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P.O. Box 31391,
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Issue 2
February 4, 2011

Happy 174th Birthday Chicago

Commemorating The Day Chicago Became A City
Friday, March 4, 2011 ~ 10am - 1pm



Mark your calendar and join us in celebration of The City of Chicago's birthday with a special event hosted at the Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark Street on March 4, 2011. The celebration begins at 11am with special guests from the American Indian Center of Chicago. Other invited guests include those who share the same birthday, March 4, as well as city officials. Birthday celebrants will receive an honorary certificate signed by the Mayor and share birthday cake, courtesy of Bleeding Heart Bakery. This event is free and open to the public.



DON'T FRET!
Spring will be
here early this year.
(Find out more on page 16)

ATTENTION US MILITARY VETERANS

American Legion Edison Park Post #541 is having a meeting on Thursday February 10th starting at 7:30PM at the Edison Park field house located at 6755 Northwest Hwy. (just west of Harlem Ave.) Chicago. We are a medium size, friendly active post with members from Chicago and suburbs.

We welcome you to stop by and sit in at our meeting. If you've been thinking about joining a veteran's organization, we just might be what you're looking for.

For additional information please contact: Post Commander Gerald Skotzko at 773-693-3448 or Sr Vice Commander Robert Fuggiti at 773-736-8738

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED FOR "OPERATION: MOMS COOKIES" AND NORWOOD CROSSING'S HUG

Last November, a busload of Norwood Crossing residents rode to suburban Wilmington to complete a mission that began at Norwood Crossing when HUG was formed to involve residents in their Chicago community. HUG, an acronym for Help, Understand, Give, enables residents of the long-term care



retirement community at 6016-20 N. Nina Ave. in Chicago, to actively participate in a local project. After deliberating and reviewing about 30 non-profit organizations, the residents selected OPERATION: MOMS Cookies, an acronym for Men/Women of Military Service. MOMS provide basic everyday necessities in care packages year-round to U.S. military troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. During four Friday afternoon gatherings in the new Norwood Crossing Assisted Living building, 10 - 15 residents and their family members wrote 119 cards and filled 147 packages with treats and goodies. Copies of a sketch of logs in a fireplace that a HUG member drew and titled, "Norwood Crossing, We'll Keep the Home Fires Burning," were made and inserted into each card. While working on the project, many residents who either served or knew a loved one who served in World War II felt a special bond with the servicemen and women and were able to reminisce about former war times. Members of HUG and a grateful MOMS volunteer staff gathered to admire the handiwork. Seated (from left) are: Norwood Crossing residents Alfred Brenner and Kathleen McInnes. Standing (from left) are: Larry McInnes, resident; BiBi Chiu, art therapy intern; Maureen O'Sullivan, resident; and Kaye Shaddock, Director of Life Enrichment, all from Norwood Crossing; MOMs Cookies volunteers Carl "Kaz" Kaczmarek, CeCe Weathersby and Debbie Trippiedi, founder.

Care Packages For Our Troops

According to Operation Support Our Troops (Illinois) Troop collections have dropped off dramatically in the past few months. During such troubled and uncertain economic times, family, of course comes first. But please take a moment to see if there might be a way to support our Military, who serve in harms way every day.

During the month of February, Alderman Stone's 50th Ward Service Office will be holding a collection to gather items for Care Packages to send to our troops.

We are requesting 50th Ward Residents to donate items for our Care Packages from a Top 10 Needed Items List from Operation Support Your Troops. Which includes:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Tuna Flat Packs | 2. Peanut Butter (28 oz or less, Plastic Jars) |
| 3. Canned fruit (29 oz or less) | 4. Jelly (28 oz or less, Plastic Jars) |
| 5. Beef Jerky, Slim Jims | 6. Poptarts |
| 7. Cereal Bars | 8. Mouthwash (20 oz or less, plastic bottles please) |
| 9. Foot powder (20 oz or less) | 10. Snack Size Ziploc Bags |

If you are unable to purchase these items, but would still like to contribute, we will also be accepting monetary donations to go towards the purchasing of these top 10 items, and additional comfort items.

But the most important part of a care package are your words of encouragement and support. Please stop by the 50th Ward Service Office and fill out a Thank You Card that will accompany our care packages. Lets remind our troops that we are proud of the sacrifices they are making to preserve freedom for all people, everywhere.

Know someone currently serving overseas? Send us their information so we can try to have our care package sent to them!

To learn more about Operation Support Our Troops (Illinois) please visit their website: <http://www.osotil.com/>

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Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center Offers February Health Programs

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

Cardiac check-ups will be offered at **HeartFest** on Saturday, February 5, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. For \$30, participants will receive an electrocardiogram interpreted by a board-certified cardiologist, cholesterol and blood glucose screenings (12-hour fasting recommended), blood pressure screening, consultations with a registered pharmacist about medications and a registered dietitian about healthy eating and good nutrition. Complimentary health information will be available, including "Act in Time for Heart Attack" signs, and refreshments will be provided. Advance registration is required by calling 877-RES-INFO (877-737-4636).

A free **Healthy Aging Program** will be held Friday, February 11, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., in the seventh floor Centennial Conference Center. This program for individuals aged 55 and older consists of social time, health topics and guest lectures. A pharmacist will answer questions about medications. Registration is not required.

A free **informational session about bariatric surgery** will be held Tuesday, February 15, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Bariatric surgeon Frederick Tiesenga, M.D., will discuss the benefits of bariatric surgery for obese individuals. He will explain available procedures and their eligibility requirements and will answer questions. For this event only register by calling 708-456-7874.

Free **blood pressure screenings** will be offered Monday, February 22, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., in the second floor Community Education Room. A health care professional will perform screenings and answer questions about blood pressure readings. Registration is not required.

A free lecture titled **'Bothered by a Hernia?'** will be given Tuesday, February 22, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Today's hernia surgery uses several small incisions, leading to a faster, less painful recovery. General surgeon Frederick Tiesenga, M.D., will discuss hernia repair and, after the lecture, he will provide free individual screenings for those who are interested. Refreshments will be served. Advance registration is required by calling 877-RES-INFO (877-737-4636).

The **Pacemaker/Cardiac Device Support Group** will meet Wednesday, February 23, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. This free monthly support group is for anyone with or has a loved one with a pacemaker or internal cardiac defibrillator (ICD). Cardiology Services Department staff will conduct the sessions and answer pacemaker or defibrillator-related questions. Sessions aim to provide mutual support and education. Advance registration is required by calling 877-RES-INFO (877-737-4636).

The **Arthritis Support Group** will meet Thursday, February 24, 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.

CJE HELPS CHRONIC PAIN SUFFERERS THROUGH NEW WEBSITE – WWW.MYPAINMANAGEMENT.NET

Are you a chronic pain sufferer? Does pain disrupt your sleep? Does the pain you are experiencing cause limitations in the activities you are able to do with family, friends and loved ones? An estimated 50 million Americans suffer from persistent pain each year. Research has shown that chronic pain can be so debilitating that it can restrict a sufferer's activities, is associated with social isolation and depression, presents challenges to sense of self, and can dramatically affect quality of life.

A newly designed website from CJE SeniorLife's Center for Healthy Living, www.mypainmanagement.net, can help sufferers and their loved ones manage chronic pain through tools, educational materials and resources that are applicable to many different pain situations. By utilizing the My Pain Management website, individuals can take control of their pain by setting up an "action plan" to explore solutions that promote pain relief through guided breathing and relaxation techniques, diet and exercise choices, writing exercises, picturing pain using art techniques, appreciation and laughter exercises and much more. My Pain Management includes a comprehensive glossary and resource directory.

"I've seen first-hand the physical, social and financial burdens that people struggling with chronic pain deal with on a daily basis," said Barbara Milsk, program development specialist with CJE's Center for Healthy Living. "In combination with traditional medical management of pain prescribed by a healthcare provider, the information, tools and techniques provided through My Pain Management can be invaluable for chronic pain sufferers and their family members."

CJE's Center for Healthy Living provides a wide range of services and programs to promote physical, spiritual, social, cultural, intellectual, emotional, vocational, and financial health among older adults and their families. Programs include life-long learning classes and workshops, health and wellness education and screenings, retirement planning and benefits assistance, volunteer opportunities, creativity and self-expression workshops, caregiver education, support and resources. Call 773/508-1073 to learn more about the Center for Healthy Living and receive a complete list of programs and classes.

CJE SeniorLife is an innovative provider of community-based and residential programs throughout the Chicago area. Over the past 39 years, CJE's wide range of services has grown to include assisted living, counseling and care management, long-term skilled nursing, Alzheimer's care, home health, wellness programs and much more. CJE is a partner in serving the community, supported by the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation. For more information about CJE services, call 773/508-1000 or visit www.cje.net.

POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE SENIORS TO MEET ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Paul C. Odrobina, Vice President of the Polish National Alliance (PNA) welcomes the PNA North Side Seniors back for their monthly meeting that will be held on Wednesday, February 9, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will take place at the PNA Home Office Cafeteria, 6100 N. Cicero Ave. Chicago, Illinois. Doors will open about 9:15 a.m. A speaker will briefly speak to the attendees. Topics that will be discussed: A Seniors Casino trip in March to the Potawatami Casino in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Polish American Night with the Chicago Bulls and Chicago Wolves Hockey Game plus other events.

All seniors ages 55 and over (members and non-members) are encouraged to join us for a morning of fun and fraternalism. Refreshments will be served.

The Polish National Alliance is the largest Polish ethnic Fraternal Insurance Organization and was founded in 1880.

For additional information about the PNA Seniors Group and their activities, please call the PNA (773) 286-0500 ext. 316, or visit the PNA website at www.pna-znp.org and click on "EVENTS".

Snow Shoveling Program for Seniors & Disabled

The City of Evanston is happy to connect the elderly and disabled with volunteers that are willing to assist with snow shoveling; this new program has been developed to assist these community members in need. Those requesting assistance will be provided a list of individuals in the community that are willing and able to assist!

Please encourage Evanston seniors or those with disabilities needing assistance with shoveling sidewalks and driveways to contact the Levy Center at 847/448-8250 or aging@cityofevanston.org for a list of volunteers who may be able to assist them.

The senior, disabled person or their family member will receive a complete list of available volunteers whom they may contact for financial/scheduling arrangements once the liability waiver is signed either physically or electronically. The senior, disabled person or their family member can complete the form online at <http://www.cityofevanston.org/> or mail the completed form to the City of Evanston.

VOLUNTEERS: The City of Evanston is looking to connect individuals that are willing to help shovel sidewalks and driveways to seniors and the disabled in Evanston. This referral service will link volunteers who will shovel & residents who are unable to shovel themselves out of their homes. The volunteers' contact information will be provided to the resident and the resident is responsible for contacting the volunteer. If you are able to volunteer your time, fill out the online cityofevanston.wufoo.com/forms/snow-shoveler-volunteer-intake-form/ or call 847/448-8266.

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Keep the 41st Ward the Best

Because of the chaos in most levels of today's world, our own neighborhoods and communities are becoming more and more important. As a result, our local Wards and our elected officials to whom we entrust running those Wards, become more meaningful than ever before.

The 41st Ward in the City of Chicago will be changing hands due to the retirement of Brian Doherty after 20 years of dedication and service to his constituents as their Alderman. This Northwest corner of the City has, for many years, been the model of a well run, efficient, safe, friendly and prosperous area.

There are many candidates in the race to succeed Alderman Doherty, all of whom have expressed their full appreciation for the uniqueness of the 41st Ward and have vowed, if they are elected, to maintain the high quality of life and standards of service that are now present.

However, the obvious choice is a person who has lived and worked in the 41st Ward and knows the inner workings of the Aldermanic Office with a complete awareness of the challenges that face its residents and a command of the nature of the business of running the largest Ward in the City. There is only one person in this race who answers to that description - it's our privilege to allow you to, once again,

MEET MAURITA GAVIN

Dear Neighbor,

My name is Maurita E. Gavin and I am running for Alderman of the 41st Ward. I have worked as an Administrative Aide to Alderman Brian Doherty for the past fifteen years. Many of you may know me from the office or from the neighborhood.

My maiden name is McHugh and I was one of five children raised on the west side of Chicago in St. Angela Parish. I attended Mother Theodore Guerin High School, Wright College and obtained my Bachelor of Arts in Education (Major: Special Education) from Northeastern Illinois University.

For the past 25 years my family and I have lived at 5454 N. New England Avenue in the Harlem/ Higgins area of Norwood Park. My late husband, Patrick Gavin, was a 20 year employee of the Chicago Water Department and was our Ward Superintendent for three years before his death 15 years ago. Alderman Doherty hired me at that time. I have raised my three sons in the area. They have played sports in our parks and were educated in our community. I understand what parents want and need from our community for their families. My sons, Patrick, Brian and Danny attended Immaculate Conception Grade School and Notre Dame High School (Patrick '01, Brian '06 and Danny '09). My eldest son "Coach Pat" has been a JV Varsity football coach at IC for the past eight years and will be the head JV Football Coach next season.

I am a past member of the Immaculate Conception Parents' Club and the Immaculate Conception Athletic Committee. I am also a past member of the Notre Dame Parents' Association. I have been involved in fundraising for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and have worked on various private benefits.

I believe that my years in the alderman's office give me a unique advantage in that I already know the nuts and bolts of running the ward, a ward that happens to be the largest geographically in the City of Chicago. As in anything else, having developed contacts and working relationships with city personnel over the years gives me an advantage in that upon my election, I will already have a working operation in place, staffed with experienced people. As your alderman, I will strive to deliver the city services you deserve and expect.

I am very confident that the many constituents who have dealt with me over the years know that I have done my best to help them. I pride myself on my work with seniors, often helping them navigate the process of missed property tax exemptions and dealing with various other issues. If you know of any seniors that may have called here looking for help, ask them about "the tall one with the funny name"!

I am smart, resourceful, hard-working and genuinely care about people. I work well under pressure. I promise to do my best to offer a smooth transition in the services of the aldermanic office, while striving to make changes that will make the office my own. My sons are now grown and I have the time I need to commit myself to performing to the best of my ability as your full-time alderman. The 41st Ward is the best ward in the City of Chicago and I plan to keep it that way!

I would very much appreciate any consideration that you can give to me and your support as I run for Alderman of the 41st Ward on February 22, 2011. If any of you need an absentee ballot, would like to display a yard sign for me or if you have any other questions, feel free to call me at 773.774-1996 or email me at www.41stward-forgavin.com. Thank you!

Sincerely, Maurita E. Gavin, Candidate for 41st Ward Alderman

JOIN COMMUNITY OUTREACH TEAM OF MEAL-DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS

To meet the increasing need of older adults who want to remain independent in their homes, Norwood Seniors Network is now preparing to expand its meal-delivery service and is looking for more great volunteers. Those who have given a part of their time one or more days a week are deserving of special thanks, and they are asking you to join them in this rewarding and satisfying experience.

The not-for-profit Norwood Seniors Network, at 6009 N. Nina Ave. in Chicago, provides freshly-prepared nutritious meals each weekday for delivery to homes in northwest Chicago or near northwest suburbs by a handful of volunteers who use mapped routes. Each route takes from one-to-two hours to complete.

Volunteers bring a bright smile, some cheer and light conversation to persons who may have few if any visitors during the day. Meal deliveries are made between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., Mondays through Friday, and volunteers can assist for one or more days a month. Persons interested in volunteering must have their own vehicle and insurance. For more information, please call Bryan Manasse, Norwood Life Care Foundation, at (773) 577-5387, email him at bmanasse@norwoodlifecare.org, or visit www.norwoodlifecare.org.

Big Ten City Managers' Group Meets in Evanston to Discuss Sustainability

The City of Evanston hosted the Winter meeting of the Big Ten City Managers group Thursday and Friday this week. The Big Ten City Managers group is made up of the City Managers of the six cities with the Council-Manager form of government that host Big Ten Conference universities (Evanston, IL; Champaign, IL; State College, PA; Ann Arbor, MI; East Lansing, MI; and Iowa City, IA). Each meeting is focused around an issue facing communities and representatives from all twelve Big Ten Conference cities and universities are invited to attend.

