

FREE



# STREET LEVEL

FREE



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Issue 5  
December 5, 2008

## ChiliFest Warms Up Winter

Take a break from the holiday bustle and celebrate the shortest day of the year. The Ecology Center's annual Winter Solstice ChiliFest takes place at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, at the Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd. Warm up body and refresh the soul at this family evening, which includes a warm chili dinner (vegetarian option available) and lots of games and crafts that celebrate the solstice. The cost is \$6 per person. Registration is required; call 847-448-8256.

## Carbon Monoxide Testing and Illinois State Law

The Village of Skokie Environmental Health Division provides carbon monoxide testing for Skokie residents and businesses. A sanitarian monitors the carbon monoxide levels in various locations within the house or business. Testing is by appointment only.

Illinois Carbon Monoxide Law states effective as of January 1, 2006, all homeowners and landlords must install carbon monoxide detectors in buildings containing bedrooms and sleeping facilities. All residential units are required to have at least one carbon monoxide alarm in within fifteen feet of every room used for sleeping purposes.

To schedule an appointment for carbon monoxide testing, contact the Health Department at 847/933-8484. Questions regarding the Illinois Carbon Monoxide Law, contact the Skokie Fire Prevention Bureau at 847/982-5340.

## The Skokie Health Department Nutrition Clinic and Lecture

The Village of Skokie Health Department offers a free monthly nutrition clinic for Skokie residents. The session includes height, weight, blood pressure, diabetes screening, hematocrit (testing for anemia) and cholesterol screening. A one-on-one meeting with a licensed dietician follows the physical. Advance registration is required. The next date for the nutrition clinic is Thursday, December 11, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Health Department also offers a monthly nutrition lecture that is free and open to the public. The next nutrition lecture is entitled Scale Down! Eat Right! is scheduled for Thursday, December 11, at 2 p.m. All nutrition clinics and lectures are held at Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street.

To make an appointment or for more information contact the Health Department at 847/933-8252. Visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org) to keep in the know about Skokie.

## FEMA Extends Deadline for Federal Disaster Aid for Cook County

The Federal Emergency Management Agency or FEMA announced that federal disaster aid is available for Cook County residents. This is a result of the September 13 and 14 severe storms and flooding.

If you are a Skokie resident, either homeowner or renter, or a Skokie business you may be eligible for disaster aid and are encourage to apply for assistance. Aid is in the form of individual assistance. Apply at [www.fema.org](http://www.fema.org) or by calling toll-free 1/800-462-FEMA, that is 1/800-462-3362. For the speech and hearing impaired, please call 1/800-462-7585. The toll-free telephone numbers operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

FEMA advises that when you apply for disaster assistance you have the following information available:

- Social Security number
- Daytime Telephone Number
- Current mailing address
- Address of damaged property
- Directions to the damaged home or property; and,
- Private insurance information, if available

The level of assistance will be assessed and determined by FEMA; the most important thing is to apply, through FEMA, and start the process.

FEMA has announced that the deadline to submit applications has been extended. All applications must be received no later than December 16.

For more information please visit [www.fema.org](http://www.fema.org).

## Trees Killed by Invasive Species Are Center of Attention

### Trees Destroyed by Emerald Ash Borer Get Second Chance in Furniture Exhibit

Beginning December 4, 2008 and continuing through the end of February 2009, the Department of Environment's Chicago Center for Green Technology (CCGT) is hosting a traveling exhibition of fine furniture. These pieces have been designed by professional woodworkers from salvaged Ash trees affected by the Emerald Ash Borer, an invasive pest species expected to kill 130 million Ash trees affected in the state of Illinois. This unique exhibit demonstrates what we can do to slow the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer and explores the benefits of harvesting these Ash trees for constructive purposes.

The exhibit is open to the general public and is absolutely free! The Chicago Center for Green Technology is located at 445 North Sacramento Boulevard in Chicago. It is open to the public Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Native to Asia, the Emerald Ash Borer is an exotic beetle that was unknown in North America until June 2002 when it was discovered as the cause for the decline of many ash trees in southeast Michigan and neighboring Windsor, Ontario, Canada. It has since been found in Indiana, Maryland, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and in Illinois.

This exhibit shows that damaged Ash trees can be reclaimed and reused for products such as flooring, cabinetry, and furniture. 47% of wood from urban trees has the potential to be used as lumber. According to the U.S. Forest Service, in the United States over 200 million cubic yards of urban tree and landscape residue are generated every year. Of this amount, 15 percent is classified as "unchipped logs." To put this figure in perspective, if these logs were milled into boards, they would produce 3.8 billion board feet of lumber, or nearly 30 percent of the hardwood lumber produced annually in the United States.

Protecting and preserving natural resources is a high priority. The exhibit will hopefully educate, enlighten and inform about the possibilities that exist to turn a grave situation into an opportunity for economic development and preservation of existing resources. Every damaged Ash tree is a chance for a healthy tree to remain standing. For more information about the exhibit or the Emerald Ash Borer please visit [www.cfdainfo.org](http://www.cfdainfo.org), [www.risingfromashes.org](http://www.risingfromashes.org), [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info), or call the Chicago Center for Green Technology at 312-746-9642.

## Village of Skokie Electronic Newsletter

One of the best methods to keep up to date with current events in the Village of Skokie news is by subscribing to SkokieNews. Subscribers to this electronic newsletter receive monthly information on general topics of interest including information and updates on Village programs, services and special events. Subscribers can opt in or out of the subscription service at any time. To subscribe, visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org) and click on Subscribe to SkokieNews or contact the Village of Skokie to subscribe at 847/933-8257.

## VITA (Volunteers in Teaching Adults) ESL/Literacy/GED Program Oakton Community College

Free Reading/ESL/GED Classes for Adults

Do you need help with your speaking or reading and writing skills in English? Come and learn with a small group. It's a fun way to learn more English. Classes are offered on weekday mornings, afternoons, and evenings and on Saturday mornings in Evanston, Skokie and nearby locations. Call 847-635-1426 for a list of ESL or Literacy classes, or GED classes in Spanish or English offered by Oakton Community College.

Need for VITA Volunteer Tutors

Come and join the Oakton Community College VITA (Volunteers in Teaching Adults) program if you are looking for a meaningful volunteer activity in which you help adults improve their speaking or reading and writing skills in English.

Our next 3-part training session will be held at Oakton in Skokie, 7701 N. Lincoln Ave., Rm. B110, on January 8 and 13, 6:15-10 pm and on Saturday Jan. 31 from 1:30-3:30 pm

Please call 847-635-1426 for more details. Our e-mail address is: [www.oakton.edu/cont\\_ed/vita.html](mailto:www.oakton.edu/cont_ed/vita.html).

# Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center To Open April 19

## Holocaust survivors, IHMEC leadership announce grand opening date and activities; tour facility

*Continued from last issue*

"The Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center will be unlike any other Holocaust memorial," said Richard Hirschhaut, project and executive director for IHMEC. "It will be the first institution in the world to house a permanent Holocaust exhibition, art gallery, youth education center, classrooms, auditorium and temporary exhibition space, all in one freestanding building. Even more exceptional is that these unique elements will be dedicated to supporting education and action around issues of genocide and human rights."

IHMEC interior and exhibit co-designer, Michael Berenbaum, a renowned Holocaust teacher, lecturer and author, as well as former project director of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. and former CEO of the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation, led attendees on a tour of the Museum to describe the gallery space, films and exhibitions that will be showcased in the new building.

Ground floor functions will include a special exhibitions gallery, a Youth Exhibition, classrooms and special events hall. The main floor features an auditorium, the permanent exhibition and library and resource center. Second floor spaces include the Book of Remembrance Hall, which is a memorial to those who were murdered in the Holocaust, the Legacy of Absence Gallery and trustees' boardroom. The third floor is devoted to staff offices.

