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Volume XVII

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P.O. Box 31391, Chicago, IL 60631

Issue 18 November 20, 2013

Happy Thanksgiving from the Staff of Yillage Publications
Sing Along With Us (See page 3)



Happy Hanukkah



Jewish Art Calendar 2013/2014 Available

Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie is once again publishing the Skokie Jewish Art Calendar 2013/2014 for the Jewish New Year. The Jewish Art Calendar includes detailed information on upcoming holidays, educational messages, Shabbat and Holiday candle-lighting times, traditional Jewish recipes, and popular thematic artwork by famed artists including Yoram Lukav, Michoel Muchnik, Baruch Nachshon, Chenoch Lieberman and Zalman Kleinman.

To receive your free copy, call 847-677-1770 or contact us via the website, www.SkokieChabad.org.

Chicago's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Kicks Off The Season Tuesday, November 26

The 100th Anniversary of Chicago's Christmas Tree will be celebrated with a spectacular lighting ceremony on Tuesday, November 26 at Daley Plaza (Washington and Dearborn). The FREE event begins with live performances headlined by Darlene Love at 5pm, and the official Tree Lighting at 6pm, followed by fireworks. Darlene Love is best known for her work with Phil Spector in the 1960s and for the holiday favorite, "(Christmas) Baby Please Come Home," a song she has sung every year on the Late Show With David Letterman for nearly 30 years.

The hour-long program will feature The Trainees from the Joffrey Academy of Dance, official school of The Joffrey Ballet, performing an excerpt from the holiday classic The Nutcracker. Other performances include songs from Broadway in Chicago's *Elf* the Musical and *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical*TM.

The program and ceremony will be emceed by father-and-son journalists Lester Holt, host of Dateline NBC and weekend anchor for Today and NBC Nightly News, and Stefan Holt, Anchor, Mornings, NBC 5 Chicago.

Since 2009, the City of Chicago's Christmas tree has been donated by a Chicagoland family. This year's tree will be announced the week of November 4 and the family will join Mayor Emanuel on stage at the ceremony to light the tree. Chicago's Christmas tree will be on display at Daley Plaza through January 9, 2014.

SANTA CLAUS SETS UP SHOP ON DALEY PLAZA **BEGINNING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

Santa Claus will once again open his midwest headquarters on Daley Plaza. The UL Santa House is part of UL's ongoing partnership with the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events. The UL Santa House is a replica of Santa's workshop, allowing children and families to experience the wonder of the North Pole and have their picture taken with Santa Claus throughout the holiday season. The UL Santa House will offer interactive activities with important safety tips for children to enjoy while waiting to tell Santa their holiday wishes.

Visits with Santa Claus begin on Tuesday, November 26 at 6:30pm until 8pm, with special hours on Wednesday, November 27 from 11am-8pm and Thanksgiving Day from 11am-4pm. Santa's regular visiting hours and house tours will begin on Friday, November 29 and continue every Friday, Saturday and Sunday through December 20 from 11am-8pm. During Christmas week, December 21-23: the house will be open each day from 11am-8pm, with special hours on Christmas Eve from 11am-4pm. Santa will be available for photos, so don't forget to bring your camera.





Mike's Barber Shop accepting donations of new, unwrapped toys until December 23 773-775-2771 6680 Northwest Highway, Chicago

Lincolnwood Toys for Tots Holiday Program
The Lincolnwood Police Department is proudly hosting the U.S. Marine

Corps "Toys for Tots" holiday program again this year. Please help make the holiday a season one to remember for those less fortunate by donating new, unwrapped toys for distribution to children in need.

Toys may be dropped off at numerous locations in Lincolnwood. The Toys for Tots program will run from November 4 through December 13. If you have any questions please call the Lincolnwood Police Department at (847) 673-2167.

POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE SEEKS DONATIONS FOR THEIR ANNUAL "TOYS FOR CHILDREN AT CHRISTMAS" DRIVE

Paul C. Odrobina, Vice President of the Polish National Alliance (PNA) announces that the PNA, Alliance Printers & Publishers and PNA Bank will be accepting donations of new toys and games or monetary donations for local needy children at Christmas for our annual "Toys For Kids At Christmas" drive.

There will be collection boxes in the lobbies of the Polish National Alliance Home Office located at 6100 North Cicero Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, Alliance Printers & Publishers, located at 5711 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Illinois and both PNA Bank Locations 7840 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Niles, Illinois and 4800 S. Pulaski Avenue in Chicago, Illinois for the toy donations from Friday, November 15, 2013 until Friday, December 6, 2013. After the deadline, the donated toys for the children will be delivered to the Shriner's Hospital in Chicago in time for Christmas. The Shriner's Hospital asks for donations more for older children ages 13-17 and request that no toys are made with latex material

Monetary donations will also be collected from Vice President Odrobina's Office, where the money will go to purchase additional toys and gifts for the children in the name of the donor.

For additional information, please call the Polish National Alliance at 1-773-286-0500 ext. 316. or visit the PNA Website at www.pna-znp.org



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Recent studies have shown that students who learn a second language have improved overall school performance, increased creativity and are better at solving complex problems. Solon Greek School Morning Program offers a well-rounded Greek and English bilingual education along with a celebration of culture and a focus on Christian values. There is no prior Greek knowledge required. Both half and full day programs are available as well as before and after school enrichment programs.

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, November 20, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Located in St. Demetrios Church - 2727 W. Winona Street Phone: 773-561-5992 Email: solonmorningprogram@gmail.com

(Please Read More About Us On Page 7)

For further information, please contact Maribeth Ruehlmann at 773/266-3831

STATEMENT FROM MAYOR EMANUEL ON MERGER OF AMERICAN AIRLINES AND U.S. AIRWAYS

"I applaud the Department of Justice, American Airlines, and US Airways for settling this case and allowing the merger of the two airlines to go forward. With this case settled, Chicago's place as the premier aviation market in the country is solidified and our city remains the preferred international gateway to points in Asia, Europe and Latin America as well as the only city in America where three of the top four domestic airlines will have major hub operations. Finally, this agreement assures that the jobs of all the employees of the two airlines in Chicago will be maintained."

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT SALUTES THOSE WHO SERVED WITH NEW, FREE PROGRAMS SPORTS FOR VETERANS & ACTIVE MILITARY AT KOSCIUSZKO PARK

In the spirit of "serving those who have served," the Chicago Park District offers new, free sports to all U.S. veterans and active military personnel at Kosciuszko Park this fall.

