



OUR VILLAGE



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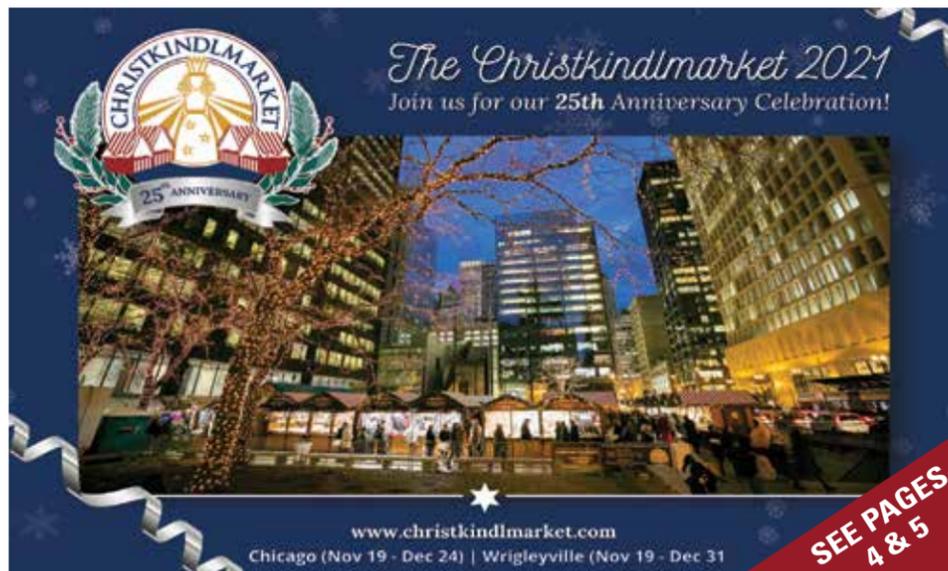
Happy Thanksgiving

from the Staff of Village Publications

Chicago Thanksgiving Parade

Thursday, November 25, 8-11am
State St... Ida B Wells to Randolph

Looking for family entertainment on Thanksgiving morning? Please join us on State Street for the Chicago Thanksgiving Parade featuring the nation's best marching bands, giant popular inflatable balloons, spectacular performance acts and much more! Or tune into WGN9 or WGN America to watch us on live TV!

The Christkindlmarket 2021
Join us for our 25th Anniversary Celebration!

www.christkindlmarket.com
Chicago (Nov 19 - Dec 24) | Wrigleyville (Nov 19 - Dec 31)

SEE PAGES 4 & 5

Wreaths Across America



See Page 2 for Details

Holiday Season is Here

Begin to Plan for Celebrations and Events!
Ideas Listed Throughout This Edition

Millennium Park Campus Holiday Programs

Skate Millennium Park presented by Hilton Opens
November 19

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on November 19, 6pm
One Logan Square front yard just got a bit sunnier for the holidays. The Benavidas family donated its 51-foot blue spruce to be put on display as the city's 108th official Christmas tree in Millennium Park. Chicago's tree-lighting ceremony, which was cancelled due to the coronavirus crisis last year, is set for 6 p.m. Nov. 19, complete with a Brian McKnight concert, fireworks, food and more.

The new Millennium Park Holiday Sing-Along
(previously "Caroling at Cloud Gate") starts November 26
Millennium Park

Millennium Park will be the epicenter of holiday cheer in Chicago, featuring your favorite seasonal traditions: Chicago's official Christmas Tree, ice skating, caroling, an art market and free family fun.

More information at millenniumpark.org.



Holiday Recipes

See page 7

Watch For Signs In Your Communities For All Toys For Tots Drop Off Points.




MADE IN AMERICA

THIS YEAR THINK OUTSIDE THE BOXES AND SHOP LOCAL!
Let's All Support Our Local Merchants and Restaurants During This Holiday Season, As Well As Throughout The Year To Come!
Happy Holidays & Merry Christmas from Our Village News



Community Animal Rescue Effort Presents the 32nd Annual

Holiday C.A.R.E. FAIRE

SATURDAY, NOV. 27
11 AM - 4 PM

ENJOY Raffle, Art & Craft Vendors, Pet Photos with Santa, Silent Auction, Cookie Walk

WE ARE AT A NEW LOCATION
Oakton Community Center,
4701 Oakton Street, Skokie

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT C.A.R.E.
847-705-2653 | CARENORTHSHORE.ORG

(Turn to Page 3 for details of the Faire)

Comcast Increases Xfinity Internet Speeds in the Chicago Region

Several million households to benefit from faster speeds to power their increasingly connected homes

Comcast announced today that it has increased the speeds of its most popular Xfinity Internet tiers, providing an extra boost for several million customers across its Greater Chicago Region, which spans Central and Northern Illinois, Northwest Indiana and Southwest Michigan.

The following upgrades have gone live automatically at no additional cost:

- Performance Starter upload speeds doubled to 50/10 Megabits per second (Mbps);
- Performance upload speeds doubled to 100/10 Mbps;
- Blast speeds increased from 200/10 Mbps to 300/10 Mbps;
- Extreme speeds increased from 400/20 Mbps to 600/20 Mbps.
- Extreme Pro speeds increased from 800/20 Mbps to 900/20 Mbps; and
- Gigabit Pro speeds increased from 2/2 Gigabits per second (Gbps) to 3/3 Gbps

symmetrical nationwide. Gigabit Pro uses enterprise-grade, fiber-based ethernet technology to make it possible for Xfinity Internet customers to receive symmetrical multi-gigabit speeds so you can stream or game in 4K in multiple rooms in your home.

