

# NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR



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Thursday, January 3, 2019

nilesheraldspectator.com

## Party like it's 2019

Lincolnwood Community Center throws 'noon' year's eve bash. **Page 4**



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Balloons drop at the conclusion of the "Noon Year's Eve Celebration" at the Lincolnwood Community Center on Dec. 31. The free event featured music and games with a DJ.

### WHAT TO DO



GALE GAND PHOTO

## More favorites from the area

Chicago food professionals name the best thing they ate this year. **Page B13**

### SPORTS



TRACY ALLEN/PIONEER PRESS

## The best in defense

Check out who was named to the Pioneer Press All-Area football defensive team. **Page 20**

Chicago Tribune

CHEWING



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Local Sports Editor:  
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SHOUT OUT

# Brian Jacobi, jazz musician and teacher

After nearly 30 years of teaching instrumental music at Lincoln Middle School in Park Ridge, Brian Jacobi is looking ahead to retirement this June.

After directing the Lincoln Jazz Band in a performance at Park Ridge City Hall recently, Jacobi, of Arlington Heights, was recognized with a city proclamation for his years of teaching, performing and recording.

Prior to teaching at Lincoln and forming the school's Jazz Band, Jacobi was a teacher at Gemini Junior High School in Niles and St. Giles School in Oak Park.

**Q: How did you begin your career in music?**

A: I actually had no intention of teaching. I was going to be a trombone player. And I did that. I got out of college in 1980 and pursued a performance career. I was playing with jazz bands and symphony orchestras. I studied with three members of the Chicago Symphony, I played with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and I played with the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra for 10 years. At the same time, I was playing with jazz bands. I played with the Bob Stone Big Band, and I recorded a vinyl album with him before CDs were out. I also recorded with Rob Parton's JazzTech Big Band.

**Q: How did you transition to**



BRIAN JACOBI PHOTO

Brian Jacobi

**teaching?**

A: One of the things professional musicians do is teach private lessons. I was teaching at private schools, and I was at St. Giles in Oak Park as an adjunct brass lesson teacher when the band director left suddenly. Some parents said, "Would you take over the band program?" I said, "No, but I'll help you out until you find somebody." But I discovered I loved it. I loved the feedback of 50 kids in front of me making progress in music. It was 50 times more exciting than spending my own time in the practice room. So I went back and said, "I'll take you up on the offer." I was at St. Giles from about 1984 to 1988.

**Q: Do you still perform in live shows?**

A: I do, but I'm choosy about it. I perform more of the artistic jazz-oriented things. I have three sons who are professional jazz musicians now, and I perform with them occasionally.

**Q: What are your plans after retirement?**

A: I want to spend time with my wife and family, because this job can take as many hours as you choose to give it and I'm rarely at home. I also have a new grandson, so I plan to spend time with him. All in all, I look at my teaching career as a 30-some-year diversion from my professional career. I plan to go back and keep playing.

**Q: In addition to trombone, what other instruments do you play?**

A: My first instrument was the guitar. I still love playing guitar in all styles. It's fun to play Led Zeppelin for the kids every once in a while!

**Q: Who are your favorite jazz and rock artists?**

A: My go-to for jazz would be J.J. Johnson. He is the greatest trombone player. For rock 'n' roll, I grew up with Led Zeppelin and the Beatles. I can't pick a favorite (song). I love music so much, I can't even pigeonhole one particular tune.

— Jennifer Johnson, Pioneer Press

## Catholic School Open House



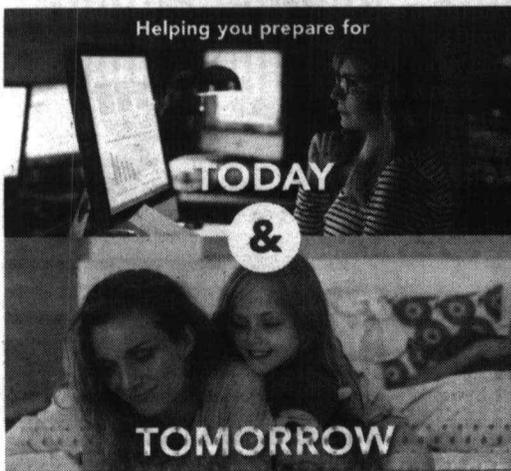
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# Party like it's 2019

Families turn out for 'noon' year's eve in Lincolnwood

A family-friendly countdown to "noon" year's eve brought kids out to the Lincolnwood Community Center on Dec. 31.

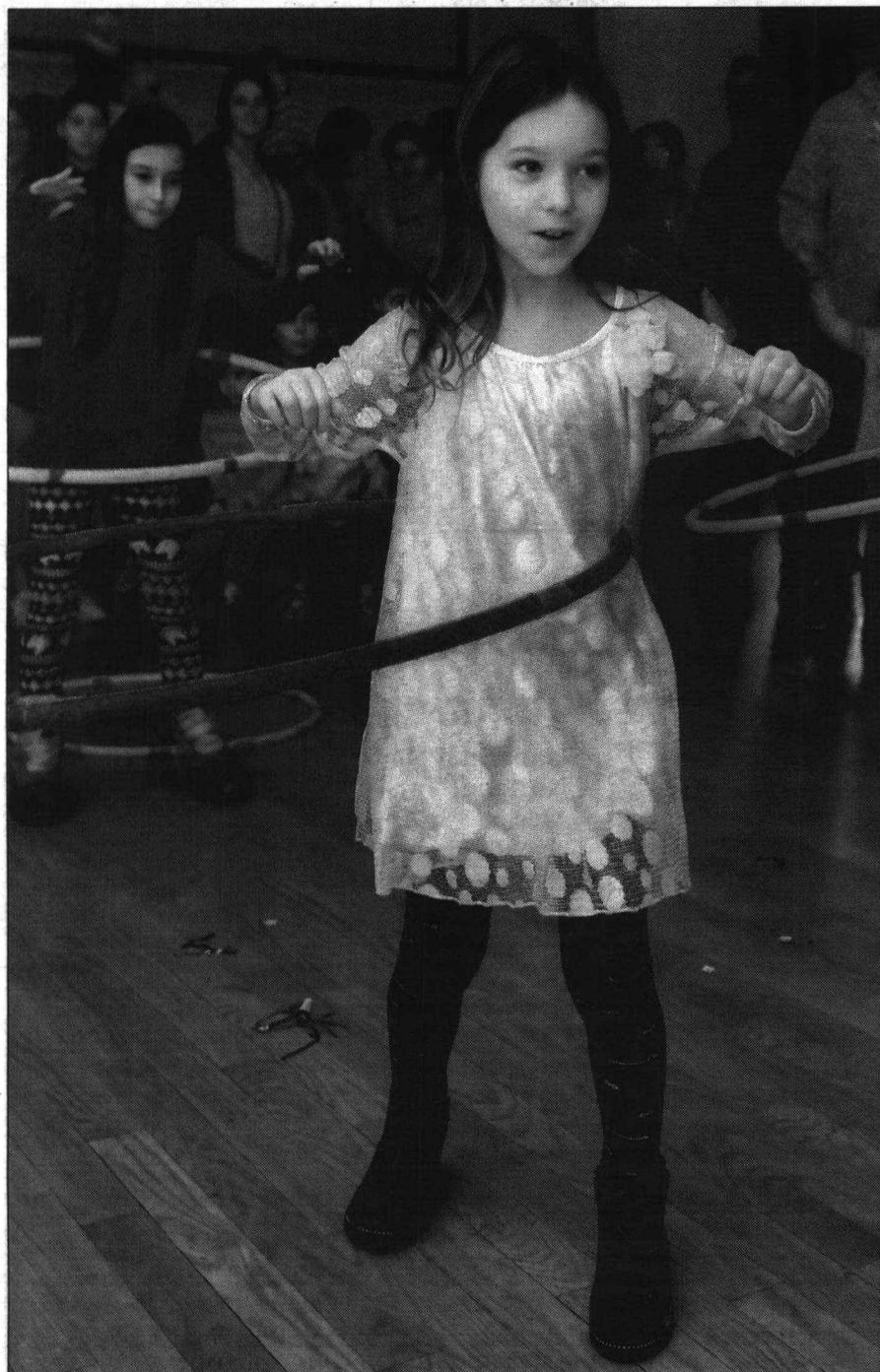
It was the first time such an event was held at the center.

"It came about as a team discussion," said Katie Lazzara, recreation supervisor for the village of Lincolnwood. "We wanted to do something fun for the community for the New Year's

Eve holiday."

Lazzara said more than 500 balloons would be dropped at noon. The event also was set to have playground games, a DJ and more, she said.

— Staff report



Eight-year-old, Isabella Dumitrascu won the hula hoop contest during Monday's "Noon Year's Eve Celebration" at the Lincolnwood Community Center, December 31, 2018. The free event featured music and games with a DJ, and concluded with a big balloon drop at noon.



BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

One-year-old, Jennifer Qualheim dances with her grandmother, Elliana Duarte.



Two-year-old Abella Bora Delisi and her mother, Albiona Delisi during the balloon drop.



NILES POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Tom Bethscheider, Cmdr. Robert Tornabene, Family Services Director Anthony Hollenbeck, Chief of Staff Joseph Penze and Chief of Police Luis Tigera are shown at a Shop with a Cop.

## 'It's very rewarding': Niles police officials take part in Shop with a Cop event

BY MEGANN HORSTEAD  
Pioneer Press

Niles police officials took time in December to spread some holiday season cheer to 25 children and their families.

On Dec. 9, police officers from the Niles Police Department hosted their third annual "Shop with a Cop" program. The event, by design, provided children in need with the opportunity to go shopping for holiday gifts and clothing.

"For us, it's a way for us to work with the community in a positive way," said Robert Tornabene, public information officer for the Niles Police Department. "A lot of officers volunteer their own personal time to come out there."

Tornabene said police officers choose to participate because they believe in the

mission of the program.

"It's a way for young people to see officers in a positive light," he said, noting that getting into trouble is, at times, the first encounter some experience with the police.

Niles Family Services identified 15 area families with a total of 25 children to participate in this year's program. Members of the Niles Police Department accompanied the children as they perused the store.

"For individual officers, some have children that are special-needs," Tornabene said. "It's very rewarding for them."

Tornabene said the event tends to spread a lot of cheer year after year.

"It's always fun to watch their faces," he said. "When you see them light up, that is the most satisfying for us."

This year's event was made possible thanks, in part, to a Walmart Foundation grant in the amount of \$2,500. That means each participating child received \$100 to pay for the items they selected.

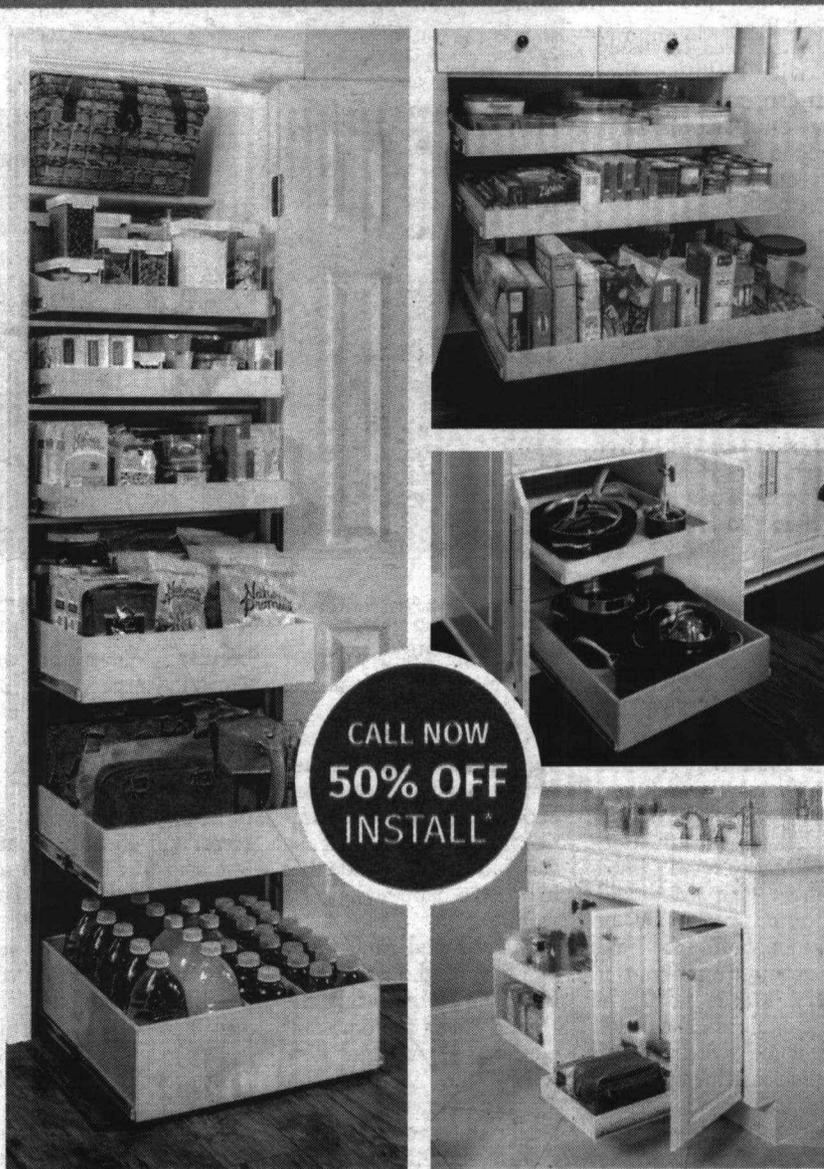
"It's not just toys for some of these kids," Tornabene said. "They'll pick clothing out."

This is the second year the Niles Police Department has partnered with Walmart to put on the event.

"We are in the process of trying to expand [partnerships], so that we can increase the number of youth that we impact," Tornabene said. "That a future goal of ours."

Megann Horstead is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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# New Skokie health clinic opening this month

\$700K project paid for by two grants

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER  
Pioneer Press

Residents of Skokie and the greater Niles Township area will have another health-care provider alternative on Jan. 7, when Heartland Health Centers opens its new clinic in Skokie.

The 3,500-square foot clinic is adjacent to behavioral health services offered by Turning Point Behavioral Health Care Center, and patients will be able to take advantage of both for their physical and mental health needs, said Gordon Mayer, spokesman for Heartland.

"It's a heck of a lot more convenient to get all your care in one place," Mayer said.

The \$700,000 project was paid for with a \$250,000 grant from NorthShore University HealthSystem and a \$450,000 grant from the North Suburban Healthcare Foundation, Mayer said.

Heartland Health Centers primarily serve Illinois patients with Medicaid, Medicare, private or no insurance, officials said. The group runs about 16 centers, Mayer said. The Skokie clinic is Heartland's first outside of the nonprofit's home base in Chicago.

Pediatrician Shaheena Ahmed, who will be practicing at the new clinic, said she looks forward to treating the diverse population living in Niles Township. A township resident herself, and a practicing Muslim born in Bahrain, Ahmed said she is excited to treat those living in her own community. She previously worked in Heartland's Chicago clinics.

While she will provide physical health care at the new Skokie clinic, Ahmed said she looks forward to referring patients next door



GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

Heartland Health Centers will open a new clinic on Jan. 7 in Skokie.

to Turning Point to meet their mental health needs, too.

The importance of treating mental health issues "might not be emphasized enough in our communities," Ahmed said. "It's a very old world attitude that it doesn't happen in good families."

But, Ahmed said, many families in the area have kids who were born in the United States to immigrant parents, or brought here when they were young. Those parents might not be acclimated to American culture, something that can be a unique stressor for their kids.

"It can be very overwhelming," Ahmed said. "You can't necessarily hold on to the old ways back home."

Gwenn Rausch, CEO of Heartland Health Centers, said she expects the Skokie center to grow to treat 5,000 or 6,000 visitors a year after the first couple years.

"This is really a match made in heaven," said Rausch, of the relationship

between Heartland and Turning Point.

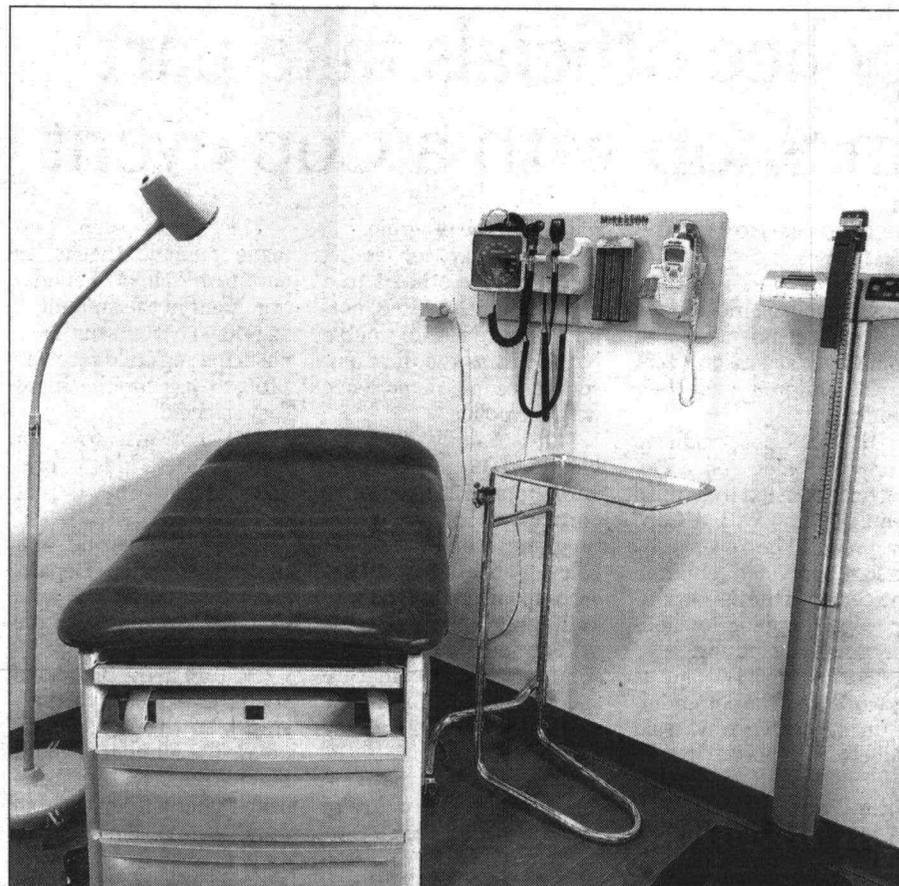
Construction on the new space began in September and took about three months, said Nicole Willis, director of operations for Heartland Health Center. She said there weren't any surprises as the work continued.

"Overall, it went very smoothly," said Willis, who oversaw the project. "I am very pleased. It's beautiful."

Rep. Jan Schakowsky, D-9th, whose district includes Skokie, was at an open house for the new center on Wednesday, Dec. 19. She said the opening is in line with the priorities of the nation.

"The issue of access to affordable, quality health care turned out to be the number one issue in the election campaign this year," Schakowsky said.

"This is not a partisan issue," she said. It's "the simple desire of the American people."



Exam rooms at the new Heartland Health Centers location in Skokie, pictured Dec. 19, are ready for new patients.

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BRIAN O'MAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Kyun Ah Kim, 16, and Zophia Perez, 16, of St. Viator High School, sort through toiletries to be distributed to area homeless men and women through the Des Plaines Salvation Army.

## Notre Dame College Prep students lead collection effort for homeless

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

Student efforts recently aided in the collection of winter gear and toiletries for the area's homeless.

The Maine Community Youth Assistance Foundation's Youth Group again set up collection boxes at several Park Ridge locations, and two students from Notre Dame College Prep in Niles led a donation campaign at their school, said Teri Collins, director of MCYAF.

On Dec. 15, volunteers met at Maine South High School in Park Ridge to fill 66 backpacks with the donations — which included scarves, hats, books and a variety of personal care items — to be distributed to the homeless through the Salvation Army of Des Plaines.

"It was awesome," Bill

Middendorp, who coordinates the Salvation Army's homeless street outreach program with his wife, Debbi, said of the collection. "It was very beneficial. These guys look forward to it all year."

Each year around Christmas, the Middendorps distribute the backpacks to area homeless adults who work as bell ringers for the Salvation Army, as well as others who live in forest preserves and on the street, the couple said.

"Just knowing that people care about them, it warms their hearts," Debbi Middendorp said. "Like the gloves warm their hands, it warms their hearts knowing people care."

The couple personally distributes food, water and coffee to the homeless throughout the year as well. Blanket of Dreams, a Park Ridge project also led by

Collins, provides blankets that are given to the area's homeless assisted by the Des Plaines Salvation Army, Debbi Middendorp said.

The recipients largely live around Des Plaines, Mount Prospect, Prospect Heights and Arlington Heights, she said.

Collins credited Notre Dame students Jesus Romero, 17, and Nathan Cyra, 16, with coordinating "90 percent" of the Christmas backpack project's donations this year.

"They took it upon themselves to do it, and they did a school-wide collection," she said.

MBD Martial Arts Academy in Des Plaines also contributed, as did some students from St. Viator High School, Collins said.

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## POLICE REPORT

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

### THEFT

■ Jesterbenson C. Oliva, 37, and Lee Ann Austin, 28, both of the 1000 block of Sanders Road, Northbrook, were each charged with retail theft on Dec. 22 after police said they stole \$240 worth of merchandise — including underwear and a cellphone — from Target, Golf Mill. They were given a Jan. 11 court date.

■ Isaac Ornelas, 30, of the 5400 block of West Parker Avenue, Chicago, was charged with retail theft on Dec. 22 after he allegedly stole \$769.41 worth of merchandise from Target, 6150 W. Touhy Ave., police said. He was given a Jan. 11 court date.

■ David R. Ruckoldt Jr., 41, of the 2500 block of Wellington Court, Evanston, was charged with retail theft on Dec. 23, police said. According to police, he was accused of stealing \$561.79 worth of merchandise from Target, Golf Mill. He was given a Jan. 11 court date.

■ Erica D. Brooks, 29, of the 4900 block of West Walton Street, Chicago, was charged with retail theft on Dec. 24 after she allegedly removed a bed comforter

from a shelf, took it to the customer service desk to receive store credit for it, and used the credit to buy other items, police said. She was given a Jan. 11 court date.

### DRUGS

■ Joey Manzano, 40, of the 2200 block of Nichols Road, Arlington Heights, was charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia on the night of Dec. 23 during a theft investigation at Golf Mill, police said. He was given a Jan. 11 court date.

### DUI

■ Julie A. Breen, 52, of the 1000 block of West Lawrence Avenue, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence on the night of Dec. 23, police said. According to police, Breen was found sleeping behind the wheel of her car, which was parked outside Walgreens, 8001 N. Milwaukee Ave. She was given a Jan. 24 court date.

■ Anthony R. Codd, 67, of the 9000 block of Capitol Drive, unincorporated Maine Township, was charged with aggravated driving under the influence, possession of a controlled substance and driving with a suspended or revoked license on the

morning of Dec. 25, police said. According to police, Codd was found slumped over the steering wheel of his car, which was stopped near the intersection of Milwaukee and Touhy avenues at 7:37 a.m. Police said Codd was in a “confused state” and 0.8 grams of suspected cocaine, as well as a bag with the words “stay high” written on it, were found inside his car. He was taken to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge. Court information was not included.

