



OUR VILLAGE



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www.OurVillageChicago.com

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The Logan Square ARTicipation Tour Kicks Off Month-Long Series

Bringing out the artillery for Chicago Artists Month, Chicago ARTillery, Elastic Arts Foundation and local artists host a roster of interactive and participatory art events throughout the month of October. See Full Schedule below and visit <http://ChicagoARTillery.org> for details. Join us for our three inaugural art openings and events the first week of October:

Join Chicago Artillery for the kick-off Logan Square ARTicipation event on Thursday, October 1, 6pm-10pm at New Wave Cafe, 2557 N Milwaukee for the opening of "Empowerment Art: Interactive & Collective Works by Chicago ARTillery Artists." DJ El Rebel X's mixes it up with mashes of words and music. This exhibition will be on display during New Wave Hours from October 1 through November 2.

Check us out the Friday night, October 2, 6pm-11pm for our second event on at Coles, 2338 N Milwaukee for the opening of Chicago ARTillery's group show "Collective, Interactive & Live Participatory Art". The evening features, participatory art, a record release party for Grun Tu Molani, live music by Nick Jones Experience, Grun Tu Molani and Armor class, and spinning by DJ El Rebel X and DJ ñez. The visual art exhibition will be on display during Cole's Bar hours October 2 through November 15.

Don't forget the 3rd exciting event at Elastic's Sound and Vision Gallery on, Saturday, October 3, 6pm-midnight at 2830 N Milwaukee featuring the exhibition opening from 6-8pm of Vibrational Sound Narratives exhibition by Alpha Bruton, and experience Chicago Calling IV from 8pm-midnight. The exhibition will be on display all month during shows, check the website, <http://elasticarts.org>, for times or call to make an appointment 312.867.1846 (leave message).

For more information contact: ChicagoARTillery@gmail.com or visit <http://ChicagoARTillery.org>

For our neighbors who
will celebrate
**Rosh Hashanah and
Yom Kippur,**
we wish you a Happy
and Healthy New Year.
From the Staff of Our Village



Fall into Fitness 5K Run/Walk – 10th Anniversary

Join the fun at Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center and 38th Ward Alderman Tom Allen's "10th Annual" Fall into Fitness 5K Run/Walk, Sunday, Sept. 27,

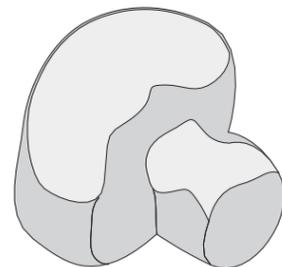
8:30 a.m., Portage Park, Irving Park Rd. and Central Ave. Prizes, refreshments and "special 10th anniversary" giveaways will be provided to registrants. Proceeds from the event will benefit the indigent who are treated at the hospital. Registration is required. Visit olr.reshealth.org/5krun or call 877-RES-INFO.



WILD MUSHROOMS

Mushrooms grow best when kept in the dark and fed bull dung. Today, it is often the case that service providers, elected officials, and businesses use this same methodology when dealing with customers and constituents. Unless we speak out and demand fair treatment, honesty, and transparency, this practice will continue and worsen. We are informed and active taxpayers, not wild mushrooms, and as such, it is our responsibility to hold to a higher standard those we have elected to represent us – after all, they are "public servants" first – and the businesses to which we choose to give our hard-earned money. Might does not equal right.

We want to hear from you at mushroom@ourvillagechicago.com. We hope that Wild Mushrooms will be a regular feature in this paper, an opportunity for readers to voice legitimate concerns about injustices they experience as consumers and as citizens. Next Issue: Credit Cards.



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Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center Offers September Health Programs



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

The Arthritis Support Group will meet Thursday, September 24, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., in the seventh floor Centennial Conference Center. These free sessions aim to provide mutual support and education. Registration is not required.

The 10th Annual Fall into Fitness 5K Run/Walk will take place Sunday, September 27, at 8:30 a.m. in Portage Park, Irving Park Rd. and Central Ave. Participants will use the latest timing system that is used in big city marathons for accurate timing of participants' performance. Registrants will receive special tenth anniversary gifts that are included in the registration fee, including: a long-sleeve, 100 percent cotton T-shirt; large, sporty slingpack with zippered interior; traveling time and temperature clock with alarm and calendar functions; and commemorative pen. Post-race refreshments will be available for participants and top race winners will be awarded prizes. Advance registration is required by calling 877-RES-INFO (877-737-4636) or visit olr.reshealth.org/5krun.

Free parking is available in the hospital's parking facility on Addison Street.

ATTENTION

"Our Village" Readers

On Sunday October 4th at 2:00 PM, American Legion Edison Park Post #541 is hosting a cash Bingo for the extended care patients of Hines Veterans Hospital, 5th Ave. / Roosevelt Road, Hines (Maywood) Ill. The Bingo location is bldg. 217, (west side of complex) 1st floor dining room, which is at the rear of the complex. There is ample parking. We need all the help we can get to assist the patients. These Bingo's are a highlight in their lives and last for only 2 hours.

For additional information please contact: Post Commander Gerald Skotzko at 773-693-3448



Beatles Tribute Concert on Wright Garage Rooftop

One of the top Beatles tribute bands will perform on the rooftop of the Wilbur Wright College parking garage, 4300 N. Narragansett Ave., in a unique outdoor concert experience at 6 p.m., Friday, Sept. 25. The band, American English, will perform a three-set concert on the parking garage's top level, giving concert-goers one of the highest views in the area. Presented by the Wright College History Club, the show is reminiscent of the Beatles 1969 rooftop concert in London, which was the band's final live performance.

Tickets are \$10 for adults in advance and \$12 at the door. Tickets for ages 12 and under are \$7. Refreshments will be available. Fans are welcome to bring their own chairs. For advance tickets, call (773) 481-8348.

MWRD Clearing Albany Park Chicago River North Branch

To protect against flooding and stabilize the banks, certain plant life must be removed from the North Branch of the Chicago River. Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) engineers are proactively trimming and deleting vegetation on and next to its banks to allow unrestricted flow in storm situations. Small Streams Maintenance Program (SSMP) crews are clearing the river of woody material (including mature trees) and debris in the area bordered by Carmen Avenue on the south, Christiana Avenue to the east, Foster Avenue to the north and Pulaski Road to the west. The SSMP is a specific section of MWRD Maintenance & Operations Department. Its specialized staff are skilled at riparian zone care to protect homes and businesses.

The MWRD crew is working in consultation with the Chicago Park District and Alderman Margaret Laurino (39th Ward). It is expected that these crews will be in the area for the next three weeks.

Residents are encouraged to report blockages seen in any small stream in the county. They may send a clearing request through the front page of the website: www.mwrdd.org. Citizens, civic groups, students and others are welcome to participate in MWRD's Watershed Action Volunteer Effort (WAVES) program across Cook County, through the same link. WAVES assists people to take an active role in cleaning and learning about the area waterways.

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Bucktown A Joy-FULL Celebration of Friendship Dinner

Sunday, November 8, 2009

The White Eagle Banquet & Restaurant, 6845 N. Milwaukee Ave.,
Niles, Illinois \$38.00 per person

Cocktails - 3:00 pm Dinner - 4:00 pm Friendship - until 7:00 pm

Please make early reservations Write to: Rev. Francis S. Rog, C.R.,
3636 W. Wolfram, Chicago, IL 60618

More details of the Joy-FULL Celebration to follow

State Representative

Michael McAuliffe, 20th District
and

Alderman **Brian Doherty**, 41st Ward

*Watch for Neighborhood Children
as the School Season Begins.*



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McAuliffe, Doherty, and Chicago Police 16th District Join Community to Take Back Neighborhood Against Nuisance Neighbors

State Representative Michael McAuliffe (R-Chicago), Chicago Alderman Brian Doherty, the 16th of the Chicago Police Department, and the Chicago Building Department joined neighbors of the 41st Ward during a Chicago Police Role Call Aug. 31 on the 7700 block of West Catalpa to show their solidarity against a home of residents who have been the subject of several arrests and nuisance calls to 911.

