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Volume XVII

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Issue 5  
April 24, 2013

## Happy Mother's Day

In America, the second Sunday in May is the day we set aside to honor Mother. One of the most intricate and important duties one can accept is to steer, protect and nurture another's life.

Mothers hardly ever get the credit they deserve in their day-in-day-out dedication to the generations of young people now and forever. They, our Mothers, influence the future of the entire earth; they have for years past and will continue, far into the future.

Thank you to all of the Mothers everywhere for a life's tireless commitment, not always recognized for its true worth.

### A Day of Puppetry

A "Day of Puppetry" is featured at the Irish-American Heritage Center Saturday April 27th, sponsored by the Chicagoland Puppetry Guild.

A 11AM "Plum Crazy Puppets" and musician Steve Beno entertain toddler to elementary ages, and at 1PM Ventriloquist Chuck Field will delight the rest of us.

A \$5 donation is suggested, and between shows The Puppet Market and Dr. Elana Ashley (bilingual programs with Ellie Elephant) will keep things lively.

For more information visit:  
www.chicagopuppet.org or call Event Coordinator Susan Witek at (847) 259-5167. Location: 4626 N Knox Ave. (just off the Edens at Wilson), free parking.



### It's That Time of Year

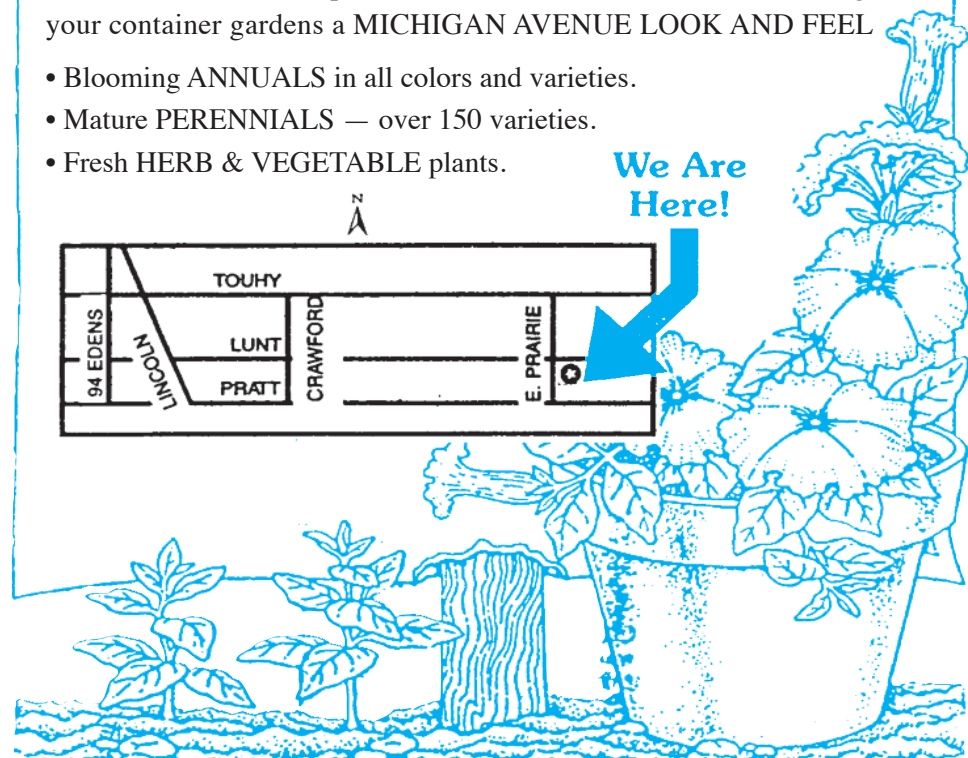
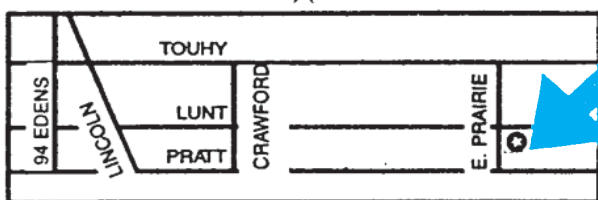


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## HAPPY ORTHODOX EASTER SUNDAY, MAY 5TH

### The American's Creed

I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed, a democracy in a republic; a sovereign nation of many sovereign states; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies. (Authorized Version)

## CHICAGO SKIES TO FILL WITH KITES

Chicago Kids and Kites Festival, May 4 in Lincoln Park

Spirits aren't the only thing that will be soaring when the annual spring tradition, the Chicago Kids and Kites Festival, returns to Cricket Hill in Lincoln Park (Montrose at Lake Shore Drive) on Saturday, May 4, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Once again the City will provide free kite kits for children to make, decorate and fly in a location on the lakefront that's ideal for kite flying. Families will be able to purchase kites onsite at the Kite Harbor booth and enjoy professional kite flying demonstrations and learn tips on how to fly a kite.

Weather permitting, the festival will also include the Big Kite Candy Drop, a piñata-like kite filled with candies that drop from the sky.

Other activities include face painting, balloon artists and crafts, including decorating keepsake kite-shaped magnets. Brookfield Zoo will be on site giving away prizes and offering kids the chance to make their own Dinosaur feet. All crafts activities are while supplies last.

Throughout the day, the festival will raffle off Brookfield Zoo Family Packs that include four general admission tickets, four Dinosaurs Alive tickets and one free parking pass. Other raffle items include Boeing kites and hats.

Chicago Kids and Kites Festival is presented by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events and sponsored by the Chicago Transit Authority, 93.9 Lite fm, The Boeing Company, Pepsi, ComEd, Whole Foods Market and Brookfield Zoo.

For updates and more information on this free admission festival that offers family fun for all ages, visit [chicagokidsandkites.us](http://chicagokidsandkites.us) or call 312.744.3316 during regular business hours.

