



**FREE** 

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Now Includes **Next** Edition March 12 For the Collar Suburbs

**Volume XVIII** 

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(FIND THE 1ST OF OUR LENTEN RECIPES ON PAGE 7. Watch for more in our next two editions.)

Issue 4 February 26, 2014



**CHICAGO EAGLE SCOUT AWARDED** HONOR MEDAL FOR HIS HEROIC ACTIONS.

(See Page 2 For Story)



LENT BEGINS MA

# Come Celebrate Chicago's 177th **Birthday Party**

Tuesday, March 4th from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. at Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington Street, Chicago

\* FREE ADMISSION\*

(See Page 3 for More Details)



**Spring Forward and Test Your Batteries** 

Interested in trying something new this winter? Snowshoeing is a great recreational activity, as well as one of the fastest growing winter sports. Snowshoe rentals are available all month at the Evanston Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd., as long as there is 3" of snow on the ground.





**Russ Phillips** and His "Windy City Jazz Ensemble"

> Featuring Vocalist

Jeannie Lambert



#### Tuesday, March 4th - 8:00 P.M.





Special Mardi Gras Menu

Catfish — BBQ Ribs Jambalaya — Gumbo Red Beans and Rice Black-Eyed Peas **Bread Pudding** . and much more

Prizes for Best Costumes or Crazy Hats

Reservations:

# Chicago Brauhaus

4732 N. Lincoln Avenue Chicago, IL 1-773-784-4444



### "The Death of the American Trial" marks anniversary of Clarence Darrow's death March 13

Actor Leslie Nielson Darrow memorabilia also on display

On the seventy-sixth anniversary of famed attorney Clarence Darrow's death, this year's annual Darrow commemoration on Thursday, March 13, looks at the "The Death of the American Trial" with professor Robert P. Burns, author of a 2009 book by the same title.

Darrow's death on March 13, 1938, was memorialized throughout the world. The Darrow Bridge, where his ashes (and later those of his wife Ruby and son Paul) were scattered, was dedicated to his memory by the Chicago Park District in 1957.

The program starts at 10 a.m. just EAST of the Clarence Darrow Bridge in Jackson Park (the bridge is under construction) for the traditional wreath-tossing and brief speeches to commemorate Darrow; the Symposium begins at 10:45 a.m. in the Museum of Science and Industry: The Columbian Room. Beverages and rolls will be served. (The Darrow Bridge is behind the Museum of Science and Industry: Driving south on Lake Shore Drive, pass the light at 57th Drive and turn right at the next light [Science Drive]. You will come almost immediately to Columbia Drive. If you turn left and follow Columbia Drive there is parking near the bridge. You may park near the OmniMax Theater and walk south to the bridge. Parking is only free by the bridge.)

For more details see www.darrowbridge.org.

### IRISH SUNDAY FUNDAY

Edison Park is turning GREEN on Sunday, March 9th for our 2nd Annual Irish Sunday Funday! There will be live entertainment including Irish Dancers, Music, & Irish Bagpipers roving the neighborhood, food and drink specials, retail and spa specials, and of course green carnations! (Northwest Highway & Oliphant)

Again this year we will be selling Edison Park Irish apparel including long sleeve t-shirts, sweatshirts, fleeces, baseball hats, knit hats, kids & baby apparel.

> Stop In On Irish Funday Sunday, March 9th, for a Corned Beef Sandwich and a Guinness Beer. Irish Apparel on sale between



With Wood Burning Oven Pizza And A Lot More! Open 7 Days a week from 11:00AM

Visit out website at www.edisonparkinnchicago.com

6715 N. Olmsted Chicago, IL 60631 (773) 775-1404

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Live Music. **Bowling and** Billiards **Upstairs** 

**Private Parties** Available (Pizza/Appetizers/Buffet Meal)





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

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

The Diabetes Support Group will meet Tuesday, March 4, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. This free support group aims to provide mutual support and education. For more information, call 773.794.8329.

Free blood pressure screenings will be offered Monday, March 10, 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 Healthy Aging Program will be held Friday, March 14, 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. Lee Laftsidis, R.N., Director of Case Management, will talk about the difference between being admitted in a hospital verses being admitted for observation. Registration is not required.

Cholesterol screenings will be given Monday, March 24, from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. This screening is for individuals who want to know their cholesterol levels. The test requires a 12-hour fast and tests for total cholesterol, triglycerides, HDL, and LDL levels. The test results will be mailed within one week. There is a \$15 fee payable at the screening. Advance registration is required by calling 877-737-4636.

Free hearing screenings will be held Wednesday, March 26, from 9 a.m. to noon for individuals 18-years-old or older who are concerned about their hearing. Audiologists Steven Wolinsky, Au.D., and Marie Vetter, Au.D., will conduct the screenings. Registration is required by calling 877-737-4636.

The Arthritis Support Group will meet Thursday, March 27, 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.

A free lecture titled Memory Problems will be offered Thursday, March 27, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Clinical psychologist Anna Wegierek, PsyD, will discuss what is needed for a comprehensive memory assessment and ways to keep a mind sharp. Refreshments will be served. Registration is required by calling 877-737-4636.

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

# **Do You Have a Family Member with Mental Illness?**Class starts March 5

The National Alliance on Mental Illness, Cook County North Suburban Chapter, will offer the Family-to-Family Education Program, a 12-week course for families of adult loved ones dealing with serious mental illness. Classes start at New Trier Northfield High School, 7 Happ Rd, Northfield, on Wednesday evenings, March 5 – May 28 (off April 2), from 7:00 to 9:30 pm.

This course is free of charge and is taught by family members who have first-hand experience. Families learn about the major mental illnesses - symptoms, medications, side effects, services available, communication, and coping strategies. Class members also gain understanding and support from each other. Call NAMI, 847-716-2252 to register.

