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P.O. Box 31391,
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Issue 9
April 27, 2016

Happy Mother's Day

See Page 5 For Thoughts

In America, the second Sunday in May is the day we set aside to honor Mother. One of the most intricate and important duties one can accept is to steer, protect and nurture another's life.

Mothers hardly ever get the credit they deserve in their day-in-day-out dedication to the generations of young people now and forever. They, our Mothers, influence the future of the entire earth; they have for years past and will continue, far into the future.

Thank you to all of the Mothers everywhere for a life's tireless commitment, not always recognized for its true worth.



We Celebrate With All Of Our Orthodox Friends and Neighbors This Easter

(See Page 7 for Holy Week Events)



A Yearly Easter Tradition For The Andritsakis Family Is The Much Anticipated Highlight of the "Lamb Roast". Anastasios (pictured) And His Entire Family Gather To Celebrate The Season And The Day.



April 29th is Arbor Day 2016 in Illinois

The White Oak is our State Tree.



Spring is in the air with Chicago Kids and Kites Festival

A favorite family event and a harbinger of springtime in Chicago, the 18th Annual Chicago Kids and Kites Festival returns to Cricket Hill in Lincoln Park (Montrose and Wilson) on Saturday, May 7 from 10am to 4pm. Admission is FREE.

Once again, the City of Chicago will provide kite kits for children to build, decorate and fly, while supplies last. Other activities include face painting, balloon artists and crafts.

One of the most popular highlights of the festival is the Big Kite Candy Drop, which is a piñata-like kite filled with candies that drop from the sky, taking place during the afternoon, weather

permitting.

Kite Harbor will be onsite for kite buyers, and professional kite flyers will demonstrate their skills with oversized and uniquely-shaped kites.

For any last minute changes including cancellation due to unsafe weather conditions, please check Facebook or Twitter or call 3-1-1.

Kids & Kites festival will run from 10am to 4pm on Cricket Hill, near the intersection of Lake Shore Drive and Montrose Ave. Admission is free.

Celebrate With Us On Sunday, May 8th.
We Wish All The Mothers A Very Happy Day!

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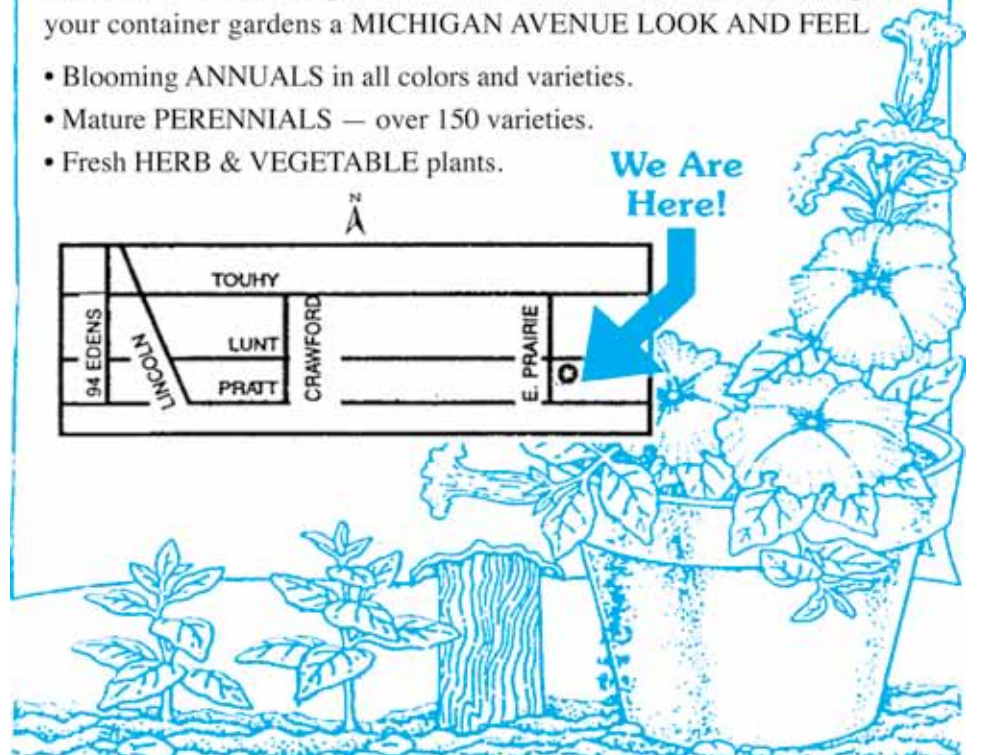
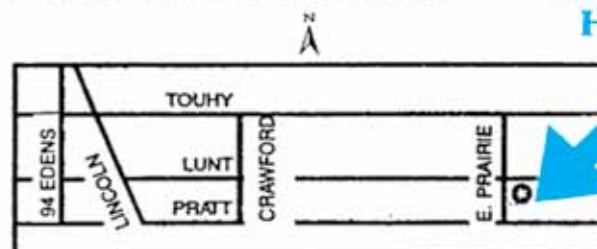
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Community First Medical Center April/May Health Events For Area Residents

Community First Medical Center, 5645 West Addison Street, Chicago, will offer the following health events in April.

Wednesday, April 27—April is Alcohol Awareness Month How to Cope With Loved Ones Substance Abuse – Don't Stay in the Dark 5:00 – 6:00 pm, Community First Medical Center, 7 th floor, Sr. Jerome Conference Room. Presented by Gateway Foundation Alcohol and Drug Treatment Centers. Registration is required by calling 844-236- 2362.

