Filling the holiday table

Kiwani Clubs raise money to help 50 families buy holiday dinners. Page 4

Park Ridge Kiwanis Club member Dick Larsen, left, and volunteer Tom Mullin help wrap gift boxes for Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 families in need on Dec. 19 at Summit of Uptown.

Chefs share best dishes of 2018

Chicago-area food professionals talk about the best meals they ate this year. Page 813

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THOMA SHANKS
Chris Parson, Chicago River canoe guide

Chris Parson's 21 years as a volunteer guide with the Friends of the Chicago River's canoeing program recently earned him recognition from the state's Serve Illinois Commission.

Parson, of Park Ridge, was named "volunteer of the week" for the first week of December, according to Serve Illinois, which is tasked with promoting and supporting community service throughout the state.

Parson also worked as manager of education for Friends of the Chicago River from 1996 until 2003.

Q: What do you do for the canoeing program?
A: We take people on canoe trips on the Chicago River. They can be school groups, corporations or public trips. We did about 40 trips this year. We do quite a few trips out of River Park and Clark Park on Chicago's North Side … We're trained in rescues, first aid and CPR, and we also do interpretation, which means we talk about the river and the wildlife — everything from the politics to the minions.

Q: How did you get involved as a volunteer?
A: I was working for (Friends of the Chicago River) when I started helping with the trips in 1997. After I retired (in 2003), I continued to volunteer.

Q: What do you like about the Chicago River?
A: Today, there are 70 species of fish commonly found in the Chicago River, mostly because the water quality is better.

Q: Any trips that stand out to you?
A: We did two trips that I think were quite spectacular. One is the Skokie Lagoons by Moonlight. We get special permission by the forest preserve to be there after dark. We paddle out and we have a campout there. We cook hot dogs and make s'mores and things like that. Then we come back by moonlight. That's a popular trip that we do twice a year. This year, we also started a Spooky Halloween Paddle. We start from River Park on Foster Avenue and all kinds of spooky things happen — but hopefully it's not scary enough to dump everybody in the river.

Q: What is something not many people know about the Chicago River?
A: There are 70 species of fish commonly found in the Chicago River, mostly because the water quality is better.

— Jennifer Johnson, Pioneer Press
Filling the holiday table

Kiwanis Clubs raise money to help 50 families buy holiday dinners

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Fifty local families received the gift of food assistance to help fill their holiday dinner tables this year, thanks to Park Ridge Kiwanis Clubs and a grocery store chain.

The annual fundraiser, spearheaded by the Park Ridge Morning and Noon Kiwanis Clubs, raised enough money to provide 50 families of Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 with a gift card to Mariano's, said Park Ridge Police Chief Frank Kaminski, chairman of the Noon Kiwanis Club board.

Mariano's also donated gift certificates good for a free ham and pie, he said.

Kiwanis volunteers and representatives of District 64 joined residents of the Summit of Uptown on Dec. 18 to wrap the gift cards and certificates in boxes for the families.

The families were selected to receive the gifts qualified based on a formula that includes income, and they were identified by District 64 school social workers, said Luann Kolstad, chief school business official for the district.

Last year, 36 District 64 families benefited from the Kiwanis fundraiser, with each receiving a $200 gift card to Mariano's, in addition to a free ham and pie.

Kolstad indicated there are actually many more families in the district with financial needs, as the district received and approved 106 applications for student fee waivers this school year. These families, Kolstad said, qualify for free waivers because they are living below the federal poverty line.

The Kiwanis Clubs and the school district would like to see holiday meal gift cards provided to these additional families as well, Kolstad and Kaminski said. "We're going to try to hit that goal maybe next year so we can provide something for every family," Kaminski said.

But that raises money, and fundraising was reported down this year, despite the number of recipients going up.

"Last year we raised close to $7,000, and this year we have a little over $6,200," he said.

The Kiwanis Clubs raised money for District 64 families in need through breakfast and spaghetti dinner fundraisers, peanut sales, individual donations and a November event at the Harp and Fiddle in which 20 percent of the night's revenue went to the clubs, Kaminski said.

Anyone interested in contributing to next year's holiday meal program can send donations to Kaminski at the Park Ridge Police Department, 200 Vine Ave., Park Ridge, IL 60068.

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NEWS

Niles police launching program to register video surveillance cameras

BY MEGAN HORSTEAD
Pioneer Press

The Niles Police Department launched a video surveillance registration program. Police said it will aim to promote collaboration between businesses and homeowners.

"We routinely investigate crimes," said Robert Tornabene, public information officer for the Niles Police Department. "One of the things we always look to are surveillance cameras trying to identify if that camera is actually capturing things like crime."

Those interested can register a business or personal surveillance camera system by visiting nilescom.

Tornabene said members of the police department have noted it was difficult at times to reach people or determine if any crime was captured on camera.

"Because we couldn't get the residents' attention or we didn't know who the owner was of the camera, we decided it might be beneficial - that if we created this registration program, we would have an easy, quick way of contacting whoever was in charge of the cameras," he said.

"They can, in turn, then review. If we needed to, they can share the images with us."

The registration information is stored in an in-house database and placed into a geo-map system.

"When the officer is doing the investigation for an incident, they can bring up an internal map to look at the location that they're at, to see how many cameras are registered," Tornabene said.

The system generates information for the owner of a camera to allow contact between Niles police and citizens.

"We could then, in turn, call them and ask them if they have information that was captured on the camera pertaining to crime," Tornabene said.

Police said the program does not enable access to the surveillance camera system without the permission of residents and business owners.

"We're not asking for access whatsoever," Tornabene said.

Tornabene said with the program, "it's much easier to get ahold of the owner of the camera, this way."

"Because most of these systems are digital, they, in turn, can share that imagery relatively quickly - sometimes through email, sometimes by providing a download link," Tornabene said.

Police said about 50 homes and another 10 to 15 businesses are currently registered in the village of Niles. Police said there is no cost to participate in the program.

Megann Horstead is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Men shoplift purses at Old Orchard mall

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER
Pioneer Press

Police chased after a group of men on Dec. 18 who stole purses from a store at a Skokie shopping mall, then crashed their stolen getaway car and ran to a nearby high school parking lot, where they carjacked a Jeep at gunpoint and left it on fire, in a Chicago intersection, according to Skokie police.

The suspects have not been found, according to a Skokie Police Department press release.

The cascade of events started when police responded to a call about 12:57 p.m. Tuesday regarding a retail theft at Nordstrom, on the 4900 block of Old Orchard Center, according to the release.

A witness told police that five men carrying purses ran out of Nordstrom and into a silver Audi, a car that authorities determined had been reported stolen, according to the release. The driver crashed the Audi into another car on the west side of Old Orchard mall, after which the five men got out of the car and abandoned it, police said.

The men then ran west to a parking lot at nearby Niles North High School, in the 9800 block of Lawler Avenue, according to the release.

About 1:02 p.m., one of the men stole a Jeep at gunpoint from two students in the lot, police said, and the carjackers picked up the four other men and left the lot headed south. No one was injured, police said.

Police later found the Jeep abandoned and on fire near the intersection of Cermak and Peterson avenues in Chicago, according to the release.

The man who stole the Jeep at gunpoint was reportedly a bald black man in his 30s, from 6 to 6 feet, 5 inches tall, having a thin build and wearing a black coat, according to the release.

Anyone with information was asked to call the Skokie Police Department at 847-982-5900 or the 24-hour Skokie crime tip hotline at 847-933-8477.
Getting through security may become more fluid

New airport baggage screening technology coming to O'Hare

BY LAUREN ZUMBACH
Chicago Tribune

Getting through airport security can feel like a juggling act: Travelers try to pull laptops and liquids from overstuffed bags and remove shoes and jackets, all without dropping anything or holding up the line.

That screening might never be hassle-free, but a new scanner at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport might someday eliminate the need to unpack those quart-size bags of liquids.

The new computed tomography scanner at O'Hare's Terminal 1 produces three-dimensional images that Transportation Security Administration agents can view from different angles to get a better view of the contents of passengers' bags.

Passengers may not see the new scanner in use until after the holidays - the TSA still needs to test it and train the employees who will operate it.

Airports in Phoenix and Boston were the first to test the technology in June 2017. The CT scanners are now in nearly two dozen airports, and the TSA plans to have more than 190 scanners in use by the end of next year, said TSA spokesman Mark Howell.

If the new technology lives up to its promise, giving TSA agents a better view of bags being scanned will mean they won't have to do as many hands-on searches, making security more efficient for passengers.

The TSA doesn't have data yet on whether the new scanners have increased efficiency. The machines seem to reduce the need for hands-on bag checks, Howell said, but as with any new technology, there's a learning curve for both agents and passengers.

"We expect it will get better as time goes on," he said.

O'Hare will be the first airport to combine the CT scanner with a new type of screening lane first introduced at O'Hare in late 2016. The newer lanes let multiple passengers place their bags in bins for screening at the same time and automatically divert bags flagged for extra review without halting those behind them. They also have a second conveyor system that shuttles empty bins back to the front of the line.

"It's what we're hoping the future of the checkpoints will be," he said.

The TSA already uses CT scanners to screen passengers' checked luggage. But until recently, those machines were too large to use at the security checkpoints passengers travel through on the way to the gate, Howell said.

The new machine, in the security checkpoint open to United Airlines passengers traveling first or business class and certain loyalty program members, is only slightly bigger than the traditional X-ray machines used to screen carry-on baggage.

But the images it creates are clearer and three-dimensional, unlike the flat X-ray images. That means TSA agents can rotate the image to get a better view of items in different parts of a bag. Computer algorithms scan the image to identify items that might warrant a closer look, like a laptop or container of liquid. A TSA agent can then view those items individually and, if they're deemed OK to fly, digitally remove them from the image to make the remaining items easier to see.

Eventually, travelers may be able to leave more items in their bags when going through security. Travelers using the new scanners don't have to remove laptops, Howell said. In the future, that could extend to liquids as well, but for now the usual rules still apply.

If O'Hare's machine isn't up and running before the holidays, that will leave the airport down one scanner during an extremely busy travel period. But Mike Hanna, who leads United's operations at O'Hare, said he doesn't expect that to pose a problem.

"It's better to make sure all the bugs are worked out," Howell said. "We want security and efficiency."
D64 board members to interview 2 firms to help in superintendent search

BY HEATHER CHERONE
Pioneer Press

The Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 Board of Education will interview two firms before selecting one to search for a new superintendent, the board of education has decided.

Superintendent Laurie Heinz announced Dec. 12 that she planned to leave District 64 at the end of the academic year to become superintendent of Palatine-based Community Consolidated School District 15.

The District 64 board unanimously agreed at its meeting Dec. 18 to consider two firms to conduct the search for Heinz's replacement. No official vote was taken, but each board member, when asked, expressed support for interviewing the firms. The board plans to interview Libertyville-based BWP & Associates and Minnesota-based Community Connect at a special meeting set for 6 p.m., Jan. 7 at Jefferson School, 8200 W. Greendale Ave. in Niles.

Both firms were the top recommendations from Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Joel Martin, who told the board they are the firms most commonly used by suburban Chicago school districts.

BWP conducted the search that culminated in Heinz's selection as superintendent four years ago, officials said.

According to board members, the board is expected to hire one of the two firms after the interviews, which are expected to be conducted in open session, and meet again Jan. 14 to finalize the scope of the search, how much it will cost, when it will be completed and what the board is looking for in a superintendent.

Board members said that each firm will have 20 to 30 minutes to give a presentation, and have 20-30 minutes to answer questions from board members.

Heinz's successor will be District 64's third superintendent in nine years.

Board President Anthony Borrelli recommended interviewing just two firms to cut down on redundant questions and duplicated effort. Last time the superintendent position was vacant, the District 64 board interviewed six firms, a process that Borrelli said was "cumbersome."

The search for a new superintendent is expected to cost between $9,000 and $17,000, Martin told the board. The last superintendent search cost District 64 less than $20,000, Martin said.

Board Secretary Tom Sotos said one of the major questions facing the board is whether to conduct a search for a permanent replacement for Heinz, or whether the current board should pick an interim superintendent, since school board elections are set for April 2.

