



# OUR VILLAGE



FREE

FREE

Volume XIV

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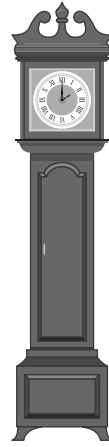
Phone: 847/675-6127  
Fax: 847/679-8851

Issue 2  
March 5, 2010



**“DOWNING SOMMERS WAY” 6700 BLOCK OF OSHKOSH AVENUE, EDISON PARK, WAS DEDICATED FEBRUARY 13 TO THE MEMORY OF TWO WHO WERE PIONEERS IN AREA COMMUNITY THEATRE**

Peggy Sommers and Jim Downing about 1982. (See page 7 for story.)



## DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

**March 14, 2:00 a.m.**

**CELEBRATE THE FIRST DAY OF**



# SPRING



**MARCH 20TH**

**HAPPY ST. PATTY'S DAY**



See page 3 for Chicago Events

### Coexisting with Coyote

See page 10 for story.

### City Reminds Consumers about the High Costs of Refund Anticipation Loans

The City of Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) offered advice to consumers who are considering Refund Anticipation Loans (RAL's), also known "instant tax refunds." The city is warning consumers that RAL's may sound like quicker refunds but what they are in fact are very expensive loans.

While they may provide some quick relief- most consumers are better served by waiting the extra time for their full refund. If you file a tax return electronically, the typical turn around time is two to three weeks.

The IRS also provides free taxpayer assistance. You can visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for more information or call 312-566-4912.

### Saturday, March 6

6:30 to 11:30 pm

**Guerin Prep High School**  
8001 W. Belmont, River Grove  
presents

3rd annual **THE**  
**big**  
**event**

**entertainment raffles food & drinks** **Chocolate Room Comedy Club**  
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auctions  
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TICKETS (\$40) ONLINE NOW

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MUST BE 21+ TO ATTEND

Terry John Malik  
Holy Cross '69

High Ridge Partners  
GREENOLA

First Security Trust & Savings Bank  
Manor Press/Jack Ross  
Holy Cross '68

Roy McCampbell  
Holy Cross '72

Winston & Strawn LLP

Shefalda's Beer & Wine Garden

Sam Palumbo  
Holy Cross '72

LaSalle Capital Group

Alderman John A. Rice,  
36th Ward

Bradley A. Stephens,  
Mayor, Village of Rosemont

Stadium Sports Club & Pizza

*Your European Easter Specialties Market*

**Gene's SAUSAGE SHOP & DELICATESSEN INC.**

*Easter Baskets Made to Order!* *Fresh Flower Spring Bouquets!*

IMPORTED OLD WORLD  
EASTER CHOCOLATE & MARZIPAN FIGURES  
RIEGELEIN • LINDT • FRIEDEL  
FUNSCH • NIDDEREGGER • BERGEN

*Gene's Handmade Easter Polish Sausage*  
*Gene's House-Smoked Easter Hams*  
*Fresh All Natural Lamb*  
*Gene's Signature Creamy Easter Horseradish with Egg Yolk*  
*Gene's Easter Borscht*

*Gift Bunnies, Chicks, Eggs & Ducks!*

4750 N. LINCOLN AVE. CHICAGO, IL **Gene's** 5330 W. BELMONT AVE. CHICAGO, IL

*Hand-Painted Wooden Easter Eggs* **773-SAUSAGE** *Easter Butter Lambs Easter Lamb Cakes*



## Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center Offers Health Programs

Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center, 5645 W. Addison St., Chicago, will offer the following health events.

A free lecture titled **"Dealing With Memory Loss"** will be offered Thursday, March 11, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Get answers to key questions regarding natural aging, Alzheimer's disease and other memory loss issues from our Memory Disorder Center experts: medical director Prasad Chappidi, M.D., neurologist; Anna Maria Wegierek, PsyD, clinical psychologist; and Mary Brown-Walker, A.P.N., advanced practice nurse and certified nurse practitioner. The team will discuss signs and symptoms of memory loss as well as what is involved in a comprehensive assessment and treatment of individuals dealing with memory loss. Refreshments will be served. Advance registration is required by calling 877-RES-INFO (877-737-4636).

A free **Healthy Aging Program** will be held Friday, March 12, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., in the seventh floor Centennial Conference Center. This program for individuals aged 55 and older consists of social time, health topics and guest lectures. A Cook County Sheriff representative will discuss gang crimes and narcotics, and will give a canine demonstration. Registration is not required.

A free lecture titled **"Blood Clots and Their Treatments"** will be held Thursday, March 18, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Blood clots are a serious medical condition and are known to cause heart attacks and strokes. Doctor of Pharmacy Bina Walsh, Pharm. D., will discuss blood clots, causes and medications for treatment. Anticoagulation treatments and safety considerations such as dietary restrictions, follow-up monitoring and testing, plus potential drug interactions, will be addressed. A question-and-answer session will follow. Refreshments will be served. Advance registration is required by calling 877-RES-INFO (877-737-4636).

Free **blood pressure screenings** will be offered Thursday, March 25, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., in the second floor Community Education Room. A health care professional will perform screenings and answer questions about blood pressure readings. Registration is not required.

The **Arthritis Support Group** will meet Thursday, March 25, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., in the seventh floor Centennial Conference Center. These free sessions aim to provide mutual support and education. Registration is not required.

Free **hearing screenings** will be given Tuesday, March 30, from 9 a.m. to noon. Audiologist Steven Wolinsky, Au.D., will perform the screenings in a soundproof booth in the second floor Audiology Department. Advance registration is required by calling 877-RES-INFO (877-737-4636).

Free parking is available in the hospital's parking facility on Addison Street.

## The Lincolnwood Human Relations Commission Sponsors Local Food Drive

The Lincolnwood Human Relations Commission (LHRC) is sponsoring its annual, village-wide food drive from March 1 to April 15. There will be drop off stations throughout Lincolnwood at local businesses and organizations. The Annual Food Drive benefits the Niles Township Food Pantry.

Community members are urged to participate to help stop hunger in our neighborhood. Suggested donation items include canned/bottled foods, such as canned fruit, Canned/bottled juice, small jars of jelly, peanut butter, canned soup, baby food, formula, tuna, small jars of mayonnaise, etc., and dry foods, such as macaroni & cheese, pasta dishes, rice dishes, powdered milk, coffee, tea, crackers, packaged cookies, etc. Grocery store gift cards are also accepted.

The Lincolnwood Human Relations Commission is committed to promoting recognition and respect for the dignity of each member of the community. The Commission creates opportunities for the community to participate in positive interpersonal experiences by sponsoring enjoyable events and activities for citizen involvement by providing educational enrichment and by serving as a resource and facilitator for the citizens of Lincolnwood. The purpose of the Commission is to promote understanding, mutual respect and neighborly cooperation among all Lincolnwood residents.

Some of the other LHRC's activities include neighbor relations, educational seminars for businesses, the annual July 4th Concert, ethnic/multicultural fair, and the diversity flag display. Meetings are held on the second Monday evening of each month at Village Hall at 7 p.m. All Lincolnwood residents are invited to attend.

All businesses are encouraged to serve as drop off stations for food donations. So far, fifteen businesses have agreed to place a collection container in their front lobby. Community members may also drop off food donations at the Lincolnwood Police Department located at 6900 N. Lincoln Avenue anytime of the day, seven days a week. For additional information or to find other drop off locations, please contact Sgt. Mark Weidner at 847-673-2167.

## Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation – 2010 Picnic Permit Procedures

In late winter when the sun shines brightly, our thought drift towards summer fun, and what could be more fun than a family gathering/picnic at the Proesel Park Shelter in Lincolnwood. Picnic Permits are required to hold a picnic in the shelter, and listed below are the procedures to obtain your 2010 Picnic Permit.

### 2010 Proesel Park Shelter Picnic Permit Procedure

Proesel Park Picnic Reservations will be taken starting on Thursday, April 1 at 9:00AM for the 2010 season at the Lincolnwood Village Hall, Parks and Recreation Department, 6900 N. Lincoln Avenue

Access will be given to the Village Hall lobby at 7:30 AM for those waiting in line, via the doors adjacent to the Police Department.

Each person will receive a number based on their position in line when the doors are opened. Prior to 7:30 AM, a single file line should form outside the double doors at the entrance. Please be courteous of your neighbors.

No blank reservation forms will be given out prior to April 1. All forms will have to be filled out on site after numbers have been distributed.

Parks & Recreation staff will process applications in numerical order based on your number. Each person is allowed to reserve one date per number. If a patron wants to reserve more than one date it will be necessary to go to the end of the line and get another number. Only one reservation date per number.

All reservations must be done in person. No online, phone or fax reservations will be accepted on April 1.

Only residents of the Village of Lincolnwood may reserve the Proesel Park Shelter. Proof of residency is required. A government issued ID, utility bill, tax bill, or lease is an appropriate form of identification. Forms of payment include MasterCard, Visa, check or cash. Some dates are not available for rental due to community events and recreation programs.

This process will take time. Your patience is appreciated. For more information contact the Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740.

## Lincolnwood Human Relations Commission Seeks Nominations for Annual Award

Do you know someone who has demonstrated that they can bring people together and help the Lincolnwood community? Is there an unsung hero you feel has been an outstanding neighbor, co-worker or classmate — someone who promotes understanding, mutual respect and neighborly cooperation among Lincolnwood residents? The Lincolnwood Human Relations Commission (LHRC) is currently seeking nominations for its 2010 Human Relations Commission Award.