Thursday, April 28— Arthritis Support Group – 1:00 – 2:30 pm. This free support group aims to provide ways to manage your arthritis. Registration is not required.

Tuesday, May 3— Diabetes Support Group – 5:30 – 7:00 pm. This free support group aims to provide diabetes management including diet, education and physical activity. Registration is not required.

Wednesday, May 4— National Stroke Awareness Month - 4:30 pm. In honor of National Stroke Awareness Month, Kristen Debits, R.N., Stroke Coordinator at Community First Medical Center, will be doing a free community lecture on stroke signs, symptoms and treatments, Conference Room A, 7th floor. Free dinner will be provided by Genentech. Registration is required by calling 844-236-2362.

Thursday, May 5 and 19— Thinking about joint replacement – 3:30 -4:30 pm. Community First Medical Center will offer free joint replacement information sessions in the Community Education room. These free sessions will be conducted by Carleen Nunez, R.N., B.S, N., O.N.C., along with staff from rehabilitation services. Attendees will receive educational materials, get questions answered, learn what to expect from surgery and meet some professional staff. Registration is not required.

Friday, May 6, 1:00 – 3:00pm; Monday, May 9, 6:00 – 8:00pm. Skin Screenings – Free skin screenings will be offered here at Community First Medical Center, Community Education Conference Room, 2nd Floor. Dr. Taraneh Firoozi, M.D., will perform a total body screening or check specific sites of concern. Registration is required by calling 844-236-2362.

Friday, May 13— Free Healthy Aging Program – 1:00 – 2:30 pm. This program is for individuals aged 55 and older and consists of social time, health topics and guests lectures. Staff from Rush Alzheimer Disease Center will discuss Healthy Aging and Memory. Registration is not required.

Tuesday, May 24 – Diabetes Lecture – 12:30 – 1:30 pm. Diabetes is serious chronic disease that poses a major public health problem. The Illinois Department of Public Health reports more than 827,000 adults in Illinois have been diagnosed with diabetes and each year more than 2,700 residents die from the disease. Renee Sochacki, R.N., a certified diabetes educator from Community First Medical Center, will be offering a free lecture, "Blood Sugar Balance Act," Mather's Café located at 3235 N. Central Ave. The lecture will discuss signs and symptoms of diabetes and management options. Registration required by calling 773-205-3300.

Thursday, May 26— Arthritis Support Group – 1:00 – 2:30 pm. This free support group aims to provide ways to manage your arthritis. Registration is not required.

Talk To A Lawyer For Free On Saturday, April 30th

The Chicago Bar Association (CBA) Lawyer Referral Service and the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA) will host a special Law Week Call-A-Lawyer program on Saturday, April 30, 2015, from 9 a.m. to Noon. Volunteer attorneys will give free legal advice over the phone to Chicagoland residents who call (312) 554-2001.

Callers may explain their situations to an attorney who will then suggest self-help strategies to resolve their legal issues. If callers need further legal services, they will be advised to see their own attorney or, if they wish to hire a lawyer, to contact the CBA Lawyer Referral Service (LRS).

The LRS has over 300 prescreened, qualified lawyers experienced in almost every area of law. Meeting the American Bar Association's Standards for Lawyer Referral, the service has some of the highest experience requirements for its member attorneys in the entire nation.

When contacting the LRS during normal business hours, callers can be referred to attorneys practicing in over 40 different areas of law including:

Domestic Relations (including divorce, custody, support and other family law matters); Personal Injury (including auto accidents, slip and falls, products liability, wrongful death, malpractice and other types of injury cases); Estate Planning (including will drafting, trusts, probate and will contests); Real Estate (including buying or selling real estate, foreclosure defense, and landlord tenant issues); Employment Law (including wrongful termination, harassment and discrimination); and Numerous other areas of law.

The regular 3rd Saturday of each month schedule for call-ins resumes in May, 9:00 a.m. until Noon.



June 2nd - June 5th • Lincoln & Leland Ave.
(Watch for complete details in upcoming editions)

Pasta Night at Tattler Post

Enjoy a lasagna dinner with salad and garlic bread plus desserts for only \$7.00 per person on Friday, May 6 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm at the Tattler Post #973 of the American Legion at 4355 N. Western Avenue in Chicago. Beverages are available at reasonable prices. Invite your family members, friends and neighbors for a fun evening, a delicious meal, and at the same time support your local Veterans. For more information call 773-588-5809.

Submitted by Maria Bappert



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The New Generation Of Urhausens Carry On Family's 90+ Year Tradition

Nick and Gerard Urhausen are of the newest generation of this well-known family that have been the providers of garden plants and flowers to the Chicagoland area since 1922.

When Gerard & Nick's grandfather and his brother started their life's work decades ago, the Lincolnwood property they continue to occupy was pure prairie land with no trees and only a scattering of houses - most of them summer residences. What is now Lincolnwood was all "Country." Vegetables were the mainstay of the greenhouse back then, with all the members of the Urhausen clan chipping in to help during this seasonally busy business. In fact, even today, this is still a total commitment by the entire family. "It seems like you can never work hard enough," Nick and Gerard comment. "Even in the off-season we're making ready for the next year. Because we grow everything ourselves, we offer more colors and varieties including hard to find blooms like zinnias and cosmos. We are really growers more than we are your typical plant and flower providers. As a result of that we are not merchants or marketers. Our experience and training is as greenhouse growers."

