STREET LEVEL



"Where Life Happens"

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

www.OurVillageChicago.com

Phone: 847/675-6127 Fax: 847/679-8851 Issue 7 January 15, 2010

Early Voting Period for February 2, 2010 Primary Election: January 11 through 28

Early voting for the February 2, 2010 Primary election takes place from January 11 through January 28, 2010 at Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street. Village Hall early voting hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday.

Applications for absentee ballots are available at the Village Clerk's Office. Absentee balloting is usually for the 'snow birds' and others who cannot vote in person.

Registered voters can vote absentee in person January 29 through February 1 at the Clerk's County Clerk's Office at 69 W. Washington St., 5th floor, Chicago and the Skokie County Court House located at 5600 Old Orchard Road, Skokie. After requesting an absentee voter application from the Village Clerk's Office, the completed absentee ballot application will be sent to the Cook CountyClerk's office to determine if you are eligible to receive a mail-in absentee ballot. If so, the

County Clerk's office will send you a mail-in absentee ballot.

For further information on early voting or to request an absentee ballot, please contact the Village Clerk's Office at 847/933-8203.

Skokie Carrier Watch Program

The Village of Skokie Human Services Division encourages Skokie seniors and persons with disabilities to sign up for the Carrier Watch program. This free-of-charge program authorizes postal carriers to notify the Human Services Division if a resident's mail accumulates for more than 24 hours. The Human Services Division will contact the person and/or notify their designated emergency contact.

Registration can be done over the phone with the Human Services Division. Seniors and persons with disabilities will be asked to provide a staff member with their name, address and emergency contact information. The information is then sent to the post office, and the designated postal carrier for the address will place a Carrier Watch sticker in the mailbox.

If you would like more information or would like to register for the program please call the Human Services Division at 847/933-8208.



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OUR HEARTS AND PRAYERS GO OUT TO THE PEOPLE OF HAITI, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR FRIENDS.

YOUR LOCAL HOUSES OF WORSHIP, GOVERNMENT OFFICES OR COMMUNITY GROUPS ARE READY TO ASSIST YOU IN MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR RELIEF.

Texting While Driving in Illinois Now Banned

Thanks to your support and phone calls, we saw the Illinois Legislature pass a ban on texting while driving in 2009. As of Jan. 1, 2010, that legislation is law. Active Trans was there every step of the way pushing for this important law that limits distracted driving. Find out more about this and other 2009 victories at http://www.activetrans.org/2009-legislative-agenda.

Evanston Resident and Dog Rescued from Northwestern University's Retention Pond

Fire Officials remind everyone "Just because a lake, pond or stream is frozen doesn't mean the ice is safe"

Just before 8AM Sunday morning, a report of a woman and a dog in the frigid waters on the campus of Northwestern University resulted in a response by Northwestern Police and Evanston Fire Department personnel. The call came into Northwestern University by a passer-by using one of the blue-light emergency call boxes on campus. Upon arrival of the Fire Department, firefighters found a female and her dog in icy water approximately 40 feet from shore. The female apparently went onto the ice after her golden retriever that had wondered onto the man-made pond had fallen through. She then fell through the ice as well. Evanston Firefighter/Paramedic Jennifer Lo Bianco suited up in an ice water rescue suit, upon arrival, immediately crossed the ice into the water to rescue the woman. Once the woman was brought to safety, fire personnel were able to safely retrieve the dog as well. The female victim was transported to Evanston Hospital. Both the owner and the dog survived the ordeal.

According to fire officials, you can't always tell the strength of ice simply by its look, its thickness, the temperature or whether or not it is covered with snow. Ice covered by snow always should be presumed unsafe. Snow acts like an insulating blanket and slows the freezing process. Ice under the snow will be thinner and weaker. A snowfall also can warm up and melt existing ice. If there is slush on the ice, stay off. Slush ice is only about half as strong as clear ice and indicates the ice is no longer freezing from the bottom. The most logical ice safety measure is to "Stay off the Ice" and if you are walking a dog near a frozen body of water always use a leash.

SEE OUR NEW SECTION "SCHOOLS & YOUTH EVENTS" ON PAGES 4 & 5

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Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Your Party Place – Community Center Available for Rent

The Lincolnwood Community Center is part of the Parks and Recreation Department of the Village of Lincolnwood. We serve the community's recreational needs by offering various programs in our facility. However, when we're not serving the recreational needs of the community, we would like to make our Community Center available for rent to, businesses, individuals and families of Lincolnwood as well as those living nearby.

It is important for us to serve the public's recreational needs, but it's also important to assist families in attaining an affordable space to hold all types of functions, from birthday parties, bat/bar mitzvah parties, family reunions/celebrations, annual holiday parties, wedding engagements, retirement parties, to classroom enrichment programs and more.

We can fulfill almost every need of the community with our list of amenities including: round or rectangular tables, banquet chairs, kitchen, TV, podium, coffeepot, tablecloths and more. If you have a specific need that was not mentioned in our amenities list, talk to our staff to see if other arrangements can be made.

Availability is based upon seasonal Parks & Recreation Department programs and previously scheduled rentals. Stop by our facility, located at 6900 N. Lincoln Avenue in Lincolnwood, for a tour of the building, to inquire about availability, or to pick up a renter information packet detailing prices, policies and procedures. Or you can contact the Parks and Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740 for more information.

LEVY SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

Habla Espanol? Come join us in conversation. If you are 55 or older and want to sharpen your Spanish speaking skills with others in conversation, this eight-session class is designed for you. Though not a class for beginners, it will meet from 10:30 a.m.—Noon, on Thursdays, starting Feb. 4 at the Levy Center. The cost is \$44/Levy member; \$54/nonmember. We look forward to speaking with you.

Lunches are served 11 a.m.—1 p.m. weekdays at the Levy Center for only \$4. Conquer your fear of the computer with our help. This February, the Levy Center has several terrific courses available to help you become more comfortable with the computer. In Keyboarding 1, basic typing skills are covered, helping you to find the proper keys to build the confidence needed to effectively operate a keyboard and mouse. Internet 1 will teach the vocabulary of the Internet and the basics of browsing. The genealogy class shows you how to develop your family tree using Internet sources and a software program. And finally, for those who are ready for something a bit more advanced, Masters Class will sharpen your overall skills and extend your knowledge into the challenging areas of word processing, spreadsheets, and more. Times, dates, and fees vary, so feel free to call 847-448-8250, or drop in at the Levy Center, 300 Dodge, for more information.

Make eliminating stress part of your New Year resolution. Join Unity Hospice at the Levy Center in this free Stress Management Seminar for members at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 3. Learn the signs and symptoms of stress and some simple and creative ways to help deal with it.

Learn the craft and fundamentals of beading. This class will focus on the variety of beads along with beading techniques such as stringing, stitching, and weaving. A basic kit will be available for purchase at the first class. The eight sessions start from 10:30 a.m.—Noon on Tuesday, Feb. 2. The fee for members is \$45.

The Levy Senior Center is committed to making programs available to people with disabilities. For mobility or communications access assistance, call 847-448-8250/voice or 847-448-8064/TDD.

Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Join the Lincolnwood Social Club (55+)

Are you tired of staying home? Would you like to do fun and exciting things? Do you want to make a few new friends? Then why not join the Lincolnwood Social Club 55+. You do not have to be a resident of Lincolnwood to join. We go to exciting places every week in addition to the numerous special events held at our Community Center. Give us a call and find out what we are all about, our number is (847) 677-9740. This is one phone call you won't be sorry that you made.

THE ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM & EDUCATION CENTER EVENTS

"ANNE FRANK: ON THE AIR" THEATRE PRODUCTION

What: The Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center will host the theatre production of "Anne Frank: On The Air," a radio-style presentation of Diary of a Young Girl, by Anne Frank. This production, by GreatWorks Theatre Company, portrays a group of 1940s radio actors performing a new script, not realizing the story they're dramatizing is actually true. "Anne Frank: On The Air" is recommended for students in grades 6 and up.

When: Sunday, January 17, 1:30 p.m.

Who: Students in Grades 6 and up

Tickets: Museum members and students: \$15 / Non-members: \$20. Museum admission included. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED -- Call 847.967.4889 or visit www.ilholocaustmuseum.org

Where: Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, Goodman Auditorium, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie

CHILDREN'S EVENT: DIARY WORKSHOP

What: The Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center will host a diary-writing workshop for families with children ages 8 to 11. The workshop will honor the legacy of Anne Frank and Zlata Filipović, two young girls who captured tragic events in history by writing in their diaries. Similar to Anne Frank, Zlata cataloged the horrors of war in Sarajevo in her diary from 1991 to 1993. Both Frank and Filipović's journals give the world insight into living with war from the eyes of an innocent adolescent. Workshop attendees will learn the stories of Frank and Filipović while creating their own personal diary to take home. This workshop is geared toward families and children ages 8 to 11, and is limited to 30 participants.

