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Ceremony moved outdoors, includes second annual Holly Jolly Christmas Market

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GO Mommy on a Shoestring

Holiday gifts that only look like they cost a fortune

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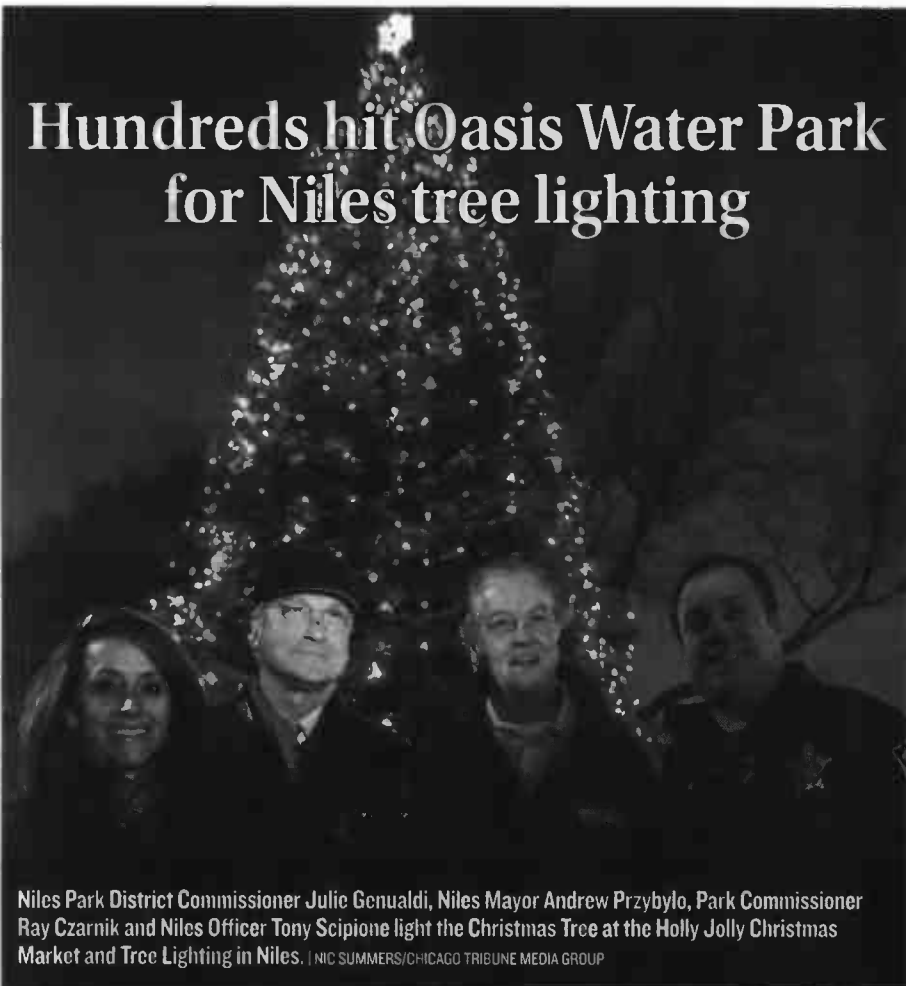
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Hundreds hit Oasis Water Park for Niles tree lighting



Niles Park District Commissioner Julie Genualdi, Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo, Park Commissioner Ray Czarnik and Niles Officer Tony Scipione light the Christmas Tree at the Holly Jolly Christmas Market and Tree Lighting in Niles. | NIC SUMMERS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP

BY NATALIE HAYES
For Sun-Times Media

After turkeys were cleared from tables and shopping bags were filled with Black Friday goodies, residents of Niles came together Saturday night to kick off the holiday season with their own special tradition.

Hundreds of people in Niles on Nov. 29 celebrated the start of December with the ceremonial lighting of the biggest community Christmas tree in the village's history — a 12-foot pine donated by a local business.

The tree lighting ceremony was moved outdoors this year to the Niles Park District Oasis Water Park on Milwaukee Avenue. Last year, about 100 people attended the tree lighting ceremony in Village Hall, according to Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo.

Revelers gathered around the towering tree at 6:30 p.m. Saturday to watch Przybylo flip the switch to illuminate the tree for the first time this holiday season.

The tree was chopped down last month from its longtime home on Caldwell Avenue in front of A-American Custom Flooring.

"The tree is much larger than last year because it was generously donated by A-American Custom Flooring," Przybylo said. "Getting the community together like this is a strong attempt at building community

during the winter months."

Saturday's event also included the second annual Holly Jolly Christmas Market. The market was set-up like a German-style Christmas market, with plenty of draft beers, pretzels and brats, as well as holiday entertainment for kids.

Margaret Hammer of Niles brought her two kids out to meet Santa and take a ride on the horse-drawn sleigh rides.

"It was a nice turnout, and it was really nice that they have entertainment for kids and adults," Hammer said as she sipped a draft beer alongside a few other moms who stepped outside of the tent housing the beer garden.

Mary Wasilewski of Niles joined her daughter Denise Wasilewski of Mount Prospect to watch the tree lighting.

The Wasilewskis said they couldn't resist spending a little time outdoors Saturday night to take in the unseasonably mild winter weather.

"We saw the sign advertising the Christmas market as we were driving by, so we decided to stop," Denise Wasilewski said. "It's a nice event because it brings people together."

Guests also checked out the "Holly Trolley," or holiday-themed Niles Free Bus, and bought holiday goodies from vendors selling ornaments, poinsettias, and other holiday items.



A shopper waits in line at Kohl's at Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles during Black Friday. | NATALIE HAYES/FOR PIONEER PRESS

Thousands pack Golf Mill for Black Friday discounts

BY NATALIE HAYES
For Sun-Times Media

Thousands of Black Friday shoppers hit Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles to score deep discounts during the biggest shopping day of the year.

Parking spots seemed impossible to find in the mall lot Friday afternoon, as shoppers packed day-after-Thanksgiving hot spots Target, Sears, J.C. Penney, and Kohl's.

At Kohl's, checkout lines stretched all the way to the back wall of the store, while eager shoppers waited in lines up to two hours.

For some shoppers, the long wait and crowded stores were worth the payoff of scoring outlandish deals like bath towels for \$2.99 or holiday pillows at 70 percent off.

Lisa Ashworth of Chicago worked until 8 a.m. at her job at a 24-hour emergency animal hospital, and headed straight home to pick up daughters Gwen and Katie, who woke up early to go shopping.

By 11:30 a.m., the Ashworths said they had visited Kohl's, Target, Sears, and J.C. Penney.

"I figured that since I was already up from work, that we might as well go shopping," Lisa Ashworth said. "It's crowded, but everything seems to be well-stocked."

Over at Target, shoppers piled in to buy gift cards at 10 percent off.

But Vince Milite wasn't feeling the holiday buying spirit.

The Park Ridge resident came to Golf Mill to take a walk with his wife, but stopped at



Shoppers navigate crowds at Kohl's at Golf Mill Shopping Center in Niles during Black Friday. | NATALIE HAYES/FOR PIONEER PRESS

Target to look at a 32-inch TV for \$197.

Milite admitted he'd rather pay twice that price than wait in the long checkout lines on Black Friday.

"I'm not buying anything today — I'm not a typical Black Friday shopper," Milite said. "Even if the TV is on sale, I'll pay more later instead of buying it today in this madness."

Golf Mill Marketing Manager Angela Marino could not be reached for comment.

BGA: 'Slanted' election mailers sent on Niles taxpayers' dime



Illinois law deals directly with using taxpayer money for politics: "No public funds shall be used to urge any elector to vote for or against any candidate or proposition, or be appropriated for political or campaign purposes to any candidate or political organization."

The law does allow government to use taxpayer money to inform the public about a referendum — a question posed to voters on a ballot that, if passed, can mandate a change or serve as advisory, helping elected leaders gauge the pulse of residents on an issue — so long as it's done in a "factual" way.

As the state code puts it, "This Section shall not prohibit the use of public funds for dissemination of factual information relative to any proposition appearing on an election ballot . . ."

So with that as a backdrop, we're hearing concerns about whether pamphlets created by the village of Niles — and mailed on the taxpayer dime to thousands of residents before the Nov. 4 election — may have crossed the line. The mailers focused on a binding referendum in the election.

Advocated by a resident of the near north suburb named Joe Makula, the ballot question asked voters whether the mayor in town should be allowed to continue filling trustee vacancies (with the consent of the village board) or whether the seats should stay vacant until an election.

Voters overwhelmingly decided (roughly 5,000 votes to 1,500) to strip away appointment power from the mayor, who wanted to keep the authority.

The pamphlets were touted as educational, designed to explain pros and cons of the referendum. But to some, the mailers — sent by the village administration, ultimately overseen by the mayor — seemed to skew heavily toward the mayor's point of view.

The village sent two separate pamphlets to Niles households, and both say the village "takes no position on whether the proposed change should be adopted." But the first of the two mailers also offers this:

■ If three seats are vacant, the Board cannot carry out certain critical governmental functions which require approval by

more [than] three Trustees, such as:

- No borrowing or appropriations could be approved for emergency disaster relief
- No leases could be approved for equipment and machinery, including office equipment and software licenses
- Bonds to finance water systems and sewer systems could not be approved
- Funds could not be transferred between Village departments, potentially causing shortages in some [departments] and surpluses in others"

Those are indeed possible repercussions if there are too many vacancies, based on what we're told. But there's no opposing view presented on the pamphlet. And having three vacancies at the same time is an unusual scenario.

The second mailer portrays a similarly gloomy perspective should the mayor lose appointment authority, even if there is a section on this pamphlet said to represent "proponents" and "opponents."

Niles Trustee Rosemary Palicki told us she considers both fliers biased and inappropriate.

"They took a position on this [issue] even though they claimed not to," Palicki said of the village, led by Mayor Andrew Przybylo. "You're using taxpayer dollars to promote a particular point of view. ... The village did not present both sides."

Niles Village Attorney Joe Annunzio countered with a question, "Does the law say we have to present both sides, or just the facts? ... If you don't like a fact it doesn't [necessarily] mean you're being biased. ... Then it comes to a judgment call of what facts are relevant."

Either way, Palicki said the fliers were so slanted that she called the Cook County state's attorney's office to see whether the law was violated. She said an official there looked into the matter and told her "the village was skating on very thin ice," but in the end nothing could be done. That official declined to comment to us when we followed up. But a spokeswoman for the office said via email:

"The State's Attorney's Election Fraud Unit did receive a complaint about this matter and it was investigated. The determination was made that the materials in question did not rise to the level of election interference because they distributed factual information and governing bodies are permitted under the law to disseminate factual information regarding referendums. The materials also stated that the Village of

SEE PUBLIC EYE, PAGE 11 »

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ABOVE: Jeff Giffin of Niles checks in at the table where volunteers have the race packets and numbers | KARIE ANGELL LUC/FOR CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP



RIGHT: June de Castro of Glenview is in her element. | KARIE ANGELL LUC/FOR CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP

Tall Trees Turkey Trot benefits Youth Services

KARIE ANGELL LUC
For Sun-Times Media

An estimated 500-600 participants, not including spectators, turned out for the sold-out 18th annual Tall Trees Turkey Trot Nov. 27 in Glenview.

The event attracted Thanksgiving runners or walkers from Westerville, Ohio to locales like Northbrook, Glenview, Niles, Park Ridge, Wilmette, Morton Grove, Golf, Lake Zurich, Evanston, Northfield and Winnetka.

The Tall Trees Turkey Trot, which features a course certified by USA Track and Field, benefits Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook.

Tall Trees Park, 1421 Sequoia Trail, has open space and yes, tall trees, just north of East Lake Avenue, where fire pits glowed before sunrise on Thanksgiving. Race day mantra is, "Run in the morning, eat in the afternoon!"

"Happy Thanksgiving to you!" said Dan Swanson, a Tall Trees Glenview resident who put up a banner with the helping hand of Mark Eenigenburg, also of Tall Trees. The time was about 7 a.m., ample time before the 8:15 a.m. race start.

"It is early," conceded Swanson with a laugh, wearing a Northwestern University coat.

"But it's worth it though," he

said, smiling. "It is a labor of love."

"The thing about this is, it's a neighborhood race," said Dan Wassmann of Glenview Tall Trees, also a before-sunrise volunteer.

Ken Kraus, race director, has lived in Glenview for 22 years and founded the Tall Trees race.

"I'm back for Thanksgiving action," said Kraus, of Chicago. "We get a good chunk of the community out here and have a good time; it's for a good cause."

Kraus said he expected to raise \$15,000 this year for YSGN at the fundraiser, which harks to 1997.

"The weather never stops us, so, we're here to have a good time," Kraus said.

Karen Paszkiewicz of YSGN and Amy O'Leary, YSGN executive director, held their insulated hot beverage cups close to warm hearts.

"It's 8 o'clock," said O'Leary with a laugh. "I feel awesome."

"It's freezing but you know what? It's for a great cause. I see children and families coming together," O'Leary said.

"It is a little chilly but that's Thanksgiving; that's part of the tradition, right?" Kraus agreed. "You keep going."

June de Castro of Glenview was dressed as a turkey with no real dressing.

"I've always been the cheerleader, and one year they decided to get me a costume," said a smiling de Castro, whose high-fives were armed with wings.

Jill Rigby of Glenview gave a hug to Harrell Wittenstein, also of Glenview. Rigby stood near a raised fire pit before the race with Michelle Salazar and Joe Mooney, also both of Glenview.

"My favorite thing is mashed potatoes," said Rigby, of beloved American leftovers during Thanksgiving weekend. "Running makes you feel not guilty!"

Andrea McFadden, 8, of Glenview, a Pleasant Ridge School third-grader, Glenview's Olivia Chigas, 9, also a Pleasant Ridge third-grader, and Elijah Gorenus, 5, a Glenview kindergartner, sat on comfy chairs near the combo start/finish line.

They noshed on breakfast bagels. Cream cheese was cool.

What's Andrea's favorite Thanksgiving food?

"Eating cookies," Andrea said. Meanwhile, calories were being burned off by Kraus, who rode a bicycle at the front of the race heat.

Neck and neck on a day when turkeys fear broken necks, two men pounded the pavement near the finish line. Someone had yelled 18 minutes prior — no canned air horn — "Ready, GO!"

to get their heat cooking.

Enter Jack Ball and Jordan Theriault, both of Glenview.

"Oh my gosh!" someone shouted, as the two bested the finish line.

Spectators called it a photo finish, but later race technology with two sets of timers — one with twin paddles — confirmed Ball was the first place finisher by .03 of a second, said r

Ball dramatically dropped to his hands and knees a few feet after the finish line. He stood up, his winter hat already removed, once he caught his breath and composure.

"I'll be fine," Ball told one concerned racecourse attendant, who wondered if medical attention was necessary.

"Who won?" Ball asked. No one knew yet.

Ball gave Theriault a good-sportsmanship pat on the back. Both athletes discussed pavement conditions where icy spots were possible.

Was the course decent to run on?

"Yeah, it was," said Ball, who wore bib number 27.

"It was fun, a lot of turns out there, but a lot of fun," Theriault said.

Race results showed Ball, 19, and Theriault, 14, with race times of 0.18.12.1. Theriault, who wore

bib 524, ran in the age 10-15 division. Ball competed in the 16-24 age bracket.

View the town spectrum and finisher times here. Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook (YSGN) is located at 3080 W. Lake Ave. near The Glen in Glenview. Call 847-724-2620 or visit <http://www.youthservices-gn.org>.

YSGN Services

Consider supporting Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook (YSGN), an organization which "believes that every child should grow up happy, healthy and hopeful," said its website.

December features the Holiday Gift Program, which serves children of registered program families. Corporations are part of gift-wrap events, and before-Christmas wish list distribution helps families avoid credit card debt while providing gifts caregivers or parents might not have been able to afford.

Many of these gifts are the basics such as boots, jeans, socks, coats and gift cards. Yes, Santa Claus provides toys and often bikes for child-friendly magic.

Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook is located at 3080 W. Lake Ave. near The Glen in Glenview. Call 847-724-2620 and visit <http://www.youthservices-gn.org>.

◀ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

PUBLIC EYE

Niles was not taking a position on whether the proposed changes should be adopted.

"However, there were concerns on our part that the information distributed was in some ways skewed. So while we are not pursuing any charges in this case at this time, we will be sending the Village of Niles a letter outlining the legal obligations on the use of public funds in election matters such as this."

Makula said the fliers "had all the bad parts and none of the good parts." And he said Przybylo had a vested interest in the referendum because he stood to lose power depending on the outcome.

Przybylo, however, said he did nothing wrong and admonished us not to portray this as a "David and Goliath thing."

Przybylo said the idea of the fliers came from the village's lawyers, and the content was vetted by them.

What's more, he said Makula had — and missed — the opportunity to offer suggestions on the first flier before it went out. And he said Makula did offer suggestions on the second flier, and many of his thoughts were included.

"If anyone politicized the process ... he did," Przybylo said of Makula. "We tried to do the right thing, and everything we did was run by [Niles' legal] counsel."

Makula responded, "I didn't think there was any need to inform voters [through mailers], it was self apparent in the words of the referendum what it was about."

Courting 'Havoc'

The referendum question almost didn't get on the ballot.

After Makula gathered enough signatures to present the matter to voters, another resident (who wouldn't talk to us) objected and the issue went to the Niles electoral board, on which Przybylo sits.

The electoral board ruled the initiative should stay off the ballot. Przybylo said that's how the village's lawyers advised. Makula sued. A Cook County judge then reversed the electoral board's decision, saying the referendum was OK to have on the ballot.

Speaking of the court case, both pamphlets highlighted part of the judge's written opinion/order — another bone of contention with Palicki and Makula who believe what was used was taken out of context. Here's what the fliers said: "Cook County Circuit Court found that passage of the referendum may cause havoc in the operation of the municipal government."

But our read of the ruling shows the

"There were concerns on our part that the information distributed was in some ways skewed. So while we are not pursuing any charges in this case at this time, we will be sending the Village of Niles a letter outlining the legal obligations on the use of public funds in election matters such as this."

judge was nuanced, only noting that some have argued that havoc may occur, and noting it's not "the role of this court" to "analyze the wisdom" of the referendum.

Either way, this all has proved costly for local taxpayers, with more than \$35,000 spent by Niles on the mailings, lawyers and related costs, according to records and interviews.

Power of incumbency

So what's so bad about the mayor appointing someone to an empty trustee position?

Well, to some folks it's not bad. It keeps the government churning, working, they contend. Too many absences on a village board, with a long period before an election to fill them, indeed could grind the board to a halt temporarily — although that's an unlikely situation.

But Niles has a history of trustee vacancies popping up and past mayors (including Nick Blase — who went to prison in a federal corruption case) filling them with political allies, which rubs other people wrong.

Makula said leaving such decisions up to voters is more democratic, and it evens the playing field for those running for office.

After all, if someone's appointed to a political office, he or she then has the power of incumbency in the next election. They have time to get their name out there, create a public record of accomplishments. And that, in theory, provides a leg up on other potential candidates.

Currently, there are no vacancies on the Niles village board, and Przybylo has made no trustee appointments since taking office in 2013.

We talked to Blase briefly about his decades-long tenure in office and he recounted that, as mayor for 47 years, "you appoint a lot of people."

This column was written and reported by the Better Government Association's Robert Herguth, who can be reached at rherguth@bettergov.org or (312) 821-9030.



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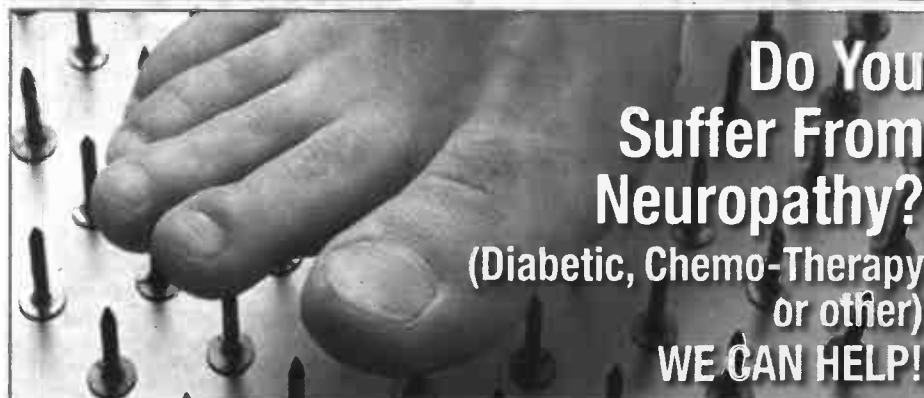
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Maine Township names new emergency services director

JENNIFER JOHNSON
jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com | @jen_pioneer

A new leader of Maine Township's Office of Emergency Management has been named.



Dagmar Rutzen

was responsible for field operations. In her new position, Rutzen will be more closely involved in day-to-day operations of the agency and overseeing the training of its volunteer members, the township said.

"Dagmar, who has proven to be an

outstanding and committed member of the agency, has often demonstrated her superior judgment in crisis situations and has become a highly visible leader," Maine Township Supervisor Carol Teschky said in a written statement.

The Maine Township Office of Emergency Management is involved in disaster planning and response, helping to coordinate other agencies in providing shelter, evacuations, damage assessment and recovery information. It is also the local contact for state and federal governments in the event of a disaster declaration.

Rutzen is a retired teacher who taught at Algonquin Middle School in Des Plaines. She also serves as a trustee of the North Maine Fire Protection District, an elected position, and is involved in Maine Township's Neighborhood Watch and Citizens Corps Council. She also volunteered on the township's Garbage Referendum Committee of 2004, when a single waste-hauler was selected for residential areas.

Outside of Maine Township she is a trail guide at Starved Rock State Park.

||| POLICE BLOTTER

The following incidents were listed in the official bulletin of the Niles Police Department. Readers are reminded that an arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt. Only a court of law can make that determination.

NILES

COURT ORDER VIOLATION

Bilal Musa, 26, of 4416 Natchez Ave., Harwood Heights, was charged with violating a no contact/stalking order on Nov. 24 after he was reportedly seen parked outside a residence on the 7900 block of Nordica Av-

enue. According to police, Musa had a court order prohibiting him from being within 500 feet of a 27-year-old woman who resides on the block. He has a Dec. 11 court date.

RETAIL THEFT

Carolina Espinoza-Corona, 38, of 878 Piper Lane, Prospect Heights, was charged with retail theft and resisting arrest on Nov. 22. According to police, Espinoza-Corona tried to pull away from a responding officer as attempts were made to take her into custody and handcuff her for the alleged theft of merchandise from a store on the 8500 block of Golf Road.

She has a Dec. 9 court date.

DUI

Beata Kordek, 20, of 119 Sunrise Drive, Wheeling, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs on Nov. 21 after she was reportedly involved in a two-car crash at Milwaukee Avenue and Golf Road around 11:30 p.m. According to police, the accident occurred when Kordek drove through a red light and struck another vehicle. Police reportedly detected a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle and smelled alcohol on Kordek's breath. She has a Dec. 31 court date.

||| CRIME BRIEFS

BURGLARY TO VEHICLE

Keys to a Niles bank were reported stolen Nov. 24 from an unlocked car parked on the 8400 block of Dempster Street.

The owner of the car told police she noticed a man sitting inside the vehicle after she left work at the bank and, when confronted, the man ran away in the direc-

tion of Cumberland Avenue. Three dollars in cash was reported stolen Nov. 25 from a vehicle parked on the 800 block of Churchill Avenue.

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5

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Skate park jumps first hurdles, attracts teens

BY PAM DEFIGLIO
For Sun-Times Media

Despite the chill, teens and 20-somethings kept arriving at the Niles Park District's skate park last week, skateboards in hand, to try their wheels on the obstacles and features.

The skateboarding and BMX bike park, which opened in late October, has been a rare example of teenagers working with local government for three years on something they badly wanted.

Even when the park was besieged with graffiti and empty alcohol bottles in its first week, the involved teens helped monitor the venue, located inside Niles' Washington Terrace Park, on Washington Street just north of Dempster, until the culprit was caught.

"It was one of the first times local government worked with teens to get something they wanted," said Ray Czarnik, a Park District commissioner who has worked closely with the teens since 2011. "They did their homework. I was impressed with their knowledge."

Joe LoVerde, the district's executive director, said a young man who now works for the Park District first suggested a skate park. The real impetus didn't develop until 2011, however, when a few teens said that during the spring election campaign, one candidate promised them a skate park.

Czarnik said he admired the teens' gumption in coming to talk to the park board, but he had to sit them down and tell them the way government works is more complicated than that.

"We had to explain our processes to them and how the budget process works," he said. "We formed a skate park committee, met with the teens on the committee, and put some money in the budget for exploratory dealings."

LoVerde said one teen in particular, Keith Sokolowski, took the lead. Czarnik described him



ABOVE: Skateboarders prepare to launch at the Niles Park District's skate park at Washington Terrace Park. **LEFT:** Skateboarders aim for obstacles at the Niles Park District skate park. A group of teens consulted with the park district on the features they wanted the park to have. | PAM DEFIGLIO/SPECIAL TO PIONEER PRESS

Odin Brandseth, Tom Sok, Byczkowski and others, Sokolowski said.

"Everyone on the Niles park board and in the Park District was really helpful and supportive, providing great

guidance and listening to the youth throughout the whole process," he said.

Through 2012, 2013 and early 2014, the teens on the skate park committee gave input on whether to locate the skate park at Iceland (Ballard and Cumberland) or Washington Terrace Park, whether it should be made of concrete or other materials, and what kind of features and obstacles they wanted most. Costs of various configurations were compared, and LoVerde said the final cost to the district was about \$200,000.

Czarnik said the space had earlier been used for roller hockey, and some roller hockey players opposed turning it into a skateboarding park because they didn't

want to lose space for their sport. However, he said a new outdoor ice rink being built on the Iceland property and slated for a January 2015 opening would be usable for roller hockey and soccer during the summer months.

The pouring of concrete and installing of features for the skate park took place in August and September, and the Park District held a grand opening Oct. 24. The \$200,000 cost included the concrete pouring, obstacles, fencing and lighting, so skaters can use the park until it closes at 10 p.m. nightly.

Within three days after the opening, though, graffiti and debris, mostly empty beer cans, marred the new park. Czarnik posted a photo of the debris on Facebook, saying it had to stop because he would hate to see the park close.

"Teens like to test and do things," Czarnik said. "But we told them we wanted them to police it. We caught the vandals, and they're

reimbursing the Park District. It hasn't had a problem since."

The park board plans to finish the park in the spring. LoVerde said he wants to add some greenery to break up the all-concrete look of the park.

On a recent Saturday, two or three dozen kids were taking their skateboards to the concrete.

"It's well-built," observed Austin O'Brien, 21. "The one I usually go to is falling apart."

He wanted more obstacles, though, and said that two strips of pavement, running the length of the park on its east and west sides, were wasted space because they were paved with rough concrete, not the smooth concrete needed for skating.

Czarnik said the greenery is going to be placed on those areas, making the park a little smaller.

Matt Mercado expressed a wish for a round rail feature.

"Otherwise, it's definitely a fun park," he said. "It's new, and it's cool."

Maine Township volunteer earns state Youth Leadership Award

IGOR STUDENKOV
For Sun-Times Media | @istudenkov

Maine West High School senior Leena Khoury won the statewide Youth Leadership Award for her volunteer work at Maine Township's Future Leaders program.

The award is one of five awards handed out annually by the Association of Illinois Township Committees on Youth, a coalition of township youth and family service programs throughout Illinois. The awards were handed out Nov. 11. Maine Township officials presented the award to Khoury during their Nov. 25 meeting.

Khoury said that while she isn't sure she deserved the award, she was honored to receive it. She sees volunteer work as a way to give back to the community she grew up in and that gave her many opportunities to succeed.

The Future Leaders program is part of MaineStay Youth and Family Services, the township's family services program. It launched eight months ago. Future Leaders

recruits high school students who are 16 or older to serve as positive role models for kids ages 8-13.

According to Ed Beauvais, MaineStay's Youth Program Coordinator, the idea for the program came from discussions with Des Plaines Youth Commission. The two organizations wanted to create a mentoring program kids would be enthusiastic about.

"We decided that kids really look up to high school kids closer to their age, as opposed to older adults," said Beauvais. "We wanted to give kids positive role models."

He reached out to Dr. Audrey Haugan, the Principal at Maine West High School. The township has done some programs with the school in the past. Haugan introduced Beauvais to some Maine West Honor Roll students who were part of the Principal's Leadership Team, a student advisory group.

Khoury was one of those students. She was already involved in a number of school activities and

clubs. She tutors at Maine West, and she has been volunteering at Chicago Cares.

For Khoury, volunteering is a way to give back to the community where she grew up, she said.

"I wasn't working, so I decided to spend all the free time I had serving my school and my community," she said. "I've gotten a lot from Des Plaines so I thought I'd give some of it back. Des Plaines has been my home, and you take care of your home."

A total of eight students wound up volunteering. The volunteers meet with younger kids at Des Plaines Leisure Center, where they play games, help with homework and offer advice.

"A lot of it was playing games," Khoury explained. "Kids would play in the gym or anything from floor hockey to dodge-ball. If they wanted to do crafts, we'd do crafts, or we'd do different activities. Sometimes, it involved helping with homework or answering question, but it was mostly just having fun."



AITCOY Youth Leadership Award Leena Khouri (center) poses with MaineStay Youth & Family Services Director Evelyn Fennell (left) and Maine Township Supervisor Carol Teschky (right).

Beauvais said he was impressed with all volunteers, but when it came time to nominate someone for award, Khoury seemed like a natural choice. In the nomination form, he described her enthusiasm and passion as a major reason why she deserved an award.

"[Khoury] is always eager to be

with the kids and they all naturally gravitate to her," he wrote. "She fosters excitement in them about doing well in school so they can be successful high school students. She values higher education and conveys this importance to the youth she mentors."

When asked how she felt about getting the award, Khoury demurred.

"It was kind of shocking," she said. "I didn't know how big of a deal it was. I thought it would be a small award. I didn't think I deserved it, but here we are."

The Maine Township Board of Trustees presented Khoury with the award plaque at the beginning of the meeting, congratulating her and her family. Maine Township Supervisor Carol Teschky said that the entire township government was proud and happy for her.

"We are very happy that Leena was our winner," she said. "It was very well-deserved, and I'm glad we could bring the plaque home for her."

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

SKOKIE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 69 COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS

- I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Skokie School District 69 for 2014 (2014 tax year) will be held on December 16, 2014 at 7:30 p.m., at the Maier Administration Center, Madison School, 5050 Madison St., Skokie, IL 60077.
Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Eric Miller, Assistant Superintendent, at 5050 Madison St., Skokie, Illinois, (847) 675-7666.
- II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2014 (2013 tax year) were \$19,447,681.
The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2015 (2014 tax year) are \$22,715,000. This represents a 16.8% increase over the previous year.
- III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2013 (2013 tax year) was \$2,828,123.
The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2015 (2014 tax year) are \$1,484,200. This represents a 47.52% decrease over the previous year.
- IV. The total taxes extended or abated for 2014 (2013 tax year) were \$22,275,804.
The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2015 (2014 tax year) are \$24,199,200. This represents an 8.63% increase over the previous year.

Lisa Kaihara, Secretary
Board of Education
Skokie School District No. 69
Cook County, Illinois Ad # 883085

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR NILES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 71 COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

- I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy for Niles Elementary School District No. 71, Cook County, Illinois for 2014 will be held on Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room at Clarence E. Culver School, 6901 W. Oakton Street, Niles, Illinois 60714.
Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Dr. Amy Kruppe, Superintendent, Niles Elementary School District No. 71, 6901 W. Oakton Street, Niles, Illinois 60714, 847-966-9280 extension 1107.
- II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2013 were \$7,867,463.
The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2014 are \$8,348,323. This represents a 6.11% increase over the previous year.
- III. The property taxes extended for debt service for 2013 were \$0.
The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service for 2014 are \$0. This represents a 0% decrease over the previous year.
- IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2013 were \$7,867,463.
The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2014 are \$8,348,323. This represents a 6.11% increase over the previous year.
- V. The taxing district has estimated its equalized assessed valuation to secure new growth revenue and must adhere to the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL or "tax cap" law). PTELL limits the increase over the prior year in the property tax extension of the taxing district to the lesser of 5% or the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which 3%.

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During dinner, Charlotte Robards hands Brett Smith of Detroit, MI, a Thanksgiving letter at Gurnee Community Church Nov. 27. 1. PHOTOS KEVIN TANAKA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP



Evette Fordham carries food to naval recruits having Thanksgiving dinner at the Gurnee Community Church.

Thanksgiving is good to U.S. Navy recruits

BY TODD SHIELDS
tshields@pioneerlocal.com | @tshields19

More than 2,100 U.S. Navy recruits fanned out across the Chicago area, where churches, American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts and families took the young men and women in as family on Thanksgiving Day.