The subject of the Winter meeting was sustainability issues and eight of the twelve communities/universities sent representatives to Evanston to participate in the meeting. In addition to the six City Manager communities and their universities, representatives from Urbana, IL; Bloomington/Indiana University and Lincoln/University of Nebraska also participated.

Each community and university made presentations about their separate and joint sustainability projects. The meeting also included a roundtable discussion of best practices. Evanston/Northwestern University was represented by City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz, Evanston Sustainable Programs Coordinator Catherine Hurley and Northwestern Manager of Refuse and Recycling Julie Cahillane.

Both Ms. Hurley and Ms. Cahillane gave a joint presentation on Evanston/Northwestern efforts. There was much interest in the implementation of the Evanston Climate Action Plan (many other Big Ten communities are just now moving to create such a plan), the many community environment/sustainability organizations in Evanston and at Northwestern and the early success of the City's Green Building Ordinance and the focus Northwestern has had on building LEED certified buildings long before the Evanston Green Building Ordinance.

Some of the programs presented by other communities of particular interest to Evanston/Northwestern were the expansion of self-service car rentals in the community, greater emphasis of recycling during student move outs each Spring, continued publicity of the City and University recycling programs and the development of a community-wide sustainability challenge program involving residents and businesses.

The sustainability directors of the universities in the Big Ten have an existing network and many of the sustainability directors in the cities are part of larger municipal networks for dialogue. This meeting was the first time that both groups have met together to exchange ideas and have promised to continue the sharing after the meetings concluded.

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The **Adult Book Discussion Group** will be meeting on Monday, February 7 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. or Tuesday, February 8 from 2 - 3:30 p.m. Attend either session to discuss *The Postmistress* by Sarah Weeks. Copies in both regular and large type are available at the library.

Classic Films continue at Eisenhower: *Satan Met a Lady* with Warren William and Bette Davis, directed by William Dieterle; *Treasure of the Sierra Madre* with Humphrey Bogart and Walter Huston, directed by John Huston. Discussions with Ralph J Amelio. Free popcorn at all movies! All films begin at 1 p.m.

Tired of Knitting Alone? **Join our Knitting Circle!** We meet the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-3:30 p.m. February's Knitting Circle will be on the 15th. Bring your needles, bring your yarn and knit over snacks and coffee. No registration, just show up!

Computer Classes Drop in Computer Help: Tuesday, February 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Internet Tips and Tricks: Thursday, February 17, 7-8 p.m.; Picture Perfect with Picnik Online Photo Editor: Thursday, February 24, 7-8 p.m.

Aromatherapy and the Oils of Attraction Just in time for Valentine's Day, Tedd Neenan from the Aroma Workshop will explain how scents open your senses. Handouts about aromatherapy oils and healing blends will be provided. Each person will receive a small aromatherapy gift. Thursday, February 10, 7-8 p.m. \$3.00

Warren William Movie and Book Signing Join us for a special movie screening of the 1935 classic film *The Case of the Lucky Legs* starring Warren William as Perry Mason. While there, meet John Stangeland, author the new biography *Warren William: Magnificent Scoundrel of Pre-Code Hollywood*. Mr. Stangeland will be signing books, which will be for sale, and discussing the movie. Tuesday, February 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Friends of the Library The Friends of the Eisenhower Public Library will meet on Wednesday, February 16th from 6-8 p.m.

A Taste of Poetry: Chicago Poets and Beyond For two nights we will discuss the poetry of Chicago poets Carol Gloor, Helen Degen Cohen, and Marge Skelly, in addition to Robert Wrigley, Dennis Held and Mary Oliver. This two session program will be a great way to get your poetry mojo going! Thursdays, February 17 and 24, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Land That Job! Resume Workshop Write the perfect resume and land the perfect job. This workshop will show you what you need to do to get your foot in the door. Please bring a copy of your current resume with you. Saturday, February 19, 1-3:30 p.m.

Creating and Framing the Perfect Photograph Become a better photographer and create more professional looking photographs. Join us for this two-day workshop with instructors Joyce Smith and John Tuleweit (both are exhibiting photographers, artists and curators). You'll learn the elements of composition and various techniques of lighting in class one and enjoy a demonstration for framing and matting in class two. For both digital and film photographers, beginning to intermediate. Please bring several of your photographs to the first class. Sundays, February 20 and 27, 2-3:30 p.m. \$10.00 for both classes.

Bus trip to Charnley-Persky House Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright designed this beautiful home in 1887. The exterior of Charnley House is unadorned brick and limestone and the dramatic interior is dominated by an atrium that soars from the first floor hall to a skylight two floors above. This is a docent-led tour. Afterwards, enjoy lunch at RJ Grunts' the very first of the Lettuce Entertain You restaurants. (Lunch not included in tour.) Tuesday, February 22, 10-3:30 p.m. \$20.00

Please register for all programs by calling (708) 867-7828 and asking for the Answers Desk, or register online at eisenhowerlibrary.org

LAW AT THE LIBRARY INFORMS CHICAGOANS ON TODAY'S LEGAL ISSUES, FREE AT THE CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Chicago Public Library and the Chicago Bar Association partner once again to present Law at the Library, a free monthly lecture series focusing on today's hot and timely legal topics. The ongoing legal information series is offered at the following Chicago Public Library locations: Conrad Sulzer Regional Library, 4455 N. Lincoln Avenue; Carter G. Woodson Regional Library, 9525 S. Halsted Street; and Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State Street. Law at the Library invites participants to listen to an experienced legal professional, ask general questions, and check out materials on a variety of legal topics – at no charge! In addition, all Chicago Public Library locations serve as community centers that provide access to books, databases and journals that can help Chicagoans learn more about legal issues.

Law at the Library programs are open to the public. Registration is not required. Upcoming Law at the Library seminars in February 2011, take place on the following dates and times at the selected locations:

Changes In Tax Law

Monday, February 28 at 12:15 p.m.
Harold Washington Library Center
400 S. State Street
(312) 747-4300

CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY & FEDERAL RESERVE CONTINUE PARTNERSHIP TO PROVIDE FREE MONEY SMART PROGRAMS

The Chicago Public Library continues its free series of financial literacy programs designed to help people become more "money smart." Presented in partnership with the Federal Reserve and its partners, Money Smart programs help participants understand the business of money, gain control of their finances and learn practical money skills for life. Money Smart programs are held year round at library locations throughout the city. Additionally, all Chicago Public Library locations offer books and online resources which allow participants to learn more about organizing their personal finances and financial planning. For a complete listing of Money Smart programs, please visit chicagopubliclibrary.org.

February Money Smart Programs Don't Pay the College Sticker Price!

Participants will discover three key areas of opportunity to reduce the overall cost of a college education, focus on strategies to maximize need-based financial aid eligibility, target the right colleges for merit-based financial aid and taking advantage of tax-saving opportunities. Bilingual Q&A (English/Korean) to follow presentation. Presented by Money Smart Partner, College Aid Planners, Inc.

Saturday, February 5 at 2:00 p.m.
Albany Park Branch
5150 N. Kimball Ave.
(312) 744-1933

Wednesday, February 9 at 6:00 p.m.
Budlong Woods Branch
5630 N. Lincoln Ave.
(312) 742-9590

All Money Smart programs are free and open to the public. Registration is not required. The Chicago Public Library does not endorse, promote or guarantee the products and/or services of the presenters. Products and/or services are not sold at these presentations. For more information about Money Smart programs, please call (312) 747-8184.

OUR VILLAGE & STREET LEVEL

Published by Village Publications
P.O. Box 31391, Chicago, IL 60631
847-675-6127 or 773-633-4059
www.ourvillagechicago.com
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Public Libraries

JEFFERSON PARK BRANCH
5363 W. Lawrence Ave., (312) 744-1998

The Library will be closed Friday, February 11, in celebration of Lincoln's birthday, and on Monday, February 21 in celebration of Washington's birthday.

Wednesdays in February

Join our preschool and toddler story times. Toddlers (ages 18 months to 3 years) meet from 10:15 a.m. to 10:35 a.m. Preschoolers meet from 10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for stories and crafts. No pre-registration is required. Contact the children's librarian for more information.

Thursdays, from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The social worker is in! Are you confused about the maze of social services and assistance programs? Library Volunteer Susan Fox-Larkin, LCSW, is a professional social worker with 20 years of experience. She will be able to refer you to the proper agency or service for help.

Monday, February 7 at 4:15 p.m.

Join our family reading club as they discuss *Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up By Sitting Down* by Andrea Davis Pinkney. Ages 6 to 9 (grades 1 to 3) and their parents. Call to reserve a copy.

Wednesday, February 9 at 2 p.m.

The Wednesday afternoon book discussion group will feature *Bamboo and Blood* by James Church. Call to reserve a copy.

Thursday, February 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Join our pre-teen book discussion as they discuss *Moonshadow: Rise of the Ninja* by Simon Higgins. Ages 10-14. Call to reserve a copy.

Tuesday, February 15 at 6:30 p.m.

The Tuesday evening book discussion group will discuss *South of Broad* by Pat Conroy. Call to reserve a copy.

Saturday, February 19 at 11 a.m.

Join us for a family craft making African masks in celebration of African American History Month. Registration is required.

For more information, please call the Jefferson Park Branch of the Chicago Public Library at (312) 744-1998.

NORTHTOWN BRANCH
6435 N. California Ave., Chicago, IL 312-744-2292

Mother Goose on the Loose

Ages birth to 2 1/2 years and parent or caregiver (siblings welcome).
Tuesdays, January 5th through February 16th at 10:30 a.m.

Mother Goose on the Loose is a 20-30 minute program of music, movement, stories, visual literacy and language development. Parents and caregivers sit with their children and remain actively involved throughout the program.

Pillows and Pages

Families with children of all ages.

Tuesdays, February 15th and March 15th at 6:30 p.m.

This calming program combines bedtime books, lullabies, and comforting rhymes that encourage the quiet atmosphere of sleep. Children are welcome to come dressed in their pajamas with a favorite stuffed animal or blanket.

Preschool Story Time:

Ages 3 years old - 6 years old and their parent or caregiver.

Mondays, January 24th through February 14th at 10:30 a.m.

Preschool story time is a 25 minute program that combines books, songs, fingerplays, and dances. Tips are included for caregivers to help their children develop essential early literacy skills.

After-School Authors

Ages 4 years old - 8 years old (children 6 and under must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver)

Tuesdays, February 8th, March 8th and April 12th at 4:30 p.m.

Join the children's librarian to explore favorite old and new authors through books, activities, and crafts.

Foster Harlem Property Owners Association's Next Meeting

The Foster Harlem Property Owners Association's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 17, 7:00pm at St. Monica's Beyenka Hall, 5101 N Mont Clare. The Association will host the candidates for the 41st Ward Aldermanic race. Each candidate will give a brief presentation. All are welcome to attend.

EVANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston IL 60201 847-448-8646

South Branch Library to Close Feb. 26

The South Branch of the Evanston Public Library, located at 949 Chicago Avenue, is scheduled to close at the end of business on Saturday, February 26, 2011 upon termination of the lease. This closure is a result of reduced funding as part of the City of Evanston budget process that provided the Evanston Public Library Board with \$3.7 million to allocate for library services.

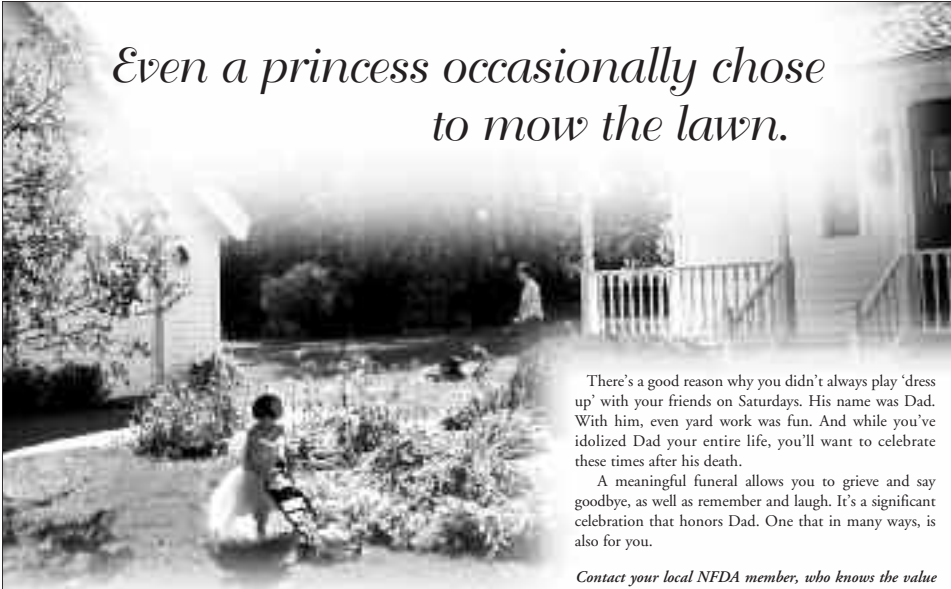
Additionally, the South Branch exterior book drop will close at the end of business on February 26. After this date, library materials can be returned to either the Main Library (1703 Orrington Ave.) or the North Branch (2026 Central Ave.). The South Branch collection will be reallocated throughout the system for outreach efforts, summer reading programs, reading train stops, etc.

"The city would like to recognize the outstanding efforts of the public, the Evanston Public Library Board and the Evanston Public Library Friends. Specifically, we would like to thank the Friends who were able to raise \$108,400 to be combined with \$50,000 from the Evanston Public Library Board to fund operations at the South Branch for six months through the end of February 2011," said Library Director Mary Johns. "This was an extraordinary feat that demonstrates the support that the Evanston community has for its library services."

The South Branch first opened in 1917 at 926 Chicago Avenue and moved in 1934 to its current location. The City of Evanston would like to thank the community for their support through the years.

The Evanston Public Library reminds residents of its continuing services such as: story times, crafts, lapsits and parenting workshops; book discussion groups for children, young adults and adults; early childhood literacy; online databases including business, genealogy, college and career planning, health, history and legal resources as well as newspapers and magazines; downloadable audiobooks; computer classes (including Spanish); classroom visits; Facebook; Twitter; meeting and conference rooms; art exhibits; adult, kids and family programs on a wide variety of topics; Books on Wheels for homebound delivery; wireless internet access; electronic newsletter; online renewals and requests and e-mail notices; variety of programs including music, poetry, current issues, history, book talks, movies; Junior Science Café; Hirshfield Poetry Awards; books, CDs, DVDs and audiobooks; and book deposits at Metra stations, Crown Center, Fleetwood-Jourdain Center, Levy Center and soon at the Morton Civic Center. To learn more about events, programs and services provided by the Evanston Public Library, please visit www.epl.org.

Even a princess occasionally chose to mow the lawn.



There's a good reason why you didn't always play 'dress up' with your friends on Saturdays. His name was Dad. With him, even yard work was fun. And while you've idolized Dad your entire life, you'll want to celebrate these times after his death.

A meaningful funeral allows you to grieve and say goodbye, as well as remember and laugh. It's a significant celebration that honors Dad. One that in many ways, is also for you.

Contact your local NFDA member, who knows the value of creating a meaningful funeral service.

HABEN
Funeral Home & Crematory

8057 Niles Center Road, Skokie, IL 60077-2599
Phone: (847) 673-6111
Fax: (847) 673-8976

For a Life Worth Celebrating™

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NFDA
National Funeral Directors Association
Funerals • Memorials • Celebrations
www.nfda.org

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State Representative
Michael McAuliffe, 20th District
and
Alderman **Brian Doherty**, 41st Ward

*Stop by Our Offices for Information
on Energy Saving Plans for
Your Home or Business*



6650 N. Northwest Hwy
Edison Park
773/792-1991



Evanston Launches New Transparency Website

The City of Evanston strives to promote transparency in all operations. By providing as much data as possible through our website, residents can be better informed about what is going on in their city.

Transparency promotes accountability and openness and it is our hope that by being transparent we can help improve our effectiveness and the efficiency of city operations. The launch of our new Transparency site exhibits our commitment as a city to our residents to do just that. On this site the public will have access to the most up to date information, consistent with law and policy, about operations, finances and decisions.