“Comcast’s more than 68,000 miles of fiber-dense network lines and other infrastructure serve communities throughout the region, and our nearly two million WiFi hotspots in the region allow residents to connect on the go,” said John Crowley, Comcast’s Greater Chicago Region Senior Vice President. “Comcast’s \$1.4 billion investment in its regional network over the last three years and its ongoing investments make it possible for the company to deliver some of the fastest Internet speeds on the market, the most advanced telecommunications services for homes and business and a great experience to our customers.”

Comcast’s Xfinity Internet service is

delivered using the company’s existing network architecture and the connections that are already in most customers’ homes. Its network offers residential download speeds faster than a Gig over its current infrastructure already, making the company the largest provider of Gigabit speeds in the region and the country.

Comcast recently tested the world’s first 10G connection from network to modem at the biggest annual 10G event. This demonstration was a milestone in a company project that aims to ultimately produce 10 Gbps residential speeds and beyond.

“Our customers build their digital lives on the foundation of our Internet service, so we continue to push the technological envelope to anticipate their future needs,” said Tony Werner, Comcast’s President of Technology, Product, Xperience. “The great strength of our network technology is that we will have the ability to scale these next-generation speeds to tens of



millions of homes in the future without digging up yards or starting massive construction projects. This technology provides a path to meeting the needs of the future and making multi-gigabit symmetrical speeds a reality for everyone, not just a select few.”

Over the last decade, Comcast has invested nearly \$30 billion to build an expansive, fiber-dense network comprising of 191,000 route miles in its service footprint nationally. The company has doubled its network capacity every 2.5 years to stay well ahead of demand.

Wreaths Across America

In its 27th year, Wreaths Across America has grown into a massive organization, honoring veterans and their families. Each year a convoy with thousands of wreaths makes the trek from Maine to Arlington National Cemetery to lay them on the graves of fallen soldiers. It was first started by Morrill and Karen Worcester when their wreath company had a surplus of 5,000 wreaths, and they wanted to do something special with them. Today, they send more than a million wreaths across the country to remember, honor and teach. We join them on their week-long tour.

Sponsor Remembrance Wreaths In Your Local Communities

We’re on a mission to Remember, Honor and Teach. Join us by sponsoring a wreath to be placed in honor or in memory of a veteran this December. Help us ensure that the sacrifices of our heroes are never forgotten.

Honor and Remember

A child, a parent, a neighbor, a friend: What better way to honor the service of a loved one and remember their sacrifice than by sponsoring a wreath in their honor or in their memory?

Pairs: Give a Wreath and Get a Wreath

When you sponsor a Patriot Pair, one wreath will be placed at one of 1,200 cemeteries across the nation and a second wreath will be sent to the address of your choice.

Go To www.wreathscrossamerica.org or call (207) 470-0967 or Toll Free: (877) 385-9504 for information on how to participate and donate.

Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption

Cook County retirees and other older homeowners may reduce their tax bills by hundreds or even thousands of dollars a year by taking advantage of the Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption.

Exemptions reduce the Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) of your home, which is multiplied by the tax rate to determine your tax bill. The Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption reduces the EAV of your home by \$8,000.

To receive the Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption, the applicant must have owned and occupied the property as of January 1 and must have been 65 years of age or older during the tax year in question.

To apply: Cook County Assessor’s Office
118 North Clark Street, Room 320
Chicago, IL 60602
312.443.7550

The Assessor’s Office now automatically renews Senior Citizen Exemptions for properties that were not sold to new owners in the last year.

Seniors can save even more by combining the Senior Citizen and Homeowner exemptions. Exemptions are reflected on the Second Installment tax bill.

To check the exemptions you are receiving, go to Your Property Tax Overview at:
www.cookcountytreasurer.com/setsearchparameters.aspx.

Also check on Senior Citizen Assessment Freeze options at:
www.cookcountytreasurer.com/seniorcitizenassessmentfreezeexemption.aspx

Volunteer to be a VITA Literacy/ESL Tutor at Oakton Community College.

Many adults need help with basic English reading, writing and speaking skills.

Share the gift of learning!

To become a VITA tutor, call Oakton Community College at 847-635-1426 or e-mail us at VITA@oakton.edu. Interview and training are required.

Note: tutoring opportunities for the spring term will be online.



7701 N. Lincoln Avenue,
Skokie, IL 60077



WELCOME BACK!

Thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Gilman for holding tough through almost two years to bring the Our Village News back to serve the needs of our young people, our elderly folks, and everyone in between. The Communities on the North Side of Chicago and Collar Suburbs will be able to continue benefiting from the local news the paper shares with its readers from the Parks, Libraries, Religious Institutions, Clubs, Organizations and Businesses.

Regards and God Bless, Rev. Francis S. Rog, C.R.