■ Lazaro Espino, 24, of the 4500 block of North Central Park Avenue, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence on the night of Dec. 25 after police said he was involved in a crash near Milwaukee Avenue and Ballard Road. He was given a July 17 court date.

### PUBLIC INTOXICATION

■ A 56-year-old homeless man was ticketed for public intoxication on Dec. 22 after he was reportedly found sleeping on the floor of a restroom stall inside Walmart, 8500 W. Golf Road, at 9 a.m. Police said multiple cans of beer were found on the floor, and the man was taken to a hospital. A similar incident involving a 56-year-old man of an unknown address was also reported Dec. 24, police said. In

that incident, the man was found sleeping inside a restroom at CVS, 9640 N. Milwaukee Ave., and he was ticketed for public intoxication.

### THEFT

■ An unknown man stole an undisclosed amount of merchandise from Target, Golf Mill, on Dec. 20 when he went through the self check-out lane and failed to pay for any of the items, police said.

■ A resident of the 8600 block of National Avenue reported his semi-automatic handgun missing from his home on Dec. 21, police said.

■ An unknown man allegedly stole a \$1,000 cellphone from a display at Sprint, Golf Mill, on the night of Dec. 21.

■ A man attempted to purchase items at Fresh Farms, 8203 W. Golf Road, using a counterfeit \$100 bill on the night of Dec. 21, police said. He reportedly fled the store after saying he was going to his car to get a different method of payment.

■ Two unknown women stole between \$400 and \$600 worth of clothing from Old Navy, 8315 W. Golf Road, on Dec 21, police said.

■ A man reported his cellphone was stolen Dec. 23 after he left it on a bench at Ross, 5750 W. Touhy Ave.



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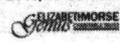


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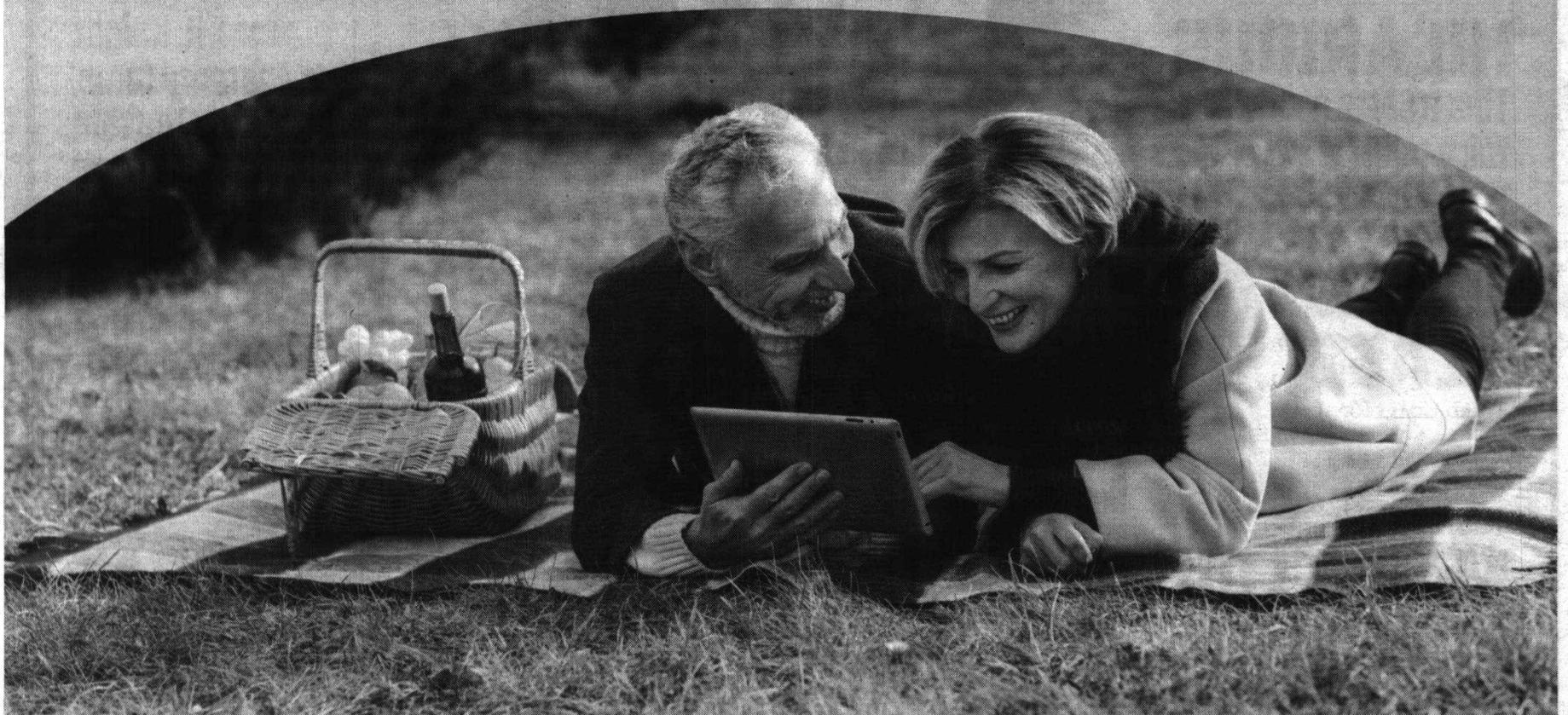
Sam Keenle, Alexandria Silver and T.R. Knight, photo by Jeff Scortchin

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# 'I want to make this community safer'

Widow of Niles man struck by car seeks changes following tragedy

By JENNIFER JOHNSON  
Pioneer Press

Mary Potwora says she wants to forgive the driver who fatally struck her husband as he was walking home last week in Niles.

But there are questions to which she still needs answers.

"I have to show him or her that I forgive them. But I have to know what happened," she said. "I don't want to believe they deliberately ran into him. I don't think a human being could deliberately kill another human being like that."

Niles police said Potwora's husband, Michael, 72, was crossing Greenwood Avenue at Betty Terrace shortly before 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 27 when he was hit by a car heading north on



JENNIFER JOHNSON/PIONEER PRESS

A memorial stands near the corner of Greenwood Avenue and Betty Terrace in Niles where Michael Potwora, 72, was struck and killed by a car on Dec. 27.

Greenwood in the curb lane.

Initially, police reported Michael Potwora had been struck by a "white pickup or sport utility vehicle" that had fled the scene after it was struck from behind by another car, but the following day, the police department acknowledged that investigators had determined this was not true.

The vehicle that actually

struck the man was described as a gray 2016 Jeep Patriot, and the driver remained at the scene and has been identified, police said.

As of Monday, Dec. 31, no charges had been filed in connection with the crash, said Detective Sergeant Tony Scipione. No additional information on why police were initially investigating the fatality as a hit-and-run was released.

Mary Potwora suggested the driver may not have initially been honest with authorities because he or she was afraid.

"That person didn't tell the truth out of fear," she said. "Put yourself in his or her place. Imagine what was going through their mind."

Mary Potwora said her husband was returning home from a nearby Hallmark store on Dempster Street when he was killed. The couple lived about a block east of the intersection where the collision occurred, and Michael typically took walks in the neighborhood, always crossing Greenwood at Betty Terrace, Mary Potwora said.

There are no crosswalk markings or traffic signals on Greenwood at this location, which is something Mary said she would like to see changed — anything, she said, to improve safety for pedestrians.

"I want to make this

community safer for people," she said. "I want to make a difference in somebody else's life so they don't have to go through the pain and sorrow I'm going through."

Mary said she met Michael through a friend 18 years ago, but they didn't marry until last August. Last year, she said, Michael experienced his first plane ride when they traveled to Florida.

"He had the time of his life," Mary Potwora recalled. "He loved to walk on the beach and sit in the sand, which he never had the chance to do."

For more than 40 years, Michael Potwora worked for the U.S. Postal Service's distribution center at O'Hare Airport, retiring about nine years ago, Mary Potwora said. He was also involved in his church, attending Our Lady of Ransom Niles, St. Juliana in Edison Park and Immaculate Conception in Norwood Park over the years,

his widow said.

"He loved people," Mary Potwora said. "He was a people person."

Michael was returning home after purchasing a card for his church pastor when he was struck, Mary said.

"God called him home that day," she said. "It wouldn't have mattered where he was."

A funeral service for Michael Potwora is scheduled for Jan. 3 at 10 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, 7211 W. Talcott Road in Chicago. Interment will follow at St. Adalbert Cemetery in Niles.

Mary Potwora said she wants her husband to be remembered as the religious and caring person that he was. She also has a message for others in the wake of her husband's death.

"Slow down," she said. "Life is too short."

jjohnson@chicagotribune.com  
Twitter @Jen\_Tribune

## Forest preserve police probe claims of poison

By MEGANN HORSTEAD  
Pioneer Press

Police with the Forest Preserves of Cook County were investigating after a social media post this week suggested there were reports of treats laced with rat poison found on a trail in Morton Grove, according to a forest preserves spokesman.

Carl Vogel, spokesman for the Forest Preserves of Cook County, said officials conducting an investigation "weren't able to find anything, no indication."

"They talked with some folks along the route, as well, walking their dogs," Vogel said. "Nobody has seen any-

thing."

A post on the Morton Grove Animal Hospital and Boarding Kennels Facebook page, dated Dec. 24, reads, "BEWARE!!! There are reports of treats laced with rat poison on the trails of Linne Woods in Morton Grove." The Facebook post added that dogs were "being treated at the ER currently."

Representatives for the Morton Grove Animal Hospital and Boarding Kennels and Heartland Animal Shelter could not be immediately reached for comment.

Vogel said police from the Forest Preserves of Cook County were in the area on Dec. 24 and Dec. 25, looking for evidence.

"I hate to call it an incident because we've found no evidence of that," Vogel said. "We first heard about it through social media on Monday evening."

Police said there are no open cases pending about incidents of this type, and no reports of injured animals.

"We take it very seriously," Vogel said. "We've been investigating it."

Anyone with concerns or information can contact the Forest Preserves of Cook County Police Department at its non-emergency line at 708-771-1001.

— Megann Horstead is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

## Police: Convenience store clerk thwarts Christmas Day robbery

A Niles convenience store worker stopped a Christmas Day robbery by waving a stick at the suspect and ordering him to leave the business, authorities said.

According to Niles police, a man dressed in black clothing entered the 7-Eleven, 7450 W. Oakton St., shortly before 6 a.m. on Dec. 25, and, after two other customers left the business, approached the employee at the counter while holding an object described as "possibly a spoon or a knife."

The man allegedly made "stabbing gestures" with the object, while exclaiming, "Money! Money!" police said.

The employee grabbed a



JENNIFER JOHNSON/PIONEER PRESS

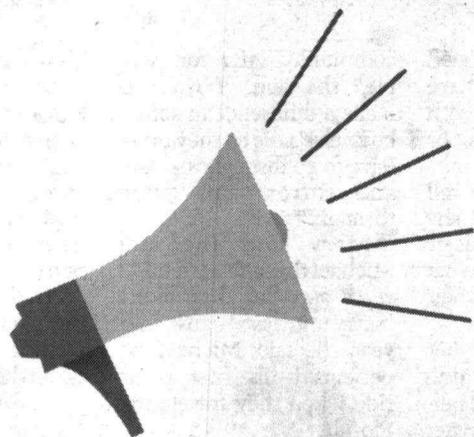
7-Eleven, 7450 W. Oakton St., in Niles

wooden stick from under the counter and demanded the man leave the store, which he did, police said.

According to police, the man was last seen heading east from the 7-Eleven

parking lot toward Osceola Avenue. Nothing was reported stolen from the store.

— Jennifer Johnson, Pioneer Press



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## OPINION

# 'Adversity' just latest buzzword in sports

Adversity.

You are hearing this word a lot lately, if you are a regular viewer of TV sports networks. Maybe it's just me, but that word has been peppered more in the flavor of coaches' and athletes' press conferences than the hottest Italian beef sandwich you can find.

Beware, both may spark a case of nausea if you consume them too quickly.

But let's focus on adversity being the top press-conference buzzword of coaches and athletes who use it to characterize any situation that is not 100 percent positive.

Any time a pro or college team starts playing poorly, loses a star athlete to injury, players and coaches to suspension, or suddenly has some barrier pop out of the ground that halts their regular routine, you guessed it ... they declare they are "facing adversity."

The pre- and post-game drivel during press conferences, usually from the coach, typically sounds something like this, "Because our quarterback is out of action while he recovers from a severe case of the hiccups, our team is facing adversity."

"We must overcome this adversity and stay focused while our leader on offense deals with the adversity of not being able to bark out a play call without sounding like a cackling goose. Have I mentioned adversity enough, yet?"

Unfortunately, that word also is being misused quite a bit in sports circles when describing much more serious circumstances, such as a coach or player being suspended for unethical behavior or covering up illegal actions.

Instead of the focus being on the individual and addressing help that he or others close to him may need, the podium statement often circles back to how the team is dealing with off-the-field issues.

In a more recent and infamous case of a tone-deaf "adversity" response to a serious issue, one major college football program pushed its then acting head coach up to the podium microphone to tell the press about how his team was dealing with "adversity."

Never mind the regular head coach was



ERIC SCOTT

suspended by the university for getting caught in a lie over what he knew regarding a domestic violence situation involving another member of his staff, the acting head coach chose to talk about the "adversity" the team had to overcome by

not having their regular head coach for their first three games of the season.

Really, it was the team dealing with adversity in that situation?

Adversity is defined by Dictionary.com as, "Adverse or unfavorable fortune or fate; a condition marked by misfortune, calamity or distress."

Remember when "making bad choices" was the big catchphrase for players and coaches when telling reporters about bad behavior on and off the field?

Now, it's clear that "adversity" is at the top of the talking points list on page one of the pro athlete media training guide.

Although NBA hall-of-famer Charles Barkley once famously said in a TV commercial that "athletes are not role models," you know some kids will borrow the "adversity" line they hear on ESPN's SportsCenter and apply it in their own lives.

I'm sure there are some grade school teachers who've already heard excuses such as, "I'm sorry Ms. Crabtree but when my dog ate my math homework, I faced tremendous adversity and I'm trying to stay focused!"

There may be a few parents still recovering from dinner table discussions with their kids who declare, "Although I did not get the holiday gifts that I really, really wanted, I know I have to overcome this adversity and convince you to get me an Xbox for my birthday!"

Maybe Dictionary.com's definition of adversity should put the period at the end of the word, "misfortune"?

There's certainly enough "calamity" and "distress" going on in the world far outside of sports to have those situations merely summarized as phases of "adversity."

*Eric Scott is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.*

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We want to hear from you! Send your letters to the editor to [suburbanletters@tribpub.com](mailto:suburbanletters@tribpub.com). Letters should not exceed 250 words and should include your name, phone number and address (only your name and town will be published).

# Want an autographed baseball? You might have to settle for a couple squiggles.



RANDY BLASER

An old friend of mine had a boyhood hobby that couldn't be done today. As a boy, and a big baseball fan, he would collect autographs of the star players of his time.

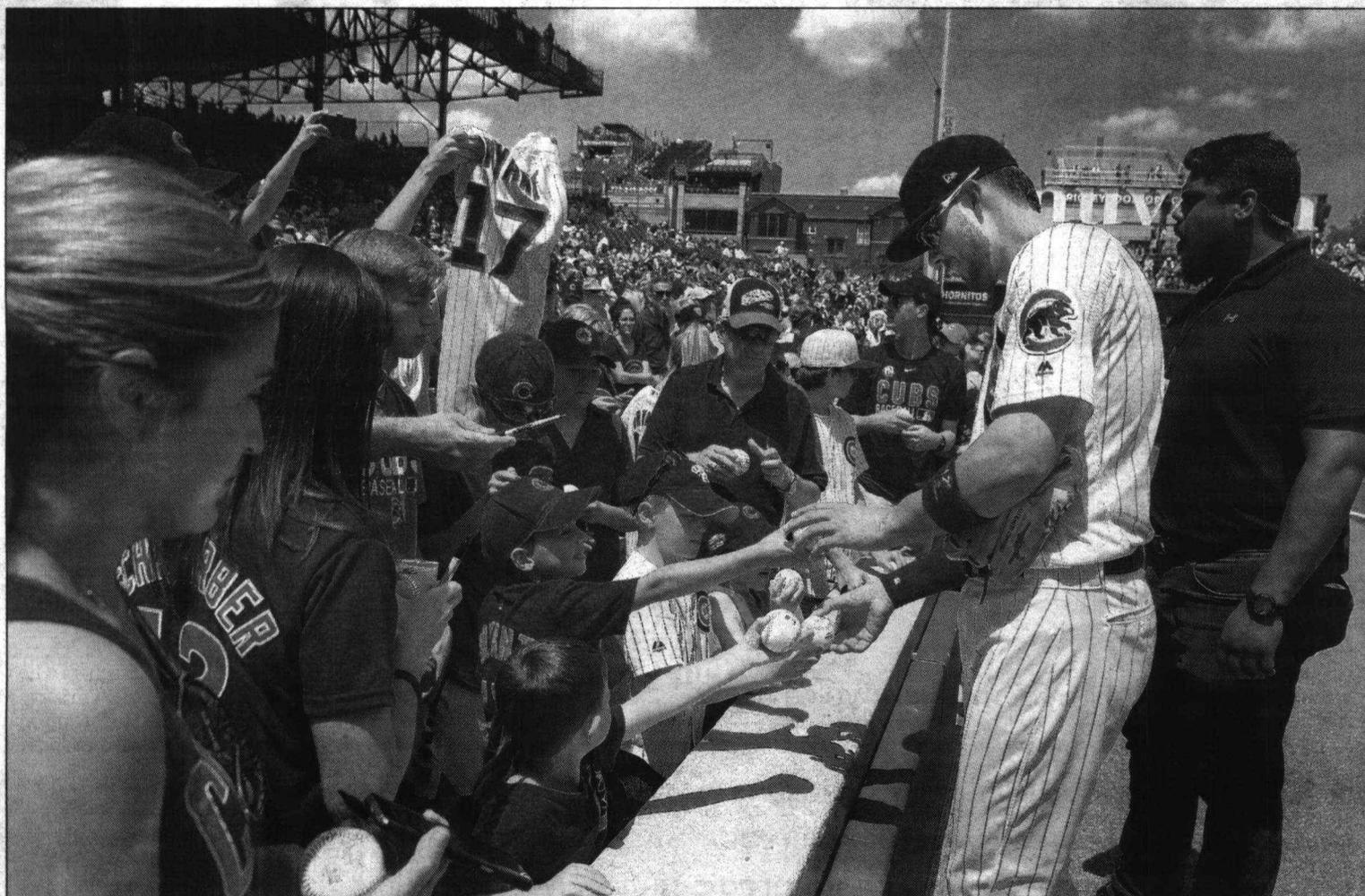
It was easy back then. He would first collect pictures of his favorite stars out of baseball magazines, like *Sports Illustrated*. When his favorite players' teams were in town to play the White Sox or the Cubs, he would seek out them out to get their autographs.

He'd wait after the game near the team bus and try to get them heading from the clubhouse. Some players would sign, others wouldn't. But more often than not, he got what he wanted.

Even as late as the 1980s it was possible to greet a player heading onto the team bus. A different friend of mine once nearly got into a fight with a Detroit Tiger bencher because he demanded to see Alan Trammell as the Tigers were heading out after besting the White Sox in a doubleheader. (Remember those?)

Anyway, my autograph-seeking friend gathered quite the collection over the years.

He knew that I once played third base in high school and admired Brooks Robinson, the slick field third baseman for the Baltimore Orioles. Imagine my surprise one year when he gave me an autographed picture of Brooks for Christmas. I still have it and you can clearly read Brooks' name scrawled across the



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago Cubs third baseman Kris Bryant signs autographs before the start of a game between the Chicago Cubs and San Francisco Giants at Wrigley Field on May 25.

photo in that easy to read style of a straight up-and-down signature.

He gave another good friend a picture of Mickey Mantle easily recognizable by any fan, with the distinguishable double M followed by his up-and-down script.

I once gave a friend a baseball autographed by Ted Williams, who wrote in a very handsome slanted script anyone who ever purchased fishing gear at Sears in the 1960s to 1980s would clearly recognize.

And that's the point. The

signatures of these stars were clearly recognizable. From Babe Ruth to Mickey Mantle to Reggie Jackson, when you see the signature of those stars on a baseball or program you can recognize it. You know who signed that ball.

It is a little bit different today. You see an autograph on a baseball of one of today's stars and you'll be lucky to know who signed it, unless you were there to witness the act.

There is a baseball card shop near my house and they often have top local

players come and do autograph sessions. One day I saw that former White Sox pitcher and now Red Sox star Chris Sale was going to give autographs. My son was a big fan, so I decided to take him to get a signature.

Sale was patient as he signed the baseball and allowed me to take a picture of them together. And when I looked at the ball, I could hardly read the name of the pitching star.

I've since noticed that's how it goes with today's stars. The autographs of the

likes of Miguel Cabrera, Mike Trout and Manny Machado are pretty much illegible.

They are hardly autographs at all. They are more like a series of squiggles followed by a line. A capital letter or two might be recognizable, but that's about it. Most of the time, the autograph is really a set of initials connected with a swirl or two.

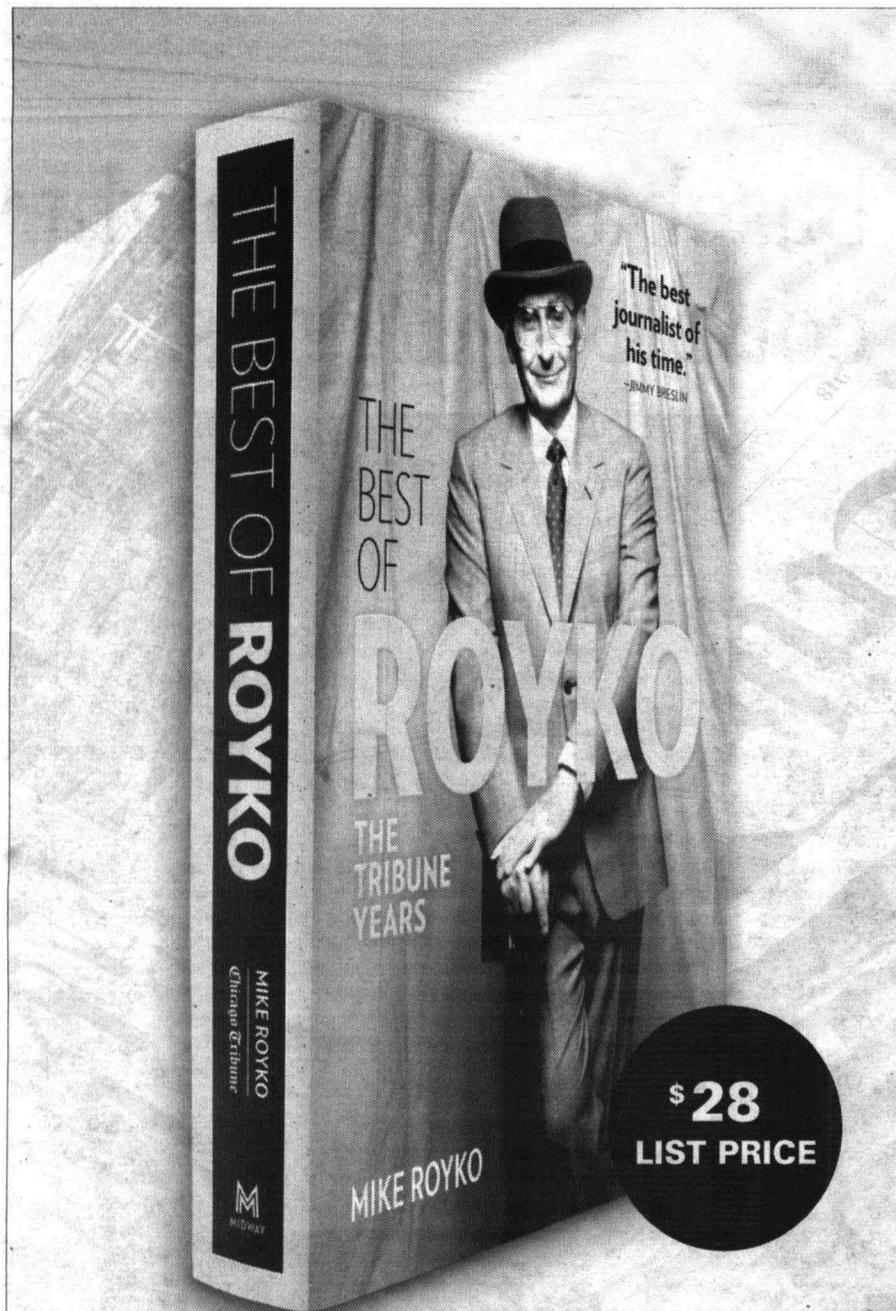
We all know why this is so. The art of cursive writing has largely gone away, no longer taught to a generation of students.

