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February 24

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Volume XVI

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Issue 3
February 10, 2012

2nd Annual Winter Carnival to be Held February 26 at Proesel Park

Enjoy a fun, family-friendly event that highlights winter activities in lovely Proesel Park (6915 Kostner Avenue) on Sunday, February 26, 2012 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. A roaring fire will keep you warm as you enjoy music and food in the historic Proesel Park Shelter. A variety of winter activities will take place both in and around the shelter area including music by K-Hits Radio 104.3 (1:00-3:00 p.m.), dog sled demonstrations by Green Valley Dog Drivers (1:15 p.m., 2:15 p.m., 2:45 p.m.), carnival games (1:00-3:00 p.m.), horse-drawn carriage rides (1:00-3:00 p.m.), snowshoe and cross country skiing (1:00-3:00 p.m.; free equipment rental), ice skating – open skate and demonstrations (1:00-3:00 p.m.), Winter Waddle Kids' Dash (2:00 p.m.).

All activities are free of charge, with the exception of the Winter Waddle Kids' Dash at 2:00 p.m. This 100 meter dash is for children 10 years of age and younger. Preregistration is required for a fee of \$12 per child. Winter Waddle participants will receive a t-shirt, goody bag and finisher medal. Registration is accepted at the Parks and Recreation Department (6900 N. Lincoln Avenue) Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 5 p.m. or online at www.lincolnwoodil.org.

For more information, please call the Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Department at (847)677-9740.

Happy Valentine's Day
February 14th

CITY TREE-TRIMMERS

See story on page 4.



COMBINED TOURISM ORGANIZATION TO ATTRACT 50 MILLION VISITORS TO CHICAGO

Streamlined Organization will Save \$1.3 Million that will be Reinvested in National and International Marketing Campaigns to Draw Visitors

Mayor Emanuel launched a new tourism organization for the city of Chicago, with the goal of attracting 50 million visitors per year by 2020 and resulting in nearly \$4 billion a year in additional annual revenues for Chicago's economy. By combining the efforts of the current Chicago Convention & Tourism Bureau and the Chicago Office of Tourism and Culture, the new organization will save \$1.3 million in administrative costs that will be reinvested in national and international marketing campaigns.

"This new organization will allow us to focus all of the city's efforts to attract visitors for business, pleasure, and culture," said Mayor Emanuel. "By coordinating our efforts and establishing clear, measurable goals, we will show the world that Chicago is the best place to visit."

The Chicago Convention & Tourism Bureau (CCTB) will join forces with the tourism-focused portion of the Chicago Office of Tourism and Culture (COTC) to form the new organization. CCTB CEO and President Don Welsh will be CEO and President of the new organization.

"Mayor Emanuel's decision to streamline Chicago's tourism marketing strategy makes strong financial and logistical sense," said Welsh. "Our ultimate goal is to make Chicago the premier destination for domestic and international business and leisure travelers. Today's decision will help the City more cost effectively advance and achieve this vision."

continued on page 2

LENT BEGINS FEBRUARY 22

SEE THE FIRST OF OUR

LENTEN RECIPES ON PAGE 11

"I love my doctor."

She's right down the street
and I always get my
appointments quickly."



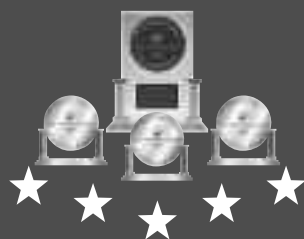
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Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center Offers February Health Programs

5645 W. Addison St., Chicago

Free **blood pressure screenings** will be offered Wednesday, February 15, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., in the hospital's main lobby. A health care professional will perform screenings and answer questions about blood pressure readings. Registration is not required.

Free informational sessions about **bariatric surgery** will be held Tuesday, February 21, starting at 6:30 p.m., and Wednesday, February 29, starting at 6 p.m. Bariatric surgeons will discuss the benefits of bariatric surgery for obese individuals and will explain available procedures and eligibility requirements. For these events only, register by calling VIP-RHC-THIN (847-742-8446).

The **Pacemaker/Cardiac Device Support Group** will meet Wednesday, February 22, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the seventh floor Centennial Conference Center C. This free support group provides mutual support and education. Cardiology staff will conduct sessions and answer questions related to pacemakers and internal cardiac defibrillators (ICD). Registration is not required.

A free lecture titled **Here's to Your Healthy Heart**, will be given Wednesday, February 22, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Cardiovascular disease is the number one killer of Americans. David Fishman, M.D., board-certified cardiologist, will lecture on how to keep your heart healthy. Do you know your 'numbers' to help predict heart health? These numbers will be explained during the lecture.

Refreshments will be served. Advance registration is required by calling 877-RES-INFO (877-737-4636).

The **Arthritis Support Group** will meet Thursday, February 23, 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 parking is available in the hospital's parking facility on Addison Street.

COMBINED TOURISM ORGANIZATION

continued from page 1

The new organization will promote Chicago as a leading global destination and will ensure that while in Chicago, visitors enjoy the city's vibrant cultural offerings, numerous attractions, and diverse neighborhoods to the fullest extent.

As a result of the increase in visitors, tax revenues are expected to increase anywhere from \$250 to \$300 million per year while visitor spending is expected to increase by \$3.6 billion to \$14.7 billion annually.

Research done by CCTB and COTC indicates that the additional 10 million annual visitors will bring \$3.6 billion in revenue to Chicago for three reasons: an increase in international visitors, an increase in regional visitors who stay longer, and an increase in hotel occupancy rates.

"Chicago is an international pioneer in the field of cultural tourism and is a city that uses cutting edge technology to offer extreme service to visitors," said Dorothy Coyle, Executive Director of the Chicago Office of Tourism and Culture. "Growth in tourism will benefit communities across Chicago as visitors participate in tours, dining and shopping in one of the most diverse cities in the world."

In addition to the goal of 50 million visitors per year by 2020, the City has set a goal to move into the top five cities for overseas visitation (Chicago currently ranks 10th in the nation); and a preliminary goal of expanding Chicago's market share among overseas visitors to the United States to 6 percent, from the 4.3 percent where it currently stands.

The economic benefits of a healthy tourism industry are vast, including job creation, improved retail, restaurant, cultural attraction and hotel commerce – all contributing to increased tax revenue, according to Welsh. At the current rate of 40 million visitors annually, Chicago's visitor industry supports 124,000 jobs, \$11.1 billion in direct spending and \$616 million in tax revenues.

The joint work of the agencies will begin immediately, in anticipation of a formal launch this summer.

NATIONAL MS SOCIETY, GREATER ILL. CHAPTER LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS THROUGHOUT METRO CHICAGO

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater Illinois Chapter (GIC) depends on the commitment of volunteers at every level of the organization and currently has a variety of volunteer opportunities available throughout Metropolitan Chicago. As a voluntary health agency, the Society embraces, values and recognizes the work of volunteers who lend their professional talents to special projects and office work, chair their own fundraisers, lobby elected officials, participate and staff events, comfort and educate peers living with MS and provide leadership as a member of a Board or Committee.

For more information about volunteering with the Greater Illinois Chapter, contact Jocelyn Cheng, Manager of Volunteer Development, at jocelyn.cheng@nmss.org or 312.423.1139.

Every hour in the United States, someone is diagnosed with MS, an unpredictable, often disabling, autoimmune disease of the central nervous system. MS interrupts the flow of information between the brain and the body and stops people from moving. The disease affects more than 20,000 people in Illinois, 400,000 in the U.S. and 2.5 million worldwide.

The Greater Illinois Chapter (GIC) mobilizes people and resources to drive research for a cure and to address the challenges of everyone affected by MS. Envisioning a world free of MS, the Chapter moves toward that end by driving change through advocacy, facilitating education, collaborating with others and by providing helpful programs and services. Visit MSIllinois.org for the latest GIC news and information.

LEARN CLUTTER-BUSTING SECRETS AT NORWOOD PARK SENIOR CENTER

If clutter is getting you down, it may be time to take charge and do something about it. Join a recovered pack rat as she shares her clutter-busting secrets in this special presentation at 11:00 a.m., on Feb. 24, at Norwood Park Senior Center, 5801 N. Natoma Ave. in Chicago.

Rita Emmet, a professional speaker, consultant and author of *The Clutter-Busting Handbook* will provide insights and techniques for reducing clutter in everyday lives. She will present simple tips such as finding places for your things, and offer new habits to keep clutter from returning. This is sure to be a lively discussion that will evoke many questions and answers. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, call (773) 775-6071 or visit www.npseniorcenter.org.

