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Golden achievement

Niles art teacher surprised with award for excellence. Page 12



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

Art teacher Tina Daskalopoulos, back, of Viola H. Nelson Elementary School in Niles poses with her students, colleagues, parents and others after being surprised in her classroom on March 29, with announcement that she won the Golden Apple Award for Excellence In Teaching.

GO



HEARTH RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE

Easter brunch

Who's serving up what — from Croque Madame to a bananas Foster waffle — and where to find it. Page 21

SPORTS

Prep work

Some local athletes have turned to East Coast prep schools as an alternative path to college. Page 38



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SHOUT OUT

Nicole Neff, Devonshire PTA vice president

Nicole Neff serves as vice president of Devonshire School's active parent teacher association. Earlier this year, Neff helped work at the school's first Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, which was sponsored by the PTA. She recently answered a series of questions for the Skokie Review.

Q: What do you do for a living?

A: I'm an occupational therapist. I work with adults in a hospital to help them regain their independence.

Q: Where did you grow up?

A: I grew up in Syracuse, Ind. I continue to enjoy visiting there regularly.

Q: How long have you lived in Skokie?

A: Four years now.

Q: Pets?

A: Yes, I have a cat named Lily.

Q: What book are you currently reading and what book would you like to read next?

A: I'm reading "The Sleepwalker" by Chris Bohjalian. Up next for me is "Roller Girl" by Victoria Jamieson. It's a graphic novel that my daughter highly recommends.

Q: First job?

A: I was a tennis instructor during the summers when I was in high school.

Q: As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?

A: A marine biologist.

Q: A movie you'd recommend?

A: "The Queen of Katwe." It's an inspiring film about survival and determination.

Q: Do you have children?



PIONEER PRESS

Nicole Neff

A: Yes, I have three children.

Q: Favorite charity?

A: I have two favorites — the Skokie Food Pantry and Heifer International.

Q: Words of wisdom?

A: "Bloom where you are planted."

— Staff Report

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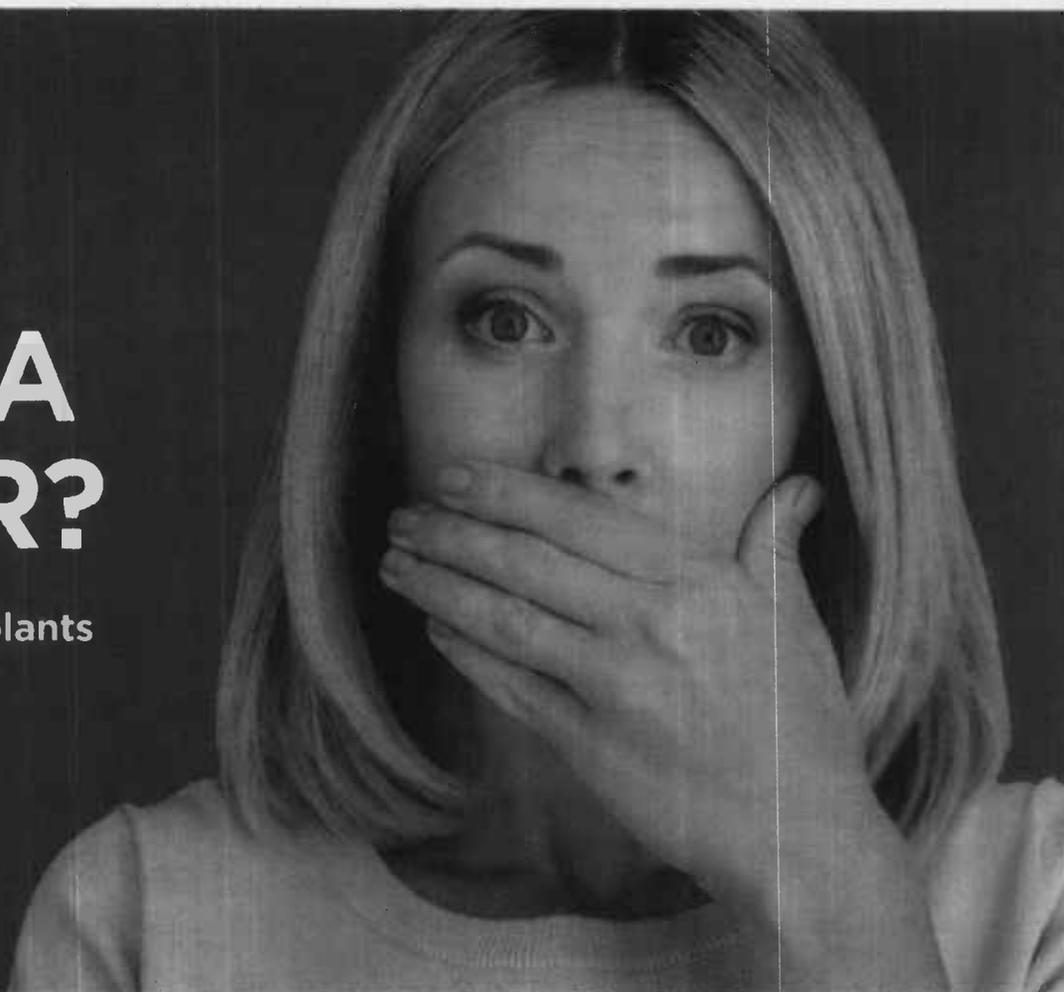
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Rabbinical Council holds Pesach Fair

Skokie event helps families prepare for Passover ceremony

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC
Pioneer Press

The Pesach Fair sponsored by the Chicago Rabbinical Council was held April 2 in Skokie to help Jews prepare for Passover, which begins next week.

The Pesach Fair has been presented by the CRC for approximately 12 years, organizers said.

"Passover is the busiest time of the year," said Rabbi Sholem Fishbane, kashruth administrator with the CRC.

An estimated several hundred people turned out for the fair, many of them carrying boxes or baskets of metal serving pieces and other wares and goods into the Hebrew Theological College to prepare for the religious period, which runs through April 18.

The metal needed to be placed in boiling water per Jewish tradition, faith leaders explained.

Knives were sharpened too, organizers said.

"One of the things that the Jews have done for thousands of years ahead of Passover is a special process of taking metal and dunking it in boiling water to allow it to be used on Passover," said Rabbi Levi Mostofsky of Chicago and executive director of the Chicago Rabbinical Council.

"You have to make everything kosher for Passover," Mostofsky said.

The Pesach Fair also included education for such things as romaine lettuce checking. Romaine lettuce is a food typically served at Passover, fair organizers said.

Attendees were also able to have knives sharpened and to have questions answered.

April 2 also marked the 85th anniversary of CRC being incorporated with the



Rabbi Dovid Aronin of Chicago works in the boiling area of the kitchen April 2 at the Pesach Fair.

state, said Mostofsky.

"Today is a big day for the Chicago Rabbinical Council," Mostofsky said of the anniversary.

The regional council represents more than 140 rabbis, he said.

Patrons at the fair could also have clothing inspected to ensure fabrics met religious requirements, a process called *shatnez* testing, CRC leaders explained.

"There's a verse in the Bible that you can't have wool and linen woven together," Mostofsky said. "This is a serious biblical requirement."

People could also ask questions of rabbis.

"We become the go-to people for kosher questions," Fishbane said.

A Skokie couple, Moe and Andrea Herman, brought many items to be boiled.

"I come every year," Andrea Herman said, showing appreciation for a safe opportunity to bring her items to the event annually.

"They do a great service and I let them do it so I don't get burned!"

David Gross of Chicago was accompanied by his 8-year-old son, Avrumi. They brought their share of items to be placed in boiling water too.

"This is incredible and it's so convenient," Gross said.

Karie Angell Luc is a freelancer.



Yehuda Dov Reiss, 16, of Chicago, works in the boiling area of the kitchen at the Pesach Fair sponsored by the Chicago Rabbinical Council April 2 at Hebrew Theological College in Skokie.

KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS



Moe and Andrea Herman of Skokie organize their serving ware items after the items were boiled during the Pesach Fair April 2 in preparation for Passover. The fair was sponsored by the Chicago Rabbinical Council.

Bulls' Canaan, mascot visit kids at Park Ridge hospital

By JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Several patients at Advocate Children's Hospital, including a baby just 3 months old, had a chance to meet a Chicago Bulls player during a special visit recently.

Bulls guard Isaiah Canaan, who was signed to the team last summer, met with children, took photos and signed autographs at the Park Ridge hospital on March 28. He was accompanied by Bulls mascot Benny the Bull.

According to the hospital, Advocate Health Care is a corporate sponsor of the Chicago Bulls, and a player, along with Benny the Bull, typically visit patients at the children's hospital once each season.



Chicago Bulls player Isaiah Canaan visits with 3-month-old Khyden Smith and his mother, Emily Preis, of Huntley on March 28 at Advocate Children's Hospital in Park Ridge.

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BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Chicago Bulls mascot Benny the Bull plays a video game with 17-year-old Nathan Janney, of Algonquin, on March 28 at Advocate Children's Hospital in Park Ridge.

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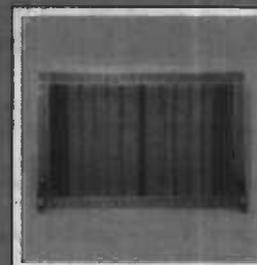
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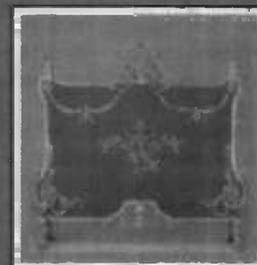
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Morton Grove considers welcoming ordinance

Leaders to hold town hall meeting at 6:30 p.m. April 17

By MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

Morton Grove leaders will hold a town hall meeting to consider whether the village should adopt a welcoming community ordinance, often referred to as sanctuary city status, after several residents and others spoke out last week at a village board meeting.

The town hall meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. April 17 at the Morton Grove Civic Center, 6140 Dempster Street.

"There's two sides to every story," Morton Grove mayor Dan DiMaria said during the March 27 Village Board meeting, after he and trustees heard from multiple impassioned speakers. "There are 23,000 residents in our community and this is a polarizing issue. It's divisive."

Although most speakers urged Morton Grove to adopt welcoming community legislation of the likes of Skokie, Evanston and Chicago, a couple of speakers offered counter positions. Those at the meeting who favor new legislation, one said, were an organized front, and everyone in Morton Grove should have opportunity to have a voice.

"One of the greatest parts of Morton Grove is that we come together on these hotbed issues and we discuss it," DiMaria said.

In the wake of President Donald Trump's controversial executive orders surrounding immigration, which are now being legally challenged for a second time, some municipalities have decided to adopt welcoming city legislation to support immigrants in their communities.

In general, such legislation stipulates that municipal authorities will not pursue residents because of their immigration status,



PATRICK GORSKI/PIONEER PRESS

Residents hold hands up prior to a Muslim Community Center protest on President Donald Trump's policies on immigration Jan. 29 in Morton Grove. Some are now asking Morton Grove to adopt a welcoming community ordinance.

deny them services, detain them, or turn them over to federal authorities without a court-issued warrant.

But Trump has threatened "sanctuary city" communities, saying his administration would withhold federal funds, which has caused some residents concern.

Morton Grove resident Mary Elsner submitted a letter to the village board signed by dozens of residents as well as business, religious and political leaders supporting new legislation.

The letter states it is in the interest of Morton Grove as a municipality "to foster an environment where immigrants, whether they are naturalized citizens, green card or

visa holders, or otherwise, feel safe and comfortable."

"It is incumbent upon us as a community to do what we can within the boundaries of the law to ensure that our public facilities and services are a safe space for those who are rendered vulnerable by political agendas that ignore their valuable contributions to our community and their inherent worth as human beings," the letter reads.

Morton Grove resident and former pastor Robert Burkhart also said he supports the village adopting welcoming community legislation.

The importance of the ordinance, he said, isn't so much that it's a legal document but a moral statement, "a moral commit-

ment that we value one another."

Burkhart said he and his wife chose Morton Grove as their home following his retirement, in part because of its diverse community.

"Now we're poised to further the diversity of our village by officially declaring publicly that we are a welcoming community where all are safe and welcome," he said.

A representative of Americans in Solidarity - Chicago said the organization wants the village to adopt a draft ordinance that is posted on its website.

Americans in Solidarity - Chicago states it seeks to "protect and preserve our community as a safe space where the equal value of all people is recognized, re-

gardless of race, gender identity, sexual orientation, or immigration status."

Representing the group, Jon Lahn said the ordinance doesn't call for dramatic changes since Morton Grove practices such protections anyway. It just formalizes or codifies them, he said.

Two Niles North High School students also spoke in favor of a potential ordinance.

"I stand united with Niles North High School in support of passing a welcoming ordinance to remind our community that Morton Grove is and always will be a welcoming place to all its residents," said senior Sammy Schein.

Resident Habeeb Quadri, principal of the Muslim

Education Center in Morton Grove and MCC Academy in Skokie, also spoke in favor of a welcoming ordinance in Morton Grove as he had done in Skokie earlier.

Morton Grove resident Laura Frisch told the board the village should not turn away from passing an ordinance because of the president's threat to withhold federal funding.

"There are families that have to worry every day about their status, every day about whether or not they are safe in our community," she said.

If that portion of the budget needs to be taken away for families to be safe, she said, "so be it."

But Morton Grove resident Susan Pellicano said that withholding federal funding should be considered, especially since Morton Grove has many seniors who have limited funds.

"I'm not OK for the village to lose federal funding in order to protect illegal immigrants," she said. "I'm not OK to become a magnet for even more illegal immigrants."

In making a case against a welcoming ordinance, Pellicano said she doesn't know how she teaches her grandchildren "which laws are OK to challenge and which laws aren't."

Ted Smuckler of Open Communities, an organization that aims to promote "just and inclusive communities" in north suburban Chicago, countered that what is being proposed is a welcoming ordinance, but it doesn't call for breaking any federal laws.

DiMaria said that no matter whether the village adopts such an ordinance or not, he wants residents to know "that they do not need to worry now or in the future."

"Nobody should feel afraid of Morton Grove," he said.

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Police explore 'possibility of more victims' in couple's sex abuse case

Two charged with sexual assault in Prospect Heights

BY DUAA ELDEIB
Chicago Tribune

Police have widened their investigation into a married couple charged with sexually abusing three teenage boys, and the state's child welfare agency has removed the couple's children from their home.

Prospect Heights police said they are investigating whether the alleged abuse by Christopher Wheeler, 30, and Anthony Wheeler, 25, went beyond the three teens.

"Our highest concern is the possibility of more victims," Prospect Heights police spokeswoman Stephanie Conboy said, adding authorities hope that anyone with information will feel "comfortable and safe enough to come forward."

The Wheelers were arrested on March 28 and charged with criminal sexual assault and aggravated criminal sexual abuse after allegedly forcing the boys, ages 14 and 15, to perform sexual acts. Prosecutors said Christopher Wheeler told one boy, "What happens in the house stays in the house." Some of the alleged victims were given

alcohol and shown pornography, police said.

Police were alerted after a 15-year-old boy who was allegedly sexually abused at the Wheeler home went to a Chicago hospital for medical assistance, Conboy said. Hospital staff informed Chicago police, who then informed Prospect Heights police on March 7, she said. Separately, another boy's mother contacted police after seeing a text message to her son that referenced the alleged sex acts, authorities said.

Also on March 7, the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services received a hotline call reporting the alleged abuse.

The couple have one adopted child and were foster parents to a second child. DCFS launched an investigation, which is ongoing, and removed the children from their Prospect Heights home on March 8, DCFS spokeswoman Veronica Resa said. The foster child is in a "safe place," and the other child was placed with relatives, she added.

The Wheelers passed a background check in September, and DCFS placed the foster child in their home in December, Resa said.

"DCFS is in the process of revoking their foster par-

ent license pending the outcome of the investigation," Resa said.

None of the three alleged victims is related to the men, officials said.

Before moving to Prospect Heights, the family lived in Skokie, records show. Police were called in 2015 after the couple's child went missing, but the child returned before police could complete the missing person's report, Skokie police said.

Christopher and Anthony Wheeler made their first court appearance in Cook County on March 30, when a judge set cash bonds at \$4 million for Christopher Wheeler and \$3 million for Anthony Wheeler. They remain in custody.

Their attorney, Marie Taraska, said on March 30 that she expected they would be cleared of the charges. Taraska also said that both men were employed at the time of their arrest, but she did not specify their line of work. Christopher Wheeler worked as bus driver in 2012 for Evanston-based Positive Connections, which provides bus services to school districts and other groups, according to a company employee.

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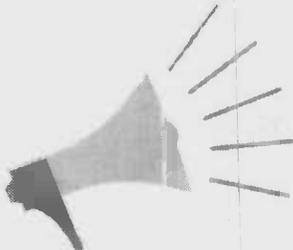
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The following items came from Niles police reports.

ASSAULT

■ Daniel Salcedo, 36, of the 8300 block of Milwaukee Avenue, was charged with aggravated assault on March 8, police said. A family member told police that Salcedo pointed a folding knife at her while arguing about rent money he wanted back. Salcedo was scheduled to appear in court April 4.

DRUG POSSESSION

■ Patricia Papuga, 25, of the 6300 block of Church Road, Hanover Park, was charged with possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia, and Diana Tait, 34, of the 4200 block of Ozark, Norridge, was charged with possession of a controlled substance, retail theft and obstruction on March 11. Police said the arrests followed a report of a retail theft at a store in the 7900

block of Milwaukee Avenue. Papuga and Tait were each scheduled to appear in court March 31.

TRESPASS

■ Michael Tsopnang, 24, of the 1000 block of South 13th Avenue, Maywood, was charged with criminal trespass and public intoxication on March 11 after police responded to a call of a car burglary in the 7900 block of Caldwell Avenue. According to police, officers located Tsopnang in the driver's seat of a parked car, but the owner of the car said he did not know Tsopnang. Police said Tsopnang "appeared to be highly confused and incoherent" and was unable to remember how he got to the parking lot. Nothing was reported missing from the car, police said. Tsopnang was scheduled to appear in court March 17.

DUI

■ Robert Wezio, 56, of the

7000 block of Dobson Street, was charged with driving under the influence on March 10 after police said his car became stuck on a raised cement median at Lehigh Avenue and Gross Point Road. Wezio is scheduled to appear in court April 14.

THEFT

■ David Ouimet, 32, of the 7600 block of West Addison Street, Chicago, was charged with theft on March 10. Police said Ouimet stole \$6,049 worth of items, mainly boxes of refrigerant, from a company he had worked for in the 6100 block of Mulford Street.

■ Police said a man refused to pay after receiving an oil change at a business in the 8400 block of Dempster Street on March 7. He also allegedly claimed to be a "mystery shopper" and threatened to have an employee fired.

■ A coin box was stolen

between March 8 and 9 from a dryer inside the common area laundry room of an apartment building in the 8800 block of Root Street, police said.

■ A duffel bag containing a man's clothing, wallet and \$180 in cash was reported stolen March 9 from a fitness center locker in the 9200 block of Milwaukee Avenue.

■ A 2005 Mitsubishi was reported stolen from a rear parking lot in the 6100 block of Gross Point Road between March 4 and 11.

RUSE ENTRY

■ A man claiming to have bought a neighboring house entered the home of a resident in the 8100 block of Elmore Street on March 6 and took the resident into the basement where he asked questions about the plumbing, police said. Later, a folder containing old bank statements and checks, which had been kept in a closet, was found

torn, but none of the contents were missing, according to police.

■ An 81-year-old resident of the 8000 block of Overhill Avenue discovered rings missing from a jewelry box after two men came to her home on the afternoon of March 8 and said they needed to do work on her roof because of the recent high winds, police said. The woman told police that one of the men asked her for a bucket of water and she later found him inside her bedroom. The second man then asked the woman to pay \$140 for the roof work, at which she became suspicious and called 911, police said. The men left the house before police arrived.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

■ A 23-year-old woman from Evanston was ticketed for alleged disorderly conduct on March 11 after police said she was accused of striking another woman

in a parking lot in the 8500 block of Golf Road. A man, who told police he has a child with the suspect, reported that he tried to stop the women from fighting, police said.

POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL

■ The owner of a pool hall in the 7900 block of Waukegan Road was ticketed March 11 for allowing alcohol to be consumed on the premises without a license, police said. According to police, the owner had been told "several times" that no alcohol was allowed on the property. A customer reportedly told police that he had brought in the alcohol from down the street.

BURGLARY TO VEHICLE

■ A device used for hauling or lifting was reported stolen from a truck parked in a lot in the 7500 block of Caldwell Avenue between Feb. 21 and March 7.

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EDUCATION

Niles teacher wins Golden Apple award

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

For the second time this year, the nonprofit Golden Apple organization managed to joyfully fool Viola H. Nelson Elementary School art teacher Tina Daskalopoulos.

A group burst into the teacher's art class where she was working with her fifth-grade students March 29 to let her know she had won the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Golden Apple officials were there alongside school administrators, parents, board members and the teacher's colleagues, making this anything but a normal day at the East Maine District 63 school in Niles. According to officials, no Nelson School teacher had won a Golden Apple before.

"Oh my God," Daskalopoulos said as applause, screams and various whoops broke out. The teacher covered her mouth, trying to push back emotion and then reached for the closest student and delivered a hug to her.

A Nelson School art teacher for nearly 30 years, Daskalopoulos said she never even expected to be named a finalist let alone win the award. A family friend nominated her, she said, and then she went about submitting her application even if she didn't think she had much of a shot.

Daskalopoulos said she believed the award went mostly to math and science teachers, so being named one of 34 finalists was her first surprise.

Winning the award was

an even bigger one, she said — especially since many other winners had already been notified. Nelson School was on spring break the previous week so she became the final teacher in the 2017 lineup to be awarded the Golden Apple, officials said.

"This was completely unexpected," Daskalopoulos said. "Recognitions had been given already, and I thought that was it and now I'll move on. I thought, 'I can be thrilled I was a finalist.'"

She called winning the award "one of the happiest days of my life" and the art room where she was notified about it "one of my happiest places in the world."

According to Golden Apple officials, this year's award recipients were selected from a pool of more than 600 fourth-through-eighth-grade teachers throughout Chicago and surrounding suburbs. Recipients were nominated by students, community members, parents and colleagues who have directly engaged with them, they said.

Teachers, college professors, administrators and former Golden Apple winners served on the selection committee to help decide the winners, officials said. The winners receive a tuition-free spring quarter sabbatical to study at Northwestern University, a \$5,000 cash award and become fellows of the Golden Apple Academy of Educators.

"We continue to see conclusive evidence that being taught by an effective teacher has significant consequences on student



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

Art teacher Tina Daskalopoulos of Viola H. Nelson Elementary School in Niles is congratulated by fifth-grade students March 29 after an announcement that she had won the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching.

achievement," said Golden Apple CEO Dominic Belmonte. "Our 2017 award recipients have distinguished themselves through their talents, creative approaches to powerful modern teaching and devotion to their students."

Those on hand for the surprise ceremony March 29 described Daskalopoulos' approach to her job with the same word: "passion."

"She has absolute passion for art and for teaching and for her kids," said Nelson School Principal Jean LeBlanc. "She shares her love about art and (helps) them view themselves as artists and as people who appreciate art."

LeBlanc said she explained to the kids what a prestigious award their teacher was in the running for — but it didn't matter. "They know she's special.

She didn't need an award for them to know that," she said.

District 63 Superintendent Scott Clay also said the teacher's passion for her job is always on view.

"She loves art. She loves children and she loves helping them to learn about art and explore their talents," he said. "She's really great at highlighting the kids' skills. That's all we can ask from teachers."

The teacher's fifth-grade students were creating human figurines when their class was suddenly interrupted with the good news. They were asked to hold up Golden Apple signs for photo opportunities and then many of them approached Daskalopoulos to ask for her autograph.

"I feel happy," said fifth-grader Eli Mohammed. "She's a really good teacher.

She's really nice and she helps us with our artwork."

Eve Kaczowski, a former student, said she took off from Oakton Community College to join the surprise party. "She's pretty special and this is awesome," she said.

Her mother, Janet, said all three of her children had art under Daskalopoulos. "It's amazing what she can coax out of the children," she said.

Sixth-grade teacher Tracy Fragassi had tears in her eyes as she hugged her colleague and offered congratulations.

"She means everything to the kids," Fragassi said. "She is in their lives forever after they leave here. Everyone talks about Mrs. D."

Daskalopoulos said the award validates what she has always believed. "Art is a component of the whole

person," she said. "It has to be addressed. It has to be included for a complete education."

The teacher may never have won a Golden Apple before, but this isn't the first "apple" she has received for her teaching, she said.

She remembered a student who became a medical doctor, but he returned to her — as many of her students do — to say thank you and bring her a gift.

"It was a silk box that he made," she said. "In it was a crystal apple and he wrote me the most beautiful, eloquent letter. He said, 'I'm a medical doctor now but I made this for you and I want you to have it because you opened up a part of my life that I would not have had.'"

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Pride shared at Maine East's International Celebration

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Indian and Mexican dance were the highlights of Maine Township High School District 207's International Celebration, held April 1 at Maine East High School in Park Ridge.

The annual event, open to students of all three Maine high schools to celebrate the district's ethnic diversity, featured student cultural clubs and performers predominantly from Maine East, with Maine West also represented.

The entertainment portion of the day included four Maine East groups performing modern and traditional Indian dance moves in brightly colored dress, a mix of popular Latin American and Tejano dance styles by the Hispanic Student Club of Maine West, tradi-



Prachi Patel applies a henna tattoo April 1 during the International Celebration at Maine East High School.

tional Mexican folkloric dance by the Maine East Latino Club and a combination of Bollywood and Latin grooves by members of the Maine East International Club.

Also represented were Assyrian, Filipino, French, Greek, Hispanic, Italian,

Korean, Polish and Serbian student clubs that set up booths with information and/or food for sale. Henna body art was also available from the Maine East International Club.

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[Twitter @Jen_Tribune](https://twitter.com/Jen_Tribune)



JENNIFER JOHNSON/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Members of the Maine East Latino Club perform a traditional Mexican folk dance during International Celebration on April 1 at the Park Ridge high school.

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Student art will be used to honor police, fire

Niles West student's poster chosen for local campaign

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

If a picture is worth a thousand words, Skokie resident Eline Eliasoff said her campaign to honor the men and women of the Skokie police and fire departments is looking good.

"This is perfect and has everything," Eliasoff said last week when she announced which student-created poster would be used for the second annual "Honoring Skokie's Finest and Bravest."

Once again, a local high school student's artwork will promote the month-long program. Throughout May, Eliasoff and other organizers are asking that residents and businesses tie blue and red ribbons to trees to show appreciation for the jobs police and fire staff undertake.

The official poster for the event is from Niles West High School senior Molly Izzi. She created her work, not with brush and canvass as one might expect, but with Apple Pencil and iPad; Izzi's poster is all digital.

As part of a contest, students in Barbara Wismer's painting and drawing class were told their posters had to include a police officer, a firefighter, a tree and ribbons, the teacher said.

"Pretty much, they could do whatever they wanted otherwise," she said.

The assignment not only promoted a worthwhile campaign, according to Wismer, but it advanced her students' development as artists.

"When they have some constraints they have to work within, it forces them to be a little bit more creative," she said, "I saw some really interesting solutions to the project."

Wismer provided her input as to which posters she



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Niles West High School Senior Molly Izzi holds up her winning poster March 23, while teacher Barbara Wismer looks on. Izzi's poster was selected as the one that will promote a village-wide ribbon campaign in May honoring the Skokie police and fire departments.

thought were strongest, she said, and then Eliasoff decided on first-, second- and third-place winners. She came to Wismer's class on March 23, along with Skokie Fire Chief Jim Walters and Skokie Police Deputy Chief Michael Pechter.

"What we looked at was what would look best on a poster and what would look great from far and great from near," she told the students. "It was hard to make a decision."

Eliasoff announced Izzi as winner, along with sophomore Uros Tubic and senior An Lu as runners-up. The students each received a \$25 gift card from West-

field Old Orchard.

"We appreciate the positive thoughts," Walters told the students. "All of the artwork was fantastic. I looked at the (positivity) that was in those pictures and it's very much appreciated. I could have never done close to that."

Izzi said she wasn't sure digital submissions made on an iPad would be allowed, but her teacher told her everything goes.

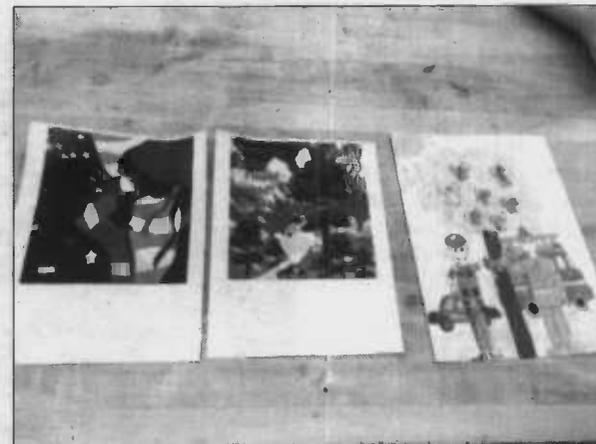
"I did it step by step," the senior said of her process using an iPad app called Procreate. "I Googled policemen and firemen and got ideas from that. I was very happy with the way it

turned out."

Her poster has a patriotic theme with a vibrant flag as the backdrop and a faceless police officer and firefighter standing in the forefront, along with a tree with red and blue ribbons prominent in the upper right corner.

Last year, in the inaugural year of the campaign, Eliasoff held the poster contest at Niles North. She said she wanted to switch it up this year to give all students a chance.

Having attended the Skokie Citizens' Police Academy, Eliasoff said she came up with the idea to honor local police and fire departments to counter some of



Skokie resident Eline Eliasoff is organizing her second village-wide ribbon campaign in May to honor those the Skokie police and fire departments. Three posters from Niles West High School students promoting the campaign were singled out in a poster contest.



Skokie resident Eline Eliasoff and Skokie police and fire representatives appear with Niles West High School students and their teacher March 23.

the anti-police sentiment following the controversy in Ferguson, Mo.

"Some of the graduates of that 2014 police academy just wanted another voice heard," Eliasoff said. "We felt that all of the anti-police stuff really didn't represent most people or apply to Skokie."

"One and done" was how she anticipated last year's event, she said. But many people responded positively and asked her to carry on the campaign for a second year.

Eliasoff said she hopes to make even more noise with the event this year.

For one thing, she said, the ribbon campaign will go on the entire month of May, longer than last year. For

another, the campaign has been linked with Skokie Police's neighborhood watch program, which she says should generate more participation.

Last year, the campaign distributed 4,000 ribbons, according to Eliasoff. This year, it is packaging 6,000 ribbons with the help of clients with developmental challenges at Skokie's The Douglas Center. She said the ribbons will be available at sponsor locations, which can be found online, and at Skokie Park District buildings throughout the village.

For a list of sponsors and more information, access www.honoringskokies-finest.weebly.com.

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Metra surveying area residents on future fares, services

BY BILL BIRD
Naperville Sun

Regardless of whether you're a current, former or prospective passenger, Metra wants to hear from you.

