

# OUR VILLAGE

Volume XI P.O. Box 31391,  
Chicago, IL 60631

www.OurVillageChicago.com

Phone: 847/675-6127  
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Issue 3

**"Our-Village-on-the-Air"**  
Every Wednesday from 2:00-3:00 pm  
**WJGG-1530 AM Radio**  
Neighborhoods of Chicago with Interesting  
Happenings and Guest Interviews from your Area.

**February 21st:**

- Faculty and Students of Guerin Prep High School (The Canonization of Mother Theodore Guerin)
- Health Heart Month featuring Maureen Stebbins of Curves
- Ald Bernard Stone, 50th Ward

**February 28th:**

- Polish Women's Alliance of America on Casimuir Pulaski Day Events
- "New Series" Ethnic Chicago
- "Bosley" King of the Canines & "Mom" Micolle Carfora of Canine Corral
- Dr. Charles Guengerich, Pres. of Wright College

See page 6 for the **47th Ward Aldermanic Candidates'**  
answers to questions posed to them by

**VILLAGE PUBLICATIONS**

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### 5 NORTHSIDE LOCATIONS

**Chicago/Norridge**

Tuesday, March 13, 2007  
2:00 p.m.  
Garden Terrace (Refreshments)  
6330 West Irving Park Road  
Chicago, Illinois

**Chicago/  
Elmwood Park**

Wednesday, March 14, 2007  
2:00 p.m.  
Royal Gardens (Refreshments)  
2515 North Harlem Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

**Niles**

Thursday, March 15, 2007  
10:00 a.m.  
Howard Leisure Center  
(Continental Breakfast)  
6676 West Howard Street

**Chicago**

Thursday, March 15, 2007  
7:00 p.m.  
Stardust Banquet (Refreshments)  
5688 North Milwaukee Avenue

**Des Plaines**

Saturday, March 17, 2007  
10:00 a.m.  
Radisson Hotel Chicago O'Hare  
(Continental Breakfast)  
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OTHER OFFICE LOCATIONS

## THE LAST FOUR MILES OPENS AT CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION Completing the South Lakefront Parks on Exhibition Jan 25-March 10

The Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF) opens Completing the South Lakefront Park System: The Last Four Miles co-presented by Friends of the Parks. The exhibition is open daily from January 25 to March 10, 9am to 5:30pm at the CAF, 224 S. Michigan Avenue; admission is free.

Chicago's 26 miles of public lakeshore park system create a linear park expanse that is unrivaled around the world for its beauty and public accessibility. However, two stretches along the lakefront totaling approximately 4 miles are not public parks but remain in private or quasi-governmental ownership. On the south side, the three areas of focus are: from 71st to 75th Streets; the former USX steel plant site; and Iroquois Landing just north of Calumet Park.

As part of a new initiative undertaken by Friends of the Parks, a group of pro-bono architects and planners worked with citizens, park advisory councils and community organizations to develop concept plans for new parks. The proposed redesign of the south lakefront envisions the addition of over 500 acres of new parkland, including new beaches, recreational fields, greenways and nature areas.

"This exhibition highlights the importance of community participation in the ongoing process of civic planning and lakefront redevelopment in Chicago," said Lynn Osmond, Chicago Architecture Foundation President and CEO.

Visitors to the exhibit will be able to provide their own feedback about the proposed plans.

An opening reception will be held January 25, 6 to 8 pm. Visit [www.architecture.org](http://www.architecture.org) for exhibition-related programming.

About the Chicago Architecture Foundation: The Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing public interest and education in architecture and related design. The Chicago Architecture Foundation pursues this mission through a comprehensive program of exhibits, tours, special events, and lectures. CAF's ArchiCenter is located in the Santa Fe Building at 224 South Michigan Avenue at Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, 60604. For further information visit [www.architecture.org](http://www.architecture.org) or call 312.922.3432.

## Repercussions: The Tuesday Night Winter Concert Series


The Chicago Park District and Arts at Large presents *Repercussions: The Tuesday Night Winter Concert Series* at the Lincoln Park Cultural Center, 2045 N. Lincoln Park West, on Feb. 6, Feb. 27, Mar. 6 and Mar. 20. Each live music performance begins at 7 p.m., and admission is free.

**Feb. 27, 2007, 7 p.m. Eastern Measures** Performed by Omar Al-Musfi & Company and Suraya's Oriental Dance. Enjoy soulful modern and traditional middle eastern drumming mixed with international influences. Suraya, one of the most talented Oriental dancers in Chicago, will close the performance with a traditional dance.


**Mar. 6, 2007, 7 p.m. On the Nature of Things** Performed by Chris Breedon, marimba; Amina Cain, Ian Harris and Rima Rantisi, written/spoken word. Movements on the marimba from the intricate contemporary classical piece, Reflections on the Nature of Water, are interweaved with spoken word performances by Chicago writers.

**Mar. 20, 2007, 7 p.m. World of Percussion Connections** Performed by the Rhythm Unity Duo (Kalyan Pathak, percussion; Doug Brush, percussion). A demonstration of drums from Africa, Latin America, Brazil and the middle east will take the audience on a tour around the world through traditional drums and percussion.

For more information contact the Lincoln Park Cultural Center at 312.742.7726 or Arts at Large at 773.727.9049.




