



OUR VILLAGE



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P.O. Box 31391, Chicago, IL 60631 Issue 22
November 18, 2015

Happy Thanksgiving
from the Staff of Village Publications
See Page 6 For A Thanksgiving Prayer



Mayor Emanuel On Paris Terrorist Attacks

“Tonight the City of Chicago stands shoulder to shoulder with the City of Paris in the wake of today’s despicable and horrifying attacks. For nearly 20 years Chicago and Paris have been sister cities, united by a free and rich exchange of culture. I speak for all Chicago when I say that we are saddened and sickened by what has taken place tonight and our thoughts and prayers remain with the victims, their families, and with all of the French people.”

TOYS FOR TOTS
Mike's Barber Shop accepting donations
of new, unwrapped toys until December 23
773-775-2771 • 6680 Northwest Highway, Chicago

Toys For Tots

Friday, Dec. 4, 11:30-1:30pm — Monastero's, 3935 Devon Ave.

Please, join the Lincolnwood Chamber of Commerce at Monastero's 3935 W. Devon for our Annual Toys for Tots Luncheon! Bring new and unwrapped toys for needy kids. Help make this Holiday special for some little ones! A representative from the U.S. Marine Corps will also be in attendance.

Fees: \$35 members/\$40 for non-members.

Register online at www.lincolnwoodchamber.org.

Area Christmas Tree Lighting Celebrations

CHICAGO— 102nd Annual Chicago Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Tuesday, November 24, at 5:30pm, Millennium Park, near Michigan Ave. and Washington St.

EVANSTON— Kick off the holiday season with Downtown Evanston at the annual Holiday Tree Lighting on Friday, November 20 in Fountain Square, located at Sherman Ave. and Davis St.

LINCOLN SQUARE— Giddings Plaza, Nov. 28, 2015, 11 am - 7 pm.

(See Page 7 For More Information)

Santa Claus in Millennium Park

Santa's Midwest headquarters will open to children of all ages. They can inquire whether they have made his "nice" list, make gift requests and take photos. There is no charge to visit Santa, but you must take your own photos with your camera or smartphone.

Special visits with Santa Claus begin on Tuesday, November 24, immediately following the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony until 8 pm and on Thanksgiving Day from noon to 3 pm.

Santa's regular hours are Saturdays and Sundays from November 28 to December 20, noon – 6pm. He will also join the crowd before Caroling at Cloud Gate each Friday evening, November 27 – December 18, 5-6pm, before the music starts.

Location: Millennium Park Welcome Center, 201 E. Randolph St., Chicago, IL 60602. Admission: FREE



The Resurrection Theatre presents



at Resurrection College Prep's Little Theatre
7500 W. Talcott Avenue, Chicago
Friday & Saturday
November 20 & 21, 2015 at 7:00 pm
and Sunday
November 22, 2015 at 3:00 pm
Tickets \$8.00
Call 773.775.6616 Ext 110 for details.

Holiday Shop 'n Spa

Resurrection Parents Club Fundraiser

Shopping, Raffles, Refreshments

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015

6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

Resurrection College Prep, 7500 W. Talcott

Bring Your Friends & Family

Jingle and mingle with family and friends as you purchase your last-minute Christmas gifts! Shop from a variety of vendors and the Bandit Boutique. Pamper yourself with products from our health and beauty vendors.

Free Admission

Christkindlmarket Chicago

AND at Oakbrook Center!



Daley Plaza; 50 W Washington Street
Open Daily Nov. 20 - Dec. 24

Oakbrook Center; Oak Brook, IL
Thursday through Sunday Nov. 27 - Dec. 24





Community First Medical Center Dec. Health Events For Area Residents

Community First Medical Center, 5645 West Addison Street, Chicago, will offer the following health events in December. Call our toll free number, 1-844-236-CFMC, (1-844-236-2362) to register for an event.

The Diabetes Support Group will meet Tuesday, December 1, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. This free support group aims to provide mutual support and education. For information call 773-794-8329.

A cholesterol screening will be held on Wednesday, December 9, from 7:00-9:00 a.m. A 12-hour fast is required for this blood draw that will test for total cholesterol, triglycerides, HDL and LDL. Test results will be mailed. Advance registration is required by calling 1-844-236-CFMC, (1-844-236-2362). There is a \$10 fee payable in cash or check at the screening.

Free blood pressure screenings will be offered Friday, December 11, from 9:00-10:00 a.m., in the hospital's main lobby. A health care professional will perform screenings and answer questions about blood pressure readings. Registration is not required.

A free Healthy Aging Program will be held Friday, December 11, from 1:00-2:30 p.m. This program is for individuals aged 55 and older and consists of social time, health topics and guests lectures. Come for fun and games for the annual Holiday party. Registration is not required.

The Arthritis Support Group will meet Thursday, December 17, from 1:00-2:30 p.m. This session is free. Registration is not required.

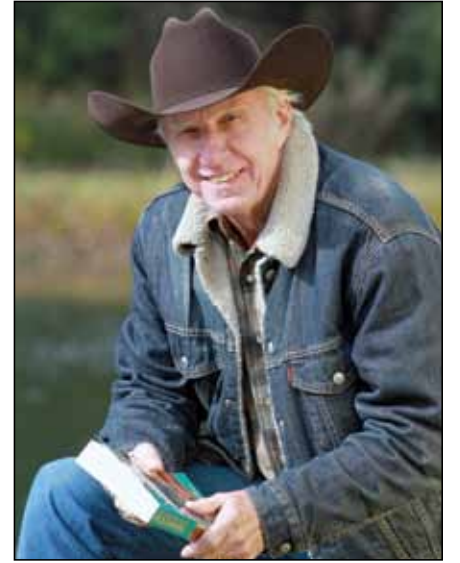
Chicago Author Stan "Tex" Banash To Discuss *Roadside History Of Illinois* Before Sauganash Women's Club On Dec. 1

Award-winning Chicago author Stan "Tex" Banash will discuss his third book, *Roadside History of Illinois*, at the monthly meeting of the Sauganash Women's Club, at Noon, on Dec. 1, in the Sauganash Park District Fieldhouse, 5861 N. Kostner Ave. in Chicago.

Banash will take the audience through the state's seven regions, point out a number of significant happenings about Illinois history that shaped the state and describe some of his research. The book itself begins with the Ice Age and carries readers to the present along old U.S. highways, state roadways and county roads, leading to the people, places and events that contributed to the state's development. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and inscription following the talk.

In May 2014, the Illinois House of Representatives recognized the book's importance to Illinois history by passing a House Resolution that congratulated the author on its publication. Most recently, the book received a 2015 Superior Achievement Award from the Illinois State Historical Society at its Annual Awards Program in the Old State Capitol in Springfield. The judges' comment read: "A straight-forward, well-written and informative travel book that includes many helpful extras—a history timeline, interesting factoids, a complete index, and an extensive bibliography. This is the most indispensable history book, reference book, and travel guide I have come across in Illinois. I want to have this book with me whenever I explore the Prairie State."

Active in his local community, Banash is a six-term past president of a local chamber of commerce and chaired a local zoning advisory board for 19 years. He also operated his own home-based public relations firm for more than 30 years. The author graduated from Northwestern University with a Bachelor of Philosophy degree in Political Science and obtained a Master of Arts degree in Urban Studies from Roosevelt University. His two earlier books were *Best of Dee Brown's West* and *Dee Brown's Civil War Anthology*. He also reviews books for a number of western publications, and is a member of American Legion Edison Park Post 541, Western Writers of America, the Society of Midland Authors, Illinois State Historical Society, Western History Association, and the Westerners—Chicago Corral, where he served as its sheriff for five years.



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

Happy Thanksgiving From All Of Us To All Of You!



Community First Medical Center
5645 W. Addison Street | Chicago IL 60634
1-773-282-7000 | www.cfmedicalcenter.com

*Join Our
Community!*

**Call our
toll free number
to find a physician
or register
for an event.**

**1-844-236-CFMC
(1-844-236-2362) toll free**



We're Hiring! Go To Our Website www.cfmedicalcenter.com for Career Opportunities

The 19TH Annual Edison Park Turkey Trot 5K Fun Run/Walk Returns Thanksgiving Day, Benefits Cancer Support Charity Imerman Angels

The 19th annual Edison Park Turkey Trot 5K Fun Run/Walk and kids' Gobble Gallop returns to Chicago on Thanksgiving, November 26, from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. at the Edison Park Field House (6755 N. Northwest Hwy). Packet pickup begins that morning at 8 a.m. This year's run will benefit Imerman Angels, a non-profit with a mission to provide personalized matches that enable 1-on-1 support among cancer fighters, survivors and caregivers.

