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Issue 5  
March 11, 2015

## Celebrate Saint Joseph's Day March 19

## SPRING BEGINS ON MARCH 20TH



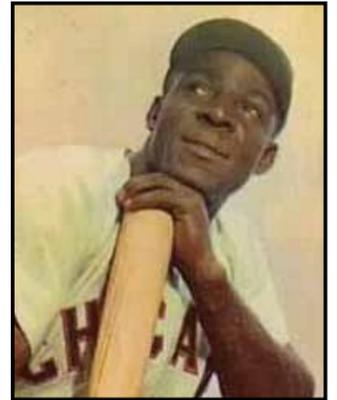
*Swaying Tulips*

by Frank Styburski

## Statement From Mayor Rahm Emanuel On The Passing Of Minnie Minoso

With the passing of Minnie Minoso, the City of Chicago has lost a legend on and off the field. He went from playing in the Negro leagues to reaching the very top of the major leagues, becoming the first African American to play for the White Sox in 1951. His heroics, combining speed and power, brought joy to generations of fans on the South Side and his infectious enthusiasm forever solidified his place as a Chicago icon for the ages. I send my deepest condolences to his family, his friends, and his legion of fans. Soon it will be spring, the Sox will take the field, and 'The Cuban Comet' will be looming large in spirit. Thank you, Minnie for the many great memories.

(See Page 7 For More.)



Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade



invite all of Chicago to join us on Parade Day~Saturday March 14th, 2015! Slainte'!!!

**Please join in our celebration  
Saturday, March 14th, 2015**

Proudly sponsored by Chicago Plumbers Local 130 U.A. since 1955

Jim Coyne, Business Manager of Plumbers Local 130 UA & the General Chairman of the St. Patrick's Day Parade would like to personally

*St. Patrick's Day Parade Queen 2015  
Lauren Corry*



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St. Patrick's Day Parade

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Sunday,

March 15, 2015

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**Easter Sunday  
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Menu**



Choice of 3 soups

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Mashed Potatoes

Chef's Salad

Kluski

Colored Easter Eggs

Baked Holiday Ham

Vegetable of the Day

Pierogi of the Day

Roast Chicken w/Golden Sauce

Asst. Polish Sausage w/Kraut

Asst. Easter Pastries

Horseradish ~ Red & White

Coffee ~ Hot Tea ~ De Café ~ Milk

## FEATURING

Live Entertainment by **Gene Mikrut**

*Miss Merry Berry* will be doing complimentary face & hand painting & balloons

The *Easter Bunny* will distribute candy to good little boys and girls

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**Happy St. Patrick's Day!**

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## Community First Medical Center

### March Health Events For Area Residents

Community First Medical Center, 5645 West Addison Street, Chicago, will offer the following health events in March.

A free Healthy Aging Program will be held Friday, March 13, in Centennial A on the 7th floor of the hospital from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. This program is for individuals aged 55 and older and consists of social time, health topics and guests lectures. Kathleen Wians, RN, will discuss stroke. Registration is not required.

Maryville Crisis Nursery will present a parenting session titled "Nutrition: Making Meal Time Fun," Tuesday, March 17, at 6 p.m. A free dinner and childcare service will be provided. Registration is required by March 16, at 3 p.m., by calling 773-205-3637.

Free blood pressure screenings will be offered Monday, March 23, 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.

In honor of National Diabetes Alert Day, a diabetes screening will be held on Tuesday, March 24, from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. No fasting/preparation needed. There is a \$10 fee payable in cash or check at the screening. To registration call 773-794-8486.

The Arthritis Support Group will meet on Thursday, March 26, from 1 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This session is free. Registration is not required.

Courage to Quit Smoking will be offered March 26, April 2 and April 9; 9:30-11:00 a.m. This free program will help individuals reach their smoke-free goals. Registration required by calling 773-794-8486.

## Resurrection Theatre Department Presents "The Diary Of Anne Frank"

The Resurrection College Prep High School drama department presents The Diary of Anne Frank by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett, newly adapted by Wendy Kesselman, on Friday and Saturday, March 20 and 21 at 7 pm and Sunday, March 22 at 3 pm in the Resurrection Little Theatre at 7500 West Talcott Avenue in Chicago. The production is directed by Mary Katherine Bohlander with technical direction by Kathie Foszcz, with Mary Pat Hastings '15 as Stage Manager and Erin McDonough '17 as Assistant Stage Manager.

The cast features Resurrection students Sophia Acevedo '17 as the optimistic Anne Frank, Mary Jo McManamon '17 as Anne's sister Margot Frank, Brianna Ortega '16 as Mr. Frank and Angela Yonan '16 as Mrs. Frank. The Franks are a Jewish family in hiding from the Nazi regime and the German Gestapo in Holland during World War II from 1942 to 1944. The family hides, along with the Van Daan family and several acquaintances, in a secret annex above Mr. Frank's business in Brussels. Peter Van Daan is played by Notre Dame College Prep student Sean Cunningham '17 and Mr. and Mrs. Van Daan are played by Resurrection students Erin Behland '15 and Maribel Pagan '17.

Other roles are played by Resurrection students, including Hannah Keller '15, as Mr. Dussel, a dentist who moves into the annex, Daniella Gonzalez '16 as Miep, the kind protector who brings food and supplies to the families and Sydney Mercado '15 as Mr. Kraler, a business associate of Mr. Frank who helps protect the families in hiding.

Nazi Soldiers are played by Resurrection students Mallory Coakley '17, Leilani Jimenez '15, Nicholle Marcinkowska '17, Natalie Markech '17, Erin McDonough '17, Caleigh McGovern '17, Kayle Plonka '15, Laura Romano '17 and Katia Velisaris '17.

Tickets for the performance are \$5 per person in advance or \$7 at the door. For more information, please call 773.775.6616 Ext 110 or visit [www.reshs.org](http://www.reshs.org).

Resurrection College Prep High School, located at 7500 West Talcott Avenue in Chicago, is the largest all girls' Catholic, Christian college preparatory high school for young women on the north side of Chicago. Since its founding in 1922, Resurrection has graduated over 13,500 alumnae. For more information about Resurrection College Prep High School, call 773.775.6616 Ext 129 or visit [www.reshs.org](http://www.reshs.org).

### Mather's More Than A Cafe Hiring!

Join our team of Culinary Delighters! We're looking for a skilled and friendly cook who enjoys plenty of face time with customers. This is not a standard kitchen job: not only will you prepare quality food in a timely fashion, you may host cooking demonstrations, dress in costume, and possibly sing and dance with customers. You'll work in a fun, ageless environment, for an organization that has been ranked as a Chicago Tribune Top Workplace multiple times. This position requires at least one year of cooking experience, with basic knowledge and understanding of cooking techniques; ability to communicate with supervisor, coworkers, and customers; ability to follow standardized recipes; ability to operate kitchen equipment; and a current sanitation certification. Preferred: Formal culinary training.



Please contact Mather LifeWays at (847) 492-7500 or apply here: <http://www.matherlifeways.com/jobs/view/cook-4>.

### Niles Township Government to Dedicate Room in Memory of Lee Tamraz

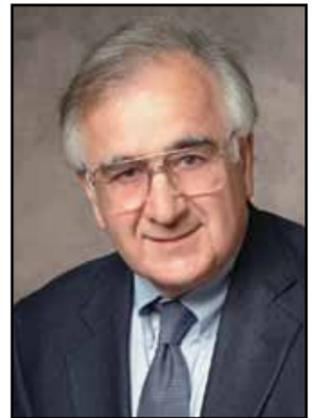
On Tuesday April 14, the All Purpose Room at Niles Township Government's Office, 5255 Main, Skokie, will be dedicated in memory of former Supervisor Lee Tamraz. The dedication will be after the Township's Annual Meeting which starts at 8:00 p.m.

Tamraz spent over 20 years as a Township Trustee before becoming Supervisor more than 10 years ago. He was also a Cook County Road Engineer.

The All Purpose Room is available to the public. The room is available for clubs, groups, and associations to hold meetings. The space is a large room, handicap accessible, and designed to accommodate multi-media presentations. There is a full-sized refrigerator and sink for refreshments. Approximately 50 people can be seated in a classroom style setting or tables can be used to seat up to 30 people in multiple configurations.

The space can be used free of charge and reserved Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Evening hours can be requested and all attempts will be made to accommodate. Please call (847) 673-9300 and ask for Kitty, Rick or Lauren to tour or book the space for an event.

Since 1850, Niles Township Government has been dedicated to improving life for its residents. Niles Township is located in the northeast corner of Cook County. With a population of over 102,000, the Township includes the Villages of Skokie, Lincolnwood and Golf, and sections of Morton Grove, Niles and Glenview.



# TAX PREPARATION SPECIAL

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### New Fitness Class at the Norwood Park Senior Center!

