



FREE

# OUR VILLAGE



FREE

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P.O. Box 31391,  
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Issue 13  
 August 9, 2019



## Let The Festivals Continue!



### Chicago Air & Water Show August 18 & 19

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### Taste of Polonia FESTIVAL OF MUSIC & FOOD

Taste of Polonia is held every Labor Day weekend since 1980. It is a four-day celebration of Polish cultural heritage, traditions, and customs. The Taste of Polonia features delicious Polish cuisine, entertainment on three stages, as well as numerous Polish artisans.

#### August 30th thru September 2nd

Copernicus Center, 5216 W. Lawrence, Chicago • [festival@copernicuscenter.org](mailto:festival@copernicuscenter.org)



**Oktoberfest**  
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99TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Friday: 5:00pm to 11:00pm  
 8:00pm Official Opening Ceremony  
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 Sunday: Noon to 10:00pm  
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# Cook County Assessor's Office Audit Highlights Need For Data Modernization

## Report Also Recommends Investment In Staffing And Technology

The International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) today released a report to the Cook County Board detailing the findings of a comprehensive audit of the Cook County Assessor's Office (CCAO) operations. The report found a significant need to modernize the data used by the Assessors' Office as well as invest in staffing and technology upgrades.

The IAAO audit was conducted at the invitation of Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi and his staff to identify strengths and weaknesses in current operations as he reforms the office.

The IAAO is a global community of mass appraisal experts who promote excellence in appraisal, assessment administration, and property tax policy. The audit's goal was to identify opportunities to improve office operations, especially in the area of valuations and data modernization, and determine the resources needed to support Assessor Kaegi's vision of an office driven by a commitment to equity, fairness, and transparency.

## **Mayor Lightfoot Creates New Website For Residents To Receive Information and Updates On 2020 U.S. Census**

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot today rolled out a new census website – [census2020.chicago.gov](http://census2020.chicago.gov) – a one-stop shop to support the city's complete count effort for the upcoming 2020 census. The comprehensive website provides residents with updated information on how to participate in the census, city resources aiding in ensuring a full count, and what's at stake for next year's count.

"While the 2020 census kicks off next April, the City isn't wasting any time in preparing for a full count that will ensure every resident is represented, and that Chicago gets our fair share from the federal government," said Mayor Lightfoot. "The inclusion of every Chicagoan is essential to the 2020 census count, and over the next several months our team will be working hard to ensure that all residents, even in the hardest to reach places, have the information and the comfort they need to participate."

The website provides a timeline for responding to the census and hosts a menu of resources from the U.S. Census Bureau and local community partners. To enhance participation, the website addresses concerns about access to internet, safety, privacy and confidentiality on the FAQ page. The website also features a map of Connect Chicago locations for residents who do not have computers or internet access at home.

The new 2020 census website is fully accessible to every user, providing detailed information available in several languages including Spanish, Polish, Mandarin, Arabic and Tagalog. It also lists ways to get involved in the 2020 census including how to work for the U.S. Census Bureau.

A complete count is critical for the future of Chicago. The federal government uses census data to distribute nearly \$700 billion in funding that touches every Chicagoan through education, school lunch programs, healthcare, infrastructure and more. For each person missed during the census, the City risks losing \$1,400, as well as representation in Congress.

Mayor Lightfoot is committed to ensuring a unified citywide approach to ensuring that every Chicagoan participates in the 2020 census. Last week, Mayor Lightfoot and the City Council announced the creation of a new Special Legislative Committee on the Census.

## **Commissioner Miller's Consent Calendar Resolution Highlights the Importance of Immunization in Cook County**

Cook County Commissioner Donna Miller (D-6th) today announced that her resolution designating August as Immunization Awareness Month in Cook County will be addressed at tomorrow's Cook County Consent Calendar Board Meeting. Commissioner Miller said, "The resolution declaring August Immunization Awareness month in Cook County is ceremonial, but the intent is anything but, as we have seen preventable life-threatening diseases rear their ugly head again throughout the country, and so continued education and making people aware of the importance of keeping up to date on their vaccines is vitally important."

"In addition to saving lives, vaccines provide major cost savings by preventing serious infectious diseases, and prevent us from spending large amounts of money on treating them" said Commissioner Miller, adding "As the operator of one of the largest Public Health Systems in the country, Cook County Government and our health system bears a large portion of the economic burden of treating preventable diseases."

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), for every \$1 spent on childhood vaccinations, our country saves \$10.10 and vaccines given to children born between 1994-2016 will prevent an estimated 381 million illnesses, 24.5 million hospitalizations, 855,000 deaths, and \$1.65 trillion in total societal costs.

"August is National Immunization Awareness Month, which is also back to school time and so it makes perfect sense to coincide this resolution with these events to help get the word out, and encourage everyone to remind their family, friends, and coworkers to stay up to date on their shots" said Miller.

### **Adoption Event**

An adult continuing education class offers an in-depth look at "The Adoption Process from A to Z". Offered through Glenside Public Library District, one session will be held on Tuesday, August 20, 2019, from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m., at the Glenside Public Library, 25 East Fullerton Ave., Glendale Heights, Illinois, 60139. This program is free and open to the public.