Seeking to honor its sixth award recipient, the LHRC aims to promote its message of diversity, tolerance and understanding by choosing an individual that really cares about his or her community. The Lincolnwood Human Relations Commission Award is open to all Lincolnwood residents and to all non-residents who either own a Lincolnwood business or work in Lincolnwood. The recipient will be awarded for outstanding personal leadership and accomplishment in any area of public service, human rights and/or equal opportunity, such as business, education, government, health or housing. Recipients may be selected for their work as a volunteer or through activities as part of their jobs.

Each spring, at a Village Board meeting, one recipient is awarded with a recognition plaque and the addition of his or her name on a perpetual plaque displayed in the Lincolnwood Village Hall. Past recipients include: Rabbi Joel Lehrfield, Dr. Azher Quader, Lillian Streicher, Dorothy Clarke and Julie Anne Nitz-Weiss.

Nominations for the LHRC 2010 Award can be submitted to the LHRC from anyone in the community. The LHRC's Award Committee will make a recommendation to the LHRC of the final selection. Everyone is encouraged to submit a nomination letter along with supportive materials, such as newspaper articles, photographs, etc. Nomination letters should include full contact information from the person submitting the nomination and must be received by April 20, 2010. Nomination letters may be directed to the Lincolnwood Human Relations Commission c/o Sgt. Mark Weidner, Lincolnwood Police Department, 6900 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood, IL 60712.

For additional information, please contact Sgt. Mark Weidner at 847-673-2167.



# Chicago Brauhaus

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**LUNCH AND DINNER SPECIALTIES:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Wiener Schnitzel</li> <li>■ Chicken Schnitzel</li> <li>■ Roast Veal Shank</li> <li>■ Sauerbraten</li> <li>■ Pork Shanks</li> <li>■ Roast Duckling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bratwurst</li> <li>■ Steak Tartar</li> <li>■ Homemade Soups</li> <li>■ Homemade Apple Strudel</li> <li>■ Fresh Fish of the Day</li> </ul>
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Open for Lunch and Dinner Wednesday thru Monday

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Fine Food & Drinks  
Closed Tuesday*

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Corned Beef and Cabbage served all St. Patrick's Day Week



## GO "ALL GREEN" THIS ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN CHICAGO

continued from page 1

From March 5-17, celebrate Irish heritage and all things green throughout the city

Chicago's annual St. Patrick's Day celebrations offer something for all ages of the Irish-at-heart. From the emerald-colored Chicago River to 14 earth-friendly green hotels, Chicago visitors can "go green" in every way this St. Patrick's Day. These celebrations aren't just limited to March 17—visitors can begin enjoying parades, festivals, special tours and "green" activities throughout the city as soon as March 5.

Visitors to the city are invited to make their first stop the Visitor Information Center in the Chicago Cultural Center, located at 77 East Randolph Street. For more information on St. Patrick's Day activities in Chicago, or to book accommodations, visit or call 877.CHICAGO.

**Family-friendly Parade** Arrive early to get the best spots for the downtown St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 13. Watch as the Chicago River is dyed with an environmentally-friendly green dye at 10:45 a.m. at the intersection of Michigan Avenue and Wacker Drive, followed by a lively parade through Grant Park. The parade runs north along Columbus Drive, beginning at Balbo Drive at 12 p.m. and ending at Monroe Drive.

After Saturday's downtown parade, head north to the Irish-American Heritage Center (4626 North Knox Avenue) for live music, food and children's activities from 1 p.m.-10 p.m. at the St. Patrick's Festival. Come back on Wednesday, March 17 for IAHC's annual St. Patrick's Day Party, showcasing Chicago's finest talent in Irish dancing, music and food. The festivities run from noon-midnight on St. Patrick's Day.

**See Chicago Through "Irish eyes"** The best view of the city may be from the Chicago River itself! Shoreline Sightseeing offers two St. Patrick's Day Cruises the day of the downtown parade, featuring traditional food and stories about Chicago's Irish community. Cruises depart on Saturday, March 13 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Chicago Neighborhood Tours also offer an Irish Chicago tour of the city on Saturday, March 6 at 10 a.m. This half-day tour explores the historically Irish-American Bridgeport neighborhood, as well as some of the city's oldest cathedrals. The Irish Chicago tour can be booked at [www.chicagoneighborhoodtours.com](http://www.chicagoneighborhoodtours.com).

Visitors and Chicagoans planning to entertain out-of-town guests can receive Chicago brochures, reserve hotel accommodations and receive trip-planning assistance by calling toll-free 1.877.CHICAGO (1.877.244.2246), or visiting [www.explorechicago.org](http://www.explorechicago.org). Brochures and information on Chicago's exciting events and activities are also available at the Visitor Information Centers. The centers are located at Chicago Water Works, 163 East Pearson Street at Michigan Avenue and the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 East Randolph Street. For those calling from outside the United States, Mexico and Canada, please call 1.312.201.8847. The TTY toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1.866.710.0294.

The Chicago Office of Tourism (@explorechicago) provides a seven-day-a-week Twitter Concierge Service offering advice and suggestions about the city. Visitor service representatives answer questions and provide information with a focus on free and discounted events and activities in neighborhoods throughout Chicago.

**DANK-HAUS GERMAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER**  
4740 North Western Avenue, 5th floor, Chicago, IL 60625  
773.561.9181 [www.dankhaus.com](http://www.dankhaus.com)

### German Greeters Needed

The City of Chicago needs German speaking greeters. Chicagoans can show off their neighborhood pride and give back to the community. Greeters are encouraged to personalize visits with their own experiences (bring them to DANK!), taking guests across the city, demonstrating its walkability and the user-friendliness of its public trans system. Ideal greeters are friendly and knowledgeable about the city. Basic training is provided. Visits are generally between 10a, and 4pm. The Chicago Greeter program requests a commitment of at least 6 visits per year.

### Volunteer Applications Available

Volunteer applications are now being accepted!

Get involved, meet people that share your affinity for German culture.

Opportunities range from museum docent to cook to greeter to office assistance to terrace watch to library work to beer pouring. And dare we dream - the trades : plumbing, carpentry, electricity - anything to keep 70,000 sqft in tip top shape

Spring is coming - get out of your house and into the DANK Haus

### Free Income-Tax Preparation Available at Wright

Free income-tax assistance is available at Wilbur Wright College on Saturdays through April 10 to help local families and individuals maximize their tax refunds. Trained volunteers from Ladder Up's tax-assistance program will be at Wright College, 4300 N. Narragansett Ave, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Saturdays, except March 6 and April 3. Spanish and Polish translators will be available. This free tax-filing service is available to families who earned up to \$45,000 in 2009 and to individuals who earned up to \$20,000 that year.

Ladder Up can also help filers submit their tax return electronically for free and obtain a tax refund in about two weeks, avoiding high-interest tax anticipation loans that slash refunds.

Ladder Up volunteers help tax filers obtain all the deductions and tax credits they qualify for, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which can mean hundreds or thousands of dollars in a tax refund. Tax filers should bring their tax documents, such as W-2s and 1099s, and identification, such as Social Security cards and ITINs for all family members. The service is confidential.

Ladder Up is a Chicago-based nonprofit organization that recruits and trains professionals from the area's top accounting, law and financial service firms to provide free tax preparation, financial aid form and banking services.

For more information about additional locations and program requirements, please visit [www.goladderup.org](http://www.goladderup.org) or call (312) 466-0771. Prospective clients can call the tax program at (312) 409-1555.

## Re-Elect Jim DelMedico Taft High School L.S.C.

Vote at Taft High School, 6530 W. Bryn Mawr Ave, 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

April 22, 2010

**Come out and Support Jim!**

## ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM & EDUCATION CENTER HOST 2010 HUMANITARIAN AWARDS DINNER

Join the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center as it celebrates its inaugural year by honoring three extraordinary individuals with its Humanitarian Award. This special evening, featuring keynote speaker Tom Brokaw and CNN's Don Lemon as emcee, will recognize Jeffrey Aronin, President and CEO of Paragon Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; Fritzie Fritzhall, Holocaust survivor, educator, activist; and David Speer, Chairman and CEO of ITW, for their many accomplishments, steadfast commitment to fighting hatred, injustice and intolerance, and dedication to educating current and future generations about the dangers of unchecked bigotry.

Monday, March 8 5:30 p.m. reception 6:30 p.m. dinner

Hyatt Regency Chicago – Grand Ballroom, 151 East Wacker Drive, Chicago

### Who:

Tom Brokaw, Special Correspondent, NBC News

Don Lemon, Anchor, CNN

Jeffrey S. Aronin, President and CEO, Paragon Pharmaceuticals, Inc

Fritzie Fritzhall, Holocaust survivor, educator, activist

David B. Speer, Chairman and CEO, ITW

For reservations call 847.967.4852 or visit [www.ilholocaustmuseum.org](http://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org)

## Kiwanis Club of Rogers Park New Stuffed Animal Drive Through March 15

Kiwanis Club of Rogers Park has begun a New Stuffed Animal collection drive to aid the 24th district Police in their efforts to distribute them to children involved in traumatic events. Please help spread a little hope and comfort to these children by contributing a stuffed animal. A collection box is sitting at the entrance to Alderman Stone's Lincoln Avenue Ward office, as well as the other locations. Call Kiwanis at (773) 297-9272.