When: Sunday, January 24, 11:00 a.m.

Who: Children ages 8 to 11 years old, accompanied by an adult

Tickets: Museum admission, plus materials fee. Museum members: \$5 / Non-members: \$7 RESERVATIONS REQUIRED -- Call 847.967.4889 or visit www.il-holocaustmuseum.org

Where: Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie

DANK-Haus Announces 2010 Board of Directors

DANK Haus German American Cultural Center is pleased to announce the results of its 2010 election for the Board of Directors.

DANK Haus German American Cultural Center members elected Adalbert Bielski, Yvonne Frazier, Erich Freiberger and Dan Reichart each to a 3 year term on the Board of Directors. They will a their role beginning January 1, 2010. They join Susan Barton Heinen, James Dombrowski, Dagmar Freiberger, Josef Matuschka, Susanne Mickey, Sarah Miller, Scott Will and Angelique Wisler.

Adalbert Bielski has served one year as a Director previously. A graduate of Loyola University and a military veteran, Adalbert has a long standing interest in German traditions and a keen interest in keeping DANK Chicago and the local German clubs vibrant and growing for another generation.

Yvonne Frazier joins after 6 years of volunteer service, including the 2008 By-Laws Meeting and 3 years as administrator of Adult German classes. She also is a Head Volunteer at the Old Town School of Folk Music in Lincoln Square.

Erich Freiberger has served one year as a Director previously and has been Building Committee Chair for 3 years. He has performed in the German American band Paloma since he was 14 years old.

Dan Reichart joins the Board while completing his Masters in Tax Planning. Dan has served in highly visible roles at DANK events the last several years ensuring guest participation and satisfaction. Dan is eager to oversee DANK Haus future prosperity and prominence.

The 2010 Board of Directors elected the Executive Committee as follows;

Dagmar Freiberger, President

Susan Barton Heinen, 1st Vice President

Sarah Miller, 2nd Vice President

Angelique Wisler, Treasurer

Yvonne Frazier, Secretary

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Going Green Through Smart Energy Design - Free Breakfast Presentation for Local Businesses

Citizens for a Greener Evanston Energy Efficiency in Commercial Buildings Task Force, the Evanston Chamber of Commerce and the City of Evanston will be presenting a special free breakfast presentation for local business owners, building owners and building managers featuring Ben Sliwinski, Technical Director of the Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC). The free breakfast will be held on January 21 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Ave.

Going green through smart energy design means saving money. There are many ways for Evanston businesses to get smarter about their energy usage, lower their operating costs and take advantage of available cash incentives. Now you can get free advice and financial assistance for your energy efficiency projects. This is a great opportunity to hear from a leading authority on the subject of smart energy design in Illinois.

SEDAC provides advice and analyses enabling private and public facilities to increase their economic viability through the efficient use of energy resources and is sponsored by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity in partnership with ComEd and Ameren Illinois Utilities. SEDAC provides valuable services at no cost to for-profit businesses and public facilities.

Additionally, the City of Evanston is also a participant in ComEd's Community Energy Challenge in which ComEd has reserved \$350,000 of their "Smart Ideas for Your Business" program dollars for Evanston-based businesses and institutions to use. This program is designed to help Evanston's commercial property owners and tenants pay for energy efficiency upgrades to their properties and operations.

In these economically challenging times, the City of Evanston wants to help businesses save and encourages business owners, building owners and building managers to register to attend this breakfast and learn how to Get Green, Go Green and Save Green.

Register today at info@evchamber.com or call 847/328-1500 x22.

Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation American Social Dance Night

Come enjoy a night of dancing to a variety of types of music from swing to smooth Latin. Enjoy this wonderful opportunity to dance and socialize! This program is for all ages and payment is made at the door. You don't need a partner to participate! All levels of skill are welcome. For more information contact www.TinaMangosDance.com.

Friday * February 19 7:00 – 7:45pm Lesson/Instruction; 7:45 – 10:00pm Dance Ages: 16+ Lincolnwood Community Center * 6900 N. Lincoln Avenue Fee: \$10 per person, payable at the door

Online registration is available by logging onto www.lincolnwoodil.org and navigating to the Parks and Recreation Department home page, then clicking on the REGISTER NOW button.

For more information contact the Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740.

Levy Senior Center Computer Class

Don't let the computer intimidate you. This February, the Levy Center has several terrific courses available to help you become more comfortable with the computer. In Keyboarding 1, basic typing skills are covered, helping you to find the proper keys to build the confidence needed to effectively operate a keyboard and mouse. This course is particularly helpful as the other classes offered do required a familiarity with a keyboard and mouse. Internet 1 will teach the vocabulary of the Internet and the basics of browsing. The genealogy class shows you how to develop your family tree using Internet sources and a software program. And finally, for those who are ready for something a bit more advanced, Masters Class will sharpen your overall skills and extend your knowledge into more challenging areas such as word processing, spreadsheets, and more. Times, dates, and fees vary, so feel free to call 847-448-8250, or drop in at the Levy Center, 300 Dodge, for more information.

The Levy Senior Center is committed to making programs available to people with disabilities. For mobility or communications access assistance, call 847-448-8250/voice or 847-448-8064/TDD.

Evanston to Recycle Christmas Trees

This holiday season, the City's Parks/Forestry Division will again pick up Christmas trees for recycling. City crews will begin collecting trees only from parkways (the grassy areas between the sidewalks and curbs) during the week of December 28 and continue for five consecutive weeks.

All trees should be placed on the parkways; trees will not be picked up from alleys or private property.

Trees will be picked up on the same day of the week as normal refuse and recycling collections during the weeks of December 28, and January 4, 11, 18, and 25. This five-week schedule should allow for a quicker removal of the trees from parkways, as well as allowing residents the flexibility to remove the tree from their homes as late as January 24.

Please remember to remove all lights and decorations, and do not place the trees in plastic bags, as this material can damage the equipment used to convert the trees into mulch.

Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation First Friday for the Family

A partnership between the Lincolnwood Town Center and Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Department is bringing you A TASTE OF RECREATION. Sample what it's like to take a Zumba class, learn a new dance step, make a paper airplane, paint a picture, spend a morning at day camp and more. Join us for our inaugural, FIRST FRIDAY, on February 5th from 6 - 6:45pm in the Lincolnwood Town Center Food Court. The featured activity will be "Dance Like A Star" -Latin and Ballroom Dance with Tina Mangos. This activity is free and appropriate for the whole family!

Friday * February 5 6:00 – 6:45pm Fee: FREE

Lincolnwood Town Center Mall, Food Court 3333 West Touhy Avenue,

Online registration is available by logging onto www.lincolnwoodil.org and navigating to the Parks and Recreation Department home page, then clicking on the REGISTER NOW button.

For more information contact the Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740.

Evanston January 2010 Tenant Workshop

Tuesday, January 19, 2010 Date: Time: Start 6:pm – 8:pm

Location: Lorraine H. Morton Civic Ctr. 2100 Ridge Ave.

Room:

RSVP (847) 866-2920 or 2976

Village of Skokie Fine Arts **Commission Grants**

The Village of Skokie Fine Arts Commission offers grants to Skokie schools that promote arts and cultural diversity in the community.

The Cultural Arts Grant is available to Skokie schools for in-school performing arts programming. Skokie public and private schools who host professional visiting artists are eligible to apply for this grant. Programs should have an emphasis on fine arts, music and dance while promoting cultural diversity. The maximum grant level is \$500. The Cultural Arts Grant deadline is February 1, 2010.

Applications are available online at www.skokie.org or by contacting the Public Information Division at 847/933-8257.

SKOKIE ART GUILD

Skokie Art Guild Live Model Figure Drawing Workshops

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



CALL FOR ARTISTS:

Skokie Art Guild's 49th Annual Art Fair. July 10-11, 2010. Fine Art. Held downtown Skokie on the Village Green, 5211 Oakton (next to the Library). Prizes and Awards! APPLY NOW! For information/application: skokieart@aol.com www.skokieartguild.org 847-677-8163.



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LOCAL SCHOOLS & YOUTH EVENTS

Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Daddy/Daughter Dance

We have a magical night planned that includes dinner, dancing and fun! Please join us for our annual Daddy Daughter Dance at Monastero's Ristorante where we will start the evening off with a buffet dinner including kid-friendly items such as chicken tenders, french fries and pizza squares. Of course we will also have plenty of healthy options too including salad, mixed vegetables and pasta. Dancing and DJ-led games will start immediately following dinner. New for this year is the addition of a hugely popular photo booth, ready to capture all of your 2010 Daddy Daughter Dance memories of the evening! Come dressed in your finest party-wear and dance, dance, dance the night away! Please register by January 22. (Min 25 Couples / Max 120 Couples)

Friday * February 5 6:00 – 9:00pm Ages: Grades K – 6th

Monastero's Ristorante, 3935 W. Devon Ave.,

Lincolnwood Resident: \$55 per couple * \$15 each additional daughter Non-Resident: \$69 per couple * \$20 each additional daughter

Online registration is available by logging onto www.lincolnwoodil.org and navigating to the Parks and Recreation Department home page, then clicking on the REGISTER NOW button. For more information contact the Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740.