For information, call 630-260-1550. To register visit: <https://bit.ly/2WBqey>. This program is free and open to the public. Registration requested by August 18, 2019.



### **Belmont/Central & Belmont/Cicero SBIF Roll-Out Applications**

**SBIF Rollout Applications for Belmont/Central & Belmont/Cicero will be accepted from: August 1st - 30th, 2019**

Applications can be submitted via e-mailing one of the staff, fax, U.S. Mail or hand delivery. Applicants are encouraged to contact SomerCor to confirm receipt of their application after submission. All applications must be received by SomerCor by 5:00 p.m. Central Time on the application acceptance period "close" deadline date.

**For more information, please contact the Belmont-Central Chamber of Commerce at 773-647-1644 or at [reid@belmontcentral.org](mailto:reid@belmontcentral.org)**

## **OUR VILLAGE & STREET LEVEL**

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"The IAAO excels at identifying best practices in assessment offices around the world," said Assessor Kaegi. "We want to adopt the highest standards in Cook County so it made sense to ask those who operate at the highest professional level in the field."

Since taking office last December, Assessor Kaegi pledged to use IAAO standards for uniformity in grading the quality of his office's assessment work. In the 2019 re-assessment of the north suburbs, the CCAO achieved IAAO standards for residential assessment in four of the five re-assessed townships.

The IAAO audit was initiated by the Civic Consulting Alliance, which was contracted in 2018 by Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle to perform an external analysis of the Cook County Assessor's Office, and paid for through a grant by the MacArthur Foundation.

## **Mayor Lightfoot Announces Citywide Survey To Gain Input On Future Casino**

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot today announced next steps toward the City's initial efforts to plan for the first-ever casino located in Chicago. Following last week's launch of a financial feasibility study, the City is moving forward to ensure community feedback is considered before planning gets underway on a new casino. A survey launched today will allow residents to weigh in on their preferences for what they would like to see included in a Chicago casino. The survey is available now at [www.chicago.gov/casinosurvey](http://www.chicago.gov/casinosurvey)

"To learn more about what Chicagoans want to see in a new casino, today we are launching a survey that will give our residents a voice in informing how this development can drive the maximum benefit for all communities," said Mayor Lightfoot. "While the prospect of a new casino holds tremendous potential for generating new revenues and stimulating economic opportunity for Chicago, we are committed to a transparent process for ensuring all voices can be heard as the City moves forward on this historic project."

The survey seeks information from participants about ways it can benefit the community, including: preferred amenities, where it could be most conveniently located, and how often they would visit a Chicago casino.

A new casino is envisioned for Chicago as a result of recently enacted legislation and is made possible as a result of Mayor Lightfoot's efforts working with state leadership to secure the requisite approvals. Under the state law, new revenues from a Chicago casino will be used to fund Chicago's police and fire pensions. It is estimated that a Chicago casino will create thousands of jobs as well as contracting opportunities for the community.

## **Mayor Lightfoot Announces A Major Increase In Accessible Pedestrian Signals At Intersections Across Chicago**

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot announced today that Chicago will be adding up to 100 new Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) at locations across the city in the next two years as a result of a new policy developed through a partnership between the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) and the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD). APS communicates information about the WALK and DON'T WALK intervals at signalized intersections in non-visual formats (i.e., audible tones and vibrotactile surfaces) to pedestrians who are blind or have low vision.

"Chicago's mission is to be the most inclusive and accessible city in the nation, and that means building a transportation system that fully serves every resident," said Mayor Lightfoot. "I commend the collaborative efforts of CDOT and MOPD as they significantly increase the number of Accessible Pedestrian Signals across our city, enabling both residents and visitors with visual disabilities to live more freely and safely throughout Chicago."

Mayor Lightfoot made the announcement on the 29th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Approximately 50 additional installations of APS will occur via upcoming roadway, signal modernization and new traffic signal projects over the next two years.

For more information, and to submit public comment, about the APS pilot project and to submit feedback to the city, go to: [tinyurl.com/chicagoaps](http://tinyurl.com/chicagoaps).

## **Statement From Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot On Passage Of Various New Legislation In Springfield That Will Benefit Communities**

"I want to thank Governor Pritzker, President Cullerton, Speaker Madigan and members from both parties in the Illinois General Assembly for advancing our shared vision of a stronger, more equitable future for Chicago and Illinois. We are securing new resources to improve our parks, schools, public transportation and roads through a new capital bill; new revenue for the City and the end to an old inequity through legalized cannabis; and the first step in approval for a Chicago casino that will help shore up the City's seriously underfunded pension funds and creating new jobs. Chicago is fortunate to again have leadership in the Governor's office that recognizes our city's role in driving economic growth and prosperity for the entire state. By continuing to work together in a spirit of cooperation and collaboration to confront shared challenges head-on, we can and will make meaningful progress to unlock new investments for growth in Chicago communities that have been left behind for too long."