For years now, people from far and wide have been making the "outing or excursion" as it was in the early days, to only a quick trip on any of the major roadways today to feast on the "conservatory" atmosphere of Urhausen's Greenhouse, where they can stroll among the living world of beauty the Urhausens provide. And then to be able to take some of that beauty home with them and enjoy their choices for months afterwards is the ultimate treat.

Gerard and Nick add, "We appreciate all of our customers and the support they have given us through the years and always try to make their experience with us an enjoyable one. Our patrons love to be able to shop in a place where their future plants are actually growing."

We at Our Village thank the Urhausen family for all the service and beauty they have shared with us through these many years and are pleased to announce they will be doing an article for us on a regular basis in which they will continue to share their expertise with us.

Urhausen Greenhouses is located at 6973 N. East Prairie Road in Lincolnwood. Their phone number 847-675-1573. www.urhausengreenhouses.com



Neighborhood Farmers Markets Will Open In May

Pick Up Our Next Edition For A Listing

Chicago Farmers Markets, presented by COUNTRY Financial, today released the 2016 schedule of market events beginning this spring and lasting through October at locations throughout the city's neighborhoods. The markets, managed by the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE), will sell fresh fruits, vegetables, plants, and flowers, as well as other prepared food items. A complete list of city-run and independent markets, along with dates and times can be found at chicagofarmersmarkets.us

The official kick-off of the Farmers Markets season will take place at the Daley Plaza Market on Thursday, May 12, at 11:30 a.m. Among the activities, COUNTRY Financial will announce the winner of the 9th Annual Reusable Bag Design Contest, and will provide free, reusable bags while supplies last. This year's winning design from a Chicago Public Schools student will be based on the theme "Our Farms, Your Table" and will be featured on thousands of reusable bags distributed throughout the season. The deadline to submit design entries is Monday, April 11 at 4 p.m. For complete details, visit countryfarmersmarkets.com.

The City of Chicago-managed markets opening in May are the Daley Plaza Market at 50 W. Washington St. opening on Thursday, May 12; the Division Street Farmers Market at Division St. and Dearborn Pkwy. opening on May 14 and the Federal Plaza Farmers Market at Adams St. and Dearborn Pkwy., opening on Tuesday, May 17. Most of the other markets open in June.

For a full list of all City of Chicago managed markets as well as over 35 independently run markets in the city, visit chicagofarmersmarkets.us. DCASE also operates Maxwell Street Market (800 S. Desplaines St.), a Chicago tradition of bargains and bargaining with an international flavor, open year-round on Sundays, 7am-3pm. The Maxwell Street Market will kick-off its summer season on Sunday, May 1. For details, visit maxwellstreetmarket.us.

The Adler Planetarium Presents From The Big Bang To The Multiverse & Beyond on May 5th

On May 5, the Adler Planetarium will welcome Michael Turner, Director of the Kavli Institute of Cosmological Physics and the Bruce V. and Diana M. Rauner Distinguished Services Professor at the University of Chicago to deliver the Spring Kavli Fulldome Lecture. The Kavli Fulldome Lecture Series takes audiences on a journey to the very edges of human knowledge. Adler experts and leading scientists work together to create dazzling, animated images of real data, which are projected onto the planetarium dome. Audiences don't have to imagine what an equation might tell us about the Universe's distant past, they can travel back in time and see it with their own eyes. In Turner's lecture, he will explore some of the biggest mysteries in modern cosmology.

About the Lecture: We know the Universe began 13.7 billion years ago in an explosion of space called the Big Bang. We also know that the gravity of dark matter created the galaxies and other cosmic structures we see today from tiny quantum fluctuations that arose just after the Big Bang. Yet some big questions remain. Is our Universe part of a larger multiverse? What is speeding up the expansion of the Universe? These are the mysteries that inspire cosmologists today.

This presentation will illustrate what we know and how we know it, as well as the big ideas and puzzles of cosmology today.

This lecture will also be presented as a live dome-cast to various museums, planetariums, and universities around North America, including the American Museum of Natural History in New York City and the H.R. MacMillan Space Centre in Vancouver, BC.

The next installment of the Kavli Fulldome Lecture Series will take place this fall. Stay tuned for details.

Date: Thursday, May 5, 2016

Time: 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm: Lecture and Q&A Session

9:00 pm - 10:00 pm: Speaker Reception with Refreshments

Tickets: \$10 General Admission / \$5 Members and Students

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit: <http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/events/big-bang-multiverse-beyond> beginning April 4.

Day Camp

July 5 - August 12

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August 15-19 & August 22-26

Day Camp Summer Fitness Fests

August 3-5

Online Summer Registration opens April 4-5
In-person Summer Registration opens April 9

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Financial assistance is available for eligible city of Chicago residents. Learn more now at: www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/day-camp/

City of Chicago, Rahm Emanuel, Mayor
Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners
Michael P. Kelly, General Superintendent & CEO

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Encore, Encore

By Wayne Mell, Artistic Director

Even though we strive to bring new and different entertainment to Skokie Theatre, there's no denying that certain performers and shows are 'fan favorites'. These performers make us laugh and make us cry, and we love to spend an hour or two with them whenever we can. Spring is when the weather returns, and the flowers return, and there is no better time for some old and familiar faces to return as well. Please join us for some encore performances of these popular shows.