The recruits had been in basic training for eight weeks at Great Lakes Naval Station on the North Shore.

For 23 years, through the station's Adopt a Sailor program, recruits are fed a Thanksgiving dinner, enjoy live entertainment, play video games and watch movies.

No doubt, the highlights of the special day were the free phone calls home for recruits to talk to family and friends before shipping out around the world after the Dec. 5 and Dec. 12 graduations from Navy boot camp.

This year, recruits also went home to more 475 families who lived in the area, and they could bring a fellow recruit along for the day.

The majority of organizations and volunteers in the program donated food and entertainment, and local telephone and cell phone companies bring in communication equipment for the free calls home.

Many volunteers were military veterans and thanked the recruits warmly for enlisting.

Ray Ariaz, commander of American Legion Post 134 in Morton Grove, was in the U.S. Air Force and fought in Vietnam from 1967 to 1969.

"It's always special bringing them in here. While in basic training, they don't have real connections to the outside world," said Ariaz, who sang folk songs and played an acoustic guitar on stage for the recruits before dinner. "Some are homesick, but they can

Skype and talk to their families today. These recruits are from all over America."

Gurnee Community Church was one of the day's largest hosts, feeding 41 deep-fried turkeys to 211 men and woman.

Several of organizations give the leftover food to local food ministries and dispensaries for the homeless.

Arlington Heights resident Rick Smith was waiting at St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Barrington for bags of uneaten food to distribute through a church in Des Plaines.

"It's all about helping people on the holidays and everyday," Smith said.

Throughout the day, recruits also played guitars, sang and danced and waited in long lines to call home.

Recruit Joshua Ganzel talked to his parents who were just arriving home after serving a similar community meal at his hometown

church in Linneus, Maine.

"Some of us are real homesick, but it's only temporary. We were told about this day when basic training first started weeks ago," he said at St. Michael's. "We looked forward to it, though it seemed so far away. Now Thanksgiving is here and it's great."

About 200 volunteered for the traditional blue plate spread at noon.

"It's nice to get a break. This feels like a breath of fresh air," said U.S. Navy Recruit James Fox, of Fredericksburg, Va.

Chris Kirkham, event co-chair for Gurnee Community Church, said 10 percent of the church's 700 congregants were in the military.

He also was a Naval flight officer for 11 years.

"I never had something like this when I served. We went home with friends for Thanksgiving, but nothing this big," Kirkham said. "They keep trying to help us here, like mopping and cleaning.



Naval recruit Tarell Flowers of Baton Rouge, LA, plays songs from Charlie Brown Christmas to Coldplay after Thanksgiving dinner at Gurnee Community Church

We asked them to stop because it's their day. All the people in the military are service oriented and want to help others."



ABOVE: Recruits Tamikia Smith of Petersburg, VA, left, and Brittany Biggers of Baltimore, MD, react to a wanted poster for the best naval recruit during Thanksgiving dinner at Gurnee Community Church.



RIGHT: Linda Jackson sheds a tear as Great Lakes Naval recruits enter for Thanksgiving dinner.



Over two hundred recruits from the Great Lakes Naval Station attended Thanksgiving dinner at Gurnee Community Church Nov. 27

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Chicago Tribune

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 64**

- I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy for Community Consolidated School District No. 64 for 2014 will be held on Monday, December 15, 2014, at 7:15 p.m. at the Jefferson School, 8200 Greendale, Niles, Illinois 60714.
Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Rebecca J. Allard, Chief School Business Official, 164 S. Prospect Avenue, Park Ridge, IL at (847) 318-4324.
- II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for the year 2013 were \$60,655,876.
The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2014, are \$63,618,433. This represents a 4.9% increase over the previous year.
- III. The property taxes extended for debt service for 2013 were \$3,313,381.
The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service for 2014 are \$3,313,381. This represents a zero increase over the previous year.
- IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2013 were s/b \$63,969,257.
The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2014, are \$66,931,814. This represents a 4.6% increase over the previous year's total levy.

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Chicago Tribune

Park Ridge

David Santee selected for Figure Skating Hall of Fame

JENNIFER JOHNSON
jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com
| @jen_pioneer

Last winter, David Santee was on his way to the 2014 Olympic Games in Sochi, Russia, as an assistant to the figure skating judges panel.

This January, the two-time Olympic skater and Park Ridge native will head to Greensboro, N.C., for another prestigious honor: induction into the U.S. Figure Skating Hall of Fame.

Santee, director of skating for the Park Ridge Park District, will join skating program developer Anne Gerli and choreographer Ricky Harris as a member of the Hall of Fame Class of 2015. An induction ceremony is planned during the U.S. Figure Skating Championships in Greensboro, which take place Jan. 17-25.

In a news release issued Monday, Larry Mondscheim, chairman of the Hall of Fame's nominating committee, noted Santee's representation of the U.S. in two Olympic Games — he skated in 1976 and 1980, taking fourth place in the latter — in addition to his work in data operation for the skating competitions during the Sochi Winter Games.

Santee, 57, a 13-time U.S.



David Santee

medalist and recipient of the 1981 World Silver Medal, was nominated to the Hall of Fame two times before. He learned he was elected to the 2015 class after receiving a telephone call while visiting his son at a Missouri Army base for the Thanksgiving holiday.

"It's a tremendous honor," Santee said. "I was kind of in shock. In my coaching, I teach that to be a skater it's not necessary about the number — it's about being the best you can be. To receive an honor such as this ... it's out of your control."

And yet, he admits that being elected after two prior disappointments is a "great feeling of joy."

Santee, who learned to skate at Oakton Ice Arena and returned there to coach as an adult, has frequently credited the Park Ridge Park District and the community for his successes.

"It's an amazing thing to do something you love and be appreciated for doing it," he said this week. "I feel appreciated every day, and this [election to the Hall of Fame] is another manifestation of that."

The U.S. Figure Skating Hall of Fame was established in 1976. It features a number of famous names in professional skating, including Peggy Fleming, Dorothy Hamill, Brian Boitano, Kristi Yamaguchi and Santee's frequent competitor, Scott Hamilton.

"I've always had a strong sense of history of skating, and I've always respected those who have gone before," Santee said of joining a group containing so many skating heavyweights.

In addition to his coaching in Park Ridge, Santee is involved with the Internal Skating Institute and Professional Skating Association. He also coached Agnes Zawadzki, formerly of Niles, who is a two-time U.S. national bronze medalist.



David Santee, pictured here in 1976, competed in the 1976 and 1980 Winter Olympic games. | FILE PHOTO

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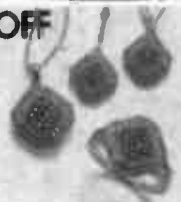
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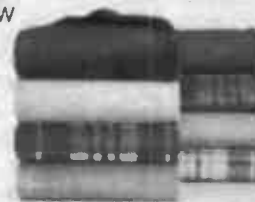
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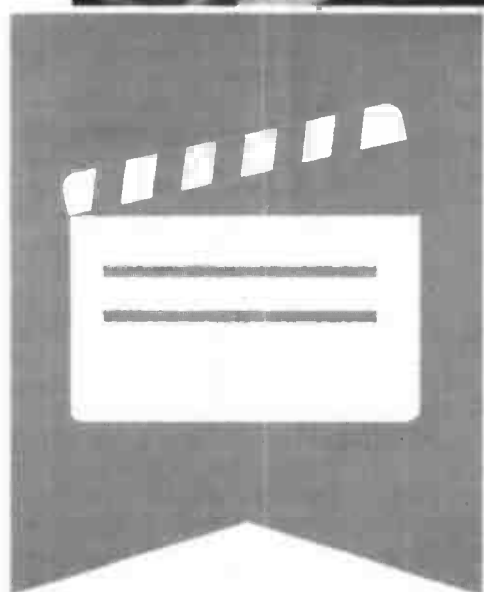
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'Flippable' seats a must, if you must renovate

I would like to give my input on the proposed installation of seats which cannot be flipped to allow passengers to ride facing the direction of travel. I ride the Metra North Line and Milwaukee North line four times per week.

I am strongly against the proposal to install seats which cannot be changed to face the direction of travel. When I have traveled by rail sitting backwards (not facing the direction of travel), I have felt ill. My husband also experiences this ill feeling when traveling backwards.

I must have a seat that allows me to face the direction of travel. Installing seats that cannot be "flipped" to change direction would be an expensive mistake. That would cause the seats facing the direction of travel to be in high demand, increasing competition for those seats and causing frustration when trains are crowded. Seats facing the wrong direction may stay empty.

Drink holders, which are touted as a benefit in the proposed plan, are not needed. The current trains already have a flat surface under the window, on which a drink with a cover can be safely and securely placed. I have done this hundreds of times, with never a spill.

The current seats that allow a foursome are flexible, and appropriately used. To the argument that people are taking advantage of the four-seat arrangement with one or two people, a request by the conductor is all that is needed for the person to flip the seat to its 2-person use.

People are very willing to cooperate with a conductor request. In summary, it would be a huge waste of money to install seats that cannot be flipped in the direction of travel. If you must install new seats due to wear, they should be "flippable" to provide the flexibility needed for people to feel comfortable on the train.

Again, in order not to feel sick to my stomach when traveling, I need to face the direction of travel. Having only half of the seats facing "front" will create frustration and over-crowding of those seats. If the ride becomes less comfortable, I will consider an alternate mode of transportation.

Judy Solway, Glencoe

Obama's order does nothing to solve immigration issue

BY RANDY
BLASER



Legend has it that President Franklin D. Roosevelt opened an address before the Daughters of the American Revolution with the phrase, "Fellow immigrants."

Roosevelt was able to trace his lineage back to the Mayflower on the Delano, not the Roosevelt, side of the family. And his alleged remark is just too convenient to be true.

What he actually said to the DAR is this: "Remember, remember always that all of us, and you and I especially, are descended from immigrants and revolutionists."

So how is it that a nation of immigrants cannot decide how to do two things that are essential to its survival as a nation — decide what to do with illegal immigrants who are here, and develop a strategy to protect its borders.

As descendants of immigrants, we know how critical immigration is to our national character. But as descendants of revolutionists, we know that the rule of law is essential to a nation that does not share a national identity or ethnic heritage. Balancing the two is the trick.

That's why I disagree with Presi-

"Since immigration is at the heart of our identity as a people, a solution that we can live with will never be accomplished by presidential executive orders. Any solution needs a national debate and a national vote by the representatives of the people — the Congress."

dent Obama's executive order last week on immigration. It does nothing to end the national debate, nothing to solve the problem of a so-called broken immigration system, and only addresses half the equation.

Uprooting and deporting millions of undocumented immigrants is something that was never going to happen in the near future, so there was no pressing need for Obama. Indeed, he's had countless opportunities to act on this issue since his election in 2008.

I have no problem with the policy of allowing undocumented workers who have made a life here to stay

here. Amnesty of some sort must be part of the solution.

But we've been here before. We need to control our borders and need to determine who can come in legally. To do otherwise is unfair to the other immigrants who are waiting to enter legally, but are separated by an ocean, and not the southern border.

Obama's action fails to address that issue.

Since immigration is at the heart of our identity as a people, a solution that we can live with will never be accomplished by presidential executive orders.

Any solution needs a national debate and a national vote by the representatives of the people — the Congress.

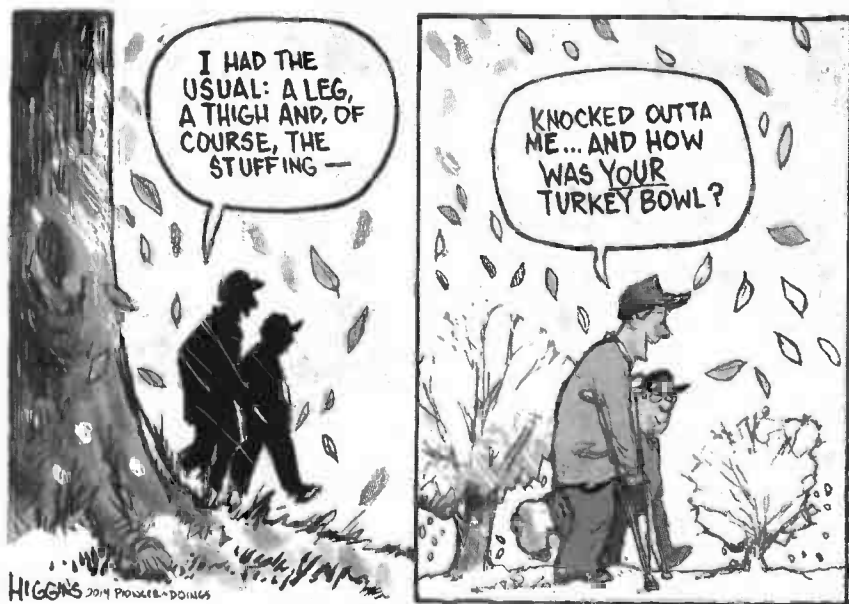
The Senate in 2013 passed a bill that has been stalled in the House. Obama could have done much more than he has to pressure the House for a vote. Every president faces a resistant Congress, especially on controversial national issues. The better ones know how to work Congress. Obama either doesn't know how or won't.

The people want the issue resolved along the lines of amnesty for those who are here and greater protection for our national borders. The president's executive action reminds all of us of our immigrant roots. It also ridicules the idea we are a nation of laws.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

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III 1,000 WORDS BY JACK HIGGINS



The secret to avoiding family holiday strife

It begins. For the next few weeks you will be bombarded with newspaper, TV, magazine and electronic stories and information on how to prepare for the holidays, how to shop for the holidays, how to pay for the holidays.

Ignore them. Only here will you learn the most important component for holiday enjoyment — how not to wind up at your loved ones' throats. Nothing is more holiday-killing than sulking or feuding family members.

Here are some tips that might help keep your holiday from going to pot:

1. Respond to invitations, dummy. Not responding is a really excellent way to create holiday conflict. See, the way it works is, they feed you for free. All you have to do is let them know you are coming. I shouldn't have to tell you stuff like this.



BY PAUL SASSONE

“Regret is not a pleasant holiday companion. Food and gifts are ephemeral. Family and feelings are permanent. Whether those feelings are warm or painful is up to you.”

2. Like gifts you are given even if you don't. OK, so you wanted Taylor Swift's latest and instead you got “The Confessions of St. Augustine.” You'll only hurt their feelings if you sulk. And you still won't have Taylor Swift.

3. Eat. When they ask if you want more liver and rye bread stuffing, just say yum and hold out your plate.

4. Let it go. So, you were the oldest and had to take care of your siblings. So, you were the middle kid and didn't get enough attention. So, you were the youngest and had to make do with hand-me-downs. Grow up and stop poisoning the present with past grievances.

5. Man is mortal. The most important reason for all the above. In 10, five or even next year there may be fewer people at your holiday table. That will be painful, But even more painful if the memory of that absent person is marred by what you now realize were trivial resentments. Regret is not a pleasant holiday companion. Food and gifts are ephemeral. Family and feelings are permanent. Whether those feelings are warm or painful is up to you.

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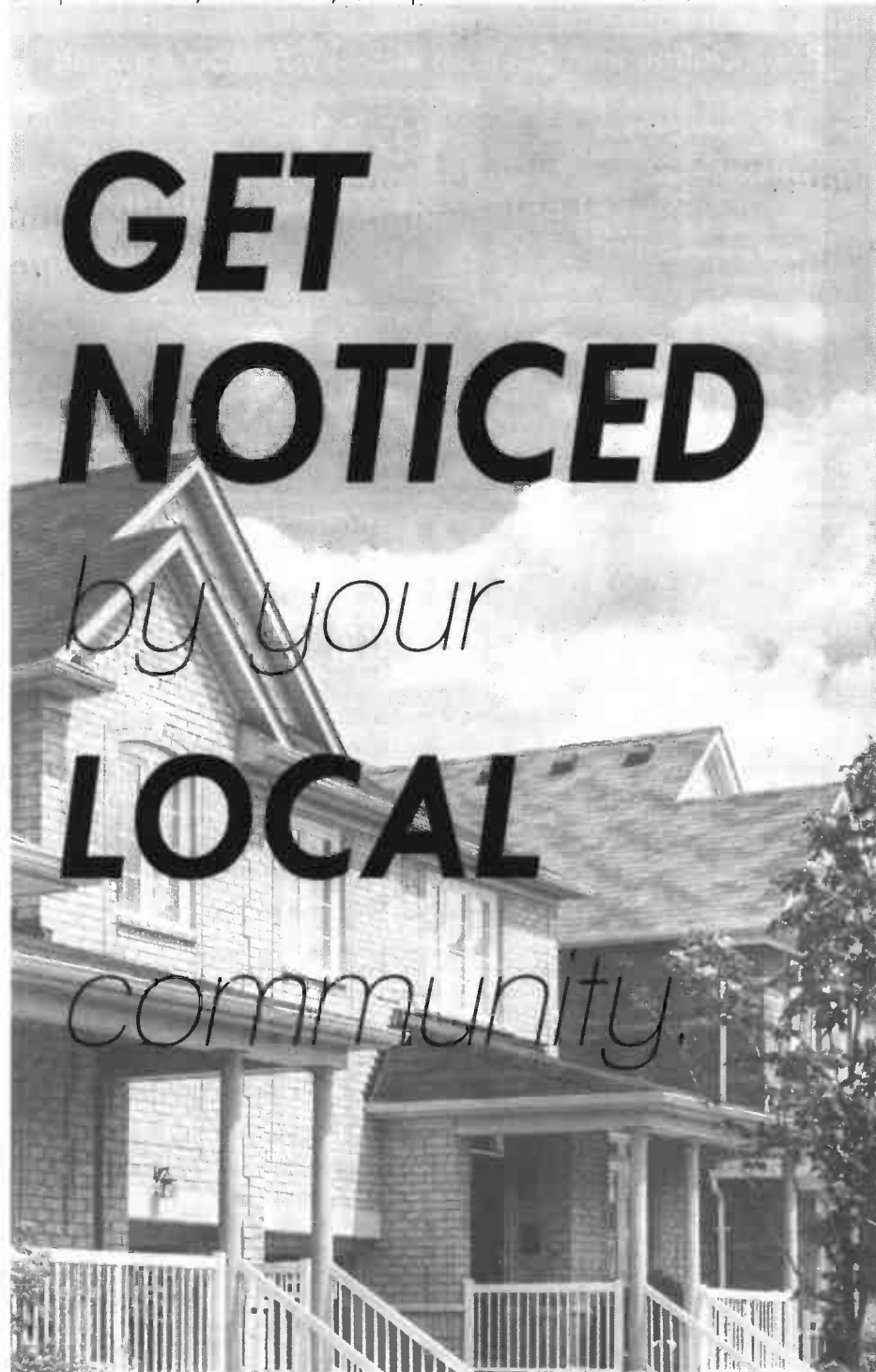
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Tips to minimize fighting over finances

LOVE ESSENTIALLY
BY
JACKIE PILOSSOPH



LOVE

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Does this conversation sound familiar?

Wife: "Honey, I need money."

Husband: "What for?"

Wife: "What do you mean, 'What for?' To pay bills!"

Husband: "I've never seen anyone spend more money than you."

Wife: "Stop being so cheap."

Husband: "All I do is work to make money and all you do is spend!"

Wife: "What about raising your children? Who does that?!"

Husband: "I'm just saying, could you try to spend less and save more?"

Wife: "You're clueless. You have no idea how much things cost."

It's a well known fact that the number one reason couples fight is money. But, according to Elaine Koby Moss, discussing finances with your spouse doesn't have to feel like you're in a boxing ring with gloves on.

Moss, who is a vice-president at the Chicago investment advisory firm, Vestor Capital, has spent the last 25 years in the financial industry and has worked with hundreds of couples to alleviate fear, stress and conflict when it comes to financial planning and saving.

I asked Moss why money is such a big issue of contention in some relationships and she gave three reasons:

1). Couples are coming together at an older age. Both parties are coming to the table with assets of their own, which is a change from generations past when couples formed at younger ages and built their wealth together. This causes both men and women to be more guarded and less willing to commingle funds in some cases.

2). One person might be earning significantly more or all of the family's income. The imbalance can cause conflict because of resentment.

3). There might be differences in spending and/or saving habits. People come to a relationship with very different backgrounds and philosophies in regards to saving and spending. One person might be more of an investment risk taker, the other might prefer conservative investments. Sometimes it's hard to understand the other's rationale behind their investment choices.

So, what can couples do to minimize argu-

ments over cash? Moss offered these tips:

1). Both husband and wife need to have a clear understanding of their financial situation. In other words, both husband and wife need to be educated on things such as how much the family is spending every month, how much money is in every financial account, and how much debt they have. "If both parties are involved, there is less room for surprise and error and more room for financial harmony," Moss said.

2). Choose a financial advisor whom you both feel comfortable with. Forget about using your buddy from college or the guy your dad uses. Moss recommends interviewing a few different advisors and agreeing on one you both feel safe and happy with.

3). Develop a concrete financial plan. With the help of your advisor, come up with specific numbers for financial planning and saving. The advisor will help you put together documents to make things easier, such as an income statement, a balance sheet and a cash flow report. "A solid financial plan helps couples achieve their goals that includes spending, investing, college planning, retirement planning and insurance strategies," said Moss.

I want to add two more tips:

4). Never hide money. Unless it's an emergency, for example your husband or wife has a severe gambling problem, I think hiding money is very bad for many reasons. First, it makes you feel sneaky and bad about yourself. Secondly, it's disrespectful to your spouse. But most of all, you are stealing from your own family!

5). Be honest. Lots of couples lie about money. You might tell your husband your bonus was lower than it actually was, you might tell your wife you lost \$200 playing poker when you really lost \$600, or you might tell your spouse a different number than what's actually in your savings account, so that person will feel better. Honestly, lying about money can lead to disaster. The biggest gift a couple can give each other is the truth.

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PROPERTY TRANSFERS

NILES

7603 N Nora Ave, Niles 60714-4728: Sharon Marie Bakey sold the property to Lester Ray Coloma & Maria Alfajora for \$240,000 on November 12

PARK RIDGE

111 S Rose Ave, Park Ridge 60068-3781: Leslie J McCarthy sold the property to Elizabeth M Jablonski for \$278,000 on November 12

1116 S Hamlin Ave, Park Ridge 60068-4322: Joseph Magnelli sold the property to Steven A Schilling & Christine L Schilling for \$385,000 on November 12

1503 S Crescent Ave, Park Ridge 60068-5307: Craig McGowan sold the property to Philip Pacete & Keely Pacete for \$537,000 on November 13

210 N Lincoln Ave, Park Ridge 60068-3122: Eric J Taylor sold the property to Adam G Thompson & Sarah B Thompson for \$360,000 on November 12

241 S Vine Ave, Park Ridge 60068-4141: Equity

Trust Co Trustee sold the property to Beth Hillman for \$330,000 on November 13

44 Park Ln 232, Park Ridge 60068-2830: Ellie Sue Papadimitriou sold the property to John Glasebrook & Gina Marie Noreen for \$176,000 on November 14

909 Riverside Dr, Park Ridge 60068-2166: Thomas M Carvis sold the property to Anthony Correa for \$350,000 on November 14

Real Estate data provided by Record Information Services, Inc. www.public-record.com. Inquires may be sent to toinfo@public-record.com or call 630-557-1000.

GLENVIEW

730 Wagner Rd, Glenview 60025-4451: John J Massarelli sold the property to Joseph A Cancila & Cory A Cancila for \$1,300,000 on November 14

1731 Linneman St La, Glenview 60025-5416: Susan F Ditzler sold the property to Donald Noren & Nancy Noren for \$320,000 on November 13

1795 Camden Dr, Glenview 60025-7605: Greeny Younghee Kim sold the property to

Robert S Sax & Janet N Sax for \$565,000 on November 12

1821 Harrison St, Glenview 60025-5003: Ioanna Trifilli sold the property to Theresa A Holloway Abrahamson & Frederick W Reichert for \$450,000 on November 12

1845 Tanglewood Dr 2c, Glenview 60025-1611: Kathleen A Higgins sold the property to Henry Kite & Sandra Kite for \$141,000 on November 12

2001 Dewes St, Glenview 60025-4238: Ted B Brown sold the property to Glen J Gesicki & Larissa E Gesicki for \$400,000 on November 12

2017 Ammer Ridge Ct 20, Glenview 60025-1870: Holihan Trust sold the property to Fatehali Sabzaali & Naseem F Sabzaali for \$195,000 on November 14

2139 McArthur Dr, Glenview 60025-4922: Steven B Szymanski sold the property to Ted B Brown for \$294,500 on November 13

3140 Brandess Dr, Glenview 60026-1178: Christina V Hernandez sold the property to Arkadiusz Koziol & Urszula Czarnowska for \$645,000 on November 13

4111 Blake Ln, Glenview 60026-1091: Marco T Chou sold the property to Vahe Ohanian for \$870,000 on November 12

704 Glenshire Rd, Glenview 60025-4012: Paul O Gotschewski sold the property to Milivoje Balesevic & Bosa Balesevic for \$283,000 on November 12

NORTHBROOK

2050 Valencia Dr 400c, Northbrook 60062-7057: Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp sold the property to Caroline Yoon & Bora Hess for \$130,000 on November 12

2202 Washington Dr, Northbrook 60062-7803: Kzf Townhomes Venture Llc sold the property to David F Nyren & Carolyn Nyren for \$654,500 on November 13

248 Linden Rd, Northbrook 60062-1310: Alexander Etman sold the property to Pawel Lewandowski for \$368,000 on November 14

435 Laburnum Dr, Northbrook 60062-2224: Edward M Caulfield sold the property to John Boege & Edwina Boege for \$387,500 on November 13

54 Avon Rd, Northbrook 60062-1327: Yelena Kholodovsky sold the property to Andrzej J Janusz & Ewa Janusz for \$355,500 on November 14

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MORTON GROVE

MONDAY, DEC. 8

MGPL Kids: Monday Morning Playgroup

10:30 a.m.: Drop-in play time for preschoolers with a parent or caregiver to introduce young children to the library in a low-key, unstructured session. Call 847-929-5102 or visit www.mgpl.org for more information. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Free.

Knitting Roundtable for Adults

2:30 p.m.: Work through knitting projects and socialize with fellow knitters. Expert knitters can show you how to solve knitting challenges. Call 847-929-5101 or visit www.mgpl.org for more information. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

Yarn Gang

4 p.m.: Kids in grades one and up are invited to try their hand at knitting, crocheting or other yarn crafts. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

TUESDAY, DEC. 9

Bingo Club

10 a.m.: Gather at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and conversation, followed by bingo at 10 a.m. Monetary donations are requested each week for coffee, sweets and prizes. Bingo cards are 50 cents each. Contact the North Shore Senior Center to register or for more information. North Shore Senior Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-784-6030. \$8 members, \$10 nonmembers (covers entire semester).

MGPL Kids: Listen Up!

10 a.m.: Drop-in story and play time for preschoolers with a parent or caregiver. Call 847-929-5102 or visit www.mgpl.org/kids for more information. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Free.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10

Lunch and Bingo

10 a.m.: Enjoy a game of bingo and lunch. Come early for coffee and conversation. Fee includes lunch from a local restaurant or caterer. Bingo cards 50 cents each. Registration is required. North Shore Senior Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-784-6030. \$6 members, \$8 nonmembers.

Niles Township Toastmasters

7 p.m.: Toastmasters in an international club that encourages its members to improve their public speaking and leadership skills. The club meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

SUBMIT YOUR EVENT

To submit an event for consideration in print, visit www.pioneerlocal.com/submit-content and click the "Events" tab on the left side of the screen. Please submit the event no later than 10 days before the desired publication date.

New members and visitors are welcome. For details, visit nilestownship.toastmastersclubs.org. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-677-1881.

THURSDAY, DEC. 11

Introduction to PowerPoint 2010

7 p.m.: Learn how to create, edit, and save slides with text and images. Registration limited to six. Morton Grove residents have priority. Prerequisite: Must be experienced and comfortable with computer, keyboard and mouse. Registration for all classes in this series opens: 9 a.m. Nov. 28. For more information or to register, go to calendar.mgpl.org or call 847-929-5101. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

SATURDAY, DEC. 13

Crafting for Charity

10 a.m.: Join in knitting or crocheting blankets to provide comfort for ill or traumatized children. Yarn will be provided, but please bring size 7-9 needles. Novices are welcome! Can't make it on Saturday, but want to participate? Email to info@mgpl.org for further information. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

TUESDAY, DEC. 16

Advanced Excel 2010

7 p.m.: Hands-on workshop covers creating charts and using tables to sort and filter data. Registration limited to six. Morton Grove residents have priority. Prerequisite: Do More with Excel 2010 workshop, or a thorough understanding of Excel 2010 required. Registration for all classes in this series opens: 9 a.m. Nov. 18. For more information or to register, go to calendar.mgpl.org or call 847-929-5101. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17

Scrabble for Adults

2 p.m.: Exercise your brain and enjoy friendly games of Scrabble with other word lovers. Morton

Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220. Free.

THURSDAY, DEC. 18

Do More with PowerPoint 2010

7 p.m.: For the follow-up to Introduction to PowerPoint 2010. This covers transitions and animations. Registration limited to six. Morton Grove residents have priority. Prerequisite: Must be experienced and comfortable with computer, keyboard and mouse. Registration for all classes in this series opens: 9 a.m. Nov. 28. For more information or to register, go to calendar.mgpl.org or call 847-929-5101. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

HAPPENING NEARBY

THURSDAY, DEC. 4

Toddler Time

10 a.m.: Stories, songs and rhymes for children ages 1-3 with a caregiver. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-6625.

Learn how to Help When Domestic Abuse is Suspected

1 p.m.: Join the Skokie Commission on Family Services for an open discussion and presentation about how to approach a loved one when domestic abuse is suspected. Attendees gain insight on to how you can assist a family member, friend, co-worker or neighbor. The presentation held until 3 p.m. and in the Mary Radmacher Room. The presentation includes informational videos, role play, overview of where to turn for help and professional guest speakers from local organizations. Registration is required by calling 847-673-7774 or visit calendar.skokieilibrary.info to register. The purpose of the Skokie Commission on Family Services is to facilitate improvement in the quality of life for Skokie's most vulnerable persons regardless of age, physical well-being or socio-economic status through public information, education and advocacy. Please contact the Human Services Division for additional information at 847-933-8208. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie.

Intermarriage Presentation

5:30 p.m.: The Men's Club of Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emunah presents Intermarriage: Concepts and Strategies for Families and Synagogue Leaders. This informative evening is open to the community and features guest speaker Rabbi Charles Simon who will address the subject of intermarriage based on recent Pew survey findings. 5:30 p.m. reception and 6 p.m. dinner. \$20/per person \$30/ couple....RSVP by Dec. 2. Beth Hillel Congregation, 3220 Big Tree Lane, Wilmette. Call 847-256-1213.

Family Forum: Dr. Peter Hayes

6:30 p.m.: Noted Northwestern University scholar Hayes discusses "Magical Thinking or Modern Planning: The Ideas Behind the Holocaust." Reservations required at reservations@ilhmec.org. Illinois Holocaust Museum, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie. Call 847-967-4800.

FRIDAY, DEC. 5

Rise and Shine Story Time

10 a.m.: A 30-minute story time for children ages 2-6 with a caregiver. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

Park Ridge Panhellenic Club

Noon: The Park Ridge Panhellenic Club meeting will feature a Maine East choral group presenting Christmas music. The luncheon and meeting will be held at the Park Ridge Country Club. Membership to the Panhellenic Club is open to alumnae of college Greek letter sororities. The club awards scholarships to high school graduates in the Maine Township area. Reservations should be made on the Monday before the event. Address inquiries to Barbara Pfaff at 847-696-4789. Park Ridge Country Club, 636 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-823-3102. \$25.

Teen DIY Workshop: Candy Wrapper Zipper Bag

4 p.m.: Join the library for a monthly DIY (Do It Yourself) workshop for teens. Sign up for each class. Grades 6-12. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-677-5277 x232.

First Fridays Holiday Fest & Cookie Walk

5 p.m.: The celebration begins at event headquarters, located at the Skokie Heritage Museum. There will be live reindeer, elves, photos with Santa, carolers to set the mood from Lincoln Jr. High School and much more! Cookie Walk beginning at 5 p.m., guests will check-in at the Skokie Heritage Museum where donations of new winter accessories (hats, gloves, coats), toys or non-perishable food items will be accepted for the Niles Township Food Pantry. Visitors are encouraged to make a donation before receiving a "Cookie Walk" passport. The passport will list participating merchants in Downtown Skokie, where small, festive cookies will be served. Shop & dine in Downtown Skokie on Dec. 5 and turn in receipts from 5-8 p.m. to the Skokie Heritage Museum. For every \$10 spent, receive a free raffle ticket for the chance to win prizes! Winners will be notified via email. Skokie Heritage Museum, 8031 Floral Ave., Skokie. Call 224-534-9510.