## Resurrection

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Running, Soccer, Softball,  
Tennis and Volleyball

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773.775.6616 Ext 110 or  
[www.reshs.org](http://www.reshs.org)

### Camp Invention

Science Camp

for boys and girls entering grades 1-6  
July 8 to 12, 2013

9 am to 3:30 pm

Hands-on program exploring science  
applications through inventions,  
experiments and games.

Registration available at 800.968.4332 or  
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## 2 Wolff's Flea Markets

23rd Season

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## SKOKIE ART GUILD

### FIGURE DRAWING WORKSHOPS

Saturday Sessions continue every week 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

(Thursday evening sessions have been eliminated)

Live models / no instructor

Fees per session SAG Members \$12.00;  
non-members \$20.00. For information: Steve Gal 847/673-4450

Devonshire Cultural Center, 4400 Greenwood St., Skokie, IL 60076  
www.skokieartguild.org Members: \$12.00 / Non-Members: \$20.00

**CALL FOR ARTISTS:** Skokie Art Guild's 52nd Annual Art Fair.

July 13-14, 2013. Fine Art. Held outdoors on Skokie's

Village Green, 5211 W. Oakton. Prizes and Awards. **APPLY NOW!**

For information/application: [www.skokieartguild.org](http://www.skokieartguild.org)  
skokieart@aol.com 847-677-8163

### SPRING EXHIBIT of "Nature's Palette"

March 8th thru May 5th at the

Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie

## MORTON GROVE HOSTS FREE HEALTH AND FITNESS EXPO

The Morton Grove Economic Development Commission (EDC) is pleased to announce its second annual "2013 Health & Fitness Expo" at the Morton Grove Memorial Civic Center, 6140 W. Dempster Street, Morton Grove, on Saturday May 18 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. The Expo is open to people of all ages and admission and parking are free. The public is invited to personally experience many of Morton Grove's health-related businesses all at one time and in one convenient location.

This large-scale event is co-sponsored by the Morton Grove Chamber of Commerce, the Morton Grove Farmers Market and the North Shore Senior Center. Exhibitors are limited to Morton-Grove based businesses but the Expo will be open to all of the surrounding suburbs and to children, adults and seniors. Exhibitors may participate in the Expo at no charge and must register no later than 5:00 pm on Monday May 13 or before exhibition space has been filled.

Businesses that are involved in the health, maintenance and appearance of the human body will be showcased at the Expo. The exhibitors include medical doctors, pharmacies, dentists, podiatrists, physical therapists, chiropractors, dietitians and nutritionists, health clubs, medical equipment suppliers, home health care agencies, massage therapists and health spas, beauticians, estheticians, cosmetics, health food and vitamin stores, aerobics instructors, sporting goods, martial artists and more.

Restaurants, catering companies and healthy food providers will offer free samples of their fare at random times throughout the three-hour event. Several live demonstrations are also planned.

To participate as an exhibitor please visit the Village of Morton Grove web site at: [www.mortongroveil.org](http://www.mortongroveil.org) or call Aaron Widmer of the Morton Grove Economic Development department at (847) 663-3062 weekdays between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. Email: [commdev@mortongroveil.org](mailto:commdev@mortongroveil.org) Alternate contact is Peter Falcone at (847) 663-3002.

## Public Hearings On Consolidating Underutilized Schools and Other Actions Begin Tuesday

**CPS Will Hold One Public Hearing on Each Proposal April 16 Through May 2**

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) will begin its fourth phase of community engagement this week as public hearings on each of the 54 underutilized schools and programs proposed for consolidation and other actions recommended by CPS CEO Barbara Byrd-Bennett. Beginning Tuesday, April 16, CPS will hold one public hearing for each proposed recommendation during which CPS staff will present brief testimony followed by public comment. An independent hearing officer will preside over each public hearing.

"Parents in every community want and deserve better for their children's education," said CEO Byrd-Bennett. "They must be partners in this work, which is why the input of parents and school communities played a direct role in preparing the recommendations I proposed in March. I urge them to continue participating and informing this work."

Community meetings have been held by CPS and the Commission on School Utilization as part of a rigorous, four-month community engagement process CEO Byrd-Bennett launched in January to inform her consolidation recommendations. Prior to releasing school utilization recommendations in March, CEO Byrd-Bennett received feedback from over 20,000 community members and parents at nearly 30 public meetings. This feedback coupled with the recommendations from the Independent Commission on School Utilization helped to create the criteria for consolidation or relocation that has removed a total of 276 schools from consideration for closure.

To date, CPS has held over 150 community meetings around this work, which has given parents and community members the ability to provide feedback throughout the process. Answers to frequently asked questions raised throughout community meetings can be found on CPS' website at: <http://www.cps.edu/qualityschools>.

Each public hearing will be held for two hours in the evening Monday through Friday and in the afternoon on Saturday with a majority of the time dedicated to public comment. CPS encourages community members and parents to provide input on safety plans for each consolidation, investments in welcoming schools and additional comments on CPS' proposed school utilization plan. Meetings will be held at CPS Central Office at 125 South Clark Street. A full schedule of community meetings is attached and available online at

<http://www.cps.edu/qualityschools/Pages/myvoice.aspx>.

Chicago Public Schools has 403,000 students in 681 schools. CPS is the nation's third-largest school district.

## Presence Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center Offers May Health Programs

Presence Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center, 5645 W. Addison St., Chicago, will offer the following health events in May.

The Diabetes Support Group will meet Tuesday, May 7, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. The free support group aims to provide mutual support and education. For more information, call 773.794.8329.

A free Healthy Aging Program will be held Friday, May 10, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. This program for individuals aged 55 and older consists of social time, health topics and guest lectures. Peggy Young, R.N., will discuss hospital quality measures. Registration is not required.