"We are honored to support our veterans and active military personnel," said Michael P. Kelly, General Superintendent and CEO of the Chicago Park District. "We encourage them to explore our programs and to offer suggestions on how we can further assist them and their families."

Active military personnel and their family members can choose from the Chicago Park District's thousands of offerings in sports and fitness plus cultural and environmental programs for all ages. The Chicago Park District waives program fees for active military personnel. In addition, their immediate family members will receive a 10 percent discount on program fees.

Military personnel must register in person for programs at their local park and show proof of active duty status, or a copy of their DD214. Spouses must also register in person and present their identification.

For more information on the Chicago Park District, visit www.chicagoparkdistrict.com or call 312-742-7529.

DANK-HAUS GERMAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

4740 North Western Avenue, 5th floor, Chicago, IL 60625 773.561.9181 www.dankhaus.com

CONSULAR INFO EVENING 3 DEC

Did you know that the German Consulate General of Chicago does more than just renew your passport? German citizenship, inheritance in Germany, registration of births and marriages, pension and restitution they can guide you through these with ease.

Unfortunately, they cannot translate old love letters or help you understand American football.

Vice Consuls Mrs. Jessica Fernandez and Mrs. Silke Grunow are holding an informational reception for Germans and German Americans to meet the consular staff and learn more about Consular services.

Reservations are requested for this opportunity complete with question and answer section as well as a light reception.



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Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center

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presencehealth.org/ourlady 877.737.INFO

Presence Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center Receives Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Silver Plus Quality Achievement Award

Award demonstrates Presence Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center's commitment to quality care for stroke patients.

Presence Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center, 5645 W. Addison St., Chicago, has received the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Silver Plus Quality Achievement Award. The award recognizes the medical center's commitment and success in implementing a higher standard of stroke care by ensuring that stroke patients receive treatment according to nationally accepted standards and recommendations.

To receive the Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Silver Plus Quality Achievement Award, Presence Our Lady of the Resurrection achieved at least 12 consecutive months of 85 percent or higher adherence to all Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Quality Achievement indicators and achieved at least 75 percent or higher compliance with six of 10 Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Quality Measures during that same period of time, which are reporting initiatives to measure quality of care.

These measures include aggressive use of medications, such as antithrombotics, anticoagulation therapy, DVT prophylaxis, cholesterol reducing drugs, and smoking cessation - all aimed at reducing death and disability and improving the lives of stroke patients.

In addition to the Get With The Guideline-Stroke award, Presence Our Lady of the Resurrection also has been recognized as a recipient of the association's Target: Stroke Honor Roll, for improving stroke care. Over the past quarter, at least 50 percent of the hospital's eligible ischemic stroke patients have received tissue plasminogen activator, or tPA, within 60-minutes of arriving at the hospital (known as 'door-to-needle' time). A thrombolytic, or clot-busting agent, tPA is the only drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the urgent treatment of ischemic stroke. If given intravenously in the first three hours after the start of stroke symptoms, tPA has been shown to significantly reverse the effects of stroke and reduce permanent disability.

"With a stroke, time lost is brain lost, and the Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Silver Plus Quality Achievement Award demonstrates that our staff is committed to providing care that has been shown in the scientific literature to quickly and efficiently treat stroke patients with evidence-based protocols," said David Bordo, M.D., Chief Medical Officer and Stroke Program Director, Presence Our Lady of the Resurrection.

"Presence Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center is to be commended for its commitment to implementing standards of care and protocols for treating stroke patients," said Lee H. Schwamm, M.D., chair of the Get With The Guidelines National Steering Committee and director of the TeleStroke and Acute Stroke Services at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. "The full implementation of acute care and secondary prevention recommendations and guidelines is a critical step in saving the lives and improving outcomes of stroke patients."

Get With The Guidelines-Stroke uses the "teachable moment," the time soon after a patient has had a stroke, when they are most likely to listen to and follow their health care professionals' guidance. Studies demonstrate that patients who are taught how to manage their risk factors while still in the hospital reduce their risk of a second heart attack or stroke. Through Get With The Guidelines-Stroke, customized patient education materials are made available at the point of discharge, based on patients' individual risk profiles. The take-away materials are written in an easy-to-understand format and are available in English and Spanish. In addition, the Get With The Guidelines Patient Management Tool provides access to up-to-date cardiovascular and stroke science at the point of care.

"The time is right for Presence Our Lady of the Resurrection to be focused on improving the quality of stroke care by implementing Get With The Guidelines-Stroke. The number of acute ischemic stroke patients eligible for treatment is expected to grow over the next decade due to increasing stroke incidence and a large aging population," said Dr. Bordo.

According to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, stroke is one of the leading causes of death and serious, long-term disability in the United States. On average, someone suffers a stroke every 40 seconds; someone dies of a stroke every four minutes; and 795,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year.



OUR VILLAGE & STREET LEVEL

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A Thanksgiving Song Can't Catch A Turkey, What'll I Do?

Can't catch a turkey, what'll I do? Skip to my Lou, my darlin'! Here comes Grandpa, he'll know what to do (3 times)

Skip to my Lou, my darlin'! Grandpa's got the hatchet, chop, chop, chop! (3 times) Skip to my Lou, my darlin'!



Grandma cooked the turkey for me and you Skip to my Lou, my darlin'!
Turkey's on the table and dressing too (3 times) Skip to my Lou, my darlin'!

My oh my, my tummy's full (3 times)
Skip to my Lou, my darlin'!

Submitted by Maria Bappert (From my Cub-Scout files)

MAKE A RESERVATION TO VIEW THE COMET OF THE CENTURY AT THE NILES WEST OBSERVATORY

Astronomers around the world are excited for ISON, the comet that is predicted to be the "Comet of the Century. Comet ISON will come within 800,000 miles of the Sun's surface and will shine as bright as Polaris, or brighter. View the brightest comet in your lifetime at the newly opened Niles West Observatory at 5:30 a.m. on December 2 through 6. Make a reservation to be one of the few to view this amazing comet at https://sites.google.com/a/d219.org/nwhs-observatory/

The Niles West Observatory is located at Niles West High School, 5701 W. Oakton, Skokie. Enter off Gross Point Road, by the school's driving range. Dress for the weather. Viewing of the comet is dependent upon weather conditions.