There are several sections on the site which grants access to:

- Active, awarded and cancelled bids and proposals are accessible via DemandStar.
- City bill payment lists and credit card transactions
- All reports, documents, & videos relating to the budget and the budget process.
- Listings of the City's on-going contracts as well as information related to the term, cost and administrator of the contract
- Department reports
- Executive Session minutes as they are approved by the City of Evanston's Law Department (as outlined in the Illinois Open Meetings Act)
- Freedom of Information Act request information
- Employee Pension information
- Salary information: i.e. employee titles, pay grades, and pay rates
- Tax information

The City encourages the public to submit feedback so we can better identify which information is of greatest use.

Please visit <http://www.cityofevanston.org/transparency/> and let us know what you think!

Skokie Burn Awareness Week Information - Preventing Scalds

The Skokie Fire Department reminds us that February 6 to 12, 2011 is Burn Awareness Week. In conjunction with Burn Awareness Week, the Skokie Fire Department advises on ways to prevent scald burns.

Scald burns are preventable and infants, young children, older adults and people with disabilities are the most at risk for such an injury. It is this group of people who are more likely to require hospitalization and suffer complications.

Most burn injuries occur in the person's own home and a majority of these injuries could have easily been prevented.

The Skokie Fire Department recommends the following simple safety tips to decrease the risk of scald burns.

- Set home water heater thermostats no higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Provide adult supervision when bathing children. Run cold water first and gradually add hot water. Turn hot water off first.
- Establish a "kid free zone" out of the traffic path between the stove and sink where kids can play safely.
- Cook on back burners when children are present.
- Never drink or carry hot liquids while children are present.

For more information please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau of the Skokie Fire Department at 847/982-5344.

Black History Month Exhibit at Noyes

The City of Evanston Cultural Arts Division is pleased to announce an upcoming special exhibition in celebration of Black History Month, "A Family Portrait," at the Noyes Art Gallery. The exhibition will be on display from Jan. 23 through Feb. 28 and will feature artwork by the award-winning Turner family of Chicago.

The exhibition is presented jointly by the City of Evanston's Cultural Arts Division and Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center to celebrate Black History Month. An artist's reception for the public will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 30 at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. Admission is free.

Turner family artistic tradition started half a century ago with Josephine Curtis Turner and Robert (Bobby) Lee Turner. Their children, Jan, Robert, Phillip, and Beatrice have all gone on to a life in the arts and music. The family started their own gallery on Chicago's south side in the 1940s when Josephine Curtis exhibited her artwork in her mother's living room when she was ten years old. Phillip Turner encouraged the gallery to expand in the late 1980s, and they exhibited local and international artists.

The exhibit will mark the first time the entire family has mounted an exhibition, and it will celebrate their creativity, as well show the diversity of their individual and collective styles. "A Family Portrait" will also feature works by Phillip Parker-Turner and Teresa J. Parker, and portraits of family members, Mary Washington, Margaret Curtis, Laverne and Jon Gill, and Erika and Erin Turner, will be highlighted.

The Noyes Art Gallery is located within the Noyes Cultural Arts Center. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Admission is always free. For more information, call the Cultural Arts Division at 847-448-8260 or Philip J. Turner at 773-643-6526.

Skokie Merchant of the Year Award

Application Available Now

The Skokie Consumers Affairs Commission has released the Merchant of the Year ballots. The ballot application is available at www.skokie.org and in the March edition of NewSkokie. All nominations are due April 8, 2011.

Residents are encouraged to vote for an outstanding store, service or business in Skokie. The Consumer Affairs Commission will recognize a business that has distinguished itself to consumers. The Merchant of the Year plaque will be awarded to the business receiving the highest number of votes at a Village Board meeting in May. The two merchants receiving the next highest number of votes also will be honored.

For rules, eligibility or more information, please contact the Terry Oline, Consumer Affairs Commission staff liaison at 847/933-8223.

Sign-up to Become an Evanston Advocate

Do you want to know what laws being debated in Springfield or Washington, DC will affect your family here in Evanston? Do you want to understand how the Chicago Transit Authority Board's long term modernization of the Purple Line will affect how long it will take you and your family to get to downtown Evanston or into the Chicago Loop? Do you want to know whether the Metra Board will be making schedule changes to the UP North Line affecting your daily commute?

More importantly do you want to know how to affect these decisions so that the outcomes benefit you and other residents of the City of Evanston; the city you call home? If so, follow the link below and find out how you can become an Evanston Advocate.

What is an Evanston Advocate?

An Evanston Advocate is a resident of the city who wants to go above and beyond their normal civic engagement. An Advocate will stay educated on the state, regional and national policy decisions affecting the city through regular contact from the City of Evanston Intergovernmental Affairs Coordinator. Additionally, an Advocate will be informed of greater opportunities to engage in the process by contacting the appropriate government agencies, like the CTA or Metra Boards, or elected officials like Senators Durbin or Kirk. An Advocate will be the citizen voice for Evanston on critical issues at the regional, state and national level.

Becoming an Evanston Advocate is an effort of the city's Intergovernmental Affairs Department to engage citizens to become more involved in the process at the state, regional and federal level—informing and promoting initiatives that will enhance the city and its residents.

Sign up today at www.cityofevanston.org/advocate

Evanston Wins CUB Energy Saver Competition

Citizens Utility Board (CUB) announced this month that the City of Evanston won the CUB Energy Saver Community Competition with the most members and most electricity savings in 2010 and has won 10,000 Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) bulbs.

CUBEnergySaver.com is the nation's first free online service that gives households a plan to save hundreds of dollars a year, tracks savings by connecting to power bills, and rewards families with movie tickets, gift cards, museum passes, and other items for documented reductions in their electricity usage. As part of the Community Competition, Evanston competed against Illinois communities in this state-wide energy efficiency competition.

Evanston Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl and CUB Executive Director David Kolata announced Evanston's participation in the CUB Energy Saver program in a press conference on August 9th, 2010. In five short months, 330 Evanston residents signed up to participate, and CUB estimates they are saving a total of \$6,542 a year on their electric bills by implementing recommended changes.

Evanston topped the list in both number of households registered and dollars saved. Results for the top 10 communities in each category are shown below.

<u>Community</u>	<u>Kilowatt-Hours</u>	<u>Dollars Saved</u>
Evanston	50,321	\$6,542
Logan Square/Bucktown	35,727	\$4,645
Arlington Heights	35,608	\$4,629
Skokie	32,022	\$4,163
Des Plaines	31,511	\$4,096
North Center	26,872	\$3,493
Palatine	23,833	\$3,098
Grayslake	23,475	\$3,052
Buffalo Grove	22,166	\$2,882
New Lenox	19,478	\$2,532
Total Savings	301,013	\$39,132

<u>Community</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Members</u>
Evanston	330	Wheaton	193
Aurora	173	Rockford	144
Oak Park	138	Lombard	135
Arlington Heights	116	Logan Square/Bucktown	107
Lincoln Square/Ravenswood	107	Beverly	106

For more information, call CUB's Consumer Hotline at 1-800-669-5556 or visit www.CitizensUtilityBoard.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. 10th- Regular meeting at the Hilltop Restaurant at 12:00pm. Our guest speaker will be Drake Winters, Scoutmaster for Troop 888.

Feb. 24th - Regular meeting at the Hilltop Restaurant at 12:00pm. There will be no guest speaker today. A Board of Directors meeting will follow the regular meeting. 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!

For membership and event information contact Ronald A. Heiderman, DDS at 773-561-0455.

Illinois Poison Center Celebrates IL Poison Prevention Month and National Poison Prevention Week in March

Each year, the third week in March is recognized as National Poison Prevention Week (March 14-20); however in 2009 Governor Pat Quinn declared March to be Illinois Poison Prevention Month because of its importance and encourages all residents to educate themselves about the potentially dangerous substances in their homes. This year's theme is "You did what?! No issue is too big or small... just call 1-800-222-1222". To learn more about Illinois Poison Prevention Month and how to get involved please visit the Illinois Poison Center's new website www.illinoispoisoncenter.org, for more information.

"Poison prevention education is vital to the public's safety," said Michael Wahl, MD, managing medical director, IPC. "By using the entire month of March as a means to increase awareness of this serious health issue, we hope to reduce the incidence and injury caused by poisonings."

Year after year, millions of accidental poisonings occur in America – the majority of them affecting children. Last year, the Illinois Poison Center (IPC) handled more than 90,000 exposure and information calls – 52 percent involving children age 5 and under – on everything from household chemicals and carbon monoxide to medicines and mushrooms.

According to Illinois Poison Center experts, preparing yourself and your family is the best way to avoid a potential poisoning.

IPC Tips to Prevent Poisonings:

- Store all food and beverages in a completely separate area away from cleaners, medicines, automotive, yard and healthcare products.
- Keep medicines and household products in their original containers with original labels
- Always read labels before using medicines, cleaners and other products
- Teach children to ask first before eating or drinking anything
- Never call medicine candy or make a game out of taking it
- Keep the IPC phone number, 1-800-222-1222, near all phones in the house and store the number in your cell phone

Free poison prevention training and educational materials available to anyone living/working in Illinois at www.IllinoisPoisonCenter.org/outreach

Established by Congress in 1961, National Poison Prevention Week is an opportunity to educate communities on poison prevention and the dangers of unintentional poisonings. The Illinois Poison Center is staffed by trained experts who provide free, comprehensive and trusted information and treatment advice on potentially harmful substances to the public and healthcare professionals via a 24-hour hotline: 1-800-222-1222.

McAuliffe Voted "NO" on Income Tax Increase

State Representative Michael McAuliffe (R-Chicago) Wednesday voted "No" to raising the state income tax on working families by a staggering 66 percent.

"An income tax increase on hard working middle class families is not the answer to the state's fiscal crisis. Families must live within their means, so should the State of Illinois. State spending should have been cut and meaningful reforms passed before raising taxes was even a consideration," said McAuliffe.

The legislation will increase the personal income tax rate from 3 to 5 percent for the next four years and then it will decrease to 4 percent. The new legislation is supposed to generate \$6 billion.

"The Democrats who control state government have gone on a spending spree over the last eight years and now are asking the taxpayers of Illinois to pay for it," he said.

Representative McAuliffe has been a strong opponent of tax increases and has supported many reform initiatives to change the way business is done in the State of Illinois.

The new legislation will also increase the corporate income tax from 4.8 to 7 percent.

"During this time when millions of people in Illinois are unemployed, we should be holding the line on taxes and finding ways to entice companies to set up shop in Illinois. We need to find ways to put people back to work and make it profitable for businesses to operate in our state or they will go elsewhere," said McAuliffe. "Higher taxes on employers and families will simply drive more people to leave Illinois."

For more information, call Rep. McAuliffe's office at (773) 792-0749.

Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl Attended the 79th Winter Meeting of the United States Conference of Mayors

Mayor Tisdahl attended a variety of meetings and functions while at the conference. Highlights included:

- Joined a delegation of Mayors for a meeting with President Obama at the White House. The Mayors stressed the importance of continued funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and stressed the need for continued focus by the Obama Administration on issues impacting cities.
- Lunch with United States Senator Richard Durbin. During the lunch, the Mayor thanked Senator Durbin for his continued support of issues important to Evanston and asked for his continued support for the City's application to open a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) with Chicago-based Erie Family Health Center in Evanston. The Senator pledged his continued support.
- An early morning meeting with U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky. The Mayor and Schakowsky discussed the City's pending FQHC application and issues related to violent crime in Evanston. The Representative pledged her support on both issues. The Mayor was especially surprised and impressed that when she arrived in Schakowsky's Capitol office, the only ones there were Schakowsky and her Spanish tutor. Schakowsky has been studying Spanish for years.
- Joined Mayors from around the country in signing the "United States Conference of Mayors Civility Accord." (PDF)
- Met as a member of the Mayor's Coalition Against Illegal Guns. The group endorsed HR 308, a measure that would limit the number of bullets a gun magazine can hold to ten.
- Met as a member of the Mayor's Water Council. She discussed the issue chromium levels in water with the EPA's Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water Quality Issues and was assured that no changes in EPA regulations on the subject were planned for the near term.

FUN & FREE IN CHICAGO Things to do in the 50th Ward & City of Chicago

Dancing & Dance Instruction at Jay Pritzker Pavilion Free Dancing & Dance Lessons every Saturday & Sunday during the month of February. Enjoy dance lessons in a range of styles from the waltz to the mambo, live music and DJ sets, plus the extraordinary view.

Session 1: FREE dance lessons led by professional instructors. 1-2PM; Open Dance 2-3:30 PM

Session II - Free dance lessons from 5-6PM; Open Dance 6-7:30PM
Pritzker Pavilion is located on Navy Pier.

Chinatown Lunar New Year Parade - Feb. 6th Ring in 4709, the Year of the Rabbit, with Chinatown's Lunar New Year Parade! This year commemorates the 99th anniversary of Lunar New Year Parades in Chicago's Chinatown, so bring the whole family down to witness spectacular lion and dragon dances and other festivities! Chinatown - Wentworth Ave. & Cermak Rd.

Neighborhoods Of The World at Navy Pier Chicago is famous for its ethnic neighborhoods - and Navy Pier is proud to honor the city's immigrant communities and its rich diversity with this first-ever performance series. Join us in the Crystal Gardens each Sunday for a lively afternoon of music, dance, colorful costumes, authentic cuisine, and local vendors selling folk arts.

February 6: Amazing India (Devon Avenue)

February 13: Chinese New Year Celebration at Navy Pier (Chinatown)

February 20: Africa In Chicago (All Neighborhoods/Citywide)

February 27: Official Kick-Off to the South Side Irish Family Fest (Beverly)
Sundays, 12 Noon - 5 pm at Navy Pier's Crystal Gardens

Valentine's Day Disco Bash - Feb. 12th Can't get enough of that disco beat? Parents: share the joy of dancing to great tunes from your youth--and give your kids an exercise workout at the same time!

Start Time: 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Cost: \$2 per person

In the Park With Civic - Concerts in the Parks - Feb. 13th Join woodwind members of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago for a FREE series of interactive and educational performances.

Start Time: 3:00 PM Location : Indian Boundary Park & Cultural Center

NHL & NBC Sports Salute Hockey Day in America - Feb. 20th Join us for exciting hockey festivities throughout the day, a visit from the Stanley Cup, and live national broadcast.

Sunday Feb. 20th 10AM - 3PM, Throughout Millennium Park.

Polar Adventure Day - Feb. 26th Don't let winter slow you down. Come out and enjoy the sixth annual Polar Adventure Days. Watch as amazing ice sculptures are created right in front of you, meet Siberian huskies, birds of prey and other live animals, and listen to storytelling or live music. You can also make winter nature crafts, sip hot cocoa, and snowshoe, if there is at least three inches of snow. Don't forget to dress warm. These events are free and no registration is required. Northerly Island, 1400 S. Lynn White Drive (312) 745 - 2910

For more information go to www.chicagoparkdistrict.com.

“A Theater Review”

“Spamalot”
Drury Lane Theatre
100 Drury Lane
Oak Brook Terrace, Ill

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

If you are a Monty Python fan then this is a ‘don’t miss’ production for you to see. Eric Idle and John DuPrez have adapted this for the stage from the 1975 version of the movie based on “Monty Python and the Holy Grail.”

I first saw the show at the Cadillac Palace before it headed to Broadway and while it had a standout cast the Drury Lane Theatre under the direction of William Osetek has assembled talent with a capital “T” that should be headed to New York but then we would lose so many talented professionals.

Gino Mio as the Lady of the Lake has a golden voice, David Kortemeier as King Arthur is perfectly cast and has an amazing voice.

We welcome home Sean Allan Krill as Sir Dennis Gallahad. He is an outstanding actor and singer who toured and appeared in New York as one of the husbands in “Mamma Mia.” Bradley Mott also returns to Chicago theatre and plays a variety of roles and Adam Pelty as Sir Robin will knock your socks off with his performance and his late father, Lee, I know is proud of you.

If you aren’t familiar with the show and want to come out with a good feeling go see it as it is full of laughs and you might become a Python fan as it did that for me and before I saw it knew nothing about the “Holy Grail.”