#### Exercise designed for you!

We want you to know about a continuing health and fitness program offered at the Norwood Park Senior Center. If you or a family member are 66 or older, has stiffness or pain in the lower back, hips, knees, ankles or feet, has arthritis and are someone who has not been exercising but wants to - the "Fit and Strong" program is just the ticket to feeling stronger and more agile.

"Fit and Strong," is an 8-week, 3 times per week, fitness and lifestyle program where you will learn about the benefits of physical activity, how to manage arthritis, how to exercise safely and how to develop and maintain a more active lifestyle. "Fit and Strong" starts on March 9th.

Norwood Park Senior Center, 5801 N. Natoma, Chicago, IL 60631  
Phone: 773-775-6071, [info@npseniorcenter.org](mailto:info@npseniorcenter.org) Join Today!



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# Weekly & Monthly Food Truck Fests Coming To Daley Plaza, Willis Tower

## City Of Chicago's Small Business Center Hosting Fests Set To Begin In March

It is time to forgo the sad sack lunch and get out of the office. To make lunch more exciting in the Loop, the City of Chicago's Small Business Center (SBC) in the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) is hosting "Food Truck Fests" with licensed City of Chicago food trucks from March through October at Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington St. and Willis Tower, 233 South Wacker Drive.

"We remain committed to creating opportunities that will allow the food truck industry to thrive, grow, and create jobs," said Mayor Emanuel. "Chicago is a great place for food, and the Food Truck Fests will contribute to showcasing Chicago's vibrant food culture."

The Daley Plaza fests are scheduled to be held weekly and the Willis Tower fests will be hosted monthly. The events will include a rotating line-up of trucks offering different food options at each location.

"Each event will create a new and unique food options to the area and bring more awareness to Chicago residents and visitors who may not be aware of the variety of trucks in the City," said BACP Commissioner Maria Guerra Lapacek. "Hosting the Food Truck Fests is one of the many ways the City is supporting the innovative industry."

Food Truck Fest dates, times and participating trucks will be listed below and will be

announced on the City's SBC social media sites and using the hashtag #Chifoodtruckfests. The SBC is on Twitter at @ChiSmallBiz, Facebook at /ChiSmallBiz, Pinterest at ChicagoBACP, and Instagram at ChicagoBACP.

Below are the dates for Willis Tower:

- March 27
- April 24
- May 1, 22
- June 26
- July 24
- August 28
- September 18
- October 9

Below are the dates for Daley Plaza:

- March 6, 12, 20, 27
- April 3, 10, 17
- May 1, 4, 13, 26
- June 5, 10, 16
- July 8, 13, 31
- August 5, 18, 28
- September 1, 9, 22, 28
- October 7, 14, 21, 28

The Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection issues and regulates business licenses in the City of Chicago. For more information about BACP, the Small Business Center, and starting a food truck can be found at [www.cityofchicago.org/SBC](http://www.cityofchicago.org/SBC).

## Fire Safety Group Reminds IL Residents to Change Smoke Alarm Batteries as Clocks "Spring Forward"

When Illinois residents advance their clocks forward an hour for Daylight Savings Time on Sunday, March 8, the nonprofit Illinois Fire Safety Alliance (IFSA) also reminds them to change the batteries in their home smoke alarms.

"Properly installed and maintained smoke alarms are a key part of a home fire escape plan, providing early warning to residents when there is a fire. Residents can ensure smoke alarms are working properly by adding the task of changing their batteries to the clock-changing routines in the spring and fall," says Philip Zaleski, Executive Director of the IFSA.

The IFSA reminds residents that smoke alarms should be installed inside and outside of each bedroom, sleeping area and on every level of a home, and they should be tested monthly. If a smoke alarm chirps, the battery should immediately be replaced. Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years with new units.

There are two types of smoke alarms; ionization smoke alarms are quicker to alert resi-

dents to flaming fires, while photoelectric smoke alarms are more responsive to smoldering fires. Dual-sensor smoke alarms, which incorporate technologies of both ionization and photoelectric alarms, are recommended.

According to research from the National Fire Protection Association, three of every five home fire deaths in the United States from 2007-2011 resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. No smoke alarms were present in 37 percent of the home fire deaths.

"Be sure your smoke alarms are in working order by replacing their batteries twice a year," adds Zaleski. "Also, make sure you and your family regularly practice an escape plan so you are prepared should the smoke alarms ever sound."

To read more about smoke alarms, fire safety and burn prevention, please visit IFSA's website at [www.IFSA.org](http://www.IFSA.org).

## 2015 Cook County Summer Fellowship Program Applications Now Being Accepted

Applications for the 2015 Cook County Government Fellowship program are being accepted through Tuesday, March 31, 2015. The Cook County Government Fellowship is a summer internship opportunity in Chicago for graduate students to develop leadership skills, create a civic network and have a lasting, positive impact on Cook County. Fellows gain first-hand experience in various Cook County departments through:

- Completing high-impact projects while working side-by-side with a management level program officer within one of their fellowship program areas such as the President's Office [Communications, Intergovernmental Affairs, and Legal Counsel], Human Resources, Economic Development, and Finance;
- Developing an understanding of government policies, projects and operations, as well as approaches and challenges for each;
- Developing in-depth content knowledge through research conducted within that program area; and
- Lunch and learn activities within the Civic Consulting Alliance summer internship program, in addition to independent County learning activities and events.

Candidates should be registered in a graduate degree program in business, public policy,

public affairs, or other related degree. Candidates may also be registered in a law school and currently entering or completed their second or third year.

Fellows commit to a minimum of 10 weeks beginning June 1, 2015. Compensation for the summer program is \$20/hour, with Fellows not to exceed 40 hours per week.

Applications for the 2015 Fellowship are due by Tuesday, March 31, 2015. The Civic Consulting Alliance will oversee the hiring and personnel decisions during the search process. Interested candidates should send the following information to [consultantsearch@ccchicago.org](mailto:consultantsearch@ccchicago.org):

- Resume and cover letter
- Three references (references will not be contacted without first talking to the candidate)
- One page response to the following: If you had the opportunity to assist Cook County on a critical issue, which issue would you choose and why? What do you think are the critical components to solving this problem?
- Please note "Cook County Government Fellow for Graduate Students" in the email subject line.

For more information, visit: <http://www.cookcountyil.gov/human-resources-bureau-of-summer-fellowship-program/>.

## "Investment Tools For Retirement" Is Timely Talk For March 18 At Norwood Crossing

How can I diversify and receive the most return on my investments with minimal risk? Is investing in mutual funds safer than investing in individual companies? To learn the answer to these and other related questions, be sure to attend the Timely Talk, "Investment Tools for Retirement," presented by Christine Trapp, at 2:00 p.m., on March 18, at Norwood Crossing, 6016-20 N. Nina Ave. in Chicago. Trapp is a certified financial planner and the owner of a comprehensive financial planning and invest-

ment service since 1983.

She will discuss the importance of monitoring investments, shifting monies from one fund to another, rebalancing allocations and portfolios, as well as investing in individual companies.

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

## Social Security On The Next "You And The Law"

Don't miss the next episode of "You and the Law," at 10:00 p.m., Monday, March 16, on Chicago Access Network Television (CAN TV) CH 21 (Chicago), for a discussion of Social Security.

Join host David R. Bryant, Bryant Legal Group, and his guests, attorneys Stacey J. Dembo and Frank G. Tuzzolino, as they discuss Social Security's different benefit programs for both the elderly and the young. The panel will focus primarily on Social Security's complex and controversial disability program. Both guest attorneys focus their practices on the issues involved with disability claims.

"You and the Law" is the long-running public affairs show of the Chicago Bar Association. Produced entirely by members of the CBA Television Committee, the venerable legal discussion program features attorneys explaining issues of interest to Chicagoans. It runs on the first and third Monday of each month at 10 p.m. on CAN TV in Chicago.

## Meet The Staff Of Norwood Seniors Network At Norwood Park Senior Center On Mar. 23

Caring for an elderly friend or relative can be very demanding and exhausting. It also requires training and certain skills. When the need for caregiving becomes more than a family member can handle, it is time to examine the need for a private caregiver. Hear an explanation of caregiving and what a private caregiver can provide when several Norwood Seniors Network staff members answer your questions about caregiving and other helpful services for

older adults during an informal gathering at 11:00 a.m., on Mar. 23, at Norwood Park Senior Center, 5801 N. Natoma Ave. in Chicago.

Libby Davis, Executive Director of Norwood Seniors Network, and Bea McDonough, Director of Sales for Norwood Seniors Network, and several others will be on hand to talk with you.

Please RSVP by calling (773) 775-6071 or emailing [info@npseniorcenter.org](mailto:info@npseniorcenter.org).

## Northwestern University Guild Program

Please attend the University Guild program on The Making of Gone With the Wind with Leslie Goddard, on Monday, March 23rd, at 1:30 pm in Northwestern University's Scott Hall, 601 University Place, Evanston, on Northwestern University's beautiful campus. Tea, coffee and cookies are served after the program.

