

FREE



STREET LEVEL

FREE



“Where Life Happens”

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

www.OurVillageChicago.com

Phone: 847/675-6127
Fax: 847/679-8851

Issue 3
November 6, 2009

***In Honor of Veterans' Day
November 11th
A Special Salute to
Our Veterans See Page 9***

33rd Annual Lincolnwood Turkey Trot

This annual event will take place on Sunday, November 22nd, and attracts approximately 1,850 participants. The Turkey Trot consists of a 5K & 10K run, a 5K walk, and a Drumstick Dash for children ages 10 and under. Runners and walkers race through the streets of Lincolnwood beginning and ending at the Village's largest park, Proesel Park. All participants receive a goodie bag filled with refreshments and other items as well as a long-sleeved T-shirt. Turkey trophies are awarded to the top three male and female finishers in each age division. Turkeys are given to the overall male and female finishers in each race. The walk is non-competitive. This is a CARA (Chicago Area Runners Association) certified race and a portion of any proceeds will be donated to the; Y-Me National Breast Cancer Organization, the City of Hope, and the Lincolnwood Scholarship Program. You can register online at www.lincolnwoodil.org, navigating to the Parks and Recreation Department home page, then clicking on the REGISTER NOW button, or get more information by visiting the Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation office at 6900 N. Lincoln Ave., or calling (847) 677-9740.

EVANSTON RECEIVES CIVIL ENGINEERING AWARD



Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl and Evanston's Superintendent of Water Receive the 2009 Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement of the Year Award from Bob Gorski, PE, M-ASCE, Immediate Past President of the Illinois Section ASCE.

The Illinois Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) presented Evanston Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl and City Council members with its 2009 Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement of the Year Award on October 26, 2009. The award recognizes the City of Evanston for its Combined Sewer Relief Program, which resolved extensive basement backups caused by the undersized combined sewer system.

The City of Evanston Combined Sewer Relief Program concept was developed by MWH Americas, an engineering consulting firm, in 1987 to address the flooding problems of a 100-year-old combined sewer system serving 75,000 people. Working closely with the City of Evanston, MWH designed and managed construction of a total of 30 individual projects required to improve system performance and solve recurring problems in the sewer system. The program effectively eliminated frequent and widespread basement flooding, improving the overall public health of the community.

"In August 1989, Evanston experienced a record rain storm that caused severe basement flooding and damage. Basements had four to five feet of water in them, and after the rain, streets were lined with damaged property that was being discarded," recalled Dave Stoneback, Superintendent of the Water & Sewer Division. "Evanston experienced a similarly-severe rain storm in September 2008. By contrast, very few basements had sewage water in them and there was no significant property damage."

The 18-year sewer project was completed in May 2009 at a total cost of \$210 million, approximately 40% cheaper than other proposed solutions. The program included the installation of eight miles of 60" to 120" diameter tunnels, twenty miles of 10" to 72" diameter relief sewers installed by open cut construction methods, and the installation of 2,500 flow restrictors.

The Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award is awarded to projects that exhibit the greatest engineering skills and represent the greatest contribution to civil engineering progress and mankind. ASCE, founded in 1852, represents more than 144,000 civil engineers nationwide and is the country's oldest civil engineering society.

White Eagle Banquets & Restaurant

A Przybylo family tradition

6839 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles www.thewhiteeagle.com

Thanksgiving November 26th 2009

Our Traditional Thanksgiving Host Family Style Dinner

- Choice of Soup -
Mushroom Barley, Chicken Noodle or Czarnina
- Assorted Salad • Vegetable
- Mashed Potatoes • Sweet Potatoes
- Homemade Stuffing
- Pierogi (Choice of Kraut or Potato/Cheese)
- Dark & Light Turkey with Gravy
- Asst. Polish Sausage w/ Kraut • Baked Smoked Ham
- Pumpkin Pie & Asst. Polish Pastries

Complimentary Gift Basket Raffle

**Adults \$24.50 Plus tax & 18% Gratuity
Children half price (Ages 3 to 12 yrs old)**

Call for Reservations (847) 647-0660

VISIT
OUR GIFT
SHOP FOR
UNIQUE
HANDMADE
IMPORTS
FROM
POLAND



OUR
DELI IS
NOW
OPEN!

"We are #1 with immediate and personal response to your needs."

A Caring Concept, Inc.

...to help you be at home

OUR GOAL

To meet your individual needs by providing experienced, referenced caregivers who share our concern for the comfort, well being and happiness of those we serve, at an affordable rate.



MEMBER OF:

Lincolnwood Chamber of Commerce
Edgebrook Sauganash Chamber of Commerce
Skokie Chamber of Commerce



WE PROVIDE

- Nurse's Aides • Private Duty Aides
- Live In & Hourly Services
- Short or Long-Term • 24/7

**DENNIS LEMKE
LAURA HARTLEY**
3601 W. Devon Ave., Suite 300
Chicago, Illinois 60659
773-539-6600 • Fax 773-539-1028
www.acaringconcept.com



Agency is Bonded, Insured
and Licensed To Care By IL
Department of Public Health

EVANSTON RECEIVES H1N1 VACCINES

The Evanston Health and Human Services Department is releasing its initial schedule for H1N1 vaccination clinics.

“We have received a small shipment of our order, and we believe it will be enough to open school based clinics and a few community clinics for the target groups who are most at risk from the virus,” said Evonda Thomas, Director of Health and Human Services. “The department has received about 5,000 doses of the H1N1 vaccine in the multi-dose, injectable form and 5,000 nasal spray of the live attenuated vaccine.”

Director Thomas explained parents and others should be aware this supply is not Thimerosal-free. While the amount of Thimerosal currently contained in the vaccine the city is receiving is minuet, parents will need to make their own decisions. Thimerosal is a mercury-containing preservative used since the 1930's in some vaccines to prevent contamination.

Parents/guardians must have a signed consent form completed for children 18 and under in order for them to receive the H1N1 vaccination. Children under ten (10) years of age will need to have two doses of the vaccine, separated by 28 days. Recipients of the voluntary vaccination must be a student at the school offering the clinic for that particular scheduled day.

The initial vaccination clinics will follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, and include:

- Pregnant women;
- People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age;
- Health care and emergency medical services personnel (EMTs/paramedics);
- All people ages six (6) months through 24 years of age; and
- Persons aged 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza.

Following the CDC guidelines, once the demand for vaccine for the prioritized groups have been met, the Evanston Health and Human Services Department will consider further distribution for the general public based on vaccine availability.

There is no charge for the H1N1 vaccinations at the Health and Human Services Department’s clinics. Additional clinics will be announced as vaccine is received and dates are confirmed.

The school based and community clinic schedules will be posted on the Health and Human Services Department’s website at www.cityofevanston.org/health. The department encourages anyone with questions about receiving the H1N1 vaccine to contact their healthcare provider. For more information about the H1N1 influenza clinics, call 847-866-2948 or 847 866-2962.

Liberty Bank for Savings to Host Life Line Screenings

Friday, Dec. 4, Liberty Bank will host Life Line Screenings community preventive health screenings at its Norwood branch, 6210 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago. Pre-registration is required. Appointment times begin at 9 a.m. and fill quickly. Please call Life Line Screenings directly at 800.324.1851 for your appointment. Applicable charges apply.

As part of a repeat partnership with Liberty Bank and a service to the community, Life Line will offer ultrasound screenings for the prevention of stroke, vascular disease and osteoporosis. Screenings are non-invasive, completely painless and affordable. There is a charge for the screenings and reservations with Life Line are required.

Liberty Bank for Savings has been providing safe and secure banking service since 1898. The community bank, with offices on the northwest side of Chicago, in Park Ridge and Lincolnwood, celebrates its 111th anniversary in 2009. For more information call 773.489.4471 or visit www.libertybank.com.

SOCIAL SECURITY: GET YOUR BENEFIT VERIFICATION BEFORE THE CHILL SETS IN

By Andrew Salata Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

It’s that time of year again – when people in many parts of the country feel a new chill in the air each morning, and put an extra blanket on the bed.

It’s also the time of year when many states offer energy assistance to people who have low income and resources. Under the energy assistance program, your state may help with the cost of heating your home during the winter. But to get it, in most cases, you’ll need to provide proof of your income. If you get Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits, you can get proof of the amount of your benefit quickly and easily by going online. Just visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

There are a number of reasons you may need written verification of your benefit amount, besides energy assistance programs. Perhaps you’re ready to make a major purchase and you’re trying to get a loan from a bank or financial institution. Or maybe you’re applying for state benefits or moving into a new apartment or home.

Whatever your reason, Social Security makes it easy for you to get the written verification you need at www.socialsecurity.gov. Just look in the left column under “What you can do online,” expand the “If you get benefits” section, and select the “Request a Proof of Income letter” link.

The letter can be used for any reason that someone requires proof of your income. In addition to offering proof of your income, the letter is an official document that verifies your Medicare coverage, retirement or disability status, and age. The letter does not include your Social Security number.

From the time that you complete the online request, it will take about 10 days for you to receive the proof of income letter in the mail. If you need one sooner, you’ll want to call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) or visit your local Social Security office.

But for most people, simply requesting the proof of income online is the most convenient way to get what you need. Get your benefit verification by visiting www.socialsecurity.gov.

Circuit Breaker and Illinois Cares Rx

To maintain benefits, senior citizens and other eligible residents must complete the Circuit Breaker and Illinois Cares RX program applications each year. Applications are available through the Human Services Division and can easily be done online. Please contact the Human Services Division for an appointment if you need assistance with the applications that must be received by December 31, 2009.

Skokie residents may qualify for a refund on property taxes, rent, or nursing home charges through the Circuit Breaker program. In addition, residents may qualify for help to pay for certain prescription medicines through the Illinois Cares RX Program. Residents must meet one of the following qualifications to participate in this program:

- Residents must have been 65 years or older before January 1, 2010; or
- Residents must become 65 years of age during 2010 (for a partial grant); or
- Residents must have been 16 years of age or older before January 1, 2010 and totally disabled; or

Residents must be a widow or widower who turned 63 years of age before the deceased claimant's death; and

Residents must have lived in an Illinois residence in 2009 that was subject to property or mobile home tax; and

Residents must live in Illinois at the time the claim is filed for relief; and

A one-person household must have an income of \$25,532 or less; a two-person household must have a combined income of \$33,877 or less; a three-person household must have a combined income of \$42,220 or less

Those enrolled in the Circuit Breaker Program are encouraged to apply for an RTA reduced-fare card at the Skokie Village Clerk’s Office which is a registered application center with the state. The office is located on the first floor of Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, Illinois and is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For further information contact the Human Services Division at 847/933-8208 or visit the Illinois Department on Aging's website www.cbrx.il.gov/ for program details and how to apply.

STREET LEVEL

Published by Village Publications

P.O. Box 31391, Chicago, IL 60631 Tel: 847-675-6127 FAX: 847-679-8851
www.ourvillagechicago.com email: contact@ourvillagechicago.com

Copyright ©2009 *Street Level*.

All rights reserved as to entire content. All articles, letters, pictures sent to *Street Level* are sent at own risk.