Open Studio Project

Making Time with Your Child!

If you are an adult with a child in your life, this is the workshop for you both! Start 2010 out right together by creating a one-of-a-kind 10 inch battery operated wall clock. Design & color your clock face, then embellish the case with lots of fun objects, colors and textures.

\$35 includes one clock & everything you need to decorate it. (Additional clocks - so you each can make one - are \$10) Workshops open to artists of all ages - including playful grownups unescorted by a child.

Saturday January 23, 2010 10am-12noon Facilitated by Karla Rindal

Children's Art Classes Art & Adventure

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)

Fee, 5-week class: \$105 non-member, \$95 OSP member, \$75 sibling. Fee, 6-week class: \$125 non-member, \$115 OSP member, \$90 sibling. Fee, 7-week class: \$145 non-member, \$135 member, \$105 sibling. Tuesday Mornings, 10am-11am Jan 19 - Feb 23 5 weeks, no class Feb 9 Wednesday Mornings, 10am-11am Jan 13 - Feb 24 7 weeks

Wednesday Afternoons, 1:30 - 2:30 Jan 13 - Feb 24, 6 weeks, no class Feb 3 LIMITED SPACES LEFT - REGISTER TODAY! phone: 847.475.0390; email: info@openstudioproject.org; web: www.openstudioproject.org

MLK Through the Eyes of Children

You and your family are invited to a free celebration of Martin Luther King, Junior's birthday, starting at 1 p.m., on Saturday, Jan. 16, at the Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center, 1655 Foster St., Evanston. The Family Focus/Fleetwood-Jourdain Choir and Chute Middle School Bell Choir will perform. In addition, there will be poetry, a special children's message and refreshments. For more information, please call 847-448-8254.



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OPEN HOUSE January 31st, 1-4 pm Come for a visit! 5650 N. Canfield Ave. Chicago, IL 60631 (708) 867-5044 www.stpaulwildcats.org

The MOMS Club of Northern Chicagoland

Are you a new mother? Looking for support and friendship? Are the kids driving you crazy and you need to get out of the house? Then the MOMS Club is the answer. MOMS (Moms offering Moms support) Club of Northern Chicagoland is a local chapter of the International MOMS Club, a non-profit support group designed for the at-home-Mother and their children. MOMS Club has over 2,000 chapters and more than 100,000 members worldwide. The Northern Chicagoland chapter incorporates all of Northwest Chicago (including Edgebrook, Sauganash, Jefferson Park, Edison Park, Norwood Park, Oriole Park, etc), Skokie, Niles, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Park Ridge, Des Plaines, Glenview, Norridge and Harwood Heights.

The goal of MOMS Club is to provide a supportive environment for the athome mother. Often staying home is quite a change for a mother with young children, especially if coming from a professional career. It can be a very isolating experience. MOMS club helps connect and build friendships for mothers and their children with other mothers and children who are in a similar stage in life.

MOMS Club is a very active organization. Every week there are 3-4 activities that moms can choose to attend with their children. Such activities include playgroups, park dates, museum and zoo trips, seasonal holiday parties, service projects, etc. Also, every month the club has a member meeting where childcare is provided so members can listen to a guest speaker (such as chef demonstrating cooking tips for picky eaters) or take part in an activity (such as a relaxation expert providing free massages). Additionally, there is a monthly Moms Night Out where moms meet (without their children) for an evening of fun and friendship (usually at a local restaurant).

The MOMS Club of Northern Chicagoland will be holding its Winter Open House for current members and any moms interested in joining on Friday, January 22nd, 9:00am-11:00am at the Park Ridge Library. Bring your kids, meet current members. This is a perfect way to see if MOMS Club is for you! For more information, visit our website at http://sites.google.com/site/momsclubofnorthernchicago or email chicagomomsclub@gmail.com.

SPACE (Southport Performing Arts Conservatory) ANNOUNCES 2010 WINTER MUSIC AND DANCE CLASSES

Variety of Music, Dance and Movement classes in two convenient Chicago locations appeal to a wide-range of abilities and interests

SPACE (Southport Performing Arts Conservatory) has released the schedule for their Winter II 2010 music, dance and movement classes. The 8-week Winter II session which begins January 4, 2010 and continues through February 27, 2010, provides a wide-range of performing art classes designed for toddlers through adult.

Chicago's SPACE is a European-style performing arts conservatory that provides instruction in music and dance. Founded in 2005, SPACE has fueled the artistic dreams and aspirations of hundreds of artists from ages pre-school through adult. SPACE provides personalized instruction for all levels of artistic ability and offers a large range of music and dance education including Suzuki instruction, traditional individual instruction and a Gifted Program.

Dedicated to expanding the beauty and love of the performing arts to students in the Chicago area, SPACE's Community Engagement Program is available to all public and private schools from Pre-k through high school. SPACE's specially designed Community Engagement Program meets the Illinois Board of Education's performing arts standards.

SPACE has two Chicago locations at 1439 W. Wellington Ave., 773-880-1701, and at 3433 W. Peterson Ave., 773-463-1220. For more information about SPACE, please call either office numbers or visit the website at www.southportarts.com

Youth & Adult Summer Camp Registration Begins Jan. 29

As of Friday, Jan. 29, Evanston residents can start mailing in their registrations for the City of Evanston's many youth and adult summer camps. To keep the process fair for all, registrations must be sent via first-class U.S. mail no sooner than Jan. 29. Priority will be given based solely on the date of the postmark. Forms sent by any other means, including priority mail or special delivery, as well as those postmarked prior to Jan. 29 will be held for processing at a later date. Drop-offs, in-person, or online registrations will not be accepted until Monday, Feb. 22, starting at 9 a.m. This date is also the first day that nonresidents can begin registering for Evanston camps.

With more than 50 camps for ages starting as young as 2 ½, there are many full-day and half-day camp options to choose from. Five new camps this year are Flag Football Camp, Gymnastics Camp, LEGOmania Camp, Robert Crown Center Counselor in Training Camp, and. starting in mid-August, the Civil War Mini-Camp.

The 2010 Summer Camp guide, which describes each camp in detail and the registration procedures, is now available at the Civic Center and at all community centers. The full guide can also be found online in a downloadable format at: www.cityofevanston.org/summercamps. For details, call (847) 866-2900.

LOCAL SCHOOLS & YOUTH EVENTS

St. Peter Catholic School News

On January 28 at 7:00 PM, St. Peter School will host the annual Knights of Columbus Spelling B in the auditorium. Students from St. Peter, St. Joan of Arc and St. Lambert will participate.

On January 31 at 11:30 AM, St. Peter School will host an Open House to begin Catholic Schools Week. Anyone interested in attending St. Peter School is cordially invited. An Education and Book Fair will take place concurrently in the auditorium.

Please mark your calendars for March 13 which is the date for the St. Peter Silent Auction. We will have a special raffle and we encourage all families and friends to support this important fundraising event. For more information please call 1-847-

St. Peter Catholic School is located at 8140 Niles Center Road, Skokie, IL.

NILES NORTH STUDENTS EARN HONORS AT NATIONAL WALGREEN'S CONCERTO COMPETITION

Two Niles North High School musicians earned high marks at the 14th annual Walgreen's National Concerto Competition held January 2 and 3 at the Midwest Young Artists (MYA) Center at Fort Sheridan, Illinois. The national competition with 234 entrants was organized by MYA Director, Dr. Allan Dennis.

Tamara Winston, an oboist, won two Honorable Mentions in the Senior Division: Winds & Percussion and Early Music. Connor Thummel, a trombonist, won Honorable Mention in the Senior Division, Winds & Percussion. Winston and Thummel are both sophomores and play in the Niles North Symphonic Wind Ensemble under Band Director Elton Eisele.

On competing in the contest, Winston said, "It was a really good experience and it made me a better musician. I was really shocked when I found out I won two Honorable Mentions." Thummel said he practiced about every day over the winter break. The two seem to have a good-natured rivalry as they must compete against the other on a regular basis: Winston and Thummel both earned IMEA First Chair in District VII and are First Chair in the North Shore Honor Concert Band. The students also participate in the MYA program.

NILES NORTH VARSITY CHEERLEADING TEAM WINS FIRST PLACE AT INVITATIONAL

The Niles North High School Varsity Cheerleading Squad won first place at the Elk Grove High School Cheerleading Invitational held over the weekend. Niles North's coed squad beat out 16 other teams, many of whom were among the top 10 in state last year. The squad will compete again in the Conference contest held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13 at Niles North.