Metra users have until March 31 to weigh in on potential ticket and fare options being considered by the transit agency. Opinions are being sought on subjects that include off-peak-time and reverse-commute pricing, one-day and seven-day passes, and a possible "loyalty program" similar to those offered by airlines, restaurants and other businesses.

An estimated 8,200 people to date have taken an online survey that seeks to gauge how residents feel about Metra, and how it might improve its services.

Metra officials in November approved their third rate increase in three years.



MARK KODIAK UKENA/PIONEER PRESS

A Metra survey is seeking information on a variety of topics, including possible fare changes and special deals that could appeal to non-peak and weekend riders.

Fares on Feb. 1 increased an average of 5.8 percent, following a 2 percent hike in 2016 and an 11 percent increase in 2015.

That translated into a 25-cent jump in adult one-way tickets, a \$2.75 increase for 10 rides and an \$11.75 increase on monthly passes in 2017, the latter being the kind most often used for

most trips on the system. Reduced-fare riders are paying an extra 25 cents for one-way tickets, \$1.50 more on 10-ride passes, and \$7.50 more on monthly passes.

Metra spokesman Michael Gillis said the agency will be spending more than \$16 million on "capital needs" that include infrastructure repair and up-

grading, the purchase of new engines and passenger cars and installation of a federally mandated safety system.

The survey is part of a study Metra commissioned last summer to evaluate the agency's distance-based fare structure and fare products and to recommend changes that best serve the region's needs.

Metra's consultant, Four Nines Technologies, is working to determine opportunities and costs of potential fare structure changes and developing a model that can help the agency evaluate those potential changes.

"Different fare options can encourage different riding behavior, and that's why we are seeking input both from our existing customers and prospective customers as part of this process," Metra Executive Director/

CEO Don Orseno said. "The goal is to come up with a fare structure that works well for our customers and increases ridership and fare revenue that can impact our bottom line."

Survey participants are asked about their commuting habits and needs, and ultimately for their opinions about myriad potential changes.

One idea is the creation of a one-day pass that would allow a rider to make round trips, transfer between lines and make unlimited trips inbound and outbound during the day on all of the lines in their zone pair, similar to a monthly pass.

Other possibilities include lowering weekday fares for "reverse commuters" and those traveling during times outside rush hour; the sale of a seven-day or weekly pass priced the

same as eight, one-way tickets that would be valid Mondays through Sundays, instead of the current "10 ride ticket," a "Weekend Pass" that would expand to include travel on Friday evening trains; asking patrons to consider changing their travel times should Metra offer a lower fare on weekdays for trains that arrive and depart the downtown during non-peak hours; and a Metra "rider loyalty" program.

Gillis said the restructuring of fares, if any, is "all to be decided" after the survey results are tallied. Metra could, for example, "maintain (current) fares for the rush hour and lower them for off-peak users," he said.

The survey can be taken at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Metra-FareStudy>

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Easter Holiday Worship

Saint Martha Catholic Church

Shrine of All Saints

Easter Mass Schedule Of The Season 2017

Holy Thursday, April 13
Lord's Last Supper
(Preceded by Seder Supper & Pot Luck, 5:30 PM) - Café
8:00 P.M.

Good Friday, April 14
Lord's Passion
Small Church, 10:00 A.M. - Noon: Adoration
"Seven Last Words of Christ,"
by Franz Joseph Haydn, Ars Viva Quartet
Noon - 3:00 P.M.

Stations of the Cross
4:00 P.M.

Malayalam Good Friday Service
Big Church, 5:00 P.M.

Good Friday Service
Big Church, 8:00 P.M.

Holy Saturday, April 15
Blessing of the Easter Foods & Baskets
Small Church, Noon

Easter Vigil Mass
Big Church, 8:00 P.M.

Malayalam Community Vigil
Small Church, 9:00 P.M.

Easter Sunday, April 16
Lord's Resurrection

Small Church, 7:00 A.M. & 9:15 A.M.
Big Church, 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

8523 Georgiana Ave, Morton Grove, IL 60053 (847) 965-0262



Mary, Seat of Wisdom Catholic Church Cumberland at Granville in Park Ridge HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2017

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 13
Prayer Service for Morning, 9:00 am
Simple Supper, 6:00 pm in Wisdom Hall
Liturgy of the Lord's Supper, 7:30 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight
Prayer Service, 11:45 pm

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 14
Prayer Service for Morning, 9:00 am
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Death, 3:00 pm
Living Stations of the Cross, 7:00 pm

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 15
Prayer Service for Morning, 9:00 am
Blessing of Food Baskets, 1:30 pm
NO 5 pm Mass
Easter Vigil Mass, 8:00 pm

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16
Morning Masses at 8:00,
9:30 & 11:00 am (Church & Brian Barry Gym)
NO 7:00 PM Mass

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NEWS

Proposals to take SAT off transcripts gain traction

Suburban parents back state bills that would change rules

BY HALEY BEMILLER
Chicago Tribune

SPRINGFIELD — Some suburban parents are rallying around proposals to keep their children's SAT scores off high school transcripts, arguing students should have more control over what information is sent to college admissions offices.

But some education experts argue the effort is a solution in search of a problem, indicative of a generation of parents who are overprotective.

Under current state law, a student's transcripts must include results from the free, state-sponsored exam that all high school juniors are required to take. Illinois switched to the SAT last year after 15 years of using the ACT. It was scheduled to be administered in classrooms April 5.

While the test is designed to evaluate whether a student is prepared for college, some parents say it's unfair to rely on just one exam. They note that anything from an illness to anxiety could disrupt the test-taking process, leaving students stuck with a score that could hurt their chances of getting into their dream school.

"Any of those things could affect the student's results on this one test, which is one data point, as opposed to their (grade point average), which is a whole bunch of data points which are more meaningful," said Evanston resident Elizabeth O'Connor, who has two children at Evanston Township High School.

A bill sponsored by state Sen. Julie Morrison, D-Deerfield, would allow parents to remove the state organized test score from

their child's transcript so that students who take the test again on their own can send newer, improved scores to the college of their choice. Those scores would be submitted through the testing agency, which already is common practice. The measure cleared an initial hurdle in the Senate.

"I think if the student has the ability to send a test score to a college, they have the opportunity to kind of show themselves in the best light," O'Connor said.

Jennifer Wallace, an independent college coach and counselor who lives in Evanston, contends the current transcript requirement doesn't hurt students applying for college.

"I think it's more of a lightning rod for parents' anxiety about the college process in general rather than a huge issue in of itself," she said.

Still, Dave Otwell, who also has children at Evanston Township, argues that automatically including the state SAT scores on transcripts could unfairly harm students who test better on the ACT, those who apply to test-optional schools and those who want to take a gap year before college.

"I can't think of any reasons to put it on there," Otwell said. "I don't see who that benefits."

The Illinois State Board of Education has not taken a formal stance on the proposal but said keeping the state score on transcripts could benefit students who can't afford to retake the test outside of school.

"We believe there is some value, especially for low-income students, to have this information included on the transcript for the purpose of college admissions," agency spokeswoman Megan Griffin said in an email. She added that the requirement "also helps ensure students will take the exam seriously."

Amy Herzog, of North Shore College Consulting, said the Senate proposal could also hurt parents and students who don't realize they have the ability to opt out.

"Those kids could be punished in the long run because they'll end up with a test score on their transcript while a lot of other kids from the state won't," she said.

Morrison said her bill eliminates the possibility that people will try to skirt the exam due to concern over the requirement, which could affect a district's testing numbers.

In the House, Rep. Scott Drury, D-Highwood, is aiming to address the issue in a different way. His measure would eliminate the requirement that student transcripts include an SAT score.

Drury said this gives schools and counselors the freedom to decide whether scores should be attached to transcripts, as opposed to a "one size fits all" approach. Scores would remain on students' permanent records.

The measure passed the House without opposition March 29. It now heads to the Senate.

"Every school district's going to have different needs. Their populations are going to be different," said Evan Wilson, director of admission at Illinois College in downstate Jacksonville, who supports Drury's bill. "And so it may make sense for a district or school to default to putting it on the transcript, but the beauty of this is that the school gets to decide, at least initially, what they want to do for their students."

College coach Wallace said the legislation is more about parents than their children.

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Rock 'n' roll thriller with local ties to be shown in Chicago

BY MARK LAWTON
Pioneer Press

Jeremy Vranich laughs when asked how much fake blood was used in the film "Chicago Rot."

"Gallons and gallons and gallons," Vranich said. "I would go through the budget and I would see listed skin blood, mouth blood, gut blood and zombie blood. Is \$400 too much for gut blood?"

Vranich, who grew up in Lake Bluff and attended Lake Forest High School until halfway through his sophomore year, was one of a few people from the Lake Forest or Lake Bluff to work on what he described as the "rock and roll horror revenge thriller."

Former classmates from Tribeca Flashpoint College in Chicago approached Vranich, who came on as director. Before starting on



JEREMY VRANICH PHOTO

Actor Jojo Baby and actor and co-writer Brant McCrea film a scene in "Chicago Rot" near Route 176 and Green Bay Road in Lake Bluff.

"Chicago Rot," Vranich first went to Tanzania to work on a documentary along with sound engineer Sam Fell and Catherine Lynch, a casting director and acting coach who grew up in Lake Forest. Vranich hired both of them to work on "Chicago Rot."

The first challenge in making the film was finding money.

"The people here, they

still have a Midwest approach," said Vranich, who now lives in the Old Town neighborhood of Chicago. "They're not willing to throw millions or hundreds of thousands of dollars around."

They gained money from "several angel investors from the North Shore" who were friends with the co-writer and director, Vranich

said. He declined to say how much was spent, but described the film as "ultra low budget."

Filming started in 2011 and was done periodically over a four- to five-year period.

"What's hard is keeping momentum," Vranich said. "This took us six years (including post production after filming). You have a lot of people working for free and working long hours. Some people had one or two or three other jobs."

"This was a work of passion," said Fell, who grew up in Lake Bluff. "We believed we had something really cool, something different. It's a dark love letter to Chicago."

The plot revolves around a convict who is released from prison after 10 years.

"He's looking for revenge against the person who killed his mother and, he

believes, stole his soul," Vranich said. "There are some supernatural aspects to it."

It was a complicated movie in terms of sound engineering, Fell said.

"You're talking about 100 minutes of dialogue, sound effects and sound design," Fell said. "There were just under 40 musical pieces we had to record and mix. We were eating watermelon, stabbing lettuce and torturing produce to come up with different sounds for fighting effects. It was a complete custom job."

Filming took place at several Chicago locations, including Metro nightclub, the John Hancock Center, and McCormick Place, which let them in at 2 a.m. so they could film at sunrise, Vranich said.

The crew also invited people to Liars Club on Fullerton Avenue, Lynch

said.

"(The band) Local H was playing, people would get their make-up done, sign releases and be in the movie," Lynch said. "We really made it a party."

After a year of post-production work, they took it on the festival circuit in 2016, showing "Chicago Rot" at Nightmares Film Festival in Columbus, Ohio; FilmQuest in Salt Lake City, Utah; and Hells Half Mile Film and Music Festival in Bay City, Mich.

Midnight Releasing, a distributor, will soon make the film available for digital rental or purchase on Amazon, iTunes, Xbox and elsewhere, Vranich said. A DVD version is in the works, Vranich said. The film is also scheduled to be shown at the Music Box Theater in Chicago at 9:30 p.m. April 6.

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Kabul House approved for loan up to \$50K

Evanston votes 5-2 to aid restaurant in move from Skokie

BY MIKE ISAACS

Pioneer Press

The Evanston City Council on March 27 signed off on authorizing the city to negotiate "a forgivable loan of up to \$50,000 to help the under-construction Kabul House restaurant open at 2424 Dempster St.

The incentive, which was recommended by Evanston's Economic Development Committee, was approved in a 5-2 vote.

The Kabul House has been a long-standing popular restaurant in downtown Skokie, but owner Akmal Qazi has said it has outgrown its space. Despite trying to find a new home in Skokie, he said, the right locale was found just over the border near Dempster and McCormick Boulevard.

The project includes renovating the existing building, which used to be home to Chicago's Home of Chicken & Waffles, according to officials.

Qazi said last year that they did not want to leave downtown Skokie, but made a business decision to move after they couldn't close on any property in downtown Skokie.

Qazi originally said the Skokie restaurant would close at the end of last summer or a little later just before the new Evanston restaurant opened. But the project has moved slower than anticipated, and the restaurant doesn't appear ready to open soon. The Skokie site remains in business for now and Qazi could not be reached for comment for this story.

In January, Evanston's Economic Development Committee recommended against providing the Kabul House with a grant through the city's Storefront Modernization Program.



MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

The popular Kabul House is still scheduled to move from downtown Skokie to just over the border in Evanston near Dempster Street and McCormick Boulevard. The Evanston City Council March 27, signed off on a favorable loan of up to \$50,000 to help the owner complete the project.



Akmal Qazi, left, and his father, Abdul Qazi, are closing downtown Skokie's popular Kabul House to move into larger space in Evanston just over the Skokie border.

The program, Evanston Assistant City Manager Martin Lyons said, restricts funding for properties that have received storefront or facade funding in the last 10 years. According to Lyons,

the same property received improvement funding in December, 2012 as well as a mortgage write-down of \$157,000.

In a memo to the city council, Lyons said the Ka-

bul House has a \$540,000 mortgage and the owner is investing \$500,000 in the build-out and \$200,000 in equipment. Kabul House owners anticipate hiring 20 new employees, bringing the total up to 40, he said.

The economic development committee considered three ways to help Kabul House complete the project. It looked at an interest-bearing loan of \$50,000 for Kabul House with a junior position on mortgage, but the owner did not want to take on additional debt, Lyons said.

Another option considered, he said, was a liquor and tax revenue sharing agreement of \$50,000 with anticipated repayment in the first years based on food and liquor sales.

Instead, the incentive calls for a \$50,000 forgivable loan to the owner to be funded by the Economic

Development Division. Under terms of the loan, still to be negotiated, \$10,000 per year for five years will be forgiven should Kabul House maintain its business in Evanston and meet a resident hiring goal.

Kabul House would have to make "best efforts" to hire Evanston residents for the 20 new jobs under terms of the proposed loan, Lyons said. "On the one-year anniversary of opening, staff will obtain Kabul House residential employment data to confirm continued efforts," he said.

Ald. Mark Tendani, one of two council members who voted against the economic development committee resolution, said he believes it "sets a bad example."

Tendani said he supports the city's facade improvement program and other

programs that help stimulate economic development.

"But I thought we were trying to get away from outright grants for our forgivable loans to different businesses coming to town so I really do have a lot of problems with this," he said.

The Kabul House, which serves Afghan cuisine, has received strong customer reviews on Yelp and has won several notable dining awards including the Michelin Bib Gourmand distinction multiple times.

With the new space, Qazi said last year, the Kabul House will be able to expand its menu and grow from 60 to 140 seats. The new restaurant will include a party room for events and a tea lounge for the first time, he said.

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Twitter @SKReview_Mike

Could another Cubs championship season erase past horrors?



RANDY BLASER

Here's something Cubs fans aren't used to: Beginning the season as the reigning world champions. But it is true.

The Cubs proved they were not only the winningest team in baseball last season with a league leading 103 wins, but also the best team in baseball by winning the World Series.

And now the question that will send Cubs fans back to their usual fretting about every error and every strikeout that occurs this season: Can the Cubs win back to back pennants and

back to back World Series?

Back to back World Series winners hasn't happened since 2000, when the New York Yankees capped a three-year reign by beating the crosstown rival Mets. And repeat National League pennant winners hasn't happened since the 2007-2008 Philadelphia Phillies.

So if the Cubs repeat and win the pennant again, that will be one for the history books. But if they win another World Series, now those Lovable Losers are flirting with greatness.

In addition to the Yankees, who were repeat winners six times, including five straight from 1949-1953, the other great repeat teams include the Oakland A's, Toronto Blue Jays, Cincinnati's Big Red Ma-

chine and the old Philadelphia Athletics. And, of course, the 1907-1908 Cubs.

Heading into opening day 2017, it looks like there is no reason why the Cubs can't repeat. Their pitching is strong. So is the defense. And their star sluggers - Rizzo, Bryant, Russell, Baez and Schwarber - have yet to reach their peak production years.

So as we stand at the beginning of a new season, Cubs fans are still celebrating and even more hopeful than last year that this year is next year, if you know what I mean.

So right now, before the first pitch of the season is thrown, is a good time to reflect on what a difference a year and what a difference a world title can make.

Kris Bryant gathering up



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago Cubs shortstop Addison Russell hits a home run during the second inning of an exhibition game against the Chicago White Sox at spring training in Sloan Park Feb. 27, in Mesa, Ariz.

a grounder for the final out of the season while smiling and slipping on the turf is a great memory. But can it erase completely the following parade of past Cubs horrors?

Ron Santo shouting "No!" during a radio broadcast in 1998 when Brant Brown's dropped fly ball cost the Cubs a key win.

A black cat crossing in front of the Cubs dugout during the ill-fated 1969

season.

Leon Durham's Gatorade soaked glove, causing him to use a new glove and blow an easy out grounder in the deciding game of the 1984 NLCS against San Diego, handing the Padres (my God, the Padres!) their first pennant.

Steve Bartman reaching for a foul ball that Moises Alou probably couldn't catch anyway. The Cubs then blew the lead over the

Marlins, then lost the game and finally the pennant to the team from Florida (my God, Florida!).

Babe Ruth calls his shot in the 1932 World Series.

I say one World Series doesn't erase all those memories and fears. But two in a row?

Now you're talking. Go, Cubs, go!

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Chicago alcohol sales change is a sign of society's increasing urgency



PAUL SASSONE

Where are you going in such a hurry?

No, seriously. Why the rush?

I want to ask that so often of so many people - the tailgater, the guy who pushes by on the sidewalk. Or the woman who plows into your heel with her shopping cart.

Ouch! Watch it, please ... "OK."

OK?

Not "excuse me." or "sorry" as she rushed away.

We really have become the land of the impatient.

I was reminded of how we have not a minute to spare when I heard of a proposed Chicago ordinance that would permit store cashiers between the ages of 18 and 20 to serve liquor in restaurants and to sell and stock unopened liquor bottles at supermarkets.

Under the proposed ordinance, these teens still wouldn't be permitted to open cans and bottles and pour or mix drinks - which

is a good thing; who knows what kind of mixed drink a 17-year-old would come up with?

They would, however, be allowed to serve and sell drinks after completing a state-sponsored course.

I have no strong feelings against such an ordinance. And I would imagine it is the harbinger of such ordinances in the suburbs.

After all, we cannot allow a teen liquor selling gap, can we?

The ordinance is being promoted as a job creator for teens. And more jobs for more teens - more jobs for anyone - is good.

But, beyond that the law is being touted as one for your benefit.

This law can save you time.

You know how you are in line at the grocery store? In addition to your frozen chicken pot pie and bag of Oreos suppose you have a six-pack of beer in your cart.

And suppose your checker is between the ages of 18 and 20. He can't check out your beer.

So, he shouts out something that sounds like, "21 on 14!"

The checker (over age 20) in the next lane leans



NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A variety of cider on sale at a Binny's in Chicago in July 2014.

over and runs the six-pack over the scanner. That took about 40 to 60 seconds.

But, I read that some customers are annoyed by wasting those 40 to 60 seconds. I wonder what

they would have done with those seconds ...

Something very important, I bet.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

CLARIFICATION

A column in the March 30 edition about Meals on Wheels incorrectly stated the number of individuals served each year. In 2016, Meals on Wheels served 219 million meals to 2.4 million senior citizens.



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

One of nine beehives kept near the golf course at the Hilton Oak Brook Hills resort.

Is bee decline a precursor for other extinction?

Recent reports that certain types of bees are experiencing steep population losses were unnerving, especially when you realize that foods and beverages we take for granted — apples, strawberries, walnuts, beer and COFFEE, to name a few — depend on pollination.

There's so much unsettling news swirling around on a regular basis, from North Korean leaders talking about first-strike nuclear capability to nearly nonstop political "pressers" to Monday morning recaps of urban violence death tolls, that reading about alarming declines in pollinators is another layer to the larger worry of endangerment and possible extinction.

Being the Debbie Downer that I admittedly am, I got thinking one night while I was trying to go to sleep — that being the worst best time to think about the world's problems — that there many things that I take for granted that might as well be on an endangered list.

I fret sometimes when I look around church on certain Sunday mornings



LYNN PETRAK
Home on LaGrange

and see an overwhelming amount of churchgoers who are senior citizens. What will these pews look like a generation from now? Who will be there? Who will be presiding over the services? If I don't go as regularly as I should or could, who am I to cast judgment on people who aren't there?

Then I think and wonder, there in the dark of night when worry creeps up and takes hold, what about groups that rely on service and honor, such as Scouts and service clubs? I've seen participation in some of those groups fall off in recent years, thanks to the popularity of travel and club sports and other factors, and wonder how membership will be sustained into the next few decades.

On the seemingly trivial side of life, I ponder tradi-

tions that may go by the wayside, given the inevitable lifestyle and generational shifts. I love pancake breakfasts, spaghetti dinners and fish fries put on by service organizations, where you can pour yourself a coffee into a Styrofoam or paper cup with the built-in handles and swirl in some powdered creamer. Will those still be part of the community when my kids grow up, or will they be considered a quaint relic of the past or perhaps not even considered at all?

What about Easter egg hunts and Christmas carols, in an era when the populace is wary of marking occasions for one form of religion? And don't get me started on the reasons why cursive isn't taught in some schools, because I see the handwriting on the wall, so to speak, for a future that relies awfully heavily on all things electronic.

Progress and time stop for no one. I just hope that, like pollinators that enable the growth of plants and food, that as we march ahead, we take time to stop and feed the roses.

U.S. women's hockey team takes big stand in off-ice win



ERIC SCOTT

There is no doubt your sports attention span is getting shorter by the minute with drama developing in March Madness basketball, excitement building for opening day baseball and Chicago Blackhawks playoff hockey on the horizon.

But the team that's probably not on your radar deserves some special attention. I mean, how many teams do you know that register a huge win by refusing to play?

If you only watch the U.S. Women's National Hockey Team every four years during the Winter Olympics, then you might have missed the recent victory the players scored against their own country.

In a gutsy attempt to call attention to what they felt were highly unequal levels of support by USA Hockey, several star players initially threatened to boycott the 2017 International Ice Hockey Federation Women's World Championship in Plymouth, Michigan.

For a while, it looked like USA Hockey was unwilling to respond to the players' concerns, especially over financial compensation. A recent National Public Radio interview with team captain, Meghan Duggan, revealed that players only were receiving \$1,000 a month for six months out of the year.

Separately, lawyers representing the players said about half of the players on the team hold two or three jobs, in addition to training full time, just to make ends meet.

Finally, three days before the beginning of the world



RYAN REMORZ/ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this March 29, 2016, photo, United States' Hillary Knight celebrates after scoring against Finland goaltender Meeri Ralsanen during a women's world hockey championships game in Kamloops, British Columbia.

championships, the players and USA Hockey announced March 28 that they agreed to a new deal, which would boost compensation. The players also sought better marketing and public-relations opportunities from USA Hockey to improve outreach to fans and youth hockey organizations — similar to what the men's national team receives.

It's almost embarrassing that a team as successful as U.S. Women's National Hockey had to wage a legal battle against its own governing organization, nearly causing a tournament boycott. The team has won Olympic medals in all five Winter Games that have featured women's hockey, as well as seven world championships since 2000.

What's even worse is the fact that USA Hockey actively recruited "scab players" as potential replacements if the team decided to follow through with their boycott. But cooler heads prevailed and both sides appear to be "on the same team," as Duggan noted in a recent USA Hockey news release.

"Our sport is the big

winner today," Duggan said. "We stood up for what we thought was right and USA Hockey's leadership listened. In the end, both sides came together. I'm proud of my teammates and can't thank everyone who supported us enough. It's time now to turn the page. We can't wait to play in the world championship later this week in front of our fans as we try and defend our gold medal."

This may not be a huge deal on the sports radar right now, but it will be in years to come, especially for younger girls learning the basics of hockey while dreaming big. The boys also should take note of this unprecedented stance by the U.S. Women's National Hockey Team and take away new lessons in teamwork and standing up for what you believe in.

Cheers to the team that won an off-ice battle that they should never have had to fight in the first place. I would not want to be the first team that has to take the ice and face off against this tough crew.

Eric Scott is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Hunt is on for tasty Easter brunch

Hop over to these brunches for everything from mimosas to omelets

BY SAMANTHA NELSON
Pioneer Press

Want to celebrate an Easter morning or afternoon with the family but don't want the stress of hosting? Let one of these local spots do the cooking for you and just relax as you enjoy a lavish buffet or special menu of holiday favorites on Easter Sunday, April 16. Reservations are required or highly recommended.

Gene & Georgetti, 9421 W. Higgins Road, Rosemont, 847-653-3302; www.geneandgeorgetti.com; Snap a photo with the Easter bunny at enjoy a buffet of classic brunch fare including omelet and carving stations and a Bloody Mary bar. Adults get a mimosa when they arrive. Brunch is served from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and costs \$39 or \$19 for kids under age 12.

White Eagle, 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, 847-647-0660, www.whiteeaglebanquets.com; Seatings for a family-style

menu including bread, soup, roasted chicken with gravy, mashed potatoes, beef brisket with gravy, Polish sausage and sauerkraut, pierogi, honey-baked ham and dessert, will take place from noon to 6 p.m. with a cost of \$27.50 per person. A buffet-style menu will be available from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. for a cost of \$29.50 per person and feature a breakfast station, fish station, carving station, Italian station, Polish station and a dessert station.

The Capital Grille, 5340 N. River Road, Rosemont, 847-671-8125; www.thecapitalgrille.com; A buffet offered from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. includes a carving station, raw bar, a selection of soups and salads, dessert table and breakfast options. There's also macaroni and cheese, chicken fingers, mini-burgers and French fries. Nonalcoholic drinks are included and you can add a mimosa, Bloody Mary, bellini or grapefruit buck for \$7. Tickets are \$49 or \$15 for kids.



BROOKFIELD ZOO PHOTO

Brookfield Zoo is hosting an Easter Sunday brunch with a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Hyatt Regency O'Hare, 9300 Bryn Mawr Ave., Rosemont, 847-663-4465; www.ohare.regency.hyatt.com; The Easter Bunny makes an appearance at this brunch buffet, which has stations serving traditional favorites such as leg of lamb and honey-glazed ham along with breakfast and brunch dishes, desserts and kids

fare. Brunch is offered from 10 a.m.-1:45 p.m. and costs \$53. Kids ages 5-12 are half-price and kids under age 5 are free.

Curragh Irish Pub, 6705 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago, 773-774-6170, www.curraghirishpub.com; Brunch, with seating times at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m., will include eggs

Benedict, French toast, scrambled eggs, roast lamb, corned beef and cabbage, barbecue ribs, honey-baked ham, mostaccioli, lemon chicken, salad, mashed potatoes, veggies, fruit and pastries. Cost is \$24.99 for adults and \$9.99 for kids.

White Pines Golf Club & Banquets, 500 W. Jef-

erson St., Bensenville, 630-766-0304 ext. 2; www.whitepinesgolf.com; An extravagant buffet features seafood, carved prime rib and omelet stations plus appetizers, salads and a sweets table. A Bloody Mary and champagne bar is also available. Brunch runs from 9:30

Turn to Brunch, Page 22

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Arnie Liano and Laura Michelle Kelly in Rodgers & Hammerstein's *The King and I*. Photo by Matthew Murphy.



PIONEER PRESS

White Eagle in Niles is hosting family-style and buffet-style Easter brunches.

Brunch, from Page 21

a.m.-2:30 p.m. and costs \$35.95 or \$15.95 for kids ages 5-10. Kids under age 5 are free.

Carlucci, 6111 N. River Road, Rosemont, 847-518-0990; www.carlucciorosemont.com; Enjoy seafood, prime rib and other carved meats, made-to-order omelets, traditional breakfast favorites and mimosas from 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Tickets are \$44.95, \$16.99 for kids and free for kids under 5.

Monastero's, 3935 E. Devon Ave., Chicago, 773-588-2515, www.monasteros.com. Champagne brunch will take place between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Entrees begin at \$22, with a children's menu starting at \$16. Cost includes choice of entree; soup, fruit or salad; dessert, coffee, tea and choice of a glass of Champagne, orange juice or mimosa.

Harry Caray's Italian Steakhouse, 10233 W. Higgins Road, Rosemont, 847-699-1200, www.harrycarays.com; A Cham-

pagne brunch will take place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will offer smoked salmon, eggs Benedict; omelet, waffle and carving stations; salmon cakes, seared tilapia, penne alla vodka, desserts and children's selections. Cost is \$44.95 for adults and \$23.95 for children and includes mimosa, coffee, sodas and juices

Brookfield Zoo, 8400 W. 31st St., Brookfield, 708-688-8355; www.CZS.org/Events; All-you-can-eat Easter Brunch buffet will include coffee cakes, muffins, croissants, French toast, Caesar salad, smoked salmon, lox and bagels, grilled chicken breasts with Marsala sauce, an omelet station, a carving station and a sweet table. Champagne and other beverages will be served tableside. Children can have their photos taken with costumed characters Mr. and Mrs. Bunny. Additional entertainment will include music by the Banjo Buddies. Brunch seatings are offered at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and reservations are required. The cost, which includes zoo admis-

sion and parking, is \$39.95 for adults and \$29.95 for children ages 3 to 11. Children 2 and younger eat for free

Found, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, 847-868-8945; www.foundkitchen.com; A three-course family-style menu served from 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. features kale and Swiss chard salad, lamb meatloaf with crispy smashed potatoes and dark chocolate cake bites. The meal is \$39, \$18 for kids ages 5-12 and free for kids under age 5.

E&O Food and Drink, 125 Randhurst Village Drive, Mount Prospect, 847-398-3636, www.eofoodanddrink.com. Brunch buffet will take place 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will include assorted scones and danishes, sliced meat, house-made granola, sushi, peel and eat shrimp, scrambled eggs, Parmesan breakfast potatoes, chicken frittata, French toast, bone-in ham, chicken tenders and prime rib. Free family photos included. Cost is \$34.95 for adults and \$16 for children ages 4-12, free children 3 and younger.

REVIEW

'By the Water' is about washed away homes, lives

BY CHRIS JONES
Chicago Tribune

According to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York last week, one-third of Americans say they would struggle to raise \$2,000 in the event that they were hit with an emergency. That indication of ongoing financial fragility is especially sobering because such emergencies can and do happen. Imagine, for example, that you lived on Staten Island during Hurricane Sandy in 2012. Twenty-four residents were killed by the storm, and there was unparalleled destruction of dwellings, especially in the coastal communities of what has remained mostly a blue-collar community despite its proximity to the ever-growing affluence of glittering Manhattan.

Sharyn Rothstein's play "By the Water," a piece that premiered at the Manhattan Theatre Club in 2014 and can now be seen at the Northlight Theatre under the very solid direction of the emerging Cody Estle, is about all those things: Sandy, Staten Island and the shifting sands of life from paycheck to paycheck.