The 7 p.m. watch role call with Chicago Police Cmdr. Anthony Riccio took place in front of a home at 7720 W. Catalpa with 20 police officers and more than 50 residents of the neighborhood in attendance.

Doherty said he was glad the community rallied together to clean up the neighborhood.

"I want to personally thank Commander Riccio, the police officers and the community for resolving this issue and keeping our neighborhood safe," he said.



Residents of the home have been the subject of numerous 911 calls and previous CAPS meetings. They have been arrested for disorderly conduct, underage drinking, setting off car alarms and other nuisance-type activities.

McAuliffe said the nuisance activities continued even after the arrests, which is why the community meeting was called.

"Local residents have been suffering sleepless nights as a result of the nuisance coming from this residence. We take complaints very seriously and this community meeting shows residents that action will be taken to deal with the offenders," said McAuliffe.

Riccio informed the neighbors of the past actions of the offending residents and what should transpire in the near future. The building department attempted to gain access to the home, however, they were denied. A stop work order was placed on the home by the building department, which is also seeking a court order to gain access to the home.

For more information, call Alderman Doherty's office at (773) 792-1991 or Representative McAuliffe's office at (773) 792-0749.

Herron Memorial Bike and Walk Oct. 4

Honor fallen bicyclists and pedestrians while transforming grief into positive change at the fifth annual Herron Memorial Bike and Walk, 9:30 a.m. Oct. 4. Meet at the North Avenue pedestrian bridge in Chicago's Lincoln Park. The ride portion of the event will extend 15 miles from North Avenue to Soldier Field and back. The walk will be a 5-mile stretch through Lincoln Park. The Herron Memorial Bike and Walk raises money to provide educational scholarships to Chicago high school graduates. Sign up and contribute to the fund at <http://www.activetrans.org/memorial>.

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Pictured; Honorary Deputy Treasurer Judge Marjan P "Pete" Staniec (center), 95 years old, and his son Wayne, with Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas. Judge Staniec began his career in the U.S. Patent Office in Washington DC. He moved into the vital position of setting up the newly established Social Security system throughout much of the Country. He still sits on arbitration cases that effect senior citizens and serves on Mayor Daley's Council on Aging assisting in programs for the present and future of Chicago. He continues to perform weddings and handles legal cases on various topics. Treasurer Maria Pappas presents him an award honoring him as a Honorary Deputy Treasurer.

Kiwanis Peanut Day — September 25th

Watch for Kiwanis volunteers in your local area with their traditional red or blue bags of peanuts.

Ordinary People Performing Extraordinary Work



Kiwanis, through guidance and example, works to develop future generations of leaders and performs countless other projects to help children and communities.

For information about programs and membership visit www.kiwanis.org or call 800-549-2647.

Submitted by Ronald A. Heiderman, D.D.S.
Ravenswood Kiwanis, 773-561-0455

SAVE THE DATE

St. Peter School

OKTOBERFEST

FRIDAY SATURDAY & SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 25, 26 & 27

Join us!

Hours: Friday 5 - 11pm, Saturday Noon - 11pm, Sunday 12 - 8pm

Carnival Hours of Operation: Friday 6 - 11pm, Saturday Noon - 11pm, Sunday 1 - 7pm

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* Unlimited Ride Special on: Saturday & Sunday 1 - 5pm \$20 per person per day

* Live Entertainment * \$10,000 Raffle * Rides * Games * Food * Bingo * Fun for the entire family

ENTERTAINMENT LINEUP

Friday

Alumni Night

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM **Matt Stedman Band**



matt stedman band

The Matt Stedman Band is an exceptional group of multitiered musicians that specialize in the genres of rock n' roll, blues, Celtic, bluegrass, jazz, funk, and zydeco. Matt Stedman's fiery electric violin, harmonica, and lead vocals drive the band, as he electrifies the audience with his passion, intensity, and energy. The group performs standards, as well as unique and captivating originals. The Matt Stedman Band is a must see!

Matt has performed at the following venues:
Buddy Guy's Legends
Cafe Amanca
Chief O'Neil's Pub
The Curragh
DePaul University
Dirt Nellys
Fado
House of Blues
Hotel Baker
Illinois State University
Irish American Heritage Center
Marty's
McKally's Irish Pub
Molly Malone's
The North Shore Center for the Performing Arts
115 Bourbon Street
The Park West
Quigley's Irish Pub
Sam Maguire's
Triton College
United Center
and many more...

Saturday

Lam Jam presents

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM **Bobby G** (swing/oldies)

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM **Blues Band**

9:00 PM - 10:30 PM **Special Musical Showcase**



"Lam Jam" Mattias has been performing and singing for the last 25 years. He has shared stages and performed with many celebrities and top name musicians. Over the years he and his touring group have opened for The Neville Brothers, ZZ Top, Chicago, Michelle Branch, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Blood Sweat and Tears, just to name a few.

Sunday

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Frank K & Co. -
Traditional German Music



Raffle will be announced at 7:00 PM Sunday

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GREAT OUTDOORS

Neighborhood Farmers' Markets

Logan Square

Chicago's Farmers Markets bring more than 70 vendors selling fresh fruits, vegetables, plants and flowers to over 20 neighborhoods throughout the City of Chicago.

Dates: Weekly: Every Sunday

From: Jun 7, 2009 to Oct 25, 2009 Hours: Sundays, 10 am - 3 pm

Location: Logan Square, 3107 W. Logan Blvd., Chicago, IL 60647

Admission: FREE

Website: For additional information please visit, www.logansquarefarmersmarket.org

Independence Park

Chicago's Farmers Markets bring more than 70 vendors selling fresh fruits, vegetables, plants and flowers to over 20 neighborhoods throughout the City of Chicago.

Dates: Sep 27: Oct 11 Hours: 9 am - 1 pm

Location: South side of Irving Park btwn. Springfield and Hamlin, W. Irving Park Rd. & Springfield Ave., Chicago, IL 60631 Admission: FREE

Website: For additional information please visit, www.independence-park.com

Lincoln Square

Chicago's Farmers Markets bring more than 70 vendors selling fresh fruits, vegetables, plants and flowers to over 20 neighborhoods throughout the City of Chicago.

Dates: Every Tuesday From: Jun 9, 2009 to Oct 27, 2009

Hours: 7 am - 2 pm

Location: City Parking Lot adjacent to Brown Line Station, 4700 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, IL 60625 Admission: FREE

Website: For additional information please visit, www.chicagofarmersmarkets.us

Hike for Lung Health September 27

Hike for healthier lungs on September 27 at 10 am for the Hike for Lung Health, presented by Respiratory Health Association.

Join hundreds of people on a 1-mile or 3-mile path in Chicago's Lincoln Park or in Palatine at Deer Grove. At each walk site you'll enjoy food, music, event sponsor exhibits and family entertainment.

Can't make it in person? Join us as a virtual walker. To learn more visit www.lungchicago.org

The goal of Hike for Lung Health is to raise money to fight lung diseases such as asthma, COPD and lung cancer.