Tammy Mader’s choreography shows why she is an exceptionally talented choreographer.

“Spamalot” runs until March 6th. For reservations, performance days – show times – call 630-530-0111. Ticket prices are \$31 - \$40 and \$45.

You can get dinner packages and the food is excellent for the price.

-Four Stars-

Oscar Nominations for Festival Films

Congratulations are in order for two films from the 2010 Chicago International Children’s Film Festival! Both *The Gruffalo* and *The Lost Thing*, which screened at the Festival last October, have been nominated for Academy Awards in the Best Animated Short Film category.

The Gruffalo Since the winners of our Adult Jury’s best animated and live-action short film categories are automatically eligible for Oscar consideration, we closely follow the Academy Award announcements and are delighted that these two wonderful films are receiving this recognition.

Both *The Gruffalo* (Jakob Schuh, Max Lang, Michael Rose, and Martin Pope) and *The Lost Thing* (Andrew Ruhemann and Shaun Tan) were doubly honored at the 27th annual Chicago International Children’s Film Festival’s closing night awards ceremony last fall:

The Lost Thing *The Gruffalo* received second prize from the Adult Jury in the animated short film category, and was honored with the Best of the Fest Award.

The Lost Thing received first prize from the Adult Jury in the animated short film category, and was awarded the Kenneth and Harle Montgomery Prize for best film by an emerging director.

The Academy Award winners will be announced on February 27th. We hope to see our Festival friends take home the prize! Our best wishes and congratulations go out to all those involved in the making of these films. For more information about the Festival, visit www.facets.org/kids

“As You Like It”

Chicago Shakespeare Theatre

800 East Grand Ave on Navy Pier, Chicago, Illinois

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

Barbara Gaines, before her dream came true, was an exceptionally talented actress. Her dream and flair for Shakespeare blossomed from the Red Lion Inn to the Ruth Page Theatre to her dream come true on Navy Pier and winning a Tony Award for Regional Theatre.

Shakespeare Theatre is known for its dramas, historical epics and comedies. “As You Like It” now on the main stage is one of Shakespeare’s better comedies. Some of his works have been adapted as musicals, also. If you see a Shakespeare play be aware the show will run a good two hours and forty-five minutes.

“As You Like It” has a stellar cast and Kate Fry as Rosalind gives an award-winning performance in the show that will have you laughing out loud.

Gary Griffin’s direction is right on target with its twenty-one characters.

Standouts include Chaon Cross as Celia who has the role of Rosalind’s cousin. Matt Schwader is Orlando. Shakespeare veterans are Ross Lehman as Jaques, Kevin Gudahl as Duke Senior, Patrick Clelar is Corin, Matt DeCaro is Duke Frederick, Dennis Kelly is Adam, Elizabeth Ledo is Phoebe, Jeff Parker is Oliver and the list goes on. Following in his family shows is Andrew Mueller as Amiens. It may be a small role but I promise if he keeps acting you’ll be hearing a lot more from him as he does a most impressive singing the songs of composer Jenny Giering and if Shakespeare were around I’m sure he would be proud.

You’ll thrill to the fight choreography staged by David Wooley. He is one of the best in this field.

The story is a romantic comedy as the hero and heroin flee from a hostile court to the Forest of Arden where their romantic adventure lead them to who they are and find the love they are each looking for.

You’ll howl as the courtiers, clowns, and philosophers struggle to find out who they are and discover love.

You should take your teenagers to see this production and introduce them to Shakespeare.

“As You Like It” runs through March 6th. For performance days, show times and reservations call 312-545-5600. Tickets are \$44 to \$75. **-Three Stars-**

Open Studio Project

Curious about classes at OSP? No time for a six-week class? ...try out a one day workshop,

Introduction to the OSP Process In this 3 hour workshop, explore our OSP Process & learn to combine uninhibited art-making with thoughtful writing and reflection. Our studio is a safe space, free of any comment or criticism, providing you with a healthy environment to access your inner wisdom and explore and expand your intuition. Members: \$55, Non-members: \$65

Saturday, February 26th: 1-4pm

Open Studio Project 903 Sherman Ave, Evanston, IL. 60202 phone: 847.475.0390; email: info@openstudioproject.org; web: www.openstudioproject.org

North Shore Theater of Wilmette Season Schedule

Brighton Beach Memoirs

Production Dates Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.: February 4 & 5; 11 & 12; 18 & 19 Sundays at 2 p.m.: February 6, 13 & 20

Willy Wonka, Jr.

SPRING Children’s Theater

AUDITIONS: Jan 3 and Jan 4 @ 7:00 p.m.

Production Dates: March 4 thru March 13, 2011; Fridays, @ 7:00 p.m., Saturdays, @ 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.; and Sundays @ 2:00 p.m.

Hairspray

AUDITIONS: Monday, Feb. 7, and Tuesday, Feb. 8, from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for all roles except for “Motormouth Maybelle.” Callbacks - Thursday, Feb. 10, 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Hairspray Performances Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.: April 15 & 16; 29 & 30; May 6 & 7; Sundays at 2 p.m.: April 17, May 1 & 8

Check the website for more up to date information for which musical and audition dates. <http://www.wilmettepark.org/performing-arts>

Or contact Bob Bierie @ robertbierie@wilpark.org or 847-256-9786 if you have questions or concerns.

Evanston Children’s Theatre presents Humpty Dumpty Before the Fall and Citizen Rumple

Take the kids to a night at the theater! Evanston Children’s Theatre (ECT) presents Humpty Dumpty Before the Fall and Citizen Rumple, two short, one-act plays. Find out what happened in the time leading up to Humpty Dumpty’s famous fall, and then learn the story of the disappearance of one of the Fairy Tale Gazette’s most infamous writers. ECT performers are age 8 through eighth grade. Show times are 7 p.m. on Friday, March 11; 3 and 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 12; and 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 13 at the Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave. Tickets are \$6 per person. For more information, call 847-448-8250.

Reserve your seats now!

Shattered
Globe
Theatre 2.0



THE BEAUTY
QUEEN OF
LEENANE

by Martin McDonagh
Directed by Steve Scott

@ the Athenaeum Theatre
2936 N. Southport Ave.
Previews: January 13, 14, 15
Opens: January 16
Closing: February 27
Thurs-Sat. 8 PM, Sundays, 3 PM

BUY TICKETS
Online: Ticketmaster.com
By phone: Ticketmaster - 800.982.2787
In person: at the Athenaeum box office
Tuesday-Friday, 3-7 PM

www.shatteredglobe.org

Local Arts and Entertainment

DANK-HAUS GERMAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

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

Cabaret Fundraiser

Crooner Elizabeth Doyle of Pump Room fame does her best Marlene Dietrich across the baby grand. Champagne cocktails, grasshopper, pink ladies. Flickering candlelight, black dresses, smoky stares.

The event is Saturday March 5, 2011 at 9:00 pm. Tickets are \$50, which includes one glass of champagne.

Pilates Klasse Saturdays 9:15 am

Sign up today for Pilates im DANK Haus. Banish the bratwurst bulge with floor exercises lead by Tania Serratore. Saturdays at 9:15 am Scharpenberg Gallery - 4th floor. Please wear loose comfortable clothing and bring a mat and towel. \$10 class fee

German Cinema Now 2011

4th Fridays at 7:30pm in the Skyline Lounge

Feb 25 Alles auf Zucker!

Mar 25 Der Tunnel

May 27 East Side Story

Jun 24 Miracle of Bern

Jul 22 Hoellentour

Aug 26 Was tun, wenn brennt's?

Sep 23 Kampfansage

DANK Haus hosts Germany's Annual Bachelorette Party - Weiberfastnacht!

The DANK Haus in Lincoln Square presents Weiberfastnacht, Women's Mardi Gras. The event is the kickoff party for the German Karneval season and the women are in charge. Ladies will enjoy dancing to techno under the disco ball and generally being naughty girls while shirtless men in bow ties serve them.

Everyone is encouraged to come in costume – men are especially encouraged to don a dress and wig. Those men that dare to wear a tie will have it cut off by scissor wielding ladies but do not fret: tradition says a kiss is due as compensation.

Entertainment abounds from German band Paloma to gender bending skits to provokant stand-up and dancing all night to modern German and American pop and techno hits.

Refreshments available, especially krapfen - the traditional sugar doughnut of the Karneval season. Goulash, leberkäse sandwiches and cash bar available.

You don't have to be German to enjoy this night of debauchery!

The event is Friday February 11, 2011. Doors open 6:11 pm. Band starts 7:11 pm. Program starts 8:11 pm. Entrance \$5.00

Position Available

The DANK Haus German American Cultural Center seeks a Development Director to manage and increase financial and human resources. A new position in the organization, the Director will have the opportunity to build the development function. Grant benchmark expectations after one year.

Email cover letter, resume and salary requirements

POLISH FRATERNALS TO SPONSOR TWO EVENTS DOZIN' WITH THE DINO'S AND POLISH AMERICAN NIGHT WITH THE CHICAGO BULLS

The Four Polish Fraternal Organizations with National Vice Presidents Paul C. Odrobina of the Polish National Alliance, Sharon Zago, of the Polish Women's Alliance, Anna Sokolowski of the Polish Roman Catholic Union and Robert Gorny of the Polish Falcons of America invites families for two big Fraternal events.

On, Friday, March 4, 2011, the four fraternal groups will once again sponsor "Dozin' With the Dino's" at the Field Museum – 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois. Children, ages 6 – 12 and chaperones will spend the evening at the Field Museum beginning with a "Dinosauria" workshop, then exploring and learning about the exhibits, watch a performance and have a snack. They all will spend the rest of the night at the Museum. There is a limited number of attendees for this event and reservations should be made early and as soon as possible.

For all basketball fans, our second Polish American Night with the Chicago Bulls basketball game will be on Tuesday evening of April 5, 2011 at the United Center - 1901 W. Madison St. in Chicago, Illinois, which is also available for the entire family. The Chicago Bulls will host the Phoenix Suns that evening. The game will begin at 7:00 p.m. The Fraternals has a special discounted price on these tickets. Last year, tickets sold out very fast. Bulls game tickets can be purchased and picked up at the Polish National Alliance.

If you would like additional information, prices, registration forms or purchase tickets of either of these two events, please call:

Polish National Alliance – Paul Odrobina at 1-800-621-3723 ext. 316 - visit our website: www.pna-znp.org information is in the "Events" section on the main page.

Polish Women's Alliance – Sharon Zago at 1-888-522-1898 ext. 208

Polish Roman Catholic Union – Anna Sokolowski – 1-800-772-8632 ext. 2601

Polish Falcons of America – Robert Gorny – 1-574-289-2140

Navy Pier Celebrates "Neighborhoods of the World"

Warm your winter with this first-ever festive, fun and educational performance series celebrating Chicago's ethnic neighborhoods

Navy Pier® is proud to celebrate the rich tapestry of Chicago's diverse ethnic communities, in an ALL-NEW tribute: Neighborhoods of the World, presented each Sunday, February 6 – April 3, 12 p.m. – 5 p.m., in Navy Pier's Crystal Gardens. This event is FREE and open to the public. Celebrate the many cultures of our world-class city by enjoying authentic live music and dance performances, cuisine, art, and community vendors from nine different ethnic Chicago communities.

Neighborhoods of the World transforms Navy Pier's Crystal Gardens into a premier destination spot for cultural celebrations that appeal to visitors of all ages. Navy Pier has collaborated with many consulates, neighborhood chambers, community museums, arts groups, and cultural organizations to produce this unique, first-ever performance series.

"Navy Pier is pleased to be an entertainment and cultural hub that appeals to visitors from across Chicago and around the world," said Marilyn Gardner, Navy Pier General Manager. "This new Sunday performance series will celebrate the exciting diversity that makes Chicago such a wonderful place to live."

February's celebrations include four spectacular Sundays filled with educational, fun programming and entertainment. In cooperation with the Consulate General of India and Indo-American Heritage Museum, the first Sunday of the series will commence with Amazing India on February 6, 2011. Experience never-before seen performances by Natya Dance Theatre, Ajit Deshmukh & Vikas Falnikar, Kalapadma Dance Academy, and Ensemble of Ragas featuring Saraswathi Ranganathan, Athrey Nadhan, and Ravi Iyer.

Celebrate a new beginning in a new year! In cooperation with the Chinese Fine Arts Society, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, and the US-China Cultural Association, come honor the "Year of the Rabbit." The Chinese New Year Celebration will take place on Sunday, February 13, 2011. Celebration performances will include the Lion Dancers from the Chinese Cultural Center and martial artists from Bei Dou Kung Fu. Neighborhoods of the World

Share in the rich traditions of African heritage with music, dance, food and more. In cooperation with Africa International House and Chicago Commission on Human Relations, Africa in Chicago will take place on Sunday, February 20, 2011. Special performances include Maggie Brown, M.A.D.D. Rhythms, Chicago Steppers, Khalidah's North African Dance Experience, Joan Collaso & the Larry Hanks Trio, and Gladys.

Navy Pier joins the Consulate General of Ireland, Beverly Area Planning Association, Irish American Heritage Center, Chicago Gaelic Park, and Beverly Arts Center to prepare Chicago for St. Patrick's Day by presenting a February preview celebration with the Kick-Off to St. Patrick's Day Celebrations on Sunday, February 27, 2011. Special performances include Trinity Irish Dancers, Joe Cullen, Irish Music School of Chicago, and Anish.

The month of March presents four spectacular Sundays traveling through the cultures of Poland, Italy, Mexico, and Greece. In cooperation with the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland, Celebrate Poland will take place on Sunday, March 6, 2011. Special performances include Lechici Dancers, Soloists from the Lira Singers, Lajkonik Dancers, Academy of Music of the Paderewski Symphony Orchestra, and The Polish Highlanders.

In cooperation with the Italian Cultural Institute and Consulate General of Italy, Bell'Italia will take place on Sunday, March 13, 2011. Coming to Navy Pier from Castelleone, Italy, you can enjoy the Midwest premiere of the Renaissance madrigal group, La Rossignol. This performance is not to be missed! Special performances also include appearances by Alfonso Ponticelli & Swing Gitan, and more.

Join Navy Pier for a one-of-kind celebration of authentic Mexican food, music, and art. In cooperation with the Consulate General of Mexico, Casa Michoacan, and Mexico Tourism Board, Celebrate Mexico will take place on Sunday, March 20, 2011. Special performances include Mexican Dance Ensemble, Tarima Son, and more.

Navy Pier has expanded well beyond Chicago's own Greektown for its next Sunday celebration. In cooperation with the Consulate General of Greece, A Greek Journey in the Windy City will take place on Sunday, March 27, 2011. Special performances include the Orpheus Hellenic Folklore Society and the Chicago Hellenic Choir. While you're in the neighborhood, participate in the children's arts and crafts area.

The Neighborhoods of the World series concludes on Sunday, April 3, 2011. In cooperation with the Dank-Haus German American Cultural Center and the Lincoln Square Chamber of Commerce, Navy Pier presents GermanChicagoNow. Featuring performances by Pieptone!, Paloma Band, Amazonen, Fanfaren Corps of Chicago, BGTV D'Lustigen Holzackerer Buam, Egerlander Tanzgruppe, and Amazing Mike.

For more details on this performance series and other winter activities at Navy Pier, please check our website: www.navypier.com

Local Arts and Entertainment

SKOKIE ART GUILD

Skokie Art Guild Live Model Figure Drawing Workshops

Figure Drawing Workshop
and meet as follows:

Thursdays -7:00 PM - 9:45 PM
Saturdays - 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

* Devonshire Cultural Center,
4400 Greenwood St., Skokie, IL 60076

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



CALL FOR ARTISTS:

Skokie Art Guild's 50th Annual Art Fair. July 9-10, 2011. Original Fine Art. Prizes and Awards. Held on Skokie's beautiful Village Green at 5211 W. Oakton. Want to exhibit? For information/application contact: skokieart@aol.com www.skokieartguild.org (847-677-8163).

