



OUR VILLAGE



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October 31, 2008

The McCormick Tribune Ice Rink in Millennium Park Opens Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2008

Michigan Avenue Ice Rink Offers Free Admission for Skating

Kicking off Chicago's winter season, the McCormick Tribune Ice Rink in Millennium Park will open on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 and will remain open through Sunday, March 15, 2009, weather permitting. The rink, now in its eighth season and drawing more than 100,000 skaters annually, is free and open to the public. Skate rental is available for \$9. The ice rink is located on Michigan Avenue between Washington and Madison Streets.

The rink is open daily from 10am until 10pm. For the Thanksgiving holiday on November 27, and on Christmas Day, December 25, the rink will be open from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The ice rink is just one component of the 24.5-acre Millennium Park, which has welcomed more than twelve million visitors since opening in July 2004. Among Millennium Park's other prominent features are the Frank Gehry-designed Jay Pritzker Pavilion, the most sophisticated outdoor concert venue of its kind in the United States; the interactive Crown Fountain by Jaume Plensa; the contemporary Lurie Garden designed by the team of Gustafson Guthrie Nichol, Piet Oudolf and Robert Israel; and Anish Kapoor's hugely popular Cloud Gate sculpture.

For more information about events in Millennium Park during the winter months, including Caroling at Cloud Gate, visit www.millenniumpark.org, or call 312.742.1168.

First-Ever Community Fruit Tree Orchard to be Planted in Chicago's Kilbourn Park

The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation launches "ABSOLUT GLOBAL COOLING™ Zones" program to plant orchards in city parks

On October 18, residents and guests of Chicago will become part of history when The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation (FTPF), in a program made possible through the generosity of ABSOLUT® VODKA, will plant 24 high-quality, mature fruit trees in Kilbourn Park (3501 N. Kilbourn Ave.) to create the first-ever public fruit tree orchard in a major metropolitan city. In addition to providing park visitors with improved nutrition from fresh fruits, the trees will improve the air, soil, and water quality of the surrounding environment, while bringing visibility and support to Kilbourn Park's community outreach efforts.

FTPF's certified arborist will kick off the day's events by offering a free, interactive fruit tree planting workshop to community residents from 9 AM - 11 AM prior to the actual orchard planting. The orchard is part of FTPF's "ABSOLUT GLOBAL COOLING Zones" initiative sponsored by ABSOLUT, with similar efforts to follow in cities such as Fort Lauderdale, San Diego, New York, and in Orange County.

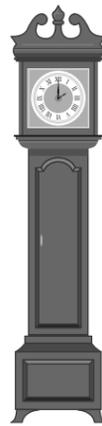
"FTPF is proud to collaborate with environmentally-conscious companies such as ABSOLUT to reduce global warming and improve environmental conditions across the country," says Cem Akin, FTPF's Executive Director, "We are honored to work with the City of Chicago on this groundbreaking orchard to benefit Kilbourn Park visitors on multiple levels."

"As part of our 'In an ABSOLUT World' campaign, we encourage consumers to dream of their ideal world," said Ian Crystal, Brand Director, ABSOLUT VODKA. "We are proud to be a part of this project with the Fruit Tree Planting Foundation, as we lead the spirits industry in the effort to combat the climate crisis and continue to strive towards a more environmentally idealized world."

ABOUT THE FRUIT TREE PLANTING FOUNDATION

The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation (FTPF) is an award-winning international nonprofit charity dedicated to planting fruitful trees and plants to alleviate world hunger, combat global warming, and improve the surrounding air, soil, and water. FTPF programs strategically donate orchards where the harvest will best serve communities for generations, at places such as public schools, homeless shelters, drug rehabs, low-income neighborhoods, international hunger relief sites, and animal sanctuaries. FTPF's unique mission, which has been featured in major publications such as The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, and The Hindu, benefits the environment, human health, and animal welfare—all at once!

To learn more about all of FTPF's programs, please visit www.ftpf.org.



Fall Back 1 Hour!

DAYLIGHT SAVINGTIME ENDS

November 2, 2:00 a.m.

Remember to check your batteries in your smoke alarms, CO2 detectors and all battery operated medical assistance devices.

Vote on November 4th AND REMEMBER VETERANS' DAY NOVEMBER 11TH

Let us all honor our troops, present and past,
who defend our right to vote



Bucktown A Joy-FULL Celebration of Friendship Dinner

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The White Eagle Banquet & Restaurant
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\$38.00 per person

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Dinner - 4:00 pm

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More details of the Joy-FULL Celebration to follow



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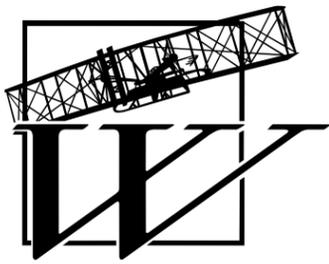
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Wright Chosen as 'Green' Institute

Homeowners, residents and small business owners will soon be able to turn to Wright College for information, classes and workshops on reducing their energy costs and consumption because of a recently awarded grant.

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity chose Wright as the Chicago-area location for a Sustainability Institute because of the cutting-edge lead Wright has taken among community colleges on renewable energy and energy efficiency.

"This establishes Wright as the leader in energy efficiency training in Chicago," said Victoria Cooper, Wright's director of environmental technology. Wright has installed solar panels to power part of the campus and created a Building Energy Technologies curriculum to teach energy efficient construction.

When the institute opens in the fall, seminars and classes will be offered to teach residents, homeowners and small businesses about energy efficiency. Another goal of the center will be developing energy audit training for architects, engineers, consultants, and energy business professionals across the network colleges. Also, an office at the college will provide a library of sustainability documents available to the community.

Only three other Illinois community colleges were also selected as Sustainability Institutes – Kankakee Community College, Heartland Community College in Normal and Lewis and Clark Community College in Godfrey, which is near St. Louis.

For more information, call Dr. Cooper at (773) 481-8979.