Free blood pressure screenings will be offered Monday, May 20, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., in the hospital's main lobby. A health care professional will perform screenings and answer questions about blood pressure readings. Registration is not required.

A free lecture on health care services titled 'PrimeCare Clinic Information Session' will be given Wednesday, May 29, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and repeated 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Austina Reed, PrimeCare Director of Development, will discuss affordable, comprehensive, culturally sensitive health care services available in the neighborhood through PrimeCare, a federally qualified health center and CountyCare partner. Refreshments will be served. Advance registration is required by calling 877.737.INFO.

The Arthritis Support Group will meet Thursday, May 30, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., in the seventh floor Centennial Conference Center. These free sessions aim to provide mutual support and education. Registration is not required.

Free parking is available in the hospital's parking facility on Addison Street.

## SKOKIE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY NOTICE:

### Lane Reductions for Water Main System Improvement on Carpenter Road from Touhy to Pratt Avenues

The Village will begin a water main system improvement project on Carpenter Road, from Touhy Avenue to Pratt Avenue during the week of April 15, 2013. The project is scheduled to continue through the end of June 2013.

There will be lane reductions for northbound Carpenter Road and westbound Touhy Avenue. The Touhy Avenue lane reductions are required while working at the intersection.

Please consider an alternate route if possible. For more information, contact the Engineering Division at 847/933-8231.

## Jefferson Park Meeting

The JPNA, Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association, will host its next meeting on Wed. April 24, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the lower level of the Congregational Church of Jefferson Park, 5320 W. Giddings. The Guest speaker will represent Alderman Arena's Office in explaining how the citizens take part in the Participatory Funds use which will be voted upon on only one day, May 5, 2013. There will also be talk of The Garden of the Hungry which donates fresh food which it grows to those in need. Any suggestions of how citizens think funds should be spent should be brought to this meeting. Meetings are free, open to the public with light refreshments and a door prize. For more information call 773 282 3879.

## Norwood Park Seniors Club

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

## We Need A Few Good Vendors!

Greetings! The West Ridge Chamber of Commerce and 50th Ward Alderman Debra Silverstein invite you to an informational meeting about participating as a vendor in the Devon Community Market this summer. Several outdoor markets will be held in 2013 and we are looking for all types of vendors. Examples include: grocery, prepared foods, on-site cooks, entertainment, florists, coffee/tea, retail merchandise and anything else unique to the 50th ward.

For further information please contact the West Ridge Chamber of Commerce at [atwestridgechamber@sbcglobal.net](mailto:atwestridgechamber@sbcglobal.net) or call Amie Zander, Executive Director at 773/743-6022.

## The Lincolnwood Social Club

Day trips, drop-in programs, guest speakers and seasonal mixers are just a few of the activities enjoyed by Lincolnwood Social Club members. Area seniors, age 55 years and better, are encouraged to join the program and start taking advantage of some of the upcoming programming including theater outings to see The Pirates of Penzance (May 16), Dream Girls (October 10) and Singin' in the Rain (November 28). Other day trips include the Glenn Miller Orchestra (May 22), History Lunch Tour on the Spirit of Chicago (June 20) and Lake Geneva Lake Tour and Lunch at The Abbey (July 18). Registration fees include round trip transportation and lunch for most outings. Drop-in programs are offered on a weekly basis at the Lincolnwood Community Center (6900 N. Lincoln Avenue). Weekly activities include bridge, mah jongg and senior exercise. Classes are offered either free of charge or at a discount for Social Club members. In addition to day trips and drop-in programs, members enjoy monthly activities including movie viewings with catered lunch, area restaurant outings as well as outings to city locales (transportation included) and monthly social mixers highlighting member birthdays.

For membership information and a list of activities, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (847) 677-9740 or access at [www.lincolnwoodil.org](http://www.lincolnwoodil.org).

## After School Matters

After School Matters is now accepting applications for its Summer apprenticeship and internship programs, most of which begin July 1 or July 8. Programs in the arts, communications, science, sports and technology will be offered at 30 Chicago Public Schools high schools and at more than 120 community organizations and Chicago Park District locations across the city, as well as downtown at the Gallery37 Center for the Arts and "under the tents" in Millennium Park.

In total, approximately 7,000 paid apprenticeship and internship opportunities in more than 230 programs will be available to Chicago teens this summer. After School Matters Summer programs typically meet four to five days a week for four hours over the course of six weeks. Summer apprentices will earn a session stipend of up to \$420 and interns will earn \$8.25 per hour.

"After School Matters strives to offer Chicago teens unique and productive program opportunities in safe and enriching environments throughout the summer and the school year," said Mary Ellen Caron, chief executive officer of After School Matters. "By supporting their development of skills in a variety content areas, as well as important career readiness skills, we help them discover their potential and gain the confidence they need to find their future."

After School Matters unique programs offer teens an opportunity to explore and develop their talents, while gaining critical skills for work, college and beyond. Multiple independent studies and recent data have confirmed that teens who participate in After School Matters programs have fewer course failures, improved attendance and higher high school graduation rates.

For questions on programs and applications, contact 312-742-4182 or [info@afterschoolmatters.org](mailto:info@afterschoolmatters.org).

*Founded in 1991 by former Chicago First Lady Maggie Daley, After School Matters is a nonprofit organization that offers Chicago high school teens high quality, out-of-school-time opportunities to explore and develop their talents, while gaining critical skills for work, college and beyond. Over the past two decades, more than 100,000 teens have participated in our hands-on, project-based arts, communications, science, sports and technology programs at Chicago public high schools, community locations across the city and Downtown at Gallery37 Center for the Arts. After School Matters programs are developed and delivered through a network of public and private partnerships, including Chicago Public Schools, the Chicago Park District, the Chicago Public Library and a wide range of community organizations.*

## Public Hearing on Purple Hotel Development Rescheduled

The Village of Lincolnwood has announced that the public hearing on the proposed development of the Purple Hotel property has been rescheduled to Wednesday May 22, 2013 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers Room of Village Hall. Originally, this public hearing was scheduled on April 24, 2013.