The Open Studio Project 2011 Facilitator's Exhibition

Featuring mixed media artwork by OSP's talented facilitators.
Gallery Hours: Mon-Thurs. Feb 2-28th, 10am to 3pm
Open Studio Project 903 Sherman Ave, Evanston, IL. 60202 phone: 847.475.0390;
email: info@openstudioproject.org; web: www.openstudioproject.org

Fun For the Family at a Karaoke Sing-Along

The monthly Family Karaoke/Poetry Slam provides a great opportunity for families to grow closer in a fun environment. Parents and children alike will enjoy slammin' hip poetry and singing their favorite songs on stage. Tunes are provided by Phat Katz Karaoke. This event will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, February 19 at the Fleetwood-Jourdain Center, 1655 Foster St. This event costs only \$5 for the entire family, or you can add \$1.50 per person to include a slice of pizza and a soft drink. For more information, call 847-448-8254.

Jefferson Park Area Resident Appointed to FCC Committee

Jefferson Park area resident Bill Jurek, who manages CRIS (Chicagoland Radio Information Service) Radio at The Chicago Lighthouse and hosts "The Beacon" each week on WCPT-AM, has a new honor under his belt.

Jurek, an award-winning broadcast veteran, has recently been appointed to a two-year term on an FCC (Federal Communications Commission) committee that deals with video programming and emergency access.

The Video Programming and Emergency Access Advisory Committee (VPEAAC) is an advisory committee to the FCC that is required by the Twenty-first Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010.

"I am absolutely thrilled and honored by this appointment," Jurek beamed. "It is so important for people who are blind or visually impaired to have a seat at the table on issues impacting their access to video programming and communications."

VPEAAC is being established to address matters concerning the accessibility of video devices, as well as access by people with disabilities to video programming through closed captioning, video description and emergency information.

"We have divided this committee into four working groups, each of which will be assigned specific tasks related to the Committee's purposes," said FCC Chair Julius Genachowski who announced Jurek's appointment.

He added that within six months of its first meeting this month, the VPEAAC is to submit to the Commission various recommendations concerning the provision and display of closed captions.

"By April of 2012, the VPEAAC must submit recommendations on matters concerning video description, accessible emergency information, and the accessibility of user interfaces, apparatus functions, on-screen text menus, and video programming guides and menus on video devices," Genachowski said.

Founded in 1906, The Chicago Lighthouse is one of the nation's most comprehensive social service agencies. It houses a state-of-the-art retail store especially designed for blind or visually impaired shoppers with several top of the line electronic reading devices; the nation's oldest and most prominent low vision care and rehabilitation program; one of the few remaining clock manufacturing facilities in the U.S.; a nationally acclaimed school for children who are blind with multi-disabilities; a world renowned employment services department; and a VA program serving veterans in all 50 states.



Skokie Theatre Music Foundation

847-677-7761

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Skokie, IL 60077

www.skokietheatre.com



Plenty of free parking!

Group Rate Available

Ticket prices do not include service fees

Buy tickets online at www.skokietheatre.org

February 9 at 1:30pm Jimmy Niteclub's BOBBY DARIN & SOUNDS OF THE SIXTIES

February 11 at 8:00pm Pop Culture Power Radio presents "It was the night before Valentine's Day and other great horror stories"

February 13 at 2:00pm Classical Pianist Dr. Vladimir Leyetchkiss presents Bach and Chopin

February 16 at 1:30pm Jack Miuccio's FOREVER FRANK (Sinatra)

February 18 at 8:00pm Anne Harris

February 19 at 8:00pm Johnny Rogers in Country Classics

February 23 at 1:30pm Tony Bernard's A TRIP DOWN THE VEGAS STRIP

February 25 at 8:00pm Folk Music in the Heartland: The Folksongs of Illinois

February 26 at 8:00pm Johnny Rogers in Buddy & Beyond

North Shore Theater of Wilmette Hairspray Auditions

When: Monday, Feb. 7, and Wednesday, Feb. 9, from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Open casting call for all roles except for "Motormouth Maybelle."

Callbacks will be held Thursday, Feb. 10, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Where: The Auditorium of the Community Recreation Center, 3000 Glenview Road, Wilmette.

Performance Dates: Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. beginning April 15 through May 8. There will be no performances Easter weekend.

Prepare a vocal selection from "Hairspray" or another Broadway musical, and be prepared to dance. Please bring your music, an accompanist will be provided.

For more information contact Bob Bierie at 847-256-9694 or robert-bierie@wilpark.org. <http://www.wilmettepark.org/performingarts/north-shore-theater>

Village of Skokie Honors Student Artists

In honor of Youth Arts Month, the Village of Skokie Fine Arts Commission will present the annual youth art show, SOAR (Students' Outstanding Artistic Recognition). The show features artwork selected by art teachers from Skokie schools.

Artwork will be on public display at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, 9501 Skokie Boulevard, from Monday, March 2 through Friday, March 25, 2011. The exhibit will be accessible Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from noon to 5 p.m.

The Fine Arts Commission promotes interest in cultural and arts activities in the Village. Some of the responsibilities of the Commission include: promoting the work of private organizations and individual volunteers within the Village who are active in the fine arts, and encouraging the cooperation of public and private agencies as well as the general public, in supporting cultural enrichment within the Village.

For more information about the SOAR program or the Skokie Fine Arts Commission please call 847/933-8257.

New Art Space at Civic Center Opens: Gallery 4502

The City of Evanston, in partnership with the Evanston Art Center, has opened a new public art gallery at the Civic Center.

Gallery 4502 opened with its first show "The Grounded Gaze: Escape Through Landscape - An Exhibition of Landscape Inspired Paintings by Evanston Artists" with a reception on Friday January 28 at the gallery located on the 4th Floor of the Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue. Exhibited artists included Maureen Crowley, Pat Hinkel, Arlene Kaplan, Lisa Loomis, Catherine McCullough, Vicki Rawlins, Nadine "Yadi" Royster and Noel Yovovich.

The exhibition was organized by Evanston Art Center Executive Director Norah Diedrich and City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz. The Evanston Art Center has agreed to organize three exhibits in 2011 at the new gallery featuring artists who live and/or work in Evanston. The new exhibit runs through April 29, 2011 and is accessible during regular City business hours. The opening of Gallery 4502 marks the beginning of a new effort by the City of Evanston to use the Civic Center as a place for more regular exhibits of local art.

For further information, contact the City at citymanagersoffice@cityofevanston.org

Valentine's Day Events

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

The Chicago Park District celebrates Valentine's Day with numerous dances and parties throughout the city Feb. 4-18, 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. Click here for the full schedule of Valentine's Day events, or here to watch a video. Following are highlights:

Sweet Saturdays

Saturdays, Feb. 5 and 12, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Garfield Park Conservatory, 300 N. Central Park Ave., Suggested donation \$3, all ages

Sweet Saturdays will focus on plants that provide the key ingredients to some favorite sweet treats. Visitors can sample the facts, the flavors and the fun of some of the most tantalizing tropical treats and enjoy hands-on activity centers.

6th Annual Daddy-Daughter/Mother-Son Valentine Dance

Thursday, Feb. 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Mayfair Park, 4550 W. Sunnyside Ave., 773-685-3361. Admission \$4 (exact change required), all ages, pre-registration recommended

Valentine Daddy-Daughter Dance

Thursday, Feb. 10, 6:30-8 p.m. Smith (Joseph Higgins) Park, 2526 W. Grand Ave., 312-742-7534. Admission \$5, all ages

Daddy-Daughter/Mother-Son Valentine Dance

Friday, Feb. 11, 6:30-9 p.m. Horner Park, 2741 W. Montrose Ave., 773-478-3499. Admission \$5 per couple, all ages, children must be accompanied by an adult Music performed by the Horner Park Jazz Band.

Valentine Daddy-Daughter Dance

Friday, Feb. 11, 6:30-8 p.m. Loyola Park, 1230 W. Greenleaf Ave., 773-262-8605. Admission \$7, all ages

Valentine's Day Dance

Friday, Feb. 11, 6:30-8 p.m. Wicker Park, 1425 N. Damen Ave., 312-742-7553. Admission \$5, all ages

Teen Valentine's Day Dance

Friday, Feb. 11, 7-9 p.m. Holstein Park, 2200 N. Oakley Ave., 312-742-7554. Admission \$2 suggested donation, ages 13-17

Valentine Daddy-Daughter/Mother-Son Disco Bash

Saturday, Feb. 12, 3-5 p.m. Indian Boundary Park & Cultural Center, 2500 W. Lunt Ave., 773-764-0338. Admission \$2, all ages

I HEART ART EXHIBIT AT NILES NORTH ON FEBRUARY 15

The community is invited to view a heartwarming display at the I HEART ART exhibit held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 15 in the lobby at Niles North High School, 9800 Lawler, Skokie. Artwork from East Prairie, Golf Middle School, McCracken Middle School, Old Orchard Junior High and Niles North students will be exhibited. Art on display includes paintings, drawings, three-dimensional objects, ceramics, digital art and digital photography. During the event, artists will be making Valentines for soldiers and giving tours of the facilities.

The Daddy/Daughter Valentine's Day Date

Dads, celebrate the one you love: your daughter! The Daddy/Daughter Valentine's Day Date will take place from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 11 at Chandler-Newberger Center, 1028 Central St. The evening will be a mix of fun relay races, art and games that will make this Valentine's Day one you'll always remember. Pizza and a special dessert will be provided. The cost is \$30 per daddy/daughter pair. Daughters must be in grades two through four. For more information and to register, call 847-448-8252.

A SPECIAL VALENTINE'S DAY CONCERT IN MILLENNIUM PARK SHELLEY MACARTHUR AND AN EVENING OF LOVE SONGS

MacArthur Premieres New CD "With Love, Shelley" As Part of "Cabaret with a View" Series, February 14, 2011 at 7:30 PM

Celebrate Valentine's Day in Millennium Park with Chicago actress and singer Shelley MacArthur and an evening of romantic love songs as part of the Cabaret with a View series on Monday, February 14, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. Presented by Millennium Park, Cabaret with a View brings audiences to the stage of the Jay Pritzker Pavilion to experience music in an intimate setting and a climate controlled environment.

In an evening that is sure to be a Valentine's Day treat for cabaret aficionados and lovers of jazz, MacArthur will sing selections from her new CD, With Love, Shelley, featuring love-themed songs by such composers as Gershwin, Bacharach, Sondheim, Cy Coleman and Jimmy McHugh. The collection of songs is a personal one for MacArthur as they represent many that have been hand-picked for her through the years by some of her biggest musical influences and supporters. MacArthur will be joined by Bradley Williams, Musical Director and pianist, along with Dan DeLorenzo on bass, Pat Mallinger on saxophone and flute, and Jim Widlowski on drums.

Tickets are \$15 and are available by calling 312.742.TIXS (8497) or by visiting www.millenniumpark.org. MacArthur's CD will be officially released at this performance and is available for purchase for \$15. The CD will also be available in stores and online at www.shelleymacarthur.com.



Did You Know...?

It seems only natural that February is National Weddings Month. After all, Valentine's Day is the most popular day of the year for wedding proposals.

The second-most popular day to "pop the question" is New Year's Eve.



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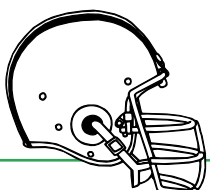
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LOCAL SCHOOLS & YOUTH EVENTS

Facets Kids Film Camp

"Come make a film at the coolest summer camp in Chicago!"

For over 10 years, Facets Kids Film Camp has given kids who love movies a chance to understand filmmaking from behind the scenes, providing a real foundation in the technique, language, and process of film making. Applications for this summer's 2011 Facets Kids Film Camp are now available, with full and half-day sessions for children ages 7-14. Instruction includes:

The basics of filmmaking techniques, including camera angles, shots, lighting, sound recording, acting style, screenwriting, storyboarding, and directing.

A foundation in film vocabulary and criticism.

Dozens of hands-on activities, including storyboarding, screenwriting, acting, writing reviews, and making a movie.

Unique to Chicago, Facets Kids Film Camp is just one of many Facets Children's Programs that open up a world of film and media to kids, giving them the essential tools for self-expression in a digital age.

Participation in the Camp also qualifies kids for other opportunities through Facets such as:

The Children's Jury of the Chicago International Children's Film Festival - Selected campers qualify for the prestigious jury of the country's largest festival of films for children. Jurors view, critique, and award prizes for the 2011 Festival. By invitation only upon completion of Film Camp summer 2011.

Facets Film Ambassador Program - Selected Film Camp graduates may represent Facets as official delegates at renowned international children's film festivals in Italy, Korea, India, and Canada (ages 12 to 14 only).

Critical Outlets - Film Camp Alumni contribute reviews of films for publication on the Festival website, in print, and on television.

More information and camp applications are available at: <http://www.cicff.org/content/facets-kids-film-camp/81>

Space is currently available. Applications are accepted on a first come, first served basis.

SESSION SCHEDULE:

HALF DAY - June 20 - July 1, 2011; Ages 11-14: 9am-12:30pm

Cost: \$350 (includes snack)

FULL DAY - July 11-15, 2011; Ages 11-14: 9am-5pm

Cost: \$450 (includes lunch & snacks)

FULL DAY - July 18-22, 2011; Ages 7-10: 9am-5pm

Cost: \$450 (includes lunch & snacks)

For more information on Facets Children's Programs, visit: www.facets.org/kids

St. Edward School 100th Anniversary Celebration

St. Edward School will celebrate its 100th Anniversary on Sunday, February 20, 2011! To honor the school, Cardinal George will celebrate Mass at St. Edward Church at 2:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

A dinner-dance will follow Mass at the Irish American Heritage Center. Tickets can be purchased on St. Edward School's website at www.stedwardschool.com.

The February school board meeting will be held Monday, February 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the lower church. All school parents and parishioners are welcome. For more information, call the school at 773/736-9133.

St. Edward's Annual Big Red Auction

Many exciting prizes will be on the live and silent auction block at St. Edward's annual "Big Red Auction." Each year proceeds from the auction will help St. Edward School continue its commitment to providing a quality Catholic education to area children.

The gala will be held on Saturday, March 26, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. until Midnight in Buckley Hall - the school gym - at 4343 W. Sunnyside Avenue (one block north of Montrose at the corner of Lowell).

Closing times on bids will be staggered during the evening. A cash bar and complimentary heavy hors'doeuvres will be available. Dancing and a DJ begin at 8:30PM and the dress is casual.

Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Partygoers must be 21 to attend. For more information, call the school at 773/736-9133.

Project Exploration: Dinner with a Dinosaur XI is Coming!

Reptiles, science demonstrations, and more surprises! Dinner with a Dinosaur XI is coming Friday, February 25, 2011. 1460 North Halsted Street, Chicago, Illinois. Cocktail hour begins at 6 PM. For more information and to buy tickets go to www.projectexploration.org/ddxi/

Junior Gan Israel Day Camp in Skokie Announces Registration is Now Open

It's freezing out, and that means... time to think summer! Registration for the Junior Gan Israel Day Camp 2011 season is now underway.

Junior Gan Israel is the gold standard in Jewish preschool camping. Professional early childhood educators care for the children in a nurturing environment. The rich range of activities includes swimming at Oakton Water Playground and the highly acclaimed Stretch-n-Grow gymnastics and sports instruction. Camp is located in the East Prairie Elementary School, near Crawford Ave. and Howard St. in Skokie. The building is clean, spacious and air-conditioned. The grounds feature a playground, lots of grass, and a tricycle path.

There are a variety of tracks for parents to choose from for children ages 1 1/2 to 6. The Tots Club is for children ages 1 1/2 to 2 1/2, who attend with a parent or caregiver. The Bright Beginnings Program is geared for children ages 2 to 3. Campers ages 2 1/2 to 6 attend the Expanding Horizons Program, with Afternoon Enrichment available. Children are grouped according to age.

Our Hebrew Immersion Camp is another option for 4 to 6 year olds. This program features the same rich array of activities as the Expanding Horizons program, but with Hebrew integrated into the program. The Hebrew Immersion Division Head is an expert in using music, drama, art, and of course, lots of fun to teach the campers Hebrew. No Hebrew-speaking background is necessary. Hebrew Immersion campers have the option of joining the Expanding Horizons campers for Afternoon Enrichment.