About our program: Seventy-five years after its blockbuster premiere in 1939, the film Gone with the Wind continues to inspire passionate devotion. This program uses photographs and short clips from the movie to explore how the film was made. Learn about the casting of the movie, the special effects used, and the incredible public reaction. What accounts for this movie's remarkably enduring popularity?

How many times have you seen the movie? Do you remember the movie's cast? The leading roles are portrayed by Vivien Leigh (Scarlett), Clark Gable (Rhett), Leslie Howard (Ashley), and Olivia de Havilland (Melanie). At the 12th Academy Awards held in 1940, it received ten Academy Award (eight competitive, two honorary) from thirteen nominations, including wins for Best Picture, Best Director (Victor Fleming), Best Adapted Screenplay (posthumously awarded to Sidney Howard), Best Actress (Vivien Leigh) and Best Supporting Actress (Hattie McDaniel, becoming the first African-American to win an Academy Award). It was re-released periodically throughout the 20th century and became ingrained in popular culture. It has placed in the top ten of the American Film Institute's list of top 100 American films since the list's inception in 1998, and in 1989, Gone with the Wind was selected to be preserved by the National Film Registry.

About our speaker: Leslie Goddard, M.A., Ph.D., is an award-winning actress and scholar who has been presenting history lectures and portraying famous women in history for more than ten years. She holds a Ph.D. from Northwestern University specializing in American studies and U.S. history, as well as master's degrees in theater and in museum studies. A former museum director, she is the author of two books on Chicago history and currently works full-time as a historical interpreter, author, and public speaker.

The University Guild's Annual Membership is \$50. Membership is open to all in the community. Guests are welcome and cost is \$5.00 per program (new rate). The purpose of the University Guild is to bring to the membership of the Guild the intellectual resources of the University, to promote the interests of the University, to work for the collection and exhibition of the objects of art, and to advance the development and appreciation of the fine arts in the University and in Evanston. The University Guild also gives scholarships to students at Northwestern University.

## Phone For Legal Advice At No Cost

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

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

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

## Metro Water & Sewer Tax Reduction

President Mariyana Spyropoulos of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago stated that "the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) Board of Commissioners has passed ordinances directing the Cook County Clerk to reduce taxes by \$17.8 million. This tax reduction will be reflected in the second installment 2014 real estate tax bills that will be mailed to homeowners this July."

The MWRD is a government agency responsible for treating wastewater and providing stormwater management. The MWRD was created in 1889 to protect the source of the county's drinking water, Lake Michigan.

President Spyropoulos went on to say "as government agencies continue to work to maximize tax dollars, it is important to maintain accountability and manage these resources prudently. The Board and staff continually seek to identify efficiencies that will result in tax savings for taxpayers."

The MWRD is funded primarily through property taxes, which are restricted under a tax cap imposed by the Illinois General Assembly. The MWRD also recovers costs of treating wastewater through a user charge imposed on certain non-residential users of the MWRD's system. Since 1985, the MWRD has returned nearly \$412.6 million to taxpayers and has maintained its AAA bond rating from Fitch and Standard & Poor's since 2006.

Additional information about the MWRD can be found at [www.mwrdd.org](http://www.mwrdd.org).



## Mental Illness: WRAP-Wellness Recovery Action Plan, March 26

The National Alliance on Mental Illness will offer the WRAP-Wellness Recovery Action Program, an 8-week course that teaches individuals in recovery how to develop a self-directed plan to use as a personal guide for daily living, on the campus of Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge, on Thursday evenings, March 26 – May 14, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

People with all types of psychiatric diagnoses are welcome. Learn how to create your own individual Wellness Toolbox, filled with simple, safe ideas to help you feel good, stay well, and feel better even when the going is difficult. Learn how to manage, reduce, and even eliminate symptoms. It can be used as a complement to other treatments. Free, but registration is required. Call NAMI at 847-716-2252 to register or for more information.

## Kiwanis Club Of Ravenswood



The Kiwanis Club of Ravenswood meets at Noon every 2nd & 4th Thursday (with some exceptions) at the Hilltop Restaurant, NW corner of California & Foster Avenues, Chicago. Plenty of FREE PARKING is available in the lot west of the restaurant, on the north side. To confirm the meeting dates please call Maria Bappert at 773-728-8127. Thank you.

MARCH 26 – Save the Date! We will have a guest speaker from PEAK (Partnership to Educate and Advance Kids), featuring Ms. Shawnee Bernstein.

ONGOING SERVICE PROJECTS OF OUR CLUB ARE: \*Aluminum pull tabs; \*Plastic bagel bags, old towels and any "decent rags" for our four-legged friends; \*Plastic shopping bags for the Women's Group at Luther Memorial Church who weave mats for homeless people; \*Outdated prescription eyeglasses; and last, but not least, \*Box Tops for Education.

FEBRUARY 26 MEETING – It was bitterly cold and our area was again hit with more snow, and for that reason several of our members did not attend our meeting. Dr. Heiderman went to a dentists' meeting at McCormick Place. Present were Maria Bappert, Herb Miller and guest Frank Bappert. It warmed our heart that our guest speaker, Alexander Brown from the Friedman Place came and even brought along Dan Jablonski, one of the residents there. Friedman's Place is located at 5527 N. Maplewood Avenue (at Lincoln), and is a community for adults with vision loss, ranging in age from 22 to about 75. Friedman's aim is to provide housing and supportive services to adults who are blind or visually impaired, and they emphasize resident self-determination, independence, and interaction within the community. Mr. Jablonski is one of the residents with a very outgoing personality, as is Alexander Brown, who's been the Interim Executive Director since 2013. The five of us had a chance to get to know each other while we enjoyed our meal and "breaking bread" together. We presented Mr. Brown with a gift bag of Kiwanis Peanuts in place of a speaker's mug. He was tickled pink ...

Since we believe in the saying, "Laughter is the best medicine for body, mind and spirit," in view of the recent elections, Maria Bappert read "Apolitical Aphorisms" by various authors. Here's just one of these wise sayings by that prolific writer, "Anonymous:" "Why pay money to have your family tree traced; go into politics and your opponents will do it for you." Ain't that the truth?

Our inspirational closing was, "Just be nice. If it's not a nice thing to say, don't say it." We also sang "Happy Birthday" to Herb Miller and then concluded the meeting with "When Kiwanis Calls."

MARCH, 2015 DATES – PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Tuesday, March 17 – St. Patrick's Day. Happy Birthday to our long-time member Edwin Walker IV!

Friday, March 20 – First Day of Spring!

Thursday, March 12 - Regular Club Meeting followed by a Board Meeting.

March 26 – Regular Club Meeting with Guest Speaker Ms. Shawnee Bernstein from PEAK (Partnership to Educate and Advance Kids).

March Flower: Jonquil. Birthstone: Aquamarine.

March Media Topic suggested by Kiwanis International: MEMBERSHIP (ONE Can Make A Difference).

## Belmont/Central CAPS Business Meeting

All businesses are encouraged to attend this meeting to learn about new and ongoing efforts to eliminate crime in your area. This meeting will also provide the opportunity to share your crime concerns with Police Officers from the 25th District.

Complimentary lite lunch is provided.

Thursday, March 19th, 2014 at 11:30 am, 5555 W. Grand, Chicago, IL

## OUR VILLAGE & STREET LEVEL

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## Mayor Tisdahl's Annual Summer Youth Employment Program Job Fair Set For March 28

Evanston youth age 14 to 18 years are encouraged to find their perfect summer job at Mayor Tisdahl's annual Summer Youth Employment Program (MSYEP) Job Fair on Saturday, March 28.

The fair will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Evanston Township High School (ETHS), 1600 Dodge Ave. Doors will close at 1:30 p.m.

More than 20 employers providing summer and year-round employment will be present, including Target, Best Buy, Home Depot, YoFresh Yogurt Cafe, Cinemark/Century Theatres, Northwestern University, the City of Evanston and more.

Youth are encouraged to fill out an MSYEP application in advance of the event online at [cityofevanston.org/youthemployment](http://cityofevanston.org/youthemployment), or at an upcoming outreach session. Outreach sessions will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. the week of March 9 at the following locations:

Evanston Public Library Teen Loft, 1703 Orrington Ave. – Monday, March 9

North Branch Library, 2026 Central St. – Tuesday, March 10

Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center, 1655 Foster St. – Tuesday, March 10

Evanston Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd. – Wednesday, March 11

Chicago Ave./Main St. Branch Library, 900 Chicago Ave. – Wednesday, March 11

Levy Senior Center, 300 Dodge Ave. – Thursday, March 12

Chandler-Newberger Community Center, 1028 Central St. – Thursday, March 12

Robert Crown Community Center, 1701 Main St. – Friday, March 13

ETHS, HUB (W201), 1600 Dodge Ave. – Friday, March 13, Lunch periods 4, 5, 6.