#### Saint Peter School **Cordially Invites our** SCHOOL & PARISH FAMILIES, ALUMNI & FRIENDS to: THE 2014 LIVE AND SILENT AUCTION Registration is Still **Open For The Current** School Year **Spring Fling - CARNIVALE** Date & Time: Saturday, March 29, 2014, 6:00pm Location: Saint Peter School -8140 Niles Center Road, Skokie, Illinois **Entrance Ticket Price:** \$50 Includes Food, Beer, and Wine. \$40 Seniors rved table) will cost Raffle Tickets: \$10 each \$500 Second Prize \$250 Third Prize \$1000 First Prize Purchase entrance tickets from any student Grades 5-8. Purchase raffle tickets from students in grades PreK-4. All tickets may be purchased from Mrs. Lloyd in the school office or by returning this form with payment to the school office 8140 Niles Center Road, Skokie, 60077. Questions? 847-673-0918 St. Peter School Spring Fling Order Form Phone Address \_\_\_\_\_City/Zip Number of Entrance Tickets \_\_\_ @ \$40 = Number of Entrance Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ (Seniors Only) Number of Raffle Tickets a S10 =We cannot attend. Please accept this donation: Total Enclosed S Make checks payable to St. Peter School Hold my tickets at the door Send my tickets to above address

#### **KIWANIS CLUB OF RAVENSWOOD**

The Kiwanis Club of Ravenswood meets 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.

#### **SAVE THE DATES:**

Wednesday, March 5 – Ash Wednesday. • Sunday, March 9 – Daylight Savings Time begins. • Tuesday, March 11 – The Lake View Kiwanis Club sponsors a St. Patrick's Day Party beginning at 6:00 pm at Ann Sather's. Dinner is served at 7:00 pm, and a great Irish group will provide the entertainment. The cost is \$30.00 per person, which includes beverages. RSVP with Leah Steele at 773-742-2488. • Thursday, March 13 – Regular Club Meeting followed by a Board Meeting. • Monday, March 17 – St. Patrick's Day – Everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day! • Thursday, March 20 – First day of Spring. Thank God! Thursday, March 27 – Regular Club Meeting with Susan Trudeau from the Heartland Alliance as our guest speaker.

#### CHICAGO EAGLE SCOUT AWARDED HONOR MEDAL FOR HIS HEROIC ACTIONS

The Boy Scouts of America awarded Eagle Scout Lawrence D. Sellers with the Honor Medal this past weekend at the Chicago Area Council's Annual Dinner. Sellers was recognized for selflessly shielding a friend from gunfire in Chicago's Harsh Park last year where he received non-life-threatening wounds. Sellers was shot in the leg during the attack that killed his King College Prep classmate, Hadiya Pendleton, who has become a national symbol of Chicago's violence.

"We are very proud of Lawrence," said Council Commissioner Lou Sandoval. "His actions represent one of the many ways that Scouting impacts the many young men and women who participate: servant leadership."

Sellers maintains a humble perspective on his heroic actions. He credits his instinct and upbringing. "I did what I needed to do," Sellers said. "I didn't think I would receive an award, but I'm honored."

Sellers grew up in a Scouting family. His two older brothers both became Eagle Scouts, the highest rank in Boy Scouts; his father was a Scoutmaster; and his mother and sister were involved in Girl Scouts. When asked what might be possible if more of Chicago's youth were involved in Scouting, Sellers said: "If most of the children that are out there now were in Scouting, they would know right from wrong better than they do now."

Chicago has been challenged with a spike in gang violence over the past few years. The 104-year-old Scouting movement has been working behind the scenes with proven results in the development of character and core leadership skills. When Sellers was asked what he envisions as a solution for youth violence, he responded: "I don't think there's a simple solution, not simple enough for me to come up with, at least."

Sellers' leg wound has healed and he is now focused on selecting a college where he will work toward a degree in education so he can become a math teacher

The Boy Scouts will present Sellers with the Honor Medal on Sunday, February 23, 2014 at the Chicago Area Council Annual Dinner. He will be available for interviews on Wednesday, February 19, 2014 at the Boy Scouts Chicago Area Council office. His mom and brother will also be available for questions.

The **Honor Medal** recognizes individuals who have demonstrated unusual heroism and skill in saving or attempting to save a life at considerable risk to self. The award has been given to 2,354 people since it's inception in 1923.

Chicago Area Council, Boy Scouts of America serves thousands of youth across Chicagoland through traditional Scouting programs, Learning for Life and Exploring. The principal purpose of all Chicago Area Council programs is to instill positive values and prepare youth for life. To learn more, visit www.chicagobsa.org.

#### TOPINKA UNVEILS TAX RETURN ALERT SYSTEM

Site allows taxpayers to register for email, text alerts

Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka on Monday unveiled a new Tax Return Alert system that allows residents to check on the status of their returns and sign-up for text message and email payment notifications.

The easy-to-use resource allows taxpayers to see if their payment has been processed by the Comptroller's Office by simply entering their name and Social Security number. Taxpayers also have the opportunity to enter an email address and phone number to receive a notification when their payment is processed.

The feature can be found by visiting illinoiscomptroller.com

"Taxpayers no longer have to wonder if the check is the mail," Topinka said. "By simply visiting illinoiscomptroller.com and submitting an email address, they can be assured that they will be notified immediately after their payment is processed."

Beyond registering for a tax return notification, the resource allows residents to view a history of their return payments, a breakdown of state spending and bill backlog information. The site also links to the Comptroller's Office transparency websites: the Ledger and the Warehouse. Taxpayers are further offered a hotline number to call for additional information.

The Tax Return Alert initiative is part of Topinka's ongoing effort to make state government more transparent and accessible to taxpayers. In launching the Ledger last year, she enabled residents to click their way through everything from the state's daily bill backlog numbers to state agency budgets and employee salaries. She then launched the Warehouse, a comprehensive database that puts Local Government financial information and tens of thousands of records at a single location for taxpayer review. Last month Topinka announced that her Office would include an insert in tax returns providing residents with state spending and bill backlog information.

Each of the initiatives was completed using existing office resources.