For more information visit www.lungchicago.org or call 312.243.2000

Urban Wildlife Coalition: Squirrely September

September is Bourbon Heritage Month, Mom and Apple Pie Month, and Hug a Texas Chef Month. Mark your calendar! Here in the Midwest, it easily could also be Squirrely Squirrels Month.

During September, these bright-eyed and bushy-tailed urban dwellers seem to throw caution and common sense to the wind in a pell-mell nut-gathering hullabaloo. Scout a popular chestnut tree or acorn-dropping oak and see for yourself. Fixated only on the next nut, tree squirrels fly from branch to branch (sometimes missing altogether), eager to grab what they can before the cold weather sets in. Though squirrel mating season is late winter, in the fall, watch as they chase after one another. Unfortunately, their preoccupation often leads them to dart across streets and into harm's way. For this reason, September also is a good time to drive slowly and carefully, especially near forest preserves on tree-lined streets. When faced with an oncoming car, squirrels may try to confuse you, their potential predator, by making an erratic path across the street. Best advice: don't swerve to avoid them, just stop.

Squirrel Fast Facts:

Tree squirrels sweat through their paw pads – on a hot day, notice their wet pawprints on dry sidewalks

Ever see a squirrel rub a nut on its face before burying it? This marks the squirrel's scent, making it easier to find the nut later.

Generally, squirrels do not hibernate, but when we get an extended cold snap, they may stay in their cozy nests for days at a time.

Squirrels are most active a few hours after sunrise and a few hours before sunset.

The gray squirrel has been traced back some 50 million years.

Keep squirrels out of your birdfeeder by positioning it at least eight feet away from nearby structures or branches.

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

Nat'l Wildlife Federation:

Attract Hummingbirds to Your Yard

Hummingbirds are the world's tiniest birds. Fascinating to watch and great pollinators, it's no wonder they're one of the most popular backyard birds.

To attract hummers to your yard, simply provide a regular source of nectar: Naturally - Plant red, tubular flowers, native to your area.

Artificially - Provide feeders designed to hold sugar water (see recipe below).

Want to do more for hummingbirds and other wildlife? Join our nationwide drive to create 150,000 wildlife-friendly yards through National Wildlife Federation's Certified Wildlife Habitat™ program.

Just provide the things that animals need most: food, water, shelter, and places to raise their families. Certify your yard today and receive some exciting benefits. Go to <http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife/certify.cfm> for more information.

Make Your Own Nectar

Dissolve one part sugar in four parts hot water.

Boil the water if you plan to store the nectar in the refrigerator.

Never use honey, which ferments easily, or artificial sweeteners, which have no food value for birds.

Let the solution cool to room temperature before putting it in your feeder. You can store homemade nectar for up to a week in the refrigerator.

Once you fill your feeder, don't forget to empty, rinse and refill your feeder every two to three days (especially in warm weather) to prevent spoiling. This ensures that hummingbirds won't become sick from drinking bad nectar.

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

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OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS

St. Edward School Adds Title I Teacher to its Faculty

Teacher to Augment Reading and Math Skills

St. Edward School today announced that it has added a Title I teacher to its faculty roster. This specialized teacher will begin this month and will focus on helping students that need additional support in reading and math. The teacher will be paid for through State of Illinois education funds.

"We have been working on getting a Title I teacher on staff at St. Edward for several years now," noted St. Edward Principal Sister Marie Michelle, OP. "Title I teachers are specially trained to help children that are struggling in reading in math. We are thrilled to offer this additional support to the children that really need it and feel it helps enhance the overall program at St. Edward."

Other recent additions to the curriculum and extra-curricular program at St. Edward include weekly Spanish classes for students in 3-year old pre-school through 7th grade and the implementation of an after-school Chess Club. The Spanish classes are given by Language Stars, and the Chess Club is run by Chess Scholars.

For more information or to arrange a tour of St. Edward School, call the school office at 773/736-9133.

About St. Edward School

St. Edward School provides a quality, faith-based Catholic education to children from three-year old pre-school through eighth grade. Academic excellence is enhanced by enrichment activities which provide students additional avenues to develop their own unique talents. St. Edward is located on the northwest side of Chicago at 4343 W. Sunnyside Avenue. For more information, call the school at 773/736-9133 or visit us on the web at www.stedwardschool.com.

4343 West Sunnyside Avenue • Chicago, IL 60630

Academic Excellence • Christian Values • Caring Community

Teens Celebrate Chicago and Showcase their Talents at After School Matters Gala

Civic pride is centerpiece of annual event highlighting the importance of out-of-school opportunities for teens in underserved communities

Nearly 200 Chicago teenagers showcased their vocal, dance, instrumental and theater talents, as well as their culinary skills and visual artwork, for more than 2,200 guests at the seventh annual After School Matters gala, chaired by Chicago's first lady Maggie Daley. The event was held in Washington Park, proposed site of the Olympic Stadium and Aquatics Center for the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The gala program included musical performances by Jazz Big Band and Merit Jazz Workshop ("Bernie's Tunes" and "Warriors," respectively); vocal performances by Project Theater and the Vocal Arts Ensemble ("Everybody Rejoice" from "The Wiz" and Mozart's "Cosi Fan Tutte, Fortunato," respectively) and dance routines by the After School Matters Dance Ensemble, After School Matters dance group Hip Hop Culture and the Joffrey Ballet Intensive After School Matters program ("Vitamin," "Boom Boom Pow" and "Breakaway," respectively). The finale, a rendition of "Sweet Home Chicago," was a collaborative performance by all seven groups.

An onsite gallery featured teen artwork in various mediums, including metalwork, furniture, painting, photography and soft sculpture, which were available for purchase. Teens from the culinary arts program also assisted with the menu planning and serving of hors d'oeuvres during the event's cocktail hour.

After School Matters is the largest program in the country providing after-school activities for teens in arts, sports, science, technology and communications. The After School Matters annual gala raises funds to support the organization's mission of creating a network of out-of-school opportunities for teens in Chicago's underserved communities.

"This event is a true celebration of the talents of Chicago's teens and our shared commitment to their future," said Maggie Daley, founder and chair of After School Matters. "The diverse programming offered through After School Matters increases teens' confidence in their own abilities and inspires them to explore new possibilities. Funds raised at the gala serve as an investment in the futures of Chicago teens."

As a result of After School Matters, between the hours of 3:00 and 6:00 p.m. during the school year, Chicago teens have the chance to work alongside skilled professionals and develop marketable job skills through participation in more than 1,000 programs offering 25,000 opportunities across 57 campus sites. These programs are anchored around Chicago public high schools, parks and libraries, and more than 100 community-based organizations.

After School Matters' diverse and unique fall 2009 programs in arts, sports, science, technology, and communications begin Monday, October 5. Teens can search and apply for programs online at www.afterschoolmatters.org.

GUERIN PREP HIGH SCHOOL OPENS NEW SCHOOL YEAR WITH NEW PRINCIPAL; ALL STUDENTS EQUIPPED WITH LAPTOPS

A new principal will greet the students of Guerin College Preparatory High School when schools opens for the 2009-2010 school year, a year that will also mark the first time all of its students will be carrying a laptop computer to class on a daily basis.

Anthony "Tony" Tinerella joined the school July 1 as principal. The former dean of students at Marmion Academy in Aurora, Tinerella has more than 19 years experience as a teacher as well as an administrator.