Caryn Bark: The Jewish Mother's Guide to Everything. Our favorite Skokie Girl is back with her hilarious new one-woman show. Come learn everything about ... well, everything. Told with the wit and humor that is the unique style of the Funny Old Broads ringleader. Thurs. May 5 at 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$25

And The Parody Lingers On. Scott Urban's evening of original songs and parodies was a run-away hit in March, playing to a sold-out house. He returns on June 5 with more wit and satire. Featuring special guests Carla Gordon, Gina Masland, Pam Peterson and Jan Slavin. Sun, June 5 at 4:00 pm. Tickets: \$22

French singer Michelet Innocent treated us to a night of romance last year, and we welcome him back to celebrate an evening of romance and passion this June. He gives a powerful and uplifting, high-energy virtuoso singing performance, heavily influenced by the styles of Johnny Mathis, Nat King Cole and Barbara Streisand. Fri, June 10 at 8:00 pm. Tickets: \$25

Charlene Brooks. What more is there to say? Charlene is a master singer and entertainer and she lives in our own backyard. Her shows are always the hit of the season, and this year is no different. In Unforgettable Tapestry, Charlene treats us to an evening of hits made famous by two other iconic musicians, Natalie Cole and Carole King. Sat, June 18 at 8:00 pm. Tickets: 25

Megon McDonough. Ok ... I did find more to say. Another perennial favorite, Megon creates magic on stage. Whether it's her alone with a stool and her guitar, or when she steps it up with a trio behind her, her music is uplifting and passionate and powerful. People come from all over to hear her perform live, but you don't have to. She'll be here in Skokie on Fri, June 24 at 8:00 pm. Tickets: \$30

The Internet Ate My Brain. Many of us say that, but only Bill Dyszel has put it to music. This innovative evening combines live music, multimedia, and audience activities with hilarious topical songs that lampoon how crazy we've all become because about gadgets and gizmos. A nominee for the Broadway World NY Cabaret Award, this show sold out last winter and was the most requested ticket we had. It's back on Sat, July 23 at 8:00 pm. Tickets are only \$20.

How often do you get a second chance in life? Don't miss out on the wonderful entertainers the second time around. Call our box office at 847-677-7761 or order online at SkokieTheatre.org.

It's time to check your home for trouble left behind by Jack Frost.

Spring—House Check-Up Part 2

Spring is here and there's no time to waste in locating and fixing the damage and disrepair caused by Jack Frost. Expand your spring cleaning agenda to include a thorough inspection for red flags inside and outside your home.

Paul Quinn, head of claims customer experience at Farmer's Insurance says, "Getting into a routine of inspecting your house for problems once a year when the weather warms is just plain smart, like getting an annual physical."

In the previous addition we spoke about the affects winter weather conditions can cause with roof damage, gutter issues, foundation cracks, sidewalk and driveway damage, among many other conditions. This time we want to expand your check list, focusing on other potential issues, some of which the typical homeowner can do themselves.

As you walk around the exterior of your home, notice if you see any cracks or gaps or compromised areas in your stone, brick masonry or your driveway. Check for damages to your home's siding, windows and doors. Clean out downspouts and gutters. If you are able and willing, safely check your roof for damaged tiles/shingles, flashings and gutter attachments. You can also stay on the street level and use binoculars to inspect the roof for problems. Only go on the roof if you are in good health and have someone holding the base of the ladder for safety.

If you have a deck or wood windows, look for signs of wood rot and wear. Make it a goal to paint or seal any unprotected wood to prevent water damage.

Don't forget about your home's landscaping. Be mindful of trees, shrubs, vegetation or areas of soil that are pulling away from the home's foundation, which can lead to water intrusion and foundation damage. Be on the lookout for loose or cracked branches from trees that could cause serious havoc. If you have tree branches over your home that touch or come close to the roof they can cause wind damage and ants and other bugs will be pleased to use the branches as a nice highway into your home.

Prepare to trim away overgrown or dead vegetation, especially anything crowding your air conditioning unit. Now is also the time to start planning weed control and apply fertilizer and treatment to prevent weed growth.

Small problems detected early can save thousands of dollars in repair costs. When in doubt as to what to check, call a professional. Have a heating and cooling technician clean and check your system to assure it will work well in the cooling season. Having inadequate refrigerant levels in your air conditioner will not provide the comfort you expect and could cause damage to your unit. Have a plumber do a walk-through of your house to look for wear and tear with your pipes and plumbing fixtures. Any gas piping in your home is an important annual safety check as well. If you have a working chimney it is a very good idea to have it cleaned and inspected annually.

Most people do not have the know-how or tools to perform maintenance for their heating cooling system, plumbing, chimney or gas piping. These are important functions for your comfort and safety. Please be encouraged to call qualified, insured professionals to help you with these important annual maintenance concerns.

At Home Comfort we have qualified technicians who can help you with all your annual maintenance needs. Give us a call and ask for Brian, he will take your call, answer your questions and provide advice and help.



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Norwood Park Memorial Day Parade

On May 30, th 2016, Norwood Park will be hosting their annual Memorial Day Parade and Tribute Ceremony. The annual parade will kick-off at Onahan Elementary School on at 6634 Raven Street at 11am, the parade is expected to end around 12:15pm at William Howard Taft High School (6530 W Bryn Mawr). Immediately following the parade, the Tribute Ceremony will start. We are honored to have Morris Factor, a 94-year-old World War II Veteran to speak as our 2016 Grand Marshal. 41st Ward Alderman, Anthony Napolitano will also be joining the celebration. Following the tribute ceremony, the Norwood Park Chamber of Commerce and the Norwood Park Memorial Association will be presenting their annual "Dollars for Scholars" scholarship winners. The Norwood Park Memorial Parade Committee would like to thank the following sponsors

for making this parade possible: Ori Brothers Flooring, Sprout Pediatric Dentistry, Norwood Crossing, Resurrection High School, 41st Ward Democratic Committeeman, Tim Heneghan; Senator John Mulroe; State Representative, Michael MicAuliffe; and Signature Bank.