Seven candidates filed paperwork to run for three, four-year terms on the school board, though one has since withdrawn his name. Two candidates have filed to run for a two-year term, according to information released by the Cook County Clerk's Office.

"There will be at least two new board members, maybe four," said Sotos, who is the only incumbent now running for re-election. "We should think about whether this decision should be left to the next board."

Borrelli acknowledged at the meeting that he did not file to run for a third term on the board. Robert Johnson, appointed to the board earlier this month to fill a vacancy, is also not running in the election for the remainder of the term.

The board made no decision on Dec. 18 whether to complete Heinz's evaluation, which is required by board policy.

Before meeting with the board's attorney behind closed doors as permitted by the Illinois Open Meetings Act, Sotos said he did not want to spend the time and effort to evaluate an employee who will be departing in six months.

Heather Cherone is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press. Jennifer Johnson contributed.

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

Niles

- Five teenagers were ticketed for underage drinking on Dec. 15 after officers conducted a liquor compliance check at Shotzee’s Bar and Grill, 6055 W. Howard St., shortly after midnight, police said. The teens were identified as one 19-year-old man from Park Ridge, two 18-year-old men from Chicago, and two 19-year-old men from Chicago. According to police, the teens admitted to using fake IDs to buy alcohol inside the bar. A 36-year-old woman from unincorporated Maine Township was ticketed for allowing minors into the establishment, police said.
- Maria Contreras Orozco, 52, of the 8000 block of North Maryland Street, Niles, was charged with domestic battery on Dec. 15, police said. Court information was not provided.
- Lashonda S. Jelks, 20, of the 1700 block of Mayfield Avenue, Chicago, was charged with battery on Dec. 18 in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Nov. 29 in the kitchen of Wendy’s, 7243 N. Harlem Ave., police said. According to police, an employee reported that Jelks and another woman entered the restaurant kitchen and “started physically fighting with her for unknown reasons.” She was given a Jan. 4 court date.
- Rafael Castro, 18, of the 1000 block of Linda Lane, unincorporated Maine Township, was charged with retail theft on Dec. 14 after he was accused of stealing three Nike sweatshirts and a pair of Nike shoes from Kohl’s, Golf Mill, police said. He was given a Jan. 11 court date.
- Ozair Shadman Zian, 21, of the 8000 block of Gregory Lane, unincorporated Maine Township, was charged with retail theft on Dec. 15 after he allegedly stole $734.67 worth of fragrances, clothing and beauty items from Marshalls, 8249 Golf Road, police said. He was given a Jan. 11 court date.
- Colleen M. Sally, 25, of the 700 block of 11th Street, Wilmette, was charged with driving under the influence on the morning of Dec. 19 following a traffic stop on the 7800 block of North Caldwell Avenue, police said. She was given a March 8 court date.
- Kevin M. Waltz, 53, of the 8400 block of North Milwaukee Avenue, Niles, was charged with violating an order of protection on Dec. 17 in connection with an alleged complaint filed with police on Dec. 8, police said. He was given a Dec. 18 court date.
- Roman A. Ilyayev, 35, of the 10000 block of Holly Lane, unincorporated Maine Township, was taken into custody on a Cook County arrest warrant and was ticketed for possession of marijuana on the night of Dec. 19, police said. According to police, an officer made contact with Ilyayev on the 9100 block of Golf Road shortly before 11 p.m., while he said he was waiting for a cab. Court information was not provided.
- A 51-year-old Evanston man was ticketed for public intoxication and disorderly conduct on the night of Dec. 14 after customers of Target, Golf Mill, complained he was shouting obscenities and “harassing them for cigarettes,” police said. He was taken to a hospital, according to police.
- A 39-year-old Maywood man was ticketed for public intoxication on the night of Dec. 16 after police reportedly found him sleeping on a bench outside King Spa, 809 Civic Center Drive. Police said an investigation determined the man had been drinking champagne for more than four hours and had taken ecstasy.
- Twenty-two L.O.L Surprise! toys, valued at $837.66, were reported stolen Dec. 15 from Target, 6150 W. Touhy Ave.
- Thirteen boxes of Rogaine, valued at $585.87, were reportedly stolen Dec. 16 from a locked display inside Walgreens, 8001 N. Milwaukee Ave.
- A home on the 6800 block of Concord Lane was burglarized Dec. 15 between 5 and 11:24 p.m., and jewelry was reported stolen, police said. A home on the 6700 block of Forest View Lane was also reported burglarized on the night of Dec. 15, but it was not immediately known if anything was stolen, according to police. Pry marks and signs of brute force were reportedly found on a door.

Lincolnwood

- The front passenger window of a minivan parked on the 3000 block of Touhy Avenue was reportedly smashed on Dec. 12, police said. Damage was estimated to be greater than $300.
- A car parked on the 3600 block of Touhy Avenue was reported on Dec. 13 to have been damaged with a key, police said. Damage was estimated to be greater than $300.
- Charli Hoover, 22, of the 1900 block of West Hood Avenue, Chicago, was charged Dec. 18 with retail theft and resisting a police officer after an incident on the 3300 block of Touhy Avenue, police said. He was released on bond and has a scheduled court date of Jan. 18.
- Aliya Shaikh, 44 and Sanaa Shaikh, 19, both of the 6300 block of North Francisco Avenue, were charged with retail theft on Dec. 14 after an incident on the 3300 block of Touhy Avenue, police said. Both were released on bond and have a scheduled court date of Jan. 29.
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D64 might add part-time special ed coordinator

By Heather Cherone
Pioneer Press

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 is planning to add another part-time special education coordinator to the district's staff, officials said.

The board of education unanimously endorsed the request from Director of Student Services Lea Anne Frost, who said the additional staff member was needed to reduce her workload and that of Assistant Director of Student Services Sue Waughon, who also serves as the coordinator for Roosevelt Elementary School.

Frost told the members of the committee, formed to advise the District 64 board on how to improve the district's special education programs, that she hopes to identify someone to fill the newly created role in time for the board to hire the candidate in January.

The additional staff member is needed to speed up the pace of progress in the Student Services Division, since Waughon and Frost have to juggle student caseloads as well as administrative duties, Superintendent Laurie Heinz told the board.

Once that position is filled, that would bring the number of new employees in the student services division to seven, including an additional elementary school special education coordinator, a behavior analyst and a psychologist. In November, the board agreed to add a social worker to the special education staff at Lincoln and Emerson middle schools, officials said. In October, the board approved Frost's request to add a part-time special education resource teacher.

In May, an audit by an outside consultant found that services offered to District 64 students enrolled in special education classes declined during the past two years. Federal law requires that school districts offer all options to students with disabilities that are necessary to meet their needs. In response to the findings of that audit as well as internal study, 23 professional development trainings for staff have taken place, along with one for parents, Frost told the board.

Other changes made include new methods of communication with staff and parents as well as updating the district's policies for developing educational plans for students with disabilities, as required by state and federal law, Frost told the board.

Heather Cherone is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Cost of District 64's summer school program to decrease

By Heather Cherone
Pioneer Press

Parents who enroll their children in Park Ridge-Niles School District 64's Worlds of Wonder summer school program, to catch up on schoolwork or get a leg up for the fall, will pay less this summer.

The cost for the program will drop by $5 to $125 for each of two 13-day sessions for district residents who register before April 15. Residents who register after April 15, as well as those who live outside the district's boundaries, would pay $145 for each session, which will take place June 12 through June 28 and July 1 through July 19, with no session scheduled for July 4 and July 5.

Registration will begin at 10 a.m. March 1 and end May 30.

The sessions will take place at Roosevelt Elementary School for students in kindergarten through third grade and Emerson Middle School for students in fourth through seventh grades.

Because the two schools are on opposite sides of the district, administrators plan to stagger start times to accommodate families with children at both locations.

Online registration will begin at noon March 1 and end June 6, officials said.

The 2018 Worlds of Wonder program served 970 students, according to a report prepared for the District 64 board.

The school board unanimously approved the plans for the program on Dec. 10.

Heather Cherone is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
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The incredible relevance classic stories have at varying times of life

SARA CLARKSON
Dateline

The Russian magistrate's death moved me, but upon further reflection, the death wasn't as disturbing as his life and the suffering at its end.

Even though the magistrate is the fictional every man, Ivan Ilyich Golovin of Leo Tolstoy's novella "The Death of Ivan Ilyich," it prompted rigorous soul searching.

That is what a classic does, did and continues to do — it provokes and reflects. Ivan's story, just like the trial of Tom Robinson, who was falsely accused of raping Mayella Ewell in "To Kill A Mockingbird," is a timeless tale.

I have found that the journey home of a confused teenager named Holden Caulfield, the shopping excursions of Madame Bovary and the downriver trip of a lad named Huck Finn are still relevant and still surprising me with the questions they pose. Besides the timeless and lasting nature of the stories, these classics also continue to converse with readers at different points in the reader's life.

For example, when I first read J.D. Salinger's "The Catcher in the Rye" as a pre-teen it was an on-the-road adventure story. I found Holden Caulfield cynical but not sad, and was worried only on a surface level for him.

Today, as someone who has been a parent to teenagers and to a teenage boy in particular, I find "Catcher" both spot-on and terrifying in a way that I did not when I was a youth, impervious to danger, dangerous people and life's fragility.

"Madame Bovary" by Gustav Flaubert and "The Death of Ivan Ilyich" are two enduring novels set in a somewhat different world than ours, and yet any Real Housewife of Hinsdale or Clarendon Hills could perhaps relate to the search for the perfect home and accomplishments, the striving for beauty and meaning in the stuff of our lives, in living elegantly and pleasantly whatever that may mean.

I recently read Tolstoy's "The Death of Ivan Ilyich" for one of my book clubs. In this story, as Ivan Ilyich lay dying from an undiagnosed illness, he is appalled to see life go on around him as it did before.

The short little novel opens with his colleagues' learning of his death, and the narrator describes the colleagues' calculating what Ivan's death means for each of them in terms of the career positions it opens up. Each sighs inwardly, too, at the inconvenience of having to attend services for Ivan.

But they know they must go to keep up appearances, even though for Ivan's closest friend it will ruin a night of cards. The friend meets up with Ivan's wife, who complains about the financial state Ivan has left her, never mentioning the loss of Ivan himself.

We then learn of Ivan's life, and here is the crux: he was bright and hardworking, and sought to advance himself and do all things in the socially acceptable, pleasant and civil manner of good society. That included moving up the career ladder, marrying and having children and hosting others and living in way of "cheerful pleasantness and decency." His progress was steady and observable.

What is wrong with that?

The rage Ivan feels at his dying is what is wrong with his living. Only two characters offer sympathetic attention at the end of Ivan's life of "cheerful pleasantness and decency." One of those is a humble servant who acknowledges Ivan's illness and distress and declares "Mercy!" He seeks to support and aid Ivan in any way possible because that is what one does.

The other character is Ivan's young son who is terrified to lose his father. We learn that deep connection with others, connections which include sympathy and mercy and service, are what make the difference. When Ivan was a boy, he was reasonably happy, He experienced some forms of wonder. But as he grew and advanced he learned to close himself off. The other characters in Ivan's life he finds to be actors — all playing roles but representing nothing. What is the meaning of life if living is only acting?

Coincidentally, I read "The Death of Ivan" a few weeks after a beloved, elderly relative died. As she passed, her immediate and extended family gathered around her both physically and in spirit. We supported her and shared our warmth, love and gratitude and sought to make her passage to the next phase as physically comfortable and spiritually gratifying as possible.

Those were all lessons we learned from her and the way that she lived her life — support others in their time of trouble, acknowledge life's difficulties, offer acceptance, be inclusive. There was no terror or rage at the end but faith, hope and love — enduring lessons.

I wish Ivan had known her.

Sara Clarkson is a freelance columnist.
Are Christmas cards a relic of the past?

Randy Blaser

One of the more delightful holiday jobs I had as a child was opening the Christmas cards.

My mom would save the holiday mail, minus the bills and the advertising fliers, for me. I would excitedly open the oversized envelopes and then tell her who sent the card.

"It's from grandma and grandpa," I would say about the big holiday card with the tree in the snow.

"This one's from Aunt Helen and Uncle Bob." There would be a babe in a manger from a name I wouldn't recognize and I would give it to my mom. "Oh, that's my friend from work," she would say.