Two of my three children have such awful handwriting that unless they hand me the birthday card, I can't recognize who it is from.

Thankfully, some schools have realized cursive handwriting needs to be taught again. They see it not as some old, out-of-date art form, but as a very necessary skill to function in society.

Everyone still has to sign checks. And a few have baseballs to sign.

*Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist.*



## MIKE ROYKO TELLS IT LIKE IT IS IN "THE BEST OF ROYKO"

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## ADVICE

# Homeless want more than a meal, clothing



**JACKIE PILOSSOPH**  
*Love Essentially*

Every Monday evening at 5:30 p.m., Ann Barrett of Wilmette loads up her car with shoes, pants, sweaters, hoodies, sweatshirts, jackets, and jeans — donations that have been collected over the past week.

Then, Barrett, along with four other North Shore residents — Deacon Sandy Rex, Mike Murphy, Lauren Marwil and Steve Ford — head downtown to Lower Wacker Drive to feed, clothe and offer emotional support to approximately 80 homeless men and women.

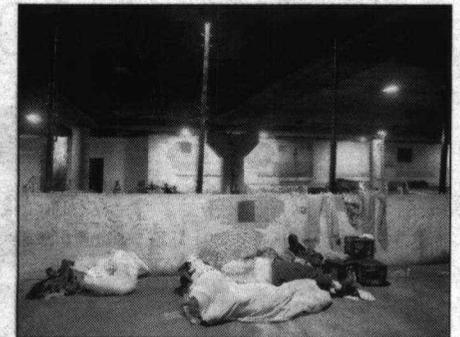
"We have relationships with most of these people and we know them by name," said Barrett, an interior designer and mom of four. "They are desperate and lonely, and so whether it's just connecting by calling them by name and looking them in the eyes or engaging in a conversation or listening, it's comforting for them."

The group are volunteers for CUMALI (Chicago Urban Ministries & Life Intervention), an organization that focuses on the most vulnerable homeless — those who have established lives on the street as opposed to seeking shelter or other assistance.

"Many have mental illnesses or addictions, so sometimes the connections are tough, but some are just down on their luck, have lost jobs or have ailments that have prevented them from being able to work," Barrett said. "They're profoundly sad, and extremely grateful for our presence."

Here's how the mission works. Every Monday, volunteers pick up food donations from River's Casino in Rosemont during the day. The meals are taken to a Chicago church where they are stored for a few hours and then heated up and packed into approximately 80 individual containers before being picked up again and taken to Lower Wacker. Along with the meals, the recipients are also given hot chocolate, soup and socks. Barrett said the distribution route, which starts at Columbus Drive and ends up by the Lyric Opera building, takes approximately two hours.

"The whole experience is about being present and having a connection," she said. "It's about us being there every week. It's a community, and they look forward to seeing us. Even more than a hot meal, they're



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A man sleeps as metal poles are put up to keep people out of the "triangle" at lower Wacker Drive in this photo from June 2018.

interested in conversation."

I found out about CUMALI through a friend in my community who is consistently soliciting clothing donations for the organization via Facebook and email. I was incredibly moved not just by the beauty of the material donations, but by the time and efforts made by the volunteers.

I asked Barrett if there are ever nights she just doesn't feel like facing heavy rush-hour traffic and going to Lower Wacker, especially in freezing temperatures and snow.

"Sometimes I don't feel like going, but once I'm there, I'm never sorry I went," she said. "This is a huge problem in our society, and people don't want to think about it. What we are doing is a small thing, but if everyone did just a small thing, it would make a huge difference."

According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, there are almost 11,000 people homeless on a given night in Illinois, which is 8.4 per 10,000 people.

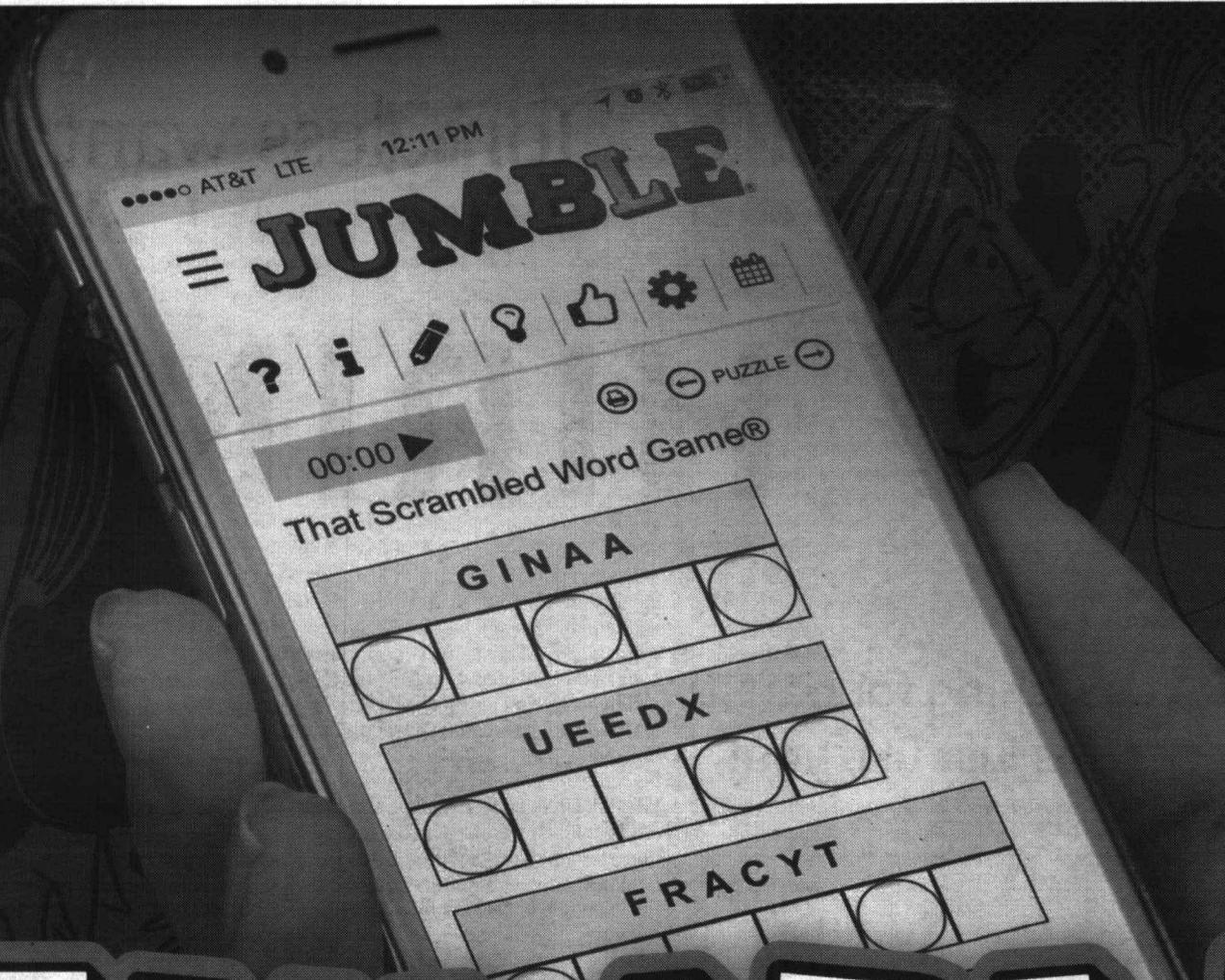
It's easy not to think about the homeless, especially if you live in the suburbs and you don't see people on the streets holding up signs and asking for money, or tents set up under bridges.

The holidays and the New Year are such wonderful times to feel gratitude and love for all we have, but also to give back. The impact we can all make on the lives of others, even with the slightest effort, is significant.

I am personally donating the money I get paid for this week's Love Essentially to CUMALI. If you are interested in donating cash, clothing, coats or shoes, please contact Church of the Holy Comforter, 222 Kenilworth Ave. in Kenilworth.

May God bless and care for the homeless.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist for Chicago Tribune Media Group.



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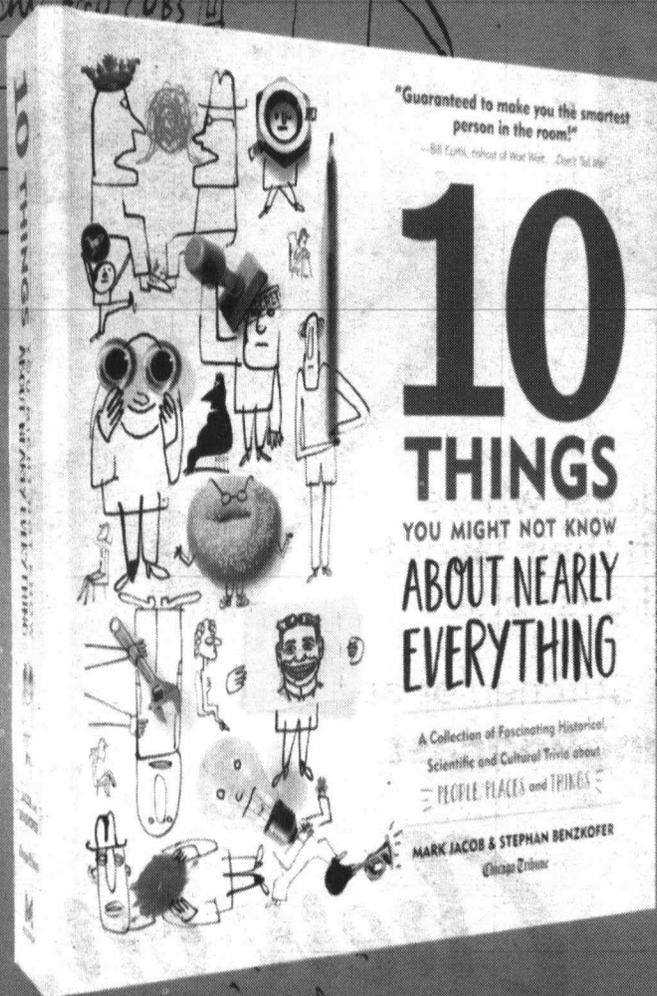
**Chicago Tribune**



# Trib Books

## 10 Things You Might Not Know About Nearly Everything

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# puzzle island

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12/30

## PERSONS OF THE YEAR: Honored by *Time* Magazine

By MARK MCCLAIN | Edited by STANLEY NEWMAN  
(stanxwords.com)

### Across

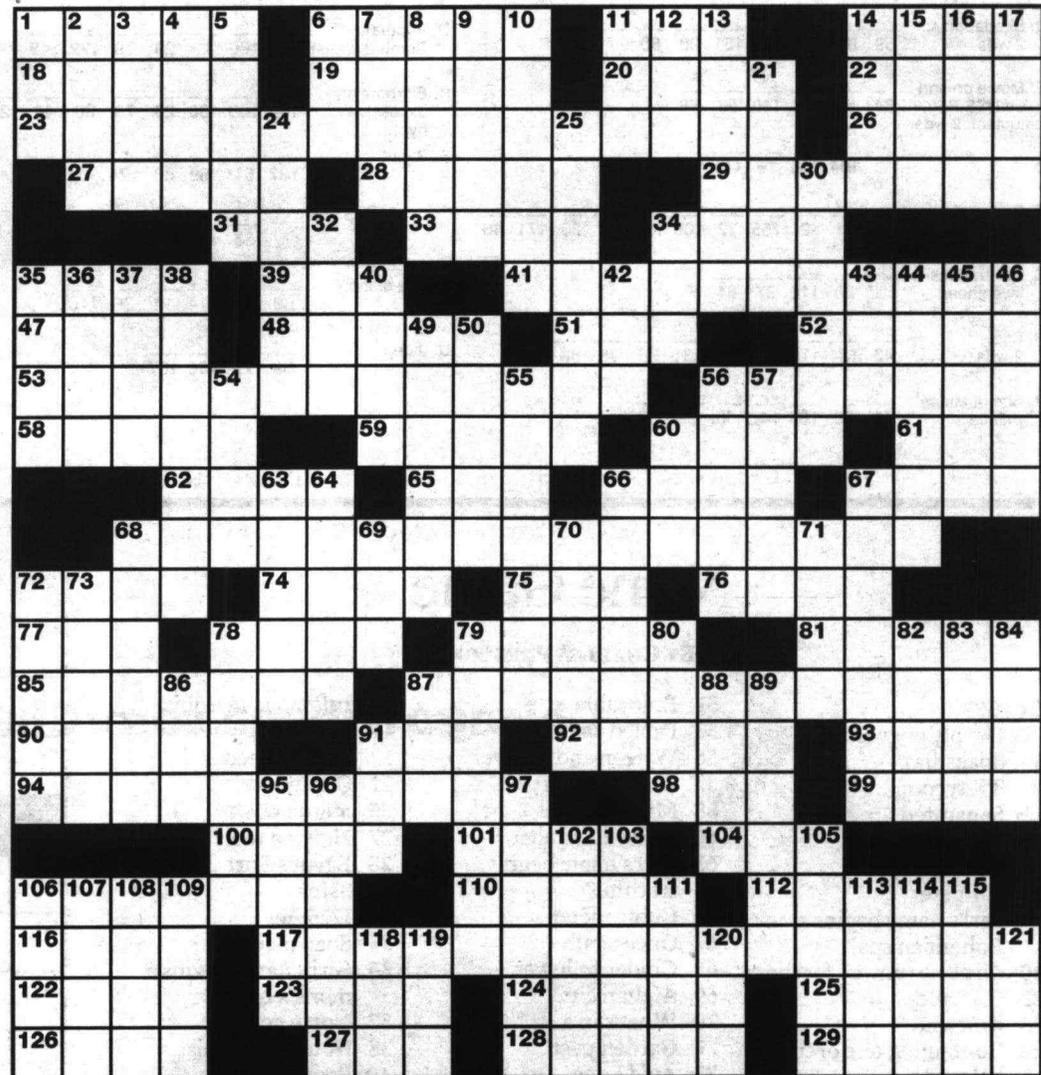
- 1 Alabama city  
6 Court reporter, for short  
11 Chocolate shape  
14 Jockey's concern  
18 Diva's performances  
19 Fallen angel  
20 Field of expertise  
22 Throw with force  
23 Only British Prime Minister (1940, 1949)  
26 Revered object  
27 India's first prime minister  
28 Temple scroll  
29 Right-leaning letters  
31 Nonprescription, for short  
33 Japan's national sport  
34 Wrench (away)  
35 Pro \_ work  
39 Summer Games org.  
41 Only South American (2013)  
47 Geek Squad customer  
48 Nick of films  
51 Evil deed  
52 *The Hobbit* hero  
53 Half of the only married couple (1937)  
56 Sight from Seattle  
58 Recent annual visitor  
59 Mexican money  
60 Big do  
61 Eye-level organ  
62 Numbered work  
65 All arranged  
66 Garden entrance  
67 "Not \_ watch!"

- 68 Only three-time honoree (1932, 1934, 1941)  
72 Nimble  
74 Primatologist Fossey  
75 "Photo" sessions  
76 Alluring  
77 Frat letter  
78 Try out, informally  
79 Necklace holder  
81 Occupy pleasantly  
85 Belgian diamond center  
87 Only American-born woman (1936)  
90 Post-joke query  
91 Bland writing  
92 Picasso's homeland  
93 Elucidations, briefly  
94 Youngest woman (1952)  
98 Pic purchased at a parlor  
99 Lloyd Webber musical  
100 *Casablanca* character  
101 Expression uttered weekly  
104 Interjection of indifference  
106 Reference updated annually  
110 Road runners  
112 Acknowledge, in a way  
116 Taken to court  
117 First and youngest (1927)  
122 Matured  
123 Casino ball game  
124 Ali portrayer  
125 Raucous noise  
126 Typically one-name family members  
127 Procedure  
128 Samsung's headquarters

- 129 Land on the Red Sea

### Down

- 1 Toothed tool  
2 The Emerald Isle  
3 Manufacturer's assortment  
4 Frat letter  
5 Prefix for physics  
6 Phasing-out Medicare ID  
7 Delicacy of demeanor  
8 Cultural spirit  
9 Micronesian nation  
10 Freeway access  
11 Grump's grunt  
12 NL West team  
13 Pleasant change  
14 Punxsutawney groundhog  
15 Autobahn vehicle  
16 Gator kin  
17 Wall bracket shapes  
21 Chapel structure  
24 Day trip  
25 Decides on  
30 World's largest peninsula  
32 Broil or bake  
34 TV news hour  
35 Tampa tackles, for short  
36 Labor Dept. grp.  
37 Opposite of *ja*  
38 Skill at speaking  
40 "Give it up!"  
42 Water \_ (dental gadget)  
43 French diarist  
44 Consultant's customer  
45 Type of girder  
46 Feeling remorse  
49 Connects logically  
50 City near Düsseldorf



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

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- 54 Western wine region  
55 Winning streak, so to speak  
56 Deserves  
57 Advil alternative  
60 Household fuel  
63 Working for  
64 Cut corners  
66 Story spreader  
67 Part of 39 Across  
68 Tutti-  
69 Southeast Asian language

- 70 Gems from Australia  
71 Student hurdle  
72 Bus ancestor  
73 Group of pundits  
78 Hold up  
79 Seat of government  
80 71 Down for some jrs.  
82 Annapolis sch.  
83 Mushy  
84 Grandson of Eve  
86 Adept expert  
87 Cry from a crib

- 88 Burma neighbor, a while back  
89 Aim (to)  
91 School support grp.  
95 Crow's color  
96 Don't partake of  
97 Unenthusiastic assent  
102 "Who's there?" reply  
103 Page number, in printer lingo  
105 Leisure diversion  
106 Memo directive

- 107 Racing sled  
108 Congregate  
109 Tosses in  
111 In \_ (as found)  
113 Editor's "Out"  
114 Small-scale people mover  
115 No benevolent boss  
118 Santa \_, CA  
119 Singer Orbison  
120 Stanley Cup awardee  
121 Female fowl

### Quote Acrostic

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

**Clues**

**Words**

- A. Old muppet 85 57 26 99 118 149 35
- B. Another old muppet 10 78 93 129 154 113 49
- C. 'Birthplace of oil industry' 53 54 42 60 82 150 111 119 138 18
- D. Skedaddles: 2 wds. 59 108 125 130 151 38 80 7 17
- E. Movie on and off USS Reluctant: 2 wds. 84 55 121 140 56 98  
104 148 15 141 165 4
- F. Rope soled footwear 13 91 2 155 72 106 131 70 25 171 46
- G. Cavaradossi's sweetheart 122 20 110 87 64
- H. Sap: 2 wds. 43 134 170 62 159 3 76 28 88
- I. Site of Minos' palace 11 83 163 147 50 32 67

- J. Outflow 152 139 74 127 97 21 44 168
- K. Food, water, iPhone? 156 105 133 123 34 1 45 66 16 95 164
- L. Team roster format: 2 wds. 120 12 39 5 63 157 92 109 75 173
- M. Pain and ache cure? 30 77 96 52 135 102 8 153 47 117
- N. Pentagon Papers source 89 19 167 132 58 158 37 116
- O. Spring 61 40 115 81 162 142
- P. Lucky 128 31 161 6 103 71 94
- Q. Population Bomb alarmist 101 160 41 29 79 172 143
- R. Extreme and excessive: hyp. 144 166 100 23 73 90 48 126
- S. Rigid 137 51 169 86 124  
33 65 112 145 9 22
- T. The blahs 68 24 114 14 36 146
- U. Jitters 69 27 136 107

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

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By Jack Raymond. Edited by Linda and Charles Preston. © 2018 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

## Name Game

BY CHARLES PRESTON

**Across**

- 1 Deeply engrossed
- 5 Soaks flax
- 9 TX tycoon
- 13 Separated
- 15 Alda or Bates
- 16 Canadian prov.
- 17 Saltpeter
- 18 Girl's name begins a Bohemian spa?
- 20 Airplane runway, for short
- 22 CA valley
- 23 Amerind
- 24 Containing one of the halogens
- 26 Ali Baba's *Open* \_\_\_
- 28 Conceals
- 31 Harrison
- 32 Starter for mony or mentary
- 33 Greek letter
- 35 Globetrotter Meadowlark \_\_\_
- 39 Mosque priest
- 41 Shuts with force
- 43 Beverage
- 44 Philanthropist
- 46 In the midst of
- 48 Former capital of Serbia
- 49 Minister, for short

- 51 Enjoyable
- 53 Fabled sailor
- 56 Warren and Weaver
- 57 One, in Bonn
- 58 Miscalculates
- 60 Unicellular alga
- 63 Girl's name begins truthful?
- 66 Cubic meter
- 67 Once again
- 68 Cinder follower
- 69 Afghan city
- 70 What's in a \_\_\_?
- 71 Garden pest
- 72 *Auld Lang* \_\_\_

**Down**

- 1 Rave's partner
- 2 Samoan port
- 3 Girl's name begins an aristocrat?
- 4 Quaver
- 5 Lamb's dad
- 6 Spirit
- 7 \_\_\_ *Bulba*, 1962 Curtis film
- 8 Concealed rifleman
- 9 Prohibit
- 10 Place for stamps
- 11 Aver

