100 Lake Blvd, # 604, Buffalo Grove	Evelyn Lush	Marc Nelsen	01-19-17	\$141,500
101 Old Oak Dr, # 406, Buffalo Grove	Linda M Elknd	Schwartz Trust	01-20-17	\$148,000
51 Old Oak Dr, # 405, Buffalo Grove	Debra A Creaney	Jan M Groat	01-19-17	\$181,000
316 Satinwood Ter, # 190 3, Buffalo Grove	Michael D Theisen & Lauren M Theisen	Thomas Mccants	01-18-17	\$205,000
259 Old Oak Ct W, # 259, Buffalo Grove	Abdulaziz Kadirov	Dmitriy Zinkichev	01-19-17	\$235,000
619 Sycamore Rd, Buffalo Grove	Abel Perez Garcia & Laura Hernandez	Frank S Noga	01-24-17	\$245,000
1416 Mill Creek Dr, Buffalo Grove	Dariuszl Wanicki	Eloy Pablo	01-23-17	\$290,000
239 Selwyn Ln, Buffalo Grove	Patrick Repsold	Steve Tuchman	01-20-17	\$317,000
3 Crestview Ter, Buffalo Grove	Kush Patel & Dipa Patel	Bank Of America Na	01-19-17	\$342,000
130 Toulon Dr, Buffalo Grove	Salvin Michael & Vijeata Sajiv	James H Mckenzie	01-11-17	\$448,000
2057 Jordan Ter, Buffalo Grove	Bradley Boven & Anna Boven	Adina Z Sodomire	01-18-17	\$655,000
10018 Holly Ln, # 1S, Des Plaines	Arvin John M Basilio	Phoenix Bond & Indemnity Co	01-19-17	\$31,500
1551 Ashland Ave, # 402, Des Plaines	Louis Parrino	Edwardo Pedraza	01-20-17	\$70,000
9612 Bianco Ter, # A, Des Plaines	Tania Dimitrova	Rosella Lachance	01-24-17	\$75,000
400 Trailside Ln, Des Plaines	Kerry Ira Levin	Miner Trust	01-25-17	\$80,000
8812 Briar Ct, # 2B, Des Plaines	Regla Garcia & Lazaro S Fernandez	Bogdan Kawa	01-24-17	\$90,000
9359 Bay Colony Dr, # 3S, Des Plaines	Tomasz Firlit	Deutsche Bank Natl Trt Co Ttee	01-20-17	\$100,000
1349 E Washington St, # 210A, Des Plaines	Harry Pogorzaly	Young Ok Lee	01-24-17	\$192,500
9396 N Parkside Dr, Des Plaines	Nahren L Koma	Schmouni Youkhana	01-24-17	\$200,000
9408 Hamlin Ave, Des Plaines	Soreya Azeez & Younana Younan	Next Iteration Properties Llc	01-24-17	\$210,000
1838 Spruce Ave, Des Plaines	Nancy R Sandoval & Oscar Sandoval	Matthew E Otoole	01-25-17	\$220,000
886 N Golf Cul De Sac St, Des Plaines	Alejandro Soberanis & Steffany Soberanis Arreola	Ramon G Rincon Jr	01-20-17	\$225,000
495 S Lyman Ave, Des Plaines	Donna Reyes & Daniel F Reyes	Alliance For Revitalized Commu	01-25-17	\$235,000
2024 Westview Dr, Des Plaines	Jorge Ledezma & Alicia Ledezma	Mark J Augustyn	01-24-17	\$237,500
1198 Evergreen Ave, Des Plaines	Benedict Malolos & Edward Tandoc	Taylor Morrison Illinois Inc	01-17-17	\$260,000
1196 Evergreen Ave, Des Plaines	Michael W Verdonck	Taylor Morrison Illinois Inc	01-23-17	\$270,000
1048 Clark Ln, Des Plaines	Axel A Montes & Jessica Williams	W Q Development Inc	01-19-17	\$275,000
1186 Evergreen Ave, Des Plaines	Tsering Dolkar	Taylor Morrison Illinois Inc	01-20-17	\$279,000
1196 Colfax Ave, Des Plaines	Bojan Panic	Taylor Morrison Illinois Inc	01-23-17	\$283,000
1317 Margret St, Des Plaines	Kevin L Ady & Tera C Ady	Bcl Home Construction Llc	01-19-17	\$315,000
1190 Evergreen Ave, Des Plaines	Marisa B Bertolli	Taylor Morrison Illinois Inc	01-23-17	\$315,000
1198 Colfax Ave, Des Plaines	Bhavin K Patel & Shruti Patel	Taylor Morrison Illinois Inc	01-19-17	\$315,500

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
1774 Ash St, Des Plaines	Mitchell F Detig & Tricia S Detig	Kalex Lic	01-17-17	\$330,000
1813 Laurel Ave, Evanston	Karla Tennes Kozlura & Sebastian Kozlura	Diana D Souknanova	01-17-17	\$62,500
2956 Central St, Evanston	Kathryn Townsend	Dj Real Estate Llc	01-23-17	\$185,000
1222 Chicago Ave, # 306A, Evanston	Angelo Passalacqua	Barbara J Bodily	01-20-17	\$215,000
1503 South Blvd, Evanston	Patrick Mccourt	Bank Of New York Mellon Ttee	01-17-17	\$216,500
900 Chicago Ave, # 615, Evanston	Ananth Mohani & Amanda Mohani	Clayton Bryson	01-19-17	\$218,000
738 Hinman Ave, # 2W, Evanston	Alex C Higley & Brittany L Higley	Luke Adams	01-24-17	\$225,000
1740 Oak Ave, # 601, Evanston	Muyao Chen	Hillary Woodward	01-25-17	\$230,000
826 Judson Ave, # 2, Evanston	Gordon Sincialr	Lorenzo Boni	01-24-17	\$250,000
2001 Shennan Ave, # 307, Evanston	Robert D Hughes & Carlissa R Hughes	Joshua J Yang	01-20-17	\$257,000
944 Michigan Ave, # 3W, Evanston	Margaret Smith	Rahul Mittal	01-24-17	\$267,500
2650 Broadway Ave, Evanston	Elissa Cole	Fabio Buda	01-19-17	\$400,000
1720 Maple Ave, # 850, Evanston	Amanda Xiang	Cartus Financial Corp	01-17-17	\$520,000
702 Asbury Ave, Evanston	Chrisantha E Anandappa	William J King	01-20-17	\$540,000
2712 Park Pl, Evanston	Sebastian Kozlura & Karla Tennes Kozlura	Edward H Watts	01-24-17	\$675,000
817 Hinman Ave, # 4E, Evanston	Jeff S Berk & Ronna Pritikin Berk	Lori D Drumm	01-17-17	\$705,000
2147 Sherman Ave, Evanston	Norman Leeds	Eduardo K Mar	01-25-17	\$835,000
4178 Cove Ln, # C, Glenview	Jose Gonzalez	Nrz Reo Inventory Corp	01-24-17	\$115,000
609 Greenwood Rd, Glenview	Joseph E Mrowiec	Joseph J Truncate	01-17-17	\$241,500
628 Beaver Rd, Glenview	Terry Coughlin & Melissa Coughlin	Edward Tossing	01-20-17	\$280,000
3501 Highland Ct, Glenview	Mariusz Konopka & Jeanna Konopka	Margaret E Hlxson	01-25-17	\$325,000
724 Forest Rd, Glenview	James R Henderson & Valerie E Henderson	Michael A Sweatt	01-20-17	\$630,000
3117 W Lake Ave, Glenview	Patrick W Ortiz & Lyn O Ortiz	Nancy Harrison	01-20-17	\$652,000
2582 W Lake Ave, Glenview	Thomas Szynewski & Laura M Happ	Ekkehard Kubler	01-17-17	\$719,000
1515 Glenview Rd, Glenview	Christopher B Richards & Allison A Richards	Jp Morgan Chase Bank	01-24-17	\$990,000
1526 Monterey Dr, Glenview	Patck M Daley & Tamara Daley	Alan S Dubrow	01-17-17	\$1,150,000
1505 Hawthorne Ln, Glenview	Jeffrey J Skinner & Helen Skinner	1513 Hawthorne Llc	01-23-17	\$1,562,000
156 Welwyn Ct, Lake Bluff	Muhammed Patel & Shazla Ehsan	Richard V Myers	01-18-17	\$235,000
914 March St, Lake Zurich	Kenneth Frizane & Grace Frizane	Roberts Trust	01-13-17	\$224,000
70 Lakeview Pl, Lake Zurich	James M Nannini	Bloomingdale 6 Llc	01-18-17	\$309,900
560 Ramblewood Ct, Lake Zurich	Charles G Benigni & Leslie J Benigni	Enola G Patterson	01-11-17	\$320,000
1058 Cormar Dr, Lake Zurich	Justin Tivers & Elnav Tivers	Bernard J Pothast	01-17-17	\$425,000
150 Finstad Dr, Libertyville	Terence B Finch & Sarah J Finch	Prairie View North Llc	01-11-17	\$376,000
620 Dawes St, Libertyville	Robert Brua & Gail Brua	Daniel Bergman Estate	01-11-17	\$385,000
5521 Churchill Ln, Libertyville	Jason Newman	Jerome J Kuypers	01-12-17	\$960,000
23737 N Elm Rd, Lincolnshire	Chunyu Li	Thomas A Rucks	01-11-17	\$400,000
10 Grenadier Ct, Lincolnshire	Olha Mormul & Yuriy Mormul	Stacy Flake	01-17-17	\$445,000
43 Fox Trl, Lincolnshire	Jose K Pullappally & Leela J Pullappally	American International Relocat	01-12-17	\$787,500
3933 Lakeview Ct, Long Grove	Arti Wadhra Lyde & Eric N Lyde	Jeane M Mccaffery	01-12-17	\$500,000
15172 W Old School Rd, Mettawa	Robert Price	Bruggenthies Trust	01-17-17	\$1,050,000
5506 Lincoln Ave, # 218, Morton Grove	Rony Odward Michael	Henryka Skuza	01-19-17	\$87,500
8527 Ferris Ave, Morton Grove	Meghan Parker	Judy M Cohen	01-23-17	\$242,000
6012 Grove Ct, Morton Grove	Rodrigo Cisneros & Martha Cisneros	Phillip J Mader	01-25-17	\$264,000
501 E Prospect Ave, # 2E, Mount Prospect	Marta Traversa & Claudio Traversa	Theresa D Wolfe	01-19-17	\$71,000
8109 N Ottawa Ave, Niles	David Cahill	V Mortgage Reo 2 Llc	01-20-17	\$233,000
6815 N Milwaukee Ave, # 705, Niles	Ulana Lamothe	Edward T Zawada Jr	01-20-17	\$260,000
7042 W Wright Ter, Niles	Dolores Coronado & Marco T Coronado	Konrad F Hack	01-25-17	\$275,000
120 N Northwest Hwy, # 208, Park Ridge	Barbara M Durnelle	Matthew R Schoenstene	01-23-17	\$350,000
2010 Irwin Ave, Park Ridge	Cynthia J Rowe	Jean Josephine Olson	01-23-17	\$380,000
610 Forestview Ave, Park Ridge	Matthew R Schoenstene & Amy M Schoenstene	Colonial Capital Rfl Llc	01-20-17	\$400,000
730 S Lincoln Ave, Park Ridge	Ryan Mahoney & Anne Marie Fink	Armand Passarella	01-19-17	\$560,000
524 S Cumberland Ave, Park Ridge	Jeremy Jordan & Katherine Jordan	524 S Cumberland Llc	01-17-17	\$1,105,000

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

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



ISTOCK

Spend "me time" in the bathroom bathing in luxury in a free-standing tub.