The Edison Park Turkey Trot is one of the longest running and most popular runs in the Chicago area. More than 5,000 walkers and runners are expected to take part in this year's race in Chicago's historic, northwest neighborhood of Edison Park. It is one of the few turkey trots in the area where proceeds go directly to charity. Since its inception, the Edison Park Turkey Trot has donated almost a million dollars to various charities.

The race winds its way through the tree-lined streets of Edison Park, ending at the Edison Park Fieldhouse where the race also begins. Each participant will receive a Turkey Trot t-shirt. Registration for the Edison Park Turkey Trot 5K Fun Run/Walk is \$20 online; and \$25 for in-person or on race day.

Gobble Gallop
The Gobble Gallop is available for young children ages 3-12 and will take place before the Turkey Trot 5K Fun Run/Walk beginning at 8:20 a.m. Everyone is a winner in the Gobble Gallop and all participants receive a t-shirt, finisher's medal and a race bag (race bags are provided to pre-registrants only). Registration for the Gobble Gallop is \$12 per child online; and \$15 for in-person or on race day.

Packet Pickup & In-Person Registration
Online registration for the Turkey Trot 5K Fun Run/Walk and Gobble Gallop is open until Sunday, November 22 at 11:59 p.m. at www.epturkeytrot.com. Registration forms can be downloaded online and submitted in-person on any of the packet pickup dates. Registrations forms sent by mail must be sent to 7280 W. Devon Ave and received no later than November 20.

Racer packets can be picked up on Saturday, November 21 from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. and Sunday, November 22 from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. at Fleet Feet Sports (4762 N. Lincoln Ave); Monday, November 23 from 4-8 p.m. at Emerald Aisle (6686 N. Northwest Hwy); or the morning of race at the Edison Park Field House

from 8-9 a.m.
Race day registration t-shirts will be given on a first come, first serve basis for both adult and children participants. Note: Participants who register online after Thursday, November 19 at 11:59 p.m. will not be eligible to pick up their packet at Fleet Feet Sports on November 21 or 22.

Event sponsors include A-Trendz Auto & Truck Accessory, Acierno Family Dentistry, AT&T, Chicago Park District, Committee to Elect Judge Eve Marie Reilly for Judge, Cook & Kocher Insurance Group, Inc., Edison Park Lutheran Church, Emerald Isle, Edison Park Inn, Firewater Saloon, First Nations Bank, Fleet Feet, Friends for Anthony Napolitano, JCB Electric, Joseph Mullarkey Distributors, Lifetime Treasures Photography, Marino Chrysler Jeep Dodge, Michael Malatesta for Judge, Presence Health, Sir Speedy, Suerth Funeral Home, Unforgettable Edibles, Guaranteed Rate-Dan Werdell, and Century 21-Mary Beth Balcarcel.

For more information, to register, donate, or to sponsor a runner, please visit the event website at www.epturkeytrot.com. Or, call the event hotline at (773) 792-9005.

Foster-Harlem Comm. Meeting

Foster Harlem Property Owners Meeting:
Thursday, November 19, 7:00 PM

St. Monica's Beyenka Hall, 5105 North Mont Clare Avenue (Mont Clare and Carmen)

Guest Speakers:

Anthony Napolitano, Alderman City of Chicago, 41st Ward
The newly-elected 41st Ward Alderman will outline his plan for the next four years.

Alice Morales, State of Illinois, Office of the Treasurer's ICash Program
Find out if you have any money that is owed to you.
All Community Residents are welcome!

Dynamic Duo Of "Jeff And Janis" To Sing At EHNTJC Friday Night Service

The dynamic singing team, "Jeff and Janis" will lead the Friday night service, "Friday Night Live," November 20, starting at 8:00 p.m., at Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 W. Dempster, Skokie.

"Our Friday night service is wonderful," says Rabbi Jeffrey Weill, spiritual leader of the synagogue. "It is a music-filled evening that is spiritual and enjoyable for everyone. Jeff and Janis will provide an exceptional addition to this popular evening service."

Jeff Winter and Janis Fine use guitar, warm vocal harmonies, autoharp, harmonica, and percussion instruments to bring a fresh interpretation to traditional and contemporary songs alike. Jeff and Janis are both professors of education in the Chicago area. For further information, please call synagogue office at 847-675-4141.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Chicago Housing Authority Announce 450 Additional Housing Choice Vouchers For U.S. Veterans

Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Chicago Housing Authority Acting Chief Executive Officer Eugene Jones, Jr. today announced the plan for an additional 450 Housing Choice Vouchers for U.S. Veterans, one more step in the fight to end veteran homelessness in Chicago.

Through the Mayor's initiative, the CHA will provide up to 150 vouchers per year, through 2018, to house veterans enrolled in Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF), a program funded by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs (VA).

Currently, CHA has 1,053 Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers. In addition, CHA supports 253 homeless veterans through its Property Rental Assistance program, which includes six properties and four developers that provide services.

In 2014, the City of Chicago and the Chicago Continuum of Care committed to ending veterans homelessness in Chicago. CHA is a proud partner in this effort.

The SSVF program is administered through various local non-profit organizations to provide supportive services for low-income veteran families residing in or transitioning to permanent housing. These services are designed to increase the housing stability of veteran families who are at-risk of or experiencing homelessness.

The CHA Board of Commissioners will vote on the additional vouchers at its monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 17.

Greetings from The Anti-Cruelty Society November 2015

Kids Who Care

The Anti-Cruelty Society's Kids Who Care Program offers families an opportunity to engage in our work while providing valuable education to kids and adults alike! Whether by making a toy for a dog, reading to a cat, or preparing snacks for one of our small mammals, your family will have the chance to make a direct impact on the life of a shelter pet. The program is open to families with children ages 2-10 and takes place on the first Saturday of each month from 10-11:30 a.m. Visit our website at www.anticruelty.org for more information.



7TH & 8TH Grade Girls Invited Young Women's



Math Olympics

Resurrection College Prep High School
7500 W. Talcott Ave., Chicago, IL 60631

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2015

Check-in: 9:00am

Contest Begins: 9:30am

Awards Presentation: 12:00pm

Individual Contests

Prizes will be awarded to the top 3

7th & 8th grade girls

in Algebra & Geometry

Register on-line by Nov 19:

www.reshs.org



First Illinois Medical Marijuana Dispensaries To Open Across The State Monday

Department of Health approves over a dozen long-awaited dispensaries to open this month; licensed and regulated businesses begin providing medical marijuana to patients with serious illnesses

Illinois' first medical marijuana dispensaries have been approved to open across the state, with five expected to open Monday, including locations in Addison, Canton, Marion, Mundelein, and Quincy. So far, a total of eight are approved by the Illinois Department of Public Health with seven more dispensaries expected to open later this month, bringing the total number of medical marijuana dispensaries operating in Illinois to fifteen. In order to be protected under state law, Illinois patients must obtain their medical marijuana from one of these licensed dispensaries.

"This is a great day for suffering patients who have been waiting to have access to this medicine," said Chris Lindsey, a legislative analyst for the Marijuana Policy Project. "We are grateful they will no longer have to put themselves at risk by purchasing it in an underground market." Under the Illinois Medical Cannabis Pilot Program (MCP), patients must register and select one designated dispensary as their source of medicine. According to the Department of Public Health, 3,300 patients have registered for the medical cannabis identification cards. "The dispensary openings mark the most signifi-

cant milestone since the pilot program began nearly two and half years ago," said Chris Lindsey. "A limited number of patients with certain conditions will now be able to legally access medical marijuana. We hope the state can see that a program like this works and we can finally relieve the suffering of Illinois' most vulnerable citizens."

Illinois is one of 23 states in the nation (in addition to the District of Columbia) to adopt a law allowing people with serious illnesses to use medical marijuana if their doctors recommend it.

Statement From Mayor Emanuel On S.C. Johnson's Announcement To Move New Jobs To Chicago

"Today's announcement by S.C. Johnson is a vote of confidence in the City of Chicago. They are joining global corporations like Motorola Solutions, ConAgra Foods, Kraft Heinz and Oscar Mayer who have recently made the decision to grow and create jobs in Chicago. From our talent to our transportation, S.C. Johnson sees the same fundamental strengths that so many other companies see in Chicago, which is why they are making this long-term investment here. I look forward to watching them continue to grow and create jobs in the City of Chicago."