Stop by the 50th Ward Office to drop off your contribution and see what is new in the 50th Ward! 6199 N Lincoln Avenue, Lincoln Village Shopping Center - 2nd Floor Chicago, IL 60659; phone: (773) 764-5050.

### St. Peter School

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY AND SILENT AUCTION

**Saturday, March 13, 2010**

**7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.**

**St Peter School Auditorium  
8140 Niles Center Road, Skokie**

### Featuring:

*Live Music by Velvet Green*

*Dance Performance by the Renowned  
Sheila Tully Academy of Irish Dance*

**Silent Auction & Cash Raffles: 1st Prize \$1000**

**Luck of the Irish Dinner:  
Corned Beef, Cabbage & Chicken Dinner**

**Cash Bar**

**... Fun for Everyone**

**Tickets \$35 per person (must be 21 years old)**

Contact St. Peter School Office at  
(847) 673-0918

for Reservations and Ticket Purchase

**All Proceeds to Benefit St. Peter School**



# LOCAL SCHOOLS & YOUTH EVENTS

## MOMS Club of Northern Chicagoland

The MOMS Club of Northern Chicagoland will be holding its Spring Open House for current members and Moms interested in joining on Monday, March 8th, 9:30am-11:30am at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Feel free to bring your kids. MOMS Club is a non-profit support group designed for the at-home Mother and their children. Our club holds weekly activities (such as playgroups, outings, museums, park dates) and monthly member meetings and our popular Moms Night Out. Our membership area includes such areas as all of Northwest Chicago (including Edgebrook, Sauganash, Jefferson Park, Edison Park, Norwood Park, Oriole Park, etc), Skokie, Niles, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Park Ridge, Des Plaines, Glenview, Norridge and Harwood Heights. For more information, visit <http://sites.google.com/site/momsclubofnorthernchicago> or email [chicagomomsclub@gmail.com](mailto:chicagomomsclub@gmail.com).

## Facets' Kids Film Camp - Summer Program

### What's it all about?

Facets Kids Film Camp gives kids a real foundation in the technique, language, and process of filmmaking. Using expert instruction, professional filmmakers and respected critics involve kids in what it takes to understand and create a film.

Participants are taught a wealth of filmmaking knowledge including storyboarding, screenwriting, operating a camera, acting, directing, and more. Kids will leave the camp with confidence in their film vocabulary, theory and criticism.

### Dates and Fees:

**Session 1:** June 23- July 2, 2010 Cost: \$325

Ages 11-14: 9am-12:30pm Ages 7-10: 2pm-5:30pm

**Session 2:** July 12- July 16, 2010 Cost: \$450

Ages 11-14 ONLY: 9am-5pm (Full day, lunch included)

**Session 3:** July 19- July 23, 2010 Cost: \$450

Ages 7-10 ONLY: 9am-5pm (Full day, lunch included)

### Post-Camp Opportunities

Graduates of the Facets Kids Film Camp are prepared to take part in many more exciting Facets children's film programs! The Children's Jury of the Chicago International Children's Film Festival critiques and awards films at the CICFF, North America's ONLY Academy Award-qualifying children's film festival. The Facets Kids Ambassador Program sends kids ages 12-14 to renowned international children's film festivals in Italy, Korea, India and Canada.

## LINCOLNWOOD LIBRARY

4000 W. Pratt Ave. • (847) 677-5277  
[www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org](http://www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org)

### CHILDREN & TEENS

Afterschool Café. Mondays, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Students of all ages can buy a snack and relax before tackling homework.

Acting Class. Mondays through April 12, 2 p.m. Games, skits, bit parts and more "acting out" for students in 3rd-5th grade, directed by Debbi Brodsky. Possible show in April. Register with Lincolnwood Library's Youth Services Department, 847-677-5277 x234 or [youthservices@lincolnwoodlibrary.org](mailto:youthservices@lincolnwoodlibrary.org).

Stories & More. Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Children ages 3-5 enjoy language-rich activities including fingerplays, songs, and crafts during each 45-minute session. Siblings welcome.

Beginning with Books. Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Stories, songs, and activities for infants to 2-year-olds and a caregiver. Families are welcome to stay for Playtime program that follows.

Playtime at the Library. Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. A friendly, social time for young children, ages 3 and under, and their caregivers. Toys and snacks are provided for the children.

Knitting for All Ages. Fridays, 3:30-5 p.m. Adults and children, ages 10 and up, can learn to knit or work on a project.

## St. Paul Lutheran School Open House

St. Paul Lutheran, 5650 N. Canfield Ave, Chicago is hosting an Open House for prospective students Pre-Kindergarten 3 year old - Eighth Grade and their families on Sunday, March 7th from 1:00 - 4:00PM. Teachers will be on hand to discuss programs and answer questions along with parents and students giving tours of the classrooms and facility. Refreshments will be served and all are warmly welcome. St. Paul Lutheran is pleased to offer all new families enrolling in a full day program in Kindergarten through Eighth Grade a 50% off Tuition Discount for the 2010-2011 school year. For over 100 years, St. Paul has been providing children with a comprehensive Christian education in a nurturing environment. St. Paul offers small class sizes, a challenging curriculum including Spanish (K-8th grade), art, music, physical education, library, and computers. Additional school highlights include a Full and Half-day Preschool program, Full and Half-day Kindergarten, full-time Special Education Resource teacher, many extra-curricular and service opportunities, before and after school care from 7:00AM to 6:00PM, on-site hot lunch program, multiple child discounts, and tuition assistance available. For more information view [www.stpaulwildcats.org](http://www.stpaulwildcats.org) and contact Debbie Townsend, School Principal at 708-867-5044 with questions and or to schedule a personal visit.

## St. Paul PTL Literacy Night

The Parent Teacher League (PTL) of St. Paul Lutheran School, 5650 N. Canfield Ave., will be hosting its third annual Literacy Night on Tuesday, March 9th from 6:30-8:30pm held in the school gymnasium. The Oriole Park Branch librarian and other guest readers will be sharing beach stories and discussing tips for early literacy and reading success. Special activities and fun crafts to take home will be part of the event for children of all ages to enjoy as well as a book exchange. Student written poetry will be on display. Junior High students will be presenting their original poetry in a coffee-house style setting. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome to attend this free event. For more information view [www.stpaulwildcats.org](http://www.stpaulwildcats.org) or call the school office at 708-867-5044.

## Chicago Area Public Libraries

### RODEN BRANCH

6083 N. Northwest Hwy, Chicago, IL 60631  
Phone: 312-744-1478

## Helping People in the Philippines

Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2010 Time: 6:30 PM

Sherry Avila, educator and hostess of CAN-TV programs, will give a presentation on her trip to the Philippines on a Medical/Construction mission. Learn about the 25 participants from five churches. Find out what they did there and what they learned about the Philippine people and culture.

## St. Thecla's Blarney Bash



Saturday March 6<sup>th</sup>

Cocktails 6pm - 7pm

Buffet Dinner 7pm - 8pm

Entertainment 8pm - Midnight



Music  
by  
Joe Cullen

Tickets  
Pre-Pay = \$40  
Seniors = \$35  
At the Door = \$45

### Contact:

Kathy Borner [borner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:borner@sbcglobal.net)

Pat Staunton - 773-320-5114

Don Kottl - 773-930-4030



## Concentrating In Family Law

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## SENIOR SEWER REBATE FORMS DELAYED

Seniors who apply for the Senior Citizen Sewer Rebate and are accustomed to receiving their renewal forms during the first few weeks of January, are notified that the Committee on Finance has delayed the mailing of these renewal forms.

The committee on finance has not released the exact date of the mailing, however the forms are being processed and we ask for your patience. When you do receive your renewal letter, please forward it to my downtown office to the attention of:

Alderman Bernard L. Stone

121 N. LaSalle Street Room 20, Chicago, IL60602

ATTN: Geri Alebich

If you are at least 65 years old and applying for the first time, you can pick up an application at the 50th Ward office or call my downtown office at (312) 744-6855 and my staff will mail one to you.

Should you have any questions, please contact the 50th Ward office at (773) 764-5050 or the downtown office at (312) 744-6855

## Mardi Gras Party Held in Honor of Victory Centre of Galewood's First Year Anniversary



Victory Centre of Galewood resident Josephine Bartusiak (second from left) and friends enjoy celebrating "Fat Tuesday" at a Mardi Gras party held in honor of the supportive living and senior apartment community's one year anniversary. Victory Centre of Galewood, located at 2370 N. Newcastle, Chicago, IL, is a supportive and independent living community that provides quality residential accommodations, amenities, meals, social activities, personal care, support services and financial assistance for seniors age 65 and older. It is owned and operated by Pathway Senior Living. For more information, call Victory Centre of Galewood at 773-385-5002 or visit the website [www.PathwaySL.com](http://www.PathwaySL.com).

## Americans Recognize Risk of Fire to Older Adults

Older adults are more vulnerable to a number of risks including fire, either at home or in assisted living facilities such as nursing homes. In a recent nationwide survey conducted by the Society for Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE), Americans correctly identified adults age 65 and older as the most at-risk group.

Thirty-nine percent of Americans named older adults as the most at risk of fire danger, while 26 percent of respondents indicated that infants and toddlers were most at risk. At the same time, 63% of Americans stated they think about fire less than once a year.