The Varsity Co-Head Coaches are Jody Trapani and Jeff Tackes. The Varsity squad: Jaimie Albert, Justin Braddy, Frankie Brown, Mark Brown, Melanie Chan, Caitlin Colleran, Ari Elizer, Angelita Garcia, Natalia Gu, A.J. Isaac, Angelina Keating, Pearl Kohler, Manny Magbanua, Deziray Martinez, Dariya Melnyk, Allyssa Memmini, Andres Merlos, Lauren Nelson, Perak Nhek, Christine Nitahara, Emily Sabo, Melissa Silverman, Nicole Walsh and Sarah Wasson.

DANK-Haus hosts Children's Mardi **Gras event – KindenrFasching!**

The DANK-Haus in historic Lincoln Square will present KinderFasching, a winter celebration of the 5th season of the year - Carnival season!

Everyone is encouraged to come in costume - we'll have free face painting, a parade lead by the Prince & Princess, balloon artists, treats, performances by the Paloma band and the Amazonen Dance Corps.

It's a great way to spend a snowy afternoon and let the kids have a ball.

Refreshments available, especially krapfen - a traditional sugar doughnut prepared on site by our Culture Kitchen. Krapfen are 2 for \$1

You don't have to be German to enjoy this day of silliness!

The event is Saturday February 6, 2010 from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm. Children under 13 are Free. Guests 14 and over are \$4.

All events take place at the Historic DANK-Haus at 4740 N. Western Avenue in Chicago's Lincoln Square neighborhood.

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NILES NORTH AURORIS DANCE COMPANY PRESENTS "MOMENTUM"

The 2009-2010 Auroris Dance Company will present "Momentum" at 7 p.m. on Friday, January 29 and Saturday, January 30 in the auditorium at 9800 Lawler, Skokie. The show will feature 17 Niles North students performing all types of dance including jazz, tap, modern, hip-hop, ballet, Broadway and contemporary. Also included in this year's show will be the piece "NERD HERD" which was chosen to be performed at the National High School Dance Festival in Miami this spring. Tickets are \$9 in advance and \$10 at the door (general seating). For tickets, please contact Deanna Sortino at deasor@niles219.org. A no charge community performance will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, January 28.

The Artistic Director of Auroris is Niles North/Niles West art teacher Deanna Sortino. The company includes: senior captains Elysssa Cherney, Alex Kuechel and Becca Rich, and company members Shana Ariaz, Jenica Doma, Kyla Finestone, Ellie Govis, Dori Hoffman, Ariella Hoffman-Peterson, Charmaine John, Annie Kim, Victoria Luc, Mary Montemayor, Maddy Newman, Sammy Schneider, Joanne Wong and Stacy Joseph.

TOM MATTA BIG BAND HEADLINES "AN **EVENING OF JAZZ" AT NILES WEST ON FEB. 3**

The Niles West Music Parents Association presents a special concert event Wednesday, February 3, 2010 in the Robert L. Johnson Auditorium at Niles West High School. "An Evening of Jazz" will feature the Tom Matta Big Band, a Chicago-based group comprised of a veritable "who's who" in Chicago's thriving jazz scene. The concert includes pop and jazz groups from Niles West to open the show. The evening will be an exciting showcase of student and professional talent including classic, contemporary, and original jazz compositions with a broad range of appeal. Proceeds from the concert will benefit the music programs at Niles West.

The Tom Matta Big Band is dedicated to the performance of music written for and by members of the band. Thomas Matta (bass trombone) is an Assistant Professor of Jazz Studies at DePaul University. His body of work as a musician spans an impressive spectrum of genres, styles, and disciplines. He has toured extensively in North America, Europe, and Asia, and has performed and recorded with a diverse array of talents including the Frank Mantooth Jazz Orchestra, the Rob Parton JazzTech Big Band, the Chicago Jazz Orchestra, the Chicago Jazz Ensemble, Ray Charles, Natalie Cole, Aretha Franklin, and many others. His compositions and arrangements have been performed and recorded by premier orchestras, big bands and chamber ensembles worldwide.

The artists performing with the Tom Matta Big Band comprise a sensational lineup of top rated musicians in local and national jazz circles. Among them are Rob Parton (trumpet), Associate Professor of Jazz Studies at Roosevelt University and a highly regarded studio/theater musician, performer, educator, and band leader; John Wojciechowski (alto sax), a jazz educator who has appeared all over the country as a guest artist and clinician; Mark Colby (tenor sax), a first call studio musician and jazz faculty member at DePaul University and Elmhurst college; Bob Lark (trumpet), head of the jazz studies department at DePaul University; Tom Garling (trombone), highly sought after around the world as a recording artist, composer, arranger, and teacher; and Bob Rummage (drums), an instructor at DePaul University and experienced performance and studio musician and clinician. The band members have performed with an imposing list of entertainers including Buddy Rich, Doc Severinsen, Tony Bennett, Mel Torme, The Beach Boys, Peabo Bryson, Celine Dion, The Woody Herman Orchestra, The Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Jaco Pastorius, Maynard Ferguson, Bob James, Dizzy Gillespie, Chick Corea, Pat Metheny, to name but a few.

The Fine Arts Director of Niles Township High School District 219, Mary Jo Papich, will be Master of Ceremonies for the evening. Ms. Papich, known for her avid support and leadership in jazz education, is co-founder and president of the Jazz Education Network, an organization dedicated to building the jazz arts community by advancing education, promoting performance, and developing new audiences. "The talent assembled here is phenomenal," states Ms. Papich. "If you're not too familiar with jazz, this show is a great introduction, you'll enjoy it. If you love jazz, it's not to be missed. It's going to be a great evening."

Niles West High School is located at 5701 West Oakton Avenue, Skokie. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for students. For information, call 847-626-2990 or email nweveningofjazz@gmail.com.

Free Reading/ESL/GED **Classes for Adults** Tutors Needed

Adults who need help with their English speaking, reading, writing, math, or GED preparation can attend free classes through Oakton Community College. If you are searching for a meaningful volunteer activity, a required 3-part training session will be held at Oakton in Skokie on Saturday,

January 30, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Call 847-635-1426 for a list of classes or more information about becoming a VITA volunteer tutor.

Our e-mail address is: www.oakton.edu/cont ed/vita.html.



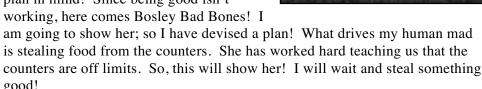
Best Friends/Companion Pets

Bosley Bad Bones

Happy New Year My furry friends! I hope that everyone has recovered from the craziness of the Howlidays! Was Santa Paws good to everyone? If not, maybe you should work on begin a better pooch this year; just a friendly suggestion!

Barking about being better, I have a bone to pick with my Human. Last year my pack and I were on our best behavior, we truly put up with a lot from he!. With her new business venture she put us last. Being the understanding pooch that I am, I know why; she tells us how she is making a better life for us; but enough already!

I was participating in agility classes and love it. I miss the class and my furry friends! I have been good and pawtient so we should go back, right? So, I have a plan in mind! Since being good isn't working, here comes Boslev Bad Bones! I



Wait a minute! She is packing the agility bag! What is going on I wonder? Then she tells, "Well, guys next week we are finally going back to class!" Woof! Woof! I am so excited and now I don't have to be bad! However, I will keep that idea just in case because you never know when your Human needs a lesson!

Bosley Bad Bones (my alter ego)

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

Law Governing Pets

The boulevards, parkways and parks in our area are lovely places to walk - until, OOPS, you find your foot in canine fecal matter – dog poop, for short. There is nothing you can do. It is there in the ridges and contours of your shoe.

For everyone who has muttered, "There should be a law," the news is good. There is a law! Ordinance 7-12-420 of the City Code states, "No person shall appear with a pet upon the public ways or within public places or upon the property of another, absent that person's consent, without some means for the removal of excrement; nor shall any person fail to remove any excrement deposited by such pet." There is a penalty for violating the ordinance: "Any person found to have been in violation of this section shall be fined not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$500.00 for each offense."

In addition to their status as a public nuisance, pet owners violating the law can be classified as public health hazards. Rotting fecal matter spreads disease, feeds rodents, and attracts insects.

The responsibility of pet ownership includes a responsibility to the pet's neighbors. Bag the dog waste, tie it up, and dispose of it with your garbage. It's the law!

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Keeping Your Home Safe for Your Pets during the Holidays

Part 3

v Peter S. Sakas DVM. MS

Holiday Decorations/Packages

Many people place decorations throughout the house including lights, evergreen branches, holiday knickknacks and other assorted objects to provide a festive environment. We have discussed some of these dangers previously. Lit candles can burn a curious pet or could be knocked over and start a fire. Centerpieces of dangling streamers and feather fronds are enticing to the curious pet. If chewed and swallowed, these materials can cause an intestinal blockage. Icicles and tinsel draped on a mantle are as dangerous as tinsel on a tree. Monitor your pets and watch out for any evidence of chewing on these objects.

