

NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR



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Encouraged to 'speak up'

Town hall urges protestors, dissenters of Trump administration's recent actions to keep making their voices heard. **Page 6**



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS

U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky speaks March 3 at a town hall meeting held at the Muslim Community Center in Morton Grove. Schakowsky and civic and elected officials spoke at the gathering of about 125 area residents and shared their thoughts on the importance of continuing to protest against the actions of President Donald Trump and his administration.

GO



TRINITY IRISH DANCERS PHOTO

Go green

Check out some fun ways to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. **Page 21**

SPORTS



MICHAEL SCHMIDT/PIONEER PRESS

Extra motivation

Niles North, Damaris Franklin have all summer to think about squandering late lead to Notre Dame. **Page 45**

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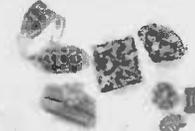
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SHOUT OUT

Sal Rehman, entrepreneur and 'wing' man

Sal Rehman, 28, is scheduled to bring a Wing Zone restaurant to Niles this spring. The young entrepreneur and franchisee said he grew up helping out in a family member's diner before deciding to strike out on his own. He recently opened a Wing Zone in Lombard.

Q: Where will the new Wing Zone be located in Niles, and what made you want to bring one of the restaurants to Niles?

A: The Niles location will be at 8600 W. Golf Road. I've been focusing on bringing Wing Zone to communities in Chicagoland that are growing and have a growing demand for great food, delivered. Customers at my nearby Skokie location ask when we're coming to Niles a lot, so I wanted to fill that demand.

Q: How many locations do you own, and where are they?

A: I currently have four Wing Zone locations: Glendale Heights, Skokie and Lombard.

Q: What do you like about

being a young entrepreneur?

A: I love that I own my own business and that I'm responsible for building this up. Because Wing Zone is a franchise, I get support and best practices from the corporate team, however I am able to run the day-to-day operations and customize my business on my own. I get to be my own boss and manage a great and growing team.

Q: What are the biggest challenges of being a business owner?

A: There is a lot of hard work that comes with being a business owner. I am responsible for the livelihood of my team, so it's important to stay on top of everything. As we continue to expand and open more locations, there is more coordination and back and forth between restaurants.

Q: So far, what has been your "secret to success?"

A: My family had a restaurant in Chicago growing up, and I learned a lot about running a restaurant helping out there. My secret to

success has been having an understanding of each role within my restaurants, growing in a strategic manner and building a strong and reliable team that have supported me and my business as I've continued to grow.

Q: When does the new location open in Niles, and will there be an event or events to mark the grand opening?

A: We are planning on opening Niles early April. Yes there will be a big grand opening event. Bounce house for the kids, DJ, photo booth, giveaways and a wing-eating contest! The exact date and time of the event is TBD.

Q: What is your personal favorite menu item?

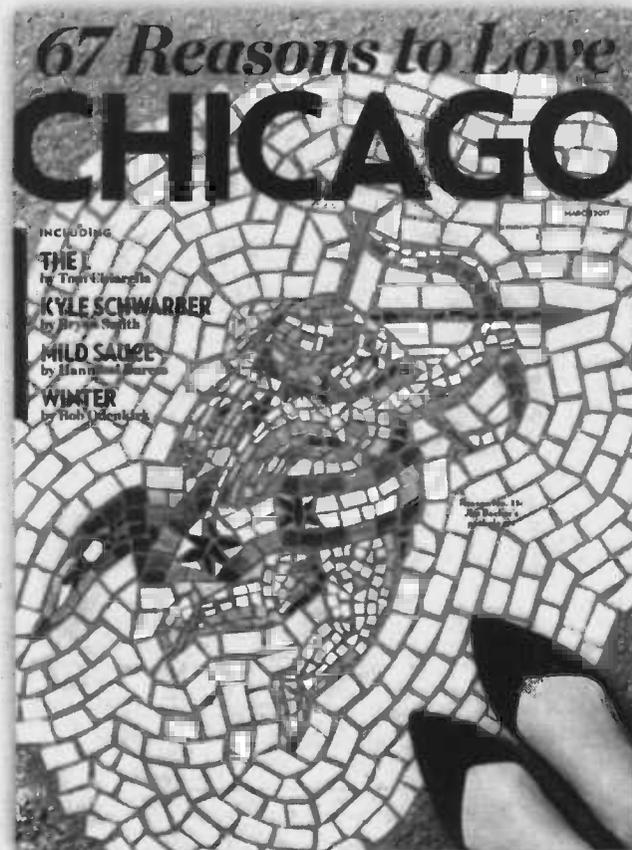
A: Thai Chili Hand Breaded Boneless Wings.

—Staff report, Pioneer Press

Shout Out is a weekly feature in which we get to know and introduce readers to fellow community members and local visitors throughout suburban Chicago. Check out more online at ChicagoTribune.com/ShoutOut.



Sal Rehman



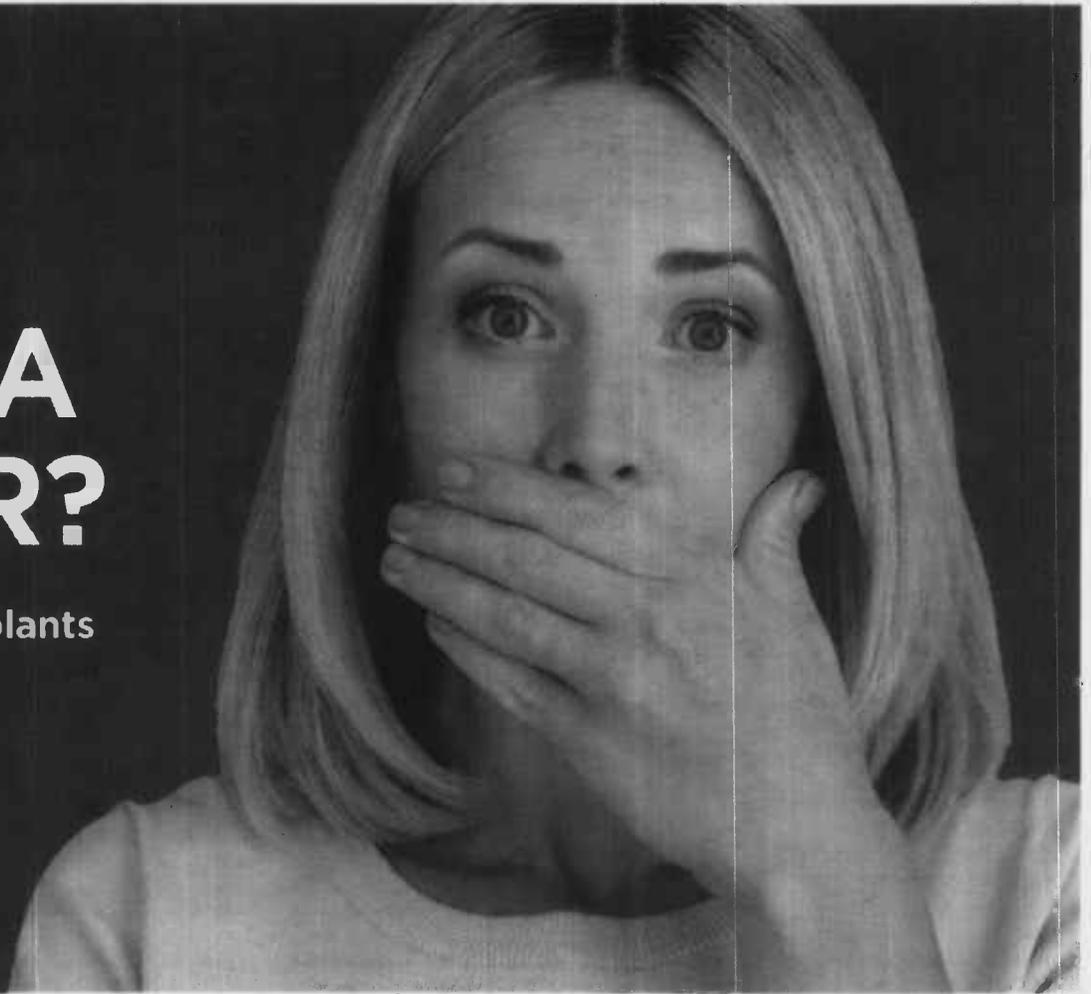
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Town hall focuses on resistance to Trump administration

Schakowsky returns to Morton Grove, encourages others to 'speak up'

By MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky and other speakers at a town hall meeting March 3 urged protesters and dissenters of recent actions by the Trump administration to keep making their voices heard.

Even in the wake of relentless challenges and controversy, there was "good news" to focus on, she told about 125 people at the Muslim Education Center in Morton Grove.

"I've been an organizer for 40-plus years and never have I seen in my lifetime a greater resistance — a greater mobilization — of people who have come out in a consistent way, beginning with the day after the (Trump) inauguration," the congresswoman said.

The crowd — some of them Muslim Education Center students — heard Schakowsky and others talk about what they said were dire ramifications of actions the president has taken since he assumed office in January — and the importance of protesting against them.

The town hall meeting was purposefully titled "People's Resistance Through Congressional Opposition," organizers said.

Speakers also issued a stinging rebuke of the Trump administration.

The congresswoman called for the resignation of recently appointed Attorney General Jeff Sessions based on controversy over his alleged contact with Russia before the election.

Though, nationally, some Republicans have agreed with Sessions' decision to recuse himself from any investigation of the meeting, the party has rebuffed calls for him to step down as



KEVIN TANAKA/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

The audience responds to remarks made by civic and elected officials during a town hall meeting held March 3 at the Muslim Community Center in Morton Grove.

attorney general.

White House officials, including the president, have said that some of the town hall events that have taken place in congressional districts nationwide — mostly Republican ones — include staged protests.

"The so-called angry crowds in home districts of some Republicans are actually, in numerous cases, planned out by liberal activists. Sad!" Trump tweeted Feb. 21

Schakowsky, D-Illinois, whose 9th District includes Evanston, Lincolnwood, Skokie and portions of Morton Grove, last came to the Muslim Education Center in January, joining a protest of about 500 people against Trump's Jan. 27 immigration executive order.

Those kind of protests, she said, as well as the women's march following the inauguration, leave her optimistic — even with a Republican-controlled House and Senate.

"I see so many people now are ready to take on all the challenges that we are facing right now," she said.



Amy Grabowski asks a question of civic and elected officials present during the town hall meeting in Morton Grove.

"A president of the United States needs to be set straight. He needs to be set straight by our people. We not only need to take the message to Congress, we need to take the message to the ballot box."

The town hall was moderated by Maaria Mozaffar of Council on American Islamic Relations — Chicago, an organization that bills itself as the nation's largest Muslim civil rights



Omar Siddiqui hands thank you cards to U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky at the March 5 town hall meeting.

and advocacy group.

"Right now is a very unique time," Mozaffar said about the need to hold such town hall meetings. "Throughout the country, as we've seen through protests and through marches, the country is realizing exactly who they are. The country is realizing that they are not the people in the executive branch.

Jane Ramsey, a Chicago board member of the Phila-

delphia-based Shalom Center, said "a dramatic increase" in violence and hate crimes in recent weeks against immigrants, refugees, African Americans, Latinos and Jews "reflects a dangerous national trend."

"They reflect a broad atmosphere of intolerance, unleashing ... suspicion and hate that poisons and infects the very fabric of America," she said.

According to Ramsey, the

incidents of hate and Trump's efforts to restrict some Muslim immigration to the U.S. have resulted in the country being in danger of being "tragically set adrift from its core values."

"We call upon our nation's and community's leaders to join us in assuring that all persons' civil and legal rights are protected, that all may practice their religion, free from fear," she said.

Turning to Schakowsky, Ramsey said, "we are here seeking ... rejection of a Muslim ban, rejection of the scapegoating and deportation of immigrant mothers and fathers."

The speakers, including an attorney from the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, said they have seen growing fear from people in recent weeks, especially since the executive orders were issued.

Schakowsky told a story about a Muslim family celebrating a birthday at a restaurant in the community when approached by a white woman. The family was told to leave "and go back where they came from," she said.

"They got up and left the restaurant," Schakowsky said. "There were some tears from family members. The restaurateur, to that person's credit, threw the woman out. But I have to tell you she also told me that no one in the restaurant stood up in their defense and for their protection."

Schakowsky then looked at the crowd and said it's important to be there for each other.

"If you witness something like that, it is our responsibility to get up and surround those people," she said to applause. "Stand up as witnesses and protectors. That will discourage that kind of thing. So all of us have to be together to protect against discrimination."

Police, bystanders help save man's life following heart attack

Feb. 11 incident took place at Skokie restaurant

By MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

Vivian Aronson calls her husband's unforeseen heart attack in a Skokie restaurant last month "a curveball" that life threw at the retired couple.

"We're very careful about taking care of ourselves," she said.

Her husband, in fact, had recently had a physical, heart scan and a stress test and there was no warning of any trouble, she said.

But on a Saturday night at Shallots Bistro, in the 7000 block of Carpenter Road, Michael Aronson, 71, suddenly blacked out with his wife and another couple at the table, Vivian Anderson said, recalling the Feb. 11 incident.

Fortunately, his story has a happy ending — in large part because of compassionate fellow diners, responsive police officers and a caring and competent medical staff, Vivian said.

"I did not know that that dinner was almost my last," Michael Aronson later wrote to Skokie police. "Early on in the meal, I suddenly stopped talking and became unresponsive and started to turn blue."

Vivian said what happened next was "kind of like a fantasy. Everyone came together and worked like a team," she said.

When her husband blacked out, she and others yelled out for someone to call 911, she said.

Then, a handful of fellow diners lined up and took turns administering CPR to her husband, she said, until police and paramedics arrived.

Once police showed up, one of the diners went next door to a fitness center and got a defibrillator.

Once police had the de-



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

Michael Aronson, 71, suffered a heart attack at Shallots Bistro in Skokie Feb. 11. He credits other diners and Skokie police with helping to save his life.

fibrillator in hand, police administered two shocks to Michael Aronson and revived him, his wife said.

Skokie police officials said the Skokie Fire Department arrived on the scene, treated Michael Aronson and he was taken to North Shore Skokie Hospital.

"I think our officers did a great job to assist the citizen until the fire department could get there," said Skokie police Officer Eric Swaback. "We're happy there was a good outcome."

Vivian Aronson said the incident made her faith in God that much stronger and the couple wanted to share their story in the hope it benefits other people.

NorthShore Skokie Hospital Interventional Cardiologist Dr. Josh Loew, who led the team working on Michael Aronson when he arrived at the hospital, said they confirmed he suffered a heart attack. In fact, he said, Aronson had 100 percent blockage in one artery, which is commonly referred to as a "widow maker."

"He had life-threatening arrhythmia and was shocked back to a normal rhythm at the restaurant,"

Loew said. "Having the defibrillator nearby and getting it so quickly was very fortunate. The heart attack, though, still had to be treated."

Skokie police are trained in using defibrillators in emergencies, Swaback said.

It's training that Loew called "very important."

"If someone arrests in the field, and they're down for some time and they have to await paramedics," he said, "during that amount of time their brain is not receiving normal blood perfusion."

Having a heart attack in public where paramedics are immediately called to the scene increases chances for survival, the doctor said. But administering CPR and especially electric shocks from a defibrillator make it much more likely neurological functions will remain intact, he said.

Michael Aronson's prognosis is good although Vivian said he is more tired than usual and suffered broken ribs during CPR. Loew said that's not uncommon and can even be a sign the emergency procedure is being administered correctly.

"We're so grateful for the way people came together," Vivian said.

In his letter to police, Michael Aronson singled out nine police officers who were on the scene that day who he says helped save his life. They included Sgt. Michael Liebau and Officers Patrick Panizo, Shane Long, Kevin Moore, John Odea, David Badagliacco, Eric McCune, Jeffrey Riggs and Sabih Khan.

"Skokie police officers rushed to the scene right away," Michael Aronson said. "It is due to the quick response time and extensive training of the Skokie police officers that I am still alive to share my story."

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A 'taste' of local cuisine

29th annual feast of an event benefits local charities, nonprofits

By **KARIE ANGELL LUC** | Pioneer Press

Hundreds of people flocked to the Taste of Morton Grove on March 2, taking part in an event what organizers say is as much about community as it is the savory food that was available.

"It typifies Morton Grove in that we have a diversity in our food and culture," Village President Dan DiMaria said about the annual village fundraiser. "It's our biggest community event next to the Fourth of July."

This year marked the 29th annual 'taste', which is hosted by the Morton Grove Foundation and benefits local charities and nonprofit organizations, according to organizers.

People purchased tickets to the event, held at The White Eagle, in Niles, which allowed them to dig in to a variety of foods — from soups to desserts — prepared by 22 area food purveyors and caterers.

The goal this year was to raise \$45,000, organizers said.

Then the proceeds are

donated.

"It's truly the meaning of community," DiMaria said.

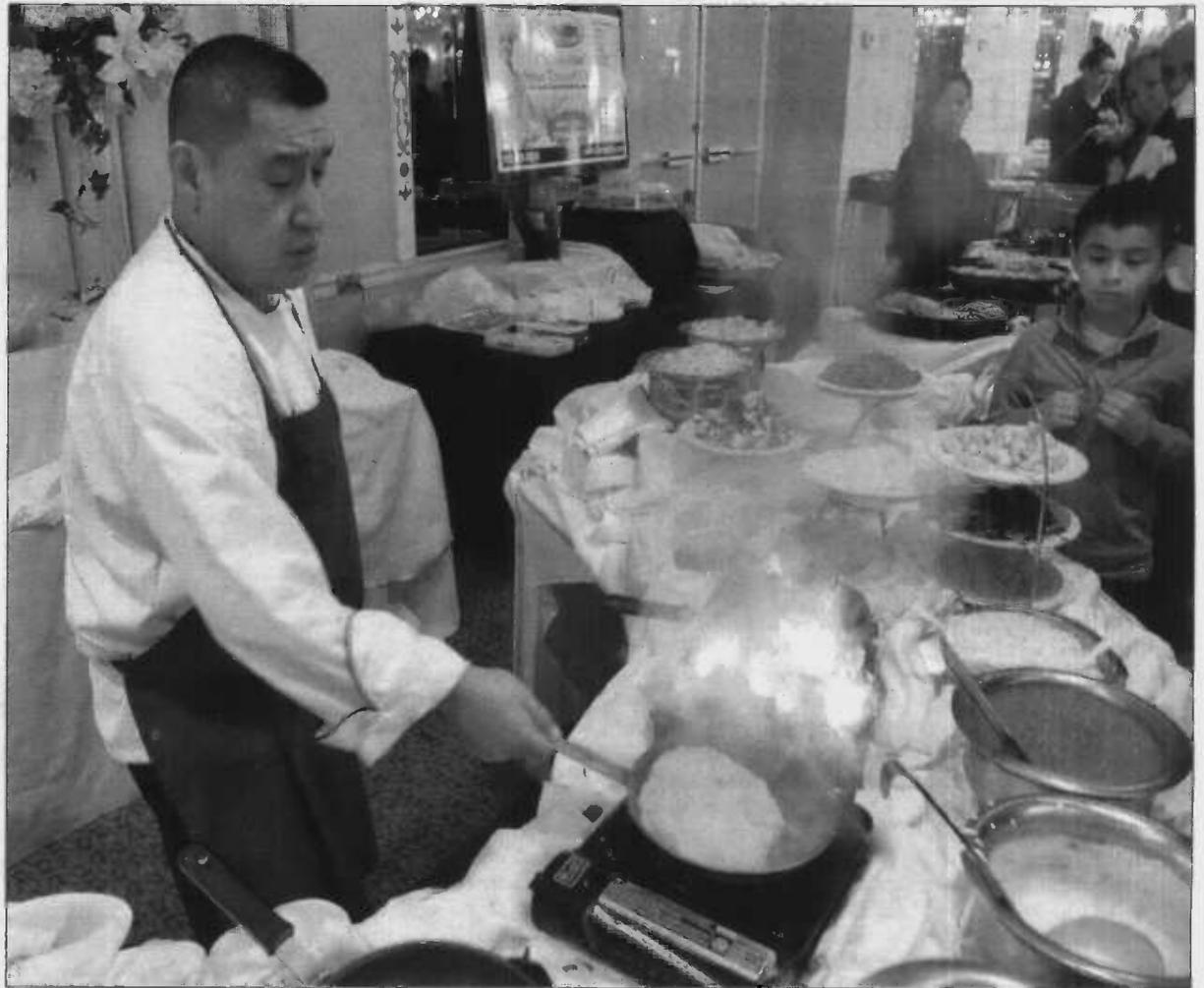
Mike Simkins, a Taste of Morton Grove organizer and chairman of the Morton Grove Foundation, said putting on the food fest is a collaborative effort that includes the village administration, the police, fire and public works departments, the park district, the business community and a host of other volunteers.

"Everybody works together to put this event together," Simkins said. "It's the only event I've ever been a part of ... that brings so many facets of the community together."

Among the food served up was a special recipe chili made by members of the fire department.

"Part of our job is helping out the community so it's nice to see them in not an emergency setting," said Brandon Patchett, a Morton Grove firefighter/paramedic.

Lorraine Strybel, Karen Berkowsky, both of Morton



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Humberto Soto of Victoria Banquets and Catering, located in Niles, serves diners at the Taste of Morton Grove fundraiser on March 2.

Grove, and Patty Bacci of Niles, were among the estimated 700 attendees.

"We've been coming for years," Strybel said. "It's a great event."

Karie Angell Luc is a freelancer.



Carlos Orozco of Catered by Design, located in Morton Grove, serves Skokle/Morton Grove School District 69 worker Sarah Davis at the Taste of Morton Grove fundraiser on March 2.



Morton Grove Village President Dan DiMaria is flanked by, from left, Lorraine Strybel, Karen Berkowsky, both from Morton Grove, and Patty Bacci of Niles at the Taste of Morton Grove fundraiser.

Hhgregg closing 88 stores, including Niles location

Electronics retailer battling slow sales, troubled finances

BY LAUREN ZUMBACH
Chicago Tribune

Electronics retailer hhgregg will close 40 percent of its stores as it works to stem the red ink and turn around slow sales.

The 88 store closings include hhgregg's Schaumburg, Bloomingdale, Arlington Heights, Niles, Springfield and Champaign locations, the company said in a news release March 2. The Indianapolis-based retailer is also closing three distribution centers in Maryland, Florida and Pennsylvania.

The retailer has 12 other stores in Illinois.

Hhgregg President and CEO Robert Riesbeck said the closing stores are unprofitable or located in areas that are no longer shopping destinations.

"We feel strongly that the markets we will remain in are the right ones for our customers and our business model. Our team is dedicated to moving forward and being a profitable 132-



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The hhgregg store in Schaumburg is included in the planned closings, along with many others in Illinois.

store, multiregional chain where we will continue to be a dominant force in appliances, electronics and home furnishings," he said.

The 88 stores are expected to close by mid-April, eliminating about 1,500 jobs, hhgregg said.

Hhgregg said last month that it hired a financial adviser and investment banker to pursue a range of potential strategic and financial transactions to help it find ways to get back

to profitability.

The announcement came a month after hhgregg reported a 22 percent drop in sales at stores open at least 14 months — mostly because of weak consumer electronics sales — during the quarter that ended in December.

Bloomberg reported the chain is preparing to file for bankruptcy as soon as this month.

lzumbach@chicagotribune.com

Police: Skokie woman hit officer in face after altercation at Wal-Mart

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER
Pioneer Press

A Skokie woman allegedly "battered" a Wal-Mart employee and hit a Skokie police officer in the face on March 2 after a Wal-Mart worker declined to cash her check, Skokie police said March 3.

Marie Roberge, 40, of Skokie, was arrested after allegedly hitting the worker and then fleeing into a business next to the Wal-

Mart at 3626 Touhy Ave., according to a police press release.

Roberge is charged with misdemeanor battery and felony aggravated battery, to a police officer, the release said.

Police found Roberge in the adjacent business and tried to arrest her, according to the release.

During the arrest, she allegedly struck a police



Marie Roberge

officer in the face and hit a Wal-Mart loss prevention agent.

The officer was taken to a hospital for treatment and released, the release said.

The two Wal-Mart employees were treated on the scene by the Skokie Fire Department.

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The following items were taken from the Niles and Lincolnwood police department reports. An arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt.

Niles

RETAIL THEFT

■ James T. Mahoney, 29, of the 5700 block of North McVicker, Chicago, and Katherine Hickey-Mahoney, 50, of the 7200 block of West Howard Street, Chicago, were charged with retail theft on Feb. 14 after police said they stole items from a store in the 7200 block of Harlem Avenue.

■ Jerome Roberts, 30, of the 13100 block of South St. Lawrence Avenue, Chicago, was charged with retail theft on Feb. 15 after he was accused of stealing merchandise from a store in the 8200 block of Golf Road.

DUI

■ Saikhanjargal Bayasgalan,

19, of the 4800 block of West Wrightwood, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence and driving without a valid license in the 8600 block of Milwaukee Avenue on Feb. 13.

■ Nirmal Pandya, 30, of the 9000 block of Grace Avenue, Niles, was charged with driving under the influence on Feb. 14 following a traffic stop in the 8200 block of Elizabeth Avenue.

FIRE

■ Police and firefighters responded to a home in the 8400 block of North Terrace Feb. 15. A resident told police that a drone battery exploded while it was being charged, causing the kitchen table to catch fire.

PUBLIC INTOXICATION

■ A 56-year-old Niles man was ticketed with public intoxication on Feb. 12 after police and paramedics responded to a parkway near Cumberland Avenue and

Ballard Road for a report of a person on the ground. The man was taken to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, police said.

ORDINANCE VIOLATION

■ The owner of a business in the 8800 block of Milwaukee Avenue was charged with allowing smoking indoors after officers reportedly observed 16 hookahs being smoked by customers on Feb. 13.

■ A 39-year-old woman was ticketed by police after she reportedly left her two children, ages 6 and 8, alone inside a parked car Feb. 14 while she shopped at a store in the 8500 block of Golf Road. Police said the children appeared to be OK and "were not upset about being left in the vehicle." The woman said she had been in the store "for a short period of time," police said. A Department of Children and Family Services notification was issued.

FRAUD

■ A 46-year-old Niles woman told police on Feb. 13 that she was scammed into giving her banking information to someone who claimed to be with a loan company. Police said the woman lost \$242.

THEFT

■ A motor scooter was stolen overnight between Feb. 10 and 11 from the 7000 block of Jarvis Avenue, police said.

■ On Feb. 14, the coin collector unit was discovered stolen from a dryer in the laundry room of an apartment building in the 8900 block of Wisner Street, police said. An estimated \$1,000 in coins were reported stolen.

■ An unsecured bicycle was reported stolen Feb. 14 from outside a store in the 9000 block of Greenwood Avenue. According to police, surveillance camera footage showed a person in a gray hoodie take the bike.

BURGLARY

■ A resident in the 9200 block of Maynard Road reported her walker was missing from her closet when she returned from a trip Feb. 11. Police said there were no signs of forced entry to the residence.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

■ A car's side mirrors, taillights and driver's side window were discovered damaged Feb. 10 while the car was parked in the 8600 block of Wisner Street.