The IHMEC is dedicated to fighting prejudice by teaching the next generation. It will expand the teaching of the history and universal lessons of the Holocaust throughout the Midwest and empower people to become activists in the fight against unchallenged bigotry.

Beyond a museum, the IHMEC will also serve as an educational center that will teach school children not only about the history of the Holocaust, but equally important, the dangers of overt prejudice and hate. Expected to host 250,000 students each year, the new Museum will reach school children throughout Illinois and across the Midwest. By law, students in Illinois are required to learn about the Holocaust and other genocides; the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center will help fulfill this mandate.

"As a survivor of the Holocaust, I know how critical it is to impart my story and lessons of the past to future generations so we can emphatically and collectively say, 'Never again'," said IHMEC Board President Sam Harris. "I am inspired and awed by the determination and hard work that so many have dedicated to make this museum and education center a reality."

The Museum will house extraordinary artifacts, including Simon Wiesenthal's

desk and eyeglasses, the original volume of the Nuremberg Trial transcripts, Kindertransport lists and artwork made in the concentration camps. An award-winning collection of 250 letters, postcards, postal documents, leaflets and other materials documenting the Nazis' annihilation of those they deemed "undesirable" will be on display at the Museum. Nearly 2,000 testimonies of Midwest Holocaust survivors recorded by the University of Southern California Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education, founded by Steven Spielberg, will be accessible in the Museum's interactive resource center. And, an early 20th Century German rail car of the type used by the Nazis during the Holocaust to transport millions to concentration camps and ultimately, their deaths, will be on permanent exhibit.

To date, the IHMEC has raised \$36.5 million of its \$45 million fundraising goal. Significant contributions have been made by individuals, government, foundations and corporations, including: gifts of \$1 million or more from the J.B. and M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation, Zev and Shifra Karkomi, the Larry and Lillian Goodman Foundation, the Brill Family Foundation, and others. Major contributions under \$1 million have been received from Lifeway Foods and the Smolyansky Family Foundation, the Irving Harris Foundation, the Alvin H. Baum Family Fund and Mr. and Mrs. Joel M. Friedman, Glenview State Bank, Lawrence and Brenda Feis, Michael and Jacqueline Ferro, Bruce and Elizabeth White, and others. The Museum has also received grants from the State of Illinois exceeding \$6 million.

"The outpouring of support we have received from so many has been a testament to the importance of the project," said Pritzker. "We are tremendously grateful to all who have made this project possible."

The Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center is ideally situated in Skokie because of the Village's connection to the Holocaust. After the War, Skokie became an enclave for many survivors and was the location of an attempt by neo-Nazis to march through the community in the late 1970s. A permit was first requested by the Nationalist Socialist Party of America to march in Skokie's Birch Park in Skokie in October 1977 and ultimately led to a hearing before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center is a project of the Holocaust Memorial Foundation of Illinois. Founded by Holocaust survivors more than 25 years ago, the organization is dedicated to teaching about the Holocaust and the dangers of unchallenged hate. The organization has taught school and community groups through a small storefront museum and speakers' bureau since 1981. To learn more, visit [www.ilholocaustmuseum.org](http://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org).

## St. Richard's Episcopal Church

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Pastor, Fran Holliday

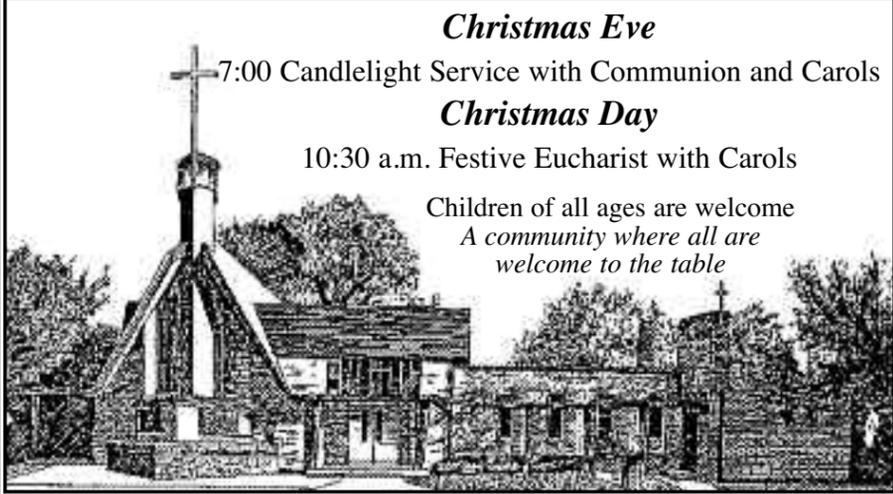
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## City Council Unanimously Accepts the Evanston Climate Action Plan

A year after the development process launched, the Evanston Climate Action Plan was unanimously accepted on November 10 by the Evanston City Council.

Created through a unique collaboration between the City of Evanston and community volunteers, the plan outlines over 200 strategies for reducing Evanston's greenhouse gas emissions. Evanston is the second city in Illinois, after Chicago, to complete a Climate Action Plan.

Officially accepted by the Evanston City Council, the Evanston Climate Action Plan will serve as Evanston's guide to meeting its community greenhouse gas emission reduction target.

Evanston's efforts to reduce its impact on climate change started in October 2006, when the Evanston City Council voted to sign on to the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement. Under the Agreement, participating cities - of which there are now over 800 - commit to meet or beat the Kyoto Protocol target, which is a 7 percent reduction in 1990 greenhouse gas emissions levels by the year 2012.

For more information on the Evanston Climate Action Plan, visit [www.cityofevanston.org/green](http://www.cityofevanston.org/green)

## Village of Skokie Public Arts Advisory Committee Call For Professional Artists

The Village of Skokie Public Arts Advisory Committee (PAAC) is seeking submissions from artists to be included in a database of pre-qualified artists, from which the Village may draw for public art projects and Commissions during the fiscal years 2009 and 2010, a period that runs through April 30, 2010.

Candidates will be identified in a number of media, including but not limited to sculpture, murals and mosaics. Artists can submit work in more than one medium.

Artists who wish to be considered for upcoming public art projects must complete an Artist Application Form, available at the Village's website, [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org). Each pre-qualified artist will be invited to submit a proposal when a project opens in their category.

To complete an Artist Application Form, please visit [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org).

## Skokie TeenLink Program

The Village of Skokie offers the TeenLink program that unites Skokie residents who are in need of outside seasonal yard work, including snow shoveling, with teens who are available for hire to do the work.

The TeenLink program list provides contact information for Skokie teens available to do seasonal yard work. The list includes the name and address of the teen, days available, type of work they are willing to do and their expected rate of pay. Residents can receive the list by mail or email.

The resident is responsible for contacting the teen and for making financial and scheduling arrangements.

If you would like the TeenLink contact list please call the Village Manager's Office at 847/933-8210. Skokie teens can also complete an application to be added to the TeenLink program by contacting the Village Manager's Office or visiting [www.skokie.org](http://www.skokie.org) to download an application.