In order to be eligible to attend the job fair, youth must be enrolled in school, be at least 14 years of age when the program begins the

week of June 8, 2015, and live only in ZIP codes 60201 or 60202. Current high school students must attend at least one of three Youth Job Center Job Readiness Trainings to be held in the ETHS HUB (West 201) from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 4, 18 and 25.

At the Job Readiness Trainings, staff and volunteers from the Youth Job Center, Northwestern University Kellogg School of Business, and local business owners will be on site to conduct mock interviews and facilitate various seminars to help prepare youth for their first job. Trainings will cover workplace etiquette, resume building and professionalism.

Youth age 17 and 18 years are especially encouraged to attend this year's job fair, as many opportunities exist for both summer and year-round employment.

In 2014, with the help of community organizations and local businesses, as well as partnerships with ETHS and the Youth Job Center, the MSYEP held its largest job fair ever. More than 600 Evanston youth attended the event, with more than 500 securing summer employment. This year, Mayor Tisdahl's goal is to provide 600 Evanston youth with summer jobs.

Collaborations with companies and organizations, such as Cook County Commissioner Larry Suffredin, Buffalo Wild Wings, Cinemark Theatres, Home Depot, Best Buy, and Northwestern University, contributed greatly to the success of last year's program. Businesses who are interested in supporting and/or attending this year's job fair and program can register for the event online at [cityofevanston.org/youthemployment](http://cityofevanston.org/youthemployment), or contact Youth & Young Adult Assistant Program Coordinator Porschia Davis at 847-448-8049 or [youth@cityofevanston.org](mailto:youth@cityofevanston.org).

For more information, please call/text 847-448-4311. For convenience, residents may simply dial 3-1-1 in Evanston.

## 2015 Tax Law Changes You Should Know From AGT The Safe Money People

### 1) New Limitations on IRA Rollovers

Starting on January 1st, 2015 you are now limited to one IRA to IRA rollover. This is a limit on what is considered to be "indirect rollovers" or when the owner takes possession of the distribution and then moves it into another IRA. There is some good news though, there still is no limit on trustee to trustee transfers or on Roth IRA to traditional IRA conversions.

### 2) Changes in Health Care Expense Accounts

In 2015 you will no longer be able to carry over your balance in a FSA (Health Flexible Spending Account) and still be eligible to participate in a HSA (Health Savings Account). The annual contribution limit for FSA's & HSA's have also been increased by \$50.

### 3) Changes to Retirement Accounts

#### a) Increased Employer Plan (401k) Contribution Limits

You can contribute up to \$18,000 to your 401(k), 403(b), and most 457 plans. The catch up contribution rate for individuals over 50 has also increased to \$6,500.

#### 4) Affordable Care Act penalties increasing

In 2015, under the Affordable Care Act, penalties for not having health insurance are increasing. The penalty in 2015 will increase to \$325 per adult (or 2% of income, whichever is greater).

The second large change is the introduction of the PTC (premium tax credit). This is a refund available to families who get their health coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. There are eligibility requirements so check with your tax professional to see if you qualify.



## Munger Urges Taxpayers To Register For Illinois Tax Refund Alert System

### Comptroller's tax return insert will shine light on government spending

As her office began issuing state income tax refunds this week, Comptroller Leslie Geissler Munger urged taxpayers Thursday to register online to check the status of their returns and sign up for text message and email payment notifications.

The easy-to-use Tax Refund Alert System allows taxpayers to visit [illinoiscomptroller.com](http://illinoiscomptroller.com) and enter their name and Social Security Number to see if the Comptroller's Office has processed their refund. Taxpayers also can enter an email address and phone number to receive a payment notification.

In addition, Munger announced her office will include inserts with all tax returns detailing where the State of Illinois spent \$36.7 billion in 2014, information on the state's bill backlog, and other tools to help taxpayers learn about state and local finances. Those who receive their tax refunds through Direct Deposit may view the tax insert digitally if they register for the Tax Refund Alert System.

"Our team at the Comptroller's office is dedicated to making state government more helpful for taxpayers. Our tax refund alert system and tax return insert will make it easier for them to track their refunds and monitor government spending," Munger said. "We will continue to focus on making government more efficient, transparent, and accessible while offering taxpayer-friendly tools to help our citizens follow the money."

Specifically, the tax return insert provides a spending breakdown by stage agency on everything from Education and Medicaid to Human Services and Corrections. It further provides snapshots of the state's unpaid bills over time, documenting the backlog at the end of the fiscal year and six months later at the end of the calendar year. Finally, it refers residents to the Comptroller's transparency websites, the Ledger and the Warehouse, for more detail on state and local finances.

# HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

From the Norwood Park Chamber of Commerce



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 (Happy St. Patrick's Day)

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**It's Not Too Late...**

The Obama administration has created a "special enrollment period" for uninsured Americans who learn, while filing their taxes, that they'll face a penalty for not having coverage...



The special enrollment period will be from  
**March 15th to April 30th.**



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## North West Side Irish "Staging a Change" for March 15, 2015

### St. Patrick's Day Friends & Family Parade

A change is now in place for the North West Side Irish Parade organizers. The 16<sup>th</sup> District Chicago Police Department, the City of Chicago and organizers from the Northwest Side Irish Parade, inclusive to the Norwood Park Chamber have implemented and manifested a change in staging for the March 15 Northwest Side Irish Parade. The reason for the staging change is simply about the success of the parade and the ongoing safety of the attendees and participants. The parade route will remain the same as the ceremonial staging will continue to take place at Onahan School at 6634 W. Raven, going south onto Neola Avenue and North on Northwest Highway to Harlem.

**SUNDAY**

**MARCH 15, 2015**

**Join Us for the NWSI**

**St. Patrick's Day Parade**

The review stand will remain at the corner of Northwest Highway and Raven. The change of the staging is the line-up and staging of the many trollies, some floats and larger vehicles. Those participants will begin lining up and staging at the corner of Northwest Highway and Nagle, with an overall check point for ALL parade participants that will take place at the corner of Northwest Hwy and Nagle to Napoleon. Those participants will then be directed to an appropriate route placement defined by parade marshals and volunteer off duty policemen and women. The traffic on the east end of Nagle on Northwest Highway & Nagle north & south will not be interrupted. [www.northwestsideirish.org](http://www.northwestsideirish.org) for more information and for parade applications.

*The Northwest Side Irish Parade is a celebration of community, faith and heritage and was founded in 2003 by Daniel E. Murray, President of Northwest Side Irish & his daughter Elizabeth Murray-Belcaster.*



**NORWOOD PARK'S DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS**

**WRITE & WIN \$500**

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**NORWOODPARK.ORG**

Do you have a graduating student this year? The Norwood Park Chamber is offering (2) \$500 scholarships for an 8th Grade graduate and a High School graduate who live in Norwood Park. Applications available at [www.norwoodpark.org](http://www.norwoodpark.org). Get started today! Deadline is April 30, 2015. Winners announced at the Memorial Day Parade!

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# The Realities Of Childhood Cancer..

Worldwide, 175,000 children are diagnosed with cancer each year. And in the U.S., more children die of childhood cancer than any other disease—more than AIDS, asthma, cystic fibrosis, congenital anomalies and diabetes combined.

Join us on Saturday, March 21st from 12pm-4pm at Firewater Saloon as we shave our heads to fight childhood cancers for the second year. Last year, we raised nearly \$50,000!

This year we are honoring Sara Martorano who in 2008 was diagnosed with kidney cancer - Stage IV Wilms Tumor that spread to her lungs and liver. Cancer barged into their family's home and forever changed their lives. Sara en-



dured 3 surgeries. Sara remained completely still for 13 radiation treatments to her lungs, abdomen and pelvis. Sara trudged through 33 weeks of chemotherapy. Sara had 5 different chemotherapy drugs pumped into her little, four year old body. Because people cared to fund research, Sara is CANCER FREE!

Sara and her family started the JUST DO IT...and be done with it hero fund. All monies raised at Edison Park Goes Bald will go to this fund and we will know exactly how the funds are being used. The JUST DO IT ...and be done with it HERO FUND has

raised \$131,858 so far! We will be helping fund a neuroblastoma research grant at the University of Chicago led by the amazingly dedicated Dr. Susan Cohn.

Ways you can help....  
 -Shave your head  
 -Donate  
 -Be a shaver! WE NEED MORE LICENSED COSMETOLOGISTS! Please email melissa@edisonpark.com to volunteer to shave heads!



## Evanston's Women Out Walking Program Kicks Off March 21

The Evanston Health & Human Services Department invites women of all ages and fitness levels to participate in the 2015 Women Out Walking (WOW) program, a 12-week campaign promoting health, wellness, community, and physical activity.

The program will kick off on Saturday, March 21, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with an orientation session at Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Ave. Free parking is available.