This change and delay in the start of the public hearing date was requested by the applicant and property owner, North Capital Group. North Capital Group has proposed as a centerpiece for the redevelopment of this property the renovation of the existing Purple Hotel facility.

At the public hearing, all interested parties are invited to provide comment. Proposed plans by the applicant are on file with the Village and may be viewed prior to the public hearing in the Community Development Department. For further information, contact Lauren Wolf, Development Coordinator at 847-745-4790.

## Lincolnwood Seeks Flooding Information

Today the Village experienced flooding caused by the high rainfall totals impacting the Chicagoland area. The Village's storm system took on water faster than it could be discharged.

If your basement flooded, the risk of electrocution or a natural gas leak are always a danger. Wait until the water recedes before you begin to cleanup. If you decide that it is necessary to walk in the water, shut the electricity off first. Call 9-1-1, if you need emergency assistance.

Please call (847) 675-0888 if your basement flooded as a result of this storm. The Public Works Department is collecting information to help us do a better job, and needs your assistance.

Finally, if you have items damaged by flooding, you may place them by the curb, and Groot will pick them up on Monday.

## REMAIN STEADFAST – HAVE CONFIDENCE!!

America is the number one Country in the world. To stay number one at anything, constant improvement is vital. It's difficult to climb to the top in any endeavor, but it's even harder to stay there.

It appears that added to all of the domestic problems we face each day, we are also at war. We will win and overcome our problems because we have character as a people and as a Country. With this same dedication and vigor we will tackle our challenges as they occur.

With the pressure our Country and its Citizens are under, common sense and a pride, not only in ourselves, but in our Nation as a whole, is key. There are no easy answers, so it may be time that each one of us evaluates our own knowledge of current events, religious beliefs, our spirit of giving to others and pride in our foundations as a free people.

Never should we be afraid, rather determined that we will pursue the right road that will allow us to remain on top. We should all examine where we have been, where we are presently, and even more important, where we are heading. -The Editor



## Evanston Launches Debt Recovery Program

Over the past year, the City of Evanston has been working with the State of Illinois on the Local Debt Recovery program, a program in which the city can intercept state income tax refunds to cover debts owed to the city. The first step in using this process will be the collection of overdue parking tickets.

In conjunction with the City of Evanston's participation in the state program, the city has announced a one-time program which waives all late fees on outstanding parking citations that were incurred during the seven years prior to September 30, 2012.

The city has contracted with Professional Account Management, LLC to mail out notifications to those with outstanding parking tickets. To qualify for this offer, payments must be received by June 30, 2013. About 40,000 accounts are eligible for this program totaling about \$2.7 million.

Currently, the city uses third party collection agents. However, since the city does not report scofflaws to credit bureaus, collection efforts are limited to an aggressive communications program along with the city's ability to boot vehicles.

After the deadline for this one-time parking ticket collections program, those individuals who did not participate will have their accounts submitted for state income tax refund interception through the Illinois Local Debt Recovery Program and all late fees associated with these delinquent parking tickets will be reinstated.

## Evanston 4th of July Association to Hold Public Meeting April 29

The Evanston 4th of July Association and the City of Evanston will be holding a community meeting to gather public input on Independence Day activity ideas at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 29. The meeting will be held at the Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center, located at 1655 Foster St.

The goal of the meeting is to get community input on potential new activity sites; generate some additional site partners for the association; create possible transportation improvements to and from the parade; and to get general thoughts on Independence Day activities. In commemoration of Evanston's 150th anniversary, the goal of the association is to have Independence Day events in every Evanston ward. There are already successful events planned in several wards and there are plenty of communitywide resources, experience and support available to help create more ideas for activities in other areas of the community.

In 1921, after a child was injured while setting off fireworks, the North End Mother's Club formed the North Evanston 4th of July Association to provide a full day of safe, supervised and constructive activities for children each year. In 1980, the association changed its name to the "Evanston Fourth of July Association," expanding its scope to include all of Evanston.

Unlike most Independence Day celebrations in other communities, the festivities in Evanston are produced entirely by the all-volunteer, privately donor-funded Evanston 4th of July Association. No tax dollars are normally used for the actual production of sporting activities, the parade, the twilight band concert or the fireworks presentation.

However, with 2013 being the City of Evanston's sesquicentennial, the Evanston City Council voted to allocate \$10,000 for extra performers for the parade, thereby allowing the Association to dedicate more private funds to other areas of the celebration.

Learn more about the Evanston 4th of July Association by visiting their website at [www.evanston4th.org](http://www.evanston4th.org).

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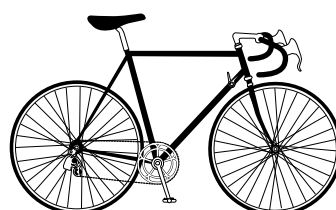
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## Free Austrian Jazz Performance hits DANK Haus in June

Internationally acclaimed jazz duo of Michaela Rabitsch and Robert Pawlik will bring swinging jazz to the Skyline Lounge in a free show. Michaela Rabitsch is a singer and Austria's only female top jazz trumpet player and her ingenious partner - guitarist Robert Pawlik are delighting equally press and audience with their crossover repertoire of jazz, pop and latin. "Just the two of us" is the title of their current duo release and it happens to be one of the pop-songs, which harmonically combine the self-written material of the duo with jazz- and latin-standards into a refined performance concept. Robert Pawlik's guitar is equally able to create a crystal-clear frame full of feeling for the expressive voice and the sensitive trumpet playing of Michaela Rabitsch and to be the virtuoso replacement for the groove of a full rhythm section. Especially their original, atmospheric compositions give them a unique, charming profile. The entire repertoire features sophisticated melodies seasoned with a touch of blues. Vienna's simpatico first couple of jazz (Hannes Höttl, Wohin-in-Wien) sets new benchmarks in unplugged duo playing and impresses with touching and catchy songs.