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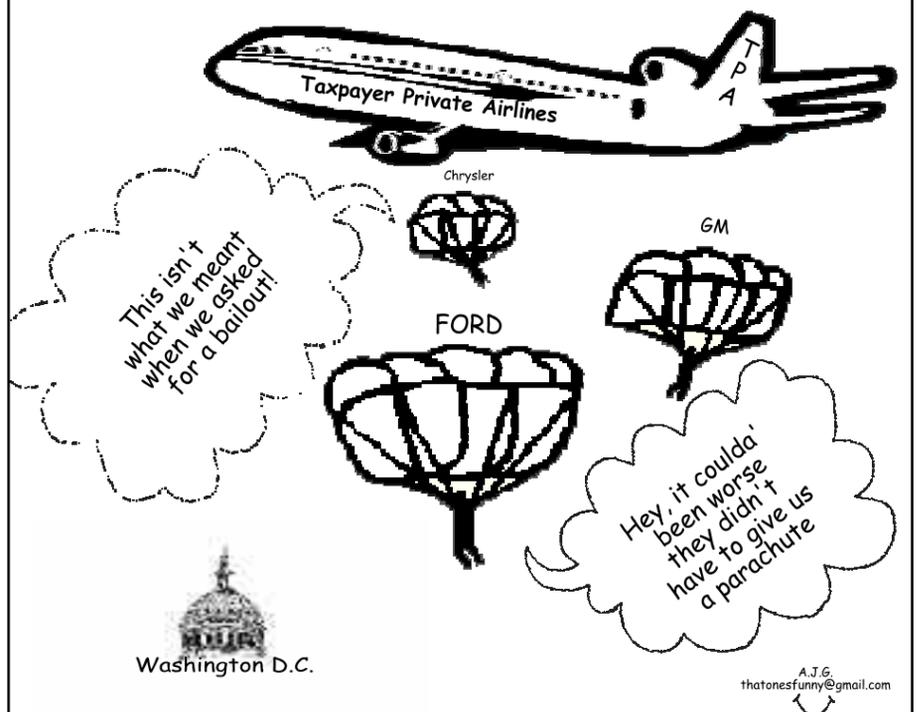
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Ready to certify your wildlife habitat? Get started now!

Contact us at [info@nwf.org](mailto:info@nwf.org), 1-800-822-9919, National Wildlife Federation, 11100 Wildlife Center Drive, Reston VA, 20190.

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## Urban Wildlife Coalition

### Canada Geese

Here in the Midwestern United States, it is now a common sight to see Canada geese, even in dense urban environments. Did you know that as recently as the late 1950s, these birds were thought to be extinct? Here are a few more interesting fowl facts.

Canada geese are attracted to short grasslands, so it is no surprise that they adore manicured lawns and golf courses. Those who wish to deter geese may consider leaving grass at least four inches high; planting tall grasses along shorelines and planting trees.

Overhunting of Canada geese for their meat and feathers led to their near extinction. A small group of the birds was found, and an active breeding program was implemented. The progeny of these "resident" geese tend not to migrate, enduring chilly North American winters.

Canada geese mate for life. At times, a goose will neglect its own need for food and safety to remain with an ailing mate. It is not unusual for a Canada goose live 20 years or more.

These birds have strong family bonds. In fact, when conflicts do arise with humans, it is generally because the animals are trying to protect their young. Geese will try to use the same nesting site year after year.

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



## Coyotes in Evanston

Predators, such as the coyote, serve a valuable function in keeping prey species in balance with their habitat. Populations of small animals, such as rodents, could increase out of control without predators.

Coyotes are opportunistic feeders, meaning they will feed on whatever is most readily available and easy to obtain. Their primary foods include small rodents (especially rats), fruit, berries, rabbits, birds, snakes, frogs, and insects.

They will scavenge on animal remains, including road-kills, as well as garbage and pet food left outdoors. In suburban areas they prey upon unprotected pets, including outdoor house cats and unsupervised domestic small dogs.

Coyotes are naturally afraid of people and their presence alone is not a cause for concern. However if a resident feels that a coyote is acting strangely please do not hesitate to contact Animal Control at (847) 866-5080, and speak with one of the Animal Wardens.

### PREVENTING CONFLICTS WITH COYOTES

Don't let coyotes intimidate you! Don't hesitate to scare or threaten coyotes with loud noises and bright lights. Don't hesitate to pick up small objects, such as a tennis ball, and throw them at the coyote. If a water hose is close at hand, spray the coyote with water in the face. Let the coyote know it is unwelcome in your area.

Secure your garbage! Coyotes will raid open trash materials and compost piles. Secure your garbage in tough plastic containers with tight fitting lids and keep in secure buildings when possible. Take out trash the morning pick up is scheduled, not the previous night. Keep compost piles in containers designed to contain but vent the material.

Don't feed or try to pet coyotes! Keep wild things wild! Feeding, whether direct or indirect, can cause coyotes to act tame and over time may lead to bold behavior. Coyotes that rely on natural food items remain wild and wary of humans.

Keep pets safe! Although free roaming pets are more likely to be killed by automobiles than by wild animals, coyotes do view cats and small dogs as potential food and larger dogs as competition. For the safety of your pets, keep them restrained at all times.

Feed pets indoors! Outdoor feeding attracts many wild animals to your door!

Keep bird feeding areas clean! Use feeders designed to keep seed off the ground as the seed attracts many small mammals that coyotes prey upon. Remove feeders if coyotes are regularly seen around your yard.

Close off crawl spaces under porches and sheds! Coyotes use such areas for resting and raising young.

Cut back brushy edges in your yard! These areas provide cover for coyotes and their prey. Also if you have fruit trees make sure to pick up any fallen fruit off of the ground, and dispose of properly.

Educate your neighbors! Pass this information along since your efforts will be futile if neighbors are providing food or shelter for coyotes.



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# Evanston Public Library

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## Chainmaille in the Loft at Evanston Public Library

Chainmaille workshop returns! From metal rings to fancy bling, come join us in the Loft and make a holiday gift for a friend or family member. Please register: call (847) 448-8625 or stop by the Loft. We have supplies (new rings, sizes and colors!). For middle and high school teens on Friday, December 12th at 4:00PM.

## Lyric Opera Series

Neil Adelman of the Lyric Opera Lecture Corps will discuss Giacomo Puccini's Madama Butterfly on Tuesday, December 16th at 12:00PM. The lecture will be held at the North Branch Library at 2026 Central Street. Call 847-866-0330 for more information.

## Introduction to Email

Do you want to communicate with friends and family via Email? Need an Email account to apply for a job? This class will show you how to set up and use a free Email account through Gmail. If you are not comfortable using a computer, please sign up for our Computer Basics class first. The class is scheduled at 10:00AM in the 3rd floor computer lab at the Main Library at 1703 Orrington Avenue. Call 847-448-8630 for more information.

## Family Films

Kids are invited to uncover clues and discover along with Nancy Drew. Nancy travels to Los Angeles with her father and stumbles upon evidence about the long-unsolved death of a glamorous movie star. Nancy's practical nature and resourcefulness are put to the test when dealing with the self-indulgent, fast-living world of Hollywood. Rated PG; 99 minutes; released in 2007. The movie will be shown in the Barbara Friedberg Storytelling Room in the Children's Department at the Main Library at 1703 Orrington Avenue. The movie starts at 2:00PM on Saturday, December 20th. For more information, call 847-448-8610.

## Teen Advisory Board at the Evanston Public Library

The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meets the third Tuesday of every month from 6-7:30 p.m. in The Loft at the Main Library, 1703 Orrington Avenue.

New members are welcome! Help plan and lead great programs in the Loft. There will be pizza! Anyone in grades 8-12 can come out and help shape the future of the award-winning Loft.

The next date is December 16.

## Teen Nights scheduled

Teens ages 13 through 18 are invited to attend Teen Nights in The Loft at the Evanston Public Library (EPL) 1703 Orrington Ave.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events, which will be held from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 19. As well as games and activities, teens will be offered snacks and free bus rides home.

# Greg Klaiber Named Division Chief for Evanston Fire

Evanston Fire Chief Alan Berkowsky announces the promotion of Fire Captain Greg Klaiber as Division Chief of Life-Safety Services on December 1, 2008.

Division Chief Klaiber will replace Division Chief Hunter who was promoted to Deputy Chief this year. Chief Klaiber duties will include responsibility for managing the Department's Emergency Medical Services and Special Team Operations including water rescue, HazMat and Technical Rescue.