"Tony brings a very high level of enthusiasm and energy to the job," said Terry Malik, president of Guerin Prep. "He has a proven track record of listening to the views of all constituencies – especially parents. I am sure he will quickly establish a solid rapport with teachers and students as well."

Tinerella earned a master's degree in education and administration with a Type 75 certification from North Central College in Naperville in 2007. He holds a bachelor of science degree in biology with an education sequence from Illinois State University, Normal. He has begun a doctoral program in educational administration from Northern Illinois University.

Tinerella, himself a 1984 graduate of Marmion, has served at Marmion in various capacities since 1990. He has been the dean of students since 2001. His role as dean included creating a teacher evaluation and assessment rubric and administering annual teacher evaluations. He also headed the curriculum and instruction committee for the School Improvement Plan.

Before his current duties as dean of students, Tinerella was the assistant dean of student for six years. During two years of that time, he was also the chairperson of the science department, where he helped design and implement a new science curriculum. He has taught both biology and physics at the school.

In addition, Tinerella has served as both the head football coach and baseball coach and was the director of the weightlifting club. He was part of the Kairos retreat program for 13 years.

He was given the distinguished service award by Marmion Academy in 2008 and was named their most dedicated teacher in 2006. Aurora University honored him as a "Teacher Who Makes a Difference," in 2004. He is also listed in Outstanding High School Teachers Who's Who and is a 3rd Degree Knight of the Knights of Columbus affiliated with Holy Ghost Catholic Church in Wood Dale.

"This is an opportunity for me to take a new school, one that is discovering its own tradition, that is ready to find its own identity—the school is ready to springboard and it needs someone with excitement to take it there," Tinerella explained. "I'm ready to go. That is definitely my personality."

Laptop Program

Guerin Prep began the one-to-one computing program in the fall of 2007 with the freshmen and sophomore classes. Each fall since a new class has been added to maximize the school's mission to prepare students for success in college and career. Beginning this fall, all students will be bringing their laptops to class each day.

Thanks to a wireless infrastructure installed throughout the school building, each student is able to access the Internet anywhere. This technology, combined with the school's curriculum and a well-versed faculty allows students to explore diverse cultures and new perspectives; write and edit reports, essays and presentations electronically; plan, prepare and present creative multimedia projects; access online tutoring and communicate with teachers and others worldwide. Electronic textbooks for most core classes are loaded on the laptop.

Though the real test of Guerin Prep's one-to-one computing program will come when the first group of "laptop" graduates go off to college, a recent "mid-term evaluation" indicates that these laptops are transforming the ways teachers teach and the ways students learn.

A technology evaluation of all Guerin Prep teachers to chart the progress of the two-year old laptop program was conducted this past spring and affirmed that that Guerin teachers have effectively integrated technology in their lesson plans and that the use of technology tools has been standardized in every Guerin Prep classroom.

The study concluded that without a doubt, these tools are transforming the ways teachers teach and the ways students learn.

Dank-Haus German American Cultural Center

All events take place at the Historic DANK-Haus at 4740 N. Western Avenue in Chicago's Lincoln Square neighborhood. 1/2 block from the Western station on the CTA Brown Line. E-mail dank@dankhaus.com for more information, or call (773) 561-9181.

DANKtoberfest Saturday, 26 September 8pm

Lively German American favorites by Paloma and the Polkaholics in the Marunde Grand Ballroom. Tanzgruppe Holzacker Schuhplattler Bier trinken, Brat essen, Polka Tanzen Cafe Oktoberfest in the Skyline Lounge featuring Kaffee und Kuchen in a relaxed European atmosphere \$10 entrance at door for 2 floors of fun

Lost German Chicago Exhibit Grand Opening Friday 2 October 7:30pm

The exhibit showcases treasures from German Chicago's establishments and institutions of the past. How many people married after meeting at the Lincoln Turner Hall? How many times did you snuggle into Zum Deutschen Eck? How many times did you give yourself over to the magic at Schuliens's? Have you ever seen the carvings the Oscar Mayer family installed in Germania Place? German Chicagoans shaped the stockyards, beer law, labor law and raised the art of gemütlichkeit for all. Come remember with us.

DANK-Haus 50th Gala

Please join us Friday 2 Oct to celebrate our 50th anniversary at 7:30 pm The Marunde Ballroom will be the place for membership pins, Volunteer of the Year award, dancing, buffets and a golden balloon drop Donation \$15 RSVP today!

DANK-Haus Opens "Lost German Chicago"

The DANK-Haus in historic Lincoln Square will present "Lost German Chicago" in its newly created museum space. The exhibition features art, artifacts and memorabilia from within Chicago's German American community. The items record what has been lost in the Chicago German community while archiving and preserving that which has been entrusted to DANK. Highlights include: exquisite wood carvings dedicated by the Germania Club by the Oscar Mayer family, relics from the Deutsches Haus at the Columbian Exposition, Hessen Verein standards, items from dozens of restaurants including the original Red Star Inn, Schuliens's Math Iglers Casino, the Golden Ox, memories of St. Boniface Church, Deli Meyer, FC Hansa, the Schiller Liedertafel, Schoenhofen Brewery, Lincoln Park Turner Hall and many more.

The exhibition opens on Friday, October 2 and runs through October 2011. The public is invited to Opening Night, Friday October 2, 2009 at 7:30 pm, group entry every 30 minutes until 11:30 pm. Free and open to the public.



(above) World War Veterans - Pictured are club members of the Verein Deutscher Weltkriegs Veteranen des Chicago, a fraternal men's veterans organization. They are posed with their silver standard, first brought to Chicago for the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893.



(left) Schellenbaumtrager – parade percussion instrument used in the Franco Prussian War displayed at the Deutsches Haus – World Columbian Exposition, passed to the German World War I veterans, entrusted to DANK

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CRUISE VACATION LIFESTYLE

Welcome again, this is the 2nd installment of Cruise Vacation Lifestyle, and we hope that you enjoyed the first article and found it informative. Cruising is such a wonderful experience for all ages, families and groups. In fact, in spite of the economy, many travelers now realize that taking a cruise allows you to get much greater value for the money spent. Not only that, but the growth in new first-time cruisers has grown greatly over the past five years and growth is expected to boom in the coming years, especially when the economy takes off again. Which brings us to our topic for today.



Many of the major cruise lines have placed, or now have, on order new ships. This trend is focused out 2011-2012.. One of the new ships to be completed around June 2010 is Norwegian Cruise Lines's mega-ship, the Epic. This ship will be totally different from many existing ships and some that are coming from other cruise lines.

The sheer, size and passenger accommodation is truly magnificent. Here are just a few of her details: Gross Tonnage 150,000; Passengers 4228 Restaurants 14 Decks 19

- Continuous entertainment for all ages, including world-class performing acts
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- The Studios create a hip, urban feel with windows open to the corridor and private access to The Living Room where you can relax, read a book, or have a drink before dinner
- The Villas upscale experience includes a private restaurant, 24/7 concierge services, access to exclusive courtyard area with pool, hot tub and sundeck and every pampering amenity imaginable.

Take a peek online to see what spectacular entertainment awaits you at <http://skdy7.cruiseepic.com/> We have secured space now for Early Bird Discounts for early December 2010, so if you want to experience the joy of this new ship and grab your stateroom soon, just send an email to cruise-info@cruise-now.com requesting more details. So,... that's it for this edition, come back again for details on the itineraries of this great new ship.