Wrapped presents can pose a hazard to pets. They are attracted to the decorative bows, ribbons and other frills placed on the packages. If your pet would chew and swallow these materials, there is a risk of intestinal blockage. Food packages wrapped as gifts and left under a tree can entice a hungry animal. With their keen sense of smell they can sniff these out and decide to have a feast. Exercise caution with these types of presents around pets, especially dogs.

Poisonous Plants

Many homes are decorated each year during the holiday season with poinsettias and mistletoe. These plants do represent the season; unfortunately they are toxic for our pets and represent a problem for curious dogs, cats and birds. Poinsettias produce a milky sap that is irritating to the skin and eyes on contact and to the gastrointestinal tract if eaten. It may cause irritation and blistering of the mucous membranes of the mouth and stomach. Intake of large amounts of mistletoe may cause nausea, vomiting and gastroenteritis. Make sure that these plants are kept out of the reach of your pets. If you do catch you pet eating a poinsettia or a few loose mistletoe berries, seek veterinary care immediately.

Relieve Pet Stress During the Holidays

The holidays are stressful times for all of us. The commotion in decorating, purchasing gifts and entertaining can be overwhelming to many people. Our homes can be filled with people, especially young children. Many pets, even if not aggressive or territorial, are stressed by the increased numbers of strangers 'intruding' in their domain. The high activity level of children can be a new and stressful experience for many pets unaccustomed to this behavior. Birds can become especially upset during the holidays, particularly the larger varieties of birds. Routine is very important to birds and if that routine changes, they can become frustrated and engage in abnormal behavior. These types of behavior include, aggressiveness, screaming, biting or development of vices such as the picking off or chewing of their own feathers in frustration, which if allowed to continue can become a habit.

If possible, try to provide your pets with a consistent level of interaction with you so they do not feel left out. This is especially important with parrots. Try not to let the pandemonium of the holidays lead to stress in your pets. If you feel that your pets are uncomfortable around new people, it may be best to separate them from the holiday activity. Provide your pets with an area where they can be alone. Cats may enjoy an intricate 'kitty condo' set up or even a cardboard box or paper bags in which to hide. For pet birds that are nervous, you might have to place the cage in a quiet room or, if that is impossible, partially or completely cover the cage so that the bird has the ability to 'hide.' Make sure that your young guests understand that they must let the animals rest when they are put in their area of 'refuge.

I hope that this discussion will assist you in keeping your home safe for your pets during the holidays. During all the activity, we must not forget the welfare of our pets and our responsibility to keep them free of danger. If you practice the proper preventative measures, the holiday season for your pet will be as happy as it is for you and your family.

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



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.

What is Your New Year's resolution?

Perhaps your holiday consisted of too many sweets, overindulging, or more. We've got the cure! Join our Chicago Marathon and half marathon teams! To find out how, email events@anticruelty.org.

Looking for a great way to give back to your community? Donate or volunteer! Prepare animals to meet their forever families, facilitate life-long bonds, and network with other animal-loving friends along the way. Contact our Volunteer Department at (312)644-8338 ext. 313 or email volunteer@anticruelty.org.

Or how about taking up a new hobby? Attend Paint Your Pet! Our annual pet portrait painting party will be held on Thursday, March 18, 2010, 6:30p.m. - 9:30p.m. at Catalyst Ranch in Chicago. Several well-known artists will be on hand to give you tips and pointers and help you learn what it takes to become a pro! For more information email us events@anticruelty.org.

Whatever your resolution may be, make a difference - Join our community of caring today!

GREAT OUTDOORS

KILBOURN PARK ORGANIC GREENHOUSE WINTER ORGANIC GARDEN SERIES

Discover the wonderful world of nature! Spark your curiosity and explore the fun & educational offerings at Kilbourn Park Organic Greenhouse, 3501 N. Kilbourn Ave., the Chicago Park District's only park with a teaching organic greenhouse. The 2010 winter series is designed for adults 18 & over in mind. Register for winter programs in-person at the park.

Organic Vegetable Gardening Part II

Anna Viertel, Urban Farmer at Near North Montessori School Saturday, January 23, 10-Noon Fee: \$20

Now that you have learned to build a strong foundation for your sustainable garden, it's time to discuss maximizing the productivity of your garden. In this class, Anna Viertel will discuss design and planting techniques to help reduce pests and disease while simultaneously encouraging a healthy, high yield garden both above and below the ground. Topics will include companion planting, crop rotation, soil maintenance, season extension, and permaculture.

Bicyclists Warm Up With Winter Biking Celebration Jan. 20 What: Bicyclists around the region will celebrate biking winter on the annual

What: Bicyclists around the region will celebrate biking winter on the annual Winter Bike to Work Day. The Active Transportation Alliance will host a celebration outside of its office where bicyclists can warm up with free coffee and tea from Caribou and delicious Eli's Cheesecake.

The day marks the coldest day in Chicago history – Jan. 20, 1985, when the official temperature at O'Hare International Airport was negative 27 degrees with 36 mph wind gusts, producing wind chills as low as 93 degrees below zero.

Where: Active Transportation Alliance headquarters (9 W. Hubbard St, Chicago) When: Wednesday, Jan. 20, 6:30-9 a.m.

Make it Easier to Walk in a Winter Wonderland

Snow sure is beautiful, but it is more than a pain when it isn't shoveled. Shoveling the snow isn't just the neighborly thing to do – in many places (including Chicago) it's the law! We are asking you to spread the word in your neighborhood about shoveling the sidewalk. Download and distribute fliers that thank and remind neighbors and local businesses about the importance of clear sidewalks. Find them on our website at www.activetrans.org/shovel.

Feed the Birds: Construction and Conservation in One Afternoon Session

On Saturday, Jan. 23, from 2-4 p.m., the Evanston Ecology Center, 2024 Mc-Cormick, will be sponsoring a class for anyone 7 years or older accompanied by an adult, which will include all the materials needed to build your own bird-feeder.

This is a wonderful way to learn about nature, and the center will even provide you with enough seed to get you started. The fee is \$25 per feeder for either residents or nonresidents of Evanston. For more information or to preregister, call 847/448-8256.

Youth & Adult Summer Camp Registration Begins Jan. 29

As of Friday, Jan. 29, Evanston residents can start mailing in their registrations for the City of Evanston's many youth and adult summer camps. To keep the process fair for all, registrations must be sent via first-class U.S. mail no sooner than Jan. 29. Priority will be given based solely on the date of the postmark. Forms sent by any other means, including priority mail or special delivery, as well as those postmarked prior to Jan. 29 will be held for processing at a later date. Drop-offs, in-person, or online registrations will not be accepted until Monday, Feb. 22, starting at 9 a.m. This date is also the first day that nonresidents can begin registering for Evanston camps.

With more than 50 camps for ages starting as young as 2 ½, there are many full-day and half-day camp options to choose from. Five new camps this year are Flag Football Camp, Gymnastics Camp, LEGOmania Camp, Robert Crown Center Counselor in Training Camp, and. starting in mid-August, the Civil War Mini-Camp.

The 2010 Summer Camp guide, which describes each camp in detail and the registration procedures, is now available at the Civic Center and at all community centers. The full guide can also be found online in a downloadable format at: www.cityofevanston.org/summercamps. For details, call (847) 866-2900.

Ecology Center Great Backyard Bird Count

Your backyard is filled with nature's splendor! Join the Ecology Center from Feb. 13-16 in a joint project of the Cornell Ornithology and Audubon Society in the Great Backyard Bird Count. Inspire the bird watcher in you while helping the environment at the same time. Drop by the center between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. sometime between Feb. 12-16, at 2024 McCormick for a brief training on what to look for and how to record your information.

For more details, call 847-448-8256.

EVANSTON RECREATION WORKSHOP

Spark your preteen's interest in writing and reading with this imaginative approach. This Creative Writing workshop offers preteens between the ages of 11 and 13 a supportive environment to engage their interests in writing and reading. Classes begin at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 3 at the Fleetwood-Jourdain Center, 1655 Foster St. Fees for the four weeks of classes are \$55/resident and \$60/nonresident. To register, call 847-448-8254.

Scholarships are available to qualified Evanston residents. Evanston Recreation Division welcomes people with disabilities. For communications or mobility access assistance, call 847-866-2900 (VOICE)/847-448-8064 (TTD).

Snow Days Chicago

Snow Days Chicago is a free three-day winter festival on Michigan Avenue in Grant Park featuring a national snow sculpting competition, dog sled demonstrations, a snowboard rail jam and kids activities! Bring the whole family and watch as the city is transformed into a winter wonderland, showcasing over 27 beautiful and unique sculptures made entirely out of snow!

What's Happening at Snow Days?