SATURDAY, DEC. 6

SEE CALENDAR, NEXT PAGE >

« FROM PREVIOUS PAGE
CALENDAR

Toot! Toot! All Aboard! North Shore & Western Model Railroad Club

9 a.m.: Enjoy the enchantment of the Community Room filled to the brim with model railroads. Great family fun. Just drop in. Open until 2:30 p.m. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview. Call 847-729-7500.

Cookie Walk and Bake Sale

9 a.m.: United Methodist Women hold annual "Cookie Walk and Bake Sale" to raise funds for mission efforts. Beautiful and delicious fresh baked cookies and other holiday goodies available. All proceeds benefit local, regional, and international mission projects. 1st United Methodist Church of Park Ridge, 418 Touhy Ave., Park Ridge, Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3144.

Breakfast with Santa

9 a.m.: Drop in for breakfast, crafts, games and a visit with Santa himself. St. Francis Xavier School, 808 Linden Ave., Wilmette. Call 847-256-1163. \$10; kids 2 and under free.

Music Institute presents: Compose Yourself!

9 a.m.: Open House 10 a.m. Compose Yourself! Composer Jim Stephenson introduces kids to the instruments of the symphony orchestra and then leads the audience through the creation of a new work. Don't miss the world premiere of one's very own piece of music! Sponsored by First Bank & Trust Food & Toy Drive! Accepting new, unwrapped toys and non-perishable food items for Evanston Holiday Food & Toy Drive Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Call 847-905-1500. \$5 per person.

Shabbat Children's Program

9 a.m.: Children in Shabbat Kids Club can enjoy a program that includes davening, interactive games, a healthy snack and stories. Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster St., Skokie. Call 847-677-1770.

AI-Anon

9:30 a.m.: Details at 708-867-5044. St. Paul Lutheran Church, 5650 N. Canfield Ave., Chicago.

Skokie Art Guild

9:30 a.m.: The group offers figure drawing workshops every Saturday. There are live models but no instructor. Devonshire Cultural Center, 4400 Greenwood St., Skokie. Call 847-673-4450. \$20 per session; \$12 for guild members.

Antiques Show and Sale

10 a.m.: The Woman's Club of Wilmette's (WCW) annual fundraiser, the Premier North Shore Antiques Show and Sale, in its 73rd year for the longest running show of its kind on the North Shore. Two-day general admission at the door

is \$9. Additional information can be found on the website: www.womansclubofwilmette.org Woman's Club of Wilmette, 930 Greenleaf Ave., Wilmette. Call 847-251-0527.

Antiques Show and Sale

10 a.m.: The Premier North Shore Antiques Show & Sale annual fundraiser is the longest running show of its kind on the North Shore. Now in its 73rd year, the show runs until 5 p.m., Saturday and to 4 p.m., Sunday. Two-day general admission at the door is \$9. An "Early-bird" shopping option is available from 8:30-10 a.m. Saturday, for a two-day admission price of \$15 at the door. Visit website for more information. Woman's Club of Wilmette, 930 Greenleaf Ave., Wilmette. Call 847-251-0527.

"Jolly Old Saint Nicholas" Holiday Faire

10:30 a.m.: The Philoptochos Society of Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church hosts its "Jolly Old Saint Nicholas" Holiday Faire. Enjoy a luncheon of homemade Greek cuisine from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (carry-outs available). Sample homemade pastries and tasty beverages from the Coffee Shoppe, while sitting around the Saint Nicholas Christmas tree. Shop many new vendors and favorite artisans for holiday gift giving. Children can enjoy the "Candy Cane Room" and a visit with Santa from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 1401 Wagner Road, Glenview. Call 847-729-2235. \$2 admission; children and students free.

"Jolly Old Saint Nicholas" Holiday Faire

10:30 a.m.: The Philoptochos Society of Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church hosts the "Jolly Old St. Nicholas" Holiday Faire. A luncheon of homemade Greek cuisine is served from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sit around the "St. Nicholas" tree while enjoying a beverage from the Coffee Shoppe with home-baked pastries and treats. These pastries, as well as tiropites and spanakopites are available to take home for holiday entertaining and hostess or teacher gifts. Many new vendors and local artisans offer unique options for holiday gift giving in every price range. Parents can bring their cameras for pictures of their children with Santa. Call or go to website or www.facebook.com/ssppglenview. Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 1401 Wagner Road, Glenview. Call 847-729-2235. Admission \$2; children and students free.

Social Security Workshop

10:30 a.m.: Learn three top strategies for 60 to 65-year-olds to maximize their social security income. Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut Ave., Glenview. Call 847-256-3049. Free.

Empty Bowls at Oakton

10:30 a.m.: Over 1600 hand crafted soup bowls made by local potters for purchase. Enjoy a simple lunch and hear live music. Larger art pieces are also available via raffle and bargain purchase. All proceeds go to six local food pantries. See a short video for more details at <http://vimeo.com/oakton/emptybowls>. Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. Call 847-635-1899. \$15.

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HELPSQUAD

Renter questions Avis e-Toll fee

HELP SQUAD
BY
CATHY CUNNINGHAM



Dear Help Squad, I ran into a problem that I never did resolve. In March I rented a car from Avis in Lake Zurich for a trip to Florida, and paid for it with my credit card. A few months later when I got my statement, I found an additional charge from Avis for \$17. I called the associated phone number and was told it was for a toll (of 25 cents) from Florida, which they claim I had not paid. The balance of \$16.75 was for a service charge for Avis paying the toll on my behalf! In any case, they did agree to refund me \$12.80 without too much trouble. However, even though I am out only \$4.20 it is the principle of the thing. When I asked Avis to send me proof that I had incurred a toll charge in Florida, they refused. This, in my opinion, is theft. Avis claimed that this charge was fully revealed in the rental agreement I signed. I have all the paperwork, and nowhere was this revealed in anything I signed.

This is an easy way for Avis to increase revenues, since I suspect most people would not notice this charge, and most of those who did would not complain since it was only \$17.

Peter, Lake Zurich

Peter sent Help Squad all of his Avis rental documents and other correspondence relative to the \$17 toll dispute. After reading everything, Help Squad did some research and contacted Avis directly. What we learned is that Avis offers an electronic toll payment system called e-Toll, which is marketed as an "innovative, time-saving amenity" that enables renters to "eliminate the need to carry change or wait in long cash payment lines at toll booths and simply zip through electronic toll payment lanes."

This means that many Avis cars are equipped with toll transponders (which need to be turned on), and all Avis cars are registered for video license plate recognition (which does not need to be turned on). Basically, once you've flipped the transponder switch or driven through a video toll lane, you have enrolled in Avis e-Toll.

Per Avis's website and term #22 in Avis's Rental Terms and Conditions (the rental jacket provided at pick-up), "If you use e-Toll, you will be charged a \$3.95 convenience fee for each day of the rental, including any days on which e-Toll is not used, up to a maximum of \$16.75 per rental month, plus incurred tolls at the cash rate. Toll charges will be billed separately to the same credit card used for the rental. You can avoid the convenience fee and any other charges by paying the toll in cash, using your own electronic toll device, or avoiding any cashless toll road or passage."

Avis Senior CS Solutions Consultant, C. Crawley, elaborated: "The state of Florida has many, many toll roads and also has several toll roads that do not allow the driver to pay cash; they are non-manned toll roads." On such roads, unless you have your own compatible toll transponder, you have no choice but to use e-Toll and incur the associated "convenience fees" because you can't pay cash even if you want to. And this is likely what happened to Peter.

From all of the above, following are Help Squad's three key Avis e-Toll take-aways: 1). Once you've activated e-Toll via a single toll payment, you're in it for the long haul at \$3.95 per day, up to \$16.75/month, whether you use it again or not. 2). Unlike using a standard toll transponder, e-Toll does not provide a discount off the cash price. 3). The only way an Avis renter can ensure non-enrollment in e-Toll is to: a). carefully map out routes that include no toll roads, or b). provide one's own compatible toll transponder, or c). travel toll roads that have a cash collection option.

Knowing all of this, it seems likely that more than a few renters (such as Peter) will find themselves inadvertently charged Avis e-Toll "convenience fees."

Need help?

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PARTIES

**UNIVERSITY
OF CHICAGO
CANCER
RESEARCH
FOUNDATION'S
GRAND
AUCTION GALA**

**LURIE
CHILDREN'S
WINTER
WISHES**

& MORE

**THE
JEWELRY
ISSUE**

*READY,
SET,
ZOE!*

**FASHION MOGUL
RACHEL ZOE
BRINGS BOUNCY
BLOWOUTS & STYLED
'DOS TO CHICAGO
WITH DREAMDRY**

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SPLASH

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PIECE OF JEWELRY?

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THINGS WE LOVE THIS WEEK

Graff anniversary

The jewelry experts celebrate a decade in Chicago this month and, in honor of the milestone, they're featuring stunning one-of-a-kind pieces flown in from London, including a 50-karat sapphire ring and a 138.24-karat emerald necklace — all available for purchase, should you be so inclined. Dec. 12-21, 103 E. Oak; Graffdiamonds.com



Kokopelli Chicago

What began as a food truck on the streets of Tijuana is now a trendy new taqueria in Wicker Park from renowned chef **Guillermo "Oso" Campos Moreno**. Named after the Hopi god of fertility and mischief, the funky food joint puts twists on Mexican classics — like the Kraken, a toasted tortilla stuffed with octopus, avocado and cheese (\$12 for three). 1324 N. Milwaukee; Kokopellichicago.com

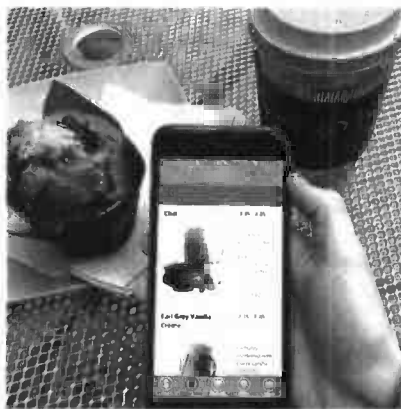


Hastens booties

Keep cozy around the house with these ultra-comfy booties, made with Hungarian down. They're unisex and one-size-fits-most (approximately shoe sizes 7-11), making them an easy gift for anyone on your list. \$80. Chicago Luxury Beds, 440 N. Wells; ChicagoLuxuryBeds.com

Allegory Handcrafted Goods Co.

The locally based company has tapped traditional Ecuadorian artisans who use ancient techniques to create these bags. All feature a weatherproof exterior and an interior decorated with traditional Incan designs. They're currently sold via Kickstarter, and the proceeds go toward preserving the life and work of Ecuadorian craftsmen. \$295; Allegorypens.com/macanapress



Argo Tea LoyalTEA app

If you're as addicted to the Chicago-based beverage brand as we are, then get excited: The tea company has launched an app that allows customers to prepay and pick up their orders immediately at the nearest café and earn LoyalTEA — get it? — points. Free on the iTunes app store.

ON THE COVER: PHOTO BY JUSTIN COIT

THE CALENDAR

BY MOLLY EACH

● ARTS & CULTURE | ● PHILANTHROPY | ● FOOD | ● FASHION



this week

December 4

○ SERVICE CLUB HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Make your list, check it twice and head to the Service Club's annual shopping luncheon, co-chaired by **Bonnie Rickard** and **Diane Freeman** and themed "The 12 Days of Christmas." Stock up on gifts from shops and designers such as Jo Malone, Lulu's on the Avenue and Mary Mary, then refuel with a delicious meal. Proceeds benefit event partner Hephzibah, a social service agency that helps children and families thrive through community programming.

Time: 10:30 a.m. sipping and shopping, noon lunch

Place: University Club, 76 E. Monroe

Cost: \$100. For tickets, call (312) 388-1814.

SPLASH PICK!

December 5

● ● TASTE OF ASIA

Nancy Loo of WGN-9 and **Judy Hsu** of ABC-7 emcee the Chinese American Service League's 35th annual event, featuring appetizers prepared by CASL chefs-in-training, performances from Northwestern's **A.NU.Bhav** dance troupe and CASL kids participants, an awards ceremony, silent auction, raffle and music from **DJ Aileen Tie**. Funds help continue the mission of the Midwest's largest social service agency dedicated to the needs of Chinese-Americans.

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: Zhou B Art Center, 1029 W. 35th

Cost: \$95. For tickets, visit CaslService.org/events.

December 5

● ● FEED YOUR MIND GALA

Started by a crew of Chicago's top chefs — including **Paul Kahan**, **Matthias Merger** and **Jason Hammel** — Pilot Light aims to promote healthy relationships with food in Chicago schools. Support the organization at its annual fundraiser, featuring food, drinks and cooking demos from 15 of the city's top restaurants. "Windy City Live" host **Ji Suk Yi** emcees, while **Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra** and **DJ Supreme Court** provide live entertainment.

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Preston Bradley Hall in the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington

Cost: \$125-\$275, or \$75 for under 27. For tickets, visit Pilotlightchefs.org/feed-your-mind-2014.

December 6

● CHILDREN'S RESEARCH FUND CHILDREN'S BALL

Roxanne M. and **Rocco J. Martino** and **Justin C.** and **Angela M. Dearborn** co-chair this 56th annual black-tie event, benefiting the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital and the Stanley Manne Children's Research Institute. Themed "Big Dreams and Bright Futures," the night features cocktails, dinner, dancing and a silent auction with items such as a visit to the "Chicago Fire" set and a tour of Van Cleef & Arpels' Paris workshop.

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan

Cost: \$1,000 or \$500 for under 35. For tickets, visit Childrensresearchfund.org.

next week

December 7

● HOLIDAY TREASURE HUNT AND TEA PARTY

For the 33rd year, the Art Institute of Chicago invites families to celebrate the season by uncovering the museum's array of treasures. A festive four-stop scavenger hunt — to be tracked with stamps and stickers — culminates in a celebratory holiday tea party with Artie the Lion and friends.

Time: Start at 10:45 a.m., noon or 1:30 p.m.

Place: Art Institute of Chicago, enter through the Modern Wing at 159 E. Monroe

Cost: \$30 members, \$35 non-members, \$15 children 2 and up, under 2 free. For tickets, call (877) 307-4242 or visit Artic.edu/event/33rd-annual-holiday-treasure-hunt-and-tea-party-celebrating-seasons.

December 7

● NUTCRACKER FAMILY DINNER

Celebrate the Joffrey Ballet's 20th birthday with a decadent dinner and a matinee performance of Robert Joffrey's holiday favorite, "The Nutcracker." Hosted by The Women's Board, the bash will feature dessert, candy, nail and jewelry stations plus games, dancing, contests and non-stop music.

Time: 2:00 p.m. show, 5:30 p.m. dinner

Place: Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Congress; Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel, 221 N. Columbus

Cost: \$275. For tickets, visit Joffrey.org/nutdinner

December 9

● OVARIAN CANCER RESEARCH FUND'S EVENING AT DRUMBAR

The Ovarian Cancer Research Fund's Junior Board, plus event chairs **Elizabeth Hirschtritt** and **Nicki Eisenstein**, host 200 young professionals for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres — backed by music from a DJ — plus a raffle and auction prizes from spots such as Salon Buzz, Sprinkles Cup-



The Art Institute of Chicago

cakes, Shred415 and more.

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: Drumbar in the Raffaello Hotel, 201 E. Delaware

Cost: \$60 in advance, \$75 at the door. For tickets, visit Ocrf.org/news/events.

December 13

● JDRF ONE DREAM GALA

Classic rock band **Foreigner** performs at the JDRF's 35th annual event, which also offers dinner, cocktails, live and silent auctions and the chance to donate through the organization's signature "Fund A Cure" program to benefit research for beta cell encapsulation. Proceeds help raise awareness and find a cure for type 1 diabetes.

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: McCormick Place Convention Center and Arie Crown Theater, 2301 S. Lake Shore

Cost: \$425. For tickets, call (312) 670-0313, email Galail@jdrf.org or visit Illinois.jdrf.org/events/gala.

December 13

● JUF BIG EVENT

The Young Leadership Division of the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago always brings a big name to headline its annual fundraiser, and this year is no different — "SNL" writer **Seth Meyers** performs a stand-up routine, and an afterparty follows with open bar, late-night grub and a DJ.

Time: 8:15 p.m.

Place: Sheraton Hotel Chicago, 301 E. North Water

Cost: \$85 if you have donated more than \$25 to the JUF; \$110 if you are a new donor. For tickets, visit Juf.org/yld/bigevent.aspx.



JUF Big Event (inset: Seth Meyers)



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in Tom Ford and Céline
at the Museum of
Science and Industry

**ERIKA
LOWE**

in Caché at the Gene
Siskel Film Center

**ABBY
DUNN**

in Theory
at The Casino

**MELINDA
JOSEPH**

in Kensie
at the University Club

When it comes to braving the Chicago chill, there's no better — or more stylish — option than furry outerwear. Drape yourself in a fluffy jacket from Alexandre Vauthier or wrap up in a plush vest from Italian fashion house Costume National. Not ready to go totally wild? Try fur-accented dresses or bags. Plus, embracing furry fashion has never been easier with a slew of faux options available. A winter staple, this is one trend that's always a *fur* bet.



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UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION'S GRAND AUCTION GALA

Party attendees sing along to the Bill Pollack Orchestra.

Back in time

STORIES BY CHIARA MILIOULIS

The Women's Board of the University of Chicago Cancer Research Foundation threw a 1950s-inspired bash — complete with candlelight, flowing Champagne and the sounds of the **Bill Pollack Orchestra** — at the 48th annual Grand Auction Gala. Booth One Ball chairs **Diane H. Reilly** and **Karen Slimmon** welcomed guests to the Four Seasons Hotel Chicago (120 E. Delaware) Nov. 22 for the black-tie affair, where partygoers indulged in cocktails, dinner, dancing and live and silent auctions, with items including an 18-karat gold bracelet from Verdura and tickets to the Ralph Lauren 2015 Fall Runway Show at Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week New York and a \$5,000 Ralph Lauren shopping spree. More than \$1 million was raised to benefit cancer research at the University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Splash was the media sponsor of this event. The Sun-Times Foundation and the Chicago Community Trust will match every dollar donated to the University of Chicago Cancer Research Foundation up to a total of \$15,000. Up to \$1,000 can be matched per individual donation.



Robin and Mark Tebbe with Jean Atchison



Below: **Cindy Chereskin** with co-chairs **Diane H. Reilly** and **Karen Slimmon** | PHOTOS BY RAMZI DRESSEN-SPLASH AND DAN REST



Jody and Peter Bajor



Dr. David and Janie Song



Dr. Kenneth Polonsky and Everett Hardt



LURIE CHILDREN'S WINTER WISHES

Guests gather at The Casino. | PHOTOS BY RAMZI DRESSEN-SPLASH AND JAN TERRY

Make a wish

More than 450 guests helped grant wishes for the children treated at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago at the Founders' Board's Winter Wishes: Holiday Cocktail Celebration Nov. 20. Supporters gathered at The Casino (195 E. Delaware) to make contributions through the event's Wish List, which funds important programs and services at the hospital. Hosted by **Susan Chandler**, **Katie Donovan** and **Briana Fosnaugh**, the evening raised more than \$550,000 to benefit the Board's three-year,

Co-chairs **Susan Chandler**, **Briana Fosnaugh** and **Katie Donovan**

\$5.5 million fundraising commitment, and to support the vision of the Division Head of Neonatology **Dr. Aaron Hamvas**.

Splash was the media sponsor of this event. The Sun-Times Foundation and the Chicago Community Trust will match every dollar donated to Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago up to a total of \$5,000. Up to \$250 can be matched per individual donation.



LANA JEWELRY'S NEIMAN MARCUS EVENT

Left: **Blake and Lana Bramlette**. Right: **Mikhaila Woodall**, **Monica Canellis**, **Christina Monley** and **Sarah Wood** PHOTOS BY FRANCIS SON

Golden gals

Jewelry fanatics flocked to Neiman Marcus Michigan Avenue (737 N. Michigan) Nov. 12 to sip, shop and scout the latest from local designer **Lana Bramlette**, who counts A-list stars Kendall Jenner, Jennifer Lopez and Cameron Diaz among her fans. Supporters tried on designs from her new "Flawless" diamond collection and later took their seats for a runway presentation showcasing pieces from Bramlette's eponymous line.

MSI'S FASHION FORWARD EVENT

Innovative style



Guests check out a design by CuteCircuit.

Garance Doré



Science and fashion collided at the Museum of Science and Industry's Fashion Forward event Nov. 13, when the museum (5700 S. Lake Shore) honored French fashion blogger **Garance Doré** with the inaugural Fashion Inspiration Award for her inventive approach to style and the design world. The evening also showcased a one-night-only installation of cutting-edge wearable technology from around the globe, including a fiber optic dress with a heartbeat created by **Alison Lewis** for Switch Embassy and 3-D printed **Gabriela Ligenza** hats, a thrilling performance by **ChiArts** dancers and music by **DJ Matt Roan**. The proceeds raised will benefit the MSI Annual Fund, which supports the museum's exhibits and science education programs.

Splash was the media sponsor of this event.



David Mosena and Steven Rosengard

Dorota and Jerzy Kenar

ChiArts dancers | PHOTOS BY RAMZI DREESSEN-SPLASH



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The butterfly effect

BY SELENA FRAGASSI

Neiman Marcus transforms its food program with **Mariposa**

When Neiman Marcus decided to rename its iconic restaurant, which hovers four floors over Michigan Avenue, Mariposa — “butterfly” in Spanish — was a natural fit. Not only is the butterfly the brand’s official symbol, but the multi-million dollar, floor-to-ceiling renovation echoes the sentiment of a beautiful transformation — right down to the butterfly napkin rings.

“Neiman Marcus is going through a renaissance right now and updating all of its stores,” says assistant general manager **Nathan Figone** — and the former Zodiac Restaurant was not spared in the makeover. Replacing the outdated pastels and floral motif are modern chartreuse chairs, textured gray carpet and walls, circular booths with retro-inspired wallpaper, rustic Edison light fixtures and a prestigious collection of artwork. “Those are all originals by Alexander Calder,” says Figone, pointing to large tapestries and one of the artist’s trademark mobiles hanging above the escalators — the first work of art the group of stores commissioned in the 1950s.

Another showstopping upgrade: bringing on executive chef **Greg Smith**, formerly

of Blue Point Oyster Bar and Biaggi’s Restaurant, who revamped Mariposa’s menu with entrée-sized greens like the lump crab salad (\$22) and more substantial dishes, such as the Thai spiced scallops (\$26) and steak frites — grilled filet mignon served with a demi-glace, truffle fries and roasted vegetables (\$26). “We get all of our seafood delivered fresh every morning,” says Figone, “but otherwise, everything is made from scratch.”

Here’s what else to expect at Mariposa:

Must-try dishes: Not everything on the menu has changed. Some of the most popular items made the cut, including the mandarin orange soufflé with chicken salad and fresh-baked sweet bread (\$16.50) and, of course, the consommé. “I think we’d have a revolution on our hands if we decided to stop offering it,” Figone says of the trademark petite mug of broth, served with warm popovers and strawberry butter. The service has started every meal since the spot’s first restaurant opened.

The bar scene: The restaurant’s attached Bar On 4 was similarly upgraded with a new look and separate menu. Munch on the fig and prosciutto flatbread

(\$12), seasonal panini (\$19) or crab cake sliders (\$19) while sipping on rotating specialty cocktails like the Fall Julep (\$12) or cranberry ginger margarita punch (\$12).

Start your wine-ing: Mariposa stocks a robust selection of wines, including the store’s own Neiman Marcus label that comes straight from a Santa Barbara vineyard (\$12 per glass, \$47 per bottle). The signature Chardonnay is “buttery with not a lot of oakiness,” says Figone. An added bonus: Bottles can be purchased to take home with you.

Private entrance: You don’t have to be a Neiman’s shopper to enjoy Mariposa (although if you are, the InCircle member program lets you earn points for gift cards). The restaurant has a separate door on Chicago Avenue so guests can come straight up to the dining room. But stop by early — hours at Mariposa are limited to 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the restaurant and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the bar Monday through Saturday (the bar only is also open noon to 4 p.m. Sunday) to allow for a number of private events hosted in the evenings.

737 N. Michigan, (312) 642-5900; Neimanmarcus.com



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SCHOOL NOTES

Singer **JOSH GROBAN** gives back to Chicago children **BY ZAK STEMER**

Geek at heart

"I'm a geek for video games, I'm a geek for British comedy. Kat [Dennings] and I have all the same geeky interests. I've always gravitated toward people who weren't afraid to flail at a club. No specific [dance] moves have been mastered, just fork-in-the-garbage-disposal is basically what [the dance] is."



If your life were a movie ...

"Denzel [Washington would play me], obviously. The tagline would be 'He'll raise you up ... to smack you down.' It's a kung-fu movie. Me and Chris Tucker are gonna roam the streets. He'll be the comedic relief to my baritone fists of fury."



The next wave

"I'm a really big fan of a couple voices that I think are fantastic. Hozier [inset], is one of them. Sam Smith is another, and Kalse Davis — she's a voice to listen to."



Josh Groban has never been one to cut class, but he owes a lot to people who do. Case in point: If Italian singer Andrea Bocelli hadn't had to skip a rehearsal for The Grammys in 1999 — and Groban hadn't stood in for Bocelli for his duet with Celine Dion — the 33-year-old musician might not be the household name he is today.

Now the LA-born singer is paying his success forward, teaming up with Michelle Obama's Turnaround Arts program as an artist in residence at Lawndale's Chalmers School of Excellence (2745 W. Roosevelt) — and, no surprise, he's even attending classes. "My passion has always been arts education and music in schools," he said during his visit to the elementary school earlier this month. "I've always tried to pound the pavement to make sure it's not just viewed as a luxury program or an extra-curricular. [Arts education] is a part of the fabric of what makes these kids human, and what makes them future well-rounded adults."

While Groban's visit to the school was intended to showcase the arts programs and inspire the students, the singer maintains he was the one most impacted. During a morning art class, he and the children were asked to paint clouds: "As confident as I am on the music side of things, I'm not confident when it comes to visual art. I've never been able to draw within the lines," he says. "All of a sudden I'm getting nervous with all these second- and third-graders. [My cloud] just wasn't as good as the other kids'. They crushed me in the cloud-painting department. This adorable little girl who was so sweet to me, her name was LaMonica, said, 'Josh, don't doubt yourself. You tried. Keep going.'"

LaMonica's sage advice has actually been the cornerstone of Groban's career since it began more than a decade ago. "That doubt never ends," he says. "The best lesson you

learn — whether you're a third-grader or a 33-year-old musician — is what to do with disappointment when [things] don't go your way."

Fortunately, Groban's talent and charm have carried him on a steady upswing from the get-go. His first four albums went multi-platinum with hits like "You Raise Me Up" and "The Prayer" (the song he first rehearsed with Dion). His 2013 album "All That Echoes" spurred a world tour. But his rise to fame came with a catch: Groban was almost instantly labeled as an opera singer, a romantic and a dreamboat for middle-aged moms across the globe.

It's been a struggle for the crooner to balance that reputation as he pursues his other passions: comedy and acting. Still, he's managed to land roles like the hilariously bland ex-boyfriend in 2011's "Crazy, Stupid, Love" and, when he went on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" in January to dramatically sing tweets from rapper Kanye West (Groban's deep voice belted out ridiculous phrases like "Fur pillows are hard to actually sleep on"), the video got more than 6 million hits online.

Back in the studio, Groban's working on his latest album, a collection of his favorite Broadway songs due out in 2015. "I finally [get to] record the songs that I grew up loving," Groban says. "I've always been such a Sondheim geek. ... [The Broadway] world is one that's very important to me."

So it's fitting that Groban, who toes the line between opera star, Broadway beau and pop-culture icon (he's even dating "2 Broke Girls" bombshell Kat Dennings), has earned a one-of-a-kind descriptor: He's been dubbed a "popera" heartthrob by *DuJour* magazine — and he couldn't be more thrilled. "Whenever a nerd does well, I feel like we have to represent," he laughs. "[As a kid] I had a hard time making friends. I was shy, I was insecure and I wasn't interested in joining the football team. ... [But] you don't want to peak too early. Stay awkward as long as humanly possible. It'll serve your character well later in life."

cover story

Head to ZOE

Fashion mogul **Rachel Zoe**
expands her empire to Chicago
this week with DreamDry

BY ELLE EICHINGER



Rachel Zoe is a pint-sized powerhouse that the fashion world never saw coming. For roughly a decade, hidden behind a pair of enormously oversized Tom Ford sunnies, she quietly carved out her own niche in the style industry by styling A-list celebs and fashion magazine shoots. Then, in 2008, she broke into the mainstream with Bravo's "Rachel Zoe Project," and soon became an American icon — albeit an eccentric one — offering a behind-the-scenes look at the fashion industry, all while telling the world how "bananas" it was.

Yet when we get on the phone with Zoe to talk about her most recent project — a franchise of blowout salons dubbed DreamDry that she's bringing to Chicago this week — she's all business. Her sweet

PHOTO BY JUSTIN COIT

voice, laced with a valley-girl cadence, is that of the professional Zoe, the renaissance woman of fashion.

It's a side of Zoe that her DreamDry co-founder Robin Moraetes sees on a daily basis. "[Rachel's] even more amazing than what the public sees," Moraetes says. "She's wicked smart; she's super creative. She's the ultimate multitasker and she does it all with a genuine smile on her face, which is slightly impossible for most of human society to do." OK, so maybe she's not human: This year alone, Zoe, 43, worked with jewelry designer Jennifer Meyer and fashion labels Rodarte and Oscar de la Renta on exclusive capsule collections for her online style magazine *The Zoe Report* (of which she's also editor-in-chief), served as a brand ambassador for Jockey and designed multiple collections for her eponymous ready-to-wear label — not to mention styled a roster of celebrities (her client list has included Jennifer Lawrence, Sofia Vergara, Jennifer Garner, Cameron Diaz and Anne Hathaway).

"Here's the thing," Zoe explains, "I can only take things on, associate my name and my time and everything else, with things that I truly believe in, and work with people I truly believe in. ... Anything I do is [about] empowering smart women, women that have confidence, women that inspire."

It's these types of women she's met in Chicago, which is why she chose the city as the second DreamDry destination behind New York (and why she'll open a second Chicago spot next year). "We really want to focus on areas where there are savvy, incredible women who are living a jet-set life," Zoe says. "Multi-hyphenates in a myriad of ways, whether it's a mother who's doing a hundred things, whether it's a career woman who has a tremendous amount of responsibilities. Chicago's a very savvy city."

"Rachel and I both live very, very busy lives," adds Moraetes, DreamDry's CEO, who met Zoe through mutual friends several years ago. "We wanted to come up with a solution for the busy professional, the busy mom, to have a more upscale, affordable luxury experience. DreamDry really is a destination."

The salon's (904 W. Armitage; *Dreamdry.com*) focus isn't cuts or color, but blowouts, updos and dry styles starting at \$40. "[Hair] is a huge part of a woman's look," Zoe says. "You

don't feel good if your hair doesn't look good." For her part, "I'm more of a creative director," she says. "I curate hairstyles every season, I'm involved with anything that is image, visual, style."

Style, of course, has always been her forte. The New Jersey native got her start in the mid-'90s, working for fashion magazines in nearby New York. From there she dove into styling and headed to LA, where — via the high-profile clients she dressed early on — she championed the return of vintage/bohemian style: 1960s-inspired prints, chic baggy pants and dresses and more jewelry than most people would know what to do with. In 2007, she introduced the look to the masses with her first book, *Style A to Zoe*, and, finally, put herself (plus her husband, Rodger Berman and, eventually, their two sons) in front of the lens in 2008 with five seasons of Bravo's "Rachel Zoe Project," solidifying her status as a household name.

"This is God's honest truth, I never really had a plan," she says. "I never set a blueprint — I wish I did, on some level. Part of me wishes I were that person who did, like, spreadsheets and work charts and tried to map out where I thought I'd be in life. But my goal was really to be a great stylist. That was my plan and the rest was just organic. At the end of the day, it's passion that's leading you. It's following your gut — mapping out this huge plan, you kind of set yourself up for letdown."

Meanwhile, Zoe has also become a mother to sons Skyler, 3, and baby Kaius. "The hardest balance is being a working mother," Zoe says. "There is no exact science, there is no perfect solution; you learn it as you go along. I'm doing the best I can and I'm not willing to yield on time with my children, and I'm not willing to let my career suffer, so I just do it all and hope that it works out every day."