- 12 Infamous marquis
- 14 Swapped
- 19 Artist's need
- 21 Quotes
- 25 Statue nook
- 27 Hewing tools
- 28 Egypt's Port \_\_\_
- 29 Saint
- 30 1775 Act
- 34 Soap plant
- 36 Girl's name begins a monk's home?
- 37 Norse god
- 38 Noted cartoonist
- 40 Poetic A.M.
- 42 Golf great
- 45 Renaissance fiddle
- 47 Flashy
- 50 Deviates
- 52 Candidate lists
- 53 Italian city
- 54 Legal term
- 55 Waggish
- 57 Novelist Hunter
- 59 Navigator of the *Enterprise*
- 61 Algerian port
- 62 Limiting mark
- 64 Wonderment
- 65 Droop

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13			14		15					16			
17					18					19			
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57					58		59		60			61	62
63			64					65		66			
67					68					69			
70					71						72		

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# Calling Forth

BY GARY LARSON

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

## Across

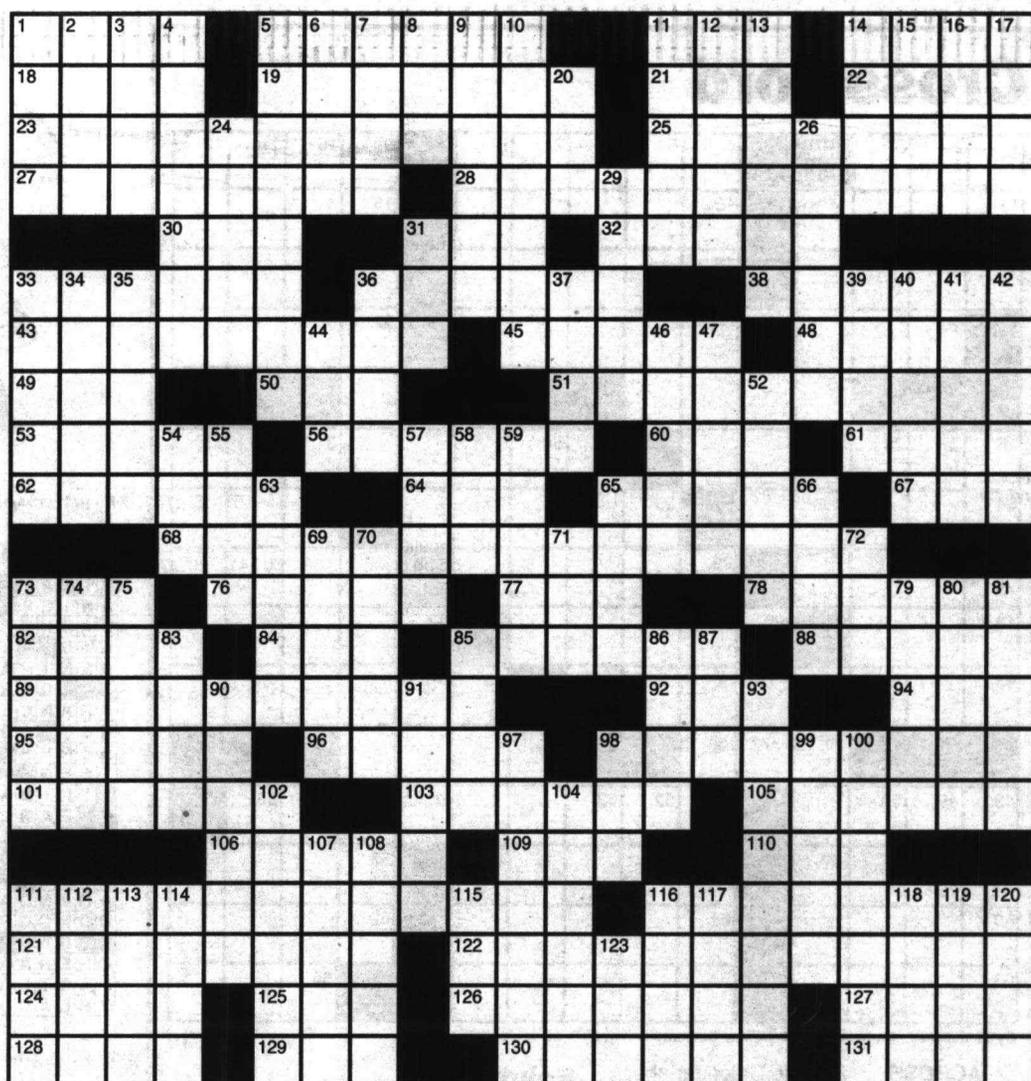
- 1 Close to closed  
5 Salad veggie  
11 Its "M" stands for "Motoren"  
14 Batty  
18 Ashton's spouse  
19 2002 "Friends" Emmy winner  
21 French monarch  
22 Barbarian  
23 Off-season at a nudist camp?  
25 Stock female roles  
27 Caribbean getaway  
28 Dollhouse Christmas decoration?  
30 Reveal, poetically  
31 Sale limitation word  
32 Early Indo-European  
33 Hot  
36 Abandon  
38 Silver and gold  
43 Defrost in the microwave?  
45 Cubes for cooking  
48 Longtime Dolphins coach  
49 Reggae's \_\_\_ Kamoze  
50 Ham, to Noah  
51 Two, for most folks?  
53 English critic Kenneth  
56 Folks  
60 Worker in a garden  
61 Apple variety  
62 Capital south of Vienna  
64 Links prop  
65 Broom-\_\_\_: comics witch  
67 "As Time Goes By" pianist  
68 Aha moment sensation?  
73 Pops  
76 Frozen summer coolers  
77 Propel, in a way  
78 Words to live by  
82 Biblical prophet  
84 Grab a bite  
85 Type of plane  
88 One at a family reunion  
89 Geek chic?  
92 Minor player  
94 With 130-Across, weekly U.S. magazine with a cryptic crossword  
95 Beat out  
96 More cunning  
98 Underwear catalog?  
101 Aslan's land

- 103 "Juno and the Paycock" playwright  
105 Combat zones  
106 Most letters, nowadays  
109 Tiny insect egg  
110 Cyst of no concern  
111 Cinderella's coach?  
116 Con artists  
121 Atmosphere  
122 Suffering from stress-related weight gain?  
124 \_\_\_ tissue  
125 Scout group  
126 Kia SUV  
127 Author Bombeck  
128 Victim of a fabled upset  
129 Drink suffix  
130 See 94-Across  
131 Back-to-school time for many: Abbr.

## Down

- 1 Gremlins and Pacers  
2 Abandon at the altar  
3 Heaps  
4 Filthy quarters  
5 Duds, old-style  
6 Kournikova of tennis  
7 Quarters  
8 Novel ending?  
9 Mushroom stems  
10 Went deep at the park  
11 Pipe material  
12 Bank contents  
13 Early American home  
14 Ready to serve  
15 Contents of el mar  
16 Be a bundle of nerves  
17 Radio host John  
20 Society page word  
24 Optimist  
26 The "E" in E. & J. Gallo  
29 Strapped-on accessory  
31 Nave seat  
33 Phelps broke his gold-medal record  
34 Skater Harding  
35 Because of, with "to"  
36 Copenhagen native  
37 Confirmation, e.g.  
39 Norse god associated with storms  
40 Jam ingredients  
41 Andean wool source

- 42 "The Crucible" setting  
44 Letters after I?  
46 Jazz pianist Blake  
47 Common sense  
52 Obscure  
54 \_\_\_ show  
55 Soft drink brand since 1924  
57 Elevator innovator  
58 Cartridge holder  
59 Colorful blocks  
63 Flexor muscle, informally  
65 German title  
66 Before long, quaintly  
69 Some tides  
70 \_\_\_ One: vodka brand  
71 Lucrative, contractually  
72 VW hatchback  
73 Friend of Pythias  
74 Appliance maker since 1934  
75 Grandparent, often  
79 Wyoming's \_\_\_ Range  
80 Former #1 LPGA golfer Lorena  
81 Goes after  
83 Evade  
85 One of the Baldwins  
86 Hurting  
87 John in London  
90 Separately  
91 Garlicky sauce  
93 Chewed persistently  
97 Former name of Myanmar's most populous city  
98 Asian celebration  
99 Welcome  
100 They may empty in a brawl  
102 Actress Plummer  
104 NATO alphabet letter after Romeo  
107 Rainbow-like  
108 Cara of "Fame"  
111 Bangers partner  
112 Gym site  
113 Skier's aid  
114 Put in a position  
115 Sympathetic sounds  
116 Done, in Verdun  
117 Jared of "Suicide Squad"  
118 Where Cork is  
119 Dudley Do-Right's org.  
120 32-card game  
123 No longer working: Abbr.



Last week's answers appear on the next page

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## Jumble

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



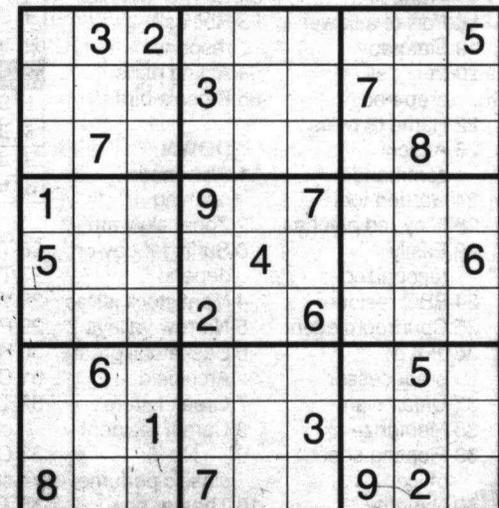
PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

This week's answers appear on the next page  
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2018 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

## Sudoku

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

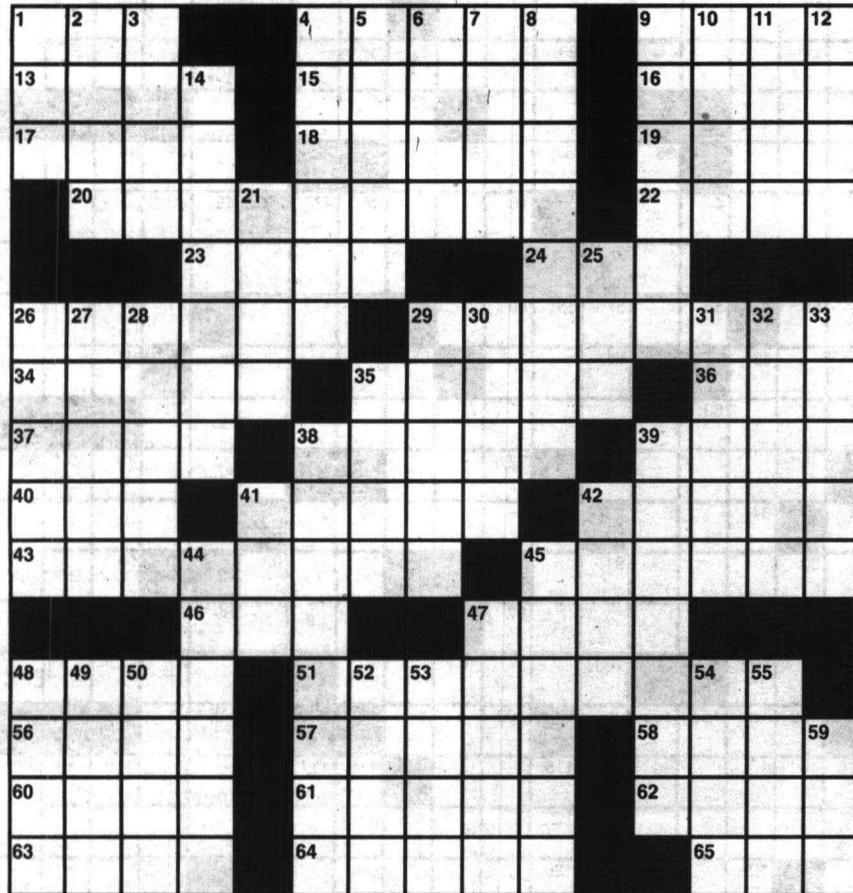
Level: **1 2 3 4**



Last week's answers appear on the next page

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# Crossword



By Jacqueline E. Mathews. © 2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

1/2/19

### ACROSS

- 1 As cool \_\_\_ cucumber
- 4 VP Spiro
- 9 Applaud
- 13 Goes up and down
- 15 Small blackboard
- 16 "\_\_\_ springs eternal"
- 17 Tranquil
- 18 Part of a flower
- 19 Matures
- 20 In \_\_\_; all prepared
- 22 Home of twigs
- 23 Attack commands
- 24 Garden tool
- 26 Itchy red patches
- 29 Easily recognized
- 34 BBQ residue
- 35 Courtroom event
- 36 JFK's predecessor
- 37 Unfair slant
- 38 Memorize
- 39 Floating sheet of ice
- 40 Naughty
- 41 Tropical trees
- 42 Store cashier
- 43 Not fit for human consumption
- 45 Seacoasts

- 46 Calendar abbr.
- 47 Right around the corner
- 48 First man
- 51 Going up
- 56 Indian prince
- 57 Entrances
- 58 \_\_\_ up; absorb
- 60 Rugged cliff
- 61 Martini garnish
- 62 Easy to handle
- 63 Roll call response
- 64 Acting parts
- 65 Female bird

### DOWN

- 1 Alphabetic opening
- 2 Zoom skyward
- 3 Suffix for pay or depend
- 4 Meat stock jellies
- 5 Narrow valleys
- 6 Basketball great Archibald
- 7 Greek letters
- 8 Cardiff resident
- 9 \_\_\_ No. 5; classic perfume
- 10 Theater box
- 11 Makes fun of
- 12 Nuisance
- 14 Crushes violently
- 21 Perishes
- 25 Engine additive

### Solutions



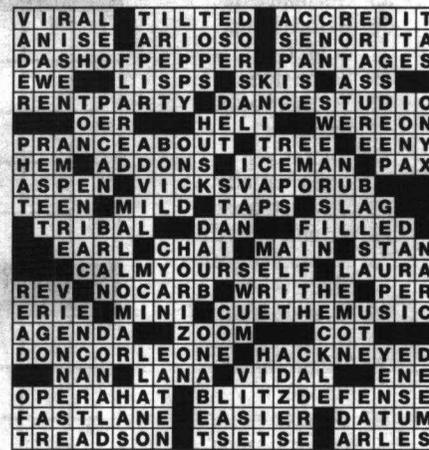
- 26 Temple leader
- 27 Thai or Chinese chain
- 28 Window covering
- 29 Picture border
- 30 Haughtiness
- 31 Couch potato
- 32 Think the world of
- 33 Gives off a strong odor
- 35 TV's "To \_\_\_ the Truth"
- 38 Canada's Newfoundland and \_\_\_
- 39 Corsage seller
- 41 Printing store chain
- 42 Actor Everett
- 44 Cause harm to
- 45 Taste, touch, sight, etc.
- 47 Chutzpah
- 48 Part of the foot
- 49 Show courage
- 50 Not quite closed
- 52 Song for one
- 53 Spiral
- 54 Ark builder
- 55 Bridge or badminton
- 59 Barbie's beau



# puzzle island solutions

### Last week's crosswords

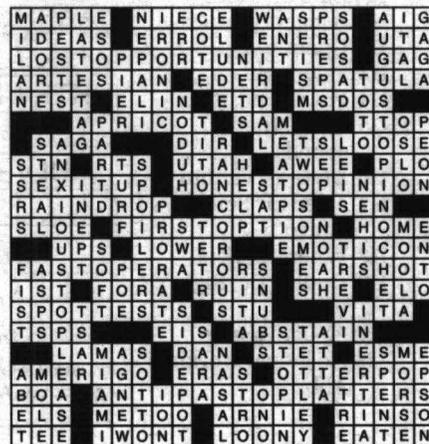
#### "REIN CHECK"



#### "Mo' Fun"



#### "Quick Visit"



### Last week's Quote-Acrossic

PETER SINGER: DON'T BOTHER:  
There's not much point in bemoaning the state of the world unless there's some way you can think of to improve it. Otherwise, don't bother writing a book; go and find a tropical island and lie in the sun.

### Last week's Sudoku

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

### This week's Jumble

FOURTH ENCORE WRITER  
EXPAND AURORA VOLUME

When Canada replaced its flag in 1965 with its current flag, they —

TURNED OVER  
A NEW LEAF

chicago  
tribune.com  
/games

Interactive puzzles and games



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Laura Skinner, left, helps a customer with book recommendations in June at the Lake Forest Book Store.

# Year of reading, year of worry

Yet 2018 was marked by hope and joy

By JOHN WARNER  
Chicago Tribune

2018 comes to a close and it's time to take stock of the year that was.

I have no grand plan for this space. Each week I sit down and assess what's on my mind regarding the world of books and reading (broadly defined) and then do my best to flesh out that notion for the benefit and entertainment of the reading audience.

I think of each column as the start of a conversation, so reflecting on the past 12 months reveals preoccupations I may not have been entirely aware of at the time.

What have I been up to?

I kicked 2018 off with a column in which I vowed to read more books, because 2017 had knocked me off my stride and I recognized the loss in my life when I wasn't reading as much. I made sure to set aside at least 30 minutes every day for reading not related to anything for work, just reading to read. I marked in my online calendar each day I was successful.

Mission accomplished. I finished 27 more books in 2018 than in 2017.

One of my preoccupations of the year

was arguing that we must protect important parts of the book ecosystem, like university presses whose funding is under threat, or independent bookstores trying to survive as real estate gets pricier.

I also argued that readers must be protected from a different kind of threat: Sean Penn's terrible, horrible, no good, very bad "novel," "Bob Honey Who Just Do Stuff."

I put my cheerleader hat on for bookstores with titles stocked to the sky (like the Lake Forest Book Store), for kids being allowed to read freely (even if something seems like a stretch) and for teachers to be given the autonomy necessary to work with students as the individual humans we know them to be.

I strongly advocated for the practice of tsundoku, acquiring more books than you will ever have time to read, while also strongly cautioning against the design trend of displaying one's books spine-in to give a monochromatic color effect.

This is an abomination on par with Penn's "novel."

In May, in the span of a week, we said farewell to two giants with complicated legacies: Tom Wolfe and Philip Roth.

I also took the time to remember two of my all-time favorites, whose voices I thought we could use today, Molly Ivins and Erma Bombeck.

I feel as though I spend a lot of my day worried, about the present, about the future, about the world at large and about my community closer to home. These past couple of years, so much feels so scarce, so precarious, even as we're told that we're living in times of abundance.

But looking at what I wanted to talk about with you folks, I see some measure of worry, but also equal parts of hope and joy. The mere act of having a chance to spend some portion of my week thinking about books and reading, bookstores and readers, too, seems to have decidedly positive effects on my overall worldview.

It's even better when I declared that in another life I want to return as a bookstore cat, and a handful of people wrote to me to say, "Me too!"

So let me finish this reflection with a thank you to the readers who are always there and a vital part of the conversation. I'm going to keep going as long as they let me.

I hope your 2018 finishes strong and your 2019 starts even better.

John Warner is the author of "Why They Can't Write: Killing the Five-Paragraph Essay and Other Necessities."

Twitter @biblioracle

## Book recommendations from the Biblioracle

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

1. "Trumpocracy: The Corruption of the American Republic" by David Frum
2. "Fantasyland: How America Went Haywire — A 500-Year History" by Kurt Andersen
3. "Fascism: A Warning" by Madeleine Albright
4. "The Fifth Risk" by Michael Lewis
5. "Grit" by Angela Duckworth — Dan M., Hillside

It's easy to see what's been on Dan's mind based on this list. I want to recommend some fiction as a change of pace, but when a list has no fiction on it, I start to worry I have a reader who likes to focus on true stories. That's going to take me to one of my favorite nonfiction books of the last year: "Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup" by John Carreyrou.

1. "The Ninth Hour" by Alice McDermott
2. "City of Endless Night" by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child
3. "Here and Gone" by Haylen Beck
4. "Artemis" by Andy Weir
5. "Gold Dust Woman: The Biography of Stevie Nicks" by Stephen Davis — Michael B., Forest Park

This request is from March, so clearly Michael has read some books since then, but I'm trying to end the year by making up for some lists I either overlooked or didn't have the space to get to at the time. I'm recommending Michael Faber's "The Book of Strange New Things."

1. "The Nightingale" by Kristin Hannah
2. "The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane" Lisa See
3. "The Henna House" by Nomi Eve
4. "Hillbilly Elegy" by J.D. Vance
5. "Defending Jacob" by William Landay

— Jan P., Naperville

Another one from March, and a book club request no less. If it's monthly, that means they've read at least eight more books since this list. I feel shame. I'm going back a ways for this one, but I think it's a good book club book: "A Prayer for Owen Meany" by John Irving.

## Get a reading from the Biblioracle

Send a list of the last five books you've read to books@chicagotribune.com.

BY CINDY DAMPIER  
Chicago Tribune

The holidays are full of great moments, if we're lucky. And one of the greatest is the moment you realize that, yes, it really is all over with. Dinner is eaten, presents are opened, guests have gone home and you can feel that delicate, delicious lag — time, unaccounted for, stretches like a dog in the sunshine.

You're alone at last.

"Holidays are all about togetherness," says Suzanne Degges-White, "and it's wonderful — people are piling into your house, you're talking and being together and doing the things we love to do because we're human. But we also need to retreat, and there's nothing wrong with it. We need to carve out solitude; we need to find it."

Degges-White, a psychology professor at Northern Illinois University, says that the need for alone time is as present and prevalent as ever — even though satisfying that need has gotten more confusing in modern society. The constant use of technology has caused growing concern over social isolation and lack of human interaction. Yet, it also has fostered a sense of endless, limitless connectivity. We are isolated, yet we are always on. "Even though we may think of it as mindless entertainment, we're using our brains constantly," says Degges-White.

Which is why being alone with a tiny glowing screen might remove you from the company of others, but it doesn't feel the same as a walk in the woods. When it comes to the alone time your brain is asking for, phone time doesn't count.

"Our brains were not meant to function at this high level that we insist on all the time," Degges-White says. "We feel like we're multitasking, but really we're just constantly putting our brains into

# This is your brain on SOLITUDE

Why alone time is what you need — now



GETTY

A solitary walk or moment of rest can pay off in better relationships and better brain functioning.

overdrive." And brains, of course, are ancient machines that were not built to function that way. "The brain, unlike our devices, can't be plugged into power and recharged. And sometimes I wonder when we are supposed to get our own processing, our own backing up done? Technology is great, but human evolution hasn't caught up yet. We need a chance to reset."

Downtime for the brain has concrete benefits: Studies have shown that kids who attend tech-free camps get better at recog-

nizing facial cues in others after logging device-free time. And research on early adolescents who spent some time in solitude showed an improved emotional state afterward. That means that taking a breather to be by yourself, without tech ties, will actually make you better at being with the people in your life.

Alone time also improves other brain functions, including decision-making and creativity, Degges-White says. "You can't make good decisions if you don't ever give your-

self time to reflect." And "if you're constantly engaged in the world, it's harder to make space for those moments of genius."

Luckily, getting the alone time you need isn't as hard as it may sound, even in our inherently busy world.

**Start thinking of alone time as a need, just like food and water.** You're not asking for a treat, you're maintaining your brain. I mean, you don't need to bargain with yourself or others to brush your teeth every day, right? A little solitude is like brush-

ing your brain: "It allows you to clear out all the stuff you don't need."