Design your home space with 'me time' in mind

BY SACHA STREBE
MyDomaine

While a night out with friends or an intimate dinner with a significant other can make for a lovely evening, we don't need to leave the house to have a grand time. It turns out we're not alone in this homebody preference, and there's even a name for it. According to the Well + Good 2017 wellness trend report, "nesting is the new going out." Many millennials are backing out their calendars and dialing back their social lives in lieu of "me time." Pinterest researcher Larkin Brown told Well + Good that self-care searches are up 121 percent.

"People are prioritizing personal comfort and a more casual approach to quality time with friends," Brown says. "Girls' night in" is trending upward of 35 percent year over year. Next year's going to be all about recharging."

If this sounds like your idea of fun, here's how to decorate your own cozy-chic space for many a stylish night in.

Living room: Whether you're planning a quiet solo

evening or casual gathering with friends, set the scene with mood lighting. No one wants harsh lights overhead when they're trying to relax. A pendant lamp will filter soft, ambient rays across the room and infuse a sense of calm. While a sectional sofa and chairs are obvious picks for seating, you can also offer alternative arrangements with a layered rug or a pouf that allows guests to get comfortable. Throw pillows are also essential to ramp up the comfort factor.

Bathroom: The bathroom is where nesting goes next level. Make sure your "me time" here is spent bathing in luxury. Timber furniture and decor will add much-needed warmth and bring the outside in. Surround yourself with hanging plants to cleanse the air and filter out any negative vibes, and then slip back into your free-standing tub, while a grand chandelier hangs above. Of course, not all of us have a space like this, so add in the elements your bathroom allows.

Bedroom: If you want to escape the world, then your boudoir is the perfect space. It's our safe haven

and personal sanctuary when we need a retreat from it all. To maintain a mellow mood in your bedroom, only add the essentials; too much clutter is likely to stress you out. Make sure you have a soft rug, a plant beside your bed and a textured wool throw for warmth and style.

Kitchen: If you love to cook, then your kitchen is a key space to indulge in some quality self-care. It's an arena where you can cook a new meal to refuel your soul or boil the kettle for that second or third cup of tea. Have a designated space to stack your favorite cookbooks, a timber chopping block on which to prepare your culinary experiments and a couple bar stools for your friends.

Entryway: While the entryway is touted as a space to welcome guests to your home, it should also reflect the things that bring you joy. Create an entrance that makes you sigh in relief upon stepping foot inside. Add a stylish pendant lamp or an artistic wall hanging, and put some of your favorite things on display. Welcome back, homebody.



ZURKO ANTIQUE EVENTS

**ANTIQUE
★ FLEA MARKET ★**

SUN. FEB. 26 • (8AM-3PM)/\$5

(COUNTY FARM & MANCHESTER)

• DuPage County Fairgrounds •

WHEATON, ILLINOIS

\$1.00 OFF W/THIS AD!

ZURKO 715-526-9769

www.zurkopromotions.com

NEW VENDORS WELCOME

TO

ADVERTISE

CALL

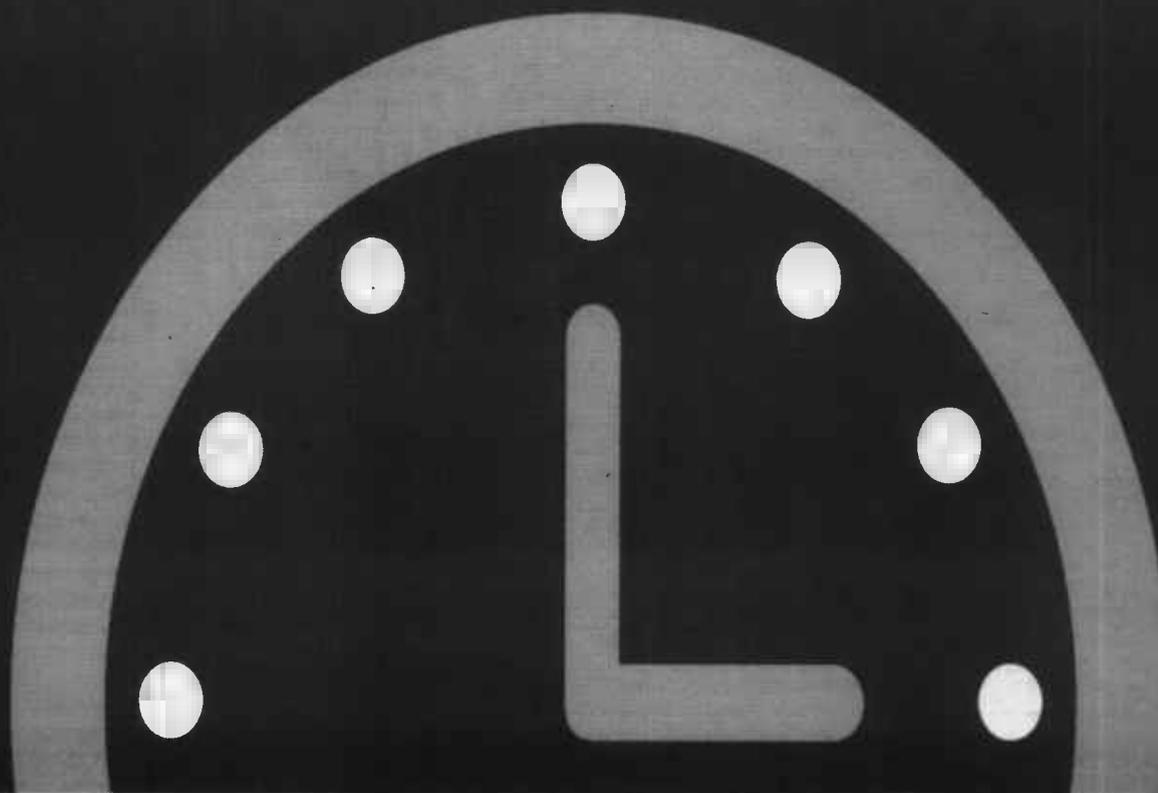
312-283-7008

Get stories by the week and hour

Visit us online for more community
news to help you make informed
decisions around the clock.

Chicago Tribune

chicagotribune.com/suburbs



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

Thursday, Feb. 23

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. All week, 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 desplainsmemory.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

LYFE Happy Hour: Unwind after work with \$4 draft beers, \$5 signature flatbreads and \$6 Pinot Grigio and Malbec during happy hour. Features drafts include Allagash White, Two Brothers Gluten-Free Prairie Path and Dark Horse Crooked Tree IPA. 4 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Monday-Wednesday, LYFE Kitchen, 1603 Orrington Ave., Evanston, Prices Vary, 847-563-8242

Society Artwork in Residence Program:

The Evanston Art Center launches an inaugural artwork-in-residence program, inviting six artists to move in to the second floor of the center's project space for 4-week residencies. From June 2016 to March 2017, the Art Center proudly hosts artists: Adriana Kuri Alamillo, Judith Brotman,

Joseph Cruz, David Giordano, Kirsten Leenaars and Pedro Valez. Each of the artists chosen by curator Jessica Cochran address the residency theme Society during their stay. 9 a.m. All week, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300

Through Darkness to Light: Underground Railroad Exhibit:

This photography exhibit is now on view until March 16. A presentation by the artist, Dallas-based photographer Jeanine Michna-Bales takes place Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. at the Evanston History Center, in the Dawes House. A wine and appetizer reception starts at 6:30 p.m., as the doors open. Reservations should be made to jthompson@evanstonhistorycenter.org. 6:30 p.m. Evanston History Center, 225 Greenwood St., Evanston, \$10 general admission, 847-475-3410

Kader Attia: Reflecting Memory:

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

"Dialogues of the Carmelites":

Francis Poulenc's opera, based on a 1949 screenplay by Georges Bernanos, is the true story of the martyrs of Compiègne, guillotined in Paris in 1794 for refusing to renounce their vocation. Amid the chaos of the French Revolution's Reign of Terror, the timid Blanche de la Force enters a Carmelite convent to withdraw from the world, only to find that she must confront her fears in the ultimate test of faith. 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Cahn Auditorium, 600 Emerson St., Evanston, \$18, 847-467-4000

YMCA Preschool Art Ages Three to Five with Adult:

The North Suburban YMCA Art Academy provides opportunities for preschoolers to create art. Please register at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling. 1:30 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

The Envelope, Please: A Night at the Oscars:

Just days before this year's Oscars, movie critic Dann Gire and film historian and novelist Raymond Benson offer a fun-filled star-studded evening. Register at glenviewpl.org/register or call. 6:30 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free,

847-729-7500

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. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

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 and Tuesday, 1 p.m. Friday and Monday, Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, \$12-\$17, 847-502-0630

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

Senior Resource Specialist: Stop by and find out information regarding the selection of appropriate retirement benefits, picking the right health insurance and Medicare programs, determining housing needs, identifying supportive resources and much more. 10:30 a.m. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Introduction to LinkedIn:

Hands-On Workshop Learn how to set up an account, create a profile, and connect with other professionals. 7 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Between the Lines: American Born Chinese:

This book discussion is held at two different times. No registration is required and new members are warmly welcome! The book synopsis of "American Born Chinese" by Gene Luen Yang, alternates three interrelated stories about the problems of young Chinese Americans trying to participate in the popular culture. This is presented in comic book format. 10 a.m. Thursday, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