Chief Klaiber joined the Department 23 years ago (in 1985) as a firefighter/paramedic. In 2000, Chief Klaiber was promoted to Fire Captain/Paramedic. In addition to his fire suppression duties as a Captain, he was in charge of the annual hydrant testing program, served as a House Captain for Fire Station #3 and is currently the lead instructor for the Public Safety Program at Evanston Township High School. Greg has also served on the Department's Personal Water Craft Rescue Team which uses wave-runners for surface water rescues.

As an Evanston resident, Chief Klaiber is also very involved in the Community. He is currently a board member for the Frank Govern Golf Course and for the Evanston Baseball and Softball Association. He has also served as a committee member for the Evanston Foreign Fire Tax Board, Early Childhood Collaboration Committee and a coach for the Evanston Speed Skating team. Finally, Chief Klaiber served as a Board Member for Evanston School District 65 from 1999 to 2003. During that period, he was the Finance Committee Chairman from 2001 to 2003.

In 2007, Evanston Fire & Life-Safety Services ran 8,517 calls for service of which 5,030 were for Emergency Medical Services.

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TO 500 PEOPLE.  
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## Beloved Holiday Ballet Takes to the Ice Dec. 12-14

Capture the magic of the holiday season as the Nutcracker on Ice is presented Dec. 12-14 at the Robert Crown Center, 1701 Main St., Evanston. Celebrating its 34th year, this family show has become an Evanston holiday tradition, complete with colorful costumes and exciting special effects. Hundreds of local and competitive skaters of all ages will glide out on the ice to tell the familiar Christmas tale, bringing to life such well-known characters as Clara, Drosselmeyer, the Midnight Mouse and the Nutcracker.

Evanston residents skating solo parts include Richard Alonso, Annie Bennett, Elnora Bracey, Matthew Bracey-Sherman, Madeline Brooks, Emma Caroli, Christelle Chavannes, Blythe Chesney, Vanessa Claude, Emily Cline, Lily Freedman, Angel Giordano, Peggy Giordano, Tina Giordano, Olivia Grenzbach, Theresa Grodsky, Carolina Gwinn, Miara Handler, Emily Hosman, Anna Keeva, Eva Kennedy, Ella Lambert, Justin Lee, Linwan Lewis, Ron Lopez, Hannah Lueptow, Mallory Mancini, Olivia Mitchell, Isabel Reiches, Chelsea Ridley, Earin Ridley, Grace Robertson, Maggie Schermerhorn, Rami Schreder, Ariel Simmons, Paul Simmons, Mathilda Sullivan, Morgan Sweeney, Anatolia Syed, and Zoe Wilson.

Performances of Nutcracker on Ice are at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12; 2:30 & 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13; and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14. General admission tickets are \$8.50; reserved seats are \$9.50. Group discounts are available. For more details, call 847-448-9258.

## Evanston Winter Break Camps Spice Up the Holidays

Whether it's basketball, tennis, chess, art or the great outdoors that captures a child's imagination, parents can probably find it at one of the 11 winter break camps being offered this holiday season by the City of Evanston's Recreation Division. With options that range from drop-in programs to those that meet over one week or two, half-day or full-day, there is a camp to satisfy almost every interest and schedule. Choose from such specialty camps as the Ecology Center's EcoFreeze Camp on winter survival or the Young Artists Program (YAP) for youth age 11-15. There are also camps devoted to specific sports, including Holiday Hoops Camp and Winter Break Indoor Volleyball Camp. Most camps start Monday, Dec. 22. For more information, call 847-866-2900 or go to [www.cityofevanston.org](http://www.cityofevanston.org).

## Christmas Carols of Old England

Take time for some holiday music at 3:00PM on Sunday, December 14th at the Evanston Public Library. Vocal and guitar duo John and Kathryn Atwood will perform a melodious selection of Victorian Christmas music. The program will be held in the community meeting room at the Main Library at 1703 Orrington Avenue.

## Holiday Cookie Decorating for Children

Children are invited to decorate cookies for their family at South Branch on Saturday, December 12th. Decorating starts at 1:00PM. No registration is required. South Branch is located at 949 Chicago Avenue. Call 847-866-0333 for information.

*Ursula and Ben Fromm*  
**AT MOBILE HEARING WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU AND YOURS A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON & THE BEST FOR THE NEW YEAR**

TO HELP YOU HEAR ALL THE SOUNDS OF THE SEASON AND THE CELEBRATION BY THE ONES YOU'RE WITH.... WE INVITE YOU TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR FREE HEARING AID CONSULATION AND OUR NEW EVERYDAY PRICING OF HEARING AIDS .....STARTING AT \$525.00 TO \$3300.00 PER AID

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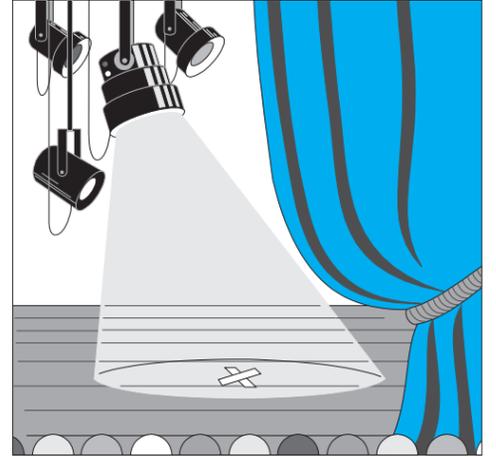
\*\*\*HEARING AIDS CANNOT BE RETURNED FOR REFUND\*\*\*

## Evanston Children's Theatre Holds Auditions Jan. 13-15

The Evanston Children's Theatre will hold auditions Jan. 13-15 for its yet-to-be-announced spring 2009 production. Auditions are open to youth age 8-12. To make the auditions as convenient as possible, three auditions will be held over three days at two different locations: 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13, and Thursday, Jan. 15, at the Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave., Evanston. In addition, auditions will be held 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 14, at the Fleetwood-Jourdain Center, 1655 Foster St., Evanston.

Auditions are free, and no appointments are necessary. Just arrive no later than 5:30 p.m. For youth who are selected for the play, there is a cast fee of \$75. The spring show will be presented March 27-29 at the Levy Center. For more information, call 847-448-8250.

## Fleetwood-Jourdain Theatre Holds Auditions Feb. 5-7



Evanston's Fleetwood-Jourdain Theatre will hold auditions in early February for its summer production of *Once on This Island*. Auditions will be held 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Feb. 5 & 6, and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. Audition appointments are encouraged; call 847-448-8260, ext. 2519.

Actors, dancers and strong singers are being sought for this production. Those wanting to audition should prepare an a capella song of their choice and a one-minute monologue. Rehearsals begin March 1, and the show will be performed June 13-July 26.

Registration is ongoing for Winter/Spring classes at

### North Shore Dance Center

8401 Crawford Avenue  
 Skokie, IL 60076  
 847-674-2216

[www.northshoredancecenter.com](http://www.northshoredancecenter.com)  
 Classes begin January 10th

Take Two Children's Theater presents

### Disney's Cinderella Kids

Auditions are January 14th at the North Shore Dance Center  
 call 847-674-2216 for more info



Come In & Enjoy Our Holiday Decorations!



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Buy tickets online at www.skokietheatre.org

**POP/JAZZ/FOLK**

December 5, Milt Trenier Holiday Concert, 8pm - \$20/\$25  
 A Show Business Icon looks back on his 70 plus year career

December 6-7, "Love Stinks", 8pm Sat. & 2pm Sun. - \$15/\$20  
 The wonderful talent of Charlene Brooks in her great musical show  
 December 12, Bob Acri Octet, Holiday for Swing, 8pm - \$15/\$20

December 13th & 14th: Guitars of Spain, 8pm - \$15 Seniors/\$20  
 advance/\$25 Door Unique combination of sounds and grooves  
 including Flamenco dance

December 19th, "Gettin' Hep' for the Holidays", 8pm - \$20/\$25  
 The lovely Pinups bring back your favorite favorite holiday memories

February 25, Rhapsody In Blue - Adam Marks, 1:30pm - \$15/\$20

February 28, Anne & Mark Burnell present COME RAIN or COME  
 SHINE: the Harol Arlen Songbook, 8pm - \$20 in advance, \$25 at the  
 door.