All of the Village Publications Family appreciate Father Rog’s message of welcome and thank him for being a constant and loyal contributor of inspiring thoughts and information from the neighborhoods. We have featured Father’s history of Bucktown in the past and will continue with his participation into the future. From The Gilmans

Chicago Park District Cuts Ribbon On New Park In Albany Park And Breaks Ground On Park Improvements In Rogers Park

On Saturday, November 13th, Chicago Park District Hosted a Ribbon Cutting for Park 593 along with Alderman Nugent and the Mayfair Civic Federation. The District’s newest park, located at 4546 N. Kedvale, marks the transformation of a vacant lot that now offers new trees, shrubs and native plantings, large blocks of limestone and granite boulders for seating. Amenities include a nature play area including a creative play mud kitchen for children, an open multipurpose use lawn area, a covered and lighted pavilion with fixed tables and chairs for picnicking, gatherings and events. New park utilities including a drinking fountain/ water bottle filler, hand pump for water play, lawn hydrants for landscape maintenance and lighting.

Also, on Saturday, November 13th, Chicago Park District Hosted a Nature Play Space Groundbreaking at Leone Park, 1222 W. Touhy. District representatives will join Alderman Haddon and the Leone Park Advisory Council to break ground on a new Nature Play Space. Once developed, the play space will feature nature-inspired structures, like large logs, boulders and native plantings that connect children and families to nature. Hands-on nature experiences promote spontaneous free play by children, allowing them to immerse themselves in their natural surroundings.

Please visit www.chicagoparkdistrict.com or contact the Chicago Park District at 312/742.PLAY or 312/747.2001 (TTY). Want to share your talent? Volunteer in the parks by calling, 312/742.PLAY. Follow us on Facebook @ChicagoParkDistrict and on Instagram and Twitter @chicagoparks.

Miss an Issue of Our Village News?

Visit our website at ourvillagechicago.com to find current and back editions!



GOLDEN NUGGETS

“I Carry The Sun In A Silver Cup, The Moon In A Silver Bag”
- W.B. Yeats

Don’t be a Cloud in Someone’s Rainbow

The students of Gorham Middle & High School

“SHARE YOUR WISDOM” by sending in your ideas.

OUR VILLAGE & STREET LEVEL

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Make Tracks to the Holiday C.A.R.E. Faire

The highly anticipated Holiday C.A.R.E. Faire is back and better than ever! The Faire will take place Saturday, Nov. 27, from 11 am to 4 pm, at a brand new location: the Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton, Skokie, Ill. Proceeds from the Faire will go toward C.A.R.E. cats and dogs.

C.A.R.E. Faire Features

You'll find SO many reasons to stop by the Faire. This family-and-pet-friendly event will feature an array of attractions, including:

- Pet Pictures with Santa - Bring your dog or (brave) cat for a frame-worthy photo with Santa.
- Cookie Walk - Stock up on home-baked holiday cookies.
- Silent Auction & Raffle - A great place to find uniquely awesome holiday gifts. Click here to peruse the full and tempting list.
- 2022 FURever Grateful Calendars - This limited-edition calendar features pets (adopted & adoptable) posing with area first responders, front-line workers and friends of C.A.R.E. Makes an amazing holiday gift.
- Art & Craft Vendors



• C.A.R.E. Market debut: a collection of items that are unique and giftable, some handmade.

C.A.R.E. is asking attendees to bring pet food donations as suggested entry to the Faire. Our wish list includes dog and cat kibble (unopened bags), canned pet food, KITTEN FOOD and cat litter. Pet food will be used for adoptable pets or to support C.A.R.E.'s Pet Food Pantry.

Mark your calendar, save the date, and set your path toward the Holiday C.A.R.E. Faire at its new location, the Oakton Community Center in Skokie on Saturday, Nov. 27. This being our first post-pandemic in-person event, remember to wear your mask!

McCormick Tribune Ice Rink

November 19, 2021—March 6, 2022 (weather permitting)
Millennium Park, McCormick Tribune Ice Rink

Skating at the McCormick Tribune Ice Rink in Millennium Park returns for its 20th anniversary season, open daily from November 19 through March 6 (weather permitting). Admission is free, but online reservation tickets will be required. Snacks and hot drinks will be available from Momentum Coffee. Additionally, DCASE will present free skating lessons (reservations required) from 8–9am on most Saturdays and Sundays from November 20 through March 6, 2022, teaching beginner and intermediate ice skating and hockey skills. Free lessons are made possible by the McDonald's Active Lifestyles Endowment managed by the Millennium Park Foundation. Online reservation ticket details and session availability, skate rental fees and more will be announced soon.

Admission is free, but online tickets will be required.

Weather: The ice rink is open daily depending on weather. Closures due to severe weather will be posted on Millennium Park's facebook and twitter pages.

The BMO Harris Bank Magnificent Mile Lights Festival returns on Saturday, November 20, 2021!

Shining bright for 30 magnificent years, The BMO Harris Bank Magnificent Mile Lights Festival® returns to downtown Chicago this month to kick off the holiday season the weekend before Thanksgiving. Chicagoans will come together safely again, after the 2020 live event hiatus, to celebrate the largest nighttime parade in the Nation.

The action-packed weekend will begin with a preview night on Friday, November 19 at 4:00 p.m. featuring a ceremonial tree-lighting in The Wrigley Building Centennial Plaza in honor of the building's 100 years.