"I'm not surprised that Americans recognize the increased risk of fire to older adults. People with limited physical and cognitive abilities, especially older adults, are at a higher risk of death from fire than other groups," says Chris Jelenewicz, Engineering Program Manager at SFPE. "At the same time, it's dismaying that most people don't think about fire even once a year when over 3,000 people die each year as a result of fire. Without a doubt, the public does not fully understand the enormity and seriousness of the fire problem."

While fire is a noteworthy risk for people of all ages, federal government statistics cite older adults to be almost twice as likely to die in a fire as compared to the rest of the population. Older adults are more likely to suffer from reduced sensory abilities and mental capacities as well as physical disabilities. Moreover, medical devices, cooking equipment and electrical products can pose serious fire risks to older adults.

There are numerous ways that fire protection engineers play an essential role in designing safe facilities that house the aging population. For example, fire protection engineers analyze how buildings are used, how fires start, how fires grow, and how fire and smoke affects people, buildings and property. Additionally, they use the latest technologies to:

- Design systems that control fires, alert people to danger and provide escape;
- Evaluate buildings to pinpoint the risks of fires and the means to prevent them;
- Conduct fire safety research on consumer products and construction materials;
- Investigate fires to discover how fire spreads, why protective measures failed, and how those measures could have been designed more effectively.

SFPE is publishing a list of ways that fire protection engineers enhance the safety of public and private buildings and what American should look for in their loved ones living facilities at [www.sfpe.org](http://www.sfpe.org). The Society seeks to increase the public's awareness of how science and technology is used to protect people from fire.

## CJE SENIORLIFE CO-HOSTING TWO FREE PROGRAMS WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD

Are high energy bills burning a hole in your budget? Are you paying too much for phone service? During these trying economic times, many individuals and families are feeling the crunch of paying the regular household bills. Representatives of the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) are teaming up with CJE SeniorLife through the J-Help initiative to offer up some helpful solutions:

**Tuesday, March 16** Saving Energy in Your Home. Representatives from CUB will discuss programs and incentives that can help individuals save money and energy in the home (no individual consultations will be offered). RSVP by calling 773/508-1000. 1 p.m., Bernard Horwich Building, 3003 W. Touhy Ave., Chicago.

**Thursday, April 15** Untangle Your Phone Bill. If you are paying more than \$25 for phone service, you are probably paying too much. Individuals can bring in their monthly phone bill and meet with representatives of CUB who may be able to lower monthly costs. Advance registration by April 8 is required. Call 773/508-1047.

1 p.m., Broadway Armory, 5917 N. Broadway, Chicago

CJE SeniorLife is an innovative provider of community-based and residential programs, and services for older adults throughout the Chicago area. Over the past 38 years, CJE's wide range of services has grown to include assisted living, counseling and care management, long-term skilled nursing, Alzheimer's care, home health, wellness programs and much more. CJE is a partner in serving the community, supported by the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation. For more information about CJE services, call 773/508-1000 or visit [www.cje.net](http://www.cje.net).

## "City of Chicago" Property Tax Relief Program

Alderman Stone and "The City of Chicago" remind you about Chicago's "Property Tax Relief Program". Real estate taxpayers with a minimum Fifty Dollar (\$50) Real Estate Tax Bill, and a household income of Zero (\$0) to Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) may be eligible for a Tax Relief Grant, if their taxes have been raised over \$50.00. Applications will be available at the Alderman's Lincoln Avenue office.

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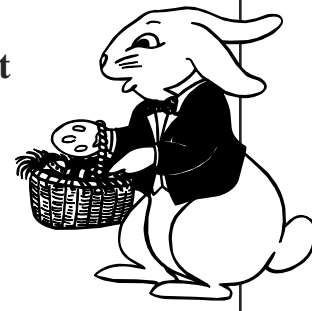
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# "A Theater Review"

*"Over the Tavern"*

*Nobel Fool Theatricals, At the Pheasant Run Resort,  
4051 East Main Street, Charles, Illinois*

*Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt*

I first saw "Over the Tavern" at the Northlight Theatre in Skokie that was directed by William Pullinsi. It was so successful after its run there it was transferred to the Mercury Theatre in Chicago for a long run of several months.

To enjoy this funny and yet touching family comedy it isn't necessary to be Catholic as that was proven when it first opened in Skokie.

John Gawlik, the artistic director of Noble Fools Theatrical, has assembled a terrific cast and has done an incredible job in directing this show. It is a show that should and could have a much longer run. It is a "Don't Miss It" production.

The show requires a cast of seven and runs a fast two hours with intermission. It might even run a little longer by ten or fifteen minutes.

It is based on the playwright Tom Dudzick, growing up in 1959 Buffalo, New York, when Elvis, drive-ins, Ed Sullivan, and The Honeymooners were a part of most households. That made life fun and simple with exceptions.

Chet and Ellen Pazinski are a Polish-Catholic family who live above the tavern they own with their four teenage children -- Eddie, played by Alex Adams; Rudy played by Gabriel Harder; Annie played by Katrina Syrris; and Georgie played by Dan Velisek. Their mother Ellen is played by Stacy Stoltz. The show has two equity actors who are veterans and they are Renee Matthews as Sister, the nun who is tutoring Rudy and Scott Cummins and Chet, the father of the family.

The young actors playing the teenage children all have great future ahead of them if they follow through in their current profession. Gabriel Harder and Alex Adams should go far and Katrina Syrris is not far behind. Daniel Velisek is also excellent but we hear he wants to become a professional chef.

The story deals with the son Rudy who plays a wise-cracking 12-year-old. Rudy questions the Roman Catholic Church to the ruler-cracking Sister Clarissa, before his confirmation. One of his funny lines is when he tells Sister, "I read where there are over thirteen hundred religions in the world and I'd like to shop around!" -- to the frustration of Sister. Eddie, the older brother, enjoys taking adult magazines in the bathroom to look at the pictures. Annie is a typical teenage girl and Georgie is a handicapped teenager who sucks his finger and loves watching Rudy impersonate Ed Sullivan.

It's great to see Ms. Matthews back on the stage. She is a top draw actress whether it's musical, comedies or dramas. She fits the role perfectly as an actress.

"Over the Tavern" runs through March 28th with the possibility of an extension. For show dates, show times and reservations call 630-584-6342. Tickets are \$29 and \$39.

**-Four Stars-**

## ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM & EDUCATION CENTER

'Miracle at Moreaux' - This family-friendly film shares the story of gentle children helping Jewish children flee Nazi-occupied France. Based on the book *Twenty and Ten* by Claire Huchet Bishop, the film serves as an introduction to related subject matter in the upcoming temporary exhibition, "The Wartime Escape: Margret & H.A. Rey's Journey from France."

The running time of the film is approximately 1 hour. Q&A will follow.

Sunday, March 21, 1:30 p.m., Free with Museum admission

For more information call 847.967.4889 or visit [www.ilholocaustmuseum.org](http://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org). Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, Goodman Auditorium, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie

## BETWEEN FRIENDS ANNOUNCES 2010 BUBBLE BALL GALA AT MILLENNIUM PARK

**WHAT:** Between Friends' 24th Annual Bubble Ball Gala

**WHO:** Mayor Richard M. Daley, Marion Brooks from NBC5 and Between Friends

**HONORARY CHAIRS:** Mayor Richard M. Daley will serve as the 2010 Bubble Ball Honorary Chair.

**EMCEE:** Marion Brooks from NBC5 will serve as the Emcee for the evening.

**HOST:** Between Friends is pleased to invite you to attend the 24th Annual Bubble Ball, an evening bubbling with fun and frivolity. It will be a celebrated evening featuring dinner, drinks and dancing as well as an elaborate silent auction and raffle. The silent auction features everything from out-of-town vacations to a sightseeing yacht cruise to elegant wine tastings and tours.

**WHEN:** Saturday, March 20, 2010 from 7pm to 11pm.

**WHERE:** Jay Pritzker Pavilion, Millennium Park - 201 East Randolph Street, Chicago, IL 60602

**WHY:** The Chicago Police Department alone receives over 500 domestic violence 911 calls every day. Between Friends' services and programs address the needs of those affected by domestic violence, as well as the community at large. In 2009, Between Friends served 8,871 individuals. Contributions from the Bubble Ball fundraiser help provide life saving services to the women and children who need help now more than ever due to the challenging economy.

From a woman served by Between Friends: "Between Friends helped me learn that asking for help is bravery, not failure. You are shown how to stop feeling like a victim and start being a survivor."

All proceeds benefit the Between Friends' programs that are dedicated to serving victims of domestic violence. Those programs include individual and group counseling for women and children, a 24-hour crisis line, court advocacy and the Relationship Education: A Choice for Hope (REACH) Teen Healthy Relationships Program.

## Skokie Art Guild Meetings

Skokie Art Guild demo/meetings are held at on the fourth Tuesday of March, April, May, June and September at Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. in the Mary Radmacher room. Nonmembers are welcome.

**Next Event:**

Tuesday, March 23, 7:00 PM

Phil Kantz - Portrait Painting

## CALL FOR ARTISTS:

Skokie Art Guild's 49th Annual Art Fair. July 10-11, 2010. Fine Art. Held downtown Skokie on the Village Green, 5211 Oakton (next to the Library). Prizes and Awards! APPLY NOW! For information/application: [skokieart@aol.com](mailto:skokieart@aol.com) [www.skokieartguild.org](http://www.skokieartguild.org) 847-677-8163.