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**Alderman Stone and Mayor Daley Break Ground on Long Awaited \$16 Million Development in Rogers Park**



**Alderman Stone and Mayor Daley Break Ground on \$16 Million Parking and Residential Development in Rogers Park**

50th Ward Alderman Bernard L. Stone and Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley held an official ground breaking and ribbon cutting ceremony today for the highly anticipated parking and apartment complex at the corner of Devon Avenue and Rockwell Street. The new building will include two stories of condominiums and a parking garage and will add 231 new parking spaces, easing traffic problems in the heart of West Rogers Park.

"I have been working on this issue for eight years and couldn't be prouder to have helped bring this to the community. Together with the community, the city council, and Mayor Daley, we were able to develop and implement a solution to the traffic problems in the 50th Ward. Upon completion this lot will bring much needed relief to the traffic congestion affecting us all in the 50th Ward."

The new development is located at the economic heart of West Rogers Park along Devon Avenue. In recent years, the area has seen a revitalization resulting in increased traffic congestion. The new parking complex will allow this economic growth to continue without the road problems that the community has been experiencing. Says Stone, "The growing traffic is a concern for many of the constituents I meet with and I have made it a priority to address this issue. I am excited that we were able to tackle this matter head on and secure the finances needed to build the complex."

**Honored 9/11 Volunteer, Book Author to Speak at Wright**

A child psychiatrist who has helped guide families through the mental aftermath of Flight 93 on Sept. 11, 2001, in Pennsylvania, will visit Wilbur Wright College on Feb. 21.

Dr. Glenn Kashurba includes quotes and perspectives about the crash from Wright College students in his second book, "Quiet Courage: The Definitive Account of Flight 93 and its Aftermath." Wright students traveled to the Flight 93 crash site in spring 2006 as part of a school-sponsored trip for which Kashurba acted as tour guide.



Kashurba will speak at 6 p.m., Feb. 21, in Wright's theater, 4300 N. Narragansett Ave.

Kashurba volunteered with the American Red Cross after the Flight 93 crash near Shanksville, Pa. He accompanied the victims' families when they visited the crash site following Sept. 11.

Living near the crash site, Kashurba helped with the immediate response. Since then, he has talked to hundreds of family members, rescue workers and local volunteers to chronicle their stories.

Wright English Prof Ira David Levy uses Kashurba's first book about the crash, "Courage After the Crash," in his English 102 class, which examines perspectives on how Sept. 11 impacted the residents of Lower Manhattan, the town of Shanksville, Pa., and how journalists cover traumatic events.

Kashurba will donate the royalties from his second book to the Flight 93 Memorial.

Kashurba has been honored for his work by the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and by the American Psychiatric Association.

For more information, call Prof. Levy at (773) 481-8578.

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## Jesse White Announces 2007 Rules of the Road Review Course Schedule

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White has taken the necessary steps to make senior drivers in Illinois safer while on the road.

White's office offers a free Rules of the Road Review Course. The class is designed to give drivers, especially seniors and persons with disabilities, the knowledge and confidence needed to renew or obtain a driver's license.

"The number of seniors in Illinois is growing rapidly and making this group of people safe is a priority," White said.

During the refresher course, participants will get an explanation of the driving exam. Additionally, people will have the opportunity to take a practice written exam.

Also, for those who qualify for accessible parking, the course offers information on disability parking placards as well as disability license plates.

Secretary White's Rules of the Road Review Courses are offered throughout the State of Illinois. To find out if this free course is available in your area, please visit our website at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com) to view the 2007 Rules of the Road Review Course schedule or call 217-782-8893 or 888-261-5238 (TTY, NexTalk).

## WEAR YOUR SWIMSUIT TO WORK AS A PARK DISTRICT LIFEGUARD

### Applications Available Now; Testing Begins in March

If you are physically fit, a confident swimmer, and a people person who would enjoy having the pool or lake as your office view, you might be a good candidate for a lifeguard.

The Chicago Park District is looking for 800 qualified applicants to fill summer lifeguard positions. Applications are now available online at [www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com) or at the Chicago Park District's Administration Office, 541 N. Fairbanks Court. Qualified applicants will be notified of the swim test.

"Residents flock to the city's beaches and pools during the summer," said Chicago Park District General Superintendent and CEO Timothy J. Mitchell. "The Chicago Park District ensures that trained lifeguards are on site to keep all aquatic facilities and programs safe."

Returning lifeguards have an earlier deadline than new lifeguards. Following are the application deadline dates and the corresponding swim test dates:

**March 2** deadline for March 17 test (for returning lifeguards only)

**March 30** deadline for April 14 test (all applicants)

**April 20** deadline for May 5 test (all applicants)

**May 4** deadline for May 19 test (all applicants)

Successful lifeguard candidates will move on to the lifeguard training academy before being placed at one of Chicago's 32 beaches or more than 100 pools. These seasonal positions offer a competitive salary of \$11.57 per hour. Applicants must be 16 years old by July 1, 2007. For questions regarding the application process, call the Beaches and Pool Unit at 312-742-5121.

## Taft/PTSA Meeting

The next Taft/PTSA Meeting will be held on Thursday February 22, 2007 between 6:30 and 7:30 PM in the Choir Room at Taft High School at 6535 W. Bryn Mahr

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## Your 401k or IRA: A Problem Asset?