During the orientation, walkers will be provided with tools to assist them throughout the program. The event will also include free exercise and dance classes, workshops, guest speakers, local celebrities, gift bags, and more.

WOW runs from March 21 through June 13. Registration is now open. Individual walkers and teams are encouraged to register online at [cityofevanston.org/wowregister](http://cityofevanston.org/wowregister). Registrations will also be accepted at the kick-off event and throughout the 12-week program. All ages and fitness levels are welcome; Evanston residency is not required. The cost is \$5 per person.

In addition to receiving the health benefits of walking, WOW participants will also be introduced to a variety of activities that promote health awareness and healthy lifestyles. Teams will walk at their own pace, at self-determined schedules and venues. Additionally, walkers will be encouraged to attend a monthly walk hosted by the Health & Human Services Department. For a complete list of events, please visit [cityofevanston.org/wow](http://cityofevanston.org/wow).

Studies show that regular physical activity at moderate intensity levels improves health and well-being, reduces stress, and decreases the risk for certain diseases. Physical activity does not need to be strenuous to be beneficial.

For more information, including how to sponsor a participant and questions about registration or payment, please contact Kristin Preihs at 847-866-2965 or [kpreihs@cityofevanston.org](mailto:kpreihs@cityofevanston.org).



## Reminder - Deadline Extension 2nd Annual Juried Art Fair!

### 2015 Fine Arts Show

Join us! Art in the Village, Winnetka, IL  
 Saturday, June 27th, 10am-6pm and Sunday,  
 June 28th, 10am-5pm

Due to a number artists' requests, the deadline for Art in the Village has been extended to Monday, 3/9/15.

Find our application on [Zapplication.com](http://Zapplication.com). If you would rather apply by mail, please print from the application PDF link on our website or contact our office and we can mail you a paper application. The jury will be meeting later in the week of 3/9.

Be a part of this early show and get the summer started in beautiful Winnetka!

Please let us know if you have any questions. We hope you will join us at our show this summer! Thank you!

Questions? [www.northshoreartleague.org](http://www.northshoreartleague.org) or 847-446-2870.



## Community First Medical Center

5645 W. Addison Street | Chicago IL 60634  
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Portage Park | Effective January 1st, Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center, 5645 W. Addison Street, Chicago changed ownership and its name to "Community First Medical Center". Our new name reflects our commitment to the community and speaks to our "patient before profit" approach to providing award winning compassionate care.

### Awards and Recognition

 NCDR (National Cardiovascular Data Registry) Action Registry – GWTC (Get with the Guidelines): 2014 Gold Performance Achievement Award	 Accreditation Achieves the Gold Seal Joint Commission Certified	 American Heart Association Primary Stroke Center TJC Advanced Disease Specific Primary Stroke Center Certification
 Leapfrog Safety Score: A (Fall 2014)	 Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care Chest Pain Certified	 CAP ACCREDITED CAP College of American Pathologists Accreditation
 Hospital Engagement Network Illinois Hospital Association Hospital Engagement Network Scored third in the state	 EDAP Emergency Department Approved for Pediatrics	 IAC (Intersocietal Accreditation Commission) Echocardiography Accreditation
 Consumer Reports named OLR: #2 in patient safety in the city of Chicago in five categories		

We look forward to improving the patient experience, while continuing the tradition of providing the highest quality clinical care established in 1955!

Sincerely,  
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# Special Olympics Illinois Skating Championships Feb. 18-19 In Romeoville

Special Olympics Illinois athletes competed in the state competition for figure skating and speed skating Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 18 & 19, at the Special Olympics Illinois Skating Championships at Canlan Ice Sports, 1581 W. Normantown Rd., Romeoville. This is the second year that state competition in skating is in Romeoville; previously it was part of the State Winter Games competition in Galena.

Competition took place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday and from 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, awards presented immediately following competition Thursday. On Wednesday night, athletes will enjoy dinner and a dance at the Holiday Inn in Bolingbrook.

There were 33 athletes competing in figure skating in Levels I-VI; each level increas-

ing in degree of difficulty. Skaters will each perform in compulsories (Levels I & II) or short program (Levels III-VI) and a free-style routine. There are 17 athletes competing in speed skating events that include 111-, 222-, 333-, 500- and 777-meter races.

Special Olympics Illinois hopes to attract more athletes to train in these two sports and participate in the state competition. According to Tracy Hilliard, Vice President of Sports Training and Competition for Special Olympics Illinois, "By making this competition a stand-alone event close to where most of the state's skaters live, we hope to see an increase in participation at the event which provides a better competitive experience for all."

Special Olympics Illinois State Winter Games took place Feb. 3-5 in Galena with competition in alpine skiing, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

Special thanks to these 2015 Skating Championships Gold Medal Sponsors –

Law Enforcement Torch Run, Illinois Knights of Columbus and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois.



Shabbona Park's Very Own Barbara Kozdron (far right) Won 3rd Place In The Competition.

## Governor Rauner Issues Statement on Death of Minnie Minoso

Governor Bruce Rauner issued the following statement today on the death of former Chicago White Sox player Minnie Minoso:

"Chicago and the State of Illinois have lost a legend; Minnie Minoso was a trailblazer, a leader and an extraordinary baseball player. The 'Cuban Comet' inspired generations as the first black player for the White Sox and Chicago and one of the first Latino stars in the major leagues. Decades after Minoso's time on the field was over, his impact is still felt throughout the major leagues and the city. The entire state owes him a debt of gratitude."



## The Kiwanis Club of Ravenswood, In Honor of St. Patrick's Day which we will celebrate on March 17, we offer the following Irish Blessing:

*"As you slide down the Bannister of Life, may the splinters never point in the wrong direction!"*

## DCASE Theater And Dance Schedule - Spring & Summer

The Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) is pleased to announce upcoming theater and dance performances scheduled spring and summer of 2015. The DCASE Theater and Dance series showcases both emerging and established theater, dance and multi-disciplinary artists.

All performances take place at the Storefront Theater located at 66 E. Randolph St., admission is FREE or low cost. For complete details and to make reservations please visit [cityofchicago.org/dcase](http://cityofchicago.org/dcase).

The Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) is dedicated to enriching Chicago's artistic vitality and cultural vibrancy. This includes fostering the development of Chicago's non-profit arts sector, independent working artists and for-profit arts businesses; providing a framework to guide the City's future cultural and economic growth, via the 2012 Chicago Cultural Plan; marketing the City's cultural assets to a worldwide audience; and presenting high-quality, free and affordable cultural programs for residents and visitors.

For information on all productions pre-

sented by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, visit our website: [cityofchicago.org/dcase](http://cityofchicago.org/dcase) and join us on Facebook and Twitter @ChicagoDCASE.

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## Lake FX Summit & Expo April 16-19

The Lake FX Summit + Expo presented by Google is the region's largest FREE conference for artists, creative professionals and entrepreneurs. With topic tracks related to the music, film, fashion, culinary and arts industries, the inaugural event will present professional development opportunities, as well as an Expo resource fair and a marketplace open to local artisans. More info at [lakefxchicago.us](http://lakefxchicago.us).



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## Polish American Association Chairman's Brunch - April 26, 2015

### PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

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on Sunday, April 26, 2015 for our  
CHAIRMAN'S BRUNCH at the IVY Boutique Hotel  
233 E. Ontario Street, Chicago, IL 60611

We are pleased to welcome our Honored Guest GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER. Governor Bruce Rauner's goal is to make Illinois the most competitive state in the country, where everyone has an opportunity to succeed. He is focused on delivering value for taxpayers, creating a pro-jobs economic climate, ensuring world-class schools and educational options for every Illinoisan, and bringing greater accountability to state government. For more info please visit our website: [polish.org/brunch2015](http://polish.org/brunch2015) or call: 773-427-6307.



Tom Polston & Brian Rigeheimer started 2015 as retired officers after almost 30 years as partners in the Lincolnwood Police Department. Brian went to Loyola Academy in Wilmette and many of his classmates came from Lincolnwood & nearby Chicago. There were many traffic stops where Tom had to listen to either Brian or the driver ask: "Do I know you?!"

## Comptroller Celebrates Casimir Pulaski Day Munger Speaks At Polish Museum Of America Ceremony

Illinois Comptroller Leslie Geissler Munger joined elected officials and community leaders at The Polish Museum of America in celebration of Casimir Pulaski Day Monday, March 2.

Comptroller Munger highlighted the importance of changing American's Visa Waiver Program to include Poland. She spoke following a tribute to Judy Baar Topinka by Museum Treasurer Maria Ciesla.



## Edison Park Post 541 of the American Legion



will be meeting on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at the Edison Park Field House, 6755 N. Northwest Hwy, Chicago, IL 60631. The meeting will start at 7:30 P.M. and is open to all Veterans who served in any branch of the United States military services during the armed conflicts listed below.