It was an exciting time. Eventually, I would gather all the cards and we would display them as holiday decorations, taping them on the door or around the archway between the living room and dining room.

Sometimes I would get to help my mom send the cards by putting the holiday stamps on the envelopes that she addressed in her beautiful penmanship.

As I grew, I was happy and excited to continue the tradition. At one of my first jobs, I recall receiving the office holiday card mailing list the week before Thanksgiving. On the list was every employee's name, their spouse or significant other, and their home address.

It was time to send the cards. I don't know when, but sometime in the mid-1980s the holiday letter became the family picture. Some folks would make a great effort to give the picture a holiday feel. Others just had everyone stand in a field and smile for the camera. Oftentimes, a vacation photo and turned that into a holiday card.

Oh, the Johnsons went to Maui this year.

Little did I know those were the last gasps of a great holiday tradition. It is dying a slow death as we slide into Christmas 2018. It might even be dead already.

We've been getting fewer and fewer cards every year for the last decade or so. This year, the delivery rate has slowed to a trickle, hardly any cards or holiday greetings have been delivered via the friendly mailbox.

What happened? What caused the death of this beautiful tradition from a more genteel age?

Some critics say that as we've become more environmentally conscious, many people no longer feel it is necessary to kill a tree to wish someone a Merry Christmas.

Others say the holiday card is a victim of the digital age and Facebook. Why send a card when you can give all your friends a seasonal greeting in one fell swoop? Why recount what happened to you during the year when everyone posts the great meal they prepared last night on Facebook?

Others complain about the cost. At 50 cents for a stamp, sending out 100 cards to family and friends costs $50. Better to put $50 in the Salvation Army kettle.

In some ways, I think it is a matter of stress. We've become such a harried people, with so many things to do. Who has time to sit, write little notes in cards, address envelopes and affix stamps and send them out?

Perhaps some people are embarrassed. I mentioned my mother's beautiful penmanship. Mine isn't bad, but I can't hold a candle to my mom's handwriting.

But my kids? Sometimes I don't even recognize their signatures.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist.
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The New Year’s resolution you’ve been waiting for

"I'm losing 10 pounds in 2019." "I will be at the gym five days a week starting January 1st." "This is the year I'm going to save more money." Yeah, yeah, yeah. I've heard it all before, and actually, I've made all of those New Year's resolutions countless times in the past.

While these are all great goals and steps to improving your life, there's one New Year's resolution that trumps them all. It's not about anything you think you should be doing; rather, it's about embracing and loving the person you are—just as is. I'm talking about making self-compassion your New Year's resolution for 2019.

What is self-compassion? I sat down with Sheila Devi, a Chicago-based certified professional coach who has written several articles on the subject. Devi, who specializes in career and executive coaching, described self-compassion as "being kind and understanding to oneself as you would to your best friend."

"There is a culture that has been created around working hard and comparing ourselves to others and second-guessing ourselves," said Devi, who has been in practice for three and a half years. "As a result, most of us go through our days doing something or saying something and then minutes or hours later end up thinking back on the situation, replaying it and then thinking about what we should have said or done differently. There is nothing productive about looking back and beating ourselves up about it."

Devi said people are often quick to dismiss self-compassion because they think it will make them softer or less able to succeed in their tough life or work scenarios. "Beating yourself up," Devi said, "is not like your neighbor who was just diagnosed with cancer. Or, because you went to Harvard, you aren't allowed to be sad. But if you practice self-compassion—if you allow yourself to have the feeling, you will move through that feeling and it will pass more quickly. By the way, it's wonderful to have gratitude—appreciating that you have a good life and that you are in good health, but it's important to acknowledge and validate your feelings first.

1. Brutal thoughts counteract self-care. Everyone talks about the importance of self-care; making time for yourself. Examples include doing a yoga class, taking a long walk, going to the gym, getting a massage, having a manicure or pedicure, reading a book with a cup of tea and a piece of cake, or going out for dinner with a group of friends. But, self-care doesn't mean anything if your thoughts are invading its purpose. In other words, if you are on that massage table and all you are thinking about is what you said that you wish you hadn't in a meeting yesterday, then what's the point of the massage? If you are eating a piece of cake and at the same time thinking, "I shouldn't be eating this because I'm fat," then you are counteracting the joy of having the cake. Self-care plus good thoughts equal self-compassion.

2. Acknowledge and validate yourself. A lot of times we discount or make ourselves feel badly about what we are thinking or feeling. For example, let's say you interviewed for a job and you didn't get it. Now you feel sad or maybe disappointed or angry. If you don't practice self-compassion, you might feel guilty for having those feelings. You might feel like you don't deserve to be disappointed because you otherwise have a great life—not like your neighbor who was just diagnosed with cancer. Or, because you went to Harvard, you aren't allowed to be sad. But if you practice self-compassion—if you allow yourself to have the feeling, you will move through that feeling and it will pass more quickly. By the way, it's wonderful to have gratitude—appreciating that you have a good life and that you are in good health, but it's important to acknowledge and validate your feelings first.

3. Be nicer in the way you talk to yourself. Words are powerful. We all have thousands of words we can choose from, and we believe the words we speak, whether or not we even realize it. So, if you say to yourself, "I'm such an idiot," and then you think, "Well, I'm not really an idiot," there is some element that you feel that way. So, pay attention to the conversation you are having with yourself. When you are eating that third cookie at a holiday party, don't say, "I'm such a pig." Instead, think, "I'm enjoying this and I'm a beautiful and healthy woman."

Devi said people are often quick to dismiss self-compassion because they think it will make them softer or less able to succeed in their tough life or work scenarios. She said the result of practicing self-compassion is the opposite; that it makes a person more resilient.

"There is a mentality that being hard on ourselves will make us more successful, and that is definitely not true," Devi said. "If a situation is hard, and then you beat yourself up, that situation can become unbearable. But, if a situation is hard, and the person has compassion for themselves, they are more likely to walk back into that tough boardroom and keep trying to solve the problem."

Self-compassion takes a lot of practice, according to Devi. But what happens over time when you practice self-compassion? "Wonderful results! The conversation is gone, so your brain will be a quieter place in the absence of your beating yourself up," Devi said. "As a result, you become more present."

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist for Chicago Tribune Media Group.
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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ACTIONS

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BUSINESS OWNERS
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YOU can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a

estate after confirmation of the sale.

The subject property is

CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set

forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 4702 N. OCTAVA AVE, Harwood Heights, IL. 60706

Property Index No. 12-13-205-037

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

The judgment amount was $336,369.43.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the
close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third
party check will be accepted. The balance in certified funds will
transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property
is subject to current real estate taxes, special assessments, or special
taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any
representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse
to Plaintiff and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to

By payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive

a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real
estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes
no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bid-
ners are admonished to check the court file to verify all informa-
tion.

IF you are the mortgagor (homeowner), you have the right
to remain in possession for 30 days after entry of an order
of possession in accordance with section 15-101 etc.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

listed below.

7th, January 15, 2019, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker

Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder,

January 15, 2019, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker

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January 15, 2019, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker

Drive, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder,
STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF COOK
SS.
MISSION BROOK SANITARY DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT OF SUMMARY STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

VENDOR DISBURSEMENTS IN EXCESS OF $1,000 AND PAYROLL FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
MAY 1, 2017 TO APRIL 30, 2018

JUDY ARVEY, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the Treasurer and Chief Fiscal Officer of the MISSION BROOK SANITARY DISTRICT, a municipal corporation organized and doing business under the laws of the State of Illinois. She further states that by virtue of her office as said Treasurer and Chief Fiscal Officer, she received for disbursement and disburses public funds for the said MISSION BROOK SANITARY DISTRICT. She further states that the following statement is a true and correct statement of:

1. All monies received by the Treasurer and Chief Fiscal Officer of the MISSION BROOK SANITARY DISTRICT from May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018, giving the name of each payee.

2. All disbursements in excess of $1,000 and payroll by the Treasurer and Chief Fiscal Officer of the MISSION BROOK SANITARY DISTRICT from May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018, giving the name of each payee.

Judy Arvey
Treasurer/Chief Fiscal Officer
MISSION BROOK SANITARY DISTRICT

APPROVAL

Issued this 1st day of May, 2018.

Joanna Skupien
Village Clerk
Norridge, Illinois

APPROVAL

Issued this 1st day of May, 2018.

Hon. Debra J. Budnik
Village Clerk

Village of Norridge
4000 N. Osceola Avenue
Norridge, Illinois 60706

Hon. Debra J. Budnik
Village Clerk

Village of Norridge
4000 N. Osceola Avenue
Norridge, Illinois 60706

HON. DEBRA J. BUDDIK, VILLAGE CLERK

To be published: December 20, 2018; December 27, 2018, and January 3, 2019

VILLAGE CLERK’S CERTIFICATE

Debra J. Budnik, certify that I am the duly elected and acting Village Clerk for the Village of Norridge, Cook County, Illinois. I further certify that on December 12, 2018, I gave the clerk a copy of the signed and approved Ordinance No. 1948-16. An Ordinance Directing the Sale of Real Estate in the Village of Norridge, Cook County, Illinois.

The Ordinance No. 1948-16, including the ordinance and a cover sheet thereof, was prepared, and a copy of such ordinance was posted in the Village Hall, commencing December 17, 2018 and continuing for at least 10 days thereafter.

Copies of the ordinance were also available for public inspection at the Village Clerk’s Office and in the Village Hall.

I further certify that the Notice of the proposed sale of real estate was published once each week for 3 successive weeks in a daily or weekly newspaper published in the Village of Norridge, Illinois, and the Village of Norridge, Illinois.

Dated in Norridge, Illinois, this day of 2018.

Debra J. Budnik
Village Clerk
REIN CHECK: All eight, in order, to start with

BY GREG JOHNSON  |  EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN

ACTRESS

1  What some YouTube videos go
6  Not level
12  Judge as qualified
20  Biscotti flavoring
21  Operatic passage
22  Spanish miss
23  Addition to spice up a dish
25  Venerable Hollywood and Vine theatre
26  Lamb's ma'am
27  Sounds like Daffy Duck
28  Roof rack gear
30  Long-eared equine
31  Help-a-tenant gathering
34  Ballet practice facility
38  Opposite of 'neath
39  Prefix for port
40  "It's our turn"
41  Strut with spirit
47  Landscaper's installation
50  Start of a choosing rhyme
51  Fabric fringe
52  App extras
53  Pre-refrigeration deliverer
55  Peace, in a Latin Mass
56  Colorado resort
58  Venerable ointment brand
61  Typical high-schooler
62  Salsa specification
63  Siphons off
64  Smelter byproduct
66  Of Survivor groups

68  Veep before Al
69  No longer vacant
71  Noble title
72  Spiced tea from India
74  Primary
76  Getz of jazz
78  "Take a chill pill"
81  Actress Dern
82  Pastor's nickname
85  Certain dietary restriction
86  Squirm about
88  According to
89  Water beside Toledo
91  Reduced version
92  "Start playback"
94  Meeting schedule
96  Camera function
98  Bed on wheels
99  Oscar role for Brando and De Niro
102  Trite
108  Flatbread of India
109  Pop singer Del Rey
110  Burr novelist
111  Organic compound ending
112  Collapsible silk headgear
115  Aggressive football strategy
119  It's left on the highway
120  Less strenuous
121  Single statistic
122  Walks over
123  African fly
124  A Van Gogh home

DOWN

1  Villainous Star Wars name
2  Wonderstruck
3  Up from sleep
4  Barbecue residue
5  Mr. Tolstoy
6  Swinelike mammal
7  "my case"
8  Giving back sash
9  Outperforms
10  GPS reading
11  Fin descriptor
12  Jellied garnish
13  Stop doing
14  It's often seen on airport TVs
15  Take turns
16  Mark on many exams
17  Tries one's best
18  It means "resident"
19  Univ. aides
20  Intensified, with "up"
21  Winter headwear
22  Freight measure
23  Piece of some pies
24  PD investigator
25  Administers an oath to
26  New York college
27  Cameo stone
28  Corn's coat
29  Excellent, in the '90s
30  Headgear
31  Headgear
32  French physicist
33  TYLENOL alternative
34  Bubble up
35  How many LPs were rereleased
36  Exercising count
37  Expressive music genre
38  Tennis great Lendl
39  Valueless
40  Early computer
41  Step between floors
42  Chocolate/gram cracker cookie
43  Bowl up
44  Grain layer
45  "A to E, to musicians"
46  "Is it worth the risk?"
47  Greenish blue
48  Insignificant
49  Where sea meets sky
50  Touchdowns
51  "Consequently"
52  From Austria's capital
53  Costumes
54  "I" in Eating disorders
55  Start of the 12th century
56  Grain layer
57  "A to E, to musicians"
58  "Is it worth the risk?"
59  "Consequently"
60  Costumes
61  Costumes
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64  Costumes
65  Costumes
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123  Costumes
124  Costumes