Chester M. Przybylo

From the time we entered the workforce, we've learned how important it is to save for retirement. In fact, if we put \$1,000 away for someone graduating from college today, it would be worth over \$72,000 by the time they start collecting social security. (This assumes graduation at age 22, social security at age 67, and a 10% rate of return.) Albert Einstein called the power of compounding the eighth wonder of the world.

Today's workers can do this retirement savings with pre-tax dollars in their 401k or IRA. But, what happens when the time comes and you withdraw the money? The entire withdrawal is subject to income tax. If you die and leave your 401k or IRA to your children or other beneficiaries, it is taxable upon withdrawal by them. Further, if you die with more than \$2 million, including your retirement assets, the balance of the retirement plan before the impact of income tax will be included in determining your estate taxation.

The combined affect of estate and income taxation could result in the majority of the assets going to pay taxes. For example, assets over \$2 million are estate taxed at 45%. In addition, if some of the assets are withdrawn to pay the estate tax, the withdrawal would incur federal and state income tax of as much as 35% or 40%. So, you could easily have 2/3 of the assets going to taxes.

There are a few strategies to help soften the blow of the tax bite on retirement plans. First, you can defer the income taxes as long as

possible. After you reach age 70 ½, you must start taking distributions based on the "Uniform Lifetime Table." Based on this table, you would take approximately 1/27th the first year, and slowly increasing percentages each subsequent year. For example, at age 85, you would be required to withdraw approximately 1/15th that year. After your death, you can get the maximum stretch for the income taxation deferral by naming younger beneficiaries who can stretch it out over their longer life expectancies. However, often you want to keep younger beneficiaries from having control of assets. In that situation, you can use a Family Retirement Preservation Trust™ to get the maximum stretch for distributions after your death. Such a trust allows you to keep the assets in trust but still look through the trust to the ages of the individual beneficiaries.

You can also start taking withdrawals from your retirement plan and use those distributions to pay for premiums on a life insurance policy. While you need not take withdrawals until after you reach 70 ½, you may start taking withdrawals from retirement plans beginning at age 59 ½ without penalty. The life insurance policy can be owned by an irrevocable trust you set up. If done properly, the life insurance can be outside your taxable estate. This can help avoid estate taxation and converts an asset that is subject to income and estate taxation into an asset that is subject to neither.

Saving for retirement is important. However, it is also important to consider how to avoid the unexpected tax trap retirement assets can put you in. A qualified estate and retirement planning attorney can help you enjoy the trappings of retirement without the tax traps.

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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## Bucktown: Theaters and Schools

By: The Rev. Francis S. Rog, G.R.

The 2300 block of McLean appeared dark with overhanging trees. I didn't know anyone who lived in this section of Bucktown ... therefore it appeared to be a dangerous area and reason to avoid this street.

In the same way Lyndale St. (from Seeley to Damen) was dark and the houses on the north side of the street were somewhat dilapidated. Furthermore, it was rumored that a "suspicious" person was living in the "creepy-looking" house, so it was not safe to walk down this street.

\*\*\*

Two public grade schools were in Bucktown. Pulaski School on Leavitt and McLean afforded a large empty lot on the west side of the school. This became another place for softball games. Pulaski School has been renamed Pulaski Community Academy. The lot behind the school has been divided into a parking area for teachers and another part became a playlot for the children attending the school.

Pulaski School was never a threat in the sports contests held in Holstein Park. St. Hedwig School ruled as champions!

Logan Grade School was on Lyndale and Oakley. Although conveniently located next to Holstein Park, they, too, were no threat to St. Hedwig School's athletic prowess.

Logan School became a "continuation school." Its purpose was to care for those who needed to go to school until they were 16 years of age. As some teenagers dropped out of attendance at a regular high school, Logan afforded the possibility of working toward a high school diploma.

The folks living at this end of Bucktown were in opposition to having a "continuation school" at this site. The NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard) syndrome existed as it "appeared" an unsavory group of teenagers were in attendance at the school.

Eventually, the school was razed and in its stead, a Senior Citizen Park was established.

\*\*\*

In the 30's one could see a movie at Webster Theater (Damen and Webster) for a dime. On certain nights of the week with a slight additional charge, the ladies could receive a plate, cup and saucer, or some part of china and through the year complete the whole set of chinaware.

One could see a movie at Oak Theater (Western and Armitage), across from Margies Candies. If one missed seeing the movie at the Oak Theater, most frequently it would be at Webster Theater in the following week. Oak Theater's balcony was an attraction for the young-in-love. (Both Oak and Webster Theaters have been razed.)

For an extra nickel, a special treat was to attend Congress Theater, which received movies earlier than Oak or Webster Theaters. Saturday afternoon and evening Congress added a stage show of local talent: an accordion player, singers, tap-dancers, comedians and occasionally a magician. Congress Theater remains standing on Milwaukee Avenue but it is not used as a regular movie theater.

Harding Theater on Milwaukee Avenue in Logan Square would have the first rate movies immediately when such movies left the downtown theaters. To see a movie at the Harding would be one-up on other Bucktownians. (Harding has been razed.)