Parents can choose to have their child/ren receive nutritious hot lunches daily. Transportation to and from camp is available.

Additional information and registration are available at www.JuniorGanIsrael.org. Junior Gan Israel is a full service camp, and Director Mrs. Zeesy Posner is happy to discuss with parents what would be best for their children. She can be reached at ZeesyPosner@JuniorGanIsrael.org or 847-677-1770 X8.

St. Hyacinth Basilica School Students Win Honorable mention for The Patriot's Pen Awards

St. Hyacinth Basilica School is proud to have three of their upper grade students win Honorable mention for The Patriot's Pen Awards. Students from around the Chicago area schools competed in an essay contest, which they prepared for months and worked along with the 2nd District VFW Posts and Auxiliaries. Members of the organization recognized all of the students' hard work and said.

"We gratefully acknowledge the contestants for their participation in the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Contests. They are a group of young Americans with whom it has been our pleasure to work with these past few months."

On January 9, 2011 the Second District Department of Illinois Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary presented three Patriot's Pen District and Post Awards of Honorable Mention to three of our St. Hyacinth Basilica School students. Congratulations to Zachary Utterback, 8th Grade, Robert Wojcik, 8th Grade, and Gabriela Eurioles, 8th Grade who were recognized for their Patriot's Pen Youth essay on, "Does Patriotism Still Matter?" Also, 8th grader, Zachary Utterback, placed third in the District for his essay. The awards were held at Messiah Lutheran Church Hall, 6201 W. Patterson. The 2nd District Youth Chairmen, Clare and Bob Drzewiecki gave the awards to our students.

GUERIN PREP presents
4th Annual Big Event
Saturday, March 5, 2011
6 pm to midnight

THE Big Event

escape the ordinary

food & drink
comedy club
jazz band/synchronicity
dancing
auction & raffle
monte-carlo games
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MUSIC FOR YOU BY
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SHE'S BACK!

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2 COMEDY SHOWS
aka Pat Musker MTG '75

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TICKETS
\$40 in advance
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GPBigEvent.com

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LOCAL SCHOOLS & YOUTH EVENTS

DANK-Haus Hosts Children's Mardi Gras Event – KinderFasching!

The DANK Haus in historic Lincoln Square will present KinderFasching, a winter celebration of the 5th season of the year - Carnival season! It's a great way to spend a snowy afternoon and let the kids have a ball.

Everyone is encouraged to come in costume - we'll have free face painting, a parade lead by the Prince & Princess, balloon artists, treats, performances by the Paloma band and the Amazonen Dance Corps. Make your own mask with all the glitter and feathers your heart desires.

Refreshments available, especially krapfen - a traditional sugar doughnut prepared on site by our Culture Kitchen. Krapfen are 2 for \$1. Hotdogs also available.

You don't have to be German to enjoy this day of silliness!

The event is Saturday February 5, 2011 from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm. Children 3 to 13 are \$3. Guests 14 and over are \$4.

City Colleges of Chicago Appoints an Executive Director of Nursing

The Reinvention initiative works to transform City Colleges into a best-in-class institution; the expansion of offerings in the growing field of health care will begin with an immediate assessment of CCC's nursing offerings.

City Colleges of Chicago (CCC) Board of Trustees, under the leadership of CCC Chairman Martin Cabrera, Jr. approved the appointment of Debra Ann Gurney, RN, BSN, MS, EdD as Executive Director of Nursing Programs at today's board meeting.

"City Colleges is committed to preparing our students for careers in high growth fields such as healthcare, including the nursing profession. We recognize that we serve a tremendously diverse population and we are dedicated to equipping all of our students with skills that prepare them to be successful in the 21st century workplace," said CCC Chancellor Cheryl L. Hyman.

The new executive director plans a five-step evidence based assessment of all the CCC nursing programs to determine their strengths and their weaknesses. This will include a complete review of curriculum, and it will be part of a larger effort to strengthen CCC's health care offerings.

"Dr. Gurney brings a wealth of experience to City Colleges that will allow her to support accreditation, student completion of the program and employment of nursing students," said CCC Provost Angela Henderson. "We look forward to her leadership as we work to create first-class nursing programs across the district and expand all of our health care programs to ensure we meet the market demands in these growing fields."

Dr. Gurney was most recently Medical - Surgical Clinical Unit Director at Rush Oak Park Hospital. Prior to that, she was the Chairperson and Assistant Professor in the Department of Nursing, Rockford College, Rockford, Illinois. She holds a Doctorate in Adult Education and a Masters of Science from Northern Illinois University, DeKalb and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Rockford College.

"I am honored to join the CCC team and to have the opportunity to participate in Reinvention. I view assessment as an evolving process that will lead to increasing the quality of nursing programs and subsequently increasing our students' potential for success in the field," said Dr. Gurney.

NILES WEST DEBATE TEAM WINS TWO TOURNAMENTS IN ONE WEEKEND

The Niles West Debate Team extended their winning streak with two more championships this past weekend. The Debate Team won a tournament on the Urban Debate League Circuit at Lane Tech High School in Chicago and a tournament on the Regional Circuit at Iowa City West High School in Iowa City, Iowa. The Niles West team has now won three championships and earned a second place finish over the past two months of competition. According to Head Debate Coach Eric Oddo, "This is a rare feat for any debate program, let alone a revitalized one. I'm so proud of the kids and thrilled with the results."

Six Niles West teams competed in the Novice Division at Lane Tech. Sarika Malani and Emma Lazar were undefeated in the preliminary rounds and were the #1 seed entering the elimination bracket. They defeated the #2 seed Northside College Prep for the championship. Malani was voted the sixth best speaker out of 64 debaters. The other Niles West teams: Rimsha Baig and Justin Kang, Lia Isono, Jessie Amgalanjargal and Connie Dang, Nate Lee and Kris Trivedi and Sebastian Chirayil and Amanda Muir.

Four Niles West teams competed in the Novice Division at Iowa City West. Nashiha Alam and Art Siriawatt were the #2 seed entering the elimination bracket. They defeated the #4 seed from Iowa City for the championship. Theo Noparstak and Vinay Patel, also from Niles West, were the #1 seed entering the elimination bracket. They lost to the #4 seed in the semifinals. Patel was voted the sixth best speaker out of 30 debaters. The other Niles West teams were: Breana Brill and Alyssa Guzman and Jonass Placitis and Jerry Varghese.

The Niles West Debate Team is coached by Eric Oddo. Assistant Coaches are Matt Fahrenbacher and Kevin Bancroft.

GUERIN PREP OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO "ESCAPE THE ORDINARY"

Guerin Prep High School's fourth annual Big Event on Saturday, March 5, 2011, offers attendees the opportunity to escape the ordinary and the winter blahs while helping to raise money to support the mission of the Catholic school.

The event, open to adults 21 and older, will be held at the school, 8001 W. Belmont Ave., River Grove, from 6 p.m. to midnight.

"The beauty of our event is that there is something for everyone," explained Janis Ryan, coordinator for the event. Titled "Escape the Ordinary" this year's event boasts an international theme. "Event-goers will be given a passport at the door," said Ryan, "and are invited to collect stamps at the various entertainment venues making them eligible for an I-Touch door prize."

In carrying out the international theme, the school's foyer will be transformed into a Monte Carlo venue with poker, black-jack, roulette wheel and other games.

A Mardi Gras-New Orleans theme will be carried out in the school's gym where Guerin Prep's jazz band will perform for part of the evening followed by a D.J., bags, darts and trivia tournaments and GP's own Blue and Green Man Group.

Guerin Prep faculty and staff will host the now traditional chocolate lovers' room, located in the French Café Guerin, where Synchronicity, Guerin Prep's select string ensemble, will provide music to eat by, followed by a new attraction this year, "Music for You by Frank Sinatra" aka Anthony Cassano, HC '82.

Another of the school's alumni, Pat Musker MTG '75, will be back in the Irish Pub Comedy Room as Roxy Bellows.

Food donated and prepared by local restaurants and caterers will be available in abundance, including Elmcrest Banquets. Polish, Italian and Mexican food are among the featured items. All food and desserts are included in the ticket price. Cash bars will be available throughout the event.

Event-goers will be able to purchase "Win Big" raffle tickets to compete for two cash prizes and a 52" HDTV as well as bid on raffle baskets and silent auction items, among them Cubs and Sox tickets, a ThinkPad computer and a stay at the James Hotel.

Sponsors include LaSalle Capital Group, Greenola, Neighbors Newspaper, First Security Trust and Savings Bank, 36th Ward Alderman John A. Rice, Manor Press, and Rosemont Mayor Bradley A. Stephens. Additional sponsors and benefactors are being sought.

Details about The Big Event are available at [HYPERLINK "http://www.gpbigevent.com"](http://www.gpbigevent.com) www.gpbigevent.com. Tickets are \$40 per person in advance or \$50 at the door. They may be purchased online or by calling Janis Ryan at 708-437-4734. There is no charge for admission to the Vegas-venue only.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Annual Fund of Guerin Prep High School, helping to keep tuition affordable for all who wish to attend. Guerin Prep is a Catholic college preparatory secondary school for young men and women.

NILES NORTH STUDENT MAKES HONOR ROLL FOR AMERICAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Niles North High School student Joane Joseph is listed on the Student Honor Roll American Mathematics Competition (AMC) 10 A&B for the United States. Joseph, a junior, took the AMC 10 A&B test, a 25 question exam, while a sophomore. She scored in the top five percent of test takers and was among the top 11 students in Illinois. Her stellar performance qualified her for the American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME), a 15 question test that is only given to the top scorers on the AMC.

Make Time to Play in Art & Adventure

Children's Art Classes Art & Adventure

Support your child's creativity in an open, playful atmosphere where adventurous use of materials is encouraged. Children will explore a variety of 2-D and 3-D projects. Taught by Jan Ellenstein who has been making art fun for children for the last 30 years. Age Level: 2-5 yrs (parent/child class)

Fee: 5-week class: \$105 non-member, \$95 OSP member, \$75 sibling.

Fee: 6-week class: \$125 non-member, \$115 OSP member, \$90 sibling.

New All Ages Art & Adventure! (under 6 with parent)

Once a month: Feb 2, April 13, May 4 These are all half-days for School District 65! \$75 non-member, \$70 member

Tuesday Mornings, 10-11 am Feb 22- March 29 5 weeks, no class 3/8

Wednesday Mornings, 10-11 am Feb 23-March 30 6 weeks

Wednesday Afternoons, 1:30 - 2:30pm Feb 23- March 30 6 weeks

Call (847) 475 - 0390 for more information.

Open Studio Project 903 Sherman Ave, Evanston, IL. 60202 phone: 847.475.0390; email: info@openstudioproject.org; web: www.openstudioproject.org

PARKS & RECREATION

Evanston Summer Camp Registration Began by Mail Jan. 28

Starting Friday, January 28, Evanston residents could start mailing in their registrations for the City of Evanston's many youth summer camps.

Priority will be given based solely on the date of the postmark. Forms sent by any other means, including priority mail or special delivery, as well as those postmarked prior to January 28, will be held for processing at a later date. Drop-offs, in-person, or online registrations will not be accepted until Monday, February 21, starting at 9:00 a.m. This also is the first date that nonresidents can begin registering for camps.

With more than 50 camps for ages starting as young as 2½, there are many full-day and half-day camp options from which to choose. Three new camps this year are Speedskating Camp, the Young People's Theatre Project, and, starting in August, the Renaissance Arts Mini-Camp. There also is a Parent-Child AquaAction Camp and an Adult Aquatic Adventures Camp, so grown-ups can have fun, too.

The 2011 Summer Camp guide, which describes each camp in detail and the registration procedures, is available at the Civic Center and at all community centers. The full guide can also be found online here. Note: to be considered an Evanston resident, you must live in ZIP code 60201 or 60202. For more information, please call (847) 866-2900.

Levy Senior Center Events

Explore the benefits of yoga in Beginning Yoga for Seniors. Students will improve flexibility and relaxation through postures, breathing, and more. No previous yoga experience is necessary. Class meets from 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays from March 1 to April 21. The fee is \$65/Levy member and \$69/nonmember. For more information and to register, call 847-448-8250.

Turn a hunk of wood into a beautiful masterpiece! Woodcarving will teach students techniques to make unique and wonderful wood pieces. Class meets from 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursdays from March 10 to April 28. The fee is \$40/Levy member, \$45/resident, and \$50/nonresident. For more information and to register, call 847-448-8250.

Would you like more comedy in your life? Sign up for IMPROVE-isation! From 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays, you can get your laughs playing interactive improvisation games and exercises, where quick thinking and creativity are key. This is a highly-social class taught by a Second City graduate. The class meets from Feb. 16 to March 9; the fee is \$40/Levy member and \$50/nonmember. For more info. and to register, call 847-448-8250.

Laugh your way to better health in Laughter Yoga. This is an aerobic exercise that uses laughter as a tool to remove the negative effects of stress, increase oxygen intake, boost the immune system and just make you feel good! Class meets from 1 to 2 p.m. on Wednesdays from Feb. 16 to March 9. The fee is \$60/Levy member and \$70/nonmember. For more information and to register, call 847-448-8250.

Discover the art of jewelry making in this class taught by artist Janice Wojciechowski. Participants will learn to use glass and ceramics to create their own beautiful, wearable pieces. The class meets from 10 a.m. to noon on Thursdays from Feb. 10 to Mar. 31. The fee is \$52/Levy members and \$62/non-members, and it includes some materials and assembly of finished pieces. For more information and to register, call 847-448-8250.

This is not your grandmother's ceramics class! Choose from a variety of greenware or hand-build your own imaginative pottery using the pottery wheel and slab roller to make gifts for yourself and others. The class meets from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Mondays from Feb. 7 to Mar. 28. The fee, which includes firing and supplies, is \$70/Levy member and \$80/nonmember. For more information and to register, call 847-448-8250.

All programs and events listed below take place at the Levy Senior Center, 300 Dodge Ave., unless otherwise posted.

KILBOURN PARK ORGANIC GREENHOUSE Winter 2011 Organic Garden Calendar of Events

Discover the wonderful world of nature! Spark your curiosity and explore the fun & educational offerings at Kilbourn Park Organic Greenhouse, 3501 N. Kilbourn Ave., the Chicago Park District's only park with a teaching organic greenhouse. The 2011 winter workshop is designed for adults 18 & over in mind; plus, we have a scheduled everyone's favorite Garden Buddies Family Event. Register for winter programs in-person at the park.

Seed Starting Basics

Nancy Benjamin, Master Gardener; Saturday, February 13, 10 a.m. - Noon Fee: \$10, per day; Cash Only Ages: 18 & over

Craving unique vegetables? Want those old fashioned French marigolds? Like the delicate herb chervil? Want to show your children the wonders of plants? Sometimes, to get the plants you want--when you want them--you just have to grow them yourself. Master Gardener and organic advocate Nancy Benjamin will show you the basics of seed starting. Discover seed sources, trays, growing mediums, lights, as well as germination tips and times for a whole variety of vegetables and flowers.

Garden Buddies Family Event

Saturday, February 5, 10 a.m. - Noon; \$5 per child, parents are free Ideal for children 8 & under

Come enjoy a wintry day at Kilbourn Park at our Garden Buddies Family Event! We will celebrate the winter season through hands-on projects that explore snow and examine where our garden wildlife spends the winter. Activities will include snow globe making, mask making, pine cone bird feeders and a tour of the winter garden.

Gardening Exchange

Saturday, March 5, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Free, 18 & over

Jumpstart your spring at Kilbourn Park Organic Greenhouse's first Gardening Exchange. Come for an afternoon to exchange gardening tips, tools, and trades. During this afternoon event, you will have the opportunity to take basic organic gardening classes, purchase compost and early spring seedlings, and find gardening and cooking tools at bargain prices. All proceeds will support our family and children's programs that connect kids to nature and healthy foods.