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. Tuesday and Thursday, 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. A's Karaoke Bar, 8751 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, free, 224-534-7158

Pastry & wine tasting: Join us for a Pastry & Wine Tasting event with our friends at Dolcetti Patisserie & Cafe. We'll be pairing up Dolcetti's delicious pastries with our great wines. Event also includes cheese, crackers and fruit to enjoy with your tasting. Space is limited. Advance registration recommended. 6 p.m. WineStyles Park Ridge, 105 S. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, \$20-\$25, 847-518-9463

Storytime for Threes with Adult:

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

Busy Bees Playgroup for Birth to 4 with adult:

Join us for a story, a song and lots of playtime. Siblings welcome. 11 a.m. 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. 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 Skokle: 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

Turn to Calendar, Next Page

Calendar, from Previous Page

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

Multi-Chamber Mega-Connect Breakfast: Multiply your networking potential by attending this informal buffet lunch. RSVP and payment are due by 4:30 p.m. on Feb. 15. This is with the Chambers of Commerce for: Des Plaines, Evanston, Glencoe, Glenview, Highland Park, Lincolnwood, Mount Prospect, Niles, Northbrook, Park Ridge, Skokie, and Wilmette/Kenilworth, Winnetka/Northfield. Member pre-registration fee: \$30 (includes breakfast); Prospective members and Walk-In registration: \$40 (includes breakfast); Walk-ins strongly discouraged and may not be accommodated. 7:30 a.m. Holiday Inn North Shore, 5300 W. Touhy Ave., Skokie, \$30-\$40, 847-825-3121

Faceless: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday, 2:30 p.m. and 8 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. 24

St Stephen Gaslight Players present "Fiddler on the Roof": The Gaslight Players of St. Stephen Church in Des Plaines perform "Fiddler on the Roof." Tickets can be ordered from Kathy Drelicharz at 773-391-3185 or by email at kdreli@aol.com. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, St. Stephen Church, Hanley Hall, 1280 Prospect Ave., Des Plaines, \$15 adults; \$10 seniors; \$8 children

"Willy Wonka Jr.": Based on the beloved Gene Wilder film, "Willy Wonka Jr." is one of the sweetest shows of all, with the story about an eccentric and brilliant candymaker, Willy Wonka. People scramble through chocolate bars in search of five golden tickets to tour his exclusive factory. 7 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Prairie Lakes Theatre, 515 E. Thacker St., Des Plaines, \$11-\$14, 847-516-2298

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. Glenview Ice Center, 1851 Landwehr Road, Glenview, \$8 per person; \$4 for rental skates, 847-724-5670

Minecraft for Grades 4-8: Use your own account or play on one of the library's. Space is limited, so please register at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling. 6 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Coupes and Comedy Drive-In Theater at Community Center: The Lincolnwood Public Library is participating in partnership with the Lincolnwood Community Center, who is hosting. Kids ages two to five-years-old can create their very own cardboard coupe and then cruise over to the indoor drive-in theater to watch an animated film on the big screen. The Community Center supplies the materials for building and decorating the coupes, but kids are encouraged to bring their own seat cushion to place inside. 10 a.m. Lincolnwood Community Center, 6900 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

After Dark Movie: "Sully" & Oscar Prediction Contest: "Sully" (2016, PG-13, 1 hr 35 min) The story of Chesley Sullenberger, an American pilot who became a hero after landing his damaged plane on the Hudson River in order to save the flight's passengers and crew. Enjoy complimentary popcorn and refreshments while you watch a great movie on the big screen and fill out an Oscar prediction ballot for a chance to win a Blu-ray/DVD player. 7 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Women In Business with Lynn Shaareef: Join in for Networking: What, Why and How presented by Lynn Shaareef, CEO, STAR Enterprises. Effective networking is a learnable skill, one that improves with practice. Fees include breakfast. Register at www.parkridgechamber.org/calendar or by calling the Chamber. 8:30 a.m. Park Ridge Cham-

ber of Commerce, 720 Garden St., Park Ridge, \$12 member; \$17 fee, 847-825-3121

Women In Business Breakfast: Grow your network and join the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce as we host our Women in Business Breakfast. Bring your business cards, enjoy breakfast, and mingle with other professionals. 8:30 a.m. Friday, Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce, 720 Garden St., Park Ridge, Fee: \$17, discounted member fee: \$12, 847-825-3121.

Saturday, Feb. 25

Vanessa Carlton with Tristen: 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$22-\$52, 847-492-8860

Elements Contemporary Ballet: The program includes a World Premiere by Artistic Director Mike Gosney as well as exclusive work by Princess Grace Award winner James Gregg. Zodiac (working title) World Premiere by Artistic Director Mike Gosney. The Misfortunate Beauty of Joe Danek, by guest choreographer James Gregg. The River, by resident choreographer Joseph Caruana. 8 p.m. Studio5, 1938 Dempster St., Evanston, \$16-\$22, 847-328-6683

Overeaters Anonymous: Overeaters Anonymous meets Saturdays. New-comer meeting on the last Saturday of the month. No dues, fees or weigh-ins. For information, call Hannah. 9 a.m. St Matthews Episcopal Church, 2120 Lincoln St, Evanston, free, 773-996-0609

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

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

PSAT or SAT Prep Test for Ninth to Twelfth Grades: C2 Education facilitates practice tests for either the PSAT or SAT. Gain experience with these

tests, now a standard for Illinois college testing. Students may choose which test to take. Bring pencils and a calculator and register at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling. Noon, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Sensory Storytime: This class is ideal for children with sensory processing issues or autism to enjoy stories, music and play. Led by Lekotek, a nonprofit organization dedicated to making play accessible for all children. Toys and play help kids reach their potential and increase inclusion within the family and community. Join us for an hour-long program. Siblings welcome. 10 a.m. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Cold Brews and Blues: This is a micro-brew beer tasting and blues music event with appetizers. Admission includes ten beer tasting tickets. Additional beer tasting tickets are sold the day of the event. This event is presented by Morton Grove Park District and Joseph Mullarkey Dist Inc. 1 p.m. Morton Grove American Legion Civic Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove, \$35 per person, 847-965-1200

Walk 'N Talk Book Group: "Euphoria" by Lily King: You can pick up the book at the Check-out Desk a month prior to the meet. The group will meet at Starbucks at 6763 W. Dempster St. in Morton Grove where we'll start with a hot drink and set out on a walk and talk on the North Branch Trail. 10 a.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

The Cat's Pajamas Vocal Band: 6 p.m. Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, \$20-\$30, 847-675-0951

Stuffed Animal Sleepover for Ages 3-8: Bring your favorite stuffed animal (one per child), to Emily Oaks before 5 p.m., Friday, Feb. 24. Your friend will stay for a night of fun and adventure, followed by a winter hike on Saturday. 10 a.m. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, \$8 Skokie resident, \$10 nonresident. Fee is per child and preregistration is required, 847-677-7001

Legendary Ladies of Jazz: By the late 1950s it was the end of an era. Planes were taking the place of the beloved road trips and here they are, The Legendary Ladies of Jazz, taking one of the last trips on the Sante Fe Super Chief to Los Angeles. This trip is with their biggest fan— one of the last Pullman Porters aboard the train of stars. The Legendary Ladies of Jazz was written

Turn to Calendar, Next Page

Calendar, from Previous Page

by Katrina V. Miller. 7:30 p.m. Skokie Theatre, 7924 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie, \$30, 847-677-7761

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. Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800

Sunday, Feb. 26

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

New Date for Screening of "Loving": The film is rated PG-13 and what better way to commemorate Black History Month than to view this quietly radical movie and inspirational love story. "Loving" revisits the 1967 landmark Supreme Court case, invalidating state laws that prohibit interracial marriage. The film features Joel Edgerton and Ruth Negga as Richard and Mildred Loving, an interracial couple. 1:30 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Critic's Choice: "Instructions Not Included": "Instructions Not Included" is rated PG-13, in Spanish with English subtitles. The story is about: Valentin is Acapulco's resident playboy, until a former fling leaves a baby on his doorstep and takes off. An unlikely father figure, Valentin raises Maggie for six years. 2 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

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. MB Financial Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-349-5008

Stepping Up to Success Tea: Sisterhood Temple Beth Israel presents this Stepping Up to Success Tea, benefiting a new program that helps women re-enter the workforce from the ARK, a not-for-profit, community-funded health and human services agency located in Chicago and Northbrook. Bring one or more items of up-to-date business attire for job interviews and possible employment. All clothing must be clean and on a hanger. 2 p.m. Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W.

Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-0951

Indoor Rock Climbing: This is for those ages 16 and older to enjoy the popular sport of indoor wall climbing at Vertical Endeavors. With instruction from staff, practice climbing your choice of routes. Includes use of auto-belay devices and options for top rope climbing and bouldering. Van transportation and harness rental is included. Climbing shoe rental is available for an additional fee. 12:30 p.m. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, \$38 Skokie resident; \$48 non-resident, 847-677-7001

Music of the Baroque: Harmony and Invention: Nicholas Kraemer leads the Music of the Baroque Orchestra in a program that captures the true spirit of the age. Highlights include a bravura suite for oboes from Telemann's Tafelmusik and a dazzling Vivaldi violin concerto depicting a storm at sea. 7:30 p.m. North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, \$27-\$75, 312-551-1414

Scouting Out Intolerance: With the guidance of docents, Scouts and prospective Scouts will develop social awareness and positive decision making skills that allow for a deeper understanding of the core values of respect, compassion, justice, and citizenship. Hands-on interactive activities and experiential galleries will empower Scouts to take a personal stand for themselves and for others. 10:30 a.m. Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, \$12; Free (youth), 847-514-7087

Monday, Feb. 27

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. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

Cafe Conversation - Apacro: Meet fellow Francophones for relaxed, mid-evening conversation, in French. Order wine, charcuterie and/or cheese plate, coffee, tea, or fresh pastries and then meet in the main seating area. Listening in French is encouraged, all levels are welcome. 7 p.m. The Glenview Grind, 1837 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-328-9516

Knitting Roundtable for Adults: Ronnie Rund, an expert knitter, shows attendees how to knit or how to solve knitting challenges. Bring one's current project(s) and needles. 2 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave.,

Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Lego Club: For students in kindergarten through eighth grades to join in this club on the fourth Monday of each month to create masterpieces at this new Lego Club. 4:30 p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Tuesday, Feb. 28

Amasa Hines: 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$10-\$18, 847-492-8860