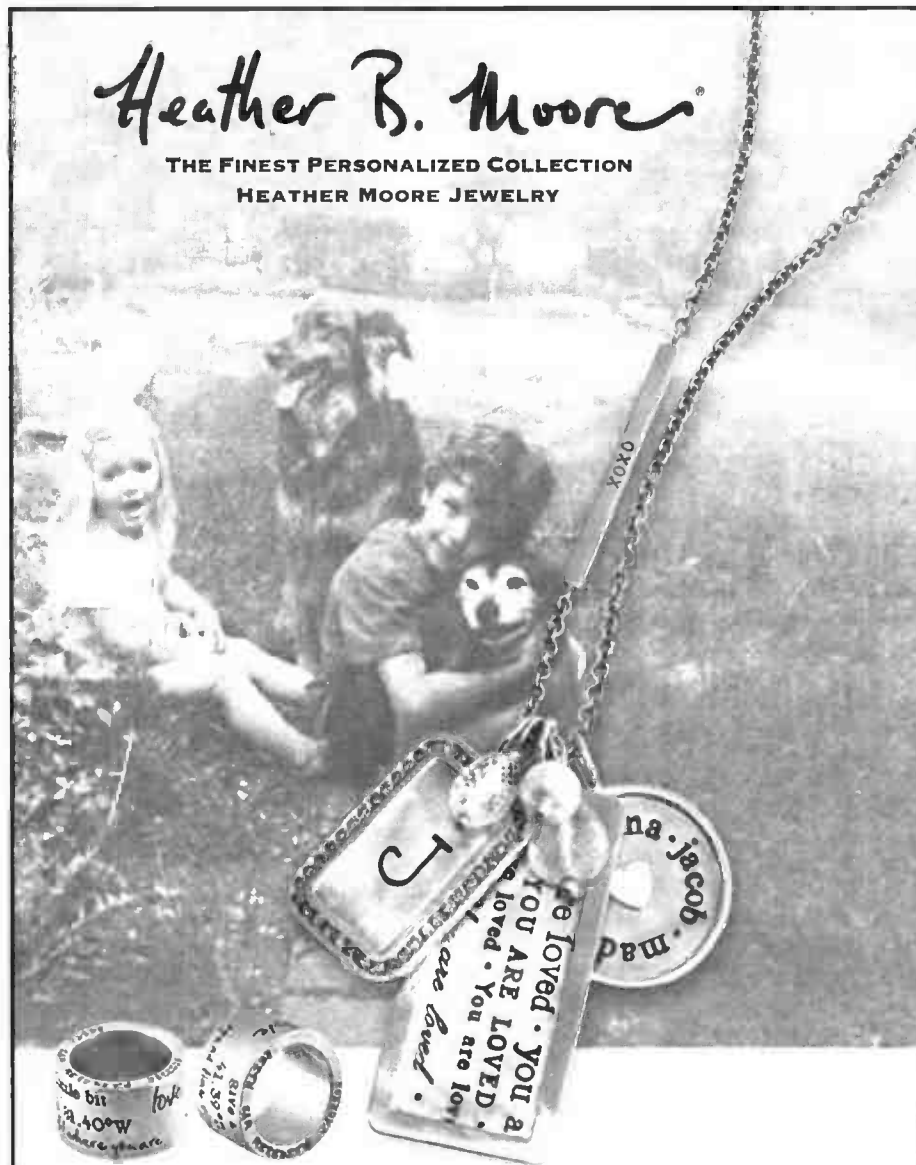
So, is there anything the super-stylist can't do? It's a topic that brings out the emphatic, made-for-TV Zoe that, until now, has been masked by professionalism. "Everything has scared me, and I said I would never do it and then I did. Like writing a book. Or if you asked me if I'd ever open a franchise of hair salons, ever? Nooo. Do a TV show? Nooo," she laughs, drawing out the word. "I've learned I don't say no anymore. My father taught me that; he said, 'Never say never,' and I was like, 'Yeah, but I'm never doing that.' But I did, so now I just don't say it anymore."



Rachel Zoe with Anne Hathaway (top) and Sofia Vergara.

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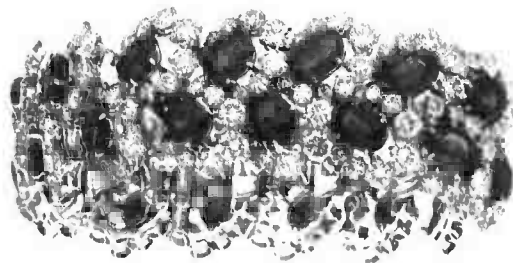
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Van Cleef & Arpels bracelet (above) and Louis Comfort Tiffany gold necklace (right)

Auction House: Heritage Auctions

The lowdown: This auction house was founded as a coins-based business and has since expanded to include 39 collectible categories. "The jewelry department began eight years ago and is a 'middle-market player' at this point, offering our clients a wide range of materials and price points, and growing quickly," says Jill Burgum (pictured), senior director of fine jewelry for Heritage, which hosts auctions in the Chicagoland area throughout the year.



The crown jewels: "[We provide] an opportunity for clients to locate one-of-a-kind jewels, true estate goods that may not have been offered to the public before, rare gemstones, diamonds of all shapes, sizes, cuts and colors, as well as current designer jewels," says Burgum, "all of which are offered significantly below their original retail price."

Price range: \$300 up to \$1.5 million.

How to dig for gold: Major designer items hold more of their original value when they come to the auction block. Think the big three: Cartier, Tiffany and Van Cleef & Arpels. Burgum also points to a few chic, contemporary houses like Elizabeth Gage, Judith Ripka and the high-end de Grisogono that are picking up steam — keep your eye out for them, especially at an auction house, where you can acquire pieces (especially engagement rings) below cost. Burgum also says platinum has held value the best in the auction world. "It's considered a more precious metal than silver." In all cases, the condition of the item is always of supreme importance. "Carefully examine the piece if you are able to do so in person," says Burgum, "but

if personal inspection is not an option, contact the auction house representatives and ask the questions needed to make yourself comfortable before bidding."

How to keep it fresh: "Condition is always an important factor. 'How one wears and treats the jewelry impacts how long the piece will last or how much repair might be incurred over time,'" says Burgum, adding that a lot of the care is in understanding the materials in your jewelry. "It's wise to do your research or ask for auction house assistance to educate yourself before making your purchase." Pro tip: Always keep the original box your piece came in because it will increase the value. "It can be artwork in itself," says Burgum. And remember, as soon as you take your piece home, it will depreciate in value — no matter how well you take care of it. "Markups on the retail level are so high, the odds you'll ever recoup the money you invested in a piece are slim. People who see a really good return on jewelry investment are those who bought pieces many years ago that were well-made or with high-end stones that are harder to come by today," she advises. "For the most part, you should just wear and enjoy your jewelry because that's what it's all about."

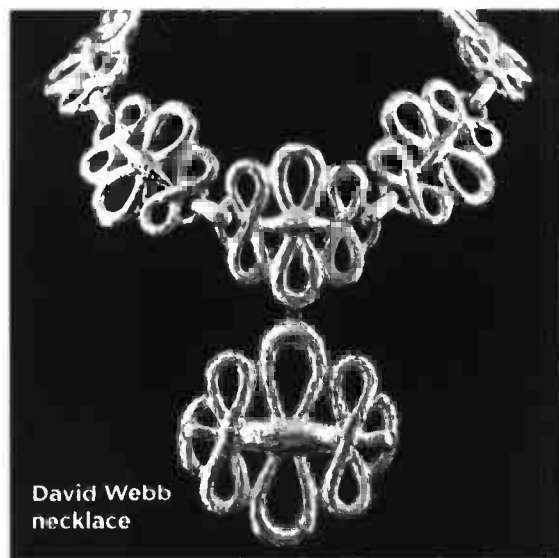
Ha.com



Going for the gold

If you know what to look for, the right jewelry purchase can turn out to be a gem of an investment **BY SELENA FRAGASSI**

Sometimes, it's totally OK to be a gold digger — for instance, when you're on the hunt for that perfect piece of jewelry. We're talking about bling that will not only dress up your favorite LBD, but will also keep its value well into the future, becoming resalable or a family heirloom. But not everything that glitters is gold, so we turned to four industry experts (at a vintage store, auction house, estate sale and high-end jeweler) for shopping tips — and the secrets to keeping the razzle-dazzle in your pieces for years to come.



David Webb necklace

Estate Sale: CIRCA

The lowdown: One of the largest buyers of pre-owned jewelry, diamonds and watches like those you might find at an estate sale. "We have 13 offices worldwide, where we meet with clients to evaluate and purchase their items," says Ruth Thuston (pictured), director of the Chicago division located in the John Hancock building.

The crown jewels: Estate sale jewelry can be "anything from antique items that are over 100 years old to modern pieces purchased a year ago," says Thuston. "Estate' basically just means it was pre-owned."

Price range: Also a wide



range, including inexpensive costume jewelry (under \$100) to high-end stamped pieces (in the thousands).

How to dig for gold: "Just like you would if you were shopping for furniture or art, buy quality and good design," says Thuston. "Look at the back of the piece: Does it look

Jeweler: Marshall Pierce & Company

The lowdown: As one of the originals on Chicago's Jewelers Row, Marshall Pierce & Company



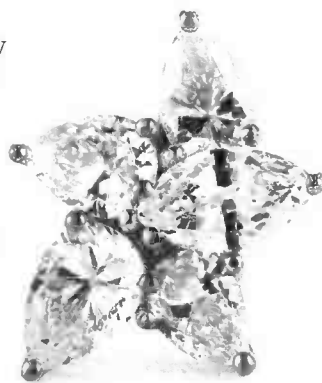
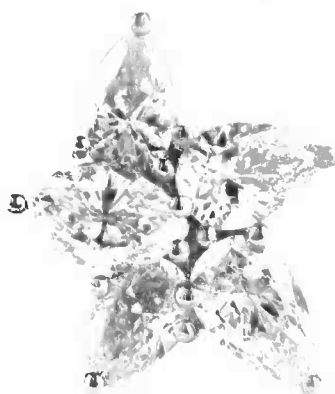
has a long legacy of fine jewelry sales. "We've been around for 88 years and we're the oldest tenants in our building," says President Jerry

Bern (pictured). The store is known for its selection of high-end earring, ring and pendant styles as well as Swiss watches.

The crown jewels: Marshall Pierce specializes in high-quality diamonds and colored stones like emeralds, rubies and sapphires, sourced from around the world and carefully set.

Price range: \$2,000 and up.

How to dig for gold: Always check three key things: the feel, the look and the quality. It's important to hold the item and try it on, says Bern. "[Even if] a gold piece says it's 3 millimeters wide, the gold can be rolled as thin as tinfoil. You have to feel how heavy the base is." Although quality can be purchased at every budget, Bern says the jewelry that maintains its value tends to be the higher-end items rather than mass-produced selections. "Commercial items rarely appreciate," he says. Also look for larger gemstones, which are more valuable for their rarity — but be careful which ones you choose. "Amethyst and citrine,



Marshall Pierce & Company diamond earrings (above) and Dana Rebecca Designs earrings

for example, don't appreciate as much because they're not as rare as the big four [diamond, emerald, ruby and sapphire]."

How to keep it fresh: Fine jewelry can be durable, but use common sense when taking care of it. "If you wear a ring, always take it off before doing activities like weightlifting, since gold and silver are soft metals," says Bern, noting that rings should be checked and polished by a jeweler once year. Pearls in particular should always be handled carefully. "It should be the last thing you put on before you go out to keep the perfume and hairspray off the surface; anything [containing] alcohol eats away at pearls. Wipe them off before you store them with a damp cloth to remove residue and they'll last you a lifetime."

29 E. Madison, (312) 372-2415; MarshallPierce.com



punched out and not as pretty as the front? Drag a chain or bracelet over your wrist: Does it feel good to wear it or does it have rough edges and feel tiny?" Also, look for makers' marks and ask for all certifications and original packaging. "If it's made by a famous [brand], it's probably better crafted," she says. Cartier, Tiffany and Van Cleef & Arpels are always highly collectible because of their storied reputation, but an up-and-coming exception is someone like David Yurman, who's quickly grown a secondary market recognition. While pros like Thuston have developed a trained eye from years of practice, she recommends a tool that will give you a similar advantage: "For those shopping estate sales, I suggest bringing a



Angela Cummings for Tiffany & Co. bracelet

10x Triplet Magnifying Loupe. It's the same thing used by professionals to grade diamonds and other gemstones." Thuston recommends the Bausch & Lomb version, which you can buy at online portals like Amazon.com.

How to keep it fresh: Thuston is quick to point out that jewelry does not appreciate — it's more of a luxury purchase than an investment — but there is always the possibility to get lucky at an

estate sale and buy at an advantageous cost close to what you can sell for later. In general, to preserve your items, she recommends storing each piece separately. "You want to store your [new purchase] in a way that it doesn't scratch up against other jewelry and damage it," says Thuston. This is especially important with diamond jewelry because of its hardness. She suggests using small, clear plastic bags to see what's inside and avoid tangling; pearls, however, should always be stored in cloth bags. And don't put money into repairing jewelry you'll want to resell. "Labor is expensive, resell your jewelry in its current condition," she says.

875 N. Michigan, (312) 787-8588; Circajewels.com



Lindsay Segal (left) and Brielle Buchberg

Vintage Store: Luxury Garage Sale

The lowdown: A designer consignment service offering a curated selection of new, gently used and vintage women's fashion and accessories, including jewelry. "Jewelry is the exception for us — while we always take designer pieces, if a customer presents a really standout, unsigned jewelry item, we'll sell that as well," says Brielle Buchberg, co-owner of the Old Town store, which she opened in Nov. 2012 with Lindsay Segal.

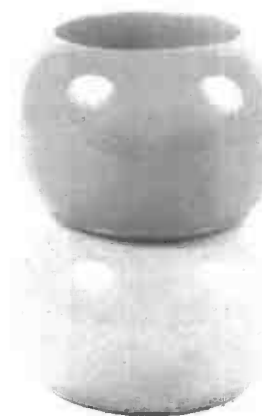
The crown jewels: A mix of costume and statement pieces. Think gold-plated necklaces, bracelets and rings with cheeky embellishments like rhinestones. "These are items you can wear with a dress for a 'wow' factor," says Segal. "For the most part this is not fine jewelry, so you won't find a lot of dainty pieces [common in vintage styles]."

Price range: \$40 to a few thousand for signed designer pieces.

How to dig for gold: The more recognizable brands — think Chanel, Hermès and Saint Laurent — will definitely retain their value over time, but costume jewelry from the likes of Kenneth Jay Lane, Ciner and Larry Vrba are good options, too. "While Chanel is always coveted, Vrba pieces are all one-of-a-kind and highly collectible — and not on the market very often," says Buchberg, noting that continually trending pieces include long, chunky gold necklaces, cuffed bracelets and dangly or clip-on earrings. With vintage pieces, she adds, follow a few simple rules: "You have to look carefully for good quality because a lot of costume jewelry can age poorly. Make sure [the metal] is not corroded and, for earrings, check that the post or jump ring is not broken. ... Overall, ensure the piece is still wearable."

How to keep it fresh: "Some brands can sell for far more than they were purchased for originally," says Buchberg. But the brands that are more readily available, like David Yurman and Tiffany, will likely be discounted more than the brands that are harder to come by [in a resale market]," she says. While you can absolutely wear your vintage purchases while still retaining their value, "just make sure to store them in a smart way," says Segal. That means out of the light, in a cool, dark place. "You don't want humidity to get to gold plating because it will corrode it more quickly," she explains. To clean the pieces, the duo recommends costume jewelry cleaner made and sold at Lulu's on the Avenue (900 N. Michigan). One last tip for preservation: "Don't remake your purchase into something else — for instance, changing clip earrings into post earrings — especially if it's fine jewelry. You could end up devaluing it if you try to make it your own."

1658 N. Wells, (312) 291-9126; Luxurygaragesale.com



Vintage cuffs (above) and a Chanel cuff

ever after

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Essense of Australia, Bella Sposa Bridal Boutique, 9524 179th, Tinley Park; Bellasposaboutique.com

Bride's shoes:

Badgley Mischka, Nordstrom, 55 E. Grand; Shop.nordstrom.com

Bride's jewelry:

Givenchy, Barneys New York, 660 Madison in New York; Barneys.com

Bride's hair:

Van Cleef Hair Studio, 56 W. Huron; Vancleef-hair.com

Groom's attire:

custom Emilio Yuste suit

Rings:

Neil Lane; Neillanejewelry.com

Maid of honor's dress:

David's Bridal, 5020 W. 95th, Oak Lawn; Davidsbridal.com

Best man's attire:

Mattarazi Uomo Inc., 124 E. Olympic, Los Angeles; Mattarazi.com

Wedding planners:

Dana Maksimovich, Dmaksimovich@aol.com; Regina D. Brooks, Reginedanielle.com

Cake:

Orland Park Bakery, 14850 S. La Grange, Orland Park; Orlandparkbakery.com

Catering:

Sodexo; Sodexousa.com

Florist:

Anthony Gowder Designs, 1733 W. Hubbard; Anthonygowder.com

Entertainment:

Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, Kalamazoosymphony.com; DJ Randall Powell, Nightlong Entertainment, Nightlongent.com

Invitations:

Brooke Randazzo Eggert, [r3mg Creative Boutique](http://r3mg.com), 811 South, Oak Park; R3mg.com



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Antoine Casanave and Brenda Robinson at the Shedd Aquarium. At left: Robinson with her uncle Rev. Jesse Jackson. | TIMOTHY WHALEY PHOTOGRAPHY



Brenda Robinson & Antoine Casanave

BY CHIARA MILIOULIS

It was an uneventful day for Brenda Robinson — the local entertainment lawyer was en route from Los Angeles to Chicago after one of her frequent business trips. But for Antoine Casanave, a luxury real-estate broker and developer, it was one of those days when everything was going wrong — after running late, he missed several flights in a row. His luck turned around though, when he ended up on the same flight as Robinson. Once they arrived in Chicago, the two bonded in baggage claim and later hung out in the city. By the end of his trip, he knew he had met The One. “It hit me when I was on the flight back to LA, thinking, ‘This is the most amazing, special woman I’ve ever met in my entire life,’” Casanave says. “I knew she was going to be my wife.”

His instincts were right: On Oct. 25, Casanave (who now splits his time between Chicago and LA) married Robinson in front of 200 guests at the Apostolic Church of God (6320 S. Dorchester). Having studied ballet for years, Robinson walked down the aisle to a rendition of “The Swan” by Saint-Saens, performed by Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. “Coming down the aisle, I looked at everyone, thinking

about all these people who were a part of the different stages in my life,” she says. One of the most important people was her uncle, civil rights activist and contributing Sun-Times columnist Rev. Jesse Jackson, who officiated the nuptials. “He was a very meaningful part of the occasion because he is the patriarch of our family and our spiritual advisor,” she says. “It was very important to me and to our family to have him standing there at the altar.”

The wedding party relocated to the Shedd Aquarium (1200 S. Lake Shore) for an elegant, sea-life inspired celebration. “For me, it was always a dream to have a wedding at a Chicago landmark,” Robinson says. “We wanted to do something unique for ourselves and for our out-of-town friends and family.” Guests sipped cocktails and enjoyed Chicago-style mini deep-dish pizzas in the Abbott Oceanarium before digging into a three-course meal centered around the Caribbean Reef; dinner was later interrupted by a private showing of the Navy Pier fireworks. “The whole night was this incredible slideshow of moments,” Casanave says. “Everything was surreal.”

CHEERS!



• The Boys & Girls Club of America strikes gold with its newest five-year partnership with Comcast, valued at more than \$10 million in cash and in-kind support. The partnership led to the launch of My.Future, a new technology initiative designed to teach club members about the digital world and ignite their passion for technology. To celebrate, Comcast revamped the organization's Little Village Club (2801 S. Ridgeway) with state-of-the-art technology.

• “Chicago Fire” star Joe Minoso came to the rescue off screen this month. At the Splash-sponsored Heroes to the Rescue event, the actor adopted a pit bull from the Almost Home Foundation; the dog had previously risked being euthanized.



• Legends from the popular band Chicago rocked the Ronald McDonald House near Lurie Children's (211 E. Grand) Nov. 8,

entertaining families with acoustic versions of some of their greatest hits. During the visit, the band met with families staying at the House (which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year), treating them to stuffed animals and holiday CDs.

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Sweet sounds

The **St. Charles Singers** celebrate the season with a rich mix of inspiring choral music **BY THOMAS CONNORS**



Between the cheery excess on the radio and Muzak in the mall, even the most Christmas-crazy of us can get caroled-out long before it's time to toss back a mug of eggnog. But the holidays are no time to mess with tradition — so imagine how hard it can be for a music director to devise a seasonal concert that doesn't agitate our inner Grinch. That's a challenge Jeffrey Hunt, founder and director of the St. Charles Singers, has faced for 31 years now. And while the group's Yule concerts often include a chestnut or two, its annual "Candlelight Carols" never fails to offer more than the usual fare.

Appearing this Friday at Fourth Presbyterian Church, and Baker Memorial United Methodist Church in St. Charles Dec. 6 and 7, the well-respected west suburban ensemble offers a program that ranges from the 16th-century sounds of Palestrina to contemporary Latvian composer Ēriks Ešenvalds' "Stars" for mixed choir and water-tuned glasses.

THE ST. CHARLES SINGERS

Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m., Fourth Presbyterian Church, N. Michigan at E. Delaware; Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 7 at 3 p.m., Baker Memorial United Methodist Church, 307 Cedar, St. Charles. For tickets (\$30, \$25 for seniors, \$10 for students), call (630) 513-5272 or visit Stcharlessingers.com.

"Our December concerts will feature plenty of new music in both settings of traditional carols and new compositions," Hunt shares. The line-up includes three pieces by Welsh composer Karl Jenkins — a man at ease in both pop and traditional genres — and the ensemble will be joined by Chicago Philharmonic cellist Matthew Agnew in two works by Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo.

The choir, originally known as The Mostly Madrigal Singers, made its debut in 1984 with a holiday

concert in downtown St. Charles. For Hunt, it was very much a family affair with his wife, sister and two brothers all lending their voices in song. Since then, the 40-member organization has performed widely, touring Europe and appearing with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at Ravinia. The group has performed over 700 pieces, enjoyed a fruitful relationship with renowned English choral composer John Rutter and, in 2010, set out to sing all of Mozart's sacred choral music.

While active throughout the year, the organization seems to strike a special chord at Christmastime. "The holiday season is when people in larger than normal numbers come out to hear choirs sing," observes Hunt. "I think it's important to capture the moment — and hopefully the audience — by offering a variety of music that will speak to many. So programming needs to be captivating and interesting. I see the concert as a Christmas tree with many beautiful and unique ornaments.

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Cures for the cold

BY JENNY MCCARTHY

It's safe to say that winter is officially here — welcome back static cling, goosebumps and dry skin! Even though the winter means the holidays are here and I can finally pull those sexy boots back out of the closet, these brisk days definitely make me miss the summer. Here are some of my winter must-haves to make the countdown to spring a little easier:

- Make sure you have drawers full of warm, comfy pants. After spending the day in a cute-but-still-cold winter outfit, coming home and changing into comfy pants is a must.

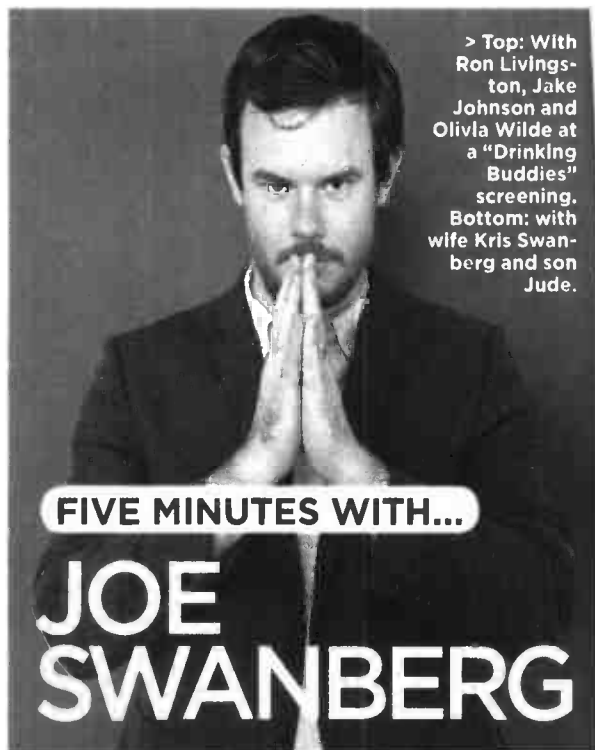
- Stock your cabinets with hot drinks. Drinking hot chocolate or hot tea before bed on a cold night is the perfect way to wind down.

- Lotion, lotion and more lotion. Dry, itchy skin is the worst — it's practically lethal in the winter.

- If this winter is going to be anything like last year's, make sure you have shovels, salt and sleds. There's nothing worse than being unprepared for an unexpected snow day. If you can find someone strong to help with all the shoveling, even better!

What are some ways you get through these cold winter days?





> Top: With Ron Livingston, Jake Johnson and Olivia Wilde at a "Drinking Buddies" screening. Bottom: with wife Kris Swanberg and son Jude.

FIVE MINUTES WITH...

JOE SWANBERG

The locally based filmmaker is gearing up to debut his latest project **BY RACHEL HANDLER**

There are roughly a dozen descriptors one can throw in front of Joe Swanberg's name. Over the past decade, the prolific Lincoln Square resident has written, directed and produced nearly 20 feature films, including indie fare like 2008's "Nights and Weekends" and, recently, the more mainstream "Drinking Buddies," starring Jake Johnson and Olivia Wilde, and "Happy Christmas" with Anna Kendrick and Lena Dunham. For many of his projects, 33-year-old Swanberg has served as his own cinematographer and leading man, he's also credited as one of the pioneers of the "mumblecore" genre, marked by small budgets, heavy improv and *cinema verite*-style camerawork. These days, in between visits to the park with his 4-year-old son Jude, Swanberg is editing "Digging for Fire," which stars Johnson and Rosemarie DeWitt and boasts a big-name supporting cast, including Orlando

Bloom, Kendrick, Sam Rockwell and Brie Larson.

People person

"Working the way I've been working, casting is the most important part of the whole process. With 'Drinking Buddies,' it was just about talking through the ideas, explaining how I work. Olivia [Wilde] said that Jason Sudeikis had seen some of my movies, so he turned her onto them. I think a lot of actors are bored with the work they're being offered. What I'm offering is a different kind of experience. It's not a huge time commitment, either. I'm not saying, 'Hey, I need you to move to Chicago and collaborate with me for six months.' It's like, 'Hey, do you wanna show up for three weeks and play around?' I think actors are into that."

Role call

"When I act in my own movies, in a way I'm just directing from within the scene. It's an



opportunity for me to steer the conversation or influence the tone. It's much easier and more fun when I act in other peoples' movies. ... I mostly act in horror movies [i.e., 'You're Next,' 'The Sacrament'], just because my friends make horror movies. It's really fun — I just keep getting killed."

Family matters

"My wife and I [have both put] our son in our movies — it's sort of the family business. The way I think about it is, if we owned a flower shop, he'd hang out and work at the flower shop — we just happen to make movies. In 'Happy Christmas,' he'd just turned 2. It was really beautiful to capture him at that age. He's got a fun presence — he's really unfiltered in a nice way."

On 'Fire'

"Jake Johnson and Rosemarie DeWitt play this couple who are housesitting in a really nice house. It's kind of an adventure film in a way — a relationship adventure movie. My cinematographer and I were looking at 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind' in terms of how we want to shoot it and the tone. But then there's also this sprawling, LA, Robert-Altman feel to it, too. I'm excited by the shape it's taking, but I'm also still a little mystified by it. I'm still trying to wrap my head around it."

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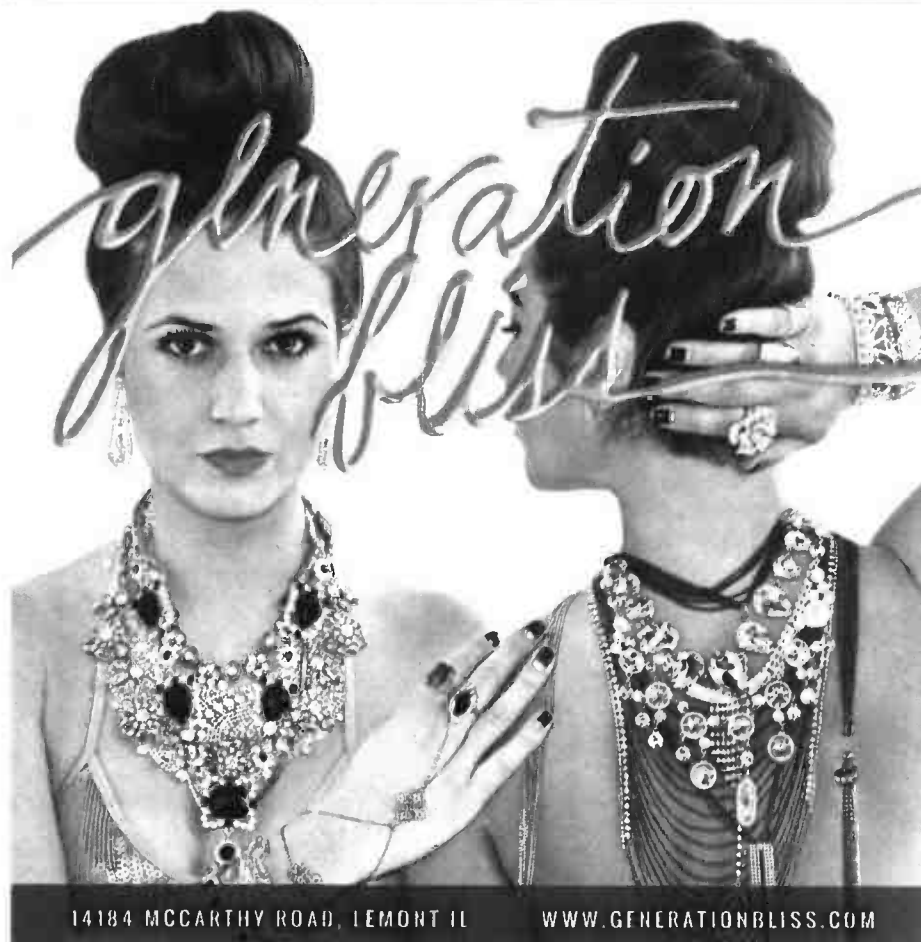


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new in store

Reigning supreme

Luxe London line Garrard
lands in Chicago

BY KATERINA BIZIOS

When Prince William and Kate Middleton announced their engagement in 2010, the soon-to-be Duchess debuted in a blue wrap dress to match her blue sapphire and diamond sparkler. The engagement ring was crafted in 1981 for Princess Diana by Garrard, official jeweler to the royal family. "With a young new princess came this newfound love for Garrard," says **Romana Malinowski**, store director of A. Marek Fine Jewelry (3021 Butterfield, Oak Brook), the only U.S. location to carry the brand. "It gave Garrard a rebirth, a chance to come back and be in the forefront of people's minds, even as the oldest jewelry house in the world."

From the Imperial State Crown to Queen Elizabeth's magnificent tiaras, Garrard has crafted some of the most distinguished jewels in history — and is continuing to grab the attention of a new crop of jewelry enthusiasts, including stars like Anne Hathaway, Kate Hudson, Angelina Jolie and Kim Kardashian. Recently, the brand's pieces made the journey across the pond and landed at A. Marek. We chatted with Malinowski about what it's like to be the sole American store to carry the luxury brand — and what else they have up their (probably bejeweled) sleeves:

Splash: How did the A. Marek and Garrard relationship begin?

Romana Malinowski: We were looking for something to really knock our [clients'] socks off. We were pleasantly received by [Garrard CEO] Eric Deardorff and [Garrard International Wholesale Manager] Antoine Oger at Baselworld [a global jewelry and watch show] earlier this year. They loved our international partners — we carry collections from

Garrard
"Wings" collar
with pave diamonds
in 18-karat white
gold, \$165,000



Garrard "Wings"
double pendant
with pave dia-
monds in 18-ka-
rat white and rose
gold, \$24,000



Romana
Malinowski

Spain, Italy, France, Greece, London and Germany — and the feel of our store.

S: Since then A. Marek has rolled out more than 30 Garrard pieces in store. How's the reaction been?

RM: We're not afraid to show customers things they won't see anywhere else. Since we've been on the Garrard website [as the official U.S. partner], we're getting worldwide requests for the pieces. People get it. It's like owning a piece of royalty. They're signed, they have provenance and people all over the world will recognize that.

S: What is your favorite winter jewelry trend?