Jim Carter
Master Cruise counselor
(877) 735-6608

Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Broadway – Our Way

Do you love to sing, dance and act? Here's your chance to shine and journey into the world of Musical Theatre! Whether you've performed before or you are just a beginner, these classes are designed to allow participants of all levels to enjoy an incredibly fun and rewarding experience. Develop self-confidence and performance skills that will benefit all aspects of your life: in a fun, up-beat and supportive atmosphere.

Learn and rehearse songs, dances and scenes from some of your favorite musicals including Beauty and the Beast, Bye Bye Birdie, Peter Pan, Aladdin and more. The class will culminate with a Broadway style revue, combining participants from both classes. Invite your family and friends to watch you perform in our spectacular production, complete with costumes and props.

Performance Date: Friday - December 11th, 2009 at 7:30pm

Date/Time/Age Wednesdays * September 16 – December 9 *
1st through 3rd grade students

Thursdays * September 17 – December 10 * 3rd through 5th grade students

Time: 3:30pm – 5:30pm

Location: Lincolnwood Community Center, 6900 N. Lincoln Avenue

Fee: Resident = \$295, Non-Resident = \$325

Online registration is available by logging onto www.lincolnwoodil.org and navigating to the Parks and Recreation Department home page, then clicking on the REGISTER NOW button.

We Did It Chicago!

According to Guinness World Records officials: The current record for "Most people wearing Groucho Marx glasses" was achieved by 4,436 participants in an event organized (sic) by the City of Chicago's Outdoor Film Festival in partnership with the Goodman Theatre in Chicago, Illinois, USA on 21 July 2009. The previous record was 4,077 glasses which was set on July 9, 2007 in Missouri. Congratulations and thanks for your participation... hope you had fun!



Thousands Let Go of the Steering Wheel for Car-Free Day Sept. 22

Thousands of people around Chicagoland will pledge to leave their cars at home for the inaugural Chicagoland Car-Free Day Sept. 22. Anyone can take the pledge at www.chicagolandcarfree.org and get a coupon for one dollar off a large drink at Caribou Coffee.

The Active Transportation Alliance is partnering with RTA, CTA, Pace and Metra to encourage people to get around with transit, on bike and on foot.

"You will be amazed at the sights and sounds you can experience without a car," said Rob Sadowsky, executive director at the Active Transportation Alliance. "You will feel re-energized by your new routine while cutting down on carbon."

Communities around the region are taking part in Chicagoland Car-Free Day. Just a few include Break the Gridlock's One Million Less Cars rally at Daley Plaza at 5:30 p.m. and I-Go Car Sharing's special discount. See what else is happening around the region at www.chicagolandcarfree.org

The website provides commuters with biking, walking and transit resources to make it easy to leave the car at home. Resources like RTA's trip planner, www.goroo.com, bike commuting tips and www.PaceRideShare.com will make help commuters every step of the way.

"The RTA is pleased to partner with the Active Transportation Alliance on Chicagoland's inaugural Car-Free Day," said Steve Schlickman, Executive Director, RTA. "This is a great opportunity for the transit agencies to collaborate and remind commuters that our region has an all-access transit system that's easily accessible, saves time and money."

Organizations and communities can still partner with Chicagoland Car-Free Day. Contact Ethan Spotts at ethan@activetrans.org or 312.427.3325 x 287 to learn more.

Chicagoland Car-Free Day Sept. 22 coincides with similar events around the world that encourages people to go sans auto for one day.

Find out more about Chicagoland Car-Free Day at www.chicagolandcarfree.org

Country Music Festival October 3 & 4

The sounds of America's heartland return to Grant Park for the Chicago Country Music Festival, October 3 and 4. Country superstars Miranda Lambert and John Rich will perform along with other country favorites including Joe Pug and the Flatlanders featuring Joe Ely, Jimmie Dale Gilmore and Butch Hancock. The festival also includes a Dance Stage with Line Dancing and Square Dancing instruction each day. The festival has more than just good music though; there will be an art fair and farmers market where you can purchase fresh fall produce. And, for the kids-don't miss the Kids' Corral for fun music and activities from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. The festival is FREE and opens daily at 11 a.m. and runs until 9:30 p.m. For more information about the Chicago Country Music Festival and for a complete line-up, visit www.chicagocountrymusicfestival.us

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"A Theatre Review"

"High Fidelity" Route 66 Theatre Company Piper Alley, 1608 North Wells St., Chicago, Illinois

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

Route 66 Theatre Company is a relatively new theatre company to Chicago. This theatre company came about in 2008 when its artistic director was living in California. Route 66 is the route that brings you to California or brings you to Chicago from California. Route 66 has staged three productions in Chicago to date. "On an Average Day," "The KOFD: An Urban Legend" and the World premier of "I'm Spiritual, Damn it."

Stef Tovar is a Chicago actor and an avid Cubs fan who last year was in the musical based on Knute Rockne all American at Theatre at the Center in Munster, Indiana. The company is now staging the Chicago premier "High Fidelity" while Tony N' Tina are on their honeymoon. In 2000 John Cusack did a film version of the show. The stage version has a book by David Lindsay Aباire with music by Tony Award winner Tom Kitt and lyrics by Amanda Green.

The show played on Broadway in the 1,200 seat Imperial Theatre for 13 performances plus 19 previews. This was a big mistake as while it is a rock n' roll musical that features a cast of 15 it would have worked better in a smaller space and Chicago's Piper Alley is just that space.

The show follows Rob, played by Stef Tovar, as a 30-year or older owner of Championship Vinyl, a record store in Chicago. His relationship with Laura played by Tricia Small runs into problems and ends with him enlisting the help of two quirky clerks Barry played by Jonathon Wagner and Dick played to super perfection by Michael Mahler. Veteran actor Michael Weber is a stitch as Ian and Middle-aged Guy.

All the males will have the audience rocking in their seats as they all play various musical instruments. Besides Mahler and Wagner, the other onstage musicians are Derek Hasenstab, Kevin Crowley, Ian Paul Custer and Jim Barclay. Tovar gives a strong acting and singing performance as Rob. The females can act, sing and are small; Katie Jeep, Christin Boulette, Blair Robertson, Maggie Chambers, Kelly Maler and Dana Tretta. You'll hear such songs as "Last Real Record Store," "One Step Ahead of Goodbye," "I Slept with Someone" and "Turn the World Off" along with several other numbers. The show runs two hours and 20 minutes and you can get a drink before, at intermission and after at the bar. The show would appeal to those 15 and up. Some seniors may even rock with the show.

There are two parking lots nearby that offer parking at \$12 but otherwise parking at the theatre will cost you \$20. "High Fidelity" runs through October 11. For performance days, show times and reservations call 312-664-8844. Tickets are \$29.50 and \$39.50 or log onto route55theatre.org. **-Three Stars-**

"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof"

Circle Heater, 7300 West Madison St., Forest Park, Illinois

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

The Circle Theatre in Forest Park is currently giving Chicago audiences a mesmerizing revival of Tennessee Williams' 1955 classic "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof." This southern family epic has a cast of 14 that runs two hours and 40 minutes and is being directed by Jim Schneider.

For the most part this voyeuristic production has cast three strong actors in the lead roles of Maggie, Brick and Big Daddy. Michael Borgmann is a handsome Brick and face wise reminds me of Donald Buka a film and stage actor back in the 1940s. Kimberly Logan is perfectly cast as Maggie, the conniving wife of Brick. The first act of this three act play belongs to Borgmann and Logan.

The second act is strong when Jim Farrell as Big Daddy faces off with his son Brick.

The third act of Big Daddy's birthday celebration stirs trouble and mendacity amongst the Politt Clan when Big Daddy finds out he is dying of cancer which everyone has concealed from him.