National Theatre Live's - No Man's Land: Stage legends Ian McKellen and Patrick Stewart return to the West End stage in Harold Pinter's "No Man's Land," directed by Sean Mathias. Owen Teale and Damien Molony round out the cast of this glorious revival of Pinter's darkly comic classic. The broadcast includes a post-show interview with the cast and director. 7 p.m. Josephine Louis Theater at Northwestern University, 20 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, \$10 - \$20, 847-491-4819

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. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

CJE SeniorLife Counseling: These 30-minute appointments provide counseling to adults 60 and over, and their families and caregivers. If you have questions, the CJE SeniorLife resource specialists counsel on topics such as: selecting appropriate retirement benefits, picking the right health insurance and Medicare programs, determining housing needs, and more. To make an appointment, call Kathy Gaeding at CJE SeniorLife, 773-508-1054. 9:30 a.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Drop-In Homework Help for Kindergarten to Eighth Grades: This includes: thirty-minute help sessions for homework, reading, and math skills with High School volunteers. It is provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Children may be grouped by subject and grade level. 6 p.m. 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. 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. No registration required. 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. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Movies, Munchies & More: "Into the Arms of Strangers": "Into the Arms of Strangers: Stories of the Kindertransport" (2000, PG, 2 hr 2 min). A documentary featuring the secret smuggling of 9,300 Jewish children out of Nazi-occupied Germany in the late 1930s. 11:30 a.m. 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 April 2, 2017 at 3 p.m. 7 p.m. St. John Brebeuf Parish Church, 8307 N. Harlem Ave., Niles, suggested free will donation, 702-806-8421

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. Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, \$420 for entire year plus book fees, 847-675-4141

Wednesday, March 1

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. Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$10, 847-868-8945

Live Music Wednesdays with the

Turn to Calendar, Next Page

Calendar, from Previous Page

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. Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-868-8945

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. Go to the website for hours. 10 a.m. American Toby Jug Museum, 910 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 877-862-9687

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

MGPL Writers Workshop: The MGPL Writers Workshop is for writers who

want to share their works in progress and support other writers in drafting, revising, and finishing manuscripts, essays, poems, or any other type of writing. For questions, contact Chad at ccomello@mgpl.org. 7 p.m. 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. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Community Wednesdays - Year of the Rooster: Learn about the celebration and significance of the Chinese New Year with Sue Chen. Every Wednesday, take part for a few hours of mind, body and spirit enrichment. The "J" hosts three, one-hour lectures/classes throughout the day, along with their fitness class offerings at the Marvin Lustbader Center. Attendees choose how to spend their day at the J. 9:30 a.m. Bernard Weinger JCC, 300 Revere Drive, Northbrook, \$10 or free for MLH&W members, 224-406-9257

Community Wednesdays Book Talk

with The Good Book Fairy: The Good Book Fairy Lauren Margolin, discusses "Faithful" by Alice Hoffman. Every Wednesday, take part for a few hours of mind, body and spirit enrichment. The "J" hosts three, one-hour lectures/classes throughout the day, along with their fitness class offerings at the Marvin Lustbader Center. Attendees choose how to spend their day at the J. Cost: \$10 or free for Marvin Lustbader Health and Wellness Members. 10:45 a.m. Bernard Weinger JCC, 300 Revere Drive, Northbrook, free, 224-406-9257

Community Wednesdays - Israeli History and Zionism: Israeli History and Zionism with Mark Gelfeld, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center Advisory Board Member and Premier Docent. Every Wednesday, take part for a few hours of mind, body and spirit enrichment. The "J" hosts three, one-hour lectures/classes throughout the day, along with their fitness class offerings at the Marvin Lustbader Center. Attendees choose how to spend their day at the J. 9:30 a.m. Bernard Weinger JCC, 300 Revere Drive, Northbrook, \$10 or free for MLCH&W members, 224-406-9257

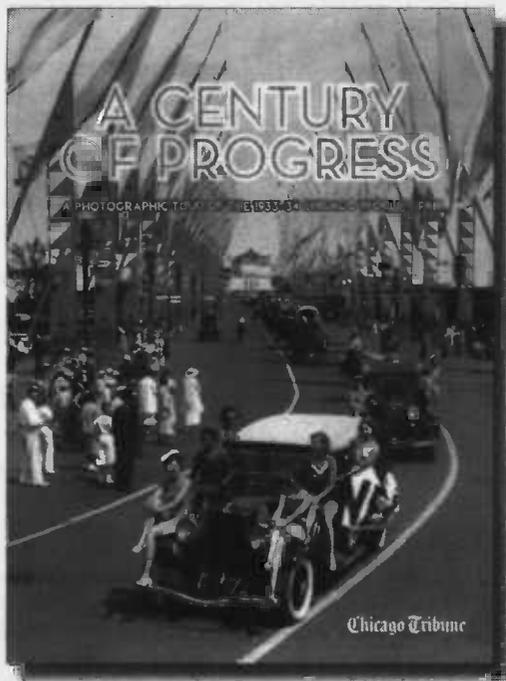
Knitting Studio and Workshop: Each Wednesday afternoon, Certified Knit-

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

The Reagan Years: Gary Midkiff looks at President Reagan's domestic economic policies, foreign policy, decision-making process, influence on his professional life from his wife Nancy, and the leverage he achieved from his superb speech-making ability. 10 a.m. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$19 NSSC members; \$25 non-member, 847-784-6030

Wolves Player Visit - All Ages: Kids and their families are invited to the library to meet a Chicago Wolves player. Get an autograph and a close-up look at all of the hockey gear, and find out what it's like to play pro hockey. 4 p.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

Have an event to submit? Go to chicagotribune.com/calendar



Trib Books

LIBRARY

Travel back in time to 1930s Chicago with *A Century of Progress: A Photographic Tour of the 1933-34 Chicago World's Fair*. This historical collection features more than 100 rare – and in some cases, unpublished – photographs documenting the fair's construction, demolition and everything in between. Readers will glimpse the technological feats and futuristic exhibits that characterized the fair, as well as elements of lasciviousness and insensitivity that, while clearly on display during the exposition, may prove shocking to modern readers.

GET IT TODAY AT
CHICAGOTRIBUNESTORE.COM/BOOKS

Chicago Tribune

NOW PLAYING

**"The Lego Batman Movie" ★★ 1/2**

PG, 1:46, animated comedy

At its sporadic best, the crazy velocity and wisenheimer appeal of "The Lego Batman Movie" reminds you of what made "The Lego Movie" such a nice surprise three years ago. "The Lego Batman Movie" goes where various franchises housed at various studios have gone before, with the little plastic Batman (Will Arnett) taking center stage as a raging egomaniac, all abs and no heart. Batman's chief nemesis remains, inevitably, the

needy, whiny, malevolent Joker (Zach Gallifianakis). "The Lego Batman Movie" offers more mayhem and less funny than the first Lego movie; I enjoyed it well enough. — *Michael Phillips, Chicago Tribune*

**"Fifty Shades Darker" ★★**

The second installment of the "Fifty Shades" franchise, based on the E.L. James series of books, is pure camp. Audiences will be in ecstasy all right — from hysterical laughter. While decidedly not a comedy, there are times when you have to wonder if the film is in on the joke. Star Dakota Johnson definitely seems to be. The plot is fairly mundane, centered around the reunion of Ana and her dominant partner, Christian Grey (Jamie Dornan), a young billionaire with a playroom that'll make you blush. As an

Independent young woman who "loves working," Ana's got her reservations about being truly submissive, and therein lies their conundrum. Truth be told, they're both intensely boring people, and their relationship is a snooze. — *Katie Walsh, Tribune News Service*

**"John Wick: Chapter 2" ★★**

R, 2:02, action

Keanu Reeves stars in a film that's a step down from the first "John Wick," which played its killing games with more wit. One of many licensed and bonded guns for hire visits brooding Wick at home. He presents Wick with a marker, the Coin of Death; this means the recipient must do the bidding of the presenter and his account is settled. Wick declines. One destroyed brooding house later, Wick reconsiders, and he travels to Rome to eliminate the guy's sister. "John Wick 2" stages its gun-fu melees sleekly and sometimes well. As

our real world grows stranger and more brutal by the day, a movie selling weightless ultraviolence, plus nice suits and Reeves, is like a massage for our jaded, fearful souls. — *M.P.*

**"Split" ★★★**

PG-13, 1:57, suspense/thriller

In the multiple-personality 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 let off the leash and allowed to show off his loud, campy, unhinged side. He's a fascinating character, 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). — *K.W.*

**"Hidden Figures" ★★ 1/2**

PG, 2:07, drama

"Hidden Figures" takes place mostly in 1961 and early 1962, three years into the life of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, better known as NASA. "Hidden Figures" focuses on three African-American female mathematicians working behind the scenes, and behind a long wall of white colleagues, at a stubbornly segregated NASA in Jim Crow-ruled Hampton, Va. The bigotry and sexism these women endured cries out for a

tougher-minded movie. But there's no doubt that many will be grateful for something that at least deals with subjects overdue for some of the space-race glory. — *M.P.*

COUNTRY FINANCIAL

PRESENTS:

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

Vote at
CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM/ATHLETES

DEATH NOTICES*We extend our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.***PLACEANAD.TRIBUNESUBURBS.COM****Death Notices****Barmeier, Deane Ann**

Deane Ann Barmeier – age 97 – was born in Chicago on April 15, 1919, and passed away on January 24, 2017. She was the loving wife to Robert (deceased in 2010) and loving mother to two sons, James and William. Deane lived in Park Ridge for over 60 years, cherished her family and friends, and was young in spirit. A celebration of her life will be held at The Moorings of Arlington Heights (811 East Central Road in Arlington Heights, Illinois) on Saturday, February 25, at 11 am. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the Russell Institute for Research & Innovation at the Advocate Lutheran General Hospital. See advocateresearch@advocatehealth.com

*Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries***Hohs, Joanne D.**

Joanne D. Hohs, nee Dell, age 83, of Vernon Hills, formerly of Skokie. Beloved wife of the late James J.; dear mother of Ken (Elaine), Karen Rude, Keith (Teresa), and Kevin (Nancy); loving grandmother of Jim, Jeff, Dan, Adam (Jacqui), Samantha, Eric (Taylor), Mark, Andrew, Matt, and Brandon; devoted great-grandmother of James; cherished daughter of the late Robert and Mimi Dell. Memorial Service, Saturday, February 25, 2017, at 11 a.m., at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3637 Golf Rd., Evanston, IL, 60203. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church. Funeral info: 847.673.6111 or www.habenfuneral.com.