For anyone who would like to know more about the Memorial Parade on May 30th, please visit www.Norwoodpark.org for the route, to donate, sponsor or march in the parade. Submissions are still being accepting on the Norwood website or by emailing: NorwoodParkMemorialParade@gmail.com



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 presents

Friday, May 6, 2016, at 7:30 pm
 Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago

Sunday, May 8, 2016, at 3:00 pm
 First United Church of Oak Park

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We Pay Tribute to All of Our Wonderful Mothers on their Special Day and Every Day of the Year

The second Sunday in May has been set aside in the United States as an annual national observance since 1915. Many people follow the custom of wearing a carnation on Mothers' Day. A colored carnation means that a person's mother is living. A white carnation indi-

cates that a person's mother is deceased.

A day for honoring mothers was observed many years ago in England. It was called Mothering Sunday and came in mid-Lent. People in other nations have observed similar days throughout history beginning in an-

cient Greece in honor of Rhea, the Mother of the Gods.

No matter what the tradition, Mothers' Day should be celebrated each and every day of the year - afterall, if it weren't for our Mothers, none of us would be here to celebrate anything.



Mother's Day

The second Sunday in May is the day set aside to honor our Mothers in America. Mother's Day started in England many years ago. When begun it was called Mothering Sunday. Many other countries have a similar day to pay tribute to Mothers. Mother's Day was started in America in 1872 by Julia Ward Howe in Boston.

Although Mother's Day is celebrated every year on one specific day, our Mother's should be recognized

each day for the devotion and sacrifice they give to us throughout their entire lives.

We may not always agree with her but her decisions are always made with her best intentions to do what is best for us. Her love is unconditional, and, in most cases, she is our best friend.

Happy Mother's Day to all our Mothers.

— The Editor

Mayor Emanuel Announces Open Applications For Thinkchicago: Lollapalooza 2016

Annual Program Will Host 200 Of The Nation's Top Technology And Engineering Students In Chicago; Program To Expand Number Of Student Participants By An Additional 75

Mayor Rahm Emanuel today announced ThinkChicago: Lollapalooza is now accepting applications for participation in the fourth annual installment of the successful program. Mayor Emanuel, World Business Chicago, University of Illinois, and Lollapalooza will welcome 200 elite technology and engineering students from the nation's top universities to Chicago for an opportunity to learn about Chicago's fast-growing tech scene, meet Chicago innovators, technologists, and business leaders, visit business headquarters and innovation hubs, attend Lollapalooza, and participate in a civic tech challenge. Due to overwhelming interest, the 2016 ThinkChicago: Lollapalooza program will expand the number of student participants by an additional 75, from 125 to 200 total.

ThinkChicago: Lollapalooza is seeking students with an exceptional academic track record who are enthusiastic about technology, innovation, and/or entrepreneurship with a demonstrated commitment to achievement and excellence in their field. Candidates should be considering Chicago for potential employment, including tech

jobs at large corporations, roles within growth stage tech companies or as an entrepreneur starting a new tech endeavor. Candidates that are juniors, seniors, or graduate students with relevant work, internship, leadership, and entrepreneurial experience are especially encouraged to apply. Students can apply by visiting www.thinkchicago.net. Applications must be submitted online by 11:59 pm on Sunday, May 15, 2016.

The program will take place July 27 – July 29, 2016 and will bring the total number of students who have participated in the ThinkChicago: Lollapalooza program to 550, and a total of 1,150 students when combined with its sister program, ThinkChicago: Chicago Ideas Week, which takes place in the fall. Last year, ThinkChicago: Lollapalooza received 900 applications from 99 universities across 30 states. This summer's program will be the ninth overall installment of the successful ThinkChicago program established by Mayor Emanuel in 2011 and the fourth annual program held during Lollapalooza. Visit www.lollapalooza.com

White Eagle
Banquets & Restaurant

Mother's Day Brunch

Sunday, May 8th

11:00am - 6:00pm
(Buffet seating begins at 11:00am, Family-style seating begins at 12:00pm)

featuring cuisine from around the world

Family Style	Buffet
Fresh Rye Bread, Barley Soup	Omelet, Breakfast & Fresh Bakery Stations
Coleslaw, Potato Salad	Fire & Ice Station Seafood (Fresh & Fried), Poached Salmon
Roasted Chicken	Polish Station Roasted Beef Brisket, Polish Sausage & Sauerkraut, Pierogis, Roasted Chicken, Mashed Potatoes
Beef Brisket with Gravy	Italian Station Caprese Salad, Italian Sausage & Peppers, Italian Meatballs, Pasta
Polish Sausage & Sauerkraut	Mexican Station Tamales, Steak Fajitas, Arroz Con Pollo, Spanish Rice, Refried Beans, Chips & Guacamole
Honey-Glazed Ham	North American Station BBQ Ribs, Mac & Cheese, Fried Chicken, Baked Beans, Corn Bread, Carved Beef, Roasted Turkey and Prime Rib
Mashed Potatoes	Dessert Station Assorted Bakery Fresh Pastries
Green Beans, Pierogis	<small>*tax and gratuity not included</small>
Assorted Cakes and Kolaczki	

Buffet Style Brunch
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Family Style Brunch
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The Topic We All Try to Avoid... Funerals



Chester M. Przybylo

With all of the uncertainty in life, the one common denominator we all share and none escape is death. We go through life with a mindset of “when” things happen: when we graduate college, when we start a family, when we take that vacation in the French Riviera; yet when it comes to planning for end of life and funerals, we tend to insert an “if” factor. It’s human nature: we fear the unknown and our mortality.