Two Wright Students Win Nationwide Essay Contest

Two Wilbur Wright College students were recently named winners in a nationwide essay contest on entrepreneurship.

Juan Contreras's essay was ranked 13th and Courtney Spino's essay was 20th out of the top 20 essays in the National Association of Community Colleges of Entrepreneurship and the New York Times Knowledge Network Student Essay Contest. The contest's aim was to find out how entrepreneurship education at community college like Wright has benefited students.

Contreras, of Chicago's Logan Square neighborhood, and Spino, of Chicago's Mayfair neighborhood, wrote the essays at the urging of Prof. Susie Bonner who taught their Introduction to Business course.

In his essay on the topic "How entrepreneurship education at my community college has helped me reach my goal," Contreras wrote that the courses at Wright and the caring professors have given him a strong business foundation. "Being a business owner is not something that can be accomplished overnight," he wrote. "It takes time, effort, sweat, tears, and lastly, encouragement. It is something that I personally feel is being achieved at this community college."

Spino, an officer in Wright's Entrepreneurship Club before she graduated in the spring, said her experience at Wright inspired her to follow her business dreams in her essay on "How community colleges can help create more entrepreneurs." She wrote: "Without the entrepreneurial education offered at Wright College, most of would never even consider starting our own business an option. We would just keep the idea or thought we have bottled up inside."

For more information, call Ed Bannon at (773) 481-8535.

Chicago Area Public Libraries

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Friday, November 14, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 P.M.

Saturday, November 15, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the Friends of Budlong Woods Branch Library
All proceeds benefit the collections, programs, and services of the Budlong Woods Branch
Questions? Call 312-742-9590 for more information.

EDGEBROOK BRANCH

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Adults and teens are invited to join Jim Brostos, veteran Illinois and national chess leader and professional instructor, for **Chess Club** every Monday evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Chicago Public Library's Edgebrook Branch at 5331 W. Devon Avenue. Jim will teach you how to play or engage you in an expert game. To ensure a chance to play, please bring your own chess set. Newcomers are always welcome. For more information please telephone the library at 312-744-8313.

CALLING ALL TEEN VOLUNTEERS

Teen volunteers are needed and service learning hours are available for all teens between the ages of 15 and 18. To register as a teen volunteer, please call the library at 312-744-8313.

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6083 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago, Illinois
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ANTIQUES RODENSHOW with Corrine Schreiber

Corrine Schreiber, owner of the Calico Cat, Ltd. antique store, will present a talk on buying and collecting antiques. Patrons may also bring in one item for appraisal. Please register by calling 312-744-1478. Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2008 Time: 7:00 PM

Family Reading Night

Come to the Roden branch and meet John Low, the Executive Director of The Mitchell Museum of the American Indian and a Pokagon Band Potawatomi Indian. Mr. Low will demonstrate a traditional smudging ceremony, play a Native American Flute, and tell some tales that his grandmother told him when he was a young child.

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HONOR OUR VETS

Veterans Day at Bohemian National Cemetery

Friends of Bohemian National Cemetery will be placing flags on the 2,000+ graves of veterans buried at the cemetery in honor of Veterans' Day, November 11th. All are welcome to join us on Friday, November 7th at 10:00 A.M. in the office building to receive maps and flags. The Cemetery is located at 5255 N. Pulaski at Foster. Plans include going to a local restaurant for lunch afterwards.



AMERICAN LEGION EDISON PARK POST #541 OBSERVES VETERANS DAY

In observance of Veterans Day on Tuesday Nov. 11th, there will be a ceremony at Monument Park located at Avondale and Oliphant Ave., Chicago starting at 10:30AM. This day has been set aside to honor U.S. Military Veterans of all branches of service.

Guest speakers will include 41th ward Alderman Brian Doherty and State Representative of the 20th district, Michael McAuliffe, who is also chairman of the state's Veterans Affairs Committee.

All are invited to attend.

For additional information contact Post Commander Gerald Skotzko at 773-693-3448 or Senior Vice Commander Robert Fuggiti at 773-736-8738.

NORWOOD CROSSING TO HOST VETERANS DAY RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The community is invited to join veterans, residents, their friends and families for a special Veterans Day Commemorative Program, on Mon., Nov. 10, at 2:30 p.m. The event will take place at Norwood Crossing (formerly Norwood Park Home), 6016-20 N. Nina Ave. in Chicago. Parking is located off of Northcott Avenue.

Highlight of the afternoon will be a special performance of patriotic music by the five-member "Brass Ambassadors" from Naval Station Great Lakes Tom Mouhelis, executive director of The Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans, will discuss the role of his agency in assisting homeless veterans. Mouhelis, a 30-year retired U.S. Air Force veteran, served initially as the enlisted ranks, achieving the rank of TSGT as a loadmaster on C-130 USAF cargo planes. In 1977, he received a direct commission to second lieutenant, later serving as aerial port officer, services officer, wing mobility officer, and chief of plans and programs. He retired in 1997 from the reserves with the rank of major, having been called up for actions in Grenada, Panama and elsewhere.

Other parts of the program will include: welcome by Richard L. Corrin,

Jr., Norwood Life Care Foundation board member; presentation of the Colors by American Legion Post 541; pledge of allegiance led by Gerald Skotzko, commander of American Legion Edison Post 541, and Lucille Janssens, a former commander of American Legion Norwood Post 740; singing of the National Anthem; invocation by Chaplain Lt. Col. Paul Pfeffer (Senior Army Reserve Ret.); recognition of veterans present; playing of Taps; and remarks by Cmdr. Rhonda Harder, Executive Officer of the Navy Recruiting District of Chicago. Members of eight American Legion and VFW posts in the immediate area also have been invited.

Veterans will be recognized individually during the program. All active and non-active military personnel who are planning to attend the event are asked to provide upon arrival their name, rank, military unit, service branch, armed conflict (if any), where served, and dates of service. Refreshments will be served.

Norwood Crossing is a not-for-profit senior living community since 1896. Veterans planning to attend should RSVP to Stan Banash, director of public relations, at (773) 577-5324.