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Mo' Fun

BY CHARLES PRESTON

ACROSS
1 Five or nine, e.g.
5 Colleen
9 Chess ending
13 Tuscany river
14 Military groups
16 Yours and mine
17 Uruguayan capital
19 Exodus author
20 CT town
21 Ship's weight
23 Court divider
27 Scrooge's expletive
30 Dictum
31 Tabasco, e.g.
35 Styptic
37 Juarez worker
38 Roofer's supply
39 ___ de Beauvoir
41 Actor Ed, and kin
42 Nerdish
43 Elevator brake
44 inventor
46 Hook's go-fer
47 Slow, to Masur
48 Snooped
50 Four-legged toter
51 Amuse

54 The Concord Hymn
57 Flower part
61 Regan's father
62 Nice neighbor
66 Unadorned
67 Color
68 Sun. reading
69 Friend in need
70 Glommed
71 Fly's finish, at times

DOWN
1 Pacify
2 Aphrodite's cherub
3 Miller and Beatie
4 Chamber group
5 British endearment
6 Blackbird
7 Drummer Catlett
8 Western headwear
9 Rockies, e.g.
10 Nimbus
11 Neat
12 Actual being
13 Before long
14 Divergees
22 Where swallows wallow?
24 Mane site
25 Louis or Carrie
26 Equal; prefix
27 Spice rack item
28 Precisely adjust
29 Subject to error
32 Moslem scholars
33 Demeter's counterpart
34 Slalom bends
36 Capital of Nuevo Léon, Mexico
40 Night lights
41 Cruising
43 Johnny
44 Craggy hill
45 Follower
49 Platter
52 Cats and turkeys
53 Gets closer
54 Napoleon slept here
55 Repast
56 Countess's husband
58 Wave breaker
59 High: L.
60 Swag
63 Vote
64 0-0 or 1-1
65 "Amen!", e.g.

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Minimum purchase of $3999 with your Mattress Firm credit card. 72 equal monthly payments required.

OR

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NOW $397

Firm Queen Mattress:
WAS $597  SAVE $100
NOW $497

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Minimum purchase of $999 with your Mattress Firm credit card.
72 equal monthly payments required.

NO CREDIT NEEDED
See store for details.

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NEXT OR SAME DAY DELIVERY'

PLUSH MATTRESS
QUEEN WAS $899
NOW $699
KING WAS $1399
NOW $899

LUXURY FIRM MATTRESS
QUEEN WAS $999
NOW $799
KING WAS $1299
NOW $999

CUSHION FIRM MATTRESS
QUEEN WAS $2099
NOW $1799
KING WAS $2599
NOW $2099

PILLOW TOP MATTRESS
QUEEN WAS $1199
NOW $999
KING WAS $3499
NOW $1199

PLUSH MATTRESS
QUEEN WAS $1499
NOW $1129
KING WAS $2399
NOW $1899

CUSHION FIRM MATTRESS
QUEEN WAS $2099
NOW $1799
KING WAS $2699
NOW $2099

0% APR FOR 6 YEARS* with a minimum purchase of $3999. 5 years' with a minimum purchase of $2799. 4 years' with a minimum purchase of $2099. 3 years' with a minimum purchase of $1299. 2 years' with a minimum purchase of $999 on your Mattress Firm credit card. 72, 60, 48 or 36 equal monthly payments required. *Offer valid 12/22/18-1/1/19 and applies only to single-receipt qualifying purchase. No interest will be charged on promo purchase and equal monthly payments are required equal to initial promo purchase amount divided equally by the number of months in promo period and promo is paid in full. The equal monthly payment will be rounded to the next highest whole dollar and may be higher than the minimum payment that would be required if the purchase was a non-promotional purchase. Regular account terms apply to non-promotional purchases. Down payment equal to sales tax and delivery required for new accounts. Purchase APR is 29.99%; Minimum Interest Charge is $5. Existing cardholders should see their credit card agreement for applicable terms. Subject to credit approval. 1 Free Adjustable Base Offer. Offer valid 12/22/18-1/1/19. Receive a free (up to $999) adjustable base up to a $999 value with select mattresses of $999 and above. Free adjustable base offer valid on some-size mattresses purchased. Split king or split California king base purchase consist of 2 bases. For split king or split California king purchases consumer will receive one free adjustable base with promotion, with second base at regular price. Free adjustable base offer valid on complete mattress set, no cash value and cannot be used as credit offer not valid on previous purchases, floor models, clearance items or final Markdown. Other exclusions may apply. Price of adjustable base (up to $999) will be deducted from refund if mattress is returned for a refund. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited quantities available. Offer valid while supplies last. See store for complete details. 2 Get select king-sized mattresses for the price of a twin-sized mattress. Or get select Queen-sized mattresses for the price of a full-sized mattress. Savings applied to our low price. Savings vary by mattress set and model (max savings up to $600). Product selection may vary by store. Offer not valid on previous purchases, floor models, clearance items or final Markdown. Other exclusions may apply. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limited quantities available. Offer valid 12/22/18-1/1/19 or while supplies last. See store for complete details. 120 Night Low Price Guarantee. We will beat any advertised price by 10%, or your purchase is free, if you find the same or comparable mattress advertised by competitors, recognized by us, whether online or in print, for less than your invoiced price within 120 days. Restrictions apply to our 120 Night Low Price Guarantee including select models, clearance merchandise, floor models, vendor rebates, rebates, special purchase, promotional items, doorbusters, discontinued merchandise or any Mattress Firm products. Merchandise offered for sale on auction sites (e.g., eBay, Craig's List, etc.) is excluded. See store for complete details. Same or Next Day Delivery. We guarantee your new mattress will be delivered within the designated delivery window, or your delivery is free. Valid on in-stock and available products in local delivery areas. Must be purchased before delivery cut off time. Not applicable on all products. See store for complete details. In-store dollar savings range from 5% - 50%. We invite you to ask about any individual price. Product and selection may vary by store to store. Photography is for illustration purposes only and may not reflect actual product. Mattress Firm, Inc. strives for accuracy in advertising, but errors in pricing and/or photography may occur. Mattress Firm reserves the right to correct any such errors. Store hours may vary by location. Unless otherwise indicated, offers valid 12/22/18-1/1/19 or while supplies last at your local Mattress Firm. See store for complete details.
MATTRESS FIRM

ALL BRANDS ON SALE
No exceptions. Just savings. When we say every brand, we mean it.

FREE ADJUSTABLE BASE
UP TO A $699 VALUE - FREE

OR

KING MATTRESS. QUEEN PRICE.
QUEEN MATTRESS. TWIN PRICE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRM MATTRESS</th>
<th>PILLOW TOP MATTRESS</th>
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<tr>
<td>QUEEN WAS $249</td>
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<td>KING WAS $549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOW $249</td>
<td>NOW $449</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<th>SOFT MATTRESS</th>
<th>MEDIUM MATTRESS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QUEEN WAS $700</td>
<td>QUEEN WAS $700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOW $550</td>
<td>NOW $550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KING WAS $850</td>
<td>KING WAS $850</td>
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<td>NOW $700</td>
<td>NOW $700</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**ENDS 1/1**

Sleepy's

Pillow Top Mattress
QUEEN WAS $449
NOW $349

KING WAS $549
NOW $449

Firm Mattress
QUEEN WAS $249
NOW $199

KING WAS $299
NOW $249

Medium Mattress
QUEEN WAS $700
NOW $550

KING WAS $850
NOW $700

Soft Mattress
QUEEN WAS $700
NOW $550

KING WAS $850
NOW $700
EXTENDED HOURS: Thurs–Sat 10AM–8PM
Sun 10AM–7PM • Mon 10AM–6PM • Tue 11AM–8PM

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HURRY IN BEFORE WE SELL OUT!

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Adjust your bed and turn your bed into a couch or movie theater.

OR

KING
FOR THE PRICE OF A
QUEEN

QUEEN
FOR THE PRICE OF A
TWIN

MATTRESSFIRM
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FOR THE PRICE OF A QUEEN

QUEEN
FOR THE PRICE OF A TWIN

EXTENDED HOURS: Thurs–Sat 10AM–8PM
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**ALL BRANDS ON SALE**

No exceptions. Just savings.
When we say every brand, we mean it.

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**FREE ADJUSTABLE BASE**

UP TO A $699 VALUE - FREE

OR

KING MATTRESS. QUEEN PRICE.
QUEEN MATTRESS. TWIN PRICE.

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PLUSH MATTRESS
QUEEN WAS $1899
NOW $1499
KING WAS $2399
NOW $1899

CUSHION FIRM MATTRESS
QUEEN WAS $2099
NOW $1799
KING WAS $2699
NOW $2099

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Minimum purchase of $3999 with your Mattress Firm credit card. 72 equal monthly payments required.

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NOW $397

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WAS $597  SAVE $100
NOW $497

The nation’s largest specialty mattress retailer, offering the best beds at the best value.
By Jacqueline E. Mathews. © 2018 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

By this point in the game, people were uncomfortable with the idea that humans belong to the same class of animals as cats and dogs. They're like many who become successful and don't want to be reminded of the old neighborhood.

Last week's crosswords

"PENNY ARCADE"

ACROSS
1 "Phoey!" 46 Word from Scrooge
5 Gritty residue 47 Belly button
9 As __ as molasses 51 Graceful antelope
13 Climbing plants 52 St. Joan of___
15 Musketeers or Stooges 55 Say again
16 Dwindle 58 Revolving part in a machine
17 Entertainer Shore 60 Part of the leg
18 Abode 61 Passed away
20 Sullivan & Bradley 62 Hillside
21 __ moment; instant of realization
23 Very rich
24 Official ambassador
26 Take a load off
27 Dozing
29 Unwanted nasal growths
32 Carried
33 Like pleasantly warm weather
35 Common street name
37 Smell
38 Scoundrel
39 Soft cheese
40 Pooch's foot
41 Locations
42 Run fast
43 Grab
45 Children

Solutions

1__110110
2 HA TR AS
3 AT SW US
4 IN O N
5 RS T N
6 R E P T
7 C S A
8 O D T
9 N U I S
10 E T A
11 V E
12 A D
13 E N
14 O N
15 E R
16 A T
17 E N
18 D I
19 O L
20 N T
21 I A
22 R Y
23 N T
24 S V
25 V T
26 A E
27 T H
28 S M
29 O R
30 A K
31 I P
32 L O
33 A S
34 G O
35 T H
36 D R
37 E A
38 L I
39 N T
40 R I
41 E M
42 A R
43 C T
44 D A
45 S E
46 S N
47 L S
48 T H
49 E R
50 F O
51 W E
52 F O
53 I N
54 R T
55 V A
56 R I
57 A R
58 V E
59 E R
60 T O
61 S H
62 M E
63 I N

"Hit the Deck"

"In Other Words"

1 Hitchhiker's hope
2 Ardent
3 Hollywood
4 Eel's home
5 Alley cat
6 Wrath
7 Fleur-de-
8 Strenuous; backbreaking
9 __ palms; sign of anxiety, perhaps
10 Terra firma
11 __ in a blue moon; rarely
12 Dandelion or crabgrass
13 Used a razor
14 Small lacy mat

22 1950s teen dance
23 _-do-well, burn
24 Perched upon
25 Malt shop orders
26 Malt shop orders
27 Perched upon
28 Malt shop orders
29 Advantage
30 Drip coffee
31 More
32 Underhanded
33 The one and the other
34 Years lived
35 Rows team orders, for short
36 Pharmacy
37 Actress Leoni
38 Burton & Nixon
39 Source of woe
41 No longer fresh
42 Amazon and
44 Lessens
45 Impoverished
46 Annoys
48 Annoys
49 Waiter's offering
50 "The __ Piper of Hamelin"
51 Lariat
52 Horse team
53 Lariat
54 Rowing team
55 Feel miserable
56 Feel miserable
57 Actress Leoni
58 Burton & Nixon

Last week's Sudoku

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

This week's Jumble

PLIGHT SIMILE INFAMY UNWISE CANNON THWART

The team that scored the first goal was ahead –

AT THIS POINT IN THE GAME

Interactive puzzles and games
Subject - Property; and

The Subject Property is zoned C-2 Neighborhood Commercial District. It is located on the south side of Dundee Road, approximately 290 feet west of the intersection of Ridge Road.