Breakfast and Lunch Specials Everyday



Annie's

*Old Fashion
Pancake House*



4900 W. Oakton
located in the heart of Downtown Skokie

**Daily Specials
Mon-Fri**

Cheerful Staff And Great
Home Cooked Meals
Await You!

**Open Daily
6am-4pm**

Phone: 847-675-7562

**New
Luncheon
Features**

Fax: 847-675-7564

Happy Foods on Oakton in Skokie Closes After 45 years

On November 1st Happy Foods on Oakton closed its doors for the final time, bidding goodbye and thank you to the fine folks of Skokie who allowed the retiring owner and staff to serve them for these past 45 years.

The owners of the two Happy Foods stores on the Northwest side of Chicago look forward to welcoming their Skokie neighbors to their locations at: 6415 N. Central in Edgebrook and 6783 N. Northwest Highway in Edison Park

Wolff’s Flea Market Opens Indoor Market in Palatine



Wolff’s Flea Market is proud to announce the opening of its new indoor flea market at 1775 N. Rand Road in Palatine, IL starting Saturday, November 21.

Brothers David and Donald Wolff have operated this well known family run Chicago area fixture for 18 years at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont. “Loyal customers and vendors have followed us to four other successful indoor markets as well, and we are very excited to launch our new Palatine home!” says David Wolff.

This new location will house 400 vendors offering merchandise from everyday brand new staple items to antiques, collectibles, sports memorabilia, coins, DVDs, CDs, tools, electronics, clothing, socks, accessories, jewelry, books, household items, home décor, garage sale items and so much more! Thrifty shoppers, young and old are sure to find something! “Wolff’s Flea Market is a must see for any bargain hunter, collector or curious newcomer. New, name brand merchandise at discount prices abound. There is something for everyone and you won’t be disappointed!” says Donald Wolff

“Today, more than ever, this type of business is a standard for current trends. The concept of ‘Recycle, Reuse, Repurpose’ comes to life as vendors find high quality “gently owned” merchandise and offer it at fair prices,” says Sharon Wolff, wife of David and secret shopper herself. “Why should you always buy items brand new when you can save money and also keep items out of the landfill by purchasing quality second-hand items, in excellent condition?”

“Antique and collectible hunters never know what they will find as each day and new box peered into is like a whole new world, just waiting for you,” says sister Eileen Wolff.

So, save money, save time with one-stop stopping, save the environment by repurposing your new finds and have fun day with your family at Wolff’s Flea Market.

General Information: Open Saturdays and Sundays through March 2010. Hours are 8am to 4pm. Customer admission is \$1 for adults, 50 cents for seniors and children 6-12, Under 6 are free. Open for vendors at 6am. Please visit our website at www.wolffs.com or call us at 847-524-9590 for more information.



JERRY’S QUALITY MEATS

Looking for an old fashion butcher that will cut and wrap your meat and poultry favorites just the way you would like them?

Come in to Jerry’s Quality Meats: we sell only the very best in all your beef, veal, lamb, pork and poultry favorites.

Now is the time to order your Thanksgiving “fresh” turkey. We feature only fresh turkeys from “Harrison’s” turkey farm. We also have fresh ducks, capons, turkey breasts, and fresh “Amish” fryers and roasting chickens.

Ask about our “money-saving freezer packages.” We will also be glad to help in determining what size turkey or other meat selections you will need for your family or guests.

We also offer a large variety of prepared side dishes, soups, cakes, and other items from “Carol’s Kitchen.”

Jerry’s can be found at 3706 W. Dempster, Skokie (847) 677-9360

European Market to Open November 7 in Lincoln Square

In March of 1972, two young immigrant brothers from a small farm village in Malopolskie, Poland, John and Gene Luszcz, opened a small neighborhood deli specializing in homemade smoked sausage and other Polish delicacies. Drawing upon their family’s sausage-making recipes and smoking techniques, John & Gene’s on West Roscoe Street, gained almost instant popularity and a loyal clientele catering to the largely Polish Chicago neighborhood anchored by St. Ladislaus church. For 8 successful years John and Gene personally served and greeted hungry customers providing a taste of “home” to the local community.



In 1980, in need of additional space, the store moved to nearby Belmont Avenue where it operates today as Gene’s Sausage Shop & Deli. Gene’s famous life-size sculpture of a cow which dominates the outdoor sign welcomes Gene’s Sausage Shop customers to its 20,000 square feet of 40 types of smoked sausages, fresh meats, prepared foods and European imported specialties. The artisan handmade sausages are made fresh on-premise every day by traditional sausage-makers from Europe, and fresh meat is served up the old-fashion way, cut straight out of the meat cooler by trained butchers. Gene and his wife, Alice, have gained national media attention for their delicatessen and have been featured on the Frugal Gourmet Show, 190 North, Taste, Fox News and numerous publications.

2009 marks Gene’s Sausage Shop’s 37th Anniversary as well as the beginning of a new chapter in its history. A second full range European market is scheduled to open this Fall in Chicago’s Lincoln Square area occupying the old space of Delicatessen Meyer, a 53 year German-American institution which closed in 2007.

Gene’s Sausage Shop thanks their loyal customers and friends, and looks forward to keeping its European food tradition alive and thriving.

The Luszcz Family

BELIEVE

in affordable assisted living

Financial assistance available.

There is a better option than a nursing home. A better option than the isolation at home. You (and your family) can believe in something better. Call Victory Centre of Galewood today.

- New, private apartments with call system
- Meals, med management and supportive care
- Scheduled activities and trips
- Low monthly rates
- Financial assistance covers services and may also cover medications

VICTORY CENTRE

of Galewood

A Supportive Living Community
by Pathway Senior Living

2370 N. Newcastle Ave. • Chicago, IL 60707

773-385-5002

www.PathwaySL.com/Galewood

GREAT OUTDOORS

Virtual Illinois Tour Motivating Thousands to Get Active

Thousands of people in Illinois are finding a new motivation to be active through a free online program that offers participants support in developing healthier, more active lifestyles.

Walk Across Illinois is a free health initiative that creates opportunities for everyone to achieve their full potential for physical activity. Find out more at www.WalkAcrossIllinois.org.

Local Environmental Groups Create Garden Showcasing Green Initiatives and Outdoor Classroom for Special Education Students

A previously uncultivable 10,000 square-foot plot at Northside College Prep High School (5501 N. Kedzie Ave.) is being transformed into a multi-use garden through a partnership between Urban Wildlife Coalition (UWC), Urban Habitat Chicago (UHC) and the school’s Community for Alternative Sources of Energy (CASE).

The garden’s environmental initiatives include wildlife-friendly plantings, 35 tons of recycled materials and sustainable elements such as a storm-water management system and permeable pavement, which allows both air and water to penetrate its surface.

It will also function as an outdoor classroom for the adjacent special education department featuring handicapped accessible pervious concrete pathways, raised beds and wheelchair-height learning stations.

The project, which has a completion date of spring 2010, is known as Joy Garden. It was conceived by project coordinator and Northsidegraduate Brianna Birman and is named in honor of her deceased aunt, Samantha Joy Birman, who was profoundly disabled.

More than \$25,000 has been raised for Joy Garden through grants or in kind donations from Urban Habitat Chicago, Repkin Biosystems, Ozinga, Lowe’s, Lurvey’s, Green Cross and others.

“We’re excited about the opportunity to partner with innovative green organizations to serve the needs of multiple communities in a single site,” Birman says.

CASE is a student-run environmental awareness organization and was recently inducted into the Environmental Hall of Fame for accomplishments such as hosting the annual eco-fest Green Scene and procuring nearly \$1,000,000 in funding for installation of solar panels to heat the school’s hot water.

UHC is dedicated to demonstrating the viability of sustainability in an urban environment, including green roof design and maintenance, coordinating building deconstruction and hosting a monthly lecture series.

UWC advocates for wildlife preservation, conducts Living with Your Wild Neighbors seminars promoting coexistence with wildlife and helps facilitate rehabilitation of injured and orphaned animals.

See attached for garden plans and overview. To view photos of the garden’s progress visit urbanhabitatchicago.org. For more information or to schedule a tour of the garden contact Urban Wildlife Coalition at 773-545-8136.

Urban Wildlife Coalition: Fall Critter-Proofing Tips

A wild animal in your home can be distressing both for your family and for your uninvited houseguest. Here, an ounce of prevention clearly trumps a pound of cure. Avoid urban wildlife conflicts from the start by checking your home for potential entryways. With winter just around the corner, now is the perfect time for an inspection.

Allow several hours for a daytime, top-to-bottom assessment of your home.

Gather binoculars and a flashlight. Bring a camera if you’d like to document problem areas for professional service.

Attic

Check for current animal residents (track marks, droppings, holes, nesting materials).

Turn off lights – daylight shining through will indicate gaps or holes that should be filled.

Never seal a hole if you suspect an animal may be in your home. You’ll block its escape route and trap it indoors.

Chimney

Shine flashlight up the chimney looking for animal indicators, especially on the damper and smoke shelf.

If you are positive no animals are present, install a rugged, animal-proof chimney cap.

Foundation

Check for possible entrances, with special attention to places where different building materials meet: window wells, exhaust vents, siding cracks, etc. Small openings can be filled with caulk, foam, or copper mesh. Larger openings should be repaired before the cold weather sets in.

Again, take precautions. Make sure your home is animal-free before sealing any gaps.

Urban Wildlife Coalition is a community-based organization founded to help preserve our treasured urban wildlife. For more information about urban animals and tips for living in harmony with them, visit www.urban-wildlifecoalition.org. Questions? Call 773-545-8136 or e-mail us at urbanwildlifecoalition@gmail.com.

THE McCORMICK TRIBUNE ICE RINK IN MILLENNIUM PARK OPENS FOR THE NINTH SEASON ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2009

Michigan Avenue Ice Rink Offers Free Admission For Skating

Kicking off Chicago’s winter season, the McCormick Tribune Ice Rink in Millennium Park will open on Wednesday, November 18, 2009 and will remain open through Sunday, March 14, 2010, weather permitting. The rink, now in its ninth season and drawing more than 100,000 skaters annually, is free and open to the public. Skate rental is available for \$10. The ice rink is located on Michigan Avenue between Washington and Madison Streets.

Regular hours for this season are as follows:

Mondays—Thursdays: 12 pm — 8 pm
Fridays: 12 pm — 10 pm
Saturdays (through Jan. 2): 10 am — 10 pm
Saturdays (beginning Jan. 9): 10 am — 9 pm
Sundays: 10 am — 9 pm

Holiday Hours

Thursday, November 26 (Thanksgiving): 10 am — 4 pm
Thursday, December 24: 10 am — 6 pm
Friday, December 25: 10 am — 4 pm
Thursday, December 31: 10 am — 8 pm
Friday, January 1: 12 pm — 10 pm

The ice rink is just one component of the 24.5-acre Millennium Park, which has welcomed more than sixteen million visitors since opening in July 2004. Among Millennium Park’s other prominent features are the Frank Gehry-designed Jay Pritzker Pavilion, the most sophisticated outdoor concert venue of its kind in the United States; the interactive Crown Fountain by Jaume Plensa; the contemporary Lurie Garden designed by the team of Gustafson Guthrie Nichol, Piet Oudolf and Robert Israel; and Anish Kapoor’s hugely popular Cloud Gate sculpture.