PLAN FOR "JINGLE AND MINGLE" HOLIDAY SHOPPING ON DEC. 7 AT NORWOOD LIFE SOCIETY THRIFT SHOP

The doors will open at 10:00 a.m. for "Jingle and Mingle," a special day of holiday shopping on Dec. 7, at the Norwood Life Society Thrift Shop, 6017-19 N. Nina Ave. in Chicago. As an added treat and for the shopping pleasure of customers, the Thrift Shop will also host a fashion jewelry trunk show from the boutique jewelry company, Stella & Dot Jewelry.

The shop features women's and men's clothing, shoes and accessories, household goods, art, small furniture, lamps, books, decorative items, and so much more. Acclaimed as "the nicest Thrift Shop on the Northwest Side," the shop was recently expanded and renovated to create a warm, inviting shopping experience. It is staffed by devoted volunteers who help shoppers in their search for bargains and treasures. Come see the new men's department, too!

At the Thrift Shop, 100 percent of the proceeds from the sale of donated items go directly towards programs and services to assist seniors. The Norwood Life Society Thrift Shop, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, was originally founded as part of the neighborhood Women's Service League, and has been donating its proceeds to Norwood Crossing since 1987.

For more information about this event or to volunteer at the Thrift Shop, call (773) 577-5329 or email info@norwoodcrossing.org

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT AT RESURRECTION

The Resurrection College Prep High School Parents Club presents Girls' Night Out on Thursday, December 5, 2013 from 6 - 10 pm. Admission is free and all women and girls in the community are welcome to enjoy shopping, raffles, refreshments and more. Vendors will be selling jewelry, handbags, accessories, specialty food items and other gift items. Girls' Night Out information is available on the Resurrection website at www.reshs.org or by contacting Alisa Martorano at 773.775.6616 Ext.127 or amartorano@reshs.org.

Resurrection College Prep High School, located at 7500 West Talcott Avenue in Chicago, is the largest all girls' Catholic, Christian college preparatory high school for young women on the north side of Chicago. Since its founding in 1922, Resurrection has graduated over 13,500 alumnae. For more information about Resurrection College Prep High School, call 773.775.6616 Ext 129 or visit www.reshs.org

SKOKIE ART GUILD

FIGURE DRAWING WORKSHOPS Saturday Sessions 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Live models / no instructor Fees per session SAG Members \$12.00;

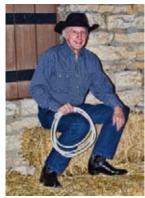
non-members \$20.00. For information: Steve Gal 847/673-4450

See our ad on page 7 about our FALL RECEPTION AND EXHIBIT

CHICAGO AUTHOR STAN BANASH TO SIGN *ROADSIDE* **HISTORY OF ILLINOIS AT COSTCO WHOLESALE IN OAK BROOK AND LINCOLN PARK ON DEC. 6 AND 7**

Chicago author Stan Banash, a.k.a. as "Tex," will sign copies of his recently published book, Roadside History of Illinois (Mountain Press, Missoula, Montana), at: Costco Wholesale, 1901 W. 22nd St. in Oak Brook, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., on Fri., Dec. 6; and at Costco Wholesale, 2746 N. Clybourn Ave. (Lincoln Park) in Chicago, from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., on Sat., Dec. 7. A Costco member himself, Banash, who shops at the Niles location, looks forward to meeting other Costco shoppers.

The nearly 500-page book covers the history of the state from the Ice Age to the present, offering vacationers, tourists, visitors, and residents a series of short trips mostly along old U.S. highways, state highways and county roads that provide a glimpse into numer-



ous historic sites as well as the history of nearly 250 significant cities, towns and villages in seven geographical regions. This is the first book on the state's history in more than 30 years and has been praised by former U.S. Sen. Adlai E. Stevenson III and Illinois State Archives Chief Deputy Director Wayne C. Temple.

As the Preface notes, Roadside History of Illinois is "designed to help both visitors and residents discover and savor the historical, cultural, and natural opulence of this great state." Also included in the book is a Special Introduction by the late Dee Brown, author of the internationally acclaimed book, Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee.

Banash is eager to meet and visit with readers who will find this book an ideal Christmas present for those who want to learn more about the Prairie State's history beyond the often heralded role of Abraham Lincoln.

Although this is the author's third book, he said it is the one for which he has the most passion. "Illinois has a proud history, and its people have made great contributions to the growth of our Nation. We should be proud of our state, and I am committed to helping our residents gain more knowledge of the people, places and events that contributed to that effort," said Banash.

DANCE-ALONG NUTCRACKER® RETURNS TO THE CHICAGO CULTURAL CENTER

Parents looking for something to keep their youngsters on their toes this holiday season should look no further than the annual Dance-Along Nutcracker® event presented by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, Sunday, December 1 at the Chicago Cultural Center (78 E. Washington St.). The FREE performances are noon and 3 p.m. under the Tiffany-stained glass dome of Preston Bradley Hall (third floor).

One hour before each performance, at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., in the fifth floor Washington Room of the Cultural Center, ARCC Ballet (Art Reaching Children of Chicago) will teach basic ballet positions and movements. Founded in 2005 by Jennifer Minkin, ARCC Ballet and ARCC Academy offer dance instruction, performance opportunities and workshops for children and adults. ARCC Ballet also offers after school dance programs to over 25 day schools throughout the Chicagoland area.

Then the real fun begins when performers of all ages and abilities are invited to dance along to the familiar music of Tchaikovsky's holiday classic with professional dancers from Ballet Chicago. Ballet Chicago's mission is to advance American classicism in ballet by presenting inspirational and unique ballet performances to a wide audience.

Music for the Dance-Along Nutcracker® is provided by the Lakeside Pride Symphonic Band. Lakeside Price Music Ensembles reflects a legacy of bringing members and friends of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community together through music for more than 30 years. Each performance by one of its four major ensembles – marching band, jazz band, symphonic band and symphony orchestra – enables Lakeside Pride to connect with audiences everywhere. Additional information, including how to join an ensemble, is available at lakesidepride.org.

The Dance-Along Nutcracker®, created in 1985, is the property of the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, the world's first openly gay musical organization. Any use of the name, concept or imagery without the written permission of SFLGFB is prohibited. More information is available at www.sflgfb.org.

For more information about the Dance-Along Nutcracker® and all arts programming at the Chicago Cultural Center presented by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, visit chicagoculturalcenter.org or join the conversation on Facebook and Twitter, @ChiCulturCenter.