Background:

- S.C. Johnson has announced that they are moving approximately 175 jobs to a new office in Chicago over the next 12-24 months.
- The company is headquartered in Racine, Wisconsin and currently does not have any permanent employees in Chicago.
- The new jobs are primarily marketing and sales related positions.
- The office space has not been selected yet.

Volunteers Wanted: Help Us Launch Our New Wellness Programming!

Do you have a passion for staying mentally, spiritually and physically fit? Do you know that sharing your passion by volunteering also improves personal wellness? norVOLution, Norwood Life Society's volunteer program has launched NorWell, a new series of initiatives, and is seeking individuals who want to enhance the lives of seniors through a variety of wellness sessions. There are opportunities for volunteers to facilitate short sessions for the mind, body and soul, including computer-based brain training, yoga, stretching and movement activities, aromatherapy, meditation and reflection, logic and brain games, cultural immersion, trivia, poetry, short story discussions, and much more. Volunteer facilitators are asked to share only one or two hours per week.

"The purpose of the initiatives is to raise the whole person wellness of residents, while enriching the lives of senior volunteers through delivery of impactful volunteerism," said Kate Roche, Director of norVOLution. NorWell programming will take place in one of Norwood Crossing's most attractive and lively areas and home to the Brain Fitness lab, Healthy Harvest Café, the Library, and Meditation Room, all at Norwood Crossing, 6016-20 N. Nina Ave. in Chicago.

Here's how the program works. Brain Fitness volunteers assist residents to boost their cognitive skills through a planned curriculum that improves memory, attention to detail, sequencing skills, and visual and audio processing in the morning, or puzzles and games in the afternoon. Meditation Room facilitators work on yoga, stretching and movement activities in the morning, and meditation, aromatherapy and mindfulness in the afternoon. Library facilitators lead discussions about books, short stories, old time radio, and current events. The series of sessions offers many choices to residents.

Studies have shown that wellness has resulted in elderly people increasing cognitive functioning, boosting mobility and enhancing quality of life, while decreasing use of medication, anxiety, depression, and hospital visits.

Aside from personal satisfaction, volunteer facilitators also receive a 25 percent discount on purchases at the Norwood Life Society Thrift Shop, free lunch in the employee lounge on the day of volunteering and one year membership in the Norwood Seniors Network.

"This is a great way to give back," said Roche. "Share the passion inside you with others who are eager to absorb your enthusiasm and learn new interests."

For more information, call Lupe Arceo de Carpintero, Wellness Program Lead, who is overseeing the program, at (773) 577-5334. To volunteer, call Kate Roche, norVOLution director, at (773) 577-5329.

ICYMI: Rauner OKs Distributing Lottery, Fuel-Tax Money

The following is an excerpt of a story written by the Associated Press:

Gov. Bruce Rauner is compromising over the state's budget mess, indicating he's OK with Democrats' legislation to disburse tax dollars already collected to local governments and lottery winners.

A memo Tuesday from a Rauner staffer to lawmakers says the Republican now supports the legislation and even suggested adding money, such as for road salt with winter around the corner.

Rauner says his new support builds on Monday's compromise in three areas including state-subsidized child care.

Edison Park Post 541 of the American Legion



We are forming a Sons of the American Legion Squadron.

The requirement for becoming a member are:

All male descendants, adopted sons and stepsons of members of The American Legion and such males descendants of veterans who died in service during WWI - WWII - Korean War - the Vietnam War - Lebanon Grenada - Panama and the Persian Gulf War, during the delimiting periods set forth in Article 1 of the National Constitution of the The American Legion or who died subsequent to their Honorable Discharge form such Service shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of the American Legion.

Please visit our website at <http://amerlegion541.wix.com/americanlegion541>

Phone For Legal Advice At No Cost

The Chicago Bar Association (CBA) Lawyer Referral Service hosts Call-A-Lawyer on the third Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Volunteer attorneys will give free legal advice over the phone to Chicagoland residents who call (312) 554-2001.

Attorneys will be available to answer general questions on a variety of legal issues including (but not limited to) bankruptcy, domestic relations, immigration, personal injury and Social Security. Callers can explain their situations to attorneys who will suggest self-help strategies to resolve their legal issues. If callers need further legal services, they will be advised to see their attorney or to contact the CBA Lawyer Referral Service.

The CBA Lawyer Referral Service is one of few bar associations in the country to meet the American Bar Association Standards for lawyer referral and approved to use its logo and slogan, "The Right Call for the Right Lawyer™." For referral to an experienced attorney, the public can contact the CBA Lawyer Referral Service at 312-554-2001 during business hours or through the Web site at www.chicagobar.org.

Lincolnwood Business Breakfast Connections

**Critical Factors for Sales Excellence
Lincolnwood Club House, 4170 Morse
Friday, November 20; 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.**

Never settle for less than your best. Poor performance can be corrected and good performance can be transformed into great results. Guest speak, Randy Gangaloo, Sandler Training will help you with some of the challenges below.

Do you find that you . . .

- Have self-limiting patterns that you just can't break out of?
- Struggle to hold margin in negotiations with prospects
- Become too willing to consider lowering prices instead of selling value?
- Need technical help in moving the sale forward?
- Spend too much time with non-decision makers?
- Leave valuable information with prospects only to find they won't make any decisions?
- Follow inconsistent methodologies to get new clients - and get inconsistent sales results?
- Learn to challenge the business environment and keep sales efforts organized and growing.

Fees: No charge for members, \$5 for guests of members, \$10 non-members and walk-ins

Register Online at www.lincolnwoodchamber.org.

OUR VILLAGE & STREET LEVEL

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Young Women's Writing Fest Winner At Resurrection College Prep High School

The English Department of Resurrection College Prep High School hosted its annual Young Women's Writing Festival on October 21, 2015. Fourteen area grammar schools participated in the writing competition, including the following: Beaubien Elementary, Dever Elementary, Farnsworth Elementary, Immaculate Conception School, Mary, Seat of Wisdom School, Our Lady of Grace School, Solomon Elementary, St. Andrew School, St. Celestine School, St. Matthias School, St. Paul of the Cross School, St. Robert Bellarmine School, St. Sylvester School and St. Theresa School.

Each student wrote an original composition based on a common writing prompt. Student contestants wrote for 40 minutes and stories were evaluated by eighth grade teachers and the faculty from the Resurrection College Prep English Department. The following students received awards: First Place winner ~ Emma Gallian, Farnsworth Elementary; Second Place winner ~ Sophia Dempsey, St. Paul of the Cross School; and Third Place winner ~ Julianna Griggs, St. Robert Bellarmine School.

The Resurrection Math Department will be hosting a Young Women's Math Olympics on Saturday, November 21, 2015. There is no admission fee and all seventh and eighth grade girls are invited to participate. Students will compete individually and awards will be given to the top three students in each grade in the areas of Algebra and Geometry. Information and registration can be found on the Resurrection College Prep website at www.reshs.org.



Resurrection College Prep High School, located at 7500 West Talcott Avenue in Chicago, is the largest all girls' Catholic, Christian college preparatory high school for young women on the north side of Chicago. Since its founding in 1922, Resurrection has graduated over 14,000 alumnae. For more information about Resurrection College Prep High School, call 773.775.6616 Ext 129 or visit www.reshs.org.

Holiday Music is in the Air! Caroling at Cloud Gate Begins Friday, Nov. 27

Bundle up and get ready to belt out some holiday classics at these festive events that are part concert, part sing-along as local Chicago choral groups lead hundreds of celebrants in song. Santa Claus will join the crowd beforehand, and after the music, head a few steps away to take a spin on the McCormick Tribune ice rink.

Dates: November 27, December 4, 11 & 18, 2015

Hours: Santa 5-6pm ; Caroling 6-7pm

Note: Performance may be shortened in cases of extreme cold weather.

Location:

Millennium Park, Cloud Gate aka "The Bean"

N. Michigan Ave. & E. Randolph St., Chicago, IL 60602



"AGT The Safe Money People give back"



Aryeh Goldbloom President/CEO of AGT The Safe Money People, a local financial planning firm, gives back to those in need. Aryeh participated in a 5 day, 400 mile, charity bike ride benefitting the children of ALYN, a non-denominational special needs hospital in Israel. Together with the support of many, AGT was able to match donations and make a \$11,056 contribution to this much needed establishment.