## **Need A Lawyer? The Chicago Bar Association Can Help!**

### **Talk To A Lawyer For Free On Saturday, August 17, 2019**

Attorneys with the Chicago Bar Association's Call-A-Lawyer Program will be available to take calls from the public and offer brief legal advice on Saturday, August 17, as part of an ongoing legal public service program offered by the CBA.

Calls will be accepted August 17 from 9 a.m. to noon at (312) 554-2001.

Citizens can call in and briefly explain their situation to an attorney who will then work to suggest self-help strategies or provide advice to help resolve their issues. If callers need further legal services, or have questions beyond the scope of the attorney's practice area, they will be advised to contact the CBA Lawyer Referral Service during the week for a referral to an attorney in the appropriate area of law.

The CBA's Lawyer Referral Service has more than 200 prescreened, qualified lawyers experienced in almost every area of law that offer their services to the public. When contacting the LRS during normal business hours Monday through Friday, callers can be referred to attorneys practicing in numerous areas of law including:

-- Domestic Relations, including divorce, custody, support and other family law matters;

-- Personal Injury (including auto accidents, slip and falls, products liability, wrongful death, malpractice and other types of injury cases).

-- Estate Planning, including will and trust drafting, probate and will contest.

-- Real Estate, including buying or selling real estate, foreclosure defense and landlord/tenant issues.

-- Employment Law, including wrongful termination, harassment and discrimination.

Additionally, the CBA offers an after-hours On-Call service which provides callers' access to attorneys in three different areas of law at any time after normal business hours. You can reach a lawyer 24/7 for help with criminal defense, personal injury and family law matters by calling (312) 554-2001.



## Chicago Folk Artist Mark Dvorak Performs In Norwood Park On August 23

Mather's More Than a Cafe welcomes Chicago's "official troubadour" to the acoustic Friday Night Live series on Friday, August 23 at 6:00 pm. Mather's More Than a Cafe is located at 7134 W. Higgins Road.

Dvorak, who is busy at work on his eighteenth CD, is looking forward to performing in the intimate space.

"At this stage of the game," he said, "I feel like I'm doing my best work. I'm hoping to get the new recording out by autumn and I'm very excited about it. I've got some new material coming along, and I'm including a bunch of different things I like to do before a live audience."

"Mark has been on the road for a lot of years it seems," said Bill McCrory, manager at the Norwood Park location. "He's a masterful musician and an essential figure on the Midwest folk music scene. Community music is more important than ever nowadays and we're really excited that Mark has found room in his touring schedule to join us."

Mather's More Than a Cafe is a part of Mather Lifeways, a unique, non-denominational not-for-profit organization founded more than seventy-five years ago. The Cafe fosters a sense of community and exploration into developing and implementing ways to live well and age well.

Dvorak has performed in thirty-eight states and in parts of Europe and Canada. He has released seventeen albums and has won awards for journalism and children's music. In 2008 he received the Woodstock Folk Festival Lifetime Achievement Award and the Lantern Bearer Award from Folk Alliance International in 2013.

Suggested donation is \$9 and listeners are welcome to BYOB. For more information phone 773 774 4804 or visit [www.matherlifeways.com](http://www.matherlifeways.com).

For information on Mark Dvorak visit [www.markdvorak.com](http://www.markdvorak.com).

## Norwood Park Historical Society To Host Stems & Steins Event On Sept. 7 At Chicago's Oldest House

Help support Chicago's oldest home, mingle with your friends and neighbors while enjoying drinks at the event, Stems & Steins, in and on the grounds of the Noble-Seymour-Crippen House, 5624 N. Newark Ave. in Chicago, from 3:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., on Sept. 7. This annual event includes 3.5 hours of wine or beer tastings, with 50 beers or 50 wines available for \$55 (when tickets are purchased before Sept. 1, 2019; afterward tickets cost \$65 per person), hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction and instant-win raffle.

Commemorative glasses will be available to the first 200 registrants. The event features a huge silent auction at which attendees can bid on wine or beer baskets and gifts, sports memorabilia, dance and theater tickets, lessons and memberships, and many other items. Feeling lucky? Instant-win raffle winners take home a "mystery" bottle of booze, which may also include airline tickets, restaurant gift certificates, gift cards, and other exciting prizes. Raffle "pulls" will be sold for \$40 each (you will win immediately). The silent auction and raffle close at 6 p.m., and winners can pay for and pick up their winning bid item or raffle prize shortly thereafter.

While the event usually is a sell-out, a very limited number of walk-up tickets will be available at the door on a first-come, first-served basis. Walk-up tickets are \$65 per attendee, cash or check only (check made payable to Norwood Park Historical Society). In past years, there have been 20 to 25 tickets available the day of the event. Tickets are non-transferrable and cannot be refunded.

For tickets or more information, please contact the Norwood Park Historical Society at (773) 631-4633 or email them at [info@norwoodparkhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@norwoodparkhistoricalsociety.org).

