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## “New Trier Neighbors” Launches with Stephen Moore Event, October 9th

*“As a native of Winnetka, and a proud graduate of New Trier ('78), I'm thrilled to see 'New Trier Neighbors' bring common sense conservatism back to the North Shore. All clear thinkers welcome!”*

*Stephen Moore, Contributing Editor, WSJ and Senior Economist, CNN*

**(WILMETTE, IL - September 29, 2017):** Writer and economist Stephen Moore will help officially launch “New Trier Neighbors” on October 9th in Wilmette. He will also speak about national and local issues, including the brewing minimum wage controversy on the North Shore.

**New Trier Neighbors** was created with a commitment to “building community through common sense, free enterprise, and the Golden Rule,” said one of its co-founders, Betsy Hart. “We are thrilled to host New Trier native Stephen Moore for our first official event!” Hart is known most recently for being a voice for “Parents of New Trier,” (PONT) a group of 400 New Trier parents and community members urging viewpoint diversity at New Trier High School’s recent Seminar Day.

**The North Shore Needs a Free Speech “Zone.”** Why New Trier Neighbors now? Hart explained that when all the dust and news stories settled after Seminar Day, many folks were left feeling that the North Shore needs a place where people can talk freely and substantively about ideas and current events. “We wanted a place where we can advocate for sound, common sense, constructive solutions - from local minimum wage debates, to identity politics, to issues facing our local schools - and not be shouted down just for being independent thinkers,” she said.

**New Trier High School Administrators Have Reached Out.** Hart said that both Greg Robitaille, President of the New Trier High School School Board, and Paul Sally, New Trier’s new Superintendent of Schools, have recently reached out to her to start a dialogue on how to get past the rancor over Seminar Day, and work together on constructive ideas for making New Trier – the community and the school – better than ever. “This is exactly what New Trier Neighbors is here for. We look forward to introducing these gentlemen to New Trier Neighbors, and continuing the conversation” she continued.

**New Trier Neighbors is Strong and Growing.** The five-member board of New Trier Neighbors includes Hart and four other New Trier Township residents: Adam Merrill, Beth Feeley, Jonathan Towers, and James Conley. Hart says the group has over 100 members who gathered at ad hoc events over the summer to share ideas about forming an effective organization.

**New Trier Neighbors is Planning for the Future.** Beth Feeley, who serves as President, added, “We will bring in speakers, provide common sense perspectives and advocacy on a variety of issues and public policy and be an example for constructive, civil discourse. Look for our website, which will be introduced at the Stephen Moore event, to be a helpful source of ideas and information.” “The bottom line,” Hart said, “is that those of us involved in New Trier Neighbors love this community, and we look forward to being an innovative, constructive resource for ways to make it even better.”