Lincolnwood

HIT AND RUN

■ Alexis Mosquera, 19, of the 2200 block of Lawndale, Chicago, was issued multiple citations including leaving the scene of an accident stemming from an incident Feb. 27 in the 3700 block of Touhy Avenue. Police said a witness followed Mosquera from the Touhy Avenue scene, and Mosquera was pulled over by police a short

time later in the 6300 block of Cicero Avenue. Police said there was extensive front-end damage to Mosquera's vehicle, with the front bumper completely ripped off and placed inside the vehicle. According to police, Mosquera admitted he was involved in a crash and left the scene because he did not have insurance. He was also cited with operating an uninsured vehicle, improper lane usage and driving too fast for conditions.

THEFT

■ Jimmy Montes De Oca, 35, of the 4800 block of Central Park Avenue, Chicago, was charged with retail theft and criminal damage to property stemming from an incident Feb. 25 at a retailer in the 3300 block of Touhy Avenue. Police said the suspect damaged a security device on a jacket for sale and tried to leave the store without paying for another jacket.

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EDUCATION

District 64 candidates talk spending, taxes

Seven potential school board members discuss a possible future referendum

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Financial decisions — from teacher pay to building repairs to school lunch programs — are among the most important decisions local school board members are required to make as part of their elected duties.

The seven candidates running for four, four-year seats on the Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 Board of Education recently responded to questions on district spending, property taxes and if a future referendum would get their support.

What are your thoughts on the district's current spending practices?

Rick Biagi: I have disagreed with the board's decisions on several fiscal issues, including the secured vestibule project.

However, my greater concern is with the current and past boards' propensity to conduct too many of the discussions related to major financial decisions, including the current teachers' contract and compensation issues for administrators, behind closed doors.

Greg Bublitz: I believe that District 64 is in line with comparable districts geographically, demographically and economically. My main concern is that spending is in

line with best practices and appropriate curriculum, and I would work to ensure that this remains the case. For example, the math and literacy curriculum currently in use is appropriate, lines up well with state standards and is research-based. I would be against approving spending on items or initiatives that were not appropriate for students based on solid research.

Norman Dziedzic: After the last referendum, the



Norman Dziedzic

Community Finance Committee recommended a fund balance of 33 percent, which was achieved shortly thereafter. The fund balance is currently around 66 percent. We will not need to go to referendum in 2017, extending the original 10-year period that the district promised would lapse before it would ask the community for increased funding. I believe the board has done a good job of being fiscally responsible.

Larry Ryles: I believe the board should have been more transparent in its spending practices. I also believe there should have been some town hall meetings to provide the community more information and more input as to how their money is being spent. I believe there should have been more dis-



Larry Ryles

cussion on possibly going to referendum on the security vestibules. I do believe the district's spending practices have been focused on the education, security and safety of our children.

Fred Sanchez: My biggest issue with the district's current spending practices is the board's proclivity to make decisions on expenditures be-



Fred Sanchez

hind closed doors. Time and time again, we have seen the board retreat to closed sessions to discuss and ultimately decide on issues of substantial cost to the taxpayer, most significantly the last teachers' contract. I want to bring increased transparency to the board so that the residents of District 64 fully understand how the district is spending their tax dollars.

Michael Schaab: I believe the spending habits are headed in the right direction. I have heard a lot of the phrase "deferred maintenance" spoken at board meetings. Work that should have been completed in the past is now being completed, however some of this work became big projects due the fact the issues were not addressed in a timely fashion. With over 4,000 students in the district, we need to make sure we are maximizing every dollar spent.



Michael Schaab

Eastman Tiu: Most of the spending has been responsible, but I think there are ways to be more efficient with the budget and



Eastman Tiu

with our current district resources. I also feel that certain expenditures are not financially sustainable when those resources can be used elsewhere.

The board of education typically approves a higher property tax levy each year. What are your thoughts on this practice?

Rick Biagi: I am vehemently opposed to the notion that the board should increase the tax levy each year in the absence of a legitimate need for the additional funds, simply because it's legally permissible. Some on the current board and in the current administration erroneously espouse the viewpoint of "use-it-or-lose-it" when deciding whether to assess a tax levy increase. In virtually every year on the (Park Ridge) park board, I voted against tax levy increases because the staff failed to present a persuasive argument as to why those additional monies were needed. I intend to take the same approach at District 64.

Greg Bublitz: I would not automatically assume we should raise taxes every year... Many variables need to be examined before this decision is made. The economy, the health of the community, the needs of school infrastructure, educational requirements and CPI are all factors in whether or not the levy should be raised. It is not appropriate to say it should or should not be raised every year. It depends.

Norman Dziedzic: The tax levy decision should be made considering the current state of district finances and the existing and anticipated future needs of the district. However, I feel the current board has been

diligently finding and cutting waste in the budget for at least the past four years and these savings will be harder and harder to find. Increasing the levy by the legally mandated limit of the CPI means we are requesting to have the same purchasing power as the previous year.

Larry Ryles: There is a state-mandated 5-percent ceiling increase on the annual tax levy. The District 64 board has typically asked for 4.9 percent. They never get it and never will. I expect, as in the past, they will receive closer to 1 percent. There is stability in a 1 percent to 1.5 percent (increase) each year. The fact remains, 85 percent of the district finances are tied up in payroll.

Fred Sanchez: Raising the tax levy just because you have the authority to do so does not mean you should. I will not support any increase to the tax levy without having been presented a detailed justification for needing to do so, and not before sharing that explanation with the taxpayer.

Michael Schaab: While no one wants to hear their taxes are going up, by not utilizing the tax levy each year, it will penalize the school district in future years. I think that the school board and the school district needs to do a better job explaining the process of how the tax levy works.

Eastman Tiu: Continuously increasing operational costs alone necessitate increasing revenue each year. As a school board, we need to spend responsibly, but also make decisions based on reality.

Would you support going to referendum to increase property taxes if the district's financial health takes a downturn?

Rick Biagi: That depends on the cause of the downturn. I normally would be willing to go to referendum for additional tax funding only after every

possible option for cost cutting has been exhausted. However, if a downturn appears to be the product of the district's own mismanagement or poor planning, a referendum can be a very useful tool for greater engagement of the voters/taxpayers in the district's operations.

Greg Bublitz: I think the real focus should be on the fiscal health of the district and being proactive in spending efficiently and wisely with a continued eye toward the future. Referendums can be very divisive to a community, and I would be reluctant to recommend one. However, if necessity dictates the need and all other options have been spent, I would suggest it would be necessary to support a referendum.

Norman Dziedzic: I support the breadth of our curriculum and truly feel that our wide variety of core and elective classes is a large part of what makes District 64 a place where I often hear the phrase "we moved here for the schools." If the economic situation of the district would make it impossible to continue to provide these opportunities to our students, I would support asking the community to vote on a referendum to preserve the scope of our curriculum, which I believe is the biggest asset we have has a district.

Larry Ryles: When referendum is a choice, I always prefer referendum. The District 64 board needs to seek out every opportunity to give the voice to the people.

Fred Sanchez: It would be contingent on the reason underlying the downturn. If the district's financial health took a turn for the worse due to increased spending, I would be reluctant to support going to referendum without having explored all avenues for cutting costs. If the financial

Turn to D64, Next Page

Lincolnwood School District 74 hires new Downers Grove-based custodial company

GCA Educational Services Group has contract through 2020

Staff report

After voting last fall to terminate its contract with one janitorial service provider, the Lincolnwood School District 74 school board has approved an agreement with a new company.

GCA Services Group will now clean the three schools in the district and the administration building, after school board members gave the green light with a 7-0 vote at its Feb. 2 meeting.

The Downers Grove-based company was one of four that bid to provide the custodial service and was awarded a \$319,627 contract.

The contract was effective March 1 and the three-year agreement is set to run through June 30, 2020, school officials said.

"GCA was the recommended company due to its extensive background in the cleaning of educational facilities," said school district spokeswoman Christina Audisho.

School district officials added that the decision to go with GCA was also based on its bid documents and references.

In total, the district had reached out to 10 companies during the bidding and got proposals from four, according to school district documents. GCA's bid was the second highest, behind the highest bidder's \$616,464. The lowest bid among the four was \$296,760, school district documents show.

Lincolnwood School District

74 ended the contract it had with Smith Maintenance Co. before the scheduled August 2017 expiration of a three-year agreement. The company's last day cleaning the schools and district administrative building was Feb. 28.

Robert Ciserella, the school district's business manager, declined last December to give a specific reason for the school district deciding to end the Smith Maintenance contract early.

However, the decision did not involve issues with the company's personnel, he said.

"After being with them for two years, we were unhappy with the service they provide," Ciserella said.

Representatives from Smith Maintenance Co. did not return calls seeking comment on the issue.

As part of daily classroom cleanup, GCA is expected to do such things as empty trash cans and wipe down desks, among other tasks. Monthly, window ledges and glass doors would be cleaned, shelves and other areas would be dusted, and other cleaning done, according to the terms of the contract.

The contract calls for GCA to do some cleaning in other places throughout the schools including in the teachers' work areas, cafeteria, library and other common areas.

According to the contract, GCA custodial workers would be paid \$10.25 per hour to \$15 per hour.

Custodial staff would work after-school hours during the regular school year, and during the day on winter, spring and summer breaks, according to the contract terms.

Candidates discuss issues

D64, from Previous Page

picture changed because the district insisted on pursuing large-scale projects like the secure vestibules, I would support going to referendum because I believe residents should have a say in how the district spends their tax dollars.

Michael Schaab: If the school board has exhausted all other avenues in order to correct a downturn in the district's financial health, without compromising the level of educational service provided to the students in the district, I feel that a referendum to increase property taxes is something that should be considered.

Eastman Tiu: Yes, if that is the only way to make sure the quality of education that we are accustomed to is maintained. When it comes to a referendum, the most we can do as a board is to make a recommendation, but ultimately, the final decision comes down to our voters.

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Fifth suspect charged in 2014 fatal shooting

Chicago man held in connection with killing of local teen

BY MIKE ISAACS AND BRIAN L. COX
Pioneer Press

More than two years after four teenagers were charged in the fatal shooting of a Niles North High School student and the serious injury of another, criminal charges have been filed against a fifth suspect, Skokie police announced March 1.

Antonio Hicks, 19, of the 10000 block of South Forest Avenue in Chicago, has been charged with first-degree murder, attempted first-degree murder and armed robbery in the shooting death of Maxwell Gadau and the shooting of a female



Hicks

teenager.

In a court appearance March 1, Hicks was identified by authorities for the first time as the gunman, and he was ordered held without bail.

The Sept. 28, 2014, shooting, which occurred inside a car parked in the 9200 block of Kedvale Avenue in Skokie, killed Gadau and left the female with serious injuries.

Four teens were charged days later, and Skokie police said a fifth suspect, a 17-year-old believed to be the gunman, was arrested at his school in Chicago, but he was released the following day. Because he was a juvenile, police said, he could be held for only 24 hours, and the state's attorney concluded there was not enough evidence to charge him at the time.

Authorities have not said

if Hicks is the same person previously held in this case, or what developments prompted them to bring charges against him. Prosecutors did say in court that Hicks' fingerprint was found on the outside of the car. They also said that when Hicks was arrested in Chicago days ago, he was carrying a 9mm handgun, the same kind authorities believe was used in the shooting.

Hicks was a juvenile at the time Gadau was shot but has been charged as an adult. Prosecutors said Hicks has a criminal record both as a juvenile and an adult.

In court March 1 and at hearings for the other defendants, prosecutors said the group had made plans to meet the female victim to buy marijuana from her, but had secretly plotted to rob her instead.

When the girl, who was accompanied by Gadau "for moral support," according to police, resisted

handing over drugs, she and Gadau were shot.

Plans for a robbery turned into murder and attempted murder, prosecutors said.

Prosecutors allege that Hicks and another defendant, Dzevad Avdic, of Chicago, got into a car with Gadau and the girl, who were both 17. Authorities said Hicks fatally shot Gadau in the back and shot the girl in the cheek, with the bullet lodging near her spine.

The following month, Avdic was charged in the case, along with Jeremy Ly, of Skokie, and Myles Hughes and Nicholas Smith, of Chicago. The four defendants, all 19 at the time, were each charged with first-degree murder, attempted murder and armed robbery, according to police.

All four are being held without bail in Cook County Jail and awaiting trial.

Ly and Avdic are both

2013 Niles North High School graduates, officials said.

According to prosecutors, Avdic hatched the entire robbery plan. Avdic called the girl and misidentified himself, taking the name of someone else he thought she would be more willing to meet, according to prosecutors. He got her name after asking Ly for someone who would be an easy "stain" or "lick," which means someone easy to rob, according to prosecutors. Ly provided Avdic with the girl's name, they said.

Police said Avdic knew Hughes and Smith and brought them in on the scheme. One or both of them recruited the gunman, according to police.

The state's case against the first four suspects included alleged evidence of calls and texts made from Avdic's cellphone to the female victim and other arrested suspects in the case.

Prosecutors said Avdic contacted the female victim twice within 20 minutes of the shooting.

Gadau's mother, Patricia, attended the March 1 hearing with other relatives.

"We're just relieved (about the arrest). We'd be happy if it brought Max back," she said, adding she was grateful to police and prosecutors who "gave us a happy day today."

Patricia Gadau has said that her son texted her that night saying he was coming home soon. She said her son was "very caring" and had a good sense of humor.

He swam competitively and was beginning to explore possible colleges, his mother said, and he had expressed an interest in engineering.

Mike Isaacs is a Pioneer Press reporter; Brian L. Cox is a freelance reporter.

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Glenview man charged in Niles robbery attempt in parking lot

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

A 35-year-old Glenview man has been charged in connection with an attempted armed robbery and battery Feb. 20 in a Niles parking lot, Niles police announced in a news release.

According to police, Ryan M. Whary, of the 3800 block of Rugen Road, Glenview, was intoxicated Feb. 20 when he allegedly approached a male and female in the 8500 block of Golf Road, displayed a knife and placed it against the throat of at least one of the victims, demanding valuables.

One of the victims fought back, police said, and chased the suspect across Golf Road where the suspect stole a bicycle and made a getaway.

The male victim suffered a stab wound to his left shoulder during the incident, police said.

Niles police said they were able to identify a potential suspect in the case and shared it with neighboring law enforcement agencies.

Whary was identified as the suspect and was taken into custody without incident Feb. 24 after being spotted at a Motel 6 in Glenview.

A clerk at the motel informed Glenview police that a man identified as Whary was in one of the rooms there.

Niles police investigators were then notified and ended up apprehending



Ryan Whary

Whary in the 1500 block of Milwaukee Avenue in Glenview, police said.

He was charged with attempted armed robbery, aggravated battery, unlawful use of a weapon and theft, and was also wanted for a parole violation out of Kentucky, Niles police said.

As of Feb. 28, Whary was being held at the Cook County Jail on \$250,000 bail for the attempted armed robbery charge, according to information from the Cook County Sheriff's Office.

He is scheduled to appear in court March 23.

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Park Ridge police arrest teen for battery, seek boy who displayed lewd photo

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Park Ridge police arrested a 15-year-old boy accused of punching a teenager in Uptown on March 4 and are looking for another boy who allegedly showed four children a pornographic image in the same area days earlier.

A police officer on patrol of Uptown on the night of March 4 witnessed a boy push another teen into a window outside Panera Bread, 39 S. Northwest Highway, before head-butting him and striking him the face, around 8:40 p.m., said Deputy Police Chief Lou Jogmen.

When the officer approached the suspect, he ran away, Jogmen said.

The boy who was

punched, identified as a 15-year-old from Park Ridge, lost a tooth in the attack, the deputy chief said. Investigators were able to determine the identity of the teenager who ran away and contacted his parents, who brought him to the police station for an interview that same night, Jogmen said. Identified as a 15-year-old from Chicago, the teen was charged with battery and has been petitioned to juvenile court, Jogmen said. He was also ticketed for consumption of alcohol by a minor, the deputy chief said.

Police believe the battery followed some kind of dispute between the two boys.

Days earlier, on Feb. 24, police reportedly received a complaint from a Park

Ridge parent that her 11-year-old daughter and three friends, ages 11 and 12, were shown a pornographic image on a cellphone while they on a bench outside Oberweis Dairy, 101 S. Northwest Highway, just across the driveway and parking area where the alleged battery took place.

Jogmen said a boy between 14 and 18 years old, who was sitting inside the ice cream shop, is accused of showing the image to the girls sometime between 8:30 and 9 p.m. while one of their parents was making a purchase. A complaint was made to police at 9:12 p.m. from the home of the one of the victims, he said.

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Laura Bush set to speak at annual Illinois Holocaust Museum awards dinner

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

Former first lady Laura Bush was scheduled to be the keynote speaker March 8 at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center's annual 2017 Humanitarian Awards Dinner.

The dinner is the museum's largest fundraising event of the year, but it also honors those who have supported the museum, officials say.

In the past, high-ranking dignitaries including the governor and mayor as well as U.S. senators and representatives have attended the event, which is held every year at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

"Each spring, the museum hosts its signature event, the Humanitarian Awards Dinner," according to information about the event on the

museum's website. "Now the largest fundraising dinner in the city of Chicago, this high profile evening pays tribute to pillars in our community, Holocaust survivors and highlights the museum's achievements."

Past dinners have been attended by more than 2,000 people, according to museum officials.

Humanitarians set to be honored March 8 included Richard A. Chaifetz, founder, chairman and CEO of CompPsych Corp., which bills itself as the world's largest provider of employee assistance programs.

Also scheduled to be honored was E. Scott Santi, chairman and CEO of Illinois Tool Works Inc., one of the world's leading diversified manufacturers of specialized industrial equipment, consumables and related service busi-



CHUCK KENNEDY/MCT

Former first lady Laura Bush, pictured in this 2008 file photo, is scheduled to be the keynote speaker at the Illinois Holocaust Museum's annual Humanitarian Awards Dinner on March 8 in Chicago.

nesses, according to the company.

Laura Bush, wife of former President George W. Bush, served as first lady from 2001 to 2009.

According to museum officials,

she was slated engage in a conversation with J.B. Pritzker, who has served as chairman of the museum's board of trustees and was instrumental in developing the

museum, which is located in Skokie.

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NEWS

Libraries look to combat 'fake news' with programs

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

Nate Gass, an emerging technology librarian at Cook Memorial Public Library District, said he's a little nervous about hosting a program at the Libertyville library next month about how to spot fake news because he fears the event could raise partisan hackles among attendees.

Prior to the last presidential campaign, which put a spotlight on an explosion of misleading, false and inflammatory information online, Gass said he never could have predicted sorting fact from fiction in the news cycle "would become a politicized thing."

"It makes me anxious about the program, to be honest, because we don't want it to be a political thing," he said. "But, overall, we felt as a library that it was still a risk worth taking because this is a service that needed to be provided."

Cook Memorial is among several local libraries either currently hosting or planning to host programming focused on media literacy.

"There's just a general assault on information and how it's shared and how it's accessed," said Chad Clark, new media services manager at Highland Park Public Library. "It seems completely obvious to me that librarians should be in this conversation and reminding people what we've always done."

Clark said, historically speaking, librarians have helped patrons access and interpret the information. He said librarians learned through experience that verifying content across multiple sources is an important strategy when looking for accurate and truthful information.

The Highland Park Library has already hosted several media literacy forums dubbed "Consider the



MARK UKENA/PIONEER PRESS

The Lake Forest Library will host a series of events later this year focused on "challenging topics."

source: Not all information is created equal," Clark said. The program is designed to educate patrons about the tools and strategies librarians use to fact-check information. The effort pinpoints what clues or red flags to look for when determining the credibility of a website in addition to providing lessons on general digital literacy, he said.

Though the issue of misleading information and false news has existed for decades, the internet has allowed for a proliferation of fake news, which has made it difficult for some patrons to parse out the fact-based signal from a cacophony of inaccuracies online, according to both librarians.

"I do see a lot of patrons talking to me about things that have clearly been shown to be false or fake, but they are still holding them as truth internally," Gass said.

Clark said he shows patrons at these forums how easy it is to make a website and tout it as a credible source of information and how Google can be used to confirm a preconceived notion whether or not it's accurate.

These media literacy efforts are not unique to Illinois libraries, nor are they unique to libraries within the United States, said Bob Doyle, executive director of the Illinois Association of

Libraries. Libraries and librarians across the globe have launched similar events to help the public "navigate the explosion of information and separate the true from the fake," he said.

Librarians are non-partisan and neutral public servants, Doyle said. If they're on the side of anything, it's "fact-based information and helping people find that and helping people think critically."

"They've been doing this for decades where they've been encouraging the collection of diverse thought so that people don't remain just in their own little echo chambers seeking confirmation of what they already think," he said.

Good-hearted people have fallen prey to fake news, said Catherine Lemmer, director of the Lake Forest Library, because social media has made it easier for us to confine ourselves among our own opinions than to engage in a respectful debate with someone who disagrees with our views.

"Everybody just wants to be right and the way you get to be right is to only read the Facebook feeds that come into your stream," Lemmer said.

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

Two Niles West students participate in 'hack' event

BY BRIAN L. COX
Pioneer Press

Two Niles high school students recently spent a day "hacking" on a computer, at an event that had nothing to do with dubious deeds but allowed them to create would-be useful apps.

The event was Junior Achievement of Chicago's first Hackathon, which brought together 13 students from nine schools who ended up creating three games around the theme of financial literacy, officials said.

"Hacking" often gets a bad rap, said Michael Leon, a Niles West senior and standout in the school's computer science program.

"That word 'hacking' can be misunderstood," said Leon, who, along with Jay



BRIAN L. COX/PIONEER PRESS

Niles West High School science teacher Matt Fahrenbacher, left, stands with students, Jay Monga, Michael Leon and Principal Jason Ness, at the Feb. 14 District 219 board meeting. Monga and Leon were given certificates for their second-place finish at the "Hackathon."

Monga, participated in the Jan. 14 Hackathon held at Columbia College.

"It was really construc-

tive," Leon said. "The literal definition doesn't really have any negative connotations to it."

Monga, 16, said his favorite part of the Hackathon was working in a group environment.

"Every kid can participate in their own way."

—Matt Fahrenbacher

"Everyone has their own roles and everyone was really involved," said Monga, a junior at the high school, and also a computer science program notable. "We were able to make a good piece of software at the end of the six hours. It opened my eyes that during the game-development process how involved everyone has to be. It's really a group effort. I learned a lot of teamwork skills."

The students walked away from the event with a second-place finish, \$100 each and so much more, according to Niles West science teacher Matt Fahrenbacher.

renbacher.

"It gave them some perspective that what they're doing could be valuable, not to just make money or a fun game, but to do something that's very useful," Fahrenbacher said.

Fahrenbacher added that, despite the event's name, there was nothing nefarious about the work the students did. He explained that the Hackathon was mostly about programming.

"The general idea is that they collect kids from the area and they get them together and they give them some type of a project or theme they need to create," he said. "Some kids might be the programmers, some kids might be the designers. Every kid can participate in their own way."

Brian L. Cox is a freelancer.

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District 219 gets approval from village of Niles to build bus facility

Property was purchased a year and a half ago

BY LEE V. GAINES
Pioneer Press

Niles village trustees approved a package of special requests from Niles Township High School District 219 on Feb. 28 that allows the school district to move ahead with plans to build a bus terminal and maintenance facility on property it purchased a year and a half ago.

Trustees approved a special use permit, two landscape variation requests and an intergovernmental agreement between the village and NTHS Dist. 219 outlining the operations of the facility that is to be built in the 6100 block of Howard Street.

Trustee George Alpigianis voted "no" on the landscaping variation requests and "yes" on both the special use and intergovernmental agreements.

Four other trustees present voted "yes" on all three. Trustee Joe LoVerde was absent from the meeting.

The greenlight from the village board on Feb. 28 came after the school district's requests had met with several delays with the Niles planning and zoning board, with officials on that board expressing concerns about traffic management.

The planning and zoning board voted Feb. 6 to advance the requests for village board consideration — but without a recommendation.

Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo rejected some of the planning and zoning board's uneasiness about the impact of the school buses crossing railroad tracks at Lehigh Avenue.

"Fact of the matter is those students who live west of Lehigh where the terminal is or east of Lehigh, those children are going to be crossing those tracks," he said during the village board meeting.

"We are not adding any danger



ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A few school buses leave the Niles North High School campus in this Tuesday Aug., 11, 2015 file photo. Niles Township High School District 219 got approval Feb. 28 from the Niles village board to construct a school bus storage and maintenance facility for the school district's fleet.

to children" because, regardless, those kids are going to get on a school bus and cross," he said.

Przybylo added that the intergovernmental agreement addresses the flow of traffic "very well."

Eric Trimberger, NTHS District 219 assistant superintendent for business, said he was "very appreciative" of the mayor's words of support and encouragement for the project.

The school district bought the land where the facility will be located in August 2015, Trimberger said. The parcels, located at 6119 Howard Street and 6100-6140 Gross Point Road, were purchased for \$2.5 million.

He explained that renovation work could begin on the 35,000 square-foot facility on the property in May or June.

"Our architect needs to develop construction drawings and bid documents. This will take around two months," said Trimberger.

Construction would be expected to wrap up at the end of the calendar year, he said.

The construction project is scheduled to include creation of office space for First Student — the district's bus service provider — and an area where bus mainte-

nance would take place, Trimberger said.

He said there would also be an employee parking lot with 100 parking stalls along Gross Point Road and parking space for the bus fleet.

The village board approved the permit and agreement with little discussion, but Alpigianis expressed some reservations about the proposed facility.

"Because you guys do an amazing job educating our kids, I'm wondering why you guys are getting into the bus service and not leaving that to people who do it professionally," the trustee said.

The school district had spent nearly \$5 million March 2015 on a fleet of 75 school buses.

That purchase came after looking for a new bus service and determining the most cost-effective option for the district was to own its own fleet and hire another company to operate it, Trimberger previously explained. He added that the school district is required by law to build a bus terminal within two miles of its boundaries.

Alpigianis asked how many students from Niles the facility would serve.

Trimberger said 450 Niles residents were eligible to ride

buses in NTHS District 219. He said the buses would also be used to serve children in Niles Elementary School District 71.

In total, Trimberger explained, the bus terminal and maintenance facility would ultimately serve approximately 4,200 students daily including kids from School District 71, Morton Grove School District 70 and Lincolnwood School District 74.

NTHS Dist. 219 has stored its buses on the Niles West High School campus in Skokie since August 2015. That storage agreement with the village of Skokie was only supposed to last a year.

But Pete Peyer, Skokie's community development director, said the village remained patient while the school district worked on getting permission to move forward with the storage facility.

"There have not been any issues with the current location of the buses and we understand the operation of the buses is critical to the operation of the District 219 schools," Peyer said last month. "The safe and convenient transportation of students is the primary concern of the village (of Skokie) and District 219."

Lee V. Gaines is a freelancer.

Niles Village Board honors retiring 27-year police sergeant

Staff Report

A Niles police sergeant who worked a total of 27 years over four different decades for the department retired from the police force at the end of January, according to Niles police.