RM: Rose gold jewelry. Its appearance is very soft and feminine and enhances a woman's skin tone. Winter also [sees rose gold] mixed with the darker gemstone colors of rubies, sapphires and emeralds. Long chandelier-style earrings are always the earring of choice for the holidays — fun and sexy.

S: How should Chicago women wear Garrard?

RM: Most [Garrard] pieces can be worn for everyday as well as special occasions. Their "Wings" collection —

well, who doesn't want to be someone's angel? The pendants are stunning with a black evening dress, but just as wonderful with a white shirt and a pair of jeans. The "Entanglement" collection is all about a love that has no beginning and no end. For Chicago's women, Garrard jewelry should become an everyday indulgence — timeless, unique and beautiful.

S: Do you have plans for any upcoming Garrard events?

RM: We'd like to do another spring launch as clients become more familiar with the brand. The exposure to the American market is huge.

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style | WHO TO WATCH

WRITTEN IN Stone

The founder of Kastel Jewelry Collection fuses old-world elegance with modern charm

BY CHIARA MILIOULIS
PHOTO BY RAMZI DREESSEN

“
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PEARLS.**

Kastel Jewelry Collection: silverite stones with freshwater baroque pearl necklaces, starting at \$500; Kasteljewelry.com

“
I love the pop of holiday color.

MAC: Russian red, \$16, Nordstrom, 55 E. Grand; Shop.nordstrom.com

“
It's simple, clean and plain, so whatever you wear [with it], goes.

Similar styles available at Zara: sweater with lace shoulders, \$49.90, 700 N. Michigan; Zara.com

Shop the collection Dec. 3 from 6-8 p.m. at Deca Restaurant + Bar at the Ritz-Carlton Chicago (160 E. Pearson) or visit Kasteljewelry.com.

MARIA RESS

AGE: 40. **TITLE:** Designer of Kastel Jewelry Collection.

LIVES IN: Glenview and North Park. **FOUNDATIONS:** I was born in Thessaly, Greece but I grew

up on the North Side of Chicago. I spent almost all my summers in Greece. [My father's side] of the family had a unique business with gemstones and jewelry, making pieces for locals. I spent my summers learning not only what the stones are, but also the history behind them.

ANCIENT INSPIRATIONS: My family would love to take us

all over the country in Greece. Up north, there are a lot of old castles, fortresses and history. On the border, there's a castle [in the Republic of Macedonia] called Castle of Kastel. It was something out of a fairytale; I used to imagine the kings and queens living there with their tiaras and jewelry — and like every girl, I would always dream of being a princess. **STRUNG TOGETHER:** The last five years have been dedicated to making sure I learned everything I could about where the best stones come from. I want the most unusual stones from the most exotic places. I source stones from Brazil, Sri Lan-

ka, Africa and India. Today's girl appreciates the beauty and splendor of what has been around for thousands of years. **PERSONAL CONNECTIONS:** A lot of my pieces are tied in with my emotions — everything I make has been inspired by a place I've been to or by a person I know. I fuse the old world with the modern, chic world and the Chicago city world with my Greek heritage. **HOLIDAY GEMS:** My favorite holiday jewelry trend is color. Everyone's go-to colors are black and gray, but a little pop of color makes you happier. It's like a little cherry on top of a sundae. **STYLE RULE:** The more, the better.



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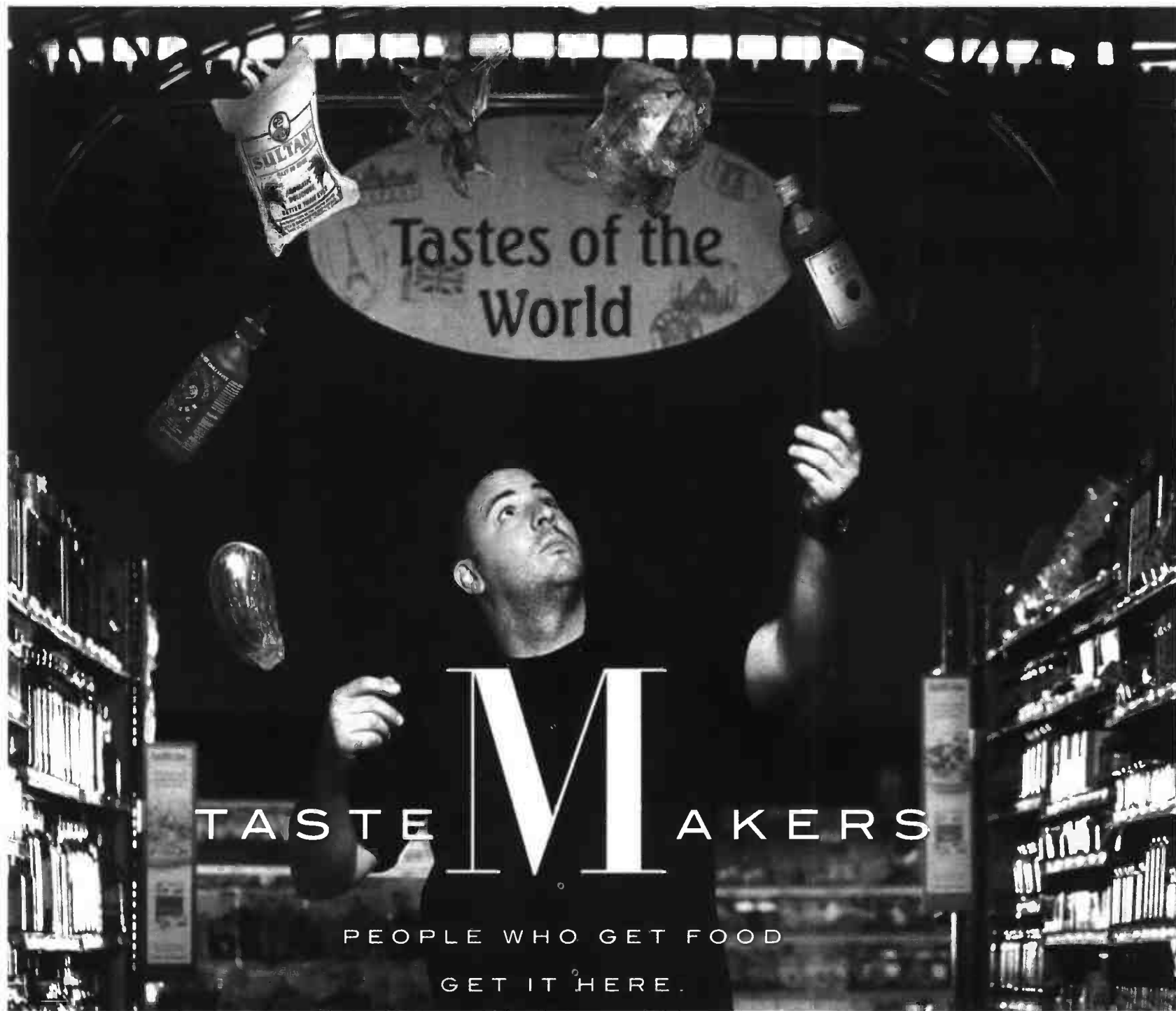
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Heavy hauler



GMC Sierra Denali 2500 Crew Cab has thoughtful design, pulling power

BY ANDY MIKONIS
For Sun-Times Media

Schedules aligned favorably for me to get in a thorough review of the new 2015 GMC Sierra Denali 2500 4WD Crew Cab. Obviously, the week loan format affords critics such as myself an opportunity to review vehicles in day-to-day use over a period of time much longer than the typical test drive. Qualities of a vehicle can emerge during, say, a road trip of a few hundred miles that you wouldn't notice during a spin around the block. However, an opportunity like that doesn't come up every week. This diesel Denali is a heavy hauler, and it just so happened that

I needed to run down to Columbus, Ohio, and trailer a large vintage car back up north.

Several hours out on the highway gave me time to appreciate not only the Denali's luxurious appointments and high-tech features, but the basic layout of the interior. It's a clean design in terms of aesthetics and ergonomics. Leather seats are nicely crafted and are heated and cooled. Useful storage spaces abound.

When it came time to tow, a common 2-inch trailer hitch plug did not fit the Sierra 2500's factory receiver. Like some other Heavy Duty trucks, the Sierra has moved to a 2½-inch receiver for a higher towing-class rating.

After spending several minutes

online and on the phone to find the appropriate equipment, I discovered that GMC had thoughtfully included an adapter in a storage compartment under the rear seat for those of us who haven't caught up with the times yet. Four- and seven-pin trailer lighting connectors are built in as well as integrated trailer brake control. Also, the standard rear-view camera gives you a nice shot of the hitch ball to help line up the trailer.

Once we had the car on the trailer, there were extra parts to load up. Some great features carried over from the redone Sierra 1500 (and now on the new mid-size GMC Canyon) were a dampened tailgate that doesn't slam down when you open

it and some handy steps cut into the corners of the bumper for climbing up. The latter was appreciated on this tester, as it sat quite high with the optional off-road suspension package and 20-inch wheels; it came with some very substantial tubular running boards to get in the cab, too. This crew cab had the 6-foot-6-inch bed, though an 8-footer is available. A spray-on bedliner and protection for the top of the bed rails made for loading without worrying about scratching up the paint. For some items I wanted to keep out of the weather, the 60/40 split rear seat bottoms quickly folded up.

Since the car and trailer were in the 6,000-pound range, we were well within the capabilities of the

truck. With the 6.6-liter Duramax turbo diesel V-8, I never felt the trailer was there. Diesel technology has come a long way in terms of refinement, and the Duramax is quiet for a truck engine. GMC paid a lot of attention to sound deadening and reducing wind noise as well.

Heavy Duty pickup trucks are not required to report fuel economy on the window sticker. Over 923 miles of driving, about two-thirds of that towing, I averaged a respectable 15.5 mpg; it's important to note this included very little interstate driving, as we opted for a more scenic route on secondary roads. On a steady cruise in true highway driving, the truck would certainly do even better.

Editor: Howie Raddatz • hraddatz@suntimes.com | Design: Gina Galinis | Director Automotive Advertising: Terry Boyle • tboyle@suntimes.com

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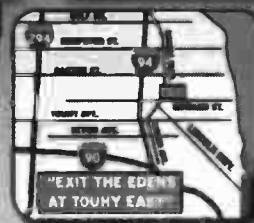
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Heavy hauler



GMC Sierra Denali 2500 Crew Cab has thoughtful design, pulling power

BY ANDY MIKONIS
For Sun-Times Media

Schedules aligned favorably for me to get in a thorough review of the new 2015 GMC Sierra Denali 2500 4WD Crew Cab. Obviously, the week loan format affords critics such as myself an opportunity to review vehicles in day-to-day use over a period of time much longer than the typical test drive. Qualities of a vehicle can emerge during, say, a road trip of a few hundred miles that you wouldn't notice during a spin around the block. However, an opportunity like that doesn't come up every week. This diesel Denali is a heavy hauler, and it just so happened that

I needed to run down to Columbus, Ohio, and trailer a large vintage car back up north.

Several hours out on the highway gave me time to appreciate not only the Denali's luxurious appointments and high-tech features, but the basic layout of the interior. It's a clean design in terms of aesthetics and ergonomics. Leather seats are nicely crafted and are heated and cooled. Useful storage spaces abound.

When it came time to tow, a common 2-inch trailer hitch plug did not fit the Sierra 2500's factory receiver. Like some other Heavy Duty trucks, the Sierra has moved to a 2½-inch receiver for a higher towing-class rating.

After spending several minutes

online and on the phone to find the appropriate equipment, I discovered that GMC had thoughtfully included an adapter in a storage compartment under the rear seat for those of us who haven't caught up with the times yet. Four- and seven-pin trailer lighting connectors are built in as well as integrated trailer brake control. Also, the standard rear-view camera gives you a nice shot of the hitch ball to help line up the trailer.

Once we had the car on the trailer, there were extra parts to load up. Some great features carried over from the redone Sierra 1500 (and now on the new mid-size GMC Canyon) were a dampened tailgate that doesn't slam down when you open

it and some handy steps cut into the corners of the bumper for climbing up. The latter was appreciated on this tester, as it sat quite high with the optional off-road suspension package and 20-inch wheels; it came with some very substantial tubular running boards to get in the cab, too. This crew cab had the 6-foot-6-inch bed, though an 8-footer is available. A spray-on-bedliner and protection for the top of the bed rails made for loading without worrying about scratching up the paint. For some items I wanted to keep out of the weather, the 60/40 split rear seat bottoms quickly folded up.

Since the car and trailer were in the 6,000-pound range, we were well within the capabilities of the

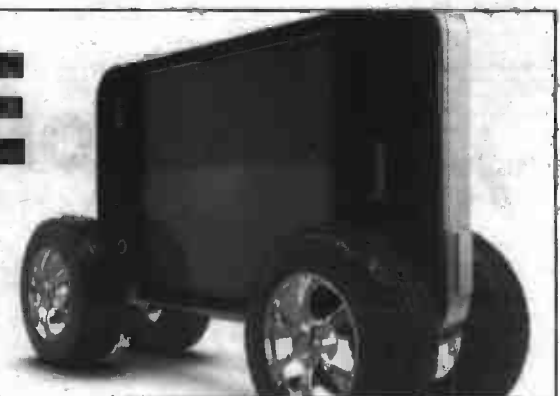
truck. With the 6.6-liter Duramax turbo diesel V-8, I never felt the trailer was there. Diesel technology has come a long way in terms of refinement, and the Duramax is quiet for a truck engine. GMC paid a lot of attention to sound deadening and reducing wind noise as well.

Heavy Duty pickup trucks are not required to report fuel economy on the window sticker. Over 923 miles of driving, about two-thirds of that towing, I averaged a respectable 15.5 mpg; it's important to note this included very little interstate driving, as we opted for a more scenic route on secondary roads. On a steady cruise in true highway driving, the truck would certainly do even better.

Editor: Howie Raddatz • hraddatz@suntimes.com | Design: Gina Galinis | Director-Automotive Advertising: Terry Boyle • tboyle@suntimes.com

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'12 Ford F-150 Lariat 4x4/Navl	Auto., Sunroof, White, 112298	\$34,995
'12 Mini Cooper Countryman S AWD 6-Speed Manual, White, 11334A		\$22,995
'10 Dodge Ram 1500 TRX4 4x4	Auto., Quad-Cab, Black 112298	\$18,995
'09 Lexus IS 250 AWD	Auto., Loaded, Starfire Pearl, 10991B	\$17,995
'11 Ford Escape XLT SUV	Auto., 1-Owner, 15K, Silver, 11342A	\$16,995
'12 Kia Sportage EX	Auto., Rear Camera, Sport Wheels, Sand, 11251B	\$16,995
'11 Toyota Prius SEL	Leather, Auto., Sandy Beach, 11134A	\$16,995
'11 Ford Fusion SEL	Auto., Full Power, 32K, Grey 11391A	\$14,995
'13 Scion xB	Automatic, Full Power, Super White, P4717	\$14,799
'12 Hyundai Veloster	6 Speed, Ultra Black, 20K, P4990	\$13,995
'04 Lexus RX 330 AWD	Auto., Loaded, Flint Mica, 11293A	\$12,995
'09 Toyota Camry Hybrid	Auto., Sunroof, Full Power, Red, 11304A	\$12,995
'07 Lincoln MKZ/ Navl	Leather, Sunroof, Dune, P472A	\$11,995
'12 Nissan Versa 1.6S	1-Owner, Automatic, Black, P4704	\$11,995
'10 Mini Cooper	Manual, 1-Owner, Yellow, P4626	\$10,995
'09 Nissan Altima 2.5 SL	Auto., Sunroof, Leather, 51K, Slate, 10994A	\$10,995
'09 Scion xB	Automatic, Full Power, Teal Mica, 11425A	\$9,495
'09 Hyundai Sonata GLS	Auto., Full Power, Camel Pearl, 11332A	\$8,995
'01 Lexus RX 300 AWD	Premium Package, Mist Pearl, 11229A	\$8,995
'04 Mercedes S-430/Navl	Luxury, V-8 Engine, Gold, 10978A	\$8,995

'08 Nissan Versa 1.6 SL	Auto., Full Power, 53K, Sandstone, 11441A	\$7,995
'05 Ford Explorer XLS 4x4	Auto., 4.0, Full Power, Red, P4708A	\$7,995
'05 Honda Accord EXV-6	Automatic, Sunroof, Black, 11218A	\$7,995
'11 Ford Focus SE	Automatic, Full Power, Black, P4732A	\$7,995
'07 Honda CR-V EX AWD	Auto., 1-Owner, Sunroof, Silver, P4707	\$7,995
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'10 Chevy Aveo5 LS	Manual, Full Power, Sport Red, P4686	\$6,995
'03 Chevy Tracker 4x4	Manual, 1-Owner, 49K, White, 11377A	\$5,995
'06 Toyota MaxtiX	Automatic, Full Power, Grey 11411A	\$5,495
'01 Toyota Camry CE	Automatic, Full Power, Lunar Mist, P4768A	\$3,995
'01 Toyota Echo	Automatic, 1-Owner, Black, P4763A	\$3,995
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'14 Forester Prem.	Auto., Sunroof, Heated Seats, Silver, P4761	\$23,995
'11 Forester Ltd.	Leather, Sunroof, Heated Seats, 44K, White, P4749	\$20,995
'12 Forester Prem	Manual, Sunroof, Heated Seats, White, P4760	\$20,995
'10 Forester X	Manual, Full Power, 63K, White, 11184A	\$14,995
'08 Forester LL Bean	Loaded, Auto., 80K, Gold, 11184A	\$13,995

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'12 Tribeca Ltd.	Leather, Sunroof, 7 Passenger, 22K, Red, P4771	\$25,995
'07 B9 Tribeca Ltd.	Leather, Sunroof, 8 Passenger, Grey, P4724	\$12,995

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'14 Outback Ltd.	Moonroof, Leather, 9K, Silver, P4735	\$27,995
'12 Outback Ltd.	Moonroof, Leather, Silver, 11340A	\$24,995
'14 Outback Prem.	Bluetooth, All Weather, Automatic, Red, P4688	\$24,995
'12 Outback 3.6R Ltd.	6 Cyl., Moonroof, Leather, Green, P4632	\$22,995
'10 Outback 3.6R Ltd.	6 Cyl., Moonroof, Leather, 38K, Black, 11351A	\$22,995
'14 Legacy Prem.	All Weather, Automatic, Indigo, P4684	\$20,995
'11 Outback Prem.	All Weather, Automatic, Alloys, Silver, P4702	\$19,995
'11 Legacy 3.6R Ltd.	6 Cyl., Moonroof, Leather, Black, P4752	\$19,995
'10 Outback Prem.	All Weather, Automatic, Alloys, Blue, 11327A	\$18,995
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'14 Crosstrek Prem.	Auto, All Weather, Bluetooth, 8K, Khaki, P4770	\$22,995
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'11 Impreza 2.5i	Automatic, Full Power, P4776	\$15,995
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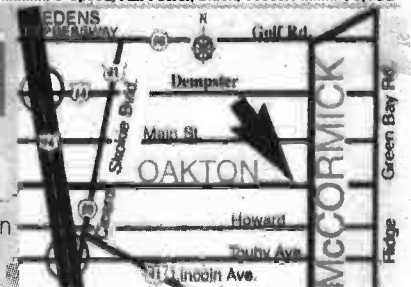
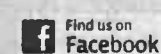
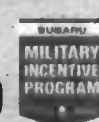


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29 AVAILABLE AT VARYING PRICES!

SHERMAN PRICE... \$22,085 **27** MPG

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97 AVAILABLE AT VARYING PRICES!

SHERMAN PRICE... \$16,904* **26** MPG

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28 AVAILABLE AT VARYING PRICES!

SHERMAN PRICE... \$25,360* **31** MPG

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2008 Ford Focus 78K, S/N# 136017A	\$8,995	2005 Chrysler 300C 99K Miles, S/N# P17829	\$8,995	2009 Dodge Charger S/N#141400A	\$9,995	2010 Nissan Rogue AWD 47K Miles, S/N# 141524A	\$16,400	2011 Honda CR-V 4x4 39K Miles, S/N# 143367A	\$19,999

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Muller Price \$18,499*

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Model 22115 Stock # N21592

Muller Price \$19,999*

OR LEASE FOR

\$199 for 36 mo* **33 MPG HIGHWAY~**

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Muller Price \$23,999*

OR LEASE FOR

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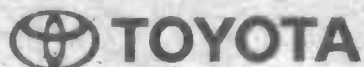
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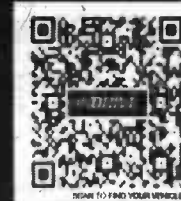
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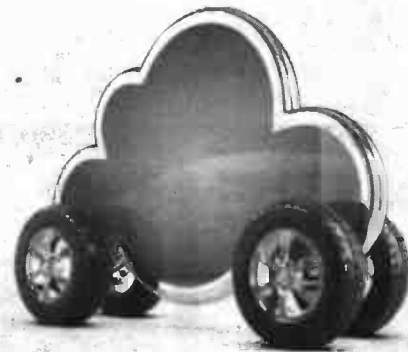
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Automatic, Stk#H33144

LEASE FOR

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\$1499 due at lease signing, plus 1st mo. payment, tax, title, lic. and doc fee.

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Stk#H33796

LEASE FOR

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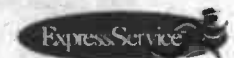
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How to Be the Worst Manager but the Best Boss

By: David K. Williams

The worst managers can make the best leaders. And a great leader can become the very best kind of boss. How can this be true? I'll explain.

To begin with, consider what a manager's role truly is. Their job is essentially to accomplish work through others. Managers instruct, supervise, motivate, evaluate, and mete out rewards and punishments.

Some manage from behind by cracking the whip, micromanaging, and shouting orders in the same way cattlemen or shepherds manage: by fear, intimidation, and authority.

The first problem in this scenario is the way people come to be managers in the first place.

Typically, managers are employees who are promoted because of their expertise in a certain subject matter.

They move up in an organization by becoming highly proficient in their original jobs.

Unfortunately, despite their skill in their previously held roles, they are generally untrained as managers. Many lack mentors or positive role models to guide them in this much different path.

And even when companies provide training, it is generally schooling on the various facets of measuring work production and controlling employee behaviors (I refer to this as "managing from behind").

Little or no thing is taught about the character traits and values a company stands for, the ones it would seemingly want its managers -- the face of the company for every employee within it -- to represent and exude.

So what do these individuals do? They become terrible managers because they do the following:

- Micromanage
- Take credit for others' ideas and projects
- Create rules for the many that are meant to police and control the behavior of a few
- Make decisions that support their near-term compensation at the expense of the organization's long-term goals
- Hire and fire the wrong people for the wrong reasons
- Rule by force, fear, intimidation, and title

None of these approaches achieves anything positive. A team will naturally follow a leader who is willing to lead from the front, instead of drive from behind.

We could write many books on bad managerial behavior. In general, however, the result is the work environment we all know too well: fear, mistrust, worries over job security, and feelings of unfairness and ill will -- and a terrible company culture.

What Can -- and Should -- Businesses Do?

For one thing, they can take a cue from our company, where we have extended the principles of Agile Development into Agile Leadership. Management is simply not a word in the Fishbowl vernacular. We create paired leadership teams that guide and empower employees to do their jobs in the way they see fit.

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Our Captains work side by side with their teams, rather than directing and controlling them in a traditional sense. They lead from the front and set the pace. They show by example and their people follow.

Captains are terrible managers, but they are incredible leaders whose teams produce great results. Here are a few of the traits that can turn a seemingly terrible manager into an incredible boss:

1. *Trust your employees* to get their jobs done. No micromanaging allowed.
2. *Help others get ahead* when deserved, even at your own expense. What a novel idea! Don't concern yourself with climbing the corporate ladder. If your people and teams are successful, you'll naturally rise, as well.
3. *Give credit where it is due.* Don't take undeserved credit for others' work, however enticing the idea might be. It will not pay off.
4. *Set the strategy, but allow others to choose their own tactic.* It's amazing how empowering and motivating it can be when individuals get to manage the details of how they achieve a particular strategic goal. They will become unstoppable.
5. *Hold fewer (and more focused) meetings.* The fewer attendees you have at each meeting, the better. Define exactly what you need to achieve in each meeting, and stick to an agenda when you arrive.
6. *Celebrate failure and reward innovation.* Encourage team members to try new things, even when you know that they won't always produce perfect results. They will make mistakes -- which are opportunities to learn and Fail Up. This will result in employees who are brave and excited to work.
7. *Be in the people business.* If your people know that you have their backs, trust them, and care for their well-being and their families, they will naturally be motivated to work hard for you.

How do you find individuals with this terrible-manager potential?

Against prevailing wisdom, they may not be proficient (or even familiar) with the team's tasks. But they will be highly capable and teachable in the values your organization stands for. The rest will follow.

An anthropology graduate could become a development lead. A licensed attorney could lead a world-class sales organization. A culinary student could become a standout leader in customer support.

An electrician could become a top sales executive. A banker could become a top account manager. The possibilities are endless.

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 1930 N. Clybourn
 Chicago, IL 60614
 773-755-1900
DATE: 12-19-14
BEGINS AT 11:30 AM
CONDITIONS: All units will be sold to the highest bidder. Bids taken only for each unit in its entirety. Payment must be made by cash, credit card, or certified funds. No personal checks accepted. All goods must be removed from the unit within 24 hours. Payment due immediately upon acceptance of bid. Unit availability subject to prior settlement of account.
 Unit: 2037
 Tenant: Edward Carter
 Unit: 2528
 Tenant: Marketing Structures & Communication
 Unit: 2302
 Tenant: Ellie Valentine
 Unit: 4019
 Tenant: Emily Mandell
 Unit: 4421
 Tenant: Emily Mandell
 12/4, 12/11/14 #885584

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE TO BE HELD AT: THE LOCK UP SELF STORAGE
 3366 N. Kedzie,
 Chicago, IL 60618
 773-539-3366
DATE: December 19, 2014
BEGINS AT: 10:00am
CONDITIONS: All units will be sold to the highest bidder. Bids taken only for each unit in its entirety. Payment must be made by cash, credit card, or certified funds. No personal checks accepted. All goods must be removed from the unit within 24 hours. Payment due immediately upon acceptance of bid. Unit availability subject to prior settlement of account.
 Unit:157 Matthew Samsel
 220 Jocelyn Espinill
 252 Carlos Cabrera
 2342 Sandra Vazquez
 2527 Sharon Monsees
 12/4, 12/11/14 #885342

Notice of Public Sale To be held at: The Lock Up Self Storage
 2525 W. Armitage
 Chicago, IL 60647
Date: Friday
December 19, 2014
Begins at: 1:00 pm
Conditions: All units will be sold to the highest bidder. Bids taken only for each unit in its entirety. Payment must be made by cash, credit card or certified funds. No personal checks accepted. All goods must be removed from the unit within 24 hours. Payment due immediately upon acceptance of bid. Unit availability subject to prior settlement of account.
 Unit 2108 Nancy Morales
 Unit 2334 Andres Guzman
 Unit 3447 Bartolo Perez
 Unit 3501 Julia Figueroa
 12/4, 12/11/14 #880642

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE TO BE HELD AT: THE LOCK UP STORAGE.
 350 W. Kinzie
 Chicago, IL 60654
 P-312-464-1900
 fax 312-329-1362
DATE: December 19, 2014
BEGINS AT: 2:30 P.M.
CONDITIONS: All units will be sold to the highest bidder. Bids taken only for each unit in its entirety. Payment must be made by certified check or money order only. No personal checks or cash accepted. All goods must be removed from the unit within 24 hours. Payments due immediately upon acceptance of bid. Unit availability subject to prior settlement of account.
 Unit 1721 Kristen Ford
 Unit 3027 Larry Carter
 Unit 4009 Joyce Kelly
 12/4, 12/11/14 #880375

Storage - Legal
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE TO BE HELD AT: THE LOCK UP SELF STORAGE
 5250 West Golf Road,
 Skokie, IL 60077
DATE: December 23, 2014
BEGINS AT: 11:30 AM
CONDITIONS: All units will be sold to the highest bidder. Bids taken only for each unit in its entirety. Payment must be made by CASH OR CREDIT CARD. No personal checks accepted. All goods must be removed from the unit within 24 hours. Payment due immediately upon acceptance of bid. Unit availability subject to prior settlement of account.
 Unit 1102 Steven Rothstein
 Unit 2310 Jeffrey Kruger
 Unit 3037 Dustin Holby
 Unit 2301 Christine Johnson
 Unit 4639 Christine Johnson
 Unit 2104 Cynthia Bowes
 12/4, 12/11/14 #879747

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE TO BE HELD AT: THE LOCK UP SELF STORAGE
 3850 West Devon Ave,
 Lincolnwood, IL 60712
DATE: 12/23/2014
BEGINS AT: 10:00 AM
CONDITIONS: All units will be sold to the highest bidder. Bids taken only for each unit in its entirety. Payment must be made by CASH OR CREDIT CARD. No personal checks accepted. All goods must be removed from the unit within 24 hours. Payment due immediately upon acceptance of bid. Unit availability subject to prior settlement of account.
 Unit# 1122 Luis Corea
 Unit# 1162 Scott Gelski
 Unit# 1325 Barton R. Barckzyk
 Unit# 3339 Maria Davlantes
 Unit# 3417 Adeshina Adesanya
 Unit# 4113 Ray LaMantia
 Unit# 4165 Tomislav Lazareyski
 Unit# 4266 Abbe Blackwell
 Unit# 4313 Smartmed Corporation / Tayo Fagbemi
 Unit# 308- David B. Dahl
 Deceased
 12/4, 12/11/14 #879525

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE TO BE HELD AT: THE LOCK UP SELF STORAGE
 750 Busse Hwy.,
 Park Ridge IL 60068
DATE: 12-23-2014
BEGINS AT: 1:30pm
CONDITIONS: All units will be sold to the highest bidder. Bids taken only for each unit in its entirety. Payment must be made by cash, credit card, or certified funds. No personal checks accepted. All goods must be removed from the unit within 24 hours.
 Payment due immediately upon acceptance of bid. Unit availability subject to prior settlement of account.
 Unit #2106 Tenant Scott Adler
 Unit #4102 Tenant Molly McCabe
 Unit #4323 Tenant Ron Genovaldi
 12/4, 12/11/2014 884464

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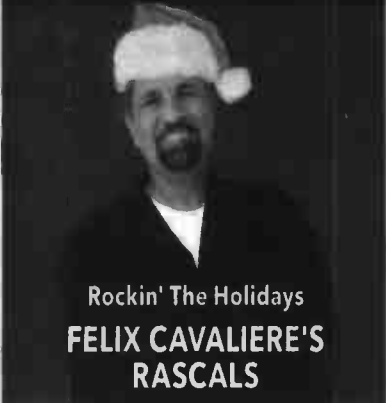
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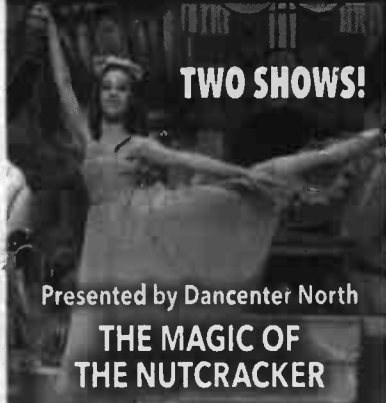
THE SPOTLIGHT IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

Sat. December 6, 7:30 PM



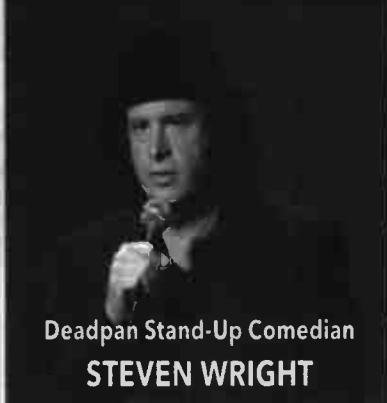
Rockin' The Holidays
**FELIX CAVALIERE'S
RASCALS**

Sat. December 13, 1:00 & 5:00 PM



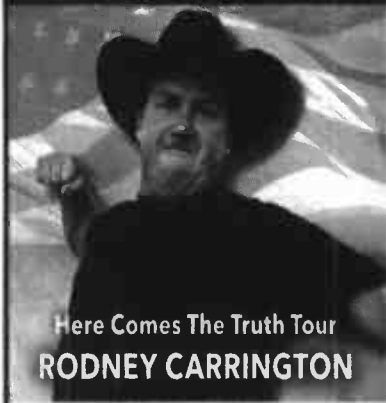
TWO SHOWS!
Presented by Dancenter North
**THE MAGIC OF
THE NUTCRACKER**

Sun. January 18, 7:30 PM



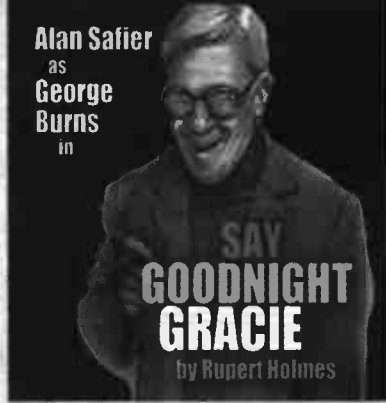
Deadpan Stand-Up Comedian
STEVEN WRIGHT

Sun. February 22, 7:00 PM



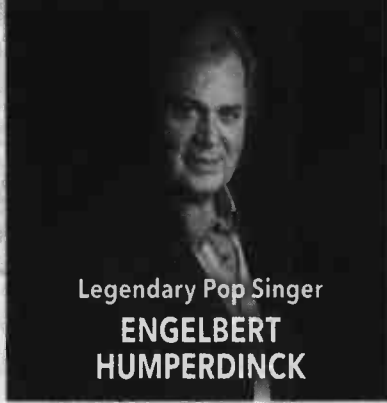
Here Comes The Truth Tour
RODNEY CARRINGTON

Sat. May 2, 3:00 PM



Alan Safier
as
**George
Burns**
in
**SAY
GOODNIGHT
GRACIE**
by Rupert Holmes

Sat. May 9, 8:00 PM



Legendary Pop Singer
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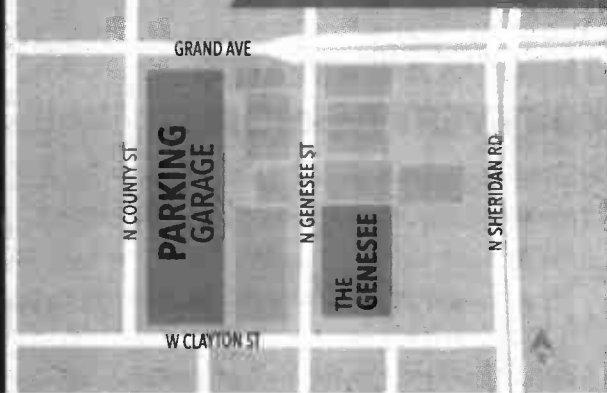
Fri. December 5, 7:30 PM

Fri. March 6, 7:30 PM



Worldly Rock and Iconic Reggae
RUSTED ROOT AND THE WAILERS

CONVENIENT PARKING!