This is not an excessively ambitious drama; there is no epic coming together of disparate plot strands. The one-set physical production is conventional. A debt is owed to old-school American realism, be it gritty TV naturalism or such plays as Arthur Miller's "All My Sons."

But new, non-condescending plays about working-class characters remain rare, especially dramas where you feel like the writer really knows and cares about the people whose fates she is chronicling, and there is poignancy in this writing. This is



MICHAEL BROSILOW PHOTO

"By the Water," playing at Northlight Theatre in Skokie, stars Francis Guinan and Penny Slusher.

'By the Water'

When: Through April 23
Where: Northlight Theatre at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie
Running time: 1 hour, 35 minutes
Tickets: \$30-\$81
Contact: 847-673-6300; www.northlight.org

not as depressing a play as it may sound, even though it was sparked by the real-life destruction of a neighborhood.

It is a work appreciative of human resilience. And also a reminder of how you can get to 60 and find that all you have worked for over your life has been washed away.

"By the Water" is also a chance to see some distinguished Chicago acting, led here by Francis Guinan, the Steppenwolf ensemble member who here plays a guy named Marty Murphy, a fellow who has gotten by with the kind of rigs of the system that are not uncommon among the financially strapped, but that cause problems when your house fills with water.

Rothstein is clearly sympathetic to Marty's malaise, but she also holds

him accountable for the trajectory of his marriage to Mary (Penny Slusher), a kind woman trapped in her husband's mistakes. And she similarly wants to probe his relationship with his two very different adult sons, the successful Sal (Jordan Brown) and the struggling Brian (Joel Reitsma).

Meanwhile the couple's friends the Carters (played by Patrick Clear and Janet Ulrich Brooks) are trying to persuade the Murphys to take up the state's offer to buy the ruined houses and let the coast return to its natural state, but the offer only is triggered when 80 percent of the residents agree. Marty, who has his reasons, wants to stay.

There's also a sweet subplot involving a romance between the recently divorced Carter daughter Emily (Amanda Drinkall) and Brian, who has just been released from prison.

You intuit that the pair have about as much chance of making it as a house rebuilt on Oakwood Beach, but you pull for them, thanks in no small measure to these actors' ability to grasp how we look for small atolls in the storms of life.

**"INSIGHTFUL WORK, AN IDEAL PRODUCTION!
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED."** —Chicago Sun-Times

**"DISTINGUISHED
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—Chicago Tribune

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—Daily Herald

by the water

by SHARYN ROTHSTEIN
directed by CODY ESTLE

**"Francis Guinan and
Penny Slusher are
master actors in
a perfect pairing!"**

—Chicago Sun-Times

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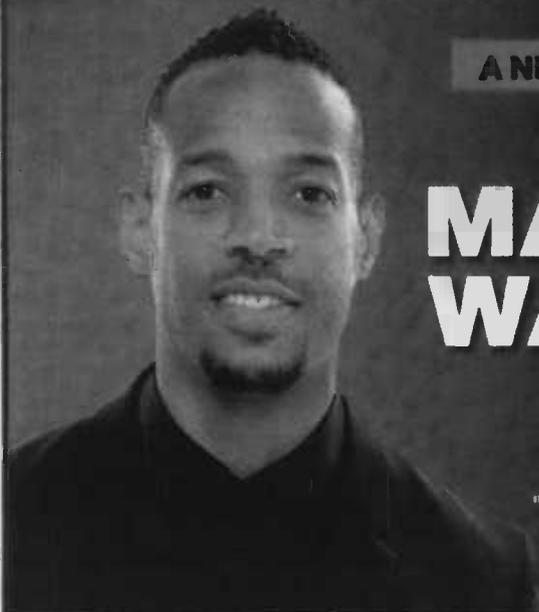
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Wednesday, May 3 7:30 PM



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"Can We Still Be Friends"
"Bang the Drum All Day"

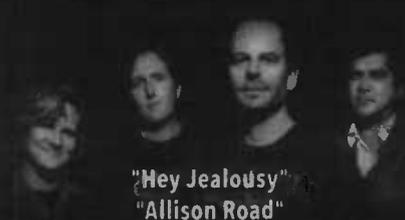
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Living

Thursday, April 6, 2017



**Mommy on a shoestring:
America's favorite
marshmallow
critters escape the
Easter basket** Page 3

2



From left, Susan Fromm with 3-year-old Gunnar, Jessica Fromm with baby Gemma, 10 weeks, and Matthew Fromm with 1-year-old Guinevere. Susan is Matthew's mother and she lives with Matthew and Jessica and their kids.

KRISTAN LIEB/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Moving in with your in-laws

How to set rules, get along, still have privacy for sex
Page 14

Salon owner dabbles in high tea

Barkdoll shares recipe for ham salad, raspberry lemon scones

By Judy Buchenot
Pioneer Press

On Friday, doughnut lovers are being invited to take part the Donut Taste-Off at the David L. Pierce Art & History Center in downtown Aurora.

Six bakeries will compete for the best doughnut title. Tonya Barkdoll, a longtime aficionado of all things sweet and delicious, has a few suggestions for those participating in the event.

"A great doughnut is never too greasy," she said. "Doughnuts should be able to stand alone without frosting. The frosting should just complement the doughnut flavor."

Doughnuts are just one of the many sweet treats that Barkdoll, 50, enjoys. She operates the Calla Lilly Salon and Day Spa in Aurora and lives in Lisle. She used to have a tea room connected to the spa for four years but outgrew the space. She is excited to be reopening the Calla Lily Victorian Tea Room at a new location in Aurora this fall. Barkdoll always has enjoyed making the popular tea room fare of dainty treats, sandwiches, fresh salads and rich soups.

One of her specialties is scones. Barkdoll noted many people view scones as being very dry and crumbly. "But scones are only that way if they are not made properly," she said. "The key is to never overknead the batter. Scones should sort of be like a cross between a biscuit and a cookie — flaky and light like a biscuit and lots of flavor like a cookie. They



JUDY BUCHENOT/NAPERVILLE SUN

Tonya Barkdoll arranges scones on a serving plate for a delicious treat.

can be sweet or savory."

Barkdoll likes her tea sandwiches to also be filled with flavor. One of her favorites is chicken salad sandwiches. "The key is using a chicken roasted in broth. I use the whole chicken, both light and dark meat, in my chicken salad," she said. The chicken salad is a complex mix of chicken, cranberries, sage, green onions, thyme and celery salt bound together with mayonnaise and cream cheese. The final sandwich is served with a side of her homemade cranberry apricot chutney.

When her tea room opens at its new location at the corner of LaSalle and Benton streets, Barkdoll plans to once again serve high tea, complete with three-tiered trays filled with sandwiches and sweets.

Several years ago, Barkdoll worked for a woman

Donut Taste-off

What: Donut Taste-Off

When: 6 to 9 p.m. Friday. Winner will be announced around 8:15 p.m.

Where: David L. Pierce Art & History Center, 20 E. Downer Place, Aurora

Cost: \$3 a person and includes doughnut tastes and a beverage.

More information:

www.aurorahistory.net

from England who ran a tea room. She learned how to make several traditional English dishes from the woman including homemade lemon curd. "It was such a blessing to have worked with her. She taught me so many things," Barkdoll said.

Although she learned many things from her past tea room experience, Bark-

doll has made up several of her own specialties and occasionally caters for various clients including the Aurora Historical Society. She said people tease her that all of her recipes include both "nuts and alcohol." She admits that it is a fairly accurate description but defends herself by saying "flavors really need to go beyond just plain chocolate."

For example, she makes a miniature dessert that consists of a chocolate shortbread cup filled with chocolate mousse and topped with a "drunken strawberry," which is a strawberry soaked in Gran Marnier and honey.

With Easter just around the corner, Barkdoll knows there will be leftover ham so she plans to make her custom ham salad. She shares this recipe and her recipe for raspberry lemon scones for others to try.

Ham Salad

- 3 cups chopped ham
- 1/4 cup chopped garlic dill pickles, drained
- 2 hard-boiled eggs, chopped
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1/4 cup chopped yellow onion
- 1/4 cup chopped green onion
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- Ground black pepper, to taste

1. Use a food processor to chop the ham, pickles, hard-boiled eggs, celery, and onion in batches. Place the chopped ingredients in a large bowl and add the mayonnaise and black pepper. Mix thoroughly.

2. Chill in the refrigerator for a few hours to allow the flavors to blend. Can be served on bread, crackers or crostini. Garnish with parsley or sliced olives, if desired.

Raspberry Lemon Scones

For the dough:

- 1/2 cup cold, unsalted butter
- 2 cups flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- zest from one large lemon
- 3/4 cups whipping cream
- 3/4 cup frozen raspberries.

For the glaze:

- Juice of one-half lemon
- 1/2 to 1 cup powdered sugar

1. Cut butter into 1/4-inch pieces and return it to the refrigerator to keep it cold until ready to mix scones. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

2. Combine flour, baking powder, sugar, salt and lemon zest in a food processor. Add butter and pulse the mixture in short bursts until the mixture resembles coarse meal. Add the cream to the food processor and continue to gently pulse just until all ingredients are blended.

3. Pour dough onto a floured surface. Add raspberries to the mixture and gently knead until it comes together. There may still be a few stray bits and dry patches. The most important thing is to avoid overworking the dough. Divide the dough in half and shape each half into an 8-inch circle about 3/4-inch thick. Using a knife or pizza cutter, divide each circle into 6 pie-shaped pieces.

4. Separate the scones carefully on parchment lined baking sheet to give them room to spread. Brush top of scone with a little whipping cream. Bake until they turn a pale golden color, about 12 to 15 minutes.

5. To prepare the glaze, combine lemon juice and 1/2 cup powdered sugar and beat until smooth. Add more sugar, as needed to create a glaze. Cool scones for 10 minutes and then dip in the glaze. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Peeps cuisine

America's favorite marshmallow critters escape the Easter basket



BETH ENGELMAN
Mommy on a Shoestring

Move over, jelly beans. According to market research company IRI, Peeps brand candies is the No. 1 nonchocolate branded candy at Easter. In fact, roughly 1.5 billion Peeps are consumed each spring.

In recent years, the marshmallow critters have also given rise to a creative cottage industry.

Artists design whimsical Peeps habitats and dioramas. They also, along with foodies and fans, create recipes involving Peeps that give new meaning to the phrase "eye candy." Here are some of the fun ones.

Peeps Lemon Drop Martini

Peeps aren't just for kids, according to cooking and crafting aficionado Lauren Everson, creator of the website, Sew You Think You Can Cook, sewyoucando.com. Her recipe reaffirms the old adage, "when life gives you lemons, make a lemon drop martini."

- You need:**
- 3 Peeps (Everson recommends using yellow chicks)
 - ¼ cup vodka
 - ½ cup sugar
 - ½ cup water
 - ¼ cup lemon juice
 - Sprinkles (optional)
- Directions:**
- Make Peep vodka. In a glass jar, soak peeps in vodka for at least 4 days. Remove Peeps from vodka and strain if necessary.
 - Create a simple-syrup by dissolving sugar in water in

a small saucepan over medium-high heat. Set aside to cool.

- Decorate the rims of each martini glass by placing sprinkles on a flat plate. Run a slice of lemon along the rim of a martini glass and gently twist the glass in the sprinkles.

- In a cocktail shaker with ice, combine equal parts lemon juice, simple-syrup, and Peeps vodka. Pour into martini glasses. Cheers!

Peeps Popcorn Balls

Although these popcorn balls are not as cute as other Peep delicacies, they add a bright spot to lunches and snacks.

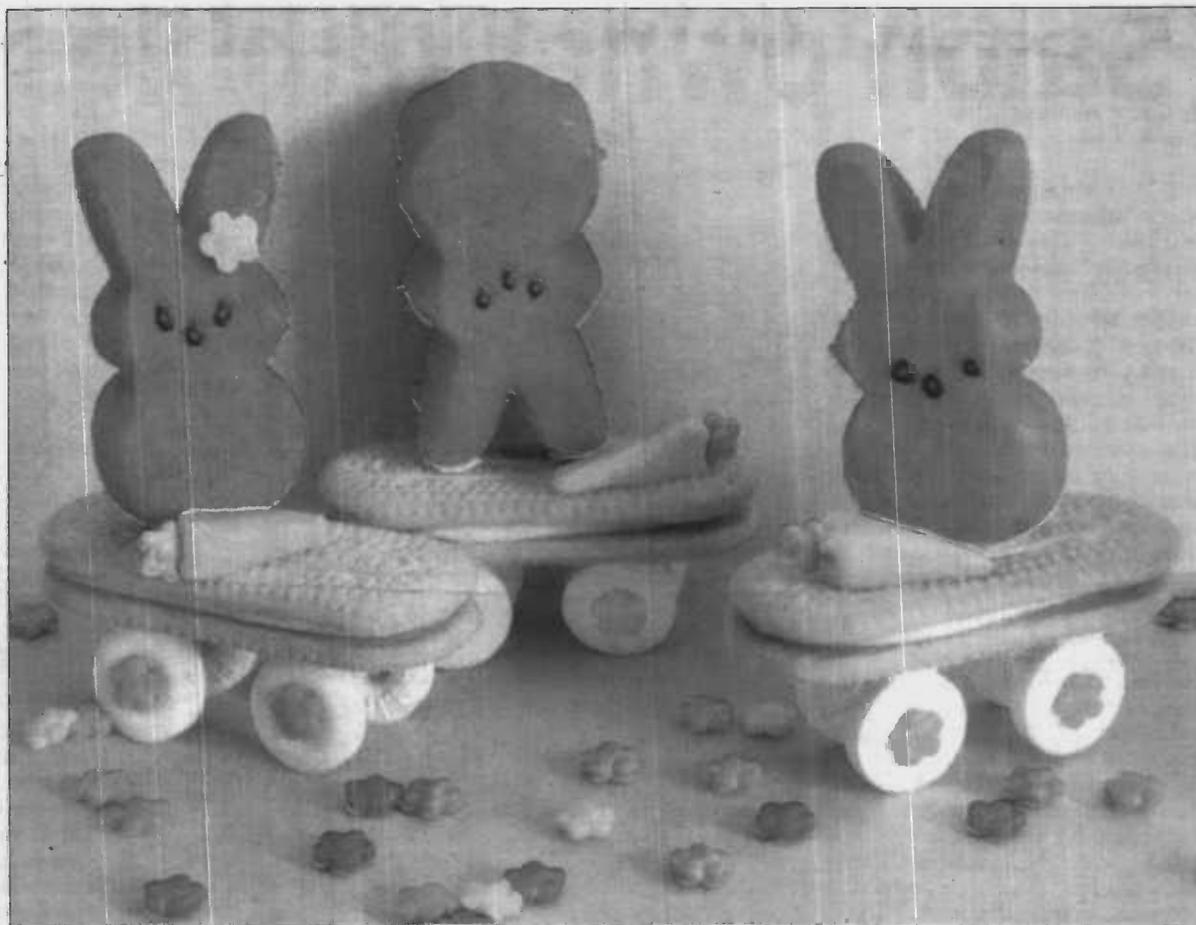
- You need:**
- 1-2 cups popped popcorn
 - 2 tablespoons butter
 - 5-8 Peeps
 - Colorful sprinkles
 - Cupcake liners

Directions:

- Melt butter and marshmallows in a small saucepan over medium high heat (or use the microwave).
- Pour the melted marshmallow mixture over the popcorn and stir until well combined.
- Spoon 2-3 tablespoons of the Peep and popcorn mixture into each cupcake liner then add a dash of sprinkles.
- Set aside until cool and enjoy!

Hula Bunny Peeps

These super cute bunnies are the perfect reminder that summer, beach and fun are not far away. Thank you to Michelle Clausen, founder of the uber-creative website Sugar Swings, www.sugarswings.com, for sharing her recipe. If you like sugar, sweets and pop culture you will absolutely love her blog.



BRENDA VANOVER PHOTO

It's spring — time for Peeps to get out for a bit of skateboarding.



MICHELLE CLAUSEN PHOTO

Hula Bunny Peeps get everyone thinking about vacations.

- You need:**
- Bunny Peeps
 - Square pretzels
 - Green candy melts, melted and in a pastry bag*
 - Brown candy melts or chocolate chips, melted and in a pastry bag*
 - M&M candies
 - Non-pareil sprinkles
 - Daisy sprinkles
- Directions:**
- For each bunny, use a

square pretzel as the base. Add a dab of melted candy to the pretzel and attach the bunny. Next, pipe the green melted candy in vertical rows to resemble a grass skirt. Add a brown belt with the melted brown candy. Use the melted candy glue to add the M&M bikini top and non-pareil sprinkle arms. Finally, add a finishing touch with the addi-

tion of a candy flower on the ear.

*If you do not have pastry bags, Clausen recommends using Ziploc baggies. According to Clausen "you can add the candy melts to the baggie, melt in the microwave, snip off one corner and pipe-on."

Peeps on Skateboards

Gnarly, dude! Who knew Peeps were so athletic? Thank you, Brenda Vanover, founder of the website Sweet Simple Stuff, [sweetsimplestuff.com](http://www.sweetsimplestuff.com), for sharing her inspiration. Be sure to check out Vanover's blog for more edible crafts and recipes.

- You need:**
- Oval sandwich cookies (Vanover recommends Vienna Finger Cookies)
 - Lifesavers
 - Orange Starburst candy

(one candy makes three carrots)

- Daisy sprinkles (available in the cake decorating aisle)
- Melted white chocolate or candy melts

Directions:

- Start with the wheels. Use melted candy to "glue" one daisy sprinkle to the center of each Lifesaver "wheel" then set aside until dry. Next, use the candy "glue" to attach the wheels to the skateboard cookie. Set aside until wheels are dry and securely attached.
- To make the carrots, cut Starburst into three pieces. Roll each piece into a carrot shape and add green daisy "stems." Now, you are ready to assemble the bunny and carrots on the skateboards, using the melted candy as glue. Vanover suggests holding the bunny in place for a few extra seconds because, according to her, "Peeps aren't known for their balancing skills."

MY PET WORLD

Dogs can't do two things at the same time, either

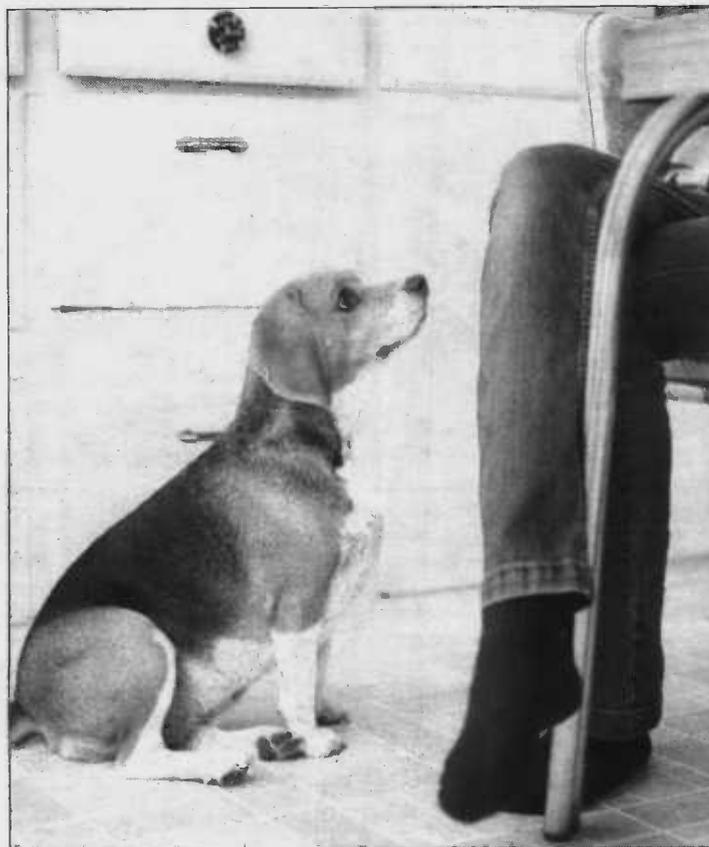
By Cathy M. Rosenthal
Tribune Content Agency

Q: We have a wonderful beagle/mix who is almost 10 years old. We are constantly amazed by Tanner's intelligence and loving nature, but he has one behavior that we cannot seem to control. He barks at everyone who walks by our house, whether or not they are walking a dog, and everyone who comes to our door. If they come in, he wags his tail and loves them, so it's not that he is ferocious. He's just really loud. Is there anything we can do to curb this behavior? — Helaine Yancey, Charlotte, N.C.

A: Barking is a normal behavior that dogs do to alert people to changes in their environment, and in your dog's mind, he has saved your life a thousand times. I don't think it's a behavior you should stop altogether, but one that you simply need some control over when you know there is no threat to you or your property.

There is a saying that most people can't chew gum and walk at the same time. The same can be said of dogs, except they usually can't bark and run at the same time — or bark and sit or bark and do a trick. Think about it; when you call your dog into the house to get him to stop barking, he stops barking the moment he turns and run toward you. Mission accomplished.

Use these same tactics in the house. When your dog starts



RYAN LANE/GETTY

To deter a dog from barking, you can distract it by giving it another command, such as telling it to sit.

barking at the window, shake a can of coins to interrupt the behavior and get his attention, then say, "Tanner, stop" followed by a recall command like "Tanner, here." The second command is needed, so he learns he is being rewarded for the recall and not

for barking. Begin this training by standing a few feet away from him. Over time, you should be able to say, "Tanner, here" from almost anywhere in the house and he will come running to you.

As for the door barking, ask a friend to help you train Tanner.

Have your friend stand outside and ring the bell. When Tanner barks at the bell, say, "Tanner, thank you," and then give the command "Tanner, sit." Tanner will have trouble maintaining his barking if he is sitting. Reward him for sitting and being quiet, then open the door and let your friend in. If he stands or barks, have your friend step back out and ask him to sit again.

Repeat this process at least 10 times each session until your intelligent boy learns that after his initial alert, you can handle things from that point on. You may need to keep him on a leash initially to keep him from jumping on people and barking. That is something dogs can do at the same time.

Q: My husband shared your column about the owner of a Dachshund and Dachshund mix whose dogs peed in the house within a half-hour of being brought in from outside. I reminded him that our Dachshund pees when his routine is upset, like when we pet-sit our children's dogs or go away on a vacation. Any suggestions on how we can combat this? — Joy Cruess, Columbia, Md.

A: It's not uncommon for dogs to relieve themselves in inappropriate places when they are anxious and stressed. Assuming he is neutered (since not being neutered can lead to inappropriate elimination, as well), he may be peeing to gain some control over

the changes in his environment, which happens when you leave or when your children's dogs come to visit.

Dogs also pee to communicate to other dogs.

He may be peeing to let the visiting dogs know everything in the house belongs to him, which can be a more difficult problem to address.

Maintain your dog's regular feeding, sleeping and play routines when you leave or company comes over, and add a few more potty breaks to his schedule. Most dogs want to urinate after eating, sleeping or drinking water, so treat your dog like a puppy in training when his routine is altered.

Your dog may also benefit from some anti-anxiety treatments during times of stress or change, including using a plug-in pheromone, which mimics a mother dog's smell and calms some dogs down; putting an anxiety wrap on your dog — they aren't just used for storms; or talking to your veterinarian about the temporary use of anti-anxiety medications to help your dog when his routine is interrupted.

Cathy M. Rosenthal is a longtime animal advocate, author, columnist and pet expert who has more than 25 years in the animal welfare field. Send your pet questions, stories and tips to cathy@petpundit.com. Please include your name, city and state. You can follow her on Twitter @cathymrosenthal.

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Advice on avoiding construction issues

With Help Squad's recent focus on new construction issues experienced by some D.R. Horton Carillon Club homeowners, I decided to get some expert advice on what consumers can proactively do to protect themselves against a builder who is unresponsive to quality construction complaints. For insight, I reached out to Scott R. Fradin, construction practice group co-chair at Much Shelist, Chicago, and James Oberholtzer of James Oberholtzer, Chartered Attorneys at Law, Chicago and Portland.

Both lawyers strongly emphasized the importance of taking the time to perform due diligence before making the most expensive purchase of a lifetime.

Fradin put it bluntly: Prospective homeowners need to do their homework.

In Illinois, this is particularly important. Illinois does not have a board of licensing requirements. In simplest terms, this means anyone can call themselves a builder. And though just about every builder carries commercial general liability (CGL) insurance, in Illinois, defective workmanship is not covered by CGL. This is because defective work is not considered an accident.

Fradin added because a home purchase is contractual, and most sophisticated sellers require buyers to sign off on warranty exclusions before buying, there wind up being few consumer protections in place after the sale. One of the biggest warranties to be waived by buyers is the applied warranty of habitability. Buyers can refuse to waive this, but as long as other buyers are willing, it can often be a deal-breaker.

How do you do that? Fradin offered these suggestions:

- Check the circuit court records of the counties where the builder has worked. Search defendants to see if there are cases against the firm; you will be able to see details of any lawsuits.
- Read the purchase sale agreement thoroughly to determine if product warranties are assigned to the homeowner or the builder. If homeowner-assigned, know that you will have to deal directly with each individual product vendor (windows, furnace, roof,



CATHY CUNNINGHAM
Help Squad

etc.) should a warranty issue arise.

- Hire a third-party contractor or architect to thoroughly inspect the home before buying.
- Be sure to hire a residential closing lawyer to review and advise on all of the above.

Oberholtzer also emphasized Illinois home buyers need to be especially careful when evaluating a home. Taking a builder to court after the fact can be expensive and exhausting. He recommends involving a reputable lawyer from the start to ensure appropriate consumer protections.

Oberholtzer noted buyers of new construction actually are entering into two transactions: payment for construction and purchase of a finished home. Because home buyers have no opportunity to participate in the former, they need to take actions to protect themselves. With this in mind, here are his suggestions for ensuring the most favorable consumer outcomes:

- With a bank involved, a series of draws

can be used to ensure that work is done properly. The developer requests payment from the bank as work is completed. However, compensation is only received if the bank's professional inspector confirms specifications have been met.

- In addition to the bank's inspector, buyers should hire an independent inspector and include in the contract the right for him or her to make periodic site visits.
- Also included in the contract should be a clause that if construction expectations go unmet, the contract can be canceled.
- For a home that is built, a series of inspectors should be brought in to dig deeply into work that already has been completed. The budget for such an effort is a minimum of \$5,000. Compared to the costs it could potentially prevent, however, Oberholtzer advises this is money well-spent.

Need help?

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

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

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



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Handicapping the Pulitzer

By John Warner
Chicago Tribune

The British do big book awards better than we do. For one, the Man Booker Prize for Fiction — their top literary competition — pays more than four times the amount in prize money than our Pulitzer Prize (nearly \$63,000 vs. \$15,000). For two, you can bet on the Man Booker Prize.

Betting on the Pulitzer in this country isn't legal, but that's not going to stop me from crafting some odds in advance of the prize announcement April 10.

Good handicappers have to understand the full nature of the competition, and here it's handy to know that the Pulitzers have something of an odd process where a "jury" of three people from the literary field (critics, writers, academics) selects three finalists, with the ultimate winner being chosen by the Pulitzer board, which currently includes a single fiction writer, Junot Diaz, who won the Pulitzer in 2008 for "The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao."

So who are the favorites?

Louise Erdrich has already won this year's National Book Critics Circle Award for her novel "LaRose." This isn't quite the equivalent of a Golden Globe in advance of the Oscars, but an NBCC win has preceded a Pulitzer several times in relatively recent years. Diaz won both for "Oscar Wao," as did Jennifer Egan in 2011 for "A Visit from the Goon Squad" and Marilynne Robinson in 2005 for "Gilead."

Two other Pulitzer-eligible authors on the NBCC finalists list, Michael Chabon ("Moonglow") and Ann Patchett ("Commonwealth"), are also strong contenders. Both have vied for many top prizes, and Chabon won the Pulitzer in 2001 for "The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay."

The 2016 National Book Award winner, Colson Whitehead's "The Underground Railroad," has to be considered a favorite. It's also an Oprah Book Club pick; does that help or hurt? Only Cormac McCarthy's "The Road" was selected for the Book Club prior to winning the Pulitzer, in 2007.

If we're looking for a debut novel to match the feat of last year's winner, "The Sympathizer" by Viet Thanh Nguyen, I'm looking toward "Your Heart Is a Muscle the Size of a Fist" by Sunil Yapa, both a critical and reader favorite.

Since there's no official betting odds for the Pulitzer Prize in fiction, we might as well just accept mine:

"The Underground Railroad" by Colson Whitehead: 3-1. Feels like a strong contender to me.

"LaRose" by Louise Erdrich: 6-1. She's been a Pulitzer finalist, and the NBCC award carries some weight. A win for her seems inevitable, but is this the year?

"The Sport of Kings" by C.E. Morgan: 10-1. It won the relatively new Kirkus Prize, and it's a big, ambitious book that may impress the Pulitzer board if it makes it past the jury.

"The Heart Is a Muscle the Size of a Fist" by Sunil Yapa: 15-1. I've got a feeling this book will be a finalist.

"Barkskins" by Annie Proulx: 20-1. Proulx won the Pulitzer for "The Shipping News," but "Barkskins" hasn't gotten as much play as one would expect.

"Commonwealth" by Ann Patchett and "Moonglow" by Michael Chabon: 50-1. Big authors, but maybe not their best books.

"What Belongs to You" by Garth Greenwell, "The Nix" by



CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Louise Erdrich already has won this year's National Book Critics Circle Award for her novel "LaRose."



MADLINE WHITEHEAD PHOTO

Colson Whitehead wrote "The Underground Railroad."



BENJAMIN TICE SMITH PHOTO

Michael Chabon wrote "Moonglow."



JESSE DITTMAR/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Ann Patchett is the author of "Commonwealth."

Nathan Hill and "The Queen of the Night" by Alexander Chee: All 99-1.

Some other book winning the prize: 1-1. Only fools try to predict these things.

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. "Love Warrior" by Glennon Doyle Melton
2. "The Goldfinch" by Donna Tartt
3. "Big Magic: Creative Living Beyond Fear" by Elizabeth Gilbert
4. "A Fighting Chance" by Elizabeth Warren
5. "Americanah" by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
— Lisa T., Urbana

Something inspiring for Lisa:

"Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood" by "The Daily Show" host, Trevor Noah. Not your typical celebrity memoir.

1. "What If? Serious Scientific Answers to Absurd Hypothetical Questions" by Randall Munroe
2. "I'll Give You the Sun" by Jandy Nelson
3. "Eleanor & Park" by Rainbow Rowell
4. "The Rest of Us Just Live Here" by Patrick Ness
5. "All the Bright Places" by Jennifer Niven
— Maddie P., Syracuse, N.Y.

Lots of crossover young adult books, so I'm going with a putatively adult book that I think would have plenty of YA appeal: "The Revised Fundamentals

of Caregiving" by Jonathan Evison.

1. "Celline" by Peter Heller
2. "The Nix" by Nathan Hill
3. "Idaho" by Emily Ruskovich
4. "The Vegetarian" by Han Kang
5. "The Circle" by Dave Eggers
— Will R., Chicago

I'm going with my gut, with something involving and a little creepy, sort of like the last two novels on this list:

"The Dinner" by Herman Koch.

Get a reading from the Biblioracle!