Other theaters - Banner, Royal, Wicker Park, Chopin, and Fireside - were within walking distance. For most Bucktown youngsters it was too expensive to go to a downtown theater for a movie, unless it was a "special treat."

Next issue *A Stroll Through Bucktown*.

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#### JOIN OUR BOOK DISCUSSION FOR ADULTS

We meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Our next meetings and titles are:

February 27, 2007 *The Painted Drum* by Louise Erdrich  
March 27, 2007 *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls

Copies are available at the Circulation Desk beginning the night of the preceding discussion. Please feel free to join our group at any time during the year. Call 312-744-1478 for more information.

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Wednesday, March 14, 7:00 p.m.

Alpana Singh, daughter of first-generation Indian-American immigrants, Master Sommelier and host of WTTW-Channel 11's, "Check, Please!" will discuss her new book, *Alpana Pours*. Books will be available for purchase and autographing. For more information, call 312-744-2292.



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OUR VILLAGE

Published by Village Publications

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# VILLAGE PUBLICATIONS

# Q & A

## Aldermanic Candidates 47th Ward

*Village Publications thanks the candidates for Alderman of the 47th Ward of Chicago for their time, effort and consideration in providing the following information to the voters so that they may make a more informed decision when they cast their votes in February 27th in the citywide elections.*

### **Gene Schuller**

*The youth of the area are the future. There have been budget cuts on programs through the Park department and City sponsored activities. What are your plans, if Alderman, to stop program reductions and monies charged for programs that recently were free so all can participate?*

I am proud to have developed after school programs at many of our local schools and the Neighborhood Boys and Girls Club. I am especially pleased to have developed the 47th Ward Kids Club. The Kids Club sponsors free concerts, movies and many cultural events for hundreds of families in the 47th Ward. I regularly meet with the park staff to develop programming for our parks.

*With the increase of expanded condominium building in the area, there are concerns about parking, public services, increased volume of residences, etc. What are your plans to counteract problems, if any?*

I have successfully down zoned all the residential side streets in the 47th Ward along with sections of our major streets. If I didn't down zone the side streets we would have lost the majority of our single family homes. In addition, all requests for zoning changes must be approved by the community at a public forum.

*Commerce is vital, as we all know, to all areas. What contribution will you make to guide and help commerce and future business while keeping a balance in the area?*

It is extremely important to create and maintain a pedestrian oriented independently owned and operated business environment. I have received millions of dollars to redo many of our commercial areas. I have established a committee called "Retail Industrial 47" that assists small store owners to find space in the Ward as well as offer incentives for them.

*What senior programs will you have in the Ward over the next four years?*

I will continue to offer a variety of free events to the seniors of the Ward ranging from lunches, concerts, movies and health fairs. I will continue to work on our affordable senior housing programs at the Senior Housing Campus at Irving Park and Western, which when completed will include two affordable rental buildings and one affordable condominium building. The first senior rental building, The Martha Washington, is fully occupied and the second rental building is nearing completion. We just had a groundbreaking for the senior condominium building. I will continue to work with the Department of Aging to develop a senior satellite office at this location that will offer lunches five days a week, exercise classes and additional programs for seniors. The final component will be our two parks at this location that will be an intergenerational resource for our seniors and area residents.

*The Summer brings much enjoyment with street sales, fests, etc. What do you propose to improve these galas in regard to parking, crowd control for the areas plus the surrounding neighborhoods?*

I have already started the process of requiring more security, portable toilets, better clean up as well as securing parking options.

*There are areas in the Ward that street people are inhabiting. What will you do to keep this potential problem under control?*

I helped organize a committee that meets monthly with all local chambers of commerce and the police to bring these issues to the attention of the proper authorities.

*What, if Alderman, will be your priorities to keep the Ward desirable in order to attract and conduct business and in which to reside?*

Education, parks and green space, economic development, recycling, management of growth, affordable housing, transportation – completion of the Brown Line Expansion Project, cultural/theater component for the Wards are my top priorities.

By working with the community we have brought tens of millions of dollars to address all of our priorities and have created one of the most desirable wards in the City.

### **Martin P. Cooney**

*The youth of the area are the future. There have been budget cuts on programs through the Park department and City sponsored activities. What are your plans, if Alderman, to stop program reductions and monies charged for programs that recently were free so all can participate?*

Paid to play programs have turned our parks into country clubs where parents with money are the only people who can participate and run these programs. Everyone should be included. Twenty five percent of these children cannot meet the monetary hurdles. The current Alderman allows the use of the park districts for non-for profit fundraising. Fundraising using the park district facilities should be utilized for park district needs, such as funding for those who cannot afford the fee's and needs of those programs the park district offers.

*With the increase of expanded condominium building in the area, there are concerns about parking, public services, increased volume of residences, etc. What are your plans to counteract problems, if any?*

I propose a six month moratorium on all new development of ten or more units. I would like to propose a two to one ratio for parking on all new development. There is uncontrolled growth this effects density. All developers should pay an impact fee that is 3x the current level. This impact fee's can be utilized for Sr. Citizen Housing development,

*Commerce is vital, as we all know, to all areas. What contribution will you make to guide and help commerce and future business while keeping a balance in the area?*

I would do away with overburdening businesses taxes and bring in more small businesses. Have contracts for city services and goods be split evenly through the ward so the individual businesses can partake in commerce.