We are also forming a Sons of the American Legion Squadron. The requirement for becoming a member is:

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

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

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# Transit Riders Eager To Experience Faster, More Reliable Service Downtown

## Chicagoans Are Hopeful Loop Link Will Improve Mobility Across The Loop

The challenge of moving east or west across the Loop is familiar to anyone who has ever battled the daily congestion downtown, particularly during the morning and evening rush.

"Whether you're riding transit, walking or riding your bike, getting across the Loop can be frustratingly slow," said Ron Burke, executive director of the Active Transportation Alliance. "The Loop Link will make those trips faster, safer and more convenient for the thousands of Chicagoans who move through the Loop every day, and it's a great step forward in continuing to improve and expand our rapid transit system."

The Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) and Chicago Transportation Authority (CTA) unveiled the branding for the Loop Link today, and released a construction schedule for the new rapid transit corridor scheduled to be completed in 2015. Features include dedicated bus lanes on Washington and Madison, and connections to Ogilvie and Union Stations

in the West Loop.

Construction is scheduled to begin March 16th and prep work is already underway. Active Trans will continue to advocate for CDOT and CTA to efficiently proceed with construction so the corridor is operational as soon possible, and work to ensure the final project delivers the results promised to people riding transit, walking and riding bikes across the Loop.

People walking and riding bikes will also benefit from the new corridor, with new protected bike lanes going in on Randolph and Washington, and more sidewalk space as a result of relocating bus shelters to the corridor.

The data shows the vast majority of people are riding transit, walking or biking to get around the Loop. Buses carry nearly half of all travelers in vehicles on Washington and Madison, yet travel as slow as 3mph during rush hour, or walking speed.

Active Trans spoke with transit riders from neighborhoods throughout Chicago

who are excited about the potential benefits of the new corridor. To speak with any of the riders whose stories are highlighted below, please contact Communications Director Ted Villaire or Campaign Director Kyle Whitehead at [kyle@activetrans.org](mailto:kyle@activetrans.org) or 312-216-0473.

**Courtney Cobbs, 24-year-old social worker from Edgewater**

"I ride the 20-Madison bus often and always add at least 20 to 30 minutes to the estimated travel time due to the congestion. The city needs to continue to invest more in transit to attract millennials, save money and improve access to jobs."

**Ian Adams, 29-year-old Ukrainian Village resident who works in the Loop**

"Getting to the Loop is pretty straightforward but transit within the loop is really lacking. I'll likely ride the bus more often with the new corridor and ride my bike in the new protected bike lanes when the weather is good. I'm in business school in Streeterville and need to get across the Loop in the evenings when the streets are

totally jammed."

**John Aquilina, 64-year-old architecture and construction project manager**

"I often need to make east-west trips across the Loop on a tight schedule and will likely ride the bus more often with the new corridor. Sometimes I avoid the Loop during rush hour because the congestion is so bad."

**Curtis Kuhn, 36-year-old consultant from Edgewater**

"I never take the bus across the Loop because I can walk faster. If the bus was faster and more consistent, I'd be much more likely to consider it."

**Matt Carley, 27-year old Lakeview resident**

"I frequently travel to Ogilvie and Union Stations to ride Metra to the suburbs to visit family and friends and the dedicated bus lanes will save me time. I don't have a car and rely on public transit and my bicycle to get around and truly experience the city."

## Illinois Poison Center Kicks Off Illinois Poison Prevention Month as Decreed By Governor Rauner

The Illinois Poison Center (IPC) launches Illinois Poison Prevention Month (IPPM) this week with hundreds of free, public education events scheduled this month. The nation's oldest poison center uses the signature month of March to further spread the message of poison prevention to families and communities across Illinois.

Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner has declared March 2015 Illinois Poison Prevention Month and encourages all citizens to learn more about the IPC's poison prevention programs. National Poison Prevention Week, established by Congress in 1961, is the nationwide effort to educate communities on poison prevention and the dangers of unintentional poisonings. This year's national Poison Prevention Week is March 15-21, 2015.

"Poison prevention education is vital to the public's safety," said IPC Medical Director Michael Wahl, MD. "Children, young adults and the elderly are some of the most at-risk populations for poisonings; it is crucial that we raise the level of awareness among all Illinoisans."

In 2014, the IPC handled tens of thousands of calls on potentially harmful substances, with almost half of those involving children five years of age and under. In Illinois, more people are hospitalized for poisoning than for injuries from firearms

and motor vehicle collisions combined.

The IPC encourages residents to take advantage of videos, activity sheets and other educational materials available on the IPC website and the IPC blog. These include "My Child Ate...", an online library of potentially harmful substances often ingested by children. The page is meant to serve as an informational resource as parents increasingly turn to the internet to search "my child ate..."

IPC staff and volunteers will distribute tens of thousands of educational packets this month to Illinoisans to help create safer home environments and raise awareness about the free, confidential expert helpline service for children and adults. Pharmacy students from Chicago State University, Rosalind Franklin University, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and the University of Illinois-Chicago as well as a number of hospitals, schools of nursing, public health departments and individual volunteer educators have partnered with the IPC to conduct outreach programs on poison prevention for pre-kindergarten, elementary and middle school students throughout the state.

If you suspect that you or someone you know has been exposed to a potentially harmful substance, please call the Illinois Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222.

## Governor Rauner activates State Incident Response Center in Springfield

Governor Rauner today activated the State Incident Response Center (SIRC) in Springfield to ensure state personnel and equipment are ready to be quickly deployed if needed to help local emergency responders deal with a crude oil train derailment and subsequent fire that occurred this afternoon near Galena in Jo Daviess County.

Governor Rauner also deployed staff from the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to the scene.

"I activated the State Incident Response Center to ensure we're ready to act quickly if any local responders need our assistance," said Governor Rauner.

Representatives from several state agencies are reporting to the SIRC, including IEMA, IEPA, Illinois State Police, Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois Commerce Commission, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois National Guard, Illinois Department of Central Management Services, Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Department of Human Services, Illinois Department on Aging, Illinois Department of Corrections, Office of the State Fire Marshal and the American Red Cross.

The SIRC will remain activated as long as necessary.

For updates on the current situation, visit the Ready Illinois website at [www.ready.illinois.gov](http://www.ready.illinois.gov).

## Greetings from The Anti-Cruelty Society March 2015



### Chosen Man's Best Friend and Factor Feline

When: Thursday, March 26, 6-8 p.m.

Where: Y.E.S. Department of Bloomingdale's, 900 North Michigan Avenue on the 5th Floor

What: You're invited to Chosen Model Management and Factor Women Model Management's annual fundraiser for The Anti-Cruelty Society! Enjoy a fashion presentation featuring adoptable animals at 6:30 p.m., silent auction, light bites and drinks. 10% of the sales from all purchases at Bloomingdale's will be donated to us!

\*Request a duplicate copy of your sales receipt and hand it in to the designated person at the end of the event.

Can't attend the event? Shop at Bloomingdale's the following day through March 27 and request a duplicate sales receipt to have 10% of your sale donated to the Society. Be sure to turn your receipt in to a Customer Service agent at the time of your purchase.

No RSVP or tickets required. Bring yourself, a friend or two, or a whole slew, and enjoy!

### Team Anti-Cruelty

Run for you. Run for them. Run for us. Registration for the 2015 Bank of America Chicago Marathon will open on Tuesday, March 10. Team Anti-Cruelty will have 41 spots available for those looking for not only a guaranteed entry into the marathon, but the chance to raise money and make a difference for the animals. For more information email [events@anticruelty.org](mailto:events@anticruelty.org) or call 312-645-8006.

### Save the Date and Register Now for Bark in the Park!

When: SUNDAY, May 3 at 9 a.m.

Where: Montrose Harbor

What: Chicago's largest dog party of the year is set for Sunday, May 3! This 5K walk with your dog up Chicago's lakefront kicks off the spring season and helps raise much-needed funds for the Society and all of our animals, programs, and services. Visit [www.barkinthepark.org](http://www.barkinthepark.org) to get signed up!

### Gregg Helfer Fundraiser

We are thrilled and proud to announce a partnership with local private jeweler Gregg Helfer, Ltd. A portion of every purchase will be donated to The Anti-Cruelty Society. When shopping online, enter coupon code "Pet" at check-out. Or stop in and visit them at 5 S. Wabash, 17th Floor, Chicago, IL 60603.

## Jefferson Park Meeting

Do you want to know how real estate is rating in Jefferson Park? That will be the topic among others at the monthly meeting of the Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association, JPNA, March 25, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. held at Jefferson Park Congregational Church, 5320 W. Giddings, lower level. The main speakers will be Pat Liput, realtor, and Kelly Malitz, mortgage banker. The meetings are free and open to the public with light refreshments provided.

## County's Pet Spay-Neuter Program Will Continue Through March

Cook County's annual partnership with private veterinarians to offer discounted spay and neuter services for pets has been extended through March. The program provides discounts of up to \$40 per procedure and is available for up to two pets per household.