The Niles Village Board honored Thomas Davis for his years of service at its Feb. 28 meeting.

Hired Oct. 10, 1989, Davis began his career on the force and attended the Chicago Police Academy, according to Niles police.

He watched over the streets of Niles as a patrol officer through the end of 1992, when he was assigned to the department's investigative unit as detective.

According to Niles police, Davis served in that role until the end of 1999.

He was promoted to sergeant and assigned to the patrol division May 13, 2002, according to his biography.

Four years later, he was assigned to the administrative division as the staff services sergeant. His duties there included scheduling and training auxiliary officers and hiring and scheduling crossing guards.

He served in multiple roles including Citizen Police Academy coordinator, department training coordinator, adjudication court liaison and the department's press information officer.

He also represented the department on the Terrorism Liaison Officer Committee, police officials said.

During his career, Davis attended numerous schools and training events including Northwestern University Center for Public Safety School of Police Staff and Command Course, according to Niles police.

In 2011, according to police, the sergeant was reassigned back to the patrol division until the day he retired.

Niles Police Chief Dennis McEnerney said Davis will be "truly missed" and wished him well on behalf of the entire department.



Sgt. Thomas Davis

Prejudice against Muslims is no joking matter



PAUL SASSONE

As our preoccupation with walls and banning immigrants shows, many of us seem to need to have someone to look down on.

All of us have been looked down on by someone at sometime in our life for some reason. We're too short. We're too fat. We're not pretty. The list can be lengthy.

You'd think our vulnerability would make us more sensitive to, and empathetic toward, others.

Alas, not always so. And being looked down on hurts.

An friend of mine who is Italian-American told me how she paid for dinner with a credit card. The

waiter, she said, looked at the name on the card and joked, "Oh, you must be in the mafia."

She was offended and hurt.

As an Italian-American, I have been hearing stuff like this – and worse – my whole life. Worse includes the guy who wanted to write about the mafia and asked me to introduce him to some gangsters. And he wasn't joking.

The Prejudice Pecking Order has a kind of structure. There are groups that mostly are the butt of jokes – the overweight and the elderly, for instance.

I am aware there are many other people, many other nationalities, races and religions that are subject to worse than not-so-funny jokes.

These people have historically been injured or killed by prejudice – Native-Americans, African-Ameri-

cans, Jewish-Americans.

Today, it is Muslims – and people the ignorant think might be Muslims – who are looked down on.

Looked down on doesn't do the seriousness of the situation justice. Lives are at stake.

But, for some reason – unfathomable to decent people – some of us feel they must look down on those who are not them, who are different. Who are "the other."

And being other is being bad. For some, looking down on others is a way to get an easy laugh, just a joke. But, for others it's something more, something dark and dangerous. Just watch and read the news.

But whether looking down on someone else is a joke or an incitement, all of it is a rotten shame.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.



EDUARDO MUNOZ ALVAREZ/GETTY IMAGES

Women pray as people take part in a rally dubbed "I Am A Muslim Too" in a show of solidarity with American Muslims at Times Square on Feb. 19 in New York City. A new version of a Trump administration refugee and visa ban affecting immigrants from seven Muslim-majority nations reportedly would not stop green card holders or travelers already on flights from entering the United States, though some critics complain the move still would not pass Constitutional muster.

Growth, rather than proficiency, a better measure of education success



RANDY BLASER

For a moment, I kind of felt like Betsy DeVos, the new education secretary.

The moment was when U.S. Sen. Al Franken asked DeVos during her confirmation hearing about her thoughts on using assessments to measure proficiency or growth.

Huh? What's Franken talking about?

Turns out I wasn't alone. At a meeting soon after, several colleagues wondered what the issue was all about. Nobody knew. Turns out, this issue is not just for policy wonks. It is something those Americans who care about public

education, and that should be all of us, should know about. For the past two decades, we've been focused on proficiency. If you look at the Illinois School Report Card for any public school in the state, you will see that student achievement is measured by how many of them meet or exceed state standards.

That yardstick became ever more important when the federal government enacted No Child Left Behind in 2002, which required all students to meet state standards for their grade level by 2014.

Each year from the law's inception, a greater percentage of students had to meet those standards, including students in so-called subgroups, such as racial minorities, limited English speakers, poor children and children with

special needs.

A worthy goal, right? But there was always something odd about the whole business, I thought. For one, there were no uniform federal education standards of proficiency for students to meet. Instead, each state determined what standards students in each grade level had to meet.

Some states could be more rigorous than others. Each state got to decide.

So when we journalists did stories about how Illinois students compared to students from Indiana or Wisconsin or Iowa or Florida, it was meaningless. The states all used different standards. How could they be compared?

But that's not all. In measuring these yearly progress statistics, where each year more students had to meet state standards

for their grade, students were compared from year to year by grade.

Think about that. The federal mandate required schools to measure student progress every year. But every year, they measured the same grade and therefore different kids. Third-graders' results from 2002 were measured against third-graders in 2003. And that's how we reported it. This year's third-graders performed better than last year's third-graders. But that doesn't mean anything. We weren't measuring the performance of the same kids from one year to the next. What if this year's group just had more kid who were smarter or more prepared or whatever.

Wouldn't it make more sense to measure third-graders one year and then measure their performance



CHIP SOMODEVILLA/GETTY IMAGES

Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee member Sen. Al Franken (D-MN) questions Betsy DeVos on Capitol Hill Jan. 17 in Washington, D.C.

as fourth-graders the next? Again, the comparisons we made, it seemed to me, were meaningless. If the

goal was to increase the number of students meeting state standards, shouldn't a student's yearly progress be measured?

That's what growth gets at. You take a student, no matter where they are, and you move them along the scale one full year from September to June.

This makes a lot of sense to me, especially when you consider the number of students who fail to meet state standards in some of our struggling schools. What difference does it make to pass students along from first through eighth grade if they can't do any of the work. Forget grades. Take a kid where they are at and help them get better.

So now I know, and I have to say I'm for growth.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

The secret to lifelong health? Don't try so hard!



**NICOLE
RADZISZEWSKI**
Mama's Gotta Move

The other night, as I threw a frozen Trader Joe's pizza into the oven and steamed some (also frozen) broccoli for dinner, it occurred to me: I used to try way too hard.

A few years ago, my countertop would have sported a paleo cookbook, open to a pizza recipe involving sweet potato crust, homemade tomato sauce and fresh veggies. Tasty? Sure. Healthier than my frozen TJ's dinner? Maybe. Worth the two hours spent rinsing, peeling, chopping, mixing and assembling? Not for this mama.

I've done my fair share of planning meals, often around "restricted" foods (whether because they were high in fat or because they contained some ingredient I'd deemed off-limits). I've also spent much of my adult life scheduling exercise and stressing out when I missed a workout. The crazy thing is when I look back at the times in my life when all of those things were working out for me — when I was eating "clean" and fitting in all of my workouts — I don't miss them. I sigh out of relief that I got off that wagon. I may have been leaner (and maybe even healthier) during those times, but when I think about what it took for me to sustain that lifestyle, I wouldn't recommend it.

Going all out with diet and exercise is like cramming for an exam so you can get an A+ in the class. You're not sure what to study, so you memorize everything. You're con-



NICOLE RADZISZEWSKI/PIONEER PRESS

Moms get active during kids' play time at Washington Commons Park in River Forest.

stantly cramming and the exams keep on coming.

Moderation is like slowing down and absorbing the material that matters so it sticks with you for life. You may not always earn an A, and maybe you'll get a few Cs, but you're happy, relaxed and balanced.

What do I recommend? Stop trying so hard! Be a lazy cook. Hit snooze on your alarm. Tell your Fitbit to leave you alone. We've managed to complicate concepts as simple as eating mindfully and moving our bodies. It doesn't have to be that way.

Instead of: Always cooking entire meals from scratch.

Try: Adding heaping amounts of frozen veggies to a pre-made entree. Not all processed food is evil. If you look at the ingredients and they are all real foods, don't feel bad about taking a shortcut.

Instead of: Driving to the gym, parking, leaving your kids in child care and getting on a treadmill.

Try: Running or walking to the park with your kids and playing with them. Hang on the monkey bars. Play tag, do some squats while you push your toddler in the swing, move your body and have fun.

Instead of: Making a no-sugar, no-flour cake that tastes like crap but is

"clean."

Try: Eating a small slice of the real thing and moving on with your life.

Instead of: Waking up early to work out when you're exhausted.

Try: Sleep. It does a body good.

Instead of: Working muscle groups on alternating days so you can hit every muscle.

Try: Climbing a tree. Cleaning your floor on hands and knees. Going for a walk.

Instead of: Letting your Fitbit dictate your steps.

Try: Walking when it makes sense to walk (like that trip to the post office a mile from home) and remembering that other types of movement besides walking and running count, too.

Instead of: Stressing about a night out with friends because you know there will be nothing but bar food and beer.

Try: Eating a healthy meal before you go, so you can enjoy a beer (and maybe bum a few fries off of a friend).

Instead of: Thinking you can't get the results you want without giving up the things you love.

Try: Loving your body a little bit harder.

Nicole Radziszewski is a freelance columnist.

Northwestern men's basketball's improbable season should lead to March Madness



ERIC SCOTT

Now that the Cubs winning the World Series is old news, we can focus on our other rags-to-riches burgeoning sports dynasty — the Northwestern University men's basketball team.

Never in a million years did I ever think I would have the opportunity to write that sentence.

While the Cubs have, at least, had some ancient championships to their credit before 2016, the Northwestern men's basketball team's championship cupboard always has been bare.

The Wildcats have never even played in the March Madness tournament, but that soon could change.

On March 1, the Cats notched their school-record 21st victory of the season in dramatic, no-you've-got-to-be-kidding-me-buzzer-beater fashion against Big Ten Conference rival, Michigan. With that victory, Northwestern should comfortably fit its foot into an NCAA tournament glass slipper.

Seeing Northwestern place in a tournament bracket will generate celebrations in Evanston and wherever purple pride lives.

It may rival the biggest Cubs championship party — and we haven't even won anything yet. (Yes, count me as a Northwestern grad).

But unless Northwestern gets an automatic NCAA bracket bid by winning the Big Ten championship, it will be up to the NCAA Selection Committee to slot the Wildcats into a tourna-



ALYSSA POINTER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Northwestern Wildcats forward Vic Law (4) celebrates after the Northwestern Wildcats beat the Michigan Wolverines at Welsh-Ryan Arena, March 1, 2017.

ment bracket.

With 21 wins going into the Big Ten championship tournament, the Cats should be a lock for their first-ever March Madness bracket selection. But it's the uncertainty of what the committee may decide that has the purple nation on pins and needles.

Barring an attempt by Russian hackers to infiltrate the NCAA's computers or a North Korean scheme to poison members of the selection committee with confusion serum, Northwestern should be invited to the big dance.

But if I see a first-round matchup between North Carolina and Moscow Community College, or a First Four play-in game featuring The Kim Jong Un University Fighting Superior Rulers, I'm going to demand an investigation, a ballot recount, and congressional hearings with testimony from Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway.

Chicago has gone long

without a winning men's college basketball team.

We had the DePaul Blue Demons making the Final Four in the era before Michael Jordan landed in Chicago and changed local basketball history with the Bulls.

But that's also ancient history.

The Northwestern Athletic Department's slogan is, "Chicago's Big Ten Team." Now is the best time in the basketball program's history to prove that.

In Coach Chris Collins and those sporty "Game of Thrones" uniforms we trust!

Hopefully, Northwestern can end its losing streak of being the only major athletic conference school to never play in the NCAA Tournament and finally turn the corner.

Hey, if the Cubs can win the World Series...

Eric Scott is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Fun ways to celebrate St. Patrick's Day

Enjoy a parade, eat corned beef and cabbage or don green attire

BY SAMANTHA NELSON
Pioneer Press

Even if you're not Irish, St. Patrick's Day offers the opportunity to have some fun this March. Whether you're looking to take in some Irish music, enjoy some hearty Irish fare or get dressed in green and head to a community parade, local spots stretch the festivities both before and after March 17 to offer celebrations and activities for all ages.

■ Kids are encouraged to wear green to the **St. Patty Skate** from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. March 11 at IceLand Skate, 8435 Ballard Road, Niles. They'll be playing Irish music to get everyone moving on the ice and giving away hats, beads and other green swag. Admission is \$6 and skate rental is another \$4.

■ Watch approximately 2,500 people march in the **14th annual Northwest Side Irish Parade**, which kicks off at noon March 12 at Onahan School, 6634 W. Raven St., Chicago. The Emerald Society Band, Chicago Pipes and Drums, Mullane Irish Dancers, Notre Dame High School Band and others provide entertainment along the route, which ends at approximately 1:30 p.m. at the Immaculate Conception Elementary School Recreation Center,



TRINITY IRISH DANCERS PHOTO

The Trinity Irish Dancers will be making stops all over the Chicago area to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

7271 W. Talcott Ave. For \$10 or \$5 for kids under age 11 you can attend an after-party there from 1 to 5 p.m. that includes corned beef and cabbage, beer, wine and soda for adults and a hot dog, chips and soda for kids, plus face painting, raffles and other family-focused activities. Go to www.northwestsideirish.org.

■ Follow a bagpiper/drummer duo and Mayor George Van Dusen down Lincoln Avenue for the **Downtown Skokie's St. Patrick's Day Parade** at 2 p.m. March 12. Arrive at Aw Yeah Comics, 7925 Lincoln Ave., Skokie, dressed in your most creative and festive green attire and you

could be chosen to help lead the festivities as the parade's prince, princess, king or queen. Businesses along the route will hand out treats and prizes. The parade culminates with free soft drinks and Irish music at The Curragh Irish Pub & Restaurant, 8266 Lincoln, from 2:30 to 5 p.m. Go to www.downtownskokie.org/calendar.

■ **Enjoy traditional Irish fare** including corned beef and cabbage, shepherd's pie and bangers & mash at The Curragh Irish Pub & Restaurant, 1800 Tower Drive, Glenview, which is also hosting plenty of performances to celebrate the holiday. Catch the Mul-



SKOKIE THEATRE PHOTO

"Pot of Gold: An Evening of Irish Stories and Songs with Megon McDonough and Susan O'Halloran" takes place March 17 at the Skokie Theatre.

hurn School of Irish Dance at 3 p.m. March 12, the Tully Irish Dancers at 6 p.m. March 16, and performances from noon to 12:30 a.m. March 17 by Matt Stedman, Jim McVeigh and Anish.

■ Catch two weekends full of entertainment at the ninth annual **St. Patrick's Day Fleadh** at The Curragh Irish Pub & Restaurant, 6705 N. Northwest Highway, Edison Park. The Acoustic Generation performs at 9 p.m. March 10, Seamus O'Kane and Anish play March 11, and March 12 brings performances by bagpipers, the Trinity Irish Dancers and The Dave Dunne Band. The Trinity Irish Dancers return on

March 17 along with Joe McShane and The Chancey Brothers. Anish plays again at 9 p.m. March 18.

■ All through March, the **Harp & Fiddle**, 110 Main St., Park Ridge, is serving corned beef and cabbage, Irish potato soup and Irish cocktails. The Trinity Irish Dancers will perform at 7 p.m. and the band Chicago Reel at 8 p.m. March 16 while a St. Patrick's Day party takes place March 17 with band Mulligan Stew and a beer tent on the patio. Visit www.the-harpandfiddle.com.

■ Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day with two Irish-American women in "**Pot of Gold: An Evening of Irish Stories and Songs with Megon McDonough and Susan O'Halloran**" at 8 p.m. March 17 at the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. The show will include stories and songs about being raised Irish American. Tickets cost \$30. Call 847-677-7761 or visit www.skokietheatre.org.

■ **The Irish American Heritage Center's St. Patrick's Day celebration** takes place noon to midnight March 17 at the center, 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago. The day-long celebration in the Fifth Province pub features live music, dance, food and drink for purchase and face painting for children.

Tickets cost \$10. Children age 12 and younger are free. Visit www.irish-american.org/events.

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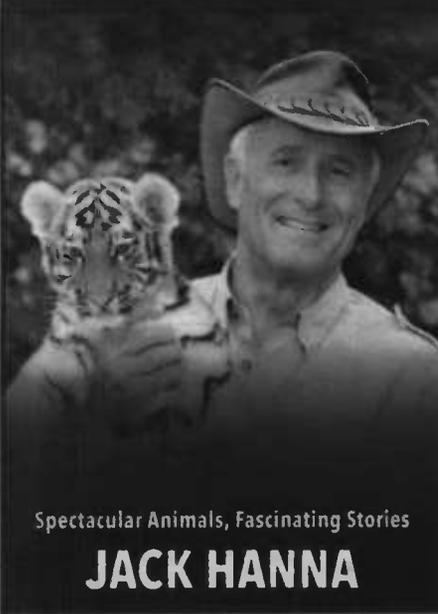
"Tell It to My Heart"

"Prove Your Love"

"Point of No Return"

"Let Me Be the One"

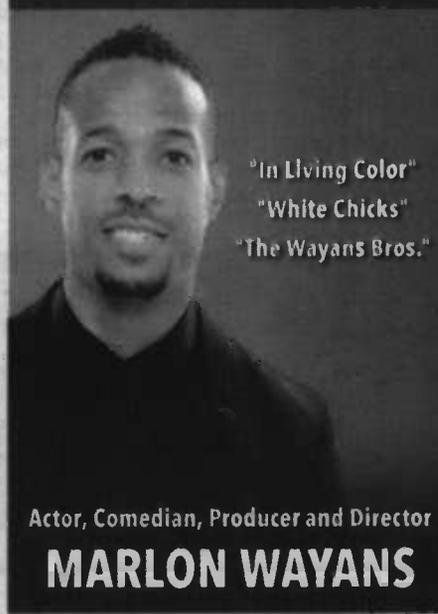
Friday, April 7 7:00 PM



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JACK HANNA

Thursday, April 13 8:00 PM



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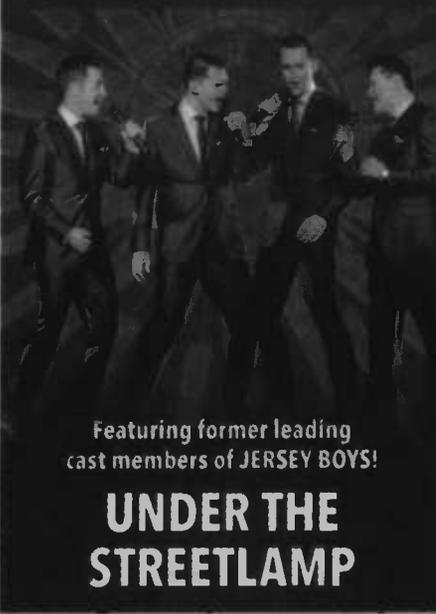
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MUSIC

Rising Chicago talent sing the best of Broadway 1969

1930s – 60s era productions served as inspiration

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Ten talented performers who are launching musical theater careers in Chicago will be showcased in Porchlight Music Theatre's New Faces Sing Broadway 1969 at the Skokie Theatre.

Michael Weber, Porchlight's artistic director, is co-creator and dramaturge of the series, which focuses on a different year each time, offering performances of musical numbers as well as interesting details about the shows from which they came.

"The inspiration came from a series on Broadway from the late '30s to the late '60s called 'New Faces,'" Weber said. "Out of that particular revue were discovered many, many stars that we know today — people like Henry Fonda, Madeline Kahn, Maggie Smith and Paul Lind." Audience members at Porchlight's series may well be seeing stars of the future.

Porchlight added other elements to the original concept to involve the audience. "We do sing-alongs, and we have trivia contests and music theater trivia games," Weber said. "It's evolved into a very unique program."

Adrian Abel Azevedo directs the 1969 version; David Fiorello is music director.

"We collaborate in picking the songs for the show, looking at all the shows of the season, both the Tony winners and the flops," Azevedo said.

This is the third time that Fiorello has served as music director of a Porchlight New Faces show. He considers part of his job,



PORCHLIGHT MUSIC THEATRE

The cast of New Faces Sing Broadway for a previous performance.

Porchlight Music Theatre presents New Faces Sing Broadway 1969

When: 7:30 p.m. March 15

Where: Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie

Tickets: \$22

Information: 847-677-7761; www.skokie theatre.org

"knowing these shows backwards and forwards."

Several factors are considered when the pair select songs. "It's not just the most popular songs," Fiorello said. "Because we're doing it in a cabaret setting, a lot of times it's what's the song that stands up by itself the best? What's the song that has enough dramatic action for a performer that's trying to showcase themselves?"

It helps that Fiorello has a huge cast recording database.

The Music Director declared that 1969 was "a great season. '1776' won the Tony and anything that's political is big for business right now. You've got shows like 'Hair,' which changed the Broadway landscape. You've got shows like 'Promises, Promises' where you've got Burt Bacharach writing songs. There's a show that was starring Muhammad Ali. It's such randomness involved in the season."

The revue also includes

songs from "Zorba," "Canterbury Tales," "Dear World" and "Come Summer," among others.

Azevedo also collaborates with Weber on locating performers. "I, with Michael, look at young Chicago talent and pick who's coming up in the Chicago theater scene and who we feel needs to have a little spotlight on them."

That's how the cast is selected. They also choose a known-name to serve as host. This time it's acclaimed musical theater star E. Faye Butler, who will appear in "Chicago" later this month at Drury Lane Oakbrook.

Azevedo wrote the script for the host. "Like so many other people in the city, I have such a love for the art form that I also love the history and I also love knowing where it started, where it came from," he said, jokingly adding, "If you put me on Jeopardy' and gave me the musical theater category, I would win the round."

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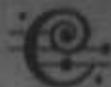
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GO

MOVIES

JCC Chicago Jewish Film Festival attracting attention

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Pioneer Press

In addition to attracting a significantly more sizable audience since it debuted four years ago, the JCC Chicago Jewish Film Festival has achieved a more glamorous indicator of success — the attention of Hollywood.

Among the 26 films being shown at seven venues for 10 days beginning March 9, the CJFF will feature a Chicago debut screening of “The Zookeeper’s Wife,” several weeks before the adaptation of the New York Times bestseller opens in theaters. And it was Focus Films who approached the festival, hoping for a preview screening.

“We were super excited about that,” said Addie Goodman, JCC Chicago Executive Vice President. “We took it as an indication that the reputation of the festival has grown and given us new opportunities. We were also able to secure the Oscar-nominated documentary ‘Life, Animated’ for our lineup, along with other noteworthy films.”

The fest has come a long way, in short, since it opened in 2014 with eight films at three venues over 10 days and a combined audience of less than a thousand. In terms of audience size alone, Goodman said they hoped to almost double last year’s total of 3,500.

The CJFF includes titles that did well at sister Jewish film fests around the country in addition to films identified by its own selection committee, headed by JCC Chicago Director of Adult Programming Ilene Uhlmann. But it also makes it its business to make sure its films are as accessible as popular to the communities it serves throughout



JCC CHICAGO JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL PHOTO

“Already Tomorrow In Hong Kong,” starring real-life couple Jamie Chung and Bryan Greenberg, is one of the films featured in the JCC Chicago Jewish Film Festival.

JCC Chicago Jewish Film Festival

When: March 9-19**Where:** Seven venues in Chicago and the suburbs.**Tickets:** \$13; \$11 for seniors and students per screening.**Information:** 847-763-3507; www.jccfilmfest.org

the city. Hence, the increase in the number of venues hosting screenings. The venues for the films are Landmark Century Centre Cinema in Chicago, AMC River East in Chicago, Regal Lincolnshire Stadium, AMC Northbrook Court, the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Skokie, Landmark Renaissance Place in Highland Park and Century 12 Evanston.

“Human interest is what most of the films have in common,” Goodman said. “I think one of the things we do best is selecting films that make you think, laugh, cry — that have some emotional or intellectual effect.”

The following films are ones that Goodman expects to be among the highlights of the fest.

“The Zookeeper’s Wife”

Jessica Chastain and Daniel Brühl star as Antonina and Jan Zabinski who sheltered 300 Jews during the German occupation while the husband was

director of the Warsaw Zoo. Based on the non-fiction best seller by poet and naturalist Diane Ackerman.

“Life, Animated” The Oscar-nominated documentary by Roger Ross Williams tells the story of autistic youngster Owen Suskind, who learned how to communicate with his family through the medium of Disney animated films.

“Already Tomorrow In Hong Kong” A cross-cultural romance featuring real-life married couple Bryan Greenberg (“One Tree Hill,” The Mindy Project”) and Jamie Chung (“Once Upon a Time,” “Gotham”) about a Chinese-American girl being shown around Hong Kong for the first time by an American expat.

“A La Vie” A French drama about three girls who survive the holocaust and meet up again as young women.

Living

Thursday, March 9, 2017



Out of Mel's kitchen: Slow cooker twist on a classic for St. Patrick's Day

Page 3

CN

You're not imagining it -- It's hard to break up in your 30s.

JAMIE GRILL/
TETRA IMAGES



Breaking up in your 30s

Splits in the 3rd decade are hard for a variety of reasons. Page 14

SUBURBAN COOKS

Cooking for a cause

Roommates getting ready for 50 Cooks Who Care benefit

By Judy Buchenot
Naperville Sun

Roommates Michelle Naus and Rosalinda Olszta both enjoy cooking and baking, but usually they're making meals for two.

So when the opportunity to cook for a crowd comes along, they're ready to tie on their aprons.

The two friends will again be part of the fundraiser 50 Cooks Who Care on March 18 that benefits Suicide Prevention Services of America. The event takes place at Nagel Emporium at Abbey Farms in Aurora.

The event started nine years ago as 50 Men Who Cook, but things have changed over the years.

"We have been including women in the mix for a couple of years, so we decided to change the name to 50 Cooks Who Care," said Jen Slepicka, one of the event organizers.

Both amateur and professionals participate in the event where guests are invited to sample all 50 dishes prepared by the cooks and can vote for their favorites.

Anyone interested in becoming one of the event cooks can sign up through Monday.

"I first got involved because Jen and I have been best friends for years," Olszta said. "I also once was at the point where things were difficult in my life, so I understand it is important to support SPS to be there for others."

"I love to cook, and I love to help people," Naus said. "The first year I did this, I met so many people who had gone through such



JUDY BUCHENOT/NAPERVILLE SUN

Michelle Naus offers Rosalinda Olszta a cinnamon streusel muffin, a possible entry for the upcoming 50 Cooks Who Care fundraiser for Suicide Prevention Services of America.

sadness but still managed to have joy in their lives."

One of the challenges of cooking for the event is coming up with an interesting dish. "I think that this year I am going to make bite-sized hamburgers topped with Havarti cheese, applewood bacon and peanut butter and jelly," Olszta said.

She admits the combination sounds unusual but said the Havarti cheese has a nutty flavor that pairs well with the peanut butter.

"And grape jelly is always good with beef," she said.

Naus is still undecided. She is an avid baker who runs her own online baking business from her website, www.ittakesthecakebakery.com.

"Cakes are my specialty," she said.

For the event, Naus originally planned to make an apple-bacon cupcake but then thought about lasagna.

"People love my lasagna," she said.

Naus' lasagna is legendary among her friends and family. Her secret is to use "a lot of cheese — provolone, Swiss, ricotta, Parmesan and Romano."