The Northbrook Village Plan Commission on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Northbrook Village Hall, 1225 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, Illinois for the purpose of considering the following:

DOCKET NO. 18-20
527 SONDER ROAD - BANO’S SELF DOG WASH

Application by Bano’s Self Dog Wash, the Applicant and Owner, for a Special Permit to operate a self-service dog wash facility on the Subject Property and approval of such amendment to the existing Special Permit for youth baseball training in the ICS Comprehensive Plan.

At said public hearing and at any adjournment thereof, all persons interested are invited to attend and be heard. Additional information concerning this application may be obtained from the Village of Northbrook.

SANDRA FRUM, PRESIDENT
12/27/2018 6043153
Adult fiction faves from 2018
No shortage of compelling and otherworldly work

BY JOHN WARNER | Chicago Tribune

Sales of adult fiction declined by 16 percent from 2013 to 2017. There's lots of speculation as to why—lack of recent blockbusters like "Fifty Shades" or "Gone Girl," politics sucking up all the available media oxygen, the rise of Netflix. But here's something I'm sure of: The decline has nothing to do with quality.

In trying to determine my 2018 Biblioracle Book Awards for fiction, I couldn't whittle my list to fewer than 20 titles that deserve recognition. This has simply been one of my best years of reading in recent memory. If you let some of these books kick off your 2019, you'll have some good reading ahead of you as well—Biblioracle guaranteed.

Roman a Clef of the Year

"Asymmetry" by Lisa Halliday
Simon & Schuster, 288 pages, $26

Three novellas joined together into a semi-cohesive whole, but don't bother with that. The opening section of an affair between a young woman and a writer with a strong resemblance to Philip Roth manages to burrow deeper into emotions and existential of Daphne as a caregiver to a young child is almost hypnotic in its strength. I still don't understand how this book worked its spell on me.

Have a Hanky Ready Book of the Year

"The Great Believers" by Rebecca Makkai
Viking, 432 pages, $27

The tragedy of the AIDS crisis and its aftermath, told with care and grace. Co-champion: "Don't Skip Out on Me" by Willy Vlautin (Harper Perennial, 304 pages, $22.99). I want to recommend this book to everybody, but the end is so emotionally overwhelming, I'm worried they'll get mad at me for making them feel those feelings.

Most Mesmerizing Book of the Year

"The Golden State" by Lydia Kiesling
MCD, 304 pages, $26

In theory, little connects my life to that of Kiesling's protagonist, Daphne—a mother of an 18-month-old in the midst of an emotional crisis over a Turkish-born husband having been exiled from the United States by a visa snafu and a job she can no longer bear—but Kiesling's rendering of the moment-to-moment existence of Daphne as a caregiver to a young child is almost hypnotic in its strength. I still don't understand how this book worked its spell on me.

Post-apocalyptic Story Set in the Future Book of the Year

"Severance" by Ling Ma
Knopf, 352 pages, $26.95

A throwback to Mark Twain or Jules Verne, this is the story of a woman who's turned into shuffling drones, repeating mundane tasks as their bodies decay. Candace Chen has escaped the fever, but seems to recognize her pre-plague life wasn't so different from the afflicted. A tale of survival that is simultaneously dead serious and satirical.

Post-apocalyptic Story Set in the Past Book of the Year

"The Overstory" by Richard Powers
Norton, 512 pages, $27.95

Ostensibly centered on the "timber wars" of the 1990s, which saw old growth forests of the Pacific Northwest decimated, Powers' powerful storytelling makes a case that we've already ruined the planet by turning our backs on the magnificence of nature. We're living in a post-apocalypse. We just don't recognize it yet.

I didn't intend to end the Biblioracle Book Awards on such a downer note, but on reflection, it seems appropriate. One of the reasons fiction is so vital is its role in rendering truths we can't easily see.

In recognizing those truths, at least some measure of hope is kindled.

John Warner is the author of "Why They Can't Write: Killing the Five-Paragraph Essay and Other Necessities."
The best thing area food pros ate this year

BY VERONICA HINKE
Pioneer Press

What's the best meal you ate out in the Chicago area in 2018?
We asked Chicago food pros to name their absolute favorite. This is the first of a two-part story on the chefs' recommendations.

This year, again, several chefs picked Smyth, Boka, Bad Hunter and others again as in previous years. We heard about Monteverde several times again, too, and then a brand-new exciting restaurant, Pacific Standard Time, was the new pick of three different chefs.

To start us off, Jaime Laurita picked Club Lucky. Comforting dumplings, noodles and gnocchi were trends this year in several chef picks. It's all good.

From ramen (High Five Ramen) to crab legs (Half Shell) and everything in between, there's something in this list for everyone.

Jaime Laurita
Chef and Creative Director for Viking Showroom in Chicago
Besides reporting for Pioneer Press, Laurita is a chef and creative director for Viking Showroom in Chicago.

Best Meal: Seafood Salad loaded with fresh calamari, shrimp, white fish and octopus
The Skinny: "This Club Lucky owns me. Always fresh and delicious. I actually sit at home sometimes and think about it," Laurita recently posted on Instagram. "Club Lucky's Seafood Salad is so simple and always so fresh with a light lemon vinaigrette."

Sam Rattanopas
Executive Chef, NaKorn in Evanston
Best Meal: Fried Gnocchi
The Skinny: "This dish, in this place, is so genuine, and so Chicago. Many people - even old-time Chicagoans - don't know the Heart of Chicago Italian neighborhood, home to Ignotez, even though it predates Chicago's 'Little Italy' on Taylor Street. ... The Fried Gnocchi at Ignotez is perfectly executed - crunchy outside, soft as a pillow inside, and paired very well with warm, robust blue cheese crumbles, and a side of marinara used to one's taste."

Kymberly DeLost-Cuschieri
Executive Pastry Chef, Gage Hospitality Group's Acano The Dawson and The Gage in Chicago; and Aaron Cuschieri, Executive Chef, The Dearborn in Chicago
Best Meal: Fried clams and soft-shell crab on a bun
The Skinny: "You can have some more bread please, to wipe up this sauce?!? My wife Chrissy and I don't get out much, but when we do Antiprima is always a possibility. Chef Carlos Ysaguirre is one of the best chefs in the city. He does simple better than anyone I know. A lot of restaurants talk about sourcing locally and cooking seasonally but, Antiprima is the real deal."

Giuseppe Tentori
Chef, Owner, GT Prime and GT Fish & Oyster in Chicago
Best Meal: Wood-Fired Pita with Smoked Eggplant, Coriander, Whipped Robiola
The Skinny: "Every year my husband (Chef Aaron Cuschieri) and I travel to Maryland for fresh crab but we were too busy this year for our annual getaway. In order to fulfill my crab craving, Aaron suggested we go to Half Shell, a true Lakeview seafood institution, where I had never been before. They pan-fry the crab for the soft-shell crab on the bun which is exactly how my Grandma used to make it. The fried crabs were crispy and soul-soothing and again reminded me of home cooking. They also serve a lollipop with every entree for an added dose of whimsy. The price is also super affordable but be warned, it's cash only."

Jennifer Eisen
Managing Partner, House 406 in Northbrook
Best Meal: Apple Croquette Salad
The Skinny: "The best thing I ate this year by far was the Apple Croquette Salad from Brass Heart from their vegan tasting menu. The dish had this fantastic savory apple croquette along with crispy lettuce, rich apple butter, sweet apples and some different purées. I loved this dish so much because in the middle of this amazingly gastro-nomical restaurant this salad that tasted so familiar and comforting. I was so happy to find a restaurant with a vegan tasting menu and was surprised by how filling it was."

Brian Huston
Chef, Boltwood in Evanston
Best Meal: Sweet Corn and Ricotta Ravioli with Parmigiano Butter
The Skinny: "Can I have more bread please, to wipe up this sauce?!? My wife Chrissy and I don't get out much, but when we do Antiprima is always a possibility. Chef Carlos Ysaguirre is one of the best chefs in the city. He does simple better than anyone I know. A lot of restaurants talk about sourcing locally and cooking seasonally but, Antiprima is the real deal."

Maryann Slavin
Pastry Chef/Owner, Maryann's Sweet Treats and Edible Art in Highwood
Best Meal: Pizza, Grilled Calamari, Steak, Prosciutto Wrapped around Scallops
The Skinny: "An old gem. It's probably the oldest same-family Italian restaurant. It's old school-charming with excellent food ... best thin-crust pizza ... love the grilled calamari and the best prosciutto, wrapped around scallops... great steak, and really inexpensive with lots of food."

Veronica Hinke is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
**WHAT TO DO COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**Thursday, Dec. 27**

**18th Annual Winter Carnival:** The Glenview Ice Center's 18th annual Winter Carnival takes place during winter break from school. With special events, activities and loads of public skating sessions, it's fun for the entire family! For a full schedule, visit glenviewicecenter.org. Admission to extended public skating sessions is $8, or use your season pass. Skate rental is $4, 9 a.m. Thursday, Glenview Ice Center, 1851 Landwehr Road, Glenview, 847-724-2800.

**Make It and Take It: Party Hat Huzza:** Just in time for New Year's Eve, stop by Youth Services to decorate and personalize a magnificent party hat. Stop by Youth Services to decorate and personalize a magnificent party hat. Make It and Take It: Party Hat Huzza:

**Lot 14 Community Auction:** This auction features 300 items never offered here before and lower or eliminated reserves on about 100 items previously offered. Join for a dynamic live auction in Niles, to benefit Maine Community Youth Assistance Foundation and get good deals while helping great causes. 5 p.m. Thursday, Lot 14 Auctions, 7900 N. Milwaukee Ave #2, Niles, free, 847-625-0555.

**Friday, Dec. 28**

**Practical Theatre on the Air:** Practical Radio Theatre on the Air is a classic radio show format filled with high spirits, satire and song. Featuring writer-performers Victoria Zielinski, Paul Barrosse and Dana Olsen, with music by Paul Marinaro (Dec. 28) and the Steve Rashid and his Studio5 All-Stars (Don Sternberg, Jim Cox and Robert Rashshid), with special appearances by Giggle Break's Daniel Rashid, vocalist Paul Marinaro (Dec. 28 only) and recording artist Eva B. Ross. 8 p.m. Saturday, Studio5, 1934 Dempster St., Evanston, free, 847-448-8260.

**Dinosauria Hands-On Explorations for Ages 6-7:** RAWRR! Jurassic Park is visiting the Library. Join in for an exciting morning of science and hands-on prehistoric exploration with paleontologist Lisa Zago and her real dinosaur bones. 10:30 a.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

**Teen Advisory Board: TAB, Meeting Volunteer Opportunity:** Join in after school to help plan programs, discuss books you love, and brainstorm with your peers and Library staff. TAB meets monthly and participants earn service hours. Just drop in. 5 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

**Chicago Wolves Ice Rink Open Skate:** Guests are invited to bring their own skates. Skate rentals are also available onsite for $8. 11 a.m. Friday, Parkway Bank Park, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-349-5554.

**Trans-Siberian Orchestra:** 3 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m. Friday, Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Road, Rosemont, 904-7867.

**Music Theater Works: Sondheim's Into The Woods:** Everybody's favorite storybook characters come together in this wise and witty tale about the consequences of what you wish for. A Tony Award-winning musical (and hit movie in 2014), with these songs: Children Will Listen, I Know Things Now, No One Is Alone and It Takes Two. 8 p.m. Friday, Calm Auditorium, 600 Emerson St., Evanston, $34 and up; half price 25 and younger, 847-920-5360.