Send your last five books to printersrow@tribune.com. Write "Biblioracle" in the subject line.



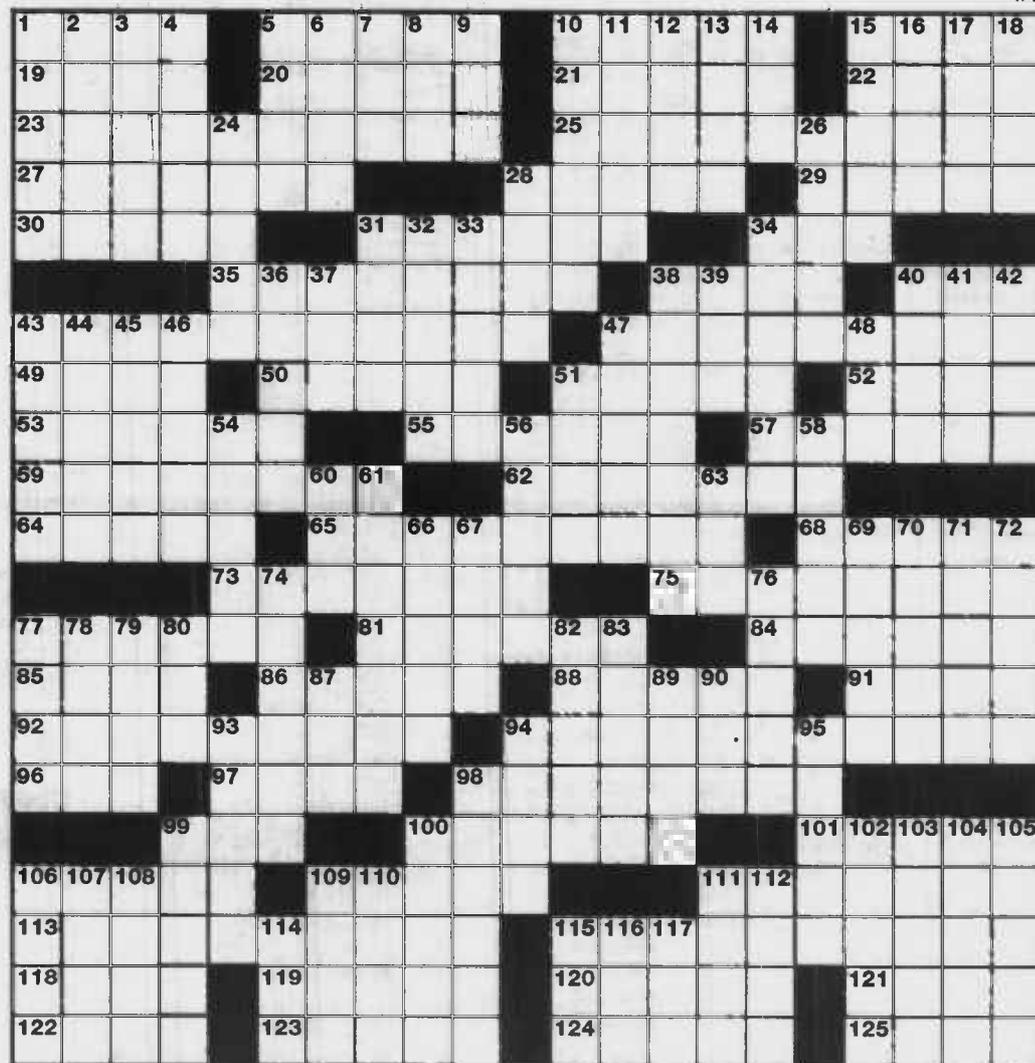
puzzle island

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END OF MESSAGE: Specifically, 115 Across

By GAIL GRABOWEKI | Edited by STANLEY NEWMAN
(stanxwords.com)

- Across**
- 1 Square-mile fraction
5 Clearance events
10 What 1980's PCs ran on
15 Sign of sanctity
19 Level or bevel
20 Dramatic stage production
21 Heartland of America Park locale
22 Etching compound
23 Time-honored
25 Disparaged
27 Has influence on
28 Large quantities
29 Can't do without
30 Actress Rene
31 Too
34 Some cards with pics
35 Spackler's target
38 "Good one!"
40 Sky safety org.
43 Flower in a lapel
47 Supreme ruler
49 "Good heavens!"
50 Microsoft mogul
51 Channel markers
52 Small valley
53 Breakfast brews.
55 Post again
57 Wagner princess
59 Monopoly avenue
62 Sunbathing border
64 Tex-Mex serving
65 Clothing designer
68 Reggae musician, perhaps
73 Purified
75 Beer's idiomatic partner
- 77 Tex-Mex serving
81 Talks trash to
84 Special ability
85 Solemn assent
86 Butler of fiction
88 Jazz singer
Carmen
91 Church recess
92 Scientific breakthrough
94 Head of a troop group
96 Summer hours in Md.
97 Skillets and woks
98 Most strict
99 Strive
100 Important chess pieces
101 "We hold ___ truths ..."
106 Fine fabric
109 Drink noisily
111 Creative guy
113 Freeway interchange
115 Hidden theme of the puzzle
118 ___ spumante
119 Elizabethan philosopher/physicist
- Down**
- 1 How some bonds are bought
2 Greek resort isle
3 Tops of Teslas
4 Arctic assistants
5 Classify
6 PD alerts
7 Fragrant necklace
8 Timeline segment
9 *On the Road* narrator
10 Delicately balanced sculpture
11 Trivial
12 Miami-___ County
13 Resistance measures
14 ___ Paulo, Brazil
15 Wants nothing to do with
16 Long (for)
17 Wasn't forthright
18 Casino figures
24 Thrifty, in brand names
26 Subordinate to
28 Legendary soccer star
31 Landed (on)
32 Unmitigated
33 Less favorable
34 Strands at a chalet, perhaps
36 Restless feeling
37 ___ manner of speaking
38 Ramen, essentially
39 Trellis climber
40 Permeate
41 Mellowed, maybe
42 Mrs. Shakespeare
43 Western neckwear
44 86 Across' spouse
45 No later than
46 Carryalls
47 Certain Muslim
48 Self-esteem
51 Market pessimist
54 Formally establish



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

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- 56 Support timbers
58 Sealy competitor
60 Eagle on a par-three
61 Earth-raising machines
63 Grate on
66 Togetherness
67 Lab procedure
69 Color section of an almanac
70 Nodded off
71 Jittery
- 72 Star-shaped flower
74 Caterpillars, e.g.
76 Lines on a list
77 Lose brightness
78 Surrounded by
79 Kid around
80 Mag for entrepreneurs
82 Dais VIP
83 Show disdain for
87 Female lobster
89 Tries for a seat
90 Munched on
- 93 Offer one's thoughts.
94 Part of a process
95 When some take a coffee break
98 Rode waves
99 Brilliantly colored
100 Earthshaking event
102 Mythical underworld
103 Feign feelings
104 Use a wok, perhaps
- 105 Be admitted
106 Defraud
107 "One more thing ..."
108 Baum barker
109 Leisurely
110 Author Uris
111 Pakistan neighbor
112 Facts and figures
114 Frat letter
115 Clumsy person
116 Itinerary term
117 Outback bird

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A. One in a million possibility | 163 43 18 30 98 138 61 120 |
| B. Nice going! | 121 144 161 15 49 36 105 |
| C. Organ part: 2 wds. | 150 97 112 17 84 46 130 72 |
| D. N. Korean dictator | 76 3 22 69 54 40 82 149 101 |
| E. Barely: 2 wds. | 29 81 131 147 92 116 73 42 |
| F. Dominant position: 2 wds. | 85 59 80 155 52 132 119 21 |
| G. Potentially: 3 wds. | 136 123 28 11 159 109 33 60 |
| H. Unavailable | 114 165 70 106 129 58 95 2 |
| I. Anthropomorphic metropolis | 47 169 107 89 27 6 39 166 |
| J. Took JFK's House seat | 51 168 79 93 19 34 65 117 108 |

Words

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| K. Stalemate: 2 wds. | 128 164 24 64 53 83 140 113 |
| L. Commission | 135 66 1 14 103 153 |
| M. Ritzy Manhattan neighborhood | 152 74 88 115 |
| N. Oracle's guy | 32 45 104 151 143 124 16 |
| O. Vin Diesel action role: 2 wds. | 154 67 55 8 20 125 133 102 41 91 |
| P. Biblical currency | 127 13 68 77 160 87 |
| Q. Native of Remulak | 31 142 71 44 90 134 9 157 |
| R. Sit on the sidelines: 3 wds. | 62 100 12 56 167 111 139 146 86 37 78 |
| S. Callow | 63 170 75 23 94 137 7 35 50 |
| T. Sailor's sailor | 96 156 5 118 145 38 |
| U. Off the beaten path | 26 141 148 4 48 110 162 126 |
| V. The rest of us | 25 10 158 99 122 57 |



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

By Robert O'Neill.
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.
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Handily

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across

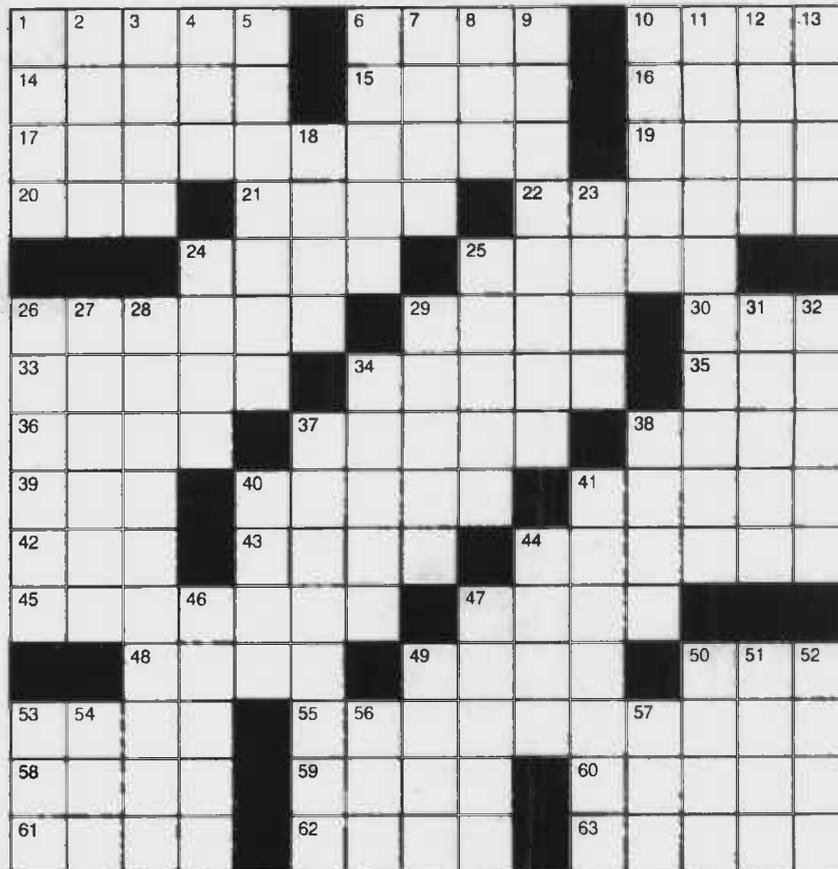
- Overhead
- Stride
- Farm structure
- More distressed
- Honduran seaport
- Armor
- Manual skill
- Formerly
- Netherlands city
- Squeeze in
- Quibbled
- Turn aside
- Take away by force
- Femme —
- Helsinki man
- Brit. knighthood order
- Like a bird
- Gem weight
- Chinese dynasty
- Fuel
- Inn
- Spar
- Noun suffix
- Subdued: with down
- Digger
- "— was going to St. Ives"
- Herd of deer

- Manage
- Suggestive of Trafalgar Square
- Conjurer's rod
- Some Broadway shows
- US illustrator
- Brine
- Unruly moppet
- Secondhand
- Bombast
- Symphony instrument
- Ascended
- Gump or Griffith
- Labels
- Nocturnal sound

Down

- Tennis ace
- Onus
- French department
- Sustained
- Fall by drops
- Stalk
- Harnessed oxen
- Sprite
- Fatherly
- Porticos
- In close quarters

- homo
- Action
- Algonquian language
- Express
- Glut
- Installed lighting
- Beauty treatment
- Cuban ballerina
- Assume charge
- Greek goddesses
- Swiss city
- Among: Fr.
- Island, Brooklyn
- Bold attempt to achieve the impossible
- Reason
- Gait
- Cattle troughs
- Evil
- Simple song
- Walks in stream
- Condescending one
- Indifferent
- Pitcher
- Actress Jackson
- Bikini part
- Unraveled
- Camel's hair fabric
- Noise



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

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All in Favor

By JOHN LAMPKIN

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

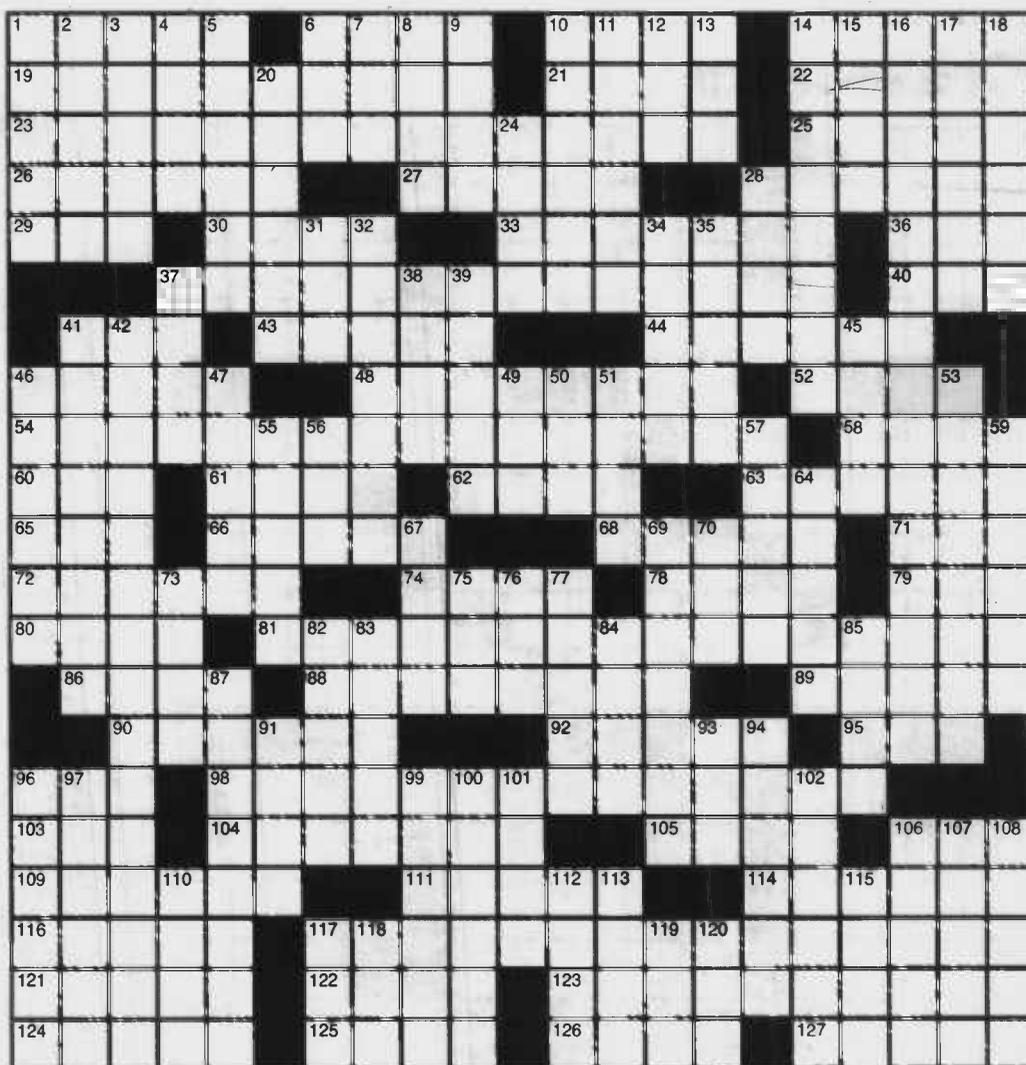
- 1 Worker on the floor
6 Second-rarest blood type, briefly
10 Really big
14 Worked at home
19 "Lordy me!"
21 "Hamilton" accolade
22 "Ici on — français"
23 Website search response with an attitude?
25 Spirits strength
26 Seven Wonders lighthouse
27 They often have runners
28 Mite
29 "Round — virgin ..."
30 "My turn"
33 "Guys and Dolls" composer
36 Archipelago part. Abbr.
37 Competition at the geometry fair?
40 Marshal at Waterloo
41 Pre-A.D.
43 "So long"
44 Vexing
46 Ballerina Shearer
48 Like some out-of-favor suffixes
52 Lats relatives
54 "A penny saved is hardly worth the effort?"
58 You, at one time
60 "In a —"
61 Burkini wearer, perhaps
62 Saltimbocca herb
63 Acquiesce
65 Moo — pork
66 "'Scuse Me While — This Guy: and Other Misheard Lyrics": Gavin Edwards book
68 Fella
71 Booster's cry
72 89-Across' Illinois headquarters
74 Primary part
78 Germ's future?
79 66, e.g.: Abbr.
80 Carrier known for tight security
81 "I'll give you five bucks for your Egyptian water lily?"
86 Spanish 101 word

- 88 Gorilla, for example
89 Farm equipment giant
90 Actress — Sue Martin
92 Do fair work
95 Mule's father
96 Cabinet dept.
98 Positively charged vehicle?
103 Also
104 "Probably ..."
105 River past Logroño
106 Sun or moon
109 Obliterate
111 Outfit again
114 Hall of Fame second baseman Roberto
116 "If I Were — Man"
117 Miscreant handling letters?
121 Fracas
122 Chow
123 Overhear
124 Ranked tournament players
125 "Let's Get It On" singer
126 Many 99-cent purchases
127 Stretch

Down

- 1 Unstable
2 Snake state
3 New England touchdown site
4 River of Germany
5 "The Bathers" artist
6 Short lunch order?
7 Midday refresher
8 Writes this clue, say
9 Rock sci.
10 — doll
11 One overstepping bounds
12 Seriously overstepped bounds
13 Brother of Jack and Bobby
14 What may be stiff when trouble arises?
15 Farm girl
16 Quality control job at a maraschino factory?
17 Plaza Hotel imp
18 With skill
20 Sagan series
24 Touched
28 Bandleader Lawrence

- 31 Sport—
32 Modular homes
34 Holder of disks
35 More steady
37 Famille member
38 British philosopher A.J.
39 Sides sharing views
41 Mining passage
42 Feature of Charlie Brown's head?
45 Migratory bird banding equipment
46 Homecoming query
47 "Encore!"
49 Lyricist Gershwin
50 Eggy quaff
51 Composer Charles
53 Hill hundred
55 Classic TV nerd
56 Chou En—
57 Denudes
59 Fruit-ripening gas
64 Prim and proper
67 Revolve on an axis
69 Lab dispenser
70 Prefix with meter
73 Intestinal divisions
75 Spanish pronoun
76 Suitable
77 "Rocky IV" boxer Ivan —
82 Watched at the beach, maybe
83 Hems in
84 Transparent
85 Deck wood
87 Osculates
91 German finale
93 Wall St. hedger
94 Arrow poison
96 You won't find subs on them
97 Get out
99 Hole-in-one, for one
100 Otherwise
101 Actress Hatcher
102 Time periods?
106 Muscat native
107 Give up to the cops
108 Retired sportscaster
Musburger
110 Got a hole-in-one on
112 At a Dodger game, for short
113 Handle
115 Parting words?
117 Bit of RAM
118 Drivers' org.
119 What Zener cards purportedly tested for
120 NBA nos.

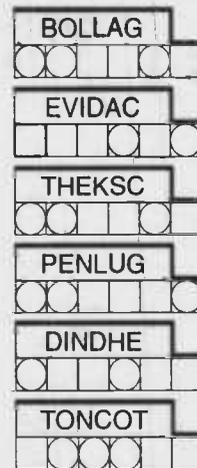


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Jumble

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



PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW



This week's answers appear on the next page

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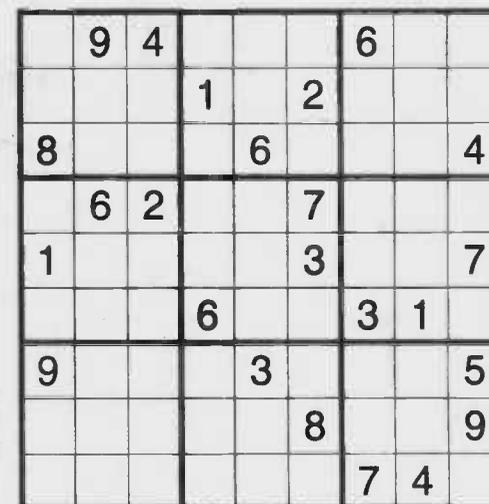


Sudoku

4/2

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

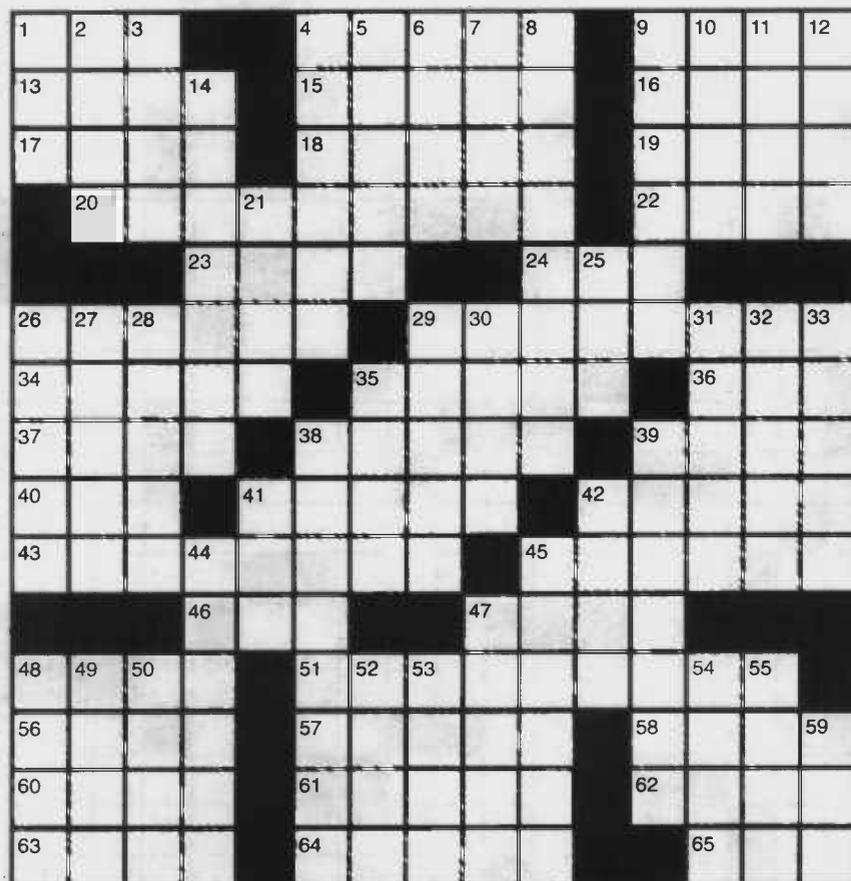
Level: **1 2 3 4**



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Crossword



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4/5/17

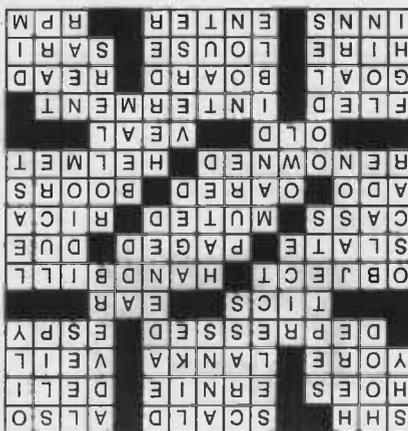
ACROSS

- 1 "Be quiet!"
 4 Burn with liquid
 9 Part of AKA
 13 Soil turners
 15 Pyle or Kovacs
 16 Small food shop
 17 Days of __;
 olden times
 18 Sri __
 19 Traditional nun's
 item
 20 Down in the
 dumps
 22 Notice
 23 Facial twitches
 24 Play by __; need
 no written music
 for
 26 Thingamajig
 29 Advertising
 flyer
 34 Schedule
 35 Summoned with
 a beeper
 36 __ to; because
 of
 37 Late singer
 Mama __
 38 Silenced
 39 Costa __
 40 Fuss & bother
 41 Rowed
 42 Rude people
 43 Famous
 45 Hard hat

DOWN

- 46 Ancient
 47 Calf meat
 48 Got away
 51 Burial
 56 Hockey score
 57 Plank
 58 __ the riot act to;
 bawl out
 60 Take on
 employees
 61 __ up; make a
 mess of things
 62 Delhi dress
 63 Red Roof __;
 economy hotels
 64 Go in
 65 Record speed
 letters

Solutions



- 25 Tally up
 26 Actor's award
 27 Piece of grass
 28 Actor Segel
 29 Loathed
 30 Matured
 31 Expression;
 phrase
 32 Filthy __; ill-
 gotten gains
 33 Minimum
 35 Unsullied
 38 Lower jaw
 39 Hair setter's
 items
 41 Hooter
 42 Smile broadly
 44 Great quantity
 45 Cattleman, at
 times
 47 Stanza
 48 E's followers
 49 Cut of pork
 50 Make money
 52 Midday
 53 Tight, as a rope
 54 Within reach
 55 Waterproof
 covering
 59 Poorly lit



puzzle island solutions

Last week's crosswords

"PERIODIC TABLE SPELLING"

GORGE BOAR LAPSE GOLF
 ADORN ROSE I MEAN ILIE
 WISECRACKS NANOSCOND
 KNEEHIGH PEENS HYATTS
 TAOS SELMA CRED
 ASCENT UNCLE PRORATED
 CHART PRETENTIOUS HUR
 IOUS LOGE APOD RUBY
 DCL SAUERBRATEN GENIE
 SKIPANTS ROLES CRUDER
 FOLKS NOSIR BOISE
 VALLEY HITIT COMMERCE
 AWOLS TECHNOPHOBE COP
 LAWS LEAH RUTS CLUE
 ESE SILVERSMITH CLARE
 THREEPLY ELIDE COOPTS
 AVIS STONE BOAS
 ARISEN CARED YELLEDAT
 CYBERSPACE STAGECOACH
 MAIL KAFKA EIRE ANNEE
 ENDS IDEST TENT REEDY

"Stately"

LOMA PALES RASH
 ADAR AMENT BLUE
 VIRGINIA JUNIPER
 ANYONE ROPE STE
 TILT YOGA
 CONSOLED RUPERT
 ORA NEARS SOBER
 SNIP DRAPE DEVA
 TILES SWANS RUM
 ASSETS SIDESTEP
 RUTS NEWT
 BAG PATS AERATE
 ALABAMA TERRAPIN
 LOPE PROVE TEND
 MEET SEWED ARES

"Secretly Jealous"

SHAG PBJJS PERON TAPIR
 HAFT ROUT ALAMO ONONE
 AGRO OWIE RIVET SITAT
 FUISSE CERTAIN VICTORY
 TEC EMAILED AAAMAP
 AHA LEIF BASIN AGE
 ASNER ORE LATIN LAGES
 DEVALUE SOLEMN VOW
 MAIDENVOYAGE IRKS
 IBO WETONE RAZOR CDC
 REL NORISK NAMELY REA
 EDE AVAST DAMORE EER
 TONE MISSIONVIEJO
 BONVIVANT ETERNAL
 POLOS CLICK SDS TEVYE
 INI CRONY ATRI TSE
 GALLIC BROWNIE RLS
 GREENVEGETABLE ADESTE
 IOTAS XAXES ELAM RIGA
 ELEVE CZARS IBIS LOOM
 SLEET HAMMY NYRO ENVY

Last week's Quote-Acrostic

NORA EPHRON: WORKING WOMAN:
 Don't let the number of women in the
 workforce fool you, there are still lots of
 magazines out there devoted almost
 exclusively to making those perfect
 casseroles and turning various things
 into tents.

Last week's Sudoku

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

This week's Jumble

GLOBAL SKETCH HIDDEN
 ADVICE PLUNGE COTTON

The new undersea bar was doing
 well. It was so crowded with fish
 that it was —

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 THE GILLS

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Women over 50 have radiance in abundance

Perhaps one of the most depressing things that has ever happened to me occurred the other day when I was riding a crowded bus from an airport to a rental car place and a guy who looked way older than me stood up and offered me his seat.

Why is that depressing? Because it made me feel old, which, let's be honest, I am.

Like me, I think most women over 50 have insecurities about aging, especially when it comes to two things: the physical drawbacks that go along with getting older and dating.

I can't count the number of emails I receive from women over 50 who tell me how hard it is to meet men and how men our age and even older want to date younger women.

So, when I got this email from a 53-year-old single guy, I was so excited, I felt like doing cartwheels around my kitchen.

I'm a 53-year-old man. My 23-year marriage ended in 2010. I find that women my age have so much more to offer. Most have a real sense of who they are and what they want in a relationship. They're open and dedicated to making this next part of their lives really amazing! They come to life, and revel in the freedom that comes with being single with so much waiting to be discovered. Some men are genuinely drawn to a younger woman's energy but from what I've seen most are looking for an ego boost. To all you women who might be wondering what this next stage holds, go out there and enjoy life. Your radiance will be more than enough to attract real men.

What makes this so inspiring is that it isn't coming from me but rather from someone who represents our desired demographic.

Like our new favorite guy explains, there are many, many advantages to being a woman over 50. To talk about them, I sat down with Judy Freedman, a 59-year-old New Jersey-based writer and the creator of her 9-year-old blog, "A Boomer's Life After 50."

According to Freedman, a retired corporate communications executive who is now a yoga instructor and meditation enthusiast, the two biggest reasons why being over 50 is fabulous are wisdom and confidence.

"Fifty is a turning point. It's when you say to yourself, 'Wow, so what do I want to do that I haven't done?'" said Freedman, a mom of two who became a widow at 49.



JACKIE PILOSSOPH
Love Essentially

"You have all this wisdom which comes from the experiences you've had personally and professionally, and if something doesn't go your way, you feel like it's OK."

Freedman said women over 50 are willing to take more risks, both from an

adventure standpoint and by being more vulnerable in relationships.

"You start to feel so much more comfortable in your inner self. It's not just about 'OK, I have a middle-aged middle,' but about feeling like this is who I am and people are proud of that," Freedman said. "Being confident and liking yourself isn't arrogant but rather reveals healthy self-esteem."

Like Freedman, I find myself a big fan of vulnerability. It's refreshing and inspiring to show your authentic self to someone and discover that they like you for who you really are.

Vulnerability is something I know I personally am more capable of as I've gotten older.

What else do women over 50 have more of than we did in our younger days? Freedman and I thought of two more things: independence and gratitude.

"It took a long time to get here, but I like being by myself," Freedman said. "I do have a companion and I enjoy being with him, but I also appreciate time I spend alone. The key is, you have to like yourself."