AGT also on a daily basis makes contributions to people nearing retirement or in retirement by showing them safe and growing avenues for their nest egg, in the preservation period of their lives, so they may enjoy their retirement and sleep at night.

For more information visit their website at AGTthesafemoneypeople.com, listen to their radio show on WLS890am on Sunday mornings at 6am or call the office at 847-933-9222 to find out more about what they have to offer.

Millennium Park's McCormick Tribune Ice Rink Opens Friday, November 13



Kicking off Chicago's winter season, the McCormick Tribune Ice Rink in Millennium Park will open on Friday, November 13, 2015 and will remain open through March 6, 2016, weather permitting. For the last 14 years, the rink has drawn more than 100,000 skaters annually and is free and open to the public. The rink, located on Michigan Avenue between Washington and Madison Streets, will still offer skate rental for only \$12.

Daily ice resurfacing schedule is available by calling 312.742.5224.

Regular Hours for the season are as follows:

Mondays-Thursdays, 12 Noon—8pm

Fridays, 12 Noon—10pm (ice skating lesson at 11am)

Saturdays (Nov. 14-Jan. 2), 10am—10pm (ice skating lesson at 9am)

Saturdays (Jan. 9-March 5), 10am—9pm (ice skating lesson at 9am)

Sunday, 10am—9pm (ice skating lesson at 9am)

Location: Millennium Park, McCormick Tribune Ice Rink

201 E. Randolph St., Chicago, IL 60601

Cozy Up to Flavor!

Enjoy this seasonal dish at Mather's—More Than a Café, your neighborhood place for freshly prepared breakfast, lunch, and more.

Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mathersmorethanacafe.

COUPON



\$3 Custom Combo Grilled Cheese Sandwich & Soup

Choose your cheese—or try our Go Greek: mozzarella and a bit of feta with garlic-lemon-oregano butter. Served with a bowl of homemade soup. Soup options vary daily.

Regular price \$4.19. Limit one coupon per customer. Offer not valid with other discounts. Dine in only. Expires Wednesday, December 30, 2015.

2015-11-VILLAGE

NORWOOD PARK
7134 W. Higgins Avenue
Chicago | (773) 774.4804

Menu available:

Monday–Thursday 7:30 a.m.–2:45 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m.–6:45 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m.–1:45 p.m.

PORTAGE PARK
3235 N. Central Avenue
Chicago | (773) 205.3300

Menu available:

Monday–Friday 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

www.mathersmorethanacafe.com





The Holiday Season is Here



A Thanksgiving Prayer

Lord, we humbly ask Thy blessing on the turkey and the dressing,
On the yams and the cranberry jelly, and the pickles from the deli.
Bless the apple pie and tea, bless each and every calorie.

Let us enjoy Thanksgiving dinner; tomorrow we can all get thinner.

For all Thy help along the way we're thankful this Thanksgiving day.

We're thankful too, for all our dear ones, for all the far away and near ones.

Although we may be far apart, we're together in my heart.
Keep us in Thy loving care. This is my Thanksgiving prayer.
P.S. And anyone who wishes may help with the dishes ...
It's Thanksgiving. Gobble till you wobble!

From Maria P. Bappert and Family



Spectacular Christkindlmarket Chicago celebrates 20th Anniversary

Christkindlmarket Oakbrook returning for 2nd year

Christkindlmarket Chicago's 20th Anniversary

In celebration of its 20th anniversary, the Christkindlmarket Chicago returns to downtown Chicago on November 20th, 2015 and invites all visitors to enjoy one of the most enchanting atmospheres in Chicago during the holiday season. With free admission, the Christkindlmarket Chicago attracts over an estimated million visitors each year from around the Chicagoland area, nation, and the world. Recognized as one of the top holiday markets in the U.S. by Travel + Leisure magazine, every year Christkindlmarket Chicago transforms Daley Plaza into a magical picturesque European holiday village filled with candy cane striped wooden huts featuring nearly 60 vendors boasting hand-made holiday ornaments, nutcrackers, cuckoo-clocks, toys, jewelry, and much more. The Grand Timber House and Festival Tent provide visitors a place to warm up, sit down, and enjoy delicious food and drinks such as specialty sausages, potato pancakes, schnitzel, Stollen, and pretzels. Guests can also quench their thirst with a refreshing imported German beer or warm up with a cup of Glühwein (hot spiced wine), which is served in the popular collectable souvenir mug. Enjoy live entertainment throughout the 35-day event, including a roaming Alpine Brass band, meet and greet with the Christkind (the namesake and symbol of the market), the Children's Lantern Parade, Our daily Advent Calendar prize drawing, Theatre day and much more! The Christkindlmarket Chicago is also the perfect destination to host all your holiday events. Whether it's an evening out with family and friends or a get-together with co-workers, the market offers the chance to plan these holiday gatherings with reserved tables and food and beverage packages ranging from individual family tables up to 100 guests. Whether enjoying a "Stammtisch", which means small get-together with friends, or a full tent reception, the Christkindlmarket is the perfect place to celebrate the season.

Christkindlmarket returns to Oakbrook

Beginning November 27th, for the second year in a row, the Christkindlmarket team is thrilled to be hosting its suburban market at Oakbrook Center Shopping Center, one of the largest malls in the United States. The market, located on the Village Green in the heart of this stunning outdoor mall, is the perfect location to celebrate all the joy and tradition of the season, meet the Christkind, feast on fine German foods and drinks, and enjoy the wondrous sights and sounds of the vendors and entertainers. Nestled among the shops of Oakbrook Center, the Christkindlmarket Oakbrook provides fine German vendors displaying authentic hand crafted ornaments, nutcrackers, wood carvings, delicious food, sweets and treats all in the traditional wooden huts of a quaint German village. Guests can also step out of the cold and enjoy imported German beer, or warm up with a mug of Glühwein (hot spiced wine) in the warming tent. Featuring 22 vendors from Germany, Europe and around the world, the Oakbrook market guests will experience the same magic of the original market in Chicago.

For more information, please contact us and visit the official website at www.christkindlmarket.com.

White Eagle Thanksgiving Feast

Family Style

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Mashed Potatoes · Sweet Potatoes · Polish Sausage & Sauer Kraut
Green Beans Amandine · Pierogi · Apple Pie and Pumpkin Pie Slices

Cash Bar

\$27.50 per person*

Buffet Style

Tossed Salad · Cucumber Salad · Coleslaw · Pasta Salad · Mini Potato Pancakes
Pierogis · Kroquette · Penne Pasta with Marinara Sauce · Fettuccine Alfredo
Oven-Roasted Turkey · Homemade Stuffing · Polish Sausage and Sauer Kraut
Italian Sausage · Honey-Baked Ham · Medallions of Beef · Sweet Potatoes
Mashed Potatoes · Green Beans Amandine · Apple and Pumpkin Pie Slices

Cash Bar

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The Holiday Season is Here



“A Christmas Quarrel” -- 92ND Annual Chicago Bar Assoc. Show

The Chicago Bar Association presents its 92nd annual Bar Show, “A Christmas Quarrel - A Tale of Two Parties” from December 2 – 6 at DePaul’s Merle Reskin Theatre, 60 E. Balbo, Chicago. This musical comedy revue parodying local and national political, sports and show business celebrities and the news they make, is the longest running original musical revue in Chicago (and maybe the world!).

A talented, versatile cast of 60 attorneys will astound audiences with their singing and dancing as they lampoon everyone and everything from the Presidential election to the Cubs. Everyone who sees the funny side of current events will love this irreverent look back at the year that was.

Jeff and Emmy Award winning director and choreographer Marla Lampert says, “I appreciate the long tradition of the show, and marvel at those who’ve been a part of it for several decades. We call it our “Bar Show Family.” It’s a wonderful group of people who come together year after year to sing, dance and connect with friends and colleagues. All in all, it’s great fun and a great showcase of amazing talent.”

Main floor tickets are \$50 and mezzanine tickets are \$30. Groups can also take advantage of special rates. To order tickets go to tickets@barshow.org or call 312-554-2134.



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How do I entertain my family over Thanksgiving weekend?