March 1, Shellie Beeman - Timeless Journey Through the Classics,  
 2pm - \$20/\$25

March 6 - 7, Love in the Key of Ouch! A life of showbiz, a world of  
 breakups Starring Skip Griparis, 8pm - \$20/\$25

**COMEDY**

February 28, March 7,14,21,28 Cirque Da Uno, Magic, juggling,  
 unicycle, balancing, puppetry, ventriloquism, audience participation,  
 physical comedy....all by one guy!!! Jeffery the Great brings his  
 talents, as well as his great sense, of humor to the Skokie Theatre in a  
 world premiere. A show that is sure to amaze and amuse the whole  
 family!! 2pm - \$15 for adults, \$10 for kids 13 and under.

**STAGE**

December 20-21, LATE NIGHT CATECHISM, 8pm & 2pm - \$30  
 You don't have to be a Catholic school alum to enjoy this show

December 27-28 LATE NIGHT CATECHISM, 8pm & 2pm - \$30  
 The Nuns are watching your every move

December 31st New Year's Eve at 8pm LATE NIGHT CATECHISM -  
 \$50 Champagne and Chocolates after the show.

February 6-22 · 8 pm & 2pm HIZZONER - \$35

Showtimes:

- 2/6/09 8pm
- 2/7/09 8pm
- 2/8/09 2pm
- 2/13/09 8pm
- 2/14/09 8pm
- 2/15/09 2pm
- 2/20/09 8pm
- 2/21/09 8pm
- 2/22/09 2pm



**SKOKIE ART GUILD**

**FIGURE DRAWING WORKSHOPS**

THURSDAYS -7:00 PM - 9:45 PM, SATURDAYS 10:00 AM- 1:00PM  
 Devonshire Cultural Center, 4400 Greenwood, Skokie

Live Models/No Instructor. Fees per session:

Skokie Art Guild Members \$10: non-members \$15. For information call:  
 Richard Wilberg 847-677-3461

**Skokie Art Guild Fall Exhibit**

Now Showing at Skokie Library 5215 Oakton St. through November 22  
 Enjoy 35 artists' original works: Paintings, Sculpture and other media

Steve Gal - Bank of Lincolnwood, 4433 W. Touhy Ave., Lincolnwood

Ellen M. Greene - Devonshire Cultural Center, 4400 Greenwood St., Skokie

**Guess Who's Coming to the  
 Skokie Theatre?**

THE PIN-UPS December 2, 2008

Hey all you Hep Cats!

Grab your best dame and come check out The Pin-Ups. Just when we  
 need it the most, The Pin-Ups are bringing their special blend of music and  
 comedy to put a smile on your face and a tune in your ear! Come celebrate  
 the holidays with The Pin-Ups and Mandie and her Manband, join these  
 lovely dolls and their host "Monty" as they weave a tale of 40's inspired  
 songs guaranteed to have you swooning and crooning! Remember why you  
 fell in love with music in the first place with The Pin-Ups.

Playing: 12/19 ~ 8pm ~ Skokie Theatre ~ 7924 N. Lincoln, Skokie  
 60077 ~ res. 847.677.7761~ \$20 presale / \$25 door

About The Pin-Ups: Carrie Bruno, Alison Logan and Cheyenne Pinson  
 are the collective partnership that is The Pin-Ups. They met while  
 performing together in the Chicago cast of Tony n' Tina's Wedding. Since  
 the summer of 2006, The Pin-Ups have been performing all around the  
 Chicagoland area. They function as both a staged production as well as a  
 concert band. Having started at Second City's Donny's Skybox, The Pin-  
 Ups have now moved on to perform at Katerina's, Davenport's, The Skokie  
 Theatre, The Elbo Room, The Heartland Café, as well performing for  
 several high end private events.

Carrie Bruno has been working in the industry professionally for nearly  
 15 years. She has worked both technically and as a performer all over  
 Chicago, IL and Phoenix, AZ. Her technical credits include working with  
 The Phoenix Theatre, Shakespeare on the Green, Redmoon Theatre, About  
 Face, etc... Her individual Chicago performances include performing at  
 Buddy Guy's Legends, Kingston Mines, Smoke Daddy's and B.L.U.E.S..

Cheyenne Pinson has been performing her entire life, and has performed  
 professionally around the country as a singer, actress and trumpet player.  
 She has worked with The Goodman Theatre, Chicago Kid's Company,  
 Dramatis Personae and The Barn Theatre to name a few. She is also a  
 familiar face in commercials and on television, including the upcoming  
 TNT film "Gifted Hands", starring Cuba Gooding Jr..

Alison Logan has been performing since she was 8 years old, and has  
 since received her BFA in Acting from Millikin University. She has worked  
 with such companies as The Moving Dock Theatre, Ludicrous Theatre,  
 Collaboraction, Dramatis Personae, City Lit Theatre, and The Bailiwick.  
 Alison is also a graduate of The Second City Conservatory. She has done  
 numerous voiceovers, print ads, and commercials as well as having been  
 Lili Taylor's stand-in for the film "The Promotion". She can also be seen in  
 the upcoming movie "Chicago Overcoat". "The Pin-Ups present: Getting'  
 Hep For The Holidays"

Cast:

- Carrie "Cherry" Bruno
- Alison "Alice" Logan
- Cheyenne "Charlie" Pinson
- Jeff "Monty" Mauro.
- Band: Mandie Craigie - Piano
- Mike Poupko - Guitar
- Randy Chertkow - Sax (multiple)
- John Blegen - Sax (multiple)/ Clarinet
- Mike Combopiano - Trumpet
- Oakley Stevens - Trumpet
- Bill Kort - Trombone
- Chip Hinshaw - Trombone
- Doug Bistrow - Bass
- Carlos Mendoza - Drums



**Holiday Breakfast at the Levy  
 Center 300 Dodge in Evanston**

Saturday, December 13, 2008

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Join us for the annual Levy Center Holiday Breakfast. Pancakes,  
 sausage, eggs and O.J. will be served. The Evanston Children's Choir  
 will perform at 10am, and there may be a special appearance by "you  
 know who." This event is sponsored by the Levy Center Life  
 Enrichment Committee. Tickets are available for \$5.00. This is for all  
 ages – just make sure you pre-register by Dec 11th. For more  
 information please call the Levy Center at 847/448-8250 or email  
 levycenter@cityofevanston.org.



## The Anti-Cruelty Society

### Holiday Happenings: Show Your Support for the Animals and Have Lots of Fun!

**Chicago Botanic Reindog Parade Saturday, December 6, 11am - 2pm**  
Dogs and their families can compete for great prizes in the costume contest, have their picture taken with Santa, and visit with local pet shops and non-for-profit groups. Hot chocolate and chili warm participants as they await the awards ceremony emceed by local celebrities. We will have a table and sell some holiday items. Chicago Botanic Garden, Rose Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, IL 60022. Call 847.835.5440 for information.

**PetSmart Photos with Santa:** (all dates and locations, 11am-4pm)  
Have a photo of you and your pet taken with Santa by one of our Santa Paws volunteers. \$9.95 (4x6 digital photo) \$5 of the proceeds benefit The Anti-Cruelty Society.