**Saturday, Dec. 29**

**Practical Theatre on the Air:** Practical Radio Theatre on the Air is a classic radio show format filled with high spirits, satire and song. Featuring writer-performers Victoria Zielinski, Paul Barrosse and Dana Olsen, with music by Steve Rashid and his Studio5 All-Stars (Don Sternberg, Jim Cox and Robert Rashshid), with special appearances by Giggle Break's Daniel Rashid, vocalist Paul Marinaro (Dec. 28 only) and recording artist Eva B. Ross. 8 p.m. Friday, Studio5, 1934 Dempster St., Evanston, free, 847-448-8260.

**Odyssey: The Life and Work of Ron Villani:** Art show memorial to prolific long-time Glenview artist and commercial illustrator, Ron Villani. 10 a.m. Friday, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston, free, 847-448-8260.

**Friday Night Meltdowns:** Join in this awesome skate and dance party! A DJ plays today's hits and disco lighting shines on the ice throughout the night. Bring your own skates or rent a pair for the evening. For more information, visit the website or call. 8:15 p.m. Friday, Glenview Ice Center, 1851 Landwehr Road, Glenview, $8 admit; $4 rental skates, 847-724-2800.

**Dinosauria Hands-On Explorations for Ages 6-7:** RAWRR! Jurassic Park is visiting the Library. Join in for an exciting morning of science and hands-on prehistoric exploration with paleontologist Lisa Zago and her real dinosaur bones. 10:30 a.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

**Dinosauria Hands-On Explorations for Ages 8-12:** RAWRR! Jurassic Park is visiting the Library. Join in for an exciting morning of science and hands-on prehistoric exploration with paleontologist Lisa Zago and her real dinosaur bones. 11:30 a.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

**Square Dance into the New Year Party:** Get your body moving, use your brain, have fun and enjoy some square dancing! All ages are welcome to learn the basics from 2-3:30 p.m. taught by the Glenview Squares. Experienced dancers are invited to join the fun from 3:45-4:30 p.m. 2 p.m. Saturday, The Grove, 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, $5 at door, 847-399-6096.

**Hot Cocoa in a Cone for Ages 13-18:** Create your own cocoa in a cone with marshmallows, chocolate chips, and sprinkles. Make one to take home while enjoying cocoa with friends. All supplies are provided, but the class size is limited. 2 p.m. Saturday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

**Sunday, Dec. 30**

**Music Theater Works: Sondheim's Into The Woods:** Everybody's favorite storybook characters come together in this wise and witty tale about the consequences of what you wish for. A Tony Award-winning musical (and hit movie in 2014), with these songs: Children Will Listen, I Know Things Now, No One Is Alone and It Takes Two. 8 p.m. Monday, Cahn Auditorium, 600 Emerson St., Evanston, $34 and up; half price 25 and younger, 847-920-5360.

**NYE 2019 with Anthony Cruz Live at Good To Go:** Brought to by Pyre Productions, with Anthony Cruz and The Conscious Rockers Live from Jamaican DJ Pyre and DJ Ringo are on the controls! Party from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. with hors d'oeuvres and champagne toast at midnight. 8 p.m. Monday, Good To Go Jamaican Cuisine, 711 Howard St., Evanston, $35 advanced; $50 at door, 847-868-8226.

**Noon Year's Eve:** Don't miss out on our Countdown in "Bounce Square," where children will receive glow necklaces, party favors, and noisemakers, as they gather for the celebration. At the stroke of midnight, glow balloons will descend from the ceiling in a joyful and memorable welcoming of the New Year. 10 a.m. Monday, noon Monday, 2 p.m. Monday, Pump It Up Glenview, 1857 Elm Dale Ave., Glenview, $15, 847-904-7867.

**Drop-In Movie: Smallfoot:** Please note that the film Smallfoot will be substituted if not released by the program date. Just drop in. 10 a.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500.

**Noon Year's Eve Party:** If you can't make it until midnight, celebrate the "Noon Year" instead, with a massive balloon drop! The main gym will have bouncy inflatables and other fun activities. Note: Parents are free, but must accompany child(ren), ages 3-9 years. Advance registration is required. $19 per child through Dec. 26. No day of admission or day of information and to register, visit the website. 10:30 a.m. Monday, Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview, $19 per child until Dec. 26, 847-724-5670.

**New Year's Eve Celebration:** Bring out the whole family for a fabulous New Year's Eve at the Park Ridge Park District's party. Admission is free to all, but be sure to reserve your spot. 6 p.m. Saturday, 847-729-5670.
Wednesday, Jan. 2

Top Box for Schools coming to ETHS: Pre-orders for the fresh produce and local meat boxes have closed, but you can still stop by the delivery day on October 4 at ETHS, Entrance 2. Come learn more, see the offerings, and try some samples. Save on groceries and support local farmers all while fundraising for ETHS student clubs. 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, free, 847-864-8804.

18th Annual Winter Carnival: The Glenview Ice Center's 18th annual Winter Carnival takes place during winter break from school. With special events, activities and loads of public skating sessions—fun for the entire family! For a full schedule, visit glenviewicerink.com. Admission to extended public skating sessions is $8, or use your season pass. Skate rental is $4. 9 a.m. Wednesday, Glenview Ice Center, 1851 Landwehr Road, Glenview, Varies, 847-724-2800.

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. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Avenue, Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

Rotary Club of Wilmette: Join the Rotary of Wilmette members for lunch at 12:15pm to learn how you can become a member of this service organization. Interesting programs are presented each week. Let them know you are coming so they can welcome you to the meeting. 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, Wilmette Golf Club, 3900 Fairway Drive, Wilmette, free, 847-722-2115.

Saturday, Jan. 5

Animal Secrets: Families will explore the hidden habitats and secret lives of forest animals. Using imaginative role-play and hands-on activities, children will discover nature from an animal's point of view in naturalistic environments, including a meadow, woodland, cave and naturalists' tent. 9:30 a.m. Jan. 5, Kohl Children's Museum, 2100 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, $11-$12, 847-832-6600.


Sunday, Jan. 6

Weekly Irish Music Session - John Williams: Join in every Sunday for a feast of Irish music led by renowned master of many a musical instrument, John Williams and joined by his many talented musical friends. Eat, drink and enjoy free live music at your local pub in lovely downtown Evanston. 3 p.m. Jan. 6, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679.
What to Do Community Calendar

Calendar, from Page 15

Meetup.com/afnorthshore and AFNorthshore.org/events. 10 a.m. Jan. 7, Panera, 1199 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-858-1274.

Tuesday, Jan. 8

Rich, Red Wines in Winter at The Barn Steakhouse: Join The Barn Steakhouse on Tuesday, January 8, as Vinic Wine owner, Sandeep Ghaey, curates an evening of unique red wines selected to match the restaurant's hearty winter cuisine. Sandeep will lead guests through a flavorful and informative evening beginning with a reception in the heated Winter Garden, followed by a seated four-course dinner in the Loft. Tickets can be purchased here. 6:30 p.m. Jan. 8, The Barn, 1016 Church St., Evanston, $138, 847-868-8041.

Free Info Session: Diabetes Prevention Program: The YMCA's new Diabetes Prevention Program gives you the skills you need and the support you deserve to reduce your risk of Type 2 diabetes. Come and learn how to make lasting, healthy lifestyle changes from NSYMCA's Senior Director of Wellness, Megan Vazquez. This is free and open to the public, however, registration is required by calling or online at NSYMCA.org. Contact Karen Brownlee, kbrownlee@nsymca.org for more information. 11:15 a.m. Jan. 9, North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road, Northbrook, free, 847-272-7250.

Artists Workshop: Working in Color: This is for the advanced student as well as beginners to explore color and different media using props, photographs, and one's own imagination! Students can work in pastel, oil, acrylic, watercolor, cray-pas, and colored pencils at their own pace. Participants do need to supply their own art supplies to complete their individual projects. For the student who wants to work independently, the class can be used as a workshop. 10 a.m. Jan. 8, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $225 member; $265 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

Wednesday, Jan. 9

Paul Chan: Happiness finally after 35,000 years!: Paul Chan (b. Hong Kong, 1973) is an American artist, activist, writer, and publisher. His work is featured in the Alsdorf Gallery. 10 a.m. Jan. 9, Northwestern University - Block Museum of Art, 40 Arts Cir Drive, Evanston, free.

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. Jan. 9, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Avenue, Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277.

Estate Planning 101: Learn about the importance of estate planning no matter your level of wealth. This discussion will cover what is important to include in your estate planning and how to use trusts and other tools to protect your loved ones. Free and open to the public, however registration is required by calling or online at NSYMCA.org. Contact Karen Brownlee, kbrownlee@nsymca.org for more information. 11:15 a.m. Jan. 9, North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road, Northbrook, free, 847-272-7250.

Thursday, Jan. 10


Lot 14 Community Auction: This auction features 300 items never offered here before and lowered or eliminated reserves on about 100 items previously offered. Join for a dynamic live auction in Niles, to benefit Maine Community Youth Assistance Foundation and get good deals while helping great causes. 5 a.m. Jan. 10, Lot 14 Auctions, 7900 N Milwaukee Ave #2, Niles, free, 847-625-0555.

Make Financial Wellness Your New Year's Resolution: This workshop introduces strategies to put you on a journey to financial success: budgeting, asset protection, managing debt, emergency funds, and tax sensitive investing. All attendees are eligible for a free one-hour one-on-one complimentary consultation with the instructor. Free and open to the public, however registration is required by calling or online at NSYMCA.org. Contact Karen Brownlee, kbrownlee@nsymca.org for more information. 7 p.m. Jan. 10, North Suburban YMCA, 2705 Techny Road, Northbrook, free, 847-272-7250.

Grace Kelly: Grace Kelly was American film royalty. Her talent, poise, and beauty captivated audiences around the world. They also captivated the Prince of Monaco. Her career, her marriage, her charitable work, and her tragic death will be highlighted. 1 p.m. Jan. 10, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $12 member; $17 nonmember, 847-784-6030.

Have an event to submit? Go to ChicagoTribune.com/Events

The Black Sox | "Winning Ugly" | The 1906, 1917 and 2005 champs
Minnie Minoso | Frank Thomas | Paul Konerko | And more!

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This list is not intended to be a complete record of all real estate transactions.
Data compiled by Record Information Services  630-557-1000  public-record.com
Bishops to retreat from abuse report

Archdiocese: State findings won't be on table at summit

BY ELYSSA CHERNEY
Chicago Tribune

Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan made clear Wednesday that her decision to release a report identifying hundreds of allegations of sexual abuse by Catholic priests was supposed to send a message to a contingent of U.S. bishops gathering in the state next month.

But the Archdiocese of Chicago fired back Thursday, saying bishops will not discuss the report or its findings at a seven-day spiritual retreat at Mundelein Seminary in suburban Chicago in January.

The retreat “will strictly be time for prayer, fasting and spiritual lectures,” Anne Maselli, a spokeswoman for the Archdiocese of Chicago, said in an email. “No one other than bishops are included in the retreat. ... It will not be open to the public.”

Archdiocese of Chicago Cardinal Blase Cupich will serve as host of the gathering, which was convened by Pope Francis in response to an explosive grand jury report in Pennsylvania this summer that found hundreds of church leaders in the state covered up clergy sexual abuse for about seven decades.

Cupich did not make himself available for an interview Thursday to explain why the retreat would not address Madigan’s report.

In a statement, a spokeswoman for Madigan said it was “disappointing and absurd” that bishops would not discuss the recent report.

“We now know the Church in Illinois failed to investigate many allegations and has disclosed only a small fraction of the names of accused clergy,” spokesman Eileen Boyce said in an email. “Crimes of the past have created a crisis in the present that must be addressed and resolved.”

Boyce said some of the oldest allegations were from the 1990s, but concerned behavior from decades earlier. She would not discuss the more recent allegations, citing the ongoing investigation.

Other local critics say the church should open up the retreat and allow parishioners to confront the clergy about their concerns.

Hille Haker, who specializes in Catholic moral theology at Loyola University Chicago, said the church will miss an important opportunity to be more transparent if it does not allow the public to participate in the retreat. “Not to give the Catholics in Illinois or Chicago at least the opportunity to confront the bishops and make them listen seems not good enough in this situation,” Haker said.