- Snow Sculpting Selected Teams
- High School Snow Sculpting Exhibition
- Activities Igloo
- Dogsled Racing & Weight Pulling Demonstrations
- Snowboard Rail Jam

Dates: Jan 29, 2010 - Jan 31, 2010 Hours: Friday, January 29: 4pm - 8pm

Saturday, January 30 & Sunday, January 31: 11am-8pm

Snow Sculpting will take place Wednesday, January 27-Saturday, January 30 at 3pm. Cast your vote for the "People's Choice Award" on Saturday from 11am-4pm and see who wins at the Awards Ceremony on Saturday at 6pm at the Chicago Hilton and Towers, 3rd Floor Waldorf Room (open to the public).

For any last minute major changes to event including cancellation due to unsafe weather conditions, please call 3-1-1 for the most up-to-date information.

Location: Grant Park, S. Balbo & Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60603 Admission: FREE

Urban Wildlife Coalition: In Praise of the Pigeon

Q: Why don't pigeons go south for the winter like other birds? – Matthew, age 7, Edison Park resident

A: Most pigeons (the urban dwellers you see are rock pigeons) have acclimated to their environment and do not need to migrate to warmer locales come winter. Originally, they were rock and cliff dwellers who have adapted remarkably well to cities – a viaduct or building ledge is really just a concrete cliff to them!

Many people regard pigeons as "feathered rats," but they are gentle birds that are tough and smart enough to survive pollution, traffic, freezing temperatures, and human attempts to get rid of them. A few interesting facts about pigeons:

Built-in GPS. Pigeons can sense Earth's geomagnetic field, enabling them to find their way back home across vast distances. They also have incredibly sensitive hearing and can see polarized light in the sky.

Omnivores. They'll eat just about anything to survive, but prefer seeds and grains.

Pigeons lay eggs throughout the year (even in the winter) and hatch about four, five, even 10 broods per year!

They've been used as reliable messengers since the 5th century BC. In fact, they've received honors from French and British governments for facilitating war-time communication.

Pigeons were likely to have been the first species ever domesticated.

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.urbanwildlife-coalition.org. Questions? Call 773-545-8136 or e-mail us at urbanwildlife-coalition@gmail.com.

Living Trusts Enhance Privacy Protection



One of our primal fears is the fear of not having privacy and the protections which privacy provides. Today, anyone can find a great deal of information about you by doing simple online searches. This article discusses the privacy advantages of having a Revocable Living Trust, there are more than you may knew. A qualified, estate-planning attorney can help you create a trust to protect your privacy and provide peace of mind both during life and after your death.

Chester M. Przybylo A common recurring nightmare is finding yourself in a public place without any clothing. This nightmare cuts to the heart of one of our primal fears: the fear of not having privacy and the protections which privacy provides.

Today, nosy neighbors, or those with more malicious intentions, can find a great deal of information about you by doing simple online searches. If you value your privacy, you probably have an unlisted telephone number. But, did you knew that someone may be able to find where you live simply by knowing your name, even if you have an unlisted telephone number? If you own your home, a search of county property records typically will reveal a list of the properties owned by you. If you're not Donald Trump, it would be fairly simple to determine which property is your residence.

For many of us, this only leads at minor annoyances like junk mail. However, for law enforcement officers, security officers, educators, politicians, local personalities, doctors and others, it could lead to embarrassment or even a compromise of your family's safety. Imagine a mentally disturbed criminal knowing where the arresting officer's family lives. That's a scary thought! You can imagine your own nightmare scenario.

But, you can reduce the possibility of that nightmare becoming a reality by enhancing your privacy with a Revocable Living Trust. If the Trust owns your home and other property, it is the name of the Trust and Trustee which appears in the property records, not your name. If you could have a friend serve as Trustee, then a search far your name would not locate any property owned by the Trust.

A Trust has additional privacy advantages at your death. Property held in your individual name must go through "probate" at your death. Probate is a public process in which the nature and extent of your assets are a matter of public record. With probate, the names of your beneficiaries are a matter of public record. Since a Trust does not die, no probate is necessary. A Trust is private, even at your death. With a Trust, the nosy neighbor will not be able to find out your very personal wishes nor what you owned at your death. Nor will these unscrupulous characters, who might seek at take advantage of your family when they are at their most vulnerable.

A qualified, estate-planning attorney who focuses in this field can help you create a Trust to protect your privacy and provide peace of mind both during life and after your death.

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.

Time to Make New Year's Financial Resolutions

Like many people, you may make some New Year's resolutions. Perhaps you've promised yourself that you'll visit the gym more often or learn a new language or reconnect with a long-lost friend. All of these are worthy goals, of course, and if you achieve them, you may add new dimensions to your life. But if you want to accomplish other major milestones you may have envisioned — a new home, college for your kids, a comfortable retirement and so on — you may need to set some New Year's financial resolutions.



Neil Gardner

What type of financial resolutions should you make? Here are a few ideas to consider:

- Contribute as much as you can afford to your 401(k). Take full advantage of your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. Your contributions are typically tax deductible and your earnings grow on a tax-deferred basis. Every time you get a boost in salary, try to increase the amount going into your 401(k), but at the very least, contribute enough to earn the employer's match, if one is offered. In 2010, the contribution limit for 401(k) plans is \$16,500, or \$22,000 if you're age 50 or over, although both these limits may increase if they are indexed for inflation.
- "Max out" on your IRA. Even if you have a 401(k), you're probably still eligible to contribute to an IRA. A traditional IRA grows tax deferred, while a Roth IRA's earnings are tax free, provided you've had your account at least five years and don't start taking withdrawals until you're 59-1/2. (Your ability to contribute to a Roth IRA is based on your income.) You can fund your IRA with virtually any type of investment. In 2010, you can put in up to \$5,000 to your IRA, or \$6,000 if you're age 50 or older, although, as was the case with your 401(k), these limits may go higher if they're indexed for inflation.
- Rebalance your investments as needed. Over time, your goals and risk tolerance can change. That's why it's a good idea to review and rebalance your portfolio at least once a year, possibly with the help of a professional financial advisor who is familiar with your situation.
- Avoid "emotional" investing. Don't make decisions based on emotional reactions to what's happening with your investments. For example, just because the price of an investment may have dropped significantly, it doesn't mean you should rush to sell it. Despite the price drop, it may still have good prospects and it might be an important part of your investment strategy. Consider all factors before making "buy" or "sell" decisions.
- Keep sufficient cash in your portfolio During the long bear market of 2008 and early 2009, many investors discovered that they lacked enough cash in their portfolios. Of course, you need enough cash on hand to meet unexpected expenses without dipping into long-term investments. But beyond that, the presence of cash and short-term, more liquid investments can help reduce the volatility in a portfolio that may sometimes be battered by both the stock and bond markets.

These financial resolutions, like all types of New Year's resolutions, may not be easy to keep. But if you can stick with them, you may have many happy new years in the future.

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.

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Village Cooking Corner

With the Superbowl right around the corner, here's a great dish to serve while watching the game.

Big Point Spread (Football dip)

by Unknown Football Fan

2- 8oz. packages Philadelphia cream cheese (softened) 1/4 cup mayonnaise

1/3 cup Kraft grated Parmesan cheese

- 1 2 1/2 oz. package smoked sliced beef (chopped well)
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped onion
- 1 teaspoon horseradish

Chopped nuts.



Combine cream cheese and mayonnaise, mixing until well-blended. Stir in cheese, beef, onion and horseradish. Chill. Shape into football-shape, roll in nuts. Garnish with pimento strips. (3 cups)

Serve with Rye Crisp, Garlic Rounds, or celery sticks.

Evanston's Encounter Public Art Dedicated at Maple Ave. Garage

Encounter, the new sculpture atop the Maple Avenue Garage, was dedicated on Friday, December 18. Created by artist Hubertus von der Goltz, Encounter features two figures delicately balancing and moving toward each other. The sculpture symbolizes the coming together of people from different cultures and walks of life just as the public below will encounter each other on the sidewalks of Evanston as they head for work, shop, take in a movie or go to dinner.

Firefighters & Local 742 Host Holiday Party for Salvation Army After-School Program

Evanston Fire and Live Services personnel recently hosted a Holiday Party at Fire Station #3 for area children who participate in the Salvation Army's After-School Program. Firefighters along with other members of the Department combined forces to host the annual Holiday Party for the children complete with a visit from Santa Claus, presents and treats.

"The Children were able to take part in games, tour the equipment and enjoy snacks," explained Division Chief Tom Janetske. "Santa arrived a short time later to pass out gifts bought by Local 742 from the kids' wish lists. The Party was a success and a great gesture to the community during this Holiday Season. We look forward to hosting them again next year."

Fire Station #3 is located at 1105 Central Street and was built in 2004. It houses Engine 23 (Fire Engine with Advance Life-Support Equipment), Truck 23 (a 105' Aerial Ladder Truck), and Ambulance 23 (Advance Life-Support 2nd Line Ambulance). The typical staffing of Station #3 is six Members - two Captains, two Firefighter/Paramedics, and two Firefighter/EMTs.