On Saturday, November 20, the event-filled day begins at 11:00 a.m. starting in Lights Festival Lane (401 North Michigan Avenue) with a festive thoroughfare of booths and family activities,

including photos with Santa Claus, until 4:00 p.m. Free, family fun culminates in the grand tree-lighting parade down North Michigan Avenue on Saturday, November 20 starting at 5:30 p.m. with Grand Marshals Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse from Walt Disney World® Resort in Florida. The parade features more than 60 minutes of fabulous floats, giant helium balloons, exciting marching bands, celebrities, musical performances, Santa Claus, and more, all helping to illuminate more than 1 million lights along The Magnificent Mile. The event draws to a grand conclusion with spectacular fireworks over the Chicago River at the DuSable Bridge at 7:00 p.m.

If you cannot catch the parade live, ABC broadcasts the event throughout the holiday season across nearly 100% of the country.

When's The Tree Lighting In Lincoln Square? Here's The Holiday Schedule

No neighborhood outside of Downtown gets decked for the holidays quite like Lincoln Square.

Preparations have been underway for weeks, with crews sprucing up planters and hanging garland, ribbons and lights in anticipation of festivities set for Saturday, culminating in a tree lighting ceremony in Giddings Plaza.

Here's the schedule of Saturday's free events:

- Ice Sculpture Spectacular, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Look for the icy artwork on Damen Avenue between Argyle and Leland, and on Montrose Avenue between Ravenswood and Damen.
- Victorian Caroling, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Carolers will be strolling Damen, Lincoln and Montrose avenues, with half-hour performances at the top of each hour.
- Tree Lighting, 5:30 p.m., Giddings Plaza, 4733 N. Lincoln Ave. Ebenezer Scrooge and Tiny Tim will be on hand from the Goodman Theatre's production of "A Christmas Carol." DANK Haus will be serving hot chocolate and glühwein.



Skate in the Parks

Registration is Required!

For locations, fees, hours,
and to pre-register visit
www.ChicagoParkDistrict.com



For more information about your Chicago Park District, visit www.ChicagoParkDistrict.com or call 312.742.7529 or 312.747.2001 (TTY).
 City of Chicago, Lori E. Lightfoot, Mayor
 Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners
 Rosa Escareño, Interim General Superintendent & CEO

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS



The Christkindlmarket Chicago

Celebrates its 25th Anniversary In-Person & Online

The authentic German-Style Christkindlmarket, a beloved Chicago holiday tradition, celebrates its 25th Anniversary in person and online this year!

It will take place at two locations: The Christkindlmarket Chicago at Daley Plaza (November 19 – December 24) and the

Christkindlmarket Wrigleyville at Gallagher Way (November 19 – December 31).

More information about each location, the vendors, and events is available on the Christkindlmarket website at www.christkindlmarket.com.

What Else Is New This Year?

For the first time, the heated Grand Timber Haus offers an exclusive space for Stammtisch Guests only. “Stammtisch” is a reserved table program on-site. Visitors can reserve tables online and pick from five German food and beverage packages. During this 90-minute experience, they will be served at festively decorated tables and don't have to worry about wearing their coat or waiting in line. It is ideal for gatherings with family and friends but also for company holiday outings or a cozy get-together after work. More information and details for the reservation can be found on www.christkindlmarket.com/table-reservations-stammtisch.



*Stammtisch
Reserved Tables*
at the
Christkindlmarket
Chicago



Scan & Reserve!

Enjoy a unique experience inside the Heated Timber Haus!

Choose from German food and drink packages!

No waiting in line – we serve you at a festively decorated table!



Christkindlmarket Wrigleyville

at Gallagher Way

Nov. 19th – Dec. 31st FREE ADMISSION

Regular Hours:
 Monday - Thursday: 3pm - 9pm
 Friday - Saturday: 11am - 10pm
 Sunday: 11am - 7pm
 Special Hours:
 Thanksgiving (Nov. 25), Christmas Eve
 (Dec. 24) and New Year's Eve (Dec. 31):
 11am - 4pm
 Christmas Day (Dec. 25): Closed
www.facebook.com/christkindlmarket.wrigleyville



Unique Tastes & Holiday Shopping

As always, the market will host vendors from Germany but also from many other countries as well as the Chicagoland area. Visitors can find and try various savory and sweet treats and shop special gifts for their loved ones (or for themselves). Be it glass ornaments, handmade wooden artifacts, or unique clothing – there's something for everyone!

Besides the in-person events, the Online Shop (www.christkindlmarket.com/shop) that celebrated its debut in 2020, is also an option for fans who prefer getting their holiday shopping done from the comfort of their homes.

The popular gift boxes are back in four variations. The Annual Souvenir Mug and the first collectible Annual Ornament can already be pre-ordered, which might be a good idea since they are only available as long as supplies last!

PS: The iconic market beverages, the imported hot spiced wine (called "Gluehwein") and German beer, taste even better out of the market's mug and beer stein.



Christkindlmarket Chicago

at Daley Plaza

Nov. 19th – Dec. 24th FREE ADMISSION

Regular Hours:
 Sunday - Thursday: 11am - 8pm
 Friday - Saturday: 11am - 9pm
 Special Hours:
 Thanksgiving (Nov. 25)
 and Christmas Eve (Dec. 24):
 11am - 4pm
www.facebook.com/christkindlmarket



Gift the joy
of the
Christkindlmarket
this year!

Get your limited edition
Gift Boxes now!