*Saturday, December 6th & Sunday, December 7th, 5485 Touhy Avenue, Skokie, 847.674.4654*

*Saturday, December 13th & Sunday, December 14th, 2832 N. Broadway (between Clark & Diversey), Chicago, 773.549.2393; also 6655 W. Grand Avenue, Chicago, 773.836.7578*

*Saturday, December 20th & Sunday, December 21st, 5485 Touhy Avenue, Skokie, 847.674.4654*

**Barnes & Noble Bookstore Gift Wrapping** (various times and locations)

Our volunteers will be on hand to wrap your purchases for a donation.  
Saturday, December 6th, 11am – 8pm & Sunday, December 7th, 12 Noon – 6pm, 1130 N. State Street, Chicago, 312.280.8155  
Thursday, December 18th & Monday, December 22nd, 10am-10pm, 1441 W. Webster, Chicago, 773.871.3610

**Harris Bank Holiday Bazaar, 111 W. Monroe St, Chicago, 312.461.4009**  
**Tuesday, December 9th & Wednesday, December 10th, 11am – 2pm**

Harris Bank will be reaching out and supporting some of Chicago's valued nonprofits while spreading some holiday cheer to employees, customers and neighbors. We will have booth and some holiday items for sale.

**Howliday Shopping and Sing-along, The Anti-Cruelty Society, Education & Training Center, 169 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, 312.644.8338 Ext 307. Sunday December 14th, Noon - 3pm**

Sing along to holiday carols, shop with your dog for dog and cat toys and treats, holiday cards, and more. Denise Zak, pet intuitive will be doing readings (schedule yours now). Refreshments and cookies will be served.

## Howliday Wishes

My furry friends, do you realize how close the Howliday Season is upon us? It was like yesterday that I was frolicking in the summer sun! Anyway, now comes the time when our noses and toes get cold. But, on the bright side so does that wonderful gift giving season! So, my friends now is the time to get your lists to Santa Paws so you get what you want. Also, don't forget to leave hints for those humans of yours! With the chaos of the Howlidays they sometimes need more than one gentle reminder!

My Howliday Wish Letter is as follows:

Dear Santa Paws,

I have been a very good pup this year. I have played nicely with all the other dogs that my human has cared for. I have not caused any intentional harm to any of the cats I am forced to live with. I have not ruined the new furniture, however I will confess that I do like to cuddle up in it even though I am not suppose too! I have listened to my human, even when I don't know what she is saying. I have been as good as I could be, at least most of the time! (that grabage incident was totally my brother Darwin's fault!) So, in being a good boy I would like the following.

A new how to understand your human book, because an updated version is sorely needed. More so then ever!

A new rawhide bone that is the size of me!

A turkey feast fit for a dog!

A new bed for the cats. That way the can stay off mine!

A new collar with winter colors so I can look great this season!

Sweater or jacket because I know that my human is going to force me into some colorful haircut and I want to be prepared!

Plenty of pawtience with my human and the crazy things she does to me at the howlidays.

Most importantly I want peace on Earth for all of God's Creatures.

(to my furry friends, this is very important to add to your letter. Yes, I would like peace. But, let's face it. Until we dogs take over that is not going to happen. Trust me add this to your letter!)

Love & best Howliday Wishes,

Bosley

To my furry friends, Please feel free to send all wonderful goodies for me to Canine Corral!

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



## Our Move has been postponed!

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## Keeping Your Home Safe for Your Pets during the Holidays

*(continued from last issue)*

Be cautious with any bones provided to your pet. Sharp bones, especially from chicken or turkey, may become lodged in the mouth or throat of your pet. If the bones move further into the digestive tract, there is a risk that the bones could perforate the stomach or intestines. This situation may require surgical removal and if they do not receive veterinary attention, they may die. Provide your pet with commercial chew toys to avoid any potential problems.

Chocolate - Providing a piece of chocolate to a pet may seem like an act of kindness but there is a risk that this treat could have serious consequences. Chocolate may be fatal to your pet, especially dogs, because they are sensitive to theobromine, a compound in chocolate. It may cause vomiting, diarrhea, heart irregularities, muscle tremors, seizures and coma, sometimes with fatal results. Cats are rarely poisoned due to their more 'discriminating' habits. Keep those chocolate goodies out of the reach of your dog. If your dog accidentally eats some chocolate, seek veterinary care immediately.

### The Christmas Tree

Decorations go up once a year and for a brief period of time. Your pets will be very interested in new and unusual objects scattered around the house believing that these are special 'toys' for their own use. Often these playthings end up lodged in the intestinal tract causing a blockage. Many dangers lurk on the Christmas tree. Overzealous dogs or cats have felled numerous wonderfully decorated trees. Support the tree securely with a sturdy stand and wires.

The Tree -There are several factors to consider with the tree. The trunk of a live tree is often coated with chemicals, such as fertilizer or insecticide. When the tree is placed in the stand and watered, the chemicals from the trunk contaminate the water. If your bird, dog or cat drinks it, they may become sick. The needles begin to fall out as the tree ages and dries. The needles are not poisonous but are very sharp, can puncture the skin and produce abscesses. If your pet tries to eat them, the needles can cut the tongue, lips and gums. If swallowed they are relatively undigestible and can actually pierce the lining of the stomach and intestines or cause a blockage.

The branches from artificial trees can be easily pulled out. The artificial needles can be sharp and are always non-digestible. If you pet chews on the branches, they might take in some of the needles. Just like the needles from the live tree, they can cause gastrointestinal problems such as bleeding and blockage.

Lights -The lights pose many dangers. They often get very hot after being on for a while and could burn your pet if they are touched. For some strange reason pets seem attracted to wires and like to chew on them. So keep a watch on your pets for this type of activity and check the lower strings of lights for evidence of chewing. You might want to 'pet proof' the tree by keeping objects, such as lights and ornaments, at heights that your pets cannot reach. If you want lights all over the tree, then string them on the lower branches, but place them away from the tip of the branches. The pets will have a more difficult time reaching them if they are placed on the inner portion of the branches.

Electrical Cords -Electrical cords often seem delectable to many pets, especially cats and young puppies. Chewed cords can cause severe burns and sometimes fatal, electrical shocks. If your pet seems overly interested in electrical cords, string or tape them in a position that is inaccessible to your pet. If that does not work you can cover the cords with hot pepper sauce or use bitter tasting commercial products sold in most pet stores.

Ornaments -Avoid using glass ornaments around pets. They are fragile, break easily and the shattered pieces are sharp. If any of the pieces are swallowed, the glass can puncture the intestines, which could lead to peritonitis and possibly death. Ornament hooks are also very sharp. They can be picked up and swallowed, resulting in gastrointestinal problems such as obstructions and punctures.

*Continued next issue...*

by Peter S. Sakas, DVM

Niles Animal Hospital and Bird Medical Center, 7278 N. Milwaukee, Niles

# "A Theatre Review"

## "Belle Barth" – If I Embarrass You Tell Your Friends Theo Unique Theatre at the No Exit Café 6970 N. Glenwood Ave., Chicago, Illinois

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

"If I Embarrass You Tell Your Friends" is a fun evening of entertainment.

Belle Barth was often billed as a female Lenny Bruce and was banned from "The Ed Sullivan Show" in the 50's for what was considered raunchy humor is really tame compared to the comics of today.

Barth was born Annabelle Saltzman in 1911 and was known for her records that sold millions and appeared in clubs in the Catskills and Florida where she had her own club.

Bethany Thomas is a bright singer and actress who you'll be hearing a lot from as she is a star being born. Courtney Crouse is an actor who is very talented and who plays all the men in her life.