She also uses a mix of both ground beef and Italian sausage.

"I made a big lasagna for a family event, and we weighed it. It was almost 30 pounds," she said.

Both women have busy professional lives. Olszta works with a media re-

search firm, and Naus is in operations for Rooftop Solutions.

But they both find time for their passions. Being a part of the SPS event inspired Olszta to start her own charity called Rose's Buds of Blessings. She collects donations of hats, scarves, gloves, toiletries and other personal items to be distributed in area homeless communities.

When asked to share recipes, Olszta chose her cream of mushroom soup which has a secret ingredient.

"I add a dash of ginger, which really makes it good," she said.

Naus shares her recipe for hearty stuffed shells, a quick evening meal.

50 Cooks Who Care

What: Fundraiser for Suicide Prevention Services of America

Where: Nagel Emporium at Abbey Farms, 2855 Hart Road, Aurora

When: 6-9 p.m.-March 18

Cost: \$50 in advance; \$60 at the door

Information: www.spsamerica.org

Cream of Mushroom Soup

Makes 5 to 6 servings.

- 8 ounces mushrooms
- 6 tablespoons butter, divided
- ¼ cup finely diced onion
- ¼ cup flour
- Salt to taste
- 32 ounces chicken broth
- 1 cup whipping cream
- White pepper to taste
- Dash of ginger

1. Clean and finely dice mushrooms. Melt 4 tablespoons butter in a pan. Add mushroom and onion. Cook and stir until onion is transparent. Add flour and salt. Cook and stir about 2 minutes until a paste forms. Slowly add broth while stirring to keep mixture smooth. Let simmer for about 20 minutes or until slightly thickened. Add whipping cream, pepper and ginger. Simmer for about 20 minutes. Add remaining 2 tablespoons of butter and stir until dissolved.

Stuffed Shells

Makes 5 to 6 servings.

- 12 ounces shell pasta
- 24 ounces cottage cheese
- 2 tablespoons Italian seasoning
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon onion powder
- 3 tablespoons dried parsley
- ½ cup freshly shredded Parmesan cheese
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 pound mild Italian sausage
- 15 ounce jar prepared spaghetti sauce
- 8 ounces sliced mozzarella

1. Place pasta into boiling water and follow instructions on the box to cook to al dente. Drain pasta and rinse with cold water. Set aside. Mix together cottage cheese, Italian seasoning, garlic powder, onion powder, parsley and Parmesan cheese. Add salt and pepper to taste. Set aside.

2. Brown sausage in a frying pan and drain. Add to cottage cheese mixture and stir to combine. Pour a thin layer of spaghetti sauce into a 9-inch by 13-inch pan. Stuff each shell with about 2 tablespoons of cottage cheese mixture.

3. Line up shells in rows in the pan. Spoon remaining spaghetti sauce over stuffed shells to cover. Lay slices of mozzarella over the shells, completely covering them. Bake at 350 degrees for about 45 minutes or until the mozzarella begins to lightly brown.



MELISSA ELSMO/PIONEER PRESS

Using slow cooker corned beef, these amazing Reuben sandwiches feature sauerkraut and Finlandia Swiss cheese.

Slow cooker twist on a classic for St. Patrick's Day



MELISSA ELSMO
Out of Mel's Kitchen

Growing up, it wasn't St. Patrick's Day in my house without a hearty Irish boiled dinner on the menu. My mom would slip a mammoth corned beef roast into a pot of water and boil it for hours until it became a stringy mess of a meal. The ruby hued meat was always served alongside boiled carrots, boiled potatoes and boiled cabbage. That's a whole lot of boiled

things. And here's the deal, boiling foods in water doesn't do anything to build flavor or texture.

While many people clamor for this holiday comfort food classic dinner because it easily feeds a crowd, I've just never been a huge fan of this mushy meal. But that doesn't mean I don't love a good corned beef dinner on St. Paddy's day. I just want one that has a whole bunch of rich flavor and a little structural integrity.

The first step in cooking up the corned beef of my dreams involves removing all the water from the cooking process. Thanks to my neighbor I've become a huge fan of slathering my corned beef with a sweet

mustard mixture, wrapping it in heavy duty foil and cooking it low and slow in my crock pot.

The resulting roast is anything but lackluster and perfectly suited to serving with a batch of oven roasted carrots, boiled red potatoes and a loaf of Irish soda bread, but be sure you make enough to whip up one of my ultimate Reuben sandwiches.

You will never go back to using deli meat or store-bought dressing to make this retro treat with your St. Patrick's Day leftovers. In fact, this version of a diner favorite — one that's seared in a pan and finished in a hot oven — will likely spoil you on ordering a Reuben in a restaurant ever again.

The Ultimate Reuben Sandwich

You can serve half of this roast as part of your St. Patrick's Day dinner and refrigerate the rest for use in these indulgent sandwiches or you can make the meat for the sandwiches alone. Either way, it's best to start this recipe one day before you plan to serve the sandwiches; cold corned beef slices like a dream.

FOR THE CORNED BEEF:

- 1 4-pound corned beef brisket
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 2 tablespoons whole grain mustard
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon onion flakes
- 1 teaspoon coarse black pepper
- Heavy duty aluminum foil

FOR THE REUBEN DRESSING:

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup ketchup
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup chopped Italian parsley
- 2 tablespoons dill pickle relish
- 1 heaping teaspoon prepared horseradish
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon white sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon each coarse pepper and salt

FOR THE SANDWICH:

- 2 slices of dark Bavarian rye bread per sandwich
- Unsalted butter at room temperature
- 3 slices Finlandia Swiss cheese (cut $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch thick) per sandwich
- 2 tablespoons of sauerkraut per sandwich (homemade or store bought)

1. For the corned beef: Place the corned beef, fat side up, on three large sheets of aluminum foil. Mix together the mustards, brown sugar, onion flakes and pepper in a small bowl. Pour the mustard mixture over the corned beef and wrap the entire roast tightly in the aluminum foil. Place the foil packet in a large crock pot and cook on low setting for 6 hours. Remove the packet (serve half for dinner if desired) and allow to cool to room temperature before refrigerating overnight. When ready to assemble the sandwiches, remove the corned beef from the refrigerator and unwrap. Slice the meat across the grain into $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch thick slices and set aside until ready to use.

2. For the Reuben dressing: Combine the mayonnaise, ketchup, parsley, pickle relish, horseradish, Worcestershire sauce, sugar, salt and pepper in a small bowl. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve. Can be made 1 day ahead. Note: This will make enough sauce for several sandwiches. You can halve the recipe if desired or use the leftover sauce as a dip for cooked shrimp.

3. To assemble the Reuben sandwich: Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Butter one side of each slice of bread and place butter side down on a cutting board. Spread each slice of bread with 1 tablespoon of the Reuben dressing. Place one slice of Swiss cheese on top of the dressing. Top the cheese on each side with 1 tablespoon sauerkraut and one or two slices of corned beef (depending on size). Place one slice of cheese on top of the meat and sauerkraut on one side of the bread. Place the halves together to make one giant sandwich; your sandwich bread will be buttered on the outside and there will be one slice of cheese in the middle of the sandwich.

4. Heat 1 tablespoon of butter in a large skillet over medium-high heat until it is melted and hot. Carefully add the sandwich to the sizzling butter and allow the bread to brown for two minutes. Using a large spatula, carefully flip the sandwich and allow the bread to brown on the second side for two minutes. Transfer the sandwich to a rack set on a rimmed baking sheet. Transfer the pan to the oven and bake the sandwich for 25 minutes or until the cheese (especially that center slice) is gooey and melted. Transfer the sandwich to a cutting board and allow it to rest for 5 minutes before slicing on the diagonal into two portions.

PETS/ANIMALS

MY PET WORLD

How to keep a cat busy during the early morning hours

By Marc Morrone
Tribune Content Agency

Q: My wife and I rescued two small kittens (5-6 weeks old) from a ditch in November of last year. We took them to the vet and got them cleaned up, one kitten died within the week the other is now a very cute, very active 16 to 18 week old kitten. The problem is she is now big enough to jump over or get through the barriers we have set up to block her from the bedroom. She gets very active at 4 a.m. and comes into the bedroom looking for fun and food. It is not workable for us to shut the bedroom door to keep her out. How can we get her to not be waking us in the early hours. At some point in the future I'd like to be able to have her sleep on the bed with us. Any suggestions or ideas would be much appreciated. — *Leif Nestingen*

A: Congratulations on your new kitten that is acting like a kitten should! That is really the answer here. She is acting like a kitten that is bored and does not have a sibling to play with.

It reminds me of when my wife and I just got married, some 30 years ago, and we lived in a small studio apartment and we adopted two kittens. Of course the kittens were alone all day while we were at work and bored out of their minds. So their day started when we got home. They were all over our bed at night chasing our feet



TIM COOK/MBR 2002

Cats Taylor, left, and Slanna lounge in their cage as passers-by look at the animals up for adoption by the Animal Rescue Fund Inc. at PETCO.

and jumping on our heads and otherwise acting like kittens do.

Since it was a studio apartment there was no bedroom door to close and we were at the mercy of the kittens and we just had to take it all and bear. By the time they were a year old they had matured and calmed down. At that point all was well. They would curl up in bed with us and peacefully sleep with us all night.

So the short answer to your question is to shut the bedroom door at night to keep the cat out until she gets older. However, you say that is not an option. So the long answer is to get another kitten to act as a playmate for her and hopefully keep her entertained all night long.

Of course that situation could

also backfire. You could have two kittens all over your head at night as my wife and I had. The only other suggestion I can offer is since you say her antics start around 4 a.m., and she begs for food then try getting one of the automatic feeders that work on a timer. That way the cat can access the food at that specific time. Hopefully she will take the food presented to her and take the edge off her antics.

Q: I really need to know if an outside stray male cat can be fixed and not spray indoors. I really feel sorry for this guy. He comes just about every night to eat but he is in rough shape. He always has scratches or wounds. He will let me pet him

but is afraid of everything and everyone else. I already have seven cats. Pure accident, I took in two stray pregnant females. I tried to find good homes and when I couldn't, I kept them. They are all fixed, shots and monthly flea meds. It's not a cheap situation. I want to help this guy. My females go out, but back in about every 10 minutes. He does not bother them and they are not afraid of him like they have been of other wondering males. My boys have never been out so I don't allow them to start. Please tell me if you think getting him fixed would stop him from spraying indoors. — *Donna Lampkin*

A: You are a very kind person to take pity on these cats. However this issue, like most cat drama, does not have a black or white answer. According to the rules of science a male cat that has no free testosterone in its system should not feel the need to spray; the desire to mate or warn other males off its territory should not be present without the hormone.

The problem is that some neutered cats do spray — either because it became such an ingrained habit before they were neutered or just because they are cats. However, this does not apply to all cats. There is very little that actually applies to all cats when you think about it.

So my suggestion is you do get him neutered and then ask the vet who performs the operation how long he or she feels that it will take the cat to lose its testosterone based on the cat's physical condition. Then keep him outdoors for the time suggested by the vet before you bring him into the house. If all works out then it is a win situation. If not and you have to put him outdoors again then at least his life will be a lot easier if he has been neutered.

Marc Morrone has kept every kind of animal as a pet possible for the last half century and is happy to share his knowledge of pet keeping with those in need of it. Although he cannot answer every question individually, he will publish those of general interest. You can contact him at petxperts2@aol.com; please include your name, city and state.

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Senior living residents upset with homes

I bought a home in Naperville's Carillon Club (a senior living community developed by D.R. Horton) on April 29, 2016. We now call this the "House of Horrors." I have had continuous issues since moving in. There are cracks in the foundation, which keep occurring. I have had water in the basement three times. The excuses I get from D.R. Horton's warranty manager are ridiculous. Insulation on the walls has to be pulled away because it gets wet. All the windows have ice buildup along the windows and frames. Someone from the window vendor is supposed to come out and look at the problems but never shows up. My hot water heater produces only a small amount of hot water then turns cool. There have been so many issues with this home, and they keep happening. Many homeowners in this development are having similar problems.

I believe Horton tries to intimidate seniors, thinking they are not too sharp and will go away eventually.

Joanne, Naperville

Since receiving Joanne's email, I also heard from three other Carillon Club resi-

dents:

Warren spent a year and a half attempting to get his poorly sealed windows repaired or replaced through DR Horton's 1-year warranty. He finally gave up and replaced all 19 of his home's windows at his own expense.

Kim reported issues with cabinets, plumbing, fireplace pilot light, master bath fan, electrical system, living room floor and garage door opener. The pilot light, bathroom fan and garage door opener (insufficient size for the door's weight) were all replaced at her expense as they fell outside D.R. Horton's warranty.

Since October 2014, when Dominic moved into his home, he has attempted to get his wood floor repaired or replaced. There are nicked edges, missing pieces and improperly installed sections.

I forwarded Joanne's, Warren's and Kim's complaints to D.R. Horton's media relations email address. (I had not yet heard from Dominic.) A day later, I re-



CATHY CUNNINGHAM
Help Squad

ceived this statement from D.R. Horton spokesperson Marissa Ann Awtry:

Customer satisfaction is very important to D.R. Horton. A number of [Joanne's] concerns have already been addressed, and we are in the process of resolving the few remaining items. We have

not been contacted recently by [Warren] or [Kim] regarding the items you brought to our attention. We plan to contact them both soon and will address their concerns according to the guidelines of our warranty. We encourage any homeowner to contact us directly if they ever have concerns with their home ...

Shortly after that, I emailed Dominic's complaint to Awtry.

Since that time, I have emailed and called Awtry five times. Since receiving Awtry's initial statement, there has been no further response.

Joanne's last update said D.R. Horton would repair her foundation cracks if she would sign a contract releasing Horton of

responsibility for future cracks. Her sump pump was replaced and a third "adjustment" was made to her hot water heater.

Kim was contacted by Horton and told to make a list of the replacement costs she has incurred, but was told that reimbursement was not guaranteed.

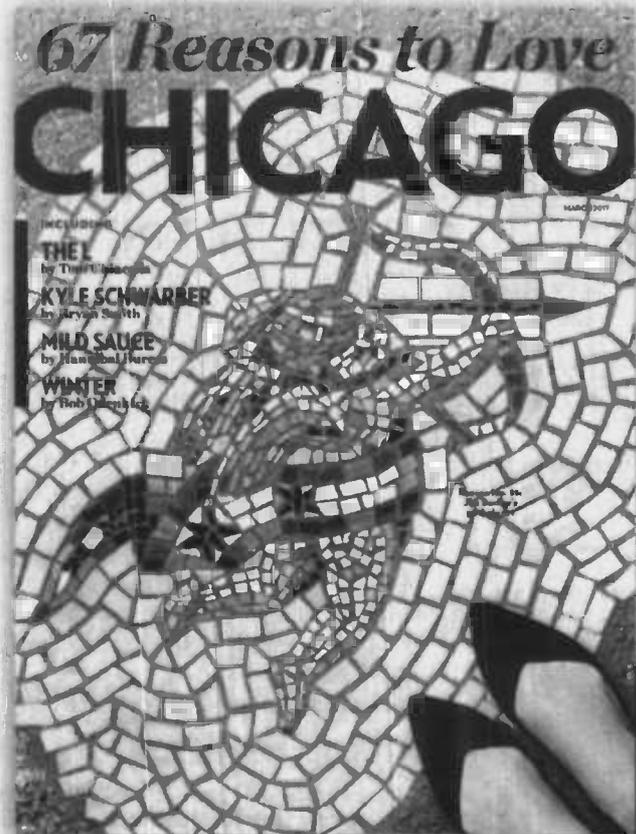
Warren reported: "Tom Tuhy (D.R. Horton's warranty manager) stated the primary purpose of his call was to respond to Chicago Tribune's accusation that D.R. Horton had not contacted me. He showed little interest in listening to my concerns, sounded annoyed that homeowners publicized their dissatisfaction to the Tribune and disputed all quality issue claims on the windows ..."

I have not yet heard back from Dominic. Help Squad will keep an eye on this situation.

Need help?

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

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.



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Disruption undone

Phones may have displaced watches, but technology doesn't always improve things

By John Warner
Chicago Tribune

The other day I looked down at my left wrist and noticed that my tan was even up and down my arm, and realized that I hadn't worn a watch for months.

My watch has been disrupted by my phone, which is — sometimes to my chagrin — omnipresent, available for a time check whenever I may need it. Because I wore a watch for purely practical reasons rather than fashion, the habit has fallen by the wayside.

Disruption is the buzzword of the techno-utopian class, the sorts of people that see technology as the solution to all of our problems. Books on disruption and disrupters probably already merit their own section in bookstores. I have recently dipped into one of them, "The Upstarts" by Brad Stone, who previously covered the disruptive force of Amazon in "The Everything Store: Jeff Bezos and the Age of Amazon."

"The Upstarts" primarily focuses on Airbnb and Uber, disrupters of the hotel and taxi industries, respectively, and Stone's approach is somewhat less measured than in "The Everything Store." It's filled with a bit more marvel at the expansion of these companies than skepticism over what this disruption might mean.

One of the nuggets Stone shares is that Uber was not intending to take on

the entire taxicab industry, instead seeing itself as an alternative to the black car livery you see in larger cities. Only after startup did it see the true potential. As with phones and watches, it's not always possible to anticipate what will be disrupted by a new business model.

The godfather of disruption theory is Clayton M. Christensen, a Harvard Business School professor. "The Innovator's Dilemma," published in 1997, originates his "disruptive innovation" theory, which essentially argues that new technologies can cause legacy firms to fail by interfering with key components of their business models. Think Kodak, a film company that was undone by digital technology.

Once we buy into disruption theory, everything looks ripe for the picking, and, indeed, Christensen tackles industry-specific applications of his theory in both "The Innovator's Prescription: A Disruptive Solution for Health Care" and "Disrupting Class: How Disruptive Innovation Will Change the Way the World Learns."

It is worth examining, however, situations where disruption is predicted but doesn't occur and why.

For example, take books. As reported in Publishers Weekly in January, Nielsen reported a 16 percent decline in e-book sales from 2015 to 2016. Meanwhile, hardcover unit sales increased by 5 percent. E-books have established a

valuable niche in the book industry, but print books are here to stay.

They're here to stay because they have virtues that readers partial to the physical book may find difficult to articulate but are nonetheless real and valuable. This is why Christensen's predictions about education should be looked at skeptically. Christensen told *Wired* in 2013 that "higher education is just on the edge of the crevasse," arguing that online education would supplant face-to-face learning because it is more efficient.

However, online education has so far proved inferior. EdX and Udacity, which once thought they would replace universities, have now pivoted to corporate training.

Education built on human interaction seems to have deeper meaning. For all the troubles of our higher education system, it is not so easily disrupted, nor should we allow it to be.

We shouldn't be afraid of progress, and Stone's and Christensen's books help map out possibilities, but it would be nice if the authors weren't quite so faithful in their steadfast belief that technology necessarily leads to better solutions.

Some things deserve preserving, not disrupting.

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. "Dark Matter" by Blake Crouch
2. "Zone One" by Colson Whitehead
3. "The English Patient" by Michael Ondaatje
4. "The Circle" by Dave Eggers
5. "Mao II" by Don DeLillo
— Liam R., Chicago

I feel like Tom Perrotta's "The Leftovers" has the right mix of character intrigue and mysterious plot to keep Liam satisfied.

1. "The Underground Railroad" by Colson Whitehead
2. "The Buried Giant" by Kazuo Ishiguro
3. "Fates and Furies" by Lauren Groff
4. "Cloud Atlas" by David Mitchell
5. "Purity" by Jonathan Franzen
— Dan P., New Orleans

This list makes me feel like Dan may enjoy an introduction to the work of Roberto Bolano. Rather than starting with the truly mammoth "2666" (912 pages), he should dip into the merely lengthy "The Savage Detectives" (656 pages).

1. "Pale Fire" by Vladimir Nabokov
2. "Mason & Dixon" by Thomas Pynchon
3. "My Struggle: Book 2" by Karl Ove Knausgaard
4. "Tree of Smoke" by Denis Johnson
5. "JR" by William Gaddis
— Daniel P., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Wow. All the lists are pretty heavy this week, but this is the heaviest, by far. I'm tempted to go with something escapist, but I don't think that's where Daniel lives, so I'm going with "The Violent Bear It Away" by Flannery O'Connor.

Get a reading from the Biblioracle!

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



puzzle island

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

3/5

THINK TUBULAR: Or cylindrical, if you prefer

BY GAIL GRABOWSKI | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN
(stanxwords.com)

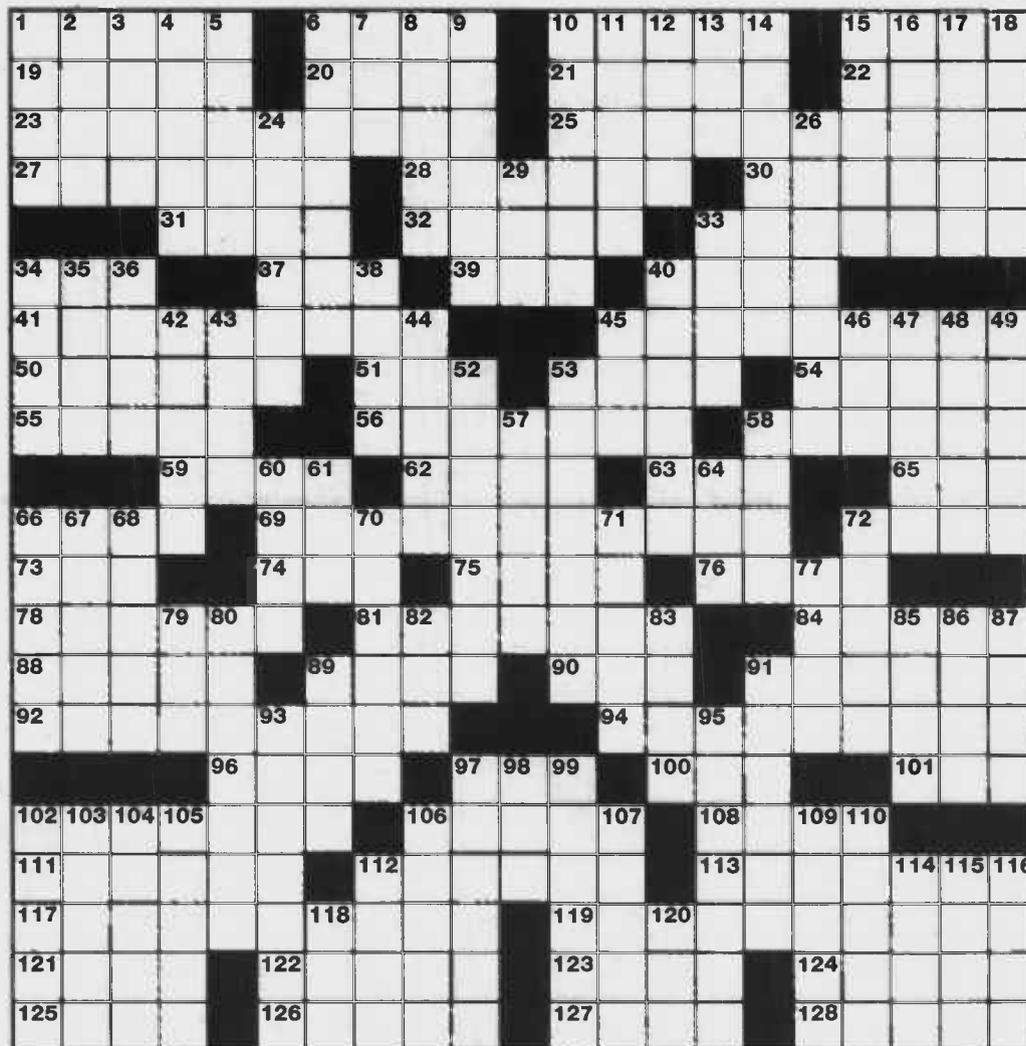
Across

- 1 Stops marching
6 Bedside appliance
10 Army outposts
15 Otherwise
19 Big name in foil
20 Melville's *Typee* sequel
21 Concessionary cry
22 Bob of home improvement
23 "Forever Young" singer
25 Part of Oregon's border
27 Dismount
28 Scented pouch
30 Lustrous fabric
31 Regarding
32 County near London
33 Reversible woven fabrics
34 Early times, for short
37 Superlative suffix
39 2001 ... computer
40 Bit of deceit
41 Idealistic notion
45 Credit as a cause
50 Positive aspects
51 Gear tooth
53 Correspondence
54 Imam's faith
55 Have an inkling
56 Farmer's gathering
58 Restlessness
59 Syrian — Republic
62 Store-sign gas
63 Misspeak, say
65 Meditative sect
66 Small bouquet
69 Reckless person
72 Candy shapes

- 73 Air quality org.
74 Acoustic organ
75 Cantina fare
76 Viking Ship
Museum city
78 Williams sisters' sport
81 Shoestring holders
84 Crowd-scene actor
88 Forest in *As You Like It*
89 Sent a dupe letter to
90 Downturn
91 *The Lord of the Rings* villain
92 Breaking point
94 Canada's postal code HOH OHO
96 Amphitheater feature
97 Sewn edge
100 Roofing sealant
101 Lawn condensation
102 College football performers
106 Novelist Chaim
108 Seville snack
111 Designate officially
112 Extreme folly
113 Knickknack stand
117 Blarney Stone locale
119 Livestock locale
121 Suffix for luncheon
122 Brief cessation
123 Situated on
124 "Old MacDonald" refrain
125 Sit for a bit
126 Shut down
127 Choral performance
128 Origins

Down

- 1 Challenging
2 Medicinal plant
3 Some HDTV screens
4 Puccini work
5 Overfills
6 Aspirin descriptor
7 GPs' org.
8 Telegraph inventor
9 Soap ingredient
10 Apple quantity
11 Subsidiary building
12 "Shoo!"
13 Lodge logo animal
14 Is omniscient
15 Musical set in Buenos Aires
16 Exists
17 Built for speed
18 Works for
24 Keys in
26 Small baking dish
29 Civil War inits.
33 Bygone phone feature
34 Mobile downloads
35 Eight furlongs
36 Made like cotton candy
38 RPM gauge
40 Use bleach on
42 School paper
43 13 Down cousin
44 Complains, so to speak
45 — in "chameleon"
46 Application
47 Town square
48 Electrical weapon
49 Portents



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

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- 52 Said "Welcome!" to
53 Was a threat to
57 Outspoken
58 Big brewers
60 Taproom orders
61 Miss Piggy accessory
64 Pal of Piglet
66 Potpourri piece
67 Puccini genre
68 Metaphor for time
70 Mining vehicle
71 Away from the office
72 Enclose for shipping
77 Remini of sitcoms
79 Pay-stub figure
80 No time at all
82 Archery wood
83 Catch sight of
85 Trampled (on)
86 Cast assignment
87 Yet again
89 "Street" rep
91 Low clouds
93 Old-style photo
95 Suitable for most audiences
97 Hit the horn
98 Next vowel after epsilon
99 Coffeehouse beverages
102 Runner in the lead
103 Cybermemo
104 Wears a long face
105 IQ test pioneer
106 Boxing prize
107 Former Japanese capital
109 Inserts in sashes
110 Texas college athlete
112 Noisy
114 Swordplay tool
115 Former Nevada senator
116 Grandson of Eve
118 Spam holder
120 Chaney of silents