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www.christkindlmarket.com



We Honor All Of Those Who Serve And Have Served Each Day Of The Year



Veterans Day History & Reflections

VETERANS DAY HISTORY:

Veterans Day was created after WWI to Honor those who had served in "The War to End All Wars" and was called Armistice Day. It was on November 11 in remembrance of official day WWI ended (Officially at 11th Hour on the 11th Day of the 11th Month in 1918). It went through changes in how it was Celebrated until 1945 when a Soldier serving in WWII in Europe sent a letter to General Dwight "Ike" Eisenhower and suggested to add those who had served in WWII. It was celebrated to Honor WWI and WWII Veterans until Congress passed a bill in 1954 to rename it Veterans Day, ironically it was signed into law by President Dwight "Ike" Eisenhower. Today there are parades and celebrations to Honor Veterans. All though we have a Special Day to Remember those Veterans who are no longer with us (Memorial Day), they are never forgotten and on November 11th at 11:00 a Special Ceremony is held at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier"

REFLECTIONS:

From Roger Allen, Proud Veteran

Why do we have two days to honor our military? Veteran's Day is for the living and Memorial Day is for those who are no longer with us. While it is good that there is a special day, my 32 years as a retired Master Sergeant was not for recognition, but because like my fellow Service Members, we served to protect our freedoms. At this time in our Country there are many expectations from our military which are not our purpose. We serve under an oath to support and defend the Constitution, nothing more or nothing less. We don't get to interpret or decide how, we follow it's path to a better country. We are not heroes, but soldiers serving our great Country. When someone ask me how I feel about someone kneeling, the only answer is "we protect the freedom of all to make their choices" and "it is not our place to defend or criticize." We only ask that you treat us with respect and understanding like all people should be treated everyday.

I would like to conclude with a personal experience that conveys what really makes a veteran proud.

While shopping at a local store one day, a man in front of me was asked if he served in the military (they gave a discount to Veterans) and he gruffly replied why would I want to do something like that? The clerk politely said "Thank You" and went on. He then turned around, looked at me who was standing 6 feet back and wearing a mask waiting to check out and commented "you are a coward"! (referring to fact I had a mask and 6 feet back). My comment was "I am a retired Master Sergeant and served 32 years defending our Country. Who is a coward?" As everyone around me applauded and thanked me for my service he left quietly. That is what made me proud. Their SUPPORT!

So don't wait for Veterans Day, any time you see a veteran thank him or her for their service. That is the best way to show your appreciation. We love to wear Caps that brag about where we served.

Additional information on the history of Veterans Day, the Veterans Day National Committee, the national ceremony, a gallery of Veterans Day posters from 1978 to the present and a colorful and informative Veterans Day Teacher's Resource Guide can be found on the Internet at <http://www.va.gov/vetsday>

Honor Flight Chicago - "Operation Locate A Hero"- 2022 Season Planning Underway

Honor Flight Chicago (HFC), part of the National Honor Flight Network, was founded to recognize our Veterans – most specifically our WWII Veterans with a day of Honor, Remembrance, and Celebration from a proud and grateful Nation. HFC is currently working on the 2022 season flight schedule - with projected monthly flights from Chicago Midway to Washington, DC to visit their WWII Memorial. The trip is provided at (no) cost to the Veteran.

There are approximately (21,000) WWII Veterans remaining in the Chicago area – which HFC is requesting assistance from the public to help locate these WWII Heroes.

For more info please contact Jac Charlier at jac.charlier@gmail.com or visit www.honorflightchicago.org.

Honor Flight Chicago is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to the mission of flying our World War II veterans to Washington DC to see the WWII Memorial built in their honor.



Helping Veterans And Active Duty Military Members

By Andrew Salata

Social Security Public Affairs Chicago

On Veterans Day, the nation honors the men and women who risk their lives to protect our freedom. Social Security honors veterans and active duty members of the military every day by giving them the respect they deserve. A vital part of that is administering the Social Security disability program.

For those who return home with injuries, Social Security is a resource they can turn to. If you know any wounded veterans, please let them know about Social Security's Wounded Warriors website. You can find it at www.socialsecurity.gov/woundedwarriors.

The expedited process is used for military

service members who become disabled while on active military service on or after October 1, 2001, regardless of where the disability occurs.

Even active duty military who continue to receive pay while in a hospital or on medical leave should consider applying for disability benefits if they're unable to work due to a disabling condition. Active duty status and receipt of military pay doesn't necessarily prevent payment of Social Security disability benefits. Although a person can't receive Social Security disability benefits while engaging in substantial work for pay or profit, receipt of military payments should never stop someone from applying for disability benefits from Social Security.

Cook County Treasurer's Office Offers Assistance to Veterans

For details visit the following websites:

Property Tax Relief for Military Personnel —

www.cookcountytreasurer.com/currentmilitarywaiverform.aspx

Disabled Veteran Homestead Exemption —

www.cookcountytreasurer.com/disabledveteranhomesteadexemption.aspx

First Responder's Surviving Spouse Tax Abatement —

www.cookcountytreasurer.com/firstresponderssurvivingspouseabatement.aspx

To apply:

Cook County Assessor's Office, 118 North Clark Street, Room 320, Chicago, IL 60602
312.443.7550

Cell Phones For Soldiers

Representative D'Amico has partnered with Cell Phones For Soldiers, a nonprofit serving troops and veterans, to collect gently used cell phones for members of our military. Donated phones will be used to provide free communication services to military members so they can connect with their loved ones. Donations will be accepted in Representative D'Amico's public service office located at 4404 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago, IL 60630. Office hours are 9 AM to 4:30 PM.