Funeral Home & Crematory

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Commemorate
your beloved

Call 866.399.0537 or visit:
placeanad.tribunesuburbs.com

Tell your Loved One's Story

Include a photo
of your loved one.

Call 866.399.0537 or visit:
placeanad.tribunesuburbs.com

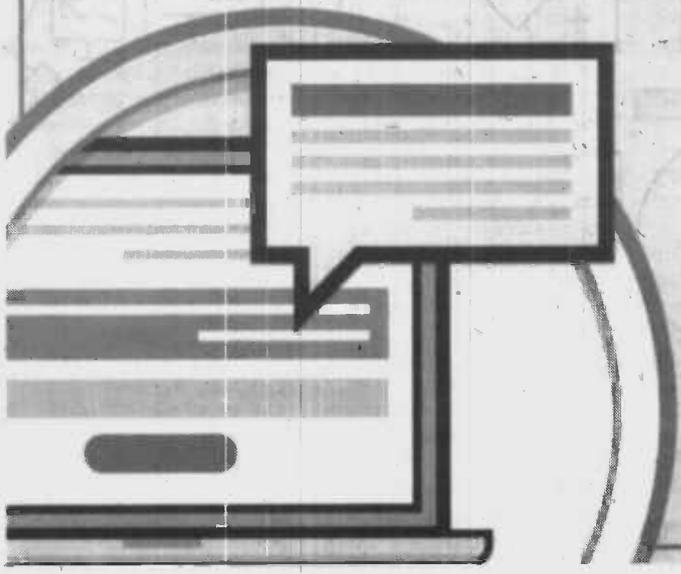


THERE'S A NEW JOB BOARD IN TOWN THAT MAKES HIRING EASIER THAN EVER

Hire the best talent faster and for less with performance-based job posting that reaches qualified talent across the web!

KEY BENEFITS

- Enhanced Visibility to the Right Talent
 - More Applicants in Less Time
 - Unprecedented Network Reach



TO LEARN MORE VISIT
jobnetwork.chicagotribune.com

A commuter's dream

Entrepreneurs race to develop real 'flying car'

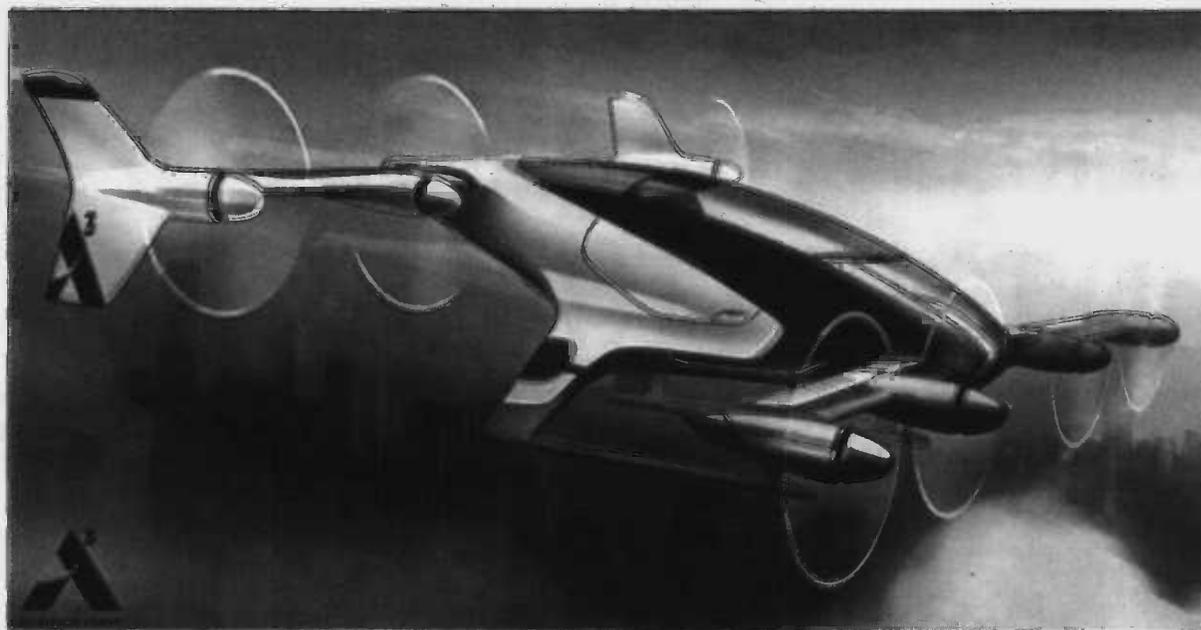
BY JOAN LOWY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Even before George Jetson entranced kids with his cartoon flying car, people dreamed of soaring above traffic congestion. Inventors and entrepreneurs have long tried and failed to make the dream a reality, but that may be changing.

Nearly a dozen companies around the globe, including some with deep pockets, such as European aircraft maker Airbus, are competing to be the first to develop a new kind of aircraft that will enable commuters to glide above crowded roadways. A few of the aircraft under development are cars with wings that unfold for flight, but most aren't cars at all. Typically they take off and land vertically like helicopters. Rather than a single, large main rotor, they have multiple small rotors. Each rotor is operated by a battery-powered electric motor instead of a conventional aircraft piston engine.

It's no sure bet that flying-car dreams will turn into reality. There are many obstacles, including convincing regulators that the aircraft are safe, figuring out how to handle thousands of new low-flying aircraft over cities without collisions and developing batteries that will keep them aloft long enough to be useful.

But entrepreneurs are moving forward. They see a vast potential market for "air taxis" and personally owned small aircraft to transport people from the fringes of metropolitan areas to city centers as urban areas grow more congested and people spend more time stuck in traffic. They envision tens of thousands of one- or two-person flying taxis delivering passengers to the rooftops of office buildings in city centers and other landing pads during



AIRBUS

Airbus' Vahana, an autonomous flying taxi the company is developing, is shown in an artist's rendering. Such aircraft could "revolutionize urban travel," said Zach Lovering of Airbus.



URBAN AERONAUTICS TACTICAL ROBOTICS

Urban Aeronautics' Tactical Robots conducted flight tests of its passenger-carrying drone, the Cormorant, in Israel. The company says the craft can fly between buildings.

rush hours.

"In as little as 10 years, products could be on the market that revolutionize urban travel for millions of people," said Zach Lovering, the leader of Airbus' project to develop an autonomous flying taxi called the Vahana. The name means the mount or vehicle of a Hindu deity.

Uber released a 98-page report in October making the business case for air taxis, which the company sees as the future of on-demand transportation. Uber doesn't have any plans to develop a flying car

itself, but the online transportation network is advising several companies that have aircraft in the works.

"The role we want to play is as a catalyst for the entire industry," said Nikhil Goel, an Uber project manager for advanced programs.

Some of the aircraft are drones that passengers will be able to program for flight using a smartphone. Others will be operated from the ground or a command center, and some are designed for human pilots.

It's unclear yet how much the aircraft will cost,

although prices are likely to vary significantly. Some of the aircraft are designed to be individually owned, while others are envisioned more for commercial use. Designers hope that if demand is high, prices can be kept affordable through economies of mass production.

Several recent developments could make these aircraft possible. Advances in computing power mean the rotors on multicopter drones can be adjusted many times per second, making the aircraft easy to control. Drones have also benefited from advances in battery and electric motor technology. Some companies, like Chinese drone-maker EHang, are scaling up drones so that they can carry people.

Another aircraft under development, Santa Cruz, Calif.-based Joby Aviation's S2, looks more like a conventional plane except that there are 12 tiltrotors spread along the wings and tail. And some, like the Vahana, a cockpit mounted on a sled and flanked by propellers in front and back, don't really look like

any aircraft in the skies today.

"In terms of what you can make fly in a reliable manner, the solution speed gateway that (computer) chips have gone through recently have literally opened the door to a whole new world of flying machine possibilities," said Charles Eastlake, an Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University professor emeritus of aerospace engineering.

But he also cautioned: "My best engineering guess is that people actually using autonomous air taxis in the next 10 or 15 years is possible but definitely not certain. The challenges are big."

Key for many of the designs will be the development of longer-lasting lightweight batteries. Currently available batteries could probably keep an air taxi aloft about 15 to 30 minutes before it would have to land, experts said. Depending on how fast the aircraft flies, that probably isn't quite enough to transport passengers between nearby cities or across metropolitan areas, experts

said.

Another hurdle will be winning Federal Aviation Administration certification for any radical new kind of aircraft when approval of even small changes in aviation technology can take years.

The FAA said in a statement that it is taking a "flexible, open-minded, and risk-based approach" to flying cars. FAA officials have discussed with several manufacturers the certification of aircraft that will be flown with a pilot in the beginning and later converted to an autonomous passenger aircraft.

While further research is needed to ensure that autonomous aircraft are safe, "we believe automation technology already being prototyped in low-risk unmanned aircraft missions, when fully mature, could have a positive effect" on aviation safety, the agency said.

Reducing noise is another challenge since air taxis will be taking off and landing in densely populated areas. So is creating enough landing pads to handle lots of aircraft at the same time. A new air traffic control system would also likely be needed.

"It's pretty clear that the existing air traffic control system won't scale to the kind of density at low altitudes that people are talking about," said John Hansman, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology professor who chairs the FAA's research and engineering advisory committee.

NASA is developing an air traffic control system for small drones that perhaps could be expanded to include flying cars.

"There's no question we can build the vehicle," Hansman said. "The big challenge is whether we can build a vehicle that would be allowed to operate in the places where people want to use it."

Oakton pitcher draws comparisons to Sale

Notre Dame College Prep product has signed with Miami

BY JONAH ROSENBLUM
Pioneer Press

Oakton baseball coach Bill Fratto brings it up over and over. His latest star, Brandon Nowak, looks a lot like Boston Red Sox ace Chris Sale.

Nowak, a sophomore who has signed with the Miami Hurricanes, shrugs off the comparison. Sure, he's a tall southpaw with a funky delivery and a fastball that peaks in the 90s, just like Sale, but even though he's from Chicago, where Sale spent the first seven years of his major league career with the White Sox, it's not like he modeled himself after Sale.

"I've heard for several years that I kind of throw like him," Nowak said. "I'm not the biggest kid. I'm tall and lengthy. I try getting the most out of my body type."

Oakton, a Division III junior college program, opens its season on Sunday with a doubleheader against Hibbing (Minn.) at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis.

The Sale comparison goes further.

Like Sale, who wasn't heavily recruited out of high school but was drafted 13th overall in 2010, Nowak was somewhat of a late bloomer coming out of Notre Dame College Prep.