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THE JOY OF JEWELRY

Fun and Flair for Your Outerwear



By Cynthia Sliwa

As the days get shorter with the change of seasons and you take your winter paraphernalia out of storage, you might consider adopting a new trend that can make wearing those autumn jackets and winter coats a bit more fun. Major designers are showing coats and jackets accessorized with jewelry this season.

Likely you're familiar with the idea of adding a brooch or pin up near your face on a coat or jacket. For many women, there is an annual holiday tradition of wearing a Christmas tree or snowflake pin. This year, bigger and bolder the brooch, the better. Or try clustering two or more medium or large brooches for bigger impact – a collection of trees, a flurry of snowflakes. I love clustering starburst brooches to add dazzle.

To adorn your fur, real or faux, look for vintage fur clips, brooches designed with double prongs in the back that securely pin into the garment without a clasp.

The Balenciaga designer line is accessorizing all manner of outerwear coats with big, chunky necklaces, both long and short. To adopt this style, work with the collar and neckline of the coat to determine what style of necklace might work best for you. A collarless coat gives you the most options. Be sure the necklace isn't too fragile. Metal is generally a better choice than beads. Optimally the necklace will work with what you're wearing under the coat as well.

The Burberry designer line is showing bracelet-style watches worn over the wrists of long knit gloves. Of course, bracelets work equally well. Here too, try wearing more than one. The look is fresh and unexpected.

These aren't ideas you'll want to try with your down jacket during bitterly cold weather or to wear in heavy rain or snow, but they do present some fun, new ways to dress up the garments you wear the most this time of year.

Cynthia Sliwa, AICI CIP, is an image consultant, jewelry designer and co-author of the book *Jewelry Savvy: What Every Jewelry Wearer Should Know*. Have a question or a story of interest? Contact me at CynthiaSliwa@aol.com or call 310-379-1742.

Kraft Great Kids Program Offers Children Enrichment in Reading, Fitness, Nature and the Arts

Parents looking for safe learning opportunities for their children ages 6-12 during the school year are encouraged to stop in at any of the Chicago Park District's 12 Kraft Great Kids Program sites now through May 29, 2009, beginning at 3:30 or 4 p.m. There is no admission fee or pre-registration required.

Timothy J. Mitchell, Chicago Park District General Superintendent and CEO, comments, "The Kraft Great Kids Program is a partnership between Kraft, the Chicago Park District, the Chicago Public Libraries, and After School Matters to provide children meaningful after-school experiences in reading, fitness, nature and the arts."

During the Chicago Public School year, the program consists of organized after school activities in four categories including:

- **Homework help:** Instructors are available Monday - Thursday after school for two hours each day.
- **Reading and arts activities:** When children are finished with their homework, they can go to the reading area to read on their own, or the instructor will read with them or lead an art activity or game.
- **Great Kids@Play:** Instructors guide participants in developing characters and storylines through drawing, improvisation and other creative processes. During the winter/spring term, participants will finish creating their own comic books and will then create performances based on their stories.

Family Night: As coordinated with Chicago Public Libraries, dinner and family activities take place monthly from October – May.

For more information, call (312) 742-PLAY or visit www.chicagoparkdistrict.com.

Foster/Harlem Property Owners Association Meeting

The Foster Harlem Property Owners Association's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday November 20th, 7:00pm at St. Monica's Beyenka Hall 5101 N Mont Clare. Our guest speakers will be Walter Kleinfeld of the Better Business Bureau and Francesca from the Bank of America.

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Problem Facing 41st Ward and Forest Preserve

The following is a response to Alderman Brian Doherty's question #2) What do you feel is the largest problem facing the 41st Ward; and Cook County Commissioner Peter Silvestri's question concerning the Forest Preserve grove: #1) Did you find it safe and clean?

A big problem that the 41st Ward and the Forest Preserve faced recently was the flooding resulting from rains that occurred around September 12th and 13th when many basements were flooded and streets were impassable. Why does this flooding occur – especially around Algonquin Road where it crosses the Des Plaines River by the Methodist Camp grounds; and places like where the Forest Preserve asphalt bike trail crosses Dempster Avenue – where Dempster crosses the Chicago River North Branch?

The problem can be stated in the simple rhyme:

*The trees are growing
Where the water
Should be flowing*

Actually, this past Thursday, I rode on the bike trail up to the Botanic Gardens and it was wonderful. The changing tree colors are beautiful. The new surface on the bike trail is great! Before and after the flood of September, the bike trail has been fine. But while riding up the trail, one can see all of the dead wood lying everywhere and wonder if that is not part of the problem as that wood clogs up the river channel. At the Dempster – Metra railroad crossing where the Chicago River North Branch goes under Dempster Avenue, one can notice a beautiful Maple tree immediately to the north, spreading its limbs up above the bridge. It is a beautiful tree. The problem is that the tree is right in the middle of the river channel; it is growing bigger every day, and it is collecting more mud around it roots as it grows – thus slowing down the flow of water in the river and causing the water to back up. As one begins to ride the bike path at Devon and Milwaukee, crossing the first bridge one can notice how trees are slowly cutting off the flow of the river. And continuing to ride north, it is clear that the growing of the trees in the main channel of the river (they grow there because even in a hot, dry summer there is water there), is what is causing the water to spread out and cover everything in the area.

The question comes up: when was the last time the main river channels of both the Chicago River North Branch and the Des Plaines River were dredged? Along the Des Plaines River, there is the dirt bike path. This is a more exciting path! Yet going south from Higgins over the Kennedy expressway, one immediately runs into bike trail underpasses that are filled with water because the river has over flowed. Going north on that bike trail, the Touhy Avenue underpass is still clogged with wood from the September flood. Continuing up to the Nature Center, again one can see that the central channel of the river needs to be cleared and deepened a little so that enough water can flow without flooding.