KAREN A. YARBROUGH Cook County Recorder of Deeds

Wishes you a happy and safe Thanksgiving and urges you to protect your property deed from fraud.

Sign up for our FREE PROPERTY FRAUD ALERT at CookRecorder.com or by calling (800) 728-3858

Cook County Recorder of Deeds

(312) 603-5050 or ROD.support@CookCountylL.gov

HOLIDAY AND WINTER EVENTS

SKOKIE CHABAD CHANUKAH EVENTS

Chanukah Wonderland

Kids are home from school, what to do all morning? Bring them on November 28, 2013 (Thanksgiving), for a rollicking good time at Chanukah Wonderland at Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie! From 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, your family will enjoy activities and crafts including time-tested favorites and exciting new ones: dreidel bounce, face paint, make your own donut, Chanukah loom bracelets, duct tape crafts, take a picture with Judah Maccabee, Chanukah Dance Zone, dreidel crafts, making cards for IDF soldiers, Chanukah gelt, live presentations and much more! Make sure to catch the Olive Oil Press demo, at 11:30 am, as well as the movie screening at 12:15.

Admission is \$10 in advance, and \$12 at the door. One free adult with each family, and kids under two years old enter free! At Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster St. in Skokie.

Reserve in advance via the website, www.SkokieChabad.org. For more information, please contact us at 847-677-1770.

Chanukah Comedy Lounge

This Chanukah join Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie for our annual Chanukah event for adults. Enjoy the Chanukah Lounge: a relaxed atmosphere with an open bar, live music and a tasty dinner buffet. You will enjoy great entertainment with a fun improv presentation from "One Night Only"! The action is fast, funny and very interactive.

Brighten Chanukah with your laughter as we present this uproariously fun evening. Doors open at 7:15 pm on Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster Street in Skokie.

Advance reservations via the website are \$22 adult/\$42 couple. Admission at the door is \$25 adult/\$48 couple. Reserve via the website, www.SkokieChabad.org, or contact us for more information, 847-677-1770.

Free Menorah Lighting Kit Available

Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie is once again providing FREE menorah lighting kits for this Chanukah season.

We provide these kits to help fulfill the mitzvah (Jewish commandment) of lighting the menorah on Chanukah. Each kit contains everything necessary for the ritual - a menorah, candles, and step-by-step instructions and blessings for lighting the Chanukah candles.

To receive your FREE kit, call 847-677-1770 or contact us via the website, www.SkokieChabad.org/2389091.

Public Outdoor Menorah Lighting with Mayor Van Dusen

Come celebrate Chanukah with Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie for our yearly outdoor menorah lighting! This year Mayor George Van Dusen of Skokie will be with us at Skokie's Site of Civic Pride at Krier Plaza (Oakton Street and Niles Center Road in downtown Skokie) on Wednesday, December 4, 2013 to celebrate the festival of lights.

Join us at 6:00 p.m. for the lighting ceremony, and for delicious doughnuts, hot chocolate, and latkes for all free of charge! For more information, please contact us at 847-677-1770 or via the website, www.SkokieChabad.org.



American Red Cross Invites People to Send Holiday Greetings to Military Members

*Use hashtag #HolidayMail on social media sites and postmark cards by December 6*The American Red Cross invites people to wish happy holidays those who serve our country, vets and their families through social media and traditional mail through Dec. 6.

Using the hashtag #HolidayMail on their Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Vine accounts people can be creative and tag instant messages, e-cards, photos, or videos to military members. The Red Cross will post the material on its social media sites throughout the holiday season. Card senders can connect with each other through Facebook.com/redcross and Twitter.com/redcross.

People can also send traditional cards through the mail addressed to:

Holiday Mail for Heroes • P.O. Box 5456 • Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456

To ensure that cards are delivered in time for the holidays, they must be postmarked to later than Dog 6. People are adject to refer in from and in a letter are repeatery done.

no later than Dec. 6. People are asked to refrain from sending letters, monetary donations or any other inserts with the cards. Please also refrain from using glitter. More information and card requirements can be found at redcross.org/holidaymail.

"Everyone gets busy, especially around the holidays, so just a few moments can mean a lot," said Fran Edwardson, Chief Executive Officer, American Red Cross of Greater Chicago. "While it may not seem like much, a note to a service member spending time away from his or her family makes a word of difference."

Red Cross volunteers across the United States and on military installations overseas sort and deliver the cards throughout the holiday season. The Red Cross has received and distributed more than 6.5 million cards for members of the U.S. Armed Forces, veterans and their families since the program began in 2006.

The Red Cross relies on the support of the American people to carry out its mission of service to the 2 million members of the U.S. Armed Forces, 24 million veterans and their families. During this holiday season, the public can also support all Red Cross services by making a financial donation at redcross.org or by calling 1-800-REDCROSS. Individuals can also give the gift of life by making an appointment to give blood at redcrossblood.org or by calling 1-800-REDCROSS.

EZRA-HABONIM, THE NILES TOWNSHIP JEWISH CONGREGATION SISTERHOOD HOSTS HANUKKAH PARTY AND LATKE LUNCH

The Sisterhood of Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 W. Dempster, Skokie, invites interested women to a Hanukkah party and Latke Luncheon. The event will take place Wednesday, December 4, starting at 12:00 noon at the synagogue. "There's always such fun and such a great atmosphere at our parties," says Judy Frank, chairperson for the event. "We will light our menorah and I promise a delightful afternoon for everyone."

Cost for the afternoon is \$15 for Sisterhood members with reservations and \$18 for non-members or at the door. For further information or for reservations, please call the synagogue office at 847-675-4141

FINE ARTS HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES AT RESURRECTION

Join in the festivities as the Fine Arts Department of Resurrection College Prep High School presents a variety of showcase performances and concerts to share the holiday spirit. The community is welcome to attend these fine arts events, all of which will be held at Resurrection College Prep High School, 7500 West Talcott Avenue in Chicago.

The Holiday Chamber Concert, featuring the Resurrection Chamber Ensemble under the direction of Mike Longo, will be held on Monday, December 2, 2013 at 7 pm in the school chapel.

The Holiday Dance Showcase, featuring the Resurrection Orchesis dance ensemble under the direction of Ms. Kari Hintz, will be held on Friday, December 6, 2013 at 7 pm in the Resurrection Little Theatre.