**If alone time makes you antsy, get moving.**

"It helps to move the body," says Degges-White. "It sounds so new-agey but it really does bring the mind and body into sync." She recommends (podcast-free) walking or yoga poses to give your body something to do while your mind floats free. If you're using a trip to the gym as alone time, Degges-White recommends you skip the TV and other distractions,

and let your mind tune in to what your body is doing. Or just tune out entirely.

**Don't invite rumination.**

"You want to reflect," says Degges-White, "but not start ruminating." The tendency to fall into a worry loop — endless stewing, with no real solutions emerging — can be a danger if you enter alone time with the intention of solving a particular problem. Time alone is a chance to allow yourself to "just be," says Degges-White. "Reflection is not getting mired in your feelings so much as noticing things, raising that awareness." Noticing if you start to worry, and changing your focus is one tactic to try, but adding physical activity to your alone time can help too.

**Take alone time where you find it.**

We're not all Thoreau, so if a forest walk isn't in your cards, keep your eyes open for your own solitary moments. Even moments that we think of as "waiting" can function as quiet time if we recognize them as such. "After the birth of my third child," says Degges-White, "I considered a trip to the dentist for a teeth cleaning a gift to myself. I was shocked at how I would feel, sitting in the waiting room, and I realized it's because no one is asking anything of me." Feeling that you are where you are supposed to be, yet momentarily at rest, can be freeing. "And once you experience that secret pleasure, you want it again."

A good friend and I once admitted to each other that we can find near-perfect happiness cruising the grocery store, alone, late at night or early in the morning. Sometimes, I can hear those empty aisles calling. "You're sneaking in ways to do something with yourself," Degges-White says, "and there's nothing healthier."

cdampier@chicagotribune.com

## More food pros name best dish eaten 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 second of a two-part story on the chefs' recommendations.

### Gale Gand

Pastry Chef, Author, Teacher, James Beard Award Winner

**Best Meal:** Korean Barbeque

**Restaurant:** Pro Samgyubsal, 3420 Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook, 847-715-9073, [www.facebook.com/pages/Pro-Samgyubsal/](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Pro-Samgyubsal/) 865797750187765

**The Skinny:** "It was Halloween night and our twins are finally old enough to trick or treat with their friends without an adult accompanying them. So my husband and I went out to dinner to celebrate. This interactive dinner was just the adventure we wanted. You cook your own meat and onions in stages on a hot plate and eat it as it's ready, either pork belly or beef short ribs. So delicious and interesting, with different combinations of garnitures like pickled garlic leaves, shredded scallions, kimchi, sliced daikon radish, etc. to build each bite, and myriad sauces to apply and dip into. Great with some Makegeolli, a cloudy rice wine."

### Pan Hompluem

Owner, Lowcountry in Chicago

**Best Meal:** Sloppy Thai Chicken Basil over Rice; Beefy Korean Banh Mi

**Restaurant:** Chicago Lunchbox, 400 S. Financial Place, Chicago, 773-696-0144, [www.ChicagoLunchbox.com](http://www.ChicagoLunchbox.com)

**The Skinny:** "My best meal in 2018 isn't a fancy Michelin-starred fine dining

experience — rather it's something that is so approachable but made with so much love. Chicago Lunchbox started out as a successful food truck, but now is a small store front in the financial district. CLBX is making some of the best-tasting Asian soul food in the form of either banh mi or rice box. Just wow."

### Christopher Teixeira

Executive Pastry Chef and Operating Partner, The Fifty/50 Restaurant Group in Chicago

**Best Meal:** Neck Bone Gravy, Fried Pig Ear Salad, Goat Cheese and Beets, Pork Shoulder and Nutella Doughnut

**Restaurant:** The Purple Pig, 500 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, 312-464-1744, [www.ThePurplePigChicago.com](http://www.ThePurplePigChicago.com)

**The Skinny:** "The menu selection is interesting and there is something for everyone. The flavors and textures that are put into each dish are well thought out and never disappoint. Paired with great service and a great wine list, there really isn't anything more needed."

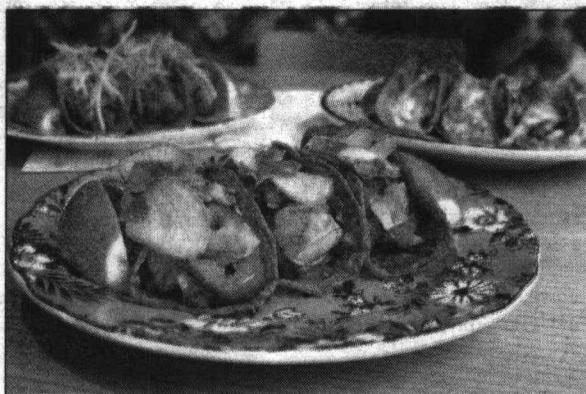
### Mark Grosz

Chef/Owner, Oceanique in Evanston

**Best Meal:** Cheeseburger

**Restaurant:** Red Hot Ranch, 3057 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, 773-661-9377

**The Skinny:** "Best thing I ate in 2018 was, yes, a cheeseburger! At Red Hot Ranch on Ashland in Chicago the cheeseburgers resemble an In-N-Out Burger. I just got back from LA — my kids and I agree it's better. Fries by far too. Get the double with special house sauce. Extra bonus for us nocturnal chefs: Open 'til 4 a.m.!"



FABIO VIVIANI PHOTO

Chef Katsuji Tanabe's Grilled Octopus Tacos at Barrio in Chicago. Fabio Viviani said the Grilled Octopus Tacos were the best thing he ate out in the Chicago area in 2018.

### Jim Mullen

Founder, Mullen's Apple Sauce

**Best Meal:** Veal Parmesan with Pasta

**Restaurant:** Stefani Prime, 6755 N. Cicero Ave., Lincolnwood, 847-696-6755, [www.StefaniPrime.com](http://www.StefaniPrime.com)

**The Skinny:** "We went to a brand-new neighborhood restaurant for a relative's birthday. We celebrated at Stefani Prime in Lincolnwood. I had the Veal Parmesan with Pasta and would just say that it was absolutely succulent. Everybody had something different and we were all very, very pleased with our meals. The restaurant is a little on the expensive side, but it's understandable with the new developing costs of that property."

### Paul Caravelli

Chef Consultant/Chef du Cuisine The Stained Glass/The Cellar in Evanston

**Best Meal:** Roast Ducks; Soup Dumplings; a variety of sides and always something new to try

**Restaurant:** Sun Wah BBQ, 5039 N. Broadway, Chicago, 773-769-1254, [www.SunWahBBQ.com](http://www.SunWahBBQ.com)

**The Skinny:** "I've taken Ina Pinkney out to Sun Wah BBQ for her birthday/Chinese New Year every year

for the last three years. So those meals are super-memorable because I love her dearly. Ina does the ordering. She'll ask for a couple roast ducks and then all sorts of sides come along with it."

### Alpana Singh

Terra and Vine in Evanston

**Best Meal:** The Bangkok Bowl

**Restaurant:** Lunch Room at Space 519, 200 E. Chestnut St., Chicago, 312-751-1519, [www.Space519.com/pages/thelunchroom](http://www.Space519.com/pages/thelunchroom)

**The Skinny:** "It's a fried rice bowl but with all the flavors of an authentic Pad Thai: umami from the fish sauce, heat from the chili spice and spiciness from ginger. Absolutely delicious, comforting and crave-worthy!"

### Fabio Viviani

Executive Chef & Partner, DineAmic Group in Chicago

**Best Meal:** Grilled Octopus Tacos

**Restaurant:** Barrio, 65 W. Kinzie St., Chicago, 312-940-9900, [www.BarrioChicago.com](http://www.BarrioChicago.com)

**The Skinny:** "A favorite dish I ate this year goes against my heritage, but it has to be Chef Katsuji Tan-

abe's tacos at Barrio. This guy knows how to make Mexican food and even though I've tried them all, my favorite one is his Grilled Octopus Tacos. He mixes together jalapenos, garlic crema and sea salt potato crisps. They taste like no other fish tacos I've had before. I'm telling you, some of the best in the city. Although I love his food, I make sure whatever dish I get, NO CILANTRO on any of it!"

### John Durning

Chef/Owner, Pizzeria DeVile and Burnsies Uptown in Libertyville

**Best Meal:** Fried Chicken Special; Burgers; Brunch

**Restaurant:** Prairie Grass Cafe, 601 Skokie Blvd., Northbrook, 847-205-4433, [www.PrairieGrassCafe.com](http://www.PrairieGrassCafe.com)

**The Skinny:** "I can't pick between their Fried Chicken special, their perfectly cooked burgers or the reliably great brunch. They execute so well in so many ways."

### Tony Castillo

Chef/Owner, Longitud315 in Highwood

**Best Meal:** Tacos!

**Restaurant:** La Josie, 740 Randolph St., Chicago, 312-929-2900, [www.lajosie.com](http://www.lajosie.com)

**The Skinny:** "There is no other dish that represents delicious Mexican food in the entire world like tacos. I have tried good tacos in other places but when I think of a real good taco like in Mexico and what makes this one my favorite choice for dinner when I go out is the fact that the homemade tortillas taste fresh and authentic, the toppings and the variety of real good salsas to topped them with are simple but flavorful with the right amount of heat and La Josie has the best of all. Since I tried this restau-

rant for the first time about six months ago, I have been back a least 10 times and it's because of the amazing tacos they prepare such Al Pastor (my favorite), Grilled Shrimp, Baja Style Fish, Carnitas, Carne Asada and many others."

### Joe Fontana

Chef/Owner, Fry the Coop in Elmhurst and Oak Lawn

**Best Meal:** Sausage Deep Dish Pizza

**Restaurant:** Labriola Cafe, 535 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, 312-955-3100, [www.LabriolaCafe.com](http://www.LabriolaCafe.com)

**The Skinny:** "Rich Labriola started as a baker, and you can tell because dough is everything on a pizza. This deep dish has a mozzarella crust that looks as if it's burnt, but is really a caramelized edge that is addicting. It's the finishing bite that will leave you dreaming about it!"

### Zeeshan Shah

Chef/Owner, Superkhana International and Biscuit Man in Chicago

**Best Meal:** Mushroom Tacos; House Tortillas

**Restaurant:** Bien Trucha, 410 W. State St., Geneva, 630-232-2665, [www.BienTrucha.com](http://www.BienTrucha.com)

**The Skinny:** "I had lunch at Bien Trucha over the summer. It was the day after my wedding, so spirits were high and energy was very low! Everything we had was seasoned perfectly, including the drinks which were so balanced we didn't notice how many we were drinking! We had almost every taco they offered, really loved the mushrooms. I particularly loved the house tortillas, so soft and perfect. The service was particularly well balanced between available and scarce."

Veronica Hinke is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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

## Thursday, Jan. 3

**"La Rosa Blanca" - David Gonzalez Performance:** Through his award-winning storytelling, music and poetry, David Gonzalez guides a fascinating and compelling journey into his Latino/a culture. Drawing on Cuban/Puerto Rican roots, he traverses the terrain of contemporary social and cultural issues, while celebrating the value of multiculturalism in American society. Visit the website or call the Box Office. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, 111 W. Campbell St., Arlington Heights, \$30, 847-577-2121.

**Barrington Breakfast Rotary Club:** We are a Rotary Club of local men and women who meet weekly for breakfast, fellowship and community and international service. We also discuss local and global topics, as well as issues relevant to the practice and promotion of Rotary ideals in our personal and business lives. 7 a.m. Thursday, The Garlands of Barrington, 1000 Garlands Lane, Barrington, \$10, 847-304-1996.

**Drop-in Tech Help at Lake Forest Library:** Drop into the Lake Forest Library between 2 and 4 p.m. every Thursday to get basic technology questions answered. While librarians can show attendees how to download eBooks, use their iPhone or tablet, create Google Docs, and similar techie tasks, remember that librarians cannot fix computer hardware problems or download software for you. 2 p.m. Thursday, Lake Forest Library, 360 E. Deerpath Road, Lake Forest, free.

**Teen and Youth SMART Recovery:** LEAD hosts this addiction recovery program available to youth ages 14-22 to help overcome unhealthy habits (drinking and drug usage), or behaviors (eating and gaming issues). SMART Recovery is judgement-free, promoting self-help and choice to achieve a healthy, positive and balanced lifestyle. The 4-Step Program assists individuals in all stages of recovery by: (1) building and maintaining motivation; (2) coping with urges; (3) managing thoughts, feelings and behaviors; and (4) living a balanced life. 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Gorton Community Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, free, 847-295-9075.

**Caregiver Support Group:** You may feel isolated or overwhelmed as you care for a family member or friend. Join others to share, interact and learn from each other in a safe, supportive environ-

ment. Meets the first and third Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Parish House. Attendees are welcome to bring others who could benefit from this supportive group. 1 p.m. Thursday, First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest, 700 N. Sheridan Road, Lake Forest, free, 847-234-6250.

**Writers' Critique Group at Cook Library:** If you are ready to work on that novel you've been dreaming of, join in the Writer's Critique Group, where participants have the opportunity for their work to be critiqued, and in turn, will critique the work of others. Meets at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month: Jan. 3, Feb. 7 and March 7. Register or call. 7 p.m. Thursday, Cook Memorial Public Library District - Cook Park Library, 413 N. Milwaukee Ave., Libertyville, free, 847-362-2330.

**Country With a Little Ballroom:** Enjoy a mini lesson and open dance for all styles. 7 p.m. Thursday, Dress Up & Dance, 206 Terrace Drive, Mundelein, \$12.

**Sensory Puppet Show:** This free puppet show is for children ages 3 to 6 with autism spectrum disorders, sensory processing issues or who are differently-abled. When registering, tell us about accommodations you may require. Siblings are welcome, but caregivers must attend. 10 a.m. Thursday, Schaumburg Township District Library, Central Branch, 130 S. Roselle Road, Schaumburg, free, 847-923-3439.

**Winter Challenge:** All ages can participate in the challenge by reading and completing fun activities to earn badges. Track your progress online or by using a paper log. Earn five badges to win a prize. Kids and teens win a book, and adults will be entered into a drawing to win a \$10 gift card to Half Price Books (35 gift cards available). Daily Thursday, Schaumburg Township District Library, Central Branch, 130 S. Roselle Road, Schaumburg, free, 847-923-3347.

**Trickster presents "Native American Body of Art":** It is a first-of-its-kind exhibition featuring partially nude art by Native Americans from a variety of tribes. The project is the idea of Brent Learned, a member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes. "Native American Body of Artworks" depicts both male and female nudes. 10 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday, Trickster Gallery, 190 S. Roselle Road, Schaumburg, free, 847-301-2090.

**Adrian Amos Celebrity Bowling Night Fundraiser:** Enjoy bowling, food and drinks plus photos and autographs with Chicago Bear Adrian Amos and

teammates. This event benefits the I'm Still Here Foundation, founded by Adrian Amos, for Alzheimers, a disease that has affected Adrian's loved ones. For more information or to reserve your company/group lane, email jenna@vibrancy21.com or visit the eventbrite website. First-come, first-served basis - reserve today. 7 p.m. Thursday, Brunswick Zone Hawthorn Lanes, 316 Center Drive, Vernon Hills, \$100, 847-367-1600.

## Friday, Jan. 4

**Fleetwood Mac Mania:** Fleetwood Mac Mania is a stunning visual and musical tribute to Fleetwood Mac. Each veteran player in this tribute band brings their spirit to re-create with incredible accuracy, the look and feel of Fleetwood Mac and Stevie Nicks. Visit the website or call the Box Office. 7:30 p.m. Friday, Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, 111 W. Campbell St., Arlington Heights, tickets \$40, stage tables \$45, 847-577-2121.

**Current Events Group:** A fast moving discussion of events that occur during the past week. The moderator is Ralph Bernstein. There is no charge to attend the event with ample free parking. 10 a.m. Friday, Highland Park Police Department, 1677 Old Deerfield Road, Highland Park, free, 847-502-7260.

**News and Views Current Events Discussion Group:** Moderated by Skip Jacobs, this current events discussion group gives you and your friends an outlet to discuss the events of the day and to share insights, which make every member a more informed citizen. Ample free parking and coffee available. Meets 10 to 11:30 a.m. Fridays. Free for members of the Highland Park Senior Center, \$10 for nonmembers. Call for details. For a full schedule of activities, visit the Highland Park Senior Center's webpage. 10 a.m. Friday, Highland Park Senior Center, 54 Laurel Ave., Highland Park, \$10 nonmembers, 847-432-4110.

**New Release Fridays at Lake Forest Library:** Jump-start your weekend and be the first to see newly released DVDs. Popcorn is included. Call the library at 847-234-0636 to find out what movie will be shown this week. 3 p.m. Friday, Lake Forest Library, 360 E. Deerpath Road, Lake Forest, free.

**Deray Davis - the Chicago Improv headliner:** Born and raised on the south side of Chicago, DeRay Davis currently be "scene" keeping a live studio audience in comedic stitches as the host of Ice Cube's "Hip Hop Squares" (VH1). Visit: <https://vwww.deraydavis.com>. 7:30 and 9:45 p.m. Friday, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday, The Chicago Improv, 5 Woodfield Mall, Schaumburg, Tickets: \$38-\$49, 847-240-2001.

**GLMV Conversations 4 Success Free Network Group:** This is open to all GLMV Chamber members. They meet first and third Fridays, with doors open at 7:30 a.m. The meeting is from 7:45 to 9 a.m. Meet two presenters each First Friday meeting. Learn how to address business challenges from other like-minded business owners each Third Friday. Take the time to have a conversation, and get to know people. Enjoy a light breakfast sponsored by Corner Bakery/Hansa Coffee. For more information, call Todd Renihan at 847-680-7525 or email ToddRenihan@allstate.com. 5:30 p.m. Friday, Holiday Inn Express, 975 Lakeview Pkwy, Vernon Hills, free, 847-680-0750.

**Wheeling Bingo:** Any serious players or those just looking for fun can enjoy bingo games, food, payouts and slots. Doors open 5:30 p.m. Visit the website for more information. 7:15 p.m. Friday, American Veterans Post 66, 700 McHenry Road, Wheeling, \$12-\$43, 847-537-0440.

## Saturday, Jan. 5

**Shining Star: "A Tribute to Earth, Wind and Fire":** Ten highly talented vocalists and musicians harmoniously join forces to present "A Tribute to Earth, Wind & Fire," a celebration of the five-decade strong success, popularity and resilience of one of the most successful musical stories ever told. Visit the website or call the Box Office. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, 111 W. Campbell St., Arlington Heights, \$30, 847-577-2121.

**Laughs For Mike Comedy Showcase Benefit:** The Buffalo Grove Park District and Funnier By The Lake Comedy present a night of live comedy in support of the Michael Yancovich No Joke Foundation, promoting comedy, community and compassion. This is an age 18 and older show. Tickets available beginning Dec. 10 at [bigdealproduction.com](http://bigdealproduction.com). Call Jessi Hersman to purchase VIP tables. From 7-7:45 p.m., honors Michael Yancovich, appetizers from Max and Benny's Restaurant, alcohol available for purchase; 8-9:30 p.m., "Laughs for Mike" comedy. 7 p.m. Saturday, Buffalo Grove Performing Arts Center, 225 McHenry Road, Buffalo Grove, \$18 advanced; \$20 at door; VIP tables available, 847-850-2152.

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**Zumba Fitness Class:** Licensed Zumba instructors lead this fun class that is suitable for all levels. Drummers play live. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water and a towel. Punch card or drop in. More information at the website or call. 8:30 a.m. Saturday, JCYS Lutz Family Center, 800 Clavey Road, Highland Park, Punch card or drop in, 312-961-8484.

**Backdated: John Lennon Tribute and Jay Goepner Band:** 7 p.m. opener: The Jay Goepner Band; 8 p.m.: Backdated - A Loving Tribute to John Lennon. 8 p.m. Saturday, 210 Live, 210 Green Bay Road, Highwood, \$15-\$20 a person, 847-433-0304.

**Book to Movie: "Tuck Everlasting":** Those ages 10-18 will watch the movie version of "Tuck Everlasting" then discuss how the book was turned into a movie. Join to share what you like and don't like about the film adaptation. 2 p.m. Saturday, Lake Forest Library, 360 E. Deerpath Road, Lake Forest, free.

**Piecemakers Quilting Ministry:** Piecemakers Quilting Ministry meets at St. Peter United Church of Christ. This sew-in takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All quilters are welcome and they teach for those who wish to learn. Bring your supplies, your sewing machine, your willing hands, a sack lunch and join in this fellowship. They create quilts for A Safe Place. For more information, call the church office or visit the website. 9 a.m. Saturday, St. Peter United Church of Christ, 47 Church St., Lake Zurich, free, 847-438-6441.

**Improvised Family Friendly Comedy:** Hilarious improvised comedy every Saturday night. Audience suggestions make every show a unique, fun experience. Fun for the whole family. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Improv Playhouse Theater, 736 Milwaukee Ave., Libertyville, \$5 students, \$10 advance, \$20 at the door.

**New Year, New You Dance-a-thon:** There's no party like a Zumba and WERQ party. Park View Fitness' three fitness dance instructors are teaming up to bring attendees a 90-minute class. First time fitness dancers are welcome and experienced participants are encouraged to bring their friends. Feel free to celebrate the new year by wearing festive accessories. This is for ages 14 and older; ages 12-13 with an adult. 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Dunbar Recreation Center, 888 Dunbar Road, Mundelein, \$10 for Park View members; \$15 nonmembers, 847-388-5430.

**Lego Club:** Lego Club meets at 3 p.m. Feb. 2, 16 and 23; and at 1 p.m. Feb. 4 at the library. Legos are provided for chil-

dren and parents to enjoy, and all ages are welcome. 1 p.m. Saturday, North Chicago Public Library, 2100 Argonne Drive, North Chicago, free, 847-689-0125.

## Sunday, Jan. 6

**Skip Gripparis' "The Guys Who Gave Us Rock" presentation:** Celebrate Rock's evolution through the '40s, '50s and '60s with the powerhouse singer, guitarist, comedian and impressionist. Laugh, learn and rock with Skip Gripparis' 100 voices and the great hits from Muddy Waters and Elvis, to Franki Valli and the The Beatles and beyond. Visit the website or call the Box Office. 3 p.m. Sunday, Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, 111 W. Campbell St., Arlington Heights, tickets \$30, stage tables \$35, 847-577-2121.

**Joan Hickey Trio at 210 Live:** Joan Hickey Trio 5:30 p.m.; Judy Night Trio 8 p.m. \$10 cover, two drink or entree minimum. Judy is joined by Justin Kramer and Jackson Jay Kidder for a night of jazz standards and pop-jazz arrangements. 5:30 p.m. Sunday, 210 Live, 210 Green Bay Road, Highwood, \$10 per person, 847-433-0304.

**Teen Study Sunday:** Make the Kasian Room at the Library your go-to study spot. Perfect for teens looking for a quiet space to do homework and work on group projects, with convenient access to books and online resources. Now featuring snacks. 1 p.m. Sunday, Lake Forest Library, 360 E. Deerpath Road, Lake Forest, free.

**"Adventures on The High Seas" - Movie Showing:** Escape from winter with a movie about a boat on the high seas. Today's movie, "In the Heart of the Sea," is a recounting of the sinking of a New England whaling ship by a giant whale in 1820, an experience that later inspired the great novel "Moby Dick." This film is rated PG-13, and is part of the A Deep Freeze Read event. Learn more at [deepfreeze.read.org](http://deepfreeze.read.org). 2 p.m. Sunday, Lake Forest Library, 360 E. Deerpath Road, Lake Forest, free.