Kiwanis Club of Ravenswood

Meets 2nd & 4th Thursday 12 o'clock Noon at Hilltop Family Restaurant 2800 W. Foster (Northwest corner of Foster & California) Feb. 23rd - TBA

Note: Meetings now begin at 12:00 noon and not 12:15pm. It would be appreciated if you would arrive by 12:00 noon. Thank you!

Mission Statement for the Kiwanis Club for Ravenswood.

"Since 1911 the Kiwanis Club of Ravenswood has worked with other Chicago area Kiwanis Clubs and Kiwanis International to "Serve the Children of the World." It is the children who are the future of the world and they are the living messages we send to a time we will not see. In addition to supporting children and young adults in need, our club also lends support to organizations serving the poor and underprivileged because it is a privilege to help those in need. We believe that Kiwanis is good for me, good for you, and good for our community. In cooperation with Kiwanis International we think globally, but we act locally."

For more information, please call Ron Heiderman @ 773-561-0455 or email to rheiderman@sbcglobal.net

Kiwanis Education:

Our new Kiwanis pledge is: "I pledge to uphold the Objects of Kiwanis International, to provide service to my community, to extend the opportunity of membership to all persons of goodwill, and to dedicate myself to serving the children of the world."

EMANUEL ADMINISTRATION WILL POST HIGH-RISE RESIDENTIAL BUILDING LIFE SAFETY INFORMATION ONLINE

Implements Plan to Expedite Permits for Buildings Undertaking Life Safety Upgrades; Sends Notifications Reminding Building Owners of Upcoming February Deadline

The Emanuel Administration announced today that information on the Life Safety Evaluation (LSE) status for hundreds of high-rise residential buildings will be made available online. Starting this afternoon, residents will be able to search for specific residential buildings required to submit an LSE report in order to identify their status at data.cityofchicago.org. The information will be updated monthly.

"Providing this information will strengthen the transparency and accountability in this critical process to ensure the safety of Chicagoans across the city," said Mayor Emanuel.

To date, there are over 600 residential buildings across the city required by City Ordinance to submit a Life Safety Evaluation report. These reports are used to determine the current fire safety status of a building and if necessary map out concrete steps building owners will take to ensure their buildings meet the City's fire safety standards.

The Department of Buildings has implemented an expedited permit process that will ensure work being done to bring buildings into compliance is approved by the City within 10 days and started swiftly by building owners.

In January, the City notified all building owners and/or property managers of buildings required to submit an LSE report that they must provide the City with an update on their compliance progress by February 10, 2012. The City sent letters today reminding building owners and property managers of this deadline. The City will consider further action against building owners who do not comply.

Mayor Emanuel added, "The City will do whatever it can to ensure that buildings are able to comply with the law and ensure this essential work gets done."

The Chicago Life Safety Ordinance was passed in 2004 to improve fire safety standards in high-rise buildings eight stories or higher. Because the Chicago building code has since 1975 required new high-rise residential buildings to be constructed with sprinkler systems, the Life Safety Ordinance mostly impacted high-rise residential buildings constructed prior to 1975. It requires owners of these pre-1975 buildings to file a report, called the Life Safety Evaluation, which provides information on the current life safety elements of the building as well as any plans needed to meet requirements for fire safety.

MAYOR EMANUEL NOMINATES BRIAN BANNON FOR LIBRARY COMMISSIONER

Linda Johnson Rice and Lynn Lockwood Appointed to Library Board of Directors

Mayor Rahm Emanuel today announced his nomination of Brian Bannon for Library Commissioner, replacing Mary Dempsey, who has stepped down after nearly 18 years as Commissioner. The Mayor also announced two appointments to the Library Board of Directors: Linda Johnson Rice, whom he is recommending for president, and Lynn Lockwood.

"Brian Bannon has the experience and vision to lead the Chicago Public Library and guide its expansion in the digital world," said Mayor Emanuel. "It is more important than ever that our libraries provide children, students and families with resources to learn and grow. With his expertise in digital technology, Brian will expand the online resources of the Chicago Public Library and broaden the horizons of those who rely on it."

Bannon is currently the Chief Information Officer at the San Francisco Public Library, where he is responsible for its digital strategy, information technology, web

continued on page 11

First Installment Property Tax Bills Due March 1, 2012

Pappas encourages residents to pay online during winter season

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas said today that the 2011 First Installment property tax bills are due March 1, 2012. Pappas encourages paying online at cookcountytreasurer.com to avoid traveling during the winter season.

Payments received after the March 1, 2012, due date will be charged a 1.5 percent penalty per month. Property owners can pay:

Online at cookcountytreasurer.com, from a checking or savings account

At more than 400 Chase Bank locations in Chicagoland

From an account at some 200 participating community banks

By mail with a postmark no later than March 1, 2012

At the Cook County Treasurer's Office located in downtown Chicago

"Paying online allows you to sit at a computer and avoid traveling through winter weather," Pappas said. "Your fingers do the walking, but you don't."

Partial payments are accepted. All forms of payment require taxpayers to reference their 14-digit Property Index Number (PIN) located at the top of each tax bill.

Many property owners have their taxes paid from an escrow account managed by mortgage lenders. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that the lender pays on the correct PIN before the due date.

Taxpayers can call 312.443.5100 for information in English, Polish and Spanish.

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT AND JAZZ INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO CELEBRATE THE 15th ANNIVERSARY OF JAZZCITY

2012 Season Features Free Concerts By Both Local Legends and Emerging Artists

The Chicago Park District and the Jazz Institute of Chicago proudly announce the 15th anniversary season for JazzCity, an admission-free concert series featuring world-class performers at various neighborhood parks throughout the city on select Fridays, Feb. 10 – Dec. 7. The Jazz Links student ensembles kick off all of these family friendly concerts at 7 p.m. Artists and dates are subject to change. For more information on JazzCity, please call the Jazz Institute at 312-427-1676.

Over the past 15 years, the JazzCity series has surveyed the various forms of the genre from masters to experimental groupings, including an improvisation with a young basketball team and a hip hop poet. Many emerging musicians made their public debut through this program and have gone on to national repute.

The JazzCity free concert series began in 1997 as a way to explore cultural connections in communities throughout Chicago. The concerts are unique in their mission to connect people of all ethnicities and generations to the musical and spiritual legacy of jazz in Chicago. For musicians, it's a great opportunity to present new work. For audiences, it's an opportunity to bring families and friends to see world-class musicians in their own community.

Following is the 2012 spring lineup for JazzCity:

Good Vibes: Tribute to Greats of the Jazz Vibraphone March 9, Sherman Park, 1301 W. 52nd St., 312-747-6672. Jim Cooper and 16-year-old marvel Joel Ross explore the music of Lionel Hampton, Red Norvo, Milt Jackson, Gary Burton and Cal Tjader.

Organ Blast March 30, Loyola Park, 1230 W. Greenleaf Ave., 773-262-8605. Guitarist Henry Johnson's Organ Quartet moves people to groove with Peter Roothan on saxophone, Kwame Steve Cobb on drums and organist Lloyd Wilson. This is a rescheduled concert from 2011 due to weather.

Bebop Brass: Tribute to Dizzy Gillespie April 27, Hamilton Park, 513 W. 72nd St., 312-747-6147. This band of rotating brass masters always features new writing by participating musicians. Trumpets feature Marquis Hill, David Young and Pharez Whitted and trombones Norman Palm, Tom Garling and Jeb Bishop with Charles Heath on drums, Larry Gray on bass and band daddy pianist Ken Chaney leading the charge.

Chicago Selected for Navy Week 2012

Chicago Navy Week, Aug. 13-20, is one of 15 selected cities where America's Navy will "come home" in 2012, giving area residents an opportunity to meet Sailors and learn about the Navy's capabilities and relevance to national security.

Chicago Navy Week will commemorate the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 and The Star Spangled Banner with U.S. Navy ship visits, and special events recognizing America's Navy for keeping the sea free for more than 200 years.

The U.S. Navy conducts Navy Weeks across the country to show Americans the return they receive for their substantial investment in America's Navy. During a Navy Week, the Navy conducts a variety of outreach events (approx. 75+) in a metropolitan area, sharing the Navy story with as many people as possible.

The Navy plans to include the following elements in Chicago Navy Week 2012:

- "Blue Angels," The Navy Flight Demonstration Team
- "Leap Frogs," The Navy Parachute Team
- Visiting U.S. Navy Ships
- Navy Band musical performances
- Admirals and other senior Navy leaders
- Navy simulator and other interactive displays
- Visits to area schools
- Community service projects and events with local sports franchises
- Visits with local veterans

For more information about the Chicago Navy Week 2011, contact: Lt.Cmdr. Pamela Bou at (901) 874-7049 ; E-mail: pamela.bou@navyweek.org



HELP SHAPE THE 2012 CHICAGO CULTURAL PLAN

Be apart of history! The City of Chicago is launching a new initiative to develop the 2012 Chicago Cultural Plan. The plan will create an outline for Chicago's future cultural and economic growth as the centerpiece for the City's goal to become a global destination for creativity, innovation and excellence in the arts. We need your help in shaping that plan.