"He was basically under the radar. He didn't pitch a lot. He was a kid growing into his body," Fratto said. "Him coming in as a freshman, we didn't know what we were going to get. When the spring season started, he was absolutely dominant."

If Nowak was a late bloomer, he made a quick impression on Fratto. He could tell Nowak had the right stuff from his second start last season, against Rowan Gloucester (N.J.). Nowak loaded the bases with no outs and the heart of the lineup coming up. Even more frustrating, Nowak recalled loading the bases on a bloop hit, an error and a pitch that hit the batter's foot. With several college scouts in attendance, Nowak was desperate to escape the jam and show his stuff.

"I've got to prove myself some-



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Oakton sophomore pitcher Brandon Nowak practices at the Dome at the Ballpark in Rosemont on Feb. 16. He averaged 11.45 strikeouts per nine innings last season.

how," Nowak recalled thinking. "I was trying to make a good first impression. That was the first time anyone's heard of me or came out to see me. I didn't want people to think I'm a fluke. I had to be patient, take a deep breath and control what I could control."

Nowak responded by striking out the side, posting nine strikeouts over six shutout innings for his first win.

"I was in the dugout and looked at my other coaches and said, 'This kid is going to be really good,'" Fratto said. "Any other freshman I had would basically

blow up in this situation. His composure was just different than anyone else right then. I knew he'd be special."

The strikeouts never stopped. Twelve days later, he struck out eight over five frames to earn his second win. On April 5, he notched 10 strikeouts over six one-run innings. He tallied seven-plus strikeouts in each of his first six starts, finishing the year with a decent earned run average (4.27) and an astounding strikeout rate (11.45 per nine innings).

The strikeouts were based off a fastball in the high 80s and low

90s paired with a nasty slider and changeup. The slider, while most effective in lefty-on-lefty situations, even befuddled a number of right-handed hitters, according to Fratto.

"If you've got a funky delivery, which Brandon does, it's a Chris Sale delivery, from the side, three-quarters, it's really tough on left-handed hitters," Fratto said. "His slider is pretty nasty. Not many left-handers can hit him."

Soon, Fratto wasn't the only one projecting big things for the freshman.

Fratto, in his decade-plus at

Oakton, has sent plenty of prospects to play Division I baseball. Still, he said, he's never experienced anything like the buzz Nowak brought.

"My phone was being blown up last year from major universities across the country," Fratto said. "He's probably the most sought-after kid I've had thus far."

If Fratto was stunned by the attention, Nowak was even more so. He went from barely recruited out of high school to heavily recruited with aspirations of professional baseball during his freshman year — in other words, from beginning to think about a new career to potentially making good money on the diamond.

"It all hit me very quickly," Nowak said. "I had no idea what to expect."

Even though myriad schools were courting him, Miami was a relatively easy decision. Accustomed to bitterly cold Chicago-land weather, Nowak had long been interested in the Sunshine State. When he visited Coral Gables, Fla., he was also struck by the coaching staff, which he described as a mixture of caring and down-to-earth.

Ever since committing, the thought of warmer weather has continued to tug at him.

"Going outside, starting my car to go to school, having to get in that car for five minutes to even warm up, next year, I'll be able to walk outside and feel that refreshing 80-degree weather all year-round," Nowak said.

In the meanwhile, Oakton expects big things.

That's not to say it will be easy. Fratto told Nowak that the opposition will be ready for him this year — foes will be more accustomed to his funky motion the second time around. Fratto told Nowak that he would have to be even tougher in 2017 and loved the response he got: "I'm ready!"

"Is he going to be 8-1?" Fratto said. "He could be 12-0. Who knows? We don't know. Every time I give him the ball, he's going to compete, and he's going to compete at a level that I'm going to be in a relaxed state of mind in the dugout knowing Brandon is on the mound."

Jonah Rosenblum is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Simkins overcomes lack of height with effort, smarts

BY GARY LARSEN
Pioneer Press

As a 5-foot-5 post player, Niles West senior Maddie Simkins has been on the receiving end of high elbows from taller players, plus the occasional cheap shot.

"It happens," Simkins said. "But you have to bite your tongue and walk away. There are times when you get hit and you want to fight back. But I'm part of Niles West and I have to represent my school in a good way."

Simkins' varsity career ended when the 11th-seeded Wolves suffered a 57-37 loss to fifth-seeded New Trier in the Class 4A Maine West Regional semifinals on Feb. 14, but she's leaving behind a blueprint for how to play with good sportsmanship.

"She plays the game the right way and she plays hard," Niles West coach Tony Konsewicz said. "She's the first one to help someone up off the floor. She's a very supportive teammate and she exemplifies what it means to be a good team player."

Offensive statistics don't measure Simkins' value to the varsity program. Instead, defending bigger and stronger players has been her great on-court contribution for the Wolves.

"It's challenging but in practice we work on defending bigger girls. It's fun because I have to play stronger and more aggressive," Simkins said. "I also have to know which way they're going to go, and be a step ahead of them. If they're turning left, I have to be there before they get there. I have to play smart."

"You can't think too much, you have to react. Coach always says in practice, 'Don't think — do.'"

Statistics also aren't what Konsewicz thinks about when he thinks of Simkins and her two older sisters, Jessie and Kacie, both of whom played for him at Niles West, or Sammie Simkins, a sophomore who played JV basketball this year.

"It's a whole family of lunch-

pail kids who show up every day, you never hear a peep out of them, and they're extremely hard workers," Konsewicz said.

Working hard was something the Simkins girls all learned at an early age, from parents Michael and Ann Simkins.

"My parents would take us to the park and we'd play softball, or we'd play basketball, and they'd always talk about trying our hardest and doing our best," Maddie Simkins said.

"They always preached hard work and we've all picked up on that idea of working hard, completing the tasks we need to complete and not letting anyone down."

Maddie Simkins' character is evident during the school day, too.

Two school periods per day, Maddie Simkins volunteers her time to work with physically- and mentally-disabled students in their gym classes at Niles West.

Maddie Simkins plans to attend Illinois State and major in elementary education with an endorsement in special education.

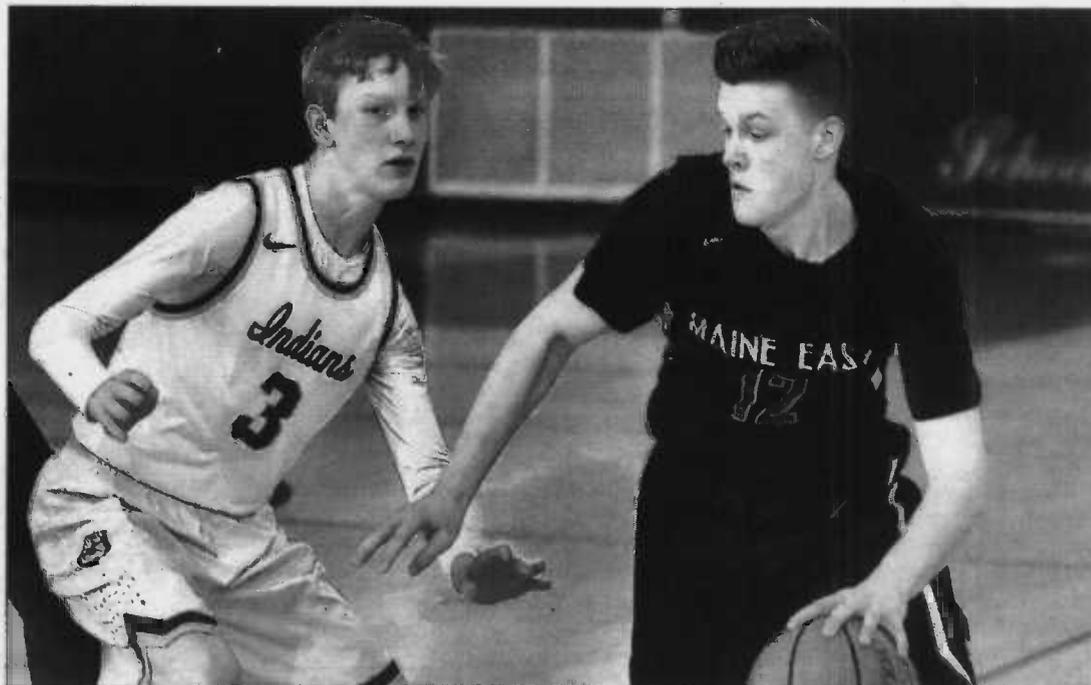
"They brighten up my day when I walk in the room," Maddie Simkins said of the students she works with. "They make me happy and make waking up and coming to school easier, just knowing I get to see them every day."

"I can do everything, and that makes me want to help people who aren't as fortunate as me to feel like they can do everything, too."

Before she graduates, Maddie Simkins is being recognized for everything she did for the Wolves basketball program.

"Every year at our post-conference meeting, each team chooses a (Central Suburban League) sportsmanship award," Konsewicz said. "Maddie is our recipient this year. Her effort and attitude kept her on the floor for us."

Gary Larsen is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



ERIC P. DAVIS/PIONEER PRESS

Maine East's Derek Jozwiak drives to the basket during a game against Lane on Jan. 7 in Chicago.

After year away, Jozwiak becomes key scorer for Blue Demons

BY STEVE REAVEN
Pioneer Press

Considering that he wasn't even part of the Maine East boys basketball program a year ago, Derek Jozwiak has traveled an unlikely path to senior stalwart.

"I'm shocked at how I'm playing, to be honest," said Jozwiak, who entered the final week of the regular season averaging almost 15 points per game.

"Even after sitting out, I never thought of not playing. If you want to go for something, you should go for it. Never give up because you'll never know where you'll end up."

For Jozwiak, that place has been in the middle of the Blue Demons' nucleus, serving as a dependable perimeter shooting threat.

It's a storyline that would have been difficult to envision at two different junctures in Jozwiak's basketball career.

First, he didn't even make his eighth-grade team. However, he managed to stick on Maine East's freshman B unit three years ago before a nondescript turn on the Blue Demons' sophomore squad.

Then came last year's sabatistical from the sport when family responsibilities forced the Morton

Grove resident to spend more time working at the Dairy Queen in Niles.

Basketball was still never far from Jozwiak's mind.

"I tried to work out as much as I could, usually at least an hour each day," Jozwiak said. "I always wanted to become a better basketball player."

Jozwiak approached Maine East coach Dave Genis last summer to gauge the potential for re-joining the program.

Genis had no problem offering an opportunity, but it was tempered with a healthy dose of skepticism.