How To Book A Free AFSP IL Speaker

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Illinois Chapter speakers are available to speak for free thanks to the generosity of our walkers, donors, and volunteers. To request a free AFSP Illinois volunteer speaker at your company, organization, club, religious center, meeting or other group complete the simple form at www.AFSPILSpeaker.org. For free AFSP materials and resources thanks to the generosity of Walkers like you go to www.AFSPMaterials.org. To donate to support AFSP go to www.Chicagowalk.org.

If you are in crisis, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at:

1-800-273-TALK • 1-800-273-8255

For all
you've done.
We thank you.



On this Veterans Day and every day, we and the community extend sincere appreciation to the men and women who have served our country so proudly.



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2015



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email: john@habenfuneral.com

For a Life Worth CelebratingSM

A Prayer For Veterans

Lord, we ask for blessings on all those who have served their country in the armed forces. We ask for healing for the veterans who have been wounded, in body and soul, in conflicts around the globe. We pray especially for the men and women, in the thousands, coming home with injured bodies and traumatized spirits. Bring solace to them, O Lord; may we pray for them when they cannot pray. We ask for an end to wars and the dawning of a new era of peace, as a way to honor the sacrifices of all the veterans of past wars.

Have mercy on all our veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan. Bring peace to their hearts and peace to the regions they fought in. Bless all the men and women who have served in non-combatative posts; may their calling to service continue in their lives in many positive ways.

Give us, Lord, the vision to see a world which, grown weary with fighting, moves to affirming the life of every human being and moves beyond war. Hear our prayer, O Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

Amen.

Taken from the Queen of Angels Church Bulletin (in Chicago's Lincoln Square neighborhood) of November 11, 2012. Let us all honor our veterans on Veterans Day and always ...



Palos Preserves Named the World's Largest Urban Night Sky Place

Forest Preserves of Cook County and Adler Planetarium earn the Urban Night Sky Place designation, awarded by the International Dark-Sky Association, for a 6,662-acre site in Southwest Cook County



The Forest Preserves of Cook County's Palos Preserves has been designated the largest Urban Night Sky Place in the world by the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA). About four times more stars are visible in the night sky over the site than in the City of Chicago as measured by Adler Planetarium, which partnered with the Forest Preserves to submit the site's application.

The Palos Preserves, historically known as Mt. Forest Island, is part of the largest area of protected natural land in Cook County. The Urban Night Sky Place houses only four buildings in its 6,662 acres, and satellite radiance data show that the region emits nearly 1000 times less light than downtown Chicago. Forest Preserves sites are closed at sunset, so visitors who want to enjoy the night at this Urban Night Sky Place should keep an eye out for the Preserves' guided nighttime programming in Palos Preserves.

"People know the Palos Preserves for its extensive trail system and the natural wonder of the hills, bluffs, woodlands and wetlands. I'm pleased that with this Urban Night Sky designation, the site is also recognized as a location that preserves the night. The many species of plants, insects, birds and other animals that call the Palos Preserves home benefit from the absence of disturbing artificial lighting," said Arnold Randall, the general superintendent of the Forest Preserves.

To measure and document the light levels in Palos Preserves, the Adler Planetarium worked with teens in its Far Horizons Stratonauts program to use specially designed cameras, built by students and volunteers at the Adler, across Chicago and in the Preserves last summer to quantify the nighttime sky in the region. The students also used satellite data and images from astronauts on board the International Space Station for the application. The Adler also provided guidance in a light management plan that was initiated by the Forest Preserves as part of the Dark Skies application, which reduced light levels at the Preserves' buildings and parking lots with a combination of timers, shielded fixtures and night sky friendly LED lighting.

"For the entire history of life on Earth, dark nights followed sunlit days. In a little more than a century we've altered that



Image ISSChicagoMFI is a photo of Chicago taken from the International Space Station. The Palos Preserves Urban Night Sky Place is outlined in green. Image courtesy of the Earth Science and Remote Sensing Unit, NASA Johnson Space Center. <https://eol.jsc.nasa.gov/>

natural pattern by illuminating our nights. Living in and around Chicago we've grown accustomed to always having bright lights in view. The chance of experiencing a natural, dark night—as it was for eons—is now too rare. It's difficult to express the peaceful, natural beauty one can experience within the Palos Preserves' pristine nights. This designation is a recognition of the value it offers to everyone in the region," said Ken Walczak, Senior Manager for Far Horizons at the

Adler Planetarium.

The IDA's International Dark Sky Places program was founded in 2001 to encourage communities, parks and protected areas around the world to preserve and protect dark sites through responsible lighting policies and public education. There are more than 170 Dark Sky Places across the world, including three in the Urban Night Sky Place category. IDA designates the places following a rigorous application process requiring applicants to demonstrate robust community support for dark-sky protection, a commitment to stewardship of the nighttime environment and designation-specific program requirements.

"The Forest Preserves' commitment to understanding the principles of responsible outdoor lighting, engaging in community outreach, and providing access to this natural resource for the residents of the Chicago area all serve as commendable examples of what UNSPs can offer," stated Ruskin Hartley, Executive Director of IDA.