By Wayne Mell, Artistic Director

It’s stressful enough to get the meal on the table with everyone underfoot. What do you do for the rest of the weekend? Don’t worry, we’ve got that covered.

Girl Singers of the Hit Parade Friday, November 27 at 3 pm and 7 pm

A truly entertaining show jam-packed with hit after hit from some of best loved female vocalists of all-time. Songs include Rosemary Clooney’s, “Come Ona My House” and “Mambo Italiano”, Patti Page’s, “Tennessee Waltz” and “Old Cape Cod”, Connie Francis’, “Where The Boys Are” and “Who’s Sorry Now”, Doris Day’s, “Que Sera, Sera” and “Secret Love” and Peggy Lee’s,



“Fever” and “Is That All There Is?” just to mention a few. Audiences join in singing along with their favorites, laughing along with some of the novelty tunes and stories, and even getting a little teary eyed during some of the familiar ballads. Chicago singer and actress Sophie Grim is joined by her mother, Colleen Raye, her sister, Jennifer Grimm and accompanied by a trio of extraordinary musicians under the direction of Dominic Tarullo. Tickets are \$30.

Megon McDonough

It Wasn’t God Who Made Honky Tonk Angels ~ Great Women of Country Saturday, November 28 at 8 pm

Beloved Chicago singer-songwriter Megon McDonough is back with a brand new show, The Great Women of Country, honoring some of country music’s most revered women singer-songwriters. Featuring the music of from Loretta Lynn, Patsy Cline, Dolly Parton, Reba McIntyre, Maybelle Carter, Roseanne Cash, and even some of Megon’s original songs, this show will highlight some of the greatest country music ever written. Join Megon for a night of great songs and wonderful stories that will bring out.

Daryl Nitz Entertainment

Give Peace a Chance, A Tribute to John Lennon Sunday, November 29 at 5 pm

This is a special holiday themed tribute show to one the greatest songwriters of the 20th Century. John Lennon would have celebrated his 75th birthday on October 9, 2015. December 8, 2015 marks the 35 anniversary of his death. On Sunday, November 29 twelve of Chicago’s top performers, get together to celebrate the musical genius and legacy of John Lennon, by presenting over 25 of his most recognized compositions in a 90 minute concert celebrating his work with the Beatles and solo career.

Songs included: Do You Want to Know a Secret, I Want to Hold Your Hand, She Loves You, If I Fell, We Can Work it Out, Ticket to Ride, Help, With a Little Help From My Friends, Day Tripper, Lucy in the Skies, Come Together, Instant Karma, Whatever Gets Your Through the Night, Mind Games, Across the Universe, Imagine and more.

Performing in the concert are: Jennifer Chada, Elizabeth Doyle, Laura Freeman, Ester Hana, Alma Mendoza, Beckie Menzie, Tom Michael, Marianne Murphy-Orland, Daryl Nitz, Johnny Rodgers, Melissa Young and The Lakeshore Dolls featuring Darci Bender, Molly LeCaptain, and Taylor Keenan, with Gavin Kirk on guitar. Tickets are \$22.

End your weekend by sharing fist class entertain entertainment with those you love most. Tickets are available online at SkokieTheatre.org or by phone at 847-677-7761.

Norwood Park’s Shop Local

Spend \$100 in a local Norwood park store, send the chamber a picture of your receipt and get entered into a raffle to win up to \$50 on a gift card to spend locally.

Visit www.norwoodpark.org for details.

Chicago’s 102nd Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Welcome the 102nd Chicago Christmas Tree to a new location in Millennium Park, a location recognized around the world for it’s architectural landmarks and cultural programming.

102nd Annual Chicago Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Tuesday, November 24, at 5:30pm

Millennium Park, near Michigan Ave. and Washington St.

Featuring...Danielle de Niese, Photo Credit: Decca, Chris Dunlop)

- Renée Fleming, one of the most beloved musical ambassadors and soprano voices of our time, now appearing in the Lyric Opera of Chicago’s The Merry Widow
- Danielle de Niese, soon appearing in the world premiere of Bel Canto at the Lyric Opera of Chicago
- Cast of Emerald City Theatre’s A Charlie Brown Christmas, now playing at the Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place
- TOO4G, guitarists with the Latin Music Project Ensemble, part of the Puerto Rican Arts Alliance (PRAA)
- and emceed by the father/daughter duo of Bob Jordan, WGN TV Weekend Anchor, and Karen Jordan, ABC 7 Weekend Anchor and Reporter

The 102nd Annual Christmas Tree was donated by the Voelker family of Northlake, Illinois. Their 63-foot Colorado Spruce was selected out of 130 submissions, and they will join Mayor Rahm Emmanuel to light the tree at the official Tree Lighting Ceremony on November 24.

Special visits with Santa Claus begin on Tuesday, November 24, immediately following the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony until 8 pm and continue on various dates throughout December.

The 102nd Tree Lighting Ceremony is presented by the Department of Cultural affairs and sponsored in part by the Chicago Cultural Mile Association. Additional support provided by 93.9 MY FM and the Chicago Transit Authority. The lights adorning the Christmas tree are donated by IBEW Local 134.

Admission to the Tree Lighting Ceremony and all other holiday activities in Millennium Park is free.

Make Your Own Advent Wreath

November 21, 2015, 2:00-5:00 pm, \$25 (materials and free instruction)

A common German saying is that “Vorfreude ist die schönste Freude” (Anticipation is half the pleasure). In that spirit, we would like to introduce you to one of Germany’s oldest Christmas traditions: the advent wreath.

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Evanston Children’s Theatre

Families are invited to put down their cell phones and enjoy The Cell Phone Rings for Thee, the latest production from Evanston Children’s Theatre. The show will be staged on Friday, November 20 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, November 21 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Levy Senior Center, located at 300 Dodge Ave. in Evanston. The final performance will take place on Sunday, November 22 at 3 p.m. at the Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center, located at 1655 Foster St. in Evanston.

The Cell Phone Rings for Thee explores the use of “cell phones, Facebook, cutting-edge shopping carts - all of the latest gadgets that bewitch and bedevil us.” Children age eight years through 8th grade will perform in this comedic series of seven 10-minute plays: The Cell Phone Rings for Thee; Gary’s Endurance Roast; The Talking Shopping Cart; Un Restaurant; Coulrophobia; Close Shave; and The Morris A. Cockmorton High-School Cafeteria Text Messaging Tragedy. The plays were written by Werner Trieschmann, whose work includes You Have to Serve Somebody, Failing the Improv, Mozart: Revealed, and Schubert: Revealed.

Tickets are \$7 and can be purchased in advance or at the door. For more information, please call 847-866-5914.

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Home, Sweet Home



Thankful Hearts

Getting together to smile and rejoice, eating great food and enjoying folks and friends of our choice. Thanksgiving invites us to reflect upon the many blessings we enjoy. Many have fond memories of great Thanksgiving traditions as we reflect upon all we are thankful for. Many have the tradition of meeting together at one of our friend or family member's homes. We look forward to familiar foods and dessert we typically



only enjoy at the Thanksgiving Feast. Many of us look forward to gathering in the comfort of our homes, relaxing after the big feast.

At Home Comfort we have much to be thankful for. We have a great team of people dedicated to the comfort of our families and friends. We work hard to make sure all our friends are comfortable.

Make sure your home will be comfortable when friends and family visit. Feel free to give us a call. A check-up and tune-up of your heating system will give you assurance you and your family and friends will indeed be comfortable this Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving Day invites us to reflect upon the blessings we enjoy. In a world filled with conflict, strife, and confusion, we are fortunate to enjoy the freedoms we still have. Appreciate family and friends, they are an important part of who we are.

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Christmas Tree Care

By: Nick Urhausen,
Urhausen Greenhouses

Just because we do not sell any Christmas trees or poinsettias at Urhausen Greenhouses, as we are already growing our annuals and perennials for next spring and summer, we still receive and answer many questions about



Christmas trees.

As with everything in horticulture and floriculture, freshness is of the utmost importance. How

“fresh” the tree which you purchase will determine how well it will look and how long it will last.

What does one mean by “fresh?” The freshness of a Christmas tree is determined by the length of time since the tree was cut and your purchase. When you purchase your tree it should look healthy and green, and few dead or brown needles should be visible. The needles should not be stiff and hard, but rather flexible and soft. It is a red flag if the needles fall off as you touch them.