One and a half years into my 50s, I find myself feeling gratitude more and more. Every morning when I wake up, before I get out of bed, I spend a few minutes thinking about all the wonderful things I have in my life, and I name the people for whom I feel grateful.

It sets the tone for a beautiful, happy day and makes all of my daily problems seem manageable.

Here's the thing about being in your 50s. It's a little scary and sad to think that you've lived most of your life, and it's a little depressing to see and experience the physical changes happening. But if you take the advice of our awesome 53-year-old friend – who writes, "Go out there and enjoy life" – not only will your radiance attract real men, as he states, but with or without a man, you will be radiant. In other words, you will be healthy and glowing and happy. That doesn't sound old to me.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.

ON NEWSSTANDS NOW

Whether readers are looking to upgrade, downsize, or simply cash in down the line, our definitive, data-driven analysis includes a full breakdown of home values in every neighborhood and town in the six-county area.

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HEALTH

ASK THE DOCTORS

Studies show surprising link between diabetes and pollution

By Dr. Robert Ashley
Ask the Doctors

Dear Doctor: A recent study found that air pollution increases the risk of Type 2 diabetes. How can that be? Air pollution can't possibly raise blood sugar levels.

Dear Reader: I can understand your disbelief. My first thought when I saw this study was that it was correlative, not causative. In other words, air quality is simply worse in cities, which are more likely to have large numbers of people with lower socioeconomic status, who, in turn, tend to have greater rates of obesity and diabetes. Then I looked more closely.

Air pollutants assessed in the studies include nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter between 0.1 to 2.5 microns in size (PM 2.5). Early epidemiologic studies showed a correlation between areas of greater pollution and diabetes but did not control for socioeconomic status. Then came a 2010 study that used census data from three counties in the United States and assessed both rates of diabetes and Environmental Protection Agency data regarding PM 2.5 pollution.

The authors took into account such socioeconomic variables as median income, high school completion, male sex and ethnicity — all markers for diabetes risk. The authors found a 16 to 20 percent increase in the prevalence of diabetes in the areas that had the highest amounts of PM 2.5 versus those areas with the lowest amounts, even with all other factors being equal.

Then came this year's study published in the journal *Diabetes* that included 314 obese Latino



AL HARTMANN/AP

Studies have shown a link between pollution and diabetes, even when controlling for other risk factors for diabetes such as obesity.

children in Los Angeles. The authors analyzed where the children lived; the amount of pollution to which they were exposed, measured by both nitrogen dioxide and PM 2.5; and their parents' socioeconomic data. The children were followed for 3.4 years, during which time they underwent tests of blood sugar, two-hour glucose tolerance, insulin and insulin response to glucose. The authors found that the markers for future diabetes were much greater in those exposed to greater amounts of pollutants. This was independent of socioeconomic status and even independent of the level of obesity.

The cause isn't completely clear yet. Studies in rodents exposed to pollutants have shown increased inflammation within fat cells, accumulation of cholesterol in the liver and decreased ability of muscles to use sugar. This leads to both metabolic dysfunction and obesity. Further, pollutants can lead to systemic inflammation that in turn leads to insulin resistance and thus

the inability to bring sugar into the cells of the body, leaving it to sit in the bloodstream.

What is clear is that there does appear to be an association between pollution and diabetes, but more studies are needed to evaluate the degree of the association. Regardless, pollution is obviously unhealthy and needs to be controlled within society. The measurements of pollution provided in these studies come from the Environmental Protection Agency, whose existence is to safeguard the health of current and future societies.

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

False alarm: Coconut oil won't clog your arteries

By Joe Graedon
and Teresa Graedon
King Features Syndicate

Q: My surgeon says that coconut oil is very bad for me and will cause heart attacks. So many others recommend it. Is coconut oil good for you or not? I have been cooking with it for about a month now and wonder if I should stop.

A: Coconut oil is rich in saturated fat, so it got a bad rap with respect to heart health.

In a study published last year, patients with heart disease were randomly assigned to cook with either coconut oil or sunflower oil for two years (*Indian Heart Journal*, July-August 2016). At the end of that time, there were no differences in the impact on blood fats or cardiovascular events.

Epidemiological research does not show a connection between coconut-oil consumption and an increased risk of heart disease (*Nutrition Reviews*, April 2016). In fact, a study published last year found that people who ate a lot of saturated fat were no more likely to develop coronary-artery disease than those who shunned it (*American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, February 2016).

Q: I live on a vegan diet. I take vitamin B-12 pills, but I would rather get this vitamin from my plant-based foods.

I was told that seaweed has natural vitamin B-12, so I eat 0.6 ounces of organic roasted seaweed daily. It's tasty, but I was hoping that this would cover my vitamin B-12 requirement. Is there enough vitamin B-12 in seaweed to do this?

A. Tieraona Low Dog, M.D., is the author of "For-



DAN ROSENSTRAUCH/CONTRA COSTA TIMES

Research does not show a connection between coconut-oil consumption and an increased risk of heart disease.

tify Your Life: Your Guide to Vitamins, Minerals, and More." She notes, "No matter what you might read, you cannot get vitamin B-12 by eating non-fortified grains, nutritional yeast, algae, or seaweed." Since you are a vegan, avoiding all animal products, you need a synthetic vitamin B supplement. The best form is methylcobalamin.

If you don't get enough vitamin B-12, you could suffer nerve damage, heart palpitations, fatigue, dizziness, weakness, tingling in the hands and feet, and a sore tongue.

Q: Where can I find persimmon tea? Is it good for acid reflux? Does it make you lose weight? (I am slim and don't want to lose any weight.)

A: Persimmon tea doesn't cause weight loss, but it does appear to help ease heartburn. Here is the original story we got from a reader:

"My reflux became really bad after menopause. Acid-suppressing drugs worked great, but after two months I couldn't stop them without the heartburn recurring.

"One night, I took colleagues to dinner at a Korean restaurant. Someone

ordered persimmon punch, a concentrated cinnamon-ginger drink, for dessert. A few sips later, I felt fantastic.

"After one month of adding about 3 tablespoons of the cinnamon-ginger drink to my tea morning and evening, my low-density lipoprotein cholesterol levels had dropped 30 points, blood sugar dropped 10 points, and my heartburn was under control."

Although you can buy canned persimmon punch in Asian specialty stores, it probably will be easier and cheaper to make it yourself. The recipe, along with other advice on conquering reflux, is in our "Guide to Digestive Disorders." Anyone who would like a copy, please send \$3 in check or money order with a long (No. 10), stamped (70 cents), self-addressed envelope to: Graedons' People's Pharmacy, No. G-3, P.O. Box 52027, Durham, NC 27717-2027. It also can be downloaded for \$2 from our website: www.peoplespharmacy.com.

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



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Alison Gash • University of Oregon
Commendation for Excellence in Teaching

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HISTORY

1:30 PM
2:45 PM



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COVER STORY

Moving in with your in-laws

How to set rules, get along, still have privacy for sex

By Danielle Braff

Chicago Tribune

Jessica Fromm and her mother-in-law used to have a great relationship.

It ended as soon as her mother-in-law moved into their small brick house in Chicago four years ago.

"Rules don't apply to her," Fromm said of her mother-in-law. "We don't want her living with us anymore."

It's the little things. When Fromm throws her clothing into the washing machine, she'll return to find it tossed on the floor. And when she has friends over, Fromm notices that her mother-in-law is eavesdropping on her conversations.

The mother-in-law, Susan Fromm, said that while they have had their issues, she appreciates all the time she has been able to spend with her family — and especially with her grandchildren.

"Any grandmother would be fortunate enough to be with their grandchildren on a full-time basis," Susan Fromm said. "It's just a gift."

"If we had more space, maybe it would work," said Jessica Fromm, who also shares the space with her husband and three children ages 3 and under.

Hers is far from the only family dealing with in-law issues.

According to the Pew Research Center, there were 57 million Americans — or 18 percent of the population — living in multigenerational households in 2012, which is double what the number was in 1980.

Some are doing it for financial reasons, and others are doing it because they could use help raising children while both parents work. Regardless of the reasons, it's very common for personality clashes and other issues to occur, but there are ways to make the transition smoother.

"Changing the basic family structure always has an impact on everyone's relationships, no mat-



KRISTAN LIEB/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Jessica Fromm with Gemma, from left, Gunnar, 3, Matthew Fromm holding Guinevere, 1, and Susan Fromm, Matthew's mom.

ter how simple or easy it may look before it happens; and no matter what the reason, when a couple moves in with one partner's parents, or when a parent moves in with a couple, it is a change in family structure," said Diane Barth, New York-based psychotherapist.

Barth said that, often, one of the adults will begin acting child-like.

"He has always been warm and loving and extremely patient with the two children; suddenly, he is grumpy with her and has a short fuse with the kids," Barth said.

"Without anyone realizing it, he has fallen back into patterns he once had as a teenager when he was trying to assert his independence from his parents."

In other cases, one normally happy adult will suddenly get her feelings hurt by silly things, finding herself crying for no reason. In these scenarios, she may feel left out by her husband and his parents, who have inside jokes — and she becomes the third wheel in her own home, Barth says.

Some couples may even feel a distorted version of sibling rivalry with each other for their in-laws' attention, with the in-laws for a spouse's attention or with the grandparents for the children's

love.

"Even if there is no sibling rivalry or jealousy involved, putting more people into a family inevitably shifts the equilibrium of the family," Barth said.

To make the transition go well, it's best to make the expectations on both sides clear before the move, said Meredith Hansen, a marriage psychologist in California.

If there are rules and guidelines that you don't agree with, have a direct conversation about them ahead of time, and try to find a compromise. Once the guidelines have been agreed upon, share them with your children in a way they can understand.

"For example, 'We're moving into grandma's house, and she has some different rules than we have at our house. We want to make sure we show respect to grandma, so that she feels comfortable, and she wants us to feel comfortable, so we all need to follow these rules,'" Hansen said.

That's exactly what Stefanie Cohen did before she and her husband moved in with her in-laws for five months while they did a massive renovation.

"His parents gave us a set of expectations as far as what they wanted from us," Cohen said. The

rules: The couple were free to come and go as they pleased, but they were expected to tell the older set if they were going to be home for dinner.

It worked.

"I got much closer with my mother-in-law when I was living with her," Cohen said. "You start to understand their quirks instead of hating them."

While the rules were easy to follow in the Cohen household, some rules are more like criticism — and criticism doesn't have to be followed, Hansen said.

When living with parents and in-laws, you're inadvertently giving them a new level of access and visibility to all aspects of your spouse, children and parenting techniques.

"If they become overly opinionated, set a boundary right away," Hansen said. "Let them know that you know they are coming from a loving place but that their feedback is not helpful."

This type of opinion and criticism can cause problems in a marriage and should be minimized.

Cohen said she wasn't criticized but definitely felt a lack of privacy when she and her husband were trying to conceive a child while living with their in-

laws. Their bedroom happened to be above the family room.

"We would hear his parents talking about 'The Blacklist,' and it would put us out of the mood," she said.

It didn't work there, but they managed to conceive a baby on vacation, and Cohen's mother-in-law made onesies in every size with "Made in Oregon" on them.

Janet Cohen — the mother-in-law — said she enjoyed living with her son and daughter-in-law so much that she thinks everyone should do it.

"We got to be really close," Cohen said. "It gave me a whole new perspective on Stefanie," said Cohen, who described her as her daughter, not her daughter-in-law as she had before they lived together.

Still, it's important to remember that there are other relationships to consider before bringing everyone together under one roof.

Getting along with the in-laws is important, but maintaining your relationship with your spouse while you're living with the in-laws is also crucial, said Terri Orbuch, therapist and author of "5 Simple Steps to Take Your Marriage From Good to Great."

Orbuch followed 373 couples for 30 years and found that living with in-laws greatly affects marital relationships.

It takes time away from the spousal relationship, in general, but it usually causes greater stress for women, who typically try to please their mothers-in-law more than men try to please their fathers-in-law, Orbuch said.

It's important not to discuss your marital issues with your in-laws, she said.

When you're all living together, you also need to have some alone time as a couple — including making time for your physical relationship, Hansen said.

"Some couples may use this as a way to respark the passion in their love life — think high school strategies for finding places to be alone," Hansen said.

And you probably never thought you'd have to resort to that again.

Danielle Braff is a freelancer.



PLANOMATIC PHOTOS

Highland Park home with wine cellar: \$3.7M

ADDRESS: 2480 Sheridan Road in Highland Park

ASKING PRICE: \$3,650,000

Listed on March 3, 2017

This carefully restored William Boyington-designed home, built in 1892, includes seven bedrooms and sits on 1.4 acres. The home features smart home technology and security along with landscaping for a welcoming atmosphere and heightened privacy. The property includes a gourmet kitchen, master suite, third-level playroom, walkout lower level with theater room, wine cellar, exercise room and three-car attached garage.

Agent: Noah Levy of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage's Highland Park office, 312-203-2416

At press time, this home was still for sale.

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VILLAGE OF LINCOLNWOOD

Boys get to check out fire engines, play rousing games of Bingo and have a great evening at Mother-Son Bingo Night @ the Lincolnwood Fire Station on April 20.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Moms, sons will enjoy Bingo at the firehouse

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Little boys will have a thrilling evening with their moms during Mother-Son Bingo Night @ the Lincolnwood Fire Station, 6-7:30 p.m. April 20 at 6900 N. Lincoln Ave.

When the couples arrive, the sons receive a badge with their name on it. First, they dine on pizza and juice. "Then the firemen come out and dress them up in their gear," said Aryn Fletcher, Youth Programs Coordinator for the Village of Lincolnwood. "After that, the firemen run the bingo game. There's prizes for the sons and there's also prizes for the moms."

Fletcher said that kids are excited to be "where the trucks actually park. The firemen go in there that morning and clean the place out. The tables are set up in there. It's a really neat atmosphere."

The event is geared toward boys ages 4-12. The cost is \$15 per couple for residents; \$19 for nonresidents; \$9 and \$11 per addi-

tional child. Registration is required.

For details, call 847-673-1540 or go to www.lincolnwoodil.org/mother-son-bingo.

Why not try DIY?

Third-graders through adults are invited to a How-To Fest, 1-3:30 p.m. April 9 at Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Local experts and library staff will be at 15 stations assisting visitors on such skills as playing the autoharp, making ribbon bookmarks, spotting counterfeit money, go-go dancing and more.

For details, call 847-673-7774 or go to www.skokielibrary.info.

Cool way to spend spring day

There will be skating games and fun for kids and grown ups at Spring Skate, Bunny Hop, 12:30-1:45 p.m. April 15 at IceLand, 8435 Ballard, Niles. The cost for this drop-in event is \$6 per person; skate rental is \$4.

For details, call 847-297-

8010 or go to www.niles-parks.org.

Rocky start

The author of the hilarious New York Times best-seller, "The Day the Crayons Quit," has another funny book out, "The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors." Children can hear the tale at a special story time, 11 a.m. April 8 at Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie.

For details, call 847-676-2230 or go to www.barnesandnoble.com.

Bubbles galore...and something more

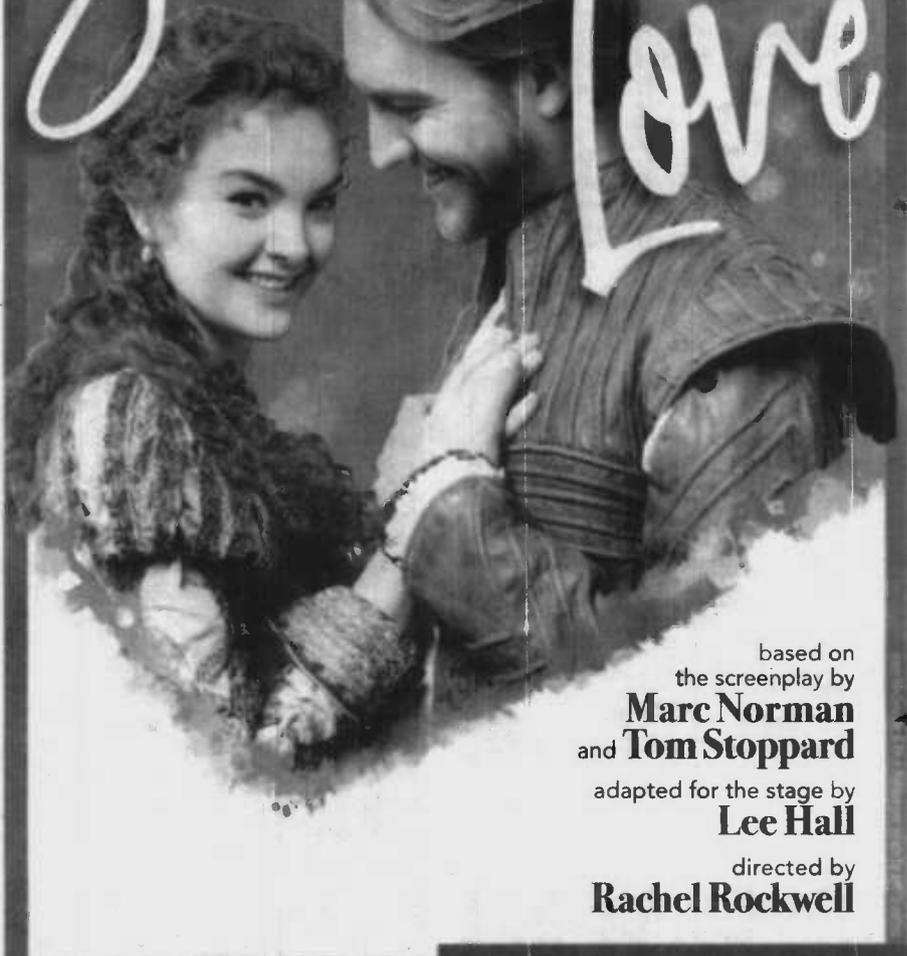
You and your children will learn some scientific concepts while being entertained at Second Sunday: Ben's Bubble Show, 2-2:45 p.m. April 9 at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St. Pick up free tickets in KidSpace starting at 1:30 p.m. that day.

For details, call 847-663-1234 or go to www.nileslibrary.org.

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Avenues to Independence raises \$65,000 at Irish Fest

Event: 20th anniversary Irish Fest
Hosted by: Avenues to Independence, Park Ridge, which provides healthy lifestyle programs and support for the more than 200 adults with developmental disabilities

Date: March 12

Location: Cotillion Banquets, Palatine

Attended: 330

Raised: \$65,000

Website: www.avenuesto-independence.org



JOHN J. BEUSSE/AVENUES TO INDEPENDENCE

Mike Prindville, back, from left, Mary Prindville, Gerry and Bill Taglia, and, seated, Nora Prindville, all of Park Ridge



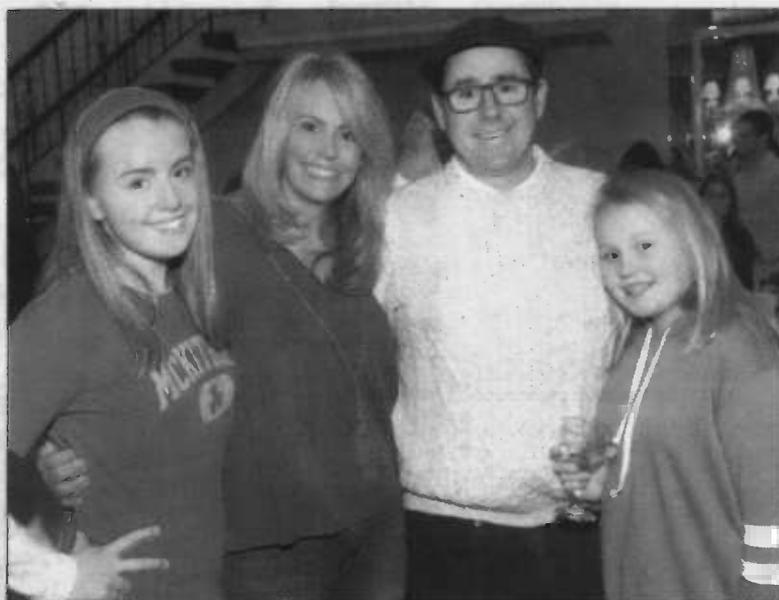
RAY DOUD/AVENUES TO INDEPENDENCE

Bernard Kelly of Inverness, left, and Tim Kelly of Park Ridge



RAY DOUD/AVENUES TO INDEPENDENCE

Dirk and Tracie Ahlbeck of Park Ridge



RAY DOUD/AVENUES TO INDEPENDENCE

Teagan, from left, Sara, John and Claire McKitrck, all of Park Ridge



RAY DOUD/AVENUES TO INDEPENDENCE

Marysue Redmann of Skokie



JOHN BEUSSE/AVENUES TO INDEPENDENCE

Bill Mahoney of Naperville, left, and John Mahal of Skokie



RAY DOUD/AVENUES TO INDEPENDENCE

The Joyce Boys Band: Brendan Joyce of Chicago, from left, Johnny Joyce of Palatine, Tom Joyce of Oak Park, Brian Joyce of Schaumburg and Mike Joyce of Naperville



JOHN J. BEUSSE/AVENUES TO INDEPENDENCE

Barclay Marcell of Chicago, from left, Jeanne Doheny of Lake Barrington, Lenore Sierzega and Nancy Evans, both of Park Ridge

GARDEN WALKS & PLANT SALES

Thinking spring? We are, and we're planning a roundup of local garden walks and plant sales. Garden clubs and other groups who host these events can submit the address, date, time and some details of the event, whether there is an admission fee, and a phone number or email for publication, to Debbie Hoppe, dhoppe@pioneerlocal.com, by April 7 to be included.



LAKE ZURICH

Three-bedroom, 2.5-bath home with cedar exterior built in 1988. Vaulted ceilings in living room, loft-style dining room. Sun room overlooks yard and golf course. Master bedroom, rec room, first-floor laundry, office. Family room has fireplace. Near shopping, lakes and parks.

Address: 176 Vista Road
Price: \$374,900
Schools: Lake Zurich High School
Taxes: \$8,363.49
Agent: Cherie Smith Zurek, Re/Max Unlimited Northwest



VERNON HILLS

Four-bedroom, 2.5-bath home with cedar exterior built in 2001. Open floor plan. Foyer flanked by living and dining rooms. Newly upgraded kitchen, stainless steel appliances, laundry/mud room. Master bedroom with updated bath. Hardwood floors throughout home. Near Route 60 shopping, golf course, parks and Metra.

Address: 358 Donnelley Place
Price: \$559,500
Schools: Vernon Hills High School
Taxes: \$12,564
Agent: Ann George, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Winnetka



MOUNT PROSPECT

Three-bedroom, 1.5-bath brick ranch home built in 1964. Hardwood floors, full bath recently updated with new tub/shower surround and flooring. New kitchen cabinets, counters, appliances, ceramic tile floor (2011). New windows in living and dining rooms and kitchen (2004). Full finished basement with rec room. Near shopping, parks and public transit.

Address: 1416 S. Birch Drive
Price: \$298,000
Schools: Prospect High School
Taxes: \$5,820
Agent: Marilyn Krumin, Baird & Warner Palatine



WILMETTE

Three-bedroom, three-bath renovated brick bungalow dating back to 1929. Leaded glass windows, new red oak floors and interior doors. Octagonal bay living room, new tile roof, new mission style kitchen, and three new bathrooms. Garage. Near library, parks, Metra and I-94.

Address: 1627 Wilmette Ave.
Price: \$699,000
Schools: New Trier High School
Taxes: \$10,016.35
Agent: Mark Steward, Baird & Warner Evanston

Listings from Homefinder.com

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trbcht-126712



LEILA NAVIDI/MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE

Cassie and Scott Frick recently remodeled their 1970s home in Minnetonka, Minn. They extended the kitchen by eliminating an adjacent dining room.

Lose a dining room wall, gain your dream kitchen

BY KIM PALMER
Minneapolis Star Tribune

What's standing between you and your dream kitchen?

Often, it's a wall.

Today, formal meals have gone the way of the rotary phone in most households, and a room just for dining seems like a waste of precious space.

"The formal dining room was popular for a while," said Cassie Frick, an agent with Edina Realty in Minnesota. But most of her clients view them as so last century. "Everybody wants the open concept. The vast majority don't want a formal dining room anymore."

Frick included. She and her husband recently remodeled their 1970s home in Minnetonka, Minn., extending the kitchen by eliminating an adjacent dining room.

"For us, with two kids, a formal dining room does not make sense," she said. "It was a big room, but we never went there, and it was totally cut off."

More than one-third of kitchen renovation projects now involve increasing the room's size, according to the 2017 Houzz Kitchen Trends Study. Open floor plans continue to rise, with 51 percent of new kitchens more open to other rooms of the house than they were before the remodeling.

"Half the kitchens we do, we end up taking out a wall or partial wall," said Craig Weber, architect and owner of Bridgewater Construction in Bloomington, Minn. "It makes for a much more dramatic kitchen. Most people entertain in the kitchen, whether they want to or not."

Often the unwanted wall is load-bearing, so it's important to consult with a professional, noted Max Windmiller, an architectural designer with Windmiller Design Studio in Wayzata, Minn. He advised Frick during her project and also brought in a structural engineer.

"She knew what she wanted, but she wanted to make sure it would be

possible," Windmiller said. "You have to figure out how to transfer that load. It's a structural challenge."

Ramblers from the 1950s and '60s are good candidates for wall removal, Weber said. "The floor plans are pretty flexible."

Wall removal can be more complicated in a split-level or older two-story home, but just about anything is possible.

"We've taken walls out of homes from pretty much any era," Weber said.

The results are worth it, said Steve Ribnick, who hired Weber to remodel his family's 1978 two-story in Bloomington, Minn.

Ribnick and his wife considered a cosmetic face-lift for their kitchen but ultimately chose to remove the wall between the living room and family room to create an open floor plan with a casual dining area. Their formal dining room is now a music room/playroom.

"Best decision we made," Ribnick said of losing the wall. "We use all of our house now."

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
1990 N Stillwater Rd, Arlington Heights	Michael A Leipert	Norma Pahlke	02-24-17	\$175,500
234 S Vail Ave, Arlington Heights	Catherine S Staffa	Ronald J Staffa	03-08-17	\$221,500
517 S Evergreen Ave, Arlington Heights	Jason L Aponte	Betty J Hopkinson	03-08-17	\$230,000
550 W Happfield Dr, Arlington Heights	Madeline Urban & Cole M Paler	Mark A Dahigren	03-03-17	\$231,500
1314 E Clarendon St, Arlington Heights	Robert L Pfrank & Maureen A Pfrank	Deborah A Steidinger	12-20-16	\$248,000
1214 S Douglas Ave, Arlington Heights	Jacek Grzanka	Narasimhan Srinivasaraghavan	03-02-17	\$265,000
1714 N Chestnut Ave, Arlington Heights	Allison Fouts & Andrew Stieve	Stephen M Degreef	03-08-17	\$265,000
702 S Chestnut Ave, Arlington Heights	Benjamin Rames & Megor C Krutz	Richard Ostrowski	03-08-17	\$286,000
311 E Lynnwood Ave, Arlington Heights	Krzysztof Wojtyla & Agnieszka Wojtyla	U S Bank Na	03-02-17	\$325,500
1714 E Rosehill Dr, Arlington Heights	Jill C Douglas & Potack Douglas	Ronald Cepa	03-08-17	\$335,000
1511 N Douglas Ave, Arlington Heights	Scott T Shirley & Kristine M Anderson Shirley	Claude C Moss	02-24-17	\$350,000
3047 N Huntington Dr, Arlington Heights	Donald Patrick Shea Jr & Carna-Jae Lapping	Robert G Rokos	03-08-17	\$424,000
193 S Evergreen Ave, Arlington Heights	Frank Lee & Connie Lee	Steven T Campbell	03-08-17	\$655,000
1316 E Christina Ct, Arlington Heights	Lauren Voicu & Cristian Voicu	K Hovnanian At Christina Court	02-24-17	\$802,000
721 Weidner Rd, # 145D1, Buffalo Grove	Victor Marben Barrios & Sofia Marben	Vladimir Mullagaliyev	03-03-17	\$180,000
12 Buckingham Ln, Buffalo Grove	Floriana Kislyuk & Izze Kaminsky	Mehul Patel	02-24-17	\$256,000
224 W Fox Hill Dr, Buffalo Grove	Jane Svyatsky	Fannie Mae	03-01-17	\$257,175
670 Wyngate Ln, Buffalo Grove	Erik J Bernert & Joni M Bernert	R&S Investment Lp	02-24-17	\$258,000
791 Shady Grove Ln, Buffalo Grove	Jason R Ruchim & Marissa L Ruchim	Stephanie S Howard	03-02-17	\$312,000
567 Highland Grove Dr, Buffalo Grove	Sailesh D Balchandani & Anita S Balchandani	Martin S Lazarus	02-27-17	\$360,000
2589 Waterbury Ln, Buffalo Grove	Meera Khullar & Sandeep Khullar	Elizabeth C Kang	03-02-17	\$385,000
165 Toulon Dr, Buffalo Grove	Pravin Agarwal	Us Bank Na	02-24-17	\$394,500
1738 Whitcomb Ave, Des Plaines	Mariusz Gruszka	Toby Gilbert	02-24-17	\$52,000
925 Woodlawn Ave, Des Plaines	Michael J Heneghan	Robert P McPherson Estate	03-08-17	\$70,000
9351 Lady Bird Ln, # 107G, Des Plaines	Muqet Junaid Abdul	Wilmington Trust Na	03-02-17	\$97,000
8901 N Western Ave, # 311, Des Plaines	Ashok N Shah & Hiren A Shah	Judicial Sales Corp	03-02-17	\$104,000
1279 Harding Ave, # 2 A, Des Plaines	Michelle Landazzi	James S Stanis	02-24-17	\$105,000
9355 Landings Ln, Des Plaines	Mohamednasir Iqbal Laliwala & Uzma Mohamednasir Laliwala	Ruth Resenthal	02-28-17	\$112,000
1703 Stockton Ave, Des Plaines	Guadalupe M Gomez & Edgar Arizmendi	V & T Investment Corp	03-08-17	\$130,000
2041 Pine St, # B, Des Plaines	Nathalal P Patel	Ramenbhai Patel	02-24-17	\$137,000
9515 Sumac Rd, # D, Des Plaines	Akram F Hafdallah & Amel F Hafdallah	Lampeda Yalda	03-02-17	\$170,000
1863 Locust St, Des Plaines	Jesus D Fernandez	Donna Christie	03-02-17	\$180,000
787 Graceland Ave, # 308B, Des Plaines	David T Drinka & Mary A Drinka	Wfd Lic	03-08-17	\$199,000
925 S 6th Ave, Des Plaines	Camille Adam	Sawsen Y Kubba	03-08-17	\$199,500
901 S Golf Cul De Sac St, Des Plaines	Bettina Paul	James E Stapleton	02-28-17	\$220,000
1636 Ashland Ave, # 601, Des Plaines	Erik Hellenen	Nicolas P Murphy	02-24-17	\$235,000
849 S Mount Prospect Rd, Des Plaines	William Glenn Henderson	Alan J Levin	02-24-17	\$265,000
2055 Lee St, Des Plaines	Eda Cakmak Yetgen	Robert T Macatangay	03-02-17	\$269,500
2315 Hickory St, Des Plaines	Matthew Ciciora & Casey Gold	Skygordo Llc	02-28-17	\$270,500
2259 Eastview Dr, Des Plaines	Imad Achmar	Fouad T Noweder	03-02-17	\$460,000
1614 Monroe St, # 2W, Evanston	Christopher Singraber	Joseph S Walsh Jr	02-28-17	\$100,500
835 Ridge Ave, # 304, Evanston	William M Goldberg	Lars Mothander	02-24-17	\$115,500
1410 Hinman Ave, # 2, Evanston	Quang Tung Nguyen	Stephen R Bastien	03-02-17	\$170,000
1125 Maple Ave, # 3N, Evanston	Ellen Greene	Evan M Belgrade	02-24-17	\$190,000
1720 Oak Ave, # 311, Evanston	Chainwen Chu	Bank Of New York Mellon Ttee	03-08-17	\$195,000
144 Callan Ave, Evanston	Monica Broderick	Ina R Davis	03-02-17	\$225,000
1607 Kirk St, Evanston	Jeffrey Irving & Julie Irving	Christopher M Thomas	02-24-17	\$385,000
2552 Wellington Ct, Evanston	Lynn M Johnson	Abasi Ene Obong	03-08-17	\$400,000
1215 Cleveland St, Evanston	Sheila Ann Loop	Sarah R Goodwin	03-08-17	\$500,000
2525 Prospect Ave, Evanston	Brian Demmer & Laura Demmer	Denise L Hillinger	03-02-17	\$675,000
1139 Judson Ave, Evanston	Jonathan B Singer & Randi B Singer	Kari Ragnarsson	03-03-17	\$675,000