Justin Cagney plays the other brother Gooper and his wife is the pregnant Mae played by K.K. O'Hair who is expecting their fifth child which are constantly called no-neck monsters.

Veteran actress Deanna Norman plays Big Momma. Brad Davidson is Dr. Baugh and Peter Esposito is Rev. Tooker. The servants are Veronda G. Carey and Le' Mil Eiland.

Farrell as Big Daddy is frightening and ruthless as he doesn't give his character a single moment's weakness, even when known he has cancer and tears turn to rage. Farrell uses his size to his advantage literally tossing Brick and Big Momma like dolls. Big Momma reflects a woman who is losing her fight to ignore that the family is falling apart.

Brick becomes an alcoholic when he breaks his leg in a football game. Maggie and Big Daddy want Brick to sire a baby Gooper and Mae want Big Daddy's will changed to inherit the family's fortune and estate upon his death.

All classics deserve this level of attention and care. Circle theatre is a small black box theatre and is a non-equity not-for profit theatre.

"Cat" runs through October 4. For performance dates, show times and reservations call 708-771-0700. Tickets are \$20 and \$24. There is a \$2 discount for seniors and students. **-Three Stars-**

The James Downing Theatre Presents "A Majority of One"

The James Downing Theatre will present its fall production, "A Majority of One," opening Sept. 19, at the John Waldron Arts Center at Edison Park United Methodist Church, 6740 N. Oliphant Ave., Chicago. Evening performances will be at 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and matinees will be at 1:30 p.m. Sundays, for four weekends, from Sept. 19 through Oct. 11.

Tickets are \$20 for adults; \$15 for senior citizens and students. Group rates are available at \$13 per person, when reserved in advance.

Season subscriptions for 2009-2010, including three shows ("A Majority of One," "The Fantasticks" in March 2010 and "Catch Me If You Can" in May 2010) and a Dec. 5, 2009 Holiday Cabaret, are available now for \$50 per person, \$35 for seniors and students, offering flexible dates within the run of each show. Contact (773) 792-3030 or www.edisonparkumc.com for reservations or more information.

"A Majority of One" is directed by Floyd A. May. The Edison Park

cast stars Sue Mrotek and Marc Rita. The original 1959 Broadway play starred Gertrude Berg and Sir Cedric Hardwicke, and it also was adapted as a popular film starring Rosalind Russell and Alec Guinness.

A classic comedy-drama by Leonard Spiegelgass, the show explores the issues which lead to and can help to overcome intolerance. An American widow and a Japanese businessman develop a warm friendship, but it is not long after the end of World War II, and many still have conflicted emotions about their wartime political enemies. Among those opposing their relationship is her son-in-law, a young diplomat sent to negotiate with a Japanese business delegation. The wiser elders show by example that intolerance – between nations or individuals – comes from a lack of understanding and is not insurmountable.

The title of the play comes from American philosopher Henry David Thoreau: "Any man more right than his neighbors, constitutes a majority of one." (From "The Duty of Civil Disobedience.")



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Let's say you're a Shih Tzu puppy in need of your first haircut and bath; your Human makes the appointment for you and brings you to some new place. You hear and smell the other dogs and begin to get nervous, but luckily your Human cuddles and coos you to calm down. You are greeted by a nice lady who gives you a rub on the head and tells you how cute you are; she is called the Groomer. You realize that she is smart and flaunt your stuff for her; but wait a minute your Human is leaving! Panic sets in and you begin to shake; the nice lady is trying her best but she is not YOUR Human! She puts you in the jail where you are forced to sit. In fear you begin to whine, scream, anything to get out of jail!

After what seems like years of waiting, the Groomer finally takes you out! She talks nicely, but you are really freaked out! Opps... you poop and piddle on the table! The Groomer tries to tell you to calm down, but you think she is crazy! Then this crazy person grabs a weapon, oh no! They begin to rub this weapon all over your coat, hey wait a minute! This doesn't hurt; it feels kind of good and you begin to relax. Then the Groomer yields another contraption this one is loud and vibrates; again you are back in panic mode! The Groomer shaves under your feet and your private area, and then they have the nerve to give you a pedicure! You do your best screaming in the hope they will stop, but the evil Groomer continues on her way. Next she goes into your ears and pulls out the hair! Ouch! The Groomer finally says your done for now and cuddles you! You give in for now, plus you are exhausted!

Next, you are put onto this cold surface where you hear water. Oh no! The water is touching me, panic! You are now breathing heavy and are trying to jump out of this place! The massage you are getting is putting you in a much better mood; oh what fun bubbles! Not again, here comes the water, IKES! With the water turned off you again begin to relax, but then you here the loudest noise you have ever heard! It's a dryer and it headed straight for you, mayday! Mayday! Mayday! Oh finally it's stopped and your returned to your jail!

You decide that jail isn't so bad and take a short nap! You are woken by that evil Groomer again, now what? She puts you back onto the table and that noise begins again, you are being dried! Then the vibrating thing is back; the groomer moves it all over your body! You want to complain, but are too tired and just want to wake up form this nightmare! The Groomer finally stops the vibrating tool and brings out this knife looking things. They aren't so loud by are scary; she uses them all over and then holds your face to get the hair she wants. You fight and pull; you don't want your face held (even if she isn't hurting you)! After long last the groomer cuddles you and tells you you're done; and you are placed back into jail!

When they get you again you are freaking out, but then see your wonderful Human! You dance around and yelp at the torture you endured! As typical, the Human doesn't understand you but goes on about how cute you are! Well they are right! You do feel good and smell a lot better! Nah! You tell yourself that you will be a good dog and just maybe they won't bring you to this terrible place again!

The above story does make Groomers sound like Monsters! They are not! They are simply doing their job; many dogs don't understand that it's better for them! For that matter, most Humans don't understand it either! All dogs regardless of size, shape, coat length, and coat texture need grooming! There is nothing better than a good brushing to stimulate the oils of the skin and get us feeling our best! Some of us dogs need grooming quite often (like me), while others need just frequent brushing; it really is dependent on the dog! The important thing to remember is that ALL dogs need grooming of some sort! Our hair acts as our heating and air conditioning units; if not properly maintained we are NOT comfortable in any weather. Plus, if we are all tangled we are uncomfortable; imagine never being able to take off that itchy sweater!

My purpose was to help my Human out; Groomers do a lot of work and usually don't get the credit for it! Some dogs, like me, are a pleasure to work with; while others require a lot more patience. Groomers do their best to not only make its dog looks its best, but have an enjoyable experience. The puppy in the story will learn to like grooming; all it takes is frequent grooming for any dog;

We dogs have to remember we may not like grooming, but we must learn to tolerate it! After all, when it's all over our Humans cuddle and loves us even more!

As for you Humans, look at your poor dog, does it need a makeover?

by Bosley

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

Should People Sleep in the Same Room with Their Birds?

by Peter S. Sakas DVM, MS

I know people like to have their birds sleep in the same room with them as it is comforting for both, however, there is a potential problem. I hate to be a spoilsport but a strong consideration is the risk of "Hypersensitivity Pneumonitis," also known as "EAA" (extrinsic allergic alveolitis) or more popularly as "Bird Keeper's Lung."