For more information about events in Millennium Park during the winter months, including Caroling at Cloud Gate, visit www.millenniumpark.org, or call 312.742.1168.

Chicago's #1 Car Washes

We do it Faster!
We do it Better!
We do it for Less!



5724 N. Lincoln, Chicago
7130 N. Western, Chicago
4900 N. Broadway, Chicago
900 Civic Center Dr., Niles

Daily 7am-9pm • Sunday 8am-6pm
Interior Cleaning Available!

\$3.50 CAR WASH

25¢ Extra on Fri., Sat., Sun, Holidays and the day before.

Free Sealer Wax!

With this Coupon and Wash Purchase.
Exp. 11/20/09 One per customer.
Not valid with other offers.

GREAT OUTDOORS

Nat'l Wildlife Federation: Wildlife Vampires!

Who's your favorite vampire? Do you swoon over Edward Cullen and Bill Compton, or are classic bloodsuckers like Count Dracula and Lestat de Lioncourt more your style? As fun as it is to obsess over and be scared by these fictional vampires, the real things are much more fascinating. Here is some blood-curdling information from National Wildlife Federation on living, breathing vampires that might just be stalking you.

Vampire Bats - Meet *Desmodus rotundus* and his cousins *Diphylla ecaudata* and *Diaemus youngi*, known respectively as the common, hairy-legged and white-winged vampire bats. Found only in the Americas, their collective range goes from Mexico down through Argentina. These bats feed exclusively on the blood of other animals. The common vampire bat typically goes for mammals, including domestic cows and horses, while the other two species prefer to feed upon birds—although the occasional human does make it on the menu. Thankfully, the bite of one of these bats won't turn you into a vampire, but the wounds can become infected.

Mosquitoes - For mosquitoes, it's the ladies who are the bloodsuckers. Both sexes feed on flower nectar as their main source of nutrients. Only when she's ready to reproduce does the female mosquito seek out a blood meal. She needs the added protein boost in order to lay her eggs and create a whole new generation of lady vampires.

Lampreys - These eel-like creatures are something right out of science fiction horror. Their disc-shaped mouths are filled with circles of razor-sharp teeth, which they use to bore into the flesh of their victims. They can remain attached for days or even weeks, all the while sucking in blood and body fluids. One species, the sea lamprey, has been introduced into the Great Lakes where it has become a problematic invasive exotic species. This lamprey can grow to almost 2 feet in length and the native lake fish it feeds upon often don't survive the draining.

Bed Bugs - The goodnight rhyme "nite nite, sleep tight, don't let the bed bugs bite" takes on macabre twist when you learn that in the last few years, these little vampires are on the rise. Nearly eradicated in North America for 50 years, bed bugs are back with a blood-sucking vengeance, showing up everywhere from high-end hotels to college dorms to rural bedrooms. After their victims fall asleep, bed bugs emerge from their hiding places in cracks and crevices and insert their sucking mouthparts in a series of bites along the blood vessels, drinking as they go and leaving a series of red, itchy welts.

Oxpeckers and Vampire Finches - There are several bird species that form symbiotic relationships with larger animals. The larger animals tolerate the birds' presence on their bodies, leaving the birds free to feast upon ticks and other parasites that are lodged in the skin feeding upon the animals' blood. It's a win-win situation. But oxpeckers are birds that take it one step further. Not only do they feed upon parasitic invertebrates, they are happy to consume bits of flesh and blood of their host animals while they're at it. Vampire finches inhabit the Galapagos Islands and supplement their diet of seeds, insects and nectar with the blood of other birds, usually the blue-footed booby. They peck a hole in the flesh of the booby to get the larger bird's blood and strangely, the boobies hardly seem to notice.

Leeches - Few animals evoke the "icky-creepies" in people as much as worms do with their slimy squirminess and their faceless, legless bodies. When such a creature also feeds upon human blood, it only adds to the horror factor. Such is the case with leeches. These parasitic worms attach themselves to their host and bloat themselves on blood. While most leeches are external parasites, some species will swim into nasal cavities and stay there, feeding and growing. Capable of holding undigested blood in their stomachs, parasitic leeches can go months between feedings.

Candiru Catfish - There are several species of diminutive candiru catfish that inhabit South American rivers. Some seek out larger fish and use their spiny mouths to attach themselves to the gills of their victims, where they makes an incision with their teeth and drink their fill of fish blood. Some species actually burrow inside the bodies of their prey, leaving a wound that looks like a bullet hole. Once inside they suck blood from the internal organs. This is the fish that gained international fame recently when one swam up a man's penis, where it fed for several days before having to be surgically removed. Few things are more horrifying than even the thought of that!

Even scary wildlife isn't safe from habitat destruction, climate change, pollution and other human-caused problems. Read more about real life wildlife vampires and NWF at nwf.org/nationalwildlife.

Adapted from materials provided by USDA/Agricultural Research Service. Contact us at info@nwf.org, 1-800-822-9919, National Wildlife Federation, 11100 Wildlife Center Drive, Reston VA, 20190. © 2008 National Wildlife Federation. All rights reserved.

Major Funding Supports Residents to Improve Safety, Health of Their Blocks

Thanks to major funding from The Kresge Foundation, the Active Transportation Alliance will be able to provide community-based programs in many of Chicago's underserved communities that will promote safe and active transportation.

The program, Active Living on the Block, educates and empowers residents to access resources and tools that improve the safety and health of their streets. These can range from sidewalk repair to street lighting to a crosswalk.

The three-year \$300,000 grant is the largest private contribution the Active Transportation Alliance has received in its history.

"We are extremely grateful to the Kresge Foundation for its commitment and support in improving the health of Chicago residents and their streets," said Rob Sadowsky, executive director of the Active Transportation Alliance. "Amazing things can happen when communities make design changes based on their lived expertise. This grant will allow residents to better understand how to take back their blocks, make their streets safer, and enjoy their public space."

Active Living on the Block collaborates with community leaders from the Local Initiative Support Corporation's New Communities Program in neighborhoods like Logan Square, Garfield Park, North Lawndale and Little Village to make their streets safe and accessible for play, recreation, and active transportation like bicycling and walking. Active Trans uses community-based design to empower and energize neighborhoods that have fewer resources to network with urban planners to make the streets' design safer and more accessible for walking and biking.

Issues of safety in a given community can include gang violence, traffic safety or health concerns. Active Living on the Block gets residents to start talking about those issues and how they impact walking, biking and playing in their neighborhood.

The relationship between's health, safety, community empowerment and the built environment critical, and this program will inform advocates across the country about best practices for implementing community-based design.

The Active Transportation Alliance is a non-profit, member-based advocacy organization that works to make bicycling, walking and public transit so safe, convenient and fun that we will achieve a significant shift from environmentally harmful, sedentary travel to clean, active travel. The organization builds a movement around active transportation, encourages physical activity, increases safety and builds a world-class transportation network. Formerly the Chicagoland Bicycle Federation, the Active Transportation Alliance is North America's largest transportation advocacy organization, supported by more than 6,000 members, 1,000 volunteers and 35 full-time staff. For more information on the Active Transportation Alliance, visit www.activetrans.org or call 312.427.3325.

HELP FOR NEWORGANIC FARMERS

A Farmer-to-Farmer Mentoring Program is again being sponsored in 2010 by the Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service (MOSES).

This program helps new organic farmers make the transition to organic production with help from experienced farmer mentors. Applications are now being accepted for mentor farmers and those to be mentored (mentees).

All participants in the mentoring program will also be given admission to the 2010 Organic Farming Conference and Organic University where they can broaden their organic farming education and network with other producers. Both events are sponsored by MOSES and will be held in La Crosse, WI, February 25 – 27, 2010.

For more information contact Harriet Behar at the toll-free Farmer Transition Hotline, 888-551-4769 or by e-mail at harriet@mosesorganic.org.

<p>WANTED</p> <p>TO BUY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Old Holiday Items• Old Costume Jewelry• Old "Pretty" Things (Purses, Hats, etc.) <p>The Antique and Resale Shoppe Inc.</p> <p>7214 N. Harlem Chicago, IL 60631 (773) 631-1151</p> <p>Mon - Sat. 10:30 am - 4:30 pm</p> <p>• FREE APPRAISALS •</p>	<p>One FREE Admission Good thru 11/29/09 <small>S.L.</small></p> <p>NEW Indoor Location Opening 11/21 & 11/22</p> <p> Wolff's Flea Market</p> <p>1775 N. Rand Rd. Palatine - Old Menards</p> <p>Open Sats & Suns 8 am to 4 pm</p> <p>Info 847-524-9590 or www.wolffs.com</p>
--	---

"A Theatre Review"

"Hairspray"
Marriott Theatre
10 Marriott Drive
Lincolnshire, IL

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

The Marriott Theatre in Lincolnshire is one of only two theatres that has the power to take major musicals and turn them into major hits. "Hairspray" is a high-energy production that has sensational dance numbers, a fantastic cast who can sing, dance and act and give audiences top-notch entertainment. The show is under the direction as well as the choreography of the dynamic Marc Robin, a man who is a workaholic.

The show has a cast of twenty-nine performers who are all top-drawer performers whether in the lead role, supporting roles or just the ensemble. The show is based on John Waters' movie but the musical has a book by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman. The show offers audiences nineteen numbers that include "The Nicest Kids in Town," "I Can Hear the Bells," "Run and Tell That" and "I Know Where I've Been" to name a few. Marissa Perry is Tracy Turnblad, Ross Lehman is Edna Turnblad, Bernie Yvon has the role of Corny Collins, Billy Harrigan Tighe is Link Larkin, Cathering Lord is Prudy Pingleton. Stand-out performances are given by Heidi Kettenring as Penny Pingleton, Hollis Resnik as Velma Van tussle, Josh Breckenridge as Seaweed J. Stubbs, E. Faye Butler as the uproarious Motormouth Michelle and Johanna McKenzie Miller as Amber. In smaller roles and the ensemble are Matt Raftery, Max Quinlan, Gene Weygandt, Scott Calcagno and Laura Scheinbaum.

When "Hairspray" opened in New York, it ran for 2,642 performances and when one sees the show they will understand why. The show is set in 1962 Baltimore. Tracy is a heavyset teenager whose desire is to appear on the Corny Collins Dance television show and she will do anything to get that opportunity. She runs into opposition from the reigning winner, Amber, and her mother, Velma. When she encounters heartthrob and hunk Link Larkin it is fun to see what happens.

Lehman as Tracey's mother is a riot and perfectly cast for the show. My two super big favorites are Hollis as Velma and e. Faye Butler as Motormouth. Her second act song will knock your shoes off. It being such a feel good musical it is perfect for us to forget our country's problems for over two hours. "Hairspray" runs through December 6th. For performance days, show times and reservations call 847-634-0200 or go to www.marriotttheatre.com. Tickets are \$45. The theatre is wheelchair accessible and there is loads of free parking.