## Allemande Into Autumn at Free 'Intro to Square Dance' Parties

Glenview Square Dance Club will offer two, free "Intro to Square Dance" parties in August. The first will take place Saturday, Aug. 17, at 2 pm, at the Glenview Public Library (pre-registration required), 1930 Glenview Rd., Glenview. The second will take place Sunday, Aug. 25, at 6 pm, at the Glenview Park Center, 2400 Chestnut, Glenview.

"Square dancing is one of the best-kept secrets when it comes to meeting new people, using your head, and enjoying some exercise," says Glenview Squares club member Myrnice Ravitch, who met her significant other during square dance classes.

Glenview Squares hosts free "Intro" parties twice a year to spread the word about the activity. "Square dancing is a re-emerging pastime. Dancers get hooked on the mental challenge and the way it brings people together to laugh and to learn," says Janice Cha, co-president of Glenview Squares. "Some people have compared square dancing to football, where the team runs the plays and the quarterback calls the shots. But for me, the easiest way to describe it is this: teamwork set to music."

Square dancing is also a good activity for those who tend to avoid formal exercise but still want to log steps on their step counters. "A good caller using fast-paced music can help you rack up 4,000 to 5,000 steps in an evening," Cha says.

Learning the many moves does require attention--and lessons. "At the Intro to Square Dance parties, attendees will learn about 20 calls. Once they've mastered the remaining calls at lessons (starting in September), they should be ready to take part in local square dances."

Chicago North Shore clubs offering beginning square dance lessons in September include Glenview Squares; North Shore Squares, in Evanston & Wilmette; ChiTown Squares, on Chicago's North Side; and Arlington Squares in Prospect Heights.

Both single people and couples are welcome to attend the square dance parties and lessons. "Club members look forward to helping new friends learn the basics," Cha says.

As for what to wear, "the dress code for today's square dancing is casual," Cha adds. "The most important things are comfortable shoes and a smile."

Beginning Square Dance lessons, hosted with the support of Glenview Squares members, are part of the Glenview Park Center's Adult Dance program. Weekly lessons begin on Tuesday, Sept. 3, at 7:30 pm. To register online, visit the Park District's website when registration opens in mid-August at [glenviewparks.org](http://glenviewparks.org).

## 41st Annual Chicago Jazz Festival

August 23–September 1, 2019 • Chicago Cultural Center, Millennium Park and Venues Across Chicago • FREE Admission

Thursday, August 29: Chicago Cultural Center, 12–4:30pm & Millennium Park, 6:30–9pm

Friday, August 30–Sunday, September 1: Millennium Park, 11am–9pm

The Chicago Jazz Festival showcases the greatest jazz artists from Chicago and around the world across the city during new, extended festival dates. The Chicago Jazz Festival is produced by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events and programmed by the Jazz Institute of Chicago.

Produced by the Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events | Programmed by the Jazz Institute of Chicago



## The Levy Center Presents:

### The Life of Sir Winston Churchill

Thursday, August 22, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Join local historian Jim Gibbons as he discusses in detail the life of Sir Winston Churchill. "Never, never, never give in!" This was the creed Sir Winston Churchill lived by his entire life. Born into the aristocracy of the Dukes of Marlborough and becoming a Duke himself, Winston Churchill was always pursuing his goals and dreams.

Fee: \$5 Levy member / \$7 non-member • Code: 524176  
300 Dodge Avenue, Evanston • 847/448-4311

## C.A.R.E. Gears Up To 'Pedal For Pets' in August

Pedal For Pets, a bike ride for people of all ages, will roll out from the C.A.R.E. Adoption Center in Skokie on Sunday, Aug. 18.

It's the 'wheel deal' with C.A.R.E.'s new fundraiser, Pedal For Pets. The go-at-your-own-pace bicycle event will take place the morning of Sunday, August 18, starting from the C.A.R.E. Adoption Center, 4927 Main St., Skokie. In a move to appeal to both seasoned riders and families, Pedal For Pets will feature two routes: a 25-mile course launching at 8:30 am; and a two-mile course launching at 10:30 am.

"Creating a ride for C.A.R.E. brings together my two favorite causes – bike riding and pet rescue," says Pedal For Pets organizer Julie Keating, co-owner of Amlings Cycle, Niles, Ill., and past chair of the

REGISTRATION: Registration fees will be \$35 for individuals and \$50 per family (up to two adults + four kids). Pedal For Pets T-shirts will be available for advance purchase. To register, visit Pedal For Pets online at [CAREnorthshore.org/pedalforphets](http://CAREnorthshore.org/pedalforphets).



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## Summer Fun at Northwestern University



Every Friday this summer, visit ARTica Studio in Norris Center from 1:00-5:00 PM for some fun, open studio activities! Everything is free and supplies are limited, so come early and flex your creativity. Participants must be 9 years of age or older.

1:00-5:00 PM, free, Norris University Center, ARTica Studio (Underground floor), 1999 Campus Drive, Evanston



## Congratulations from the Gladstone Park Chamber

Congratulations to William Howard Taft High School for being recognized as one of the best high schools in the nation by US News and World Report.