"As we've shown time and again: if we can make it happen, we're going to do it," Topinka said of the transparency initiatives. "And as I've said before: we're not done yet. So stay tuned."

#### WALL OF HONOR INDUCTIONS AT RESURRECTION

On Sunday, March 2, 2014 at 11 am Resurrection College Prep High School will celebrate Mass, immediately followed by the inductions to the Resurrection Wall of Honor and refreshments. Notable alumnae will be honored with the Blessed Celine Award, which is awarded to alumnae who exemplify the life values of Blessed Celine, the foundress of the Sisters of the Resurrection. The recipients are accomplished in their fields of endeavor and, like Blessed Celine, work toward the advancement of women in society and act as positive Christian role models for young women. The 2014 Blessed Celine award recipients are Sarah Bolger '00, Dr. Jo Apel Wolthusen '87, and Maria Gedroc Malo '85.

Resurrection alumnae will also be inducted into the Resurrection Athletic Hall of Fame. The Athletic Hall of Fame Award recognizes individuals from the Resurrection athletic community who have participated in sports or contributed to the Resurrection College Prep Athletic Program. The 2014 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees are Dr. Amy Anderson Henning '97, Jacqueline Geraci Barbanente '95, Kiki Calument '91, Sheila O'Connor '89, and Coach Dawn Konow. To RSVP or for additional information about the event, please contact Alisa Martorano at amartorano@reshs.org or 773.775.6616 Ext 142.

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

#### CELEBRATE CHICAGO'S 177TH BIRTHDAY TUESDAY, MARCH 4 ON DALEY PLAZA

Join the City of Chicago for a Mardi Gras-themed party on Fat Tuesday with food trucks, packzis, music, special kick-off program and much more!

The City of Chicago is throwing a Mardi Gras-themed birthday party and food truck rally to celebrate Chicago's 177th birthday on Daley Plaza (50 W. Washington Street) on Tuesday, March 4. Starting with a short program at 10:30 a.m. to kick-off the event, FREE cake will be available (while supplies last) along with packzis, music and much more from 11am – 7pm.

Throughout the day, Chicago food trucks will provide both lunchtime and after work dining options as well as a designated area for beer from Goose Island and wine to be purchased and enjoyed, plus musical entertainment from DJ Lisa René from 11am – 7pm.

Also included in the celebration will be a "Fat Tuesday" tradition, packzis from Delightful Pastries.

Prior to the celebration kick-off, a brief program will be held in the lobby of the Daley Center featuring a native drum interpretation of "Happy Birthday" by the American Indian Center of Chicago as an entertaining reminder of Chicago's heritage. Additionally, children reading entries submitted to an annual essay contest sponsored in partnership with the Friends of DuSable will honor Chicago's first permanent resident, Jean Baptist Pointe DuSable.

The program will conclude with a Mardi Gras-style parade onto Daley Plaza led by The Big Shoulders Brass Band & Mystic Krewe of Laff to kick of the Food Truck rally and day-long celebration!

And what's a birthday without cake? Eli's Cheesecake is a Chicago institution and has become a worldwide ambassador of the city's culinary scene. It's a popular treat, and supplies are limited – so don't miss out! Finally, Chicagoans born on March 4 can celebrate their shared birthday with the City of Chicago, and receive a special commemorative certificate while supplies last.

Other celebrations being held on March 4 include the Chicago History Museum's "four-star day of fun" with Chicago-style activities for the whole family throughout the day at the museum located at 160 N. Clark Street. Connect to our city by participating in the Chicagoan Connect chain art project or discover the meaning of the Chicago flag's four stars on 30-minute tours. For complete details, visit chicagohistory.org.

Chicago's 177th Birthday Celebration and Food Truck Rally is presented by the City of Chicago and Goose Island Beer Co. For information on this and all programs presented by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, visit our website at cityofchicago.org/dcase and join us on Facebook and Twitter @ChicagoDCASE (#ChiBDay).

#### Norwood Park Historical Society Sets 2014 Events Calendar

Visit the oldest house in Chicago for various educational and fun family events. Join the Norwood Park Historical Society at its 2014 programs and events. Educational programs and fund-raising events are held throughout the year at the Norwood Park Historical Society, 5624 N. Newark Ave., Chicago.

Educational programs are held for members and visitors six times throughout the year. All programs are at the Noble-Seymour-Crippen House at 7 p.m. and are free to attend. Topics vary; past presentations have included information about the history of Chicago neighborhood treasures, tree care, Chicago architecture, musical history, and many other subjects. 2014 programs will be held on:

• February 26 • March 26 • April 23 • May 28 • September 24 • October 22 Special events to raise funds for the Norwood Park Historical Society also will be held in 2014. Several events focus on history and architecture, while others are simply fun neighborhood gatherings. Proceeds from each event benefit this 501(c)3 charitable organization and help preserve Chicago's oldest home. Event dates are:

• April 5 and 6: Spring Tea • May 3: House History/Renovators Resource Library Open House • June 21: Giant Yard Sale/Auction/Antique Flea Market • July 26: Norwood Park's 140th Birthday Party • September 6: Stems and Steins • November 9: Antique Appraisal Day • December 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7: Victoria's Craft Boutique and Holly Daze Cafe • December 6: Holiday House Tour

To learn more about these programs or purchase admission to the fund-raisers, visit www.norwoodparkhistoricalsociety.org.

The Norwood Park Historical Society, a not-for-profit organization, owns and is head-quartered in the Noble-Seymour-Crippen House, the oldest surviving house in Chicago (1833). The Society works with the community to preserve its rich history and architectural integrity and to make the dreams and experiences of our predecessors come to life. Visits are available on Saturdays, from noon to 4 p.m., or by appointment.