--Four Stars--

DANCE CHICAGO CELEBRATES 15TH ANNIVERSARY

During its 14 years as the unparalleled Chicago dance festival, Dance Chicago has showcased an array of dance styles ranging from hip-hop, ballet and tap, to Latin, jazz and contemporary to suit every discerning taste. The company's 15th year program promises not only to continue offering audiences unmatched entertainment with unique programs and world premiers – but also afford them an opportunity to enjoy performances in a new, intimate setting.

Dance Chicago will kick off its 15th season with a new multi-venue performance format, including the Theater Building Chicago, located at 1225 West Belmont Avenue (www.theatrebuildingchicago.org). With performances scheduled from November 4th through the 15th, a preview of the company's innovative 15th anniversary programming follows.

New Moves: Described as brave and daring, New Moves features Chicago's newest, hottest choreographers and the city's best dancers. In a collaborative environment – the best of the best work together to create new and different dances for each of four scheduled performances – all of which are one-time-runs!

Extended View: Streets meets sweets with the award-winning Chicago choreographers' production of Extended View. This program's juxtaposition of urban and contemporary choreography promise to mesmerize audiences.

Jazz Cabaret: Best described as 'Broadway up close!' the Jazz Cabaret program is a cornucopia of visual delights featuring ballroom, contemporary jazz, burlesque, tap, hip-hop, ballet and other cabaret-style dances.

Dance Romance: As its namesake implies, Dance Romance features warm and sensual choreography, and is perfect for a date or special occasion. Showcasing the best partnering acts from around Chicago, this new program features modern, salsa, contemporary jazz, and ballroom dance.

Fringe Carnival: Chicago's finest cutting-edge performers will have their chance to shine during Dance Chicago's Fringe Carnival. Both humorous and unusual, improvisational dancers and one-of-a-kind companies will push the boundaries of dance and performance to the edge in this unique event.

Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre: A must-see program for dance enthusiasts, the Cerqua Rivera Dance Theater will present its 2009 fall concert this year at Dance Chicago. Program highlights include signature works from Latin Fire and Jubilation, including "Corner Sketches - A Tribute to Miles Davis" and "The Trinity of Joann."

Choreographer's Showcase: A longstanding favorite of the Dance Chicago lineup – the Choreographer's Showcase promises artistic bravery and brilliance with its much-anticipated world-premier programming. Among the leading Dance Chicago choreographers leading this program's innovation will be The Cliff Dwellers Arts Foundation Dance Chicago 2009 Choreographer of the Year.

Tickets are on sale now and to save \$5 per ticket, buy your tickets (online, by phone or at the box offices) and be sure to mention or enter coupon code DC2009. This offer cannot be combined with any other discounts.

For more information and scheduling on the Dance Chicago 2009 festival, including updated rosters and ticket ordering information, visit www.dancechicago.com.



porchlight music theatre
chicago

Adapted by
**Patricia DiBenedetto Snyder,
Will Severin, and John Vreeke**

Story by
Valentine Davies

Screenplay by
George Seaton

\$10 off \$40 tickets Code: TRADE

When a white-bearded gentleman claims to be the real Santa Claus, he brings about a genuine 'Miracle on 34th Street,' spreading a wave of love throughout New York City, convincing a divorced, cynical single mother, her somber daughter, and the entire state of New York that Santa Claus is no myth. You, too, will believe!
Bring the kids to see Santa!

November 20 through January 3
Fridays at 8:00pm, Saturdays at 2:30pm and 8:00pm Sundays at 2:30pm



Theatre Building Chicago, 1225 W. Belmont Avenue
For tickets, CALL **773.327.5252**
www.theatrebuildingchicago.org
Groups 15+ call Group Theater Tix at **312-423-6612**
Also Ticketmaster **800-982-2787** and ticketmaster.com www.Porchlighttheatre.com

A Family Tradition


A CHRISTMAS CAROL

The Musical




Only At
Marriott Theatre
The Young Audience
www.MarriottTheatre.com

November 13, 2009 - January 2, 2010
Call 847-634-0200 for Individual Tickets
Groups of 15 or more call 847-634-5809



Skokie Theatre Music Foundation

847-677-7761
7924 N. Lincoln Ave.
Skokie, IL 60077
www.skokietheatre.com



Plenty of free parking!
Ticket prices do not include service fees
 Buy tickets online at www.skokietheatre.org

Group Rate Available

November 4 · 1:30 pm TONY BERNARD: HEADLINERS FROM THE VEGAS STRIP

November 6 · 1:30pm STAND BY ME - Great music of the Fifties with Marcus Gentry

November 7 · 8 pm CHARLENE BROOKS SINGS BARBRA STREISAND

November 8 · 2 pm Ester Hana & Betty Graham present "EUROPE AT NIGHT REVISITED"

November 12 · 7:00 pm Put Out the Fire: Reducing Inflammation with Food

November 13 · 10:30 am CONVERSATION WITH TEDDY ROOSEVELT

November 13 · 8 pm CHICAGO'S GOT TALENT

November 14 · 7:30 pm Bounding Main - SHANTY SINGERS AND BALLADEERS

November 15 · 2 pm Kimber Leigh Nussbaum in Devil May Care

Relive Chicago’s Musical History in New Book

Local author captures Chicago music scene of the 1960s and 70s

Uncover two decades worth of stories from the Chicago music scene in the new photographic history book from Arcadia Publishing and local musician Dean Milano, *The Chicago Music Scene: 1960s and 1970s*.

During an incredibly vibrant period in urban and suburban music scenes across the country, Chicago was a major player throughout the ‘60s and ‘70s. It was a time when jazz, rock and roll, country and western, folk, blues, and R & B flowed through the streets of Chicagoland.

Much has been written about the national and international talent of that time, but not enough has been written about local hometown music history. This book focuses on the city of Chicago, along with its suburban club scene, and the homegrown performers who made the ‘60s and ‘70s one of the most electrifying and memorable periods in music history. Some of those players went all the way to the big time, while others made their mark and disappeared. They all made a difference in their own way, and for those who were there, it is a time they will never forget.

Author Dean Milano hopes the book will “give some recognition to a few forgotten artists who deserve to be heard again, and stir up some nice memories for those who were lucky enough to hear the music of that time.”

Highlights of *The Chicago Music Scene: 1960s and 1970s*: Many of the images in the book are from private collections and have never been seen before.

Numerous musicians provided fascinating personal stories and bits of information not even their fans know! The book showcases a bevy of vintage images of bands and musicians before they made it big.

Available at area bookstores, independent retailers, and online retailers, or through Arcadia Publishing at www.arcadiapublishing.com or (888)-313-2665.

Beloved Holiday Ballet Skates on Ice

Nutcracker on Ice takes to the ice Dec. 11-13 at the Robert Crown Center, 1701 Main St., Evanston. For four performances, hundreds of skaters of all ages will tell the familiar Christmas tale, bringing to life such characters as Clara, Drosselmeyer and the Nutcracker Prince. Complete with exquisite costumes, Tchaikovsky's familiar music and exciting special effects, this family show is a wonderful way for young and old to catch the holiday spirit.

Evanston residents skating solo parts include Annie Bennett, Imani Bournes, Elnora Bracey, Matthew Bracey-Sherman, Madeline Brooks, Emma Caroli, Blythe Chesney, Eleanor Clark, Vanessa Claude, Emily Cline, Ryen Delaney, Maya Fagen, Lily Freedman, Mariah Garcia, Olivia Gerasole, Peggy Giordano, Tina Giordano, Olivia Grenzebach, Teresa Grodsky, Miara Handler, Emily Hosman, Erin Hunter, Reyanna James, Ginny Johnson, Anna Keeva, Eva Kennedy, Ella Lambert, Linwan Lewis, Ron Lopez, Mallory Mancini, Heather Millikan, Olivia Mitchell, Isabel Reiches, Chelsea Ridley, Earin Ridley, Grace Robertson, Remi Schreder, Ariel Simmons, Paul Simmons, Sofia Simon, Leia Sohn, Abby Stein, Mathilda Sullivan, Alex Swanson, Morgan Sweeney, Anatolia Syed, and Zoe Wilson.

Performances of Nutcracker on Ice are at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11; 2:30 & 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12; and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. Available now, general admission tickets are \$8.50 and reserved seats are \$9.50. Group discounts are available. For more information, call 847-448-8258.

The Open Studio Project: Messier & More Fun Than Meditation!

Join us for a One-Day Workshop! Introduction to the OSP Process

Join us for an introductory workshop and learn about the OSP Process, combining uninhibited art-making with thoughtful writing and reflection. No prior art or writing experience required - just an open mind. The cost is \$55 for members and \$65 for non-members.

Sunday, November 15, 2009, 1-4 pm,

Adult Art Classes

Connecting with the Creative Process

Take time to open the window to your creative side. No prior art or writing experience necessary - just an open mind. Cost \$165 non-members, \$155 members.

Tuesday Nights, 6:30-8:30pm, Oct 27-Dec 1

Friday Mornings, 10am - 12noon, Oct 30-Dec 11 (no class 11/27)

Thursday Mornings (Extended Class)

Cost \$200 non-members, \$190 members

10:00am-12:30pm, Oct 29-Dec 10 (no class 11/26)

You may register here or call (847) 475-0390 for more information.

SKOKIE ART GUILD

2009 Members’ Only Fall Exhibit

Sunday, October 18 - Saturday, November 21

At Skokie Library, 5215 Oakton

Skokie Art Guild Live Model Figure Drawing Workshops

Resume Sept. 10.


Thursdays 7:00 PM - 9:45 PM Saturdays 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Devonshire Cultural Center, 4400 Greenwood, Skokie

Live Models/no instructor

Fees per session:
Sag Members \$12; non-members \$20.

For information call: Richard Wilberg 847-677-3461 or Skokieartguild.org



Free Holiday Garage Parking in Downtown Evanston

Evanston’s three downtown self-park garages along with Lot 60 will offer free holiday parking starting November 26th and ending January 2nd. The hours of the free garage parking will be weekdays from 5 p.m. until midnight and Saturdays all day.

The free holiday parking is to encourage people to take advantage of the wonderful shops, cafes, restaurants and other attractions of downtown Evanston and the Dempster/Chicago business area.

The parking areas are located at: Sherman Plaza Self Park - Davis St. & Benson Ave.; Maple Ave. Self Park - 1800 Maple Ave.; Church St. Self Park at Church St. and Chicago Ave.; and Lot 60 - 1234 Chicago Ave.



A-OK Business Service

Providing Business Solutions Since 1969

4524 Oakton Street • Skokie, IL 60076-3143
Phone 847.674.4010 • Fax 847.674.4577
aokbusiness@sbcglobal.net

Stephanie Bockhol

Specialists in:

- **Personalized Letters • Word Processing**
- **Mail Preparation • Laser Envelope Addressing**

In the Skokie area for 39 years

LOCAL SCHOOLS & YOUTH EVENTS

Niles Township District 219's Fundraiser

Niles Township District 219's DECA business club and Dance Marathon will team up to host a fundraiser in which the Harlem Wizards—a professional team of basketball players, performing Trick-Hoops, Alley-Oops and a whole lot more—will come to play at Niles West High School. At the event, students and staff from District 219 will challenge the Wizards in a basketball game.