**MON - SAT  
10:30 - 4:30  
(hours can change depending on Holidays)**

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

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Required four-part training at the Skokie Campus:

Thursday, September 5, 5:00 - 8:45 p.m.

Thursday, September 10, 5:00 - 8:45 p.m.

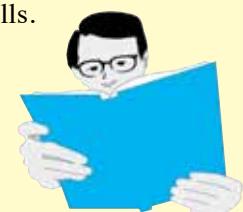
Saturday, September 21, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 5, 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Call 847.635.1426 to schedule interview and learn about upcoming classes.



**7701 N. Lincoln Avenue,  
Skokie, IL 60077**



## CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT



## PARK KIDS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM When School is Out, Parks are In!



It's time to register for Fall programs with the Chicago Park District!



## FALL SESSION

Online registration begins:

**Monday, August 5 at 9AM for parks**

**WEST** of California Ave. (2800 W.)

**Tuesday, August 6 at 9AM for parks**

**EAST** of California Ave. (2800 W.)

**In-Person registration begins:  
Saturday, August 10 for most parks.**

Some parks begin Monday, August 12

\*Please note: registration dates vary for gymnastics centers as well as Morgan Park Sports Center & McFetridge Sports Center.

For more information visit [www.ChicagoParkDistrict.com](http://www.ChicagoParkDistrict.com)  
or call 312.742.7529 or 312.747.2001 (TTY)

STAY CONNECTED.



MAYOR LORI E. LIGHTFOOT  
Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners  
Michael P. Kelly, General Superintendent & CEO

## 2019: Year of the Chicago Theatre

\$1.3 Million in Direct Support to the Local Theatre Community is Awarded through the 2019 Year of Chicago Theatre



As part of the 2019 Year of Chicago Theatre, Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot and DCASE have announced more than \$835,750 in financial grants to 116 theatre and dance artists, nonprofit theatres and other community organizations - with a special focus on supporting theatre on the South, Southwest and West Sides. In addition to these Cultural Grants Program funds, DCASE will provide more than \$448,650 in

performance fees and commissions to showcase 157 theatres, theatre-makers and dance-makers as part of its free public programming. For more information on the Year of Chicago Theatre, visit [chicago.gov/theatre](http://chicago.gov/theatre).



## Art in the Garden

August 25

Millennium Park, Lurie Garden

## Live Action Film: Dumbo

2019 live-action Dumbo at Jefferson Memorial Park, starting at dusk. Sponsored by Alderman Jim Gardiner and Jefferson Park Forward.



WHEN: August 23, 2019 at 8:15pm - 10:15pm

WHERE Jefferson Memorial Park, 4822 N Long Ave, Chicago, IL 60630

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-Alex Huntsberger, *Chicago Sun-Times*

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# Time To "Break Back In" - The 2nd Great Joliet Prison Break In To Take Place On August 24, 2019

## Fundraiser to feature The Ides of March

The 2nd Annual Great Joliet Prison Break In will take place on Saturday, August 24, 2019 from 4pm – 11pm. The prison fundraiser will feature iconic Chicago band The Ides of March, as well as Hot Mess, Great Moments in Vinyl, and The Nikki Hill Band. Tickets are currently on sale for \$35 per person (plus fees).

"The funds raised from this event are vital to help us improve the conditions of Old Joliet Prison and further opening it up for the entire world to see," stated Greg Peerbolte, Executive Director of the Joliet Area Historical Museum. "There's more of a story to be told, and through events like this, we are able to raise the capital needed to make this a world-class site."

The Ides of March are best known for their April 1970 hit single, "Vehicle." This became

## Theatre At The Center Celebrates 30th Anniversary with 2020 Season

Theatre at the Center, Northwest Indiana's only professional theater, has announced the Mainstage shows for 2020 and TATC's 30th Anniversary Season. This milestone season begins with a Chicago-area premiere stage journey to the mountains of Colorado in the 1970s and '80s with Almost Heaven – John Denver's America. Talley's Folly, the Pulitzer-Prize winning romantic comedy, is the second Mainstage production of the season. The jazz clubs of Harlem of the 1920s and '30s and the music of "Fats" Waller in Ain't Misbehavin' is next before it's off to Yonkers, New York in the 1890s for audiences to once again reunite with America's famous matchmaker Dolly Levi in the iconic musical Hello, Dolly! The 2020 season concludes with Elf, The Musical, a holiday family favorite based on the popular 2003 movie.

"For our 30th Anniversary Season I wanted to make sure to have something for everyone," said TATC Artistic Director Linda Fortunato. "We'll travel through many eras and styles to capture the joy of theatre and celebrate the way wonderful storytelling and music bring us together."

Almost Heaven – John Denver's America (February 13-March 22, 2020) is a musical tribute and intimate celebration of John Denver's life and career. From growing up in a military family to his emergence on the 1960s folk scene and the climb to '70s superstardom with his later career of the 1980s and 1990s, John Denver's story is brought to life in this Chicago-area premiere through his countless hits including "Take Me Home Country Roads," "Rocky Mountain High," "Annie's Song," and "Sunshine on My Shoulders." Almost Heaven – John Denver's America is directed by Linda Fortunato.