Tickets: This event is free and open to the public, thank to generous support by the Austrian Consulate of Chicago. This event is Friday June 7, 2013 at 8:00 pm. Doors open at 7:00 pm.



## "THE SPRING GARDEN" IS SUBJECT OF TIMELY TALK ON MAY 15 AT NORWOOD CROSSING

This is the perfect time of year to start preparing your garden and outdoor plants for the summer. To get a head start on making your flower garden a cornucopia of beauty and color and your vegetable garden a productive effort, attend the Timely Talk, "The Spring Garden," at 2:00 p.m., on May 15, at Norwood Crossing, 6016-20 N. Nina Ave. in Chicago.

Making the presentation will be Master Gardener Patricia Pinianski, who completed her class work at the University of Illinois Extension Service. She will cover spring clean up, soil preparation, composting, companion planting, the vegetable garden, and other related topics. This is the type of basic information that most at-home gardeners covet. A monument to her personal interests is the home garden that she created in her yard to serve as a retreat for her fiction writing in the summer. Under various pen names, she has written more than 80 books, most of which are romance, and romantic thriller and horror novels.

Professionally, Pinianski teaches popular fiction and suspense thriller writing in the Columbia College Fiction Department. For fun, she also volunteers her time at summer garden walks.

A question and answer session, refreshments and a raffle will follow the talk. For more information or to RSVP, please call (773) 577-5323 or email [info@norwoodcrossing.org](mailto:info@norwoodcrossing.org).

## 2013 ZENA SUTHERLAND LECTURE PRESENTED BY AUTHOR LINDA SUE PARK AT THE CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

The 31st Annual Zena Sutherland Lecture, Writer vs. Author, is presented by Linda Sue Park, a Newbery Medal winning author of A Single Shard and many other lauded children's books. The free program takes place on Friday, May 3 at 7:30 p.m., in the Cindy Pritzker Auditorium, Lower Level, at the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State St.

Linda Sue Park is an American author of teen fiction. Ms. Park published her first novel, Seesaw Girl, in 1999. She has written six children's novels and five picture books. Park's work achieved prominence when she received the prestigious 2002 Newbery Medal. Park's other books include Project Mulberry, Archer's Quest, Storm Warning and A Long Walk to Water.

Cosponsored by the Chicago Public Library, the Sutherland Lecture Committee and the University of Chicago, the annual Sutherland Lecture honors the late Zena Sutherland, professor emeritus and retired editor of the Bulletin of the Center of Children's Books. This is a free event, but advance registration is mandatory. All guests may register online for this free event through Eventbrite: <http://zenasutherland.eventbrite.com>.

## CHICAGO PREMIERE BEGINS APRIL 19TH

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- David C. Nichols, Los Angeles Times



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## Master Works: The Van Gogh Plays Six Paintings Translated to Six Original Plays of Genius and Insanity • May 2-5 at Raven Theatre

Commedia Beaugard, a Chicago-based non-profit theater company, has announced the premiere of Master Works: The Van Gogh Plays, a festival of short plays based on works by Vincent Van Gogh, at Raven Theatre from May 2 to 5.

Stabbings, weddings, manifestos, and a post-apocalyptic wasteland. These are a few things that happen when Commedia Beaugard's Master Works series once again brings fine art to life. This time six Van Gogh paintings were chosen: Night Cafe, The Man is at Sea, Skull with Burning Cigarette, Undergrowth with Two Figures, Doctor Gachet, and The Drinkers (which can be seen at the Art Institute of Chicago). Six locally & nationally recognized Chicago playwrights then brought their imaginations to bear and created an original play based on the painting they were assigned. Finally, Commedia Beaugard chose six up-and-coming directors to take these new works and bring them to life on stage. Now see these short plays presented together back-to-back in Master Works: The Van Gogh Plays. Like the great painter himself, it promises to be an inspiring blend of genius and insanity!

"Work with adaptation always begins with thorough investigation of the source material," said playwright Jason Lindner. "I study it and roll it over in my fists - particularly what emotion it invokes in me. Then I make sure to throw it away - hard - before I get obsessed with it. Becoming lost in the details of a source is a sure fire way to deflate your play possibilities. When drawing from a painting, for example, you may choose to write something based exactly on the scene as it is presented - name the subjects and create a scenario for their placement, but to me that is limiting. I am far more interested in the emotion that the scene creates and what it turns over within the bacterial fage of my gut."

"For me, translating a painting into a play felt like free association while staring at a 'Magic Eye,'" said playwright Alberto Mendoza. "Then, after looking long enough, closing my eyes and telling a story about the afterimage. I knew my first instinct would be to tell the story of the painting, posit what Van Gogh intended, and knew that would be a waste of an opportunity. I made sure to get out all of my first thoughts, find the common themes, and then throw everything else away. This experience reminded me that adaptation is at the root of every piece of art and that 'original' should always appear in quotations."

According to Mexican poet Octavio Paz, "Translation is an art of analogy, the art of finding correspondences," and Master Works is one more way in which Commedia Beaugard follows its mission of exploring cultures through the art of translation.

Raven Theatre Complex - West Theatre, 6157 N Clark St (at Granville Ave), Chicago, IL 60660.

\$15 tickets are available at 800.838.3006 or CBTheatre.org.

## The New Generation of Urhausens Carry On Family's 90+ Year Tradition

Nick and Gerard Urhausen are of the newest generation of this well-known family that have been the providers of garden plants and flowers to the Chicagoland area since 1922.