The Holiday Band Concert, featuring the Resurrection/ Notre Dame Band under the direction of Mr. Mike Wallace and the Resurrection/ Notre Dame Jazz Band under the direction of Darren Scorza, will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2013 at 3 pm in the Little Theatre.

The Holiday Choral Concert, featuring and Resurrection/ Notre Dame Concert Choir and the Resurrection Women's Choir under the direction of Ms. Katie Rholl, will be held on Thursday, December 12, 2013 at 7 pm in the Little Theatre.

The Elves and the Shoemaker, a holiday drama showcase, will be presented on Friday, December 13, 2013 at 7 pm in the Little Theatre. The Elves and the Shoemaker will feature Resurrection's advanced drama students under the guidance of Tony Muscarello.

Resurrection College Prep High School, located at 7500 West Talcott Avenue in Chicago, is the largest all girls Catholic, Christian college preparatory high school for young women on the north side of Chicago. Since its founding in 1922, Resurrection has graduated over 13,500 alumnae. For more information about Resurrection College Prep High School, call 773.775.6616 Ext 129 or visit www.reshs.org.



HOLIDAY AND WINTER EVENTS

The Heart Musical Productions presents
The Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra Production of
"The Love and Peace of Christmas"

Anthony Kawalkowski and his Orchestra are well known in Chicago, especially in the Austrian, German and Polish-American Communities. The Orchestra will present a Concert on Sunday, December 15 at 2:00 pm at the Copernicus Center Theater, 5216 W. Lawrence Avenue in Chicago. The production will include 32 musicians, two children drummers, 12 youngsters from the Inspired Youth Choir, a Santa Claus, an actor and actress, just to name a few. A special presentation will be made to a gentleman who has organized a Christmas party for close to 100 underprivileged children every year for the past 50 years. This musical production will celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. It is sure to fill the hearts of all in the audience with the PEACE, LOVE AND JOY THAT CHRISTMAS IS. Tickets range from \$23.00 to \$68.00, depending on where you want to sit. Be sure you tell them if you plan to bring children as they get a special rate. Tickets have to be ordered online at copernicuscenter.com. There is plenty of free and/or low cost parking available. The Copernicus Center can also be reached with the Lawrence Avenue bus and is only a block away from the Blue Line stop. For more information visit the Orchestra's website at www.akorchestra.com or call the Copernicus Center Box Office at 773-777-8898.

Don't miss this wonderful Concert and be sure to tell your family members and all your friends about it. It will amaze and inspire you!

Maria P. Bappert

9TH ANNUAL POLAR ADVENTURE DAYS OFFER FAMILIES THREE DAYS OF WINTER FUN AT NORTHERLY ISLAND

The Chicago Park District presents the ninth annual Polar Adventure Days from 12 - 4 p.m. on three Saturdays, Dec. 7, Jan. 25 and Feb. 22, at Northerly Island, 1521 S. Linn White Dr., on the Museum Campus. The program is admission free. Click here to watch a video.

Polar Adventure Days offer families the opportunity to explore Northerly Island and come face-to-face with live animals, engage in winter activities, and create nature-inspired crafts. Participants are encouraged to dress for the weather as events take place both outdoors and inside the visitor center.

- The following features and activities will be available at Polar Adventure Days:

 Various live animals will be on site to discover, such as birds of prey from Flint Creek Wildlife Rehabilitation and coyotes from Big Run Wolf Ranch.
- Dog sledding demonstrations with huskies of Free Spirit Siberian Rescue.
- Live entertainment from The Dreamtree Shakers from Old Town School of Folk Music
- Arts and craft tables led by different organization each month for making nature-inspired creations. December features Imagine Art; January features the Art Institute of Chicago; and February features the National Mexican Museum of Art.
- Toddler zone that features outdoor "ice fishing."
- REI winter activity station.
- Free snowshoe rental for exploration of the island if there is enough snow.
- Free hot cocoa to the first 500 participants.

Please call to confirm scheduled activities for Polar Adventure Days as activities are subject to change. For more information, call 312-742-PLAY (7529). Limited parking is available for \$3, cash only, during Polar Adventure Days. Directions by car to Northerly Island:

Take Lake Shore Drive north or south to the 18th Street/Museum Campus exit. Follow Museum Campus Drive toward Adler Planetarium. Turn right on Linn White Drive. Go past the Charter One Pavilion (on left) and the Burnham Harbor Yacht Club (on right). The visitor center and free parking are on the left. Northerly Island is also accessible by public transportation:

Take the #146 bus, exit at Linn White Drive and walk south to the visitor center. Polar Adventure Days is sponsored by Bright Start College Savings, a 529 savings plan created and administered by the State of Illinois. It allows families to save money for children's future education without paying taxes on any earnings. Learn more and enroll at www.brightstartsavings.com.



Bears of Hope (See Page 6 For Story)







St. Thecla Holiday Craft & Gift Show

The St Thecla's 11th Annual Holiday Crafts and Gift Show will take place Saturday, November 23rd from 9AM to 4PM at St Thecla, 6725 W Devon, Chicago in Falcon Hall. Vendors will be featuring their handmade gifts (many different crafts and trades are featured), the bake table is always a special part of this event, and there will also be a special holiday raffle this year with some fantastic prizes including:

\$500 • \$200 • Gibson Soho Dinnerware (32 piece service for 8)
• American Tourister 4 Piece Luggage Set • Givenchy Expandable Garment Carrier • Two Baking Stones • 7 Piece Oster Non-Stick Aluminum Cookware
• Allied 76 Piece Home Repair Tool Set • Cuisine De France 15 Piece Cutlery Set • Dirt Devil Wet/Dry Cordless Hand Vac • Hampton Forge Stainless Steel Flatware (service for 8) • Olympia Garment Travel Bag and Toiletry Bag •

Two Eagle Claw Classic Fishing Poles and Reels • Elite Gourmet Double Buffet Server and Warming Tray • Better Chef 9 Liter Toaster Oven/Broiler Many, many more... and several gift certificates

Chances are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. The lucky winners will be drawn at the Craft Show. Winner need not be present.

St. Thecla Senior's Christmas Party

St. Thecla Senior Club is having a Christmas party at the White Eagle in Niles on December 5th. The cost of the ticket is \$25.00. We will have an Ukulele and Hawaiian group for entertainment. If interested in attending, please call Joanie at 312 608-4092.