Town Hall meetings will be held on the following dates.

Wednesday, February 15: Columbia College from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 16: Nicholas Senn High School from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 18: DuSable Museum from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 21: National Museum of Mexican Art 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

To further the conversation and to allow an even greater role, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events has launched an interactive website, www.chicagoculturalplan2012.com where Chicagoans can submit ideas and participate in the discussion. Additionally, neighborhood meetings will be held throughout the city this spring; details including time and place will be announced at a later date. The final plan will be unveiled in the fall.

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CITY TREE-TRIMMERS DEPLOY NEW STRATEGY TO REDUCE OPEN REQUESTS FOR SERVICE

Department of Streets and Sanitation Forestry Crews Blitz Wards to Increase Productivity; Similar Strategy to be used by Graffiti Removal Crews

Mayor Rahm Emanuel and the City of Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation announced today that during the past three months it has reduced the backlog of open requests for tree trimming and removal services by more than 25 percent after instituting a new method of “blitzing” neighborhoods using a ward-based grid system to improve efficiency and increase productivity.

“Three months ago we faced an unacceptable backlog in tree trimming,” said Mayor Emanuel. “We instituted a new strategy aimed at efficiency and productivity and we have seen significant improvement. I am committed to a City where services are rendered effectively.”

Since November, forestry crews have responded to requests for service using a ward based grid system in which the crews “blitz” the areas with the most open requests. Five forestry crews now each visit four wards a day to address the outstanding calls for service in a tight geographical area. Additional forestry crews trim in grids and are available for emergencies and public way obstructions.

“Under Mayor Emanuel’s direction, our Bureau of Forestry crews have implemented an action plan designed to maximize the efficiency of the tree trimming and removal crews,” said Department of Streets and Sanitation Commissioner Tom Byrne. “The result is a significant reduction in the number of outstanding calls for service.”

With the new system, there has been a significant increase in crew productivity, with each crew now averaging 20 tree trims per day, as opposed to 14 under the old system – an improvement of more than 30 percent.

In addition to being more efficient, the “blitz” method significantly reduces the amount of time and expenses associated with fuel and vehicle maintenance that occurred when crews used to drive around from one location to the next. The new plan allows for a “blitz” in each of the city’s 50 wards every 13 working days.

Since the implementation of this new method in November 2011, the number of outstanding requests for tree trimming services is down 26 percent and the number of outstanding requests for the removal of dead trees is down 36 percent.

Commissioner Byrne also announced that beginning on Monday, February 6th Streets and Sanitation graffiti removal crews will also be deployed in a similar manner, blitzing service requests in the same ward-based grids.



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.

February: National Spay/Neuter Awareness Month

Welcome to National Spay/Neuter Awareness Month! The Anti-Cruelty Society is very excited to continue our commitment to raising awareness about this critical issue because it is something that affects our community and the animals we serve. Not only does spaying and neutering your pet correlate with the amount of animals that are in our shelter, but it is also an important procedure that our veterinarians on staff perform in our affordable spay/neuter clinic 30 times a day. The Society performs more than 11,000 procedures a year, helping to reduce overpopulation and unwanted pets.

Our veterinary clinic is just one of the many programs here at the Society that helps educate people and help pets—playing a large role in our 2012 “Meet Us Again” campaign. Based on our research, we have discovered that people know who we are, but are not aware that we do more than adoptions. Our new campaign will highlight our programs and services including Community Outreach and Education, Behavior and Training, Cruelty Investigations, Rehabilitation and Treatment Center, and our Charity Veterinary Clinic. It is important that we inform people that we do so much more than just adopt cats and dogs. We want people to take advantage of all of our services and realize how much we do to help animals and create a better community for us all.

Please join our community of caring and “Meet Us Again.”

Sincerely,

Robyn Barbiers, D.V.M., President

Bark in the Park

Bark in the Park registration is now open! Our new and improved registration process is ready to rock and roll, so sign up today and help spread the word about our fundraising efforts to help animals in need through this fun event.

Visit www.barkinthepark.org for more details.

Spring Planting is Near: Join the Arbor Day Foundation in February and Receive 10 Free Blue Spruce Trees

Here’s an ideal way to get into the mood for spring planting: Join the Arbor Day Foundation and receive 10 free trees to plant when the weather turns warm.

Every person from Illinois who joins the Arbor Day Foundation in February 2012 will receive 10 free Colorado blue spruce trees.

“Planting Colorado blue spruce trees will add beauty to your landscape in Illinois with their blue-green hue and distinctive shape,” said John Rosenow, chief executive and founder of the Arbor Day Foundation. “These trees will also add to the proud heritage of Illinois’ 188 Tree City USA communities. For more than 30 years, Tree City USA has supported community forestry across Illinois, and planting these beautiful trees will add to this important tree-planting tradition.”

The 10 free Colorado blue spruce trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation’s Trees for America campaign.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting, between March 1 and May 31, with enclosed planting instructions. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow, or they will be replaced free of charge.

Arbor Day Foundation members also receive a subscription to the Foundation’s colorful bimonthly publication, Arbor Day, and The Tree Book, which contains information about tree planting and care.

To become a member of the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE TREES, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by February 29, 2012, or visit arborday.org/February.

CALLING ALL ATHLETES! RUN THE BANK OF AMERICA CHICAGO MARATHON FOR A CAUSE – JOIN THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS CHICAGO TEAM

Athletes across the country are invited to run this year’s Bank of America Chicago Marathon for an incredible cause by joining the Special Olympics Chicago team. Registration for this year’s Bank of America Chicago Marathon, which will be held on Sunday, October 7, 2012, opens to the public on February 1, 2012.

To join the Special Olympics Chicago Marathon team, athletes must register with Special Olympics Chicago at www.sochicago.org. There is no cost to join the Special Olympics Chicago running team, however, participants are asked to raise a minimum of \$1000.

Special Olympics Chicago team members enjoy a number of benefits, including: waiver of the \$150 Marathon fee; free training program with Chicago Endurance Sports (CES); a free trip to the 2011 Las Vegas Marathon/Half Marathon, for the top fundraiser; a tech training shirt; free race day parking for the top 25 fundraisers; indoor preparation facilities at the Chicago Firehouse Restaurant on the morning of race day; free pre-race continental breakfast; free post-race beverages and massage at the Chicago Firehouse Restaurant. Please note, individuals running for Special Olympics Chicago will also need to register at Chicago Marathon at www.chicagomarathon.com.

Special Olympics Chicago has been a charitable partner of the Bank of America Chicago Marathon since 2009. Since that time, more than 500 runners have dedicated their Marathon journey to their fellow athletes by running for Special Olympics Chicago. Today, Special Olympics Chicago has catapulted to one of the top ten charities out of 175 participating non-profit organizations in the Chicago Marathon.

For more information on the benefits of running with Special Olympics Chicago team, please visit www.sochicago.org

Urban Wildlife Creature Comforts

Baby... it’s cold outside. Lucky for us, we can snuggle into warm turtle necks, add an extra blanket to the bed, sip hot chocolate. Urban animals have a tougher time. Here are a few tips to make winter warmer for wildlife.

Keep the birdfeeder full. Birds burn much of their energy trying to find food – energy they could use to keep warm. Provide a consistent food source for them.

Don’t forget water! During the winter, water is a hot commodity for wildlife – for drinking and bathing. Pour warm water in your birdbath on a regular basis or invest in a birdbath heater if you can!

Treat wildlife to something special. Gather fallen pine cones. Securely tie string (dental floss, long grasses) around the pinecones. Coat pinecones with nut butter, syrup, honey, or molasses and roll the coated cone in a pile of bird seed, dried berries, or unsalted black sunflower seeds. Hang from a tree or shrub. Birds and squirrels will go wild!

Remember the robins. Generally speaking, robins do not eat birdseed. They rely upon small insects, worms, and berries. Supplement their winter berry buffet by attaching frozen or fresh berries (blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, etc.) to shrubs in your backyard.

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 Questions? Call 773-545-8136 or e-mail us at urbanwildlifecoalition@gmail.com.