Quote-Acrossic

- 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. Cinc. Reds immortal catcher
7 35 122 108 89 76 42 53 139 164 113
- B. Collect
143 86 56 8 69 133 115 25 162 92
- C. Gold or aluminum
22 130 51 77 106
- D. Delicate
73 28 145 62 45 24 10 123 156
- E. Brooding hen
152 79 94 112 103 57
- F. Wheat or rice
121 148 50 18 26
- G. Burrowing animal
134 149 65 75 12 97
- H. Esteem
13 101 70 84 31 159 120 93 48 41
- I. Anonymous
6 85 157 125 44 114 33 144
- J. Brownish-grey color
67 88 146 29 118

- K. Stuff
61 116 132 17 71 167
- L. NYC theater venue: hyph.
55 38 47
- M. Spread gossip: 3 wds.
168 72 2 136 91 98 15 87
3 90 160 81
- N. Thrifty
43 83 158 111 37 142 23 59 96 14
- O. Renounce
30 107 11 161 126 64
- P. Essential
131 147 16 46 32 63 105 78 135
- Q. Just begun
153 36 129 95 140 58 109 4
- R. No longer in use
9 166 117 27 52
- S. All
151 104 68 5 60
127 40 20 137 165
- T. Cautioned
99 155 19 34 80 119 150
- U. Become calmer: 2 wds.
21 163 1 54 124 102
74 82 141 154

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

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

By Max Engle. Edited by Linda and Charles Preston. © 2017 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

Sport Scene

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across

- Son of Noah
- Pro football team
- Place of trade
- Outdoor game
- Bellowing
- Celebean ox
- Asian land
- Mouthlike opening
- Excellent athlete
- Football immortal
- Pro football team
- Electric ___
- Jai- ___
- Sports official
- Models
- Rinses
- Harness parts
- Invalid food
- Scored at tennis
- Destined
- Miracle village
- Mal de ___
- Parish priests
- More certain
- Tennis star Ashe
- Tennis equipment
- Receptacles
- Hindu title

- Michigan State athletic teams
- ___ kick
- Too- ___ Jones
- Pro football team
- Diving bird
- Curved molding
- Assam silkworms
- Impressed deeply
- Equal
- Defeat narrowly
- Food fish

Down

- Motor trip
- Israeli dance
- Ancient country in southwestern Iran
- ___ Lisa
- Bacon slice
- Skill
- State of mind
- Last home of RLS
- Golf club
- Opposer
- Type of horse
- Frigate hands
- Made a comeback
- Golfing need

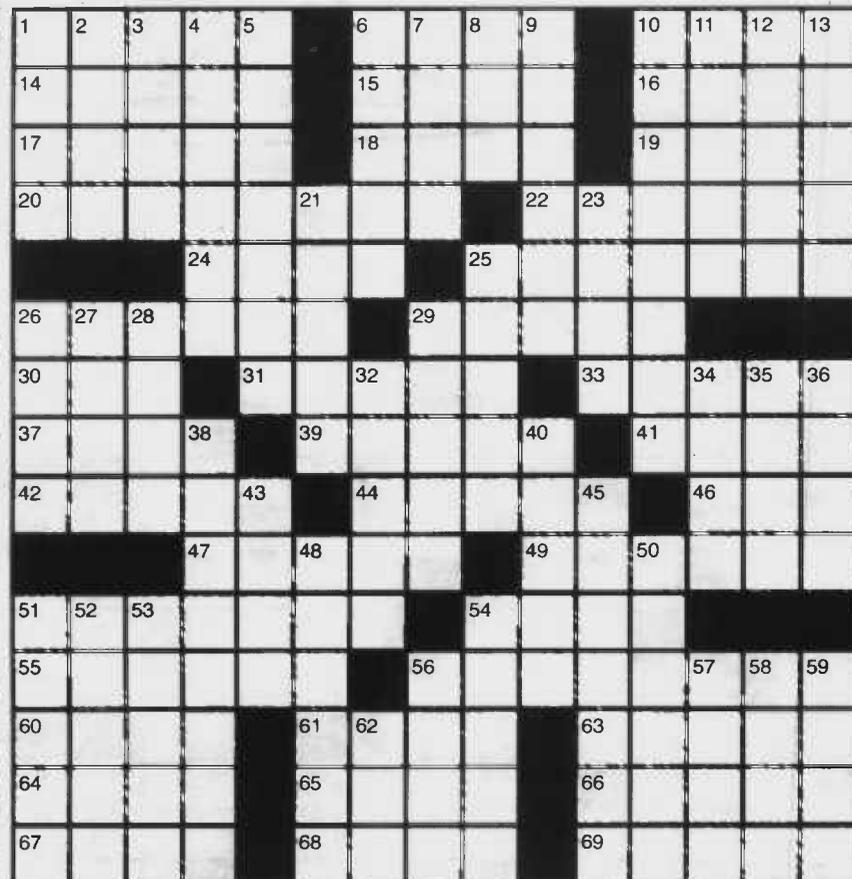
- Shoulder ___
- Merry Widow composer
- Speedway man
- Tennis great
- Nourished
- Diner
- Separated
- Sprinter paths
- Box
- Lhasa monk
- Zane Grey locales
- Heating device
- Billiard ___
- Rudely brief
- Cover
- Baseball pitcher
- La ___
- Nocturnal noise
- Short ___
- Camelot lad
- Nautical direction
- Went into base
- Pitching mound
- Home of the Hawkeyes
- Deer or rabbits
- Gridiron men
- Juvenile game

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				70			

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Crossword



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3/8/17

ACROSS

- 1 ___ in comparison; looked inferior
6 Con artist's trick
10 Staircase piece
14 With it
15 Greek letter
16 Scorch
17 Erie or Panama
18 Singer ___ Campbell
19 Roll call response
20 Vision
22 Decorates
24 Gabor and Longoria
25 Showing no signs of getting older
26 "Messiah" composer
29 Sports building
30 "Cat ___ Hot Tin Roof"
31 Marsh grasses
33 Stretch of land
37 Recipe verb
39 "___ John B"
41 Influence
42 Game pieces
44 Kovacs or Pyle
46 Antlered animal
- 47 Explorer ___ de León
49 Spank
51 Shade of red
54 German mister
55 Asian temple
56 Rio celebration
60 MIT or USC
61 Hilarious person
63 Escape
64 ___ out; allot
65 Soft cheese
66 ___ away; dismisses
67 Notices
68 Strong urges
69 Lock of hair

DOWN

- 1 Walk the floor
2 "___ in a Manger"
3 Freeway division
4 Wiped away an error
5 Hand over
6 Exhales audibly
7 Young horse
8 Feasted
9 Run, as a business
10 Diligent pupils
11 "Hang in ___"; words of encouragement

Solutions



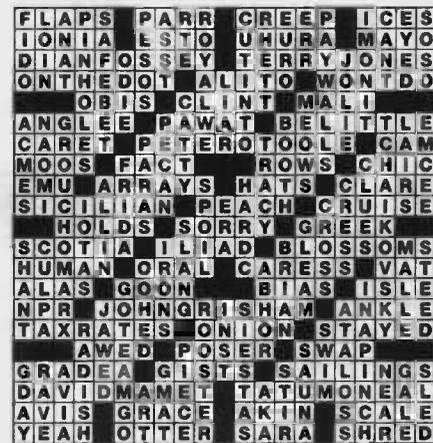
- 12 Makes money
13 Iron
21 Storm winds
23 Fender mark
25 Illegal burning
26 Emcee
27 "Nay" voter
28 Tack
29 Worship
32 Vote into office
34 Floored
35 Summon
36 Toddler
38 Scolds
40 Actress Laurie
43 Auctioneer's cry
45 In ___; sincerely
48 Close
50 Motorist
51 Taters
52 Narrow boat
53 Nimble
54 Abhorst
56 Penny or nickel
57 Wind direction indicator
58 ___ together; combines
59 Not as much
62 Fury



puzzle island solutions

Last week's crosswords

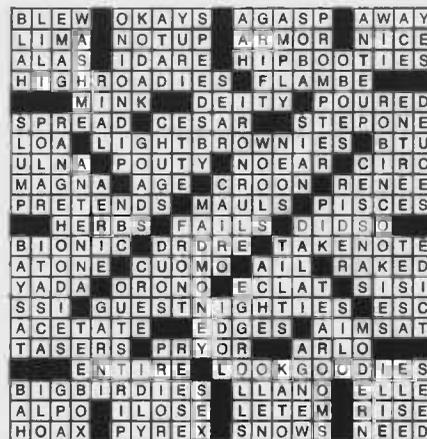
"ZOO STORIES"



"Name Game"



"The More the Merrier"



Last week's Quote-Acrostic

(Ralph) GARDNER (Jr.): CATALOG OF DREAMS: The toy store Christmas catalog constituted the bible of childhood aspiration, merchandising artwork no less masterful than a Beethoven symphony, culminating in the capitalistic equivalent of 'Ode to Joy.'

Last week's Sudoku

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

This week's Jumble

GOSSIP FIXATE MOTION
VANISH NEARLY INSIST

The best employee at the car wash was a —

SHINING
EXAMPLE

chicago
tribune.com
/games

Interactive puzzles and games

How to live with and love a spouse who has dementia

As a little girl in the 1970s, I used to watch "The Partridge Family" every week with my grandmother. I was a little too young to worship teen idols back then, but I still recall the magazine covers and posters of David Cassidy, with his long shag haircut and beautiful blue eyes.



JACKIE PILOSSOPH
Love Essentially

It's hard to believe that anything bad could happen to the teen idol who seemed invincible to so many adoring fans. But last week, Cassidy, who is now 66, went public with the news that he has dementia.

According to the Mayo Clinic website, dementia isn't a specific disease but rather a condition characterized by symptoms that affect memory, thinking ability and social functioning severe enough to interfere with daily life. The most common cause of dementia is Alzheimer's disease.

As devastating as dementia is to the person diagnosed with it, the condition can also affect a spouse and other family members a great deal.

Alita Arnold is a care manager, on-staff nurse and cognitive therapeutics specialist for home care agency Home Care Assistance, which operates throughout Chicago's northern suburbs. Arnold said the first symptom people affected with dementia experience is usually short-term memory loss.

"There is a normal level of cognitive sharpness that can decline as we get older, like forgetting where we put our keys or trying to find a word we can't put our finger on," said Arnold, who has been in the field for five years. "But when the inability to execute plans and juggle all the details that go into your home or workplace begins to interfere with your life and relationships, it's a problem."

Arnold said when people are diagnosed with dementia, both the patient and his or her spouse usually face fear and sadness, but that every dementia case is different.

"Some patients decline quickly but others could have smaller deficits that stay at the same level for longer periods of time without serious declines," she said.

So, how do you cope if you or your spouse is diagnosed with dementia? Arnold said the best thing couples can do is try and live their healthiest, most active, involved and connected life. Here are her tips:

- Continue to be hopeful and do things you love.
- Stay active, or if you aren't active, get active. There is scientific data supporting

the benefit of exercise to delay or slow down the progression of dementia.

- Don't isolate those around you. If you see signs of depression, get help. Depression is linked to less favorable outcomes in dementia.

■ If you are the spouse, understand personality changes that can come with the condition. These include irritability, aggression, mood swings, paranoia, anger, being sexually uninhibited and inappropriate, and using foul language. Don't take anything personally and realize that the disease is acting out, not your spouse.

■ Some patients cover their dementia symptoms with humor or clever tactics to justify not remembering people's names or details when they are asked questions. In a way it can be a good thing, because it helps the person maintain self-respect and it protects them. But on the other hand, the people close to them need to understand they are struggling and not put on them responsibilities they can't handle.

■ Know when to step in and have the discussion that he or she needs outside help.

■ The spouse has to make sure they are taking care of themselves. They need breaks. They need to get away and do self-nurturing things so that they can be present and healthy for the loved one. That might mean getting part-time or full-time home care or utilizing resources around them such as senior center programs, cognitive stimulation programs, art classes, lectures, etc.

■ Be prepared. It is heartbreaking to see your spouse decline cognitively. The person can become mean, demanding and difficult. Again, remember, it is the disease — not your spouse's fault.

■ Better overall health means better quality of life for patients with dementia. That's why it is important to address any health issues.

■ Encourage the patient to maintain social ties and engage in mentally stimulating activities.

As David Cassidy sang so often in his 1970s megahit song, "I think I Love You," it's important to live those words every day, remembering to cherish and enjoy the good and meaningful moments. Because whether they are funny or serious or heartfelt, these are the times that give life and love deep meaning.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.

Helping you prepare for



TODAY

&



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HEALTH

ASK THE DOCTORS

Natural remedies available for nagging arthritis pain

By Dr. Robert Ashley
Ask the Doctors

Dear Doctor: Are there natural remedies for arthritis? Exercises that could help? My pain is in the upper arms and shoulders.

Dear Reader: Osteoarthritis, the kind that you're describing, is caused by degeneration of the cartilage within a joint. Without the cartilage, one bone rubs upon the other, leading to pain and degeneration of the bone.

Doctors typically recommend nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), such as ibuprofen, naproxen and aspirin; acetaminophen; and, more rarely, opiates. But NSAIDs can increase the risk of stomach ulcers and kidney problems when used chronically; acetaminophen at high doses can cause liver problems when used chronically; and opiate medications can lead to addiction. So I can understand your desire to look for an alternative for the pain.

The supplements chondroitin sulfate and glucosamine have been used for osteoarthritis for years. Chondroitin is one of the building blocks of cartilage in our body, so many people believe that taking chondroitin can decrease the pain of arthritis.

A 2015 review of 43 randomized trials compared the use of chondroitin alone or in combination with glucosamine against the use of a placebo. Most of these studies looked at treatment for arthritis of the knees, with some looking at arthritis of the hips and hands. The studies measured pain on a 100-point scale. The use of chondroitin was found to be beneficial, whether



MARIANNA DAY MASSEY/TNS

Federal health guidelines on aspirin usage to prevent heart attacks were recently released.

with or without glucosamine, showing a small 8-point difference in pain compared with placebo. It didn't ease the stiffness and lack of mobility associated with arthritis, however.

In another study, a randomized trial of 606 patients with pain from osteoarthritis of the knee compared the use of glucosamine with chondroitin against the anti-inflammatory drug celecoxib (Celebrex). After six months, both groups found a greater than 50 percent reduction in both pain and joint swelling. What was interesting about the study was that it took a while for the glucosamine/chondroitin to work. At one to four months, Celebrex was much better at improving pain, but at six months it was no different than the glucosamine/chondroitin combination. So with the use of glucosamine and chondroitin, it is important to be patient.

The supplements MSM (methylsulfonylmethane) and DMSO (dimethyl sulfoxide) are anti-inflammatory agents that have been studied in arthritis of the knees without evidence of benefit, but it's possible they could decrease pain in the joints of

the hands. Arnica montana is a plant-based therapy that has some potential in topical use for pain relief, with one study finding a slight benefit for arthritis of the hands. Topical use of capsaicin cream has shown potential, as well. Other natural remedies and supplements, such as fish oil, are touted for arthritis.

As for exercises, I would recommend physical therapy to increase your range of motion for your shoulder and to help increase your muscular strength. Yoga, Pilates and tai chi also can be beneficial, potentially increasing your range of motion without undue stress on your already aching joints. Over time, you may well see a difference in your ability to function with less pain.

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

Hot-and-sour soup helps get handle on migraines

By Joe Graedon and
Teresa Graedon
King Features Syndicate

Q: You have written that some people stop a migraine by eating Chinese hot-and-sour soup. You implied that the benefit might be from capsaicin, the compound that gives hot peppers their kick. Hot-and-sour soup does not normally contain chile peppers. The "hot" in this soup comes from rice vinegar and white pepper.

Some American-style Chinese restaurants may use dried chilies or black pepper, but the standard is white pepper.

Chilies and white and black pepper come from different species. It may not matter so long as it works, but we should know the difference.

A: You are correct. Chile peppers, white pepper and black pepper are different. But they all stimulate the same TRP (transient receptor potential) channels. This might explain why both hot-and-sour soup and hot gumbo with chile peppers work to control migraines (Journal of Headache and Pain online, Aug. 13, 2013).

Q: I read about the person who got relief from psoriasis by bathing in the Dead Sea. I had almost the same experience at the Blue Lagoon in Iceland.

I had a bout of scalp psoriasis and dunked my head several times in the water. I didn't have any more flare-ups again for nearly four months.

On the way back to the U.S. on the plane, we met a woman who flies to Iceland every three months just to go to the Blue Lagoon to treat her eczema. Now I buy the



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Hot-and-sour soup — above, with white pepper — and hot gumbo, with chile peppers, can ease migraine pain.

Blue Lagoon shampoo and conditioner online, and my scalp psoriasis has not recurred for nearly three years.

A: The Blue Lagoon is a popular resort spa in Iceland.

The water comes from a geothermal power plant that supplies electricity for the city of Reykjavik. It is rich in sulfate and minerals such as silica, sodium and potassium.

Researchers at the University of Iceland have studied the effect of exposure to the geothermal seawater together with exposure to narrowband ultraviolet B light (Photodermatology, Photoimmunology and Photomedicine, February 2014). Although narrowband UVB exposure is a standard treatment for psoriasis, they found that bathing in the Blue Lagoon in addition to light exposure worked faster and produced longer-lasting remissions than UVB exposure alone.

Q: I am 94 and was having sleep problems until I found something that really works for me. I drink about a half-cup of pure tart cherry juice every night before bedtime.

Even after getting up to visit the bathroom, I go right back to sleep.

A: Thanks for the testimonial. Drinking tart cherry juice has been shown to improve sleep quality, perhaps because Montmorency cherries contain melatonin (European Journal of Nutrition, December 2012).

We would worry about someone your age taking melatonin pills because they can increase the risk for fracture (Age and Ageing, November 2016). Tart cherry juice seems unlikely to cause dizziness or grogginess, however, because the dose of melatonin is low.

You might have hit upon the best sleep aid for you.

Readers who are interested in tart cherry juice and other natural approaches to overcoming insomnia may wish to consult our newly revised "Guide to Getting a Good Night's Sleep." This online resource is available in the store at www.peoplespharmacy.com.

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

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



the**wedding**.com

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Breaking up in your 30s

Splits in the 3rd decade are hard for a variety of reasons

By Allison Bowen
Chicago Tribune

This breakup felt different. Neil and his girlfriend were considering making big life changes for each other — him moving from Chicago to New York, for one.

So when the relationship fell apart and he found himself single at 30, it felt heavier than similar previous splits.

"I was pretty heartbroken," said Neil, now 33, who asked that his last name not be used due to potential embarrassment that his ex might think he wasn't over her. "I think I put too much pressure on it."

No breakup is ever easy. But for people in their 30s, breakups can feel more emotionally taxing than splits in other decades, experts say.

"The breakups are harder in your 30s," says therapist Heather deCastro, who works with millennials at her New York practice, Millennium Psychotherapy.

Factors include a generation of millennials who wait longer to seriously date, meaning years-long relationships now end in the third decade. And pressure to fit someone into your already-fixed life — apartment, adult job — can mean that an exit can be a harder unraveling. Meanwhile, the fear of starting over is sharp for those who want to get married and have children.

The Pew Research Center reported in 2014 that a record share of Americans have never married. In 2012, 1 in 5 adults 25 and older had never been married. And the median age to get first hitched is 27 for women and 29 for men. In 1960, those ages were 20 for women and 23 for men.

Not finding a forever partner is a common concern, said Kute Blackson, author of "You Are the



JAMIE GRILL/BLEND IMAGES

Breaking up in your 30s is especially difficult.

One: A Bold Adventure in Finding Purpose, Discovering the Real You, and Loving Fully."

"The older you get, maybe the stakes get higher," said Blackson, who helps men and women navigate dating through seminars like "The Man Breakthrough Experience" and 14-day India treks.

Pew reported that in 2015, 53 percent of never-married adults said they would like to marry eventually.

Neil said that, since his big breakup at age 30, questions about future intentions arise more quickly when he's dating now.

"It usually comes up a lot quicker than 'Let's just hang out and get to know each other,'" he said.

Breakups later in life may be harder, too, because the couple may have tried for years to make a relationship work.

"It's stability, and it's safer, and you're doing what everybody else is doing," deCastro said.

But just because you are already dating someone, experts advise, is not a reason to stay together.

Blackson often asks clients, "If

you were to meet your partner today, would you date them?"

"I kid you not, people go silent," he said.

He added, "By the time you reach 30, you've been dating since you were in your 20s, you may be with a completely different person. That's not a bad thing. That's just growth."

He urges his clients to identify their own wants and needs. That clarity can come with age.

This can be particularly tough for women, who face fertility concerns as they age.

"I think in the 20s, it's a lot easier — especially, women feel like they have more time," deCastro said.

Stress arrives in many shades. Emerging from a years-long relationship, Carly Popofsky, 30, realized that all her Manhattan friends were now hitched.

"I think being single is a lot more glaring now because it doesn't feel like everyone's doing the same thing I'm doing," she said.

Meanwhile, she said, the dating landscape has changed dramatically, as apps and online dating

became mainstream while she was in a relationship.

Other relationships can have an impact on your own feelings. Wedding after wedding, people may feel anxiety as they become surrounded by friends' spouses.

And people who seem to have found their perfect match splash happiness across Facebook and Instagram.

"People project this image, and it looks so great," deCastro said. "But it's not what's going on inside. It's not reality."

Married friends may also add to singles' stress in surprising ways. Often, deCastro said, clients are scared by pals sharing anxieties like, "Did I really make the right choice?"

"Other friends have these marriages, and they hear from their friends that it's not that great," deCastro said.

Dating past your 20s means you often have a more adult life. Standards have been set: You've made yourself a comfortable home, maybe one you own and don't want to leave. Perhaps you prefer nicer restaurants or don't want to compromise on travel.

"You're not willing to budge as much," deCastro said.

Popofsky said she now has the same high standards but different values — she cares more about someone's behavior, not job, for example.

"I wouldn't say I'm picky," she said. "But I'm looking for someone great."

Now, past his 20s, Blackson said he is "much more able to discern who is right for me, who I am, what works."

Finding that balance and moving past anxiety over dating and splitting in your 30s, involves a few key factors.

"The most powerful thing I think someone can do is to sit with their pain," Blackson said. "It takes tremendous courage to sit with the feeling of loneliness, to sit with the pain."

John Grohol, psychologist and founder of Psych Central.com, similarly suggests a post-mortem.

"People are so quick to say, 'I have to get over this breakup,'" said Grohol, based in Newburyport, Mass. "Take the relationship apart, and see what worked and didn't work, and take that new knowledge that you have, and use it for your next relationship."

If an ex had a quick temper, for example, perhaps you are looking for someone who handles anger in a healthier manner.

Most important, don't beat yourself up or bathe in feelings of guilt or failure.

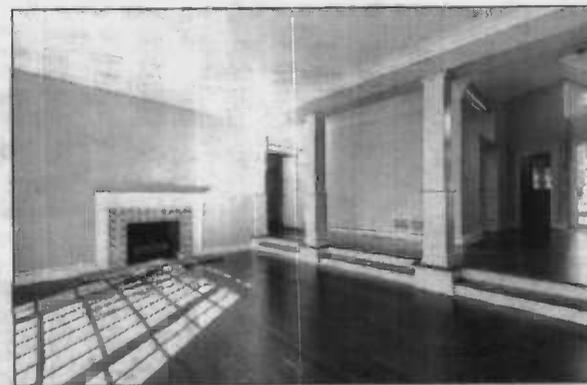
"A lot of people take it personally and feel terrible and think that they did something wrong and they didn't choose right," deCastro said. "Give yourself a break."

When clients tell him they've been through a breakup, Blackson tells them, "Congratulations!" and salutes their new chapter.

"You made a courageous choice," he said. "It takes a lot of courage to follow your heart and not compromise what you know inside. If you stay together with someone you know is not right, you're never going to be fulfilled."



TIM NEWHOUSE/NEW VINTAGE PHOTOGRAPHY



French provincial home in Hinsdale: \$2.4M

ADDRESS: 614 Maple St. in Hinsdale

ASKING PRICE: \$2,400,000

Listed on Feb. 13, 2017

Dramatic two story entry leads into the formal living room with fireplace, dining room that opens to patio, first-floor office with custom built-ins, first-floor master with fireplace and kitchen with farm sink. Lower level features an exercise room, recreation room and a half bath. Exterior spaces include a tiered deck with custom built ins and a fireplace, paver patios with a built-in, oversized grill and pizza oven and a large screened room.

Agent: Anne Brandt of Baird & Warner Real Estate, 630-323-1855

At press time, this home was still for sale.

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2:45 PM



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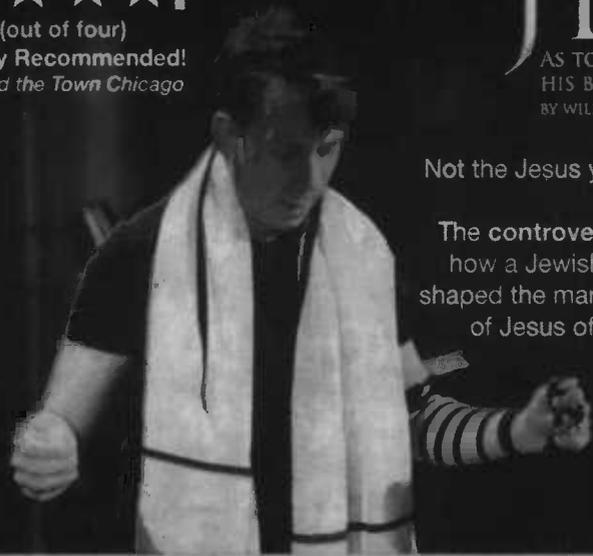
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GO



STUDIO NORTH

The SNAP Dance Company of Wilmette is one of the many youth dance ensembles performing at the "Progressions" dance festival on March 11 in Evanston.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

'Progressions' festival will showcase young dancers

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Chicago area dance companies are coming together for "Progressions," the second annual dance festival produced by Wilmette-based Studio North Academy of the Performing Arts, 7 p.m. March 11 at Haven Middle School, 2417 Prairie Ave., Evanston.

"I really love giving our kids the chance to create community and meet other kids from other studios and see what they're doing," said Studio North owner Pamela Sue Fox. "In the end, it is a really small community. Eventually, they'll end up at the same auditions or summer intensives or maybe even college programs. So it's nice to have that basis of knowing someone else from another place."

Participating companies include Living By Performing Dance Company based at Le Ballet Petit, Future Shock, Joel Hall Youth Dance Company, Dance and Music Academy, Mohler Dance, Old Town School of Folk Music, Design Dance, New Trier Kinesis Dance Company

and SNAP Dance Company, which is based at Studio North.

Tickets are \$12 cash or check.