13TH SEASON OF FREE ICE SKATING IN MILLEN-NIUM PARK THE McCORMICK TRIBUNE ICE RINK OPENS ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

The McCormick Tribune Ice Rink in Millennium Park will open on Friday, November 15, 2013 and will remain open through Sunday, March 9, 2014, weather permitting.

For more than a decade, the rink has drawn more than 100,000 skaters annually and is free and open to the public. New this year are Winter Workouts pre-

sented by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events. On Fridays-Sundays, one hour before the rink opens, free ice skating lessons will be offered. Each Thursday will feature ice sports skills and drills for Noodle Hockey, curling and speed. Grant support was provided by McDonald's Active Lifestyles Endowment, managed by Millennium Park Foundation. The rink, located on Michigan Avenue between Washington and Madison Streets, will offer skate rental for only \$10.

The Ice Rink was the first element of Millennium Park to be opened to the public. A special ribbon cutting ceremony on December 20, 2001 featured performers and skaters including two gold-medal winning hockey players from the USA women's team, the Radio City Rockettes and actress Bonnie Hunt. The rink is 200 ft. long, 80 ft. wide and has 15,910 sq. ft. of skating surface.

For more information about events in Millennium Park during the winter months, visit millenniumpark.org or call 312.744-3316, like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter, @Millennium_Park.

Santa Comes to Edison Park

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, December 7thSanta Express returns! Greet Santa as he arrives on the 9:54am train. Then join him for the official Edison Parl

9:54am train. Then join him for the official Edison Park Tree Lighting Ceremony at Oshkosh and Northwest Highway. Follow Santa to the Edison Park Fieldhouse for visits and photos, crafts, storytelling, face painting, cookies and milk, and sleigh rides.



SANTA'S ARRIVAL WILL KICK OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON AT LINCOLNWOOD TOWN CENTER

Santa Claus will be ushered to his home for the holidays at Lincolnwood Town Center by snowflakes and sugarplum fairies on November 23 at 10 a.m. when dancers from Performing Arts Limited perform portions of the Nutcracker.

Following the performance, children will be invited to meet the dancers, including Clara, Fritz, and the Nutcracker himself, and pose for photos with them while they wait for their treasured photo with Santa. Old St. Nick will be available to listen to children's wishes and pose for a photo daily until Christmas Eve.

"Having a photo taken with Santa is a time-honored tradition," said Genelle Iocca, director of marketing and business development with Lincolnwood Town Center. "We are proud to be a part of that precious memory for so many local families."

Children will also have the opportunity to enter to win a special train ride with Santa on December 14. From November 22 to December 12, children and their parents can pick up an entry form at the mall office or at the Santa set in Center Court. Twenty-five names will be drawn at random, and the winners will be notified by December 13.

For a complete schedule of holiday events, plus Santa's photo hours, please visit Lincolnwood Town Center's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/LincolnwoodTownCenter

The Crippling Effects of Disability



Chester M. Przybylo

There are few things in life more valuable than your health. But good health and the ability to use all your senses are the things we take for granted most. We think that every morning we will awake as healthy and fully functional as the day before. Remarkably this nonchalant attitude actually works for most people most of the time. But accidents do happen.

If you are sidelined with an incapacitating illness or are seriously injured in an accident, it could have a significant impact on your family's lifestyle. But the overall effect can be much bigger. Reduced earnings today can mean a less than comfortable retirement and a smaller estate to pass on to your loved ones.

Have you considered the source of your most valuable asset? Unless you've already accumulated tremendous wealth, your greatest asset is your ability to work and earn money. If you are no longer able to function on the job, you'll not only miss out on future income, but you'll start depleting your existing assets.

Before age 65, one out of three people aged 35 or younger will be disabled for six months or more and one of four will be disabled for one year, according to the National Safety Council. So even if you're feeling young and healthy, it could happen to you. If you wait until you have a need, it may be too late.

Most people don't prepare for the possibility of being temporarily or permanently disabled. Many employers don't include group disability insurance in their employee benefits packages either. This leaves most people on their own except for a little help from the government.

Beyond the direct financial consequences of a disability, there could be some important personal concerns as well. You may have to go through a "living probate" process if you don't have the proper estate planning documents already in place. Let's say a person suffers a stroke or is involved in a car accident and ends up with a head injury. As a result, this person may not be able to make personal and financial decisions.

What happens next? Someone – typically a spouse, child or parent – must file court papers to have the individual declared legally incompetent. Interested parties, including family and creditors, must be notified. A hearing will take place and the individual may need to be present if his or her physical and mental health will allow it. If not, medical evidence or testimony will be introduced. And finally, a notice of the hearing will be published in the local newspaper for anyone to read.

If the person is declared mentally incompetent, the court will appoint others to act on his or her behalf. This responsibility is often split in two. A personal guardian makes decisions with respect to medical care and facilities. A financial guardian or conservator makes the financial decisions. Both roles can be handled by the same person.

You can take steps to ensure that people you know and trust take care of you and not someone appointed by the probate court. You can do this with a Health Care Power of Attorney along with a Revocable Living Trust. You can use the Health Care Power of Attorney to express your wishes regarding life-support measures and long-term care. With the Revocable Living Trust, you can designate a Successor Trustee to manage your financial affairs. The trustee is required to follow the detailed directions you've provided in your trust documents.

Depending on your trust, you may only need a physician's statement indicating you are mentally incapacitated. And this can happen without the time, expense and humiliation of a court proceeding. Soon your financial affairs will be under the management of your trustee who will implement your wishes.

Most people assume that these problems will never happen to them. Consequently, they do not initiate a plan. If you want to make sure you are properly cared for should a disability occur, you should speak with an experienced estate planning attorney to discuss your alternatives.

-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. To register for an upcoming seminar, call the 24 hour reservation hotline at 1-800-638-7878 or register online at www.PlanOurEstate.com.

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Bears of Hope Celebrated Make A Difference Day

Bears of Hope joined other organizations around the country on Saturday, October 26, 2013, to celebrate Make A Difference Day, the largest day of community service. USA WEEKEND and Points of Lights sponsor this annual event. "With projects happening throughout the country, said Tracy Hoover, president of Points of Light, it was a great opportunity for people to start volunteering or, if they were already a volunteer, engage a friend to volunteer."