# RE-ELECT FRANK AVIL



Environmentalist
★
Civil Engineer
★
Surveyor

Let His Experience Work For You

Commissioner

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District

**VOTE DEMOCRATIC • PUNCH #72** 

(Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Frank Avila)

# "CONQUERING THE CLUTTER"

PRESENTED BY EZRA-HABONIM, THE NILES TOWNSHIP JEWISH CONGREGATION SISTERHOOD

"Conquering the Clutter," is the March program for the Sisterhood of Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 W. Dempster, Skokie. The luncheon, featuring a speaker from CJE Senior Life, will be held Wednesday, March 5, starting at 12 noon in the synagogue's Social Hall. Speaker Barbara Sarasin, MSW of CJE Senior Life, has worked in the field of aging since 1984, Mrs. Sarasin brings a unique perspective to her work with older adults. She has a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Illinois, Urbana/Champaign and is also a Certified Nurse's Aide. Among other topics on keeping clutter at bay, she will discuss the following:

cuss the following:What to Keep and What to Toss • Getting Organized for a Move

• What Paperwork to Have Ready for an Emergency

Fee is \$15 for Sisterhood members and \$18 for non-members and at the door. For reservations and further information, please contact the synagogue office at 847-675-4141.

# Elect Katherine A. O Dell



"I hope my qualifications and experience earn your trust and vote on March 18, 2014."

FOR JUDGE
10th Judicial Sub-Circuit
Vote Democratic
PUNCH #172

(Paid for by the Committee to Elect Katherine A. O'Dell)

#### ICFilmFest Premieres at Round Lake Beach Cultural & Civic Center March 14-16

Festival features 44 films from 22 countries

The ICFilmFest, the first touring festival of world class children's film programs, launches festival season at the Round Lake Beach Cultural & Civic Center. Seven screens run between Friday, March 14th and Sunday, March 16th and include films tailored for children ages 2-10 showcasing a total of 44 films from 22 countries.

Four lively programs feature award-winning short films such as: Play Lunch, an Australian film about a little girl who wants to play football; Collective Consciousness #6, from Brazil tracks trash and encourages the importance of being a conscious consumer; the Danish film Flap Crashers, in which a bird must overcome his fear of flying; and One Shoe Blues starring legendary blues man, B.B. King. The ICFilm Film Festival is curated by Nicole Dreiske and presented by the Round Lake Beach Cultural and Civic Center in collaboration with the International Children's Media Center.

Organized by RLBCC Director Monica Marr, the festival will also present a Cultural Kids Zone with dance, drumming and other activities. The Cultural Kids Zone will open an hour before the first screening each day and is free for

ICMC Executive Director Nicole Dreiske comments on the interactive nature of the Festival: "Watching movies shouldn't be a passive experience for children and at the ICFilmFest, it isn't. Lively discussions and voting designed to make the experience memorable and interactive for even the littlest movie lovers."

Children get to vote for their favorite films immediately following each program. Their participation determines the winner of the "Best of the IC-FilmFest" to be awarded to the film that receives the greatest number of votes.

Tickets (per screening) are \$5 - All seats, all ages. For more information call 847-201-9032 or visit http://il-roundlakebeach.civicplus.com/230/Cultural-Civic-Center

# SKOKIE ART GUILD

FIGURE DRAWING WORKSHOPS Saturday Sessions 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Live models / no instructor Fees per session SAG Members \$12.00;

non-members \$20.00. For information: Steve Gal 847/673-4450





# **Facets Announces 2014 Spring Kids Film Camp**

Spring Film Camp for Kids Ages 7-10 runs April 14 - 18.

Facets is pleased to announce Spring dates for the 2014 Facets Kids Film Camp. From Monday, April 14 to Friday, April 18, young movie lovers ages 7-10 will take a fun and fulfilling trip deep into the art of film. The April dates coincide with the 2014 CPS Spring Break. Each summer for 20 years, Facets has offered an exciting, comprehensive, and educational film camp, attracting students from around the world. This April marks the first time the Camp has been offered as a Spring program.

Whether it's making a movie, watching and talking about movies, writing reviews, or seeing the first movie ever made, there is something for every young movie lover at Facets Kids Film Camp. During the week-long journey, campers work alongside film educators, professional filmmakers, and professional critics. Campers receive expert instruction on the ins and outs of film appreciation and how movies are made, and they cap off the week by shooting their own movie.

Campers have a blast using their imaginations and getting their creative juices flowing, while building self-confidence and critical thinking skills. Film camp graduates develop 21st-century skills in a diverse, collaborative, engaging, and fun environment.

Camp features instruction in:

- Film appreciation: visual storytelling, history, and vocabulary
- Filmmaking techniques: story development, screenwriting, storyboarding, camera angles, acting, lighting, sound, and directing
- Film critique: written and verbal reviews

The Spring session of Facets Kids Film Camp runs Monday, April 14 to Friday, April 18, and lasts a full day (9AM to 5PM) for ages 7-10. The cost is \$450 per camper. To register, visit facets.org or call 773-281-9075 ext. 3011.

### **CHICAGO OBSERVES AND CELEBRATES PULASKI DAY MONDAY, MARCH 3rd**

#### **National Writing and Arts Contests for Deaf** and Hard-of-Hearing Students

High school students may compete in writing, digital arts, film and animation contests

Deaf and hard-of-hearing students are eligible to compete for cash prizes and more in national contests sponsored by Rochester Institute of Technology, home to the National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

The SpiRIT Writing Contest, now in its 7th year, encourages deaf and hard-ofhearing high school students to use the power of the written word. The contest will award the winners – two 10th and two 11th graders – their choice of a scholarship and travel expenses to the Explore Your Future program at NTID, or \$500. EYF is a six-day summer career exploration program for deaf and hard-of-hearing students that gives them the opportunity to sample different careers as well as college life.

Complete contest guidelines and entry information are available at www.rit.edu/NTID/WritingContestNR. For more information, contact Writing-Contest@ntid.rit.edu or call 585-475-7695 (voice) or videophone 585-286-4555.

The second national competition is RIT's annual Digital Arts, Film and Animation Competition for high school students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. Students in grades 9-12 can compete for a \$250 cash prize in each category.