Talley's Folly (April 30-May 31, 2020), a Pulitzer Prize-winning romantic comedy by Lanford Wilson, tells the story of one night in the lives of two unlikely sweethearts. Matt – bookish, honest, and delightfully funny – tries to allay Sally's fears that her family would never approve of their marriage. With charm and wit, they face their differences while revealing secrets and finding strength in each other. This funny and sweet love story stars real-life sweethearts, Artistic Director Linda Fortunato and Chicago favorite Sean Fortunato. Talley's Folly is directed by David New.

Ain't Misbehavin' (July 9-August 9, 2020), by Murray Horwitz and Richard Maltby, Jr., is a musical revue that will transport audiences to a nightclub during the Harlem Renaissance where the music and excitement of the 1920s and 1930s are in the spotlight courtesy of the great Thomas Wright "Fats" Waller. Fun, rowdy and soulful music captures the varied moods of the era. The Tony-Award-winning Best Musical features toe-tapping songs like "Honeysuckle Rose," "I Can't Give You Anything But Love," "Mean to Me" and "The Joint is Jumpin'." Ain't Misbehavin' is directed by Daryl Brooks.

Hello Dolly! (Sept. 10-Oct. 11, 2020), music and lyrics by Jerry Herman with book by Michael Stewart and directed by Linda Fortunato, is bursting with humor, dance and romance in one of the most enduring and best-loved musicals of all time. This Tony Award-winning classic will star E. Faye Butler, the internationally-acclaimed actress and 7-time Jeff Award winner, in the title role of the irrepressible matchmaker Dolly Levi. This joyful musical features favorite songs like "Before the Parade Passes By," "Ribbons Down My Back" and, of course, "Hello, Dolly!"

Elf, The Musical (Nov. 12-Dec. 20, 2020), with book by Thomas Meehan and Bob Martin with music by Matthew Sklar and Lyrics by Chad Begueline, is a hilarious and charming musical based on the 2003 movie. Raised by Santa's elves, Buddy the Elf is unaware he is actually human until his enormous size and poor toy-making ability makes it impossible to ignore. He embarks on a journey to New York City to find his father and discover his true identity. This modern day Christmas favorite will have both kids and adults lighting up with laughter, embracing their inner Elf, and rediscovering what it means to be a family. Elf, The Musical is directed by Linda Fortunato.

Founded in 1991, the 410 seat Theatre at the Center is a year-round professional theater at its home in The Center for Visual and Performing Arts, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster, Indiana. Theatre at the Center is the only professional theater company in Northwest Indiana, offering Broadway style performances, special event concerts and family programming all in an elegant and accessible venue with plenty of free parking. Theatre at the Center is located off I80/94, just 35 minutes from downtown Chicago.

To purchase individual tickets, call the Box Office at 219-836-3255 or Tickets.com at 800-511-1552 as authorized ticket agents to avoid fraudulent third party ticket broker web sites and outlets. Group discounts are available for groups of 11 or more. Student tickets are \$20 and gift certificates are also available. For more information on Theatre at the Center, visit [www.TheatreAtTheCenter.com](http://www.TheatreAtTheCenter.com).

Warner Brothers fastest-selling single of all time. Other hits from the Chicago-based band include "L.A. Goodbye" and "You Wouldn't Listen." Lead singer Jim Petranik has penned numerous hits for The Ides of March and another group that he co-founded, Survivor.

Great Moments in Vinyl is a truly unique tribute band, as they choose a memorable album to cover and play it in its entirety. As they go through the songs, they will also tell a series of stories about the songs and artists that helped shape that album.

Raised in the church choir and steeped in R&B and garage rock rumble, Nikki Hill is a spitfire with the soul-drenched voice of Etta James and the tattooed, beehived-hair aura of Cramps' guitarist Poison Ivy. LA Weekly has said of Hill, "The fast-rising, hard-charging, 20-something, North Carolina born-and-bred singer Nikki Hill has more than earned her evocative 'Southern Fireball' moniker."

The band Hot Mess featured Joliet Mayor Bob O'Dekirk on drums. The band played the inaugural event as well, entertaining the early-arriving crowd as the event's opening act.

The event is a collaboration of several entities coming together to further establish the Prison as an attraction around the world.

"Old Joliet Prison has generated both regional and international interest. The CVB is thrilled to be part of this on-going fundraising effort and look forward to assisting with the attraction development," stated Robert Navarro, President and CEO of the Heritage Corridor Convention and Visitors Bureau. "The recently awarded MPP and TAP grants confirm the state's interest in the project from a tourism perspective."

This year's event looks to build on the success of the inaugural Great Joliet Prison Break In which attracted a near capacity crowd of over 3,000 people and featured entertainment by "The Blooze Brothers" tribute band. Patrons were offered a chance to step inside the main prison walls and party on the prison grounds. Guests had a chance to walk through the North Segregation ("solitary confinement") building and take a quick peek into one of the Administration Building's cell blocks. Due to the ongoing work of dedicated tradespeople and volunteers, this year, the cafeteria will also be available for viewing.