Bears of Hope is a Skokie based all-volunteer organization that makes handmade fabric bears for children and adults facing challenging life crises. This was the first year Bears of Hope was part of the Make A Difference Day celebration. Their project was to finish bears for veterans and work on bears for children and adults experiencing a trying time in their lives. Founder, Carolyn Reiner said, "We invited friends and students from Oakton Community College to join our volunteers and make bears. Everyone had a great time getting to know one another, had fun working together, and enjoyed doing something good for those in need.'

Fifty patriotic bears for veterans were finished. Only red, white and blue fabric was used for these bears. Keeping with Bears of Hope's philosophy, no two bears were made with the same fabric. Each bear is unique, just like the veteran who will receive the bear. During McCormick & Schmick's "Veterans Appreciation Day" on November 10, 2013 at its Westfield Old Orchard location, Bears of Hope volunteers will a limited number of patriotic bears to veterans who come to the restaurant. The patriotic bears are a special project Bears of Hope does each year. It's their way of thanking veterans for what they have done for our country.

They also finished 75 printed fabric bears in various stages of completion. Bears volunteers will finish them. These bears will be given to sick children and adults.

Yearly, Bears of Hope makes 300 bears. They donate the bears to social service agencies: children's services; hospices; women's shelters and Skokie's Police and Fire Departments. They, in turn, give bears to those under their care.

Bears of Hope is celebrating its sixth year making bears. They have made and given over 1500 bears to children and adults needing hope and comfort to feel better. The organization relies on volunteers and financial gifts from supporter to carry on their work. To contact Bears of Hope: Bears@bearsofhope.com or www.bearsofhope.com

Greater Chicago Food Depository, Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, AmeriCorps, **Launch Innovative Veterans Food Pantry**

Pantry one of the largest in the nation, first of its kind in Illinois The Greater Chicago Food Depository, in collaboration with the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center and AmeriCorps, will launch one of the nation's only food pantries for veterans located at a VA medical center on Monday at 1 p.m. The pantry will distribute fresh produce and shelf-stable items to approximately 800 veterans per month, to help ensure underserved segments of the veteran community have access to nutritious food.

The innovative pantry aims to address a critical need in the community – there are approximately 76,000 new veterans already living in Illinois, and of that population, seven percent live below the poverty line and 12 percent are considered to be low income. Further, Illinois has the fourth-highest unemployment rate of all states for new veterans.

"We cannot let the men and women who have fought for our country go hungry," said Kate Maehr, Executive Director and CEO of the Greater Chicago Food Depository. "This pantry will give veterans the honor and support they deserve by providing them with nutritious food in a welcoming setting.'

The pantry, located at the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center on the 2nd floor of the Damen Pavilion, will distribute food from the Greater Chicago Food Depository every Tuesday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

"In working with the Greater Chicago Food Depository, we are developing programs to reach out to that segment of the veteran population who need our support in a tremendous way," said Pat Gleason, VA Volunteer Services Director. "We want to build a program that we hope will spread across the country to uplift and alleviate hunger in the veteran community."

The pantry will be managed by a veteran in the AmeriCorps program, and veterans will also volunteer at the pantry, including Mr. Lowrell Collins, a U.S. Marine Corps. Veteran.

"This is important because we have a lot of veterans that aren't working, who are unable to work, and everyone needs food," he said.

U.S. Rep. Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), a U.S. Army Veteran, will speak at the

"Our veterans deserve every opportunity to achieve the American Dream that they fought for. It is our mission to make sure veterans and their families never go hungry and I look forward to working with the Greater Chicago Food Depository to make the veterans food pantry a success," she said.

For more information on the Food Depository's veterans initiatives, or to learn how to donate or volunteer, visit chicagosfoodbank.org or call 773-247-FOOD.

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RESURRECTION STUDENTS RAISE FUNDS FOR WRIGHT-WAY RESCUE

Wright-Way Rescue Executive Director and Resurrection alumna Christy Anderson '00 was presented with a check from Resurrection students Maggie Yarnold '15 and Emily DePaolo '15

Resurrection College Prep High School students rallied to raise funds for Wright-Way Rescue, a local non-profit animal rescue and pet adoption organization. On October 2, 2013 a school bus crashed into the front entrance of the Wright-Way Adoption Center on Touhy Avenue in Niles, causing the organization to scramble to find foster care or permanent homes for the animals that were on-site. Although all of the people and animals in the facility were safe, Wright-Way Adoption Center now needs a new home.

Resurrection students organized a one-day fundraising event on Wednesday, October 30, 2013 at Resurrection. Students who made a donation to Wright-Way Rescue had the option to wear Res Spirit Apparel on that Wednesday and the students quickly collected over \$1,100. "Students were so generous," said Resurrection Development and Alumnae Coordinator Alisa Martorano. "There were so many students who were eager to help because Wright-Way is where they adopted their family pet."

Wright-Way Rescue Executive Director Christy Anderson is a Resurrection alumna from the Class of 2000. Christy studied animal science and pre-law at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and officially founded Wright-Way Rescue in 2003. Her love of animals started at an early age and during high school she was the youngest dog trainer for Petco. During her sophomore year of college Christy began finding homes for adoptable dogs and cats at the local animal control center that were scheduled to be euthanized. By her senior year in college Christy knew that animal rescue work was her full-time calling. Wright-Way Rescue has grown the organization to be the largest animal adoption facility in the Midwest and they were on-track to find homes for about 5,000 animals in 2013.

"We appreciate the support of the students at Resurrection." said Christy Anderson. Wright-Way is currently using a former veterinary clinic in DesPlaines as their Chicago-land base of operations and the board, staff and volunteers are working toward a new home as they recover from the losses of the October 2nd accident.

Resurrection College Prep High School, located at 7500 West Talcott Avenue in Chicago, is the largest all girls' Catholic, Christian college preparatory high school for young women on the north side of Chicago. Since its founding in 1922, Resurrection has graduated over 13,500 alumnae. For more information about Resurrection College Prep High School, call 773.775.6616 Ext 129 or visit www.reshs.org.

Edison Park Turkey Trot

The 17th Annual Edison Park Turkey Trot is just 10 days away! Join thousands of your neighbors on Thanksgiving morning at the Edison Park Fieldhouse (6755 N. Northwest Highway) at 9:30am. This year's 5k RUN/WALK, organized by the Edison Park Turkey Trot Committee, will benefit the American Heart Association.