The City of Evanston is seeking artists for its two summer arts festivals, the Ethnic Arts Festival, July 17-18, and the Lakeshore Arts Festival, Aug. 7-8. Set against the scenic backdrop of Evanston's lakefront, both festivals are held in Dawes Park, Church St. and Sheridan Road.

Artist applications for both festivals are now available online at [www.cityofevanston.org/arts](http://www.cityofevanston.org/arts). For more details, call 847-448-8260.

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# Local Arts and Entertainment

## “DOWNING SOMMERS WAY” DEDICATED

*continued from page 1*

Friends and family gathered as the 6700 block of North Oshkosh Avenue in Edison Park was dedicated on Feb. 13 as the honorary Downing Sommers Way, in memory of two area community theatre pioneers – Peggy Sommers and James Downing -- who taught dance and drama there for four decades.

Downing's son, David, and Maurita Gavin, aide to Alderman Brian Doherty, 41st Ward, recognized the importance of Sommers' and Downing's contributions to introducing the arts to so many northwest area residents.

Attending the ceremonies from the Downing family were David and his wife Rita, of Park Ridge, their children Sara and Jimmy, and David's cousins, Gary Downing and Kathy Dafnis. A young people's chorus from Edison Park United Methodist Church, whose members have appeared in productions at the church's James Downing Theatre, provided music.

Sommers had started her career as a dancer in New York, appearing in shows including the Marx Brothers' original stage version of "Animal Crackers." A knee injury led her to study ballet as a means of therapy. She moved to Edison Park in the late 1930s and began teaching dance from a house in the 7200 block of West Ibsen Street.

Downing, an Edison Park native, attended Ebinger School and was an early 1940s graduate of Taft High School. He joined the Navy, serving in the Pacific in World War II. Back in Chicago in 1946, he studied at the Actor's Company. While he worked as an actor, he found his calling in directing plays in the Chicago area.

In 1949, Sommers and Downing teamed up and opened a dance and drama studio over what is now Zia's Ristorante, at Northwest Highway and Oliphant. Later that year they moved to 6705 N. Oshkosh Ave., in the basement of the old Edison Park State Savings Bank building, where the Peggy Sommers Studio would continue for another 40 years.

At one point the studio had over 300 students in dance, drama or both disciplines. They taught ballet, jazz and tap dance at the studio and ballroom dance in the Park Ridge schools. Among the drama students who went on to professional recognition were Carrie Snodgrass, Karen Black and Howard Platt. Another student, Hillary Rodham Clinton, went on to the world's political stage instead.

In addition to teaching, Downing and Sommers both directed community theatre productions in the area. They worked with the Newcastle Players (Edison Park and Norwood Park), the Playmakers Community Theatre and Park Ridge Community Theatre (both in Park Ridge), and shows at Edison Park United Methodist Church. They presented Lincoln Pageants and Dreams on Wheels, which involved singing, dancing and antique cars.

They retired from teaching in 1990, and some of Sommers' remaining teachers took over the business. In 1992, the Peggy Sommers Studio became the Studio of Dance and Drama and moved to the 6100 block of Northwest Highway in Norwood Park. Downing, who had moved to Park Ridge to raise his family, later worked for Bachman's Hardware in Park Ridge.

Sommers died in 2000. Downing died in 2005.

In 2007, in Downing's memory, the Edison Park United Methodist Church — where he had been a member for many years — established the James Downing Theatre in conjunction with the church's John Waldron Arts Center. The Downing Theatre, now in its third season of shows, will open a month of performances of "The Fantasticks" on March 6.

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773.561.9181 www.dankhaus.com

### Lost German Chicago Exhibit

Saturdays 11am - 3pm Come remember the institutions and establishments no longer with the Chicago community. The inspiration piece for the exhibit is 30 feet of woodcarvings from the East Dining Room of the Germania Club, closed since 1987. The carvings were rescued by the Oscar Mayer family from a private home in Logan Square in 1963 and have never been publicly displayed. They depict Wagner's operas in supreme German woodworking style. Exhibit Free and Open to the Public. Open through Sept 2011. Weekday visits by appointment.

### Willi Resetarits and the Stubnblues Allstars

Mar 27 7:30 pm \$5.00 The DANK Haus hosts Austrian Star Willi Resetarits and the 4 piece Stubnblues Allstars interpreting a wild mixture of folk music, Wienerlieder, Jazz and Blues as Stubnblues. Willi engages the audience in English between selections with explanations of the Viennese dialect lyrics. The performance will be set intimately to keep the interaction high.

Stubnblues? It's music far beyond blues. It's funk. Samba. Folklore. Soul. Viennese songs. It's poems and stories. Back in the day, a Stubn was the only heated room in the house. It was the place where people gathered, ate, talked and sang. Stubnblues is not afraid to deal with troublesome issues; with something not being right, with failure, pain and miscommunication. Still all the while, there's beauty, hope and joy to it.

To draw a group of this caliber is entirely due to excellent collaboration with the Austrian Consulate General Chicago who is also underwriting the project, keeping admission low in order to provide quality cultural programming to a large audience.

Additional support provided by Wein Bauer

Tickets are only \$5.00. Please reserve your place. Refreshments available.

## Finalists Perform To Claim Title as the 2010 Opera Idol

American Idol-Style Contest Boasts Aspiring Opera Singers Competing for a Once-In-A-Lifetime Grand Prize

The competition is fierce as the finalists prepare to battle it out during their final performances for the title of 2010 Opera Idol. The Opera Idol finals, slated to begin at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 16, 2010, in the ballroom of the North Shore Retirement Hotel, located at 1611 Chicago Avenue in downtown Evanston, will feature the top six contestants, between the ages of 18 and 29 years old. The final contest will be presented in a Master Class format, with the internationally renowned opera star Sherrill Milnes providing guidance and coaching for the aspiring opera singers who are competing for a \$2,400 scholarship and more. This event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited, so reservations are recommended.

One winner, chosen by popular vote of North Shore Retirement Hotel residents and their guests, will be announced at the end of the competition. The grand prize includes a \$2,400 scholarship and airfare to attend the nationally recognized V.O.I.C. Experience workshop, directed by Milnes and the non-profit V.O.I.C. Experience faculty. The workshop is an intensive three-week program of the V.O.I.C. Experience Foundation, held in August in Tampa, FL.

Milnes, a renowned American baritone, founded the non-profit V.O.I.C. Experience organization in 2001. As the organization's Artistic Director, Milnes works with Maria Zouves, Executive Director, "to provide performance and study opportunities for singers, while creating an outreach of opera and musical theatre to the communities of the world." This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work with Milnes, Zouves and other world-renowned coaches, theater and operatic personalities at V.O.I.C. Experience provides the Opera Idol winner with coaching, lessons, master classes, outreach programs and a special "Mission: Audition" project.

For further information or to attend this competition, please call the Opera Idol coordinator at the North Shore Retirement Hotel at 847.864.6400, ext. 622.



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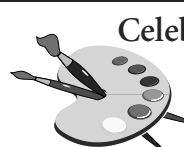
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## Skokie Art Guild's 2010 Members' Only Spring Exhibit "Nature's Palette"

Friday, March 12 through Tuesday, April 27  
Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel Street, Skokie

**Opening Reception**  
Friday, March 12 7:00 – 9:00 PM



Celebrate nature with an evening of original Art  
Meet the Artists  
Refreshments will be served.  
All are welcome.



Skokie Art Guild is an affiliate of the Skokie Part District.  
More Info: [Skokieartguild.org](http://Skokieartguild.org)



# Preserving Grandma's Legacy



**Chester M. Przybylo**

You find your grandma's estate-planning documents when you're helping her organize her attic. The documents were dated two decades ago, just before grandpa died. After grandma dies, the assets will have to be split among her three kids. However, since the estate plan was drafted, the family's circumstances have changed considerably and things aren't quite that simple anymore. Leaving her assets outright to her 3 children would mean that their inheritance would be lost to creditors and medical expenses. This article discusses the importance of having an up-to-date estate plan to preserve your legacy and family history as well as having a conversation with

family members about their own planning.

When you were younger, grandma's attic held such fascination for you. The hat boxes and old clothes were great fun when playing dress up. There were old records of "Big Band" music. It was like travelling back to an earlier time.

But, the years have taken their toll. You can barely move in the attic now, in part because you aren't a child of six anymore, but mostly because of all of the odds and ends grandma has continued to collect. You decide to ask grandma if she would like help going through the attic and organizing it. Some things can be discarded, while others the family would love to be able to have on display. You know if you wait until grandma's gone, it would be a much more difficult process ... not to mention that you'd lose out on all those cherished family stories!

Before dusting off the shelves and looking at the memorabilia, you pull out the box marked "IMPORTANT PAPERS." As you are going through old papers, you find grandma's estate-planning documents, buried under layers of dust. The documents were dated two decades ago, just before grandpa died. You know how smoothly things went, from a legal perspective. Of course, in many ways things were far easier then: Grandma got all the assets. After grandma dies, the assets will have to be split among her three kids, Aunt Karen, Uncle Mitch, and your mom.

Also, since the estate plan was drafted, the family's circumstances have changed. Uncle Mitch was in an auto accident a few years ago and needs medical and custodial care, which he cannot afford without government assistance. If Uncle Mitch inherited the assets as currently drafted, they would all go to Medicaid to pay for his care, since they are not left in a "Special Needs Trust".