Local Arts and

Entertainment

SKOKIE ART GUILD

FIGURE DRAWING WORKSHOPS

Saturday Sessions started 9/10 and continue every week 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Thursday evening sessions have been eliminated) Live models / no instructor
Fees per session SAG Members \$12.00; non-members \$20.00
For information: Steve Gal 847/673-4450



CALL FOR ARTISTS

Skokie Art Guild's 51st Annual Art Fair. July 14-15, 2012. Fine Art. 75 artists. Held downtown Skokie on the Village Green, 5211 Oakton (next to the Library). Prizes and Awards. APPLY NOW! For information/application: www.skokieartguild.org skokieart@aol.com 847-677-8163.

Devonshire Cultural Center

4400 Greenwood St., Skokie, IL 60076

www.skokieartguild.org Members: \$12.00 / Non-Members: \$20.00

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT AND THE CIVIC ORCHESTRA OF CHICAGO PRESENT

"IN THE PARK WITH CIVIC"

The Chicago Park District and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago announce the 2012 lineup for In the Park with Civic, an admission-free concert series of interactive and educational performances at select field houses Feb. 3-May 11. Families with children ages 5 and up are encouraged to attend. Tickets are not required. Call 312-294-3803 for more information. Dates and times are subject to change.

Saturday, February 11, 11 a.m. North Park Village Nature Center, 5801 N. Pulaski Rd., String Quintet

Sunday, February 12, 3 p.m. Indian Boundary Park, 2500 W. Lunt Ave., Brass Quintet

Saturday, February 25, 11 a.m. Kosciuszko Park, 2732 N. Avers Ave., Brass Quintet

Saturday, March 10, 11 a.m. North Park Village Nature Center, 5801 N. Pulaski Rd., Percussion Trio

Sunday, March 11, 3 p.m. Indian Boundary Park, 2500 W. Lunt Ave., Percussion Trio

Saturday, March 24, 11 a.m. Kosciuszko Park, 2732 N. Avers Ave., Woodwind Quintet

Future concert listings will be posted in upcoming issues of *Our Village/Street Level*.

Have a Favorite Restaurant You Want to See at The Taste? Taste Restaurant Application Online through February 21

If you or someone you know has a favorite restaurant that you would like to see in the Taste of Chicago, have them apply at www.tasteofchicago.us.

Mitchell Museum's Gala

The independent, nonprofit Mitchell Museum of the American Indian in Evanston will honor its founders and celebrate three and a half decades of education and preservation at its 35th Anniversary Benefit Gala to be held 6:30-9:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 3, 2012, at the Unitarian Church of Evanston, 1330 Ridge Ave., Evanston.

The event will include a seated dinner, Native American-themed entertainment, and a raffle and silent auction.

Chairing the benefit planning committee is Susan Salisbury of Evanston. Also on the committee are Evanston residents Will Linder, Glennis Lundberg, Trimmy Stamell, and Cheryl Wollin; Ivan Berk of Wilmette; Barbara Novick of Morton Grove; and Emily Jones of Chicago.

Tickets are \$120 per person. Tables of eight can be purchased for \$800 per table.

Business sponsors include Evanston First Bank and Trust, Northwestern University, and North Shore Retirement Hotel.

The museum was founded after John and Betty Mitchell donated their personal collection of 3,000 Native American artifacts to Evanston's Kendall College in 1977. Long affiliated with the college, the Mitchell Museum became an independent non-profit institution in 2006. Since the initial donation of artifacts, the museum's collection has grown to approximately 10,000 pieces.

The museum hosts an estimated 9,500 guests each year, including more than 4,500 people in group tours.

The Mitchell Museum is one of only a handful of museums in the nation that focuses exclusively on the art, history and culture of American Indian and First Nation peoples from throughout the United States and Canada.

For information about the event, phone the museum at (847) 475-1030. On the Net: www.mitchellmuseum.org.

"A Theater Review"

"Race"

Goodman Theatre, 170 North Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois

Reviewed by Richard A. Eisenhardt

David Mamet's Tony-award winning play is now getting its Chicago premiere. The play is simply called "Race." Mamet's play has also won the Pulitzer Prize and it is one hundred minutes of dialogue and a lot of suspense.

The show is a two-act play which is unusual for a show that runs under two hours.

Chuck Smith is the show's director and he has assembled a strong cast of performers.

The story deals with a white man of power and wealth who is accused of raping a black woman.

Patrick Clear plays Charles Strickland, Marc Graney is Jack Lawson, Tamberia Perry is Susan, and Geoffrey Owens is Henry Brown. They all give audiences strong performances and I urge you to see this production as it is well worth your time.

Strickland is a defense attorney who has left his firm to join a new one that is bi-racial and is headed by Lawson, a white lawyer and Brown, an African American. But do they want to take on this case? Susan, an attorney with the firm, makes it her judgment one they have to take.

We find the client did have relationships with the woman but that it was a mutual arrangement. As often happens the newspapers make all this a scandal.

There are many twists in the show and all this makes for one engrossing play.

As with most Mamet stories there is an amount of strong language as the characters expose their own feelings and prejudices as they try to clear their client.

Without revealing too much you will find the ending of this very engrossing play a surprise to you. "Race" runs through February 29th and it should be on view much longer as it is worth it. For performance days – show times and reservations, call 312-443-3800 or go to the box office. But I suggest you hurry before the run of the show ends. Tickets run from \$25 to \$89

Four Stars-

"POP-UP" RESTAURANTS AT 2012 TASTE

The Taste of Chicago this year is adding "Pop Up" restaurants, a new feature that allows establishments to participate for just one day and gives hungry visitors more offerings and unique options each day of the festival.

"The Pop Up restaurants are a great opportunity for first-time establishments, including some of the smaller neighborhood places, to participate in the Taste and will help ensure the festival is a true reflection of all of Chicago's culinary community" said Michelle T. Boone, Commissioner of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DC ASE). "This will also mean that each day, the Taste will be slightly different and our patrons will have a greater variety of menu options."

Vendor applications to participate in the 32nd annual Taste of Chicago are now available online. Both applications are available at www.tasteofchicago.us. The food festival is presented by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events and will run July 11-15 in Grant Park. Applications are due February 21, 2012.

For more information on Taste, Chicago's 4 Star Feast-ival of food and fun, please call the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events at (312) 744-3316, TTY (312) 744-2964 or visit the web at www.tasteofchicago.us. Become a fan of Taste on Facebook and follow us on @ChicagoDCASE.

Skokie Art Guild's 2012 Members' Only Spring Exhibit

"Nature's Palette"

Friday, March 9 through Sunday, April 29
Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel Street, Skokie

Opening Reception Friday, March 9, 7:00 PM - 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

Local Arts and Entertainment

Paczki Day 2012

Come join the Polish American Association (www.polish.org) in celebration of Pączki Day on Fat Thursday, February 16, 2012 and for a chance to win silver jewelry. The recipe for pączki was created centuries ago as Christians were trying to use up perishable items such as butter, eggs, and cream prior to the start of Lent when they began a strict fast.

On Fat Thursday, the PAA staff will sell delicious pączki from Oak Mill Bakery in eight different locations throughout the city and suburbs for \$3 each with some pączki containing a piece of silver jewelry from Archer Gold Jewelry. And while you create a delightful moment for your palate, you will also create a lasting change in the lives of PAA's clients.

If you wish to order paczki please visit us at any location below.

Five Selling Locations - Oak Mill Bakery (7:00am - 5:00pm)

8012 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles

5747 S. Harlem Ave., Chicago

5753 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago

4747 N. Harlem Ave., Harwood Heights

2314 E. Rand Road, Arlington Heights

Polish American Association

(9:00am - 5:00pm)

3834 N. Cicero Ave., Chicago

6276 W. Archer Ave., Chicago

Polish Radio WNVR 1030AM

(8:00am - 4:00pm)

3656 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago

OUR SPONSORS:

Oak Mill Bakery (oakmillbakery.com)

Archer Gold Jewelry (archergoldjewelry.net)

Polish Radio WNVR 1030AM (polskieradio.com)

Polvision (polvision.com)

Contact : Barbara Sobecka - (773) 427-6307, barb@polish.org



Celebrate Valentine's Day in the Parks with Dances and Parties

The Chicago Park District celebrates Valentine's Day in February with numerous dances and parties throughout the city including the traditional daddy-daughter/mommy-son dances. Most events feature recorded music, refreshments, photo opportunities, games and an arts and crafts station.

Many programs are admission free or have nominal entrance fees. Please contact each individual park for additional information.

Family Valentine's Dance Tuesday, Feb. 14, 6:30-8 p.m. Eugene Field Park, 5100 N. Ridgeway Ave., 773-478-9744. Admission \$4, all ages

Daddy-Daughter/Mother-Son Valentine Dance Tuesday, Feb. 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Mayfair Park, 4550 W. Sunnyside Ave., 773-685-3361. Admission \$4, all ages



How about ART and POETRY for Valentine's? Check out the UIC Art Lounge!