Once a fresh Christmas tree is procured, keeping it fresh will depend on how much care the tree receives. Upon purchase, a fresh cut about one inch above the old base on the bottom of the tree should be made. Then the tree should be placed in a bucket of water. Make sure it is a rather large bucket as a tree may absorb almost a gallon of water the first day. Make sure your monitor the water level several times on that first day. At this time of the year you may read or hear about all kinds of additives to place in the water to preserve freshness. Most horticultural experts advocate the use of pure tap water and disavow the benefits of the so called additives.

The key to the freshness of your tree is to keep it watered and not let it dry out. The added benefit of doing this is that a well watered tree will not be a fire hazard. Use common sense when locating your tree. Don't place it near a source of heat, like a fireplace, stove, or a hot air duct. These measures promote safety and preserve freshness.

The information in this article is correct, however as a fellow consumer of Christmas trees it is becoming more and more difficult to find a fresh tree. Many years I have purchased a tree and followed all these guidelines only to be met with frustration. One sign that you have a stale tree is when the tree will not absorb any water after you place it in the bucket of water. Another is when the needles drop only a few days after the tree is placed inside your home. So, I guess it is important to ask the merchants selling trees when the trees were cut.

From all of us at Urhausen Greenhouses we wish everyone a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

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

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Jr. Bandit Lock-In At Resurrection College Prep High School

Girls in grades 5-8 are welcome to attend the Jr. Bandit Lock-in at Resurrection College Prep High School on Friday, December 4, 2015 from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. The evening will feature dinner, athletics, games and prizes. Admission is \$25 per student and all participants receive a souvenir t-shirt. Registration is available until December 1st at www.reshs.org or by calling 773.775.6616 Ext 129.

Holiday Puppet Show at the Roden Branch Library

Shoemaker And The Elves And The Night Before Christmas

Tuesday, December 15th, 2015 marks the day The Roden Branch of the Chicago Public Library will host the Melikin Puppet Theatre National Touring Company as they present a two part program of traditional Christmas stories.

Part I is an adaptation of the quaint Brothers Grimm story of The Shoemaker and the Elves. It has been transformed into a heartwarming rendition of how Santa's singing elves, Eeeney, Meeny, Miny and Moe, help a poor ill shoemaker complete his tasks, just in time to hurry back to the North Pole to polish Santa's boots.

At the conclusion of "Shoemaker", one of the puppeteers will step out front to introduce the next story. The set from the first story has to be removed and the new set has to be put in place. This is accomplished in full view of the audience by the elves acting as stage hands. Under the direction of the puppeteer, the elves manage to create the scene change into a comedy routine to the delight of the audience!

Part II is a presentation of the ever popular, all time Christmas classic, The Night before Christmas. You've heard it before, but never told through the eyes of the family dog, Woofier. Woofier helps Santa fill the stockings and makes sure all the toys work. As a reward, Woofier receives a very "special" present from Santa.

The Melikin Puppets are the original creations of Mel and LaVerne Biske, also known as Mr. and Mrs. Melikin. Along with their sons, Neal and Jeff, they have been presenting puppet theatre to thousands of children and families from coast to coast in schools, children's theater and libraries since 1967.

Following the performance, children accompanied by an adult, will be invited to meet and greet some of the puppet "stars" up close for a "photo-op. The Roden Library is located at 6083 N Northwest Highway, Chicago, Illinois, Show time is 6:30pm.

Holiday Book Sale for Readers, Gift Buyers, Deal Lovers

EPL's Big Holiday Book Sale runs from Friday, December 4 through Sunday, December 6. This 3-day event features recent fiction, mysteries, children's books, non-fiction, holiday and history books, biographies, vintage selections, and much more, in excellent condition at very low prices. Book lovers and gift givers will find 1000s of very gently used books, audiobooks, movies, music, magazines, large print, and vintage selections in every imaginable category of fiction and non-fiction.

All proceeds from the sale benefit Evanston Public Library. This sale is an opportunity to stock up on very good books at low, low prices.

Book Sale Hours:

Friday, December 4 and Saturday, December 5: 10 am to 5:30 pm. (There will be an Early Bird Preview on Friday from 10am to Noon, \$5 admittance fee for Preview only.)

Sunday, December 6: 12 pm to 5:30 pm, all books half-price.

The Evanston Public Library is located at 1703 Orrington Avenue. The book sale can be found in the Third Floor Book Sale Room. Parking is available in the Library's underground parking garage, as well as in the nearby surface lot, metered street parking, and City Parking Garage at Church St. and Chicago Ave.

Regina Dominican Announces Junior High Accelerated Math Program

Regina Dominican is pleased to announce a new Accelerated Mathematics Program slated to launch in fall 2016. The program provides a sequence of honors-level courses in Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, PreCalculus, and Calculus for girls and boys who demonstrate an aptitude for mathematics and want to prepare for future study in mathematics.

All sixth and seventh grade students, who meet the requirements, are invited to apply by March, 2016. For consideration, applicants must score in the 90th percentile or above on the standardized Mathematics test administered in their home school, as well as receive the recommendation of their current grammar school/junior high mathematics teacher. In addition, applicants should be able to work confidently with abstract representations of fundamental mathematics concepts. Students who successfully complete the application process will be invited to take a PreAlgebra Proficiency Exam.

The students accepted into the Regina Dominican Accelerated Mathematics program will develop strong mathematical reasoning processes, analytical techniques, and the ability to identify efficient solution strategies. Students who effectively complete coursework in the program will receive an official transcript and course credit from Regina Dominican.

Mathematics Department Co-Chair Sandra Locher states, "Because of our new Accelerated Mathematics Program, more high school students will complete AB and BC Calculus by the time they graduate. A strong foundation in mathematics is essential when preparing for a career in a STEM field. Our program provides the opportunity to complete two college-level mathematics courses while still in high school."

For more information, contact either of our Mathematics Department Co-Chairs: Sandra Locher at slocher@rdhs.org or Mary Schanel Stenson at mstenson@rdhs.org.

Niles Township Holiday Food And Toy Collection Drives Underway

Residents and business owners in Niles Township are encouraged to share holiday season joy by making a donation to the Niles Township Food Pantry Foundation at 5255 Main Street in Skokie. The Township established the foundation to extend the work of its food pantry operation. Marilyn D. Glazer, Supervisor of Niles Township said, "We want to make certain everyone in the Township can enjoy holiday meals. Demand for supplemental food support is rising, and the help of generous donors permits us to serve more community members." The food pantry will be distributing holiday foods in November and again in December.

Niles Township is also collecting new, unwrapped toys for distribution to the children of food pantry clients. The ages of children receiving the gifts range from 0-17.

Toy donations can be dropped off at the Township office from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Donors wishing to contribute funds for toy purchases can do so by checks made payable to the Niles Township Food Pantry Foundation at 5255 Main Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077.

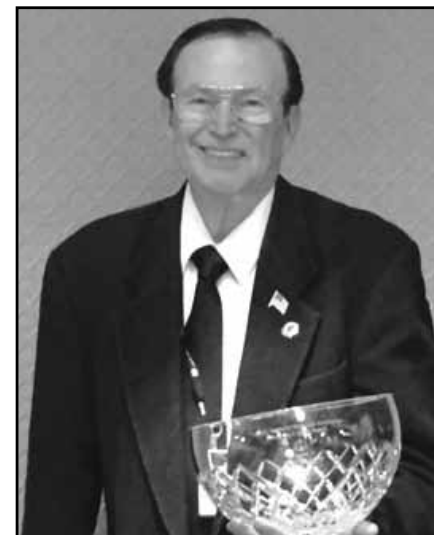
Since 1850, Niles Township Government has been dedicated to improving life for its residents. Niles Township is located in the northeast corner of Cook County. With a population of over 105,000 the Township includes the villages of Skokie, Lincolnwood and Golf, and sections of Morton Grove, Niles and Glenview.

Charles Levy Receives Township Officials Of Illinois Award

Charles Levy, Clerk of Niles Township, received the Anthony Spina Award from the Attorneys Division of the Township Officials of Illinois at an awards ceremony held in Springfield. The Spina Award acknowledges the work of attorneys who have devoted a great percentage of their careers to township advocacy and government law.

Mr. Levy, a resident of Lincolnwood, has served Niles Township Government since becoming a trustee in 1979. Since his election as Clerk in 1989, he has served in that capacity. Charles has practiced law for over 50-years and is Second Vice President of the Clerks' Division of Township Officials of Illinois. He has served as past President of the Illinois Township Attorneys' Association and as past President of the Township Officials of Cook County Clerks' Division. Mr. Levy has mentored many newly elected Township Clerks and has guided them with his expertise and years of experience.