For details, call 847-251-7627 or go to www.studio-northacademy.com

Their lucky day

Kids ages 2-11 will collect lots of green at a St. Patrick's Day Clover Hunt, 4-5 p.m. March 17 in the Community Room at Prairie View Community Center, 6834 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Prizes will be given to children who find the special clovers. There will also be a craft project.

For details, call 847-965-1200 or go to www.mortongroveparks.com

Think Irish on ice

Traditional Irish music will be played for skaters during IceLand St. Patty Skate, 12:30-1:45 p.m. March 11 at 8435 Ballard, Niles. Ice rink admission is \$6; skate rental is \$4. You and your children will undoubtedly want to wear something green to the event.

For details, call 847-297-

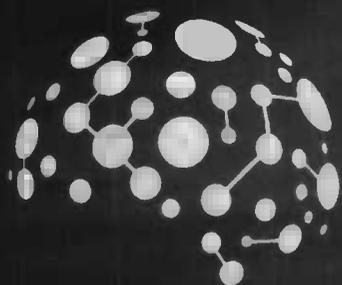
8010 or go to www.niles-parks.org

A real howl

Families will hear the tale of a loveable and laughable Native American literary character at Coyote Tales Fireside, 6:30-8 p.m. March 18 at Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie. The indoor fireside event, for ages 3 and older with a parent, includes a craft project and hot cocoa. The cost is \$5. Preregistration is encouraged. For details, call 847-674-1500, ext. 2500 or go to www.skokieparks.org/emily-oaks-nature-center

Pandemonium

Po faces a supernatural threat and one closer to home in "Kung Fu Panda 3." The PG-rated film will be screened at 10:30 a.m. March 11 at Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave. The showing is in conjunction with "Coming Together: Celebrating Chinese Culture." For details, call 847-677-5277 or go to www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org



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CRAFTING FOR CHARITY PHOTOS

Christine Zielonka, clockwise from bottom left, Karen Rector, Lien Nguyen, Kim Byung, Nancy Fasano all of Morton Grove, Theresa Plncich of Glenview and Pat Severin and Terry Gangloff, both of Morton Grove at Crafting for Charity

Morton Grove crafters create goods for charities

PIONEER PRESS
Staff Report

Crafting for Charity, a group that meets at the Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., on the second Saturday of each month, recently donated 79 hats, 41 scarves, 6 ear warmers, and 4 blankets to the Niles Township Food Pantry and Maine Township Food Pantry.

Group members knit or crochet items for organizations in the community that have need of them. Some of Crafting for Charity's past projects include knitted stuffed animals for children and lap blankets for residents of a local nursing home.

The crafters are currently creating Twiddlemuffs, which are knitted or crocheted muffs with decorated with ribbons, large buttons or textured fabrics, things patients with dementia can twiddle in their hands. Twiddlemuffs provide a source of visual, tactile, and sensory stimulation and also keep hands snug and warm. By the Feb. 11 meeting, group members had made 13 muffs and 15 hats and scarves. New members and community support through yarn donations are always welcome. More at www.mgpl.org.



Twiddlemuffs, created by members of Crafting for Charity, provide visual, tactile, and sensory stimulation for people with dementia.



Crafting for Charity donated handmade stuffed animals for children to the Niles Township and Maine Township food pantries.

HARMONY COMPETITION COMES TO SKOKIE



DAVID WILNER

The Sound Exchange from Minneapolis is one of the a cappella harmony groups that will take the stage during the 33rd Annual Harmony Sweepstakes Chicago Regional competition at 7:30 p.m. March 18 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Local competitors will be Counterpoint, No Big Deal, the Northsiders, the Uptones, and Listen Up! Local musician David Wilner emcees. The winning group from the Chicago festival will compete against the other six regional champions in the National Harmony Sweepstakes in San Francisco in May. Tickets are \$25-\$35 and available at www.northshorecenter.org/event/harmony-sweepstakes or call 847-673-6300.

KEY CARD SHOPPING SPREE WILL BENEFIT FAMILIES



Stacy Sternberg of Highland Park and Janice Blum of Northbrook, co-chairs of the North Shore Auxiliary of Jewish Child & Family Services Key Card shopping event, have prepared a fundraising Spring Shopping Spree throughout Chicago and suburbs set for March 11-18. Purchase key cards for \$75 at participating stores. Cards entitle holders to a 20 percent discount at retailers and vendors. Proceeds will help local families. For complete Key Card Information, email LaurenMcCoy@jcfs.org, call the Key Card hotline at 312-357-4610 or go to www.jcfs.org/events/nsa-key-card-shopping-spring.

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**BUFFALO GROVE**

Three-bedroom, 2.5-bath Colonial home built in 1974. Expanded kitchen with breakfast area, hardwood floor and stainless steel appliances. First-floor laundry room. Family room with floor-to-ceiling brick fireplace. Full basement ready to be finished. Landscaped yard, covered front porch, asphalt roof, garage.

Address: 917 Thornton Lane

Price: \$324,900

Schools: Buffalo Grove High School

Taxes: \$8,777

Agent: Anne Kaplan, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage The Groves

**LAKE ZURICH**

Two-bedroom, two-bath cottage design home built in 1938. Three-season room, hardwood floors throughout, formal dining room and updated kitchen with Corian counters and maple cabinets. First-floor den with glass French doors walks out to a private deck, master suite with built-in dresser, garage.

Address: 21312 W. Arbor Lane

Price: \$295,000

Schools: Lake Zurich High School

Taxes: \$4,892.85

Agent: Denise Nelson, Baird & Warner Barrington

**DES PLAINES**

Four-bedroom, three-bath split-level home built in 1962. Move-in condition, hardwood floors, newer doors and windows. Master suite with full bath, lower level with the family room, work room, laundry and separate exterior access to the garden area. Fenced yard with concrete patio ready.

Address: 2048 Webster Lane

Price: \$337,500

Schools: Maine West High School

Taxes: \$6,113

Agent: Barbara Augustyn Rago, Berkshire Hathaway Homeservices American Heritage

**LAKE BLUFF**

Four-bedroom Classic Craftsman design home, with four full and two half baths, built in 2002. Open floor plan, gourmet kitchen, second-floor master suite with vaulted ceiling, living room with gas fireplace and custom built-ins. Finished basement with wet bar, rec room and exercise room, garage, bluestone patio.

Address: 751 Moffett Road

Price: \$1,500,000

Schools: Lake Forest High School

Taxes: \$30,741.89

Agent: Andra O'Neill, @Properties

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HOME REMEDIES

Insulating an older home presents several problems

By C. DWIGHT BARNETT
Tribune News Service

Q: Just bought a 1910 house. We love the house, but it's very chilly. I thought I would start with insulating the basement because I can feel jets of cool air coming in at certain points when walking around down there. I also need to install a dryer vent, so I removed a section of the lath and plaster to expose the stud bays. There was no sheathing, just what appears to be tar paper behind the clap boards.

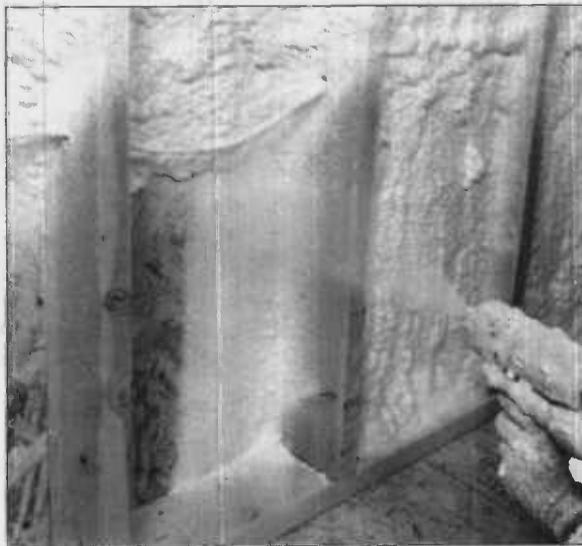
So now my question is, how to insulate?

Everywhere I look recommends something different. I am concerned about a vapor retarder and trapping water in the wall that will lead to mold. I thought about doing rigid foam insulation surrounded by spray foam. But I hear that will leak over time when the house contracts and expands. Considered batts, but how does that seal air leaks?

Any advice would be appreciated.

A: The tar paper on older homes is an excellent air and moisture barrier, much like the house wraps used today. Insulating older homes presents several problems for the average homeowner. For instance, using a rigid foam insulation provides resistance to thermal transfer, but the foam board cannot be left uncovered.

An ignition barrier needs to be installed over exposed foam boards to protect the foam from igniting, which could give off poisonous fumes. Spray foam also needs to be covered when exposed to areas of the home where



BANKSPHOTOS

there are lights, electrical connections, heating systems, water heaters, dryers, etc. — anything that can generate a flame or a spark. Kraft faced fiberglass insulation requires an ignition barrier because the infused Kraft paper is flammable.

The stud cavity in older homes can be filled with loose-fill cellulose insulation or low-expanding spray foam. Blown-in cellulose insulation has been extensively used, but the insulation may settle over time, leaving underinsulated cavities inside the walls. Spray foam will provide a better thermal barrier, with fewer, if any, voids inside the walls. The contractor will drill holes on either the inside of the home or the exterior, depending on the damage that may be done to the exterior wall covering. Foam insulation is injected into each wall cavity, and then the holes are filled.

On the interior, the holes can be sanded and painted to blend in with the decor. On the exterior, some holes are filled with plastic or wood fillers, and some are capped with air vents to allow the wall

cavity to vent moisture. With cellulose or expanding foam there will not be a vapor barrier. Ask your paint dealer about certain paints that can provide a vapor barrier to prevent moisture migration from the warm side of the wall to the wall cavity.

Another project to help stop airflow and loss of heat would be to insulate the gaps and voids around windows and doors. Depending on the style of windows, the trim around the window is removed, the gaps are filled with low-expanding foam, and the trim is reinstalled. Older windows that use sash cords with counterweights cannot be insulated in this way.

This is a brief description of methods of insulation for an older home, but your insulation contractor should be able to advise you on the need for a vapor barrier, depending on your climate zone.

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

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1630 W Pheasant Trail Dr, # 3, Arlington Heights	Izabela A Orczyk	Steven L Stodden	01-31-17	\$130,000
1025 S Fernandez Ave, # 3J, Arlington Heights	Steve S Han	Shamrose A All	02-08-17	\$133,000
1650 W Partridge Ln, # 4, Arlington Heights	Paul Campos	Gus Giannakopoulos	02-02-17	\$160,000
2002 N Stillwater Rd, # 1, Arlington Heights	Barbara L Lazzaro	Nancy Koeper	02-03-17	\$170,000
4018 N Newport Ln, # 135, Arlington Heights	Nikhil Shriram Beke & Smita Kelkar	Michael G Kurinsky	02-08-17	\$206,000
515 S Waterman Ave, Arlington Heights	Daniel D Pullega & Ginger M Pullega	Francis V Lojkovic	02-02-17	\$290,000
1014 N Mitchell Ave, Arlington Heights	Edward T Hirsch & Lauren A Hirsch	Michael Gottschalk	02-01-17	\$305,000
3936 N Wilke Rd, Arlington Heights	Michael Kafka	Robert L Janicek	02-02-17	\$320,000
315 N Yale Ave, Arlington Heights	Spiridon F Dimas & Christina J Dimas	Real Estate Foreclosure Llc	02-01-17	\$325,000
2302 N Verde Dr, Arlington Heights	Lee A Aciefto & Roselle N Acierto	Pauline Chelemengos	02-06-17	\$345,000
1441 W Saint James Pl, Arlington Heights	Viton Dastice	Merrill A Kubak	02-02-17	\$348,000
77 S Evergreen Ave, Arlington Heights	Nicholas Lake & Pamela Lake	Christos Demetriou	02-01-17	\$356,000
203 W Hintz Rd, Arlington Heights	David A Rich & Jennifer L Khan	Mark Broman	01-31-17	\$360,000
317 S Reuter Dr, Arlington Heights	Wthan L Williams & Kristin A Williams	Jtk Lic	02-08-17	\$395,000
50 Lake Blvd, # 627, Buffalo Grove	Judith M Baker	Cohen Trust	02-03-17	\$151,000
872 Stradford Cir, # 16 B1, Buffalo Grove	Aijan Usenbekova	Friberg Trust	02-06-17	\$161,000
1096 Midden Lake Dr, Buffalo Grove	Sharmina Afroz & Rubayat Murtaza	Joo Lee Kwon	01-24-17	\$195,000
1092 Providence Ln, Buffalo Grove	Jason B Jors	Valerya Ugolkov	01-30-17	\$210,000
330 University Dr, Buffalo Grove	Roman Dytso & Stefaniya Senyk	Victor Lyubenko	02-02-17	\$215,000
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121 Bernard Dr, Buffalo Grove	Timothy Lee Vankirk & Dana Lynn Vankirk	Richard M Urso	02-02-17	\$280,000
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585 Vernon Ln, Buffalo Grove	Jayesh K Patel	Vladimir Kashuba	02-06-17	\$400,000
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581 Mulberry Ct, Buffalo Grove	Thomas K Escoe & Mia T Purcell	John C Brink	02-03-17	\$490,000
9209 Potter Rd, # 108 H, Des Plaines	Ryszard Brandiuk & Bozena Brandiuk	Kamila Brandiuk	02-06-17	\$70,000
8936 Northshore Dr, # 1H, Des Plaines	Robert T Kurian & Samera Kurian	Neil Michael	02-02-17	\$75,000
701 Elmhurst Rd, # E, Des Plaines	Hasumatibahen Patel & Brijesh Patel	Vasant Patel	02-08-17	\$75,000
1370 Fargo Ave, Des Plaines	Niraj Patel	Mrf Illinois One Llc	02-03-17	\$104,000
9100 Knight Ave, Des Plaines	Michel Marcos	Us Bank Na Trustee	01-31-17	\$105,000
394 Alles St, # 3B, Des Plaines	Sami Huzairun	Rafal Zakrzewski	02-06-17	\$119,000
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590 Cordial Dr, Des Plaines	Frank Knight & Inez Knight	Ferdinand Lopez	02-03-17	\$270,000
1182 Evergreen Ave, Des Plaines	Alexander L Brend	Taylor Morrison Illinois Inc	01-31-17	\$270,000
900 Lee St, # 309, Des Plaines	Justin A Wolf & Yudan Zhou	Jerome R Marzullo	02-02-17	\$272,500
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563 Radcliffe Ave, Des Plaines	Adam Long	Beverly Trust	02-06-17	\$300,000
1192 Evergreen Ave, Des Plaines	Eduardo Abaricia & Isabelita Abaricia	Taylor Morrison Illinois Inc	01-31-17	\$304,000
497 Sheridan Rd, # G, Evanston	Daniel Drescher	Karen L Rose	02-03-17	\$140,000

COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
835 Ridge Ave. # 102, Evanston	Robert Jenkins	Heidi Moy	02-03-17	\$145,000
914 Hinman Ave. # 2W, Evanston	Quyen Nguyen & Thi Phuoay Dung Le	Courtney B Berkhoitz	01-31-17	\$147,000
615 Michigan Ave. # 2, Evanston	John A Haller & Gail T Haller	Monica Noven	02-08-17	\$157,500
2033 Sherman Ave. # 202, Evanston	Zhenwei Zhu	Michael Joseph Grady	02-06-17	\$175,000
209 Brown Ave, Evanston	Gayle Pagtakhan & Wahyuni Pagtakhan	Fannie Mae	01-31-17	\$218,500
1720 Oak Ave. # 403, Evanston	You Li	Chao Zhang	01-31-17	\$263,500
717 Hinman Ave. # 1, Evanston	Michael Weston & Rebecca Weston	Susan R Kaplan	02-06-17	\$310,000
2200 Dodge Ave, Evanston	Andrew R Burke & Brooke R Burke	Michael K Baer	01-31-17	\$337,000
3608 Church St, Evanston	James C Jeffries & Katherine A Jeffries	Four Points Investments Group	01-31-17	\$366,000
843 Ridge Ave. # 2, Evanston	Jin Yan	Robert S Marshall	02-03-17	\$370,000
2421 Crawford Ave, Evanston	Sarah Goldsmith	Andrea Lubershane Gardner	02-03-17	\$387,500
9220 Harding Ave, Evanston	Eric A Rancke & Julia Rancke	Michael S Shechtman	02-06-17	\$400,000
807 Davis St. # 410, Evanston	Samuel George Breunig & Andrea Elizabeth Breunig	Daniel Carver	02-02-17	\$479,000
9543 Avers Ave, Evanston	Elsa Schmitt Attridge & Stephen Attridge	S John Piotrowicz	01-31-17	\$489,000
2658 Sheridan Rd, Evanston	James J Hennessey & Jane Hennessey	Joel D Bertocchi	02-08-17	\$1,315,000
4180 Cove Ln. # A, Glenview	Mary Fazelian	Eon Acquisition Llc	02-08-17	\$196,000
651 Long Rd, Glenview	Vladislav Konovnitsyn & Olga Konovnitsyn	Normond R Ruck	02-03-17	\$275,000
1921 Robincrest Ln, Glenview	Steven R Brown	Mary Jane Machata Estate	01-31-17	\$376,000
3635 Winnetka Rd, Glenview	Vladimir Tunchev & Yuliana Veselinska	Robert Kleutgen	02-01-17	\$424,000
1803 Westleigh Dr, Glenview	Vladislav Volfson & Magdalena Maka	Arlene E Landsman	02-01-17	\$450,000
2701 Commons Dr. # 311, Glenview	Alexander Hong	Toll II Iv Lp	01-31-17	\$505,500
2701 Commons Dr. # 404, Glenview	Rita Goundas Kay	Toll II Iv L P	02-08-17	\$508,000
2701 Commons Dr. # 207, Glenview	Andrew S Deutsch & Hillary R Deutsch	Toll II Iv Lp	01-31-17	\$522,000
2236 Harrison St, Glenview	Ivo A Alexander & Teodora Bogdan	Sandra Dodevski	02-02-17	\$597,500
2154 Shermer Rd, Glenview	Arkady Kantor & Lilia Drabkina	Delopment Solutions Gln Llc	02-02-17	\$683,500
1026 Elmdale Rd, Glenview	Jim Papastergiou & Eleftheria Savakis	Roger Hartmuller	02-03-17	\$689,000
1126 Prairie Lawn Rd, Glenview	Daniel Garofalo & Olga Garofalo	Signature Holdings Llc	02-06-17	\$1,140,000
1024 Prairie Lawn Rd, Glenview	Robert J Freas & Jessica K Freas	Prairie La Wn Estate Corp	01-31-17	\$1,225,000
6330 Lincoln Ave. # 3G, Morton Grove	Yusup Kamel & Haiyen Kamel	Margaret A Frey	02-03-17	\$156,500
8110 Gross Point Rd, Morton Grove	Edward Legaspi & Maria Legaspi	Renee Laskey	02-02-17	\$300,000
6640 Davis St, Morton Grove	Mindrut Puian	Alan Retter	01-31-17	\$310,000
7638 Enfield Ave, Morton Grove	Dragisa Kotic & Radmila Kotic	Geraci Trust	02-02-17	\$311,000
6536 Eldorado Dr, Morton Grove	Robert Cole & Diane Cole	Nina Silverberg	02-03-17	\$459,000
9128 W Terrace Dr. # 1K, Niles	Zahraa Abbas Khudhair	John G Kyvetos	02-08-17	\$77,000
8809 W Golf Rd. # 7E, Niles	George D Georgiev	Javier Alaniz	01-31-17	\$80,000
8815 W Golf Rd. # 4G, Niles	Maria Cruz Valdespino	Galina Podolskiy	02-01-17	\$103,000
8650 N Shermer Rd. # 205, Niles	Uyanga Rutkowski & Enkhbilguun Uyanga	Frank G Hamma	02-03-17	\$176,500
8224 W Lyons St, Niles	Reshika Dahal Dhakal & Thaneswar Dhakal	V & T Investment Corp	01-31-17	\$335,000
7850 N Octavia Ave, Niles	John D Tait & Jessica Tait	Peachy E Jacinto	02-02-17	\$394,500
7137 W Wright Ter, Niles	Dragan Latinovic	Tomasz Wojdyla	02-08-17	\$525,000
500 Thames Pkwy. # 1 K, Park Ridge	Paul Djonlich & Jean Djonlich	Fannie Mae	02-03-17	\$150,000
1301 W Touhy Ave. # 108, Park Ridge	Malgorzata Stachowicz	Michael Surmin	02-01-17	\$161,000
209 S Vine Ave. # 1A, Park Ridge	Steven T Wind & Catherine Anne Nelson Wind	Wind Trust	02-01-17	\$230,000
717 S Clifton Ave, Park Ridge	Robert D Bower & Cthistine N Bower	James S Kulasik	02-01-17	\$572,000
305 S Northwest Hwy. # 5, Park Ridge	Matthew T Cooney	Brighton Mews Venture Llc	02-08-17	\$585,000
837 S Cumberland Ave, Park Ridge	Thomas Scavuzzo	Martin Rayner	01-31-17	\$760,000
504 S Clifton Ave, Park Ridge	Eric Goldklang & Michelle Goldklang	Eric S Odderstol	02-02-17	\$899,000
2401 Oak Tree Ln, Park Ridge	Albert Mccaffery Jr & Jeanne M Mccaffery	2401 Oak Tree Llc	01-31-17	\$1,225,000

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



HANNAH ROKES/TNS PHOTOS

In a living room with a low ceiling, a shorter sofa creates the proper sense of scale.

Approach your room design with size and scale in mind

By CATHY HOBBS
Tribune News Service

Whether your ceilings are low or high, or your space is small or spacious, it is important to select and choose furniture that is the appropriate size and scale.

When furnishing a space, so often the focus is on style and color. Furniture selections are made for aesthetic reasons, as opposed to considering the critical aspect of how the furniture will actually feel in the space.

In living areas that are large and cavernous, oversized pieces will likely be successful; they are needed to help fill the room. In general, if your space is oversized, choose pieces that are heavier to help add weight to the room. Wooden decor and upholstered furniture will be more inviting than transparent surfaces such as glass. Conversely, if you have a small home, you will need to add a sense of spaciousness. Look for furniture that is smaller in scale so the space doesn't feel overstuffed.

These dos and don'ts can help you keep size and scale in mind when decorating.



A sleek, low-profile bed doesn't overcrowd a small master bedroom with a low ceiling.

Do

- Select shorter furniture if you have low ceilings. Tall pieces will close the room in and make the ceilings feel even lower.
- Use light colors rather than darker tones in small areas; lighter colors open up a space.
- Carefully consider the proper amount of furniture for your space. Buying an entire set often is not necessary; for many people, it is simply too much furniture.
- Have a cohesive color scheme. Tying pieces together using color can help a space feel cohesive.

- Select furniture and accessories that are timeless as opposed to trendy. Classic items are more long-lasting.

Don't

- Forget the power of mirrors. Mirrors, especially in darker spaces, can reflect light and brighten the room.
- Be afraid to use oversized artwork. If you have tall ceilings, oversized artwork hung in twos or threes can be very attractive.
- Overstuff a space. Often, rooms that don't work well are jam-packed with furniture and decor. Remove the excess.

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

Thursday, March 9

Frank Vignola and Vinny Ranlolo: 7:30 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$27, 847-492-8860

Reading Between the Lines: The Woman's Club of Evanston has been making people laugh for a good cause for over sixty years in their annual Benefit Show. This year's 66th Revue, titled Reading Between the Lines, is no exception. 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Woman's Club of Evanston, 1702 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$35-\$40, 847-475-3800

If You Remember, I'll Remember: This exhibition presents a selection of works by artists Kristine Aono, Shan Goshorn, Samantha Hill, McCallum & Tarry, Dario Robleto, and Marie Watt, who investigate aspects of 19th and 20th century North American history and resonate with contemporary concerns about war, racism, and xenophobia. 10 a.m. All week, Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, free, 847-467-4602

The Orchid Show: This year, at our biggest flower show of the year, we're taking a playful look at how orchids have influenced and continue to inspire popular culture. Bring your camera and come see the striking Phalaenopsis "V3 orchid," which is rarely on display at botanic gardens. 8 a.m. All week, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, Adults: members/nonmembers: \$10-\$12, seniors 62-years-old and older, members/nonmembers: \$8-\$10, children ages 3-12: members or nonmembers: \$8-\$10, 847-835-5440

"The Scene": 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Writers Theatre, 325 Tudor Court, Glencoe, \$35-\$80, 847-242-6000

Much Ado about Mysteries: The discussion topic is Around the World in 30 Sleuths. Attendees may just drop in. 7 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Databases You Don't Want to Miss: The Library's online resources provide a wealth of information for investors, consumers, and small businesses, plus language learning, career development, and news sources. Glenview Library card required, register at glenviewpl.org/register or call. 10 a.m. Glen-

view Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Avoca West Kindergarten Parent Information Night: Avoca West Elementary holds its annual Kindergarten Parent Information Night in the school's library. All parents of children who will be five-years-old by Sept. 1 are invited to attend. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for current residents of the Avoca District to begin the registration process. Please bring your child's birth certificate, and two proofs of residency (tax bill, lease or utility bill). 6 p.m. Avoca West Elementary, 235 Beech Drive, Glenview, free, 847-724-6800

Park Center Preschool Spring Book Fair: Park Center Preschool Spring Book Fair takes place at the Glenview Park Center. Stop by to shop great selections of books for all ages, as well as craft, activity and gifts. 9 a.m. Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

Morning Matinee Film – "The Last Emperor" (1987): This sweeping account of the life of Pu-Yi, the last emperor of China, follows the leader's tumultuous reign. After being captured by the Red Army as a war criminal in 1950, Pu-Yi recalls his childhood from prison. He remembers his lavish youth in the Forbidden City, where he was afforded every luxury but unfortunately sheltered from the outside world and complex political situation surrounding him. As revolution sweeps through China, the world Pu-Yi knew is dramatic. 10:30 a.m. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Niles Songwriters: Local songwriters meet on the second Thursday of the month at the library's Lower Level to discuss their craft and play their music. Acoustic instruments are welcome. 7 p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Park Ridge Garden Club Meeting: The Park Ridge Garden Club hosts speaker Nancy Carroll, speaking on "Hummingbirds, our flying friends." All are welcome to come learn what to plant in their yard and what feeders to use to attract them. The Park Ridge Garden Club is a member of the Garden Clubs of IL Inc., District IX and National Garden Clubs, Inc., Central Region. 7 p.m. Centennial Activity Center - Park Ridge Park District, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-0993

MB Financial Park's Restaurant Week 2017: MB Financial Park at Rosemont hosts its first-ever Restaurant Week, where visitors can take advan-

tage of special prix fixe, three-course menus at MB Financial Park's wide range of restaurants including Adobe Gila's, Bub City, Five Roses Pub, Fogo de Chao, Hofbrauhaus Chicago, Kings Bowl, Park Tavern and Sugar Factory. Restaurant Week menus start at \$20 per person. 11 a.m. Thursday-Sunday, MB Financial Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, Varies, 847-349-5008

Free Lunch and Learn-Cx Success with an Omnichannel App: Join the Mindsight team at the Cisco office for a multi-part seminar on omnichannel strategy and the modern customer experience. They'll cover the ins and outs of omnichannel and demo a powerful social media tool from Cisco. Register online at the website. 11:30 a.m. Cisco, 9501 Technology Blvd, Rosemont, free, 630-981-5050