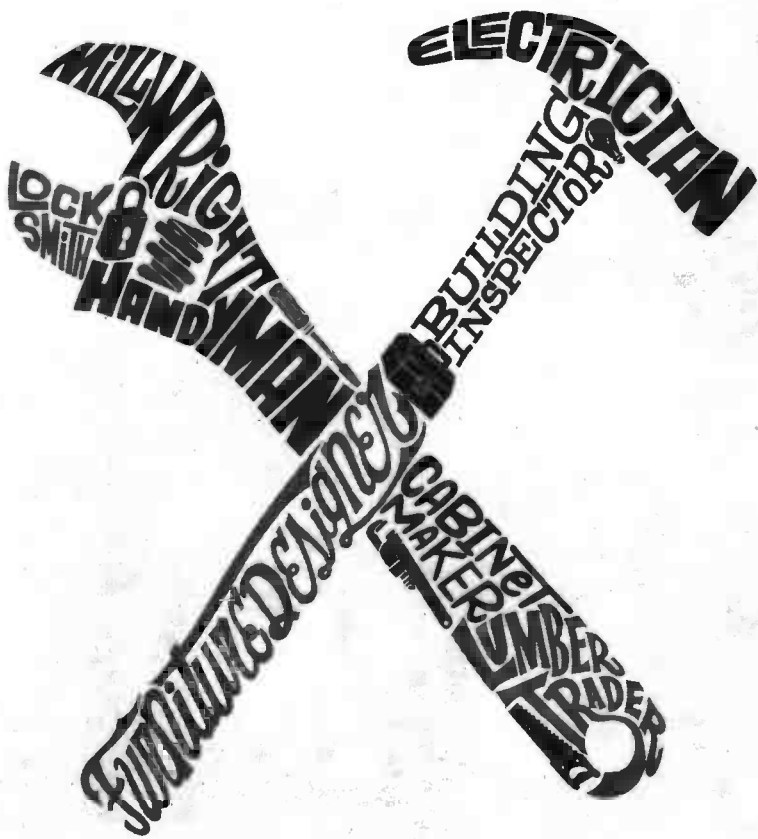
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BIZ NOTES

- The Board of Directors of **NorthPointe Resources, Inc.**, a Lake County not-for-profit agency, serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and mental illness, announced that interim Chief Executive Officer **Dina Donohue-Chase** has been selected as the next chief executive officer.

- **Steve McShane**, founder and chief executive officer of **Midtronic, Inc.**, was named the recipient of the 2014 **McGladrey Lifetime Achievement Award** during the firm's annual **Manufacturing & Distribution Executive Summit** on Nov. 18. **McGladrey LLP** is a leading provider of assurance, tax and consulting services.

- **Suzanne Morris** assumed the position of commission chair of the **Midwestern Higher Education Compact**, during the commission's semiannual meeting held Nov. 16-17 in Milwaukee. Morris was elected last fall and served a year term as vice chair and a term as the Compact's treasurer.

- Locally owned and operated, **Republic Bank of Chicago** has hit a milestone this year by celebrating 50 years in business. In 1964, the first branch opened at 6501 S. Pulaski. The iconic circular building remains a fully operational branch and continues to serve the community. With 20 branches in total, Republic Bank of Chicago is looking forward to continued growth and serving their customers for years to come.

- **Chadi Yaacoub, MD**, passed the **Fellow of Interventional Pain Practice** examination last month in Miami, Fla. FIPP is the highest international pain certification, and there are only 855 FIPP physicians worldwide. Yaacoub is now the fourth physician at **Illinois Pain Institute** to earn this prominent title.

Business

Glenview

Business owner sees future in Money Mailer

BY JACKIE PILOSSOPH
For Sun-Times Media | @lovessentially

When Sam Field was working for his family's dry cleaning business several years ago, direct mail, particularly Money Mailer, was always a huge part of the company's advertising campaign, he said.

"I knew it worked," said Field, who spent 20 years in the business. "It's a shared mail product that people go through to search for businesses that might interest them and to save money. People are always looking for ways to spend le

His knowledge and belief in Money Mailer is what motivated Field's recent purchase of franchises in several North Shore towns, including Glenview.

"I know what it's like as a business owner to go through good and bad times, and I know direct mail helps acquisition of customers, as well as customer frequency," said Field, a Glenbrook South High School graduate who currently lives in Glenview.

Money Mailer is a 35-year-old California-based direct mail company with over 200 franchises. Field said his job as a franchisee is to call on current clients and obtain new advertisers, while Money Mailer provides support in the form of 35 graphic artists who design the ads.

"People only look at a coupon for a couple seconds, so what the artists do is offer a consult on what draws customers in, help come up with an offer, and help identify key ad copy points," said Field, who also worked as a Las Vegas real estate broker for several years.



ABOVE: "I know what it's like as a business owner to go through good and bad times, and I know direct mail helps acquisition of customers, as well as customer frequency," said Sam Field, who recently purchased Money Mailer franchises in several North Shore towns, including Glenview. INSET: Money Mailer gets delivered to households once a month. The cost to advertisers is about 3-4 cents per 10,000 households. | PHOTOS: JACKIE PILOSSOPH FOR CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP

Money Mailer gets delivered to households once a month. The cost to advertisers is around 3-4 cents per 10,000 households.

Will Velasco is the owner of Will Frame It, a Glenview picture framing business. He has been a Money Mailer advertiser for

several years.

"It works really well for a business my size," said Velasco, who opened his store eight years ago. "You can reach a large audience on a good budget."

When asked if the growth of internet marketing had a

negative effect on the direct mail business, Field said the advertising venue is still highly successful because it is highly targeted, it's tangible, and the format is familiar.

"There is a misconception that people who have a lot of money

don't use coupons, and that just isn't true," said Field. "In 20 years of being in business, I tried a lot of different things and direct mail always worked."

"It's a really easy way to reach more clients for a very reasonable cost," Velasco said.

Trend

Supporters show some Moxie at 'Compassion, Fashion' event



The event: True to its name, Moxie Strategies LLC staged an audacious charitable smorgasbord for its third annual Compassion, Fashion & Cocktails benefit on the rooftop of the Godfrey Hotel in Chicago.

More than 500 fashionable notables from the corporate, political and social spheres came together to stretch their donation dollars on Oct. 30 by funding not just one but two charities: The Gaples Institute for Integrative Cardiology and Stop Traffick, a nonprofit organization raising awareness about the trafficking of women and children around the world.

Founded by suburbanites Lema Khorshid of Skokie, Vanessa Garippo of Morton Grove, Sam Yanover of Niles and Anna Maria Viti-Welch of Lake Forest, Moxie's mission is to provide visibility for small and underserved local charitable organizations.

Cause célèbre: "We try to pick boutique charities that do not have a footprint in Chicago," explained Yanover. "Because of the demographic we attract to our events — executives, elected officials, high-profile people — we give those small charities that do not have opportunities to get exposed to the money and the people that they want to drive their charities to the next level."

Allie Lefevere of Stop Traffick called Moxie's aid nothing short of phenomenal. "We're a pretty small organization so this has been a beautiful platform to be a part of."

Similarly, Gaples is seeking to fill a void in the current healthcare system by emphasizing ways in which nutrition and lifestyle can improve health.

"Unfortunately there is a huge emphasis on medication and procedures, and very little attention is paid to prevention," said cardiologist Stephen Devries of Deerfield, GIIC executive director. "It really takes a nonprofit to fill that void because, unfortunately, there is less money to be made in keeping people healthy."

Bottom line: Moxie Strategies previously raised nearly \$20,000 for charities.

For more information on the organizations, visit GaplesInstitute.org and StopTraffickNow.org.



Michael Schab of Niles | PHOTOS BY LEE A. LITAS/FOR PIONEER PRESS



Harry Gaples of Mettawa, co-founder and board Gaples Institute for Integrative Cardiology, Christy Lange of Mettawa, Stephen Devries of Deerfield, GIIC executive director



Tamy and Todd Jacobs of Highland Park



Rebecca Gaples and Angela Campe, both of Libertyville



Mary McGarrigle of Skokie, GIIC board member, and Ivy Baruch of Deerfield, GIIC volunteer



Lema Khorshid, originally of Skokie, Vanessa Garippo, originally of Morton Grove, Sam Yanover, originally of Niles, and Anna Maria Viti-Welch of Lake Forest



Kati Murphy of Lake Forest and Marisa Murillo of Highland Park

||| CAUSE & EVENT



Instructors for the event: Missy Vacala of Park Ridge, Dianne Hively of Glenview, Haley Stone of Glencoe, founder of WERQ and event organizer, Ashley Hogue of Golf, Molly Gaynor of Arlington Heights, Cheryl Tom of Morton Grove, and Kristi Tarantino of Glenview

WERQ LIKE A DIVA

Benefiting: Bright Pink
Location: Glenview Park Center Health and Fitness Dance Studio

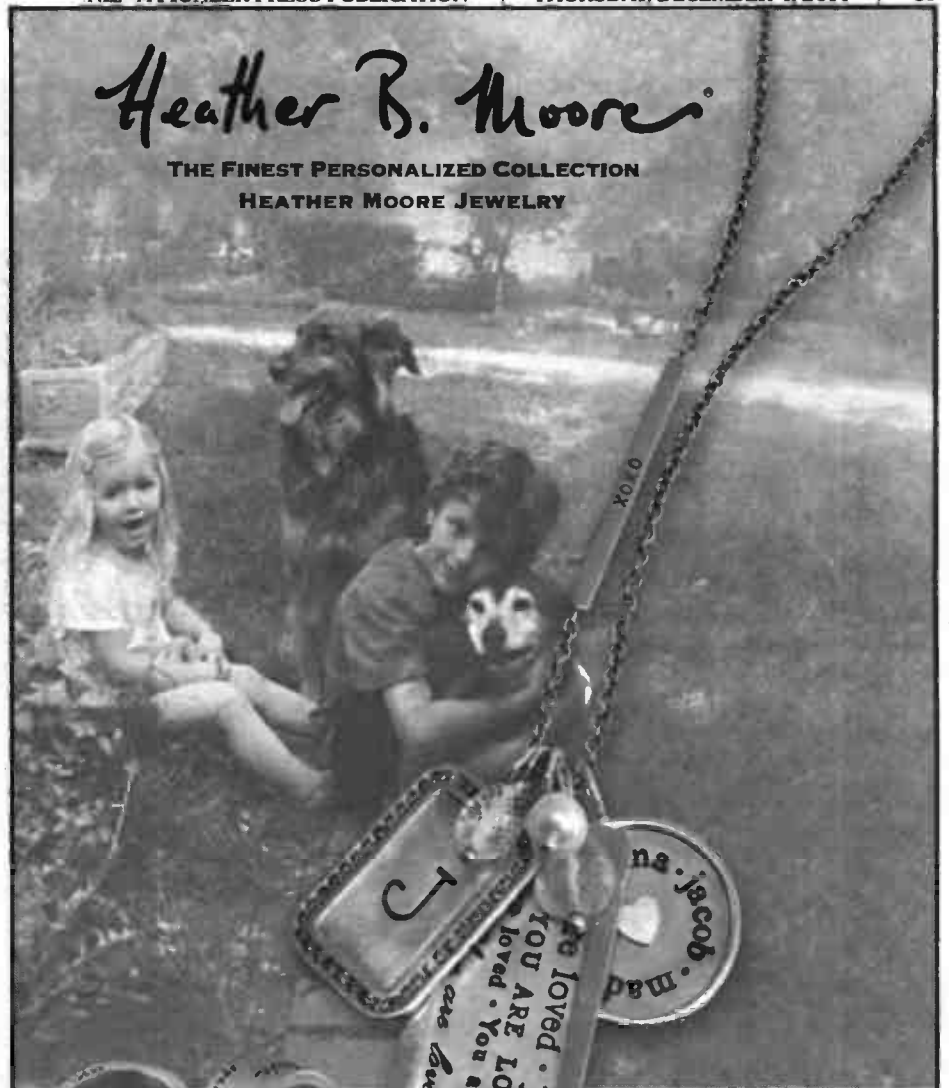
Date: Oct. 3
Attending: 50+
Raised: \$5,100
Website: www.werqfitness.com, BrightPink.org



Mia-Murarescu and Julia Vacala, both of Park Ridge, join the ladies in the dancing.

Get your event in Trend

Have a philanthropic cause or event, or a party to share? Email Deborah Hoppe at dhoppe@pioneerlocal.com. She can send you guidelines for submitting information for Trend.



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5

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picks for the
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Your guide to the weekend and beyond
Every Thursday



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Go

Season's greetings

Your guide to holiday entertainment

Want to see the Sugar Plum Fairy float across the stage or Scrooge have his change of heart?

Or are you looking forward to hearing all your favorite Christmas carols sung? Here's our guide to holiday entertainment.

CONCERTS

The Lakeside Singers' holiday concert "Holiday Road," featuring familiar and exotic carols from England, Italy and Slovenia, along with music from Haydn and the world premiere of Robert Bowker's Winter Solstice, takes place at 8 p.m. Dec. 5 at The Music Institute of Chicago, Evanston East Campus, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Tickets cost \$35, \$25 seniors, \$10 children. Visit LakesideSingers.com.

Celtic Tenors Christmas, 8 p.m. Dec. 5, at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts Skokie, 9501 Skokie Blvd., \$32-\$45. (847) 673-6300 or northshorecenter.org.

Northwestern University Symphony Orchestra performs at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 6 at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. The program includes Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker," Act I. Tickets are \$8; \$5 for students. Call (847) 467-4000 or visit Pickstaiger.org.

Decembersongs '14: An East Nashville Holiday Concert with

songwriters Rod Picott and Doug and Telisha Williams (of Wild Ponies) takes place at 8 p.m. Dec. 6 at Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Visit EvanstonSpace.com.

"YuleTube: Holiday Favorites from Television," the **Chicago Gay Men's Chorus** reenacts favorite holiday specials from Rankin and Bass (Rudolph, Frosty and the Grinch), Charlie Brown, The Muppets and more. 8 p.m. Dec. 6 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts Skokie, 9501 Skokie Blvd., \$25-\$50. (847) 673-6300 or northshorecenter.org.

The Evanston Symphony, in collaboration with the North Shore Choral Society, Elements Contemporary Ballet, Evanston Children's Choir and the ede2 troupe of the Evanston Dance Ensemble, will present its annual **Holiday Concert** at 3 p.m. Dec. 7 at Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Ave. Visit Evanstonsymphony.org or call (847) 864-8804.

The Northwest Choral Society presents "The Many Moods of Christmas" at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 6, at Grace Lutheran Church, 7300 Division St., River Forest, and 3 p.m. Dec. 7 at St. Raymond's Church, 3320 S. Elmhurst Ave., Mt. Prospect. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for students and seniors and available online at www.nwchoralsociety.org, by calling (224) 585-9127 or an hour prior to each concert.



The Bittersweet Christmas Band performs at the Second Saturday Coffeehouse Dec. 13 at the Ethical Humanist Society in Skokie.

The Noteworthy Festival presents five musical performances Dec. 7-12 featuring student and faculty performers in Oakton Community College's Footlik Theater, 1600 East Golf Road, Des Plaines. Performances are: **Guitar Ensemble**, 2 p.m. Dec. 7, \$3 general admission. **String Ensemble**, 8 p.m. Dec. 8, at 8 p.m., \$3 general admission. Celebrate winter with guest violin soloist **Domnica Lungo** and seasonal and classical favorites, Klezmer-style Hanukkah music; free pre-concert discussion at 7:30 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center. **Vocal Recital**, 8 p.m. Dec. 10, at 8 p.m., \$3 general admission. **Choral Recital**, 8 p.m. Dec. 11, at 8 p.m., \$3 general admission. Performance by the **Oakton Community Choir**. **Jazz Invaision**, 8 p.m. Dec. 12, at 8 p.m., \$5 general admission, \$3 students and seniors. The **Oakton Jazz Band** presents big band hits from the last 60 years of American jazz and a visual history of the music. For tickets or information call (847) 635-1900.

The Bittersweet Christmas Band brings its songs, old

favorites and new surprises, to the Second Saturday Coffeehouse at 8 p.m. Dec. 13 at the Ethical Humanist Society, 7574 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie. \$8 includes refreshments. Call (847) 825-8580.

Chicago Master Singers with Lyric Opera principal harpist Lynn Williams, Ars Viva principal oboist Steven Colburn and organist Brian Locke, present its annual Christmas concert at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 12 at Divine Word Chapel of Techny Towers, 2001 Waukegan Road, Techny. Tickets cost \$15-\$48. Call 800-595-4849 or visit ChicagoMasterSingers.org.

"Winter Wonderland," the winter concert of the **Park Ridge Chorale**, takes place at 7 p.m. Dec. 13 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 205 N. Prospect, Park Ridge. Advanced tickets \$16 for adults, \$14 seniors; at the door \$18 adults, \$16 seniors. Students and children under 18 are free. To order call Loretta O'Neill at (847) 699-8901 or Penny Ruder at (847) 823-3958.

Evanston Children's Choir Holiday Concert takes place at 3 p.m. Dec. 14 at Alice Millar Chapel,

1870 Sheridan Road, Evanston.

The Jefferson Park Sing A-Long Messiah takes place at the Copernicus Center, 5216 W. Lawrence Ave. Chicago, on Dec. 14. Doors open 2:30 p.m., show 3 p.m. \$15. Tickets at <http://www.ticketfly.com/venue/7715-copernicus-center/>. Information at (773) 777-8898.

Denny Diamonds and the Jewels present "A Cherry, Cherry Holiday" musical tribute to the music of Neil Diamond. 8 p.m. Dec. 19 at the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Tickets and information at (847) 677-7761 or skokietheatre.org.

Christmas Concert takes place at 2 and 4 p.m. Dec. 20 at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Tickets cost \$15-\$20. Visit ChicagoBotanic.org.

Do-It-Yourself Handel's Messiah with orchestra and holiday carols will take place at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 20 at Glenview Community Church, 1000 Elm St. The concert is free. music programs are available. Visit www.Gccucc.com or call (847) 724-2210. \$20.



The Salt Creek Ballet presents "The Nutcracker" on Dec. 13 at the North Shore Center for Performing Arts in Skokie. | PHOTO BY HEIDI PETERS

In a "Highly Seasoned" concert, Charlene Brooks celebrates the holidays — whichever ones you celebrate — combining stories of her life with Hanukkah, Christmas and winter songs. 8 p.m. Dec. 20. \$25. At the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Tickets and information at (847) 677-7761 or skokietheatre.org.

Hanukkah Concert with the Maxwell Street Klezmer Band takes place at 11 and 1 p.m. Dec. 21 at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Tickets cost \$15-\$20. Visit ChicagoBotanic.org.

Bella Voce performs choral works of the holidays at 3:30 p.m. Dec. 21 at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 939 Hinman Ave., Evanston. Visit BellaVoce.org.

THEATER

"Father Zamboni's Holiday Shorts," a holiday short play festival. James Downing Theatre, 6740 N. Oliphant, Chicago. Enter lower level, back entrance by playground Performances 7:30 p.m. Dec. 5-6, 1:30 p.m. Dec. 7. Tickets at (224) 725-3696 or see jamesdowningtheatre.com.

"Christmas at the White House," presented by Jenny Riddle and Elizabeth Doyle, tells the story of the holidays at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. with stories and music. Tickets \$20. 8 p.m. Dec. 18 at the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Tickets and information at (847) 677-7761 or skokietheatre.org.

Oil Lamp Theatre presents "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" through Dec. 21 at 1723 Glenview Road, Glenview. Tickets are \$35. For more information, call (847) 834-0738 or visit Oillamptheater.org. The Funny Old Broads New Year's

Eve Special features Caryn Bark and the Boomer Babes (Pam Peterson and Jan Slavin) and Robin Riebman at 8 p.m. Dec. 31. \$36. At the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Tickets and information at (847) 677-7761 or skokietheatre.org.

DANCE

Evanston Dance Ensemble presents "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" with dancing snowflakes, leaping fauns, waltzing flowers, and animals prancing out a holiday polka, at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 5 at Northwestern University's Josephine Louis Theater, 20 Arts Circle Drive. Evanston. Call (847) 491-7282.

"The Great Russian Nutcracker" features Chicago area youth ages 7 to 16 years performing side-by-side with the Moscow Ballet company of 40. Performances at 3 and 7 p.m. Dec. 7 at the Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Des Plaines. Tickets start at \$35. For tickets go to www.nutcracker.com/buy-tickets.

Salt Creek Ballet's "The Nutcracker," featuring new costumes and a new set design in a full-length production of the dance classic about a young girl's magical Christmas journey set to Tchaikovsky's score. 1 p.m. Dec. 13 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts Skokie, 9501 Skokie Blvd., \$20-\$41. (847) 673-6300 or northsho-recenter.org.

EXHIBITS & EVENTS

The First Fridays Holiday Fest & Cookie Walk begins at 5 p.m. Dec. 5 at the

SEE SEASON, PAGE 42 ▶

NOW EXTENDED TO DECEMBER 21!

"Exceptionally SMART, subtly DARK and hilariously FUNNY."

Chicago Sun-Times

"MUST-SEE! A fresh, exciting thriller."

Evanston Review

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Featuring dancers from Vienna Imperial Ballet & International Champion Ballroom Dancers

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The Chicago Botanic Garden's Wonderland Express runs through Jan. 4.

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 41

SEASON

Skokie Heritage Museum, 8031 Floral Ave. Enjoy live reindeer, elves, photos with Santa, carolers to set the mood from Lincoln Jr. High School. Cookie Walk beginning at 5 p.m., guests will check-in at the Skokie Heritage Museum where donations of new winter accessories (hats, gloves, coats), toys or non-perishable food items will be accepted for the Niles Township Food Pantry. Visitors are encouraged to make a donation before receiving a "Cookie Walk" passport. The passport will list participating merchants in Downtown Skokie, where small, festive cookies will be served. Shop & dine in Downtown Skokie on Dec. 5 and turn in receipts from 5-8 p.m. to the Skokie Heritage Museum. For every \$10 spent, receive a free raffle ticket for the chance to win prizes. Winners will be notified via email. Call (847) 677-6672.

The **11th Annual Empty Bowls fundraiser** takes place Dec. 6, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m., at Oakton Community College Des Plaines campus, 1600 East Golf Road. For \$15, participants select a handcrafted bowl, donated by professional and student potters from the Chicago area, that they keep, and receive a simple meal of soup and bread. Sponsored by Oakton's Ceramics Club and supported by the Student Government Association, Empty Bowls benefits local food charities. The event includes a raffle drawing for ceramic artwork, as well as larger pieces; entertainment by Patchouli. Information at emptybowls@oakton.edu, or call (847) 635-1699.

AKO Christmas Show with special guest **Wayne Messmer**, family show features a military tribute, the Inspired Youth Choir, Santa and more. Performance at 7 p.m. Dec. 6 at the Copernicus Center, 5216 W.

Lawrence Ave., Chicago. \$15-\$50; 25 percent off all tickets on TicketFly.com this year and over 30 percent off for military, seniors and children 12 and under. Tickets at <http://www.ticketfly.com/venue/7715-copernicus-center/>. Information at (773) 777-8898.

Skating with Santa, for kids 3-8 years old, at the Ice Rink at Westfield Old Orchard Mall, corner of Golf Road and Skokie Boulevard, Skokie 2-6 p.m. Dec. 13. Cost is \$10 for children 3-8, tickets required. Parents must accompany children who cannot skate on their own, but no ticket is required for adults. Space is limited for all time slots. Kids can show off skating skills in a 30-minute sessions or join us afterward from 5-6 p.m. for free Santa photos. Information, at (847) 673-6800 or westfield.com/oldorchard.

"Hands on Hanukkah," at Westfield Old Orchard Mall, corner of Golf Road and Skokie Boulevard, Skokie, 3-5:30 p.m. Dec. 14, 16, and 18, at Unilock Patio near The Cube. In partnership with Big Tent Judaism, Bayit Evanston, Temple Judea Mizpah, and the Jewish Community Center of Chicago, for the free events featuring an interactive program that includes candle lighting, music, Danny the Dreidel, donuts and cider, dreidels, gelt (chocolate coins), and more. Information, at (847) 673-6800 or westfield.com/oldorchard.

The Ice Rink at Westfield Old Orchard Mall, corner of Golf Road and Skokie Boulevard, Skokie, is open through January, weather permitting. Skating hours: 5-8 p.m. Monday-Friday, noon-8 p.m. Saturdays and noon-5 p.m. Sundays. **Ice Semble performances** are 2 p.m. Saturdays in December. **Skating Lessons for Beginners:** Saturdays, beginning December 13 from 3:30 -4:30 p.m. and 4:15 -4:45 p.m. beginning Dec. 13. Skating costs: \$3 for skate rental; \$2 to skate; \$5 total to rent and skate; Skating lessons for beginners: \$12. Information, at (847) 673-6800 or westfield.com/oldorchard.

Family Friendly



A cast of 29 fifth-through-eighth-graders from the Performer's School will perform the story of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at the Skokie Theatre. PHOTO BY KRISTINE NOOR

Joseph and his amazing coat sing their way to Skokie Theatre

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
For Pioneer Press

A variety of musical styles and an engaging Old Testament story make "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" an entertaining show for all ages. Add a cast of 29 students from the Performer's School and everyone is sure to enjoy the production, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 at the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave.

Performer's School co-founder Stacey Flaster, who directed and choreographed the show, said that she and co-founder Liz Fauntleroy, who handled vocal and music direction, chose "Joseph" because, "It uses a large ensemble, it's completely sung through and each person gets featured." The show is fully staged, with colorful costumes and sets.

Fauntleroy added, "The show is so upbeat and entertaining that we not only think it's perfect for this age group but also for audiences, especially at holiday time."

Tickets are \$18.

For details, call (847) 677-7761 or go to skokie theatre.com.

SLICK OUTLET

You and your kids can get a workout outdoors at Frozemont ice rink at MB Financial Park, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont. The rink will be in operation through March 1. Admission is free; skate rental is \$8. On Friday, Dec. 12, a four-story tubing adventure, "Polar Peak," will open.

For details, call (847) 349-5008 or go to mbparkatrosemont.com/frozemont.

TAKE NOTE

Kids can try instruments at a Music Institute of Chicago Instrument Petting Zoo, 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 at Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. At 10 a.m., composer James Stephenson will introduce children to symphony orchestra instruments and then create a new work with the audience. Tickets are \$5 at brownpapertickets.com/event/852829.

For details, call (847) 905-1500, ext. 108 or go to musicinst.org.

DO RAISE YOUR VOICE

Everyone is invited to join in at a Holiday Sing-Along with Lepskaya's School of Music, 2-2:45 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7 at Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave. You'll sing such favorites as "Jingle Bells," "Frosty the Snowman" and hits from the movie "Frozen" at this intergenerational event.

For details, call (847) 825-3123 or go to www.parkridgelibrary.org.

SUPER SHOW

Original songs, popular covers and traditional nursery rhymes will entertain kids from newborns through 5-year-olds, and their adults, at the interactive Super Stolie Music Show, 10-11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 at Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave.

For details, call (847) 677-5277 or go to lincolnwoodlibrary.org.

Celebrating music from renaissance to rock

8PM FRIDAY
DECEMBER 5
Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave.
Evanston
Tickets: \$35 adults, \$25 seniors/students and \$10 children under 12, 847-382-5085 or at www.lakesidesingers.com

8PM MONDAY
DECEMBER 8
Metropolis Arts Center, 1111 W. Campbell St
Arlington Heights
Tickets: \$35 adults, \$25 seniors/students and \$10 children under 12, 847-577-2121 or at www.metropolisarts.com

8PM FRIDAY
DECEMBER 19
Fourth Presbyterian Church, 126 East Chestnut St.
Chicago
Tickets: \$35 adults, \$25 seniors/students and \$10 children under 12, 847-382-5085 or at www.lakesidesingers.com

8PM SATURDAY
DECEMBER 20
Wentz Concert Hall, 171 E. Chicago Ave.
Naperville
Tickets: \$35 adults, \$25 seniors/students and \$10 children under 12, 847-382-5085 or at www.lakesidesingers.com

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Find supplies for beach glass jewelry at craft stores.



Michelle Rosenson and Kris Ruben of Northbrook creating "antique" vases. | PHOTOS BY BETH ENGELMAN/FOR PIONEER PRESS



Handmade jewelry reveals the glories of beach glass.



"Crystal" goblets will add class to any celebration.

Holiday gifts

that only look like they cost a fortune



Impress friends and family with these delightfully decadent gifts that are easy to make and cost less than a gingerbread latte.

Crystal Goblets

Add a touch of whimsy to your standard bottle of wine with these charming goblets.

You need:

- Jelly jars (use recycled jar or you can buy them at most craft stores)
- Candlestick holders (available at many thrift shops or dollar stores)
- Strong adhesive (such as Super Glue, Gorilla Glue or Craft Goop)

Directions:

Wash and dry jars and candlestick holders.

Place a ring of glue around the rim of the candlestick holder. Gently place jar on top and hold into place for 60-90 seconds. Flip the glass upside down and set aside to dry for about 24 hours.

Repeat steps until you have made a set of goblets.

Cheers!

Beach Glass Cocktail Rings and Bracelets

If diamonds are a girl's best friend, then beach glass is a girl's favorite cousin. These stones always remind me of warm, sunny days, sand-covered toes and the notion that summer is never too far away.

You need:

- Beach glass (available at floral and craft stores)
- Ring forms and bracelet blanks (available at craft stores and bead shops)

Strong adhesive (such as Super Glue, Gorilla Glue or Craft Goop)

Directions:

Glue stone to either a ring form or bracelet blank. Hold in place for about 1 minute before setting aside to dry.

'Antique' Monogrammed Vases

Last month I was asked to host a craft night for the Northbrook Woman's Club. Their goal was to make the perfect hostess gift for the upcoming holiday season. We came up with this antique vase craft because it yielded beautiful results, yet was not overly complicated. I loved that the women were able to chat and visit with each other while crafting. Thank you to Michelle Rosenson for helping to inspire and conceive this craft.

You need:

- Recycled wide-mouth bottle or vase

Brown craft paper, ripped into small pieces

Mod Podge and sponge brush
Chipboard letter (available at craft stores)

Acrylic paint or wood stain

Directions:

Use Mod Podge to cover bottle/vase with craft paper. Set aside to dry.