Annual Organic Plant Sale

Saturday, May 14, 10am-3pm Sunday, May 15, 10am - 2pm

Plant prices range \$2 & up. ALL SALES ARE CASH ONLY

Back by Popular Demand! Kilbourn Park Organic Greenhouse will sell more than 150 varieties of organically grown vegetable, herb and flower seedlings. highlights include Peruvian Purple Pepper, Rose de Berne Tomato, Lacinto Kale, and Pingtung Eggplant to name a few.

We are asking our patrons to help us and the environment by bringing their own tray or box for carrying plants.

Kilbourn Park is located at 3501 N. Kilbourn Ave., just west of Milwaukee Ave., and Addison St. in Chicago. Questions call Kirsten Akre at 773.685.3359 or kirsten.akre@chicagoparkdistrict.com.

Chicago Architecture Foundation Events and Tours

NEW THIS SEASON:

Razzle Dazzle: Architecture Tour of Theater District The bright lights of Chicago are the focus of a new walking tour of the Loop theater district. Tour-takers also receive a 25% discount to a behind-the-scenes tour of The Chicago Theatre.

Skyscraper Express, Fridays and Saturdays at 1:30pm The city's most significant buildings from unique vantage points, that are surprising and enlightening for even seasoned Chicagoans. A great alternative for the river cruise off season.

"Time machine" through skyscraper history Weds; Fri. 10:30am; Sat. 3:30pm The 60-minute "Skyscraper Walk through Time" tour showcases a classic high-rise from each major era of skyscraper construction, from the early 1870s to the 21st century super-tall buildings.

Family Programs continue the 3rd Sunday of the month. Free programs are the perfect way to entertain the family on a cold winter day. February.20.2011 Engineering Extravaganza March.20.2011 "Busy Buildings"

Chicago Model City a great place to start and end a tour Trace your steps on many architecture tours. The exhibition includes a large, highly detailed scale model of Chicago. The scale of the model is 1 inch to 50 feet, making the Willis Tower nearly three feet tall!

AT HOME series A new year-long program to guide and inspire people to make the best choices in the design and care of their homes.

For detailed information check: www.architecture.org - P 312.922.3432

The Chicago Architecture Foundation is located at 224 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60604. Current exhibition is Chicago Model City with a large scale model of Chicago. The Chicago Architecture Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing public interest and education in architecture and design. The Chicago Architecture Foundation pursues this mission through architecture tours, exhibitions, panel discussions, and youth and adult education programs. For further information visit www.architecture.org or call 312.922.3432 or become a facebook fan: www.facebook.com/chicagoarchitecture or follow on twitter: www.twitter.com/chiarchitecture



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PARKS & RECREATION

Discover Which Sweet Treats Actual Grow on Trees at Garfield Park Conservatory's 3rd Annual Sweet Saturdays

Sweet Saturdays returns to the Garfield Park Conservatory, 300 N. Central Park Ave. two consecutive Saturdays in February (Feb. 5 and 12) from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Suggested donation is \$3. There is free admission for children 3 and under, as well as Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance members.

"The Chicago Park District and the Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance are excited to celebrate the return of Sweet Saturdays," said Mary Eysenbach, Director of Conservatories. "This family friendly event highlights the plants in our collection that help create the different varieties of candy we love so much."

Sweet Saturdays focuses on plants that provide the key ingredients to some of our favorite sweet treats. The Garfield Park Conservatory, a veritable plant-based candy show, is home to many living sweets such as bananas, vanilla beans, cinnamon bark, and chocolate trees. Visitors of all ages can sample the facts, the flavors and the fun of some of the most tantalizing tropical treats. Experience the following sweet activities at each Sweet Saturday:

Tropical Treat Stations: Throughout the Conservatory visitors will learn a fact and sample a flavor. Get a stamp at each of the stations, and leave with a special prize.

Live Music: Enjoy live tropical music performed by the following Chicago musicians in Horticulture Hall:

February 5 & 12

- 11 – 11:45 a.m. – Copacabana Duo featuring Geraldo de Oliveira (percussion and vocals) and Luciano Antonio (Brazilian guitar and vocals)

- Noon – 12:45 p.m. – Calypso music by the Bottle and Stone Battalion

- 1 – 1:45 p.m. – Tarima Son plays Son Jarocho, a traditional music style of Veracruz, Mexico, as well as Caribbean influenced tunes.

- 2 – 4 p.m. – Tropical Tunage from Mar Caribe

Hands-on activity stations: Visitors of all ages can participate in designing a scratch and sniff necklace with cinnamon and sandpaper, designing a "leaf rubbing" Valentine's Day card, making a chocolate sachet with the sweet-smelling

shells of cocoa beans, cozy Sweet Reads book nook and many other activities.

Learn about local Chicago sugar: Not all sweets come from the tropics, rather some sweet treats are made naturally right here in Chicago. Discover locally produced maple syrup and honey. These special guest stations will be located in the Sugar from the Sun exhibit.

February 5 - Enjoy maple syrup tasting, brought to you by the North Park Village Nature staff that taps maple sap from Chicago maple trees every year.

February 12 - Enjoy honey tasting, brought to you by the Garfield Park Conservatory volunteer beekeepers, which care for the Conservatory's 20 beehives.

Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance "Members Only" Chocolate Lounge: Members of the Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance can enjoy the following special perks and activities. The lounge will be open on February 5 and 12 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. and includes the following sweet activities:

- Self-guided chocolate "taste test" quest.

- Self-serve cocoa bar available with marshmallows, whip crème, and cinnamon.

- Play candy-themed board games.

- In the lounge, members can enter their name into a drawing to win special sweet-themed gift baskets.

- Receive a special variety mint plant (choose from chocolate mint, ginger mint, and more)

- Free coat check.

- Experience the Imagination Playground in a Box outside the Conservatory. (Remember to dress warmly for this activity.)

If you or someone you know is not already a member, memberships can be purchased on the day of each Sweet Saturday event or online at: www.garfield-conservatory.org/join_online.htm.

Interested in volunteering at our Fact & Flavor Stations during these fun-filled Sweet Saturdays in February? Contact Mattie Wilson at: volunteer@garfield-park.org, 1-773-638-1766 ext 26.

SCC/SPECIAL OLYMPICS CHICAGO ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH ANNUAL ST. PADDY'S RUN TO LAUNCH NEW 8K COMPONENT OF RACE

SCC/Special Olympics Chicago (SCC/SOC) has teamed with the 10th annual St. Paddy's Run/Walk, to launch a brand new, competitively-timed race, the "Special Olympics Chicago 8K Run". The race will take place in Chicago's Lincoln Park neighborhood (Fullerton and Cannon) on Sunday, March 20, 2011 at 10 am.

"This collaboration is the perfect opportunity for Special Olympics Chicago to build awareness of our organization," said James Sheahan, President of SCC/SOC. "This is an ideal fundraising platform for SOC, and the money raised will help support the programming and activities that our Special Olympics athletes enjoy throughout the year. We are looking forward to a great event."

Registration for the Special Olympics Chicago 8K is now open by visiting the Special Olympics Chicago website at www.sochicago.org. At that website, participants can create personal fundraising pages where supporters can make tax deductible donations. The top fundraiser for the Special Olympics Chicago 8K Run will win two round-trip airline tickets to Ireland. All participants who raise \$300 or more will receive a commemorative fleece blanket.

"For years we have produced the St. Paddy's Day 5K Run/Walk, and we are very excited about this new partnership with SCC/Special Olympics Chicago," said Hank Zemola, CEO of Chicago Special Events Management, who produces the St. Paddy's Day 5K Run/Walk. "This is such a fun event and will help attract new runners to our race and new donors to Special Olympics Chicago. We are proud to support the 5,000 athletes of Special Olympics Chicago."

This is the first year that Special Olympics Chicago will be a charitable partner of the St. Paddy's Run/Walk. In addition to the 5K and 8K runs, the event will also feature The Leprechaun Leap, a free children's dash, beginning at 11:15 am. Additionally, a post-run/walk party will take place after the races have concluded at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, featuring live music, awards and prizes, and food and beverages.

Volleyball at the Chandler-Newberger Community Center

Interested in an instructive and competitive volleyball experience? In this one-day-a-week program, middle school boys and girls will spend the first three sessions learning and improving their play, then be divided into teams and practice and compete against other teams. The league will be capped at 32 players and the deadline to register is February 18. It will take place from 6:15 to 7:45 p.m. on Wednesdays from February 23-April 27 at the Chandler-Newberger Community Center, 1028 Central St.. The fee is \$180 for residents and \$210 for non-residents and includes a T-shirt. For more information about the program, call 847-448-8682; call 847-448-8252 to register.

FIRST SIGNS OF SPRING IN CHICAGO TAKE ROOT AT BOTH LINCOLN & GARFIELD PARK CONSERVATORIES

More than 3,000 spring blooming flowers will greet visitors at the annual Spring Flower Shows running from January 22 - May 8 at Lincoln Park Conservatory, 2391 N. Stockton Dr., and January 29 - May 8 at Garfield Park Conservatory, 300 N. Central Park Ave. Lincoln Park Conservatory and Garfield Park Conservatory for many years have played host to the floral extravaganza that features some of the spring season's favorite flowers.

"The Chicago Park District's Spring Flower Shows are a great way for families to enjoy Chicago's well known floral displays in the warmth of our two conservatories," said Chicago Park District General Superintendent Tim Mitchell. "Our expert horticulturists have grown a wide variety of beautiful plants that will keep people in the spirit of spring while they wait for the weather to warm up."

The free annual Spring Flower Shows offer visitors a chance to experience the beauty of spring with a rare opportunity to meet the direct descendants of the great Azaleas that once bloomed at the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893. In addition, this year's flower shows will feature a changing selection of spring blooming plants including Azaleas, spring flowering annuals and spring flowering perennials.

"The Conservatory Flower Shows are a wonderful way to get into the spirit of spring," said Conservatory Director Mary Eysenbach. "The changing spring floral displays give visitors an opportunity to see something new each and every time they visit."

Both Lincoln Park and Garfield Park Conservatory are open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and extended hours at Garfield Park Conservatory on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free at both conservatories and free parking is available at Garfield Park Conservatory.

Small Fry Science

Introduce your child to the wonderful world of science! In Small Fry Science, your child will learn about an animal group through experiments, projects, stories, and songs. The February 16 session, which is all about amphibians, meets from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd. The fee is \$12 per parent-child couple. For more information and to register, call 847-448-8256.

Indoor Campfire at an "Evening Ecology"

Enjoy the fun of a indoor campfire at an "Evening Ecology" program. From 7 to 8 p.m. on Friday, February 25, you and your children age 2 and older will learn about squirrels through songs, activities, stories, and snacks. This program, which is repeated on March 25 with the theme of "Possums," takes place at the Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd. The fee is \$4.50 per person. For more information and to register, call 847-448-8256.

GREAT OUTDOORS

National Wildlife Federation

The Real Reason for Groundhog Day

Punxsutawney Phil, America's most famous weather forecaster, will have love, not weather, on his mind when he emerges from his hole on February 2. Researchers tracked 32 groundhogs for more than four years and concluded that the real reason for the early February appearance is a version of the dating game, groundhog style.

Male groundhogs wake up after three months of hibernation to check out the available pool of ladies within their territory. They select a female with whom they spend the night, and this sleepover acts as a first date, allowing the groundhogs time to get to know each other before the official start of mating season the following month. During these meet and greet sessions, contact is confined to rubbing noses - there's no going "all the way."

After scoping out two or three females, the male groundhog returns to his burrow to sleep again until March, dreaming of the hotties he has just met. When he awakes and revisits each of the females, the earlier slumber parties allow the woodchucks to skip the small talk and get right down to the business of breeding.



Climate Change

Here's a round-up of recent news on how climate change is affecting wildlife: (Go to nwf.org for articles.)

Has Punxsutawney Phil been predicting climate change?

Are the seasons shifting? The highest summer and lowest winter temperatures have been happening an average of two days earlier.

Antarctica is warming faster than previously thought.

Deep sea life is being impacted by climate change.

Climate change forces tropical insects to higher elevations.

Forests are in decline as temperatures rise.

Climate change effects are irreversible according to new study.

David Mizejewski, Naturalist

National Wildlife Federation *Adapted from materials provided by USDA/Agricultural Research Service. Contact us at info@nwf.org, 1-800-822-9919, National Wildlife Federation, 11100 Wildlife Center Drive, Reston VA, 20190. © 2008 National Wildlife Federation. All rights reserved.*

Urban Wildlife Year of the Rabbit

February 3 marked the Chinese New Year. Join us celebrating the Year of the Rabbit, a year sure to bring prosperity and abundance.

Did you know that rabbit teeth never stop growing?

Rabbit poop makes really good fertilizer.

A female rabbit is a doe; a male is a buck; young rabbits are kits.

Brace yourself for breeding - cottontails (the type that is likely to visit your backyard) start hoppin' from February to September.

Rabbits are most active at dawn and dusk.

During the winter, rabbits eat the bark of woody plants. In the summer, they eat leafy plants, like your lettuce (see solutions below).

Rabbits do not make good Easter gifts, unless they are the chocolate kind! Never purchase rabbits for someone if you are not absolutely sure they want a new pet. Considering a rabbit for your own family? Be certain it is more than just the novelty of an Easter bunny that is inspiring your gift and that your family is ready for the responsibility of raising and caring for a new furry family member.

Rabbits do not belong to the rodent family, they are lagomorphs. Wild rabbits and domesticated rabbits are not the same species - they are only distantly related to one another.

If you spot a rabbit nest, keep dogs and outdoor cats away!

Worried about "abandoned" bunnies. Young rabbits are often left home alone while mama searches for food. In fact, generally, she only returns once or twice a day and stays only for five minutes. Not sure if she has returned? Place an X of yarn over the nest. If it is still intact after 12 hours, mother has not visited and the young rabbits may be orphaned. In this case, contact a licensed, humane wildlife rehabilitator (visit www.urbanwildlifecoalition.org for a listing).

Bunnies bothering your beans? Try a fence and/or creative planting. The fence can be just two feet high with posts eight inches into the ground (spaced about six to eight feet apart). Run chicken wire between the posts. Consider strategic planting - a combination of plants rabbits like and do not like. Plant a row of chili peppers around the perimeter or woven through the beans or other plants rabbits are munching. Tempt them away from your beans with delicious cabbage planted far away.

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

Keeping your car clean

Keeping your car clean has many significant financial and environmental benefits, especially when performed by a professional car wash.

Let's start with the financial rewards. Every day our cars are subjected to sun, salt from the sea, salt from snow trucks, grease and grime from the road, acid rain, smog, tree sap, dead bugs, and worst of all, the ever-acidic compound of bird poop bombs. We've all been riddled and splattered at one time or another.

These conditions eat away at a car's metal and chrome. They dull the paint. They corrode and cause rust. They attack your pride and joy day after day. You may not see it right away, but over time they will contribute to the decay of your car's exterior, ultimately diminishing its resale value.

By professionally washing your car at least twice a month, you help preserve one of your biggest investments.

Another benefit? Saved time and convenience. Lugging everything in and out of your garage or house is exhausting compared to a quick trip to the nearest car wash.

Few people also realize that washing their cars at home pollutes the environment. Soap and road grime such as oils, tar, and dirt end up in storm sewers that flow into lakes, streams and rivers - the same water in which your children might swim, or where you fish or hunt.

Wastewater from professional car washes enter a sanitary sewer system. Facilities designed to protect the environment. No polluted water from professional car washes will reach our waterways.

Though a parking lot car wash might sound like a good way to make money for your organization, many groups don't realize that dirty water from parking lot and driveway car washing enters the storm sewer system. Meant only for rainfall, storm sewer water flows directly into the closest creek, stream, or river.

Water conservation is another benefit: professional car washes can use about half the amount of water it takes to do it yourself.

(See also http://environment.about.com/od/greenliving/design/a/car_wash.htm)

For all these reasons, you can't beat a professional car wash. And oh what fun it is to take your kid through the wash from the inside of the car! Or just follow along by the window.

All sorts of interesting facts illuminating how we use and abuse our cars can be found at www.carlove.org.

So treat your car the way you want it to treat you. Add having your car washed to your list of chores; go to the bank, pick up the dry cleaning, visit the grocery store, and get the car washed. There's just no excuse not to swing through one every two or three weeks. You'll protect your investment, save time, and minimize environmental impact inspiring the best feeling of all; unconditional love for an unconditional friend.