Friday, March 10

Friday Night Fish Fry at White Pines: White Pines will be hosting a Fish Fry every Friday night from March 3 through April 14. Bring the whole family and enjoy an all-you-can-eat lake perch dinner for only \$14.99. In addition to fresh fish entrees, there will also be weekly menu specials and delicious desserts. For more information call 630-766-0304, Ext. 2. 5 p.m. White Pines Golf Club, 500 W. Jefferson St., Bensenville, \$14.99, 630-766-0304

Delbert McClinton: 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$38-\$108, 847-492-8860

The World Premiere of Quest: Quest is an original circus-theater production loosely based on Leo Tolstoy's short story "The Three Questions." The protagonist asks three simple (but huge) questions, setting in motion a whirlwind journey to find the answers. 7:30 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$20 for adults, \$15 for kids, students and seniors, 847-328-2795

Piccolo Theatre Private Eyes: Matthew's wife, Lisa, is having an affair with Adrian, a British director. Or perhaps the affair is part of a play being rehearsed. Or perhaps Matthew has imagined it all. But a mysterious woman who seems to shadow the others brings the story to its surprising conclusion; or does she? The audience plays the role of detective in this hilarious, multi-layered comedy of suspicion about love, lust, and the power of deception in which nothing is ever quite what it seems. 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Piven Theatre Workshop, 927 Noyes St.,

Evanston, \$10-\$25, 847-424-0089

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

Drop-In Chess Club for up to grade 8: Volunteer chess instructor Steve Levenson teaches fundamentals and strategy. Children under eight must be accompanied by an adult. 7 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Video Game Nights for Ages 13-18: Hang out with your friends and play video games on big screens using the Library's game systems and collections. Check out our new PS4 game system and games as you enjoy pizza. 5 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Candlelight Yin Yoga - Special Class: Experience the gentle, harmonizing effects of a Yin yoga practice. We will gently loosen and stretch our connective tissues to enhance flexibility while encouraging healing. 7 p.m. Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, \$10, 224-521-2608

Mom and Son Night Out: Moms and sons, enjoy a fun-filled night out at Niles Park District. This special event features games, contests, races, prizes, pizza dinner and fun. 6:30 p.m. Grennan Heights Park, 8255 N. Oketo Ave., Niles, residents \$20; non-residents \$25 per couple

Crafternoons All Ages: Come make a craft in the children's department. Drop in anytime between 4 and 5 p.m. 4 p.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

Saturday, March 11

Glen Phillips with Amber Rubarth: 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$18-\$38, 847-492-8860

Unmanned Entrepreneur: Make Money Flying Drones: If you love flying drones, learn what opportunities are available and how to take advantage of this amazing technology. Reserve your spot today for Unmanned Entrepreneur: Make Money Flying Drones. 9 a.m. Panera, 1700 Sherman Ave., Evanston, \$20, 847-220-5193

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

Segovia Classical Guitar Series:

Thibaut Garcia: French guitarist Thibaut Garcia, was the 2015 first prize winner of the prestigious Guitar Foundation of America International Competition. Garcia is in the midst of a 50-concert tour of the United States and Canada. 12:45 p.m. Mary Galvin Recital Hall at Northwestern University, 70 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, \$10-\$30, 847-467-4000

ACT Prep Test for Grades 9-12: Limit 40:

Professional tutors from College Nannies and Tutors of Glenview will guide you through a practice ACT test. Register by March 10, at glenviewpl.org/register or call. Noon, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Genealogy Research Day:

Our experts can assist with your brick walls or help you get started with your research. Glenview Library card required, just drop in at either room between 1-4 p.m. 1 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Spring Fling Drive, Chip and Putt Tournament:

This tournament has a new, fun format, where all contestants compete in all three categories. Prizes are awarded in Men's/Ladies and Junior divisions. The \$20 entry fee per person includes a trip to the chili bar. Rain or shine, the tournament is on. 10 a.m. Glenview Park Golf Club, 800 Shermer Road, Glenview, \$20 per person, 847-724-0250

Video Game Tournament, Grades 5-8:

Compete against your friends in Super Smash Bros. for prizes. You MUST arrive and register the day of the

event at the Youth & Teen Services desk by 1:30pm. The competition bracket closes promptly at 1:30pm and is limited to 20 competitors. First come, first compete. 1:30 p.m. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Coming Together Family Film –

“Kung Fu Panda 3”: Continuing his legendary adventures of awesomeness, Po must face two hugely epic, but different threats: one supernatural and the other a little closer to his home. We are pleased to offer this program in conjunction with Coming Together: Celebrating Chinese Culture. 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

AHIHA Skate-a-Thon: The American Hearing Impaired Hockey Association or AHIHA affords deaf and hard of hearing hockey players to practice and improve their skills on the ice. The organization was established in 1973 by Stan Mikita and Irv Tiahnybik. Through generous donations from the community and local corporations in the past, AHIHA's programming, equipment and operating fees have benefited. 7 p.m. American Heartland Ice Arena in Lincolnwood, 7384 Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood, free

Crafting for Charity: Knitted or crocheted mitts will be made with items such as ribbons, large buttons or textured fabrics attached that patients with dementia can twiddle in their hands. Called twiddlemitts, these provide a source of visual, tactile and sensory stimulation while keeping hands snug and warm. Crafters bring their needles and/or hooks. Novices are welcome. 10 a.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Special Movie Screenings: “Spilled Water”:

Enjoy this special screening of the documentary, “Spilled Water.” Director May May Tchao introduces the movie and answers questions after the viewing. A synopsis of this film is wanting to connect with her distant sisters decades after leaving China, May returns to her homeland and explores the very different lives of a rural school teacher, folk singer, factory worker, and lawyer. 2 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Second Saturday Breakfast Bingo:

Kids and families are welcome to enjoy some breakfast treats as everyone plays Bingo. Enjoy a kick start to one's weekend with a morning of family fun at the library. 9:30 a.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Twice as Nice Moms Spring Resale:

Being sold are gently used and like-new clothing from newborn to size 10 and over, shoes and boots, maternity clothing and items, baby equipment and gear, books, toys and much more. Bring a laundry basket or bag for easier shopping. No strollers are allowed. A huge parking lot is located at the corner of Greenwood and Crescent, just one long block south of Touhy Avenue. 8 a.m. Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, 1300 W. Crescent Ave., Park Ridge, \$1, 847-823-4135

Twenty-first Star Chapter NSDAR Genealogy Workshop:

A Genealogy Workshop, sponsored by the Twenty-first Star Chapter NSDAR offers attendees the opportunity to work with one of the members and receive assistance with application papers. This workshop is for women who are interested in joining the DAR. Please contact Dorothy Wilson at 847-328-6946 for further details. 1 p.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-328-6946

Panic at The Disco, Misterwlvcs and Saint Motel:

Panic! at the Disco is an American rock band from Las Vegas, Nevada, formed in 2004 and featuring the current lineup of vocalist Brendon Urie, accompanied on tour by bassist Dallan Weekes, guitarist Kenneth Harris and drummer Dan Pawlovich. 7 p.m. Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Road, Rosemont, \$145, 847-635-6601

Darth Seder and Other Bad Parodies Dinner and Shpiel:

Temple Beth Israel presents Dinner and Purim Shpiel: “Darth Seder and Other Bad Parodies.” Cost for dinner and show must be reserved by March 8 and paid in advance, as there are no tickets at the door. Members of the community are welcome. 6:30 p.m. Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, \$20 per adult, \$15 per child, 847-675-0951

Hourly Megillah Readings:

To relive the miraculous events of Purim, listen to the reading of the Megillah (the Scroll of Esther) twice: once on Purim eve, Saturday night, March 11, and again on Purim day, March 12. There are around-the-clock Megillah readings every hour on the hour, on March 11 from 8 p.m. to midnight, and during the day on March 12 from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. No reservations are required. 7:15 p.m. Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-677-1770

Chicago Rocks and Minerals 68th Annual Silent Auction:

The Chicago Rocks and Minerals Society's 2017 Silent Auction is great fun for the entire family. The doors open at 6 p.m.; first table closes at 6:30 p.m. Bid on rocks, crystals, minerals, fossils, handmade

jewelry, lapidary treasures, books, magazines and more to add to your collection. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Refreshments are available. Admission and parking are free. For more information, call Jeanine N. Mielecki at 312-623-1554 or e-mail jaynine9@aol.com. 6 p.m. St. Peter's United Church of Christ, 8013 Laramie Ave., Skokie, free, 312-623-1554

Sunday, March 12

Albert Cummings: 7 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$27, 847-492-8860

Charles Metz, Fortepiano Recital:

Charles Metz, playing a Fortepiano Recital delights the senses in the magnificent Lady Chapel of St. Luke's Church of Evanston. 4 p.m. St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 939 Hinman Ave., Evanston, \$15-\$30

The Grove Arrival Day March 12:

Join the Grove Heritage Association at the Glenview Public Library to celebrate the 181st anniversary of the day the Kennicott family first arrived at The Grove. Meet costumed interpreters (who will also speak Korean), as you learn about this pioneering family. 2 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

Mercy versus Law and Justice: A False Dichotomy:

Come hear a lecture/discussion with Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki, J.D., J.C.D., of Springfield. Learn about the distinctions between the Moral Law, Church Law and Civil Law: how they bind us and how they free us. Learn how a well-formed conscience enables us to experience God's mercy. Noon, St. Catherine Labouré Parish, 3535 Thornwood Ave., Glenview, free, 847-826-4704

Sculpture Discussion:

Meet sculptor John Adduci as he talks about his artwork and his sculpture that is displayed in the center of our Library's parking lot, donated by the Friends of the Lincolnwood Library. A Q&A session will take place after his discussion. 1:30 p.m. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Grand Reopening Concert:

Founder & Music Director Philip Simmons conducts Mozart's Divertimento in F Major; Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in D Minor with soloist Violetta Todorova, and a new work composed for the event Celebrating Lincolnwood. 3 p.m. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

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Creative Coloring for Adults: Registration is required for this coloring program just for adults (must be 18 or older). Unique coloring pages for all skill levels are provided, as well as markers and colored pencils. 2 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Megillah Reading at Temple Beth Israel: Get ready to shake those greggers for a special Megillah reading for adults, children and the community followed by TBI's Purim Carnival at 11 a.m. Bring boxes of mac and cheese for greggers, which are donated to a local food pantry after Purim. 10 a.m. Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-0951

Purim Carnival at Temple Beth Israel: It's Queen Esther, Haman, Mordechai and more. Wear your favorite costume and bring family and friends for games, prizes, lunch and more. Lunch is at 11:15 a.m. and cost is \$5 per person, \$25 per family. 11 a.m. Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-0951

Family Purim Meal with Live Music: Bring your family for a delicious Seudat Purim, and let the festivities continue. Enjoy live music and delicious food starting at 6:15 p.m. by reservation only. Pricing: \$22 adult, \$12 child, \$180 sponsor (includes 4 reservations). \$2 discount for each advance reservation paid online. For more information call or go to their website. 6:15 p.m. Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster St., Skokie, \$22 adult; \$12 child; see more details, 847-677-1770

Purim Mini-Carnival for Kids: Drop in with your kids to enjoy Purim activities including crafts, open play, bounce house and balloons. On March 12, from 1-4 p.m., kids can celebrate a little or a lot, no reservations necessary, but parents must remain in the building. 1 p.m. Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster St., Skokie, Free with adult or \$5/child while you listen to megillah, 847-677-1770

Purim Italiano: Bring the entire familia for Purim Italiano at Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, an exciting evening full of entertainment, hands-on activities, food and fun, for all ages. 4:45 p.m. Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster St., Skokie, \$14-\$24; \$180 sponsor (includes four reservations). \$2 discount for every reservation paid through our website, 847-677-1770

Purim Shpiel or comic theater at Skokie Synagogue: "Bye Bye Haman," a Purim Shpiel (comic play) based on

the rollicking 1950s-style music of "Bye Bye Birdie," is presented three times. The story of the evil Haman, who tried (but was unable) to destroy the Jews in 5th century BCE Persia, is told in song and story. Tickets are: \$20 for adults or \$25 at the door; \$10 for children under 12 or \$12 at the door. 1:30 p.m. Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, \$10-\$25, 847-674-5414

Purim Service and Family Party at Skokie Synagogue: Come to the family-oriented Purim service and stay for lots of fun afterward. Enjoy music, stories, and a real magic show. 10:30 a.m. Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

Monday, March 13

Call For Art 6th Annual Square Foot Show! The Arts of Life invites you to participate in a free, open, non-juried exhibition including national and international artists. 12- by 12-inch artwork will be accepted through March 13, at 3 p.m. 3 p.m. The Arts of Life, 1963 Johns Drive, Glenview, free, 847-486-0808

St. Patrick's Fellowship Luncheon: Join in for traditional Irish fare and a musical celebration of Ireland performed by Lee Murdock. Enjoy Irish Pub songs, old ballads, and dance tunes. Noon, The East Wing Glenview Senior Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, \$20 for members; \$25 for nonmembers, 847-724-4793

Adult Book Discussion: This book discussion features "The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend" by Katrina Bivald. A Swedish tourist opens a bookstore in Broken Wheel, Iowa, to honor her deceased pen pal and makes some unconventional choices that threaten to bring long-hidden secrets to light as she attempts to share her love of reading with the locals. 11 a.m. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

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

An Evening with Gene Luen Yang: Gene Luen Yang author of both, American Born Chinese and Shadow Hero, is the first writer who works primarily in graphic novels to be appointed by the Library of Congress as the National Ambassador for Young People's Litera-

ture. Yang discusses his books and the importance of reading without walls. 7 p.m. Holiday Inn North Shore, 5300 W. Touhy Ave., Skokie, free, 847-965-4220

Tuesday, March 14

Gary Burton & Makoto Ozone: 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$22-\$46, 847-492-8860

Smile & Rhyme at Heinen's ages 2 & up with an adult: Just drop in to hear Miss Fran share stories, rhymes, and songs in the Cafe. Stay for a snack and to chat after the program, but an adult must accompany children. 10:30 a.m. Heinen's Grocery Store, 1020 Waukegan Road, Glenview, free

"Older Than Ireland": This is a landmark documentary film telling the extraordinary stories of a hundred years of a life as seen through the eyes of thirty Irish centenarians. Please register at glenviewpl.org/register or call. 7 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

Movies, Munchies and More: "The Iron Lady": The story is about Margaret Thatcher, who talks to the imagined presence of her recently deceased husband. She struggles to come to terms with his death while scenes from her past life, from girlhood to British prime minister, intervene. The cast stars: Meryl Streep, Jim Broadbent, Richard E. Grant. 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

Pinched Paintings: Famous Art Heists in History: Learn about notorious international art heists, including the Louvre's Mona Lisa as well as the largest museum theft in American history. Art historian Dr. Michelle Mishur discusses history's most infamous heists both solved and unsolved. 7 p.m. North-

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

Needlework Meet Up: Meet up with other crafters and share ideas as you work on your own projects. Be sure to bring your own materials. This is not a class, but staff will be available to discuss and guide self-directed work. 6:30 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Modern Irish Cooking Class: In this class, explore the new Irish culinary canon, focused on local ingredients, simply prepared and presented. Dishes include: Irish Farmer Cheese Souffle, Wild Flower and Herb Crusted Lamb, Colcannon, Soda Bread and Spring Pudding. Register at the event website. 6 p.m. New Trier Township High School, 7 Happ Road, Northfield, \$65, 847-446-7000

The Status of Women: Have We Come Far Enough?: The New Trier Multifaith Alliance (formerly Winnetka Interfaith Council) is holding another of its unique forums exploring the sacred texts of the Abrahamic religions. The latest is entitled The Status of Women: Have We Come Far Enough? What the Sacred Texts Teach. 7 p.m. Winnetka Covenant Church, 1200 Hibbard Road, Wilmette, free, 847-446-4300

Wednesday, March 15

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

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

Organ Meditations for Lent at Saint Luke's Episcopal: Pause midweek during this season of reflection to enjoy sounds of the historic 1922 Skinner Organ in the beautiful Saint Luke's nave. Dr. Christine Kraemer, organist at Saint Luke's, performs organ meditations during Lent. A free will offering is taken to benefit NFP Opus 327, dedicated to preserving the organ. 11:30 a.m. St.

Turn to Calendar, Next Page

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Luke's Episcopal Church, 939 Hinman Ave., Evanston, free, 224-307-4327

Musicians open mic: Kids open Mic 6:30-7:30 p.m.; adults 7:30-11p.m. Bring your instruments and bring your friends. 6:30 p.m. The Rock House, 1742 Glenview Road, Glenview, free

All Things Spanish: Native and non-native Spanish speakers are invited to join the fun while practicing language skills and Spanish/Latino culture. Contact cramirez@glenviewpl.org for more information on meetings, which may include reading a short story, watching a film, and more. 7 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Seminar: Non Motor Symptoms of Parkinson's Disease: The Glenview Park District, the American Parkinson Association and NorthShore University HealthSystem present a free community talk about non motor symptoms of Parkinson Disease. Neurologist, Dr. Ashvini Premkumar, discusses symptoms and tests for diagnosis. Also, learn about the park district's Parkinson related programming. Register by March 14, by calling or going to

www.surveymonkey.com/r/Glenview2017. 6:30 p.m. Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 630-933-4392

Free Seminar: How to Spot a Narcissist: If you suspect someone you know of being a narcissist, you don't want to miss this fascinating seminar. You'll discover exactly what narcissistic personality disorder is, the signs you need to be on the lookout for and today's treatment options. This is presented by George Savarese, Ph.D., LCSW and includes refreshments. 6 p.m. Whitehall of Deerfield, 300 Waukegan Road, Glenview, free, 847-580-8323

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

Scrabble for Adults: Exercise your brain and enjoy friendly games of Scrabble with other word lovers. 2 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Community Wednesdays: Communi-

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

Knitting Studio and Workshop: Each Wednesday afternoon, certified knitting instructor Mary Staackmann provides personalized instruction, answers any questions about knitting, and perhaps gets you started on a new project. 1:30 p.m. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-784-6060

Biltmore Estate: America's Downtown Abbey: Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina combines the talents of landscape designer Frederick Law Olmsted and architect William Morris Hunt. Art historian Jeff Mishur discusses the history, architecture, and landscape plan of Biltmore Estate. 10 a.m. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, \$12 NSSC members; \$15 non-members, 847-784-6030

Lunch and Learn-From Tape to Cloud: The Evolution: Join Mindsight

and Solutions Architect, Eric White for an informative seminar on the evolution of backup. We'll also be showcasing EVault's cloud and disk data backup solution. 11:30 a.m. McCormick & Schmick's, 5320 N. River Road, Rosemont, free, 630-981-5050

Roberta Roller Rabbit Spring Trunk Show: Roberta Roller Rabbit is a travel-inspired lifestyle brand offering exotic, sophisticated yet affordable leisure wear, accessories, and home goods with a magical touch. 5 p.m. 1222 Washington Court, Wilmette, free, 847-363-6435

Introduction to RefUSA, a Business and Marketing Tool: ReferenceUSA is a library database providing information on over 25 million businesses and more than 262 million consumers. At this session, entrepreneurs and business owners learn how to find the mission critical information necessary to start, manage and grow a business. A light lunch is provided. Registration is required though the library's calendar at the website or by calling. 12:30 p.m. Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-256-6930

Have an event to submit? Go to chicagotribune.com/calendar

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**"Get Out" ★★½**

R, 1:44, horror

Writer-director Jordan Peele's satirically shrewd, bracingly effective thriller opens with a young African-American man walking along a dark suburban street. Chris, played by Daniel Kaluuya, has been dating Rose, a chipper, easygoing sort portrayed by Allison Williams. It's time, she determines, to meet her parents. "Get Out" offers some choice comic details in its main character's journey into the land beyond the pale. The film is

unnerving; funny in just the right way and at the right times; serious about its observations and perspectives on racial animus; and straight-up populist when it comes to an increasingly (but not sadistically) violent climax. — *Michael Phillips, Chicago Tribune.*

**"The Lego Batman Movie" ★½**

PG, 1:46, animated comedy

At its sporadic best, the crazy velocity and wisenheim 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 ill 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 Galifianakis). "The Lego Batman Movie" offers more mayhem and less funny than the first Lego movie; I enjoyed it well enough. — *M.P.*

**"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. Early in "John Wick 2," 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. 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 deep-tissue massage for our jaded, fearful souls. — *M.P.*

**"The Great Wall" ★½**

PG-13, 1:44, suspense/thriller

In 1972, Richard M. Nixon visited the Great Wall of China. "I think that you would have to conclude," he said in his remarks, "that this is a great wall." In the Nixonian spirit, let's discuss director Zhang Yimou's "The Great Wall." Watching it, you would have to conclude that this is a movie. It is in color, in English and in 3-D, which means green monster guts splurging in your face. It co-stars Matt Damon as a mercenary archer named William

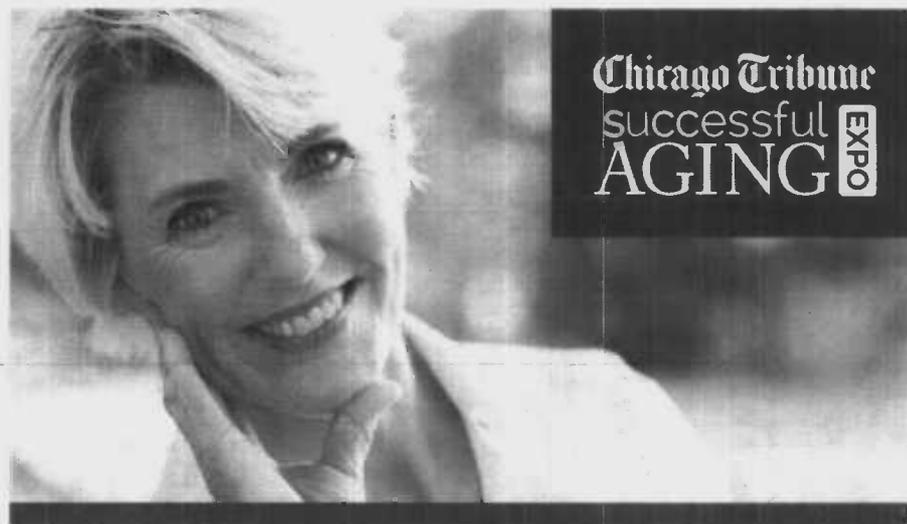
Garin. So what is ol' Matt doing in a mythological version of 1100 A.D. China? His character is just another European money-grubber, ostensibly trading with the locals. It is an extremely tedious movie. Even in China, they didn't love it. — *M.P.*

**"Fifty Shades Darker" ★★**

R, 1:58, drama

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 of "Darker" is fairly mundane, centered on the reunion of Ana and her dominant partner, Christian Grey (Jamie

Dornan), a young billionaire with a playroom that'll make you blush. Truth be told, they're both intensely boring people, and their relationship is a snooze. — *Katie Walsh, Tribune News Service*



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DEATH NOTICES*We extend our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.*PLACEANAD.TRIBUNESUBURBS.COM**Death Notices****Walters, Mary Ann**

Mary Ann Walters; age 95. Beloved wife of the late Garrett; loving mother of Garrett III, Taryn (Martin) Ross, Martine (Mark) Niebur, Jeffrey (Kelly) and Laurel (John) Dobosz; cherished grandmother of 7; proud great grandmother of 4. Longtime resident of Park Ridge and member of Redeemer Lutheran Church where she served as guild president. Former officer of PEO, RF chapter, board member of Park Ridge Book Review and Antique Rovers. U.S. Coast Guard Veteran. Mary Ann ran a successful estate-sale business, was an avid Cubs fan, cat lover and proud Norwegian, but most of all will be remembered for her dedication to family. Inurnment will take place at a later date on Bainbridge Island, WA.

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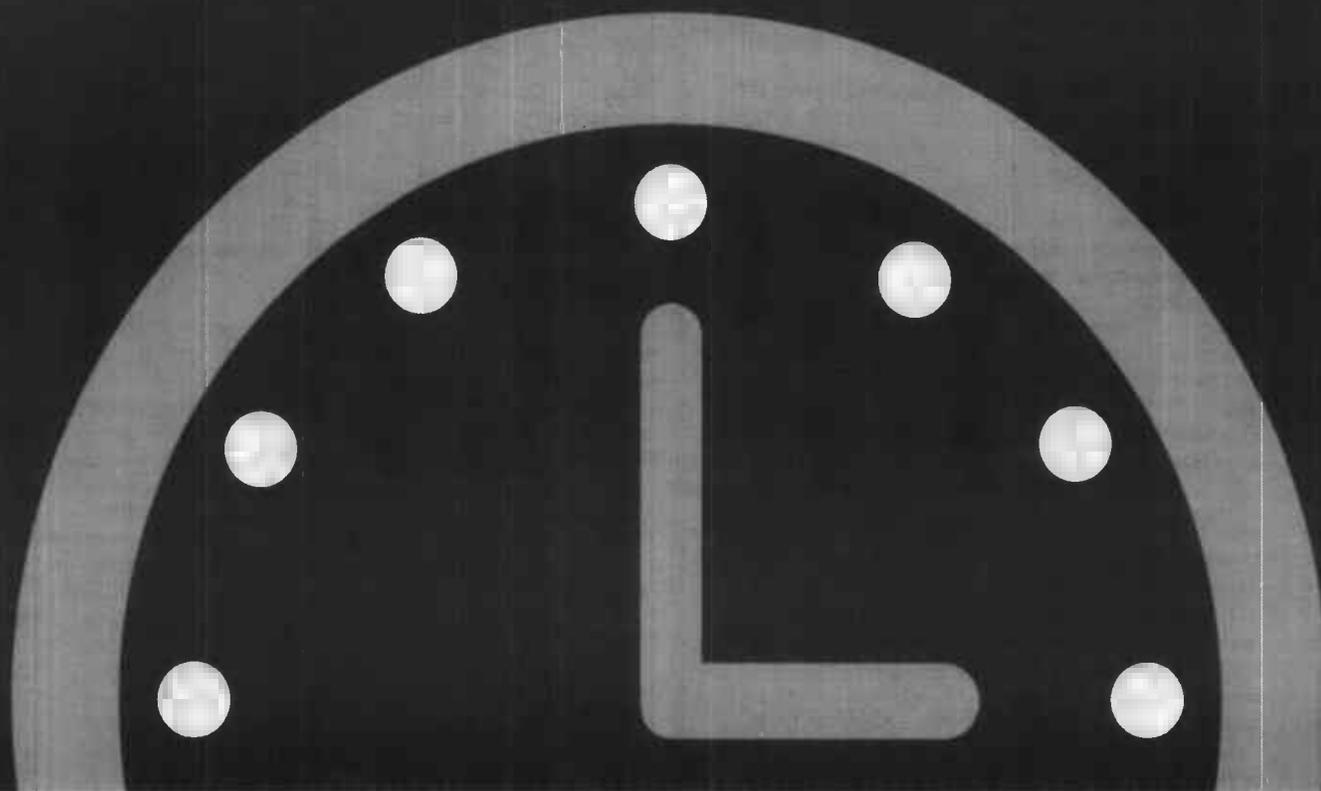
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The hatch is back

Hatchbacks could be small, potent antidote to crossovers

By CASEY WILLIAMS
Chicago Tribune

Before there were crossovers, there were hatchbacks. Now that crossovers have proved to be America's preferred vehicle, its shorter predecessor is making a comeback. A new generation of exciting five-doors follows a simple formula: Take an athletic commuter car, pack in a bigger cargo area, and toss in lots of stuff. And, it's a segment that roundly offers a manual transmission for driving enthusiasts.