To give vase an antique feel, dilute paint or stain with a small amount of water. Use a sponge brush to dab diluted paint onto vase and then use a paper towel to blot or wipe away excess paint. Repeat steps until desired shade is achieved.

Transform the chipboard letter into an antique monogram by following the painting technique described above. Set aside to dry.

Once dry, glue letter to vase and then seal with one final coat of Mod Podge.

GO CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DEC. 4

Nutcracker Unwrapped!

7 p.m.: Get behind the scenes on this holiday classic! Salt Creek Ballet will explain and decode some of the more mystifying aspects of the Nutcracker story and its music as well as provide a preview of its upcoming performances of The Nutcracker at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts. Audience participation will be a key part of the experience. Ages 4 and up. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-677-5277 x232. Free.

FRIDAY, DEC. 5

Handicrafters

10 a.m.: Held every Friday at 10 a.m. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-5127.

Park Ridge Panhellenic Club

Noon: The Park Ridge Panhellenic Club meeting will feature a Maine East choral group presenting Christmas music. The luncheon and meeting will be held at the Park Ridge Country Club. Membership to the Panhellenic Club is open to alumnae of college Greek letter sororities. The club awards scholarships to high school graduates in the Maine Township area. Reservations should be made on the Monday before the event. Address inquiries to Barbara Pfaff at 847-696-4789. Park Ridge Country Club, 636 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-823-3102. \$25.

First Fridays Holiday Fest & Cookie Walk

5 p.m.: The celebration begins at event headquarters, located at the Skokie Heritage Museum. There will be live reindeer, elves, photos with Santa, carolers to set the mood from Lincoln Jr. High School and much more! Cookie Walk beginning at 5 p.m., guests will check-in at the Skokie Heritage Museum where donations of new winter accessories (hats, gloves, coats), toys or non-perishable food items will be accepted for the Niles Township Food Pantry. Visitors are encouraged to make a donation before receiving a "Cookie Walk" passport. The passport will list participating merchants in Downtown Skokie, where small, festive cookies will be served. Shop & dine in Downtown Skokie on Dec. 5 and turn in receipts from 5-8 p.m. to the Skokie Heritage

Museum. For every \$10 spent, receive a free raffle ticket for the chance to win prizes! Winners will be notified via email. Skokie Heritage Museum, 8031 Floral Ave., Skokie. Call 224-534-9510.

It's Christmas Charlie Brown! The Musical

6 p.m.: Join Charlie Brown and the Peanuts gang as they prepare for the upcoming holiday season. Filled with holiday cheer, this special Actors Training Center (ATC) Repertory Company's production warms the hearts of audience-goers and includes a sing-a-long at the end of the show, in which the cast goes into the audience and invites the little kids onto the stage and sings Christmas Carols with them. Claire Bigley is musical director and Jeff Award winner Janet Louer, Musical Theatre director of ATC's Repertory Company, directs the production. Cast includes: Charlie Brown: Caleb Fietsam (Lake Bluff) and Seth Steinberg (Evanston) Lucy: Colleen Dougherty (Evanston) and Julia Mates (Evanston) Sally Brown: Megan Delaney (Western Springs) and Emma Flannery (Wilmette) Linus: Jacob Simon (Deerfield) Schroeder: Logan Scofield (Oak Park) Pig Pen: Connor Carlin (Evanston) Patty: Mackenzie Wilkin (Wilmette) and Elita Ernsteen (Deerfield) Frieda: Jordan Pritsker (Glencoe) and Elizabeth Baker (Evanston) Snoopy: Pheobe Rudnick (Winnetka) and Lilly Piekos (Wilmette). Tickets now on sale. For tickets or more information, visit: www.wilmettetheatre.com or call: at 847-251-7424. \$12 group rate for 10 or more and can be purchased. Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette. \$18.

SATURDAY, DEC. 6

Cookie Walk and Bake Sale

9 a.m.: United Methodist Women hold annual "Cookie Walk and Bake Sale" to raise funds for mission efforts. Beautiful and delicious fresh baked cookies and other holiday goodies available. All proceeds benefit local, regional, and international mission projects. 1st United Methodist Church of Park Ridge, 418 Touhy Ave., Park Ridge, Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3144.

Toy Drive and Pictures with Santa!

9 a.m.: Throughout December until Jan. 5, First Northern is collecting toys and gift cards to be hand-delivered by Cal's

SUBMIT YOUR EVENT

To submit an event for consideration in print, visit www.pioneerlocal.com/submit-content and click the "Events" tab on the left side of the screen. Please submit the event no later than 10 days before the desired publication date.

Angels to pediatric cancer patients up to age 18, at Lurie's Children's Hospital of Chicago. As a kickoff, First Northern is hosting a "Pictures with Santa" event from 9 a.m. to noon Dec. 6. Bring your camera. Children of all ages can stop by to have their picture taken with Santa and enjoy holiday treats. Desired items are: gift cards to Target, Best Buy, iTunes, or Walmart; Legos, trucks, V-Tech toys, action figures, or puzzles; baby dolls, Barbie's, scrapbooking/craft kits, art supplies, and play dough. Call or visit website. First Northern Credit Union, 1750 Sherman Ave., Evanston. Call 888-328-8677.

Breakfast with Santa

9 a.m.: Drop in for breakfast, crafts, games and a visit with Santa himself. St. Francis Xavier School, 808 Linden Ave., Wilmette. Call 847-256-1163. \$10; kids 2 and under free.

Dever Elementary Craft Fair

10 a.m.: Come to Dever Elementary to view products from over 20 different vendors, including Cookie Garden, Herbalife, Jellibean, Younique, Avon, Celebrating Home, Denise's Fleeces, Origami Owl, USBorne Books, Genki Karate, Ideal Protein, Debbie's Material Possessions, Santa Shoppe, 60 Premium Soap Company, Premier Jewelry, Tupperware, Tastefully Simple, Crafters and more.... Santa offers photo opportunities. Win Raffle Prizes! William E. Dever Elementary, 3436 N. Osceola Ave., Chicago.

"Jolly Old Saint Nicholas" Holiday Faire

10:30 a.m.: The Philoptochos Society of Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church hosts its "Jolly Old Saint Nicholas" Holiday Faire. Enjoy a luncheon of homemade Greek cuisine from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (carry-outs available). Sample homemade pastries and tasty

beverages from the Coffee Shoppe, while sitting around the Saint Nicholas Christmas tree. Shop many new vendors and favorite artisans for holiday gift giving. Children can enjoy the "Candy Cane Room" and a visit with Santa from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 1401 Wagner Road, Glenview. Call 847-729-2235. \$2 admission; children and students free.

"Jolly Old Saint Nicholas" Holiday Faire

10:30 a.m.: The Philoptochos Society of Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church hosts the "Jolly Old St. Nicholas" Holiday Faire. A luncheon of homemade Greek cuisine is served from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sit around the "St. Nicholas" tree while enjoying a beverage from the Coffee Shoppe with home-baked pastries and treats. These pastries, as well as tiropites and spanakopites are available to take home for holiday entertaining and hostess or teacher gifts. Many new vendors and local artisans offer unique options for holiday gift giving in every price range. Parents can bring their cameras for pictures of their children with Santa. Call or go to website or www.facebook.com/ssppglenview. Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 1401 Wagner Road, Glenview. Call 847-729-2235. Admission \$2; children and students free.

Empty Bowls at Oakton

10:30 a.m.: Over 1600 hand crafted soup bowls made by local potters for purchase. Enjoy a simple lunch and hear live music. Larger art pieces are also available via raffle and bargain purchase. All proceeds go to six local food pantries. See a short video for more details at <http://vimeo.com/oakton/emptybowls>. Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. Call 847-635-1899. \$15.

Winterfest / Cookie Walk

11 a.m.: Downtown Oak Park hosts its annual Winterfest + Cookie Walk until 5 p.m. A \$20 participation fee includes a souvenir cookie tin and a map of over 50 participating shops and restaurants. Aside from collecting local, gourmet cookies, participants can catch a glimpse of Saint Nicholas, enjoy a variety of family friendly acts and warm up inside the hospitality tent on Marion Street, south of Lake Street with free hot chocolate and coffee provided by Fannie May and Cheryl's. Downtown Oak Park, Marion Street and Lake

Street, Oak Park. Call 708-383-4145.

PolarPalooza

Noon: Rogers Park hosts Chicago's first Polar Palooza event with more than 10,000 local students and families converging at the CTA's Loyola Red Line station plaza. Featured bands include: STACHE, Ear Candy, Blue Shag, Lost at Land, Ryan Westwood Guitar on Saturday. Meanwhile, T-Byrdz, Urban Rhythm, Joyce Renee & the JK Connection, Cheryl and the Dynamics, and Grace Affie round out Sunday's musical acts. The event also features an all-seasons synthetic ice skating rink, a Christmas tree lot, holiday shopping at unique, local, socially conscious vendor booths, food and drink, crafts, holiday cookie decorating, costumed photos, face painting, stilt walkers, and costumed characters. More information the 2014 Polar Palooza can be found at www.starevents.com/events/winter-festivals/polar-palooza/, or on Star Events' Facebook or Twitter. Loyola CTA Station Plaza, 6550 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago. Call 773-665-4682.

3rd Annual Holiday Open House

1 p.m.: Celebrate the holidays -- enjoy a special musical performance by Hester Junior High's BASSically TREBLE choir. Crafts, treats, and a deluxe holiday photo booth also available. Franklin Park Public Library, 10311 Grand Ave., Franklin Park. Call 847-455-6016.

Gallery PINK presents 'Twas the night before Christmas Holiday Show 2014

1 p.m.: Indulge in the artistic. The show runs through Feb. 14, 2015. The Artists reception 3-5 p.m. is Dec. 13. The Holiday Show features the fab ceramic work of Angela Dieffenbach and the exquisite paper art of Laurie Le Breton. Also available are reasonably priced photographs, paintings, etc from: Robert Koppel, Dianne Martia, Barbara Moline, MJ O'hearn, John Padour, Kristi Sloniger, Linda Abrams and more! Gallery hours are Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. and third Fridays, 6-9pm. Gallery Pink, 149 Harrison St., Oak Park. Call 708-524-2231.

Christmas with the Friedrichs

1:30 p.m.: Enjoy a tour of the family home and experience Christmas as it was celebrated in the 1920s. At the

SEE GO CALENDAR, NEXT PAGE »

◀ FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

GO CALENDAR

end of the tour, there is an opportunity to take a picture with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus! Serving hot chocolate and cookies in the Education Center, where attendees can also learn how to make traditional German Christmas decorations. Mount Prospect Historical Society, 101 S. Maple St., Mount Prospect. Call 847-392-9006.

Opera on Screen - Anna Bolena

2 p.m.: Join in viewing this week's featured opera - "Anna Bolena," an opera recounting the life of Anne Bolena. "Anna Bolena" features music by Gaetano Donizetti and libretto by Felice Romani. Elmwood Park Public Library, 1 W. Conti Parkway, Elmwood Park. Call 708-453-7645.

Chicago Artery

2 p.m.: Artists give free workshops. Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St., Chicago. Call 773-472-6469.

Polar Express

2:30 p.m.: This December, experience the magic of Christmas on a holiday train to the North Pole. Enjoy Christmas caroling, cookies, milk and an interactive holiday story as the group makes its way to the North Pole, staged at the Elgin Train Station. Santa boards the train and greets each child with a special treat as they make their way back to Franklin Park. The Park District provides chocolate milk and a cookie to everyone. Registration required. Franklin Park Community Center, 9560 Franklin Ave., Franklin Park. Call 847-455-2852. \$10-\$21.

The Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra presents The Love and Peace of Christmas

7 p.m.: The Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra presents The Love and Peace of Christmas featuring Christmas favorites like Jingle Bells, the Hallelujah Chorus with a Special Guest Appearance by Chicago's Wayne Messmer, a military tribute, a children's drum corps and choir, sing-a-longs and Santa Claus. Enjoy the fun with the entire family this Christmas in one of Chicago's beautifully restored historic theaters! Just off

the Kennedy Expressway. Copernicus Center, 5216 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. Call 877-987-6487. \$15-\$50.

AKO Christmas Show with special guest Wayne Messmer

7 p.m.: Bring the whole family to kick off the holiday season. Enjoy a full orchestra, guest soloist Wayne Messmer, a beautiful military tribute, the Inspired Youth Choir, Santa and more! Get 25% off all tickets on TicketFly.com this year and over 30% off for military, seniors and children 12 and under. Go to: <http://www.ticketfly.com/event/667689-ako-christmas-show-love-chicago/> Copernicus Center, 5216 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. Call 877-987-6487. \$15 - \$50.

Holiday Choral Concert

7:30 p.m.: The program will include Christmas classics arranged in the English tradition, along with contemporary a cappella arrangements of carols from around the world. In addition to traditional holiday fare, original works by Peter Warlock, Kenneth Leighton, Steven Stucky, and others will be performed. Also featured will be the premiere of a new carol by Robert

Applebaum. St. Luke's Episcopal, 939 Hinman Ave., Evanston. Call 847-869-6884. \$20.

Holiday Choral Concerts

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Jazz, Gelato and Jam Session

8 p.m.: Held on the first Saturday of each month, this event features music from the house band. Visitors are also welcome to bring their own instruments. Via Gelato, 1853 Tower Drive, Glenview. Call 847-729-7088.

Pink Floyd Night with "In the Flesh!"

9 p.m.: The Midwest's #1 Pink Floyd show presents a full evening of spec-

tacular sights & sounds, celebrating the legendary band's classic tunes! 27 Live, 1012 Church St., Evanston. Call 855-927-5483. \$8.

SUNDAY, DEC. 7

Boy Scout Troop 922 Pancake Breakfast With Santa

9 a.m.: Boy Scout Troop 922 presents its 17th Annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa that includes delicious pancakes, sausage, bagels and cream cheese, a sweet table, and beverages. Raffles, and of course, Santa! Our Lady Mother of the Church, 8747 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. Call 773-625-3369. \$6; children 3 and under are free.

Hanukkah Bazaar and Children's Book Fair

9 a.m.: Come shop the huge bazaar to find everything one could ever want for Hanukkah! Menorahs, dreidels, jewelry, music, housewares, toys, books and gifts for every member of the family (including the pets!). West Suburban Temple Har Zion, 1040 N. Harlem Ave., River Forest. Call 708-366-9000.

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OPENING FRIDAY

THE PYRAMID

Rated R for some horror violence and bloody images

Stars: Garsha Arristos, Joseph Beddelem, Ashley Hinshaw, James Buckley

A team of archeologists runs into a very unfriendly supernatural resident while exploring the secrets of a lost pyramid. Screenwriter Gregory Levasseur ("High Tension") makes his directing debut with the horror.

WILD

Rated R for sexual content, nudity, drug use and language

Stars: Reese Witherspoon, Michiel Huisman, Laura Dern

A young woman (Witherspoon) with a troubled past attempts to get her life on track on a thousand-mile solo hike of the Pacific Crest Trail. Jean-Marc Vallée ("Dallas Buyers Club") directed the adventure.

STILL PLAYING

THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY - PART I

★★★ 1/2

Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, some disturbing images and thematic material

Stars: Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Woody Harrelson, Julianne Moore

The titular Games have been upgraded to all-out, honest-to-goodness war in "Mockingjay - Part I," making this installment the darkest and most dramatically engrossing of the series so far. Young Katniss (Oscar-winner Lawrence, still digging deep into the emotional grimness of the story) finds herself forced to serve, reluctantly, as the symbol of the revolution as the people of Panem rise up against the oppressive Capitol, though her personality-free boyfriend Peta (Hutcherson) is still a prisoner there. The action is spectacular (Katniss knows how to get maximum thrill value from an explosive arrow), and Harrelson and Elizabeth Banks provide much-needed comic relief.

HORRIBLE BOSSES 2

★★ 1/2

Rated R for strong crude sexual content and language throughout

Stars: Jason Bateman, Jason Sudeikis, Charlie Day, Jennifer Aniston

It has no real reason to exist aside from racking up another payday after the hit 2011 original, but at least "Horrible Bosses 2" capitalizes on what worked best last time. Namely, the enjoyable comic chemistry of Bateman, Sudeikis and Day as they turn to amateur criminality to thwart another set of workplace oppressors. This time, the guys conspire to kidnap the obnoxious son (Chris Pine) of a billionaire (Christoph Waltz) who cheats them out of their start-up manufacturing business. Aniston, Kevin Spacey, and Jamie Foxx return.

PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR

★★★

Rated PG for mild action and some rude humor

Stars: Tom McGrath, Chris Miller, Benedict Cumberbatch, Ken Jeong

The scene-stealing penguin paramilitary team from the three "Madagascar" movies were entertaining in small doses, but it turns out they're even better in a big one. Their fast-paced, frequently funny feature debut doesn't offer them much in the way of character development or thematic interest. Lets face it, though. This is an animated comedy about a team of super-spy penguins. How much should we really expect? Here the P-squad faces off against a mad-scientist octopus (John Malkovich) determined to rid the world of cute, cuddly creatures, starting with guess-who.

FOXCATCHER

★★★ 1/2

Rated R for some drug use and a scene of violence

Stars: Steve Carell, Channing Tatum, Mark Ruffalo, Vanessa Redgrave

Fine acting and an all-enveloping depressive mood go a long way toward making up for fuzzy plot details in this disturbing tale of a senseless true-crime story. You'll hardly recognize Carell as the aristocratic millionaire John E. du Pont, who enticed Olympic champion wrestlers Mark and Dave Schultz (Tatum and Ruffalo) to join his richly funded Foxcatcher training program in the late '80s and wound up murdering one for no apparent reason. Bennett Miller ("Capote," "Moneyball"), who won the Best Director prize at Cannes, fudges facts to suggest a motive.

THE HOMESMAN

Rated R for violence, sexual content, some disturbing behavior and nudity

Stars: Tommy Lee Jones, Hilary Swank, John Lithgow, Meryl Streep

In the old West, a strong-willed woman (Swank) who has agreed to take three women back East hires a drifter (Jones) to guide and protect them.

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Movie times are effective Friday, Dec. 5, through Thursday, Dec. 11. Please note that theater schedules are subject to change.

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5 S. Prospect Ave.

Park Ridge

(847) 604-2234

www.pickwicktheatre.com

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It's A Wonderful Life

Sun - free at 1 p.m.

The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part I (PG-13)

Fri-Sat 4-6:30-9; Sun-Thu 4-6:30-9

Big Hero 6 (PG)

Fri-Sat 1:15-3:45-6:15-8:30; Sun 1:15-6:15-9:15;
Mon, Tue, Thu 4-6:15-8:30; Wed 4-9:15

Penguins of Madagascar (PG)

Fri-Sat 1-3:30-6-8:15; Sun 1-3:30-8:15; Mon-Thu 4-6-8:15

Past Tense

Fri-Sat 1:30-4:30-7-9:20; Sun 1:30-4:30-7-9:15;

Mon-Thu 4:30-7-9:15

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YOUR Local Worship Guide



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Edison Park Lutheran Church

6626 N. Oliphant Ave. Chicago, IL
(Across park from Edison Park Metra)
773.631.9131, www.edisonparkchurch.com
Saturday, 4:30 pm - Evensong
Sunday, 8:00 am - Traditions
Sunday, 9:15 am - Spirit Bridge
Sunday, 10:30 am - New Song
Sunday School - 9:15 am
Adult Bible Study - 8:00 am
Rev. Dr. Michael D. Sparby, Sr. Pastor
Carole Edwards, Associate in Ministry
Matt Haider, Worship / Music
Michael Lyda, Children/Youth/Family

St. Paul Lutheran Church

5650 N. Canfield, 60631,
(708) 867-5044, www.stpaulcanfield.org
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www.norwoodparklutheran.org
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10:00 am

Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)

6201 W Peterson Ave.
Chicago, IL (773) 631-0715
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Sunday Worship 10:30AM
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and Jeffery King

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United in Faith Lutheran Church

6525 W Irving Park Road
773-283-2326 • www.unitedinfaith.org
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www.ChabadofGlenview.com

MORTON GROVE

St. Luke's Christian Community Church

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Sunday Worship & Sunday School - 10 AM
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Pastor Elizabeth Jones

Morton Grove Community Church Presbyterian Church (USA)

8944 Austin Ave., Morton Grove
(Lake and Austin)
(847) 965-2982
www.mgcppresbyterian.org
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847-647-9867
www.st-john-niles.org
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-1 John 3:20

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<p>Calvary Redemption Center 8256 Skokie Blvd. Skokie, IL 60077 847-674-1100 www.mycrc.tv office@calvaryredemptioncenter.org Sunday Service: 10 am Youth Group: 10 am Children's Church: 10 am Rev. Ebenezer Dei, Senior Pastor</p>	<p>KEHILLAT SHALOM An Egalitarian Conservative Congregation Lay Led Shabbat Service, 9:45AM 8610 Niles Center Rd, Skokie 847-679-6513 www.kehillatshalom.org</p>	<p>W.M. Temple Church of God in Christ, Inc. 5151 Church St., Skokie, IL (847).966-1095 • www.wmtcogic.org pastorcranford@gmail.com Sunday Service: 11:30 AM Sunday School: 10 AM Bible Study: Wednesday, 7 PM Intercessory Prayer: Tuesday & Friday, 12 PM Dr. Clarence Cranford, Jr., Pastor Elizabeth W. Cranford, 1st Lady</p>	<p>Devar Emet Messianic Synagogue 7800 Niles Ave., Skokie • 847-674-9146 www.devaremet.org Join us for Shabbat Services at 10am "A Community of Jews who believe and teach that Yeshua (Jesus) is the Promised Jewish Messiah"</p>	

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- An in memoriam or card of thanks may be placed using the same information above.
- The deadline for placing a death notice, in memoriam or card of thanks, is Monday at 5:00 pm. Photos must be submitted by Monday at 2:00pm.
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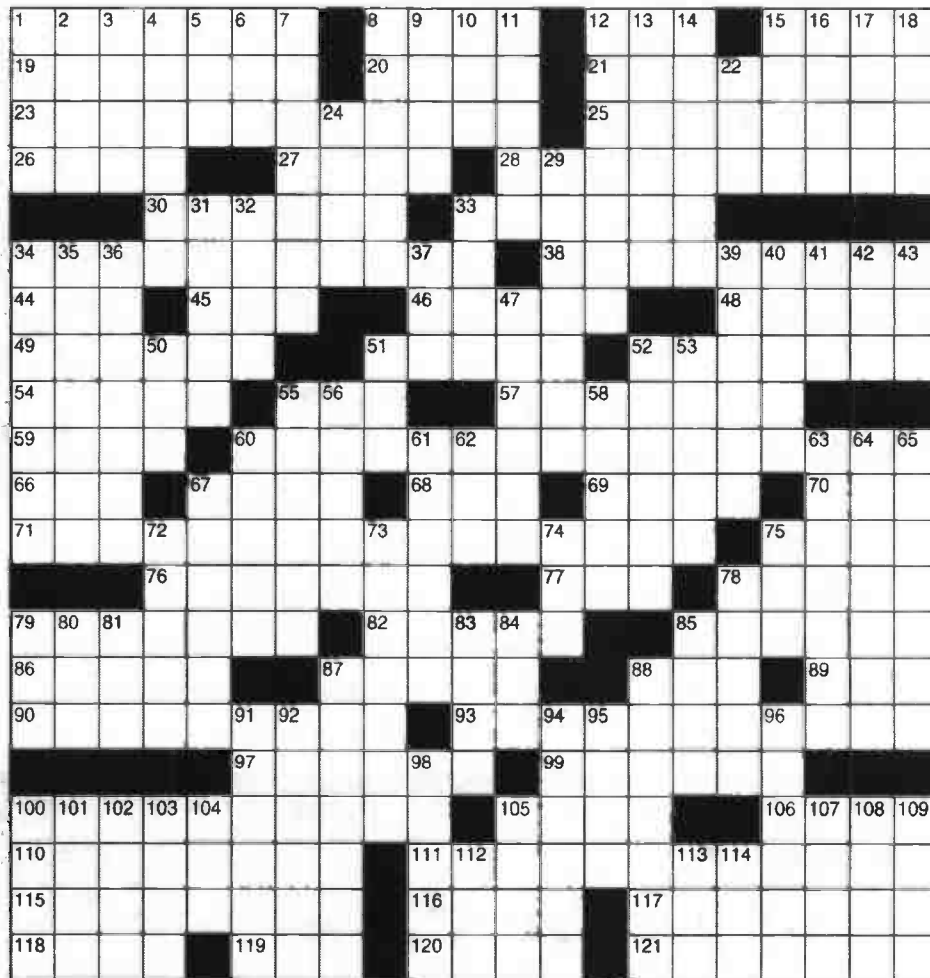
Chicago Tribune

Puzzles

III SUPER CROSSWORD

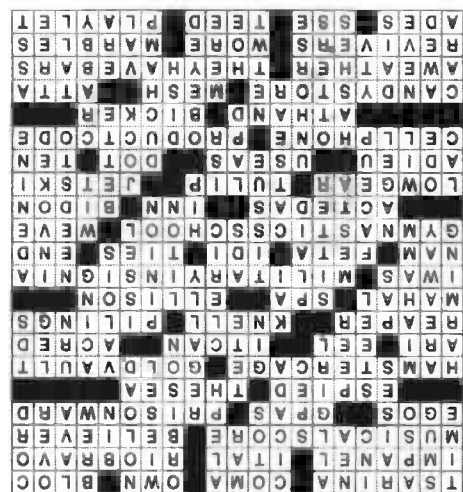
- ACROSS**
- 1 Empress of old Russia
 - 8 Unwakeful state
 - 12 Part of BYO
 - 15 Political coalition
 - 19 Choose for jury duty
 - 20 Lang, spoken in Milan
 - 21 1959 John Wayne film
 - 23 What a maestro studies
 - 25 Christian, for one
 - 26 Braggarts have inflated ones
 - 27 Student transcript nos.
 - 28 Penitentiary division
 - 30 Laid eyes on
 - 33 What "My Bonnie lies over"
 - 34 Home for a pet rodent
 - 38 Fort Knox feature
 - 44 Meyers of "Think Big"
 - 45 Wiggly swimmer
 - 46 "Now — be told"
 - 48 Having much land
 - 49 Crop topper
 - 51 Mournful ring
 - 52 Groups of wharf-supporting beams
 - 54 Taj —
 - 55 Relaxing facility
 - 57 Sci-fi writer Harlan
 - 59 "— just wondering"
 - 60 Mark of a sergeant, e.g.
 - 66 "The Hanoi Hilton" locale
 - 67 White cheese
 - 68 A mean Amin
 - 69 Track beams
 - 70 Discontinue
 - 71 Its students tumble
 - 75 "— grown apart"
 - 76 Represented
 - 77 Wayfarer's refuge
 - 78 Try to win at eBay, say
 - 79 First, in terms of transmission
 - 82 Holland bloom
 - 85 Marine "motorcycle"
 - 86 "So long, Pierre!"
 - 87 "— directed" (medicine)
 - 88 Freckle, e.g.
 - 89 Royal flush card
 - 90 Nokia offering
 - 93 Scanned supermarket symbol
 - 97 Close by
 - 99 Squabble
 - 100 Busy shop before Halloween
 - 105 Mosquito net material
 - 106 "— boy!"
 - 110 Into the wind
 - 111 Statement about nine answers in this puzzle
 - 115 Successful CPR performers
 - 116 Dressed in
 - 117 Chinese Checkers pieces
 - 118 Fruit-flavored drinks
 - 119 MI-to-SC dir.
 - 120 Ticked
 - 121 Skit

- DOWN**
- 1 Clock datum
 - 2 Overproud
 - 3 Lhasa — (dog breed)
 - 4 Boosts
 - 5 Business .mag
 - 6 Teachers' union: Abbr.
 - 7 Allowing only female students
 - 8 Loud insect
 - 9. Western Amerinds
 - 10 Tamish
 - 11 Initial Hebrew letter
 - 12 Singer Roy
 - 13 Nobelist Elie
 - 14 Like some mutual funds
 - 15 Make coffee
 - 16 Molten rock
 - 17 See 91-Down
 - 18 Strong rope
 - 22 Storage unit
 - 24 Project particular
 - 29 In a majestic manner
 - 31 Stainless —
 - 32 Squint (at)
 - 33 Head, in Pau
 - 34 Hurting
 - 35 Sunken space in front of a cellar window
 - 36 She's a soccer star
 - 37 Gibson liquor
 - 39 Philip VI's house
 - 40 Serving perfectly
 - 41 Vase variety
 - 42 Piano part
 - 43 NFL goals
 - 47 Bishop, e.g.
 - 50 Fathers
 - 51 China's Chiang —
 - 52 Rack-and — steering
 - 53 Hoops Hall of Famer Dan
 - 55 Parents' hiree
 - 56 Kilt pattern
 - 58 Arrived at by chance
 - 60 Hostess Perle
 - 61 Kleenex, say
 - 62 Some inserts
 - 63 Really must
 - 64 Called upon
 - 65 Nucleic acid base
 - 67 Showing, as a card
 - 72 Actor Conrad
 - 73 Dandelion lookalike
 - 74 Tuned in
 - 75 Cleverness
 - 78 Davis of film
 - 79 Erié or Supérieur
 - 80 Lyrical work
 - 81 "Stand by Me" actor
 - 83 SoCal squad
 - 84 It's S. of Leb.
 - 85 Athletic type
 - 87 Dismount
 - 88 Artist Marcel
 - 91 With 17-Down, discusses at length
 - 92 Weasels' kin
 - 94 Fell in line
 - 95 Menu listing
 - 96 Grouchy
 - 98 Food carton abbr.
 - 100 Singer Irene
 - 101 Electrified
 - 102 "54" co-star Campbell
 - 103 Platform for a lectern
 - 104 Canadian cable channel for children
 - 105 Piddling
 - 107 Like giants
 - 108 Bark source
 - 109 Mgr.'s aide
 - 112 Garden tool
 - 113 Actor Kilmer
 - 114 Epoch



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III PUZZLE ANSWERS



III HOROSCOPES: DECEMBER 10 — DECEMBER 16

BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE INC.



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Make your holiday preparations one step at a time in order to avoid being overwhelmed and leaving things undone.

A family situation continues to work itself out.



TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Ease this year's holiday money pressures by letting your thrifty side guide you as you look for those perfect gifts that typically reflect your good taste.



GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You'll have a good handle on potential holiday problems if you delegate tasks to family, friends or co-workers — most of whom will be more than happy to help out.



CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Right now you are especially vulnerable to holiday scams that seek to take advantage of your generosity.

Best advice: Check them out before you send out your checks.



LEO (July 23 to August 22) The upcoming holiday season gives the Big Cat much to purr about. Relationships grow stronger, and new opportunities loom on the horizon.



VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A changing situation brings conflicting advice about how to go forward with your holiday plans. Your best bet: Make the decision you feel most comfortable with.



LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Holiday plans get back on track after some confusion about the direction you expected to take. A potentially troublesome money matter needs your attention.



SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your holiday preparations are on track. But you need to confront a personal situation while you can still keep it from overwhelming everything else.



SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Tight financial matters ease a bit during this holiday season. But the Sagittarian is well-advised to keep a tight hold on the reins while shopping.



CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Don't put off making decisions about this year's holiday celebrations, despite the negative comments you've been getting.



AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) The holidays will bring new friends and new opportunities. Meanwhile, be careful to use your energy wisely as you go about the holidays.



PISCES (February 19 to March 20) There's good news coming from a most unlikely source. And it could turn out to be one of the best holiday gifts you have had in years. Remember to stay positive.

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Ever heard of "identity foreclosure?" It's an actual syndrome suffered by people who see themselves primarily as one aspect of their identity to the exclusion of all the others - such as professional athletes. Researchers speculate that that's one reason why the depression rate for retired athletes is more than 10%, while the divorce rate is around 60%. On another post-playing front, recent research has shown that nearly 80% of retired NFL players and 60% of retired NBA players go bankrupt or suffer financial distress within just two years of leaving their sports.

Miami Heat head coach Erik Spoelstra not only didn't play in the NBA, he didn't grow up under a coach, didn't train to be a coach, didn't even get experience at lower levels as a coach. After playing college ball at the University of Portland (his dad, Jon, was senior VP of marketing for the Trail Blazers), Spoelstra started with the Heat in 1996 as a gofer/errand boy, walking dogs and picking up dry cleaning for the coaching staff. But under the guidance of team coach and then president Pat Riley, Spoelstra worked his way up the ladder and was given the head job in 2008 after 14 years in the organization.

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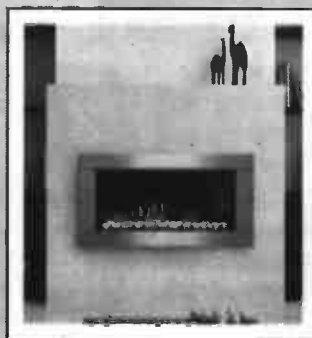
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||| NILES WEST

Hines steps up early in season

BY MARY STUTZMAN
Special to the Tribune. @mfstutzm

SKOKIE — Evan Hines was quiet when he walked out of the gym.