The Forest Preserves and Adler Planetarium will continue to partner in the Palos Preserves around the Urban Night Sky Place, particularly for fun and educational programs and events like stargazing nights, night hikes, owling and light pollution awareness programs.

About the International Dark-Sky Association

The IDA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Tucson, Arizona, which advocates for the protection of the nighttime environment and dark night skies. It does so by educating policymakers and the public about night sky conservation and through the promotion of environmentally responsible outdoor lighting. The IDA established the International Dark Sky Places conservation program in 2001 to recognize excellent stewardship of the night sky. IDA designates International Dark Sky Places following a rigorous application process requiring applicants to demonstrate robust community support for dark sky protection and document designation-specific program requirements.

More information about the IDA, its mission, and work may be found at www.darksky.org.

We Celebrate The Ethnic Diversity Of Chicago's Heritage Village "Holiday" Cooking Corner



THIS THANKSGIVING, THINK HAM!

Enjoy these great ideas for your Holiday entertaining. Don't forget to begin the New Year by partaking of a bit of Pickled Herring. It will bring you good luck!!

Mini Cannoli Dessert

- 20 cannolis
- 2 pounds Sorrento ricotta cheese
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 2 ounces white crème de cocoa liqueur
- 1 ounce vanilla extract
- 6 ounces cool whip
- 1/2 cup chocolate chips
- 1 cup crushed pistachio
- 20 mini cannoli shells (find in any Italian store)

In a bowl, mix together 2 pounds Sorrento ricotta cheese, 1/2 ounce granulated sugar, 2 ounces white crème de cocoa liqueur and 1 ounce vanilla extract, mix for 2-3 minutes. Add 6 ounces cool whip and 1/2 cup chocolate chips, mix until equally combined. Fill mini cannoli shells. Finish by sprinkling crushed pistachio on each end of the cannolis.

Submitted by Vines Italian Restaurant, Harwood Heights

Rock Cookies For The Holidays

Raisins, dates, nuts and spices such as cinnamon and cloves are classic ingredients in Holiday baking, along with brown sugar. These drop cookies will become one of your favorites, and with ingredients such as raisins, dates and nuts, they are not just delicious, but healthy as well. You can substitute dried cranberries if you want to.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Ingredients: | 1 tsp. baking soda dissolved in a little warm water |
| 1 cup brown sugar | 1 cup chopped pecans or walnuts |
| 2 cups flour | 2/3 cup butter, 2 eggs |
| 1-1/2 tsp. cinnamon | 1/2 tsp. cloves |
| 8 oz. each raisins & dates | |

Preparation: Cream butter with sugar and eggs until fluffy. Slowly beat in flour which has been sifted with the cinnamon and cloves. Add the dissolved baking soda. Stir in chopped nuts, raisins and diced dates. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto ungreased baking sheet. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes at 375 degrees.

From the kitchen of Maria Bappert

Piquant Meat Balls

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|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2 pounds ground beef | pepper to taste |
| 1 egg | 12-oz. bottle of chili sauce |
| 2 tablespoons bread crumbs | 6 ounces grape jelly |
| 1 teaspoon salt | Juice of 1 lemon |

Combine meat, egg, bread crumbs, and seasonings. Shape into balls the size of a walnut. Heat chili sauce, jelly, and lemon juice in a heavy skillet or Dutch oven until blended. Add the meat balls, cover, and simmer for 30 minutes. Uncover and cook 15 minutes longer, stirring frequently to prevent sticking. Serves 8 to 10. Keep hot in a chafing dish.

From the kitchen of Rose Suter

Wassail of Old England

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3 qt. apple cider | 1/2 tsp. ground nutmeg |
| 1 tsp. vanilla | 2 tsp. whole cloves |
| 2 tbsp. honey or brown sugar | 1 stick of cinnamon |
| 1 bottle brandy | Apple Slices, Lemon Peel |

Simmer the cider and spices for a few minutes. Then warm the brandy slightly. Pour 24 jiggers of brandy in the bowl and set ablaze. Then pour the cider and spices into the bowl. Float the apple slices and lemon peel on top.

From The Kitchens of K. Roberts

Kugel

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 8oz. of egg noodles | 1/4 lb. butter |
| 1 tsp. salt | 1 cup milk |
| 1 large cream cheese | 4 eggs |
| 1/2 cup sugar | 1 large can crushed pineapple |

Boil & drain noodles. Rinse in cold water. Soften cream cheese & add eggs one at a time. Mix salt, sugar & milk. Melt butter. Mix noodles with mixture. Add drained pineapple. Put in 13 x 9 pan. Add topping.

Topping: 3/4 cup crushed corn flakes
1-1/2 tsp. cinnamon 1/4 cup sugar
Mix together, spread on top. Bake at 375 for 1 1/2 hours.

From The Kitchens of Chris

Boursin Cheese

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|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 8 oz. cream cheese | 2 T chopped chives |
| 1 clove crushed garlic | 1 T dry white vermouth |
| 3 tsp. fresh minced parsley | lemon pepper |
| 1 tsp. basil leaves | |

Blend cream cheese and garlic and add everything else. Serve with crackers or in celery.