The competition recognizes students' artistic expression with awards in the following categories: film, graphic media, interactive media, photo imaging, 3-D animation and Web page design. Students may submit up to two entries.

Online entry forms, contest rules and other details are available at www.rit.edu/NTID/ArtsNR.

The deadline to enter either competition is March 17, 2014.

#### "PURIMTIME" A MUSICAL THEATRICAL PRODUCTION AT EZRA-HABONIM, THE NILES TOWNSHIP JEWISH CONGREGATION

Two well-known Chicago-area celebrities, Elena Jeanne Batman and Caryn Bark, will be featured players in "Purimtime," a musical theatrical Purim Shpiel (funny play) to be presented at Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 W. Dempster, Skokie, Saturday, March 15 at 8:00 p.m. and on Sunday, March 16 at 1:00 p.m. "Purimtime" will present 19 musical numbers and a whopping cast of 44! Music Director is Gary Powell, who has multiple Joseph Jefferson nominations.

Skokie resident Elena Batman joins the fun after playing Carlotta in Broadway's The Phantom of the Opera. The soprano made her debut in Chicago in Sweeney Todd and has performed at Ravinia and Carnegie Hall. Stage performances as The Queen of the Night in Die Zauberflöte include New York City Opera, Connecticut Opera and Alaska's Anchorage Opera. Caryn Bark is a comedienne and humorist. She is the creator/performer of the critically acclaimed one woman show "Diary of a Skokie Girl,", which has played to soldout audiences all over the country. She has appeared on Lifetime Channel's Girls' Nite Out, has opened for Joel Grey, and worked for HBO and Comedy Central. Her current production is "Funny Old Broads."

Cost for tickets is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children with reservations and \$25 for adults and \$12 for children at the door. Sponsorships are available.

For further information or for reservations, call the Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation office at 847-675-4141.

# THEASTER GATES, MARIA PINTO, CARRIE NAHABEDIAN AND BOB TEITEL TAPPED BY CITY OF CHICAGO FOR KEYNOTES AT CREATIVE CHICAGO EXPO

March 14-15 Expo at Chicago Cultural Center includes 30+ workshops, 140+ exhibitors and connects Chicago's creative community with resources they need to thrive

The 11th Annual Creative Chicago Expo, March 14 and 15 at the Chicago Cultural Center (78 E. Washington St.) will provide important resources and information to Chicago's creative community in over 30 workshops and via more than 140 exhibitors. The 2014 Expo theme, Moving Forward, is exemplified by the event's four keynote speakers: artist Theaster Gates, chef Carrie Nahabedian, fashion designer Maria Pinto and filmmaker Robert Teitel.

All members of Chicago's creative industries, our keynote speakers pioneered strategies and creative practices that have gained national and international recognition. Keynotes take place in Claudia Cassidy Theater (second floor north); they are un-ticketed, first-come/first-served – and doors open 30 minutes prior to each talk.

Creative Chicago Expo is free admission; hours are 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. both Friday, March 14 and Saturday, March 15 with workshops and vendors located throughout the building. The Nosh, which has been producing a popup lunch service at Block 37, will be presenting several local food and beverage vendors with items for purchase each day. A complete schedule will be released soon.

The 11th Annual Creative Chicago Expo is presented by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events and sponsored by WBEZ. For more information, visit creativechicagoexpo.org or cityofchicago.org/dcase. Join the conversation on Facebook (Creative Chicago Expo) and follow us on Twitter, @ChicagoDCASE (#ChiXpo). 78 E. Washington Street, Chicago.

#### **BUS STOP** is next James Downing Theatre show

The James Downing Theatre's winter dramatic production will be "Bus Stop" by William Inge. The play will be presented weekends, beginning Saturday, Feb. 22, in the lower level theatre at Edison Park United Methodist Church, 6740 N. Oliphant Ave., Chicago.

Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 1:30 p.m. Sundays through March 9. Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$15 for senior citizens and students; and \$13 for groups of 10 or more. Reservations are available by calling (224) 725-3696 or emailing jamesdowningtheatre@gmail.com. Credit card reservations can be made through jamesdowningtheatre.com.

"Bus Stop" is the story of what happens when a cross-country bus gets stranded during a blizzard at a rural Kansas diner. For Cherie, a young singer pursued by a persistently amorous cowboy, there's no way to escape the company of her fellow passengers until the weather improves and snowplows can reach them. A 1956 film version, directed by Joshua Logan, starred Marilyn Monroe, Don Murray and Arthur O'Connell.

The production will be directed by Joe Bonadonna, assisted by Jane Allyson. Cast members include: Ben Page, Sarah Reddy, Mark Brewer, Laurel Kaish, Nancy Barenbrugge, Charles Wimmer, Patrick Feeney and Cesar Gonzales. Contact James Downing Theatre at (224) 725-3696 for more information.

#### **JCC THEATER STAGES THE HILARIOUS "BLACK COMEDY"**

It's one hilarious act of unexpected surprises and frantic attempts to return "borrowed" artistic objects in the dark as JCC Chicago's Theater presents Black Comedy by Peter Shaffer. Watch lovesick and desperate sculptor Brindsley Miller attempt to impress his fiance's pompous father and wealthy art dealer in this madcap comedy, Thursday, February 27th at 7:30 pm and Sunday March 2nd, 12:00 pm and 2:30 pm at the Elaine and Zollie Frank Theater, Mayer Kaplan JCC, 5050 Church Street, Skokie.

Before the guests arrive, a main fuse blows, plunging the apartment into darkness; only we, the audience can see what's happening. Brindsley has borrowed – without permission – the furniture and effects of their fussy neighbor, Harold, to make the apartment more presentable. What follows is a frantic romp with unexpected visitors, mistaken identities, and surprises lurking in every dark corner.

"I wanted to give our actors the unique experience of a storefront theatre model," said Robert Bouwman, JCC Theater Manager. "It's guerilla theatre. Each of our eight cast members are serving as crew, constructing costumes, and creating the set. They're having a great time, and expanding their experience in show business."