When Gerard & Nick's grandfather and his brother started their life's work decades ago, the Lincolnwood property they continue to occupy was pure prairie land with no trees and only a scattering of houses - most of them summer residences. What is now Lincolnwood was all "Country." Vegetables were the mainstay of the greenhouse back then, with all the members of the Urhausen clan chipping in to help during this seasonally busy business. In fact, even today, this is still a total commitment by the entire family. "It seems like you can never work hard enough," Nick and Gerard comment. "Even in the off-season we're making ready for the next year. Because we grow everything ourselves, we offer more colors and varieties including hard to find blooms like zinnias and cosmos. We are really growers more than we are your typical plant and flower providers. As a result of that we are not merchants or marketeers. Our experience and training is as greenhouse growers."

For years now, people from far and wide have been making the "outing or excursion" as it was in the early days, to only a quick trip on any of the major roadways today to feast on the "conservatory" atmosphere of Urhausen's Greenhouse, where they can stroll among the living world of beauty the Urhausens provide. And then to be able to take some of that beauty home with them and enjoy their choices for months afterwards is the ultimate treat.

Gerard and Nick add, "We appreciate all of our customers and the support they have given us through the years and always try to make their experience with us an enjoyable one. Our patrons love to be able to shop in a place where their future plants are actually growing."

We at Our Village thank the Urhausen family for all the service and beauty they have shared with us through these many years and are pleased to announce they will be doing an article for us on a regular basis in which they will continue to share their expertise with us.

Urhausen Greenhouses is located at 6973 N. East Prairie Road in Lincolnwood. Their phone number 847-675-1573. [www.urhausengreenhouses.com](http://www.urhausengreenhouses.com)



### The Actors Gymnasium Presents **Circus in Progress** An Evening of Daring New Work

Due to continued popularity, The Actors Gymnasium presents the eighth installment of the popular performance series, Circus in Progress: An Evening of Daring New Work. Chicago theatre and circus lovers of all ages delight in this sneak peek at some of Chicago's most exciting new works of circus art. This cabaret style performance series focuses on the development of new acts, showcasing many Chicagoland area circus and variety arts professionals as well as advanced students from The Actors Gymnasium's classes. Specific performer announcements will be made by The Actors Gymnasium throughout April and early May.

Tickets can be purchased through event's facebook page or through [www.actorsgymnasium.com](http://www.actorsgymnasium.com). There are a limited number of tickets available for each performance and tickets are first come, first served. Check early for the best selection. Tickets are available online only. After online sales are closed, the on location box office will be open 2 hours prior to the show start time.

Two Performances Only! This one day only event performs on May 18, 2013 with shows at 4:30 & 7:30 pm.

The Actors Gymnasium is located at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes Street, Evanston, Illinois - just off of the Noyes purple line 'L' stop. For additional information on The Actors Gymnasium's innovative programming, please visit [www.actorsgymnasium.com](http://www.actorsgymnasium.com) or call (847)328-2795.

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# What Happens in My Initial Estate Planning Consultation?



Chester M. Przybylo

Your initial consultation with an estate planning attorney should be similar to your initial consultation with your physician.

First, you will be asked to provide information about yourself and your family. Are you married? Do you have any children? Did you have previous marriages? Do you have any grandchildren? What are the ages of you and your family?

You will be asked about your assets and their nature and extent. You will be asked about your goals. Who will take care of all kinds of matters when you are unable to do so?

As many patients try to conceal certain information from physicians, some clients try to conceal certain information from attorneys. It is important for the attorney to know the full answer to all questions asked, just as it is important for the physician to know. The estate planning attorney asks the questions to help anticipate issues that might arise. For example, you may be reluctant to discuss a child you had fathered out of wedlock years ago. If you do not want that child to benefit from your estate, you should disinherit that child. A child simply omitted may be entitled to what they would have gotten had you died without a Will or Trust.

An estate planning attorney's role is to help you realize your goals and dreams while guarding against life's risks. For example, let's say you want to leave assets to your child with special needs. The estate planning attorney can draft the trust so that those assets will be available for your child's benefit, rather than being taken to pay or reimburse governmental agencies for benefits for which he or she is eligible.

The estate planning attorney will go over your goals with you and plot a course to achieve that goal. After you agree on the strategies involved, the estate planning attorney will draft the documents and directions to effectuate those strategies. For example, the attorney may draft a power of attorney to designate who will be your agent to make financial or health care decisions when you are unable to make them for yourself. The attorney may draft a deed placing title to your home into your revocable living trust so that it will not be subject to probate on the death of the survivor of you and your spouse.

The estate planning attorney and the physician are educated professionals who are there to help you achieve your goals, whatever those might be. When you leave the attorney's office, you should have an understanding of what the general plan is to achieve your goal and what steps will be taken next and by whom.

How do you choose an estate planning attorney? A recent segment on a CNN financial news cable network indicated that one of the most important factors to consider is your comfort level with the attorney and whether the attorney meets stringent continuing education requirements. Organizations such as the American Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys ([www.aaepa.com](http://www.aaepa.com)) impose stringent continuing education requirements, so you might want to start your search for an attorney at their website.

Once you have chosen an estate planning attorney and have had the initial consultation, you will know you made the right choice by the sigh of relief and satisfaction as you leave the attorney's office.

*-Chester M. Przybylo has been elected to the Board of Governors of the prestigious American Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys and has been engaged in the practice of law for the last 40 years. To register for an upcoming seminar, call the 24 hour reservation hotline at 1-800-638-7878 or register online at [www.PlanOurEstate.com](http://www.PlanOurEstate.com).*

## Attention U S Military Veterans

American Legion Edison Park Post #541 is having a meeting on Thursday May 9TH starting at 7:30PM at the Edison Park Field House located at 6755 Northwest Hwy., just west of Harlem Ave. Chicago.