The new bike path along the Des Plaines River where it goes under the Northwest Highway at the edge of Des Plaines is fantastic! Yet, is the river wide enough there to avoid flooding in the future? If the rivers are cleared out, would not that enable water to flow off of the streets faster and prevent water from going into the basements of institutions and private homes? Trees are crucial for cleaning the air we breathe and providing shade for people who picnic in the preserve. Trees are so important for the animals and the birds in the preserve. So we must be careful to maintain the Forest Preserve while keeping the rivers open and flowing freely.

Father Ronan Newbold, Immaculate Conception Parish, (773) 775-3833

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Halloween Hazards for Your Pets

by Peter S. Sakas, DVM

Niles Animal Hospital and Bird Medical Center,
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Halloween is a festive holiday with parties, decorations, trick or treating and other fun-filled activities. However, it can be a time of potential danger for your pets. With precautions, you can also make it a safe holiday for your pets. The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center has provided pet owners some helpful hints to keep their pets healthy and safe during Halloween.

Most people know that chocolate is toxic for pets. The chemical, theobromine, found in chocolate is what leads to the poisoning. Depending on the amount ingested, chocolate (bakers, semi sweet, milk and dark) can be potentially poisonous to many animals. Theobromine levels are especially high in dark chocolates. In general, the less sweet the chocolate, the more toxic it could be. In fact, unsweetened baking chocolate contains almost seven times more theobromine than milk chocolate. Vomiting, diarrhea, seizures, hyperactivity and increased thirst, urination and heart rate can be seen with the ingestion of as little as 1/4 ounce of baking chocolate by a 10-pound dog. Halloween treats with chocolate are not appropriate for pets.

Xylitol, a sweetener found in some candies and gum can be toxic to pets if taken in large amounts. Ingestion of significant quantities can produce a fairly sudden drop in blood sugar, resulting in depression, incoordination and seizures. Foods containing Xylitol should be kept well out of reach of your pets.

Animals are attracted to unusual or shiny objects which may be found around the house during Halloween used for decorations or wrapping. Keep aluminum foil and cellophane candy wrappers away from pets. Pets may swallow such material, leading to gastrointestinal irritation, causing vomiting or may even pass into the intestinal tract producing an intestinal blockage.

Too often during the holidays there are all sorts of foods around the home. It can be quite a temptation to give your pet some of these foods as a special treat. Your pet should be kept on its normal diet. Any change of diet, even for one meal, may give your dog or cat severe indigestion and diarrhea. This is particularly true for older animals that have more delicate digestive systems and nutritional requirements. Some pets may have a severe reaction to rich, fatty foods leading to an extremely dangerous condition called pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas).

Although some people may think it is humorous, never offer or allow your pets to access alcoholic beverages. Due to Halloween parties there may be alcoholic drinks carelessly left in areas where pets may be able to reach them. Place these unattended drinks in a safe location where pets cannot reach them. If enough alcohol is ingested, the animal could become very ill and weak. In severe cases they may go into a coma, possibly resulting in death due to respiratory failure.

During Halloween decorative plants, such as pumpkins or decorative foods, such as corn are placed around the home to provide a festive holiday setting. These plants and foods though considered to be relatively non-toxic, can potentially cause gastrointestinal upset and may even result in intestinal blockage if large pieces are ingested.

Halloween has become a very popular holiday for decorating your home, second only to Christmas. Needless to say, this can lead to a host of dangers for curious pets. Lights, electrical cords, decorations and other unique objects used to set a spooky Halloween mood around the home can lead to serious injuries. Keep wires and cords from electric lights and other decorations out of the reach of your pets. If chewed, your pet could experience damage to its mouth from shards of glass or plastic, or receive a possibly life-threatening electrical shock.

Liquid potpourri, commonly used to add pleasant scent to the home during certain holidays, can be hazardous to pets. Potentially severe damage to the mouth, skin and eyes could result from exposure to both heated and cool liquid product.

If you suspect your pet may have become exposed to a potentially toxic product or substance, contact your local veterinarian, a veterinary emergency clinic (if it is after hours for your regular veterinarian) or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center immediately for assistance.

Referenced from an informational flyer provided by the Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, Urbana, IL

Pet Howliday Tips

By Bosley

The following are some thoughts for my furry friends. Humans please skip to the bottom.

As mentioned before, the howlolidays are a very busy time for our humans. Either they are busy going too or hosting parties. This is a purrfect opportunity for us to maximize what we want most; love, attention, and treats! The following are some tips that I use on my own family to get the most out of this season.



Look your best! Humans love a clean pet; so make sure to get you're grooming appointment in.

Tolerate the bandanna, bow, or outfit your human dresses you in. Humans find this adorable and will load on extra love because of it.

Constantly keep your tail waggin'. If you don't have one, the whole back end works even better.

Stare longingly and loving into the humans eyes. Humans will melt for the pound puppy look, so practice now.

Keep your paws off everything and don't be too pushy. You will gain more by being patient.

Try your hardest to keep the yapping and barking to a minimum. However, for attention humans do love some good yodeling or talking!

Perform any trick you know. Yes, giving Paw is beneath us, but the human like it and they always give a treat for it.

Pose for the pictures don't run. Humans love a good pet shot!

If you have friends in your home, work together. Eight paws are better than four!

For the humans, please remember us in this busy time. A little extra attention makes a happy and well-behaved pet. Also, remember our pet friends that don't have the human family we do. We get plenty, so please share. Donate to your local animal shelter or Pet loving organization it will make you feel so good! Happy Howlolidays!

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

"A Theatre Review"

"All Shook Up"
Marriott Theatre
10 Marriott Dr.
Lincolnshire, Illinois

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

"All Shook Up" is the perfect musical for regional theatre. While the book may not be strong, the book and songs will entertain. It does take a strong cast to make the magic work and this is something the Marriott theatre has.

Wunderman Marc Robin with his direction and choreography has put together a four star production.

The book is by Joe DiPietro and the Presley estate was so impressed with it that they agreed to release 24 of Elvis Presley's biggest hits that include "Love Me Tender," "Don't be Cruel," "Hound Dog" and "Blue Suede Shoes" to keep you rock'n rolling in your seats.