New models from Honda, Chevrolet, Subaru, Toyota and some old favorites help rejuvenate a segment that used to be for the young and penniless.

"Hatch buyers are better educated, make more money and are used to products with more oomph," said Steve Majoros, marketing director for Chevrolet cars and crossovers. "They are also more urban than rural and are a bit older because of income. Hatchbacks add a dimension of personality and design — factors people are demanding in cars today."

According to Majoros, hatchbacks represent about 10 percent of model sales. Exclusivity, bolstered by some automakers offering hatchbacks only in certain regions, created its own demand.

"For years, Civic owners and fans have seen the sporty Civic Hatchback in Europe as something of a forbidden fruit," said Jessica Pawl, spokesperson for Honda. "We've found the hatch buyer is looking for something a little more individualistic, aimed toward their active lifestyle."

Millennials and Gen Xers, raised on SUVs and crossovers, look to hatchbacks as efficient transportation that can slip through traffic during the daily commute, yet carry bicycles, surfboards or

camping gear on weekends.

Hatchback compacts are typically shorter and slightly heavier than their sedan counterparts, and cost about \$500 more.

Consider these new hatchbacks:

Price and mpg listings based on more expensive automatic transmissions.

Chevrolet Cruze: Sassy and stylish, the Cruze Hatchback comes with a 153-horsepower turbo-four engine; a more efficient diesel arrives next year. Get it with a six-speed automatic or manual transmission. Lane keep assist, rear cross traffic alert, blind spot warning and a rearview camera enhance safety. It looks flashy in Orange Burst Metallic paint.

By the numbers: sedan/hatch

Combined fuel economy: 34 mpg/32 mpg
Cargo volume: 13.9 cubic feet/47.2 cubic feet (seats down)

LT trim price: \$21,450/\$21,920 (available only in high-end LT and Premier trims)

Honda Civic: Beneath aggressive Euro styling is a standard 180-horsepower 1.5-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine connected to a continuously variable or six-speed manual transmission. Sport Touring editions add aluminum pedals, red-lit instruments, and 540-watt audio. Crash mitigation systems enable a Top Safety Pick+ rating from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Enthusiasts wait for the 2018 R-Type with carbon fiber splitter, 20-inch wheels and rear wing.

Combined fuel economy: 36 mpg/34 mpg
Cargo volume: 15.1 cubic feet/46.2 cubic feet (seats down)

LX trim price: \$19,540/\$20,500



WESLEY ALLISON PHOTO

The 2017 Honda Civic Hatchback has aggressive Euro styling. Under the hood is a standard 1.5-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine that gets 34 mpg.



SCOTT OLSON/GETTY

Hyundai redesigned its 2018 Elantra GT. The GT Sport, left, and GT models bow in Chicago.

Hyundai Elantra GT: Redesigned for 2018, the hatch is loaded with premium features like heated leather seats, navigation, push-button starting and rearview camera. Its 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine delivers 162 horsepower through a six-speed manual or automatic transmission. The Sport variant has a 201-horsepower 1.6-liter turbo four engine. A tight suspension and 17-inch alloy wheels serve up a fun drive for little dough.

Pricing and mpg not available for new model

Subaru Impreza: Refreshed for 2018, the Impreza flaunts a sculpted body, hawk's-eye headlamps, and Sport model with 18-inch wheels. Torque-vectoring all-wheel-drive comes

standard. Choose the 152-horsepower 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine with a continuously variable automatic or five-speed manual transmission. Rear cameras come standard.

Combined fuel economy: 32 mpg/31 mpg
Cargo volume: 12.3 cubic feet/52.4 cubic feet (seats down)

2.0i trim price: \$18,395/\$18,895 (based on 2017 model)

Toyota Corolla iM: Surviving Scion's demise, the iM becomes a Corolla, still in only one trim level. It comes with vibrant colors, wedgy styling and grippy sport seats. Underneath is a 137-horsepower 1.8-liter four-cylinder engine attached to a six-speed manual or continuously variable

transmission. Toyota Safety Sense C, with lane departure alert and pre-collision systems, is standard.

Combined fuel economy: 32 mpg/31 mpg
Cargo volume: 13 cubic feet/20.8 cubic feet (seats down)

L trim price: \$18,500/\$18,750

Mazda3: Stepping out with Mazda's KODO design language, the tight-handling compact screams with a 155-horsepower 2.0-liter four-cylinder or 184-horsepower 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine — both available with six-speed manual or automatic transmissions. An updated interior features available Bose audio, standard rear camera and navigation. Heated seats and steering wheel kill the

chill while smart city brake support and blind spot warning enhance safety.

Combined fuel economy: 32 mpg/31 mpg

Cargo volume: 12.4 cubic feet/47.1 cubic feet (seats down)

Sport trim price: \$17,845/\$19,095

Ford Focus: Ford offers the Focus with several powertrains, from an all-electric that gets 100 miles on a charge, to a 1-liter turbo three-cylinder, to the sport model ST with a 252-horsepower 2-liter turbo four with a sweet manual. Then there's a European dream come stateside for 2017. The German-built RS races with a 2.3-liter turbocharged four-cylinder generating 350 horsepower routed to the all-wheel-drive system through a six-speed manual transmission. RE-CARO sport seats and a flat-bottom steering wheel underline its street cred.

Combined fuel economy: 31 mpg/29 mpg

Cargo volume: 13.2 cubic feet/44.8 cubic feet (seats down)

S/SE trim price: \$16,775/\$19,765

Volkswagen Golf: The segment-defining two-box GTI delivers 220 horsepower from its 2.0-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine. Choose a six-speed manual or six-speed DSG automatic transmission. Shift up to the Golf R's 292-horsepower engine and 4Motion all-wheel-drive for 0-60 mph in under 5 seconds. Golf is also available with a 170-horsepower turbo-four or as an "e-Golf" with 83 miles range. It does not have a sedan counterpart.

Combined fuel economy: 29 mpg

Cargo volume: 52.7 cubic feet (seats down)

S trim price: \$20,995

Casey Williams is a freelance writer.



DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP 2006

The owner of a Saab 9-3 similar to this model had front-end shimmy at highway speeds.

Saab's front-end shimmy requires wheel balancer



BOB WEBER
Motormouth

Q: My 2010 Saab 9-3 has a front-end shimmy at 65 to 75 mph. The wheels have been rotated and rebalanced a couple of times and it still vibrates. Any suggestions?

— L.C., Avon, Conn.

A: If you have returned to the same shop to have the wheels rotated and balanced, you may want to visit a different shop — one with a Hunter "Road Force" wheel balancer. Unlike the majority of balancers, this one applies force against the tire tread with a drum to simulate actual driving conditions. The machine also has a device for checking the wheel for an out-of-round condition that could happen from hitting a curb. The correct weight is calculated and a laser line shows the correct attachment point.

Q: I drive about 100 miles daily and 80 percent of the time I am on

the highway. When I get on the highway, I turn on the exhaust brake to assist when slow, gradual braking is necessary. I normally do not carry any loads or tow, so most times no additional weight is added. Is using the exhaust brake beneficial in these conditions? Are any components experiencing premature wear in this process?

— K.B., Aurora, Ill.

A: The exhaust brake, which should not be confused with the Jake Brake on big truck engines, simply creates some back-pressure, making it more difficult for the pistons to move. The air that would normally flow freely on the exhaust stroke gets bottled up — partially.

Using the exhaust brake on the highway won't hurt anything, and it won't help anything around town. But it really helps when you have a heavy load, especially descending a hill, and saves the brakes from overheating.

Q: I have a 2014 Dodge Journey with a V-6 engine. The car has been excellent. However, when I have brought it in for oil changes, the dealer tells me that I should clean out the throttle

body every 10,000 miles. I now have about 28,000 miles on it, but haven't taken the advice, because the manual doesn't say to do it.

The dealer says the cleaning will improve mpg. During the cold weather I notice a drop in mpg, but I think it is due to longer idling periods. What is your recommendation? Should I follow the dealer advice or just stick with the manual?

— J.V., Chicago

A: Follow the manual. Although cleaning the throttle body may marginally increase fuel economy, it is not required maintenance. Cold weather affects fuel economy not only due to longer idling times, but greater accessory loads such as window heaters, wipers, headlights and so on. Also, until everything warms up the various lubricants (transmission, differential, wheel bearings and so on) and until they thin out, they can cause drag.

Send questions along with name and town to *Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Fourth Floor, Chicago, IL 60611 or motormouth.trib@verizon.net.*



ROBERT DUFFER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The 2017 Nissan Pathfinder SUV in Platinum trim sports a wider, lower exterior design.

Pathfinder not quite the one

BY ROBERT DUFFER
Chicago Tribune

**2017 NISSAN
PATHFINDER**
Three-row SUV

Price as tested:

\$43,785

Base price: \$30,290

Mpg:

19 city/ 26 highway

Engine:

3.5-liter V-6

Transmission:

Continuously variable

Parting shot:

Capable three-row SUV that falters on infotainment system.

Testing a new car for a week is a lot like dating — exciting and different but without all the emotional vulnerability and wretched insecurity.

The brief courtship with the refreshed 2017 Nissan Pathfinder followed a familiar pattern: initially impressed, ultimately disappointed.

From across a crowded lot, the Pathfinder three-row SUV will catch some eyes, but not in a good way if it wears Sandstone garb like the press car, which both kids and adults called "poo-colored." But in the right setting — against Lake Michigan and a clear blue sky — the beige metallic color looked more commanding.

Overall the Pathfinder looks wider up front and bulkier in the back, giving it a more trucklike presence. Large 20-inch alloy wheels, standard with the top-of-the-line Platinum trim, buff up the profile. Platinum trim has all the gloss you'd expect on a first date: fine leather-wrapped surfaces paired with sleek black dash material and fake wood trim on the door panels and center stack. The sunroof and dual moonroof that spans both rear rows of seats enhances the spaciousness. Engaging in conversation with the powertrain enhanced that comfortable, approachable feel. The 284-horsepower V-6 is capable without being overbearing or needing coaxing; this three-row SUV is built for comfort, not speed, and does the job quietly, almost modestly. The continuously variable transmission is more refined than other CVTs, shifting in and out of its infinite gears without much detection.

As the outing continued, things were starting to add up. On paper, the Pathfinder had most everything a customer would need in a

family SUV: it has intuitive four-wheel drive, which goes to front-wheel drive in most conditions (we averaged 30.2 mpg at 62 mph), until it detects slippery roads or rough terrain; towing capability of up to 6,000 pounds; easily adjustable fold-down middle and rear seats; and advanced safety and convenience technology.

Once the Pathfinder's initial charms had settled in, after getting used to the visual and performance elements, it seemed that we had communication problems. Despite being able to access all the audio and climate functions from the confusing control panel, there was an audio-only interface below it, including a (fashionable as a fanny pack) CD player. Below that was a climate control interface.

The Pathfinder's is a system straddling the past and the present, unable to commit to either, so it just throws everything it has out there in an attempt to please everyone.

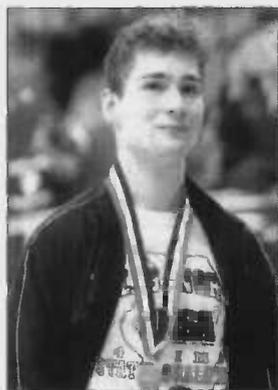
Is confusing tech enough to sink a \$43,000 car? It shouldn't be. But with so much competition that has better systems and more complete packages, you wonder why you should settle for something that is almost a match.

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It's time to vote!

The polls are open for the March Athlete of the Month challenge! Go to chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes through noon on March 16 to cast your vote. You may vote once every 12 hours. Winners will be featured in print and online, receive a commemorative plaque, and his or her school will receive \$250, presented by Country Financial.



MARK KODIAK UKENA/
PIONEER PRESS

Maxim Royzen

Year: Senior
School: Niles North
Sport: Diving
Best game: Royzen won the state title with a score of 527.50 on Feb. 25. He was the only diver to score more than 500 points.
Quote: "I was very confident but I wasn't confident to the point that I would neglect anybody," Royzen said. "I still knew I needed to stay on my toes to win."



MICHAEL SCHMIDT/
PIONEER PRESS

Jeameril Wilson

Year: Senior
School: Notre Dame
Sport: Boys basketball
Position: Guard
Best game: Wilson was one of two Dons, along with Matt Stritzel, who was named all-conference in the East Suburban Catholic. He helped the Dons go 7-2 in league play, which was good for second place, and earn the second seed in the Class 4A Waukegan Sectional.



ROB DICKER/PIONEER PRESS

Caleigh Pistorius

Year: Sophomore
School: Maine South
Sport: Gymnastics
Best game: Pistorius tied for first on the balance beam at the state meet. She finished with a score of 9.425 to tie with New Trier's Maeve Murdock.
Quote: "I tied with one of my best friends," Pistorius said. "It's so much better (to tie with her). It feels so good that I can share it with someone."

COLLEGE NOTES

Schroeder named MVC softball player of week

BY SAM BRIEF
Pioneer Press

Lake Zurich graduate **Maria Schroeder**, a junior catcher on the Bradley softball team, was named Missouri Valley Conference player of the week on Feb. 27. During the Mardi Gras Classic in Lafayette, La., she hit .438 with two home runs, two triples and eight RBIs to bring the Braves' record to 9-6.

Through 15 games, Schroeder was third on the team in batting average at .362 and second in RBIs with 13.

York trio standing out with Cardinal Stritch

York graduates **Connor O'Ryan**, **Jason Bowles** and **Joe Duda** have played major roles for the Cardinal Stritch (NAIA) men's volleyball team, which entered the week 18-4. O'Ryan, a senior from Elmhurst, ranks second on the team with 143 kills and leads the team with 69 blocks. Bowles, a junior, has recorded 52 kills on the year. Duda, also a junior, leads the team with 704 assists and is third with 32 blocks.

Northbrook native shines at Davidson

Glenbrook North graduate **Andrew McAuliffe**, a senior forward on the Davidson men's basketball team, scored a season-high 14 points on 6-of-8 shooting in the Wildcats' 79-74 win over Massachusetts on Feb. 18. Through 28 games, McAuliffe was averaging 2.4 points per game on 61.5 percent shooting.



BOB HUNT PHOTO

Lake Zurich graduate Maria Schroeder, a junior catcher on the Bradley softball team, was named Missouri Valley Conference player of the week.

Deerfield grad boosts Foresters basketball

Deerfield graduate **Eric Porter** and Hinsdale South graduate **Orlando Brown** helped the Lake Forest College men's basketball team finish second in the Midwest Conference tournament. Porter, a junior guard, scored 23 points against St. Norbert in the tournament semifinals on Feb. 24 and was named Forester Athlete of the Week on March 2. Porter had 15 points in the

championship game, an 81-72 loss to Ripon on Feb. 25, and Brown added 13 points on 6-of-8 shooting.

On the season, Porter led Lake Forest in scoring with 13.8 points per game and 72 3-pointers, the second-highest season total in school history. Brown averaged 5.8 points per game on 54.5 percent shooting, with 3.0 rebounds per game.

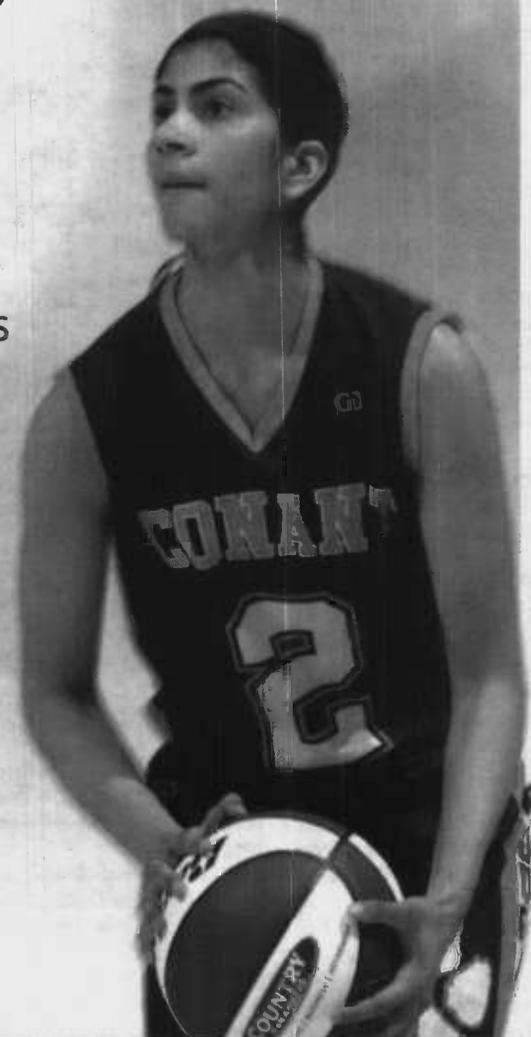
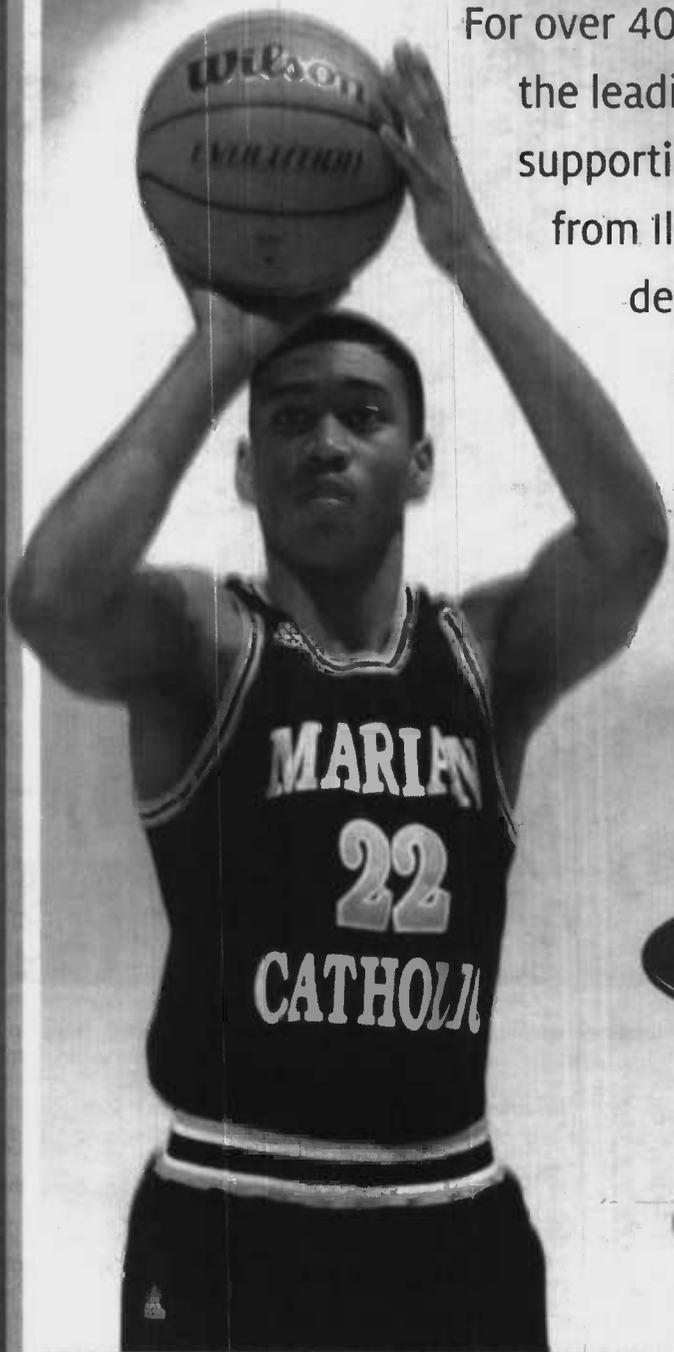
Have a suggestion for College Notes? Email Sam Brief at briefsam@gmail.com.

Sam Brief is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Notre Dame stuns Niles North in regional final

Dons complete comeback with 16-0 run

By **JON J. KERR**
Pioneer Press

Called up to the varsity as sophomores two seasons ago, Notre Dame boys basketball players Jeameril Wilson and Matt Stritzel have played in, and won, a lot of big games.

None were as dramatic as Friday night.

Playing seventh-seeded Niles North in the Class 4A Libertyville Regional final, the second-seeded Dons closed out the final 3 minutes, 40 seconds of the game on a breathtaking 16-0 run to snatch a victory away from the Vikings and prevail 55-52.

Notre Dame was scheduled to play host Waukegan, the sixth seed, in the sectional semifinals on Wednesday.

"We've played in games with moments I won't forget," said Stritzel, a senior guard who finished with 10 points. "I'll probably remember more things about this game than any other game."

The seeds of the comeback began with 4 minutes, 25 seconds left and Notre Dame trailing 48-37. Over the course of 10 minutes of regulation time, Niles North had rallied from a 29-24 deficit. The Vikings were knocking down uncontested 3-point shots, curling off ball screens and finishing drives to the basket.

Dons coach Tom Les called a timeout. A calm but firm Les delivered a succinct message.

"He told us to stay composed," said Wilson, a senior guard.

"To climb that mountain, we talked about one possession at a time," Les said.

With 3 minutes, 40 seconds left, Vikings junior guard Damaria Franklin (16 points) drained a 3-point shot to make the score



MICHAEL SCHMIDT/PIONEER PRESS

Notre Dame's Jeameril Wilson celebrates with the student section Friday night after the Dons' win over Niles North in the Class 4A Libertyville Regional championship game.

52-39. They were the final points of the night for Niles North.

A drive and finish by Stritzel got the Dons going, cutting the deficit to 52-41 with 3 minutes, 18 seconds left. A quick shot by Niles North led to a run-out for the Dons. Wilson (16 points) finished a 3-point play and the score was 52-44 with 2 minutes, 42 seconds left. On the Dons' next possession, senior guard Malik Jenkins, an Evanston transfer, drove the floor and scored a layup. 52-46. And after another missed 3-point shot by

Niles North, the rebound found its way to Wilson, who drove the floor and scored another layup.

In the span of 1 minute, 55 seconds, Notre Dame (25-5) had trimmed a 13-point deficit to four, 52-48.

Since the beginning of the fourth quarter, Les went with his most experienced lineup — Wilson, Stritzel, Jenkins and fellow seniors Chris Heinichen and Sean Johnson. There would be no changes. The Dons were advancing or going home with them.

"If we lost this would be our last high school game.

We were not going to let that happen," Jenkins said.

Wilson picked up his fourth foul with 1 minute, 37 seconds left and the score still 52-48. It put the Vikings in the bonus, but they missed the front end of a one-and-one. Notre Dame got the rebound and Jenkins launched a 3-point shot from the right side that swished through the net. The Vikings' lead was now one, 52-51, with 1 minute, 26 seconds left.

In a scenario that occurred often during the Dons' remarkable run, Niles North (21-10)

launched a quick 3-point shot. It was off the mark and Stritzel got the ball. He crossed the half-court line, picked up speed, galloped to the rim and bounced in a lay up off the glass for a 53-52 Notre Dame lead with 55 seconds remaining.

On the Vikings' next possession, Franklin misfired on another 3-point shot. Jenkins corralled the rebound and was fouled. In a one-and-one, he swished both free throws and with 6.1 seconds left, the Dons led 55-52. The comeback was complete.

A potential game-tying,

3-point shot from the Vikings missed wildly at the buzzer.

To exuberant shouts of "We are ND!" from the large cluster of Dons fans in the stands, Notre Dame players leaped into the air in unison to celebrate as the final buzzer sounded.

"Senior year, one last crack at it," Wilson said. "I don't think in my history at ND we've made a comeback like that."

Jon J. Kerr is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer_Press

Franklin hopes to become more like Eastern

Niles North guard admires Evanston standout senior

BY JON J. KERR
Pioneer Press

The Niles North boys basketball team led Notre Dame by 13 points with just over 3:30 left to play in the Class 4A regional final, which made the Vikings' loss all the more devastating.

Instead of taking its time at the end of the game, seventh-seeded Niles North played hurriedly. Instead of driving to the basket, a strategy that helped them build their lead, the Vikings settled for quick perimeter shots. Second-seeded Notre Dame got just enough possessions, scored the final 16 points of the game and won 55-52 on Friday in Libertyville.

"Everyone was trying to get theirs," said Niles North junior guard Damaris Franklin, who finished with a team-high 16 points. "We should have held the ball and let time off the clock."

Niles North (21-10) is slated to return every player who saw significant minutes against Notre Dame, and both Franklin and coach Glenn Olson think the Vikings will use the stunning loss as motivation.

"For a lot of us, it will make us want to work more," Franklin said.

Franklin has much basketball work ahead.

In mid-March, he is scheduled to begin spring AAU practices with Chicago Meanstreets. A year ago, Evanston senior forward Nojel Eastern, a Purdue recruit, and Simeon senior guard Evan Gilyard, a UTEP recruit, played for Meanstreets.

The 6-foot-3 Franklin said playing against elite AAU competition will force him to improve in certain areas like offensive re-

"It's (Eastern's) mindset. ... He just works hard to do whatever he can to help his team win."

— Niles North guard Damaris Franklin

bounding. He also hopes to adopt aspects of Eastern's game over the spring and summer.

"It's his mindset," Franklin said of Eastern. "When you go against bigger guys he's not going to get outrebounded or outjumped. He just works hard to do whatever he can to help his team win."

There were stretches of both regional playoff games when Franklin took over on offense. He scored 28 second-half points in the Vikings' 62-60 win over 10th-seeded Warren in the regional semifinals on Feb. 28. He finished with a career-high 33 points. Over a 90-second stretch in the fourth quarter against Notre Dame, Franklin drained three 3-point shots.

Franklin also showed flashes of defensive brilliance in this year's postseason.

Olson believes Franklin's all-court game is strong enough to receive Division I offers, but the next phase of his development is vital.

"His ability to score the ball is special. He can make unguardable shots. For him, it's understanding the gift of his body and how he doesn't need to settle for jump shots. Be active on the glass and get those effort points," Olson said. "If he does those things, the colleges, they will respond."

Jon J. Kerr is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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MICHAEL SCHMIDT/PIONEER PRESS

Niles North's Damaris Franklin shoots a 3-pointer against Notre Dame on Friday in the Class 4A Libertyville Regional final.

SPORTS

Notre Dame's Malik Jenkins (center) celebrates with a few seconds left in the Dons' comeback win over Niles North in the Class 4A Libertyville Regional final on Friday.

MICHAEL SCHMIDT/PIONEER PRESS

EPIC COMEBACK

Notre Dame rallies from 13 down in fourth quarter to beat Niles North in regional final. Page 44

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