This condition develops in people who have a sensitivity to the protein in aerosolized bird fecal matter. There are various forms including acute (sudden onset), subacute (more low grade symptoms) and chronic, which is the type to fear. The chronic form develops slowly over time and can be caused by an exposure to even just one bird if you are hypersensitive. The danger is that due to the exposure to the fecal protein material the lung tissue in allergic individuals begins to undergo fibrosis (scarring) which is irreversible. Over time, lung capacity decreases and people suffering from this condition show respiratory problems including coughing, exercise intolerance, lethargy, chest pains and becoming easily winded. (One of our clients who had the condition said he felt like he was having a heart attack). Testing can be conducted to verify the diagnosis and treatment can be undertaken to prevent the disease from progressing, but the scarring is permanent and will never go away. Scary, huh?

Right now some of you are saying...."I don't have any allergies so I should be OK." But this sneaks up on you. The people who are at risk are people who have birds in multiple rooms in their homes and they do not really get away from the birds. Why should the bedroom be an issue? Just think about it. How many hours do you spend in there and when you are sleeping you are sucking stuff into your lungs. If a bird is in there you are inhaling fecal protein (as gross as that seems).

A real life example....We had a client whose daughter was with her and I noticed she was coughing a great deal. I asked her what was wrong and she said she had been having respiratory problems and no one knew why. My advantage as a veterinarian is that I do know about zoonoses (diseases you can get from animals) so I questioned her about where she kept the bird....IN HER BEDROOM. The room where she studied, slept and spent a great deal of time. I recommended that she move the bird out of the room and have her doctor check for EAA. It was verified and she improved. So this is not a theoretical problem, it is real.

I hope I have your attention now. All of you with birds should follow these guidelines. 1) Have an area where you can get away from your birds or keep them in one room. DO NOT keep them in a bedroom with you sleeping with you. 2) Purchase a quality air cleaner. 3) Clean the cage papers/cage frequently to prevent the drying out of the feces and great risk of aerosolizing the material. 4) If you have allergies wear a mask when cleaning cages or have someone else do it for you. This disease can sneak up on you, I know several people who have had it and some of you probably are slowly developing it now unless you take precautions.

Niles Animal Hospital & Bird Medical Center. 7278 N. Milwaukee Ave. Niles



Anti-Cruelty Society

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

It's Raining Cats & Dogs

Friday, October 2nd, 6:30pm - 10:00pm

Our annual *It's Raining Cats and Dogs* benefit is the be-seen event at The Anti-Cruelty Society. Enjoy a variety of tastings from fabulous Chicago chefs, refreshments, live music, silent and live auctions and more. Proceeds will support our life-saving programs and services including Adoptions, Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic, Charity Veterinary Clinic, Cruelty and Abuse Investigations and Rescue, Humane Education and Community Outreach, Dog Training Classes, our Bruckner Rehabilitation & Treatment Center, the Virginia Butts Berger Cat Clinic and much more. Cost to attend is \$125 per person/\$600 for a reserved table of 4 with parking. For more information call Emily Ledergerber at (312) 644-8338 ext. 319.

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When Time Is Short



Chester M. Przybylo

Thinking about the end of a loved one's life is always tough to do. But what if you learned your mother only had one year to live, what would you do? After discussing treatment options, hospice, and her health care management, it may be wise to talk with your mom about setting an appointment with her estate-planning attorney. Chances are her current estate plan isn't up-to-date, or worse does not exist. This article reviews a number of issues that should be discussed with her estate-planning attorney to ensure your mother's wishes are taken

care of and her assets protected. This will help alleviate concerns and let your mom focus on making the most of her last days with her loving family.

As you drive your mom to her regular doctor appointment, you think of everything you need to do: Drop off Bobby at soccer, pick up Sally from softball, pick up groceries, make dinner, etc. It seems the list is endless. You wonder how your mom had time to do it all and still have time to be so loving. After flipping through old magazines in the doctor's office, you go in with your mother for her appointment. Your mom had some simple tests done and is to receive the results. When the doctor starts with "There is no easy way to say this..." you know what is going to follow. Your mom has less than a year to live. Your mind reels. What do you do? Of course, you hug your mom. You call your brother. But what's next?

After discussing treatment options, hospice care, and her health care management, you talk with your mom about setting an appointment with her estate-planning attorney. Your mom last did estate-planning decades ago when you and your brother were still kids, and your dad was still alive. Now that you have kids of your own, that seems laughable. But, time flies when you have a busy life.

A qualified, estate-planning attorney, who focuses their practice in estate planning, can make sure that your mom can rest assured that things will be left the way she wishes. In addition to updating her Trust or Will, the attorney will make sure your mom has powers of attorney in place for both financial and health matters. This way, your mom can name someone (perhaps you and/or your brother) to make decisions when she is no longer able to make them herself. The attorney will also prepare a HIPAA power, to allow you and your brother access to her protected health information. Finally, the attorney will prepare a Health Directive or similar document that will allow your mother to express her wishes regarding end-of-life decisions.

The attorney might also suggest these and other items:

Prepare new documents in light of changed circumstances.

Make sure beneficiary designations are up-to-date (on life insurance, retirement plans, and other financial accounts).

Sell loss assets in order to harvest income tax losses (which would otherwise be lost at your mom's death).

Avoid selling gain assets (which would get a "step-up" in income tax basis at your mom's death).

Accelerate any charitable bequests into life (in order to obtain an income tax deduction, as well as remove the sum from the taxable estate).

Your mom has always been there for you. Now, you can give her the gift of peace of mind, knowing that her legal affairs are in order. A qualified, estate-planning attorney can help alleviate concerns and let you mom focus on making the most of her last days with her loving family.

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

TOOLS TO HELP YOU DECIDE WHEN TO RETIRE

By: Andrew Salata, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

These days, everyone is taking a new look at their finances — and no one is looking more closely than the millions of baby boomers who are nearing retirement age. While some boomers expected to retire at one of the traditional milestones, such as age 62, the current economy is forcing many of them to re-evaluate their plans. Many are wondering if they should work longer, or how their Social Security benefit — or their spouse's benefit — would be affected if they continued working.

To help them find answers, Social Security has published a fact sheet called *When To Start Receiving Retirement Benefits*. You can read it online at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10147.html.

As most workers know, your choice of a retirement age — from 62 to 70 — can dramatically affect your monthly Social Security benefit amount.

If you choose to start receiving benefits early, the monthly payments will be reduced based on the number of months you receive benefits before you reach your full retirement age. The rate of reduction will depend on the year you were born. The maximum reduction at age 62 will be:

25 percent for people born between 1943 and 1954.

30 percent for people born after 1959.

If you wait until your full retirement age, your benefits will not be reduced. And if you should choose to delay retirement, your benefit will increase up to eight percent a year from your full retirement age until age 70. However, there is no additional benefit increase after you reach age 70, even if you continue to delay taking benefits.

Social Security also has created several retirement planners to help you make an informed decision. Social Security has an online calculator that can provide immediate retirement benefit estimates to help you plan for your retirement. The online Retirement Estimator uses information from your own earnings record, and lets you create "what if" scenarios. You can, for example, change your "stop work" date or expected future earnings to create and compare different retirement options.

To use the Retirement Estimator, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

Read *When To Start Receiving Retirement Benefits* at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10147.html.

And for general information about Social Security, visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

Retirement decisions are unique to everyone. Make sure you are up to date with the important information you will need to make the choice that's right for you.

How Do I Keep From Running Out of Money?

The longevity of a retirement portfolio is influenced by a number of uncontrollable factors — inflation, return on investment, lifespan, etc. There is, though one crucial factor that we do have control over — our rate of withdrawal.