In this upcoming Valentine season, save some time to visit the UIC Art Lounge to enjoy a joyful romantic exhibition of paintings and poems with your loved ones!

Exhibition: Many years after, on a sunny afternoon

Opening reception: February 16, 2012, Thursday 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Free drinks and snacks provided in the opening reception!

Venue: Art lounge, Student Center West, 828 South Wolcott, Chicago

Exhibition runs from February 13 to March 15, 2012

Every year, the art committee of University of Illinois at Chicago selects a group of artists to show their new works. From the day before Valentine's Day and running one month, UIC Art Lounge happily presents the paintings of Zhenlei Jiang paired with poems from Chris Wright. This special event is a dialogue between femininity and masculinity, and the joyfulness and bitterness of life.

Zhenlei Jiang is a Chinese artist; She sees art as a way to promote the understanding of humanity and the communication of eastern and western cultures and values.

Chris Wright is a writer and a Ph.D candidate in history. He has published the book Notes of an Underground Humanist, and multiple poems in literary magazines.

WANTED

TO BUY:

- Old Valentine Items
- Old Costume Jewelry
- Old "Pretty" Things (Purses, Hats, etc.)

The Antique and Resale Shoppe Inc.

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Chicago, IL 60631
(773) 631-1151

Mon - Sat.
10:30 am - 4:30 pm

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Anti-Cruelty Society

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

Spread the Love Feb. 14

Looking for the purrfect match?

Stop by The Anti-Cruelty Society this Valentine's Day, February 14, to adopt a cat, and pay only 1/2 of the adoption fee—or adopt one cat and we'll let you pick out a buddy for no additional cost!



Fat Tuesday Crazy Hat Night Mardi Gras Party

with



Russ Phillips

and His
"Windy City Jazz Ensemble"

Featuring
Vocalist
Jeannie Lambert




Tuesday, February 21st — 8:00 P.M.

Special Guests:
S.T. Prinz Franz Josef I.
and
I.L. Prinzessin
Sandra I.

Special Mardi Gras Menu

Catfish — BBQ Ribs
Jambalaya — Gumbo
Red Beans and Rice
Black-Eyed Peas
Bread Pudding
... and much more


Prizes for Best Costumes or Crazy Hats

Reservations:

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INVITE YOU TO
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FEBRUARY 10TH THRU 14TH



Live Music! Feb. 11 at 7 pm — "Maggie & the Mirabells"

EAT, DRINK AND BE GERMAN!

Amazing Dinner
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www.mirabellrestaurant.com

Registering for a Chicago Park District program in 2012?

Set up an account on the new Chicago Park District website **today!**



An account must be created, either online or at the park, prior to registering for a park program, membership or event in 2012.

No accounts exist from the old system.

Visit the Programs section on www.chicagoparkdistrict.com to learn more about the new registration system.

Setting up your account in advance and reviewing the new process will help you be better prepared for spring online registration.



SPRING PROGRAMS
Monday, February 6
View programs &
Create your wishlist
Tuesday, February 21 at 9am
Online registration begins



SUMMER PROGRAMS & CAMPS
Monday, March 26
View programs &
Create your wishlist
Monday, April 9 at 9am
Online registration begins

For more information about your Chicago Park District
visit www.chicagoparkdistrict.com
call 312.742.PLAY (7529) or 312.747.2001 (TTY)

City of Chicago,
Rahm Emanuel, Mayor

Chicago Park District
Board of Commissioners

Chicago Park District,
Michael P. Kelly,
General Superintendent & CEO



Local Arts and Entertainment

Northeastern Illinois University to Celebrate Bicentennial Birthday of Composer and Pianist Franz Liszt

Renowned musicologist Alan Walker, Ph.D., will be presenting as part of Northeastern Illinois University's (NEIU) Presidential Lecture Series on Thursday, Feb. 23 for NEIU's Year of Liszt celebration in observance of the 200th anniversary of Franz Liszt's birth. The lecture is titled "Franz Liszt: The Cultural Ambassador of the 19th Century" and will take place at 7 p.m. in the NEIU Fine Arts Center Recital Hall. Northeastern Illinois University is located at 5500 N. St. Louis Ave. in Chicago. The event is free and open to the public.

Edgebrook, Ill., resident and NEIU music professor Elyse Mach, Ph.D., said, "Dr. Alan Walker is the definitive authority on Franz Liszt, who was probably the greatest pianist that ever lived."

Mach shares something in common with Walker – they have both been awarded the American Liszt Society Medal for their scholarship and advocacy for the music and ideals of composer and virtuoso pianist Franz Liszt. Like Walker, Mach is a distinguished Liszt scholar, author and guest lecturer. In addition to her faculty position at Northeastern, she has performed all over Europe and the United States, and has guest taught at St. Catherine's College, Oxford; Northwestern University; Yale University; and the Juilliard School.

Liszt was born Oct. 22, 1811, in Raiding, Hungary. He began composing at eight years old and completed around 1,400 works by his death on July 31, 1886. In addition to being a successful composer and teacher, Liszt was well-known for his dazzling skills as a pianist. The theatrics of modern piano recitals, as seen by musicians like Elton John, were first displayed by Liszt in the mid-19th century. Mach added, "He was the first 'superstar' performer."

Liszt revolutionized music in other ways as well. According to Mach, he was the first to give complete solo concerts, perform music from memory and coin the term "recital." Liszt transcribed works for the piano by Bach, Beethoven, Schubert, Wagner and more. He performed these works at his recitals and generated enthusiasm and appreciation for the composers. The most popular of Liszt's works include La Campanella, Liebestraume No. 3, Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2 and Un Sospiro. Liszt also invented the symphonic poem, an orchestral composition based on literature or folk tales, and thematic transformation, the idea that one or two themes in different forms can provide the basis for an entire work.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES AND LIVE PERFORMANCES BRIGHTEN WINTER WEEKENDS AT "LUMINOUS FIELD" IN CHICAGO'S MILLENNIUM PARK

Ground-breaking, interactive, video and sound installation by Chicago Artists, Luftwerk lights up Cloud Gate in Millennium Park February 10-20, 2012

Chicagoans and visitors will join in the fun at Luminous Field, the unprecedented site-specific video and sound installation by the Chicago-based artists, Luftwerk, that will illuminate Cloud Gate in Chicago's Millennium Park from February 10-20. Family activities, live performances and dance events will complement the installation that will transform the Park into a digital canvas of light and geometrical form, with music composed by Owen Clayton Condon of Chicago's Third Coast Percussion.

Visitors can enjoy the spectacular installation each evening (Fridays—Saturdays 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Sundays—Thursdays 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.) and take part in programs created specifically for Luminous Field on the weekends at an adjacent heated tent in Millennium Park's Chase Promenade North. All activities are free.

This month, Millennium Park ranked #7 in Travel + Leisure's list of the World's Most Popular Landmarks, highlighting Cloud Gate – known by Chicagoans as "The Bean." "If anything could possibly enhance the interactive experience of Anish Kapoor's monumental Cloud Gate sculpture in Millennium Park – then this could be it," said Dorothy Coyle, Executive Director of the Chicago Office of Tourism and Culture. "Visitors from all over will want to see this beautiful sound and light show in the center of the Park each night; then round out their trip by enjoying music and dance programs in the tent and the permanent art in the Park."

For more information about Luminous Field by Luftwerk, visit www.explorechicago.org/winter, call 312.742.1168, visit Explore Chicago on Facebook or follow us on Twitter @explorechicago.

Visitors and residents entertaining out-of-town guests will find helpful trip-planning tools and tips on Chicago's top-ranked travel and tourism website, www.ExploreChicago.org. For daily alerts about things to do and see in Chicago, follow Explore Chicago on Twitter at twitter.com/explorechicago (COTC's free Twitter Concierge service @explorechicago) and on Facebook at [facebook.com/explorechicago](https://www.facebook.com/explorechicago). Discover fun itineraries on the Explore Chicago blog at explorechicagotourism.com and on Foursquare at [foursquare.com/explorechicago](https://www.foursquare.com/explorechicago).

Expert advice and information about the city's events and attractions are also available at the Chicago Office of Tourism and Culture's Visitor Information Centers located across from Millennium Park in the Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph Street, and at the historic Water Works pumping station, 163 E. Pearson Street at Michigan Avenue.