Previously, the program was administered only in February.

"Our office's ongoing relationship with veterinarians throughout the County allows us to continue offering discounts for this vital service for another month," said Dr. Donna Alexander, Administrator of the Cook County Department of Animal and Rabies Control.

Veterinarians will surgically spay or neuter pets under general anesthetic, so the pets feel no pain. To ensure eligibility for the program, veterinarians will confirm the animal is up to date on rabies shots and the owner is a Cook County resident. Veterinarians handle all paperwork associated with the discount.

Cook County pet owners who want to have their pets spayed or neutered under the program can simply go to a veterinarian of their choice and ask for the Cook County discount. No coupons or bar codes are needed.

Last year, 3,472 animals were spayed or neutered through the program. Since fees for the service vary by veterinarian, so can the amount of the discounts. For example, the discount can be as high as \$40 but also could be as low as \$20 if the cost of the surgery has already been reduced by the participating vet.

Dr. Alexander said taxpayers have collectively saved an average of \$137,460 a year through the program, which the County has operated together with the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association since 2008.

## Estate Planning Seminars... Or How To Simplify The Task Of Planning An Estate



Chester M. Przybylo

What's the first step you might take when you finally decide it is time to get serious about estate planning? Maybe you Google "Estate Planning" or "Wills", or "Living Trusts". What you will probably get is what is known as information overload. This can be extremely confusing, discouraging, or at worst, incorrect. Estate planning is complex and a wrong assumption can lead to making bad decisions.

Another route that individuals take is asking friends and relatives for advice. And unless the friend, acquaintance or relative is a knowledgeable estate planning attorney, you are at risk of being given incorrect information. It has been said that this kind of "free" advice is the most expensive advice you can get because it can cause you to make decisions that might be costly to either you, your heirs or you and your heirs.

Probably the most effective first step in serious estate planning is to attend an estate planning seminar given by a licensed estate planning attorney. A properly prepared seminar will offer you a chance to get an overview of various options in estate planning. You should leave the seminar with a good idea of both the pros and the cons of using various estate planning instruments. A good speaker will explain a number of complex issues in simple, understandable language with examples.

Most seminars are followed with a question and answer session. Here's where you can get valuable, trustworthy information from someone who is an expert in the field. Don't be afraid to ask questions. The idea of having a seminar is to help people become educated on proper estate planning so that they can make a decision that is right for them and their heirs. Attendees will also get a feel for the firm as well as the presenter's personality and depth of knowledge on the subject.

There are a few cautions when deciding on attending a seminar. Avoid "circuit rider" law firms that travel a state and don't have a permanent office in your area. You'll want a firm you can count on, and in the future, one that your family or heirs can count on. And is the person giving the seminar a licensed attorney? Many areas of the law are involved in good estate planning, and even a licensed attorney who has a general law practice may not be able to keep up with all the laws pertaining to estate planning. Some seminars are given by individuals who are not attorneys, but financial planners and their main focus may be to sell financial products, not help you understand the complexities of estate planning.

An estate planning seminar is an efficient, enjoyable way to gain valuable knowledge and to interact with an estate planning attorney before deciding to work with him or her. After investing an hour or two of your time, you will be better equipped to make the right estate planning choice for you.

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

**Join Us At One Of Our Upcoming Seminars.  
See Page 12 for a Listing.**

### CPS Preschool Applications Available At Stock School!

**WHERE: 7507 W. Birchwood Ave, Chicago, IL 60631**

**WHO: Families interested in preschool registration for 2015-2016 school year.**

Beginning March 2, 2015, Stock School will serve as a Chicago Public School preschool registration site for families interested in applying for the 2015-2016 school year. Applications are available at Stock School and online at [www.cps.edu/readytolearn](http://www.cps.edu/readytolearn). Parents must apply in-person between March 2, 2015 through May 1, 2015 between 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Applicants also are required to show proof of residency, proof of income, and proof of child's age.

Families of preschool students with disabilities may inquire with Stock School or contact the Office of Diverse Learner Supports and Services at 773-553-1800 for information about preschool registration and enrollment process for students with disabilities.

Stock School is offering tours on Thursdays and Fridays from 10:00-10:30 am and 1:30-2:00 pm for any interested families. Additional tour dates or times are available as requested. Please call 773-534-1215 to schedule a tour.

#### About Stock School

Stock Early Childhood Center, "Where all children belong", fosters a love for learning in every child. An intentional focus on developmentally appropriate social/emotional growth, self-help needs, rigorous academics, fine arts and physical development maximizes each stu-

dent's learning. Stock is committed to providing inclusive and differentiated programs that nurture and support all of our students by utilizing a culture of professional inquiry, shared leadership and mutual accountability of all staff, parents and community partners.

Stock School utilizes the classroom-based team approach to maximize the potential of all students. The teams consist of teachers and specialists, each with their own area of expertise, that collaborate and meet regularly to prioritize objectives, share information, and evaluate student progress. The goal of the Ready to Learn Blended Program is to emphasize that every experience and interaction in high quality preschool is intentional, and will prepare preschool children for the remainder of their educational careers. Students in the Cluster Program receive support from a Special Educator in an instructional classroom for 100% of their day, but are included with their age appropriate peers in as many opportunities as possible.

Stock School envisions a school climate that is warm, loving, stimulating, positive and productive. We feel each student will reach their greatest potential if they love school and love their teacher. For further inquiry please contact Principal, Ann McNally at 773-534-1215.

### St. Thecla Seniors Meetings

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

## Workshop Focuses on Advocacy for the Special Needs Child

Cari Levin, Director of Evanston CASE (Citizens for Appropriate Special Education) and a licensed clinical social worker with more than 20 years experience, presents a workshop entitled How to Advocate for Your Special Needs Child at School. The workshop will be held on Wednesday, March 25, from 7PM to 8:30PM in the Evanston Public Library Community Meeting Room.

Levin's presentation will focus on how to form a successful advocacy and strategy team for your child in pursuit of meeting their needs at school. Parents will learn about their rights, the IEP process, and how to hold the school accountable for providing needed services. Levin is in private practice as a special education advocate; she is the Founding Director of Evanston CASE which was established in 2007. She is the parent of a special needs child. No registration is necessary.

### Spring Story Times!

**Toddler/Preschool Story Time**  
**Thursdays, March 12 – April 16, 2015**  
**10:30-11:00 a.m.**  
**Ages 18 months-4 years**  
**Hope you can join us!**



**Chicago Public Library, Austin-Irving Branch • 312-744-6222**  
**6100 W. Irving Park Road**  
**Hours: Mon. & Wed. 12:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.; Tues. & Thurs. 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.**  
**Fri. & Sat. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (closed Sunday)**

### EPL Hosts Big Bargain Book Sale March 13 through 15

Why did the Chicago Reader call our used book sale "The Best"? Shop it and you'll see. The Evanston Public Library will hold a Big Bargain Book Sale from Friday, March 13 through Sunday, March 15. The 3-day event features a huge collection of recent fiction, children's books, non-fiction, gardening and history books, and much more, in excellent condition at very low prices. Book lovers can expect to find 1000s of very gently used children's and adult books, audiobooks, movies, music, magazines, large print, and vintage selections in every imaginable category of fiction and non-fiction.

All proceeds from the sale, which takes place in the third floor Book Sale Room, benefit the Evanston Public Library and help grow our collection. Join the hundreds of people who know that EPL book sales are a great way to stock up on high quality reading material at low, low prices.

#### Book Sale Hours:

Friday, March 13 and Saturday, March 14: 10am to 5:30pm. (There will be an Early Bird Preview on Friday from 10am to Noon, \$5 admittance fee for Preview only.)  
Sunday, March 15: 12pm to 5:30 pm, all books half-price.

The Evanston Public Library is located at 1703 Orrington Avenue. Parking is available in the Library's underground parking garage, as well as in the nearby surface lot, metered street parking, and City Parking Garage at Church St. and Chicago Ave.

### Chicago Public Library

During the month, the Library offers a wide range of programs about past and present issues focusing on women and girls in society. The public is invited to visit the Library for a host of programs, including lectures, concerts, documentary film screenings, art exhibitions and workshops, and children's programs. In addition, a selected bibliography and the Library's 2015 Women's History Month Calendar of Events are available at [chipublib.org](http://chipublib.org)

Highlighting the March events is the film screening of *Urban Indian Womanhood* (2014). The documentary film presents a snapshot in the lives of working women from the Indian city of Lucknow, revealing stories of womanhood in a society transitioning from traditional to modern. A question and answer session with Producer/Director Schweta Singh follows the screening. The program takes place on Saturday, March 28 at 2 p.m. in the Video Theater, Lower Level at the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State St.

For a full list of events, dates and locations go to [chipublib.org](http://chipublib.org).