From the kitchen of Rose Suter

Walnut Cake "Karithopita"

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1/2 cup butter | 1 cups of water |
| 1 tsp. soda | 1 tsp. cinnamon |
| 1 cup sugar | 2 tbs. cognac |
| 2 tbs. cognac | 1/4 tsp. ground cloves |
| 5 eggs | 1 tbs. lemon juice |
| | 1 1/2 cups dry bread crumbs |
| | 1 tbs. orange juice |
| Syrup: | 1 1/2 cups flour |
| 1 cup milk | 1 cinnamon stick |
| 2 cups of sugar | 3 tsp. baking powder |
| 2 cups chopped walnuts | |

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Butter and flour a 13 x 9 baking pan. In a bowl combine the walnuts, cinnamon, cloves, breadcrumbs, flour, and baking powder. In a small glass, dilute the soda with the cognac. In a large bowl of a mixer, cream the butter with the sugar and then add the eggs. Mix in the soda with cognac, and add the milk and the walnut mixture, beating until well combined. Spread into the prepared baking pan. Bake for 45-60 minutes, or until the center is firm. Prepare the syrup by mixing all the ingredients together in a medium sauce pan. Bring it to a boil and pour it over the baked cake. Let the cake cool completely before serving.

By Eleni Andriatsakis

Water Chestnut Hors d'oeuvres

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

Cut strips of bacon lengthwise, and crosswise wrap bacon around chestnuts, securing with toothpicks. Bake: 400 20 minutes. Drain Grease and Bake again: 350 5 minutes.

From the Kitchen of Laurel Atkeisson



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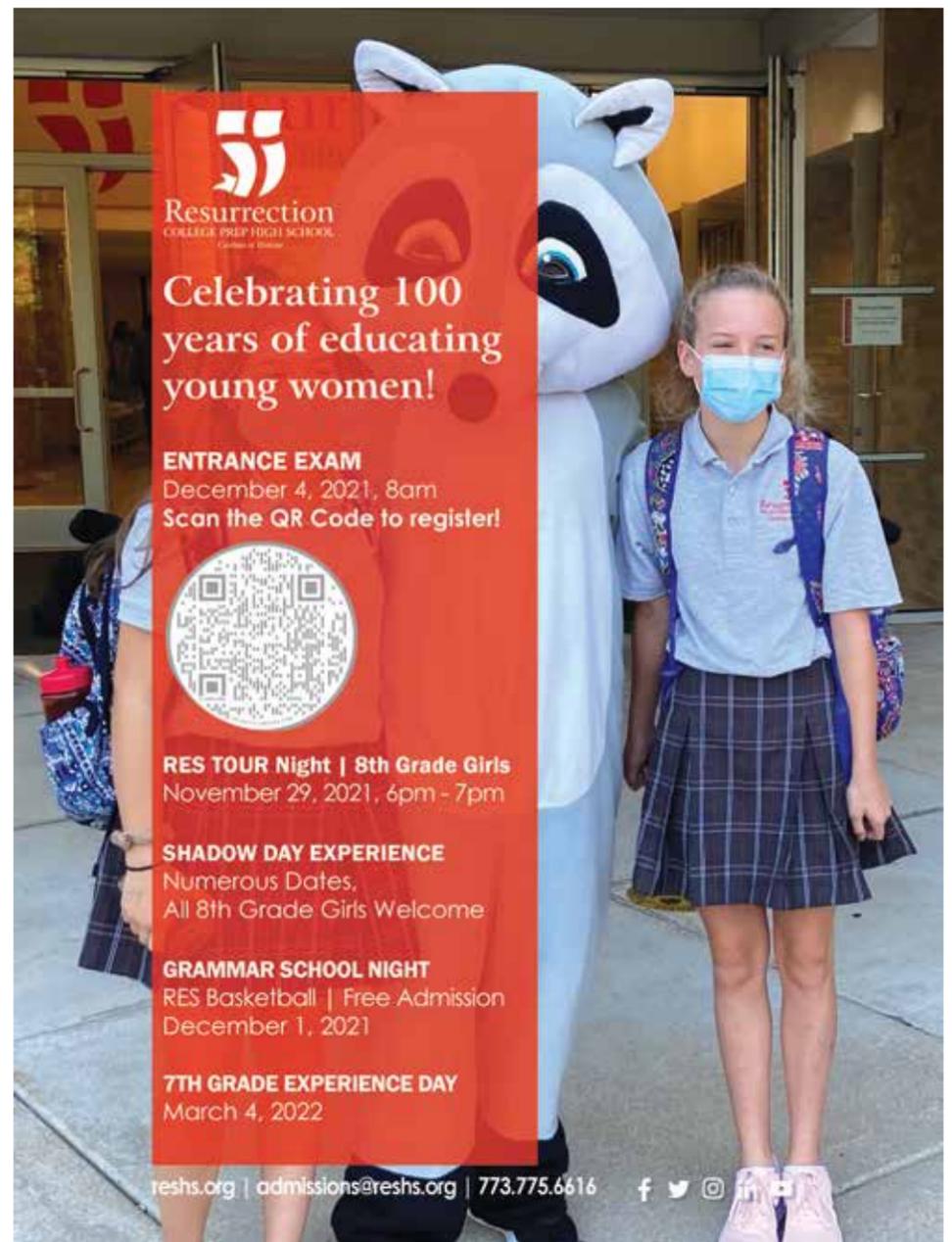
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