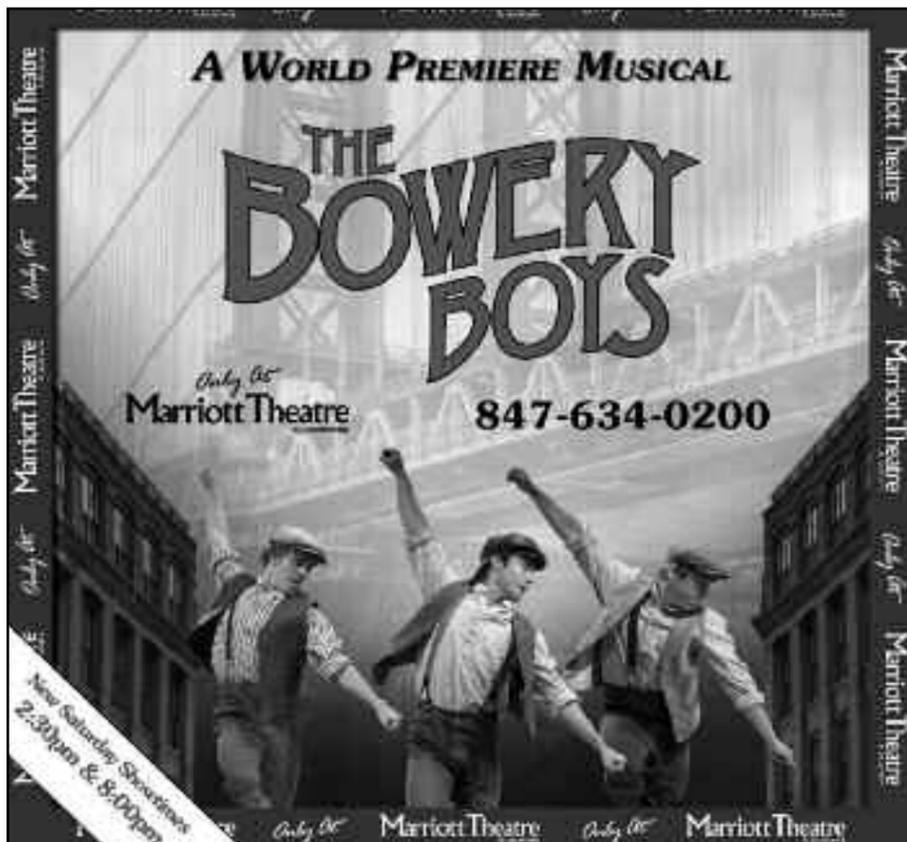
Gerald H. Bailey is the show's musical director and is a talented musician, actor and singer and we look forward to seeing more of him in the future. The other musician in the four person cast is Kevin Brown who is on the Percussion.

The show is from a story by Joanne Koch and Sarah Blacher Cohen. Cohen also wrote the musical based on Yiddish actress Molly Picon.

The book for the show is by talented playwright Joanne Koch and lyrics are by Ilya Levinson and Owen Kalt. The four member cast in this intimate production is being directed by Fred Anzevino, the theatre's artistic director.

Songs I liked and you'll hear are "If I Embarrass You" and Dirty Little Secrets."

"Belle Barth" runs through December 21. For performances, show times and reservations call 773-347-1109. Tickets are \$20.



## "Chekhov's Life in the Country"

Greasy Joan and Company

Greenhouse Theatre Center

2257 N. Lincoln Avenue

Chicago, Illinois

By Richard Allen Eisenhardt

"Chekhov's Life in the Country" is based on the works of Anton Chekhov with translations by Paul Schmidt, Ryan McKittrick and Julia Smeliansky that Greasy Joan and Company is producing. One is based on a short story and the other three are based on three one-act plays. The show runs two hours and fifteen minutes with one intermission.

The show is under the direction of Libby Ford. One playlet is entitled "Lady with a Lapdog," while the other three are "The Proposal," "A Reluctant Tragic Hero," and the remaining one is "The Dangers of Tobacco."

The show takes place in the late 19th century in the Russian countryside. The show is funny yet thought provoking of culture that is relevant to many lives in the 20th and 21st century.

Lapdog features Jason Huysman and Ilana Faust as Dmitry and Anna who we find are unhappily married lovers and who are involved in affairs.

In "The Dangers of Tobacco" we find Matthew Sherbach as Nyukin who might remind you of Danny Kaye's performance in "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," as he plays hen pecked wimp. He is forced by a wife who is a control freak to deliver a lecture about the evils of smoking. When his wife isn't around he takes advantage of her absence in the lecture hall to rally against life's injustices.

"The Proposal" deals with Lomov played by Neal Starbird who is a nerd and who has a girlfriend Natalia played by Kristina Klemetti and comes to propose to his love and this has hilarious results.

Ivan played by Josh Sumner is the reluctant "tragic hero" who faces problems as a family man in the remaining playlet.

All four playlets make for an interesting evening of theatre with some excellent performances by the cast.

"Life in the Country" runs through December 21st. For show dates, times and reservations call 773-404-7386. Tickets are \$25.



## Holiday Shopping Tips

### 10 Tips for Shoppers

1. Check store or gift card policies before purchasing
2. Keep your receipts
3. Be careful of overcharges
4. Be diligent when shopping online
5. Read the fine print of sales ads
6. Keep the packaging and don't open unwanted gifts
7. Check on restocking fees
8. Don't delay returns
9. Research toy purchases for potential recalls
10. Take cautions when choosing where to donate.



### It's the Law!

Stores in Chicago are required to post return and exchange policies in plain view, and to provide customers with a written receipt that includes the store name address, date and purchase price of all items.



City of Chicago  
Richard M. Daley, Mayor

Department of Consumer Services  
Norma I. Reyes, Commissioner

For more information or to file a complaint, please call 311 or visit [www.cityofchicago.org/consumerservices](http://www.cityofchicago.org/consumerservices)

# Planning to Benefit Non-Traditional Beneficiaries



Chester M. Przybylo

Some people have “traditional” beneficiaries. In other words, the people whom they love and whom they choose to benefit in their estate plan are their spouse and children.

However, sometimes, the most important people in someone’s life are other people, like unmarried domestic partners, same-sex married couples (allowed under the laws of several states), nephews and nieces, or friends.

The strategies that work for one may not work for the other, and vice versa.

For example, the unlimited marital deduction, a mainstay in planning for most married couples, is not available for same-sex married couples or unmarried domestic partners. On the other hand, another strategy, the Grantor Retained Interest Trust (GRIT) is not allowed for “members of the family.” Unmarried domestic partners, same-sex spouses, and nephews and nieces are not considered to be “members of the family” under federal tax law.

With a GRIT, you put stock or cash or other property into a trust and retain the right to income for a defined period of time. At the end of the term, the beneficiaries you designated would get the money, or it would continue in trust for their benefit under terms you specified. By doing this, you get to leverage your gift. For example, with an IRS assumed 4.2% interest rate, if a 65 year old were to set up such a trust for 10 years, they would only be making a gift of half of the value put into the trust. So, a gift of \$100,000 to the trust would really only be a gift of roughly \$50,000 and at the end of the 10-year term, the beneficiaries would actually get \$216,000, assuming an 8% rate of return.

This strategy is so powerful and effective that Congress has banned this strategy for “members of the family” (except for use with the family home). However, Congress’ narrow definition of who is a “member of the family” can be used to your advantage.

Whether you have traditional or non-traditional beneficiaries, a qualified estate planning attorney can help you design a plan that provides for the people in your life.

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

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## INVESTMENT IDEAS

### Control Spending and Increase Savings

It’s no secret that personal credit card debt is currently at an all-time high, and it keeps growing every day. And it probably won’t come as a surprise that the personal savings rate in the United States over the past few years has been at levels not seen since the Great Depression. Although some forms of debt may be necessary, allowing your debt to get out of control can rob you of valuable savings opportunities. Reining in credit card and other types of debt will allow you to focus your efforts on establishing and growing your financial nest egg.