We are looking for new members. We're a friendly active post with members from Chicago and suburbs. If you've been thinking about joining a veterans organization feel free to stop by and sit in at our meeting. For additional information please contact: Post Commander Gerald Skotzko at 773-693-3448

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## RETIRE ON YOUR OWN TERMS

By Andrew Salata

*Social Security Public Affairs Specialist in Chicago, IL*

Most Americans are aware that they need to save for retirement. It is a topic that is easy to brush aside to a later date because although the subject is important, it may not seem urgent. But the longer you put off some basic retirement planning, the harder it will be to catch up later.

Now is the perfect time to give it some thought, as National Retirement Planning Week takes place in April.

We'd like to share with you a few important items about Social Security retirement benefits.

When you decide to retire, the easiest and most convenient way to do it is right from the comfort of your home or office computer. Go to [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) where you can apply for retirement benefits in as little as 15 minutes. In most cases, there are no forms to sign or documents to send; once you submit your electronic application, that's it!

In addition to using our award-winning website, you can call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) or visit the Social Security office nearest you. Either way you choose to apply, be sure to have your bank account information handy so we can set up your payments to be deposited directly into your account.

Your age when you start to receive Social Security makes a difference in your benefit amount. The full retirement age (the age at which 100 percent of retirement benefits are payable) has been gradually rising from age 65 to age 67. You can retire as early as age 62, but if benefits start before you reach your full retirement age, your monthly payment is reduced. Find out what your full retirement age is by typing in your year of birth at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/ageincrease.htm](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/ageincrease.htm).

You also can choose to keep working beyond your full retirement age to take advantage of a larger payment. Your benefit will increase automatically each year from the time you reach your full retirement age until you start receiving your benefits or until you reach age 70.

The decision of when to retire is personal and depends on a number of factors. To help, we suggest you read our online fact sheet, *When To Start Receiving Retirement Benefits*, available at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10147.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10147.html).

You may want to consider your options by using our Retirement Estimator to get instant, personalized estimates of future benefits. You can plug in different retirement ages and scenarios to help you make a more informed retirement decision. Try it out at [www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator).

You'll also want to take advantage of our latest and extremely popular service by setting up an online my Social Security account. You can use my Social Security to obtain a copy of your Social Security Statement to check your earnings record and see estimates of the retirement, disability, and survivor benefits you and your family may receive. Visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).

Another great website for financial planning - whether for retirement or other financial goals - can be found at [www.mymoney.gov](http://www.mymoney.gov). The website features information about how to plan for a host of life events, such as the birth or adoption of a child, home ownership, or retirement. The site also provides money management tools, including a financial savings calculator.

To learn more about Social Security retirement benefits and options, please read our publication, *Retirement Benefits*, at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10035.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10035.html).

You can retire on your own terms, and we're here to help.

## D'Amico Passes Legislation to Increase Driver Training

Today, State Rep. John D'Amico (D-Chicago) passed legislation to require on-line training for individuals 18 to 21 years old applying for a driver's license.

"Driving is more than just getting behind the wheel of a vehicle," said D'Amico. "It also requires a clear understanding of the rules and regulations that allow everyone on the road to arrive at their destination safely. It is important that every young driver learns this information, which they will need for the rest of their life."

Currently, Illinois has a graduated driver's license for individuals under the age of 18. This program requires that new drivers participate in a driver's education course, complete a minimum of 50 hours of supervised driving, and pass vision and written exams. If under the age of 18 when they receive their driver's license, they also must follow additional driving restrictions, such as curfews and limitations on the number of passengers.

Some young people bypass the graduated driver's license program altogether by obtaining their license after they reach the age of 18. House Bill 772 would require young people between the ages of 18 to 21, who are applying for their driver's license for the first time, to complete an on-line driver's education course. This 6-hour course would include information on traffic laws, highway signs, and other common issues experienced while driving.

"Everyone is safer when everyone knows the rules that govern our roads," said D'Amico. "This bill will ensure that every young driver receives basic driving instruction, which will make them safer drivers throughout their lives."

House Bill 772 passed unanimously out of the House of Representatives and now goes to the Senate for further consideration. For more information, contact Rep. D'Amico's constituent service office at (773) 736-0218.

# Village Cooking Corner

## PISTACHIO CAKE

1 box white cake mix  
2 small packages pistachio pudding  
4 eggs  
1/2 cup Crisco oil  
1 cup club soda  
1 teaspoon almond extract  
(extra pistachio nuts, optional)



Mix all ingredients together well. Place in a greased and floured Bundt pan. Bake for 1 hour at 350 degrees

### FROSTING

1 small package pistachio pudding  
3/4 cup milk  
Beat well and fold in a medium container of thawed Cool Whip. Frost as usual

*From the kitchens of Helen Marcou*

## “THE FACTS OF STROKE” WILL BE DISCUSSED AT NORWOOD PARK SENIOR CENTER ON MAY 8

Many strokes can be prevented even if they are the leading causes of disability and death. Learn about the latest information on ways to recognize warning signs as well as how to prevent, diagnose and treat stroke by attending the talk on “The Facts of Stroke,” at 11:00 a.m., at the Norwood Park Senior Center, 5801 N. Natoma Ave. in Chicago. The program will be presented by Sandy Hoelzel, RN, MSN, stroke coordinator at Presence Resurrection Medical Center where she began her career as a staff nurse in 1991.

Nearly 800,000 people each year experience a new or recurring stroke. Statistics show that someone suffers a stroke every 40 seconds, and someone dies of a stroke about every three minutes. Stroke has been recognized as the leading cause of long-term disability, and is the nation’s fourth leading cause of death. This is a great opportunity to become educated about this health issue. Please RSVP by calling (773) 775-6071 or emailing [info@npseniorcenter.org](mailto:info@npseniorcenter.org).

The Norwood Park Satellite Senior Center is managed by Norwood Seniors Network, a community outreach program, in partnership with the City of Chicago Department of Family and Support Services, Senior Services Area Agency on Aging and the Chicago Park District.