Save by registering online by visit www.eventbrite.com! You can also register in-person on Monday, November 25th from 4pm-9pm at the Emerald Isle (6686 N. Northwest Highway) or at the Edison Park Fieldhouse from 8am-9am on Thanksgiving morning. The Gobble Gallop for ages 3-12 will begin at 8:30. For more information on the Gobble Gallop, go to www.eventbrite.com! If you live along the Turkey Trot route, compete in the Best Cheering Section.

Runners and Spectators Wanted for the 37th Annual Turkey Trot

The Lincolnwood Turkey trot has helped kick off the holidays for 37 years. This year, the race will be held on Sunday, November 24. This historic race features over 1800 friends and family running and walking through scenic Lincolnwood. There are many ways that you can get involved in this fun and exciting event.

Not running? We need your spirit! Spectators are an important part of this event to help cheer on runners. Check out the race route and stake out your place to help motivate the runners. The race map is available at

www.lincolnwoodil.org/recreationturkeytrot-cfm/. There are many ways to cheer on runners including; holding up funny or motivational signs as runners pass, blasting some tunes for an extra push to make it to the finish line, dressing up as a family to show your spirit, or volunteering for the race. If you would like to sign up to volunteer, please contact Katie Smith Gamroth at ksmith@lwd.org or (847) 745-4728. All volunteers will receive a long sleeve commemorative t-shirt.

Skokie Art Guild's 2013 Members' Only Fall Exhibit

November 16 - December 27 At Skokie Library, 5215 Oakton

Opening Reception Sunday, November 24 4:00 – 6:00 PM

- FINE ART throughout the Library • Meet the Original ARTISTS • **Refreshments!**

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Skokie Art Guild is an affiliate of the Skokie Part District. Skokieartguild.org

Anti-Cruelty Society

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

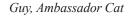
Every Dollar Counts

Dear Friend,

Guy, our ambassador cat, dressed up just for you! We had to beg him a little bit, so we told him that if he dressed up in his bow tie and let us take his picture, he would help encourage our friends to give us a donation to help all of the other animals here at The Anti-Cruelty Society. I hope we weren't wrong.

Halloween marks the end of our fiscal year. This year we didn't reach our fundraising goal and we need your support. Without it, we would not be able to accomplish all that we do on behalf of the animals most in need.

We hope you will help us with a gift before the end of our fiscal year. Any size gift, small or large, is truly needed and sincerely appreciated. Remember to check with your employer to see if they have a matching gift



program. That would help your gift do even more, just like we do for the animals 365 days a year!

We are a 501(c) (3), private, non-profit organization; we receive no government funds or funds from national organizations, therefore your donation is taxdeductible to the extent of IRS rules.

Jazz Nativity (Pet-Friendly)

When: Saturday, December 7, 4-7 p.m.

Where: St. Luke Church, 1500 W. Belmont, Chicago

What: The Chicago JazzMASS Ensemble will perform jazz arrangements of traditional Christmas hymns, along with original compositions to tell the story of Mary, Jesus, Joseph, the Angels, the Shepherds, and the three Wise Men. Filled with a sense of grace and humor, the cast will include a tap dancing king, a Latin percussion king and a trumpet king, as well as vocal soloists, a vocal jazz quartet, choir and eight piece jazz band. We will be at the event hosting a holiday shop featuring cards, toys, logo merchandise and some great gifts purr-fect for holiday gift giving. Adoptable pets will be hoping for a new home in time for the holidays. Bring your family, including the dog, and join in the holiday fun. A pet blessing takes place at 3:30 p.m., before the performance begins at 4 p.m.

St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church **Solon Greek School**

St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church Solon Greek School Solon Morning Program continues a long tradition of educating Chicago's Greek youth, dating all the way back to 1928. The bilingual day school program, which offers Pre-school, Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten, is the only one of its kind in the city of Chicago. Classes offering enriching opportunities for children are available beginning at the age of 3.

"Our program encourages children to be actively involved in the learning process, to experience a variety of activities appropriate for their age and stage of development, in the context of a Greek Orthodox environment," shared Director Peggy Kontos.

Solon endeavors to prepare preschool age children for a successful educational future and to expose them to the Greek language.

"We strive to provide a happy, loving, and secure learning environment where the children are exposed to a balanced variety of positive experiences in both languages. We believe that this kind of learning environment promotes social, emotional, intellectual and physical development in each child," Kontos added.

The core values of this program are to focus on continuous learning and to foster joy and excitement for learning, in a bilingual, Christian environment. They believe that successful learning experiences require careful development and implementation of curriculum, assessment and instruction.

The curriculum includes individual and group activities to develop social, language and cognitive skills; field trips and special guests speakers/presenters that engage the students in various topics; circle time, creative time, games, crafts, and music; developmentally appropriate activities following monthly themes; plus an enclosed, indoor gymnasium for daily recess and weekly physical education classes.

The play-based curriculum allows children of this age group the best opportunity for learning and retention, building on what they have learned each year. Students learn important language skills in Greek and in English, social skills, motor coordination, and self-confidence. Solon's teachers are warm and nurturing. With many years of experience, they provide a positive transition to first grade and beyond. In this environment, students thrive. Solon students consistently have placed in the highly competitive Chicago Public School's Selected Enrollment Program.

St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church Solon Greek School Solon Morning Program will be hosting an Open House on Wednesday, November 20th from 3:00pm - 6:00pm, at 2727 W. Winona Street, located within the St. Demetrios-Greek Orthodox Church in Chicago near California & Foster in Budlong Woods.

If you are unable to attend, but would like more information about our school, before and or after care enrichment program(s) and or visiting our classrooms, please contact our Director Peggy Kontos at solonmorningprogram@gmail.com and or contact the school office at (773) 561-5992.

We hope to see you on Wednesday, November 20th 3:00-6:00pm.

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Stollen Class - 6 Dec

Ingrid returns to sweeten your holidays through the magic of Stollen Join her in the DANK kitchens to learn why this treat is so beloved it commands its own festival every winter at the Dresden Christmas market. Attendees receive instructions, recipes, tasting and one drink \$16 class fee. Space is limited -Reserve today



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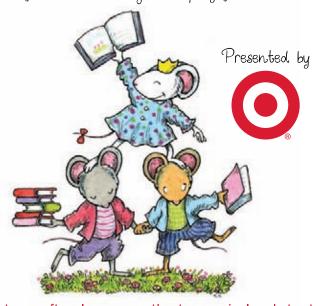
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