Black Comedy's eight-member cast features both high school students and adults. The show is geared for ages 13 and up. General admission tickets for all ages are \$11, and can be purchased in advance at gojcc.org/theater or at the door. For more information, please call the box office at: 847-763-3518.

# ALUMNAE BASKETBALL AND VOLLEYBALL GAMES AT RESURRECTION COLLEGE PREP

Resurrection College Prep High School is hosting Alumnae Basketball and Volleyball Games on Saturday, March 22, 2014. Alumnae participants who wish to play must complete and submit the participation form which can be found on the Resurrection website at www.reshs.org<a href="http://www.reshs.org">http://www.reshs.org</a> and return it along with a check for \$25 by Monday, March 3, 2014.

Friends and family are invited to pack the bleachers and cheer on alumnae athletes. On Saturday, March 22, 2014 alumnae volleyball games will be played at 9:00 and 10:30 am and alumnae basketball games will be played at noon, 1:30 and 3:00 pm. Questions regarding registration can be directed to Michelle Catalano from the Resurrection Class of 2000 at resalumnaegame@gmail.com and general questions may be directed to 773.775.6616 Ext 142.

#### **RES SENIORS NAMED IL STATE SCHOLARS**

Resurrection College Prep High School is pleased to announce the members of the Resurrection Class of 2014 who have been named Illinois State Scholars in recognition of their outstanding academic achievement. Approximately the top ten percent of graduates from approved high schools are announced as State Scholars each year. Rankings are based on a combination of ACT test scores and GPA at the end of the sixth semester in high school.

The students who were honored for their academic achievements as Illinois State Scholars included the following Resurrection seniors: Alexa Akana '14 (60634), Rebecca Borghi '14 (60630); Natalie Chin '14 (60646); Madeline Dineen '14 (60656); Meegan Early '14 (Niles, 60714); Erin Kennedy '14 (60646); Zafirah Khan '14 (60625); Marilyn Markech '14 (Park Ridge, 60068); Rachel O'Donnell '14 (60630); Alexandra O'Hehir '14 (60631); Gina Partipilo '14 (60631); Sarah Ryan '14 (Niles, 60714); Alani Vargas '14 (60660); and Veronica Villanueva '14 (60630).

# RUTLEDGE HALL STUDENTS SHINE IN NATIONAL COMPETITION

A team representing Rutledge Hall School in Lincolnwood achieved Highest Honors in the recent WordMasters Challenge<sup>TM</sup> —a national vocabulary competition involving nearly 150,000 students annually. The fifth grade team scored an impressive 188 points out of a possible 200 in the first of three meets this year, placing second in the nation.

Competing in the difficult Blue Division of the WordMasters Challenge<sup>™</sup>, fourth grader Ashton Tise and fifth graders Ephraim Bennett and Henry Gussis each achieved a perfect score of 20. Nationwide, only 29 fifth graders achieved this result. Other students from Rutledge Hall who earned outstanding results in the first meet include fourth grader Mark Ersoy and fifth grader Maggie Burke.

The students were coached in preparation for the WordMasters Challenge™ by Leanne Ellis, Stacy Panoutsos, and Mona Taliya.

The WordMasters Challenge™ is an exercise in critical thinking that first encourages students to become familiar with a set of interesting new words (considerably harder than grade level) and then challenges them to use those words to complete analogies expressing various kinds of logical relationships. Working to solve the analogies helps students learn to think both analytically and metaphorically. Although most vocabulary enrichment and analogy-solving programs are designed for use by high school students, WordMasters Challenge™ materials have been specifically created for younger students in grades three through eight. They are particularly well-suited for children who are motivated by the challenge of learning new words and enjoy the logical puzzles posed by analogies.

The WordMasters Challenge™ program is administered by a company based in Indianapolis, Indiana, which is dedicated to inspiring high achievement in American schools. Further information is available at the company's website: http://www.wordmasterschallenge.com.

#### **University Guild Program Calendar**

#### March 3rd

The University Guild of Northwestern University,host a program on March 3, followed by a tea, coffee and cookies. The program is at 1:30 pm, Guild Lounge,located at 601 University Place, 2nd floor of Scott Hall, University Campus. Guest fees for women and men are \$2.00 at the door. This program is presented by Glenn Sucich, Senior Lecturer in English, Northwestern University. Recently a team of Archeologist from the University of Leicester found Richard III's body beneath a parking lot that was once the site of a medieval church.

#### March 17th

The University Guild of Northwestern University, hosts a program on March 17th, followed by tea, coffee and cookies. The program is at 1:30 p.m., Guild Lounge, located at 60l University Place, 2nd floor of Scott Hall, University Campus. Guest fees for women and men are \$2.00 at the door. This program is presented by Leslie Goddard, Actress, Historian, Author. Remember Fire and Ice lipstick? What about rubber girdles and cake mascara. From squeezing into corsets to smearing their skin with cosmetics. American women have gone to amusing and sometimes horrifying lengths in their quest for beauty. Travel through more than a century of magazine ads, photographs, and vintage memorabilia to learn the fascinating stories behind such female enhancements. Join us for an amazing program!





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# **Guarding Against Mental Incapacity**



Chester M. Przybylo

Mental incapacity is something that concerns all of us as we age. Like physical decline, the loss of mental alertness may not be entirely within our control. This only increases the need for proper planning. If you have not planned, and are no longer able to handle you financial affairs, a competency hearing may be necessary. This article discusses certain estate planning tools that are available to help avoid this hearing and take care of you and your family in the event of your incapacity.

As we age, one of our most deeply held concerns is that we may begin to lose our mental alertness. We can try to stave off mental decline by doing crossword puzzles and

other brain building games that help maintain alertness. But, like physical decline, the loss of mental acuity may not be entirely within our control. However, we can lessen the consequences of that decline through preparation.