*What senior programs will you have in the Ward over the next four years?*

I would hope to develop programs that keep our senior residents in the ward and not driven out do to over taxation. Tax increment fiancé must include neighborhood improvement programs which is funded by TIF that allow the senior home owner up to \$10,000.00 grants for home improvement such as windows, storm doors etc.

*The summer brings much enjoyment with street sales, fests, etc. What do you propose to improve these galas in regard to parking, crowd control for the areas plus the surrounding neighborhoods?*

Initiate parking at public schools with free shuttle services at these events. This would alleviate the traffic congestion it makes it safer for pedestrian traffic.

*There are areas in the Ward that street people inhabit. What will you do to keep this potential problem under control?*

Work with the city Department of Human Services to relocate the homeless into warming centers. This could be done with local government as well as private organizations.

*What, if Alderman, will be your priorities to keep the Ward desirable in order to attract and conduct business and in which to reside?*

If I become Alderman some of the priorities that I will address are Parking, traffic and density in the 47th ward. We have addressed several of these issues in the questionnaire. Additionally the Ravenswood hospital needs to be converted into a functioning complex. One that services the needs of the surrounding community of senior citizens, the residents of the ward that have no trauma or emergency center within this ward. An arm of Rush or Northwestern hospital should be given incentives to develop Ravenswood Hospital as a vibrant research and teaching hospital, senior housing and low income housing.

Small business owners should be able to take part in city contracts that will enhance the commerce to the businesses ward to ward.

I am a man of honesty and integrity and I expect the same from the staff that will work for me. The days' of strong arming business owners will be no more here in the 47th ward. Residents and business owners must feel that they can walk in to the Alderman's office and feel comfortable.

I will service the residential and business community as a liaison in city services and city programs. I am a decision maker based only on the input from the participating community, not for my own personal interest.

The health, safety and welfare of the residents of the 47th ward will be of the utmost importance. The schools and our children in the ward need someone that can make decisions in city council that will keep the funds that belong to the schools in the 47th ward in the 47th Ward. Lincoln Technical High school and as well as many of the other schools need upgrades. We must address the issues of children and our schools first.

When I become Alderman I will host a meeting with all of the principals of the schools in the 47th ward and ask them what their needs are. That is just a few of the issues that I will be addressing.

## Village Cooking Corner

Here's a good dish to enjoy during the Lenten Season

### Broiled Salmon Fillets (Moroccan style)

- 3 to 4 salmon fillets
- 2 tablespoons fresh chopped parsley
- 4 tablespoons of olive oil
- 1/2 stick of butter, melted
- 3 garlic cloves - crushed
- 2 tsp. paprika
- 1/4 tsp. of cayenne pepper
- 1 tablespoon of cumino
- juice of 1/2 lemon

Arrange the fillets in a baking dish and place them under a very hot broiler. Cook, with the broiler door open for 3 to 5 minutes or until golden brown. Melt the butter, add oil and all the remaining ingredients, mix them all well, and pour over the salmon. Continue to broil for additional few minutes till a nice crisp on the top of this dish. Sprinkle with fresh lemon juice. Serve immediately with quartered lemon, if desired.

Prepared by: Elizabeth Elkayam

## ST. MATTHIAS TRANSFIGURATION'S MUSTANG MADNESS A SUCCESS

Nearly 200 students, parents and alumni of St. Matthias Transfiguration School participated in the annual Mustang Madness on February 9, 2007. The basketball event features games between the current teams, hot shot contests and a chance for the alumni to play the current 8th grade teams.

"It went really well," said Physical Education Teacher Mike Battle. "We stayed on schedule and made a little money, too. Everyone had a good time."

The hot shot winners were: Omar Carillo, 4th grade; Alex Brown, 5th grade boys; Itzel Cardona, 5th/6th grade girls; Peter Ryckbosch, 7th grade boys; Danielle Lapena, 7th/8th grade girls, and Leonard Pahati, 8th grade boys.

The mission of St. Matthias Transfiguration School is to provide a total education (spiritual and academic) for our children, enabling them to compete effectively in a constantly changing world where faith in God, love of self and others, and hope for the future are essential.

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### Saturday February 24 - "Carnaval de Brazil"

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### Saturday March 3 - "Guatemalan Night"

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# MOVIE / THEATRE REVIEWS



## Jean Joachim's Movie Choices for Kids

**NORBIT** (Running time: 102 minutes)  
Rated PG-13 Starring Eddie Murphy, Thandie Newton,  
Cuba Gooding, Jr.

Eddie Murphy is the greatest impersonator in the world. In this movie he plays a a geeky guy, a 350-lb. nasty woman, and an old Chinese man! His performance as each character is completely convincing. He is truly amazing.

While *Norbit* is supposed to be a comedy, it is a very black comedy about the orphan, Norbit and his life. The story is by Mr. Murphy and his brother, Charles, who were also both orphans, which makes this story more poignant. They were also two of the four authors of the screenplay.

The plot of *Norbit* has few surprises, but it is worth watching for the characterizations and the good messages hidden in the silly antics. Norbit is a sweet, geeky character constantly taken advantage of by others. While his life is not great, his spirit is wonderful and in the end, he triumphs. Like most of Mr. Murphy's movies, *Norbit* is a very moral movie. There is violence, implied sex, some bad language, no nudity. There are many "fat" jokes, mostly visual. *Norbit* should be fine for children 12 and up.