**Journaling 101 to Design Your New Year:** Sarah Karnes will guide you through this experiential and productive afternoon. Get clear on your top three priorities for the new year. Register at: [https://www.wellnessliving.com/ers/event/jai\\_yoga\\_studio?k\\_class=102232&k\\_class\\_tab=6037](https://www.wellnessliving.com/ers/event/jai_yoga_studio?k_class=102232&k_class_tab=6037). 2 p.m. Sunday, JAI Yoga Studio, 244 W. Northwest Hwy., Palatine, \$45, must be registered, 224-567-0838.

**Winter Tree Identification Class:** Even without leaves, one can learn to

identify trees in winter by examining their twigs and bark. The class takes place both inside and outdoors, so wear clothes and boots appropriate for the weather. Join TLC's restoration ecologist Melissa Grycan from 9 a.m. to noon. Sunday, Hennen Conservation Area, 4622 Dean St., Woodstock. \$10 per person, 815-337-9502.

## Monday, Jan. 7

**Trivia Night at Buffo's Restaurant:** Bring family and friends every Monday night for a fun trivia night. Live host, great prizes and free to play. 7 p.m. Monday, Buffo's, 431 Sheridan Road, Highwood, free, 847-432-0301.

**Communicating with Email Marketing:** Email is the most cost-effective, targeted and trackable way to build and maintain business relationships. SCORE volunteer Norbert Barszczewski discusses how communicating regularly with customers can help a small business stay connected, nurture customer loyalty and generate increased referrals and repeat sales. The room opens 30 minutes early for networking. No library card required. 6:30 p.m. Monday, Lake Forest Library, 360 E. Deerpath Road, Lake Forest, free.

## Tuesday, Jan. 8

**Parkinson's Exercise Class:** In these weekly Parkinson's exercise classes, participants learn more about the overall benefits of physical activity. Classes are led by a licensed occupational therapist with Paxon Healthcare Services. To RSVP or for more information, call Susan Kocanda at 847-537-5000 or write to [skocanda@belmontvillage.com](mailto:skocanda@belmontvillage.com). 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Belmont Village-Buffalo Grove, 500 McHenry Road, Buffalo Grove, free, 847-537-5000.

**Trivia Tuesday:** Come out to Church Street every Tuesday around 7:30 p.m. for Church Street Trivia with Amy. Get together your smartest friends and come to the tap room for your chance to win gift cards for free beer and more. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Church Street Brewing Co., 1480 Industrial Drive, Itasca, free.

**Lake Bluff Women's Club: Audience with Queen Victoria:** This is a Royal Invitation to meet Queen Victoria presented by The LBWC, a local philanthropic organization, non-political, non-denominational. They regularly meet from noon to 2 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month (October-April). Enjoy a catered luncheon and January's presentation, "An Audience with Queen Victoria." This is a costumed interpre-

tive performance given by Elizabeth Carlson, historian and performer. A question and answer session is offered after "her Majesty" speaks. For reservations, call Cobi by Jan. 4. noon Tuesday, Grace United Methodist Church, 244 E. Center Ave., Lake Bluff, \$20 per person; call to RSVP now, 847-234-3920.

**Writing an Effective Resume:** Learn how to produce an effective resume that will get the attention of employers by targeting the position for which you are applying, highlighting your accomplishments, and showing the value you bring to the table. This is presented by John Strauss, former senior principal at Accenture. Individual follow-up will be available by appointment for CRC members who attend this session. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Career Resource Center, 40 E. Old Mill Road, Lake Forest, Free for CRC members; \$20 nonmembers, 847-295-5626.

**Suspense Author Bryan Gruley comes to Cook Park Library:** Hear Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and Edgar Award nominee Bryan Gruley talk about his thrilling new mystery that asks: How far would you go to save someone you love? He takes readers to a small Michigan town in his new novel, "Bleak Harbor." Books will be for sale from the Book Bin. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Cook Memorial Public Library District - Cook Park Library, 413 N. Milwaukee Ave., Libertyville, free, 847-362-2330.

**World of Wildlife:** This is for grades kindergarten through fifth with an adult, to come face to face with a variety of reptiles, amphibians, birds and mammals. Come learn about conservation and environmental stewardship with experts from Lake Forest's Wildlife Discovery Center. Registration is required either online at the website, by telephone at 224-543-1486, or in person at any service desk in the library. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Vernon Area Public Library District, 300 Olde Half Day Road, Lincolnshire, free, 847-634-3650.

## Wednesday, Jan. 9

**Preschool and Child Care Information Night:** It's never too early to start looking for the right preschool or child care for your little one. This event at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library is a great opportunity to meet teachers and providers from more than 30 local programs. This program is recommended for adults only, who may just drop in; no library card needed. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Arlington Heights Memorial Library, 500 N. Dunton Ave., Arlington Heights, free.

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**Earthmother – Live at 210:** Earthmother is coming to 210 Live in Highwood for Steal Your Face Wednesdays. Josy Rosales: vocals and guitar; Trevor Mooney: bass; Zack Weinstein: vocals and drums. 7 p.m. Wednesday, 210 Live, 210 Green Bay Road, Highwood, \$5 per person, 847-433-0304.

**Books and Beyond: “Snowflake Bentley”:** Read this month’s selected book and join to share your thoughts. Activities and refreshments are also part of the fun. Visit the children’s library to check out your copy of this month’s book, which is “Snowflake Bentley” by Jacqueline Martin. 4 p.m. Wednesday, Lake Forest Library, 360 E. Deerpath Road, Lake Forest, free.

**Taxes and Your Small Business:** Learn which deductions apply to you, best practices for record-keeping and what to expect from tax reforms. Yolanda Ruiz with the IRS reviews all the information small business owners need for tax season. This program is free and open to all, but registration is required either online at the website, by calling 224-543-1485, or in person at any service desk in the library. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Vernon Area Public Library District, 300 Olde Half Day Road, Lincolnshire, free, 847-634-3650.

**Wednesday Team Trivia:** Join in every Wednesday for this trivia night. You may win prizes playing Themed Trivia. There is a limit of 10 people maximum per team. 8 p.m. Wednesday, Snuggery McHenry, 801 N. River Road, McHenry, free, 815-578-9600.

### Thursday, Jan. 10

**Barrington Breakfast Rotary Club:** We are a Rotary Club of local men and women who meet weekly for breakfast, fellowship and community and international service. 7 a.m. Jan. 10, The Garlands of Barrington, 1000 Garlands Lane, Barrington, \$10, 847-304-1996.

**Lake Forest Country Day School Open House:** Lake Forest Country Day School Open House offers an opportunity to tour the campus, speak with teachers and students, observe classes in session, and meet families from the LFCDS community. Visit the website or call the Admission Office. 9:15 a.m. Jan. 10, Lake Forest Country Day School, 145 S. Green Bay Road, Lake Forest, free, 847-615-6151.

**Teen and Youth SMART Recovery:** LEAD hosts this addiction recovery program available to youth ages 14-22 to help overcome unhealthy habits (drinking and drug usage), or behaviors (eating

and gaming issues). SMART Recovery is judgement-free, promoting self-help and choice to achieve a healthy, positive and balanced lifestyle. The 4-Step Program assists individuals in all stages of recovery by: (1) building and maintaining motivation; (2) coping with urges; (3) managing thoughts, feelings and behaviors; and (4) living a balanced life. 5:30 p.m. Jan. 10, Gorton Community Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, free, 847-295-9075.

**Country With a Little Ballroom:** Enjoy a mini lesson and open dance for all styles. 7 p.m. Jan. 10, Dress Up & Dance, 206 Terrace Drive, Mundelein, \$12.

**Drew Lynch - the Chicago Improv Headliner:** In 2015, Drew Lynch captured the hearts of America with his Golden Buzzer performance on Season 10 of “America’s Got Talent.” Since then, Drew has guest-starred on IFC’s “Maron” and landed his late night debut on “Conan,” and more. 7:30 p.m. Jan. 10, 8 p.m. and 10:15 p.m. Jan. 11, 7 and 9:15 p.m. Jan. 12, The Chicago Improv, 5 Woodfield Mall, Schaumburg, \$22, 847-240-2001.

**“Hooray For Bollywood – Let’s Dance”:** Join in for an interactive Bollywood Dance workshop delivered by local dance guru Deepthi Chiruvuri from Bolly DanceFit. By the end of this program, participants will know how to strut some of their own Bollywood dance moves. Register at [webres.cooklib.org](http://webres.cooklib.org). 6:30 p.m. Jan. 10, Cook Memorial Public Library-Aspen Drive, 701 Aspen Drive, Vernon Hills, free, 847-362-2330.

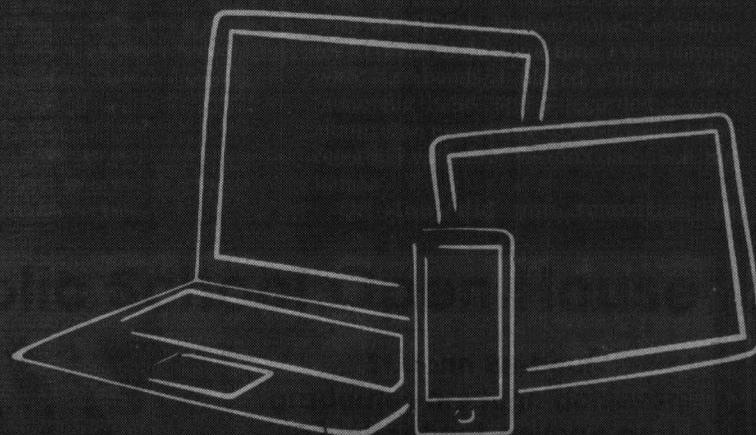
### Friday, Jan. 11

**Route 66 Art Show by Artists on the Bluff:** From traditional to contemporary, guests can experience something new, something old, something familiar and something out of the ordinary, such as Painting On Water by Amy Lee Segami, “Once In A Blue Moon.” During the reception, you can meet several artists, spend an evening of fine arts, stories, and conversations. 5:30 p.m. Jan. 11, The Gallery, 202 E. Wisconsin Ave., Lake Forest, free, 224-544-5961.

**LinkedIn – Building the Profile:** LinkedIn is an essential tool in today’s job market. Learn the important elements of building your profile. This is presented by Ernie Katko, U-Connect, Social Media Consultant and LinkedIn trainer. 10:30 a.m. Jan. 11, Career Resource Center, 40 E. Old Mill Road, Lake Forest, Free for CRC members; \$20 nonmembers, 847-295-5626.

Have an event to submit? Go to [www.ChicagoTribune.com/Events](http://www.ChicagoTribune.com/Events)

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# COMMUNITY REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
2218 S Goebbert Rd, # 292, Arlington Heights	Hideyuki Yanagisawa	Michelle Soderberg Abraham	11-21-18	\$90,000
1730 S Arlington Heights Rd, # 4B, Arlington Heights	Battur Tsogtgerel	Robert W O Keefe	11-20-18	\$148,000
3255 N Daniels Ct, Arlington Heights	Khaja F Syed & Humera Banu	Jeanne A Fine	11-20-18	\$205,000
941 W Essex Pl, Arlington Heights	Sarfray Jabbar Khan & Sofia Sarfray Khan	Deborah Szezesniak	11-20-18	\$285,000
904 S Chestnut Ave, Arlington Heights	James Fritts	Michael T Paull	11-21-18	\$285,000
318 S Derbyshire Ln, Arlington Heights	Todd B Johnson & Lori Ann Greidanus	Linda R Schueler	11-21-18	\$605,000
1322 N Race Ave, Arlington Heights	Mark Knutson & Donna J Knutson	Riordan Const Lic	11-26-18	\$842,500
376 Bentley Pl, Buffalo Grove	Pendekanti Madhusudhana Gupta & Vishnu Vandana Nicchenametta	Thomas Michael Sullivan	11-20-18	\$290,500
9205 Potter Rd, # 1C, Des Plaines	Nimmy James & Jeecy James	Lincemol Jacob	11-27-18	\$115,000
9518 Dee Rd, # 1A, Des Plaines	Imran Fazai & Arfan Fazai	Green Realty Llc	11-27-18	\$145,000
9310 Hamilton Ct, # 2B, Des Plaines	Mohammad K Zaheerullah & Safa Muntajibuddin	Constantin Tatuiescu	11-21-18	\$149,500
711 S River Rd, # 711, Des Plaines	Jane Foley & Raymond Foley	Joseph Stolz	11-20-18	\$195,500
257 Dover Dr, # D, Des Plaines	Juan C De Albe Ayala & Carlos De Jesus De Alba	Roberto Lopez	11-27-18	\$196,000
1440 Marshall Dr, Des Plaines	Safet Pekovic & Anida Pekovic	Robert G Stramaglia Jr Trustee	11-27-18	\$249,000
1422 White St, Des Plaines	William Annetti & Lori Annetti	Sergiu Peica	11-20-18	\$275,000
1172 Evergreen Ave, Des Plaines	John Joseph Sextion R	Stephan A Mathis	11-20-18	\$290,000
1175 Colfax Ave, Des Plaines	Israel Arzatz & Addriana Kuchma	Taylor Morrison Of Illinois In	11-21-18	\$340,000
500 S Westgate Rd, Des Plaines	Harry J Sibley Jr & Kimberly Sibley	Jerald P Gertie	11-21-18	\$355,000
953 Everett Ave, Des Plaines	Kevin T Seyler	Christian Gospel Outreach Corp	11-27-18	\$358,000
1843 Krowka Dr, Des Plaines	Stephen T Borowski Iv & Theresa Borowski	Richard G Hilliard	11-27-18	\$448,000
705 Hinman Ave, # GA, Evanston	Diane French	Darlene Francellino	11-20-18	\$120,000
149 Callan Ave, # 3W, Evanston	Olga Kaminska	Majid K Rezaie	11-21-18	\$124,000
125 Clyde Ave, # 1N, Evanston	Brett Ellsworth & Rachel Ellsworth	Sandy Lewis	11-21-18	\$140,000
803 Elmwood Ave, # 1S, Evanston	Susan M Morris & Colin R Morris	Susan Peterson	11-27-18	\$141,500
520 Sheridan Rd, # 2B, Evanston	Avni Kaziu & Ledjona Kaziu	Daniel Wells	11-27-18	\$178,000
227 Main St, # 3, Evanston	Catherine C Howlett & Kathleen Howlett	Jody M Kaminsky	11-20-18	\$235,000
900 Chicago Ave, # 406, Evanston	John G Bullock & Nora Y Ng	John C Wroblewski	11-26-18	\$352,500
716 Cobblestone Cir, # E, Glenview	Kenny H Nissan	Lyudmyla Strilchuk	11-26-18	\$137,500
4160 Cove Ln, # E, Glenview	Oleksandr Shkrabiuk & Yuliya Nalyvayko	Theodore Y Golota	11-20-18	\$140,000
1017 Harms Rd, Glenview	Andrew J Kim & Mihee Kim	Anthony G Suizzo	11-27-18	\$400,000
2111 Mickey Ln, Glenview	William Fleming & Ann Declue	Brooke Hunter	11-21-18	\$550,000
2437 Swainwood Dr, Glenview	Oliver E Shields	Scott Wollney	11-20-18	\$754,000
1952 Glenview Rd, Glenview	Nineveh Alkhas	Christopher M Obrien	11-21-18	\$769,000
21727 N Hickory Hill Dr, Kildeer	Grzegorz Urbanek & Elzbieta Urbanek	James Charles	11-26-18	\$651,500
12686 W Woodland Rd, Lake Bluff	Mario Bello & Megan M Bello	Mark Koopman	11-26-18	\$340,000
340 E Prospect Ave, Lake Bluff	Steven J Huisel & Amy L Huisel	R Matthew Stiltz	11-26-18	\$547,500
57 Arcadia Ln, Lake Zurich	Eric M Maurer	Michael J Lombardi	11-19-18	\$258,000
467 Carolian Dr, Lake Zurich	William R Chavez & Brittany Chavez	Dean Tsinonis	11-26-18	\$479,000
602 S Milwaukee Ave, # F, Libertyville	Michael Q Lodesky	Anne Lutz	11-26-18	\$153,000
130 W Ellis Ave, Libertyville	William D Mcdermott & Jill Mcdermott	Robert Cartwright	11-20-18	\$190,000
1303 Pimlico Pkwy, # 21B, Libertyville	Mallorie Sayre	Douglas B Light	11-20-18	\$275,000
600 S 4th Ave, Libertyville	Scott Brandon Rhoades & Allison Rhoades	Theodore S Prillaman	11-20-18	\$308,500
1112 Tracy Ln, Libertyville	Steven M Pawell	David A Lightman	11-20-18	\$345,000
527 1st St, Libertyville	Matthew Lambert & Kelly Lambert	Claire L Lowell	11-26-18	\$420,000
1611 S Lancaster Ln, Libertyville	David W Hammond & Hollyce Michelle Hammond	Ryan D Kostolansky	11-26-18	\$448,000
2020 Tremont Ct, Libertyville	Thomas J Hayes & Megan Mccarthy Hayes	Brian D Nagle	11-26-18	\$625,000
1610 Mulberry Dr, Libertyville	Travis Mcghee & Elizabeth Mcghee	Yun Siung Tony Yeh	11-27-18	\$717,500
743 Meadow Ln, Libertyville	Dale E Rudow & Laura L Rudow	Matthew J Holden	11-26-18	\$790,000
74 Cumberland Dr, Lincolnshire	Miroslaw Klek	Henryk Tarasza	11-20-18	\$278,500

ADDRESS	BUYER	SELLER	DATE	PRICE
8400 Callie Ave, Morton Grove	Paul P Kim	Kenny Hong	11-27-18	\$245,000
7851 Lake St, Morton Grove	Nabel Yakhins	Peter Aglipay	11-20-18	\$344,000
6428 Hoffman Ter, Morton Grove	Mohammed I Makda & Noorjahan I Makda	Naranbhai P Patel	11-21-18	\$490,000
290 N Westgate Rd, # 400, Mount Prospect	Milan Panic & Umidakhon Mirzoeva	Richard M Gentile	11-27-18	\$136,000
2004 E Cayuga Ln, Mount Prospect	Margaret Saran Ziph	Nathaniel Cha Song Koo	11-20-18	\$235,000
918 S We Go Trl, Mount Prospect	Adam Seeman & Kate Seeman	David R Francis	11-21-18	\$315,000
1751 E Carib Ln, Mount Prospect	Peter A Aglipay & Maria R Aglipay	Patrick J Wagner	11-20-18	\$455,000
9731 N Fox Glen Dr, # 4B, Niles	Edward J Lesiak Jr	Ronald M Alpert	11-20-18	\$92,500
8815 W Golf Rd, # 10D, Niles	Vivian Hyu Lee	Mark L Brown	11-27-18	\$130,000
8552 N Olcott Ave, Niles	Erin A Eric & Joseph M Eric	Olga Blatt	11-27-18	\$255,000
8160 N Washington St, Niles	Thomas K Beveridge & Rebecca Beveridge	Michael Jacobellis	11-20-18	\$465,000
8720 W North Ter, Niles	Edwar Mallon & Sylvia Mallon	Salvatore A Veltri	11-20-18	\$508,000
1455 Shermer Rd, # 306C, Northbrook	Soyeon Kim	Amanda S Kardos	11-20-18	\$108,000
614 Berglund Pl, Northbrook	Sean Helgeland & Ashley Helgeland	John Stoneburner	11-27-18	\$275,000
1930 Lincoln Ave, Northbrook	Lawrence M Fabbri	Northbrook Rental Lic	11-26-18	\$335,000
3715 Russett Ln, Northbrook	Scott P Portman & Ashley S Portman	Friske 1996 Trust	11-21-18	\$600,000
3512 Salem Walk, Northbrook	In Ja Cho & Ung Bum Cho	Yung Fu Lee	11-27-18	\$665,000
355 Bristol St, Northfield	Aline Elizario Souza	Hong Wang	11-27-18	\$206,000
1255 Wyndham Dr, # 208, Palatine	Rodolfo Maldonado	Michael Gottlieb	11-27-18	\$91,000
13A E Dundee Quarter Dr, Palatine	Brenda G Orozeo Gallagos	Zahid Iqbal	11-27-18	\$97,000
1255 N Sterling Ave, # 110, Palatine	Emil Khankulyiev & Olga Khankulyiev	Richard Glenn Vance	11-27-18	\$121,000
845 E Kings Row, # 8, Palatine	Pey Ran Che	Georgianne P Oman	11-27-18	\$167,000
877 N Hamilton Ct, Palatine	Jean Sullivan	Sheila Shamo Trustee	11-27-18	\$190,000
95 S Stonington Dr, # 284, Palatine	Chase Rohman	Paula Colletti	11-27-18	\$212,000
44 N Benton St, Palatine	Ted Pappas & Vasiliki Pappas	Harland William Leseberg	11-21-18	\$215,000
55 S Clyde Ave, Palatine	Romuald Kosinski & Elzbieta Kosinska	Andrzej Zorychta	11-27-18	\$240,000
1274 N Ashland Ave, Palatine	Jeffrey Silvia & David Young	Jesse Paulson	11-27-18	\$317,000
305 W Brentwood Dr, Palatine	Donald Heideger & Linda Heideger	Connie M Cook	11-21-18	\$333,500
880 W Goodrich Pl, Palatine	Michael Naselli & Mary Naselli	Premendra M Sharma	11-27-18	\$335,000
384 W Wood St, # 25, Palatine	Christopher Balogh	April Powell	11-27-18	\$351,500
256 W Boardwalk Dr, Palatine	Seth D Knocke & Shruti Gupta	Sean Gasparovic	11-27-18	\$605,000
108 S Merrill St, Park Ridge	Megan Gleeson & Margaret Fitzmaurice	Valerie Cecala Hughes	11-20-18	\$415,000
526 Edgemont Ln, Park Ridge	Trent L Mausser & Michael S Mausser	Craig A Tomassi	11-27-18	\$700,000
908 E Old Willow Rd, # 204, Prospect Heights	Artur Izeti & Raimonda Onjea	Marek Modelski	11-26-18	\$116,000
724 Burr Oak Ln, Prospect Heights	Thomas J Schmit & Kathleen R Schmit	Jeffrey M Kollum	11-27-18	\$265,000
210 North Pkwy, Prospect Heights	Maciej M Baran & Justyna K Kawula	Lawrence D Tickner	11-27-18	\$429,000
1 Parkside Ct, # 11, Vernon Hills	Tanya M Salvey	Naum Shekhtman	11-26-18	\$138,000
404 Kennedy Pl, Vernon Hills	William Ma Dominguez Jr	Benjamin Simon	11-27-18	\$175,000
303 Court Of Elm, Vernon Hills	Brad M Hiller & Nicole M Briel	Southwest Florida Investment L	11-20-18	\$288,000
44 Monterey Dr, Vernon Hills	Shyam Gopal Bindal & Brij Lata Bindal	Michael Marras	11-20-18	\$300,000
412 Pine Lake Cir, Vernon Hills	Robin Mosca	David Hammond	11-26-18	\$320,000
16119 W Woodbine Cir, Vernon Hills	Craig Gilsinger & Melissa Gilsinger	Thg Holding Llc	11-20-18	\$365,000
510 Bridle Trl, Wheeling	Aleyamma Mathai & Mathai K Joseph	Sandra Delagga	11-27-18	\$210,000
20 Willow Trl, Wheeling	Rajan Khajuria & Priyanka Khajuria	Gurminder Pandher	11-27-18	\$263,000
947 Garden Ln, Wheeling	Esther Thwe & Cung C Thawng	Harik Tho Lam	11-20-18	\$340,000
428 Linden St, Winnetka	Jay Zukanovic & Colleen Zukanovic	John J Sobel	11-20-18	\$575,000
463 Willow Rd, Winnetka	Daniel Waters & Alicia Waters	William S Trench	11-21-18	\$862,500

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

# 'Obsessed with Notre Dame'

## Chicago pipeline strong as Irish prep for bowl

BY PATRICK M. O'CONNELL  
Chicago Tribune

SOUTH BEND, IND. — The drive from downtown Chicago to the heart of the University of Notre Dame campus takes less than two hours on most weekdays. On a gray, blustery day last week, lake-effect flurries pounded the windshield during the quick jaunt east on the Indiana Toll Road before the golden dome of the administration came into view, glistening despite the gloom.