Likewise, Aunt Karen's family has been struggling through these hard economic times. It would be awful if Aunt Karen's inheritance were lost to creditors.

You and your spouse recently consulted with an experienced estate-planning attorney about your own estate plan. He included provisions to protect against these sorts of situations.

He also included a "My Legacy Workbook" to preserve your own family stories and information, because that is really a central part of anyone's legacy.

You decide to talk with grandma about her estate plan. You make a list of things to discuss with grandma:

1. A Special Needs Trust for Uncle Mitch
2. Asset Protection for Aunt Karen
3. My Legacy Workbook (to preserve those stories)
4. Update who is Trustee, Executor, etc.

You know how much better she'll feel knowing it's up-to-date. Having an up-to-date estate plan prepared by all experienced estate-planning attorney will help preserve her legacy and make infighting after her death less likely.

Of course, each relationship is unique, so the conversation would be slightly different for each person. But, it is easy to gently, tactfully raise the topic of estate planning. Once it's done, everyone will feel much better. We are all relieved having our legacy preserved. Of course, you'll be relieved knowing that you've helped the family avert problems down the road. That's why you'll encourage her to go to an experienced estate-planning attorney who focuses his or her practice in that area.

*Chester M. Przybylo has been elected to the Board of Governors of the prestigious American Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys and has been engaged in the practice of law for the last 40 years. For more information or to attend an upcoming seminar, call (773) 631-2525.*

# CHUBBY CHECKER ANNOUNCES NEW "TWIST" IN MEDICARE LAW

By Andrew Salata, Public Affairs Specialist - Social Security Administration  
If you've been thinking about applying for extra help with your Medicare prescription drug costs, then now's the time to get on the dance floor and hop to it.

Chubby Checker, the Grammy Award winning rock and roll legend most known for his hit, "The Twist," has teamed up with Michael J. Astrue, Commissioner of Social Security, to tell people about a new "twist" in the law. The change in the law makes it easier for people with Medicare to qualify for extra help with their prescription drug costs.

"The changes in the Medicare law will allow hundreds of thousands of Americans who are struggling to pay their prescription drug costs to get extra help during these tough economic times," said Commissioner Astrue. "I am thrilled that Chubby Checker has volunteered to help us spread this important message through a new television, radio, and Internet spot as well as pamphlets and posters."

"Listen up, America! For 50 years, people of all ages and backgrounds have danced the Twist," Chubby Checker said. "Now it's important everyone learn about this new twist in the law. Check it out at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)."

There are income and resource limits a person needs to meet to qualify for the extra help. But the new Medicare law eases those requirements in two ways:

The cash value of life insurance no longer counts as a resource; and Assistance people receive from others to pay for household expenses, such as food, rent, mortgage, or utilities, no longer counts as income.

A bonus "twist" is that the application you file for extra help can now start the application process for Medicare Savings Programs as well — state programs that provide help with other Medicare costs. These programs help pay Medicare Part B (medical insurance) premiums. For some people, the Medicare Savings Programs also pay Medicare Part A (hospital insurance) premiums, if any, and Part A and B deductibles and co-payments.

To learn more about the extra help program and to view the new television spot featuring Chubby Checker, visit Social Security online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp).

## CJE SENIORLIFE LAUNCHES CAREGIVING WEBSITE – WWW.CAREGIVINGHELP.ORG

No matter one's background or circumstance, almost everyone becomes a caregiver at some point in time. More than one in five Americans today is a caregiver for a family member, a number expected to grow astronomically as the Baby Boomers age into their 70s. In fact, 29 percent of the U.S. adult population, or 65.7 million people, are caregivers, including 31 percent of all households. Families are being called upon to care for relatives living longer, with longer periods of greater dependency, than ever before, but few feel well prepared or up to the task.

Caregivers can turn to [www.caregivinghelp.org](http://www.caregivinghelp.org) for practical information and solutions to help care for their older adult family members and themselves. Providing caregivers with educational materials, articles, streaming video and other resources that are applicable to many different caregiving situations, the website helps caregivers maximize the quality of care they can offer their loved ones while also minimizing the risk of "caregiver burnout."

"So many adults are being thrust into the role of caregivers for their aging family members but don't know where to begin," says Gerri Fiterman Persin, manager of CJE SeniorLife's Center for Healthy Living. "This provides a road map for the caregiver to not only tend to the needs and concerns of their loved one but to also help maintain that balance between their work, family and personal lives."

Through [caregivinghelp.org](http://www.caregivinghelp.org), CJE professionals share their expertise in dealing with the older adult around the most challenging aspects of caregiving. Topics covered include how to create a circle of support, emotional perspectives, in-home safety tips, planning ahead to address health and legal issues, dealing with complex family relationships, how to hire a professional caregiver, dementia care, and much more. A resource directory provides a comprehensive database of national and local sources and organizations that provide information and assistance on a broad range of caregiving related topics.

For questions about [caregivinghelp.org](http://www.caregivinghelp.org) or CJE's Center for Healthy Living, contact Barbara Milsk at 773/508-1169 or [caregivinghelp@cje.net](mailto:caregivinghelp@cje.net).



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## Best Friends/ Companion Pets

### We We

Humans are funny creatures, they have the oddest interests. They think us smelling each others butt is odd, have you been to a party of there's recently? This article is actually a warning to my fellow furry friends; our humans don't mean any harm but they should come with warnings sometimes. The following story is true, names have not been changed and my human is at fault!

It was a typically Saturday night; however I noticed that my human seemed to be preparing a lot of food and rearranging the furniture. Yeah we were having company! Company always means yummy treats, lots of love, and plenty of ear scratching. As the company started arriving it was turning out to be a good party! The usual greetings and noise from the humans, it was turning into a fun night with me right in the middle!

Then things took a wired turn, the humans started rearranging the furniture and adjusting the television. I assumed that some sporting event where the humans yell and scream at the TV was about to occur, but I was wrong. The humans seemed to be separating into pairs and standing on opposite sides of the TV. They also were holding these white looking contraptions. They then began swinging and moving their arms in what looked like some weird dance. As I observed these humans I became concerned that perhaps they drank too much of that alcohol stuff that humans like. So, I just watched and waited.

Well the humans began acting like a sporting event was on, but where much more mobile. Then as I am simply walking by to say hi to my favorite aunt, clunk! I got hit right in the head with someone hand. They apologized of course, but ouch! Shortly after I was hit on the butt by someone else's arm! A few moments later the cat was actually knocked off the ottoman! What is wrong with these humans! Don't they know how dangerous they are acting?

It turns out its some new video game the humans are addicted too! The point is that when they play this game, RUN don't walk out of the room. This game causes injuries to dogs and cats! This is your warning please take care of yourself, your human doesn't want to harm you, but they get overexcited! So my furry friends you have been officially warned! - Bosley

Submitted by Bosley's mom, Nicole Carfora, CMG, owner of Canine Corral.



## Park District Hosts Egg Hunts at Local Parks

The Chicago Park District hops to it this spring by hosting dozens of egg hunts, including an egg hunt for dogs, from March 25-April 3 at parks throughout the city. Most events will feature treats, prizes, face painting, arts and crafts plus photo opportunities with the bunny. Some activities may require pre-registration due to limited space. Many programs are admission free or have nominal entrance fees. Participants should call the individual parks for additional information.

Following are a few highlights:

**Brunch with the Bunny** Thursday, March 25 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

*Merrimac Park, 6343 W. Irving Park Rd., 773-685-3382*

Space is limited; advance-sale tickets only; no tickets available at the door  
Admission \$10; recommended for ages 5 and under with an adult

**Bunny Bonanza** Thursday, March 25 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

*Welles Park, 2333 W. Sunnyside Ave., 312-742-7511*

Advance ticket sales only; limited tickets available  
Admission \$5; recommended for ages 5 and under with an adult

**2010 Spring Egg-Stravaganza**

*Soldier Field, 1410 S. Museum Campus Dr., 312-235-7000*

Saturday, March 27 8:30 – 10 a.m. Ticketed brunch in the United Club.

· Admission to the brunch is \$17.50 for adults, \$12 for children under age 10, and free for children under age 3 with a paying adult.

· Reservations are mandatory for brunch and must be made by Wednesday, March 24 by calling 312-235-7160.

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Admission-free candy grab on the field.

Before the candy grab, children will have the opportunity to brunch with the bunny and take photos at the United Club.

**7th Annual Doggie Easter Egg Hunt** Saturday, March 27 10 a.m. - Noon

*Horner Park, 2741 W. Montrose Ave., 773-478-3499*

Admission \$5 per dog; recommended for ages 18 and older

Activities include a hunt for treat-filled eggs, a bonnet parade, and refreshments for everyone. Photos with the bunny will be available for purchase. Dogs must be kept on a leash, and owners must stay with their dogs at all times.

**Easter Egg Hunt** Saturday, March 27 10 – 11 a.m.

*Holstein Park, 2200 N. Oakley Ave., 312-742-7554*

Admission free; recommended for ages 2-5 with an adult

**Easter Egg Hunt** Saturday, March 27 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

*Mayfair Park, 4550 W. Sunnyside Ave., 773-685-3361*

Admission \$3; recommended for ages 2-10 with an adult

**Lunch with the Bunny** Saturday, March 27 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

*Kilbourn Park, 3501 N. Kilbourn Ave., 773-685-3351*

Limited seating, pre-sale tickets only

Admission \$10 children, \$5 adults, includes lunch; recommended for ages 2-10 with an adult

**Eggstravaganza** Saturday, March 27 12 – 2 p.m.

*Chase Park, 4701 N. Ashland Ave., 312-742-7518*

Admission free; recommended for ages 8 and under with an adult

Co-sponsored by the Chase Park Advisory Council and the Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce.