**THE MESSENGERS** (Running time: 84 minutes)  
Rated PG-13 Starring Kristen Stewart, Dylan McDermott,  
Penelope Ann Miller, John Corbett

*The Messengers* is another scary movie that relies heavily on startling the audience and spooky images that can hardly be seen. The movie begins with the murder of a wife, daughter and son in a creepy farmhouse in North Dakota. Then the next family moves in.

Of course they also have a teenage daughter and young son. The movie hints at the trouble the family had in Chicago that caused them to move to North Dakota, but doesn't get specific until much later in the movie. Right from the beginning, weird things are happening to Jessica, the teenage daughter. Of course her parents don't believe her. But her little brother, Ben, who looks to be about two years old, can see the images. He doesn't talk; he just points to where they are.

The family has tied their fortune to a crop of sunflowers. The father is busy planting and the mother is trying to make a nice house out of the creepy old place. The movie plods along with strange happenings and more startling events. This is supposed to pass for suspense.

I must say that I guessed the main idea fairly early into the movie, so there was little surprise for me. While the story line had promise, there weren't enough characters in the film to make guessing difficult. Besides, much of *The Messengers* was slow moving so I thought about what was going on to keep myself from falling asleep. After the murders at the beginning, nothing really happens until the very end.

There is violence. Many scary doings and house-trashing coupled with sneaking around and startling images and noises make up this movie. There is no sex, no bad language, just murder. The best part of *The Messengers* is that it is short. It should be okay for kids who don't scare easily over age 13 or 14. Unflappable 12-year-olds can probably handle it, too.



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## "A Theatre Review"

"Bach at Leipzig"

Writers Theatre, 325 Tudor Court, Glencoe, Illinois

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

The Writers Theatre in Glencoe is one of those very special theatres that give audiences for the most part exceptional provocative top drawer productions with casts that match the playwrights work and "Bach at Leipzig" is one of their exceptionally first rate productions.

The play takes place in 1722 Germany where seven musicians are invited to apply for the prestigious and lucrative post of organist at the Thomaskirche, with insecurities, shortfalls of talent and wildly clashing ideologies collide, crating some very funny complications.

The show gives audiences and impressive group of thespians struttin and frettin on stage for two and a half hours with intermission.

Nick Bowling, the show's director has assembled a strong cast that includes Ross Lehman, Michael Aaron Linder, Rob Lindley, John Reeger, Tim Rock, Jonathon Weir, and Larry Yando.

Tamaer Mosies has constructed and intellectual story that combines the structure of Baroque music, the intellectual debates of 18th century Lutheranism, and the ugly little politics of auditioning of six musicians arriving to compete for the suddenly vacant slot of organ master at Liepzig's Thomaskirche and attempts the thing that Tom Stoppard does so well: that seductively complex, seamlessly engineered exercise that in the ideal plays like clockwork.

The play is admirable and is academic and shows its own cleverness in its own way. In the second act the playwright has the character explain the construction of the fugue, which is illustrated by silently rerunning the similarly constructed first act, which begins with the "subject" and adds four additional voices. To add a sixth voice, which of course Moses has done, would be an achievement indeed.

It's a play audiences want to love, despite its fondness for chestnuts along the line of, "What Brings You Here?"

Bowling keeps the pace of the book at a nice pace even with its wordiness Linder has the role of the greatest organist in Germany. It's well worth the trip to Glencoe to see this production. It runs through April 1st. Performances are 7:30 on Tuesday - 8:00 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. on Saturday and 2:30 and 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Ticket prices are \$40.00 and \$58.00. For reservations call 847-242-6000.

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# Best Friends/Companion Pets

## HOWLIN' GOOD TIME

By Bosley

The craziness of the howliday season is now far behind us, and the boredom of the cold winter months are setting in. Now I don't mind the cold, but my human hates it, and because of that she doesn't leave us outside much. Why do our humans not understand that we are intelligent creatures? If it is too cold out, I will do my business and then run back inside. I don't want to be too cold. As long as our coats are clean, untangled, and unmatted we will be kept warm. Plus, canine fashions have come a long way. There are a multitude of sweaters and jackets for them to purchase for us! Do we really need it, probably not, but it makes them feel better. So, I ask all my pet friends to tolerate the winder wardrobe, but ask for something in return.



What to ask for is quite simple, something to do!! Let's face it, our walks aren't as long in the cold, are humans are moodier, and we are bored. When bored I will confess that my fellow housemates get into trouble (of course I would never be bad)! To prevent this my human signs us up for Agility classes! Agility is for any breed or mix of any size and shape. Oh yes, any human young or old can play too! Basically, Agility is an obstacle course that the human must navigate us through! There are jumps, tunnels, and obstacles to climb over, and fly through. It is a lot of fun and I highly recommend getting your human involved. As a bonus it is great exercise for us, and our human.

Since humans still don't understand our dog language, I suggest making subtle hints. Jumping over obstacles in your path instead of walking through them, throwing toys in the air and showing your athleticism, and jumping from couch to couch will get their attention. Please be careful and DON'T break anything, that will get you nowhere. Also, give them this article. I asked my human to add in what the human can do to get started.