Tickets for the Great Joliet Prison Break-In can be purchased online at [jolietprison.org](http://jolietprison.org) for \$40 per person (which includes Eventbrite Fees). Tickets can be purchased (without fees) in person at the Joliet Area Historical Museum during their regular hours. Tickets purchased at the museum must be paid with cash or check.

## Receive 10 Free Trees by Joining the Arbor Day Foundation in August

Spruce up your landscape by joining the Arbor Day Foundation in August.

Everyone who joins the Arbor Day Foundation with a \$10 donation will receive 10 free Colorado blue spruce trees or 10 white flowering dogwood trees through the Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The trees will be shipped postpaid between October 15 and December 10, depending on the right time for planting in each member's area. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

"Colorado blue spruce trees truly provide year-round beauty for any landscape," said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Dogwood trees will add color



and beauty to your yard throughout the year, with their showy spring flowers, scarlet autumn foliage, and red berries that attract songbirds in the winter."

New members of the Arbor Day Foundation will also receive The Tree Book, which includes information about tree planting and care, and a subscription to Arbor Day, the Foundation's bimonthly publication.

To receive the free Colorado blue spruce trees, join online at [arborday.org/august](http://arborday.org/august) or send a \$10 membership contribution by August 31 to:

Arbor Day Foundation  
Ten Free Blue Spruces OR Ten Free Dogwood  
100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410

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# Neighborhood Farmers Markets Opened In May

Chicago City Markets sell fresh seasonal produce, flowers, prepared foods, unique Chicago-made products and rare finds – at Chicago's longest running farmers market on Daley Plaza, the historic Maxwell Street Market and a dozen more community markets in neighborhoods across Chicago.

#### • Andersonville Farmers Market

1500 W Berwyn Ave., Chicago

This season is the market's 10th year in business. New vendors include breads and baked goods from Lost Larson and grain bowls and seasonal jams from Black Cat Kitchen.

May 8 to August 28 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. and September 4 to October 16 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays

#### • Logan Square Farmers Market

2363 N Milwaukee Ave., Chicago

Here you can find plants for sale, learn about raising chickens, and use the free bike valet.

May 12 to October 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays

#### • Green City Market Lincoln Park

1817 N Clark St., Chicago

This massive market is just steps from Lincoln Park Zoo. Enjoy flatbreads, whole roasted chicken, farm produce, and bottled goods like maple syrup or hot sauce.

May 4 through October from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Wednesday and Saturday.

#### • City Market at Daley Plaza

50 W Washington St., Chicago

Surrounded by the hustle and bustle of the Loop, this is the longest running farmers market

in Chicago, according to the city. A perfect spot for a downtown lunch break.

May 10 to October 24 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays. No market on July 4.

#### • Maxwell Street Market

619 W Taylor St., Chicago

While you can get fresh produce and Mexican street food here—this isn't just a farmer's market. Find everything from furniture to clothing and rare collectibles at this massive market.

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sundays year round

#### • Glenwood Sunday Market

6962 N Glenwood Ave., Chicago

This market only sources farmers and other vendors that are within 200 miles of Rogers Park. Each month there will be a Giving Sunday which will raise funds to give low-income SNAP shoppers double dollars.

June 2 to October 27 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sundays. No market on August 18.

#### • Lincoln Square Farmers Market

N Lincoln Ave & W Leland Ave., Chicago

This market has morning and night hours, and is conveniently right off the Brown Line Western station. There's kids activities, yoga and chef demos.

June 4 to October 29 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursdays (4 p.m. to 7 p.m. after Labor Day)

#### • Horner Park Farmers Market

2741 W Montrose Ave., Chicago

Get flowers, herb gardens, produce, and more from local farmers and sustainable food producers.

June 8 to October 5 between 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

on Saturdays

#### • Independence Park Farmers Market

3945 N Springfield Ave., Chicago

Tamales, music, and open air—what more do you need? Get your groceries from farmers across the state.

June 8 to October 26 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. on the second and fourth Sundays

#### • Low-Line Market at Southport

3410 N Southport Ave., Chicago

This market takes place at Southport's Low Line, which is energized with murals by Lauren Asta and Caroline Liu.

June 6 to Oct. 10 from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays

#### • City Market at Federal Plaza

S Dearborn St., Chicago

Enjoy Do-Rite donuts underneath Alexander Calder's red flamingo sculpture for the perfect midday break.

May 14 to October 29 from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays

#### • Columbus Park City Market

500 S Central Ave., Chicago

Just on the border of Oak Park and Chicago, enjoy historic Columbus Park after getting all the greens. This market also accepts Link and SNAP payment.

July 9 to September 3 from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays

#### • Printers Row City Market

700 S Dearborn St., Chicago

Located in pint-sized Printer's Row Park, skip the crowded hustle of other markets and leisurely stroll through vendors with seasonal produce, baked goods, cheese, eggs, and flowers.