The multi-talented Broadway actor Tyler Hanes has returned to the Marriott stage after two years of appearing on Broadway in "A Chorus Line." This man can sing, dance and act and it's great to see him back on stage as Chad in this show.

Jessie Mueller as Natalie who falls in love with Cad is a star in the making and the chemistry and magic of their performance make this production shine.

The show is a modern rock 'n roll version of Shakespeare's romantic comedy "Twelfth Night."

While "Footloose" dealt with a small town banning rock'n roll dancing "All Shook Up" deals with a roustabout who hits town with his motorcycle and his rock'n roll singing. With the help of the mayor the town believes he is a "devil in disguise."

Others in the cast are Don Forston as Sheriff Earl, Paula Scrofano as the mayor, Ross Lehman as Jim, and Christine Sherill as the sexy Miss Sandra. Others in the cast are Matt Raftery, Davis Morrison, Ericka Mac, Melody Betts, Chasten Harmon plus several others in the ensemble. Don't miss the show - if you do you'll regret it.

"All Shook Up" runs through December 7. For performance days, times and reservations call 847-634-0200. Tickets are \$45 and \$55.

"The Aisle Seat"

By Richard Allen Eisenhardt

On Monday evening October 20 the Jeff Committee celebrated its 40th anniversary honoring Chicago's equity theatres. The winners are listed below and major awards were broken down into two categories on the budget side of the theatre.

Play-Large: "Comedy of Errors" - Chicago Shakespeare.
Musical-Large: "Les Miserables" - Marriott Theatre
Actor-Principal Role Play: Randy Steinmeyer - "A Steady Rain" Chicago Dramatist
Actress-Principal Role Play: Lois Smith - "The Trip to Beautiful" Goodman Theatre.
Actor Supporting Role Play: Mark Ulrich - "Juno and the Peacock" Artistic Home.
Actress Supporting Role Play: Hallie Foote - "Trip to Bountiful: Goodman
Midsize Play: "A Steady Rain" Chicago Dramatist
Midsize Musical: "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" Bailiwick Rep.
Production Revue: Ella - Northlight Theatre
Director - Play: Barbara Gaines - "Comedy of Errors" Chicago Shakespeare
Director - Musical: Jim Corti - "Sweet Charity" Drury Lane Oakbrook and Dominic
Missmi: "Les Miserables" Marriott Theatre
Director Review: Rob Ruggiero - "Ella" Northlight Theatre
Ensemble: "Funk It Up About Nothing: Chicago Shakespeare
New Work: Keith Huff - "A Steady Rain: Chicago Dramatist
New Adaptation: Ron West - "Comedy of Errors" Chicago Shakespeare
Solo Performance: Nilaja Sun - "No Child" Looking Glass Theatre
Actor - Principal Rose - Musical: John Cudia - "Les Miserables" Marriott
Actress - Principal - Musical: Summer Naomi Smart - "Sweet Charity" Drury Lane Oakbrook
Actor - Supporting Role - Musical: Richard Todd Adams - "Les Miserables" Marriott Theatre
Actress - Supporting Role - Musical: Jessie Mueller "Carousel" Court Theatre
Actor - Revue: James Bank "American Dream Songbook" Next Theatre
Actress p Revue: E. Faye Butler "Ella" Northlight
Musical Director: Doug Peck - "Carousel" Court Theatre
Choreography: Nick Sandys - "Requiem for a Heavyweight: Shattered Glob Theatre

A special award went to Eileen Boevers for outstanding achievement, founder of Apple tree Theatre.

And the brings "The Aisle Seat" column to an end saluting the fantastic Joseph Jefferson Committee and most of the winners.

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GREAT OUTDOORS

Fall Beautiful Fall - Time To Prepare For Winter

By: Nick Urhausen, Urhausen Greenhouses

The chill of the first cool nights of fall serves as a warning that the growing season is coming to an end. By all means, enjoy your flowers for as long as the weather permits. We can even stubbornly try to protect and cover animals from the onset of cooler temperatures. However, hard frosts will eventually take their toll. At this time I strongly urge gardeners to clean up all dead flowers and vegetable plants. This is the first step towards having a great garden next year.

Then I would suggest adding a two to three inch layer of an organic material to the soil. If you have a compost pile, this would be a good time to work in this material.

Another option is to work the leaves from your yard into the soil. Adding these materials will have several benefits. First, the organic matter will have a chance to further decompose during the long, wet fall and winter. As the organic material naturally breaks down, this will add nutrients to the soil for next years plants.

Second, really digging and working up the soil in the fall aerates and loosens it and prevents the ground from becoming too hard. This is very important because a loose soil allows plants to develop healthy roots systems.

None of this work is very glamorous, however conditioning and preparing soil is one of the most important keys to having success as a gardener. Next spring your flower and vegetable plants will benefit from growing in a nutrient rich, loose soil.

Urhausen Greenhouses, Inc. is located at 6973 N. East Prairie Road in Lincolnwood. Phone: 847-675-1573, www.urhausengreenhouses.com

Urban Wildlife Coalition

Here's Your Hat, What's Your Hurry?: Humane Ways to Un-invite a Wildlife Guest

The last edition of Our Village featured tips for how to prevent unwanted wildlife from making your home, their home. But, if it's too late for prevention, and you are hearing the pitter pat of little paws, below are ways to encourage critters to skedaddle humanely.

Who's there? Can you hear animals in your home but cannot see them?

The best way to find out what you've got is to identify their tracks. Sprinkle flour or cornstarch where you hear the noises. Check back the next day.

Raccoons are usually active just before dawn and at dusk, whereas squirrels are lively during the day and quiet at night.

Ballerinas or Sumo wrestlers? Light scampering is likely to be squirrels; thumping and bumping, raccoons.