LOCAL SCHOOLS & YOUTH EVENTS

Guerin Prep Students Volunteer at Ronald McDonald House



A group of sophomore Nolan Scholars from Guerin Preparatory High School, River Grove, volunteered in the Ronald McDonald House Make a Meal event on January 29. From left to right standing: Hannah Fath, Norridge; Michelle Bollin, Chicago; Taylor Reiss, Bensenville; Kevin Salgado, Chicago; Mary Jo Toohey, River Forest, and Lexi Schieber, Chicago. From left to right seated: Mike Jakubowski, Cicero, and Carlie Nissen, Chicago.

NILES NORTH SEEKING DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Niles North High School is accepting nominations from the community and staff for its annual Distinguished Alumnus Award, which is presented each year to a former student during the Awards of Distinction ceremony.

Nominees must be a graduate of Niles North High School and should have distinguished themselves through their achievements in their field or contributions to society. The nominees' accomplishments should reflect credit on their association with Niles North High School. Support for such nominations shall come from personal opinions and documented evidence. Those wishing to nominate a former Niles North graduate should email Hyun Briski at hyubri@d219.org to request a nomination form.

The 47th Awards of Distinction ceremony will be held on Tuesday, May 15.

The deadline for receiving nomination forms is March 9. For further information contact Hyun Briski at (847) 626-2365.

SUMMER PROGRAMS AT RESURRECTION

Resurrection College Prep High School is offering summer programs in June and July, 2012 for grammar school and high school students. Athletic Camps for Girls entering grades 4-12 include each of the following sports: Basketball, Golf, Running, Soccer, Softball, Tennis and Volleyball. Athletic camps run at various times for different age groups. Registration is currently open and camp schedules and registration forms are available on the Resurrection College Prep High School website at www.reshs.org or by calling 773.775.6616 Ext 110. Questions regarding summer athletic camps at Resurrection can be directed to Athletic Director Lou Marrese at 773.775.6616 Ext 134.

Resurrection will also be hosting the Camp Invention(c) ENVISION Program, a week-long science camp for girls and boys entering grades 1-6. Sponsored by Invent Now(c) Kids, a subsidiary of the National Inventors Hall of Fame Foundation, Camp Invention(c) is a hands-on program exploring science applications through inventions, experiments and games. Camp Invention will be offered at Resurrection Monday through Friday, June 25-June 29, 2012 from 9 am to 3:30 pm. Camp Invention information is available by calling 773.775.6616 Ext 110. Additional information and registration for Camp Invention is available on the Resurrection website at www.reshs.org and on the Camp Invention website at www.campinvention.org or by calling 800.968.4332.

Resurrection College Prep High School, located at 7500 West Talcott Avenue in Chicago, is the largest all-girls Catholic, Christian college preparatory high school on the north side of Chicago. Since its founding in 1922, Resurrection has graduated over 13,000 alumnae. For more information about Resurrection College Prep High School, call 773.775.6616 Ext 129 or visit www.reshs.org.

Public Libraries

LINCOLNWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY
4000 W. Pratt Ave., 847-677-5277

Book Discussion. Feb. 13, 11 a.m. The adult book discussion features “Three Junes” by Julia Glass.

Cinematic Classics shown Thursdays at 1 p.m. Feb. 16: “Rebecca”; Feb. 23: “Now, Voyager.”

Dining for Wellness. Feb. 15, 11:30 a.m. Chef demonstration by Lincolnwood Place. Free tickets available at the library’s Circulation desk, three weeks prior to event to Lincolnwood residents and one week prior to non-residents.

Friday Films shown weekly at 1 p.m. Feb. 17: “Beginners”; Feb. 24: “The Interrupters.”

Lenny Marsh Trio: Live @ Lincolnwood. Feb. 19, 2 p.m. A piano, bass, and drum trio that performs favorites from Elvis, Little Richard, Fats Domino, Jerry Lee Lewis and more. Free tickets available at the library’s Circulation desk, three weeks prior to event to Lincolnwood residents and one week prior to non-residents.

Library Board of Trustees: Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m. The Lincolnwood Library Board of Trustees meets the third Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted.

Library Board of Trustees Committee Meeting: Feb. 16, 7 p.m. Special joint meeting between the Finance & Facilities Committee and the Library Services & Community Relations Committee.

Morning Matinees. Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Feb. 16: “Higher Ground”; Feb. 23: “In a Better World.”

Travel Through Time Presentation. Feb. 17, 10:30 a.m. Dave Clark presents “Historic Route 66: A Journey Through History.”

Acting Class. Mondays, 2-3 p.m. Theater games, improv, bit parts, and more for grades 3-5. Directed by Debbi Brodsky. Registration required. Contact the Youth Services Department at 847-677-5277 x234 or youthservices@lincolnwoodlibrary.org.

Afterschool Café. Mondays, no café Feb. 20, 2:30-3:15 p.m. Lincolnwood School students can relax and buy a snack before tackling homework on early release Mondays.

Beginning with Books. Wednesdays, Jan. 11-Feb. 29. Stories, songs and activities geared for very young children and their caregivers. Participants are invited to stay for Playtime program following. Registration required. Contact the Youth Services Department at 847-677-5277 x234 or youthservices@lincolnwoodlibrary.org.

Chess. Sundays, Jan. 15-Mar. 4, 3-4 p.m. If you like logical puzzles, neat patterns, and playing games against your friends, you might like to learn chess taught by community member Larry Rabyne. Grades 1-6. Registration required. Contact the Youth Services Department at 847-677-5277 x234 or youthservices@lincolnwoodlibrary.org.

Family Storytime. Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m. Laughing Out Loud. Families with young children are invited to join us for an evening of stories, activities and celebrations. Especially for children ages 3-8. Registration required. Contact the Youth Services Department at 847-677-5277 x234 or youthservices@lincolnwoodlibrary.org.

Fun-tivities. Feb. 15, 3:30 p.m. Afterschool fun. Includes various games designed for 3-5th grade students.

K-2 Time. Feb. 13, 2:15 p.m. For students Kindergarten-2nd grade. Special stories and activities related to January’s theme: Dynamic Dinosaurs. Registration required. Contact the Youth Services Department at 847-677-5277 x234 or youthservices@lincolnwoodlibrary.org.

Kid Flicks. Mondays, 3:30 p.m. Feb. 13: “Prom”; Feb. 27: “Mr. Popper’s Penguins.”

Knitting for All Ages. Fridays, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Adults and children, ages 10 and up, can learn to knit or work on a project.

Playtime. Wednesdays, Jan 11.-Feb. 29. A relaxed play experience that helps young children develop social skills. Toys and kosher snacks are provided.

Stories and More. Tuesdays, Jan. 10-Feb. 28. This fun, interactive storytime is tailored for children ages 3-5 and emphasizes letters, numbers, shapes, colors and other concepts. Through a combination of picture books, online stories, magnetic board stories, songs, fingerplays, and crafts, each session provides a language-rich experience. Registration required. Contact the Youth Services Department at 847-677-5277 x234 or youthservices@lincolnwoodlibrary.org.

Thursday Club. Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Exclusively for 6-8th grade students. Games and group activities.

Video Production. Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m. 6-8th grade students can shoot and edit video footage of creative book talks and library events.

English as a Second Language Class. Tuesdays, Jan. 3-May 28, 6-8:30 p.m. Free weekly class for adults who want to learn to speak English. Sponsored by Oakton Community College. Call 847-635-1426 for more information.

Literacy Class. Saturdays, Jan.7-May 26, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free weekly class for adults who want to improve reading and writing skills. Sponsored by Oakton Community College. Call 847-635-1426 for more information.

The Friends of Lincolnwood Library meet the third Wednesday of each month, 7:30 p.m.

Knitting for Adults. Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. All skill levels welcome.

The Adult Stamp Club meets the third Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.

The Mac Users Club meets the second Thursday of each month, 7-9 p.m.

Humanities Treasures. Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m.

LIBRARY BRANCHES OPEN FROM 2PM TO 6PM ON MONDAYS

Afternoon Hours Offer Children Safe Place to Study

Less than two weeks after allocating \$2 million in resources to open libraries six days a week, Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced today that branch locations of the Chicago Public Library (CPL) will be open from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Mondays during the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) school year. Mondays were already scheduled to be open for eight hours when CPS is not in session during the spring and summer.

“By opening branch libraries on Monday afternoons, we are providing students with a comfortable, safe place to study after school, while also making resources available to other patrons six days a week,” said Mayor Emanuel. “As Mayor, I’ve put children and education first and I will continue to ensure libraries are available to students after school.”

The more than \$2 million allocated to open the libraries is a combination of savings and shifted resources, and will allow 90 positions to be placed in CPL branches. This includes shifting 25 library staff from Harold Washington Library to branches; reducing maintenance costs and services at the central location; leaving unfilled positions vacant; and reducing tuition reimbursement allotments.