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
532 Glendale Rd, Glenview	Ala Imseef & Faten Ansara	Morris Berk	02-24-17	\$187,000
3145 Central Rd, Glenview	Gladys Avdic	Amy Boeshaar	02-24-17	\$330,000
810 Shermer Rd, Glenview	Lauren Marie Stark & Michael Sean Hogan	Us Bank Trust Na Trustee	02-24-17	\$355,000
921 Echo Ln, Glenview	Scott In Don Hwang & Yung H Hwang	Smith Trust	02-28-17	\$365,000
4044 Chester Dr, Glenview	Demetrios G Diakakis & Georgia Marina	James A Pokorny	02-28-17	\$465,000
2916 Fairway Ct, Glenview	Nathan Huppert & Marina Faz Huppert	Barbara B Bonamasso	02-24-17	\$495,000
1739 Ridgewood Ln W, Glenview	C Allan Swaringen & Susan L Swaringen	Shultz Trust	03-02-17	\$587,500
3125 W Lake Ave, Glenview	Edward T Lee & Helena J Lee	Randy L Wolf	03-08-17	\$650,000
2020 Franklin Dr, Glenview	Michael Liefer	Thomas A Sontag	03-02-17	\$715,000
2102 Shermer Rd, Glenview	John Sopoci & Wendy Sopoci	Development Solutions Gin Llc	03-02-17	\$725,500
915 Rolling Pass, Glenview	Matthew M Rice & Faye D Rice	Michael Preston	02-24-17	\$840,000
1 Rutgers Ct, Hawthorn Woods	Ruslan Lunev	Boris Vaysburg	02-23-17	\$396,100
30 Palisades Blvd, Hawthorn Woods	Mohammed Al Rubaye & Ban Q Hamdi	Pulte Home Co Llc	03-02-17	\$534,000
185 Elderberry Dr, Hawthorn Woods	Sean Thornton & Danielle Thornton	Peter Keegan	03-02-17	\$600,000
1805 W Ashbury Ln, # 11, Inverness	Frank P Stompanato & Kristen M Stoneking	Mganjanl Llc	03-08-17	\$225,000
2204 Inverray Rd, Inverness	Emily C Alford & Gretchen A Ludwig	Nancy D Chandler	03-03-17	\$525,000
411 Ayrshire Ln, Inverness	John Harnedy & Erin Harnedy	Scott S Frost	03-08-17	\$576,000
3299 Stratford Ct, # 1A, Lake Bluff	Sellme Senalan	Christopher C Bruno	03-01-17	\$125,000
444 W Witchwood Ln, Lake Bluff	Ryan Severson & Kendall Severson	Mark Kaleniecki	03-01-17	\$510,000
39 Sunset Pl, Lake Bluff	Brent B Vandermause & Amber Josi	Drh Cambridge Homes Inc	02-27-17	\$1,030,000
309 E Woodland Rd, Lake Bluff	Jeffrey Dobosh & Mcrae Dobosh	Christian Hallen	03-02-17	\$1,100,000
702 N Bradley Rd, Lake Forest	John Crismariu & Lidia Crismariu	Danut T Axente	02-27-17	\$278,000
290 E Woodland Rd, Lake Forest	Nicholas Cross & Marleana Cross	David J Burns	03-02-17	\$527,500
18 S June Ter, Lake Forest	Tricia Anderson	James P Hayes	03-01-17	\$849,000
545 Crab Tree Ln, Lake Forest	Patrick J Winters & Megan M Winters	Raymond W Tibbitts Jr	03-01-17	\$1,500,000
23717 N Quentin Rd, Lake Zurich	Kathy Uttile & Mark J Uttile	Christopher D Bienasz	12-21-16	\$172,000
162 Tyler Ct, Lake Zurich	Connie Downing	Joan M Stafford	02-27-17	\$204,500
8610 Waukegan Rd, # 404W, Morton Grove	Farzana Majeed & Sabeen Majeed	Armaghan Rana	02-28-17	\$163,000
8912 Ozark Ave, Morton Grove	Bogdan Niclul & Diana Niclul	Mithun M George	02-24-17	\$302,000
9346 Normandy Ave, Morton Grove	Adrian Hainal Roman & Florentina Hainal Roman	Joseph Decarlo	03-02-17	\$355,000
7805 Linder Ave, Morton Grove	Paraskevas Lekeas & Angelika Lekeas	Danny S Jadou	02-28-17	\$370,000
5824 Lincoln Ave, Morton Grove	Mohammed Gaffar & Bliquis Gaffar	Furd 3 Llc	03-08-17	\$400,000
9132 Lehigh Ave, Morton Grove	Asad M Khan	Ish Chicago Project Two Llc	02-24-17	\$443,000
8616 Austin Ave, Morton Grove	Blerim Delisi & Afrim Delisi	William A Archer	03-02-17	\$450,000
8301 N Odell Ave, Niles	Diane La Zara	Diane Poloczek	02-28-17	\$116,000
8062 W Lyons St, Niles	Salem Gorall & Vechean Shaman	Judicial Sales Corp	03-03-17	\$139,000
7041 W Touhy Ave, Niles	Marlene Rybak & Kathleen Rybak	Vigneri Trust	02-24-17	\$162,000
8353 N Octavia Ave, Niles	Rasha Aldewan	Judicial Sales Corp	02-28-17	\$204,000
7081 W Touhy Ave, # 303, Niles	Edward W Nichols & Frances M Brady	Stadlmann Trust	02-28-17	\$210,000
8348 N Milwaukee Ave, Niles	Eric Hernandez	Thomas C Barrett	03-02-17	\$229,000
7621 W Main St, Niles	Mickey Ramirez	Andrew J Barrett	03-03-17	\$300,000
8826 N Ozanam Ave, Niles	Martin Hegarty & Rosana Hegarty	Daniel S Busiel Estate	02-28-17	\$325,000
8157 N Susan Ct, Niles	James M Depkon & Azucena R Depkon	Robert A Mayer	02-28-17	\$355,000
7742 N Oleander Ave, Niles	Tomasz Kubik	Allison L Courtney	02-28-17	\$385,000
8612 N Osceola Ave, Niles	Adis Grahovic & Ilda Grahovic	Harkor Enterprises Llc	03-08-17	\$386,000
809 W Touhy Ave, Park Ridge	William Albro	Blueberry Corp	02-24-17	\$210,000
925 Florence Dr, Park Ridge	James Robert Friel & Danielle Marie Friel	Elaine Clemens	03-03-17	\$312,500
1805 Glenview Ave, Park Ridge	Shaun Purohit & Robie Purohit	Homes By Spark Llc	03-08-17	\$475,000
1930 Walnut St, Park Ridge	Laura L Baldwin & Fiona M Noorian	Thomas A Conradi	02-28-17	\$500,000
106 N Lincoln Ave, Park Ridge	Kevin Robertson & Germaine Robertson	Citimortgage Inc	03-08-17	\$738,500

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

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



HERO IMAGES

The kitchen is a possible spot to dedicate as a technology oasis in your home.

HOME REMEDIES

Nearly any room can become a tech-free zone

By **EMILY UDELL**
Angie's List

Technology brings so much to our lives: information, entertainment, security and comfort in our homes. But it's easy to overdose on tech time.

Sometimes you need to unplug and connect with the great big world beyond the screen.

To help your household enjoy some time without electronics on a regular basis, consider establishing a tech-free zone in your home.

Here's how:

Pick a convenient area:

Do you have a place at home to dedicate as a technology oasis? It could be a room that currently serves another purpose, such as your living room, bedroom or kitchen. For example, if you use your kitchen for meal and homework time, establish a screen-free zone there (unless you need to make exceptions for internet research for schoolwork). If you have an extra room such as a sun porch or basement recreation area, even better.

Establish rules: Set guidelines for your tech-free zone. Maybe you decide it's OK to listen to music, as long as you push play before you enter and don't spend time searching and socializing on Spotify instead of focusing on other activities. Maybe you silence phones during your tech-free time, or leave them in another room within earshot, so you can answer if someone calls but aren't tempted to check apps while you're doing other activities. The Sabbath Manifesto promotes a National Day of Unplugging to help people slow down and take a timeout from technology.

Another way to help limit tech time is by establishing household rules about electronics-free activities, such as mealtimes or an hour or two before bed or setting aside a day each week to unplug entirely.

Find alternative activities: Decide what kind of activities you want to do when you take your screen sabbaticals. The options are endless, including card and board games, reading,

yoga, scrapbooking or crafts, art, writing, music and so on.

Whether you feel like knitting, meditating or journaling, make your tech-free zone a place to connect with the present, pursue personal or creative projects or just enjoy time with family.

Decorate accordingly: If you have a dedicated electronics oasis, consider decorating the space in such a way that facilitates feelings of creativity and relaxation.

Hang a fun sign declaring the area a tech-free zone and create a charging station to deposit phones before entering. If you plan to spend your screen breaks reading the classics, set up a comfy chair with a throw blanket.

If you want to use the space to meditate, paint the walls a relaxing color. Set up a big table and chairs if games or crafting is your main focus. And remove all TVs, computers and other electronic devices, of course!

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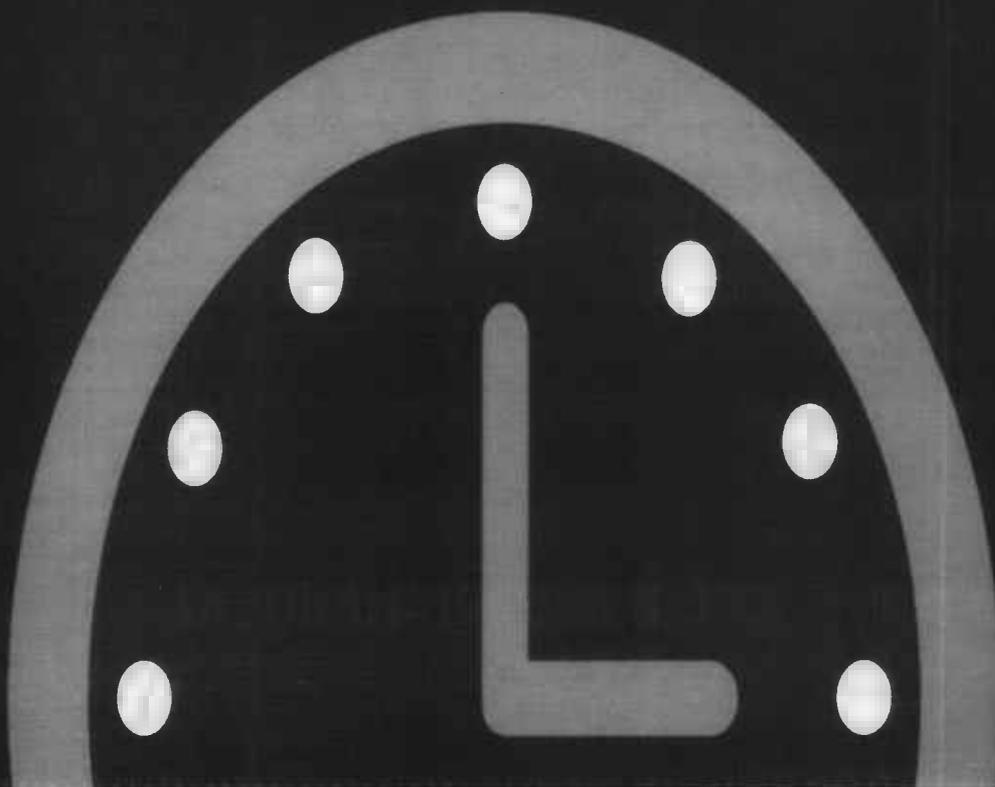
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Listings are subject to change. Please call the venue in advance.

Thursday, April 6

Tift Merritt: 8 p.m. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, \$20-\$34, 847-492-8860

Barbara Mahany book event: "Motherprayer": Barbara Mahany reads from her new book "Motherprayer: Lessons in Loving." Mahany's ability to capture the beauty of small moments captivated readers of her first book, "Slowing Time." Now, she writes of the sacred mysteries of mothering with a hope to apply these lessons to the world beyond our familial bubbles. 6 p.m. Bookends & Beginnings, 1712 Sherman Ave., Evanston, free, 224-999-7722

Nature vs. Nurture: The Evanston Art Center announces an upcoming exhibit curated by Younsoo Kim Flynn. It features the works by Nathan Braunfeld, Jack Flynn, Sae Jun Kim, and Everything is Collective (Jason Lukas, Zachary Norman, and Aaron Hegert). Nature vs. Nurture runs from March 17 to April 23. Each of the artists focuses on re-defining the complex relationship between natural and urban landscapes. All week, 9 a.m. Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300

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

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. All week, 10 a.m. Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, free, 847-467-4602

Triple T: Thursday evenings is their weekly taco special. That is four chef's choice tacos paired with a flight of their

house-brewed draft beer—all for \$15. 4 p.m. Peckish Pig, 623 Howard St., Evanston, \$15, 847-491-6778

Everybody Move - Ages Birth to Two years with Caregiver: Celeste Cifala Roy, from early childhood movement and music program Everybody Move! has planned an hour of activities and exploration including scarves, balls, hoops and instruments to get your child up moving, singing and dancing. Weekly Thursday attendance is encouraged for this eight week session. Registration is required and is for the entire series: March 30-May 25. 9:30 a.m. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

2017 Audlobook Buzz from Penguin Random House: Registration is required to attend this presentation, which is led by a representative from Penguin Random House. This is an opportunity to get the inside scoop on the best of the future releases. Attendees receive a free tote bag and a full-length audiobook courtesy of the publisher. 2 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Butterflies Encounter at Golf Mill: This is family-friendly event for all ages to encounter butterflies fluttering freely inside a special butterfly house located inside Golf Mill Shopping Center. Children ages two and under are free with an adult. Cost is \$5 per person. This is a chance to see a butterfly hatch, and also feed a butterfly. The Butterflies! experience includes: a staff-guided tour about butterfly lifecycle, anatomy and ecosystem, plus complimentary craft projects for kids, storybook readings and more. 10 a.m. All week, Golf Mill Shopping Center, 239 Golf Mill Center, Niles, \$5 per person; free kid under 2-years-old, 847-699-1070

Spring Bake Sale Greek Pastries: The St. Haralambos Ladies Philoptochos Society annual Bake Sale takes place for your Easter celebration. Featured are: Tsourekis bread and Koulourakia, Greek Pastries and Easter candles and red eggs. Lenten lunch is served both days. 9 a.m. Holy Taxiarchi-St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church, 7373 N. Caldwell Ave., Niles, free admission and parking, 847-647-8880

International Quilt Festival: Join hundreds of vendors selling quilts, supplies, fabric and all other things quilts. Watch artists working on current projects. 10 a.m. Thursday-Saturday, Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 9291 Bryn Mawr Ave., Rosemont, \$25, 713-781-6864

Free Matzah Sample: There is a special spiritual significance to hand-made Shmurah Matzah. If you would like a sample piece to use at your Seder, please contact Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, as they are happy to provide it for you. Call or go to online. All week, 3:15 p.m. Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-677-1770

Nature Fun and Frolic - Thursdays: This is for age two with a parent for weekly classes that introduce toddlers to different plants, animals and natural elements, while singing songs, playing games, reading books, and exploring nature in many different ways. Class takes place primarily outdoors, weather permitting. 9:15 a.m. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, \$95 Skokie resident, \$119 non-resident, 847-677-7001

Planning for Retirement Success: This 90-minute class for retirees and pre-retirees will cover the most effective methods for planning a safe and profitable retirement. Topics will include: Developing an income plan that ensures you never run out of money, and Investing for safety with maximum return. 6:30 p.m. National Louis University North Shore, 5202 Old Orchard Road, Skokie, free, 847-800-7515

"By the Water": Northlight presents the story of a community ready to rebuild after Hurricane Sandy. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday, 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, \$30-\$81, 847-673-6300

Friday, April 7

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

Segovia Classical Guitar: Raphaella Smits: Belgian guitarist Raphaella Smits, best known for her performances of historic repertoire on the eight-string guitar, was the first woman to win the top prize in Spain's Certamen Internacional de Guitarras Francisco Tarrega in 1986. Smits will perform Manuel Maria Ponce's Suite in A Minor - a Homage to S.L. Weiss, Silvius Leopold Weiss' Tom-

beau in memory of M. Comte De Logy, Mauro Giuliani's "Rossiniana" No. 1, Op. 119, Federico Mompou's "Suite Compostelana" and other pieces. 7:30 p.m. Mary Galvin Recital Hall at Northwestern University, 70 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, \$10-\$30, 847-467-4000

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

Minecraft for Grades 4-8: Use your own account or play on one of the library's. Space is limited, so please register at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling. 6 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Silver Screen Series: "To Kill a Mockingbird": "To Kill a Mockingbird" is not rated and is about Atticus Finch, a lawyer in the Depression-era South. He defends a black man against an undeserved criminal charge, and his children against prejudice. The cast stars: Gregory Peck, John Megna. 2 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

AAOS and ASES Reverse Total Shoulder and Latarjet: Understanding how and when to use a reverse shoulder arthroplasty in simple and complex cases can be challenging. The Latarjet procedure has gained wider acceptance as a preferred stabilization surgery; however, complications exist and technical pearls to optimize outcomes and minimize complications are important. This comprehensive, hands-on skills course provides answers. Non-member Price: \$2069; AAOS/ASES Member Price: \$1669; and Resident Price: \$1469. 7:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday, OLC Education and Conference Center, 9400 W. Higgins Road #100, Rosemont, \$1469 - \$2069, 800-626-6726

Saturday, April 8

BimBamBoom at Temperance Beer Co: This is a night of comedy, magic and dance galore. This show combines an appreciation for the finest brewed beers with the classic American tradition of burlesque. Every performance showcases adult striptease and Chicagoland's

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finest comedians, along with juggling, comedy songs, magic and more. Featuring the incredible burlesque talents of: Cyn Cat, Kevlar B. Lightning, Sauda Namir and Zatanna Zorelle. 9 p.m. Temperance Beer Company, 2000 Dempster St., Evanston, \$10 suggested donation, 847-864-1000

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

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged:

Three actors present all the Bard's 37 Plays in 97 minutes, making it an irreverent, fast-paced romp that will leave you breathless and helpless with laughter. 8 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday, Piccolo Theatre, 600 Main St., Evanston, \$10-\$25, 847-424-0089

Circus Open House:

If you've ever been interested in circus but haven't yet given it a try, this open house is for you. All ages are welcome to come see the space, meet the teachers, and get into the air - all for free. Start your weekend off with an adventure. 1 p.m. Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, free, 847-328-2795

Restoration Work Day:

Help collect seeds and remove non-native, invasive plants to make way for wildflowers, grasses and trees. Bring work gloves if you have them. Work parties may be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. This event is free. 9 a.m. The Grove, 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

Northshore Baconfest: Spend a sizzling evening on the farm as chefs serve up tastings of imaginative bacon creations. This event is limited to adults-only; ages 18 and older. The evening includes a side of live music and a cash bar. General admission tickets are

\$55 each and early admission at 5 p.m. are \$75 each. Tickets must be purchased in advance at northshorebaconfest.com. 6 p.m. Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview, \$55-\$75 advance purchase only, 847-724-5670

PSAT OR SAT Practice Test for Grades 9-12: C2 Education facilitates practice tests for either the PSAT or SAT. Gain experience with these tests, now a standard for Illinois college testing. Students may choose which test to take. Please register at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling. Noon, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Navigating Basic WWII Records:

Regardless of service branch, many records exist to tell your soldier, sailor, or Marine's story. Jennifer Holik teaches you how to research World War II records for any branch of the military in this informative program. A Glenview Library card is required and registration at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling. 1 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Eggstravaganza:

Children of all ages may come to Park Center in the main gym for an old-fashioned egg hunt. Everyone is welcome. 10 a.m. Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

Breakfast with the Bunny:

Before the egg hunt at 10 a.m., enjoy a buffet breakfast of fruit, scrambled eggs, French toast, hash browns, coffee and juice. Fun crafts are available prior to breakfast. Registration is required for all participants. 8 a.m. Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, \$15 residents; \$19 nonresidents, 847-724-5670

Kids Derby Day:

This Fourth Annual Derby Day offers races for kids of all ages. Sign up now before the heats fill up. The races begin at 1 p.m., but please arrive by 12:30 p.m. to check-in. Register before April 6 at noon. 1 p.m. Lincolnwood Town Center, 3333 W. Touhy, Lincolnwood, free, 847-674-1219

Crafting for Charity:

Knitted or crocheted muffs will be made with items such as ribbons, large buttons or textured fabrics attached that patients with dementia can twiddle in their hands. Called twiddlemuffs, 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

Storytime with the Easter Bunny:

This event takes place in Center Court and is titled Very Special Storytime with the Easter Bunny and the Very Hungry Caterpillar. Each attendee may meet the Easter Bunny, take a guided tour of the Butterflies! conservatory, and do a springtime craft project. "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle is read for all to enjoy. 10 a.m. Golf Mill Shopping Center, 239 Golf Mill Center, Niles, \$5 per person, 847-699-1070

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

Second Saturday Family Storytime and Craft - All Ages:

Stories and crafts for the whole family. 10 a.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

Twenty-first Star Chapter April 2017 Meeting:

A luncheon is served at noon with a meeting and program to follow. Chapter Regent of The Twenty-first Star Chapter of the NSDAR, Gail Enault, is pleased to have Mr. Robert Trowsell present a program entitled The Life of a Union Officer. Contact Second Vice Regent, Dorothy Wilson by calling for further details. 11:30 a.m. Park Ridge Country Club, 636 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, \$22, 847-328-6946

Natural Egg Dyeing:

This is for those ages 6-10 to decorate their own eggs with wax crayons and colorful dyes from berries, leaves and spices. While the dye sets, attendees hike outside and share a story. Please bring up to 12 hard-boiled eggs to use in class. 1:30 p.m. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St, Skokie, \$12 Skokie resident, \$15 non-resident, 847-677-7001

Nature Fun and Frolic - Saturdays:

This is for age two with a parent for weekly classes that introduce toddlers to different plants, animals and natural elements, while singing songs, playing games, reading books, and exploring nature in many different ways. Class takes place primarily outdoors, weather permitting. 9:30 a.m. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, \$84 Skokie resident, \$105 non-resident, 847-677-7001

Classical Recital: The Second Saturday Coffeehouse welcomes back the always exciting Romanian born violinist, Daniela Bisenius. For this concert, Daniela is accompanied by pianist, Oltea Gurgui. Their concert includes, but is not limited to: Bartok, Brahms, Puccini, Khaciaturian, and more. 8 p.m. Ethical

Humanist Society of Chicago, 7574 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie, Suggested donation \$10, 847-677-3334

Preserving Survivor Stories: Ask Holocaust Survivor Pinchas Gutter any question you would like, and natural language technology software will respond as if Pinchas were in the room. 10:30 a.m. Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800

Sunday, April 9

Jazz Champagne Brunch: This event benefits the WE (Work Ethic) program of the Forrest E. Powell Foundation working with teens who want to be matched with mentors. The mentors work with the students in specific career and tech fields, and they also receive scholarship help. 11:30 a.m. Hilton Garden Inn Chicago North Shore/Evanston, 1818 Maple Ave., Evanston, \$50 in advance; \$60 at door, 847-721-9707

Live Jazz with Chad Willets Trio:

On Sundays they have their full brunch menu with live jazz and the Chad Willets Trio from 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. 11:30 a.m. Peckish Pig, 623 Howard St., Evanston, free, 847-491-6778

John Williams' Sunday music session:

3 p.m. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

Knife Single Weapon Certification:

This class is taught by Chuck Coyl to learn the oldest and most visceral weapon style. Attacks, defenses, footwork and performance skills unique to the performance of safe and effective theatrical knife play are covered. Participants have the opportunity to take the Society of American Fight Directors skills proficiency test. 10 a.m. Actors Gymnasium, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, \$415, 847-328-2795

National Library Week presents:

Doing Dylan: A live performance celebrating 2016 Nobel Laureate Bob Dylan's iconic words and music, as interpreted by two highly respected musicians from the Chicago music scene, Tommi Zender and Phil Agnotti. Please register at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling. 2 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

StoryWalk: The Grizzly Bear Who Lost His Grrrrr: Little Bear Garden at Gallery Park, 2500 Chestnut Avenue is the place to go on the Storybook Trail and find out where that Grrrrr! got off

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to. This is presented by the Glenview Park District, the Glenview Public Library, and the Bike Glenview Initiative. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and was developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle and Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. 9 a.m. Sunday-Wednesday, Little Bear Garden Park, Patriot Blvd & Chestnut Ave, Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

Concert: Great Songs of the American Stage and Screen: Hear the music and learn the stories behind some of the greatest songs of the American stage and screen made famous by performers such as Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, Judy Garland and Liza Minelli, just to name a few. Music vocalist Shirlee Todd performs. 2 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Blood Drive: This Blood Drive is held at St. Paul of the Cross Church in conjunction with LifeSource. Use code RG08 to make an appointment online at Lifesource.org or by calling 877-543-3768. 8 a.m. St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church, 320 S. Washington St., Park Ridge, free, 847-494-5150

Nature Warblers: This is for ages 2-4 with a parent to learn about animals and the outdoors through music, movement and motion. Craft a musical instrument each week, and learn how to keep a beat. Classes are primarily outdoors, weather permitting. 10 a.m. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, \$74 Skokie resident, \$93 non-resident, 847-677-7001

Musical Crossroads: India and the West: Renowned sitarist Gaurav Mazumdar, a student of the legendary Ravi Shankar, joins Crossing Borders Music to present his new compositions for sitar, violin, cello, and tabla. The music merges traditional North Indian classical modes and rhythms with a Western style of counterpoint and innovative, raga-based harmonies. 4 p.m. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie, free, 847-673-7774

Monday, April 10

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

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

Minecraft Monday: Students in grades 3-5 are welcome to register to try their hand at this monthly MineCraft Monday challenge. The group meets in the new computer training lab on the lower level. 4:30 p.m. Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Passover at The Happ Inn: Celebrate the Jewish holiday by indulging in one of several specials, including matzoh ball soup, chopped liver, brisket, chicken, whitefish, potato pancakes and flourless chocolate cake. Choose from individual meals or family style option. Menu available for dine in or take out. 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, The Happ Inn, 305 Happ Road, Northfield, Menu prices vary; Family style option \$36.95 per person, \$14.95 children 12 and younger, 847-784-9200

Pesach Seder: The family at Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie hosts your family for Passover Seder. Relive the Exodus, discover the eternal meaning of the Haggadah, and enjoy hand-baked matzah, wine, and a home-made dinner. Join in on April 10 and/or on April 11, for an unforgettable meal by reservation only. Call or go to online to make a reservation. 7:15 p.m. Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster St., Skokie, Suggested Donation, 847-677-1770

Tuesday, April 11

Lego Club for Grades 1-2: Calling all Master Builders to join in this monthly free-build. The Legos are provided. Space is limited, so register at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling. 4 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

LinkedIn: Sign up for a LinkedIn account before this class and it is limited to 12 attendees. LinkedIn is for making connections and building your professional identity. Learn how to network using this professional social media site. A Glenview Library card is required and registration at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling. 7 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Don't Look Back: Capturing Bob Dylan's 1965 British concert tour, this classic film portrait is of the artist as a young man. Please register at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling. 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

Do More with Excel 2010: Registration required starting Feb. 20, for this hands-on workshop: Perform calculations with formulas and functions. Prerequisite: Introduction to Microsoft Excel 2010 workshop, or basic familiarity with Excel 2010 required. 7 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Movies, Munchies and More: Film "Bright Star": "Bright Star" is rated PG, and is about what becomes an unstoppable three-year romance between the 19th-century poet John Keats and Fanny Brawne. The cast stars: Ben Whishaw, Abbie Cornish, Paul Schneider. 11:30 a.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Grief Share Support Group: This is for anyone who can use help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. It is nondenominational and features Biblical concepts for healing from grief. These sessions include a weekly DVD, small group discussion and workbook. 7 p.m. St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church, 320 S. Washington St., Park Ridge, \$25, 847-692-6767

Annual Share-A-Seder at Temple Beth Israel: This annual "Share-A-Seder" runs from 6 to 9 p.m. Participants please bring for their family: hard boiled, peeled eggs; Kosher for Passover matzah; wine and/or grape juice. Dinner is provided. For more information call Temple Beth Israel or go to their website. 6:30 p.m. Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, adults \$35; children \$15 (ages 2-12), 847-675-0951

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

Nature Neighbors: Classes run weekly for those ages 4-5 to explore the wonders of the pond, prairie and woodland neighborhoods. They learn about

the amazing animals that live there through exploration, play and creative projects. Activities change seasonally. Classes are primarily outdoors, weather permitting. Children must be toilet-trained. 1:15 p.m. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, \$162 Skokie resident, \$203 non-resident, 847-677-7001

Scouting Around for Homeschoolers: Explore the natural world, learn new skills, and have fun with friends this spring. Activities change weekly and include science topics and outdoor skills. A major portion of each class takes place outside. Classes run weekly. 1:15 p.m. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, \$99 Skokie resident, \$124 non-resident, 847-677-7001

Toodlebugs: This is for ages 1.5-2.5 with a parent. Through exploration and play in the natural world, your child, or Toodlebug, learns their sense of place in the world, and builds and strengthens their motor and language skills. Each class focuses on a new animal and sensory experience and introduces simple sign language. 10 a.m. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie, \$85 Skokie resident; \$106 non-resident, 847-677-7001