Live trapping and relocation are not necessarily humane. Many homeowners consider live trapping and removal and relocation as the best ways to deal with wildlife residents. In reality, relocation almost always leads to death. Most animals are very territorial and when moved to another's turf, the new guy in the woods may be met with hostility and find it impossible to secure food or shelter. Moreover, many animals seek refuge in human homes just temporarily as protection for their newborns. If the mother is removed, the babies will die within the walls or chimney of your home. More often than not, the animals will evacuate on their own within a week or two after giving birth, taking their youngsters along. Though it may be a brief inconvenience, patience is often the best cure.

If waiting is not an option or if the animals stay more than two weeks, try gentle annoyance. Generally speaking, animals dislike noise, light, unusual smells, and... well... you. Try these tips to encourage animals to seek shelter elsewhere: they'll remain in their own territory and may not need to abandon their young.

Place a "foreign" object like a flashlight or ball in the inhabited area. Sometimes, that's all it will take to encourage the visitor to flee.

For chimney inhabitants, tune your radio to a talk station and leave it next to the chimney damper.

Make noise (kids love this one!). Bang pots and pans, rustle papers, open and close doors. Best time to deter raccoons is in the evening.

Consider installing a strobe-like device called a "flasher disk," available at many hardware stores.

Brush your dog and scatter bits of fur in the inhabited space.

Speed up the evacuation process by finding or creating a new home outside your home. Temporarily place a hollow log or box in your backyard, away from your home's entry points.

Never use smoke or fire to drive animals out of a chimney: it will almost always kill young animals that are unable to flee on their own.

Never use ammonia as a scent deterrent during animal birthing seasons.

Once you are absolutely certain the animals are gone (sprinkle flour or cornstarch again to see if more tracks appear; listen for more footsteps), prevent further visits by immediately installing a chew-proof chimney cap and/or repairing and sealing home openings.

In rare cases, it may be necessary to call in the professionals. Our next article will feature tips for choosing a humane wildlife control company.

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

National Wildlife Federation

Going Wild This Halloween

Halloween is a holiday with lots of creepy wildlife associated with it, but are they really so creepy? From toads to bats to owls, the National Wildlife Federation shares the facts about these animals and what they are up to at this time of year, which might dispel a few myths.

Bats

Blood sucking vampire bats are real – but they mostly feed on chickens and cows and only live in Latin America. Most North American bats are insect eaters, feeding on everything from moths to mosquitoes to beetles. They use echolocation to find their prey, which is kind of like radar, rather than eyesight. They tend to have beady little eyes and weird-shaped faces which makes them look scary. But those faces help capture sound waves bouncing off of prey and other objects and funnel those waves to their ears.

Many bat species are entering into hibernation in caves or hollow trees, but some fly south for the winter just like birds.

Spiders

Spiders, with their eight legs and multiple eyes, are creatures right out of nightmares—and their sticky webs and venomous fangs don't help their public image either. But even though they might look scary, spiders are actually extremely beneficial predators of all sorts of insect pests. And only three species in the U.S. that have venom considered strong enough to hurt people: the black widow, the brown recluse and the hobo, and spider bites from these are very rare.

In the fall, female spiders are guarding egg sacks which hold the next generation of spiders.

Toads

Toads are not just a key ingredient in witches' brew, they are important environmental indicators. All amphibians are susceptible to environmental toxins because of their sensitive skin. They are usually the first species to die out in polluted areas. If you have healthy toad populations in your area, it's a good sign that your neighborhood is fairly unpolluted. And no, you cannot catch warts from touching a toad.

Toads are voracious pest predators in the warm months, but go into underground hibernation by late fall and won't emerge until spring.

Wolves

The howl of the wolf can cause either heart-rending terror or spiritual inspiration. People have either vilified or glorified wolves throughout history, but the real life wild canines are neither hounds from hell or spiritual guides. In reality, gray wolves are top predators that play a key role in balancing the ecosystem. They control deer and other prey populations as well as other predators lower down on the food chain, like coyotes and raccoons.

Once found throughout North America, the only remaining gray wolf populations live in limited regions of the United States and Canada in wilderness areas. They go out of their way to avoid humans. At this time of year, they are in the process of growing their thick winter coats to guard against winter's bitter temperatures.

Snakes

The slithering, legless body. The forked tongue. The lidless eyes. Everything about a snake is decidedly non-human. But even though they strike fear in many people, most snake species are completely harmless. In fact, snakes are enormously beneficial, helping to control insect and rodent pests. The only time a snake will try to bite is if it's cornered or startled. The natural reaction of all snakes to people is to get away or hide.

By late October, most snakes are moving to their underground hibernation grounds, where they will doze away the cold months waiting for the warmer days of spring.

Owls

The nocturnal habits, glowing eyes and utterly silent flight make these predatory birds the epitome of eeriness. It turns out that all of those things are simply adaptations for survival. Owls are nocturnal to avoid competition for prey with day-flying hawks. Their giant eyes and the fringed feathers that make no noise when the bird is flying allow them to hunt in the darkness.

Most owls are year-round residents and don't migrate. Listen for the hoot-hoot-hoot of the great horned owl or the whinnying shriek of the screech owl when you're trick or treating this year!

Now that you know the truth about these valuable wildlife, you might consider attracting them to your yard (except the wolves) The National Wildlife Federation shows how to turn your property into a wildlife habitat at www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife

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A Trust Can Help Protect You from a Financial Crisis



Chester M. Przybylo

Recently, there has been tremendous turmoil in financial markets and financial institutions. This leads many to ask whether their accounts are safe. Now, more than ever, it is important to protect yourself and your loved ones from the uncertainties in the world. You can start with your financial institution assets. There are several different systems of protection in place, depending on the type of asset and institution. Here is a brief summary of each type of protection.

Brokerage accounts — SIPC

The Securities Investors Protection Corporation (“SIPC”) protects against the loss or theft of brokerage assets by the broker. The SIPC is not a governmental

agency, rather it is a nonprofit membership organization of securities brokerages. The protection of SIPC extends to loss of cash or securities (stocks and bonds) in a brokerage account, but not, for example, commodity futures contracts or foreign currency. The return of securities registered in the account owner’s name is guaranteed. In addition, securities registered in “street name” are guaranteed up to \$500,000 per customer, and cash is guaranteed up to \$100,000 per customer. By holding an account in the name of a Trust and one in your individual name, you can split assets between the accounts, thereby doubling your protection. www.sipc.org.