If and when you are no longer able to handle your financial affairs, someone must step in to make decisions for you. If you have not planned, your family would have to go to court and have a judge decide on your capacity to make your own decisions. The judge would then appoint someone to make those decisions for you, someone you may not even like or trust. The competency hearing, sometimes called a living probate or guardianship proceeding, is a public process where your friends and neighbors can learn why your family thinks you should not be making decisions for yourself.

There is a better way. You can use a Revocable Living Trust, Powers of Attorney for Property and Advance Health Care Directives. The assets placed in the Trust are managed by you while you are able to do so. When you are no longer able, the person whom you chose and trust will manage the assets of the Trust for your benefit. You can name the same person or someone different for health decisions. You can even set the standard as to when you will be considered to lack capacity. Typically, it is when two physicians make the determination that you are no longer able to manage your own affairs or a panel of trusted persons you select in advance makes the determination of your competency.

Having a trusted friend or family member as your eventual decision-maker reduces the chance that others will go to court to seek an incapacity determination. After all, they will know that they will not get control of your assets even if they prevail in the embarrassing hearing.

Estate planning is planning for your life, as well as your death. An experienced estate-planning attorney can help you structure a plan that cares for you and your family in the event of your mental incapacity.

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.

#### **RAISING TEENS - TOWN HALL MEETING, MARCH 4**

Parents and guardians in Niles Township are invited to join local school administrators, community service agencies, law enforcement officials and others who will answer your questions at the next Raising Teens Town Hall meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at 7 p.m. at Niles West High School, South Lobby Commons, 5701 Oakton, Skokie.

If you need translation in any other language, please call Rosamin Bhanpuri at 847-626-3959.

The Niles Township Youth Coalition (NTYC) www.nilestownshipyouth.org

#### St. Thecla Seniors Meetings

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

### Norwood Park Seniors Club

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

# Nursing Home Costs...

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## **Tax-Saving Tips for 2014**

1) It's Not Too Late For 2013 IRA Contributions Even though it's already 2014, it's not too late to add money to your 2013 IRA, Roth IRA, or SEP accounts. The deadline for IRA and Roth IRA contributions for 2013 is April 15, 2014. If you get an extension, then you have until your actual filing date to contribute to your SEP for 2013.

IRA and SEP contributions have a double benefit. They are 100% deductible from your income for 2013 plus they grow tax-deferred until you use the money. Roth IRA contributions also have their benefits. While they aren't tax-deductible, you will be paying tax on the contribution at your current rate, whereas when you take money from a Roth IRA it is tax free. In summary, you have already paid the tax on the principle and the earnings or gains are 100% tax free.

For 2013, the maximum IRA and Roth IRA contribution, for those who meet the income requirements, is \$5,500 for those under 50 and \$6,500 for those 50 and older.

#### 2) Don't Overlook a Home Office Deduction

There are two options for taking a home office deduction. The first option, beginning in tax year 2013 (returns filed in 2014), taxpayers may use the simplified option for figuring the deduction for business use of their home. If there's a space in your home that you use exclusively for business, you may be eligible. The deduction using this simplified option is limited to \$1,500. This option eliminates complexity. You just multiply the square footage of the home office by \$5 to get the deduction amount up to the \$1,500 limit. The second option is to fill out form 8829 which requires more recordkeeping and a complex set of rules. The advantage to this option is that it may result in a larger home office deduction.

#### 3) Don't Overlook the Homeowner Tax Breaks

Here is a list of tax breaks for homeowners:

- Mortgage interest
- Mortgage insurance
- Local and state property taxes
- Qualified renovations such as those covered by the Residential Energy Efficient Property Credit
- Selling costs, such as title insurance, advertising and real estate commissions, are all deductible
- Moving expenses may be partially deductible if you moved because of a job.

#### 4) Maximize Your Employer's Retirement Plan Contribution

Many employers will match their employees' contributions to their retirement plan (a 401(k) for example) up to a certain percentage. Make sure that you're contributing at least enough to maximize this tax-deferred contribution to your retirement funds.

#### 5) The Tax Benefit of Refinancing

The main benefit of refinancing at today's low interest rates is of course the lower rate and lower payments, but there's a tax benefit as well. Your monthly mortgage payment is always a combination of interest and principal whose proportion changes over the lifetime of the mortgage. At the beginning of the mortgage, the payments are mostly interest, and at the end of the 15 or 30 years, the payments are almost all principal. When you refinance, the mortgage clock starts again, meaning that a higher proportion of the payment will be interest. This interest is tax deductible. Consequently, after refinancing, your tax deduction might actually increase or stay the same even though your payments will decrease.

#### 6) Open Your Mail From the IRS Right Away (But NOT email)

We've heard of a number of cases where people missed important deadlines from the IRS either because they panicked when they got a letter from the IRS and ignored it or because they were out of town for an extended period. Neither is a good excuse.

If you get a letter, take a deep breath and open the envelope. It's probably not so bad. If you don't understand it, call the IRS. They're usually very good about explaining the issue. If you still have questions or want additional help, fax or email the letter to your CPA. Ignoring notices from the IRS will likely cost more money and more hassle.

If you're going to be out of town for an extended period, then either forward your mail or have someone you trust pick up your mail periodically and go through it to pull out important and time-sensitive mail, such as a letter from the IRS.

On the other hand, do not open unexpected emails from anyone claiming to be the IRS. The IRS never contacts people initially via email, and there have been many IRS email scams.

#### 7) Use a Pro to Prepare Your Taxes

Even though many people think that they are saving money by doing their taxes themselves, it's usually a case of being penny-wise and pound-foolish. For most people, the cost of preparing their taxes with a professional is peanuts compared to the money that's at stake with the IRS. If you like doing your own taxes, go ahead and figure it out yourself, but then give it to a professional to make sure you haven't missed something that could save you much more than the tax preparation fee.