"I told him that what he was trying to do would be hard," Genis said. "This kind of thing doesn't happen very often but, sure enough, he's done it. He's really stepped up and been a vital part of the team."

It was during a summer league game a few weeks later that Jozwiak's potential began to come to light. In one particular game, with a Blue Demons starter out with an injury, Jozwiak found the opening he craved.

"I thought to myself, 'This is my time, I've got to show them what I've got,'" he said. "I was running all of our plays really smoothly and

making all of my shots. I think that's when coach got it in his mind to give me a shot."

Jozwiak distinguishes himself with his feathery-soft shooting stroke. He's been an effective complement to leading scorer Jordan Irving, but was thrust into a more prominent role during a month-long stretch when Irving was sidelined with a hand injury.

The player who wasn't even on the team 12 months earlier suddenly found himself as the Blue Demons' No. 1 option on offense.

And Jozwiak didn't disappoint — his scoring output trended higher.

He averaged 18 points per game at the Lake Zurich MLK Weekend tournament, and he equaled that output in a 62-48 road loss to Highland Park on Friday, in which he banged home six 3-pointers, including two in the game's first 90 seconds.

"I've worked my butt off," Jozwiak said. "I'm very proud of where I am and what I'm doing to help my team."

Steve Reaven is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer_Press



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Niles West's Jacob Bobiles competes in the 100-yard freestyle at the Niles North Sectional on Saturday in Skokie.

Paloma, Bobiles each enjoy a career day at sectional

BY STEVE REAVEN | Pioneer Press

Niles West's Sam Paloma and Jacob Bobiles each ended their junior seasons on high notes at the Niles North Sectional, setting several personal records.

The meet on Saturday served dual purposes.

It gave each a taste of how they stack up against other top swimmers in the area. And they also now have a better idea of what they need to do to take the next step.

"I know for a fact now I have to do the whole offseason — summer workouts, fall workouts. If I do that, making it to state can

be done," said Paloma, a Morton Grove resident.

That's the ultimate goal for both.

Paloma's best shot will likely be in the 100-yard backstroke. He trimmed almost 10 seconds off his best time as a sophomore this season. His fifth-place finish in 55.49 seconds at the sectional left him just over two seconds from the state qualifying standard.

He also set a career-best in the 200 individual medley at the sectional with a time of 2:05.68 (11th). The 50 backstroke leg he swam on the 200 medley relay also was his fastest ever (25.70).

Bobiles set personal records in the 50 free and the 100 free (49.23, 10th) at the sectional. His time of 22.14 in the 50 free was only .28 seconds away from the state standard. That's a gap he said he's confident can be bridged.

"It's all about the determination to get the work done yourself," said Bobiles, who resides in Skokie. "There can't be any excuses or anything that holds you back."

Steve Reaven is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer_Press



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Niles North's Ethan Lee congratulates a competitor after the 50-yard freestyle on Saturday at the Niles North Sectional. Lee won the race.

'Everything just clicked' for Lee, Brown at sectional

BY DANIEL I. DORFMAN | Pioneer Press

With berths in the boys swimming state meet on the line, Niles North freestyle sprinters Ethan Lee and Jared Brown achieved peak performance.

Lee, a senior, won the 50-yard freestyle at the Niles North Sectional on Saturday, touching the wall in 21.28 seconds, and then squeezed into the state's 100 free by .35 by putting up a time of 47.37.

"This whole season has culminated in this meet," said Lee, who dyed his hair blond from a natural dark brown in a sign on team unity. "Everything just clicked and hopefully it will even be even better (at state)."

The state meet is scheduled for Friday and Saturday at New Trier.

Vikings coach Seth Orlove likes what he has seen from Lee.

"Ethan just loves to swim and he is a fierce competitor," Orlove said.

Brown, a junior, finished fourth in the 50 free (21.53) and advanced to state by bettering the state standard.

Lee and Brown joined senior Mitchell Mages and junior Anthony Zagorov to win the 200 free relay team with a new pool record (1:24.49) and then took second in the 400 free relay (3:09.62). The Vikings qualified for state in that relay as well.

"I exceeded my expectations," Brown said. "We worked really hard this season and we had a good taper so it all worked out."

In all, 12 Niles North entrants advanced to the state championships. That includes Maxim Royzen, who won the diving competition with a score of 620.60, a new record for the Niles North pool.

"The boys stepped up their game this week," Orlove said. "I was pretty excited."

Daniel I. Dorfman is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Northridge's Brendan Wagner competes in the 500-yard freestyle at the Niles North Sectional on Saturday.

Two sophomores start swim team at Northridge

BY STEVE REAVEN
Pioneer Press

Brendan Wagner and Thomas Bennett had each been swimming for years but something was missing — they had no team.

The Northridge sophomores changed that this winter.

Aided by school officials, encouraged by their respective families and accompanied by track and field coach Mike Egle, the duo competed at the Niles North Sectional on Saturday.

"We just came up with the idea a few months ago and thought it would be cool swimming for our school," Wagner said.

Both enjoyed the best swims of their lives at the sectional.

Wagner finished the 500-yard freestyle in 4 minutes, 47.09 seconds,

which was more than eight seconds faster than his previous best time. He placed fifth and was less than two seconds shy of qualifying for the state meet.

Bennett shaved almost a second off his previous best marks in both the 50 free and the 100 free. He finished in 24.19 (20th) and 55.84 (18th), respectively.

The positive experience the Elmhurst residents shared has them now looking eagerly toward the future.

"A few kids have come up to us and said maybe next year they would be interested in joining us on the team," Bennett said.

Anyone up for a relay?

Steve Reaven is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer_Press

NO POOL, NO PROBLEM

Swimming gaining in popularity at Notre Dame

BY STEVE REAVEN
Pioneer Press

Scant tradition and no pool at the school are two prominent obstacles for the Notre Dame boys swimming team.

Passion and word of mouth are also powerful tools, though, and each has played a major role in the Dons program almost doubling in size in the last two seasons.

"A lot of kids don't even know swimming is an option," assistant coach Steve Jankowski said. "We've got a lot of good athletes in the building. It's just a matter of us as coaches showing enthusiasm and letting the kids tell each other."

Notre Dame, which has not had a swimmer medal at state since the 1978-79 season, practices at the Lattof YMCA in Des Plaines, a 5-mile drive from campus. Once there, the Dons have 90 minutes at the most each weekday to practice.

In addition to Jankowski, people like Nicole Smokowicz also are vital in growing the program. She's the swim team director at Lattof and also a Notre Dame mom — her son, Cullen Crowe, is a freshman on the team.

"It's been fun because I've been able to really see the boys grow and improve," Smokowicz said. "It's great to see them starting to develop friendships and identify with being on a team."

Students like freshman



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

Notre Dame's Cullen Crowe swims the breaststroke leg of the 200-yard medley relay at the Niles North Sectional on Saturday.

Danny Collins are the final piece to the puzzle. He didn't have any formal swimming experience when he and fellow freshman, James Christie, decided to attend the team's "open swims" in November.

Collins, who resides in Chicago's Norwood Park community area, liked what he saw and joined the team. Notre Dame had 20 people

on the team this season, 16 last season and 11 two years ago.

Like many Dons, Collins' development has been dramatic. He posted a career-best time of 28.60 seconds in the 50-yard freestyle at the Niles North Sectional on Saturday. It was an improvement of more than 45 seconds from the start of the season.

"I figured what's the worst that can happen?" Collins said of becoming part of the swim team. "Now I'm pretty happy with the team we've got and I see a lot more improvement ahead."

Steve Reaven is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer_Press



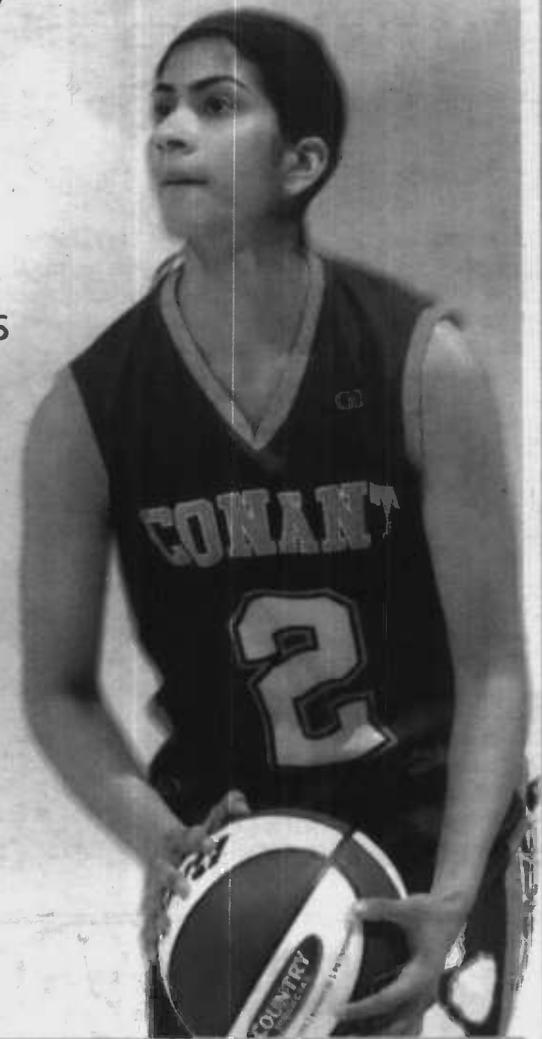
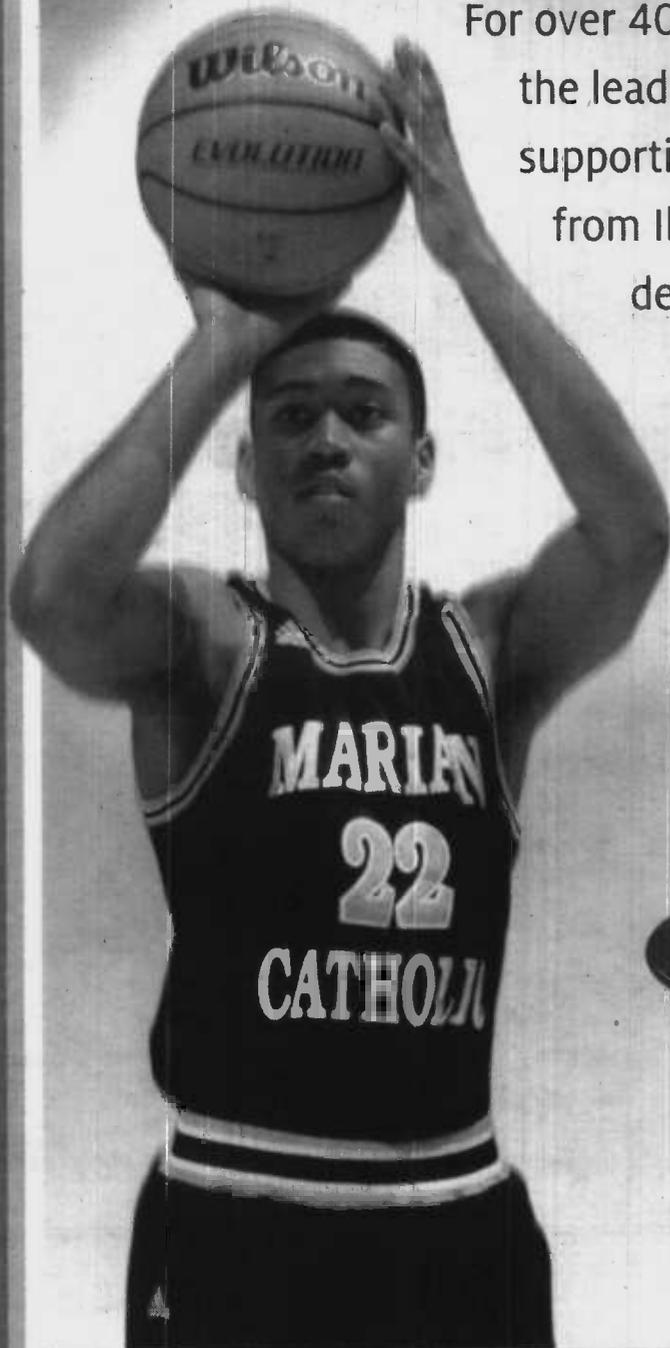
READY FOR THE NEXT CHALLENGE?