The event will be on November 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Niles West Contest Gym. Prepaid tickets are \$10 and tickets at the door are \$12.

Proceeds will benefit Expanding Lives—a non-profit organization that was organized and started by Niles West teachers, primarily by English Language Learner teacher Leslie Natzke. Expanding Lives raises money to send women from Niger, Africa to Skokie, Illinois to educate them on life's difficulties in hopes of finding solutions to their local problems. The travel and academic experiences broaden participants' existing interests and knowledge to ensure success in school and the community.

Our "star team" that will challenge the Wizards will include students and staff from Niles West, Niles North, Culver, Lincoln, Fairview, Lincoln Hall and Park View. There will be a raffle during halftime. DECA and Dance Marathon will provide concessions throughout the game.

Twinderella Opens Nov. 20

Meet Bob, Cinderella's long-lost brother. While brother and sister live in the same kingdom, they have different wicked stepfamilies. In Twinderella, Charlie Lovett's hilarious twist on the well-known fairy tale Cinderella, Cinderella's evil family makes her rotate the tires and polish bowling trophies. Bob gets to make dried herb wreaths and organize sock drawers. The Evanston Children's Theatre presents this show with lots of twists and plenty of laughs for audiences of all ages. Performances are at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20; 3 & 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21; and 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22, at the Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave., Evanston. Tickets for Twinderella are \$6 and are available at the door. For more information, call 847-448-8250.

OPEN STUDIO PROJECT Children's Art Classes

Support your child's creativity in an open, playful atmosphere where adventurous use of materials is encouraged. Children will explore a variety of 2-D and 3-D projects. Taught by Jan Ellenstein who has been making art fun for children for the last 30 years. Age Level: 2-5 yrs (parent/child class)

Tuesday Mornings, 10-11am, Nov 3 - Dec 15 (no class 11/10, 12/8)

Wednesday Mornings, 10-11am Oct 28 - Dec 16 (no class 11/11, 11/25)

Wednesday Afternoons 1:30 -2:30pm, Nov 18- Dec 16 (no class 11/25, 12/2)

You may register here or call (847) 475 - 0390 for more information.

LINCOLNWOOD LIBRARY

4000 W. Pratt Ave. • (847) 677-5277
www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org

Afterschool Cafe. Mondays, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Students of all ages can buy a snack and relax before tackling homework!

Stories & More. Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Children ages 3-5 enjoy language-rich activities during each 45-minute session. Siblings welcome.

Beginning with Books. Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Stories, songs, and activities for infants to 2-year-olds and a caregiver.

Playtime at the Library. Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. A friendly, social time for young children, ages 3 and under, and their caregivers. Toys and snacks are provided for the children.

Teen Acting Class. Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m. through Nov. 16. Students in 6th grade and up can learn acting techniques, study characters and lines, and try out for parts. Please register in the Youth Services Department (847-677-5277 x234). Students in the class will perform in a "Fairytale Who Dunnit" play in November.

Knitting for All Ages. Fridays, 3:30-5 p.m. Adults and children, ages 10 and up, can learn to knit or work on a project.

NILES NORTH THINKS PINK TO RAISE FUNDS TO FIGHT CANCER

Although the school colors of Niles North are purple and white, several Vikings are thinking pink to raise funds to fight cancer. The Jacklin K. Salon was at the school recently to offer pink hair extensions, with the proceeds being donated both to the American Cancer Society (ACS) and Comfort for Chemo, an organization that donates blankets to children going through chemotherapy. A total of \$630 was raised, and the funds will be distributed to the ACS for cancer research and patient support, as well as to purchase fabric to make blankets for Comfort for Chemo. The Jacklin K. Salon generously provided all of the hair extensions for the fundraiser, as well as stylists to apply the extensions. And while the pink hair extensions are not meant to be permanent, the fight against cancer will continue. The Niles Township High Schools will host the ACS Relay for Life on June 11, 2010 at Niles West High School, 5701 Oakton, Skokie. For more information, please go to www.relayforlife.org.

MAKE YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE A PRIORITY.

Let's discuss the different strategies available
to put your finances in line with both your
short-term and long-term goals.

To schedule your complimentary financial review,
call or visit today.

Neil Gardner
Financial Advisor
9175 Gross Point Rd
Skokie, IL 60077
847-933-9845

www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

What would be your Perfect Job?

A part-time position that
gives you a better
work/life balance?

Something that keeps
your college-educated
mind challenged and
allows you flexibility
as a parent?



10 til 2 is The Part-Time Placement Service

We specialize in placing college-educated professionals into
long-term part-time positions

Accountants/CPAs • Bookkeepers • Finance/Tax
IT/Technical • Data Entry • Marketing & PR
Sales Support • Paralegals • Graphic/Web Design
Human Resources and More!



Apply Online:

www.tentiltwo.com

773-991-1061

We call it part-time... our clients call it perfect.™

As seen on CNBC's "Power Lunch" and the TODAY Show

SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS

Remembering the Meaning of Veteran's Day

Red, white, and blue circulars announcing 50% off all mattresses. No school! The gas station's flag flying at half mast. For too many of us, these are our Veteran's Day associations. For those of us not directly impacted by the war in Iraq, for those without friends and family who have served, it is far too easy to forget the meaning of this important day.

Veteran's Day began as Armistice Day to commemorate the end of World War I – optimistically coined “the war to end all wars.” President Woodrow Wilson declared, “To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice...”

Though the War did not officially end until June 28, 1919, an informal armistice was signed at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month of the preceding year. For this reason, Veteran's Day falls on November 11. This was not always the case. Attempts were made to change the date so it would fall on Monday, making for convenient three-day weekends. Recognizing that this was not a holiday about a getaway to the Dells or shopping sprees at the mattress store, and realizing the significance of this important historic commemoration, President Gerald Ford responded to the American people and returned the holiday to November 11.

Most of us do not like war. But, we must separate those feelings from the gratitude we owe to those who have served. It is important that we take pause from our busy lives and imagine a day in the life of those in service – sleepless nights, grueling work, physical hardship, separation from loved ones, fear, and loss. It is important that we take a moment to thank the men and women who have made supreme sacrifices for our country. Come Wednesday, November 11, bake cookies for your local VFW; ask a veteran to share his or her remembrances of service; send a care package to our troops; gaze at the gas station's flag at half mast and remember exactly what that means.

McAuliffe joins Governor Quinn to Announce New Chicago Veterans Home Site

Over the years, the area known as the Read-Dunning property has gone through many different plans for future development. However, this year a plan for building a new Veterans home has become a reality. Governor Pat Quinn along with State Representative Michael McAuliffe (R-Chicago) will announce this site selection at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10, at the property located at 4200 N. Oak Park Avenue, Chicago.

“There is a real need in Chicago to provide more services for our veterans, including another residential home for them. I am happy to finally to bring this plan to fruition. This veterans home is something that has been in the planning stages for years and I applaud all of the people who have contributed to this complex issue. The new home will help meet the needs of our veteran community,” said McAuliffe.

For more information, contact Rep. McAuliffe at (773) 792-0749.

A Flight to Remember

In the last edition of *Street Level*, we showcased the inspiring work of The Honor Flight Network, an organization that sends veterans to Washington, D.C. for a one-day Honor Flight, so they may see memorials honoring their service and the service of their fallen comrades.

In this our Veteran's Day edition, we bring the story home with an interview with Mr. Bill Kinder, a Chicago resident who took his Honor Flight last month. From 1943-46, Mr. Kinder served on the front line in the European theater, part of the 79th Infantry. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge, and earned Europe's “Forte-Guerre” and Bronze Star. He is a Junior Vice-Commander of the Edison Park Foreign Legion. Here is an excerpt from our conversation:

Street Level: How did you first hear about the Honor Flight Network?

Bill Kinder: A friend of mine, a fellow WWII veteran, told me about it. I was very curious and wanted to find out more. I discovered that it began in 2005 in Ohio by a retired Air Force Captain. About a year or so ago, they started flights out of Chicago.

SL: How did you apply to go on the Honor Flight?

BK: It was really simple. I just called them up and they sent me an application. I filled it out and they notified me when I'd be taking the trip.

SL: Please tell us about your trip.

BK: Well, we met at the airport very early in the morning – 4 a.m. My tour was October 21. There were about 80 of us veterans on the flight, accompanied by volunteers, they call them “guardians,” who travel with us and take care of all the logistics. I don't want to ruin the surprise, so maybe your readers want to skip this part if they are thinking about going. About an hour into the flight, they announced “Mail Call,” and each of us received a thick envelope, some of us more than one, stuffed with letters from all these people: my envelope contained notes from my kids, grandkids, golf buddies, schools, Mayor Daley, and other dignitaries. It was such a surprise! And reading all these notes sure made the rest of the flight speedy by.

SL: What happened when you arrived in Washington, D.C.?

BK: Our plane was met by some 1,000 spectators; five fire departments with lights and sirens going, and a U.S. Navy Band. It was such a touching welcome.

SL: Sounds like an amazing trip and you hadn't even started the tour! Please tell us some of the highlights of Washington, D.C.

BK: We saw the WWII Memorial, the Korean and Vietnam Memorials, the Lincoln Memorial. I was speechless. We also toured Smithsonian museums, including the Air and Space Museum, where I saw a real German ME102. During my tour in Europe, one of those planes scraped us three times and a dogfight ensued. It was strange to see that plane again. It was also quite an experience to see the actual Anola Gay. Another highlight was being treated to lunch at the Officers' Club at Fort Meyers. Very, very nice!

SL: What was it like returning home after this very active, highly emotional day?

BK: Let me tell you, we had lots to think about on the flight home. But our return was no less dramatic than the rest of the day. Two thousand people met our flight back home in Chicago, including friends and family. There aren't words to express how honored we all felt, how proud, how fortunate.

SL: Words of advice to your fellow WWII vets?

BK: This is truly a once-in-a-lifetime chance, one you truly have to experience to appreciate. If you are able to go – do! Sign up now and go!

For more information about The Honor Flight Network, to download an application or to make a donation, visit www.honorflight.org. You may also call 937-521-2400.



For all you've done.
We thank you.

On this Veterans Day and every day, we and the community extend sincere appreciation to the men and women who have served our country so proudly.

HABEN
Funeral Home & Crematory

8057 Niles Center Road
Skokie, IL 60077-2599
Phone: (847) 673-6111
Fax: (847) 673-8976

Wood Member
NFDI

**DISCOUNT
CIGARETTES**

**We are a cricket
Authorized Dealer**

**All kinds of pipes
Hookah
Cell Phone Accessories**

4019 Oakton St.
Skokie, IL 60076
847-674-4160
cell 773-699-7247

In honor of Veterans' Day and to pay tribute to our Active Duty Service Men and Women

Please
Salon and Spa

6693 Northwest Hwy, Chicago
(773) 763-4247

offers them a 25% discount on any of our services to all Active Duty Service People and their Spouses. Simply present your Service ID at the time of the appointment.