The Harold Washington Library Center (400 S. State Street), Sulzer Regional Library (4455 N. Lincoln), and Woodson Regional Library (9525 S. Halsted), remain open seven days a week.

Branch libraries will be open Monday, February 6 and Monday, February 27, however all Chicago Public Library locations will be closed on February 13 and February 20 for City holidays.

CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY OFFERS FREE PUBLIC EXHIBITS

Early 2012 Exhibits Highlight Chicago Theater; One Book, One Chicago; Photographer Charles “Teenie” Harris & Mayor Harold Washington

Looking for thought-provoking exhibits in Chicago? There are always some engaging exhibits at the Chicago Public Library’s Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State St. Throughout the year, the Special Collections Division features a variety of free exhibitions for public viewing throughout the building. Previous CPL exhibits have acknowledged President Abraham Lincoln, Chicago’s Riverview Amusement Park, Theater in Chicago, Millennium Park, Chicago Bridges, Golden Books, The Chicago River and more.

For more information, please visit the website at chicagopubliclibrary.org or call the Chicago Public Library Press Office at (312) 747-4050.

2012 Exhibits:

Teenie Harris, Photographer: An American Story February 4 through June 4, 2012, Congress Corridor – Ground Level

This exhibit is an abbreviated selection of black & white prints taken from a larger Teenie Harris, Photographer: An American Story exhibit on display at the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh. Charles “Teenie” Harris was a photographer who worked at the Pittsburgh Courier from 1936 until his retirement in 1975. Harris photographed the everyday lives of African American residents in Pittsburgh’s black neighborhoods, as well as a number of celebrities visiting Pittsburgh during that 39 year period. Harris’ body of work is said to be the largest and most complete photographic documentation of a minority community in the United States. Major support for the exhibition has been provided by PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. and by the National Endowment for the Humanities: Because democracy demands wisdom.

One Book Many Interpretations: Second Edition Through April 15, 2012, Special Collections Exhibit Hall, 9th Floor

The Chicago Public Library’s Special Collections and Preservation Division commemorates the 10-year anniversary of One Book, One Chicago with a juried exhibition in which fine bookbinders and book artists were invited to interpret the 10 most recent One Book, One Chicago selections through the art of bookbinding. The exhibit catalog is online.

Actors, Plays & Stages: Early Theater in Chicago Through May 15, 2012, Chicago Gallery, 3rd Floor

Experience the origin of Chicago’s rich theater legacy. Highlighting the first 100 years of the city’s playhouses, Actors, Plays & Stages presents memorabilia of the first performance at the humble Sauganash Hotel, the vibrant 19th century theaters and the rise of the Loop’s grand auditoriums.

Called to the Challenge: The Legacy of Harold Washington Ongoing, Harold Washington Exhibit Hall, 9th Floor

This exhibit highlights three themes from Washington’s personal and political legacy – his life, his image and his work. Harold Washington, 42nd mayor of Chicago, was the city’s first African American mayor. He was a reformer who changed Chicago politics and a person who never lost sight of the place from which he came and the influences that inspired him. This exhibition is drawn largely from the Harold Washington Archives & Collections of the Special Collections & Preservation Division of the Chicago Public Library.

Complete Asset List is Essential



Chester M. Przybylo

A complete list of your assets is the essential starting point in making any decisions about those assets, whether financial portfolio decisions or estate planning decisions.

Without a complete list of your financial assets, a financial planner cannot know how to change your assets to achieve the proper asset allocation to meet your risk, return, and diversification objectives.

Without a complete list of all of your assets, your estate planning attorney cannot advise you with regard to taxation issues. Further, without beneficiary designation and titling information, the estate planning attorney cannot be sure your wishes will be carried out.

Even valuable personal property, such as jewelry, rare coins, etc., should be itemized by you. Ideally, such items should be photographed as well. This list can serve many purposes. If you have a fire, burglary, or other issues arise, this list and the accompanying photographs can help you file a claim with the insurance company.

Do not forget items in safe deposit boxes or other little-accessed areas. First, having a list of such assets will be helpful in the event that there is delay in finding a key. At least your family will know the contents and the urgency, if any, of gaining entry to the box. Also, while extremely unlikely, safe deposit boxes have had their contents looted or destroyed. For example, Singapore-based DBS Bank's Hong Kong branch recently destroyed 83 safe deposit boxes. Evidently, the bank was renovating the vault and some active boxes were accidentally removed and destroyed. The bank offered an unquestioned settlement of approximately \$20,000 per box. Anyone claiming more would have to provide an itemized list of the items in the box.

Of course, when choosing items to place in the safe deposit box, leave out items you may need in an emergency, such as originals of your property power of attorney, health care power of attorney, living will, and, in many states, your will.

A complete list of assets is essential for financial and estate planning. Any financial or estate plan is like a map that takes you from point A to point B. Unfortunately, if you don't know where point A is, it's impossible to give directions from there to point B. The more thorough your list of assets, the better advice professionals can give you.

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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A Valentine Tip from Social Security

By Andrew Salata, Social Security Public Affairs

Valentine's Day is just around the corner, making this a popular time of year for proclamations of love. Such displays of affection can be as simple and sweet as a heart with a "be mine" message, or as life altering as a vow before the altar.

If you happen to be a newlywed who is head over heels in love, you may not be focused on things such as taxes or Social Security, but you should be. If you plan to exchange your maiden name for a married name — including hyphenated names such as Smith-Jones — be sure you let us know.

Telling us about your name change shortly after your marriage will help us accurately keep track of your earnings and will ensure that you and your family get the Social Security retirement, disability, and survivors coverage you're entitled to. Also, if the Internal Revenue Service and Social Security records do not show the same name and Social Security number, your Federal income tax refund could be delayed.

If you continue to use your maiden name consistently throughout your working years, you do not need to contact us. However, if you decide to change your name at a later time, you should let us know so that we can update your Social Security record and send you a Social Security card with your new name.

There's no need to pay someone else to mail in the information for you. Changing your name with Social Security is a quick, easy, and free service. Just go online to www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber, learn what documents you need, and click on "Fill Out and Print an application (Form SS-5)." You also can call us at 1-800-772-1213 to obtain the form. We will need the completed application along with a marriage certificate or divorce decree verifying your old and new names. If you were born outside the United States, you also need proof of your U.S. citizenship or proof that you are lawfully living in the U.S. You can bring or mail these documents to us.

You may be focused on the one you love, and we don't blame you. But if you like us (we hope you do) please click on the Facebook icon at our homepage and "like" us on Facebook. Also, you can follow us on Twitter too. Look for our Facebook and Twitter icons at www.socialsecurity.gov. We share information daily that can help you and all your Valentines.

Happy Valentine's Day from Social Security.

Quigley Introduces Bipartisan Bill to Reform Visa Waiver Program

Congressman reiterates support for Poland, cites economic and national security benefits

U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (IL-05) introduced The Visa Waiver Program Enhanced Security and Reform Act, a bipartisan bill that will enhance the national security benefits of the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) while expanding the framework to welcome new countries like Poland into the program, and boost the economy.

"Modernizing the Visa Waiver Program will strengthen our national security and enhance international relationships with important allies like Poland, who have been denied visa-free travel because of an outdated regime," said Rep. Quigley. "I hope this bill will move quickly through Congress and to the President's desk, opening the doors for Poland once and for all."

VWP affords foreign nationals of participating countries up to 90 days of visa-free travel to the United States. 36 countries are currently eligible for visa-free travel as designated by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in consultation with the State Department. Current law uses the visa refusal rate as one of the enumerators for designation in the program, and that number has held Poland outside of designation.

Quigley has been working on this effort in a bicameral, bipartisan partnership with U.S. Representative Steve Chabot (R-OH) in the House and Senators Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) and Mark Kirk (R-IL), who introduced companion legislation in the Senate.

4TH POLISH-JEWISH DIALOGUE CONTINUES ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

As a result of the very informative and successful presentations by Michael H. Traison on Poland in the Heart of the Jews and the Jews in the Heart of Poland, the fourth in the series of continuing dialogue will resume on Sunday, February 12, 2012, from 1-3 pm, in the Sabina P. Logisz Great Hall of The Polish Museum of America, 984 N Milwaukee Avenue (at Augusta), Chicago, IL.

The subject will be: The Special Relationship between the Republic of Poland and the State of Israel: From Mother and Daughter States to Allies with an Unbreakable Historic Bond.

Michael H. Traison, a partner in the international law firm of Miller Canfield, divides his time between homes in the US and Poland, is the founder of Fundacja Michaela H. Traisona and is active in Polish, Zionist, and Jewish organizations.