The campus was nearly empty, the students long gone for holiday break, meaning the Brennan family bench outside the Jordan Hall of Science was empty.

The bench, a few steps away from the Knute Rockne statue outside the north entrance to Notre Dame Stadium, honors three generations of family members who graduated from Notre Dame with a small plaque. Memorials and remembrances are a common site throughout the historical campus. Many of those families, like most of the Brennan family, hail from the Chicago area.

"It's such a unique pull when you're there, and a lot of that comes back to football," said Drew Brennan, at 41 the youngest of the seven members of his family to graduate from Notre Dame. Brennan, whose father, grandfather, two uncles and two cousins also received their diplomas from the university, said he grew up around Saturday morning tailgates on campus, throwing the football around the quad while his family grilled bratwurst.

"A lot of it is also the education, but also the Catholic church, too," said



Drew Brennan, from left, dad Michael Brennan and cousin Tim Brennan, all Notre Dame grads, show off Michael Brennan's father's diploma.

KAMIL KRZACZYNSKI/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Brennan, who now lives in Glen Ellyn. "To this day, I'm obsessed with Notre Dame."

As the Fighting Irish football team prepares to play Clemson in Saturday's College Football Playoff semifinal, thousands of alumni in Chicago and the suburbs will be tuning in to see if Notre Dame can upset the Tigers to advance to the championship game. They will be joined by countless other Irish fans who have never set foot in one of the university's classrooms but are drawn by the history and mystique of one of college football's most successful programs.

Notre Dame has had strong ties with Chicago and northern Illinois for decades. The city and suburbs' large Catholic population provides a strong link, but the university's reputation as one of the best colleges in the country is a draw for both parochial and public

students. The Chicago-area pipeline also exists, in part, because many high school students want to attend a school within a 200-mile radius of home, admissions officials and college counselors said, far enough away from parents and the structure of pre-college life but not too far that it's a hassle to travel home on weekends.

"People either love them or hate them, so it can be easy to talk about," said Brennan, who sometimes uses his ties to Notre Dame on sales pitches to potential clients for his technology company or during interactions on the road to break the ice. The football team's absence from the playoffs for several years before this year's appearance has cooled the anti-ND sentiment, Brennan surmises, but the Irish's recent resurgence has rekindled some of the spirit — everyone knows Notre Dame.

Although plenty of other Big Ten fans will be rolling their eyes or actively cheering against the Yankees of college football, Notre Dame will have the backing of 4,000 active members of the Notre Dame Club of Chicago, and likely triple that number in regular fans just in Chicago and Cook County alone. Club President Katie McCoy estimates 20 percent of the group's members are "legacy" alumni — they have a parent or a family member who also attended Notre Dame.

For Brennan, who considered traveling to AT&T Stadium near Dallas for the Cotton Bowl semifinal but decided to stick closer to home to watch the game with his family and friends on television, the legacy is strong.

His grandfather Eugene, who lived in Edison Park, was the first in the family to attend Notre Dame, gradu-

ating in 1927. His father, Michael, who lives in Evanston, is a 1969 grad, and two of his uncles, then two of his cousins (one in Wilmette and another who lives in New Jersey), also received diplomas. Drew Brennan, the last in the current line, graduated in 2000.

## Chicago to South Bend

The Brennan connection, as an Irish-Catholic family with a strong allegiance to Notre Dame, is not uncommon. There are 2.1 million Catholics living in Cook and Lake counties, according to the Archdiocese of Chicago, and another 600,000-plus in the Diocese of Joliet. Brennan attended Loyola Academy before deciding on college in South Bend but said the bond was formed long before high school. He attended four or five football

games every season when he was in grade school, watching the strong Irish teams of the late 1980s, including the school's last football national championship team, following the 1988 season.

"It was everything for a kid growing up," Brennan said. "I ate and breathed it."

The draw of Notre Dame remains strong among current students, officials said, but the attraction stretches beyond Catholics.

This fall, the total of all admitted students from the Chicago area came from 110 high schools, said Don Bishop, Notre Dame's vice president of enrollment, with 61 percent coming from public schools. Notre Dame accepted applications from students from 19 Catholic high schools and seven other parochial schools, in addition to 84 Chicago-area public high schools. (The numbers do not include northwest Indiana.) About 10 percent of Notre Dame's first-year class of 2,070 students hailed from Chicago-area high schools, according to Bishop.

Bishop said some students and high schools may perceive it is a disadvantage to be from the Chicago area when applying to Notre Dame, but he said while admissions offices strive for a geographically diverse student body, including students from both the East and West coasts as well as overseas, having Chicago roots doesn't mean a student is any less likely to be accepted.

"It doesn't hurt you being from Chicago and applying to Notre Dame," Bishop said.

## Suburban draw for team

The football team, in many ways, is representative of a cross section of the Chicago area's ties to the

Turn to Legacy, Page 15

# They hail from here, but all hail Notre Dame

Legacy, from Page 14

university. Fourteen football players are from the Chicago suburbs, and one player, freshman Houston Griffith, is from Chicago but attended IMG Academy in Florida, according to the roster. The Irish have players from Neuqua Valley, Nazareth, Hinsdale South, Hinsdale Central, Fenwick, Loyola Academy, Cary-Grove, New Trier, Warren, Bolingbrook, Marist, St. Viator and Providence Catholic high schools.

The recent success of the football team has a minimal effect on the applicant pool, Bishop said.

"The success of the team creates a lot of excitement, but, quite frankly, things don't shift on the basis of the success of the team," he said.

Like the now-established success of the Duke Uni-

versity men's basketball team, Notre Dame's football reputation has long since been cemented. Bishop said that in speaking with others in the admissions circuit, many point to Gonzaga University's recent run as an elite basketball team, Marquette University's basketball success and Boston College's football prowess in the 1980s as examples of schools where success on the court or the field boosted the school's reputation with noticeable effect on the academic applicant pool.

McCoy said the alumni club is about evenly split between alumni who grew up in and around Chicago and then returned after graduation, and transplants who grew up in other parts of the country and now live in the Chicago area. A winning football team, she said,

helps a little bit with fundraising and paid membership, but she pointed to more macroeconomic factors (membership was down during the recession) as playing a more significant role than gridiron glory. Still, anytime a big-name football personality is booked for a fundraising event (see: Hall of Fame coach Lou Holtz and current coach Brian Kelly), ticket purchases and attendance soar.

## Catholic pipeline

Providence Catholic in the Joliet area has sent eight students to Notre Dame since 2014, including Miles Boykin, one of the Irish's wide receivers.

"The football connection has created even more of an interest among our students," said Providence college counselor Frank Pal-

masani, but the university is usually held in high regard, and even the most academically successful students realize it's going to be tough for them to receive a Notre Dame acceptance letter. "Students know the challenges of the whole process of applying and getting admitted."

For many families, Notre Dame is their top Catholic university choice, said Ed Barrett, Providence's advancement director.

The situation is similar at St. Viator in Arlington Heights, where tight end Cole Kmet, a two-sport athlete who also plays baseball for the Irish, went to high school. Students are drawn by Notre Dame's smaller size (total enrollment is about 8,500), proximity to Chicago, the "school spirit" factor like on-campus sports events and close-knit cam-

pus community where students live in dormitories absent the presence of sororities and fraternities, said Kelly Dutmers, a college counselor at St. Viator.

"The unique points are the combination of faith life with dorm life, that's a factor a lot of our students are aware of," Dutmers said.

In a typical year, about 10 percent of St. Viator students apply to Notre Dame, Dutmers said. "For any one college to receive that percentage of applicants, I'd deem it to be pretty popular," she said. But even students who never consider applying to the university often wear Fighting Irish apparel to school and cheer for the school's sports teams.

Bishop, the admissions officer at Notre Dame, said students are often attracted to the school's sense of

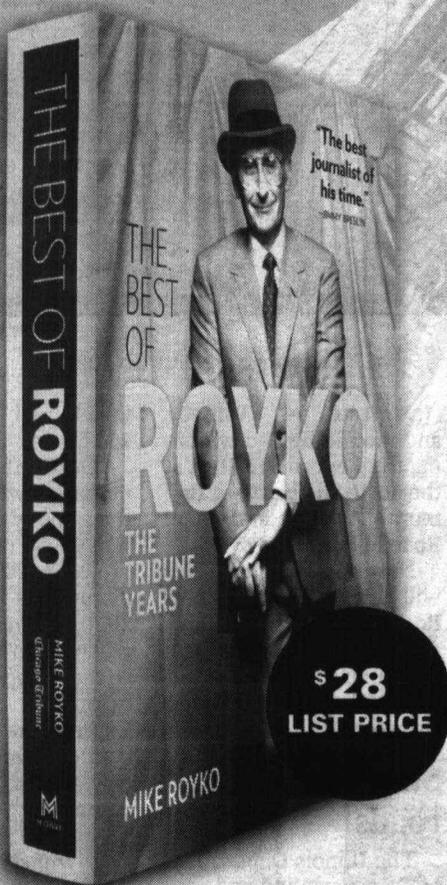
family and its focus on service, in addition to top-flight academics.

He hopes students come to Notre Dame not just to become smarter, "but to become self-knowing, self-loving and then to put that to use in helping others."

Drew Brennan said that when it came time for him to decide on a college, he narrowed his choice to the family legacy and Miami University in Ohio, where his older sister decided to attend. He received his acceptance letter to Notre Dame, then decided to wait about a week before making his decision.

"My dad was very emotional," Brennan said. "It was a special moment for me."

pconnell@chicagotribune.com  
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## MIKE ROYKO TELLS IT LIKE IT IS IN "THE BEST OF ROYKO"

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# Here's what will mess with your commute in 2019

BY MARY WISNIEWSKI  
Chicago Tribune

Chicago-area commuters in 2019 will see plenty of road construction — from the closed Chicago Avenue bridge and ongoing repairs on the Jane Byrne Interchange to rebuilding on the Central Tri-State Tollway.

What they won't see is fare hikes on public transit. The CTA, Metra and Pace all agreed to hold off on fare increases this year.

The region also can look forward to wrangling in the state legislature over the possibility of the first new capital infrastructure bill in 10 years. Transit agency heads and road builders have been banging the drum in favor of new funding, and they hope for results from the new governor, J.B. Pritzker.

## Transit

Transit riders will see some new stations, new service and new train cars in 2019.

On the CTA, officials plan to finish the \$50 million renovation of the Garfield Green Line station early next year. Also on the Green Line, the CTA will begin building a new Damen Avenue stop.

The agency also plans to begin renovations on three of the oldest and grimmest stations on the subway system — the Grand, Chicago and Division stations on the Blue Line to O'Hare. The new Belmont Blue Line station should get done in 2019, as well as bus station renovation at the Jefferson Park station.

The big job for the CTA will be the \$2.1 billion Red-Purple Line Modernization Project. Pre-construction work, such as demolishing buildings and utility work, started in 2018. The start of major construction is expected next fall, though the whole project will not be finished until 2025.



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2018

The Illinois Department of Transportation will keep working on the seemingly interminable Jane Byrne Interchange project into 2022.

The project involves a flyover that will carry Brown Line trains over Red and Purple line tracks north of Belmont Avenue, and the rebuilding of century-old track and stations.

Metra will continue implementation of its \$400 million federally mandated positive train control, a GPS-based safety technology that slows down or stops a train to enforce track speeds and prevent collisions. Last June, BNSF began using the technology on its line and implemented a revised schedule, which contributed to delays on Metra's busiest line. Metra plans to finish

implementing positive train control by 2020.

Pace riders will see service cuts on some suburban routes. The suburban bus service also plans to launch the Milwaukee Avenue Pulse Line, high-frequency service that will run between the CTA's Jefferson Park Blue Line station and the Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles.

## Illinois Tollway

On the Illinois Tollway, work will wrap up on a two-year project to rebuild and widen part of Interstate 88 between Interstate 290 and the York Road Toll

Plaza.

Design and advance work will continue for the new Interstate 490 Tollway, planned as part of western access to O'Hare International Airport. Initial construction will begin on the 490 interchange at Illinois Route 390 with work between Illinois Route 83 and York Road, according to the Tollway. Work will continue on interchanges connecting I-490 to the Tri-State Tollway (Interstate 294) and the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (Interstate 90).

The Tollway also will continue reconstruction work of the Edens Spur

(Interstate 94) Tollway, and rebuilding and widening the Central Tri-State at the north end between Balmoral Avenue and Wolf Road in Franklin Park.

New Tollway projects will include the Illinois Route 23 interchange project on I-90 in Marengo, and the Illinois Route 47 interchange project in Sugar Grove.

## State and Chicago roads

The Illinois Department of Transportation will continue work on the seemingly interminable Jane Byrne Interchange project,

which will continue into 2022.

IDOT officials say that motorists will see more of the same type of construction delays on the complex project in 2019, while more disruptions will come in 2020, when a major ramp will need to be closed. This is the ramp from the inbound Eisenhower Expressway to the northbound Kennedy Expressway, which sees 26,000 cars a day.

*The transportation song quiz will return next week.*

*mwisniewski@chicagotribune.com  
Twitter @marywizchicago*

# End-of-year deals heat up

By KELSEY MAYS  
Cars.com

The end of the calendar year remains a historically good time for discounts, even if overall new-car incentives are down for 2018.

Tyson Jominy, head of J.D. Power and Associates' data consultancy, says the week between Christmas and New Year's has seen the highest new-car incentives of the year for four of the past five years. And two days in particular should see a lot of activity in 2018.

"Due to the calendar, we have two very strong-selling days to end the year — Saturdays, which are always the strongest-selling days of the week, on Dec. 29, combined with Monday, New Year's Eve, [which] is always among the top-selling days of the year," Jominy stated in an email. "As we head into the period, it is important to note that incentives are still likely to be down overall for the industry versus last year. However, excellent deals can still be found on specific models."

End-of-year deals should be bountiful as dealers look to sell the last of the outgoing 2018 model year. As of Dec. 19, that year still accounts for roughly a third of all new-car inventory on Cars.com. For six brands in particular, more than 45 percent of new inventory remains 2018s:

- Mazda: 62.5 percent
- Audi: 52.9 percent
- Dodge: 51.7 percent
- Ford: 49.7 percent
- Mitsubishi: 49.3 percent
- Jeep: 48.2 percent

Dealers from those brands should want to clear out the old, especially considering those model-year 2018 cars averaged 92 days to sell on dealer lots in November — much longer than the 38-day average for

2019 models. If you shop the brands above, there's a good chance you'll find dealers motivated to move the metal.

By contrast, dealers selling Subaru, Acura and Infiniti are almost all the way into the 2019 model year, with less than 10 percent of inventory still comprising the 2018 model year. That could signal fewer deals from those brands.

Which cars have the highest cash discounts? Here are a few.

## SUVs

**2019 Chevrolet Equinox:** Parent company GM is offering employee pricing on select models, including the Equinox. In the automaker's advertised example — a well-equipped Equinox Premier that sells for around \$40,000 — total discounts amounted to some \$6,000 if you finance with GM. Those who finance elsewhere or pay cash are still eligible for employee pricing, but total discounts will be lower, a spokeswoman for the automaker told Cars.com. Discounts are also variable depending on trim level, so lower trims are likely to have smaller incentives. And employee pricing doesn't apply to the Equinox's base trim, called ISM. Deals expire Jan. 2.

**2018 Ford EcoSport:** \$1,750 to \$3,650 off, depending on region, though select markets, including California, have substantially lower discounts. Discount financing varies widely, too. We found 84-month rates from 2.9 percent all the way up to 7.9 percent, depending on region. That said, the 2018 EcoSport should be easy to find, as it accounted for nearly all new dealer inventory as of Dec. 19. Deals



BAONA/ISTOCKPHOTO

expire Jan. 2.

**2018 Hyundai Tucson:** \$3,000 to \$3,500 off, depending on trim, or 0.9 percent financing for up to 60 months plus \$1,000 off. Persistent shoppers should be able to hunt down a 2018 model as they still accounted for about a third of new Tucson inventory as of Dec. 19. Deals expire Jan. 2.

**2019 Kia Sorento:** \$2,000 to \$3,500 off, depending on trim, or zero percent financing for up to 60 months plus \$500 in some regions. Offers expire Jan. 2.

**2018 Nissan Murano:** \$4,000 to \$5,250 off, depending on region. In some areas, a small portion of that comes only on upper trim levels. Alternately, discount financing on the Murano amounts to zero

percent for up to 60 months plus \$2,000 to \$2,750, region depending. The updated 2019 Murano is just around the corner, but as of Dec. 19, Nissan dealers are still full of 2018 models.

**2018-19 Nissan Rogue:** \$1,000 to \$3,500 off the 2018 model or \$1,000 to \$2,500 off the 2019 model, both depending on region, plus \$500 more if you finance at standard rates through Nissan. Alternately, discount financing amounts to zero percent for up to 60 months with \$500 off. Offers expire Jan. 2.

## Sedans and hatchbacks

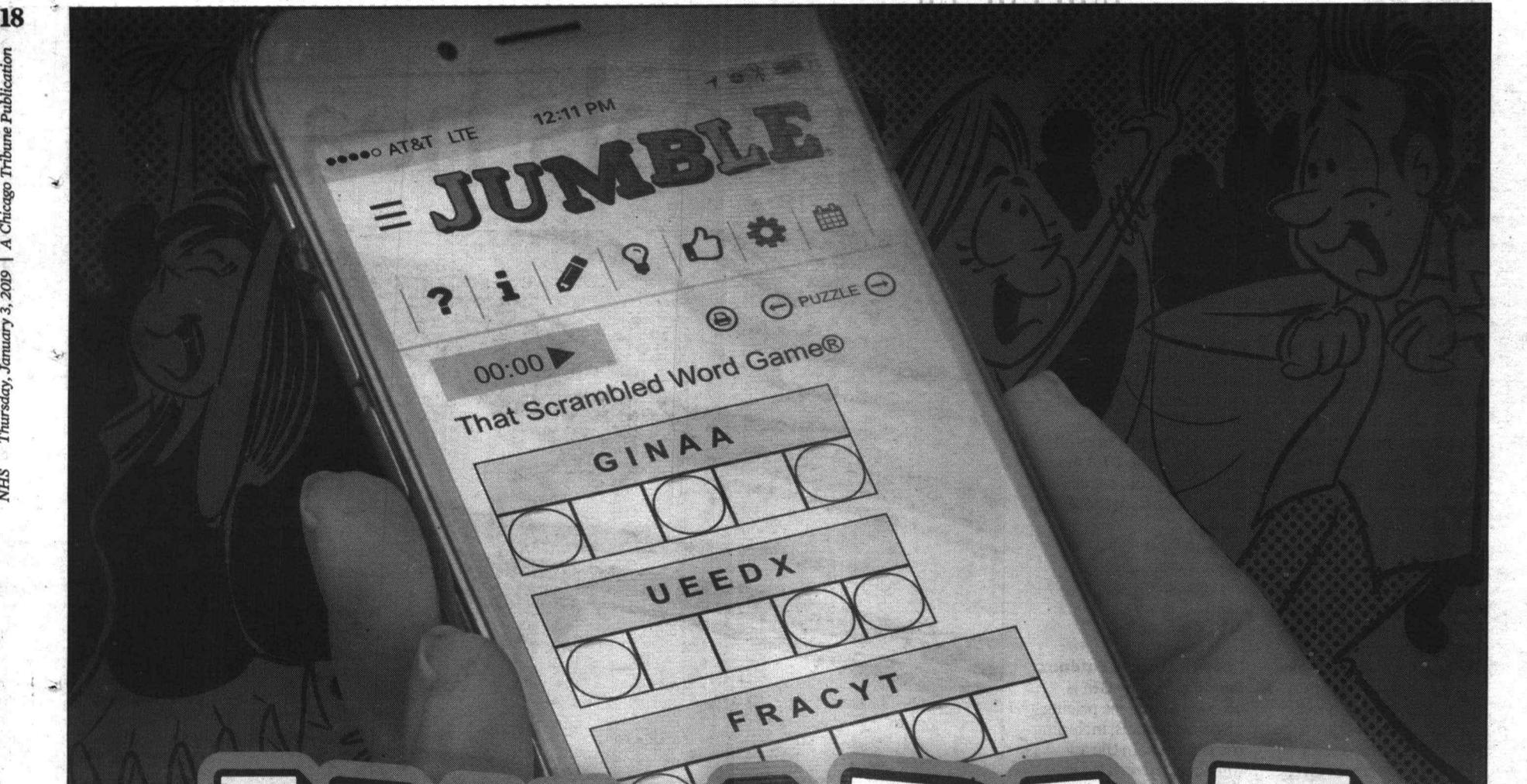
**2018 Chevrolet Cruze:** Employee discounts knock some \$5,400 off GM's advertised example — a

Cruze Premier priced around \$30,000 — for those who finance through the automaker. Finance elsewhere, pay cash or choose a lower trim level, and your discounts are likely to be lower, albeit still substantial enough to consider. You should be able to find a qualifying example, as the 2018 model year accounted for about 44 percent of new Cruze inventory as of Dec. 19. The deals expire Jan. 2 and don't apply to the base trim, called ISM.

**2018 Chevrolet Malibu:** Employee pricing can shave off quite a bit. In GM's advertised example, a Malibu Premier priced close to \$40,000, the discounts slashed about \$6,100 for those who finance through GM. Finance elsewhere, pay cash or choose a lower trim level, and your discounts

are likely to be lower, albeit still substantial enough to consider. You should easily find qualifying examples, as the 2018 model year accounts for about two-thirds of new Malibu inventory as of Dec. 19. The discount expires Jan. 2 and doesn't apply to the base trim, called 1VL.

**2018 Ford Focus:** \$2,500 to \$5,000 off, depending on trim level and region. Alternately, discount financing amounts to 2.9 percent for 84 months. Offers exclude the Focus Electric and high-performance Focus RS. You should have no trouble finding the others, however: With the Focus' global redesign axed for U.S. showrooms, the 2018 model year is the nameplate's final stateside example.