Part-time U.S. Census Jobs Available in Evanston

The U.S. Census will be hiring temporary part-time census takers in the area for \$18 per hour. The positions offer flexible hours, good pay, paid training and neighborhood work.

There are two locations in Evanston where interested candidates can apply and take the test for these jobs throughout the month of January.

The first location is the Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave. with the following dates and times: • January 18 at 3 p.m. • January 18 at 6 p.m. • January 25 at 3 p.m. • January 25 at 6 p.m.

The second location is the Illinois Department of Employment Securities' Evanson office, 1615 Oak St. with the following dates and times: • January 20 at 11 a.m. • January 22 at 11 a.m. • January 29 at 11 a.m.

Applicants should arrive 15 minutes early, allow 90 minutes for the application process including 30 minutes for testing and bring state issued photo ID plus their social security card or a copy of their birth certificate. If needed, bring current Passport or Permanent Resident Card. For more information, applications or to take a practice test, visit the U.S. Census at www.2010censusjobs.gov.

NILES NORTH SEEKING DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Niles North High School is accepting nominations from the community and staff for its annual Distinguished Alumnus Award, which is presented each year to a former student during the Awards of Distinction ceremony.

Nominees must be a graduate of Niles North High School and should have distinguished themselves through their achievements in their field or contributions to society. The nominees' accomplishments should reflect credit on their association with Niles North High School. Support for such nominations shall come from personal opinions and documented evidence. Those wishing to nominate a former Niles North graduate should email Iris Kerbis Cantor (irican@niles-hs.k12.il.us) to request a nomination form.

The 45th Awards of Distinction ceremony will be held on Tuesday, May 18. The deadline for receiving nomination forms is April 5, 2010. For further information contact Iris Kerbis Cantor at (847) 626-2354...

Two Robert Crown Skaters Are National Champions!

In a competition held Dec. 16-19 in Cleveland, Ohio, Angel Giordano and Christopher Davis became the 2010 United States National Juvenile Ice Dance Champions. Giordano and Davis have been long time participants in the Skating School at the Robert Crown Center, 1701 Main. Their coach is Christopher Hyland.

The Robert Crown Community Center and Ice Complex offers recreational activities for all ages. The Ice Complex provides ice skating, figure skating, hockey, speed skating and broomball. Rental skates may be rented to attend the public skating sessions and may be rented to use during skating classes.

Evanston Public Library Reminds Card Holders of Free Museum Admission Program

Evanston Public Library card holders can receive free admission to 17 exciting museums and cultural institutions throughout the Chicago area. Brookfield Zoo, the Chicago Botanic Garden, the Oriental Institute, Bronzeville Children's Museum, Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies and Evanston's own Mitchell Museum of the American Indian are among those included. This special opportunity is made possible by a generous contribution from Macy's, in partnership with the Metropolitan Library System.

Evanston Blood Drive a **Great Success**

In December the Evanston Police and Fire Departments hosted a replenishment blood drive and fundraiser for one of their own, Police Officer Joseph Bush, who was injured in a motorcycle accident and required numerous blood transfusions. The event was sponsored by LifeSource at the Evanston Fire and Police Department Headquarters. 201 units of blood were collected which will be used to save about 603 lives due to the generosity of Evanston residents, police and fire personnel from all over the northern suburbs and many, many others

NILES NORTH PRESENTS WORLD FESTIVAL OF PLAYS BEGINNING ON JAN. 14

The Niles North Theater Department opens the New Year with a World Festival of Plays that runs from January 14 through January 16 in the Drama Performance Center at 9800 N. Lawler, Skokie. Three to four short plays will be staged during each performance. Theater-lovers will enjoy the talents of Niles North students in a wide selection of international plays that explore various cultures, their art and their people. All shows are student-directed. Tickets cost \$5. No-charge community performances will be held at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Thursday, January 14. To purchase tickets in advance, contact the Box Office at (847) 626-2122.

The schedule for the World Festival of Plays is as follows:

10 a.m., Thursday, January 14: "Simple Olaf" by Mary Nygaard Peterson. Ethan Orbach directs Elliot Mark, Miriam Prosnitz, Shannon Rourke, John Sherman, Camille Thompson and Sarun Thundiyil. "Gates of Dinklesbuehl" written by Robert Nolan. Steven Yandell directs Anabel Abraham, Bobby Carmichael, Dylan Connelly, Max Dolinko, Taylor Gardner, Rebecca Payne, Rachel Sepiashvili and Sarah VanDoren. "A Thousand Cranes" by Kathryn Schultz Miller. Danny Takushi directs Sarah Abraham, Diane Choe, Daniel Choi, Eugene Hyun and Elliot Mark. "The Courters" written by Paul T. Nolan. Sophie Scanlon directs Sean Abraham, Cate Hensley, Andrew Mabis, Sebastijan Targus, Rafael Vicenta and Allie Zeff.

1 p.m., Thursday, January 14: "The Wise Men of Chelm" by Sandra Fenichel Asher. Elana Weiner-Kaplow directs Sarah Alkyer, William Boersma, Hannah Davis, Alex Hammond, Naveen Kanji, Elana Kennedy and Sean Lisitza. Also, "Simple Olaf," "Gates of Dinklesbuehl," and "A Thousand Cranes."

4 p.m., Friday, January 15: "Happy Ending" written by Douglas Turner Ward and directed by Nicole Carson. Cast includes Nekia Bruce, Maya Rothman, Adrian Shaw and Marissa Weiler. "Sunday Costs Five Pesos" by Josephina Niggli. Kristina Loy directs Vanessa Cadavillo, Athanasia Gianneto, Brian Oh, Nineveh Rasho and Olivia Reyes. "Return to Paradise" by Cicely Waite-Smithe. Stephanie Fenty directs Emma Decker, Elizabeth Moody, Sean Lisitza and Nicole Torosin. "Baggage" written by Fateh Samih Azzam. Martin Hanna directs Jonathan Berg-Einhorn, Yiorgos Giannetos and Nina Roy.

7 p.m., Friday, January 15: "Pischer" written by Ted Nusbaum. Daniel Friedman directs Jonathan Berg-Einhorn, Jessica Ellingsen and Christopher Khoshaba. Also "Happy Ending" and "Sunday Costs Five Pesos."

2 p.m., Saturday, January 16: "The Courters," "The Wise Men of Chelm," "Simple Olaf" and "Gates of Dinklesbuehl."

4 p.m., Saturday, January 16: "A Thousand Cranes," "The Courters" and "The Wise Men of Chelm."

7 p.m., Saturday, January 16: "Return to Paradise," "Baggage" and "Pischer." Descriptions of plays in the festival:

"Simple Olaf": This is a charming Russian tale of cleverness and wit that chronicles the adventure of the simple hero.

"Gates of Dinklesbuehl": When a small German town is threatened with destruction, a young girl stands against the might of the Swedish army to save her home and family. This is a traditional German folktale of bravery that is sure to delight children and parents alike.

"A Thousand Cranes": A bittersweet reflection of the lingering effects of war as seen through the eyes of a child. This Japanese story examines the contrasting forces of the innocence of childhood and the reality of maturity.

"The Courters": The lovers long for one another, but they are kept apart. Clever servants come up with a plan to get the lovers married. But chaos ensues when plans go awry in this Italian folktale.

"The Wise Men of Chelm": Come along for the wacky ride as the Chelmites, a foolish bunch of folks, can't seem to keep out of trouble. There's kvelling! Ov vey, it'll make you fall out of your seats laughing.

"Happy Ending": Domestic servants during the American Civil Rights movement come into focus in this family discussion about opposing points of view.

"Sunday Costs Five Pesos": When a young couple disrupts the streets of Mexico with their quarreling, they are bound to wake the neighbors and cause a ruckus. Come see the goings-on in this charming comedy.

"Return to Paradise": The lives of two Jamaican families collide when a poor and desperate elderly woman needs the assistance of the family she once helped to raise.

"Baggage": Ever been caught in a situation where you were forced to choose between a rock and a hard place? Meet the Arabic Traveler, an army recruit, who must choose between his own happiness and the happiness of his family.

Dank-Haus Presents: German Cinema Now

Your favorite contemporary films with English subtitles will be at 7 pm on the 4th Friday of every month in 2010.

January - Downfall February - Aquirre: Wrath of God March - Knockin on Heaven's Door

As always - free admission, free popcorn, refreshements available All events take place at the Historic DANK-Haus at 4740 N. Western Avenue in Chicago's Lincoln Square neighborhood.