Bank and Savings & Loan accounts – FDIC

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”) insures bank and savings & loan deposits up to a limit of \$250,000 per owner (\$250,000 for retirement accounts like IRAs). Trusts can be especially useful under the FDIC rules because it can provide expanded insurance coverage based on your beneficiaries. For example, if you have a Trust and are leaving everything to your three children (depending on the Trust terms), you would qualify for \$250,000 coverage per beneficiary, or \$750,000, rather than the \$250,000 protection it would have had in your individual name. www.fdic.gov. This recently increased FDIC coverage is only until December 31, 2009, and on January 1, 2010, it reverts back to previous levels of coverage.

Credit union accounts – NCUSIF

National credit unions are chartered and regulated by the National Credit Union Association (“NCUA”). The National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund (“NCUSIF”) insures all members of the NCUA, and some state-chartered credit unions, with share with insurance parallel to the insurance provided by the FDIC. As with the FDIC, the NCUSIF is a government agency backed by the full faith and credit of the United States government. While technically not covered by the FDIC, the same rules of coverage apply. www.ncua.gov. So, as with FDIC, Trusts may have expanded insurance coverage.

As we have seen, a Trust can help expand insurance protection under FDIC and NCUSIF. In addition, a Trust can help make sure your assets are not only protected now, but continue to be protected for your loved ones in the future. A qualified estate planning attorney can explain how a Trust can help protect your assets and your loved ones from future financial risks.

Chester M. Przybylo is a member of the 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.

INVESTMENT IDEAS

Don't Follow the Herd

There's a theory on Wall Street that goes something like this: If you follow the crowd and buy the hot investment of the day, chances are you'll be scooping up shares when most others are about to sell. This natural “herd instinct” of buying when everyone is euphoric may mean you've entered the game too late and are buying at the wrong time.

Investors often jump in at the wrong time because they're worried about what others are doing instead of focusing on good old-fashioned fundamentals such as a company's earning potential and its management.

History continually shows us that when individuals choose investments without a prudent basis for doing so, they often wind up losing money that can take many years to recover. We saw this from 1998-2000, when investors drove the Nasdaq composite over 5,000 -- only to see it fall to less than 2,000 over the following year.

History has also shown that when individuals avoid investments because the popular thinking is to steer clear of them, opportunities are often overlooked. We saw this in early 1982, when interest rates were high and companies had a difficult time impressing analysts with their earning potential. That period proved to be the beginning of a bull market that lasted more than fifteen years.

Good Advice

In response to market downturns, some investors shift a greater percentage of their assets to liquid investments. Time and again, this strategy has also proven to be a mistake.

Keep in mind that, over its history, the stock market has experienced nearly twice as many bullish periods as bearish periods. And while past performance is no guarantee of future investment results, the stock market has bounced back from every major market downturn to date.

When times get tough for stocks, we generally recommend that you maintain your confidence in their long-term growth potential and use these simple strategies:

Reduce your cost by averaging down. If one of your stocks declines in value, but the underlying business still appears sound, consider buying more shares. You will reduce your overall cost basis; you do, of course, increase your losses should the stock value continue to fall.

Stay diversified. Keep your assets spread among investments which have historically performed differently under the same market conditions. Profits from appreciated investments can help offset losses from any losing investments.

Stay focused on your long-term goal. Don't try to avoid the downturn by jumping out of the market. No one can accurately predict when it will rebound. Remembering why you invested in the first place will help you stay calm during times of market uncertainty.

A.G. Edwards does not render legal, accounting or tax preparation advice. You should consult your tax and legal advisors for questions regarding your specific situation.

This article was provided by Vimal M. Prajapati, AAMS, Financial Consultant, A.G. Edwards, a division of Wachovia Securities, LLC. Member SIPC., 5215 Old Orchard Road Suite 960, Skokie, IL 60077, 847-967-8505

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Guerin Prep Names Former DePaul Basketball Star New Athletic Director

Kevin Holmes, former DePaul basketball star and current assistant boys' varsity basketball coach at Guerin College Preparatory High School, River Grove, Ill., has been named the new athletic director at Guerin Prep. Holmes also will serve as the head coach of the boys' varsity basketball team.

Guerin Prep President Terry John Malik, who announced the appointment, stressed that Holmes will work with Guerin Prep's administration to ensure a quality program reflecting the mission of the school.

"Kevin has a lot of experience not only as a player himself, but also in working with young people as a counselor, teacher and coach," Malik said.

"He is strongly committed to teaching young athletes the importance of solid, fundamental work habits and the value of commitment, unity and sportsmanship in a competitive environment. We have great confidence that he will help our student-athletes apply these principles to everyday life in order to succeed after graduation."

Holmes, a star basketball player at De Paul University during the legendary Ray Meyers tenure, was drafted by the Philadelphia '76ers in 1986. He spent 12 years playing professional basketball. Career highlights include four championships and four national cups in Switzerland, Belgium and Cyprus. He was selected to play in seven all-star games.

"After spending twelve years in Europe, Asia and South America playing professional basketball, I developed a sensitivity and respect for diverse ethnical, cultural, religious and socio-economical backgrounds," Holmes explained.

He believes his varied basketball career, as well as the work he has done in coordinating basketball camps and AAU teams, will help him strengthen Guerin Prep's athletic program.

As director, Holmes will manage the overall athletic program for Guerin Prep, which includes nine sports teams for the boys and nine for the girls. He will also oversee the athletic facilities and sports budgets.

Holmes will represent the school at Illinois High School Athletic Association meetings as well as in its relationships with the Chicago Catholic League, the Girls Catholic Athletic Conference and with the newly formed Suburban Christian Conference, which will begin play with the 2009-2010 school year.

Holmes has experience coaching girls basketball at James B. Conant High School in Hoffman Estates, where he also was a substitute teacher.