“... To withdraw or retreat into your private rooms of space and deal with it your own way will not bring about the change,” Haker added. The retreat, which could include some 300 bishops from around the country, comes as more than a dozen state attorneys general have initiated investigations of sexual abuse by clergy since the Pennsylvania report. It also precedes a February summit in Rome that will bring key bishops together to address the sex abuse scandal.

In Illinois, Madigan’s preliminary findings slammed the church for failing to thoroughly investigate all the allegations, particularly when the priest had died; left the ministry or was a member of a religious order and therefore not under the authority of a diocese. Although Madigan is leaving office in February, her successor, Kwame Raoul, has vowed to continue the investigation.

The report said about 500 of the allegations had never before been disclosed to the public.

Previously, Catholic officials from Illinois’ six Catholic dioceses have publicly identified only 185 clergy with credible allegations against them.

Madigan’s preliminary findings slammed the church for failing to thoroughly investigate all the allegations, particularly when the priest had died; left the ministry or was a member of a religious order and therefore not under the authority of a diocese. Although Madigan is leaving office in February, her successor, Kwame Raoul, has vowed to continue the investigation.

In a news release on Wednesday, Madigan’s office said the findings also provide a critical document for discussion at the Janu-
Walgreens plans to cut costs by $1B in 3 years

Chain plans store and warehouse closings, using technology more

BY LISA SCHENCKER
Chicago Tribune

Walgreens announced plans Thursday to cut at least $1 billion in annual costs within three years while using technology to address changes in how consumers shop and finding more ways to draw customers into stores.

The cost-cutting will include some warehouse consolidations and store closings, Walgreens Boots Alliance executives said on an early morning call with analysts.

Walgreens also is looking to change and update its products and services and develop new income streams to attract more customers.

"In the world we live in today, we must create a company that can interact with our customers however, whenever and whenever is right for them," Alex Goulay, co-chief operating officer, told analysts. "We can't wait for them to come to our stores."

The Deerfield-based company said it has retained Accenture to help it review its cost structure over a 16-week period and plans to adopt zero-based budgeting, a tool used by consumer product companies to more closely justify all corporate spending. Earlier this year, Accenture said more than 300 companies around the world use the tool.

"Whether this will be three or five (years) is difficult to say because many of these tests take a lot of time to come to a real fruition," CEO Stefano Pessina said, adding, "We are doing an incredible effort to digitize the company and to use the digitalization for not only improving the efficiency of the company but also to offer many, many more services to our customers."

"Part of that digitization effort includes a partnership with Verily, which is part of Google parent company Alphabet. In an arrangement that was announced Wednesday, Walgreens and Verily are initially developing a pilot project that will use devices to help people take their medications as prescribed. Broadly, they plan to work together on finding ways to improve access to health care technology, such as through sensors and software to help prevent, manage, screen and diagnose diseases."

"It's the latest in a series of Walgreens partnerships announced recently."

Walgreens partnered with Kroger to carry Kroger groceries in more than a dozen of its stores in northern Kentucky and allow grocery pickup at those stores. Walgreens also recently announced that it would expand its partnership with LabCorp, opening at least 600 LabCorp centers at Walgreens stores, where specimens can be collected for lab testing. Earlier this month, Walgreens announced that it had launched next-day nationwide prescription delivery with FedEx.

And Pessina said Thursday that Walgreens has advanced its collaboration with health insurer Humana.

John Boylan, a senior equity analyst with Edward Jones, praised the partnerships in a note to investors Thursday, but he cautioned that only time will tell how much of a difference the partnerships, and the cost-cutting, will truly make.

Broad details of the cost-cutting program came as Walgreens reported fiscal first-quarter net earnings of $1.1 billion, or $1.18 a share, compared with $821 million, or 81 cents a share, in the year-ago period. First-quarter sales rose 9.9 percent from the comparable quarter a year ago and included results from recently acquired Rite Aid stores.

Walgreens spent more than $4 billion to acquire nearly 2,000 stores from Rite Aid in a deal it closed last year.

The call also followed a number recent changes to employee benefits that angered many workers and former workers, including deep cuts to bonuses for store and other managers.

Walgreens also decided that starting in 2019, employees won't qualify for paid time off unless they work at least 30 hours a week, versus 20 hours currently. And the chain decided to eliminate health insurance for a number of its eligible retirees after 2019. However, the company is adding a paid parental leave benefit that will offer full pay for eight weeks of leave to new mothers and fathers. Also, it is expanding short-term disability leaves for hourly employees working at least 30 hours a week.

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State sees spate of departures once again

Population declines for 5th year as 45K people exit Illinois

BY ANGIE LEVENTIS LOURGOS
Chicago Tribune

Mary Miller lived in Illinois for all of her 44 years until July, when she and her family left their north suburban Wauconda home to settle in Florida.

"It's taxes. It's corruption. It's politics," she said. "And I don't mean Republicans or Democrats, it's all of them."

Miller wasn't alone in her departure from the state. Illinois has declined in population for the fifth year in a row, losing an estimated 45,116 residents from 2017 to 2018, according to the latest Census Bureau data released Dec. 19.

That was a greater drop than the previous year, when Illinois lost about 40,000 people — as well as its spot as the fifth-most populous state in the nation to Pennsylvania.

The drop didn't surprise Miller, who said her parents, sibling and in-laws already had moved away before her, scattering across the country.

"It was hard to leave," she said. "I anticipated dying in Illinois. There are good opportunities, but I think those opportunities are dwindling."

The Land of Lincoln remains the sixth-most populous state, with a population estimated at 12,741,080, but there has been a decrease of more than 100,000 residents since 2013, when the population hit almost 12.9 million, the census figures show.

Ohio is next in the rankings at number seven, trailing by more than a million residents.

Illinois suffered the second-largest numeric loss of any state, following only New York, which was down 48,510 residents but has a much larger overall population of more than 19.5 million, according to the data. Other states that declined were West Virginia, Louisiana, Hawaii, Mississippi, Alaska, Connecticut and Wyoming.

No other states in the Midwest had losses.

"I think in a way Illinois is kind of standing out in the Midwest," said William Frey, a demographer at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., a not-for-profit public policy organization. "Illinois actually has a population loss, which means immigration and fertility isn't enough to make up for the domestic outmigration. It says something about the relative pull of the economy of other states compared to Illinois."

He noted that there has been a spike in migration to other states in the past few years that hasn't been offset by new residents. However, international immigration to Illinois has been relatively stable, with about 30,000 new immigrants arriving in the past year.

"The fact that people are moving here from other countries, that's like our saving grace," said Orphe Divougny, chief economist with the Illinois Policy Institute, a libertarian think tank.

Divougny said Illinois is facing an "outmigration crisis," having lost a net of 114,000 residents to other states from 2017 to 2018 — more than 300 people a day.

"What we need are pro-growth policies," he said. "We need to lower our tax burden. ... This is what the new governor needs to look at in the new year. Otherwise we're going to continue to see people leaving at an alarming rate."

Divougny added that pension reform also is critical to keeping residents in Illinois long-term. In analyzing previous census data, he said much of the exodus consists of younger adults in their working years.

"It's not just retirees going to Florida," he said. "It's also prime working-age individuals and people of childbearing age who are moving ... because job creation in Illinois is also very sluggish compared to the rest of the country."

Census figures released in May showed the Chicago metropolitan area — from the city to the suburbs, as well as swaths of Indiana and Wisconsin — lost residents for the past three consecutive years. Cities across Illinois also have seen recent population declines, including Rockford, Springfield and Peoria: one exception in the May report was Naperville, which gained about 500 residents from 2016 to 2017.

Recent Internal Revenue Service data indicate that warmer-climate states like Florida, California and Texas draw many ex-Illinois residents, though there also is a lot of migration to neighboring states like Indiana and Wisconsin.

Overall, the U.S. population continued to grow in 2018 due to both international migration — which was slightly lower than last year — and natural increases, which were a little higher this year, according to the December census report.

Nevada and Idaho were states that saw the most proportional growth, with populations increasing about 2.1 percent in the past year. Texas had the most numeric growth over the last year, with an increase of 379,128 people. Florida had the most net domestic migration, with a gain of 132,602 residents last year.

The data cover July 2017 to July 2018 and do not take into account the impact of Hurricane Florence in September, Hurricane Michael in October or the California wildfires.

As for Miller, she says she's been happy living in the Orlando area, finding property taxes and in-state college tuition to generally be less expensive.

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While the weather also is more pleasant, she says the temperature is more of an added benefit than the main attraction.

"It's an influencer, but it's not a decision point," she said. "But I will say I enjoyed wearing shorts yesterday."

Chicago Tribune reporter Elvia Malagon contributed.

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THE BEST RIDES OF 2018

BY ROBERT DUFFER
Chicago Tribune

American sedans are dying, the market is overrun with crossovers and self-driving cars are still a ways off. Blah, blah, blah — the best rides of 2018 still gave us a charge without breaking the bank.

From hot laps on a track to weeklong loans in the driveway, the best vehicles beat expectations with powertrains that were powerful but efficient, technology that was safe but intuitive, interiors that were welcoming but affordable. Here are our favorites:

**Truck**

1. **2019 Ram 1500:** Best here does not mean fuel economy or towing capacity or rugged good looks, though Ram could win all those arguments with the 395-horsepower 5.7-liter HEMI V-8. Unlike the Chevy Silverado, it feels, looks and drives much more evolved than its predecessor. We said, “It rides as smooth as a crossover but with all the pickup capability of a heavy-duty truck with a V-8 engine.”

2. **GMC Sierra AT4:** Honorable mention to the GMC Sierra AT4 and its innovative MultiPro power tailgate. It folds down like a normal gate, but then another smaller gate within that folds down into a large and long step. In the upper-right position it can be used as a shelf or two-tiered cargo extender. Makes for the best bed in the business. Standard on SLT, AT4 and Denali trims.

**Full-size SUV**

We’re not sure of the wisdom of American automakers cutting sedans and essentially ceding that space to foreign makes, but the Americans know what they do well, and their best passenger vehicles are full-size SUVs.

1. **2018 Lincoln Navigator** offers serenity now for the harried family with massaging 30-way adjustable seats that are as good as the La-Z-Boy. All the cargo space, all the easy folding power seat options, and all the power and efficiency in the 450-horsepower twin-turbo V-6 engine make this a sure winner, despite the $90,000 price tag. It makes the Cadillac Escalade feel like an old woody wagon, and more importantly, Navigator points the Lincoln brand in the right direction.

2. **2018 Ford Expedition** is equally good for being about $20,000 less than the nearly six-figure Navigator. Great application of helpful technology — not just for technology’s sake — such as the Pro Trailer Backup Assist, which uses a knob to help you back up 9,200 pounds instead of the counterintuitive turning of the wheel right to make the trailer go left. Even though Sync3 feels small and out-of-date, the Expedition is well-done.

3. **2019 Chevy Suburban** injects some life into the Suburban before an expected 2020 redesign. Can’t beat the Suburban on interior space, and even with the performance-oriented 420-horsepower 6.2-liter V-8 EcoTec engine riding on 22-inch wheels, it was really smooth and quiet. Blacked out and trimmed out, it was $82,000. We’d opt up for the Navigator.

**3-row crossover**

This is the one people ask us about the most, probably because we have two tweens and all the detritus that comes with them. The best not-minivan for 2018, no matter how loudly we extol the virtues of the Chrysler Pacifica, goes something like this:

1. **2018 Volkswagen Atlas** and **2019 Subaru Ascent:** We’re going to call it a draw between the all-new Atlas and all-new Ascent. Both were late to the game, and both are really well done, but top trim levels will set you back nearly $50,000. The Ascent in Touring trim proves Subaru can push into the premium class, up there with Lincoln and Acura. Yet it still does those things Subaru is better known for, like trusted AWD and smart safety features. It comes only with a 260-horsepower turbo four-cylinder engine but still can tow 5,000 pounds.

2. **2019 Honda Pilot**

The refreshed Pilot is the runner-up all-around good with genuine off-road chops and smart interior layout with a solid powertrain. It just blends in a little too blandly with all the other crossovers out there.