(Good through the end of November, 2009)

Haben Participates in Annual Meeting of Selected Independent Funeral Homes

John Haben was among the hundreds of funeral service professionals attending the 91st Annual Meeting of Selected Independent Funeral Homes in San Diego, California, October 7-10. Haben is President of Haben Funeral Home & Crematory in Skokie, a family-owned and operated firm serving the area since 1923.

“The meeting was held at the Hard Rock Hotel in the famous Gaslamp Quarter of San Diego which proved to be an exciting location,” said Haben. “In addition, the meeting provided valuable opportunities to gather with my fellow members of Selected Independent Funeral Homes from across North America and around the world. We shared a variety of informative study sessions, discussed insights and shared new ideas which will help our local funeral home better serve the families of our community.”

Meeting sessions focused on important issues concerning the funeral service profession, innovative service ideas, timely business advice and best practices. Among the many important topics discussed were: understanding bereavement, building a successful funeral service team, the myth of multitasking, best practices for family follow-up, best practices for cremation, a clinical perspective on grieving, serving unique groups in the community, and professional ideas and suggestions from New Zealand.

Founded in 1917 as National Selected Morticians, Selected Independent Funeral Homes (www.selectedfuneralhomes.org) is the world’s oldest and largest association of independently owned funeral homes. Members of the association are expected to operate according to specific standards and best practices in order to provide the public with reliable, high-quality funeral services and funeral-related information.

“Our members pledge to uphold the Selected Independent Funeral Homes ‘Code of Good Practice’ and are committed to the important responsibility they have to the families and communities they serve,” said Robert J. Paterkiewicz, executive director of Selected Independent Funeral Homes. “It’s a tradition of trust that Haben Funeral Home & Crematory has been a part of with fifty-two years of membership”.

Special Olympics Illinois State Floor Hockey at Northeastern Illinois University

The Special Olympics Illinois 2009 State Floor Hockey Tournament will take place Saturday, November 14 at the Physical Education Complex at Northeastern Illinois University, 5500 N. St. Louis Avenue in Chicago. *Twenty-four teams will compete in 7 divisions, organized by ability level. There will also be athletes competing in Individual Skills Competition. Opening Ceremonies is at 9 a.m. with master of ceremonies Troy Murray, former defenseman for the Chicago Blackhawks and color analyst for Blackhawk Hockey on WGN Radio. Team play is from 9:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and the public is invited. Gold Medal Sponsors are Illinois Knights of Columbus, Interior Investments and the Law Enforcement Torch Run; Bronze Sponsor is Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. For more information, visit the Special Olympics Illinois website at www.soill.org. Special Olympics is a year-round program of sports training and competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics began in Chicago with the first games in July, 1968 at Soldier Field which featured athletics (track and field) and aquatics competition along with a demonstration floor hockey game between athletes from the U.S. and Canada. Today, Special Olympics programs are in 180 countries

**Teams are from the city of Chicago, suburban Chicago and Ottawa, Illinois*

Community Giving Program

Please consider participating in the Village of Skokie Human Services Division Community Giving Program designed to assist Skokie families with limited financial resources that might not otherwise be able to celebrate winter holidays with their children. Families receive gift certificates for area businesses which they use to purchase holiday food and to buy items specific to each child's needs and wants. Those interested in making a donation this year are asked to do so by December 11, 2009.

In 2008, the Skokie community generously donated more than \$38,000 to this program.

For further information or to make a donation please contact the Human Services Division at 847/933-8208.

Medicare Part D - Open Enrollment Begins November 15, 2009

Medicare Part D open enrollment begins on November 15, 2009. If you are unsure about the plan you are currently enrolled in, now is the time to review and make a change if needed. Sometimes plans drop previously covered medications from their formularies, leaving the beneficiary without coverage for that medication. It is important to review your Part D coverage each year for such changes.

A Social Worker or SHIP (Senior Health Insurance Program) volunteer is available to provide assistance in reviewing the options. The deadline to make changes is December 31, 2009. Please contact the Human Services Division for personal assistance or to make an appointment.

The Human Services Division can be contacted at 847/933-8208.

Special Olympics Athletes from Earned Medals & Ribbons at Fall Games – State Competition in Volleyball and Tennis

The annual Special Olympics Illinois Fall Games took place last Saturday and Sunday, October 24 and 25 in Rockford with nearly 600 competitors. Athletes competed in Volleyball at Harlem High School and in Tennis at the Clock Tower Racquet Club. The 52 Volleyball teams included 32 regulation teams, 15 teams playing a modified game on a short court and 5 Unified Volleyball teams (combining people with and without disabilities on the same team). Athletes not yet ready to play in team competition competed in Individual Skills competition.


The 105 Tennis athletes competed in match play in Singles, Doubles and Unified Doubles (combining people with and without disabilities on the same team) competition. Short Court Match Play and Individual Skills competition were offered for players at a lower skill level.

Athletes compete in divisions according to ability level giving all an equal chance for success. .

If you are interested in learning more about Special Olympics Illinois, volunteering or providing financial support to help make Special Olympics programs possible, contact your local Special Olympics agency, call 800-TEAM-ISO or visit the Web site at www.soill.org.

For a list of winners see page 11.

Independent for over 111 Years



At least someone's running a tight ship these days!


Is your head spinning from today's banking chaos?

For over 111 years, Liberty Bank has been locally owned and operated. We've never merged, and we're not changing our name.


Even in today's banking world, Liberty Bank remains as solid as ever. Bauer Financial recently awarded Liberty Bank a 5-Star Superior rating...for the 21st consecutive year! This award ranks financial institutions based on capital adequacy, asset quality and stability.


So if you're looking for a bank that reflects the independence and stability of our founding fathers, come to Liberty Bank.

www.libertybank.com




Liberty Bank
for savings
Trust & Integrity Since 1898







2392 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Chicago, IL 60647
773.384.4000




7111 W. Foster Ave.
Chicago, IL 60656
773.792.2211



6210 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Chicago, IL 60646
773.763.4360



6666 N. Lincoln Ave.
Lincolnwood, IL 60712
847.674.1300



1018 W. Touhy Ave.
Park Ridge, IL 60068
847.825.0693

PG. 10

Special Olympics Winners

continued from page 10

05 - Maine-Niles ASR, Morton Grove		
Volleyball Team Competition		Result
Alexander, Ira - Des Plaines, IL	Wildcats Black	1st place
Ford, James - Chicago, IL	Wildcats Black	1st place
Kadlec, Robert - Chicago, IL	Wildcats Black	1st place
Maloney, Kathy - Park Ridge, IL	Wildcats Black	1st place
Panjan, Brian - Des Plaines, IL	Wildcats Black	1st place
Seesawat, Max - Skokie, IL	Wildcats Black	1st place
Ziegler, Brian Patrick - Park Ridge, IL	Wildcats Black	1st place
05 - North Suburban SRA, Northbrook		
Volleyball Team Competition		Result
Balzer, Thomas Edward - Wilmette, IL	Gators Green	2nd place
Burdeen, Aaron - Highland Park, IL	Gators Green	2nd place
Fisher, William - Highland Park, IL	Gators Green	2nd place
Huffmaster, Randy J - Highland Park,	Gators Green	2nd place
LaChapelle, Matthew - Wilmette, IL	Gators Green	2nd place
Lucente, Anthony - Highland Park, IL	Gators Green	2nd place
Sener, Mike - Glenview, IL	Gators Green	2nd place
Shaw, Christopher D - Highland Park,	Gators Green	2nd place
Siebert, Timothy - Lake Forest, IL	Gators Green	2nd place
Walsh, Brian - Highland Park, IL	Gators Green	2nd place
Walsh, Edmond (Ed) - Highland Park,	Gators Green	2nd place

WILD MUSHROOMS

“Credit Cards and Large Banks”

In our last issue we shared with you a story about an incident we experienced with a large banking institution. Since that writing we have received many similar stories from our readers about their banks and credit cards. IN every case, it was a large bank, taking it upon themselves to decide what was best for their customers through restrictions and disregard for those customers’ individual situations or needs.

Without advance warning, or even notification, the banks cut off their customers’ credit cards, raised the interest rates, and/or cut the amount of usable credit. There were other stories about money discrepancies that were not settled for months. One theme is repeatedly evident in all of these cases:

It appears that the big banks are treating their customers who fall within a certain age range or size of account differently and are arbitrarily judging the value of these people or businesses. The government is putting restrictions on credit card companies beginning in February of 2010, but this gives those large institutions until then to do damage to their unwanted base.

We are cutting off all of our cards until the new laws go into effect. Sooner or later large banks are going to need old, insignificant, useless people, like me, again.

Have a similar problem or question? We want to hear from you at mushroom@ourvillagechicago.com. We hope that Wild Mushrooms will be a regular feature in this paper, an opportunity for readers to voice legitimate concerns about injustices they experience as consumers and as citizens.

From D. Namlig

Village of Skokie Lending Closet

The Village of Skokie Human Services Division Lending Closet offers Skokie residents the use of canes, walkers, crutches and wheelchairs for periods up to six months. A driver's license or state ID is required for wheelchair loans. For wheelchairs only, there is a \$25.00 refundable deposit for a 24-hour period or for up to a five-day loan period. The Lending Closet also offers a \$25.00 non-refundable loan up to a maximum of six months.

The lending closet is open Monday through Friday at the Smith Center, 5120 Galitz, between 9 and 10:30 a.m. and from 2 to 4:00 p.m. For more information please contact the Human Services Division at 847/933-8208.

Village Cooking Corner

Pot Roast

How to make the “best” you ever had!

1. Start with a pot roast from “Jerry’s Quality Meats.”
2. Place meat in roasting pan.
3. Add your favorite vegetables, potatoes, carrots, brussel sprouts, etc.
4. Sprinkle one (1) packet of onion soup mix over meat and vegetables.
5. Take two (2) small cans or one (1) family sized can of Campbells tomato soup and mix with equal amount of water. Pour over meat and vegetables. For more gravy add a little more water.
6. Cover pan with foil or pan cover and roast at 350 degrees for 2 1/2 to 3 hours.*

*Smaller roasts (2 to 2 1/2 lbs.) take 2 1/2 hours – (3#) or larger. Take 3 hours.

Jerry’s Quality Meats, 3706 W. Dempster, Skokie; 847-677-9360

Village of Skokie Fall 2009 Yard Waste and Leaf Collection Information

The Village’s 2009 regular yard waste collection program ended today. Residents who still have yard waste will not need to contact Public Works to schedule a collection. Village crews will collect properly prepared yard waste from the entire town on Wednesday, October 28. Materials must be bundled or placed in paper yard waste bags and set in the curb or alley, in the same place that garbage is set out. Grass clippings will not be collected. The Village of Skokie will make additional yard waste collections during the fall season, weather permitting, through December 2. The curbside leaf collection program also continues through early December, weather permitting.