## Maintenance after the Snow Melt and Spring Pet Owner Etiquette

Spring is here and everyone is excited for warm and beautiful days. Every year when the snow melts though, litter, food wrappers, cans and other trash are exposed.

The Village urges all residents to keep Skokie clean by picking up litter and debris in their neighborhood and around their homes and businesses. If everyone does their small part, Skokie will remain a clean and beautiful place to live and work.

The Village of Skokie also would like to remind all pet owners to clean up after their animals and deposit any animal waste in an appropriate refuse receptacle. If a person is caught not properly cleaning up after their dog, the Village can issue a citation. Proper disposal of animal waste will not only assist the Village in keeping alleys and sewer inlets clean, but also will reduce rodent infestation.

For more information on pet owner’s etiquette and being a good pet owner, please contact the Skokie Health Department’s Animal Control Division at 847/933-8484. For information on litter control and property standards please, contact the Property Standards Division at 847/933-8223.

## CDOT DEVELOPS COMPLETE STREETS DESIGN GUIDELINES TO IMPROVE SAFETY FOR ALL ROADWAY USERS

The Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) today unveiled newly developed Complete Streets design guidelines to insure that Chicago’s roadways are designed and built in a balanced way to improve safety for all users.

“We must build and maintain our roads for healthy business districts, vibrant neighborhoods and high quality of life, and measure success through improved safety, mode choices and livability,” said CDOT Commissioner Gabe Klein. “With complete streets, we are designing for all modes of transportation by looking for ways to improve our health, safety and economy while addressing our changing transportation needs.”

Complete Streets Chicago: Design Guidelines incorporates best practices from around the world and reevaluates how Chicago designs, builds and maintains its streets with a primary emphasis on walking, bicycling and public transit. The plan codifies CDOT’s efforts to implement the City’s 2006 Complete Streets Policy, which calls for safe and convenient travel by all modes of transportation.

As the City is making an unprecedented level of investment in infrastructure improvements through Mayor Rahm Emanuel’s Building a New Chicago program, CDOT’s roadway projects will ensure that all modes of transportation become more efficient.

All CDOT projects and programs, will favor pedestrians as the priority mode of transportation. Chicago is among the first cities in the nation to decisively place pedestrians first, while also providing safe access for bicyclists, transit users, trucks and automobiles.

In addition, street design will be conducted in a manner that supports context and transportation mode priorities, and is not limited by rigid engineering standards. This will allow staff to develop innovative solutions that meet the overarching goals of a complete street, including:

- Supporting active transportation to address obesity and improve health.
- Enhancing neighborhood economies by drawing people to shop, live, and work in walkable, livable communities.
- Designing to protect all users, reduce speeding and decrease crashes.
- Addressing the changing transportation needs of Chicagoans, who are driving less and using other modes.

CDOT is also driven by goals to eliminate pedestrian crash fatalities in ten years; reduce pedestrian and bike crash injuries by 50% in five years; and reaching 50% of commuting trips made by walking, biking, transit, and working from home by 2030 (currently at 38%).

Complete Streets Chicago is a goal-oriented effort tied directly to Chicago Forward, CDOT’s two-year action agenda. It also has been developed in tandem with its sister publication, Sustainable Urban Infrastructure Guidelines and Policies, which provides guidance on creating streets that are intended to be more efficient, more economical, and mitigate some of the effects of climate change.

## Year-Round City Vehicle Sticker ordinance approved in City Council

*Clerk Susana A. Mendoza begins transition to 2014 changes with motorist education campaign*

The Chicago City Council today passed a sweeping ordinance to change the way the Office of Chicago City Clerk sells City Vehicle Stickers, marking the first major program overhaul in more than a century.

City Clerk Susana A. Mendoza drove the legislation to transition from annual seasonal sales – a system in place since 1908 – to a Year-Round Sales system that mirrors the Illinois Secretary of State’s license plate renewal system.

“These changes will dramatically improve the customer service experience when residents interact with the City Clerk’s Office,” Clerk Mendoza said. “This is a smart policy that will result in shorter wait times and further reduce overtime costs. We’re making significant changes to a policy that was antiquated and inefficient.”

The 2013 – 2014 City Vehicle Stickers will go on sale in mid-May. This year, drivers will be required to bring their renewal forms to purchase their sticker. The renewal form is required because the Clerk’s Office is working to confirm vehicle data - including VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) data - in partnership with the Illinois Secretary of State. This information will be provided on all renewal forms.

Seniors over the age of 65 will not be affected by Year-Round Sales and will remain on a June-to-June schedule. Costs for City Vehicle Stickers remain unchanged this year, with passenger vehicles stickers costing \$85 and large passenger vehicle stickers costing \$135.

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## Reminder of Changes to Evanston’s Door-to-door Panhandling and Soliciting Laws

The Evanston City Council adopted measures in February 2013 amending the City Code regarding soliciting and panhandling to limit the hours during which solicitors or panhandlers can knock on doors and to also bar them from doing so when residents have posted “No Soliciting” signs.

Effective as of February 21, 2013, door-to-door panhandling is prohibited before 9 a.m. and after 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Soliciting is permitted between the hours of 9 am and 6 pm Monday to Saturday. The practice of door-to-door panhandling or soliciting is prohibited at all times on Sunday and on state and federal holidays.

Additionally, Evanston City Code §9-5-25-(D) allows for any owner or occupant, wishing to prohibit individuals from entering their premises for the purposes of panhandling or soliciting, to give notice by posting a weatherproof card at least 3” x 5” stating “NO SOLICITORS ALLOWED” or “NO SOLICITING” on or near a main entrance.

A panhandler or solicitor who disregards prohibited hours, a posted “No Soliciting” sign or fails to leave a premise after being requested to do so, violates the Evanston City Code. Violators may be subject to a fine or community service. Residents can call the Police non-emergency line at 847/866-5000 to report non-emergency violations.

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