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January 20 · 1:30pm Marcus Gentry in A Tribute to Nat King Cole

January 23 · 8:00pm Tribute to Veterans starring Jack Muccio

January 24 \cdot 2:00pm Love Letters starring Jan Ellen Graves with special guest Mayor George Van Dusen

January 24 · 7:30pm Latino Opera Hour presents "La Dolorosa"

January 29 \cdot 8:00pm When music WAS music: Music of the "Great American Song Book"

January 30 · 8:00pm Conversations with Teddy Roosevelt

January 31 · 2:00pm Ron Hawking: Up Close & Personal!

February 3 at 1:30pm

Tony Bernard's TRIBUTE TO THE KING (Elvis)

February 5 · 8:00pm The Grilly Brothers

February 6 · 8:00pm Isn't It Romantic? Love Songs & Poetry

February 7 · 2:00pm Rob Dorn in "I Got Gershwin"

February 10 at 1:30pm Rob Dorn's "I GOT GERSHWIN"

February 12 \cdot 8:00pm Vaudezille presents "Shtick with Us: A Vaudeville Burlesque"

February 13 · 8:00pm Heather Moran

February 14 · 2:00pm Laura Freeman and Bradford Newquist in So In Love...with Broadway

February 14 · 7:00pm Tony Andriacchi

Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Swing & Smooth Dance Workshop

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\$12 Lincolnwood Resident; \$15 Non-Resident

Online registration is available by logging onto www.lincolnwoodil.org and navigating to the Parks and Recreation Department home page, then clicking on the REGISTER NOW button.

For more information contact the Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740.

Open Auditions for 'The Tempest' at Oakton

Open auditions for the Performing Arts at Oakton production of The Tempest are scheduled 6 – 9 p.m., Monday, Jan. 25, and Tuesday, Jan. 26, at Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines. No appointment is necessary.

The director is seeking men and women of all ages and ethnicities. Women and persons of color are encouraged to audition. Prepared monologues and cold readings will be heard.

The Tempest will be staged March 25 - 28, and April 1 - 3, at Oakton's Des Plaines campus. For more information, call 847-635-1897.

NILES WEST STUDENTS HONORED AT PRINCIPAL'S BREAKFAST

Niles West Principal Kaine Osburn welcomed students and their parents at the Principal's Award Recognition Breakfast held January 13. The following Niles West students have improved their academic standing, demonstrated their love of learning, shown compassion for others, and/or demonstrated an exemplary attitude of consistently exhibited positive behavior: Suhail Ansari, Amy Chow, Nicole Delort, Allie Guiang, Megumi Hoshi, Peter Khio, Carisse Lamascese, Sergio Loubriel, Brendan Melnick, Michael Nissan, Karolina Ostapkiewicz, Naomi Prale, Dmitry Ramirez, Prachi Shah, Fiona Stephens and Dimitrios Tripkos. Faculty members who nominated the honorees were: Matt Wiemer, Barb Wismer, Lisa Dunham, Jessica Ogulnik, Lisa Renee Hindel, Mitch Stern, Bill Koch, Ben Brzezinski, Lynne Rauser, Joe Neumayer, Michael Conroy, Gevik Anbarchian, Ami LeFevre, Andy Sinclair and Chris Vivone.

66A Theater Review99

"American Buffalo" Steppenwolf Theatre 1650 N. Halsted St. Chicago, Illinois "My Fair Lady"
Marriott Theatre
10 Marriott Drive
Lincolnshire, Illinois

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

For the holidays and well into 2010 The Steppenwolf Theatre has dusted off David Mamet's "American Buffalo." The last time I saw it the Raven Theatre staged it, as did Circle Theatre.

Amy Morton is directing this revival and she has assembled a stellar cast that includes Francis Guinan, Patrick Andrews and Pulitzer prize-winning playwright Tracy Letts in this three-character play. All prove to be very strong in their roles.

The play runs one hour and forty minutes with intermission. Francis Guinan has the role of Don who owns the junk shop where this play takes place. Patrick Andrews has the role of Bob, who is a young man that Don has picked up off the streets and who he is grooming for a life of crime. Tracey Letts plays Teach who is Don's lowlife friend. If you have seen Letts on the stage in other plays you won't recognize him in this character role.

If you're offended by street language come prepared, as you will get your share of it.

Don and Teach plan to heist an American Buffalo nickel that has great value. Teach is mean, nasty and an angry man who has several arguments with Don throughout the one hour and forty minutes.

The junk shop in the Lincoln Park area is in a basement and when Teach throws one of his temper tantrums the junk flies all over the place. There is a little blood when Teach gets mad at Bob and hit shim on the side of his face.

If you want to see three powerful performances and like Mamet this will be a show you don't want to miss.

"American Buffalo" runs through February 7th. For performance days, show times and reservations call 312-335-1650. Ticket prices are \$20 to \$77.

-Four Stars-

LEVY SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

Oh Coward!

Spice up the winter with the witty repartee of, Oh Coward!

Enjoy the highlights of one of theatre's greatest entertainers: Sir Noël Coward at the Writers' Theatre on Wednesday afternoon, March 10. This is a most wonderful party!

The ticket price includes transportation. For more details, call 847-448-8250.

Musical Talent

Come hear the musical stars of tomorrow, today!

As part of the Fran Randall Memorial Concert series, a free afternoon of musical talent is being offered at 1 p.m., on Friday, Jan. 22, at the Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave.

The program spotlights exceptional music students from local colleges and universities. For more information, call 847-448-8250.

Help the Skokie Theatre Help Those in Need.

Dear Friends,

We need your help to enable us to salute our men and women in the armed forces and our veterans and their families by offering them free tickets to our shows.

Tickets will be distributed through organizations like the Cook County Veterans Assistance Commission, VA hospitals and veterans groups in the Chicagoland area. We welcome your help in directing us to any related organization you feel would benefit from this program.

We want to offer tickets for our weekday programming and selected weekend shows. Please check our website www.skokietheatre.org to learn more about our shows.

A donation in any amount will help us make this program a reality. Please direct your donations to:

Skokie Theatre Music Foundation, 7924 N. Lincoln, Skokie, IL 60077 Thank you for your consideration.

Al Curtis, Director of Operations

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

I have a very strong thing to say about Marriott Theatre's production of "My Fair Lady" and that is, you have another major hit on your hands as you have a winner.

What a cast with Kevin Gudahl as Henry Higgins, Heidi Kettenring a Eliza Doolittle, David Lively as Colonel Pickering, Ann Whitney as Mrs. Higgins, Don Forston as Alfred Doolittle and Catherine Lord as Mrs. Pearce.

One of the highlights and bright spots is Max Quinlan as Freddy Eynsford-Hill. His one solo number "On the Street Where You Live" is performed to perfections. He is a Jeff winner for "Light in the Piazza" and he is emerging as one of Chicago's bright new leading men in talent. I only hope that he remains and works in Chicago Theatre for many years.

The show requires a cast of eighteen and the orchestra has nine musicians of Michael Mahler. Dominic Missimi has done a superb job with his cast and direction of the show. Matt Raftery has done an excellent job with the choreography.

A strong ensemble that features Glory Kissel, George Keating, Nick Sandys, Christian Libonati and Chicago favorite Roger Mueller.

"My Fair Lady" is a classic musical based on George Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion." It is a musical that gets dusted off and has been revived in regional theatre countless times. It opened in New York in 1956 and ran 2,717 performances and in London ran 2,281 performances when it opened in 1958. Since then Broadway has had revivals in 1976-1981 & 1993. It has won numerous awards.

The show has a book and lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner and music by Frederick Loewe. Marriott has costumes by Nancy Missimi.

The show offers a number of musical numbers you'll remember such as "With a Little Bit of Luck," "I Could Have Danced All Night," "Rain in Spain," "I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face" and "Get Me to the Church on Time." Eleven other numbers are in this show that runs two and a half hours with intermission.

Higgins makes a bet with Pickering he can make a lady out of street urchin Eliza and introduce her to his mother's society of friends.

At Ascot Freddy becomes enamored with Eliza and while she likes Freddy she really falls for Higgins even though he is very demanding and a hotheaded bachelor. Gudahl, Kettering, Lively and Forsten are strong actors and singers and are exceptional in their roles.

"My Fair Lady" runs through February 14th. For performance days, show times and reservations call 847-634-0200. Ticket prices are \$45.00. The Theatre offers free parking and is wheelchair accessible. There is a \$5 off ticket for students and seniors.

-Four Stars-





Mom always helped you with the big decisions. Here's your chance to return the favor.

It's not easy finding the right situation for your mom as her health needs change. The answer is The Highlands of Evanston Assisted Living community at Westminster Place.

Our experienced staff is specially trained to provide your mother with the attention and care she deserves. Registered nurses administer medication, while resident assistants check on her, help with dressing, and keep her safe 24 hours a day.

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Because at Presbyterian Homes and The Highlands of Evanston Assisted Living community, caring is more than just a word – it's a different language. To reserve a time for lunch and a visit, call Carol Tatarowicz at 847-866-1615.

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