On Monday, October 19, 2009, the Village begins its annual leaf collection program that continues through mid-December, weather permitting. The leaf collection program provides residents with an alternate way to dispose of leaves. Instead of bagging, or for those who do not mulch leaves, residents may rake leaves next to the curb in front of their home. As weather permits, Village crews make rounds throughout Skokie collecting the leaves on a weekly basis. Please follow the suggested tips to insure collection:

- *Please do not leave grass piles, twigs and branches or other debris within the pile as these items can damage equipment and prevent leaf collection.
- *Wetting leaves while piled prevents them from blowing away.
- *Be mindful of hydrants and keep them visible.
- *Rake leaves away from parked cars and do not park on leaf piles.
- *Do not rake leaves onto or in sewer drains.

For more information on leaf collection contact the Public Works Department at 847/933-8427

Evanston Firewood Sale Begins

The City of Evanston's annual firewood sale begins Saturday, Nov. 7. While firewood supplies last, sale hours are 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays at 2310 Oakton St., Evanston (between the former Recycling Center and the Animal Shelter). The cost is \$25 per 1/8 face cord; \$40 per 1/4 face cord; \$70 per 1/2 face cord; or \$125 per full face cord. Payment by personal check is preferred although payment can also be made by cash. Credit cards are not accepted, and delivery is not available. Once supplies are depleted, the Saturday sales will be discontinued for the year.

Free woodchips are also available at the base of the hill in adjacent James Park. Residents can take as many woodchips as they would like. For more information, call 847-866-2912.

Chicago Brauhaus

4732 N. Lincoln Avenue — Chicago, IL 60625

LUNCH AND DINNER SPECIALTIES:

- Wiener Schnitzel
- Chicken Schnitzel
- Roast Veal Shank
- Sauerbraten
- Pork Shanks
- Roast Duckling

- Bratwurst
- Steak Tartar
- Homemade Soups
- Homemade Apple Strudel
- Fresh Fish of the Day

FOR RESERVATIONS PLEASE CALL:

(773) 784-4444

Open for Lunch and Dinner Wednesday thru Monday

Visit our website at www.chicagobrauhaus.com

PG. 11

Finding your way through the Alphabet Soup: CCAC, SNF, CARF, CCRC -- what do they mean?

As you and your family explore your options for the future, several abbreviations might crop up: CCRC and CCAC/CARF, or IL and SNF. What do these terms mean, and how might they be important to you?

Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC)

CCRC stands for Continuing Care Retirement Community, a particular kind of option for residential living. Continuing care refers to a community where all levels of services and care are available to residents, usually all on the same campus.

CCRCs usually provide a written agreement or long-term contract between the resident (frequently lasting the term of the resident's lifetime) and the community, which offers a continuum of housing, services and health care.

In CCRC communities, potential residents choose an apartment or cottage as well as a level of services they need: independent living, assisted living, nursing care or specialized memory care. In many organizations, the different levels of care can be accessed directly by those living outside the retirement community.

In a CCRC, individuals who can live safely without assistance or supervision are sometimes called "independent residents" and may live in IL or Independent Living cottages or apartments. The services provided are primarily for convenience and lifestyle benefits. Many communities offer health screenings, wellness services, fitness centers, libraries, classes, and entertainment for the residents.

LINCOLNWOOD LIBRARY

4000 W. Pratt Ave. • (847) 677-5277
www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org

Humanities Treasures. This free discussion group meets Wednesdays, 1–3 p.m. at the Lincolnwood Library to explore current events and selected readings. Humanities Treasures is affiliated with the Oakton Community College Emeritus Program.

English as a Second Language Class. Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free weekly class for adults who want to learn to speak English. Sponsored by Oakton Community College. Call (847) 635-1426

Literacy Class. Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free weekly class for adults who want to improve reading, writing, and math skills. Sponsored by Oakton Community College. Call (847) 635-1426.

Knitting for Adults. Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Adults can learn to knit or work on knitting projects. All skill levels welcome.

CLUBS

The Friends of Lincolnwood Library meet the third Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m.

The Adult Stamp Club meets the fourth Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.

The Mac Users Club meets the second Thursday of each month, 7-9 p.m.

REELTIME PRESENTS "DO NO HARM," A NEW CHICAGO-PRODUCED DOC ABOUT MEDICAL WHISTLE-BLOWERS

This FREE screening of DO NO HARM (2009, 55 min) by Chicago filmmaker Rebecca Schanberg takes place on Wednesday, November 18 at 7:30 pm as part of the REELTIME series hosted at Northwestern University's Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art.

Adding another perspective to the national health care debate, this gripping new documentary tells of two Southerners who became reluctant whistle-blowers when they exposed unethical billing practices at a large non-profit hospital.

At the center of the story is Phoebe Putney, a non-profit hospital in Albany, Georgia whose influence is felt by most residents. Dr. John Bagnato and accountant Charles Rehberg stumble upon evidence that the hospital is overcharging uninsured and indigent patients and their subsequent investigation uncovers millions of dollars in offshore bank accounts.

When these discoveries become public, Bagnato and Rehberg become the targets of threats and intimidation, and are eventually prosecuted by local authorities for blowing the whistle on the hospital's practices. With their reputations and livelihoods on the line, Bagnato and Rehberg must confront what they're willing to sacrifice to bring about justice.

Drawing attention to the plight of the uninsured, Bagnato and Rehberg's findings led to class action lawsuits against 37 health care systems nationally - all led by Dick Scruggs, the attorney who fought Big Tobacco.

A discussion with Chicago filmmaker Rebecca Schanberg will follow this screening. REELTIME presents DO NO HARM, Wed, Nov. 18, 2009 – 7:30 PM. Free admission. Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, 40 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston. 847.491.4000 (general information), filmvideoforum@yahoo.com, www.reeltimeevanston.org

AL or Assisted Living is designed for individuals who need regular support, but do not need a nurse on a daily basis. Residents in these apartments may need reminders to take medication, or assistance with activities such as meals, laundry, bathing and getting dressed.

Some communities refer to residential healthcare services as SNF, which stands for Skilled Nursing Facility. Healthcare or nursing care provides the necessary services for those who need a nurse or certified nursing assistant on a daily basis. Individuals might have chronic conditions that require a skilled caregiver in a nursing care center. Some communities also offer specialized Alzheimer's or memory care facilities as part of their healthcare program.

CCAC and CARF for Accreditation

The Continuing Care Accreditation Commission (CCAC), acquired by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) in 2003, is the nation's only accrediting body for continuing care retirement communities (CCRCs) and other types of continuums of care.

Before CCAC was founded, consumers, financial rating agencies, and others had no clear way of determining whether a retirement community was financially stable, providing quality care, or worthy of their investment. In 1985, a group of visionaries created CCAC to help ensure that the nation's retirement communities fulfill their promises of quality, lifetime care to older persons.

In January 2003, CCAC merged with the commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), a non-profit accreditation system founded in 1966 that touches more than 5.1 million individuals serviced in a wide range of human service organizations. Only 15% of the 2500 continuing care retirement communities nationwide are CARF-CCAC accredited.

Today, CARF accredits continuing care retirement communities and aging services networks that are part of home, community, or hospital-based systems; sites under a corporate organization; and other types of providers.

According to an article in the Chicago Tribune, "The Continuing Care Accreditation Commission (CCAC) accredits continuing care retirement communities. Their standards are fairly strict, so this is often a good test of the community's overall caliber."

As the nation's only accrediting body for non-profit and for-profit continuing care retirement communities, CARF helps promote and maintain quality and disclosure in the retirement industry. Essentially, an accredited organization lives up to its own mission, strives for excellence in its services, ensures that its programs and practices are innovative, and follows an appropriate and achievable plan for the future.

An organization seeking accreditation voluntarily puts itself through a rigorous peer review process. Members demonstrate to a team of surveyors during on-site surveys that they are committed to conforming to the accreditation conditions and 900 separate standards of CARF. Furthermore, an organization that earns CARF accreditation is commended in its quest for quality programs and services

Accreditation Is the Seal of Approval

Accreditation means that a consumer can be confident that the organization has made a commitment to continually enhance the quality of its services and programs, and to focus on the satisfaction of the persons served. These select organizations must be focused on assisting each resident in achieving his or her chosen goals and outcomes.

"More than a seal of approval, receiving accreditation means that an organization's programs and services have met resident-focused, state-of-the-art national standards of performance," said Peter Mulvey, President and CEO of Presbyterian Homes of Evanston, IL. "Older adults exploring retirement options should use this standard as a way to identify organizations that are successful in providing exceptional senior services."

An accredited community has met or exceeded all of the Commission's standards of excellence in the areas of governance and administration; financial resources; and resident life, health and wellness. In order to become accredited, an organization must involve its residents, Board of Directors, and staff in the process.

"The accreditation process is pretty tough, taking up to a year to complete.... Consumers can be sure an accredited community has undergone a rigorous internal and external review," said the story in the Chicago Tribune.

For more information about the accreditation process, please visit the CARF web site at www.carf.org/aging.

By Theresa P. Paulin, Presbyterian Homes, Evanston, Illinois; 847-866-1643

Howliday Wishes

My furry friends, do you realize how close the Howliday Season is upon us? It was like yesterday that I was frolicking in the summer sun! Anyway, now comes the time when our noses and toes get cold. But, on the bright side so does that wonderful gift giving season! So, my friends now is the time to get your lists to Santa Paws so you get what you want. Also, don't forget to leave hints for those humans of yours! With the chaos of the Howlidays they sometimes need more then one gentle reminder!

My Howliday Wish Letter is as follows:



Dear Santa Paws,
I have been a very good pup this year. I have played nicely with all the other dogs that my human has cared for. I have not caused any intentional harm to any of the cats I am forced to live with. I have not ruined the new furniture, however I will confess that I do like to cuddle up in it even though I am not suppose too! I have listened to my human, even when I don't know what she is saying. I have been as good as I could be, at least most of the time! (that grabage incident was totally my brother Darwin's fault!) So, in being a good boy I would like the following.
A new how to understand your human book, because an updated version is sorely needed. More so then ever!
A new rawhide bone that is the size of me!
A turkey feast fit for a dog!
A new bed for the cats. That way the can stay off mine!
A new collar with winter colors so I can look great this season!
Sweater or jacket because I know that my human is going to force me into some colorful haircut and I want to be prepared!
Plenty of pawtience with my human and the crazy things she does to me at the howlidays.
Most importantly I want peace on Earth for all of God's Creatures. (to my furry friends, this is very important to add to your letter. Yes, I would like peace. But, let's face it. Until we dogs take over that is not going to happen. Trust me add this to your letter!)

Love & best Howliday Wishes,
Bosley

To my furry friends,
Please feel free to send all wonderful goodies for me to Canine Corral!

Submitted by Bosley's mom, Nicole Carfora, CMG, owner of Canine Corral.



Anti-Cruelty Society

For more info on The Anti-Cruelty Society and our adoption process, please visit our website www.anticruelty.org or call (312) 644-8338.

The Anti-Cruelty Society Magazine is now available online! In a continuous effort to improve our green practices, we are hosting The Anti-Cruelty Society magazine on our website.

To view our magazine, please go to www.anticruelty.org/site/epage/56287_576.htm.

If you would like to have the magazine emailed directly to you please send a note to padee@anticruelty.org.