First make sure that your pup is in somewhat physical shape. Agility can act as an exercise program and help us loose weight and become more limber. Secondly, ask your Vet, Groomer, or Friends where they might suggest an agility class. Thirdly, check out the Internet, there is a large amount of information about agility. Fourth, come out to All For Doggies in Chicago and see me play! This is where I usually train and we are always eager to meet new friends. Locally, I can also recommend Windy City Dog Training in Chicago and For Your Canine in Shicler Park. Please note I am not recommending any place in particular these are just local places I know of. Lastly, go visit the class before you join. Discuss with the trainer your concerns and questions.

Agility is all about fun, so go with a good attitude and the fun will come. My human always says, "a good dog is a tired dog!" Agility challenges us physically and mentally; therefore we get tuckered out afterward. Plus, we get to spend some quality time with the human we love the most. So get out their and train hard, but play harder!!

Submitted by Canine Corral, Nicole Carfora, CMG ( Bosley's mom)

## Anti-Cruelty Society Events

**Critter Corral Guinea Pig Rescue, Saturday, March 3rd 12-5:00 p.m.**

Stop by the shelter on to meet representatives from Critter Corral Guinea Pig Rescue. Meet some guinea pigs, find out about their care requirements, find out about animals available for adoption, the rescue group and adoption procedures. Critter Corral representatives will be at a table in the shelter lobby. Enter at 510 North LaSalle. Free Parking is Available in The Anti-Cruelty Society Parking Garage located on Grand & Wells. Enter from Wells Street. No pre-registration is required

**Jewel-Osco Shop & Share Days – Monday through Wednesday, March 5-7th**

Shop at your local Jewel-Osco and help animals at the same time! Present a Shop & Share certificate (visit our website [www.anticruelty.org](http://www.anticruelty.org) to download one) to your cashier at check-out on the designated days and Jewel-Osco will donate 5% of your sales to support the life-saving programs of The Anti-Cruelty Society!

**Join The Anti-Cruelty Society for a birthday party celebrating 108 years of a caring for the animals!**

Wednesday, March 7th from 2:00 until 7:00 P.M. at The Anti-Cruelty Society, 510 N. LaSalle, Chicago, Illinois

Lots of fun for everyone, including Free gifts

A chance to win: Tuition to one of our highly acclaimed dog training classes, Two tickets to each of our special events including Bark in the Park, Let's Pet Together, Canine Cruise, and It's Raining Cats & Dogs!

Your favorite pet's photo featured in our Adoption Center lobby for one year!

Young Expressions Artists Contest Awards Ceremony

Birthday cake, other treats and refreshments

Infomodel modeling featuring our staff and volunteers presenting our new logo clothing line.

Denise Zak, Animal Intuitive

Ask the Behaviorist featuring our own behavior specialist

Lots of wonderful dogs and cats available for adoption.

A look at our new construction plans for 2007!

Bring an item from our wish list and receive a special gift for you or your pet! Towels, newspapers, canned premium brand dog and cat foods are just some of our wish list items. Visit our website for our complete wish list. Questions, call the events office at 312.644.8338 ext 307. We hope to see you March 7th for all the fun!!!

## Animal Care League Available for Adoption

For more info on Animal Care League call (708)848-8155 or visit our website [www.animalcareleague.org](http://www.animalcareleague.org)



### Washington

Domestic Shorthair, Male  
White/Silver Bicolor, 9 Years Old

I am a loving, confident cat who really enjoys the company of people and will cuddle right up to you for a nice rub behind my ear. I can be playful, but a little shy around dogs and other cats. My person loved me a lot but needed to bring me here because of allergies. I have made fast friends of the people

here and am ready to connect with a new loving owner.

### Wyatt (A01925097)

Australian Shepherd Mix; Male  
1 year old; Red/Cream

Wyatt is the shelter "goodtime Charlie". He is affectionate and loves to play with everyone, people or dogs. In fact, when you look at this handsome guy, you could swear he has a smile on his face. Wyatt is smart and energetic so he would probably do best in an active home where exercise and a trip to the dog park are a usual part of the routine. He has had little training but is proving to be a fast learner. If you're looking for an enthusiastic young pal, Wyatt is your guy.



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**Chicago Police Department Awards  
Our Lady of the Resurrection  
Medical Center Security Officer**

Photo, left: Chicago Police Department 16th District Commander Ralph M. Price recently presented a Distinguished Citizen's Award to Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center Security Officer Noe Cazares for distinguished service and commitment to duty. Following a multi-car accident at the corner of Addison St. and Central Ave. and without regard to his own personal safety, Cazares immediately ran to the scene and extinguished a fire in one vehicle before it could spread, and then provided aid and comfort to the injured at the scene. In bestowing this award, the Chicago Police Department commended Cazares for his quick response, dedication to duty, professionalism, and heroic actions that contributed to containing the potential threat of explosion and to ensuring the safety and protection of others.



*Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center, 5645 W. Addison, Chicago, is part of Resurrection Health Care, a family of health care services providing advanced medical care and exceptional customer service with compassion and hope. Our hospitals, nursing homes, retirement communities, home health services, behavioral health programs and other services are conveniently located in many Chicagoland neighborhoods. Resurrection Health Care is a not-for-profit Catholic organization sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth and the Sisters of the Resurrection.*

**NEED A PASSPORT?**

**Alderman Bernard Stone  
and City Clerk Miguel del Valle  
are teaming up to provide  
U.S. Passport Application Services**

Tuesday, January 30, 2007 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the 50th Ward Service Office, 6199 N. Lincoln Avenue

In an effort to accommodate 50th Ward residents, the Clerk's office will provide U.S. Passport Services at Alderman Stone's 50th Ward office. As an official U.S. Passport acceptance agency, City Clerk del Valle's office will provide full passport application services including passport photos.

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**Businesses Needed!**

*Thursday Feb 22 3pm at DeVry University* Come to learn more about how DeVry University can help your business. DeVry senior's are looking for businesses we need help with technology, business plan writing, web design etc etc. As part of the DeVry senior projects they will help your business FOR FREE. To register or for more info call WRCC at 773-743-6022.

**Networking**

*1st Thursdays* with the Chamber Join us for networking, food & fun Tuesday March 6 from 530-730 at Community 1st Bank Chicago 7555 N. Western. Bring plenty of business cards!

**Community Health Fair**

*Monday March 12, 2007 at the High Ridge YMCA from 10am-2pm.* High Ridge YMCA is located at the corner of Touhy & Western with plenty of parking. Health screenings for blood pressure, diabetes, Body Mass Index and More! Informational sessions of alternative medicine, massage etc etc. Seniors encouraged to attend. For more info Call WRCC at 773-743-6022

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Your host, Tina Mangos, will teach 3 nights of social dances. Come alone, or bring family and friends for a creative "night out."  
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\* Tuesday, March 20....."Swing & Big Band"  
\* Tuesday, April 24....."April Love" smooth & elegant  
fee per evening: \$15; \$8-students through high school (with ID)  
Tina Mangos teaches Ballroom & Latin at Chicago Parks and other locations. Reserve your spot/for info [www.TinaMangosDance.com](http://www.TinaMangosDance.com) or 773/282 5108, Indian Boundary Park: 773/764 0338



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(See Front Page for Future Programs)

**CHESTER W. SMIGIEL**  
**1917 – 2007**

*“Longtime Chairman and CEO of Liberty Bank for Savings”*



Chester W. Smigiel former Chairman and CEO of Liberty Bank, age 89, has died. Mr. Smigiel passed on Monday, February 12 due to complications of Alzheimer’s disease.

In October of 2005 as he celebrated his 50th year with the company, he was completing his plans for his retirement. “Coming to work every day and making a contribution meant the world to him all the way up to the last day that he could” his son said. He was especially proud of the fact that under his leadership that he moved Liberty into the top tier of financial strength in the United States.

During World War II Mr. Smigiel served as a Sergeant Major in the U. S. Army as part of the “Mars Task Force” in the campaign of Central and Northern Burma to clear the Burma Road.

Mr. Smigiel is survived by his wife of 65 years, Goodrun; his daughter Sandra L. Schlatterer of Arlington Heights and his son, William J. Smigiel of Glenview and 9 grandchildren.



**It's Seed Catalog Time!**

This February, when you're perusing that stack of seed catalogs and planning next year's garden, keep succession planting in mind as you choose vegetable varieties.

First, look for days to maturity so you can determine the best planting time. Note that the days to maturity are from the time of transplanting into the garden, not from the time of starting your seeds indoors.

Also consider frost and heat tolerance. For very early and very late crops, select varieties that can withstand frost in the spring and fall. Likewise, for extreme summer conditions, select varieties that can withstand heat and drought.

Every year try a few new varieties, looking for even more efficient use of your garden space. Most of all, don't be afraid to experiment!

Marlene Kroll  
 Norwood Park Garden Club.

*Thought for the Day: A right train of thought will bring you to a better station in life.*

**The Polish Women's Alliance of America invites you to help start the celebration of Casimir Pulaski Day by attending our book sale and Polish art event.**




Our past fall book sale and literary event offered many bargain books that kept you busy during the cold months. We are happy to once again offer many more gently used books that are waiting to be read by book lovers everywhere.

So that we will be successful in our endeavors, we are asking everyone's help in the following areas:

1. Donate books, CDs, Tapes, Videos that you no longer need to help our library. Children's books welcomed. (before Friday, March 2, 2007)
  2. Support our book sale by making a purchase:  
 Friday, March 2nd from 1:00 p.m to 6:00 p.m.  
 Saturday, March 3rd from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
  3. Volunteers needed to set up and work at the sale. Call if you can help.
- Our new headquarters' location is at 6643 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago, IL. The sale will be held in the lower hall. (Elevator and handicap accessible.)

For further information or drop off information call 1-847-384-1200 Co-chairs, Vice President Sharon Zago Ext. 208 or Treasurer Barbara Miller Ext. 206.

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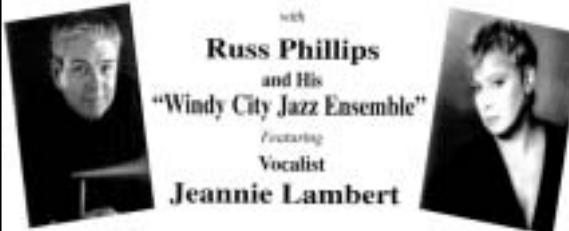
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