For many, preplanning is a solution which eliminates several potential problems, including the need for discussing final wishes since the details have already been arranged. Also, preplanning eliminates worries about costs and potential family conflicts at a time when the family is grieving. This time should be about dignity, control and privacy.

From a more practical perspective, by pre-purchasing a funeral, it can make Medicaid qualification easier since it’s not factored into the spend down rule or the five-year look back period. Funds used to cover the costs aren’t considered available cash resources. Instead, those costs might include the funeral or memorial service, caskets or urns, cemetery markers and any other cemetery expenses.

Note that Medicaid requires prepaid funeral arrangements to be irrevocable. This simply means that family members may not opt for less expensive arrangements and then pocket the difference.

If overpayments occur, they are returned to the state, not the family. Another option includes assigning a life insurance policy to the funeral home that will cover the costs. If the policy is not enough to cover the arrangements, family members will have to cover the difference. Again, if you receive Medicaid, any overpayments are returned to the state, not your family. Finally, you must assign ownership of the policy to the funeral home. Listing it as the beneficiary is not enough.

By making the decisions and arrangements ahead of time, it can also present the opportunity to have an honest end-of-life discussion with family members. While it’s never a pleasant conversation, it’s necessary and can pave the way for more open discussions later.

Estate planning is about taking control in order to ensure your assets are distributed according to your wishes after you are gone. The preplanning of a funeral achieves many of these objectives, including making it easier to have sometimes difficult discussions with your loved ones. An experienced estate planning attorney can help ensure your funeral plans are carried out as you intended.

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

PurpleStride Chicago 5k For Pancreatic Cancer

More patients will die from pancreatic cancer than breast cancer this year, moving pancreatic cancer from the fourth to the third-leading cause of cancer-related death in the United States, according to the Cancer Statistics 2016 report, published by the American Cancer Society.

To change the course of this disease, the Chicago Affiliate of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is inviting the community to attend PurpleStride Chicago. The volunteer-led community celebration taking place on Saturday, April 30 through Jackson Park will raise much needed awareness and funds to support the mission of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network to advance research, support patients and create hope.

To register and to learn more visit www.purplestride.org/chicago.

“Growing in participants and dollars raised year after year, PurpleStride Chicago is one of more than 50 signature awareness events held by the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network across the country this year,” stated Maureen Feck, Affiliate Chair for the Chicago Affiliate of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. “We are excited to hold this year’s event in historic Jackson Park. Our passionate and dedicated volunteers continue to lead the charge at PurpleStride Chicago, in which we demonstrate the impact that we can have in the fight against pancreatic cancer.”

The family-friendly 5K timed awareness walk/run will include:

- Registration at 7 a.m., event begins at 8:30 a.m.
- Kid-friendly activities and “purple play zone”
- Opening ceremony featuring live entertainment
- Hosted by FOX 32 news anchor Corey McPherrin
- Honorary Co-Chairs include: Gerard Abood, MD, Assistant Professor – Surgical
- Gold Sponsor: Have A Skate With Bob
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Oncology at Loyola University Medical Center, David Bentrem, MD, Surgical Oncology – Northwestern Medical Group, Mary Buschmann, PhD, Research Manager from University of Chicago/Chicago Pancreatic Cancer Initiative, Jennifer Gnerlich, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery from AMITA Health Cancer Institute/Loyola University Medical Center, Alexander Hantel, MD, System Medical Director, Oncology Services from Edward-Elmhurst Healthcare, and Robert Marsh, MD, Chief, Gastrointestinal Oncology from NorthShore University HealthSystem Ramos

- National Presenting Sponsor: Celgene
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The American Cancer Society reports an estimated 53,070 Americans will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and approximately 41,780 will die from the disease this year. The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is working to double survival by 2020 by continuing to directly fund research, advocate for increased funding and resources from the national government, raise awareness through community outreach, and provide excellent patient services and support for novel initiatives like Clinical Trial Finder, Know Your TumorSM personalized medicine service and the Patient Registry.

Learn more about how you can support your local Chicago Affiliate and the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network by visiting www.pancan.org. Click to view this year’s PurpleStride PSA and organizational PSA.

Follow the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network on Twitter, Instagram or on Facebook.

Join The Adler Planetarium For the Transit of Mercury on May 9!

Have you ever seen Mercury in the nighttime sky? Normally, it can be surprisingly hard given its close proximity to the Sun. However, every once in awhile (on average about ten years give or take), Mercury’s orbit and Earth’s orbit align so that Mercury passes directly in front of the Sun as seen from Earth. This is called a “transit” of Mercury. Because Mercury is small and far away, transits of Mercury are not visible to the naked eye, but with a properly filtered telescope, Mercury can be seen as a small black dot moving across the face of the Sun. Join the Adler Planetarium to witness this rare occurrence through the Adler’s Doane Observatory!

The Doane Observatory is the largest aperture telescope available to the public in the Chicagoland area. The Doane can gather over 5,000 times more light than an unaided human eye, providing visitors a unique experience to see a variety of celestial objects!