**Lunch with the Bunny** Saturday, March 27 12 - 2 p.m.

*Mayfair Park, 4550 W. Sunnyside Ave., 773-685-3361*

Admission \$7 for children; \$5 for adults, includes lunch; recommended for ages 2-10 with an adult; space is limited; pre-sale tickets available

**Easter Egg Hunt** Friday, April 2 10 a.m.

*White (Wilbye B.) Park, 1610 W. Howard St., 773-262-5051*

Admission \$4; recommended ages 5 and under with an adult; register by April 1

**Easter Egg Hunt** Friday, April 2 10 – 11:30 a.m.

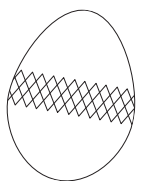
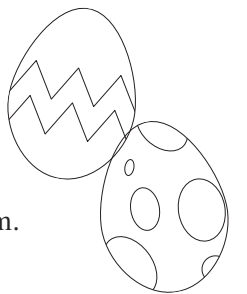
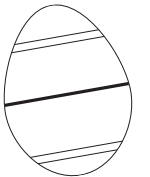
*Brands Park, 3259 N. Elston Ave., 773-478-2414*

Admission free, recommended for ages 6 and under with an adult

**Egg Hunt** Saturday, April 3 11-11:30 a.m.

*Loyola Park, 1230 W. Greenleaf Ave., 773-262-8605*

Admission free, recommended for ages 2-4 with an adult



## Anti-Cruelty Society

For more info on The Anti-Cruelty Society and our adoption process, please visit our website [www.anticruelty.org](http://www.anticruelty.org) or call (312) 644-8338.



**CAT - Ducey** Ducey is a friendly and fun, and quite debonair black kitty! He is 1-2 years old and came to the shelter when his owner no longer had time for him. Well, their loss is our gain, Ducey is just wonderful! Having recently arrived in Charlotte's Cat Corner, he may start off a little shy, but give him a second and you will see that he is a people-loving, lovable and sweet. Ducey are so very gentle that he would be a great family pet, as he gets along well with kids and other pets -- in fact, he loves just about everyone! A home of his own with toys to play with, someone to love, and a cozy, snuggly bed, and Ducey will live happily ever after! Hurry on over and come meet Ducey, just ask for Tab Band #690930. Ducey is ready to go home today!

**Dog - Bingo** Bingo is a sharp looking 1-year old Wheaten/Border Terrier mix! He's got an awesome wiry coat that is tan and white. Bingo is a friendly fellow who came to the shelter when he had a conflict with another pet in his former home. He is a bit stressed here at the shelter (after all, a nice cozy home would be much nicer), and might start off a bit shy in his kennel, but take him out and you will see that he is social and sweet. Once settled into his new home, Bingo will become much more active and will be great fun to have around! Bingo knows basic commands, such as "sit", but obedience training is recommended for bonding with his new owner and for building Bingo's confidence. Bingo would do best in an all-adult home with an experienced dog owner as the only pet. Bingo is such a smart guy so teaching him new things should come easy and there is no doubt that he will soon be the smartest dog on the block! Bingo weighs in at a healthy 50.6 lbs. and is housetrained. Bingo is waiting for you at The Anti-Cruelty Society, just ask for Tab Band #691640.



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## Learn About Your Home's History at the Norwood Park Historical Society

What do you know about the history of your house? Your block? Your neighborhood? Learn at the April 24 House History and Renovator Resource Day.

The Norwood Park Historical Society will host its annual House History and Renovator Resource Day on Saturday, April 24, noon to 4 p.m., at the Noble-Seymour-Crippen House, 5624 N. Newark Ave., Chicago. Admission is free and all events are open to the public.

The Norwood Park Historical Society frequently receives requests from homeowners – both new and established residents – who are curious about their house and the surrounding area. The Historical Society assists these residents by providing information about who built the house, its previous residents, and its architectural style.

For more information about this event, contact the Norwood Park Historical Society at 773-631-4633 or at [info@norwoodparkhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@norwoodparkhistoricalsociety.org).



# GREAT OUTDOORS

## Fisher-Merritt Family of Food Farm named MOSES Organic Farmer of the Year

The 2010 Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service (MOSES) Organic Farmer of the Year award was presented to John, Jane and Janaki Fisher-Merritt, who own and operate Food Farm, an organic vegetable farm near Wrenshall, MN.

Since 2003, the annual MOSES Organic Farmer of the Year Award has been presented to an outstanding organic farmer or farm family to recognize farmers who practice outstanding land stewardship, innovation and outreach. It is awarded during the annual MOSES Organic Farming Conference in La Crosse, the largest organic farming conference in the nation. The Organic Farming Conference is in its 21st year.

For many years, the Fisher-Merritts have brought fresh organic vegetables to the greater community of Duluth, MN.

"We're a community-supported farm that is more diversified than most CSA (community supported agriculture) farms, with a big root cellar so we can deliver winter and summer shares," said John Fisher-Merritt. "Our first delivery year was 1994, and when we started in northern Minnesota, people had never heard of the idea, so it was a novel idea, but people quickly took to it."

The Fisher-Merritts approach their farm as a living organism, and manage their soil so it can be farmed forever. Diversity of production includes grazing poultry as part of the system to improve soil, lessen weeds and manage insect populations.

In 2000, the Fisher-Merritts designed and built an innovative energy efficient "root cellar/cooler" which has enough storage to supply their CSA members and the retail stores in Duluth with root crops throughout the winter. This root cellar uses the natural cooling/heating capacity of the earth. A series of fans thermostatically bring in or limit outside air to control a variety of air temperatures for different crops, including the many tons of carrots, potatoes, and squash. For an entire year this large storage area uses less than \$200 in electricity.

The Fisher-Merritts farm in a way that allows each of them to explore interests other than farming, enhancing their community with their contributions of art and culture, including a local film festival that takes place in a barn.

MOSES is a non-profit organization working to promote sustainable and organic agriculture through trainings, workshops, educational initiatives, and by providing free resources to farmers striving to produce high-quality, healthful food using organic and sustainable techniques.

## U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY OFFERS BOATING CLASSES

Flotilla 02-10 (9WR) of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary will offer a nine week Boating Skills and Seamanship course this spring. The course will be offered on Tuesday nights, beginning March 9, 2010, starting at 7 P.M., at the North Park Village Administration Building, 5801-C North Pulaski Road in Chicago.

The class will cover topics such as Boat Construction and Nomenclature, Boat Handling, Safety and Legal Requirements, and Aids to Navigation, among others.

The course is an excellent introduction to boating, and can be a great review for more experienced boaters who want to further their seamanship skills.

The United States Coast Guard strongly recommends that all boaters, both new and experienced, take this course to become knowledgeable in understanding boating and the rules under which boats operate. Upon completion of the course, students will receive an official certificate and ID card recognizing their successful efforts.

Registrations will be accepted through March 16th

For registration information, please call (773) 467-0260.

## Urban Wildlife Coalition: Coexisting with Coyote

According to several Wheaton, Illinois city council members, coyote populations in the western suburb have increased, reaching "nuisance" levels and the animals must be destroyed. This decision was made after a coyote attacked and killed a pet dog that was off-leash in a resident's backyard surrounded by an invisible fence. Wheaton Councilman Jim Prendiville has urged the city council to reconsider this decision, but they are still investigating culling options, among them: suspending gun laws so the coyotes may be shot or setting leg traps.

Coyotes are among the most violently tyrannized animals in North American history. Hunted, trapped, poisoned, and deprived of habitat, they've relied upon their shrewd instincts and hardiness to adapt to a hostile environment. These highly intelligent animals have been quite successful. Once found only in the western United States and Canada, they are now in almost every state, including Alaska, and have learned to thrive in urban environments.

Like other animals that once lived quietly in our Midwestern wilderness, coyotes have taken to the streets only because their habitat has been systematically destroyed by humans. With plentiful shelter and food (like squirrels, rabbits, and mice), there would be no reason for coyotes to venture out into urban areas. Despite our attempts to vilify them as "menaces," they are not bad animals, simply creatures searching for food.

### Facts about coyotes:

Each year, more than 4.7 million people are bitten by dogs. Coyote attacks on humans, though far more publicized, are actually very rare.

Coyotes are smaller than you may think – adults generally weigh 15-45 lbs. – about the size of a small or medium dog.

Coyotes are omnivores and will eat just about anything available – berries, acorns, mice, rabbits, pet food, and pizza.

Coyotes are fast runners (reaching speeds of 30 mph) but poor climbers.

Killing coyotes as a solution to population management not only is inhumane, it simply does not work. History has proved their ability to adapt. Like other wild animals, they will adjust, producing larger litters and cross-breeding to fill the gap. Moreover, the lethal methods being considered in an urban area are disturbing and potentially dangerous. Does the city of Wheaton really want to hire someone to unload firearms in residents' backyards? Leg traps are indiscriminate and can potentially ensnare and injure the very pets and children this misguided method tries to protect. This method also is especially cruel, in fact, leg traps have been banned in 88 countries and several states. Animals experience excruciating pain – skin is lacerated, bones sometimes break, and the animal becomes so frightened, it may try to twist or pull off its own limb to save its life.