AGT Tax and Insurance Services provides tax preparation services for seniors at a steep discount. Our regular rate is just \$75 for those aged 55 and older. This includes a federal and state 1040s and schedules A & B. Call us for details – 847-933-9222



### LIBRARY NEWS

#### **EDGEBROOK BRANCH**

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**Meet Eleanor Roosevelt** 

Saturday, March 15th @ 2:00 p.m.

In celebration of Women's History Month, join historical dramatist Roberta Randall for a presentation of Eleanor Roosevelt's life in this one-woman show. Follow Eleanor's life from her shy and lonely childhood to her becoming First Lady, UN delegate, Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights, newspaper columnist, wife, mother and world traveler. Registration is not required.

## Lady Almina and the Real Downton Abbey Saturday, March 29th @ 2:00 p.m.

Lady Almina and the Real Downton Abbey: The Lost Legacy of Highclere Castle tells the story behind Highclere Castle, the real-life inspiration and setting for Julian Fellowes's Emmy Award-winning PBS show Downton Abbey, and the life of one of its most famous inhabitants, Lady Almina, the 5th Countess of Carnarvon. In celebration of Women's History Month, join historical storyteller Lynn Rymarz for her portrayal of Lady Almina in this dramatic retelling of the book. Learn about how Lady Almina transformed the castle into a hospital during World War I to care for wounded soldiers and how she distinguished herself as a brave and remarkable woman. Please call (312) 744-8313 to register for this program.

#### **RODEN BRANCH**

6083 N Northwest Hwy, Chicago, IL 60631 • (312) 744-1478

When Women Played Baseball: The Story of Margaret, Nellie, and Rose Thursday, March 6, 2014 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

In 1934 two teen girls, one from Illinois and one from Indiana, played hardball on a bloomer girl baseball team: a team that stopped in Wheeling, WV, specifically to pick up a third teen. These three young women — Margaret Gisolo, Nellie Kearns, and Rose Gacioch — came from very different backgrounds and had different reasons for playing baseball. When the season was over they followed different paths. But playing baseball on Maud Nelson's last bloomer girl team profoundly affected their lives and helped determine their careers.

# JOURNAL OF ORDINARY THOUGHT WRITING WORKSHOPS DOCUMENT MIGRATION STORIES AT CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY BRANCH LOCATIONS

Chicago Continues Reading OBOC Selection The Warmth of Other Suns Chicago continues reading the One Book, One Chicago selection The Warmth Of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration by Isabel Wilkerson in 2014. As part of the programming surrounding Ms. Wilkerson's book, Chicago Public Library invites the public to join the writers of the Journal of Ordinary Thought (JOT) for weekly community writing workshops to document and share their personal stories of migration. In addition to regular attendees, the workshops welcome new writers to be part of the facilitator-led sessions exploring how migration has shaped our lives and our city.

Journal of Ordinary Thought workshops in March are:

Wednesdays: March 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 6 p.m.

**Bezazian Branch** 1226 W. Ainslie St.

Fridays: March 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 10 a.m.

**Budlong Woods Branch** 5630 N. Lincoln Ave.

# **Lenten Menu Ideas**

#### Broccoli Lasagna

Makes 10 servings

2 10 3/4 oz. cans condensed cream of broccoli soup

1 10 oz. pkg. frozen chopped broccoli

Salad Oil 3 carrots, thinly sliced 1 lg. onion, diced 3/4 lb. mushrooms, sliced

12 lasagna noodles (8 is enough) 2 8oz. pkgs. Shredded mozzarella cheese 1 15 oz. container ricotta cheese 2 lg. eggs.

About 2 1/2 hours before serving:

In 2 qt. saucepan over med-low heat, heat undiluted broccoli soup, frozen broccoli until broccoli is thawed.

In 10" skillet over med-high heat in 1T hot salad oil, cook carrots and onion until lightly browned. Reduce heat to low; stir in 1/4 cup water. Cover and simmer 15 min. or until

vegetables are very tender; remove to bowl.

In same skillet over high heat, in 3T hot salad oil, cook mushrooms until lightly browned and all liquid has evaporated; stir in carrot mixture.

While veggies. are cooking, prepare noodles as label directs; drain. In bowl, mix mozzarella, ricotta and eggs.

Preheat oven to 375. In 13" x 9" dish spread 1 cup broccoli sauce. Arrange half of noodles over sauce, top with half of cheese mixture, then all the carrot mixture and half remaining sauce. Top with remaining noodles, cheese mixture, then sauce.

Bake 45 min. or until hot. Let stand 10 min. before serving.

From the kitchens of Rose Suter

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Thursday, March 27, 6 - 9:45 p.m.

Saturday, April 12, 1 - 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 26, 1 - 4:00 p.m.

Please call 847.635.1426 for more information.

# Library Announces 36th Annual Jo-Anne Hirshfield Memorial Poetry Awards

Submission Deadline March 28, 2014

The Evanston Public Library invites submissions to the Thirty-Sixth Annual Jo-Anne Hirshfield Memorial Poetry Awards, judged this year by Illinois Poet Laureate Kevin Stein. The competition is open to all adult and high school age Chicago-area poets, and to all Evanston elementary and middle-school students. The competition's submission deadline is Friday, March 28, 2014; the prizes will be awarded at a program on Sunday, May 4, 2014, at 2 PM in the Evanston Public Library's Community Meeting Room. Full contest rules may be obtained at any Evanston Public Library location or

Contest judge Kevin Stein is a prize-winning poet, critic and editor. As the fourth Illinois Poet Laureate, he follows Howard Austin, Carl Sandburg and Gwendolyn Brooks who previously held this honor. Stein has published eight poetry collections including, Sufficiency of the Actual (2009) and American Ghost Roses (2005). His newest collection, Wrestling Li Po for the Remote, is forthcoming in Spring 2013 from Chicago's Fifth Star Press. Stein is Caterpillar Professor of English at Bradley University where he directs the Creative Writing Program.



# OUR VILLAGE & STREET LEVEL

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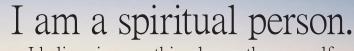
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