Event Details

Date: May 9

Event Time: 8am – 2pm

Location: Doane Observatory

Actual Transit Timing: 6:13 am CDT – 1:42 pm CDT

This is a FREE event and open to the public. For more information, visit: <http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/events/transit-mercury>

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Passover Greeting 2016

Dear Friends,

As our family settles around our intimate Seder table with our guests, our goal is not just to eat the traditional foods and say the Hebrew word as dictated in the Haggadah but to incorporate them and their lessons into our lives.

Here are some of our favorite lessons we've learned over the years:

Matzah. It's flat. It's humble. It's solid. White bread is puffy and looks really nice, but it can blow away in the wind, and wouldn't last more than a day if it wasn't packed with preservatives. As big as it is, it has no substance. Sometimes we all need to act like a matzah, humbly doing what it takes and being a rock of support for our friends when they need us. And do you know something else? Matzah lasts, like the good friendships we all seek to create. So be a matzah friend.

Maror. Bitter herbs. We eat them to remember the suffering of our ancestors in Egypt. Most of us were never slaves, but the fact that someone else was or is enslaved is enough for us to taste bitterness. When you see someone in need, empathize and feel their pain.

Four cups of wine. We drink them to commemorate the four words G-d used to describe to Moses how he would soon redeem the Hebrews. Drinking these cups is our way of thanking Him for the miracles that he did—and continues to do. The les-

son I take from this is that we need to be profusive with our thanks. Don't just say "thank you" once. Do it again and again and make sure that your appreciation really shows.

The Four Questions. There was a time when people said, "children should be seen and not heard." Apparently this was not the case at Jewish tables. In fact the Bible itself builds the Seder proceedings around the children asked by the children. Curiosity is a good thing, and we need to foster it in our children. When a child asks a question, we need to listen attentively and try to answer it. And if we don't know the answer, look for it.

Timing is everything. Did you know that the Seder needs to start after nightfall? This is the time when our ancestors would eat the Paschal lamb, and this is the time when we hold our seders. Yes it's late and the kids be getting a bit droopy, but a good thing is worth waiting for!

Last but not least I want to wish each and every one of you a very happy Passover. By the time you will be reading this, the Seder will be the stuff of memories (and perhaps a stack of dirty dishes), but hopefully the moments shared, the lessons learned, the bonds formed and strengthened will keep you until next year when we get to re-experience the Seder magic all over again.

Rabbi Yochanan Posner
Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie

Maot Chitim to Feed 15,000 for Passover

More than 200,000 pounds of food will be packed Sunday, April 10, as Maot Chitim, the Jewish charity which fights hunger, prepares to feed 15,000 people for the eight days of Passover, which starts Friday night, April 22.

"Between 400 and 500 volunteers will come to a warehouse at 1808 Holste Road in Northbrook and work in shifts from 9:30 in the morning to after 2:00 in the afternoon, packing food for the needy in our community," says Joellyn Oliff, Executive Director of Maot Chitim, headquartered at 7366 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood.

Boxes of food will be delivered a week later to more than 5,000 individual homes as well as to college Hillels, the Ark, Operation Ezra, food pantries, shelters and other funds. Each box will contain kosher chicken, matzo, onions, celery, carrots, wine, matzo meal and potato starch, soup mix, cake, tea and candles - all the necessities for preparing food for the Passover Seder and for the eight days following.

"We believe we are delivering Jewish continuity," Oliff continues. "Because of us, many needy community members will be able to have a traditional kosher holiday meal."

The Hebrew words "maot chitim" come from the Torah and refers to the centuries old custom of leaving the corners of one's field unharvested - so the poor can gather wheat to provide themselves with sustenance.

Maot Chitim in Chicago is more than

100 years old. Originally, Rabbis set up tables in front of their synagogues and gave money to those in need so they could provide themselves with meals for Passover.

"Today, we buy 45,000 pounds of kosher chicken, 11,000 dozen eggs and everything else with money that we get in individual donations throughout the city," Oliff says. "Some donations are as small as \$5 while others give more than \$1,000. We purchase all the food we deliver."

Volunteers come from all over the community, Oliff points out. "Teens come from youth groups, and others come from clubs, and private agencies. Of course, we have volunteers from synagogues all over the Chicagoland area," she says.

One week later, Sunday, April 17, boxes will be picked up and delivered by volunteers and families with children who will be teaching their kids the value of giving "tzedakah" or charity. "We are delighted to say that we have second and third generations of families who continue to deliver packages to the needy. This is an opportunity for people to actually see the persons they are helping," Oliff adds.

Oliff concludes by saying, "We help bring community members together from all aspects of Jewish life. No matter what your priorities, the goal is to help those in need celebrate the holiday. Our one purpose is to help others."

To volunteer or donate, please call 847-674-3224 or go to www.maotchitim.org

EHNTJC Sisterhood Hosts Book Review And Author Luncheon

"Saving Sophie," a new book by Ronald Balson, author of the popular "Once We Were Brothers" will be reviewed by the author at a special luncheon, Wednesday, May 4, 11:30 a.m., sponsored by the Sisterhood of Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation.

"In Balson's solid sequel to 'Once We Were Brothers,' Chicago PI Liam Taggart and his fiancée, lawyer Catherine Lockhart, investigate an act of embezzlement complicated by links to a child kidnapping and terrorist activity in Hebron, Israel," says Evie Lowenthal, president of the Sisterhood. "It's a terrific read and we are proud to have the author with us to talk about his book."

She went on to say that the book focuses on showing how the everyday people of both Israel and Palestine just want to live quiet, peaceful lives.