Wednesday, April 12

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

Live Music Wednesdays with the 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

Triple B: Wednesday nights the burger special is of epic proportions! A burger of your choice, a house-brewed draft beer and a shot of buck bourbon -- all for \$15. 4 p.m. Peckish Pig, 623 Howard St., Evanston, \$15, 847-491-6778

Literary Latte Hour: This group shares a love of reading and offers an opportunity to meet like-minded people in an informal setting. If you just finished a great book and want to share it

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or you are looking for something new to read, just drop in. Staff are available to talk about hot new titles and selections the library's book groups have been discussing. 10:30 a.m. The Glenview Grind, 1837 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-0111

Census Records: Learn to find and use census records in your genealogy research. A Glenview Library card is required. Please register at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling. 2 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Bringing It All Back: Dylan in the 60s: Rian Murphy of Drag City Records explores Dylan's influential 60s discography. Mr. Murphy traces the development of Dylan's sound and songwriting from political folk to electric rock through selected tracks and lively discussion. Please register at glenviewpl.org/register or by calling. 7 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Portraits of People I Will Never Know - Gallery Talk: Larry Simon takes his inspiration from seemingly everyday objects, surfaces, and scenes

that are transformed into painterly short stories when given the chance. Larry blends his instincts for street photography with his love of abstraction to tell compelling, often solitudinous tales. 6:15 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

GalleryTalk - Portraits of People I Will Never Know: Meet Art in the Library exhibitor, Larry Simon. Larry takes his inspiration from seemingly everyday objects, surfaces and scenes that are transformed into painterly short stories when given the chance. 6:15 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Free Seminar: Living with an Anxiety Disorder: More than 25 million Americans live with an anxiety disorder. Attendees discover the different types of anxiety disorders including the signs, symptoms, developmental pathways, treatment options and more. This is presented by George Savarese, Ph.D., LCSW and includes refreshments. 5 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

Converting Cassettes and Vinyl Records: Registration required starting Feb. 20, for Lecture/Demo: Learn how to convert your audiocassettes or vinyl records to MP3 or CD in the Digital Media Lab. Limited to four. 7 p.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Free Film: Leviathan: Screened in Russian with English subtitles, Leviathan is a story of love and tragedy experienced by ordinary people. This is part of the library's Celebration of Cultures Film Series. 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

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

100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-823-3164

Pokemon Club Grades K - 6: Play Pokemon at the library! Bring your own cards and meet up with fellow Pokemon fans. 4:15 p.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-825-3123

April Networking Event at Harry Caray's: Spring into action this April and join the Park Ridge Chamber for our Monthly Networking Luncheon. The Community Health Commission will speak on Green Business Programs. 11:30 a.m. Harry Caray's Italian Steakhouse, 10233 W. Higgins Road, Rosemont, Fee: \$30, Discounted Member Fee: \$25, 847-825-3121

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COUNTRY FINANCIAL

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NOW PLAYING



"Beauty and the Beast" ★★

PG, 2:10, musical

This chaotic remake of Disney's 1991 screen musical "Beauty and the Beast" stresses the challenges of adapting a success in one form (animation) for another (live-action). The high points of director Bill Condon's resume suggest he was the right person for this big-budget remake. But his new movie is more of a grating disappointment, despite its best supporting turns, human and animatronic. Emma Watson makes for a genial, bland-ish

Belle, the outsider in her provincial French village. Underneath the digital fur and digital roars, Dan Stevens as the Beast, the transformed prince working on a rose-petaled deadline to become human again, locates some moments of pathos that stick. — *Michael Phillips*



"Power Rangers" ★★ 1/2

PG-13, 2:04, action/adventure

Back in the '90s, you probably knew them as Mighty Morphin, and these days they take the prefix "Saban's," but we all know them best as simply the Power Rangers. Now, of course, we have the big-screen reboot, for better or for worse. This version of the "Power Rangers" is about as dark as a CW series: just enough to be taken (somewhat) seriously, but with enough of a sense of humor about itself to have some fun too. The team of

screenwriters has brought a sense of levity, as well as realism, to the high school dramas, and the film is more about a bunch of oddball teens than it is about colorfully suited, karate-chopping superheroes. — *Katie Walsh, Tribune News Service*



"Kong: Skull Island" ★★★ 1/2

PG-13, 2:00, Action/Adventure

"Kong: Skull Island" is better, lighter on its feet (digital feet and human feet) and more fun than its reported \$190 million production budget would suggest. I don't know what you'd call it: a franchise reboot? A sequel to Peter Jackson's 2005 "King Kong," which I admired, but didn't enjoy like this one? Any movie with the sense, the wit and the visual instincts to introduce Kong the way this one does is fine with me. Boooooom, the

mighty paw slams down on the top of a cliff as Skull Island's landlord rises up to check out, nose to nose, the first humans we see on screen. Jordan Vogt-Roberts' film zips along and treats the Kong mythology seriously without getting balled up in the storytelling. — *M.P.*



"Life" ★★ 1/2

R, 1:43, sci-fi/fantasy

Calvin is a squishy, microscopic life form discovered in a soil sample taken from the surface of Mars. Described as all muscle, all brain and all-seeing, Calvin requires food, water and oxygen, just like the crew members of the International Space Station charged with bringing the samples back to Earth. Once the ill' Martian traveler establishes himself as A) a freakishly fast-developing adversary and B) a real stinker, the zero-gravity

blood globules float freely, and, like in "Alien," we have a slithering antagonist slithering amok in the space station. — *M.P.*



"Logan" ★★

R, 2:17, action/adventure

Director James Mangold's picture is the most sentimental and relentlessly violent of the nine films featuring Hugh Jackman, either in the lead or in a cameo, as the furry mutant. It's set in 2029, when the specially gifted mutant population has been decimated. Laura, played by Dafne Keen, is a mini-Wolverine cloned from our hero's blood. She is being pursued by security goon Pierce (Boyd Holbrook) and his "Mad Max"-inspired posse.

"Logan" is deadly serious, and while its gamer-style killing sprees are meant to be excitingly brutal, I found them numbing and, in the climax, borderline offensive. — *M.P.*

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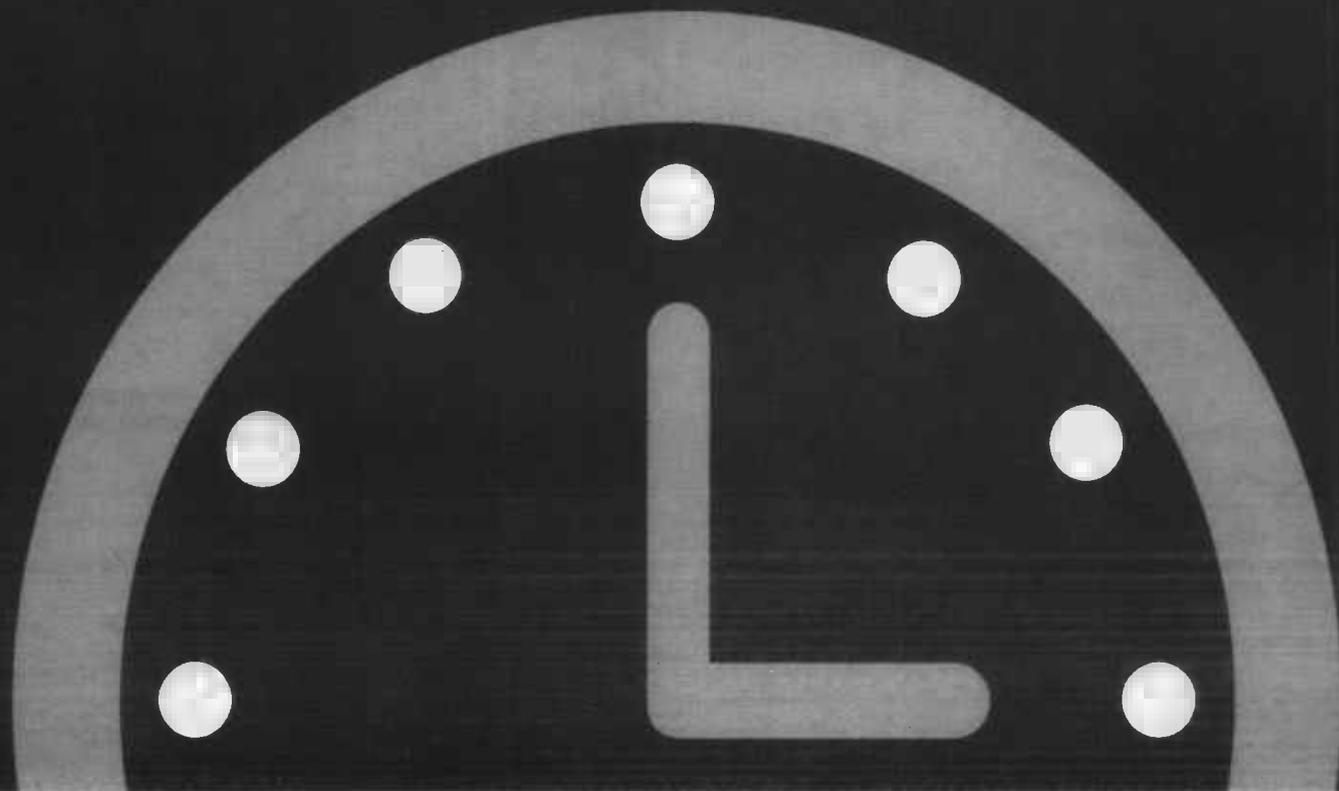
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SCHOOL CHOICE

Prep schools offer alternative East Coast route to college hoops

BY JON J. KERR
Pioneer Press

In April 2015, Rapolas Ivanauskas had just wrapped up his junior season on the Barrington boys basketball team. In his second year on varsity, the 6-foot-8 Ivanauskas quickly rose in the state recruiting rankings as he led Barrington to its first Mid-Suburban League title since 1979. He had scholarship offers from Iowa and Northwestern, among others, before committing to the Wildcats.

But seven months later, when he signed his national letter of intent with Northwestern, Ivanauskas was 1,000 miles away in Wolfeboro, N.H., where he spent his senior year.

A town of about 6,300 people, Wolfeboro is a popular resort destination for New England vacationers. It is also the home of Brewster Academy, a private boarding school for students in grades nine through 12, as well as post-graduates.

Not long after committing to Northwestern in April 2015, Ivanauskas consulted with Wildcats assistant coach Armon Gates. A Chicago native who played at Hillcrest before transferring to Brewster his senior year, Gates encouraged Ivanauskas to look into the school.

Brewster is perhaps most well-known for its top-tier basketball program, which has produced NBA players such as Mitch McGary, Thomas Robinson and T.J. Warren. Brewster has 16 alumni who played in the NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament this season. That's especially high considering Brewster is a relatively small school, with only 352 students currently enrolled.

Gates' recommendation soon led to a spot on the roster, assured by Brewster head coach Jason Smith. Ivanauskas was in New Hampshire by August 2015, four months after he committed to Northwestern.

"The decision to transfer was me and my family's choice," Ivanauskas said. "I knew I wanted to play basketball in a better league (than the MSL). I knew I needed to develop as a person."

At Brewster, Ivanauskas found himself on a team that blurred the line between traditional high school basketball and the college ranks. The Bobcats' roster was filled with Division I recruits (13, to be exact). They played a 35-game schedule with two 20-minute halves and a 30-second shot clock.

Every game was against elite competition, including conference matchups in the lofty New England Preparatory School Athletic Council.

When he wasn't working on his basketball skills, Ivanauskas took the five classes required by the school during three 10-week trimesters. He lived in an on-campus dormitory.

After a year on the East Coast, Ivanauskas arrived at Northwestern last September. He had shoulder surgery in October and sat out his freshman season, but he said his time at Brewster prepared him for college as he had hoped.

"Without going there, I would not be the player I am," he said. "I learned what playing against good competition was. It was another way of growing up."

The idea of prep schools is a strange concept in the Midwest, where such institutions are few and far between. That has led to some inherent distrust among local coaches and players, who are wary of the "basketball factory" reputation some schools develop.

"The tradition, longevity and credibility of a post-graduate school is an aesthetic that doesn't exist in the Midwest," said Mike Mullins, director of the Illinois Wolves AAU program.

'We're not at that level'

On its website, Lake Forest Academy describes itself as a "co-educational, independent, college-preparatory school." The Caxys' basketball roster has two players from Canada and one from China. But coach Matt Vaughn scoffed at the idea that Lake Forest Academy could be compared to various East Coast prep schools.

"We have boarding schools and kids from all over the place, but we're not at that level," Vaughn

said of Brewster and similar schools with a plethora of Division I players. "They place much more of an emphasis on basketball than us."

Lake Forest Academy plays a traditional November-to-February basketball schedule, but Vaughn said he knows of East Coast schools where the season begins in August.

"Once you get to campus, you are practicing and playing," he said. "It's essentially a two-season sport."

Brewster's schedule begins in early November and runs to March, and Bobcats athletic director Matt Lawlor disputed the notion that Brewster could be lumped in with other schools where basketball is a primary focus.

"We have 400 kids in the school," Lawlor said. "We offer other sports — lacrosse, hockey, skiing and snowboarding. We have other athletes walking around. We are not a big hoops factory. The ones that are basketball factories don't have other sports."

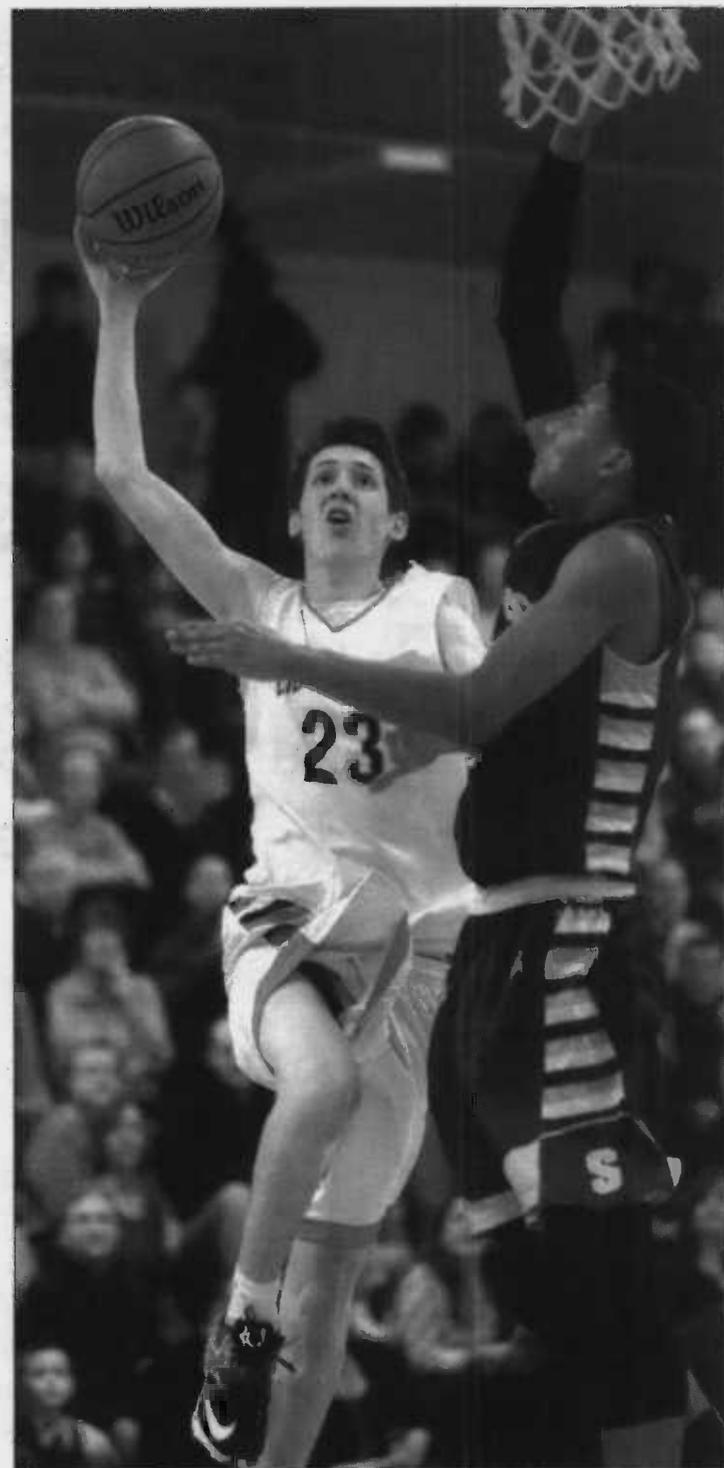
An all-Central Suburban League player coming out of Highland Park in 2008, Josh Bartelstein received minimal interest from Division I schools. He decided to take a gap year on the East Coast in hopes of landing at an Ivy League or Big Ten school.

"There was a negative connotation about prep schools. It's the same as college, where some don't value academics," Bartelstein said. "But I wanted to have a new world understanding and wanted to learn about that space."

He visited Brewster and found it to be "a great school, but after talking to people I felt it was closer to a basketball factory," he said.

He chose Phillips Exeter Academy in Exeter, N.H. After a year at Exeter, Bartelstein ended up at Michigan and co-captained the team that made it to the 2013 NCAA title game.

"It worked out," said Bartelstein, now the assistant to Detroit Pistons executive Arn Tellem at Palace Sports and Entertainment. "My success that year (at Exeter) and getting seen and talked about helped me to play basketball at



JOE SHUMAN/PIONEER PRESS

After injuries limited his time on varsity, Libertyville alumnus Conor Peterson spent a post-graduate year at Brewster Academy and played with Rapolas Ivanauskas. Peterson later walked on at Xavier.

Michigan."

Two other Highland Park students went the prep school route for a year. Tellef Lundevall played football and track at Exeter before moving on to Brown, where he also played football. His younger brother, Hallvard Lundevall, went to rival Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass., before moving on to the Wesleyan football team.

A second chance

In the high school class of 2015 alone, Hallvard Lundevall, Conor Peterson of Libertyville and Jack Lieb of Deerfield all spent a post-graduate year at prep schools.

Peterson, a 6-5 shooting guard,

Turn to **Basketball**, Next Page

Basketball, from Previous Page

and Lieb, a 6-8 center, were teammates with Ivanauskas at Brewster in 2015-16.

"I wanted to get a Division I scholarship (in high school), and I didn't achieve that goal," said Peterson, the older brother of Libertyville junior guard Drew Peterson.

At Brewster, Peterson improved his use of his non-dominant left hand as well as his shooting and footwork. He put on 20 pounds of muscle and committed to Xavier last August as a walk-on.

"Conor was really skinny (coming out of Libertyville) and wasn't at his physical peak yet. He was still growing," said Brian Burns, one of Peterson's AAU coaches with the Kessel Heat. "For a kid like him, (Brewster) was a great opportunity."

Back and knee injuries shortened Lieb's career at Deerfield, leaving him with an incomplete basketball resume. Lieb, unsure of what path to take after high school, asked Mullins, his AAU coach, for advice.

Mullins steered Lieb to Brewster. Mullins had known the Bobcats' coaching staff since former Oak Park-River Forest standout Christian Cornelius went there in 2005.

"Most guys get two or three years of varsity ball and Jack, through no fault of his own, did not get that opportunity," Mullins said. "The hope was he'd benefit from one year of school there."

Mullins said he has one or two players per year who attend prep schools but doesn't recommend them to everybody. He encourages families to do their homework and acknowledged the idea of a post-graduate year 1,000 miles away is foreign to many in the Chicago area.

"Reasons, timing, all of those things have to line up for it to work," Mullins said.

'There is no bad blood'

When he decided to leave Barrington, Ivanauskas said he reached out to Broncos coach Bryan Tucker.

"I wanted to tell him before he heard it from somewhere else," Ivanauskas said, adding that he hasn't spoken with Tucker since that conversation in the summer of 2015.

Tucker confirmed Ivanauskas



TRACY ALLEN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

By the end of his junior season, Rapolas Ivanauskas emerged as a dominant player at Barrington. He transferred to Brewster Academy in New Hampshire for his senior season.

called him that summer to tell him he was leaving. He recalled that Ivanauskas told him Northwestern coaches heavily influenced his decision.

"He said Northwestern arranged it for him to go out there," Tucker said of the summer 2015 phone call with Ivanauskas. "They were telling him this is what's best for him."

In late February, Northwestern coach Chris Collins told the Pioneer Press he and his staff would never require a recruit to go to a prep school, adding those decisions are up to each family.

"If he had wanted to stay at Barrington, we would have supported that," Collins said.

Tucker said he respected Ivanauskas' decision to leave Barrington for Brewster but disagreed with his reasoning.

"I felt like we had done a lot to help him progress those three years, and in the fourth year we could have helped in his development," Tucker said. "We felt like he could have developed here playing in the MSL against teams like Fremd and Conant."

Tucker confirmed he has not spoken to Ivanauskas in nearly two years but said he has no lingering hard feelings toward his former player.

"He made a decision that was best for him," Tucker said. "It wasn't personal. There is no bad blood."

One of Ivanauskas' Barrington teammates did not respond to requests for comment. Another former teammate declined to comment when contacted by Pioneer Press.

Chris Lester, who played with Ivanauskas at Barrington and is now a freshman at New Hampshire, said he's happy for his former teammate.

"He's at a D-I school. He did what was best for him," Lester said.

Ivanauskas said he hopes to be cleared to resume basketball activities later in the spring. He said he made the right choice to prepare him for the athletic and academic rigors of a Big Ten university.

"I had to make a decision and needed to challenge myself for the transition to college," he said. "If I hadn't (transferred to Brewster), the transition would have been far more drastic."

Jon J. Kerr is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Q&A: Brewster Academy dean of studies Peter Hess

BY JON J. KERR
Pioneer Press

There are 352 students enrolled at Brewster Academy for the 2016-17 school year. They range anywhere from ninth grade to post-graduates and come from 30 states and several countries. The price tag is hefty — \$59,900 for boarding students next fall — and not far from the cost of attendance at some elite universities.

Pioneer Press contributor Jon J. Kerr interviewed Brewster dean of studies Peter Hess to learn more about how prep schools like Brewster operate.

Q: What makes Brewster a prep school? What percentage of students are post-graduate?

A: Parents send their kids here to prepare them for college. That's why we call ourselves a college preparatory school. It's not uncommon for us to have post-graduates. We take on a certain number. Out of our graduating class of 120 or 125, there between 15 to 22 post-graduates. Some are looking for better academic preparation and instructional support before college. Some are looking for another year of maturity athletically.

Q: What are the academic requirements?

A: We are on trimesters here. Students must complete five year-round academic courses. English and math are two requirements for the whole year. There is one credit for each course. They have to maintain that full load throughout the year. There is no change from one trimester to the next. Once they have received five academic credits, they get a certificate of completion. Just like any public school, students can earn college credit if they take Advanced Placement classes.

Q: Is there a minimum grade-point average required?

A: A score of 60 (percent) is required. If they fail, they have to make up that credit.

Q: Is there a minimum GPA to maintain athletic eligibility?

A: We handle that case-by-case. We haven't had an issue. Our academic programs are designed around a curriculum to meet success. We invest a lot in teaching practices here. The experience of the teachers and their expertise and commitment and the work they do with our students is above and beyond. It's a different mindset.

Q: Cost of attendance at Brewster is (about) \$55,000 for 2016-17. Do students receive financial aid?

A: Most do. It's the same idea as college in regards to the process to receive financial assistance. Although we've been around for a long time, that money comes out of our operating budget. We used to be the local public school here going back to 1820. Then in 1964 the town built a regional high school, and that's when we became a private school. We don't have the huge endowments that other schools like Exeter or Phillips have. We are not in that category.

Q: What do you say to people who may perceive Brewster as a basketball factory?

A: There are schools like that. I can say with absolute certainty that basketball players here are enrolled in the same programs as all students and are held to the same standard. They are in class every day. They have an adviser. If they miss class, there are detentions. The coach of our program (Jason Smith) has been here a long time and has built a working reputation among college coaches. He knows the system very well, and if someone comes to Brewster, they know the (academic) program they will be involved in. He's able to be very selective about the students he brings in. We work very closely together.

Jon J. Kerr is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

INDIVIDUAL EFFORT

For athletes without teams, state playoffs are a solo act

BY RICH MAYOR
Pioneer Press

On the Illinois High School Association website, Keith Engeriser is listed as the Maine South girls bowling coach.

There's nothing odd about that, except Maine South technically does not have a girls bowling team.

Engeriser, like a handful of other coaches in the area, could also be considered supervisors. These coaches represent their schools — and individual athletes — in the IHSA-sanctioned state series. Their interaction with each player often does not begin until the regional playoffs and only continues as far as the individual advances.

Engeriser is the designated supervisor for Victoria Odarczenko, a senior and Maine South's only varsity girls bowler.

Engeriser first met Odarczenko at the Resurrection Regional on Feb. 8, 2014. Odarczenko was a freshman and bowled an 1102, good enough to advance to sectionals.

She bowled alone then and bowled alone the next three seasons as well. Engeriser said watching her compete without teammates is difficult, but could certainly be worse; she could not be there at all.

"It's tough seeing her, it really is," Engeriser said. "Especially the first year, not knowing what to expect was a bit of a shock. How well these (other bowling) teams get along: They have cheers, they have extravagant things to bond them together. And here she is, just fighting for herself. So I think it did take a little adjustment for her.

"But as time goes on, you start to bond with the other individuals in your lane. So while she didn't have a team, she was able to, in her own kind of way, make her own little team and support system."

Odarczenko, who finished 66th at state as a junior and 84th as a senior, bowled frequently even though she didn't have a true high school team. During the season, she practiced primarily on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays,



MARK KODIAK UKENA/PIONEER PRESS

Carmel's Kyle Falkstrom competes in the 100-yard breaststroke at the Vernon Hills Sectional on Feb. 18. The Corsairs do not have an official boys swimming team.

usually with men's leagues at Habetler Bowl in Chicago.

She's developed a bond with Maine West senior Mary Connelly, who also competed as a solo participant under coach Michael Murin. She bowled in the same lane at state as Odarczenko.

"On teams, you have other bowlers that are with you, other girls to support you and support each other," Odarczenko said. "When I went to state, there wasn't much support.

"But Mary and I just care for each other. We know the situation. At least we have each other."

According to IHSA records, at least 18 other programs throughout the area had athletes participate in the state playoffs this season despite not having enough athletes to field a full team.

Renata Fulk was the first Beacon gymnast to compete in the IHSA postseason. She advanced to the state meet and scored an 8.925 on the vault, good for 37th place.

Despite being the lone Beacon gymnast, Fulk had friends in high places. Hersey's Maggie Barton and Mackenzie Kamysz, fellow members of the Elk Grove Gymnastics School, were also at the state meet.

"(Fulk) got her wish, to be competing at state with two of her best friends since she was 5," said Renata Fulk's mother, Bobbi Ann Fulk. "So while they're not on the same team, they cheer for each other and support each other just as best friends do."

Fulk, Barton and Kamysz are all

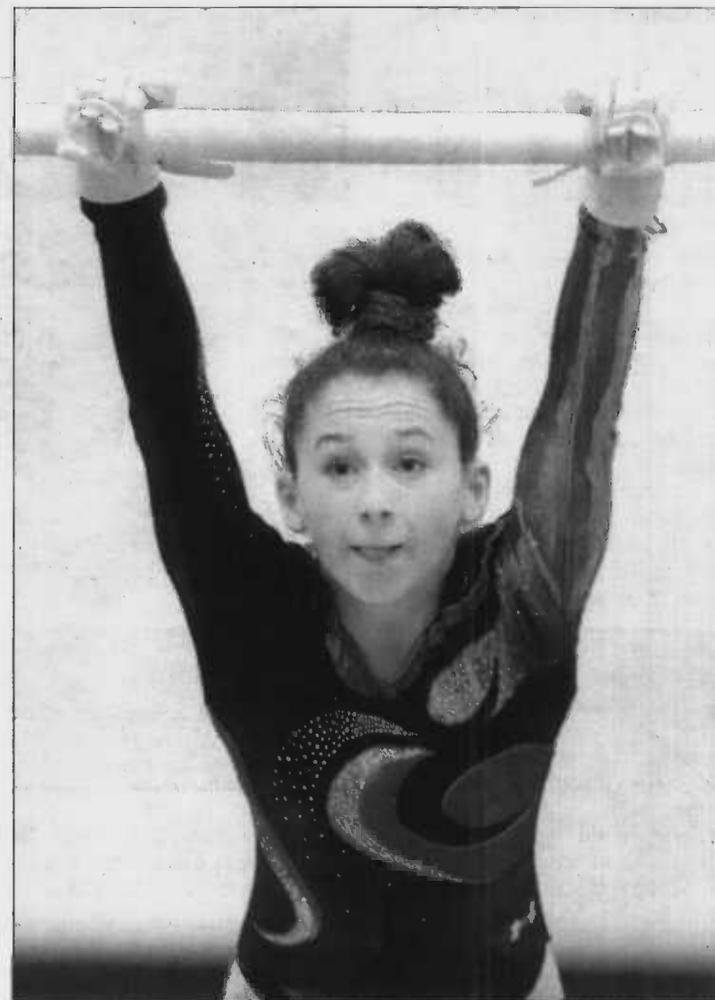
coached by Glen Marks, the owner of the Elk Grove Gymnastics School. On its official IHSA page, Beacon lists Marks as the school's girls gymnastics coach. As with many other one-member "teams," Marks is primarily a Beacon-appointed sponsor, but he's also coached Fulk for four years at Elk Grove and is acutely familiar with her strengths and weaknesses.

"To make it to your state meet in your first year of eligibility, it's really hard," Marks said. "She's happy to be representing her school. It's nice to get that sort of publicity for the school.

"The other kids on teams compete twice or three times per week. (Fulk) goes to meets once in a while. The difference between club and these meets is significant, it takes some getting used to. You're just not competing for a team, you can't build the momentum."

Aaron Chopra is listed as the Lake Zurich girls gymnastics coach on the IHSA site. He was a gymnastics coach at Barrington "for about 10 years," he said, but stopped because of the time commitment. His coaching role at Lake Zurich is much more limited.

Chopra is another coach who has expertise in the field but had no contact with the Lake Zurich gymnasts during the regular season. The first time he saw the group — freshmen Teagan Jones, Julia McDevitt and Krista Wohler — compete was at the Buffalo Grove Regional on Jan. 30. Jones



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Lake Zurich's Julia McDevitt performs on the uneven bars at the Buffalo Grove Regional on Jan. 30. Three Lake Zurich freshmen competed in the IHSA state series, but the school has no official girls gymnastics team.

advanced to the following week's Fremd Sectional in the vault.

Chopra, who teaches math, said Lake Zurich has plenty of talented female athletes but that potential gymnasts often choose a different route.

"They have some really good club athletes. I see them in my class, and we'll talk gymnastics once in a while," Chopra said. "And they tell me what levels they are — several level eights, a few level nines — and that's why the cheerleading team has been so good, because these girls were going out for that as opposed to gymnastics.

"That's why, I think, the pressure on the school of having a gymnastics team sort of fell by the wayside because there was an outlet."

Under head coach Pam Bonnevier, the Bears became a perennial contender at the state cheerleading meet and won the large school state title in 2011.