One of the most common misconceptions is that a safe withdrawal rate can be calculated from average rates of return. Many believe that since the stock market has averaged around 10% a year for the last 70 years, they can invest in the market and then safely withdraw 8% or more of their investment yearly.

The volatility of the market and the sensitivity of retirement portfolios to this volatility make this a very risky strategy. A person who retired with \$1,000,000 invested in the S&P 500 in 1982 could draw \$80,000 a year for 20 years and still watch their nest egg grow. However, if the worst 3 years of that 20 year market came right when they retired, or if they retired at the start of a bear market like that of 1966, the same plan would exhaust their portfolio in less than 15 years.

Various studies on this topic have placed the optimal rate of withdrawal somewhere between 3.5% and 5% of the initial investment. Anything above 5% risks exhausting your portfolio in under 20 years, while anything above 7% is downright dangerous. According to the most comprehensive study, the optimal rate is 4%; at 4%, regardless of market conditions, you have a 90% chance of making your money last for 30 years.

Unfortunately, an annual withdrawal rate of 4% of their total invested assets is not enough for many people to live on. Circumstances require that they withdraw money at a higher rate, meaning they must risk running out of money. This is a very real and frightening possibility.

The good news is that there are financial planning tools available, primarily certain annuities, which safely allow for higher rates of withdrawal. Some of these tools permit withdrawal rates of 6-8% that are guaranteed for life, allowing individuals to survive without worrying about running out of money. This can bring a lot of peace of mind at an economically very challenging and scary time. The hard part for most people is that it requires relinquishing some of the control that they're used to exercising over their nest eggs. We'll be speaking about this interesting psychological issue in the next column.

Aryeh Goldbloom, President

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Chicago Area Public Libraries

EDGEBROOK BRANCH
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(312) 744-8313

Actress Betsey Means returns to the library on Thursday, September 24th at 7 p.m. to discuss *Alicia My Story*, a book by Alicia Appleman-Jurman. Last February Betsey presented a one-woman performance based on the book. Now she will lead a discussion on this unsung heroine, Alicia. After losing her entire family to the Nazis at age 13, she went on to save the lives of hundreds of Jews; offering them her own courage and hope in a time of upheaval and tragedy. Not since the *Diary of Anne Frank* has a young voice so vividly expressed the capacity for humanity and heroism in the face of Nazi brutality.

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.

EISENHOWER PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
4613 N Oketo, Harwood Heights, IL 60706
(708) 867-7828

The **Adult Book Discussion Group** will be meeting on Monday, October 5 from 7-8:45 p.m. or Tuesday, October 6 from 2-3:34 p.m. Attend either session to discuss *The Madonnas of Leningrad* by Debra Dean.

Bus trip to Long Grove Confectionary and the Cuneo Museum. Tour the Long Grove Confectionery, eat and shop in Long Grove, wander the halls of the Cuneo Museum, and linger in the mansion's beautiful gardens. Tuesday, October 6, 9:00-3:30. \$20.00 per person, limit 25.

Classic Films continue at Eisenhower: *Sullivan's Travels* with Joel McCrea and Virginia Mayo, Thursday, October 8, 1:00-3:45 p.m.; *Sunset Blvd.* with William Holden and Gloria Swanson. Discussions with Ralph J Amelio. Free popcorn at all movies!

Veteran's Day Photo Project

This year the library is creating a special tribute display for our patrons' family and friends who have served or are serving in the Armed Forces. Veterans of all militaries are welcome.

To include your friend or loved one, please bring a copy of their picture to the library and fill out the form in Kids World. You can also submit your photo and information on our website, www.eisenhowerlibrary.org The deadline is October 30th.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating our servicemen and women. Any questions go to Mary in Kids World.

NORTHTOWN
6435 N. California Ave., Chicago, IL 60645
312-744-2292

Read for the Record Thursday, October 8 at 10:00 AM & 11:00 AM Join us for a story time program all about Eric Carle's classic, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. We will read Carle's story three different ways, sing butterfly songs, say butterfly rhymes and have a fantastic time! This program is part of Jumpstart's Read for the Record campaign to support Early Childhood Literacy.

RODEN BRANCH
6083 N. Northwest Hwy., Chicago, IL 60631
312-744-1478

The Chicago Public Library will be celebrating Women's History Month this coming March 2010. Neighborhood branch libraries across the city are interested in exhibiting local women artists as a tribute to Women in the Arts. For consideration, please send the following to: todlevak@chipublic.org by October 1, 2009: Make sure to please submit: -- Resume -- Artist Statement -- Website URL or jpeg images of three representative works -- Dimensions of your artwork -- Any preferred CPL Branch or District Library -- Permission if CPL can keep material for our Chicago Artists Archive. ALL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS must be met for consideration. Any submission that is lacking, sent after due date, or not complete will not be considered. Please email todlevak@chipublic.org or call (312) 747-4354 with questions.

Village Cooking Corner

With autumn fast approaching, here's a delicious way to enjoy those fresh apples of any type.

Apple Crisp

4-5 Servings

1 1/4 to 1 1/2 cups sugar
2T Butter or margarine, melted
1/4 t Salt
3/4 to 1 t cinnamon
5 cups sliced, peeled tart apples (I used golden delicious) just reduce sugar
2 cups cereal flakes
1/4 cup butter or margarine
1 1/2T Flour
Cream, ice cream or sour cream topping (optional)

Combine half the sugar with 2T butter, salt and half the cinnamon. Sprinkle in bottom of greased 2 qt. baking dish. Arrange apples on top of the sugar mixture.

Blend remaining sugar with 1/4 cup butter, remaining spice and 1 1/2T flour and toss with cereal flakes. Sprinkle over top of apples.

Bake, covered in a 350° about 30 min. Remove cover and continue to bake until apples are tender and topping is lightly browned.

From the Kitchens of Rose Suter

LINCOLNWOOD LIBRARY

4000 W. Pratt Ave. • (847) 677-5277
www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org

Live@Lincolnwood Library. Sept. 20, 2 p.m. Dan Zahn and Kate Moretti perform a unique mix of folk, swing, and original music. Free tickets available at the Circulation desk.

Travel Through Time Presentation. Sept. 25, 10:30 a.m. Elise Ginsparg presents "A Jewish Trip through Moscow and St. Petersburg. Program preceded by 10 a.m. coffee time.

Morning Matinees, for early birds who want to see recently released films Thursday mornings, 10:30 a.m. Sept. 24: "Push."

Humanities Treasures. This free discussion group meets Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m. at the Lincolnwood Library to explore current events and selected readings. Humanities Treasures is affiliated with the Oakton Community College Emeritus Program.

Afterschool Cafe. Mondays, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Students of all ages can buy a snack and relax before tackling homework!

Stories & More. Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Children ages 3-5 enjoy language-rich activities during each 45-minute session. Siblings welcome.

Beginning with Books. Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Stories, songs, and activities for infants to 2-year-olds and a caregiver. New time conveniently leads into library's Playtime program.

Playtime at the Library. Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. A friendly, social time for young children, ages 3 and under, and their caregivers. Toys and snacks are provided for the children.

Teen Acting Class. Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m. through Nov. 16 Students in 7th grade and up can learn acting techniques, study characters and lines, and try out for parts. Please register in the Youth Services Department (847-677-5277 x234 or youthservices@lincolnwoodlibrary.org). A "Fairytale Whodunnit" play will be performed in November.

Knitting for All Ages. Fridays, 3:30-5 p.m. Learn to knit or work on a project. Any level, ages 10 and up, welcome. Lincoln Hall students may receive community service hours for knitting or crocheting a baby hat to be donated to a local hospital.

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