"Balson succeeds in illuminating the personal side of the Middle Eastern conflict through his deeply human, psychologically credible characters," she concludes.

Fee for the luncheon are \$18 per person for members or \$23 for non-members and guests.

For further information, please go to the Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation website at EHNT.ORG or call 847-675-4141.

Greek Orthodox Metropolitan Iakovos Celebrates Holy Week

Among several services marking the Orthodox Christian Holy Week preceding Easter, celebrated this year on Sunday, May 1, Metropolitan Iakovos of Chicago, spiritual leader of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago, will celebrate special services commemorating the Last Supper on Wednesday evening at the St. John the Baptist Church of Des Plaines, IL, and Thursday morning at the Greek American Rehabilitation & Care Center in Wheeling, IL. As in biblical tradition, the Orthodox festal holidays begin at sundown the evening before the date.

The Metropolitan will visit St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Des Plaines (2350 East Dempster Street) at 6:30pm on Wednesday, April 27, to celebrate the Matins of the Last Supper followed by the ancient custom of the "Washing of the Feet" (in Greek, Nipter), commemorating Jesus Christ's washing of his disciple's feet after the Last Supper. In Orthodox tradition, this ceremony is only celebrated by bishops, and is a sign of the humility and service of the pastors of the Church.

The Metropolitan will visit the Greek American Rehabilitation & Care Center in Wheeling (220 North 1st Street) at 9:30am on Thursday, April 28. This visit will include a full celebration of the Eucharist (the Divine Liturgy, equivalent of the Roman Catholic Mass) in commemoration of the institution of the Lord's Supper for the residents, a long tradition of the Metropolitan's pastoral ministry and Holy Week schedule.

The services of Holy Week begin to take on a special solemnity on Holy Wednesday evening and Holy Thursday, and proceed quickly to the commemoration of the Lord's Passion, Crucifixion, and Burial (Holy Thursday evening through Holy Friday) culminating in the climactic midnight services on Easter Sunday. Orthodox Christians throughout the world celebrate Easter May 1 this year as they follow, for a variety of historical reasons, the Julian Calendar for calculating the date. This currently lags behind the contemporary Gregorian Calendar by 13 days.

The Greek American Rehabilitation and Care Centre is a state-of-the-art facility which proudly serves the Greater Chicagoland area and its surrounding suburbs. This contemporary facility has 198 beds featuring custom private and semi-private rooms for residents, and boasts a chapel, and gift shop, beauty salon and spa, in addition to customary health-care features. Its comprehensive services include a full range of rehabilitative therapies. We provide physical, occupational, and speech therapy, as well as long and short term nursing, hospice, memory loss, and vacation care.

Metropolitan Iakovos of Chicago has served as the spiritual leader of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago since May of 1979. Under his leadership the Metropolis has increased its efforts to assist the homeless and those in need, as witnessed in the labors of the Metropolis Philanthropy Committee. He has founded new Youth programs, established various local Dialogue Commissions with other faith communities and continues to work with other area Religious Leaders in promoting justice and truth in our society.

Easter Orthodox Christians are the second largest Christian denomination worldwide. The Metropolis of Chicago oversees all Greek Orthodox Parishes within Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, as well as large portions of Missouri and Indiana. You can find more information on His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos and the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago on our website: www.chicago.goarch.org.

The general public is always welcomed to our services and media coverage of these rare visits by our Greek Orthodox Hierarchy would be appreciated. Media is encouraged to contact John Ackerman, Director of Media Relations for the Metropolis of Chicago, to assist with your coverage and arrange interviews. Interviews with Metropolitan Iakovos, Parish Priest Father John Rallis, and others can be arranged before or after the service.

Village Cooking Corner

KOTA KAPAMA (CHICKEN IN TOMATO SAUCE)

From the Kitchen of Anastasia E. Weaver

This is a dish served in many parts of Greece, especially in Arcadia in the Peloponnese - to guests and a special menu on Sundays.

1 whole chicken cut into parts, 1/2 tsp. salt, 1-1/2 tsp of cinnamon

Sauce:

1 tbsp of drippings
1 tbsp of all-purpose flour
2-3 cups of water
1/2 cup of Canola or Olive Oil
1/2 tsp. pepper
1 cup of canned diced tomatoes (no salt added)
1 cup of tomato sauce (no salt added)
1/2 cup of dry white wine (optional)
1 whole cinnamon stick 6 whole cloves
1/2 tsp oregano Juice of one lemon
2 tsp of grated Kefalotyri cheese (found in Greek markets*) or Pannesan or Romano)



Cut the chicken in parts, wash and dry and then place in a bowl. Sprinkle with lemon juice, salt and pepper and 1-1/2 tsp. of cinnamon. Marinate for about 15 minutes. Heat oil in a Dutch Oven or large pot and saute the chicken until golden. Add the wine, cover and simmer for about 15 minutes. In the meantime prepare the sauce in another pan by mixing the flour with a little of the water to a paste consistency. Combine the rest of the ingredients but not the cheese. Cook the sauce on a low/medium fire on top of the range for about 10 minutes stirring to combine. Add the sauce to the chicken and continue to cook another 20 to 25 minutes or until the chicken is well done.

Prepare the pasta Macaroni* or Spaghetti as directed by the pasta maker. Drain and place on a platter sprinkling the pasta with the grated Kefalotyri, Parmesan or Romano as desired. Place the Chicken and the Sauce into an appropriate serving dish along with the platter of pasta and present to your family and/or guests.

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