The cheerleading success is a

silver lining to an often difficult system for Lake Zurich gymnasts, who compete without the support of a team. Engeriser, Marks and Chopra said the athletes at their respective schools still get the opportunity to compete against the state's best, even if the camaraderie looks a little different and the season doesn't start until the playoffs.

"The 'coach' term is there, but it's not like I do anything with (Odarczenko) during the year," Engeriser said. "Different schools have different levels of knowledge for people in that role, but at least I knew bowling. They can't necessarily go out and search for a coach, because it can be a one-week position.

"That's just the nature of the beast, really."

Rich Mayor is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer_Press

HELP WANTED

Niles West hiring new football, basketball coaches

BY JAKUB RUDNIK
Pioneer Press

The Niles West athletic department staff has been extra busy this winter and spring. The school has been tasked with finding new coaches for three of its highest-profile positions after head coaches resigned.

Scott Baum stepped down as the football coach and accepted the freshman defensive backs coaching position at Loyola. Baum has a son who will be a junior in the Ramblers program next year, and another who will be a freshman. Bob Williams, who has been the boys basketball coach, is retiring from coaching and teaching at the end of the school year. Tony Konsewicz won't return as the girls basketball coach either. He praised the athletic department and the school's administrative staff for its support in an email but stated he felt the need to step down.

"When you get the feeling that you or the direction of where the program is going is no longer

being valued, then it is time to step away," he said in an email. "At the end of the day each and every one of us have our integrity and reputation. I can not sit by and have those impugned."

Wolves athletic director Kendall Griffin said that the boys basketball position has been filled, pending approval at April's board of education meeting. That meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, according to the district's website. The application windows for the other two positions have closed, Griffin said, and he and assistant athletic director Terri Laux will begin contacting candidates this week for interviews.

This turnover is not common at Niles West. Konsewicz has been head coach for 10 seasons, while Baum and Williams each held their positions for the past eight season. While Griffin said he wasn't expecting all the change, the situation does offer the department the rare opportunity to shape much of its future all at once. He stressed that developing programs in the community will

be essential to competing in the Central Suburban South.

"I want someone who is going to be a leader, someone who is going to get out in the community and build the program that way," Griffin said of the football and girls basketball openings. "Someone who is going to sell the program to the community, at the junior high and even at the youth level. We want someone with the ability to grow a program at a youth level. Someone who understands our cultural diversity and the challenges we face as a district."

Griffin said he, Laux, building-level administrators and select student-athletes will be involved in the interview process for the two openings. Griffin said some boys basketball players sat in on interviews during the search for the next boys basketball coach and offered their feedback on candidates.

"We want to get a feel of what (current players are) looking for in a head coach and what they'd like us to identify," Griffin said. "I want

them to know that we feel it is important to get their feedback."

In an email, Baum said an incoming coach will have to deal with decreasing numbers at lower levels.

"As for Niles West, we return a group of players that played a lot last year," he said in an email. "Our sophomore numbers were good, but our freshman numbers were down a little last year. Like a lot of programs, we are struggling to get kids out for football. ... Niles West has great facilities and support from the administration, just need to get more kids out playing football."

Konsewicz said the girls basketball program is "in great shape," with talented returning players on the roster.

"We had a very young nucleus on the varsity level that is only going to get better," he said via email. "We have some young and talented girls coming through the program. The new head coach is going to enjoy working with this team. Not only are they good basketball players, they are ex-



TIM BOYLE/PIONEER PRESS

In this Sept. 30, 2016, photo, Niles West football coach Scott Baum talks to his players during their game at Evanston.

tremely hard workers. Above all else they are high character student-athletes."

Jakub Rudnik is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer_Press

After starring for Vikings, Shaw becomes volleyball head coach

BY DAN SHALIN
Pioneer Press

In the spring of 2011, Niles North boys volleyball assistant coach Allen Tom was asked about senior star Andre Shaw, who got a late start to the season after helping the Vikings basketball team reach the Class 4A super-sectional.

"He mentioned how much fun going to sectional was, and he wants to do the same thing in volleyball," Tom said.

That didn't happen. Niles North lost in the regional final and finished the year 19-13. But Shaw now has a second chance.

Tom and Shaw are once again both part of the Niles North volleyball program, though Shaw is now the 24-year-old, first-year coach, and Tom is his assistant. Tom is in his 17th season as a Vikings assistant.

"(Tom) is handling it well," joked Shaw, who grew up in Skokie. "It's great to have someone like (Tom), he knows me well,

gives me advice, knows when to calm me down."

Shaw earned a volleyball scholarship to Robert Morris Chicago and played four years for the Eagles, earning NAIA Great Lakes All-Conference Second-Team honors in 2014 and 2015.

After spending his first season after college as the freshman boys coach and girls assistant at Niles North, Shaw was named the boys coach in December 2016, succeeding his former coach Carol Herlocker.

"(Shaw) was my first pick (as a successor). He was a great player, great personality and had a great work ethic," Herlocker said. "I'm very happy that he was the one who took over for me."

Shaw credited Herlocker with championing his candidacy to first-year athletic director Brett Bildstein.

Herlocker, who is still a teacher and athletic administrator at Niles North, said she speaks daily with Shaw, who works at the school as a freshman student advocate and

digital literacy para.

Shaw said Herlocker has been an important mentor, helping him with both administrative tasks, like scheduling and budgeting, and on the volleyball sides of the job.

"She's always willing to help, and she gives her two cents on how to make the program better," said Shaw, who is also a club volleyball coach at Club Momentum Athletics and is involved in coaching for the USA Volleyball High Performance Program. "She's been very supportive about anything I want to change or keep the same."

There have been changes.

For the offseason training program, Shaw introduced weight lifting five days a week and 6:30 a.m. open gyms. On the court, Shaw has installed a faster-tempo offense and changed the blocking scheme.

"I'm throwing the kitchen sink at them, and they are handling it well," said Shaw, whose team began the season 6-2. "We're a

team that is going to blossom toward the end of the season."

Senior outside hitter Griffin Dunn, who played for Herlocker last season, said Shaw has brought some new methods to the program.

"Outside of practice, all the extra work that goes into it, extra conditioning days, a different sort of lifting, we do more lifting now," said Dunn, who lives in Skokie. "Practice is more ball-control, more hitting. We have a more complex offense. It's not just outside, middle and right side, but more movement with all the hitters."

Dunn said Shaw is intense, but in a good way, and that Shaw has instant credibility with his players because he was in their shoes only a few years ago, and then went on to play collegiately.

"He's been there and done that and knows what to do to get there (to being a top player)," Dunn said. "(Having been a player at Niles North) helps I guess, it makes him more passionate toward the

game."

While Shaw praises Herlocker for her role in his development as a player and coach, he also said Niles North boys basketball coach Glenn Olson has been a significant influence, a valuable resource and a role model.

Olson arrived at Niles North ahead of Shaw's junior season and quickly elevated the Vikings' basketball program.

"Olson and I talk a lot," Shaw said. "Right now, my goal is to catch him. Basketball here now is really big, they're winning. I'm hoping to build that type of atmosphere for the volleyball community here."

Shaw added: "I try to replicate what (Olson) does in terms of his offseason and how he coaches the kids hard. He's somebody I can look up to, for sure."

Dan Shalin is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Three seniors step into leadership roles for Dons

BY STEVE REAVEN
Pioneer Press

Just as in his previous six seasons at the helm of the Notre Dame boys volleyball program, Patrick Cole had a number of preseason tasks to perform this year.

There were open gym sessions to schedule, medical forms to collect and uniforms to sort and organize.

However, Cole omitted one traditional duty from his spring checklist — arranging for the selection of team captains.

Three seniors — Dan Murphy, Luke Apostolos and Kyle Stemper — had already donned the squad's mantle of leadership and a formal vote would have proved redundant.

"That's definitely a first for me, but there was nothing else to be said," Cole said. "Some guys are just naturals at stepping into leadership roles. These three bring it every day and the rest of the guys follow."

Each senior gleaned tenets of his leadership philosophy from a different source.

Murphy paid particular attention to last year's seniors. Apostolos looked up to upperclassmen while he was on the program's lower-level teams and Stemper gained valuable perspective from former assistant Ryan Roycroft, a 2014 Notre Dame graduate who plays volleyball at Robert Morris Chicago.

Despite the multiple influences on their leadership styles, common threads abound in the trio's approach.

"Even in practice, you have to make sure everyone is 'in it' because volleyball is such a high-energy sport," said Stemper, a middle blocker who resides in Chicago's Lincoln Square neighborhood. "The three of us always bring energy to everything we do so the



ERIC P. DAVIS/PIONEER PRESS

Notre Dame's Dan Murphy (3) sets the ball during the Dons' match against DePaul Prep on March 28 in Niles. Notre Dame won 25-17, 25-12.

others see what kind of tone has to be set."

Having a positive outlook also is important to the three.

"You just always need to have a good mental state. You can't be negative ever," Apostolos said. "If you are, the whole team can be pulled in that direction because the other players look up to you."

In addition to helping their teammates have a good attitude, the senior leaders also have been valuable members of the Dons' lineup.

Murphy, Notre Dame's primary setter, notched a team-high 190 assists in the Dons' first nine matches and has seen his on-court responsibilities change more since last year than any other Notre Dame player, according to Cole. He is physically stronger than he was last spring, so Cole trusts him in some front-row alignments as well.

Stemper, who ended last week's action with a team-high 62 kills, has a unique knack for balancing aggressiveness and intelligence at the net. He's also proficient at eyeing open seams in the opposing defense.

Apostolos, a defensive specialist who resides in Chicago's Norwood Park community area, was a role

player in 2016 who has become a lineup mainstay by virtue of sheer determination.

"He pushed himself hard because he wants to be out there," Cole said. "He does whatever it takes to help the team."

The results thus far have been promising — a 5-4 start to the year after a 14-18 record a year ago.

Murphy, Stemper and Apostolos all agree that the truest measure of progress will be how the team fares in conference. The Dons were 1-7 in the East Suburban Catholic a year ago. Notre Dame's first conference game of the season is April 18 when it plays host to Benet.

The strong start to the year is a departure from last year when the team tended to not always take early-season matches seriously.

"This year, we realize that these early games count as much as conference," said Murphy, who lives in Chicago's Edison Park neighborhood. "Last year, we treated them almost as a cushion, and that hurt us. Now, we're going as hard as we can from the start to the end of the season."

Steve Reaven is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.



IT'S TIME TO VOTE!

The polls are open for the Community Choice Athlete of the Year challenge! You have until noon on April 13 to go to chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes and cast your vote. You may vote once every 12 hours. Winners will be recognized at a ceremony in June at the Chicago Tribune Lit Fest, so vote early and vote often!

Erika Christiansen



Year: Junior
School: Maine East
Sport: Girls volleyball
Position: Setter

Season stats: 345 serve attempts with 35 aces, 225 hitting attempts (second on the team), 100 kills, 14 solo blocks, 26 blocks assists, 754 assists, 115 digs

Best game: In an Aug. 31, match against Niles West, Christiansen recorded five aces, three solo blocks, three assisted blocks, seven kills and 14 assists. Maine East beat the Wolves 20-25, 25-21, 25-20. Niles West went on to finish fourth in the state in Class 4A.

Natalia Pehar



Year: Sophomore
School: Niles West
Sport: Girls volleyball
Position: Out-

side hitter

Season stats: Pehar tallied 360 kills, 34 aces, 40 blocks and 136 digs to help the Wolves reach their first state tournament. Niles West finished fourth and ended the year with a record 28 wins.

Best game: Pehar's play in the Class 4A Maine West Regional final against New Trier stood out to Wolves coach Stacy Metoyer. Pehar recorded three kills in a row to win the match and finished with 16 kills total.

Caleigh Pistorius



Year: Sophomore
School: Maine South
Sport: Girls gymnastics
Season

stats: She earned All-Central Suburban South honors and finished second on vault and fourth on the floor at the conference meet. Pistorius earned three first-place finishes at the regional (all-around, vault and floor exercise). Her season high scores: vault, 9.825; uneven bars, 8.925; balance beam, 9.425; floor exercise, 9.55; all-around, 37.35. **Best game:** Pistorius finished as the co-state champion on the balance beam.

Annika Wagner



Year: Freshman
School: Maine South
Sport: Girls swimming
Season

stats: Wagner set four school records (200-yard freestyle, 200 individual medley, 500 free and 100 breaststroke) and won conference and sectional titles in the 200 IM.

Best game: Wagner finished fourth in the 200 IM and the 500 free at the state meet.

Quote: "Annika is not only an extremely talented swimmer, but is also one of the most focused athletes and hardest workers that I have ever coached," Hawks coach Don Kura said in an email.

Afroditi Baltas



Year: Freshman
School: Maine East
Sport: Girls gymnastics
Season stats:

Baltas was the only gymnast to finish in the top four in all four events and the all-around at the conference meet and earned all-conference honors. Her high scores for the season: vault, 9.25; uneven bars, 8.6; balance beam, 9.175; floor exercise, 9.3; all-around, 35.73.

Best game: Afroditi placed on all four events plus the all-around at Evanston's Chester Jones Invite on Jan. 7 and had personal bests on vault, uneven bars, balance beam and all-around.

Mark Biedke



Year: Senior
School: Maine South
Sport: Boys soccer
Position: Goalkeeper

Best game: Biedke came off the bench for penalty kicks during the Class 3A regional semifinals. He stopped two of Lincoln Park's five penalty kicks to help Maine South win the shootout 4-3 and the game 3-2.




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Notre Dame grad Pryor wins slam dunk contest

BY DAN SHALIN
Pioneer Press

Area high school basketball fans who watched the State Farm College Slam Dunk Championship live on ESPN might have been caught by surprise.

There was Rodney Pryor, who played at Notre Dame for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 seasons, inspiring the hashtag #RodneyFlyer with his acrobatic dunks and winning the event on May 30 in Phoenix.

Pryor, a sixth-year graduate-student transfer at Georgetown, was a 3-point shooter and talented scorer for the Dons.

"In high school, I was not that athletic, I was a more of a shooter," Pryor said. "But to get better at the game of basketball, I knew I needed to reach a certain level of athleticism. So, during the summers and (seasons) I had different coaching staffs pushing me (to improve in that area)."

In his one season with the Hoyas, Pryor averaged 18.0 points per game, which ranked fourth in the Big East. He earned All-Big East honorable mention honors.

The slam dunk contest was part of the Final Four festivities and held in front of a raucous, capacity crowd at Grand Canyon University Arena.

"Being a part of that, the atmosphere and the fan base, it was crazy," said the 6-foot-5 Pryor, who earlier in the event teamed with Michigan senior Derrick Walton Jr. and Kansas State women's basketball player Kindred Wesemann to win the Skills Challenge. "I think I was more nervous in that setting than in an actual game. Being able to come out and compete and win it, it was a blessing to do that."

The dunk contest began with eight participants, and eventually reached a final stage in which Pryor and

Eastern Tennessee State senior guard A.J. Merriweather squared off in a one-dunk-apiece showdown.

Pryor's last dunk involved him catching the ball off a bounce from Walton, elevating, putting the ball through his legs and throwing it down. The dunk put the pressure on Merriweather, who was not able to successfully execute his final dunk in the allotted time.

"I think I was more nervous in that setting than in an actual game."

— Rodney Pryor

The win earned Pryor a boxing-style championship belt, which he paraded around at the event's after party and said was destined for his mom's house in Evanston.

Pryor's participation in this year's event can be traced back to Notre Dame assistant coach Kevin Clancy, who just finished his 11th season on the Dons bench. Clancy said he recommended Pryor to his longtime friend Joe Salituro, who runs the slam dunk event for Intersport.

"We'd never had a (former) player who was a candidate to participate (until Pryor)," said Clancy, a 1998 Notre Dame graduate. "Rodney has gotten so much attention this year, and they were looking for players (with a national profile), and with him being at Georgetown, it was a great fit."

Salituro, a 1998 Loyola Academy graduate, said Pryor's name was on his early lists for both the 3-

point and dunk competitions. Pryor made 84 3-pointers this season and shot 41.2 percent from behind the arc.

"But it's more difficult to find those athletic freaks (for the dunk contest), so when you get somebody with the potential to be in both, you lean more toward the dunk than the 3-point," Salituro said.

For Pryor, the dunk contest victory is the latest chapter in a story of perseverance. He spent three seasons in junior college — two of which were lost entirely to injury — before emerging as a star at Robert Morris, a low-major Division I program. Then this winter he starred for the Hoyas.

In the coming weeks and months, Pryor said he will hire an agent, work with trainers and compete at the Portsmouth (Va.) Invitational Tournament from April 12-15 with the hopes of earning an invite to the NBA Draft Combine in May in Chicago.

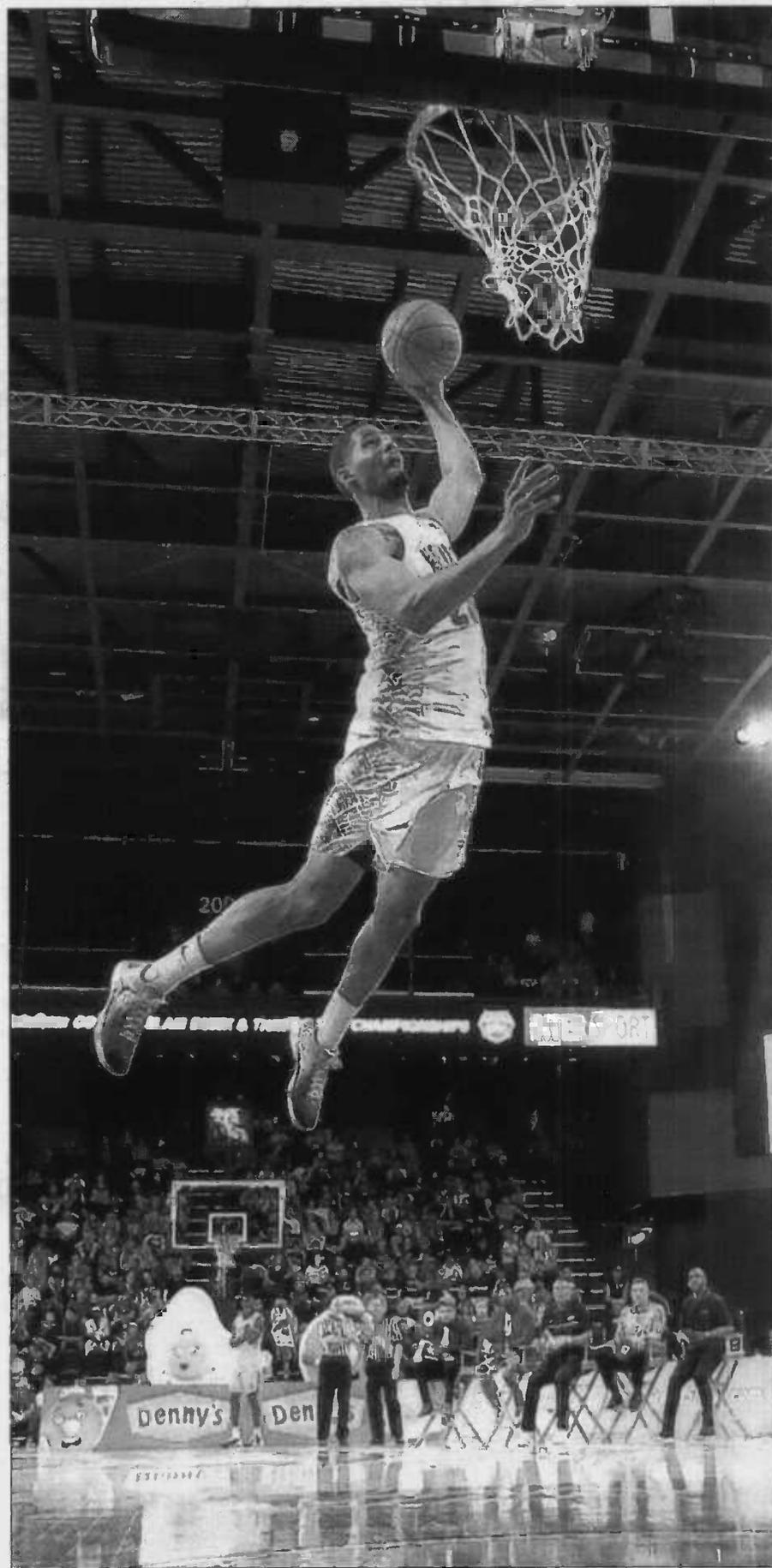
Howard Megdal, an NBA Draft analyst for CBSSports.com, rated Pryor as the 16th-best shooting guard eligible for the draft in February.

Though disappointed by Georgetown's 14-18 season, Pryor said he was glad to have had the chance to prove himself on a big stage like the Big East, where he regularly appeared on national television. He hoped the dunk contest would be another way to raise his profile ahead of the draft.

"To have this event, it's just more TV time on ESPN, and if that helps moving forward, and more people are familiar with me, it's great," Pryor said.

Dan Shalin is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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STEVE WOLTMANN/INTERSPORT

Rodney Pryor won the State Farm College Slam Dunk Championship on March 30 at Grand Canyon University Arena in Phoenix.

Maramo sets Maine East up for success

BY DAN SHALIN
Pioneer Press

Maine East boys volleyball coach Jon Kulesza said he and assistant George Drase were initially perplexed when senior setter Marcus Maramo began passing the ball away from 6-foot-9 senior middle Michael Boduch in the third set of the Blue Demons' match against Niles North.

But the coaches soon realized Maramo knew what he was doing, and in fact was "making great volleyball decisions," Kulesza said.

After setting Boduch and 6-8 senior middle Denis Milchev on a regular basis early in the match, and drawing extra defensive attention to them up front, Maramo was sending the ball wide to the team's very

capable, and less covered, outside hitters: seniors Abraham Manappallil and Sebastian Mihulet and junior Andreas Kotsifas. The end result was a 25-22, 25-27, 25-11 win for Maine East on March 30 in Skokie.

Kotsifas finished the match with 13 kills, Mihulet recorded five and Manappallil added three.

Kulesza said Maramo's adjustment was one of the keys to the Blue Demons' strong third set.

Maramo, in his second year as Maine East's starting setter, said it all had been part of a plan.

"I was trying to play the long game," said Maramo, who lives in Niles. "(I was) establishing the middle at first. Once it got established, it would open up my outside and right side, which made it easier because we had

solo blocks (there)."

Maramo's decision-making and leadership make him an essential member of the Maine East team, which began the season 7-0 and won the Maine East Demon Invite on March 25.

While the powerful Boduch and Milchev might grab the headlines for Maine East, the savvy 5-7 Maramo ensures the team plays together as a unit, and stays together emotionally.

"Marcus is a senior co-captain (along with Boduch) and he's a glue guy. We're lucky to have him," Kulesza said. "He started last year, did a ton in the offseason. He might not be the biggest kid, but he's a smart kid and a leader. We'll take that any day."

After last year's loss to Glenbrook South in the Maine East Regional semi-

finals, Maramo and the returning Blue Demons were extra motivated to improve in the offseason, Maramo said. Maine East was seeded eighth and Glenbrook South was the 10th seed.

"Our loss to Glenbrook South was heartbreaking. Whenever we think about it, we just feel sick," Maramo said. "So, we worked our butts off to make sure that doesn't happen again, and (the hard work) has really showed."

For Maramo, much of the hard work was done at Deerfield-based Chicago Bounce Volleyball Club. Maramo said Bounce coaches like Blake Orlov helped point out areas in which he could improve.

"I was really lazy last year, wasn't working on my back-row defense," Maramo said. "My coach for club,

he really believed in what Maine East had to offer this year, and he wanted me to work on my decision-making, back-row defense and taking the lead on the court."

In addition, Maramo said he improved his athleticism in the offseason by attending plyometrics sessions three times a week with his high school teammates. The workouts included exercises that required short, explosive bursts of energy such as jumping over objects. The training helped Maramo increase his vertical leap.

Milchev said Maramo has raised his game in several areas this year.

"He was our starting setter last year and that gave him a lot more experience. This year, he has put all that experience to work," said



MARCUS MARAMO/HANDOUT

Marcus Maramo

Milchev, who lives in Niles. "He's the glue to our team and he keeps us together. He's a really hard-working kid, and he's done workouts after school to improve his vertical. It's gotten much better."

Dan Shalin is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Maine East's Torres paves way for female wrestlers

BY HEATHER RULE
Pioneer Press

Lizeth Torres plays on the girls soccer team at Maine East. She's also a wrestler — with the Blue Demons boys team.

Her cousin wanted to join the wrestling team when they were both freshmen, and she wanted Torres to join, too.

"I ended up liking it," Torres said.

Now a senior, she's found plenty of success in the male-dominated sport, paving the way for other female wrestlers. She's a two-time varsity letter winner and a team captain this year, becoming the first female team captain of a boys sport in school history, according to Maine East wrestling coach Emiliano Hernandez.

In her 106-pound weight class, she took second at the Illinois Wrestling Coaches & Officials Association's first girls state tournament, which was March 11 and 12

in Springfield.

Her freshman teammate Kate Cacho took fourth at state in the 101-pound weight class. Cacho and Torres were among six Maine East wrestlers to compete at state.

The state tournament was girls versus girls, but during the season, the Maine East girls wrestled against boys. Maine East had seven girls on the team this year; the most Hernandez had previously was one or two at a time.

Torres barely missed a workout in her four years on the team. She also worked through injuries, showing her competitiveness.

"She wouldn't back off," Hernandez said. "She would just keep pushing. You'd have to yank her out of practice to keep her out of there."

Torres had a strong junior season wrestling at the JV and varsity levels, but didn't have quite the same success this year wrestling



EMILIANO HERNANDEZ PHOTO

Maine East senior Lizeth Torres, left, finished second at 106 pounds at the Illinois Wrestling Coaches & Officials Association's first girls state tournament in mid March.

for the varsity team because "all the boys started knowing about her," Hernandez said. Opponents said things

like, "You can't take her lightly," and "She's good," according to Hernandez.

Torres' success can be

traced to a lot of hard work, sharp technique and a "pit-bull mentality," Hernandez said.

"I had to work harder because the guys have natural strength, and for girls we need to work really, really hard to get to that point," Torres said.

She was the lone girl on the team her sophomore and junior seasons. She didn't wrestle another girl until about midway through her junior season.

Being a wrestling veteran with six freshman teammates this year, Torres was an instant role model. She took the lead on making sure the girls knew what to wear (singlets, just like the boys, except also with an Under Armour shirt), taught them technique and helped them with any personal problems so they could maintain their focus on wrestling.

"What I like about it is that they see me as their role model, and I try to be the

best role model that I could possibly be," Torres said.

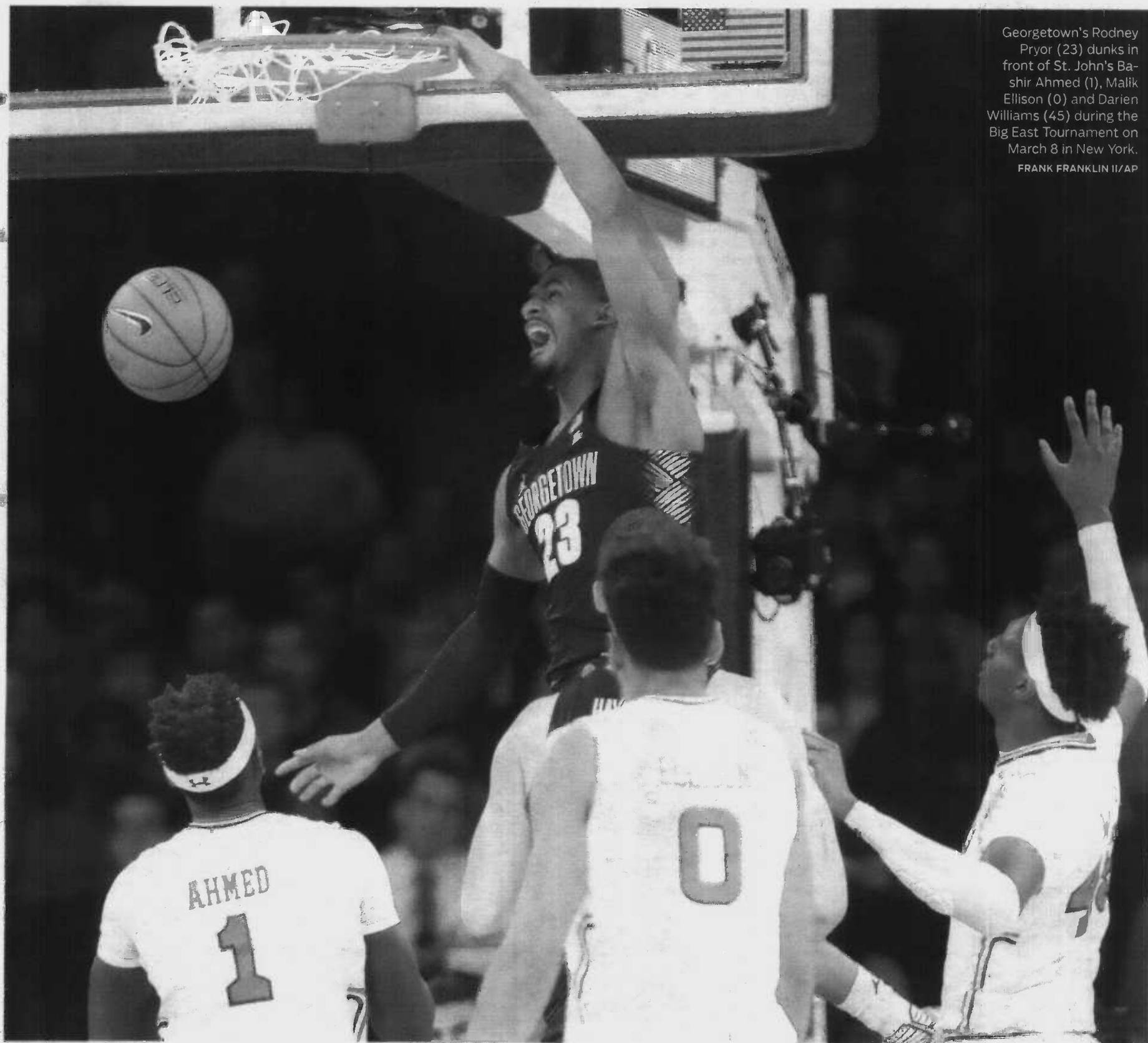
Torres also had a positive influence on her male teammates, according to Hernandez. Before she joined the team, Hernandez and the other coaches had to remind wrestlers to watch their language in practice. Torres doesn't curse, and Hernandez said the boys on the team have followed her lead and watch their language around her.

Hernandez sees a growing future for girls wrestling. He and Torres noticed more girls at meets throughout this past season.

Torres encourages other girls to try something new, like she did, and give wrestling a chance. Next year, her younger sister is planning to join the wrestling ranks as a freshman.

Heather Rule is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Georgetown's Rodney Pryor (23) dunks in front of St. John's Bashir Ahmed (1), Malik Ellison (0) and Darien Williams (45) during the Big East Tournament on March 8 in New York.

FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

#RodneyFlyer

Notre Dame grad becomes social media darling with acrobatic dunks. Page 44

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