Since 1850, Niles Township Government has been dedicated to improving life for its residents. Niles Township is located in the northeast corner of Cook County. With a population of over 105,000 the Township includes the villages of Skokie, Lincolnwood and Golf, and sections of Morton Grove, Niles and Glenview.



Help Spread Holiday Cheer to Evanston Families in Need, Donate to Mayor's Holiday Food & Toy Drive

To ensure every Evanston family gets to celebrate this holiday season, Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl encourages all community members to participate in the seventh annual Holiday Food & Toy Drive. Community members can help local families in need by providing food, toys and financial donations through Friday, December 11.

The City is currently collecting new, unwrapped toys that encourage physical and/or social activities, in addition to non-perishable food items, at various City locations, including:

- Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Ave.
- Main Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave.
- North Branch library, 2026 Central St.
- Chicago Avenue/Main Street Branch library, 900 Chicago Ave., Suite 102
- Robert Crown Community Center, 1701 Main St.
- Chandler-Newberger Community Center, 1028 Central St.
- Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd.
- Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center, 1655 Foster St.
- Levy Senior Center, 300 Dodge Ave.
- Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St.
- Evanston Police Station, 1454 Elmwood Ave.
- All five Evanston fire stations

Tax-deductible financial donations can also be made online or by mail to purchase additional items. To submit your donation quickly and securely online, visit cityofevanston.org/holidaydonation. Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover credit cards are accepted.

For mail-in donations, checks should be made payable to "City of Evanston Holiday Giving," and mailed to Parks, Recreation and Community Services Dept., 2100 Ridge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201.

On Friday, December 18, community members can also donate their time by volunteering during the holiday basket giveaway event. To register online, visit VolunteerEvanston.org.

To increase community outreach, the City has partnered with Toys for Tots, the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve program that aims to collect and distribute new, unwrapped toys to less fortunate children in local communities across the U.S. Toys donated at any of the five Evanston Toys for Tots locations will be donated to the Mayor's Holiday Food & Toy Drive. To learn more about Toys for Tots and to search for toy drop-off locations, visit fort-sheridan-il.toysfortots.org.

To learn more about the Holiday Food & Toy Drive, visit cityofevanston.org/holidaydonation or contact Ken Cherry at 847-448-4311.

Joint Tenancy, a Will or a Trust? What's the Best Way to Plan Your Estate?

It's that time of year when we start thinking about the holidays and the season begins with Thanksgiving. As a country we have been blessed in so many ways. While not everyone is without want, compared to the rest of the world we have much. Do you remember the famous Norman Rockwell painting "Freedom From Want", or as it is generally called, "Thanksgiving"? It pictures what appears to be a multi-generational family gathered happily around the Thanksgiving table as the roast turkey is presented by the proud host and hostess. One might assume that the table is groaning with food. But on closer inspection the table holds celery, a bowl of fruit, pickles, cranberry sauce and a covered casserole. By today's standards, that might seem sparse. But it was wartime in 1943 when this painting served as a magazine cover and people were happy to share whatever they had and to enjoy family and friends. When we gather around our tables this Thanksgiving perhaps we can have the same feeling of gratitude for what we have, and more importantly all the people in our lives.

If you are hosting Thanksgiving dinner, it might be a good time to think about friends or family members who have lost a spouse recently. One of the saddest conversations I had a few years ago was with a recent widow who came to see me about her husband's estate. During the course of our meeting she broke down in tears and told me that after years of inviting friends over for Thanksgiving no one had thought to invite her to their celebrations. Perhaps her friends felt it was too soon after her loss to be invited to a festive celebration, but a simple invite would have made the widow's Thanksgiving less bleak.

Is there a lonely, elderly neighbor or a newcomer to the area who might be alone on Thanksgiving? Perhaps a simple invite will change what could be a sad holiday into one that will be remembered with fondness. A few years ago our daughter moved to do cancer research at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida. She hadn't been in the area for very long and my wife and I had visions of her having Thanksgiving dinner alone at the local Boston Market. As it turned out her co-workers included her in their plans and she ended up attending three celebrations, including one at a Chinese church. She had a wonderful day and my wife and I were so grateful for their thoughtfulness.

The Thanksgiving Weekend is a time when many families have family members who have travelled long distances to be together for the weekend. I've suggested to some of my clients that sometime during the weekend (not while enjoying your turkey dinner) they may want to tell their family about estate plans that they have made. It doesn't have to be dramatic, just a factual conversation about where they keep their trust or will, who their attorney is, and maybe some of the basics of their plan. It can actually come as a relief to the younger generation that their parents or other relatives have been thoughtful enough to complete the task of planning their estates.

To all of the Our Village readers, may this be your best Thanksgiving Day ever.

Chester M. Przybylo is a founding member of the prestigious American Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys, a nationally acclaimed organization whose members are dedicated to the highest standards of estate planning and elder law. His Chicago-based firm, Chester M. Przybylo and Associates, has served its clients for over 45 years. Visit the firm website for helpful information on estate planning: www.PlanOurEstate.com, or call 773-631-7100 for an appointment.

Evanston/Skokie Valley Metropolitan Family Services - Giving Hope And Opportunity To Families

With your help last year Metropolitan served more than 53,000 individuals and families in the Chicago area, helping them become more self-sufficient and strengthening family bonds. Learn more about our organization by visiting our website, metrofamily.org.



Chester M. Przybylo

"A Theater Review"

"ELF"

Marriott Theatre, 10 Marriott Drive, Lincolnshire, Illinois

Reviewed by Richard A. Eisenhardt

For the holidays the Marriott Theatre has found a silly but great family show with "ELF," that features a cast of twenty-five.

The show has a book by Thomas Meehan and Bob Martin with music by Matthew Sklar and Chad Beguelin. The show has been directed and choreographed by the sensational Marc Robin who over his Chicago career has received fifty-five Jeff nominations and received sixteen Jeff Awards. If you ever get to Fulton Theatre in Lancaster, PA, you'll see his work, as he is their Artistic Director.

Alex Goodrich as Buddy is magnificent and as of now I don't know of anyone who is better suited for this family show.

The play has a strong cast with Kevin Budahl, Dara Cameron, and the beautiful Susie McMonagle. Roger Mueller makes a perfect Santa Claus. Others in the cast of note are Cam Ezell, Neil Freidman, Susan Moniz, George Keating, Brian Bohr, James Earl Jones II and Johanna McKenzie Miller, to name a few. Songs you'll hear are "Happy All the Time," "I'll Believe in You," "World's Greatest Dad," "There is a Santa Claus," and the list goes on in this two hour and thirty minute production.

As the story goes you will see how Buddy, as a baby, ends up in Santa's bag and lands in the North Pole.

It is nice to see a new holiday musical as we get so many revivals of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol."

Gudahl is Walter Hobbs, who is a mean old Father whose job is more important than his family, even though he publishes children's books. His wife Emily is played by the beautiful and delightful Susie McMonagle. Buddy's love interest is played by Dara Cameron and the Hobbs' son is in the hands of a newcomer, Cam Ezell. I'm sure he will become a major star. Freidman is perfect as the villain of the story.

This show will surely put you in the holiday spirit unless you are a Scrooge! "ELF" runs through December 31st. For performance days - show times and reservations - call 847-634-0200. Tickets are \$50 - \$55. There is free and valet parking and the theatre is wheelchair accessible.

Create Holiday Gifts That Keep On Giving

By Melinda Myers

Make this holiday season one filled with creating memories and gifts that keep giving throughout the year.

Terrariums have made a comeback and make wonderful do-it-yourself projects and gifts for beginning and experienced gardeners. They enable gardeners to continue to grow no matter the weather outdoors and can be updated and used as decorations throughout the year with some simple updating for holidays and other special occasions. Just add a few ceramic items like a Christmas tree ornament, ceramic bunny or other adornment or two that represent the season. Don't know where to start? No problem. You can create your own from an old glass jar or vase or purchase an elegant terrarium with copper bottom guaranteed to create the perfect stage for your tabletop garden. Or purchase a terrarium kit that includes the plants, container and all you need.