H1N1 in Pets

by Peter S. Sakas DVM, MS

I am constantly being asked about the risk of pets contracting swine flu (H1N1). Up to this point it had only been reported in swine, poultry and ferrets. I just received a report of a cat in Iowa recently developing the disease. The article below is a compilation of information gathered from different veterinary sources that I wanted to share with you. Although the risk is extremely small, and at this time, no cause for alarm, it is best to be proactive, so I have included some information on how to take precautions to prevent exposure to your pets. Check with your veterinarian if you have concerns about your pet possibly developing the disease. I will provide updates in future columns.

H1N1 Influenza Confirmed in Iowa Cat (courtesy AVMA and IDPH)) (Protecting Pets from H1N1 Influenza)

A report released November 4, 2009 from the American Veterinary Medical Association reported that a cat in Iowa has tested positive for the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus. Iowa state officials confirmed the report, marking the first time a cat has been diagnosed with this strain of influenza.

The 13-year-old indoor cat in Iowa was brought to the Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center at Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, where it tested positive for the H1N1 virus.

"Two of the three members of the family that owns the pet had suffered from influenza-like illness before the cat became ill," said IDPH Public Health Veterinarian, Dr. Ann Garvey. "This is not completely unexpected, as other strains of influenza have been found in cats in the past." Both the cat and its owners have recovered from their illnesses.

The cat is believed to have caught the virus from someone in the household who was sick with H1N1. There are no indications that the cat passed the virus on to any other animals or people. Prior to this diagnosis, the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus had been found in humans, pigs, birds (poultry) and ferrets.

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP) are reminding pet owners that in addition to protecting their families, friends and neighbors from the spread of the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus, it is important to remember to protect family pets from the illness as well. People who are sick with H1N1 can spread the virus not only to humans, but to some animals. As some viruses can pass between people and animals, this is not an altogether unexpected event.

Pet owners should monitor their pets' health very closely, no matter what type of animal, and visit a veterinarian if there are any signs of illness. "Indoor pets that live in close proximity to someone who has been sick are at risk and it is wise to monitor their health to ensure they aren't showing signs of illness," said Dr. David Schmitt, State Veterinarian for Iowa.

People can keep their pets healthy by washing hands, covering coughs and sneezes, and minimizing contact with their pets while ill with influenza-like symptoms. If your pet exhibits signs of a respiratory illness, contact your veterinarian.

The AVMA is actively tracking all instances of H1N1 in animals and posting updates at www.avma.org/public_health/influenza/new_virus.

This article is a compilation of information provided by the AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association), ISVMA (Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association) and the IDPH (Iowa Department of Public Health).

Niles Animal Hospital & Bird Medical Center. 7278 N. Milwaukee Ave. Niles

Santa is ready for the Howlidays, are YOU?



- BOARDING (OVERNIGHT CARE)
- ALL BREED DOG & CAT GROOMING
- DOGGIE DAY CARE
- DO-IT -YOURSELF DOG WASH

CANINE CORRAL

6460 N. Milwaukee Ave * Chicago, IL 60631

773-775-1040 WWW.CANINECORRAL.NET

Estate Planning in the Electronic Age



Chester M. Przybylo

In today's electronic age, it seems that things are changing at an ever increasing rate. Every time we turn around, there's a new technology and more and more information to keep in mind. With the electronic storage of sensitive financial and emotionally valuable information, a new concern people have is what to do with "electronic assets" after their death or disability. This article discusses four possible options for the transfer of these potentially valuable assets.

In today's electronic age, it seems that things are changing faster and faster. Every time we turn around, there's a new technology and more and more information to keep in mind and safeguard.

Now, increasingly people have "electronic assets," such as website domain names and accounts with Gmail, Facebook, Yahoo! Mail, YouTube, Amazon, Kodak Gallery, GoDaddy, LinkedIn, and Twitter, and many other websites that require an account and may store personal or financial data, such as credit card numbers. How do you handle the disposition of these electronic assets upon your death or disability? Of course, domain names are the owner's private property like any other asset. Typically, the contents of electronic accounts like email with Yahoo! or Google's "Gmail" are considered to be private property.

Why is this important? If you die or become incapacitated, you may want someone to delete credit card information and old email with personal data. You may want to have someone go into your email account in order to notify your friends and contacts. You may want your treasured photos, saved in online photo albums, preserved for your family members and loved ones, instead of deleted for inactivity.

There are several options on handling these electronic assets. First, you could dispose of them through your Will or Trust. However, passwords and internet presences tend to change frequently. Also, it may take some time to determine what you have and how it is to be handled. Furthermore, even though you have the legal right to transfer your Gmail account, for example, it is logistically rather difficult.

Second, you could keep a USB flash drive or other device with all of this information, together with account handling instructions. You could tell a trusted family member or responsible friend the location of the device and instructions. If this device has information which should be protected, you should keep it in a secure location. For example, you could tell the person you select that it is in your bottom desk drawer and give them the key. This would not be an ideal solution unless the person you select will have access to your residence.

Third, you could get an account with "LegacyLocker.com" or some similar company. With LegacyLocker, you can maintain information regarding your electronic assets, including account numbers and passwords. Upon your death or disability, they will release the information to the person(s) you designate. In order to keep your assets secure, they will independently verify your death or disability with people whom you had pre-selected. Once your designee has the password and account information, they can take control of the email or other assets in the account.

Fourth, you could do nothing. With that option, most email providers will simply delete all the email after a specified period of inactivity. Domain names expire after the period of registration. However, if these assets have substantial economic or emotional value, clearly this would not be the option to choose.

Other electronic assets, such as accounts with PayPal, eBay, iTunes, and ING DIRECT have real financial value. It is important that information concerning these accounts should not be left to anyone that is not legally obligated to do with them as you have directed, like the Trustee of your Trust. This also holds true for electronic access and passwords for financial assets held in traditional bank and financial accounts.

It seems things are changing now, more than ever. However, the law has not kept up with technological advances and there are many gray areas. Therefore, it is increasingly important to have an up-to-date, coordinated estate plan to handle all of your assets, including your electronic assets. Many things can change: Your plans, your assets, your family circumstances, the legal and tax environment, and, of course, your usernames and passwords.

An experienced estate planning attorney who focuses his or her practice in the area can help you develop a coordinated estate plan that includes your electronic assets.

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. For more information or to attend an upcoming seminar, call (773) 631-2525.

Have You Built Your Investment Pyramid?



Neil Gardner

Of the "Seven Wonders of the Ancient World," the only one still in existence is the Great Pyramid of Giza. This tells you something about the strength of the pyramid structure, but it also suggests that the pyramid may be a good metaphor for other endeavors that you wish to endure — such as your investment strategy.

In fact, by creating an appropriate "investment pyramid," you could address your key financial needs and goals. What might this pyramid look like? Consider the following "layers":

- **Cash and cash equivalents** — The "base" of your pyramid should consist of cash and cash equivalents — short-term investment vehicles that are highly liquid. Without sufficient cash available, the rest of your pyramid could crumble because you might be forced to liquidate longer-term investments to pay for short-term or emergency needs.

- **Income** — The next level up of your pyramid might contain income-oriented investments, such as bonds and Certificates of Deposit (CDs). While these investments may not offer sizable rates of return, they can offer reliable income.

- **Growth and income** — The middle layer of your pyramid should include investments, such as dividend-paying stocks, that offer the potential for both growth and income. (Keep in mind, though, that companies are not obligated to pay dividends and can reduce or eliminate them at any time.)

- **Growth** — The second layer from the top of your pyramid is reserved for growth-oriented investments, such as the stocks of companies whose earnings are expected to grow at an above average rate, relative to the rest of the financial market. As you'll note, though, the key word is "expected," because growth stocks can, and do, produce negative returns as well as positive ones.

- **Aggressive** — At the very top of your pyramid are the most aggressive investments. While these investments may offer the highest growth potential, they also usually carry the greatest risk level. Your total investment mix may include investments from every part of the pyramid, but how much should go into each layer? There's no one right answer for everyone. In filling out your investment pyramid, you'll need to consider your risk tolerance, time horizon, short- and long-term goals and other factors. So, if you are a fairly conservative investor, you might place fewer investment dollars in the "aggressive" layer than someone who was willing to take more chances in exchange for potentially higher returns.

However, the various weightings within your investment pyramid will likely change over time. As you near retirement, for example, you may want to move some — but certainly not all — of your investments from the "growth" layer to the "growth and income" or "income" layers. An investment professional can help you review your evolving family and financial situations and make recommendations on what changes you may need to make to your pyramid.

Pyramids last a long time. And if you build and maintain your investment pyramid with care, you can keep it working efficiently for many years to come.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Neil Gardner is a financial advisor with Edward Jones, 9175 Gross Point Road, Skokie, IL 60077, 847-933-9845.

TRUST IS EARNED

CHESTER M. PRZYBYLO

has protected Tens of Millions of Dollars from Probate, Guardianship, and Nursing Homes for his clients. Let him help you protect your hard earned money legally and effectively. Call for a free initial Consultation.

773-631-7100

5339 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago IL 60630



RETIRE NOTHING® AT KING HOME

Never retire your spirit, and never let go of your curiosity or zest for life.

Men and women who are residents of King Home in downtown Evanston never surrender their independence.

They've joined a community that is alive with people, intellectual awareness, and enduring friendships — whether they gather in Fountain Square or for a stroll on the lakefront.

Find out how you can Retire Nothing.®
Call us at 847-866-2111 to learn more about King Home.

THE KING HOME

1555 Oak Avenue Evanston, IL 60201 | 847-866-2111
A non-sectarian member of Presbyterian Homes | RetireNothing.com



The Heil Family and All The Staff of

Chef Werner's **Mirabell**

Restaurant & Lounge

Invite You to Call Early To Book Your Holiday Parties, Family Celebrations & Business Occasions

Fine German & American Cuisine



Open Mon-Sat.
Lunch 11:30-3:00pm
Dinner 3:00-10:00pm
Sundays 12-8pm
Closed Thanksgiving Day


Enjoy the Best "Wiener Schnitzel"

Gift Certificates & Party Room Available

Parking Available In The Lot Across the Street

3454 W. Addison, Chicago (773) 463-1962
www.mirabellrestaurant.com

CUNNINGHAM REALTY



Karen Cunningham
Multi-Million \$ Producer
(773) 763-8205

<u>SOLD</u> —6534 N. OAK PARK, 2 BDRM ON EXTRA LARGE LOT 30 x 170 TOTAL DONE	\$234,000
<u>SOLD</u> —625 S. DELPHIA, PARK RIDGE, 3 BDRM 2 BATH	\$299,000
<u>SOLD</u> —5460 N SAYRE, 3 BD 3 BATH DOUBLE LOT.	\$309,000
<u>SOLD</u> —11 GREENWOOD, PARK RIDGE, 3 BDRM 3 BATH	\$219,900
<u>SOLD</u> —2215 PARKSIDE, BRICK 2 FLAT	\$209,000



YOUR LOCAL NORWOOD PARK FAMILY RESTAURANT

"Come on in neighbors and join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner - 7 days a week!"

WARM UP WITH OUR HOMEMADE SOUP

Open 6:00 am - 7:30 pm

6101 Northwest Highway - Chicago, IL 60631
773-467-0316