**Small crossover**

The subcompact and compact crossover segments get lumped together because none of them gets our motor running. Yet this is what we’d shop if we were in the market.

1. **2019 Volvo XC40:** Sized larger than it looks, this somewhat subcompact crossover is powered by a 248-horsepower turbo four-cylinder with plenty of punch. We loved the orange interior in the R-Design trim level, and the spartan dash justifies the learning curve necessary for the touch screen. It was priced right, too, starting at $35,000.

2. **2018 BMW X3 M40i:** Smooth and efficient on the highway, tight and responsive on the back roads, the X3 compact crossover comfortably fits four adults without nipping rear headroom like the X4 or smaller X2 or any of those other ugly turtle-back crossovers. It looks good too.

3. **2019 Acura RDX:** The third-generation compact crossover is taller, wider and longer than its predecessor and feels roomier than the compact competition. It’s attractive without trying to attract attention, and the turbo four-cylinder engine keeps it light on its 20-inch wheels. Sharp, clever details offset the introduction of a dual touchpad nuisance to control the display screen.

**Sports car**

1. **2019 Ford Mustang Bullitt:** The 5.0-liter V-8 gets a 20 horsepower boost over the GT to 480 horsepower, which lifts top speed 8 mph to 163 mph, thanks in part to some engineering tweaks from the GT350. The naturally aspirated rumble with the cue-ball shifter hits all the right notes.

We might pick the 6.2-liter V-8 Hot Wheels Chevy Camaro SS on the track, but the Bullitt wins the garage spot.

**Plug-in vehicle**

**Tesla Model 3** makes good on its hype as the best plug-in vehicle of 2018. The battery electric compact sedan has instantaneous torque, a spartan interior commanded by a center screen instead of an instrument cluster, and good interior space.
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Chicago Tribune
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FIRST TEAM AND SECOND TEAM

BY BOB NARANG, STEVE REAVEN
Pioneer Press

FIRST-TEAM OFFENSE

Michael Axelrod
School: Evanston.
Year: Senior.
Position: Wide receiver.
Accolades: Central Suburban South Offensive Player of the Year.

Key stats:
- 374 yards and five TDs.
- 36 carries for 1,421 yards and 18 TDs.

Ivan Gleyzer
School: Stevenson.
Year: Senior.
Position: Offensive line.
Accolades: All-conference.

Key stats:
- 215 receptions for 1,076 yards and 18 TDs.
- 52 catches for 530 yards and seven TDs.

Ty Gavin
School: Notre Dame.
Year: Senior.
Position: Running back.
Accolades: All-conference.

Key stats:
- 215 carries for 1,421 yards and 18 TDs.
- 42 catches for 497 yards and six TDs.

Will Hutchinson
School: Barrington.
Year: Senior.
Position: Wide receiver.
Accolades: All-conference.

Key stats:
- 62 receptions for 941 yards and 12 TDs.
- 21 catches for 330 yards and three TDs.

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Year: Senior.
Position: Offensive line.
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Key stats:
- 62 receptions for 941 yards and 12 TDs.
- 21 catches for 330 yards and three TDs.

Rory Boos
School: Loyola.
Year: Senior.
Position: Wide receiver.
Accolades: All-conference.

Key stats:
- 52 receptions for 814 yards and 10 TDs.
- 21 catches for 330 yards and three TDs.

Kacper Rutkiewicz
School: Hersey.
Year: Senior.
Position: Kicker/punter.
Accolades: All-conference.

Key stats:
- Made 11 of 16 field goal attempts.
- Averaged 32.8 yards per punt with 42 touchbacks on kickoffs.

Michael Love
School: Nazareth.
Year: Senior.
Position: Athlete.
Accolades: All-conference.

Key stats:
- 58 receptions for 1,076 yards and 18 TDs.
- 36 carries for 374 yards and five TDs.

Peter Skoronski
School: Maine South.
Year: Sophomore.
Position: Offensive line.
Accolades: All-conference.

Key stats:
- 256 carries for 2,378 yards and 37 TDs.
- 142 receptions for 1,799 yards and 24 TDs.

SECOND-TEAM OFFENSE

J.J. McCarthy
School: Nazareth.
Year: Sophomore.
Position: Quarterback.
Accolades: All-conference.

Key stats:
- Passed for 961 yards and 12 TDs.
- Rushed for 1,188 yards and 16 TDs.

Chase Bahr
School: Lake Forest.
Year: Senior.
Position: Athlete.
Accolades: All-conference.

Key stats:
- Averaged 40.6 yards per punt, with 16 punts inside the 20-yard line.
- Also scored two field goals.

West Suburban Gold Offensive Player of the Year.
Key stats:
- Passed for 961 yards and 12 TDs.
- Ran for 965 yards and 12 TDs.

The other side of the ball

Joe Monahan
School: Hinsdale Central.
Year: Senior.
Position: Offensive line.
Accolades: All-conference.

Key stats:
- Helped lead the Roadrunners rush for more than 1,800 yards.

Quadre Nicholson
School: Rolling Meadows.
Year: Senior.
Position: Running back.
Accolades: All-conference and team MVP.

Key stats:
- Ran for 1,799 yards and 24 TDs.
- Surpassed 50 tackles with a defensive TD.

Jace O'Hara
School: Lake Forest.
Year: Junior.
Position: Wide receiver.
Accolades: All-conference.

Key stats:
- Averaged 40.6 yards per punt, with 16 punts inside the 20-yard line.
- Also scored two field goals.

Rich Myśliwiec
School: IC Catholic.
Year: Senior.
Position: Defensive line.
Accolades: All-conference.

Key stats:
- Rushed for 941 yards and 12 TDs.
- Had 16 receptions for 279 yards.

Jalen Snell
School: Carmel.
Year: Senior.
Position: Running back.
Accolades: All-conference.

Key stats:
- Averaged 40.6 yards per punt, with 16 punts inside the 20-yard line.
- Also scored two field goals.

The Pioneer Press All-Area football package continues next week with first- and second-team defense and players named Honorable Mention.

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By Bob Narang
Pioneer Press

Maine South football coach Dave Inserra expressed a wide range of emotions over the recent Illinois High School Association announcement that district scheduling will arrive by the 2021-22 school year.

On Dec. 18, the IHSA announced its member schools had narrowly voted in favor of Proposal 23, which will eliminate conferences for football and instead will place schools into geographic districts.

The format also calls for the IHSA to set up round-robin scheduling, with enrollment breakdowns for the eight playoff classes to be determined before the 2021 season. Under the current format, the eight playoff classes are finalized after the 256-team field is set.

The proposal passed 324-307, with another 69 schools voting "no opinion" and 118 schools not voting on the measure at all.

Current freshmen will be the first group affected by the district scheduling. Inserra, who has won four state titles since 2008, argued that the elimination of conferences for football will impact other sports. Inserra said he met with several freshmen on Dec. 19 to discuss the importance of winning the Central Suburban South each of the next two seasons.

The Hawks have dominated the CSL South for the last two decades. They won 77 consecutive league games from 2001 to 2016.

"We're not real happy with it and and voted against it," Inserra said of the proposal. "The tradition of conferences meets important. Can you imagine college football without the Big Ten and SEC? So now, somebody randomly appoints games?" "It will be interesting how they draw geographic locations. We're in a situation where they can put us in one of three areas. It's hard to predict, but it might have some ramifications in other sports. So many conferences are driven by the football program."

Many local coaches voiced frustration over the possible elimination of long-standing conference rivalries. The IHSA will implement a nine-week regular season, including a seven-week round-robin schedule against all the other teams in a district. The first two games of the season will be at the discretion of each school.

Although not a powerhouse in football in recent years, Leyden falls into a unique category under the new proposal. East Leyden and West Leyden have a combined 3,400 students, and the Eagles could be put into a district with other large schools in a variety of directions.

"I have seen a couple of scenarios already, but I'm not rushing to judgment," Leyden coach Tom Cerasani said. "We're a big school in a weird spot geographically. I thought we had a pretty good thing, but with the conferences realigning all the time, it became an issue." Some coaches are in favor of the proposal, or at least certain aspects of it.

Former Mundelein coach Larry Calhoun, for instance, doesn't understand all the uproar about district scheduling. Before coaching at Elk Grove and Mundelein, Calhoun had coached in Texas for nine seasons at three different high schools. Calhoun, who resigned from Mundelein in November, said district scheduling is the standard in Texas.

"It's all I knew before I came to Illinois," Calhoun said. "I think it's the right way to do it, just have one governing body that oversees it and aligns the district based on enrollment and geographies.

"It's the most fair way to do it. People can argue demographics and talent, but the only solid figures are enrollment."

Nazareth coach Tim Racki won his seventh state championship this season when the Roadrunners defeated St. Charles North in Class 7A. Racki said he's taking the district plan in stride, and he's ready for the challenge of a new system.

"I'll approach it like the multiplier and success factor when they first came out," he said of previous IHSA efforts to level the playing field. "It will be interesting who we will play, maybe Benet and the Downers Grove schools.

"That's how it was voted. You can't control it, so let's roll."

Lake Forest coach Chuck Spagnoli has his own set of questions about the proposal. Spagnoli said he can see some negatives and positives.

"Geographic rivals matter, and I feel bad that you have to eliminate conferences and traditions," he said. "The positives, for us, are it will help our regular-season record. Every school we play is often two times our size.

"But who knows what the state will do regarding geography? Time will tell if this is a great thing or bad thing."

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
D86 athletes shocked by program cuts, yet confident call will be overturned

BY BOB NARANG
Pioneer Press

Hinsdale South junior quarterback Marquese Garrett was stunned by the news he heard on the night of Dec. 17. After playing running back the last two seasons, Garrett was moved to quarterback this fall and was named the West Suburban Gold Offensive Player of the Year. He said the Hornets have big plans for the 2019 season.

But that season is in jeopardy after a Hinsdale High School District 86 Board vote on Dec. 17. The board decided to eliminate football, wrestling, swimming, water polo, cheerleading and the marching band at Hinsdale Central and Hinsdale South, beginning next season.

Board members said needed infrastructure improvements forced their hand in making the tough decision.

The vote sent shockwaves throughout Hinsdale, Darien and neighboring communities, but a sense of optimism remained.

"I didn't even think it was possible," Garrett said. "I was at work when the news popped up on my phone that there's a possibility we won't have the sport that we all love one day. Hearing about that was really tough. I feel, at the end of the day, we will still have football and get together again as a team."

Voters rejected a $166 million referendum on the November ballot, and District 86 board members approved a $130 million referendum to appear on the April 2 ballot. According to a previous Pioneer Press story, many board members were optimistic that the cut sports would be reinstated if the leaner referendum passes.

In all, the Hinsdale Central football program totaled 179 players at a cost of $129,705 for the district. The Hinsdale South program had 101 players for a cost of $145,817.

Hinsdale Central junior wide receiver Braden Contreras called the announcement disappointing, especially for a community with a strong football tradition. Hinsdale Central finished second in Class 8A in 2008 and has only one losing season since 1999.

"I was shocked. So were my teammates and family," Contreras said. "I was so surprised that a school like Central can even think about taking football away from a passionate community like Hinsdale."

"My teammates are annoyed that we have all worked all these years for our senior year for what could be nothing. The amount of time and early mornings we have all come in early for are insane. All of it was because we love this sport and we love Hinsdale Central football."

Hinsdale South sophomore wide receiver/defensive back Jaylon Smith, a three-sport athlete, expressed amazement that cutting football was even an option. The Hornets have had six winning seasons under eighth-year coach Mike Barry.

"It was a sad day for most of us because of what the district is deciding to do," Smith said.

Former Hinsdale Central star offensive lineman and wrestler Brian Allen was bewildered by the announcement. Allen, a rookie center for the Los Angeles Rams, is one of three brothers to play for the Red Devils and Michigan State's football teams. He also won a Class 3A wrestling state title in the 285-pound weight class in 2013.

"I was shocked to hear the news, just being from Hinsdale and knowing that those programs mean a lot to a lot of people, including myself," Allen said. "It's pretty upsetting that it even got to this point, but I don't think it will actually be seen through."

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Hinsdale South's Marquese Garrett (3) said he was at work when he found out that District 86 had voted to eliminate the Hinsdale South and Hinsdale Central football programs. He's confident the teams will be reinstated.

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