Check back in two weeks to see who our finalists are for the March Athlete of the Month challenge. Voting begins at noon on March 9 at chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes. Thank you to everyone who voted in February!

CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM/ATHLETES

Shared passion, shared partnership

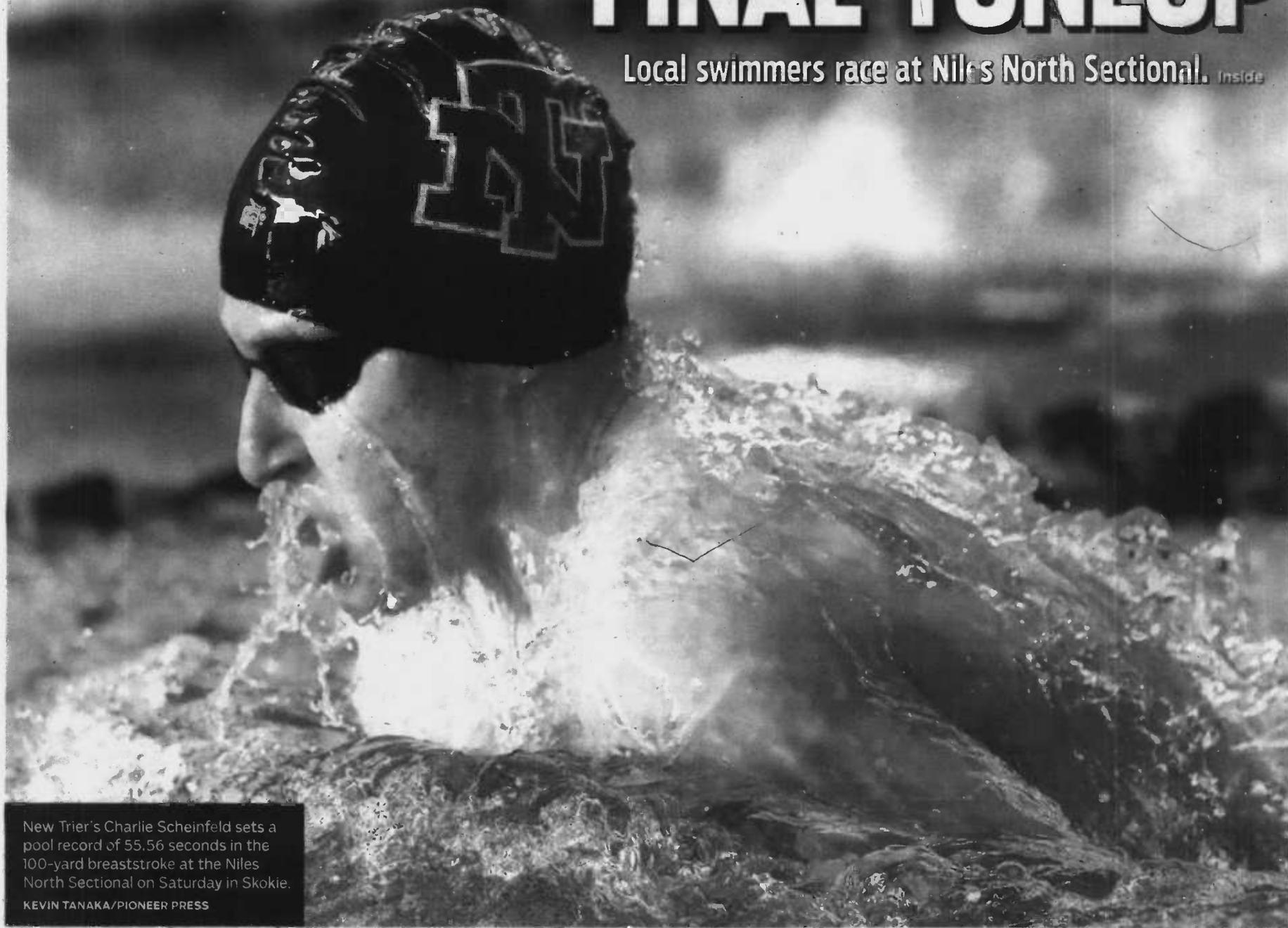
For over 40 years, COUNTRY Financial® has been the leading corporate sponsor of IHSA sports, supporting thousands of high school athletes from Illinois. IHSA helps students learn dedication, discipline, teamwork, and the value of hard work so they can grow into leaders. At COUNTRY Financial®, we share that same passion for molding our youth into leaders that turn their talents into successful careers.



844-203-4680 | COUNTRYFinancial.com

FINAL TUNEUP

Local swimmers race at Niles North Sectional. *Inside*



New Trier's Charlie Scheinfeld sets a pool record of 55.56 seconds in the 100-yard breaststroke at the Niles North Sectional on Saturday in Skokie.

KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS



Chicago Golf Show

presented by



FRENCH LICK RESORT
FRENCH LICK & WEST BADEN - INDIANA

FEBRUARY 24-26 ROSEMONT

HALL OF FAME WEEKEND

CATCH BASEBALL GREATS TIM RAINES AND RYNE SANDBERG ON THE MAIN STAGE

Plus...find special **DEALS** on golf apparel, equipment, golf destinations and discounted rounds at area golf courses! Get a **FREE** round of golf, courtesy of GolfVisions, with paid admission! Learn more at **CHICAGOGOLFSHOW.COM**



SATURDAY: TIM RAINES



SUNDAY: RYNE SANDBERG

Supported by
PGA
Club Section

Presented by
FRENCH LICK RESORT
FRENCH LICK & WEST BADEN - INDIANA

PGA

PGA



GOLFVISIONS

SUPERSTORE

TBX-FREE™

855-981-9875

Call now to learn how
to get 2 weeks free!

ATTENTION SMOKERS

New product hits the market which will win the fight against COPD.
Smokers can now stop smoking with TBX-FREE™.

More effective than the Patch and GUM

- ✓ #1 Choice by Smokers
- ✓ Fast-Acting
- ✓ No Side Effects or Withdrawals
- ✓ 88% Success Rate vs 4% combined success rate of the patch & gum!
- ✓ Just \$1.67 per day (based on a month supply)

FDA
REGISTERED
69305-0001-01



Clinically Proven: New England Journal of Medicine

Century 21
The Gold Standard

MARINO REALTORS
5800 Dempster - Morton Grove
(847) 967-5500

(OUTSIDE ILLINOIS CALL 1-800 253-0021)

www.century21marino.com



SO MUCH TO OFFER!

Mount Prospect... Just Listed! Unique 2 Story Home with Charm and Character! 4/5 Bedrooms & 2 1/2 Baths. Very well maintained Large Home. 2 Large Bedrooms on each level and a Den/Office on each level capable of being 2 additional bedrooms makes this a must see Home! Great layout affords tons of space. Secluded Park like yard with large Brick Paver patio & Professionally landscaped yard with tons of space. Featuring Mount Prospect sought after Schools. Convenient location to Shopping, Churches, Interstate and much more! Ask only.....\$449,900

VACANT LOT ~NORTHBROOK~ONLY \$239,000!

Northbrook... Just Listed! Super Opportunity to build your Dream Home! Exceptional Lot & Location: 100' x 200' Lot Zoned Single Family Residential. Rare opportunity to build a luxury home of your own style & design. All utilities are readily available at the site for quick and easy planning and construction. This area is booming with many new luxury homes and development. Convenient Location offers fabulous schools, parks, shopping/restaurants and access to I/294. Won't Last at \$239,000



SPECTACULAR IN EVERY WAY!

Skokie... Superb 7 rm brick Bi-level located in sought-after School District #68 & steps from Jane Stenson School!! Newly remodeled throughout! New paint & decorating. Beautiful oak floors in living room, dining room & 3 rms. Custom Granite kitchen with stainless steel appliances, ceramic tile floor & backsplash, double stainless steel sink, built-in oven & range. 2 newly remodeled baths. Lower level family room. New custom wood grain front entry door leads to large ceramic tile foyer. New Carrier furnace '07 & new roof '15. Fenced yard with patio. Low Price.....\$319,900



HOUSE BEAUTIFUL!!

Lake Forest... Absolutely Stunning Spectacular 4 BR French Mansard with inviting 20' entry foyer & grand staircase. Deluxe chef's kitchen with custom cabinets & Corian counters + dinette area overlooking yard/patio. 20'x15' formal dining rm with skylights & FP. 1st floor library. Master BR/Bath suite with 6'x3' Kohler whirlpool tub & separate shower stall, skylight, 13' deep walk-in closet, adjacent office/study & sitting rm with skylight. Oak floors, crown moldings & custom trim details throughout. Finished bsmt. 1st flr laundry rm. 2 1/2 car gar. Circular driveway..... \$739,000