Why would anyone consider these gruesome alternatives, when other humane options are available?

### Tips for keeping coyotes away.

Coyote attacks on pets are infrequent, and attacks on humans are very rare. If you live in an area where coyote populations are high and you are concerned, simply take a few precautions. Keep small pets indoors or attended on a leash. Make sure to accompany small children playing outside.

Remove outdoor food sources: feed pets indoors and tightly secure garbage cans (or keep them in the garage until garbage pick-up days).

Since coyotes usually cannot climb higher than six feet, install a tall fence (with a row of rocks buried to prevent digging).

Generally, coyotes do not like loud noises or big movements. If necessary, deter them with a shrill whistle, by banging pots, or with a motion-detected sprinkler.

### Wheaton City Council Contact Information:

Liz Corry, lcorry@wheaton.il.us

Mayor Michael J. Gresk, mgresk@wheaton.il.us

Howard Levine, hlevine@wheaton.il.us

Tom Mouhelis, hmouhelis@wheaton.il.us

Todd Scalzo, tscalzo@wheaton.il.us

Phil Suess, psuess@wheaton.il.us

John Prendiville (against the proposed coyote cull) jprendiville@wheaton.il.us

*Urban Wildlife Coalition is a community-based organization founded to help preserve our treasured urban wildlife. For more information about urban animals and tips for living in harmony with them, visit [www.urbanwildlifecoalition.org](http://www.urbanwildlifecoalition.org). Questions? Call 773-545-8136 or e-mail us at [urbanwildlifecoalition@gmail.com](mailto:urbanwildlifecoalition@gmail.com).*

## "Camp Nights" Offer Preview of YMCA Camping Programs

YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago invites communities to learn about summer camping programs available to Chicagoland families.

The YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago invites families and community members across Chicagoland to explore resident camp programs at several "Camp Nights" across the region. These events, held at several Y locations, are an opportunity to meet Y staff and learn about the opportunities available at each camp. The YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago operates five resident camps in Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin serving approximately 50,000 participants annually. All YMCA camps offer values-based recreational and educational programming with a goal of helping children build self-esteem, self-discipline, and learn about teamwork.

Monday, March 15, 2010 8-11 a.m. and 4-7 p.m.

Friday, March 26, 2010 6-8 p.m.

Leaning Tower YMCA, 6300 W. Touhy Avenue, Niles, IL,  
[www.leaningtowerymca.org](http://www.leaningtowerymca.org)

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## “THE WARTIME ESCAPE: MARGRET AND H.A. REY’S JOURNEY FROM FRANCE”

Experience the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center’s new traveling exhibition entitled, “The Wartime Escape: Margaret and H.A. Rey’s Journey from France.” More than three generations of Americans have grown up reading the stories of an irrepressible little brown monkey known in this country as “Curious George.” But few people know about the incredible journey made by his creators, Margret and H.A. Rey, to escape the Nazi invasion of Paris at the start of World War II.

“The Wartime Escape” explores the Reys’ early creative collaborations and traces the story of George himself throughout the wartime period. Based in part on the 2005 book, *The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of Margret and H.A. Rey*, written by Louise Borden and illustrated by Allan Drummond (Houghton Mifflin Company, New York), the exhibition features 27 framed art prints by Allan Drummond and supplemental archival images.

The Museum will host a special opening reception featuring illustrator Allan Drummond and light refreshments on March 25. The reception is free for Museum members and children, and \$15 for adults. Tickets must be reserved in advance. The exhibition will be open to the public beginning Friday, March 26th and runs through June 20.

**Special Reception** Thursday, March 25, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. \$15 for adults, Museum members and children free To RSVP call 847.967.4507 or email membership@ilhmec.org, deadline is March 18

**TRAVELING EXHIBITION** - Free with Museum admission  
Friday, March 26 – June 20, 2010

For more information call 847.967.4889 or visit [www.ilholocaustmuseum.org](http://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org).  
Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie

## CJE SENIORLIFE NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR HOME REPAIRS FOR OLDER ADULTS

CJE SeniorLife is now taking applications for home repairs through its Small Accessible Repairs for Seniors (SARFS) program. Funded through a grant from the Chicago Department of Community Development, the program provides home repairs to older adults within the city limits of Chicago.

To qualify for this assistance, individuals must be 62 years of age or older, own their own home or condo, live in Chicago Wards 50, 49, 48 or 46, and fall under the income guidelines per household: one person, \$42,200 annually; two persons, \$48,250; three persons, \$54,250.

For those households meeting eligibility criteria, SARFS pays for all costs related to the approved repairs, both materials and labor. Included in the repairs covered by the program are installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, hand-held fire extinguishers, safety and enabling devices such as grab bars and handrails in stairways. Security issues are addressed with door, lock, window and glass repair or replacement, as well as tile floor replacement in kitchens and bathrooms. Bathroom modifications include sink, faucet, vanity and toilet replacement, as well as hand-held showers and shower benches installed.

The SARFS coordinator will assist with the application and documentation process, as well as coordinate the repairs from the evaluation of the home, determining the needed repairs, scheduling licensed/insured city approved contractors and final inspection. For questions or to submit an application, call 773/508-1000 and ask for the Home Repair program.

CJE SeniorLife is an innovative provider of community-based and residential programs, and services for older adults throughout the Chicago area. Over the past 38 years, CJE’s wide range of services has grown to include assisted living, counseling and care management, long-term skilled nursing, Alzheimer’s care, home health, wellness programs and much more. CJE is a partner in serving the community, supported by the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation. For more information about CJE services, call 773/508-1000 or visit [www.cje.net](http://www.cje.net).

State Representative

**Michael McAuliffe**, 20th District  
and

Alderman **Brian Doherty**, 41st Ward

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## Lenten Menu Ideas

### *Broiled Salmon Fillets (Moroccan style)*

3 to 4 salmon fillets	2 tsp. paprika
2 tablespoons fresh chopped parsley	1/4 tsp. of cayenne pepper
4 tablespoons of olive oil	1 tablespoon of cumino
1/2 stick of butter, melted	juice of 1/2 lemon
3 garlic cloves - crushed	

Arrange the fillets in a baking dish and place them under a very hot broiler. Cook, with the broiler door open for 3 to 5 minutes or until golden brown. Melt the butter, add oil and all the remaining ingredients, mix them all well, and pour over the salmon. Continue to broil for additional few minutes till a nice crisp on the top of this dish. Sprinkle with fresh lemon juice. Serve immediately with quartered lemon, if desired.

Prepared by: Elizabeth Elkayam

## Organically Certified Production Practices Updated

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently finalized regulations that will ensure organically certified production practices are in keeping with the spirit of what an organic label means to consumers.

The organic rule already required that producers afford access to pasture to receive certification, but the new rule will clarify vague language about how much grazing is enough and the limited circumstances under which animals can be denied pasture access. Previous requirements, for instance, allowed some products to receive the certified organic label although the animals rarely set foot outside a confined animal feeding operation (CAFO).

To obtain the label under the new rule, producers will have to give livestock access to the outdoors year-round and graze animals throughout the grazing season, which much be at least 120 days. In addition, the rules ensure that minimum amount of an animal’s food come from pasture. A report by the Union of Concerned Scientists found that grazing animals on pasture is not only less damaging to the environment than raising animals inside confined operations, but that meat and milk from grass-fed cows can contain higher levels of good fats that may provide health benefits.

USDA’s new rules will remove ambiguity for producers in meeting organic standards and give consumers greater confidence that milk and meat bearing the organic label have been produced in ways that truly benefit people, animals, and the environment.

Brise Tencer, Food policy advocate  
Union of Concerned Scientists, Washington, DC

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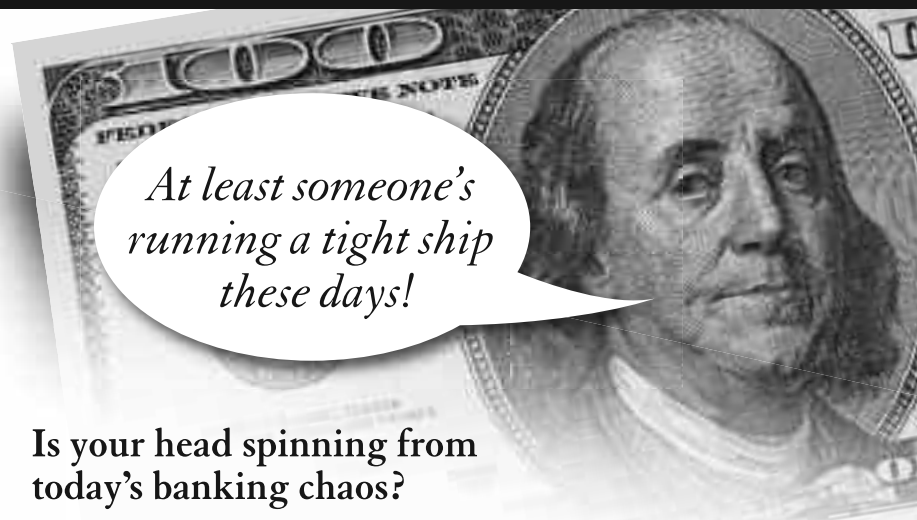
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