Submitted by Chicago's #1 Car Washes, Four Convenient Locations



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 2011 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' 191 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 with 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 28, 2011, or go to www.arborday.org/February.

Winter Blues

This time of year is definitely the blues. Don't get me wrong, I love romping and digging in the snow; but those great humans in our lives always bring us in too early. Thankfully this year hasn't been too cold, so they should let us let loose a little. We dogs are not stupid; if we are cold we obviously will come inside! Our humans sometimes just don't give us enough credit. Some also complain that we get to dirty in all the snowy mess; well of course we do, we are dogs! Being clean is not a top priority! So, are humans complain because we have pent up energy and no outlet for it!



This solution for us dogs; doggie daycare! This is great way for us dogs to meet, greet, and play with other dogs. We spend the day running, wrestling, tugging, and socializing with other doggie friends. Of course we are supervised by humans to keep the mischief makers at bay; you know who you are! I am lucky that my human actually runs a doggie day care program, for the rest of you try to get in a program somewhere. Even once a week makes a big difference! Humans are always surprised that we know the days of the week; I look forward to the days I get to play with my friends!

I know times are tough for our humans and some can't afford the daycare programs; so how about setting up some time for us. My human always says that a mental challenged dog creates a tired dog! She will take our favorite yummy cookies and hide them. She then tells us to go find, and we do! She starts off usually easy; but knowing that I have a great sense of smell she likes to challenge me by hiding the cookies in more difficult places. This game is fun for dog and human and doesn't have to take a long time!

You can teach old dog new tricks! how about teaching us something new? Yes my furry friends I know this is often beneath us, but the humans like it and it is fun to learn something new! Plus, think fo the yummy treats! Really all us pups need is some time with our humans. When was the last time you wrestled with your pooch?

This time of year our humans also have the winter blues, so it is appropriate to give them a few gentle nibbles to get their attention (I said gentle!). They should remember to play with us, but they are only human and they get distracted! So try and get you're Human to have some fun, they need it as bad as us! And don't worry, spring is right around the corner, until then be good and play hard!

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



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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.

Kick Off the New Year on the Right Paw!

Happy New Year! The Anti-Cruelty Society has been helping to save the lives of animals for 112 years. This New Year brings several new initiatives at the Society, including new education programs and strategies to help us find homes for even more pets! Take a look at the education and annual report issue of our magazine. This issue is not just our annual report, but it highlights our extensive education programs and the importance of recognizing The Link® between animal and human violence, something we have been working on for over 15 years. You can download a copy on the homepage of our website.

The Shelter Challenge started yesterday! Your vote could help us win a \$10,000 grant for the animals. Vote for us everyday! And mark your calendar now to remind you to vote everyday to help us win.

Remember, you have until January 31, 2011 to make a tax-free distribution to your favorite charity from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) of up to \$100,000. The new tax bill allows you to take the tax credit in 2010 for such distributions.

Thank you for being a part of our community of caring!

Love is in the Air

Kitty love, puppy love, cat or dog love, however you describe it - love is definitely in the air. With Valentine's Day soon approaching we have all of the unconditional love that you could ever imagine. If you are looking for that special valentine, consider adopting a pet! We have the hottest singles in the city and it could be the best valentine you've ever had.

We have a lot of exciting things happening at the Society right now, including our façade renovation. The renovations to the Grand Avenue side will be complete by the end of this week. All hands will be on deck to finish the LaSalle side and catch up from a few weather delays.

The Shelter Challenge is in full swing. We need your votes to help us win a \$5,000 grant for the animals. Vote for us (www.theanimalrescuesite.com/clickToGive/shelterchallenge.faces?siteId=3) once a day, every day and tell your friends to vote for us too! And our marathon team is filling up fast. If you or anyone you know would like to run a marathon or half marathon for the animals, help us spread the word about our charity team.

Have a great week and thank you for being a part of our community of caring.

Remy is a very handsome 1-year old Rotweiler/Boxer mix. He's a sharp looking guy having a sleek black coat with touches of brown about his muzzle and a perfectly placed patch of white at his chest. He also has a very cute under bite that makes him all the more endearing. Remy came to the shelter when his owner could no longer afford to keep a pet. He's a friendly and social guy, who has a great personality and who should adapt to his new home pretty quickly. Remy does tend to be easily excitable and bark at people and things he isn't sure about, so obedience training to help build his confidence will help in this regard - it will also be a great way for you to spend time one-on-one with your new best friend. Remy's ideal home would be a home where any children are older - an all-adult home would be perfect! Remy would also need to meet any other dogs in the family first to see if they could live together happily. A playful and sweet dog, Remy weighs in at a healthy 58.8 lbs. He is patiently waiting for you at The Anti-Cruelty Society, just ask for #9975163. Remy is ready to go right home with you today!



Diamond is an absolutely beautiful 7-year old girlie! Her fur has beautiful shades of tan and brown, and her eyes are a vivid green. Diamond originally came to the shelter when her owner's landlord wouldn't allow a pet. Diamond is a gentle girl who adores attention and loves nothing more than just being near you. She is friendly and sweet, and would make a great addition to almost any family. If you have dogs, it shouldn't be a problem, Diamond lived with dogs in her former home - gosh, what a brave girlie! Diamond has become a staff and volunteer favorite - she has somehow managed to steal many hearts and we are all hoping she finds her forever home sometime soon where she can lead a great

new life filled with love and chin scratches! All Diamond wants for Christmas is a home with someone special to love... Can you help make Diamond's wish come true? Diamond has lots of love to share, we just know she would love to share it all with you... Diamond is waiting for you at The Anti-Cruelty Society; just ask for Tab Band #9971844. Diamond is ready to go her new home today!

For more information about these or any of our other pets, visit www.anticruelty.org or call (312) 644-8338.

Unique Planning for Unique Families



Chester M. Przybylo

Marriage can be difficult. And it can be just as difficult the second time around when you blend families. You love your new spouse, but you want to provide for your children from your first marriage. You want to make sure that, no matter what happens, your children are taken care of the way you promised yourself they would be. This time, you're doing it right.

A holistic approach to estate planning meets your unique needs. "Legacy Planning" does not abandon traditional estate planning techniques, but incorporates them into a new paradigm that acknowledges there's more to your financial well-being than taxes—and more to life than money.

Legacy Planning ensures that you pass on what is most important to you, including your thoughts and values, and, of course, your financial assets. It also ensures that your financial assets are not just passed to whom you wish, but also in the manner required to suit your family's individual needs. It can be especially useful for blended families.

One of the tools in Legacy Planning is the Family Wealth Trust. This trust can be an effective tool to manage your assets during life and accomplish your goals at death. With a Family Wealth Trust you can leave assets for your surviving spouse and children and ensure that the surviving spouse cannot alter the eventual division that you have pre-set. At your spouse's death, the assets can pass down to your children with one of two different protection levels: the Family Access Trust or the Family Sentry Trust.

The Family Access Trust protects your child's inheritance from their own possible divorce by keeping the assets separate and prevents commingling of those assets with the marital assets. However, the child, once at a pre-determined age, will have full access to the assets, hence the name of the trust. This may be perfect for the financially savvy, mature child.

The Family Sentry Trust offers an additional level of protection. In addition to divorce protection, it provides creditor protection and management. Your child will not have unfettered access; instead the inheritance is kept and used for their benefit at the discretion of the person you designate.

Whichever level of protection you choose for your children, you can make sure that they are still protected and will benefit by the warmth of your love... and planning.

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

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BE SURE TO GET YOUR STATEMENT

By Andrew Salata, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

Your Social Security Statement is an important document that can help you plan for your retirement. Whether you're a young worker just starting a career or a seasoned employee ready to retire, the Statement is designed to help you.

The Social Security Statement includes a message from the Commissioner and a record of your earnings each year. It provides you with retirement benefit estimates using different retirement scenarios. The Statement also provides estimates of disability and survivors benefits for you and your family in the event that you become disabled or die.

If you're like most workers who pay Social Security taxes, you automatically receive a Statement in the mail each year, about three months before your birthday. But there are situations in which a person may not be receiving a Statement each year.

For example, if you work each year, but your earned income is low enough that you do not need to file a tax return, you won't receive an automatic Social Security Statement. Also, if you are younger than 25 years old, or if you are already receiving benefits, you won't receive an automatic Statement each year.

However, if you need a Statement, you can request one. Just go to www.socialsecurity.gov/mystatement. There, you can learn more about the Social Security Statement, and request to have one mailed to you. Keep in mind that if you're already receiving benefits, your Statement will continue to show your updated earnings each year you work, but will not provide an estimate of future benefits.

Here's what you'll need to make your request:

- Your name as shown on your Social Security card;
- Your Social Security number;
- Your date of birth;
- Your place of birth; and
- Your mother's maiden name.

The online request also is handy for people who do receive their automatic Statement each year, but can't find their most recent one and have some financial planning to do. You can request to have one mailed to you at any time.

Keep in mind, however, that if you request to have one sent to you even though you already receive one automatically each year, the next scheduled automatic Statement will be canceled. You'd then receive your next automatic Statement in the following year. For more information, read the Social Security Statement page at www.socialsecurity.gov/mystatement. For general information about Social Security, visit www.socialsecurity.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Join the Lincolnwood Social Club (55+)

Are you tired of staying home? Would you like to do fun and exciting things? Do you want to make a few new friends? Then why not join the Lincolnwood Social Club 55+. You do not have to be a resident of Lincolnwood to join. We go to exciting places every week in addition to the numerous special events held at our Community Center. Give us a call and find out what we are all about (847) 677-9740.

Norwood Park Seniors Club

at 5801 N Natoma Chicago meet the second and fourth Thursday of the month. We play pinochle and bingo, have parties on special occasions. Meetings start at 10:30 with coffee and a sweet roll. Call Joan at 773-774-7075.

Evanston Begins Battery Recycling Program

The City of Evanston is happy to announce that, as a member of the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC), it will now be a drop-off location for battery recycling. The program is an agreement between SWANCC and Interstate Batteries that will run through the end of the year.

SWANCC is sponsoring this event because common household alkaline batteries are no longer accepted at IEPA-sponsored Household Hazardous Waste events due to their benign nature and high recycling costs. Additionally, rechargeable batteries contain heavy metals which pose a threat to our environment and have a marketable recyclability. Interstate Batteries of Skokie is providing a product stewardship initiative to recycle all types of batteries from SWANCC communities at no cost to the agency.

What types of batteries will be accepted?

Household Alkaline Batteries – AA, AAA, C, D and 9 Volt.

Rechargeable Batteries – NiCad, NiMh, lithium ion, and lithium polymer. Before dropping off rechargeable batteries, residents need to tape the contact points on each battery or place in an individual self-locking plastic baggie to avoid sparks.

Drop-off locations in Evanston

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2700 Ridge Ave (Ground Floor)

(847) 866-2940 Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Evanston Levy Senior Center, 300 Dodge Ave

(847) 866-2940 M - F: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Sat, Sun: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Career/Jobs Corner

CHICAGO CAREER TECH ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THIRD CLASS, EXPANDING CLASS SIZE AND JOB TRAINING OFFERINGS

Chicago Career Tech, the city's innovative job retraining program, announced today that applications are being accepted for its third session. The program, which trains unemployed middle-income Chicagoans for high-demand technology-based careers, will expand capacity to accommodate up to 400 qualified participants—an increase of approximately 33 percent over the current class size. Keeping with this trend, more than 150 business and nonprofit organizations now partner up with the program, nearly doubling the amount that participated during the program's pilot class last year.

"We're proud to offer the Chicago Career Tech program that has the potential to put a great number of Chicagoans back to work by providing training for jobs in areas such as healthcare information technology, web design and development, among others – all fast growing industries with increasing career opportunities," said Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, who envisioned the program in 2009 while speaking with residents who had been laid off. "Chicago is the only city in the nation that is currently focusing on retraining this 'forgotten class' and helping displaced middle-class residents of our city rebuild their careers."

The six-month, six-day-a-week Chicago Career Tech program features classroom training, hands-on employer- and service-based learning with a business and nonprofit organization, and career and professional development services through Challenger, Gray & Christmas. The program prepares participants for technology-based careers by providing training for in-demand technology fields, including CISCO network certifications, healthcare information technology and project management, among others. Chicago Career Tech participants receive a weekly stipend in addition to any unemployment insurance benefits to which they may be entitled.

Chicago Career Tech is expanding the businesses and nonprofit organizations it partners with to provide hands-on training for participants. Additionally, some partners, such as OnSale.com, will be hosting numerous participants in the upcoming session with the hopes of hiring them following their successful completion of the program for positions as Digital Media Specialists.

"The innovative public-private partnerships we've developed allow Chicago Career Tech to create a trained corps of highly-skilled professionals in our community who utilize technology as a platform for new career opportunities," said Marie Lynch, executive director of Chicago Career Tech. "The success of Chicago Career Tech in its inaugural year has far exceeded our expectations."

Applications are available exclusively online at www.chicagocareertech.com through March 4 for the upcoming class session, which will run late May through October 2011. To be eligible for the program, potential participants must meet the following minimum requirements:

- City of Chicago resident
- Minimum of a high school diploma or GED
- Unemployed (after January 1, 2008), with previous annual income of \$25,000 to \$75,000
- Currently collecting or have exhausted unemployment insurance benefits in the State of Illinois
- Not currently enrolled in another job training program

Winter Electronic Recycling Drop-Off Centers

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) provides easy and convenient electronic recycling options during the winter months. The SWANCC Electronic Recycling Drop-off Program maintains locations to allow electronic recycling on an ongoing basis. Collection locations and times are:

Glenview Transfer Station, 1151 North River Road
Across from Maryville Academy
Saturdays: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Winnetka Public Works, 1390 Willow Road
Tuesdays: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Thursdays: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Please contact the individual locations for details on accepted materials. For more information on recycling please visit www.swancc.org

Skokie Police Neighborhood Watch Program

The Skokie Police Department invites the community to participate in the local Neighborhood Watch Program. By participating, residents have the opportunity to feel a strong connection to the community and contribute to neighborhood safety.

The Neighborhood Watch program is one of the most effective crime prevention strategies a community can utilize. In Skokie, over 182 blocks participate in the program.

By participating, residents are kept up to date on Village ordinances, state laws, tips to prevent crime and how to get to know your neighbors. Regular meetings are held at the Skokie Police headquarters for Neighborhood Watch block captains. Many neighborhoods also hold block captain meetings to exchange information about current happenings and events and often plan a block party or other social events.

The Skokie Police Department invites any person interested in the program to contact the Crime Prevention/Community Relations Unit at 847/982-5919.

Back by Popular Demand

Village Cooking Corner

Water Chestnut Hors d'oeuvres

Soak drained, whole water chestnuts in soy sauce 1/2 hour.

Roll in sugar.

Cut strips of bacon lengthwise, and crosswise wrap bacon around chestnuts—securing with toothpicks.

Bake: 400 20 minutes. Drain Grease and Bake again: 350 5 minutes.

From the Kitchen of Laurel Atkeisson

Onion Dip

1 4 oz. package of cream cheese, softened

1 envelope dry onion soup mix

Mix, chill and serve!

Devilled Ham Dip

1 4 oz. package cream cheese, softened

1 can devilled ham

Mix, chill and serve!

Serve both of these delicious recipes with crackers, chips or raw vegetables.

From the Kitchen of Marlane Marshall

Foreclosure Counseling and Information for Skokie Residents

The Village of Skokie Human Services Division offers many programs and services to Skokie homeowners facing the possibility of foreclosure.

The Human Services Division hosts a housing counselor who is available to residents facing foreclosure. To make an appointment with the housing counselor, please call Jessica Rivera at 312/613-6863.

The Village also offers a seminar that explains options available to homeowners facing foreclosure. These seminars will be held at the Skokie Public Library on February 24, April 28, June 30, August 25 and October 27, 2011 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Also, the Cook County Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program helps homeowners explore their options of either staying in their homes or negotiating a respectable exit. For more information on this program, please call 877/895-2444.

For more information on these programs, please call the Human Services Division at 847/933-8208.

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