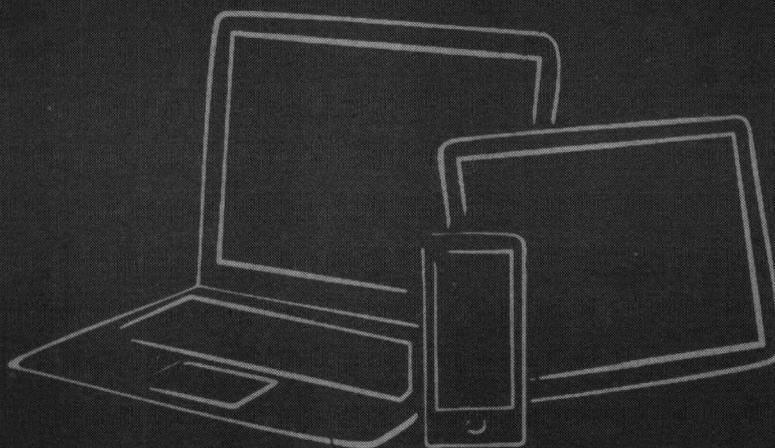
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## SPORTS

## PIONEER PRESS 2018 FOOTBALL ALL-AREA DEFENSE

FIRST TEAM AND  
SECOND TEAM

By BOB NARANG, STEVE REAVEN  
Pioneer Press

FIRST-TEAM  
DEFENSEAidan  
Cruikshank

**School:** Hinsdale Central  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Safety  
**Accolades:** All-conference, team MVP  
**Key stats:** School's all-time leader in tackles. Made more than 100 tackles as a junior and repeated the feat as a senior.

## Armoni Dixon

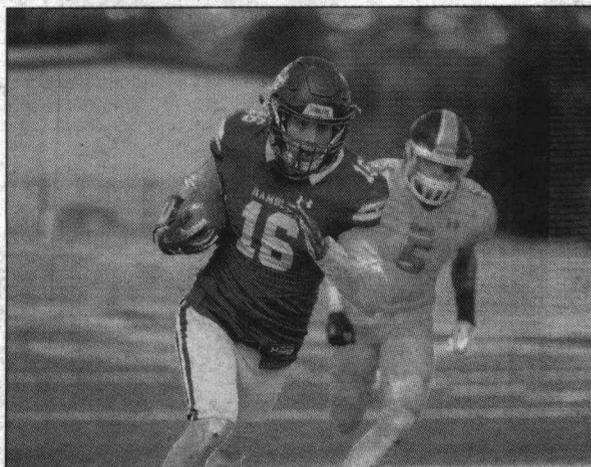
**School:** Loyola  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Linebacker  
**Accolades:** All-conference. Committed to Tulane.  
**Key stats:** Made 86 tackles, including a team-high 18 tackles for loss, with seven sacks and nine quarterback hurries.

## Luke Dwyer

**School:** Lake Zurich  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Linebacker  
**Accolades:** All-conference. Named to Class 7A all-state team. Committed to North Dakota State.  
**Key stats:** Made 66 tackles, including eight tackles for loss, with four sacks and two interceptions, both of which he returned for touchdowns.

## Jake Gonzalez

**School:** Loyola  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Safety  
**Accolades:** All-conference. Named to Class 8A all-state team. Committed to Penn.  
**Key stats:** Made a team-



TRACY ALLEN/THE BEACON-NEWS

Loyola's Jake Gonzalez (16) had 135 tackles for the Class 8A state champions.

high 135 tackles with five pass breakups and two interceptions. He's Loyola's all-time leader with 355 tackles.

Antonio  
Hardaway

**School:** St. Joseph  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Defensive line  
**Accolades:** All-conference  
**Key stats:** Made 78 tackles, including 31 tackles for loss, with 12 sacks.

## Zane Heemsoth

**School:** York  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Linebacker  
**Accolades:** All-conference  
**Key stats:** Made 110 tackles, including six tackles for loss, with two forced fumbles.

## Rylie Mills

**School:** Lake Forest  
**Year:** Junior  
**Position:** Defensive line  
**Accolades:** All-conference. Has more than 40 college scholarship offers.

**Key stats:** Made 37 tackles, including 20 tackles for loss, with four sacks.

Maema  
Njongmeta

**School:** Stevenson  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Linebacker  
**Accolades:** All-conference. Named to Class 8A all-state team. Committed to Wisconsin.  
**Key stats:** Made 134 tackles, including 24 tackles for loss, with 11 sacks, eight quarterback hurries and two fumble recoveries.

## Duke Olges

**School:** New Trier  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Defensive line  
**Accolades:** All-conference. Committed to Northwestern.  
**Key stats:** Made 47 tackles, including 10 tackles for loss, with five sacks and five quarterback hurries.

## Izaiah Ruffin

**School:** Oak Park-River Forest  
**Year:** Senior



JAMES C. SVEHLA/PIONEER PRESS

OPRF's Izaiah Ruffin (52) is a Cincinnati recruit who dominated on the defensive line this fall.

**Position:** Defensive line  
**Accolades:** All-conference. Committed to Cincinnati.

**Key stats:** Made 51 tackles, including five tackles for loss, with four sacks, seven quarterback hurries and two forced fumbles.

## Khali Saunders

**School:** IC Catholic  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Linebacker  
**Accolades:** All-conference. Committed to Purdue.  
**Key stats:** Made 86 tackles with two interceptions and one forced fumble.

SECOND-TEAM  
DEFENSE

## Jermaine Baker

**School:** Nazareth  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Defensive back  
**Accolades:** All-conference. Committed to Yale.  
**Key stats:** Made 61 tackles, including two tackles for loss, with three interceptions.

## Patrick Carden

**School:** Notre Dame  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Linebacker  
**Accolades:** All-conference. Defensive team MVP.  
**Key stats:** Made 81 tackles, including eight tackles for loss, with two forced fumbles and one interception.

## Mark Di Iorio

**School:** Barrington  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Linebacker  
**Accolades:** All-conference  
**Key stats:** Made 101 tackles with four sacks and two tackles for loss.

## Edward Eastman

**School:** Loyola  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Defensive line  
**Accolades:** All-conference  
**Key stats:** Made 71 tackles, including 11 tackles for loss, with nine sacks. Forced a fumble on a sack during the Class 8A title game that led to a Loyola touchdown.

## Jonny Halvorsen

**School:** Maine South  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Defensive line  
**Accolades:** Named all-conference and CSL South Co-Defensive Player of the Year.  
**Key stats:** Made 15 tackles for loss with nine sacks.

## Jordan Hansen

**School:** Hersey  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Defensive back  
**Accolades:** All-conference  
**Key stats:** Made 63 tackles, including three tackles for loss, with two interceptions.

## Sean Jacobs

**School:** Buffalo Grove  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Linebacker  
**Accolades:** All-conference  
**Key stats:** Made 132 tackles, including nine tackles for loss.

## Sean Kelly

**School:** Hinsdale Central  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Linebacker  
**Accolades:** Committed to Air Force.  
**Key stats:** Made 55 tackles, including 15 tackles for loss, with six sacks.

## Austin Le Page

**School:** Lake Zurich  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Defensive back  
**Accolades:** All-conference  
**Key stats:** Made 32 tackles with three interceptions and three pass breakups. He is the Bears' all-time interceptions leader with 13.

## Nate Pedraza

**School:** Rolling Meadows  
**Year:** Junior  
**Position:** Defensive line  
**Accolades:** All-conference. Named to Class 7A all-state team.  
**Key stats:** Made 58 tackles, including 8.5 tackles for loss, with four sacks and two pass breakups.

## Khalil Saunders

**School:** IC Catholic  
**Year:** Senior  
**Position:** Defensive back  
**Accolades:** All-conference. Named to Class 4A all-state team.  
**Key stats:** Made 64 tackles, including two tackles for loss, with three interceptions and one fumble recovery.

Bob Narang and Steve Reaven are freelance reporters for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @Pioneer\_Press



ROB DICKER/PIONEER PRESS

Maine South's John Gardiner (32) tries to block a shot from Lincoln Park's Tahir Thompson (10) during the first round of the Hinsdale Central Holiday Classic on Dec. 26, 2018.

## Gardiner emerges as a consistent contributor for Maine South

BY STEVE REAVEN  
Pioneer Press

Though John Gardiner has a last name that's quite familiar to Maine South basketball fans, his game was mostly a mystery until a few weeks ago.

But now, a month-plus into his senior season, the days of anonymity are in the past.

Buoyed by a strong offseason and the remnants of a late growth spurt, the 6-foot-5 forward has emerged as a vital piece in the Hawks' rotation. He's making a name for himself on the court.

"It's definitely nice being able to show what I can do," Gardiner said. "I just try to do all the things my team needs me to do."

Two other Gardiners have brought a similar approach to the Hawks in recent years. First came his older brother, Joe Gardiner, a standout guard who graduated in 2016. Now a junior at DePaul, he's in his second season as an assistant coach for the Hawks' sophomore team.

Next came the brothers' cousin, Tommy Gardiner, a top player on last year's squad who is now a walk-on at Marquette. Joe

and John Gardiner's sister, Kalina Gardiner, also goes to Marquette and is on the cross country and track teams.

The Gardiner basketball bloodlines also spread to the Hawks' girls program, as Joe and John Gardiner's twin younger sisters, Niamh and Nicole, are both starters.

"There's a lot of us around," John Gardiner said of his family. "Knowing how good my brother and cousin were served as motivation to keep improving."

And he's become a better player because of the direct influence of both.

Backing up his cousin as a junior gave John Gardiner a front-row seat as he learned about being tough in the paint and how to be an effective leader.

And John Gardiner routinely receives postgame pointers from his older brother. The two often watch film together.

"I always tell him, 'Don't back down to anyone,'" Joe Gardiner said. "They play in a tough conference, so boxing out and doing the little things is important. He plays his role really well."

With returning players Essam Hamwi and Fil Bulatovic serving as the top two scoring options, Gardiner has carved out a

role where he can make an impact in a variety of other ways. Heading into the holidays, he was the Hawks' best player at drawing an offensive foul, making the extra pass and limiting turnovers.

His production also shows up in the boxscore, such as in Maine South's 46-43 loss to Lincoln Park on Dec. 26 in the opening round of the Hinsdale Central Holiday Classic. He joined Hamwi and Bulatovic in double figures with 11 points. He was 4-for-5 from the field, and he was fouled on his only miss. He made the subsequent free throws.

Another vivid illustration of his importance was that he never departed the game after being whistled for his fourth foul in the third quarter.

"His value comes from his consistency," coach Tony Lavorato said. "A lot of what he does isn't on our website or on Twitter, but he's definitely become a key contributor."

Steve Reaven is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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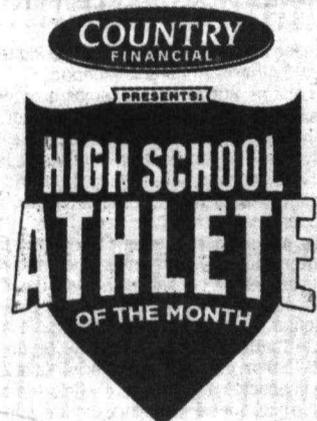
### PIONEER PRESS 2018 FOOTBALL ALL-AREA HONORABLE MENTION

Introducing the football players named Pioneer Press 2018 All-Area Honorable Mention.

Connor Adams, Buffalo Grove, senior, quarterback; Nathan Barnes, Lake Forest Academy, senior, defensive line; Anthony Brown, St. Joseph, senior, offensive line/linebacker; Aamir Burgie, St. Joseph, senior, wide receiver/defensive back; Cedric Cheatham, OPRF, senior, linebacker; Artie Collins, Loyola, senior, wide receiver; Kevin Cooke, IC Catholic, junior, linebacker; Eric Darlington Jr., Barrington, junior, wide receiver; Todjan Daveed, Niles North, senior, linebacker; Sayvon Davis, Niles North, senior, wide receiver; Kris Diallo, Elmwood Park, senior, wide receiver/linebacker; Alex Diaz, Hinsdale South, senior, offensive line; Bryan Dowd, Fenwick, junior, punter; Jack Fabbrini, Lake Zurich, senior, linebacker; Max Forst, Fenwick, senior, offensive line/linebacker; Vince Fredrickson, Leyden, junior, linebacker; Quinn Geren, Vernon Hills, senior, wide receiver; Owen Goss, Hinsdale Central, junior, defensive back; Payton Gryniwicz, Lake Forest Academy, senior, wide receiver/linebacker; Ashford Hollis, OPRF, senior, defensive line; Derek Jarrell, Vernon Hills, senior, quarterback; Jack Jerfita, Glenbrook South, senior, running back/linebacker; Ryan Justice, Hersey, senior, quarterback; Mike Kadus, Loyola, senior, linebacker; Milan Kaplarevic, Hinsdale South, senior, linebacker; Christopher Kelly, Loyola, junior, offensive line; Ryan Kilburg, Maine South, junior, wide receiver/linebacker; Arek Klieniuk, Rolling Meadows, senior, quarterback; Tommy Knaus, Deerfield, senior, linebacker; Carson Kosanovich, New Trier, senior, wide receiver/defensive back; Joey Kotlarz, Lake Forest Academy, junior, quarterback; Joey Krasinski, Ridgewood, senior, quarterback; Cam Leach, Nazareth, senior, defensive line; Christian Lewis, Niles West, senior, wide receiver/defensive back; Jack Lochner, Niles West, junior, quarterback; Nathan Lugo, Nazareth, senior, defensive line; Luciano Martino, Elmwood Park, senior, fullback/defensive line; Josh Mathiasen, York, junior, offensive line; Kevin Meckert, Barrington, senior, defensive end; Gary Moeller, Prospect, sophomore, defensive back; Jake Morris, Vernon Hills, senior, running back/linebacker; Jack Moses, Lake Zurich, junior, quarterback/wide receiver; Thomas Motzko, Highland Park, senior, linebacker; Carson Ochsenhirt, New Trier, senior, quarterback; Nife Oseni, Rolling Meadows, junior, defensive back; Ryan O'Hara, Glenbrook South, senior, tight end/defensive line; Donovan Perkins, New Trier, senior, wide receiver/defensive back; James Piggott, Lake Zurich, junior, wide receiver; Luke Preston, Maine South, senior, linebacker; Anthony Ranallo, Notre Dame, junior, running back/linebacker; Malik Ross, Evanston, senior, wide receiver/defensive back; Matt Rush, Hinsdale Central, senior, quarterback; Ethan Saks, Deerfield, senior, linebacker; Anthony Sayles, Notre Dame, sophomore, quarterback; Sam Schierloh, Loyola, senior, linebacker; Michael Shafis, Prospect, senior, running back/linebacker; Tyrone Smith, Lyons, senior, running back; Louie Stec, Nazareth, senior, offensive line; Nick Steger, Hersey, senior, tight end/defensive end; Tim Szyrak, Rolling Meadows, senior, running back; Ben Tarpey, Evanston, senior, quarterback; Jack Turco, Libertyville, senior, wide receiver; Bo Thomas, York, senior, defensive line; John Travlos, Glenbrook South, senior, offensive line; Jesus Velasco, Ridgewood, junior, linebacker; Giancarlo Volpentesta, Highland Park, senior, wide receiver/defensive back; Colin Ward, Deerfield, junior, defensive end; Niko Weder, St. Viator, senior, linebacker; Danny Wolf, Maine South, senior, running back; Vincent Zelisko, Hinsdale Central, senior, linebacker.

— Bob Narang, Pioneer Press

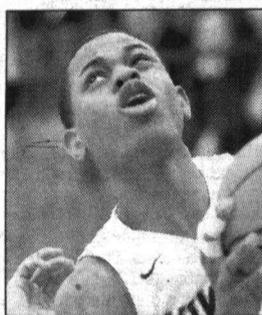
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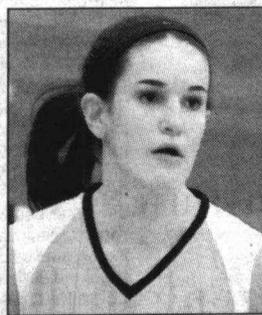
## Meet your nominees!

It is time to meet your January Athlete of the Month challenge nominees! Go to [chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes](http://chicagotribune.com/suburbs/athletes) on Jan. 17 to find out who our expert panel of judges have selected to be the Athlete of the Month. Winners will be featured in print and online, receive a commemorative plaque, and his or her school will receive \$500, presented by Country Financial.



PIONEER PRESS

**Name:** Aquan Smart.  
**Year in school:** Junior.  
**School:** Niles North.  
**Sport:** Basketball.  
**Position:** Guard.  
**Highlights:** Averaged 14.2 points, 6.2 rebounds and 2.2 assists. Scored 25 points against Notre Dame.  
**Quote:** "Aquan has really stepped up his game this year," Niles North coach Glenn Olson said. "There is a lot of pressure on him being the only returning starter, but he has done a great job leading our team."



PIONEER PRESS

**Name:** Sam Galanopoulos.  
**Year in school:** Senior.  
**School:** Niles West.  
**Sport:** Basketball.  
**Position:** Point guard.  
**Highlights:** Averaged 14.6, 3.6 rebounds, 4.0 assists and 2.0 steals. Scored 24 points against Maine South on Dec. 14.  
**Quote:** "Sam has a tremendous work ethic and been a great leader for us this year," Niles West coach Kyle Braheny said. "She sets the tone with how hard she plays and makes others have to match her effort."



PIONEER PRESS

**Name:** Hannah Schilling.  
**Year in school:** Senior.  
**School:** Maine South.  
**Sport:** Basketball.  
**Position:** Point guard.  
**Highlights:** Averaged 7.3 points, 4.2 rebounds, 4.2 assists and 2 steals per game. She had nine points, four rebounds, four assists and three steals in win over Batavia on Dec. 1.  
**Quote:** "Hannah is truly one of those players that every coach would want on their team," Maine South coach Jeffrey Hamann said. "She has an intense competitive drive that allows her to make game-changing plays when our team needs it the most."

### COLLEGE NOTES

## Evanston alum Roth earns All-American soccer honors

By **BOB NARANG**  
Pioneer Press

Evanston alumnus **Mark Roth** earned a significant distinction for his play for the Carleton College (Minn.) men's soccer team this season.

The senior defender was voted to the United Soccer Coaches All-American second team. Roth had already earned USC All-North Regional First Team honors.

A total of 49 players from across the country earned a spot on the USC's first, second and third teams.

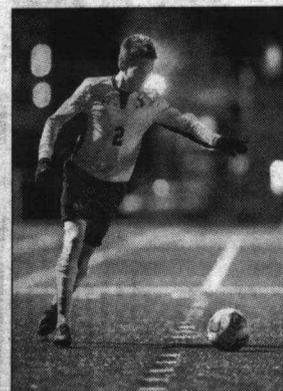
Teammate **Marco da Cunha** also was named to the second team.

Roth and da Cunha are the fourth and fifth Carleton men's soccer players to earn All-American honors, and it was the first time in program history that two players received that distinction in the same season.

"The entire Carleton men's soccer community including families, alums, coaches, and players are thrilled for Mark and Marco," Carleton coach **Bob Carlson** said in a school release. "The well-earned awards are a credit to their terrific individual talent and outstanding performances this fall. Marco and Mark also understand that their success is built on the team's success, and they excitedly share these honors with the entire program."

Roth helped anchor one of the stingiest defenses in all of college soccer. The Knights recorded 12 shutouts, the most in their NCAA region and 12th across all of Division III.

Roth also tallied eight assists to finish fifth among Division III defenders. He scored his first four collegiate goals this season and was named the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Player of the



ROTH FAMILY PHOTO

Evanston graduate Mark Roth helped the Carleton men's soccer team record 12 shutouts this season.

Year.

"Mark simply excelled in every way possible this year," Carlson said. "Defending in crucial moments, saving shots off the line, scoring game-winning goals, providing timely assists, storming up and down his right flank, and always competing for the entire 90 minutes — and sometimes 110 minutes — he willed his team to a conference championship."

"Most importantly, behind the scenes, his selfless and determined leadership guided, supported, and pushed his teammates to perform at their best. His unwavering positive approach reinforced Carleton men's soccer's legacy of togetherness, hard work, and commitment to excellence on and off the field."

Roth's former high school teammate, **Bret Lowry**, was also named a Second-Team All-American for Kenyon College (Ohio). Lowry, a senior defender, started 87 college matches. He was named the North Coast Athletic Conference Defender of the Year. He also scored three goals this season.

### Love a consensus All-American

Football is king in the Love household this month.

Nazareth senior wide receiver **Michael Love** recently was named the Pioneer Press 2018 Football Player of the Year. His older brother, **Julian Love**, added to his long list of accolades in college.

Julian Love, a junior cornerback at Notre Dame, was a consensus All-American. He was named to four of the five official All-American teams. Through 12 games, Love has recorded 61 tackles, 15 pass-breakups, one interception, three fumble recoveries and a defensive touchdown. Notre Dame has had 34 unanimous All-American selections in program history, and Love came very close to being the 35th.

The No. 3 Irish (12-0) will play No. 2 Clemson (13-0) in the Cotton Bowl on Dec. 29 in Arlington, Texas, in a College Football Playoff semifinal.

### Cashaw rounding into form

Former Stevenson star guard **Connor Cashaw** is starting to play key minutes for Creighton.

After transferring from Rice, the senior guard has averaged 2.2 points in 12 games this season.

He has come off the bench in 11 games and tallied a team-high seven rebounds in a 110-60 win against Coe College on Thursday.

Have a suggestion for College Notes? Email Bob Narang at [bobnarang@yahoo.com](mailto:bobnarang@yahoo.com).

Bob Narang is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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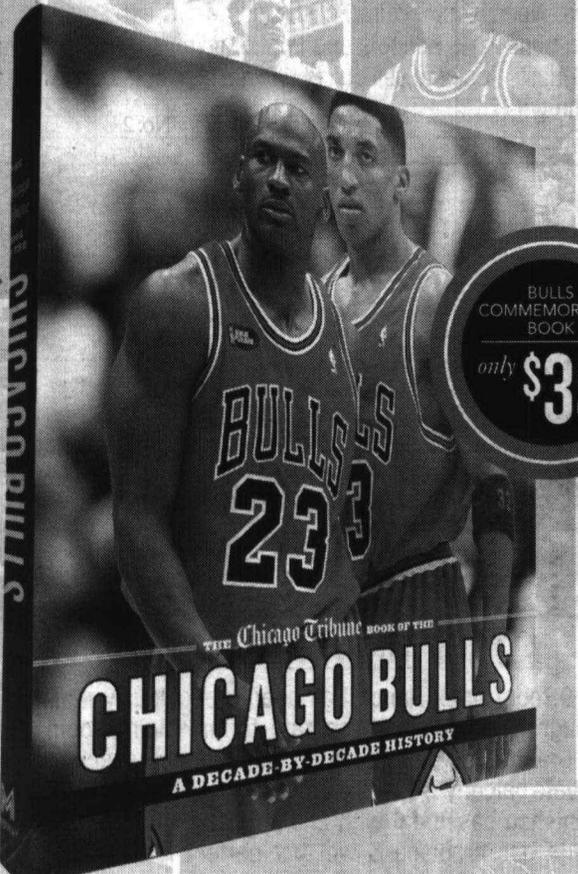
## SHOWSTOPPING NEWS

From one of the most influential theater critics in America.

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