After a loss on Nov. 26 and a long talk in the locker room, the 6-4 junior forward from Niles West said his team is learning patience.

“We need to be patient on offense, don’t try and force it as much,” Hines said. “Because I’m one of the strongest players on the team, I need to be aware on defense and help get the offense flowing.”

Niles West lost to Glenbrook North 49-59 in the second round of the Kurland-Schnurr Thanksgiving Basketball Tournament at Niles West, but the Wolves team leaders showed promise. Hines stood out, scoring 19 points, including 10 points in the first quarter, and grabbing five rebounds.

Coach Bob Williams said that he was disappointed with the team’s defensive effort, but the season is just starting.

“[The reason] you play tournaments at this time of year and play so many games is so you get a good look at it, so you can learn things,” said Williams, whose Wolves went on to beat Douglas 103-48 in Friday’s fifth-place game. “I’m very disappointed right now, but I’m not discouraged. We’ve got the tools and the kids care. We think we’re a better team than this. Now we just have to figure out how to play better.”

Junior guard Jojo Rios, who averaged 10 points per game last season for the Wolves, missed the first game of the tournament due to sickness, which showed on the scoreboard.

“[Rios is] one of our main ball handlers and one of our leaders, so it felt like there was a hole as a unit in our offense,” Hines said.

Hines said the team has a different dynamic this year.



Niles West’s Evan Hines (24) shoots over Glenbrook North’s Matthias Kim (4) during the Kurland-Schnurr tournament at Niles West on Nov. 26. | NIC SUMMERS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP

“We can stretch the floor out more than we did last year, I think we have better athletes and we have more size,” said Hines, adding that his team needed to work harder on execution.

Hines and Rios started every game last year. Williams is happy see the returning players become leaders on and off the court.

“Everybody sees when you shoot a three and that kind of stuff, but a lot of the things you see defensively like rebounding, those guys address during practice,” Williams said. “You know, ‘C’mon let’s pick it up,’ or diving on a loose ball — that kind of stuff. Some of those kinds of effort things, those guys are leaders in that and that’s a difficult thing to do.”

||| NOTRE DAME

Dominant first quarter, depth help Dons win tournament

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
For Sun-Times Media, @VanDrilSports

CHICAGO — There are fleeting stretches in basketball when everything goes perfect for a team — when it executes its defensive game plan flawlessly, controls the boards and knocks down shots.

The Notre Dame boys basketball team experienced one of those stretches at Lane on Friday night. It happened in the first quarter of its 65-50 victory over Evanston in the Battle of the Bridge Tournament championship game.

The Dons led the talented Wildkits 6-0 with 3 minutes, 54 seconds remaining in the first quarter, and they kept adding points and momentum. A 3-pointer at the top of the key by Elvin Husejnovic made it 9-0. Husejnovic, a junior guard, followed that by burying a 3 from the wing to make it 12-0.

Junior center Anthony D’Avanzo followed with a tip-in for two points. Notre Dame got another stop — it limited Evanston to just two field-goal attempts inside the 3-point line during the first quarter — and then sophomore guard Matt Stritzel drained a 3-pointer to make it 17-0. The Dons’ supporters were euphoric inside Lane’s gym.

“It was awesome,” Stritzel said. “It’s what you play basketball for.”

Notre Dame led Evanston 20-2 at the end of the first quarter. The Wildkits (3-1) never cut the deficit to single digits after that.

A slew of Dons starred at different times in the first quarter. Six Notre Dame players scored, including Battle of the Bridge Tournament MVP Joe Mooney (18 points, four steals) and standout post player Ammar Becar (12 points, eight rebounds).

They’re expected to score for Notre Dame (4-0), but so too are Husejnovic, D’Avanzo and Stritzel off the bench. Husejnovic scored six against Evanston, D’Avanzo finished with eight and Stritzel added five.

“We like to think of ourselves like Kentucky,” Husejnovic said. “We have a good starting five, but we have another five coming off the bench that can do the same exact thing as the first five.”

The members of the second five contribute in different ways. D’Avanzo, for example, is 6-7 and went 4-for-4 on his field-goal attempts, while also staying active on the boards.

Husejnovic and Stritzel provide outside shooting and floor spacing, among other things. Their role on offense is to play off of Mooney and Becar, slip into vacated areas and — as they did in Notre Dame’s tidal wave of a first quarter against Evanston — drain open looks.

“We’re going to hit them, and their job is to knock down shots,” Becar said.

PIONEER PRESS ALL-AREA GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

POY: Hannah Juley

Lyons senior Hannah Juley endured two surgeries and months of rehab to come back this season.

The 5-10 setter enjoyed a successful return after she missed almost all of her junior season because of a Lisfranc injury to her left foot.

Juley, the Pioneer Press All-Area Girls Volleyball Player of the Year, led Lyons (34-5) to a West Suburban Silver championship and the sectional finals. She finished with 856 assists, 49 kills, 36 aces, 25 blocks and 196 digs this season and over 1,500 assists in her four-year career.

She is the only Illinois player named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association Under Armor All-American first team and is scheduled to play in the All-American match Dec. 19 in Oklahoma City.

Juley's sister Erin led Lyons to the Class 4A state championship as a senior in 2010. Next year, Hannah Juley is scheduled to join her sister at Wisconsin, which is ranked No. 2 in the AVCA Coaches poll released Nov. 24. Erin Juley is a backup setter behind sophomore Lauren Carlini, an AVCA second-team All-American.

Pioneer Press staff reporter George Wilcox interviewed Hannah Juley.

Q: WHAT WAS THE HARDEST PART ABOUT COMING BACK AFTER MISSING A YEAR?

A: The hardest part was getting comfortable on the court again. After almost a year off it was really hard to rely on muscle memory. It took a long time to get back to where I am, but it gets better every time I step on the court.

Q: WAS THERE ANY FEAR OF REINJURING YOUR FOOT WHEN THE SEASON BEGAN?

A: Realistically, no. I had a wonderful surgeon and physical therapist that did a great job with my foot. But when I first started playing I was terrified of getting hurt again, as I think every athlete who suffers an injury is.

Q: WHAT WAS THE BIGGEST SURPRISE OF THE SEASON FOR YOU?

A: How many close games we were able to win was so great. We played our hearts out every game and that led us to a really good season.

Q: WHAT DO YOU REGARD AS YOUR BIGGEST CONTRIBUTION TO THE LYONS PROGRAM?

A: After Alexis Viliunas graduated from LT [and went on to play at Illinois], coach [Joann] Pyritz told me I was going to have to start setting because the program needed one. I think my biggest contribution was just trying to be whatever role the team needed me to be.

Q: WAS ERIN A HUGE INFLUENCE BEHIND GETTING YOU STARTED IN VOLLEYBALL?

A: Erin is the only reason I started playing volleyball in the first place. She started playing when she was about 12 years old and I used to watch her practices when I was little.

Q: WHAT IS VOLLEYBALL'S BIGGEST APPEAL FOR THE JULEY SISTERS AND WHY DO YOU PLAY THE SPORT SO WELL?

A: My sister and I have always been very competitive people and we played multiple sports growing up. But volleyball's appeal was how challenging of a sport it is. The game is just as much physical as it is mental, and it really is the ultimate team sport because of how you have to rely on your teammates.

Q: HOW MUCH ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO PLAYING FOR WISCONSIN AND WITH ERIN?

A: I can't wait. My sister and I are really close and all we can talk about is how excited we are to play on the same team for the first time.

Q: HOW TOUGH WOULD IT BE TO SUCCEED SOMEONE SUCH AS LAUREN AT UW?

A: I knew how great of a setter Carlini was when I first committed to UW and I'm really excited to learn from her and my sister next year. I don't think of it as succeeding Carlini as a setter because every player is different and has their own strengths and weaknesses.

All-Area First Team

MORGAN O'BRIEN

Libertyville, so., libero

The all-North Suburban selection had 33 digs in a match this season. O'Brien also came up big with 18 digs in the Wildcats' state semifinal win over Loyola. She finished the season with 577 digs and 33 aces.

HANNAH JULEY

Lyons, sr., setter

See Player of the Year Q&A.

LAUREN FULLER

Hinsdale Central, sr., outside hitter

The 6-3 Fuller carried the offense for the Red Devils with her 379 kills, 33 aces and 30 blocks. She also tallied 201 digs. Fuller was named all-tournament at Benet and the Mizuno Cup. She has signed with San Diego.

CHRISTINA REED

Loyola, jr., outside hitter

The 6-2 Reed is slated to be back for more next season after leading the Ramblers (27-11) to their first state tournament appearance. Loyola placed fourth in Class 4A. Reed finished the season with 259 kills, 22 blocks and 181 digs.

JULIA SAUNDERS

Nazareth, sr., outside hitter

The 6-3 Saunders plans to join club teammate Juley at Wisconsin after becoming a three-time all-East Suburban Catholic selection and a third-team AVCA All-American selection. Saunders had 332 kills, 28 aces, 52 blocks and 169 digs for the Roadrunners (29-10).

GRACE SCHOFIELD

Carmel, sr., outside hitter

The Drake recruit was named MVP of the ESCC North and helped the Corsairs finish 33-6. The 6-0 Schofield was named all-tournament at Lake Forest and set single-season school records in kills (342) and aces (65).

ALEX BASLER

Libertyville, sr., middle hitter

Led by the 6-2 Basler, the Wildcats (35-7) were the Class 4A runners-up. It was the best finish in school history. Basler recorded 300 kills, 34 aces and 93 blocks. The Cornell recruit was named all-tournament at the Wheaton Classic and had a season-high 15 kills in a match.

PIONEER PRESS ALL-AREA BOYS SOCCER TEAM

POY: Wes Bergevin

On Hinsdale Central's nail-biting path to a Class 3A state championship, Red Devils senior gothic Wes Bergevin came through time and time again.

Hinsdale Central won in penalty kicks twice — in the Class 3A Lyons Sectional semifinal, and then in the Lewis University Supersectional — during the postseason. Bergevin, the Pioneer Press All-Area Boys Soccer Player of the Year, also saved a penalty shot against Morton with 23.3 seconds remaining to preserve a 3-2 victory in the Class 3A Lyons Sectional final.

Bergevin's 1-0 shutout in the state championship game gave him 14.5 shutouts this season. He allowed 19 goals in 25 games and was selected to play in the High School All-American Game on Dec. 13 in North Carolina.

Freelance writer Eric Van Dril spoke with Bergevin, whose father Marc is the general manager of the Montreal Canadiens.

Q: AS SOMEBODY'S PREPARING TO TAKE A PK, IS THERE ANYTHING THAT YOU LOOK AT — MAYBE RIGHT BEFOREHAND OR AS THEY WALK UP — FOR CLUES TO WHERE HE'S GOING TO KICK THE BALL?

A: It's really difficult, in that sense, to try to read where a player's going. You can look at their hands, or look at their feet — whether they're righty or lefty, how far they go back, where they [position] themselves to the ball, whether it's to the left side or the right side. But it all comes down to that last split-second decision, of 'Well, am I going to go right, or am I going to go left?'

Q: I COVER A LOT OF SOCCER, AND I'VE SEEN QUITE A FEW PENALTY SHOOTOUTS. MY STOMACH IS ALWAYS IN KNOTS FOR THE PLAYERS OUT THERE. BUT AS A GOALIE WITH SO MUCH PRESSURE ON YOUR SHOULDERS, HOW DO YOU FEEL IN THOSE SITUATIONS?

A: It's definitely nerve-wracking, but in goal I'm very comfortable, and I'm very confident in our guys who take the shots, too, because they hit the spot every time and they showed that throughout the postseason. That definitely takes a lot of pressure off my shoulders because I know on their end, they're going to do what they need to do. ... On my end, I have to make sure I do what I have to do. If I let in a goal, I can't get down. I can't let that bother me because it will affect the next shot. Whether you save it or not, you have to keep your head in there and stay focused.

Q: WAS YOUR DAD ABLE TO FOLLOW YOUR RUN TO THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP AT ALL? WHAT WAS THAT LIKE?

A: Throughout the state run he was working, so he had to stay up there and travel with the team, but he followed it. He'd text me before the games, usually, and wish me good luck.

All-Area First Team

WES BERGEVIN

Hinsdale Central, sr., GK
See Player of the Year Q&A

EVAN FLOERSCH

Hinsdale Central, sr., D
The anchor of the Red Devils' defense, Floersch also took Hinsdale Central's free kicks. The Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association all-stater had eight assists. Floersch, who plans to play for Division III Emory in Atlanta, led a defense that shut out high-powered Normal Community 1-0 to win the Class 3A state title.

MAVIN GILL

Oak Park-River Forest, sr., D
A three-year varsity starter, the sweeper was crucial in the Huskies finishing 13-6-1. Gill not only performed well on defense, but he also was OPRF's second-leading scorer with seven goals. Gill was an all-conference and all-sectional selection.

BRET LOWRY

Evanston, sr., D
Lowry is a two-time IHSSCA all-state selection who led Evanston's stingy defense. He was regularly the best player on the field, and that included a regular-season game against high-powered New Trier.

ANTHONY GULLI

St. Joseph, sr., MF
Gulli finished with nine goals and 12 assists for the Class 2A runner-up. The two-time IHSSCA all-state midfielder has verbally committed to play soccer at Carnegie Mellon.

STEPHEN PAYNE

Lake Forest Academy, sr., MF
Payne committed to UCLA before the season, and then proceeded to score 24 goals and dish out 11 assists en route to IHSSCA all-state honors. Payne has played with the United States U-18 Men's National team.

GILES PHILLIPS

Barrington, sr., MF
Phillips is physically imposing and skilled. He was named an IHSSCA all-state selection. Phillips recorded seven goals and six assists this year, which was his second as a starter for the Broncos.

CHRISTIAN SOSNOWSKI

Leyden, sr., MF
Sosnowski returned to the Eagles after a year away playing club soccer, and he tallied nine goals and 14 assists. The attacking midfielder was a creative force for the Class 3A Glenbrook South Regional champions.

PATRICK DUNCAN

Lyons, sr., F
The technically-skilled, 6-3 forward had 13 goals and 13 assists for the Lions. He was an IHSSCA all-state selection.

DUNCAN GILL

New Trier, sr., F
The all-sectional forward scored 22 goals and had 11 assists for a squad that won the Central Suburban and the Class 3A Niles North Sectional.

EDUARDO GUTIERREZ

St. Joseph, sr., F
Gutierrez was a lethal scoring threat during the Chargers' dream season, which ended with a loss in the Class 2A state championship game. Gutierrez, who earned all-sectional honors, recorded 22 goals and 12 assists.

All-Area First Team

WESLEY ANNAN

Lake Forest Academy, sr., DL
The 6-4, 285-pound Annan committed to Stanford after totaling 45 tackles, two forced fumbles and one sack in eight games.

NICK DILLON

Stevenson, sr., DL
See Player of the Year Q&A.

JOSH KING

Hinsdale South, sr., DL
An imposing presence on the line at 6-7, 260 pounds, King also produced. He totaled 11 tackles for loss, five pass break-ups, four quarterback hurries, three sacks, two forced fumbles and one blocked punt.

DAVID DANHAUER

Barrington, sr., DL
The 6-0, 225-pound Danhauer was a handful at the line of scrimmage for the Broncos. He had 18 tackles for loss, 10 quarterback hurries, 7.5 sacks, three pass break-ups and two forced fumbles.

BRIAN O'BRIEN

Loyola, sr., LB
The 6-0, 215-pound O'Brien led the Prep Bowl-champion Ramblers with 141 tackles, including nine for loss. He also had four sacks, four pass break-ups and two forced fumbles.

MARK NICHOL

Loyola, sr., LB
The 6-0, 210-pound edge rusher was a wrecking ball near the line of scrimmage. Nichol totaled 26 tackles for loss, nine quarterback hurries, seven sacks and two forced fumbles.

JASON VRAVICK

Stevenson, sr., LB
Vravick was a rock in the middle of the defense for the Class 8A state champions. The 6-2, 225-pounder finished with more than 120 tackles and had 3.5 sacks.

PIONEER PRESS ALL-AREA FOOTBALL DEFENSIVE TEAM

POY: Nick Dillon

Nick Dillon has been a rare four-year starter for the Stevenson football team. In all, the 6-2, 275-pound lineman played 50 games and went 41-9, culminating with this season's 14-0 campaign that ended with a Class 8A state championship. The state title was the first for Stevenson's program.

An Eastern Michigan recruit, Dillon made more than 80 tackles, had seven sacks and caused two fumbles as a senior. He routinely disrupted offenses with his play at the line scrimmage and also played on Stevenson's offensive line.

Pioneer Press' Matt Harness caught up with Dillon after the historic season.

Q: AS A BIG GUY AND AN ELITE ATHLETE, YOU HAVE TO CONSTANTLY FEED YOUR BODY FOOD. WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE THING TO EAT?

A: I love barbecue. Love it. There's a place by me, Real Urban BBQ (in Vernon Hills), where we like to go. I like the pulled pork sandwich. It something that fills me up. I like meals, not snacks. That's why I like that sandwich.

Q: YOU HAVE VERBALLY COMMITTED TO PLAY FOOTBALL FOR EASTERN MICHIGAN, A DIVISION I PROGRAM THAT PLAYS IN THE MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE. THE CAMPUS IS IN YPSILANTI. CAN YOU SPELL THAT TOWN?

A: Y-P-S-I-L-A-N-T-I. That's not an easy one.

Q: WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO THE EAGLES AND THE SCHOOL?

A: I want to major in business, probably business management. When we looked at all the colleges that offered me, I felt like Eastern was the best fit for me, both academically and athletically.

Q: STEVENSON IS KNOWN FOR HAVING STUDENTS WITH CONNECTIONS TO PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES, PAST AND PRESENT. WHO ARE SOME OF THE ATHLETES YOU'VE ENCOUNTERED DURING YOUR TIME WITH THE PATRIOTS?

A: This season, I've met [Chicago Bears defensive tackle] Ego Ferguson and [Bears defensive tackle] Will Sutton. Ego is the brother of [Stevenson senior football player] Jeremy Webb. Both of those guys came to some of our games, and it was cool to hang out with them.

Q: WOULD YOU RATHER GET A SACK ON THIRD DOWN OR SCORE A TOUCHDOWN?

A: That's a tough one, but I am going to have to go with scoring a touchdown. I joked with [coach Bill] McNamara all year about letting me score one. I almost scored one in the New Trier game. [Quarterback] Willie [Bourbon] fumbled and the ball went into the end zone. I hopped on it for the touchdown, but the refs said he was down. I watched it again on film, and he wasn't down. I should have had that one. Hopefully, I will get a chance at the next level.

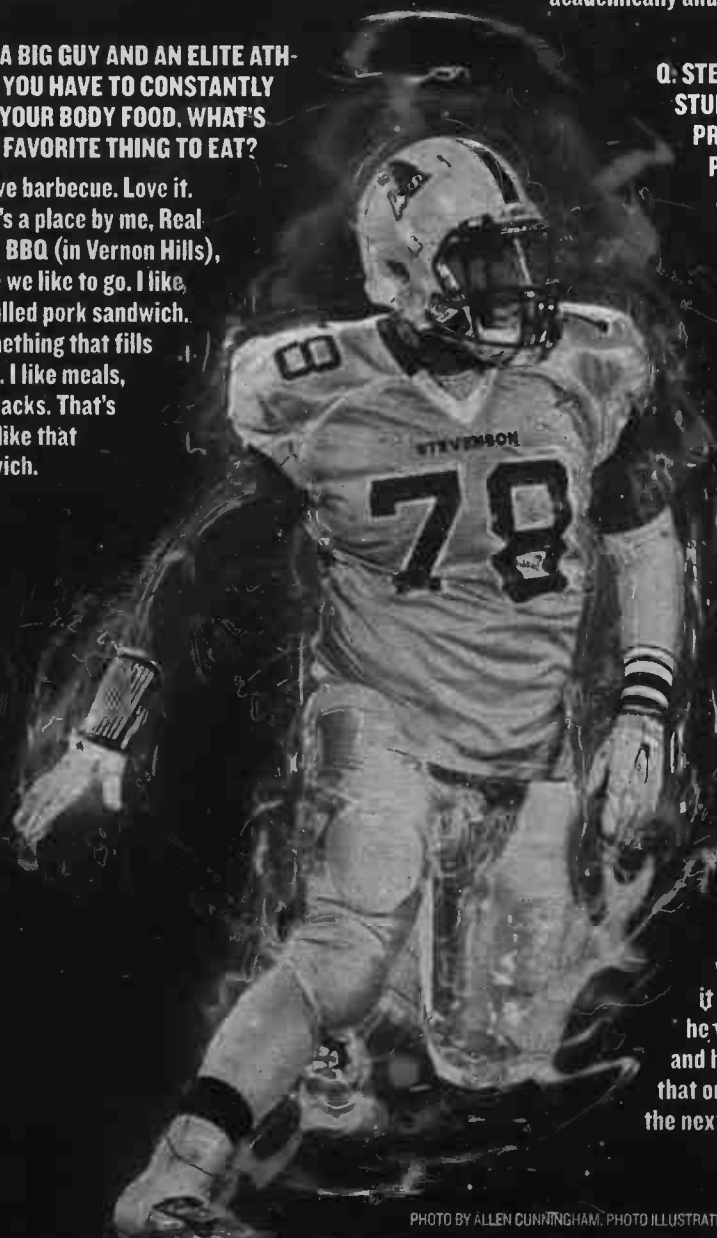


PHOTO BY ALLEN CUNNINGHAM. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY NIC SUMMERS/FOR CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP

JACK TRAYNOR

Lake Forest, sr., LB
A fixture in the middle of the defense for the Scouts since 2012, the 6-1, 224-pounder finished with 100-plus tackles for a third season in a row.

MARK DOWDLE

Loyola, sr., DB
Despite often covering the opposing teams' best receiver, the 6-3, 175-pound Dowdle led Loyola with 10 interceptions and nine pass break-ups. He also had three tackles for loss and two fumble recoveries.

AARON GARLAND

Fenwick, sr., DB
The 6-0, 190-pound safety helped the Friars get to the Class 7A quarterfinals. Garland had 38 tackles, six pass break-ups, four interceptions, two fumble recoveries and one forced fumble. He also scored two touchdowns.

JUSTIN FAHEY

Maine South, sr., DB
The 5-8, 190-pound safety was named the CSL South's defensive player of the year and he was named to the Class 8A all-state team. Fahey finished with 55 tackles, three tackles for loss and three interceptions.

VINNY LABUS

Maine South, sr., athlete
A three-year starter, the 6-2, 215-pounder played at linebacker, receiver and long snapper for the Hawks. Defensively, he had 93 tackles, 12 tackles for loss, four pass break-ups and two interceptions.

NICK ENDRE

New Trier, jr., P
Endre averaged 35.5 yards per punt and had 10 downed inside the opponents' 20-yard line.

All-Area First Team

RILEY LEES

Libertyville, jr., QB

The offensive engineer for the Class 7A semifinalist Wildcats did more with his feet than his arm. Lees, a 6-1, 185-pounder, ran for 1,799 yards and 35 touchdowns, averaging 8.0 yards per carry.

LEONARD ROSS

Lyons, sr., RB

A workhorse at 6-0, 200 pounds, Ross averaged nearly 24 carries a game for the 5-5 Lions. The Miami (Ohio) commit finished the season with 1,456 yards and 18 touchdowns.

JACK SHUTACK

Nazareth, sr., OL

The 6-6, 290-pound Shutack helped the Roadrunners to their first 14-0 season and Class 6A state title. The line allowed one sack and powered the offense to total 6,063 yards and average 45.5 points.

STEFAN IVANISEVIC

Hinsdale Central, sr., OL

The 6-5, 280-pounder was part of a group that enabled the Red Devils to rush and pass for nearly 4,000 combined yards during an 8-3 season.

MATT KASKEY

New Trier, sr., OL

The left tackle anchored one of the best units on the North Shore. The 6-7, 300-pounder belonged to a line that allowed one sack and cleared the way for 2,249 rushing yards.

ZACH WALLACE

Lake Zurich, sr., OL

The 6-7, 240-pounder helped open holes for the Bears, who averaged 6.2 yards per rush. Wallace, who earned Class 7A all-state honors, has verbally committed to Wyoming.

PIONEER PRESS ALL-AREA FOOTBALL OFFENSIVE TEAM

POY: Julian Love

No matter how Nazareth's Julian Love got the ball, he knew the best way to get it down the field. The 5-11, 175-pound junior wide receiver either caught or ran the ball 87 times this season for 1,368 yards, an average of 15.7 yards per touch, and scored 19 touchdowns.

Love's playmaking ability helped the Roadrunners finish 14-0 and win the Class 6A championship for the school's first state title. Love, who also started at defensive back, was named the East Suburban Catholic Conference player of the year. The Westchester resident has offers from Illinois and Illinois State.

Pioneer Press' Matt Harness caught up with Love after Nazareth's best season in program history.

Q: NAZARETH WON A STATE TITLE IN ITS FIRST APPEARANCE IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME. TELL ME ABOUT THE BUS RIDE BACK TO LA GRANGE PARK.

A: For the first 45 minutes or so, it was electric and alive. People were screaming, calling family, friends, girlfriends. Then, we all fell asleep. It was a long day, and we were so tired.

Q: YOU STARTED ON OFFENSE AND DEFENSE FOR TWO VARSITY SEASONS NOW. WHICH SIDE OF THE BALL DO YOU PREFER?

A: I don't really know. I do love running with the ball, and I like scoring. But I probably will play defense at the next level, either cornerback or safety. I know I can do a lot of things for a team. I even can throw the ball a little. I asked coach [Tim] Racki all season about throwing a halfback pass. We practiced it so many times, but we never did it during the game. That's a tragedy.

Q: THE TEAM'S OFFENSIVE LINE, WHICH AVERAGES 6-3 AND 285 POUNDS, ARGUABLY IS THE BEST IN THE STATE AND MAKES YOUR JOB MUCH EASIER. IN TERMS OF EATING, WHO'S THE BEST ON THAT UNIT?

A: [Senior] Mike Owens. They all pride themselves on eating the most food. After every practice in the summer, they would go to Chipotle together. They would get two burritos each. During team breakfasts, they would have contests to see who could eat the most breakfast sandwiches. Mike puts away the most food by far. They were the heart of our team, and we owe all of our success to the hogs.

Q: YOU DON'T HAVE A LOT OF OFFERS RIGHT NOW, BUT I IMAGINE THAT WILL CHANGE SOON. WHAT'S YOUR FIRST CHOICE?

A: Ever since I was little, I've loved Notre Dame. My dad, too. It's my favorite school, and it would be a dream to play for them.

Q: WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE FOOTBALL PLAYER?

A: Barry Sanders. I wear No. 20 now and so did he. I was really little when he was playing, but I loved watching him. On defense, it's probably Ed Reed, who played for the [Baltimore] Ravens — and also wore No. 20. Those are some of my idols.

MICHAEL OWENS

Nazareth, sr., OL

Owens was named the ESCC's offensive lineman of the year. The 6-4, 275-pounder helped the offense average 8.4 yards per play, including 6.9 per rush.

ANDREW HAUSER

New Trier, sr., TE

A two-way starter, the 6-4, 230-pound Hauser finished with 19 catches for 245 yards and two touchdowns. Hauser also played defensive end for the Class 8A quarterfinalists.

CAMERON GREEN

Stevenson, sr., WR

Although the 6-3, 200-pounder attracted the attention of every secondary he played against, the sure-handed Northwestern commit finished with 59 catches for 861 yards and 10 touchdowns.

JULIAN LOVE

Nazareth, jr., WR

Sec Player of the Year Q&A.

SCOTTY MILLER

Barrington, sr., WR

The Bowling Green recruit finished with 1,361 all-purpose yards and 17 touchdowns. The 5-10, 165-pounder pulled in 11 TD passes and scored twice on rushes, twice on kickoff returns, once on a punt return and once on an interception.

TOMMY BAZAREK

Maine South, sr., athlete

The 5-10, 177-pound receiver averaged 17.2 yards per touch on offense and scored seven touchdowns. He also returned a kickoff for a touchdown.

JOE BRUNI

Lyons, sr., PK

The 6-foot, 170-pounder converted all 33 extra points and averaged nearly 50 yards per kickoff.

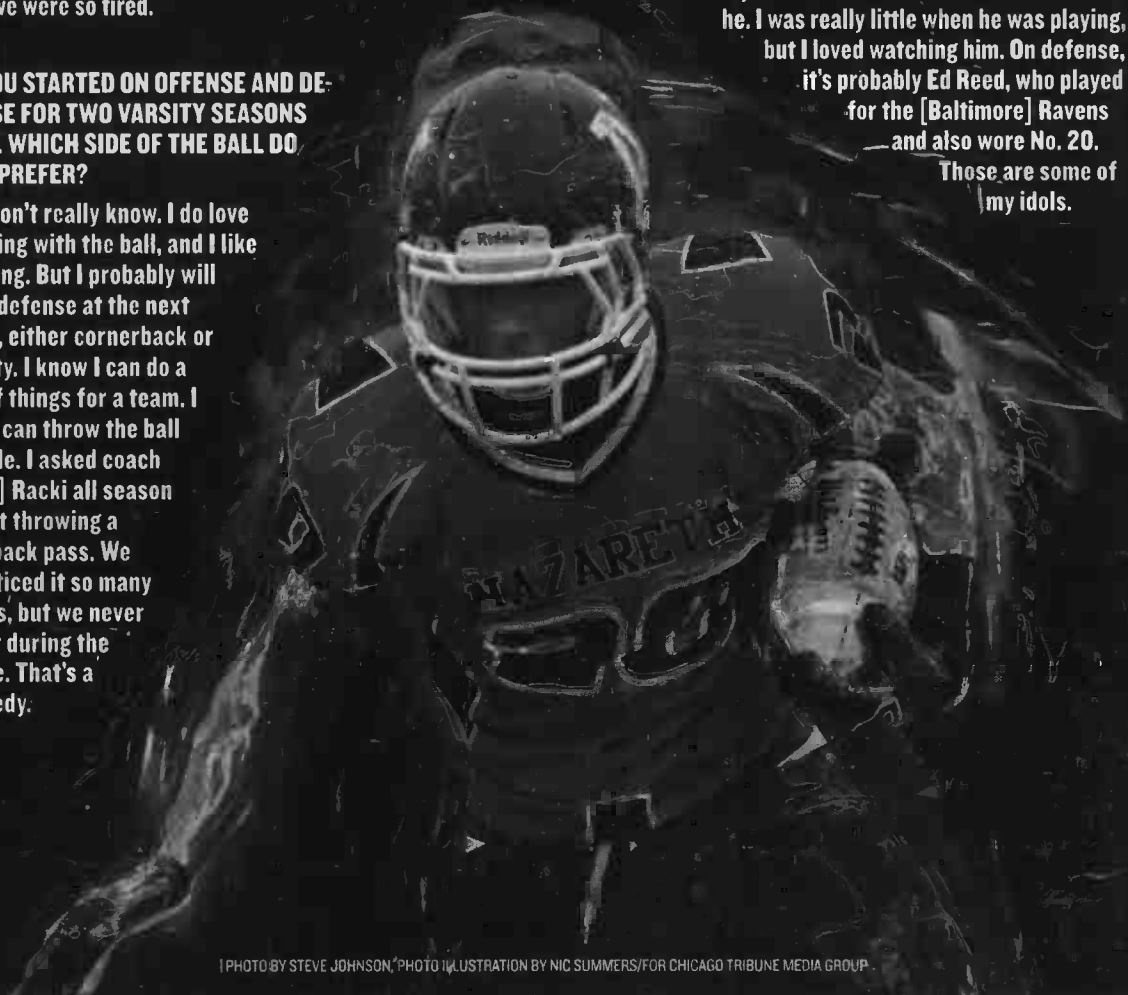


PHOTO BY STEVE JOHNSON, PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY NIC SUMMERS/FOR CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP

SPORTS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2014

MAKE SOME NOISE

Pioneer Press reveals its all-area football,
girls volleyball and boys soccer teams
and Players of the Year | **INSIDE**

Stevenson's Nick Dillon tries to get the fans excited during the Class 8A semifinal game against Glenbard West on Nov. 22. Dillon is the Pioneer Press All-Area Football Defensive Player of the Year. | PHOTO BY JON CUNNINGHAM, PHOTO

ILLUSTRATION BY NIC SUMMERS/FOR CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP

ONLINE: Visit bit.ly/allarea to see the all-area second team and honorable mention selections and to read extended interviews with the Players of the Year.



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