For the artist, young or old, and avid birder, consider a green birdhouse. These biodegradable birdhouses are made from 100% recycled paper and designed to last through one nesting season. You will have fun decorating it with stickers, markers or paint, making this a gift you and the birds will enjoy. Plus, once the season is over, there's no need for cleaning. It can simply be added to the compost pile.

Not feeling artistic? No worries. Give a decorative treat for the birds. Those with live Christmas trees can extend their enjoyment by decorating the tree with colorful birdseed ornaments once it is moved outdoors. Make your own ornaments from suet, peanut butter and birdseed or purchase ready-made ones.

And no green thumb is needed for this DIY holiday beauty. Easy care waxed amaryllis bulbs (gardeners.com) are self contained and easy to grow. The bulb is sealed in gold or silver wax, making it both decorative and low maintenance. There's no watering or container needed. Just set it in a bright location and wait for the floral display to appear before your eyes. You'll be enjoying big blooms for several weeks.

Stay on your diet as the holiday approaches with a sugar-free advent calendar. You can make your own from felt and fabric glue or start a family tradition by purchasing a handcrafted advent calendar like the wooden bird cottage advent calendar (gardeners.com) that celebrates nature and the holiday. Each day leading to Christmas you'll remove a bird from its cubby in the cottage. Peg it to the birdhouse and watch the flock grow. Your friends and family will know Christmas is coming each year when you break out the calendar. It's sure to provide years of memories and could soon become a family heirloom.

Make this the year for creating memorable gifts, trying something new or packaging DIY projects that are sure to provide seasons of fun and beauty.

St. Thecla Seniors Meetings

St. Thecla Seniors located at 6725 W. Devon meet at 11:30 a.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month in the Queen of Peace room. There is a short meeting followed by sweet rolls and coffee. Bingo and cards are played. We have parties!!! Please join us as you may like us! For information, please call Joanie at 312/608-4092.

Norwood Park Seniors Club

at 5801 N Natoma Chicago meet the second and fourth Thursday of the month. We play pinochle and baingo, have parties on special occasions. Meetings start at 10:30 with coffee and a sweet roll. Call Joan at 773-774-7075.

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Top Ten Tips For Holiday Food Safety From The Illinois Poison Center

As families and friends across Illinois makes plans for their holiday feasts, the Illinois Poison Center (IPC) is offering its top ten tips for proper food handling techniques this season. According to the Centers for Disease Control, more than 76 million people experience foodborne illness each year.

"Holidays are a time of celebration and joy, but holiday feasts can be tricky; home chefs are often preparing a meal they don't normally cook, and they're preparing it for a larger group than usual," said Dr. Michael Wahl, M.D., IPC Medical Director. "By following basic food safety preparation and storage tips, however, you can avoid foodborne illnesses and enjoy the festivities."

According to the IPC experts, the top ten ways to safe this season include:

1. Use a meat thermometer to confirm that meat, pork and poultry are properly cooked; visit www.foodsafety.gov for proper temperatures.
2. Keep preparation and storage areas, including countertops, stovetops and refrigerators, clean.
3. Wash hands with soap and warm running water for at least 15 to 20 seconds before preparing any foods, and especially after handling raw meat, poultry, fish or eggs.
4. Wash utensils between each use. Never reuse utensils without washing them, because dirty utensils can be a source of contamination.
5. Thaw meat and poultry in the refrigerator or microwave, not at room temperature. This may take several days for a large turkey.
6. Do not prepare food if you are sick or have any type of nose or eye infection.
7. Store raw food below cooked food in the refrigerator so it cannot drip onto and contaminate cooked food.
8. Use separate cutting boards for meats, poultry and fish.
9. To ensure that leftovers are safe the next day, properly seal and store food in the refrigerator as soon as possible.
10. If you are unsure about how long perishable food, particularly meat, poultry and dairy, have been left out, throw the items away to eliminate your risk of food poisoning.

"One of the biggest sources of foodborne illness during the holidays is salmonella from handling turkey and other poultry," said Wahl. "Salmonella bacteria can result from raw or undercooked poultry, and may be particularly harmful to people in poor health, young children and the elderly."

People who develop food poisoning may experience symptoms that include nausea, fever, vomiting, stomach cramps and diarrhea. Depending on the exact type of food poisoning, symptoms may last from several hours to several days.

The IPC is open 24 hours per day, seven days per week, including holidays. If you think you or someone you know has food poisoning, please call the IPC at 1-800-222-1222 for expert treatment recommendations.



Create a fun and welcoming addition to your Holiday gathering by forming your napkins into a "turkey's tail" and then by adding a cartoon "turkey face" and inserting them into a glass at each place setting.



As folks (young and old) arrive, have them draw an outline of their hand on a piece of paper, decorate it with crayons you will have handy and include a "thanksgiving message with their name" and hang them up around the room on the walls.

Resurrection College Prep High School



Breakfast with Santa

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9:00 am to 11:30 am
(Breakfast is served from 9-10:30 am)

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 Purchase advance tickets at www.reshs.org
 or call to order tickets at **773.775.6626 Ext 140.**

Thanksgiving Celebration Ideas

"Everyone loves mashed and sweet potatoes for their Thanksgiving spread. Here are a couple of new ideas to thrill your guests and family"

MASHED POTATO CASSEROLE

We all love our potatoes, and with the Holidays coming up, you might want to try out this recipe as you can bake it in the oven when you have it going anyway for a roast, meat loaf, ham, etc. The other thing I like about this is that it is made the evening before you have guests coming over. With the special ingredients in this recipe, I find it to be a "gourmet" dish. If you don't need two dozen servings, use half the ingredients for a smaller batch.

Ingredients:

5 lbs. red potatoes, cooked and mashed; 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese; 1 stick butter; 1 - 8 oz. pkg. cream cheese at room temperature, 1 cup sour cream, 4 greens onions, washed and finely chopped and 1/4 tsp. pepper.

Method: Combine all ingredients the night before your dinner. Pour into a greased casserole, cover with foil and refrigerate. Bake, uncovered, at 350 degrees for 30 to 45 minutes, depending on the depth of the casserole. The top should be nicely crisped. This recipe yields 22-24 generous servings.

Submitted by Maria P. Bappert

SWEET & SAVORY SWEET POTATO

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 1/2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 tablespoon minced shallot (1 small)
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 1/2 pounds sweet potatoes peeled, evenly chopped.
- 2 medium, fresh, poblano pepper, seeded, diced (blanch or put in the microwave for 20 seconds or so to take some of the "crunch" away.
- 1/4 cup green onions, thinly sliced diagonally (about two)
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh Italian parsley

Directions

- Cook the sweet potatoes in salted boiling water until just tender when pierced with a knife. If you overcook them, they will fall apart when tossed with dressing and other ingredients. Drain; run under cold water to cool.
- Whisk first 5 ingredients in a small bowl. Slowly whisk in olive oil. Season to taste with salt and pepper to make the dressing.
- Drizzle dressing over potatoes; gently toss to coat.
- Add poblano pepper, green onions, and parsley. I use a spatula to make sure I don't mash the potatoes.
- Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve warm or at room temperature. Can be made 1 day ahead. Bring to room temperature before serving.

From Christopher Riley of Light Opera Works

SASSY CRANBERRY SAUCE

Not for the kids table

Ingredients

- One bag of fresh cranberries
- 1/2 cup of water
- 1 cup of sugar
- 1 navel orange and zest
- 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon (to taste)
- 1/8 teaspoon clove (to taste)
- About 1 1/2 to 2 ounces of cognac. (to taste). I find the cognac adds a bit of a sophisticated flavor to the cranberries, and goes nicely with the orange.

Directions

- Peel the whole orange and cut into small cubes. After peeled, you can zest the peel. I typically take larger chunks of the orange peel and use about 1/2 inch long, thin strips of the peel instead of zest. This adds a more interesting look and texture. Make sure not to use the rind of the orange when cutting the strips.
- Place water, sugar and cranberries in pot- Bring to a boil. Once the cranberries start to pop, add orange cubes and orange peel to cranberries. Try not to over cook the cranberries. They should be "popped" but not cooked to a smooth sauce.
- While they are cooking add cinnamon and clove. (some people like more clove than others)
- Once the cranberries have cooked to desired texture and consistency, (they will thicken as they cool) remove from heat.
- Add cognac (to taste) to the cranberries and stir.
- Let cool and refrigerate. I find they taste better the next day.

From Christopher Riley of Light Opera Works

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