As consumers today, we have many alternatives available to us to buy now and pay later. But while those offers may be tempting, we could learn a valuable lesson from previous generations who didn’t have access to some of these things. Saving money first is not only a good idea for avoiding going into debt for larger purchases, it’s also a good habit to get into for our finances in general.

Developing disciplined investment habits isn’t always easy, at least at first, but there are several things you can do to improve your savings routine. One of the easiest ways to establish a systematic savings plan is by taking advantage of the convenience of electronic funds transfer (EFT). You may be familiar with this type of service if you currently receive or make electronic deposits to your bank account. This service is also available from other financial services firms, and paying yourself first by using an EFT system can help you get in the habit of saving.

Direct deposit allows you the opportunity to deposit all or part of your paycheck into the account of your choice, so you could choose to set aside a certain portion of your pay to go directly to a savings account as opposed to your checking account. Another way to take advantage of EFT is to set up an automatic monthly deposit. This is a simple, disciplined way to add to your savings, authorizing a specific amount to be transferred from one of your accounts to another (i.e. from checking to a savings or investment account).

Many times people feel that if they can’t put away a considerable amount of money each month, then a savings program just won’t be worth it. In reality, you can accumulate funds and reach your investment goals by investing even just a modest amount – but the key is to be consistent. If you think such a simple strategy won’t make a significant difference, consider the following example.

Let’s say you decide to save just \$50 per month in your savings plan. After 10 years, you would have saved a total of \$6,000. However, if you had invested that money in a basic account that earned a six percent rate of return\*, the value of your account after 10 years would be more than \$8,000.

As you can tell from this example, saving just a small amount can be rewarding and get your finances on the right track. Avoiding debt in all forms may be a difficult proposition, but if you can keep it to a minimum and focus your efforts on simple savings strategies, your financial situation will be in better shape for it.

\*This illustration is hypothetical, and the return is not representative of any specific product or service.

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

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

# Evanston Snow Parking Regulations in Effect Dec. 1

Evanston community members are reminded that snow parking regulations take effect December 1 and last through March 31, 2009.

Community members are asked to anticipate Snow Route Parking Bans and Snow Emergencies and call the snow hotline, (847) 864-SNOW, to find out how to park their cars accordingly.

If snow is anticipated, community members should not park on the Snow Routes at night, and they should park on the proper sides of residential streets between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

Community members should clear their sidewalks of snow and ice and clear parking lots and driveways for which they are responsible without pushing snow into adjacent streets, alleys or sidewalks.

Several information outlets can be used to verify Evanston's snow situation: the information hotline, 847-864-SNOW; cable channel 16; the city's web site [www.cityofevanston.org](http://www.cityofevanston.org); and the city's radio station WPXZ-497 AM Radio 1650.

Community members can also receive snow alerts right to their email addresses by signing up for the City of Evanston E-News, [www.cityofevanston.org/newsletter](http://www.cityofevanston.org/newsletter).

For more information on the city's snow regulations, contact Streets and Sanitation, (847) 866-2940.

Snow Route Parking Bans may be declared after two-inch snowfalls. Main thoroughfares in Evanston are designated as Snow Routes and are cleared first.

Permanent red, white and blue signs are posted to indicate that parking is illegal on these streets between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. after the accumulation of at least two inches of snow.

Sirens will sound at 8:15 p.m. on nights when Snow Route Parking Bans are in effect.

Even if plows have been through, snow removal operations may require return visits by city trucks.

The fines for violating Snow Route Parking Bans are \$50 plus towing and storage charges. Snow route parking bans can be in effect for one night or more, depending on the snowfall.

Community members who move their cars to nearby side streets should follow the snow clearing regulations for those side streets.

After an accumulation of four inches or more, a Snow Emergency may be declared. The city's emergency sirens will sound at 7:15 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. on Snow Emergency days.

Snow Emergencies apply to streets with parking on both sides which are not posted as Snow Routes and are plowed over a two-day period; however, Snow Emergencies may be extended if conditions require it.

During a Snow Emergency, community members should NOT park on even-numbered sides of the streets on even days between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Additionally, community members should NOT park on odd sides of the streets on odd-numbered days between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Permanent signs indicating alternate side parking rules are found on every block that is affected.

Cars parked illegally are subject to ticketing and towing. If towed, cars will be returned to the vicinities from which they were towed.

For vehicles that are towed, the fine is \$100; tickets for snow emergencies are currently \$25 and are scheduled to increase to \$35 effective January 1, 2009.

Most streets with parking on one side have permanent "ODD date" or "EVEN date" signs. This allows the streets to be plowed during snow emergencies.

Community members are reminded that Snow Route Parking Bans and Snow Emergencies can occur consecutively.

## Village Cooking Corner

### Hot Cranberry Wassail

- 2 1/2 quarts cranberry juice
- 1 quart grape juice
- 2 cups sugar
- 4 teaspoons ginger
- 3-5 ounce cans frozen orange juice
- 4 quarts boiling water

Pour boiling water over other ingredients. Heat to boiling point. Serve HOT

Quantity: 2 gallons. 60 to 70 punch cup servings

*Mrs. Charles Porter*

## Skokie Alternate Side Parking

The Alternate Side Parking Program is in effect from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week, after any snowfall of 2" inches or more. The program stays in effect for at least two days. To check if the program is in effect, call 847/675-SNOW (7669) or listen to 1660 AM Skokie.

After 2 inches of snow or greater on even days of the month all vehicles must be moved to the side of the street with even-numbered addresses. On odd days of the month all vehicles must be moved to the side of the street with odd-numbered addresses.

Residents will be informed that the program is in effect by an "alert" warning siren that will sound at the start of the alternate side parking or at 7 a.m. each day the plan is in effect. The siren will sound again at 6 p.m., after which residents may move their vehicles to the opposite side of the street.

Tune into the newly launched 1660 AM Skokie radio station for updates regarding alternate side parking. The primary use of AM 1660 Skokie is to inform the public of emergency conditions in the area and how to respond to them.

Cable television subscribers will be alerted to the start of the Alternate Side Parking Program through the Village emergency override system at 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and to the end of the program at 6 p.m.

## St. Peter School News

On Nov. 24, St. Peter's Parent-Teacher Organization sponsored a successful "Graziano's Night." Graziano's Restaurant in Niles generously agreed to donate 25% of sales from St. Peter's patrons to the school's educational fund.

St. Peter School is honored to be the recipient of the "Patricia H. Glunz Memorial Fund." Scholarship money contributed to this fund by the Glunz family will be used to lessen the financial burden on a deserving family whose children attend St. Peter School.

Parent/Teacher conferences took place on Nov. 25. Parents and guardians of St. Peter School children met individually with their children's teachers and school administrators to discuss student academic success and goals for the next grading period.

After all masses on Sunday, Dec. 7, St. Peter will have its annual Pancake Breakfast and Cookie Walk in the school auditorium. All are invited to savor the flavor and frolic in the fun. To get into the holiday spirit, there will even be an chance to take a picture with St. Nick.

All parish chefs are being called to provide recipes for a new and improved St. Peter Parish Cookbook. All types of recipes are welcome. Parishioners and St. Peter families are asked to submit their recipes no later than Jan. 15. For more information please see the St. Peter Web site ([www.stpeter-skokie.net](http://www.stpeter-skokie.net)).

In a letter from Adam Kwiecinski of Evanston American Legion Post 42, St. Peter students were thanked for their letters in November to hospitalized veterans in appreciation of their service to our country and in observance of Veterans' Day. The letters were distributed to veterans brought to the American Legion Hall in Evanston and to patients in the North Shore VA hospital wards.

*Submitted by John Haben, Haben Funeral Homes*

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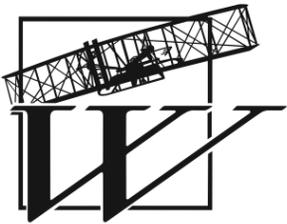
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