A co-founder of FOCUS SPORTS in Mount Prospect, Holmes has coordinated and directed youth camps in the Chicago area. He also was a partner in WORLD CLASS SPORTS, serving as the event coordinator for the Chicago region.

He has been a member of the SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP YOUTH COMMITTEE, serving as chairman in 2004 and re-elected as chairman for 2005.

Holmes attended DePaul on a four-year NCAA Division I basketball scholarship. He graduated in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in social science.

Holmes joined the Guerin Prep staff in 2004 as the assistant varsity boys' basketball coach. He also has served as the assistant coach for field events.

Holmes is married, and he and his wife live in Elk Grove Village. They have five children, two girls and three boys. Two of their sons have attended Guerin Prep and both have played multiple sports, including basketball. Jason graduated in 2008; Mark is currently a senior at the school.

Guerin Prep is a co-ed Catholic secondary high school. Current enrollment is 650 students.

Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Committee Officially Recommends Independence Park to National Register of Historic Places

The Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Committee has officially recommended that Independence Park be designated to the National Register of Historic Places, the official federal list of historic places worthy of preservation.

"Chicago's historic parks are an important part of the story of each neighborhood," said Julia Bachrach, Chicago Park District Historian. "It is exciting to discover how much historic fabric properties such as Independence Park retain, and to have them federally recognized by the National Register of Historic Places."

Independence Park is significant because of an early 20th century movement to create breathing spaces with recreational facilities on Chicago's northwest side. During the early 1900s, members of the Irving Park community began holding large and festive Independence Day celebrations in an open area near Irving Park Blvd. (later renamed Irving Park Rd.) and N. Springfield Ave. These early residents soon began efforts to establish a permanent public park for their growing middle-class neighborhood.

In 1910, local residents formed the Irving Park District, one of the first independent park commissions on Chicago's northwest side. After acquiring the Fourth of July grounds, the Irving Park District hired architects Hatzfeld and Knox to design a handsome brick field house for the park.

In 1929, the park commissioners enlarged the park through land acquisition, and an existing brick bungalow designed by architect Benedict Bruns was retained as the park's Women's Club Building, which was utilized by weavers and loomers at the time. Today the brick bungalow still provides a haven for many park programs, community organizations and groups meetings. Even the weavers and loomers are still utilizing the historic building today. The Park District will be renovating the bungalow with dedicated community support from the Independence Park Bungalow Renovation Project, formed by the Independence Park Advisory Council. While keeping the historic integrity of the building, environmentally conscious improvements will be incorporated into the renovation process.

Overall, improvements to the entire park and significant events in the property's social history continued after the consolidation of the Irving Park District into the Chicago Park District in 1934.

Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archeological resources. Properties listed in the Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The National Register is administered by the National Park Service, which is part of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

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DOMINICK'S OFFERS ON-SITE FLU CLINICS

The beginning of the flu season is the best time to get vaccinated and Dominick's has joined in the battle against the flu by offering convenient walk-in influenza and pneumonia vaccines at all of its pharmacy locations, plus on-site flu shot services for businesses and organizations.

Every year between 5 and 20% of Americans get the flu and for the American workforce, this equates to a staggering 70 million missed work days costing companies billions a year. Dominick's can provide businesses, organizations, assisted living communities and skilled nursing facilities with On-Site Flu Clinics providing professional, courteous and convenient immunization services. All immunizations are provided by Dominick's pharmacists who are nationally certified through an American Pharmaceutical Association endorsed immunization training program.

This year public health officials again urge those at high risk to receive a flu shot. Influenza is a potentially deadly communicable disease that can be prevented with an annual vaccination, according to the Illinois Department of Health. A flu shot is especially important for adults over 50 and those with chronic health conditions such as diabetes, heart or lung disease because it's possible that the flu could make any of these chronic conditions worse. Dominick's accepts most insurance plans and Medicare B recipients are able to receive the vaccine free of charge.

While anyone wishing to reduce their chances of getting the flu can get vaccinated, guidelines recommend people in the following categories get vaccinated each year:

- Children aged 6 months up to their 19th birthday
- Household members or caregivers of children less than 6 months of age
- Healthcare workers
- Pregnant women
- People who live in nursing homes or long-term care facilities

"The CDC states that the single most effective way to prevent the flu is to get a flu shot," said Dominick's President, Don Keprta. "Here at Dominick's we want to be known as the pharmacy that people rely on for all of their immunizations as well as the pharmacy where our pharmacists are always ready to serve them."

Information about the On-Site Flu Clinics visit www.dominicks.com or call the Pharmacy Care Manager at 630-891-5168.

Dominick's Finer Foods, a division of Safeway Inc., operates 80 stores throughout the Chicagoland area. An important part of Dominick's philosophy is to reinvest in communities through local education programs, food donations and community-based outreach programs. Since 1925, Dominick's has been proud to be Chicagoland's neighborhood grocer.

For more information about Safeway visit their website at www.safeway.com

Village Cooking Corner

White Eagle Mushroom Barley Soup

- 8 cups of Chicken/Beef Stock (Special)
- 6 oz. of Dried Mushrooms
- 2/3 cup of Pearl Barley
- 3 cups of Cream
- 1 Cup finely diced Carrots
- 1 Cup finely diced Potatoes
- 1 Cup finely chopped Celery
- 1 cup finely chopped Onions (browned)
- Desired spices – salt – pepper & other

Add barley to stock and cook until almost tender. Add mushrooms (washed), carrots, potatoes, celery and onion. Cook all until tender. Add cream to desired thickness. Add spices to taste. Serves 12 – 6 oz. Portions.

Pumpkin Chiffon Pie

- 1 envelope plain gelatin
- 1/4 cup cold water
- Mix and let stand
- 1 1/4 cups pumpkin
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 3 egg yolks
- Salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmet

Cook in double boiler, add dissolved gelatin. Cool. Add beaten egg whites to which 1/2 cup sugar has been added. Put into a previously baked pie shell. Keeps well in ice box. *Submitted by Bernice Faye*



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