June 15 to October 26 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays

#### • South Loop Farmers Market

1936 S Michigan Ave., Chicago

Artisanal vendors like Stamper Cheese, The Roof Crop, Yvolina's Tamales, Organic Bread of Heaven all regularly sell their goods here.

June through Sept. 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursdays

## Village Cooking Corner

*Follow Recipe Using Fresh Fruits, Vegetables, Dairy, etc., Featured During Farmers' Market Season at [www.cityofchicago.org](http://www.cityofchicago.org) under Farmers Markets/Recipes. Also, Watch Future Editions Of Our Village News*

### Vegetable Pizza

#### Method and Ingredients

1st Layer: Spread 2 packages of Pilsbury Crescent Rolls on a cookie sheet. Bake per instructions on the packaging

2nd Layer: Mix 12oz softened cream cheese, 1 cup mayonnaise, 1/2 package of Kraft or other Dry Ranch Dressing

3rd Layer: Finely chop broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, green onions, celery, red and green bell peppers.

Press them down over cream cheese. Variety and Quantity is up to your liking

Sprinkle with finely shredded cheddar cheese, cut into square pieces

Serve at room temperature or cold. Dish can be stored in fridge for future use.

### Couscous

*(To accompany all of your Farmers' Market choices)*

An easy to make delicious Couscous recipe that packs lot of flavor and is healthy too!

Prep Time 10 mins, Cook Time 10 mins, Total Time 20 mins

#### Ingredients

2 tsp olive oil  
1 onion chopped  
3 cloves garlic chopped  
1 cup couscous grain  
1/2 cup Parmesan cheese mix grated  
Parmesan cheese mix ed with 1 tbsp crumbled blue cheese, dry oregano and basil  
3 Tbsp chopped pine nuts  
1 tsp red paprika  
salt and crushed black pepper to taste  
1/2 cups water  
1 Tbsp butter  
1/2 cup kale chopped/chiffonade

#### Instructions

Heat olive oil in non stick pan  
Add onions, saute for 2 minutes then add garlic, saute for a minute  
Next add couscous to the pan mixing it well with the onion garlic mixture, then add butter  
Mix well, add kale, salt, crushed black pepper & paprika. Stir well  
Now add water incorporating it with other ingredients in the pan. Cook for 2 minutes then remove from stove and cover with lid  
Take lid off after 2 minutes, by now all the moisture will have been absorbed by couscous  
Fluff couscous with a fork and transfer it to a plate

#### Notes:

The Parmesan, blue cheese and herbs mix, along with garlic give it an Italian flavor.

Adding Kale gives it a freshness and pine nuts give it a nice crunch!

This easy to make recipe is sure to tickle your taste buds!

Bon Appetit! "Gastro Guru"

*For more recipes please watch my cooking videos on my YouTube channel Gastro Guru*

*at: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHEwy\\_4i-CAcQBhLCgcAdQg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHEwy_4i-CAcQBhLCgcAdQg)*

## Downtown Evanston Farmers' Market Season Is Open!

The Downtown Evanston Farmers' Market kicked off its 44th season on Sat., May 4, 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at University Place and Oak Avenue! This year, up to 60 vendors will sell a wide variety of goods, including fruits, vegetables, meat, flowers, cheese, milk, eggs, baked goods and more. Come hungry; food will be sold on site.

## Weekly Fulton Market Expo Launches In Historic District

Every Saturday between the months of May through October, FMX will be held on Fulton Market between Peoria and Green Streets from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. The block, first constructed in 1887 as the historical Fulton Street Wholesale Market, will once again be the home of a bustling exhibition.

The West Loop Community Organization is a 501(c)(3) membership organization that represents hundreds of businesses, dozens of local non-profits, and the various residential communities within the West Loop. For more information, visit the WLCO website at <https://westloop.org>.

## Evanston Becomes First Illinois City to Earn Community Wildlife Habitat Certification

The City of Evanston continued its long history of environmental stewardship by becoming the first Illinois city to achieve certification as a Community Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation (NWF).

Natural Habitat Evanston, a program of Citizens' Greener Evanston, led the citywide effort to earn the certification, helping to achieve one of the goals set by the City's Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP).

The NWF's Community Wildlife Habitat program partners with cities, towns, counties, neighborhoods and communities to become healthier, greener and more wildlife-friendly. Community Wildlife Habitats garden and landscape with wildlife in mind, promote the use of native trees and plants, work to reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides and chemicals, and integrate wildlife-friendly practices into sustainability plans and park master plans.

The City will celebrate its Community Wildlife Habitat certification at the Oktober Festival on Saturday, October 5 at the Evanston Ecology Center. Event details will be announced at a later date.

Evanston is the first Illinois city and the second community in the state to be certified as a Community Wildlife Habitat. The Galena Territory residential/resort community has also achieved certification. Other cities in Illinois, including Chicago and Wilmette, are currently working towards certification.

To learn more about the NWF's certification program, visit [nwf.org/CommunityWildlifeHabitat](http://nwf.org/CommunityWildlifeHabitat) or call 800-822-9919.





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