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

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

### Norwood Park Seniors Club

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

### Prospective Members Pizza And Music Evening At Ezra-Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Cong. In Skokie

Prospective members are invited to a special evening of Koleinu (Our Voice) music and song, at Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 W. Dempster, Skokie, Friday, March 20, starting at 6:00 p.m.

The evening is free and open to anyone who wants to learn about and look into joining the synagogue.

The program will start with a welcome by the synagogue's spiritual leader, Rabbi Jeffrey Weill and will continue with a pizza dinner.

At 7:00 p.m., an evening of Koleinu - our lively and spirited musical Shabbat service - will begin with Rabbi Weill on the drums accompanied by musicians Laura Brody, Tamara Glassberg and Brian Jablo.

An RSVP is required. Please call the synagogue office at 847-675-4141.

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**Skokie Idol Contestants Face Their Final Round**

By Wayne Mell – Managing Director

It started on a cold afternoon in January, as over 70 hopeful auditionees came to Skokie Theatre hoping to compete for the title of Skokie Idol. From there, a pool of 26 contestants in three age brackets was chosen to return each Saturday afternoon for sing-off competitions. One by one they were sent home until now only 10 remain. On Saturday afternoon, March 14, they return for one last try at reaching the finals.

They're not just singing for bragging rights. The winner in each division will have a solo appearance in concert at IMODS Wednesday's on the Green on July 8. Additionally, the Top Note Music Academy at Old Orchard will help them prepare with free voice lessons and will present them with a professional studio recording of their concert songs. The winners will also receive a \$50 gift certificate from IMODS to be used in downtown Skokie stores.

There are three contestants remaining in the High School Division: Pam Connolly (Chicago), Tricia Pabst (Lincolnwood), and Leah Rubenberg (Skokie). The three contestants in the adult division are: Turrell Brown, Andre Gloeckner, and Katie Sommers, all from Skokie. There are four contestants remaining the Grade School / Middle School Division: Alexis Aponte and Roy Gantz (Skokie), Leila Hoxha (Lincolnwood), and Stefan Iovanescu Padurarur (Winnetka). These contestants will sing off against each other on Saturday, March 14. They will each be performing one song from a Broadway musical, and second song which will be their choice for an encore of any song they've performed in the contest so far.

The amount of talent to choose from in the auditions was overwhelming to the judges, that 11 contestants were admitted into the Grade School / Middle School division instead of the 8 that were originally planned. This resulted in some grueling double-eliminations to make sure that this division selected it's finalists at the same time as the other two groups. All 11 of the Grade School / Middle School contestants will be featured in a Skokie Idol Rising Stars concert on Friday, May 29 at 7:30 pm, and again on Saturday, May 30 at 2 pm at Skokie Theatre.

But for now, only two people from each category will proceed to the finals, held at 7:30 pm on March 28 at Skokie Theatre.

The contestants have never needed your votes more. They can't progress without your help. Admission to the sing-offs is \$5 at the door. The High School and Adult Divisions will begin at 1 pm. The Grade School / Middle School Division will begin at 3 pm. For more information, visit SkokieTheatre.org. Come choose the next Skokie Idol.



Mullen's Apple Sauce says thank you to Kate McMahon and Toni Lee Kwiatkowski-Crowley of "Team Mullen" for helping at the "Polar Plunge" annual charity event for Special Olympics. Kate & Toni were there on March 1 with actor Vince Vaughn and other actors from the "Chicago Fire" and "Chicago PD" TV shows. Singer Lady Gaga took the plunge with Chicago Fire actor Taylor Kinney, her real-life fiance.

**St. Patty's Day Thoughts**

Courtesy of Maria Bappert

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY – MARCH 17 Mark your Calendar! Save the Date!**  
 Let's all celebrate St. Patrick's Day! "How?" you ask? The answer is: Think Green (or is it Grin?) Actually, it should be both ...

Here's how: Eat, Drink and Be Merry!  
 \*Eat something green – beans, a salad, a Granny Smith apple, a lime cheesecake for dessert, etc.  
 \*Drink green beer, if you're old enough. P.S. My favorite "green thing" is the green-back dollar.

\*And Be Merry! Sing those fabulous Irish songs. Remember: Everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day, so let's join in the fun – let's not miss a time to party!  
 \*May the Luck of the Irish be with you -- Hope you find that Pot of Gold at the end of the rainbow.  
 \*And finally, here's an Irish Blessing for you: "As you slide down the Bannister of Life, may the Splinters never point in the wrong direction."

Wishing you a **HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY...**  
 Yours truly, Maria P. Bappert .

Stop in at  
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**Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner**

HAPPY ST. PATTY'S DAY

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**Lenten Menu Idea**

**SHRIMP (GARIDES) WITH TOMATOES AND FETA**

This is one of my favorite desserts for the Lenten season but it can also please any vegetarian guests at any time of the year.  
 Submitted by Anastasia E. Weaver

- 2 Lbs. Medium Shrimp
- 2 to 3 Ripe Tomatoes, finely diced
- 1- 1/2 cups of Olive Oil
- 2 onions, finely diced (I prefer Georgia Vidalia Onions)
- 2 cloves of Garlic finely chopped
- 7 oz. Feta Cheese
- 2 tsp. Sugar

Sea Salt and Freshly Ground Pepper to taste. In a frying pan, sauté the onions and garlic in the olive oil for a few minutes. Do not permit the garlic to burn. Add diced tomatoes, bay leaf, sugar, salt and pepper and an adequate amount of water. Cook the sauce for about 30 minutes. Drop the cleaned shrimp into the sauce and continue cooking for another 4 minutes.

Remove from heat. Place both shrimp and sauce in a baking dish and spread thin slices of Feta Cheese over the shrimp.

Bake in 350 degree preheated oven for about 10 minutes.

Serve over rice accompanied by a Baby Greens Salad with Kalamata Olives and a dressing of olive oil, red wine vinegar, oregano, salt and pepper to taste.

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Call for a tour today or plan to attend one of our Shadow Days/Open House dates!

Call today to schedule a shadow day for your child and receive a \$200 credit towards Registration Fees!



**East Campus Open Houses**  
 Wed., March 18th; 5-7PM  
 Wed., April 15th; 5-7PM  
 Wed., May 13th; 5-7PM

**Lutheran Unity School**  
 (2 Campuses to serve you):

**West Campus Open Houses**  
 Tues., March 17th; 5-7PM  
 Tues., April 14th; 5-7PM  
 Tues., May 12th; 5-7PM



**Lutheran Unity East**  
 3740 W. Belden Avenue  
 Chicago, IL 60647  
 773-342-5854

**Lutheran Unity West**  
 5650 N. Canfield Avenue  
 Chicago, IL 60631  
 708-867-5044

Check out our website: [www.lutheranunity.com](http://www.lutheranunity.com)

**Volunteer to be a ViTA Literacy/ESL tutor.**

Help adults learn to read or speak English. Learn about methods and materials especially suited for tutoring adult American or immigrant students. Attend four workshops at the Skokie Campus:

- Tuesday, March 24 • 6:00 - 9:45 p.m.
- Thursday, March 26 • 6:00 - 9:45 p.m.
- Saturday, April 11 • 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- Saturday, April 18 • 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Call 847.635.1426 for an interview.



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- How to keep your estate out of an expensive Probate
- What is Guardianship, and how can you avoid it?
- The real danger of "Do-It-Yourself" Trusts
- Can you avoid losing everything you worked for if you enter a nursing home?
- How can you protect your children from creditors, ex-spouses and themselves?
- How Veteran's Benefits can be used to pay family members for caregiving
- Joint Tenancy..hear real-life examples of how it can go terribly wrong



★ A Free Lecture for People Over 50 ★

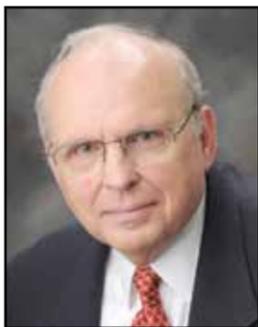
**JOIN US AT ONE OF THESE FOUR SEMINARS**

<p><b>Wednesday, March 18, 2015</b></p> <p>10:00 a.m. w/Continental Breakfast or 1:00 p.m. with Refreshments</p> <p>Basilico Restaurant 4701 N. Cumberland Ave., Norridge, IL 60706</p>	<p><b>Thursday, March 19, 2015</b></p> <p>7:00 p.m. with Refreshments</p> <p>White Eagle Banquet Halls 6837 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, IL 60714</p>	<p><b>Saturday, March 21, 2015</b></p> <p>10:00 a.m. w/Continental Breakfast</p> <p>Hilton Garden Inn O'Hare 2930 South River Rd, DesPlaines, IL 60018</p>
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The firm will offer a free, no obligation, private consultation to answer questions you have about your own estate plan and what will happen if you do not make any changes.

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I'm planning to do the things I love.  
I'm planning to watch my family grow.*

*I'm preplanning with them  
and for them.*

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