Admission is a suggested free will offering to support the work of the Museum. Parking is free, and is on the west side of the Polish Roman Catholic Union building in which The Polish Museum of America is housed.

For further information, please call (773) 384-3352, ext. 104, or e-mail: pma@polishmuseumofamerica.org

From Old to Young: My Non-Profit Excursion

By Jeremy Barewin

Over the past few years, I regularly contributed articles and press releases to Village Publications through my public relations position at CJE SeniorLife. When I left the company late last year to become Director of Marketing for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater Illinois Chapter, I was asked by the editors to write about my transition to the new job. Certainly humbled, I pondered, how do I tell a compelling personal story of moving professionally from one non-profit organization to another? Not an easy task for someone who isn't always comfortable shining the spotlight on himself. So instead, I thought, I've met some amazing people during my non-profit journey, perhaps my story would be best told through them.

While not working on the front lines of direct care to CJE's many assisted living and skilled nursing residents, I was fortunate to develop strong relationships through my PR role, whether it was filming a video documentary, writing a feature story, taking photographs at a special event, or conducting an interview for a newsletter article. Watching a family cope with the acceleration of their loved one's memory loss was heartbreaking; hearing the story of a Holocaust survivor was inspiring; seeing a resident have a breakthrough in dealing with his Parkinson's disease was astounding.

Like any job, there were ebbs and flows, good days and bad, but a motivating factor for me was to know that my work and impromptu visits with residents and families was having a positive impact. For a senior who is isolated, seeing a familiar face can often be the highlight of their day.

During one of my first weeks at the agency, I met Edith* (Names have been changed for privacy purposes), who at the time was living in an independent group retirement home in Skokie with her sister Ella*. Their family history was extraordinary, having fled the pogrom violence in Russia and Eastern Europe during the 1910s to eventually settle in the United States and Chicago area.

Edith, garrulous and uproarious by nature, regularly drew a crowd of admirers, while her quiet and conservative older sibling preferred to stay out of the limelight. Together, however, the two were like a vaudeville act, playfully bickering and often finishing each other's sentences.

Over the next several years, Edith moved through the continuum of care, first to short-term rehabilitation following a fall then permanently into long-term skilled nursing. While her physical abilities declined her mind stayed sharp as a tack. Her sister would remain in the group living home where she was the quintessential mother hen, always caring for her fellow housemates even beyond her 100th birthday. Being apart was difficult for the sisters, but they visited regularly. Whether seeing them together or separately, I always enjoyed our conversations and looked forward to the next chance encounter.

When Ella passed away a couple years ago at the age of 104, Edith was devastated. With the help of family and friends and her own positive outlook on life, she persevered through the tough times. Now in her 90s, she stays active through her involvement with the building's Resident Council and participants in the array of daily religious, educational and creative arts programs

"What can you do? You take life as it comes to you," Edith would always say. "I don't complain. And thank God I still have my marbles."

Telling her that I was leaving for a new job was bittersweet, but I knew that she was comfortable and in capable hands. And as most of our talks had gone in the past, it wasn't complete without the "You found yourself a girlfriend yet?" to my seemingly unending bachelorhood. Edith offered her words of wisdom: "Ah, you're still young you got nothing to worry about."

In moving to the MS Society, I wondered if I would have this same level of personal interaction; would my work be just as meaningful? In a mere month's time, I can say that I have already been moved on more than one occasion, and in a profound way. Not until I started did I realize that MS is really a young person's disease, with most people being diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 40. For many, the onset can happen as early as their teen years. In contrast to my previous work, I would now be engaging with individuals closer to my own age, many of whom have had MS for more than a decade.

At one of the first MS events I attended, I met Ali, a young gentleman living with MS from Pakistan, who now resides and works in the Chicago area. He has become heavily involved in MS Movement through activism and fundraising. With his fiancé still living back home in Pakistan, he expressed hope that she would soon be joining him in the U.S., but was concerned more about her well-being than his own, knowing that his symptoms could worsen over the years leaving her to care for him.

Just last week, my colleague Erin presented her personal story of living with MS at a dinner honoring the Society's top fundraisers from the past year. Diagnosed three years ago at the age of 22, she has dedicated her life to ending MS. Her mother also lives with the disease. To address the needs of Chicago area young adults living with MS, she created Empowered Living, a support group where individuals share their experiences and discuss their life with MS and how to overcome obstacles. In just three years, the group has grown to more than 120 members. And to top it off, Erin ran the Chicago Marathon last year.

Whether it's through a walk or bike event, a softball tournament, a community educational program, or a pub crawl, I have already found in my short time with the MS Society that there are compelling accounts of dedication, generosity and goodwill around every turn.

The people may be different, but their stories of inspiration are just the same.



Jeremy Barewin

Village Lenten Recipes

With Lent approaching, Village Cooking Corner will be presenting a series of delicious recipes to serve as a main course for your table or as a complement to any meal. Our first offering is:

BAKED HARICOT (BUTTER) BEANS

1 lb of large dried haricot (butter) beans
3/4 cup of olive oil (Greek preferred)
1 medium sized onion
3 cloves of garlic, chopped
3 ripe (or canned) tomatoes
parsley, finely chopped
salt & pepper

Having soaked the beans overnight, change the water and boil beans until soft. Then drain and allow to dry for a while. Put the oil into a frying pan with chopped onion and garlic.

If using fresh tomatoes, cut as fine as possible; add these to the pan along with the parsley. Bring the ingredients to a boil.

Put the beans into an oven dish, pour over them the boiled sauce and bake in oven at 325 degrees for three quarters of an hour, or until cooked.

VARIATION;

If you wish, you can put all the ingredients into a roasting pan without having cooked them in the above manner, however, it takes longer this way.

Cooking time: 45 minutes/Makes 6 portions/1 portion is 410 calories

Ravenswood Community Council Offering SARFS

Working with the Department of Housing and Economic Development, the Ravenswood Community Council is once again offering the Safety and Accessibility Repairs for Seniors (SARFS) program.

This program helps seniors to age in place by making safety repairs to their homes. RCC will begin the work in the spring and the application process is now underway.

To find out more information about the program, or to find out how to apply, call 773-784-0400 or visit our website www.ravenswoodcommunity.org.
Ravenswood Community Council | 1756 W Wilson Avenue | Chicago | IL | 60640

MAYOR NOMINATES BRIAN BANNON

continued from page 3

media, and online services. Bannon also served as Chief of Branches and managed the staff and operations for San Francisco's neighborhood libraries and had a central role in implementing the \$200 million branch library improvement program.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to expand the library, engage new users and build new services beyond the four walls," said Bannon. "The Chicago Public Library is already a national leader in educational media for teens and I look forward to working with the Library staff to build on that great foundation."

Mayor Rahm Emanuel also announced the nominations of Linda Johnson Rice and Lynn Lockwood to the Board of Directors.

Linda Johnson Rice is President and CEO of Johnson Publishing Company (JPC). Headquartered in Downtown Chicago, JPC is the publisher of preeminent African-American magazines such as JET and Ebony. A graduate of Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Linda has won numerous awards and honors, including being named one of Chicago's 100 Most Powerful Women and one of the Top 10 Women in Media by the Chicago Sun-Times. Under her leadership, JPC's corporate mission focuses on education, financial literacy, and AIDS prevention.

"This is the first time that a major publisher has been named to the Board of The Chicago Public Library, bringing together these two important sectors," said Mayor Emanuel. "As a publisher, Linda knows the importance of innovation to keep pace with today's changing media landscape. She will bring Chicago's libraries into the digital future as she has done with Johnson Publishing. Linda Johnson Rice and her family have helped to build the Chicago that we know today and I cannot think of anyone better to help build the future of the Chicago Public Library."

Lynn Lockwood has over 25 years of professional experience in the creative, non-profit, and political fields, Lynn will bring her dedication to the city's cultural and intellectual life to her work on the Board of the Chicago Public Library. For over 8 years she worked with the Department of Cultural Affairs, creating programs and helping manage the Chicago Cultural Center and the nationally recognized After School Matters program.

"Lynn has a long history enriching the cultural life of Chicago, including the children of our great city," said Mayor Emanuel. "She will be able to draw on her experience as a founding Board member of Chicago Children's Theater and as a member of the Board of Trustees for Steppenwolf Theater Company.

Johnson Rice and Lockwood will replace Jayne Carr Thompson and Judy Rice.

Dempsey plans to continue her work as the President of the Philip H. Corboy Foundation as well as working with the DePaul University Board of Trustees. Under her leadership, the Chicago Public Library embraced technology, launched a capital campaign which resulted in an unprecedented expansion of branch libraries and started the award-winning "One Book, One Chicago" citywide book club.

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